

Geographic variation and toponomy are discussed for some forms. In general the toponomy is conservative; Eurasian specific names are used only where the authors believe the need has been established. Marine mammals are included, but little information on them is given except for description and occurrence. The key is exceptionally thorough and detailed. Some factors that may influence cycles are discussed in the book's introduction. An 18-page section describes the area and its biotic communities. The bibliography occupies 12 pages.

Byron P. Glass, *The Quarterly Review of Biology*, vol. 32, no. 2, June 1957. "In the entire arctic slope of Alaska only 41 species of mammals are known to occur, and only 29 of these are terrestrial. The details of the ecosystem of which each species is a part, and of the adaptations that permit each to survive, constitute a large part of this book. The problem of survival in the Arctic and the phenomenon of periodic fluctuation in numbers of individuals draw a generous share of the author's attention.

Accounts of species occupy the major portion of the text. Three shrews, 1 hare, 8 rodents, and 4 ruminants are the mammalian prey available to 13 species of terrestrial carnivores. In addition, 6 cetaceans and 6 pinnipeds are known to inhabit the ocean bordering the Alaskan arctic shoreline. Each species is described in the classic way. The greatest contributions of the work are to be found, however, in the section entitled Remarks, for here are recorded virtually all of the observations made upon each of the species during the entire course of the study.

The plan of the book is somewhat the reverse of the usual practice; for the acknowledgments and various subjects of general consideration appear at the very end, rather than at the beginning. The section on geography and climate contains several very informative photographs of the arctic terrain. (Byron P. Glass is the present Secretary and Treasurer of the American Society of Mammalogists - *Journal of Mammalogy*.)