

But if they were aware of what should have been the standard for recording each site, unfortunately the yardstick was applied too seldom to make the volume the useful and enduring compendium it could have been. Perhaps the authors and Hancock House will someday give us a more carefully and thoughtfully prepared edition. The petroglyphs deserve better than they received this time around.

*University of Victoria*

DONALD H. MITCHELL

*Making History: an Anthology of British Columbia*, edited, published and distributed by Millicent A. Lindo, Victoria, B.C. Illustrated, pp. 235. \$10.00.

The past decade has seen the lessening of the adulation given to the so-called 'youth culture' and at the same time a revival of a sense of history. The latter may have arisen in part perhaps because the immediacy of 'youth culture' has brought few adequate responses to man's search for meaning. Immediacy is presumably less satisfying than a retrospective overview. As a result of this new feeling for the past Canadians — who are ever in search of their identity like Diogenes looking for the honest man — have suddenly discovered that they have a real history of their own, a unique and special thing that is neither British nor American. The older generation, so long neglected or disregarded, is suddenly found to possess something so essential to this national history and in the process what they have to say about themselves and their experiences are at last deemed to be significant.

The great difficulty is how to record these experiences in a manner that makes them available for later interpretation. Moreover, in the telling the human memory plays tricks and events acquire a special coloration. However, if one is attempting to understand what Peter Laslett so aptly calls 'the world we have lost', the special personal history recounted by the participant with the fine shades of meaning, the emphasis is as significant as light and shadow in a Turner painting. Clio is a capricious muse, but she is also tolerant of the vagaries of her votaries and the amateur is often more true in his allegiance than is the professional.

*Making History* is an anthology; its theme is British Columbia as seen by a number of elderly citizens who live in the province. They do not pretend to be scholars; for them history is art, not science, and hence the

various pieces — almost all are written by non-professionals — have that charming simplicity of a Grandma Moses painting. The authors write about what they know, what they like and what they feel is important. Taken as a whole the book is an unusual piece of work. It is not great, and its authors and its editor make no such claims, but from it one can attempt to ascertain that *ambiance* — rural, uncomplicated and natural — which suddenly seems to be of more value than contemporary technology.

The prose essays are generally better than the poetry. The latter is excessively derivative, using models that were fashionable in schoolbooks when the authors were young. The prose is stronger, more direct and less sentimental. Verna Gawston's "Happy Days in a Relief Camp", Maisie Ferguson's "Eulachon Time in the Fraser Valley" and Frederick Hall's "Mainland Crossing — Then & Now" are especially evocative.

Like all anthologies, this is not a book to be read at a sitting, but rather one to be enjoyed over a series of evenings. The editor is to be complimented on her skills in diplomacy and selection; to make selections from a plethora of material is never easy, and it is harder still to have them of a uniformly high level. *Making History* will probably not be very significant to the professional scholar except in a general way, but since the modern world is not as inclined to put down thoughts on paper as our ancestors were prone to do, it will add supplementary information to the documentary evidence. To the amateur, and one must always recollect for whom a book is written — this is not to be patronizing but practical and realistic — this book will give very real pleasure and it may well serve to encourage others to record some of their own experiences for posterity, for such is 'the stuff' of history.

S. W. JACKMAN

*The Dukes*, by Douglas E. Harker. Vancouver, British Columbia Regiment (D.C.O.), 1975.

One of the many military inheritances Canada received from her long and warm relationship with Great Britain was the regimental system of raising and maintaining infantry units for service in peace and war. Ask an infantry veteran about his wartime experience and nine times out of ten he will mention his regiment first, his brigade second and his division third.