

The meeting at which the presentation was made was devoted to a lecture on the future of polar exploration by Frank Debenham, who served as a geologist on Captain Scott's last expedition. Several other polar explorers were present, among them Sir Ernest Shackelton and Dr. G. C. Simpson, the present director of the Meteorological Office. Mr. Debenham's lecture was a reply to the question which is so often asked: What is the good of polar exploration? He justified it on commercial, national, scientific and ethical grounds. On the first ground he claimed that the industries which had been developed as a result of Arctic and Antarctic exploration had yielded far larger returns than the cost of all the polar expeditions that ever sailed. There are world-wide problems requiring solution which can not be studied adequately without the aid of observations in the polar regions.

Mr. Debenham announced that the trustees of the Captain Scott memorial fund had decided to establish a polar research institute. It will be attached to the School of Geography at Cambridge University, and will comprise a library, a museum, and a small set of research rooms.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS OF THE CANADIAN ARCTIC EXPEDITION

THE Arctic Board, which is a body composed of a number of scientists in the employ of the Canadian government, has been arranging for the publications of a series of scientific monographs based on the results of the Canadian Arctic Expedition, 1913-1918. The complete report is planned to take up sixteen volumes, many of which are subdivided into parts. A considerable number of the papers dealing with zoology and botany have already been issued.

The last 5 volumes of the series are to be devoted to anthropology. The complete anthropological schedule so far as it can be definitely planned at the present date is as follows:

VOLUME XII: LIFE OF THE COPPER ESKIMOS

The Life of the Copper Eskimos. By D. Jenness. (*In press*).

VOLUME XIII: PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE COPPER ESKIMOS

Part A: The Physical Characteristics of the Copper Eskimos. By D. Jenness (in part). (*In preparation*.)

Part B: Technology of the Copper Eskimos. (*To be prepared*.)

VOLUME XIV: ESKIMO FOLK-LORE AND LANGUAGE

Part A: Folk-Lore, with Texts from Alaska, the Mackenzie Delta, and Coronation Gulf. By D. Jenness. (*In preparation*.)

Part B: Comparative Grammar and Vocabulary of the Eskimo Dialects of Point Barrow, the Mackenzie Delta, and Coronation Gulf. By D. Jenness. (*In preparation*.)

VOLUME XV: ESKIMO STRING FIGURES AND SONGS

Part A: String Figures of the Eskimo. By D. Jenness. (*Ready for press*.)

Part B: Songs of the Copper Eskimos. By D. Jenness (in part). (*In preparation*.)

VOLUME XVI: ARCHEOLOGY

Contributions to the Archeology of Western Arctic America. (*To be prepared*.)

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ALASKA FORESTS

SECRETARY MEREDITH, of the Department of Agriculture, approved the establishment on January 1 of a new National Forest District, for Alaska. This will be known as the Alaska District, with headquarters at Juneau, and will be in charge of Charles H. Flory, as district forester. Mr. Flory has been superintendent of Alaska National Forests for the past two years, with headquarters at Ketchikan. The new district headquarters will remain at Ketchikan until July 1.

Colonel W. B. Greeley, the chief forester of the Forest Service, spent some time in Alaska last summer, securing information on conditions there, and as the result of his trip recommended to Secretary Meredith the establishment of a separate National Forest District. There are two National Forests in Alaska, the Tongass in southeast Alaska and the Chugach in the Prince William Sound country. These forests are now included in the North Pacific District and are under direction of District Forester George H. Cecil, in Portland.

The Alaska National Forests now become a separate district because of their increasing importance as a source of pulp material and

mainly in order to get local administration, which the Forest Service has followed since 1908, when district headquarters were established in six western cities for the protection and administration of the national forests.

The announcement of the establishment of the new district is made at the Portland office almost simultaneously with the news from Washington that the President has authorized an Inter-Departmental Committee, to coordinate federal activities in Washington having to do with Alaska. E. A. Sherman, associate forester of the Forest Service, who spent some time in Alaska, represents the Department of Agriculture on the new Alaska committee.

FISHERY MATTERS IN CONGRESS

APPROPRIATIONS for the Bureau of Fisheries for the fiscal year 1922, as carried in the sundry civil appropriation bill reported to the House of Representatives on December 29, aggregate \$1,240,460, an increase of \$29,150 over the appropriations for the current year. The increase is made up chiefly of additions of \$12,500 for the division of fishery industries and \$15,000 for the Alaska service. No new position is created except that of engineer at the Cape Vincent station, no special appropriations are made, and no increases in salaries are provided except in the case of naturalist of the steamer *Albatross*.

Congressman Esch, of Wisconsin, has introduced a bill (H. R. 14676) providing for the establishment of a fish-rescue and fish-cultural station on the Mississippi River in Wisconsin. The bill carries an appropriation of \$75,000 and creates a staff of 15 persons, with annual salaries aggregating \$22,800.

Senator McNary, of Oregon, has introduced a joint resolution (S. J. Res. 211) requesting the President to negotiate a treaty or treaties to protect from unnecessary destruction, through wasteful practises, devices, and methods, the salmon in waters of the Pacific Ocean off the coasts of the United States and Canada, both within and beyond the territorial limits of the two countries.

THE WASHINGTON ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

At the annual meeting of the Washington Academy of Sciences on January 11, officers were elected for the year 1921. The board of managers for the year is as follows:

- Dr. A. H. Brooks, Geological Survey, President, Member Executive Committee.
- Dr. Robert B. Sosman, Geophysical Laboratory, Corresponding Secretary, Member Executive Committee.
- Mr. Wm. R. Maxon, National Museum, Recording Secretary, Member Executive Committee.
- Mr. R. L. Faris, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Treasurer, Member Executive Committee, Vice-president from Society of Engineers.
- Dr. J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y., Non-resident Vice-president.
- Professor E. B. Wilson, Mass. Inst. Tech., Cambridge, Mass., Non-resident Vice-president.
- Dr. C. G. Abbot, Smithsonian Institution, Member of Board of Managers (1922).
- Dr. W. F. Hillebrand, Bureau of Standards, Member of Board of Managers (1922).
- Dr. L. A. Bauer, Department of Terrestrial Magnetism, Member of Board of Managers (1923).
- Dr. T. Wayland Vaughan, Geological Survey, Member of Board of Managers (1923).
- Professor H. S. Graves, 3454 Newark Street, Member of Board of Managers (1924).
- Mr. Sidney Paige, Geological Survey, Member of Board of Managers (1924).
- Dr. W. J. Humphreys, Weather Bureau, Vice-president from Philosophical Society.
- Dr. Aleš Hrdlička, National Museum, Vice-president from Archeological Society.
- Mr. N. Hollister, Zoological Park, Vice-president from Biological Society.
- Dr. A. S. Hitchcock, Smithsonian Institution, Vice-president from Botanical Society.
- Dr. William Blum, Bureau of Standards, Vice-president from Chemical Society.
- Dr. F. B. Silsbee, Bureau of Standards, Vice-president from Electrical Engineers, Member of Executive Committee.
- Mr. S. A. Rohwer, East Falls Church, Va., Vice-president from Entomological Society.
- Mr. Raphael Zon, Forest Service, Vice-president from Foresters Society.
- Mr. F. V. Coville, Bureau of Plant Industry, Vice-president from Geographic Society, Member of Executive Committee.
- Dr. David White, Geological Survey, Vice-president from Geological Society.