able attitudes toward minority group members and immigrants: high socioeconomic status, low Indo-Canadian area concentration, high level of educational attainment, and Canadian, British or Australian birth. The authors emphasize the helplessness of the Indo-Canadian minority, reporting that less than a third ever do anything about a racial attack; over two-thirds simply accept such treatment as part of living in Vancouver and think that little could be done to improve the situation.

One final word about the presentability of the report. Careful editing of this typed production should have corrected the scattered typographical errors, prevented some misleading if not erroneous statements and clarified confusing use of terminology. Perhaps the report is usefully structured; however, it seems redundant in reporting findings. Results are initially reported and selectively analyzed, then summarized again at the end of each section or chapter, only to be repeated yet again — a third time — in the concluding chapter.

While it is debatable whether the researchers have contributed either a unique study to the already large literature on ethnic relations in Canada or a well-designed and well-written study, some interesting data do emerge from this project. One hopes that continued research will be stimulated by this effort.

University of Saskatchewan

A. B. Anderson


Vancouver’s First Century: A City Album is a popular illustrated history of Vancouver from 1860 to 1985. Originally produced in the mid-seventies as five special issues of the Urban Reader, this third hardcover edition, expanded by thirty-two pages, has been published for the centennial. Using a family album format, the latest volume offers readers a 185-page chronology of assorted historical photographs, advertisements and anecdotes. Unfortunately, the editors’ treatment of these rich sources can only be described as nostalgic and impressionistic. They fail to interpret or analyze the photographs and events and thus present readers with a limited account of their past.

Vancouver’s First Century provides a remarkable selection of images
documenting the history of urban life. Clearly, a rich photographic record exists to which the editors pay tribute. The preface acknowledges to some extent the crucial role of photographers, especially the early pioneers, while the introduction draws attention to the unique qualities of visual history. Moreover, the reproductions are of good quality and the book is well designed.

Despite these strengths, however, the editors underutilize the photographs. The full value of these historical documents is not revealed to the reader. In fact, the editors' casual approach lessens the impact of the visual information and often obscures the meaning of events. The flyleaf's description of photographic highlights — "lumberjacks with teams of oxen, women in calf-length bathing dresses, hobo jungles in the Depression, men going off to war, protest marches, bobby soxers, hippies and punks" — captures the uncritical tone of the volume, rather than the "flavour of a century of a city's life." In this listing, as throughout the book, a hobo jungle or a protest march is reduced to one more "pretty picture."

In order to "read" a photograph the viewer needs information outside of the image. Who are the photographers and why have these images been selected to define our past? Unfortunately, the text of Vancouver's First Century bears little relation to the photographs, while the accompanying captions offer minimal description. By relying too heavily on anecdotes taken from Major Matthew's City Archives Collection, old clichés are repeated and the photographs remain inadequately researched. For example, the only contextual reference to a nineteenth-century image of three men in a double bed reads "1890 Bachelor's Hall." The seasonal nature of British Columbia's resource-extractive economy brought transient men, especially loggers, to Vancouver hotels and boarding houses. They sought employment or a release from the monotony and deprivation of their isolated work camps. Is this the surrogate home of a woodsman on vacation as described in M. Grainger's book? Admittedly, it is difficult to identify old photographs, but even a general analysis of who used hotels and saloons would assist the reader and enhance the value of the photo.

The same weakness is evident in the thirty-two additional pages that take the city's history to 1985. The static caption "1981 Fraser Valley Farmworkers" dehumanizes and minimizes the plight of East Indian farm workers as captured in a Stephen Borsch photograph. The text does not explain adequately to the uninformed reader the relationship between racism and poverty, nor does it explain the juxtaposition of a photograph of affluent Vancouverites shopping at Granville Market. To show these
images one above the other without explanation does the reader a disservice. As in the rest of this book, an opportunity to give readers a better understanding of their past and present through popular photographs has been lost.

Vancouver Community College

Andrea B. Smith


Available heretofore only in bits and pieces, the ethnographic writings of Myron Eells are now between two covers, handsomely printed, commented upon, evaluated and illustrated. Eells was born at his father’s Congregational mission in eastern Washington Territory in 1843 and became a missionary himself, taking up residence in 1874 on the Skokomish Reservation and remaining there until his death in 1907. For several years his brother, Edwin, served in the same place as an Indian Agent.

The Skokomish Reservation is on the southern end of Hood Canal in Twana Indian territory. These people and their other Coast Salish neighbours — Klallam, Chehalis, Squaxin, Puyallup-Nisqually — are the subjects of Eells’ ethnographic writing. He was an ardent correspondent and journalist, publishing a number of ethnographic papers on the Coast Salish of Puget Sound which have long been standard sources for students. This book is derived from a lengthy manuscript that Eells himself had been writing and amending until his death. It contains a number of his published papers. Professor Castile has done a sensitive job of editing to bring the manuscript into the integrated, whole-culture ethnography which its author intended it to be.

Observing and collecting information at a time when formalization of ethnography was just beginning, and writing in relative isolation from other scholars, Eells achieved admirable balance and breadth in his description. He writes of all aspects of culture from technology to religion. His description is more complete in some subjects than others, as Castile points out. Its strong points are not so much in the description of material things, a subject where moral and religious values of the observer might be expected to pose a lesser barrier, but in his observations of ceremonial