



FIG. 1.—Various interpretations of the major faults of the South Island.

closely on field observations, shows fault lines much less arcuate. In 1937 Henderson favoured a brittle crust fragmented into wedge-like blocks, but retained segmentation of the front of the Alps in the Nelson and North Westland region similar to what he had shown in 1928, with main breaks in continuity at the Taramakau and Ahaura Rivers (Fig. 1A). In a diagrammatic section that crossed the fault on the west side of the Spenser Mountains, a little south-west of Lake Rotoroa, he used the name "Alpine Fault"; in the text he used "Wairau Fault" in describing the same area, and the introduction of "Alpine Fault" seems to have been almost inadvertent. It may be justifiable, however, to speculate that the