

is stolen by a mischievous racoon and an energetic hummingbird?” though, I have to answer, “Yes.” For as children watch the cute animals, they absorb gross historical inaccuracies and racist and sexist ideologies.

Pocahontas depicts two dangerous, seemingly contradictory, fantasies: (1) that of transparent translation between cultures — Pocahontas learns to speak English instantly; Smith changes from Indian hunter to Indian lover unproblematically; and (2) that of impermeable racial and ethnic boundaries — the film ends by emphatically retracting the miscegenation it has flirted with throughout. If this is 1990s “white” consciousness, then I’m with Kekata, a Native American who sings: “Beneath that milky hide / There’s emptiness inside.”

Instead of watching this film, children might better surf the Internet — past Pocahontas dolls and Meeko’s home page — to Paul Giese’s Web site, “Indian Opinions about Pocahontas.” Otherwise, they will be left with very pastel traces of a once-powerful story — a story about a child. For, as Buffy Sainte-Marie laments, the film *Pocahontas* has “appropriated the name of a real person whose life had an honour and value of its own, which children of the world might have liked to know about.”

Peter Cumming is a children’s author and PhD candidate at the University of Western Ontario. His research includes issues of gender and race; his teaching includes *Children’s Literature and Film*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / ANNONCES

Nous avons le vif plaisir d’annoncer à nos lecteurs que notre collègue Suzanne Pouliot, professeur titulaire à la faculté d’éducation de l’Université de Sherbrooke, vient d’obtenir le prestigieux prix international IBBY. Cette distinction est accordée aux chercheurs dont les travaux ont particulièrement contribué au rayonnement des études consacrées à la littérature de jeunesse. Auteur de trois ouvrages, Suzanne Pouliot a publié, ces dernières années, plusieurs articles dans *CCL/LCJ*.

We are pleased to announce that our colleague Dr. Suzanne Pouliot, full professor at the University of Sherbrooke Teachers College, has obtained the prestigious International IBBY Award. This distinction is granted as a recognition for her significant contribution to Children’s Literature Studies. Author of three books and numerous contributions, Dr. Pouliot has published several articles in *CCL* in the last few years.

The Children’s Literature Roundtables of Canada have awarded the 1996 Information Book Award to *In Flanders Fields*, by Linda Granfield, illus. Janet Wilson. *In Flanders Fields* is also winner of the 1996 IODE Book Award.

Of Things Not Seen (Stoddart), by Don Aker, has been awarded the 1996 Ann Connor Brimer Award, presented each year to a distinctive Nova Scotia writer.

The 1996 Governor General’s Award winners were: Paul Yee for *Ghost Train* (Groundwood), best children’s book in English; Gilles Tibo for *Noémie—Le Secret de Madame Lumbago*, best children’s book in French; Eric Beddows for *The Rooster’s Gift*, text by Pam Conrad (Groundwood), best illustration in an English-language children’s book. No French award was given for children’s illustration.

The 1996 Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award went to Janet Wilson for *Selina and the Bear Paw Quilt*, text by Barbara Smucker, quilter Lucy Anne Holliday (Lester).

The winner of the 1996 Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction was Marianne Brandis's *Rebellion*.

The Reluctant Deckhand (Video and teacher's guide: National Film Board of Canada; Novel, by Jan Padgett: Pacific Educational Press) has been granted the 1996 Canadian Education Association Award, AMTEC.

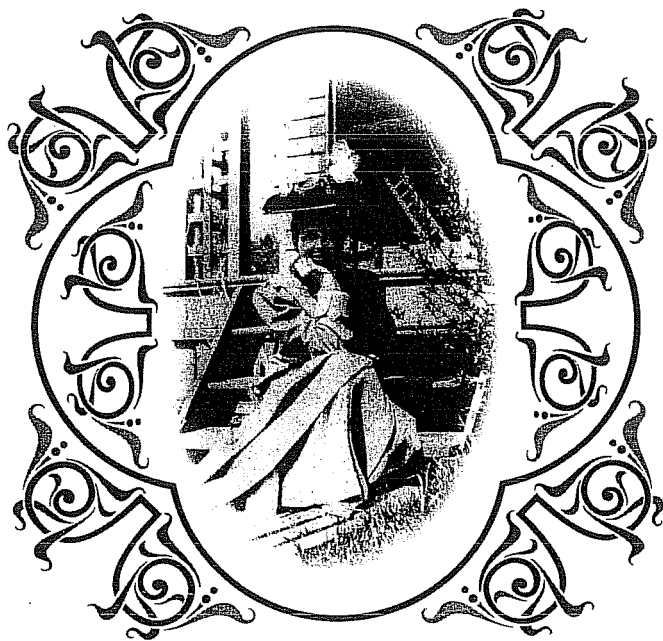
Call for papers on **Censorship in Children's Literature: A Reconsideration**. MLA (Modern Language Association), Toronto, December 1997; Children's Literature Association session. Please send detailed abstracts or, preferably, 8-9 page papers to Anita Tarr, English Department 4240, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-4240, USA. E-mail: catarr@rs6000.cmp.ilstu.edu

Call for Papers on **(Re)Defining Young Adult Literature** for 1997 Midwest MLA Conference Panel on Young Adult Literature (6-8 November 1997, Chicago, Illinois). Please send papers (no longer than 8 single-spaced pages) or 1-2 page abstracts by 15 April 1997 to Linda Benson, English Department, Southwest Missouri State University, 901 S. National, Springfield, Missouri 65804, USA. Tel: 417-836-4847, Fax: 417-836-6940, E-mail: LGBO46F@NIC.SMSU.EDU.

BOOKS REVIEWED IN THIS ISSUE / LIVRES RECENSÉS DANS CE NUMÉRO

- Acheson, Alison. *Thunder Ice*, p. 125
Armstrong, Luanne. *Annie*, p. 117
Barkhouse, Joyce. *Yesterday's Children*, p. 124
Bender, Michael. *Waiting for Filippo*, p. 114
Berton, Pierre. *Before the Gold Rush, Kings of the Klondike, The Men in Sheepskin Coats, The Railway Pathfinders, Steel across the Shield, The Battle of Lake Erie, Attack on Montreal, The Death of Tecumseh*, p. 101
Dagg, Mel. *The Women on the Bridge*, p. 117
Daveluy, Paule. *Sylvette sous la tente bleue*, p. 137
Donaldson, Gordon. *The Prime Ministers of Canada*, p. 109
Hammond, Elaine Breault. *The Secret under the Whirlpool*, p. 125
Henry, Tom. *Paul Bunyan on the West Coast*, p. 107
Hughes, Monica. *A Handful of Seeds*, p. 132
Jamieson, Marshall. *Beginnings: From the First Nations to the Great Migration*, p. 112
Kalman, Bobbie. *A One Room School, Settler Sayings, Games from Long Ago*, p. 115
——, and David Schimpky. *Fort Life, Old-Time Toys*, p. 115
——, and Tammy Everts. *Customs and Traditions, A Child's Day*, p. 115
Keens-Douglas, Richardo. *La Diabliesse and the Baby*, p. 132
Kenna, Kathleen. *A People Apart*, p. 111
King, Celia. *Seven Great Explorations*, p. 113
Konzak, Burt. *Noguchi the Samurai*, p. 132
London, Jonathan. *The Sugaring-Off Party*, p. 129
Lunn, Janet. *The Root Cellar*, p. 125
MacDonald, Thomas A. *The Time of the Wolf*, p. 119
Martin, Carol. *Martha Black: Gold Rush Pioneer*, p. 105
Masterson, Paul. *Herbert Richardson*, p. 106
Merritt, Susan E. *Her Story: Women from Canada's Past, Her Story II: Women from Canada's Past*, p. 104
Morrison, James H. *Alfred Fitzpatrick*, p. 107
Nickel, Barbara Kathleen. *The Secret Wish of Nannerl Mozart*, p. 127
Pachai, Bridglal. *William Hall*, p. 107
Parry, Caroline. *Eleanora's Diary: The Journals of a Canadian Pioneer Girl*, p. 122, p. 123
Petrie, A. Roy. *Alexander Graham Bell*, p. 106
Raddall, Thomas H. *Courage in the Storm*, p. 131
Reynolds, Marilyn. *Belle's Journey*, p. 132
Schimpky, David, and Bobbie Kalman. *Children's Clothing of the 1800s*, p. 115
Schultz, James Willard. *With the Indians in the Rockies*, p. 117
Sermin, Daniel. *Ludovic*, p. 139
Silverthorne, Judith. *The Secret of Sentinel Rock*, p. 125
Slavin, Bill. *The Stone Lion*, p. 129
Smith, Margaret. *Margy Misunderstood*, p. 119
Spencer, Anne. *The Memory Book*, p. 122
Wallace, Ian. *Hansel and Gretel*, p. 132
Yee, Paul. *Ghost Train*, p. 130
Zeman, Ludmila. *The Last Quest of Gilgamesh*, p. 132

WRITING A LIFE: *L.M. Montgomery*



A biography by

MARY RUBIO
and

ELIZABETH WATERSTON

5½ x 8½ inches, *paper*, 133 pages, 32 illustrations

\$14.95 ISBN 1-55022-220-1 1995

LARGE PRINT EDITION ALSO AVAILABLE

Published by ECW PRESS

Distributed by GENERAL (800) 387-0172

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE

The Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies at York University, in conjunction with a number of child and book-focused organizations, is planning a conference on **Locating the Book in Contemporary Children's Culture**. Scheduled for the spring of 1998, this event will incorporate the expertise of academics in children's literature, folklore, education, psychology, advertising, fine arts and media as well as practitioners who teach, tell stories, operate libraries and information programs, produce or market merchandise and programming for children, and the like. Further, many children will be involved as informants and performers in a variety of contexts. Different formats will be used to explore the complexities and dynamics of children's culture and to develop appreciation for the role of the book in the lives of contemporary young people. While the conference is intended for an international audience, the focus will be primarily Canadian. All persons interested in further information or in participating are invited to contact Dr. Carole Carpenter, Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies, York University, 4700 Keele St., North York, Ontario M3J 1P3. Telephone: (416) 736-5414; fax: (416) 736-5739; e-mail carolec@yorku.ca.

Materials available about children's literature in South Africa

Heale, Jay. *From the Bushveld to Biko*. (Covers the growth and development of South African English language literature for youth by giving descriptive paragraphs which guide the reader through 110 notable books, from *Jock of the Bushveld* in 1907 to a junior biography on Steve Biko published in 1992.) Cost: R18,95 + R3 post & packing = R21,95 per copy. Available from "Bookchat Booklets", PO Box 541, Gravoux 7160, South Africa.

Jenkins, Elwyn. *Children of the Sun: Selected Writers and Themes in South African Children's Literature*. Cost: R35 + post & packing. Available from Ravan Press, PO Box 145, Randburg 2125, South Africa, or from "Bookchat" above.