

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
The Journal of Glaciology

SIR, "Glacierization"

I read your note on "Glacierization" and am in general agreement with it. The word was "invented" by Griffith Taylor when we were at Ross Island and adopted later by Wright and Priestley. It is a clumsy word, but it should be easily understood and I would not readily discard it. As alternatives I would vote for "ice-covered" and "ice cover."

19 Millington Road,
Cambridge
5 November 1954

FRANK DEBENHAM

SIR,

With reference to the note concerning "Glacierization" (this *Journal*, No. 16, p. 378):

1. If the term "glacierization" is unnecessary any proposed simplification is equally unnecessary.
2. If the many somewhat cumbersome terms originally devised to express useful concepts are to be changed in favor of "clarification and simplicity," much of our familiar terminology will require change.
3. Such changes would not eliminate the older forms from vocabularies or the literature, for the older forms must still be defined.
4. The term "glacierization" expresses a specific and useful concept and should be retained.

University of Minnesota,
College of Science, Literature, and the Arts,
Minneapolis
13 October 1954

RICHARD SPENCE TAYLOR

SIR,

I am strongly in favour of keeping the word in use. Professor Flint's use of "glaciation" confused me in reading his *Glacial Geology and the Pleistocene Epoch*. Wright and Priestley found a need for "glacierisation" in describing a region which is practically inundated by glaciers and ice sheets, and it is under those circumstances rather more than any other that the term allows a writer to avoid awkward expressions. Certainly it is cacophonous; yet there is a real need for a term and "glacierization" is self explanatory. Try and replace the word by another in the following expressions: "a more complete glacierization"; "increasing glacierization"; "intensity of glacierization." The use of "ice-cover," though not impossible, leaves various openings for confusion.

Pembroke College,
Oxford
8 September 1954

CHARLES SWITHINBANK

SIR,

With regard to your note about "Glacierization" in the latest issue of the *Journal*, I should like to say that I always use "glacierization" and "glaciation" in the manner suggested by Wright and Priestley. The distinction is fundamental, and if we drop "glacierization" we shall only have to make up another word. I also use "deglacierization" and not "deglaciation" (which reminds me of little men with brooms sweeping away the traces of the ice). I hope you will support Wright and Priestley against Flint.

Hamilton College,
McMaster University,
Hamilton, Ontario
1 October 1954

HUGH THOMPSON