

ment all aspects of the planes, their equipment, and their roles. Photographs of the amusing, often risqué nose art with which crews adorned their aircraft is an example of Vincent's breadth of exploration. Indeed, the volume is as much a photo-study as a textual history. Exciting, first-hand accounts taken from log books and diaries greatly enliven the story. Good appendixes and charts deal with technical information for purists and the colour-coded drawings will satisfy modellers. Based on thousands of measurements of the *Liberator* preserved at the National Aeronautical Collection, a remarkable, fold-out, plan to scale has been added at the back of the book. The volume is attractively designed and not marred by many typographical or technical errors.

Nevertheless, there are some irritating weaknesses: the volume lacks a bibliography and an index, and chapters are not numbered. The most serious deficiency is the lack of footnotes. While much of the evidence and many of the quotations seem to come from private sources unearthed by Vincent, some indication of their nature, date, and present location should have been provided. Without this scholarly apparatus, no reader can conveniently trace the sources Vincent has utilized. After all, research is cumulative, and footnotes are an essential rung by which later scholars may advance further up the ladder of historical inquiry. Finally, greater discretion might have been exercised in the number of photographs finally used. Although the illustrations are one of the book's greatest strengths, the cumulative effect leaves the reader convinced that he is being bombarded with nearly-identical images. Fewer small photographs and more full-page pictures would enhance future titles in the series. Yet, in sum, these shortcomings do not undermine the volume's overall utility. This is a good book, admirably researched, written, and designed. When most archivists display the initiative and skilled commitment toward the acquisition and comprehension of records evident in this volume, it will be a happy day for the archival profession.

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Ontario and the First World War, 1914-1918: A Collection of Documents.

Edited with an introd. by Barbara M. Wilson. Toronto: The Champlain Society for the Government of Ontario, University of Toronto Press, 1977. cxix, 201 p. illus. ISBN 0 8020 2255 3 \$15.00.

The military historian Theodore Ropp has stated that, during the First World War, "the distinction between the fighting and home fronts (a significant new term) tended to disappear. . . . Citizens had to be persuaded as well as compelled to change their normal peacetime habits." In studying certain aspects of one home front, the province of Ontario, Barbara Wilson has selected documents prefaced by a 119-page introduction, which show with great clarity the regimentation of daily life which, in the opinion of many Ontarians, was necessary to win the war. When did you last hear someone say that, given a renewed sense of the national purpose that won two world wars, this country could whip problems like inflation, unemployment, the energy crisis and national disunity? Tell that person to read *Ontario and the First World War, 1914-1918* before too hastily advocating this panacea.

Although there were no artillery barrages on the home front, the citizens of Ontario did undergo an insistent bombardment of appeals, demands, advice and regulations, all designed to impel them to enlist in the armed services, work in munitions plants, increase agricultural production, support prohibition, donate to a host of fund-raising activities, and conserve such resources as food and fuel. Some of the organizations and agencies mentioned in the book are (pause for a deep breath) the various Protestant denominations within the province, Speakers' Patriotic League, Ontario Recruiting

Association, Citizens' Committee of One Hundred, Canadian Patriotic Fund, Young Men's Christian Association, Soldiers' Aid Commission of Ontario, Organization of Resources Committee, National Service Board, Navy League, Canadian Aviation Fund, War Production Clubs, Gardening Leagues, Farm Help Committees, Savings Clubs, Potato-Growing Associations, Preparedness Leagues, War Auxiliaries, Red Cross Societies — the list is endless. Perhaps war weariness most afflicted those who were unable to absorb all the exhortation.

Barbara Wilson does not minimize or overlook the mean-spirited, ugly side of the war effort. There were acts of pure silliness, such as the ridiculing of dachshunds for their alleged German ancestry. Women did send white feathers to men reluctant to enlist. There were more serious incidents such as the questioning of the loyalty of Toronto public school teachers Harry Lee (whose death in action at Courcellette in 1916 silenced his critics) and Freda Held, and the harassment leading to the forced resignation of three German-born members of the faculty of the University of Toronto. A particularly complete account of the events leading to the renaming of the city of Berlin as Kitchener in 1916 brings out the ambiguous role of the 118th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, both in inciting anti-German incidents and in policing the consequent disorders. As an aside to history, we discover that Lord Kitchener's death shortly before the vote on Berlin's new name was providential, enabling the voters to reject such barbarous proposals as Agnoleo, Adanac, Bercana, Dunard, Huronto, Hydro City, Keowana and Renoma. Did wartime necessity justify the excesses committed in its name? Premier Davis' foreword to the book simply closes the case with the statement that the war "stimulated baser emotions and radical prejudices that would be generally regretted once passions cooled."

Barbara Wilson has a comprehensive knowledge of those manuscript and record groups at the Public Archives of Canada which document the First World War. The variety of documents which appear in the book and the sources listed in the select bibliography demonstrate this knowledge, as well as her ability to draw upon other sources such as the collection of wartime pamphlets at the PAC Library, the Hearst Papers at the Ontario Archives, the Falconer Papers at the University of Toronto Archives, the Board of Control Records at Toronto City Archives, and the newspapers of various cities in the province. Her terse style enables her to compress a great deal of information into a relatively short text. Readers will appreciate her ability to introduce with a perfectly straight face a telling anecdote, such as the story of Miss Jessie McNab and the Women's Home Guard (pp. lxxxvii-lxxxviii). A book such as this, which very carefully limits those aspects of the subject it studies, is likely to draw fire from people who feel keenly the apparent omission of other aspects which may be equally worthy of treatment. For example, Premier Davis' foreword raises hopes by mentioning "the transformation of a rural, agrarian society into one in which the urban industrial element was becoming ever more predominant." Yet, apart from a paragraph about munitions plants on page lx and the appearance of articles such as Bill Young's "Conscription, Rural Depopulation and the Farmers of Ontario, 1917-1919" in the bibliography, the book contains little about the farm-factory shift and about working conditions in wartime industry. The inclusion of excerpts from letters and diaries might have supplied a much-needed counterpoint to the pervasive official line. The absence of this sort of documentation suggests that archivists should increase their efforts to acquire the diaries and letters of the period. The inclusion of the section on Homer Watson's war art in an otherwise tightly-edited book seems indulgent; although Watson was a resident of Ontario, his story is peripheral to the province's war effort, and might well have been deleted in favour of more documents on such subjects as conditions in industry. One does not expect illustrations in a collection of documents, but the book includes ten evocative and appropriate photographs by the prolific amateur photographer John Boyd of Toronto.

The temptation to conclude with a quotation from one of the documents in the book is irresistible. This statement appears in the Ontario edition of the *Canada War Thrift Book*, compiled in 1918 and distributed to schoolchildren in 1919:

It is but natural, and it is but right, that those who live in Ontario should think that they are citizens of the "Banner Province" of the Dominion. To this distinctive name Ontario had many good claims before the war. She has more right to that high honour now. The story of what Ontario has done should produce in every pupil, not a spirit of boastfulness, but a just pride that this Province has so nobly done what she could for the cause of civilization.

All those who suspect Ontario of harbouring delusions of grandeur, take note!

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Out of the Shadows: Canada in the Second World War. W.A.B. DOUGLAS and BRERETON GREENHOUS. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1977. 288 p. illus. ISBN 0 19 540257 X \$14.95.

This volume is a disappointment. The authors, two senior historians with the Department of National Defence in Ottawa, have attempted to write a popular overview of Canada's participation in the Second World War. They succeed in providing an overview of the contributions of the army, navy and air force, but the result is less than exciting. While it is difficult to compress the complex and sometimes frantic activities of the armed forces for almost six war years into less than three hundred pages, nevertheless, the story itself must be more interesting than the authors would lead us to believe.

For those who know little of Canada's over-all contribution to the Second World War, *Out of the Shadows* will cast only half-light on the story. The authors ambitiously wanted to describe the political, economic, social and intellectual context in which Canada conducted its war effort, but the treatment of these themes is limited. A modest attempt is made in this direction in a final chapter about the home front, but it reveals very little about how the war affected ordinary Canadians. The discussion of this aspect of the war effort, including political developments, takes second place to the military operations, and therefore adds little to a broader understanding of the war years.

However, the text is made more interesting by the inclusion of a large number of photographs, most of them published for the first time. The authors have footnoted their work but not in as detailed a manner as might be expected in a book of this nature. Douglas and Greenhous based their account largely on secondary sources as suggested by their notes; the brief annotated bibliography could have been more extensive.

In all fairness to the authors, they were not attempting to be definitive in this work, but rather, they wanted to provide the reader with an overview of Canada's total contribution to the war. They are not fully successful in this, but they do underline the need for more research and writing on all aspects of Canada at war. As the authors correctly point out, the war touched every Canadian in some way, but before a comprehensive synthesis of the war years can be written, more study is required on other aspects of wartime Canada, such as politics, the economy, the intellectual environment, the home front and propaganda, and the vast and complex subject of reconstruction and post-war planning.

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