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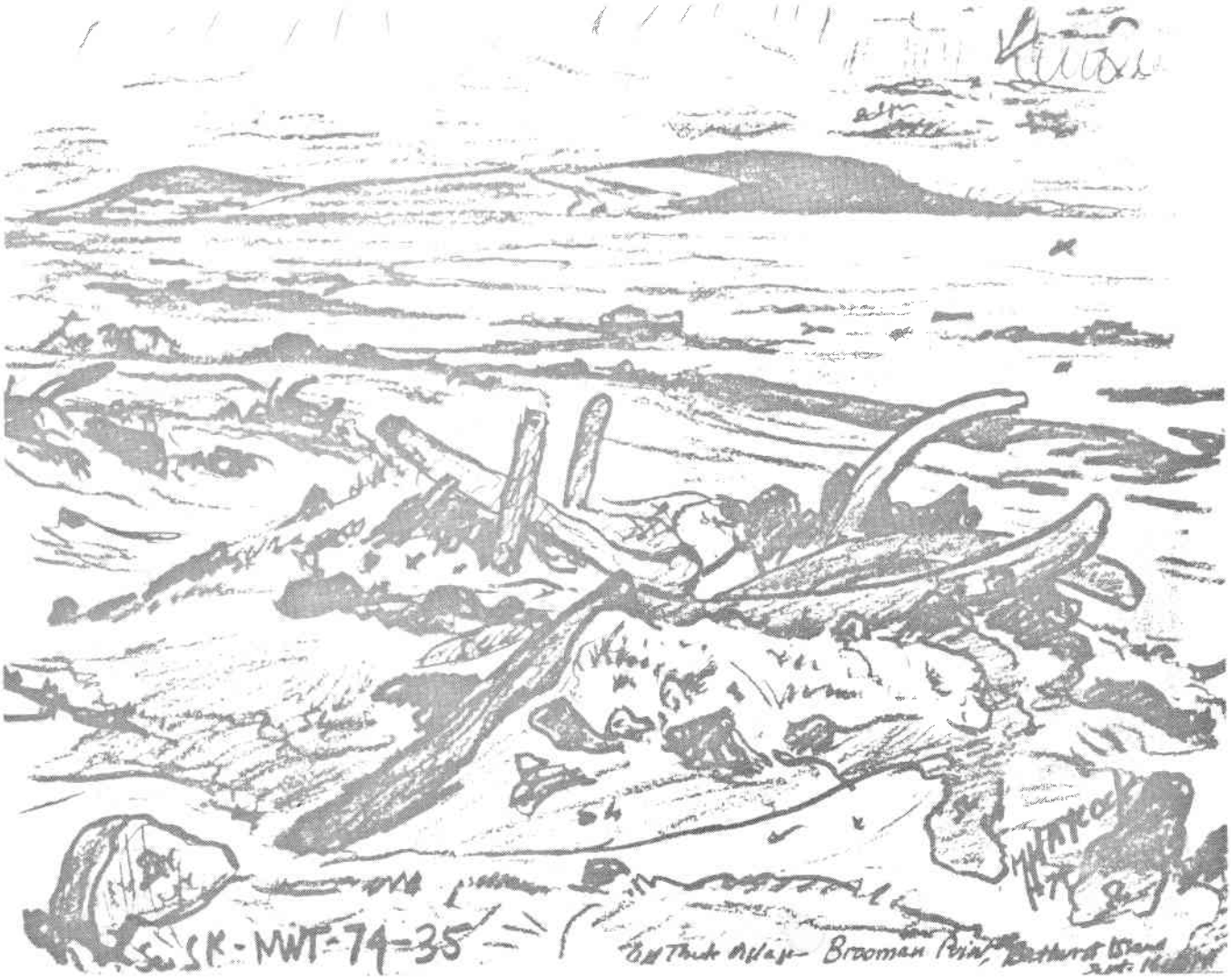

THE ARCTIC CIRCULAR

VOL. XXXVII
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CONTENTS

Cover Picture: Prehistoric Thule site on Brooman Point, Bathurst Island; from the sketchbooks of Dr. Maurice Haycock

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ALL AROUND THE CIRCLE

250th Meeting and Annual General Meeting, 9 January 1979: A short Annual General Meeting was held at the beginning of the evening. Reports were given by the Treasurer, and on the Annual Dinner and The Arctic Circular. The report of the Nominating Committee was read, and the following list of officers was elected for 1979:

EXECUTIVE	
President	Dr. Kenneth C. Maclure
Past President	Dr. Keith C. Arnold
Vice President	Mr. Graham W. Rowley
Secretary	Mr. A.C. David Terroux
Treasurer	Dr. Thomas Frisch
Editor	Mrs. Nora Murchison
Publication Secretary	Mr. Stan A. Kanik

COMMITTEE	
1977-79	Professor Owen Dixon
1978-80	Mr. Peter Glynn
1979-81	Mr. J. Douglas Heyland
1979-81	Dr. Gerald Holdsworth
1979-81	Mrs. Alma Houston
1978-80	Mr. Peter Ittinuar
1978-80	Dr. Trevor Lloyd
1977-79	Miss Sally MacDonald
1979-81	Mrs. Isobel MacDonald
1978-80	Mr. Guy Narbonne
1979-81	Captain Thomas C. Pullen
1977-79	Mr. A. Barry Roberts

Then, Mr. S.D. MacDonald, Curator of Vertebrate Ethology at the Museum of Natural Sciences and Director of the Arctic Research Station, presented an illustrated talk entitled "Ghosts, Gulls and Great White Bears", concerning work being done on Seymour Island, a small island north of Bathurst Island, N.W.Y., which is a nesting area for the Ivory Gull.

251st Meeting, 6 February 1979: Dr. David Gray of the National Museum of Natural Sciences spoke on "The Arctic Journeys of Dr. R.M. Anderson, 1908-1928. The talk was illustrated with slides made from Dr. Anderson's original hand-painted glass plates. Dr. Anderson's daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Smith, attended the meeting.

252nd Meeting, 12 March 1979: Mr. Ray Chipeniuk, editor for the House of Commons reporting service, spoke to a combined meeting of The Arctic Circle and the Alpine Club of Canada on his "Expedition by Boat to the Torngat Mountains, Labrador".

The Annual Dinner, 3 April 1979, was held at the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club. The guests of honour were the Hon. Mitchell Sharp, B.A., Ll.D., D.Soc.Sci.,

and Mrs. Sharp. After dinner, Mr. Sharp reviewed the history of the Alaska Highway gas pipeline project, the Canadian and American interests in it and attitudes towards it, the responsibilities of his agency, and the present status of the project. During the considerable question period which followed Mr. Sharp's talk, he said he believed that the establishment by the government of the Northern Pipeline Agency was an example of what would have to happen in the future with very large projects. Such an agency was necessary to provide coordination between the very many organizations involved, and as a central source of information and authority.

253rd Meeting, 8 May 1979: The President mentioned that there would be an increase in the dues for out-of-town members, commencing in January 1980. The speaker for the evening was George Jacobsen, O.C., D.Sc., a long-time member of The Arctic Circle. His talk, "Design for Arctic Living", brought us up to date on the current problems and developments in arctic construction, and he enlarged his topic considerably by discussing longer term philosophy and objectives for people living in the North.

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KLUANE WILDERNESS PARK PICTURED ON NEW $2 DEFINITIVE

The Honourable J. Gilles Lamontagne, Postmaster General, announced the details of the Kluane National Park definitive stamp to be issued by Canada Post on 27 April.

The painting Across the Tundra, by Alan C. Collier, was selected to illustrate the wild and magnificent terrain of this wilderness park. "The artist has caught the flavour of the park," said Lamontagne, "and its essential grandeur. For Canadians who live in urban areas this stamp will provide them with an unique opportunity to view this isolated part of our country."

R.M. ANDERSON'S "CAMP ROBINSON CRUSOE", LANGTON BAY, NWT, 1910

by

David R. Gray, National Museum of Natural Sciences,

Ottawa, K1A 0M8

As a mammalogist and zoologist first with the American Museum of Natural History and later the National Museum of Canada, Dr. Rudolph Martin Anderson spent seven winters and ten summers north of the Arctic Circle.

During his first northern expedition, the Stefansson-Anderson Arctic Expedition of 1908-12, Anderson travelled through arctic Alaska and the northern Yukon and explored the area around Amundsen Gulf, the Coppermine River, and Coronation Gulf. Throughout his first four years in the north he collected bird and mammal specimens, made an extensive series of photographs, and collected information on an incredible variety of topics - from native customs to wildlife population trends. With over 70 crates of zoological and anthropological collections, he returned to civilization on one of the last steam-whaling voyages in the western Arctic.

During the spring and summer of 1910, while Stefansson headed eastwards to the Coppermine region, Dr. Anderson made the long journey from their winter base at Langton Bay to Herschel Island on the Yukon coast to purchase needed supplies. En route, he also travelled up the Mackenzie River to Fort MacPherson to pick up mail and equipment.

Stefansson and Anderson parted on 14 March 1910 and did not meet again for eight months. Anderson reached Herschel Island on 8 August and made arrangements for himself and his supplies to travel to the Baillie Islands on board the steam-whaler "Herman". From the Baillie Islands he sailed with Captain Fritz Wolki on the whaling schooner "Rosie H." and arrived back at Langton Bay on 27 August.

Anderson's diary of the ten days he spent alone at Langton Bay before their assistant Ilavinirk and his family arrived gives us an interesting and colourful sample of the adventures of an arctic zoologist.

With the help of Jim Fiji and Jawbone, members of the "Rosie H." whaling crew, Anderson moved three dinghy loads of "stuff" from the ship to the old whalers' house built by the Pacific Steam Whaling Company when four of their vessels wintered at Langton Bay in 1897-98.

> "Aug. 30...Moved my sleeping gear and remainder of baggage on shore in morning. Bought two gals. mollasses from Capt. Wolki for $2.00 and 50 lbs. sugar from 'Old John' Kuhl for two deer-skins and one fawn skin. 'Rosie H.' had some difficulty in getting out of harbor. She heaved anchor, but made too much leeway and nearly drifted on sandspit. Dropped anchor again, kedged out, and got under way outside about 5 p.m. I was left alone on the beach to play 'Robinson Crusoe'. With the ship at Baillie Island, there is no known human being within 90 miles."

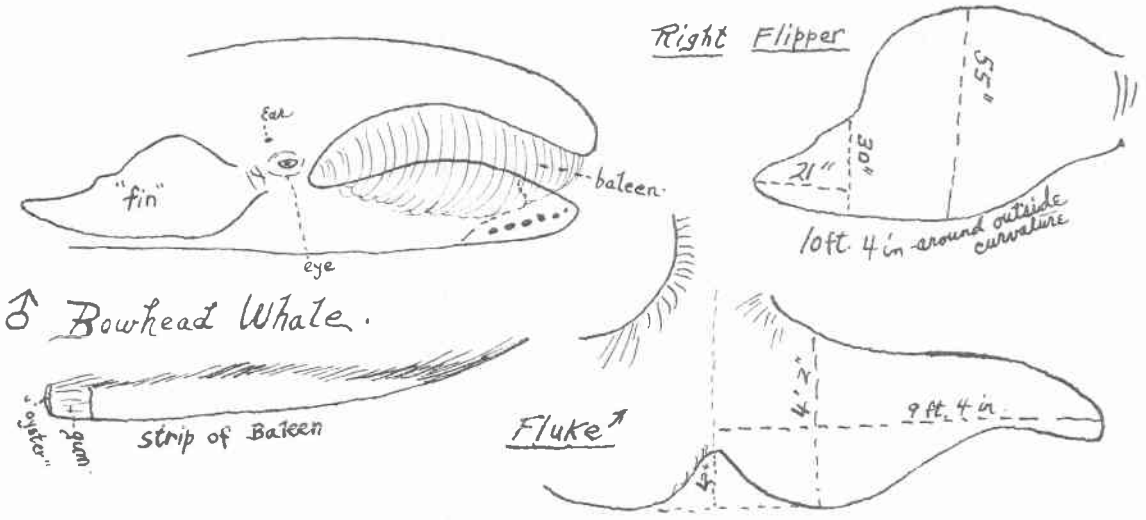
As soon as he was settled in, Anderson walked up along the coast looking for the carcass of the male bowhead whale that had been set adrift by the "Rosie H." four days earlier. He found the whale on the beach with many gulls and a polar bear busily gorging themselves on the carcass. When the bear and Anderson both moved forward to investigate, the bear got the worst of the encounter, and became the first museum specimen from "Camp Robinson Crusoe."

> "The carcass was floating, and going out with the tide, so I had to strip, wade out waist deep, make rope fast, and haul him ashore. Body was too heavy to haul up on beach, and too 'floppy' to roll over, so I had to skin him standing half knee-deep in ice water...Skinning the bear took me about two hours, and about two hours more to 'pack' skin to ice house. Reached home about 1100 p.m."

The next day while he was packing about 250 pounds of polar bear meat to the whalers' ice house, a Peregrine Falcon perched on a nearby cross and numerous arctic ground squirrels ("marmots") watched his progress.

> "While I was lying down resting, with pack of meat beside me, a Marmot ran up, and sat on his haunches, with forepaws hanging down, cocking his head at me, across the meat pile, not six feet from me. When I made a move, Mr. Marmot scampered away, badly frightened."

On the first day of September, the wind carried large chunks of ice into the harbour, breaking and carrying away half of Anderson's fish net leaving only one large whitefish to add to the slowly growing supply for the coming winter. Perhaps to make up for his loss, Anderson headed back up the coast and brought back the rest of the bear meat and 75 pounds of whale's lip.



A copy of Anderson's field sketches of the whale taken by the "Rosie H." on 23 August 1910. The length of the whale, as near as he could measure alongside the ship, was 57 feet.

Whenever in one place long enough, Anderson set out traps to collect small mammals for the museum collections. At Langton Bay he had 40 traps of varying sizes set out around the camp. Some days were more successful than others!

> "Sept. 1.... Caught a young Weasel in trap in house today - about half grown, back brown, belly yellow. Hung him up by neck apparently dead, but within half an hour, he had revived, and got away."

September 2 was a rainy and foggy camp day with great numbers of black flies and small black spiders sharing Anderson's tent. With little in the way of observations to record, for the first time he describes the area of his camp.

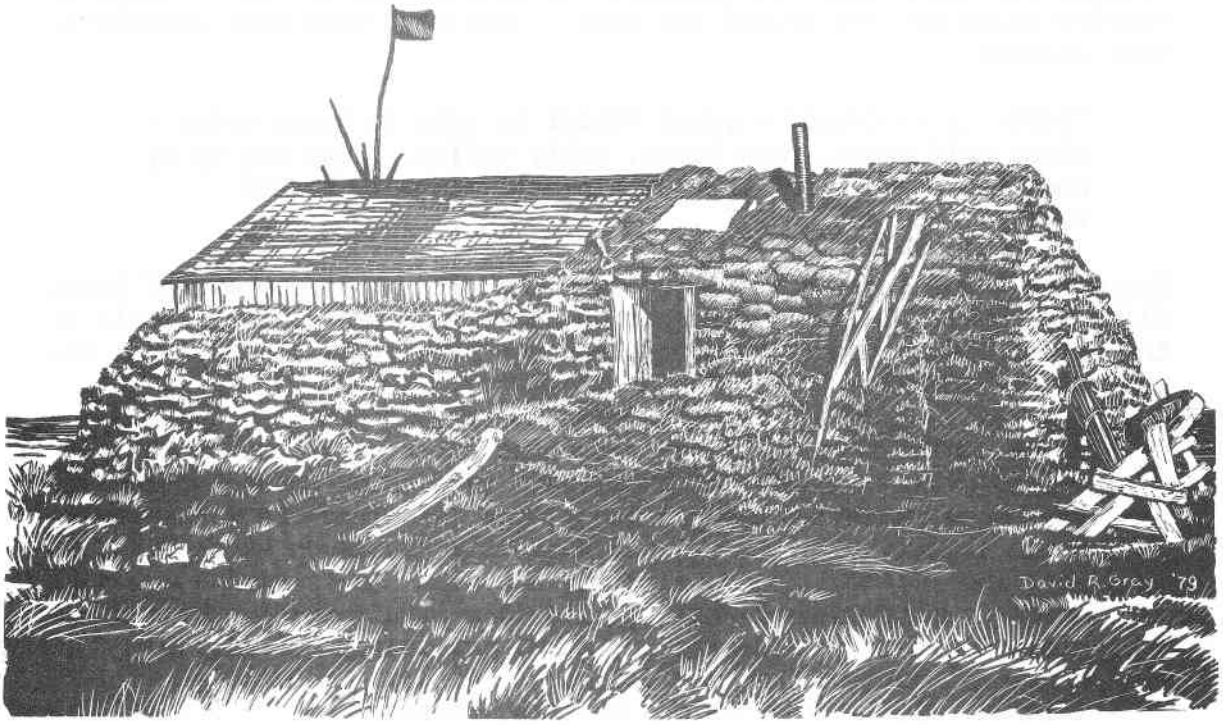
> "Capt. Wolki says that when the ships first came here there was no grass on sandspit. Now there is a thick growth around the house, somewhat bunchy, and clumps all along the sandspit. Ruins (foundations) of two old Kogmollik houses on sandspit near the whalers' house, slightly elevated mounds with a dozen or more Bowhead Whale skulls (occipital bones) arranged close together in sub-circular form, now nearly buried.... 'Jawbone' told me that the old woman Panigyuk at Baillie Island...used to live in one of these houses."

During the early morning of 3 September the wind rose to gale force, adding to the pile up of grounded ice along the sandspit. Floating masses of ice going in and out with the tide were now continually grinding up against the sandspit and the grounded cakes.

> "'Boiled up' my cloth shirts and underwear today, as there has recently appeared evidence of animal life in the seams thereof. The old 'spare bunk' on the ship seems to have many tenants still."

The next day Anderson set off again to look at the whale carcass. While trying to cut some baleen from a little bunch left near the tip of the upper jaw, he slipped from his perch on the lower lip and fell into the waist deep water. All he got for his trouble was one small slat of baleen, the rest was too tightly set in the gum to pull free. Returning home inland, he followed a string of small lakes and found many old stone graves on the barren hilltops. The graves were on top of the ground and constructed with flat slabs of stone set on edge. At several graves, the stones piled on top had been partially removed and weathered bones were scattered around the graves.

September 5 was a work day in camp. To avoid the problem of finding driftwood under the snow, he piled up a heap of dry wood beside the house. The two large skylights and the stovepipe hole in the store-house were boarded over and shingled. When the sun came out in the afternoon Anderson took four pictures; "Camp Robinson Crusoe", the "Old Whalers' House", "Ruins of old Kugmollik house", and "Bowhead Whales' Skulls".



The south side of the Pacific Steam Whaling Company's house at Langton Bay. Drawing based on R.M. Anderson's photograph taken 21 September 1910.

The sea now appeared full of ice, mostly small cakes with a few large masses either floating free or grounded in the shallows.

> "The floes are continually grinding and crushing, making a continual roar - day and night. Occasionally a large mass breaks off or upsets in the water, making a loud report. The sudden and frequent weird and uncanny noises around my tent get on my nerves sometimes, as I am entirely alone, without even a dog to give warning of the approach of bears."

Another day of strong wind spent skinning specimens and overhauling gear was followed by a "howling gale" which threatened to blow down his tent. Perhaps it was this experience that led Anderson to later design a modified alpine tent for arctic use. That morning an arctic ground squirrel was caught in a trap close to the tent.

> "He made a great racket, scolding, chattering and squealing. Another Marmot came out and attacked him, and they rolled over in a tangle, growling, snarling and snapping like two dogs. The second (the aggressor) went away for a little while but soon came back and renewed the combat. They would fight for a short time, then the free animal would circle about the trapped one, looking for an opening, when he would pounce in. Finally he went away, leaving the trapped animal stretched out. I came up, and found the animal trapped by

> one hind foot only. His back was badly torn and gashed, bleeding in several places, and a great hole in belly through which most of the intestines protruded and were strung out on the ground."

September 8 was not an exciting day. A rainy morning was spent sewing a whitefish-skin patch on the sole of his water-boot, "an almost daily job", and cleaning the guns which were rusting badly in the continued damp weather. Anderson saw a Surf Scoter and a few Oldsquaw off the point and four Ravens near the tent. He tried to collect one of the latter, but his aim was off and he missed. The trapline produced only one mouse and one weasel.

The trapping was equally bad the next day. Twenty-seven small traps, seven large "Rat" traps and six steel traps yielded two mice. In the afternoon he worked on the whalers' house, shovelling out the entrance on the south side where a lot of the old sod banking had caved in around the door.

> "About 7:00 p.m. came around house and thought I saw a Wolf near house - it proved to be a new brindled dog of Ilavinirk's, and the Ilavinirk family (Ilavinirk, Mamayauk, Noashuk, and Palaiyuk) was seen tracking canoe around end of sandspit. All seemed much rejoiced to see me - they had seen no people since leaving Booth Island last May."

So ended R.M. Anderson's time spent alone at Langton Bay. Stefansson arrived in December and though both men were away on hunting and exploring trips during much of the winter, Langton Bay continued as the winter base camp for the expedition.

Anderson returned to Langton Bay only once during the Canadian Arctic Expedition of 1913-16. On 25 November 1914, en route to the C.A.E. house at Bernard Harbour, Anderson's party camped there for one night. He noted that the old whaler's house was open, with both doors, the partition wall, and all of the bunks removed.

Under those conditions it would not have taken long for the elements to complete the job of destruction. John Bockstoce of the New Bedford Whaling Museum visited the site in 1978, and found only the old whalers' graves and some faint outlines in the sand. Anderson's "Camp Robinson Crusoe" has all but disappeared.

ICE VESSELS FEATURED ON CANADIAN STAMPS

Many sailors never encounter ice, except in a cold drink. Canadian mariners, on the other hand, contend with everything from towering icebergs to an entire ocean frozen for most of the year. These vessels were developed to combat the mighty forces of winter.

The Niagara Harbour and Dock Company built the Chief of Justice Robinson in 1842 to continue the Toronto-Niagara River passenger run during winter. In the tense atmosphere of the period, the Americans feared that this vessel's snout-like prow would prove more useful for ramming their vessels than for breaking ice. The Chief Justice maintained a reliable winter service, although she sometimes landed passengers far out on the ice. The ship, with her ram bow and walking beam engine, must have been a strange sight "smoking and splashing and walloping along," but she established an excellent reputation. Sir Richard Bonnycastle stated that "...when the lamps were lit, and conversation going on...one could quite forget we were...on Lake Ontario..." The Chief Justice survived a dockyard fire and running aground, only to be laid up during the depression of 1857.

The ice-choked Northumberland Strait always bedevilled Prince Edward Island's winter shipping. Storms occasionally killed travellers who ventured across the Strait in iceboats - little more than rowboats equipped with runners. The Dominion ordered the Northern Light, having agreed to provide year-round steamer service as a condition of Prince Edward Island's entering confederation. E.W. Sewell of Lévis, Quebec, built the ship from wood because people believed ice would easily puncture iron-plated hulls. The Northern Light's rounded hull rode upward if squeezed by floes. In such circumstances, the crew tried to roll the ship free by pushing barrels of water across the deck. Lacking a sufficiently powerful engine, however, the ship failed as an icebreaker. The ice often trapped and damaged her, although she soldiered on from 1876 until replaced in 1888.

Needing a vessel to provision its far northern posts, the RCMP ordered the St. Roch from the Burrard Dry Dock Company. Constructed of thick Douglas fir timbers and sheathed with durable Australian gumwood, she had toughness, but with only a 150-hoursepower diesel engine, she generated less horsepower than many modern cars. Furthermore, she rolled wickedly and boasted few comforts. Yet from 1928 to 1948, she acted as an Arctic supply vessel and a floating police station. To protect Canadian sovereignty and to emulate the achievement of his hero Roald Amundsen, Henry Larsen sailed the ship east through the Northwest Passage in 1940-42 and west in 1944. Transport aircraft eventually supplanted the St. Roch and now, fully restored, she inhabits a Vancouver museum.

As a Cold War participant, Canada required an Arctic patrol vessel to maintain military bases and to defend its sovereignty. The navy ordered the Labrador, built by Marine Industries Ltd. of Sorel and commissioned on 8 July 1954. Rated as a heavy icebreaker, she sported a helicopter, powerful diesel-electronic motors and two 40 mm guns. The ship headed north with

20 officers, 12 scientists and approximately 200 men, and by 29 July 1954 had sighted ice in the Davis Strait. During this maiden voyage, the Labrador became the first naval vessel to traverse the Northwest Passage. In 1958, short of manpower, the navy transferred the Labrador to the Canadian Coast Guard, which she still serves.

The 1978 Ice Vessels stamps present an interesting contrast of vessels old and new combatting their natural enemy, ice. From the ice-scrubbed sides of the Labrador to the round-hulled Northern Light, belching smoke while trying to develop enough power to force her way through the pack, Tom Bjarnason's designs are authentic. The set is enlived by the colour typography, the cheerful colour of the Chief Justice Robinson's hull and the bright signal flags of the St. Roch on trials. The delicate black stell engraving is appropriate to both the rigging of the early vessels and the complex lattice mast, radar antennas and aerials of the modern Labrador.

OFF-SHORE DRILLING IN THE EASTERN ARCTIC

STATEMENT BY HON. J. HUGH FAULKNER
18 January 1979

I would like to announce that, following a comprehensive environmental assessment based on intensive offshore environmental studies, the Canadian government will now consider applications for offshore exploratory drilling for oil and gas in Davis Strait between Cape Dyer on Baffin Island and the northern tip of Labrador.

I wish to stress that this announcement does not apply to Lancaster Sound where the feasibility of exploratory drilling is now being reviewed by an environmental assessment and review panel (EARP). Nor does it apply to Baffin Bay where studies under the Eastern Arctic Marine Environmental Studies (EAMES) program are about to enter their second year.

It is important to note that we are not issuing a drilling authority at this time. We are declaring Davis Strait as having been cleared environmentally and we are, therefore, prepared to receive drilling applications.

In July 1976, the government announced that offshore drilling would not take place in eastern Arctic waters until a comprehensive environmental assessment had been completed. More than a year ago, I announced EAMES - a $ 13 million dollar program to enable us to carry out this assessment and to determine the environmental conditions and constraints necessary to ensure safe offshore exploratory drilling.

EAMES was the first program to include an advisory board of Inuit representatives to advise me on the effectiveness of environmental studies.

In Davis Strait, most of the EAMES work has been completed. Some further work will be necessary to finalize some studies. This work will continue as drilling programs develop.

I met with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the EAMES advisory board last week to receive their report of the 1977 work in Davis Strait. I have noted their recommendations and indicated to them that every effort will be made to implement them prior to the issuance of any drilling authority.

I have asked the board to review the 1978 studies and let me have their advice by May this year so that it can also be considered before any drilling authority is prepared.

Strict environmental operating conditions would be attached to any drilling authority to ensure that adequate environmental standards are met. These conditions would include the requirement of same season relief well capability, an effective oil spill contingency plan and evidence of financial responsibility for compensation for any damage which might occur. In addition, there would be continuing environmental monitoring to ensure an improved data base is available to manage future offshore activities.

In addition to environmental operating conditions, any drilling authority would include:

- technical operating conditions determined by Northern Affairs engineers for each well applied for;
- stipulations for on-site inspection by federal officials to ensure compliance with all terms and conditions;
- appropriate conditions and programs to mitigate adverse socio-economic impact on northern communities in the area, and to provide maximum economic benefits to northern residents.

These conditions and programs will be developed through continuing consultation and review by the EAMES Advisory Board and northern communities.

In reaching this decision, I want to point out that a complex range of factors have been taken into account. We have had to consider pressing national energy requirements, the potentially rich offshore oil and gas resources, the concerns expressed by native groups and potential risks to the environment.

We have also considered the fact that more than 120 exploratory wells have been drilled off Canada's east coast since 1965 with no uncontrolled incident or observed environmental damage. Some of these wells were drilled along the coast of Labrador - immediately to the south of the area now being cleared - where the operating environment is very similar to that in Davis Strait. Furthermore, the record shows that all offshore blowouts reported in which oil or gas was spilled have occurred during the delineation drilling or production operations and not during exploratory drilling.

Based on these factors, and the conclusion of the environmental assessment and review process, balanced with the need to confirm Canada's energy resources, we are now prepared to consider drilling programs for Davis Strait.

DAVIS STRAIT EXPLORATORY DRILLING

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS

The development of socio-economic plans concerning offshore drilling in the eastern Arctic began in May 1978 with approval by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and the Government of the Northwest Territories of principals and methodology developed by the petroleum industry. Since that time, companies interested in drilling have consulted with Baffin Bay communities to develop action plans which will be reviewed by the department and the GNWT in March.

Following the initial government review, the action plans will be submitted to the Baffin Regional Council for review and comments to ensure the action plans accurately reflect the interest of the communities. The objective of this process is to develop action plans to guide the petroleum operators in the conduct of operations to reflect the concerns and wishes of the communities, maximize potential beneficial effects and minimize any disruptive effects.

Following the reviews, the department and the GNWT will approve the action plans and prepare memoranda of understanding between the Government of Canada and the companies. These memoranda would be linked to any drilling authority issued. Once a drilling program begins, the implementation of the socio-economic plans would be monitored by territorial government officials to ensure the plans were being followed and to identify any areas where changes or improvements should be made.

The socio-economic actions plans will include, where appropriate, guidelines to:

- provide training and employment opportunities for local residents;
- make use of local business and industry;
- prevent disruption to community infrastructure and services;
- provide continuing consultation and review.

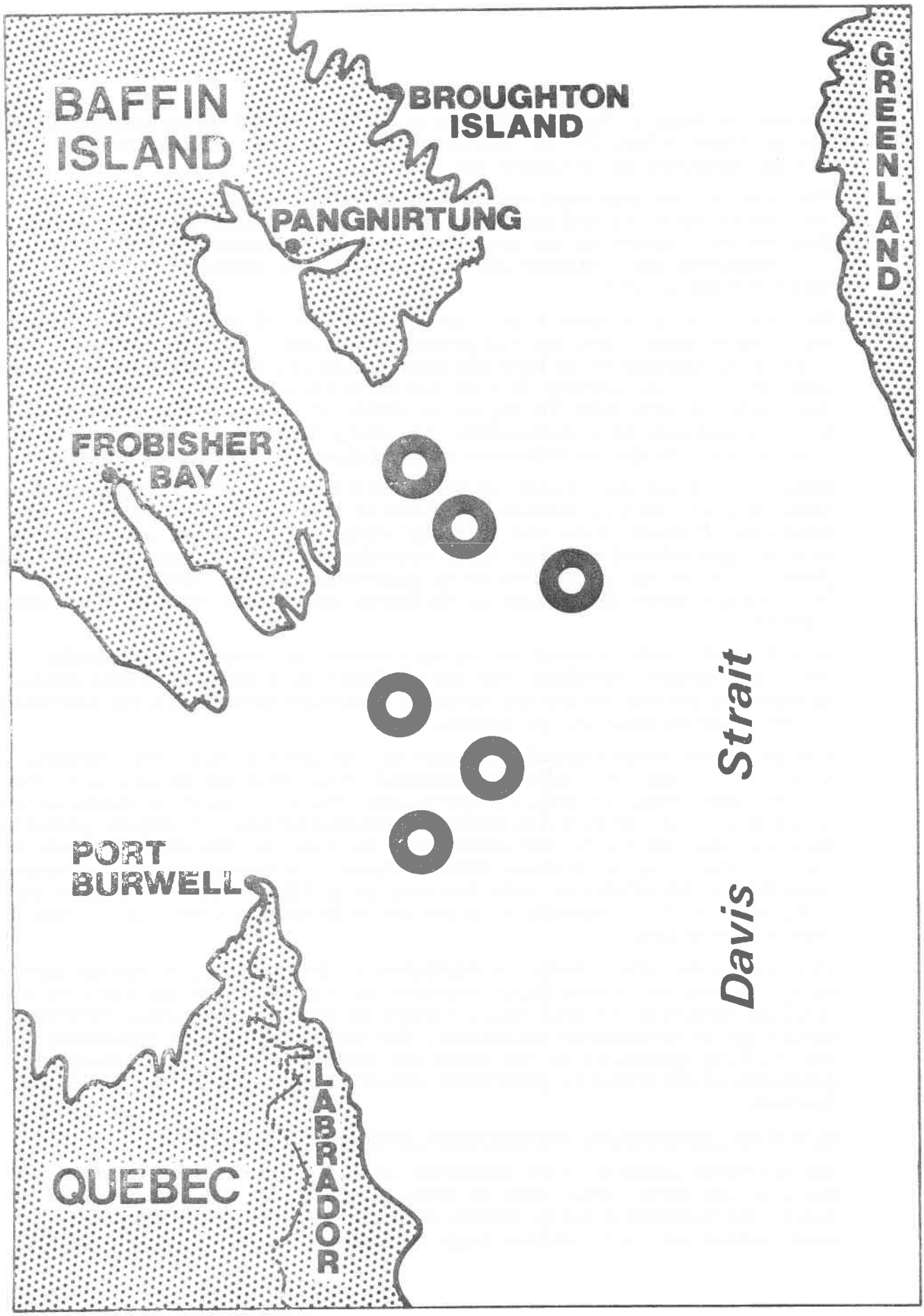
It is important to note that this process has been developed to respond to a very limited exploratory drilling program.

There is no assurance at this time that drilling activities will continue over an extended period. The impact of the initial drilling can be kept to a minimum should this be the wish of the communities concerned.

Should this limited program produce results which would call for expanding the scope of exploration activities in the eastern Arctic, the socio-economic review process would be amended to respond adequately to the more significant socio-economic issues which would be raised as a result.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: TECHNICAL AND GEOLOGICAL ASPECTS

A total of 11.75 million acres (4.7 million hectares) are under permit by oil companies in Davis Strait, between Cape Dyer and N 61°18' under DIAND jurisdiction. The permits were issued in 1969-1971 for 12-year terms, thus expiring in 1981-1983. Total permit work obligations are over $30 million of which about one-third have been satisfied, mostly through marine seismic


BAFFIN ISLAND
BROUGHTON ISLAND
PANGNIRTUNG
GREENLAND
FROBISHER BAY
Davis Strait
PORT BURWELL
QUEBEC
LABRADOR
POSSIBLE DRILLING LOCATIONS

surveys. Acreage is held approximately 26% by Imperial (Esso Resources), 34% by Hudson's Bay, 25% by Aquitaine, 11% by Siebens (Canada-Cities), and the remainder by BP Canada and others.

The permits have been explored by seismic surveys totalling 45,000 km and over forty large oil and gas prospective structures have been identified. Exploration interest by the permittees and their partners is high and Esso Resources and Aquitaine are each proposing an exploratory test on their acreage in 1979.

The permits held in Davis Strait are on a geological trend with the Labrador Shelf where significant gas and condensate discoveries have been made, including the Chevron et al Hopedale well drilled in 1978. Though the northern Labrador Shelf is sparsely drilled and Davis Strait is as yet undrilled, geologists believe that the region is likely to contain major reserves of both oil and gas. As a consequence, the early drilling of the region is of high priority in the need-to-know energy policy of the federal government.

Other oil and gas exploration in Davis Strait includes five unsuccessful tests drilled offshore Western Greenland in 1976 and 1977. Favourable combinations of source rocks and reservoir rocks for commercial accumulations were not encountered by these tests according to the Ministry for Greenland. These tests are not considered to be diagnostic for the Canadian side of Davis Strait where the geology is different and thicker reservoirs are anticipated.

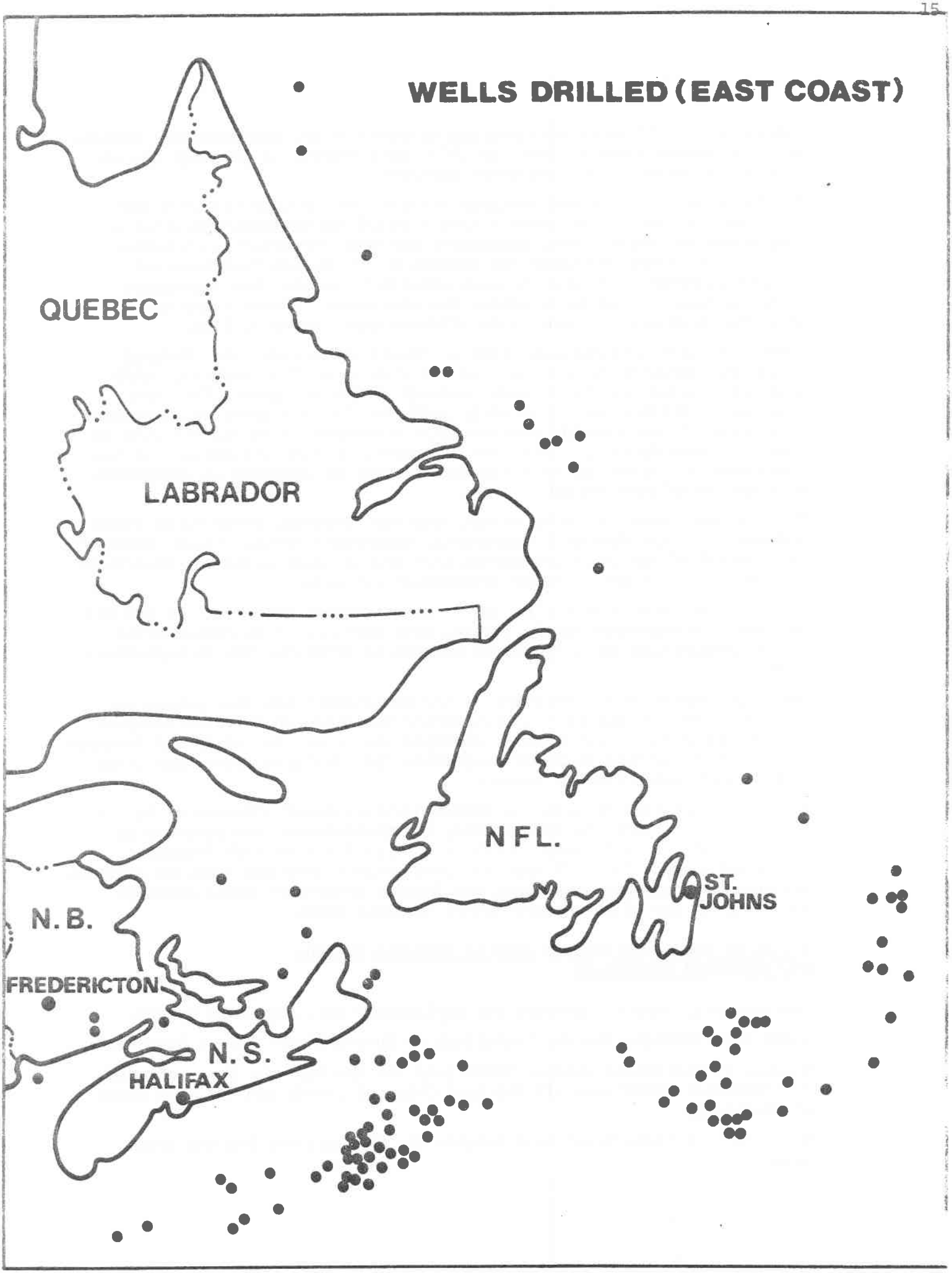
No oil spills have occurred during exploratory drilling of the Labrador Shelf and Western Greenland. The use of dynamically positioned drillships, weather and ice monitoring and advanced state-of-the-art drilling technology insured safe exploratory operations.

Further to the environmental clearance of the Davis Strait area, specific approvals are required under the proposed Canada Drilling Regulations prior to the commencement of drilling operations. The first approval concerns the broad aspects of the drilling program submitted by the oil company permittee. This includes the timing and logistic of the program, the specifications of the drillship, supply vessels, other equipment, transport and communications, seafloor and environmental data relevant to drilling, with information and certification of all systems required for safe and adequate drilling and support operations.

When a site specific program is submitted by the operator, it may be approved by the regional conservation engineer in Yellowknife by the issue of a Drilling Authority for each well, subject to specific technical, environmental and socio-economic conditions. The responsibility for monitoring the drilling operations in the field and compliance with the drilling regulations is exercised by government conservation engineers and field inspectors.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The petroleum industry first indicated its desire to drill exploratory wells in the Davis Strait area in 1975. At that time, the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (DIAND) established interim environmental study guidelines, and industry began to implement them.


WELLS DRILLED (EAST COAST)
QUEBEC
LABRADOR
NFL.
ST. JOHNS
N.B.
FREDERICTON
N.S.
HALIFAX

Eastern Arctic Offshore drilling was referred to the Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP) in 1977. This process is to asses the environmental effects of development projects.

The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs had announced in 1976 that offshore drilling in the eastern Arctic would not be permitted until a comprehensive environmental assessment had been conducted. In November 1977, the minister announced the Eastern Arctic Marine Environmental Studies (ENAMES) -- a comprehensive program to enable this assessment to be carried out and to determine the environmental conditions and constraints necessary to ensure safe offshore exploratory drilling.

ENAMES had been developed by DIAND in consultation with other federal government departments and agencies and with input from industry. EARP developed guidelines for an environmental impact statement (EIS) and made the guidelines public in early 1978. An EIS is a detailed documented assessment of the possible environmental consequences associated with an important development project. The statement contains information on how environmental impact can be mitigated and must be prepared in accordance with the guidelines issued.

The EIS concerning the Davis Strait area was received, reviewed by DIAND and passed to the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office (FEARO) -- the federal office which implements EARP and is responsible for co-ordinating the public review of major development projects.

FEARO co-ordinated a technical review by government scientists of the EIS, released the statement to the public, held meetings in southern Baffin Island communities and a technical hearing in Frobisher Bay in September, 1978.

The FEARO report to the Minister of the Environment was made public on November 6 and on December 4, Environment Minister Len Marchand accepted the recommendations and formally conveyed the report to Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Hugh Faulkner suggesting that drilling might take place under strict environmental control.

Following consultation with the ENAMES Advisory Board composed of Baffin Island Inuit, scientists and industry representatives, and progress on socio-economic action plans, Northern Affairs Minister Hugh Faulkner announced January 18, 1979 that the Davis Strait area had received regional environmental clearance and that the federal government would consider applications for offshore exploratory drilling there.

A list of Completed Reports used in Carrying out the Environmental Assessment

Environmental Impact Statement for Exploratory Drilling Davis Strait.

Summaries, English, French, Inuktituut -- Environmental Impact Statement.

Studies of Historical Weather Conditions for the Labrador Sea, including Environmental Conditions off the East Coast of Canada and the West Coast of Greenland.

A Forecast of Significant Wave Heights for the Labrador Sea and Davis Strait.

Analysis of Ocean Currents in the Davis Strait. (Two Volumes)

Some Sea Ice Cover Statistics for the Canadian East Coast.

Some Iceberg Statistics for Davis Strait.

Davis Strait Ice and Oceanographic Investigations, Winter 1976-77.

Ice and Meteorological Observations in the Davis Strait during April, May and June 1977.

Laboratory Testing of Seabed Samples from Davis Strait.
The testing of seabed sediments to assess slump potential under actual drilling conditions.

Sediment Analysis of Cores from Davis Strait and Flemish Pass.

Geochemical Analysis of 1977 Davis Strait -- Piston Core Samples.
Geochemical analysis of seabed sediments and core samples is a physical and chemical analysis of bottom samples taken over selected areas near the drill sites for various constituents.

Preliminary Study of the Fate of Oil from a Subsea Blowout on the East Coast.

Sliktrak Simulations - East Coast.
Sliktrak is a model which utilizes meteorological and ocean current data to predict the movement of oil slicks on the surface of the sea.

Deep Sea Dispersion Analysis
A prediction of the dispersion of gas and oil as it moves from the seabed to the ocean surface. The behaviour of a variety of gas bubbles and oil droplet sizes are considered.

The Coastal Environment of southern Baffin Island, Northern Labrador and Ungava Bay.

Biological Literature Review of Ungava Bay and Hudson Strait, November 1977.

Revised Biological Literature Review of the Davis Strait Region, January 1978.

Report on Cruise II July 1976 - Environmental Aspects of the Imperial Oil Limited Cruise to Flemish Pass and Davis Strait December 1976.

Field Report on the Oceanographic Cruises during July-August, October-November 1976.

Report on Cruise III, October-November 1976 and Cruise IV, November-December 1976 - Environmental Aspects of the Davis Strait, Hudson Strait and Flemish Pass.

Report on Cruise 77-1, February 1977. Environmental Aspects of the Cruise to Davis Strait and the Labrador Coast.

Report on Primary Data Collected for the 1977 Davis Strait Biological Program and Analysed prior to December 1977.

Report on Biological Studies, Offshore Cruises 77-2 and 77-3, April-June 1977 in the Davis Strait.

Aerial Surveys 77-2, 77-3, 77-4. Studies of Seabirds and Marine Mammals in Davis Strait, Hudson Strait and Ungava Bay, February 1978.

Nearshore Environmental Studies on southeast Baffin Island, December 1977.
An investigation of the biota living along the coast of Southeast Baffin Island ant the northern tip of Labrador: areas which might be affected by oil.

Inuit Resource Use in Southeast Baffin Island, March 1978.
A socio-economic study of the use of living resources by Inuit of Baffin Island.

Benthic Studies - Davis Strait Biological Program.
Study of bottom based organisms in the offshore areas near the drill sites, and in Ungava Bay.

Oil in Pack Ice Cold Room Tests.
A laboratory simulation of the movement and behaviour of crude oil using artificial pack ice.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PANEL
EASTERN ARCTIC OFFSHORE DRILLING - SOUTH DAVIS STRAIT PROJECT

CONDITIONS FOR ACCEPTABILITY OF THE PROJECT

a. Monitoring and Prediction - Physical Environment

There is an identified need for real-time monitoring and prediction systems for safe operations under normal procedures and to provide essential information for countermeasure activity in the event of a blowout. This system must include information on weather, seastate and currents.

b. Industry Contingency Plans

A detailed industry contingency plan must be submitted to the responsible regulatory agency six months prior to drilling and approved before drilling. There is a need to demonstrate the effectiveness of the plan (i.e. "dry run") to the satisfaction of the responsible regulatory agency.

The industry plan must give highest priority to the protection of flightless birds.

The results of information acquired from the 1978 environmental studies must be incorporated into the contingency plan. (e.g. strategies for protection of exposed sea mammals).

The contingency plan must clearly indicate the methods to be used to ensure same-season relief well capability.

The contingency plan should also include the use of an operational slick tracking model for real time prediction of slick movement.

c. Government Contingency Plan

A government contingency plan must be in effect prior to drilling. This plan must delineate the response of government agencies when oil spills occur in the southern Davis Strait region. This plan must include, among

other matters, the necessary authority for the use of dispersants, the responsibility and authority for government oil spill response south of 60° Latitude, and the authority and procedures for response activities that may be necessary in Greenland waters.

d. Compensation and Liability

The responsible regulatory agency must give consideration to increasing the limits of liability of a proponent for damages and cleanup costs, where existing levels for compensation may not be commensurate with present day values.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Continuing Environmental Studies

The Panel recommends that the existing consultative mechanisms between government agencies and the Proponent be utilized to determine the extent of further environmental studies. Some possible study areas are identified in Chapter II. As a matter of principle, the Panel recommends that industry accept as its responsibility those studies necessary to improve and enhance contingency plans, while government agencies accept as their responsibility those studies related to resource management.

b. Compensation and Liability

The Panel recommends that the responsible regulatory agency develop a mechanism to ensure that compensation for damages and cleanup costs is available for potentially affected people south of 60° as well as for residents of Greenland.

c. Iceberg Prediction System

The Panel recommends that the Proponent give consideration to the development of an operational prediction system for iceberg movement in the vicinity of the drillship.

d. Energey Policy Tax Incentives and Exploratory Permits

The Panel recommends that future national energy policies and tax regulations take into account the time requirements for adequate environmental studies and assessment.

e. Employment

The Panel recommends that the Proponent may employ as many of the southern Baffin Island residents as is feasible for positions associated with the drilling program.

f. Public Information by Proponent

The Panel recommends that the Proponent continue its communications program with the southern Baffin Island residents. Special attention should be given to explaining the contingency plans that would come into effect in the event of a major oil well blowout.

SUPPLEMENTARY CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

a. The Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office should institute a follow-up mechanism to evaluate and report on the degree to which the Panel's conclusions and recommendations have been accepted and acted upon.

b. The Panel endorses the Proponent's efforts to inform the residents of southern Baffin Island about the proposed project. The Panel concludes that such initiatives by a proponent are fully compatible with the EAR Process.

c. The Panel recommends that the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office actively pursue the use of federal funding and other assistance for the public participation as intervenors in future Panel projects.

d. The Panel recognizes the difficulties in carrying out meaningful communications with groups whose mother tongue is not an official language of Canada. The Panel recommends that proponents, initiators, and future Panels recognize the need for additional time (for such matters as translation of documents) and make special efforts to ensure that timely information is available in the language of the people who may be affected by a project.

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Berger Commission

Inquiry Report Available

OTTAWA (CP) - The complete public record of the Mackenzie Valley pipeline inquiry headed by Mr. Justice Thomas Berger has been deposited in the Public Archives and now is available to public scrutiny, the archives has announced.

The record consists of 281 volumes of transcript-from formal and community hearings, 1,767 submissions and exhibits filed by individuals, environmental and native groups, oil and pipeline companies and government organizations, and files, indexes, video tapes, maps, photographs used by the commission, as well as copies of speeches by Mr. Justice Berger.

Mr. Justice Berger said he sent the records to the archives because he wanted all the material to be available immediately for research workers and others interested. He said the hearings held from 1974 to 1977 were an important analysis of the issues of energy needs, industrial development of the frontier, protection for the northern environment, and the rights of native peoples.

The archives said no restrictions will be put on study of the material which has been indexed and boxed by the archives staff.

Reprinted from:
Indian News, vol. 19, no. 3, 1978

SAMI HERDERS

For centuries the people of Northern Canada were known as Eskimo while those of Scandinavia and the Kola Peninsula in the Soviet Union were known as Laps or Laplanders.

Recently the word Eskimo has been dropped in favour of Inuit. So too was the word Laps which is now Sami, a term by which the Laps have always designated themselves.

"Sami Herders" is a film produced by the National Film Board and the Northern Social Research Division of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The film is a portrayal of a nomadic Sami family in Northern Norway who have combined modern technology with their traditional profession - reindeer herding.

It was only 400 years ago that reindeer were domesticated for herding and now approximately 10 per cent of the 35,000 Sami are reindeer herders. The mixture of old and new is well documented in that herding is shown being done with dogs and Skidoos.

Teepee style tents are the camp quarters. As well as the camp essentials, it is strange to see portable radios and cameras. When not with the herd, the family lives in a modern society complete with television, cars, supermarket shopping and boats and motors.

Like other ethnic groups, the Sami language had been forbidden in schools. Now the wheel has gone full circle and their language is being taught in their schools.

Hubert Schuurman's direction and photography has resulted in a film which is beautiful due to its simplicity.

Reprinted from:
Indian News, vol. 19, no. 3, 1978

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YUKON ECONOMIC REVIEW

The first issue of the Yukon Economic Review (Third Quarter, 1978) has recently been issued. It will be published on a quarterly basis by the Economic Research and Planning Unit, Government of Yukon, P.O. Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 206, who also issue Yukon Special Price Survey (bi-m.), Yukon Real Estate Survey (q.), and Yukon Rental Survey (q.).

* *

THE FOURTH NORTH AMERICAN FUR TRADE CONFERENCE

A four-day conference on the North American fur trade will be held on October 1-4, 1981, at Grand Portage, Minnesota, and at Old Fort William, Thunder Bay, Ontario. The United States-Canadian event will coincide with the 250th anniversary of the landing of French explorer and fur trader Varennes de la Vérendrye at Grand Portage in August, 1731 and his subsequent wintering at Kaministiquia. It follows a highly successful precedent established 50 years ago when, on August 22, 1931, Americans and Canadians gathered at Grand Portage to commemorate the 200th anniversary. The location of the conference at two interpretive facilities closely linked with the North West Company, and the presentation of papers by authorities on the North American fur trade promise to attract scholars, historians, and fur trade buffs alike. Conference themes will be wide ranging.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Stimulating papers on the French and North West Company periods, the Hudson's Bay Company, the American Fur Company, American Indian contributions, the significance of the Great Lakes region and other aspects of the fur trade.
- A visit to the restored North West Company canoe shed, stockade and Great Hall at Grand Portage. Walk a portion or all of the famous 8½-mile portage to the site of Fort Charlotte, or ride in a 36-foot canot du Maître.
- Exhibits of rare fur trade paintings and documents along with artifacts recovered during the 13-year underwater search along the old pedlar's canoe route from Montreal to Lake Winnipeg.
- Optional side trips to the high falls of the Pigeon River, the Witch Tree, Kakabeka Falls, Isle Royale, the original site of Fort William, and others.
- A visit to Old Fort William reconstruction where life and activities in the period 1803-1821 are accurately portrayed - an unforgettable experience.

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ASSOCIATE NEEDED FOR POLAR EARTH SCIENCES AND GLACIOLOGY

The National Science Foundation is considering Intergovernmental Personnel Act nominations from universities and state and local governments for a position as program associate for polar earth sciences and glaciology. This assignment would last for 1 or 2 years in the Division of Polar Programs.

Applicants should have a Ph.D. in the relevant science. Experience in polar research is desirable. The person selected will remain an employee of his or her institution, but will work at the Foundation's headquarters in Washington, D.C. Some travel to the polar region is required.

The Foundation may provide funds for a portion of the salary and other costs related to the assignment.

Nominations should be sent by the applicant's institution (not by the applicant) the the Division of Personnel and Management, Attention: Mr. Robert T. Preston, National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C. 20550 (telephone 202/632-4118).

NOW AVAILABLE

250-page catalogue of films on Indians and Inuit of Canada. Includes: descriptions (English and French) of films from 1965 to 1978; length of each, whether black and white or colour, producers and distributors.

Prepared by: Indian and Inuit Affairs Program
Public Communications and
Parliamentary Relations Branch
Department of Indian and Northern Affairs

Available from:
General Distribution
Central Information Services
Room 2015
Indian and Northern Affairs
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0H4

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RECENT REPORTS OF INTEREST

"Offshore Drilling in Lancaster Sound", Northern Perspectives, v. 6, no. 6, 1978. 12 p.

"Alcoholism: a Northern Dilemma", Inuit Today, v. 7, no. 5, July-Dec., 1978. 243 p.

"1977/78 Annual Report of the Commissioner of Yukon". 48 p. "...the most comprehensive territorial report ever produced on government activities in Yukon".

"1976-1977 Annual Report", Indian and Northern Affairs. 83 p.

"Annual Report 1977", Inuit Tapirisat of Canada. 92 p.

"The Cape Dorset Report", Inuit Today, 75 p. Included 4 large maps - two cultural and two environmental.

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THE INTERPRETER

The Interpreter began publication in May 1975 to inform residents of the Northwest Territories about government services and activities. Since then, there has been considerable growth in the number of broadcast and print media that serve the North -- all of which are vehicles for distribution of the type of information carried by The Interpreter. As a result, it has been decided to redirect efforts towards the production of specialized information material, and on producing printed materials that will explain in detail the numerous government programs designed to assist northerners in their day-to-day activities.

THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

ARCTIC CIRCLE MEETINGS - The regular meetings of the Arctic Circle are held on the second Tuesday of every month, October to May, at 8.30 p.m. at the Staff Lounge, University of Ottawa.

Out-of-town members who wish to receive notices of these meetings and, thereby, be informed in advance regarding the guest speakers and the topics to be discussed, should address their requests to the Secretary.

MEMBERSHIP DUES -- Dues are payable as of 1 January. New members joining the Arctic Circle in the Fall or at any time during the period between the last meeting in the Spring and the first meeting in the Fall (usually May-October) will be considered paid up members for the following year. The dues are:

Members living in the Ottawa area	$ 7.00
Out-of-town members	$ 3.00
Student Membership	$ 5.00
Libraries and institutions	$ 5.00

THE ARCTIC CIRCULAR is published four times a year. Correspondence, papers and reports are welcomed from all members, from persons living in the north, or from anyone having information on general northern activities, research and travel, or on technological, industrial or social developments. Contributions and correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, The Arctic Circular, 185 Kamloops Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K1V 7E1.

Back issues of The Arctic Circular on micro-film are available, single copies at $ 1.50 and complete sets (Volumes I to XXV) at $ 100.00. Requests should be addressed to the Publications Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE should be addressed to the officer concerned,

c/o The Arctic Circle
Box 2457, Station "D",
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5W6

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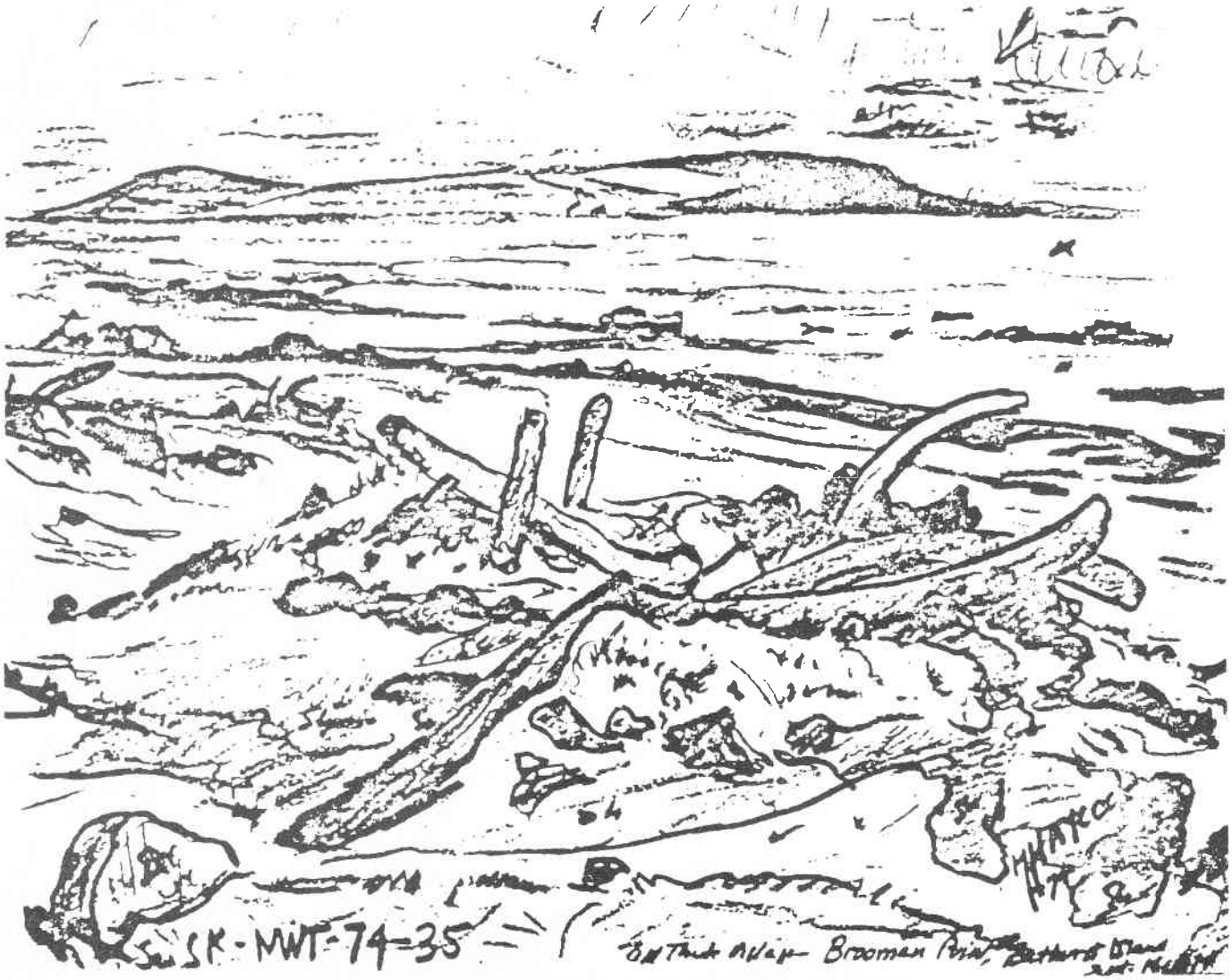

THE ARCTIC CIRCULAR

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ALL AROUND THE CIRCLE

254th Meeting, 20 October 1979: - The first meeting of the 1979-1980 season was addressed by Dr. Elton R. Pounder, MacDonald Professor of Physics and Director of the Ice Research Project of McGill University, who spoke about "Sea Ice in the High Arctic". Dr. Pounder, Director of the Ice Research Project since its inception over twenty years ago, has been active in the Arctic throughout this period. Some of his more recent endeavours include the operation of an oceanographic station for one year in 1975-1976 during the international Arctic Ice Dynamics Joint Experiment (AIDJEX). During 1975 and 1978 he conducted investigations of currents and tides from the sea ice in areas of potential oil and gas pipeline crossings of Barrow Strait. Last spring took Dr. Pounder further North with participation in LOREX 79, during which three stations on ice-floes drifted across the Lomonosov Ridge, one within twelve miles of the North Pole.

255th Meeting, 22 November 1979: - Lt. Col. R.V. Nordlund, Commanding Officer of No. 1 Construction Engineering Unit (No. 1, C.E.U.), Canadian Forces Base, Winnipeg, gave an illustrated talk on "Arctic Airfield Construction". From 1970 to the present, The Department of National Defence has been engaged in a program of airstrip construction at six remote Canadian Arctic locations; Pangnirtung, Whale Cove, Eskimo Point, Cape Dorset, Pond Inlet and Spence Bay. Due to the short construction season, though the work was started nine years ago, it was only scheduled to be completed last summer.

As Commanding Officer of No. 1, C.E.U., the agency which performed the work, and having been involved also in construction engineering planning and project control at Air Defence and Air Command Headquarters, Col. Nordlund was particularly well qualified to relate the story of this program. In his lecture, Col. Nordlund provided a brief history of airfield construction in the North and in more detail the history of the D.N.D. Remote Airports Program. In the course of his talk he covered some of the construction techniques employed, the working conditions experienced and the problems encountered.

256th Meeting, 11 December 1979: - Vilhjamur Stefansson, born one hundred years ago this year, was the subject of a talk by Professor Richard Diubaldo who is well qualified to present this talk since he is the author of "Stefansson and the Canadian Arctic", a controversial study of Stefansson published in 1978 by the McGill-Queens University Press familiar to many of our members. This work has received Honourable Mention from the Macdonald Price Committee of the Canadian Historical Association and the John Lyman Book Award from the North American Society for Oceanic History.

Professor Diubaldo is Associate Professor of History and Fellow of the Centre for Mature Students at Concordia University in Montreal. His present work, focussed on Canada-U.S. relations in the North during the decade of the 1940's, is a continuation of earlier work on Northern Defense and resources. He has done some work for the DND Operational Research Analysis Establishment and published several articles on Canada-U.S. relations in the North including Canol and post War defense policy. In addition, Professor Diubaldo is author of "Canada's Arctic Frontier 1880-1926" which was part of Canada's Visual

History series for the National Film Board and National Museum of Canada. He has been with Concordia University since 1968 having taught previously at both Carleton and Acadia Universities.

MEMBERS' NEWS

In response to a plea sent out by the Editor for news from and/or about members, the following notes were received. The Editor would like to express her thanks to those who took the time and trouble to respond.

Bern Will Brown, artist, of Colville Lake, Northwest Territories, writes: "Yes, we did go north this summer, but mostly east. We flew east from here in our Cessna 180 on floats, stopping overnight on Horton and Bluenose Lake and then Coppermine. From there we visited the abandoned R.C.M.P. barracks at Bernard Harbour of which I made sketches for an oil painting I have just completed. The wreck of the HBC Fort Hearne lies just under water in the harbour but the old vintage Ford truck chassis behind the Barracks was far more intriguing! We flew out to Victoria Island and visisted Bob Klengenberg at the site of his famous father Christian Klengenberg's Trading Post. Bob and a few families have recently moved back to this area and put up three plywood cabins under the Government's Outpost camp assistance program. At Cape Krusenstern the Trading Post of Slim Semmler is still standing though abandoned for thirty years or more. Slim now trades in Inuvik. An abandoned DEW line station dominates the hill behind his post. At Tree River, 90 miles east of Coppermine, a group of Eskimos are paid a retaining fee by Great Bear Lake Lodge to add local color for fishermen who fly in for char. Oddly enough, smoke from the widespread forest fires around Fort Smith created a noticeable haze right out of Victoria Island."

R.J.E. Brown, Geotechnical Section, The Division of Building Research, National Research Council of Canada, reports: - "At Thompson, Manitoba, I installed several thermocouple cables in a peat plateau to obtain ground temperature profile through that permafrost feature. Took regular permafrost ground temperature observations at sites in Northern Manitoba and District of Keewatin, N.W.T. Visisted alpine permafrost sites in Rocky Mountains to take permafrost ground temperature observations."

From Chas. Jonkel, University of Montana, Missonta: - "During late April early May I took part in the Fram I Expedition off Northern Greenland. Together with Norwegian and Danish colleagues, we put satellite Tracking Collars on 4 polar bears to study the movements of the East Greenland - Svalbard bears. NASA is giving us weekly positions on all 4 bears. We shared the island facilities with scientists from Norway, Denmark, U.S.A., and Canada. My graduate student, Sandy Martin, returned to the Resolute Bay area to complete her polar bear/ice ecology study for her M.Sc. degree. Her thesis will be completed by mid-winter, 1979-80."

Don E. McAllister, Curator of Fishes, Museum of Natural Sciences, will see two papers on arctic fishes published next year. These are: "List of Inuktitut (Eskimo), French, English and Scientific Names of Marine fishes of Canada/Liste

des Noms Inuktitut (Esquimaux), Français, Anglais et Scientifigues des Poissons Marine du Canada Arctique", by Don E. McAllister, J.G. Hunter, and Vianney R. Legendre. This monograph will list 135 species of known fish between Labrador and Alaska, James Bay and the North Sea. Inuktitut names are reported for 50 of these. The second publication is a "Bibliography of the Marine fishes of Arctic Canada, 1771-1979" by Kathleen E. Robins and Don E. McAllister. There are about 850 references listed with full citations given. Both publications will be available from Dr. McAllister.

E. Whalley - led an Alpine Club of Canada expedition of 14 people to the mountains of Ayk Lake near Clyde River in May 1979. To facilitate travel, two Komatics were made in Ottawa during the preceding winter and were shipped with two skidoos. It was the first mountain climbing group in the area and about 32 mountains were climbed, including Mt. Wordie.

Dr. Frank T. Davies writes: "I haven't been north for some years, so I hope you won't mind my few notes of Byrds Antarctic Expedition 1928-30 which you asked me to send you.

"The Norwegian barque, rechristened City of New York, left New York in late August 1928 and four months later, just about Christmas, reached the Bay of Whales. Like all the 20-30 year old volunteers, I was a hand before the mast during this voyage via Panama, Tahiti and New Zealand. It was good exercise for preparation for 14 months on the ice during which snow-shovelling was our main occupation. I also made magnetic measurements by records on sensitive paper as well as absolute measurements once a week. I kept a visual and auroral watch during darkness, helped by some 3 or 4 colleagues. Considerable physical activity was necessary for the two meteorogists and myself in flying kites with meteorographs. Winding them by hand was arduous enough. In addition, I helped out senior scientist, Professor Gould, in collecting ice crystals in local crevices which he photographed.

"On 29 November next is the 50th Anniversary of Byrd's flight over the South Pole. This is receiving considerable attention in U.S.A.

"Although as a volunteer I had no salary for two years, I was glad I went because this expedition bridged the techniques of the early and later expeditions. We had an old sailing ship and dog teams like the past with airplanes and radio communications like the later expeditions. I served also before the mast for 4 months from the ice to Dunedin, NZ, Tahiti, Panama to New York.

PS: I was always called 'Taffy' on the expedition and few remembered my name was Davies. There are still 11 members living of the 42 on the ice - all in their 70's except Professor Gould who is past 80!"

NATURAL HISTORY NOTEBOOK

PRESENTED BY: THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES, OTTAWA

National Museums Canada

WOLVERINE

GULO GULO (25)

One of the larger species of the weasel family, this stocky, muscular animal is today found, in its North American distribution chiefly in the northern regions of Canada between tree-line and Arctic coast.

Pugnacious, bold and curious, like other weasels, the wolverine is omnivorous, consuming a wide range of edible roots & berries, small game and fish. They have been known to kill animals as large as caribou and mountain goats.

Primarily solitary, the wolverine's range is extensive, individual animals having been trailed for 60 to 80 miles over the snow. They follow migrating herds of caribou and clean up carcasses left by wolves and bears, crushing the bones with their powerful jaws.

Averaging about 30lb. in weight, the wolverine has been credited with the ability to defend its food against wolves and even grizzly bears. It is active both day and night, seldom seeking shelter, even in the severest winter weather.

WOLVERINE KILLS POLAR BEAR ON ARCTIC SEA ICE

by

W.S. Home*

The wolverine (Gulo luscus), although regularly seen on the western Arctic coast of Alaska between Barrow and Point Hope in some numbers, hardly ever ventures out on sea ice however high its inland concentrations rise in relation to food populations, but records of its tracks off shore are met occasionally by hunters in the area.

Amos Lane (Point Hope, Alaska), a native Eskimo hunter who is one of the most experienced, widely-ranged, and reliable of guides in Alaska, reports details of an encounter between a wolverine and a polar bear (Ursus maritimus) about 5 km west of the Lisburne Cliffs north of Point Hope in the early spring of 1944, which was observed by his father. Tracks showed that the wolverine had been hunting or scavenging well off shore and was proceeding south when it met a polar bear. Evidently the bear initiated the attack, but as it charged the wolverine leapt to and seized the bear's throat and clung so closely to its chest that the bear was unable to brush it off and only attempted to deliver a hug, which it quickly abandoned. The wolverine appears to have clung to the bear's windpipe without attempting any other kind of damage, until the bear had chocked to death. Mr. Lane despatched the victor before any further behaviour could be observed.

Obviously the failure of wolverines to utilize the sea ice more extensively is not due to the competition of other predators. Well as they are known for their strength and fearlessness, this appears to be a unique record in the Alaskan Arctic and is well known to local hunters and naturalists on the coast. Comparable instances of battles between wolverines and other ice mammals -- or records of ice penetration by single wolverines -- are of interest and are solicited by the author.

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*Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

NORTHERN GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES:

OBLATES REMEMBERED IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

by

Helen Kerfoot*

Many geographic names of the Northwest Territories commemorate individuals who have in some way dedicated a large part of their lives to the Canadian northlands. Among such people are the Oblate fathers who, since the middle of last century, have with faith and endurance carried their beliefs and teaching north to the Arctic Coasts

During 1816, at Aix-en-Provence, France, Eugène de Mazenod and four companions dedicated themselves to serve the poor and to rekindle the faith shattered by the French Revolution. In 1818, the Missionaire Oblat de Marie Immaculée was born and soon enlarged to become a world-wide organization. 1841 heralded the arrival of the first O.M.I. missionaries to Canada, at the invitation of Bishop Bourget of Montréal. Within the next twenty years their influence had spread to the west and north of Great Slave Lake and into the Mackenzie and Liard Basins. Subsequently, missions were established on the Arctic Coast and the shores of Hudson Bay.

Throughout Canada, apart from the Maritimes, Oblate names are woven into the tapestry of geographic nomenclature. In the Northwest Territories more than two dozen individual priests are commemorated. In addition, ramifications of their sphere of influence could well be acclaimed by associated names, for example:

Mission Island, near Fort Resolution;
Lac Ste. Thérèse, south of Great Bear Lake - named by Emile Petitot after the mission at Fort Norman;
Trasher Lake and Billy Lake, near Paulatuk - for Billy Trasher who worked as a pilot on the Arctic Coast for the mission vessel OUR LADY OF LOURDES;
Lac Ste. Croix - named on Petitot's map of 1875, as he visited the location on the festival of the Holy Cross.

Binamé Lake	S. of Paulatuk	69°02' - 124°32'

Antoine-Marcel-Emile Binamé (1900-1971) worked in the missions on the Mackenzie from 1925. Fatner Binamé took the mission supply vessel OUR LADY OF LOURDES from Aklavik around the western arctic coast. He was involved in establishing the Letty Harbour mission in 1928, and in its move to Paulatuk in 1933 to make use of the local coal supply. Following various postings in the western Arctic, Father Binamé became chaplain on the DEW Line, 1967-70.

Buliard Lake	Back River	66°02' - 99°15'

Joseph Buliard (1914-1956) served in the Hudson Bay missions from 1939. From Churchill, Repulse Bay and later Baker Lake he made many arduous journeys into the Barrens. In 1949, he founded the mission at Garry Lake, where seven years later he was drowned.

*Typonomy Research, Secretariat Geographical Names, Energy, Mines and Resources Canada

Faber Lake	N.W. of Great Slave Lake	65°56' - 117°15'

Carrière (1959) claims that Petitot named this Lac Fabre in honour of Joseph Fabre (1824-1892), made Superior General of the Oblates in 1861; he disclaims the theory of White (1910) that the lake name commemorates Mgr. E. Fabre, Archbishop of Montréal. However, the records of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names contain correspondence from Douglas (Secretary of the Geographic Names Board of Canada), who associates the toponym with Frederick William Faber (1814-63), priest, orator and English Catholic writer. His basis for this is Petitot's statement that he named the lake "en l'honeur du vénérable oratorien anglais", (about 1864).

Fallaize Lake	S. of Paulatuk	68°55' - 124°18'

Pierre Calvados Fallaize (1887-1964) from 1913 onwards served in many northern posts: Fort Resolution, Great Bear Lake and Coronation, Letty Harbour and Coppermine, and in 1931 was made a bishop. In 1936, he was on board the mission vessel OUR LADY OF LOURCES when it was caught by the ice at Pierce Point. After travelling overland to Paulatuk, he was picked up by one of the first planes sent out to this part of the Arctic Coast.

JEAN MARIE RIVER	S.E. of Fort Simpson	61°31' - 120°38'
Jean Marie River		61°31' - 120°38'

At the age of 17, Jean-Marie Beaudet (1866-1949) travelled to the Fort Resolution mission. During the next sixty-five years he filled roles from woodcutter to cook at various missions on the Mackenzie. His vows were taken at Fort Norman in 1891 and he spent several years as a brother at the missions of Fort Providence (1915-22) and Fort Simpson (1923-28), before returning to Fort Resolution in 1940.

Lac Le Roux	N.E. of Great Bear Lake	67°09' - 117°57'
Lac Rouvière	N.E. of Great Bear Lake	67°12' - 117°23'

Jean-Baptiste Rouvière (1881-1913), ordained in Liège in 1906, arrived at the Fort Providence mission in 1907. He served there until 1911 when he moved down river to Fort Good Hope. Guillaume Le Roux (1885-1913), after staying briefly at Fort Resolution in 1911, also was posted to the Fort Good Hope mission. To establish a mission among the Inuit, both men journeyed to the Coppermine River, where in 1913 near Bloody Falls they were assassinated by the Inuit, Sinnisiak and Uluksak.

Mazenod Lake	N.W. of Great Slave Lake	63°42' - 116°59'

Charles-Joseph Eugène de Mazenod (1782-1861), was the founder of the Oblate order, and attained the position of Bishop of Marseille in 1827. Mazenod Lake was named by Petitot in 1864. Carrière (1959) suggests that St. Charles Creek, Mount St. Charles and St. Charles Rapids may also honour Mgr. de Mazenod.

Petitot River	Tributary of Liard River	60°14' - 123°29'
Petitot Islands	Great Slave Lake	61°35' - 112°45'
Emile River	Tributary of Marian River	63°18' - 116°35'

Emile Petitot (1838-1916) was an Oblate who made considerable contributions to the nineteenth century cartography of northern Canada, by mapping his explorations from Lake Athabasca to the lower Mackenzie River and from the Yukon River to the Anderson River. Many of today's toponyms in the District of Mackenzie stems from names Petitot recorded on his maps of the 1870s. Petitot

entered the O.M.I. in 1860, and after travelling in the Great Slave Lake area from 1862-64 reached Fort Good Hope. Apart from a brief spell in France he spent the next 18 years at the missions of Fort Good Hope, Fort Norman, and Fort McPherson, and travelled among the Indians and Inuit of the western arctic. Petitot was known by the Indians as "Yaltri nezun", or good father.

Rae Lake N.W. of Great Slave Lake 64°10' - 117°20'

Rae Lake was shown on the 1875 map of Emile Petitot as L. Réy, and is thought by Father Carrière to have been named for Father Achille Rey (1828-1911), not Mgr. Rey as mentioned by White (1910). Achille Rey was born in Briançon, France, joined the Oblates in 1844 and was ordained in 1851. His various positions in the Order were all at locations within France.

STANTON Near mouth of Anderson River 69°48' - 128°41'

A new mission was established here in 1938 by Bishops Breynat and Fallaize, who decided its name should commemorate William John Stanton (1880-1937) "ancien provincial de la Première Province des Etats Unis, qui avait, avant l'accident d'automobile...travaillé à trouver quelque argent pour la fondation d'une mission sur la côte arctique".[1] The mission was closed in April 1955.

Thibert Point S. of Great Bear Lake 63°19' - 90°43'

Arthur Thibert (1898-1963) entered the Oblates as a novice in 1920 and served at the missions of Chesterfield Inlet, Eskomo Point and Baker Lake. After almost 20 years working on the western shores of Hudson Bay, Father Thibert had collected much material on Inuit language. During his last years of poor health he compiled dictionaries for translation between French and Inuktitut.

Turquetil Lake N.W. of Maguse Lake 61°56' - 95°53'

Arsène Turquetil (1876-1955) was born in Calvados, France, and as an Oblate came to Canada in 1899. In 1912, Father Turquetil started the mission at Chesterfield Inlet, remaining there until 1930, when he moved to Churchill for the next twelve years. He was named to position of Bishop in 1931 and in later years wrote several manuscripts on Inuit language.

In addition to those discussed above, the following Oblate-derived names in the N.W.T. appear with official status in the records of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names: *Cape Bazin, Breynat Bight, Breyant Islet, Breyant Point, Clut Lake, Mount Coty, Dionne Lake, Ducot Peak, Duport River, Rivière Grandin, Grouard Lake, Kraut Channel, Lac Lapperière, Mansoz Lake, Rio Island, Lac Séguin, Lac Taché, and Lac Tempier.*

References include:

(1) Records of the CPCGN.

(2) Carrière, Gaston (1959): *Essai de toponymie oblate Canadienne.* (Extracts from various editions of Revue de l'Université d'Ottawa).

[1] From entry in the diary of the Mission of Notre Dame des Neiges, Oblate Archives, Fort Smith.

(3) Carrière, Gaston (1977): *Dictionnaire Biographieque des Oblats de Marie Immaculée au Canada*, 3 vols.

(4) Diaries, manuscripts, and pers. comm. with Father Mousseau at the Oblate Archives in Fort Smith, N.W.T. and Father Carrière in Ottawa.

(5) Maps of Emile Petitot's journeys: dated 1875 and 1891.

(6) White, J. (1910): *Place-names - Northern Canada*. Geographic Board of Canada, Ottawa, Ninth Report, 1910, Part IV p. 231-455.

(7) Noonan, J.E., omi (1937): *The Oblates*. The Oblate Fathers, Belleville, Illinois.

THE ARCTIC CIRCLE CLUB TIE

The Arctic Circle club tie has been "out of print" for several years. However, we are now happy to announce that a new stock has been received, and ties are available from The Treasurer.

The tie is a dark navy blue, with a silver Narwhal embroidered so that it can be positioned below the knot when tied.

It is very similar to the old tie which many members still sport, but it is a little more fashionable in size.

The tie can be had by sending $ 9.95 to

The Treasurer, The Arctic Circle
Box 2457
Station "D"
Ottawa, Canada
K1P 5W6

VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON CENTENNIAL

Three separate occasions, held in 3 different cities in 3 countries, celebrated the hundredth anniversary of the birth of the noted arctic explorer Vilhajlmur Stefansson, who was born in Manitoba on 3 November 1879.

In Hanover, New Hampshire, where "Stef" lived during his last years, a dinner was sponsored on 31 October by the Geography Department of Dartmouth College. The following messages were received on that occasion:

WE ARE CELEBRATING THIS YEAR THE CENTENARY OF VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON, THE ARCTIC EXPLORER WHOSE SCHOLARSHIP HELPED DISPEL THE MYSTERY OF WHAT WAS HERETOFORE THOUGHT OF AS A FROZEN WASTELAND.

HE WAS BORN IN NEW ICELAND IN WHAT IS NOW MANITOBA, CANADA, AND WAS EDUCATED AND LIVED FOR MANY YEARS IN THE UNITED STATES. HE SEPNT MOST OF HIS LIFE EXPLORING THE ARCTIC, AND THE RESULTS OF HIS RESEARCH WERE OF BENEFIT TO BOTH CANADA AND THE U.S.A.

OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE PROUD OF THIS GREAT MAN WHO BRAVED THE UNFORGIVING ARCTIC AND WHOSE WORK WAS DEDICATED TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE ESKIMOS AND THE INDIANS. HE WAS TRULY, IF UNOFFICIALLY, AN AMBASSADOR OF THE NORTH, AND WE ARE HAPPY TODAY TO HONOUR HIS MEMORY.

MAY HIS EXAMPLE INSPIRE US TO CONTINUED COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES LEADING TO A GREATER KNOWLEDGE OF THE RESOURCES AND POSSIBILITIES OF THE ARCTIC.

ED SCHREYER, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA

ON THE OCCASION OF VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY I AM PROUD AND HAPPY TO SEND THE BEST GREETINGS THE GREAT SCHOLAR AND EXPLORER IS HELD IN HIGH ESTEEM BY THE PEOPLE OF ICELAND WHO COUNT HIM AMONG THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS OF THEIR KIN.

KRISTJAN ELDJARN, PRESIDENT OF ICELAND

WE ARE HAPPY THAT YOU ARE HONORING THE MEMORY OF OUR MEDALIST AND PAST PRESIDENT DR. VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH. WE SEND OUR GREETINGS TO ALL THOSE GATHERING IN HIS HONOR IN OTTAWA ON NOVEMBER 3. ALL BEST WISHES

CHARLES F. BRUSH, Ph.D.,
PRESIDENT THE EXPLORERS CLUB

THE SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE SENDS GREETINGS ON THE OCCASION OF THE CENTENNIAL OF A GREAT POLAR EXPLORER, THINKER AND WRITER.

DIRECTOR

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY IS PLEASED TO JOIN THOSE RECALLING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF VILHJAMUR STEFANSSON.ON THE CENTENNIAL OF HIS BIRTH THE SOCIETY'S HUBBARD GOLD MEDAL WAS AWARDED TO DR. STEFANSSON IN 1920 FOR HIS PEERLESS ACHIEVEMENT OF 5 AND ONE HALF CONTINUOUS YEARS OF WORK IN THE ARCTIC AND THE MAPPING OF MORE THAN 100 000 SQUARE MILES OF PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN TERRITORY IN THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE OF AUGUST 1922. THE HONORED EXPLORER PREDICTED WITH ASTOUNDING ACCURACY THE POLAR ROUTES OF TODAYS AIRLINES. IN HIS LIFETIME HE BECAME THE FOCAL POINT OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THOSE REGIONS SO REMOTE AND SO APPARENTLY WASTE BUT THAT ARE TODAY CRITICAL TO INTER-NATIONAL CONCERNS. HE WAS AN EXPLORER IN THE TRUE SENSE WHO UNDERSTOOD THE MEANING OF THE GROUND HE COVERED. PLEASE CONVEY MY GOOD WISHES TO THOSE WHO HONOR HIS MEMORY TODAY.

ROBERT E. DOYLE, PRESIDENT
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

In the U.S.S.R. a receiption was organized by Dr. G.A. Agranat of the Moscow Branch of the Geographical Society on Stefs birthday. Dr. Trevor Lloyd sent a telegram of greetings to Captain David C. Nutt in Hanover, and repeated the message he sent to Dr. Agranat:-

FOLLOWING MESSAGE WAS SENT TO AGRANAT, MOSCOW, QUOTE WHEN CANADIAN FRIENDS ARE ADMIRERS OF VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON MEET IN OTTAWA ON NOVEMBER 2 AS GUESTS OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF CANADA TO COMMEMORATE HIS CENTENNIAL, WE SHALL RECALL WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT LIKE-MINDED SOVIET COLLEAGUES MET A FEW DAYS EARLIER FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

WE SEND YOU GREETINGS ACROSS THE ARCTIC BASIN WHICH STEFANSSON DID SO MUCH TO MAKE A CENTRE-PIECE OF THE MODERN WORLD. THE NORTH POLAR REGION OF TODAY STUDDED WITH SCIENTIFIC STATIONS AND CRISS-CROSSED BY AIR ROUTES IS ITS OWN TRIBUTE TO HIS GREATNESS. TREVOR LLOYD. UNQUOTE.

WITH THIS MESSAGE TO SOVIET POLAR COLLEAGUES WE SEND ALSO OUR GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES FOR A DARTMOUTH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN THE TRUE STEFANSSON SPIRIT.

TREVOR

In Ottawa, a small dinner for friends and former students of Stefans on was held in the National Museum of Man. The Governor General again graciously sent a message:-

35a

RIDEAU HALL
OTTAWA
K1A 0A1

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
RÉSIDENCE DU GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL

We are celebrating this year the centenary of Vilhjalmur Stefansson who led us to a greater understanding of the vast and frozen Arctic region.

He devoted the major part of his mature years to the exploration of the North, believing it was possible for southern man to live off the land in the Arctic, endeavouring to help the native populations achieve a better quality of life, writing books explaining the mysteries of this unknown and unforgiving land.

Many of his expeditions were sponsored jointly by the United States and Canada; this kind of cooperation between our two countries was to our mutual benefit and should be encouraged to continue as we want to discover the resources and possibilities of the North.

Vilhjalmur Stefansson was truly an "Ambassador of the North" and we are proud today to honour the memory of this great explorer.

Ed Schreyer

Governor General of Canada

November 2, 1979

Other communications received were:

"Intensely regret that work commitments and difficult transportation problems conspire to prevent my joining you in celebrating the 100th anniversary of Wilhjalmur Stefansson's birth. His multi-faceted gifts made him appear differently to many people at various times but to me he displayed the qualities of a loving husband, gifted teacher, inspired researcher, avid book collector and talented party giver.

His wit and good humour lightened our numerous difficult times and he well knew how to celebrate the good ones. Among the many important things he taught was that in addition to field work, exploration and discovery could happen in a small room with a typewriter, provided you had access to the right books and people with the kind of first-hand experience you needed.

I reach across the distance separating us to join memories with yours with gratitude for my life having touched his and must borror a phrase from our newly learned French to say, "Je vous embrasse"!

Evelyn Stefansson-Nef.

"On October 31, thirty-three friends and admirers of Vilhjalmur Stefansson gathered in Hanover, New Hampshire, to celebrate the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of his birth. Reminiscences were recalled and messages of greeting read. "Stef" stands tall among all of us as an explorer, historian, and scholar. From Hanover we are pleased to send greetings to a like celebration at the National Museum of Canada in Ottawa on November 2, and to share the kind message we have received, which affirm the continued high esteem in which Vilhjalmur Stefansson is held in the international community."

David C. Nutt.

"Warmest good wishes to you and to all old friends and admirers of Vilhjalmur Stefansson. I am sorry that I cannot be with you to toast his memory."

George Jacobsen, Montreal.

After an outstanding dinner, there were reminiscences of Stef and his work. An old movie made during his momentous expedition was shown; and the Museum mounted a display of artifacts for the occasion.

NATURAL HISTORY NOTEBOOK

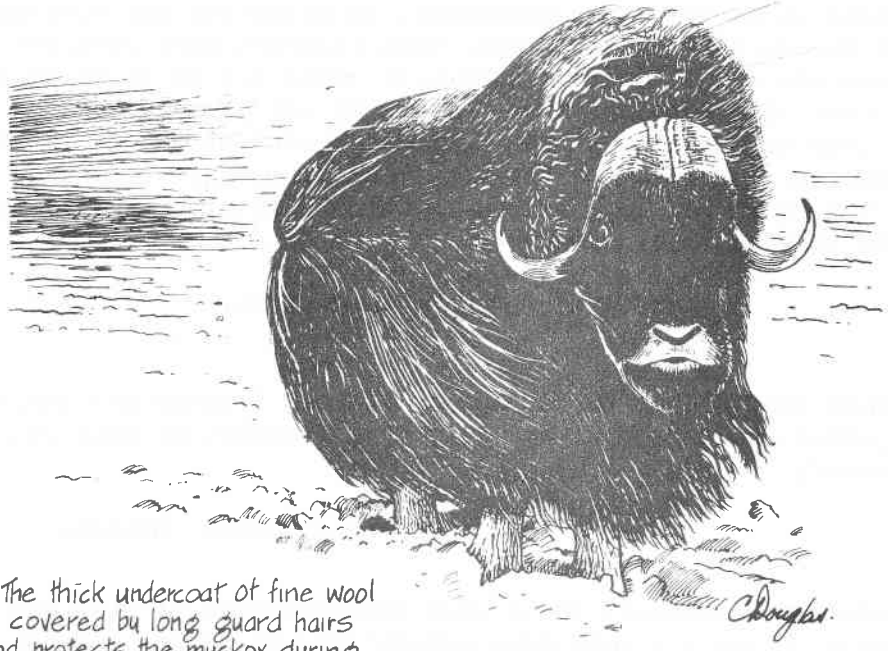
PRESENTED BY: THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES, OTTAWA

National Museums Canada

MUSKOX (51)

OVIBOS MOSCHATUS

This shaggy, wild relative of the sheep and goats lives in herds on the tundra of arctic Canada. The Canadian population is estimated at about 10,000 animals, most of which live on the HIGH ARCTIC islands.



The thick undercoat of fine wool is covered by long guard hairs and protects the muskox during the long, cold winters.

Adult males have massive horn bases, used in head-on clashes during fights over herd leadership. The sharp horn tips of the adults are used primarily in defense against wolves - their only predatory enemy besides man.

PLAQUES COMMEMORATE FIFTH THULE EXPEDITION

Two plaques commemorating the Danish Fifth Thule Expedition to Arctic North America were unveiled on Thursday, November 15th, in ajoint Canada-Denmark ceremony on the 9th floor of the Lester B. Pearson Building, 127 Sussex Drive in Ottawa. The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque, in English, French and Inuktitut, was unveiled by the Honourable Erik Neilsen, Minister of Public Works, and the Danish government plaque, in Danish and Greenlandic, was unveiled by the Danish Ambassador to Canada, Vagn Korsbaek.

The plaques will be erected at the site of the Fifth Thule Expedition base camp on Danish Island, a small island north of Southampton Island in Hudson Bay, in 1980.

Knud Rasmussen was an ethnographer, an arctic explorer and a world famous authority on Inuit history and culture. This year marks the 100th anniversary of his birth. Rasmussen is perhaps best known for his work with the Danish Ethnographical Expedition to Arctic North America, more generally called the Fifth Thule Expedition, which set out from Greenland in 1921 and completed its work in 1924. Its purpose was to explore the areas of Arctic Canada occupied by Inuit. The leader Knud Rasmussen was born in Greenland and was partly of Inuit origin. He hoped to trace native legends and songs along the route followed by the Inuit in ancient times from Western Canada to Greenland. Together with his colleagues who were archaeologists, ethnographers and geographers, he produced important descriptions of various Inuit peoples between Hudson Bay and the Bering Strait. Between 1921 and 1924 they collected some 15,000 ethnographic items and photographs, and recorded traditional Inuit songs and legends. For a small expedition of six Danes and six Greenlanders, the results were outstanding.

The Honourable Erik Nielsen, M.P.P.C., Minister of Public Works, standing in for the Minister responsible for Parks Canada, said, in part:

> "With the unveiling of this plaque, Canada officially recognizes the Danish Fifth Thule Expedition as being of national historic significance in the development of our country. Indeed, the tremendous achievements of the Expedition have long been acknowledged as being of international significance. Much acclaim has been accorded the members of the Expedition over the years, but perhaps none so great as this year's worldwide celebration of the centennial of Knud Rasmussen's birth.
>
> Leader of the Fifth Thule Expedition, Rasmussen was truly a daring adventurer, dedicated ethnologist and archaelogist, and perhaps most notably, a humanist. His observations and understanding of the Inuit are an enduring contribution to modern Arctic study. On several occasions his counsel was a valuable aid to the Canadian government.
>
> On behalf of the Government of Canada and Prime Minister Clark, I want to acknowledge the efforts and cooperation of the Government of Denmark on this occasion. The Danish Government, of course,took great interest in the Fifth Thule commemoration, and has supplied a plaque in the Danish and Greenlandic languages.

The bronze plaques unveiled here today will be affixed to a monument on Danish Island in the Northwest Territories, the location of the Thule Expedition headquarters in Canada. We have on display pictures of that barren and lonely island, packed in ice. We can well imagine how frequently, and perhaps desperately, the Expedition members longed for their distant homeland. It is with great respect that Canada today pays tribute to the remarkable Members of the Fifth Thule Expedition."

NATURAL HISTORY NOTEBOOK

PRESENTED BY: THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES, OTTAWA

National Museums Canada

POLAR BEAR

URSUS MARITIMUS (18)

One of the earth's largest and most powerful carnivores, the Polar Bear is found along Canada's Arctic coasts from Labrador to Alaska.

In appearance it differs from other bears, having a longer neck and a long, narrow head. Its legs are also much longer.

When disturbed it heads for open water at a rolling gallop at a top speed of about 25mph

The Polar Bear may surpass the Alaskan grizzly in size, with the maximum recorded weighing 1600 lb. Adult males often weigh between 400 - 1100 lb. They are the most carnivorous of the bears, their favourite prey being seals and young walrus. In addition to their mainly meat diet, they graze on grasses, mushrooms and berries.

They have, aside from man, no natural enemies, although they may occasionally fall victim to killer whales. They inhabit all the world's Arctic seas and coastlines.

KNUD RASMUSSEN AND THE FIFTH THULE EXPEDITION

by Trevor Lloyd*

To some present today the name "Thule" may recall a military base in north-western Greenland, to others, possibly a stage of Eskimo history -- the "Thule Culture", while to those whose historical interests relate more to Classical times in the Mediterranean, the name "Ultima Thule" may bring to mind Pytheas, who in the time of Alexander the Great sought the end of the world to the north of Scotland. The Fifth Thule Expedition which we are commemorating here has some association with all of these.

Peary, the American polar explorer who completed his long search for the North Pole seventy years ago, was an engineer, expert at arctic logistics. He sought the shortest and most accessible route to the Pole and the most efficient means of transport then available. So he sailed north between Canada and Greenland and then took to dog sledges, manned by Eskimo crews from the Cape York area of Greenland. He provided them with jobs and trade goods for more than twenty years, but when he left in 1909 never to return, many of them faced destitution.

The man we are honouring today had been on an arctic expedition in the same area some years earlier. Born and brought up as a child in Greenland he spoke the local language, lived and hunted with the Eskimos, knew their songs and sagas and was accepted and admired as one of themselves. This was Knud Rasmussen. In 1910 he founded a private trading station in the Cape York area to meet the essential needs of the local Eskimos and eventually to bring them education and health care. But he also wanted to study their history and culture and explore the surrounding lands. The trading station, he called "Thule", after the land described by Pytheas as being "at the end of the known world". As an assistant he recruited another young Danish arctic explorer, Peter Freuchen.

In 1910, the year the station was founded, Rasmussen published in the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London, plans for a major arctic expedition to be based on Thule. It would employ the traditional travelling and hunting methods of the Polar Eskimos. Rasmussen and some others were convinced that the natives of Greenland had originally arrived from far to the westward; he believed it possible to trace their migration route in reverse, following the Eskimo language and the traditional folklore and songs, the hunting methods and the equipment used, back to their origins, possibly as far west as mainland Siberia. He was uniquely qualified to attempt this, combining as he did the expertise of the natives themselves with the scientific approach of the educated European. His plan was to travel by boat and sledge from Thule to Baffin Island and so along the margin of the Canadian mainland to Alaska.

Unhappily financial support could not be found for such an elaborate and costly scientific undertaking by relatively young and unknown men so the plans were set aside while arctic exploration went on nearer home; eventually it

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*remarks made at the unveiling of two plaques commemorating the Fifth Thule Expedition, 15 November 1979

covered much of northern Greenland. Following each expedition Rasmussen published books that established his reputation as a writer and scholarly reports which brought him the eventual support of the international scientific community.

Ten years after his initial attempt, he renewed planning for the Danish Ethnographic Expedition to North America, but now it was to become the Fifth Thule Expedition rather than the First. Money was still not easy to find so the scientific team was smaller than had been hoped. In addition to Freuchen and himself, Rasmussen included two young Danish ethnographers,Therkel Mathiassen and Kaj Birket-Smith, each of whom later became famous, and a small group of Greenland Eskimos to assist with hunting and travelling.

In the late summer of 1921 the expedition set out from Thule, sailing through Hudson Strait en route to the Keewatin mainland. They were however stopped by new ice at a small, unmapped island some miles offshore. This, later named Danish Island, became the Expedition base for the next three years. During that period members established a remarkable record for basic geographical exploration -- the then existing maps were of little help -- but concentrated on study of the many Inuit groups then encountered, and also sought information about their forebears. This small group of young scientists operated over an immense area -- from the land of the Caribou Eskimos northwest of Churchill to northern Baffin Island and along the mainland coast, westward as far as Nome, Alaska. This latter journey by Rasmussen and two young Thule Eskimos remains a classic demonstration of the effectiveness of Eskimo dog sledge travel and winter living. Freuchen, despite a severely frozen foot, set out from Danish Island to lead the remaining Thule Eskimos home, by the traditional trail followed by their ancestors; from northern Baffin Island across Lancaster Sound to Devon and Ellesmere Island and so to northwest Greenland. But, that year Lancaster Sound remained unfrozen, so the long journey home had eventually to be completed with the Expedition's small ship.

Rasmussen's book "Across Arctic America" describes the epic western journey. The scientific results have appeared in the Fifth Thule Expedition Reports. There are also many other published sources of information, many of them in English. Rasmussen's untimely death in 1933 came before all his own reports had been prepared, but several were issued posthumously, some as recently as this year. Among the most unusual Expedition books was that by Jacob Olsen the Expedition's Greenlander interpreter. Published only in the Greenlandic language, it is an account of the life of the Canadian Eskimo in the early 1920's.

In additon to the exploratory mapping and the scientific results of the Expedition, its members left behind a less tangible memorial and one which should be better known, especially in Canada. The Expedition had been unhappy about the conditions in which they had found the Eskimos of northern Canada, and concerned over the real possibility that they might be in a slow decline toward extinction. Information about this does not appear in any of the Expedition's published reports, because Rasmussen felt as a matter of principle, that he and his colleagues should not interfere in the affairs of a country where they had been guests. When something of the situation became known in government circles, he was invited to visit Ottawa in 1925 to discuss the whole issue with government administrators and scientists. The record reveals that he went to considerable trouble to provide detailed factual information and to respond to the many questions raised. He also put forward possible solutions on behalf of his colleagues and himself. Fortunately remedial action was comprehensive and speedy. The small northern administration was expanded and improved, trapping and trading

by outsiders was curtailed and available health services were extended. The most dramatic reform however was creation in 1926 of the vast Arctic Islands Preserve.

The Director of the Northern Administration in the Department of the Interior, Mr. O.S. Finnie, wrote to Rasmussen in 1928 thanking him for all the help given over the years, and included these words:

> "As the Arctic Islands Preserve covers an area of 439,105 square miles and it is practically all in Eskimo territory, it will at least keep that much territory for the sole and exclusive use and benefit of the native people."

The Fifth Thule Expedition may have marked a turning point in the long history of the Inuit people in northern Canada. So it was particularly appropriate that a group of Inuit from Igloolik in northern Foxe Basin, a location well known to the Fifth Thule Expedition, should have chartered an airplane and flown to Greenland last summer in order to be present at Knud Rasmussen's childhood home on Disko Bay, for the hundreth anniversary of his birth in 1879. There they conveyed their appreciation for what the Expedition had done for the Inuit people.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES MUSKOX RESEARCH AND EXHIBIT PROGRAM

The summer of 1978 saw the completion of field research on the behaviour of the muskoxen of Polar Bear Pass. This research began in 1968 at the National Museum of Natural Sciences' High Arctic Research Station on Bathurst Island, N.W.T. and evolved from a one-summer survey, through a Ph.D. prgram, to an expanded program involving several researchers, both students and other scientists. Though the major behavioural research has been completed, two student assistants are now carrying on related muskox projects. At the University of Ottawa, Janice Rowell is studying the reproductive biology of muskoxen in the laboratory after participating in several Inuit hunts on Ellesmere Island in order to obtain specimens from the hunters' muskox quota. Kent Jingfors, now student at the University of Alaska, is comparing the feeding ecology of Alaska's introduced muskoxen with the muskoxen of Bathurst Island. In Ottawa, we are working to get the results of the long-term muskox study out to the general public. As well as reports and papers, and a book on muskoxen, there will also be travelling exhibits based on the research done at the Museum's high arctic station. One exhibit, "An Arctic Oases", which is a series of colour photographs showing the beauty of the land and wildlife of Polar Bear Pass, has already travelled across Canada and as far as Ashkhabad in the U.S.S.R. This exhibit stresses the great need for reserves in the Arctic Islands before significant and unique areas are lost. Another photographic exhibit featuring muskoxen and other arctic mammals will introduce the topic of ethology or animal behaviour to the general public.

The National Museum of Natural Sciences will open a travelling exhibit on muskoxen in Ottawa, on May 11, 1980. The exhibit will include specimens and artifacts, from fossil muskox bones and muskox horn implements, to samples of products made from muskox wool and Inuit images of muskoxen. Some of the newest research findings will be illustrated by photographs and simple diagrams. Following the opening in Ottawa the exhibit will first move to Saskatoon, then to other exhibiton centers in the north and across Canada. Any institution interested in receiving the muskox exhibit should contact:

David Gray,
Assistant Curator, Vertebrate Ethology,
National Museum of Natural Sciences,
Ottawa, Ontario,
K1A 0M8.

Government of Yukon

NEWS RELEASE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SWORN IN

An historic ceremony to create the first wholly elected Government of Yukon took place in Whitehorse on Monday October 22. The ceremony saw the dissolution of the nine year old Executive Committee and the swearing-in of the five member Executive Council. It was the first time in the 81 year political history of Yukon that elected representatives of the Yukon Legislative Assembly would be responsible for the Government of Yukon's day-to-day activities. The Executive Council will be styled after similar provincial cabinets and appointments will be at the discretion of the government leader.

The first executive committee, consisting of elected and appointed officials, was created in November 1970, through a ministerial letter issued by the then minister of Indian and northern affairs, Jean Chretien. The committee consisted of two members recommended by the Yukon Territorial Council, the Yukom Commissioner of the day, James Smith and his two assistant commissioners. The evolution of the executive committee saw its size expanded to seven members, of which five were appointed from the ranks of the Yukon Legislative Assembly to sit with the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner.

On October 22, further evolution occurred as the Executive Committee moved from being composed of both elected and appointed members to an Executive Council consisting entirely of elected representatives from the legislative assembly. In his terms of reference letter authorizing these changes, Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Jake Epp also permitted this new Executive Council to be referred to as a cabinet.

The dissolution of the Executive Committee and the swearing-in of the Executive Council was conducted by the Administrator of Yukon, Doug Bell, who delivered a short summary that led to the official transfer of administrative reins of government to the elected officials. Invitations were sent out across the territory inviting all segments of the population to attend the ceremony and a public reception was held following the ceremony.

CANADIAN SITES NAMED TO WORLD HERITAGE LIST

Two Canadian sites have been recognized as part of the World's heritage. Hon. John Fraser, Minister responsible for Parks Canada, announced that Kluane National Park in the Yukon, and Dinosaur Provincial Park in Alberta, have been placed on the Unesco World Heritage List by the World Heritage Committee meeting in Cairo, Egypt.

Nahanni National Park in the Northwest Territories and L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Park in Newfoundland were named to the World Heritage List by the Unesco committee at its 1978 meeting in Washington. Dinosaur Provincial Park, in the Badlands of southeast Alberta, is internationally famous for its dinosaur remains, which are unequalled elsewhere in the world.

Mr. Fraser said Dinosaur Provincial Park is the first site under provincial or state jurisdiction to become a World Heritage Site. "I congratulate Alberta on this honor, and I am very pleased that the close co-operation between the Province and Parks Canada has made this nomination possible".

Kluane National Park has been recognized with the Wrangell - St. Elias National Monuments in Alaska, as a joint nomination by Canada and the U.S.A. Many of the major glacier systems arising in the Kluane portion of the St. Elias mountains flow into the Gulf of Alaska through the two U.S. national monuments, and the three areas share many common physical and ecological features.

The Kluane, Wrangell - St. Elias areas include the world's biggest glacier system outside the polar regions, one of the world's major mountain ranges, and a remarkable wildlife population including Dall sheep, grizzly bears, trumpeter swans, and peregrine falcons.

The joint Canada-U.S.A. nomination, the first ever submitted to the World Heritage Committee, is described by Mr. Fraser as an example of the international co-operation which is one of the goals of the World Heritage Convention.

Communiqué
Parks Canada
26 October 1979

APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies
Ottawa, Ontario.

Beginning September 1, 1980. Initial appointment for two years; secondment possible. ACUNS is an Association of 28 Canadian universities active in northern studies and research. Qualifications: The position requires working knowledge of Canadian universities and/or related government activities; administrative skills; research or comparable northern experience in university and/or government. Remuneration at university scale.

Submit résumé or inquiries by May 15, 1980 to:

J.G. Nelson,
Chairman,
Search Committee,
Faculty of Environmental Studies,
University of Waterloo,
200 University Avenue West,
WATERLOO, Ontario
N2L 3G1

NOMINATION D'UN DIRECTEUR GENERAL

Association universitaire canadienne d'études nordiques
Ottawa, Ontario.

A partir du 1er septembre 1980. Nomination initiale pour deux ans; détachment à partir d'un autre organisme est possible. L'AUCEN est une association qui groupe 28 universités canadiennes oeuvrant dans les domaines des études et de la recherche nordique. Compétence requises: Ce poste exige une connaissance pratique des universités canadiennes et/ou des activités gouvernmentales qui s'y rapportent; des talents administratifs; au niveau universitaire et/ou governmental, une expérience dans la recherche nordique ou dans une activité comparable. Rémunération du niveau académique.

Prière d'adresser les curricula ou demandes de renseignements avant le 15 mai 1980 à:

J.G. Nelson,
Président,
Comité d'examen,
Faculté des études de l'Environnement,
Université de Waterloo,
200, avenue de l'Université Ouest,
WATERLOO, Ontario
N2L 3G1

THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

ARCTIC CIRCLE MEETINGS - The regular meetings of the Arctic Circle are held on the second Tuesday of every month, October to May, at 8.30 p.m. at the Staff Lounge, University of Ottawa.

Out-of-town members who wish to receive notices of these meetings and, thereby, be informed in advance regarding the guest speakers and the topics to be discussed, should address their requests to the Secretary.

MEMBERSHIP DUES - Dues are payable as of 1 January. New members joining the Arctic Circle in the Fall or at any time during the period between the last meeting in the Spring and the first meeting in the Fall (usually May-October) will be considered paid up members for the following year. The dues are:

Members living in the Ottawa area	$ 7.00
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