

CONCLUSIONS

1. Ablation during the summer months of 1953 at about 1200 m. above sea level, near the upper limit of the supply area of Morsárjökull, averaged 40 mm./day, but 1953 was exceptionally warm.
2. The net accumulation at 1200 m. above sea level on Vatnajökull for 1951-52 was 2.38 m. of firn, which gives an approximate total accumulation for the supply area of Morsárjökull of 34.8 million cu. m. of water. The corresponding figures for 1952-53 are 0.818 m. net accumulation of firn and 10.8 million cu. m. of water. This indicates the variability of accumulation from season to season.
3. A correlation appears to exist between the rate of flow of the glacier and the weather conditions. The glacier moved faster during rainy weather. The temperature variations during the period of observation were not sufficiently great to affect the movement significantly.
4. The bulge on the medial moraine is attributed to the greater exposure of the rock wall which resulted from the milder conditions between 1890 and 1900. This agrees with the evidence of the rate of movement of the moraine and the evidence of photographs. The discontinuous moraines at the head of Skeidarárjökull can be explained by a similar process.
5. Evidence for the rapid retreat and thinning of the glacier since 1904 is very marked. The plane-table survey indicates the retreat of the snout to be about 1000 m. since 1904.
6. The remains of a moraine near the Base-camp indicate a possible late glacial extension of Morsárjökull and suggest the line along which this glacier may have been in contact with Skeidarárjökull.

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INTERNATIONAL GEOPHYSICAL YEAR, 1957-58

FOLLOWING the meeting of the Union of Geodesy and Geophysics at the Congress in Rome in September additional meetings took place to decide on the nature of the Union's participation in the proposed International Year. The Commission on Snow and Ice had already, at the Brussels Congress in 1951, proposed that glaciological observations should be made during the year. At the Rome meetings Professor G. Manley and Professor R. Haefeli were nominated as representatives of the Hydrology Association, in which the Commission on Snow and Ice is included, to attend the post-Congress meetings dealing with the proposals of the Union. These meetings took place on 27 and 28 September.

Later, the Special Committee for the International Geophysical Year (C.S.A.G.I.) met from 30 September to 4 October to coordinate the proposals from the different Associations of the Union. These proposals have now been circulated to the National Committees concerned. They include a report from the Working Group on Glaciology suggesting various ways in which glaciological work should be carried out during the International Year. A more detailed report will be made available later.

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