

## BOOK REVIEWS

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HOUGH, JACK L. 1958. *Geology of the Great Lakes*. Univ. Illinois Press, Urbana. xviii + 313 pp., 75 figs., 22 tables. \$8.50.

A devotee of the Great Lakes since his boyhood, it is entirely fitting that Jack Hough should produce the first full treatment of Great Lakes glacial history since the monographic work of Leverett and Taylor in 1915 (*The Pleistocene of Indiana and Michigan and the History of the Great Lakes*. U. S. Geol. Surv. Monograph 53). Hough writes in a lucid simple-English prose, and the publishers have complemented his style by providing a clean-cut simple cover and binding. I found the whole to be very well done.

The book is presented in essentially two parts. Approximately the first half is a straightforward nontechnical review of the modern Great Lakes, the preglacial history of the region, Pleistocene glaciation, and the several means by which events in the Lakes' histories are dated. The second half deals with the details of the histories of the lake-stages. This section is technical in its approach and in the detail and rigor of its reasoning, but is well written and the attentive non-geological reader should have little difficulty in following it. The author here deals with a wealth of detail, but by subdivision into sections dealing with each lake separately he inconspicuously obtains the reiteration necessary for the orientation and instruction of the reader. His cross-referring to conditions in other lakes during the discussion of

each lake facilitates the reader's use of the 26 lake-stage maps wherein conditions in the several lakes are integrated. These maps contain a great deal of information and will be widely used.

There can be little doubt that the author has been successful in his avowed (p. viii) purpose of revising and up-dating the glacial history of the Great Lakes. His pointing out of areas of data-lack, areas of conjectural interpretation, and areas of disagreement should do much toward the stimulation of research in Great Lakes glacial geology.

Aside from its primary geological function, this book will be both informative and useful to limnologists and fishery biologists. The various and varying outlets of the Great Lakes stages have long been known to have provided means for the distribution of aquatic species. This most recent summary of drainages and drainage-connections may contribute new light to the distributions of water organisms. It also appears that the time is about right for an examination of species-distribution data to see if they have any collateral uses in clarifying dubious points in the geological history.

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