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BULLETIN

OF THE

CHILDREN'S BOOK CENTER

Published by

The University of Chicago Library - Center for Children's Books

VOL. IV

April, 1951

No. 5

BULLETIN of the Children's Book Center. Published by the University of Chicago Library - Center for Children's Books. Mary K. Eakin, Librarian.

The book evaluations appearing in this Bulletin are made with the advice and assistance of members of the faculty of the Graduate Library School, the Department of Education, and the University Laboratory School.

Published monthly except August. Subscription price is \$1.50 a year. Checks should be made payable to the University of Chicago Library. Correspondence regarding the Bulletin should be addressed to the Center for Children's Books, University of Chicago, 5835 Kimbark Avenue, Chicago 37, Illinois.

New Titles for Children and Young People.

Allen, Merritt Parmelee. The silver wolf; decorations by Allan Thomas. Longmans, 1951. 216p. \$2.50. Gr. 7-9.

Judd Hunter and Kit Carson were the only boys in Captain Bent's wagon train when it set out from Independence, Missouri for Santa Fe so it was natural they should team up. Judd was as cautious as Kit was reckless but the two became good friends. Judd's plans to join his brother were rudely shattered when Jake Castro rode into camp with the brother's body. Kit's suspicion of Jake finally brought out the true story of Harry Hunter's death and led to the discovery of an Indian silver mine. An exciting story of the West of pre-Civil War days.

Averill, Esther. King Philip, the Indian chief; illus. by Vera Belsky. Harper, 1950. 147p. \$2.50. Gr. 4-6.

Story of Philip, son of Massasoit, and his war against the New England colonists in 1675. The writing is somewhat confusing as the first chapter is written in the first person, but no indication of the identity of the speaker is ever given. In the second chapter the style switches to the third person and takes up the story of Philip's life. In spite of the bad beginning the story is interesting and should be useful as supplementary reading for this period in American history.

Bailey, Bernardine (Freeman). Picture book of Ohio; pictures by Kurt Wiese. Whitman, 1950. 27p. \$1.00.
Picture book of Indiana; pictures by Kurt Wiese. Whitman, 1950. 27p. \$1.00. Gr. 4-6.

Brief histories of the states together with descrip-

tions of some of the major cities. Information covers important industries, products, and outstanding geographic and historical features. Useful for supplementary material but too pedestrian in style for general interest.

Barrington, G. W. Wind runner, the story of an African antelope; written and illus. by G. W. Barrington. Longmans, 1951. 160p. \$2.50. Gr. 5-7.

Interesting account of a Central African impala. The well-written story tells of this small antelope's struggles for survival against natural enemies such as drought and wild animals and against men, both white traders and natives. A good picture of the country.

Bechdolt, John Ernest. Little boy with a big horn; picture by Aurelius Battaglia. Simon and Schuster, 1950. 39p. (A little golden book) \$.25.

Slight story of a small boy who disrupts the town with his horn blowing until one day he saves a ship that is lost in the fog and becomes the town hero. Mediocre story and illustrations. Not recommended.

Beim, Jerrold. Across the bridge; illus. by Thomas Maley. Harcourt, 1951. 183p. \$2.50. Gr. 4-6.

Ten-year-old Jeff was a shy boy, handicapped by glasses and a frail physique, and inclined to let his older brother, Donnie, impose on him. When the Chandlers moved across the river to Watertown, an industrial slum suburb of Newtown, where Mr. Chandler had bought a small grocery store, Jeff began to hope that some magic in the new place might bring him friends and a chance to hold his own with Donnie. In Tessa Gawronski and Sid Guski Jeff finds the friendships he wanted so badly and also learns the pleasure of helping others. An attempt at intercultural understanding that never quite succeeds. The reader is left with the feeling that neither Jeff nor his family ever lose their feelings of superiority toward their neighbors. None of the characters seems real. Not recommended.

Bell, Margaret Elizabeth. Ride out the storm. Morrow, 1951. 256p. \$2.50. Gr. 7-9.

Lisbeth Craig had lived all her life at Hermit Bay, Alaska where her father operated a cannery and her only contact with the outside world had been one brief trip to the States when her older brother graduated from high school. When the time came for her to go to California to boarding school, she was terrified at the thought of having to live with so many people. Her first year was hard and was not made easier by a hostile roommate and her own extreme reticence. However, she managed to ride out the storms and by the end of the

born had found her place in the school. There is nothing new here in either plot or characters in fact the plot reads like a feminine Horatio Alger. Lisbeth is the only character who seems real; the others are mere types. The handling of the problems by the adults is exceedingly poor. Not recommended.

Belting, Natalia. Pierre of Kaskaskia, pioneer boy of New France; illus. by Paul Busch. Bobbs-Merrill, 1951. 162p. \$2.00. Gr. 6-8.

A pleasant but not outstanding story of Kaskaskia, Illinois in the days when this territory was owned by France. The story is built around the efforts of ten-year-old Pierre Dubois to save a mysterious voyageur, who is suspected of being an English spy, but who proves to be French nobleman. Acceptable historical fiction.

Bialk, Elisa. Wild horse island; illus. by Paul Brown. Houghton, 1951. 201p. \$2.00. Gr. 4-6. (D39;D57)

When ill health forced Jim Robert's father to give up his job as football coach for a Chicago high school, the family accepted a friend's offer to spend the summer with him on his lake island in Montana. Wild Horse Island proved to be all Jim hoped for - with a tame deer, a cabin where he could have his fellow Cub Scouts for a week-end cook-out, and a wild mare, whose filly (or colt - the author never makes up her mind which it is) he tames. The book should appeal to Cub Scouts as well as horse fans for Scouting plays an important part in Jim's life on the island.

Bradbury, Bianca. Amos learns to talk, the story of a little duck; illus. by Clare McKinley. Rand McNally, 1951. 32p. (A book-elf book) \$.25.

Silly story of a duck that refused to talk until he had tried out the sounds made by all the other animals on the farm and discovered that quacking was the best for him. Not recommended.

Brown, Margaret Wise. The little fat policeman; by Margaret Wise Brown and Edith Thacher Hurd; pictures by Alice and Martin Provensen. Simon and Schuster, 1950. 38p. (A little golden book) \$.25.

An attempt to acquaint the very young child with the varied duties of policemen. According to this story each policeman does all the work of law enforcement from traffic regulation to night patrols. There seems no good reason why children this age cannot be given accurate information about occupations. Not recommended.

Burgess, Thornton Waldo. The adventures of Peter Cottontail; illus. by Harrison Cady. Grosset & Dunlap, 1950. 192p. (A bedtime story book) \$.75.

A reprint of one of Burgess' earlier books. This is nothing more than a poor imitation of Harris' Uncle Remus stories. Not recommended.

Burgoyne, Leon E. State champs; illus. by Joseph Bolden. Winston, 1951. 210p. \$2.50. Gr. 7-9. (D122)

Acceptable story of high school basketball. Bob Nielsen began his senior year with a bad knee that kept him off the team for the first few games. He did get in in time to help the team win the State Championship. One good point in the story is that no one player is allowed to be the determining factor in whether the team wins or loses - in fact one of the

games is won by subs, and in several the subs played without materially weakening the score.

Chrystie, Frances N. The first book of jokes and funny things; pictures by Ida Scheib. Watts, 1951. 40p. \$1.75. All ages.

A collection of jokes, riddles, tongue twisters, rhymes, limericks, and funny things to make and do. Acceptable where there is need for material of this kind. Humorous illustrations.

Colver, Alice Mary Ross. Joan Foster, senior. Dodd, Mead, 1950. 215p. \$2.50.

Joan Foster is finally finishing college and, as is to be expected, in a blaze of love and glory. Before her senior year begins Joan spends a summer on Don Barton's ranch, where she admires the scenery and learns that Don does not love her after all but is in love with Elaine Childs. Joan returns to school unhappy over her blasted love affair but determined to make good as class president. Her year turns out to be perfect, when she discovers she is in love with Todd Hunter - the boy next door who has loved her in silence all these years - and when she sells her senior novel to a publisher of juveniles. This latter is somewhat less of a triumph for she considers juveniles much inferior to adult novels. However the publisher soon convinces her she has the beginning of what may well be a new series. As in the earlier books about Joan, this one is characterized by mediocre writing, type characters and stock situations. Not recommended.

Davis, Clyde Brion. North Woods whammy. Lippincott, 1951. 219p. \$2.50. Gr. 7-9. (D39)

When Tony Bristol was a small boy he and his father spent most of their time planning and preparing for a vacation in the North Canadian woods. Tony was a sophomore in high school when the time finally came that they could make the trip. By then he had other interests but loyalty to his father made him carry through with their plans. The trip did not go too well, their equipment was not adequate, the Indian guide became ill, and the weather was not pleasant, but by the time the four weeks had ended Tony had come to have a better understanding of and liking for his father and was even looking forward to similar trips in the future. Not outstanding writing but the details of camping are interesting and there are good father-son relations.

Day, Donald. Will Rogers, the boy roper; by Donald and Beth Day; illus. by William Moyers. Houghton, 1950. 201 p. (Houghton Mifflin's easy reading stories) \$2.25.

Biography of Will Rogers with the emphasis on his younger days and his later years summed up in the last few pages. This is a less well-rounded picture than the Garst, Will Rogers, immortal cowboy (Messner, 1950) and fails to give the reader any of the qualities that made Will Rogers the well-loved figure he was. Not recommended.

Decker, Duane Walter. Fast man on a pivot. Morrow, 1951. 221p. \$2.50. Gr. 8-10.

Twice Bud Walker came up from the minor leagues to try for the spot of second baseman with the pennant winning Blue Sox. Each time the front office bought a "star" player to fill the position and Bud was sent back down. The second time, however, he made a fight

for the position and with the backing of his team-mates won his place on the team. The player strike in which Bud is assured of his position is rather unlikely but the rest is excellent baseball.

DeWitt, Cornelius, illus. The little golden ABC. Simon and Schuster, 1951. 27p. (A little golden book) \$.25

Words and pictures are crowded on the pages until it is sometimes difficult to distinguish which words go with which pictures. The attempt at humor in the illustrations keeps them from being completely satisfactory as aids in word recognition. Not recommended.

Dixon, Ruth. Three little puppies; photographs by Dale and Sally Rooks. Rand McNally, 1951. 32p. (A book-elf book) \$.25

Another picture-story book with color photographs of real animals dressed like people. The story has nothing to recommend it and the illustrations make the animals look as uncomfortable as they undoubtedly felt. Not recommended.

DeBois, Graham, comp. Plays for great occasions; a collection of royalty-free one-act holiday plays. Plays, inc., 1951. 371p. \$3.50 Gr. 7-9.

A collection of plays built around American holidays and special days. The plays are for the most part based on legends rather than facts. With this limitation in mind they are acceptable for school use.

Elliott, Lydia S. Kangaroo Coolaroo; illus. by Joyce Horne. Warne, 1950. 115p. \$1.50

Interesting material about the life of a young kangaroo in Australia. Unfortunately the style is too poor to hold the reader's interest and even detracts from the accuracy of the information. The first part is written in a babyish tone and the whole is personified to an extent that makes Coolaroo more a human being than a kangaroo. Not recommended.

Evans, Eva Knox. Tim's place; illus. by Bruno Frost. Putnam's, 1950. 185p. \$2.50

After Tim Halstead's death in a plane crash in Germany, his parents brought eighteen-year-old Stephen Levedin to live on their New Hampshire farm. Stephen, an orphaned Austrian boy, had been befriended by Tim during the war and the family were carrying out Tim's promise that he would make it possible for Stephen to come to America. The family, especially Ricky and Lucy, find it somewhat difficult to fully accept Stephen and many of the townspeople are openly hostile. In time the boy's personality, his quick thinking that helped capture some deer jackers, and his courage in saving three children from freezing win him a permanent place in the family and the village. The idea is good but the "Purpose" is too obvious and none of the characters has much reality. Not recommended.

Fenner, Phyllis Reid, ed. Pirates, pirates, pirates; stories of cutlasses and corsairs, buried treasure and buccaneers, ships and swashbucklers; illus. by Manning DeV.Lee. Watts, 1951. 287p. \$2.75

Pirates - from Captain Kidd to modern mail robbers. The stories seem more complete than is usual with collections of this kind although some still suffer by being taken out of context. Authors include: Merritt P. Allen, Stephen Meader, Le Grand Henderson, Howard Pyle, and Charles Finger. The source for each story

is given with the story so that the reader will find it easy to go from the excerpt to the original, thus greatly improving the usefulness of the collection.

Fisher, Dorothea Frances (Canfield). Paul Revere and the Minute Men; illus. by Norman Price. Random house, 1950. 181p. (A landmark book) \$1.50

A highly fictionalized account of the life of Paul Revere from early youth until the time of the British evacuation of Boston. The author writes in a condescending style that will have little appeal for most readers and she employs analogies that are often more confusing than enlightening. No sources are given for the facts used. Not recommended.

Fitzgerald, Edward E. College slugger. Barnes, 1950. 180p. (A Barnes sports novel) \$2.50 Gr. 8-10.

A story of college baseball and of Marty Ferris' efforts to earn a place with the Yankees. Marty is a student at Fordham on a scholarship arranged for him by the Yankees and it is understood that if he makes good in college he will have a place with the big league team after he graduates. He makes good in every way - so good in fact that he is almost unrealistic. A strong emphasis on his love affair will lessen the appeal of the book for younger readers. Good baseball.

Geddes, Betty G. When children play; illus. by Don Woodruff Emery. Exposition, 1950. 93p. \$2.00

Poems the author composed about her daughter and the daughter's pets and toys. Not particularly good verse and too written-down to have much appeal for most readers. Not recommended.

Grannan, Mary Evelyn. Maggie Muggins stories; a recent selection of the famous Canadian radio stories; drawings by Edwin Schmidt. Winston, 1950. 202p. \$1.50.

Uninteresting and pointless stories of a six-year-old girl who talks with the animals and helps them out of their troubles. Not recommended.

Grant, Clara Louise. Ukelele and her new doll; pictures by Campbell Grant. Simon and Scguster, 1951. 26p. (A little golden book) \$.25

Pointless story of a little girl living on a South Sea Island. A ship captain brings her a china doll but she prefers her old wooden one. Illustrations are caricatures. Not recommended.

Harbin, Elvin Oscar. Games for boys and girls; illus. by Karl J. Murr. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1951. 160p. \$2.00 Gr. 3-5.

Excellent collection of games and activities for boys and girls. Includes indoor and outdoor games for groups of all sizes. Clear, detailed instructions. Diagrams help explain the games.

Hawton, Hector. The tower of darkness. Roy, 1951. 192p. illus. \$2.50

Adventure story of the "thriller" type. Two English children go with their father on an archeological expedition to Egypt. There they become involved with a desert chieftain who is plotting to start World War III. With some assistance from Captain Max (a kind of modern Lawrence) they blow up the Arab's stronghold and help bring about his death. The story depends on sensationalism to compensate for poor writing. Not recommended.

Hazeltine, Alice Isabel, comp. Stories of love; selected by Alice I. Hazeltine and Elva S. Smith.

Lothrop, 1951. 308p. \$5.00 Gr. 8-10. (D23)
An anthology of love stories, plays, and poems selected from modern writings and from the best of older writings. Selections range from "Cyrano" and "Henry IV" to "Seventeenth summer" and from fiction to biography. A good collection that will be read for pleasure and useful for reference.

Holt, Stephen. The whistling stallion; decorations by Pers Crowell, Longmans, 1951. 211p. \$2.50

A story of the ranch country of Canada and a young boy's attempt to save his father's ranch. Parts of the story are interesting but when the author begins expounding his interpretation of the Fernald theory of remedial reading (which he does at great length) the reader's interest is lost and there is not enough story left to recapture it. Characters are lifeless and the dialog unrealistic. Not recommended.

Ivens, Bryna, ed. The seventeen reader; stories and articles from "Seventeen Magazine". Lippincott, 1951. 510p. \$2.75 Gr. 9-12. (D47)

A collection of stories and articles from "Seventeen" magazine. Most of the articles are of the personal guidance type and as such will have some value. Because of the unevenness of the articles the book is recommended only where there is great need for guidance material of this type. There are only eight stories included and these are rather mediocre.

Johnson, Margaret Sweet. Randy and the Queen of Sheba; written and illus. by Margaret S. Johnson. Morrow, 1951. 65p. \$2.00 Gr. 2-4.

Randy is a small Shetland collie; the Queen of Sheba is a St. Bernard. The account of the Queen's attempts to win Randy's friendship makes a pleasant but rather dull story. A usual with this author's books, the easy style and universal appeal of the subject make a book that can be used for remedial reading classes, even though it will not have much appeal for the average reader.

Jones, Dick, illus. Plantonic, the pride of the plain; a ballad of the old west; illus. by Dick Jones. Harcourt, 1951. 31p. \$1.50 Gr. 3-5.

A folk-song made into a picture-book. The adventures are of the kind most small boys dream of having - riding furiously across the plains to save a fort from the Indians. Fun but so slight it will be a luxury item for most libraries. Humorous illustrations.

Kraus, Richard G. Square dances of today and how to teach and call them; illus. by Carl Pfeufer; musical arrangements by Charles Leonhard. Barnes, 1950. 130p. \$3.00 Gr. 4-.

Excellent guide to teaching and calling square dances and to planning square dance programs. Directions for doing 55 dances are given, with drawings to illustrate the steps, and with words and music for the calls.

Krauss, Ruth. I can fly; pictures by Mary Blair. Simon and Schuster, 1950. 40p. (A little golden book) \$.25 K-gr. 2.

In rhythmical prose the little girl tells how she can imitate various animals from birds to caterpillars. This is a book that will be fun to read aloud and is easy enough for the beginning reader to handle alone. Uneven illustrations.

Lattimore, Eleanor Frances. The fig tree; written and illus. by Eleanor Frances Lattimore. Morrow, 1951. 126p. \$2.00

Sallie is the only girl in a family of three boys. She finds it much easier to be a tomboy than a girl, but she does try hard to be as careful and as ladylike as her mother and grandmother would like her to be. The hope of someday getting to use a doll tea set her grandmother owns helps her in her good intentions and eventually she earns the set. Characters lack reality and the whole tone of the book is more nostalgic than modern. Not recommended.

Lattin, Harriet. The peasant boy who became Pope, story of Gerbert. Schuman, 1951. 179p. illus. (Story biography series) \$2.50

Biography of Gerbert who became Pope Sylvester II and played an important part in the forming of the Holy Roman Empire. The period is not one that is generally well known and this story is too confusing to add much information. The format of the books in this series is most unappealing and that added to the slow pace of the writing will keep this book from having much appeal. Not recommended.

Lewis, C. The lion, the witch and the wardrobe; a story for children; illus. by Pauline Baynes. Macmillan, 1950. 154p. \$2.50

Four English children, visiting an uncle, have some strange adventures when they go through a wardrobe into another world. In this other world they become involved in a war between the forces of good and evil. The selfishness of the younger boy almost loses the fight to the evil forces, but the cause of good is won when its leader, the lion, sacrifices his life to save the boy. The episode of the sacrifice, which is watched by the two girls and described in full detail, is too powerful for most sensitive readers and the entire allegory is too subtle to have meaning for the age youngster who would be likely to read this type book. Not recommended.

McGinley, Phyllis Louise. Blunderbus; illus. by William Wiesner. Lippincott, 1951. 46p. \$2.00 K-gr. 3.

Blunderbus is the only open double-decker bus left in New York City. When the time comes for him to retire to the junk yard, he wins a reprieve by helping out during a snow storm and is finally rewarded by being kept for use in parades. A successful use of personification that does not resort to either coyness or condescension as is usual with such stories. Illustrations are quite disappointing and add little to the appeal of the book.

Mariana. Miss Flora McFlimsey's Easter bonnet. Lothrop, 1951. 38p. illus. \$1.00.

More adventures of Miss Flora McFlimsey, the doll who first appeared as a Christmas present. This time she is reminiscing about the Easter when she would have been without a new bonnet had it not been for the Easter rabbit who came to her rescue. Suitable as a gift book, but too slight for general library purchase. Boards.

Martin, Bill. Five little rabbits; by Bill and Bernard Martin. Tell-Well press, 1951. 25p. illus. \$1.00

Slight story of how Mother Rabbit and her four children outwit the farmer's dog. Mediocre in text and illustrations. Not recommended.

Ray, Margaret (Peterson). Nikoline's academy; pictures by Mabel Woodbury. Oxford, 1951. 249p. \$2.75 Gr. 7-9. (D92)

Another story of Nikoline, the young Danish girl who came to Utah with her family in the late nineteenth century. Nikoline finally earns her chance to attend the academy and train for the teaching job she wants so badly. The year is not easy for she is trying to telescope a four year program into two years work and is harassed by money problems in addition. However there are friendships and school successes to make up for the hardships and in the end she gets her diploma and her job. An interesting picture of the country and the times.

Neany, Thomas. Joseph Paul DiMaggio, the Yankee clipper. Barnes, 1951. 25p. illus. (Barnes all-star library). \$.50 Gr. 6-8.

Brief biography of Joe DiMaggio, with numerous photographs of the "Clipper" and his complete baseball record. This is one of a series of small, inexpensive books about individual baseball stars. The material is all available in other sources and the books will be of primary usefulness in large collections where there are many calls for baseball books. Board binding with the records on the endpapers.

Neke, Frank Grant. The all-sports record book. Barnes, 1950. 326p. \$5.00 Gr. 7-12.

A reference book that will be of value to any library serving sports fans. All of the major sports are covered with complete records to date.

Neyer, Jerome Sydney. The book of amazing facts; illus. by William G. Jognson. World, 1950. 186p. \$2.00 Gr. 6-8.

Superlatives of all kinds gathered into a book of amazing facts. The information, which has been carefully checked, ranges from the largest telescope in the world to the smallest drawbridge and covers facts of science, nature, people, buildings, transportation, literature, sports, etc. Well-indexed, this could be used as a source book but its primary use will be for browsing. Illustrated with black and white drawings.

Miller, Jean (Dupont). For a brave tomorrow. Dodd, Mead, 1950. 247p. \$2.50

When Jill graduated from high school her parents were worried because she could not make up her mind what she wanted to do next and she had become involved with a boy who had a bad reputation. They tried to solve the problem by sending her to France to visit some relatives who lived there. She rebelled at first but finally became very fond of France and her French family. Woven into the story of her adjustment to French life are innumerable details about French Girl Scouts. Much of the story is told through excerpts from Jill's diary and it is all very wholesome and very dull. Not recommended.

Moore, Margaret. Sing-along Sary; by Margaret and John Travers Moore; illus. by John Momen. Harcourt, 1951. 150p. \$2.00 Gr. 4-6 (D57)

A delightful story of a little girl living in Pennsylvania in the 1850's. Sary wants to earn enough money to buy a violin for her brother for Christmas and - after Zeke completely disrupts the farm with a home-made horse fiddle - her parents agree to help. Sary's best assistance comes from

Uncle Ed who pays her for washing his dishes each day and who gives her a wonderful surprise on Christmas morning. A nice family story and a good picture of the period.

Mother Goose. Sari's Mother Goose. Bell, 1949. 36p. illus. \$1.00

Pleasant but not outstanding illustrations. Board bindings and weak stitching make the book unsuitable for library purchase. Some of the verses are on the end papers and would be lost in pre-binding.

Myers, Byrona. Yo ho for Strawberry Roam!; drawings by Anne Marie Jauss. Bobbs-Merrill, 1951. 155p. \$2.00

More adventures of the two toys, Squirrel and Golly, who escaped from the city and built themselves a home in the country. As in the earlier book there is no indication, other than the author's statement at the beginning, that these are toys and not real animals. Their adventures include capture by an eagle and hunting for spring peepers. The style is sentimental and the writing dull. Not recommended.

Nevins, Albert J. The adventures of Wu Han of Korea; illus. by Kurt Wiese. Dodd, 1951. 244p. \$2.50 Gr. 7-9. (D62)

Wu Han, a young orphan boy, escapes from One Eye, his self-appointed guardian, and finds refuge on the farm of Mr. Kim, a Christian farmer living in North Korea. The boy is adopted by the Kim's and through them becomes a Christian and is finally able to help Mr. Kim save his farm. An interesting picture of life in Korea written by a Catholic priest. The religious element is for the most part kept to a minimum and the emphasis is on the adventures of Wu Han and his foster-brother, Francis Kim, and every day life of a Korean farm family.

Nielsen, Billie, illus. Big meeting day and other festival tales. Aladdin, 1950. 243p. \$2.50

A collection of stories about various festivals. The stories are very uneven in quality and will have little value either for story telling or reading aloud. Not recommended.

Norman, Charles. The crumb that walked; more about Jane Jonquil; pictures by Margaret Bloy Graham. Harper, 1951. 52p. \$1.75.

More stories about Jane Jonquil and her father. There is more continuity to this one than to the first book, but the writing is in the same tone of adult sophistication with humor that laughs at rather than with children. Not recommended.

Pannell, Lucile, comp. Holiday round up; selected by Lucile Pannell and Frances Cavanah; illus. by Manning deV. Lee. Macrae, 1950. 335p. \$3.00 Gr. 5-7.

A useful collection of stories and poems about the major holidays and festivals of the year. The arrangement is chronological, beginning with New Year's Day and ending with Christmas and each section has a brief description of the origin of the holiday and some of the customs that have grown up around it. Contains information about some holidays not generally found in such collections. Indexed by author, subject and title.

Parke, John. Scratchy; illus. by Charles L. Ripper. Morrow, 1951. 126p. \$2.00 Gr. 3-5.

Scratchy was a very unhappy little cat until the day he ran away from home (where he was neither wanted nor understood) and found a friendly fisherman who took him to his island. There Scratchy not only had plenty of fish and sunshine but his greatest pleasure came from the holes in the kitchen where he could go in and out as often as he pleased. Pleasant story and nice illustrations.

Pike, Royston. Round the year with the world's religions; illus. by E. C. Mansell. Schuman, 1951. 208p. \$2.50 Gr. 6-8. (D65)

Information about religions of various countries and the customs and festivals that have grown up around them. Written from a strictly English point of view there is little about the celebration of religious festivals in the United States but the book will be useful for studying religious customs of other lands.

Potter, Beatrix. The fairy caravan. Warne, 1951. 225p. illus. \$2.50. Gr. 4-5.

New edition. Illustrations are similar to those in the McKay edition (now o.p.), with slight variations in the black and white drawings. An attractive edition with good type and page set-up. Larger than the usual Warne editions of the Potter books. (8½"x 6").

Price, Olive M. The Valley of the Dragon; a story of the times of Kublai Khan; illus. by John Moment. Bobbs-Merrill, 1951. 250p. \$2.50.

A story of the days of Kublai Khan and of a boy and girl who rescued one of the Khan's famous white mares. The story has all the elements for a good mystery-adventure story but is marred by a slow pace and lifeless characters. Not recommended.

Rafferty, Gerald. Snow Cloud. Morrow, 1951. 189p. \$2.00.

The traditional pattern of a boy who tames a wild horse, almost loses him to a former owner, and finally wins full possession. The author has given Snow Cloud an almost super-human intellect and this, plus the trite plot, makes just another horse story. Not recommended.

Ralston, Jan. Mystery of the Good Adventure; illus. by A. Mason Trotter. Dodd, Mead, 1950. 245p. \$2.50

Two English children are sent to the coast of Scotland while their mother is recuperating from a serious illness. In the little town of Port Angus they manage to entertain themselves by reforming the spoiled daughter of the leading citizen; helping a tinker's daughter escape from her father, who will not let her attend school; and assisting in saving the treasure on the wrecked "Good Adventure". There is actually no mystery - except the identity of the treasure and that is so unimportant as to be anti-climactic. The story is a conglomeration of characters and incidents with little unity and not much interest. Not recommended.

Rarick, Carrie. The three bears visit Goldilocks; illus. by Clare McKinsly. Rand McNally, 1951. 32p. (A book-elf book) \$.25

A reversal of the nursery story in which the bears pay a return visit to Goldilocks. The author tried hard for this one but it didn't quite come off. Not recommended.

Richard, James Robert. The club team. Lothrop, 1950. 168 p. \$2.00

Tommy Temple, a new boy in town, is invited to become a member of the local Boy's Club but not before he has made an enemy of Harry Carley, the town bully who is also the son of the wealthiest citizen and the president of the Club. The Boy's Club has none of the qualities that have been generally associated with organizations of that name. The dues are \$10 a year - high enough to keep out "undesirables" and the boys are allowed to vote on prospective members. The author describes in great detail and obvious approval the mental anguish of candidates for membership. Tommy was voted into the Club and again conflicted with Harry. This unsavory character tried everything from planting stolen money in Tommy's clothes to hiring thugs to beat him up. In true Merriwell style "our hero" wins through, makes friends with the thugs, and wins the championship baseball game for his team - pitching nine full innings after having been out in a cold rain all night the night before. In addition to the poor values expressed and the stereotyped plot and characters, the author contradicts himself throughout the story. Not recommended.

Rush, William Marshall. Duff, the story of a bear; illus. by Gardell Dano Christensen. Longmans, Green, 1950. 149p. \$2.25 Gr. 6-8.

A very readable account of the life of a black bear living in the Rocky Mountains. The story begins with Duff as a yearling and takes him through several years of his life until he becomes the largest black bear in that section of mountains.

Schiffer, Don, ed. My greatest baseball game. Barnes, 1950. 219p. illus. \$3.00 Gr. 5-

Thirty-four of today's outstanding baseball players tell what they consider to be their greatest baseball games. In addition to the description of the game there is a picture of each player and his official record.

Schloat, G. Warren. Playtime for you. Scribner's, 1950. 63p. \$2.00 K-gr. 2.

An excellent activity book for the very young child. Easy to follow directions and clear illustrations explain each activity. The directions are simple enough for a beginning reader to handle alone. Materials are all things that are generally found around the home.

Scott, Sally. Little Wiener; pictures by Beth Krush. Harcourt, 1951. 41p. \$1.75 Gr. 3-5.

Three friends lived in the same neighborhood and were in the habit of taking walks together. One was a St. Bernard, one was a show-winning setter, and the third was Little Wiener - part dachshund but mostly just dog. Little Wiener was too small to keep up with the other two but he was also the smartest of the trio so he trailed along and profited by their mistakes. Humor in both story and illustrations of a kind that will appeal to most young readers.

Self, Margaret Cabell, ed. A treasury of horse stories; illus. by Edwin Megargee. Barnes, 1945. 368p. \$3.75 Gr. 9-12.

A collection of stories and poems about horses gathered from the world's greatest writings. These are adult materials and will be of primary usefulness at the high school level.

Burtleff, Bertrand Leslie. AWOL the courier; illus. by Diana Thorne. Bobbs-Merrill, 1951. 272p. \$2.50

Another story of AWOL the Doberman pinscher courier dog. This time the story takes place during the early days of the Korean war. Although AWOL is considerably older than he was when fighting World War II, he is still able to perform feats that are just as incredible and he always succeeds in whatever task he is called upon to perform. There is somewhat less sensationalism in this book than is usual with this author's writing, but there are other elements that are equally objectionable. Foremost among these is the author's insertion of long tirades against the way the war is being handled and his insistence that the only solution is the immediate use of atomic bombs on Russia. Not recommended.

Stern, William. Bill Stern's favorite baseball stories. Doubleday, 1950. 246p. (Young moderns series). \$1.00

Brief, mostly sentimental, stories about ball players from earliest days to modern times. A hodge-podge of information, some of it interesting, but with neither a table of contents nor an index to help the reader find particular players or teams. Not recommended.

Futt, Clara. Across the shining mountains; with the trailblazers of the Northwest; illus. by Norman Graham and the author. Exposition press, 1951. 135p. \$2.00 Gr. 6-8.

Beginning with the La Vérendrye brothers, the first white men to see the Northwest Rockies and ending with the building of the Alcan Road, these are stories of the pioneers who faced the challenge of the shining mountains and won. Good material but a pedestrian style that will keep the book from having great appeal.

Vlasak, Jan. Snowy, the story of a polar bear cub; by Jan Vlasak and Josef Seget; edited by Maurice Burton. Schuman, 1951. 87p. illus. \$2.50 Gr. 4-6.

The story of one of the few polar bear cubs born and reared in captivity. The cub was born in Prague and reared by hand in the home of the superintendent of the Prague Zoo during the second World War. Photographs show the development of Snowy from birth until she was five months old at which time she was returned to the zoo.

Warner, Priscilla M. Bidy Christmas; illus. by the author. Doubleday, 1950. 214p. \$2.50 Gr. 4-6. (D116).

Jan Martin doesn't like ponies after an unfortunate experience with her brother's pony, Pip. She is, however, overjoyed at the thought of owning a donkey and Bidy turns out to be all a small girl could ask for. Jan's pleasure in Bidy is somewhat clouded by jealousy of Ann, a small neighbor who also loves the little donkey and who is too young to understand much about sharing. The Christmas when Jan not only accepts the fact that she is growing too large to ride Bidy, but makes the final sacrifice of giving the donkey to Ann marks the beginning of her growing up. This section is marred by a fantastic dream sequence that does not seem appropriate to the rest of the story and is in rather poor taste. A sentimental but pleasant story with much flavor of English farm life.

Webb, Clifford. Animals from everywhere. Warne, 1951. 58p. illus. \$2.00 K-gr. 2.

Full page illustrations of animals of all kinds from pigs to elephants. The author's descriptions and comments are more often humorous than enlightening but this is a nice introduction to the animals of zoo and farm.

Webb, Clifford. The North Pole before lunch. Warne, 1951. 63p. illus. \$2.00. Gr. 1-3.

A fantasy in which two children build an airplane and fly to the North Pole, stopping off for a visit with Eskimos and polar bears, and returning home in time for baths and lunch. Matter-of-fact nonsense that should have appeal both for reading aloud and independent reading. Illustrations by the author add much to the book's humor.

Whitehead, Roberta M. Why not?; illus. by William Moyers. Houghton, 1951. 92p. \$1.75

Simple stories of a small girl whose favorite expression is "Why not?" - more the equivalent of a shrug than a desire for information. Nothing much happens and what does is not very interesting. Not recommended.

Winters, Mary K. Teach me to read. Hart, 1950. 121p. \$1.50.

It is unfortunate that this book is being presented to parents who want to help their children learn to read. Teachers and reading specialists are extremely cautious in recommending any help in pre-school reading because of the great risks involved. The child may be discouraged by the difficulty of the task, and his lack of success, and carry this attitude into his beginning school experiences in reading. Poor reading habits may be formed when initial learning is not guided by a trained person. As an aid to learning read the book is particularly unsuited. The author's thesis that abstract and nonsense words should be learned through much repetition is contrary to the tested educational premise that a clear meaning association is the most valuable aid to easy learning. The lack of continuity of subject and the unnatural sentence construction (for a child) would make it even more difficult for the child to find meaning in what he reads. In some cases sentence sense is sacrificed in order to include as many known words as possible in a lesson. As a beginning book, it attempts to cover too much ground. The author suggests one lesson per day, and there are one hundred seventeen lessons presented. However some of the material is more difficult than that ordinarily presented at any time in the first year of a graded developmental reading program. Not recommended.

Zim, Herbert Spencer. The great whales; illus. by James Gordon Irving. Morrow, 1951. 62p. \$2.00 Gr. 3-5.

Another successful offering for the elementary science collection. This time the author presents in vivid description the life and habits of whales of all kinds. The text is easy enough for the middle elementary grades and interesting enough for all ages. Excellent illustrations add greatly to the appeal and understanding of the book.

Instructional Materials, Supplementary Reading and Sources of Material

The materials listed here are not available from the Children's Book Center. Orders should be sent to the publishers of the individual items.

Barr, Stringfellow. Let's join the human race. University of Chicago Press, 1950. \$.25

A valuable pamphlet for all library collection.

able stories and books about religion for children.
Child Study Association of America, 132 East 74th
Street, New York 21, N. Y., 1950 \$.20
Annotated, graded list.

Book selection policies of the boys and girls
department. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 1951.

Evans, Clara. "On reading aloud". Elementary English
28:82-85 F'51.

Gross, Elizabeth H. Selection policies for children's
books. Enoch Pratt Free Library, 1950. \$.25

"Is freedom challenged?" School Activities and the
Library. American Library Association, February, 1951.

It's fun to find out film-story books; by Paul Witty
and the Educational Staff of Encyclopaedia Britannica
Films, Inc. D. C. Heath and Co., 1950. \$.35 each.

Contents: Three little kittens; Gray Squirrel; Shep,
the farm dog; Farm animals; The fireman; The mailman;
The food store; A day at the fair.

Simple stories based on the sound motion pictures
of the same title produced and distributed by Encyclopaedia
Britannica Films, Inc.

Oswald, Edith and Reed, Mary M.
The little crow.
Shadow the cat.

Two titles in "Our animal story books" series,
published by D. C. Heath. \$.40 each.

Simple stories for beginning readers. Paper bind-
ings.

"The reluctant reader"; the causes of dislike of read-
ing and some ways of handling it, as seen by a libra-
rian, an educator, and a psychiatrist. Child Study
28:17-19 Spring, 1951.

Using current materials. Junior Town Meeting League,
400 South Front Street, Columbus 15, Ohio. Free.

Contents include: The problems of current materials;
Origins of current materials; Selecting current materials;
Current materials in the classrooms; Making current mater-
ials accessible; Current materials and school policy.

1946 RE-EVALUATION (Books no longer in Center)

Andersen, H. C. Tales from Andersen (retold by S. K.
Wright)

Börle, I. The visiting Jimpsons

Ford, M. David and the magic powder

Fraser, P. M. The story of Dimples and Cock Sure

Friskey, M. R. Chipmunk moves

Friskey, M. R. Johnny Cottontail

Garst, D. S. Cowboy boots

Gates, J. S. The live dolls in Wonderland

Girvan, H. M. The light in the mill

Gollomb, J. Tiger at City High

Gregg, A. The mystery of Batty Ridge

Guinagh, K. Search for glory

Hader, B. H. The skyrocket

*Hall, W. N. Watch the kitten grow

*Hamilton, E. The C-circus

Harkins, P. Lightning on ice

Hartwell, M. The animals of friendly farm

Hatch, M. C. Rosamunda

Hayden, G. L. Muslin town

*Headley, E. A date for Diane

Heath, J. F. C. Mooky and Tooky

Hill, M. B. The old house at Duck Light cove

Hinkly, T. C. Blackjack, a ranch dog

*Hoffmann, E. The lion of Barbary

Hogan, I. Raccoon twins

*Hogner, D. C. Winky, king of the garden

*Hoke, H. L. Grocery kitty

*Hoke, H. L. The horse that takes the milk around

Holt, S. Wild palomino

Horowitz, C. The jumbo fun book

*Huff, D. The dog that came true

Hunt, A. Wagner

Hutchins, F. Thomas Jefferson

*Inga-Lill. Why teddy bears are brown

*Jackson, C. E. C. Round the afternoon

Johnson, L. The leaky whale

*Johnson, M. S. Vicki, a guide dog

Johnston, E. Jamie and the tired train

*Jonathan. Daddy and me

Jones, M. A. The Bible story of the creation

Jong, D. de. Sand for the sandman

*Justus, M. Sammy

Keech, E. Dandy the decoy

Kingsbury, A. M. The adventures of Phunsi

Kingsley, C. The water-babies (adapted by C. Stillman)

Kinsey, E. Patch

*Kishore, P. Towelina

Kissin, R. Raffy uses his head

Miss Ter Nooy
H.M. M. II
Faculty Exchange