

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.

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Barnardo GILLIAN WAGNER London: Weidenfeld at Nicolson, 1979. xv, 344p. ill. ISBN 0 297 77561 8 \$24.95.

The Home Children: Their Personal Stories. PHYLLIS HARRISON.
Winnipeg: Watson and Dwyer, 1979. 271p. ISBN 0 920486 045 \$8.50 pa.

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 is 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

has served as Chairman of the Executive Finance Committee of Barnardo's Homes and is now Chairman of the Council. The author aired her reservations about the "danger of being over-defensive" but she fulfills her goal of writing a "critical assessment of the life and achievements" of the man.

Barnardo is written from a British perspective and with the purpose of examining the accomplishments of one individual. The book necessarily offers only a partial explanation of Canada's reception of juvenile immigrants. Wagner made use of some Canadian records, especially the Federal Immigration Branch records, but for the most part her conclusions present no new interpretations of the controversy which developed in this country. The opponents of the scheme are mentioned but this is one area which requires more research. The major contribution of this book in terms of Canadian interest is the useful information it provides regarding the motives and methods of the individuals who instituted the British Child Emigration Movement.

The Home Children is a very different book from *Barnardo*. The approach taken and the format used stand in vivid contrast to Wagner's book. Yet Phyllis Harrison strives towards the same goal of increasing public awareness of a little known historical event. In order to emphasize the fact that thousands of British children were distributed throughout Canada, Harrison has produced a collection of letters from Home Children and their descendants. The book, subtitled *Their Personal Stories* is just that, the personal experiences of over one hundred individuals who came to Canada under the auspices of British emigration agencies.

The Home Children is filled with literary descriptions and visual illustrations of what life was like for Canada's youngest immigrants. The loneliness and alienation experienced by almost every child are dramatically revealed. The stigma attached to these children is also something which has never been forgotten. Such views are seldom conveyed through existing archival material. There are few sources which preserve this fast disappearing knowledge, few biographies or autobiographies and fewer diaries have been produced by this group. It is important, therefore, that all available sources of information regarding the impressions of juvenile immigrants themselves be located and preserved.

While Harrison must be commended for her efforts to safeguard a valuable storehouse of knowledge, the method by which she presents this evidence elicits some criticism. The shot-gun like approach used by the author leaves the reader unsatisfied. The sheer number of stories as well as their brevity (they vary in length from one half page to six pages) blunts their usefulness. One is left with a desire for more information or elaboration on certain details. Perhaps interviews with a selection of respondents would have produced more satisfactory results. A second criticism stems from the use of anecdotes supplied second or even third hand by children and grandchildren of the original Home Child. These cast some doubt as to their complete accuracy. Despite these problems and the lack of analysis provided by the author, the book stands as an innovative means of arousing interest in the subject of juvenile immigration.

The criticisms levelled at *The Home Children* stem from a wish that more information be revealed. Phyllis Harrison, however, is working on a second book, soon to be published, which will satisfy the desire for more information. This book will examine the entire history of child immigration. There are in fact several other works in the offing which will shed further light on the subject. Joy Parr, who aided Gillian Wagner with her Canadian research, will soon publish a book based on her doctoral thesis "Home Children, Juvenile Immigration to Canada, 1868-1924" (Yale, 1977). This work will augment the existing complement of British and Canadian publications.

For the most part, existing literature concentrates on the administrative side of the movement. This is in part due to available sources and partially due to the motives of the

authors. Complementary biographies or autobiographies like J. Wesley Bready's *Dr. Barnardo* (1930) and Lillian Birt's *The Children's Home-Finder* (1913) were written to advertise or justify the use of such dramatic relief measures. *Emigration from the British Isles* (1929) by W.A. Carrothers and *Education for Empire Settlement: A Study of Juvenile Emigration* (1932) were clinical, academic investigations of the problems encountered by the agencies and governments involved. More recent British works by individuals such as Wagner and Ivy Pinchbeck, *Children in English Society* (1969), employ a wide variety of sources and reflect the influences of social history. Canadian scholars have recently begun to examine the question of child immigration in order to discover more about the fabric of their own society. Neil Sutherland in his *Children in English Canadian Society* (1976) examines the treatment given to juvenile immigrants and compares this to the experiences of native Canadian children. These juvenile immigrants are used to demonstrate nineteenth century attitudes to the influence of heredity and environment on child rearing. Sutherland and other Canadian authors tend to adopt a sociological approach in dealing with the Homes Children question. Themes such as the role of the family and societal attitudes towards children are frequently addressed. Questions such as the impact of juvenile immigration on Canada's economy, the distribution system used to transport children from Britain to Canada and more importantly the overall benefits of child immigration still await conclusive answers.

Private and public archival repositories in Britain and Canada contain sources which will supply many of the answers to these and other questions. Government records, manuscript collections of agents, officials, churches and other participants retain valuable information. Some have not been discovered yet, while others have restrictions which will eventually be removed. Authors such as Phyllis Harrison have demonstrated that there is much to be learned from interviews and correspondence with individuals who were former child immigrants. Gillian Wagner demonstrates that diligent research can reward the author with untapped sources that reveal new details about the subject. It is hoped that others will attempt to locate and analyse this new material.

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A Rare Book Saga. The Autobiography of H.P. Kraus. H.P. Kraus. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1978. 386 p. ill. ISBN 399 12064 5 \$20.50.

At the beginning of the Epilogue to his *Autobiography* H.P. Kraus remarks: "Readers may understandably get the impression that I am interested only in making money." He then goes on to explain that he really only considers the accumulation of wealth as a means whereby he is allowed to possess the great manuscripts and rare printed books which have established his reputation as a dealer and, as he is at pains to point out at considerable length, a collector of the first rank. This attempt to disarm the reader late in the book does not, however, entirely remove the impression that has developed through Kraus's long recounting of personal triumphs, each one seemingly more profitable than the last.

H.P. Kraus considers himself to be in the direct line of succession as the foremost rare book dealer in the world, inheriting the mantle once worn by Bernard Quaritch and A.S.W. Rosenbach. Although there are a few of his colleagues who would vigorously dispute the general claim, it is true that like his predecessors Kraus has established an international reputation for paying the highest prices for the greatest books and manuscripts at the most significant auctions of the last twenty-five years. The saga of the three Dyson Perrins sales, held from 1958 to 1960, is recounted with gusto by Kraus, who bought the three best medieval illuminated manuscripts from the splendid collection