

oretically short shelf-life, they are far from stale. Paré's style is spare, frequently elegant and punctuated with witticisms, puns and judicious injections of English.

Language is one of Paré's loves. A remarkable essay on translation, "The Original and the Metamorphosis," begins with a discussion of the joys of translating McLuhan (he has put *Gutenberg Galaxy* and *Counterblast* into French) and goes on to give a neat definition of the ideal translator, "... spies who learn how to dress and smoke and hold their forks and maybe even make love just like the natives of the village into which they're parachuted."

SHEILA FISCHMAN

The Globe and Mail, Toronto, 27 August 1977.

Blocs erratiques, HUBERT AQUIN, Edited by RENE LAPIERRE, Editions Quinze, 1977.

Known primarily for his novels (*Prochain épisode*, 1965; *Trou de mémoire*, 1968; *L'Antiphoire*, 1969; *Neige noire*, 1974), Hubert Aquin, who died on 15 March 1977, was an essayist who

expressed, better than anyone, the hopes and frustrations of the intellectual Quebec nationalists of the sixties. *Blocs erratiques* also has several essays of his youth, which reveal his little known mystic side. This work is essential for those who wish to understand Quebec thought and literature over the last twenty years. It includes a complete bibliography of Aquin's writings.

FRANCOIS RICARD

Two on the Canoe

The Survival of the Bark Canoe, JOHN MCPHEE, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1975. Beautifully drawn plans and photographs of the very different canoes built by the many different Indian tribes. *The Canoe and White Water*, C. E. S. FRANKS, University of Toronto, 1977. Canoes and where to use them in Canada.

Basics

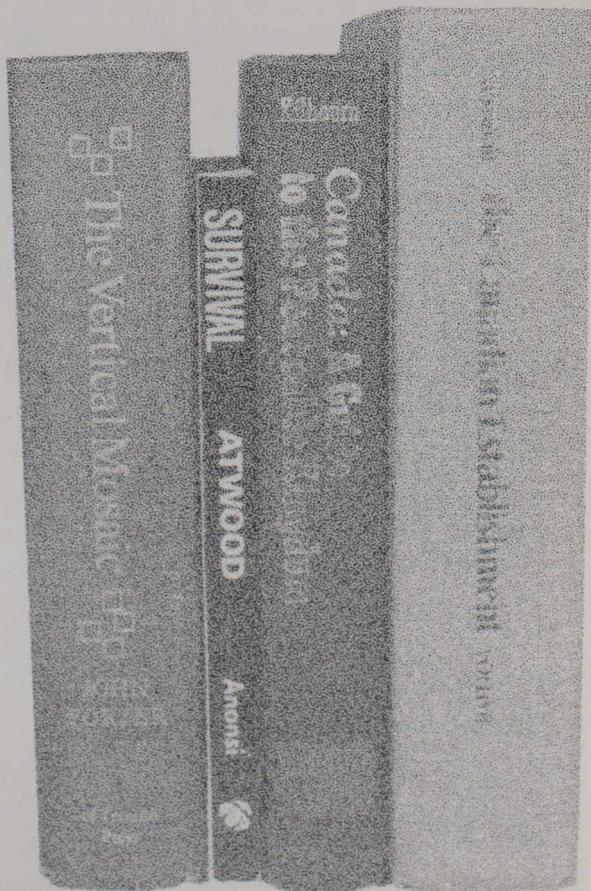
Canada: A Guide to the Peaceable Kingdom, Edited by WILLIAM KILBOURN, Macmillan, 1970. "Canada as a different kind of American society, an American alternative."

The Blasted Pine, Edited by F. R. SCOTT and A. J. M. SMITH, Macmillan, 1957. Anthology of satire and disrespectful verse, historic and funny.

The Vertical Mosaic: An Analysis of Social Class and Power in Canada, JOHN PORTER, University of Toronto, 1965. A perceptive interpretation of Canada's class structure and a definition of its elite.

The Canadian Establishment, Volume I, PETER C. NEWMAN, McClelland and Stewart, 1975. Almost endless details (480 pages) about "the 1,000 men who really run Canada," a definition which excludes only women and those men who have made it since this volume was published.

Survival, a Thematic Guide to Canadian Literature, MARGARET ATWOOD, Anansi, 1972. Ms. Atwood, a poet, essayist and novelist, centres her explanation of Canadian literature on "victims"—of the elements, of geography, of the US and of Canadian society.



Our reviews of French-language books are also available in French; write if you would like to receive a copy.