from Williams' "functional" bibliography is W. Vernon Kinietz' *The Indian Tribes of the Western Great Lakes* (Occasional Contributions of the Museum of Anthropology of the University of Michigan, No. 10, 1940), a valuable and scholarly summary of the early source material on the Ojibwa and Ottawa Indians.

Indiana University Erminie Wheeler-Voegelin

The Struggle for Responsible Government in the North-West Territories, 1870-1897. By Lewis Herbert Thomas. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1956. Pp. viii, 276. Maps, tables, notes on sources, and index. $5.00.)

Dr. Thomas is Provincial Archivist of Saskatchewan and has made full use of the materials there as well as those of the federal and other provincial archives. The result is a political narrative of Canadian territorial administration dating from the Dominion's acquisition of the North-West Territories, in 1870, up to 1897 when responsible government was achieved.

The government of the Honorable Hudson's Bay Company in the territories and the transfer of governmental power to the Dominion is traced with the attitudes of the few newspapers in the new territories considered. The feelings of the people of the territories, many of whom were Metís, French-Indian mixtures, are discussed. The author notes the force of church leaders among these people and the lack of understanding by many in the Dominion government of their role. The revolt of the Metís, in 1870, led by Louis Riel is barely noticed, since Dr. Thomas discounts this effort along with the Riel revolt of 1885 as not being a part of the main effort toward autonomous government for the territories.

Of the territory acquired by the Dominion in 1870, Manitoba was granted provincial status from the start. Although the Riel revolt of 1870 is considered as a major reason for the granting of autonomy to Manitoba, the role of Riel is discounted.

The gradual development of representative government in the territories is traced. The role of the lieutenant-governor is developed and the growing importance of the

advisory council is traced from its ineffective beginning to development into a legislature. The influence of the extension of the Canadian Pacific Railroad upon the territories and the efforts of its promoters to keep the territories under federal administration are mentioned but not developed extensively.

The author notes the effects of the American territorial system upon the Canadian territories as it was interpreted in Ottawa. The experience gained by the Americans under their system, as set out in the Northwest Ordinance in 1787, was ignored and only the system itself considered. After 1827, the United States initiated territorial governments without the first stage (the step by which officials were appointed by the federal government), and instituted governments only in the second stage which provided for a territorial legislature. The North-West Territory started its political life in 1870 with an appointed government—long after the Americans had found that phase of development unworkable.

Dr. Thomas concludes that the Canadian government assumed the "Imperial mantle" of Britain and used the mother country's policy of cautious, gradual extension of provincial autonomy. American practices are evident in the Canadian system, but the Dominion government generally adhered to British practices.

This book has three small maps which amply illustrate the shift in boundaries and the electoral districts set up during the territorial period. Several tables of population are included with tabulations of electoral information pertinent to the discussion.

That the narrative is a little hard for the reader to keep going, at times, does not detract from the value of this study. Undoubtedly, some readers would like this book in a more expanded form to include the Riel Revolts and fuller reasoning as to why Riel "did not represent the main stream of the autonomy movement in the Canadian North-West."

Historians interested in the study of Turner's frontier thesis might find considerable material here for comparative purposes. The population movement in Canada was also westward and met conditions similar to those encountered in the United States. Dr. Thomas ably presents the political development of the Canadian frontier, but does not go much beyond that consideration.

Indiana University Donald P. Greene