

# THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY

905 NORTH JACKSONVILLE STREET ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22205

Vol. 86-87 October No. 2

Joint Dinner Meeting

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## THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY - THE EXPLORERS CLUB, WASHINGTON GROUP

STRUCTURE AND EVOLUTION OF THE ANTARCTIC CONTINENT:
ONGOING AND FUTURE RESEARCH

by

Dr. Ian W.D. Dalziel

Senior Research Scientist
Professor of Geological Sciences
Institute for Geophysics
The University of Texas, Austin

on

Saturday evening, November 15, 1986

Cash Bar - 6:15 PM : Dinner - 7:00 PM : Lecture - 7:40 PM

at

The Cosmos Club 2121 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C.

Dr. Dalziel has been active in Antarctica since 1968, and is currently serving on the National Science Foundation's Division of Polar Programs Advisory Committee. He obtained his PhD in 1963 from Edinburgh, and then joined the faculty at the University of Wisconsin. From 1967 to 1986 he was Associate, and then Professor and Chairman of the Department of Geological Sciences at Columbia University, and a Senior Staff Member at Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory. In 1985, he joined the staff of the University of Texas at Austin. His main interests are in Cordilleran orogenic processes and tectonic evolution of southern oceans and continents, But don't let this scare you, as we understand that he will devote much of this talk to his thoughts about future Antarctic research.

London Broil Dinner — Reservations, \$24 per person, MUST be paid by November 12<sup>th</sup>!

Make checks payable to THE EXPLORERS CLUB, WASHINGTON GROUP, and mail to:

Tony Meunier
P.O. Box 2321
Reston, VA 22090

Hopefully, 1987 Antarctic calendars will be available at the meeting.

### BERGY BITS

This column includes a potpourri of information and misinformation on Antarcticans and the Antarctic, and in no way should it be considered the Voice of the Antarctican Society. Our 536 total membership includes Antarcticans from the first Byrd Antarctic Expedition through present-day researchers, and our aim is to try to find something of interest for each segment of our Society. However, we would like to emphasize current activities, and implore young researchers to pass along their own bergy bits of information in order to make us more interesting and acceptable for the younger generation. If you find too much on the OAE's, just wait a few years; it won't take too long before you, too, will be one of us. Time does not stand still for mere mortals, even Antarcticans.

CALENDAR CRISIS. It is always hard to anticipate how you folks will support our sales program, and it appears that we have gone overboard again ordering the excellent 1987 New Zealand Antarctic calendars. We ordered the same number as we sold last year - 200 - but evidently you aren't buying calendars for this Christmas like you did last year. This calendar is just excellent, super, better than last year's, with a new sturdy envelope for mailing. So we implore all of you who have friends worth \$7.50 to buy them a Christmas calendar. You won't be disappointed, the recipient will be pleased, and Ruth and I will love you for taking us off the hook.

We aren't pushing the USARP calendar, because, first, we have not seen them, and second, we want to unload our New Zealand ones. However, for those confirmed USARP calendar fans who won't accept a substitute, we will have about 25 more than we have orders for to date. So if you want a USARP calendar, order right now] The engagement calendar sold better than we had anticipated, so we bought another thirty. We don't expect any problem selling them, and can get more quite easily, should we need them.

New Zealand Antarctic calendars \$7.50 USARP Antarctic calendars 6.00 Antarctic Engagement calendars 9.00

Selling calendars is our only profit-making campaign, although our markup is ridiculously small, especially considering shipment costs from New Zealand. This will be the last year we will beg you to buy; next year we will temper our self-enthusiasm with a large dose of realism.

AN ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY CHALLENGE. At the end of Dr. Peter Wilkniss's (Director, Division of Polar Programs, NSF) presentation last spring to a joint meeting of the Antarctican Society and The Explorers Club-Washington Group, he challenged both bodies to help the Government resolve the vexing problem raised by the increasing number of private expeditions to Antarctica. It turned out that Peter was serious, wanted help, and wasn't just patronizing the two organizations. Towards that end, each group came up with a task force, and Bergy Bits felt that all of you in the tri: world outside of Washington should know about our committee so that you can add your own two cents worth, should you be so moved.

Dr. Eugene Campbell is chairman of our group. He's a retired Department of State

employee who has been to Antarctica with Society Expeditions, so knows a bit about Antarctica from the tourist side. Another retired State Department employee on our committee is Bill Littlewood, whose Antarctic connection and interests go back to before the IGY. A third member is Gerry Schatz, former editor of the National Academy of Sciences' NEWS REPORT, now a consultant. A fourth member is Walt Seelig, a local professional/pleasure fisherperson, who once had to deal directly with adventurers when he served in New Zealand as the NSF Antarctic representative. And the fifth member is a pacifist-type person, walking the tight wire between retirement and part-time Antarctic employment, Ken Moulton. They have met several times, have come up with a rough draft, and want to finalize their product sometime this winter. It's a good committee, they are dedicated, and as long as Gerry Schatz is on the committee, something is going to be said. Our president, Bob Dodson, another State Department employee, sits in on most of their discussions, although he is not a working member.

There was some thought of asking out-of-towners to serve, but that presented meeting attendance problems. Many of you have some pretty definite ideas about adventurers, and Bergy Bits thinks you should address your thoughts in writing to Dr. Eugene P. Campbell, 4701 Willard Avenue #1206, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815. Although we understand that David Lexis is currently in Leningrad trying to make arrangements for sailing north of Siberia, he should write us with some of the comments he had previously expressed privately to Bergy Bits. Not only is David a polar adventurer; so is his son who sailed into Antarctic waters last year. Another person who should write Dr. Campbell is C. Vernon Cooper, as he is very close to going to Antarctica with the Argentines. He's a world traveler, an avid mountaineer, and a respectable person in the business world who should have a say from the adventurer's side. Bergy Bits would also like to see an input from Dotte Larsen, the Society's Whale Spotteress. She has been to Antarctica at least five times with Lindblad, but she should not be classified as a tourist. She probably is as conservation-minded as anyone in the Society, and truly loves the continent and wants to see it preserved in its pristine beauty. She is also smart - she summers in Maine - and she should be heard. A fourth member who should write, as he was one of the very first of the Antarctic adventurers, is Nick Clinch, who led the very first mountain-climbing expedition into Antarctica, 1966-67. Everyone wants to climb in Antarctica now, and Mt. Erebus could become another Mt. Washington with people all over it like flies. Nick's views would also reflect another segment of our Society, as I believe he was/is an executive secretary of the Sierra Club. One of Admiral Byrd's old dogteam drivers, Norman Vaughan, wanted to be part of a dog-team adventure to the South Pole. But I presume this may have been part of a short-lived fantasy, and that it has been scrubbed as he approaches 80 years. However, if Norman should want to speak up in behalf of dog-team leaders - there are many pawing on the ground wanting to take their dog teams south - he should write. Bergy Bits presumes there are others out there who might want to be, heard on the pro or con side, and they, too, are encouraged to write to Dr. Campbell. But don't procrastinate as he is a doer; if you wait until after Christmas, you might go unheard.

MORE ON ADVENTURERS. The problem with adventurers in Antarctica is that they are probably going to inadvertently upset some scientific apple carts, even though this was the farthest thing from their minds when they cooked up their schemes. To get the Antarctic scientist into the field and to support him/her requires a lot of logistical planning, especially flight requirements. If planes have to be diverted for rescue missions, if fuel has to be given to some lame-brained adventurer, then it all comes at a cost to science. Presumably every scientist's proposed work has been judged by his peers as essential to the understanding of what goes on in Antarctica, and the scientists themselves are giving time away from their univer-

sities or laboratories hoping to contribute to global knowledge of the polar regions, rime and support are critical to them.

No one denies that adventurers have a right to go to Antarctica, but the problem is how to deal with them in emergencies. You can tell a Transglobe expedition that you can't supply them with fuel when they reach the South Pole, but in the end that expedition had - and used - governmental clout to get what they wanted. And that long-stemmed, aging American beauty aviatrix who flew around the world by both poles several years ago supposedly had the right White House connections to get fuel at McMurdo. That's the real world, who you know!

There was a lesson learned - but shortly forgotten - on the lower slopes of Mt. Erebus in 1979. The world is full of people with money they don't know what to do with, who are just waiting to go to some place where their neighbors have not been. The big Antarctic adventure this summer is the recreation of Amundsen's trek to the South Pole - this being the 75th anniversary. A comely blonde glaciologist, a supporting scientist, two dog-team drivers, and 28 dogs will presumably race to the South Pole with 5,000 sets of five commemorative covers to be cancelled on the anniversary date of Amundsen's arrival, December 14th. The support ship for the expedition, a 54-metei long, 34-year old ice-strengthened ship named the AURORA, will also supposedly be making three separate voyages of several weeks each from New Zealand to North Victoria Land, transporting tourists and mountain climbers. This is high adventure on a large scale, and the stamp cancellations will pay all their debts.

On the other end of the scale there is a character from Vermont, plus two others, who are going to row a 28-foot self-righting Swampscot dory from Punta Arenas to King George Island, and then go on to Hughes Bay on the west coast of the Antarctic Peninsula. They are figuring on twenty days from Punta Arenas to King George, where they will rest for a few days before proceeding on to Hughes Bay.

Other adventuring plans include a transantarctic flight of a single-engine Piper Malibu from Marambio (Seymour Island) to McMurdo and then on to New Zealand; a commemorative flight with descendants of Captain Scott and Amundsen to the South Pole by a twin-engine Otter aircraft, flying from Punta Arenas to the South Pole via King George Island, Adelaide Island, the Ellsworth Mountains, and the Whitmore Mountains. They want to arrive at the Pole on the anniversary of Captain Scott's party arrival, January 17th ..... Mountaineers will again be climbing Vinson Massif, and seven Austrians, under Bruno Klausbruckner, will be climbing 13,600-foot Mt. Minto in the Admiralty Mountains ..... And then there is Greenpeace, who again will be trying to establish a year-round base on Ross Island. It's going to be a busy old austral summer, both for scientists and adventurers.

OZONE HOLE ATTRACTS ATTENTION. Dr. James Margitan of NASA, speaking before member; of the Society and of the Polar Research Board on October 17, said that the ozone layer would be about an eighth of an inch thick if it were all compressed into one layer. Undoubtedly more will be written in the next five years on that eighth of an inch than on all the other combined strata of Antarctica, as ozone depletion has captured the attention of scientists, industrialists, and the public. The May issue of this Newsletter reported that a 13-person National Ozone Experiment (NOE) team was going into McMurdo on Winfly to study the ozone problem, and we told you what each group (NOAA's Aeronomy Lab, University of Wyoming, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and the State University of New York at Stony Brook) would be doing. An entire issue of a scientific journal in November will be devoted to the Antarctic ozone, although it will not include the ongoing research at McMurdo.

In mid-October, Jack Renirie of the National Science Foundation set up a press conference in Washington where reporters could ask the investigating scientists on the

ice just what they had or had not discovered. This was a major media event, with ten cameras aimed at Renirie's balding head, obviously a glowing target for ultraviolet rays should the ozone hole spread northward to the Chesapeake. Dr. Susan Solomon of NOAA acted as spokesperson for the scientists at McMurdo, and read a prepared statement which was handed out to about a hundred persons attending the news conference. Then Dr. Solomon and her cohorts entertained questions - nineteen - from the investigative reporters. Afterwards Dr. Margitan interpreted some of Dr. Solomon's answers in laymen's terms.

The ozone hole appeared on schedule in September, and a decrease in total ozone of about 40 percent, the same as last year, was observed. As in previous years, the hole did not remain stationary, and observers were able to take observations both inside and outside the hole. The hole will probably exist into November, and the scientists will remain in Antarctica taking measurements until its disappearance. Much of their data requires the use of sophisticated computers at their home institutions, so nothing more definitive is expected before their analyses are done here in the States this winter. A press release from NSF on October 20 summed it all up in three sentences. "The scientists said, 'At present we have not conclusively established the cause of the ozone hole. However, we have strong evidence against theories that upward winds or high solar activity caused the depletion. We suspect a chemical process is fundamentally responsible for the formation of the hole'."

The ozone problem is predestined to draw more and more attention, as society would change drastically if the Antarctic observations were a first sign of the occurrence of a catastrophic deterioration of the atmosphere. According to an analysis of 65 years of data from a monitoring station in Switzerland, there has been about a three-percent loss in ozone since 1920. There is also evidence of an ozone depletion in the Arctic. Major producers of chloroflurocarbons have recently announced, through an industry coalition, its support for steps to limit the number and size of plants producing the chemical. DuPont has gone one step further, backing an overall limit on production, and suggesting that a safer substitute could be available within five years.

This is the first time that the Antarctic has really struck home. Even though the man/woman on the street has applauded Bill Cassidy finding all those meteorites, Bill Zinsmeister finding marsupial fossils, and condoned Phil Kyle setting up annual summer quarters on the upper reaches of Mt. Erebus, he/she has never really lost any sleep over any of those activities, as they never affected his/her life-style. But if the ozone depletion is a harbinger of his/her having to give up air conditioning in automobiles, then it becomes a major catastrophe affecting their daily lives.

There is a flip side to the coin — Congress will continue to fund Antarctic research handsomely as long as it is the center of possible global implications. One immediate fallout has been the fast production and publication of the Nimbus-7 total ozone measurements maps, which are now available to researchers in days rather than seasons— (although why aren't they printed with the prime meridian to the top?) These appeared on national TV following the NSF press conference.

Another flip side comment is that it could not be occurring in a better place at a more opportune time. The total population under the hole probably does not exceed 500 at the time of its greatest depletion, and when any of the 500 may venture outside, it is still cold enough so that they are parka'd out of the realm of getting skin cancer. So if the Almighty has to create ozone depletion, he picked a good place and a good time to have one, and Antarctic research dollars only stand to gain. And, hopefully, it was all discovered early enough so that preventative action can be taken so it won't be catastrophic.

ANTARCTIC STAMPS. Bob de Violini, past president of the American Society of Polar Philatelists, is out on the street soliciting - he feels that the U.S. Postal Service should come up with a companion set of polar stamps on Antarctic explorers to match the fine set of Arctic stamps issued earlier this year. It would be interesting to take a vote within our membership to see who would be proposed as possible candidates, E presume Admiral Byrd would be on everyone's list, that Paul Siple would be on many lists, that there would be some support for Charles Wilkes. We certainly don't want to hasten the demise of Jackie Ronne and Jennie Darlington, but as the first two American women to winter over, they would merit consideration on a broad stamp. By that Bergy Bits means that we shouldn't put them too close together, that there should be space enough so that each could be appreciated for her own beauty. Or whatever! But on to old de Violini:

Members of the Antarctican Society should make themselves known to the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, the group that passes on all the proposed stamp topics and designs, with suggestions for a similar block of four stamps for explorers of the Antarctic.

Some of the names that come to mind include Nathaniel Palmer, Charles Wilkes, Lincoln Ellsworth, Richard E. Byrd, and Finn Ronne. And there are a number of others who could be properly commemorated on such a set of stamps.

I suggest that each of you who want to see Antarctic exploration honored in a manner equal to that of the recent Arctic exploration issues write a letter to that effect, giving some suggestions of who should be on the stamps, and why.

But make your letter not more than two pages long, and to the point -they won't want to read dozens of pages of your commentary. Send your letter to the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, % Stamp Development Branch, U. S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, DC 20260.

A large number of individually-written letters are more impressive to this group than either a flood of postal cards with identical wording or a folder of petitions sent to the Committee. So use your own words to express your ideas on this subject.

It may well develop that the CSAC will listen, and we will see the Antarctic getting noticed in 1989 or 1990. It is not too early to start writing them on this subject.

MORE ANTARCTIC BOOK DEALERS. We evidently did a poor job of listing polar book dealers, as new ones keep coming to our attention. Dr. Warren Zapol recently returned home from Paris to Harvard Medical School and Mass. General Hospital, and he writes:

I would like to suggest you add these two delightful sources to your list of European book shops carrying used Antarctic books. I have dealt with both of them in 1986.

Francis Edwards
The Clocktower Bookshop
The Pavement
Hay-on-Wye
via Hereford HR3 5BU
England

Librarie Jean Polak Marine et Voyages 8 Rue de L'Echaude 75006 Paris France

Warren thinks that Edwards is the best shop in England, and writes that they carry

many U.S. and U.K. volumes. As to Polak, he says that it is "by far the best bookshop in France. Jean Polak is an honest expert on all French polar editions, and he has the best collection of J. Charcot volumes and a rare Dumont d'Urville." Many thanks, Warren.

Then a Cathy Lilburne found us through Art Ford, and she writes that they (Antipodean) publish four catalogs a year and have quite a collection of Antarctic books, as they "specialize in Australia, Antarctica, the South Pacific, books, maps, prints, photos, ephemera, everything." Their address:

Antipodean P.O. Box 189 Cold Spring, New York 10516 Tel. (914) 424-3867

Their Catalogue 16 is most unique, as the cover is a photo of their new grandson born in Perth last November! Antipodean looks like more than just a Ma and Pa operation, as there are other Lilburnes operating subsidiary outlets in such faraway places as Art Cellars in Subiaco, Washington.

OLD ICE PROFESSOR WANTS US ALL TO HELP HIM WRITE HIS NEXT BOOK. Bob Feeney, who roamed around McMurdo, Hallett, and Crozier for six years between 1964 and 1971, is about to write another book. (His Professor on the Ice, published in 1975, has recently been translated into Japanese and published by the University of Hokkaido Press.) The new writing venture is currently titleless, but "the subject matter is food, nutrition, and health in cool living." He is trying to synthesize into one production three of his major interests: his 22-years experiences in the southern and northern polar areas, his hobby of collecting and reading books on polar exploration, and some knowledge of foods and nutrition. He finds there are many interesting and intriguing relationships and episodes which ought to be consolidated for the general public's reading. So now he is asking all of you to draw on your vast experiences and to share with him any advice, help, or information you may have. In particular, he would be interested in descriptions of either malnutrition or diseases (mental or physical) attributable to polar exploration and working conditions. He feels that we are hording a wealth of information in our memory banks, and, if we will only release some good stuff to him, he will duly cite us and give proper credits He will even consider a paragraph or two in our own words! These should be sent to:

Dr. Robert E. Feeney
Department of Food Science and Technology
1430 Chemistry Annex
University of California, Davis
Davis, California 95616

Bob sent along an outline of his new book. There will be eight chapters, including nearly everything from both polar regions, except a chapter on sex, although maybe that falls under chapter eight entitled "Sports". Considering the number of Antarctic pregnancies, one cannot very well say that Antarctica is a sterile desert, or that food is spiked with excessive saltpeter.

RALPH LENTON, BRITISH OAE AND FORMER SOCIETY OFFICER, SUCCUMBS. Ralph Lenton, age 63 died in a Montreal hospital the night of October 15, 1986, ending the career of a dearly beloved Antarctican who once held the record for most Antarctic winters, spending seven on the ice in the ten-year span, 1948-1957. He was London born, went to a private school outside of town, and thence directly into the service. Much of his service

in World War II was in the North Atlantic, where he was a radio operator in the Fleet Air Arm. In the 1942-43 time frame, while quaffing a malt in a Yarmouth, Nova Scotia pub with a friendly Canadian, he was invited home for dinner. It turned—out to be a most rewarding dinner, as the Canadian had a ten-year old daughter who was fascinated by her father's house guest, and she volunteered to be his pen pal. Fifteen years later, this same girl went to England on vacation, looked up her friend from the past, and it wasn't long before Helen and Ralph married. Bergy Bits knew they were official ly married, because he had the honor of standing up for the two, as well as having the nearly impossible task of getting them to leave their wedding reception so their guest could go home and go to bed.

Ralph could do anything, although his main forte in Antarctica was as a radio operator He was a master craftsman and built a couple of the Falkland Island Dependency stations (FIDS). He also was an excellent cook, and Bunny Fuchs wrote glowingly of a great mid-winter dinner that Ralph came up with at Shackleton. And he also served as base leader at two of the FIDS stations. Chronologically he was at Signy in 1948, Admiralty Bay in 1949, Deception in 1951, Port Lockroy in 1952, Argentine Island in 1954, and Shackleton in 1956 and 1957. The piece de resistance for Ralph was the opportunity of being included in Bunny Fuchs' British Commonwealth Transantarctic Expedition, doing yeoman work on that famous expedition. Ralph loved the Antarctic and loved to talk about it. When the TAE arrived at the South Pole in January 1958, Ralph could always be found in the galley drinking coffee and talking about the crossing. At that time, the media was trying their very best to create a mountain out of a molehill because of Ed Hillary's decision to continue on into the South Pole laying out support depots for the TAE. Ed's radio operator, the late Peter Mulgrew, had remained at the Pole as sort of a goodwill ambassador from New Zealand. Peter and Ralph were rather disgusted with the press, for they had handled all messages, and knew there were no bad feelings between Hillary and Fuchs. It is hard to believe that both are now gone, Peter having lost his life on the ill-fated DC-10 crash on Ross Island, November 29, 1979.

Ralph changed hemispheres after marrying Helen, although he remained a polar man, bringing his expertise to the Arctic Institute of North America. He frequently went to the Arctic, occasionally to the Antarctic. He almost became chopped hamburg for a beautiful, immense white polar bear; he was away from his tent in the Arctic when he had this sixth-sense feeling that there was someone behind him. He turned around and found this polar bear sizing him up as to where to take the first bite. Ralph was almost petrified, because the bear was between him and the tent where he had a rifle, and the only thing he had with him was his camera. He threw the camera at the bear to distract him/her and made an end run for the tent, got the rifle, and dropped the bear with one shot. Said bear was to become a conversation-piece rug for the Lentons.

Ralph had a heart problem, and retired to Canada in the early 1970's. There are three Lenton sons, and one, Anthony, may be following in his father's footsteps, as he worked for the U.S. contractor at Siple Station last summer, and is supposed to go back again next month. The Brits have an annual black-tie Antarctic gathering each year, and it pleased Ralph a great deal that he could take Anthony with him this year, Ralph wrote Bergy Bits at the end of February that "My cardiologist wants to start on my arrythmia problem within the next month. He considers my congestive heart failure problem well controlled so that I can move ahead. I do not know what it will all mean, but I do know I have to be under close control at the outset because of possible side effects of the particular drug they will be using .... It sounds somewhat experimental and I don't mind helping if it is going to help others eventually. I have complete confidence in my doctor's abilities as he is a dedicated man at the top of his profession." What got him in the end was a staph infection which went through his blood system and attacked the liver. Ralph was quite a guy, a nice fellow, one whom

everyone couldn't help loving. He is going to be missed. He was treasurer of our Society for several years, and on its Board of Directors for many years. Lenton Bluff, 79°00'S, 28°13'W, and Lenton Point, 60°44'S, 45°37'W, immortalize his Antarctic presence. Helen's address is:

558 White Crescent Greenfield Park, PQ, J4V 1G1 Canada

The family requests that donations in Ralph's memory should be to the Fonds du Dr. Rouleau Insuffiance Cardiaque, Hospital du Sacre Coeur-Montreal, 5400 Gouin 0. Blvd., Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

CHRIS JOYNER BECOMES SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW AT WHOI. One of our Board of Directors. Dr. Christopher C. Joyner, has taken a leave of absence from George Washington University through August 1987 to be a Senior Research Fellow in residence at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Bergy Bits doubts if he will ever be happy again in Foggy Bottom after being at Woods Hole for a year. But let's let Chris tell us what he is doing on the Cape:

My primary ambition during this time is to complete work on a study which comprehensively analyzes and assesses the important ramifications for Antarctica and the Southern Ocean posed by the 1982 Convention on the Law of the Sea. It is a formidable challenge, but hopefully this time next year I shall be able to say that in the past tense. I should also add that along the way I am involved in four other Antarctic/Southern Ocean-related studies, the published versions of which I shall forward to you when they become available. One last tidbit worth mentioning is a co-edited volume I am producing with Sudhir Chopra, an environmental lawyer from India. The book is entitled The Antarctic Legal Regime, and will be published in 1987 by Martinus Nijhoff in the Netherlands. Fourteen contributors, including friends of the Society such as Lee Kimball and Jim Barnes, will explore legal aspects of Antarctica ranging from the newly evolving minerals regime, offshore maritime jurisdictional zones, and possible implications for private criminal law, to the need for environmental monitoring and appraisals of resource allocations throughout the Southern Ocean. This anthology should be available by late spring next year. So, what all this boils down to is the fact that I am still very much preoccupied these days with Antarctic concerns, particularly as set within the context of international law.

ICE CHIPS. Mike Kuhn, of the University of Innsbruck, a disciple of the late Herfried Hoinkes, who has spent considerable time in Antarctica as a glacial mete orologist, reports that he has had a difficult year since "I got a rather aggressive form of cancer. They removed one ear and several other parts, and after each operation told me I was ok now. I feel quite well now, and I have learned to rely on love and faith more than anything else." Mike is currently involved in planning European glaciological research in the polar regions, meanwhile wondering if he ever will get back down south. Mike wintered over at Plateau in 1967, and appeared in the NSF science film on Antarctica taking radiation measurements away from camp at the South Pole. Mike is planning to bring bride Barbara with him to the IUGG meetings in Vancouver next August, then visiting the East Coast....... Tom Henderson has a piece of bad news concerning Jon Sorensen who participated in the Ross Ice Shelf Project as a surveyor and who wintered over at the South Pole in 1975. Jon, who is only 38, has a rare form of lung cancer. He is a former employee of the USGS, and now lives in southern Colorado (we don't have his address). The Society

joins Tom in his best wishes and prayers for Jon ..... Congratulations to Priscilla Grew, who will become Director of the Minnesota Geological Survey, and Professor, Department of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Minnesota on November 1, 1986. Priscilla is the remote wife of Antarctican Ed Grew of the University of Maine in Orono, and for the past six years has been a Commissioner in the California Public Utilities Commission. She was a protege of former Governor Jerry Brown, and is a global woman who travels extensively in search of/with Ed. Their Christmas letters are outstanding ......Walter Dodd became owner and publisher of the Corning, California Daily Observer on July 1, 1986. Walter retired from NSF several years ago from the Public Affairs and Congressional Liaison Office. He escorted members of the press and Congress to Antarctica during the austral summers of 1966, '67, '72, and '73. There once was a rumor that he might succeed August Howard publishing the Polar Times, but it looks like Walter is now well settled on California's Interstate 5 in the north Sacramento River Valley...... Charles Neider's long-awaited Antarctic novel, Overflight, will finally be published - November 17th. Look for it in your favorite bookstore ..... And that well-known Antarctic pilot of yore, Moe Morris, is pleased to announce that Presidio Press has published in hard cover his Antarctic novel, Alpha Bug. Meanwhile, he is doing a major rewrite on another Antarctic novel, The Icemen. His publisher wants him to put it into the present time scale, not DF 66, .... D. Harold Byrd, 86, a cousin of the late Admiral Richard E. Byrd, died at home in Dallas, Texas on September 14th. He was a co-founder of the Civil Air Patrol, and made his fortunes in Texas oilfields. A geologist by training, he used his oil profits to build a financial empire that included recreational facilities, manufacturing, real estate, commercial and industrial ventures, and farming enterprises. He also helped finance the exploration of Antarctica - the Antarctic range known as the Harold Byrd Mountains was named in his honor. We should have had him as a benefactor to the Society! .... Mountaineer Nick Clinch, and his daughter, Lee, did some backpacking this summer, including Shasta. He also climbed in the Cascades with Tom Hornbein, and did some climbing in the Tetons. Nick and his wife, Betsy, are doing a "book on a remarkable English couple, the Littledales, who explored Central Asia in the 1890's. -We made a one-week trip to England and tracked down various sources, including finding the diary of a Wal Fletcher who was with them on a remarkable trip through northern Tibet. Betsy also went back for another week's visit to England and found even more sources. Your first bibliography is like your first expedition. If you knew what you were getting into, you wouldn't do it." There is only one trouble with getting a letter from a quy like Nick; it makes you feel so darn insignificant, and your skin turns so green with envy that you can't even scrub it off with steel wool. . . Kristine Annexstad is going to be married this Christmas to a non-Antarctican. She and John formed the first fatherdaughter team to work in Antarctica when they were a meteorite-searching team under Bill Cassidy. John is teaching geological and geophysical courses in the Division of Science and Mathematics at Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minnesota. Meanwhile, he will sell you his old home in Dickinson, Texas, real cheap! .... As we go to press, Office of Naval Research is celebrating its 40th anniversary. And they did all this in spite of having Ron McGregor in their ranks for so many years!

WRAP-UP. Eighty percent of our membership has renewed; forty percent have already renewed for next year. Great! Those who owe dues for this year will find a notice with this mailing. We would greatly appreciate it if those who are not renewing would let us know. That will really help Ruth and me. Remember, should you move, we need your new address, as bulk mail is neither forwarded nor returned. And one more sales pitch for the 1987 New Zealand Antarctic calendar - only \$7.50 and it's a dandy!

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW FOR THE NOVEMBER 15th DINNER MEETING!