

035-1985  
Richard K. Taylor  
April 30, 1985

Laurier professor's book  
wins B.C. Lt.-Gov.'s award

Barry Gough, professor of history at Wilfrid Laurier University, has been awarded the British Columbia Lieutenant-Governor's medal for historical writing for his book, *Gunboat Frontier*, just published by the University of British Columbia Press.

The award, given annually for the best book on some aspect of British Columbia history, was the unanimous choice of a panel of judges from the B.C. Historical Federation.

Dr. Gough's book covers the years from 1846 to 1890 when Britain patrolled the Pacific coast to bring British law to the native residents. It chronicles encounters between the Royal Navy and the Indians over missions, slavery, liquor trafficking and crimes against people and property.

The judges said the book came alive, partly because "the author had visited, whenever possible, every creek mouth and cove where the gunboat frontier was being exercised."

Since Dr. Gough is on sabbatical in England, the award was to be accepted by his daughter, Melinda, a student at the Lester Pearson College of the Pacific.