

Notes and Comments

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NOTES AND COMMENTS

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WALTER VAN NUS has recently been appointed Assistant Professor, Department of History, Concordia University, Montreal. During 1975-1976, he was a lecturer in history at the University of Alberta, Edmonton.

EDWIN WELCH was appointed city of Ottawa archivist in 1975 and given the task of launching both records management and archival programs for the city. He was formerly archivist for the cities of Plymouth and Southhampton, and for Churchill College, Cambridge.

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COVER PHOTOGRAPH

This 1890 view of Lethbridge, Alberta shows the railway yards of the North Western Coal and Navigation Company Limited. The first row of houses were built by the company. This photograph is reproduced by courtesy of the Glenbow-Alberta Institute, Calgary.

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BACK ISSUES OF THE U.H.R.

Since 1972, when the Urban History Review first appeared, the list of subscribers has grown rapidly. At this point, however, back issues of all numbers published to date are still available. They can be obtained by sending a cheque or money order to: Marketing Services Division, National Museums of Canada, 360 Lisgar Street, Ottawa K1A 0M8. The issues published in 1972, 1973 and 1974 are available at \$2.00 for 3, or \$1.00 each. The 1975 issues are \$3.00 for 3, or \$1.00 each. The twelve issues published to date are listed below:

<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
No. 1 - 72 (February, 1972)	No. 1 - 73 (May, 1973)
No. 2 - 72 (June, 1972)	No. 2 - 73 (October, 1973)
No. 3 - 72 (November, 1972)	No. 3 - 73 (February, 1974)
<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>
No. 1 - 74 (June, 1974)	No. 1 - 75 (June, 1975)
No. 2 - 74 (October, 1974)	No. 2 - 75 (October, 1975)
No. 3 - 74 (February, 1975)	No. 3 - 75 (February, 1976)

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URBAN FOCUS

Urban Focus is published every two months, except during the summer months, by the Institute of Local Government and the Institute of Intergovernmental Relations, Queen's University. Its principal aim is to deal with issues and developments in urban government and management in the Canadian federal system.

Now in its fourth year of publication Urban Focus is entirely the product of the volunteer efforts of the staff of the two Institutes which sponsor it. The editors welcome articles on any aspect of urban government from any perspective, e.g., institutional, policy, management, historical, etc. It is therefore a vehicle for the discussion and development of

viewpoints regarding urban government. Articles about 1,000 to 2,000 words - 1,500 words being the most desirable length - can be used.

Published five times per year subscription rates to Urban Focus are as follows:

- Single subscription \$5.00 per annum
- Seven (7) or more subscriptions to
individuals in the same institution
(mailed individually) \$4.00 per annum

A sample copy will be provided on request. Subscription orders should be addressed to Urban Focus, c/o Institute of Local Government, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.

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URBANISM PAST AND PRESENT

Urban specialists at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee are the editors of a new journal, Urbanism Past and Present. It supercedes the Urban History Group Newsletter published by the history department.

Urbanism Past and Present contains articles presenting topical analyses of basic urban problems, theoretical interpretations of urbanism, and the results of specific urban-related research. A major objective is to present clearly written scholarly materials to aid in understanding problems facing urban residents now and in the past.

Editor of the new journal is U.W.M. Professor Bruce Fetter, author of a forthcoming book on the history of the modern African City of Lubumbashi. His co-editors include urban historian A. Theodore Brown and urban sociologist Ann Greer, both of U.W.M. An editorial board also includes scholars from the U.W.M. departments of Geography, Political Science, Economics and Anthropology.

The first issue, which is now available, contains four articles

which treat a broad spectrum of urban concerns. Professor Zane Miller, of the University of Cincinnati, a scholar of United States urban history, explores the relationship between the study of America's urban history with major themes in the country's urban development. Professor Herman van der Wee, a noted Belgian economic historian, discusses patterns he finds in the relationship between economic activity and urban life in medieval and early modern Europe. Professor Philip Hauser, the widely-known urban sociologist at the University of Chicago, has contributed an article commenting on the current problems facing that city. Professor David Buck, a U.W.M. specialist in Chinese history, gives his impressions of the policies followed in urban development in the People's Republic of China since 1949.

A regular feature of the new journal will be comments about the various articles by other specialists. In the first issue, U.W.M. sociologist Scott Greer reacts to the implications of historian Zane Miller's survey of recent writing in American urban history. Through such comments the editors hope to encourage the cross-fertilization of urban studies among the various social sciences and humanities.

The editors welcome contributions from individuals working in any aspect of urbanism. Correspondence about editorial matters should be addressed to Prof. Bruce Fetter, Department of History, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, Wis., 53201. Subscriptions, \$5 per year for individuals and \$10 for libraries, should be sent to Urbanism Past and Present at the same address.

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URBAN RECORDS PRESERVATION

Hamilton City Council on 27 January 1967 adopted the following resolutions:

"That the Federal and Provincial Governments be petitioned to enact legislation so as to permit

the acceptance of micro film images as evidence in Courts of Law in place of original documents", and "That municipalities be authorized to dispose of original documents after they have been properly micro filmed."

Copies of the resolutions have been circulated to the senior governments and other major cities in Ontario "for their support and endorsement".

The implications of the resolutions in terms of the preservation of urban records is at this point unclear. Inquiries are being made and the results of these inquiries will be reported in a subsequent issue of the UHR.

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THESIS ABSTRACT

Michael J. PIVA, "the Condition of the Working Class in Toronto, 1900-1921," Ph.D. Thesis, Concordia University, 1975.

The traditional interpretation of Canadian economic history stresses relative stagnation and lack of growth during the late nineteenth century and the reversal of this pattern during the early twentieth century. The years between 1896 and 1921 are seen as a period of intensive economic growth which produced domestic prosperity. This prosperity thesis emphasizes the enormous increase in the value of production. The question of the distribution of wealth, however, has generally been ignored. Thus, the prosperity thesis begs the question: to what extent did workers benefit from rapid economic growth?

Toronto was particularly suited to benefit from the economic expansion of the first decades of this century. Ontario was already the most industrialized province in Canada at the turn of the century. Within