

TWELFTH NORTHERN LIBRARIES COLLOQUY, 5–9 JUNE 1988. Brennan, A. M. and Andrews, M. (editors). 1988. Boulder, Colorado, World Data Center A and INSTAAR. (Glaciological Data Report GD 22). 331 p, illustrated, soft cover.

The theme of this colloquy, 'Northern information — the global connection', was covered by some 38 papers reflecting '...the polar information community's interest in serving the environmental, scientific and socioeconomic user needs'. For a brief account of the meeting see *Polar Record* 24(151): 327 (1988): here is the full report, produced with commendable speed.

ARCANA POLI: A JOURNAL OF COMMENTARY AND OPINION, 1(1), July 1988. Cooke, A. (editor).

First issue of a new journal of polar affairs, published by Hochelaga Research Institute, 1200 Atwater Avenue, Montréal H3Z 1X4 Canada. It is edited by a former editor of *Polar Record*, who describes it as '...a journal of commentary and opinion'. Two issues are planned for 1988, four for 1989; it will carry articles on the 'organization and provision of polar information; reviews of selected

books, proceedings, government reports, and important articles in obscure journals; news of research in progress; informed comment on trends in the news; and correspondence.' This issue includes, among other articles, 'Political and economic realities in the Northwest Territories' by the Hon Dennis Patterson, 'Native and academic natural science' by Prof. C. B. Crampton, and 'Stefansson remembered' by the editor.

BIRD ISLAND, SOUTH GEORGIA: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT. Bonner, W. N. and Croxall, J. P. 1988. Cambridge, British Antarctic Survey. 25 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0-85665-127-3.

A statement of 'environmental impacts arising from scientific research and its logistic support at Bird Island, South Georgia', by two of the scientists most closely involved, covering the present condition of the island, in particular its working areas, after 30 years of almost continuous research. Appendices list vascular plants, lichens, mosses, liverworts, higher fungi, insects and arachnids.

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## CORRECTIONS

We regret that, in A. R. Buchan's recent article on SS *Windward* (*Polar Record* 24 (150): 213–22), Fig. 6 was wrongly captioned: the picture shows Jackson's sledge party, not Peary's. The reference to Fig. 6 at the bottom of

p. 220 should be deleted, and references to Fig. 8 on pp 220 and 221 should be altered to Fig. 7. These were editorial errors, not the author's. Peary's daughter (p 221) was Marie, not Maria. We thank reader Eric Parkman Smith for his helpful comments.

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## In brief

EUROPEAN EXPEDITION IN ANTARCTICA. The European *Polarstern* Study (EPOS), a cooperative expedition to investigate plankton, benthos and sea ice communities, operates in the Weddell Sea and neighbouring Antarctic waters during the 1988–89 austral summer. Based aboard the West German icebreaker *Polarstern*, the expedition involves over 100 scientists from 11 European countries, spread over three cruises (spring 11 Oct – 20 Nov, summer 22 Nov – 10 Jan, autumn 12 Jan – 10 Mar). Though mainly biological, the research will include also physical oceanography, marine chemistry and sedimentology. The operation is coordinated jointly by the European Science Foundation and the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven. A final symposium is planned for 1990. (Source: *International Marine Sciences Newsletter* 50: 4, 1988.)

NEW AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC RESEARCH SHIP. Construction of MV *Aurora Australis*, Australia's new polar research and supply ship, began in Newcastle NSW on 28 October 1988. Built by Carringtons for P&O-Polar, the ship is 95 m long, carries up to 133 passengers and crew, is equipped with research facilities, and is capable of

breaking ice 1.2 m thick. She replaces *Nella Dan*, which was lost off Macquarie Island in December 1987. (Source: Australian Antarctic Division news release 88/382.)

NEW US ARCTIC RESEARCH CONSORTIUM. The Arctic Research Consortium of the United States (ARCUS) was inaugurated at a meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska, on 9 October 1988. Representatives of 31 universities and other institutions with direct arctic research interests formed the group, which is created '... to strengthen and advance arctic research ... to provide agencies and policy makers with specific information about arctic problems, to improve educational opportunities in arctic science and to develop cooperative research partnerships ... to help further the understanding of the arctic as a unique area for research, including global change studies ... to improve communications within the US community of arctic researchers and with colleagues and institutions in other countries, as well as facilitate logistical support in arctic regions. For further information contact the Executive Director, Chris Shepherd, c/o INSTAAR, University of Colorado, Boulder CO 80309-0450, Tel. (303)492 8030.