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Vol. I

No. 3

Baker, Nina (Brown) William the Silent, Vanguard, c1947. 271 p. \$2.50 j & shs
Mrs. Baker has the knack of character-drawing and few readers will forget the hero of this book or the several villains of the piece. The picture of Dutch struggle against Spanish tyranny is a stimulating introduction to or good enrichment material for this historical period. The delicate problem of Catholic and Protestant conflict is very well handled.

Barne, Kitty. Musical honors. Dodd, Mead, c1947. 206 p. \$2.25 Gr. 6-8
When the Redland children's father comes back from the war determined to give up music in favor of a business career, they are quite unhappy. However, their persistence and ingenuity win him to a realization that music is a necessary part of their life. An exciting story with an authentic English background that children should find enjoyable.

Bartlett, Robert Merrill. Sky pioneer, the story of Igor I. Sikorsky. Scribner, c1947. 153 p. \$2.50 Gr. 6-9
As much a history of airplanes and helicopters as a biography of Sikorsky, this book should appeal to all boys interested in aviation. It is not particularly well written, but is simple enough in style for younger readers or for slow readers in the 8th and 9th grades.

Besterman, Catherine. The quaint and curious quest of Johnny Longfoot the shoe king's son; with illus. by Warren Chappell. Bobbs-Merrill, c1947. 147 p. \$2.00 Gr. 4-6.
All the elements of the traditional folk tale -- the poor boy who uses his ingenuity to get out of all sorts of weird situations, and wins wealth and fame in the end -- are found in this delightful tale of Johnny, the shoe king's son. Warren Chappell's illustrations are quite in keeping with the spirit of the story.

Bosworth, Allan R. Sancho of the long, long horns; illus. by Robert Frankenberg. Doubleday, c1947. 206 p. \$2.50 Gr. 7-9.
An exciting and very plausible story of a thirteen-year-old boy's first ride on the Long Trail -- herding longhorns from the ranch in Texas to the market at Dodge City. The ride is made during the days when the West was beginning to be settled by farmers, and the difficulties of barbed wire fences were added to the problems that nature presented.

Brown, Marcia. Stone soup, an old tale; told and pictured by Marcia Brown. Scribner, c1947. 41 p. \$2.00 5-8 yrs.
An old folk tale retold in picture-book form. The illustrations are full of humor and action. Simple text in large, clear type.

Carmer, Carl Lamson. For the rights of men. Hinds, Hayden & Eldredge, c1947.
64 p. \$2.00 j h s

The rights of men: free speech, equality under the law, assembly, press, conscience, to own property are expressed in accounts of John Peter Zenger, Bill Prendergast, Matthew Lyon, Garrison, Elijah Lovejoy and John Peter Altgeld.

Choate, Florence, and Curtis, Elizabeth. Lysbet. Lippincott, c1947. \$2.50 j h s.

Fiction based on the bloodless fall of New Amsterdam. A mystery enshrouds the background of the English heroine who has been captured by the Indians and five years later rescued by the Dutch. There is a subtle plea for understanding among peoples; for love of people for themselves, regardless of nationality or race; and for a greater appreciation of beauty. The story is slow in starting and the relationships of the various characters is confusing at first but it gradually gains momentum. The authors, who live among the present day scenes of this story, have based it on extensive research.

Dalgliesh, Alice, comp. The enchanted book; illus. by Concetta Cacciola. Scribner, c1947. 246 p. \$3.00 Gr. 4-6.

This is truly an "enchanted" book. The stories are those which have proved themselves favorites from the world's folk lore. The format is excellent -- sturdy binding; large, clear type; wide margins. The illustrations are the loveliest that have appeared in a children's book for many a day. They have a fairy-like quality that admirably suits them to the text. The ability of the artist to adapt the illustration to the spirit of each story is unique. The artist is a newcomer to the field of children's book illustrating, but this first work will assure her of a warm welcome.

Davis, Lavinia (Riker). Melody, Mutton Bone, and Sam; illus. by Paul Brown. Doubleday, c1947. 245 p. \$2.25 Gr. 4-7.

Sam is a twelve-year-old boy who loves horses -- any kind from his own sway-backed Mutton Bone, to the beautiful little mare, Melody. An appealing story, well-written, with characters that come to life. Good family relations and an understanding of the growing-up processes of children. A slight mystery adds to the interest.

De Angeli, Marguerite (Lofft) Jared's island. Doubleday, c1947. 95 p. \$2.50 Gr. 4-6

A story laid on the New Jersey coast in the 1760's. A Scotch boy is shipwrecked and makes his home with his Quaker rescuer at Toms River. There is plenty of action involving pirates, Indians and buried treasure. Mrs. De Angeli shows real understanding of boyhood and is surprisingly adept at drawing pictures of a stormy sea and some very "salty" characters.

Evatt, Harriet. The mystery of the old merchant's house; illus. by the author. Bobbs-Merrill, c1947. 226 p. \$2.00 Gr. 4-6.

A pleasant story that will satisfy the requests for a new "mystery." The events are not too improbable although coincidence is stretched rather far. There are warm family relations and a good sense of sharing.

Floherly, John Joseph. White Terror; adventure with the Ice Patrol. Lippincott, 1947. \$2.75. 183 p. j & s h s.

With a vivid prelude of certain harrowing 'berg' experiences of ocean liners, climaxed by the tragedy of the Titanic, Floherly recounts the inauguration

of the International Ice Patrol in 1914, the problems to navigation created by ice and several exciting ice yarns. Floherty is a real reporter and leaves the reader not only breathless but almost horror struck with the icy terrors of the North Atlantic. There are fourteen photographs and drawings for chapter heads by the author.

Fox, Ruth, Great men of medicine; illus. by Dwight Logan. Random, c1947. \$2.50
j & s h s.

The foundations of modern medical science are recounted by a series of short biographies of nine key figures: Vesalius, Paré, Harvey, Jenner, Laennec, Sarmelweiss, Morton Lister, Koch. Each sketch starts with a highly fictionized incident and then describes dramatically but with frequent quotations the medical career of each man. His struggle with established but archaic theory and ignorance is depicted and his contribution to medicine is highlighted. The author includes no bibliography but the way her data are presented implies a good medical background. The final chapter highlights medical progress since the turn of the century. The fact that the author writes mysteries under another name and has been a pre-med student accounts for these highly interpretative sketches.

Hatch, Mary C. 13 Danish tales; retold by Mary C. Hatch; illus. by Edgun. Harcourt, Brace, c1947. 169 p. \$2.50 Gr. 5-7.

Story tellers will enjoy this new collection of Danish tales. Based on the J.C. Bay translation they are retold by Mary C. Hatch with all the humor of the traditional folk tale. Illustrations are quite in keeping with the lively tone of the stories.

Heinlein, Robert A. Rocket ship Galileo; illus. by Thomas W. Voter. Scribner, c1947. 212 p. \$2.00 j & s h s.

Scientific fiction written in a style that makes the events sound very plausible. There is excitement and adventure in the preparation for, and trip to the moon. The usual fantastic "moon people" are omitted; opposition and obstacles being furnished by another group of human beings. This omission of the fantastic plus the use of scientific facts in the building and operating of the rocket-ships combine to give the story its air of reality. The style is readable, except for the technical terms and explanations, which probably will not bother the modern atomic-minded boy.

Hodges, C. Walter. Sky high; the story of a house that flew; written and illus. by C. Walter Hodges. Coward-McCann, c1947. 112 p. \$2.50 Gr. 3-5.

Air minded youngsters will enjoy this story of a house that flew. There is just the right mixture of the real and the fanciful; the probable and the improbable to tickle the imagination. Hodges' illustrations are, as usual, delightfully appropriate for the text.

Hoffman, Eleanor. Princess of the Channel Isles; illus. by Hans Kreis. Nelson, c1947. 144 p. \$2.25 Gr. 4-6.

Princess is a Jersey cow -- born on the Island of Jersey and later sent to America. Love for the Princess and interest in her welfare leads to friendship between the Jersey children who first own her and the American children who buy her. Cows may not have the same appeal as horses or dogs, particularly for urban children, but any child who likes fine animals should enjoy this story.

Jonathan, Norton Hughes. Guide book for the young man about town; illus. by Pelagie Doane. Winston, 1948. 239 p. \$2.50 j & s h s.

There have been many more books of this type for girls than boys and so this book by a publicity man is a welcome arrival. It might very well be subtitled "how to get along with girls," but after giving you the very irritating and poor chapter that attempts to "type" women, there is much good common-sense comment on many aspects of a boy's social life; e.g. conversation, tipping, eating, dressing, driving, traveling, and college. The style is breezy and brief. No index so it cannot be consulted à la Emily Post.

Jong, Dola de. Return to the level land; with pictures by Jane Castle. Scribner, c1947. 152 p. \$2.50 Gr. 6-8.

In this sequel to The Level Land the Van Ordt family is making readjustments to peace-time conditions two years after the war ends. This is a good picture of the difficulties people, young and old, have when two such radical changes as war and peace upset their lives. There are good family relations and the whole tone of the book is optimistic. The beginning of Ruth's romance with Werner will raise the interest level to grades above that of The Level Land.

Kerr, Laura. The girl who ran for president; illus. by Mildred Lyon Hetherington. Nelson, c1947. 192 p. \$2.50 j & s h s.

Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood's story extends over a long period in our country's growth, -- 1830 - 1917. She was such an active participant in national and world affairs that this biography also chronicles the highlights in progress and introduces the personalities behind new ideas, movements and inventions. A criticism of the book might be the fact that time is forced to pass too rapidly -- especially towards the end and the kaleidoscopic result is confusing; e.g. p. 123, The Universal Peace Union is founded in 1876, but it seems as though its activities during the Civil War are described. P. 169 implies that Marie Antoinette died willingly in the cause of freedom. But the book as a whole is a vivid picture of woman's long stand for equal rights. Young readers will be interested in comparing it with Bryan's Susan B. Anthony (Messner, '47) and Jackson's Victorian Cinderella (Holiday House, '47).

Keyes, Frances Parkinson Wheeler. Once on Esplanade; a cycle between two Creole weddings; illus. by Addison Burbank. Dodd, Mead, c1947. 202 p. \$2.50 j & s h s.

The story, which begins with the wedding of the heroine's older sister in 1883 and terminates with her own nine years later, is told through a series of restrained, disconnected reminiscences and in a style that would seem to be too static and digressive for most young readers. The book would have been more effective if the author had based a well-planned narrative plot on the rich material contained here. It is as though the author's fears, expressed in the foreword, had been too much for her, she does not understand modern adolescents and has never been able to feel quite natural with the young audience to whom she was trying to address this book. The period and locale described, however, are fairly unique in children's literature and the book, therefore, has something to offer to those who read it!

Lagerlof, Selma. The wonderful adventures of Nils; trans. from the Swedish by Velma Swanston Howard, illus. by H. Baumhauer. Pantheon. 541 p. \$5.00.

Two stories now merged into one. The author has assisted in cutting it and abridging certain chapters leaving the story intact, but eliminating some of the geographic matter of purely local interest. The paper is not quite opaque. 200 illustrations in black and white are beautifully interpretive.

Leeming, Joseph. More fun with puzzles. Lippincott, c1947. 149 p. \$2.50
j & s h s.

If your patrons have exhausted "Fun with puzzles" here is more fun. Problems with coins, counters and matches; brain twisters, mathematical and number puzzles, pencil and paper problems; cut-out and put together puzzles, anagrams and word puzzles. Good for parties, camp activities and lighter touches in Math. and English classes.

Lovelace, Maud Hart. Betsy was a junior; a Betsy-Tacy high school story; illus. by Vera Neville. Crowell, c1947. 248 p. \$2.50 j & s h s. V - Defeat, Meeting; Democratic understanding.

Betsy is getting on now and makes plans for her sixteen-year-old self -- plans she has difficulty in fulfilling. 1908 girls, as the author shows us, had much in common with their 1948 descendants. Mrs. Lovelace's ability to show the changing, developing personality of an adolescent girl is superb. Betsy learns to accept defeat, admit mistakes, and recognize the folly of cliques and secret societies. Already I am eagerly anticipating the senior year because I know it will not be "just more of the same."

Mansfield, J. Carroll. Dawn of creation; illus. by the author. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, c1947. 238 p. \$2.75 Gr. 5-8

Simply written, with numerous illustrations, this is a good book to arouse interest in paleontology, or to serve as a reference tool in answering questions about how the earth began and how life has evolved. Indexed.

Meador, Stephen M. Behind the ranges. Harcourt, Brace, c1947. 222 p. j h s.

As Dick Randolph tells the reporter, "It all started with my wanting to see some real wilderness -- that and the Smithsonian needing silver marmots for a habitat group... I never thought that inside of two weeks I'd be mixed up with anything as weird as a caveman killer..." Thus we see a typical Meador yarn -- excellent in its feeling for great out-door spaces and its exploration of wild life. But there is the usual black character and series of "goose pimple" situations from which the hero is finally able to extract himself. Junior high school boys love these stories and will learn to appreciate the wonders of nature. Unfortunately the perennial popularity of the book will also perpetuate the memory of Nazi ruthlessness and the stereotype of the German as a gross and cruel "kraut." It is the same situation as found in Stevens' "Mark of the leopard." Is this a problem to worry over or are we unduly anxious?

Nash, Ogden. Ogden Nash's musical zoo; tunes by Vernon Duke; with illus. by Frank Owen. Little, Brown, c1947. 47 p. \$2.50. All ages.

The sum of Nash plus Duke plus Owen just about totals a riot. In fact, if a suitable mixture of children and adults, a piano and a good leading voice are added, it is sure to. Children like to sing and if an occasional dose of the Musical Zoo could be given them in music classes, assemblies or group activities, their "jaded" lives would acquire a new glow. This book is one of the best collections of nonsense verse that has appeared for some time. Even the cartoon-like pictures provide entertainment by themselves.

Niedermeyer, Mabel A. My story book about the Bible; illus. by Betty Hessemer. Friendship, c1947. 127 p. \$1.25.

Stories "with a purpose." Situations very artificial and materials too specialized for general use. Paper back edition 75¢.

Paschal, Nancy. Magnolia heights; illus. by Ruth King. Nelson, c1947. 272 p. \$2.50 Gr. 7-9.

Though not an outstanding book, this has all the elements necessary for popularity. Plenty of dogs, and cats (in fact, a whole veterinary clinic full of them); a fifteen-year-old girl whose perseverance helps save her home; a romance; and a fire. The writing borders on the sentimental in spots, but on the whole it is pleasant reading.

Ross, Frances Aileen. The land and people of Canada. Lippincott, c1947. 128 p. (Portrait of the nations series) \$2.50 j & s h s.

A book designated to show that there is more to Canada than "quaint French villages, Rocky Mountains, fine furs and woolens, and the Mounties." It includes well-organized data on the country, history, government, people, industries and the individualities of the various provinces. The author is a native Canadian who has settled in the states. A review in the Canadian Library Association Bulletin commended this book for its true portrayal.

Rudolph, Marguerita. The great hope; with an introduction by Pearl S. Buck and drawings by Abbas. John Day, c1948. 175 p. \$2.75 j & s h s.

This is the story of a Jewish family living in a Ukrainian village during the Russian Revolution and up to modern times. The writing is favorably slanted toward the modern regime; however, it is not unduly exaggerated. In fact it has been approved by a former Russian who is not in sympathy with the present Russian government. The character of Vinya is particularly good as an example of the adjustments necessary for a person to make in coming to the U. S. from Russia, and in showing some of the fundamental differences in living and thinking between the two countries. The style of writing is good, and the book has a definite value in building understanding between this country and Russia.

Snedeker, Caroline Dale (Parke) Luke's quest; illus. by Nora Unwin. Doubleday, c1947. 208 p. \$2.00 j h s.

An imaginative story of how the Greek physician, Luke, became a Christian and went in search of the first hand accounts of the parables, sermons and miracles of Jesus to weave into his gospel. The author brings her rich classical background and her true reverence for the arduous beginnings of Christianity to this book. The unswerving and fearless devotion of the early Christian martyrs to their new found faith may tax adolescent comprehension today but it will be good for them to see such complete faith in contrast to the prevalent skepticism about them. There is also a love story besides the quest.

Stevens, Alden Gifford. Mark of the leopard; by Alden G. Stevens and Patricia Kendall; illus. by Roger Vernam. Lippincott, c1947. 278 p. \$2.50 j & s h s.

The further adventures of Simba, a youth of Central Africa, who appeared in 1938 in "Lion boy." The authors know this part of Africa well and have presented it vividly in an exciting story. It would be a good book to add to the meagre but now growing material on Africa. However, there is one problem presented that unfortunately is not characteristic of this book alone. That is the perpetuating of antagonistic and stereotyped attitudes towards certain nations, in this case the Germans, for it deals with Nazi intrigue in Africa in 1939. True, they were the Nazis but there is carry over of the "master race" idea to the Germans as a whole. This is a problem that has confronted us in several good stories and one that needs serious reflection.

Stewart, Anne Bird. Young Miss Burney; with drawings by Helen Stone. Lippincott, c1947. \$2.50 j & s h s

Fanny Burney is one of a large number of fascinating characters in this biographical novel. In fact, during the early chapters, we wondered if she were ever going to emerge the heroine. It seemed as though shy, retiring Fanny would leave the center of the stage to her beloved Garrick. She comes into her own, however, and after the Burney children reach sufficient maturity, the book becomes absorbing fare, particularly for the teen-aged girl. Artistic and literary England of the 18th century is well presented and will be useful material for English classes.

FOR ADULTS

Boyd, Doris I. Expanding horizons; adventure in intergroup education with young people. (Human relations pamphlet no. 9) Pa. 10¢. National conference of Christians and Jews. 381 4th Ave. New York 16.

The Poster for Children's Spring Book Festival, May 10-15, is announced and may be ordered from Miss Carolyn Coggins, N. Y. Herald Tribune. 230 W. 41st St. New York 18.

Ten articles on writing and publishing by Jean Poindexter Colby, editor of Children's books, Houghton Mifflin. These articles appear in JUNIOR REVIEWERS, the monthly magazine reviewing all the new children's books. Some of the subjects are: Pre-natal publishing; a novel-sized book on the assembly line; Watching a picture book eat up the dollars; What makes good books for children. \$2.75 per year. Junior Reviewers. 241 Greenwood Street, Newton Centre 59, Mass.

Edman, Marion & Collins, Laurentine B. Promising practices in inter-group education; rev. ed. Bureau for intercultural education, 1697 Broadway, New York 19. 20¢.

The January issue of EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP is devoted to a survey of types, functions, problems and patterns of organization of materials of instruction.

Integrating music with literature and social studies.

The following books, recently received in the Materials Center, are examples of items that can introduce music effectively into Library Hours, Assembly Programs and Classroom activities:

Borie, Lysbeth Boyd & Richter, Ada. Poems for Peter; 16 note songs for school and home. Theodore Presser, Phila. 1940. \$1.50.

Knox, Ethel Louise. Ballads of Paul Bunyan; choral cycle for mixed voices and narrator... music by May A. Strong. Theodore Presser, Phila. 1943. \$1.00

Lieurance, Thurlow. Singing children of the sun; a book of Indian songs for unison singing. Theodore Presser, Phila. 1943. 35¢.

McKay, George Frederick. All in fun; a book of nonsense songs. C. C. Birchard, Boston, 1945. 75¢.

(Includes four poems from Lewis Carroll).

Richter, Ada. Jack and the Beanstalk; a story with music. Theodore Presser, Phila. c1940. 60¢.

McBean, Dilla W. Phonograph records and their use in a school library. (Monographs on language arts, no. 51) Row Peterson & Co., Evanston, Ill. Free.

Minka, Ernest A. The career conference and its mechanics. High School Bound Brook, N. J. 1947. 14 p, 50¢. Step by step guide.

National dairy council, Chicago. What we do day by day. Author, 1947.

A series of very clear and nicely colored pictures showing the activities of a child's normal day. Each has an explanatory sentence on the back to use in making up stories accompanied by a unit for the teacher by Nina Jacobs and Mary Elizabeth Keister of the University of Chicago.

Rinden, Gertrude Jenness. Missionary worship programs; series III on the theme, the Bible goes round the world. Friendship, c1947. 64 p. 50¢.

A series of 12 missionary worship programs with stories showing the Bible in various aspects of its missionary work. Six have a China background; two Africa; one Peru and three from America. For more extensive material get:

Rinden. Around the world with the Bible (junior)

Niedermeyer. My storybook about the Bible (primary)

McGavran. Stories of the Book of Books (stories, verses, incidents., factual material).

All sell \$1.25 in cloth; 75¢ in paper.

The stories are written with a purpose and would be mainly useful in Sunday School work.

Stoops, Emery. Suggestions for career days. Division of research and guidance, Los Angeles Co. Public Schools, Calif. 1947. 27 p.

Report on a career day program. Contains invitation to parents, a student outline to aid in preparing notes on the talks and device for obtaining from students an evaluation of the speeches and speakers.

Teaching current events. American Education press, Columbus 15, Ohio. 32 p. (free to teachers using their publications; ask price to others.)

FILM NOTES

Films produced especially for pre-school and primary grade children are few. Younger children are eager to see movies -- even two or three times -- and they appear to have vivid impressions of their film experience. A problem is the selection of films that will have meaning for younger children.

A study conducted by the Wisconsin Elementary Principals Association and the Bureau of Audio-Visual Instruction of the University of Wisconsin, Madison 6, lists one hundred 16mm sound movies useful in elementary schools -- primary through junior high. Thirty-four films are useful for primary school children. An example of one of their listings follows:

AIRPLANE TRIP (sound) 11 minutes \$ 1.75
Use: Reading readiness, Social studies, Language, Arts.
A mother and her young daughter, Dorothy, take a trip from Los Angeles.
pp. 12.

Perhaps the value of this and similar films is that an everyday experience may blossom into full meaning for the child. A child may be very familiar with airliners overhead, yet have little understanding of why they are up there.

ADVENTURES OF BUNNY RABBIT (sound) 11 minutes Encyclopedia Britannica film.

Most films produced for primary children assume an overwhelming interest in animals. The film "Adventures of Bunny Rabbit" familiarizes children with the rabbit and the woods and farm of his home.

Bunny decides to go to the farm to get some lettuce. On his way he meets many farm animals -- cows, chicks, puppies and turkeys -- and finally gets into the farmer's lettuce hot-house. The kindly farmer sends Bunny Rabbit back to the woods.

LIVE TEDDY BEARS (the Koala) (sound) 11 minutes Encyclopedia Britannica films.

The activities of live Australian teddy bears (koala) are shown, along with several other Australian animals and birds. We learn what Teddy eats and how his mother carries him around. We see Teddy climbing around exploring a tree.

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