

In many recent years, one or another prize has gone unawarded in this category. Design jumbles, if at times pretty ones, have often characterized the output of the amateur in this type of publication. Furthermore, it appears harder each year to distinguish these from, for example, picture, children's, general trade, or even reference books. And the number of submissions dwindles: this year there were but eleven, by far the smallest category except for limited editions. The judges recommend to the Alcuin Society's Design Awards Committee that the category be discontinued since submissions can as well be judged in another category as appropriate. For the second year in a row, only an 'Honourable Mention' is awarded, for a book with excellence of layout and a useful type of binding for the purpose.

General Trade Books: Poetry

1st Prize: *Rabatteurs d'étoiles* [par] Rachel Leclerc. Montréal: Éditions du Noroît. [Designer: Claude Prud-Homme; Printer: Imprimerie d'Éditions Marquis]

2nd Prize: *Collected Poems, Volume III* [by] Ralph Gustafson. Victoria: Sono Nis Press. [Designer: Bev Leech; Printer: Morriss Printing]

3rd Prize: *Song for a Far Quebec* [by] Madeleine Gagnon; translated by Howard Scott. Toronto: Coach House Press. [Designer: Gordon Robertson; Printer: Metro Litho]

Hon. Men.: *Learning to Ride* [by] Susan McMaster; illustrated by Robert Verrall. Kingston: Quarry Press. [Designer: Paul Verrall; Printer: Webcom]

The 'feel' of the classic European slim book of a few poems comes through in the first-prize winner this year, as does the feel of the classic larger compilation in the second. Both show simplicity of typography on appropriate paper of soft tone, but of greater bulk for the slimmer volume. The selection and spacing of the type is exceptional in the third-prize winner and Verrall's woodcut illustrations command attention in the Honourable Mention.

Text and Reference Books

1st Prize: *The Land before Us: The Making of Ancient Alberta*. The Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology. Red Deer: Red Deer College Press. [Designer: Kunz & Associates; Printer: Dong A Printing, South Korea]