

desiring a lasting and loving companionship. Single parenting involved stints for the children in boarding schools and with friends and colleagues, and this profoundly affected the rebellion of her eldest daughter Christine. Her broad-minded spirit extended to her children and to the support of single parenting for Christine and an abortion for Sally.

After she lost her seat in Ottawa in 1945, a brief respite in anti-Semitism and anti-Communism drew her to the inner-city enclaves of Toronto. The unfolding of the Gouzenko affair shortly thereafter meant that the country focused on Rose's alleged spying for the Soviets during the Second World War. This was followed by his arrest, trial, 1947 expulsion from Parliament, imprisonment, departure for Poland, and ultimately, the revoking of his Canadian citizenship. Revelations of Cold War policing in Canada complement our knowledge of US McCarthyism and the work of Gary Evans on John Grierson's manipulation of wartime propaganda with the National Film Board. The author provides disclosures of Neilsen's fear of arrest, phonetapping, and also details her involvement with the world peace movement in this period.

The recurrence of Cold War anti-Communism in Canada and her revolutionary zeal took her to China in 1955 where she conducted teacher training in the medical corps and died on Dec. 7, 1980 surrounded by comrades and her daughter Christine. She witnessed the dramatic consequences of the Great Leap Forward, feared expulsion during the Sino-Soviet split, and arrest or re-education during the Cultural Revolution. Accompanied by her daughters and six grandsons, her health steadily deteriorated as she worked on several projects with the Foreign Language Press and attended study groups and public meetings.

This book is a captivating and exemplary rendition of the life of Neilsen. The explicit use of varied sources, the detailed political analysis, as well as the keen attention to personal relations, collective solidarity, and social injustice, are praiseworthy and original contributions to historical scholarship.

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William J. Turkel, *The Archive of Place: Unearthing the Pasts of the Chilcotin Plateau* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2008).

The two-month Gustafsen Lake standoff near 100 Mile House in the summer of 1995 briefly turned Canadians' attention to the longstanding tensions that marred relationships between Native and non-Native people in the Chilcotin region of British Columbia. In this book, William J. Turkel, who grew up in the region but now teaches at the University of Western Ontario, turns his attention to the historical roots of several controversies that erupted in the region in the 1990s. In three parts, the book "explores the ways in which usable pasts are

drawn from the material substance of a particular place, typically under conditions of conflict” (xxiv). The result is a significant contribution to the history of the Chilcotin plateau, and more broadly to our understanding of the use of history to control the destiny of a place and its people.

The first part of the book explains how promoters and opponents of a proposed copper-gold mine turned to seemingly arcane aspects of geological and environmental history to bolster their arguments about the genetic distinctiveness of the rainbow trout population of Fish Lake, and thus the defensibility of a mine that would inevitably destroy the lake. The case study is unique, but the theme broadly relevant.

Part two explores the background to proposals to commemorate the bicentennial of Alexander Mackenzie’s successful crossing of North America in 1793. How should Mackenzie’s accomplishment be remembered? Should it be celebrated, or mourned? Does the speed with which Mackenzie was able to walk overland from the Fraser River to the Pacific Ocean reflect the greatness of the explorer, or does it reveal the skill of aboriginal mapping and guiding, and the ease with which anyone at the time could travel the country, thanks to the ancient and well-travelled overland trade routes that criss-crossed the landscape. That it proved impossible to reconstruct Mackenzie’s route precisely, and that the Tsilhqot’in had ceded none of the land on the Chilcotin plateau to the Canadian state, only complicated efforts to commemorate Mackenzie in the 1990s.

The final section of this book examines the role of the Tsilhqot’in in the fur trade, and the circumstances surrounding the “Chilcotin War” (1864), in the context of the responses to the unnatural death of Fred Quilt, probably at the hands of police, in 1971, and the Gustafsen Lake standoff in 1995. The discussions of the Tsilhqot’in in the fur trade is an important contribution in itself because it dispels the myth that the Tsilhqot’in had no interest in participating in the fur trade. The sections on the death of Fred Quilt, and the Cariboo-Chilcotin Justice Inquiry (Sarich Commission) that was established in 1992 to inquire into allegations of police wrongdoings, are also important because they brings these little known events to scholarly attention. Testimony at the Sarich Commission made it clear that many Tsilhqot’in, Carrier, and Secwepemc people saw Fred Quilt’s death as just one example in a long history of abuse, a history in which contrasting interpretations of events as far back as the Chilcotin War retained their significance. Indeed, the fact that the attorney general of British Columbia responded to Sarich’s report with an apology for the hanging of the Tsilhqot’in men who participated in the Chilcotin War reflects the government’s acknowledgement of the power of historical memory, although its inability to respond adequately to more recent history may help explain why circumstances deteriorated into armed standoff only two years later.

Some odd weaknesses mar the book somewhat. There are some maps that, although useful hardly seem necessary, but there is no map of Fish Lake

and its environs. Because of the way many readers are likely to use this book, the index is very disappointing. To find the pages on which Fred Quilt is discussed readers need to scan the long entry under “people,” and to learn about the Thompson Land and Cattle Company they have to consult “stakeholders.” Readers prescient enough to look under “aboriginals” to find “Sarich Commission” will then be directed to the non-existent entry for “Cariboo-Chilcotin Justice Inquiry.” Nevertheless, this well-deserved winner of the Canadian Historical Association’s Clio Prize for British Columbia provides us with a very valuable and nuanced look at the history, and the historical memory, of the Chilcotin plateau.

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Gerald Hunt and David Rayside, eds., *Equity, Diversity, and Canadian Labour* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007).

Labour activists and historians have debated for many years over whether or not to focus on the divisions among workers and unionists or on the elements that unite those in the labour movement. We might characterize this debate as one that pits “splitters” against “unifiers.” More recent scholarly writing in this field tends to come down more on the “splitter” side of the equation. In their edited work, *Equity, Diversity, and Canadian Labour*, Gerald Hunt and David Rayside attempt to deal with the problem of how to create a more united, equal, and, ultimately, stronger labour movement that will welcome workers from a diverse array of backgrounds. Hunt and Rayside’s text is of a piece with earlier works such as Linda Briskin and Lynda Yanz’s *Union Sisters* and Briskin and Patricia McDermott’s *Women Challenging Unions*; it also provides a good companion to recent historical works like David Goutor’s *Guarding the Gates*. On the whole, the book is a strong addition to an area that needs more study and it is a text that will be read by academics and activists alike, particularly those who struggle with issues surrounding equity and diversity in unions.

The editors have assembled a strong group of scholars who offer a variety of perspectives on the labour movement and its engagement with marginalized workers: race, gender, sexual orientation, and ability are the most prominent “sites” of discrimination that are interrogated here. Of particular note for historians, Julie White’s selection “Looking Back,” presents an overview of the history of racial, gender, and gay and lesbian oppression from the 1890s to the 1980s. In keeping with the text’s overall thrust, White suggests that, although unions did not always take a stance in favour of equality, they generally have moved in a progressive direction on these issues over the course of recent history (46-47).