

while at the same time slowly closing the door on our ability to prevent the melting of our polar world.

Although the scope and implications of the climate-change crises can be overwhelming, many people remain unaware that the solutions to prevent global warming are at hand. Frances Beinecke, president of the Natural Resource Defence Council, brings a message of hope on how we can avoid the potentially dire consequences of climate change by taking action to reduce our carbon footprint. From the use of alternative energy sources such as geothermal, wind, and solar power to using more energy-efficient appliances, she highlights the need to take action and the role that every citizen can play in lobbying politicians for meaningful climate-change legislation. In the final pages of the book, Daniel Glick provides tips and further information on how we can all do our part to help protect the polar bear, the planet, and our future.

Although there are some minor repetitions of the content among the essays and a couple of small editorial oversights, these do little to detract from the overall excellent quality of the book. As a book that seeks to shed light on the threat of global warming to the Arctic's inhabitants, it is a complete success. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in polar bears, the Arctic, wildlife photography, or simply gaining a better understanding of global warming. The photographs and breadth of knowledge in this book make it equally at home on a coffee table or an academic's bookshelf. Steven Kazlowski is to be congratulated for his efforts to bring the issue of global warming to the public through his pictures of Arctic inhabitants that are being threatened by our warming world.

Evan S. Richardson
Wildlife Biologist
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment Canada
5320-122 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T6H 3S5, Canada
Evan.Richardson@ec.gc.ca

THROUGH DARKENING SPECTACLES: MEMOIRS OF DIAMOND JENNESS. By DIAMOND JENNESS and STUART E. JENNESS. Gatineau, Quebec: Canadian Museum of Civilization, 2008. ISBN 978-0-660-19802-6. Mercury Series, History Paper 55. xxvi + 407 p., maps, b&w illus., appendices, references, index. Softbound. Cdn\$39.95.

Diamond Jenness' *People of the Twilight* introduced me to the Arctic 40 years ago. The very same copy I read as an undergraduate remains on my bookshelf to this day. I can't credit that first reading with turning my still uncertain occupational ambitions toward anthropology, or, once that die had been cast, toward studies of Inuit history and ethnography. But those decisions eventually brought me

back to the book—actually, to its author—as curiosity about the storied past of my chosen profession, particularly its Canadian branch, inevitably led to Jenness, this country's leading light during the interwar period.

An expatriate New Zealander and long-serving scientist with Canada's National Museum, Jenness (1886–1969) epitomizes anthropology's mythical heroic age. Trained at Oxford when the discipline was in its infancy, he was by times a horse-and-buggy ethnographer, a linguist and anthropometrist, and in the days before radiocarbon dating, a self-described “scrounger in the earth.” Readers of these pages may know of his pioneering accounts of turn-of-the-century Copper Inuit life, his discoveries of Dorset and Old Bering Sea cultures, and his series of critical assessments of “Eskimo Administration” under four flags, issued by the Arctic Institute of North America in the 1960s. Less familiar are studies of Papuan customs and of Cypriot economic history, works that bracketed a career spanning six decades. Yet for all his many and varied contributions, how odd it was to discover that Jenness' name barely registered in the profession's collective memory, his scholarship, until quite recently, garnering mention chiefly in footnotes, if acknowledged at all. Having little sense of what the job actually entailed, I jumped into a research project whose aim was to reclaim the man from unwarranted obscurity. A biography is now inching its way toward completion. This last explains my special interest in the title under review, no less my estimation of its pros and cons.

Clyde Kluckhohn once described anthropology as a “hybrid monster,” the progeny of humanistic and scientific traditions. *Through Darkening Spectacles* stems from similar parentage. Its content, one part memoir, one part biography, is the product of two authors, father and son, each writing in his own time and with his own purpose, temper, and tone. The volume's raison d'être is a collection of seven reminiscences that the senior Jenness penned at the very end of his days. More or less autobiographical in nature, they range over varied ground, describing people and places and recalling some of life's more memorable experiences. Complementing the set are five other pieces, all published previously, and the text of a talk Jenness gave on a research trip to Greenland, the baker's dozen arranged chronologically and illustrated (as is the entire text) with photographs and maps. The book's remaining nine chapters, as well as the copious explanatory annotations sprinkled throughout his father's writings, are from the hand of Stuart Jenness and draw on a mix of archival research and personal recollection. There are also several tables and appendices, including lists of works by and about Diamond Jenness. Together, this rich vein of detail serves to fill in gaps—both factual and temporal—within and between the main narratives. Its effect is to endow the entire work with the imprimatur of biography, and in the process, as the junior author freely admits in prefatory remarks, “justifies the inclusion of my name alongside his on the title page” (p. xxii).

Having declared up front my professional interest in the book, I feel safe in saying that what strikes me as its most intriguing (and most disappointing) feature is the near-invisibility of all things anthropological in Jenness' recollections. Regrettably, he tells us nothing about choosing an uncertain future in a still-fledgling profession over a secure one in the British foreign service, or about those whose thought and practice influenced his own, or the contradictions inherent in his dual role as scientist and civil servant. The lone exception, and it is barely so, is his light-hearted reflection on Bering Sea fieldwork in 1926, a story as much about adventures dodging Soviet authority as about the discoveries his efforts yielded. Travelogue comprises practically all the rest: accounts of holidaying in France during college days at Oxford, a tour of European museums on the brink of World War II, a post-retirement sojourn on Cyprus at the height of the anti-colonial Enosis movement. These pieces make good reading. Here and there they also offer tantalizing glimpses of aesthetic and political and scholarly sensibilities, but only glimpses, never the deeper ruminations one ordinarily associates with memoir. As a set, the seven original chapters scarcely add up to a rounded representation of the man's life, let alone his career: hence, Stuart Jenness' decision to include a selection of previously available writings, one each on fieldwork in New Guinea and the Arctic, the rest on work among the aboriginal peoples of British Columbia. No less importantly, this limited selection also provides a plausible explanation for the significant liberty he took in delving at length into two topics the memoirist himself (also regrettably) chose to avoid, in spite of their outsized place in his career and life: participation in the Canadian Arctic Expedition and estrangement from his friend and colleague Marius Barbeau.

The Diamond Jenness revealed in his own publications is an admirably modest man, given to tackling the job at hand without self-aggrandizing embellishment in any form. Much the same comes through in extant (alas, mainly professional) correspondence, some laced with his trademark self-effacing humour. This image of Jenness speaks volumes about what we find, and especially what we don't find, in the handful of writings that comprise the core of *Through Darkening Spectacles* (including even the barest hint as to the writer's intention in selecting the book's title). So, too, does the delicious detail that their author's initial inclination was to subtitle his manuscript *Some Memories of a Taugenichts*, a ne'er-do-well, or good-for-nothing person (p. xxii). And so again does the fact that the aging and ailing father reluctantly took his well-meaning son's advice to sit down at the typewriter one last time, but then only to keep mentally active, convinced as he was that "No one would have any interest in reading about my life" (p. xviii). When my own research into the subject was in its early stages, Stuart Jenness warned that his father had left precious little for biographers to sink their teeth into. How true. Now, what else to conclude but that the public persona embodied in his copious bibliography should serve, at least to his mind, as statement enough?

Just who might constitute this book's audience is difficult to say. But I, for one, welcome its appearance.

Barnett Richling
Department of Anthropology
University of Winnipeg
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2E9, Canada
b.richling@uwinnipeg.ca

SOUTH BY NORTHWEST: THE MAGNETIC CRUSADE AND THE CONTEST FOR ANTARCTICA. By GRANVILLE ALLEN MAWER. Kent Town, South Australia: Wakefield Press, 2006. ISBN 1-86254-650-9. xiii + 319 p., maps, b&w illus., appendix, bib., notes, index. Hardbound. NZ49.95.

Publishers appear to believe, with good evidence, that the reading public has an insatiable appetite for volumes of "derring-do" in the polar regions, and that prospective authors must perforce engage in ever more convoluted mental gymnastics to find areas of the history of polar exploration that have not, in their opinion, been covered adequately in previous works. This seems to be the case in the present volume, the subject of which is, ostensibly, the "quest for the South Magnetic Pole," but which in fact offers very much more. For example, it includes a most detailed analysis of what precisely was seen, and when, by the officers of the various U.S. Exploring Expedition vessels, under the overall command of Charles Wilkes, during their voyages in that area of the Antarctic coast that Wilkes later labeled the Antarctic Continent. (The "contest for Antarctica" in the subtitle refers to the international disagreements arising from this voyage.)

The work starts with the arrival of James Clark Ross and his party at the then North Magnetic Pole on 1 July 1831, as part of the expedition of his uncle, John Ross, in *Victory*. This narrative leads to a disquisition on the early history of the study of magnetism. Due respect is accorded to the work of Norman, Gilbert, Gellibrand, Bond, Halley, Graham, Humboldt, and Gauss but then, as far as Britain was concerned, the work was taken over by the Admiralty, with names like James Clark Ross and Edward Sabine to the fore. Throughout the book, the technical aspects of the subject are explained clearly so that the merest tyro can understand them.

The first main section of the book, comprising more than 100 pages, is robustly entitled "The Antarctic Crusaders 1837–1843." It describes the Dumont D'Urville, Wilkes, and James Clark Ross expeditions to the Antarctic, stressing in each case the extent to which their work was directed towards increasing knowledge about magnetism in general and the location of the South Magnetic Pole in particular. But it is impossible, of course, simply to take this topic in isolation; each expedition is covered in detail, with many consecutive pages in which magnetism is not mentioned at all. The rivalries between the expeditions also