

for it: students and academics may order it at half price, but everyone pays £12 extra (overseas £20) for postage and packing. A less elegant atlas could have contained the same amount of information, indeed more, but cost far less: what a splendid atlas-with-text-and-photographs, in more manageable size and shape, this could have made. Hard-pressed academic libraries may revolt at paying so much for what is essentially a picture book, when students will need more explanations to make sense of it, and involved academics will probably want access to the database itself. Full marks to the oceanographers who did the work: the faintest of cheers for unimaginative publishing. (Bernard Stonehouse, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER.)

SOVIET ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIOUSNESS ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN THE SOVIET UNION. Pryde, Philip R. 1991. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge Soviet Paperbacks 4). 314 p, illustrated. ISBN 0 521 40905 5 soft cover. £10.95, US \$14.95.

Philip Pryde is the western doyen of environmental problems in the former Soviet Union, noted for his *Conservation in the Soviet Union* (Cambridge, 1972), written when the USSR was of interest only to specialists and environmentalism was not yet fashionable. Pryde now distinguishes three phases of post-war environmental consciousness: the 'Baikal awakening' of the late 1960s and early 70s, involving mostly writers and artists; the Chernobyl trauma from 1986 onwards, in which the general public came to see themselves as directly threatened; and the still-nascent 'perestroika awakening', the most crucial and delicate phase which he hopes will transform the consciousness of ministry officials and factory managers.

The book is comprehensive, leading the reader successively through topics like air, water, nature reserves and forests. The key areas, with a specifically Soviet twist, are nuclear power, and the relationship between the bureaucracy and public democratic activism. Pryde shows how nuclear energy is used almost exclusively in the densely populated areas west of the Urals far from the gas and oil of Siberia, and explores the many dilemmas of energy policy. He shows why the management flaws revealed by Chernobyl cannot be redressed so long as poachers still play the role of gamekeeper; and chronicles the response to this inadequacy, as the latent public concern has been transformed into citizens' action groups.

The Russian north has more industrial development (Noril'sk, Igarka, the Kola Peninsula) than the North in any other country. However, the North appears here as only one piece in a complex jigsaw: central Asian irriga-

tion schemes interact with Arctic rivers; fallout from the Ukraine destroys reindeer pastures in Scandinavia. Thus, some major arctic crisis points are discussed only briefly or not at all, notably gas extraction in Yamal peninsula and atmospheric nuclear testing on Novaya Zemlya. But this is perhaps a correct perspective, an antidote to narrow regionalism: the Arctic can be understood only within the framework of the country as a whole, and this book is invaluable for putting the Russian North into this setting.

The author's long familiarity with the subject shows in his easy mastery of his enormous canvas. Sections have been contributed by Philip Micklin and Kathleen Braden, experts respectively on Soviet water management and forestry. The foreword is by Zeev Wolfson, who while still a Soviet bureaucrat blew the whistle with the publication of his *The destruction of nature in the Soviet Union* (White Plains, 1980) under the pseudonym Boris Komarov ('Boris Mosquito'). (Piers Vitebsky, Scott Polar Research Institute, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER)

SIBERIAN BIBLIOGRAPHY

SIBERIA AND THE SOVIET FAR EAST. Collins, David N (compiler). 1991. Oxford - Santa Barbara - Denver, Clio Press (World Bibliographical Series, vol. 127). 221 p, maps. ISBN 1-85109-157-2 hard cover. £35.00.

This is an annotated bibliography containing over 700 main entries. For each country or region, this series aims to 'express its culture, its place in the world, and the qualities and background which make it unique.' The publishers are to be congratulated on treating Siberia separately from the companion volumes entitled *USSR* and *The Arctic* as well as for entrusting the work to a noted historian of Siberia.

Apart from the obvious headings like 'Flora and fauna', 'Religion' or 'Languages', Collins gives us some characteristically Siberian ones like 'Energy, fuel and mineral resources', 'Environmental problems and protection' and 'Exile and imprisonment', as well as the interesting heading 'Literary works about Siberia'. The style of annotation allows several works to be discussed and compared under one entry. An oddity of this system is that sometimes an important source does not receive an entry of its own but is mentioned in discussion under a more feeble article. This is perhaps related to the problem of any compendium of English sources on the remoter parts of Russia: alongside the substantial works there are inevitably many digests or journalistic impressions. But the annotations are extremely helpful in guiding the reader to sources which meet his or her needs and the book is well indexed. (Piers Vitebsky, Scott Polar Research Institute, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER)