Checklist of Canadian Directories 1790-1950 / Répertoire des annuaires canadiens. By / Par Dorothy E. Ryder. Ottawa: National Library of Canada / Bibliothèque nationale du Canada, 1979. xvii, 288 p., paper, \$10.95 (Canada), \$13.15 (other countries) ISBN 0-660-50409-X

Directories provide a valuable source of information about people, where they live and their occupation. The nineteenth-century directories often provided, in addition to the list of people, a brief economic and social history of the community.

To know whether there is a directory for a given community, or if one has existed, has presented many problems to the librarian, genealogist, historian, biographer, and other researchers. Once again Dorothy Ryder has filled a gap in our Canadian reference tools by compiling a *Checklist of Canadian Directories*, covering the first one hundred and sixty years of directory publication in Canada. Miss Ryder knows all too well that the list is not complete, as she was unable to locate many directories which must have existed if one uses volume numbers as a criterion.

While the first Canadian directory (published in Quebec) dates back to 1790, it was not until the mid-nineteenth century that directories began to flourish and the major cities in Canada began to have their own directories.

The arrangement for the *Checklist* is generally by area, with the 'Province of Canada' (1841-1867) listed first, followed by 'Canada', then the 'Atlantic Provinces', the six other provinces, the Northwest Territories, and Yukon. It can be questioned as to why New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island do not appear in their alphabetical sequence with the other provinces, instead of as a sub-division under 'Atlantic Provinces'. Within each province the arrangement is first general directories which cover the province as a whole, followed by directories for districts (where applicable), counties, cities, and towns. Within each of these divisions the arrangement is alphabetical by place name. Under each place name the arrangement is chronological. Thus, one may tell at a glance whether or not there is a directory for any given year. Many directories include a number of localities. The directory has been listed fully only under the first named locality, with *see* references from the other places.

Location symbols have been given for those directories examined. There are a number of directories for which no location has been shown, but for which volume number and date have been included. Miss Ryder, in her acknowledgements, asks that anyone with information concerning these missing directories contact her in order that the master record at the National Library be adjusted. By this means, we will some day hopefully complete the excellent work begun by this compiler.

OLGA B. BISHOP

(Dr. Bishop, Professor Emeritus in the Faculty of Library Science at the University of Toronto and a former president of the Society, has compiled several bibliographies of government publications and a two-volume *Bibliography of Ontario History*, reviewed elsewhere in these Papers.)

Dictionary of Canadian Biography. Volume IV: 1771 to 1800.

Editors: F.G. Halpenny and J. Hamelin. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1979. lvii, 913 p., cloth, \$35.00 ISBN 0-8020-3351-2 (Also available in French.)

The previous volumes of this title (now so widely and affectionately known as 'DCB'), are volumes I (published in 1966) to III, covering the years 1000 to 1770, volume IX,