Contents

Introduction John Metcalf 1

In Defence of Laura Second Fraser Sutherland 6

Frisking Laura Secord Fraser Sutherland 14

O Cureless Rapture Irving Layton 26

Notes of a Natural Son John Mills 28

I am a Hotel Irving Layton 39

Can Lit Notes I Louis Dudek 40

Jackai's Dream George Woodcock 42

Can Lit Notes II Louis Dudek 55

Being Audited George Bowering 56

Can Lit Notes III Louis Dudek 68

Robertson Davies: The View from High Table Norman Snider 69

Shit on Your Mitt, Mr. Frye Louis Dudek 78

The Importance of Not Being Earnest:
Some Mutterings on Canadian Humour Jack MacLeod 79

Suzi Knickers' Book Bits 89

Some Proposals for the Reification of Poetry in Canada Brian Fawcett 92

How to Become a Famous Canadian Poet Brian Fawcett 104

Yet Another Slim Volume George Johnston 106

"Edited Any Good Books Lately?" Douglas Gibson 108

Suzi Knickers' Book Bits 116

Seed Money Michael Macklem 119

Herbert Vunce Irving Layton 128

Professing Support: In Defence of Academia's Role in Canadian Literature Allan Weiss 130

Seasons of Discontent Keith Garebian 140

The Real Presence Louis Dudek 154

The Quest for the (Instant) Canadian Classic W.J. Keith 155

Never Hunt Anything Small B.W. Powe 166

The Canonization of As for Me and My House:

A Case Study Morton L. Ross 170

Calling all Writers! 186

Hacking at the Parsnips: The Mountain and the Valley and the Critics Lawrence Mathews 188

Rodeo Drive or The Long Miserable but Trendy Life of Margot Macomber: A Story in the Manner of Katherine Govier, Lifestyles Journalist 202

An Elegy for Discourse Ralph Gustafson 205

Some Kicks Against the Prick: John Metcalf in his Essays Sam Solecki 207

When You Cut Your Pie Please Save Me a Piece Martin Kevan 224

UPDATE: Art Imitates Life John Metcalf 233