and has a pronounced minimum. The Laplacian in the vicinity of that minimum is certainly *positive* as it is also over a large area surrounding the minimum. Thus the divergence is *positive* in that area.

Although the authors do not explicitly identify that area of negative $b$ with a region av convergence ($\mathrm{div}_2\ \mathbf{V} < 0$), they draw attention to the resemblance with the negative tendency field corresponding to a topographically produced convergence area (Fig. 8). Naturally they did not imply resemblance in position and shape only, as is clear from the context.

Yours sincerely,

F. A. BERSON

## REFERENCES

BOLIN, B. and CHARNEY, J., 1951: Numerical Tendency Computations from the Barotropic Vorticity Equation. *Tellus*, **3**, p. 248—257.

BOLIN, B. and NEWTON, H., 1952: Report on a conference on the application of numerical methods in forecasting atmospheric flow patterns. *Tellus*, **4** see p. 143.

CHARNEY, J. and ELIASSEN, A., 1949: A numerical method for predicting the perturbations of the middle latitudes. *Tellus*, **1**, 2, pp. 38—54.

## REPLY

Dear Sir,

We should like to thank Dr. BERSON for pointing out an inconsistancy in our article on the influence of the mountains on the flow pattern at the 500 mb surface. Checking the original computations once more we have found that the inconsistancy is explained by a drafting error in the sign of the isopleth labels of figure 7. Our conclusions therefore remain as before.

Sincerely yours

BERT BOLIN, JULE CHARNEY