



THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY

905 NORTH JACKSONVILLE STREET

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22205

HONORARY PRESIDENT — AMBASSADOR PAUL C. DANIELS

Vol. 83-84

August

No. 1

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Orientation Week Special

ANTARCTICA AND ITS RELATION TO THE GLOBAL ICE AGE

by

Dr. George H. Denton
Department of Geological Sciences
University of Maine
Orono, Maine

Wednesday, September 14, 1983

8 PM

National Science Foundation or National Academy of Sciences
Washington, D. C.

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Dr. J. Murray Mitchell, Jr., 1978
Dr. Laurence McKinley Gould, 1979
Dr. Charles R. Bentley, 1980
Dr. Robert L. Nichols, 1981
Dr. Robert H. Rutford, 1982

Dr. Denton is one of Antarctica's Good Old Boys, who has worked in Antarctica sixteen different summers. One of his former professors, Bob Nichols, introduced him to the Antarctic by making him "earn it the old-fashioned way" -by manhauling sledges. He is considered one of the world's leading glacial geologists on Antarctica. Dr. Denton, formerly on the staff at Yale University, has found peace and happiness at the University of Maine. Don't miss this lecture! It will be a great one!

The Annual Memorial Lecture for 1983 will be presented by R. Tucker Scully of the Department of State on October 12, 1983 in the Main Auditorium of the National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. The title of the Lecture is "The Future of the Antarctic Treaty System." We are hoping for a record attendance with the Polar Research Board and the USGS polar geologists in town that week. Mark it on your calendar NOW!

IGY Antarctic 25th Reunion, October 14-15, Washington, D.C. (see p. 7-8)

This Newsletter is going to be short, as time is fleeting and we have to get something out tout de suite announcing our upcoming meeting on September 14th. At press time we do not have a hall, but by mailing time we will have confirmation for our Washington area residents. This issue is sort of a special one, being devoted to something new, for us - a bibliography of Antarctic fiction. We are deeply indebted to one of our Society members, Fauno Cordes of 355 Arballo Drive, San Francisco, California 94132, for making her bibliography available to us all. I wondered why she liked Antarctic fiction until I learned where she worked - Mt. Zion Hospital Nuclear Medicine. She really needs fiction, a lot of it! Once upon a time, April 1981 to be exact, we ran a listing of Rob Flint's favorite books, which included some fictional choices. These are being repeated following Fauno's in order to have them all in one Newsletter.

FROM FAUNO CORDES. April 12, 1983. "I would be thrilled to have my bibliography printed in the Newsletter. I have read all the books except for James Fenimore Cooper (excerpts only) and D.C. Poyer. / I have all but six in my own library. I found one of the six in the library of the University of Arizona with Laurence Gould's bookplate in it! / I can honestly say that some of the books on the list are the worst that I ever have read. A couple of them are excellent. Most are mediocre. I don't know of any other continent that has been so abused. / I have been amazed that there is no Jack London or even Alistair MacLean of the South. I have spent my whole life with MDs and PhDs, and learned early that scientists have an artistic side. It seems strange that none of the Antarcticans has taken up pen in the tradition of Isaac Asimov or Fred Hoyle. It is even stranger when you consider that most of their autobiographical books are well written. / I do hope that my list will inspire someone to take up a pen and write the great Antarctic novel. The public needs some good information."

August 2, 1983. "A Fall printing sounds great The interesting news is [that] Charles Neider just finished the Antarctic novel he has been working on for eight years. I hope I get some additional items from the membership."

August 7, 1983. "I just finished reading the July Newsletter and I would like to comment on the review of 'The Birth of the People's Republic of Antarctica.'¹ / It is one of the latest additions to my bibliography of Antarctic fiction. I hate to tell you this, but it is one of the better books on my list. Aside from the coordinates of the map on page 174, the factual information, which then becomes fictionalized, is fairly accurate. / A good well-written novel on the Antarctic will stir public opinion far more than 'Let's Save Antarctica.' Since the current treaty is about to expire, it may be important to stir the public. Meanwhile, until Charles Neider's novel is published, John Calvin Batchelor is the best Antarctic novelist around. / For a really bad recent Antarctic novel, I would like to recommend 'Fire Below Zero'¹ by Nico Mastorakis and Barnaby Conrad. If that is not available, try 'Down To A Sunless Sea'¹ by David Graham. After you read any of the above, I think you will agree that the Antarcticans should demand better representation in the literary field."

The Emerging Face of a Continent - A Bibliography of Antarctic Fiction

Antarctica is the last continent to have been discovered. It took about 150 years of exploration for the true image to emerge from the mists and

mirages. Charts of the coast were made, disputed, and resurveyed. The inland areas were photographed from the air with special cameras.

During this time, fiction writers grasped what few facts and quotes were available. They wove tales of fact and fantasy for child and adult. Many of them hoped desperately for a warm, inhabited Antarctica. The resulting stories fall into these categories; fantastic high adventures, and stories based on historic expeditions.

This bibliography does not include autobiographical poetry, historical novels, and children's penguin stories.

I would be grateful for any additional titles or information.

PRE-SCOTT: Most of the stories written before the Scott Expedition of 1902 are fantastic high adventures.

- 1829 (revised) *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by Samuel Taylor Coleridge. A ship sailing in the Southern Ocean is cursed when a mariner kills an albatross, a pious bird of good omen.
- 1837 *The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket* by Edgar Allan Poe. The survivors of a sailing ship mutiny drift southward beyond Bennett's Island (82°50'S, 42°20'W). They discover that the warm polar, islands are inhabited by a black people.
- 1849 *The Sea Lions* by James Fenimore Cooper. Two rival schooners named "Sea Lion" search for a mysterious sealing ground in the Antarctic Ocean.
- 1869 *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne. Captain Nemo, using the submarine "Nautilus" as an icebreaker, cuts the polar circle at the 55th meridian. He sails for the South Pole, an island separated from a continent by a canal. Poe's Narrative is mentioned.
- 1888 *A Strange Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder* by James de Mille (published posthumously). The poles of the earth are flattened and nearer to the hot core than the lower latitudes. The south polar lands, and vast inland sea are therefore warm. A marooned seaman discovers and lives with a group of Troglodytes, one of several native polar peoples.
- 1894 *Centuries Apart* by Edward T. Bouve. A 19th century U.S. Army expedition is blown south of Africa. They discover a warm current which flows south into an open polar sea. A large colony of 16th century Englishmen is found living on a large polar island.
- 1899 *The Wreck of the South Pole* by Charles Curtz Hahn. A shipwrecked mariner discovers a warm South Pole and inland sea inhabited by a telepathic civilization. A sudden precession of the poles causes a world-wide catastrophe.
- 1901 *Beyond the Great South Wall* by Frank Savile. A British Lord inherits several 16th century Mayan artifacts which lead him to undertake an expedition to an active volcanic Antarctica. There, in an area south of Bovet's Island, he discovers mummified Mayans, gold utensils, and a live Bronto-saurus excelsus. The title page etching depicts a walrus. Borchgrevink is mentioned.
- 1901 *The Great White Way* by Albert Bigelow Paine. The central heat of the Earth is brought to the surface by oblation of the poles. A civilization, similar to the Incas, lives in a warm central Antarctica. The story is based on Borchgrevink¹'s report of a warm current below 71°S flowing from the direction of the South Pole.

1906 *Au Pole Sud A Bicyclette* by Emilio Salgari. [This story possibly was published in 1909 under the name "Una Sfida Al Polo."] An American and English expedition to the South Pole starts from Baltimore to settle a gentlemanly wager. A bicycle team pedals from the base of the peninsula to the pole. A great deal of factual, historical, and fanciful polar information is presented and is augmented by interesting engravings.

POST-SCOTT: Stories based on incidents during historic expeditions and whaling adventures begin to appear.

1928 *Over the Polar Ice* (Andy Lane series) by Eustace L. Adams. A teenage aviator flies from New York to the South Pole and back.

1930 *Lost at the South Pole* (Ted Scott Flying series) by Franklin W. Dixon. A young aviator is involved in a race to become the first to fly over the South Pole. Base camp is presumably near to where the Queen Maud Range is joined by Carmen Land. The hero is attacked by a great auk.

1931 *South of Zero* by M. I. Ross. A boy stows away on an expedition ship bound for Ross Island. Most of his adventures are based on incidents of historic expeditions.

1931 *Bird Life at the Pole* by Wolcott Gibbs. Mr. Herbst, a newspaper publisher sends Commander Robin, a Junior League girl, and ship "Lizzie Borden" to Antarctica.

1933 *Unthinkable* by Francis Sibson. The South African Antarctic Expedition is marooned in Antarctica. Their struggles for survival are based on the exploits of Shackleton and Campbell. The theme is anti-airplane.

1934 *Whalers of the Midnight Sun* by Alan Villiers. A Tasmanian boy stows away on a whaler bound for Antarctica. The Captains discovers a passage at the foot of Graham Land, proving that it is an island.

1935 *Dian of the Lost Land* by Edison Marshall. Scientists find tribes of Cro-Magnons and Neanderthal living in a warm Antarctica. The continent had been connected still to South America and Africa at the end of the Pleistocene. Inspired by a Byrd quote.

1938 *Last Port of Call* by Heinrich Mauser. A married man leaves his family in Germany, boards one of the last sailing ships in Copenhagen, and sails for Australia via the Southern Ocean.

1946 *The Man Who Missed the War* by Dennis Wheatley. An engineer, who designs trans-Atlantic shipping rafts, and a stowaway drift to Antarctica. Landing at 67°30'S, 77°10'E, they discover a warm valley inhabited by Leprechauns and Atlanteans who are influencing the outcome of World War II.

1949 *White City* by Paralee Sweeten Sutton» A young couple, lost in a small airplane, discovers a luxurious¹, centuries old, civilization in Antarctica. The inhabitants live by a lake kept ice-free by hot springs. They use thought transference and universal communication.

1949 *The Survivors (The White South, Calling the Southern Cross)* by Hammond Innes, The whaling factory ship "Southern Cross" is beset by ice and a ruthless killer in the Weddell Sea. Based on Shackleton's 1914 expedition.

POST-IGY; The "warm Antarctica" story disappears and the world-wide catastrophe story increases.

1956 *We Were There With Byrd at the South Pole* by Charles S. Strong. A boy goes

- south on the whaler "Larsen" and joins the Byrd expedition at Little America.
- 1960 *Antarctic Raider* by W.R.D. McLaughlin. A German warship sails to the Antarctic to seize Norwegian and British, factory ships. These are found at approximately 60°S and within two time zones west of the Greenwich meridian.
- 1962 *The Disappearing Island (A Grue of Ice)* by Geoffrey Jenkins. The former commander of the British Naval forces based on Deception Island is taken aboard the factory ship "Antarctica." He is the key to unravelling wartime mysteries involving Bouvet and Thompson Islands.
- 1963 *Secret Under Antarctica* by G. R. Dickson. A boy goes to Antarctica as an assistant to his scientist father. Under the ice, he discovers a submarine yacht which houses the Tropicana movement to reassemble Gondwanaland.
- 1964 *Quick, Before It Melts* by Philip Benjamin. A journalist from Sage Magazine is sent to the Antarctic to report on the IGY. Wending his way through raucous adventures, he engineers a spectacular "scoop."
- 1965 *Forbush and the Penguins* by Graham Billing. A scientist lives alone in an historic hut to study penguins.
- 1967 *My Boy John Went to Sea* by James Marshall. A boy ships out on his father's whalecatcher. The catcher crew tries to tow a blue whale during a fierce storm.
- 1970 *The Survivor* by Thomas Keneally. The survivor of an Antarctic expedition returns after a grave is found. It contains the remains of the man he abandoned forty years before.
- 1970 *Cape of Storms* by John Gordon Davis. A nurse and a marine biologist ship out from Capetown aboard the All England Whaling Company factory ship "Icehammer" and catches "Fourteen." Racial violence plagues the voyage and return to Africa.
- 1971 *The Ice People (La Nuit Des Temps)* by Rene Barjavelo. A French Antarctic expedition finds the remains of a 900,000 year old civilization under the south polar ice cap. A woman, Elea, is awakened.
- 1971 *Miss Bianca In the Antarctic* by Margery Sharp. Two mice go to the Antarctic to rescue a Norwegian poet. They are imprisoned by a polar bear cub on an exchange visit and, in turn, are rescued by Adelie penguins, an Emperor penguin, and a helicopter.
- 1975 *The White Ship* by Ian Cameron. In 1819, the brig "San Delmar" was wrecked on Candlemas Island, an active volcanic island in the South Sandwich archipelago. In 1974, a young graduate historian is possessed by one of the passengers of "San Delmar." She induces the British Antarctic Survey to send an expedition to the island.
- 1976 *Leviathan* by John Gordon Davis. The director of Magnus Oceanics takes his ship and crew to the Antarctic to blow up the Russian factory ship "Slava."
- 1978 *Victim of the Aurora* by Thomas Keneally. The news media member of the New British South Polar Expedition is murdered. The episodes are patterned after the saga of Scott's last expedition.
- 1979 *Icequake* by Crawford Kallian. Solar flares in 1985 cause loss of Earth's magnetic field. The Antarctic icecap surges and scientists try to escape the breakup.
- 1979 *The Better Angels* by Charles McCarry. A President of the United States orders the assassination of Ibn Awad of Hagreb. As an aside, the children

of President Lockwood's right-hand man tour the Antarctic aboard their stepfather's yacht.

- 1980 *Storehouses of the Snow* by Edwin Woodard and Heather Bischoff. The south polar icecap is breaking up following a sudden increase in the tilt of the Earth's axis. Volcanic eruptions occur at Deception Island, trapping the research vessel "Quest." The cruise ship "Sinbad" is beset by ice in the Lemaire Channel. Palmer Station is destroyed by earthquakes.
- 1981 *Down to a Sunless Sea* by David Graham. The Earth is in a state of chaos and nuclear war. The planet's axis is tilting and Antarctica will become warm. Two plane loads of refugees flee to McMurdo Station.
- 1981 *White Continent* by D. C. Poyer. I have been unable to locate a copy of this book.
- 1981 *Fire Below Zero* by Nico Mastorakis and Barnaby Conrad. An industrialist, born of eight parents, discovers the fatal flaw in the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Project Nova. He arrives at the laboratory base in Enderby Land in time to prevent the destruction of Earth.
- 1982 *Winter of the White Seal* by Marie Herbert. A young 19th century whaler is marooned on Livingston Island and finds companionship with a baby white seal.
- 1982 *Sur* by Ursula K. Le Guin. Using "Yelcho" as an expedition ship, a group of South American women travel to the South Pole in 1909-10.
- 1982 *The Aquarius Transfer* by Robert Joseph. A devastating drought has dried California. An iceberg is towed to Point Mugu by a converted supertanker.
- 1983 *The Birth of the People's Republic of Antarctica* by John Calvin Batchelor. Skullagrim Fiddle, driven from Sweden, the Falklands, and South Georgia during the Age of Exile, becomes the warlord of Anvers Island. His final flight is to Elephant Island where he is a prisoner for twenty-nine years.

"By the way, in case someone wants to read any of the books, I have written them up in such a way as to leave some surprises. I have tried not to reveal the endings - that would be mean."

FROM ROB FLINT. 5 January 1981. *To the Mountains of Madness* by H.P. Lovecraft. Typical H. P. Lovecraft horror-mystery-adventure.

Quick, Before It Melts (soon was made into a Minor Motion Picture).

Spoof. My favorite exchange: Reporter: "Why do all you Scientists wear red-checked shirts?" Chief Scientist: "Because we don't want to be conformists, like the Navy."

Penguins Have Square Eyes. Spoof. Don't remember much about it.

Ice by James Follett. I read it on way to ice last year. Pretty bad. Giant iceberg gets loose from Antarctic and threatens to start World War III and mow down New York. Hmmm.

The South Pole Terror by Kenneth Robeson. A Doc Savage adventure. First published in 1936.

Monday at McMurdo by David Burke (1967). Interesting in that it is an Australian's view of McMurdo politics and operations (carried to dramatic exaggeration, of course).

Miss Bianca in the Antarctic by Margery Sharp. Kid's book. Miss Bianca,

the mouse, goes on a Norwegian Antarctic expedition. She knows the polar bears she meets are at the wrong pole, but they explain that they are on an exchange visit.

Penguin Island by Anatole France. This social satire should qualify, but somehow his penguins live in the north rather than in the south. (?)

Finally there is the treasure that I was given for Christmas, *Lost in the Land of Ice* by Captain Ralph Bonehill (published in 1902, i.e. before Scott's first!). It is a "boys' book", like Tom Swift or the Hardy boys, full of adventure and moral uplift. Cap'n Ralph has got a few problems with his facts, however. "They were now in the same latitude South that Iceland is in the north - about sixty-five degrees. Only thirty-five degrees more to the South Pole," mused Bob. They sail on to the South Pole, finding open water beyond Palmer Land. The sea is full of polar bears and giant man-carrying birds. They have a terrible time with the magnetism there, which makes their rowboats spin about uncontrollably. But eventually they do retrieve all the gold and platinum and all ends well! There are penguins on the book's cover design, but none in the text.

ANTARCTIC IGY REUNION. Reunions seem to be in order this fall with the Ronne forces and the 2nd Byrd Antarctic Expedition members gathering here in town, so IGYers are going for it on October 14-15. There is no perfect time, so we might as well set a date and see what happens. Dr. Ned Ostenso, the Chippewa Falls kid who was at Byrd in 1957, has graciously volunteered his place, plus his liquor cabinet, for a bash on the evening of October 14th. There are 22 IGY people in the Washington area:

Bob Benson, South Pole 57	Rudy Honkala, Wilkes 57
Walter Boyd, Little America V 57	Joe Krank, Little America V 57
Dick Cameron, Wilkes 57	Len Le Shack, Byrd 58
Richard Conger, Everywhere 57-58	Palle Mogensen, South Pole 58
Bert Crary, Little America 57-58	Paul Noonan, Wilkes 57
Paul Dalrymple, LA 57; South Pole 58	Ned Ostenso, Byrd 57
Johnny Dawson, South Pole 58	Nicholas Ropar, Little America V 57
Skip Dawson, Byrd Trail 57	Mort Rubin, Mirny 58
Fred Fopay, Little America V 58	Phil Smith, Crevasses 57-58
Bernie Fridovich, McMurdo 57	Ron Taylor, Little America V 57
Tom Gray, Little America V 58	George Toney, Byrd 57

This constitutes a hard core, and hopefully we can build upon these men to attract a goodly gathering. If one needed a good reason for not postponing a reunion, here it is - the death list of those who wintered over in 1957 (and this is no doubt incomplete): Carl Eklund, Gerry Fierle, Ben Harlin, Nornt Helfert, Herfried Hoinkes, Bob Johns, Wes Morris, Finn Ronne, Paul Siple, Ed Thiel, and Carl Wyman (roughly 10% of the wintering-over scientists).

The USGS 3-day symposium on polar research being held in Washington at the National Academy of Sciences, 12-14 October, might attract the IGY university types to putting in orders for Washington, staying over for some socializing Friday night and all day Saturday. The Antarctic Society's 1983 Memorial Lecture will also be given in that time frame, the evening of October 12th at the National Academy of Sciences. Tucker Scully of the State Department is going to talk about the future of the Antarctic Treaty, which should be of great interest to everyone. No one is more involved in the State Department (or Washington, for that matter) than Tucker in the annual consultative talks that have been going relative to the Antarctic Treaty. How long the

reunion lasts will depend on how many people show up, and that's why we are asking IGYers to contact Dalrymple (3336 Lockheed Blvd. #204, Alexandria, Virginia 22306) ASAP with their reply - affirmative, negative, undecided! He, in turn, will then get back to the interested souls.

RAYMOND HEER, JR. (1920-1983). Ray Heer, the former Atmospheric Physics Program Manager in the Office of Polar Programs at NSF, died from a massive heart attack at the age of 63 on the 14th green of a golf club in Annapolis on 16 August. Golf was his favorite outdoor sport. If Ray had to die, he couldn't have picked more favorable conditions for himself. He had just shot a brilliant - for him - 44 on the front nine; his beloved Baltimore Orioles were in first place in the American League East; his beleaguered Baltimore Colts through some magic potion were still undefeated in their pre-season schedule; his three children were still married to their first encounters; he was grandfather to five boys and one girl; and last, but by no means least, he was still married to a lovely Kentuckian, Melva. The previous week the family had been in Kentucky attending memorial services for Mel's father, and one of Ray's sons told me that he had never been playing better golf than he had that week.

Ray was an interesting devil. When I first met him, seeking money for a grant, he said, "I'm an R.C., what are you?" I knew I was in trouble as my Protestant background included two ministers. So I answered, "My religion is baseball, I'm a Detroit Tiger fan." Ray was a sports fan, and he could understand, I think, baseball as a religion much better than he could my being a Protestant. But Ray had a short memory, and the next two times we met, he started it all over again, "I'm an R.C., what are you?" Ray always followed up the religion question with a comment, "There is no good research done in the government, it's all done in universities." But I knew at the time that our office had something universities did not have, Ray recognized the fact in spite of his prejudices, and we eventually had a successful "marriage" for about ten years of research. He was a good man to do business with; everything was up front; you could trust him. His blackboard listed all his grantees with the amount of dollars they were getting, so you knew how you stacked up against other grantees. And you never submitted a blind proposal, because he would tell you in its preliminary stages the ballpark range which probably would be acceptable. He never led me astray.

We had a common interest in sports and down through the years we both had developed a fine appreciation for lovely women, so our bond lasted until he retired from NSF. We had one great night in Boston, attending a Red Sox-Oriole game on free ducats from Oriole catcher Clay Dalrymple, and then spending the waning hours after the game drinking with most of the Orioles in a downtown Boston watering hole.

Ray had a lot of enthusiasm, and he was very versatile. I don't think he failed at many things. True, he couldn't grow a beard worthy of the name, and his goatee would have ranked no higher than a three on a scale of 1 to 10. However, he was a master candle maker; he designed and made rugs - beautiful rugs; he bought a Heath kit and put his own color TV set together. At the same time he was a docent at the Smithsonian, he was delivering the Yellow Pages for Ma Bell, and both were equally exciting to him! In retirement he was a part-time science teacher, and he loved it. It was while he was teaching and Mel was out of the house that their home in Annapolis caught fire and burned to the ground. The Heers turned this adversity into triumph by building a beautiful new home on the same site, one which reflects the originality of Ray and the charm and grace of Mel. It's a shame that this loving twosome could not have enjoyed it together for many more years.

* * * *

Support our lecture series! Come and hear Dr. Denton on September 14th - and Tucker Scully on October 12th! Both are outstanding attractions!