

This fault may in fact be the result of a more general flaw in the book. Tulchinsky appears to have pulled back from his manuscript too soon. The book is episodic and still reads like the thesis from which it was drawn. Too many questions, such as that of the role of French Canadians in business life and the political activities of various businessmen, remain unanswered. The latter shortcoming is, I think, fairly crucial to the interpretation set out in the book. The author indicates that substantial government aid was given to develop transportation links and industrial sites but fails to examine the necessary political arrangements which made such aid possible. These unanswered questions give the impression that the book was rushed to press before sufficient reflection upon several important points raised in the original text had occurred. Nevertheless, while Tuchinsky's volume falls short of a new general synthesis, it is still a tremendously important book which deserves reading by all scholars interested in Canadian urban, economic and business history.

R.P. Gillis
Public Records Division
Public Archives of Canada

Urban Research and Information Catalogue. 1973- Winnipeg: Manitoba
Department of Urban Affairs. \$7.50.

Background Papers on Winnipeg Government and Politics. Vol. 1 **The Development of Urban Government in the Winnipeg Area: A Collection of Materials From Government Reports and Student Research Papers**; Vol. 2 **Studies in Winnipeg Politics: A Collection of Research Papers on Various Aspects of Local Politics in the Winnipeg Area Prior to Unicity.** Edited by P.H. WICHERN, JR. [Winnipeg]: Department of Urban Affairs, Province of Manitoba, with the co-operation of the Department of Political Studies, University of Manitoba, 1973- maps. \$1.75 per volume.

Parties and Power: An Analysis of Winnipeg City Council, 1919-1975. J.E. REA. Appendix IV, *Report and Recommendations*, Committee of Review, City of Winnipeg Act. [Winnipeg]: Department of Urban Affairs, Province of Manitoba, 1976. 165, [8] p. \$4.00.

Urban history is a relatively new area of study for scholars in Canada. In 1968, in his presidential address to the Canadian Historical Association, Professor J.M.S. Careless noted that, "aside from a few books or articles, the writing of anything that may broadly be termed Canadian urban history has been left to authors of 'popular' accounts of the glory that was Montreal or the grandeur that is Toronto. . . . The usual product is still that of the journalist or chronicler: worthy people for their purposes, but not generally held as substantial scholars in other fields of history."¹ Since then, the publication of books and articles on the Canadian city has been remarkable. Moreover, several new journals devoted to urban studies have been begun, a number of conferences on Canadian urban development have been held, and urban history courses have been added to university and college programmes. Yet, for all this activity, there remains one extremely important area where there has been little progress. The development of urban archives in Canada has not been encouraging. While some cities have well-organized, well-staffed, and well-funded archives (Toronto, Montreal, Quebec, and Vancouver), and others are rapidly moving in the right direction

1 J.M.S. Careless, "Somewhat Narrow Horizons," in Canadian Historical Association, *Historical Papers 1968*, p. 2.

(Edmonton, Calgary, Kingston, and Ottawa), the general picture is still dismal.² Winnipeg is part of this picture.

Despite the fact that the City of Winnipeg is one of the oldest and largest urban centres in western Canada, the question of a proper civic archives has only been raised in the past two or three years. Consequently, it will be some time before scholars have access to all of Winnipeg's surviving records. At the moment they are stored in several places in the city. Minutes of city council are kept in a bare room in the basement of city hall along with bylaws, committee reports, assessment records and other papers and correspondence. Other records can be found in such places as safety deposit boxes in the Bank of Montreal, the engineering yard buildings, the central library, the provincial library, and the provincial archives. Some records have been "lost" or destroyed, others are in unusable form, and few are organized or catalogued. Finding aids do not exist.

Fortunately, however, the Manitoba Department of Urban Affairs has produced several guides to urban records that make the task of urban researchers and archivists a little easier. The *Urban Research and Information Catalogue*, begun in 1973 and frequently up-dated, provides a current source document of research and data collection activities in urban Manitoba. The material contained in the catalogue is drawn from municipal and provincial government departments, universities, and non-government agencies which generate urban material. Each item is annotated, and users are frequently directed to various agencies or departments for further information. In short, the catalogue is a very useful tool for researchers. It also fulfills several other functions since it can be used to determine the present state of research on urban Manitoba, to locate areas of inadequate research, and to facilitate a more co-ordinated approach to research.

The Manitoba government has also published two other volumes in a continuing series entitled *Background Papers on Winnipeg Government and Politics*. The purpose of these booklets is to provide specific information on where researchers may obtain information about Winnipeg's government and politics. Volume One contains five items; all are either previously unpublished papers dealing with the development of municipal government in Winnipeg or are parts of government reports which had a limited circulation. Together, the material provides an excellent basic framework for research. Volume Two also contains primary data but the most important item for researchers and archivists is a comprehensive review of both primary and secondary sources. This article, written by Professor P.H. Wichern of the University of Manitoba, not only indicates what material exists and where it may be found, but also suggests some of the ways the data may be analyzed and interpreted and provides a number of generalizations which could serve as the basis for further research.

Parties and Power, a further publication of the Department of Urban Affairs, consists of an analysis of politics in Winnipeg during the years 1919 to 1975, followed by no less than thirty-three appendixes. The latter include detailed data on the political affiliation and occupations of aldermen, samples of political advertising, statistics on civic elections, service records of aldermen, voting summaries, and money bylaw returns. Although Rea's analytical material is also important, the appendixes alone make the volume worthwhile since they provide, in a convenient form, a wealth of material for future research.

While guides to and reproductions of urban records will never replace proper urban archives, they certainly make the task of urban research easier. The Department of Urban Affairs is thus to be congratulated for publishing this valuable material. In spite of

2 All these archives have been reported on in recent issues of the *Urban History Review/Revue d'histoire urbaine*.

these efforts, however, much remains to be done in Winnipeg before urban records are generally accessible. The pressure for a suitable archives must come from historians, archivists, civic politicians and the general public, but the provincial government also has responsibilities in this area. Winnipeg is, after all, the most important urban centre in the province and should set an example for other Manitoba communities. Furthermore, it can be argued that unless the *province* takes the initiative in archives development, as it did in the area of municipal government re-organization with the establishment of Unicity in 1971, Winnipeg will continue to lack proper archives facilities. It is to be hoped that the growing interest of the provincial government in urban research, reflected in the publications of the urban affairs department, will soon be reflected in strong support for a city archives.

Alan F. J. Artibise
Department of History
University of Victoria

Cities of Canada. GEORGE A. NADER. [Toronto]: Macmillan of Canada, 1975-76. 2 v. ISBN 0 7705 1029 9 \$9.95; ISBN 0 7705 1239 9 \$9.95.

Professor Nader's analysis of the development of Canadian cities has important implications for archivists. He spreads three parts of his survey over two volumes: the highlights of geographical urban theory, their manifestations in the past and present Canadian experience, and their significance for anyone attempting to influence future urban development.

The first part, "Modern Urban Structure," indicates the two main approaches of the book. One is to view systems of cities at the national, regional and metropolitan level to see the interdependency of huge organisms in spatial and economic terms. This "external" theory is later (in part two) applied to the Canadian context in a historical summary illustrating the evolution of "the national urban system" of which we are part today. Metropolitanism is not merely the growth of even larger urban configurations, but the shaping and dominance of regional and national urban systems by premier cities figures heavily. So too does John A. Macdonald's national policy in the service of metropolitanism.

The rest of the first, theoretical part of the book looks inside the standard modern city by discussing the shortcomings of three traditional descriptive land use models, several major aspects of land use structure, and the functional and spatial structure of the crucial central city. The applications of the generalizations developed here are to be found in volume two, where fifteen Canadian metropolitan centres are described.

Finally, in part three comes the point of the survey, the futurology section, where the necessity and problems of urban planning are laid out. Where its practitioners might like to see a science, Nader finds the claims of urban planning to exactitude defied by the political requirements of urban government. No less necessary for all that, proper urban planning depends on a sound fiscal base, and metropolitan as well as national coordination. Nader assumes net benefits have accrued to mankind from urban organization; therefore, governing policy ought to control its costs, which are held to arise mainly in periods of rapid physical change, while maximizing its benefits.

This is a useful summary of the geographer's concerns with urban development, even if the book's organization causes frequent repetition of similar notions in the various parts. The place of history in the analysis is instructive. In only one place (p. 85) in the course of an extremely interesting discussion of the evolution of central city office buildings, does Nader admit the limitations of a paucity of historical data; yet Canadian urban historians are likely to be unanimous in decrying the uneven and generally limited extent of our published historical information about Canadian cities.