

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editors,
The Journal of Glaciology

SIRS, *Corrasion by Drifting Snow*

In connection with your note on "The Hardness of Ice and Aerial Erosion" in the first issue of this *Journal* (Vol. 1, No. 1, p. 33), it may be of interest to some of your readers who wish to follow up this matter that I have called attention to the corrasive effects of drifting snow at low temperatures in a note published in the *American Journal of Science* (Vol. 237, 1939, pp. 145-8). Here references may also be found to earlier papers dealing with the hardness of snow at various temperatures, and observations are quoted which seem to suggest corrasive action of drifting snow.

It should, however, be remembered that wind velocity is also an important factor. It seems likely that drifting soft snow at high velocities has greater corrasive power than hard snow drifting at low speeds. The impact of ice grains driven along at great velocity will be able to corrade rocks which are harder than the ice at the prevailing temperature. Observations are still very scanty on this subject.

Geology School, University of Melbourne, Australia.
16 July 1947.

C. TEICHERT

SIRS, *South Crillon Glacier*

On p. 48 of No. 2 of the *Journal*, under the heading "Variation and Flow Rate," I note that some measure of weight is given to the observations on the South Crillon Glacier. I recall clearly that when I looked at the illustration in the *National Geographical Magazine* of the area where the observations were made, I inclined to discount their value because the ice was cut by great crevasses relatively close together. Surely the presence of such crevasses proves that the rate of surface movement has some measure of irregularity.

North Vancouver, B.C.
26 July 1947.

DON MUNDAY

SIRS, *Glacier Exploration*

I am glad to see from your note on "Glacier Exploration" (*Journal of Glaciology*, No. 2, p. 78) that we are in agreement about further research on glaciers. Although theoretical work is, of course, essential it must continually be verified by concrete example. For this purpose the only possible method, on grounds of economy, for examining the interior of a glacier must be by means of marginal crevasses and pot-holes.

Unfortunately, I am no longer in a position to continue my work on these lines but would be delighted if young and skilled mountaineers and glacier research workers could do so. In spite of my lack of success in reaching the glacier bed through a pot-hole, I believe it is possible to do so. I think it was by pure ill luck that our way was barred on that occasion in the Walchloch. I shall be very pleased to place my experience at the disposal of anyone who contemplates work of this kind.

Geographical Institute, University of Zürich.
11 August 1947.

HANS CAROL