

that the book could not have been added to, and McClure, Collinson and Belcher given their true place in history.

It is gratifying to read of Matonabbee, the leader of the Hearne expedition from Churchill to the Coppermine, whom historians have so long neglected, though I would doubt that the quotation of some of Matonabbee's remarks will endear this explorer to the membership of Women's Lib, "Women are made for labour; one of them can carry, or haul, as much as two men can do. They also pitch our tents, make and mend our clothes, keep us warm at night. . . . Women though they do everything, are maintained at trifling expense."

I did find one or two errors, e.g. on page 36, "A fleet of fifteen vessels was assembled, the largest ever to sail to the Canadian Arctic, a record that has yet to be bettered." Not so, the 1955-57 D.E.W. Line support fleets greatly exceeded this number. In 1955, not 1958 (page 72) when the author was embarked in H.M.C.S. *Labrador*, the Foxe Basin Task Group, which was just one of three operating in the Canadian Arctic, consisted of some twenty-two vessels. Page 73, "Or flogged at the masthead", an extremely difficult manoeuvre as there is no place for the flogger to stand unless, of course, flogger and floggee, like the angels, could assemble on the head of a pin. My personal preference was to flog visiting authors at the gratings or at the Stretcher on the lower shrouds, just above the Deadeyes, this location was also favoured by the Royal Navy and many Pirates. Page 73, "Equally rarely can they (ships) expect to get through the Prince of Wales Strait to the Southward." Not so. Ice concentration data, collected by Northern Associates over a ten-year period, have shown that the Prince of Wales Strait route is much easier of access than the route through McClure.

Despite the nit picks, "Arctic Fever" is a splendid book, informative and easily read and I have no hesitation in recommending it. Hope the author will find time to write companion volumes of the same calibre, on other aspects of the Canadian Arctic.

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CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE 1971. *Ottawa: Department of the Environment, 1971. 8½ x 11 inches, 87 pages, illustrated. \$1.00 (paper).*

I began reading this small volume strongly prejudiced by friendship and admiration for many distinguished biologists in the Canadian Wildlife Service. The durability of their

careers in providing interesting and valuable information about the wild animals of Canada reflects long persistence at their observations in the field and a management that has sustained thorough studies and compilations of reports. Sections that deal with species and localities appear over the names of individuals, often with their own figures showing in the illustrations. There are evidently many fresh careers in course of development to maintain the strength of the organization.

The striking illustrations are prepared from well chosen photographs that show birds and mammals in characteristic positions and situations. Looking at the cover, showing a common puffin holding three fishes in its bill, arouses curiosity as to how it can capture fishes number two and three while holding number one. The puffin's beautifully marked and coloured bill is evidently well designed for manipulation of its prey. Three sturdy muskoxen stand dark against blue-tinged snow and background. The bluish tint that also appears on their rough coats seems, however, like an aberration of colour in printing rather than in nature. Some of the other coloured illustrations are likewise rather unnaturally tinted; but they are often magnificent portraits of living animals in action, like the splendid bull caribou swimming with its antlers reflected in the smooth surface of a northern lake.

Illustrations indicate methods employed in the study of wild populations. Tom Manning astride a good sized polar bear, the bear subdued by drugs, is shown while his associate marks the bear for studies of the range and habits of populations of these great beasts. The brief report of the travel of bears was especially interesting. It referred to a publication on the subject that I am now seeking to obtain. I could have wished that other reports on the varied operations referred to publications, of which I know that many are available. I presume that lists may be obtained from Information Canada.

Descriptions of studies in progress and the ways in which they are carried out are clear and unpretentious. They are agreeably free from the tiresome arguments about their essential significance that now often introduce reports on the state of the natural environment. I think that it is impressive that the Canadian Wildlife Service can assume that well illustrated studies of wildlife are obviously interesting and will be accepted for that value by the public. By this attitude the Service demonstrates confidence in the competence of its personnel and shows its respect for the understanding of its readers.

Laurence Irving