

over, a process which has continued under the Pearson and Trudeau regimes. It might have been a little more sensible if the book had gone up to 1960 and the victory of the Lesage Liberals in Quebec. In the years covered by this book Quebec was tranquil and calm and very little trouble to Ottawa; this explains why there is so little about that province in the book. But as every one knows the coming to power of Lesage began a new era in Canadian politics. Historians are likely to regard this election as the watershed rather than that of Diefenbaker. For what distinguishes the Pearson and Trudeau eras from those of both St. Laurent and Diefenbaker is not the continued integration of the Canadian economy into that of the continent but the resurgence of Quebec nationalism.

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GEORGE A. NADER. — *Cities of Canada*. Vol. II. *Profiles of Fifteen Metropolitan Centres*. Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1976.

If Professor Nader's two volume *Cities of Canada* becomes the standard reference work on Canadian urban development, it will do so because of the absence of competitors, not on its merits. Geographers are doing some of the best work in relating Canada's urban past to the present, but these volumes are not representative of this significant body of literature. The organization of the second volume (vol. I was reviewed in this journal, vol IX, November, 1976) is sensible enough: there are separate chapters on fifteen selected metropolitan centres. Each chapter is divided into five topics: historical development, economic base, urban growth and land-use patterns, city centre, and metropolitan government and planning. But the results at best are a sort of compendium of unrelated information about fifteen different places. There is no attempt at comparison or generalization, no development of any themes. There is nothing, in fact, beyond some rather superficial description.

The sections dealing with historical development and land-use patterns generally contain the most useful information. The author, however, has an extremely narrow conception of what makes cities grow; the role of individuals or even of Boards of Trade and municipal governments is almost totally ignored. A number of obvious factual errors should have been caught by a more careful editor. For example, the author states that Montreal had begun to spread beyond its walls by 1800. The 1758 map reproduced on the dust cover, on the other hand, clearly shows substantial suburbanization about fifty years earlier. In the sections on land-use patterns, changes in the nature of the site are usually effectively described. Some of the major factors in spatial growth, such as changes in internal transportation, are not examined in any serious way. Physical expansion does not make any sense without an explanation of developments including the electrification of the street railway system or the coming of the automobile.

The weakest parts of the book are those concerning metropolitan government and planning. These read like a compilation of publicity briefs prepared by various City Planning Departments, which is what they are, judging by the author's own statement about sources of information. It is difficult to imagine a more sterile account of urban development than is offered in these sections. Conflicts between developers, city councils, and neighborhood organizations do not sully these pages and one gets the impression that politics, ethnicity, and

class are not factors in planning and development. Instead, urban growth is characterized by neat lists of administrative acts.

In a limited way, this and its companion volume have some redeeming features as reference works. Data is compiled on population growth and manufacturing, and the visual material is useful. But even this data has all the signs of having been hastily assembled and it remains undigested. Thus, the reader is left with some handy information about Canadian cities but with little understanding of how they came to be what they are today.

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MORRIS ZASLOW. — *The Story of the Geological Survey of Canada 1842-1972.* Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1975.

The story of the Geological Survey of Canada is an important and authoritative record of one of the longest lived civil services in Canadian history and without question it is the story of one of the finest geological surveys in the world. Today the Geological Survey is a generally unknown agency, one of many in a large government bureaucracy. However, this was not always the case, for in its first thirty years the Survey and several of its members received considerable public attention and recognition. This recognition was a function both of the high degree of scientific skill of the members of the Survey and of the importance of a geological survey of the Province of Canada. The survey was initiated primarily to determine the mineral resources of the Province, resources which were vital to its future.

As a result of thorough lobbying by himself and his friends in Montreal and in London, William E. Logan was appointed in April, 1842, by Sir Charles Bagot, Governor General of Canada, to carry out a geological survey of the Province of Canada for two years. As the first member of the Survey he could not have been better prepared. He was clearly one of the most able younger scientists studying the geology of Great Britain at the time of his appointment. He was also modestly wealthy, which was an important convenience because it enabled him to support the Survey during frequent interludes when new funding had to be voted.

During twenty-seven years as director, Logan established a tradition of very high standards in every aspect of the Survey's work. This is most noticeable in the accuracy of the geology and in the quality of the publications. This tradition very much reflects Logan's personal qualities: he was diligent, very hard working, annoyingly exacting but kindly.

The influence of the successive directors on the Geological Survey of Canada is an important theme in the story of the Survey. Its directors have ranged from the infrequent sychophants to highly ambitious and capable men. In a large part they have been very capable scientists and somewhat less capable administrators. In this book Zaslow has illustrated a flow of events and personalities resulting in the story of a great number of highly skilled people working more or less in harmony at a consuming interest — natural science.