are preserved in the Museum at Whitby. The Editor expects to deal with 150 or more species, and to complete his work in about sixteen parts, each containing from twelve to sixteen plates. The original descriptions of the fossils are reprinted, together with figures of the types admirably reproduced from photographs, mainly by Mr. J. W. Tutcher.

Of special importance is the illustration of the Simpson Collection. The specimens, as the editor remarks, had received "careful and discriminative studies", but without figures "it is almost impossible to obtain due knowledge of Lias Ammonites, and certainly dangerous to describe or name species as new". In identifying and figuring Simpson's species he has rendered a distinct service to palæontology. Simpson, although ready to add, where necessary, to the number of species, was averse to the multiplication of genera, and in this he will have the cordial sympathy of most geologists.

The editor gives definitions of biological, biogenetic, and other technical terms, also some notes on Ammonite development and on generic names. It is a defect that all the new names have not the suffix *ceras*, surely a convenience even for the palæo-biologist, who, as a rule, can alone find use for them; but the editor is by no means entirely responsible for this. He gives the latest of the generic Ammonite names, and a list of comparable species with references. This list is admittedly incomplete, but it might well have included all the names adopted by J. F. Blake.

Among the forms figured are *Ammonites mulgravius*, *A. exaratus*, *A. levisoni*, *A. lythensis*, and *A. lenticularis*; also one Nautilus, *N. subcarinatus*. To the ordinary geologist a Nautilus, however, is not an Ammonite. We trust that the editor will be well supported in his undertaking.

V.—Brief Notices.

1. Yorkshire Fossils.—Messrs. H. C. Drake & Thos. Sheppard have published in the Proceedings of the Yorkshire Geological Society, vol. xvii (1), 1909, a "Classified List of Organic Remains from the Rocks of the East Riding of Yorkshire", post-Glacial to Lias. This laborious piece of work aims at "placing in a convenient and compact form all the various and scattered records that have been published". No attempt has been made to revise the nomenclature, as it was felt that the older names would be more familiar to searchers. It is now easy to ascertain whether a given species has been previously recorded, and the reference to the authority and the place of publication have been indicated.

2. Department of Mines, Canada.—The Summary Report of the Geological Survey Branch of the Department of Mines, Canada, for 1909, issued 1910, contains much useful information on various subjects and localities. In his Report the Director, Mr. R. W. Brock, remarks that although the work undertaken by the Survey has been along strictly economic lines, the geologists are not engaged in prospecting. Thus "The Government geologist may recognize and direct attention to mineralized districts that afford promising ground

for prospecting, and furnish information regarding the geological conditions and mode of occurrence of minerals, that will form serviceable guides to the prospector; but only rarely can a geologist, engaged in his legitimate work, actually discover important bodies of economic minerals". He rightly observes that "Negative results are, in their way, quite as valuable as positive", inasmuch as they discourage fruitless enterprise. Some important discoveries, however, have been made of coal-bearing strata in the Whitehorse district and in Alberta. Reports on the Yukon Territory are included, and it is remarked that the conditions in the Stewart River district appear to be favourable for placer mining. The results of borings on Prince Edward Island prove that Carboniferous rocks do not occur within 2000 feet of the surface.

Since the death of Dr. J. F. Whiteaves, the Palæontological work has been carried on by Mr. Lawrence M. Lambe, aided by Mr. W. J. Wilson.

A separate Annual Report of the Division of Mineral Resources and Statistics on the Mineral Production of Canada is published by the Department of Mines; that for the two years 1907 and 1908, by Mr. John McLeish (issued 1910), includes particulars relating to metallic ores and non-metallic products. Among the latter are abrasive materials, asbestos, coal, peat, gypsum, mineral water, natural gas, petroleum, and salt.

We have received copies of two separate Geological Survey memoirs—*A Reconnaissance across the Mackenzie Mountains*, by Mr. Joseph Keele, 1910; and *Geology of St. Bruno Mountain, Province of Quebec*, by Mr. John A. Dresser, 1910.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MARSUPITE CHALK IN SURREY.

Sir,—About two years ago I recorded the discovery of the *Uintacrinus* Chalk at Orpington, Kent. During the summers of the following years I traced this zone through Holwood Park to West Wickham, and also succeeded in finding the Marsupite zone in these last-named localities. Throughout the same period I also worked the roadside chalk at Farnborough Hill without any definite result. In June of this year I turned my attention to the chalk in the lane leading from Farnborough to High Elms, having a strong suspicion that this band of chalk would prove to be connected with Orpington and Holwood Park. My efforts were quickly rewarded, and in three visits I secured a characteristic fauna and numerous plates and arm-ossicles of *Marsupites* from the upper end of the lane. I hope subsequently to publish the results of these and other workings during the past few years.

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