Book Notes

Journal. CANADIAN ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION/SOCIETE CANADIENNE D'HISTOIRE ORALE. Vols. 1—2; 1975/76-76/77. Ottawa. Included with membership in the Association or $3.00 per copy. (Available from the Association, P.O. Box 301, Station “A”, Ottawa, Canada K1N 8V3).

This annual publication demonstrates the advances in the practice of oral history in Canada. It carries contributions about oral history from a variety of perspectives and reflects an important ongoing discussion about the direction and future of oral history. The 1976 issue included Léo La Clare's survey of the development of oral history in Canada, Richard Lochead's "Three Approaches to Oral History: The Journalistic, the Academic, and the Archival," and Peter Oliver's penetrating and critical "Oral History: One Historian's View." The second issue grew out of the September 1976 conference of the Canadian Oral History Association and the colloquium of the Oral History Association, and includes pieces by Peter Stursberg, Bernard Ostry, Hugh Taylor, as well as Don Page's presentation about the possibilities of videotaping oral history interviews.


Both issues reveal an interest in sound recordings not limited to oral history interviews. The current bibliographic work underway on French-language and English-language CBC radio and television drama is described in separate articles by professors Pierre Pagé and Howard Fink. The activities of the French-language sound archives of CBC Montreal are traced by C.Y. Bourgon, and Jacques Gagné outlines the nature of the 1911 recordings of Indian and Eskimo chants brought to Canada from Norway by the Public Archives of Canada in 1976. In sum, there is a healthy variety in the Journal, and it is hoped that subsequent issues continue to demonstrate the vitality of oral history in Canada.

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Sound Archives
Public Archives of Canada

Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Volume IX: 1861 to 1870.

The editors of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography (DCB) have established high standards of scholarship and research from contributors, and these standards have been maintained in the most recently published volume which contains more than five hundred biographies of men and women who died between the years 1861 and 1870.