

measured from the south-eastern margin. The position of the stakes is indicated on the graph of flow, Fig. 6 (p. 568) and on Fig. 3. Both these glaciers moved faster than Morsárjökull as would be expected because of their greater fall and greater size. The most rapid movement on Stake 4 on Skaftafellsjökull was 43 cm./day, giving 156 m./year, while on Svínafellsjökull Stake 6, the one nearest the western side of the glacier, moved fastest at 47 cm./day, giving 172.5 m./year. Svínafellsjökull, like Morsárjökull, moves most rapidly on the outside of the bend where observations were made but Skaftafellsjökull moves most rapidly near the centre of the ice stream and the medial moraine moves more slowly than the centre. The observations were made where the glacier is flowing along a straight part of the valley. The flow observations on both these glaciers were made about 4 km. from the glacier snout, which is rather further up-glacier than the observations on the shorter Morsárjökull.

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[Part II of this paper dealing with the ogive banding will be published in the next issue.]

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INSTITUTO NACIONAL DEL HIELO CONTINENTAL PATAGÓNICO

(National Institute of the Continental Ice of Patagonia)

ITS FOUNDATIONS AND FUNCTIONS

ARGENTINA has now a special agency for the co-ordination of glaciological studies in the region of the Patagonian ice field. The Instituto Nacional del Hielo Continental Patagónico was created by Decree of 23 May 1952. It is part of the Dirección Nacional de Investigaciones Técnicas, an office for the direction of technical research under the Ministry of Technical Affairs.

The main object of the new Institute is "to guide, direct, control, co-ordinate and carry out research and scientific studies on, and in, the neighbourhood of the Patagonian ice field, including the periglacial regions and those connected with the Quaternary Ice Age". It is also responsible for a museum, information centre and library. The Decree grants "peculiar regional jurisdiction" in these respects, "without prejudice to the due co-ordination which an Institute of this nature should maintain with others concerned with research and studies of a related nature."

The first Director, Major Don Emiliano Huerta, has written to say that the new Institute is now in existence. Major Huerta is anxious to establish contact with similar institutes and societies and to keep in touch with their work; his address is c/o Presidencia de la Nación, Ministerio de Asuntos Técnicos, Buenos Aires.