Book Reviews

First Growth: The Story of British Columbia Forest Products Limited, co-ordinated by Sue Baptie. Vancouver: British Columbia Forest Products Limited, 1975. Pp. xi, 286; *illus.*; paper $8.95.

First Growth is not history as analysed by a historian but history remembered by participants. Company archivist, Sue Baptie, interviewed over fifty present and past employees and dependents of B.C. Forest Products. The interviews represent a fair, but not complete, cross-section: from sawmill workers, through various managers, to E. P. Taylor, the founder of the company; from loggers who worked for the company's predecessors in the 1930s to the wives of the pioneers of the company's town of Mackenzie established in 1966. The interviews, however, are generally more informative about the 1930s and 1940s than they are about the 1950s and the 1960s. Mrs. Baptie has skilfully edited these recollections to present what the introduction correctly describes as "an entertaining and informative kaleidoscope" of the company (p. xi). The largely anecdotal approach does not lead to a comprehensive account of the company's development but it suggests the many dimensions, especially the human ones, in the history of a business.

The interviews, even that with E. P. Taylor, reveal little about the financial dealings preceding the formation of B.C. Forest Products in 1946. Yet almost every interview with former employees of Industrial Timber Mills, Malahat Logging Company, Cameron Lumber Company and the Hammond Cedar Company shows their surprise upon learning their firms had been taken over by B.C. Forest Products. Significantly, perhaps indicating the increased size and impersonality of the corporation or bias in the selection of interviewees, only a few senior officials even mention the 1969 transfer of controlling interest from Taylor's Argus Corporation to Noranda Mines Limited. Some senior officials also make tantalizing references to the arrangement whereby H. R. MacMillan Export Company managed BCFP and acted as its sales agent until 1953.

As BCFP director John McDougald trenchantly explained, "the relationship between Argus and H. R. MacMillan has always been right at the top — bearing in mind that MacMillan looked after MacMillan" (p. 32).

Management officials say little about labour relations. The recollections of loggers and mill workers, on the other hand, supplement published material about the early years of the International Woodworkers of America in British Columbia. The loggers of the 1930s corroborate Myrtle Bergren's description of the difficulties of IWA organizers.[1] Interviews with long time sawmill workers add some "grass roots" evidence to Irving Abella's account of the IWA's efforts to divest itself of Communist leadership after the war.[2] Incidentally, both union organizers interviewed now work for BCFP in management positions. Is this mere coincidence?

Apart from many references to accidents caused by carelessness of employers as well as by individuals, the interviewees seldom criticize BCFP or its forerunners. They reminisce about hard times, their wives recall many inconveniences but they seem to remember best the friendly social life of the larger logging communities. They also mention the presence of separate quarters for Chinese and East Indians. Regrettably, no interview of a Chinese or East Indian employee is included in this volume. Thus, the ethnic diversity of the camps and the mills is not completely explored.

Although it is never quite explicitly stated, technological changes caused many alterations in the way of life of wood workers. To the lay person, a major strength of *First Growth* is its many references to industrial technology. Interviews and many excellent photographs illustrate such dramatic changes as that from rail to truck logging and from the mammoth Davis rafts to BCFP's own contribution, the self-loading, self-dumping log barge.

Oral history is a relatively new technique. *First Growth* demonstrates how it can underscore the human factors, unlikely to come out of a more traditional examination of a company's files and balance sheets. Yet one wonders if the frequently repeated subjects and emergent themes reflect the selection of interviewees and the questions asked more than they record the complete story. This volume whets the appetite for a more formal study of B.C. Forest Products and the major forest companies whose histories are so interwoven with that of the province. British

[1] Myrtle Bergren, *Tough Timber* (Toronto: Progress, 1967).

[2] Irving Abella, *Nationalism, Communism, and Canadian Labour: The CIO, the Communist Party, and the Canadian Congress of Labour, 1935-56* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1972).

Columbia Forest Products deserves commendation for having undertaken this project and, within its limits, having succeeded so well. Let us hope there will be a second growth.

University of Victoria PATRICIA E. ROY

Natural Resource Revenues: A Test of Federalism, edited by Anthony Scott. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1976. Pp. xvii, 261; $7.50.

The preoccupation of Canadians with federalism is perhaps only matched by our preoccupation with natural resources. Students of both subjects will benefit from a careful reading of this volume, which is based on the papers presented to the Victoria Conference on Natural Revenues in 1975. At least fifteen of the nineteen contributors are professional economists, and the profusion of graphs and equations in the volume is likely to deter many readers whose training is in other fields. Yet the reader who perseveres bravely to the end will not regret having done so.

The central focus of the volume is on the concept of resource rent, or the surplus remaining when all costs of bringing resources to market are deducted from their market value. John Stuart Mill and Henry George helped to popularize the belief that resource rent should be captured by the community rather than by the entrepreneur, but the idea is in fact much older, as suggested by the common-law principle that minerals belong to the Crown. Essentially the same principle is a basic theme of Third World demands for a new international economic order and has found expression in both the Kierans report to the government of Manitoba and the very similar Fitzgerald report to the former Labour government of Australia.

Acceptance of this principle in a federation, however, does not assist one in identifying the relevant community or in specifying the level of government that should act on its behalf. Although section 109 of the BNA Act appears to answer both questions, the recent spectacular increase in the price of crude oil and the concentration of that resource in a single medium-sized province have led many Canadians to question whether section 109 should stand as the last word on the subject. In any event, as W. R. Lederman suggests in this volume, the constitution is more a basis for bargaining than a source of unambiguous rules, since its provisions can often be cited to support both sides of an argument.

Several contributors attempt to discover whether economic principles offer any guidance for the solution of the jurisdictional conflict over the disposition of petroleum revenues. Anthony Scott explores four possible economic criteria in his long introductory chapter but concludes that none of them offers a strong argument for accepting either federal or provincial claims to exclusive possession of resource rents. Like most "economic" problems, this one turns out to be normative and political in its essence, and, as Donald Smiley argues in another chapter, it is complicated by Alberta's peculiar history and traditional penchant for defiance of the federal government.

Most of the chapters that express an opinion support a federal claim to at least a portion of resource rents. An exception, however, is the chapter by Andrew R. Thompson, a lawyer and chairman of the British Columbia Energy Commission, who considers that the provinces are more efficient in collecting resource revenues, partly because they can levy royalties as well as taxes and partly because a uniform federal resource tax could not be adapted to local conditions which vary between the provinces.

Two other chapters raise important political issues that should interest all students of Canadian federalism. Thomas J. Courchene argues that the oil crisis has exposed the unsuitability of the present system of equalization, since the payments are based on a comparison of provincial revenue sources while the funds available to pay them come entirely out of federal sources. John Helliwell and Gerry May view the Syncrude agreement as illustrating the dangers of executive federalism, since tax revenues were effectively transferred from Ottawa to Edmonton "by secret bargaining requiring no prior public or parliamentary investigation or approval." Both issues deserve consideration now that governments are once again proposing to revise the rules and structures of Canadian federalism.

Carleton University GARTH STEVENSON

Natural Resources of British Columbia and the Yukon, by Mary L. Barker. Vancouver: Douglas, David and Charles, 1977. Pp. 155.

Natural resources have been central to the history and economic development of both British Columbia and the Yukon. This is the central message in Barker's brief overview of the natural resources in this area.

This argument is not new. Roderick Haig-Brown and the British Columbia Natural Resource Conference have explored this relationship earlier, but Barker has provided a useful update replete with graphs and excellent illustrations.

The six chapters discuss the major natural resources of the area, although the treatment is quite unequal, given the contribution of various resources to the economy. Minerals and energy are covered in substantial detail. Comparatively, the treatment of the forest industry is weak and does not exhibit the same level of detailed analysis. Other chapters focus on fish and wildlife and on parks and recreation. The book concludes with a section on natural hazards, which, while interesting, seems somewhat out of place in this work. Natural hazards are an important issue in how man manages resources, but this does not appear to be the major concern of the book, and natural hazards are not really resources by themselves. The book is not issue-oriented except in this section, and inclusion of this chapter is rather disconcerting. Had the author provided a statement of intent in the introduction, the chapter might well have meshed better with the rest of the volume.

The book has considerable merit. The illustrations are well chosen, current and on the whole clear and informative. This is especially true in chapters dealing with topography and geologic formations. There are two minor detractions. During a period of conversion to the metric system both metric and British measurement units might have been employed. Second, the map of installed hydro-electric capacity is difficult to read and might have been enhanced with a companion map of the power distribution system in British Columbia and the Yukon. Apart from this the text is highly readable and relatively free of errors.

Two statements are, however, quite questionable. The author argues that "new roads encouraged logging and sawmilling in the Interior of British Columbia and, more recently, hydro-electric power projects and new mines" and that "the pattern of settlement shifted in accordance with whichever natural resource was preferred" (p. 13). New roads were not the critical factor nor did they encourage hydro-electric power or mining. Indeed, much of the Peace River development and that on the Columbia River were influenced by the power potential, and new roads were not a cause of the development, but a service to that development. The argument about settlement pattern is just as suspect. The basic settlement pattern of the area has remained quite constant. Whitehorse and the greater Vancouver and Victoria areas have had the bulk of the population since the turn of the century. It is true that towns have expanded

and new towns have been created in response to the exploitation of different resources — Prince George, Kitimat and Endako are good examples — but this trend has not altered the basic pattern of settlement.

This volume follows the traditional pattern that geographers have employed to discuss natural resources of a particular area. It discusses each resource in particular detail but provides little discussion or analysis of the issues involved in the management of natural resources or a wider perspective on how natural resources should be managed. Such an observation is not a criticism of the current volume, since it obviously was intended for a different purpose. Rather, it is more of a lament about the absence of such an approach by geographers and others who have tried to present an integrated approach to natural resources and their use. In this particular work the author provides a useful bibliography which can lead the reader beyond the overview into the actual problem of management.

Those who desire or expect a critical analysis of natural resources management will have to wait. This particular volume is a lucid and simple description of the use of natural resources in British Columbia and the Yukon — no more, no less.

University of Victoria WILLIAM M. ROSS

Contact and Conflict: Indian-European Relations in British Columbia, 1774-1890, by Robin Fisher. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1977. Pp. xvi, 250. Illustrations, maps, index, bibliography. $18.00.

Professor Robin Fisher, who teaches history at Simon Fraser University, has produced a thoroughly documented and well-balanced study of European contact with aboriginal peoples in British Columbia from the time of first contact to the "triumph" of white settlement. In general this timely investigation confirms the thesis of writers such as Baker, Huttenback and Jordan who have concerned themselves with problems of white settlement in aboriginal tracts, and the thesis of Larrabee and others who have concerned themselves more specifically with relations at the time of contact between Amerindian cultures and European immigrants.

There are, of course, a number of distinctive contributions which mark this study as more than a confirmation of existing interpretations. Not that the confirmation of such views is without significance, but there is

much that is genuinely new and compelling in this well-articulated exposition. To begin with, the author sets in opposition to each other the uncritical acceptance by far too many historians of the thesis that the early fur trade undermined Indian society and the unduly optimistic view of many anthropologists that this aspect of contact was enriching for the native peoples. What the author is able to demonstrate is that much of the time the natives were virtually in command of the fur trade and that they very soon determined the exchange rates, the quality and type of European trade goods that were acceptable — in short, they fixed the price. Fisher correctly sees the fur traders (Europeans) as operating by and large within the context of the indigenous culture. This provides a striking parallel to the earlier French experience with the natives of the upper Great Lakes region. Contact is not necessarily equated with conflict. This too is a striking parallel to many aspects of the French contact with the natives of the *pays d'en haut.*

A second valuable contribution is the comparison made with the contact experiences of the Maoris of New Zealand, the aborigines of Australia and the natives of Polynesia. The facile hypothesis might be that if European-native relations were similar in South Africa, Australasia and British North America it was because in each case the white Anglo-Saxon Protestant intruders on native lands shared the same intellectual and spiritual baggage, not to say the same racist prejudices. The study makes it clear, however, that there was a diversity of views in both the white and native communities on the nature and consequences of contact, and also that individuals often held contradictory and mutually exclusive views. This point might have been pursued to indicate what the conceptual frameworks were which Europeans employed in attempting to understand the Pacific province and its first inhabitants.

The author documents a deterioration in race relations as commencing only after the arrival of white settlers. As in Rhodesia it is the arrival of Europeans, such as gold miners, which initiates a competition between native and new-arrival for the resources of the country. Then come the settlers, agriculturalists of some description, who are strongly motivated to dispossess the natives of the land which the latter consider to be their area of habitation and source of livelihood. It matters little whether Indians had concepts of property and nationhood similar to European proprietary and political concepts. What matters is that there is displacement and dispossession. Then come the missionaries and finally the government administrators who attempt to accelerate cultural change and undermine the traditional beliefs and lifestyle. Fisher argues that in British Columbia

the gold miners, the settlers, the missionaries and the administrators forced acceleration of the pace of cultural change and took the initiative out of Indian hands (p. 96). During the fur trade phase of contact, the Indians had been able to be selective about adaptation to European intrusion and had been able to maintain the social fabric of their own culture. But with settlement, this freedom was lost and culture change was directed from outside. In other words, following Linton's definition of directed acculturation, the Europeans began to interfere actively and purposefully with the native cultures. The coastal Haida and Kwakiutl, also many of the more isolated interior "tribes," were not affected as early as other groups by this contact pressure, but eventually all came to experience some deliberate and directed culture change.

For those Canadians who still believe that contacts between whites and Indians were always pacific on the northern side of the international border, the recital of violence that began with the miners will come as a shock. Those Canadians who still cling to the myth of the "natural improvidence" of the Indian will be surprised to learn that if some Indians did steal from Europeans at the time of the Fraser gold rush it was largely because many of them were on the verge of starvation as a direct result of the mining operations in the Fraser Canyon, the major fishing area for these natives, which seriously disrupted both the catching and drying of the major staple in native diet. From this point forward the tale becomes all too familiar to students of native history. As Indians began to acquire liquor in unsavoury mining towns like Yale, and as Indian women became prostitutes or the temporary wives of miners, drunkenness and prostitution established themselves as the dominant features of contact. Degradation and disease followed.

There is a sensitivity to the Indian point of view throughout this study. In dealing with settler and speculator land-hunger, for example, the author does not dwell unduly on the subsistence and occupational aspects of Indian claims. Rather he emphasizes that the Indians' relationship with the land had a spiritual dimension as well, and that land, "as well as sustaining life, was life" (p. 103). Thus, to deprive the Indian of his land was to remove from him the place of his ancestors and deprive him of a part of his identity. There were those who deplored the hunting/trapping/gathering economy of the natives and who thought they should take up agriculture. But those natives who did take up farming soon found themselves in competition with white settlers, and those who opted for a traditional economy found that the lands they required were also wanted by white settlers.

Whereas the settlers merely expected the Indians to make way for them, the missionaries came with a deliberate and conscious policy of subverting the traditional way of life and making it conform to their European Christian model. Missionaries, as aggressive purveyors of a new culture and world-view, were not only confident of the superiority of their own culture and the inferiority and degradation of native ways, but also were certain that conversion could only be assured by a total rejection on the part of the Indian proselyte of his old way of life and his acceptance of a total cultural change. Therefore it is understandable that they demanded a curb on native social practices, notably of the potlach. On the other hand, unlike the settler community, they were optimistic about the Indians' future and did not see the natives as a vanishing people. The missionaries were hopeful that the evils attendant upon contact between white and natives could be arrested and that by "Christianization and civilization" the natives could be uplifted and redeemed.

Some of the most critical pages of this study of cultural relations are those which deal with the third major acculturative agent at work among the B.C. Indians, namely the government officials responsible for Indian affairs. Sometimes they supported the efforts of the missionaries, we are told, but mostly they represent the demands of the settlers. Only very rarely did any official advocate the interests of the Indians. The outstanding exception to the latter rule was Governor James Douglas, who in 1859 inaugurated a land reservation policy whereby Indians were not only compensated for lands surrendered but whereby reserves were created in areas that settlers were beginning to colonize. His policy was opposed to the American pattern wherein natives were removed from their traditional homes and relocated in large amalgamated reserves; instead, Indians in B.C. were to be guaranteed occupancy of reserves which encompassed their villages and cultivated fields, their traditional or historic "homes." Predictably, nearly every aspect of Douglas' policy was altered after his retirement, and the author opines that the weakness of his policy was that it was too dependent on his own personal magnanimity and that it was never codified by the legislature (p. 156). The ensuing pages reveal that the policy-makers in the colonies were men deeply "involved in the society of settlers," as in other British territories around the globe in the late nineteenth century, from which one might conclude that both force of personality and force of parliamentary procedure would have worked against Indian interests in any case.

Another observation arises out of this comprehensive overview. Although there were many different cultures in the B.C. region, Europeans

tended to generalize about native peoples and to lump them all together. This was probably because of the common elements in the various cultures (division of labour, sex roles, responsibility to kin-group, lack of coercion, etc.) and the fact that when different groups behaved alike towards Europeans and their intrusion this served to increase the visible similarities between different Indian cultures. The visible differences from European culture, needless to add, aided the settlers, missionaries and officials to conclude that all Indians were in the same state of savagery.

The reader will find this an innovative work in an increasingly popular field of historical study. The author's balanced and objective analysis, his knowledge of the anthropological literature and historical sources, and his sympathy for and understanding of native cultures make this an important addition to socio-cultural history. The university publishers are also to be congratulated on the fine material and visual quality of the book.

University of Ottawa CORNELIUS J. JAENEN

Victoria: Physical Environment and Development, edited by H. D. Foster. Western Geographical Series, Volume 12. Victoria, B.C.: University of Victoria, 1976. Pp. xvii, 334; 98 figs., 6 plates, 25 tables.

Volume 12 in the Western Geographical Series has an attractive cover and interesting title. It may come as a surprise to the general reader that the objective of the book is to demonstrate the growing unity of purpose in geography (p. iv). The question must be asked "for whom is the book written?" The conclusion of this reviewer is that the book is aimed primarily at professional geographers and that the general reader will have difficulty in sustaining interest. Professional geographers, in turn, will be disappointed by the indifferent success achieved in demonstrating unity of purpose in geography.

The methodology that is used to substantiate the major thesis is (a) to select a region, namely the greater Victoria area, (b) to explore the interface between some of the physical and social systems in that region and (c) to declare that this material "should be of interest to physical and social scientist alike" (p. iv). The specific problems addressed are: (i) how did early settlers perceive the physical environment of Victoria? (ii) what is the present and potential use of Victoria's urban forest? (iii) what are the practical implications of the spatial variability of nocturnal temperatures on the Saanich Peninsula? (iv) what is the nature of the coastal

erosion hazard on the Saanich Peninsula? (v) what is the nature of the microseismicity hazard in Victoria? (vi) how can one predict the spatial variations in earthquake potential? (vii) how does one select sanitary landfill sites? and (viii) how has sewage disposal to the sea been perceived by the public and by regulatory agencies in the decade 1965-75 and in what direction will changes continue? Each of these topics is interesting in itself but they do not add up to a comprehensive or synthetic view of the Victoria region.

Typographical errors abound (two in the half-page preface on p. iv); scale and direction are absent from a number of maps and air photographs, and curious statements such as "the risk of exceeding critical low temperature limits [is] rather high" (p. 97) are not uncommon. The book is lavishly illustrated but many altogether unnecessary figures are included, e.g. figs. 1-7, 2-7, 3-7, 4-7, 5-7, 6-7, 4-8, 5-8, 6-8, 7-8, 8-8, 9-8, 10-8, 11-8, 12-8 and 13-8, to name only some of the most obvious candidates for exclusion. Many of the maps in chapters 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7 are difficult to read because of the amount of compressed information and the inherent limitations of using two shades of black.

Although there are many criticisms that can be made of the balance and style of this volume, there are some good contributions. Three chapters should be picked out for special mention. They were Charles Forward's "The Physical Geography of Victoria, circa 1860" (chapter 1); Vilho Wuorinen's "Seismic Microzonation of Victoria" (chapter 5) and Harold Foster and R. F. Carey's "Simulation of Earthquake Damage" (chapter 6).

Forward's chapter is particularly interesting as a statement of the early colonial physical environment. Wuorinen's chapter is notable in that it is well grounded in the history of earthquake activity in Victoria, in the geophysics of the Victoria region, and in the nature of the hazard and how to respond to it. Foster and Carey's study explores the damage potential from earthquakes in a more quantitative way and uses a simulation model to extend predictive capacity over space and time. These three chapters together provide two good substantive discussions and one illustration of the application of a technique of analysis which generates information of interest to the general reader and, incidentally, of importance to planners.

I would not use this book to demonstrate the unity of geography; neither would I buy it as a comprehensive travelling companion when visiting the greater Victoria region. It is more in the nature of a source book for a number of randomly selected facts about Victoria's physical environment and development. In this latter sense much can be learned

about the various forest classifications in vogue and tree species present, microclimatic variations, coastal erosion and urban waste disposal alternatives in the greater Victoria region. It is a matter of regret that this book fails in its self-appointed major task.

University of British Columbia OLAV SLAYMAKER

Canadian Battles and Massacres, by T. W. Paterson. Langley, B.C.: Stagecoach Publishing Co., 1977. Pp. 242; *illus.*; maps; index.

Almost twenty years ago Dr. G. F. G. Stanley wrote a book called *Canada's Soldiers* which he subtitled "The Military History of an Unmilitary People." The subtitle of Mr. Paterson's book is "300 Years of Warfare and Atrocities on Canadian Soil." Stanley may be correct in his premise that Canadians are not by nature a warlike race, but Paterson is equally correct in his accounts which illustrate that, once aroused, Canadians can hold their own with any other group when it comes to fighting on sea or on land.

This book is divided into five historic periods: the French-Indian engagements; the French-English wars; the War of 1812; the 1815-1866 era, dealing with the Rebellion of 1837 and the Fenian raids; and finally Western Canada, which covers the Massacre at Seven Oaks to the Chilcotin "War."

The term "battles" in the title, one should note, is used to cover everything from a skirmish to a siege, and sometimes the author will devote almost as much space to the one as the other. The description of Madeleine de Verchères' defence of her family's fortified home against several dozen Indians is an interesting account, but does it deserve even half the space devoted to Major-General Brock and his crucial battle at Queenston Heights, which helped to shape the outcome of the War of 1812? Moreover, although Madeleine's story is well worth telling in some detail, this reviewer finds it odd that there is no mention made of Benedict Arnold's assault on Quebec.

Mr. Paterson does make excellent use of eyewitness accounts and contemporary documents to enliven his description of the various battles and engagements. With the use of such material, together with his own natural talents as a story-teller, there are moments when one can almost smell the fumes of gunpowder or hear the roar of the cannon as the antagonists come together at a crucial point. At times, however, the author becomes

too enamoured with the eyewitness accounts and the reader, lacking the compass of analysis, gets lost in detail.

There are twenty-eight separate "battles" and massacres described in this book. If the reader is surprised at this number, he should appreciate that the author has had to be selective in those he picked to relate. Only two or three sea battles are described, for example, and many more could be chosen. The same holds true of massacres. Most if not all of those selected are massacres of white men (and women and children) by Indians.

The descriptions of the more important battles and engagements vary in quality. The Battle of the Beechwoods, the Disaster at Fort William Henry and the Battle of Queenston Heights are especially well told, as is the Battle of the Plains of Abraham. Louisbourg deserves better treatment and the description of Lundy's Lane, although giving a good impression of the confusion of battle, becomes too detailed and difficult to follow.

Despite these drawbacks, this book will appeal to many. It is a well-written account of an aspect of Candian history which is not well known. Well illustrated, and with a general bibliography for additional reference, it gives a good description of most of the important military and naval engagements in New France and British North America.

University of Victoria REGINALD ROY

Bibliography for the Study of British Columbia's Domestic Material History, by Virginia Careless. Ottawa: National Museums of Canada, National Museum of Man Mercury Series, History Division Paper No. 20, 1976. Pp. 73; free.

The intent of this bibliography, as the Mercury Series Publications listing states, is to assist those studying interior decoration, furnishing, and social and cultural life in British Columbia at the turn of the century. It should, the series claims, be of particular use to those interested in historical restorations and museum reconstructions of period rooms. Undoubtedly, Careless' bibliography will become a standard reference work for museums in B.C. It covers material available in the major repositories of Vancouver and Victoria, offering some 800 entries, divided into forty-six subject categories.

The bibliography emerged from a project to make the domestic rooms in the B.C. Provincial Museum's modern history display more historically

accurate. Once Careless began her initial research she soon discovered that both primary and secondary sources on B.C.'s material history are very limited prior to 1890. Information gradually increases until by the 1920s documentation is fairly full. With this in mind, the author has limited her bibliography to the turn of the century.

The listings deal mainly with secondary material, all of which is readily accessible in libraries to the B.C. researcher. While the author recognizes that additional information could come from a more detailed examination of primary sources, in the interest of time she has limited primary sources cited to ones "easily located and of particular relevance" — including house inventories, family manuscripts and visual records.

Although the sources are drawn only from Lower Mainland repositories, the scope of the headings is extensive. The forty-six subject headings include topics with obvious links to interior design and furnishings, but also list subjects which may seem to have less direct connections.

Yet as the author points out, "a book on British manners, life in colonial India, or California architecture can relate to British Columbia in terms of the kinds of influences which shaped the province, and the kinds of knowledge and customs which people brought with them." Faced with a lack of information on B.C.'s material history, the author explored any source which might prove useful, from cookbooks and novels to etiquette books and store catalogues.

The scope is admirable and reflects long hours of tedious searching by the author. With this in mind, it seems curious that the section titled "Clothing" neglected to list several books on costume which are generally conceded by museum costume curators to be the major reference works for this period. These include *Handbook of English Costume in the Nineteenth Century* by C. Willett Cunnington and Phillis Cunnington, *Corsets and Crinolines* by Nora Waugh, and *Victorian Costume and Costume Accessories* by Barrie and Jenkins. These books not only describe the clothing of the period; they also comment on etiquette, deportment and the domestic setting.

One subject heading which does not appear is "Photography." Perhaps the amount of material available is so slight that any references were included under different headings, but certainly the art of photography was a well-established part of the domestic decoration by the turn of the century. Information on types of frames used, photo albums, stereo viewers, etc., would be useful to anyone recreating a Victorian parlour.

Several books, published in the same year as this bibliography, would certainly have been included by the author had they been in print at that

time. They are such excellent sources of primary material that it seems worth mentioning them here. *Exterior Decoration, Victorian Paint for Victorian Houses* is the first publication in a new series entitled The Athenaeum Library of Nineteenth Century America. It is the joint effort of three educational institutions sharing a common devotion to the Victorian Age. The purpose of this series, as the introduction states, is to make available rare primary documents on nineteenth century architecture and decoration for which curators, collectors, architects and preservationists have a practical need. Topics of books in this series include: drapery design, ironwork, lighting fixtures, Gothic Revival furniture, plumbing and kitchens. One which has already been published is *Victorian Architecture, Two Pattern Books*. This book presents hundreds of exterior and interior details. It is all the more valuable because it shows the average standards of architecture of the period.

A small but interesting Canadian publication is the catalogue *A Nineteenth Century Look: the Victorian Parlour*, which accompanied an exhibition organized by the Confederation Centre Art Gallery and Museum in Prince Edward Island in the fall of 1976. The exhibition was composed of photographs and furnishings from public and private collections across Canada, selected to show a wide cross-section of middle and upper class life in this country. The catalogue gives a list of forty-seven photographs and thirty-six artifacts with their sources.

My only real criticism of the Careless bibliography is directed at the format. Each of the forty-six subject headings is listed alphabetically, but there is no cross-reference to a page, so the reader must fumble along, flipping pages until the proper heading is reached. Since one has no idea how long each listing will be, it is difficult to estimate how far along any given heading will appear.

To make matters worse, the headings, as they appear in the body of the bibliography, are in upper and lower case, the same as the rest of the copy. It is difficult to quickly locate the heading on the page because of this. The use of all upper case letters or an extension into the left margin would help to distinguish the headings from the bulk of the copy. It is a small point, but constantly irritating to the person using the bibliography.

And the bibliography will certainly be well used by B.C. museums, not only for reconstruction of period rooms, but to assist in the identification of artifacts. Perhaps the frequent use of this biblography in museums and archives throughout the province will provoke institutions outside Van-

couver and Victoria to examine their own holdings for primary material relating to the material history of British Columbia which might be included in future publications.

Vancouver KERRY MCPHEDRAN