

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Ours thanks as always to this issue's contributors who have borne our blandishments and curt reminders about deadlines with consummate dignity and patience. I will take this opportunity as well to mention Barbara Hemphill, without whose efforts this journal could not survive. In a moment of optimism she invited me to stand in as this issue's editor, but her gentle and salutary influence is apparent on every page. Barbara is one of the few persons in the book world whose suggestions on essential matters are effective enough to convince, but never harsh or imperious. I have sent this issue to the printers with my ego (and I trust, my reputation) intact.

You are familiar with each of the contributors. Once again, Ronald Hagler provides a concise summary of the Alcuin Citation award winners and the judging process. The Citations are attracting considerable attention across Canada, and we thank the judges for this year's competition most sincerely. Gene Horvath describes one of his discoveries, which is bound to interest any collector of manuscripts. Megan Nelson Otton discusses the enigmatic William Morris, who seems to have lived comfortably in separate moral universes. Charles Brandt, one of western Canada's outstanding conservators, describes his treatment of the Bowron Bible, the restoration of which is noteworthy. Geoff Spencer's discovery was slipped in just as we were about to go to press.

I hope that this issue measures up to the usual standard of readability and balance. The illustrations were discussed at length and we hope are true reflections of the text they enhance. Our thanks and congratulations to Gwen Murray, who delivered the layout for the illustrations the day before she delivered her new son. We have attempted to ensure clarity, accuracy, and just the right timbre, but after all this, there remains the ultimate question: Do we have the right mix, the appropriate balance of material? I think so, but in the end you must judge. Please let us know your thoughts.

Our next issue—unofficially dubbed “the Yuletide Wonder”—will be compiled and edited by Geoff Spencer. I am certain he will enjoy his editorial duties as much as I have, and that as usual he will succeed in entertaining us all.

*Guy Robertson*  
EDITOR