

to English. Again, inclusion of one or two examples would have been welcome additions.

In Hill-Tout's writing there is a curious blend of empiricism and romantic speculation. One turns without warning from carefully recorded word lists and descriptions to outright conjecture about ethnic origins, migrations and linguistic connections spanning oceans and continents. He did not use his facts to test his ideas, nor did ideas spring from systematic assemblage and analysis of facts. This makes for entertaining but deceptive reading, deserving of greater scepticism than Maud invites.

Valuable as his ethnography is, there were also weaknesses in Hill-Tout's field methods. There is little doubt that his success may be largely attributed to the wealth of traditional knowledge extant when he did his research at the turn of the century. He would not have been as successful a few decades later, for he was overly dependent upon one or two informants in each group he worked among. There is no evidence, nor does he suggest, that he lived among the Indians, participating in community activities and the daily round of life. He made brief visits to a few selected and co-operative informants. This led him to miss important sources of information and to lose the chance of direct observation. He dismissed too casually the likelihood of finding additional information in villages where later anthropologists turned up a great deal. But we are indebted to Hill-Tout for what he did find and for the original and penetrating picture he put together of those difficult areas of study which were his main concerns: religious ideas, social organization and mythology.

In trying to make Hill-Tout's work more accessible Ralph Maud has succeeded. In selecting and editing the work to make it more palatable and to fit between the chosen covers, he has weakened Hill-Tout. This is regrettable, but in the end we gain. The Salish people will be better known for Maud's effort.

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MICHAEL KEW

Along the No. 20 Line: Reminiscences of the Vancouver Waterfront, by Rolf Knight. Vancouver: New Star Books Ltd., 1980.

It is highly unlikely that this book will get much attention from B.C.'s Ministry of Tourism, nor will it be promoted by CHQM, "Vancouver's

good music station.” Similarly, it will seldom appear on the front desks of local travel agencies, for it has little to say to today’s well-heeled tourist interested in Stanley Park, gourmet restaurants, boutiques and art galleries. Rather, this book is geared to a local audience interested in working class Vancouver of the 1930s and 1940s — a Vancouver of shipping piers, freight yards, saw mills, fish canneries and machine shops and the men and women who kept those plants going.

On the basis of his own memories, together with the reminiscences of a host of friends and acquaintances, the author has vividly recreated the working world of the Depression-World War II generation. The No. 20 streetcar line provides the vantage point, and as we rattle along with the author on an imaginary three-mile trip from Hastings Park to downtown Vancouver we get all the sights, sounds and smells of a working waterfront. Longshoremen, grain handlers, fishermen and foundry workers are on and off at various stops, and we get glimpses of a host of familiar sights, whether Lapointe Pier, Rogers’ Sugar Refinery, Alberta Wheat Pool elevators, the Powell Street Grounds, or the bustle and activity at Carrall and Cordova. With many vignettes and brief asides the author also presents detailed discussions of a variety of living and working arrangements. We can follow a logger as he spends a weekend in the city, see the living arrangements in “coolie cabins” for single men, appreciate the isolated independence of families getting by in boat houses, or watch longshoremen work and kids play on and around Terminal Dock. All are done with sensitivity and insight.

About half of the book consists of accounts by nine men and women who lived and worked in Vancouver. Apparently tape-recorded, with some editing by the author, these chapters vary in readability and impact, but as a group are fascinating. There are touches of humour, warmth and fun, but the dominant motif is one of heavy, demanding work, with fatigue and anger the usual result. Bill White’s description of work in the Burrard Shipyards is unforgettable: “You can’t see the guy next to you because of the smoke from the goddam pots, there is red-hot rivets raining through the air on all sides of you, there’s three ton plates swinging around overhead, it’s so goddam noisy from the guns you couldn’t hear even if the guy was shouting . . . you can’t imagine the disorganization there was.” Similarly, here is Phyllis Knight on her job at Burns: “The sausage casings were still made out of intestines . . . They were in barrels, pickled in salty brine. We had to wash the casing out in ice-cold water. You stood there soaking wet, your hands in cold water hour after hour . . . I had intended to work at Burns for a couple of

years . . . But I just couldn't stick it out that long." Bill and Phyllis were two of many.

Along the No. 20 Line lacks both footnotes and bibliography, and the author's ideas about "urban villages" and "neighbourhood community" can be questioned, but there is no doubt that he has succeeded in capturing the mood and tone of working class Vancouver of forty years ago.

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NORBERT MACDONALD

Schooling and Society in 20th Century British Columbia, edited by J. Donald Wilson and David C. Jones. Calgary: Detselig Enterprises, 1980. Pp. 191; \$11.25 (paper).

The most schooled generation in history, the one Paul Goodman said was growing up absurd from not enough of the right kind of education, is now churning out educational history in an attempt to understand the place and processes of schooling in industrial society. This collection of essays drawn from recent graduate work at the University of British Columbia is meant to mark the arrival of the new educational history on the provincial scene. Like many collections of essays, this one is characterized more by diversity than unity of theme, a quality not lessened by the failure of the introduction to draw the articles together.

Under the guise of being a discussion of British Columbia historiography of education, co-editor Wilson's introduction gives a short account of the trends in educational history in North America over the last twenty years. While his discussion may well provide a useful summary of those trends for undergraduates on whose reading list this volume is apparently destined to appear, he regrettably passes over the opportunity to give the reader an overview of the society which is the context of the essays. Wilson's main point seems to be that educational history, which he accuses British Columbia historians of ignoring (he goes to the extent of uncharitably counting the "few references" to education in Margaret Ormsby's "readable but traditional" history of the province), has joined the mainstream of history. Educational history has indeed made a large contribution to the new social history, and in some senses, such as in the use of quantification, has been in the lead. In that light, we may judge these essays on the methodological approach they take, the sources they use and the historical context they evoke.