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ABSTRACTS

P.D. CLARKE : *Pêche et identité en Acadie : nouveaux regards sur la culture et la ruralité en milieu maritime*

The economic and social systems in the fisheries-based regions in Acadia, arising from the ecology and geography, have been determining factors in the construction of a collective Acadian popular identity. The socioeconomic structure of the fishing-based communities, which is articulated around popular cultural practices and social regulation, carries forward the influence of the extended family and community solidarity. These communities, little disrupted by modernity and the industrial economy, are the refuge of a secular popular culture, the home of a collective identity connected with the living space and the appropriation of the fisheries resource. Still today, the industrial structure of the fisheries is at the origin of cultural practices likely to counteract the homogenization of identity. The Acadian collective identity, of a nationalizing propensity, defends itself from the postmodern fragmentation of identity by drawing on the paradigms of meaning and representation of the maritime Acadia.

Anne GILBERT : *À propos du concept d'Amérique française*

This study focuses on the most frequently used concept in the geographic analysis of French-speaking North-America, namely that of *Amérique française*. The author presents the different currents of research on the French-speaking space in North America which are dependent on this concept, and evaluates their scope. The work of geographers is explored from a cultural perspective. The analysis thus focuses on their study of *Amérique française* as an identity space common to French-speaking inhabitants of North America, revealed through the discourse on the territory and on their proposition of a space-network of migrations from Québec, brought to light through historical documentation and investigations. This new way of viewing geography based on the francophone North American space leads to the observation that the idea of plurality of francophone space has definitely replaced the vision of a single and inalterable *Amérique française*, which opens the way to more finely nuanced interpretations of the dynamic of the French reality across the continent.

Romaine MALENFANT : *Risque et gestion du social : le retrait de l'activité professionnelle durant la grossesse*

Québec's Act Respecting Occupational Health and Safety provides a right of protective reassignment which gives a pregnant worker the right to maintain her job during her pregnancy in conditions that are not dangerous to her health or to that of her unborn child, and requires the employer to respect these conditions. The differences of opinion on the interpretation of dangerous conditions have led to heated debates. The mechanisms through which the management of risk participates in the management of the social sphere and the rationale underlying the withdrawal from occupational activities involving risk during pregnancy are analysed in the context of two profound movements that are specific to advanced modern societies: the massive entry of women to the labour market, which necessitates a questioning of the division of work by gender, and the development of the science of risk, which systematizes the recourse to expertise to outline the issues.

Michel O'NEILL et Lise CARDINAL : *Les ambiguïtés québécoises dans le domaine de la promotion de la santé*

Health promotion is an approach for dealing with the health-related problems of a society, which appeared in the 1970s and which obtained international recognition in the mid-1980s. Québec entertained an ambiguous attitude toward this «new» discourse which, however, was enthusiastically adopted elsewhere in Canada and in other countries. This attitude is presented in the context of the evolution of Québec's practices in the area of public health over the past four decades ; the consequences of this ambiguity are also discussed.

Gilles PRONOVOST : *Les transformations des usages du temps, 1986-1992*

An analysis of the data from the last two Canadian surveys on time use (1986 and 1992) leads to the conclusion that time use has remained relatively stable, particularly time devoted to sleep, domestic work and personal care. Contrary to a very widespread opinion, work time has also remained relatively stable. The time devoted to the media shows a downward trend. Indeed, the main changes concern associational activities and free time, with the latter coming out the big winner in the rearrangement of social time ; however, people are increasingly often at home, increasingly often alone, and even the time spent with family members is decreasing.