

The first chapter consists of a geographical description of the Point Hope region stressing the abundance of local faunal resources and the ability of the people to coordinate their movements with those of the major game species.

Chapter 2 centers on the people of the Point Hope region emphasizing their distinctiveness as a separate society, their relations with neighboring societies, and the effects of European contact during the nineteenth century. Detailed data on the population of the Point Hope region from the beginning of the nineteenth century until the present are particularly useful.

In chapter 3 Burch deals with the relation of land use to the production of raw materials. There is a detailed description of the hunting of marine mammals, caribou, fur bearers, other mammals, fish, and birds as well as the gathering of invertebrates, vegetable, and mineral products. Tables list the major resources in each category giving English, native, and Latin names when they can be determined as well as uses when relevant. Maps show the movements of whales in spring and the locations of native whaling crews.

In chapter 4 the social dimension of land use is emphasized particularly with reference to settlement determinants. Descriptions and locations of summer settlements, interior settlements, and outlying coastal settlements are given along with a detailed description of the village of *Tikiraq* (Point Hope) itself through time. Relations between settlements in the Point Hope region are discussed and a useful map shows trails connecting all types of habitation sites.

The fifth chapter, devoted to the temporal dimension of land use, provides a description of the seasonal round with emphasis on "an effective distribution strategy" throughout the Point Hope region at different times of the year as hunters utilized various resources available on a seasonal basis in different locations.

In the concluding sixth chapter Burch notes, for purposes of refutation, that hunting peoples such as the traditional Point Hoppers are commonly regarded as "free-wanderers" moving and living wherever they wish. This sweeping statement, although an effective straw man, is probably not valid. Rather the Point Hoppers have been thought of, at least by anthropologists, as people who "wandered" from a central base. Nevertheless, the author has demonstrated more clearly than previous writers the very real restrictions that existed on land use and the precautions that were necessary when crossing or utilizing land belonging to neighboring societies.

There are two appendices, in the first of which oral sources relevant to the author's field work are listed and evaluated. An explanation is given concerning the extent to which Point Hope informants, his own and those of previous investigators, possessed reliable historical information. A second appendix provides a detailed list of traditional place names in the Point Hope region utilizing the author's own field data which is cross-referenced to the work of earlier investigators and placed on a series of section maps.

This fine study, by far the most comprehensive published account of Point Hope land use, is enhanced by excellent historical photographs, but slightly marred by an unnecessary number of typographical errors.

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CONTRIBUTION TO THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES POPULATION STUDIES 1961-1985. Report to the Science Advisory Board of the Northwest Territories. By LOUIS-EDMOND HAMELIN with the collaboration of DENIS SAINT-MAURICE and GILLES PLANTE. Université Laval, Québec, April 1979.

In 1976, the Science Advisory Board of the Northwest Territories was established with the mandate to advise the Legislative Assembly on science, engineering and technology matters.

The first priority of the Board was to commission a study by a distinguished geographer on the significance of demographic trends, and the most probable effects of population growth arising from natural increases; on in-migration, and the impacts of increasing urbanization in the north.

The report begins with a review of the demographic situation for the period 1961-78, and notes the various sources of information, along with important contributions by various researchers and agencies concerned with northern demography.

The general inadequacy of data, and some of the major technical problems associated with gathering statistics on small population groups, are described, with particular emphasis on the problem of distinguishing between the so-called "permanent" and "current" populations of the Territories. The migration component of the population is mentioned as a particularly difficult one to get a fix on in the Territories where seasonal activities are a major force, where a boom-or-bust economy is the norm, and where there are substantial impacts on community life in general and urbanization in particular caused by rapid changes in transportation, education, and communication.

In the face of all of the above difficulties Dr. Hamelin makes a logically constructed (and brave!) attempt to project population growth for the period 1976 to 1985, and describes both the methodology and the assumptions used in the projections. The important implications of the existing population breakdown and of population growth to 1985 are then presented for the native population and other northerners; these implications concern general demographic growth, settlement size and location, ethnic distribution, age, sex, and dependency ratios, school and work-force populations, migration factors, and housing.

Finally, the study concludes with a series of recommendations aimed at politicians, bureaucrats, researchers and the public at large.

This is an important study for a number of reasons. (1) The subject area suggests that the Board recognized from the outset the particular importance of population dynamics, in that they would likely have a critical impact on all aspects of the political, social, and economic future of the Territories. (2) The population growth rate is substantially higher (by a factor of two or three) than in the rest of Canada, which raises a number of interesting questions for scientists, planners and bureaucrats, not to mention the most important audience of all — the population of the N.W.T. (3) Attention is focussed here on a scientific discipline which is often overlooked by those people responsible for planning and undertaking developments in the north, where population policies may be especially useful.

There may be arguments by specialists about the methodology of reporting demographic projections, and concerning many of the assumptions made, and indeed, forecasting settlement patterns and social and economic trends is treacherous to say the least. But by any reasonable standards this report is a major contribution to practical knowledge of the north.

Congratulations are due Dr. Hamelin. Here's hoping others will follow soon in his steps with similar policy-oriented demographic studies!

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THE PACIFIC HALIBUT, THE RESOURCE AND THE FISHERY.
By F. HEWARD BELL. Edmonds, WA: Alaska Northwest Publishing Company, 1981. ISBN 0-88240-141-6 (Paper); 0-88240-158-0 (Cloth). 288 p. incl. photos, illus., maps. Softbound US \$23.95; Hardbound US \$29.95.

The Preface states that this book "is best described as an encyclopedic documentary on the Pacific halibut and its fishery". However it also states that it "does not profess to be an exhaustive treatise on any one aspect of the resource or the fishery". That is a fair appraisal of the book.

The author began his 45-year career with the International Pacific Halibut Commission (née International Fisheries Commission) when the fishery was only 40 years old, and the Canada-U.S. Commission was a "youngster", age 2. He was Director of Investigations when he retired in 1970, and interestingly only the third person to hold that position.

The IPHC was, in 1923, the first international body created to deal with research and management of a fishery resource. Not surprisingly, its actions, and non-actions, have attracted worldwide attention, particularly from the scientific world, and it has been the object of numerous controversial debates, in biology, economics, and sociology.

General subjects included etymology and taxonomy, fishery, processing and marketing, international agreements, research and management, overview, and biographical sketches.

In Chapter 1, the author briskly launches his treatise with an etymological history of the common name (halibut) and a review of the scientific evidence underlying the currently accepted scientific name (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*); and concludes with an account of the campaigns he and others waged to prevent the name halibut from being used for other flatfish species (*Rheinardius* and *Paralichthys*) of inferior quality. The tone of this book is set by the author's evident challenge to "all comers" who would disagree with him on any of these three subjects.

Six chapters are devoted to the fishing operations, and include a history of methods, ports of landing, origin of catches (by national fleet); and special chapters on the incompatibility of net and line fisheries, and the sport fishery.

Four chapters deal with processing and marketing, and consider such unusual subjects as "industry organization" and "fleet programs for orderly marketing", as well as the more conventional history of processing methods and economic history of the industry as a whole.

As a background to the initial agreement in 1923 which created the current International Pacific Halibut Commission, the author begins with fishery aspects of the 1783 Treaty of Paris, which ended the Revolutionary War, and traces the history of Canada-U.S. fisheries problems to the 1953 Halibut Convention. Of interest was the near-break between Canada and Great Britain over who should sign the 1923 Convention on behalf of Canada, at that time not a sovereign nation.

Two chapters deal with research and management, and discuss incidental halibut catches in other fisheries, enforcement of regulations, biology, and stock assessment. Interestingly, the author deems predator-prey, diet, and parasite studies to be of little or no importance to management of the halibut resource.

One chapter is devoted to an "overview" consisting of interesting anecdotes arranged geographically throughout the halibut's range in the eastern (but not the western) Pacific, from 10 miles north of the U.S.-Mexico border (southern limit of halibut's geographical range at 32° 45' N lat.) to the East Bering Sea at St. Matthew Island (60° 30' N lat.), the northern limit at which a "full fare" (180 700 lb in 10 days fishing) of halibut has been recorded.

The final chapter provides brief sketches of some notable individuals from the public, private, and scientific sectors whom the author has singled out for acknowledgement of their contributions to the "development and management of the Pacific halibut resource during the past 85 years". Of some interest is the inclusion of IPHC's first two Directors of Investigations in the public sector, W.F. Thompson and H.A. Dunlop, respectively. The scientific sector consisted of F.I. Baranov (U.S.S.R.), W.E. Ricker (Canada), and M. and G.O. Sars (Norway).

The author spent virtually his entire professional career with halibut, and its unique setline fishery. Not surprisingly, he has acquired a few biases "down through the years". His book provides pleasant and interesting reading, but the reader should be forewarned that, as the Preface states, all is not told. Errors of omission and commission occur which reflect biases acquired over a long and dedicated career.

Major examples of omissions are accounts (and literature citations) of the major and long-term scientific controversies dealing with: (1) the relative importance of fishing and environment on the long-term fluctuations in abundance of Pacific halibut in the eastern Pacific Ocean; and (2) economic/social problems raised by the near-exclusive right of exploitation of the halibut resource possessed by a setline fleet. Lesser omissions include the lack of acknowledgement by literature citations of the substantial achievements of Canadian scientists with respect to preservation techniques in fishing vessels and rail cars; and effects of price controls in Canada during World War II. Vague and infrequent references to the major omissions appear intermittently, and probably will puzzle any reader unfamiliar with the history and activities of IPHC.

Major errors of commission are the rather firm, but undocumented statements of "fact" on quite controversial subjects. Among these might be cited: trawling as the primary cause of the recent decline in stocks; and estimates of incidental halibut catch by foreign vessels. On the lighter side, the two-masted schooner *JENNIE F. DECKER* is incorrectly labelled a sloop in Figure 7.

In summary, the book is well worth the modest price (\$23.95 in soft cover; \$29.95 in deluxe hard cover), and F. Heward Bell is to be commended for a noble effort.

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HANDBOOK OF SNOW: PRINCIPLES, PROCESSES, MANAGEMENT & USE. Edited by D.M. GRAY and D.H. MALE. Toronto: Pergamon Press, 1981. 776 p., illus. \$28.30 softcover, \$85.00 hardcover.

"Snow is a pervasive element that may, at times, paralyze communities and stagger economies throughout the world. Appreciated for its beauty and for its usefulness to winter sports enthusiasts, snow more often than not is considered an undesirable and costly nuisance. Surprisingly, the adverse aspects of snow are accepted with relative complacency as a fact of the human environment, and there is little appreciation of either the magnitude of snow's impact on modern life or its immense value as a natural resource."

So begins this diverse compendium, which could be subtitled "Almost Everything You Wanted to Know About Any Possible Practical Aspect of Snow". The book, engineered by a committee of the National Research Council of Canada, consists of a series of individual chapters written by a wide variety of authors and will tell you which gases absorb onto snow crystals, how snow ridging will influence your crop yield, how to keep your railroad switches clear, how long the studs on your snow tires will last, and the composition of your cross-country klistex wax (did you know that early recipes for ski wax included bacon rind, old bicycle tires, and gramophone records?). According to the preface, this book was designed to meet the need for an introductory text for those dealing with or interested in practical aspects of snow management. Assuming that there is in fact such a need, I would say the book does rise to the occasion.

The diversity of subject matter is best chronicled by a review of the table of contents. Part I (Snow and the Environment) deals with ecological considerations (plants, animals, and humans), effects on agriculture, and influence of snow on the air above and the ground below. Part II (Snowfall and Snowcover) considers meteorology and properties of snow, distribution, measurement, ablation and runoff, lake ice and snow, and avalanches. Part III (Snow and Engineering) deals mainly with aspects of control and removal and contains an interesting chapter on travel over snow. Part IV (Snow and Recreation) consists of two short chapters which are quite interesting, if somewhat out of place: Skiing and Mechanics of Skis. One wonders why snowmobiles, toboggans, and saucers were shortchanged.

The chapters are on the whole well-written and illustrations are adequate. Some hard-core readers may find treatment of particular subjects overly brief; this book could be considered a series of introductions to an assortment of topics. However, such readers may refer to the excellent bibliographies appended to each chapter. For many readers (such as your reviewer) the depth of treatment of many subjects is quite appropriate. For example, I particularly appreciate P. Schaerer's fairly comprehensive but concise discussion of avalanche genesis and control.

This book should be useful to a wide variety of people, although skiers, farmers, roof designers, and so forth each may find that only small portions of the book are relevant to their particular interests. The organizers, editors, and authors involved in the project are to be commended.

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THE 1806 LOG BOOK CONCERNING THE ARCTIC VOYAGE OF CAPTAIN WILLIAM SCORESBY. Kept by WILLIAM SCORESBY, JUNIOR. Whitby: Caedmon of Whitby Press (9 John Street, Whitby, Yorks., England YO21 3ET), 1981. ISBN 0-905355-24-5. 40 p. £12.50.

In his list of log books in the United Kingdom from the whale fishery, Mr. S.G. Brown gives the names of rather over a hundred ships. They are all that remain from the thousands of voyages over a couple of centuries or so. Over sixty years ago, the Explorers Club of America published in facsimile a number of log books of William Scoresby, senior, the whaling captain of Whitby who had a great name in that trade. Now the Whitby Literary and Philosophical Society has published in facsimile the log book kept by his son when mate of the *Resolution* in 1806, and it has been produced well. Up to now, all that has been available about this voyage has been the entry in *Lloyds List* for the return of the ship at the end of the season — the departure and catch were passed over — and the comments by William Scoresby, junior, in his *Arctic Regions* in 1820.