

Prince Patrick Island in Late Tertiary time, as suggested by J.V. Matthews and others in their paper on the Beaufort Formation biota of that island. In other fields, Anne Gunn, from her studies on Victoria Island, stresses the need for understanding how the numbers of caribou and muskoxen react to climatic change, and R. McGhee, writing on the prehistory of the Inuit, points to the fact that the Little Ice Age (c. 1600-1850) saw the abandonment of occupation in the High Arctic islands.

The climatic element of papers in these volumes could provide a unifying strategy for future research in the Arctic Islands. The current predictions of climatic change are of an order of magnitude that politicians will ignore at their peril — or at least at their grandchildren's — if they cannot bring themselves to look beyond the next election. There was a time when Canadian activity in the far North proceeded in fits and starts according to perceived threats to sovereignty, or even of actual military invasion! Now is the time to confront the common enemy of northern peoples in a broadly based program of research into climate devised with skill to bring in international expertise in all disciplines, and so as to extract money from tight-fisted authorities. As C.L. Labine remarks in his paper on arctic meteorology and climatology, "a lack of a clear government northern policy is . . . the main drawback affecting all research in the Arctic Islands."

Besides the climatic issues, which are scattered through the volumes and on which it has seemed appropriately topical to dwell, the papers embody an immense amount of solid science in the palaeontological, taxonomic and ecological fields — science that is refreshingly forward-looking as well as reviewing. The four papers on human prehistory provide a fine perspective on that subject, and the paper by A.J. Sutcliffe on rates of decay of mammalian remains in the High Arctic gives much food for thought, if not for consumption under extremely favourable conditions of preservation!

On a more general note, it is pleasant to find the last four papers devoted to the history of arctic exploration and to recent adventure-training or mountaineering expeditions in the Arctic Islands. In one of these papers mention is made of that great warrior and adventurer Bill Tilman, whose grave is the Southern Ocean. On his departure from Pond Inlet in *Mischief* in 1963, after his crossing of Bylot Island, he liked to relate that he had almost been killed by kindness. He had experienced the hospitality traditional to all northerners, for his boat was loaded to the gunnels with goodies nearly to the point of capsizing! This proud tradition continues — and long may it — as members of recent United Kingdom expeditions can testify, for they have met only kindness and every possible assistance, with perhaps an amused tolerance of their quaint fantasies about "exploring."

To Canadians and visitors from overseas alike, these volumes, in attractive covers from a painting by Brenda Carter, provide a most valuable compendium of current scientific knowledge of the Arctic Islands and a blueprint for future research.

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**RUNNING THE NORTH: THE GETTING AND SPENDING OF CANADA'S PUBLIC FINANCES BY CANADA'S TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS.** Edited by REBECCA AIRD. Ottawa: Canadian Arctic Resources Committee, 1989(?). 468 p., 54 figs. Price not indicated.

Out of delicacy or disinterest, northern researchers have on the whole neglected questions of territorial public finance. Federal-territorial fiscal relations, the budget cycle, patterns of revenue and expenditure, the means for ensuring financial control and fiscal probity have been scarcely studied at all. *Running the North* by no means exhausts these topics, but editor Rebecca Aird and most of the 14 authors in the collection do take us an enormous step towards filling the gap.

Aird's substantial introduction and a strong trio of articles open the volume. James Cunningham and Mark Dickerson provide a history of Northwest Territories administration, including a useful review of successive financial regimes. Gurston Dacks examines fiscal and other aspects of the Territories' constitutional position, to propose, finally, staged enhancement of territorial powers rather than provincial status. Long-time backbencher Lynda Sorensen explains the considerable leverage available to ordinary members to affect budget decisions in the party-less NWT Legislative Assembly. Issues arising in political and economic development are addressed in the next set of articles, which begins with Peter Jull's provocative and subtle analysis of the prospects for true aboriginal control of territorial governing institutions. Jull probes the implications of devolution and division for the difficult issues of race, ethnicity and representation. Doug McArthur's chapter on Yukon 2000 is a useful report of what Yukoners think about their economic future. Not only is the material interesting in its own right, but as McArthur notes, it also demonstrates the efficacy of the structured, territory-wide discussion that was Yukon 2000.

Sandwiched between these two intelligent pieces is Mark Malone's incoherent and slight essay on the Northwest Territories economy. Malone has strung together a number of trendy but irrelevant literary references and some well-known facts. His expository style and his analysis are very sloppy. A typical sentence (in a section titled "The Unbearable Lightness of Dependency") reads: "Phase 1 of Finance Minister Wilson's inevitable response to Reaganomics, involving lower direct taxation rates, hardly reflects N.W.T. consumer prices, averaging 44 per cent above comparable prices for Canada" (p.135). "Phase 1" is never defined or explained; the inadequate description of Reagan's economic policies as a matter of "lower direct taxation rates" is never remedied; nor is there any explanation of why Wilson's response to lower U.S. tax rates was inevitable, or why it should reflect N.W.T. consumer prices.

David Smith and Jean Guertin do us all the major favour of describing and analyzing the ever-changing terms of federal-territorial fiscal relations. Formula financing, the system through which funds are transferred from the federal to the territorial governments, is explained in historical context (by Smith) and with an eye to the future (by Guertin). Smith correctly identifies territorial struggles for increased fiscal autonomy as the core of the evolution towards responsible government. Both he and Guertin open this key area for informed debate among northerners and southern fellow travellers. Very different approaches to the same issues come from Oran Young, northerners' favourite American academic, and former federal civil servant Barbara Heidenreich. Young assays the damaging impact of oil dependency upon Alaskan fiscal policy, while Heidenreich contributes the best effort to date at calculating the cost of dividing the Northwest Territories. Oil-boom hopefuls in the territorial Cabinet and people on both sides of the division question need these analyses.

The book concludes with four articles that proceed from a recognition of the importance of public expenditures in maintaining territorial economic vitality. Editor Rebecca Aird contributes a comprehensive, thoughtful review of the role of the N.W.T. government in economic development. Among many useful aspects of this chapter is a quantitative analysis of patterns in government spending on economic development, and arising from this is a plea for more realistic economic development planning. Frank Duerden's powerful analysis of the geography of Yukon government spending shows how it sets the limits of community economic development. Like his earlier work on residency and elections, Duerden's solidly empirical and intelligent analysis should settle many silly arguments, in this case about the merits and effects of government "intervention" in the northern economy. In a complementary vein, David Moll explores the dynamics of socio-economic benefits of program expenditures.

Public spending is analyzed from another perspective in C.E.S. Franks's study of aboriginal representation in the public service. Franks's spirited critique of ineffective affirmative action measures

proceeds from the recognition that most desirable employment in the territorial North is public service employment and that true self-determination entails, among other things, self-administration.

Individually and as a set, these articles will be basic readings in college and university courses on the North. Combining groundbreaking empirical research and thoughtful exploration of the primary policy choices facing the territorial governments, they should also be read more widely — by northerners in and out of public office who would work towards more democratic government.

The collection also provides an opportunity for some observations about the state of informed commentary on northern affairs. With the exception of Franks's brave critique, the authors in this volume are extremely *tactful* about the territorial governments. There is virtually no direct criticism of either ministerial or bureaucratic behaviour, or of governmental spending habits and accountability procedures. Yet these would be unusual bureaucracies indeed if there were not some obvious improvements to be made, particularly in light of the colonial heritage of northern administrations. It is past time that we declared the territorial governments finally born, and like all others accountable for their actions and especially for their use of public funds.

A second interesting feature of the research published in this volume is the very skimpy reference to others' research by almost all the authors. The university-employed academics cite each other sparingly; practitioners and non-university-based scholars (like Aird) ignore the academic literature. The result is that they rely on their own experience, often very successfully, and on government documents, with less salutary results. The fact that practitioners feel free to ignore academic research harms both communities: academics are not subject to adequate criticism, testing and scrutiny from those with a different perspective, while non-reading practitioners rob themselves of independent analysis and fresh perspectives.

This particular collection more than earns its place on the library shelf by its many strengths. Production values are not among these: it would be a serious mistake to judge this book by its cover! While the scholarship, balance and quality of writing in almost all of the pieces reveal a diligent editorial hand, it appears that the publisher has not made a similar investment. This excellent book appears on photocopied manuscript pages bound together with a labelless plastic spine. Someone forgot to print the date of publication (probably 1989). The mass of tables included as Section V of the book is uninviting and in some parts downright unclear (for example, Figure 23); a decent desktop printing job and a bit more digestion and selection (do we really need incommensurate statistics on regional and territory-wide unemployment?) could have transformed this scattering of reprinted tables and figures into a usable compendium.

But don't let the unworthy format deter you. This collection is comprehensive, accurate, challenging, well written and interesting. It deserves reissue as a proper book. In the meantime, buy it.

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#### BOOKS RECEIVED

- 1:50,000 MAP OF MOUNT MCKINLEY ALASKA. Surveyed and edited by BRADFORD WASHBURN. Zurich and Fairbanks: The Swiss Foundation for Alpine Research and University of Alaska Press, 1990. ISBN 0-912006. 5th ed. 1 sheet, 30' x 32', colour. US\$12.00, folded; \$20.00, unfolded/rolled. \$1.50 p&h for first copy, \$.50 each additional copy.
- A COUNTRY SO INTERESTING, THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY AND TWO CENTURIES OF MAPPING, 1670-1870. By RICHARD I. RUGGLES. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1991. xix + 300 p., maps, notes, bib., index. Hardcover. Cdn\$49.95.
- ALASKA PLACE NAMES. By ALAN EDWARD SCHORR. Juneau: The Denali Press, 1991. ISBN 0-938737-25-2. 191 p., index. Softbound. US\$25.00 + \$2.50 shipping.

- DICTIONARY OF ALASKAN ENGLISH. By RUSSELL TABBERT. Juneau: The Denali Press, 1991. ISBN 0-938737-23-6. 294 p., index. Softbound. US\$47.50 + \$2.50 shipping.
- ESKIMO ESSAYS: YUP'IK LIVES AND HOW WE SEE THEM. By ANN FIENUP-RIORDAN. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1991. ISBN 0-8135-1588-2 (cloth); ISBN 0-8135-1589 (pbk). xxii + 269 p., maps, b&w illus., notes, bib., index. US\$25.00 (cloth), US\$11.95 (pbk).
- HAA TUWUNAAGU YIS, FOR HEALING OUR SPIRIT, TLINGIT ORATORY. Edited by NORA MARKS DAUENHAUER and RICHARD DAUENHAUER. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1991. ISBN 0-295-96850-8. xxxv + 569 p., notes, b&w illus., glossary, bib. Softbound, Cdn \$17.50. Hardcover, Cdn\$35.00.
- KUSIQ — AN ESKIMO LIFE HISTORY FROM THE ARCTIC COAST OF ALASKA. By WALDO BODFISH, sr. Recorded, compiled and edited by WILLIAM SCHNEIDER, in collaboration with LEONA KISAUTAQ OKAKOK and JAMES MUMIGANA NAGEAK. Fairbanks: University of Alaska Press, 1991. ISBN 0-912006-44-7. xiii + 330 p., map, b&w illus., notes, bib., indices. Softbound. US\$21.00 + \$2.00 p&h.
- LIFE LIVED LIKE A STORY. By JULIE CRUIKSHANK, in collaboration with ANGELA SIDNEY, KITTY SMITH and ANNIE NED. Vancouver: The University of British Columbia Press, 1991. ISBN 0-7748-0357-6. xvi + 404 p., map, b&w illus., notes, glossary, bib., index. Hardcover. Cdn\$55.00.
- THE WAKE OF THE UNSEEN OBJECT: AMONG THE NATIVE CULTURES OF BUSH ALASKA. By TOM KIZZIA. Markham: Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 1991. ISBN 0-8050-1471-3. 278 p., map. Hardcover. Cdn\$24.95.
- WHEN THE WORLD WAS NEW, STORIES OF THE SAHTU DENE. By GEORGE BLONDIN. Yellowknife: Outcrop, The Northern Publishers, 1990. ISBN 1-919315-21-6. iv + 246 p., b&w illus., map. Softbound. Cdn\$15.95.

#### PAPERS TO APPEAR IN *ARCTIC*

- PEARCE, C.M. Mapping Muskox Habitat in the Canadian High Arctic with SPOT Satellite Data.
- FRANKLIN, S.E. Topographic Data and Satellite Spectral Response in Subarctic High-Relief Terrain Analysis.
- WEEKS, W.F., WELLER, G., and CARSEY, F.D. The Polar Oceans Program of the Alaska SAR Facility.
- PATERSON, J.S., BRISCO, B., ARGUS, S., and JONES, G. *In Situ* Measurements of Micro-Scale Surface Roughness of Sea Ice.
- FERGUSON, R.S. Detection and Classification of Muskox Habitat on Banks Island, Northwest Territories, Canada, Using Landsat Thematic Mapper Data.
- BARBER, D.G., RICHARD, P.R., HOCHHEIM, K.P., and ORR, J. Calibration of Aerial Thermal Infrared Imagery for Walrus Population Assessment.
- DEVANEY, J.R. Clastic Sedimentology of the Beaufort Formation, Prince Patrick Island, Canadian Arctic Islands: Late Tertiary Sandy Braided River Deposits with Woody Detritus Beds.
- WEIN, E.E., SABRY, J.H., and EVERS, F.T. Food Consumption Patterns and Use of Country Foods by Native Canadians near Wood Buffalo National Park, Canada.
- COLLINS, W.B., and SMITH, T.S. Effects of Wind-Hardened Snow on Foraging by Reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus*).
- KERTELL, K. Disappearance of the Steller's Eider from the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska.
- GUNN, A., SHANK, C.C., and McLEAN, B. The History, Status and Management of Muskoxen on Banks Island.
- TIMONEY, K.P., and WEIN, R.W. The Areal Pattern of Burned Tree Vegetation in the Subarctic Region of Northwestern Canada.
- HEIDE-JØRGENSEN, M.P., and FINLEY, K.J. Photographic Reidentification of a Bowhead Whale in Davis Strait.
- FOSTER, J.L., CHANG, A.T.C., HALL, D.K., and RANGO, A. Derivation of Snow Water Equivalent in Boreal Forests Using Microwave Radiometry.
- BOROVSKY, J.E., SUSZCZYNSKY, D.M., BUCHWALD, M.I., and DEHAVEN, H.V. Measuring the Thicknesses of Auroral Curtains.
- MORRISON, D. The Copper Inuit Soapstone Trade.
- WHEELERSBURG, R.P. Uma Saami Native Harvest Data Derived from Royal Swedish Taxation Records A.D. 1557-1614.
- TRAVIS, R. Homelessness, Alcoholism, and Ethnic Discrimination among Alaska Natives.
- MATTHEWS, S.B. An Assessment of Bison Habitat in the Mills/Mink Lakes Area, Northwest Territories, Using Landsat Thematic Mapper Data.