

were any more successful in achieving this goal, than were extension classes in similar subjects. It is unfortunate that insufficient data exists to demonstrate this theory since it would seem to be a fundamental issue. Certainly the early relationship between local extension societies and W.E.A. branches, and their relative social compositions, would merit fuller inquiry. Academic recognition of the work of adult students was provided in the issue of Certificates, but proposals for the award of an external degree or diploma were opposed in senate. Instead, gifted and persevering extension students could only aspire to be exempt from one year of an ordinary residential programme. No doubt, the external degrees of London University held a greater attraction to less affluent students seeking a qualification.

Dr. Welch dwells on the perils of early extension teaching with its extended travel, fluctuating salaries, lack of tenure, and prejudice against the appointment of women. Not surprisingly, many lecturers were to seek the relative security of intra-mural appointments in the newer universities of Britain, the Commonwealth, or the United States.

Next to be treated are the effects of two world wars, the impact of the Depression, and the rival attractions of the cinema and radio. These stories are briefly told, in relation to the earlier period. They are set against a growing involvement in adult education by the 'redbrick' Victorian university foundations, and a parallel withdrawal from their areas by Cambridge. The author describes the "second flowering of university extension" that followed the outbreak of World War II, with the (now) Extra-Mural Board working in cooperation with the W.E.A. and Y.M.C.A. to meet the new needs of the allied forces and the evacuees. Such innovative courses were introduced as "Mothercraft" for the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, or a summer school for Austrian and German prisoners of war. Cambridge residential summer schools, originating in the Victorian period, grew in popularity in postwar Britain as facilities improved, and some were held as far away as Malta and Cyprus. The impact of television and the Open University are left for future assessment, although the former would surely admit of some comment at this stage. The author sees the centenary marked by the removal of many old animosities, restrictions, and problems, and by the development of a more secure base now that the state provides most of the funds.

In conclusion, the book constitutes worthwhile reading by all concerned with the development of adult education and the universities' role in meeting the needs and interests of the wider public. Useful statistical tables are appended to the work, but the absence of a systematic bibliography is a serious drawback.

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MICHEL HORN and RONALD SABOURIN, eds. — *Studies in Canadian Social History*. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1974.

Yet another collection of articles! If we assume that such collections serve a useful purpose (and increasing numbers of students and vagaries of library regulations will probably ensure the proliferation of this kind of book), this particular collection is a good one. A historian and a sociologist have largely succeeded in papering over the cracks between the two disciplines by gathering together a sampling of recent articles on aspects of Canada's social past. The intended audience is English Canadian students (third or fourth year under-

graduates I would surmise) but I think the publisher might well find a ready market among the interested reading public, for the book rescues a number of stimulating and provocative studies from the limbo of scholarly journals.

Unfortunately the same cannot be said for the introductions in the book. While the subordinate introductions to each of the four sections are merely capsule reviews of the five articles contained therein, the main introduction attempts to hack yet another path through the labyrinth that is social history. The result is a dreary distillation of everything that has been said by historians and sociologists on that elusive subject. Not surprisingly, therefore, the editors fall back on Hobsbawm's pragmatic approach: What is it that people who call themselves social historians have been doing in the last decade or so? As it turns out, Canadian scholars have been doing the right thing for the book uses four of Hobsbawm's six categories to group the articles: Demography, Social Class, Collective Consciousness, and Social Protest.

Using those four sections, the editors, like prime ministers constructing cabinets, have tried to represent most Canadian interests. Canada's major ethnic distribution is obvious: Quebec gets six of the twenty articles. Canada's geographic distribution is obvious: Ontario gets four articles, the West three and the Maritimes one. The academic distribution is just as clear although it may not represent Canadian reality: the omnipresence of historians (fourteen) suggests that they have been the first to benefit from a crossing of disciplinary lines although I think the best example of a successful blend of history and sociology comes from the sociologist Kenneth Duncan writing on Irish famine immigration. Scholarly interest too ranges all the way from the traditional historical approach, an analysis of the written remnants of the past, to modern quantitative manipulations of reconstructed data. The latter method is intriguing to students and they will find the "How to" section of the Gagan and Mays article instructive but the practitioners of quantitative history have yet to find a happy way of presenting their findings: readers can absorb only so many lists of percentages. The editors have also made a valiant attempt to cover the time span of Canadian history; a nod is made in the direction of the pre-Confederation period but most of the articles deal with the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. And most of them reflect their author's concern in the 1960s and 1970s with radicalism, separatism, anti-Americanism and trade unionism. The one article that dates from an earlier period, Jacques Henripin on the demography of the French Canadians (1956), sounds curiously quaint if not outrageous in its suggestion that birth control may not be a Good Thing. How will the other articles read in another ten or twenty years?

In the meantime most of the articles are both academically and politically provocative. They will certainly challenge most students' and even some teachers' views of Canada's past and present. Nor for long will any reader be able to maintain his pleasant illusions about a static, peaceful, classless society, untouched by enthusiasms of any sort (not to mention sex), directed by politicians for the benefit of all and protected by a disinterested armed service; not much longer will he be able to offer political explanations of major events of the past; he may even begin to doubt the economists' measures of prosperity and to look at immigrants, workers, trade union leaders, priests and even himself in a different light. And yet the reader may also react strongly to the sustained challenge of the overall impact of the structure of the book combined with the content of almost half the articles is a leftwing one. Maurice Duplessis may have been right in his notorious suspicion of the word social — he was sure it meant socialist!

Duplessis of course warrants scarcely a mention in the book but the nation-

alism of which he is presumed to be the political epitome is evident in most of the Quebec articles and in the general ones which mention Quebec. Only Louis Trotier and Terry Copp seem able to look at urban development and Montreal workers respectively without having to prove themselves against some nationalist criterion. And that nationalist criterion is given pride of place as *the* ideology in Quebec; in a book that is so provocative it is surprising to find the editors allowing Marcel Rioux to reappear painting the traditional picture of the great black cloud that overhung Quebec from 1840 to 1960. The painting in fact contains errors and is superficial: Rioux never investigates the spokesmen of the ideology; he never looks at competing elites in Quebec society; he accepts without question that the nationalist "ideology of conservation" guided the behaviour of the majority of the Québécois. Perhaps the fact that Rioux is a separatist will be sufficiently provoking to English Canadian students; he certainly is not the best example of a sociologist looking at French Canada's past.

Given the structure of the book and perhaps the current state of research it is hard to fault the editors for sins of omission. Cole Harris' article "Of Poverty and Helplessness in Petite Nation" would have given a better glimpse of mid-nineteenth century rural Quebec but might have required another section. Educational history too, the one area in which perhaps the most research has been done, would have necessitated yet another. Social welfare, crime, disease, family history and women's history will all in time carve themselves a niche in the ample halls of social history, or branch off, as some research areas have already done, into labour, urban and ethnic history. Students would be well advised to take a closer look than the editors allowed themselves in their bibliography at the major Canadian periodicals in the field: *Histoire sociale-Social History*, *Recherches sociographiques*, and the *Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology*. People wishing to pursue the field may then have to delve into economics, confront the computer, and be prepared to work in teams. But who would not want to be a social historians these days, since, as almost every author in this collection tells us, this approach is more important and more significant than any other previously used to unravel the mysteries of Canada's past!

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YVES F. ZOLTIVANY. — *Philippe de Rigaud de Vaudreuil, Governor of New France, 1703-1725*. The Carleton Library No. 80. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart Limited, 1974.

This is a life-and-times biography that pays especial attention to the post-Frontenac western policy of New France, a subject in which the author has earned authoritative status. As such, it will be a desirable reference addition to collections of colonial Canadiana. Governor Vaudreuil's rule was long and eventful, and his era is one of the less-explored periods of colonial history. Zoltivany's sources are prime and extensive, and the data are multitudinous for such a modest physical mass.

Regrettably they may be too numerous for easy readability. This difficulty may be inherent in the material. The interrelatedness of the empire's segments and their influence upon each other are so far beyond doubt that any good historian will try to explicate them. I may be merely caviling. It seems useful, however, to consider the book distinctly in its two aspects of biography and history.