

Pomerania and West Prussia, areas Lee-Whiting has stated were settled and cleared only in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. One would therefore expect the emigrants to have been more familiar with log construction than their British counterparts. A comparison of log construction styles, floor plans, and carpentry techniques in Canada with those at home, such as that undertaken by Terry G. Jordan in *American Log Buildings: An Old World Heritage*, is still needed.

Nonetheless, *Harvest of Stones* is a considerable achievement and a stimulatingly original study of a long-ignored immigrant group.

Bruce S. Elliott
Queen's University

The Prairie West: Historical Readings. DOUGLAS FRANCIS and HOWARD PALMER, eds. Edmonton: University of Alberta Press, 1985. xiii, 660 p. ISBN 0-88864-048-X \$21.00 pa.

In the past few years quite a number of collections of articles on the history of Western Canada have been published. Most of them were the outgrowth of conferences, principally the Western Canadian Studies Conferences; others were collections produced as a tribute to the contributors' teachers; while still others have been collections of the "best" articles from a specific journal. With all this activity in the publication of collected articles on Western Canadian history one can, with some justification, ask why the editors of *The Prairie West* felt it necessary to put together yet another collection. The answer is that this is a collection with a difference. It was created to be used as a text for an introductory course in the history of the prairies. Unlike most of the other collections limited to a conference theme, an epoch in history, or the scholarly interests of the students of one professor, this publication presents a selection of essays which encompass the recorded history of the prairies. As such it is intended to provide "students with the latest scholarship on major topics of interest in a survey course on the history of prairie Canada." (p. xiii)

Of the thirty-two articles in this collection all except the first one, Gerald Friesen's "Recent Historical Writing on the Prairie West," have been published previously in a variety of books and periodicals. While most of the articles were originally published in the 1970s and 1980s, the earliest "The Evolution of the Social Credit Movement" by John Irving was first published in 1948 and three others appeared in the 1960s. Nevertheless the editors' claim that the book presents the latest scholarship on major topics in prairie history appears to be fully justified. The list of contributors is a veritable "Who's Who" of Western Canadian scholars, though inevitably there are some names one might have expected to appear that are not among the chosen few. No doubt some will find fault with the selection but on the whole the editors have done a good job and have brought together an impressive collection of articles.

In order to assist the student, the book is organized chronologically into fourteen sections, each of which is introduced by a short article. The introduction places the section in its historical context and provides an overview of the articles included in the section as well as a comprehensive and useful bibliography of other articles relating to the field. The book begins appropriately with a section on historiography and ends with sections on the modern West, its politics, economics, literature, and art. The remaining sections are arranged in chronological order and provide a good overview of the history of the prairie

West. There is only one article specifically about women and that is Veronica Strong Boag's article on Nellie McClung and her role in the rise and decline of the feminist movement in the 1920s. There is nothing on World War II but a good deal on Western alienation in the postwar period which was, of course, an important development in prairie history.

The reader will have concluded, rightly, that, despite some shortcomings, I am pleased with this book and I think it makes an important contribution to prairie history. If nothing else it brings together in a logical sequence a series of disparate but important articles on prairie history and makes them easily accessible. The articles are at times pedestrian but at other times incisive and provocative. The editors have not hesitated to include articles that have differing, even contrary, views, which will certainly alert the student to the fact that there is more than one way of interpreting our history. I am disappointed that the depression years on the prairies are covered only by two articles which deal with the rise of the CCF and the Social Credit party. I would like to see something on what it was like to live on the prairies during that awesome era of our history. I find it slightly disturbing to have some variation in population statistics cited by Paul Voisey and Alan Artibise in the section on the urbanization of the prairies, but I suppose this only shows that caution is necessary in dealing with statistics. In summation, then, this is a good book which should serve as an excellent introductory text.

Doug Bocking
Saskatchewan Archives Board
Saskatoon

Yukon Wildlife: A Social History. ROBERT G. McCANDLESS. Edmonton: The University of Alberta Press, 1985. xvii, 200 p. illus. ISBN 0-88864-093-5 \$14.95.

I read *Yukon Wildlife* while studying trapping during a very cold week in February in a native community in northern Alberta. There is a history in that part of Alberta, as in the Yukon, of wildlife legislation and regulations designed to protect diverse interests, with the interests of the aboriginal users of wildlife — and sometimes even of the wildlife itself — not always considered to have been paramount. It seemed fitting to be reviewing Robert McCandless's book while pursuing contemporary research on the same subject.

McCandless intends to show how Yukon wildlife legislation has developed in response to various constraints and concerns defined by a broader social, political, and economic context. His book is based on a report which he prepared for the Yukon government in 1977. The theme of his study can be summed up in his statement that "the abundance and diversity of the Yukon's wildlife have absorbed the efforts made to manage it." (p. xi) His book is also very personal. He is a long-time Yukon resident, and his narrative contains many personal recollections. Indeed, the reader gets a sense that this information is in some ways a formal rendering of today's collective Yukon oral tradition about its recent past.

The author divides his study into five sections: an introduction to European wildlife law; an overview of Yukon game law; the history of big game hunting; the history of fur trapping; and a summary analytical chapter. He sets the stage for his analysis by tracing