

III extend only from August 12th to September 25th, 1858, and the caption for the group photograph of the Legislative Council of British Columbia in volume V refers to the "Seventh Council" instead of to the "Seventh Session" of the Council.

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**Reflections on the Symons Report: The State of Canadian Studies in 1980.** A Report Prepared for the Department of the Secretary of State of Canada by JAMES E. PAGE, 1981. x, 236 pp. ISBN 0-662-11608-9.

Professor T.H.B. Symons, Chairman of the Commission on Canadian Studies appointed in 1972, released his report *To Know Ourselves* in 1976. Four years later, James E. Page, a lecturer in the Canadian Studies Program at Seneca College and President of the Association for Canadian Studies, prepared this report in an effort to document the impact of the Symons Report and to "review...current work being done to advance teaching, research and publication about Canada." Page has examined several major areas of concern, including the responses of government agencies, Canadian studies programs at various universities, the activities of concerned national organizations, the responses of certain journals and disciplinary/professional bodies, Canadian studies abroad, and Canadian studies and archives. Although there are passing references to the state of Canadian archives throughout the report, Page follows the model of the Symons Report and devotes a chapter to what Symons saw as the foundation of Canadian studies. In this chapter, Page focuses on four groups in the Canadian archival community and their responses to Symons. First, he deals with the responses of the Association of Canadian Archivists by summarizing the highlights of the ACA select Committee's report *The Symons Report and Canadian Archives*, briefly describing the panel discussion on the Symons Report at the 1977 annual meeting and reporting on the activities of the ACA's Committees on Education, Business Archives, and University and College Archives. Secondly, he summarizes the report of the Consultative Group on Archives. Thirdly, he discusses the response of the Public Archives of Canada to the fourteen recommendations in the Symons Report specifically directed to PAC. Finally, he describes the regional system put in place by the Archives nationales du Québec, and suggests that other provinces would do well to consider a system with similar potential. In his summary to the chapter, Page stresses the impact of the Symons Report on archivists, and points out that "no other professional body has been so engaged by *To Know Ourselves*." However, despite the debate and response which Symons engendered, Page cannot help but agree with the conclusion of the Consultative Group—that if the future of Canadian studies rests on the Canadian archival system, it rests on an insecure foundation. Page makes some specific suggestions about what further steps must be taken to improve the situation. He also emphasizes the need for support from the Canadian studies community to improve the state of Canadian archives. But much remains to be done. In other words, this report does not really tell us anything that we do not already know. Apparently two more volumes will be forthcoming from Professor Symons, and it will be interesting to see if these volumes will have more to say about archives. In the meantime, Page's report is a useful summary of what has happened in response to Symons. Unfortunately its pedestrian, repetitive style and somewhat gloomy conclusions do not provide inspiring reading.

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