

tion from the rest of the book. I suspect that the first at least was a paper that was originally written in a different context and thrown into the book for good measure; the suspicion is strengthened by the fact that on page 10 it is described as "this paper." The numerous lengthy quotations from secondary sources inevitably leave the impression that the author has not completely digested his material. The technical craftsmanship is rather rough. For instance on pages 120 to 121 there are four reasonably long quotations from a report by the Aborigines Protection Society on the Indians of Upper Canada published in 1839. None of the extracts is free of mistakes of transcription, the work is cited differently in the footnote than in the bibliography, and neither of the citations is correct. Nor is this an atypical example. Of the quotations checked by the reviewer an alarming percentage contained more errors than can be excused on the grounds of faulty proof reading. The ideas do not follow one another very coherently, and the book is in places badly written. The publisher even manages to disprove the maxim that you cannot judge a book by its cover.

This book is to be welcomed if it indicates that the Indians of Canada are to receive more attention from historians. Although much of the material here can easily be found in more accurate original versions, the author does provide a service by collecting a considerable amount of information on the Canadian Indian in one place. But surely we are entitled to ask more than this from an historian.

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Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Volume X, 1871-1880, edited by Marc La Terreur. University of Toronto Press, 1972. P. xxix, 823. \$20.00.

The most recently published volume of the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* will do nothing to marr the reputation won for the dictionary by the two earlier volumes, for it displays the same meticulous research and literary excellence that have already established this enterprise as a tribute to Canadian scholarship and publishing. It is also a memorial to the imagination and public spirit of James Nicholson, the Toronto manufacturer of bird seed who, at his death in 1952, left the bulk of his substantial estate to the University of Toronto for the founding of a diction-

ary which would provide a record of the lives of representative Canadians of the past from all walks of life. A student of British literature and history, the English-born Nicholson wanted Canada to have a reference work equal to the *Dictionary of National Biography*. His hopes are being fulfilled in a series of volumes which will be the indispensable tools of successive generations of researchers and a source of information and enjoyment for general readers as well. Since the project is the work of scholars in both French and English Canada, and there is also a French edition published by the Laval University Press, the dictionary may contribute something to that elusive objective — national unity.

The first two volumes deal with figures of the French regime who died before 1740. Originally it was intended to continue with publication of succeeding volumes in chronological order, but when the Centennial Commission of the federal government gave the DCB a grant for biographical research in the years 1850-1900 it was decided that the next volume to be published would cover the decade of the 1870's, a period which would reveal much of the personalities and issues associated with Confederation. Thanks to this decision, persons connected with British Columbia are appearing in the pages of the dictionary sooner than they would otherwise have done.

The grouping of figures according to date of death creates a few problems, since some men and women live long past the years of their public importance. Thus many readers of this volume will be surprised to come upon Louis Joseph Papineau, who died in 1871 at the age of 84. Generally, however, the result of the adoption of this principle of organization is that the biographies in a given volume provide an excellent picture of a period. Although this is notably true of the first two volumes, since they deal with only one society, it is also true to a rewarding degree of Volume X, despite the fact that it covers distinctive communities scattered across a continent.

Written by a number of contributors, including such well established students of the history of British Columbia as Dorothy Blakey Smith, W. Kaye Lamb, Margaret Ormsby, and Madge Wolfenden, the biographies of British Columbia figures, read together, take one some distance toward understanding the social, economic, and political foundations of British colonial society on the west coast and of the province in its first decade. Foremost among the founding fathers is, of course, Sir James Douglas, who is the subject of an excellent extended biography by Dr. Ormsby. That Douglas is accorded as much space (10,000 words) as Joseph Howe, George Brown, or Sir George Etienne Cartier, all of whom appear

in this volume, indicates a full appreciation of his place in Canadian history on the part of the editors, and that should be gratifying to British Columbians who have often felt that the father of their province has not had the press he deserves in some versions of our history.

The accounts of Douglas and some of his contemporaries portray a society passing from the dominance of the fur trade, through the growth of an increasingly sophisticated crown colony, to the beginnings of the economy and the political system we know today. In the activities of James Cooper, who is described by Dr. Ormsby as the "first political agitator" in British Columbia, notably in his organization of a settlers' protest against Douglas' appointment of his brother-in-law, David Cameron, as first chief justice of Vancouver Island, may be traced the origins of the movement for responsible government in the colony. In the careers of men like Edward Graham Alston, Arthur Thomas Bushby, Robert Ker, and George Cox, all of whom held numerous offices under the Crown, one can see the growth of the colonial civil service and the early provincial administration.

The transition from the fur trade to a more diversified economy is well illustrated in the career of James Murray Yale, who spent more than thirty years in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Langley. Witnessing the decline of the fur trade, Yale turned to other resources and became a pioneer in the packing of salt fish on the Fraser and the developer of the largest farms on the mainland. Another early entrepreneur who merits a biography is John Sullivan Deas, the mulatto from South Carolina, who for a brief period in the seventies was the largest canner on the Fraser. Other pioneers whose achievements are recounted in this volume include Sewell P. Moody, founder of the first large lumber export business from the British Columbia mainland, Jerome Harper, cattle rancher and miller, famous for his champagne lunches at Clinton, and Edward Stamp, whose success in several fields, especially shipping and lumbering, leads his biographer, Dr. Lamb, to describe him as British Columbia's first industrialist. It was to quench the thirst of sailors and the workers in Stamp's sawmill on Burrard Inlet that John Deighton ("Gassy Jack") opened the Globe Saloon, and his contribution to the social life of Granville is also recorded here.

Life was not all getting and spending, as readers are reminded by the lives of Modeste Demers, first Roman Catholic bishop of Vancouver Island, and Edward White, one of the early Methodist missionaries whose skill with an axe made him in a double sense the builder at New Westminster of the first Methodist church west of the Great Lakes. Robert

Christopher Lundin Brown, the pioneer Anglican missionary in the Lillooet area, was a bachelor whose publications encouraged immigration to British Columbia and resulted in the sending of bride ships to Victoria from England in 1862-63. He remained a bachelor. "Captain" John Evans, a Welsh miner, never quite made good in mining but as a well-known figure in the Cariboo and a member of the Legislature he left the stamp of his Congregationalist conscience on the province.

A most valuable feature of the dictionary is the inclusion of comprehensive bibliographies after each biography, giving manuscript and published sources related to that entry. There is also a lengthy general bibliography of both primary and secondary sources for the period covered by the volume. Finally, there is an index of all persons mentioned in the volume, so that information can be found on some 5,000 persons in addition to the 547 who are the main subjects. With such wealth to come, may further volumes follow soon.

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MARGARET PRANG

The Wonderful World of W. A. C. Bennett, by Ronald B. Worley.
Toronto, McClelland and Stewart, 1972, pp. 290. \$10.00.

Canadian history has been well served by the art of biography. It is impossible to study this country's past without reading Creighton's Macdonald, Careless's Brown, McNaught's Woodsworth, Graham's Meighen and so on. Provincial political leaders have been less well served, although the libraries of many universities carry the earnest efforts of many an M.A. or Ph.D. student in the form of studies of one provincial politician or another. It is perhaps the measure of our federal consciousness that we have left the lives of our provincial politicians to graduate students.

Yet who can deny the signal influence of such provincial worthies as Oliver Mowat, Ernest Manning, T. C. Douglas, Joseph Smallwood, Maurice Duplessis and W. A. C. Bennett. Admittedly, several of these have been described by journalists — Pierre Laporte's *The True Face of Duplessis*, and Robert Tyre's phillipic *Douglas of Saskatchewan*, are two examples. Nevertheless, the serious, scholarly work has tended to be confined to national politicians, to men who shape the destiny of a nation rather than to those who shape the policies of a region. Some of the provincial political leaders deserve better treatment, if only because they did