

Polish mountaineering achievements gathered by R. W. Schramm. In the succeeding chapter K. Birkenmajer speculates upon and suggests new geographical names for the series of hitherto unnamed physiographical objects in the Hornsund region of Spitsbergen; and in the short chapter XI J. Pruchnicki sums up the attention the Polish Spitsbergen Expeditions received by the novelists, and reviews the documentary films devoted to the research work and life of the expedition members. The last chapter, XII, is a compilation of the full bibliography of the research papers and the popularized publications that have been based on the work done by the Polish Spitsbergen Expeditions. The author of this chapter, K. Birkenmajer divided the 399 items of the bibliography into 23 subchapters.

The abundance of graphic supplements adds to the value of the book. Besides numerous maps, sketches, geological sections, diagrams and tables it contains also a hundred and twenty-eight well-chosen black and white photographs. The book has been edited and published only in English in a limited edition of 537 copies. The chief editor, K. Birkenmajer, deserves special appreciation for his careful editorial work. One can only desire that the rest of the results of the Polish research in Spitsbergen will be presented to us in a similar form.

S. Baranowski
J. Szupryczynski

THE YUKON ECONOMY: ITS POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH AND CONTINUITY. Compiled by D. W. Carr and F. W. Anderson. *Ottawa: D. Wm. Carr & Associates Ltd., 1968. 8½ x 11 inches, 346 pages, tables and maps. \$3.50.*

This report is Volume 1, the Final Report, in a very valuable series of 8 volumes, on the potential growth and viability of the Yukon economy. The present volume, which includes a significant amount of material extracted from the preceding volumes, was prepared for the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Government of the Yukon Territory.

In order to assess the potential economic growth of the Yukon, the authors have organized the report into four stages. The first stage provides a perspective on the new environment for economic growth in the Yukon and the northwest region. It includes an analysis of the Yukon in a national and regional perspective, its historical setting in the northern region and the new philosophy of economic development in the northwest.

The second stage provides a comprehensive analysis of the economic potential of the resources and industries of the Yukon. The third stage of the report examines the basic development services of power and transportation which act as the major determinant of the growth potential of the Yukon economy. The final stage attempts to assess the economic environment for potential growth and the possibilities for strength and viability in the Yukon economy to 1985.

Clearly, the authors have achieved their objective by providing the reader with an overall understanding of the potential economy of the Yukon with a primary focus on new economic development there rather than on the reorientation of past developments. The new economic development philosophy or attitude advocated by the authors throughout the report is that Federal and Provincial policies should be coordinated in order to act as a positive stimulant to development.

I think it must be concluded that this thorough and enlightening report constitutes a significant contribution to the literature on northern development and it will be of great assistance to researchers who have a concern for the potential economic development of the Yukon. Furthermore, if one wishes to acquire a total historical perspective of the economy of the Yukon and the northwest region, I would strongly recommend, in conjunction with this report, K. J. Rea's critical work entitled *The Political Economy of the Canadian North*. Dr. Rea's book examines the changes in attitudes by private investment, and the local, territorial, and federal administration in the north up to the early 1960's.

P. M. Koroscil

HUNTERS OF THE NORTHERN ICE. BY RICHARD K. NELSON. *Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1969. 429 pages, illustrated, 6¼ x 9¼ inches. \$8.50.*

This book is an important addition to polar literature. Although for the most part restricting attention to northwest Alaska, and more especially the Wainwright area, the reader with geographical, biological or ethnographic interests will discover a wealth of well-presented data, and perceptive, sound analysis. For a text so replete with substantive technical detail, a delightful style of prose in places suggests that the writer was more than objectively involved with investigating the subject matter, and fortunately the reader shares this enrichment.

For many it may come as a surprise to learn that the author of such a treatise was a Master's candidate who was not a native of the region and who amassed his information during the traditional near-year of field work. The open secret of his success is provided in an appendix detailing his field methods, wherein is stressed the importance of listening rather than interrogating, mastering etiquette in addition to struggling with language, and becoming involved rather than remaining detached. Importantly also, but strangely relegated to space on the book wrapper, we learn that the author regularly read back his field notes to his Eskimo companions so that opportunities for corrections, additions and clarification were increased through positive feedback.

The first third of the book deals mainly with the development and subsequent seasonal behaviour of the various types of sea-ice, and consideration of practical procedures to be followed in the event of the need to establish emergency sea-ice camps. The next 230 pages consider biological resources, and their exploitation by contemporary North Alaskan Eskimos; due to its local importance, seal-hunting and seal behaviour occupy about half of this portion of the study. The last two chapters include a perceptive presentation of Eskimo personality, and a thoughtful concluding chapter considers the Death of Hunting. This final chapter reflects on the changing attitudes and opportunities in process in this sample Eskimo community, and the fate of the student who has received educational training outside, yet returns as "the village still attracts and holds him because it is the friendliest place he knows... [however] he is torn between two sets of values. He is cultural hybrid, half white, half Eskimo; but these two halves do not add up to a unified personality. The dilemma hangs over him; he should leave his home village, but he cannot live without it." The reasons for subsequent failure of these displaced young people to rehabilitate themselves as hunters, does not wholly implicate the alien educational system however, and the severity of Eskimo pedagogy remains as an additional and perhaps ultimate impediment preventing acquisition of the needed skills and attitudes of an effective hunter.

The book concludes with a useful lexicon of Eskimo terminology relating to the sea-ice environment, and an excellent index.

Mr. Nelson writes as an anthropologist, so this review will attempt some assessment of the study as a contribution to the professional literature of anthropology. The central thesis the author sets out to substantiate is

that the Eskimo is indeed scientific in his pragmatism, i.e. he is rational and systematic in his attempts at problem solving, and is constantly seeking, discovering, appraising and collating new data about the environment he occupies. In terms of personality, attributes such as persistence, patience, caution, preparedness and alertness typify the systematic nature of the total adaptation. Much of the value of this book lies in the attention to detail of a particular contemporary Eskimo group, and this value will be enhanced rather than diminished as comparable studies are made elsewhere.

Some anthropologists today are beginning to view culture not as man's unique *means* of adapting to a particular environment or ecologic niche, but rather as *constituting* man's ecologic niche. Thus in order to adapt and succeed, man must internalize an appropriate set of socio-cultural norms, and having achieved this, *ipso facto* plugs in to the energy sources his society (population) requires to achieve viability, within a particular ecological system. *Hunters of the Northern Ice* substantively lends support to this emerging interpretation of the nature of culture, both by contributing substantially to ethnoscience and at the same time illustrating the adaptive interplay between man, mind and diverse elements of the non-human environment in an oftentimes extreme and potentially unpromising setting.

Milton M. R. Freeman

THÈMES DE RECHERCHE GÉOMORPHOLOGIQUE DANS LE NORD-OUEST DU GROËNLAND. Par Jean Malaurie. Publié dans *Mémoires et Documents, Numéro Hors Série. Éditions du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France, 1968. 495 pages, 8¼ x 10½ pouces. 150F.*

Nous devons à Jean Malaurie un important travail sur les formes d'érosion dans les régions du Nord-Ouest du Groënland. Dans ce travail de recherche de près de 500 pages, l'auteur a voulu « apprécier au moyen de mesures de terrains (détermination des pentes des versants, étude de la gélifraction des pierres, du débit des torrents) et d'expériences de laboratoire, l'érosion mécanique dans les roches consolidées étudiées, la rapidité relative de l'érosion torrentielle dans les sables; mettre en évidence les seuils critiques à partir desquels les processus sont opérants ou, à mieux dire, deviennent mutants, définir leur localisation, dans le temps comme dans