

north-east and south-south-west fault skirting the eastern shore, whereby the Torridon Sandstone has been thrown down against the Archæan floor on the east side. A glance at the map will show how the contour-lines run parallel to that fault and close to the shore, and that the deepest sounding, 153 feet, is not far from the line of this dislocation.

*Loch Urigill* and *Loch Maol a' Choire* are shallow rock-basins in the Cambrian limestone, the erosion of which may be partly due to solution.

*Loch Borralan* lies along the line of a consequent valley, near the headwaters of the river Kirkaig, and probably not far from the original axis of uplift in early Palæozoic times. It is a shallow rock-basin, floored by igneous rocks which belong to the igneous mass of Cnoc na Sroine, with some drift along its margin.

From the evidence now adduced, it is obvious that the plateau of Archæan gneiss with its intrusive dykes is dotted over with lakes of various sizes, which, with the exception of the lower part of Loch Assynt, are of moderate depth. Indeed, most of them are shallow basins, which reflect the varying types of gneiss and intrusive dykes and their subsequent deformation. It is, no doubt, true that the numerous shear-lines and faults of pre-Torridonian age that traverse the Archæan plateau have determined to some extent the features of these lakes; but we are, nevertheless, of opinion that the evidence taken as a whole is in favour of the theory that they have been mainly produced by the erosive action of ice.

---

#### NOTES ON THE BIOLOGY OF THE LOCHS IN THE ASSYNT DISTRICT.

By JAMES MURRAY.

Only an incomplete sketch can be given of the biology of this district, as collections of plankton were made in only twelve out of the twenty lochs surveyed. Loch Assynt is the largest loch in the district, but four others, viz., Lochs Lurgain, Skinaskink, Bad a' Ghail, and Owskeich, are moderately large and of considerable mean depth, so that they fall to be classed rather with the large lochs than with the small ones. The remainder are small or of low mean depth.

The fauna of the plankton was very uniform throughout these lochs, differing chiefly in the presence in some of them of one or other of the northern species of *Diaptomus*, *D. Wierzejskii*, *D. laciniatus*, in the *Daphnia* being *D. lacustris* in some and *D. galeata* in others, and in the greater abundance of Rotifera and Rhizopods in the shallower lochs. Though the three common Scottish species of *Diaptomus* were