



The SMUG Minority

A Radical Attack on the
Financial Establishment by the Author of
The Comfortable Poor

Pierre Berton

Smug Minority

Winners of the Pierre Berton Award



Smug Minority:

Pierre Berton Brian McKillop, 2011-06-22 The first ever biography of one of Canada's best known and most colourful personalities by an award winning author From his northern childhood on it was clear that Pierre Berton 1920-2004 was different from his peers Over the course of his eighty four years he would become the most famous Canadian media figure of his time in newspapers magazines radio television and books sometimes all at once Berton dominated bookstore shelves for almost half a century winning Governor General's Awards for *Klondike* and *The Last Spike* among many others along with a dozen honorary degrees Throughout it all Berton was larger than life full of verve and ideas he approached everything he did with passion humour and an insatiable curiosity He loved controversy and being the centre of attention and provoked national debate on subjects as wide ranging as religion and marijuana use A major voice of Canadian nationalism at the dawn of globalization he made Canadians take interest in their own history and become proud of it But he had his critics too and some considered him egocentric and mean spirited Now with the same meticulous research and storytelling skill that earned him wide critical acclaim for *The Spinster* and *the Prophet* Brian McKillop traces Pierre Berton's remarkable life with special emphasis on his early days and his rise to prominence The result is a comprehensive vivid portrait of the life and work of one of our most celebrated national figures

Smug Minority Pierre Berton, 2012-12-18 This is a book about freedom and the lack of it in Canada freedom from useless and often degrading toil freedom from want and freedom from ignorance It is Pierre Berton's thesis documented by public statements made over the past generation that a smug minority of business and political leaders has conspired to inhibit that freedom The establishment says Berton has brainwashed the public into believing a series of myths which have no validity in a post Puritan age These myths include such old saws as A woman's place is in the home Anybody can work his way through college Satan finds more mischief still for idle hands to do Too much security kills initiative It's your own fault you're so poor The author indicts his fellow countrymen for failing to invest in human beings in the same way that they invest in power plants highways and gold mines His researches into poverty in Canada and into inequalities of the educational system will shock a good many readers just as his theories on work and leisure will enrage others raised in the Calvinist ethic The book ranges over a wide variety of topics the hippie movement in Toronto's Yorkville village the author's personal experiences in a Yukon mining camp the future of educational television in Canada the Chamber of Commerce's abortive Operation Freedom campaign But always Berton hammers on his central theme that the nation has been held back by an inbred power elite Selfish narrow short sighted men unable to grasp the vision of the future imprisoned by a bookkeeping attitude to life creeping silently and blindly along at the tail end of the parade of progress *The Smug Minority* is certain to stimulate the same kind of national debate that the author's previous best selling book about religion *The Comfortable Pew* engendered Many will disagree with its central thesis but few will be able to put it down It's that kind of book

Smug Minority Pierre Berton, 1999-07-01 **The Last Spike** Pierre Berton, 2010-12-22

In the four years between 1881 and 1885 Canada was forged into one nation by the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Last Spike reconstructs the incredible story of how some 2 000 miles of steel crossed the continent in just five years exactly half the time stipulated in the contract. Pierre Berton recreates the adventures that were part of this vast undertaking the railway on the brink of bankruptcy with one hour between it and ruin the extraordinary land boom of Winnipeg in 1881 1882 and the epic tale of how William Van Horne rushed 3 000 soldiers over a half finished railway to quell the Riel Rebellion. Dominating the whole saga are the men who made it all possible a host of astonishing characters Van Horne the powerhouse behind the vision of a transcontinental railroad Rogers the eccentric surveyor Onderdonk the cool New Yorker Stephen the most emotional of businessmen Father Lacombe the black robed voyageur Sam Steele of the North West Mounted Police Gabriel Dumont the Prince of the Prairies more than 7 000 Chinese workers toiling and dying in the canyons of the Fraser Valley and many more land sharks construction geniuses politicians and entrepreneurs all of whom played a role in the founding of the new Canada west of Ontario. For the Love of History Winners of the Pierre Berton Award, 2010-04-30. Featuring some of Canada's best known and most admired historians this collection will appeal to Pierre Berton fans and history lovers everywhere. For the Love of History features the contributions of outstanding writers who have won recognition for the creative and colourful ways in which they have popularized Canadian history. Including a foreword by Pierre Berton this book chronicles a diverse and lively range of historical episodes from an account of early fur traders and the story of the intriguing life of Isabel Mackenzie King to a dramatic look at the FLQ Crisis. Drawing on the contributors' skills as acclaimed and inventive storytellers this book pays lasting tribute to the unrivalled legacy of Pierre Berton.

Literary History of Canada Carl F. Klinck, Alfred G. Bailey, Claude Bissell, Roy Daniells, Northrop Frye, Desmond Pacey, 1976-12-15. Hailed as a landmark in Canadian literary scholarship when it was originally published in 1965 the Literary History of Canada is now being reissued revised and enlarged in three volumes. This major effort of a large group of scholars working in the field of English language Canadian literature provides a comprehensive up to date reference work. It has already proven itself invaluable as a source of information on authors genres and literary trends and influences. It represents a positive attempt to give a history of Canada in terms of writings which deserve attention because of significant thought form and use of language. Volume 3 has been newly written for this edition of the History and covers the years from about 1960 to 1974. The contributors to this volume are Claude Bissell, Desmond Pacey, Lauriat Lane Jr, Michael S. Cross, Thomas A. Goudge, John Webster Grant, John H. Chapman, William E. Swinton, Henry B. Mayo, Malcolm Ross, Brandon Conron, Clara Thomas, Sheila A. Egoff, John Ripley, William H. New, George Woodcock and Northrop Frye. *Sports Illustrated Great Football Writing* Editors of Sports Illustrated, 2012-10-30. For more than 50 years Sports Illustrated has been the gold standard of sports writing and during that time football once a popular college pastime but only a rag tag professional game has moved to center stage taking its unquestioned place as America's most popular sport. This book brings together dozens of football

classics from the pages of SI featuring the work of such esteemed writers as John O Hara and Jack Kerouac Dan Jenkins and George Plimpton Don DeLillo and John Underwood and John Ed Bradley And of course the collection includes many of the longtime favorites of SI readers Frank Deford and Rick Reilly Steve Rushin and Gary Smith Peter King and Rick Telander and the inimitable Dr Z Paul Zimmerman Covering more than half a century of the game at every level from high school to the Super Bowl this volume will be indispensable reading for serious football fans The Perilous Trade Roy

MacSkimming,2012-01-11 A book that will fascinate and inform readers who love Canadian writing Part cultural history part personal memoir this accomplished sweeping yet intimate book demonstrates that the story of Canadian publishing is one of the cornerstones of our literary history In The Perilous Trade former publisher literary journalist and industry insider Roy MacSkimming chronicles the extraordinary journey of English language publishing from the Second World War to the present During a period of unparalleled transformation Canada grew from a cultural colony fed on the literary offerings of London and New York to a mature nation whose writers are celebrated around the world Crucial to that evolution were three generations of book publishers mavericks gamblers entrepreneurs political activists and true believers sharing a conviction that Canadians need books of their own Canadian publishing has long made headlines be it Jack McClelland's outrageous publicity stunts American takeovers the collapse of venerable imprints or bold political moves to ensure the industry's survival Roy MacSkimming takes us behind the headlines to draw memorable portraits of the men and women who built Canada's literary renaissance With a novelist's eye for character and incident he weaves their tangled relationships with authors agents booksellers and each other into a lively narrative rich in anecdote and revealing personal recollection Canadian publishers large and small have nurtured a literature of extraordinary diversity and breadth MacSkimming argues giving us English Canada's greatest cultural achievement Canada's 1960s Bryan D. Palmer,2009-01-01 Focusing on the

major movements and personalities of the time as well as the lasting influence of the period Canada's 1960s examines the legacy of this rebellious decade's impact on contemporary notions of Canadian identity Inequality in Canada Eric W. Sager,2021-01-20 In Inequality in Canada Eric Sager considers one of the defining but hardest to define ideas of our era and traces its different meanings and contexts across the nineteenth and twentieth centuries Sager shows how the idea of inequality arose in the long evolution in Britain and the United States from classical economics to the emerging welfare economics of the twentieth century Within this transatlantic frame inequality took a distinct form in Canada different iterations of the idea appear in Protestant critiques of wealth labour movements farmer progressive politics the social gospel social Catholicism in Quebec English Canadian political economy and political and intellectual justifications of the social security state A tradition of idealist thought persisted in the twentieth century sustaining the idea of inequality despite deep silences among Canadian economists Sager argues that inequality goes beyond the distribution of income and wealth it is the idea that there are wide gaps between rich and poor that the gaps are both an economic problem and a social injustice and

that when inequality appears it is as a problem that can be either eliminated or reduced It is precisely because inequality appears in different contexts and because it changes Sager reasons that we can begin to perceive the contours and cleavages of inequality in our time In our century a political solution to inequality may rest on the recovery of an ethical ideal and egalitarian politics that have long preoccupied the history of Canadian thought As I Walked Out One Evening W. H. Auden,1995-08-08 W H Auden once defined light verse as the kind that is written by poets who are democratically in tune with their audience and whose language is straightforward and close to general speech Given that definition the 123 poems in this collection all qualify they are as accessible as popular songs yet have the wisdom and profundity of the greatest poetry As I Walked Out One Evening contains some of Auden s most memorable verse Now Through the Night s Caressing Grip Lullaby Lay your Sleeping Head My Love Under Which Lyre and Funeral Blues Alongside them are less familiar poems including seventeen that have never before appeared in book form Here among toasts ballads limericks and even a foxtrot are Song The Chimney Sweepers a jaunty evocation of love and the hilarious satire Letter to Lord Byron By turns lyrical tender sardonic courtly and risqu As I Walked Out One Evening is Auden at his most irresistible and affecting Profiles in Canadian Literature Jeffrey M. Heath,1991-09-01 A series of essays on Canadian authors profiling the writers work providing insight into themes and giving a chronology of the authors life Lauragais Colin Duncan Taylor,2018-09-18 A journey through the past and present of a little known area of south west France Explores the people places and events that shaped a land once too important to ignore A whole library has been written about the Lauragais in French but virtually nothing in English The Lauragais lies in south west France at the heart of Occitania Today it is largely ignored by the millions who visit its neighbours each year Toulouse and Carcassonne but in times gone by it rarely escaped the attentions of the great and the good or the ambitious and the avaricious This is a book with big characters Simon de Montfort the Black Prince Thomas Jefferson and the Duke of Wellington among others but most of all it tells the story of the people who have shaped this land the living and the dead families that have lived in the same house or village for hundreds of years This is the story of their lives their religion their forgotten language and their environment On the autoroute a journey through the Lauragais will take you three quarters of an hour but all you will see are tantalising glimpses of gorgeous countryside and distant signs of human habitation In this book the author takes you on a more leisurely trip through time in a land that is endearingly modest about its illustrious past **States of Mind** Dayton Lummis,2008-03 STATES OF MIND is a collection of the author s letters from Santa Fe New Mexico and St David s Pennsylvania to a very literate and old fashioned gentleman in San Francisco Written between 1993 and 2000 they are insightful humorous and sometimes grouchy They reflect two very diverse places in the American landscape some would say no two places could be more different and the author deftly switches roles with changes in locale Peter Gzowski R.B. Fleming,2010-08-27 Born in 1934 Peter Gzowski covered most of the last half of the century as a journalist and interviewer This biography the most comprehensive and definitive yet published is also a portrait

of Canada during those decades beginning with Gzowski's days at the University of Toronto's The Varsity in the mid 1950s through his years as the youngest ever managing editor of Maclean's in the 1960s and his tremendous success on CBC's Morningside in the 1980s and 1990s and ending with his stint as a Globe and Mail columnist at the dawn of the 21st century and his death in January 2002 Gzowski saw eight Canadian Prime Ministers in office most of whom he interviewed and witnessed everything from the Quiet Revolution in Quebec to the growth of economic nationalism in Canada's West From the rise of state medicine to the decline of the patriarchy Peter was there to comment to resist and to participate Here was a man who was proud to call himself Canadian and who made millions of other Canadians realize that Canada was in what he claimed was a Canadian expression not a bad place to live **Encyclopedia of Television** Horace Newcomb, 2014-02-03

The Encyclopedia of Television second edition is the first major reference work to provide description history analysis and information on more than 1100 subjects related to television in its international context For a full list of entries contributors and more visit the Encyclopedia of Television 2nd edition website Klondike Pierre Berton, 2011-02-11 With the building of the railroad and the settlement of the plains the North West was opening up The Klondike stampede was a wild interlude in the epic story of western development and here are its dramatic tales of hardship heroism and villainy We meet Soapy Smith dictator of Skagway Swiftwater Bill Gates who bathed in champagne Silent Sam Bonnifield who lost and won back a hotel in a poker game and Roddy Connors who danced away a fortune at a dollar a dance We meet dance hall queens paupers turned millionaires missionaries and entrepreneurs and legendary Mounties such as Sam Steele the Lion of the Yukon Pierre Berton's riveting account reveals to us the spectacle of the Chilkoot Pass and the terrors of lesser known trails through the swamps of British Columbia across the glaciers of southern Alaska and up the icy streams of the Mackenzie Mountains It contrasts the lawless frontier life on the American side of the border to the relative safety of Dawson City Winner of the Governor General's award for non fiction Klondike is authentic history and grand entertainment and a must read for anyone interested in the Canadian frontier European Land Law Peter Sparkes, 2007-11-30 In his remarkable path breaking new book Peter Sparkes takes stock of the development of a distinctive body of European land law taking as his starting point the idea that methods of land holding permitted by a legal system both shape and reflect the attitudes of the land owners and society in general However it quickly becomes very difficult to test that idea when the society in question is governed by an internal market composed of 30 countries the EU 27 including Bulgaria and Romania and the EEA 3 whose property systems differ so markedly and which reflect such widely differing cultures Yet the internal market has already effected a gradual equalisation and standardisation across Europe as foreign capital spreads to create equality of yield We all become better off by joining a larger trading block but the social consequences will be profound Brits will need to emigrate to the continent to afford a home Bulgarians will need to make way for them along the Black Sea coast and title deeds will be reshuffled all over Europe on a giant Monopoly board writes the author in his preface before embarking on a dispassionate examination of the

beginning of that process of profound change The opening chapters are devoted to an explanation of how the internal market has created a substantive European land law Chapter 3 examines the rise of a distinctive European land law and the development of conflicts principles applying to recovery of land Chapters 5 to 9 on the marketing and sale of land focus upon Community competence on consumer protection The decision to treat land as a product like any other in the Unfair Commercial Practices Directive will have wide ranging and far reaching implications and apart from marketing of land and of timeshares other chapters deal with conveyancing contracting and the emerging market in mortgage credit The book concludes with a miscellany of conflicts rules which are gradually coalescing and form the elements from which a substantive European land law can be forged A number of topics which it is not possible to cover in detail VAT other taxes environmental controls and agriculture are touched on briefly and the same is true of international aspects of trusts and succession Not this Time Marcel Martel,2006-01-01 In *Not This Time* Marcel Martel explores recreational use of marijuana in the 1960s and its emergence as a topic of social debate *Niagara* Pierre Berton,2011-07-27 Full of heroes and villains eccentrics and daredevils scientists and power brokers Niagara has a contemporary resonance how a great natural wonder created both the industrial heartland of southern Ontario and the worst pollution on the continent

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