

**MY NORTHERN  
EXPOSURE: THE  
KAWA AT THE POLE**

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My northern exposure: the Kawa at the Pole by Walter E. Traprock

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**WALTER E. TRAPROCK**

**MY NORTHERN  
EXPOSURE: THE  
KAWA AT THE POLE**





Dr. Walter E. Traprock and Snak

UNIV. OF CALIFORNIA

# MY NORTHERN EXPOSURE

THE *KAWA* AT THE POLE

BY

WALTER E. TRAPROCK *found.*  
F.R.S.S.E.U., N.L.L.D.

AUTHOR OF "THE CRUISE OF THE *KAWA*"

*George Stephenson, Chapfoll*

WITH TWENTY-ONE FULL PAGE ILLUSTRATIONS

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TO  
IKIK, SNAK, YALOK, LAPATOK  
AND KLIPITOK  
(THE ONLY ESKIMOS I EVER LOVED)  
AND  
SAUSALITO

523412





## FOREWORD

BY

IRVING T. GROSBEAK, R.O.T.C.

AT DURFEE COLLEGE, XENIA, O.

For hundreds of years men have struggled amid snow and ice to reach one or the other of the earth's poles. Why? What has attracted them? What has been the lure which has led them from warm firesides and comfortable radiators to suffer the rigors of a most annoying climate?

We search in vain among the writings of modern polar explorers for a satisfactory answer to this question.

In earlier days we find credible reasons for this fanatical zeal, reasons which were material and commercial. In the dark ages we know that hardy Norsemen sought an Ultima Thule beyond the Arctic Circle. The Irish also claim credit for the earliest discoveries. They would. These voyages were mere forays undertaken with the hope of ad-

vantages in barter and exchange. Following the establishment by Columbus of the globular theory of earth formation we read, likewise, of many futile attempts to reach the fabled wealth of India by short cuts and northwest passages. The adventurous Cabots, fearless Frobisher and gallant Gilbert were mainly occupied with material aims, the securing of additional colonies for the crown, additional gold for the royal treasury. They were out for the cash.

But when we turn to modern days in which the forbidding character of the northland has been well understood we are more puzzled to find a reasonable explanation for its fascination. We meet frequently that strange phrase, "the lure of the North," which is later described in terms of unspeakable hardships. We are told that this or that expedition was undertaken in order "to add to the sum of human knowledge" though that addition proves to be a series of tidal observations and barometric readings which could have been arrived at with sufficient exactness by scientific computations.

Moreover, without belittling the courage and determination of our gallant Peary, it is evident that his exploit was not discovery in its strictest sense. The pole had been located for centuries as being