

## SOVIET POLAR STATIONS, 1956

The map opposite shows the name, location and function of 107 polar stations under the jurisdiction of the Chief Administration of the Northern Sea Route [Glavsevmorput] in June 1956. It is based on information supplied by the Arctic Institute [Arkticheskiy Nauchno-Issledovatel'skiy Institut] in Leningrad.

There are certain discrepancies between the information on which this map is based and that given on a map produced in 1956 by the Chief Administration of the Northern Sea Route [Glavsevmorput] to illustrate proposed Soviet arctic I.G.Y. stations. The latter map shows 111 stations. It omits the stations at Bukhta Somnitel'naya and Matochkin Shar, but includes six others. The names of these six are not known, but their locations are roughly as follows (from west to east): one on Ostrov Sibiryakova (opposite Mys Leskina), two near the mouth of the Pyasina, one on the mainland west of Zimovochnaya, one between Khatanga and Mys Kosisty, and one between Mys Shmidta and Vankarem. The reason for the discrepancies is not known.

## OBITUARY

Surgeon Commander GEORGE MURRAY LEVICK (R.N. retired) was born in 1877 and died on 29 May 1956. He qualified at St Bartholomew's Hospital in 1902 and later joined the Royal Navy. In 1910 he was given leave of absence to accompany the British Antarctic ("Terra Nova") Expedition, 1910-13. He was medical officer to the Northern Party during the expedition. In 1913 he returned to the Navy.

He was always interested in physical training for boys and, in 1932, founded the British Schools Exploring Society and took an active part in its activities for the rest of his life.

Levick's popularity with his colleagues on the "Terra Nova" Expedition can be gathered from his nicknames, which included "The Old Sport" and "Tofferino". His comparative slowness in taking in a situation, and his imperturbable good temper, ensured that he came in for more teasing than most, while his strength—he had been a notable rigger man—made him an excellent man in the sledge-traces.

He would not have called himself a scientist but he was a careful and patient observer of the Adélie Penguins which his party lived amongst at Cape Adare, and his book was, for a long time, the standard one on that interesting group of birds. After a comparatively small number of lessons from H. G. Ponting, he made himself a competent photographer, for which his patience rewarded him with pictures which a hasty man would have missed.

As medical officer to the Northern Party he had a great deal more sickness to deal with than falls to the lot of most Antarctic doctors. The conditions under which his party, under Lieut. Campbell, lived in their ice cave for the winter of 1912, were such as to induce dysenteric symptoms, a type of illness not met with under normal sledging routine. That he brought the party through without fatality was greatly to his credit, as too was his co-operation with Raymond Priestley in keeping the party cheerful throughout their discomfort.

F. D.

J. J. Miller died on 10 October 1955. He was a member of the "Discovery" Expedition, 1929-31. At his special request Miller's ashes were taken to the Antarctic in the *Theron* and were lowered through the pack ice of the Weddell Sea.