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UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
CENTER FOR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS  
Alice P. Brooks, Librarian  
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Vol. I

No. 6

The Book World

Balch, Glenn, Wild horse; illus. by Pers Crowell. Crowell, c1947. 338 p. \$2.50  
Gr. 7-9

Here is an interesting variation on the usual theme of a boy who wants to catch and tame a wild horse for his own use. Ben loves to watch the wild horses - but he wants nothing to spoil that wildness. His efforts to save them from captivity makes an exciting story. The book is rather long but the suspense is well sustained. Excellent illustrations.

Bibby, Cyril. How life is handed on. Emerson, c1947. 159 p. \$2.00 Gr. 7-9

An exceedingly well-written book for young adolescents giving a clear picture of the process of reproduction. The subject is handled objectively and without the sentimentality that too often mars such books. Sex is shown in its relationship to the whole of life and living. A useful book for home and school library.

Bolton, Ivy May. Wayfaring lad; illus. by Lorence F. Bjorklund. Messner, c1948. 192 p. \$2.50 Gr. 7-9

A good picture of life in the Tennessee settlements during the early days of colonization. The story is not too improbable and boys especially will enjoy the elements of danger and adventure.

Bontemps, Arna Wendell. Story of the Negro; illus. by Raymond Lufkin. Knopf, c1948. 239 p. \$3.00 j & s h s V- Intercultural understanding

A dramatically written, accurate and exceedingly readable history of the Negro. The lives of outstanding people are set against a background of the story of the race as a whole. An excellent addition to the materials on intercultural relations.

Bronson, Wilfrid Swancourt. Pinto's journey. Messner, c1948. 55 p. \$2.50

A present day Pueblo Indian boy, through his own resourcefulness, gets turquoise stones for his grandfather, the silversmith. His action saves him and his family from starvation. Good material both in pictures and story for a unit on Indians or the natural life of New Mexico. Could be used in remedial reading.

Bronson, Wilfrid Swancourt. Starlings; written and illus. by Wilfrid S. Bronson. Harcourt, Brace, c1948. 75 p. \$2.00 Gr. 3-5 U - Readings - Remedial materials.

Although Starlings are the chief dramatis personae, it is a good introduction to bird life in general - the importance of birds to our own welfare, and to how we should treat birds. In fact, by inference it is a plea for a better understanding of all our neighbors whatever the background or creed. Bronson's illustrations are teaching materials in themselves and coupled with his readable style, the result is a very satisfactory book.

Bryant, Bernice Morgan. Trudy Terrill; high school freshman; illus. by Frederick T. Chapman. Bobbs-Merrill, c1948. 280 p. \$2.00 Gr. 7-9 V - Family relations; Adolescence - Growing up.

Girls who joined Trudy in the ups-and-downs of eighth grade life will welcome her back as a high-school freshman. Trudy is a very real little girl and her experiences in her first year of high school will appeal to - and comfort - many other freshmen who are going through the same experiences. Good family relations.

Burt, Olive Woolley. Luther Burbank, boy wizard; illus. by Clotilde Embree Funk. Bobbs-Merrill, c1948. 188 p. \$1.75 (Childhood of famous Americans) Gr. 3-5

Because of the pattern set by this series the real accomplishments in Burbank's life are unfortunately minimized. The account emphasizes his early shyness, his dreams of inventions and the creating of "new" plants but the young reader must seek elsewhere for the fulfillment of the plant wizard's dreams.

Carlson, Evelyn F. A great city and state; the story of Chicago and Illinois. The King Co, 1947. 318 p. Gr. 5-7 (Textbook; illus.)

DiMaggio, Joe. Baseball for everyone; a treasury of baseball lore and instruction for fans and players; line illus. by Lenny Hollreiser. Whittlesey house, c1948. 224 p. \$2.50 shs and adult

A noted baseball figure writes of the national sport for fan and player alike. He makes a careful analysis of batting, base-running and each of the nine positions, illustrating his points with interesting anecdotes of noted players. A well-thought out and well-written book for older boys and adults, although younger people can read it, too. The values, however, fit in better with the adolescent period; perfecting of oneself in life work, striving to overcome small defects that can mar perfect performance, real modesty in discussing an area in which one excels and level headedness before adulation.

Ford, Edward. Jeff Roberts, railroader; illus. by Manning deV. Lee, Macrae-Smith, c1948. 228 p. \$2.50 Gr. 7-9 V- Vocational guidance.

An above-the average career story. The detailed description of railroad operations should be of interest to any boy who is at all interested in railroads. The typical "success" pattern is used, but it sounds more probable than in so many books of this type.

Franklin, George Cory. Monte; illus. by Loretta & Prentice Phillips. Houghton Mifflin, c1948. 109 p. \$2.00 Gr. 3-7 U- Conservation (Unit); Nature study.

Franklin has the ability to create real personalities in the animals he writes about without resorting to personification. Boys who enjoy the Wild Animals of the Five Rivers Country will find this story of Monte, the grizzly, equally exciting and entertaining. "Monte is one of the first in the new Houghton Mifflin Company Easy Reading Series designed to bring high grade absorbing stories within the abilities of a wide range of youngsters. It has been vocabularized according to the Thorndike Fifth Grade Word List and is suitable for average readers of eight to twelve and as remedial reading for older ones. A glossary of a few excepted words has been added." (Book jacket) Excellent illustrations. Large print.

Gordon, Patricia. The witch of Scrapfaggot Green; illus. by William Pene Du Bois. Viking, c1948. 78 p. \$2.50 Gr. 5-7

A modern fanciful tale of an English village during the last world war and a witch whose grave is dug up by an American bulldozer. Somewhat sophisticated in tone, but with a great deal of humor. Will have limited appeal.

Gregg, John. Company for Susie; illus. by Eloise Wilkin. Howell, Soskin, c1947.  
147 p. \$2.00 Gr. 2-4

Susie is a five-year-old who doesn't think much of a summer in the country, but who ends by having a good time after all - thanks to Mr. Muffin, a dog who comes to tea and stays. The story is too long for the pre-school youngster and beginning readers may object to such a young heroine. Parents will enjoy the story because it does draw a good picture of the ups-and-downs of a five-year-old.

Hamilton, Elizabeth. Go west, young bear; illus. by Kurt Wiese. Coward-McCann, c1948. 95 p. \$2.50 Gr. 3-6

A thoroughly delightful tale of two bears who hitch-hike from eastern Canada to Yellowstone Park. The story is completely possible and wholly improbable - just the right mixture of each to make a successful fantasy. Humorous illustrations that are quite in keeping with the spirit of the story.

Harris, Joel Chandler. The favorite Uncle Remus; illus. by A. B. Frost; selected, arranged and edited by George Van Santvoord and Archibald C. Coolidge. Houghton Mifflin, c1948. 310 p. \$3.00 Gr. 5-8

Some of the favorite Uncle Remus stories selected from earlier collections. Format is good - clear print, large type. The use of dialect makes these stories suitable for the story teller rather than for children to read for themselves. A good edition where replacement of older editions is needed - not a must.

Henderson, Luis M. Amik; the life story of a beaver; written and illus. by Luis M. Henderson, Morrow c1948. 158 p. \$2.50 Gr. 4-6

Although presented in story form this is an accurate account of life in a beaver colony. The author does not resort to personification and gives the beaver no characteristics that cannot be proved by study and observation. The style is interesting and the book should appeal to all readers who like the out-of-doors.

Hooke, Hilda Mary. Thunder in the mountains; legends of Canada; illus. by Clare Bice, Oxford, c1947. 223 p. \$2.50 Gr 4-8 3 - Indians of North America - Legends; Canada - Legends.

Rather pedestrian writing, but the book has value as source material for folk-lore of Canada.

Jones, Louis C. Spooks of the valley; ghost stories for boys and girls; illus. by Erwin H. Austin. Houghton Mifflin, c1948, 111 p. \$2.50 Gr. 5-7 U - Hallowe'en

Familiar legends of the Hudson River Valley are woven into this story of two boys who help a ghost and in return gain an evening with all the ghosts of the Valley. This is not only a good source book for Americana; it is an excellent ghost story itself.

Lawrence, Isabelle. The theft of the golden ring; a tale of Rome and treasure; illus. by Charles V. John. Bobbs-Merrill, c1948. 309 p. n. pr. j & shs  
U- History, Ancient; Latin-Study and teaching.

A sequel, quite complete in itself, of "The Gift of the Golden Cup" (1947). The story, which deals with the conspiracies of Cataline is as exciting as any movie thriller and if the period were the present we should probably question the precocity and unusual responsibility accorded to the "small fry" in the rescues and problem-solving. It is a good yarn, however, and the "O Tempora, O Mores" of high school Cicero would have had richer meaning if I could have read this. Miss Lawrence should be commended again for her ability to interpret the social life of the times in terms of our own day. Will appeal to both boys and girls.

Lengyel, Emil. Americans from Hungary. Lippincott, c1948. 319 p. (The Peoples of America series, ed. by Louis Adamic) \$4.00 shs & adult

The second in this series gives a mature but interesting account of the Hungarian Americans from the time they first began to leave their mother country and put down their roots in American soil. The list of outstanding Hungarian Americans is an impressive one and their contribution to our culture and economy, noteworthy. For the mature reader or curriculum use.

Meeks, Esther K. Cinderella; illus. by Doris Stolberg. Wilcox & Follett, c1948. 31 p. 60¢ K - gr. 2

This "retold" version of the classic fairy tale seems to be part of a projected series of fairy tale retellings as Andersen's "Fairy tales" are similarly announced. If these retellings are designed to simplify and bring this material to preschool and kindergarten age it is undesirable because the romantic quality of Cinderella and the artistic style of Andersen are better suited to a little older child. The brightly colored illustrations are uneven but the beautiful heroine and the "Lana Turner" fairy godmother will delight little girls.

Monsell, Helen Albee. The mystery of grandfather's coat; illus. by Joseph Page. Bobbs-Merrill, c1948. 234 p. \$2.50 Gr. 6-8

A highly exciting mystery story laid in Richmond in the late 19th century. The mystery centers around the aftermath of a Civil War romance between a Southern girl and a Northern soldier. Somewhat improbable in spots, but not enough so to ruin the story. Might be used as a transition from mystery stories to period fiction.

Rankin, Louise. Daughter of the mountains; illus. by Kurt Wiese. Viking, c1948. 191 p. \$2.50 Gr. 5-7

This is the story of a little girl of Tibet and her love for her dog, a red-gold Shasa terrier. It was a love that took her far from her mountain home down to the crowded streets of Calcutta. The emphasis on religion and the many Buddhist terms and names may limit the appeal of the book. There are beautifully descriptive passages that give a real feel for the country through which Mono passes on her way to Calcutta.

Stevenson, Augusta. Buffalo Bill, boy of the plains; illus. by Paul Laune. Bobbs-Merrill, c1948. 189 p. \$1.75 (The childhood of famous Americans series) Gr. 3-5

A highly fictionalized boyhood of a hero loved by children. In this case certain events are included to tinge the story with the Buffalo Bill "tradition." His experiences with the Pony Express and as showman are related before the story ends.

Stevenson, Robert Louis. A child's garden of verses; pictures by Steffie E. Lerch. Wilcox & Follett, c1948. 30 p. 60¢ K-Gr. 2

A good selection of 26 poems from the complete collection presented in an inexpensive reprint with brightly colored as well as black and white illustrations of uneven quality. ("My Shadow" picture unnecessarily "spooky" - and out of character with poem) A complete edition is the first purchase both at home and school, although a selection has uses. This can be used in a supplementary way for classroom book tables, duplication and for more frequent handling by the younger child. (Compare with Rand McNally complete edition, illus. by Ruth Mary Hallock. 60¢).

Thorne-Thomsen, Gudrun. In Norway; illus. by Eyvind Earle. Viking, c1948. 159 p.  
\$3.00 Gr. 5+

The heritage of Norway, the ideals of the people and their fine standards of living are portrayed in this book written by the well-loved Norwegian-American story teller. The book was read and commended by a Scandinavian library school student. A Brazilian student writes "Clarity of style, logical organization and artistic appeal, emphasized by beautiful line-drawings make the book an excellent source of information and pleasure."

Ware, Leon. Shifting winds; illus. by Frederick T. Chapman. McGraw-Hill, c1948.  
186 p. \$2.00 Gr. 6-8 V- Stepparents, Adjustment to

The summer of his twelfth year is a memorable one for Johnny Leach - his father comes home from the war; he learns to sail and acquires his first boat; and most important of all, he gets his thinking on the subject of stepmothers straightened out. Plenty of action and suspense make a story boys and girls should enjoy equally well.

Weber, Lenora (Mattingly) Beany Malone. Crowell, c1948. 186 p. \$2.50 j & shs

The Malones are back with all their warm-hearted generosity and harum - scarum ways. When Mr. Malone has to go away because of his health, he leaves the family in Beany's hands. The old way of life suddenly seems wrong to Beany and she tries to change it - to shelter the family from the troubles of normal living and from the consequences of their own too ready generosity. Everything works out however and Beany realizes their way of life is the best one for them. Final solution seems too rapid and the denouement of Beanie's failure to report her accident is left in midair.

Weldon, Martin. Babe Ruth; illus. photos. Crowell, c1948. 280 p. \$2.50 j & shs  
Straightforward, unvarnished account of the life of the homerun king.

Weldon neither idolizes nor disparages the temperamental baseball player, and the Babe's giddy moments seem understandable without being over-glamorous. The author's word choice is much more varied and competent than is usual in sports literature. Binding is so fragile that it will scarcely stand one reading. Should be bought in reinforced binding.

Wiese, Kurt. Fish in the air; story and pictures by Kurt Wiese. Viking, c1948.  
26 p. \$2.00 Gr. 2-4

A delightful story of what happens when a little boy with a big kite meets a big wind. Easy enough for the younger child to read for himself. Also good for reading aloud. The Wiese illus. are, as usual, full of humor and color.

Wood, Laura Newbold. Louis Pasteur; illus. with photographs. Messner, c1948.  
218 p. \$2.75. j & shs

Not only pasturization but also Pasteur's contributions to industry, medicine, chemistry and education are high-lighted in this biography. The social and political background as it influenced Pasteur's life is appropriately drawn. Altogether a carefully constructed, well-balanced biography.

Zarchy, Harry. Let's make a lot of things; crafts for home, school, and camp; written and illus. by Harry Zarchy. Knopf, c1948. 156 p. \$2.50 Gr. 6-10

This book is well-written and beautiful in format. It is for people who like to work with their hands and create attractive, useful things. It is useful for a variety of handicrafts where simple tools are available either in art and shop classes or at home. "Might in some cases be used as low as 6th grade. Better, however, for 7th-8th-9th-10th grades - not above 10th except for persons totally inexperienced in craft work." Contains general notes about materials and processes as well as sections on making specific articles - easy step-by-step instructions and drawings on jewelry making, metalwork, clay and leather objects. (Evaluated by Mr. Gene Wittick, Laboratory.

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### Adult Materials

Milwaukee Public Schools. Curriculum Department. Literature, a pathway to understanding people; a reading unit illustrating a procedure in intergroup education; developed by Rose Breit. Author, 1946. 6-A

Contains stenographic reports of children's discussion of "They came from Sweden," list of books selected by children, annotations and letters written by children as well as a general description of this interesting Language-Arts Unit.

National Society for the study of Education. Forty-seventh yearbook, part 2.

Reading in the high school and college. University of Chicago Press, 1948. \$3.50 (Pa. \$2.75)

A group of well-known figures in the field of reading have written a series of very practical papers on all phases of reading at the adolescent and young adult level. Note especially the Leary, Smith, Strang, and Meckel chapters.

Patri, Angelo. How to help your child grow up; suggestions for guiding children from birth through adolescence. Rand McNally, c1948. 352 p. \$4.00

A popularized treatment of some of the problems parents meet in helping their children grow up. The material is basically sound; the examples clear and interesting; and the style, though inclined toward "sweetness and light", is exceedingly readable.

### Book Lists

Association of Children's Book Editors and The New York Times. A selected list of books for boys and girls. Author, 62 W. 45th Street N. Y. 19. 1948 10¢

250 titles grouped by type of literature and age range, selected and annotated by three librarians, a children's book reviewer and a bookseller of children's books.

Boys Club of America. Junior book awards, 1948.

A most interesting summary report of this annual study of boys' preferences among the books of the year. This list of books "Highly recommended" with the boys' own comments as to why they liked them will be useful in selection and reading guidance. Miss Iris Vinton, Boys' Club of America, 381 4th Avenue, New York 16.



Science Research Associates. The 100 best; free and inexpensive guidance material.  
Auth. 228 So. Wabash Ave. Chicago 4. 1948  
A careful choice of the exceptionally valuable from several thousand items.  
Entire list can be purchased for approximately \$14.00

Science Research Associates. Circus workers. (Occup'l briefs, no. 226) (Or write  
for a complete list of 1948 "Occupational briefs" 15¢ each; \$5 per year  
(50 issues))

University of Kansas. Extension Library. UNESCO book list for boys and girls;  
prepared by Ruth Cagliardo for Kan. Congress of Parents and Teachers and Univer-  
sity of Kansas Reading program for children. (Guides to current materials on  
questions of the day, v. 2 no. 4) Author, Lawrence, Kansas, 1948.  
Bibliography on U. N. countries, giving fiction, biography, non-fiction in  
separate groups. Emphasis on current scene.

Series, sequels, editions and inexpensive reprints

Eakin, Mary K. and Janecek, Blanche. Reprints of children's book in series and  
editions. Library Journal 73:624-639, April 15, 1948.  
This very helpful study and evaluation of the different publishers series  
of well-known children's books, which was made in the Materials Center, is available  
as a reprint on application to Library Journal. 62 W. 45th St. N. Y. C. 19.

Grimes, Marian. Children's books...for 75¢ or less: Assn. for Childhood Education  
1201 16th Street, N. W. Washington 6, April 1948. 35¢  
Published annually in an attempt to separate the good from the poor among  
the inexpensive books for children. Many publisher's series here.

Margules, Elizabeth. Books in series for children, suitable for purchase by public  
libraries. New Mexico Library Bulletin 17:2-6, Jan. 1948.  
"...Good literature for children, well-written, attractively illustrated  
and worthwhile that can be classified as "series" books." Write to State Library  
Extension Service, Santa Fe, N. M.

Audio-Visual Materials

Background of literature series. (2 films; 10 min. ea.) Sound; color; \$90.00 ea.;  
B1 and Wh \$45.00 ea. Coronet. Instr. Films, Chicago 1, Ill. j-shs. col.  
English Literature, Language, Arts.  
Designed to "take" student to various countries to show how character of  
land help inspire or influence the writers and national literature. England and  
Scotland completed.

Florida State University. School of Library training and service. The audio-visual  
way. State Department of Education. Tallahassee, Florida. 1948. (Bul. no. 22B)  
118 p. 35¢ (do not send stamps)  
Prepared by a committee of Florida educators with Dr. Charles Hotan as  
consultant. Covers trips, pictures, maps, films, recordings, community resources  
with suggestions for organizing and administering.

Junior Red Cross. Audio-visual service. English and dramatics; a list of available films. (mim) Author (Chicago Chapter) 529 S. Wabash Ave. Chicago 5.

The Gloria Chandler Recordings. "Books bring Adventure" (formerly The Junior League Recordings) now have four series. There are some splendid dramatizations of the current books in the last series and certain ones are now available on records as well as transcriptions. "Li Lun" and "Here comes Kristie" are especially fine. Descriptive literature and good lists can be secured by writing to Gloria Chandler, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  W. 46th Street, N. Y. 19.