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Holes in snow and ice! Everyone has noticed how the surface of snow and ice may be perforated with holes often extending downward a considerable distance. Upon examination, the cause may be found; in the case of snow, a leaf lying on the surface and absorbing the full radiation from the sun will melt the snow and slowly sink, leaving a hole. In Greenland the ice cap is honeycombed with holes, two to four inches in diameter and about 12 inches deep. These holes are caused by sand blown there from ice-free coasts; the sand, like the leaf, absorbs heat from the sun and melts itself out of sight.

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