

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Richard Hopkins

IT IS TRULY AMAZING how often Robbie Burns's words from "To a Mouse" apply to everyday life: "The best laid schemes o' mice and men, Gang aft agley."

My co-editor, Stuart Isto, and I were looking forward to working on *Amphora* during the summer months, since we reasoned we would have more time to get the issue ready for press. We forgot to take into account the fact that I was going away for holidays for the second half of July and the first half of August. We found ourselves even more rushed than usual as we frantically communicated with one another before I disappeared to my island retreat.

The above introduction is all by way of prologue to the admission that we printed the wrong article under the by-line of Michael Batts in the last issue. What was in error titled "The Mania for Novel Reading in Eighteenth Century Germany," actually should have read "Book Collecting at the Time of the First Printed Books." We are very grateful to Michael for receiving our considerable editorial fumbling in such a calm and civil way. We would ask all subscribers to please use the enclosed printed labels to correct both the contents page and the title above the article in *Amphora* No.131. The "Reading Mania" article appears in the current issue with the correct title and the correct text!

On a more positive note we are delighted to feature the artwork of Canadian book artist Jim Rimmer. Jim is truly a Renaissance bookman — he designs type, cuts type, designs books, illustrates books and prints books under his own imprint Pie Tree Press. We recommend issue No. 52 of *DA* magazine entitled *Jim Rimmer: Canada's Unique Type Craftsman* for an article written about Jim, one written by him, illustrations from some of his publications and a checklist of his work. We are very proud to be able to present a small sampling of the wonderful linocuts by this multitalented bookman.

Also in this issue are articles by two writers who are fast becoming regular contributors to the journal. Terry Stillman's article on Kestrel Books is the first in a series of articles on bookstores and booksellers in the lower mainland of B.C. Guy Robertson's article on his own book collection may be the start of a series on notable book collectors in the same geographic area. To round off the local contributions we are grateful to have received two interesting book reviews from Eric Swanick, Head of Special Collections at Simon Fraser University.