

death, he was preparing the manuscript for a book on the Dieppe raid. Sad and unfortunate as this may be, he leaves a legacy of well-researched and well-written books on aspects of Canadian military history. For a productive and successful writer such as Dan Dancocks, *D-Day Dodgers* is an appropriate and worthy final chapter.

Glenn Wright

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Arctic Odyssey: The Diary of Diamond Jenness, Ethnologist with the Canadian Arctic Expedition in Northern Alaska and Canada, 1913-1916. STUART E. JENNESS, ed. Canadian Museum of Civilization, 1991. xiii, 839 p. ISBN 0662-12905.

The Canadian Arctic Expedition (CAE) was an ambitious undertaking conceived by Vilhjalmur Stefansson and sponsored by the Canadian government. Tragedy in the form of the 1913 sinking of the supply vessel KARLUK reduced the scientific party by one half. Despite the setback the second party managed to assemble an astounding quantity of information about the geology, flora, fauna, and people of the western and central Arctic. One of the most prolific members of the expedition was Diamond Jenness, selected as one of the CAE anthropologists by Edward Sapir who learned of this Oxford graduate through a former classmate, Marius Barbeau. These men become legendary figures in the fields of linguistics and anthropology. A New Zealander by birth, Jenness had no previous experience in the Arctic yet signed on without hesitation. The Jenness diary begins on 20 September 1913—an earlier portion apparently was lost when the KARLUK sank—and continues in a virtually unbroken narrative until August 1916.

Stuart Jenness selected the title of the book because of the dictionary definition of “odyssey,” a series of “adventurous journeys” and because Homer’s *Odyssey* was a book *père* Jenness which held in special regard. Indeed, he had kept a copy with him on his travels with the Copper Eskimos to Victoria Island and later during his two years at the front in the First World War. *Arctic Odyssey* is indeed a book of epic proportions. Of its 837 pages, two-thirds of these are devoted to the Jenness diary. The text is supplemented by more than 200 hand-drawn maps and sketches. These illustrations provide visual representations of such diverse subjects as Inuit construction techniques, tattoos, tool or weapon design, sled styles, and landscape features. Jenness also took three hundred photographs during the course of the expedition and some forty of these are interspersed with the text. The overall effect of this marriage of narrative and images provides a vivid reminder of how life in the North has changed dramatically in a remarkably short time. Stuart Jenness, the editor and son of the diarist, has carefully listed all of his father’s contributions to the preservation of Inuit cultural history; the one hundred recordings and several books of songs of the Copper Eskimo, his catalogue of archaeological artifacts, a publication on ‘cat’s cradle’ string designs, the photographs, maps, and drawings noted above, and the journal itself. All of this research culminated in his critically acclaimed book *People of the Twilight* (1928) which captured a way of life that no longer exists.

While the book is definitely a tribute to the stamina and perseverance of Diamond Jenness, the work also demonstrates that these are characteristics shared by son Stuart. His own diligent work is reflected in the comprehensiveness of prologue, epilogue, footnotes and appendices, which exhibit the editor’s devotion not only to his subject but

to the memory of his father. He anticipates and skilfully answers many of the reader's questions arising from inferences, errors, and omissions found within the diary, yet he does so in a manner which maintains respect for the integrity and context of the original work. Stuart Jenness knew many of the principals associated with the Canadian Arctic Expedition through their visits to his family home. He spent considerable time researching their own diaries, letters, and field notes, now held in various archival repositories throughout Canada, the United States, and Britain. Ironically, his father never kept much in the way of personal papers, a fact his son attributes to his modesty and self-effacing character.

The diary is disappointing in one respect: we gain only limited insights into the reactions of a man who has been thrust into an alien culture and the vast, Arctic expanse. Commentary about his assessment of Stefansson, fellow expedition members, and to a lesser degree, his native companions is very limited. This, however, was also characteristic of diaries written by all other expedition members. As the editor explains, Stefansson was the commander of the CAE and required that all diaries, notes, and journals be turned over to him for transfer to the Canadian government at the end of the expedition. This affected the tenor of the writing, resulting in more technical and less personalized observations. It also contributed to the strong and lasting resentment among expedition members. Despite these drawbacks we do gain an occasional insight into the feelings Jenness experienced during his life at Coronation Gulf and Victoria Island.

Over time we detect gradual changes in the attitude of an Oxford trained Edwardian living among a primitive people. He observes the activities and social behaviour of his Eskimo hosts, noting these with a usually detached, scientific objectivity. Jenness slowly experiences an emotional adaptation to a native way of life. He moves from tolerance to comfort and ultimately to a point where, as his entry from the spring of 1915 explains, "Some of us went along like bees sipping at every little thimbleful of water we could find in the cracked soil on the ridges. I am growing Eskimo in my ways—careless about dirty pots or dirty person—drinking more cold water—tend to have my mouth agape when travelling. It requires an effort to keep white!" (p. 416). Thanks to the journal, readers can share a greater appreciation of life in the Arctic as revealed through the experiences described in this book. We can traverse this bridge between cultures and answer the question put to Jenness by an elderly Inuit woman: "she asked me too if we weep when anyone dies, as is their custom" (p. 423).

Doug Whyte

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Unravelling the Franklin Mystery: Inuit Testimony. DAVID C. WOODMAN. McGill-Queen's University Press, 1991. xiv, 390 p. ISBN 0-7735-0833-3.

Truth, evidence, observation, validation and testimony—these are the themes which dominate this book. Although he relies for the most part on the scholarship and experiences of others, David Woodman has contributed a unique study among the legion of works devoted to the Franklin misadventure. This book is part of the McGill-Queen's Northern and Native Series edited by Bruce Trigger. It offers a fresh interpretation of the mystery of the fate of the vessels and crew of the *Erebus* and