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Corrections. The author of the article "Formation, growth, and decay of sea-ice" in Vol. 14, No. 1, wishes to call attention to the following corrections in the legends to some illustrations. In that for Fig. 8, p. 13, read Mould Bay for Eureka; Fig. 9, p. 14, read Eureka for Isachsen; Fig 10, p. 14, read Resolute for Mould Bay; and Fig. 11, p. 15, read Isachsen for Resolute.

In the table of contents for No. 4, Vol. 14, line 9 under "Notes" read *Topchy* for *Topchi*.

Review

ISLAND OF THE LOST by PAUL FENIMORE COOPER. *New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 8½ x 5½ inches, 256 pages, maps. \$4.00.*

"Island of the Lost", will help to alleviate a seemingly insatiable demand

for books on Sir John Franklin's discovery expedition of 1845, and subsequent expeditions whose prime motive was the elucidation of its fate. The book is written from a refreshing viewpoint: it is a history of King William Island,

and it is into this framework that Mr. Paul Fenimore Cooper has built the familiar events. It has four parts, the first on the island's prehistory, the second on the voyages of exploration culminating in its discovery, the third on the Franklin expedition and its seekers, and the last on more recent visits by explorers and on the present activities of the inhabitants of the island. The author remains loyal to his theme, and does not become involved in the more controversial aspects of the Franklin story.

A map of King William Island is to be found on the dust-jacket, where it is available for convenient reference. This excellent idea should be followed by all publishers of such books.

The Franklin theme is inseparable from any account of the scene of the tragedy, and, since Mr. Cooper has re-examined the notes made by Captain C. F. Hall on his search for Franklin survivors, it seems proper to discuss this aspect of his work first. Judging from the facsimile of a page from Hall's journals in Prof. J. E. Nourse's "official" account, a perusal of them can be no mean task. Although Mr. Cooper has been unable to add much factual information to that in Nourse's book, he has rendered a valuable service to anyone interested in the scope and results of Hall's work by producing a coherent account.

Incidentally, an undoubtedly literal extract from Hall's journal given by Mr. Cooper makes an amusing contrast to the polished "quotation" in Nourse's book. The reader will be delighted to find recorded the remarkable revelations of the ghost of Weesy Coppin. A surprising omission is the sighting of a ship in Simpson Strait by Chief Factor James Anderson's men.

The chapter on King William Island's prehistory is based on Rasmussen's collection of legends from Netsilik Eskimos. More recent evidence elsewhere identifies the Tunit or Tunrit with people of the Dorset culture, but on King William Island they have been popularly linked with Thule culture sites, and

very little Dorset material has yet been found in the region.

The expeditions of Captain George Back and Thomas Simpson take pride of place in the chapters on exploration; the summaries, particularly that of Back's ponderous journal, are written with such dash that they are difficult to put down. Mr. Cooper's outspoken reading of Simpson's character is most entertaining.

The final part of the book, "The Island Today", contains excellent summaries of the work of the Amundsen and Rasmussen expeditions. However, a reader expecting to be informed about the role of King William Island in the opening up of the Central Arctic by the Hudson's Bay Company and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or about the changing lives of the local Eskimos, will be disappointed. Two events of great importance to the Eskimos of the island have been the extinction of their migrant caribou in the 1920's, and the coming of radar stations in the 1950's. Recent immigrations, the results of famine and social change, have no doubt radically affected the lives of the people. Perhaps Mr. Cooper, who is known to retain a great interest in the welfare of the islanders, will one day write a sequel.

"Island of the Lost" is almost entirely lacking in first-hand information. This is strange in view of the fact that its author is one of the very few of King William Island's chroniclers that have ever paid it a visit. Two of the author's trips to the island were described for publication (*Arctic Circular* 8:8-11, 78-9) but no account of his third trip, undertaken in 1956, appears to have been published.

To conclude, readers will appreciate "Island of the Lost" for its adroit management of a confusing mass of material, and its accurate and entertaining description of most of the known journeys to the Central Arctic. An expanded section on the recent history of the island would have enhanced its value.

A. H. MACPHERSON