

of his PhD research, and again in 1982-83 specifically for the present project. The book is well-written and of interest to all concerned with contemporary Inuit society.

The first two chapters introduce the physical setting, the economic, social and political structure of Holman Island, and traditional and contemporary life stages and cycles of its Inuit inhabitants. The main chapters examine seasonal variation in daily activity cycles, family life, friend and peer groups, sexuality and mate selection, schooling, employment and lifestyle aspirations, rebellion and deviance, all from the perspective of contemporary adolescent Inuit. A concluding chapter discusses the more important findings of the study, and compares these to adolescent experiences in several other, including American, societies. Three central concepts essential to understanding are identified: the extremely rapid rate of social change, the high degree of autonomy displayed by Inuit adolescents, and the influence of seasonal variation in the Arctic ecosystem on all social and economic activities. The first two, in many respects the most important, are recurring themes throughout the book.

In the last chapter Condon states that his book "... does no more than offer a detailed ethnographic description of adolescence ..." in Copper Inuit society, and indeed his observations are free of any subjective censure. Nevertheless the book vividly documents the harsh reality of a generation caught between a traditional, secure, essentially egalitarian way of life on the one hand, and a more materialistic, competitive and uncertain way on the other. With its publication, together with his earlier *Inuit behaviour and seasonal change in the Canadian Arctic* (1983), Condon is clearly becoming a major figure in contemporary Inuit ethnography, and those interested in northern societies will look forward to his future publications. (J. M. Savelle, Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Man., Canada R2T 2N2.)

#### WHALE MANAGEMENT AND BEHAVIOUR

BEHAVIOUR OF WHALES IN RELATION TO MANAGEMENT. Donovan, G. P. (editor). 1986. Cambridge, International Whaling Commission. Reports of the IWC, Special Issue 8. 282 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-906975-15-8. £20.00

RIGHT WHALES: PAST AND PRESENT STATUS. Brownell, R. L., Best, P. B. and Prescott, J. H. (editors). 1986. Cambridge, International Whaling Commission. Reports of the IWC, Special Issue 10. 289 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-906975-16-6. £35.00

These two volumes in the important *Special Issue* series of the "Reports of the International Whaling Commission" incorporate reports of, and papers presented at, two workshops held by the Commission.

The first covers a workshop on the "Behaviour of whales in relation to management", held in Seattle in April 1982. Its purpose was to review current knowledge of cetacean behaviour, to identify areas of management where behaviour is important, and to suggest areas of

behavioral research which could assist future management. The delay in publication has allowed the inclusion of some more recent papers relating to the subject; 14 papers are published in full, grouped broadly by subject and there are résumés of five others.

Four papers review evidence for reproductive senescence in female cetaceans, the potential for sperm competition in baleen whales, diurnal rhythms in cetaceans, and non-acoustic communication behaviour in large whales. Recent methodology in studying cetacean behaviour is illustrated by papers on mother-infant behaviour in right whales, the use of acoustic techniques for detecting cetaceans and examining their behaviour and, together with photographic methods, estimating parameters in sperm whales for modelling their populations. Two papers describe results of aerial observations on bowhead whales in Alaskan waters and the Beaufort Sea, one summarizing four years' observations on feeding and social behaviour in summer, the other describing the seasonal pattern of distribution, migration, abundance and behaviour in spring and autumn over five years. There are three accounts of recent behavioral studies of gray whales. One reviews work on their migrations, social behaviour and breeding biology; the others report results of four years American aerial surveys of distribution, abundance and behaviour in the Arctic, and of Soviet observations of social behaviour, derived mainly from whaling operations off Chukotka. Recently there has been much use of photographs of natural markings to identify individual whales of several species. An important final paper reviews data from these studies in relation to the estimation of population size using capture-recapture analyses, especially for humpback whales in the North Atlantic and southern right whales off Argentina. Population models involved with these analyses and problems associated with them are discussed, and methods for improving future analyses are suggested.

The second volume arises from the workshop on "The status of right whales" held in Boston, Massachusetts, in June 1983. Right whales (*Eubalaena* spp.) were long hunted historically and the first species to be given international protection, but they are still among the rarest of the large whales. The workshop examined the extent to which the original stocks were depleted by whaling, and evidence for their recovery under protection, and their present status. The report recommends a series of research projects and includes appendices on nomenclature, institutions possessing specimens, estimates of historical and modern catches in different regions, etc. 24 papers presented at the workshop or submitted later are published. They include papers on the past and present status of right whales in the North Pacific, North Atlantic and Southern Hemisphere, the use of photographs to identify individual whales in the North Atlantic, behavioral studies of the southern right whales and an estimate of the population off Argentina, and an annotated bibliography for right whales in the North Pacific. Also included are

eight papers on historical whaling for the species. These cover Basque whaling, American shore and pelagic whaling in the North Atlantic, French whaling in the South Atlantic, shore whaling in southern Africa, and 19th and 20th century whaling around Australia and New Zealand.

Both volumes are strongly recommended for biologists and others interested in large whales, the first for information on aspects of their behaviour and associated management problems, the second for an up-to-date account of the status of right whales, and for new information on the history of whaling for the species and the effect of hunting upon them. (S. G. Brown, 24 Orchard Way, Oakington, Cambridge CB4 5BQ.)

### BRIEF REVIEWS

**AMMASSALIK, EAST GREENLAND—END OR PERSISTENCE OF AN ISOLATE? ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND DEMOGRAPHICAL STUDY ON CHANGE.** Robert-Lamblin, J. 1986. *Meddelelser om Grønland, Man and Society* 10. 168 p, soft cover, illustrated. ISBN 87-17-05235-1.

An account of the evolution of a small, isolated East Greenland population through the 20th century. First exposed to western influences in 1884, it developed slowly before World War II and then explosively, diversifying from a society of nomadic sea mammal hunters to one of wider sedentary activities including commercial fishing, handicrafts and catering for tourists. The changes are set in the context of recent social and political changes in Greenland.

**PHOQUES, MORSES, OTARIES: ECOLOGIE ET VIE SOCIALE.** Tollu, B. 1986. Monaco, Le Rocher. 156 p, soft cover, illustrated. ISBN 2-268-00493-7.

**LES MANCHOTS: ECOLOGIE ET VIE SOCIALE.**

Tollu, B. 1988. Monaco, Le Rocher. 126 p, soft cover, illustrated. ISBN 2-268-00613-1.

Two attractive and informative French pocket books, with black and white illustrations, respectively on the biology and ecology of seals, sea lions and walruses, and on penguins; well packed with concentrated information.

**PENGUINS.** Sparks, J. and Soper, T. 1987. Newton Abott, David and Charles. 246 p, hard cover, illustrated. ISBN 0-7153-8875-4. £12.95.

Revised and updated edition of the authors' 1967 account of all the penguins, well laced with photographs (colour and black and white), maps, and attractive illustrations by Robert Gillmor.

**LE GRAND DÉFI DES POLES.** Imbert, B. 1987. Paris, Gallimard. 224 p, soft cover, illustrated. ISBN 2-07-053013-2.

Pocket-sized paperback packing an encyclopaedic wealth of information on the history of both polar regions, from brief accounts of expeditions to advertisements for Ovomaltine; the author has gone out of his way to find interesting illustrations, and the publishers have done their best to produce them attractively.

**THE LIFE OF A RIVER.** Russell, A. 1987. Toronto, McClelland and Stewart. 181 p, hard cover. ISBN 0-7710-7878.

The river is the Oldman, which runs from the Rockies to Hudson Bay; the writer '... has been a trapper, cowboy, bronco-buster, trail guide, grizzly hunter, nature photographer and film-maker, and a widely successful lecturer.' He sustains the story of this river, its people and wildlife, without benefit of photographs or map, which is no mean achievement, and challenges the proposed building of a dam that in his view will destroy it.

## In brief

**TWO SPRI SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS.** The Scott Polar Research Institute museum is currently mounting two exhibitions of special polar interest. 'Life in Siberia and the Soviet north today', organized by Dr Piers Vitebski and opened on 3 November 1987, is based on over 40 mounted colour photographs of scenery, industry, wildlife, culture and day-to-day living, supplied mostly by the Soviet Embassy. Displays also include artefacts, books, pamphlets and other material illustrating recent Cambridge-based research. On 26 January 1988, an exhibition of 'Australia and the Antarctic' was opened, organized by Robert Headland and Jenny Owen in celebration of Australia's 200th anniversary. Material shown, much of it provided by ANARE, includes maps and photographs of

Australian research stations on the Antarctic mainland, Macquarie Island and Heard Island, historical photographs, and old and recent examples of polar clothing and equipment; there is also a display of photographs and other material from SPRI archives covering Sir Douglas Mawson's Australasian Antarctic Research Expedition 1911-14 and the British, Australian and New Zealand Antarctic Research Expedition 1929-31. The Australian exhibition will remain open for several months. (Source: R. B. Headland.)

**SOVIET UNION AWARDS ARCTIC CONVOY MEDAL.** The Soviet Union is awarding commemorative medals to members of the British armed forces and mer-