NEWS

Wilfrid Laurier University

75 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST

WATERLOO, ONTARIO, CANADA N2L 3C5

TELEPHONE: AREA CODE 519, 884-1970

035-1979 Phyllis Brooks May 1, 1979

For Immediate Release

W.O. Mitchell featured at Language

Arts '79 conference at WLU May 4 and 5

In this, the year of the child, the Language Arts '79 conference held at Wilfrid Laurier University, features Canadian author of Who Has Seen the Wind, W.O. Mitchell.

He will kick-off the conference May 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the theatre-auditorium with a free public lecture on our infinitely renewable resource--the imagination of children.

The conference, May 4 and 5, will focus its attention on children. Problems in learning and teaching will be discussed with special emphasis on Canadian literature.

Although many of the conference participants will be teachers, others such as high school students, writers, and parents will also find the conference useful and interesting.

The sessions, May 5, begin at 9 a.m. and delegates are asked to choose one of the five offered. Topics include children's literature and response, the process of communication, and Canadian literature. W.O. Mitchell will also give a sessional address on creative writing.

Workshops follow the sessional addresses and delegates may attend two. There are 23 to choose from ranging from approaches in teaching, to a session on picture books by the owner of the Children's Bookstore.

Registration for the conference is \$20 and includes the sessions, workshops, and a lunch. Those interested may register before W.O. Mitchell's speech May 4 between 6:15 and 7:30 p.m. in the theatre-auditorium or May 5 between 8:15 and 9 a.m. in the Mezzanine of the Dining Hall.

Meg Hancock, co-ordinator of the conference, said she expects about 200 people to register.

"People may register right up until the beginning of the first session on Saturday morning." she said.