

German voluntary organizations and the interplay of social and political life on the local level in the Second Empire and the Weimar Republic. His socio-political approach challenges historians to re-examine the connections between social and political life and the motivations behind class behavior. This is a real service to the profession.

Rebecca Boehling  
*University of Maryland-Baltimore County*

\*\*\*

Paul-André Linteau — *Histoire de Montréal depuis la Confédération*. Montreal: Les Éditions du Boréal, 1992. Pp. 613.

This work will undoubtedly cement the author's reputation as one of the leading historians of modern Quebec. Already the co-author of a two-volume overview of the history of Quebec since Confederation that has been widely hailed as the definitive work of its kind, Linteau has now established himself as the author of the first serious synthesis of the history of Montreal. Other works have been produced which provide no more than a superficial narrative, but this work brings together the considerable academic research that has been produced over the past two decades touching upon the history of Montreal. While Linteau's text leans heavily upon specialized studies, it should prove attractive to both an academic as well as a more general readership. The author writes with considerable grace, and the text includes excellent illustrations on nearly every page.

In his introduction, Linteau quite appropriately notes that "une synthèse porte nécessairement la marque de celui qui l'écrit" (8), and it is precisely in terms of the shape that he gives to the history of Montreal that some questions can be raised. To begin with, there is the obvious question as to why a history of Montreal should begin with Confederation. After all, a city is not a political territory, and in terms of the history of Montreal, the argument can well be made that the turning point came in the early nineteenth century when it began to develop links to the Upper Canadian hinterland that led to the growth of Montreal as a centre of commerce, finance and, eventually, industry. In a sense, the developments that Linteau sees as somehow "new" in the immediate aftermath of Confederation entailed no more than the extension of Montreal's influence to the Canadian west. He does explain in the introduction that the post-Confederation focus was dictated by the interests of publishers, but he might have made it clearer that 1867 provided no new beginning for the city.

Within the confines of the first 125 years of Confederation, he then focuses upon four distinct periods. The first, from 1867 to 1896, saw Montreal emerge as the undisputed master of the Canadian hinterland, a process that was only reinforced by developments during the second era which stretched from 1896 to the start of World War I. In fact, the story of continued strength so dominates the first two sections that they might well have been combined into one, cutting back on the length of the volume in the process. The final two sections then turn to the decline of Montreal as Canada's most important city. The third part, covering the years from 1914 to 1945,

sees the beginnings of this decline, while the final one explores Montreal's transformation into "la métropole québécoise".

Each of the four sections is organized in an identical fashion, giving attention first to the general economic and social setting before turning to more specific questions touching upon physical aspects of Montreal's growth, the experiences of particular groups within the population, and the nature of municipal government. Within these rather broad headings, however, Linteau is forced, by the nature of the project, to set priorities and to give more importance to some questions than to others. It is in this process of prioritizing that the careful reader will see the interpretation that the author tries to impose upon his material.

Quite clearly, the leading figures in Linteau's history of Montreal are the businessmen, both French- and English-speaking, who made Montreal their base of operations. Linteau's emphasis is unmistakable when he identifies "le facteur déterminant" in the growth of the city in the late nineteenth century as the "émergence d'une bourgeoisie qui a canalisé à son profit les bénéfices de la croissance" (16). One might have thought that the workers of the city played a role that was at least as important, but this is not the way in which Linteau presents the material, perhaps reflecting in the process the way in which business has become the passion of late twentieth-century Quebecers. To the extent that workers are mentioned, they only appear as members of trade unions; one is struck by the absence of any reference to the literature pertaining to working-class culture.

Moreover, when the living conditions of ordinary Montrealers are discussed, Linteau is particularly insistent in refuting the work of Terry Copp in which workers are seen as barely getting by. Linteau takes exception, for instance, with Copp's assertion that housing was in a deplorable state, an observation that is seemingly supported by Montreal's unenviable public health record in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Linteau is prepared to admit that "une partie de la population montréalaise continue à vivre dans des conditions misérables, mais cette situation ne caractérise pas nécessairement l'ensemble des travailleurs" (217). Of course, Copp never claimed that all workers lived in poor housing. Accordingly, one is left with the impression that Linteau is trying a bit too hard to make the past of the city a bit more salubrious than it really was, an impression that is only reinforced in a chapter pertinent to the period 1945-1991 and entitled "Les effets de la prospérité". Given the city's chronically high rate of unemployment, prosperity was not a problem for all Montrealers.

If Linteau's work tends to sanitize the history of Montreal by singing the praises of its businessmen and marginalizing the presence of the poor, the same can also be said in terms of his consideration of conflict between the city's various ethnic groups. So while he admits to the existence of antisemitism during the 1930s, he feels obliged to observe that such behaviour "ne conduit pas comme en Europe à des actes systématiques de vandalisme ou à des attaques des personnes, bien qu'un certain nombre d'événements isolés soient relevés au cours de la période" (330). As in terms of his refutation of Copp, however, Linteau tries to marginalize the unpleasant aspects of the past by observing that the situation might have been somehow worse.

In addition to his general cleaning up of the city's past in terms of class and ethnic conflict, one is also struck by other ways in which Linteau marginalizes certain issues that might have been given a more central role. Women, for instance, are curiously given little attention in this text in spite of the profusion of work in the field.

Moreover, the Catholic Church is relegated to a fairly marginal position, always following the population and never leading it. As Linteau puts it, "l'Église montréalaise... s'adapte à une société en évolution" (73).

One comes away from this text with the overall impression that Montreal was a city which had some minor difficulties, but that by and large, it was little different from other centres in North America. The reader is certainly not encouraged to dwell on the fact that Montreal, among all of the major centres in North America, was the only one founded for evangelical purposes or that Montreal had unusually high levels of tuberculosis and infant mortality. Such an interpretation is not entirely surprising, however, given the context in which this work was written. On the one hand, it follows in the tradition of Quebec historical writing over the past twenty years which has dwelled upon the way in which developments in Quebec were little different from those observable elsewhere. This tendency to "normalize" Quebec's past is an obvious reaction (I would suggest it is an over reaction) to an earlier literature that dwelled upon the way in which Quebec was somehow out of step with larger developments. On a different level, Linteau's somewhat trouble-free history of Montreal seems appropriate as its appearance coincides with the celebration of the city's 350th anniversary.

Nothing that has been argued above in terms of Linteau's interpretation should be read as cause for minimizing the contribution that he has made. I genuinely enjoyed reading the book both because of the ability of the author to bring together a large body of material in a very readable fashion and because of his ability to stimulate me by imposing a clear interpretive framework upon the subject matter. One can only hope that an English translation will appear in the not too distant future.

Ronald Rudin  
Concordia University

\*\*\*

Orest I. Martynowych — *Ukrainians in Canada: The Formative Years, 1891-1924*. Edmonton: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, 1991. Pp. xxix, 562.

This massive book, as Manoly Lupul reminds us in the Preface, was not intended primarily for scholars, but for Ukrainian Canadians. It was commissioned to appear in 1991 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada. And, as the author reminds us, it is an attempted synthesis of the first, and largest, wave of Ukrainian immigration.

The essence of the book is that Ukrainian Canadians were moulded by a small group of lay intellectuals who were divided by national and class interests. These divisions had already existed in the Old World and were brought to the New, where, over time, they were transformed to fit the reality of the new homeland.

Orest Martynowych illustrates his theme with a very wide-ranging canvas of Ukrainian life in Galicia and Bukovyna, whence most Canadian Ukrainians originated, and an even bigger portrait of their life in Canada. He shows that, while Ukrainian intellectuals were busy trying to uplift their people in the Old World with self-help and reading societies, they were divided into Russophiles, national