

The 32-page book on igloos is another uncharacteristically black-and-white children's book, but how well suited this is to its subject and the excellently reproduced photographs!

The remaining awards for children's books go to the more usual coloured picture books. The Lopez/Pohrt recreation of a native Indian theme is successful on every design level. The Czernecki/Rhodes collaboration won an award last year, and does so again with a strong and consistent treatment of Ukrainian folk art. Among the honourable mentions, Pierre Pratt's unusual use of perspective gives Uncle Henry special interest, while Paul Morin's realistic treatment of the African theme is a bold direct appeal to the viewer.

THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF PRODUCTION ARE CRUCIAL: good or bad printing, colour separations, paper, etc. reinforce or destroy good design. This year there is a noticeable increase in the proportion of Canadian to non-Canadian typesetters, printers and binders. Of the twenty-seven awards and mentions, only six were produced offshore, and none in the United States, which means that despite Free Trade and taxes, we can compete with our southern neighbours very well in print production. Hong Kong and Singapore continue to offer lower labour costs, but only one of the prize winners was produced in Japan, presumably for the higher quality anticipated. It is perhaps notable that only in the category of children's books with coloured illustration is it still commonly felt necessary to produce in countries with lower labour costs.

The excellent print quality from The Porcupine's Quill and the Morriss Printing Company has already been commented on, in this as in previous years. This year, special recognition must go to Friesen Printers of Altona, Manitoba, responsible for six award-winning books, including; the top two winners in the General Trade Books, Prose section, the reproduction of the Leonard Frank photographs in the Adult Picture and Photography Books section, the third prize in the General Trade, How To- section, and one of the coloured children's books.

JUDGES

The judges for this year's Alcuin Society Design Competition were:

Roberto Dosil (Praxis Design, Vancouver)

Jan Elsted (Barbarian Press)

Ronald Hagler (Professor, School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, The University of British Columbia)

Dennis Nagy (Studio Allsorts, Vancouver)

Professor Hagler compiled the above comments as, he hopes, a reasonable summary of the hours of discussion involved.