

more difficult to get an idea of local styles. It also reinforces the inevitable tendency to view each piece in isolation, removed from the rich context of objects, uses and meanings in which most of the items in the exhibit were once situated. Two relatively early photographs (circa 1900, 1909) that show two of the exhibited pieces more or less *in situ* do remind us that these were once things with a purpose (ceremonial or practical) and not simply objects for viewing in a museum. Holm's notes, good as they are, cannot free the pieces exhibited here or the reader (viewer) from the confines of the museum. Thus, although a good catalogue, this book does not escape the limitations of the genre. Nevertheless, those with a strong interest in Northwest Coast art will value this book, both for its photographs of largely unfamiliar objects and for Holm's excellent notes.

University of Victoria

LELAND DONALD

*British Columbia: Patterns in Economic, Political and Cultural Development*, edited by Dickson M. Falconer. Victoria: Camosun College, 1982. Pp. 407; maps.

For many reasons history teachers ought to welcome *British Columbia: Patterns in Economic, Political and Cultural Development*. The articles in it, the cover tells us, were selected "to provide a focus on the *studies approach* into the broader aspects of development." Sections on economics, politics and culture complement those on history. Students were directly involved in the compilation of the volume, for the editor, Dickson M. Falconer, History instructor at Camosun College, received grants for student assistance in its production.

Close inspection of this new reader on British Columbia reveals, however, more points to question than to praise. A new volume on the province from a multi-disciplinary studies approach might, to be sure, have been a good idea given clear definitions and careful planning. But the preface's description of the "*studies approach*" as involving a combination of "crucial basic historical, along with the critical, contemporary and complex aspects of the subject for evaluation" is not a sufficient explanation of the editor's principles of selection. Nor does the editor's acknowledgement of the inspiration given by the journal *BC Studies* absolve him of the editor's responsibility to state a purpose and follow it through.

Although several of the historical articles have individual merit, the editor does not preface or complement them with an essay on regional geography. Maps are included, but they present problems of their own. The frontispiece map is only an outline, while a "map of Vancouver 1860's" introduces Norbert MacDonald's "A Critical Growth Cycle for Vancouver, 1900-1914."

The choice of economic and political articles is uneven. Margaret Ormsby's classic essay on "Agricultural Development in British Columbia" (1945) appears in the same section as Derek Pethick's simplistic narrative on H. R. MacMillan. Edwin Black's "The Politics of Exploitation" (1968) is included, but so is Elizabeth Forbes' journalistic (1979) "How B.C. Women Won the Vote." Was some subtle humour intended in the choice of the piece on foresters and feminists? Perhaps not. Falconer allowed Forbes and Pethick to write introductions for their own work, introduced Ormsby's himself and let Black stand on his own.

The suggestions for further reading appended to each selection raise further questions. In the case of Black's article there is a full two-page list of recent material in *BC Studies*. Why weren't one or two of these items reprinted in this general reader? Surely the students who will use it should be told why the term "The Premier" still means W. A. C. Bennett. This, at any rate, would be at least as useful to them as Sydney Jackman's description of how Bill Smith became Amor De Cosmos.

The bibliography at the end of *British Columbia: Patterns in Economic, Political and Cultural Development* is drawn mainly from *BC Studies* articles and reviews. It fails, however, to mention two collections of readings on British Columbia's past (*Historical Essays on British Columbia* edited by J. Friesen and H. K. Ralston, and P. Ward and R. McDonald's *British Columbia Historical Readings*); the whole Tantalus series of Geographer's papers; and Camosun College's own production of an index to the *British Columbia Historical Quarterly*! In a volume obviously intended for student use, eighteen pages of references to *BC Studies* articles ought to have been condensed. Mention might have been made of the preceding sources, or of regional journals such as the *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* and *BC Historical News* and national periodicals such as the *Canadian Historical Review*. A bibliography on general studies of British Columbia should also include the Provincial Archives *Sound Heritage* series and the National Museum — National Film Board *Canada's Visual History* slide sets.

This review must be summed up with a few more questions. In this general studies reader on British Columbia, where are the Indians, the

picket lines and the harbours? If this is a community college production, where are articles by instructors or students? Nelson Riis' essay on Walhachin settlement in *BC Studies* 1973 would have provided the former, and his students' work in their periodical *BC Perspectives* could have been used for the latter. How, one must conclude by asking, did this volume receive funding from the Canada Studies Project of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges and from the British Columbia Heritage Trust? Where are their boards of review?

*Douglas College, New Westminster, B.C.*

JACQUELINE GRESKO