

defined and greater attention is placed on science, either down-playing or eliminating science advisory functions.' However meritorious this might appear from the purely scientific viewpoint of ICSU, this is not the real world. Scientists need to ensure that the Treaty has the best possible impartial scientific advice at all times to limit potential damage to science by nationalism, politics, and sheer ignorance of Antarctic affairs. Colwell's chapter should be read by all Antarctic scientists — it is disturbing in its approach and its conclusions. The idea that Antarctic scientific literature is not well represented in mainstream disciplinary journals is completely false, as any perusal of the COLD database will show. The suggestion that the creation of an 'Antarctic Foundation' will somehow solve SCAR's problems is illusory. Another strange proposal is that SCAR should 'consider incorporating Arctic science' — this is especially worrisome as it indicates a lack of understanding of the different political and organisational imperatives that limit scientific opportunities in the two polar areas.

The volume contains quite a few references to SCAR failing to assume leadership, failing to raise extra funds, failing to concentrate on basic research, etc. Stromberg points out that this is a difficult role for an ICSU body to assume since it must work through national committees. Whilst all acknowledge the importance of SCAR in giving impartial advice, advice that has provided the basis for most of the scientific decisions taken by the Treaty, no one has yet presented SCAR with extra funds. Does being impartial have to equate with being impoverished?

The book will provide both scientists and non-scientists with a useful insight into the way politics and science interact in an international forum. It also makes clear that it is the scientists who provide the drive for international co-operation and that, despite fine words by diplomats, there is no evidence that anyone will put a fraction of the money from the political area of the Treaty into the science arena of SCAR. Antarctica may be 'a continent for peace and science,' but it is still clearly the continent for lawyers and diplomats. Scientists will neglect this at their peril. (D.W.H. Walton, British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET.)

ACROSS THE KEEWATIN ICEFIELDS: THREE YEARS AMONG THE CANADIAN ESKIMOS, 1913–1916. Christian Leden. Shirlee Anne Smith (Editor). Leslie Neatby (Translator). 1991. Winnipeg: Watson and Dwyer Publishing. 298 p, illustrated, hardback. ISBN 0-920486-19-3. \$Can29.95.

Previously released in German, Dutch, and Hungarian, this book is the first English translation of what is a remarkable account of adventure, exploration, and human perseverance. It is the tale of the three-year expedition by Norwegian musicologist Christian Leden, who set out to travel through the western Hudson Bay region of the Canadian Arctic, living with the Keewatin Inuit. The book is a rich account of Leden's extraordinary undertaking, and a document of his search for anthropological data,

ethnographic photographs and motion pictures, song recordings, and Inuit artefacts. It is replete with lucid descriptions of the natural history of the region, details of Inuit camp life and social structure, and stimulating tales of travelling and living on the tundra with native companions. It is liberally punctuated with numerous esoteric discussions of Inuit dental habits, clothing taboos, and the often harmonious relations between co-wives. Yet with equal aplomb, the author recounts the prolonged darkness of winter, the extreme cold and isolation of the Keewatin, and even describes the persistence of summertime mosquitoes.

However, for all of its anthropological focus, the book remains foremost an account of a polar interloper the likes of whom has long since vanished. It is an electric tale of adventure in which the author endures shipwrecks, starvation, and lengthy (and often unproductive) hunting trips on the ice at frighteningly low temperatures — all in a land that at the time was largely unknown or understood by most of his audience.

Leden's own life story was certainly compelling. A native of Trondheim, he studied music and anthropology in Oslo, continued his formal education in Berlin, where he studied composition, and returned to his native Norway as organist of Tromsø Cathedral. In 1909, at the age of 27, Leden visited Greenland, studying the native language, recording Inuit music, collecting artefacts, and taking photographs and motion picture film. This first visitation to the native peoples of the north seemingly had a dramatic effect upon the young Leden; from that point forward, he set a course of research that absorbed him throughout his life. Following a brief southern sojourn in Alberta to record the music of the Blackfoot, he returned to the Arctic and continued his research in the region of Hudson Bay. After three years in the Keewatin region — the period covered in this volume, during which he routinely made recordings of Inuit songs with crude sound equipment, developed photographic and motion picture film in his specially built tent, and for the most part offered not a whisper of complaint regarding the difficulties he faced in adjusting to native life — Leden returned to Greenland, in 1923, to continue his ethnomusicological research. For a number of years, he gave a series of popular lectures throughout Europe and the United States, illustrated with lantern slides, film, and wax recordings of Inuit songs. Near the end of his life, Leden continued his study of indigenous music, travelling extensively in South America to collect data.

The reader quickly discovers a significant aspect of Leden's personality. From the beginning of the book, when he arrives in Churchill alone in August 1913 with the monumental task of organising his expedition by himself, there is a sense of his narrow and self-important determination with reference to the expedition, combined with his condescension and contempt for any and all detractors. Leden's eagerness for his research and his firmness with his Inuit companions and guides often prevailed over his common sense, very nearly costing him his life on more

than one occasion. Perhaps the most dramatic example of Leden's perilous tenacity involved his insistence upon reaching the winter hunting grounds of the Chesterfield Inlet region before the freeze-up in the autumn of 1913. Against advice from his Inuit companions, a number of local trappers, and the Royal North-West Mounted Police in Churchill, he set out in an open boat 'when the season was far advanced' (page xv). Less than a fortnight later, the boat and most of its cargo of winter provisions was lost 100 miles north of Churchill, imperilling the lives of Leden and the almost 20 Inuit passengers aboard. Such foolhardiness and arrogance is often fatal in the Arctic, and one is left to marvel at Leden's resolve and good fortune.

Leden also endured a stormy association with the officials of the white regime in the Keewatin. Twice refused accommodation on Hudson's Bay Company vessels travelling from Montreal to Churchill, he was successful in securing passage on SS *Nascopie* only after continued and steadfast insistence. An account of his relationship with members of the Royal North-West Mounted Police in the Keewatin (who admonished him in March 1915 for his quick-tempered treatment of the local Inuit at Chesterfield Inlet) is conspicuously absent and 'Leden is unusually reticent in documenting the work of the Police. He does not mention their station in Fullerton, nor the fact that while travelling he encountered their patrols' (page xvi), despite the fact that he was granted board at the barracks for five months in 1914.

Such an attitude towards the white establishment is not unexpected from a man who clearly held the Keewatin Inuit in a most high regard, whose culture he rightly judged to be in grave peril, and whose lifestyle he desperately desired to preserve. His prose is as filled with contempt for those non-Inuit who would modify or destroy the traditional lives of his native companions as it is laden with praise for their lifestyle, which was so carefully and closely tied to nature. His accounts are often equally mournful at the loss of Inuit independence: 'One of the most distressing consequences of the contact of a primitive people, especially a hunting people, with Europeans is that their traditional way of food gathering, adapted to the environment, is lost. The people are thus reduced to a sort of helpless proletarian condition, belonging to neither the one culture nor the other' (page 9).

Although admirable, Leden's work often lacks cohesion. Unfortunately, his chronicles do not end as they begin; in the second section of the book, the accounts deteriorate into a series of isolated journal entries. Vast periods (in excess of one year) are left unmentioned, his travels illuminated only through his maps, and when Leden does record his circumstances, he often focuses upon himself and his adventures rather than the lives and conditions of those around him. Leden leaves the reader still curious and yearning to know more about the region and people he describes. Ultimately, the only distinct glimpse to be gleaned from Leden's account is the one of the explorer himself.

The book benefits significantly from a penetrating

introduction by Shirlee Anne Smith, who capably sets the stage for Leden's chronicles. Sources drawn upon during the process of translation and editing included Leden's daughter, a number of Inuit informants from the Keewatin region, academics, and the archival collections of, among others, the Hudson's Bay Company, the Anglican Church of Canada, the National Archives of Canada, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. (M.J. Whittles, Inualthuyak, Sachs Harbour, Northwest Territories, Canada X0E 0Z0.)

MARITIME CLAIMS IN THE ARCTIC: CANADIAN AND RUSSIAN PERSPECTIVES. Erik Franckx. 1993. Dordrecht, Boston, and London: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers. xviii + 330 p, maps, hard cover. ISBN 0-7923-2215-5. £95.00; US\$140.00; 235.00 Dfl.

Determining the status of the legal regime in the Arctic has always been a difficult task. Unlike Antarctica, the Arctic has not been the subject of a comprehensive regional legal regime. A number of commentators have, however, speculated over the ability of the law of the sea to form the basis for such a regime. With the Arctic dominated by maritime areas, many Arctic international law questions revolve around the law of the sea. Whether the law of the sea will provide the basis for a comprehensive Arctic legal regime remains to be seen. If such a development is to occur, however, it will be important that many lingering jurisdictional disputes be resolved. Two of the most important of these disputes have been the status of the Northwest and Northeast passages and the ability of Canada and the former USSR, respectively, to control the waters of these maritime areas. Despite some important initiatives by both states during the 1980s, the status of either passage has yet to be conclusively determined. Until there has been a complete resolution of these legal issues to the satisfaction of the major Arctic maritime power, the United States, these two jurisdictional problems may prove to be a major barrier to more enhanced Arctic cooperation.

Erik Franckx attempts to deal with these issues and others in a work that is the first major study to compare and contrast Canadian and Soviet maritime claims in the Arctic. While the individual Canadian and Soviet perspectives on these issues have been exhaustively covered in the literature for the past 25 years by Professors Pharand and Butler, respectively, Franckx seeks to go a step further. In chapters 2 and 3 he carefully details the major events and policy responses by Canada and the USSR as they individually responded to US efforts to pave navigation routes through both Arctic passages. A comprehensive review is undertaken of relevant state practice plus the views of Canadian and Soviet commentators. In chapter 4 these approaches are compared and recent initiatives towards Arctic cooperation are assessed. While there is a natural emphasis upon maritime cooperation, other fields, such as science and the environment, are also considered. A short conclusion follows in chapter 5, where Franckx assesses future prospects for Arctic cooperation, the need for resolving the jurisdictional problems raised in the study, the policy options available, and the usefulness of Antarctic