HAVEPOETRY.COM

DON KERR

EDITING THE PRAIRIE

Well, it’s too long for one thing
and very repetitive.
Remove half the fields.
Then there are far too many fences
interrupting the narrative flow.
Get some cattlemen to cut down those fences.
There’s not enough incident either,
the story is very flat.
Can’t you write in a mountain
or at least a decent-sized hill?
And why set it in winter
as if the prairie can grow nothing
but snow? I like the pubic bush
but there’s too much even of that,
and the empty sky filling all the silences
between paragraphs is really boring.
I think on due consideration
we’ll have to return your prairie.
Try us again in a year
with a mountain or a sea or a city.