

BOOK REVIEW

ANTARCTICA. By GRIFFITH TAYLOR. Regionale Geologie der Erde. Bd. 1, Die alten Kerne, Abschnitt VIII, 34 pp., index. 11 figs. Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft, Leipzig, 1940. Price 7.80 RM.

Dr. Taylor has attempted the difficult task of bringing together data pertaining to observations on the geology of the Antarctica, a continent with an approximate area of 5,100,000 square miles, excluding the Ross Shelf Ice.

Chapter I deals with the relation of Antarctica to other continents. An attempt is made to correlate the great structural features of South America and Australia with structural, or supposed structural features, of Antarctica. A continuation of the Antarctandes through Antarctica to New Zealand is suggested by Dr. Taylor. He suggests that the Artesian geosyncline in Australia corresponds with the theoretical great downfold extending from the Ross to the Weddell Seas and is the counterpart of the La Plata depression of South America. Chapter II is one on the areal geology of East Antarctica in the region of the Great Fault Scarp. A brief statement is made of the stratigraphy of East Antarctica and the Palmer Land (West Antarctica) region, and a rapid survey is given of the detailed geology of special areas. Chapter III deals briefly with the areal geology of the coasts south of the Indian Ocean and south of Africa. Chapter IV treats of the areal geology of West Antarctica. A brief statement is made about the Edsel Ford Ranges, Marie Byrd Land, and four pages of text review the research of the Swedish Antarctic Expedition, 1901-03. Chapter V describes Antarctic physiography and includes a discussion of the general features of erosion under polar conditions with special reference to the ice-forms and land-forms which are characteristic of the Antarctic Continent. The discussion is concerned principally with the ice of South Victoria Land. Chapter VI is a summary. There is one page of bibliography, and an index of some five pages of authors, fossils, places, and terms.

Suggested corrections in the figures and text are as follows. In Fig. 2, Peter Isle should be Peter I Island, and Mt. Nansen, Mt. Fridtjof Nansen. Ellesworth should be spelled Ellsworth. In Fig. 3, Edsel Ford Range should be changed to Edsel Ford Ranges, and Mt. Haines to Haines Mts. In Figs. 4 and 10, MacMurdo Sound should be McMurdo Sound. In Fig. 7, Rea Mts. should be Mt. Rea, and Fosdick Mt., Raymond Fosdick Mts.

Ellesworth should be spelled Ellsworth on pages 2, 3, 6 and 7. A statement on page 7 is incorrect. Stewart (*Proc. Am. Phil. Soc.*, 1934) did not deny that the rocks of Marie Byrd Land should be classed with the Andean rocks. In fact, this article dealt not with Marie Byrd Land specimens, but with rocks from South Victoria Land. On pages 8 and 15, reference is made to Mount Nansen, when it should be Mount Fridtjof Nansen. Mount Nansen is in the Terra Nova Bay region, South Victoria Land, and Mount Fridtjof Nansen is in the Queen Maud Mountains, S.V.L. McMurdo Sound and MacMurdo Sound are used interchangeably. McMurdo is correct. On page 19, in referring to the Edsel Ford Ranges, the statement is made, "The series of younger folded sediments found in the Queen Maud area is entirely wanting." As far as is known, there are no "younger folded sediments" in the Queen Maud Mountains. On pages 20-24, there is a discussion of the pre-Tertiary and Tertiary rocks of West Antarctica. The data presented is a review of the work done by the Swedish explorers and no reference is made to the findings of the Expédition Antarctique Belge, 1897-99, Expédition Antarctique Française, 1903-05, and 1908-10, and the British Graham Land Expedition, 1934-37, in West Antarctica. On page 34, Nordenskiöld should be spelled Nordenskjöld.

In one instance apparently the original scientific reports of an expedition were not consulted. On page 18, a paper by Priestley and Tilley is referred to instead of Reinisch's "Petrographische Beschreibung der Gaussberg-Gesteine."

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