

of the Board of Broadcast Governors, Andrew Stewart.

The book's detailed examination of broadcasting policy is of obvious interest to students of both public administration and communications. However, it has a wider importance. Peers describes the evolution of Canadian broadcasting from a public service to a system increasingly concerned with commercial gain. At the end of this study, he questions whether the broadcasting structures and policies as they have developed in Canada are adequate to meet the needs of the 1980s. As he notes, in an age on the threshold of pay-TV, video recordings, and the possibility of international satellite penetration, all potential threats to Canadian expression, we must urgently decide which broadcasting tradition, the public or private eye, best serves the national interest and the citizen.

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The Shaping of Peace: Canada and the Search for World Order, 1943-1957.

Volume 1. JOHN W. HOLMES Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1979. xvi, 340 p. ISBN 0 8020 5461 7 \$25.00.

Not long ago an American writer wrote a study about the post-World War II decade which he called *The Best Years*. For us too, those years present an ever more agreeable face. There were, of course, many warts: the anti-communist zeal, the blandness of popular culture, and a self-confidence about our values that seemed so arrogant to those who did not share them. And yet our choices were clearer, our ends worthier, and our dreams much fresher than today. For a Canadian diplomat like John Holmes, the post-war period brought unique opportunities to make a better world. Unlike Canadian diplomats of the sixties and seventies, Holmes and his colleagues believed that they could affect international decisions and that what they were doing had the support of their countrymen politicians. Canadians knew that they could not ignore what happened beyond our borders. This feeling did not derive simply from bad memories of the past but also from an awareness of the new forces and dangers in international affairs. Canada thus joined enthusiastically in what Holmes calls the shaping of peace and the search for world order.

Holmes has not written a memoir (the first person almost disappears after the preface), but this is a book that does reflect his wide experience and his deep knowledge of diplomatic practice. He has also checked his memory and broadened his perspective by consulting diplomatic records of the period. The Department of External Affairs records were opened to him, and these were the major source for this study; but, as Holmes, with characteristic candour, admits, "I have graciously left to scholars a considerable range of records unexamined." These unexamined records include the Pearson, St. Laurent and King papers as well as those of more minor actors of the period. Holmes also has not consulted British or American archives which hold many documents illuminating those nations' policies towards Canada. What he has used very well are numerous theses, papers, and secondary works, most of them recent. As a result, his work generally reflects the latest research, and it seems unlikely that a person with Holmes' outlook would have written a different book if he had seen all the documents. Scholars may disagree with that outlook. They may also add new details on many of the issues discussed in this book, but I doubt that future scholars will suggest that Holmes misused or strained the evidence he had.

In his preface Holmes claims that his work was "enormously facilitated" by access to F. H. Soward's "A Survey of Canadian External Policy." He does not exaggerate. Soward wrote this survey in the early fifties for the Department of External Affairs to whose files

he had full access. It is most unfortunate that our rules on confidentiality have prevented the publication of this thorough, well-informed, and highly perceptive study. Time has made publication unlikely, but it has not erased the debt many other scholars owe Professor Soward. The Department of External Affairs should now give this survey to the Public Archives so that all may have ready access to this invaluable aid to scholarship.

John Holmes left the Department of External Affairs in 1960. George Kennan had left the State Department a decade earlier. Kennan wrote in his diary when he resigned of the utter confusion about foreign policy in the public mind! "Only the diplomatic historian, working from the leisure and detachment of a later day, will be able to unravel this incredible tangle and to reveal the true aspect of the various factors and issues involved." John Holmes, now a diplomatic historian, has unravelled many tangles and in doing so has taught us much about that time and our own.

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The St. Andrew's Chronicles: An Account of Presbyterianism before 1879 in the Belleville—Hastings County—Quinte Area. GERALD E. BOYCE. Belleville, Ont.: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1978. 183 p. (and bibliog., 57 p., separately printed) ill. \$9.00.

Sights and Surveys: Two Diarists on the Rideau. EDWIN WELCH. Ottawa,: Historical Society of Ottawa, 1979. 53 p. ill (Available from P.O. Box 523, Station B, Ottawa, Ont., K1P 5P6) \$3.50.

For some time now, Gerald Boyce has been the historical voice of Ontario's Hastings County. In *The St. Andrew's Chronicles*, Boyce continues that work. To be sure, he concentrates on the establishment, progress (or lack thereof) and development of Auld Kirk Presbyterianism in Hastings County. But he gives colour, life and vividness to this history by interweaving the regional into the ebb and flow of international Presbyterianism. There are no tirades against the evils of drink, gambling and "burying the dead on Sundays". Rather the church is a multi-faceted organization, in competition for souls with the wilderness, the Free Kirk and American missionaries, other denominations and the foibles of human character. The effect, though, is more of religiosity than religion, in a style and language that suits the period.

The main feature of the book is its style and presentation, as the diary of an "imaginary chronicler". This presents various tests of credibility to readers more accustomed to traditional approaches to historical writing. The chronicler reveals in personal and intimate terms details about church life and society which even the most committed, deeply religious and aware person might well not know, let alone record faithfully over a period of almost sixty years. In most cases, the author handles the problems posed by this format quite well; entries are skilfully crafted, and the text develops its own sense of perspective, direction and flow. Yet, there are trouble spots. The opening and closing entries refer to the chronicler's wish to "pass on to my grandchildren some of the modern tales of the heroes of our Church", and to the discovery of the journals after the chronicler's death by those grandchildren. In between, there is no mention made of any family connection. It is also hard for the reader to accept the possibility of such a person never holding church office, and only once travelling outside Belleville during the entire period.

The bibliography cites sources for pictures and major original or published textual material. Footnotes, and a complete bibliography are available in pamphlet form from St. Andrew's Church. It is unfortunate that they were not included in the book. Without the