

ABSTRACTS

VERMOT-DESROCHES, B.: "Avant-propos : la récession induc-
trice de nouveaux courants en sciences régionales" : For more
than a decade most countries of the world have experienced the
effects of economic recession. The implications of recession for
the development of regions, particularly smaller regions, has
emerged as a major concern within the field of regional science.
The relevance of the regional concept and the efficacy of regional
power need to be re-examined within the framework of the eco-
nomic difficulties posed by the recession. This article introduces
these considerations and places in context the four articles that
comprise the special theme on "Small Regions and Economic
Recession."

AYDALOT, P.: "La crise économique et l'espace : recherche sur
les nouveaux dynamismes spatiaux" : A reversal of spatial trends
has appeared since the beginning of the present long-run eco-
nomic down-turn. This reversal benefits so-called peripheral re-
gions, with central regions experiencing a relative decrease in
their activities. This paper deals with the process and explores
several possible explanations: obsolescence of regions marked by
an older pattern of development, greater dynamism of regions
that have retained their pre-industrial pattern, and new types of
locational patterns of high technology activities.

GUESNIER, B.: "Développement local et microregional : priorité à
l'information" : Local and microregional development was the main
topic of the joint R.S.A. and A.S.R.D.L.F. symposium in Poitiers.
The importance of information as an element of analysis was
stressed by various scholars. To initiate and to control local devel-
opment programs we need two kinds of information: (1) statisti-
cal information which is data processed and which must be avail-
able at a low level of disaggregation needs and formalisation; and
(2) information on opportunities, technologies, and economic
agent's goals and anticipations, on which depend interactive con-
sultation for decision making and control.

JULIEN, P.-A.: "Petites régions, crise et entrepreneurship" : Over the mid-term period, the present structural crisis is becoming a constraint for the traditional development of small regions. We are seeing the settling and the changing of national and international demand, and the external investments which had supported this development are not being renewed. Nevertheless, there are many firms and regions that are showing considerable dynamism in the face of this crisis. One of the reasons is the new regional entrepreneurship. A second reason is the emergence of non-traditional firms. To small regions, this can give the flexibility necessary to take advantage of the new trends in the post-industrial economy.

JOYAL, A.: "L'apport des entreprises communautaires dans les petites régions du Québec" : The failure of the private and public sectors to provide a sustained economic growth in some non-metropolitan areas has led the local populations to find alternatives to leaving the region or living on welfare. These actions have taken the form of involvement in community development projects based on paradigms which differ from the dominant model. The number of different experiments being undertaken and the motivation of the people involved indicate that this movement is more than a fad. We are witnessing the application of ideas put forward years ago on the advantages of linking regional development to economic activities on a human scale.

MILLER, F.C.: "The Impact of DREE Grants on Employment in the Atlantic Provinces: An Input-Output Analysis": This paper uses Statistic Canada's interprovincial input-output model to evaluate the success of DREE subsidies in creating employment in the Atlantic Provinces during the period from 1974-76. The model results show that less than 44 percent of the employment which DREE has claimed it created in manufacturing over this period was due to the subsidies. The evidence suggests, therefore, that DREE incentives have done more to subsidize business profits than to achieve their primary objective of creating new job opportunities in the Atlantic Provinces.

HANSEN, J.A.G.: "Canada's Potential Cropland Margin": Canada's potential cropland margin is the land area capable of growing crops that is not currently used for crops or built-on. The margin is calculated to be about ten million hectares - an additional thirty-eight percent over the area in present crop use. To derive this margin, the growth of the area of land in urban and rural settlement use is calculated using a newly constructed index. The anal-

ysis demonstrates that a continuation of the present trends of growth in the area of built-on land and cropland would exhaust the cropland margin completely thirty to forty years from now.

STABLER, J.C.: "Interindustry Relations of a Frontier Economy": This paper reports some observations on the extent and strength of interindustry linkages in a geographically isolated regional economy. The observations are based on a 1978 input-output model of the Yukon. Linkages between the Yukon's export sectors and local industry and between industries producing primarily for local intermediate or local final demand are more extensive than what *a priori* reasoning would suggest. Probable explanations for the extent of linkages observed include high transport costs associated with the Yukon's isolation, policies which encourage export industries to buy locally, and large ongoing transfers from the federal to the territorial government.