



# THE ANTARCTIC SOCIETY

905 NORTH JACKSONVILLE STREET  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22205

## HONORARY PRESIDENT — AMBASSADOR PAUL C. DANIELS

Our beloved Honorary President, Ambassador Paul C. Daniels, died in New York City on April 6, 1986. The Ambassador was one of the founders of our Society, and remained one of its strongest supporters. He was universally acclaimed for his efforts in helping to draft a workable Antarctic treaty, and was generally recognized as the Architect of the Antarctic Treaty.

### Presidents:

Dr. Carl R. Eklund, 1959-61  
Dr. Paul A. Siple, 1961-2  
Mr. Gordon D. Cartwright, 1962-3  
RADM David M. Tyree (Ret.) 1963-4  
Mr. George R. Toney, 1964-5  
Mr. Morton J. Rubin, 1965-6  
Dr. Albert P. Crary, 1966-8  
Dr. Henry M. Dater, 1968-70  
Mr. George A. Doumani, 1970-1  
Dr. William J. L. Sladen, 1971-3  
Mr. Peter F. Bermel, 1973-5  
Dr. Kenneth J. Bertrand, 1975-7  
Mrs. Paul A. Siple, 1977-8  
Dr. Paul C. Dalrymple, 1978-80  
Dr. Meredith F. Burrill, 1980-82  
Dr. Mort D. Turner, 1982-84  
Dr. Edward P. Todd, 1984-86

### Honorary Members:

Ambassador Paul C. Daniels  
Dr. Laurence McKinley Gould  
Count Emilio Pucci  
Sir Charles S. Wright  
Mr. Hugh Blackwell Evans  
Dr. Henry M. Dater  
Mr. August Howard

### Memorial Lecturers:

Dr. William J. L. Slader, 1964  
RADM David M. Tyree (Ret.) 1965  
Dr. Roger Tory Peterson, 1966  
Dr. J. Campbell Craddock, 1967  
Mr. James Pranke, 1968  
Dr. Henry M. Dater, 1970  
Sir Peter M. Scott, 1971  
Dr. Frank T. Davies, 1972  
Mr. Scott McVay, 1973  
Mr. Joseph O. Fletcher, 1974  
Mr. Herman R. Friis, 1975  
Dr. Kenneth J. Bertrand, 1976  
Dr. William J. L. Sladen, 1977  
Dr. J. Murray Mitchell, Jr., 1978  
Dr. Laurence McKinley Gould, 1979  
Dr. Charles K. Bentley, 1980  
Dr. Robert L. Nichols, 1981  
Dr. Robert H. Rutherford, 1982  
Mr. R. Tucker Scully, 1983  
Dr. Richard P. Goldthwait, 1984

REMEMBER !!

1986  
MEMORIAL  
LECTURE

Tuesday  
24 June

Kona Kai Club

San Diego  
California

(see page 10)

Vol. 85-86

April

No. 5

Joint Meeting

THE ANTARCTIC SOCIETY - THE EXPLORERS CLUB

AMERICA IN ANTARCTICA

by

Dr. Peter E. Wilkniss Director,  
Division of Polar Programs  
National Science Foundation

on

Saturday evening, May 17, 1986

Cash Bar - 6:30 PM : Dinner - 7:00 PM : Lecture - 7:40 PM

at

THE COSMOS CLUB  
2121 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

In accordance with the explorers' way of life, this is a dinner meeting, although non-diners can be walk-ins for the lecture. But why not join in the fun and revelry? Come drink with real live explorers, eat with them at a sit-down dinner, and then walk with them down the sacred corridors of the Cosmos Club to their auditorium where Dr. Wilkniss will tell us everything we should know about the United States program in Antarctica.

Dinner reservations, \$22 per person, MUST be made by MAY 13th!  
Make checks payable to *The Explorers Club - Washington Group*,

and mail to:

Dr. Earl G. Herminhaus  
Montebello  
5902 Mount Eagle Drive, Apt. 704  
Alexandria, Virginia 22303

## BERGY BITS

We are probably remiss in not acknowledging more of the mail which comes to us; even if you don't get an answer, we do appreciate each and every letter or card sent in. We are always looking for news items, and especially about what is going on now on the ice. Dr. Wilkniss, Director of the Division of Polar Programs at NSF and our upcoming speaker, has promised that his office will give full cooperation in our efforts to get current news items. If you are a new member - we have picked up 39 this year - you should know that this is not the official voice of the Society, but just the writings of one interested member, who strives for interesting items/stories. What you read could actually be factual, but don't bet on it!

**OUR HONORARY PRESIDENT - AMBASSADOR PAUL CLEMENT DANIELS.** Ambassador Paul Clement Daniels died Sunday, April 6, 1986 at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. His eventual demise was a heart attack which followed an operation for tongue cancer. There will be a private memorial service in June at Salisbury Cemetery in Lakeville, Connecticut.

Ambassador Daniels was born in Buffalo, New York on October 26, 1903, and early on in life saw the advantages of getting out of Buffalo. He was a Cum Laude graduate of Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, and then went on to Yale, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in his junior year. Although he officially graduated from Yale in 1924, he never really left Yale. His heart was there, he was a loyal supporter of their athletic teams, and if they should happen to have a good football team, he wouldn't think of going south for the winter until after Yale had paddled Princeton's behinds. He did postgraduate work in France at the universities of Dijon, Grenoble, and Toulouse. He was single then, and one can imagine that he fully enjoyed the good life in France. After teaching French briefly, he entered the Foreign Service, holding consular and diplomatic posts in Colombia, Brazil, Honduras, and Ecuador, -being ambassador in Honduras in 1947 and in Ecuador, 1951-53. He occupied an unlikely position (for him) as Chairman of the Inter-American Coffee Board from 1941 to 1943, although he may not have been obligated to drink the substance. On the other hand, drinking coffee for those two years may have driven him to other more pleasing liquid refreshments! He also served stints as Director of the American Republic Affairs in the State Department, and Ambassador to the Council of the Organization of American States. But his most shining hours, we hope, were those years spent as a Special Advisor on Antarctica for the State Department, working on the development of the very successful Antarctic Treaty which was truly a wondrous landmark accomplishment. For close to thirty years all nations with serious scientific intentions have been able not only to conduct their investigations without political hindrances, but to work with one another in a true family spirit of cooperation. The Antarctic Treaty has been fine-tuned a bit down through the years, but essentially it is still the same treaty, and has been a great success. Let's hope it is not cast asunder.

Ambassador Daniels visited Antarctica several times, and Daniels Range at 71°15'S and 160°00'E honors his memory. His retirement years have been outside of cold regimes, as spring-summer-fall were spent in Lakeville, Connecticut, and winters in Lafayette, Louisiana. The only clinker in his career seems to have been that he was a New York

Yankee fan, which was most unfortunate, but aren't there flaws in each of our lives? His widow, Teddy, is a very delightful lady, much prettier than the late Ambassador, and a monument to his good taste and judgment. Unfortunately they lost two children in their infancy, but one daughter, two grandchildren, and a sister survive, besides Teddy. Mrs. Daniels' address is: 105 Green Oaks Drive, Lafayette, Louisiana 70503 (until the end of May) - then: P.O. Box 346, Lakeville, Connecticut 06039.

**REFLECTIONS ON ONE OF THE REALLY NICE GUYS.** It has been somewhat of a subdued Nerve Center with the passing of our Honorary President, as he was one of our real staunch supporters. Bergy Bits felt a special kinship with him, as we both shared the same first and middle names, which was always worth a comment when sending him his Newsletter. He really liked our Society, and expressed his love by giving us shares of Eastman Kodak stock to help us along the way. He was hoping this would be "seed shares" which would encourage others to make similar donations to the Society. He presented two lectures to us, one on October 2, 1963 on "Antarctic Treaty", and the other on October 11, 1966 on "Does Science Contribute to World Peace?"

He came to town periodically, but not too often in recent years, as he suffered a mild coronary two years ago. However, back in September 1979 he met with several of us at the Cosmos Club, and around a jug of cocktails talked about how we could improve the Society. Something monumental must have been said, although all I can recall now is that a great time was had by all. Two years later on July 11, 1981, he and his lovely Louisiana bride, Teddy, came to our Mid-winter picnic at Stronghold, which was actually his last Society function. Our Society was founded by a bunch of bon vivants, guys who really enjoyed equal proportions of good talk and fine liquid libations, and the Ambassador fitted in just great with the likes of Carl Eklund, Bert Crary, Harry Dater, and some of the other planks. Walter Sullivan, the very astute, debonair science editor of the New York Times, wrote Bergy Bits that he and the late Ambassador used to "lunch in the basement restaurant of the Hay-Adams Hotel - elegant and noted for the manner in which it served martinis - straight gin plus an atomizer of vermouth." He also wrote of the late Ambassador's "complete discretion in never letting slip what was going on behind closed doors during those long treaty negotiations. We lunched periodically and I plied valiantly, but he never let anything slip."

The Ambassador's ending wasn't very easy. He wasn't aware of his plight until early this year, when he visited his dentist in January to see if his problem was a dental one. Then there was a trip to an Ear, Nose and Throat specialist, and in late February he had to go to the Sloan-Kettering hospital in New York City. He had cancer of the tongue and had to be operated on. Several days later he had a heart attack, and the following week he died. He was an habitual pipe smoker, and his widow, Teddy, pleaded with Ruth over the phone to tell all of you Antarcticans out there who smoke pipes to get rid of them - NOW! You have been duly warned, so destroy them.

We are all going to miss Ambassador Daniels, but we won't mourn his departure, as he would want us to continue to enjoy the good life. And I hope the Society, whatever it is or may become, will never stray far from the ideals he had for it. Let's raise a glass in appreciation to our Honorary President, Ambassador Paul Clement Daniels, who will never be forgotten.

**CHANGE IN BY-LAWS.** We have quite a few husband-wife memberships with each paying the full fee. Somewhat sheepishly we have taken money from both, although we send them only one newsletter, using the other membership to send newsletters to such libraries as Scott Polar Research Institute and Goldthwait at Ohio State, to people who have or are making Antarctic contributions, like Jim Caffin and Max Hamilton in New Zealand, plus copies to our Honorary members who are not billed for dues. However,

in a moment of weakness, we decided that we didn't have to be all that mercenary, so asked the Board and members if we could institute a husband-wife membership dues of only \$10 per couple. That carried unanimously. So Pete and Edna Barretta, Hal and Margaret Borns, Pete and Betty Burrill, Gene and Reba Campbell, Bert and Mildred Crary, Hugh and Jane DeWitt, Tom and Davida Kellogg, George and Sallie Toney, Mort and Joanne Turner, and Link and Tahoe Washburn, you are all going to get a small break. The Society has appreciated your most loyal support, and we thank you. Incidentally, the Society has no plans at all for raising dues, even though we haven't raised them since the late 1970's, in spite of many postal increases, including three so far in 1986. P. S. Add Allen and Ruth Franta to the couples above.

**PATRON SAINT OF THE ANTARCTIC HONORED.** We are indebted to Al (BAE II) Lindsey for the following information, as he was a house guest of the President of the University of Arizona for a week this spring, a week in which one of our Honorary members, the legend-in-his-own-time, Laurence McKinley Gould, was honored with another colleague by having a beautiful, new ten-story building named after them. Al sent us a whole portfolio of material, along with a piece of the 'coronation' rock, a slab of polished granite with an engraved plate, one of which was given to each of the 200 plus attendees.

It all happened on March 21st of this year, a day which Larry told Al afterwards was the happiest day of his life to date, which covers only eighty-nine years. There could be happier days downstream for Larry, but for now he will settle for what happened that day and rejoice in its glories. First of all, they built this beautiful ten-story, 214,000 square foot, twenty-one million dollar brick building on campus at the University of Arizona, making it the biggest building on campus. The University wanted to provide "visible inspiration to the scientists who will be working there", and so they decided to name the building after Larry and the late George Gaylord Simpson, former professor at Arizona, famed for his contribution to the theory of evolution and paleontology. The University wanted "to continue the tradition of good science which dominated the lives of Dr. Gould and Dr. Simpson," so they dedicated the Gould-Simpson Building with a keynote speech by Dr. Frank Press, President of the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Press served on at least one of the IGY Panels for the Antarctic when Larry was Director of the U.S. Antarctic Program for the IGY. Real keys were given to both Larry and Dr. Simpson's widow, so they will never be locked out of their own building. The first five floors are already being utilized by the Geoscience Department, and the sixth floor will be for research in insect neurology. The building is ninety-percent completed, so Larry has some supervisory responsibilities in front of him to see that they finish it up right.

Following the morning dedication and noon luncheon, they held open house all afternoon with a mariachi band playing typical penguin music, preselected by canvassing senior members of the Cape Crozier rookery who know Larry. Then there was a reception and cocktails, with classical guitarist, Thomas Patterson, performing. After a banquet, Larry showed a movie video of his 1535-mile dog sledge journey to Queen Maud Mountains in Antarctica. It was quite a day; in fact, Larry told Al afterwards that this building dedication was his finest honor - this from a man who has 24 honorary degrees, ten medals and awards, and three geographic features in the Antarctic named after him -Mount Gould, Gould Coast, and Gould Bay.

Our Society wishes to congratulate Larry on this great honor, and only hope that he finds the time to occasionally go over there to just sit and enjoy his building. Imagine having something named after you that cost 21M, and you don't even have to sweep its floors or clean its heads. Fantastic! That building should go a long way towards making this world a better one in which to live, but I hope those building scientists never lose sight of the fact that one of its owners once drove dogs for a living!

Incidentally, Larry now sports a beard. If you want living proof, turn to page 17 of the April issue of Arizona Highways, and there Peg and Larry are in living color. Bergy Bits looked at the picture and said, "Peg is sure a lot prettier than Larry. Wonder why she ever married him?" It couldn't have been because he ever promised her a rose garden, as the picture shows them in front of an old saguaro!

**WHO'S AN EXPLORER?** Meeting with The Explorers Club - Washington Group started Bergy Bits to wondering if there are any Antarctic explorers, or are they something of the past? We have lots of adventurers, and we have lots of scientists, but I don't think there are any more Antarctic explorers. In the Reader's Digest volume ANTARCTICA, they list Antarctic explorers down through the ages, showing 78 in all, with only six Americans, all deceased - Palmer, Wilkes, Byrd, Ellsworth, Dufek, and Siple. One could get into a big argument over which ones were really explorers, although it is this opinionated soul's feeling that the only true explorer in the American group was Byrd. The same publication shows only five living Antarctic explorers - England's Bunny Fuchs, Australia's Phil Law, New Zealand's Ed Hillary and David Lewis, and Norway's John Giaever. If Bunny Fuchs belongs on the list, then I surely think that Bert Crary belongs there, as they are counterparts across the seas. In fact, Bert and Bunny probably have better credentials than all of the rest of them.

The current chairman of the National Academy's Polar Research Board, Dr. Gunter Weller, of the University of Alaska, wrote Bergy Bits on March 28th relative to the issuing, on May 28th, at North Pole, Alaska, of four stamps honoring five Arctic explorers - Kane, Greely, Stefansson (Canadian by birth), Peary, and Henson - Peary and Henson appear together on the same stamp. Gunter asked about "rattling the chain to get Antarctic stamps." Bergy Bits loves to rattle chains, and we will start out with names Gunter mentioned as possibilities, those being Palmer, Wilkes, Byrd, Ellsworth, Dufek, Ronne, and Siple. Byrd's 100th birthday is coming up in 1988, and it would be nice if the Father of U<sub>0</sub>S. Antarctic exploration could be honored that year with a stamp.

Within the last fortnight I attended a lecture by Wally Herbert of the UK at the National Geographic Society? one of its Vice-Presidents introduced Wally with "Without a doubt, the foremost living polar explorer alive today ..." Bergy Bits was glad to find out who the National Geographic thinks is number one, although Wally doesn't seem to exactly fit the explorer mould as imagined by Bergy Bits. True, he has a beard, and any self-respecting person passing himself off as an explorer must have a beard to have any legitimacy. And he speaks well and has a fine accent. If one doesn't really have an accent, forget it; without an accent, you are nothing more than another Walter Cronkite. After hearing Wally, Bergy Bits visited the Division of Polar Programs at NSF to find out who they felt was the foremost polar explorer. Most had no nominee, although they were almost unanimous that it wouldn't be Wally. It all goes back to what we said in the beginning - there really are no more Antarctic explorers. We do have a lot of adventurers - they seem to be an ever endless lot - but let's not confuse these people with explorers, as they are nothing more than opportunistic adventurers.

If someone wanted to present a case about Crary being the foremost living polar explorer, Bergy Bits would certainly go along with that. Who has better credentials? No one! Bert was the first scientist to have "worked" at both Poles, he lived on one of the earliest ice islands, he led numerous multi-month Antarctic traverses, and he dug enough glaciological pits which, if they were put end to end, would go from Pole to Pole. Not only that, he did a lot of geophysical research in the oil fields of South America and the Middle East. And some of his very best exploration has been in bars, not only in the U.S. but worldwide. He will go to any extreme to analyze ice cubes, a pure scientist with an exploring mind.

**MCMURDO WAS A THREE-RING CIRCUS.** We understand that McMurdo never really had anything quite like this past summer, with the Footsteps of Scott, the visit of Lord Ernest Shackleton, the sinking of the SOUTHERN QUEST, Giles Kershaw, the visit of two Alaskan Eskimos, two Girl Scouts, Greenpeace, Scott Base dogs, and finally the three Americans who went recreational. But there was considerable good news, too, as no lives were lost, and Greenpeace was not able to get into Cape Evans to establish their base!

The centerpiece at McMurdo had to be the Footsteps of Scott enterprise as so many other happenings were spin-offs of that. One of the funny things that happened occurred en route to the Pole when they lost track of Scott's seventy-four-year-old footprints and ended up following some freshly-made American footprints near Mt. Hope. They followed them all the way to the mess hall, and then practically ate the small field party out of house and home. They weren't too sympathetic either when the Americans pleaded that the quarter pound of butter they were devouring was the last in camp. Supposedly these were the guys who were hauling all their supplies with them? A few hours after the Footsteps people completed their 70-day hike to the South Pole (departed Williams Field, Ross Ice Shelf, noon, 3 November; 'arrived at the Pole, evening of 11 January), their support ship, the SOUTHERN QUEST, beset in the pack ice 3,7 nm east of Beaufort Island, sank. Two U.S. Coast Guard helicopters off the POLAR STAR rescued the eighteen men and four women and flew them to Beaufort Island, from whence they were picked up by Navy helicopters from McMurdo on the morning of 12 January. The SOUTHERN QUEST had already off-loaded a ski-equipped Cessna 185 which had been chartered to bring the Footsteps fellows back from the South Pole, as they had no desire to follow Scott's footsteps back down the Beardmore. The Cessna was at Williams Field, along with polar adventurers' favorite pilot, Giles Kershaw, supposedly all set to take off for the South Pole. However, the U.S. asked him not to fly, and they brought back the Footsteps party to McMurdo. Subsequently the U.S. flew all of the expedition members out, save three who were left in the Antarctic to care for their hut and aircraft and make sure everything would be in order to be removed next year. However, there were some ruffled feathers, supposedly including some of the personnel at both McMurdo and Scott, about the treatment of the private expedition. A letter with 56 signatories told their tale. The Royal Geographical Society sent a long letter to the London Times on 24 March, 1986, published on 29 March, about "Obstacles in the Steps of Scott\*" They got a bunch of knights (Fuchs, Hunt, Scott, Shackleton, Hemming, and Bishop) to sign the letter. The only residual seems to be that authorities have banned the three expedition members wintering over from visiting Scott and McMurdo, except for the use of the post office at Scott! Who would want to visit a post office when no mail is incoming or outgoing? It all seems to be much ado about nothing, and just goes to show how things can run amuck when adventurers intrude themselves upon legitimate scientific Antarctic operations. (Bergy Bits wondered how Bunny Fuchs would have felt about it all if it had happened to him back in his heyday.) Somewhere in there some of the Greenpeace people showed up at McMurdo, and they found out in a hurry that they were about as welcome as the plague, both by the U.S. and by New Zealand, and they had to camp out on the ice!

After being in the Antarctic continuously since 1955, the U.S. decided to take two Alaskan Eskimos to McMurdo to study and report back to the NSF about survival in Antarctica. One was the Mayor of the North Slope Borough, the other a whaler. One can imagine what their report will say! Then there were the two Girl Scouts. There was a rather offbeat interview in a state of Washington newspaper about the young woman from the Northwest. She prefaced her story by telling how some Naval officer got all the men together before the Girl Scouts arrived, and told them he had a daughter the same age as the Scouts, and that it would be strictly verboten for anyone to touch either of them. He evidently established himself as their guardian angel!

Bob Thomson had come to the conclusion at the beginning of the season that the dogs

at Scott Base had served their usefulness, and had to go at the end of the season. This seemed like a most logical decision since they had done nothing constructive since the base was built in 1957, and part of their diet was seal meat. But you don't fool around with dogs, as the Japanese found out back in the IGY when they couldn't get back into camp to get their dogs out before evacuating their station. Dog lovers are international. Some were at Scott Base, and they threatened to quit, and people back in New Zealand clamored for their safe return. Everything was handled with a lot of savoir faire, and it appears that what looked like a national issue has been peacefully settled. The Kiwis were told that if the dogs were brought back, they would have to be in quarantine for a whole year and would suffer tremendously from the change in climate. They were told also that the dogs were aging, that their average age at death at Scott Base was about five years, and they would be better off being left there. The final verdict, we believe, was that the aging dogs at Scott Base would be put away at the end of the season, and the others would be kept at Scott to die a natural death.

After all the summer folks had left McMurdo, three employees of the contractor decided they needed a little recreational exercise, and evidently took off from camp without telling anyone. We heard one rumor that they wanted to climb Erebus, which may or may not be true. Regardless, they got outside of camp, and bad weather set in. Rescue teams from McMurdo and Scott bases spent three days looking for them, finally finding them seven miles from the station, evidently none the worse for their ordeal. Life is never dull in Antarctica!

**BELIEVE IT OR NOT, OLD WALT SEELIG IS FINALLY GOING TO RETIRE.** There were two people I thought would never retire - Gordon (Mirny 57) Cartwright, meteorologist in Geneva, and Walt Seelig, evermore USARP Representative in Christchurch. I think the meteorological family thought they had found a way to retire old Gordon about five years ago when he was recalled to Washington and honored for 50 years of dedicated work. But he fooled them, he hopped right back on a plane, went back to Geneva, and got back into meteorology. Walt Seelig looked potentially like another Cartwright, as he had the world in the palm of his hands, living springs and summers, escaping falls and winters. But, foremost, half of his year was spent in New Zealand, which is sort of akin to being in Heaven without dying. And there was that added bonus of being away from the Head Shed. It was really much too good for Walt, although Josephine deserved every bit of it.

Walt has been working for the government since the Taft administration, I believe, and has all this accumulated leave on which he has already paid taxes. When Congress started thinking about taxing that money all over again, Walt sashayed his old body over to the Office of Personnel Management and signed on the dotted line. So he is leaving the end of May, with some 44 years of government service behind him.

Walt is a war baby, World War I. He was born in Brooklyn, New York on 14 November 1919, graduated from Brooklyn College in 1941, and became a graduate assistant at the University of Nebraska. He went to the U.S. Geological Survey in 1942. His aeronautical mapping capabilities were considered of a higher potential usefulness than his killing instincts as a soldier, sailor, or marine, so they left him there. His luck was running high, so he continued on the roll by marrying Josephine in 1945, a marriage which was to be blessed by three little Seeligites. In 1946 he established mapping control for Alaska.

Walt's bio shows that he was on the Planning staff at the USGS from 1958 to 1960. He was Special Assistant to the Chief Topographic Engineer for Antarctica, when he was called in by the late George Whitmore in 1959 and told that he had to go to the Antarctic - on Saturday. Whitmore was supposed to go, but at the last minute couldn't

make it. At about this time, Dr. Alan Waterman, Director of NSF, was thinking about the need of developing a mapping project for Antarctica. Everyone had liked the work Walt had done, and his services were requested. His boss told him, "I wish I could tell you that you have a choice, but you don't." That's the real bureaucracy in action! So Walt was loaned to NSF for a nine-month period in 1960, and he never went home. One could say that the loan will officially terminate the end of May when Walt retires. His first position at NSF was as their Geodetic Liaison Officer, and in 1964 he became Associate Program Director, International Cooperation and Information Program. Five years later, 1969, he became the International Coordinator of the Division of Polar Programs, and has remained in this jewel of a position. He was the USARP Rep in Christchurch in 1971-72, and has filled that position continuously since 1976 - ten consecutive years, eleven overall. If he doesn't have the best job in the whole government, we don't know who does. Imagine getting paid to put in six months a year in New Zealand in its spring and summer. Fantastic way to make a living! (P.S. If you have read this and thought you were reading an obituary, our apologies, as Walt is really very much alive and doing handsomely. In fact, he should be good for at least a few more years.)

**ULTIMATE BOOK ON ANTARCTICA - READER'S DIGEST ANTARCTICA.** Unequivocally the best all-purpose book on Antarctica ever to be published! But you should realize that the book was published in Australia, and is by and for United Kingdomites. There is not a single American shown in their list of thirty-nine "major contributors." However, don't let this deter you from getting the book which is being distributed in the U.S. by Random House. There are some 900 paintings, drawings, maps, diagrams, and rare historical photographs supporting a text divided into four parts: continent and wild-life, explorers, special features, and atlas and chronology. This is really a fantastic book, one which anyone interested in the history of Antarctica must have. Bergy Bits thinks it's the most comprehensive, non-biographical book ever written on Antarctica.

The section on explorers is really an encyclopedia of all expeditions that have gone to Antarctica, with a few exceptions, such as Ronne's to Deception Island and the Norwegian-British-Swedish expedition to Maudheim. There are individual chapters, including pictures in each chapter, on expeditions of Jean Bouvet de Lozier, Joseph de Kerguelen-Trémarec, James Cook, Thaddeus von Bellingshausen, James Weddell, the Enderby brothers, Dumont d'Urville, Charles Wilkes, James Clark Ross, H. J. Bull, Adrien de Gerlache, Carsten Borchgrevink, Erich von Drygalski, Robert Scott, Otto Nordenskjöld, Jean-Baptiste Charcot, Ernest Shackleton, Roald Amundsen, Wilhelm Filchner, Douglas Mawson, Sir Hubert Wilkins, Richard Byrd, Lincoln Ellsworth, and David Lewis. Shackleton leads with ten separate chapters devoted to his expeditions, followed by Scott with eight chapters. There are eleven chapters on American efforts (one on Palmer, one on Highjump, two on Ellsworth, three on Wilkes, and four on Byrd). There are chapters on eleven different nations' activities in Antarctica: Australia, Belgium, England, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, United States, and the USSR. There are also short biographies of seventy-eight Antarctic explorers, which we have chosen to cover in a preceding section in this Newsletter, the one on WHO'S AN EXPLORER?

The Antarctic Time Chart is very interesting. There are exactly 100 significant dates shown, starting with 1501 (Vespucci) and ending with 1983 (UN). The time chart is divided into four periods: 1500-1818, the death of Terra Australis; 1819-1894, coastline takes shape; 1895-1922, age of heroes; 1923-84, mechanized age.

If one doesn't like heroes and expeditions, there is always the first section on the continent and its wildlife, which fills the first sixty-five pages (these aren't small pages, or large pages with wide, blank margins, but pages with print 8" x 11"). The special feature chapters, seventeen in number, are great, too. They include such



subjects as clothing, food, shelter, and the like, but also ones on historic huts, sledge dogs, women left behind, and other offbeat subjects. Bergy Bits found it refreshing that there is only one chapter on the Antarctic Treaty, which seems to be a stable product of every current book on Antarctica, repeating the same old material with which we all are already familiar.

Title: ANTARCTICA. Published by Reader's Digest, Distributed by Random House. Price, only \$32.95.

**HISTORY IN THE REMAKING.** Peter Webb sort of upset the applecart of the geological history of Antarctica when he, David Harwood, and Barrie McKelvey were working out of the Beardmore Camp, 'scouring sixteen sites along the Dominion Range and the Beardmore Glacier. A mere handful of rock, wood, and plant material gathered in December has resulted in the following conclusions:

1. Large portions of the East Antarctic ice sheet are only 2.5 million years old, not 15 million years!
2. Possibility of a series of massive freezing and thawings of the continental ice.
3. Recurrent formation of inland seas over East and West Antarctica resulting in ...
4. Changing of ocean circulation and raising/lowering of sea level.
5. Perhaps as much as 4,000 feet of uplift in the Transantarctic Mountains occurred within the past 2.5 million years.
6. Evidence of major faulting in the geology of the Beardmore area indicates that the mountain range had risen while the level of the ice sheet rose and fell.
7. Mountains were much lower only a few million years ago, with less ice in the ice sheets.
8. Wood samples found in sedimentary rocks appear to be from low forest or shrub vegetation similar to that found near glaciers and lakes in the Arctic, northern Scandinavia, Chile, and the Sub-antarctic islands.
9. Transantarctic Mountains during the thaw must have resembled Scandinavia with portions of East Antarctica resembling the Canadian Arctic.
10. Researchers surprised that such vegetation was able to grow within 400 miles of the current South Pole, as area had to be warm enough in summer for growth and not so dark or cold in winter to kill the plants.

An article in Science News for 8 March 1986 quoted Webb and David Elliot as saying that the wood is fairly young because it is not very fossilized. It still floats and can be burned. Peter Anderson wrote the Nerve Center that the wood samples "look like smoothed driftwood that one would find on a beach or river bank. It feels like wood, not rock. It's young stuff!!!"

**BEARDMORE PROJECT 1985-86** (Condensed from report by David Elliot). Fifteen earth sciences projects and two atmospheric sciences projects were conducted in a 74-day period, 12 November 1985 to 24 January 1986, out of the Beardmore South Camp in the central Transantarctic Mountains. The scientists were blessed with great weather which allowed them to get in 711.5 science hours of helicopter time, breaking the previous maximum hours of helicopter support by 95 hours. Food was good, cook was great, and morale ran high.

Names in this paragraph identify only the principal investigators, but stand for their groups. -- Tom Taylor made substantial collections of silicified peat of Permian age and Triassic age which showed "exceptional preservation of the anatomy of the plants." The Triassic peat is unique material, and there is "no other deposit anywhere in the world of that age. Excellent collections were also made of the *Dicroidium* flora of Triassic age; these leaf collections include cuticle material."

... Bill Hammer searched for vertebrate remains, and found 300 specimens, although "mostly of disarticulated pieces." He found "two species of *Lystrosaurus*, the carnivorous mammal-like reptile *Thrinaxodon*, three *Labyrinthodont* amphibian species, a theridont carnivore-insectivore, and possibly a new species of thecodont reptile."

... George Denton found till and glacial erratics "at high elevations on Mt. Falls, Mt. Markham, Mt. Mackellar, and the Mt. Kirkpatrick massif" which "constitutes compelling evidence for substantial overriding of the mountain range by ice." ....

Bill Cassidy found meteorites at almost all blue ice areas visited, but "significant numbers were discovered only on an unnamed glacier between the Lewis Cliffs and Coal-sack Bluff and near the Davis Nunataks." .... Ed Stump "studied the relationships of the Upper Precambrian Beardmore Group and the Lower Paleozoic Byrd Group, and established the structural relations including confirmation of the postulated folded unconformity separating the two sequences. This demonstrates that there was a separate deformational event associated with both the Beardmore and Ross Orogenies."

... James Bockheim conducted soil surveys in conjunction with Denton's glacial mapping..... Don De Paolo and Scott Borg mapped rocks and took large collections for geochemical studies..... Bert Rowell "mapped and measured sections in the Shackleton Limestone in the Nimrod Glacier region." .... Molly and Julia Miller "examined the Permian glacial and post-glacial strata of the Victoria Group, Beacon Supergroup." .... James Collinson measured sections and sampled post-glacial sequences, and "also worked with paleobotanists and vertebrate paleobiologists, providing expertise on the stratigraphy and depositional environments of the fossils."

.... Gunter Faure collected samples for geochemical analyses ..... David Elliot mapped, measured sections, and sampled volcanic rocks.

**CHIEF SCIENTIST POSITION IN DIVISION OF POLAR PROGRAMS (DPP) FILLED.** Dr. Ted E. Delaca has been selected to fill Frank Williamson's old position as Chief Scientist in DPP. His PhD dissertation at the University of California in 1976 was relative to Antarctica, being entitled "Distribution of benthic foraminifera and the habitat ecology of marine benthic algae of Antarctica." In the early 1970's he worked out of Palmer Station, studying benthic ecology and was both a project leader and chief scientist on the R. V. HERO. He was the Biology Project Leader on the Ross Ice Shelf Project from 1976 to 1978. Ted continued his Antarctic endeavors as principal investigator of the physiology of benthic rhizopoda at McMurdo from 1980 through 1985. This 42-year old scientist has been smitten by Antarctica and has apparently found a home therein, as he has been intimately connected with biological studies in Antarctica for the past fifteen years. He will be coming to the Division of Polar Programs for two years from the Scripps Institute of Oceanography where he works as a marine biologist. We wish him the best of luck ... and hope he joins our Society, as we still have room for a good man.

**MEMORIAL LECTURE IN SAN DIEGO, 24 JUNE 1986.** We will be publishing another Newsletter in mid-May relative to the upcoming Memorial Lecture, which will be given by Dr. Claude Lorius of France. It is entitled "Polar Ice Cores: A Record of Climatic and Environmental Changes", and will be presented at 8 PM on Tuesday, 24 June in the Kona Kai Club, 1551 Shelter Island Drive, less than five minutes from the intersection of 1-8 and 1-5. It is expected that arrangements will be made for us to visit Penguin Encounter the following afternoon.

**WILKINS' PAPERS GO TO OHIO STATE.**

Peter Anderson informs the Nerve Center that Ohio State has picked up the papers and memorabilia of the late Sir Hubert Wilkins. Hitherto they had been in the Wilkins Cultural Center established by two of Sir Hubert's old theatrical friends, Winston and Marley Stevens Ross. Old-timers may remember Winston under his stage name, Lanny Ross, a popular singer back in the 1930's. The Center was sort of lost in the wilderness of Montrose, Pennsylvania, so it's good news that the Wilkins' material is where it can and will be used.

When the IGY came along, they got all the scientists going to Antarctica together at Davisville, Rhode Island to be outfitted with clothes and hear a few innocuous speeches. Sir Hubert came on down from the Quartermaster Research and Development Center at Natick, Massachusetts with other Army clothing experts to help outfit the men. No one thought of asking Sir Hubert to talk to the departing scientists until the gathering was coming to a close. Finally someone said to Sir Hubert, "Would you like to speak to the group?" And he replied, "Yes, I would. When you all get down there, don't urinate in all the crevasses." That was his whole speech, although he used an abbreviated, popularized version of urinate.' It could have been the very first environmental impact statement issued for the Antarctic during the IGY.

Sir Hubert, the first man to ever fly in Antarctica, the first man to ever go under the ice in a submarine, never got to fly over the South Pole. He had made the mistake of giving an honest interview at McMurdo, which soon found its way back to McMurdo, resulting in his being ostracized by the admiral whose ego matched his drinking, and who was not receptive to anything derogatory.

Incidentally, there was a sad postmortem to that meeting at Davisville. That evening Bergy Bits returned to Natick, Massachusetts with Sir Hubert and some of the other QM people, and we were listening to radio music as we drove through the night. An announcer broke in and said that a plane had crashed at McMurdo and that lives were lost - three, although a fourth died later. All of a sudden, Antarctica was not a place of penguins and parkas and thermal boots, but a very realistic place where lives could be snatched away. It was a very quiet ride home.

**ANTARCTIC EXPLORATORIUM.**

Pat Kraker, who has been kicking around Antarctica for the past thirty years, had an accident last year when he was on a three-week bicycle tour. The cause of it was the R.V. HERO, his old ship. He sighted the HERO unexpectedly as he was bicycling across the bridge at Reedsport, Oregon, and proceeded to drive right off the bridge!

In early April of this year, Pat was invited back to Reedsport to take part in their 6th annual Spring Festival and Blessing of the Fleet. He gave a two-hour lecture/slide show on Antarctica at the local high school, so now all the kids in Reedsport know everything there is to know about Antarctica. Also present were another HEROite, Jay Morrison, second officer during its 1984 season, and Michael Parfit, whose new book on Antarctica, SOUTH LIGHT, has been getting excellent reviews all across the country.

The HERO is the centerpiece of an Antarctic amusement park named Antarctic Exploratorium, which is the product-in-the-making of a nonprofit organization called the International Oceanographic Hero Foundation. Right now all they have is the HERO, but they are planning an outdoor-? penguin pool; a Hall of Heroes where names of everyone who has ever been to Antarctica will be displayed; a cold room where people can put on polar parkas and have their pictures taken against a backdrop of "imported icebergs", It all sounds really weird. The caption across the top of the centerfold showing a pictorial of Antarctic Exploratorium reads, "The Oregon Coast Antarctic Exploratorium can be 'a great learning experience.'" Bergy Bits thinketh that it will be a two-way learning experience!

The former director of NOAA, currently president of Oregon State University, said, "A significant contribution to the State of Oregon. I encourage and support this endeavor." What a political statement! Peter Wilkniss gave a much more reserved endorsement, "You are assured of the emotional support of all connected with the Division of Polar Programs." That word "emotional" is just superb, the perfect word! Needless to say, they are looking for money, and donations should be sent to William E. Hewes, International Oceanographic Hero Foundation, P.O. Box 187, Reedsport, Oregon 97467. Telephone (503) 271-3669. Hewes is an attorney and a helicopter pilot who achieved national acclaim for his early airlifts off Mt. St. Helens.

**ICE CHIPS.** Our President, *Edward P. Todd*, along with Boy Scouts *Dick Chappell*, *Mark Leinmiller*, and *Doug Barnhart*, are going to convene in Louisville, Kentucky on 23 May 1986 to select the next Boy Scout to go to Antarctica. Why only one Boy Scout, when two Girl Scouts got to go this year? Discrimination. Aren't males and females alike once you get them into parkas and on the ice? .... *Greenpeace's* Peter Wilkinson says they are definitely going back to Antarctica, as they have \$NZ1.7M invested in the boat and its cargo. He figures it will take another \$US200,000 to go back, and they are in the process of raising it. They hope to set up at Cape Evans, and are also talking to the Footsteps people about using their old base. Meanwhile, the 34 crew members have returned to their homes . . . *Jennifer Dewey*, 44-year old illustrator of children's books, evidently had a ball at Palmer Station dancing the summer away with 20- and 22-year old youngsters. She and three other women were there with thirty men, and, according to an interview, enjoyed the dancing better than anything-else, and is looking forward to going back down next February. She was quoted as saying that it was easy to get a grant from the National Science Foundation. Whom does she know??? She hopes to publish three books on Antarctica in 1987. Will one be on dancing? .... *George Doumani* is "still married and enjoying every minute of it." I thought that stunning blonde would have left him long before this. George, who is Peace Corps Director in Yemen, is our resident Antarctic expert in that country, and recently gave the first Antarctic lecture in Arabic ever given in Yemen. George wants one of those Pucci Antarctic scarves that the Society sold many years ago, and will pay any price. I don't know anyone who has one who would sell. Is there a seller? They are a real collector's item, and to think that those silk scarves with Antarctic designs by Pucci were sold by us for ONLY \$10! .... *David Lewis* has an offspring following in his wake, as son *Barry*, 37, skippered the 47-foot yawl *RIQUITA* into Antarctic waters this past summer. He wanted to go farther south than any yacht, but was ready to compromise, saying, "We are just interested in having a look at the bloody place." They did visit Cape Hallett, Cape Adare, the Ballenys, and Macquarie Island. The season was getting late, and when they couldn't get any ice reports from *McMurdo*, headed back home. .... *Bergy Bits* and *Ruth* visited with *Henry Harrison*, BAE I meteorologist, and his wife, *Grace*, in Asheville, North Carolina in early April. There's a rain gauge on his front lawn, an instrument shelter off to one side, and business goes on as usual. Talk was mainly about his expedition, and baseball . . . *Ken Moulton's* presentation to the Society on 15 April was vintage Moulton, slides judiciously selected, text well prepared. Had a good turnout, wall-to-wall people, including many of the biggies. .... Our newest member is *Commander Maurice Gibbs*, who started out as an enlisted man weather observer on Deep Freeze I aboard the *USS ARNEB*. Later he served with Captain *Edwin MacDonald* and Admiral *Doc Abbot*. He wintered over at *McMurdo* as a meteorological lieutenant in 1966-67, and has been to Antarctica a bunch. How come he got so smart so fast and got all those promotions? .... *Bergy Bits* recognizes that this Newsletter is very opinionated, and probably has something objectionable in it for everyone. We hope we didn't slight someone by not offending him/her. But really, we meant no harm!

REMEMBER!!! If you move, PLEASE let us know!