

balanced account also acknowledges the firm of Daniel Bennett and appears to reflect the scholarship of A.G.E. Jones on that issue. The exploits of Peter Kemp and John Balleny are covered in ample detail, and the author shows a real appreciation for the interconnections between various nineteenth-century explorers.

H.R. Mill's *Siege of the South Pole* has remained the classic account of this period for more than 90 years, and while that work has not been superseded by the current volume, Gurney has produced a fine and readable introduction to the history of Antarctica to 1839, a worthwhile introduction for the novice, and a handy review for the serious Antarctic history buff. (T.H. Baughman, History Department, Benedictine College, Atchison, Kansas 66002, USA.)

THE NORTHERN COPPER INUIT: A HISTORY. Richard G. Condon with Julia Ogina. 1996. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. xxii + 216 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-8020-0849-6. \$Can45.00.

This volume is a fitting last contribution by one of the most prolific anthropologists to have worked among Canadian Inuit in recent years. *The Northern Copper Inuit*, despite its sub-title, is in every sense a true work of ethnohistory, documenting the recent past of the *Ulukhaktokmiut* (the people of present-day Holman) as much as possible through the work of their elders. Unlike most such works, which often lean overheavily on archival and published sources, here Dr Condon and Ms Ogina nicely interweave such information with the interview material they developed with Holman's elders.

The first two chapters cover the pre-European archaeology and early contact relations of the Copper Inuit bands that lived on western Victoria Island and northeastern Banks Island with outsiders. This material is set out in a manner that can be appreciated by specialist and non-specialist alike and well prepares the ground for what are the strongest elements of the book, the perceptions (and perspective) of the community's oldest members on their culture from the end of the contact period to the growth of modern Holman. In four chapters that take the reader from the late traditional period of Copper Inuit society through the fur trade and early government era to Holman life in the mid-1980s, the authors skillfully blend the voices of the oldest living *Ulukhaktokmiut* generation with each other in a way that adds important texture to the ethnographic and historical detail gathered on the Western Inuit by Jenness, Stefansson, Rasmussen, Damas, and Usher. Indeed, the final chapter, which covers much of Condon's own time in Holman, provides as encompassing an overview of a modern Canadian Inuit community as may be found in the contemporary literature.

The Northern Copper Inuit is written in a clear, jargon-free style, reflecting in no small part the first author's deep belief that the information researchers develop about Inuit should be as much for them as for non-Inuit. In addition, an abundance of ethnographic photographs (including

some of Condon's own of the present community), several black-and-white reproductions of paintings by Cresswell and Adams, and numerous Holman Inuit art prints (unfortunately, these historical and art graphics are not in color) illustrate the text.

While various specialists may find points (and there are a few) with which to quibble, the many strengths of this volume far outweigh the odd error or omission. Clearly, *The Northern Copper Inuit* demonstrates how the incorporation of the voice and view of native northerners about their own history and contemporary life can contribute to our larger understanding of the Inuit. What this book further marks, as Nellie Cournoyea's foreword notes, is how Richard Condon also saw research as meaning more than the objectification of Inuit. This is a book that should find a place in the libraries of every student of Inuit culture and can also serve as an excellent undergraduate text. (George Wenzel, Department of Geography, McGill University, 805 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, Quebec H3A 2K6, Canada.)

MANAGEMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND HUMAN RESOURCES POLICY IN THE ARCTIC (THE NORTH). Lise Lyck and V.I. Boyko (Editors). 1996. Dordrecht, London, Boston: Kluwer Academic Publishers. xvi + 491 p, hard cover. ISBN 0-7923-4023-X. £169.00; \$US249.00; Dfl 375.00.

'Mega biblion, mega kakon,' wrote Callimachus of Alexandria in the third century BC, and these wise words, literally 'big book, big bad,' could well be applied to the work under review.

Size alone does not contribute to a book's badness; one must also approach its assessment from the point of view of use value. The editors of *Management, technology and human resources policy in the Arctic (the north)* proclaim their work as a special contribution to the field of northern studies and insist upon the reader's awareness of this: 'please be aware of the uniqueness in many respects of this book....Being aware of the uniqueness of this book will give you the possibility to think a little deeper of the aspects being raised and it can, furthermore, serve as a useful background information for your understanding of the articles' (page xv). The editors then go on to describe the book as:

interesting, foresighting [*sic*] and promising for the future Arctic socio-economic scientific cooperation and for the cooperation between the NATO countries and Russia which the NATO Scientific and Environmental Affairs Division took initiative to and supported this advanced research....It is a proof of a profound understanding of cooperation and socio-economic development as a peace and welfare creating activity. (pages xv-xvi)

Whew. These two excerpts give a taste of what is to come, both topically and linguistically. Apparently language is unimportant in a book on human-resources policy, especially to those eager to see their names in print: 'As comprehensive language corrections would have delayed

the publication of the book too much, only small corrections, absolutely needed for the understanding, have been undertaken' (page xiii). More is the pity.

Management, technology and human resources policy in the Arctic (the north), published as part of the NATO ASI series, is a collection of 48 papers and two declarations presented at a conference of the same name held in the Siberian city of Novosibirsk in the summer of 1995. The papers cover a wide variety of topics and were presented by persons representing most of the circumpolar states. Well over half of the presenters were Russian; the others consisted of scholars from Canada, Denmark, the Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Sweden, and the United States (no Norwegians, evidently). The papers themselves are grouped into seven sections, and are of varying lengths.

Section one concerns the regulation of international affairs in the Arctic. Two of the papers within this section describe Russian geopolitics, while the third examines relations between the Canadian and Russian north. The second section, which is much larger, deals with science and technology policy in the Arctic. Most of the papers so categorized revolve around the formation of science policy and the roles of research institutes and universities in this process. Section three is curiously entitled 'Government and self-government in the Arctic: the structure of organisation of local power.' Most of the papers within this section fall within the realm of public administration, and, with two exceptions, concern developments in Russia. Section four contains papers on the regional aspects of economic development and presents cases drawn from Russia or from territories currently or previously under Danish control. The fifth section is on the market economy of the north and contains several interesting papers on Alaska, Iceland, and Russia. The sixth section focuses on natural resources and ecology, with papers delving into both physical and social science aspects of environmental problems. The final section looks at human resources in the Arctic and especially at the future of native peoples. The papers within this section are case studies of specific locales, as well as less-contextualized studies.

The papers are of uneven quality. Some are well-written studies and provide much contemporary information of interest. The majority, however, are of lesser utility, and suffer from poor language and the lack of any evident editing (one author, for example, speaks of the 'oil and gaze complex' — could this be part of the postmodern condition?); many, moreover, go over material well covered by other sources or reflect outdated concepts:

Knowledge of the natural temperament of the peoples of the Caucasus [*sic*] and Indians of the American continent allows to conclude that if these peoples found them shelves [*sic*] in an analogous situation, then the whole territory where they live would be enveloped with serious indignation and conflicts. Such a phenomenon can be considered as a natural reaction to the barbarous influence by the civilization of the Nature. (page 414)

What? The barbarous civilization of Nature? This passage, which seems to assume that there is a 'natural temperament of certain peoples,' is representative of many others, and furthermore reflects some of the impenetrable language that confronts the reader.

The general unevenness of the papers, a problem common to conference proceedings, is all too evident here. The book also suffers in this respect from any adequate introduction, and it lacks a concluding chapter entirely. There is no effort to tie together these fragmented themes, and the work consequently emerges as something less than the sum of its parts.

Any merits this effort might have had are reduced to insignificance when confronted with the price that the publisher brazenly asks: £169.00 or US\$249.00! After wading through all 491 pages of this volume, in this case I cannot but agree with the words of Callimachus. (Michael Pretes, Department of Geography, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1111, USA.)

ESSAYS ON THE ETHNOGRAPHY OF THE ALEUTS. Roza G. Liapunova (translated by Jerry Shelest). 1996. Fairbanks: University of Alaska Press (Rasmuson Library Historical Translation Series 9). xxii + 256 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0-912006-85-4. \$US18.00.

Aleut ethnography occupies a central place in debates surrounding the anthropology and history of the circumpolar north. This carefully edited translation of a Soviet classic — *Ocherki po etnografii aleutov* (1975) — is a welcome addition to a growing literature on the peoples of the Bering Strait region.

This volume is the first of two monographs by Liapunova on the material culture and 'ethnic history' of Aleuts. Liapunova's writing is unique within the corpus of Soviet ethnography, for the fact that it exhaustively references and situates itself within debates in the English language literature. However, writing just after the peak of the Cold War, her encyclopaedic knowledge of this complex region comes across in a measured and cautious manner. Her objective style and reticence to make sweeping theoretical statements no doubt attracted the editors of the Rasmuson Translation Series. This volume is the first to be authored by a professional Soviet ethnographer among a series of translations of the writings of missionaries and explorers. For those who might misinterpret the short chapter on socio-economic stratification, the editors provide a footnote of caution to the constraints of 'the Marxist line' (page 131).

The central concern of this book is within what might be called the high ground of Soviet ethnography: the question of ethnogenesis. The book is a remarkably concise synthesis of literature on the question of the origins of Aleuts, as judged primarily from the study of material culture. Unlike some scholars who study this liminal zone between east and west, Liapunova is not rushed to make a hasty connection to the grand conclusion of how America was peopled. Her careful analysis of artefacts and early