

## REVIEWS

### THE UPPER TANANA INDIANS

By ROBERT A. MCKENNAN. *New Haven: Yale University. Yale University Publications in Anthropology, No. 55. 9¾ X 6¾ inches, 226 pages, 4 plates, 7 text figures, paper, \$3.00.*

This is another paper in the *Yale University Publications in Anthropology* dealing with northern Athapaskan peoples. Dr. McKennan's work continues in the sound tradition established for the series. The volume presents in standard ethnographic form the results of Dr. McKennan's field work among the Upper Tanana during the season 1929-30. Each aspect of the culture of these people is described, starting with economics and ending with mythology. No criticism can be made of this approach since this is the first major study of these people and especially since at the time the field work was done this was the accepted approach to ethnographic reporting. The great need for descriptions of subarctic peoples gives value to accounts such as this, unembellished by theoretical concepts and "bones of contention".

Several minor points regarding Dr. McKennan's study should, however, be mentioned. Perhaps the most important is his remarks on the absence of hunting territories among the Upper Tanana (p. 128). Although they lack hunting territories as defined by Speck and others, the "bands" of Upper Tanana do exploit particular areas. The size of these bands, which are on the average slightly larger than the twentieth-century land-owning groups of the eastern Subarctic, does fall within the range found in the latter area. Accordingly, a variant type of hunting territory appears to exist among the Upper Tanana and it may be similar to that which existed in the eastern Subarctic at the time of the first meeting between the white man and the Indians. A second point is his discussion of clans among the Upper

Tanana. The inclusion of specific case material to document the organization and structure of these clans would have been welcome. Third, there are a few statements that are misleading, for instance, p. 18, "Tetling Village, nine miles 'south' of Last Tetling . . ." should read 'north'; p. 71, his description of the winter lodge is confusing and only becomes intelligible when he quotes Tappan Adney.

The above comments are not meant to detract from Dr. McKennan's work. It is a sound ethnographic study, well written, and certainly a worthwhile contribution to the literature pertaining to the peoples of the Subarctic.

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### RUSSIAN-ENGLISH GLOSSARY AND SOVIET CLASSIFICATION OF ICE FOUND AT SEA.

Compiled by BORIS N. MANDROVSKY. *Washington: Reference Department, Library of Congress. 1959. 10¼ X 8 inches; vi + 30 pages; mimeographed; \$0.30; obtainable from Card Division, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D.C.*

This useful work reproduces and provides English equivalents for the sea ice terms in N. I. Yevgenov (Evgenov, according to the system of transliteration used by the Library of Congress and in *Arctic Bibliography*): *Al'bom ledovykh obrazovaniy na moryakh* (Leningrad, 1955), now in official Soviet use. The English equivalent terms, often exact fits, are those in current United States use, taken from Hydrological Office Publication No. 609: *A functional glossary of ice terminology* (Washington, 1952), or failing that, from the World Meteorological Organization Publication: *Abridged international ice nomenclature* (Geneva, 1956). Some of the divergences between the three systems