

The first meeting of the 1966-1967 season was held in the auditorium of the Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, B.C., on the evening of October 11, 1966. The occasion was International Antarctic Day, proclaimed by the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, a Committee of the International Council of Scientific Unions, The Committee on Polar Research of the National Academy of Sciences requested the Antarctic Society to organize appropriate activities in Washington to celebrate 10 years of international scientific cooperation in the Antarctic. For the occasion The Society's Program Committee asked the Honorable Paul C. Daniels, Honorary President of the Antarctic Society and principal negotiator of the Antarctic Treaty of 1959, to address the Society. The committee arranged for a week-long exhibit also at the Museum of Natural History.

Ambassador Daniels was introduced by Dr. Thomas O. Jones, Division Director, Environmental Sciences, and Head, Office of Antarctic Programs, National Science Foundation. The Ambassador spoke on the topic "Does Science Contribute to World Peace?" He pointed out that, while science has contributed to the technology of warfare, science itself has not been responsible for conflict among countries. Subjects of scientific investigation, such as weather, ocean currents, cosmic forces, and bacteria, are not confined within national boundaries. Their studies can best be carried on when scientists in all parts of the world participate in related investigations and exchange data freely. The pursuit of science creates an atmosphere conducive to international cooperation and hence world peace. The Antarctic Treaty has created scientific cooperation and exchange in one part of the earth, and combined it with man's great hope for world peace.

The exhibit was most successful and drew many interested spectators. The Society owes its thanks to Mr. Walter R. Seelig of the National Science Foundation and to Major Sidney J. Verlautz, USA, of the U.S. Naval Support Force, Antarctica, who set up the exhibit, and to Dr. William J.L. Sladen of The Johns Hopkins University and to the U.S. Geological Survey for most interesting contributions. Use of the auditorium and exhibit space was arranged by Mr. Robert W. Mason of the Smithsonian Institution.

The Society received a number of messages on the occasion of International Antarctic Day. Dr. Laurence M. Gould, President of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research and Chairman of the Committee on Polar Research, regretted being unable to attend and expressed his appreciation to the Society for arranging suitable activities. From New Zealand came a combined cable signed by Sir Walter Nash, Prime Minister when the Antarctic Treaty was negotiated; Dr. C.E. Fleming, President of the New Zealand Royal Society; Mr. Eric Gibbs, President of the New Zealand Antarctic Society; and Mr. R.W. Billet on behalf of the Richard E. Byrd Fellowship. Mr. Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State and Chairman of the Antarctic Policy Group, sent a message which said in part:

I know that the role of the Antarctic Society over the years has been an important and useful one. That remote continent, which is the scene of fruitful international cooperation, has become better known and understood through the efforts of the Society.

A second member of the Antarctic Policy Group, Dr. Leland J. Haworth, Director of the National Science Foundation, also expressed his appreciation of the work being done by the Antarctic Society. The Explorers Club, a fellow organization with strong Antarctic interests, congratulated us on the 10 years of fruitful scientific cooperation. Much appreciated was a message from Rear Admiral Fred E. Bakutis, USN, Commander, U.S. Naval Support Force, Antarctica:

My absence today is necessitated only by my required presence in Antarctica. The more I see of this great continent, the more strongly I am convinced that the future of Antarctica is as bright as her winter is dark. The participating nations here have charted a course toward international cooperation that proudly stands for the rest of the world to follow. I join with all Operation DEEP FREEZE personnel in sending sincere best wishes on International Antarctic Day.

Dr. Jones read a telegram to Ambassador Daniels from former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, during whose administration the Antarctic Treaty was negotiated. President Eisenhower stressed the importance of Ambassador Daniels' part in conceiving and carrying the Treaty through to ratification, and pointed out the Treaty's significance in the whole context of international relations.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors on September 8, 1966, it was proposed that a newsletter be established for circulation to members of the Society. On October 20, 1966, a committee was appointed to consider the form and content of the newsletter. The members of the committee are Dr. Henry M. Dater, Chairman; and Mr. Fred Alberts and Mrs. Virginia Taylor. In the meantime these notes are being published as matters of interest to the Society.

In addition to a newsletter, the Board of Directors has under active consideration other projects of interest to members who find it difficult to attend meetings. One is the establishment of affiliates wherever several members reside in reasonable proximity and can arrange to meet together. The legal aspects are now under investigation, including possible amendments to the by-laws. Another is the compilation of a list of speakers from among Society members who will be available to address clubs, schools, and other groups.

The Officers and Board of Directors invite all members of The Society to make suggestions on the contents of the proposed newsletter and other matters of common interest. Correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary-Historian:

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The Antarctic Society is now incorporated in the District of Columbia as a Nonprofit Corporation. Full details will be sent to all members in the near future. In the interim, members are hereby informed that DUES for 1966-67 are deductible from Federal Income Taxes.

DUES (Two Dollars) ARE NOW PAYABLE FOR 1966-67

and may be given to the Treasurer after the

meeting. If you cannot attend, make your check

payable to The Antarctic Society and mail it to:

Gerald Pagano
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