

reference and research purposes and should undoubtedly be accessible in library collections.

CARC as always manages to attract a diverse mixture of groups and individuals to its conferences and this volume provides interesting and illuminating perspectives on their often widely different approaches to these complex north issues. Incidentally the conference organisers are to be congratulated for actually convening the workshop north of 60°, a precedent it is hoped they will continue in the future. With the new Federal Government now firmly in power after so many years in opposition, it is interesting to speculate on just which northern concerns may see some real progress in the coming months and just what the burning issues will be at CARC's next workshop in 1988–89. (Malcolm Farrow, Frobisher Bay, NWT, Canada, XOA OHO)

GENERAL UMBERTO NOBILE; A BIBLIOGRAPHY

BIBLIOGRAFIA DI UMBERTO NOBILE. Stolp, Gertrude Nobile. 1984. Firenze, Leo S. Olschki Editore. 113 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 88-222-3296-8. (Bibliotecnica e bibliografia saggi e studi diretti da Francesco Barberi 20).

This definitive bibliography of the pioneer Italian arctic aviator, General Umberto Nobile, edited and compiled by his widow, Dr Gertrude Nobile Stolp, most worthily commemorates the centenary of Nobile's birth on 21 January 1885. The bibliography is divided into two parts; the first deals with the author's complete works subdivided by (a) Monographs, (b) Technical notes, articles and lectures. The second part brings together the more important and significant publications about Nobile under the following headings: (a) Monographs entirely dedicated to Nobile and his polar expeditions, (b) Chapters and sections of books relevant to Nobile and his expeditions, (c) Scientific and technical articles concerning Nobile, (d) Articles about Nobile the man.

The bibliography excludes reviews, press articles, encyclopedia articles, etc. The work is prefaced by a biographical essay and concludes with an appendix 'Umberto Nobile: l'uomo', a selection of published appreciation from the international community, concluding with an autobiographical extract in which Nobile himself pays touching homage to his wife.

To the world at large Nobile is remembered for his historic flights in the dirigibles *Norge* (1926) and *Italia* (1928). The international interest which these voyages aroused is evidenced by the many foreign language editions of his books listed in Section I, several of which have been reprinted since his death in 1978, eg a Russian edition of *Ali sul polo* (*Kryliya nad polyusom*) as recently as 1984. Nevertheless we need to remember that Nobile was first and foremost an aeronautical engineer, as evidenced by the 99 published items listed in this field, complementing which is a table listing the principal characteristics of dirigibles designed by Nobile between 1915–1936.

Though by no means definitive and not entirely free of typographical error, this bibliography will be welcomed by all those involved in polar historical research, and by librarians in particular. Especially valuable are the full-page reproduction of title-pages and the index to persons and associations. The majority of the publications listed are held by the Umberto Nobile Documentation Centre, Historical Museum of the Air Force, Vigna di Valle, Rome, Italy. (H. G. R. King, Scott Polar Research Institute, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER.)