



THE ANTARCTIC SOCIETY

905 NORTH JACKSONVILLE STREET
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22205

HONORARY PRESIDENT — AMBASSADOR PAUL C. DANIELS

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No. 4

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Mr. James Pranke, 1968
Dr. Henry M. Dater, 1970
Sir Peter M. Scott, 1971
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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 R. Bentley, 1980
Dr. Robert L. Nichols, 1981
Dr. Robert H. Rufford, 1982
Mr. R. Tucker Scully, 1983
Dr. Richard P. Goldthwait, 1984

FEDERAL INCOME TAX DAY EARLY DIVIDEND

AMERICAN IN ANTARCTICA

1955-1985

by

Kendall N. Moulton
Retired-and-Loving-It

on

Tuesday evening, April 15, 1986

8 PM

National Science Foundation
18th and G Streets NW
Room 543

- Light Refreshments -

Because of Mr. Moulton's longevity in Antarctica, he has been given a free rein to talk about anything he wants to talk about, as long as he is through by 10 PM. He will present the best of his Antarctic photography, although he disclaims any photographic expertise.

So, COME ONE! COME ALL!

The Annual Business Meeting will be conducted prior to Ken's presentation. Normally this amounts to election by proclamation, and should be over in a matter of minutes.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Joint dinner meeting with the Washington Chapter of the Explorers Club, Saturday evening, May 17th, at the Cosmos Club. Dr. Peter Wilkniss, Director, Division of Polar Programs, NSF, will speak on the 1985-86 Antarctic Program.

Annual Memorial Lecture, Tuesday, June 24th at San Diego, California — in conjunction with ongoing SCAR (Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research) meetings. Dr. Claude Lorius will speak on "Polar Ice Cores: A Record of Climatic and Environmental Changes."

--- IF YOU MOVE, LET US KNOW WHERE YOU'RE MOVING TO, SO WE CAN FOLLOW YOU ---

This column is the unofficial voice of the Antarctic Society, presenting a conglomerate of bits of information on Antarcticans and the Antarctic which have been gathered by an interested person. Please read the first paragraph below, as you all can make substantial contributions to this column which would materially improve the quality of the Newsletters. We need your help. If you should move, please remember to let us know your new address; bulk mail is not forwarded and we'll never find you.

EDITORIAL ON SOCIETY DILEMMA. Bergy Bits is concerned about the increasing difficulty in getting information about ongoing programs and investigators in the Antarctic, even though we have pleaded with Society members to give us their news. In the past few years, many of our contacts have retired; others find themselves too busy to contribute; it isn't much fun trying to make something of interest out of marginal material. The forecast is gloomy, although not hopeless. If those of you who are engaged in the Antarctic want the Society's Newsletter to flourish, they can take steps to see that we get newsworthy items. Bergy Bits feels that the Society should be primarily about Antarcticans and what they are doing in Antarctica. We publish only six Newsletters a year. What we want from you current investigators is very little of your time, just an occasional update on your activities. The Society is composed of OAEs, current investigators, tourists, philatelists, environmentalists, and polar freaks. I really don't know why polar philatelists join up with us, as they have an excellent house organ of their own in Ice Cap News; nor do I really understand why the environmentalists have joined, when Jim Barnes and The Antarctica Project thoroughly cover that waterfront. Once upon a not-so-distant past the Society was essentially a Washington-based society of closely knit Antarcticans, but right now we are essentially a national organization with over two-thirds of our 477 members being out-of-towners. We have to find ways of being more nationally responsive, of getting all people more involved. Anyone with ideas should get in touch with the Nerve Center.

DR. DAGMAR CRONN SPEAKS BEFORE A FULL HOUSE. Our January meeting was well attended, and the large gathering was rewarded with a fine presentation by Dr. Dagmar Cronn, atmospheric chemist from Washington State University. Dagmar had an excellent mix of science, humor, and beautiful kodachromes, and her bottom line seemed to be, "I have had great field seasons in Antarctica, all four of them, but I still need to go back to verify my results and conduct further investigations." Of our last five speakers, three have been women. We're changing!

YOUNGER MOULTON WILL TELL ALL - WELL, NOT QUITE. Ken Moulton, Mr. USARP for the past thirty years, is a walking history book of Antarctica during its scientific era. He is the only person still alive who was there before they built McMurdo, and then remained active in Antarctica up to 1986. Ken was a plank in the Antarctic Society, as he can recall the great social gatherings of charter members in the home of our first president, the late Carl Eklund. It has been Bergy Bits' contention that Ken was miscast in the Antarctic program, that anyone so closemouthed should have been working as an undercover Secret Service man in covert actions for the CIA. Don't expect any sensational disclosures on the evening of April 15th, as we are certain all of his comments will be well sanitized. But he will have some story

to tell, as he bridges the gap from the time Antarctic was exploration to its present advanced stage of scientific wizardry. No American has been to Antarctica more times than Ken, a record which will probably never be broken, as who else would have the gall and the tenacity and the desire to go there over thirty times! Ken is more or less single, so we should declare Tuesday night, April 15th, Ladies' Night. We are looking for a great turnout, as not only is Ken a very special person, he is extremely popular in Antarctic circles.

POLAR EXPLORATION EXHIBIT OPENS AT U.S. NAVY MEMORIAL MUSEUM. The Navy Memorial Museum, located in Building 76 at the Navy Yard, recently established a new exhibit, Polar Exploration, which is very interesting. It was formally opened on 17 December 1985 when Jackie Ronne gave the dedication lecture, speaking about the lives and achievements of three Navy explorers of note, Lt. Charles Wilkes, Admiral Richard E. Byrd, and Captain Finn Ronne. She duly noted that she had an intimate relationship with one of those explorers, although she was also magnanimous in her praise of the other two! Jackie was overly aggressive with the scissors, so the battery of photographers were never able to get any publicity shots of her cutting the ribbon and officially opening the exhibit. Only one old Navy Antarctic man showed up - Admiral Dick Black, accompanied by his lovely wife, Aviza. Probably the piece de resistance of the exhibit is the hut which Admiral Byrd had occupied at Boiling Advance Base. This must have brought back poignant memories to Ruth Siple, as her late husband helped to assemble the shack. Ruth's day was made when she found the name of one of the Antarcticans in the exhibit was misspelled! One of the pictures in the exhibit is of Moulton the Elder, in a scene from the U.S. Antarctic Service Expedition. Light refreshments were served, with a real polar touch being provided by chocolate and vanilla Klondike bars! Visitors to Washington now have two polar exhibits to attend - the Wilkes exhibit in the Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian, and this Polar Exploration exhibit at the Navy Yard. There's plenty of room at both museums, so you can visit each without fear of being overrun by hordes of little monsters touring Washington.

SHACKLETON - BY ROLAND HUNTFORD. What a book! Fantastic! Bergy Bits is one who thinks that Huntford is a most thorough researcher, and feels that his two polar biographies, Scott and Amundsen and Shackleton, represent the most thorough, scholarly investigations ever done on polar explorers. No matter how you may feel about Huntford, you have to be impressed by the voluminous diaries and letters that he used in writing these volumes. For best reading, keep a finger back in the reference section to ascertain sources.

There were two Shackletons, the one on the ice, the one in the city. The former has long been cited as the leader under whom people would have wanted to serve in Antarctica, and this comes out very strongly. Anyone who reads this column realizes that its author is a renegade himself, and as an old enlisted man without much regard for rank, found it very easy to sympathize with Shackleton. His finest hours had to be in getting all of the ENDURANCE men back safely, and, naturally, 'this is treated in great detail and is the best polar reading it has been my pleasure to read. Hunt-ford's chapters on Shackleton's trek up and down the Beardmore Glacier are also superb. Just great! But there are many heroes in this book; it is not just the story of Sir Ernest, and one gets enthralled by their behavior, too.

Shackleton back home wasn't so lovable. He was a terrible handler of money; once he got his hands on it, he forgot about his obligations. Many a loan was never repaid, and evidently many of his men were never fully recompensed for all their services. He never had more than token support from the august Royal Geographical Society (whose dedication and loyalty remained with Captain Scott). He used his

great charm to solicit money from many affluent women, and, seemingly he never seemed to fall into disgrace with any of them. But many of his male benefactors turned against him. It is doubtful if Shackleton ever won any honors for being Husband of the Year, spending only a minimal amount of time at the home hearth. On shore he was happiest when hustling money for his next expedition or looking for an "El Dorado" investment. In spite of his expedition-written letters to his wife, Emily, telling her that he would never go south again, he probably was predestined to keep going until he died. Like many an old baseball player, he never realized he was washed up, and was sort of a pathetic figure at the end. However, the person one ends up feeling sorry for was Emily. If he had only returned from the ENDURANCE and lived out the rest of his life in the country with her, it would have been true Hollywood, but it would not have been Shackleton! Besides, he would have been miserable without Antarctica in his life.

Huntford's last chapter is entitled "The Last Presence", and concerns itself with Shackleton having the feeling, while crossing the mountains and glaciers of South Georgia, that "we were four, not three." Shackleton had also expressed the feeling that Providence had guided them "against the storm-white sea that separated Elephant Island from South Georgia." The Fourth Presence of Shackleton's became immortalized in T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*, and Huntford ends his 697-page book with "the final, poignant irony of his life is that Shackleton, the frustrated poet, found a more hidden immortality through one of the great poems of the age." Although there were several deeply religious members on the early expeditions, Shackleton wasn't really one of them. Yet history has enshrined him as a religious man through Eliot's poem. Talk about the luck of the Irish. This had to be it!

There will be some odd characters who won't like this book - some modern-day women, people who are rank conscious, supporters of Captain Scott, and even some Antarctic scientists. But Huntford won't worry about them on his way to the bank, as this book has enough overall appeal to be a great seller. All of the reviews that *Bergy Bits* has seen have been very favorable. My only criticism is that Huntford uses a lot of big words, and at times overkills subjects. The book could have been reduced by a hundred pages, and it would have been better. If one just put all of the on-the-ice chapters together, it would have been a fantastic story of a fabulous man. However, when his whole life is included, Shackleton becomes a mere mortal.

Bergy Bits has not seen all of the made-for-television documentary on Shackleton, but what he has seen seems to be in harmony with Huntford's book, with one major exception, Shackleton's relationship with his wife. The television production portrays Shackleton as a dutiful, married man, extremely cognizant of his wife's feelings. The book's version is anything but that. One nice thing about the film on Shackleton is that you can understand the spoken word, plus the fact that the man who portrays Scott is much more believable than the person who portrayed him in the *Masterpiece Theatre* production. However, the actor who played Shackleton looks more like a wimp than the macho-appearing Shackleton.

WITH WHOM WOULD YOU WANT TO GO TO ANTARCTICA? Writing about Scott, Amundsen, and Shackleton, and remembering what has been written about each of them as leaders, it seems appropriate to ask, "With whom would you want to go to Antarctica?" My pick to go anywhere - polar, tropics, deserts - would be old Mike Benkert, the retired Coast Guard admiral who used to skipper icebreakers. When you went anywhere with Mike, you knew you were coming back. You would probably be involved in a brawl somewhere along the line, might get bloodied up, but Mike would see you home. Men are either fighters or lovers; Mike is both. He always marched to his own set of drums. He defied the Russians and took the NORTHWIND into the Kara Sea and took bottom measurements. When he was on a Treaty inspection tour of Antarctic stations,

the State Department told Mike they were interested in a new station that had just been established, Mike took the ship there, but the weather was bad for several days, so he said he wasn't going to waste any more time there, and took his ship out, to the chagrin of the State Department! My second choice would be old Bert Crary. What Bert doesn't know about the polar regions really isn't worth knowing, and if you were with Bert, you could just relax, as you knew he could and would write up the report when you got back. Bert is a diplomat; if he had been skippering that icebreaker, he would have stayed there forever, as his philosophy would have been, "We might as well stay here and drink beer until the weather clears, as there's no good reason to get on home." My third choice would be old Fred "Muckluck" Milan, the aficionado of circumpolar people. The reason I'd like to go with Muckluck would be his endless supply of stories about Eskimos, Lapps, Terra del Fuegians, Aborigines, et cetera. It sure is fun listening to someone who has a sense of humor and seems to have met everyone who ever set foot in the Arctic. But you could never turn your back on Muckluck, as he would slip a thermocouple into you if given half a chance. My fourth choice would be George Denton. I understand that he is a human dynamo in the field, an indefatigable worker. If you're going to be where muscles are required, you had jolly well better have some raw-bone hulk along to do the heavy stuff. My fifth choice is based on a scenario whereby I might find myself in a tent on a glacier with a depleting food supply and a raging blizzard that would not stop. Then I would want to be with Gisela Dreschhoff. I have never had a blonde girl friend, and I think every man should probably have one before he dies. So there are my top five. If you send in your list, we'll see to it that it gets some notoriety.

DIFFERENCES OF OPINIONS. Bergy Bits is less than enchanted by the way some of our polar giants have been neglected in Deborah Shapley's new book, *The Seventh Continent: Antarctica in a Resource Age*. I particularly wondered about her treatment of the late Dr. Paul A. Siple. He is mentioned twice as the builder of the South Pole Station, not as its first scientific leader who took an almost completely polar-inexperienced crew through a most successful and happy year. He was the right man at the right time for the right job. He labored under extremely difficult circumstances, being a pro-Byrd man in a regime which had little or no regard for Byrd people. And there were light years of differences between the life styles of Siple and the late Admiral Dufek. Siple became famous as the Boy Scout selected to go to Antarctica with Byrd, but his immortality hangs on windchill, which he developed from experiments with Charles Passel on the U.S. Antarctic Service Expedition, 1939-41. And he was responsible for the development of probably the most significant item of polar clothing ever made, the rubber thermal boot. It was one of Siple's eight patents for protective clothing, No. 2,433,834. During World War II, the U.S. had 50,000 casualties in Europe from trench foot. Insofar as I know, we have never had a single case in Antarctica. Deborah wrote, "From 1959 on, the scientists gained on the older group of Antarcticans such as Dufek and Siple," Outside of Bert Crary, I don't know of any other Antarctic scientist who was gaining on Siple in 1959. Siple was in his prime at age 50. Charlie Bentley was still trying to grow a beard. Siple was very highly thought of by our State Department which, in 1963, sent him to Canberra to serve as our country's first Scientific Attache to Australia and New Zealand. I think Siple (his legacy) will outlive all Antarcticans from the International Geophysical Year, and I think it is too bad that he never really got a fair shake in Deborah's book.

Another man who came out on the short end was the late Dr. Thomas C. Poulter. In a 100 plus-word sentence about scientific credentials of polar experts, he is mentioned as "a physicist". True, he was a physicist, but not just an ordinary one, he was a great one. Deborah said a generation of polar experts was trained by Byrd-

Finn Ronne, Paul Siple, Dick Black, Tom Poulter, Bud Waite, Pete Demas, Harry Dater, Carl Eklund, and Larry Gould. First mistake was that Byrd never really trained anyone. Second, she said Larry Gould was the only one with scientific credentials that were extensive enough to continue as a leader in Antarctica's age of science and the IGY. Baloney! Larry's credentials are unchallenged as a university administrator and for Antarctic wisdom, but when it comes to Antarciticans with scientific credentials, Dr. Poulter's name should be at the head of the American list. He was a scientific giant, had more than seventy-five patents on diverse inventions, was director of two research foundations (Armour and Stanford), and established Stanford Research Institute 's Bio Sonar Lab for the study of biological sonar and diving mammals, including studies with blind people. SRI named a laboratory after him for his contributions in the fields of detonation and shock pulse phenomena. Unfortunately, most people associate his name with the ill-fated Snowcruiser, but the concept wasn't all that bad. Haven't the Russians come up with similar-sized vehicles for use in Antarctica, vehicles which have been highly successful?

RALPH LENTON SURFACES. Ralph Lenton is an old FIDS (Falkland Islands Dependency Survey) man who established an all-time record for number of cups of coffee/least number of hours of sleep in a five-day period when the British Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition (TAB) stopped off at the South Pole in January 1958. He recently called the Nerve Center from his home in Quebec (558 White Crescent, Greenfield Park, PQ J4V 1G1) to tell us his middle son, Anthony, a biologist, left for Siple Station on the anniversary date when he himself had set off for the South Pole. Ralph still keeps up with TAE people, and went back to Cambridge for their 25th reunion. The only one who failed to come back was meteorologist. Hannes LaGrange from South Africa. The British sure know how to hold reunions and get the old boys back. Ralph said that mountaineer-photographer-academic George Lowe, who shot both the Everest and the TAE films, had joined Ed Hillary's Himalayan Foundation. They were mountain-climbing buddies long before Everest. Ralph also said that Ed Hillary and Jan Mulgrew (widow of Peter Mulgrew, the Kiwi who lost his life when the DC-10 crashed on the lower slopes of Mt. Erebus in 1978) were very close friends, saying that pictures of the two of them had appeared in a fall issue of People Magazine. A further bit of news from Ralph was that Hugo Neuberg (Ellsworth '57) had retired and was in Nepal working with his son for a couple of months. Ralph and bride Helen went back to England over the holiday season, and brought back some disconcerting news about Bunny Fuchs (Sir Vivian Fuchs, leader of the TAE). It seems that his home was recently broken into, and the culprits walked off with all the trophies, cups, plaques, and awards given to the TAE, as well as much of his polar library containing many valuable first editions. Bunny doesn't expect to get anything back, feeling that anything with precious metals has probably been melted down and sold on the open market. The world is sure full of jerks. Bunny's health isn't all that great, and like Bert Crary, he is impatient to get back to his former self. Old Ralph has some ticker problems, and is going back into the hospital this spring for some fine tuning. Probably stems from all that coffee he drank at the South Pole. We have Ralph on hold for a meeting next fall when he will come to town and tell us about the Brits and the TAE.

COLIN BULL AND BOB PETERSON INTO POLAR BOOKS. There are a couple of new kids on the street selling polar books, one being one of our own, old Colin Bull, former Director of the Institute of Polar Studies at The Ohio State University, and the other a newcomer by the name of Bob Peterson. Colin issued his second catalog on 2 February 1986 with 120 listings, broken down into contemporary accounts, less expensive (\$20 and below), and all-the-rest. Colin has been involved in polar research since 1951, and recently retired to the Pacific Northwest, where he currently lives, temporarily, at 9219 SE 33rd Place, Mercer Island, Washington 98040. His

phone is 206-232-7518. If you are interested in selling off your library, get in touch with Colin, as he has deep pockets and a lot of money.

Bob Peterson came out with his first Polar Regions catalog late in 1985, listing 280, 159 of which are on Antarctica. His place is called the Blue Dragon Bookshop, located in Ashland, Oregon 97520, (P.O. Box 216), and his phone is 503-482-2142. The great thing about Bob is that he doesn't charge you an arm and a leg for his books, being the only reasonably priced polar book dealer I know. Bergy Bits found out the hard way how other book dealers buy from him, then double or triple his price and resell (e.g. Bernacchi's Saga of the DISCOVERY was listed by Bob for \$22, dealer who bought it sold it for \$65; Joyce's The South Polar Trail was listed for \$20, dealer resold it for \$60). So if you want to get on Bob's catalog list, don't dilly-dally around after you get his listing, as the biggies will be swooping down and siphoning off his best buys.

LAWYER CHRISTOPHER JOYNER WRITES ON ANTARCTICA. Chris Joyner, a member of our Society's Board of Directors, and an Assistant Professor of International Law in the Department of Political Science, The George Washington University, has written several articles, none of which Bergy Bits has read, as they just recently came into the Nerve Center. But for those of you who are students of the Falklands/Malvinas War there is "Anglo-Argentine Rivalry After the Falklands/Malvinas War: Laws, Geopolitics, and the Antarctic Connection", published in Vol. 15, No. 3, Winter 1984 issue of Lawyer of the Americas, The University of Miami Journal of International Law. Another article appeared in the Journal of International Law of Case Western Reserve in Spring 1985 (Vol. 17, No. 2), and that was "The Southern Ocean and Marine Pollution: Problems and Prospects." In Volume 15, No. 2, 1985, of Ocean Development and International Law, appears "Security Issues and the Law of the Sea: The Southern Ocean." And in the National Resources Journal (issue unknown) is "Oceanic Pollution and The Southern Ocean: Rethinking the International Legal Implications for Antarctica." Knowing Chris, we would recommend all, although he forewarns they are "admittedly somewhat dry and hyper-documented as law journals are wont to be."

MARTIN H. BELSKY MAINTAINS AN ANTARCTIC LAW INTEREST IN FLORIDA. Marty Belsky, young Harvard Lawyer who used to run around the halls of NOAA, and had some sort of an exalted overseer position relative to the National Climate Program Office, chucked the bureaucracy several years ago to become Director of the Center for Governmental Responsibility at the University of Florida in Gainesville. He remains very much interested in Antarctica, and "in fact do some of my research about Antarctic legal problems." So he sent us a copy of the San Diego Law Review, Vol. 22, No. 4, 1985, in which appeared his article describing a proposal for management of large marine ecosystems, "Management of Large Marine Ecosystems: Developing a New Rule of Customary International Law." By his signature, Marty must have gone to medical school first, as it is totally illegible. How come great brains have rotten penmanship?

SOUTH MAGNETIC POLE ALIVE AND DOING WELL. For the first time in thirty-four years, the South Magnetic Pole has been located. At noon on 6 January 1986, an experiment on the M.V. ICEBIRD determined its position to be 65°18' S, 140°02' E, offshore 94.3 miles NNW of Dumont D'Urville. Australian scientists from their Bureau of Mineral Resources used a sensitive magnetometer mounted on a nonmagnetic boom protruding from the stern of the ship. Direct measurements of the South Magnetic Pole had been made only three other times - 1909, 1912, and 1952. Since explorer James Clark Ross came within 155 miles of it, it has drifted 807 miles in a NNW direction at an average speed of 5.5 miles per year.

EDGEWORTH DAVID ESTABLISHED IN HUNGER HILLS. Australian geologist Edgeworth David led a field party on the Shackleton 1907-09 expedition to the South Magnetic Pole, an Antarctic first. Later he became Sir Tannat William Edgeworth David, but the Australians must have decided this was a bit too much, so they named their newest station, Edgeworth David. It's on an ice-free area, about halfway between Mirny and Casey, and will be manned for at least three summers. Australian Minister for Science, Mr. Barry Jones, said in Australian News, 6 February 1986, that the new station represented a new direction in Australian Antarctic activities. He said the program was part of the government plan to restore Australia's credibility in Antarctic research, and was the first major step in the expansion of its Antarctic program. "This is the first major onshore field program we have mounted since the late 1970's. Australia lays claims to 42 percent of Antarctica, and it is only by getting out into the field and studying our territory that we can sustain the credibility of our claim," said Mr. Jones. Appears that good old Barry doesn't really recognize the Antarctic Treaty.

HUSKY OWNER PREFERS CLIMBING. C. Vernon Cooper, Jr. is the Society's male counterpart to Dotte Larsen, and, indeed, their paths have crossed, as they were shipmates on the LINDBLAD EXPLORER in bygone years. Vernon is a dog owner - owns five huskies - who dabbles in finance, being president of the Peoples Bank S Trust Company of Hazard, Kentucky. It is almost the perfect name for his bank and town, as it takes a lot of people's trust to put money in his bank when he is more apt to be climbing some mountain peak in Argentina than sitting behind the presidential mahogany desk. A real hazard! As I understand it, Vernon is a born-again mountaineer, taking it up with a vengeance when he was in his fifties. He's a mountaineering cult hero in Argentina because he once almost singlehandedly brought back to life an Argentine military mountaineer officer who was suffering from exposure and high altitude sickness. Subsequently the Argentine Army hosted a dinner for him and presented him with a Diploma of Honor and pinned on him the Condor Dorado. The Golden Wings of the Condor are the highest honor bestowed on the Troops of the Mountain. This past January Vernon found himself back in Argentina for the dedication of the Refugio Vernon Cooper, which is near the majestic mountains of Cerro Fitzroy and Cerro Torre. Although he is 62 and has been climbing for only nine years, he has conquered Blanc, Eiger, Lanin, Cayambe, Copahue, Chimborazo, and some other equally tongue-twisting mountains. Later this year he will be climbing in the Himalayas, and after that he will go to the Antarctic with the Argentines. There is no way I would leave any of my millions overnight in his bank! Imagine what the auditors must find when they go over his bank accounts - all kinds of mountain doodlings! He is actually more than a part-time bank president and part-time mountaineer, as he is one of those do-gooders who is community-, state-, and nation-oriented. A couple of years ago he won a national award from the American Library Association, and recently was in town to attend a conclave of people concerned with Appalachia.

AL LINDSEY (BAE II) GETS OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO GO ON HIS HALLEY COMET RIBBON. Al Lindsay biologist on the Second Byrd Antarctic Expedition, will be 1.04 Halleys old when he catches his second look at Halley's comet outside Laredo, Texas in April. He recalled how, in 1910, his parents held hands as they took their 3-year old son across a Pennsylvania meadow for a look at the comet, which silhouetted a barn roof. He was impressed, saying, "There was this colossal phenomenon. I was almost scared because it was so far across the sky that the tail spun out toward the east, incandescent in the solar wind." He went on to tell a Louisville (KY) Courier-Journal reporter, "Realistically, the expectable span of human life now very closely matches the intervals between visits of Halley's comet, which is 76 years, and I call this more human unit of time than the Halley."

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (AIBS) HONORS MR. BIOMASS. "Sayed Z. El-Sayed, professor of oceanography at Texas ASM University, College Station, and an expert on Antarctic science has received the 1985 AIBS Distinguished Service Award. The award, conferred in August at the AIBS annual meeting in Gainesville, Florida, recognizes El-Sayed's contributions not only to basic biological research, but to his successful blending of research and international diplomacy.

"For more than 20 years, with more than 100 scholarly publications, El-Sayed has pioneered the study of biological productivity and energy flow in the Southern Ocean. He has also worked in the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, Southern Indian Ocean, Central Pacific, and Eastern Mediterranean Sea. His research intertwines with his efforts to encourage international scientific cooperation; the combination has earned him professional and personal stature not only among Western nations, but throughout Middle and Far East and Eastern Bloc countries as well. Robert A. Abel, president of the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, writes in his nominating letter, 'El-Sayed's career is a fine model for integrating biological disciplines, improving public policy, and enhancing international cooperation, all for the betterment of society.' His work, Abel notes, may contribute significantly to achieving future world peace.

"Many national and international research organizations regularly seek El-Sayed's expertise. He served NAS and the National Research Council as a member of the academy's Polar Research Board and as the first Convenor of the Ross Ice Shelf Project, and he twice represented NSF as Chief Scientist on the USNS ELTANIN. He has also contributed to the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) through two scientific committees, chairing a working group on oceanic research and serving as convenor for a special group studying Southern Ocean ecosystems and resources. In this position, he led the way to formulating the BIOMASS program (Biological Investigations of Marine Antarctic Systems and Stocks) and organizes multiship international experiments. The first, in 1981, was the largest such experiment in biological oceanography ever mounted, including 14 vessels from 11 countries.

"As convenor, El-Sayed was invited by the USSR Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries and the Polish Academy of Sciences to discuss BIOMASS and to organize a scientific meeting in Cracow, Poland. Shortly after the war in the Falklands, El-Sayed played a key role in getting British colleagues to attend a symposium on aquatic Antarctic biology in Bariloche, Argentina. He lectured in China for three weeks at the invitation of the People's Republic of China's Bureau of Oceanography and succeeded in getting that country to join the BIOMASS community.

"Born in Alexandria, Egypt, El-Sayed, 59, received his B.S. and M.S. from the University of Alexandria; he came to the United States in 1952 on a Fulbright Fellowship at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography, La Jolla, California. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Washington, Seattle, in 1959 and joined Texas ASM that year. He became a US citizen in 1965. In 1983, NSF awarded him the Antarctica Service Medal of the United States of America, and the US Board of Geographic Names recognized his contributions to Antarctic science by naming El-Sayed Glacier in West Antarctica in his honor. El-Sayed belongs to more than 25 scientific and professional organizations, including AAAS, AIBS, the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, and the American Fisheries Society. He also edits the BIOMASS newsletter, the BIOMASS Report Series, and the BIOMASS Scientific Series; lectures widely; and serves on numerous other boards, committees, and working groups."

The above was confiscated from the files of AIBS; we would like to congratulate old Sayed for this most deserved award. I note it didn't mention anything about his family, though I do know he is married. I doubt if he practices "marriagism" with the same intensity that he does biomassism, or that he has received any rewards for "husbandry", because he always seems to be at sea or else posing front center in group pictures of people who claim similar interests. Actually I'm just jealous of his lifestyle and personal accomplishments.

QIC AT MCMURDO, DEEP FREEZE I, SUCCUMBS. Dave Canham, who as a Lieutenant Commander was the senior Naval officer at McMurdo in 1955-56, died on 5 February in Dickinson, Texas. He was 65 years old, and was the assistant director of the University of Texas' Marine Science Institute in Galveston. He was selected to go to Antarctica this past austral summer, it being the 30th anniversary of Dave and his men building McMurdo Station, but he failed the physical because of gall stones. However, his deputy, Jim Bergstrom, represented Dave and made the trip south in November-December. Dave went into the hospital in January 1986, had the operation for removal of gall stones, and was apparently making a good recovery at home, when he experienced some difficulties and had to be readmitted. Dave was a very friendly giant of a man, and had hosts of friends. Although he never went back to the Antarctic, his year on the ice made a lasting impression on him, and he thought longingly of Antarctica every day of his life. He kept in touch with most of his old crew, and this past summer issued a call to quarters to his men to assemble at Norfolk to celebrate the 30th anniversary of their leaving Norfolk for Antarctica. It was a gala event, very well attended, and everyone had a great time. They departed with avowed intentions of gathering again in two years at San Diego, but now their leader will not be there. Bergstrom attended the memorial service in Dickinson. There was a floral arrangement in the form of a penguin with an attached card which said it all, "From his explorer friends". Dave's ashes will be scattered over Canham Glacier sometime this coming austral summer.

Because of Dave's close friendship with Ruth Siple, Bergy Bits got to know him quite well, as Dave, whenever he came to Washington, dined with us. A three-page, single-spaced letter to Bergy Bits written in September 1984 recounted the pros and cons of that first winter of McMurdo life, but it is much too private to share. Dave wasn't exactly enamored by old Antarctic explorers, except for the late Dr. Paul Siple, and he more or less felt that the achievements of his men at McMurdo were accomplished not because of, but in spite of them! Canham's crew was a tight little island unto themselves, enjoyed/shared a tremendous esprit de corps, and thought of themselves as explorers, referred to themselves as explorers. Jim Bergstrom wrote:

The tasks of constructing McMurdo in 1955 and the South Pole in 1956 were enormous. Dave met this challenge head-on with foresight, innovation, and a determination that infected every man in his command. The severe cold, isolation and total darkness were but three of many obstacles in the path to completion. They were overcome, as were all the others. His leadership was the key to the success of OPERATION DEEPFREEZE I and II. He led, he did not push. As formidable as the tasks were, he still maintained a warm relationship with his men. That relationship continued for the next thirty years through written correspondence culminating in a reunion in Norfolk, Virginia last August. It wasn't until years later that many of the OPERATION DEEPFREEZE I and II personnel realized the tremendous contribution of this man. He was a true explorer, not willing to risk men and material until a high degree of success was attainable,,

One of the nicest tributes that could have been paid to Dave was in The Polar Times, June 1956, in an article written from McMurdo Sound on March 9th, "In the carefully considered opinion of ninety-two Americans, Lieut. Comdr. David W. Canham, Jr., of Detroit, is one of the nicest things that could have happened to them, in the Antarctic or anywhere else . . . Seldom in the Navy or out of it, have a group of men taken to their boss as these men have taken to Commander Canham, and vice versa."

ANTARCTICA: THE FROZEN CONTINENT - A SUPER BOOK. Anyone who cares for Antarctic history should buy the new Reader's Digest book, Antarctica: The Frozen Continent. It is unlike any other book on Antarctica, and has many chapters' dealing with highlights of nearly all the Antarctic expeditions. It was published in Australia late

last year, and is being distributed in this country by Random House. The price of the book is \$32.95. It's terrific!

SKIP DAWSON DEAD AT AGE 76. Col. Merle "Skip" Dawson, former project manager for ship operations in the Office of Polar Programs, 1965-1970, National Science Foundation, died of respiratory failure on 14 February 1986. His nickname probably came early on, as he steered ferry boats from Annapolis across the Chesapeake Bay from 1930 to 1936 when they were the only close link with the Eastern Shore. His military career began in 1943, and ended in August 1964. Somehow or other, in only twenty-one years of military service, he accumulated 44 Army and Navy decorations, including three Legions of Merit and two Bronze Stars. He served in both Europe and Asia during World War II, and was in the Korean War. Skip commanded Operation Swamp Fox in the jungles of Panama, took part in the building and resupply of the Distant Early Warning Line across North America in 1952 and 1953, was an instructor at the Army Transportation School at Fort Eustis, served as president of the Army Transportation Equipment Testing Board, evaluating landing crafts. He served as beachmaster in the landing at Inchon, Korea, and was harbor pilot at the evacuation of United Forces from Hungnam, Korea. Outside of that, his military service was pretty humdrum.

Skip achieved lasting fame as an Antarctic for establishing a safe trail from Little America V to Byrd Station in November-December 1956. The preceding austral summer a small tractor party, led by Lt. Cdr. Jack Bursey (dog team driver with the First Byrd Antarctic Expedition, and also a member of the U.S. Antarctic Service Expedition, 1939-41), discovered that the 632-mile route was fraught with some prodigious crevasses. The Pentagon recalled Major Dawson that summer, briefed him on the situation, and asked him if he could provide a safe route to the proposed location of Byrd. Being a "can do" person, he accepted the responsibility, and led a party of eleven individuals out of Little America V on 7 November 1956. A junior officer working alongside Skip was Lt. Phil "Crevasse" Smith, now an exalted super-high administrator at the National Academy of Sciences. Another colleague was Major Palle Mogensen, who subsequently became Station Scientific Leader at the South Pole, 1957-58. With crevasse detectors in front of weasels, and inching their way on their bellies while tied to safety lines, the group successfully crossed the dangerous area and prepared the way to build Byrd Station. Forty-seven hundred pounds of explosives were set off collapsing suspicious snow bridges. One cleft was 40 feet wide and 160 feet deep, and D-8 caterpillar tractors had to doze 105,000 cubic yards of snow into it to make a safe 30-foot roadway across the gap! The Caterpillar Tractor people made a 40-45 minute movie on establishing the Byrd trail, which remains a classic Antarctic film. The trek to Byrd was completed on 16 December 1956, and a week later the construction crew arrived to build Byrd Station.

Skip served in the Office of Polar Programs from 1965 to 1970, and one of his favorite assignments was sailing on NSF's Antarctic research vessel, the ELTANIN. Like a true man of the sea, he was never happier than when he was on the water. He retired in 1970, but continued to enjoy the Chesapeake from his residency in Annapolis. Each year he would invite two of his landlubber Antarctic friends, Walt Seelig and Ken Moulton, on an all-day fishing excursion, and, sometimes they even caught fish. Walt recalls fondly the day they caught a 56-pound and a 52-pound striped bass! Skip was extremely well liked by his colleagues - he was unassuming, modest, quiet, dignified, thoughtful, and extremely capable. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, and six grandchildren.

ICE CHIPS. No births to report, but Happy 30th Wedding Anniversary to *J. Murray Mitchell* and His Fair Lady. Murray, an avid outdoor enthusiast and one of the world's pure nice guys, still talks enthusiastically about his trip to the South Pole

Captain John Cadwalader, the old Navy Antarctic of yore, is still sprightly enough at age 76 to go hunting in the Brooks Range of Alaska, but he writes, "I envy people who are only 70." John feels the debunking of Capt. Scott has gone too far, and he presents a strong case in behalf of Scott which we may include in another issue....

Fred "Muckluck" Milan, he of Circumpolar People fame and practicing physiologist at Little America V in 1957, has pulled the plug in Alaska and is sort of retired. He has an unpaid position as Affiliate Professor of Medical Sciences at the University of Alaska, which means that they allow him to continue to use his office and do research without charging him! I think they are really letting him have the facilities just to regale the new generation with ribald stories of the Arctic, plus pity for his bride Leda, not wanting him driving her crazy at home....

Jerry Huffman has evidently made a complete recovery from his herniated disc operation, and he and bride Gundel spent a week in Jamaica in mid-February where Jerry took therapy in salt water. The only problem now is how to get Jerry's eyes back into their sockets after seeing all those bikini-clad bodies on the beach. Jerry and Gundel hope to move into their steel-shelled house in Rixeyville, Virginia sometime in 1986. Jerry is going into the Christmas tree business, and has planted 500 seedlings. See him in another five years, bring your axe and pocketbook. No freebies . . .

Doc Abbot, Commander of the US Naval Support Force, Antarctica, February 67-June 69, reports that his back problem "is nearly gone." He is back on the tennis court, back on the golf course, and still delivering boats - making five deliveries in 1985, bringing his post-retirement deliveries up to 42. He also maintains his Commercial Pilot's license, and has hopes of delivering a boat to a destination from where he can fly a charter plane back, or vice versa. Doc's Dad is now 97, and is the sixth oldest living graduate of the Naval Academy. Doc's son made Captain in the Navy a year ago this past January. That's a real Navy family.....

Better treat glaciologist *Chet Langway* with greater respect, as his nephew is the one and only Rod Langway, premier defenseman for the Stanley Cup champion-bound Washington Capital hockey team. Rod has won the award for being the best defenseman in the National Hockey League for the past two years. He is so rough and so mean that he doesn't have to wear a helmet! But he also has had about 17 broken noses!! . . . Who knows anything about any glass bottles made for BAE I by *Owens Bottle Company*? The bottles measured 5 and 5/8 inches high, and "Byrd Antarctic Expedition, 1928-29" was in raised letters on the front. There were 567 bottles delivered to the old ELEANOR BOLLING in Norfolk, and the director of the Antique and Historic Glass Foundation in Toledo, Ohio, *Carl Fauster*, wants to know what in heaven's name happened to those old bottles. Larry Gould doesn't know. How about you other fellows - Henry Harrison, Norman Vaughan, Howard Mason, and John Bird? . . . If you want to invest some money in Mexico, you might want to contact *Lou DeGoes*, former executive secretary of the Polar Research Board, in his business venture at Bahia Kino on the Sea of Cortez. Louis (10900 Northeast Eight St., Suite 900, Bellevue WA 98004) will be most happy to sell you all the \$25,000 Series A Promissory Notes that you want. Interest is payable at 25%, so readeth a flyer from the old Footballer. EBASCO Services, Inc., a New York-based international construction company with over 35 years' experience in Mexico, will be breaking ground there early this year. . . . We dropped USGS's *John Kelmelis* from the Society for going delinquent, but he doesn't need us when his wife comes through like she did this year. A radio station in Washington had an Hungarian cookout, and she went into her memory bank and came out with an old family recipe which took first prize. The award - an eight-day, all-expenses-paid trip for two to Budapest. The moral here is to make sure your next wife is an outstanding Hungarian cook, as it doesn't pay to marry a modern-day American woman brought up in McDonald's . . . I understand we have two "Sirs" in the Society, *Geoffrey Larminie* and *David Ward*. How about that! . . . If Bergy Bits were King of the United States, what Antarcticans would be on his New Year's list? He would knight *J. Murray Mitchell* and *Bill Field*, and find some way to make *Ruth-Lady Siple*. I would probably make Ken Moulton-Lord Moulton, as the title and name sort of go together and have an aristocratic sound. So please come out and hear Lord Moulton on the 15th!