

thus growing naturally out of the elementary sector, and beginning to form a broad highway of advance under democratic local control for working-class and lower middle-class children. The ruling elite, alarmed at the implications of this development, set in motion a series of complex legal and administrative measures which culminated in the 1902 Education Act; this abolished school boards, set severe limits on the extent of elementary teaching, and transferred secondary-type education to a parallel structure of secondary schools, with committees of municipal councils taking responsibility for local education.

Fleet Road school was thus at the heart of one of the most crucial changes in English educational history, changes which still reverberate in today's social and educational climate. William Marsden has written an important book which demonstrates in fascinating detail the manner in which a study of an individual school can illustrate the general history of a period.

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Paul A. Bator with Andrew J. Rhodes. *Within Reach of Everyone: A History of the University of Toronto School of Hygiene and the Connaught Laboratories, Volume I, 1927*

to 1955. Ottawa: Canadian Public Health Association, 1990.

Paul Bator in this volume offers a history of one of the key institutions in the formation of public health policy in Canada in the twentieth century, the School of Hygiene at the University of Toronto. It is the first of a two-volume set designed to relate the history of the school from its official founding as an independent division of the university funded by the Rockefeller Foundation in 1927 to its dismantling and restructuring as a part of the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine in 1975. This volume examines the origins of the idea of the school by John Fitzgerald in the founding of the Connaught Laboratories in 1914 and its growth as directed by Fitzgerald and his assistant, Robert Defries, between 1927 and 1955. A second volume will complete the story to 1975.

As Bator points out in his introduction, the School of Hygiene as a landmark in the history of health services in Ontario laid the foundation for federal and provincial health programmes across Canada. As the third school of public health set up by the Rockefeller Foundation in North America (the Foundation contributed \$1,250,000 between 1927 and 1931), it also helped establish what was considered the ideal triad of research, teaching, and public service. This ideal was projected around the world by related Rockefeller projects and by the international character of the school's student body. The Toronto-based facility subsequently played a major international leadership role in

public health research and training over the fifty-year time span of its independent existence.

Bator offers glimpses into the character of the masterminds of the school such as John Fitzgerald and Robert Defries as well as the other extraordinary figures who were affiliated with it such as Peter Bryce, first secretary of the Ontario Provincial Board of Health, and John A. Amyot, first Dominion Deputy Minister of Health. The detail is comprehensive. For example, the appendices contain lists of the degrees awarded and all of the school's graduates and staff. The individuals involved in the training programme and research generally were or later became leaders in health, education, and welfare-related governmental and privately co-ordinated enterprises across Canada. The body of the text details changes in curriculum and organization as well as other intimate aspects of the school's daily existence. The story reaches out to describe other non-profit organizations in public health such as the Canadian Red Cross and World Health Organization as well as provincial and federal departments of health.

The character of this institutional history is shaped by the fact that it is published by the Canadian Public Health Association with grants from key participants in the story, namely the Connaught Laboratories and the Division of Community Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. As an "in-house" history it is not unusual in its paucity of critical commentary and tendency towards an overly optimistic perspective. The historical scholarship is, nonetheless, superb.

The historical documentation transcends a simple description of this influential institution.

Bator provides access to a neglected link in Canadian and world public health promotion in the twentieth century. In the case of the School of Hygiene, even the most conservative description by necessity opens for speculation the politics of technological innovation. The documentation illustrates the importance of sources of funding for scientific research including the role of large-scale private advocacy in support of public policies, and the significance of war efforts in the promotion of public interest fields such as health care. These issues are especially interesting in Canada where the public health movement was relatively more successful than in other countries such as the United States. The question why deserves to be raised.

The record of the School of Hygiene presented here can be used to support and supplement widely diverse areas of historical research. This story parallels the legitimation of fields as widely diverse as the establishment of sanitary engineering, industrial hygiene, mental health advocacy, nutrition, public health nursing, special education, and social work. The School of Hygiene serves as a link in the professionalization of services in public administration, directed towards soldiers, immigrants, mothers, and school-age children.

It should also be noted that a vastly different story looms beneath the smooth surface of the history of public health told in this volume. Many of the major figures in public health who

were affiliated with the School of Hygiene were also advocates of related reform policies. Not all of these other efforts have the same positive connotation as public health. Many health advocates, such as Peter Bryce and John Amyot, were also strong supporters of the Canadian eugenics and relate mental hygiene movements whose policies in the 1920s and 1930s are noted for their adherence to pseudoscientific beliefs and the bigotry of the practices they condoned. Racism, sexism, and elitism existed within and alongside the humanistic rhetoric and progressive practices of the crusade for public health. Top-down reforms grounded in middle-class values were often confronted by opposition from the public they were intended to serve. Bator notes parental objections to the compulsory vaccination of school-age children, for example. The School of Hygiene is a central character in the exploration of these contradictions which embrace public policies for the common good, which hopefully will be pursued in bolder studies.

The strength of this study lies in the presentation of the historical record and documentation. *Within Everyone's Reach* is, on the one hand, a factual history of the chronology of the school's record. It is also a potent resource for other researchers who are intent upon pursuing more provocative questions than the subject of this volume. More research is needed on the origins of the institutional frameworks which brought preventive health ideals into the lives of Canadians. We know little about the prerogatives in higher education and research circles which legitimated

public policies in the twentieth century. To the degree this work provides a resource for future studies, its contribution to Canadian social history will be substantial indeed.

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J.R. Miller, ed. *Sweet Promises: A Reader on Indian-White Relations in Canada*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1991. Pp. xix, 468. \$24.95 paper.

J.R. Miller's *Sweet Promises: A Reader on Indian-White Relations in Canada* is intended as a companion volume to his earlier *Skyscrapers Hide the Heavens: A History of Indian-White Relations in Canada*. Like that survey, *Sweet Promises* will become a standard reference work for scholars and students. Miller selects essays from "sixty years of scholarship" to "illuminate the general pattern of native-newcomer relations in Canada."

Sweet Promises spans three thematic areas on this topic, beginning with pre-Confederation roots in Atlantic and St. Lawrence communities. Bruce Trigger's "The Jesuits and the Fur Trade," Cornelius Jaenen's "French Sovereignty and Native Nationhood during the French Regime," along with Olive Dickason's essay on Amerindians in Nova Scotia, and Leslie Upton's on Beothucks in Newfoundland, give interesting regional coverage. The juxtaposition