



# Polar Libraries

## BULLETIN

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## Wengers plan Eskimo anthropological database

*Hubert and Beatrice Wegner will fund the University of Alaska Fairbanks Elmer E. Rasmuson Library to assist in building a database containing text and illustrations on and by the circumpolar Eskimo peoples. A culmination of many years of work, plans call for the project to be available to selected sites by 1993.*

by Marvin W. Falk

For 20 years, Hubert Wenger has maintained an interest in the historical and ethnographic literature concerning Inuit populations. Over the years, Hubert and Beatrice Wenger have visited research libraries in Europe and North America in pursuit of their interests and have amassed an extensive personal library of books and photocopies. A large file of bibliographic citations was accumulated. Hubert developed a card system to provide subject access to the literature and began to photographically reproduce illustrations so that images from many sources could be pulled together for comparative study.

During the 1970's, Hubert became increasingly convinced that further development lay in the application of computer technology. Throughout the 1980's he experimented with several systems and searched to find a partner to help build his system so that it could be shared.

After a number of research visits to Fairbanks, the Wengers decided to fund UAF's Elmer E. Rasmuson Library to assist in building the database. Following informal cooperative efforts and a year's trial program, a formal agreement was reached in 1989 for a ten year program to complete the database.

Eskimo populations extend from Greenland through Canada and Alaska to the north-eastern tip of the Soviet Far East in Asia. Much of the history and anthropology of this region is contained in the

printed literature. Especially valuable are accounts and observations of the first contacts between Inuit people and Europeans. These accounts were published years ago and are often difficult or impossible to obtain in the original. The Wenger Database will enable researchers and students to access this extensive literature without traveling to a major research library. In addition, the indexing provided by the database will aid students in searching through this sizeable body of text and illustrations.

The database contains the full text and illustration of significant literature on and by the Eskimo peoples in Greenland, Canada, Alaska and Chukotka. Emphasizing first contact literature, it will be possible to compare observations through time, geographic locality and group.

Optical character recognition scanning is done with Omnipage OCR software used with Hewlett Packard Scanjet scanners. The text is then edited for completeness and accuracy utilizing a word processor (Microsoft Word) and indexing terms are embedded in the text. An indexing vocabulary initially compiled by Hubert Wenger is used to assign terms to each block of text and for each scanned illustration. Images are scanned separately with the Scanjets utilizing a grey-scale paint program (Publishers Paintbrush) which is optimal for the reproduction of black and white images on a VGA computer screen. Text and images are

then converted to a format utilized by the database (Search Express).

The database will initially be distributed on magnetic media to several selected test sites in preparation for the production of a CD-ROM disk for wider distribution. Priority will be given to several sites in Europe (Geneva and Paris), the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and the participation of one or more rural sites will be explored.

The CD-ROM database will be distributed in successive, up-dated versions as the project continues through its 10-year cycle. One primary objective of the project is the wide-spread distribution of the database in locations accessible to the circumpolar Eskimo population.

Wenger project committee members are Dr. Ernest S. "Tiger" Burch, Dr. Marvin Falk, Dr. Joelle Robert-Lamblin, Mr. Paul McCarthy, Ms. Edna Ahgeak McLean, Dr. William Schneider, Mrs. Beatrice Wenger, and Mr. Hubert P. Wenger. Project staff at the Elmer E. Rasmuson Library include Falk, Ron Inouye, Jeff Pederson, and Nellie Moore. (See page two for a related article on the Wegners. Ed.)

For further information and a copy of the complete project development plan, please contact Marvin W. Falk, Project Coordinator, Alaska and Polar Regions Department, Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK 99775 (tel. 907-479-3587)



*Beatrice and Hubert Wenger are compiling the first comprehensive database of the world's Eskimos.*

## Wenger Project a labor of love for two European Eskimo fans

Nearly a half century ago, Hubert Wenger spent endless hours in his grandmother's library, reading about the discoveries of the north and south poles, and of the people who carried forth in the polar extremes of the planet. The stories were not only educational, but an escape from the war that was being waged throughout Europe.

"It sounds silly, but when I was 11 or 12 we could not go out for the holidays because of the war," says Wenger. "I started to read Jack London books, and became very interested in the people who lived in this part of the world."

Today, Hubert, a retired French mercantile, is once again buried in a pile of books. He and his wife Beatrice are working their way through the Alaska and Polar Regions collection at the Rasmuson Library. The two are committed to compiling the first comprehensive database on the world's Eskimos.

Hubert and Beatrice expect that the "Wenger Project," which they are funding, will take at least 10 years to complete. The idea has been brewing nearly twice that long, since before there were personal computers to put the database on.

"I was in Switzerland in 1973,

copying a book on the Thule (Greenland) expedition," recalls Hubert. "A man was waiting behind me and I told him that if he only had a few pages, he could go ahead. He saw I was copying on something about Eskimos, and he told me that would be very useful in a computer. There weren't many computers then, but that put the idea in my head."

The Wengers live in Geneva, Switzerland, but each year they spend several months at the Rasmuson Library, converting words and illustrations into computer text and graphics. "We come

twice a year, usually when it's cold," says Hubert. "Too cold is better than too wet and too many mosquitoes."

Even when the Wengers are not in Fairbanks physically, they're often here electronically. "My husband has computers at home," says Beatrice, "and he keeps in almost daily touch with the university through computer hook-up. There's electronic mail, and now there's the fax. They're very useful when you want information right away."

Marvin Falk, Rasmuson's rare books curator, figures that the complete database will include the equivalent of at least 200,000 pages of text. To date, about 10,000 pages have been converted, but as software is tested and procedures are refined, the process is speeding up.

"Eventually, we'd like to see side-by-side translations of the text in the Native languages," says Falk. "Once it's completed, it will be a tool for comparative analysis—for example, comparing Alaskan and Greenlandic Eskimos."

The Wengers are working with the library's faculty, staff and students to convert to the database Rasmuson's 100 to 150 titles that include "first contact" observations of Eskimos.

"Books are becoming more and more rare," says Hubert. "They do not have a long life, and when people manipulate books, sometimes they are completely destroyed."

The Wengers cheerfully concede they are not professional anthropologists or librarians. They credit the Rasmuson

*Continued on page 3*

### Polar Libraries Bulletin

Issue 38, Summer 1990

Formerly entitled *Northern Libraries Bulletin*, this is the second issue of the *Bulletin* which reflects the name change of the Northern Libraries Colloquy to Polar Libraries Colloquy which was approved at the June 1988 biennial meeting. Note the new ISSN number which reflects this title change.

Editors: Nancy Lesh and Kay Shelton.

Published and distributed by the Alaska State Library, P.O. Box G, Juneau, Alaska, 99811-0571, U.S.A. (Telephone: 907-465-2926; FAX: 907-465-2665).

Deadline for our next issue is December 30, 1990.

Please send news items to: *Polar Libraries Bulletin*, c/o Nancy Lesh, University of Alaska Anchorage, 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508, U.S.A. (Telephone: 907-786-1877; FAX: 907-786-1608).

## Wenger Project

*Continued from page 2*

Library and Falk for making their effort possible. That doesn't stop them, though, from creating a database that will be used by researchers for generations to come.

"In some ways I think it's easier, because there's not a fixed structure," says Beatrice. "It's been very time consuming and interesting, but we can work as we please, because our fingers are not bound."

"My background is purely that of a hobby," adds Hubert. "I have the privilege to be independent. I took my liberty to pursue this project."

*Reprinted with permission from Cornerstone, faculty and staff newsletter produced by the UAF University Relations Office, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, Alaska, December 11, 1989 issue.*

## Calendar

**October 8-10, 1990.** *1990 Arctic Science Conference.* Sheraton Anchorage Hotel, Anchorage, Alaska. For more information, contact: Ann Howell, UAA/CCCE Conferences & Institutes, Bldg. K, Room 122, 3211 Providence Dr., Anchorage, Alaska 99508; phone (907) 786-1858; FAX (907) 786-1563.

**October 12-14, 1990.** *Canadian Indian/Native Studies Association Annual Conference—* Carleton University, Ottawa. Enquiries: Organizing Committee, Institute of Canadian Studies, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5B6; phone (613) 788-2366.

**October 26-27, 1990.** *Human Performance in Polar Environments—* Radisson University Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Sponsored by the University of Minnesota Departments of Psychology, Continuing Education and Extension, and the University of Minnesota Duluth, Department of Behavioral Sciences. Further information: Dr. Gloria R. Leon or Dr. Richard G. Hoffman, Symposium Chairpersons, University of Minnesota, Department of Psychology, N438C Elliott Hall, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455, U.S.A.

## PolarPAC

*by Sharon West*

Since 1971, libraries that either reside in the North, or have collections relating to the North have been meeting regularly to discuss common issues and concerns relating to their special mission. From the beginning, this group, the Northern Libraries Colloquy (now the Polar Libraries Colloquy), has aspired to a common catalog of books and gray literature that relate to the north. This aspiration has finally been realized through the development, production, and distribution of a CD-ROM catalog—PolarPAC.

At the 12th Polar Libraries Colloquy held in Boulder, Colorado, in 1988 a statement of action relating to the development of an international polar information network was approved by the participants. One of the goals of the action statement was to "...seek more effective means for the distribution of polar information through... a CD-ROM product through one vendor through which several polar data bases could reside and be made available."

The U.S. National Science Foundation funded for two years such a proposal submitted jointly by the Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks, (UAF) and the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research, University of Colorado Boulder (INSTAAR). Paul McCarthy, UAF, and Martha Andrews, INSTAAR are the principal investigators and Sharon West, UAF is co-investigator.

To build the PolarPAC data base, UAF used bibliographic records already present on the WLN system from Alaskan libraries, tape loaded monographic records for 4 U.S. libraries, and input serial bibliographic data for 23 non-U.S. libraries. Serial records from approximately 25 more non-U.S. libraries will be input by the end of 1991.

Among the Alaskan libraries participating in the initial edition of PolarPAC were the University of Alaska Fairbanks, the University of Alaska Anchorage, the Alaska Historical Library, and the Alaska Resources Library. Dartmouth's Stefansson collection contributed its rec-

ords from the RLIN data base and serial records from Canada, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Italy, New Zealand, Greenland, the United Kingdom, and Australia were included.

On April 22, 1990, the initial tape pull of records from WLN for the mastering of PolarPAC was completed. The PolarPAC database on CD-ROM contains 85,293 bibliographic records with 156,599 call numbers from thirty-four libraries. Of the 85,293 records, 44,279 records were unique to one library. This was quite a surprising finding since we had anticipated a greater degree of duplication between libraries.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks, Rasmuson Library had the greatest number of unique items with 19,045 records unique to its library. This constituted 43% of the total unique items that were found. As more records are added to the PolarPAC database it will be interesting to see if this degree of uniqueness remains or if greater duplication occurs.

PolarPAC was demonstrated at the 13th Polar Libraries Colloquy in Rovaniemi, Finland, and contains the database on one CD-ROM disc, retrieval software diskette, and user's manual.

The Rasmuson Library is now in the process of developing an evaluation instrument for polar libraries to use in their review of the PolarPAC database.

Evaluation is an important element of the National Science Foundation grant. The grant is for research into the nature and location of polar information—evaluation on the part of polar libraries will determine if PolarPAC is sufficiently useful to them to fund the continuance of PolarPAC. One suggestion has been that each polar library wishing to participate in PolarPAC would fund the input of its own holdings into the data base and then pay a nominal fee for new editions of PolarPAC. After the evaluation phase and final holdings input are complete in fall, 1990 it is hoped that another edition of PolarPAC will be possible.

Libraries wishing more information about PolarPAC should contact Sharon West, Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks AK 99775, U.S.A.

## Polar life, libraries focus of 13th Polar Libraries Colloquy in Finland

by Nancy Lesh

The 13th Polar Libraries Colloquy, held June 10-14, 1990 in Rovaniemi, Finland, was an outstanding success!

Colloquy opened with a festive reception Sunday night at the Rovaniemi Public Library. Business began Monday morning with opening remarks by the Finnish Secretary General of the Ministry of Education, Jaakko Numminen, and the director of the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Veijo Ilmavirta. Meetings were held in the City Hall — a beautiful new structure with wood furnishings and excellent conference facilities.

Paper presentations throughout the four days were interspersed with side trips — an excursion to the gallery of artist Reidar Sarestoniemi; an all-day tour north to a nature park with a visit to a gold prospectors' museum, and a barbecue on the banks of a river, complete with live music, dancing, and a magnificent Northern night. An all-day trip south to Oulu included visits to the University of Oulu Library and the Oulu Public Library. Hospitality offered by the Oulu librarians was most gracious, including tea and

sweets at each library and a lunch hosted by the City. Other special events at Colloquy included a reception for the opening of the photographic exhibition "West Siberian Reindeer Herders" and, of course, a visit to Santa's village at the Arctic Circle.

Excellent papers were presented — both about life near the poles and polar library collections and activities. Highlights of the meeting included introductions of PolarPAC and of a database of historical and ethnographic literature concerning Inuit populations collected by Hubert and Beatrice Wenger. The proceedings will be published by the Arctic Centre this fall.

As always, the greeting of old and new friends and the spirit of collegiality and sharing of our common interests was a high point of the meeting. The attendance of Soviet representatives was very welcome also, as they added a great deal to discussions of polar issues.

Thanks and congratulations from all the participants to our hosts for a fine meeting and wonderful hospitality.

### REPORTS:

#### *Polar Libraries Bulletin:*

Nancy Lesh, (Univ. of Alaska Anchorage), reported that she and Kay Shelton of the Alaska State Library (Historical Library) are co-editors. The *Bulletin* is being produced by the Alaska State Library. The schedule for publication is two issues a year; materials for inclusion are due to Lesh by Dec. 30 and June 30. *Please contribute news from your institution!* The success of the *Bulletin* depends upon contributions from everyone!

#### *Newsletters:*

Jerry Brown, of the U.S. National Science Foundation, spoke of the increasing number of newsletters and journals being published which should be of interest to Colloquy participants, including such titles as *Ice, Northern Sciences Network Newsletter, Frozen Ground, Northern Notes*, etc. Brown suggested that the *Polar Libraries Bulletin* list new titles as they are published.

#### *Directory Update:*

The Colloquy directory of libraries in the Polar Regions and libraries having polar collections which are located elsewhere is out-of-date. Databases of relevant addresses are at Rasmuson Library and the Boreal Institute Library. Staff there will coordinate plans for the update.

#### *Proceedings for PLC 13:*

The proceedings, tentatively scheduled out in October, 1990, will be the first publication of the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, hosts of the 13th Colloquy.

#### *Boreal Institute for Northern Studies, Canada —Reorganization:*

Nita Cooke (formerly librarian at the Boreal Institute Library and now retired) spoke of the reorganization of the Institute, which celebrated its 25th anniversary just a few years ago. As of July 1, 1990 it is renamed the Canadian

## Colloquy participants travel to Murmansk, USSR

by Nancy Lesh

After Colloquy, 29 participants took a four day bus trip to Murmansk, located on the Kola Peninsula, USSR. We were accompanied by four Soviets from the Peninsula who had attended Colloquy and who had chosen to travel home with us.

Look Murmansk up on the map! It's a long way North! The road is a good dirt road; the scenery was beautiful, especially in the high areas where the ground beneath the trees was covered with stretches of reindeer moss — appearing to be the softest of carpets for the forest.

Murmansk is an ice-free port on the Barents Sea, a city of about 500,000 people. Situated in the middle of the Arctic landscape, it seemed a remarkable accomplishment.

For our time in Murmansk we were

accompanied by an Intourist guide and interpreter. We made visits to the public library (for adults), the children's library (filled with brilliant murals and curtains), the Kola Peninsula Science Centre Geophysical Institute and the Science Center Marine Science Institute libraries. At each place we were deeply impressed by the welcoming spirit of the Soviets and their enthusiasm for exchanges of people, information, and materials.

Between libraries, we took a boat ride, attended a Russian Orthodox Church service, shopped, enjoyed two banquets, and visited two cultural museums. Two days in Murmansk passed quickly and we were back on the bus for the trip to Rovaniemi, with a new understanding of the Soviet North and rich memories of all our hosts who had shared so much with us.

Circumpolar Institute. The library will be moved into the main university library and administered by university library personnel, but it will remain intact as a unique collection, and continue to publish the *Northern Titles* index.

#### **PolarPAC:**

Paul McCarthy (Rasmuson Library) spoke regarding evaluation of the first edition of the PolarPAC CD-Rom database, and future expanded participation, costs, etc.

#### **Colloquy Organization:**

Discussion on this question, which began at the 12th Colloquy in Boulder, resulted in passage of a resolution that "the 13th Polar Libraries Colloquy accepts the idea of more organizational structure." A committee will consider motions, by-laws, etc. and report to the 14th Colloquy in 1992.

Members of the committee are C. Eugene West, (Rasmuson Library), Phil Cronenwett (Baker Library, Dartmouth), Hans Moller (McGill Univ. Library), William Mills (Scott Polar Library), Kirsten Caning (Danish Polar Center), Ann-Christine Haupt (Lulea Univ. Library), and Liisa Kurppa (Arctic Centre, Univ. of Lapland). Committee members welcome your comments and suggestions on this subject.

The Colloquy also recognized the formation of a program committee to assist the local host of future meetings. Lynn Lay will work with some Colloquy participants on setting this up.

#### **RESOLUTIONS:**

A resolution sponsored by Ron K. Inouye (Rasmuson Library) was passed by the Colloquy to invite editors of the social science, natural science and engineering polar journals to the 14th Polar Libraries Colloquy.

#### **Antarctic Bibliography**

Colloquy participants approved a resolution from D. W. H. Walton, British Antarctic Survey, that continuation of the *Antarctic Bibliography* be assumed by a group of principal Antarctic libraries. (The U.S. through an NSF grant to Library of Congress has been producing it.)

#### **Polar Libraries Colloquy Archives**

The archives at Rasmuson Library, Univ. of Alaska Fairbanks, is the designated archives for Colloquy materials.

#### **14th Polar Libraries Colloquy:**

The next colloquy in 1992 will be held in Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A. at the Byrd Polar Research Center, Ohio State University.

#### **PRESENTATIONS:**

An oil painting of the Kola Peninsula and a medal for knowledge was presented by a representative of the Kola Science Center to the Arctic Centre.

The Arctic Centre also received a copy of PolarPAC from Rasmuson Library. A number of gifts of appreciation went to members of the Colloquy's organizing committee.

## **A Proposal for International Resource Sharing in Support of the Antarctic Bibliography**

*by D.W.H. Walton*

The present ANTARCTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY covers all Antarctic literature published since 1951. It is an indispensable tool for all Antarctic researchers and for many others outside the Antarctic community. Supported from its inception through an NSF grant to Library of Congress, this community facility enshrines the Antarctic Treaty principle of freedom of exchange and availability of information.

The increase in Consultative Parties to 25, with the prospect of several further additions in the next five years, has three important bibliographic consequences: a) an increase in the number of publications; b) an increase in the range of languages involved; c) an increase in the diffusivity of the literature. Thus more papers must be abstracted and indexed, more translation will be necessary for abstracts and much more time will have to be devoted to searching to maintain a comprehensive coverage. Costs must rise if the BIBLIOGRAPHY is to meet all these challenges.

It is unreasonable to expect the US to continue to meet the continuing rising cost of a community service, yet a way must be found to safeguard the BIBLIOGRAPHY. Agreement between a group of principal Antarctic libraries to provide support for the continuing US effort could be the most effective way to cope with these changes. Resource sharing by dividing the responsibilities between libraries will have several benefits: 1) a reduction in the present considerable overlap between libraries in cataloging mainstream periodicals; 2) better coverage of national periodicals, especially those in languages other than English; 3) the possibility of more rapid input to the international database, a carefully defined responsibility for abstracting, indexing

and translation of abstracts (where necessary) could be allotted to each library and the results fed electronically into the central database.

The principal objective of the cooperation must be to maintain the quality of the present product and to ensure this method of quality control must be built into the system. If regional descriptors are used to define specific library responsibilities, a common input format is accepted, a thesaurus is formulated and data transfer routes are proved, the collaboration could begin within two years. Initial discussions between Library of Congress and Scott Polar Research Institute have already taken place and consideration of a thesaurus has begun. Data transfer routes have been tested.

To ensure the continuity and comprehensiveness of the BIBLIOGRAPHY the responsibilities of each polar library must be written into appropriate National Research Programmes. Resource sharing in this manner should ensure that direct costs are spread across the Antarctic community so that no one country will be required to contribute significant resources (aside from the present contribution of the US) yet all countries will benefit.

If agreement in principle can be reached at this meeting a technical meeting of librarians will be necessary to finalize practical details. It is suggested that this should be held in Washington or Cambridge. An ad-hoc steering committee will organize the meeting and coordinate international activities. At present it is envisioned that the initial group will comprise the USA, UK, FRG and Australia. Collaboration will also be sought from polar libraries in Japan, China, South America and Scandinavia.

## Publications

**Siberica**, a journal of North Pacific Studies has just been published by the North Pacific Studies Center, Oregon Historical Society. This journal is a continuation of the former **Sibirica**, published in the United Kingdom by the British Universities Siberian Studies Seminar. It is the only journal outside the Soviet Union devoted to Siberia and the Soviet Far East, according to a letter from the publishers.

**Siberica** will be expanded to include lands bordering Siberia or having historical, economic, ethnic or cultural links with it.

Volume 1, Number 1 is dated Summer 1990. It will be published twice yearly. Subscriptions are \$30.00 (U.S.) for institutions, \$20.00 (U.S.) for individuals. Write to **Siberica**, North Pacific Studies Center, Portland, Oregon 97205, U.S.A.

**Northern Notes** is a new occasional publication of the John Sloan Dickey Endowment for International Understanding at Dartmouth College. The Endowment includes two institutes devoted to the consideration of northern questions — the Institute on Canada and the United States (founded 1986) and the Institute of Arctic Studies (founded 1989).

**NORTHERN NOTES** might be viewed as a successor to **POLAR NOTES**, an occasional publication of the Stefansson Collection at Dartmouth's Baker Library and published between 1959 and 1975. **NORTHERN NOTES** will include papers written by scholars associated with Dartmouth. The publication will be published once or twice a year and is available to interested scholars and institutions at no cost. Issue No. 1 is dated November, 1989.

To get on the mailing list, send your name and address to:

Editor, **NORTHERN NOTES**,  
Dartmouth College, 324 Murdough  
Center, Hanover, New Hampshire 03755

**Nordic Databases 1990**, is the new title for a new edition of the directory of online databases in the nordic countries;

the "Nordisk databasguide" was published at the end of April.

The directory has information on 433 databases which are publicly available at host organizations in the Nordic countries eg. Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden. The database descriptions, keywords and indexes are mainly in English. The database descriptions contain information about contents, database size, updating, geographical coverage, language etc. The producer and host organization indexes include addresses and other contact information.

The directory is distributed by **SCANNET**. The price is 220 FIM + 50 FIM for airmail delivery, in all 270 FIM.

**SCANNET** is also publishing a biannual newsletter, **SCANNET TODAY**, which is free of charge.

Contact: **SCANNET**, c/o Helsinki University of Technology Library, Otnasvagen 9, SF-02150 ESBO, Finland. Tel. 358-465-514, Telefax 358-451-4132.

**Frozen Ground, the News Bulletin of the International Permafrost Association (IPA)** will be published semi-annually starting in 1990. The IPA is a non-governmental association of national organizations representing eighteen countries. IPA convenes international conferences of scientists and engineers every five years. Proceedings of the past five conferences have been produced by both the host and other participating countries.

Current five-year permafrost bibliographies have been published in **Glaciological Notes** (Boulder, CO) for the last two conferences (1983 in Fairbanks and 1988 in Trondheim).

A new international journal, **Permafrost and Periglacial Processes**, published by John Wiley will contain many papers related to the Associations multidisciplinary interests and activities.

Lists of other related cold regions journals, current meetings, and national representatives are contained in the November 1989 issue of **Frozen Ground**. Working groups on data, terminology, mountain permafrost, periglacial environments, foundations and global change are addressing current scientific and engineer-

ing problems.

The governing Council of IPA met in Quebec City in June 1990 in conjunction with the Fifth Canadian Permafrost Conference. A new project to prepare a circumpolar permafrost map was approved. The map, the first of its kind, should be completed in time for the Sixth International Conference on Permafrost to be held in Beijing, China, in July 1993. The IPA constitution and by-laws have just been published.

For further information on **Frozen Ground** write to Jerry Brown, Chairman, IPA Editorial Committee, 1801 N. 21st Street, Arlington, Virginia, 22209, USA.

The **Roald Amundsen Centre for Arctic Research Newsletter**, an occasional publication with at least two issues a year, attempts to give surveys and information about ongoing arctic researches, conferences etc.

It will be sent without cost to anyone interested. For inquiries and information please contact: The Roald Amundsen Centre for Arctic Research, University of Tromsø, Breivika, N-9001 Tromsø, NORWAY, Tel. +47-83-44872, Telefax +47-83-80705.

**Winter into Summer: Lapland Diary 1945-1946**, by Naomi Jackson Groves; Penumbra Press (order from University of Toronto Press). This diary of a Canadian woman who worked in Finnish Lapland after World War II helping a team of American Quakers distribute food and clothing to children, includes sketches by the author and descriptions of life in the arctic. 179 pages; maps, photographs and 19 color plates of the author's oil sketches; paperback, \$19.95.

**The National Board of Waters and the Environment** — Finland's Water and Environment Research Institute has a series of publications published in English which are used for publication exchange. They also use their **Hydrological Yearbook** (published in Finnish and English) for exchange.

Polar libraries interested in publication exchange should contact Marja-Liisa Poikolainen, Information Specialist Li-

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## Publications

*Continued from page 6*

brary, National Board of Waters and Environment, PB 250, 00101 Helsinki 10, Finland.

The **MAB Northern Sciences Network** is publishing a **Newsletter**, issued twice annually, in April and in October. In addition to the paper copy, an electronic form of the newsletter is now in its experimental phase.

Those with access to electronic mail can subscribe to it by sending, to address [LISTSERV@FINHUT.BITNET](mailto:LISTSERV@FINHUT.BITNET), a message: **SUBSCRIBE NSNNEWS** e-mail address. A subscription is terminated with the command: **UNSUBSCRIBE NSNNEWS**.

The deadline for the material to be published in the next issue is August 31, 1990. For further information on the MAB Northern Sciences Network contact: Secretariat, MAB Northern Sciences Network, Arctic Center, University of Lapland, P.O. Box 122, SF-96101 Rovaniemi, Finland. Telephone 358-60-324276 or 358-60-324273. Telefax 358-60-324270. Telex 19205519

Mr. Stewart Hibben, formerly with the Federal Research Division is the new editor of both the **Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology** and the **Antarctic Bibliography**. Dr. Geza Thuronyi, former editor, retired after 23 years with the Bibliography project and was honored with a retirement party at the Library of Congress on June 7, 1990.

CRREL has also completed a **Bibliography of Arctic Wetlands** which will be available for searches in the future. The bibliography contains more than 5500 citations to English literature only. It was custom indexed using the Cowardin system for wetland type and the Fish and Wildlife wetland value system for functions and values. It also contains some legislative citations as well as truly scientific material.

For more information, contact Nancy Liston, Librarian, Department of the Army, Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory, Corps of Engineers, Hanover, NH 03755-1290.

## Roger Lang Clearinghouse for Circumpolar Education receives National Science Foundation grant

In January, 1990 the Roger Lang Clearinghouse for Circumpolar Education received a multi-year grant from the National Science Foundation to support its development. Created in 1987 by the Education and Resources Group (ERG), a non-profit U.S. institution which works with schools and community groups to develop programs which link and share their resources, the purpose of the clearinghouse is to share information among Northern peoples worldwide on excellent educational programs, especially for young people (ages of 3 - 20) living in

villages. The Clearinghouse will have a circumpolar curriculum library, newsletter, and exchanges among Canadian, Greenlandic, Sami and Alaskan educators.

The international director of the Clearinghouse is Ann Vick, an Alaskan educator with extensive rural experience. The director for Alaska is Vera K. Metcalf of Nome, Alaska. A Siberian Yupik from Savoonga, Metcalf worked for the last five years in the development of a teacher training program at the Northwest Campus of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, which is located in Nome.

To receive the Clearinghouse newsletter, write to: Roger Lang Clearinghouse for Circumpolar Education, ERG, 256 Hanover Street, Boston, Mass. 02113. Newsletter Vol. 1, No. 1 dated April, 1990 contains detailed background information on the Clearinghouse and its programs.

## CPIS design work continues

The Circumpolar and Scientific Affairs Directorate of the Canadian Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has recently funded the third in a series of four background studies on the design of a Canadian Polar Information System (CPIS).

The work will be undertaken by the ASTIS project at the Arctic Institute of North America and by the Boreal Institute for Northern Studies Library (to be renamed the Canadian Circumpolar Institute Library as of July 1990).

The study will consist of a survey of current and potential users of polar information systems to determine what information should be included in a CPIS and what products and services such a system should provide. The study is expected to be completed in early 1991. Contact Ross Goodwin at AINA for more information.

The Circumpolar and Scientific Affairs Directorate has also recently funded a study by a group of Yukon libraries to review polar information holdings in the Yukon and suggest what role the Yukon might play in a CPIS. This study will be completed in October 1990. Contact Conrad Boyce at the Yukon Science Institute for more information.

## Institute looking for Wegener Documents

The Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research is collecting more information about documents from the German geophysicist and Greenland explorer **Alfred Wegener (1880-1930)**.

If any material about him exists in other polar archives, please contact: Jutta Voss, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Columbusstrasse, D-2850 Bremerhaven, West Germany.

## Yukon Archives is moving

The Yukon Archives will be moving to its new location in the Fall of 1990 and will be closed to the public from September 10 to October 22, 1990. Please contact staff at 403-667-5321 for more information about the closure. The new Yukon Archives building is situated at the Yukon Place with Yukon College as a neighbor in Whitehorse. The mailing address remains the same: Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C6, Canada.

## Byrd Polar Research Center in Columbus, Ohio to host 14th Polar Libraries Colloquy in 1992

by Lynn Lay

The Byrd Polar Research Center at The Ohio State University will be the host of the 14th Polar Libraries Colloquy in 1992.

The Byrd Center, formerly the Institute of Polar Studies, was officially established in 1960 as a multidisciplinary center to promote research in polar and alpine regions. Research has been conducted in the Arctic and the Andes, but the strongest tradition is in Antarctica, where the Byrd Center has had field projects every season since the International Geophysical Year (1957-1958). Research at present is conducted in Antarctica, the Andes, Greenland, Alaska, China, and Siberia. Twenty-one academic disciplines and sub-disciplines are

currently represented in the Byrd Center membership.

During the 14th Polar Libraries Colloquy, the Byrd Center may schedule visits to OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc. and Chemical Abstracts Service facilities. OCLC is a large international library information network, which has over 10,000 members: over 20 million records in the database. They have an online computer system which members use for cataloging, interlibrary loan, and collection development.

OCLC also has many products and services available to libraries. Chemical Society Specific journals which concern chemical structures are indexed, abstracted and entered into a database. The resulting product is **Chemical**

**Abstracts**, which is available in paper copy or online.

While there was no formal establishment of a Program Committee at the 13th PLC, Lynn Lay, the librarian of the Byrd Center has received some suggestions and offers from some PLC members for initial input into the program for the 14th Colloquy. If anyone else has suggestions for the program, please let her know. Contact her at: Goldthwait Polar Library, Byrd Polar Research Center, Ohio State University, 125 South Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210-1308, telephone (614) 292-6715. Her OMNET mailbox is BYRD.POLAR.

The Byrd Center will also make every effort to invite editors of polar journals to attend the Colloquy.

## Polar Libraries

c/o Alaska State Library  
P.O. Box G  
Juneau, AK 99811-0571  
United States of America



UAA Consortium Library  
Catherine Innes-Taylor  
3211 Providence Dr.  
Anchorage, AK 99508