books, cards, etc. Separate French and English subject indexes are also included. No author or title indexes have been included. At the end there are separate lists for relevant bulletin, newspaper, and periodical titles, and for films. Only the films and the publications issued by the Metric Commission itself can be borrowed.

Given the current importance of this topic to Canadians, and given also the general lack of other bibliographies on the topic, many librarians and others interested in this field will wish to acquire it, particularly as it emphasizes Canadian materials.

Peter F. McNally,

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I am of two, not entirely separate, minds about this book. As a collector, whose heart still thumps when encountering a sleeper, I welcome it. As a bibliographer, I have reservations about it and count it as one of the many recent additions to the vast, uneven literature of book collecting.

Mr. Theberge is a knowledgeable collector, and he has provided a useful 'how to' guide for the curious beginner. His book briefly outlines the development of Canadian printing and publishing, and sketches the recent rise of Canadiana as a popular collecting theme. Descriptions of basic collecting techniques and terminology are interwoven with examples of possible subject areas for the potential collector, and Mr. Theberge includes short anecdotes based on his own experiences. The book concludes with three short appendices: a brief glossary of terms, a highly selective list of books about books, and some advice on the care of books.

Historically, it is not a rich field to which Theberge contributes; to my knowledge this is the first book solely devoted to collecting Canadian books. John Britnell's Books and Booksellers in Ancient and Modern Time... (Toronto, 1923) and Percy Ghent's Literary and Historic Fragments... (Toronto, 1927) barely touch the subject. There are articles by W.S. Wallace and Victor Morin in some of the early issues of the Canadian Magazine, as well as the signed and anonymous pieces in 'The Collector' section of the Canadian Bookman. More recently there has been Edith Firth's 'Books and Broadsides' in Donald Webster's The Book of Canadian Antiques (Toronto, 1974), and the one related landmark, Dora Hood's The Side Door... (Toronto, 1958).

As a first work, Theberge's effort is sincere and unassuming, but hardly one to establish a tradition. The text and information are accurate, save for referring to headpieces as headbands; but some of the illustrations are poorly reproduced and captioned. There is no index and the bibliography is, in reality, notes (unnumbered) of works cited in the text. Mr. Theberge does not caution the reader regarding some of the dangers of attempting to restore books, nor does he mention the current authorities in the field such as Cunha, Horton and Spawn.

As Lawrence Clark Powell has stated, the shelf of good bookseller's memoirs is short; so too is that of good books about book collecting. Canadiana on Your Bookshelf... may not merit a place on this short shelf, but it does deserve to be used as the perpetual missing chapter on Canadiana in the few standard and classic works.

David B. Kotin

(Mr. Kotin is Librarian of the Canadiana collection, North York Public Library, and he teaches a course on antiquarian books and book collecting at Seneca College, Willowdale, Ontario.)


The compiler of this 'listing' of the writings of Canadian poets between 1960 and 1973 is, by his own description, 'a literary critic and historian.' Somewhat charily, if not limply, he suggests that the practice he has followed will be frowned on by many bibliographers. Unless there are errors of fact why should he demonstrate such uneasiness? These are, after all, the "field notes" of a "literary critic and historian." This is a checklist, and the country's literature needs such reference works providing they are well done.

Part I of the work comprising 61 pages bears the title "Books by Various Hands." There is good reason to believe that the