

Siberia and of different aspects of Russian explorations. And third, as the official archivist of Imperial Russia from 1763 to 1783, Müller collected additional evidence that, together with his earlier material, is now known as "Müller's portfolios." Over the years a number of scholars have tapped this rich reservoir, but it would appear that none has yet been allowed complete and unrestricted access to it.

The present work consists of two fairly even parts. The first is lengthy background information by Carol Urness detailing Russian preparations for the historic undertaking. Included here are: brief biographical sketches of various participants, 23 maps showing Russian explorations, and an analysis of the views of several 18th-century West European observers on a number of controversial points concerning Russian discoveries and of Müller's responses.

The second part is a new translation of Müller's accounts of the two Bering expeditions published in 1758 in Müller's *Sammlung russischer Geschichte*. As a result we now have three English translations of Müller's account: two, inadequate and incomplete, published in 1761 and 1764 respectively, and the present satisfactory one. This new translation has 17 chapters, which discuss the following topics: the First Kamchatka Expedition, 1725-30; events in Kamchatka between 1730 and 1740; preparations for the Second Kamchatka Expedition, 1733-41; Russian explorations in the Arctic Ocean, 1734-39; Russian naval reconnaissance in Japanese waters, 1738-42; charting of Bering's and Chirikov's voyages of 1741; events surrounding Bering's and Chirikov's voyages; contributions of S. Khitrov, G.W. Steller and S. Waxel; events surrounding Bering's and Chirikov's return; and Müller's commentary on published West European accounts critical or doubtful of Russian exploration achievements.

Those interested in Russian explorations in the greater North Pacific region in the first half of the 18th century owe gratitude to Carol Urness for making available a new English version of Müller's classic treatment. Her translation is clear, it reads well and, as evident in extensive footnotes, it has been well researched. This reviewer, however, feels that this long-overdue and otherwise sound work is marred by two shortcomings: a glossary that falls short of expectations on account of its brevity and terseness of definitions; and a bibliography that, while fairly long, omits many important earlier and recent studies. Most glaring is the failure to include works by such noted Russian and Soviet scholars of Bering's voyages as Vasilii N. Berkh, Lev S. Berg and Evgenii V. Kushnarev. This criticism in no way diminishes the value of the work. Indeed, it belongs in every library.

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DISCOVERY OF THE NORTH: THE EXPLORATION OF CANADA'S ARCTIC. By DANIEL FRANCIS. Edmonton: Hurtig Publishers, 1986. 224 p., 10 maps, 21 illus., index, bib. Hardbound. Cdn \$16.95.

Discovery of the North presents a summary of the major expeditions and personalities involved in the exploration of the Canadian Arctic from the voyages of Martin Frobisher in the late 16th century to the Canadian Arctic Expedition led by Vilhjalmur Stefansson in the early 20th century.

To attempt a detailed synthesis of all expeditions and personalities would have been beyond the scope of the book (and indeed any single book), and Francis has wisely concentrated only upon those that are the best known and documented, though many others are referred to in passing. The book consists of ten chapters, each dealing with a major era of arctic exploration: the 16th- and early 17th-century exploration of Baffin Island and Baffin Bay (chapter 1), the 17th- and 18th-century exploration of Hudson Bay (chapter 2), the 18th-century overland expeditions of Hearne and Mackenzie (chapter 3), the early 19th-century

Royal Navy expeditions of Ross, Parry and Franklin (chapter 4), John Ross's voyage to Boothia Peninsula in 1829-33 (chapter 5), the early 19th-century expeditions of Back, Dease and Simpson, and Rae (chapter 6), the Franklin expedition of 1845-48 and subsequent search expeditions (chapter 7), Hall's three expeditions in the mid- and late 19th-century (chapter 8), the late 19th- and early 20th-century expeditions of Sverdrup and Amundsen (chapter 9), and finally the various Canadian government-sponsored expeditions and patrols of the early 20th century (chapter 10).

The book is oriented toward the interested non-specialist. Emphasis is placed on expedition highlights and the context in which each was undertaken, rather than on detailed expedition summaries. Furthermore, although citations are common, the individual sources from which they are taken are not given. On the one hand, this results in lucid, entertaining accounts of the various expeditions and personalities. On the other hand, it makes the book of limited value to arctic historians or others already familiar with arctic exploration.

In place of a comprehensive reference list is a "bibliographic essay" of selected readings, which presents a useful guide to further literature on arctic exploration and offers suggestions for both primary and secondary "summary" sources. One major omission, however, is Richard J. Cyriax's *Sir John Franklin's Last Expedition: a Chapter in the History of the Royal Navy* (1939), by far the most important work on the Franklin expedition of 1845-48.

As in any attempt to cover a topic of as wide a scope as arctic exploration, factual errors can be expected, and *Discovery of the North* has its share. The account of John Ross's expedition of 1829-33 is a case in point; Ross's *Victory* was fitted with one new engine, not "engines" (p. 103, 105); the Netsilik Inuit did not trade snowshoes to Ross, as they did not use snowshoes (p. 105); the sun is not "continuously below the horizon" until April at the latitude of Lord Mayor Bay (70°N), but first appears on 18 January, and by 1 April there are approximately 14 hours of daylight (p. 106); during the summer of 1831, the *Victory* was able to sail approximately 20 km to a new harbour, not "6.5 km" (p. 108); and finally, Ross's "King Williams Land" was determined definitely to be an island by Rae in 1854, not Dease and Simpson in 1839 (p. 120).

Certainly a major failing of the book, however, is in the lack of maps indicating the routes of the various expeditions. Each chapter has only a single map on which are indicated several locations mentioned in the text, but many more important locations are omitted. Returning again to the Ross expedition of 1829-33 for example, none of the four wintering localities (Felix, Sheriff and Victoria harbours, Fury Beach) is indicated, nor are other locations that figured prominently in the expedition, such as Cape Adelaide (where James Ross located the north magnetic pole) or Port Leopold (from which the expedition members finally made their escape).

Overall, the book's appeal will be to those without previous knowledge of the history of arctic exploration, who will find it an enjoyable introduction if they are not concerned with the geography or routes associated with the various expeditions.

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THE ANTARCTIC TREATY REGIME — LAW, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES. Edited by GILLIAND TRIGGS. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1987. 238 p. Hardbound. £30. US\$54.50.

The human species has a longing to understand and an urge to exploit. While understanding often leads to creative utilization of the natural environment and resources, recent history points more and more to destructive consequences in the use of our knowledge and research. The Antarctic is both a model of cooperation in international

research into our earth environment and a place that is under great pressure because of the search for minerals and energy resources.

The earth's nations recognized that the Antarctic was a special place, important to the whole world. This was recognized by the 12 participating nations who, working through the United Nations, drew up the Antarctic Treaty signed in 1959. The negotiations for the treaty took place during one of the most extensive global cooperative studies ever carried out, the International Geophysical Year 1957/58. During the IGY, 50 scientific stations were set up over the Antarctic continent. The motivation for the Antarctic Treaty was to ensure that territorial claims should not retard comprehensive scientific research. Hence the signatories agreed that "freedom of scientific investigation in Antarctica and co-operation to that end, as applied during the IGY, shall continue."

This year (1988) agreements have been negotiated and signed to regulate the exploitation of the Antarctic Minerals Regime. Will history repeat itself, or have we progressed? What role can scientists play in conserving the Antarctic? With the development of atomic weapons the scientists' warnings were ignored by the politicians. Will the present scientific community be able to play a positive role in seeking to protect the Antarctic region from the potential catastrophic effects of mining and oil spills, or even tourism, or will scientific knowledge and ethics be ignored in the face of potential profits and strategic advantage?

Some scientists are playing their part. Following a conference organized by the British Institute of International and Commercial Law in London in April 1985, it was decided to share the information presented by the production of this book. In it they have set out their knowledge and the prime questions facing the future of the Antarctic in this sound, authoritative book. The contributors are all highly qualified, very experienced and, in some cases, strategically placed to make their views known. The topics covered by the book include: the history of scientific research in the Antarctic and some of its major conclusions; the Antarctic Treaty regime as it relates to legal issues, protecting the marine environment and minerals regulation; and looks to the future of this great continent.

It is clear that the Antarctic plays a vital role in the earth's weather, marine environment and biological environment. For those concerned to understand the present and issues in international decision making on the Antarctic this book is highly recommended.

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HAA SHUKA, OUR ANCESTORS: TLINGIT ORAL NARRATIVES.

Edited by NORA MARKS DAUENHAUER and RICHARD DAUENHAUER.
Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1987. 532 p., notes, biographies, bib. Hardbound, US\$35. Softbound, US\$17.50.

Not so long ago, native American oral traditions were regarded by cultural outsiders as colourful legends suitable for the amusement and edification of children. Since the early 1970s, though, linguists and literary scholars have been analyzing indigenous North American oral narrative as complex adult literature. George Steiner, quoted by the Dauenhauers in their preface (p. xi), points out that part of the enduring greatness of classical Greek and Hebrew literature results from the introduction of literacy at a critical time in their histories, enabling these narratives to outlive their original performances and to contribute to world literature some 3000 years later. This serious attention to oral literature is exciting; however, scholars influenced by theories from structural linguistics and literary criticism sometimes have an irksome tendency to treat texts as though they can be hermetically isolated from cultural context and studied in terms of internal narrative relationships.

Nora Marks Dauenhauer, Richard Dauenhauer and those with whom they collaborate have given us a remarkable volume of Tlingit oral

narrative that speaks directly to this debate. *Haa Shuka: Our Ancestors* is a bilingual book, centred on clan stories recorded in Tlingit and then meticulously translated into an English that captures the flavour of the original telling. It is a book written both for the Tlingit community where the Dauenhauers work and live and for others interested in Tlingit literature and willing to work at understanding a culture through the lens of its narrative. The preface makes it clear that, in these stories, the thematic coherence comes in the narrative exploration of what membership means, of how everyone is connected to community; individuals will always have lonely decisions to make, but they are made in a social context.

The 15 narratives in this book come from 12 elder storytellers. The majority of the texts are recorded, transcribed and translated by Nora Dauenhauer, herself Tlingit; others were recorded by individuals who have been involved in the documentation of Tlingit language and tradition over many years. The Dauenhauers affirm that context is critical to any understanding of the narratives: they provide it in their introduction, in detailed end notes for each story and in short biographies and photographs of each storyteller. They stress that their notes are not intended to give definitive interpretations of the narratives; rather, they furnish readers with the kinds of background context a storyteller would expect from an intelligent listener.

The introduction has six distinct sections: three written for general readers and three for readers with more specialized interests in Tlingit language and translation. The Dauenhauers begin by pointing out that the style they use is now standard in ethnopoetics; however, theirs is one of the clearest descriptions I have seen of how decisions are made about line length, pauses and intonation. They go on to discuss characteristics of Tlingit oral style, showing how it contrasts with written English, and illustrating the kinds of translation problems that arise when one is interpreting not only from one language to another but also from oral performance to written text. Next, they introduce cultural concepts and themes a listener/reader needs to begin to understand how these narratives are used and what they mean.

The problem of what is lost in form and style when stories learned in a native language are rendered into English has troubled linguists and ethnographers since the time of Boas; in their section on translation, the Dauenhauers are able to specify precisely *what* is lost, rather than just noting that loss occurs, and to show how they try to resolve these issues in their translations. Their discussions of Tlingit alphabet and grammar are again unusually clear presentations of complex material, accessible for a reader with a basic understanding of linguistic concepts and a particular interest in Tlingit language.

As one only able to read the translations of these stories, I am impressed by the density they retain even in English. Some are migration narratives, telling how particular clans came to live where they do now. Others are accounts of the first meetings of Tlingits with whites, presenting the Tlingit perspective of events recorded in accounts by La Perouse in 1786 and Izmailov and Bocharov in 1788. Still others explore more universal issues: frequently they dramatize the journey of a protagonist whose display of human arrogance results in a significant encounter with spiritual forces — Bear, Killer Whale or Ice — calling into question conventional ways of thinking and fostering new knowledge.

Those that excite me most are ones I have heard from elder storytellers who still tell them many miles inland in the Yukon Territory. The story of *Kaax'achgók* is only one example: it tells of an ancestor of the Kiks.ádi clan swept to sea in a storm and able to use the sun as a navigational aid to chart his way home a year later, there to face changes that had occurred in his absence. Mrs. Angela Sidney, a Yukon Elder of Tlingit and Tagish ancestry, has explained to me how her Deisheetaan clan once acquired the right to sing this song, and how she held a party for her son, Peter, when he came home to the Yukon after being stationed in Europe during World War II. To honour his long voyage, she told this story and sang the song of *Kaax'achgók* as his welcoming gift.

The logistics of developing computer software for fluent word processing of Tlingit has been an important part of this project, and the Dauenhauers acknowledge the assistance of others who have helped them tackle this problem. Tlingit is one of the most complicated languages in