editorial

EXPANDING VISTAS

We are happy to tell our readers that Canadian Literature has received a grant of \$4,800 from the Canada Council to assist the journal in various directions. Among other things, this grant will replace the maintenance subsidy which we have received from the Koerner Foundation in Vancouver since the foundation of Canadian Literature in 1959, and, at the same time as we express our appreciation of the Canada Council's present support, we would record our gratitude to the Koerner Foundation for the help it gave during the vital years of commencement and early publication.

The Canada Council grant also provides for an expansion of Canadian Literature in both size and scope. From the last issue we have increased the size of the journal to a regular 104 pages, and this length will be maintained, allowing for a more ample review coverage of Canadian books. We are also enabled to pay writers somewhat more generously than in the past, and this in turn will allow us to experiment more widely with both contributors and contributions.

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In our last issue the ways in which Canadian publishing might be strengthened were somewhat widely discussed. One way is clearly the modification of the agency system by the increased separate publication of foreign books in Canada. A good example of what can be done is the newly issued book,

Eskimo Masks: Art and Ceremony, by Dorothy Jean Ray, with photography by Alfred A. Blaker (McClelland & Stewart, \$15.00). It is not in the narrow sense Canadiana, since neither the author, nor the photographer, nor the objects they deal with are Canadian; the masks described and illustrated are from an American collection and originated in Alaska. But our own concern with local Eskimo art gives this book a strong peripheral interest, and it is so admirably produced that those who are at all interested in North American native art will find it worth reading and thanks to simultaneous publication in the United States, reasonable for what it is. We could do with many more arrangements of this kind. Anything that strengthens Canadian publishing is likely to benefit writers and readers alike.