

scientific, who in one way or another intruded on their isolation. An overview of the history of exploration and 'conquest' of Greenland and a long introduction are followed by chapters on Ross, Franklin, Kane, Hall, Nares, Hendrik, Greely, Peary, Cook, Mylius-Erichsen, Rasmussen, Freuchen, Koch, Shackleton, Holtved and Malaurie, with digressions on lesser figures and happenings. Malaurie is interested in people and human interactions as much as in geographical exploration, making this to some degree an idiosyncratic Arctic counterpart of the excellent *Readers Digest Antarctica: great stories from the frozen continent*. One could look far for a more entertaining or better-illustrated account of Arctic history.

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF THE SOVIET NORTH.** IWGIA. 1990. Copenhagen, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA Document No.67). 56p. ISSN 0105-6387.

In March 1990 the Soviet Union's Association of Northern Peoples was founded at a historic congress held in the Kremlin (see report elsewhere in this issue). This publication collects and translates the Chairman's opening speech, the declaration of the congress and the Association's statutes and programme. These are preceded by a helpful introduction by IWGIA's representative at the congress, Jens Dahl. Themes such as environmentalism, public health, constitutional reform and self-government emerge clearly as major preoccupations. Recent IWGIA publications have unerringly chosen to translate some of the most important current Russian texts on northern peoples and this booklet continues this trend. Indispensable for anyone interested in circumpolar peoples or in any aspect of the Soviet North. (Piers Vitebsky.)

**THE NATIONALITIES QUESTION IN THE SOVIET UNION.** G. Smith, (editor). London and New York, Longman. 389 p, hard cover ISBN 0-582-03953-3 £28.00. Soft cover ISBN 0-582-03955-X £14.95.

The problem of ethnic consciousness in the USSR, which Lenin thought would fade away in favour of class consciousness, now seems almost more urgent than that of economic reform. In this book, western specialists have written substantial and up-to-date chapters on 21 ethnic groups across the entire country, with a strong emphasis on the perestroika period. For readers with an interest in Siberia and the Arctic, these include the only contemporary accounts in English of the Buryat (Caroline Humphrey) and Yakut (Piers Vitebsky). The editor's introduction and the chapter on the Russians as the dominant nationality (Simon Dixon) are also helpful. There are extensive tables and references. (Piers Vitebsky.)

**ARCTIC VILLAGE.** Marshall, R. 1991. Anchorage, University of Alaska press. 403p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 912006-51-X.

Subtitled 'A 1930s portrait of Wiseman, Alaska', this is a reprint of an account, first published in 1933, of a small

mid-Alaskan village settlement where Robert Marshall, a forester, found himself living during the early 1930s. Marshall went north to study growth of trees at the timberline, but ended up studying the mixture of white folk and Eskimos who made up the community. He considered them the happiest folk he had ever encountered, and his account of them, here rated '... one of the most revealing and inspiring books ever written about the American frontier', glows with his discovery.

**QUESTIONNES SIBERIENNES, SIBERIAN QUESTIONS, SIBIRSKIYA VOPROSY.** (Bulletin No. 1, Peuples autochtones). 1990. Institut d'études slaves, Paris. ISSN 1150-1340; ISSN 2-7204-0251-6.

This new journal is edited by Boris Chichlo, anthropologist and doyen in the west of Siberian affairs. The first number, entirely in French, is devoted to the northern native peoples. It includes translations of some important Russian articles as well as specially commissioned pieces by authoritative Soviet commentators. There are also interviews, reports on conferences, reviews of other journals and résumés of theses in progress. The editorial, which is in French, English and Russian, stresses the mutual interdependence of native peoples and the northern environment and promises a second issue devoted specifically to ecology. There is much of importance here which cannot be found elsewhere in any western language. (Piers Vitebsky.)

**INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION OF CETACEANS.** Hammond, P. S., Mizroch, S. A. and Donovan, G. P. (editors). 1990. Cambridge, International Whaling Commission. (Report of the IWC Special Issue 12). 440p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-906975-23-9. £40.00, US\$75.00.

A collection of over 40 papers on the use of photo-identification and other techniques for estimating population parameters and other variables of whale and dolphin stocks. The volume incorporates the proceedings of a symposium and workshop on individual recognition and estimation of cetacean population parameters, held on 1-4 May 1988. Following the report of the workshop, papers are grouped under five headings: Field and laboratory methodology; Analytical problems; Population parameters, dynamics and behaviour; Case studies (by species) and Preliminary/feasibility studies. Obtainable from the IWC, The Red House, Station Road, Histon, Cambridge: include £5.00 (US\$12.00) for mailing.

**ARCTIC BIOLOGY COURSE 1989, IGLOOLIK NWT CANADA.** Jørgensen, M. (editor). 1991. Copenhagen, Zoologisk Museum, University of Copenhagen. 140p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 87-982514-3-0. £8.00, DK90.00.

Report of a two-week polar field course for Danish university students, held in northern Canada under an agreement between University of Copenhagen and McGill University, Canada. The fortunate students studied hydrographic and sea ice conditions, marine plankton, terrestrial and