

# **THE HERBERT M. FRISBY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

INCORPORATED - 1970



FOUNDED 1965

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Distributed at **FIFTH ANNUAL DINNER**

May 24, 1970

Sheraton-Belvedere Hotel



Map shows Arctic and Polar areas covered by Dr. Frisby during 22 missions (1943-1967) covering Alaska, Aleutians, Canada, Labrador, Greenland and Spitsbergen (European) and the North Pole (1956). Insets: Lower left, memorial plaque dropped on North Pole. Lower right: One of the 2,000 copyright cards he devised and mailed on his return to his Alaskan Air Force Base - Eielson Field.

# The Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society

THE HERBERT M. FRISBY HISTORICAL SOCIETY was organized on Saturday, December 11, 1965, by a group of women dedicated to the enlarging of a sense of history in their community. The outstanding and compelling motivation of the founders was the inspiring presence within their midst of Dr. Herbert M. Frisby, noted polar explorer, who has dedicated his life to perpetuating in dignity the name of Matthew Alexander Henson on the pages of history as co-discoverer of the North Pole, under the command of his devoted friend, Admiral Robert Edwin Peary, April 6, 1909. Many of the founders were present at the State House, at Annapolis, Maryland, on November 18, 1961, when a memorial tablet, culminating long years of research and travel on the part of Dr. Frisby, was unveiled and dedicated from its high place on the State House walls, an accomplishment made possible by the cooperation of His Excellency J. Millard Tawees, governor of Maryland.

Determined that the tablet shall forever be enshrined on these walls, members of the Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society have set their course. As the organization grows in scientific stature, its plans are to glorify forever the name of Herbert M. Frisby, historian, through an ever-widening scope of activities; to affiliate with similar associations in their endeavors; to foster and cultivate a sense of history; to encourage authorship; and to bring about the removal of the remains of Matthew Alexander Henson to a final place of rest in the Arlington National Cemetery near the shrine of Admiral Edwin Peary in fulfillment of the old explorer's request to rest near his friend and master of the exploration.

The first year (1965-1966) of the organization has been a very busy one. Monthly meetings have been devoted to-

ward effecting a sound and workable Constitution which would further achievement of ideals, objectives and goals already set forth and which stimulated and unified the distinguished and representative women to found the Society, and since then, has attracted others to affiliate with the group.

A Speakers Bureau has been created, members of which will identify and keep alive the worthy and significant contributions of living makers of history among Negroes; will accept assignments to speak to History Classes, Clubs, etc., in schools and colleges in our local community and State and thus make them aware of worthwhile history which is often suppressed by historians because of certain ethnic involvement.

During the current year, members of the Society collected and sent Christmas and Easter Greeting Cards, beads, children's books and teen-age magazines to various Alaskan and Canadian Eskimo groups with whom Dr. Frisby has established a warm friendship during his 21 years of travel and living with them.

The culminating event of the year occurred June 12, 1966, a Sunday evening in the Sheraton-Belvedere Hotel. The Society tendered Dr. Frisby a huge and magnificent recognition testimonial at its First Annual Dinner Meeting. The guest of honor was the recipient of a score or more of greetings, salutations, citations, etc., from distinguished groups of the City, State and Nation.

The members of the Society, all of them, have one unifying interest and ambition—dedication to the achievement of the ideals and realization of the goals which inspired the founding of the Society.

## The Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society Baltimore, Maryland

HON. LENA K. LEE, Founder  
Member, Maryland General Assembly  
MRS. CHARLES K. ANDERSON  
President  
2312 Lyndhurst Avenue 21216  
MRS. JOHN C. STRAWHORN  
First Vice President

MRS. JULIUS TAYLOR  
Second Vice President  
MRS. WALTER MAPP  
Corresponding Secretary  
2602 N. Longwood Street 21216

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MRS. CHARLES M. WOODFORD

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MISS JACQUELINE FLEMING  
MRS. NORVICE GOODMAN  
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MISS BARBARA MARSHALL  
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MRS. ROLAND WILLIAMS



Three Generations: left to right; Dr. Herbert Frisby; son Russell, Sr.; grandson, Russell and wife Mrs. Herbert Frisby. 1958

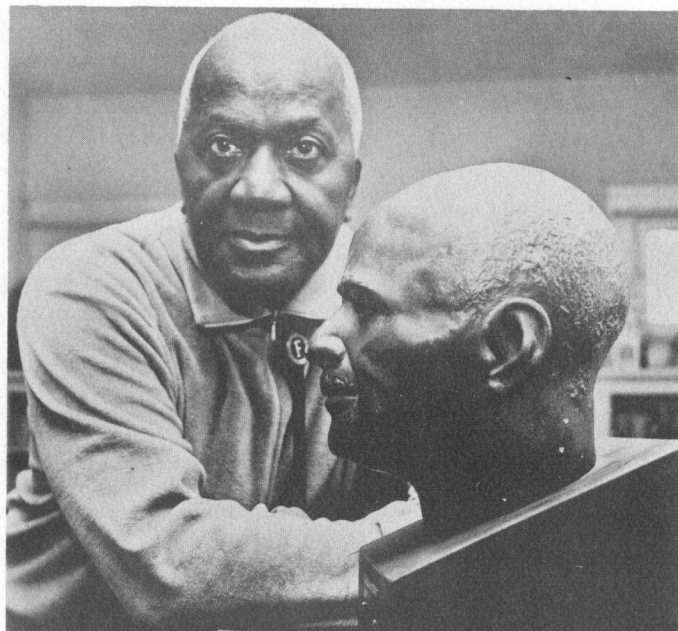
Photo by *Ebony Magazine*



Above—Dr. Herbert M. Frisby takes off for the North Pole August 12, 1956. Upon arrival, Frisby dropped a steel box containing a U.S. flag and bronze memorial plaque to Matthew A. Henson who accompanied Admiral Peary on his discovery of the North Pole April 6, 1909. Frisby is shown with his box containing the memorials.



"I brought my own shovel", said jovial Dr. Herbert Frisby as he began breaking the ground for the erection of the school named in honor of Matthew Henson, Arctic explorer, through the persistent efforts of Dr. Frisby.



Frisby poses with Henson Sculpture in his living room. 1966

# THE HERBERT M. FRISBY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Meritorious Award

THIS CITATION IS PRESENTED TO

*Herbert M. Frisby*

Arctic and Polar Explorer, Researcher, Teacher, and Historian

*whose sense of history established him as a scientist of unquestioned ability and repute; whose reaches into the vast polar areas increased global understanding; and whose zeal and persistence have established forever on the pages of history the place of a son of Maryland, Matthew Alexander Henson, as a co-discoverer of the North Pole under the command of Admiral Robert Edwin Peary.*

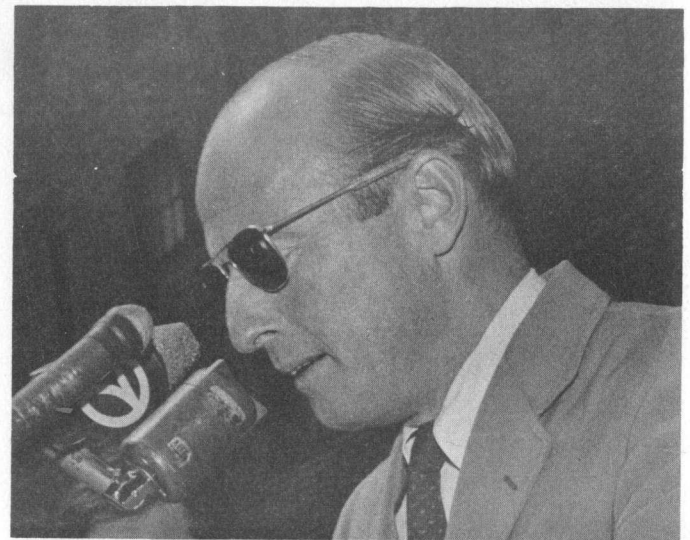
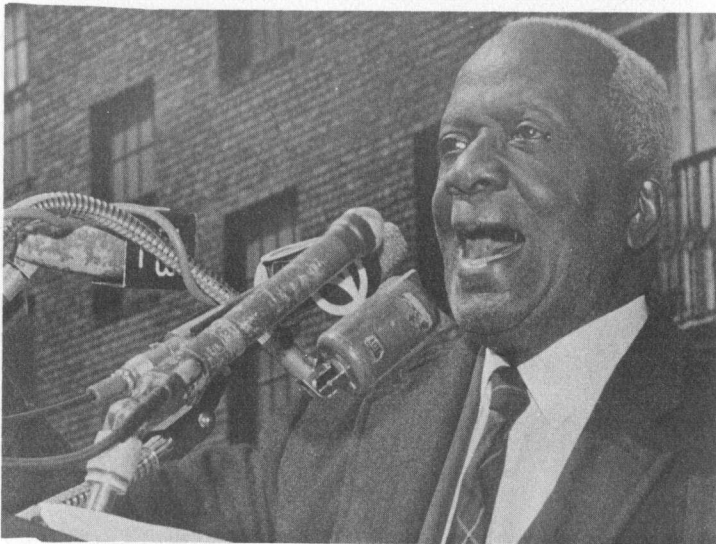
Given at the first annual meeting of the Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society, Sunday, June 12, 1966, at Baltimore.

LENA KING LEE

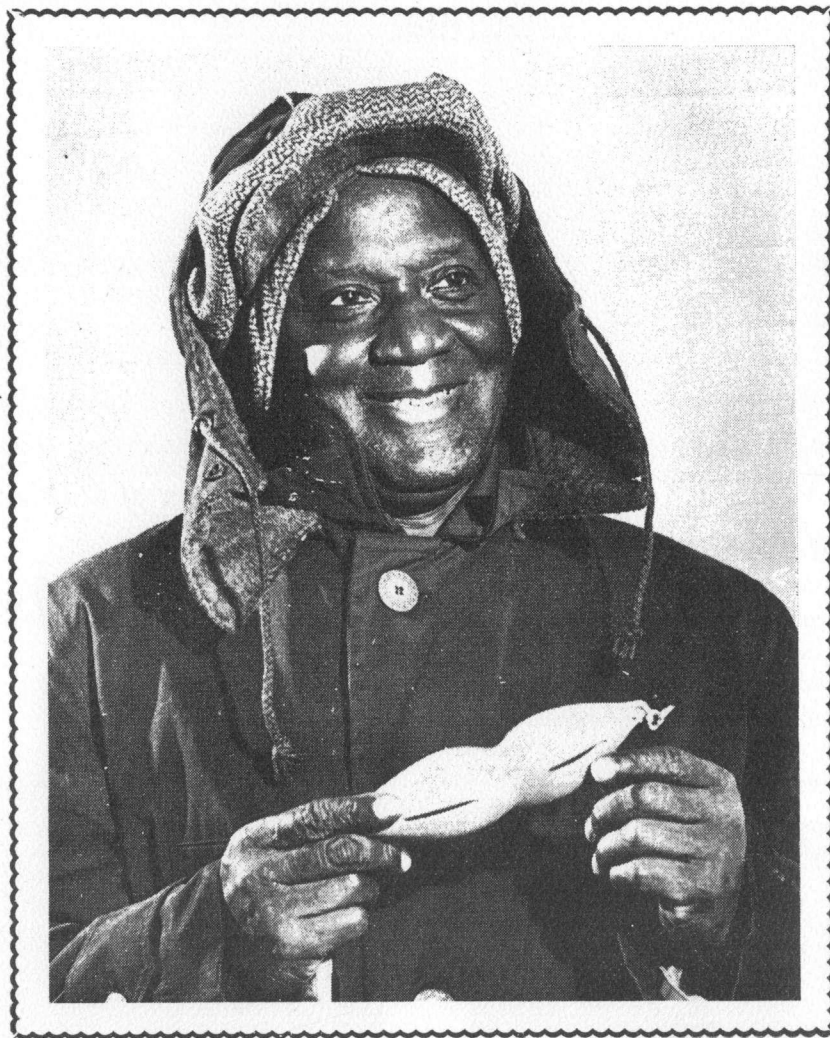
PRESIDENT

REVA GOODWIN LEWIE

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY



MATTHEW A. HENSON DAY IN NEW YORK CITY — Dr. Herbert M. Frisby (left), Arctic and Polar Explorer; second black man to go to the North Pole (August 12, 1956); Astronaut Captain Charles Conrad, Jr. (right) second white man to land and plant the U.S. Flag on the Moon (Apollo XII, November 19, 1969), were featured speakers at Henson Memorial, at unveiling a bronze tablet on Dunbar Apartments in Harlem, April 6, 1970. The ceremony was attended by distinguished local and State officialdom. It is estimated that over 5,000 Harlemites attended the outdoor ceremonies.

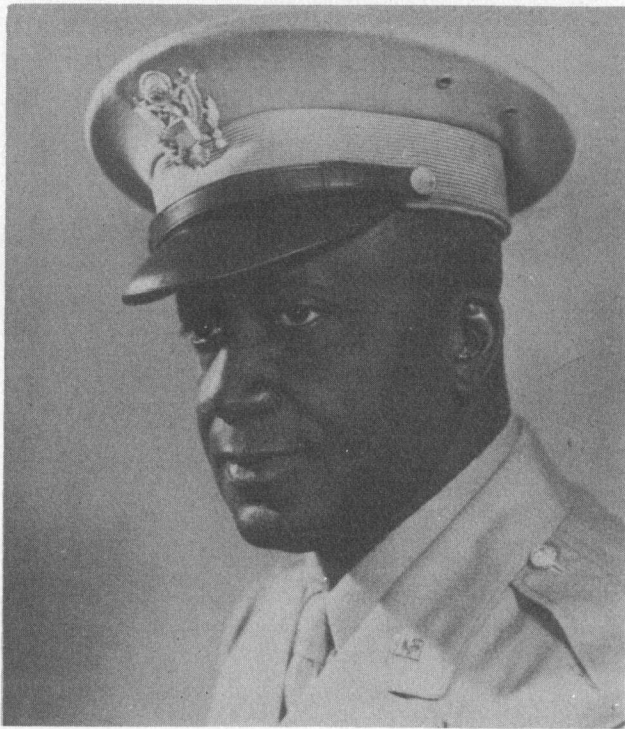


*Photo - Baltimore Sunpapers*



**Dr. Herbert M. Frisby**  
Arctic Explorer, Correspondent  
Lecturer  
1966

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*U. S. War Correspondent: During World War II, Frisby did service throughout the Arctic, including Alaska, Canada, Labrador and Greenland.*



*August 8, 1966 at State House, Annapolis, Maryland: Hon. J. Millard Tawes, Governor of Maryland and Dr. Herbert M. Frisby, Arctic and Polar explorer unveil memorial wreath observing the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Matthew A. Henson, Negro Arctic explorer and the first person to set foot on the top of the earth, April 6, 1909. This Memorial is located in Hall of Fame in the State House.*



*The Matthew A. Henson Elementary School, Baltimore, Maryland: This Building named in honor of Arctic explorer through efforts of Dr. Frisby, who also participated in Ground-breaking ceremonies for the building.*

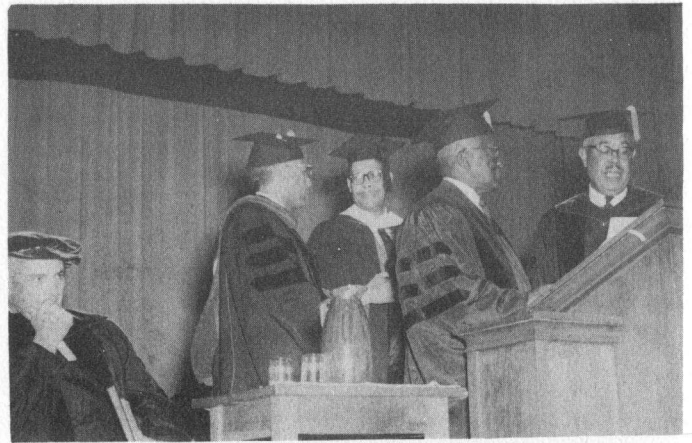


*Igloo Building - An art which is rapidly disappearing in the Far North.*



COLLECTION OF  
HERBERT M. FRISBY

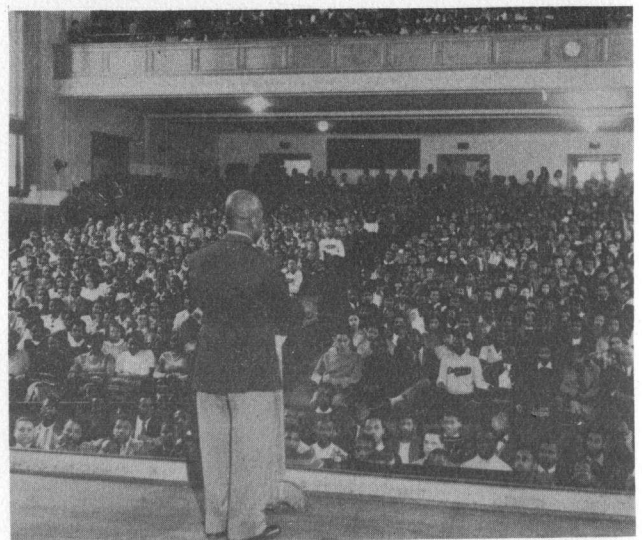
Dr. Frisby Flies over North Pole (Aug. 12, 1956): The U. S. Air Force plane over the North Pole. A memorial to Matthew A. Henson was dropped on the North Pole by Dr. Frisby



Herbert M. Frisby, Arctic and Polar explorer, receives Honorary Doctorate from President Martin D. Jenkins of Morgan State College, Baltimore, Maryland, June 1, 1964. The award was recognition for continuous research which resulted in recognition of the Negro Matthew A. Henson as the real discoverer of the North Pole, April 6, 1909; also his continuous studies in the Arctic and Polar regions of the world.



Moving Day - A village on Baffin Island, N. W. T.



North Pole Lecture—Frisby lectures to students of D. H. S.



Thule, Greenland: Eskimos who were the recipients of gifts of Xmas and Easter Greeting cards, beads, children's books and teen-age magazines from members of The Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society

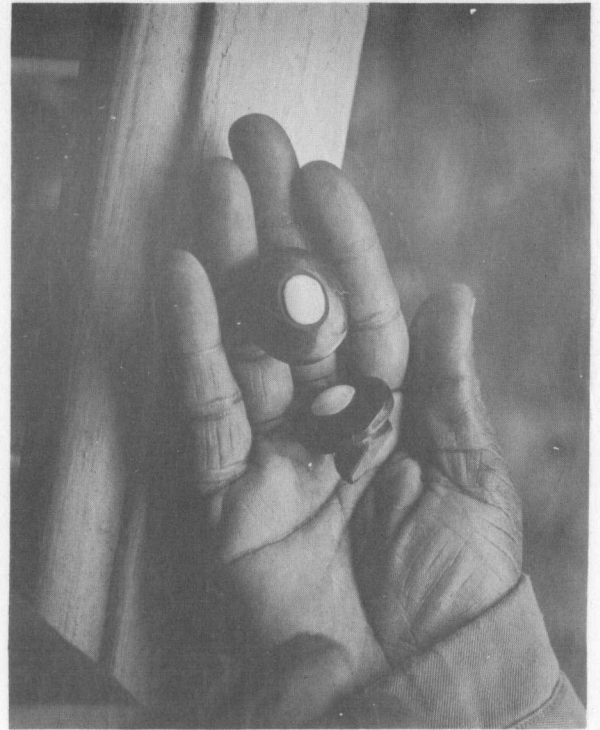


Eskimo Children Learn the 3 R's: Children learn the fundamentals of education from native Eskimo teacher at Resolute Bay, N. W. T.

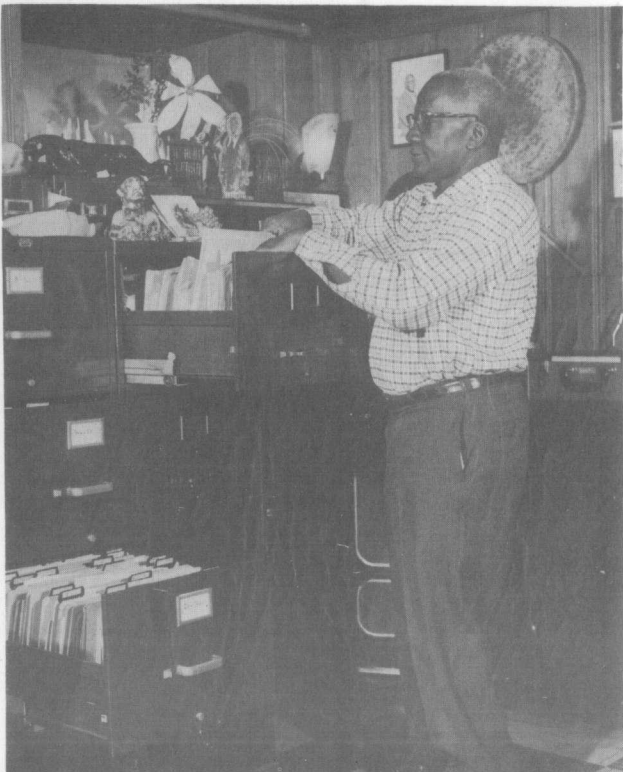




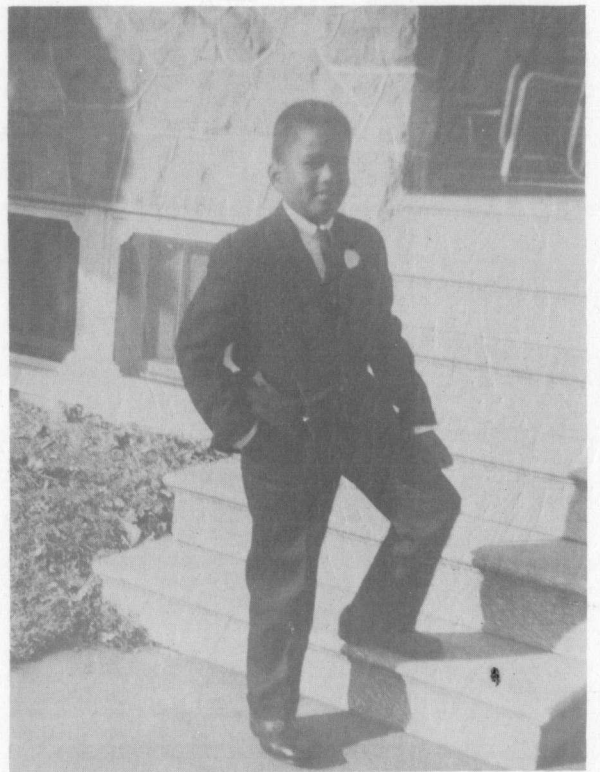
At Point Hope, Alaska: Andrew and Aggie Frankson, Eskimos, make their igloo available to Dr. Frisby on one of his trips studying folkways of the native people.



Eskimo Charms: Dr. Frisby holds spiritual charms presented him by an Eskimo Medicine Man at Point Hope, Alaska. The "Doctor" vested Dr. Frisby with the "power to perform miracles" (?)



FOR POSTERITY: From the several files Dr. Frisby has of data he has collected during his Arctic travels, he searches for materials for his book in preparation. Project supported by the Society.



Matt Henson's Camera Still Works after 60 Years: This photo of H. Russell Frisby, Jr. was taken by Dr. Herbert M. Frisby, his grandfather and Arctic explorer. The camera which had lain dormant for 60 or more years, is now a part of the Henson Memorial Collection at Morgan State College, Baltimore, Maryland.



Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society organized by women Afro- 12/11/65

FRISBY of the ARCTIC Frisby To Talk About Arctic

s.s. SHALOM exp067 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS FOR TODAY Mid-Summer Cruise Tuesday, September 5th, 1967 11.30 A.M. "SECOND AT THE NORTH POLE" - NOTED ARCTIC EXPLORER FORMER U.S. WAR CORRESPONDENT DR. HERBERT M. FRISBY, RESEARCHER & LECTURER - in the Circle Lounge.

Frisby's Eskimos Continued from Page 4 By Don Dilworth

A Worthy Second

12C Sunday, July 25, 1965 THE NEWS AMERICAN

Polar Expert Deplores 'Culturizing' of Eskimo By JEFFREY COHEN Eskimo rather than aculturize, gro than he would be if he were...

Henson, Matthew A. : A Negro Explorer at the North Pole. Arno Press and New York Times, N.Y. 1969 Reprinted from copy published 1912 EDITOR'S NOTE HERBERT M. FRISBY IS PROBABLY THE MOST qualified man to write an introduction to this book.



HERBERT M. FRISBY ... ready for Arctic.

Balto. Afro American - May 13, 1960 THE BALTIMORE

'Matt Henson was the greatest hero in my life'

Fairbanks, Alaska News-Miner 8/30/65 Negro Educator's Hobby: Arctic By Mike Dalton

FRISBY IN ALASKA



AFRO writer off to frozen arctic Afro - July 28, 1956 'I've always been fond of the Arctic... this will make While he is in Greece, he will go...

Challenge Set Arctic Explorer Off on Quest Huntsville Times (Huntsville, Ala.) May 10, 1966

By DIANE SNODDY Times Staff Writer A classroom challenge issued by an elementary school teacher set Dr. Herbert Frisby off on a quest that gave him a place in history.

Baltimore Student of Arctic Peoples

PUBLIC INVITED Afro 4/4/70 North Pole discovery remembered (Afro-April 4, 1970)

Jazzing-up church music once gained Frisby fame Afro - August 8, 1967 Best known now for his numerous trips to the Arctic lands, Herbert M. Frisby, retired educator, smilingly recalls when he was labelled an "infidel" for jazzing up church music in early AFRO days.

Dr. Frisby In Alabama

Dr. Herbert M. Frisby, Negro Arctic and Polar explorer and member of the staff of Coppin State College recently spent a week-end in Huntsville, Alabama. He lectured at Oakwood College, an institution of higher learning, sponsored by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Dr. Frisby was flown to the North Pole, August 12, 1956, by the U. S. Air Force to drop a memorial to Mr. Henson, thereby making him the second member of his racial group to achieve such a distinction.



HERBERT M. FRISBY

(See Editorial Page 4) Governor Marvin Mandel this week signed a document proclaiming Monday, April 6, the 51st anniversary of the discovery of the North Pole, as Matthew A. Henson Day.

STAFF NEWSLETTER-BALTIMORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS April 17, 1970

"Bring Along Your Walrus Bones"

And he did, along with all sorts of expensive furs, Eskimo needles, dolls, and many other eye-catching objects from the Far North.

Herbert Frisby, explorer, scientist, and historian, spoke to the boys and girls at School 98 on the in-

Sun - 8/14/67 THE Frisby, Second Negro To Get To Pole, Going North Again

First Man At North Pole Baltimore Evening Sun - Dec. 6, 1961

Recognition Of Henson Comes After 15 Years Work By Frisby

By TRAVIS KIDD

H.M.F 87193

\*\* = QUOTATIONS = \*\* He (Henson) was my most essential companion. Without him I would not have made it. He was worth more than all the white men put together. And yet with the Pole actually in sight, I was too weary to take the last few steps. Plant the Stars and Stripes over there Matt! - at the North Pole Race, or color, or bringing-up, or environment, count nothing against a determined heart, if backed and aided by intelligence. December, 1911 Peary, Robert E. The North Pole