

analysis of Antarctic politics with a consideration of the future course it is well worth reading. Unfortunately, being one of the Cambridge University Press *Studies in Polar Research* series, it is far too expensive, which is a pity as it has much of general interest. (R. K. Headland, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 1ER UK.)

ANTARCTICA: A PERSONAL VIEW

SOUTH LIGHT: A JOURNEY TO ANTARCTICA. Parfitt, Michael. 1988. London, Bloomsbury. 306 p, hard cover. ISBN 0-7475-0134-3. £14.95.

The author gives a personal account of a season with the United States Antarctic Research Program during a recent summer. This includes time aboard small and large vessels as well as periods ashore on several stations. A description of a landing near Mount Siple, a very rarely visited volcano, is included. Part of the narrative also describes King George Island and visits to several of its many national stations. The style is journalistic with much use of first and second person text in North American vernacular. Where appropriate this is interspersed with quotations from the heroic age of Antarctic exploration and descriptions from the discoverers (somewhat uncritically). Thus, in many areas, both contrasts with and similarities to the present are indicated. The work is written for a reader not very familiar with the Antarctic and includes many general details and descriptions of the continent. There is a comprehensive index but only one small map. (R. K. Headland, Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge.)

A POLAR JOURNEY RETRACED

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SCOTT. R. Mear and R. Swan. 1987. London, Jonathan Cape. 306 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-224-01418-3. £14.95.

In the late 1970s and '80s increasing numbers of small, privately-organized expeditions have entered the Antarctic cockpit, threatening an exclusiveness generally reserved for government operations of the Antarctic Treaty nations. It was inevitable that a private venture would be mounted on a scale that must bring it into conflict with operations of a treaty nation, and it is fitting that 'In the footsteps of Scott' was the expedition to do so.

This account of the expedition is written mainly by Mear, the man who shaped Swan's original dream from a polar plod to a bold, lightweight, alpine-style assault. Their early ideas and preparations are set against a background of mounting problems stemming from American unwillingness to support private ventures, and the concomitant escalation of their own logistics, which led the expedition to expand far beyond the original concept and almost caused Mear to withdraw. That the expedition sailed at all is a credit to everyone concerned, especially to Swan, whose monumental efforts are duly acknowledged.

The departure, voyage south and establishment of the shore base are briefly told and the narrative concentrates

on the wintering party. Personality problems that appeared during the winter are discussed candidly, perhaps overstressing the tensions. Mear describes winter journeys to nearby Scott and McMurdo stations, a traverse of the Ross Island summits and a winter journey to Cape Crozier, repeating that of Scott's expedition. Much space is given to how the third member of the polar party was selected, and chapters covering the polar journey are as much psychological studies of the three team members as descriptions of the march itself; one wonders why they never came to blows. However, details of personality problems in such circumstances are rare, and for this reason Mear's account is valuable. Success at the pole is clouded by the loss of the expedition's ship, and with it loss of their hard-won independence.

Closing chapters document the deterioration of relations with NSF officials responsible for the US polar programme. It is difficult not to sympathize with an expedition that went to such lengths to make itself self-sufficient, only to be overtaken by events beyond its control, and hustled back to civilization by a less-than-friendly US polar machine. It must be remembered that US official policy was made clear at the outset, and expedition members were naive to think that the Americans would jump at opportunities to help them. However, it is the manner, rather than the methods, that Mear questions in a forthright account.

Well illustrated, and largely free from typographic and other errors (though the Antarctic Treaty Organisation is mistakenly ascribed to the United Nations), this book endorses the spirit of adventure that well-run private expeditions can bring to the Antarctic. Their exploits, particularly in winter, contrast with the limitations imposed on personnel at nearby Scott and McMurdo stations. A highpoint for me is the delightfully underplayed account of Mear's solo winter ascent of Mt Erebus, a four-day trip that is surely unique in polar and mountaineering history. Beside it both the journey to Cape Crozier and the polar walk itself lack something important. Mear seems to suggest that private ventures of the future—and there will be many of them—might concentrate on more achievements of this kind. (Dan Hamer, Downlands, North Brook, Market Lavington, Devizes, Wilts SN10 4AN UK.)

GROWING UP IN THE CANADIAN ARCTIC

INUIT YOUTH—GROWTH AND CHANGE IN THE CANADIAN ARCTIC. Condon, Richard G. 1987. New Brunswick, NJ, Rutgers University Press. 252 p, maps, hard cover. ISBN 0-8135-1212-3. US\$32.

Inuit Youth is the first volume in a series entitled 'Adolescents in a changing world', an ambitious cross-cultural study on the effects of industrialization on the social behaviour of adolescents in seven traditional societies. The present volume reports the major results of Richard Condon's ethnographic research amongst the Copper Inuit at Holman Island, NWT Canada, in 1978-80 as part

of his PhD research, and again in 1982-83 specifically for the present project. The book is well-written and of interest to all concerned with contemporary Inuit society.

The first two chapters introduce the physical setting, the economic, social and political structure of Holman Island, and traditional and contemporary life stages and cycles of its Inuit inhabitants. The main chapters examine seasonal variation in daily activity cycles, family life, friend and peer groups, sexuality and mate selection, schooling, employment and lifestyle aspirations, rebellion and deviance, all from the perspective of contemporary adolescent Inuit. A concluding chapter discusses the more important findings of the study, and compares these to adolescent experiences in several other, including American, societies. Three central concepts essential to understanding are identified: the extremely rapid rate of social change, the high degree of autonomy displayed by Inuit adolescents, and the influence of seasonal variation in the Arctic ecosystem on all social and economic activities. The first two, in many respects the most important, are recurring themes throughout the book.

In the last chapter Condon states that his book "... does no more than offer a detailed ethnographic description of adolescence ..." in Copper Inuit society, and indeed his observations are free of any subjective censure. Nevertheless the book vividly documents the harsh reality of a generation caught between a traditional, secure, essentially egalitarian way of life on the one hand, and a more materialistic, competitive and uncertain way on the other. With its publication, together with his earlier *Inuit behaviour and seasonal change in the Canadian Arctic* (1983), Condon is clearly becoming a major figure in contemporary Inuit ethnography, and those interested in northern societies will look forward to his future publications. (J. M. Savelle, Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Man., Canada R2T 2N2.)

WHALE MANAGEMENT AND BEHAVIOUR

BEHAVIOUR OF WHALES IN RELATION TO MANAGEMENT. Donovan, G. P. (editor). 1986. Cambridge, International Whaling Commission. Reports of the IWC, Special Issue 8. 282 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-906975-15-8. £20.00

RIGHT WHALES: PAST AND PRESENT STATUS. Brownell, R. L., Best, P. B. and Prescott, J. H. (editors). 1986. Cambridge, International Whaling Commission. Reports of the IWC, Special Issue 10. 289 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-906975-16-6. £35.00

These two volumes in the important *Special Issue* series of the "Reports of the International Whaling Commission" incorporate reports of, and papers presented at, two workshops held by the Commission.

The first covers a workshop on the "Behaviour of whales in relation to management", held in Seattle in April 1982. Its purpose was to review current knowledge of cetacean behaviour, to identify areas of management where behaviour is important, and to suggest areas of

behavioral research which could assist future management. The delay in publication has allowed the inclusion of some more recent papers relating to the subject; 14 papers are published in full, grouped broadly by subject and there are résumés of five others.

Four papers review evidence for reproductive senescence in female cetaceans, the potential for sperm competition in baleen whales, diurnal rhythms in cetaceans, and non-acoustic communication behaviour in large whales. Recent methodology in studying cetacean behaviour is illustrated by papers on mother-infant behaviour in right whales, the use of acoustic techniques for detecting cetaceans and examining their behaviour and, together with photographic methods, estimating parameters in sperm whales for modelling their populations. Two papers describe results of aerial observations on bowhead whales in Alaskan waters and the Beaufort Sea, one summarizing four years' observations on feeding and social behaviour in summer, the other describing the seasonal pattern of distribution, migration, abundance and behaviour in spring and autumn over five years. There are three accounts of recent behavioral studies of gray whales. One reviews work on their migrations, social behaviour and breeding biology; the others report results of four years American aerial surveys of distribution, abundance and behaviour in the Arctic, and of Soviet observations of social behaviour, derived mainly from whaling operations off Chukotka. Recently there has been much use of photographs of natural markings to identify individual whales of several species. An important final paper reviews data from these studies in relation to the estimation of population size using capture-recapture analyses, especially for humpback whales in the North Atlantic and southern right whales off Argentina. Population models involved with these analyses and problems associated with them are discussed, and methods for improving future analyses are suggested.

The second volume arises from the workshop on "The status of right whales" held in Boston, Massachusetts, in June 1983. Right whales (*Eubalaena* spp.) were long hunted historically and the first species to be given international protection, but they are still among the rarest of the large whales. The workshop examined the extent to which the original stocks were depleted by whaling, and evidence for their recovery under protection, and their present status. The report recommends a series of research projects and includes appendices on nomenclature, institutions possessing specimens, estimates of historical and modern catches in different regions, etc. 24 papers presented at the workshop or submitted later are published. They include papers on the past and present status of right whales in the North Pacific, North Atlantic and Southern Hemisphere, the use of photographs to identify individual whales in the North Atlantic, behavioral studies of the southern right whales and an estimate of the population off Argentina, and an annotated bibliography for right whales in the North Pacific. Also included are