

ICE LADEN



After a hectic trip from Hallett we pulled into McMurdo covered with ice, gliding like a ghost ship and glittering like tinsel on a Christmas tree. The trip over took one and one-half days, but it took over three days to return. The majority of the crew spent most of the trip in their racks, the reason being that the Southern Ocean is the most turbulent in the world. Without land to halt them, the great cyclonic southern storms move ceaselessly around the world. The ocean surface is never still from New Zealand south to the edge of the ice pack. In the "Furious Fifties" and "Screaming Sixties" sixty knot winds are common. Seas tower up to sixty feet high above the ships, which roll their way violently to and fro.

