

CORRESPONDENCE

LUGEON'S UNPUBLISHED INTERPRETATION OF THE STRATH OYKELL MULLIONS

SIR,—Petrofabric studies by F. Coles Phillips (*Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, xciii, 1937), and a detailed megascopic investigation by Gilbert Wilson (*Proc. Geol. Assoc.*, lxiv, 1953) have clearly demonstrated that the mullions of Strath Oyke are normal to the single symmetry plane of the fabric on all known scales; the mullions are therefore *b*-structures by definition. The recognition of this seems now to be generally accepted. It is therefore desirable to draw attention to the record of a remarkable unpublished interpretation by the late Professor Maurice Lugeon, who appears to have been the first investigator to interpret the Strath Oyke structures in this manner.

In the teaching collection at the University of Lausanne there is a particularly instructive specimen from Strath Oyke. It shows monoclinic folding, and the micas of the pelitic bands are parallel to the axial planes; the fold hinges form longitudinal ribs, and parallel to these there is a lineation caused by the intersection of the micas with the foliation. Last December, through the courtesy of Professor Badoux and Dr. Aubert, I saw the original catalogued description in Lugeon's handwriting:

"No. 14072. Leptynite micacée de la série des 'Moineschist' (Pré-cambrien) présentant le *Mullion* ou *Rodding structure* des géologues écossais, soit le résultat d'une pression transversale à la direction et au plongement moyen des couches.

M. Lugeon. 12.ix.1912. R. Oyke."

The specimen was therefore collected at the beginning of the celebrated post-British Association excursion (Dundee, 1912), led by Peach and Horne, on which Lugeon composed his well-known "Chanson du Moine Thrust". The interest of Lugeon's description of the mullions, written before he had seen the Moine Thrust, is that their interpretation was so obvious to this alpine geologist that apparently he did not realize that these structures were not correctly understood by Highland geologists.

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RULES OF NOMENCLATURE

SIR,—May I draw the attention of palaeontologists to clause 54 (1) (a) of the "Additions to, and modifications of, the Règles Internationales de la Nomenclature Zoologique approved and adopted by the XIVth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, August, 1953"? This clause directs that where the name of the type genus of a subfamily, family, or superfamily has been changed because it is a junior synonym (whether objective or subjective), the name of the subfamily, family, or superfamily based upon the name of that type genus is not to be changed.

Our colleagues who sacrificed their time, energies, and funds in attending the Copenhagen Congress achieved so much that is excellent and put us so greatly in their debt, that it seems ungracious to criticize their decisions. On this particular point, however, there surely must have been sharp division of opinion. The decision would have such unhappy effects in at least molluscan systematics that, if Mollusca are a fair sample, I feel palaeontologists should do all possible to prevent this clause from being incorporated in the new Rules of Nomenclature.

Some of the changes that would be required would produce completely unfamiliar monstrosities, for some family names formed on invalid objective