

existence and of the history of the groups in question. It appears that a gulf still exists between the two peoples even though peaceful relations now exist.

A final, albeit, minor point might be mentioned. The Indian word *minahek* (p. 77) is translated as "red spruce". This seems to be an error since red spruce are never found as far north. Instead, what is probably being referred to is the white spruce (*Picea glauca*) as is the case for the Mistassini Indians to the southeast of Great Whale River.

In summary, it can be said that this is the work of a mature anthropologist who has collected his data cautiously with a view to accuracy and has presented information clearly and neatly. It adds another vital volume to the sparse but now gradually increasing literature devoted to the North American sub-arctic.

Edward S. ROGERS
Royal Ontario Museum

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Contributions to Anthropology, 1960. Part I. National Museum of Canada Bulletin 180 (Anthropological Series No. 57). Ottawa, The Queen's Printer, 1962. VI-190 pp., 29 plates, 34 figures, 5 map figures. \$2.00.

Canadian archaeological and physical anthropological research completed in 1960 is reported in the seven papers included in the National Museum's Bulletin 180. Dr. L. S. Russel, Acting Director, explains in his foreword that research in the other fields of anthropology will be published in a second volume, and promises additional papers on the subjects in the present one.

The first two *Contributions* describe pre-Dorset and Dorset materials from Devon and Baffin Islands. Moreau S. Maxwell tested five "Pre-Dorset and Dorset Sites in the Vicinity of Lake Harbour, Baffin Island, N.W.T.," discovering that the sites form a series beginning with KeDr-1, which may be earlier than Taylor's Ivugivik sites, and ending with KdDq-4, probably Dorset. A development of artifact types from the Arctic Small Tool Tradition to recognized Dorset correlates with progressively lower elevations for the sites, presumably located on beaches abandoned through isostatic and/or eustatic changes. Significant cultural trends can be seen in the gradual replacement of chert by quartz as a raw material for tools, and in the decrease in the percentages of burins as end scrapers gain in popularity. Maxwell suggests that the sites cover the first two millennia before Christ, and believes that they demonstrate the emergence of Dorset from a Denbigh-like culture in the Eastern Arctic.

"An Account of an Archaeological Site on Cape Sparbo, Devon Island," is a discussion by G.R. Lowther of 84 artifacts recovered from a site, Inavik

(no Uniform Site Designation given), containing pre-Dorset, Dorset, and Thule occupations. Minute descriptions of the two earlier assemblages (the Thule material was not available) advance Lowther's identification of the majority of the specimens as belonging to the Arctic Small Tool Tradition; the remaining few may be Dorset. The paper as a whole appears to be essentially a prolegomenon to Lowther's report on his 1961 season at Devon Island.

In "A Distributional Study of Some Archaic Traits in Southern Ontario," J. V. Wright used the collections of the Royal Ontario Museum to plot the occurrences of seven categories of artifacts diagnostic of the Northeastern Archaic. Wright admits that the collections do not offer as adequate a sample as would be desirable, but his paper is a commendable appraisal of the pre-ceramic occupations of southern Ontario. The region seems to contain two foci, one west and the other east of Toronto (i.e., the Humber-Nottawasaga drainages). Bannerstones and full-grooved axes are characteristic of the western area, which Wright postulates was influenced by peoples south of the Great Lakes, but ground slate projectile points are most common in the eastern area, and may be derived from the northeast.

"The Old Women's Buffalo Jump, Alberta," is Richard G. Forbis' report on two seasons of excavation at EcP1-1, a deep, stratified bison kill site near Cayley. Blackfoot mythology claims the kill was used at the genesis of the race; radiocarbon revealed the lowest layers to be two thousand years old (Sample S-91, Layer 25, A.D. 120 ± 70). The long sequence of projectile points from this site has been classified by Forbis into seven named types. This reviewer feels that the careful analysis of the key modes, presented with admirable clarity, furnishes a chronological guide of even greater value than the types themselves. Plains archaeologists will welcome this stratigraphically secured ordering of the ubiquitous small side-notched points of the Late Prehistoric era.

There are two papers on the Eskimo of Southampton Island. That by Merbs and Wilson describes the "Anomalies and Pathologies of the Sadlermiut Eskimo Vertebral Column," drawing upon the evidence of 72 skeletons of the Sadlermiut who became extinct in 1903. A high incidence of spondylolysis was noted, as well as arthritic conditions, which seemed to be more common in younger adults (25-40) than in those older. The second paper, by Chown and Lewis, "The Blood Group and Secretor Genes of the Eskimo on Southampton Island," gives data on two groups of Eskimo now resident on the Island. Differences between the two groups may be attributed to two sources: first, the Aivilik (from northwestern Hudson Bay) have more Caucasoid admixture than do the Okomiut (from Hudson Strait); second, genetic drift had probably given rise to variations in the parent populations of these groups.

J.E. Anderson uses photographs to describe "The Development of the Tympanic Plate" of the temporal bone. The formation of this plate is a

complex process, observable on archaeologically excavated skulls such as those Anderson studied from the Fairty site, an Iroquois ossuary. A dehiscence, known as the Foramen of Hushke, may persist into adulthood in the tympanic plate, and Anderson suggests that this defect is probably genetically determined. Its varying incidence may therefore mark different populations. Anderson's paper, like that by Merbs and Wilson, points up the broad benefits to be gained by collaboration between archaeologists and physical anthropologists.

Alice B. KEHOE
Regina, Saskatchewan

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The Archaeology of the Lower and Middle Thelon, Northwest Territories.
Elmer HARP, Jr. Arctic Institute of North America Technical Paper No. 8,
Montreal: Arctic Institute of North America, 1961. 74 pp., 12 plates, 15 figs.
including maps; summary in Russian. \$2.00.

With this compact monograph, which presents the first thorough documentation for a prehistoric culture sequence in the Barren Grounds, Harp makes an indelible impression on one of the largest blanks in the archaeological map of North America. This is a contribution of signal importance both because its data are new and unique, and because it is a concrete basis for a reappraisal of the view of the senior ethnologist, Birket-Smith, who holds that Eskimos originated there. Harp's findings in this connection had been anticipated in part by some scholars working in other areas; they probably will receive general acceptance. They have convinced the reviewer that the prehistory of the Barren Grounds is characterized by alternate tenancy by Indian and Eskimo groups closely affiliated with their kindreds in adjacent areas, in most cases separated from one another by long intervals of time. There is little indication there of long cultural continuity such as would have been necessary for a major cultural development to have taken place.

In 1958, Harp set out by canoe and light aircraft to initiate archaeological exploration in the country west of Baker Lake where, one assumes, his earlier work near Coronation Gulf had led him to look for "evidence of diffusion among prehistoric hunters of the boreal forest, tundra, and the coastal fringes" (p. 7). In particular, he sought data on the much-discussed development of pre-Dorset and Dorset Eskimo culture and on the origins of the modern Caribou Eskimo. The monograph is based on that season's work but reference is made also to previous reconnaissance in near-by areas by Harp and Moffat.

Staying close to the watercourses, he found forty six unstratified, lake-side sites, from which he recovered 734 artefacts, 98% of which are of