

locate their villages where there is "free" ice, *i.e.*, where the ice is kept moving by ocean currents during the winter, and there are open spots and blow-holes for seal and walrus. There is only a month or so in mid-winter when the ice is stationary. In the spring, when it breaks up and is carried north, there appears to be an acceleration of the current, and in the autumn its coming is usually preceded by a high tide. Cases are recorded in the extreme north where the ice has remained fixed for two seasons, but these are rare.

The generic word for ice is *ci'ku'* (Baffin island, North Alaska *siku'*; Yukon *ti'ku'*)<sup>1</sup>. When the ice begins to form in the inlets and bays, it is known as "young ice," *ci'kwaq*. When it is strong enough to travel on, it is called *ci'kwu'liaq*. The winter "pack" ice, broken and shifting, is termed *tu'vaq*. The heavier glacial ice, which comes down from the Arctic, is known as *ku'vat*. The "shore" ice, or ice which adheres to the land, and is often seen in spring after the ocean is clear of pack ice, is called *qai'naq*. The "sea edge," where the ice meets the open water, which is a favourite hunting ground at certain seasons, is named *se'n'n'a'*, literally "edge."

The provenience of the ice which sweeps down the Labrador coast can usually be determined by its appearance. The ice which comes out of Ungava bay is found in long flat "pans"; the Arctic ice which comes down through Fox channel and Hudson strait is heavy and glacial. It appears that here, as in Alaska, while ice forms in the bays, the coast is blocked, rather than frozen over, by the northern ice-drift. Even in summer there is a constant procession of stately icebergs (*pixalu'yaq*) down the coast.

#### SNOW.

Snow enters nearly as much into the Eskimo economy as ice, and also has many names according to its condition and place.

The general word for snow, lying on the ground, is *a'pat* (*a'pu'n* in Alaska). Falling snow is known as *qo'n'n'ik* (as in *qonikpaq*, it falls or is snowing). Snow blocks for building snow-

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Boas informs me that the Eskimo *s* is never pure, which may account for the apparent variation in dialect.