

In the fashion of the times, the author concedes that, in this book, the full story has not been told. Thus, where he forcefully demonstrates that economic changes to do with entrepreneurialism and money threaten the fabric of Inuit life in Kangersuatsiaq, we want to invite him to attempt a comparably hard-nosed analysis of what exactly underpins the Inuit institutional forms and customs that are in such jeopardy. To simply say (for example) that the Kangersuatsiaq kinship system exists in order to sustain a sense of community is surely a partial account: what needs to be asked is why this sense of community (which occurs universally?) is, in Kangersuatsiaq, delivered by this distinctive body of kinship ideas, and not by some other. A possible topic for the author's next book! (David Riches, Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9AL.)

**A HISTORY OF THE ORIGINAL PEOPLES OF NORTHERN CANADA (REVISED EDITION).** Keith J. Crowe. 1991. Montreal and London: McGill-Queen's University Press. 248 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0-7735-0880-5. £14.95.

As the jacket correctly proclaims, this work has been one of the most readable and balanced accounts of the history and culture of Canadian northern peoples for more than 15 years. Casual readers, native students, and university undergraduates have been well served by the first edition of 1974, and a new generation of readers should welcome the revised edition of this standard text.

The revised edition does not differ substantially from the original. A quick comparison reveals that some archaeological periodizations have been changed and a few names and figures have been corrected in the first 10 chapters — but the changes have been so slight that even the page numbers have remained the same. An 18-page epilogue has been added to update the material to 1990. Perhaps most significantly, the appendix offering the names and addresses of native political, cultural, and commercial organizations has been completely expanded and updated. The bibliography, however, has only been updated by 21 new entries for the past 17-year period.

It is a credit to the author that after 17 years his presentation of the history, politics, and culture of northern native people has not become dated. Crowe's careful selection of terminology and apt use of ethnonyms have kept pace with contemporary usage. The cultures of native peoples are presented in a manner that makes their traditions and customs appear to be a matter of common sense rather than curious and exotic. Foreign traders, missionaries, and administrators are presented in terms of their varied national origins and with a critical account of their strengths and weaknesses. At several points, the spiritual world of native peoples, as well as tales of contact with foreign traders and warfare between native groups, are based closely on accounts from folklore. Most impressive is the attention given to women as leaders and as indispensable partners in economic production and trade. The critical description of missionary and government practice

in all regions of the Canadian north, and in comparison to circumpolar countries, is still an important introduction for beginners.

It is unfortunate that the epilogue on land claims, economic development, education, and other socio-cultural developments does not match the thoroughness of the original 10 chapters. First, it does not intermesh smoothly with the concluding chapters of the original text. For example, in the latter chapters certain organizations and projects (like COPE, or the James Bay 'scheme') are described as current concerns, while in the epilogue they are placed firmly in the past. One is given the impression that the Alaska Native Land Claim Settlement (in chapter 10) was an impetus for subsequent claims (in the epilogue), while forums such as the Berger Inquiry are downplayed. Second, there are significant omissions, ranging from simple facts on the size of the territories received and the dollar-value of compensations won through land claims to an account of the important constitutional debates on self-government for native people. (One should mention, on the positive side, that the controversy over the practice of 'extinguishment' of aboriginal rights is given an appropriate emphasis.) Finally, an index would have been a helpful addition. (David G. Anderson, Scott Polar Research Institute, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER.)

**TRACE METALS AND FLUORIDE IN BONES AND TEETH.** Nicholas D. Priest and Frank L. Van De Vyver (editors). 1990. Boca Raton, Ann Arbor, Boston: CRC Press. 390 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-8493-6190-7. £154.00.

CRC Press, the American publishing company, is best known for its series of authoritative scientific handbooks, among the most-noted being the annual *CRC handbook of chemistry and physics*. CRC Press also has a tradition of publishing medical and scientific textbooks designed to be comprehensive introductions to specialist fields of study for researchers from a wide variety of disciplines. *Trace metals and fluoride in bones and teeth* is a collection of self-contained papers that includes descriptions of analytical techniques; the metabolism, chelation, toxicity, and distribution of trace elements and fluoride in animal bones and teeth; and the application of this knowledge to archaeological remains. The book is edited and written by eminent American and European specialists in the fields of medicine and dentistry, bone metabolism, nuclear magnetic resonance, toxicology and radiation research, palaeontology, physics, and bioengineering, and is designed to be of relevance to researchers in fields as diverse as biochemistry, radiation biology, geology, medical sciences, industrial hygiene, anthropology, archaeology, and palaeontology. Therefore, although the book is not directed toward polar research, and reference to Arctic peoples is only made twice (page 201 on lead concentrations in the teeth of North Slope Alaskan Inuit, and page 361 on increased strontium levels in the bones of Inuit subsisting on marine foods), it is an excellent source of information for anyone wishing to conduct analysis on the