



I L L I N O I S

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

-

PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign Library
Large-scale Digitization Project, 2007.

A Merry Christmas

Happy New Year

BULLETIN

OF THE

CHILDREN'S BOOK CENTER

Published by

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

VOL. IV

December, 1950

No. 1

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, 5855 Kimbark Avenue, Chicago 37, Illinois.

New Titles for Children and Young People

Abel, Ruth. The new sitter; by Ruth and Ray Abel. Oxford, 1950. 29p. \$2.00

A picture book designed to familiarize the very young child with the idea of baby sitters - who they are and what they do. The story is too simplified and too slow to hold the reader's interest. Illustrations are not outstanding. Not recommended.

Adams, Samuel Hopkins. The pony express; illus. by Lee J. Ames. Random House, 1950. 185p. (A landmark book) \$1.50. Gr. 4-6.

The part the Pony Express played in opening the West told in a simply written style that will be easy reading for fourth graders. This lacks the glamour that most readers associate with the subject, being more concerned with the financial difficulties of the company and with the importance of the messages that were delivered by the Pony than with the adventures of the riders, although some of these are described briefly. Of primary usefulness for social studies classes, this could also be used as remedial reading material for high school students.

Anderson, Clarence William. Blaze finds the trail. Macmillan, 1950. 44p. \$1.50. Gr. 2-4.

Another story of Billy and Blaze. The story centers around an afternoon's ride in the woods during which Billy loses his way, a hurricane blows up, and Blaze finds the way home. Simply told, but it will please readers who have enjoyed the earlier books. These stories of Billy and Blaze have been used successfully as remedial reading material. Superb illustrations.

Armstrong, Matt. Turtle River filly; illus. by

Charles Banks Wilson. Doubleday, 1950. 214p. \$2.50.

A trite horse story in which a high-school boy dreams of a black filly, sees her, buys her, loses her through a bit of chicanery, and then wins her again. A side plot of an ice cutter who loses his girl friend to the town's rich play boy and then wins her again adds little to the story. Not recommended.

Aulaire, Ingri (Mortenson) d'. Benjamin Franklin; by Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire. Doubleday, 1950. 47p. \$2.50. Gr. 3-5.

A picture book biography of Benjamin Franklin. The main events of Franklin's life are told in a simple style that gives a good picture of the period in which he lived and his contributions to that period. The illustrations are among the best of the d'Aulaires' work.

Ball, Zachary. Joe Panther; illus. by Elliott Means. Holiday House, 1950. 241p. \$2.50

Joe Panther is a Seminole Indian boy whose chief ambition is to become captain of one of the deep sea fishing boats operating off the coast of Florida. He gets a chance to work on one of the boats and finds his presence strongly resented by the first mate, who apparently has a prejudice against Indians. Eventually Joe discovers that the mate is engaged in smuggling aliens in from Cuba, helps break up the smuggling ring, and is rewarded with the first mate's job. The author uses too many coincidences to solve Joe's problems and brings in too many unrelated incidents whose only purpose is to show what a wonderful person Joe is. Not recommended.

Banks, Stockton V. Washington adventure; illus. by Henry C. Pitz. Whittlesey house, 1950. 191p. \$2.50.

A story of the early days of Washington, D.C. that gives the impression of having been written solely for the purpose of celebrating the sesquicentennial. Twelve-year-old David Cameron comes to Washington to live with his older brother only to find his brother is missing. His search for Rob is complicated by some unscrupulous land sharks and the need for earning a living. He finally rescues his brother amid much reflecting on the beauty of the buildings and the glories of the new republic. Not recommended.

Batchelor, Julie Forsyth. A cap for Mul Chand; illus. by Corinne V. Dillon. Harcourt Brace, 1950. 58p. \$2.00. Gr. 3-5. (D62; D92)

Mul Chand is a small boy of modern India who wants a cap to wear on a visit to Bombay. He sets out to earn the money for one - a difficult task for a small boy in a small town - but finally he has enough. Then the town bully takes his money away from him. It all comes out right when an act of bravery wins for Mul Chand not only the cap but a pair of sandals as well.

Easy reading for the third grade.

Beckman, Joan. Skylark farm; illus. by Pers Crowell. Whittlesey house, 1950. 218p. \$2.50.

A mediocre story of a young girl with her first horse, a runaway boy whose father misunderstands him, and a stolen horse that once belonged to the boy. None of the characters ever seems complete and the complications are too trite to have much interest. Not recommended.

Bianco, Pamela. Paradise Square. Oxford, 1950. 95p. \$2.00.

The stylized, somewhat precious account of the doings of two young children who live in Paradise Square. Text and illustrations lack reality. Not recommended.

Bothwell, Jean. Peter Holt, P.K.; illus. by Margaret Ayer. Harcourt, 1950. 241p. \$2.50. Gr. 5-7. (D37;D133;D114)

The trials of a minister's family are well portrayed in this story of the Holt family's adjustment to a new town. Peter is the twelve-year-old son of the family who has the most difficulty adjusting. He tangles with the town bullies (one a boy his own age and the other a woman of middle age and strong will) and comes out the winner. He has an even harder time struggling with his own selfishness but even that is eventually controlled. A good family story.

Brier, Howard M. Shortstop shadow; illus. by Jay Hyde Barnum. Random, 1950. 246p. \$2.50.

A story of college baseball and the attempt of one player to save the reputation of his roommate, who has been wrongly accused of being a pro. The characters are singularly immature in their actions and conversations. In spite of the author's insistence that one cannot judge people by their looks, the villain turns out to be a tall, thin man with oily hair and a mustache and the honest night club owner is a short fat man with a kindly face and a liking for butterflies. Melodramatic and completely unrealistic. Not recommended.

Brown, Marcia. Dick Whittington and his cat; told and cut in linoleum by Marcia Brown. Scribner's, 1950. 28p. \$1.75.

Woodcut illustrations and a fairly satisfactory version of the story of Dick Whittington in a picture book that will have more appeal for adults than for children. The monotonous color and heavy, almost forbidding type will be discouraging to beginning readers. Not for general purchase.

Brown, Paul. Pony school. Scribner's, 1950. 90p. illus. \$2.00.

A rather dull account of the doings of three young children, two of whom are veteran riders and the third one a dude cousin who is visiting them for the summer. Not enough information about the training of horses to offset the pedestrian style and lack of story interest. Not recommended.

Busoni, Raffaello. Italy. Holiday house, 1950. 23p. illus. (Lands and peoples) \$1.75. Gr. 6-8. (D62)

Another title in the Lands and Peoples series. The emphasis is on the people of Italy and the forces that have made them what they are today. Nicely

illustrated by Busoni.

Cavanah, Frances, ed. 24 horses; a treasury of stories; collected by Frances Cavanah and Ruth Cromer Weir; illus. by Wesley Dennis. Rand McNally, 1950. 256p. \$2.50.

An uneven collection of horse stories most of them mediocre. Many of the stories are dull, some are poorly written, and some suffer from the re-writing that has been necessary as a result of taking sections from longer works. It would be better to give readers the original books. Not recommended.

Clark, Electa. Pennywink carnival; illus. by Albert Orbaan. Bobbs-Merrill, 1950. 208p. \$2.00.

More adventures of the Pennywink family and Katie Kelly. The action is slight and the humor forced. Characters are all treated alike, with no one main character, and with the result that the reader cannot identify with any of the characters and none of them ever seems real. Not recommended.

Daugherty, James Henry. The landing of the Pilgrims; written and illus. by James Daugherty. Random house, 1950. 186p. (A landmark book) \$1.50. Gr. 4-6.

An account of the Pilgrims from the organization of the Scrooby church through the first few years of the settlement of New England. Following the pattern of this series the book gives a factual account of the period in a style that is easy enough for fourth grade readers. Daugherty's illustrations add greatly to the appeal of the book.

De Jong, Meindert. The tower by the sea; illus. by Barbara Comfort. Harper, 1950. 113p. \$2.00. Gr. 9-12

Beautifully written, but not a children's book. The theme of witch-hunting is not especially suited to the elementary grades, nor would many readers at that level fully understand the subtleties behind this particular witch-hunt. The book might have appeal for high school readers either through the appeal of the subject or the quality of the writing. The illustrations are very bad and add little to the book.

duJardin, Rosamond Neal. Wait for Marcy. Lippincott, 1950. 222p. \$2.50. (D47;D37;D9)

A light love story of the blossoming of a fifteen-year-old girl. Marcy's problems are not too serious and she never verges on either a decline or a complex. Her parents and friends are normal and, although possibly more understanding than is usual, are likeable people. Strictly for enjoyment and it serves that purpose well.

Du Soe, Robert C. The boatswain's boy; decorations by Arthur Harper. Longmans, 1950. 227p. \$2.25. Gr. 5-7.

Readers who have come to expect good adventure stories from Du Soe will not be disappointed with this one. The time is 1812 and the plot concerns a young boy who sets out to serve as a midshipman on the Constitution, is shanghaied by a privateer, captured by a British man-of-war, and finally ends up sailing an American prize ship back to Philadelphia. There are hurricanes, battles, and pirates to add to the suspense and excitement. Good historical fiction.

Edmonds, Walter Dumaux. Mr. Benedict's lion; illus. by Doris Lee. Dodd, 1950. 154p. \$2.75. Gr. 9-12.

Mr. Benedict is a pleasantly absent-minded professor who teaches in an exclusive girls' school just out of

Poughkeepsie. What happens the day he is sent to New York to buy a pianoforte and returns with a lion instead makes hilarious reading. Doris Lee's illustrations are disappointing and add little to the enjoyment of the story. For high school readers.

Emery, Russell Guy. Warren of West Point. Macrae, 1950. 202p. \$2.50. Gr.8-10.

As the title indicates, this is the story of one boy's experiences at West Point. In many ways this is the typical military school story. However the conflict between hero and villain is not quite so stereotyped as usual and the character development is well-handled. Warren is an extremely tall boy who is so self-conscious about his height and his clumsiness that he has lost confidence in his ability to do any thing successfully. His opponent is very short and is constantly bragging and attempting to hold the spotlight. Both boys find ways of overcoming their handicaps. In between are the usual types: brawn and few brains; football hero and honor student; and the understanding upperclassman who is the epitome of all the honor and tradition of the school. The writing is very poor in spots and will limit the value of the book.

Fain, Pearl. Sing a song of funnies. Musicplate, 1950. 16p. illus.

An attempt to combine music and the comics for no discernible reason. The funnies are not particularly funny and the music is not very good music. The range is too great for most young children. Each lyric contains the word "funny" in a tie-up that is both obvious and awkward. Not recommended.

Felsen, Henry Gregor. Hot rod. Dutton, 1950. 188p. \$2.00.

Bud Crayne is an orphan whose sole interest in life is his hot rod. After two crashes that result in ten deaths he comes to realize the dangers of such cars and the need for careful driving. Neither Bud nor his friends ever comes alive so the reader fails to have much of a reaction to Bud's conversion or the other young people's deaths. The book is too sensational to have much real value. Not recommended.

Fergusson, Erna. Let's read about Hawaiian Islands. Fideler, 1950. 128p. \$2.95. Gr.4-6.

Simply written description of the Hawaiian Islands. Deals briefly with their history but the emphasis is on modern life and especially on the fact that the Islands are a part of the United States. Illustrated with photographs. Maps on end papers.

Poster, Joanna. Pete's puddle. Houghton, 1950. 21p. \$1.25. K-Gr. 1.

The joys of playing in a puddle on a rainy day are well depicted in this picture-book. There is not much to the story but it should satisfy the need for easy material for beginning readers, and pre-school children will like sound of the words used to describe the wetness and the squishiness of the puddle.

Fox, Ruth. Milestones of medicine. Random house, 1950. 237p. \$2.75. Gr. 8-10.

Fascinating accounts of some of the major discoveries in medicine from diphtheria antitoxin to penicillin. Interesting to read and factually correct. The use should be wide spread for the book is fairly easy reading (about 6th grade) but is not written down.

Frisch, Wilhelmine. The storks of Lillegaard; illus. by Anne Marie Jauss. Bobbs-Merrill, 1950. 231p. \$2.50. Gr. 4-6. (D62;D107)

A pleasant story of Denmark. Nels had a bad habit of bragging and then having to make good his boasts. One year he said he would band one of the baby storks with a silver band instead of the usual copper one, even though he knew such bands were expensive and money was hard for a ten-year-old boy to earn in his small town. He managed to make good his boast, but at an expense of energy and worry that taught him a lesson. Good picture of family life in Denmark.

George, John Lothar. Masked prowler, the story of a raccoon; by John L. George and Jean George; illus. by Jean George. Dutton, 1950. 183p. \$2.50. Gr. 7-9.

Somewhat more slowly paced and less exciting than the first two books by these authors, this is, nevertheless, an engrossing account of the life of a raccoon on a southern Michigan farm. As usual the authors have created real personalities in the animals without ever making them more or less than animals. Beautiful illustrations.

Gergely, Tibor, illus. The great big fire engine book; pictures by Tibor Gergely. Simon and Schuster, 1950. 20p. (A big golden book) \$1.00.

A picture book of fire-engines. Not as well done as Zaffo's Big book of real fire engines (Grosset, 1950). The pictures are confusing and do not give a clear idea of what fire-engines look like nor what they do. Not recommended.

Gordon, Patricia. The taming of giants; illus. by Garry MacKenzie. Viking, 1950. 57p. \$2.00. Gr. 3-5.

Apodemus Sylvaticus, a field mouse, moved out of his home when the creek overflowed his nest six days in a row. While exploring around the cave of the giants (better known as houses and people), he is carried to school by one of the giants (in her coat pocket), causes a furor in the schoolroom when he is discovered, and then is taken home by another giant and given an ideal place to live. A rather delicate fantasy that will appeal to most young readers. Much of the understanding of the story is dependent on the illustrations.

Goudey, Alice E. The good rain; illus. by Nora S. Unwin. Aladdin, 1950. 27p. \$1.75. K-Gr.2.

From drought to rain and the effects of both on life in the country and the city told in simple text and pleasant illustrations. A useful book for nature study classes and for showing the interdependence of city-country life.

Govan, Christine (Noble). The pink maple house; illus. by Sari. Aladdin, 1950. 283p. \$2.50.

Eight-year-old Polly was unhappy at the thought of moving away from her best friend, Jenny, although she did like the idea of living in a larger house. The house turned out to be all she could desire and the telephone and week-end visits with Jenny solved the problem of separation. The new school was not bad except for one girl, Tilly, who was fat and quarrelsome and managed to make Polly's life miserable. In a highly sentimental, tearful scene Polly discovers why Tilly is the way she is

and how sordid her life is as compared with Jenny's and Polly's. There are some good family relations but the whole story is too sentimental to have much value. Not recommended.

Harper, Martha (Barnhart). Winter wedding. Longmans, 1950. 266p. \$2.50. Gr.8-10.

Continues the story of Bella, one of the two sisters in Bittersweet whose fiancées were killed in the Civil War. In this story Bella goes to Iowa to teach for a year, meets two young men, and finally marries one of them. Not quite so convincing in either characterizations or incidents as the earlier book. It is, nevertheless, an acceptable romance for teen-age readers.

Harrison, Ann M. Pearls are made; illus. by Marguerite Gayer. Friendship, 1950. 135p. \$1.75.

Donna is the daughter of a pearl merchant living near the Persian Gulf. When her mother becomes ill with tuberculosis, a pearl diver persuades the family to take her to a Christian hospital. There the mother stays until her death, the daughter goes to school and is well on the way to becoming a Christian. Too specialized for general library use.

Hatch, Alden. George Patton, general in spurs. Messner, 1950. 184p. \$2.75. Gr.8-10.

A well-written biography of one of the most controversial figures of the second world war. The author presents all aspects of Patton's character - the good and the bad - without undue praise or condemnation.

Heron, Frances Dunlap. The busy Berrys; illus. by Ted Shearer. Friendship, 1950. 126p. \$1.75.

The Berrys moved to a new industrial settlement and immediately began reorganizing and improving their neighbors. Once they had managed to bring sweetness and light to this community they began looking around for other places to reform. Unrealistic in plot and characterizations. Mediocre writing. Not recommended.

Henry, Marguerite. Born to trot; illus. by Wesley Dennis. Rand McNally, 1950. 223p. \$2.75.

Sixteen-year-old Gil wants to follow his father's example and become a driver in harness races. Just as his chance comes his health breaks and he is packed off to a sanitarium to recover. This process is helped along by interest in the welfare of his filly, Rosalind, and by a book loaned to him by his doctor. The book, "One Man's Horse", is a story of the first American champion trotter, Hambletonian. The book is reprinted in its entirety, chapters being inserted at intervals throughout the account of Gil's hospital life, and the reader is to assume that it took Gil over two years to read it. This is difficult to accept considering the shortness of the book and Gil's obvious interest. Even if he had read only a page a day it could not have taken him that long. The book within a book idea is all right but it could have been handled more satisfactorily by shortening the time it took Gil to read the Hambletonian's story. As it now stands the sections describing Gil's life in the hospital seem almost like padding. There are elements in the handling of Gil's illness by both the author and the doctor that are questionable as fiction but would have been more acceptable had the author handled this as a straight biography. Not recommended.

Hogue, Dock. Bob Clifton, jungle traveler; illus. by Kurt Wiese. Holt, 1950. 146p. \$2.50. Gr.7-9.

Sequel to Bob Clifton, elephant hunter. In this story Bob's adventures include rescuing his father and Jeannie and Mrs. Duprey when their plane is forced down in the jungle, and shooting a lion that has been terrorizing the neighborhood. Satisfactory adventure story.

Hubbard, Margaret Ann. Crosswind canyon. Macmillan, 1950. 195p. \$2.50.

Crosswind canyon is in the Dakota Bad Lands. Steve Austin, whose father owns a ranch in the Bad Lands, and Peter Happy, whose father is a sheep herder, have both come to the town of Buckhorn to go to high school. Both are living with Dr. Blackwood and Joelle, his twelve-year-old daughter. Steve wants to be a pilot; his father refuses him permission to even go up in a plane, much less learn to fly. In addition to the conflict between Steve and his father, there is the mystery of a young man living alone in the Badlands, and cattle thieves who are stealing Steve's father's valuable cattle. All the problems are settled and the mysteries solved in the end. Much less satisfactory than the author's earlier books. The characters have little life and some of the situations are quite confused. Not recommended.

Judson, Clara (Ingram). Abraham Lincoln, friend of the people; pen drawings by Robert Frankenberg; kodachromes of the Chicago Historical Society Lincoln dioramas. Wilcox & Follett, 1950. 206p. \$3. Gr.5-9.

An excellent biography of Lincoln. The author has drawn a sympathetic, very human picture of Lincoln as a boy, a lawyer, a father, and a president. A beautiful piece of book making to go with a masterful piece of writing. May be read with enjoyment by all ages from fifth grade up.

Kingman, Lee. Philippe's hill; illus. by Hildegard Woodward. Doubleday, 1950. 86p. \$2. Gr.3-5.

Philippe wanted skis more than anything else in the world. When the family's financial state made it impossible for him to buy a pair he did the next best thing and made some from an old barrel. The result was not much to look at, but with them he found a new friend, helped his older brother recover from a skiing accident, and found a way to mend the family fortunes. This lacks the warmth of family relations that were found in Miss Kingman's earlier books but it is a pleasant story and one that should be enjoyed by ski enthusiasts.

Kiser, Martha Gwinn. The wishing Starrs; illus. by Janet Smalley. Westminster, 1950. 143p. \$2.50.

An overwhelming dose of sentimentality in the story of a poor and fatherless family who enjoy life in a pollyanna-ish sort of way and a motherless little girl who comes to appreciate their way of living and doing. Of course the girl's father marries the Starrs' mother so life can continue to be beautiful. Not recommended.

Kjelgaard, James Arthur. Chip, the dam builder; illus. by Ralph Ray. Holiday House, 1950. 233p. \$2.50. Gr.7-9.

Chip, a beaver living in the north woods, moves on to a new region when his home is destroyed by poachers and most of his colony killed. His mate and three other beavers also escape and under his guidance help build a new dam and start a new colony. As a result of his work the stream is controlled and the valley below achieves a degree of prosperity it has not known since lumbermen cut

over the timber on the hillside. Realizing the value of the beavers to the valley, two of the men who live there set out to protect the colony and replant the forests. As is usual with Kjelgaard's books this is a well-written story with a real feeling for the animals who are the main characters. It is somewhat slower paced and less exciting than some of his books but should have a wide audience among readers who want authentic stories of wild animals.

Lawson, Robert. Smeller Martin; written and illus. by Robert Lawson. Viking, 1950. 157p. \$2.50.

Robert Lawson has done it again. Theft, arson, insanity, murder, a mob scene, a questionable attitude toward the Negro, and an undesirable one toward the clergy - everything but sex is in this latest book. The story is built around a young boy's remarkable sense of smell and the use he makes of this ability at home and at school. The love affair of a thirty-five year old aunt also adds an element that should have great (?) appeal for the youngster in grades five to nine. Lawson's illustrations are superior as usual. It is regrettable that he does not confine himself to that medium. Not recommended.

Dalgliesh, Alice, ed. Christmas; a book of stories old and new; illus. by Hildegard Woodward. Scribner's, 1950. 244p. \$3. Gr.3-6.

A new edition with three stories added and two omitted. Not enough change to warrant adding to a collection except where a replacement is needed.

Lanski, Lois. I like winter. Oxford, 1950. 45p. \$1. K-Gr.1.

Companion volume to Spring is here and Now it is fall. Colorful pictures and simple text show all the activities of winter time. The small size (5x5½ in.) will appeal to young children. A nice gift item.

Lewis, Charles Lee. Famous American Marines; an account of the Corps: the exploits of officers and men on land, by air and sea from the decks of the "Bonhomme Richard" to the summit of Mount Suribachi; illus. by Albin V. Webber with drawings from photographs and paintings. Page, 1950. 355p. \$2.75.

Rather dull account of the lives and adventures of famous Marines. Might be read for its subject interest but the style is too pedestrian for any but the most ardent Marines fans. Not recommended.

Lowrey, Janette (Sebring). Margaret. Harper, 1950. 277p. \$2.50. Gr.9-12. (D42;D47;D45).

The story of a young girl's growing up in a small Texas town of the early 1900's. After Margaret's parents died she was reared by Bonnie, a somewhat illiterate, but very genuine woman who had taken care of Margaret's mother at one time. When Margaret was fifteen her great-aunt and great-uncle sent for her to come to Ashford, her father's home town, to live. There she faced the problems of adjusting to city life, of losing her rural speech and ways, and of making a place for herself in the social circle to which her family had always belonged. Only her promise to Bonnie that she would stick it out for a year enabled her to stay through some of the crises that arose, but she eventually found her place. A well-written, sensitive story that should appeal to teen-age girls.

Luckhardt, Mildred Corell. The bells ring out; illus. by Nedda Walker. Westminster, 1937. 50p. 65¢.

When the Miller family left Switzerland and came to America to live the thing Paul missed most was the church carillon which his grandfather had made. He was quite pleased, therefore, when his grandfather made a set for the American church as a Christmas present for the people who had been so kind to the Millers. Designed for church school use, this will have little value for general library collections. Boards.

McGinley, Phyllis Louise. The most wonderful doll in the world; with drawings by Helen Stone. Lippincott, 1950. 63p. \$1.75. Gr.3-5. (D26).

This is the delightful story of Dulcy whose real dolls can never live up to all the wonders of Angela, the doll created in her imagination. When Angela, who had been lost, is found Dulcy realizes with a shock that this is just an ordinary doll after all. At last Dulcy learns to take as much pleasure in what really is as in what she makes up, and in the process grows up a little. The attractive pictures and the simply told but important theme should make this a very good gift book, and a delight to little girls who are now learning what Dulcy had to learn.

McNeer, May Yonge. The California gold rush; illus. by Lynd Ward. Random House, 1950. 184p. \$1.50. Gr.4-6. (A landmark book).

One of the more interesting titles in the "Landmark" series. The author has drawn freely from diaries, newspapers, and other factual accounts of the era for her material. She shows the hard work, rough living, and lawlessness that were prevalent and, at the same time, manages to convey the excitement and glamour of the period. Lynd Ward's illustrations are excellent.

Mason, Miriam Evangeline. Hominy and his blunt-nosed arrow; illus. by George and Doris Hauman. Macmillan, 1950. 145p. \$1.75. Gr.3-5.

A simply written story of a Miami Woodland Indian boy and his attempt to do a great deed for his tribe. Although he does not succeed in killing the bad-luck bird that is bringing tragedy to the tribe, he does find a way to make the tribal chief laugh and take enough interest in life that he begins to recover from his illness. Easy reading for third grade with an interest level as high as sixth or seventh.

Norman, Charles. Mr. Upstairs and Mr. Downstairs; introducing Jane Jonquil and her father; pictures by Margaret Bloy Graham. Harper, 1950. 52p. \$1.75.

Several stories that Mr. Jonquil is supposed to have told his daughter, Jane, at bedtime. Some of the stories have a great deal of charm but much of the appeal is adult and would have little meaning to children. The format is confusing, with the chapter headings the same size type as the regular text and only one line above the text. Not recommended.

Pease, Howard. The dark adventure. Doubleday, 1950. 229p. \$2.50. Gr.10-12. (D61;D104;D120).

The story, based on real characters and incidents, of a young boy who sets out to hitch-hike from Joliet, Illinois to Colina, California, suffers from amnesia as a result of a car wreck, and becomes involved in a teen-age marihuana racket before he finally recovers his memory. The author has introduced several problems of juvenile delinquency - hot rods, beer busts, marihuana - in a manner that pulls no punches and yet never resorts to sensationalism for its effects. This is a book for high school students only and probably should be used with guidance at that level.

Peters, Fritz. The book of the year; drawings by Ilonka Karasz. Harper, 1950. 52p. \$2.50. Gr. 8-12. (D7a)

Each month of the year described in beautiful prose that creates a mood and a word picture perfectly suited to that month and that season. A full page illustration accompanies each section. These are not always as well done as the text but the total effect is satisfying. This will not be a widely read book but it is worth having for the few teen-age readers who can enjoy the beauty and subtlety of the prose.

Petersham, Maud (Fuller). The circus baby; a picture book by Maud and Miska Petersham. Macmillan, 1950. 28p. \$1.50. K-Gr.2.

A picture story book of a mother elephant who tries to teach her baby to behave like a human baby with disastrous results to the tent where the lesson takes place. The circus pictures have appeal but the story lacks much of the charm of the Box with red wheels. The book has been used successfully with retarded readers as high as fifth grade.

Rankin, Louise S. The gentling of Jonathan; illus. by Lee Townsend. Viking, 1950. 223p. \$2.50.

Jonathan is the town's bad boy. Neglected by his parents, overly sensitive about his cocked eye, he has become the terror of the town. Overnight he falls under the spell of the beauty and charm of the young bride who moves in next door and especially of her horse, Drogo. When she is forced to stop riding, she gives Drogo to Jonathan and the horse takes on the job of turning the young hellion into a gentleman who wins the respect of the whole town. The process is too sudden to carry much conviction and the townspeople are too willing to aid and believe in Jonathan's reform before there are any visible proofs of it. Not recommended.

Randina, Laura Cooper. Debbie Jones. Little, Brown, 1950. 244p. \$2.50. Gr. 7-9. (D78;D42;D47)

Sequel to Roommates. Deborah Jones is back at Pine Ridge School with a new roommate and new problems. She has difficulty settling down, fails to carry through any of the plans she makes for herself or her friends, and almost gets expelled when she lets her imagination overrule her common sense. By the end of the year she has herself and her work under better control and has done considerable growing-up in the process. Not outstanding but satisfactory as a school story.

Riesenberg, Felix, Jr. Waterfront reporter; illus. by Chauncey Maltman. Rand McNally, 1950. 222 p. \$2.50.

A mediocre mystery involving a young San Francisco reporter, dope smuggling, and a lost scientist. After a sizeable dose of mayhem, kidnapping, and murder the dope peddlars are caught. No one ever knows what happened to the scientist but presumably the Russians got him. Not recommended.

Robertson, Keith. The missing brother; a mystery story for older boys; illus. by Raffaello Busoni. Viking, 1950. 220p. \$2.50 Gr. 7-9.

A spur-of-the-moment prank involving some left over firecrackers started a chain of events that led fifteen-year-old Ted Fowler into a series of wild adventures with a recuse, who was thought to have murdered his brother twenty years before; a small-time shyster; and a Chicago hoodlum who tried to impersonate the long lost brother. This is a combination that could well have ended in sensationalism or melodrama but has avoided both. The result is a well-written, exciting adventure story with very real characters and plausible incidents.

Rowland, Florence Wightman. The Austrian colt; illus. by Edgard Cirlin. Macrae, 1950. 40p. \$1.50. Gr.3-5.

After the war Stefan's family found life extremely difficult. Their house was partially destroyed, the horses had been driven into the mountains, and there was no way to plow under the tall grass and prepare the land for planting. The father had been wounded and was still lame and the three older sons had not returned. Stefan was too young to be of much help in the field, so one day he set out for the mountains to try to capture the family's horse. He did not find the stallion, but he did find a wounded mare and her colt, nursed the mare until her wound healed, and then led her and the colt back to the farm. A vivid story of the hardship's many of Europe's families are facing today.

Sawyer, Ruth. The little red horse; illus. by Jay Hyde Barnum. Viking, 1950. 108p. \$2.50.

Peter was afraid of the ocean and refused to even try to learn to swim. Then the magic of the little red horse and the live sea horse worked together to overcome his fears so that he came to enjoy the ocean as much as the beach. A rather delicate fantasy with decidedly questionable ethics in Peter's rationalization of his taking the red horse after he had been told not to and his eventually causing its complete loss to himself and its owner. Not recommended.

Silliman, Leland. Golden Cloud; palomino of Sunset Hill; illus. by Pers Crowell. Winston, 1950. 232p. \$2.00.

A mediocre horse story in which Orrin Toler, a lonely boy from the big city seeks a home in the great open spaces where life is untainted. He is taken in by Blacky Martin, an improvident rancher with a love for horses but no head for business, and his charming wife, who has a head for business but prefers cows to horses. There is also Gabe, the villain cousin Blacky has promised to support until he is twenty-one, and, of course, The Horse. Orrin loses and wins the horse in one heartrending scene after another until the end when virtue triumphs. Not recommended.

Smith, Eunice Young. Moppet; story and pictures by Eunice Young Smith. Whitman, 1950. 32p. \$1.50.

A doll's house is banished to the attic when the children become too old to play with it any longer. Spiders build webbs and dust settles over every thing. Then a mouse takes over, rips up all the cloth in the house, and builds a nest for her baby mice. After that the dolls are happy once more because there is life around them. It is doubtful if young children will be as happy as the dolls were to think that mice will eventually destroy their doll houses. Not recommended.

Steiner, Charlotte. Kiki skates. Doubleday, 1950. 30p. \$1.25. illus. K-Gr.1.

All the activities of winter are pictured here as Kiki tries out the various sports and finally settles on skating as her favorite. Simple text that young readers

can handle alone. Humorous illustrations.

Stolz, Mary. To tell your love. Harper, 1950. 243p. \$2.50. Gr. 9-12 (D23;D37).

Anne's 18th summer was a difficult one. It started out beautifully. She was in love for the first time and Doug was in love with her. Then something went wrong, Doug stopped coming to see her, and her life suddenly became miserable. Before the end of the summer she had come to realize that this was just a first love and that she had taken it too seriously, and with this realization she did considerable growing up. Against the background of Anne's unhappy summer the rest of the Armacost family had a varied time. Mr. Armacost realized a life long ambition when he finally got a hummingbird to eat from his hand. Theo, the quiet, plain one in the family, fell in love and married. Johnny, the only son, after spending the summer worrying about the state of his muscles discovers that he is quite strong after all. A pleasant love story with warm family relations.

Stowe, Aurelia, comp. It's a date; boy-girl stories for the teens; illus. by Eleanor Dart. Random house, 1950. 214p. \$2.50.

A collection of short stories about the difficulties of getting dates and holding boy-friends. The treatment of teen-age problems is superficial. Characters are too flip and have neither depth nor reality. Of little value for use as guidance material and the quality of writing is too mediocre to justify buying for pleasure reading. Not recommended.

Szenes, Andre. The calf that flew away; by Andre Dugo. (psued.) Holt, 1950. 32p. illus. \$2.00

Molly was a rather head-strong calf, so when her mother warned her not to eat any of the rich marsh grass that is just where she headed. After eating the grass she swelled to several times her normal size and soon went floating through the air. A cowboy rescued her and began taking her to carnivals where she would give children "balloon" rides. Then one day she saw her mother, became homesick, and with one long drawn out Moo-oo-oo-oo-oo- lost all her air and became just a normal calf again. The story holds up well until the end when it falls as flat as the calf. Not recommended.

Townsend, Olga. Blueprint of a dream. Whittlesey, 1950. 224p. illus. \$2.50.

A highly improbably story of a family that sells its house so the father can buy a piece of land and erect an apartment house. With no place to go, they finally move on to the yacht of a friend and become involved with a captain who is smuggling diamonds. The daughter, who has spent her life studying to be an architect and then nearly faints with amazement when her father says she has a chance of being one, saves the family fortunes with her water color sketches of the new apartments, catches the captain with her superior sleuthing, sets one young man straight as to the path he should follow, and promises to marry another. In spite of so much action it is all rather dull. Not recommended.

Tresselt, Alvin R. Follow the wind; pictures by Roger Duvoisin. Lothrop, 1950. 24p. \$2. K-Gr. 2.

Another of the Tresselt-Duvoisin picture-nature books. This time the effects of wind are shown as it blows first a gale and then a gentle breeze. Colorful illustrations add greatly to the enjoyment of the book. A nice gift item.

Unwin, Nora Spicer. Doughnuts for Lin; story and pictures by Nora S. Unwin. Aladdin, 1950. 43p. \$1.75. K-Gr. 2.

Lin is a black scottie who loves to play in the snow and to eat the doughnuts the woman next door puts out for the birds. At first Mrs. Twinkle dislikes Lin, but after she chases a cat who is bothering the birds and finds Mrs. Twinkle's lost ring all is forgiven. A pleasant little story that beginning readers can handle alone.

Van Stockum, Hilda. Patsy and the pup. Viking, 1950. 82p. \$1.50. illus.

A pleasant, but by no means outstanding, story of a little girl who wanted a dog and went through a hectic afternoon before she finally acquired one. Rather far-fetched without being exaggerated enough to be humorous.

Walters, Marguerite. The real Santa Claus; illus. by Meg Wohlberg. Lothrop, 1950. 31p. \$1.00. K-Gr.2 (D116)

Like many young city children Jerry is puzzled to know which of all the many Santas he sees on streets and in stores is the real one. He finally takes his problem to the friendly policeman on the corner and gets an answer that satisfies him as it will satisfy other similarly puzzled children. Because of its treatment of this problem the book will have more than just a seasonal value. Excellent illustrations.

White, Robb. The haunted hound; illus. by Louis Glanzman. Doubleday, 1950. 276p. \$2.50.

After Jon's mother died he and his father lived in a city apartment several miles from The Farm where the three of them had lived happily until Mrs. Barrett's accident. Jon was unhappy in the city and he felt completely estranged from his father who had buried himself in his work and had little time for Jon. A sudden impulse to visit the farm brought Jon new friends in Judy and her uncle, and a new interest in the dog, Pot Likker, who adopted him. Up to this point the story is credible. The characters are well-developed and their problems are adequately described. However, when it comes to resolving the problems the author fails completely. Jon's father does an abrupt and wholly unrealistic about-face and to make up for the death of Pot Likker a new dog and her pups appears out of thin air. Less important to the story but no less irritating to the reader is the author's plug for one of his own book that is unskillfully inserted into the text. Not recommended.

Yates, Elizabeth. Children of the Bible; illus. by Nora S. Unwin. Aladdin, 1950. 92p. \$2.00.

Retellings of Bible stories involving children. The retellings are not much easier reading than the familiar King James version and require a fairly good background in Bible lore for understanding them. It is difficult to see just where the book's usefulness would come since young readers could not handle the difficult style and language and older readers would be more likely to prefer the complete versions. Not recommended.

Inexpensive Reprints.

A number of titles that are generally accepted as useful for school and public libraries are now available in twenty-five cent editions as Comet Books (now Pocket Book, Jrs.), Bantam Books, Pocket Books, and Pocket Book, Jrs. In spite of their paper bindings these editions have been found satisfactory for library use.

Andrews, Ned. Cowdog; cover and illus. by Sam Savitt. Pocket Book, Jr.

Atwater, Montgomery Meigs. Ski patrol; illus. by Louis Glanzman. Pocket Book, Jr.

Balch, Glenn. Indian paint; the story of an Indian pony; illus. by Robert Meyers. Comet Books.

Balch, Glenn. Tiger roan; cover and illus. by Sam Savitt. Pocket Book, Jr.

Benson, Sally. Junior miss. Pocket Books.

Boylston, Helen (Dore). Sue Barton, senior nurse; illus. by Georgette Delattre. Pocket Book, Jr.

Boylston, Helen (Dore). Sue Barton, student nurse; illus. by Ursula Koering. Comet Books.

Bugbee, Emma. Peggy covers the news; illus. by Evaline Ness. Comet Books.

Cavanna, Betty. Puppy stakes; illus. by Vana Earle. Comet Books.

Clemens, Samuel Langhorne. The adventures of Huckleberry Finn; by Mark Twain. (pseud.) illus. by Harold Minton. Pocket Book, Jrs.

Clemens, Samuel Langhorne. The adventures of Tom Sawyer; by Mark Twain (pseud.); illus. by Harold Minton. Pocket Book, Jrs.

Collins, Norman. Black ivory. Pocket Books.

Darling, Esther Birdsall. Baldy of Nome; illus. by George Meyerriecks. Pocket Books.

Davis, Julia. No other white men; illus. by Richard Powers. Comet Books.

Davis, Lavinia (Riker). Hobby horse hill; illus. by Paul Brown. Comet Books.

Dickens, Charles. Oliver Twist; an abridged edition, edited by Fred Reinfeld. Pocket Books.

Dickens, Charles. A tale of two cities. Pocket Books.

Garreau, Garth. Bat boy of the Giants; illus. by Richard Powers. Comet Books.

Garst, Doris Shannon. Buffalo Bill; illus. by Ray Quigley. Pocket Book, Jrs.

Haig-Brown, Roderick Langmere Haig. Starbuck Valley winter; illus. by Arthur Shilstone. Comet Books.

Harkins, Philip. Touchdown twins; illus. by Ray Quigley. Pocket Book, Jrs.

Hilton, James. Good-bye, Mr. Chips. Pocket Books.

Hinkle, Thomas Clarke. Black storm; a horse of the Kansas hills; illus. by Thomas L. Sinnickson. Pocket Book, Jrs.

Kipling, Rudyard. Captains courageous. Bantam Books.

Kjelgaard, James Arthur. Big red; illus. by Bob Kuhn. Comet Books.

Kjelgaard, James Arthur. Forest patrol; illus. by George Meyerriecks. Comet Books.

Larom, Henry V. Mountain pony; a story of the Wyoming Rockies; illus. by Robert Frankenberg. Pocket Book, Jrs.

Lasher, Mary Harmon. Logging chance; illus. by Hamilton Greene. Pocket Book, Jrs.

Leeming, Joseph. Fun with puzzles; illus. by Aurelius Battaglia and Jessie Robinson. Comet Books.

Litten, Frederic Nelson. The kingdom of flying men; illus. by Hedley Rainnie. Pocket Book, Jrs.

London, Jack. The call of the wild; with an introd. by Frank Luther Mott. Pocket Books.

Norton, Alice Mary. Scarface; by Andre Norton. (pseud.); illus. by Lorence Bjorklund. Comet Books.

Papashvily, George. Anything can happen; by George and Helen Waite Papashvily; illus. by Paul Galdone. Pocket Books.

Queen, Ellery, Jr. The green turtle mystery; illus. by Melvin Bolden. Comet Books.

Scholz, Jackson Volney. Batter up; illus. by Robert Frankenberg. Comet Books.

Scholz, Jackson Volney. Gridiron challenge; illus. by Ray Quigley. Pocket Book, Jrs.

Seton, Ernest Thompson. Wild animals I have known; illus. by the author. Bantam Books.

Speare, M. E., ed. The pocket book of verse; great English and American poems; ed. and with an introd. by M. E. Speare. Pocket Books.

Sperry, Armstrong. Wagons westward; written and illus. by Armstrong Sperry. Comet Books.

Steinbeck, John. The red pony. Bantam Books.

Taggard, Ernestine Kealoha, ed. Twenty grand short stories; originally published under the title Here we are; with an introd. by Dorothy Canfield Fisher. Bantam Books.

Thurston, Howard. 300 tricks you can do; illus. by Ruth McCrea. Comet Books.

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.

Annotated list of phonograph records. Children's Reading Service, 106 Beekman Street, New York 7, N. Y., 1950-51. 10¢

500 selected recordings arranged by subject and graded for kindergarten to grade 9.

Arndt, C. O. and Everett, Samuel. "You can teach for world citizenship." Educational Leadership 3:28-34. 0'50.

Arts in Childhood. "Enjoying music - dance, song, band." Series V, Bulletin 3, 1950. 25¢

Contains a bibliography on the child and art and a list of paintings children enjoy.

Arts in Childhood. "Understanding creative growth". Series V, Bulletin 1, 1950. 25¢

Contains a bibliography on puppets.

Dingman, John. "Junior high school English can be fun". Educational Press Bulletin. 41:3-5. 8'50.

Dratz, Eva M. comp. Aids to world understanding for elementary school children. Minneapolis Public Schools, Minneapolis, Minn., 1950. 50¢.

Lists stories, readers, geographies and histories, films, scripts, free and inexpensive materials, and bibliography of bibliographies.

Goetz, Deliz. World understanding begins with children. Federal Security Agency, Office of Education, Bulletin # 17, 1949. 15¢

Heaton, Margaret M. "Reading to understand human differences". Elementary English 27:82-83. F'50.

Quillen, I. James. "Textbooks contribute to world understanding". Educational Leadership. 8:36-40. 0'50.

Romine, Stephen. "Meeting the need for qualified school librarians". School & Society. 72:228-30. Oct. 7, 1950.

Russell, David H. and Shrodes, Caroline. "Contributions of research in bibliotherapy to the Language-arts program". School Review. S'50.

See and Hear. Annual fall inventory of new audio-visual materials. Vol. 6. No. 1, S'50.

Toward the open mind. Openmindedness can be taught. The Curriculum Office, Philadelphia Public Schools, Administration Building, Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania. Apply.

Trager, Helen G. and Everitt, Roberta M. "Tools for human relations education". Educational Leadership. 7:530-39. My'50.

Includes annotated bibliography of books useful for use in classes on human relations.

"UNESCO'S work in education". Harvard Educational Review. V. 20, No. 3, Summer, 1950.

Weeks, Ruth Mary. Using periodicals; a report of the Committee on the use of magazines and newspapers in the English class. National Council of Teachers of English, 1950. 60¢

Contents: Evaluating magazines; magazines with mass appeal; magazines transcending mass appeal; newspapers; evaluating newspapers; securing quantity and variety.

Zim, Herbert S. "Science learning through books in the elementary field." The Science Teacher. 17:114-116. 0'50.