

**THE DAY TUK BECAME A HUNTER AND OTHER ESKIMO STORIES.** BY RONALD MELZACK. *Toronto: McClelland and Stewart Limited, 1967. 9½ x 7 inches. 92 pages, illustrated. \$3.95.*

This elegant little volume consists of ten well-chosen legends, selected with care by Ronald Melzack from amongst the wealth of authentic folklore material in the Eskimo literature.

Dr. Melzack has modified the legends for the younger reader and retold them with great vigour and simplicity, keeping to the original version wherever possible and thus retaining their full Eskimo flavour.

The book is lavishly illustrated and greatly enhanced by the beautiful two-tone woodcuts of Carol Jones. Used as illuminated chapter-headings, and often as double-page spreads, they are as powerful as Eskimo sculpture itself, and add a wonderfully vivid strength to the tales.

*Geneva Jackson Petrie*

**JAKOB DANIELSEN — A GREENLANDIC PAINTER.** BY PH. ROSENDAHL. *Copenhagen: Rhodos, 1967. 9½ x 11 inches. 355 pages, 234 black-and-white illustrations, 34 colour plates. Danish crowns 162.50.*

This is a beautiful book. It is, in a way, a third edition of Jakob Danielsen's paintings and drawings presented by former administrative officer for North Greenland, Ph. Rosendahl. Previous editions (1942 and 1957) were quite different in the quality of reproduction and size of the illustrations. The accompanying texts for the 1942 and 1957 editions were in Danish and Greenlandic respectively (*Arctic Bibliography*, Nos. 14832 and 54393). In the present volume the text is in Danish, Greenlandic, and English.

For the first time, therefore, the work of Jakob Danielsen is presented to English-speaking readers. One might ask why this is so important, Jakob Danielsen being an artist and not a writer. Ph. Rosendahl has given us, in the text accompanying the illustrations, a running account of the life portrayed in the pictures — an account related to him by Jakob Danielsen. In fact, Rosendahl has faithfully tried to write the text as closely as possible in Danielsen's own words. The pictures are superb; the text is a happy accompaniment. Both together are of great value from the scientific and cultural viewpoints. The book is generally interesting as well — indeed, it is fascinating.

Jakob Danielsen was a Greenlandic hunter first, and an artist second. He was born and lived his entire life of fifty years on the southern part of Disko in West Greenland. His pictures, done in both water-colour and pencil, portray the life of a Greenlandic hunter, in fact his own life. Jakob was a good hunter, who was a gifted artist. Hence the importance and scientific value of this book.

The story told by the illustrations and text is that of life in early 20th century West Greenland. The book follows in general the activities of the Greenlandic hunters during the various seasons of the year.

The hunt is mainly for sea mammals (seal, walrus, narwhal, beluga, and larger whales), fish (shark, capelin, and salmon), fox, and polar bear. The locality is in North Greenland, the old administrative district from Holsteinsborg northwards, in which there was sufficient winter ice for sledging. What is portrayed is fairly characteristic for all of North Greenland, but not for South Greenland, which has never known the dog sledge.

The twenty-eight little sections or chapters (two more than in the 1957 Greenlandic edition) tell, in illustrations and captions, about various types of hunting depending on the time of year and the weather and surface conditions. Jakob has painted or drawn his story well. He presents many details of the hunt and the terrain hunted, which proves what keen observers the Greenlanders are. Since most of his work was done long after the fact, he not only had the Greenlandic's sharp eye, but a faultless memory as well. Each type of hunting presented in the multiple illustrations gives a thorough idea of the intricacies of an arctic hunting culture.

Over a period of twelve years, Jakob Danielsen painted his life as a hunter at the request of Ph. Rosendahl. We must express our debt of gratitude to Rosendahl for seeing the importance of such an undertaking and for presenting the beautiful results to an international audience for the first time. The way of life depicted in this book is now limited to parts of northwest Greenland and to Greenland's east coast. Commercial fishing has burgeoned recently in Greenland. Even in Godhavn, where Jakob used to hunt, a modern shrimp industry takes pride of place. Because of this great economic change, which completely altered an old culture, Jakob's paintings assume an even greater importance. They are a valuable recording of history, preserving for the children of Jakob and of all Greenlanders the very essence of the life once led.

Nor is hunting the only subject in this book. Series of illustrations depict Christmas eve in Jakob's birthplace, Diskofjord, north-west of Godhavn. Other series show dancing under the midnight sun, ball games on the ice, and general travelling by dog sledge. The over-all effect is completeness. After finishing the book, one seems to know pretty well about life in Greenland in those days.

The illustrations are, of course, the book's main attraction. The earlier Danish and Greenlandic editions presented mostly black-and-white illustrations of Danielsen's work. The present volume does likewise, but with a difference: the black-and-whites are larger and more pleasingly reproduced, while the number of colour plates has been enlarged to 34. Of the 234 black-and-white illustrations, 118 are from pencil sketches, and 116 are black-and-white reproductions of water-colours. It is unfortunate that all the water-colours could not have been printed in colour, but some of the water-colours printed in black-and-white are presented in colour as well.

As much as I applaud the appearance of this book and Ph. Rosendahl's initiative in realizing its wider importance for English-language areas, I cannot write an honest review without mentioning the disappointing quality of both the proofreading and the English translation. The list of errors, were one to sit down and produce it, would be staggering. This resulted, as I intimated above, from apparent lack of more than cursory proofreading and from the translators' obvious unfamiliarity with Greenland. Misspellings, omissions in translation, and repeated lines can be attributed to faulty proofing. But erroneous and confusing translation using, at times, invented words is inexcusable in a book of this calibre and price. In addition, the translators have either forgotten their English (including grammar) or do not have a thorough grasp of Danish. Biologists will be disappointed to see *angmagssat* translated as "angmag-salmon" and not capelin. *Lyngkvasbål* is a fire (or bonfire) of heather twigs, not "heather-pomace dance," whatever that might be. And so forth, *ad nauseam*.

Two translators (although only one name is listed in the Danish and Greenlandic sections) seem to have collaborated in the English parts, although they apparently collaborated at a distance, for the errors are not consistent. Translations for the same word are correct in some cases and incorrect in others.

Despite all this, the book is a gem. It is a joy to peruse; it reads, at times, like poetry.

Ph. Rosendahl deserves the laurels for all of this (and should not be blamed for any of the above-mentioned shortcomings). Jakob Danielsen, bless him, lives on in our memory as quite a man.

W. G. Mattox

THE LICHEN GENUS *CLADONIA* IN NORTH AMERICA. BY JOHN W. THOMSON. University of Toronto Press. 1967. 10 x 7 inches. 172 pages, 5 text diagrams, 26 plates. \$12.75.

Those who have visited the Arctic will know the prominent position which lichens hold in the vegetation of these regions. The genus *Cladonia* contains some of the most common and conspicuous elements of this flora and a book devoted entirely to the group has been badly needed by ecologists and lichenologists alike. We are particularly fortunate that this book has been written by someone as eminent as Professor Thomson, who has made the study of the American Arctic lichens his special interest.

In his preface the author emphasises that the book is a compendium of the previously widely scattered works and not a monograph of the genus. It should be regarded as a manual of information necessary for the identification of *Cladonia* in North America. Undeniably the book is more than this. The main body begins with a chapter on the structure and growth of *Cladonia* in which particular attention is paid to the ontogeny of the podetium. For those who have difficulty with the lichenological terms in this section and the rest of the book, there is an exhaustive glossary to consult. Microcrystallization techniques necessary for the identification of lichen substances are discussed in detail, and this chapter includes an illustrated catalogue of all substances known to occur in the genus. For each substance there is a list of species in which it occurs, colour reactions with the common reagents and  $\text{FeCl}_3$  in the case of the depsides, and also ultra-violet fluorescence characters. Details of microchemical tests are given with reference to original publications, and there are photographs of crystals produced with all reagents employed in identification. The photographs are mainly of good quality and are conveniently arranged in groups by re-crystallizing agent. Both beginner and research worker alike will find a wealth of information here.

Prior to the publication of this book there had been no single key to all the North American members of this large genus (116