Hood book. Rather, the almost adulating tone of the articles and contents produce an atmosphere of high seriousness, yet still a kind of on-going celebration, and therefore, as suggested, a work in progress in itself.

*Before the Flood* ... contains an autobiographical essay about Hood's pre-university days ('In the fall of 1947 I went to university and the flood began'); an interview with Hugh Hood; seven critical articles devoted to Hood's writings; and a 'Bibliography of Works by and on Hugh Hood' by J.R. [Tim] Struthers. This last must bear the weight of this review. Struthers' compilation occupies the final sixty-four pages of the book and is in two parts: Part I, 'A', Books and Manuscripts and 'B', Contributions to Newspapers, Periodicals, Books, and Anthologies; Poems, Stories, Excerpts, Essays, and Letters; Selected Anthology Contributions; and Theses and Dissertations directed or adjudicated by Hood [surely this final sub-section in 'B' is stretching it more than a bit]. Part II is made up of 'Works on Hood'; 'C' contains Books, Articles and Sections of Books, Theses, Interviews and Profiles, and Awards and Honours; 'D' lists 'Selected Book Reviews.'

Apart from guessing at the possible audience for such a 'bibliography', who must be, in the main, graduate students of English, one must examine the form of J.R. [Tim] Struthers' work. The 'A' section contains brief entries of the books written by Hugh Hood. By brief I mean 'Flying a Red Kite. Toronto: The Ryerson Press, 1962. 239 pp.' which is A2. A1 is Hood's doctoral dissertation from the University of Toronto. Some entries in this section contain dates of composition which are useful. One wonders, however, why the entries contain no information about the publishing history of the books described. Surely information about the number of copies, proofs, special printings are to be found in Hood's files. The manuscripts also receive sparse treatment. Why not the size of sheets, method of composition (typewriter or pen) one asks? Why not a manuscript page in reproduction? More attention is paid to the eight published letters in newspapers and journals which Hood has written. The contents of each are summarized and these provide the reader with an objective description of the writer and his concerns. One wishes Hood were a more prolific letter-writer. Part II describes works on Hugh Hood in the same spare format which typifies the 'bibliography'.

'Bibliography' is in quotation marks because the descriptive adjective 'enumerative' should be used to indicate just what shape the compilation takes. Struthers' bibliography is more than a list of works 'by and about', but unfortunately for the Hugh Hood student it is not detailed enough. Perhaps in a later report of work in progress more attention will be paid to a bibliographical study of Hood's writings. Such a work would make the Flood more impressive, more immediate.

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*Jonathan Odell: An Annotated Chronology of the Poems, 1759-1818.*
viii, 32 p., paper, $4.75 ISBN 0-920832-02-4

In his lecture entitled 'Eighteenth-Century Poetry in Maritime Canada: Problems of
Approach', delivered at the Atlantic Canada Institute in 1976, Professor Vincent described the long and painstaking task of finding his primary materials: ‘My research turned to three main areas of exploration: first, to books and other separate imprints, of which there were very few; second, to the poetry columns of early newspapers and periodicals, where the results were often pleasing and sometimes exciting; and third, to manuscript collections in divers archives’. Such diligence, so obviously necessary for obscure writers, has resulted in a bibliography which, though slight, is thoroughly to be trusted. We can be certain that few Odell poems remain undiscovered.

On a more practical level as well, Vincent’s compilation is eminently satisfactory. The shorthand he uses ([L/F/M: Q+C+C+Q+: IP]) is explained, the entries never confusing, and the abbreviations always understandable. The choice of a chronological arrangement of entries, each identified by a number, is an excellent one; and when one finds that the whole is followed by three indexes – ‘mode-genre’, ‘title’, and ‘first-line’ – one has no reason to complain about the format and design.

My major complaint is that the compiler has not been comprehensive enough: knowing that this work is not likely to be updated or extended, he should (in my opinion) have been more inclusive. It would be useful to know (and not difficult to list) the more-recent anthologies in which Odell’s poems have appeared. I find, for example, that ‘Our Thirty-Ninth Wedding Day’ [810.0] was included in E.K. Broadus’s A Book of Canadian Prose and Poetry (1923), but there the date is ‘6th January, 1810’ instead of ‘6th of May, 1810’ as in Vincent; such matters are of interest to the scholar and perhaps could be cleared up in additional notes attached to the entries. I feel, in fact, that this kind of information (the textual information which Vincent explicitly excludes) is more important than an awareness of the verse form, metre, and rhyme scheme of the poems.

Though this may seem fussy, I should also like to see full bibliographical information offered for the secondary sources. One never knows into whose hands this book may fall, and a citation which merely states ‘Literary History of Canada. Toronto, 1965; 1976’ may prove confusing to someone not familiar with that book. A case in point is M.C. Tyler’s The Literary History of the American Revolution for which Vincent merely states: ‘New York, 1897.’ An improvement, to be sure, on Catherine McLay who (in Canadian Literature: The Beginnings to the Twentieth Century) causes her readers to search for M.C. Taylor; but not good enough. Tyler’s book was reprinted in both 1957 and 1970, and the reader should be apprised of those facts. Certainly there seemed to be no reason to save space by omitting such information.

What I am suggesting is that, in a compilation of this kind – one not likely to be superseded for a very long time – the compiler should attempt to be as comprehensive and detailed as possible. Vincent clearly recognizes that a mere ‘list’ is useless and has attempted to offer much more than that; I would suggest that he go a little further. For there is no doubt in my mind that, even though Odell is a minor poet and not likely to be the subject of concentrated research, this bibliography is an extremely worthwhile undertaking, one which should be continued for other minor and major Canadian poets.

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