

the physical and human dimensions of the polar regions. (Surprisingly, Young neglects to cite this widely used text.)

This reviewer, having participated in northern studies for some 35 years and admittedly a product of the "Golden Age" of Kimble and Good, had hoped that at long last a comprehensive successor to *Geography of the Northlands* was now to be available. Alas, although promoted as "An Introduction to the Far Northern World," it lacks the breadth such an introduction should be expected to provide.

I took a chance, notwithstanding, and adopted the new book as the text for my most recent offering of the upper-division course on the Northlands. This review incorporates that experience, including student response.

Young's initial chapter (entitled "Bears, Boreas, and Celestial Mechanics: How We Define and Subdivide the Polar Regions") is exceptionally clear, precise and well presented. Similarly his second chapter, "Polar Weather and Climate," is very much on target, lucid, non-technical and stylistically agreeable. Both chapters achieve the author's purposes admirably, with just the right level of detail and complexity one hopes to find in an adopted text.

Subsequent chapters, however, occasionally tend to go overboard — a 32-page treatise, or almost 10% of the entire book, on "Birds of the Arctic," for example. This is considerably more than most who seek a regional survey ever feel they need, or want, to know on the subject. On the other hand, the chapter falls short as a field guide to the arctic bird life aficionado.

The only photographs are black and white and frequently the contrast is insufficient to properly represent the intended subject. Line drawings, however, which are abundantly distributed throughout the text, are very clear. Economics undoubtedly ruled out color, but without it a field guide loses much of its utility. Maps scarcely appear at all and the omission of a general place location map, which could have constituted a frontispiece, is most regrettable.

The greatest deficiency of this introduction to the Arctic is, by far, the almost minuscule attention given to the reality of humankind in the North. Only the final chapter, "The Human Presence in the Arctic," focuses on people. Even there the topic is the ancient ancestors of today's northern people, with contemporary cultures essentially ignored. You will search in vain for the ways and the works of what is, in the final analysis, the most significant life form found in the circumpolar North. When Young deals with ice, vegetation, and terrestrial and marine animals he generally does very well. Unfortunately he stopped too soon for the work to be considered an overall introduction to this most fascinating part of the world, a region within which people must be recognized as a primary element.

One student stated in his evaluation of the text selected for the course, "The book talks about bits and pieces of the northern lands but it never puts them together to give the reader a grasp of what the Arctic is really like." This may be a reflection of youthful extremism, but then again, when you omit the people perhaps you have not discharged your self-appointed task: to both introduce and to field guide the Arctic. The course grade, incidentally, that the quoted student received was "A." If required to assign one to the text it would have to be "Incomplete."

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KALAALLIT NUNAAT — GRØNLAND — ATLAS. Edited by CHRISTIAN BERTHELTSEN, INGER HOLBECH MORTENSEN and EBBE MORTENSEN. Graphic layout by METTE and ERIC MOURIER. Nuuk: Grønlands Hjemmestyre, Pilersuiffik, 1989. 130 p. and statistical section, 24 p. Price not indicated.

The first paragraph of the Preface reads: "Kalaallit Nunaat — Atlas is a teaching material, aimed at the eldest pupils in High School (Folkeskolen) and later training. But others with interest in Greenland can also enjoy it." Indeed, yes; anyone with polar or geographic interests will find this an absorbing work. It is beautifully produced, illustrated to perfection and very carefully put together. Hans Egede's famous map of South Greenland, dated 1737, forms the endpapers, front and back. The maps are original productions and most of the figures and descriptions are prepared specially for the atlas. The list of contributing organizations and people, both in Greenland and in Denmark, is very long. The text is bilingual, Greenlandic and Danish. It is to be hoped that there will sometime be an English edition.

The information brought together is all-embracing. The first two-page spread after the general introductory maps deals with Disko Bay, which is used to show a detail of the history of the ice cap and, in particular, the formation of the Jakobshavn ice fjord, one of the most spectacular sights of the Greenland landscape and seascape, which are spectacular enough anyway. There is a general account of the ice cap a few pages later on. Individual presentations cover sheep farming, geology, national parks, climate, sea currents and marine food chains, sea ice, transportation (by sea and by air), tides, seasonal light behaviour, aurora and magnetic fields, telecommunication, freshwater resources, plant cover and zonation, birds, culture and communication, fisheries, housing from 1901 to 1985. Pages 50-89 deal seriatim with the individual *kommuner* into which the country is divided for administrative purposes, each with an excellent map and a page of description and illustration. Nuuk (Godthaab), the capital, is given four pages. There is an illustrated analysis of hunting and fishing for private use, treated month by month. Finally are a lexicon section covering matters relating to Greenland and to the northern regions in general and a bibliography. The Culture and Communication section gives a very brief account of the past history of peoples in Greenland, from 2500 B.C. to 2000 A.D. The foreword mentions somewhat apologetically that the planned dimensions of the atlas made it impossible to cover "all geographic aspects."

This is an utterly fascinating book. Your reviewer has spent many hours buried in it. I should add that I received it as a gift from the director of the Greenland National Bank.

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COPING WITH THE CASH. Prepared for the Legislative Assembly of the NWT Special Committee on the Northern Economy by the SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH GROUP OF THE ARCTIC INSTITUTE OF NORTH AMERICA. Yellowknife: GNWT, 1989. 133 p.

With two land claims already implemented in the Canadian North and the three largest at the Framework Agreement stage, *Coping with the Cash* provides a timely and detailed evaluation of the performance of implemented land claims settlements and uses analysis of this experience to address the important question of optimum approaches to expenditure of compensation monies. The work is essentially in two parts, utilizing a critical review of the economic performance of existing claims (James Bay, Inuvialuit and Alaska) as a basis for discussion of possible impacts of the Dene-Metis claim in the Northwest Territories. The first chapter examines the performance of existing claim agreements, the second examines the probable economic impact of the N.W.T. claim, while subsequent chapters review the impact on the private sector and government. The work concludes with a review of investment scenarios.