

THOMAS A. DUBOIS

Varieties of Medical Treatment and Hierarchies of Resort in Johan Turi's *Sámi deavsttat*

ABSTRACT Johan Turi's *Sámi deavsttat/Lappish Texts* (1918–1919) is examined as a source of information regarding early twentieth-century Sami healing methods and hierarchies of medical resort. Turi's account of traditional and personal healing experiences in the Čohkkeras/Jukkasjärvi district reflects complex processes of intercultural exchange and hybridization, in which Sami families availed themselves of differing varieties of therapy depending on differing situations and personalities. Hierarchies of resort—that is, the order in which patients make use of competing healing resources—are illustrated by short histories (case studies) which Turi included in the final portion of his work. The text reveals a world in which local Sami *noaidevuohta* (shamanic healing) lingered as a largely stigmatized clandestine resource, competing variously with shamanic healing offered by more distant (Norwegian) Sami, as well as healing drawn from Finnish magic, Swedish medicine, and Læstadian faith healing. Ill health, insanity, and decimation of one's herd are depicted as attacks not only on an individual, but on the individual's entire family, and their effects can be felt ultimately by members of the family's subsequent generation(s). Non-Sami individuals play important roles both as threats and as sources of potential assistance in the struggle to maintain or regain health.

GUNNAR GJENGSET

Citizens and Nomads

The Literary Works of Matti Aikio with Emphasis on *Bygden på elveneset*

ABSTRACT The Sami author Matti Aikio from Karasjok made his debut in 1904 in Copenhagen with *Kong Akab* ['King Akab']. He was one of the world's earliest indigenous authors, and presented his first novel to the Norwegian public with *I dyreskind* ['In Hide'] in 1906. The last of a total of six novels was *Bygden på elveneset* [The Parish on the Riverbank], launched posthumously in 1929.

In this article I present a post-colonial reading of this last novel of his. My hypothesis is that he wrote his first Norwegian novel anew, but this time social success amongst the Sami population is dependent upon the conduct of Sami culture. All of his novels reflect upon different strategies at hand for members of an ethnic minority in times of an advancing European industry, economy and culture, heavily influenced by a social-Darwinist political and anthropological cosmology.

Being the first registered Sami student of Norway, while writing his novels in Norwegian, Matti Aikio developed skills as a master of mimicry. Having experienced the importance of hybridity, he studies the limits of mimicry in his novels. This is the main project of his literary work, and with tools from post-colonial literary theories, this essay discusses the author's attitudes to the possibilities of his own ethnic culture's survival in the future.

SUSI K. FRANK

Arctic Science and Fiction

A Novel by a Soviet Geologist

ABSTRACT The article analyses the popular novel *Sannikov's land* (published in 1926) by the famous Russian and Soviet geologist Vladimir A. Obruchev (1863–1956) and asks how scientific discourse on the one hand and literary, fictional discourse on the other interact in this text that tells the story of the discovery of an Arctic island that a Russian merchant had asserted to have seen, but the existence of which never could be affirmed. Basing his novel exclusively on well-founded scientific (geological as well as anthropological) hypotheses, Obruchev polemizes with

a whole range of pretexts from J. Verne to K. Hloucha. Unfolding the story of the Russian expedition, Obruchev pursues the aim (1) to deconstruct the utopian myth of a paradise on earth beyond the Arctic ice in its countless varieties; (2) to show that ancient myths—like the myth of the existence of warm islands in the Arctic—are a form of protoscientific insight that should be taken seriously by modern science and transformed into scientific knowledge; and (3) to suggest that the Arctic islands—really existing, supposed to exist or be doomed—from a geological point of view belong to the Siberian mainland and therefore to Russian/Soviet territory.

BIRGITTA ROECK HANSEN

Early Land Organisation around the Gulf of Bothnia

ABSTRACT The area around the Gulf of Bothnia is a distinct region with historic roots. In 1809, after the peace treaty at Fredrikshamn, the area was divided into a Swedish and a Finnish (Russian) part through a new border on the Torne River. Earlier the whole area on both sides of the Gulf, in Sweden as well as in Finland, belonged to the same taxation district and was subject to the same taxes based on winter hunting and summer harvesting.

The cultural landscape in this region can be seen in cadastral maps from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. In the villages, which were large compared to those in other places in Sweden and Finland, the same division of the arable land can be seen in the Torne river valley in the west as in the eastern coastal area to Kronoby in the south. South of the Torne River valley traces of this land organisation can be seen on the early maps.

This land organisation had social causes depending on the main industry in the area of hunting and fishing. The roots of both social organisation and early taxation lay in the east as opposed to most areas in Sweden and Finland, in which a westerly influence dominated.

MARTIN ERIKSSON

Regional Development, Transport Infrastructure and Government Policy

The Case of Ice-Breaking along the Coastline of Norrland, Sweden, 1940–1975

ABSTRACT Due to the cold climate, navigation along the coast lines of the northern regions in Sweden, Finland, Canada, Russia and the United States must negotiate winter conditions which cause ports to freeze over. In order to avoid the negative economic effects of such interruptions, ice-breaking and other measures to facilitate winter navigation have been introduced. This article deals with the introduction of ice-breaking along the coast line of the five northernmost counties in Sweden, the Norrland region, from a perspective that examines and analyzes the underlying decision-making processes. It is concluded that the ability of regional interest groups to link their demands for an improved ice-breaker service to important aims within macro policy such as trade policy, growth policy and regional development policy contributed to the outcome of the decision-making processes. The international competitiveness of the export industries in Norrland was therefore regarded as a national concern during the decision-making processes. Another factor that contributed to the outcome of the decision-making processes was the sectoral organization within the government maritime bodies. Large-scale planning and operational experimentation was allowed to take place within the ice-breaker service, which convinced the government that ice-breaking and winter navigation were a feasible transport alternative.