

### REGIONAL HISTORY PRIZE

The Regional History Prize of the Canadian Historical Association is given each year to recognize meritorious publications or exceptional contributions by individuals or organizations in regional history.

In 1983 this award was presented to Ruth Holmes Whitehead for the book *Micmac Quillwork: Micmac Indian Techniques of Porcupine Quill Decoration, 1600-1950*, published by The Nova Scotia Museum. The following citation was read at the annual meeting of the Canadian Historical Association:

"In this beautifully produced volume, Ruth Holmes Whitehead provides a meticulous analysis of the history, techniques and meaning of Micmac quillwork which has long been a vital component of Micmac culture and economic life. Not only is this book an important contribution to the history of the Micmacs of eastern Canada; it also enhances our appreciation of women's productive roles and serves as a timely reminder that a study of material culture is essential to a full understanding of our past".

Nominations and supporting documentation for the 1984 awards should be sent to: David Frank, Department of History, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5A3.

### ATLANTIC CANADA STUDIES CONFERENCE VI: CALL FOR PAPERS

The sixth biennial meetings of the Atlantic Canada Studies Conference will take place at Saint Mary's University in Halifax in the spring of 1985. The theme of the conference is "Ethnicity, the Old World, and Atlantic Canada". In addition to contributions on this theme, papers on other aspects of regional history and development are most welcome. Papers from the disciplines of literature, geography, sociology, economics, history, and the other humanities and social sciences, are all welcome.

Please send proposals for papers, and a copy of your curriculum vitae, by 1 April 1984 to: Dr. Colin D. Howell, History/Atlantic Canada Studies, Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 3C3.

### THE DAVID ALEXANDER PRIZE

The David Alexander Prize is awarded annually for the best essay on the history of Atlantic Canada written in course by a full-time undergraduate student at any university.

The winner of the prize for the year 1983 is Geoffrey Budden, St. John's, Newfoundland, a student at the Memorial University of Newfoundland. His essay, "Annexation as a Factor in Newfoundland's Struggle for Self-Government, 1855—1895" was selected by a panel of judges including His Honour, Lieutenant-Governor George Stanley of New Brunswick, Professor Ray MacLean of St. Francis Xavier University and Professor Stuart Pierson of Memorial University.

The David Alexander Prize will be awarded for the third time in 1984.

*Conditions:* Entries must be undergraduate essays between 1500 and 3500 words in length on some aspect of the history of Atlantic Canada, written in English or French. They may be research, interpretive or historiographical efforts. The author must be a full-time undergraduate student at an accredited university or college. The essay must have been written to meet the requirements of an undergraduate credit course during the 1983—84 academic year.

*Submission:* Entries shall be submitted by course instructors no later than 8 May 1984. No instructor shall submit more than two entries. Essays must be typed neatly and should not bear the instructor's comments or a grade. Entries should be sent to The Secretary, *Acadiensis*, Department of History, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N.B.

*Adjudication:* Entries will be judged by a panel of three distinguished historians. The winner will be announced in the autumn of 1984. No runners-up or honorary mentions will be designated.

*Prize:* \$250.

**THE LETTERS OF JAMES AND ELLEN ROBB**

*ACADIENSIS PRESS* takes pleasure in announcing the forthcoming publication of *THE LETTERS OF JAMES AND ELLEN ROBB: PORTRAIT OF A FREDERICTON FAMILY IN EARLY VICTORIAN TIMES*, edited and with an introduction by A.G. BAILEY.

James Robb was only 21 when he joined King's College, the precursor of the University of New Brunswick, as a lecturer in Chemistry and Natural Science in 1827. *The Robb Letters* consist of the correspondence written by James and his wife Ellen to relatives in Scotland between 1838 and 1864. They contain a wealth of information about the social, political, intellectual and scientific life of New Brunswick during these decades. They also present a detailed and moving portrait of a middle-class family in early victorian Fredericton. For anyone interested in the history of New Brunswick these letters will prove an invaluable source.

The letters have been prepared for publication by Dr. A.G. Bailey, Professor Emeritus of the University of New Brunswick and one of Canada's most distinguished intellectual historians. With the financial support of the University of New Brunswick, they are published in a deluxe, hardbound, limited (and numbered) edition.

The list price for the volume is \$35.00. *Acadiensis* subscribers may order *The Robb Letters* at the special price of \$21.00, plus \$1.00 per copy for handling. To take advantage of this offer, send your order to:

Acadiensis Press  
Campus House  
University of New Brunswick  
Bag Service #45555  
Fredericton, N.B.  
E3B 6E5