

which even give page numbers, but nowhere is there a reference to what Floyd wrote or where it can be found. The inclusion of more maps to illustrate such changes as occurred in the fish canning industry would be desirable and a little more statistical information would be useful. Of course, documentation such as this might clutter the book unnecessarily for general readers, and no book can be all things to all people.

The book design is based on an $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ format with two columns arranged across the long dimension. A spacious and dramatic layout of the text is achieved by starting each heading half way down the page in the next column after the column in which the last section of text terminates. This is carried to extremes by treating even sub-headings in this fashion and might be more effective if only major headings were so treated. Also, strict application of the technique results in several unfortunate instances where one to four lines hang in open space on pages 30, 42, 54 and 60. Perhaps the text could have been backed up slightly by minor variations in starting points at the beginnings of sections in order to avoid this result.

The book is good reading and offers an excellent interpretation of the evolution of British Columbia in a nutshell, despite the minor flaws mentioned. It takes a broad view, identifying the major elements of the changing geographies of British Columbia. It is to be hoped that it will generate greater interest in the historical geography of the province and will inspire other books on the subject.

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C. N. FORWARD

Residential and Neighbourhood Studies in Victoria. Edited by Charles Forward. Victoria, B.C.: Department of Geography, University of Victoria; Western Geographical Series No. 5, 1973. xv + 230 pp., index, maps, diagrams; \$4.00.

A perennial and truthful response by teachers of urban geography when challenged by their students with the old battlesong to up the Canadian content has been to point to the paucity of humanistic empirical research (as opposed to conceptual and impressionistic studies) on the Canadian city. A few years ago William Bunge urged geographers to once again become explorers and chart the unknown islands of the human condition. For Bunge the dark continent was literally on his own doorstep, and throughout the late 1960's his Detroit Geographical Expedition

collected folk geographies while acting in an advocacy role in Detroit's inner city.

Now the results of humanistic exploration of the Canadian city are beginning to appear in print. Charles Forward's expeditionary force consists of four faculty members and two former graduate students of the Geography Department at the University of Victoria. Together they have produced an extremely well-balanced collection of six vignettes covering a range of neighbourhoods in Greater Victoria. Technically, the volume maintains the excellent standard of this occasional series; seventy-five illustrations, including maps and photographs, provide a copious and compelling sense of place.

The collection opens with Forward's account of the evolution of the Uplands, Victoria's most fashionable residential neighbourhood. Forward's more general point concerns forces which have favoured the longevity (more optimistically, he prefers immortality) of the Uplands over a sixty-year period. But mortality is a more common visitor to the urban scene, and R. W. Robertson presents an evaluation of the death and rebirth of the Rose-Blanshard district. He offers a useful review of the legislative basis to Canadian urban renewal, and continues with a detailed discussion of the human problems of relocation, with its disruption of established patterns of spatial behaviour. His data is derived from a well-designed questionnaire survey.

Themes of malaise are implicit, but never explicit, in the next two papers, C. Y. Lai's discussion of Victoria's Chinatown and a profile of a delinquent juvenile group by Douglas Porteous. Lai's is a detailed longitudinal study of a fading urban village, whose population has dwindled from several thousand early this century to fewer than 200 in 1972. Vacant properties and an aging population just outside the urban core are an invitation to the bulldozer and the wrecker's ball, but Chinatown's demise is a timely one in the present mood of historic preservation, and Lai has mild optimism for rehabilitation of the district. Porteous' study is an original attempt to introduce some of the American gang literature to the Canadian city. Although he does not totally convince the reader that he is indeed encountering the "Burnside gang," the description of the spatial range of the youth, and their chosen locations for delinquent acts, are illustrative of Bunge's call for subjective geographies, for entry to the cultural world of lifestyle groups.

The two final papers discuss two facets of residential development in Greater Victoria. Peter Murphy's contribution on apartment location returns to an evolutionary perspective and a descriptive interpretation of

the emerging spatial pattern. The market, access to downtown, view locations, and a rather mild zoning policy are identified as the critical variables in the present distribution of apartments. Ian Halkett's study of the rural-urban fringe in the Saanich Peninsula is an appropriate conclusion to the book. Here, on the urban frontier, Halkett indicates how the emerging residential morphology is determined by different zoning strategies in the three Saanich municipalities. Local councils and bylaws are asserting a philosophy of privatism as they extend discretionary powers over the municipal landscape.

The six case studies form a neat bundle. The papers show a consistent quality, and their strong empirical nature and excellent illustrations will make this inexpensive volume an asset to urban studies courses in junior colleges and universities throughout the province.

Undoubtedly the authors have attained their goals, but irreverently (and perhaps irrelevantly) one might ask whether the goals might not have been more ambitious. A recurrent methodology in several of the papers is a temporal one, to chart the sequential development of spatial patterns. The emphasis is then placed on describing the changing patterns, the morphology, with little attention to process. One result of this methodology is that comparative generalizations are limited. A discussion of the Uplands, for example, might have used as an organizing theme the transference of value systems from the Old World to the New, the role of metaphor and symbol upon the landscape in a city where a new high-rise can still be called The Rudyard Kipling.

One further point. To open with an allusion to William Bunge is certainly disarming and possibly inappropriate, but to be consistent in this review it does raise a further question. Bunge characterizes humanistic study of the city as one which implies a stance by the explorer which is not value-free. Although each of the papers carries planning implications, these implications are not expressed forcibly or in detail. Several of the papers allude to failures in Victoria's urban structure; a renewal scheme which left over half the relocated families with less residential space than before their displacement, zoning bylaws which might check land speculation but also act to block the in-migration of lower income families.

But perhaps in Victoria the art of nuance and innuendo is sufficient to make the point, and the club tie rather than the red flag will expedite a movement towards maximizing equity rather than efficiency in the urban system. Perhaps too these final remarks are somewhat errant and uncharitable. Certainly they should not obscure the very real achievements of this volume, sensitive, thorough, well-written, and drawing on data

more personable than the census. The Victoria contributors have established a strong precedent for other explorers of the Canadian city.

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DAVID LEY

The Development of the Fraser River Salmon Canning Industry, 1885 to 1913, by David J. Reid. Vancouver, Economics and Sociology Unit, Northern Operations Branch, Fisheries and Marine Service, Pacific region, Department of the Environment, 1973. (NOB/ECON 4-73). vii, 87 pp., biblio.

One of the problems in studying British Columbia is the comparative paucity of reliable secondary works. The difficulties this can cause are neatly illustrated by the work under review. This study, which is basically an essay with extensive appendices, is a revision of a paper given at the 1973 Canadian Historical Association annual meeting.

Reid sets out to analyse mergers among firms engaged in salmon canning on the Fraser River in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. His argument is based on two tables which he has compiled and which appear in an appendix — “Exit and Entry of Companies into the Fraser River Salmon Canning Industry, 1870-1909” and “Directory of Companies involved in the Fraser River Salmon Canning Industry, 1870-1909.” These tables are used to graph the incidence of mergers. From the results, Reid argues that the peaks of mergers on the Fraser River reflect the peaks in a general merger movement in the United Kingdom and the United States. He also contends that the mergers were motivated by a desire for “monopsony power” rather than for economies of scale, and that they resulted by 1902 in the industry passing out of local control.

Unfortunately for these elaborate compilations, there is no way that even moderately reliable lists of this type can be produced from secondary sources; the files of the British Columbia provincial registrar of companies and of contemporary newspapers are essential. Reid, however, seems to have depended on Cicely Lyons, *Salmon: our heritage*, Vancouver, British Columbia Packers Limited and Mitchell Press, 1969, which he calls “an excellent source of statistical material.” But Lyons, in spite of an over-generous review in *BC Studies*, no. 8, pp. 56-8, is a work of piety rather than scholarship, and its treatment of the early years of the Fraser River canning industry is riddled with factual errors. Consequently Reid’s “Directory” is wildly inaccurate before 1890 (not one of the first 25 items