

of the evacuation of Japanese-Canadians from the west coast, how many have considered what became of the 5,500 who wound up in relocation centres? Or how neither the B.C. Department of Education nor the B.C. Security Commission would assume responsibility for the education of 1,000 high school age children in those centres? Or how in the "repatriation" of 4,000 Japanese-Canadians after World War II, one-third of them were Canadian-born children whose citizenship was thereby revoked? One of the important secondary themes of *Forces* is precisely to observe how a society's attitudes to its children reflect much deeper considerations.

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*Raw Materials and Pacific Economic Integration*, edited by Sir John Crawford and Saburo Okita. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1978. Pp. 343, index, tables and charts.

To a Canadian reader, the most important aspect of this report on co-operative research is not in its contents, but that it was undertaken at all. In the decade 1964-74, Australian and Japanese trade links tightened at a rate that was worrisome to the governments of both countries. For example, while the value of all Australia's exported commodities to all countries increased four times, her exports to Japan increased seven times. This was the fruition of a quick turnaround; in the years just after the war Australia's trade had been chiefly with western Europe and North America. While Australia does not loom so large in the Japanese statistics, Japan has become very dependent, almost vulnerably so, on Australia for a few key commodities: coal, iron, bauxite and nickel, as well as for a few more traditional materials.

These figures disturb Australians to an extent surprising to Canadians, already inured to inextricable interdependence between our economy and that of the U.S. Australia has been accustomed to a degree of diversity in her trade that, combined with her oceanic isolation, left her sometimes lonely but largely master in her own house. Now she appears to be headed for increasingly intimate relationships with Japan, still remote by air but ready to move right in as developer, resource-owner or manager.

Japan's concern about her materials-supply vulnerability has been shown several times in her economic history, and was again experienced sharply during the 1970s, when she became a victim of the OPEC

petroleum cartel. To guard against such shortages, Japan has adopted an almost official policy of diversifying her material sources, as we in the eastern Pacific countries, from Alaska to Chile, also know. Her problem is not so much desperate as delicate — how to establish herself as a good and reliable customer without becoming too pushy politically and economically.

Some readers of *BC Studies* will be less interested in this book's detailed analysis of these two problems than in the project itself. In 1973, the "Australia, Japan and Western Pacific Economic Relations Project" got underway. Before it was finished it had produced or sponsored about seventy-five separate research studies and policy papers by over 150 persons from ten Australian and five Japanese universities, the two central banks, and a multitude of Japanese and Australian businesses, agencies and research institutions. No trade or production stone has been left unturned: dozens of aspects of the direct trade relationships, Japanese ownership or control and its alternatives, and competition/co-operation in Third World countries of S.E. Asia were examined. What is good is that Japanese as well as Australian experts participated in the writing from the beginning.

The first two parts are the best from the viewpoint of the general reader. Here the two eminent but active editors, with several associates, marshal the evidence to define the "problems" and classify them into coherent chunks (regional, long term, short term, and so forth). Unfortunately this portion of the work is also dull: numerous unedited tables (numbers for every year for every commodity, to two decimal places), diplomatic phraseology and officialese apparently natural to the distinguished contributors all make heavy going. On the other hand, the writing does avoid economic jargon and is well within the reach of patient laymen.

One chapter comes to life on "Myopia in the Making of Policy." Here the authors take both governments to task for frequent on-off, short-term, protective policies in response to minor setbacks or twists in trade and investment. They believe the governments are too apt to forget the long-term changes that are going on and must continue as Australia "adjusts" her industry, its locations, skills and management from European to a Japan-oriented structure. Frequent short-term protectionism, which has its counterpart in Japan, merely dams up the mobility, re-training and relocation that must take place, and necessitates larger, discontinuous and distressing "adjustments" later on.

More interesting still is a discussion, picked up in later chapters, of

two-country bargaining in resource export trade, where the bargain consists of all elements of value, taxes, control over direct investment and other dimensions of "price" familiar in B.C. The authors advise the official bargainers to restrain their tough and potentially destructive short-term bargaining strategies, in order to keep open the benefits from long-run expanding trade. To paraphrase, bargainers should be concerned not only to strike a reasonable price that will allow both countries to gain by trade but to imbed this price in long-term (ten or twenty years) contractual arrangements that will allow trading relationships to survive, flexibly, in the face of world and local recessions and booms. This is ideal, but hard to arrange; and the woolly writing becomes a good deal more explicit and urgent as the authors struggle to explain how such "myopia" can be avoided.

The last part of the book is more scrappy, containing individually written chapters on the trade in raw (not manufactured) materials. One chapter uses econometrics, backed up by good plain English, to argue that in the early 1970s Australian employment was pretty well insulated from Japanese recessions (one wonders how the study would look in the late 1970s). Then there are good chapters on the actual pricing, taxing and foreign-ownership strategies available, winding up Richard Caves' over-all abstract survey of Japanese-Australian trade issues.

*BC Studies* readers will be intrigued by the jointly written references to alternatives to foreign ownership of resource industries, especially by means of long-term contracts which may supply the finance for resource development but leave control in Australian public or private hands. Also relevant are references to federal-state tensions: many of the "short-run" interventions in trade which the authors feel merely inhibit the growth of a more understanding long-run relationship are due to clashes within the Australian federal system over use of export controls and taxes. Surprisingly, the Australian writers say little about the social and environmental impact of the new Japanese trade; even less than the Japanese writers say about their own "non-economic" problems. The rise and fall of particular supplying regions; the Australian money market and its connections with Europe and Japan; the availability of home-grown expertise and entrepreneurship in Australia; the position of the aborigines with respect to resource ownership in uranium and other materials; the attitudes of organized labour — all are familiar to any reader of the Australian press, but rarely mentioned.

Nevertheless, the whole ambitious venture was well carried out and perhaps becomes a model for similar studies based on western Canada,

especially in showing what can be gained by obtaining research participation from one's trading partners. There have been recent Canadian/American "raw materials" studies, some of them organized by the C. D. Howe Institute and its U.S. affiliates. But these have rarely achieved such complete, unified, joint authorship as is found in the Crawford-Okita volume.

ANTHONY SCOTT

*Indians at Work: An Informal History of Native Indian Labour in British Columbia, 1858-1930*, by Rolf Knight. Vancouver: New Star Books, 1978. Pp. 317; *illus.*

When considering works on the history of the Indians of B.C., one is confronted with a number of distortions and misinterpretations. Among others, the operation of the institutional system of racism that has confronted Indians is not adequately described or analyzed. Also, the historical significance of the B.C. land question is usually misread and the vital Indian economic adaptations to the developing B.C. economy, especially between 1860 and 1910, are largely ignored. It is the latter of these distortions that Rolf Knight tackles in *Indians at Work*.

Knight's main thesis is that "Indian people have a long history of work in a wide range of industries" (p. 181). He sets out to "outline the history of native Indians as workers and independent producers in the primary resource and other industries of B.C. between 1858 and 1930" (p. 7), including farming, orchardry, ranching, commercial fishing, cannery work, logging, longshoring, prospecting, mining, railway construction, packing and transport services, pelagic sealing, and other forms of domestic production and wage labour. Drawing largely on Department of Indian Affairs *Annual Reports*, personal work histories and biographies, and descriptions of the B.C. resource industries, Knight attempts to provide a framework for understanding Indian social change and gives a fairly complete survey of Indian participation in the developing B.C. resource economy.

*Indians at Work* provides a much needed antidote to the pervasive myth that Indian peoples and communities withered and crumbled in the wake of European settlement. This view sees Indian history as the sad chronicle of "Stone Age" cultures disintegrating under the impact of white contact, overwhelmed by mysterious processes — sometimes labelled "acculturative forces," and unable to cope with a complex, industrial