

### Top Soil

*Top Soil* is a collection by Toronto-born Joe Rosenblatt, of poetry, drawings, stories and songs. The book is made up of three previously published volumes (*Bumblebee Dithyramb*, 1972, *Blind Photographer*, 1973, and *Dream Craters*, 1974) and some previously unpublished material.

Rosenblatt's work is in numerous anthologies, including *The Oxford Book of Canadian Verse* by A.J.M. Smith (1968), *Poets of the Sixties* by Eli Mandel (1973) and *The Penguin Anthology of Canadian Verse* by Ralph Gustafson (1976). He has published four other books of poetry: *Voyage of the Mood* (1962), *L.S.D. Leacock* (1966), *Winter of the Luna Moth* (1968) and *Vampires and Virgins* (1975).

### Poèmes 1946-1968

Alphonse Piché's retrospective collection of poems is a combination of his three previously published collections – *Ballades de la petite extrace* (1946), *Remous* (1947) and *Voie d'eau* (1950) – with poems written after 1950.

Piché, born in 1917 in Chicoutimi, Quebec, has contributed to literary revues and has participated in writers' symposiums. His poems have appeared in many anthologies. He received Quebec's Prix David in 1947 and the literature prize of the Trois-Rivières Saint Jean Baptiste Society in 1956.

### The Writing of Canadian History

Carl Berger's critical analysis of historical thought and literature in English-speaking Canada in the twentieth century examines the work of major historians – such as Underhill, Innis, Lower and Creighton.

Professor Berger, born in The Pas, Manitoba, in 1939, has contributed to many collections of readings in Canadian history, and is himself the editor of four: *Approaches to Canadian History* (1967), *Imperial Relations in the Age of Laurier* (1969), *Conscription, 1917*, (1969) and *Imperialism and Nationalism, 1884-1914; A Conflict in Canadian Thought* (1969). He is the author of *The Sense of Power: Studies in the Ideas of Canadian Imperialism, 1867-1914* (1970).

### Le Bas-Canada 1791-1840

The historical work, *Le Bas Canada 1791-1840: changements structuraux*

*et crise* (Lower Canada 1791-1840: Structural Changes and Crisis) by Professor Fernand Ouellet, analyzes social development in the period resulting from the interaction of economic, demographic, military, religious, ideological and political forces.

The author, born in 1926 in Lac Bouchette, Quebec, has published numerous books and articles since 1950. His best known book is *Histoire économique et sociale du Québec 1760-1850: structures et conjecture* (1966) which won the Grand Prix littéraire of Montreal, the province of Quebec's Concours littéraire and Prix David, and the Tyrell Medal of the Royal Society of Canada.

### Berger report (Continued from P. 2)

aircraft, tractors, earth-movers, trucks and trailers. "The pipeline contractors and unions have made it plain that native northerners are not qualified to hold down skilled positions in pipeline construction." Once the pipeline is built there will be about 250 jobs, mostly of a technical nature, that will require qualified personnel from the South.

The report stated: "The social costs of building a pipeline now will be enormous, and no remedial programs are likely to ameliorate them." The great majority of the 1,000 witnesses that spoke to the Inquiry in the 35 community hearings expressed their fears

of what a pipeline would bring: "an influx of construction workers, more alcoholism, tearing of the social fabric, injury to the land, and the loss of their identity as a people." Judge Berger said, "I am persuaded that these fears are well-founded."

The report recommended that "the native people must be allowed a choice about their own future. If the pipeline is approved before a settlement of claims takes place, the future of the North – and the place of the native people in the North – will, in effect, have been decided for them."

In the epilogue to the report, Judge Berger referred to the statements made at the Inquiry by native people who said they would be prepared to give up their lives to stop the pipeline if it were to proceed before there had been a settlement of native claims. He said: "I have given the most anxious consideration to whether or not I should make any reference in this report" to the statements made at the Inquiry about possible "violent reaction to the pipeline if it were built without a just settlement of native claims. I have concluded that they cannot be ignored. No one who heard them could doubt that they were said in earnest. I do not want anyone to think I am predicting an insurrection. But I am saying there is the real possibility of civil disobedience and civil disorder that – if they did occur – might well render orderly political evolution of the North impossible."



*The Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry hearings began on March 3, 1975 and ended on November 19, 1976. Judge Berger travelled 17,000 miles in the North to 35 communities, where four*

*races live – Dene, Métis, Inuit and White, and heard the views of more than a thousand northerners on the pipeline proposal. (Above) the judge listens to evidence at Inuvik, N.W.T.*