

Greetings Everyone! I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving—it's hard to believe that December, the holiday season, and the end-of-semester are already upon us!

I was pleased to learn that 30-40 teachers attended each of the three sessions on Canada offered at the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) meeting in Kansas City a few weeks ago and that more than 500 teachers received free resources at the exhibit of the National Resource Centers for Canada. Hopefully even more of you will be able to join us for this annual conference next year in Washington D.C.

Please feel free to contact me anytime regarding *K-12 STUDY CANADA* Teacher Loan-Kits, the annual *STUDY CANADA Summer Institute* (offered in B.C. this year), resources identified on our <http://k12studycanada.wvu.edu> site or those identified in this monthly e-notice. I am always glad to help you find innovative ways to teach about Canada. Have a safe and happy holiday season! Tina Storer

Should you no longer wish to receive this email, simply reply with "Please remove my name from the Canada Listserv". These resource notices and the K-12 Resource Flyer are also available on the *K-12 STUDY CANADA* website under K-12 News. *K-12 STUDY CANADA* represents shared outreach by WWU's Center for Canadian-American Studies & UW's Canadian Studies Center which jointly form the Pacific Northwest National Resource Center for Canada, funded by the USDOE (Title VI). Additional support is given by the Government of Canada.

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- **NEW NFB DVD - FROM BOOK TO FILM: ANIMATED CLASSICS BY SHELDON COHEN** - This compilation DVD celebrates multi-award-winning animator, director, and children's book illustrator Sheldon Cohen's work. His animation of Roch Carrier's *The Sweater*, for example, has become a Canadian classic. Hosted by charismatic Québec author Roch Carrier, *From Book to Film* is rich with anecdotes about the filmmaker and insight into his animation process. It includes a mini-documentary, plus added bonus features such as early archival interviews rarely seen, as well as the *Artist at Work*, a recipe for animating a story and a sing-along Karaoke. This DVD is an irresistible package loaded with humor, ideas and optimism and includes: *Dreams Come True: A Sheldon Cohen Retrospective* (13:00 minutes), *The Sweater* (10:21), *Snow Cat* (14:37), *I Want a Dog* (10:09), *Pies* (12:14). Bonus features: Karaoke, interviews, earlier films by Sheldon Cohen etc. **On sale at www.nfb.ca for \$14.99. ID NO.153E0305150**

- **INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES OF US HISTORY** – Here's a fascinating book for your holiday wish list by Kyle Ward (Vincennes University) and Dana Lindaman (Harvard University)...*History Lessons: How Textbooks from Around the World Portray U.S. History* (New York:The New Press, 2004). It's \$16.95 at www.amazon.com in hardcover. Who could have guessed that a book about textbooks would turn out to be a *page-turner*? .

History Lessons offers an alternative and eye-opening version of American history by providing a range of foreign perspectives on historical events. Readers accustomed to a single view of American history will find British, Canadian, and Native American views of the War of 1812; Cuban and Russian views of the Bay of Pigs debacle; and Iranian views of the hostage crisis, among many other astonishing and enlightening examples. It includes textbook selections from Canada, China, Cuba, Egypt, France, Great Britain, India, Iran, Mexico, North Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and South Africa and offers a lighthearted challenge to the biases we bring to our understanding of American history — and a sobering glimpse into how the rest of the world views the past.

According to James Loewen, author, *Lies My Teacher Told Me: "This [book] gives Americans a refreshing way to break out of the ethnocentric cocoon within which our high school American history textbooks swaddle us."*
Source: <http://www.thenewpress.com/books/historyless.htm>.

- **NEWS FOR GRADUATING H.S. STUDENTS OF FRENCH** - In case French-language students in your school need further encouragement, there's now another reason to study in Québec. Foreign students enrolled in some one hundred institutes of higher education throughout Québec will now be able to work off-campus, following an agreement reached recently by the Québec and federal governments. That's an important difference for college students.

It's also interesting to note that the number of foreign students enrolled in Québec universities has tripled over the past 20 years (from 6,500 in the early 80s to 20,000 according to a 2004 census). In 2003, about 12% hailed from the US. The sharp rise in the number of foreign students in recent years is a clear sign of international interest in Québec universities. (Source: *Québecnews.com* at www.mri.gouv.qc.ca/en/salle_de_presse/bulletin/index.asp)

- **CELEBRATE WINTER IN CANADA** - I hope that some of you get a chance to frolic in snow this holiday. If it's not available in quantity where you live, consider a trip to Canada! Travel links are available on our site at www.wvu.edu/depts/castudies/k12studycanada/resource_links.shtml#tourismwebsites. Or, you may want to plan ahead to February 2006 when many cities, coast to coast across Canada, celebrate winter with a festival of some kind. The largest of these events is the famous Winter Carnival in Québec City. To learn more about it and other celebrations held across Canada, visit <http://www.carnaval.com/winter/canadian.html>.
- **CHRISTMAS IN CANADA** – In case you want to share some holiday stories with younger students, here are a few pieces of *Christmas Canadiana*...

Christmas, for English-speaking Canadians who celebrate the holiday, is a conglomerate of cultures and Christian traditions from all over the world. As in the United States, Canada was populated with people emigrating from other countries searching for a better life. The Christmas tree came from Germany, as well as the Advent calendar and gingerbread house, the English introduced greeting cards, decorating windows with lights came from Ireland, the figure of Santa Claus came from Scandinavian cultures (and the US), and the French introduced the *crèche* and carols.

For French Canadians, Christmas Eve is traditionally the highlight of the holidays and much preparation takes place for the *reveillon*, the evening meal. Families would decorate the tree and place the *crèche*, a Nativity scene, under the tree before going to midnight mass. They would *then* come home from church (sometimes as late as 2 am!) to a feast of la tourtière, meat pie, and various other dishes. Topping off the meal was the Yule log, a chocolate cake in the shape of a log to symbolize the birch log burned in the fireplace on *reveillon* in France. French-Canadian children would open their gifts from their stockings during *reveillon* saving the big gifts for New Year's day while Christmas Day was a day for relaxation and for children to play and have fun. Many of these traditions are still followed today.

Canada and the US have an almost 90-year old tradition that celebrates our nations' friendship and goodwill. On December 6, 1917, two ships collided in Halifax Harbor and caused a large explosion that was heard over 100 km. away. The explosion, fires, and tidal wave in its aftermath destroyed over 325 acres of the north end of the city, killing over 1900 people, and injuring over 9000 more. In response to this devastation, the people of Boston sent help in the form of doctors, nurses, food and supplies. And so, as a small token of appreciation, the city of Halifax, Nova Scotia, sends a special Christmas tree to the good people of Boston every year. (Source: <http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/xmas/around/canada.html>)

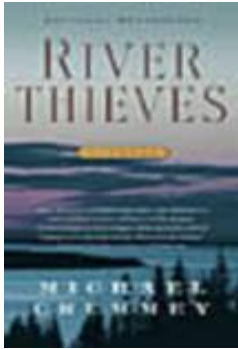
- **CANADIAN RECIPE OF THE MONTH** – Although I found interesting possibilities such as “Easy Moose Rump Roast,” “Maple Barbeque Caribou Ribs” and “Deer in Beer,” I thought you'd prefer a more traditional recipe for the holiday season (as do most Canadians!) and this recipe offers a tasty alternative to fruitcake as a holiday tradition. It is especially good toasted plain and then spread with butter or broiled with a little cheddar sprinkled over the top. I was convinced to try it by this rave review:

★★★★★ Oh...my...gosh! This was the most fantastic recipe for coffee cake/quick bread. I was happy to see not-so-much butter and sugar in it. So many quick bread recipes come out like a dessert...too rich and sweet. This was just perfect, not too sweet, a little tart with the cranberries and not too rich. I doubled the recipe for my 10" bundt pan...I like it when they rise to the top rim. I also drizzled a little glaze on mine. No wonder this recipe has been around so long. A great tradition for sure! Pam — Nov 20, 2005 (Source: <http://www.recipezaar.com/13005>)

Cranberry Orange Quick Bread (5 Roses Flour recipe from 1967) 1-½ Hrs (30 min. prep) Makes 20 slices

Ingredients: 2 C. all-purpose flour, ¾ C. sugar, 2 tsps baking powder, ½ tsp baking soda, 1 tsp salt, ¼ C. butter (shortening), ¾ C. orange juice, 1 tbsp grated orange rind, 2 eggs, well beaten, 1 C. coarsely chopped cranberries (leave a few whole). ½ C. chopped glaze green cherries (optional).

Directions: 1. Stir flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt together. 2. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse cornmeal. 3. Combine orange juice and grated rind with well-beaten eggs. 4. Pour all at once into dry ingredients, mixing just enough to dampen. 5. Dust chopped cranberries and cherries with a tablespoon of flour, carefully fold into batter and spoon into a well-buttered 1-1/2 quart casserole. 6. Sprinkle a few floured whole cranberries over top of batter. 7. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour or until toothpick inserted in centre comes out clean. 8. Cool in casserole 10 minutes, and then remove. 9. Store overnight for easy slicing. 10. Frost with confectioner's frosting (sift 2 cups icing sugar very slowly, add boiling water, at a time, until right consistency to spread on cooled bread).



RUTH WRITER'S REVIEW OF ADULT FICTION –

Crummey, Michael. ***River Thieves***. Toronto: Doubleday Canada, 2001.
[ISBN 0-385-65817-6]

During the early 1800's Newfoundland was vastly unexplored by whites. There were still a few Beothuk living on the island. The clash of these two cultures is the basis of Crummey's first novel, which was the winner of the Winterset Award, the Thomas Head Raddall Atlantic Fiction Prize and the Atlantic Independent Booksellers' Choice Award. This was also short listed for other prestigious awards. There is no doubt why his first novel received such recognition.

River Thieves tells the story of the two cultures meeting with tragic results. The novel is part history, part murder mystery, and personal stories of those who lived through a difficult time in Newfoundland history. Readers learn about the effort to establish contact with the Natives by David Buchan, a British naval officer. The results of an early expedition led to the deaths of several Beothuk and the capturing of another. Crummey vividly portrays the lifestyles of the early settlers of Newfoundland; their dilemmas, trials, and means of mere survival. The main family of the story is the Peytons who have a deep and troubled history on the island. The Beothuk point of view is also richly described by Crummey.

Crummey, a lifelong resident of Newfoundland, captures the spirit of those who lived on the island almost two centuries ago. ***River Thieves*** is a must-read novel about the lives of those who came before and their sense of justice.

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