

Reading and Renewal

PLANNING FOR this issue began last summer, following the presentation of the Robert R. Reid Award and Medal to the late Glenn Goluska. Goluska's death in August was yet another loss to Canada's book arts and design community, and a reminder both of how much excellence we have in this country and how much we have to lose.

This issue of *Amphora* gathers reflections from several of those who knew and admired Goluska. The words are complemented by images of Goluska's work, highlighting the breadth of his vision and its creative expression.

Seventy years ago, the commencement of hostilities with Japan and the relocation and internment of ethnic Japanese in both Canada and the United States launched a dark chapter in North America's history. Japan's treatment of the prisoners it took during that era remains a raw memory for many people, but our own country's relocation of Japanese immigrants, their children and grandchildren during the same war is not a cause for pride on our part.

Jonathan Shipley's article about the experience of internees in the United States highlights the role printing and reading played in sustaining the people uprooted during those difficult years. The first-hand recollections of the Rev. Timothy Nakayama, brother of writer Joy Kogawa, both of whom spent the duration of the war in Slocan with their family, explain just how the printing happened.

A more complex and dangerous proposition was printing the first English translations of the Bible. To mark the 400th anniversary of the publication of what's commonly known as the King James Version, Greg Freeman examines the difficulty—and legacy—of the work done to translate the Bible into English. During my correspondence with Freeman regarding this article, he mentioned that opinions are mixed on whether or not the version remains valid for everyday use. The question may seem small

given the larger challenges churches face; surely a mere translation can't make much of a difference? The past fifty years have seen myriad new translations that suggest tolerance for diversity is now the norm, yet as Freeman notes, the light that different translations cast on particular passages does not always please clerics.

Twenty years ago, while participating in a service in southern Alberta, I read from the King James Version on the lectern—but the local bishop and his family, who were present, opted for a more recent translation he had mandated for the diocese. The tension in the air (I won't go so far as to say I received dirty looks) underscored that reading can still be a subversive act in some parts of this country.

Whatever our creed, philosophy or politics, many of the articles in this issue ultimately remind us that graphic design, printing and publishing are activities that contribute to the formation and ongoing life of communities. And what we read signifies our participation in those communities, and the opportunities we see for their renewal and transformation.

~ Peter Mitham, editor

