ing rope that had caused all the trouble with Pratiman. No, it was the coils of thin grey nylon rope which we had been carrying to fix, that had given so much trouble to rescuers. Bisht in fact told me later that he had to cut this rope to free Pratiman.

Lastly, on p. 241, Saith says that I was 'almost ostracized' by many in the camp after the accident. I fail to understand what he means. It is only true that I was allocated the luxury of a roomy tent by myself so that I could rest and so that the doctor could examine me at ease.

P. M. DAS

Dr S. A. Craven, 14 Mount Road, Rondebosch 7700 South Africa. 14 July 1983

Dear Mr Kapadia,

Since your letter I have received with thanks the *Himalayan Journals 37* and 38. I was particularly interested to read of the disappearing rivers in Tibet on the way to Kailash-Manasarovar. Shortly after the Chinese takeover of Tibet, Arnold Waterfall, a past-President of the Craven Pothole Club and noted student of Tibetiana, was entertaining a refugee Lama in the Yorkshire Dales, a typical karst area where the rivers sink in the limestone hills and reappear lower down the valleys. This Lama was most enthusiastic, and said that it reminded him of home. I am convinced that there is a virgin caving area in Tibet. If you have a gap to fill, you may like to mention this in your next Journal.

With kinds regards.

DR S. A. CRAVEN