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Cover design: from REBECCA'S NANCY: A STORY OF A LITTLE MENNONITE GIRL written and illustrated by Joan Reimer Gorman. Reprinted courtesy of Joan Reimer Gorman.



## Editorial: Canadian Quilt

The Mennonite rocking-chair lady on our cover is busy sewing scraps together to make a patchwork quilt: a homey image for the Canadian mosaic. Barbara Smucker, the subject of the interview which introduces this issue, has been concerned both with the Mennonites and also with the black slaves who came to this country via the underground escape route. Agnes Grant's article, "A Canadian Fairy Tale: What is it?" reminds us forcibly of another variety of Canadian experience: that of Indian and Metis children. We are delighted to present this article, written in response to Perry Nodelman's account (*CCL* #20) of some other Canadians' memories of the Red Riding Hood Story.

Our third article touches another aspect of the Canadian patchwork, and shows how the nineteenth century writer, Isabella Valancy Crawford, pieced out British and American traditions to produce a bit of Cadiana. Surely it's good for us - and for our children - to remember the mixture of traditions, of folklores, and of histories that have given Canadian literature its richness of colour and texture.

Our reviewers help us expand the notion of variety in reading pleasures. We look at books about animals, books about people; books about good times, books about loss and sorrow; folk-tales and Bible stories. Lots of reading to keep us rocking through the cold Canadian winter!