

for any guide to identification, as might be used by collectors. In a sense, these guides reflect the progressive involvement in the Inuit lands of the federal government and the western European scientific tradition since the middle of the nineteenth century. A reflection of contemporary political thinking is that, within the one cover, one gets the book in Inuktitut as well as in English.

Wallace's book on Inuksuit (the traditional stone figures built by Inuit on the tundra) is quite different. Full of photographs, largely colour reproductions of paintings, it gives an illuminating account of the purpose and interpretation, the spirit and form of the Inuksuk. Because of its glossy format and easy language, it will probably have a much wider appeal to tourists and others. A paperback of modest size, it reflects the input of a large number of people and institutions, many Inuit, and all acknowledged fulsomely. Yet it has something of the nature of a book for children. It turns out that its southern Canadian publisher specialises in children's books. There is no Inuktitut version.

These three informative books are thought-provoking — as much for their form as for their substance. They seem to epitomise the biggest challenge Nunavut has: how to bring together most advantageously the culture and experience of Inuit people with the European traditions that are fundamental to the history of Canada and the basis of Canada's position as a country with one of the highest standards of living in the contemporary world. If such integration can be carried out successfully, it will be of benefit to all who live in Canada's remote and Arctic lands. It will also benefit Canadians generally and their federal government, upon which rests most of the onus of developing the appropriate policies.

MUSIC OF THE ALASKA-KLONDIKE GOLD RUSH: SONGS AND HISTORY. Jean A. Murray. 2000. Fairbanks: University of Alaska Press. xvii + 440 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 1-889963-13-5. US\$54.95.

This substantial book is the culmination of Jean Murray's long search for the genuine songs of the Gold Rush. It includes songs and parodies by the gold seekers themselves and songs about the Gold Rush by professional musicians. It also contains popular music sung and performed by the prospectors, which they brought with them from home and recorded in diaries, letters, and other accounts. Many of the tunes are still familiar today, such as 'Turkey in the straw,' 'Old folks at home,' and 'La donna e mobile.'

Some of the titles fire the imagination, such as 'When the ice worm nests again' and 'Arctic brotherhood two-step.' The book contains more than a hundred songs with commentaries and reproductions of music covers and photos that convey the extraordinary lives of the gold seekers and the importance of music in their lives. Some of the songs convey the harsh reality of the Gold Rush, for instance, 'He is sleeping in the Klondike Vale tonight':

Some had wealth but in their joy was mingled sadness,
As they told how many perished in the fight
One a lad so brave and bold
In a grave that's decked with gold
He is sleeping in the Klondike Vale tonight.

Jean Murray and her husband are keen sing-song enthusiasts, and this book is a great resource both for researchers and other enthusiasts. The music and words are clearly reproduced, the book fits easily on a piano music stand, and it is attractively presented.

There is also a CD and cassette available containing 15 of the songs from the book.