

had profound ramifications for Inuit land claims.

There are two relatively minor criticisms of this volume. The first is that an adherence to standard scientific referencing, as opposed to end notes, would have been much appreciated by this reader. The present system was distracting, especially with the relevant notes being presented not at the end of each chapter but at the end of the volume.

The other is that this material as a whole is so strong (again, kudos to each contributor) that the volume could well have borne an overview chapter that integrated the salient points common to the socio-political circumstances of all these peoples. Admittedly, this is very much an academic's bias, but such a chapter would have been very useful to those seeking to adopt *Polar peoples* to an advanced undergraduate classroom audience. As it is, this book has considerable potential for upper-level students studying northern peoples and may well prove a worthy successor to Graburn and Strong's *Circumpolar peoples: an anthropological perspective*, now two decades old. (George W. Wenzel, Department of Geography, McGill University, Burnside Hall, 805 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, Quebec H3A 2K6, Canada.)

SHADOWS ON THE WASTELAND. Mike Stroud. 1993. London: Jonathan Cape. 182 pp, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-224-03846-X. £14.99.

More than just a re-telling of the tale of the crossing of Antarctica with Ranulph Fiennes, this is the story of the Stroud/Fiennes relationship from their unsuccessful North Pole adventure to the end of their Antarctic expedition. The crossing of Antarctica, 95 days of manhauling across 1350 miles, was an incredible feat, but this book, by way of an introduction, also includes both men's attempts to walk unsupported to the North Pole.

For many readers of books of this genre, it is the relationships between the characters that are of the greatest interest. Few can imagine the environment in which these tales are set, nor relate to the effort of not merely surviving but also travelling on foot hundreds of miles — pages of 'white hell' descriptions lose their interest very quickly. Stories about people, however, are frequently fascinating, as they are in this book. The author, Mike Stroud, is a doctor, the fourth man of the 'In the Footsteps of Scott' expedition. Stroud's companion, the man he admits to elaborately planning to kill at one point, is 'arguably Britain's greatest living explorer,' Ranulph Fiennes.

The book is written in a much more accessible style than Fiennes' own book — less of the 'epic tale of derring-do,' and more down to earth. The tone of the book and the two men's relationship is set out early on: a television crew sent to the airport to meet Fiennes' new companion for an attempt on the North Pole embarrassingly fails to identify him, since he is not the 'brute of a companion' that Fiennes, who has never met Stroud, expects.

It is easy to identify with Stroud, to sympathise with him as he is forced to conform with Fiennes' way of doing things — forced, for example, to abandon their radio on

one of the North Pole journeys, days before Stroud's child is due to be born. Fiennes has decided it is too much weight and must go; Stroud, desperate to keep in touch, can only carry it alone for a few more days before he is crushed by its weight and has to discard it. When he abandons the radio he cannot even tell his base that this is what is being done. Inevitably, the relationship between Stroud and Fiennes comes to dominate the book, with arguments about who is making the greater effort, who is responsible for the decisions, and, post-expedition, who led the way for most of the trip.

This book is subtitled 'Crossing Antarctica with Ranulph Fiennes' and sells in competition with the Fiennes book. Really they should be sold as a box set — or better still the padding cut out of both and combined into a single volume — for about the same cost. To be fair to Stroud, however, his book contains only a brief equipment list, unlike the Fiennes book, which contains many superfluous pages of padding. To appreciate some of the detail of Stroud's book, it is worth reading Fiennes'. But if only one can be purchased, this is the one. (Stephen Wells, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER.)

WHALING AND HISTORY: PERSPECTIVES ON THE EVOLUTION OF THE INDUSTRY. Bjørn L. Basberg, Jan Erik Ringstad, and Einar Wexelsen (Editors). 1993. Sandefjord: Sandefjordmuseene (Christensens Hvalfangstmuseum publication 29). 214 pp, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 82-990595-6-9. NOK 250.

This excellent collection of papers is the result of a conference held in 1992. It fills an important gap in the literature of whaling history, particularly in that dealing with the earlier period. Especially noteworthy are an essay by Uwe Schnall on 'Medieval Scandinavian laws as sources for the history of whaling' and another by Ole Lindquist with the somewhat verbose title 'Whaling by peasant fishermen in Norway, Orkney, Shetland, the Faeroe Islands, Iceland and Norse Greenland: mediaeval and early modern whaling methods and inshore legal regimes.' These two papers provide the reader unfamiliar with Old Norse and the early Scandinavian languages with a complete body of evidence documenting the practice of whaling 800 years ago or more. Lindquist's work is to be incorporated in a PhD thesis, but shows a very mature level of scholarship.

The other paper dealing with an early period, 'Scrimshaw: an introduction and overview, AD 800–1960,' by Stuart M. Frank, is unfortunately mistitled, as it really does not go so far back. Although equipped with a useful bibliography, the author unfortunately does not reference his sometimes quite unusual view by precise textual citations. A fuller treatment of the early development of scrimshaw is still awaited.

Einar Wexelsen's paper 'Working conditions and work-related injuries and illnesses on board Norwegian floating factories after World War II' is an important addition. However, one looks here, as elsewhere, for the utilization of the corpus of life-history material contained in Nor-

wegian autobiographies. Perhaps it is a little premature for the post-war period to be included, but one is left with an impression that Norwegian scholars concerned with their whaling industry are neglecting an important literary source. The corpus of recorded interviews is also under-utilized in the book as a whole.

The other works in this valuable collection range from 'American whaling, 1820–1910' (Lance E. Davis and Robert E. Gallman) and a useful paper on Newfoundland and the Norwegians (1896–1916) by Anthony Dickinson and C.W. Sanger, to a survey of German interests in whaling from the 1860s to the 1960s by Klaus Barthelmeß. In his study of the geographical discoveries in Antarctica made by members of the whaling industry, Robert Headland reminds the reader that there were many by-products of the hunt for the whale. For this reason especially, no scholar interested in polar history should ignore this symposium, which has also been generously furnished with illustrations. (Ian Whitaker, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia V5A 1S6, Canada.)

BRIEF REVIEWS

MOUNTAINEERING: CATALOGUE OF THE GRAHAM BROWN AND LLOYD COLLECTIONS IN THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND.

National Library of Scotland. 1994. Edinburgh: National Library of Scotland. xvii + 453 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-902220-98-5. £15.00.

For students of the polar regions, unquestionably the most important special collection in the National Library of Scotland is the Wordie Collection of printed books, pamphlets, journals, reports, and miscellaneous papers. This collection was presented in 1959 and is listed in *Shelf-catalogue of the Wordie Collection of polar exploration* (Boston: G.K. Hall & Company, 1964). This new publication complements the Wordie shelf-catalogue in that it includes the majority of non-British polar material purchased during the last two decades from funds bequeathed to the the National Library of Scotland by Thomas Graham Brown (1882–1965). As a copyright library, the National Library of Scotland receives British publications on legal deposit, and hence they are not listed here. However, an active policy has been pursued of purchasing publications relating to polar discovery and exploration, with some coverage of topics such as polar oceanography, whaling, and international relations. As the title makes clear, however, the bulk of the entries relate to mountaineering, a field in which both Brown and Robert Wylie Lloyd (1868–1958) built up comprehensive collections.

Entries are arranged alphabetically by title, with indexes providing access to personal names, series, and miscellaneous items. The printed catalogue (current to 30 June 1987) is supplemented by a microfiche listing Graham Brown acquisitions catalogued between July 1987 and the end of 1992. Further supplements can be ordered by completing a request form in the microfiche pocket.

A FIELD GUIDE TO WHALES, PORPOISES, AND SEALS FROM CAPE COD TO NEWFOUNDLAND.

Fourth edition. Steven K. Katona, Valerie Rough, and David T. Richardson. 1993. Washington, DC, and London: Smithsonian Institution Press. xix + 316 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 1-56098-333-7. US\$15.95.

The first edition of this handbook was published in 1975 and proved so popular that another three editions have followed. The fourth edition contains a wealth of up-to-date information pertaining to the identification, dietary preferences, behaviour, and reproductive cycles of the seals and whales that frequent the Gulf of Maine and eastern Canada. Although this is a book intended for the general public, and researchers into marine mammal biology will gain little from it, the fourth edition has an impressive 38-page bibliography that includes some non-scientific works and also covers some of the most recent academic literature.

The handbook is divided into three sections comprising information on whales, dolphins, and porpoises; basking sharks, sunfish, and leatherback turtles; and seals. Each section contains a comprehensive introduction, an account of each species with photographs and drawings, maps, and a key to identification. There are also appendices that cover major prey species and scheduled whale and seal watching tours with names and addresses of tour operators.

Publications Received

KAIROONDAK: BEHIND THE WILLOWS. Richard Martin, as told to Bill Pfisterer. Katherine Peter (Translator). 1993. Fairbanks: Center for Cross-Cultural Studies, University of Alaska Fairbanks. xii + 294 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 1-877962-26-0. US\$19.00.

SAMERNA OCH DERAS HISTORIA: METO-DÖVNINGAR I SAMISK 1600– OCH 1700–TALS-HISTORIA. Peter Sköld. 1993. Umeå: Center for Arctic Cultural Research, Umeå University (Rapport 29). 81 p, soft cover. ISSN 0283-9717.

FRA MARKAFINN TIL SAME: ETNOPOLITISK MOBILISERING I EN LÆSTADIANSK KONTEKST. Eivind Torp. 1994. Umeå: Center for Arctic Cultural Research, Umeå University (Rapport 30). 171 p, soft cover. ISSN 0283-9717.