

asures by right-wing forces and our liberties, in part, are due to the efforts of such LSR figures. Today, as then, our liberties seem in jeopardy and vigilance is as necessary as ever.

As a political scientist reviewing Horn's book, it is evident that he is strongest as a social historian and weakest in his efforts to provide textual analysis of political themes in LSR publications. Given Horn's efforts throughout the book to provide an evaluation in a contemporary setting, he should have dwelt more upon the excessive centralism of the LSR's proposals and have offered more detailed criticisms. His assertion that LSR figures "were not unconscious of the dangers of bureaucratization" (p. 86) lacks sufficient documentation and for good reason. Unfortunately, Canadian socialism had no equivalent of the British decentralist guild socialists, who were able to present an alternative socialist vision to the centralism and elitism of the Fabians. Horn is also incorrect in his assertion that *Social Planning For Canada* contains no references to Marx. Actually, there is one solitary reference, but this is a minor mistake. More importantly, Horn is quite accurate in noting the non-Marxian orientation of the LSR. The FCSO and the LSR gave the Canadian left a decidedly social gospel orientation. Horn justifiably criticizes recent efforts by some Marxist academics to rewrite history and deny the legitimacy of this variant of Canadian socialism. It is historically inaccurate to dismiss the LSR and the CCF as 'mere liberals in a hurry'. They were committed to substantial public ownership, state planning, an abolition of class inequality and the emergence of a more 'co-operative commonwealth'.

Perhaps the most serious disagreement with Horn is over his portrayal of J.S. Woodsworth. Several times Underhill's urging that the CCF become a centralized party with full-time staff is contrasted with Woodsworth's decentralism (pp. 47, 60, 127). Echoing many other authors on the CCF, Horn downplays Woodsworth's willingness, when necessary, to be a firm party leader stressing party discipline and the powers of central party officials. In 1934 Woodsworth purged the entire Ontario CCF provincial council and at the joint LSR-CCF meeting of 28 March 1936, Woodsworth consistently "stressed the need for greater discipline, and if necessary, expulsion of disloyal members". A more balanced account of Woodsworth is long overdue. It is disappointing that Horn did not rectify this imbalance.

Despite the aforementioned criticisms, Horn's *League for Social Reconstruction* stands as an outstanding scholarly work on the early history of the democratic left in Canada. As well written as Walter Young's *Anatomy of a Party*, it deserves wider distribution and should be printed as a paperback.

Alan Whitehorn
Department of Political and Economic Science
Royal Military College of Canada

History of Canadian Cities. Edited by ALAN F.J. ARTIBISE. Toronto: James Lorimer in cooperation with the National Museum of Man.

Alan F.J. Artibise, **Winnipeg : An Illustrated History** (1977). 224 p. ISBN 0 8862 150 7 bd. \$24.95, 0 8862 151 5 pa. \$11.95.

Max Foran, **Calgary : An Illustrated History** (1978). 192 p. ISBN 0 8862 233 3 bd. \$24.95.

Patricia E. Roy, **Vancouver : An Illustrated History** (1980). 190 p. ISBN 0 8862 388 7 bd. \$24.95.

Is it possible to capture the spirit of a city in words and photographs? Given that a city develops in response to its geography and its population, and that the population in-

cludes thousands of individuals of different ages, occupations and interests, how does one choose which events and which pictures are most representative?

The new National Museum series attempts to answer this question. Its objective is to offer Canadians "a stimulating insight into the country's urban past" by means of books that are "attractive. . . and readable." The format is standardized: a concise history of the city describing its political, economic and social development; a wealth and variety of photographs; a selection of maps; an appendix of statistical tables relating particularly to population growth; and suggestions for further reading. The Calgary and Vancouver books also include a note on the photographers. The quality of the reproductions is very good; the reader is often surprised that photographs taken almost a century ago were able to achieve such clarity. Furthermore, the presentation of maps in all three books is excellent.

Alan Artibise, as well as being General Editor of the series, is the author of the volume on Winnipeg. He traces the development of the area from the days of Lord Selkirk in the early 1800s, through to the incorporation of Winnipeg in 1873, and in greater detail recounts the history of this city until the 1970s. He discusses economic development, the influence of the railways, the growth of population and its ethnic diversity. His outline of civic politics includes some interesting anecdotes about Winnipeg's first mayor, Francis Evans Cornish. In the aftermath of World War I, there occurred the Winnipeg General Strike, a pivotal event in the history of the city, which is studied in detail. The Depression, which is vividly portrayed, is followed by World War II, and the generally happier but still challenging postwar years. Cultural life is also covered, and the book concludes with a review of the achievements of organizations such as the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, individual writers such as Margaret Laurence, and athletic teams such as the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

Illustrations include photographs of the beautiful homes of J.H. Ashdown and A.N. Nanton. Social historians will enjoy a picture of sunbathers at the Winnipeg Beach, ca. 1912; the only portion of the anatomy that could become sunburnt was the nose. There are some classic photographs of the General Strike, 1919, including several of "Bloody Saturday" and the overturned streetcar. The shell of the Winnipeg Theatre, destroyed by fire in December 1926, is dramatically portrayed, covered with icicles. The story of the Depression is shown in part, by vegetable gardens planted in the grounds of the Legislative Buildings in 1938. There are graphic pictures of people canoeing along the streets during the 1950 flood, and a humorous one of the last electric streetcar, painted to look like a human face in tears, 1955. One of the most unusual shows members of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet doing a dance routine on top of a bus, ca. 1950.

Calgary's history is chronicled by Max Foran, with photographs selected by Edward Cavell. Foran begins with a sensitive account of the life of the Indians who occupied the area before the North West Mounted Police arrived. Following the incorporation of Calgary in 1884, the author describes the physical growth of "Sandstone City", relations with the Canadian Pacific Railway, civic politics, and the disappointment of Calgary when Edmonton, a smaller city than Calgary at the time, was chosen to be the capital of Alberta. The contribution of Eugene Coste, the "father of the natural gas industry in western Canada", is noted; Coste discovered natural gas near Lethbridge in 1908. The history continues through World War I, the Depression, Social Credit, World War II, and the postwar years, to the phenomenal growth and wealth resulting from the oil boom. In recent years, Calgary is described as becoming the most "Americanized" of Canadian cities.

Notable illustrations include a photograph of the Sarcee encampment near Calgary in the 1890s, and the living quarters of the British American Ranch (once the Cochrane Ranch), ca. 1886. Some of the topics of the Winnipeg book are repeated in this one: elegant homes are represented by that of William Roper Hull, in the early 1900s;

beaches by a shot of the Bowness Park swimming pool, August 1930. An example of athletic facilities is the Calgary ski jump, erected on the Exhibition grounds, 1920, and a touching illustration of social welfare agencies is a photograph of a Victorian Order of Nurses baby clinic, ca. 1912. In the early years there are several pictures of Calgary as a frontier town; in recent times there are several of oil derricks and a skyline stubbed by highrises. The natural beauty of Calgary is shown in the Bow River valley and the distant mountains. Cavell, in his note on photographers, pays tribute to W.H. Boorne, one of the first photographers in Calgary (in the 1880s and 1890s), and the early twentieth century photographers W.J. Oliver and Harry Pollard. Unfortunately most of the illustrations do not indicate who the photographer was.

Patricia Roy's history of Vancouver traces the early days on the Pacific coast to the incorporation of Vancouver in 1886 and through to World War I, including a discussion of race relations and the *Komagatu Maru*. The career of Vancouver's famous mayor G.G. McGeer is recounted in detail. There is mention of Charles Lindbergh's refusal to visit Vancouver in 1928 because the landing facilities were not adequate, and the impetus thus given to the construction of a new airport on Sea Island. During the Depression, Vancouver became the "Mecca of the unemployed"; the problems and challenges of this situation are discussed. The expulsion of the Japanese from the coastal area during World War II is briefly noted. The story continues to the 1970s, where cultural life is well represented. Anne Carscallen assisted with the photographic research and wrote the note on photographers, which pays special tribute to Philip Timms and Leonard Frank. As an example of their work, there is a beautiful photograph of Frank in the Rockies, ca. 1924. One wishes there had been a similar photograph of him or a colleague in Vancouver. Notable illustrations of Vancouver include one of B.T. Rogers' home, including in the driveway a large horse being ridden by a relatively tiny child in typical turn-of-the-century clothing. The Indian poetess Pauline Johnson and several others are shown in front of the "Hollow Tree" in Stanley Park. Another photograph shows the Lion's Gate Bridge under construction. There are also many pictures showing the natural beauty of Vancouver. Admirers of Len Norris will be delighted by the inclusion of several of his cartoons relating to civic politics. And one of the most original photographs shows Mayor Tom Campbell swinging on a wrecker's ball, during a recent renovation project.

All three books present a well-written and comprehensive history of three of Canada's major cities, and are illustrated with skill, sensitivity and often with humour. The books aim at an overview, and the stories are concise; readers looking for details about a particular event or biographical information about a particular citizen will have to look further. For example, the Winnipeg book says little about the Red River rebellion of 1869-70, and the Vancouver book devotes only a few lines to the great fire of 1886. But provided these terms of reference are understood, readers will find these books attractive, informative and entertaining.

Grace Maurice Hyam
Manuscripts Division
Public Archives of Canada

Robert Laird Borden : A Biography. ROBERT CRAIG BROWN, Toronto: Macmillan. Volume One: 1854-1914 (1975), 306 p., illus. ISBN 0 7705 1317 4 \$24.95.
Volume Two: 1914-1937 (1980), 256 p., illus. ISBN 0 7705 1854 0 \$24.95.

Robert Laird Borden was Canada's eighth Prime Minister, a lawyer from Nova Scotia who guided Canada throughout World War I and aided in our development as an independent nation. Craig Brown has just completed the first full treatment of Borden since his death nearly fifty years ago.