He lived the basic hunter's life until 1943 when his leg was badly injured. After much delay he got to a hospital in 1945, but he still limps. He helped organize a Delta trappers association in 1955 and was its president until he contracted tuberculosis in 1957. He spent 18 months in an Aklavik hospital and emerged in good health in time to attend a government convocation on Eskimo affairs. In 1960 he was named program director for the rehabilitation centre in Frobisher Bay. In 1965 he went to Spence Bay to serve as area administrator for Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Between 1969 and 1971 he was engaged in a most extraordinary enterprise — recording Inuit surnames. Before that, the government had given each Inuit a numbered disc at birth and each one was officially known by a single name and number. People complained, and the Northwest Territories government commissioned Mr. Okpik to visit every Inuit home in the territories and record a family name. He did.

Robertson Davies

Robertson Davies, distinguished, profound, complex and dramatic like his books, has written more than twenty novels including the great trilogy — Fifth Business. The Manticore and World of Wonders — and plays and essays. He is also the Master of Massey College, at the University of Toronto.

He offers fundamental services to the confused in one of his incidental works: Samuel Marchbanks' Almanack: An Astrological and Inspirational VADE MECUM Containing Character Analyses, Secrets of Charm, Health Hints, How to be a Success at Parties, Fortune-Telling by the Disposition of Moles on the Body and divers other arcane knowledge here revealed for the First Time; as well as Generous Extracts from the Correspondence, Pensées, Musings, Obiter Dicta and Ruminations of Wizard Marchbanks. The apothegms below, culled from the Almanack, suggest his infinite variety:

"Be discreet in your loyalties, or your dwelling will not only be the home of lost causes, but the refuge of impossible people."

"Wisdom is a variable possession. Every man is wise when pursued by a mad dog; fewer when pursued by a mad woman; only the wisest survive when attacked by a mad notion."

"Prophecy consists of carefully bathing the inevitable in the eerie light of the impossible, and then being the first to announce it."

"After 45 the differences which divide men from women are trivial compared with those which separate the wise from the unwise, the whole from the fragmented, the survivors from the fallen."

"To judge from the number of books on the subject, it is easy for us to achieve the spiritual grandeur of Orientals by adopting their postures and systems of breathing. Oddly enough no Orientals appear to believe that they can develop our scientific and governmental skills by posturing and breathing like us."



"Be most alert when most victorious, for though you may not hit your adversary when he is down, it is considered plucky in him to kick you."

Gilles Poissant CM 29/06/79

S/Sgt. Gilles Poissant of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police helped snap the French Connection. Over the years he was the RCMP's top man in narcotics, working on all large-scale operations between 1957 and 1978 and specializing in controlling the international traffic in drugs. He is now manager of Security Systems for Air Canada.

He was born in Cléricy, Quebec, and joined the RCMP in 1954, when he was 21. He holds the Canadian Centennial Medal, the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Long-Service Medal.