

ARCTIC HERITAGE: PROCEEDINGS OF A SYMPOSIUM. Edited by J.G. NELSON, ROGER NEEDHAM and LINDA NORTON. Ottawa: Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies, 1987. 653 p., illus. Softbound. Cdn\$27.50.

This volume forms the record of an international symposium held at Banff, Alberta, in August 1985. The symposium was initiated and organized by the Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies and had as co-sponsors the Commission on Ecology and the Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas, both of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. The volume contains the texts of over 30 papers prepared for the symposium, together with a number of critiques, summaries of discussions, commentaries, and major conclusions. They are grouped under three headings: The Natural Realm in the Arctic, Land Use and Conservation in the Arctic, and National Parks and Protected Areas in the Arctic.

The Natural Realm in the Arctic includes papers discussing the northern lands, seas, lakes, climate, fauna, and flora, especially their interactions, the factors that have formed them, and the processes that control their nature. Together these papers constitute an excellent non-human geography and natural history of the circumpolar North. As each paper is self-contained, there is unavoidably a considerable amount of duplication among them as well as among other papers in the volume, since such factors as cold, the large area, and the high latitude affect several of these themes.

More than half of *Arctic Heritage* is concerned with land use and conservation in the Arctic. Papers discuss a wide range of topics related to land use, such as tourism, hunting, conservation strategies, native land claims, and development of renewable and non-renewable resources. They also extend over a wide geographical area, often including much of the Subarctic, and one is concerned solely with Antarctica and the Southern Ocean. Many, but by no means all, aspects of what might be called the conservation industry in the North are covered in considerable detail.

The third group of papers, dealing with national parks and protected areas in the Arctic, presents national overviews of the situation in Alaska, Canada, Greenland, Norway including Svalbard, and the U.S.S.R. For each country they give the history of the development of parks and reserves, the policies that have been established, and what has been done to implement them. This provides a very useful source of information for reference purposes and a means of comparing what has been achieved in the different countries.

Few would be able to comment on the content of all the individual papers in *Arctic Heritage*, and this reviewer would certainly not attempt it. Some general observations may indicate what appeared to be weaknesses in an otherwise admirable publication.

The title *Arctic Heritage* seems strange for a volume that says virtually nothing about history or archaeology, which many would consider to be central to the concept of heritage. Conservation and preservation of the natural history of the North have been foremost in the minds of the contributors. This leads one to wonder whose arctic heritage is under review. Is it that of the recent immigrants to the North and those who visit it on a short-term basis for business, vacations, or research? Or is it that of the native people who have lived there for centuries and are more interested in continuity than in change? The list of participants does not appear to include anyone from the Canadian native people. It is true that one paper is a statement by the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut giving a prepared position on "Land Claims, National Parks, Protected Areas and Renewable Resource Economy," but a formal statement is not adequate representation. Those from the South and those of the North are both users of the Arctic and they will remain so. Both have rights and responsibilities, though the nature of these rights and responsibilities may differ. Neither can pre-empt the other's heritage and sometimes their interests may conflict. A symposium provides opportunities for exchange of views, for discussion, and for enhancing understanding, and these opportunities are forfeited when vital interests are not present. It takes two to tango.

It is alarming to find little or no reference to the three-wheel Hondas and other cross-country vehicles. North of the tree line there is little to hamper their freedom of movement. In many areas there are tracks across the tundra leading to every lake, where people have been searching for eggs or hoping to shoot waterfowl. These vehicles represent a real threat both to the animals, who become so much more accessible, and to the land itself, because the tracks can last for years and often get worse from the effect of repeated freezing and thawing. Their use is increasing rapidly and the vehicles themselves are getting heavier and larger. Are the conservationists not aware of the extensive and sometimes irreversible damage they can cause?

As papers in a symposium volume do not get the refereeing by specialists that is customary in scientific journals, their contents should be treated with rather more caution. It is stated, for instance, that the Territorial Council was established in Yukon a decade ago, when the Council really dates back to 1898, and the distance by sea between Yokohama and London should not be given as 14 650 nautical miles when in the next sentence the distance between Yokohama and Rotterdam is said to be 15 640 nautical miles. Mistakes like this, and there are several, are usually corrected by referees if they have not been caught by the editor.

The editing itself is uneven. Some papers must have been very carefully proofread. Others are full of misprints and errors in spelling and punctuation. Most of the maps are clear, though some have been reduced too much, while that showing the spatial distribution of circumpolar peoples is both over-simplified and wrong.

Several conferences and symposia in recent years have been concerned with very much the same range of topics. As many who might attend are prevented by the cost, many of the participants remain the same, particularly those from government and industry. They have too important a message to risk talking only to themselves, and a symposium volume, even one as good as this, is unlikely to have the wide circulation it deserves. The solution will probably not be found in more conferences of the converted.

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INUIT YOUTH: GROWTH AND CHANGE IN THE CANADIAN ARCTIC. By RICHARD G. CONDON. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1987. 252 p., 3 maps, 21 illus., 2 figs., 14 tables, index, bib. Hardbound. US\$32.00.

The Harvard Adolescence Project was established to provide a cross-cultural study of the physical, psychological and behavioral changes of adolescence in seven different cultures. This particular volume focuses on the Central Canadian Arctic and the Inuit community of Holman Island. The author's previous work experience with the people of this arctic area in 1978-80 helped lay the foundation for this study. The actual research period during 1982-83 was expanded into a total of seven years of research, writing and introspection.

Condon sets the scene for the reader with a description of the history, climate and topographical conditions of this isolated community, and the study is enhanced graphically with maps and comparison graphs. Because of their extensive hunting expeditions, the Inuit had a thorough knowledge of the geography and physiography of this vast area.

In the past the Copper Inuit (named because of their use of native copper for hunting tools, etc.) were isolated physically, socially, economically and politically in small groups across the Arctic. From a precarious, nomadic existence they now enjoy a comparatively secure, permanent base equipped with medical facilities, government housing, electricity and television.