
James Gray has written a number of books which focus on the development of the Canadian West. They include The Winter Years and Red Lights on the Prairies. His latest work, which concerns the history of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede, is in the tradition of his earlier works. Gray outlines the hundred-year history of the annual event in an anecdotal style. Rather than attempting any analysis of the Stampede phenomenon, Gray concentrates on detailing the unusual personalities involved in the Stampede's development and on recounting events that have made particular Stampede celebrations memorable.

Gray has chosen not to footnote his study, nor does he provide a bibliography. The work is noteworthy, however, for its use of the Glenbow's extensive photograph collection. The book would appeal to individuals interested in a general overview of the Calgary Stampede's history.


Most of the essays in this book originated at a conference jointly sponsored by the Canadian History of Education Association and the United States' History of Education Society which was held in Vancouver in 1983. The articles are grouped by theme: historiography and educational reform; literary and female education; native people and education; schoolmasters; reformers and ideology; rural education and ethnicity. As Donald Wilson indicates in his introduction, taken together, these articles give an overview of the general state of research interests in the study of the history of Canadian education. Wilson himself has discarded the notion of social control as central to the understanding of Canadian educational history and most of the articles in this particular collection seem also to reject that conceptual framework in order to examine how individuals or groups acted in relation to, or in spite of, existing educational norms.


To mark the centennial of the Métis uprising led by Louis Riel, Canadian Ethnic Studies has published a special issue devoted to studies related to the Métis. The articles cover a variety of disciplines. Of particular note is Irene Spry's "The 'Memories' of George William Sanderson, 1846-1936." Spry has transcribed and edited Sanderson's memories of life in Western Canada from the 1860s through the first quarter of the century. Sanderson, a Métis, comments on the events at the Red River settlement in 1870 as well as on the Riel uprising of 1885.

In an exercise in policy analysis, Sally M. Weaver provides a study of federal government policy development for Métis and non-status Indians (Federal Policy-Making for Métis and Non-status Indians in the Context of Native Policy). Weaver discusses the development and ultimate failure of the Consultative Group on Métis and Non-status
Indians’ Socio-Economic Development to deal with problems facing Métis. Other articles in the issue include a study by Glen Campbell of the image of the Métis in the poetry of Louis Riel, a profile of Alexander Kennedy Isbister by Barry Cooper, and a statistical study of Métis settlement patterns in the Red River area between 1870 and 1885 by P.R. Mailhot and D.N. Sprague.


This guide presents a full range of sources on the original American Nonpartisan League which began organizing farmers in North Dakota in 1915. As an agrarian protest movement, it was successful in assuming control of North Dakota’s government for long enough to establish its programme of state-owned industries. Although the movement spread throughout the United States and Canada, its power began to dissipate shortly after its initial political success in North Dakota. The bibliography is concerned uniquely with the league, which was active from 1915 to 1922. Included in the listing of sources are books, articles, pamphlets and ephemera, periodicals, records from court cases, government publications, archival and manuscript collections, theses, and related unpublished papers. The bibliography contains Canadian as well as American sources.


In its continuing effort to collect documents relating to modern British history, McMaster University Library acquired in 1983 from Joan Woods, the widow of Oliver Woods, papers relating to the careers of J.L. Garvin, Frank Waters, and Oliver Woods. All three men had been involved in British journalism. Joan Woods had also been married to Frank Waters, and J.L. Garvin was the stepfather of Oliver Woods. It was through her that these collections were brought together.

This issue of the Library Research News contains the finding aids for only the Garvin and Waters series of the archive, which accounts for 18 of its 132 boxes. Two forthcoming issues will deal with the Oliver Woods series. J.L. Garvin served as editor of the weekly Observer from 1908 to 1942, but the series described in this publication seems to contain little material directly related to that aspect of his life. Rather, the greatest portion of the series contains correspondence between Garvin and Viola Woods, who was Oliver Woods’s mother and Garvin’s second wife. Frank Waters was assistant manager of The Times from 1945 to 1950 and later moved to the position of managing editor of the News Chronicle. As well as extensive correspondence between Frank and Joan Woods, this series also contains Waters’s journals and diaries for the period 1936 to 1954.


The Canadian Labour Archives Bulletin is produced by the Canadian Committee of Labour Archivists. Its aim is to keep its membership informed of events and publications