The preface of this bibliography of Canadian plays states very clearly the arbitrary standards which the compilers used as their guidelines; the title describes the contents. "Published" means reproduced by any means and distributed through a public agency, a publisher, an organization, or by the author or his agent. "Stage plays" excludes radio, television and film scripts, and musicals. "In English" excludes plays written in French or any other language unless translated and published in English. The definition of "Canadian" is more difficult, but generally the usual bibliographical boundaries are observed.

The project is a by-product of a drama course at Brock University, with subsequent funding from the University, Opportunities for Youth, and other sources. The 800 plays are listed by author, with an index by title. Included also is a useful list of publishers' and agents' addresses.

In addition to the usual statistics, each annotated entry includes valuable information about cast and set requirements, and the necessary special effects. A brief description of the plot is given, and dates of first production are listed; plays not available for annotation (there are remarkably few) are so identified; specific information about performing rights is included.

Of course, many of the listed plays are of little interest today. For example, the first entry is a 1918 children's school pageant in which Britannia's loyal colonies parade before her in homage — an epic that is not likely to be revived by Stratford or the Smooth Rock Falls Dramatic Society. However, the listing is objective and makes no value judgements.

This is admittedly a tentative beginning; there are plans for a subsequent volume to fill in the gaps and bring the project up to date. But the Brock Bibliography is an excellent beginning, and a welcome supplement to such previous efforts as The Dominion Drama Festival's two catalogues. In turn it will be supplemented by the Playwrights' Co-op continuing catalogues, and by the other bibliographies and checklists which are expected shortly: Professor Buechert's checklist of material related to Canadian theatre, Simon and Pierre's listing of available scripts, and Connie Brissenden's record of productions for the Canadian Theatre Centre.

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The growing assertiveness of Canada's ethno-cultural communities has become an important factor in Canadian social and political life. The Royal Com-