

researchers and librarians but when you consider the alternative of compiling such vast information between four covers, the price really isn't outrageous. The set is in line with today's prices, which are high everywhere. As a complete reference, this revised edition will be hard to beat. Occupying almost 13 cm of shelf space, you may have to remove some other out-of-date editions to accommodate this latest round of encyclopedic information in port engineering. It seems quite clear from my perusal of the set (I did not read each each volume cover to cover) that it will remain an essential reference for not only engineers but all those who have ancillary interests in ports. *Port Engineering* is thus recommended without reservation as an important reference source that should be acquired for the first time or to replace earlier editions.

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**Ocean Change in Global Change: Introductory Geographical Analysis**, Adalberto Vallega, 1990. Universit Degli Studi di Genova, Istituto di Scienze Geografiche, Pubblicazione 44 (IGU Commission on Marine Geography), 136pp. No price given. No ISBN.

This book is a contribution to the IGU Commission on Marine Geography, Regional Conference on Asian Pacific Countries held in August 13-20 (1990), Beijing, China. The topics covered in this book are far ranging and deal with a variety of interesting issues that center around the changing themes of ocean management. There is a useful review of jurisdictional belts and ocean management, particularly as they pertain to spatial patterns and use/environment interactions. Perhaps of most interest to coastal researchers is the discussion that focuses on issues and actions in the coastal zone: management, legal framework, urbanization, industrialization, and offshore activities. Each of these major categories is broken down into salient issues that are followed by recommendations for future research. The book should be of interest to those interested in various aspects of coastal ocean policy/management.

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**Recreational Uses of Coastal Areas**, P. Fabbri (ed.). Kluwer Academic Publishers Group, Dordrecht, The Netherlands, 1990, 285p., Dfl., 190.00 (US\$ 99.00). ISBN 0-7923-0279-6 (US).

The growth in leisure time during the past century is perhaps nowhere better illustrated than in the development of resorts, harbors for pleasure boats and sport fishermen, and vacation spots along coastal areas. The population explosion around the world has seen increased development of coastal regions for industrial and urban purposes. This "drang" to the coast with inevitable clashes over use of environmental and human resources has posed a number of problems for planners, environmentalists, demographers, and others. This book, comprised by illustrative case studies from a number of cultural and environmental situations, is an outgrowth of studies by the commission on the coastal Environment of the International Geographical Union. The editor, Paolo Fabbri, has ably assembled aspects of the investigation of the interaction between the coastal dweller and the coastal recreational visitor. The 23 contributions are grouped into four main sections. The introducing section includes eight regionally-based studies that discuss recreation in such coastal areas such as Florida, South-Wales, Port Phillip Bay (Australia), Singapore, the Azov Sea coast, Guyana, central Chile, and Québec. Contributions grouped in the second section show that man's recreational impact in the coastal zone is not necessarily conditioned by mild climate, sunny conditions, or the presence of beaches. Seven case studies make up section III, which is based on coastal planning in general. The last section contains two essays. The first provides an overview of marine recreation in North America while the second deals with morphological and functional models of beach resorts.

References are included with each chapter or essay but there is no author or subject index. Indices would have been useful in a work of this sort. Alas! Living in a time when there is great pressure on the use (or misuse) of coastal resources, it is painfully obvious that coastal

zones require careful land use controls and sound planning measures. The implementation of rational controls and procedures is not for the sole benefit of the tourist industry but more for the well-being of coastal environments and all who use them, for whatever (legal) purpose. Because this book contains much useful information and is handsomely produced, it deserves a place on your coastal bookshelf.

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**Carbon Dioxide and Global Change: Earth in Transition**, Sherwood B. Idso, 1989, Institute for Biospheric Research, Inc., 631 East Laguna Drive, Tempe, AZ 85282, 292p. US\$19.95 (+ \$2.00 postage). ISBN 0-9623489-1-0 (pbk).

This is an interesting book that should pique the curiosity of many researchers. For those who are iconoclasts, or who at least question the paradigms of the scientific establishment, there is much of interest in the alternative points of view positioned by Idso. I enjoyed reading this book because there is much food for thought. In fact, this paperback serves as an apophoreta for the plethora of issues facing those researchers who consider aspects of global change. Idso is to be commended for having the conviction of opinion to go ahead and publish this somewhat radical work.

Although Idso deals with many issues, his analysis of sea level trends sets the tone for the book as much as any other issue. Consider, for example, that many researchers have proposed that eustatic sea level is presently rising at the rate of about 2-3 mm/yr. There also has been much speculation that a CO<sub>2</sub>-induced rise of 50 to 100 cm could be sustained over the next century. Some of these extreme predictions are being scaled back because they appear to lack a substantive basis. The author, documenting the work of others, carefully notes that some of the causative phenomena linked to changes in sea level are: long-term tectonic and isostatic behavior; variations in ocean current intensity,

crustal cooling along rift margins and overriding of adjacent tectonic plates; river discharge; El Niño-Southern Oscillation events; rainfall, storminess, sea surface temperature, and salinity; and on-shore wind stress and vertical mixing of surface and deep waters. It thus seems clear that worldwide sea level (what Russian researchers often refer to as the ocean level) displays great temporal and spatial variability that is neither confirmed nor easily confirmable. The unravelling of such variability still requires a great deal of research, especially its links with climate. Idso points to many tantalizing issues in the search for coupling between sea-level change and climate. Sea level certainly drops during major glacial-epoch coolings but there is also some evidence that it sometimes rises 1-3 m during minor cooling events. It is interesting to note that Idso questions whether it is possible that a minor CO<sub>2</sub>-induced warming may actually lead to a decrease in sea level. "This type of response can only occur if water is being sequestered as snow and ice, which in turn suggests that the albedo of the Earth's surface may possibly increase somewhat with a minor global warming. Hence, whereas the ice-albedo feedback is believed to be positive for large-amplitude climatic excursions, it may well be negative for less dramatic perturbations" (p. 59). The book is full of vignettes that do not get bogged down in the detailia of minor points, although each statement is documented by reference to the appropriate literature.

The book contains a very good author index (24 pages), a comprehensive subject index (31 pages), and over 2,000 references. The citations are grouped in sections that correspond to the various chapters. There are only a few diagrams and figures but this hardly detracts from the effectiveness of the work.

This is a fun book. I recommend it to those researchers who wish to think for themselves; it is for those who dare to question the dogma of today's scientific establishment.

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