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BULLETIN of the Children's Book Center.
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New Titles for Children and Young People

Allen, Merritt Parmelee. The Flicker's Feather; decorations by Tom O'Sullivan. Longmans, 1953. 220p. $2.75.
A tale of the French and Indian War and of the flight to win Fort Ticonderoga from the French. Duff Johnson joined Rogers' Rangers with the idea of helping to free the country from the French and Indians and then of settling on a homestead in the Green Mountains. The story of his adventures with the Rangers as a prisoner in the French fort at Montreal gives an interesting picture of the period. The writing is not Allen's best. The characters are not very realistically portrayed and the episode of Duff's inheritance has too many improbable aspects to be completely accepted by the discriminating reader. (Gr.7-9)

When young David is given an opportunity to make a wish on a magic soda pop bottle, he wishes that he may have a wish every day. However, after seven wishes by means of which he has succeeded in flooding the house, turning the cook into a parrot, and losing a day's fun by making himself invisible, he decides that magic is more trouble than fun. On the eighth day he wishes that he did not have any wishes and that is the end of the magic. Forced fantasy that is not always consistent. Not recommended. (Gr.3-5)

Tailored biography of Abraham Lincoln that takes him from the time of the family's move to Indiana to his death. The writing is far below the quality of Baker's usual work and the book has neither the literary quality nor the depth of characterization of the Judson Abraham Lincoln (Wilcox & Follett, 1950). It is comparable to the Gorrham, Real Book about Abraham Lincoln (Garden City, 1951) in difficulty level and style. (Gr.5-7)

Benary-Ibsert, Margot. The Ark; tr. by Clara and Richard Winston. Harcourt, 1953. 246p. $2.50. (D37; D1; D102).
A quietly told but moving story of the four Lechow children and their mother as they try to rebuild their lives in post-war West Germany. As refugees the Lechow's must face both the sorrow that comes from their loss of home and the resentment of the people with whom they are quartered. The story primarily concerns fourteen-year-old Margret and fifteen-year-old Matthias who have no hope of continuing their schooling and must make the best of their disrupted lives. They find jobs on a nearby farm, doing work that is not too different from the kind of work they had once hoped to train for, and they are eventually able to bring the other members of the family to the farm where life will be somewhat easier for them all. Without minimizing the hardships of the Lechow's life, the author is able to convey to the reader their courage and family solidarity and their hope for the future. (Gr.7-9)

Bendick, Jeanne. The First Book of Space Travel; written and illus. by Jeanne Bendick. Watts, 1953. 69p. $1.75.
A clear, concise statement of what has been done so far to make space travel a possibility and what the future probabilities are. Simple, diagramatic pictures help to explain the text. A space wardrobe is pictured on the end papers and is repeated in the text. (Gr.5-7)

Bentel, Pearl Bucklen. Progress for Christine; drawings by Orel Zell Tucker. Longmans, 1953. 249p. $2.75.
A career novel about radio script writing. Christine Leonard began her radio career as a sort of handy girl for one of the small stations in her home town. There she had an opportunity to work in several different departments and to learn much that helped her with her own specialty of script writing. Although the book is in some ways better than the usual career novel in that Christine does not achieve success too

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swiftly or too fortuitously, the writing is
weak and Christine's thirteen-year-old sister,
Edie, is the only character who ever comes
alive. There is the usual romance with the
usual happy ending. Not recommended. (Gr.8-10)

Betenson, E. W. Tale of Two Collies; illus.
122p. $2.25.
An English story of two collies, one of
whom has been blinded by an accident and later
regains her sight. The style is condescending,
sentimental, and lacking in literary quality.
Not recommended. (Gr.6-8)

Bishop, Richard W. Stepping Stones to Light;
186p. $2.50.
A simplified account of man's early dis-
covers and continuing experiments with elec-
tricity as seen through the lives of some of
the outstanding figures in the field from the
early Greek philosopher, Thales of Miletus to
Thomas Edison. The interesting subject and
lively style will give the book value as
supplementary reading for science and vo-
cational guidance classes and for general
library use. (Gr.6-8)

Bloch, Marie Halun. Big Steve; the Double
Tunnel; illus. by Nicolas.
Coward-McCann, 1952. 72p. $2.50.
Big Steve, the double quick tunnelman,
and his rock hog Daisy - a cross between a
dog, a ground hog, a mole, and a gopher -
roam the West digging tunnels and benifiting
mankind by such inventions as the deep-
enuffer and the Wyoming gazeyrs. His prize
job - a tunnel from Florida to Nebraska -
proves a failure when, along with Florida
sunshine, it brings a hurricane that almost
blows Nebraska into Iowa. In the character
of Steve, Mrs. Bloch has created a new tall
tale hero who weaves with Paul Reuau,
Fasco Bill and the other legendary work
heroes of this continent. (Gr.4-6)

Blyton, Enid. The Circus of Adventure; with
illus. by Stuart Tresilian. St. Martin's
The seventh tile in Enid Blyton's Ad-
venture series. This time the Mannering
children, their cousin, and their parrot,
Kiki, are involved with a foreign prince who
is in England incognito. As usual in Blyton's
books the children go through a series of
dangerous and highly improbable adventures
from which they emerge unscathed and suc-
cessful. In addition to the lack of reality
in both the characters and adventures, this
book is marked by a strong emphasis on
British superiority and a ridicoulce of any-
thin foreign. Not recommended. (Gr.5-7)

Bowen, Robert Sidney. Behind the Bat.
Lothrop, 1953. 158p. $2.50.
A story of major league baseball and of a
young boy who wins the fame his father would
have had years before but failed to achieve
because of a freak accident and mediocre writing and a
preposterous plot that hinges almost
entirely on coincidence. Not recommended. (Gr.6-8)

Braverman, Libbie L. Children of Freedom;
128p. $2.
An account of the establishment of modern
Israel. Some of the chapters are written in a
fictionalized style and others give a straight
factual presentation. A lack of adequate
transitions between the two styles makes the
book confusing and difficult to follow.
Hoffman's The Land and People of Israel
(Lippincott, 1950) and Zelig's The Story of
Modern Israel for Young People (Bloch, 1950)
give much the same information and are better
written. Not recommended. (Gr.5-7)

Brewer, Jo. The Mysterious Treasure of Cloud
Rock; illus. by Jill Elgin. Dutton, 1953.
184p. $2.50.
A poorly written mystery story in which
coincidence is strained to the breaking point.
The author has employed all of the time-worn
elements of mystery stories - a secret cave,
pirate treasure, and a lost heir. Not recom-
manded. (Gr.4-6)

Brown, Margaret Wise. The Duck; photographs
The duck leaves his home by the sea and
goes to the city because he thinks the ani-
mals and people there may not know what a duck
looks like. His reception is not overly
cordial so he returns to the sea and his boxer
friend. Some of the photographs are quite
good but some are too posed and much of the
humor that is in them is of an adult type.
The story is slight and obviously contrived
to fit the illustrations. Not recommended.
(Pre-school)

Brown, Marion Marsh. Frontier Reacon.
Because of his dislike for slavery, Jud
Stuart's father moved his family from Missouri
across the river to Nebraska in the days pre-
ceding the Civil War. There young Jud dreamed
of the day when he would own his own newspaper
and he fulfilled that dream in spite of the
heavy responsibility that became his after his
father's death. The story gives a good
picture of frontier life, Readers who enjoyed
Wendy's Prairie Printer (Longmans, 1949) will
find this book equally interesting. (Gr.8-10)

Brown, Rose (Johnston). Bicycle in the Sky;
The Story of Alberto Santos-Dumont; illus.
183p. $2.50.
Semi-fictionalized biography of Alberto
Santos-Dumont, a leading citizen of Brazil
and one of the great pioneers of aviation.
The story begins with Dumont's childhood in
Brazil and his early interest in flying, and
takes him through his long career in Paris
where he experimented with balloons, diri-
gibles, and heavier-than-air craft. The
emphasis is on the man and his times rather
than the scientific details of his work.
Interesting and readable. (Gr.7-9)

Brunhoff, Jean de. Babar the King; tr. from
the French by Merle S. Haas. Wonder Books,
1953. 29p. 25¢.
A cut and partly re-written version that
is no easier to read than the original and

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that loses most of the sparkle and verve of
of the original version. Not recommended.
(Pre-school)

Butters, Dorothy Gilman. *The Calico Year.*
Maorae, 1953. 223p. $2.50.

Tracy Cannon and her fifteen-year-old sister, Tina, had been reared in luxury by two aunts although the girls themselves had neither money nor possessions of their own until an uncle left them his house in the Berkshire. When they grew tired of their pampered but unhappy lives they packed up and went to the old Berkshire house to live. With only forty dollars between them they managed to get through the first year by taking in boarders, selling old furniture, and renting boats. Then Tracy got a job in the local library - at twenty dollars a week - and their financial problems were all solved. The ease and speed with which the girls adjust to a new way of life is incredibil-
Not recommended. (Gr.7-9)


A collection of railroad stories with nothing to recommend them except the subject. The author mistakenly assumes that young readers are not interested in stories with adult characters and he states in the introduction that he has deliberately placed young boys in situations where they would never be allowed in real life. As a result the stories lack validity and this weakness coupled with the poor quality of the writing makes the book valueless. Hubbard's *The Train that Never Came Back* (Whittlesey House, 1952) is a much better collection and no less difficult. Not recommended. (Gr.5-7)


Thirteen-year-old Marvin Tucker, Jr. and his gang set out to earn enough money to buy an old canal boat and ended up by capturing a gang of thieves. The story has some amusing episodes and some very good insights into boy life. However, it lacks reality in many of the characterizations, especially of the minor characters; the gangster episodes seem contrived and are of a slightly morbid flavor; and too much of the plot hinges on coincidence. Not recommended.

(Gr.5-7)

Dean, Leon W. *Border Bullets;* illus. by Joshua Tolford. Ariel, 1953. 185p. $2.50.

A melodramatic story of the smuggling of Chinese aliens from Canada into the United States. Two young college boys stumble on to a spy ring and are instrumental in breaking it up. Both the plot and the characterizations are typed and unrealistic. Not recommended.

(Gr.7-9)


A brief but well-written explanation of the law, the history of its development, the processes by which laws come into being, and the actual working of the law. This is a more mature presentation than the Peattie's book (see below) and will be useful at a higher level.

(Gr.10-12)


When Tommy got up one morning he decided he was a giant. All day long he did the things that giants do and then at night he discovered he was just a sleepy little boy. The story of Tommy's day is told in a rhythmical prose that lends itself well to reading aloud. The flat, depthless pictures lack the charm and individuality of some of Sendak's other work. Since the illustrations are most effective when seen from a slight distance, the book may be more thoroughly enjoyed in story hours than when used by individual children.

(Pre-school)


Revised edition of a book first published in 1923. Because of its complete coverage of both the Old and New Testaments, this book may be of use in Sunday Schools, particularly those in which a very conservative telling of the Bible story is preferred. However, due to the literary quality this version ranks well below such a book as the two volume Bowie, *The Bible Story for Boys and Girls* (Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1951-52); and its very literal interpretation of Biblical events would constitute a drawback for some people. The print is fairly good, but the illustrations are banal in conception and execution and are poorly reproduced.

(Gr.4-6)


Seventeen-year-old Peg Madison had no real focus in life until the summer she joined a youth hostel group and, while traveling over this country and Canada, learned to live with other people and to accept responsibilities. Interesting situations and well-rounded characters plus an unusual subject make a book many girls will enjoy.

(Gr.7-9)


A splendid story of a little engine that cried when separated from its favorite engine and laughed when he returned. Not recommended.

(Pre-school)


A small boy and a rabbit take turns asking each other what he would like to be. The little boy imagines himself all sorts of animals; the rabbit is content to be a rabbit, but he does go so far as to decide to be an Easter bunny. A slight but pleasing picture book with amusing illustrations. (Pre-school)


When Tommy got up one morning he decided he was a giant. All day long he did the things that giants do and then at night he discovered he was just a sleepy little boy. The story of Tommy's day is told in a rhythmical prose that lends itself well to reading aloud. The flat, depthless pictures lack the charm and individuality of some of Sendak's other work. Since the illustrations are most effective when seen from a slight distance, the book may be more thoroughly enjoyed in story hours than when used by individual children.

(Pre-school)
mostly because she thought that when she became ten people would stop calling her "Little Rhody" and use her real name. Neither event came about as she had planned. On her birthday the family was enroute from New York to their new home in Michigan so there was no birthday party. By subtle questioning of her sisters Rhoda learned that it would be useless to ask them to stop using her nickname since that change would come only when she had proved to the family that she deserved the more grown up name. In addition to the problems of Rhoda's growing pains, the story has warm family relations and a good picture of life in 1875 Michigan.

(Gr.4-6)


Gay Hollister was unhappy at having to move from her Long Island home to Block Island where her father was starting a seed business. Once on the island she became interested in the possibilities of establishing a bakery business, enrolled in a cooking school, and finally had her own restaurant. At the same time that she was getting her career under way, Gay managed to work her way through one unsuccessful, and into a successful, love affair, and brought her mother out of the mentally depressed state into which she had fallen as a result of the move to the island. There is little reality to the characters or the situations and the book fails to succeed as either vocational guidance or a novel. Not recommended.

(Gr.7-9)


Science fiction for the young reader. Jean and David go with their father to the planetarium where they take an imaginary trip to the moon. The text is interesting, well-written, and geared enough to satisfy middle-minded youngsters. The illustrations add much to the reader's understanding of the story. A welcome addition to the science fiction collection.

(Gr.4-6)


A comparison and description of some of the more important holidays and festivals from around the world. The author gives something of the background of the festivals, how they have changed or modified through the years, and in some instances, how the festivals of one religion compare with festivals of other religions. Contents include: The Chinese Holidays, The Hindu Holidays, The Jewish Holidays, The Christian Holidays, The Moslem Holidays, Other Holidays. United Nations Day is described last with a strong plea for international brotherhood. A very readable book that should have value for all library collections.

(Gr.6-)

Goudge, Elizabeth. The Valley of Song; illus. by Richard Floethe. Coward-McCann, 1951. 281p. $3. (Di16; Di14).

Ten-year-old Tabitha was a special kind of child one who could go from the everyday world to the realm of fantasy and back whenever she so desired. She put her ability to good use when she helped some of her fellow townspeople enter the Valley of Song where they found their lost youth and won the means to save a great ship that would otherwise have been lost. The story is longer than slow-paced and is filled with an over-abundance of enchantment. However, for the more imaginative reader it will hold all of the magic which Tabitha herself found in her shining Valley of Song.

(Gr.6-8)


More hidden treasure - this time in an old parsonage in Minnesota. The treasure is an interesting part of the history of the town but the author brings in so much history that the story element is often lost completely. The characters are not always consistently portrayed and much of the plot hinges on coincidence. Not recommended.

(Gr.6-8)

Hall, Marjory. Greetings from Glenna; decorations by Catherine Barnes. Funk & Wagnalls, 1953. 252p. $2.75.

A career novel about the greeting card business. After her father's grocery business suffers a financial set-back, Glenna Holbrook is forced to give up college in favor of a business training school in her home town. As a result of the interest taken in her career by one of her family's boarders, she drifts into the greeting card business where, after a long period of adjustment, she finally begins to feel a real interest in her job. Glenna's problems, both personal and on the job, are solved in a manner that is too pat to be realistic. Not recommended.

(Gr.7-9)


An exciting, swift-paced tale of the struggle for power between a group of foreign refugees and the inhabitants of a small but oil-rich island off the coast of Norway. Young Dick Cudden became involved in the affair when he went to the island to search for his uncle who had disappeared there a short time before. He found his uncle and together they helped the islanders overcome the strangers. At times the story borders on the sheerly sensational but in general it is a good adventure story of modern times. Told in the first person.

(Gr.7-9)


Sequel to Johnny Texas. This time Johnny is entrusted with the task of hauling a load of meal from his home near Houston to a small town just over the Mexican border. He makes the trip safely but not without a number of exciting and dangerous adventures. This is a more vigorous and exciting story than Johnny Texas and should have wide appeal among young readers.

(Gr.5-7)


A rather slow-paced but entertaining biography of Bill Williams, who started out as a
missionary to the Indians and ended by accepting their ways and becoming one of the greatest of the mountain men. The author shows an obvious liking for her subject but never tries to make him out as better - or worse - than he actually was. (Gr.8-10)


Three ducks are taken to the city at Easter time and several months later returned to their farm home where a friendly drake succeeds in getting them accepted by the other ducks. The plot is too slight for the length of the book. Not recommended. (Pre-school)


The mildly pleasant doings of a small boy and his friends living in a suburban community. The story lacks the humor of the Cleary and Haywood books but has the same appeal of everyday life situations. There are good family and community relations portrayed. (Gr.3-6)


Thirteen-year-old Ted, an orphan, came west to live with his aunt and uncle determined to make good. He did. A patterned story of modern western life in which plot and characters are predictable to the point of dullness. Not recommended. (Gr.5-7)


The inhabitants of Holly Hotel and their neighbors are again involved in a mystery. This one centers around a long vacant and supposedly haunted house and the mysterious family who move into it. The suspense is well sustained and most of the characters are realistically portrayed. Readers of the earlier books will find added interest in Molly Maitland's growing pains as she realizes that her days of being on equal footing with Bob and Sandy in the escapades are over. (Gr.5-7)


Sequel to *Star Dream*. Dria Meredith and several of her friends run her great-grandmother's farm one summer. In spite of their almost total lack of experience, they make a great success of the entire venture. The story moves slowly with little or no plot to give it either motion or interest. The characters are superficially portrayed and many of the values expressed are false. Not recommended. (Gr.7-9)


When twelve-year-old Fred Summers and his friend Hank set about building a cabin on Deer Mountain, their major concern was to keep it a secret from Fred's young sister, Janey. They soon found that Janey was the least of their problems when a gang of poachers moved onto the mountain and began shooting deer. The boys tried to help catch the men but being neither brighter nor braver than any other normal twelve-year-olds, their efforts were as often a hindrance to the law enforcement officers as they were an aid. An exciting and amusing story. (Gr.5-7)

Lansing, Marion Florence. *Liberators and Heroes of the West Indian Islands; Jacket and end leaves by George Eisenberg*. Page, 1953. 294p. $4.

Brief sketches of some of the men who helped bring freedom to the Islands of the West Indies. The interesting style of writing and vivid descriptions of some of the more exciting moments in the history of the islands will give the book value as reference material, as supplementary reading for American history classes, and for general library use. (Gr.8-12)


High school basketball with the well-worn "runt makes good" theme and, for added interest, the downfall of a gang of gamblers who are trying to fix the games in which the runt plays. Adequate descriptions of basketball games, but very little character or plot development. Not recommended. (Gr.7-9)


An English importation. For as long as he could remember young Rory had lived with Tim and Maureen Molloy on their farm in the Irish bog-land. Although Rory knew he did not belong to the Molloys they treated him as their own son and he returned their affection. However, as soon as he was old enough to quit school he went to the nearby town of Kildore to work and to try to learn his true identity. The search proved successful - and almost disastrous when he learned that he was heir to the local castle but that his uncle had no intention of accepting him. Rory's adventures in Kildore are told with vigor but with an Irish flavor that makes difficult reading at times when the Irish words are not fully explained by the context of the sentences. A book for good readers who will not be too hampered by the dialect and the somewhat fine print. (Gr.7-9)


The story of the first two attempts by the English to establish a fur trading post in Northern Canada. The story centers around young Michael Windfield who was befriended by Prince Rupert and given a chance to join the Prince's Company of Adventurers. Vivid descriptions of the country and of the men who helped open it to trade make the book an excellent adventure story as well as good historical fiction. (Gr.7-9)


For six of his nineteen years Jim Keeth had
lived with a tribe of Crow Indians who saved
his life when he was seriously injured by a
grizzly. Then Jim learned that his parents
had died and his younger brothers and sister
were in the Oregon Territory and needed his
help to start a homestead. His reunion with
his family was difficult on both sides. He
had become thoroughly indoctrinated with the
Indian and mountain man’s way of living and
thinking and could not understand the things
his brother and sister wanted and the ideas
of which they approved. They, in turn, were
shocked by his savagery and were somewhat re-
sentful of the fact that he had never returned
to help the family through some of its diffi-
cult times. Only eleven-year-old Dan’t ac-
cepted Jim without question and it was through
Dan’t that each side gained understanding of
the other. The story of Jim’s gradual return
in white ways is told with a maturity and
perception that will give it appeal to many
high school readers. (Gr.8-12)

Marriott, Alice. Indians of the Four Corners;
A Book about the Anasazi Indians and Their
Modern Descendants; illus. by Margaret
A scholarly but quite readable account of the
Anasazi Indians who lived in the Four
Corners country where Colorado, New Mexico,
Arizona, and Utah now join. The account begins
with the arrival of Indians in this country and
brings the Anasazi Indians, now known as the
Pueblos, up to the present day. The book makes
an interesting and valuable addition to the
material on Indians of the United States.
(Gr. 7-12)

Meadorcroft, Enid (LaMonte). The Story of
Thomas Alva Edison; illus. by Harve Stein.
Grosset, 1952. 181p. $1.50. (Signature
Books).
A somewhat superficial biography of Edison.
The essential facts and best known episodes of
his life are recounted but Edison never
merges as a real person. The coverage is more
complete than that of the Weir Thomas Alva
Edison, Inventor (Abington-Cokesbury, 1953)
but the style is less interesting. (Gr.4-6)

Neg, Elisabeth. Plenty of Pirates; An
Adventure Tale of the Barbary Wars; illus.
$2.50.
Historical fiction dealing with that period
of United States history when our ships were
forced to pay annual tribute to the Barbary
pirates. The chief incident in which the "George Washington", which
delivered the 1800 tribute payment, was forced
by the Bey of Algiers to carry his own tribute
to Constantinople to the Bey of Turkey. Woven
into the historical background is the fiction-
alized account of young Tom Walton, an invol-
untary stowaway on the "George Washington", and
his rescue of his brother, who was being held
as a slave by the Bey of Algiers. Tom’s story
is rather contrived but the historical inci-
dents are interesting and well-handled.
(Gr.5-8)

Montgomery, Elizabeth Rider. Three Miles an
Hour. Dodd, 1952. 245p. $2.50.
The summer prospect was gloomy for fifteen-
year-old Bevis Nichols until she persuaded her
sister, Pat, to let her join Pat's group of
girls on a ten day hike through the Olympic
Mountains of Washington State. Bevis was a
good hiker and camper but her hot temper almost
spoil the trip for her and everyone else be-
fore she learned to control it. The setting is
interesting but the characters are all types and
the adjustments made by the various girls
are too easily achieved to be realistic or con-
vincing. Not recommended. (Gr.7-9)

Montgomery, Rutherford George. Wapiti the Elk;
ilus. by Gardell Dano Christensen. Little,
1952. 186p. $2.50.
The life story of an elk from the day of
its birth until it reaches full growth and ac-
quires its first herd of cows. Wapiti meets
and overcomes almost every type of danger that
an elk is likely to face from other animals,
the weather, and mankind. His story is told
with a vigor and forcefulness that will give it
appeal for readers who enjoy stories of wild
life. (Gr.7-9)

Neurath, Marie. The Wonder World of Insects.
Lothrop, 1953. 36p. $1.50.
A collection of unusual facts about a few
insects. The information is too brief and too
lacking in organization or synthesis for the
book to have much value as nature study ma-
terial. It could possibly be used to arouse a
child’s interest in insect study but has little
value otherwise. Not recommended. (Gr.4-6)

Parke, John. Amos, the Beagle With a Plan;
$2.50.
Amos is not only a beagle with a plan but
is a beagle with an entertaining and likable
personality. His cross country trek from
Connecticut to Vermont may verge on the im-
probable but by the time the reader has shared
Amos’ fatigues, his pleasures, and his final
triumph nothing the small beagle does seems im-
possible. The story will be fun for reading aloud
in family groups or for individual en-
joyment. (Gr. 5- )

Parker, Lockie, ed. Story Parade Mystery Book.
Abelard, 1953. 256p. $2.50.
Six mystery adventure stories taken from
Story Parade. The writing is somewhat uneven
and none of the stories is very good and none
is very bad. (Gr.4-6)

Payne, Josephine Balfour. The Journey of
Josiah Talltatters; pictures by Joan Balfour
Payne. Ariel, 1953. 84p. $2.75.
Tale of the journey of Josiah Talltatters
and his nephew from Philadelphia to Natchez in
1800. They have many adventures along the way
and acquire a strange assortment of animals and
goods. The story is told with all the flavor of
a tall tale. Outstanding illustrations that are as
important a part of the book as is the
text. (Gr.3-5)

A discussion of law, what it is, why it is needed, and how it operates, written for a younger audience than the Denman (see above). Civil law is given more emphasis than criminal law and the effects of civil law on the everyday lives of people are made clear and understandable. The effectiveness of the book is limited by the somewhat condescending tone of the writing, and by the confusion that results from the fact that the illustrations do not always match the text. Despite these weaknesses the book will have value for social studies classes and for general library use. (Gr. 7-9)


Fourteen tales drawn from the folklore of the Cheyenne Indians. In the introductory section the author explains the manner in which the tales were told in early days. The first seven legends deal with the origins of the Indians, the animals and various foods the Indians use. The last seven legends are humorous tales. A good addition to Indian storytelling collections. (Gr. 4-6)


Like most boys Lem Herrick wanted a pet, but unlike the other boys in his section of the Mississippi swamp country he did not want a dog. He preferred a wild animal that he could care for while it was young without in any way destroying its ability to care for itself when it was old enough to return to the swamp. When he found a baby raccoon whose mother had been killed by a wild dog in the swamp it seemed the perfect answer. The story of Lem and his pet, Bar-Face, is not only an excellent boy-animal story but is also an eloquent plea for conservation of animals and land. (Gr. 7-9)


When young Angus Gordon, a Hudson's Bay Company apprentice, started on the long journey from Kamloops in British Columbia to Fort Vancouver on the Columbia River, where he was to serve under Dr. John McLoughlin, he was determined to do his best but was not certain that his best would be good enough against the tough country and rougher men. However, when circumstances made it necessary that he should take over the leadership of the group with whom he was traveling he proved himself successful in controlling both the men and the country. An adequate although not important addition to the growing list of titles of the early days of fur trapping in the Columbia River country. (Gr. 7-9)

Schneider, Herman. *Rocks, Rivers & the Changing Earth: A First Book about Geology*; by Herman Schneider and Nina Schneider; illus. by Edwin Herron. Scott, 1952. 181p. $3.

Beginning geology presented through simple text, informative drawings, and easy experiments. The material covers the ways in which rocks are formed; how soil is made; how some of the products of the earth such as coal, oil, and precious jewels are formed; and changes that take place in the earth's surface. The experiments require materials that are easily available around most homes. Excellent for science classes and for home use. (Gr. 4-6)

Sealem, Millicent (Ellis). *All about Eggs, and How They Change into Animals*; illus. by Helen Ludwig. Scott, 1952. 64p. $2.

A book that will serve equally well as nature study material and as a book for beginning sex education. In easy text and clear drawings the author and illustrator show several different kinds of eggs, how they are hatched and what kinds of animals come from them. The last section shows how human and some animal babies develop from eggs within their mothers' bodies. (K-G r. 2)

Sealem, Millicent (Ellis). *All Kinds of Babies and How They Grow*; illus. by Helen Ludwig. Scott, 1953. 41p. $2.

A companion volume to *All About Eggs*.

Some of the illustrations trace the development of several different animal babies from birth to maturity. Others picture the difference between the baby and the mature animal without showing the stages of development. The illustrations are not always as clear as could be desired but they are generally adequate. A useful book for nature study and beginning sex education. (K-G r. 3)

Seuss, Dr. *Scrambled Eggs Super*! Random House, 1953. 54p. $2.50.

When Peter T. Hooper sets out to make scrambled eggs, the project turns into a world wide tour in search for the most exotic eggs that are to be found. The idea is new but the animals all bear a striking resemblance to those of earlier Seuss books. For readers who can stand prolonged repetition of Seuss animals the book will have appeal; for those who expect the book to show a freshness of approach and humor it will be disappointing. (Gr. 2-4)


Eleven episodes from the life of Big Mose, tall tale hero, who, with his four-foot Irish friend, Syksey, roamed the streets of mid-nineteenth century New York City, helping the needy and bringing swift retribution to anyone who tried to take advantage of their friends. The stories are told with all the robust humor and vigor of the true tall tale. (Gr. 4-6)


A typical western story, complete with a lost Spanish gold mine, an eccentric old miner, a map in rhyme, and a gang of crooks who are also on the trail of the mine. Much of the plot hinges on coincidence. Not recommended. (Gr. 7-9)

Highly fictionalized account of the boyhood of William Bradford in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth century England, with his sojourn in Holland and his work as governor of Plymouth Colony touched on briefly. The story fails to give the reader any real feeling for the period in which Bradford lived or the reasons for his joining the Puritans. Not recommended. (Gr.3-5)


Life in 1834 Nantucket was seldom dull for thirteen-year-old Jeannie Ramsay in spite of her mother's insistence that she spend more time at her sampler and less time near the wharves. Then came news of the wreck of Captain Ramsay's whaling ship but no word as to whether he had survived. After the first shock had worn off Jeannie and her family faced their future with the hope and courage that was typical of sea-faring families of that day. Jeannie proved herself the worthy daughter of a great captain by traveling alone from Nantucket to Boston to deliver a package that was too valuable to be entrusted to the mails. A good piece of period fiction. (Gr.7-9)


Re-written episode taken from *Mary Poppins.* All the lively humor of the original has been lost in both the text and illustrations of this edition. The story is too difficult in both style of writing and ideas to have much appeal for pre-school readers and is lacking in all of the qualities that gave the original version appeal for older readers. Not recommended. (Gr.2-4)


Some of the stories from the New Testament retold in verse form. The writing is without literary quality. Mediocre illustrations. Not recommended. (Pre-school)


In 1825 it was an unusual occurrence for visitors to come to the island of Capri during the winter months. Therefore the arrival of three strangers caused much comment, and young Michele Pagano was especially excited that he was instrumental in getting them to come to his father's inn to stay. They were a strange trio - a French writer, an English painter, and a Danish philosopher - and they brought strange happenings to the island. Their explorations resulted in the dispelling of the islanders' superstitions concerning a cave on the island by proving it to be a place of beauty (the Blue Grotto) instead of evil as the natives had always thought. The story, told almost entirely through dialog, moves smoothly and swiftly with well-sustained interest. (Gr.6-8)


Legend and history are woven together in this interestingly detailed account of the development of the English Coronation ceremony. The text includes the history of the Coronation Chair, the Stone of Sone, the royal jewels, and the various pieces of Coronation regalia; the story of the officers of the Crown and other attendants at the ceremony; and a detailed description of the Coronation of Elizabeth I. The book will have current interest for many readers and has reference value for future use. Indexed. (Gr.7-12)


The childhood of Jim Bowie, designer of the famous Bowie knife. The last few chapters deal with the part Bowie played in the settlement of Texas, ending with his death at the Alamo. In spite of the exciting and dangerous life of life Bowie lived, he seems dull and lifeless in this book. The dialog is stilted and unreal. Not recommended. (Gr.3-5)


Sequel to *Mountain Born.* Peter and his father had reached a state of misunderstanding due to Peter's desire to be considered grown up and his father's lack of trust in him. Then Peter's mother found it necessary to go to her brother's farm for several months and Peter had his chance to prove to his father that he was old enough to accept his share of responsibility around the family's farm. A quietly written but forceful story told with a depth of understanding of both the boy and his father, and with a real love for the country at all seasons. (Gr.7-9)


Double- and full-page spreads showing the various cars and engines that make up streamliner trains. Of especial interest are the pictures showing the insides of some of the cars, the line-up of trainmen, and the workings of a locomotive. The text is written at about the fifth grade level and the book will have a wide range of use from the pre-school child who will enjoy the pictures only to the elementary and junior high school readers who will find both text and illustrations of interest. (Gr.1-8)


Similar in format to *What's Inside of Me?* and *What's Inside of Plants?* with pages of text in primer size type alternated with pages of text in small type, double columns. Contents include steam engines, gasoline engines,
Diesels, steam turbines, jets, rockets, and atomic piles. The reading level of the primer size text is fourth grade; the small size text is seventh grade. (Gr.4-7)

Instructional Materials, Supplementary Reading and Sources of Materials

Beuschlein, Muriel and Sanders, James M. "Free and Inexpensive Teaching Materials for Science Education." Chicago Schools Journal Supplement to Vol. 34, Nos. 5-6, Jan.-Feb., '53.

Reading for You; A List for Junior and Senior High School Students. Completely rev. Copies may be obtained from the Division of Curriculum Development and Research, Board of Public Education, Forbes Street and Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh 13, Penn. 50¢


Some Free and Inexpensive Materials on Latin America" New York (City), Board of Education, Curriculum and Materials Vol. 7, No. 3. Mr. '53.


Carnival of Books Programs for May 30 through August 29, 1953. The July and August program present books all children should know. The dates listed below refer to the date the show is released to the network. Actual hour and day of re-broadcast will vary according to city. Consult your local NBC station for hour and day of the program in your city.

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May 30 - Ruth Langland Holberg, TOMBOY ROW
June 6 - John Hoke, FIRST BOOK ABOUT SNAKES
June 13 - Glen Blough, THE TREE ON THE ROAD TO TURNTOWN
June 27 - Ann Nolan Clark, SECRET OF THE ANDES
July 4 - Rudyard Kipling, JUST SO STORIES AND THE JUNGLE BOOKS
July 11 - Laura Ingalls Wilder, LITTLE HOUSE IN THE BIG WOODS
July 18 - Howard Pyle, STORY OF KING ARTHUR AND HIS KNIGHTS
July 25 - Books by Beatrix Potter, L. Leslie Brooke and Randolph Caldecott
Aug. 1 - Kenneth Grahame, WIND IN THE WILLOWS
Aug. 8 - Charles Kingsley, THE HEROES and Nathaniel Hawthorne, WONDER BOOK AND TANGLEWOOD TALKS
Aug. 15 - Mark Twain, PRINCE AND THE PAUPER
Aug. 22 - A. A. Milne, WINNIE THE POOH and others
Aug. 29 - Johann Wyss, SWISS FAMILY ROBINSON
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