

Bering Sea Frontier—

Book About North

FAIRBANKS — William R. Hunt, associate professor of history on the University of Alaska's Fairbanks campus, has completed another book on the North, this one on the Bering Sea frontier and the peoples who have inhabited it from 1697 to the present. Charles Scribner's Sons will publish it in the fall.

The new book, "Arctic Passage," will be the second major work by Hunt. His comprehensive book on the various northern gold rushes, "North of 53," was published last year by the MacMillan Publishing Co.

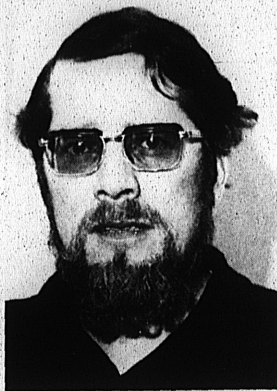
The history opens with an account of the conquest of the aboriginal people of Kamchatka by the Russians and of Russian explorations eastward to Alaska. Hunt details the impact of the Russian advance on the Aleuts and the coming of Yankee whalers to the Bering Sea and the destruction of their vessels after the close of the American Civil War by a Confederate raider.

Then here accounts of the abortive attempt to link Europe and America by telegraph by way of Bering Strait; the United States' taking possession of the Bering Sea region of Alaska; the discovery of gold there and the growth of a lively trade in liquor, firearms, fur and whalebone between Siberia and Nome; the international controversy over pelagic sealing; Americans in Siberia and the eventual sealing off of that region by Soviet Russia; and of World War II in the Aleutians and the present-day Bering Sea frontier.

"... The Bering Sea frontier has not been an historical backwater, though its human drama has been little chronicled," writes Hunt in the book's preface. "Man's knowledge of the world's less traveled regions is subject to the degree of literary exposure these regions have had. Historians have not been particularly attentive to northern realms, but their silence is hardly a measure of historic vitality."

"Arctic Passage" includes a chronology of significant events from the formation of Bering Strait Land Bridge to the meeting of Siberian and Alaskan Eskimos on Bering Strait sea ice in 1973.

There are nearly 30 historic photos — of such things as the gold-rich miner-crowded beach at



WILLIAM R. HUNT

Nome in 1900, Siberian fur being landed at Nome in 1909, American soldiers at Kiska following that Aleutian island's capture from the Japanese in World War II, a trading post in Siberia with American flag flying, and whalers in arctic shore ice.

Hunt, head of the Department of History at Fairbanks, has been with the university since 1967. He worked on "Arctic Passage" for five years. It grew out of his preparation for a course he teaches in North Pacific history.

Search for Gold at Nome

The search for gold on the beach at Nome is taking on a new form, according to a proposal for dredging that has been submitted to the Corps of Engineers.

The American Smelting and Refining Company of Salt Lake City has applied to the Corps for a permit to move 100,000 cubic yards of beach material in their effort to recover gold from beneath the waters off shore.

The Anchorage firm of Ely, Guess and Rudd filed an application on behalf of the Utah organization.

Excavation by dragline along a 2,000-foot stretch of beach just west of Nome, and reaching out from shore about 80 feet for material, is the plan of the ASR Company.

A towed skid-mounted washing plant will be used to wash the gravel to recover any gold it may contain. The washed material will be redeposited in the excavated

Appoints—

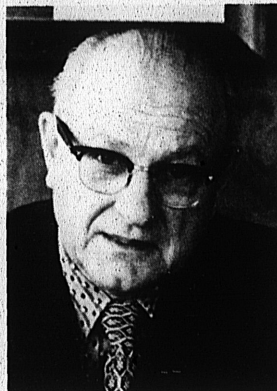
SJC' New President

Dr. Merton D. Munn has been appointed President of Sheldon Jackson College by the college's Board of Trustees. Lloyd Hames, Chairman of the SJC Board, indicated the appointment will be effective until at least the summer of 1976.

Dr. Munn has served as Acting President of Sheldon Jackson College since November 1974, after his retirement from Whitworth College, Spokane, Washington.

"Although the appointment is short-term, Dr. Munn will serve as President for approximately two years," said Hames. "He lends stability and continuity to the areas where we have needs right now. Dr. Munn proceeds as President with full authority of the Board of Trustees."

"SJC is currently faced with many lasting decisions," Hames continued. "Decisions must be made on utilization of property, courses and curriculum and the future role of the college. We are pleased to have Dr. Munn's 30 years of education experience to guide the college during what promises to be a stimulating period of continued growth and development of fine quality higher education."



Hames has instructed the Board's Presidential Seeking Committee to proceed with the selection of a long-term president. The Committee will distribute a job description and will seek candidates during the 1975-76 fiscal year.

At the request of Dr. Munn, an inauguration will not be scheduled.

Before his retirement from Whitworth College, Dr. Munn was Chairman of the Education Department and Director of Evening Classes. Other positions included Director of Research, United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, New York City, NY; Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Silliman University, Dumaguete City, Philippines and Academic Dean, Carroll College, Waukesha, WI.

Historic Meeting At Frobisher Bay Of Inuit People

At an historic meeting in Frobisher Bay recently the six thousand (6,000) Inuit people of the Baffin are organized themselves into an Inuit Association of the Baffin Region.

Twenty-eight (28) delegates from the thirteen (13) far spread settlements of this vast area the Arctic decided that this organization was needed to give them a strong united voice in their own affairs.

The Association will be incorporated under the Northwest Territories Societies Ordinance and will have as its objective to protect, defend and promote the interests of the Inuit of the Baffin Region.

Elected as President of the Baffin Region Inuit Association is Symonie Michael of Frobisher Bay. Others elected to the Board of Directors are Naudluk Oshooewetuk of Cape Dorset as Vice-President, David Arreak of Clyde River as Secretary, Meeka Wilson of Pangnirtung as Treasurer and as Directors: Joanasie Salomonie of Cape Dorset; Charlie Inoaraq of Pond Inlet; Josiah Kadlutsiak of Igloodik; Paulosie Paniloo of Clyde River and Peterosie Quappik of Pangnirtung.

The Association will seek funding from the Secretary of State under the Native Citizens Program. It will be based in Frobisher Bay and will be affiliated with the national organization of the Inuit in Ottawa — Inuit Tapirisat of Canada.

Tentative Date May 16—

Alaska Bills Hearings

WASHINGTON — The Senate Interior Committee has tentatively set May 16 as a hearing date on a number of Alaska bills, including legislation to extend the life of the Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission.

Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, said the hearing will provide Alaskan an opportunity to testify on a number of issues involved in the continuing implementation of the Alaska Native Land Claims Settlement Act.

The planning commission,

established under terms of the settlement act, is due to expire December of 1976 unless Congress acts to extend it.

Gravel has called for an extension of the commission until Dec. 31, 1978 to insure its involvement in consideration of the withdrawal of approximately 80 million acres of land by the Interior Department for the national conservation systems.

Congress is supposed to act on these so-called D-2 lands by December of 1978.

The Interior Committee staff and representatives from both Gravel's office and the office of Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, joined in discussing legislative items the committee should consider at the hearing.

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Orthodox Church

A special organizational meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 16, by the recently-formed Orthodox Church of Fairbanks. St. Matthew's Episcopal Church at 1029 First Avenue has made available the space for this meeting and for Divine Liturgy, which will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 17.

Visiting Fairbanks for the Saturday morning service will be Rev. Nicholas Harris of Saint Innocent Orthodox Church in Anchorage.

The local Orthodox group, which is working toward the possible establishment of a church in Fairbanks, is comprised of people from all ethnic backgrounds.

All persons interested in seeing an Orthodox church formed in Fairbanks are urged to attend the May 16 meeting or to contact Secretary Angie Purkey at 456-5447 or Treasurer Helen Adkins at 479-3504.