

## NOTES AND REVIEWS

## SOCIETAS ARCTICA SCANDINAVICA

In 1943 the Societas Arctica Scandinavica started publication of a new Arctic periodical entitled *Acta Arctica*, edited by Magnus Degerbøl of Copenhagen. The sponsors of this venture reviewed the means of publishing the results of Arctic researches. They concluded that there is difficulty in finding a suitable medium for publication of papers of a general Arctic character; for example, comprehensive surveys or investigations covering the domains of several countries, or problems of a circumpolar character, or papers covering several scientific fields. As a general rule such papers are published in widely scattered and widely different periodicals within the spheres of botany, zoology, geology, hydrobiology, meteorology, ethnology, archaeology and many other branches of science—publications that are often very difficult to obtain and are not always written in one of the better known languages. It is hoped that *Acta Arctica* may provide a forum for papers of this general character.

*Acta Arctica* will appear at indefinite intervals, printed in English, French and German. It will accept scientific papers of general Arctic interest in the fields of humanistic as well as natural sciences. Manuscripts should be forwarded to the Editor, *Acta Arctica*, the Zoological Museum of the University, Copenhagen.

The Societas Arctica Scandinavica was founded by a circle of Scandinavian scientists, but owing to the spread of the war to Scandinavia, final arrangements were left to the Danish section, composed of the following members:

Kaj Birket-Smith  
Magnus Degerbøl  
Knud Jessen

Therkel Mathiasen  
Einar Mikkelsen  
Alfred Rosenkrantz

During the war this Danish section was unable to establish contact with research workers in other Scandinavian countries, and they therefore undertook provisionally to represent the Society alone. The objects of the Society have temporarily been restricted to the publication of *Acta Arctica*, of which two numbers have been issued, Fasc. 1 (1943), "The Eskimo Legend of Navaranâq", by Erik Holtved; and Fasc. 2 (1944), "Circumpolar Stone Age", by Gutorm Gjessing. For the same reason the question of the Society's organisation, including membership, has been held in abeyance.

The publication of this journal was started during the war to provide a medium for printing Danish Arctic work other than that sponsored by the Germans in their special wartime series *Arktis, Veröffentlichungen des deutschen wissenschaftlichen Instituts zu Kopenhagen*.