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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEADING CANADIAN POET ON MSU SUMMER STAFF

Dr. Earle Birney, leading Canadian poet and professor at the University of British Columbia, will be in charge of the poetry workshop at the Montana State University writers' conference, which takes place on the campus during the week of July 22, according to H. V. Larom, conference director.

Dr. Birney is the author of four volumes of poetry, two novels, two plays and numerous articles, reviews, essays and short stories in over 50 magazines in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, New Zealand, and Australia. He has taught at the University of California, University of Toronto, University of Utah, and has been a visiting lecturer at the Universities of Washington and Oregon, Larom said.

A Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Dr. Birney has won numerous awards, including the Governor General's Medal for poetry, the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humor, the President's Medal for poetry, and the Lorne Pierce Medal for Literature. He has also edited a number of Canadian poetry magazines, and was guest editor of the Canadian poetry number of Poetry Commonwealth in London in 1951, according to Larom.

While at the writers' conference, Dr. Birney will read manuscripts and speak on contemporary Canadian poetry, as well as serve on panels and in discussion groups with other members of the staff, which includes A. B. Guthrie, Jr., Pulitzer prize winning novelist of Great Falls, and Eugene Burdick of the University of California.

Total cost for the week, according to Larom, will be $25.00, and registration will be limited to 50 to give time for a thorough study of manuscripts by the staff. Inquiries should be sent to H. V. Larom, Montana State University, Missoula.