nent ainsi se substituer à la Bibliothèque de Québec, fondée par Haldimand en 1779, qui procura aux députés leurs outils de travail, de 1793 à 1802, année de l’acquisition par l’Assemblée des premiers documents imprimés. De cette collection d’imprimés, Étienne Parent, premier bibliothécaire ‘compétent,’ rêve en 1833 d’en faire une ‘institution nationale,’ accessible à tous. Ce rêve prend toutefois fin, à Montréal en 1849, lors d’émeutes qui se soldent part l’incendie du Parlement et la destruction de ses deux bibliothèques: une collection de 22 000 volumes dont seulement 200 sont arrachés aux flammes.


Par ce livre fécond, Gilles Gallichan élargit notre horizon, il nous permet un superbe voyage au cœur de la vie intellectuelle et politique du Québec d’avant la Confédération. Notre histoire culturelle s’enrichit d’une œuvre carrefour: à la fois point d’arrivée et point de départ.

ANDRÉ BEAULIEU
Archives nationales du Québec


This volume is a wonderful addition to the research tools available on British Columbia and is a fine example of the bibliographer’s art. It provides an index to over a thousand ‘local histories’ published prior to 1991, of 889 different places in British Columbia.

There are three indexes: author, title, and the most useful, place name, which refer users to the main entries. The compilers have included in the place-name index an entry for ten geographical regions in the province which,
in addition to being a guide for regional history, is useful for directing researchers to locales they might not have searched for. The main entries are themselves ordered alphabetically by author. In addition to the title, publisher, date, and pagination, at least one location is listed with each item. The B.C. Archives, the University of B.C. Library, the Vancouver Public Library, and the Anglican and Oblate Archives were thoroughly searched for material.

The binding of this volume is particularly fun – a three-ring binder, with lots of room for notation by each entry. Ideally this method will enable users to purchase updates that, with a new index, could keep this book current in a field where there is an avalanche of new publications every year.

Without detracting anything from this useful publication, I have four suggestions for an update. First, I wish that the introduction were more informative in terms of the scope of the volume, the definition of a local history, and the method of gathering the entries. In their short introduction the compilers have avoided the difficult question of defining a ‘local history’ beyond saying that it excludes works that are primarily autobiographical and that ‘most focus on a particular population centre but others have as their organizing principle a geographical area framed by a valley, body of water, trail, or even a park’ (p. iv). Beyond this the reader has to guess at the compilers’ working definition of a ‘history.’

Based on an examination of the contents, this would seem to omit most works of ‘local’ anthropology and archaeology [McMillan and St. Clair’s Alberni Prehistory, for example], but not all [Wells’s The Chilliwacks and Their Neighbours is included]. It appears to exclude architectural history [Segger and Franklin’s Victoria: A History in Architecture]; it includes some historical geography [Lai’s Chinatowns] but not others [Clayton’s ‘Geographies of the Lower Skeena, 1830–1920’]. Travel guides are included where they have a major historical focus [Cariboo Mileposts, Milestones on Vancouver Island], and volumes like Victoria Illustrated which is a contemporary description of the city as it was when the book was published in 1891 are included only where they are sufficiently ‘old.’

The compilers obviously had a working definition of ‘local,’ but it would be helpful to the reader to know what that was. It includes ghost towns, lighthouses, reference and regional volumes like Akrigg’s 1001 British Columbia Place Names, Morice’s History of the Northern Interior of British Columbia, and Hutchison’s The Fraser. A book on Victoria Beacon Hill Park is included, but not another on Victoria’s Ross Bay Cemetery.

‘Local history’ in this volume is largely monographs. One of the great strengths of this guide is that the compilers have read or skimmed most of the volumes in the bibliography and index ‘localities’ that are mentioned therein. Thus Fort Rupert is indexed even though no monographs are devoted to it, because it appears in Bowen’s Three Dollar Dreams, Norcross’s Company on the Coast, and several of the ghost town encyclopedias. This indexing makes the work much more valuable, since a library catalogue may turn up nothing on Triangle’s Island, while most B.C. libraries would carry a general history of lighthouses like Keepers of the Light.
Although the compilers have made no systematic attempt to include 'local history' in periodicals, they have surveyed and indexed one journal, *Raincoast Chronicles*. One is left to wonder why *British Columbia Historical Quarterly, B.C. Historical News, BC Studies*, or the regular reports of the Boundary and Okanagan Historical Societies were excluded.

The valuable local histories available in M.A. and doctoral theses are also included, but only if they were done at the University of British Columbia. Inexplicably, the many excellent B.C. local histories done at B.C.'s other two universities, or outside the province, were not included.

A second, more serious omission in this otherwise thorough work is that there is no bibliography of the sources used in its compilation. We are told that it draws on existing bibliographies, but not which ones. A brief check of one of the six volumes of the *Bibliographie de l'histoire du Québec et du Canada/Bibliography of Quebec and Canada, 1945–1965* which includes a section on local histories, suggests that it was not canvassed: five books that seem to meet the criteria of the Hale and Barman bibliography were not included (W. O'Neil's *Time and Place: Stories of Northern British Columbia: Stories of the West Coast, Skeena River, Buckley Valley, Douglas Channel, and the Old and New Kitimat*, F.N. Sinclair's *A History of the Sumas Drainage, Dyking and Development District*, Stewart H. Holbrook's *The Columbia*, W.D. Lyman's *The Columbia River: Its History, Its Myths, Its Scenery, Its Commerce*, and M. Murray's *The Columbia*.) It would be extremely valuable to researchers to know if this and other sources were checked. Moreover, if the science of bibliography is to be taken seriously, as the compilers obviously intend, previous work in the field should be acknowledged.

Thirdly, although the volume lists many sources helpful to researchers looking for more detailed information about locales listed or unlisted (such as Topping's *Checklist of B.C. Post Offices*, Walbran's *British Columbia Coast Names*, and the historical journals mentioned above), they are buried in the index under regional headings. A section directing researchers to these sources, as well as the appropriate periodical indexes would be helpful.

The ultimate test of a bibliography is its comprehensiveness. A systematic comparison against a book shelf of sixty local histories showed three clearly missed, and a few others which might or might not have been excluded by various editorial criteria (The three were Ben Hines's *Pick, Pan and Pack: A History of Mining in the Alberni Mining District*, Philip Stooke's *Landmarks and Legends of the North Island: A Trip by Foot, Boat and Memory Around Northern Vancouver Island*, and Martin Segger and Douglas Franklin's *Victoria: A History in Architecture, 1843–1929*). This is a reasonable ratio, but, with the missing theses, leads to a fourth suggestion: that the book would benefit from surveying regional collections outside Victoria and Vancouver.

Despite these suggestions for the future, in its present form the volume is a unique and valuable research tool. B.C. historians will want a copy on their shelves, and it will be indispensable to librarians. Students, genealogists, history buffs, and new folks in towns across British Columbia will be lining
up to use it. The compilers, Brian Owen (their technical consultant), as well as the British Columbia Heritage Trust and the B.C. Library Association, deserve thanks for their contributions to this project.

JOHN LUTZ
University of Ottawa


It is regrettable that this second volume of Donovan Smucker's excellent bibliography comes at a time when volume 1, covering the post-war period to 1977, is out of print. But most libraries have copies of volume 1 and, when they add this latest volume to their holdings, scholars will have a very useful research and teaching tool at their disposal. The first volume carried the adjective 'Canadian' in the title. This second volume has dropped the adjective on the grounds that this is really a bibliography on materials produced in Canada and the U.S., much of it by scholars publishing in journals from one or the other country, but which often have an international reach and reputation. The reality is, of course, that most scholarly work on Mennonites and Hutterites has been done in Canada, the locale of most such communities, while work on the Amish has tended to be in the U.S. for the same reasons.

The author presents the information in four major sections. The first surveys existing bibliographies and encyclopedias with significant material on the three sects. The next three provide information on each of the sects in the following categories: books and pamphlets, graduate theses, and articles. For the Mennonites, Smucker also has a section devoted to unpublished sources, mostly papers presented at a variety of academic conferences. Such information is not provided for the other two sects, and the author offers no explanation for this contrast in treatment.

The author's annotations are very useful; they provide a crisp but surprisingly comprehensive characterization for each entry, together with brief, carefully worded diplomatic critiques when appropriate. One knows what to expect and is guided in selections for further scrutiny. A random check of a handful of entries by this reviewer attested to the accuracy of the annotations and the care and fairness with which the brief critical comments are crafted. The entries provide sufficient information to guide access to the original material so that even the most sophisticated excuses of graduate students explaining failure to locate a reference will be unsustainable.

For additional guidance, Smucker provides three appendices, pointing the user to further sources on the three sects, including libraries, bookstores,