CORRESPONDENCE

survey, and to The Royal Society for permission to publish these results. The work was done whilst I was seconded from the Meteorological Office to The Royal Society I.G.Y. Expedition.

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ANTARCTIC ICE TERMINOLOGY: ICE DOLINES¹

Large steep-sided depressions in the glacier ice of the George VI Sound region were reported by members of the British Graham Land Expedition 1934-37 and by aviators of the American "Operation Highjump" in 1947. Fleming (Geographical Journal, Vol. 91, No. 6, 1938, p. 512) called the holes "ice calderas" and Stephenson (in Rymill's Southern Lights, London, 1938, p. 194) talks of "a crater-like formation". Byrd (National Geographic Magazine, Vol. 92, No. 4, 1947, p. 504) used the term "ice volcanoes". Similar, but rather bigger, depressions are found around the borders of the Amery Ice Shelf in MacRobertson Land and a number of them have been photographed by the Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions.

It is likely that the depressions result from collapse of the surface ice after bodies of englacial water are drained, the mode of formation being similar to that of the smaller holes found on Greenland glaciers. (Details are given in an article by Mellor and McKinnon on p. 83.) The earlier names used for these features are inappropriately suggestive of volcanism and it seems better to draw a parallel with the subsidences which occur in karst country after the collapse of underground chambers. The name "ice doline" was suggested by Dr F. Loewe and I would now like to propose this term as an addition to Antarctic ice nomenclature.

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¹ See photograph facing p. 84.

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