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Review of *Immigration and Settlement, 1870-1939*. Edited by Gregory P. Marchildon.

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Immigration and Settlement, 1870–1939. Edited by Gregory P. Marchildon. Regina, SK: Canadian Plains Research Center, University of Regina, 2009. vii + 608 pp. Maps, photographs, figures, tables, notes, index. \$39.95 cloth.

This is the second volume in the History of the Prairie West Series, which focuses on the settlement of the Canadian Prairies by Ukrainian, German, Welsh, Jewish, Dutch, and other immigrants. The collection brings together twenty articles previously published in *Prairie Forum* grouped according to the themes of the early “opening” of the West, First Nations during the settlement era, patterns of settlement, and ethnic relations. An index greatly aids in finding common themes among the diverse topics.

The collection includes articles that made important contributions to settlement history when they first appeared in *Prairie Forum*, such as the 1997 analysis of American immigration by Randy Widdis, R. Bruce Shepard’s 1985 article on the immigration of Blacks from Oklahoma, and D.J. Hall’s 1977 discussion of politician Clifford Sifton’s role in Indian Affairs while a cabinet minister in the Laurier Liberal government. Other more recent articles are stimulating interjections into the conversation about the history of the Canadian Prairies. The opening article by J.C. Lehr, John Everett, and Simon Evans suggests the Canadian Prairies were a diverse cultural and physical landscape often at odds with “the prevailing images of those outside the region.” Jason Kovacs’s article weaves together the colorful personality of Count Paul O. d’Esterhazy and the Hungarian settlement of Esterhazy, later Esterhazy, Saskatchewan, concluding that although

he may not have been the figure he made out to be, Esterhazy was “an important catalyst for early Hungarian and Slavic immigration to Canada.”

The range of time represented when the collection’s articles were written does mean that research and interpretations have, in many cases, moved on. Unfortunately, editor Gregory Marchildon’s introduction provides little in the way of historiographical context for the essays, summarizing and suggesting instead how the articles fit into the collection’s thematic structure. The time frame of the selected articles may also aggravate the preponderance of analyses of patterns, policies, and personalities and the lack of clearer attention to the stories of women, of literary and artistic worlds, and the everyday experience of immigrant settlers. With the exception of a few passing references, the collection also paints the Canadian West as a rural landscape without cities. By 1939, the end date for the volume chosen by the editor, cities were ascendant and an important feature of the economy and culture of the region.

Certainly the collection fulfills its stated aim of bringing together in one place the articles from *Prairie Forum* that explored the history of the Northern Great Plains. The addition of new photographs, illustrations, and an attractive flyleaf will make it a pleasing and useful reference for students and teachers. **Hans Werner**, *Department of History, University of Winnipeg*.