

Book Notes/ Références Bibliographiques

Volume 8-9, 1981

URI: https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/llt8_9bn01

[See table of contents](#)

Publisher(s)

Canadian Committee on Labour History

ISSN

0700-3862 (print)

1911-4842 (digital)

[Explore this journal](#)

Cite this note

(1981). Book Notes/ Références Bibliographiques. *Labour/Le Travailleur*, 8-9, 422–425.

cultural revolt, to form of them a coherent political opposition, and to overcome the centrifugal tendencies of the seventies: tendencies which represented the playing out of the incomplete and self-contradictory results of the sixties." (292) The results of the 1960s were not incomplete and they were self-contradictory only in the sense of being a manifestation of a movement of privilege struggling against privilege. Even though Gitlin seems to have recognized the elitist elements within the New Left, he is not entirely clear on their significance. He can still ask the question: "The goods are delivered, true; but why do citi-

zens agree to identify themselves and to behave as consumers, devoting themselves to labour in a deteriorating environment in order to acquire private possessions and services as emblems of satisfaction?" (9) The very posing of the question is an indication that the framer is cut off from the common mass of humanity. The real lesson of the 1960s, which not all have learned, is that history does not dance to the tune played by a relatively privileged few.

Cyril Levitt
McMaster University

BOOK NOTES/REFERENCES BIBLIOGRAPHIQUES

(Notice here does not preclude subsequent review.)

Alan F.J. Artibise and Gilbert A. Stelter, comps., *Canada's Urban Past: A Bibliography to 1980* (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press 1981). This 438-page bibliography contains a useful, if opinionated "Introduction," "Directions for Users," 7,054 entries organized by theme and by region, a 50-page "Guide to Canadian Urban Studies," and both author, subject, and place indices.

Albert A. Blum, ed., *International Handbook of Industrial Relations: Contemporary Developments and Research* (Westport, Ct.: Greenwood Press 1981). Twenty-seven essays by various specialists cover the map from Australia to Yugoslavia. Although published in 1981 the material covers up to 1979. The Canadian essay by Mark Thompson of the University of British Columbia includes data up to 1977 and provides an unremarkable overview drawing on traditional works such as Jamieson and Woods.

Paul Boase, ed., *The Rhetoric of Protest and Reform, 1878-1898* (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press 1980). Thirteen essays by different authors cover industrial, agricultural, feminist, religious, and intellectual critics. Of particular interest are J.H. Beaty on Gompers and Powderly, and D.K. Sprugin on Benjamin Butler, Wendell Phillips, Peter Cooper, and John Altgeld.

Stanley G. French, ed., *Philosophers Look at Canadian Confederation* (Montreal: Canadian Philosophical Association 1979). This over-400 page collection of essays covers all aspects of the Confederation crisis and includes pieces by Frank Cunningham, Dan Goldstick, Francis Sparshott, Stanley Ryerson, David Braybrooke, and Charles Taylor among many others from the English-Canadian philosophical community. The Québec side includes contributions by André Paradis, Paul Gagne, Guy Lafrance, Gérard Bergeron, and many others. The essays are organized in three sections: Nation, State, Sovereignty and Self-Determination; Forms of Constitution; and Individual, Collective, and Minority Rights.

Michael Kammen, ed., *The Past Before Us: Contemporary Historical Writing in the United States* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press 1980). After a foreword by John Hope Franklin and an introduction by the editor, 20 essays are organized in three groups: Units of Time and Areas of Study; Expanding Fields of Inquiry; and Modes of Gathering and Assessing Historical Materials. The authors represent a who's who of contemporary American historical scholarship. Of particular interest are: Peter Stearns on social history; David Brody on labour history; Carl Degler on women and the family; Herbert Hoover on oral history; and George Frederickson on comparative history.

Seymour Martin Lipset, ed., *The Third Century: America as a Post-Industrial Society* (Stanford: Hoover Institution Press 1979). Kingsley Davis, Peter Berger, Robert Nisbit, Alex Inkeles, and Nathan Glazer join Lipset in various trips in futurology. Of particular interest to *L/LL* readers might be John T. Dunlop on "The Future of the American Labor Movement" and Orlando Patterson on "The Black Community: Is There a Future?"

Al Nash, *Ruskin College: A Challenge to Adult and Labor Education* (Ithaca, NY: NY State School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University 1981). This stimulating, short book provides a brief history of Ruskin. It then turns to an institutional analysis of Ruskin's administration, students, social and political climate, and residential character. After comparing Ruskin with other British and American labour education programmes, Nash concludes with an extremely favourable assessment of the Ruskin model for labour education.

Alexandra Oleson and John Voss, eds., *The Organization of Knowledge in Modern America, 1860-1920* (Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press 1979). Following on its earlier companion volume, *The Pursuit of Knowledge in the Early American Republic*, this collection stems from an American Academy of Arts and Sciences project on the history of the organization of science and scholarship in the United States. Overviews by John Higham and Edward Shils are followed by a series of essays on various branches of scholarship, including Dorothy Ross on the development of the social sciences, John Rae on the application of science to industry, and Louis Galambos on the economy and the reorganization of knowledge. In a third selection, five essays focus on the institutions of learning. The book closes with three excellent essays by Fritz Ringer, Neil Harris, and

Charles Rosenberg, which broaden the earlier themes out in both a comparative and popular sense.

Charles M. Rehmus, Doris B. McLaughlin, and Frederick H. Nesbitt, eds., *Labor and American Politics: A Book of Readings* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press 1978, rev. ed.). This collection of readings is split into two major parts on "The Historical Background" and "Labor and Politics Today." The historical section contains standards in American labour history by Richard Morris, Edward Pessen, Joseph Rayback, John R. Commons, and many others. The contemporary segment is perhaps more interesting but nevertheless quite conventional.

Robert Schrank, ed., *American Workers Abroad: A Report to the Ford Foundation* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT 1979). This is an evaluation of a 1974-75 exchange programme which took Detroit auto workers to a Swedish Saab plant, San Francisco Longshoremen to Rotterdam, San Francisco nurses to the British National Health Service, and Hartford policemen to Amsterdam and London. The sometimes surprising results accentuate the importance of American unions and demonstrate the crucial role of social relations in job satisfaction.

Edward Shils, *The Calling of Sociology and Other Essays on the Pursuit of Learning* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press 1980). The third of four volumes of Shils' collected essays, this book includes ten essays of which only three are new. In nearly 500 unindexed pages, Shils considers The Place of Sociology, The Trend of Sociology, Sociology and Society, and the Ethics of Sociology. Written between 1949 and the present, this collection showcases one of America's most influential sociologists.

Abraham J. Siegel and David B. Lipsby, *Unfinished Business: An Agenda for Labor, Management, and the Public* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT 1978). In 1977 seven former U.S. Secretaries of Labor gathered at MIT to plot a future "agenda" for American industrial relations. Responses to short addresses by the Secretaries were given by various business and labour leaders. The not-too-amazing results were that collective bargaining was working well, that unemployment was a great concern, that social welfare programmes needed a new look, and that deregulation was also on the agenda. The future, as presented here in 1977, was almost as depressing as the current reality.

Joel H. Silbey, Allan G. Bogue, and William H. Flanigan, eds., *The History of American Electoral Behavior* (Princeton: Princeton University Press 1978). A part of Princeton's Quantitative Studies in History series edited by Charles Tilly and Richard Easterlin, this volume provides a convenient entry into the world of quantitative analysis of historical voting behaviour. Essays focus on electoral sequences, popular participation, voting determinants, and the relationship of voting and public policy. The contributors represent a who's who of this mode of analysis. It should be noted that the papers were originally presented in 1973.

Lawrence Stone, *The Past and the Present* (London: Routledge and Kegan Paul 1981). Fifteen essays, all previously published in one form or another constitute

this collection. Many originated in reviews in the *New York Review of Books* and cover topics such as revolution, the crisis of the seventeenth century, puritanism, magic, the law, the university, children, old age, and death. The trajectory which Stone's work has covered is suggested in three more substantial pieces on historiography written in 1971, 1976 and 1979 respectively. The last calls for the revival of narrative, the earliest did not.

Barry Supple, ed., *Essays in British Business History* (Oxford: Clarendon Press 1977). These 13 essays are all extracted from previously published works by scholars such as S.B. Saul, D.C. Coleman, Charles Wilson, and Peter Mathias. Covering the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the articles range broadly over various aspects of British business history. Of considerable interest to readers of *L/LT* will be W.R. Garside's article on British industrial relations between World War I and II.

R.H. Tawney, *The American Labour Movement and Other Essays*, ed. by J.M. Winter (Brighton, Sussex: The Harvester Press 1979). This collection contains two long essays by Tawney, "The American Labour Movement" (1942) and "The Assessment of Wages in England by the Justices of the Peace" and three shorter pieces on "Poverty as an Industrial Problem" (1913), "The Condition of China" (1933), and "An Occupational Census of the Seventeenth Century" (1934). The volume also contains an introduction by editor J.M. Winter, which is especially useful in providing background on Tawney's role in Washington during World War II.

R.H. Tawney, *History and Society*, ed. J.M. Winter (London: Routledge and Kegan Paul 1978). This volume includes ten Tawney essays organized in two parts: "Historical Essays" and "Reviews and Re-evaluations." Ranging from 1930 to 1960, they sample a variety of Tawney's interests — the rise of the gentry, Weber and the spirit of capitalism, and economic controls, among others. It also contains an excellent reminiscence and analysis of J.L. Hammond and a useful introduction situating Tawney and his work.

W.D. Wood and Pradeep Kumar, eds., *The Current Industrial Relations Scene in Canada, 1981* (Kingston: Industrial Relations Centre, Queen's University 1981). This volume, the most recent in an excellent annual series, organizes contemporary industrial relations data in a most usable fashion. Coverage includes: the economy; manpower and labour markets; labour legislation and policy; trade unionism; collective bargaining; wages, productivity, and labour costs; and a reference section. This last section includes technical notes, information and data sources, and useful survey of recent books and articles.