



## Arctic Bibliography

THE *Arctic Bibliography* had its inception in a proposal submitted in 1947 to the Office of Naval Research by the Arctic Institute of North America. In presenting the plan, Dr. A. L. Washburn, then Executive Director of the Institute, pointed to the urgent need for a comprehensive annotated and indexed bibliography of scientific publications relating to the Arctic. It was proposed that the Arctic Institute undertake the compilation of such a bibliography, the work to be carried out under the direction of an experienced bibliographer with a staff of trained assistants. A Directing Committee, consisting of librarians, scientists, and representatives of the military agencies and the Arctic Institute, was to determine policies and exercise general supervision.

Work on the *Bibliography* began in July 1947 under contract with the Office of Naval Research, with funds provided by the Departments of Army and Navy and an additional contribution from the Defense Research Board of Canada. Miss Marie Tremaine has served as editor and director of the project since its beginning. The Directing Committee consists of Burton W. Adkinson, Library of Congress; S. R. Galler, Office of Naval Research; Robert C. Gooch, Library of Congress; A. H. Lawton, Department of the Air Force; Paul Siple, Department of the Army; A. L. Washburn, Dartmouth College; Walter A. Wood, Arctic Institute of North America; Henry B. Collins, Smithsonian Institution (*chairman*). The work has been carried out mostly at the Library of Congress, which provides office space for the project, although the collections of the New York Public Library, Harvard University, the Smithsonian Institution, and some 60 other large libraries in the United States and Canada have also been utilized.

The first three volumes of *Arctic Bibliography*, of approximately 1500 pages each, have been issued by the Government Printing Office and are available for \$12.75 a set. These initial volumes list and summarize the contents of 20,000 of the more important publications in all fields of science relating to the arctic and subarctic regions of Alaska, Canada, Greenland, Siberia, and Europe.

In addition to books and monographs, the *Bibliography* includes material published in more than 1400 scientific journals and serial publications in English, Russian and other languages. Titles of foreign language publications are given in the original and in English, with a description of contents in English. Some of the major topics that are included, under many subheadings: Administration and government; aerology; agriculture; botany; cartography; ecology; expeditions, organization and results; geology; geophysics; glaciology; health and hygiene; hydrology; ice conditions; industrial development; meteorology; mineralogy; native peoples; natural resources—mineral, fisheries, fur, water, forest, whaling and sealing; oceanography; permafrost; phytogeography; population; social and economic conditions; trade and commerce; transportation; zoogeography; zoology.

In Volumes 1 and 2 the 20,000 publications on these and many other subjects are listed alphabetically by author and described in a summary that indicates the nature, extent, and significance of the subject matter. The index volume (Vol. 3) lists the publications by topic and subtopic, also by major geographic area and by particular geographic locality or feature, such as sea, bay, island, river and basin, and town, with extensive cross listing for ease of reference. Each index entry consists of the author's name, short title of the work, date of publication, and bibliography number.

Current work on the *Arctic Bibliography* is being conducted with the support of the Department of the Air Force. Volume 4 is in press and will appear probably in September. Material for Volume 5 is now being assembled. The 32,000 publications included in the three published and two forthcoming volumes are only a part of the vast literature on the Arctic. It is hoped that the work may continue, with an additional volume appearing annually to cover current publications as well as material not previously included.

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*Arctic Bibliography*

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