

thinking of themselves less as the corporate conscience of the nation and more as religious minorities in a secular and pluralistic society.

From being the regulative principle of society — even if one often challenged — religion had shrunk to nothing more than one of the more important aspects of public life. Nothing had taken its place, and the idea of a regulative principle was no longer accepted, for the age of cultural anarchy was at hand. The narrowing of scope did not prevent the religious press from giving the most comprehensive advice to labour leaders, as to statesmen, but it was advice from one estate of the realm to another; not the somewhat imperious instruction of a mother for her prodigal offspring (p. 79).

He reveals that men like Keir Hardie and Ben Tillett never gave up hope that in spite of its failings the Church might become progressive in social matters, because like most Victorians they had dimly grasped what the Church might have been, should have been, and could have been, as the conscience of the nation.

Probably the defects in Inglis's volume reflect the fact that it was in many ways the first of its kind. It is packed with valuable information, but it is weak in insight. To give Inglis his due, he is aware of the deficiencies of his work; in conclusion he admires the work of religious sociologists like Gabriel Le Bras in France, and admits that nothing comparable has been attempted in England. He has given to English history what it greatly needed — a pioneer work in this field. Mayor's book is able to build on the defects of its predecessor. It has its limitations of format and writing — it is probably based on an academic thesis and reads as such — but Stephen Mayor is able to think as both a historian and a theologian. It is impossible for anyone to write successful ecclesiastical history without possessing such ability.

Desmond BOWEN,
Carleton University.

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CHARLES LIPTON. — *The Trade Union Movement of Canada, 1827-1959*. Montreal: Canadian Social Publications, 1966. 356 pages.

Canadian historiography on the subject of the Canadian labour movement is meagre. There are some solid articles on various aspects of this important subject and a few monographs and books, but there is still a great deal of work to be done in the field. It is encouraging to see that academics are now producing provocative studies¹ on areas that had been relatively untouched.

¹ For example: John CRISPO, *International Unionism: A Study in Canadian-American Relations* (New York, 1967) and Gad HOROWITZ, *Canadian Labour in Politics* (Toronto, 1968). There are as well some useful articles: D. G. CREIGHTON, "George Brown, Sir John A. Macdonald, and the 'Workingman'", *Canadian Historical Review*, XXIV (1943); F. W. WATT, "The National Policy, the Workingman and Proletarian Ideas in Victorian Canada", *ibid.*, XL (1959); Bernard OSTRY, "Conservatives, Liberals and Labour in the 1870's", *ibid.*, XLI (1960) and "Conservatives,

But the general situation has been little changed by the appearance of Dr. Lipton's book. In it, according to the fly leaf, he "has sought to give an account of trade union evolution as a whole for the period 1827-1959;" and offered an "outline of how Canada's unions came to form connections with the United States unions — the origin, status, and significance of International Unions in Canada." Furthermore, it is supposed to deal with "organization of the unorganized, the fight for better conditions, legislative and political action, peace and Canadian independence." The intended scope is impressive and the author should be commended for his enthusiasm.

The book does provide, on occasion, a description of the deplorable working conditions and inadequate wages that contributed to demands by some for increased unionization. It also sketchily describes various activities of unions in the provinces of Nova Scotia, British Columbia and Quebec; some strikes, such as the famous Winnipeg Strike in 1919, or those during 1946, are emphasized because of their impact on the trade union movement, but the strikes, rather than union evolution, are given emphasis.

What has been presented is a partial catalogue, in chronological order, of strikes and events in the trade union movement. The study rarely attempts to analyse the movement and why the actions were taken. It is not uncommon to be left wondering about the results of strikes for the strikers (Toronto Typographical Union 1834, Toronto Streetcar Strike 1886). It is useful to have data regarding strikes (pp. 306-7); but if the figures are not interpreted to make them meaningful, the data has little relevance. And some of the events in the union movement suffer from inconsistencies; for example, in 1888 the Knights of Labour are flourishing, but in the "latter 1880's the Knights declined" (p. 70); and after giving the impression that socialism and unionism were numerically important in the labour movement in the late 19th century, it is later admitted, grudgingly, that socialists and unions were few in number.

The author may be more familiar with recent union organization; in the early period, however, unions just seem to form, without any explanation how this was done. The structure of unions, which is a significant part of the trade union movement, is ignored, and one is left to accept the statement that they are democratic. But later, Dr. Lipton indicates that perhaps the democratic element has been submerged because of the treatment of communist-led unions. (The internecine struggles with communist-controlled unions could perhaps have been given greater elaboration.) Neither is any consideration given to that segment of the labouring group who were apathetic, passive or opposed to unionization.

Liberals and Labour in the 1880's", *Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science*, XXVII (1961); Eugene FORSEY, "A note on the Dominion Factory Bills of the Eighteen-Eighties", *ibid.*, XII (1947); H. C. PENTLAND, "The Development of a Capitalist Labour Market in Canada", *ibid.*, XXV (1959). (For some reason these, with the exception of the Creighton article, did not merit inclusion in the references cited by Lipton.) Dr. Eugene Forsey's forthcoming and anxiously awaited study of Canadian trade unions should also be noted.

Different unions, probably because of their leaders, held different attitudes towards labour and union problems, and the conflict between unions and union leaders is apparent. One of the major controversies was the question of internationalism versus nationalism. Dr. Lipton opts for unionist nationalism and he holds the internationalist leaders in the United States and Canada responsible for the failure to make gains, especially in the early decades of the 20th century. He fails, however, to assess why nationalist unionism was the better of the two. Another problem in unionism was the fact that different unions were at loggerheads over which centre they were going to affiliate with; and these differences, it seems, contributed greatly to the weakness of unionism. In sum, while the fragmentation and realignment of unions may be described, the changes of the unions in organization, in structure or in direction are not apparent.

Opinions of union leaders differed as well on political action. There were some, as the author illustrates, who favoured political action and others who preferred the unions to be non-political. One is, however, given the impression that most unions and union leaders favoured political action; yet there is no attempt to explain why the rank and file of organized labour supported the old parties. And the evolution of the union leaders' attitude toward the C.C.F. as a political arm in the 1950's, which influenced the C.C.F. leaders' decision to create the new party — the N.D.P. — is also ignored.

The discussion of the attitude of organized unions towards independence and peace is superficial and somewhat naive. So is the attempt to connect Bourassa's opposition to the Boer War to organized labour; so are the comments on Laurier's Naval Bill and the 1911 election, on the reasons for American participation in World War I, on the constitutional difficulties in relation to labour problems, on Mackenzie King's decision to "reconcile himself to the domination of big business and imperialism" and on his helping to fashion "the employer class" (p. 104) — in 1903 as a Deputy Minister no less ! !

It is difficult to establish whether the author, editor, or publisher should be held responsible for the frequent factual and grammatical errors that occur. Ontario and Quebec were not provinces of Canada in 1840; neither was British Columbia. In the 1917 election, 82 and not 83 Liberals were elected, and in 1921 there was not a "bloc of 75 Progressives" (p. 217) returned but 65 (this number is considered by some to be 64). Meighen's defeat in 1921, according to Professor Graham's biography and other sources, is attributable to more than just the results of the Winnipeg Strike. The R.C.M.P.'s action to stop the march of the unemployed on Ottawa was not taken independently but on the government's (Bennett's) orders. There are as well frequent misspellings, incomplete sentences, awkward sentence structure, repetition and the omission of beginning or end quotation marks. Furthermore, for an academic study, it is unfortunate that footnotes in the body are not located in the references and that quotations are offered without any sources

supplied. It would, as well, have been useful to have a concluding chapter to sum up the situation of trade unions in 1959 or to offer the author's conclusions on the trade union movement.

Dr. Lipton, who seems to favour class struggle, is very sympathetic to the trade union movement and has decided opinions about trade unionism; too frequently, however, there is excessive concern with the way things should have been in the movement rather than analysis of why they developed as they did. The author's bias, it seems, overrides his critical judgment. There remains an open field for further study on the trade union movement in Canada.

F. J. K. GRIEZIC,
Queen's University.

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LUCIEN CAMPEAU, S.J. — *Monumenta Novæ Franciæ. 1. La Première Mission d'Acadie (1602-1616)*. Rome & Québec: Apud "Monumenta Hist. Soc. Iesu" & Les Presses de l'Université Laval, 1967. 276-719 pp.

At the beginning of the seventeenth century European civilization was well embarked on its conquest of the world; only in the last half century has it been forced to retreat. In the Americas Spain had conquered Mexico and Peru, and Portugal was firmly established in Brazil. Farther North England and France had just begun to establish colonies. In 1607 the English founded the Virginia plantation and the following year Champlain established a permanent trading post at Quebec. On the Atlantic coast a similar base had earlier been established and it was here that the French clergy began their drive to convert the native population to Christianity.

The chief agency in this missionary effort was the Society of Jesus. Opinions may differ on the benefits they conferred on the Indians: whether or not they were unwitting agents of the Indians' ultimate destruction. But certainly historians are greatly in their debt. Without the extensive writings of these missionaries, and the careful preservation of not all but a great deal of them, our knowledge of this early chapter in North American history would be scanty indeed. Certainly the various editions of Jesuit documents have been the main single source, in particular that edited by Reuben Gold Thwaites in the nineteenth century. During the past half century in Canada few major collections of documents have been published, apart from the publications of the Champlain Society and those appearing in the invaluable annual *Rapports de l'Archiviste de la Province de Québec*. It is therefore most encouraging that a new edition of documents relating to the Jesuit missions in North America has been undertaken, particularly one that enjoys the benefits of very exacting modern scholarly techniques.

In 1893 the *Monumenta Historica Societatis Iesu* was established at Madrid. By 1925 sixty-one volumes of carefully edited documents, dealing