

he became Netherlands Consul-General in Calcutta and in 1938 Minister to Turkey. In 1945 he headed the Netherlands Legation in South Africa and in 1948 he was appointed to the important post of Ambassador to the U.S.S.R.

Dr. Visser received many honours including the Gold Medal of the Société de Géographie and the Back Grant of the Royal Geographical Society; he was also an honorary member of many mountaineering clubs. He was the author of many works, some of general or political interest, but mostly on glaciers and mountaineering.

Between 1921 and 1935 he led four expeditions to the Karakoram and his account of that part of the world, written in conjunction with his first wife (*Wissenschaftliche Ergebnisse der Niederländischen Expeditionen in den Karakorum und die angrenzenden Gebiete in den Jahren 1922, 1925, 1929-30 und 1935*, Bd. 2, Glaziologie: Leiden, E. J. Brill) ranks as one of the earlier classics of the modern glaciology.

CARLO SOMIGLIANA

CARLO SOMIGLIANA, Professor Emeritus of the University of Turin, died on 20 June 1955 in his ninety-sixth year. Somigliana was internationally renowned as a mathematician and physicist and his contributions to theoretical glaciology were of considerable importance and interest.

He developed a theory of glacier flow with the aim of finding a relationship and therefore a formula which would serve to determine the thickness of a glacier by means of its surface movement. The retreat of the Rodano Glacier, on which observations of surface speed had previously been carried out by Swiss glaciologists, enabled Somigliana to calculate the value of the effective coefficient of viscosity of the glacier ice by means of the formulae of his theory and his knowledge of the profile of the valley bottom. The coefficient appears in the formulae themselves. Somigliana's formula has been widely applied, even recently, to determine the thickness of many glaciers. Direct evidence obtained by other methods has confirmed its practical value.

Somigliana was the founder and President of the Comitato Glaciologico Italiano and for many years was its leading spirit. Much of his glaciological work was published in the Bulletin of that Society during the 1930's but his famous "Sulla profondità dei ghiacciai" appeared in *Rendiconti della R. Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei* as early as 1921.

GLACIOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS ON SOME OF THE OUTLET GLACIERS OF SOUTH-WEST VATNAJÖKULL, ICELAND, 1954

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Part II: OGIVES

ABSTRACT. Observations and measurements of ogives on Morsárjökull, Svínafellsjökull and Falljökull are given and discussed. The problems associated with the smaller ogives on Svínafellsjökull and the ridges below the ice falls are considered.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG. Beobachtungen und Messungen der Ogiven auf Morsárjökull, Svínafellsjökull und Falljökull sind angegeben und besprochen. Die mit den kleineren Ogiven auf Svínafellsjökull verknüpften Probleme und die Grate unter den Gletscherbrüchen werden erwogen.

FURTHER observations were made of the ogives on Morsárjökull⁶ and those on Svínafellsjökull were also examined during 1954. Skaftafellsjökull does not appear to have any ogives, probably because its gradient is not nearly so steep as that of the other two glaciers. Reference to the ogives of Falljökull will be made briefly. These glaciers are shown in Fig. 1 (Part I, p. 564).