

of the Final Solution arising as a consequence of functionalism, for example, is clearly incompatible with Confino's argument, though his explicit engagement with this issue is limited to its mention in the introduction and the epilogue, wherein he dismisses this position in a most cursory fashion by way of a single sentence: "The approach that has viewed the Holocaust as a result rather than a goal of Nazism, growing out of the specific circumstances of the war, can account neither for the consistent apocalyptic role of the Jews in the Nazi imagination nor for the Nazi urgency to kill all the Jews but not all the members of other persecuted groups" (p. 239). Indeed, it is particularly lamentable that the author only engages with these historiographical debates in passing; given Confino's probing intellect, it would have been interesting to see a further engagement with these ideas and arguments, if only to more deeply immerse the work in the general literature on the Holocaust.

But no matter. Ultimately, Alon Confino's work is a work that compels and fascinates—as well as disgusts—in its recounting of the Holocaust. Given the subject matter, this very much illustrates the effectiveness of this work not only as history but as an emotional engagement with a topic that has perhaps too often been dealt with too methodically for its own good. That is to say, it is important to achieve a type of study that achieves a balance between emotional engagements with the Holocaust and the more rational but overly cold intellectual studies of an event that simultaneously strikes at our intellectual and moral cores. Confino's work, in balancing the emotional with the intellectual, achieves a balance that echoes the complexity of the subject itself and serves to remind us of the Holocaust's uniqueness as well as its often overlooked place within European culture.

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DORROCH, Gordon (ed.) – *The Dawn of Canada's Century: Hidden Histories*.
Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2014. Pp. 498.

Gordon Darroch's edited volume *The Dawn of Canada's Century: Hidden Histories* is the first study to be produced by the Canadian Century Research Infrastructure (CCRI), an interuniversity project providing researchers with national historical microdata sampled from the Canadian Censuses. Principally authored by members of the CCRI, *The Dawn of Canada's Century* is a compendium which the editor states are "concerned with connecting the circumstances and experiences of ordinary individuals with larger structural changes," but also "reconstituting these experiences in their own terms" (p. 3). In other words, these studies seek to connect the stories of Canadians to larger regional or national themes, with an emphasis on framing these connections in the context of individual perspectives. The articles in this volume incorporate a variety of analytical approaches, each

utilizing individual-level census manuscript data, predominantly from the 1911 Canada Census. Topics in the volume vary widely and include language, identity, communities, class, gender, and ethnicity. The volume is broken into five parts: introductions; Canadian diversities: debates and dimensions; social spaces, historical places; locales in transition; and markets and mobility: class, ethnicity, gender.

Byron Moldofsky's introductory chapter, "The CCRI Geographical Files", discusses the efforts of the CCRI's geography team to create a methodological framework for researchers to effectively use geographical information systems (GIS) in historical scholarship. This methodology is an example of the types of work done by the CCRI. He demonstrates that such a framework will allow researchers to "link to published aggregate data, sample data, and provide a consistent geographical basis for cross-census comparison" (p. 20). The project, according to Moldofsky, allows researchers to use a GIS map to isolate the data as they wish. Furthermore, he explains that the CCRI will continue to integrate new Canada Census data as it becomes available.

The essay by Evelyn Ruppert makes use of the CCRI contextual database which is comprised of newspaper articles and Hansard records. Her essay, "Infrastructures of Census Taking," argues that "the working of the administrative infrastructure made it possible to know a population" through the "standardization and normalization of categories, enumeration, training and tabulations, as well as investments in an ongoing administration involv[ing] many relations between people and things" (p. 66). She explains that the census microdata has been manipulated at each stage of the process, beginning with its collection, review and publication in advance of the 1911 Census. Rather than simply critiquing the manipulation of this information, Ruppert identifies how this microdata provides insight into the lives of the collectors, organizers and respondents themselves.

Gordon Darroch incorporates Canada Census microdata in his chapter, "Household Experiences in Canada's Early Twentieth-Century Transformation," and asserts that it was in the household where most people and families rationalized their position within their respective socio-economic and political formations. In particular, he argues that "the household is the central historical site of the mediation between individual experience and structural change" (p. 149). Darroch concludes with the suggestion that while gender and age shaped one's domestic experiences in Canada during the early twentieth century, "foreign or native birth or timing of arrival among immigrants to Canada had more variable and more modest effects" (p. 177).

In his chapter "The Worth of Children and Women: Life Insurance in Early Twentieth-Century Canada," Peter Baskerville argues that cultural and economic factors of working-class families influenced decisions to purchase industrial insurance. Specifically, Baskerville contends that "these purchases contributed to and were markers of changing gendered behaviour in the public sphere" (p. 454). Baskerville explains that the marketing of insurance to women and children must be considered within the context of a change for women in the Canadian and British North American economy.

Editor Gordon Darroch outlines in the introduction the long-term benefits that the CCRI project will have on the study of Canada. He maintains that while the chapters in this volume address a diverse range of subjects “they also reveal the possibilities of other, previously unimagined, prospects for new inquiries using all three of the related resources, the microdata, its detailed geocoding, and the contextual documentary database”(p. 9). *The Dawn of Canada's Century* is a carefully crafted compendium of the various efforts by the CCRI to integrate the 1911 Census microdata into historical scholarship in an effort to look beyond the published tables of the Canada Census. The authors have sought new ways to interpret the evidence and provide historians with new avenues for historical inquiry. The volume is an excellent study that can be read in part for its variety of subjects or, in its entirety, to better understand the many evolving avenues through which historians can utilize census microdata. While the chapters mentioned above are but a small sampling of what this volume has to offer, *The Dawn of Canada's Century* is an invaluable resource for those interested in uncovering the many factors involved in the production and consumption of Canadian Census data.

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DAVIES, ROSS – *'A Student in Arms': Donald Hankey and Edwardian Society at War*. Ashgate studies in First World War history. Surrey: Ashgate, 2013. Pp. 254.

From the first chapter, the richness and uniqueness of the source material for this biography of a ‘lost’ soldier-writer is striking. Through a large collection of letters to and from Hankey, diaries, drafts of articles and press cuttings, assembled by the author from different family members, Davies depicts an exceptionally rich and in-depth portrait of Donald Hankey (1884-1916). Instead of limiting the story to the bare facts, the private sources offer an insight into the thoughts and feelings of the subject, for instance, how his mother’s practical Christianity made a profound impression upon her youngest son or how Hankey as a young guy has been vacillating between engaging himself in the service of the army or the church. Pushed by his father, after school at Rugby he started at the prestigious Royal Military Academy in Woolwich, but a serious illness contracted on the subtropical fortified fuelling station of Mauritius brought him back to England and put an end to his military career, at least temporarily. During the following year, 1907, he passed the entrance examination at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in order to become a parson.

However, even though Oxford marked a fresh start, quickly it became clear that Hankey preferred a life of action and service, rather than a theoretical study of theology. In his perception, the Church of England was losing its authority mainly because of the increasing gap between the priests and their flock. In consequence,