

had only that for light, but then people started buying Coleman gas stoves and we used those. When the stormy weather came and the men couldn't go out hunting, they would make carvings.

Under the Ice

[MINNIE ARNGAQ GOES SHOPPING]

The environment of the North governs the daily life of the people who live there and produces techniques for living which can be startling to people from the south. Below, Minnie Arngaq of Kangirsujuak describes a fascinating method for gathering mussels during the long winter months:

The women from the village help get food for the family. We usually wait until the tide goes out and then go down to the edge of the water to gather mussels. We even go in the wintertime when the bay is frozen in. We wait until the ice is thick and then dig a hole through the ice and go under the ice for them. The reason we can do this is that when the tide goes out the ice sinks down, but it doesn't go all the way down to the ground that the water has receded from. There is a space under the ice varying from three to six feet. First we try to find a place where we think there will be a lot of headroom under, and then we dig a 2 by 2 hole through the ice, and then

we go through the hole and under the ice. It's very dark down there so we take candles for light. It's also very wet. The water runs off the ice in some places just like rain. I try to find a place where it's not too wet and roam around looking for mussels. I walk around all over the place when I'm under the ice. You have to be careful that the water doesn't come up and trap you while you're under the ice, and you have to be sure you can find your way back to the hole before the tide comes in.

Birthday Card

FIVE YEARS AGO this month, in April, 1970, CANADA TODAY/D'AUJOURD'HUI began its modest career. It has since grown in size and circulation (though not enormously), and our basic purpose remains the same: to tell the citizens of one complex country about the complexities of another. Good fences make good neighbours, and a good international fence is high enough for privacy and low enough for easy conversation. Birthdays and conversations are best indulged in with friends, and we feel particularly close to the 45,000 United States citizens to whose homes CANADA TODAY/D'AUJOURD'HUI goes each month.

We wish ourselves many happy returns.

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