NINTH NORTHERN LIBRARIES COLLOQUIUM

The Ninth Northern Libraries Colloquium met in Tromsø, Norway, at the invitation of Ole A. Brynmo, Librarian of the University of Tromsø, June 2-6, 1982.

Tromsø, the Gateway to the Arctic, has a population of 47,000. While the city is virtually on the seventieth north parallel, it has an ice-free port. Other special features of this region were noted in several papers. Many North Pole expeditions were launched from Tromsø, and it is the home of the noted arctic explorer, Roald Amundsen. A statue of Amundsen in the town square was the subject of many photographs. The university was established in 1922. Its new, spacious library has numerous computer terminals, furnishings designed especially for the facility are inviting and comfortable.

Seventy delegates from Canada, the U.S.A. (mostly from Alaska), France, England, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway met in a conference room in the university library. They were welcomed by Professor Erik Eggberg, chairman of the Library Committee of the University of Tromsø; Erlend Kian, mayor of Tromsø; Ole A. Brynmo, Librarian of the University of Tromsø; and Gerhard Munthe, National Librarian of Norway.

Papers read and discussed included such topics as the integrated computerized library system for the university libraries in Tromsø, Trondheim and Bergen; the picture collection of the Scott Polar Research Institute; Finnish library resources for northern information: computerized Lapp bibliographies; research and publications on the legal rights of ethnic minorities; Russenorsk, a Norwegian Pidgin language; and the northern resources of various Scandinavian research institutes.

June 4 was designated "North American Day." Papers were presented by Canadians and Americans on Alaskan archaeology, literature, training native people to work in libraries, Alaska village libraries, and descriptions of the library resources of several universities.

Professor Arnold Skyeige Blix spoke to the Colloquium on Arctic biology and then took everyone on a tour of the Arctic Research Station of the University of Tromsø where ptarmigan eggs were being hatched by the hundreds, and reindeer calves stole the show.

Dr. Olav Holt spoke about the radar installation Elscaat used for study of the Aurora Borealis. This was followed by a visit to the observatory at Ramfjordmen, where a demonstration was given of the versatile movements of both the VHF and UHF antennas.

On the social side of the program there was a reception, followed by a conference dinner at a restaurant in the city. Several buffets of Norwegian food specialties were served at an evening reception, and lunch was served in the library foyer. On the last day a busload of Colloquees and friends toured the province of Troms, guided by an enthusiastic and knowledgeable university student who brightened the rainy day.

The usual business meeting closed the formal part of the Colloquium. It was unanimously agreed to accept the offer to hold the 1984 Northern Colloquium in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Everyone who attended the Ninth Northern Libraries Colloquium in Tromsø agreed that it was a fine conference. The chance to see old friends and to meet new ones in this very specialized field is always rewarding. Ole Brynmo and his staff at the Universitesbiblioteket i Tromsø are to be congratulated for arranging such an interesting and educational week and thanked profusely for their generous and warm Norwegian hospitality.

Nora Corley Murchison
The proceedings of the 8th Northern Libraries Colloquy have been printed and a copy sent to each participant. Additionally, the Boreal Institute has sent a copy to each library with which it has an exchange agreement. Any copies remaining are available from the Boreal Institute for Northern Studies, C W 401 Biological Studies Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2E9, $7. (Canadian).

The Boreal Institute for Northern Studies has been host during September to a visiting scholar from Norway. He is Audun Sandberg from Nordland Regional College in Bodø. Mr. Sandberg is a social scientist with research experience in Northern Norway and East Africa. He acts as the research coordinator in "Nordland Research" and is currently heading a research project which analyzes the possible socio-economic impacts on the coastal communities of Norway from planned off-shore oil activity.

Mr. Sandberg is visiting the University of Alberta to examine in depth the Canadian advances in methodologies related to impact analysis in northern areas.

The databases provided by the Boreal Institute for Northern Studies to QL Systems have been updated. YKB (Yukon Bibliography) now contains 3,670 items published up to 1980, and BNT (Boreal Northern Titles) now contains 84,849 items indexed from periodicals and newspapers received by the Boreal Institute library up to April 1982.

The government of the Yukon has been having economic problems with mine closures and closing of the White Pass and Yukon Route Railway. Now there has been another major loss. Nita Cooke writes, "I am sure all will be shocked and saddened to hear that Garth Graham 'lost out' in a recent Yukon government shuffle. He was deputy-minister in the Department of Heritage and Cultural Resources. The Yukon will be the poorer for his leaving, and I hope will appreciate the tremendous work he has done over the years in building an integrated information/library service for the Territory." Garth is also one of the founders of the Northern Libraries Colloquy.

The Current Research Profile for Alaska 1981 is now available for distribution. This directory of active research in Alaska is available for $10.00. However, libraries are eligible for free copies. Those not already on AEIDC's distribution list can obtain a copy by sending a request to: Judy Alward, Arctic Environmental and Data Center, 707 A Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.
The Arctic Environmental Information and Data Center's Photograph Collection has been cataloged and is open to the public for browsing. The collection represents over 1700 black and white photos of contemporary Alaskan themes, and is accessed through a browser's catalog arranged by eight regions and thirty-five subjects. Most of the photos are available (with proper credit) for use in publications and reports. Patrons may either check out photos or have them reproduced for a nominal fee.

N. O. Christensen from Denmark's Arktisk Institute felt several publications would be of interest. Inuit, which may be the first English/Greenlandic periodical, is being published by the Inuit Circumpolar Conference. Its subtitle is "Arctic Policy Review." The ICC is an independent international organization of Inuit in Alaska, Canada and Greenland to protect and promote rights and interests of Inuit. Hans-Pavia Rosing is President of the Executive Council and further information is available from the head office in Nuuk, Greenland.

The History of Greenland, by Finn Gad is available at a special rate offer from McGill-Queen's University Press in Toronto, Ontario and Buffalo, N. Y. Volume 1, usually U.S. $27.50, is selling for $12.00, and Volume 2, usually $35.00, is $12.50, which is less than it can be purchased for in Denmark. Volume 3 and a new volume for the period 1808-1816 are available from Nyt Nordisk Forlag Arnold Busck A/S Copenhagen, ISBN 87-17-05-57.

Stephen Jackson, a researcher working on several Arctic bibliography projects, made available his compilation of material on Roald Amundsen in Alaska for microfilming. Captain Roald Amundsen in Alaska, 1905-1926 is a compilation of documents, correspondence, magazine and newspaper articles, as well as photographs located in Alaska libraries. The collection is arranged in chronological order by four major expeditions: 1903-1906 voyage of the GJOA through the Northwest Passage, the 1918-1922 voyage of the MAUD through the Northwest Passage, the 1923 North Pole flight attempt, and the historic transpolar flight of the airship Norge. A contents listing is on the microfilm. The one roll (16mm) is available for purchase for $7.50 from the Alaska State Library, Pouch 6, Juneau, Alaska 99811.

Presently Stephen Jackson is completing a bibliography, Icegate: The Histiographic Discovery of the North Pole. He will be doing research in various libraries in the United States.
The Alaska Historical Library received 75 cubic feet of Alaska Packers Association Records, 1891-1970, which have been added to the previous files of this major leader in the salmon canning industry. Whatcom County Parks and Recreation Board in Bellingham, Washington, donated the records, but needed access to some of the material. A grant from the Alaska Historical Commission enabled the library to selectively microfilm some of the most significant material. More than 20 libraries and individuals have already obtained the set of 720 microfiche of journals, company asset files, canning cost, cannery fleet, including their famous "Star" ships, trademarks, personnel records, maritime records and logs, and more than 500 maps, including plat masters of land holdings, APA canneries, fish trap locations. A Preliminary Inventory of the Alaska Packers Association Record Series on Microfiche is available with purchase of the microfiche collection, which is $180.00 plus shipping, or the microfiche in three special split back display binders and holders is available for $317.00 plus shipping from Commercial Microfilm Service, 14200 N.E. 21st Street, Bellevue, Washington 98007.

An Inventory of the Lyman Brewster Papers and Photographs Concerning the Reindeer Industry and Life in Nome, Alaska, 1932-1934 has been produced in limited quantity by the Alaska Historical Library, Pouch G, Juneau, Alaska, 99811. Brewster was General Reindeer Supervisor for the U.S. Dept. of Interior and traveled throughout arctic Alaska. A courtesy copy is available on request to libraries in the Northern Libraries Colloquy.

The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Government of the Northwest Territories at Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2L9 has produced their first publication. Archives (Records) of the Northwest Territories Council, 1921-1951 compiled by Edwin Welch describes records, minutes and ordinances. It has been distributed to archives and libraries.

The Alaska and Polar Regions Department of the Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska now has the following manuscript collection available.

Noted biologist Olaus J. Murie conducted field research for the U.S. Biological Survey (later to become the Fish and Wildlife Service) for twenty-five years, primarily between World War I and World War II. He became an important advocate for wilderness protection and was president of The Wilderness Society from 1950-1957. The collection includes journals and field notes of Murie's work over a wide area of Alaska, including the Brooks Range, the Aleutian Islands and the Alaska Peninsula, the Yukon Delta, and many parts of Interior Alaska. Correspondence files are included with a number of letters, much of it concerning natural history topics. There are also field notes of some of Murie's travels outside of Alaska, including work in Labrador, Newfoundland and the fjords of New Zealand.
The Episcopal Church in Alaska Collection contains records and photographs of Episcopalian activities within Alaska that commenced with the arrival of missionaries to the Yukon River basin in the late 1800's. The collection has been organized into records that were kept for various communities and parishes. Also included are records of the Episcopal Church of Alaska in general with many photographs taken during the time that William J. Gordon, Jr. was Bishop of Alaska.

The Tom Murton Collection contains Alaskan Territorial and municipal records documenting numerous and varied civil proceedings, most of which took place between 1898 and 1905. Included are court transcripts and proceedings, U.S. Marshall records, court dockets, share transfer books, jail records, and other materials primarily from Southeastern Alaska. Murton was superintendent of several Alaskan jails.

The Louis R. Huber Collection consists of the research files of Louis Huber, who was a Christian Science Monitor special correspondent. Huber, who later became president of a Seattle-based educational film company, amassed a large collection of clippings, correspondence, statistics, magazines and newspapers relating to Alaska during the time he was a correspondent. The files cover a wide range of topics during the 1940's and 1950's, including the role of Alaska during World War II, the momentum towards Statehood, and the configuration of the fishing industry, shipping and the air transportation network at the time.

Sharing Alaska's Oral History; an oral history conference will be held in Anchorage, Alaska at the Captain Cook Hotel, October 26-27, 1982. The conference includes addresses by nationally recognized oral historians and presentations by Alaskans currently using oral history techniques. Informational sessions on scholarly, technical and legal aspects of oral history, as well as how-to-do oral history workshops are included. It is sponsored by the Alaska Humanities Forum, the University of Alaska Rural Education Division and the Oral History Program of the Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska-Fairbanks.

The CRREL library holding list is available upon request to the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Hanover, New Hampshire 03755. The library is going online with OCLC in November.

A belated congratulations to Nancy Liston, librarian at CRREL, on the birth of her son, Scott, who is now six months old.

Volume 35 of the CRREL Bibliography is now available from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia. The AD numbers for ordering are Part I-ADA 115 954, Part II-ADA 115 955.
Northern Publications/Productions

The Opening of Alaska, by William "Billy" Mitchell (Cook Inlet Historical Society, 721 West Seventh Ave., Anchorage 99501. $8.25 plus 1.00 mailing).  
Brig. Gen. Mitchell, known as "the father of the U.S. Air Force," worked several years on a military telegraph line in Alaska as a young Signal Corps officer during 1901-1903. Editor Lyman Woodman's comments enhance the story of Mitchell's work and adventures. Later Mitchell was to advocate "he who holds Alaska holds the world."

The Corporate Whole: ANCSA the first ten years; a series of ten fifteen minute documentaries on the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, produced by Karen Michel McPherson. Funded by the Alaska Native Human Resources Development Program and KUAC-FM sponsors. Each program examines a different aspect of the settlement. Originally produced for radio broadcast, the cassette tapes are available for $50.00 for ten programs or $5.00 each postpaid. Cashier's check or money order must accompany order. Write: Educational Media Services, S.R. Box 20155, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701.

Eastern Arctic Marine Environmental Studies Annotated Atlas, produced by Department of Environmental and Social Affairs, Petro-Canada, P. O. Box 2844, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2P 929. The document is a graphic synthesis of the results of government industry research between 1978 and 1980, containing 143 maps in hard cover with storage sleeve. The atlas is available at $300.00 per copy or possibly less, depending on orders.


The following papers (Mercury series) of the Canadian Ethnology Service, National Museum of Man, National Museums of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M8, available free on request.


No. 84. Owekeeno Oral Traditions As Told by the Late Chief Simon Walkus, Sr. Transcribed and translated by E. W. Windsor. 223 p. (15 texts with interlinear English translations from Rivers Inlet, British Columbia).