



# Bulletin

Vol. 27, No 16

April 19, 1972

## GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LITERARY AWARDS

The six books chosen to receive the Governor General's Award for 1971 have been announced by the Canada Council. The choice was made by a reorganized selection committee from over 300 literary works by Canadians published in 1971.

Chosen for the awards are *The Last Spike*, by Pierre Burton, the second volume of a history of the Canadian Pacific Railway (McClelland and Stewart); *Selected Poems*, by John Glassco (Oxford University Press); *St. Urbain's Horseman*, a novel by Mordecai Richler (McClelland and Stewart); *Le cycle*, a novel by Gérard Bessette (Editions du jour); *La fin d'un règne*, a collection of essays by Gérard Fortin (Editions Hurtubise HMH); and *Le réel absolu*, a book of poetry by Paul-Marie Lapointe (Editions de l'Hexagone).

The awards will be presented on May 5 in Ottawa by Governor-General Roland Michener; the authors will also receive cash prizes of \$2,500 each from the Canada Council.

The selection committee for the Governor General's Awards was reorganized and expanded to 18 persons this year; the reading task of the nine-

man jury for each language was divided among three sub-committees, one each for fiction, non-fiction and the combined category of poetry and drama. Co-chairmen of the committee were Hugo McPherson, literary scholar and former Government Film Commissioner, and André Renaud, professor of French literature at the University of Ottawa.

### PIERRE BERTON

Pierre Berton's award-winning *The Last Spike* is a best-seller that has been praised for its vigorous style and careful researching.

Born in 1920 in Whitehorse, Yukon, Pierre Berton grew up in Dawson City and graduated from the University of British Columbia in 1941. During his career as a journalist he has been city editor with the *Vancouver News Herald*, feature writer with the *Vancouver Sun*, managing editor of *Maclean's Magazine*, and associate editor and columnist with the *Toronto Daily Star*. He has written numerous magazine articles and scripts for radio, television and film. For four years he was editorial director of the Canadian Centennial Library Series. He is a well-known broadcaster.

He has written 18 books, among them *The Mysterious North* (1956, Governor General's Award), *Klondike* (1958, Governor General's Award), *Just Add Water and Stir* (1959, Leacock Medal for Humour), *The Comfortable Pew* (1965), *Remember Yesterday* (1965), *The Smug Minority* (1968), *The National Dream* (1970).

### JOHN GLASSCO

The publication of John Glassco's award-winning *Selected Poems* confirms his place as a leading Canadian man of letters.

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