

supplements on the local economy. Granted, such special issues generally belong to the genre of "booster" literature but, used with care, they can be an excellent source of information on the local economy.

In some respects, the book itself is a "gold mine" of information about Victoria, but it is an eclectic rather than a comprehensive study. Moreover, it is sometimes frustrating to use. There is a fair nominal index, but its coverage by subject is erratic. Thus one can easily find references to schools but not to sewers, to wages but not to water works. A number of well-chosen photographs and illustrations complement the text, but the captions are often thin and usually undated. Nevertheless, this is an interesting book which presents one man's selection of what one newspaper recorded of life in Victoria, 1864-1914. It offers some of the flavour of the times, indicates that Victoria was a lively place, makes light reading for friends of Victoria who are interested in the beginnings of some of its institutions and, above all, suggests a great many questions about Victoria's past. If some readers of this volume are enticed to investigate the causes and consequences of some of the events Pethick relates, the volume will have performed a useful service.

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Forty Years' Journey: The Temperance Movement in British Columbia to 1900, by Harold Tuttle Allen. Victoria, B.C.: Privately Published, 1981 (Available from the author, 7850 Champlain Avenue, Vancouver, B.C.). Pp. 138; \$8.00, paper.

Forty Years' Journey is a labour of love by a retired United Church of Canada minister and long-time devoted worker in the temperance and prohibition movements. He is not a professional historian, and readers of this book should not look for the treatment that a professional would give the topic. There are a number of typesetting errors throughout the volume, and the table on page 125 has a pair of transposed lines that are somewhat confusing. Although annoying, these minor faults do not obscure the information the author is purveying.

Mr. Allen has divided his book into two major divisions, "The Coast" and "The Interior," and chapters within these divisions feature headings such as "How Liquor Came to British Columbia," "The First Temperance Movement," "Women's Big Day," "Developments on the New Rail Route" and "Prohibition Plebiscite." The point at which the volume

ends, the refusal of the federal government to enact prohibition legislation after the 1898 plebiscite, is rather anti-climatic; 1918 might have given a more dramatic ending.

This book is a chronicle rather than an analysis of temperance endeavours, and those interested in the names of temperance workers in nineteenth-century B.C. will find an abundance of information here. However, lack of an index makes finding a particular name somewhat challenging.

The volume is sprinkled with humorous anecdotes such as that of the illiterate lady who sought to observe a Victoria Temperance League pledge made by her late husband. When questioned as to how her periodic inebriation could be reconciled with observance of the pledge she explained that she drank only whiskey, never the rum which she understood was the beverage her husband had agreed to abandon.

Forty Years' Journey could be a useful starting point for an analytical narrative of the temperance movement in B.C. in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

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