

FOREWORD

This issue of the *Polar Record* appears at the moment of maximum endeavour in Antarctica so far in world history; and this endeavour will increase over the next few years. The possibilities are indeed exciting. But the duty of the *Polar Record* is to record and not to prophesy.

The ships of many nations are at sea and sailing southwards. Continuing antarctic enterprises like the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey and the Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition are still increasing; the reconnaissance parties of those many countries taking part in the International Geophysical Year of 1957–8 are seeking and stocking their scientific bases; and the great adventure, the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, is seeking to establish itself far south in the Weddell Sea. To all these ventures, the Scott Polar Research Institute offers good wishes for success.

No time would seem more appropriate for the appearance of the illustrated ice glossary incorporated in this issue. Its purpose is to help mariners and those assisting them find a way through ice. It is also to be issued in Canada under an arrangement with the Defence Research Board. We hope that it will prove worthy of this period of greatest activity in Antarctica, and that likewise it will be of value to the navigators of the Arctic.

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