

The Society for the History of Discoveries

NEWSLETTER

May 28, 1981

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

1981 Annual Meeting: This year's meeting will be held at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education on the University of Georgia campus, Athens, Georgia, on November 6-8. A block of rooms has been reserved for us in the Georgia Center at very reasonable rates (see attached pre-registration form). Our Program Chairman, Louis DeVorse, reports that there will be exciting work presented on the Columbus landfall debate, as well as on the discovery and settlement of the Southeast. He is eager to receive suggestions for additional papers on these and other topics and themes, and would like to hear from members who would be willing to chair sessions.

Besides the intellectual stimulation offered by the program, we are promised a special Southern treat, with a reception and buffet dinner at an ante-bellum mansion. We are told that early November is usually an ideal time to be in Athens - beautiful fall weather is the rule. There is both air and limousine service available between Atlanta Airport and Athens Airport. Jet-A-Way Limousine Shuttle Ltd. runs a frequent service from Atlanta Airport direct to the Georgia Center meeting site. The driving time for the Limo is 90 minutes. Flying time from airport to airport is 30 minutes. There is Limo or taxi service from the Athens airport to the Georgia Center.

A pre-registration form is included with this Newsletter. Please fill it out and return it as soon as possible.

Publications: Volume XIII of *Terrae Incognitae* is well under way, and should be ready for delivery to members by late fall. Contents will include the long-awaited Index to vols. I-XII, an article on Scandinavian exploration and discovery by several Finnish scholars, articles on research possibilities in the field of discovery and exploration, and the usual rich feast of reviews.

The Editorial Board has announced that Charles Gibson is the first winner of the newly-established prize of \$200, to be given to the author of the best article in each issue of *Terrae Incognitae*. Gibson has just retired as the Irving A. Leonard Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Michigan, where he has been on the faculty since 1965. During his career he has been the recipient of many awards. He was a Social Science Research Council Fellow, a Guggenheim Fellow, a Rockefeller Foundation Fellow, and a Fellow of the Cornell University Society for the Humanities. Always active in his profession, he is a member of the Conference on Latin American History, the Hispanic Society of America, the Academy of American Franciscan History, and the American Historical Association. He was elected president of the AHA in 1976-77. Among his other accomplishments it may be noted that he is the author of numerous articles, the author or editor of nearly a dozen books, and has served on the editorial board of the *Hispanic American Historical Review*, the

Comparative Studies in Society and History, and the *American Historical Review*. On behalf of the Society, we congratulate Charles Gibson.

Errata: In Volume XII of *Terrae Incoognitae*, p. 124, line 5 in the review by Geoffrey J. Martin, "chronological" should read "chorological."

Archives: The appeal in last spring's Newsletter for material related to the Society's programs and meetings brought an excellent response. Your Secretary has spent odd hours over the last few months sorting and organizing the archival files, and can now report that the files are in reasonable order. Anyone interested in the history of the Society can have access to a complete run of the monograph series, "Studies in the History of Discoveries," a complete run of *Terrae Incoognitae*, and five bankers boxes of file folders.

A few items seem to be lacking, but perhaps they never existed. Records for the first few annual meetings, for example, are very skimpy. Does anyone have additions to the following, for which we have only:

- 1962 - a one-sheet mimeographed program
- 1964 - 2d mailing notice, with program particulars
- 1965 - tentative program
- 1966 - " "
- 1967 - one-sheet mimeographed program

We are also lacking annual reports for 1963 and 1964; for 1965 and 1972 we have financial statements only.

Will anyone who is willing to donate any of the above material to fill in these apparent gaps in our files please get in touch with your secretary, Barbara B. McCorkle, 45 Mill Rock Road, Hamden, CT 06511.

NEWS NOTES

The Sir Francis Drake Commission, State of California, with whose activities over the past few years several of our members have been extensively involved - Norman J.W. Thrower as President, Robert H. Power as a Commissioner - has officially terminated. The occasion was a presentation banquet at the Society of California Pioneers, San Francisco, on December 13, 1980, and the depositing of materials gathered over the seven years of its existence at the State Archives in Sacramento.

Professor and Mrs. Thrower had recently returned from celebrations in London and Plymouth, England, honoring the quadricentennial of the return of Drake from his circumnavigation. High points of the trip were an Elizabethan banquet presided over by the Lord Bishop of London, and the presentation of medallions, specially crafted in California, at 10 Downing Street and at Plymouth Guildhall.

a Golden Hinde international postcard was issued from San Rafael, California by the U.S. Postal Service on November 21, 1980, and postage stamps by several foreign countries. [Copies of these are now in the Society's Archives. Ed.] Several publications resulted from the Drake Commission and more are in press or in progress. Although the formal work of the Commission is over, it will continue in a non-official, reduced form as the Sir Francis Drake Association.

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A major university exhibit honors a member of the Society this spring. We have word from the University of Kansas Libraries that "The new exhibit

in the Kenneth Spencer Research Library is entitled 'A Delightful View: Pictures as Maps', and has been put together to honor T. R. Smith, cartographic historian, teacher, and staunch friend of the Libraries at the University of Kansas.

"Tom Smith has been chairman of the Senate Libraries Committee at KU, president of the Friends of the KU Library, inventor of a map cataloguing system used at KU and in many map libraries throughout the United States, and a tireless acquirer of early maps and atlases. Almost single-handedly he has built the KU Map Library into the major resource that it is - one of the largest in the country.

"The exhibit demonstrates a group of variations on the theme of maps. First there are maps from the 15th to the 18th century incorporating illustrations and symbolic details. Then we see cities displayed as if from an aerial view, and combining map and pictorial functions. Finally there are pictures which serve as maps of specific areas - battlefields, routes of exploration, geological formations."

The exhibit will be continued until the end of August.

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We have recently received an attractive flyer from the newly organized International Map Collector's Society in England. Among its aims are encouraging map collection and preservation, and the study of the history of cartography. The IMC/S expects to publish a newsletter, have an annual symposium, hold meetings and lectures, and otherwise encourage activity in the field. Anyone interested in membership should write to: R.W. Shirley, President, Sweet Briar, Long Grove, Seer Green, Beaconsfield, Bucks. HP9 2QH, England.

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The Fourth International Reunion for the History of Nautical Science and Hydrography will meet in California, October 17-23, 1982 (17-19 in La Jolla, 20-23 in Los Angeles) in conjunction with the History of Technology Conference. For details, write to: Ursula Lamb, Department of History, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85719.

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The First North American Conference of the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History will be held at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, October 21-23, 1981. The theme of the conference is North American Natural History Bibliography - Research, Needs, and Prospects. We are advised that there will be social hours to meet with colleagues, and one day has been set aside for visits to Philadelphia natural history libraries, museums, and collections. For further information, write to: Nina J. Root, American Museum of Natural History Library, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, NY 10024.

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The International Mountain Society was recently incorporated in the State of Colorado as a non-profit organization. We have been asked to advise our members that "...a primary objective is to help solve mountain land-use problems by developing a foundation of scientific and technical knowledge on which to base management decisions." The IMS plans to publish an interdisciplinary journal, *Mountain Research and Development*, to be co-published quarterly with United Nations University, and additional support from UNESCO. Subscriptions and inquiries should be addressed to: International Mountain Society, P.O. Box 3148, Boulder, CO 80307.

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A symposium "A Century of Canada's Arctic Islands, 1880-1980", sponsored by the Royal Society of Canada, will take place at Yellowknife, N.W.T., August 11-13, 1981.

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The Fourth North American Fur Trade Conference will take place at Grand Portage and Old Fort William on the north shore of Lake Superior, October 1-4, under the general sponsorship of the Minnesota Historical Society.

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

DAVID S. BERKOWITZ writes that he has retired from the Department of History of Brandeis University.

Research for a biobibliography of Richelieu, Foucquet and Colbert has taken PHILIP P. BOUCHER to France and Italy this past spring. In addition to this book, to be published by Garland (1982?), he is the author of "French Images of America and the Evolution of Colonial Theories, 1650-1700" in the Proceedings of the Sixth Annual Meeting of the Western Society for French History.

From RICHARD BOULIND "...I have been away from New York fully six months - all of it in England, living and working in Cambridge, getting on with a certain amount of convalescence from the fall-out continuing from 1979's savage dose of hepatitis... am now getting back into the harness a bit, and have accomplished a lot of research on 16th-century topography of the Caribbean and nautical technology - completed the draft translation of Juan de Escalante y Mendoza's never-published (because suppressed by King Philip II on security ground) Itinerary of the Western Seas and Lands, and bitten off some more on early cartography and mapping of New England."

Joseph Nicollet and His Map, by MARTHA C. BRAY, was published in November by the American Philosophical Society.

Recent activities of JAMES A. CASADA include: two recently completed articles, on Carl Eklund and Wynant Davis Hubbard, for the 1961-65 updating of the Dictionary of American Biography; preparation of an introduction for a new edition of Frederick C. Selous' A Hunter's Wanderings in Africa, being published by Books of Rhodesia-Zimbabwe; "The Livingstone Documentation Project", with Gary Clendennen, for the next number of History in Africa; and on-going work on two book-length bibliographies, one on Cecil Rhodes and one on the history of African exploration.

REBECCA CATZ has had her book, Fernão Mendes Pinto ou a Sátira da ideologia da Cruzada, published recently by Biblioteca Breve, Instituto de Cultura Portuguese, in Lisbon.

"I am currently a teaching assistant at UCLA", writes TONY CIMOLINO, "and am continuing work on the South Sea Waggoner by Basil Ringrose. I am also giving a paper at the AAG meeting in April on the "Cartographic Accomplishments of Cmd. Perry's Expedition to the South China Sea and Japan in 1852-4."

MAUD COLE was the recipient of the 1980 Honors Award for outstanding achievement from the Geography and Map Division of the Special Libraries Ass-

ociation. Calling Maud "...one of the last of the librarian-generalists, perhaps uniquely produced in the 1930's," the citation noted her many interests, her career at the Library of Congress and at the New York Public Library, where she retired as Keeper of Rare Books in 1977, and her many activities in professional organizations.

EDWARD H. DAHL, Curator of Early Canadian Cartography at the National Map Collection, Public Archives of Canada, reports that he has been active organizing the Ottawa Map Society, lecturing in an evening course in the history of cartography and planning the spring meeting of the History of Cartography Interest Group, Canadian Cartographic Association (Ed in Group Chairman). He and Conrad E. Heidenreich [q.v.] have recently published "The French Mapping of North America in the Seventeenth Century" in The Map Collector (Issue No. 13) and have submitted to the same journal a follow-up article, "The French Mapping of North America, 1700-1760." Never one to let an idle minute go by, Ed is also book review and manuscripts editor for Cartographica for material in the field of the history of cartography, and is organizing the pre-1850 part of an exhibition and catalogue of the National Map Collection's "treasures" to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Collection in 1982.

The "Merit Award" citation from the Art Directors Club of New York was presented to LOUIS DE VORSEY for his role as author of the text in Georgia The Home Place. Lou was also awarded a Medal for Research Creativity in the Arts, Letters, and Social Sciences from the University of Georgia Research Foundation. His recent publications include several articles for The Geographical Magazine, "Wayward Ocean River" (April, 1980) and "Lines on the Sea" (May, 1981), and "William DeBrahm's 'Continuation of the Atlantic Pilot,' An Empirically Supported 18th Century Model of North Atlantic Surface Circulation," in Oceanography: The Past, (Springer-Verlag, 1980, pp. 718-33).

OLIVER DUNN has transcribed and translated for the James Ford Bell Library of the University of Minnesota a letter written in 1680 by a Jesuit missionary in the Marianas Islands to his superior in Salamanca. Oliver continues to enjoy "retirement", keeping busy with travelling, research, and taking classes.

RALPH EHRENBERG has recently published, with Seymour Schwartz, The Mapping of America (New York, Harry N. Abrams, 1980).

The New York Map Society has just elected E.M. GROSSMAN Vice-President and Program Chairman.

ANDRÉ GSCHAEDLER is now Professor Emeritus of Salem College in West Virginia. He writes that he travels abroad a great deal. His review of O.H.K. Spate's The Spanish Lake appeared in the December 1980 issue of the American Historical Review.

JAMES W. HARPER reports that, together with Brian Blakeley, he has just offered a course in the History of Exploration for the fourth consecutive year.

With the transfer of the David O. True Library to the University of South Florida, as reported in the Annual Report for 1980, KITTY HARWOOD writes that she can now devote more time to her work with the Vizcaya museum in Miami.

JOHN B. HATTENDORF will be Visiting Professor of Military and Naval History at the National University of Singapore, June 1981-June 1983.

Two forthcoming issues of Cartographica will feature an overview of the exploration and mapping of the Great Lakes area (1600-1760) by CONRAD HEIDENREICH. Some 240 manuscript and printed maps are covered in these two papers. Heidenreich is also working on a monograph on the cartography of New France, 1632-1680, as well as completing a series of plates for the Historical Atlas of Canada. Note also his articles, with Ed Dahl, under Dahl's entry.

New Library Director at the California Historical Society Library is BRUCE L. JOHNSON.

NADIA KAZYMYRA-DZIOBA, National Map Collection, Public Archives of Canada, is responsible for the cartographic content for the first of five major travelling exhibitions depicting various phases of Canadian history. The exhibitions are sponsored by the Archives, and will open in the summer of 1981. She reports that in line with the current policy of greater emphasis on the cartography of the north-west coast of Canada, a recent interesting acquisition is an 18th-century Russian map showing both the far eastern territories of the Russian Empire and the North American coastline. The map was intended for inclusion in Alexander Wilbrecht's 1792 atlas of the Russian Empire. [See the Abstracts of the Annual Meeting, 1980, Session I, for more on this area. Ed.]

From DON GREAME KELLEY: "Full-time activity - printing, mostly books. Would love to get a publishable short item in the SHD field, either new or needed reprint. Could handle up to 500 copies with some subsidy if new material."

JOSEF KONVITZ writes that he is now at work on a book about the modernization of cartography in the French Enlightenment.

URSULA LAMB went to London in March to deliver the Eva G.R. Taylor Lecture to the Royal Institute of Navigation at the Royal Society. The lecture is an annual event sponsored in rotation by six different scholarly organizations. Her topic: "The London Years of Felipe Bauzá, Spanish Hydrographer in Exile, 1823-1834."

"To everyone's surprise, 67 people signed up" writes JONATHAN T. LANMAN of the course he gave at the Smithsonian Institution. Entitled "Cartography and the Age of Discovery", the five sessions covered European Maps in the Age of Discovery, Discovery of the Road to Asia, Japanese Views of the World at the Time of Foreign Intrusion, Study Tour to the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress, and Map Collecting. Jon is Co-founder and Chairman of the Washington Map Society.

In addition to research in the Nordenskiöld Map Collection, DOUGLAS MARSHALL is teaching a course in the History of Cartography at Helsinki University, where he is spending the spring semester on a Fulbright fellowship.

Another scholar abroad is ALEXANDER MELAMID, who is Fulbright Professor for the academic year 1980/81 at the Economic University in Vienna. His article "Survival of Mining Cities in Arid Regions" appeared in Wiener Geographische Schriften, Vol. II, 1980.

J. FLOYD MONK reports that he retired December 31, 1978, after forty-one years with the Florida National Bank of Miami.

JOHN PARKER and CAROL URNESS are the compilers of The James Ford Bell Library: an Annotated Catalog of Original Source Materials Relating to the History of European Expansion, 1400-1800, scheduled for publication in June by G.K. Hall, Boston.

J. H. PARRY has just returned from a Caribbean cruise with the oceanographic research schooner Westward. He will be at William and Mary College as visiting professor for the academic year 1981-82.

On July 1, 1981, FRANCIS M. ROGERS will become Nancy Clark Smith Professor of the Language and Literature of Portugal Emeritus at Harvard University, and has moved to Morristown, New Jersey. He is at work on a sequel to his Atlantic Islanders, now tentatively titled The Portuguese in the United States: Americanization Versus Novocolonialism. The book is expected to be published by The Christopher Publishing House. A translation of his article "The Legacy of the Portuguese Navigators: The Landfall Technique Known as Aiming Off", which discusses the leg of Drake's voyage from Java to Southern Africa, will appear in a forthcoming issue of Revista Militar.

WOLFE W. SCHMOKEL has been doing research in Namibia this past year.

A thought-provoking note from WILLIAM R. STANLEY: "As a rule, I am reluctant to provide tidbits concerning past activities. For once, however, I am responding. It was my good (?) fortune to have been working in Liberia shortly after the government of that country was toppled in an especially bloody army coup. Seldom have I seen so many rifles thrust into so many stomachs, rifles frequently held by drunken soldiers. Our work on an Atlas of Liberia project funded by the German Government was a form of discovery in its own right; vehicles were stolen, spot arrests not uncommon and travel often difficult. Yet, in all of this, there has been a decided sense of accomplishment. Maps are being prepared and of a technical quality never before experienced in this country. A vast quantity of new information concerning the "infrastructure" in Liberia's often isolated interior has been gathered and I only hope the end product will be employed as was intended."

RICHARD W. STEPHENSON has selected the maps and written the introduction to The Cartography of Northern Virginia; Facsimile Reproductions of Maps Dating from 1608 to 1915, to be published this month by the Office of Comprehensive Planning, Fairfax County, Virginia.

Several of our members have books under consideration by major presses. HENRY STOMMEL has submitted a work on "lost islands" to the University of Hawaii Press, and ANTHONY T. SULLIVAN has his book, Thomas-Robert Bugeaud, France and Algeria, 1784-1849: Politics, Power and the Good Society under consideration at Princeton University Press.

REGINA J. TOMLINSON is Chairman, Advisory Council for Publication and Education, Broward County Historical Commission, and is acting editor of the journal Broward Legacy, a scholarly publication on the history of South Florida. She notes that as a racing skipper she has "great admiration for those who navigated deep draft, sailing ships in these [Florida and Bahama] waters."

The wide-ranging travels of GEORGE H. TWENEY have taken him twice to Japan, to Lima, to London, and to Brussels. He has also written a number of reviews for scholarly journals.

An article by DONALD M. VILES, on his exploring trip to British Columbia, was published recently in the Daily Herald of Terrace, B.C.

ERIC W. WOLF spoke to the Washington Map Society on Reference Works for the Study of the History of Cartography last February. He is to deliver a paper, "Beltrami's Unpublished Manuscript Map of the Sources of the Mississippi" for the IXth International Conference on the History of Cartography, being held this month in Italy.

News from JOHN A. WOLTER on the activities of the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress includes the publication of the two-volume supplement to the Bibliography of Cartography last summer, and an invitation to colleagues to visit the department in its splendid new quarters in the James Madison Memorial Building. The return to Washington, D.C., from a ten-year suburban location in Virginia, has caused a surge in patrons - three times as many as were served in the past decade - but the welcome mat is always out to members of the Society when they are in Washington. Additional activities of John's are: Chairman, U.S. Board on Geographic Names; Chairman, Working Group on the second edition of the World Directory of Map Collections; authorship of several papers on the history of cartography, (watch for future issues of The Map Collector); and Official American, British and Canadian Charts of the Great Lakes 1815-1970 in the Collections of the Library of Congress.

ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS DELIVERED AT THE 1980 ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF DISCOVERIES

First Session: Arctic Discovery

On What Evidence Did Müller Conceptualize His Chukotskoi Nos?

By Raymond H. Fisher

On his Academy map of the North Pacific (St. Petersburg, 1758) Gerhard Friedrich Müller showed two peninsulas at the northeast corner of Siberia. One was a real one, the Modern Chukotskiy Peninsula; the second, extending northeastward from the first, was imaginary. Müller called it the Chukotskoi Nos. Where did he get the idea of this peninsula and what led him to conceptualize it as he did?

The belief in such a peninsula was not original with Müller. Several maps of the later 17th and early 18th centuries show such an imaginary peninsula, probably based on Cape Shelag'skiy at the entrance to Chaun Bay, a point east of which no one sailed from 1648 to 1878. Müller probably derived his concept from five maps on which such a peninsula appears: Witsen's map (Amsterdam, 1687); the Anadyr'skaya map attributed to one Ivan I'vov (Müller's copy, early 18th century); Homann's map (Nürnberg, 1725); the manuscript map of Afanasiy Shestakov (St. Petersburg, 1725); and von Strahlenberg's map (Stockholm, 1730).

The configuration which Müller gave to the Chukotskoi Nos he obtained from the description of a great rocky promontory which Semen Dezhnev described in his reports of 1655, having circumnavigated it on his voyage through the Bering Strait in 1648. It was big and mountainous, extended far into the sea, lay between north and northeast far from the Anadyr' River, and turned around and under toward that river. All of these features are found in Müller's depiction of the Chukotskoi Nos. And tellingly, Müller traced the path of Dezhnev's voyage around the peninsula. Why he then chose not to apply these features to the real peninsula, which is what it is now believed Dezhnev's promontory was, is not clear.

This representation of the northeast corner of Siberia was the cause of some confusion for Captain James Cook during his voyage into the north Pacific in 1778-79. It was Cook, however, who banished Müller's non-existent peninsula to the graveyard of misbegotten geographical conceptions.

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The Map of Jakob Stählin von Storcksburg and the Explorations of
Cook in the North Pacific

By Carol Urness

This paper describes the relationship between two Russian maps of the North Pacific. The first, by Gerhard Friedrich Müller, was printed in 1754. It had wide circulation in western Europe, and provoked much discussion, particularly in Great Britain. The Müller map showed a great peninsula extending westward from North America, and thus gave little encouragement for British hopes of discovering a northwest passage. In 1773, a Russian map by Jakob Stählin von Storcksburg provided a far different picture of the same area, and this map was carried with Captain James Cook on his voyage to the North Pacific. Both maps were printed with the same plate.

Second Session: The Society at Twenty

Reflections and Reassessments

By Thomas E. Goldstein

This paper is an attempt to assess the contribution of the Society to American scholarship in the twenty years since the Society was first conceived, over a bottle of wine in a Lisbon restaurant.

Internally - we have had fun! We have known professional friendships, shared a specialized interest, have been a critical audience for each other's work, grown older together and welcomed new and younger colleagues who keep us vital and fresh. We have been open, both in a membership embracing academics and interested non-professionals - amateurs in the good and literal sense - and open in our reception to new ideas and possibilities and a willingness to explore untested ideas.

Externally - we can claim to have had an impact on scholarship. A casual sampling: we are the only society concerned with the history of discovery and exploration that offers the forum of annual meetings and issues a journal; our members read papers at major international conferences; they give distinguished annual lectures, contribute to scholarly journals, and receive awards for outstanding contributions in their fields. Through these activities we have worked to overcome the isolation of American scholarship.

And what we, individually, will remember are those inspired, spontaneous moments when a paper provokes illuminating comment, or a luncheon conversation suddenly becomes a sparkling debate. Such occasions may be the indicators of our true success.

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Third Session: Discovery in Africa

Another View of Charles de Foucauld's Remarkable Moroccan Exploration in 1883-1884

By Sanford H. Bederman

Charles de Foucauld, best known for his activities as a priest among the Tuaregs in the Ahaggar region of the Sahara, first attained fame as an explorer of Morocco. At age 24, shortly after resigning an army commission, Foucauld determined that he would explore the then unknown parts of Morocco called the bled es siba. He prepared for this adventure in Algiers, being tutored by Oscar MacCarthy, the President of the Algiers Geographical Society. MacCarthy recommended to Foucauld that he travel in Morocco disguised as a Jew. MacCarthy also introduced him to Rabbi Mordochai Abi Serour, an elderly Moroccan living in Algiers who had carried on a lucrative trade in Timbuctoo in the 1860's, and whose exploits had been publicized in the Bulletin of the Geographical Society of Paris. Foucauld subsequently hired Mordochai to be his companion and guide.

The extremely dangerous exploration began at Tangier on June 20, 1883 and ended at Lalla Marnia, Algeria on May 23, 1884. Foucauld learned that Mordochai knew almost nothing about the bled es siba and quickly developed a strong animosity towards him. Despite the differences between the two, Mordochai served Foucauld well. He obtained lodging for Foucauld in the mellahs, but his most difficult task was to lie by assuring everyone that

Foucauld (nee Josef Aleman) was, indeed, a rabbi from Moscow. Unquestionably, Mordochai suffered considerable anguish because of this deceit.

Less than a year after the expedition ended, Foucauld was awarded the Society of Geography's Gold Medal. Scholars have praised Foucauld for the vast amount of geographical information he collected and published in his book, Reconnaissance au Maroc (1888). Among other things, his book (including an atlas) was used as a guide when French soldiers invaded Morocco in the early twentieth century.

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Verney Lovett Cameron, Frustrated Imperialist

By David L. Niddrie

In the galaxy of nineteenth century explorers in tropical Africa, Verney Lovett Cameron appeared only briefly. During his walk across Central Africa (1873-5), after he found Livingstone's body, he concluded treaties with twenty-three local chiefs in an attempt to establish hegemony over the Congo and Zambezi basins as well as certain contiguous areas for Great Britain.

Upon his return to Great Britain Cameron found himself a feted hero, but his treaties were rejected by the Foreign Office as too vague for international acceptance, as well as running counter to prevailing Free Trade philosophies of the Manchester and Liverpool trading communities. His public addresses did much, however, to persuade his British audiences that Central Africa was a mineral and vegetal El Dorado. Such assertions aroused the curiosity and cupidity of the Germans, the Belgians and the Portuguese, leading eventually to the so-called "Scramble" for Africa.

Despite extensive inquiries, no archival evidence has been found of the manuscript versions of Cameron's treaties, though his proclamation is to be found in the Public Record Office, London. The treaties would reveal the names and location of the twenty-three chiefs, thus adding much valuable material to the Central African record. The author seeks the co-operation of his fellow-Africanists in trying to locate such archival materials.

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Fourth Session: Some Islands and Discovery

Admiral Morison, Commodore Verhoog, and the Columbus Landfall

By Pieter Verhoog (Paper read by John Parker)

Parker introduced the paper with a comment on Commodore Verhoog's career as a seaman, finally as Commodore-Captain of the Nieuwe Amsterdam, and he noted Verhoog's longstanding interest in the Columbus Landfall problem. Verhoog's paper noted the shifting about of the landfall among various islands of the Bahamas group in the nineteenth century. Whereas most historians of the Columbus voyage had settled upon Watling Island as the landfall, R.T. Gould in Enigmas (London, 1946) had disagreed. Following Columbus's Journal Verhoog demonstrated that only the sailings beyond the landfall can truly indicate where the landfall was. To this end he used distances, directions, and island characteristics to show that in his judgement the landfall was Caicos, and the subsequent three islands visited were Mayaguana, Acklin, and Great Inagua. The publication of this interpretation by the U.S. Naval Institute

Proceedings, 80: no. 10 (1954) and its subsequent approval by P.V.H. Weems were cited as reasons for pursuing the question, and Commodore Verhoog urged that the Society continue to do so. Opposition to Verhoog's position in recent years had centered around Samuel E. Morison and E. Roukema who defended Watling Island as the landfall. Following the paper a lively discussion indicated encouragement to Parker and others who chose to do so to continue studying the landfall problem and report findings at next year's meeting.

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Dr. Cook's Arctic Islands

By Philip E. Hudsmith

Who first reached the North Pole, Frederick A. Cook or Robert E. Peary? Both explorers have claimed the distinction. This paper presents evidence to support the claim of Dr. Cook.

Cook was an expert in arctic medicine - he identified and invented a cure for the disease of Polar Anemia - and had been on exploring expeditions in Greenland and Alaska, before he started out on March 3, 1908 on a trek to the North Pole, which he reached on April 23. On his trip he discovered Bradley Land, a peninsula, ice islands, the Stewart Islands, and made detailed notes on the varying ice conditions between the land shelf and the pole. On his return journey, fog threw him off course, and he was forced to winter at Cape Sparbo on Jones Sound. He reached his base at Annoatok, in North Greenland, in April 1909, and in September of that year received a hero's welcome in Denmark.

Peary reached the pole in 1909, and challenged Cook's prior claim. The ensuing controversy tended to obscure the facts of the matter, but later scientific discoveries on ice conditions in the central Arctic have supported Cook's claim. V.S. Koryakin, a glaciologist with the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R., has cited the veracity of Cook's observations, and American investigators state unreservedly that his Bradley Land sighting agrees with modern evidence related to ice island phenomena.

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Fifth Session: Antarctic Discovery

Research Opportunities at the Center for Polar and Scientific Archives, with Emphasis on Non-Governmental Collections

By Alison Wilson

The National Archives' Center for Polar and Scientific Archives was established as the Center for Polar Archives in September 1967, under the direction of the Society's past President, Herman R. Friis. It differs from other branches of the National Archives in that the Center accessions personal papers relating to U.S. activities in the polar regions (Record Group 401 - National Archives Gift Collection Relating to the Polar Regions). Also, the Center has archival custody of selected Federal records relating to the polar regions. For this paper, the gift collection is emphasized.

Generally, the personal papers consist of 130 individual gifts (c. 1850-1980) ranging in size from one file folder to 350 linear feet. The papers may consist of textual, audiovisual, cartographic, and other material.

A number of gifts cover more than one expedition, region, discipline, or period of exploration. For example, the Peary Family Collection includes papers relating not only to Peary's arctic expeditions, but to his interest in aeronautics, science, and geography. Gifts of papers relating to U.S. exploration of the Eastern Arctic range from those of John Wall Wilson (Kane Expedition, 1853-55), to those of Albert P. Crary and Bernt Balchen and the establishment of scientific and military bases in the arctic following World War II. Gifts relating to antarctic research include those of Dr. Laurence M. Gould (Byrd Antarctic Expedition, 1928-30) to the current U.S. Antarctic Program.

The years since Richard E. Byrd's flights over the North and South Pole have seen rapid advances in the scientific, technological, and geographic knowledge of the polar regions and increasing importance politically and economically. Today there is a great need for a review and analysis of the major historical, geographic, scientific, and technological developments in polar research brought about by modern scientific advances. Further, there is a need for a study of the effects of Federal coordination of the U.S. polar research program, the Antarctic treaty and international scientific cooperation. The recent announcement of the Third Antarctic Fellowship by the National Endowment for the Humanities provides one means for the historian or geographer to investigate these programs and to use the resources available in the National Archives for this research.

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Sixth Session: Spirits of Discovery: Reactions to Trade and Authority in Geographic Expansion

Some Effects of the European Trade in North America and West Africa

By Kit W. Wesler

In West Africa and North America, explorers met peoples who were already participants in complex long-distance exchange systems, and the initial trade was largely constrained by indigenous patterns. In both areas, the first European goods accepted were those that were useful within traditional patterns of material culture, and tastes were conservative. Only with time and continued interaction did the variety of trade goods increase. The impact of a widening variety of European commodities made the trade a potent acculturative force.

Reorientation of regional trade systems, settlement patterns, and inter-group relations followed the growth of European markets along the coasts. Coastal groups became middlemen to a growing inland market. Inland groups lacked direct access to European suppliers, but were also buffered from the most disruptive effects of direct contact. The Asante of the Gold Coast, and the Iroquois of northeastern North America, were two groups which began on the peripheries of their regional exchange networks. Their ability to take advantage of the reorientation of the trade systems allowed them to come to hegemony among their indigenous rivals, by following similar campaigns of expansion by military conquest and shifting alliance. Comparison of these contact situations illuminates both similarities and differences, lending insight into the specific cases as well as general processes.