

western slope of Beinn Laoghal, a second passing through the hollow occupied by the loch of that name, and a third round the eastern slope of Beinn's Tomaine. The stages in the gradual retreat of the mass of ice that moved down the valley of Loch Laoghal are clearly marked by a succession of moraine terraces, which enclose the small lochans shown on the chart to the east of Loch Creagach and Loch Slaim.

Loch an Dithreibh is a rock basin lying in hornblendic and micaceous gneisses, whose strike is nearly north and south and nearly parallel to the direction of the lake. They are admirably exposed on the great crag on the east side of the loch. The solid rock is not exposed at the lip of the basin, but at a point in the stream about a quarter of a mile below the outlet at a height of 261 feet, the surface of the loch being 267 feet above sea-level, and the deepest part of the basin being 157 feet.

Loch Syre, like many of the lochans east of Loch Laoghal, is surrounded with morainic deposits.

NOTES ON THE BIOLOGY OF THE LOCHS OF NORTH SUTHERLANDSHIRE.

By JAMES MURRAY.

Tow-nettings were taken in seven of the lochs. These include three deep lochs (Hope, an Dithreibh, and Laoghal), two very shallow lochs (Chaluim and na Meide), while Loch Naver is intermediate. The biological phenomena are in accordance with those differences, the plankton of the deep lakes being relatively poor, and similar to that of great lakes in general, the shallow lakes having a large admixture of littoral forms.

All the lochs were rich in algæ, especially Desmids, including many of those conspicuous species of western type, alluded to by Messrs. West, which are so characteristic of the extreme north-western fringe of Europe. The northern species of *Diaptomus*—*D. laciniatus*, *D. laticeps*, and *D. Wierzejskii*—which are so widely distributed in the north of Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, and the western isles, and which are common in many lochs immediately adjacent, both to the east and south, are absent from most of the lochs of this district. *D. laticeps* is in Lochs na Meide and Naver, *D. laciniatus* in Loch na Meide only. *D. gracilis* is in six of the lochs, and in five it is the only species.

In the short lists of organisms following the name of each loch, species of general distribution are omitted, only those being included which are interesting on account of their distribution or rarity.

Loch Hope.—*Leptodora*, *Daphnia hyalina* (head rounded), *Diaphanosoma*, *Floscularia pelagica*, *Triarthra longiseta*, *Clathrulina*