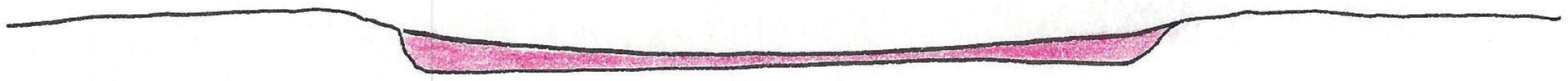
Snow sealed in edges of lake and has made a good winter retreat for lemming. a cross-section of this lake is thus:



As is usual in other places, the wind has filled in the depressions and has exposed the high points. Set traps on mounds and along 1/2 of the north shore, all of the east shore and 1/2 of the south shore of the lake SW of the mounds. no 1 and 2 mounds, 10 traps each; no 3 mound to no 12 mound with 5 traps each and no 13 mound with 14 traps. Mound no. 13 was trapped last year in September (see records of 1951) and while there were numerous runways only one Lemmus was captured at that time. 65 traps 4 meters apart were placed along the shoreline of the lake. Examined several places on mounds where Eskimos had placed grass under or by old mammal skulls that had, in previous years, been excavated; as perhaps an offering to the departed mammals or their own departed. at one mound 2 pieces of old pottery were placed under a board of masonite. Several lemming trails were under 2 inches of standing water indicating that the snow, since winter, is melting and the general water level around the mounds is raising. nests of this year (lemming) are exposed in the snow because of the heat from the animals has melted the snow roof directly above or surface snows have melted and exposed the nests. One reason to believe the melting is due to the lemmings is because the area around the sides of the nest (some 2 inches) also is free of snow. Except for exposed mounds, this area appear much as it would in winter except area beyond mounds is about 20% exposed or free of snow. Snow bunting, longspur, jaegers in area as well as Baird sandpipers of the shorebirds. The Eskimos are already in tents NE of the mounds. They spend the winter at Barrow Village. Returned to Arctic Research Laboratary and made final arrangements for housing and logistic support.