character of the accused (a reversion to eleventh century practice?); and the worldly possessions of the slain man were confiscated and sold to pay the costs of the trial. This, it should be added, was not the end of the story — but the end was not one calculated to bring undiluted joy to the hearts of the morally rigorous.

Probably most Canadians entertain the illusion that our efforts to make more tolerable the lives of our disadvantaged neighbours reached a high point in the 1920's, when enterprising Canadians made available to those living south of the border consumption goods legal in Canada but illegal in the United States. But this was really a second effort. Fifty years earlier we were active in circumstances very similar. Then, of course, the consumption good was opium, legal in Canada but not in the United States. And in what may be a unique instance of vertical integration of enterprise, we even smuggled potential customers into the more attractive American market.

The language of the book is not unsuited to its general informality. There is no attempt to follow in the literary footsteps of a Gibbon or even a Creighton. Sentences with no principal clauses, phrases such as "bigger by a whisker", "smack in the middle of" and words such as "neatened" and "homeyness" are not out of keeping with the oral tradition of a frontier society. Less appropriate, perhaps, are such non-words as "transcursions", "scofflawry", "correspondential", which leave the disturbing impression of literary striving to create an impression.

All in all the book is quite worthwhile. In addition to providing a happy reading experience, it does point out, by implication, that the maintenance of law and order is not a wholly deplorable objective. Indeed it just may generate among some North Americans a long overdue realization that the protection of people from one another is just as important as is the protection of people from "the establishment".

University of Victoria G. R. ELLIOTT

Indian Rock Carvings of the Pacific North West, by Edward Meade. Sidney, B.C. Gray's Publishing Company Ltd., 1971. pp. 92, 83 plates. $8.00.

Petroglyphs (drawings carved into rock surfaces by use of stone tools) have been found in all parts of the world, wherever humans have been and rock surfaces were available. They range in time from the Paleolithic

era to (very probably) the present. The glyphs have been made for many and varied purposes: signs of direction for wandering tribesmen, records of events, religious ritual — and, occasionally, sheer "doodling" by a resting wanderer.

The North West Coast has, all along its shoreline, massive boulders, and occasionally, cliff walls of stone. From Alaska down to Washington, there are an extraordinary number of carvings: realistically drawn animals; fabulous creatures of myth, sometimes monstrous; humans; faces; masks — sometimes geometric forms we cannot now interpret; other designs depict "coppers", the North West Coast shield-shaped symbol of surplus wealth. Many of these are repeated over and over, on a large boulder, as though many generations were virtually compelled to retrace some magical charm or formula. Perhaps, as Mr. Meade speculates, some are records of shamanistic quests or visions of power.

Mr. Meade has long been an interested student of this region, its ecology, the Indians within it, and all aspects of their lives which have come to his attention.

As the driving force which formed and developed the Campbell River Historical Society and Museum (he became its first president), he travelled widely. During his travels he became interested in the many carvings on the sea shore and the coastline. Eventually he undertook the long task of travelling to each recorded site, and photographing the carvings. They are so well photographed that in only a few cases was it necessary to resort to the use of chalk to "bring out" the lines of the carving.

Mr. Meade's notes are very interesting on each site: on some, he sees different styles of drawing, as though several generations — or perhaps tribes — had made their record or ritual carvings. Some carvings are done so deeply and carefully that they merit the term "art." These he notes and describes. He also notes the boulders or walls which denote changes in oceanic tidal levels, indicating that the stones now under water were carved perhaps several millenia ago, which is consistent with present geological and archaeological evidence.

All petroglyphs and pictographs (rock paintings) are protected in British Columbia by the Provincial Archaeological and Historic Sites Protective Act. Professor Duff, in his foreword to this book points out that this law is not automatic protection from wanton damage by individuals: respect for the carving, its history and its existence, is also necessary if they are to remain in good condition.

I confess that the publication of the excellent maps on the front and

back fly leaves of this book, makes me nervous, because it is a guide for the curiosity seeker as well as the serious traveller. We know that some individuals in this society, troubled by internal pressures and resentments they do not understand, take positive pleasure in inflicting wilful damage on property considered as public treasure or heritage. We also know of the foolish element of the public which paints names and dates in large letters on spots of interest. Many of these rocks are in remote regions, and therefore doubly vulnerable. Nevertheless, for those who value them and wish to understand more, Mr. Meade has recorded for all time these carvings *in situ* and as they now are — eroded only by wave or wind, unspoiled by vandalism. All 83 plates preserve for us this record of human activity, and to those who care and respect the past, this book is the most definitive and interesting guide.

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University of British Columbia AUDREY HAWTHORN

A History of Victoria 1842-1970, by Harry Gregson. Victoria: The Victoria Observer Publishing Co. Ltd. 1970. 246 pp. $10.00.

Urban history is a broad and currently popular field, but with little agreement as to how it should be handled. While many argue that all urban development is essentially similar and that some form of model or theory is necessary to give meaning and understanding, others insist that every city is a distinct entity that should be studied by itself. This debate has continued for over 20 years, but for all practical purposes anyone writing about the city can proceed as he sees fit.

Harry Gregson, *A History of Victoria 1842-1970* is a traditional urban biography. It is not concerned with the process of urbanization, nor with the way that Victoria's development differed from that of other Canadian cities. Rather it is aimed primarily at a local audience. In a relaxed, chatty, anecdotal way it attempts to capture the highlights of the city's development from the time that James Douglas first viewed the area in 1842 up to the construction of the latest shopping centre and super market. Most of it is based on existing secondary literature, reinforced with material from newspapers, trade directories, diaries and interviews, but it is not footnoted. Although it sketches the entire history of the city, it concentrates on Victoria's development prior to World War I.

On the basis of the task that the author has set for himself the final