

and Alaska, first among the Han people of Dawson, Yukon Territory, and Eagle, Alaska and then with the Chipewyan of Patuanak, in northern Saskatchewan, all the while treating us to a riveting account of the experiences of a nascent anthropologist working in the Subarctic North.

The book is divided into two sections. The first describes the author's "apprenticeship" as a young graduate student anthropologist, introduced to fieldwork, and to the field, by his supervisor, Catharine McClellan. After an introductory tour with McClellan, during which Jarvenpa and his fellow graduate student apprentice were introduced to many of McClellan's friends and contacts, Jarvenpa set up in Dawson ready to gather "data" on the Han. Growing disillusioned with town life, and determined that the answers to many of his research questions were to be found in Eagle, Alaska, Jarvenpa deserted his post and traveled west and north in the hope of finding a break from his adopted routine in Dawson.

The second, much longer portion of the book deals with Jarvenpa's dissertation research among the Chipewyan of Patuanak. Much of it describes several trips out on the land with local residents, concentrating on a lengthy winter excursion with several trappers.

Jarvenpa likens his book to a journey in two ways:

On the one hand, it is about becoming a cultural anthropologist. Like a child being socialized to adulthood, the anthropologist is metaphorically an infant who must learn a strange society's rules or an alien culture's logic anew. Viewed from the perspective of many years, this private journey has a life crisis quality as the anthropologist passes through cycles of doubt, revelation and reflection. This book focuses upon my earliest experiences as a neophyte confronting the complexities and ambiguities of fieldwork among subarctic native people, first as a graduate student apprentice and, shortly thereafter, as a lone researcher working on a dissertation. Responding to the recent interest in reflexive and critical writing, part of my goal is to help demystify the research process. (p. 2-3)

This Jarvenpa does with great success, describing in detail the trials and tribulations of a young anthropologist working to ensure that the reasons for his research are understood and supported by the people he is studying, while struggling to rise from "infancy" to be accepted as an adult in the eyes of his hosts. This aspect of the book will appeal particularly to anyone who has undertaken, or is contemplating, research in a northern Aboriginal community.

The second journey is more complex, and unlike Osgood, Jarvenpa attempts to go further than a simple travel log, presenting a narrative ethnography of the people he encounters:

On the other hand, this book is an account of actual events and people's lives in a subarctic North that few outsiders see. The emphasis is upon situations that I

found uniquely revealing, heroic, perplexing, disturbing or dramatic, not only for storytelling appeal but also for illustrating fundamental truths about life as lived in the Subarctic. (p. 3)

It is here that the real joy of the book can be found. Jarvenpa presents a moving, sometimes tragic portrayal of people who live in an environment known for its demanding conditions, and in so doing captures an essence rarely found in ethnographic writing. This aspect of the book will appeal to anyone interested in the Subarctic, in particular how people have adapted and continue to adapt to its demanding and changing conditions.

In the prologue to the book, Jarvenpa introduces Athapaskan society and the history of ethnography in the region. In an epilogue, he reflects on what he has learned and presents a touching postscript on the friendships developed along the way. A study guide at the end of the book, prepared by Karla Poewe, University of Calgary, will be of use to students in university-level courses, though students will note the absence of an index. The book is richly illustrated with black-and-white photographs, which help illuminate the stories. I noted only a single error, a minor bibliographical mistake.

Personal accounts of fieldwork from the Subarctic are rare, and as such this book helps fill a gap. Osgood's account of his fieldwork undertaken 70 years ago is interesting today for its historical insights. Jarvenpa's book will survive the test of time as well, though its appeal is more immediate. It should be read today by anyone interested in Subarctic cultures.

REFERENCE

OSGOOD, C. 1953. Winter. New York: W.W. Norton.

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SAFE PASSAGE QUESTIONED: MEDICAL CARE AND SAFETY FOR THE POLAR TOURIST. Edited by J.M. LEVINSON and E. GER. Centreville, Maryland: Cornell Maritime Press, 1998. xiii + 178 p. Softbound. US\$24.95.

This book is a result of a conference held in October 1995 at Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, England, with objectives indicated in the book's title. The primary purpose was to share experiences and offer suggestions, so that a set of guidelines could be prepared to improve the safety and health of travellers in polar regions. This book does an admirable job in meeting the objectives. Designed primarily for the tour industry, its vessels, ship's physicians,

and tourists, the contents of 14 chapters include issues on safety of operations, physician qualifications, medical supplies, medical emergencies, standardization of supplies and equipment on board tour vessels, and varieties of medical ailments and emergencies encountered on tours.

The conference was organized by Dr. John M. Levinson, M.D., past president of the Explorers Club (N.Y.) and founder and president of Aid for International Medicine. Both he and co-editor Dr. Errol Ger are experienced ship's physicians. The conference was attended by 22 physicians and 18 others, including prominent polar explorers and scientists. The physicians included several from Antarctic Treaty Party nations, as well as those who have served as physicians on tour vessels. Formal presentations were made on two days, and a follow-up day was scheduled for discussions and preparations for a proceedings volume. Some of the original presentations were included intact in this volume, and others were synthesized and rewritten by the editors to provide more comprehensive coverage of selected topics. Thus, authors of some chapters are not identified; instead, a list of 29 contributors provides credit to those who submitted papers or offered some of the content.

The grist for the conference is given in the Foreword by Dr. Bernard Stonehouse, polar biologist at Scott Polar Research Institute, who discusses the basic issues to be included—the types of patients that comprise the wide variety of tour passengers encountered; operational safety; responsibility; appropriate treatment; medical facilities aboard; networks of advice and support; and the outcome of the conference (this book, ultimately). The chapters start with a brief history and description of the polar regions, and a history of polar tourism. Tourism visits to the Arctic are not well documented, but those for Antarctica since 1957 are known with reasonable certainty from records kept by tour companies now under the aegis of the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO). From 1957 through the 1997–98 austral summer, a total of about 89 000 tourists traveled to Antarctica, most by ship but about 2300 by air. With numbers increasing each year (nearly 11 000 tourists are estimated for the 1998–99 summer), and more vessels, many of them Russian, being chartered to accommodate the demand, it is no wonder that safety of operations and medical facilities have become more important.

A chapter on the historical perspectives of polar medicine includes the problems related to diet, nutrition, and scurvy, a serious issue in all early expeditions before lemon juice and vitamin C became known for the prevention of scurvy. Most of the rest of the book presents practical aspects, namely medical capabilities at Antarctic bases; safety on the ship, on zodiac-type craft, and on helicopters; communications, disasters, and evacuations; physician qualifications, medical equipment, and medical supplies for a tourist ship; hypothermia and cold injuries; medical emergencies; personal accounts by ship's physicians; liability issues; and personal accounts by tourists.

The final chapter includes advice for tourists prior to booking a cruise, what to expect on board (and what not to expect), and tips on safety, clothing, and travel on land. Some of the detail on the practical (medical) aspects of the book is moderately technical, though understandable in layman's language, and designed for the physician-readers. A primary objective stated throughout the book is that tour operators should achieve a standardization of medical equipment and supplies, and employ ship's doctors that have a wide range of experience in medical emergencies. This responsibility falls mainly on IAATO, the organization of which virtually all companies that charter tour vessels are members, and steps have been taken since its founding in 1991 to ensure that proper facilities are provided for all vessels. Some of the Appendixes in the book contain the guidelines that tour operators follow, as enacted by the Treaty Parties, including aspects of not only environmental practices but also preparation, safety, contingency plans, and self-sufficiency. Improvements made annually by tour operators will add to the safety of operations and ensure that tourists are taken care of in polar regions as well as they are in other, less remote parts of the world.

This book is required reading for all physicians who are employed on tour vessels in polar regions, tour operators and their management and shipboard staff, tourists who plan trips and are unsure of what to expect on a cruise, and others interested in wilderness travel. The book includes black-and-white photographs, references to relevant literature, and an index.

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LES INUIT. CE QU'ILS SAVENT DU TERRITOIRE. By BÉATRICE COLLIGNON. Paris: L'Harmattan, 1996. 255 p., maps, b&w illus., bib., appendices. Softbound.

Les Inuit. Ce qu'ils savent du territoire ("The Inuit. What they know of the territory") is a slightly reworked version of Béatrice Collignon's doctoral dissertation on the geographical knowledge of the Inuinait, a group of Inuit of the Canadian Arctic who now live mainly on Victoria Island and along the coast of Coronation Gulf, but whose original territory extended as far west as Banks Island. In her introduction, Collignon states that she hopes to contribute to a better understanding of the dynamics involved in the cultural and identity redefinitions of the Inuit, and that geography is at the heart of collective identities. Well aware that all Inuit groups are presently going through deep cultural mutations, Collignon wants to explore how these changes also affect the nature and content of their geographical knowledge.

Chapter 1 gives a historical overview of Inuinait social structure and their seasonal round. We learn that the