L’utilité de cette publication s’accroît du fait que l’avant propos, l’introduction ainsi que les index sont présentés en français et en anglais. Les termes descriptifs accompagnant chaque référence sont en anglais seulement.

Alison d’Anglejan

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Political and social scientists have, since the early 1960’s, turned their attention to the study of politics in multilingual societies. The appearance of this publication is rather timely, for journalists spill a lot of ink outlining cogent reasons why Quebec should or should not remain in Confederation. On the other hand, the possibility of Quebec seceding from the federal structure is not even mentioned. This should give the reader an indication of how rapidly attitudes can mellow, and aspirations crystallize, in just four short years!

This book was compiled from the Round Table presentations on Multilingual Political Systems: Problems and Solutions, the theme at a conference co-sponsored by the International Political Science Association and the International Center for Research on Bilingualism (Quebec, March 27 to 31, 1972). It is explained in the preface that the participants were left free to write what they wished relating to the theme of ‘Multilingual Political Systems’, and as a result the topics and approaches are as diverse as the membership of the I.P.S.A.

This work is divided into two main sections. The first consists of ten articles edited by the authors after the conference, and ‘strung together’ by the editors under general headings on varying aspects of politics in multilingual states. The second section is devoted to Case Studies of Canada, Spain, Belgium, Lebanon, Israel, British Honduras, and the Asian Federations.

No comprehensive bibliography was prepared for the book; however, all the articles except one are followed by ‘notes’, or explanatory footnotes, in which the authors pinpoint the references, make comparisons in different countries, and generally advance the discussion. The extensive ‘notes’ summarize well the sources used, and are employed by one contributor, Professor Meisel, to point the researcher-reader in new, if not always fruitful, directions.

Jacques Brazeau’s article, entitled “L’Usage des Langues dans les Activités de Travail”, is ‘sandwiched’ between Kenneth McRae’s dispassionate article on “The Concept of Consociational Democracy” and John Meisel’s analytical study of “Political Styles and Language-Use in Canada”. Professor McRae’s article includes a lengthy but well chosen bibliography, while M. Brazeau, in offering a more personal and emotionally persuasive delivery, seems to have discounted
the use of footnotes as extravagant. A carefully selected bibliography appended to M. Brazeau’s article would, I am sure, have please the non-Canadian readers whose focus on Canadian issues centers on Quebec.

Taken together, the three case studies on Canada transcend the myopic view, shared by some, that bilingualism is a uniquely Canadian phenomenon. On the contrary, at least two out of the three authors have taken pains to compare and contrast the effect political decisions have had on pluricultural states, both here and in Europe.

Overall, this text provides an indispensable departure for anyone wanting to place the Canadian bilingualism issue in the global perspective, for it makes Canadians realize that our manifold linguistic problems are not unique. Professor McRae surmises that “...there remains a lingering suspicion that the most fundamental, the most basic, and the most enduring of social cleavages in Canada has been the dimension of ethnic-linguistic diversity”. Ironically, Canadians can take some comfort in knowing, after reading any number of these articles, that our situation is very much akin to that of many other countries.

Mariano De Marinis

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This volume offers a historical overview of the Canada Press Club and of its member newspapers - the so-called ‘ethnic’ press of Manitoba. Formed in 1942, the Canada Press Club in Manitoba was the first association in Canada to bring together editors of the multilingual press. In the following years three more regional associations were formed - in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec. Although autonomous, these 4 associations now co-operate under an umbrella organization entitled the Canada Ethnic Press Federation.

Canada’s ethnic newspapers have been in existence for many years, but they have been largely ignored by the English-language ‘establishment’. It is only recently, with the acceptance of multiculturalism in Canada, that ethnic newspapers are being accorded recognition for their important role in helping immigrants adjust to the conditions and culture of their new homeland. The formation of the Ethnic Serials Project at the National Library of Canada, for example, was a sign of this recognition. It is also only recently that some information in the English language has been published on Canada’s ‘ethnic’ press. General works on ethnic groups sometimes include a chapter on the multilingual press, and in 1971 Twenty Years of the Ethnic Press Association of Ontario was published. Very little else is available. This volume is, therefore, a welcome addition to the literature.

The first part of The Multilingual Press in Manitoba features general articles by various contributors, all specialists in their field. These discuss the role of