

Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge,
Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER, UK)

AN ECHO OF SCOTT'S NORTHERN PARTY

THE WICKED MATE; THE ANTARCTIC DIARY OF VICTOR CAMPBELL. King, H. G. R. (editor). 1988. Alburgh, Bluntisham Books/Erskine Press. 192 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 1-85297-030-8.

After leading the Northern Party of Scott's British Antarctic Expedition 1910-13 and distinguished service in the Royal Navy during World War I, Capt Victor Campbell RN retired in 1922 to make Newfoundland his home. He died in 1956, and in 1979 his library, journals and other personal papers were presented by his son to Memorial University of Newfoundland. This book is based on his Antarctic journals, now in the university library. They cover the period from 1 June 1910, while he was helping to fit out the expedition ship *Terra Nova*, to 28 November 1912 at Cape Evans, shortly before the expedition returned to New Zealand and home.

The Northern Party (which included also Surgeon Murray Levick, geologist Raymond Priestley, Petty Officers George Abbot and Frank Browning, and AB Harry Dickason), was originally scheduled to explore east of the Ross Ice Shelf. Finding Amundsen at the Bay of Whales, Campbell shifted operations to northern Victoria Land, giving Priestley opportunities to explore the coast from Cape Adare to southern McMurdo Sound. The journals cover their winter in a hut at Cape Adare, their sledging journey to Inexpressible Island, the winter they spent there in a snow cave, and their hazardous spring journey to rejoin the main party at Cape Evans in 1912. Harry King, the editor, has added useful background material including notes, photographs and contemporary press items. Campbell's entries are brief and laconic; we must still rely on Raymond Priestley's *Antarctic adventure* for details of this extraordinary story of Antarctic survival, but the journals add detail and were well worth publishing. (Bernard Stonehouse, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 1ER UK.)

POLAR SHIP TECHNOLOGY

MARINE TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY JOURNAL. Issue on Polar Ship Technology: 21(3): 1-95, September 1987. Washington DC, Marine Technology Society Inc. ISSN 0025-3324

This issue of the *Journal* is a potentially interesting collection of papers covering the advancement of polar ship technology since the mid-1950s, with detailed analyses of four milestone examples of the genre, examination of some important aspects of design technology, and explanation of modern navigational techniques and policy. One would have expected particular care to be taken in preparation of such an issue, which was designed no doubt with one eye on promotion of the Society. Unfor-

tunately this one suffers from major flaws, especially in the very poor quality of halftones. The editing has been inadequate, with numerous typesetting errors and several frustrating transpositions of illustration titles, which are obvious from even a cursory inspection.

A promising opening paper is a well written and honest review of the design and operational problems encountered by *MV Arctic* (Martin P. Luce, Canarctic Shipping). This promise is not sustained in the remaining vessel reviews, which read as manufacturers' proclamations of the excellence of their products, having been written by the manufacturer or based on his publicity handouts. There is therefore a disappointing lack of comparative comment between the contributions and irritatingly misleading references such as that describing *MV Icebird* as 'the world's first vessel purposely built for polar resupply' (RRS *John Biscoe* was constructed in 1956; Lauritzen's *Dan* ships have operated in the Arctic and Antarctic for three decades).

Papers by Cynthia Lamson on 'Safe shipping in the Canadian Arctic: risks and responsibilities', and by Leavitt and McAvoy on 'Remote sensing in ice navigation', are well researched, readable and informative. Albert Free's 'Solving icebreaker design problems using ice model basins' is a good paper, the impact of which is effectively destroyed by the publishers' transposition of two complete pages. His conclusion that full scale instrumented trials are necessary to validate model tests in non-saline model ice types should be noted by the specialist ice class ship builders, who will eventually be the beneficiaries. Ghoneim on 'Instrumentation for measuring ice forces on icebreakers' and Voelker and others on 'Application of expert systems to ice piloting and ice navigation' are indicative of the type of concept which the expansion of shipping in polar areas is likely to require. Knowledge of these operating techniques should be acquired by all inexperienced designers, operators and officers.

Is there significance, I wonder, in the contributions of Canadian origin being a class above the remaining 50%? This special issue is a curate's egg, unfortunately scrambled; it does not inspire this reader to contribute \$50 for a subscription. (David Jones, British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET UK.)

THE WORK OF SCAR

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH IN THE ANTARCTIC. Fifield, Richard. 1988. Oxford, Oxford University Press, for the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) and ICSU Press. 146 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-19-854216-X. £25.00.

Richard Fifield starts his preface with the statement that he finds himself in a dilemma since, though his name appears on the title page, he is neither the author nor the editor of this book. Working largely from reports submit-

ted by the various working groups of SCAR, Fifield had the task of producing a readable account of the achievements of Antarctic science, with special reference to the role of SCAR. This could have been no easy task, and one gets the impression that the author experienced more than the usual feeling of relief when the manuscript finally went to the printers. Nevertheless, Fifield has succeeded very well and produced a useful guide to the main fields of Antarctic research.

In places the technical language of the formal report shows through: 'Studies of how plants and animals survive subzero temperatures will continue ...', and there are examples of repetition from one chapter to another which more rigorous editing might have removed. Some of the diagrams could have been improved. They often bear the mark of having been taken off the shelf rather than drawn to illustrate the text. And a list of acronyms would have been invaluable. However, Fifield has topped and tailed the material he received so as to produce a work that hangs together and for the most part reads easily. I found the chapter on the upper atmosphere, never an easy subject, particularly well treated.

The book will be of value to those, specialist and non-specialist alike, who need a quick update in Antarctic science. It should be required reading for those groups that are newly developing their plans for the research programmes that will qualify their nations for consultative status under the Antarctic Treaty or full membership of SCAR. Many people, particularly those nearer to the hub of Antarctic science, might have wished for a more critical analysis of the way SCAR works, or at times, fails to work. It is one thing to read (p 110) that a working group 'determines priorities for future research', but the crucial question is whether those priorities are followed up. How well is SCAR carrying out its constitutional function of 'furthering the co-ordination of scientific activity in the Antarctic, with a view to framing a scientific programme of circumpolar scope and significance'? Many and significant changes have taken place since the SCAR constitution was drawn up at the Hague in 1958. SCAR delegates, nominated by National Academies, are now less likely to be in a position to commit their nation's resources to a particular scientific programme than they were when the programmes of the IGY were being drawn up. Programme managers, or their equivalents, have a vital role to play in the organisation of programmes and the commitment of logistic resources to them. The conflicting styles of institute-based research and programmes arising from peer-reviewed grant applications have to be reconciled.

Richard Fifield's book does not set out to discuss these points, though it recognises their existence. What it does set out to do, to present to the public the results of scientific research in the Antarctic, it does very well, and SCAR and the Antarctic community generally, has reason to be grateful to Fifield. (W. Nigel Bonner, British Antarctic

Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET.)

BRIEF REVIEWS

HUNTERS, PASTORALISTS AND RANCHERS. Ingold, T. 1988. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press. 326 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0 521 35887 6. £10.95; US\$15.95.

Subtitled 'Reindeer economies and their transformations'; the paperback edition of a book which first appeared in 1980 (reviewed in *Polar Record* 20 (127): 378-9 (1981), with a rebuttal from the author in the following issue, p 457). The original reviewer, Ian Whitaker, now writes 'Although I do not agree with all his argument, it is good to see this thought-provoking monograph available to a wider readership. Ingold's experience of reindeer management, springing from his fieldwork among the Skolt Lapps (Sami) of northern Finland, gives the book many insights from the field, to supplement his data derived from the library'

THE SOVIET MARITIME ARCTIC. Brigham, L. W. and Gately, E. M. (editors). 1988. Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Technical Report WHOI-88-5. 67 p, illustrated, soft cover.

A summary of an international workshop held May 10-13 1987 by the Marine Policy Center of Woods Hole, involving 28 participants from Canada, Britain, Norway and the US. The meetings provided '... a forum for Western scholars to examine and discuss Soviet domestic international policies regarding the Arctic Ocean' and addressed '... strategic, geographic, historical, legal, scientific, technological, transportation, geopolitical and resource development' concerns. The report includes abstracts of 15 contributed papers and an edited transcript of the concluding discussion; report abstracts are in English and Russian.

STUDENT RESEARCH IN CANADA'S NORTH. Adams, W. P. and Johnson, P. G. (editors). 1988. Ottawa, Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies. 596 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0-921421-02-8. Can\$25.00 in Canada, Can \$35.00 including postage elsewhere, Can\$10.00 for students.

These proceedings, covering the first National Student Conference on Northern Studies, held in Ottawa in November 1986, '... represent the first comprehensive record of the level and nature of student activity in Northern Studies in Canada's universities today'. The wholly admirable objective of the conference was that the 'next generation' of Northern scholars should get to know each other, become familiar with each others's work, and be sensitive to the multidisciplinary context of their research. There are 101 papers, many of very high standard, grouped under Physical Sciences, Life Sciences and Human Sciences, with abstracts in English and French.