



MODERN CANADIAN POETS

Here are Ten Successful Gifts

THE WHITE CENTRE

By Patrick Anderson. "A combination of musical values, humour and essential simplicity, and the result is charming."—Windfield Townley Scott in Poetry, Chicago. \$2.00.

AS TEN, AS TWENTY

By P. K. Page. "Her work has shown a steady development."—A. J. M. Smith. \$2.00.

SANDSTONE AND OTHER POEMS

By Anne Marriott. "Miss Marriott's verse is soberly and impressively alive."—Dr. Sedgewick in C.B.C. coast-to-coast broadcast. \$1.50.

TRUE HARVEST

By Arthur S. Bourinot. "This is a collection of poems that one will wish to re-read and to brood upon."—Dalhousie Review. \$2.00.

GREY SHIP MOVING

By Charles Bruce. "This volume is a moving combination of intellect, emotion and artistic skill."—Canadian Poetry Magazine. \$1.50.

THE BLOSSOMING THORN

By John Coulter. A selection from Mr. Coulter's most mature and representative verse. \$2.00.

EAST OF THE CITY

By Louis Dudek. "He . . . is a good poet who does not remind us of better ones."—Northrop Frye, in The Canadian Forum. \$2.00.

NOW IS TIME

By Earle Birney. Winner of the Governor-General's Award. "Its publication is a literary event."—Montreal Gazette. \$1.50.

NEWS OF THE PHOENIX

By A. J. M. Smith. Winner of the Governor-General's Award. "Undoubtedly the finest first volume since Archibald Lampman's Among the Millet came out in 1888."—E. K. Brown in The Saturday Review of Literature. \$1.50.

UNIT OF FIVE

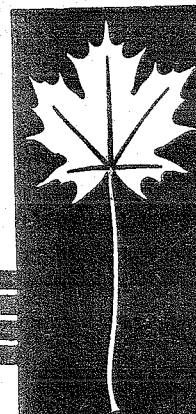
Edited by Ronald Hambleton. "Contains selections from the work of five Canadian poets, all young, all talented, all likely to be heard from again."—Poetry, Chicago. \$2.00.

The Ryerson Press



Publishers, Toronto

Canadian POETRY MAGAZINE



\$2.00 a Year

50¢ a Number

Canadian
POETRY
MAGAZINE

VOLUME 10

No. 3 — MARCH, 1947

Published by
THE CANADIAN AUTHORS' ASSOCIATION

Canadian Poetry Magazine

A quarterly magazine, published by The Canadian Authors Association for the encouragement and development of Canadian verse.

Annual subscription, \$2.00.

Poems published in the Magazine will be paid for at the rate of 15 cents a line.

Verse published elsewhere will not be accepted for publication.

If return of manuscript is desired, a stamped, addressed envelope must be enclosed with it.

Individual criticism of verse submitted cannot be undertaken.

Address correspondence to "Canadian Poetry Magazine, Post Office Box 12, Station H, Toronto 13, Ontario."

FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS

The Canadian Authors Association founded the Canadian Poetry Magazine in order to encourage the production of fine verse in Canada.

The publication of the preceding nine columns of the Magazine was made possible through the generosity of Foundation Supporters, whose gifts supplemented the Magazine's receipts from subscriptions and advertisements.

Further donations are now required if the Magazine is to be kept on the high level intended by its founders. All donations will be duly acknowledged in the next following number of the Magazine.

DONATIONS SINCE DECEMBER NUMBER

H. S. Southam, Ottawa.
 W. M. Southam, Ottawa.
 Ottawa "Citizen".
 Mrs. Anne Wilkinson.

COPIES OF MAGAZINE

Several copies are wanted of Vol. 5, Nos. 1 and 4; Vol. 6, No. 3; Vol. 7, Nos. 2 and 3, for which 75c each will be paid for the number of copies required, if in good condition.

If your set of the Magazine is not complete, we may be able to supply the missing numbers. Some are out of print. Of those available, the price is from 50 cents to \$1. each, post free.

CONTENTS

Foundation Supporters	2
Editorial	5
The Poetry of Robert Finch	6
Advice to the Rejected	9
Poems	10
The Golden Egg.....	Alfred B. Bailey
Interlude	Clara Bernhardt
A Shepherd Come to Preach.....	G. W. Brandt
Obbligato	George Herbert Clarke
Poem	Doris Currie
Request	Barbara Day
Prelude for a Debut.....	Beulah Clay Dorsey
Explorers.....	G. F. Downes
Song of the Harlot.....	Hyman Edelstein
The Pilot Speaks.....	Tom Farley
Chimère	Margaret R. Gould
Bitter Hill.....	Mona Gould
Something in Us.....	Clem Graham
Summer's End.....	Ethel Kirk Grayson
The Gift.....	Verna Loveday Harden
November Evening.....	Robert D. Harris
Poem	Margaret Hutchison
Old Legend.....	Ruth Cleaves Hazelton
String-Figure Chants.....	E. Hope Kerr
Poppies and Maidens in the Fields.....	F. R. Livesay
A Sprig With its Flower.....	Gordon LeClaire
Canadiad	Wm. Robbins
The Rite.....	Duncan Campbell Scott
Sonnet, 1946.....	Donald C. Stewart
The Pear-Pickers.....	P. J. Thomas
Winds	William Whitney
Priest Among the Dandelions.....	George Whalley
Reviews	34
Song Lyric Competition	37
Our Contributors	38

Join
THE LITERARY GUILD
through
EATON'S

In EATON'S Book Department you can arrange to join the Literary Guild. There is no admission fee, but the Guild offers a gift book to everyone who joins . . . and you receive a special bonus book each time you buy four from the Guild list. You have your choice of recent and current best-sellers at the Literary Guild special price of \$2.20 each.

THE BOOK DEPARTMENT
Main Store *Main Floor*

THE **T. EATON CO.** LIMITED
TORONTO CANADA

Canadian POETRY MAGAZINE

VOL. 10, No. 3.

MARCH, 1947

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: EARLE BIRNEY.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS:

DR. E. J. PRATT, C.M.G., ANNE MARRIOTT, CHARLES BRUCE,
PATRICK WADDINGTON, ROY DANIELLS.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: A. H. O'Brien (*Business Manager*)
Watson Kirkconnell, Mona Cannon,
Dr. J. Markowitz, M.B.E.

COMING!

"*Behind the Log*", a new poem of over five hundred lines by Dr. E. J. Pratt, will appear in entirety in our June issue. A radio adaptation of this dramatic narrative of a naval action during the recent war was presented over C.B.C. on New Year's Day. The text we shall publish is the final one, and will not be obtainable elsewhere, in whole or in part, until its book publication by Macmillans in the autumn. We are honoured to present this major work by the most celebrated of Canadian poets. The June number will also contain important poems by Patrick Anderson, Charles Bruce, Ronald Hambleton, Patrick Waddington, James Wreford, and others. Readers desiring extra copies should order in advance.

THIS ISSUE

The present issue is designed to include as many as possible among deserving contributors. For that reason, no poet is represented by more than one poem, and no one is included who appeared in either our September or December issues. Those whose work has consequently been held over may be consoled with the thought that

REVIEWS

COULTER, JOHN: *The Blossoming Thorn*; Toronto, Ryerson, 1946; 54 pp.; \$2.00.

Mr. Coulter is a man who is willing to attempt much. Having already ventured into the fields of fiction, dramatic biography, drama, and opera, he now turns to poetry. In a brief and interesting prose appendix, he not only traces for us the evolution of his poetic interests, but he also announces the spirit in which he approaches this demanding, subtle craft. By his own admission, he is a rebel against "the austere and often arid intellectualism" of contemporary poetry. With the battle-cry, "Renewed romanticism," he calls for "poetry that does not merely record the minutest creptations of the cogitating brain, but is sprung from the generous impulses of the heart."

The Blossoming Thorn cannot be considered, however, as a major assault on contemporary positions. Rather, it is a series of probings, unequal in value. The poems themselves range from a group of elegiac lyrics, which reveal at times flashes of genuine emotion, to a series of satires called "Polisman on Pegasus," which rarely surpass the mediocrity of an eighteenth century poetaster. In between elegies and satires lies Part III, "Two Worlds," five deeply introspective poems in which the poet traces with delicacy and skill the psychological impact of the New World on a mature Irish immigrant from Ulster. These are certainly the most revealing and perhaps the most successful works in the book. They obviously come from the heart.

Technically, Mr. Coulter shows himself to be a facile, mature writer, with a rich vocabulary. Occasionally, however, his poems give unfortunate evidence of haste, or pure carelessness, especially in the rhyming. Perhaps in his desire to achieve "Renewed romanticism," the poet at times forgets that intellectual discipline is a mark of all really great writing, contemporary or otherwise.

S.E.R.

ROBINS, JOHN D. (ed.): *A Pocketful of Canada*; Collins, Toronto, 1946; 430 pp.; \$3.00.

Poets number about forty of the 150 contributors to this newest of Canadian anthologies. Professor Robins and his sponsors (The Canadian Council for Education in Citizenship) have succeeded both in amplifying the Canadian panorama and in presenting a just representation of the work of the poets chosen. Their choice is, however, limited. While our "Victorians" and our well-established contemporary poets show to their best, only one poet younger than thirty-seven has gained admittance (Anne Marriott). Some of the best poetic comments on our urban and human landscape are consequently missing. These are gaps which may easily be repaired in later printings, and the liveliness and originality of the present volume should guarantee it many editions and long usefulness not only as a school text but as a book to send abroad and one to have at home. As the editor points out, however, a French-language companion piece remains to be produced. We hope it will be produced soon.

E.B.

Thirty-four

HOOD, ROBERT A.: *Ballads of the Pacific Northwest, Its Discovery and Settlement*; Ryerson, Toronto, 1946; pp. xii, \$1.70; ill., \$2.50.

As a rule, the historian approaches the work of an historically-minded poet with some trepidation, but he may take up this volume without misgiving. Mr. Hood has been scrupulously faithful to his sources. True, he does not hesitate to indulge in the "imaginative enlargement of detail justifiable by poetic licence," but the total impression given is historically accurate. Romance, incident and colour have been added to the facts, not substituted for them.

The ballads tell of events covering nearly a century of time—from Cook's great voyages of discovery to the gold-rush to the Cariboo. Vancouver, Mackenzie, Thompson, Lewis and Clark and John McLoughlin come to life in Mr. Hood's pages. Oddly enough, John Jewett, a much less important character historically, walks off with a large share of the reader's interest. Jewett was the hero of one of the better-known "Indian captivities," and his story, here told under the title *The White Slaves of Maquinna*, occupies nearly a third of the book. It is heaven-sent material for a writer of ballads, for it is more than a chronicle of events. It has plot, suspense, tragedy and comedy.

The format is attractive, and so are the dozen illustrations, which include a frontispiece in colour. One small error should be corrected in future printings: the original *Narrative of Jewett's adventures* was the work of Richard, not Roland Alsop (p. 83).

W. KAYE LAMB.

REED, HENRY: *A Map of Verona*; Clarke Irwin, Toronto (Cape, London); 59 pp.; \$1.00.

In the section called Preludes, Mr. Reed shows a neat wit and humanity in parodies of army instruction and of T. S. Eliot in his oracularly non-committal vein. The more serious poems, through a variety of vividly realised images and legends, explore for the most part problems of personal responsibility and activity, and the individual's relation to the life of the community. The prevailing images are of sea and shore, under extremes of heat and cold, the mood strenuous and the expression tense and forceful. The last poems, which deal dramatically, through the figures of Electra's sister Chrysothemis, and of Philoctetes, with the problem of those who would derive a conscious innocence from a weak amiability, or whom justified resentment might tempt into isolation, combine admirably a sustained relevance to their dramatic situation with a broader reference to problems that are perhaps more pressing and more universal now than they have ever been. The paper is not the best, but the printing and binding compare favorably with Canadian books at double the price.

L.A.M.

SAGITTARIUS: *Quiver's Choice*; Clarke, Irwin (Jonathan Cape, London, 1945); 296 pp.; \$2.50.

This is a new collection of bull's eyes by the ablest of contemporary satirists in verse, Sagittarius of *The New Statesman and Nation*, (*alias* Fiddlestick of *Time and Tide*, *alias* Roger Service

Thirty-five

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

I: REVIEWERS

- E.B.: The Editor.
R.D. (erroneously R.B. in Dec. issue): Dr. Roy Daniells, Associate Editor.
J. D. Grant: Asst. Professor of English, University of B.C.
W. Kaye Lamb: Librarian, University of B.C., and an authority on B.C. history.
L.A.M.: Professor Louis MacKay, poet, critic, Professor of Classics, University of B.C.
S.E.R.: Professor Stanley Read, Dept. of English, University of B.C.

II: POETS

- Alfred G. Bailey: Professor of History, University of New Brunswick. Author of a Ryerson Chapbook, *Tao*; contributor to *Preview*, *Canadian Forum*, and first issue of *C.P.M.*
Clara Bernhardt: Preston, Ont. Author of *Silent Rhythm*, 1939; journalist, reviewer, and contributor to *C.P.M.* and other Canadian journals.
George W. Brandt: National Film Board, Ottawa. Born Berlin, 1920. New Canadian of German-Jewish origin. Writer of verse and drama.
George Herbert Clarke: Kingston, Ont. Editor of *Queen's Quarterly*; Professor Emeritus of Queen's University; well-known poet, critic, anthologist.
Doris Currie: Cranbrook, B.C. This is Mrs. Currie's first published poem.
Barbara Day: A young Victoria school teacher. A contributor to *Profile*.
Beulah Clay Dorsey: A member of the C.A.A., Toronto.
G. V. Downes: Lecturer in the Departments of French and English in the University of B.C. We print the first poem this writer has submitted to any magazine. Since its acceptance, G. V. Downes has also appeared in *Saturday Night*.
Hyman Edelstein: Ottawa. Author of a Ryerson Chapbook, *Spirit of Israel*, 1942, and a privately printed volume *All Quiet in Canada . . . and Why*, 1946.
Tom Farley: Ex-R.C.A.F.; now student in Carleton College, Ottawa. Winner of Dowd Memorial Prize, 1946.
Margaret R. Gould: Young graduate student in English at the University of Toronto. Contributor to *Canadian Forum* and to this magazine.
Mona Gould: Toronto. Author of *Tasting the Earth*, 1943, and *I Run with the Fox*, 1946. Frequent contributor to Canadian magazines.

- Clem Graham: Contributor to the *Canadian Forum*. At present living in New York State.
Ethel Kirk Grayson: Moose Jaw, Sask. Author of novels, short stories, sketches, poems. Lecturer and traveller. Contributor to first issue of this magazine.
Verna Loveday Harden: Toronto writer of prose and poetry and longtime contributor to *C.P.M.* Verse includes *When This Tide Ebbs* (a Ryerson Chapbook, 1946).
Robert D. Harris: Young R.C.A.F. veteran, now an analytical chemist in Toronto. Contributor to *C.P.M.*, *Parnassus*, and other journals.
Ruth Cleaves Hazelton: Niagara Falls, Ont. Free-lance writer. Contributor of verse to many American journals, including *Different*. Ontario Regent for Avalon National Poetry Shrine.
Margaret Hutchison: Young Vancouver school teacher. This is her first published work.
E. Hope Kerr: Victoria writer and student of Eskimo language and folklore. Frequent contributor to *C.P.M.*
Gordon LeClaire: Montreal poet, critic, and actor. Has contributed to over two hundred periodicals and anthologies, including *C.P.M.* Books of verse include *Though Quick Souls Bleed*, 1939.
Florence Randal Livesay: Well-known Canadian writer, now living in Toronto. Particularly noted for her adaptations of Ukrainian folk poetry.
Wm. Robbins: See our December "Contributors'" Column, where this writer was listed in advance of publication.
Duncan Campbell Scott: Ottawa. Born 1862. Author of many distinguished volumes of poetry beginning in 1893; critic, historian, and short-story writer.
Donald C. Stewart: Young Toronto sculptor. Contributor to *First Statement*, etc.
P. J. Thomas: Ex-R.C.A.F.; now student at U.B.C. *First Poems* privately printed in India, 1943; contributor to U.B.C. *Thunderbird*.
Geo. Whalley: Lecturer in English, Bishop's University, Lennoxville, Que. Former Lt./Cdr., R.C.N. Prize-winner in *Profile*. Contributor to *Queen's Quarterly*, *C.P.M.*, etc. His Ryerson Chapbook, *Poems, 1939-44*, was reviewed in our September number. Another book of his verse is about to appear.
William Whitney: Toronto. A previous *C.P.M.* contributor and prize-winner in national contest.