

of recession in Canadian glaciers kept under observation averages 50 to 100 feet a year and "the shrinkage has been speeded up in the years immediately passed."

Based on his findings, Dr. de Quervain has made specific recommendations to the National Research Council. One suggestion in the report itself is "the idea of an ice-testing bomb for aircraft."

In an appendix, D. C. Pearce summarizes his journey with Dr. de Quervain to visit snow and ice institutions in Canada and the U.S.A. Including an ice reconnaissance flight, "which revealed most strikingly the extent of the ice cover on Hudson Bay," the party covered approximately 15,000 miles in two and a half months.

A. H. BOLITHO

**MOUNTAINEERING HANDBOOK.** Published for the Association of British Members of the Swiss Alpine Club, 1950. London: Paternoster Press. 168 pages, 60 illustrations.

THIS book is appropriately mentioned in these columns for the fact that it provides valuable help to those glaciologists who intend doing research work on snow mountains and glaciers but may not be experienced alpinists. Three excellent chapters are devoted to this aspect of the subject. Translated from the Swiss *Bergsteigen* by a panel of expert British mountaineers it speaks with double authority and is strongly recommended for the soundness of its approach and its clarity, not only to those mentioned above but to all who intend wandering or climbing in the mountains.

G. S.

**REVUE DE GÉOMORPHOLOGIE DYNAMIQUE.** (Édition de la Société d'Enseignement Supérieur, Paris). No. 1, 1950, 52 pages.

As a result of the cessation of publication of several journals it had proved difficult to find a suitable vehicle for long and heavily illustrated articles on geomorphological and cognate subjects. In order to fill this gap a new publication edited by Mm. André Cailleux and Jean Tricart has been produced. It will be published bi-monthly, each number consisting of 48 pages. The entries in the bibliographical section are "displayed," which permits of their being cut out and mounted on cards. This should be a very convenient feature, if somewhat wasteful of space.

The first number is mimeographed, but perhaps one may hope for a printed journal later. This new venture has the support of many distinguished scientists and members of other faculties and this, coupled with the well-known names of the Editors, should guarantee its success. Correspondence should be addressed to the Laboratoire de Géographie, Université de Strasbourg.

G. S.

## ABSTRACTS

DULHUNTY, J. A. On glacial lakes in the Kosciusko Region. *Journal and Proceedings Royal Society of New South Wales*, Vol. 79, Pt. IV, 1945 (published 1946), p. 143-52.

From an examination of the contours and soundings made with a specially contrived apparatus, it is concluded that abnormal conditions of vegetation and soil formation existing on the undissected, glaciated surface of the Kosciusko region have been responsible for the survival of alpine lakes throughout the post-glacial period. [G. S.]

HOUGH, JACK L. Pleistocene lithology of Antarctic ocean-bottom sediments. *Journal of Geology*, Vol. 58, No. 3, 1950, p. 254-60.

Three ocean-bottom core samples were obtained from within the pack-ice area in the mouth of the Ross Sea, Antarctica, during the U.S. Navy Antarctic Expedition of 1946-47. These cores consist of several alternations of glacial marine sediment and of fine-grained sediment which apparently is nonglacial. Age determinations of the material, made by Dr. W. D. Urry, provide a time scale on which the lithology may be plotted. Because the cores record periods of from one hundred and seventy thousand to over a million years, a record of the Pleistocene glacial history of Antarctica is provided. A comparison of this with the record for the Northern Hemisphere indicates that glaciation was contemporaneous in the two hemispheres. [Author's abstract.]