

and contains the complete text of 23 papers. Copies may be obtained from the Washington Office of the Institute, 1530 P Street N.W., Washington 5, D.C., U.S.A. Price \$2.25 postpaid.

The titles of the papers included are as follows:

Agriculture and Forestry

Status and accomplishments of agricultural research in Alaska. By Don L. Irwin.
Alaska forest research problems and program. By R. F. Taylor.

Anthropology

Survey of southeastern Alaskan Indian research. By Viola E. Garfield.
Present status of the Alaskan Eskimos. By Margaret Lantis.
Preservation of archaeological and ethnological material in Alaska. By Frederica de Laguna.
Preservation of archaeological remains in Canada. By Diamond Jenness.
Contemporary problems in the anthropology of southeastern Alaska. By W. S. Laughlin.
Ancient Bering Strait and population spread. By J. L. Giddings.

Botany

Botanical research in Alaska. By William C. Steere.
The future of botanical research in Alaska. By Ira L. Wiggins.

Geology and Geography

Glaciological research in Alaska. By William O. Field, Jr.
Some geographical bases for planning new Alaskan settlement. By Kirk H. Stone.
The hydrology of Alaska. By Arvi O. Waananen.

Geophysics

Geomagnetism—cosmic and prosaic. By David G. Knapp and Elliot B. Roberts.
The Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska. By William S. Wilson.

Meteorology

Agro-climatological investigations in the permafrost region of the Tanana Valley, Alaska. By Basil M. Bensin.

Public Health and Medicine

Water supply problems in low temperature areas. By Amos J. Alter.
Relationships of permafrost to environmental sanitation. By Amos J. Alter.
The psychological aspects of arctic and sub-arctic living. By Ernest L. McCollum.

Zoology

Planning for Alaska's big game. By Olaus J. Murie.
Pressing problems in administration of wildlife resources in Alaska. By W. A. Elkins.
Management of the marine resources of Alaska. By Seton H. Thompson.
Alaskan waterfowl and their management. By Ira N. Gabrielson.

NORTHERN NEWS

Conference on Eskimo affairs¹

A round table conference on Eskimo affairs was held in Ottawa on May 19-20. Major-General H. A. Young, Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, was in the Chair and eight federal government departments and agencies, the Roman Catholic and Anglican missions, and the Hudson's Bay Company were represented. Economic conditions, Eskimo morale, health, and education were the main subjects discussed.

The difficult economic problems caused by the periodic fluctuations both in white fox population and the value of white fox fur have been intensified by

the decline in value of white fox pelts to less than \$5.00 in 1951 and the general marked rise in the cost of trade goods. Government aid, such as family allowances and old age and blind pensions, has made the Eskimo aware of the fact that they now have two sources of income and are not solely dependent on trapping. Their independence is being weakened in some areas by the knowledge that government agencies will come to their assistance. As a result less effort is being devoted to trapping and the Eskimo are concentrating at settlements, resulting in a rapid depletion of the accessible country produce. This in turn has led to decline in vitality and resistance to disease. In the seven years

¹Reprinted from the *Arctic Circular*, Vol. 5, No. 4 (1952) pp. 41-3.

1945-51 Eskimo relief costs totalled \$405,000 and other aid such as family allowances brought the figure from government sources during that period to \$1,687,000. In the Baffin Island-Ungava area 53 per cent of the Eskimo's income came from government sources, while in the Western Arctic the figure was about 25 per cent. It was agreed that Eskimo should be encouraged and helped to live off the land and to follow their traditional way of life.

The conference was very concerned with the deterioration of health among the Eskimo. It was admitted that the present health organization is far from adequate in so large an area and among so scattered a people. Nevertheless the bare maintenance cost of the current services is \$355,000 a year and if all related costs are added the total would be about \$1,000,000. Reports indicate that the spread of tuberculosis among the Eskimo is increasing seriously. Dependence on supplies of white man's food and poor game conditions in some areas, and the delay in the isolation and removal to hospital of active cases are contributing causes. An effective program for the treatment and removal of active cases and for the rehabilitation of arrested cases is necessary. It was agreed that the possibility of using discharged patients in the Great Slave Lake fisheries and similar occupations less arduous than the normal Eskimo existence should be studied.

The curricula at present provided in the seven territorial schools operated by the Government and the twelve Roman Catholic and six Anglican day schools were discussed at length and the general feeling was that there is room for improvement. New types of text books were suggested and greater emphasis on practical training was recommended. The employment of the older Eskimo at certain settlements is depriving the younger generation of the training which they would normally have received from their parents and many children are unfitted to follow the traditional mode of life. An effort to provide some of this training should be made in the schools. The conference was in agree-

ment with a proposal to employ Eskimo teachers when available and wherever possible to encourage and help Eskimo children of demonstrated ability to become teachers. Whether teaching should be conducted in English or in the Eskimo dialect is a question for further study. It was the view of the missionaries that no real progress could be made in bringing Christian and formal education to the Eskimo unless their economy could be stabilized. The only place in the Northwest Territories that is not seriously affected by the deteriorating influences is Aklavik where the Eskimo, owing to the availability of muskrats and furs other than fox, have living conditions almost on a par with white men. The majority have reasonably clean, well-kept homes, maintain an adequate economy as trappers, and are making definite progress in adapting themselves to civilized conditions.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police reported that the Eskimo is a law-abiding citizen when his actions are considered in the light of his situation and his view of the law. There are fewer cases of murder as white men know it than there are in what is referred to as the civilized parts of Canada. The force has found it difficult during and since the war to attract and retain personnel for northern duty but the situation is now improving.

The conference also heard suggestions for increases in the number of R.C.M.P. posts and personnel as a means of extending supervision over Eskimo affairs; for establishing government stores or subsidizing the Hudson's Bay Company to operate posts in areas where they were uneconomical at present; for helping Eskimo to regulate their income by establishing a trust fund; and of the possibility of placing a "floor" under fur prices. The conference also discussed the adequacy of fur and food resources to maintain a larger Eskimo population, and the fate of other primitive peoples as a result of contact with modern civilization.

The conference appointed a continuing committee, with General Young as Chairman, to study the reports and suggestions presented at the conference.

Other members of this committee are: Most Rev. J. Trocellier, Roman Catholic Bishop of Mackenzie; Rt. Rev. D. B. Marsh, Anglican Bishop of the Arctic; R. H. Chesshire, General Manager of the Hudson's Bay Company's Fur Trade Department; Commissioner L. H. Nicholson of the R.C.M.P.; Dr. P. E. Moore, Director of Indian Health Service, National Health and Welfare Department; and Mr. J. G. Wright, Chief of the Northern Administration Division of the Department of Resources and Development. The committee will meet in the fall to consider and recommend action. A sub-committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. J. G. Wright and with representatives from various government agencies and both missions, was also appointed to deal with matters concerning Eskimo education.

Canadian Ice Distribution Survey¹

In 1947 the Geographical Bureau of the Department of Mines and Resources (now the Geographical Branch of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys) made plans for a long-range study of the condition and distribution of ice in northern Canadian waters. The general purpose of the project was to extend the geographical knowledge of the formation, disintegration, extent, and movement of the different types of floating ice in Canadian waters and the accompanying navigational difficulties. The project includes information on floating ice only, upland or continental glacier ice being excluded except where such glaciers supply ice to the sea as bergs or ice shelves. Originally the area under survey included the Beaufort Sea, the waters of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, the Hudson Bay-James Bay area, Baffin Bay, Davis Strait, and the Labrador coast. Recently, at the suggestion of the Fisheries Research Board and the Fisheries Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Trade and Industry, the Gulf of St. Lawrence and eastern Canadian maritime waters have also been included. It is intended later to cover all Canadian inland waters.

¹Reprinted from the *Arctic Circular*, Vol. 5, No. 5 (1952) p. 56.

The project was begun during the summer of 1948 by extracting data on ice conditions from reports published prior to 1905. This work was continued during 1949 and 1950, in which year help in the form of a staff for extraction and editing was contributed by the Defence Research Board, and the information gathered has been filed according to region. As a result of this joint effort, some 2,700 references had been tabulated in the form of cards by 1 September 1952, and these have been sent by the Geographical Branch to certain agencies and organizations interested in ice conditions. Additional references will be distributed as they become available. It is hoped that those receiving the information will contribute to the project by bringing additional references to the attention of the Branch and by sending in authoritative unpublished ice observations.

The information collected will possibly be of most immediate use in estimating ice conditions for specific areas and times. When more information is assembled it should assist navigation, the study of the relationships between ice conditions and meteorological and oceanographic phenomena, and forecasting dates for break-up and freeze-up.

J. KEITH FRASER

Meddelelser om Den grønlandske Kirkesag

Meddelelser om Den grønlandske Kirkesag is a pamphlet which reports the activities of an unofficial but influential committee in Copenhagen interested in furthering church affairs in Greenland. The Chairman is Dr. H. Fuglsang-Damgaard, Bishop of Copenhagen, and the Vice-Chairman and active leader is Provst Aage Bugge. This modest, but useful publication appears at irregular intervals. The most recent pamphlet, No. 79, contains several short articles, two of these, written by Provst Bugge, are of special interest.

The first is an obituary of Provst C. W. Schultz-Lorentzen. Schultz-Lorentzen, who died on 23 March 1951, was a powerful influence in Greenland for more than fifty years, and was the

main architect of its church and school system. Outside Greenland and Denmark he was probably best known for the Dictionary and Grammar of the Greenlandic language which he published, in both Danish and English, rather more than twenty years ago. He first went to Greenland from Denmark in 1898 to become a teacher at the Godthaab seminary, then under the leadership of N. E. Balle. Soon after he was transferred to Egedesminde as clergyman and in 1901 he returned to the Seminary as its Principal. From then on he was active in improving the training of lay readers and in modernizing the school system. The present seminary buildings, erected in 1907, are a monument to this period of his work. Students there still use the song he wrote at that time—*"iterta"* (Let us awake!). In 1906 he was appointed Provst of Greenland, a position which gave him direct supervision over all church and school affairs in the colony. Despite these added administrative responsibilities, he found time to continue study of Greenlandic. In 1907 he edited the Greenland Hymn Book, and in collaboration with Rev. Chr. Rasmussen (father of Knud Rasmussen) he revised the Greenlandic New Testament in 1912.

Active as he was in Greenland, Schultz-Lorentzen was equally active while on leave in Denmark. On one vacation he founded the Committee for Greenland Church Affairs (which publishes the *Meddelelser om Den grønlandske Kirkesag*). In 1918 he was appointed "Lektor" and adviser on Greenland church and school matters to the Danish Government, posts which he retained for thirty years. He was an influential member of the Royal Commission of 1920-1 which laid down new lines for social and economic organization of the colony. The principles adopted at that time remained substantially unaltered until 1950 when a new Commission recommended radical changes, including the separation of church and school administration.

Provst Bugge's second article is a long review of a novel in Greenlandic 'Kate-

keten Johannes', written by Karl Heilmann of Godthaab around the life of a native schoolmaster and lay reader. While well worth reading as a novel, the book is also a valuable study of native lay readers, their training, life in the smaller settlements, and the problems they are faced with as the bridge between Danish ministers in the larger settlements and the scattered villagers. It also shows the clash that may come from the impact of younger, more modern and better-educated men with the more mature, perhaps old-fashioned native teacher-preachers.

The author follows the teacher Johannes from his home in an outlying village, through school, and on to his first appointment. The book shows the intimate knowledge of the everyday life of Greenlanders that we expect from Karl Heilmann, who was himself brought up in such circumstances and has already described them in a novel published during the last war—'Fangeren Samo og Hans Bopladsfaeller' (Samo the hunter and his neighbours).

Because of the pressing need for Danish administrators to understand the older lay readers, who will for a long time continue to be the chief link with the native people, Provst Bugge urges the reading of an article by the late Provst Knud Balle, "De indfødte medarbejdere" (literally the native-born assistants), which appeared as a chapter in the bicentenary volume (1721-1921) of the Greenland Church. He also expresses the hope that 'Kateketen Johannes' will be translated into Danish so that the many newcomers to Greenland may gain an insight into the thoughts and customs of the native people. TREVOR LLOYD

Arctic book catalogue

The Shorey Book Store in Seattle has recently issued a catalogue of their books on 'Alaska and the Arctic'. They have advised us that they have a limited number of copies on hand and would be pleased to send them to Associates of the Institute on request. Their address is 815 Third Avenue, Seattle 4, Wash., U.S.A.