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survival of some 78 species of whale, more knowledge is required to set sound, internationally backed herd management goals.

Even with the rising price of whale meat (85 percent of which is now consumed by humans) and the demand for baleen (whalebone) and whale oil, the \$100 million international whaling industry is only a marginally profitable business. It faces declining catch quotas set by the International Whaling Commission (IWC), increases in shipbuilding costs, and the possibility of a lower-priced substitute for sperm oil (a high-grade machine lubricant). Norway, the United States, Great Britain, and others have abandoned whaling altogether. (Japan and the U.S.S.R. are now the most active.) The number of factory ships operating in the Antarctic has dropped to 3 from 18 in 1950, and the United States has recently prohibited whaling within 200 miles of the U.S. coastline.

Even so, the effects of years of unrestricted whaling have depleted the herds. The estimated 3.9 million whales existing before the 19th-century whaling boom number only 2.1 million today, with the mature, exploitable whale population dropping even more dramatically, from 2.4 to 1.2 million. Some environmentalists fear that the current slump in whaling will soon disappear as Third World nations, not bound by IWC quotas, step up their efforts. (Even now, 9 of the 17 nations hunting whales are not IWC members.)

Who Owns the Icebergs?

"The Iceberg Cometh: International Law Relating to Antarctic Iceberg Exploitation," in *Natural Resources Journal* (Jan.-Feb. 1977), University of New Mexico School of Law, 1117 Stanford, N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87131.

Until recently, man's water sources were limited to fresh water from streams, lakes, and underground aquifers. Artificial processes, such as desalinization, have already been able to increase slightly the world's fresh water resources; it is now estimated that one-tenth of the water supply of Antarctica's icebergs could yield enough water to irrigate 15 million acres of land in arid regions. The technical feasibility of "iceberg harvesting" has been demonstrated. What is less certain, writes Lundquist, a 1977 Harvard Law School graduate, is the legal status of *glacia firma* Antarctica.

The principal organization governing the Antarctic today is the 18-nation Antarctic Treaty Group (ATG). However, the 1959 Antarctic Treaty makes no provisions for resource exploitation, and the pact is in any case not binding on non-ATG nations. Without a wider consensus on the central issue of what constitutes "sovereignty," Lundquist argues, the question of who is authorized to harvest icebergs will remain unresolved.

One solution would allow two or more nations to pool their territorial claims to create a "condominium" (joint territorial sovereignty) within a sector of Antarctica. (In effect this is what

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New Zealand and the United States have done on the Ross Ice Shelf.) At its most extreme, this approach would allow the 18 ATG nations to form a monopoly over the entire continent.

Another solution, the so-called International Approach, would place the continent under the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice or the trusteeship of the United Nations. But any solution rests on resolution of the legal question: Is Antarctica *res nullius*, a "no man's land" subject to national appropriation, or *res communes*, "everyman's land" to be enjoyed by all?

ARTS & LETTERS

A. Pope on *Grub Street*?

"Pope and the *Grub-street Journal*" by Bertrand A. Goldgar, in *Modern Philology* (May 1977), University of Chicago Press, 5801 Ellis Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60637.

Through 250 years of literary history, it has generally been assumed that English poet Alexander Pope (1688-1744) was either the founder or guiding spirit of the *Grub-street Journal*, the most notorious London newspaper of the 1730s. With its taste for scandal and controversy, the *Journal* in its eight-year life attacked many of the same men of letters Pope himself had ridiculed in the heroic couplets of the *Dunciad*. Accusations, current in the mid-1730s, that Pope had founded the newspaper to continue his crusade against the "Dunces" hardened into fact by the 19th century. Even Pope's recent editors have been slow to challenge the tradition.

There is little evidence to settle the issue conclusively, but Goldgar, professor of English at Lawrence University, disputes the conventional assumptions after taking a "fresh look" at historical records, the writings of Pope and his contemporaries, and the *Journal* itself. Recently discovered ledgers of the booksellers and printers who owned the *Journal*, for example, make no mention of Pope, and neither of the newspaper's two strong-willed editors, Richard Russel and John Martyn, can be connected with the poet. The *Journal* printed few of Pope's contributions, though his style was often imitated (after all, observes Goldgar, he was the dominant poet of his age). Pope's own letters and those of his contemporaries are silent on the matter.

Only in 1734-36, when the *Journal* was in decline, were accusations of Pope's editorial influence circulated—the result of an "eccentric" writer's mistaken charge that Pope had libeled him in the *Journal*. Pope's critics quickly picked up the theme, and from this "slender foundation," says Goldgar, a mighty legend grew.