Recognizable organic remains have been found by Walcott[4] in a small, isolated area of lower Cambrian rocks at the base of the Sierra west of Big Pine, in Inyo County, and provisional Triassic forms from the roof pendant at Mineral King have been noted by Turner.[5] As yet, no report of fossils from any part of the escarpment between Big Pine and Mono Lake has been seen by the writer. For this reason, it may be of interest to record the recent finding of probable mid-Devonian fossils in crystalline limestone (marble) on the Sierra Nevada escarpment, about 28 miles south of Mono Lake, by Mr. W. E. Selbie, a prospector. The writer has spent three summers in geologic field work in this region, part of which was done under the auspices of the California State Division of Mines, and supervised by Dr. Olaf P. Jenkins, chief geologist. On various occasions during the investigation, Mr. Selbie rendered valuable assistance. He became interested in the progress of the work, and in the possibility of finding fossils in the older rocks.

A few months ago, Mr. Selbie sent to the Geology Department at Cornell University, a package containing two fossils, one a large crinoid stem (.4 inch in diameter), and the other a small brachiopod. These remains are stated by him to have been found in a bed of crystalline limestone, which outcrops on a mountain side a few hundred yards east of Laurel Creek, in southwestern Mono County. They were examined at Cornell University by Professor G. D. Harris, who states that the age of the fossils is uncertain, but they somewhat resemble mid-Devonian forms. The brachiopod is thought to be near *Leiorhynchus sp.* (?).

There can be little doubt that the Paleozoic rocks along the escarpment range in age from lower Cambrian to Devonian. Whether or not the whole of the Paleozoic section is represented remains uncertain. It is hoped that future investigation will yield further data to confirm those now at hand, and to enable further conclusions to be made. The finding of more fossils, over a wider area, would not only make it possible to recognize the formations present, but would offer a valuable check on interpretations of geologic structures in the older rocks.

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NAMING DISORDERS OF SPEECH

REALIZING the need of a systematic international classification of disorders of speech and voice, the American Society for the Study of Disorders of Speech appointed a nomenclature committee three years ago to prepare such a classification. The committee felt that such a classification should not be published in entirety, however, until accurate definitions of every disorder of speech listed had been approved by at least the leaders in the field of speech correction.

In order to give all workers in this new field of science an opportunity to criticize the best definitions the committee were able to obtain, the committee has just published a tentative "Dictionary of Terms Dealing with Disorders of Speech," and requests those interested to revise every definition which does not adequately describe a given disorder of speech as they have actually known it, and to send the revision to the committee. Only so can an accurate revised edition of this dictionary accompany the publication of the final international classification of disorders of speech and of voice.

SAMUEL D. ROBBINS

SECRETARY AND CHAIRMAN OF NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE

A CURIOUS FISH STORY

A QUITE curious case of gastric erosion of a fish-hook that had been swallowed by a fish has come under my observation. Many experienced fishermen tell me that they have seen nothing quite like it. At about eight o'clock in the evening of July 1, Professor C. E. Hagie, of the History Department of Western State College, hooked a twelve-inch Loch Leven trout while fishing on the Gunnison River. When this fish was cleaned it was discovered that it had at some previous time swallowed a No. 2 Carlisle bait hook. The barb of this hook had penetrated the wall of the stomach and all of the curvature of the hook to a point on a level with the tip of the barb lay in the body cavity. The straight shank of the hook lay entirely in the stomach. Outside of the stomach the hook was in good condition; inside the stomach it had been so eroded by the gastric action that but a mere filament of the former metal was left.

An interesting question as to how long it may take for such erosion to be brought about presents itself. According to the best opinion that I can get at the hands of expert fishermen of long standing, a twelve-inch trout, in the Gunnison River, takes about three years to reach this size. Trout are put into the river as fingerlings. They grow rapidly and, in a year, according to food conditions, reach a length of about seven inches. In another year they reach a length of from eight to ten inches. The third year they may reach a length of twelve inches.

It would seem certain that the amount of erosion of the fishhook in the stomach of the fish in question would preclude the possibility of its having been swallowed during the present fishing season. This

[4] Walcott, C. D., "Lower Cambrian Rocks in Eastern California," *Amer. Jour Sci.*, 3d ser., vol. 49, pp. 141–144, 1895.

[5] Turner, H. W., *op. cit.*, p. 451.

erosion may have been the result of about a year of gastric action. It would also seem that such a hook would not have been broken from the leader by a trout only one year old, or one about seven inches in length, unless the fisherman had fastened it very carelessly. A two-year-old trout might possibly do this during the course of a lusty battle with the angler.

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

NEW ORLEANS MEETING, DECEMBER 28, 1931–JANUARY 2, 1932

EXCURSIONS AND TRANSPORTATION

THE outdoor weather of the mild New Orleans winter will enable delegates and visitors to take full advantage of the interesting trips sponsored by various sections and the general committee at the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting, December 28 through January 2, according to Dr. Daniel S. Elliott, chairman of the local committee on preparations.

The historic French Quarter or Vieux Carré of New Orleans will receive special attention. Most sections, as well as the general committee, are planning to provide delegates with guides for convenient and informal sightseeing tours through this area. The Vieux Carré, the site of original white settlement in Louisiana, includes the dimensions of the first town built by the French under Bienville. Its museum collection, antique stores and picturesque atmosphere, and architecture cause it to be a Mecca for visitors from all over the world. Many buildings date back to the time of French and Spanish occupation. Its people, French and Italian, belong to Europe rather than America.

Avery Island in New Iberia Parish, the center of Louisiana's extensive salt-mining industry, is the goal set for a special outing sponsored by the geological section. Those participating in this excursion will leave New Orleans on the Southern Pacific Railway at 10:40 P. M., January 1, traveling in special Pullman cars which will be set out at New Iberia until 7:30 A. M., January 2. Immediately after breakfast the party will leave in busses for the interesting localities in that vicinity, under the leadership of members of the local committee for Section E. The salt domes and a wild life sanctuary which occupies a portion of the island will be visited on the morning of January 2. Sightseeing will include trips into the mine shafts, which extend several hundred feet underground, giving a view of a wide variety of salt formations.

The Association of Commerce of the town of New Iberia is extending its courtesies to visitors. After the trip through the mining districts there will be a dinner at a hotel in New Iberia. Returning, the party will leave New Iberia at 3:13 P. M., and arrive in New Orleans at 7:35 P. M., January 2. This will give an opportunity to see a salt dome and mine and jungle gardens, as well as many of the interesting features in the "Teche country," the land of Evangeline. The total cost for transportation, breakfast and luncheon will be approximately $10.80 for lower berth accommodations and $10.10 for upper berth accommodations. Reservation of space in this party should be made directly to Professor R. A. Steinmayer, Tulane University, New Orleans, La. As the party will be limited in number, it is strongly advised that all those who wish to join this party notify Professor Steinmayer at the earliest possible moment.

The engineering section will sponsor two excursions dealing with the general subject of flood control and its special application at New Orleans.

One afternoon will be given to a short visit to the Mississippi River spillway at Bonnet Carré, twenty-five miles northwest of the city. This project, constructed as a result of the flood season of 1927, is designed to divert excess high water from the Mississippi to Lake Pontchartrain, to protect New Orleans.

A tour of the city on another afternoon will take up in detail numerous features of interest to engineers. Among these will be the extensive pumping system which is necessary for city drainage, and the reclamation work now in progress along the shore of Lake Pontchartrain.

Specific dates and arrangements for these two trips are to be announced a little later through Professor W. B. Gregory, local representative for the engineering section.

Two field excursions are scheduled under the sponsorship of the local committee of the Ecological Society of America. One of these is to take place on Thursday, December 31, and the other on Friday, January 1.

For each trip the party will leave the St. Charles Hotel in special busses at 9 A. M., to return about 5 P. M. The outgoing trip will be via bridges over Pass Chef Menteur and Pass Rigolets. The return will be by way of one of the longest bridges in the world, which crosses Lake Pontchartrain for five miles.

Representative examples of marsh, bayou and cypress swamp in Orleans and St. Tammany Parishes will be visited.

The trip on Thursday will be attended largely by