

Obituary

Gp Capt STUART CAMPBELL, RAAF (Ret), a distinguished Australian antarctic aviator and expedition leader, died in March 1988. Born in 1903, he joined the RAAF aged 23 and was gazetted Pilot Officer in 1926. In 1929 he was seconded to duties as senior pilot with Sir Douglas Mawson's British Australian and New Zealand Antarctic Research Expedition, on which he made many flights of discovery. After service in World War II he retired from the RAAF and joined the Commonwealth Department of Civil Aviation, from which he was seconded in 1947 to organize the Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition. Campbell was successful in establishing scientific stations on Heard and Macquarie islands by December 1947 but, with inadequate ships, was unable to penetrate the pack ice and reach Antarctica during the first season's operations. In 1948 he returned to the Department of Civil Aviation; later he worked for several years in Bangkok, Thailand before marrying and finally retiring to Townsville.

ALAN GORDON RICHARD COOKE, who was known worldwide as an authority on all things arctic, died at the Maison Nazareth hospice in Montreal on 11 July, aged 56. Described by Peter Newman (in Maclean's magazine) as a "genius who, if he were in Japan, would probably be declared a national treasure", Alan preferred to speak of himself as a Vermont farm boy. Born in Montpelier on 29 April 1933, much of his childhood was spent in Waits River. He attended Dartmouth College, where he was a Senior Fellow and took his AB degree in 1955 with a major in French. In summer 1954 he was a geological assistant and camp cook on a project in the Quebec-Labrador Peninsula. In summer 1958 he and a partner canoed 2000 miles down the Mackenzie and Yukon river systems from Waterways (Alberta) to Fort Yukon. He did graduate work in geography at McGill University, taught at a school for natives in Fort Simpson NWT, and in 1959 went to work in the Stefansson Collection at Dartmouth.

While at Dartmouth he became acquainted with Vilhjalmur Stefansson, whom he regarded as a great explorer and a great thinker who had never been adequately appreciated. In later years, on every possible occasion he strove to persuade not only Dartmouth College but also Canadians and their government to give Stefansson the recognition he deserved. Admiration and filial affection for Stefansson were reflected in the name he gave his own son.

In 1963 he entered Cambridge University, and in 1970 was awarded a PhD for his thesis on the Hudson's Bay Company. At the same time he pursued research for a bibliography of the Quebec-Labrador Peninsula published in 1967. From 1969 to 1975 he was Curator of Archives at the Scott Polar Research Institute; from January 1972 to January 1975 he was also Editor of the Institute's journal *Polar Record*. In 1975 he entered Canada as a landed immigrant, and until 1985 was a consultant at the McGill Center for Northern Studies. In that year he founded Hochelaga Research Institute, a non-profit organization for northern studies. In August 1988 Hochelaga published the first issue of *Arcana Poli*, a journal of commentary and opinion.

Alan's most important contribution to scholarship was co-authorship with Clive Holland of *The exploration of northern Canada, 1500–1920: a chronology*, published in 1978 by The Arctic History Press. During his years in Canada he made himself a master editor whose services were sought by official agencies, native groups, scholars and public figures. Voracious reading nourished an inventive mind and a penchant for controversy. He was fond of drawing together seemingly unrelated subjects: he astonished civil servants and librarians by joyfully denouncing them as the slaves of Jungian archetypes.

Wanting people to understand themselves and the institutions they had created, in his last ten years he focused on personal psychology, the influence of bureaucracy, and the importance of diet and nutrition. His discovery of his own hypoglycemia enabled him to cure himself of alcoholism, and he became an energetic campaigner against refined foods and against the medical establishment's conventional way of thinking. Alan was an entertaining and often outrageous conversationalist, and a tireless correspondent with a large and diverse circle of friends. His marriage in 1960 to Jane Follett of Norwich ended in divorce. Characteristically, having become friends with his former wife's second husband, he took pains to find the appropriate Inuit word to identify the relationship between successive husbands of the same woman.

Contributions in Alan's memory may be made to Maison Nazareth, 1197 Seymour Avenue, Montreal H3H 2A4; Comité SIDA aide Montreal, 3600 Hotel de Ville, Montreal H2S 3B6; and AIDS Community Care, Box 341, Victoria Station, Westmount, PQ H3Z 2V8.

Jane and Eric Van Tassel