Index, Notes on Contributors, Notes on Editorial Board

Anna Rutherford

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I am a snail in the shell
whose only daring is the horn
which sucks the air it stabs
and hangs out naked in a teat.

'The Uprooted' reminds us that man is not beyond using 'the bait/ of a father's wheedling call and outstretched arm' to entice a bone-thin child to stumble on and so die — just to get a memorable photograph. 'What's the time?' impresses us with the meaninglessness of time in a world of endless struggle for underfed child-labourers, children to whom the evangelist of another poem would comment, 'Rejoice that the lord has chosen you for this grief'. And repeatedly the poet reminds us that 'Pity is in exile ... and must visit only as an exile'.

At times the fatalism of Ramamoorthy's outlook becomes oppressive, but this is just one aspect of his cultural inheritance, which has instilled a clear acceptance of 'such finalities/ of life and death'.

A.L. McLEOD

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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

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Hena Maes-Jelinek on C.J. Koch’s The Year of Living Dangerously; Agnes Sam, ‘Bessie Head: a Tribute’; Joyce Johnson on Structures of Meaning in the Novels of Bessie Head; Michael Rice on Douglas Blackburn’s A Burgher Quixote; John Thieme on Robert Kroetsch and the Erotics of Prairie Fiction.

INTERVIEW
C.J. Koch.

THE YEAR THAT WAS

REVIEWS

COVER: Passenger ship leaving Sydney.