

Book Notes / References Bibliographiques

Volume 36, 1995

URI : <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/llt36bn01>

[Aller au sommaire du numéro](#)

Éditeur(s)

Canadian Committee on Labour History

ISSN

0700-3862 (imprimé)

1911-4842 (numérique)

[Découvrir la revue](#)

Citer cette note

(1995). Book Notes / References Bibliographiques. *Labour/Le Travailleur*, 36, 417–421.

BOOK NOTES/ RÉFÉRENCES BIBLIOGRAPHIQUES

Louis A. Knafla and Susan W.S. Binnie, eds., *Law, Society, and the State: Essays in Modern Legal History* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press 1995).

THE RESULT of a 1992 conference sponsored by the Law Society of Upper Canada, this hefty volume contains 20 essays ranging across the 19th and 20th centuries. Many focus on Canada, but others draw on colonial experiences from the Caribbean and Asia. Organized in sections on colonial experiences, disorder and dissent, gender, and legal archival material, the collection will prove of wide-ranging interest.

Gene Swimmer and Mark Thompson, eds., *Public Sector Bargaining in Canada: Beginning of the End or End of the Beginning?* (Kingston: Industrial Relations Centre 1995).

AN UPDATE of the previously published *Conflict or Compromise* (1984), this compilation of essays brings together ten authors whose contributions cover many aspects of the experience of public sector workers: unionism's evolution, strikes, workplace equity, the Charter of Rights, privatization, the peculiarities of municipal workers, unique developments in Québec, health care, education, the police, and the particular place of the federal state.

Eric Sager, *Ships and Memories: Merchant Seafarers in Canada's Age of Steam* (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press 1993).

ERIC SAGER'S compilation of seafaring voices recounts the meaning of seafaring life as it relates to masculinity and class relations, union organizing and the proverbial tall tale. Prefaced by a useful introduction, these vignettes are an impressive human account of conflicting recollections, a unique blend of the nostalgia and resentment that often enclose the memories of labouring lives.

Ruth Roach Pierson, Marjorie Griffin Cohen, Paula Bourne, Philinda Masters, *Canadian Women's Issues: Volume I — Strong Voices* (Toronto: James Lorimer 1993) & Ruth Roach Pierson and Marjorie Griffin Cohen, *Canadian Women's Issues: Volume II — Bold Visions* (Toronto: James Lorimer 1993).

THESE TWO VOLUMES present documents and commentaries on various aspects of 25 years of feminist activism in English Canada. Among the topics surveyed are feminist organizing, the politics of the body, social policy, law, culture and communications, international developments, the domestic sphere, and paid work.

418 LABOUR/LE TRAVAIL

Deborah Stienstra and Barbara Roberts, *Strategies for the Year 2000: A Woman's Handbook* (Halifax: Fernwood 1995).

DETAILING THE FAILURES of all levels of Canadian government to live up to commitments made during the United Nation's Decade of Women, this primer for women's activism also suggests ways to pressure the state in a host of central areas.

Jean Barman, Neil Sutherland, and J. Donald Wilson, eds., *Children, Teachers and Schools in the History of British Columbia* (Calgary: Detselig 1995).

MANY OF THE ESSAYS presented here are reprinted from various scholarly journals, bringing together an impressive compilation of articles on childhood and pupilhood, teaching, and the making and remaking of schools.

Tara Singh Bains and Hugh Johnston, *The Four Quarters of the Night: The Life-Journey of an Emigrant Sikh* (Montréal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press 1995).

THIS ORAL BIOGRAPHY of a Sikh whose life's movements traverse cultures and geographies explores the intersection of race and class in a Canada where bigotry and intolerance parallel the physical dangers and exploitative nature of work.

Nelma Sillanpää, ed by Edward W. Laine, *Under the Northern Lights: My Memories of Life in the Finnish Community of Northern Ontario* (Hull: Canadian Museum of Civilization 1994).

THIS CHRONOLOGICALLY-ordered narrative recounts the life of a young Finnish girl growing to adulthood in the Finnish communities of northern Ontario. Detailing the author's time in lumber camps and mining towns, it is a valuable rendition of

aspects of immigrant experience — festivals, churches, families, jobs — that reveal the gendered dimensions of a life cycle ordered by the texture and rhythms of Finnish culture.

Lillian Petroff, *Sojourners and Settlers: The Macedonian Community in Toronto to 1940* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press 1995).

THIS ACCOUNT of Macedonian adjustment to Canada presents a detailed look at the institutions of immigrant culture, as well as a useful account of the labour experiences of 'peasant-sojourners' who found themselves relegated to the roughest jobs in construction projects and in factories.

John R. Baldwin, *The Dynamics of Industrial Competition: A North American Perspective* (New York: Cambridge University Press 1995).

THIS HIGHLY TECHNICAL STUDY explores the nature of competition in the United States manufacturing sector, providing commentary on the corporate mergers, buy-outs, and take-overs that are now central to the globalization of capital.

Maria Lorena Cook and Harry C. Katz, eds., *Regional Integration and Industrial Relations in North America* (Ithaca, New York: School of Industrial and Labor Relations 1994).

THE PROCEEDINGS of a 1993 conference, this collection contains 14 essays, many of which address the implications of free trade for workers, governments, and specific industries in Mexico, the United States, and Canada.

Mary Turner, ed., *From Chattel Slaves to Wage Slaves: The Dynamics of Labour Bargaining in the Americas* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press 1995).

IN AN EXCITING SERIES of essays and arguments 14 authors detail the ways in which slaves and emancipated slaves negotiated their subsistence through labour bargaining that encompassed sabotage, strikes, and slow-downs.

Harvey J. Graff, *Conflicting Paths: Growing Up in America* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press 1995).

GRAFF RANGES over three centuries, probing 500 personal narratives of growing up in America, situating the ways in which the movement from youth to adulthood has changed historically.

Walter Licht, *Industrializing America: The Nineteenth Century* (Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press 1995).

LICHT LOOKS at industrial change in the United States, a process which he sees as highly uneven, rooted in the expanding demographic and market potentials of the early 19th century. Once underway the momentous industrial transformation of the post-Civil War United States gave rise to explosive instances of social unrest.

Paul Avrich, *Anarchist Voices: An Oral History of Anarchism in America* (Princeton: Princeton University Press 1995).

OVER THE LAST 30 YEARS Paul Avrich has conducted 180 interviews with anarchists as he has sought to recover the lost history of American anarchism, which had such a monumental impact in the years of repression stretching from Haymarket and the 1880s to Sacco and Vanzetti and the 1920s. In these almost 600

pages of recollections the human dimensions of the men and women who made America anarchism are revealed.

Michael Kazin, *The Populist Persuasion: An American History* (New York: Basic Books 1995).

"WHO SPEAKS for the people?" asks Michael Kazin. His response is a history of American political mobilization that moves from left to right as the challenge of a democratic populism associated with the People's Party of the 1890s withers in the failures of class struggle from Gompers and craft unionism to John L. Lewis and the mass production unionism of the CIO. The tragedies of the white New Left in the 1960s did little to stem the conservatizing tide of populisms increasingly associated with George Wallace, Richard Nixon, and Ronald Reagan, which left working men and women voiceless.

Sally M. Miller and Daniel A. Cornford, eds., *American Labor in the Era of World War II* (London: Praeger 1995).

ELEVEN STIMULATING ESSAYS address issues of the state, the law, health insurance, hiring halls and job control, and various aspects of the relations of class, race, and gender.

Tania Rose, *Aspects of Political Censorship, 1914-1918* (Hull, England: University of Hull Press 1995).

ROSE EXPLORES the organization of the machinery of censorship in Britain during World War I, focusing on the suppression of the views of those religious and political groups who opposed the war and stood against attempts to keep from the public information about the British military intervention in the Soviet Republic after the 1917 revolution.

420 LABOUR/LE TRAVAIL

Alan Mayne, *The Imagined Slum: Newspaper Representation in Three Cities, 1870-1914* (Leicester: Leicester University Press 1993).

THE SENSATIONAL DEPICTION of slums in the cities of Birmingham, San Francisco, and Sydney allows Mayne entry into the many "faces of degeneration" associated with the contrived categories of urban and human deterioration in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Elinor A. Accampo, Rachel G. Fuchs, and Mary Lynn Stewart, eds., *Gender and the Politics of Social Reform in France, 1870-1914* (Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press 1995).

SEVEN ESSAYS provide new perspectives on the Third Republic by exploring the ways in which male political perspectives constructed women, motherhood, and public health within an emerging welfare state.

Michael Alpert, *A New International History of the Spanish Civil War* (New York: St. Martin's Press 1994).

THIS BRIEF and accessible history of the Spanish Civil War summarizes the international, diplomatic context of the conflict.

Randolph L. Braham, ed., *The Wartime System of Labor Service in Hungary: Varieties of Experience* (New York: Rosenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies 1995).

FOUR ESSAYS survey the experiences of a Jew in a motorized unit of the Hungarian army, the history of two labour service companies, and the imprisonment of a Hungarian labor serviceman in a Soviet war camp.

Walter Galenson, *Trade Union Growth and Decline: An International Study* (London: Praeger 1994).

GALENSON ADDRESS union memberships and services, economic factors, state actions, employer attitudes, public opinion and the issue of union decline in a number of industrial and developing nations, including Canada.

Jacques Belanger, P.K. Edwards, and Larry Haiven, eds., *Workplace Industrial Relations and the Global Challenge* (Ithaca: School of Industrial and Labor Relations 1994).

TEN ESSAYS range broadly over Canadian, United States, British, Austrian, German, and various 'third world' contexts. Particularly useful are the introduction and the conclusion, which tie together a number of themes in the history of workplace regulation, national systems of industrial relations, and the impact of globalization.

Stephen Frenkel and Jeffrey Harood, eds., *Industrialization and Labor Relations: Contemporary Research in Seven Countries* (Ithaca: School of Industrial and Labor Relations 1995).

JUST HOW INDUSTRIALIZATION and trade unionism intersect in seven 'developing' countries, largely located in the Pacific Rim, is the subject of the essays in this volume.

Paula B. Voos, ed., *Contemporary Collective Bargaining in the Private Sector* (Madison: Industrial Relations Research Association 1994).

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING in various United States industries forms the subject of the 12 essays and two commentaries in this volume. Particularly instructive

and/or revealing are Dorothy Sue Cobble's and Michael Merrill's essay on bargaining in the hospitality industry and a management comment on the 1980s entitled "Rough Terrain for Collective Bargaining."

Christine E. Bose and Edna Acosta-Belen, ed., *Women in the Latin American Development Process* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press 1995).

THIS VOLUME divides its attention between colonization, development and gender, on the one hand, and, on the other, the ways in which women have struggled to empower themselves through strategies of change relating to individual

rights, the domestic realm, and various social movements.

Sidney Lemelle and Robin D.G. Kelley, *Imagining Home: Class, Culture and Nationalism in the African Diaspora* (London: Verso 1995).

THE CULTURAL POLITICS of pan-Africanism, the legacy of Black intellectuals, the relations of South Africa and the United States, and the theoretical contradictions and complexities of pan-Africanism establish the concerns of the 17 essays in this stimulating collection.

BDP