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DISCOVERY IN EASTERN WASHINGTON OF A NEW LOBE OF THE PLEISTOCENE CONTINENTAL GLACIER

By Professor WILLIAM H. HOBBS
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STUDIES made during the past field season¹ in eastern Washington have disclosed the presence there in Late Pleistocene time of a hitherto unsuspected lobe of the Cordilleran continental glacier. This lobe covered an area of nearly four thousand square miles and is to be known as the Scablands Glacier Lobe. It blocked the Spokane River of that time to impound the waters in Glacial Lake Spokane. This lake included the basins of Lakes Coeur d'Alene and Pend Oreille and extended across Idaho into Montana (see

Map I). Its area was thirty-one hundred square miles. When the glacier had evacuated the Scablands, Lake Spokane expanded a distance of one hundred miles down the canyons of the Spokane and Columbia rivers to the site of Coulee Dam as Glacial Lake Leverett.

The lava plain which lies to the southwest of Spokane has a surface development almost unique, and has long been known to its inhabitants as the "scablands." To geologists of the late decades it is known as the "channeled scablands" from the apt description by Professor J Harlan Bretz,² who has de-

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² Of Dr. Bretz's many papers treating of the area the

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