

Life in the hut as the winter night clamped down on the fifteen men was active enough. Roberts of course had a full-time job as cook. The others all had their turn as night-watchman and mess-man; the ponies and dogs required a great deal of attention; there were meteorological observations to be taken and each scientist not only found much to occupy his attention but frequently required the assistance of one of his laymen colleagues to help him. Occasions such as birthdays and, of course, Midwinter's Day were duly observed. A printing press and type had been donated and taken south, and elaborate preparations had been made for the production of the first Antarctic book. It was at first agreed that the name should be 'Antarctic Ice-flowers', but better counsels prevailed and in September, printers Wild and Joyce proudly produced 'Aurora Australis', not a single typewritten volume to be handed round to successive readers but a 120-page printed book, illustrated, and bound in venesta-board from the packing-cases. A hundred copies were printed.

L.B. Quartermain, *South to the Pole; The Early History of the Ross Sea Sector Antarctica*. (London: Oxford University Press, 1967) p149.