



1997 SPRI Christmas card

This year's Scott Polar Research Institute Christmas card is extra large, measuring 14.8 x 21.0 cm. It features Frank Hurley's famous photograph of the ship *Endurance* trapped in the ice of the Weddell Sea in mid-winter 1915, during Ernest Henry Shackleton's Antarctic expedition of 1914–1916. This year not only marks the 75th anniversary of Shackleton's death, but also celebrates the beginning of the construction of the new Shackleton Memorial Library at SPRI. Cards with envelopes may be ordered by mail in packs of 10 at the following rates. Please return orders to: Christmas cards, Scott Polar Research Institute, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER, UK.

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NANSEN The Explorer as Hero

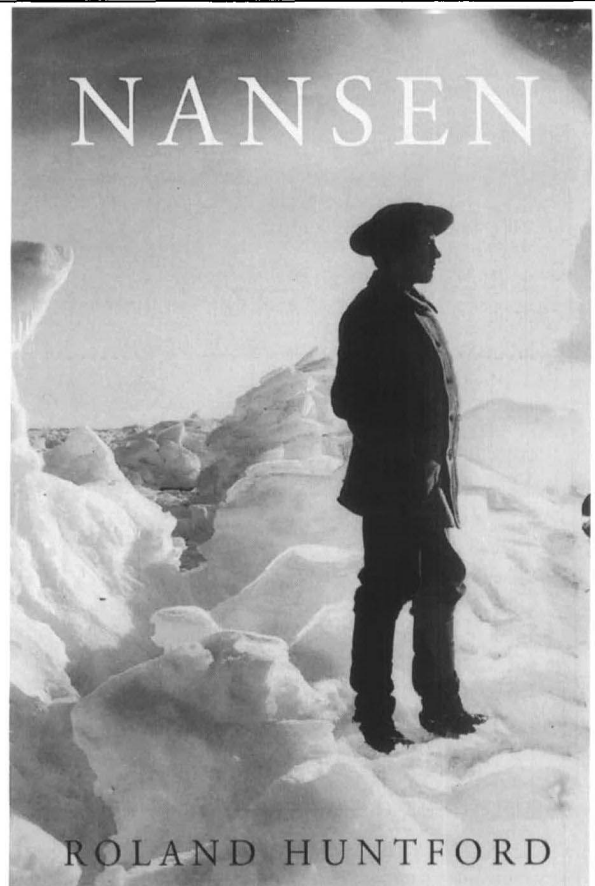
by Roland Huntford

Behind the great polar explorers of the early twentieth century — Amundsen, Shackleton, Scott in the south, and Peary in the north — looms the spirit of Fridtjof Nansen (1861–1930). He was the father of modern polar exploration, making the first crossing of Greenland, leaving *Fram* to break the record for the farthest north by 146 miles, and launching the process that culminated in the race for the South Pole.

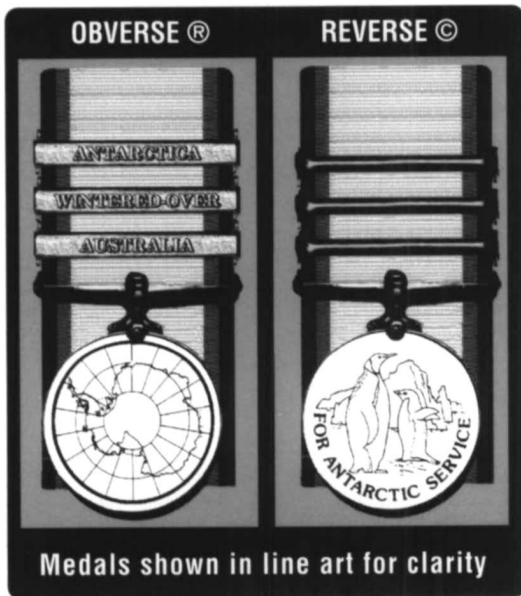
But Nansen was not merely a polar explorer. He was a pioneer in such diverse fields as oceanography, skiing, and neurology. He was an artist and historian; a diplomat who dealt with Lenin, Trotsky, and Stalin; and he played a part in the Versailles Peace Conference. He undertook famine relief in Russia, worked for the League of Nations as High Commissioner for Refugees, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Drawing on a wealth of new material, this is the first full-scale biography of Nansen in English. It completes Roland Huntford's cycle of modern polar exploration, begun with his celebrated *Scott and Amundsen* and *Shackleton*.

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