

INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST ISSUE OF B. C. PERSPECTIVES

This journal grew out of discussions at the November 1971 meeting of the Universities' and Colleges' History Faculty Liaison Committee. There appeared to be a need for a publication specifically devoted to undergraduate work in various areas of British Columbia studies. As a result of these talks, the Department of Social Sciences of Cariboo College undertook to publish at least one issue of the proposed journal, to be called B. C. Perspectives. Students and faculty from the department serve on an editorial board, and have assumed responsibility for preparation and limited editing of manuscripts.

The editors of B. C. Perspectives feel that the journal will serve several useful functions. A number of scholarly papers on British Columbia are written each year by undergraduates. At present, these stand little chance of publication. Since the information contained in these works is often original, and sometimes the only material available on certain topics, we believe that this journal will fill a real need in the province. This journal will also allow the general public to see what kind of work can be done by students in the Social Sciences at British Columbia colleges and universities. This should help to bring these institutions closer to the communities they serve, with beneficial results for all concerned.

Finally, B. C. Perspectives should foster interest in local studies in such fields as history, geography, economics, anthropology, sociology, and other related disciplines. These studies, if undertaken carefully, will provide a base of information about the various regions of the province; information that is simply not available at this time.

To date, we have received material for at least one more issue, with promises of further papers from several institutions. Since the success of B. C. Perspectives depends on the interest of students, faculty, and the general public, we hope they will continue to give us their support.