last item perhaps appeared after the book was printed, but the compiler should have indicated his cut-off date.) Coverage of Louis Riel is much better but still not complete; again, a quick check showed that articles by Anctil, Klooss, and Flanagan were missing.

The contents tend also to be miscellaneous. Included are not only valuable works of scholarship but ephemera such as book reviews, unpublished lectures, and audio-visual kits. Much of this material is hard to obtain and is of little value when found. Government publications are also listed, as are some manuscript collections, and newspapers. Nothing is sorted by genre; it is all in one alphabetical sequence, including fiction and history together.

Another problem is that the proof-reading is poor. Minor errors in French words are common. More seriously, authors' names and titles of works are not always free of error. Ahenakew becomes 'Akenakew,' and Champagne is transformed into 'Champagne.' Gerald Friesen's recent book, *The Canadian Prairies: A History* (1984) appears under two separate titles, neither of them correct. The number of these errors should not be exaggerated, for most entries are in fact error-free, but there are enough inaccuracies that anyone who consults this work will be reluctant to rely on it altogether.

In summary, this work is useful for quick reference but does not live up to the standards of academic bibliography.

THOMAS FLANAGAN
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This is the second large-scale description of Queen's University's archival collections, and it is one of the most satisfactory overviews yet issued from a major Canadian repository.

Among the material at Queen's University one will find much Ontario historical material, as could be expected: the papers of the Fairfield family who were United Empire Loyalists, the Pollicott papers relating to the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and its links with the labour movement, and even anonymous account books – the kind that every archive has squirreled away – recording maple syrup sales, household expenditures, or European travels. The history of Kingston figures prominently in the collection as well, with papers representing various spheres of activity from the Chamber of Commerce, hospital archives, and the arts council, to the Hand-Loom Weavers' Club. The history of Queen's University itself is well represented, including papers from numerous administrative bodies and from many Queen's professors.

Queen's received its first archival document in 1869. The *Guide* includes 2,000 entries, as did the 1978 edition, which suggests there is a lot of duplication between them, although the former edition listed all aspects of the holdings, including visual
and audio materials. The present catalogue has winnowed out the latter and describes only textual holdings, including extensive microfilm and photocopy collections. (Visual and audio materials will be described in a forthcoming companion volume.) Many descriptions from the earlier edition have been amplified, improved, and corrected.

The Guide is in one alphabetical sequence by name of entry, from 'A. Brown and Co.' to 'Zola, Emile.' Queen's University Records are listed separately in a twenty-page Appendix instead of appearing in alphabetical sequence, which would have been more logical. No advantage to the present arrangement comes to this reader's mind, unless it will facilitate the inevitable emendations and updatings. Entries are concise, yet specific and detailed. Where separate inventories are available for important collections this fact is indicated. The names of donors and provenance are also given – a useful method for identifying holdings that have been transferred from Special Collections. If access is restricted, that is stated, as is the availability of online and microfiche indices. Union List of Manuscripts numbers are also given.

The Archives' two massive collections appear in sequence and are then analyzed further in separate entries. The Kirkpatrick-Nickle Legal Collection contains individual records of various estates handled by this firm from 1797 to 1938, for which there are 38 separate entries. For the Lorne and Edith Pierce Collection of Canadian Manuscripts there are 193 entries. Lorne Pierce was editor of Ryerson Press, and this impressive collection includes the papers of poets Isabella Valancy Crawford, Marjorie Pickthall, Sir Charles G.D. Roberts, Raymond Knister, and the ubiquitous Dorothy Livesay.

The advantage of a book catalogue is that by discovering interesting odds and ends through browsing, readers can arrive at the Archives' threshold prepared to spend their time wisely. A land grant from John Quincy Adams, a letter by Hoosier satirist George Ade, a collection of letters relating to the Boer War, and extensive records of Canada Steamship Lines are among the unexpected felicities of this vast repository.

An IBM computer was used for the preparation of camera-ready copy, making the book much cleaner and more readable than its typescript predecessor. The use of bold-face for main entries is also an asset when one is skimming to locate a specific item. More thorough indexing would have increased the volume's usefulness. Once the indexing process is underway, why not include all proper names cited, as is done in the 1981 revision of Edwin Welch's Archives and Manuscripts Held by the Historical Society of Ottawa? Queen's has not indexed proper names of recipients of letters, donors, or depositors. This leads to frequent incongruities. Queen's professor James Alexander Roy, for example, has 63 cm. of papers listed in two separate entries, yet the only index citation is to his correspondence in the James Matthew Barrie collection. The purpose of an index is to bring all such references together.

That reservation aside, this is a solid and handsome contribution toward making Canada's remarkable scholarly resources more accessible.

JOHN CHARLES

(John Charles is Bruce Peel Special Collections Librarian, University of Alberta. He edits the irregular publication, News from the Rare Book Room.)