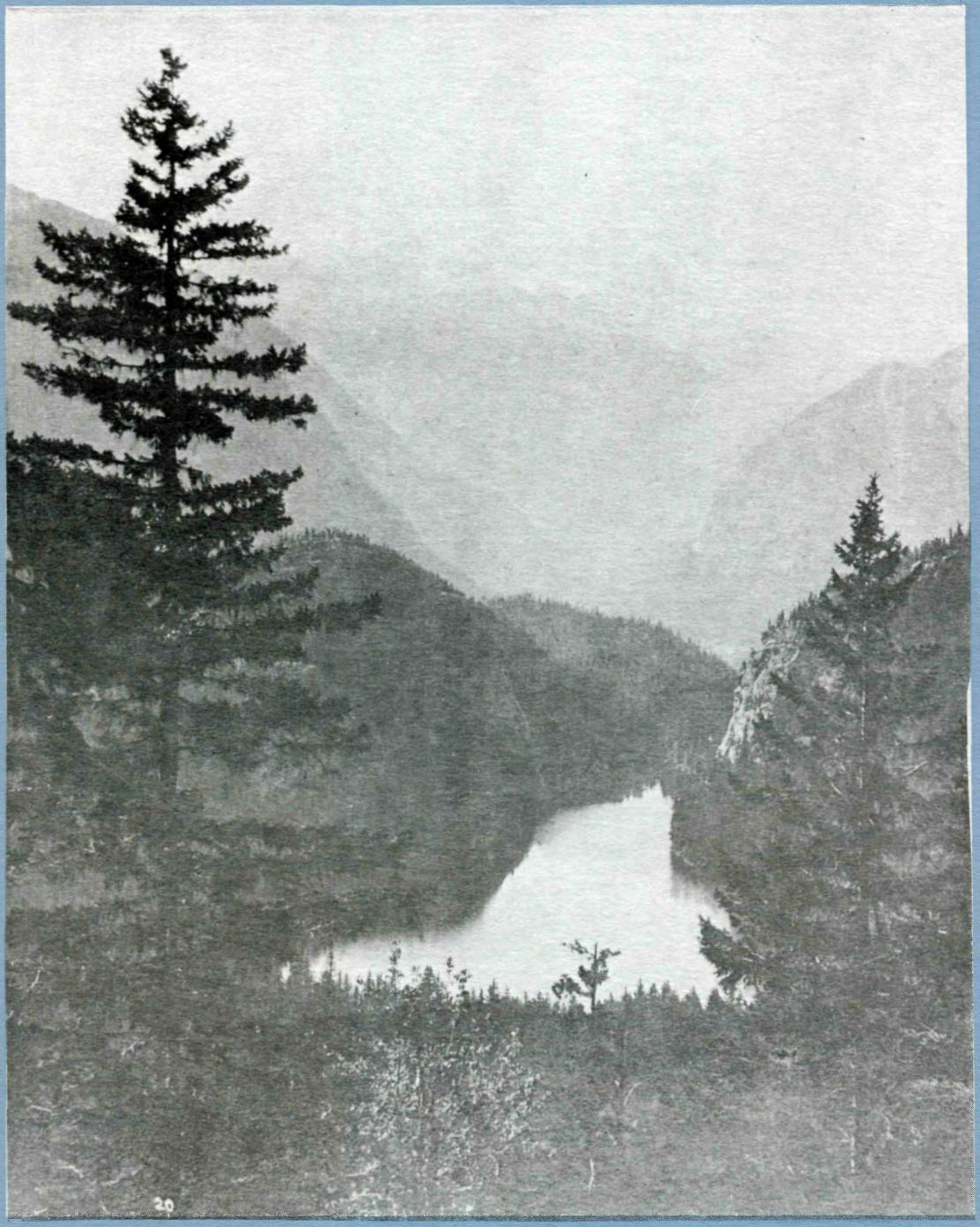
B.C. HISTORICAL NEWS



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AN EDITORIAL NOTE

We are happy to present the first issue of the B.C. Historical News under our joint editorship. We hope to maintain the fine tradition established by Phil and Anne Yandle and we have retained many of the recognized features of the News. However, we want to make the News even better and welcome your contributions and suggestions. Our next publication deadline is September 15, 1978. Please write us at P.O. Box 1738, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y3.

Kent Haworth
Patricia Roy

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THE COASTAL LOGGER AS SEEN IN SOME NOVELS: AN ASPECT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

This essay by Ronald W. Woodland, a University of Victoria History student, illustrates how novels can serve as a source of British Columbia's social and economic history.

* * * *

Traditionally, legendary qualities have been ascribed to North American loggers. In the United States, the gigantic Paul Bunyan felled trees with single blows of his axe; in Quebec, toque-topped lumberjacks rode the logs down *la flume* for sport. There are no such myths about the British Columbia coastal logger for in this relatively youthful province it is difficult to create legends. Yet, the coastal logger has been the subject of several novels which reveal much about the conditions and thought of the early twentieth century logger and of British Columbia society in general.

The novels reinforce the aura of realism surrounding the logger. Almost immediately they replace any perceptions of a simple, brawny, brawling, hard-drinking character with a personality having subtle, and sometimes contradictory traits and faults. In Woodsmen of the West Martin Allerdale Grainger, once a logger himself, destroyed the legend of the logger's volatile temper:

> Of course, out West, as elsewhere in the world, men do not readily come to blows. You will not see a fight from one year's end to another -- among sober men; except those conjured up in mind by the short-story writer and West-describing novelists. Why, for example, should sober loggers fight? [1] (p. 45)

This is not to say that drunken loggers always fought; on the contrary, drinking was an amicable social practice and "the good-fellowship atmosphere of a loggers' saloon seems to supply some of the same sentimental food as the music, books, and stage plays and other emotional influences with which the educated man nourishes...his sentimental nature." (p. 47) The logger depended greatly on the camaraderie of his fellow workers because he was often unmarried and lacked the emotional gratification and support provided by a wife and family. Furthermore, the logger who lacked responsibilities to anyone other than himself lived "much in the present" (p. 69) with a relative unconcern for the future.

Another source of the logger's irresponsible attitude was his awareness of his lack of education and the absence of opportunities outside logging. In E.G. Perrault's The Kingdom Carver, [2] fifteen year old David Laird mused:

> Here in the Alberni woods he worked with men who could neither read nor write. The Indians back there in the clearing, fishermen, trappers, prospectors -- all of them big, strong men going through life with less education than he had right now. Maybe that's why they were in the woods -- because they had nowhere else to go? (p. 56)

The loggers had considerable respect for education. The narrator in Jock Fairlie's Lumberjack[3] was amazed to discover that a co-worker from Victoria had children in university:

> I did not know what to day, for I was taken aback. It had never crossed my mind that an illiterate lumberjack like Frenchy could have a daughter at the University. If anybody had told me at camp, I shouldn't have believed them. And an elder daughter who liked modern art! (p. 136)[4]

Nevertheless, loggers could resent those who possessed an education. More often than not this dislike sprang from "the conscious mental superiority the partly-educated person carries with him."[5] Often this superiority appeared to be patronizing the logger as in the case of the South African in Lumberjack who explained his method of getting along with the coastal logger:

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[1] Martin Allerdale Grainger, Woodsmen of the West (Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1964). (First Published, 1908)

[2] E.G. Perrault, The Kingdom Carver (Toronto: Doubleday, 1968).

[3] Jock Fairlie, Lumberjack (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1954).

[4] It is somewhat ironic that Frenchy's daughter was studying English history rather than "Ours" which "is exciting for the first two hundred years then becomes awfully humdrum." (p. 137)

[5] Grainger, Woodsmen, p. 29.

> You look and act like a greenhorn....Why don't you try swaggering tomorrow. It might put things right for you before you go under altogether. Know one or two nice dirty stories? Let them out. These loggers love them you know. The dirtier the better. (p. 50)

Although Jock refused to heed such advice, he was still a target of the loggers' contempt for he was an Englishman, a "Limey". To the logger, Englishmen often exhibited an air of superiority born of the over-inflated importance they believed Great Britain had had in the development of British Columbia. This is illustrated in The Kingdom Carver when Colonel Townsend of the Royal Engineers asked David, "Where would British Columbia be if it weren't for the Royal Engineers?" When David responded he did not know, Townsend replied in exasperation, "I find it wherever I go in this country! No sense of tradition. No sense of the things that made you what you are." (p. 145)

The "sense of tradition" of the British Columbia logger was not the cultural baggage of immigrants but the country itself. Rod Norquay, the protagonist in Bertrand Sinclair's The Inverted Pyramid,[6] reflected upon his province's history and its influence on his forefathers and himself:

> The land was tamed. The Chilcotins would never again come raiding. The sea otters were vanished long ago with the men who had hunted them. The trading vessel, square-rigged, or fore-and-after, had given away to the steam tramp... The frontiers were charted and surveyed. (p. 29)

* * * * *

The work of the logger was hard and dangerous. Operators often favoured "highballing", the practice of reaping the forest bounty as fast as possible:

> It was murder. We had to get them under the chokers as they came down, dodgin' 'em see? And after we'd fixed 'em, they didn't wait for us to get the hell out of it. No waitin' for the punk's whistle....If we was too slow, they just pulled the chockers away while we were still holdin' them in our ruddy hands.[7]

Forming a union seemed the most obvious way of preventing such dangerous practices and demanding better working conditions. "Nobody would have to be scared of his job...a union could get better safety regulations and make sure they were enforced."[8]

The simplicity with which a union was perceived applied only to its theoretical framework. In practice, many factors within the loggers' ranks helped destroy any sense of solidarity. Mistrust of unions and union organizers was the most apparent. Besides the "foreign bastards telling us what to do", there was the curse of the metropolitan-regional conflicts inherent in Canadian society:

> Vancouver would run it (the union). And the East would run Vancouver and some outfit down in the States would have the last work about everything. If we tried to run things our own way they'd put us out of commission in no time at all.[9]

Even had the mistrust for union organizers been overcome, there were hierarchical divisions among the loggers themselves. In Lumberjack, a high-rigger who had just completed rigging the spar tree, sat down on a nearby stump and watched the road gang do their work. As he was "above the roadmen in the social life of the camp", there was no exchange of words between the two parties and the high-rigger just watched "lazily". (p. 86) What made the high-rigger socially superior was his skill and his correspondingly greater earnings.[10] The lack of communication between the men in the camp impeded any union organizing efforts.

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[6] Bertrand W. Sinclair, The Inverted Pyramid (Toronto: Frederick D. Goodchild, 1924).

[7] Fairlie, Lumberjack, p. 79.

[8] Roderick Haig-Brown, Timber (New York: Grosset and Dunlap, 1942), p. 18.

[9] Haig-Brown, Timber, p. 18.

[10] Money was the key to social status in British Columbia. In one instance, a "petty tradesman" from Toronto came to "our more or less democratic West, where his daughters, having enjoyed every advantage of easily and quickly acquired wealth, go everywhere and are accepted." Sinclair, The Inverted Pyramid, p. 131.

The mistrust of unions was based on a more fundamental characteristic of the logger, his feeling of independence and his paradoxical recognition of dependence. Except for a "few soreheads", loggers did not want unions. If the conditions of a particular camp were not agreeable, "one can move at once elsewhere, provided times are reasonably good...." [11] If, however, jobs were scarce, the logger had to put up with harsh conditions and, if he expressed his discontent, both he and the logging owner knew there was always someone to replace the agitator. In short, in a boom period, the logger took it upon himself to better his surroundings, while in a depression he was in no position to make demands. In either case, the owners of the camps made no efforts to accommodate the wishes of their workers.

Some loggers, however, observed the "tattered, worn-out crippled old hulks" of men on Skid Road who had had a life of "hard work, small wages and no chance to build a stake or gain an advantage."[12] Not wanting the same for themselves, they often risked running their own outfits. These hand loggers and contractors cleared timber on their own claims and sold it to the sawmills, shipyards or to the government for telephone poles. The individual entrepreneur usually encountered difficulties from the beginning of his venture, the first of which was the strong grip of speculators on readily accessible timber. "Men talked freely of 'graft' and 'political pull'," complaining that it was "shameful that great tracts of country should be closed against the *bona fide* logger and lie idle for the future profits of speculators...."[13] Usually the individual found enough suitable timber to commence logging but, because he needed large sums of capital, he was at the mercy of financiers and money lenders. The risks involved were not great, provided logs were selling, but, given the "boom or bust" nature of the lumber market, and the British Columbia economy in general, the chance of losing everything was as great as the likelihood of success. At the first sign of financial difficulties, usually marked by an inability to pay the few men he had hired, the small operator found his credit at the grocery stores and saloons cut off. His tangled affairs soon led to insolvency.[14]

Often the hand loggers and contractors had to depend on somewhat less than reliable or scrupulous agents to sell their timber. In some cases, the agent would lead the small operator to believe the market was good and encourage him to expand to meet current demand. As was typical in the British Columbia economy, markets would suddenly close and lumber prices would drop to such an extent that logging could be performed only at a loss. The small operator, isolated in some niche on the coast, usua learned of changed conditions too late. By this time, the agent had fled leaving his associate with a mass of bills and a boom of unsaleable logs.[15]

If the capitalists were allies--albeit unreliable ones--of the small operators, they were the enemies of the hired logger. The owners took every advantage of divisions within the loggers' ranks. Logging bosses agreed not to hire any known union proponents or agitators. The owners justified such "blacklisting" because it did not "affect more than a very few" of the loggers whom, they thought, would "see that men with big investments have to protect themselves."[16]

Blacklisted loggers made no attempt to remedy the situation. Johnny, the protagonist in Roderick Haig-Brown's Timber, contemplated his own blacklisting:

> They've sure got the whole thing sewed up tight the way they want it --
> you can get sore as you want and there isn't a damn thing to pin it on.
> You can't do anything about it, just take it, that's all. (p. 310)

This apathetic fatalism was rooted in the logger's mistrust of unions and his own inability to fight the owners. In other words, he lacked any feelings of class consciousness that might have protected him from the whims of an uncaring employer. "So long as industry supplies jobs at living wages, everythin'll be okay. Give 'em jobs. That's all they want", [17] epitomizes the logger's attitude.

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[11] Grainger, Woodsmen, p. 33.

[12] Perrault, Kingdom Carver, p. 41.

[13] Grainger, Woodsmen, p. 20.

[14] Grainger, Woodsmen, p. 97.

[15] In The Kingdom Carver the Lairds had been taking "airplane spruce" out of the woods when one day the freighter to take their logs away did not arrive, nor did it ever show up. From their agent, who by this time had left for Toronto, the Lairds received a note: "The war didn't last long enough us. Three more months would have seen me in a strong position." (p. 201).

[16] Haig-Brown, Timber, pp. 267-8.

[17] Sinclair, Inverted Pyramid, p. 261. The fact that the owners could hire men was also a weapon to be used against the logger. In Timber, some men were discussing a recent accident: "Do you think it will make trouble?" Johnny asked. "Not this time. The boys aren't stakey enough. But a couple more little things like that and the companies will be looking for a chance to shut down to keep them from getting stakey." "Even if the market's good?" "Even if the market's good," Alec said. "If she's good

The logger's ideas changed when the First World War increased the demand for wood for the manufacture of munitions and decreased the number of men in the labour market. When the logger was in a position to make demands of his employer, he "took the whip hand".

> His memory was tenacious of old wrongs. He did not ask, he demanded and his demands were grudgingly conceded because his employers were taking huge profits in airplane spruce, in exportable fir and cedar, in shipbuilding material. [18]

The War also created, for the first time, a sense of "class consciousness", a realization on the loggers' part that they should no longer be manipulated by the capitalists who had gloated over their profits from the sale of war materials. The logger concluded that "fighting for one's country" actually meant protecting the existing economic system:

> ...one's country really means Bill Jones and Sam Smith and Jack Robinson -- human society -- the national unit. If Sam Smith, by skillful exercise of the acquisitive instinct, acquires ownership of the hills and the forests, and permits me...to work for him whenever he can profitably use our labour and has no responsibility for our welfare at such times as he can't employ and pay us wages, why should we shoot and kill, and be ourselves shot and killed in defence of his hills and forests. [19]

In these circumstances, the loggers, and labour in general, engaged in an industrial war with the capitalist interests, "with the only weapons available. The season of 1919 was a period of disputes, grievances, abortive wage cuts, strikes, sabotage, all that goes with a labour war...." [20]

The employer could afford monetary concessions to labour but he believed labour was attempting to make inroads into his realm of power and control of industry. In Sinclair's The Inverted Pyramid this becomes clear:

> It isn't a question of affording it, ...It's a question of principles. You simply cannot afford to allow a crew of dissatisfied loggers to imagine for a minute that they can tell you how to run your business. (p. 159)

In fact, the logger had no aspirations to overthrow the businessman. He expected harshness from "men of more active acquisitiveness than himself....He does not, however, expect them to sack his pocket...."[21] The logger, while wishing to protect himself, realized an obligation to work efficiently. In Timber, Johnny pondered a seeming contradiction in his friend Alec Crawford who, although a strong advocate of unionism, had, as a foreman, also fired several men. Johnny asked, "If he doesn't want them, who else does he think is going to want them?" (p. 311) Alec clearly did not view the union as a means of shielding a lazy worker from his employer's scrutiny. The union was only to protect competent men from unnecessary dangers and from capricious employers who fired men for reasons unrelated to their productivity.

Like other loggers, Alec was willing to seek reform within the existing economic system, not to change it. Alec's views were not unique. In The Inverted Pyramid, Rod Norquay invited Andy Hall to be his "boss logger" or foreman. Rod, who knew Andy's views of the capitalists, explained:

> We didn't create this state of affairs. But our actions are shaped by it. Even if a certain humane instinct in us revolts at being mixed up in an unseemly scramble where everybody is grabbing what he can, we have to accept that condition. If we have to fight for what we want -- whether it's merely to exist or to pursue an ideal -- why not fight with the best weapon that offers? (p. 261)

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[17](continued...) in June and *everybody* shuts down she'll be just that much better after fire season." Haig-Brown, Timber, p. 229. (My Italics)

[18]Sinclair, Inverted Pyramid, p. 261.

[19]Sinclair, Inverted Pyramid, p. 183.

[20]Sinclair, Inverted Pyramid, p. 281.

[21]Grainger, Woodsmen, p. 69.

Andy's final acceptance of Rod's offer demonstrates the willingness of the logger to co-operate with the capitalist in seeking better wages and working conditions. In a broader context, it signifies that the logger, like the small entrepreneurs, had no real desire to change the economic system but only to receive what he believed to be his proper share of its benefits. He was as prepared to co-operate with the system in search of labour reform as he was to fight it but he never expressed a desire to change it. This characteristic of the logger's attitude to the industry prevailed, to some extent, in British Columbia society as a whole.

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DOCUMENTS

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MRS. MOODY'S FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mary Susannah Moody, wife of Colonel Richard Clement Moody, R.E. wrote the following letter June 1, 1859[1], to her sister Emily Hawks of Newcastle-on-Tyne, England. It is one of several donated by her descendant Rosemary Holford to the Provincial Archives of British Columbia in 1973. In this particular letter Mrs. Moody gave her first impressions of Queenborough,[2] where her husband, the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for the new colony of British Columbia and Commander of the Columbia Detachment of the Royal Engineers, was establishing both a capital city and a military camp.[3] Mrs. Moody's descriptions of Queenborough, renamed New Westminster in July, 1859,[4] its pioneers, and their experiences provided both a contrast and a complement to her husband's first impressions of the colony.

Colonel Moody had sent his initial appraisals of the Queenborough site and other locations in British Columbia in a letter to Arthur Blackwood of the Colonial Office on February 1, 1859.[5] Although most of what Moody wrote to Blackwood was a military surveyor's report on British Columbia in midwinter 1859, he ended it with a familiar reference.

> You will see by all the blunders that I have felt quite at home in writing to you. It is verily a letter written amidst 10,000 distractions, & snatched at the intervals of business....Never do I believe did a man "work" under greater disadvantages than I am now doing....No Office, no Clerks, a very tiny house full of my dear Children but whose shouts sometimes "fun" sometimes "wailings" do not tend to compose the thoughts. [6]

When his children and their mother moved with the Colonel to Queenborough, the new capital of British Columbia,[7] in the spring of 1859, Mrs. Moody wrote her sister Emily, recording her first impressions of that spot. Mrs. Moody's family background and maternal domestic position shaped both those perceptions and the way in which she wrote them. Thus her letter both contrasts with and complements that of her husband.

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[1]There is no 1859 on the letterhead. The name Queenborough and events described in the letter fix its date at 1859.

[2]W.E. Ireland, ed., "First Impressions: Letter of Colonel Richard Clement Moody, R.E., to Arthur Blackwood, February 1, 1859", British Columbia Historical Quarterly, XV (1951), 93, n. 24. Governor Douglas always used the name Queensborough and Moody, Queenborough. Their disagreement continued until the new name, New Westminster, was officially announced.

[3]For a recent discussion of the history of the Royal Engineers in British Colunbia, see Frances Woodward, "The Influence of the Royal Engineers on the Development of British Columbia," B.C. Studies No. 24 (1974-75), 3-51.

[4]The proclamation was issued July 20, 1859. (See Ireland's n. 25 on Moody to Blackwood, 1 Feb., 1859, BCHQ XV, 94.)

[5]Ireland, BCHQ, XV, 85-107.

[6]Ibid., 107.

[7]Governor Douglas issued the proclamation making Queenborough the capital February 14, 1859. Douglas to Lytton, February 19, 1859, Papers Relative to the Affairs of British Columbia, Part II, 65-66, cited in Ireland's notes on Moody to Blackwood, Feb. 1, 1859, BCHQ XV, 105.

Mrs. Moody, sixteen years his junior, was born Mary Susannah Hawks in 1829 in Newcastle-on-Tyne.[8] She was the eldest daughter of Joseph Hawks, a banker in the rising industrial city. He and his wife, Mary Boyd Hawks, had wide business and social connections in Northumberland. At their residence in suburban Newcastle, Jesmond House, Mary Susannah learned penmanship, literature, French, and dancing while also being trained in the management of a household. After her marriage to Captain R.C. Moody, R.E., in 1852, and travels with him to Malta in 1854 and Edinburgh in 1855, she was still close to her family. In 1853 the Moody's named their eldest child Josephine after her maternal grandfather. Emily Hawks went to Malta to be with Mary Susannah when Richard S.H. Moody was born in 1854. Colonel and Mrs. Moody's departure for a romantic posting in distant British Columbia--along with "Zeffie", Dick, their younger brother Charles who was born in 1856, and the baby, Walter, born in January, 1858--was a welcome distraction for the Hawks. Their middle child, Juliana, had died in August 1858, and that year had also seen several failures in Mr. Hawks' banking concerns.

The first letter Emily Hawks received from her sister Mary at the forest clearing that was Queenborough began with cheerful references to "camping". Quickly though, the dutiful daughter and affectionate sister reassured her readers. The small house and collection of tents which served as their home were comfortable. A better house was forthcoming. Mama's letters had arrived. The children, especially the baby, were flourishing. Mary's position as wife, mother, and household manager was inconvenienced by poor mail and grocery services, bad weather, and her husband's long hours of work. However, Mrs. Moody considered herself at the height of local society as the Lieutenant-Governor's lady. She enthused over the adventure of her pioneer situation overseeing the progress of their residence, Government House, and its garden.[9] The main part of her letter ended with a proud report of the great reception which her dear Richard's correspondence with Mr. Blackwood had received.

Mrs. Moody's first impressions of British Columbia in her familiar letter contrast with those of her husband's semi-official correspondence, and yet also complement his perceptions. Her writing style is much more informal. It is marked though by the same tones of fresh adventure and participatory pride in Britain's colonial growth as was the Colonel's. Unlike him, Mrs. Moody did not describe the landscape of Queenborough since she had already sent her family his portrayal of it. The only aspects of the freshly logged hillside which she mentioned were the effects of miserable rain and dusty hot weather on her family. Mrs. Moody's immediate domestic sphere was shielded from the surrounding bush by the civilised cocoon of the military post. That situation limited her experience in and her impressions of British Columbia. Her husband, in contrast, had gone in midwinter 1859 to the raw frontier of the Fraser mines, had conquered physical dangers and encountered all manner of men. Now in early summer Mrs. Moody's main peril was one of propriety. She had a slight, humourous difficulty housing her guests: Mr. Nichol, Mr. Langford, Mrs. Cochrane, baby Edith Cochrane, and her servant Kitty as well.[10] She did not herself have to sleep as the Colonel did on his visit to Yale, "on three boxes in a passage!"

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[8]Mrs. Moody's biography was compiled from those of her husband cited above, from her correspondence, the records of Somerset House, British censuses, and Newcastle-on-Tyne directories and histories.

[9] In Mary S. Moody to Emily Hawks, Good Friday (1859), Mrs. Moody describes her home-to-be at Queenborough: "Our own house will not be ready for some weeks but we are to have a 4 roomed house w^h^ has been put up for us by Cap^n^ Parsons, and we are to have a tent for a drawing room! I think it will be most charming."

By May 20, 1859, Mrs. Moody wrote again to Em at the end of a letter about the trip from Victoria; "Here we are Comfortably settled in very close small quarters for the present..."

[10]For a biography of Mr. C.S. Nichol, then a J.P. who also did surveying for the government see D.B. Smith, ed., "The Journal of Arthur Thomas Bushby, 1858-1859," BCHQ, XXI, p. 185.

For Mr. Langford, Captain E.E. Langford, formerly of the 73rd regiment, and in 1859 manager of Colwood farm for the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, see S.G. Pettit, "The Trials and Tribulations of Edward Edwards Langford," BCHQ, XVII, pp. 5-40.

For Mrs. Cochrane, wife of J.J. Cochrane, a surveyor from Edinburgh, see his biography in D.B. Smith, "Bushby" BCHQ, XXI, p. 166. The Cochranes travelled with the Moody's to B.C. They had their first child early in 1859. Mrs. Moody said in her March 21, 1859 letter from Victoria that she was to be godmother to Edith Margaret Cochrane.

For Kitty, the servant girl, I have not found a maiden name. According to Mrs. Moody's letters she married James Golding, the Moody's former steward and went to Victoria with him in 1859. He abandoned her there in 1860 and she returned to England.

Her health would not break down as Richard's did from work and travel in cold, wet weather.[11] Her only complaint, sleepiness, could be attributed both to the late hours she kept as wife and mother and to the beginning of her fifth pregnancy.[12]

One final curiosity underlines how complementary Mrs. Moody's impressions of British Columbia are to those of her husband. Although he mentioned the two Indians who travelled with the H.B. Company man Ogilvy,[13] neither he nor Mrs. Moody recorded seeing Indian villages or Indians in the Fraser Valley. Yet their eldest child revisited New Westminster in 1913 and compared "the city of today with the little settlement of her childhood memory, when 'the place was often full of Indians' ".[14]

These points of complementarity and contrast in the initial impressions of British Columbia recorded by Colonel and Mrs. Moody point out the contribution her familiar, informal correspondence can make to his official, formal biography. As Willard Ireland notes, it is regrettable that though the Royal Engineers were prominent in British Columbia history, "little material was available from the pen of their gallant leader,...other than the official correspondences...."[15] In the absence of such records, Mrs. Moody's comments on their sojourn on the goldrush frontier advance our understanding of Moody's character and actions. His seeming lavishness in expenditure and too perfectionist design for the capital city and R.E. camp should be considered in light of the metropolitan examples which inspired him, and the English families for whom he dreamed and built.

Mrs. Moody's letters from British Columbia, of which this is but one example, are also of historical importance themselves. Even though Mrs. Moody was part of the colony's ruling class, her everyday experiences as wife and mother were common to most women settlers. Her letters reveal to us how their maternal domestic exertions helped male pioneers establish the colony. In particular, Mrs. Moody's efforts as wife, mother, and household manager and occasional secretarial assistant made it possible for the Colonel to "work" amidst "10,000 distractions". Without her correspondence we would only have records of official, male, and adult "work" and few informal, day-to-day sources on the lives of the pioneers beyond it.[16]

Jacqueline Gresko,
Douglas College

M.S. Moody to Em, June 1, 1859, p.1 typescript:

Queenborough -- 1st. June --

My dearest Em

A most glorious day! A delightful change to the downpour of rain we had on Sat^{y}, Sun^{y} , & Mon^{y} -- Camping is very pleasant when the sun shines, but we looked most pitiable in the wet! Our Kitchen is off the house, so that we are not annoyed with the heat of the Stove in the small rooms, but it has its disadvantages, we had all our fires lighted so that "indoors" we were very comfortable--Mr. Nichol has just come in f^{r} Port Douglas, so he & Richard are chatting away at a tremendous rate--Thank you and dear Mamma very much for your letters w^{h} we got the day after they arrived at Victoria, as the Steamer "fitted in" -- However now there is no chance our being able to write "by return of post", as the Boats are so irregular now we have had no communication with Victoria for a week! No [meat] so we have to live on fish, [poultry], bit of beef or anything we can [procure]. I am very glad indeed to hear you were all going to Bath, and hope you found the Admiral pleasant & agreeable, Aunty w^{d} be charmed to see you I am sure, and to return with you to Shotley -- I am so vexed at your missing my letter, I am so pleased I mentioned that I had written to you -- I have never missed a mail writing to both --....

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[11] Moody to Blackwood, 1 Feb. 1859, BCHQ XV, p. 102.

[12] Victoria Colonist, January 14, 1860, on the virth of Susan Moody, 8 January, 1860. Sleepiness and toothache were Mrs. Moody's main complaints during pregnancy.

[13] Moody to Blackwood, 1 February, 1859, BCHQ XV, pp. 95 & 99.

[14] Josephine Moody Newall, Mrs. Arthur Newall in the New Westminster Daily British Columbian, November 12, 1913. p. 1.

[15] Ireland, Moody to Blackwood, 1 Feb. 1859, BCHQ XV, p. 85.

[16] Moody to Blackwood, 1 Feb. 1859, BCHQ XV, p. 107.

Thank you dear Em very much for sending the socks, they will be most acceptable as you wd also think if you saw the state of the white cotton ones in this dusty place -- We are really most comfortably "fixed" here -- The House does very nicely for Summer, and the Govr has granted [undecipherable because of rip in page] for our house, the plan is [finished], the site staked out, and the Contractor now making his estimate & promises to have it "up" in 2 or 3 months, so by the time this reaches you, you may begin to fancy us expanding into dining room, drawing-room, kitchen & pantry &c. &c. Now we have 3 visitors, Mrs Cochrane & her Baby --Mr Nichol, & Mr Langford -- So you see these "balloon" houses, as these "run-up" wooden ones are called, are also expansive -- Mrs Cochrane is here for her husband is gone down to Victoria, and she was to be left at Queenborough in a Tent alone, surrounded with workmen &c. so I told her to come up to our spare Tent, however the rain came on, & I cd not let her go into the wet damp tent with her Baby, so she has Dick's bed, Dick Kitty's in the Nursery, she on the floor, Mr Langford the spare tent ---Capn Nichol my bed in Richd's tent, me on the Sofa in the Sitting room. I was obliged to give in to this as I have to pass thro' the Sitting room to the Tent in dressing Gown, and if Mrs Cochrane wanted anything during the night she has to come into the Sitting room -- So you see a man wd be "*de trop*" -- It is ten o'clock, and they are still talking, however these late hours won't do here so I must "lap up" -- It is such a sleepy place! I cd take a nap at any time during the day -- Nothing new you will all say! -- The Children are all well, Baby such a big fat boy, trots around the room so fast, but not off alone yet, he is growing very like Papa. He tried to talk but says nothing yet -- Richard had a most complimentary letter fr Mr Blackwood by the last mail, in answer to the long one (wh I copied for you all) relating to the Hill's Bar Disturbance -- He says that he & Lord Carnarvon were delighted with it, & had determined to forward extracts fr it to Prince Albert -- who wd probably show it to the Queen -- I enclose an account.

[This letter is incomplete, therefore no signature. It was sent to the Provincial Archives along with the following fragment of another letter. Mrs. Moody probably sent both letters home together when the Steamer from Victoria came.]

M.S. Moody to Em, June 1, 1859 (and following), p. 3 typescript

[The top of this letter has been cut or torn off and the reverse of page is cut or torn off.]

...

quite a sensation the arrival of the Boat, & discovering what the Butcher has sent for us all -- Sometimes he treats one better than another, & then we "go shares" -- The Dr "caters" for the Mess, so when he hears of anything good he tells me & so I do to him. The Garden gets on wonderfully, we have splendid radishes now wh are a great treat -- I send you a photograph of the Garden, the man sitting down, wh the watering pots is Haines, the Sapper gardener. The house is the Gardener's[17] -- I do not think I have anything else to tell you excepting that it is very very hot. I dislike hot weather very much -- and it has a very bad effect on the Children's tempers.

ever my dearest Em

Your very loving Sister

Mary S. Moody

* * * * *

HASLAM HALL - *AVE ATQUE VALE*

On the evening of Monday, December 19, 1977, after a persistent "battle" lasting almost four years, Nanaimo City Council took advantage of new provincial legislation and conferred a heritage designation on Haslam Hall. At the same time, the city also designated the facade of a handsome commercial building in the downtown area, 2 Church Street, and the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Station as heritage sites. The CPR agreed not to seek compensation and announced it would welcome suggestions for the station's future use. These heritage designations seemed a good Christmas present for the city, its citizens, for its Heritage Advisory Committee (an agency of City Council), and especially for the Nanaimo Historical Society which began the campaign to preserve Haslam Hall.

On the morning of December 24, 1977, a huge funnel of smoke spread over part of the city. Haslam Hall had begun to burn about 4:00 a.m., and by 8:30 a.m. it was obvious the building could not be saved. Two walls had to be pulled down to fight the last of the fire. By the time the fire was

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[17] For a biography of W. Haynes, the sapper gardener, see Frances Woodward, "Royal Engineers", BC Studies No. 24, p. 43. The Doctor Mrs. Moody mentions was Dr. John Vernon Seddall, staff-assistant surgeon to the Royal Engineers. See M.A. Ormsby, ed., A Pioneer Gentlewoman in British Columbia (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1976), n. 118.

out, the major part of Haslam Hall was charred rubble. Fortunately, all of its residents had escaped.

Christmas Eve shoppers could be heard discussing the disaster and its implications. Even among those who had been apathetic to preservation there was a tone of disbelief that the city's "grandest" house had been lost. Looters quickly began to take a toll on the house. A fireplace disappeared as did some of the gingerbread. A guard was later placed on the site and the Heritage Advisory Committee and the museum hope to salvage some of the ruins for future use.

The cause of the blaze is still somewhat of a mystery. After thorough investigations the Fire Department pinpointed one of the basement storage lockers as the starting point of the fire but could not establish the exact cause of the ignition. Many questions remain unanswered.

Haslam Hall was a lovely building, wonderfully situated. It is most unlikely that whatever takes its place in the city can ever compare with what the city has lost. Nanaimo has lost what was the spearhead of its heritage movement; but there was strength behind it. Other buildings remain and the citizens are now more aware of the need for preservation. Haslam House, whose zenith was from 1890 to 1910, had a chequered fortune thereafter and earned the appellation of the "ghost house" in the 1930's. It may have returned to obscurity but it will not be forgotten. From its ashes will rise, phoenix-like, a stronger movement to save other worthy buildings.

The Historical Society and the Heritage Advisory Committee would like to thank the many organizations and individuals who supported their fight to save Haslam Hall even though success was short-lived. Many have offered condolences. Be assured, we shall keep working.

Pamela Mar
Nanaimo Branch

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NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

ALBERNI. The ALBERNI DISTRICT MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY enjoyed a variety of topics at their monthly meetings. Some, such as a visit to the Search and Rescue Squad quarters to see their special equipment and the MacMillan Bloedel film "A Walk in the Forest" and a report on the Mars Water Bombers, were concerned with the contemporary community. Society members also heard a number of historical talks. Martin Segger of the Maltwood Museum and Gallery of the University of Victoria gave an illustrated talk on early architecture on Vancouver Island. A highlight was his account of Samuel McLure who designed one of the houses in the Alberni District. Another visitor, Robin Fisher of the Department of History, Simon Fraser University, presented an illustrated account of the early experiences of the white men and Indians in honour of the Cook Bi-Centennial. Local speakers included "Rusty" Phillips, the fire chief, who brought stories and records of the early volunteer fire fighters and John Sendey, the Museum Co-ordinator, who described current developments in museums and some of the activities of "the back room".

Members are happy to be nearing completion of the Place Names book which has been underway for many months. They have researched the names of streets and locations in the district.

--Marjorie Lindsay

CHEMAINUS. The twenty-three members of the CHEMAINUS VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY have been preparing a book on local pioneers and soon hope to have it available for sale. Among the speakers at meetings was Angus Thomas, an authority on Indian languages and culture.

PARKSVILLE-QUALICUM. The DISTRICT 69 HISTORICAL SOCIETY, PARKSVILLE-QUALICUM AND DISTRICT has been collecting, storing and cataloguing items donated by local residents as the first step towards establishing a museum. The Society is also compiling a pictorial history of older buildings and of present day Parksville and Qualicum Beach. To draw public attention to its activities, the Society has a booth at the Parksville Pageant Days in July and maintains a display case near the Parksville Town Council meeting room.

GIBSONS. Volunteer members of the ELPHINSTONE PIONEER MUSEUM, GIBSONS have catalogued a little over half of the Museum's 2500 artifacts. A local journalist is interviewing pioneers for the Sunshine Coast News. The Museum supplied the blank tapes and in return has received the taped interviews for its collection. The Museum has also hosted two exhibits from the Provincial Museum Travelling Display Programme as well as displays of the work of local hobbyists and crafts workers.

GULF ISLANDS. The GULF ISLANDS branch has had three major projects this year. To stimulate an interest in local history among elementary school children, it sponsored an essay contest. Winners were Jimmy Money, a Grade 4 student who wrote on "The Saturna Cemetery" and Colleen Crocker, a Grade 7 pupil, who prepared a brief history of Galiano Island. To recognize pioneers, the branch sponsored the erection of a bronze sculpture of Washington Grimmer who took up land on Pender Island in 1882. The monument, showing Grimmer on horseback, was sculpted by Pender Island resident, Ralph Sketch. Carrie Amies, a descendant of Grimmer, unveiled the statue on December 21, 1977, at a ceremony arranged by the branch while Mrs. Loraine Campbell, branch president, gave a short address.

To record the Islands' history, the branch has encouraged local residents to prepare reminiscences of local institutions. Among the first is a brief history of the Old Port Washington Hall by Neptune Grimmer, son of Washington Grimmer. The branch hopes to publish a successor to Gulf Islands Patchwork, first produced in 1961, and now in its sixth printing.

NANAIMO. The NANAIMO HISTORICAL SOCIETY has secured a New Horizons grant to transcribe taped speeches of past speakers to the society. Most of the tapes on hand were recorded by the late William Barraclough, a patron of the Nanaimo Historical Society and life member of the B.C.H.A. The Society has also sponsored an essay contest for junior secondary students and some members are assisting the city museum with its costume collection.

During the 1977-78 season the Society had a number of excellent speakers. Mr. Poikenon and his son spoke on Finnish settlers while Dr. Jacque Mar described the Chinese who came to the Golden Mountain. Mrs. Pamela Mar's talk on Captain James Cook was the feature of an evening devoted to Captain Cook. The final speaker of the year, Bill Ince, president of the branch described his early memories of Nanaimo.

SIDNEY & NORTH SAANICH. Though few in numbers, the SIDNEY AND NORTH SAANICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY remains an active group. They are presently researching the historically interesting homes of their area and recording their findings. They are also sponsoring a photographic competition of historical interest for young people under sixteen. Entries will be judged by a professional photographer and prizes awarded. The Society has also erected a display in the Royal Bank of Canada branch depicting schools and school children in the nineteenth century including a life-sized model dressed in the costume of the era.

The Society has also arranged several interesting outings. Recently they toured the Federal Institute of Ocean Sciences at Patricia Bay. Now almost complete, it is an interesting complex, both architecturally and scientifically, and is staffed with internationally famous scientists. In April the Society visited "The Church of the Lilies" in Metchosin to see the ancient little church surrounded by thousands of erythroniums. Later, the Society will visit the Tutankhamun Treasures in Seattle.

—Mrs. Ray Joy
Sidney

WINDERMERE. The WINDERMERE DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY is going full steam ahead on their current project of renovating the former Lake Windermere station into a new historical museum. They have now secured a $30,000 grant from the National Museum of Canada for renovations. With this help a new floor has been installed above a full basement with a cement floor. The windows are all being replaced and exterior damage caused by the train wreck has been repaired. Work is now beginning on the interior and again funds are required to complete it. The Invermere Businessmen's Association has donated $1,250 and has promised a further donation. Work will continue until completion or until funds run out, but we hope the new museum will be ready for occupancy in late June. New display cases and furniture are needed but may have to wait for additional funding.

The museum at present is housed in two small log cabins on another site within the village. The village council has offered to move these buildings to sit beside the new museum if the society will prepare the foundations. The council has also put in the sewer line without charge and waived the building permit fee for renovations. Realizing that the museum is a definite asset to the village, the village council has indeed been generous with its support.

—Winnifred Weir
Invermere

EDITOR'S NOTE: We assume that Branches which did not respond to our circular were too busy to reply and we look forward to a bumper harvest of news in the fall. The deadline for the November issue is September 15th.

* * * * *

BULLETIN BOARD

The FERNIE AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY recently received the second printing of their book Backtracking, the history of the south eastern part of British Columbia, including the area from Wardner to the Alberta border. The book has 140 pages of interesting reading and pictures from about 1870 onward. It may be purchased for $6.50 from the Society, P.O. Box 1527, Fernie, B.C., V0B 1M0

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MAP LIBRARIES CONFERENCE: The ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN MAP LIBRARIES will be holding its twelfth annual conference June 11-15 in Victoria in honour of the Captain Cook Bi-Centenary.

The session Monday, June 12, on B.C. historical cartography will be of special interest. Papers being presented then are:

Spanish maps of the Northwest Coast	Thomas Bartroli
Maps relating to Cook's voyages	Dr. Coolie Verner
Maps relating to Vancouver's voyages	Dr. W. Kaye Lamp
The work of the Wheeler family in B.C.	Dr. John O. Wheeler
The historical development of Victoria, an illustrated lecture	Dr. James E. Hendrickson

The sessions Tuesday will deal with the status of mapping in B.C. and Canada and the sessions Wednesday with the future of mapping and map libraries. Thursday is tour day when delegates will view the Pacific Forest Research Centre, the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory and the Institute of Ocean Sciences.

Registration for non-members is $25.00 for the complete conference, or $9.00 for each day. For further information and registration forms, please contact:

Brian Turnbull, University Map Collection
Room 142, Cornett Building
University of Victoria
P.O. Box 1700
Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y2

Telephone: 477-6911 - Local 4228

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The Editors of B.C. STUDIES invite the members of the B.C. Historical Association to subscribe to B.C. Studies. Published quarterly, B.C. Studies publishes articles about the province, reviews books about B.C. and each issue includes an up to date list of books and articles that deal with British Columbia.

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Genealogists and other historical researchers will be interested in a bill recently introduced in Parliament by Frank Maine, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Works and the Minister of State for Science and Technology and Member of Parliament for Wellington, Ontario. His bill proposes an amendment to the Statistics Act to allow the release of individual census returns taken prior to January 1, 1900. The bill had first reading on March 1, 1978.

* * * *

The Regional History Committee of the Canadian Historical Association wishes to announce that it is soliciting nominations for its "Certificate of Merit" Awards. These annual awards are given for meritorious publications or for exceptional contributions by individuals or organizations to regional history. Nominations should be sent to Professor Alan F.J. Artibise, Department of History, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C., V8W 2Y2, by October 15, 1978. The awards will be announced at the CHA Annual Meeting in Saskatoon in June 1979.

* * * *

DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

24th September, 1978	Victoria
19th November, 1978	Nanaimo
11th February, 1979	Vancouver
10th May, 1979	Nanaimo

Note: Billets will be provided. Members willing to billet out-of-town Councillors are asked to contact their local Society's Executive.

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GOING, GOING. . . .

This is the last chance for readers to fill in any gaps in their efforts to maintain a complete set of the News. While quantities last, the following issues are available on a first come first serve basis at 50¢ a copy from Michael Halleran, c/o P.O. Box 1738, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y3:

1969: May, June, November
1970: February, November
1971: April, June, November
1972: February, April, June, November
1973: February, April, June, November
1974: February, June, November
1975: February, June, November
1976: April, June

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NOTES AND COMMUNICATIONS:

The Library of Congress will stop filing new entries in its card catalogues on January 1, 1980, and begin to rely almost altogether on automated data to provide access to the collections. From that date forward, the library will possess two catalogues -- the "frozen" manual one and a new multipart one that will include all records in the MARC (Machine Readable Catalogue) data base and all records catalogued after that time.

--History News, March 1978.

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The NANAIMO HISTORICAL SOCIETY has persuaded the Wedgewood Company to make a special blue jasper sweet dish commemorating the Captain Cook Bi-Centennial. At present, it may be obtained only from the News-stand at the Empress Hotel in Victoria.

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The B.C. HISTORICAL SOCIETY has two new categories of membership. Individuals living in areas where there is no branch may join as members-at-large for a $5.00 per annum fee. An institutional membership at $10.00 per annum is also available.

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BOOK REVIEWS

FOR MOST CONSPICUOUS BRAVERY: A BIOGRAPHY OF MAJOR-GENERAL GEORGE R. PEARKES, V.C., THROUGH TWO WORLD WARS. Reginald H. Roy. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1977, Pp. xiv, 388, illus., $15.95.

The writing of contemporary biography is a perilous occupation. To undertake to write a biography of a living person is to qualify for a citation "for most conspicuous bravery", in the face of closed sources, delicate issues wounding to contemporary sensibilities -- and the laws of libel. Professor Reginald Roy has accomplished no mean feat, therefore, by bringing to completion an account of the life of a brave, bluff Canadian general, politician and former Lieutenant-Governor, Major-General George Pearkes. General Pearkes has every right to be happy with the result. Roy has reconstructed an adventurous career and painted a convincing portrait of a man endowed with the best soldierly virtues -- brave, energetic, ambitious and popular. Pearkes enjoyed an unusually successful career, from immigrant and RCMP constable all the way to the exalted heights of Minister of National Defence, pausing to win a Victoria Cross on the way.

But while Roy has an easy time with Pearkes' success -- accomplishing a notable feat of research along the way -- he is less successful with the darker, duller, sides of the general's life. After a meteoric rise from the ranks during the First World War, Pearkes spent the next twenty years of his life as a peacetime soldier. For Pearkes, it meant a succession of postings from one end of the country to the other, and occasional visits to England, on course. For the reader, it means a procession of names, occasionally with some description attached. But this reader, at least, did not emerge from these chapters greatly enlightened about the issues that stimulated Pearkes, or about his impressions of the personalities that surrounded him: A.G.L. McNaughton, H.D.G. Crerar, and E.L.M. Burns. When the Second World War breaks out, there is some relief. Pearkes was posted to England, where from July 1940 until September 1942, he commanded the First Canadian division. Yet here he also encountered a check. General Crerar was brought from Canada to command the First Canadian Corps, instead of Pearkes. When Crerar arrived it turned out, in Pearkes' words, that "relationships were not the happiest". (p. 169) After a time, Pearkes was called in to see the army commander, General McNaughton, "and two days later Pearkes was en route back to Canada". What had happened? It is true enough that Pearkes' assignment back in Canada, general officer commanding, Pacific Command, was neither unimportant nor uncongenial, but it was obviously, a partial setback. Roy remarks that "the full story of why Pearkes was not given command of the 1st Canadian Corps is not available to me", and that he sees "no reason to hold up the publication of this book until it is." Surely however, something more can be said. If it cannot, it is clear that a crucial point in Pearkes' life remains to be explained.

From 1945, when he left the Army, until 1957, Pearkes warmed a seat on the opposition benches in the House of Commons, as a Conservative. The life of an opposition MP seldom makes interesting reading, and Pearkes is no exception. But in 1957 his opportunity came: The Conservatives took power and Pearkes, at the age of 69, became Minister of National Defence. As Roy demonstrates, it was a frustrating experience, characterized by disagreements within the cabinet. In 1960, when Diefenbaker offered him the honorific job of Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, he took it.

From this book the reader will learn a great deal about General Pearkes, his virtues, and most of his experiences. Perhaps from a future, revised, edition he will learn more.

--Robert Bothwell

Robert Bothwell, who teaches Canadian History at the University of Toronto, recently published a biography of Lester B. Pearson.

* * * *

"THE MAN FOR A NEW COUNTRY": SIR MATTHEW BAILLIE BEGBIE. David R. Williams. Sidney: Gray's, 1977, Pp. x, 333, illus., $15.95.

In The Man for a New Country, lawyer David Williams has risen to the posthumous defense of His Honour's honour. Begbie was slandered in his own time, and has been misrepresented since by historians. The author uses his legal expertise to show that Begbie was clearly not a "hanging judge"; that he was appointed to British Columbia as its first high court Judge because of his "brains and professional reputation". We see Begbie, the Cambridge undergraduate and Lincoln's Inn barrister,

applying his wayward but brilliant mind to the diverse problems of a new country. Begbie was a mid-Victorian gentleman of liberal education and conservative temperament. British Columbia, it seems, was his domain and he treated it as such, forming laws and legislation, mapping uncharted territory, employing his linguistic abilities to the full. Sir Matthew, Williams tells us, "was not reactionary but reformist; not narrow but broadminded; not insensitive but tolerant and humane".

Obviously this is an author who esteems his subject, and the reader suffers such encomiums throughout the book. Williams directs his criticism at the judge's detractors, rarely at the judge himself. Again and again we are shown how, with "magnificent irony", the hypocrisy of the calumniators is revealed. Williams writes very well and argues for the slandered historical figure so forcibly that even the most doubting juror would acquit Begbie of the several charges against him: land and mining speculation, arbitrary judicial decisions and preferential judgements, to name a few.

Is this biography the definitive vindication of Begbie? To an extent, yes, because it is doubtful that any historian will again come to Begbie's defense with such wholehearted enthusiasm and careful scholarship. One inference to be drawn from this biography is that it was Begbie's imperious demeanor more than any wrongdoing on his part that led to the abuse he suffered. Will this quiet his critics? This reviewer doubts that historians will be satisfied with Williams' interpretation.

There is a touch of smugness about this book which invites reply, as though Begbie has now had partial treatment in a lower court, but deserves prosecution, or better still, impartial consideration, in a higher court.

Take, for example, the author's interpretation of the Cottonwood Scandal, caused by Begbie's alleged pre-emption speculation in acreage at a time when colonial officials were forbidden such dealings. Williams agrees with Professor S.G. Pettit (when it is convenient) that no trace of Begbie's involvement exists in the Crown land records. In fact, the Pre-emption Records show that Begbie recorded twenty-two acres at Cottonwood on the "11th day of August, 1862". A small error? Perhaps, but the absence of such facts does tend to undermine the book. Williams is expert at knowing what to leave out. We are shown Begbie the cartographer, disdained as an amateur by Colonel Moody in a way that makes Moody look like a hypercritical purist. Instead Williams could have shown how Begbie's mapping antagonized the Royal Engineers; how it was often wanting in accuracy.

Begbie was an honourable man, to be sure. But alas, honour is a gentlemanly notion of conduct, an absolute code. How difficult it must have been for him to maintain the idea of the old world gentleman in a frontier society, with its money-grubbing mentality. One wonders if Begbie was as faultless as he appears in David Williams' biography.

—Chad Evans

Chad Evans has completed a detailed study of Cottonwood Hosue for the Parks Branch.

* * * *

THE ENTERPRISING MR. MOODY, THE BUMPTIOUS CAPTAIN STAMP. James Morton. North Vancouver: J. J. Douglas, 1977. Pp. vii, 183. $13.95.

James Morton, one of British Columbia's more prolific writers, recently published a study of "the lives and colourful times of Vancouver's lumber pioneers". The Enterprising Mr. Moody, the Bumptious Captain Stamp will be welcomed by those who enjoyed Morton's earlier books on the history of the Capilano River and the Chinese in British Columbia.

Starting in the mid-nineteenth century, Morton traces the related yet dissimilar careers of Captain Edward Stamp and Sewell Moody. In 1865, Stamp who had earlier briefly operated a mill at the head of the Alberni Canal, secured British funds and, with the co-operation of friendly colonial officials, obtained massive tracts of timerlands in the vicinity of Burrard Inlet. By 1867 his new mill was operating and exporting timber around the globe. Yet, despite repeated assistance from government officials, Stamp never achieved the success his rival attained, was plagued by lawsuits and abandoned the forest business in early 1869. Burrard Inlet's first mill had been founded in 1861 by a group of New Westminster businessmen. This north shore mill (located approximately where the Pioneer Grain Terminal will soon stand) foundered until an American from Maine, Sewell P. Moody, and

his associates acquired it in January 1865. With virtually no assistance from government officials, the ambitious and energetic Moody quickly turned his mill into an efficient and busy plant. Moody was a progressive man; he brought electricity and the telegraph to Moodyville, he prohibited liquor from the community, he established a school and he encouraged employees to attend church and to read in the village library. Despite a devastating fire in the early seventies, "Sue" Moody did not give up but immediately rebuilt. Sadly, he drowned in a shipping mishap off the Washington coast in 1875. While Stamp and Moody disappeared from the local scene, they had lain the foundations of the lumber industry on Burrard Inlet.

The book is designed to appeal to a wide market. The style is readable, providing coherent and graphic pictures of Stamp and Moody. While most of the general tale has been told before, Morton has added valuable fresh details on his two subjects, their partners and acquaintances and their families. And, of course, Morton has furnished some clues about the foundations of British Columbia's most important industry.

Nevertheless, the book lacks a certain depth. It tends to be folksy and nostalgic -- concerned with the relatively trivial details of its subjects' lives. Pages are spent relating the most minute genealogical data on Stamp and Moody. Several sections (e.g. pages 108, 111, 146) appear to be little more than irrelevant filler. Moreover, Morton fails to come to grips with several important issues. For example, he makes only cursory references to the Indians (e.g., p. 46) and never attempts to analyze their dilemma. He mentions working conditions in the sawmills in passing but never comes to terms with the issue. His conclusion consists of a genealogical summary rather than an analysis of the role of his two subjects in the evolution of the forest industry. In addition, although he does go beyond newspapers as sources, he fails to use several recent and relevant publications such as Robert Cail's Land Man and the Law, Thomas R. Cox's Mills and Markets, and Robert D. Watt's article, "Early B.C. Sawmill Machinery: 1869" in the Material History Bulletin. (In fairness, the last item may have appeared after Morton's book went to press.) Morton also apparently ignored the invaluable Hastings Sawmill letterbook held by the Vancouver City Archives. Another glaring deficiency is the system of pseudo-footnotes or "references". Guessing where each unnumbered reference fitted was a frustrating experience for which the publishers cannot be forgiven. Finally, the questionable accuracy of the map of Burrard Inlet and its vicinity almost eliminates its utility.

In spite of these criticisms, The Enterprising Mr. Moody, the Bumptious Captain Stamp remains a pleasant volume which transports the reader back to the beginnings of British Columbia's major city.

--William C. McKee

William McKee, a Vancouver city archivist, has a special interest in Burrard Inlet and its history.

* * * *

PEMBERTON: THE HISTORY OF A SETTLEMENT. Frances Decker, Margaret Fouberg, and Mary Ronayne. Gordon R. Elliott, consultant and editor. Pemberton: Pemberton Pioneer Women, 1977. Pp. 348, maps, illus.

This is a history of Pemberton district, not just of the village of Pemberton. It deals with the lands drained by the Birkenhead and Upper Lillooet Rivers, concentrating mainly on the Pemberton Valley, the valley of the Birkenhead south of Darcy, and the valleys of the Cheakamous and Green Rivers north of Daisy Lake. Beginning with an introduction on geography and three chapters on the area's native residents, the authors follow the development of Pemberton from fur trade days to 1966.

Pemberton is an intriguing district. Tantalizingly close to Vancouver and containing much rich farm land, it is blocked geographically from easy access to either Lillooet to the north east or Howe Sound or the Fraser River to the south. Paradoxically, it first attracted interest because a travel route circumventing the Fraser Canyon lay through it. The Hudson's Bay Company explored the route (from the head of Harrison Lake to Lillooet) in the 1840's and miners cleared a pack trail in 1858. In the 1870's the C.P.R. surveyed a line from Lillooet to the head of Howe Sound and the government attempted to construct a cattle trail along it to carry on to Burrard Inlet. None of those ventures took hold, and when the Harrison Lillooet trail fell into disuse in the mid-1860's such settlement as had grown up along it gradually disappeared.

People began to come back to the district in the 1890's, lured by Pemberton's fertility and the hope of a railway. The very sporadic improvements in transportation, however, together with the periodic flooding of the Lillooet River made for slow growth. The population of the district, which had been thirty in 1912, was still only 251 in 1951. Agriculture, particularly potato growing and the production of seed potatoes, formed the economic basis, with some prospecting, logging, and, in the lodges along the line of the P.G.E., tourism.

The main body of Pemberton is divided into two chronological periods by World War II. Within those divisions chapters are devoted to such topics as settlement, community life, transportation, the development of agriculture, work in the woods, prospecting, and the growth of community services. While the authors emphasize the experiences of individual settlers, such general subjects as the construction of the P.G.E., the work of the Federal government fish hatchery at Owl Creek, the development of farm marketing organizations and the dyking of the Lillooet River are well covered.

In many ways Pemberton can serve as a good example to writers of local histories. It must be one of the longest of such works yet to be produced by a community group in British Columbia, and it is certainly one of the most sophisticated, both in its organization and in the range of sources used. Although a certain amount of confusion arises from the topic by topic approach and the number of names which appear in the text, by and large the book is given shape by the way in which the authors have drawn out the economic and geographic factors which shaped Pemberton's development. When the authors include long "lists" of names, they provide the reader with enough information to make the lists interesting. The chapters on settlement, for example, which give the names of many of the people who came to the district before 1914, between the wars, and after World War II, are fascinating compilations of the variety of motives which prompted people to settle in Pemberton and of the ways in which they managed to establish themselves and make a living.

In addition to scouring printed works for references to Pemberton, the authors have drawn on diaries and the records of community organizations and government ministries. Major sources are listed in a selected bibliography, and, in the absence of footnotes, are usually identified in the text. Written sources are augmented by recollections, which are used to outstanding effect in the chapter on the 1940 flood. The illustrations, both photographs and programmes of sports days and concerts, are well chosen and well produced. A separate "photo gallery" at the back contains eighty photographs with almost every person identified. There are a number of maps, showing such detail as the location of early stopping places and of early surveyed lots. However, it would have been helpful to strangers to the district to have included a reproduction of the section of the National Topographic Series 1:126, 720 series covering Pemberton.

The authors and the editor, all members of pioneer Pemberton families, have produced a book which should be of interest not only to residents of Pemberton, but to those interested in the process of settlement in British Columbia.

--Frances Gundry.

Frances Gundry, head of the Manuscripts and Government Records Division of the Provincial Archives, is corresponding secretary for the Victoria Branch.

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EARLY INDIAN VILLAGE CHURCHES. John Veillette and Gary White. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1977. Pp. 195, illus., $15.00 (paper), $29.00 (cloth).

Early Indian Village Churches grew out of the travels, exploits and experiences of two people who, on their own hook, set out to document early settlement churches in the remoter parts of British Columbia. John Viellette majored in Fine Arts at the University of British Columbia and studied North American architecture under Dr. Harold Kalman (himself author of Pioneer Churches, Toronto 1976) who now provides a sensitive introduction to the book. Gary White, for some years editor and manager of the Smithers Interior News, complemented an historic and geographical appreciation of the region with photographic skills.

The book is built around the photographic record of their travels and experiences. Viellette, in his preface best describes the format of the volume:

> We have divided the book into three main sections. In the first, Robin Fisher and Warren Sommer describe the historical background against which Indian village churches were built. Robin Fisher discusses the dramatic growth of missionary activity among the Indians of British Columbia between 1850 and 1900; Warren Sommer explains how the churches were built and how technology and architectural tradition influences their styles. Gary White and I then briefly describe Indian village life today and the state of the typical Indian village church.
>
> In the second, major, section of the book we have organized the churches in eight geographical regions of the Province.
>
> Our third, very brief, section contains an account of the maintenance, restoration and reconstruction work that Gary and I carried out on the Anglican church at Kitwanga and the Salvation Army Hall at Glen Vowell.

Two of the commentaries are crucial to understanding the documentary sections of White and Viellette. Robin Fisher is also the author of Contact and Conflict: Indian-European Relations in British Columbia, 1874-1890 (UBC Press, 1977). Warren Sommer (a University of British Columbia M.A. in Geography) has spent many years researching church architecture in British Columbia and is presently on staff at Burnaby Heritage Village.

In his essay Missions to the Indians of British Columbia, Fisher discusses the missionary phenomenon, describing a society in conflict and upheaval as the traditional tribal lands of British Columbia's native population became a battleground at the cutting edge of the European "civilizing" process. Using an anthropological acculturation model, Fisher sketches precontact native life, summarizes the consequences of European contact, describes the missionaries, their own background, beliefs, objectives and proselytizing techniques. Fisher is to be congratulated for penning a bravely fair essay ("The notion that the missionaries brought only unmitigated destruction to the Indian cultures is perhaps as naive as that of earlier missionary apologists...") at a time when many social scientists have abandoned scholarly scruples and jumped on the sensationalist bandwagon of breast beating and guilt mongering (i.e., the new native peoples gallery at the Provincial Museum).

Sommer's contribution Mission Church Architecture on the Industrial Frontier is a very competent account of the social and technical aspects of Indian village church building. This author demonstrates a ready appreciation of the symbolic aspects of the churches in their function of uniting the village about ritualistic and ideological notions in the context of internecine sectarian rivalry. Sommer identifies three major influences on church design: liturgical and architectural traditions (mainly European), the individual tastes of clergymen, and local skills, practices and materials. The role of the Oxford tractarians and Cambridge Camden Society in Church of England missionary societies, and the Franco-Belgian based efforts of the Roman Catholic missionary activity through the newly founded missionary and teaching orders is skillfully traced though to influences in the planning and decoration of village churches. The modifying effect of native skills in dealing with industrial age products and technology is one of the more interesting aspects of this chapter.

Viellette and White's brief description of present village life, which summarizes the state and function of the churches today, introduces the meat of the book, nearly 400 photographs documenting some 75 churches in eight regions of the Province. A specific geographical, climactic and historical introduction (complete with general and detailed maps) is provided for each region. The buildings are treated individually with a brief case history and an architectural appreciation illustrated with period and present day photographs, often including details of interiors or salient architectural features. The commentaries are concise; esoteric architectural terminology is used sparingly and appropriately. The authors include a brief glossary of terms.

The final chapter deals with two case studies of restorations performed by the authors. It is a fitting and positive note on which to conclude a book which focuses on the marginal survival of what must be one of the province's most unusual, if ephemeral, art forms.

It is easy to fault such a book for omissions. For instance, there is no adequate discussion of the siting of the churches, an interesting point since many of the model villages follow eastern U.S. "village green plans" of which the ultimate archetype is the Roman agricultural villa. Comparative references to other historical and ethnographic acculturation examples such as white settlement in Africa or Eastern Canada are also lacking. But this aside, the importance of Early Indian Village Churches is in defining the state of art in architectural history in British Columbia and in providing a model of excellence for further books. The lesson here is that we desperately need accessible documentary material. With sound editorial control resources, skills and talents can be pooled

and effectively managed so that basic information is disseminated quickly and effectively. Early Indian Village Churches accomplishes this with merit. Only after many similar volumes will we be able to afford the luxury of more erudite and interpretive literature in this area. Unlike the stone cathedrals of Europe, our own more modest but equally unique wooden monuments will not be so patient in awaiting popular interest and preservation pressure.

Early Indian Village Churches was recently selected from 254 entries for an open category design/aesthetic award by the Association of American University Presses.

—Martin Segger

Martin Segger is Curator of Maltwood Museum at the University of Victoria.

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THE BRITISH COLUMBIA HISTORICAL QUARTERLY CUMULATIVE INDEX: A TWO-PART INDEX TO THE *BRITISH COLUMBIA HISTORICAL QUARTERLY* VOLUMES I -XXI, INCLUDING *BRITISH COLUMBIA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORTS AND PROCEEDINGS* NUMBERS I -IV. Compiled by Jill Swannell. Victoria: Camosun College, 1977. Pp. x, 136.

At last we have a published index to the indispensible and sorely missed British Columbia Historical Quarterly! The Quarterly, or BCHQ as it is fondly referred to, was a scholarly journal highly regarded by historians and librarians across the continent, but until now there has been no separate published index, although it was included in the Canadian Periodical Index, and some libraries had prepared their own "in-house" index.

There are a number of points about this index which are rather puzzling. The pages are unnumbered, which is a flaw in any reference book, whether it is a result of unforgiveable oversight in proofreading, or a matter of mistaken artistic taste. The division of the index into author and title entries in Part I and subject entries in Part II is a drawback to users and is quite unnecessary in an index of this size. The five-page Subject Classification list is rather reduntant. It is not an index, as there are no page numbers, and one would look for an index at the end of the book. The purpose of the Subject Classification Cross Index is also unclear.

What is the basis for the subject headings used? The usual heading for "Biographical Information" is "Biography". In the "see also" reference under "Biographical Information", "Individual Names" is printed in capital letters implying that information on people will be found under a subject heading "Individual Names" rather than under individual personal name, which is the intention of the reference. The names of some individuals are included in the subject headings, while others of equal importance are put in the cross-references. The cross-references would have been much more useful and less confusing if they had been interfiled with the subject index. The treatment of subjects is equally erratic. Most of the minority groups appear together under the subject heading "Minority Groups", including two on the East Indians and the *Komagata Maru* incident, with cross-references from names of the groups, but the two entries on Negroes are under "Negroes in British Columbia".

The entries themselves are as complete as one could want, although the placing of the description of illustrations before the title of the journal appears rather odd. There is an inconsistency between the use of the shortest possible abbreviation and unnecessarily long ones. The journals have been referred to in British Columbia for years as the BCHQ and the BCHA Report.

Most of the bibliographical terms have been given the standard abbreviations, but for some reason "bibliography" has been left at "bibliog" rather than the shorter standard abbreviation "bibl".

Libraries and individuals who like to keep an index with the journal will not be very happy with the size of this index. The bound journals are approximately 16 x 24 cms., and the index is 21 x 27 cms. The smaller format is usually less expensive, and an index smaller than the journal is preferable to one that is larger. The heavy use this index is likely to have, however, may make a handier location necessary and the shelving problem will not matter. We are indebted to Camosun College for at last making this index available. It is a must for anyone interested in British Columbia or Pacific Northwest history.

—Frances Woodward
Special Collections Division
University of British Columbia
Library

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A SECOND OPINION:

History teachers will welcome the BRITISH COLUMBIA HISTORICAL QUARTERLY CUMULATIVE INDEX but will have to advise students to use it with care and imagination. The index, which covers both the 1937 to 1958 run of the Quarterly and the 1923 to 1929 series of the British Columbia Historical Association Annual Reports and Proceedings, is flawed by stylistic inconsistencies. Regional historians usually refer to the Quarterly as the BCHQ rather than the "BC Hist Q" employed by the compiler of the cumulative index. Such indexes commonly have page numbers themselves and a clear directory of contents. This one has a front page indicating division of the work into alphabetized author-title listings and a subject index. The presence of a subject classification cross-index is noted only after other prefatory material at the end of a list of subject headings.

The potentially useful subject index is flawed by both inconsistencies and omissions which make it a catalogue rather than a catalyst for student researchers. The BCHQ articles, which aimed to chronicle great men's lives and to interpret political events, seem at first glance to be of only limited use to modern students seeking descriptions of racial or labour strife. Yet the indexer might have been more careful and imaginative in listing the social history material which the BCHQ did contain. For example, two items on the East Indians come under the heading "MINORITY GROUPS" but two on Negroes are classified only under "NEGROES". Labour unions do not appear in the subject headings. The student must pore over the author-title listing to find the relevant articles.

The weakness of the subject classification of the INDEX is epitomized by the compiler's treatment of one fine article in the traditional biography vein, "The Journal of Arthur Thomas Bushby", BCHQ, Vol. 21. The subject section does not list it in "BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION", nor under "BUSHBY", nor does it include names of individual prominent in the piece, even Bushby's father-in-law, Sir James Douglas. Only a patient or an inspired student will ferret out the journal in the author-title index. Dorothy Blakey Smith's introduction, the journal, her detailed notes and biographical appendix will reward such a student with material on Bushby and Douglas and a variety of social history topics. Family life and courtship customs, for example, were discussed in this and other BCHQ articles. Careful research and reasoned analysis transcend time and historical fashion. The indexer, however, has classified these pieces in too narrow and traditional a style. She neglects the relatives of even the great male pioneers and their first-hand accounts of important events and omits women and families entirely from the subject listing.

--Jacqueline Gresko
Douglas College

Jacqueline Gresko, a regular contributor to the News, is currently preparing a study of Mary Susannah Moody.

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McCOOK ON THE COOK CONFERENCE

Captain Cook came out of it very well.

For four days at Simon Fraser University in April, 23 panelists, with an enthusiastic audience of nearly 200, participated in the Captain James Cook and His Times Conference to honour the 200th anniversary of the arrival of this extraordinary man.

Dr. Alan Frost, La Trobe University, Bundora, Australia, spoke of the "majesty and mystery" of Cook's achievements. Without the advantage of much schooling, but assisted by a few good friends, Cook rose from being an apprentice boy on a British collier to be a captain in the Royal Navy, ranging the sea from Antarctica to the Arctic, pioneering the accurate calculation of longitude, fighting scurvy and other miseries common to seamen, laying the basis of Britain's second empire, giving reality to the world beyond Europe and marking the imagination of the age in the manner of a Newton or a Darwin. Frost said that contemporaries saw James Cook as a "British Columbus" and make his achievements yardsticks to measure those of others.

None failed in admiration of Cook at the 1978 conference, but there was a recurring theme that, before he was killed in a confused melee with natives on a Hawaiian shore in 1779, Cook had ceased to be the leader without a flaw. He perished on his third voyage, when his explorations had carried him north to the ice in search of the Northwest Passage. The commander who had given an example to the seafaring world by insisting on clean, dry, well-ventilated, fumigated ships, with

warm clothing available to seamen who had sufficient time for uninterrupted rest off duty, seemed to lose interest during his third voyage. Perhaps he despaired of stopping the spread of venereal disease through sailors' contacts with women ashore, at Nootka and on the islands to the south. Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir James Watt, told the conference that Cook probably suffered from worms, internal parasites, and may have had tuberculosis. The question is left -- would Cook in normal health and good temper have become involved in the dispute in which he was killed? Sir James said it could be stated with confidence that Cook himself did not have syphillis.

A community afflicted by syphillis after the visit of any explorer's ship might be regarded as victimized, but Dr. Robin Fisher emphasized that the Nootka Indian way of life was not shattered by the arrival of Cook 200 years ago. At first the Indians thought the men on the stranger ships were a species of fish, but in short order they were trading with the utmost shrewdness, their special interest being metal goods of which they had some knowledge.

For a moment the conference toyed with the puzzle of the origin of the two silver spoons a Nootka Indian wore as jewelry when Cook arrived. Spain argued that they were Spanish spoons, and that this meant Spain had been at Nootka first. Others had their claims, of course; the spoons might have been Russian or British. Dr. Jacque Mar of Nanaimo, suggested the possibility that the spoons came from China.

Two hundred years ago the Cook sailors and the Nootka Indians met and parted with mutual respect but at the recent conference there was more than one expression of regret that the Indians at Friendly Cove did not welcome conference visitors this year. Cook, in good health, was effective in avoiding disputes with native people. He and his officers were observant and patient, and they came to appreciate the importance of ceremony. They learned that there were songs of greeting and songs of war, the spear a man carried might indicate whether he sought peace or war and by no means every Indian sought beads or other trifles when he might trade for an axe. Misunderstandings and conflicts were common enough, no matter how much the whites and the native people tried to negotiate peacefully. Not least of the honours earned by Cook was a statement of Maoris mentioned by P.W. Gathercole of the University of Cambridge, England. They found him gentlemanly and of noble demeanour.

In the midst of all the admiration for Cook there was a slight embarrassment over his failure to spot on his way North, the entrance to the Columbia River and Juan de Fuca Strait. But that seems small failure when, as Glyn Williams of the University of London observed, Cook's achievements meant that the whole South Pacific emerged from the mists.

The conference discussions this year made it possible to understand the excitement of two centuries ago when the Cook ships returned from the distant seas. The travellers brought home drawings of men and women in strange clothing and they described unusual customs and ceremonies. Birds and fish were preserved in alcohol for the study of experts. There were wooden carvings, sacred Hawaiiam images made of feathers, and the accounts of rare foods of delicious flavour. Most of all there were tales of lands of sun and of mystery.

Museum authorities today groan at the thought of how many items of these collections have been lost but the assurance is that vigorous efforts are being made to safeguard what is left. Part of the greatness of Cook was his ability to maintain good relations with the scientists and observers who lived for months on his overcrowded ships. Their reports and journals usually were respectful to him and jealousies affecting him were kept to a minimum.

Cook may have felt that he had his share of critics but he may also have remembered others who were less fortunate. The charts he drew on the lower St. Lawrence River were good enough to serve for more than a century, although they were immediately put to use to help the British victory on the Plains of Abraham. J. S. Pritchard of Queen's University, Kingston, recalled that French chart-makers had marked the St. Lawrence channel well before Cook appeared, but disputes and inefficiency had delayed the publication of their work.

Cook delighted in the study of map-making methods and equipment and gave leadership in their development. But there was more than that. There was tradition. Rear Admiral G.S. Ritchie of the International Hydrographic Bureau remarked, for example, that Cook insisted on observance of the tradition that the plotting of the day's work should be completed that day and never left to the next.

In concluding sessions of the conference, different speakers remarked on the wide range of subjects which had been covered under the seven main headings -- Implications of Cook's Voyages, Cook's Influence on Subsequent Explorations of the North Pacific, Impact on the European Mind, Cook and Navigation, Scientific Aspects of Cook's Voyages, Cook and Indigenous People, and Cook's Contemporaries.

These headings produced a great store of learning and interpretation to which the unlettered Cook would have listened with respect and gone about his business of taking well-manned ships to lands forlorn in obedience to the command of the lords of the Admiralty.

--James McCook
Victoria Branch

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year the Association's Annual Conference was held in conjunction with the Cook Conference at Simon Fraser University and on 29 April, 1978, the Association held its Annual General Meeting.

Anne Stevenson, the honorary president, addressed the Annual General Meeting, and included in her remarks a recommendation that the Association urge the Ministry of Recreation and Conservation's Culture and Heritage Branch to prepare an inventory of historic structures in our province. She pointed out that this was a project that could involve participation by member societies and she emphasized that the Association should continue to protest its loss of representation on the reconstituted Heritage Advisory Committee.

In other business, a recommendation was made to the Council that BCHA dues be increased to $2.00 per affiliated member.

The secretary's Annual Report noted that there are now 24 societies affiliated with the Association. The report also noted the success in saving the warehouse of Lee's Store in Hanceville and of support to the campaign to change the name of Pacific Rim National Park to that of Wickanninish National Park. There was no success with a plea to name the Richmond Highway for John Sullivan Deas. The Secretary recommended that the Association define more exactly its long-term goals, and that it set realistic short-term goals, which included means of funding the cost of publishing the News. The Association expressed its thanks to Anne and Philip Yandle for their dedication as editors of the News for ten years and expressed appreciation to Alison and Rob Watt and the Vancouver Historical Society for publishing the last two issues of the News.

The only change in table officers of the Association was the election of last year's council member-at-large, Helen Akrigg, as President. The Council elected Don New and A.K. Poikonen member-at-large, and Arlene Bramhall continues as recording secretary.

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TREASURER'S REPORT:

Financial Year 1977-1978:

Receipts of the Association have been $2,132.09, comprising: $1,069 in dues; $9.00 in subscriptions to the B.C. Historical News; $55.33 in interest on Community Service Account #05993-8-08; $406.76 in debenture interest; and $592.00 in other receivables, chiefly fees paid by those attending the Annual General Meeting.

Expenditures have totalled $1,452.07, of which the major part, $1,072.20 have been incurred through the production and distribution of the News. $35.00 have been spent on dues to other Societies, secretarial expenses have come to $267.41, and the remaining $77.46 comprises miscellaneous expenses, chiefly of a non-recurring nature. Thus the Association has earned a profit of $680.02, due to interest on investments and the fact that any bills occasioned by the Annual General Meeting will not be presented for payment until after the start of the new financial year.

The Association faces a very uncertain future unless revenue is increased. Dues did not cover the cost of production of a skeleton News, and the current deficit will certainly be exceeded in the coming year. If on-going external funding is not obtained, dues will have to be increased by a sizeable amount. Some persons have suggested that the financing of the News be put on a subscription basis divorced from Association finances, but this is not a practical proposition. Unit costs for publication rise as circulation drops, thus the subscription rates would have to be set so high as to insure the failure of the publication, if there were any appreciable opting out of News subscribers.

If the financial picture does not improve in the forthcoming year, the dissolution of the Asosciation and the division of remaining assets, on a per capita basis, between those member Societies having registration under the Societies Act, should be seriously considered. If the Association is incapable of continuing to publish the News, it can no longer function as a clearing house and means of communication between the historical societies of this province, and thus will have lost its *raison d'etre*.

---Michael F.H. Halleran
Tresurer

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WEDGWOOD AND NANAIMO HONOUR CAPTAIN COOK

In 1784, five years after Captain James Cook's death in Hawaii, John Flaxman, R.A., the famous modeller, made for Josiah Wedgwood a likeness in profile of the great explorer. It is regarded as one of the finest portraits of him; the only other outstanding one being the painting by Nathaniel Dance in the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich.

For the 1970 bicentenary of the discovery of Australia by Cook, Wedgwood produced a sweet dish in blue and white Jasper ware with a bas-relief of the Flaxman portrait. One of these came as a gift to Mrs. Mar of the Nanaimo Historical Society, and when the British Columbia Bi-Centennial plans were first mooted the idea evolved of having Wedgwood produce a similar dish to commemorate the Nootka arrival.

Knowing the length of time that ideas can take to come to fruition, a letter was sent to Wedgwood in England in 1975. Enthusuastically received there, they sought the opinion of the Canadian office who turned down the idea, as it was felt there was little interest in the Bi-Centennial provincially or nationally.

In the two years that followed, Wedgwood Canada had a series of letters from Mrs. Mar, until in November, 1977, they finally succumbed to pressure and announced that they were proceeding with the production of a sweet dish in blue and white Jasper as a commemorative piece.

A limited edition of 2,500 has been made and the dishes, numbered, are on sale in the Empress Hotel, Victoria. A commemorative leaflet will accompany it, but at the time of writing this was still at the printing stage.

Nanaimo was proud to be the instigator of this tribute to Captain Cook. Being at the "hub" of the island on which he landed and with the new electoral boundaries including that part of the coast in our district, we have a special feeling for the great explorer.

--Pamela Mar
Nanaimo Historical Society

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POSTSCRIPT

TRAIL HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

The TRAIL HISTORICAL SOCIETY has been busy preparing for its second museum exhibition season beginning in June. With the aid of a Canada Works Grant and a $1,500 grant from the B.C. Museum/ Archive Development Fund, the Society employed two people through the winter. One person is working on constructing display cases and shelving for the museum and archives, and the other has been sorting and cataloguing recent archival acquisitions. The Trail Society also assisted the Selkirk Regional Archives in employing a person to accession, sort and file their recent archival acquisitions.

The society is again participating in Trail's annual Festival Celebrations with a display picturing some of Trail's historic buildings. With the assistance of the B.C.-Yukon Regional Council of Heritage Canada, we hope to bring to the attention of area residents not only Trail's heritage buildings but also the need to preserve these historic buildings as part of our community's history.

--Jamie Forbes
President, Trail Historical Society

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DIRECTORY:

MEMBER SOCIETIES

Alberni District Museum and Historical Society, Mrs. C. Holt, Secretary, Box 284, Port Alberni, V9Y 7M7, Tel. 723-3006.

Atlin Historical Society, Mrs. Christine Dickenson, Secretary, Box 111, Atlin.

Bowen Island Historians, Mrs. Aileen Hay, Blue Water Park, R.R.1, Bowen Island, V0N 1G0, Tel. 947-9790

BCHA, Gulf Islands Branch, Helen Claston, Port Washington, V0N 2T0.

BCHA, Victoria Branch; Miss F. Gundry, Secretary, 255 Niagara, V8V 1G4, 385-6353.

Burnaby Historical Society, Ethel Derrick, Secretary, 8027-17th Ave., Burnaby, V3N 1M5, 521-6936.

Campbell River & District Historical Society, Gordon McLaughlin, Pres., Box 101, Campbell River, V9W 4Z9, 923-6767.

Chemainus Valley Historical Society, Mrs. E. Pederson, Secretary, P.O. Box 172, Chemainus, V0R 1K0, 245-3205.

Cowichan Historical Society, W.T.H. Fleetwood, Riverside Road, Cowichan Station.

Creston & District Historical and Museum Society, Mrs. Margaret Gidluck, Secretary, Box 164, Creston, V0B 1G0, 428-2838.

District #69 Historical Society, Mrs. Mildred E. Kurtz, Secretary-Treasurer, Box 74, Parksville, VOR, 2S0, 248-6763.

Elphinstone Pioneer Museum Society, Mary Gregory, Secretary, R.R.#1, Lower Road, Gibsons, V0N 1V0, 886-2064.

Golden & District Historical Society, Mrs. B. Feuz, Secretary, Box 992, Golden.

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Kettle River Museum Society, Alice Evans, Secretary-Treasurer, Midway, V0H 1M0, 449-2413.

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North Shore Historical Society, Miss Lillian Brooks, Secretary, #306-120 W. 17th, North Vancouver, V7M 1V4, 985-4393.

Princeton & District Pioneer Museum, The Secretary, Box 687, Princeton, V0X 1W0.

Sidney & North Saanich Historical Society, Mrs. Ray Joy, Secretary, 10719 Bayfield Road, R.R. #3, Sidney, V8L 3P9, 656-3719.

Trail Historical Society, Mrs. M. T. Jory, Secretary-Treasurer, Box 405, Trail, V1R 4I7, 368-5602.

Vancouver Historical Society, Mrs. Alison Watt, Secretary, Box 3071, Vancouver, V6B 3X6, 985-6955.

Wells Historical Society, Secretary, Wells, B.C.

Windermere District Historical Society, Mrs. E. Stevens, Secretary, Box 784, Invermere, V0A 1K0.