

north the settlements were too small and scattered for effective resistance to be mounted. But in the thrust around Lake Baikal and down the Amur river the greed and cruelty of the invaders provoked local opposition that was quickly reinforced by the armies of China. The rapacious intruders were thrown back, and for a hundred and seventy years held off from the region of the lower Amur.

In Kamchatka the resistance of Koriaks and Kamchadals was finally quelled, not by arms but by the ravages of smallpox. The Chukchi of the extreme northeast were strong enough to obtain tolerable terms upon their submission to the Tsar.

The Russian conquistadors, like those of Pizarro, were lawless and disreputable examples of matchless courage, energy and endurance. But one feature of their eastern drive was wholly heroic and honourable. In 1733-42 naval detachments on foot or by boat mapped the Siberian Arctic shore eastwards past the mouth of the Kolyma, while Bering and Chirikov further extended discovery by crossing the Pacific. Chirikov left his mark on North American history by making his landfall and establishing a discoverer's claim near 54°40' of north latitude.

The history of these events now under review is the work of two scholars, the late George V. Lantzeff, Professor of Russian History at the University of California, Berkeley, and Richard A. Pierce, who holds the same chair at Queen's University, Kingston. Professor Lantzeff wrote approximately the first half of the book, and gathered materials for the rest. Professor Pierce has revised the first seven chapters, and added the last six which are based on the joint researches of the two authors.

The actual text of this history is compressed into 212 pages. To expect the authors to furnish vivid narrative or critical portraiture in a work so condensed is to ask too much. All that they can promise they have performed by producing an informative summary of events that is complete, coherent, and — with some qualification relating to the obscurity and complexity of Russian history prior to the Tatar conquest — a masterpiece of lucidity. For the last-named quality Professor Pierce is indebted not only to his late colleague's labours and his own gifts but to the generosity of his publisher and the pains taken by his cartographers, Professor Henry W. Castner and Mr. Ross Hough. This book is furnished with no fewer than fifteen full-page maps, which cover every phase of a varied and complex narrative, spare the diligent student much labour and enhance

his enjoyment of this most rewarding history. A knowledge of Russian history that is unwarped by prejudice is of the utmost importance today, and the surviving author and his publisher can view with satisfaction a book which presents an important phase of that history in a form that is brief, clear and entertaining.

(Professor Pierce is to be commended for scorning pedantry and giving us familiar Russian names in familiar form. When he means Peter he says Peter, and not the affected "Pyotr".)

L. H. Neatby

V. S. KHROMCHENKO'S COASTAL EXPLORATIONS IN SOUTHWESTERN ALASKA, 1822. EDITED BY JAMES W. VANSTONE. TRANSLATED BY DAVID H. KRAUS. *Chicago: Field Museum of Natural History, 1973. 6½ x 9¼ inches, 95 pages, illustrated. (Fieldiana: Anthropology, Volume 64). No price indicated.*

For a number of years James VanStone has been involved with nineteenth century anthropological and historical research in southwestern Alaska. His numerous publications, derived from his own archaeological and ethnographic research among the Eskimos and Russian historic sources, have provided one of the most thorough studies of Eskimo and Russian relationships during the fur-trade years in this huge region. The volume reviewed here is a continuation of his historic contributions.

V. S. Khromchenko, with A. K. Etolin, undertook the exploration of the southwestern Alaskan Bering Sea region in 1821 and 1822. The journal of the 1822 voyage translated here is the only one available from either voyage. It was originally published in a Soviet periodical, *Severnyi arkhiv*.

In addition to making the journal readily available to others, VanStone has edited the able translation of the journal by David H. Kraus in order to place Khromchenko's "achievements and the related achievements of others (particularly A. K. Etolin) in the framework of the development of the fur trade and the expansion of Russian influence in Alaska" (page 2). In so doing, he hopes to bring to the attention of researchers "important and generally neglected events in the history of Russian America" (*ibid.*)

VanStone has provided a detailed introduction which contains an historical summary of earlier explorations in southwestern Alaska and a review of the two major expeditions, one headed by Vasilev and one by Khromchenko, to the southern and central

Bering Sea region of southwestern Alaska between 1820 and 1822. Both are evaluated for their overall contributions to knowledge. A number of footnotes provided by VanStone contribute clarification and explanation to specific items within the body of the journals.

In 1820 and 1821, Captain-Lieutenants M. N. Vasilev and G. S. Shishmarev, under the sponsorship of the Russian Imperial Navy, undertook exploratory voyages in the southwestern Alaskan Bering Sea region to advance geographical knowledge. However, they contributed little new data beyond that obtained by Cook over forty years earlier.

M. I. Muravev, the Russian-American Company's general manager, directed explorations of the same general area to be carried out for the Company by V. S. Khromchenko and A. K. Etolin, beginning in 1821. Their main purpose was to contact, and obtain more information about, the Eskimos of southwestern Alaska for the purpose of opening up the fur trade in this region. The 1822 segment of the expedition was undertaken to enlarge on the work accomplished the previous year. In contrast to Vasilev and Shishmarev, they were highly successful, and their work was in part instrumental in the Russian-American Company's expansion of its trading activities into southwestern Alaska.

The journal begins with the sailing of Khromchenko and Etolin in two ships from Sitka, in April 1822, to the Pribilof Islands. After having determined there was no land east of the Pribilofs, although such had been previously reported, they proceeded to Aleksandrovskiy Redoubt at the mouth of the Nushagak River. Unfortunately no description of this redoubt was given. Travelling to Hagemester Island, it was decided to abandon that post and consolidate the Russian holdings at Aleksandrovskiy which remained an important post for a number of years. In addition to geographical data, descriptions are included in the journal of the Togiak, Aglemiut, Nunivak Islander, Stuart Islander, and Golovin Bay Eskimo. A description obtained from a Golovin Bay Eskimo man provided data on the inhabitants of St. Lawrence Island. Word lists are presented for Konyag, Aglemiut, Stuart Island, Nunivak Island and Chuikak Island (St. Lawrence Island) peoples.

The journal is important for its historical value as an account of one of the earliest attempts of the Russians to push into the more northern Bering Sea region with their fur trade. It is especially valuable for anthropologists, as it provides details of goods bartered between Eskimos and Euro-

peans. The brief descriptions of the various Eskimo groups are among the first for most of the Eskimo populations of southwestern Alaska. The description of the Nunivak Island people is particularly important in this regard, as it is the earliest one available. The Eskimo work lists are also important as they are the earliest for this region.

The publication, then, has two important features. The first is that of the journal itself which provides early trade, ethnographic, linguistic, and geographical data. The second is VanStone's introduction and explanatory footnotes, as these give a consolidated summary of events and persons in the early nineteenth century history of Russian America. Thus, this most recent work becomes a significant addition to the literature on southwestern Alaska.

Joan B. Townsend

THE LAW OF THE SEA OF THE ARCTIC, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO CANADA. BY DONAT PHARAND. *Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, 1973. 6 x 8¾ inches, 367 pages, illustrated. No price indicated.*

This book is timely, both in terms of the rise of interest in the Arctic Ocean and surrounding seas and in terms of its date of publication during the year before the Third Law of the Sea Conference. Its author, who has academic experience in Canada, the United States and Europe, appears well qualified to attempt an overview of this topical area of international law.

The book is divided into seven parts followed by a very brief conclusion. The parts are:

- I. *Innocent passage in the Arctic*
- II. *Straight baselines for the Canadian Arctic Archipelago*
- III. *Historic waters in the Arctic*
- IV. *Freedom of the seas in the Arctic Ocean*
- V. *The legal status of ice shelves and ice islands in the Arctic*
- VI. *Oil pollution control in the Arctic*
- VII. *The Arctic continental shelf and seabed.*

These provide an excellent organizational framework for a comprehensive treatment of the principal juridical features and problems of Arctic waters. In most of the sections, special Arctic aspects are developed from a consideration of general principles and practices of international law, with frequent reference to the positions and actions of the five coastal states of the Arctic Ocean. The U.S.S.R., the U.S.A. and, as the titles suggests, Canada, receive particular attention.

A feature of the book is the writer's sum-