Grierson on Documentary is the third edition to appear since the original was published in 1946. The editor in all its incarnations has been Forsyth Hardy. For the first edition he provided an interesting 15 page account of Grierson's life. The second edition, published in 1966, included an expanded essay on Grierson, as well as examples of Grierson's writing and thinking during the intervening twenty years. Both editions were extensively illustrated with stills from documentary films, and brief forewords to each section were appended by the editor. The second edition was, incidentally, 411 pages long, contained 57 photos, and in its hardcover version cost $8.50.

The third edition is an abridged version of the second, published simultaneously with the Documentary Biography. The introductory essay has been cut to six pages; twelve articles found in the second edition have been removed, as have the editor's section introductions; there are no photos; and the softcover price is $8.75.

Without knowing Grierson's available output of writing it is however difficult to argue with Hardy's choice of material. But Hardy himself admits (in the Documentary Biography) to having found a 60,000 word unpublished manuscript written during the Second World War by Grierson on the subject of documentary: could not this have been excerpted and included in the new edition? As it is, the document remains unpublished and available only at Stirling University. Nor are there any transcripts of the many interviews which Grierson apparently gave while at McGill. Further, it might have been instructive had the script of one or more of his Wonderful World television programmes been included. This would perhaps have allowed us to see the man in action as well as in more contemplative mood.

It is discouraging to give these two volumes such negative reviews. Mr Hardy has obviously worked hard to amass his documentation, much of which is now through his efforts available in the Grierson Archives at Stirling University in Britain. Possibly the publishers realized that the biography was of limited interest, for one notes that funding was received from the Scottish Arts Council in aid of its publication; the sale price alone will discourage many from purchasing it. Nonetheless, anyone interested in documentary film will have to read the biography to get a fairly detailed chronology of Grierson's career; but for Grierson on Documentary one should purchase the current truncated edition only if a copy of the second can't be located.

Andrew Rodger
Public Archives of Canada


This checklist ought to be a basic reference tool for all archives and libraries. The city, county, provincial and national directories listed in it are a little-known source whose potential has yet to be fully exploited. A 1966 encounter with directories showed what a rewarding source of biographical data they could be—provided that one treats them with caution. The individual's occupation is usually given, and often the names of children and spouses will appear. Spelling errors may mislead the uncritical reader, and conclusions drawn from the disappearance of a name in later editions must be corroborated with information from other sources. A great discovery for this reviewer was the listing of deaths of the previous year which was included at the end of the Toronto directories in the late nineteenth century. From that, it was possible to locate obituary notices in newspapers and to solve not a few problems for the biographical dictionary published under the somewhat misleading title The Canadian Directory of Parliament (Ottawa, 1967).
The introductory notes for the Checklist give only a scant idea of the benefits and shortcomings of the directories, as well as their infinite variety. The reliability, thoroughness and accuracy of the information published depended on methods of compilation, editorial policy and other factors which may not be known to us today. As commercial ventures, they were planned with profit in mind and may have included only the names of subscribers. The introduction, acknowledgements and explanation offer only a few tantalizing remarks about the potential of the directories, and in rather a peculiar arrangement. The value of the directories as a source for local history is acknowledged (page vi), but possible disadvantages are not. The comment about incomplete coverage (page v) is not followed up. For those unfamiliar with directories, further mention could have been made of their occasional peculiarities.

Dorothy Ryder has provided a great service in compiling the Checklist and the bilingual format will make it available to a wide audience. Unfortunately, there are a great many flaws in the presentation of information about a source which experience suggests is too little known or understood, and likely to remain so despite Miss Ryder's efforts.

The beginner will be troubled by the table of contents, which follows neither an alphabetic nor a geographic sequence of provinces. Further, the subdivisions—regions, districts, counties, townships and towns—are identified in separate tables for each province, tables which are placed immediately before the listing for the individual provinces. These breakdowns would be more use and much less frustrating if combined with the main table of contents and presented in a coherent, consistent order: going from largest to smallest geographical division, or vice versa. Using a subtitle page that is virtually blank (as p. 283) can lead to serious misconceptions about the presence or absence of information. Location codes for institutions are presented in alphabetical order within the listing for each province (pages xiv-xvi), and most fortunately not in the idiosyncratic order of the tables of contents. Surely one rule of filing could have been followed throughout.

Puzzlement may be caused by the use of codes and symbols. The National Library's alphabetic codes to identify institutions is fairly easy to master, although no explanation is offered for the uninitiated. A reference to their free booklet explaining the codes (which the National Library refers to as symbols) would be very helpful. Altogether, the use of codes, abbreviations and symbols is not well explained. Page xi demonstrates confusion in explaining use of the asterisk (there described as a star, and not illustrated). The explanation would be of much greater use if placed with the location code listings (pages xiv-xvi). No explanation is offered for the use of the question mark. Its application sometimes leaves the reader wondering what is being questioned— which may be an indication of unfamiliarity with library usage but librarians will not be the sole users of this volume. Finally, a comment must be made about the use of ‘Con.’ as an abbreviation for ‘continued’, as it looks confusingly like an abbreviation for ‘county’ and is not listed with other abbreviations (see p. xvii).

Historical notes on the provinces would have been of great help to those who do not have historical geography at their fingertips. The note on the union of mainland British Columbia with Vancouver Island is satisfactory; the absence of notes for Quebec and Ontario is most unsatisfactory. These provinces were identified previously (page 1) as successors to the province of Canada (1841-1867), but no cross reference was made in the reverse direction. The notes explaining the term “North West Territories” and its application in western Canada could have been expanded and applied more consistently.

Cross-references are a major problem in this Checklist. When given, they appear at the end of the listing for a place and are very easily missed when the listing is long. Surely it would not have been difficult to insert them in chronological sequence, or to have put a general note at the beginning of the section. We are all prone to leaf through first and to be systematic about consulting the table of contents or index only when our search is frus-
trated. And frustrating it is, to search for the 1857-58 and 1862-63 Canada directories. Many people are likely to give up when their search is not soon rewarded.

The checklist represents a massive piece of research accomplished by Dorothy Ryder with the co-operation of her many correspondents. It is therefore the more regrettable that the presentation is not equal to the quality of research behind it. Not even her bibliography is consistently and correctly laid out. A revised edition is surely in order.

Patricia Kennedy
Public Archives of Canada


The Home Children: Their Personal Stories. PHYLLIS HARRISON.

The British Child Emigration Movement first sent neglected children to Canada in 1868. A steady flow of juveniles continued until the outbreak of World War II. The two books reviewed here concern themselves with two quite different aspects of this movement. Gillian Wagner has written a penetrating biography of the founder of an institution which was the most active practitioner of juvenile emigration. Phyllis Harrison has edited the personal stories of many of the "beneficiaries" of this adolescent exportation. Together Barnardo and The Home Children provide new insights into an issue which needs further investigation before a balanced judgement can be made on its merit.

Philanthropists, social reformers and evangelists were continually seeking ways to alleviate the chronic pauperism that plagued British urban centres in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The rise of industrialism with its dramatic impact on the demographic and social patterns in Britain contributed to an increase in the number of people who required some type of social welfare. Traditional state and private welfare agencies were totally unable to cope with the increased demands on their services. A number of individuals such as Dr. Thomas J. Barnardo responded to the obvious need for improvements by launching a missionary effort within the slums of Britain. Driven on by a sense of mission, Barnardo and the others tried to rescue children with no family or guardians or whose parents were unable or unwilling to care for them.

In her biographical study Gillian Wagner investigates both the motivation and the methods used by this man in his quest to ameliorate the deplorable conditions experienced by Britain's neglected children. The book focuses on the numerous schemes developed by Dr. Barnardo in his attempt to assist these waifs and strays. He utilized residential schools, cottage homes, training ships and "boarding out" to provide these children with rudimentary education and a trade. While Barnardo did not originate juvenile emigration, he did refine and adapt the existing crude system to such a degree that Barnardo Homes were responsible for nearly one third of the over one hundred thousand juvenile emigrants sent to Canada.

Barnardo in an extremely well researched book. Some previously untapped sources were discovered by the author and all the customary material was consulted. By demonstrating a wide knowledge of archival sources, newspaper, periodicals and books the author supplants many of the myths and legends popularized by earlier biographers with conclusive factual evidence. Wagner corrects several widely held misconceptions about Barnardo's personal history and his public activities. His origins in Ireland, along with his early work in London are thoroughly examined. These critical assessments are made despite the author's close ties with the institution that her subject founded. Wagner