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# BULLETIN

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## CHILDREN'S BOOK CENTER

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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.

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### New Titles for Children and Young People.

Aitrop, J. Bentley. Every child's book of animal wonders. Roy, 1951. 172 p. \$2.50

Brief descriptions of animals of the world with an emphasis on animals as they are found in zoos. The author's personal opinions and references to modern events will date the book and limit its usefulness. There are good bibliographical references but they are scattered throughout the volume and are usually incomplete. The lack of an index plus the uneven quality of writing keep the book from having value for a library collection. Not recommended.

Allen, Allyn. Lone star tomboy; pictures by Jane Castle. Watts, 1951. 236 p. \$2.50

Francie Lou had no one except her brothers to play with on the Texas ranch where she lived so it was not to be wondered that she became somewhat of a tomboy. Her parents decided she needed to learn some manners so she was sent to San Antonio to spend four months with the Carson's, one of her mother's best friends. There she not only learned more sedate ways, she reformed Russell, who was very much a sissy, and broke up the grade school cliques by becoming the leader on the playground and insisting on equal treatment for all students. A pleasant little story but the dialog is stilted and the characters have little life. The old stereotype of the boy who plays the piano and is a sissy is perpetuated. The boy "reforms" when he gives up practicing the piano and fights the neighborhood bully instead. Not recommended.

Amiot, Pierre. Bijou, the little bear; written and illus. by Pierre Amiot; trans. from the French by Jacqueline de Leon. Coward-McCann, 1950. 23 p. \$1.75

Picture-story book about a small bear who sets out to rescue a little girl from her cruel guardian and take her to the carnival. Text and illustrations are too cluttered to have much interest or appeal. Not recommended.

Anderson, Mildred Napier. Sandra and the right prince; illus. by J. Pajet-Fredericks. Oxford, 1951. 72 p. \$2.50

Fairy tale in the traditional vein. As a fanciful tale it is acceptable although not outstanding. The plot follows the standard pattern of a young girl whose parents want her to marry but who refuses to do so until the "right" prince comes along. This prince is chosen by a task set by the princess. The illustrations are sentimental and fragile. Many of them are silhouettes. There is not enough originality or substance to the story to justify the price.

Austin, Margot. The three silly kittens; written and illus. by Margot Austin. Dutton, 1950. 44 p. \$1.50

Three silly kittens indulging in silly conversations. Minstrel show dialog that is not really funny and the absence of anything remotely resembling a story result in a book that has no purpose or value. Not recommended.

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

Brief history of the state with a description of the major cities. Satisfactory for supplementary reading material for geography classes.

Beals, Frank Lee. The story of Deerslayer; adapted and retold by Frank L. Beals; illus. by E. E. King. Sanborn, 1950. (Famous story series) 150 p.

An adaptation of Cooper's Deerslayer. According to the introduction the writer is under the impression that quality of writing is always in inverse ratio to quantity and his book is, therefore, better than Cooper's because it is shorter. The resulting story has only the bare skeleton of Cooper's book and lacks all the flavor that has made the original live through the years. Not recommended.

Beatty, Hetty Burlingame. Little Owl Indian; story and pictures by Hetty Burlingame Beatty. Houghton, 1951. 32 p. \$2.25

Little Owl makes friends with the animals of the woods and saves them when their lives are threatened by a forest fire. In fact, he saves the animals first and his human friends second, thus giving the reader false values by placing the safety of animals above that of

human friends and relatives. Illustrations are garish and lack the charm of those in Little wild horse. Not recommended.

Bendick, Jeanne. All around you; a first look at the world; written and illus. by Jeanne Bendick; foreword by Glenn O. Blough. Whittlesey, 1951. 48 p. \$2.00 Gr. 2-4.

Simple nature lore to acquaint the very young child with the world around him. Phenomena of nature such as day and night, thunder and lightning, and common plants and animals are described and explained in simple terms. The book is weakened by the artist's tendency to personify the animals but otherwise it is an acceptable beginning nature study book.

Best, Herbert. Watergate; a story of the Irish on the Erie Canal; illus. by Erick Berry. Winston, 1951. 240 p. (Land of the free series) \$2.50 Gr. 7-9.

Sean Kildare's father was one of the many Irish laborers who lost their lives helping to cut the Erie Canal through the Montezuma swamps. When Sean was sixteen he ran away from the Widow Forty's where he was supposed to be learning tailoring and became a driver on the canal. From then on his life consisted mainly of hard work, and low pay. He made friends with the happy-go-lucky Hogan family and with Lefty O'Shaughnessy, the Annkie's mate. There is not much plot and the story is somewhat slow-paced but it does give a good picture of the period and as such will be useful.

Bischof, George P. Atoms at work; a preview of science; drawings by Jere Donovan. Harcourt, 1951. 150 p. \$2.25 Gr. 5-7.

A science book for the middle elementary grades that explains in simple terms and clear drawings what atoms and molecules are and what they do. Useful for supplementary reading for science classes.

Black, Mary Martin. Summerfield farm; illus. by Wesley Dennis. Viking, 1951. 143 p. \$2.50 Gr. 3-5.

Slight, rather sentimental stories of life on a Virginia farm of half century ago. The stories are about the animals more than the people who populated the farm and as such will probably be enjoyed by young readers in spite of the nostalgic tone. Some of the stories would be fun to read aloud.

Bleeker, Sonia. The Apache Indians, raiders of the Southwest; illus. by Althea Karr. Morrow, 1951. 157 p. \$2.00 Gr. 4-6. W

Another of this author's accounts of an Indian tribe from earliest days to the present. Like Indians of the Longhouse this is a well-written, interesting, and exceedingly readable story that presents the Indians as they were with all their faults and good points. The illustrations are line drawings that add greatly to the understanding of the text.

Bontemps, Arna Wendell. Chariot in the sky; a story of the Jubilee Singers; illus. by Cyrus Leroy Baldridge. Winston, 1951. 234 p. (Land of the free series) \$2.50 Gr. 7-9. (D59)

The story of the beginnings of Fisk University as seen through the experiences of Caleb Willows, who was born a slave, gained his freedom at the end of the Civil War, and played an important part in the work of the Jubilee Singers whose concerts over the United States and Europe were the means of saving Fisk. A beautifully

written story that presents the full impact of slavery and racial discrimination as few stories for young people have ever done. Particularly good is the way in which the author has managed to convey the full flavor of southern dialect without resorting to the exaggerated spellings that are so difficult to read.

Bowie, Walter Russell. The Bible story for boys and girls: New Testament. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1951. 160 p. \$2.50 Gr. 4-6.

The stories of the New Testament retold in modern style. The writing has vigor and interest without being either moralistic or sentimental. The miracles and other controversial matters are handled in an objective, matter-of-fact way that should not give offence to anyone. This is a Protestant version that has no sectarianism and should be equally valuable for secular and church school libraries.

Buck, Pearl (Sydenstricker). One bright day. Day, 1950. 60 p. \$2.00

A mother and two small girls (one ill and the other spoiled), en route from China to the United States, stop over for a day in Kobe, Japan and are entertained by a Japanese gentleman whom they meet in the park. During the day Jane, the spoiled one, learns something about obedience and her mother is given a lesson in child psychology. This is essentially an adult book about children rather than a children's book. Not recommended.

Caudill, Rebecca. Up and down the river; pictures by Decie Merwin. Winston, 1951. 115 p. \$2.00 Gr. 2-4. (D37)

Another story of the Fairchild family. This time Bonnie and Debbie are embarked on a summer project of earning money. They sell pictures (every home should have one) and bluing (the new sensational kind) and try a rather disastrous venture into duck raising. At the end of the summer they have little money but a lamb, a duck, three kittens, and a pair of bantam chickens satisfy them as a substitute for wealth. This has the same warmth of family relations that made the first two stories such pleasant reading.

Ceder, Georgiana Dorcas. Ann of Bethany; illus. by Helen Torrey. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1951. 96 p. \$2.00 Gr. 4-6. ✓

Ann was a young girl living in Bethany at the time of Christ's birth. She felt that she was a disappointment to her parents because she was afraid of so many things. However when the time came that her help was needed she proved her real courage. The book takes some liberties with the Bible version of Christ's birth but presents a good picture of village life at the time and is acceptable as such.

Church, Alfred John, ed. The Iliad of Homer; illus. by John Flaxman. Macmillan, 1951. 191 p. (New children's classics) \$2.00

The Odyssey of Homer; illus. by John Flaxman. Macmillan, 1951. 186 p. (New children's classics) \$2.00

New edition of these classics. The format is more appealing with larger type and many more illustrations than the original Children's Classics editions.

Coatsworth, Elizabeth Jane. Dollar for luck; illus. by George and Doris Hauman. Macmillan, 1951. 154 p. \$2.25 Gr. 6-8.

Ken Philbrooks lived on land and longed to go to sea. Daily lived on a store boat operating up and down the Maine coast and hated it. Inevitably the two traded to their mutual satisfaction. The story of Ken's summer on the store boat makes interesting reading and pictures a type of life not usually found in children's books.

Crocker, Constance Homer. Creative carpentry. Houghton, 1951. 39 p. \$2.00 Gr. 5-8.

A new idea in make-and-do books. Instead of blue-prints with every detail worked out for the reader, each item described here is given in terms of the uses to which it is to be put and the reader is supposed to figure the sizes for himself. For example, the doll bed is to be measured by the size of the doll it is being made for. Thus by giving no "copy" work, the book tends to encourage thinking through the problems. The methods of construction and ideas are superior and the book will be excellent for school or home shop.

Crump, Irving, ed. Boy's Life adventure stories. Nelson, 1950. 224 p. \$2.00 Gr. 7-9.

Short stories taken from Boy's Life magazine. These are of average and better quality, with enough danger and suspense to hold the reader's interest. Satisfactory where there is a need for short story collections.

Daly, Maureen, ed. Profile of youth; by members of the staff of The Ladies' home journal. Lippincott, 1951. 256 p. \$2.95 Gr. 8-10. (D47)

The series of articles on typical teen-agers that was first published in the Ladies' Home Journal now presented in book form. The articles cover various problems such as: going steady; teen-age driving; sex education; trade schools; subsidized marriages, etc. by showing how one or more teen-agers meet each problem. Useful for guidance work.

De Jong, Meindert. Smoke above the lane; illus. by Girard Goodenow. Harper, 1951. 58 p. \$1.75 Gr. 4-6.

When the little skunk made friends with the tramp he was only interested in the tramp's pancakes and did not realize the friendship would result in a four day ride in a boxcar, the rout of a Labor Day parade, and a new home in the south. Excellent writing and a pleasant story with enough humor and suspense to hold the reader's interest.

De Leeuw, Cateau. From this day forward; a junior novel; by Jessica Lyon, pseud. Macrae, 1951. 215 p. Gr. 8-10. (D23; D134)

Her parents' divorce came as a severe shock to Ginny Kerr and threatened to ruin her entire life when she refused to consider marriage because she was afraid of going through the same experience. Love for Grant Jordan and some sympathetic, understanding guidance from her mother and both of Grant's parents help her to readjust her thinking and finally see that she and Grant have a good chance of making their marriage a success. As a problem novel this is adequately handled with a reasonable solution to the problem.

Dennis, Morgan. Skit and Skat; story and pictures by Morgan Dennis. Viking, 1951. 42 p. \$1.50. K-Gr. 2. Skit and Skat are a cocker pup and a kitten who

have several skirmishes before they learn to live together peacefully. The pictures are excellent and tell the story by themselves. The simple accompanying text is easy enough for beginning readers to handle alone.

Disney, Walt. Alice in wonderland; pictures by the Walt Disney Studio adapted by Al Dempster from the motion picture based on the story by Lewis Carroll. Simon and Schuster, 1951. 25 p. (A big golden book) \$1.00

Full page illustrations, with a line or two of text for each one, taken from the Disney movie. The text has no appeal and does not give enough of the story to make sense. Not recommended.

duJardin, Rosamond (Neal). Class ring, a Tobey Heydon story. Lippincott, 1951. 207 p. \$2.50

Another story of Tobey Heydon of Practically seventeen. By having Tobey herself tell the story the author has had to give her a sensitivity to her surroundings, both animate and inanimate, that is out of keeping with her character and keeps her from being very realistic. With the same type complications arising and the same general solutions offered, the reader is left with the impression that this book is just a re-hash of the first one. Tobey is now a senior in high school but she shows no evidence of having matured during the previous year. Either story is satisfactory alone but libraries that bought the first book will have no need for this one.

Duvoisin, Roger Antoine. Petunia; written and illus. by Roger Duvoisin. Knopf, 1950. 28 p. \$1.50

Petunia is a goose who finds a book and thinks that its possession will make her wise. After completely disrupting the barnyard she realizes that owning a book is not enough - she must also be able to read it. A not-very subtle plug for learning to read in a story that lacks either humor or charm. Not recommended.

Earle, Olive L. State birds and flowers. Morrow, 1951. 64 p. \$2.00

Brief descriptions of the birds and flowers chosen by each state as the state symbols. In some instances these are official and in some they are merely the choices of a group, such as the school children. In no instance does the author indicate which group's choice she is using, so the book has no value for anyone wanting accurate information. There are some inaccuracies in the listings: Alabama - Goldenrod instead of camellia; West Virginia - Cardinal instead of tufted titmouse; South Carolina - Carolina wren instead of mockingbird. Illustrations are in black and white and are not adequate for identification. On several pages the state flowers or bird, is named in the text but not identified in the border where several flowers, or birds, are pictured. The book is more confusing than informative. Not recommended.

Eberle, Irmengarde. Hop, skip, and fly; stories of small creatures; pictures by Else Bostelmann. Holiday, 1951. 62 p. \$2.00 Gr. 2-4.

New edition of a book first published in 1937. The story of the snail has been added, those of the wasp and the ant have been omitted, and revisions have been made in other stories. Good material for nature study classes.

King, Mary. The first book of nurses; pictures by Mary Stevens. Watts, 1951. 40 p. \$1.75 Gr. 4-6.

An introduction to nursing that describes the various fields of nursing such as: public health; hospital; private; school; dentist's nurse; army and navy, etc., as well as details of the training required. Semi-fictionized style that is interesting and easy reading. Profusely illustrated.

Kestes, Eleanor. Ginger Pye. Harcourt, 1951. 250 p. \$2.50 Gr. 4-6. (D37)

In a style that is strongly reminiscent of the Moffats, the author tells the adventures of the Pye family and of Ginger their thoroughbred dog. Mr. Pye is an expert but slightly impoverished bird man whose fame in Washington has given rise to the family expression "Call in Mr. Pye" whenever there is a crisis of any kind. Rachel's ambition is to be a "birdman" like her father and Jerry is interested in rocks. Uncle Benny, the three-year-old uncle of Rachel and Jerry, won fame by being the youngest uncle in town and added to it when he rescued Ginger from the "unsavory characters" who had stolen him. Like the Moffats this is thoroughly satisfying. The illustrations, by the author, resemble those of Slobodkin but have not the same charm.

Kets, Marie Hall. Mr. T. W. Anthony Woo; the story of a cat and a dog and a mouse. Viking, 1951. 54 p. \$2.00 K-gr. 3.

Mr. T. W. Anthony Woo is a mouse living in a cobbler's shop with the cobbler and a quarrelsome dog and cat. When the cobbler's sister moves in with her loquacious parrot, banishes the dog and cat, and sets traps in the pantry, it is Mr. Woo who frightens her into leaving and brings peace to the shop. A pleasant but unimportant story.

Freeman, Lydia. Chuggy and the blue caboose; by Lydia and Don Freeman. Viking, 1951. 48 p. \$2.50

Inspid story of a blue caboose that longs to be part of a circus train and a small engine that makes the caboose's wish come true. Not recommended.

Furman, Abraham Louis, ed. Young readers animal stories; by David Thomas, pseud.; illus. by Richard Osborne. Lantern, 1950. 189 p. \$2.50

Mediocre collection of stories about wild and domestic animals. Uneven in quality with most of the stories of poor quality. Not recommended.

Goldberg, Martha. The lunch box story; pictures by Beatrice Tobias. Holiday, 1951. 28 p. \$1.25 Gr. 1-2.

Tony Looked forward to promotion from Kindergarten to the First Grade as the time when he could carry his own lunch box. A slight mix-up the first day of school almost spoiled his pleasure but his father soon solved his problem. A slight story but easy enough for the beginning reader to handle alone.

Goss, Mary. Do-it fun for boys and girls; by Mary and Dale Goss. Bennett, 1950. 128 p. \$2.95.

There are some good ideas in this make-and-do book but the page set-up is so poor the book will have little value. Illustrations and text are crowded on the page and it is often difficult to be sure which illustrations go with which directions. The type is manuscript printing and is not easy to read. Not recommended.

Grant, Bruce. The cowboy encyclopedia; the old and the new West from the open range to the dude ranch; illus. by Jackie and Fiore Matri.

Rand McNally, 1951. 162 p. \$2.75 Gr. 4-8.

It was inevitable that such a compilation should eventually appear, and this is not a bad start. Entries cover most of the expressions that readers will come across in cowboy stories. The style of writing is interesting enough that many readers will read straight through the book with as much pleasure as they would get from a story. A bibliography of sources used is given at the end. The paper is of very poor quality and the illustrations do not add much by way of either interest or information.

Hahn, Emily. Francie. Watts, 1951. 237 p. \$2.50 Gr. 8-10. (D62; D19)

Francie had become quite spoiled during her sixteen years of living with her aunt in a small mid-west town. When her father paid one of his rare visits and decided he would take her to England with him she did every thing except throw a temper tantrum - but she went, with the promise of a fur coat if she stuck it out for a year. In England she was enrolled in a boarding school which she hated at first but eventually came to understand and appreciate. The story of Francie's adjustment to a new way of living and especially her growing appreciation of the English ways of doing and thinking provide a good lesson in world understanding.

Hano, Arnold. The big out. Barnes, 1951. 181 p. (A Barnes sports novel) \$2.50

Brick Palmer, a big league player, was barred from organized baseball when he was accused of accepting a bribe and refused to clear himself because it would incriminate his younger brother, whose gambling debts he was paying. With only one month left in the season Brick got a chance to play with an outlaw team in Canada where he made good in spite of the hatred of his team mates and the local fans. Just before the final game he was badly beaten by the same gangster who was involved in the first scandal, but he played and won the game even though it nearly killed him. His brother made a full confession and Brick was belatedly made a hero by the team, the fans and the sportwriters. Not only is the story almost complete sensationalism, Brick's actions are all motivated by false values that in the end are the values that win. Not recommended.

Hark, Mildred. Modern comedies for young players; a collection of non-royalty one-act plays; by Mildred Hark and Noel McQueen. Plays, 1951. 375 p. \$3.50

A collection of plays all of which are about the Saunders family: Mr. Saunders, Mrs. Saunders, Bud, the adolescent son, Billy, the 9 year-old, and Ruby, the maid. These are not outstanding plays and the restrictions in cast and setting (they all take place in the Saunders' living room) will limit their appeal for most schools. They could be used by drama classes but have little value otherwise.

Headley, Elizabeth. Catchpenny Street. Macrae, 1951. 223 p. \$2.50 Gr. 8-10.

In 1917 Camden the only respectable job for girls after they graduated from high school was teaching. For Ellen Arthur who lived with her aunt and uncle in genteel poverty on Linden Street (known locally as Catchpenny Street) the prospect was bleak since she wanted to be a nurse and not a school teacher. A romance with Gordon Baldwin, son of one of the town's

wealthier families, almost caused her to give up nursing for marriage, but she realized in time that her feeling for Gordon sprang from a desire for security rather than from love. Her awakening came in part from the attentions of Tony Wilde, a young medical student who kept popping into her life, and he was the one she finally married. A pleasant love story and a good picture of the period.

Hogan, Inez. Runaway Toys. Dutton, 1950. 36 p. \$1.75

Slight story about some toys who started out to see the world, found it too confusing and dangerous, and so returned home. Told in poorly rhymed text that is forced and difficult to read. Not recommended.

Hogner, Dorothy (Childs). The wild little honker; pictures by Mills Hogner. Oxford, 1951. 46 p. Gr. 3-5.

The wild little honker is a Canadian goose that was hatched on the banks of the Bronx River and lived in and near the river until it grew old enough to join some other wild geese on their annual migration. Pleasant story and nice illustrations. Will be useful for nature study classes as well as for general reading.

Julian, Nancy R. The peculiar Miss Pickett; drawings by Donald E. Cooke. Winston, 1951. 73 p. \$1.50

Fanciful baby sitters seem to be the style this season. Miss Pickett is a sweet-looking little old lady but when she removes her glasses things begin to happen. The bathtub fills by itself, a burglar's hands are caught and held in a drawer, the teakettle whistles "Dixie", and the big dipper (that played hockey) is returned to its place in the sky. This all comes about through some relationship between Miss Pickett and the forces that control the universe but the author never explains just what that relationship is. An attempt at another "Mary Poppins" that is completely unsuccessful. Not recommended.

Kennedy, Mary. Violets are blue; illus. by Helen Stone. Lothrop, 1951. 154 p. \$2.00 K-gr. 1. (D116)

Pleasant little stories about a six-year-old girl and her activities through the year from one birthday to the next. These are stories to read to pre-school children and will have little appeal for readers who are advanced enough to handle them alone.

Kjelgaard, James Arthur. Irish Red, son of Big Red. Holiday, 1951. 224 p. \$2.50 Gr. 7-9.

Sequel to Irish Red. The hero this time is Mike, Red's son, who started out as a willful, head-strong runt no one could handle but who finally showed himself to be even better than Red in every thing except looks. Kjelgaard has again combined good writing with a subject that has strong appeal.

Laird, Helene. Nancy gets a job. World, 1951. 224 p. \$2.00 Gr. 8-10.

Third in the series of stories about Nancy Leland's growing up. This time Nancy is launched into the business world where she first tries a routine typing job and then moves into publishing where her real interest lies. Like the earlier titles this one is not characterized by outstanding writing but it does have more realistic situations and sounder values than are usual for career stories. Could be used for guidance material.

Langford, Norman F. Fire upon the earth; the story of the Christian church; illus. by Jonn Lear. Westminster, 1950. 207 p. \$2.00 Gr. 7-9.

Well-written history of the Christian church and some of the outstanding persons who have contributed to its development. Written from the Protestant point of view but with no emphasis on any one sect this will be a valuable contribution to church history for young readers.

Latham, John H. Lonesome longhorn; adapted from a longhorn tale by J. Frank Dobie. Westminster, 1951. 220 p. \$2.50 Gr. 7-9.

A well-written story of a boy and his pet that is more than just another ranch story. From the day when Purdy persuades his father to save the new born bull calf whose mother has died, Sancho becomes not just a longhorn but a part of the Cobb family. The story has humor - in the antics of Sancho; and pathos - in Purdy's and his sister, Penny's, grief when they almost lose their pet. There is the excitement of a trip over the Santa Fe trail with a herd of cattle and suspense in the loss and final recovery of Sancho.

Leonard, Nellie M. The Graymouse family; illus. by Barbara Cooney. Crowell, 1950. 209 p. \$2.00

Dull story of a family of mice living in an attic and their experiences with the human family who own the house and with other mice in the pantry, cellar, and field. The mice follow the customs of the humans but their affairs are uninteresting and completely without appeal. Not recommended.

Lineaweaver, Marion McLennan. Jimmy and the spy; illus. by Bob Meyers. Bobbs-Merrill, 1951. 180 p. \$2.25

Mediocre cloak-and-dagger story of the Canadian North woods, atomic secrets, a Russian spy, and a weird new plane that can land in a remarkably small space and looks like an egg. The story leans heavily on coincidence and has nothing of value to contribute. Not recommended.

Lobsenz, Amelia. Kay Everett calls CQ. Vanguard, 1951. 215 p. \$2.50

After a winter long illness that kept her out of college Jane Carlton's doctor suggested she should go west for the summer, so Jane and three friends bought and refinished a trailer and started out. Jane took along her amateur radio outfit and succeeded in interesting Kay Everett, one of the girls, in studying to become a ham. Interspersed between long discussions of hams and their outfits, are a jewel thief (captured by the girls of course); a handsome young man (captured by Jane); a carpenter (mistaken for the thief at first but finally disclosed to be a long lost employee of Kay's father); and various and sundry hams. The information about amateur radio operators is interesting, but it and the story are too hopelessly tangled for the reader to get much pleasure or information from either. Not recommended.

Loomis, Alice F. Ride out singing. Whittlesey, 1951. 224 p. \$2.50 Gr. 8-10.

Seventeen-year-old Phyllis Vernon came from England to Canada in 1885 to keep house for her brother on his homestead. She was dismayed at times by her brother's partner, whom she had not known about until she arrived, and the hardships of farm life but she became accustomed to the latter and fell in love with the former so all ended well. The girls are prettier and the men more manly than is probable but the story

is pleasant and should appeal to teen-age girls.

Lorenzini, Carlo. The adventures of Pinocchio; by C. Collodi, pseud.; with illus. after Attilio Mussino. Macmillan, 1951. 206 p. (New children's classics) \$2.00

Attilio Mussino's illustrations of Pinocchio, so long associated with this classic, have been adapted by Ava Morgan to fit the format of this new edition. Printed in yellow, black and white, they are not as pleasing as the illustrations in the Lippincott Classics edition (1948). Good sturdy binding for library or home purchase.

MacDonald, George. The princess and the goblin; illus. by Nora S. Unwin. Macmillan, 1951. 249 p. (New children's classics) \$2.00

This new edition of The princess and the goblin contains new illustrations which are more numerous and more interesting than those in the older edition. The larger print and the good page set up improve the format of the book.

McLean, Robert N. The traded twins; illus. by Rafael Palacios. Rev. ed. Friendship pr., 1951. 134 p. \$1.75

An unsuccessful attempt to combine a mystery and a missionary story. Tag Hutchison and Tess Taggart were born on the same day and, because their parents were good friends, were jokingly called "twins". When they were sixteen, Tag went to Mexico to spend a summer with Tess' parents while she came to Detroit where Tag's father was a minister. In Mexico Tag did a lot of sight-seeing, most of it a study of the work of the missionaries. While on his way to a conference he was kidnapped by some disgruntled mine workers and gained his freedom by frightening the village people with some magic tricks. The whole book sounds very snugly self-satisfied and does nothing to increase understanding between the two countries. Not recommended.

McNeer, May Yonge. John Wesley; by May McNeer and Lynd Ward. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1951. 96 p. \$2.50

Biography of John Wesley, the father of Methodism. The author has pictured a character who is wholly without faults and, therefore, without reality or interest. Although Wesley's entire life was devoted to Methodism the book gives the reader only the vaguest of notions as to what Methodism is and wherein it differs from other religious sects. Lynd Ward's illustrations are spectacular but the story fails to live up to them. Not recommended.

Neary, Thomas. Ralph Kiner, the heir apparent. Barnes, 1951. 25 p. (Barnes all-star library) \$.50 Gr. 5-7.

Stanley Frank Musial, the man. Barnes, 1951. 25 p. (Barnes all-star library) \$.50 Gr. 5-7.

Two more titles in the All-Star Library series. Like the first books these give important facts about the careers of the players together with their complete records to date. Laminated board bindings with the records on the end papers.

Wynell, Esther Hallan (Moorhouse). The story of Hans Andersen. Henry Schuman, 1950. 136 p. (Story biography series) \$2.00 Gr. 7-9.

Well-written biography of Hans Andersen. Less attractive in format and somewhat more slow-paced than the Manning-Sanders, Swan of Denmark (Medill McBride,

1950) this is in some ways better for it presents Andersen as more real and less like a character from one of his own stories.

Moore, Vardine, Billy between; by Vardine Moore and Fleur Conkling; with illus. by Roger Crumling. Westminster, 1951. 175 p. \$2.50 Gr. 6-8. (D37; D107)

Billy is the twelve-year-old boy in a family of four girls - two older and two younger. His troubles come to a climax one night when he decides there is no place for him in the family. His understanding parents help him to lose himself in a hobby (a pony) and he finds that all he really needed was something in which to be interested. A good picture of family relations and, although Billy sometimes seems too good to be true, the problems and their solutions are real and reasonable. Could be used to start weaning horse fans to other types of reading.

Morgan, Alfred Powell. First chemistry book for boys and girls; illus. by Bradford Babbitt and Terry Smith. Scribner's, 1950. 179 p. \$2.75 Gr. 5-7.

Simple chemistry experiments with clear directions and illustrations. Most of the materials required are to be found at home. Good for supplementary reading in science classes and for home laboratories.

Naramore, Elizabeth, ed. Farm on Fifth Avenue; a collection of figures from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, depicting farm folk, barnyard animals, and wild creatures of field and stream. Pantheon, 1951. 32 p. \$2.00 Gr. 6-8.

"A collection of figures from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, depicting farm folk, barnyard animals, and wild creatures of field and stream" - subtitle. The illustrations are useful for art classes to show to children as they model in clay and also to lead them to an appreciation of the art of the world. The text is coy and of little value but the illustrations more than compensate for the feeble writing.

Oursler, Fulton. Modern parables. Doubleday, 1950. 153 p. \$1.75

Brief anecdotes, many of them about famous people, designed to teach great truths. Too often the lesson taught is in direct contrast to what the author intends. Not recommended.

Pack, Elizabeth. Saddle for Hoskie; illus. by Manning DeV. Lee. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1951. 128 p. \$1.50 Gr. 3-5.

Pleasant story of a modern Navajo Indian boy. Hoskie had had little experience with any one except his own people until he was sent to a government school. He soon decided the Navajo way was better, ran away from the school, and returned home. Part of his desire to get home came from his need to earn some money to buy a saddle. Therefore when he won the saddle in a Junior Rodeo contest he was quite content to attend another school that had opened near his home.

Palazzo, Tony. Federico, the flying squirrel. Viking, 1951. 54 p. \$2.50 K-gr. 2.

Federico was a small flying squirrel who made friends with a small boy and one day helped rescue the boy's kitten from a tree. There is a nice rhythm to the writing and the illustrations give Federico character and personality without resorting to personification. The way in which the text is scattered over the pages makes this more a book to read to children

than one they will be able to handle alone. Contains directions at end for making a paper flying squirrel.

Peckham, Howard. William Henry Harrison, young Tippecanoe; illus. by Paul Laune. Bobbs-Merrill, 1951. 190 p. (Childhood of famous Americans series) \$1.75 Gr. 3-5.

Fictionized account of the early childhood of William Henry Harrison. The dialog is wooden and the characters lifeless. There is not enough about Harrison's later life to give the reader any idea of who or what he became. Not recommended.

Ripley, Elizabeth. Dopey doings; jokes selected and illus. by Elizabeth Ripley. Oxford, 1951. 46 p. \$.85 Gr. 3-6.

A collection of jokes of the "little moron" type. The book is too small (5" x 6") and too fragile for library use but youngsters who are at the little moron stage of humor will enjoy owning it.

Rounds, Glen. Whitey and the rustlers. Holiday, 1951. 32 p. \$1.25 Gr. 6-8.

A brief and mildly exciting account of Whitey's capture of some men who are killing his uncle's cattle and selling the meat on the black market. The book will be useful for readers who want a "thin book" but it should not be mistaken for remedial reading material as the style is of at least seventh grade difficulty.

Scott, J. M. Hudson of Hudson's Bay; illus. by Astrid Walford. Schuman, 1951. 176 p. (Story biography series) \$2.50 Gr. 7-9.

Biography of Henry Hudson based in large part on Hudson's own records and the journals of men who sailed with him on his various voyages. The author intrudes himself and his own opinions much more than is necessary but when he gets out of the way the rest of the story is quite interesting.

Scott, Judith Unger. Pattern for personality; illus. by Ruth K. Macrae. Macrae, 1951. 191 p. \$2.50 Gr. 8-10.

A manners book for teen-age readers. The straightforward style will appeal to readers who resent the attempts to copy teen-age jargon that are found in so many modern personality books. Contents include: Your home life; Your school life; Your social life; Your future.

Seignobosc, Françoise. Jeanne-Marie counts her sheep; by Françoise. Scribner's, 1951. 35 p. \$2.00 K-Gr.1

Delightful combination of a counting book and the story of a little girl who counted her chickens before they were hatched. Jeanne-Marie talks to her one sheep and tells it all the things she will buy when it has one, two, three, four, - - - lambs. The surprise ending will please and satisfy young readers. Illustrations are colorful and gay and will add much to the book's enjoyment.

Silliman, Leland. Bucky Forrester; illus. by Norman Guthrie Rudolph. Winston, 1951. 216 p. \$2.50

Bucky Forrester is a paragon of virtue whose whole life is centered around the local Boy's Club. He is willing, however, to give up his Club activities to take on an extra paper route so he can buy his father some power tools and again to take on a gang of delinquents who have the police stumped but who are reformed by Bucky and become leading members of the Club. As if that were not enough Bucky saves the Community Fund Drive by an impromptu and hard-hitting speech at a Fund Dinner, and then makes the final sacrifice of teaching his chief rival in the free-swimming contest how to

overcome his faults though it means Bucky loses the chance to represent the Club at the National Meet. His reward is the National Junior Citizenship Award. Very noble but wholly unrealistic. Not recommended.

Smith, Kate. Stories of Annabelle; illus. by Bill and Bernard Martin. Tell-Well pr., 1951. 24 p. \$1.00

Dull stories of a little girl who dreams of fairies and such like. Illustrations cover as much space as the text and are equally bad. Not recommended.

Steeple, Ann Day. A child's first book of Bible stories; illus. by Hubert Whatley. Hart, 1950. 95 p. \$1.25

Mediocre retellings of some of the Bible stories. There is little appeal in either the text or the illustrations. Not recommended.

Stern, William. Bill Stern's sport quiz book; by Bill Stern and David Ormont. Messner, 1950. 128 p. \$2.00 Gr. 6-8.

Quizzes about sports of all types: football, baseball, tennis, hockey, etc. Useful for libraries needing a large amount of sports material.

Stevens, Alden Gifford. Lion Boy's white brother; illus. by Robert Frankenberg. Lippincott, 1951. 241 p. \$2.50 Gr. 7-9. (D42; D62)

Sequel to Lion Boy. Simba, the lion boy, meets and makes friends with Jack Maitland, son of a white doctor, who comes to Africa to study tribal medicines and herbology. The two boys are given permission to go on a safari with only Abdullah, an Arab guide, and several native bearers as companions. After about two weeks of travel Abdullah is bitten by a poisonous snake and dies, whereupon the bearers desert. The two boys go on and with the help of some friendly natives and their own ingenuity and courage finally reach the place where they are to meet Jack's parents. An improbable story, especially in the final finding of uranium but there are some good values in the friendship between Simba and Jack and in Simba's relations to his family.

Stolz, Mary. The organdy cupcakes. Harper, 1951. 213 p. \$2.50. Gr. 8-10.

A better than average career story for teen-age girls. The profession is nursing, but it is nursing with somewhat more reality and less glamor than is usual for these stories. There are three main characters: Gretchen Bemis, the beauty of the class (named by one of the doctors as "Bemis de Milo") who frankly entered the nursing profession because she wanted to marry a doctor; Rosemary Joplin, a minister's daughter, who has worked herself into a serious mental state in her rebellion against her father's marriage to a woman who is as plain as Rosemary's mother was beautiful; and Nelle Gibson, mousy daughter of a socially brilliant, somewhat more than flighty, mother. The three become friends during their student days in spite of their great differences in temperament. They perform no miracles as student nurses nor are any predicted for their future careers and, although there are three men more or less paired off with them, the romances come about quite realistically. Poor title for a good book.

Van Riper, Guernsey. Will Rogers, young cowboy; illus. by Paul Laune. Bobbs-Merrill, 1951. 195 p. (Childhood of famous Americans series) \$1.75 Gr. 3-5.

Fictionized biography of the early childhood of Bill Rogers that is not only mediocre writing but is not consistent with other better written biographies of Rogers. Not recommended.

Vipont, Elfrida. The lark in the morn; illus. by Sandra James. Bobbs-Merrill, 1951. 234 p. \$2.50. Gr. 6-8.

A rather delicate story of the growing up of a young girl in a modern Quaker family in England. Kit's mother died when she was born and she was reared by a cousin, Laura, who tried, and very nearly succeeded, in giving her a serious inferiority complex, especially in regard to her singing. How Kit learns to stand up for her rights and discovers not only music but her own ability to create music makes pleasant reading. Some of the characters, especially the teachers, are types rather than real people and the whole tone of the book will be too introspective for many readers but there will be some who will like it just for that quality. The Quaker religion permeates the story without ever getting in the way.

Voight, Virginia Frances. The house in Robin Lane; illus. by Jean Martinez. Holiday, 1951. 220 p. \$2.50. Gr. 4-6.

After the death of her parents young Jennifer Hawkins was shipped off to her uncle in Ohio. From New Haven to Cedarville, Ohio was a long trip for a small girl to make in 1932 but there was nothing else for her to do. The trip turned out to be almost too exciting, with a stage coach robbery, getting lost in the woods and rescued by a traveling circus, and even a ride on an elephant. Jennifer finally did reach Cedarville and soon made a place for herself in her uncle's home. This has much the same combination of quaintness and mystery that was in Apple Tree Cottage.

White, Anne (Hitchcock). The story of Serapina; illus. by Tony Palazzo. Viking, 1951. 128p. \$2.50. Gr. 4-6.

Serapina was a very unusual cat. Even the Salinus' neighbors finally admitted that although at first they thought it was just Mrs. Salinus who was peculiar. Mr. Salinus and the children were delighted with Serapina, especially when she brought in the morning milk, got the children up and to breakfast on time, and even worked up to the status of baby sitter. A modern fanciful tale with a great deal of humor and a perfect surprise ending.

Whitney, Phyllis Ayame. The island of dark woods; with illus. by Philip Wishnefsky. Westminster, 1951. 190 p. \$2.50.

A mediocre mystery story in which two sisters, spending a summer with their aunt on Staten Island, solve the family mystery involving their great-grandmother, a phantom stagecoach, and Santa Ana. Not only is the plot thin and too dependent on coincidence, there are definitely negative values in the manner in which the girls force their way into the house of their next door neighbor in the face of his repeated statements that he wishes to have nothing to do with them. Not recommended.

Work, R. O. Mr. Dawson had a farm; illus. by Dorothy Maas. Bobbs-Merrill, 1951. 131p. \$1.75. Gr. 3-5.

Mr. Dawson had a farm but only by a series of fortunate accidents did he manage to run it. In a style that is reminiscent of the folk tale Mr. Dawson gets into and out of ridiculous situations with no great effort on his part. A combination of fantasy and humor that will be fun to read aloud.

### 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.

Bush, Bernice C.; Dunn, Anita E.; and Jackman, Isabel E., comps. Fare for the reluctant reader; books, magazines, and audio-visual aids for the slow learner in grades 7-10. Albany, N. Y.: New York State College for Teachers, 1951. Orders should be addressed to: Capital Area School Development Association, New York State College for Teachers, Albany 3, New York. 50¢

The lack of any indication of difficulty levels (and the range is wide) will limit the value of this list as a source of remedial reading materials. It will have value for use with reluctant readers who are not severe remedial problems. Some items in the book list are starred but there is no interpretation given of the markings. Brief annotations, mainly descriptive.

The CARNIVAL OF BOOKS radio program is now on a four to six weeks trial broadcast on the NBC national network. The series is now presented at 11:45 EST on Sundays, and is being rebroadcast either simultaneously or at other hours or on other days by the other stations of the network. All teachers and librarians who are interested in having this program broadcast in their area should contact their local NBC stations. Mrs. Ruth Harshaw is moderator of the program which presents an author or authors on each broadcast. A selection from the author's book is read by Jack Lester and the author is interviewed by a panel of children. The programs for June will feature the following books and authors:

- June 2 - THE JENNIFER WISH, by Eunice Young Smith
- June 9 - THE DANCING HEART, by Lucile Rosenheim
- June 16 - THE APACHE INDIANS and INDIANS OF THE LONGHOUSE, by Sonia Bleeker
- June 23 - WILD HUNTER, by K. C. Randall
- June 30 - BARNEY HITS THE TRAIL, by Sara and Fred Machetzanz

Eakin, Mary K. "A method of analyzing and evaluating children's books." Chicago Schools Journal 32:140-44. March-April, 1951.

Gray, William S. "Summary of reading investigations July 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950." Journal of Educational Research 44:401-441. F'51.

Hartley, Helene W. "Developing personality through books" The English Journal 40:198-204. Ap'51.

Smith, Dora V. "How literature is taught in secondary schools of today." NEA Journal. 40:285-87. Ap'51.

"Writing for children" The Educational Magazine. 7:511-514. D'50.

The winners of the Herald Tribune Spring Book Festival are:

- Upper group: Americans before Columbus, by Elizabeth Chesley Baity (Viking)
- Middle group: Ginger Pye, by Eleanor Estes (Harcourt)
- Lower group: Jeanne-Marie counts her sheep, by Françoise (Scribners)

RE-EVALUATION (Books no longer in Center)

- Chapman, B. Escape from the nuisances  
Hickens, C. Christmas stories  
Hoster, E. Gigi in America  
Heeman, R. H. Young Franklin Roosevelt  
Hutch, M. S. Mr. 2 of everything  
Hott, L. L. A children's guide to Boston  
Krauss, R. The great Duffy  
Krum, G. Read with me  
Kubie, N. B. Make way for a sailor  
Kuhn, A. Royal banners fly  
Kunhardt, D. M. More please  
Lambert, J. One for the money  
Lambert, J. Up goes the curtain  
Lansing, E. C. H. Ann Bartlett on stateside duty  
Lansing, E. C. H. Nancy Naylor, captain of flight nurses  
Latham, B. Perrito's pup  
Lau, J. S. Beggar boy of Galilee  
Lawrence, A. Where is Christopher?  
Leaf, M. Flock of watchbirds  
Lent, H. B. "Fly it away!"  
Ley, M. The enchanted eve  
L'Hommedieu, D. K. Robbie the brave little collie  
Lipscomb, G. D. Tales from the land of Simba  
Lister, M. M. Big brother and little brother  
Little, I. Michael Finnegan  
Lockwood, M. Mystery at lonesome end  
Lorenzini, C. Pinocchio (adapted by Allen Chaffee)  
Loring, J. West we go  
Lothrop. The story of the seven ravens  
Low, A. M. Tick-tock  
Lownsbery, E. Marta the doll  
Lucas, E. Voyage thirteen  
Lucas, J. M. The big Brewster family  
McAdoo, E. R. W. Julia and the White House  
McCracken, R. The mystery of Carmen the cow  
McGavran, G. W. Fig Tree Village  
\*MacKay, R. Just like me  
McSwigan, M. Hi, Barney!  
\*Madison, M. Picture stories from the life of Christ  
Madison, M. Picture stories from the Old Testament  
\*Mallette, G. E. Once is forever  
\*Mallon, C. H. Happy gingerbread boy  
Maloy, L. Tea party in Plumpudding street  
Maloy, L. Toby's house  
Sister Margaret Patrice. Up the shining path  
\*Marshall, R. V. derZ. The treasure of Shaftc  
Sister Mary Jean Dorcy. A crown for Joanna  
Mason, V. W. Flight into danger  
Mazet, H. S. Eagles in the sky  
Meek, S. S. P. Gustav, a son of Franz  
\*Merwin, D. Time for Tammie  
Miles, S. Three pals on the desert  
Millen, M. Wild West Bill rides home  
Miller, B. W. Kay and Kim in Wild horse canyon  
Miller, B. W. Ten boys who became famous  
Miller, B. W. Ten girls who became famous  
Miller, J. Linda just right  
\*Miller, J. D. Miss Navy Junior  
\*Miller, W. H. The home-builders  
Mills, F. Susan's surprise.  
\*Miner, L. S. Wild waters  
Misch, R. J. At Daddy's office  
\*Mitchell, I. The beginning was a Dutchman  
Molloy, A. S. B. Shooting Star Farm  
Montgomery, R. G. Men against the ice  
Montgomery, R. G. The mystery of the turquoise frog  
Montgomery, R. G. Rough Riders ho!  
Moore, D. W. The end of Long John Silver  
\*Moore, J. T. A child's book of psalms  
Morey, S. Pat 'n' Penny  
Morgan, H. L. Mistress of the White House  
Morice, S. The book of Wiremu

Miss Six Hoop  
HM M11  
Faculty Exchange