

chairman of the board be a figure of the highest national repute, and second, that no member of the board receive any form of remuneration.

A great deal is demanded of the secretary of the fund, who is mainly responsible for initiating each transaction. This involves not only canvassing for a gift of goods, but also approaching the requisite government department for remission of customs duty and finding a suitable wholesaler willing to distribute the goods free of charge.

In all these transactions the aim has been to interest the prospective buyer by offering for sale at a reasonable price some desirable article, of which there is a general scarcity. In other words, a little is collected from many, rather than much from few. No saleable object, not even a packet of chewing gum, is considered too humble for the benefit of this most worthy fund.

The income of the fund up to June 1951 amounted to about Kr. 3,000,000 and sums have been distributed as follows:

Danish Pearyland Expedition, 1948-51 . . . . .	Kr. 1,200,000
Third Danish Expedition to Central Asia, 1948-50 . . . . .	Kr. 300,000
Oceanographical expedition in the <i>Galatea</i> . . . . .	Kr. 1,000,000

Funds have also been supplied to Helge Larsen for archaeological investigations in Alaska, and to a Danish ethnographical expedition to central India.

This fine result is due to the goodwill shown by the Finansministeriet and other government offices, the press, business concerns and individuals, both at home and abroad.

### ICELANDIC GLACIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

[Information supplied by Jon Eypórsson.]

Jökklarannsóknafélag Íslands (the Icelandic Glaciological Society) was founded at Reykjavík on 22 November 1950 with the object of furthering glaciological investigations in Iceland. By May 1951 there were about 100 members, and a committee has been formed consisting of J. Eypórsson (President), G. Kjartansson (Secretary), S. Rist (Treasurer), T. Einarsson and A. Stefannson. The subscription rate for members is Kr. 100.00 in the first year and Kr. 25 in each succeeding year.

Investigations began in the summer of 1951 at Esjufjöll on Vatnajökull, where a hut was established.

### THE ARCTIC AEROMEDICAL LABORATORY AT FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

[Summarized from a paper by Captain Ernest L. McCollum, U.S.A.F., in "Proceedings of the Alaskan Science Conference of the National Academy of Sciences National Research Council. Washington, November 9-11." *Bulletin of the National Research Council*, No. 122, 1951, p. 171-74.]

The Arctic Aeromedical Laboratory was formed on 1 March 1947 at the United States Air Force School of Aviation Medicine, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and transferred in September that year to Ladd Air Force Base,

Fairbanks. Alaska. The unit, which is under the command of Colonel Jack Bollerud, U.S.A.F., has the task of investigating medical and psychological problems affecting the health and efficiency of airmen in arctic regions, and of testing cold-weather clothing and survival equipment.

The Arctic Aeromedical Laboratory is organized in three divisions: administration, research and supply. The research division is subdivided into departments dealing with biochemistry, biology, and physiology. There is also a field testing unit. A fully equipped mobile laboratory provides facilities for tests anywhere along the Alaskan road network. In addition, a C-47 aircraft is available for special exercises. The staff of the laboratory consists of six officers, six civilians, and thirty airmen.

Service material for field testing is sent to the laboratory from the Aeromedical Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, where arctic clothing and survival equipment is designed.

The laboratory's research programme is primarily concerned with problems of human physiology and psychology peculiar to the polar regions, and is carried out either by members of the staff of the laboratory or by non-service organizations working under contract. In both cases the necessary field work is done by the laboratory's field testing unit. Conditions in which these tests have been made range from extremes of wet cold with high winds to dry cold with temperatures as low as  $-60^{\circ}$  F. The field testing unit is often supplied from the air, and the laboratory's work is frequently co-ordinated with operations carried out by No. 10 Air Search and Rescue Squadron<sup>1</sup> and No. 375 Reconnaissance Squadron (V.L.R.) Weather.<sup>2</sup>

## THE REINDEER COUNCIL OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

[Summarized from *The Reindeer Council of the United Kingdom. First Annual Report, 1949-50*, and information supplied by Dr E. J. Lindgren.]

On 2 June 1949 a number of arctic experts, travellers, persons interested in Highland development, and others met in London to inaugurate "The Reindeer Council of the United Kingdom". The members of the Council are Sir F. Whyte (Chairman), Dr E. J. Lindgren (Honorary Secretary), D. M. Carmichael (Honorary Treasurer), M. Utsi (Technical Adviser), Mrs J. K. Smith (Assistant Secretary), W. Brotherston, G. Bushnell, L. C. G. Clarke, N. A. C. Croft, D. Dixon, W. B. Fagg, Sir G. Greene, Miss A. Hicks, Miss I. W. Hutchison, H. Killas, Miss H. G. Liddell, F. A. G. Medd, E. Ormiston, T. T. Paterson, Sir M. Peto, Q. T. P. M. Riley and T. E. Utley.

The object of the Council is "to encourage experiments in reindeer-breeding in suitable areas in Scotland and/or overseas, and to engage in any appropriate activity ancillary thereto". Accordingly it has been decided to take advantage of an anonymous offer of twenty-five first-class breeding and draught reindeer from northern Scandinavia, to be transported to the British Isles and cared

<sup>1</sup> See the *Polar Record*, Vol. 6, No. 41, 1951, p. 115-16.

<sup>2</sup> See the *Polar Record*, Vol. 6, No. 42, 1951, p. 268.