

Reviews/Comptes rendus

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Provinces: Canadian Provincial Politics

edited by Christopher Dunn. Peterborough, ON: Broadview Press, 1996. Pp. 531. \$31.95.

Not long ago political scientists lamented the dearth of good textual materials on Canadian provincial politics. The situation has changed for the better in recent years and this book represents the most recent and welcome addition to this growing literature. While suitable for a wide audience, the book is primarily directed at students in provincial politics, administration, and public policy. The book has a number of qualities that commend it to its audience, principally that virtually all the essays are well-written and researched, informative, and accessible to undergraduates.

The book is loosely organized around a systems framework with sections on provincial political life, provincial political structures, public administration, and public policy. The first section is comprised of essays on provincial political cultures (Wiseman), parties and party systems (Carty and Stewart), interest groups (Brock), and a highly speculative essay on a Canada without Quebec (Lemco). All these are solid essays but collectively they are not well linked to the sections that follow. For example, while Wiseman's essay breaks new ground in applying Louis Harz's fragment theory to provincial politics, as an essay on political culture it tells us little about the sharp ideological debates surrounding the deficit, the debt, and the role of the state in an era of cutbacks which are explored in later essays.

The second section, provincial political structures, contains a rare and worthy essay on provincial constitutions (Wiseman) along with textbook discussions of premiers and cabinets (Dunn), provincial legislatures (White), provincial court systems (Baar), and provincial-municipal relations (Boswell). Pedagogically, this section has much to recommend it.

The same is true of the section on provincial public administration with essays on administrative reform (Lindquist and Murray), crown corporations (Pawley), provincial budgeting (Maslove and Moore), collective bargaining (Swimmer), and the debt (Dupre). The essays in this section reinforce one another and provide readers with an abundance of new data on each topic. One wonders, however, if this section might not have been trimmed by including only one essay on provincial finances instead of two.

The fourth section, provincial public policy, contains some particularly noteworthy essays. The essay by Imbeau and Lachapelle provides students an excellent introduction to the various ways provincial public policies can be compared and analysed. Michael Howlett's analysis of provincial service sectors shatters many of the myths academics are fond of perpetuating about provincial political economies. The section is completed by sound essays on social policy (Price Boase), justice and human rights (Eisenberg) and the provinces and foreign affairs (Nossal).

While the book is a valuable addition to the study of provincial politics, its grounding in political science orthodoxy meant important topics were neglected: for example, the new politics of social movements, in particular the women's, aboriginal and environment movements; the demand for increased citizen participation in government; and the political implications of globalization and the growing class polarization in Canada. Finally, one finds it curious that the book offered little in the way of explanation of why provincial politics and government have grown in importance and why provinces are worthy of extended study. As this book will no doubt go to a second edition, these omissions can be corrected at that time.

PETER J. SMITH, Department of Political Science,
Athabasca University

The Canadian Revolution: From Deference to Defiance

by Peter C. Newman. Toronto: Penguin Books Canada, 1995. Pp. 476.

The author, Peter C. Newman, is a prolific writer and political raconteur *par excellence*. His literary career has spanned a wide spectrum of public musings including a stint as editor of *Mclean's* magazine and the *Toronto Star* newspaper, the author of 16 books and a myriad of newspaper and magazine columns. His accolades include a dozen prestigious literary and journalism prizes.

The Canadian Revolution was originally intended to be a biography of former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. It evolved into a comprehensive treatise on the dramatic structural change experienced by Canada from 1985 to 1995 which the author contends was of such magnitude that it can be aptly characterized as an economic, social, and political revolution. The book's subtitle *From Deference to Defiance* reflects the revolutionary mood of the Canadian public which precipitated a significant transformation from an attitude of deference to authority giving way to defiance of the status quo. The key quotation that captures the essence of the author's thesis is that "Canadians came of age in a curiously uncharacteristic way. In uneven spurts between 1985 and 1995, they made the unruly passage from passive acceptance of closed-shop authority to open defiance of the established orders. The burghers of a once-smug country staged a revolt against the notion of having their personal decisions made for them by self-selected hierarchies dedicated to their own perpetuation. This was true not only of governments but of every aspect of life and work, including business, unions, schools, universities and the family."

This book is written with wit, humour, elegance of style, insightful analysis, and articulate prose. The author is undoubtedly one of Canada's leading chroniclers of this country's political history.

However, writing contemporary history, particularly one that aspires to analyze the preceding ten years is a hazardous undertaking. The historical events remain clear in the reader's mind and the principal personalities in the book are still alive and can challenge the author's accuracy and his interpretation of their actions. Indeed, the apology issued by the author and Penguin Books of Canada to Maureen McTeer and Joe Clark for "wrongly and unfairly portrayed their contributions to public life, their individual characters and their marriage" and to André Desmarais for incorrectly stating that he "was awarded a billion dollar contract to operate a satellite-TV network over the objections of federal regulators" confirms that the exercise of writing contemporary history has the potential of being a veritable minefield.

As a member of the Economic Council of Canada during a significant part of the decade addressed in this book, I had a front row seat in the formulation of Canada's public policy and in charting the course for new social and economic initiatives. The years from 1985 to 1995 are widely recognized as the period when Canadians acknowledged that economic policy and social policy could not exist in isolation but were in effect interdependent and intertwined. This was the decade when the economy became the driving force for Canada's evolving national maturity. It was also the decade when social programs became vulnerable to the burden of the public debt and government financial restraint. In the political arena Newman chronicles the defeat of the Meech Lake and the Charlottetown Accords as well as the devastating electoral defeat of the federal Progressive Conservative Party and the emergence of two protest parties: Reform in the west and Bloc Québécois in the east.

In short, *The Canadian Revolution* provides the reader with an entertaining, absorbing, and insightful perspective into Canada's evolving nationhood. In many respects it is a confirmation that Canada is a work in progress. As we celebrate in 1997 the

130th anniversary of the Canadian Confederation, we are reminded that ours is a very young country when compared with most other nations.

CONSTANTINE E. PASSARIS, Department of Economics, The University of New Brunswick

Managing Natural Resources in British Columbia: Markets, Regulations, and Sustainable Development

edited by A.D. Scott, J. Robinson and D. Cohen. Vancouver: UBC Press, 1995. Pp. 213, \$65.00.

Anthony Scott and his co-editors have put together a useful collection of papers covering agricultural, forestry, fisheries, and environmental management issues in British Columbia. The intention was to link the separate studies by stressing contrasts between traditional regulation and market-based resource management incentives along with sustainability issues for each type of resource. Haley and Luckert provide a nice survey of BC forest policy history as a prelude to examining problems of adapting timber-based forest tenures to multiple-use objectives and supporting the need to open up provincial stumpage and timber markets. Munro and Neher perform a similar service for coastal fisheries and favour individual quotas (possibly transferable) as an appropriate solution to the common property problem. Less plausibly, they also suggest that small numbers of licences issued for specific areas could permit cooperation to replace the tragedy of the commons. Landing fees are not considered. Baar's examination of air pollution issues in the Greater Vancouver Regional District points up the central problem of transferable emission permits in the Canadian setting: since governments have developed the habit of entering into negotiations with pollution violators instead of imposing significant penalties, polluters might well view acquisition of pollution permits as an inferior alternative to non-compliance.

Close examination of market-based alternatives to "command and control" resource management is a strong point here. But the attempt to organize much

of the discussion around the sustainability idea is not as successful. As often happens, the sustainability concept remains fuzzy and the authors certainly do not share similar views on what it is. At one extreme, the editors embrace a very general California-style notion of sustainability: institutions embodying a preservationist ethos ought somehow to emerge to replace existing arrangements in which governments modify the behaviour of a profit-seeking private economy. At the opposite end of the spectrum, Haley and Luckert affirm the conventional economics view that maximization of net present value of broadly conceived market and non-market net benefits is the right goal for governments to pursue in designing the specifics of resource management policies.

Notably absent from the sustainability discussion is any reference to the Hartwick Rule by which resource extraction is sustainable if resource values are transformed into man-made capital to replace depleted resource capital. How does the historical depletion of resource capital in BC actually compare to provincial investment in reproducible capital? And, as recent work by Martin Weitzman implies, should we even worry about Hartwick-style sustainability if technological progress is raising the living standards of future generations of British Columbians despite resource depletion?

F.J. ANDERSON, Department of Economics, Lakehead University

Politics, Policy, and Government in British Columbia

edited by R.K. Carty. Vancouver: UBC Press, 1996. Pp. xiii, 381. \$26.95.

A central theme of the book — if there is one among the 17 essays spanning political culture, processes, government structures, and policies — is that British Columbia is, in Ken Carty's words, Canada's "fifth region." But the book should interest more than area specialists as it is a highly professional use of discipline tools by prominent experts. Key

concepts are elaborated with a clarity surpassing many texts, for example, Michael J. Prince on the welfare state and Brian Scarfe on fiscal federalism.

The opening chapter, "Value Conflicts in Lotusland" by Donald Blake, applies recent survey data to the study of left and right, populism and non-populism, and postmaterialism. For a methodology refresher on political culture one might order the book for this chapter alone, although I question the Inglehart model where freedom of speech, classically liberal, is placed with postmaterialism. After Lynda Erickson discusses BC's higher numbers of women in politics, she notes little progress in "feminizing the state:" the legislature's "adversarial structure" is "not woman-friendly."

The Westminster Model for refining laws by competition of ideas is featured in Norman Ruff's account of how a former colony kept its Britishness while adding unBritish direct democracy reforms. Another study by Blake, of the polarized party system, explores how only third parties have held power since 1952, and claims a sharper left-right focus than elsewhere in North America, but does not mention Ontario's Queen's Park after the NDP and Harris swings.

Postmaterialism is reprised in Kathryn Harrison's study of how business, the old left of forestry unions demanding jobs, the newer left of environmentalists, and others are now recognized stakeholders in a more consensual development process that has borne results. Other essays discuss forestry, lobbies, media, the NDP in power, governmental structures and reforms — premiership and Cabinet, public service — and the administration of justice.

Often region is intra-BC, such as regions accommodated in Cabinet selection in Terence Morley's essay and regional tension as a key to BC political economy for Howlett and Brownsey. As to BC the region, distinctiveness claims are unproved without comparative analysis; nor are links to western provinces or Cascadia (adjacent US states) studied.

However, Ed Black's "BC: The Spoilt Child of Confederation" contrasts BC's commitment to the equality of provinces and its opposition to special status for Quebec with its claim to be a region. It seems to this reviewer that if region in federalism were to mean more than provinces — matters shared with adjacent provinces, provincial policies affecting national interests and vice versa, with a reformed second chamber to check both levels — then equal provinces might become less spoilt.

Several essays include the 1996 election, but Paul Tennant's solid account of Aboriginal Peoples in search of aboriginal titles mentions the Nisga's agreement only briefly. A welcome addition is an index. The cover is blue: blue Pacific, blue Canadian Rockies, into the blue — BC as state of mind.

DAVID J. BAUGH, Political Science, Red Deer College

Nobody Wants to Hear Our Truth: Homeless Women and Theories of the Welfare State

by Meredith L. Ralston. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1996. Pp. xiii, 202. US\$55.00.

Meredith Ralston is an Assistant Professor of Women's Studies at Mount Saint Vincent University in Nova Scotia. Her book is a detailed examination of 20 women who were or had recently been, homeless. These women were, or had been, addicted to either cocaine or alcohol; they had been intensively interviewed; and they were, or had been, residents of a shelter for homeless women in an eastern city with a population of about 250,000. Ralston describes her research methodology as "qualitative and feminist (p.7)." At the same time, she is testing different theories as they would relate to homeless women and the welfare state. The theories under scrutiny are neoconservatism and neoliberalism (the "New Right"), welfare liberalism, Marxism, and feminism. Feminist theory emerges as having the best fit to the understanding of the women's experiences. "Feminist analyses can explain aspects of the sexual abuse of children, the feminization of poverty,

the problems with the family, the contradictory nature of the welfare state, and the interlocking oppressions of sex, race, and class (p.163).” This is not a problematic conclusion, in my view, if only Ralston was clearer about which brand of feminism she was referring to.

One could, of course, pick on the problems of the research methodology whereby there were only 20 women interviewed; and they were certainly not representative of homeless women in the relatively small city in which they lived, much less of a broader population. Conclusions drawn from such interviewees would seem questionable regardless of the quality of such interviews — and the quality here seems good. I believe, however, that one should look at this type of research in a more positive light, that is, as ground-breaking and clearly suggestive of future undertakings. In this way, one can gain much from Ralston’s work.

There are a plethora of issues, however, regarding Ralston’s presentation of theories, her assessment of their respective strengths and weaknesses, her discussion of the welfare state, and her organization of the book itself. Details cannot be offered in a brief review such as this but it is important to note the following. It is somewhat popular these days to refer to the economic theory of the “New Right” as “neoliberal” — a trend I find annoying, confusing to others who are used to “liberal” as being somewhat to the left, etc. Nonetheless, the trend now seems impossible to avoid. Ralston uses the term and sees neoliberalism as distinct from neoconservatism. She does make a very good attempt to draw out the distinctions in that neoconservatism is viewed as focusing on women and the family and their relation to the welfare state while neoliberalism is seen as being rather silent about the family structure, sexism, and racism while it focuses on arguing for as little state intervention in the economy as possible. On the one hand, both are a joint part of the “New Right” and it is not clear how they can be separated in the real world and that they actually do have different conceptions of human

nature as Ralston claims (p.129). On the other hand, Ralston does make the helpful distinction between “neoliberalism” and “welfare liberalism” — the latter’s roots being in twentieth century Keynesianism.

I have already noted that Ralston includes a variety of feminists in the category of feminist theory. Additionally, Ralston does not make clear the separation between socialist feminism and Marxism and this is particularly problematical when she cites (often) people like Eisenstein. Is Eisenstein incompatible with the essentials of Marxism? Does Ralston really appreciate the structural thrust of socialist feminism when she lumps Eisenstein together with Steinem while interpreting feminism as starting with one’s self-esteem as the first step toward structural change? This is a very micro-sociological approach fraught with the problems of psychologism and ignores the importance of the structural aspects of socialist feminism and neoMarxism. Perhaps it is also related to Ralston’s discussion of the welfare state which is not related to the literature on theories of the state in general or to important aspects of power, that is, her avoidance of even references to economic and corporate power and its relation to the state (cf., pp. 177-80).

Finally, Ralston would have done well to present the theories of welfare-liberalism, Marxism, and feminism (ch. 6) near the beginning of the book where the neoconservative and neoliberal theories are located so that the reader, particularly those less familiar with the details of these theories, would be better prepared for the analyses of the results that follow. This comment is even more salient if it was Ralston’s intent to reach a broad audience — even a broad audience in the helping professions. Nonetheless, my comments should not detract from those interested in the topic from reading Ralston’s valuable first step in this area.

PAUL STEVENSON, Department of Sociology, University of Winnipeg

Reforming Fiscal Federalism for Global Competition: A Canada-Australia Comparison edited by Paul Boothe. Edmonton: University of Alberta Press, 1996. Pp. viii, 229.

This 230-page collection of papers is the fourth in the series of Western Studies in Economic Policy published by the Western Centre for Economic Research at the University of Alberta. Produced in association with the Federalism Research Centre at the Australian National University, it contains reports on a number of individual research projects initiated in 1994, discussed in conferences in Canberra in May 1995 and in Edmonton in October 1995.

Introductory papers by Tom Courchene and Cliff Walsh provide insightful general commentary on economic and political context, and a third introductory review by Stanley Winer and Alan Maslove offers a brief survey of constitutional and institutional frameworks.

Four further papers then review and comment upon the assignment of tax powers (Bev Dahlby and L.S. Wilson; Cliff Walsh), regional stabilization efforts (Paul Boothe and Jeffrey Petchey); and the partisan component in intergovernmental transfers (Robert Young and Andrew Sharman, with Andrew Goldstein) in the two countries. A second Courchene paper reflects on preserving and promoting the internal economic union in each, and the volume concludes with the text of a brief speech by Alberta Treasurer Jim Dinning setting out Alberta's recipe for future fiscal federalism (three realities, four challenges, and five essential characteristics).

In his introduction, Paul Boothe says "The main goal of this project is to understand the implications of globalization for federal systems and to consider how policies and public institutions can respond and adapt." In fact, though the book provides a very interesting collection of papers, it is rather less integrated and less comprehensive than its title or that characterization would suggest. Most of the papers

provide comparative study of fiscal arrangements in the two countries, but for the most part address causal links from globalization to the broader re-ordering of responsibilities in governments only implicitly or peripherally. Implications for federal-provincial or commonwealth-state relations arising out of the need for action by subnational governments to implement international agreements negotiated by national governments are not much addressed, for example. The ways in which international codes impinge on the freedom of national governments to establish and realize national standards in social or environmental policy, or the extent to which the discretion of subnational governments in economic policy is constrained by the mobility of productive factors and economic factors in global markets, in both cases re-shaping intergovernmental relations within the country, also are not discussed to the extent one might expect in an examination of the impacts of globalization.

In a prescient little book from 25 years ago, Robert A. Dahl and Edward R. Tufte examined the question of the optimal size for a democratic state and concluded that "The central theoretical problem [for democracy] is no longer to find suitable rules ... to apply within a sovereign unit, but to find suitable rules to apply among a variety of units, none of which is sovereign" (1973, p. 135). They suggested that "One reason why federalism has been able to deal concretely with problems arising from relationships among the constituent units is that nationalism has helped to keep down severe conflicts of loyalties within the federal system by means of a moderately clear hierarchy of loyalties. The nation was generally held to be the unit of ultimate loyalty ... Where a hierarchy of attachments did not develop, or broke down, conflicts of loyalties have led to serious confrontations ... Yet how infinitely more difficult is the problem of loyalty in a complex polity that begins to transcend the nation-state!" (ibid., pp. 140-41).

Jim Dinning, in his speech at the conference that reviewed the papers going into this volume,

suggested that federal-provincial relationships in Canada are distinctly different now than when the arrangements were designed, as a consequence of three new realities: the federal government's mounting debt, the impatient global marketplace, and the fact that the kids (provinces) have grown up. National standards now will emerge, if at all, from a national consensus and cooperation amongst provinces. In an era of direct delivery of core services by stripped-down governments, harmonization of policy and observance of core threads running through the diversity of provincial programs again will reflect cooperation amongst provinces, not federal identification of common principles. The conflict of loyalties, carefully reasoned and respectfully expressed as it may be, clearly stands to be addressed in emerging arrangements in Canada.

Despite these reservations about the scope of the book and its concentration on the market face of globalization questions, the papers packaged in this book seem likely to prove helpful and stimulating to students interested in fiscal aspects of the changing relationships between central and subnational governments in two of the more successful examples of federal countries — whether these are evolving more under the market pressures of the global economy, or more under the influence of shifting loyalties and cross-border communities in the global village.

REFERENCE

Dahl, R.A. and E.R. Tufte (1973), *Size and Democracy* (Stanford: Stanford University Press).

ROD DOBELL, School of Public Administration, University of Victoria

The Making of Post-War Canada

by Peter S. Li. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1996. Pp. xiii, 186. \$17.95.

The Making of Post-War Canada is an excellent small book on a large and complex topic. Li's

objective is to provide a coherent interpretation of fundamental patterns of social change, taking the end of World War II as a beginning point. He hopes this will permit an understanding of the social context in which Canadians live and in which social policies operate. The analysis is guided by a clearly articulated Marxist framework, which emphasizes that "many changes in post-war Canadian society are predicated by the logic of advanced capitalism." Li's writing style is parsimonious, but still thorough and clear.

Li wisely does not attempt encyclopedic coverage, but rather focuses on a few core themes including developments in modern corporate capitalism in Canada, the changing labour market and occupational structure, increased participation of women in the wage labour, declining fertility, aging of the population, immigration patterns and policies, social welfare policies, the fiscal crisis of the state, and the claims of organized interest groups. Changing patterns are effectively documented using national statistical data. Each of the 29 tables and 9 figures provides data that is organized to be easily interpretable and clearly related to points made in the discussion.

A few key themes are presented here. As the Canadian economy expanded and changed, there was an increased demand for labour and a change in the types of labour required. The increased participation of women in the labour force and their distribution among occupations are linked to the labour needs of corporate capitalism, as are immigration patterns and policies. Given that households must adapt through the wage economy, two-earner households are increasingly common. Reduced birth rates occur in part because households do not have a clear stake in producing workers for the next generation and because the costs of rearing children are higher. The aging of the population comes about, over time, because of the decline in the birth rate. Policies and programs of the Canadian welfare state serve to maintain a labour force that can be available when needed by the economy.

Given the many loosely woven attempts to characterize society at the end of the millennium, this well-crafted and disciplined analysis of the fundamental changes that have shaped patterns of social life and context of social policy in the 1990s is most welcome.

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The Simulation of Surveillance: Hypercontrol in Telematic Societies

by William Bogard. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, 1996. Pp. ix, 207. \$18.95.

This book, stylistically and thematically informed by the work of Foucault and Baudrillard, is an effort to project long-term trends in social control made possible by advances in information storage and processing technology. The book's central thesis is that the bureaucratic centralization described by Weber, with its administrative expertise and its mechanical information storage systems (the "files"), was the appropriate form of controlling social and economic complexity during the expansion of capitalism in the nineteenth and the first half of the twentieth century. This phase is now being superseded by new forms of social control based on electronic data processing and simulation technology. They not only greatly increase the capacity to gather information, but can simulate images which step between individual and surroundings and make it increasingly impossible to distinguish between what is real and what is fictional. This blending of surveillance and simulation presages the appearance of a hypersurveillance society where people are faced with a largely virtual reality of pre-exposure to pre-recorded imagery. Originally developed for military battlefield and combat simulations, and widely used today in science, biotechnology, commercial market simulations, and entertainment, simulation technology makes it possible to shadow and record every individual activity, from purchase to television watching, from work to sex. At the same

time it can create a simulated external reality that stands in for actual experience.

Bogard's book is an anticipation of the future. As such, it is short on data and long on speculation. As is common for such efforts, they tend to be quickly overtaken by events: the book, published in 1996, still lists cloning as being "in its technical infancy," and interprets the decarceration movement of the 1980s as an indication of a trend toward more subtle decentralized forms of control although there is now a vigorous move toward more prisons and harsher penalties in countries like the United States or Britain. The book's strength lies in its imaginative historical cross-referencing of the links between past and future control technology, especially the latter's origins in the prisons, Taylorism, or the medical images of the body of the nineteenth and early twentieth century. It is a bit surprising that Bogard does not include modern advertising, surely the most obvious precursor of separating image from reality, and of confounding identity and imagination.

On the negative side, the book is heavily indebted to the tradition of modelling social history as a sequence of fixed successive stages. The path toward hypersurveillance appears pre-programmed and inexorable. This leads to three problems. First, the theory becomes inflexible and unable to account for the variety and unpredictability of actual history. Second, it encourages rolling complex causes into one ("bureaucracy," "authorities") and prevents a more differentiated view of the role of the state as guardian of collective, non-market interests, and the wholesale dismantling of this control by corporate capitalism under the guise of balanced budgets and tax reductions. In fact, Bogard's book barely mentions the role of corporate power in demanding, in the name of the market, unlimited access to private and public life for scrutiny, commercial use, and commercial exchange. Third, there is little room left for individual agency and resistance. Only the very last sentence of the book acknowledges that "the time is coming, perhaps sooner than we think, when all this will be excruciatingly boring, the endlessly

dull fantasy, the simulated pleasures, of virtual systems. Only then, perhaps, will the cyborg run out of time.”

BERND BALDUS, Department of Sociology, University of Toronto

Cheap Wage Labour: Race and Gender in the Fisheries of British Columbia

by Alicja Muszynski. Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1996. Pp. xiv, 314.

Muszynski's case history provides a thorough, careful examination of the complex ways in which race, gender, and class were central features in the development and evolution of the fish processing industry in British Columbia. The author traces the growth of the fishery from the emergence of commercial salmon canneries along the coast in the late nineteenth century to the more geographically- and economically-concentrated organizations of the 1980s. A particular strength of this work is its appreciation of the intricate ways in which cannery owners utilized divisions among aboriginal, Chinese, Japanese, and white fishers and plant workers to generate wage and salary structures that would satisfy both the British market (“the working man's feast”) and their own desire for profit. As the author puts it, “it is important to keep in mind the durability, flexibility, and permeability” (p. 188) of the basic social categories. Chinese men, who performed many tasks traditionally associated with women's work, are frequently described as a “feminine” group; even machinery acquires social traits, as in the “Iron Chink,” a butchering machine which displaced many workers. Further, there is frequent, illuminating commentary on specific technological developments in processing machinery, and the im-

pact they have had on people's work and lives. Muszynski also appreciates the ironies associated with multifaceted conflict, as trade unions are frequently forced to follow the dominant racial and gender categories when they organize. Good-spirited fights to overcome oppression may simply lead to the elimination of employment through mechanization, changing trade agreements or the flight of capital.

The book is organized around three theoretical chapters on the labour theory of value, patriarchy, and racism. Three empirical chapters follow on the history of processing, an analysis of labour organization (particularly the UFAWU and the Native Brotherhood), and a consideration of the role of federal and provincial governments. The connections between patriarchy and the organization of plant work are particularly clear; the successive displacement of Chinese, Japanese, and aboriginal workers is nicely explained; and the careful documentation of race- and gender-graded (“blue” and “pink” sheets) pay scales is very informative. Nevertheless, the numerous cogent criticisms of the labour theory of value at the outset make the theory's central place in the conclusions curious. This particular theory still generates powerful moral criticism of capitalist economic exploitation, but its inability to deal with global market demand makes it more an epitaph for modern industry than a major component of contemporary social theory.

Overall, the book stands as a fine contribution to Canadian literature on the fishing industry and should, given the generality and scope of its presentation, appeal to a wide readership.

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NEW BOOKS

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Susan J. Buck. Understanding Environmental Administration and Law (2d ed.). Washington, DC: Island Press, 1996. Pp.xiv, 225. \$24.95.

Joseph H. Carens (ed.). Is Quebec Nationalism Just? Perspectives from Anglophone Canada. Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1995. Pp.x, 225. \$17.95.

Ann Dale and John B. Robinson (eds.). Achieving Sustainable Development. Vancouver, BC: UBC Press, 1996. Pp.xiv, 303. \$25.95.

G. Bruce Doern and Stephen Wilks. Comparative Competition Policy: National Institutions in a Global Market. Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 1996. Pp.xii, 398. \$96.95.

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