

handed by the American journalist, Lowell Thomas, who built up the hero image in a series of lucrative lecture tours across the U.S. Another unbeliever was Pierre Van Paassen, a Dutch Journalist of repute who, having researched the archives of the Turkish General Staff to whom Lawrence was supposedly such a thorn in the side, found not a single mention of Lawrence and the damage he was supposed to have inflicted. But that didn't dent the myth, further re-inforced by the wide-screen movie of the sixties, with blue-eyed Peter O'Toole in the role of Lawrence.

However, credit where credit is due: Item 237 lists Lawrence's fine (and readable) translation of Homer's *Odyssey*, printed in 1932 by Emery Walker, Wilfred Merton, and Bruce Rogers, one of 530 copies illustrated by Bruce Rogers, in black morocco, and a good buy at £1,000. For less amply lined pockets, there's the first trade edition of the same thing, Oxford University Press, 1935, for £30 (Item #230).

Sometimes, like the wake-up paean in Haydn's "Suprise Symphony", an item steals in that simply does not belong and can only be described as emetic. Consider Item 43, *The Angel of Peace*, "a plaster bas-relief, painted in gold, pink, and blue, with a border incorporating incised lettering pricked out in gold, the whole in a darkwood frame." This extraordinary memento was presented to Neville Chamberlain when he came crawling back from Munich in 1938 by a Miss Agatha Walker, whose hopes were soon to be dashed. How does such a stomach-turning item, a non-book if there ever was one, come to be included in an otherwise respectable catalogue? But it's another mosaic to add to the pile. Sometime, somewhere, it will fit in.

THE ALCUIN SOCIETY, VANCOUVER

DESIGN AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS OF 1994

For this, the Society's thirteenth annual presentation of design awards, the undersigned judges spent much of April 8, 1995 examining and discussing the visual qualities of three hundred twenty-eight books submitted by their Canadian publishers and/or designers and bearing an imprint date of 1994. The steady increase in submissions continues: this is about ten percent more than were submitted last year although some publishers and designers continue to ignore the Society's requests for submissions to this competition. We acknowledge what we receive and celebrate those listed and described below as evidence of a standard of excellence achieved by designers and producers of the contemporary Canadian book which we feel would be remarkable when compared with examples of the best produced anywhere.

Submissions were judged in the following categories as most recently revised by the Society's Design Awards Committee in 1989. As noted below, the judges suggest some changes.

General Trade Books: Prose (includes Fiction and Nonfiction)
General Trade Books: Adult Picture and Photography Books
General Trade Books: How-To-, Cook-, Craft- and Hobby Books
General Trade Books: Poetry
Text and Reference Books
Limited Editions (numbered and/or signed)
Juvenile Books other than Texts.

The person submitting is invited to check one of these categories on the entry form accompanying each book but either the Society's Committee or the judges may assign it to a more appropriate category as was done in the case of two award winners this year. Each book is judged as a whole on the suitability and harmony (in respect of both the text block and the binding/covering/wrapper) of type, illustration (if any), layout, and materials used – all in relation to their appropriateness to the book's subject matter, intended audience, etc. First, second, and third prizes are available in each category, with ties permitted. A book may be cited for Honourable Mention because of some exceptionally noteworthy feature(s), for example a striking and appropriate cover, which brought it, in the eyes of the judges, above the mass even if as a whole it fails to sustain comparison with those of prize-winning standard.

General Trade Books: Prose (includes Fiction and Nonfiction)

1st Prize: *Objects of Concern: Canadian Prisoners of War through the Twentieth Century* [by] Jonathan F. Vance. Vancouver: UBC Press. [Designer: George Vaitkunas; Printer: D.W. Friesen & Sons]

2nd Prize: *The File on Arthur Moss: A Novel* [by] Douglas Fetherling. Toronto: Lester Publishing. [Designer: Gordon Robertson; Printer: D.W. Friesen & Sons]

3rd Prize (tie): *Karen Kain: Movement Never Lies: An Autobiography;* with Stephen Godfrey and Penelope Reed Doob. Toronto: McClelland & Stewart. Designer: Kong Njo; Printer: D.W. Friesen & Sons]