

# THE POLAR RECORD

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## FOREWORD

As frontispiece to this issue we have much pleasure in publishing a portrait of the *doyen* of all British Antarctic exploration, and a member of the Committee of Management of the Scott Polar Research Institute since its inception.

Dr Hugh Robert Mill has been closely associated with polar activities for the last half century during which he has known personally all the prominent explorers and has been present at the start of all major expeditions. It is interesting to note that, dating from his friendship with Sir Joseph Hooker, the botanist who sailed with Sir James Clark Ross's expedition a hundred years ago, Dr Mill has had personal touch with members of every British Antarctic expedition of the last hundred years. His fame as an authority on the Antarctic is world-wide, and his two chief books on the subject, *The Siege of the South Pole* (1905) and *Life of Shackleton* (1923) are held in high regard. Only a little less known is his generous friendship towards all polar endeavour. His shrewd practical sense, his devotion to science, and his scholarship have been at the service of all who cared to seek his help.

Circumstances due to the War have compelled a reduction in the size of *The Polar Record*. The building has had to be closed to the public since the more valuable of the exhibits have been packed away for safety, but the Institute is carrying on its other activities as far as possible. Interest in the polar regions has increased rather than diminished, since many incidents of the War have actually occurred within the Arctic circle.