

CORRESPONDENCE.

COASTAL PLATEAUX.

SIR,—The paper by Miss K. L. Goskar and Professor A. E. Trueman on the Coastal Plateaux of South Wales in your issue of October last is of considerable interest to me, for, some years ago, I carried out a preliminary investigation of the land forms on and near the Lake District, in the course of which Barrell's method of projected profiles was used. The author's use of this method in South Wales, where the plateaux appear to be very well preserved, is particularly useful in view of the somewhat non-committal attitude of later workers in America to Barrell's *results*. Around the Lake District several distinct plateaux were tentatively recognized, but owing to the severity of the glaciation to which the district is known to have been subjected, one did not feel too much confidence in the results. The whole surface has clearly been much modified in detail by ice-action, and the persistence of the levels in spite of extensive glacial erosion and deposition seems rather surprising. Nevertheless, it appears to be desirable to record that the facts clearly indicate the presence of considerable remnants of a plateau at 400–450 feet O.D. in the Carboniferous and Triassic rocks west and north of the Lake District, and of another at about 800 feet O.D. The latter is well preserved across Carboniferous and Lower Palaeozoic rocks in the Cockermouth area, and there is a striking development of it on the southern shoulder of Dent in West Cumberland.

Profile sections suggested the presence of relics of plateaux at 200–250 feet and 550–580 feet, while at greater altitudes there is a marked grouping of summit levels at 1,000–1,100 feet and at one or two still higher levels.

Critical examination of many areas, particularly on our Atlantic seaboard, by those familiar with the various local geological factors is urgently required, for the question of large eustatic movements of sea-level is bound up with many fundamental problems of geology, and there is the attractive possibility of correlation of similar features across the North Atlantic.

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11th December, 1934.
