

Bohdan S. Kordan and Peter Melnycky, eds. *In the Shadow of the Rockies: Diary of the Castle Mountain Internment Camp 1915-1917.* Edmonton: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, 1991. Pp. 144.

Between 1914 and 1920, Canadian authorities interned 8,579 "enemy aliens" as prisoners of war. Of these, only 817 were enemy servicemen, snatched up at the outbreak of the war. The rest were Canadian residents—about twelve hundred of German descent and six thousand Austro-Hungarians: Czechs, Croats, Slovenes, and Slovaks, but mostly Ukrainians. The inclusion of the last as "enemy aliens" was ironic, given their opposition to Vienna, seat of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Those interned were generally the most recent immigrants who had not become Canadian citizens, but who had become unemployed in the economic downturn beginning in 1913.

In the Shadow of the Rockies is the aptly titled diary of the Castle Mountain officers from July 11, 1915 to August 7, 1917. These officers and guards conducted what amounted to a labour camp, operated in contravention to the Hague regulations, for in the Banff area the prisoners built roads, fireguards, bridges, culverts, side-walks, even golf courses, tennis courts, and ski jumps. Sometimes dressed in rags and half-shod, the internees were ill-equipped and undernourished for their forced labour. Often the walk to and from construction sites entailed

thirteen miles of trudging through deep snow, and was a day's work in itself.

Not surprisingly, escape attempts were rampant. In one three-month period, there were twenty-eight. None too efficient in rounding up outbreakers were the guards; in fact, in the first year the only person they hit while shooting at escaping prisoners was the game warden!

Because the diaries on the whole are skimpy, the editors wisely build a richer story around them, amplifying brief entries, adding many photographs from the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Glenbow, and the Provincial Archives, and drawing from the correspondence in the valuable Record Group 24 in the Public Archives of Canada.

The book is prepared in outsize edition, much like a coffee table volume. The main entries are well spaced, and the format is open and well ventilated, leaving a pleasing impression.

Footnoting is on the same page as the reference number, allowing for quick and oft-needed elaboration. And the footnotes are gripping. In fact, this is the first book I have read wherein the footnotes are more interesting than the text! They deal voluminously (there is more footnote print than text print) with escape attempts, Banff *Crag and Canyon* comments, medical problems, work projects, complaints, suicide, and supplementary reports on specific prisoners.

These snippets, which include the views of the prisoners and the public at large, might have been more profitably integrated directly into the text. As they stand, they are in very small print,

blocked and compressed, and they make for hard reading, despite their interest value. Several amplifications, particularly letters, would have injected the bare diary with vigour and substance.

Most of the photos are excellent, with just a few expanded beyond their safe limits.

The book helps to explain ethnic tensions in the coal mines of the period, particularly during the One Big Union phenomenon wherein "Austrians and Russians" conflicted with returning veterans. I suspect that the overall story of provocation and counter-provocation is very complex and rather more fully blown on both sides than we yet realize. While worse prison camps have oppressed most eras, portions of the Castle Mountain experience are still fit for the files of Amnesty International. It is sad that harsh times generate harsh measures—and that is a statement of fact, not a vindication.

The editors' research is exacting. They have succeeded well in revealing this important and little-known page in Canadian history.

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Emiel Eyben. *Restless Youth in Ancient Rome*. Translated by P. Daly. London/New York: Routledge, 1993. Pp. viii, 367. ISBN 0-415-04366-2. \$62.50 Cdn.

Marc Kleijwegt. *Ancient Youth: The Ambiguity of Youth and the Absence of Adolescence in Greco-Ro-*

man Society. Amsterdam: J.C. Gieben, 1991. Pp. xvi, 401. ISBN 90-5063-063-4. \$85.00 U.S.

Emiel Eyben has a reputation in his discipline, that of Roman history, for producing long pastiche-like summaries of primary evidence that concern various aspects of the family life of the period (amongst them studies on age stages, puberty, and family planning). The snippets are rephrased and linked via sundry comments made by the author to form what is supposed to be a coherent whole. Although in book form, *Restless Youth in Ancient Rome* does not depart much from this tried-and-true personal format. Eyben advances relentlessly, chapter after chapter, through the subjects of the definition of "youth" in Roman society, the place of young men in the political order of the Roman state (mainly the army and high political offices), their leisure activities (a narrow range between sports and vandalism), and, finally, to the way young men thought and felt. Each subject is remorselessly ground through in detail, though mercifully to a lesser extent than in the author's 619-page opus in Dutch on the same subject published in 1977 (itself derived from a decade-old doctoral dissertation) to the footnotes of which the reader is constantly referred. The prose, if tedious, is reasonably well edited from the original Dutch, and is marred only by a few striking errors. The last time I saw him, Alan Cameron was still a man. Eyben's repeated reference to him as "her" (p. 91), however, may well be