

for leisure reading as well as for serious study. (Bernard Stonehouse, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER UK.)

BIRDS OF ALASKA

BIRDS OF THE SEWARD PENINSULA, ALASKA. Kessel, Brina. Fairbanks, University of Alaska Press. 330 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-912006-29-3. US\$36.95.

Subtitled 'their biogeography, seasonality and natural history', this is far more than a catalogue of Alaskan birds and their ways. Written by one of the state's leading ornithologists (for whom it surely represents a life's work), it includes a geographical and climatic rundown of the Seward peninsula region, comprehensive descriptions of avian habitats from uplands to shoreline, tables of species abundance in different habitats, zoogeographic affinities of breeding birds and casual visitors, and seasonal patterns of avian activities. The bulk of the book is a comprehensive account of each of 215 species that have been recorded on the peninsula, together with an extensive bibliography and index. Illustrated with maps, photographs and drawings, this will clearly be the definitive book on the ornithology of western Alaska for some years. Available direct from the Press, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks AK 99775-1580 USA. (Bernard Stonehouse, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER UK.)

POLAR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: THE ROLE OF SCIENCE AND POLITICS. Andresen, S. and Østreng, W., 1989. London, Belhaven Press. 301 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 1-85293-097-7. £30.00.

Arising from a 1988 conference to celebrate the thirtieth birthday of the Norwegian Fridtjof Nansen Institute, this assembly of 14 papers is by authors of several nationalities; not surprisingly many are Scandinavian and, though world problems are covered, there are strong Arctic overtones.

Exploring interfaces between international politics and the science and technology of resource management, the papers cover a range of examples from trans-boundary pollution to economics of whale and fish stocks. Four sections (Science and International Regimes; Science, Environment and Development; Science and International Pollution; Science and Living Resources) muster many ideas useful for polar scientists and administrators. A chapter on 'Polar science and politics' (Østreng) discusses the role of science as currency in Antarctic politics and its possible role in the future of the Arctic; 'Global environmental monitoring and information systems — an operational perspective' (Christoffersen) and 'Science and politics in the protection of the ozone layer' (Bakken) have particular polar relevance, and several other chapters deal with or touch on polar issues.

The book includes a listing of relevant international organizations, a bibliography and good index. This is a

stimulating symposium for students of ecology, politics, management and international affairs. (Bernard Stonehouse, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER UK.)

BRIEF REVIEWS

ARCTIC CIRCLE: ROVANIEMI–NUORGAM. Finnish National Committee of the European Cultural Foundation. 1988. Helsinki, FNCECF. 192 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 951-8932-00-X.

ARCTIC CIRCLE II: ROVANIEMI–KILPISJÄRVI. Finnish National Committee of the European Cultural Foundation. 1989. Helsinki, FNCECF. 192 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 951-8932-01-8.

Two pocket-sized guides to the Finnish northlands, covering respectively the eastern and western halves. Their purpose is '... to create a cultural route to Lapland, along which the road opens to nature and the history of habitation in a new way.' Intelligent, beautifully produced with colour photographs and maps, they are comprehensive travellers' guides covering geography, geology, social and natural history, architecture, ethnology, agriculture, reindeer-herding and Saami culture — indispensable in the field and a pleasure for armchair reading. Strongly recommended for anyone who wants to know anything about the northern half of Finland. Both available in English. May be ordered by mail from the Finnish National Committee of the European Cultural Foundation, Kaisaniemenkatu 2 b III, Helsinki, Finland.

THE ROLE OF ANTARCTICA IN GLOBAL CHANGE. SCAR Steering Committee for the IGBP. 1989. Cambridge, ICSU Press/SCAR. 28 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0-930-35718-3. £6.00.

Subtitled 'Scientific priorities for the International Geosphere–Biosphere Programme (IGBP)', this booklet sets out ways in which the SCAR-IGBP Steering Committee believes that Antarctic science can contribute to the IGBP, identifying areas in which Antarctic programmes are especially relevant to Global Change projects. A useful survey of current Antarctic environmental studies, obtainable from SCAR, Scott Polar Research Institute, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER UK.

CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH 87: PROCEEDINGS OF THE 7TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH. Linderholm, H. and others (editors). 1988. Umeå, Nordic Council for Arctic Medical Research. 734 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 951-99932-2-3. (*Arctic Medical Research* 47: Supplement 1.)

Every few years the International Congresses on Circumpolar Health meet to discuss every conceivable topic of health, health care and disease, notably in the Arctic but also in the Antarctic. The terms 'circumpolar' and 'health' are liberally interpreted, each successive Congress covering wider fields than the last. This volume reports on the June 1988 meeting in Umeå, Sweden. It lists over 180 research papers and reviews under headings that include Circumpolar environment and human adaptation; Health care education, planning and delivery; and Circumpolar