PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library
EXPLANATION OF CODE SYMBOLS USED WITH ANNOTATIONS

R  Recommended
M  Marginal book that is so slight in content or has so many weaknesses in style or format that it barely misses an NR rating. The book should be given careful consideration before purchase.
NR  Not recommended.
Ad  For collections that need additional material on the subject.
SpC  Subject matter or treatment will tend to limit the book to specialized collections.
SpR  A book that will have appeal for the unusual reader only. Recommended for the special few who will read it.

New Titles
for Children and Young People

Fairly simple explanations of the kinds of evidence astronomers have gathered and the type of reasoning they have done to arrive at the main conclusions that are now held about the stars. These conclusions cover what stars are made of, brightness and distance, motion, weight, giants and dwarfs, the universe, etc. Most of the explanations are clear enough to be understandable to the lay reader who has an interest in the subject but little technical knowledge.

SpC  Allen, Betty. Legends of Old Hawaii; As Told by Tutu to Her Grandchildren; illus. by Herbe Shade. Tongg, 1956. 92p. $1.98.
Eleven traditional tales of old Hawaii, some of them nature myths and many of them relating to the Menehunes. The style is adequate for story-telling. The unattractive print and illustrations will keep the book from having much appeal for general reading.

Don Buckley is the hero of this adventure involving the three friends, Don, Hank Winton and Jim Dade, of Rustlers on the High Range. Don is hired by the nearby Forest Service station as a line packer, but is really brought in to help solve the mystery of a lost plane, with its load of platinum. Someone at the station is known to have murdered the pilot and to be planning to smuggle the platinum out. After a series of adventures planned to show the work of the Forest Service in such wilderness areas, the murderer is exposed. Adequate adventure, but not up to the quality of the first books about Hank Winton.

A survey of the many kinds of motion in the world and how each one affects mankind. Beginning with fairly simple concepts such as the motion involved in water, air and heat, the author continues with a discussion of light waves, electrons and electricity, vibrations and sound, the telephone, radio and television,
and, finally, atomic energy. The explanations are generally clear and understandable, although occasionally hampered by the author’s attempts at a light touch.


Seven brief, uninspired stories of children who might have been present at various moments in the life of Jesus from his birth in Bethlehem to his death. There is no real literary quality to the writing. The stories are written at an upper third grade reading level, but the tone is best suited to younger children.

M Beim, Jerrold. Flood Waters; illus. 5-7 by Don Sibley. Harcourt, 1956. 115p. $2.75.

Josh was disappointed at first when the excessively heavy rain spoiled his plans for a birthday party, but he grew excited as it became increasingly evident that this was no usual rain, but the beginnings of a flood. Some of the excitement was lost when the family were forced to leave their home and take refuge, along with many other townspeople, in a school building on a hill. There is only moderate suspense to the story, no real feeling for the terror or devastation of a flood, and a bit of unnecessary preaching in Josh’s relationships with some of his neighbors.


Fifty-six wonders of the world, some of them natural and some man-made, presented in small drawings and very brief text. There is little real information about the wonders; sometimes even their location is omitted, and the brevity of the text occasionally leads to misconceptions. The illustrations are without merit.


A story based on an actual episode in American development. In 1851 the side-wheeler, Golden Promise sailed from the east coast of the United States around the tip of South America and up the west coast to San Francisco. There she was used as a river boat plying between San Francisco and Sutter’s Fort. The story is told through the experiences of young Alec McTaggart who makes the voyage and works on the river boat until he decides to return East to study engineering. The writing is quite uneven since the author frequently becomes so engrossed in the factual aspects of her account that she forgets she is also telling a story.

R Bowman, James Cloyd. Mike Fink; 5-7 illus. by Leonard Everett Fisher. Little, 1957. 147p. $3.

The life of Mike Fink, semi-legendary character, from the time he first joined a keel-boat crew on the Ohio River to the time when he left the Mississippi River when the steamboats began to replace the keel-boats. The story has all the appeal of a tall tale and will be enjoyed as such. The author’s dating of the coming of the steamboats is not quite accurate, but this does not seriously affect the story.


A mildly pleasing biography of Louisa May Alcott, taking her from early childhood to the time when she began writing Little Women. The writing is in no way outstanding and the book will not compare with Meigs, Invincible Louisa (Little, Brown, 1943) for either completeness of coverage or vividness of characterization.


Based on the premise that the best defense against Communism is a clear understanding, on the part of young people, of what it is and how it operates, this is a book that should do much to promote such an understanding. In fairly simple terms the author discusses the nature of Communism, conditions of life in Communist countries, the Communist policy of world conquest, and what is being done by the United States and its allies to oppose the spread of Communism. As is almost inevitable in such a book, there are instances where problems or situations have been over-simplified, but these are not such as to negate the value of the work as a whole. A thoughtful, serious presentation that will be of especial value for social studies classes.

M Campbell, Marjorie Elliott (Wilkins). 7-9 The Nor’ Westers; The Fight for the Fur Trade; illus. by Illing-

A detailed account of the history of the North West Company and of its part in the development of Canada. Although the subject is one to have appeal and much of the material is interesting, the book has some serious weaknesses. The writing is not very adept; the author pictures the North Westers as generally in the right in all conflicts with the Hudson's Bay Company men and in the struggle with Selkirk over the settlement of middle Canada, and there is no mention of the relations between the North West Company and John Jacob Astor's Company.

The story of Jenny Lind's tour of the United States in 1850-51 under the sponsorship of P. T. Barnum. The main theme of the book is the conflict between Jenny's personal life, especially her intense longing for marriage and a home, and her professional life, with its equally strong ties. Although the author has tended to somewhat gloss over the personality traits of both Jenny Lind and Barnum that led to the final dissolution of their partnership, she has created an entertaining, warmly sympathetic picture of the two. The book should have appeal for young teen-age girls who are wanting love stories, as well as for those who are interested in biography.

A second of Mrs. Clark's recent stories about modern Indians. This time the story concerns a small Papago Indian girl of Arizona, and takes her through the process of learning to weave the mats and baskets for which this tribe is famous. The rhythmic text is well suited to reading aloud to primary children, and beginning third grade readers can handle it alone. The colorful illustrations are excellent for showing the steps in basket making.

Kay and Rory are neighbors in a large apartment building in a city where there are few places to play. Kay discovers an abandoned garden at the back of the garage and, somewhat reluctantly, agrees to share it with Rory as a place where he can keep his pet rabbit. Trouble comes in the form of Gerald, a wealthy schoolmate who wants to be friends but does not know how to go about it and who spies out their secret place. Gerald is finally accepted when he persuades his father, the owner of the building, not to destroy the garden. The story shows considerable understanding of children in the interrelationships of the three, although much of it is an adult kind of understanding and will not have too much meaning for children of Kay and Rory's age. They will, nonetheless, appreciate the need of the children for a private place to play.

Through photographs and brief text the author presents a variety of military vehicles used to transport men and equipment for the various branches of the armed services. The material will be of interest to many boys both for reading and browsing.

R Courlander, Harold and Prempeh, Albert Kofi. The Hat-Shaking Dance, and Other Tales from the Gold Coast; illus. by Enrico Arno. Harcourt, 1957. 115p. $2.95.
Twenty-one Anansi stories as originally told by the Ashanti tribes of the African Gold Coast. Many of the stories are similar to the Jamaican versions found in Sherlock's Anansi the Spider Man (Crowell, 1954). The Introduction describes the people with whom the stories originated, and at the end there is a section of notes about the individual stories. Good material for the storyteller's collection.

A family story set in a fairly remote village of England. The four motherless Verney girls, ranging in age from nine to seventeen, had grown up with little guidance in manners or dress, although their author father did all he could to stimulate their interest in good books. Their casual way of living came to an abrupt end when their father returned from a business trip bringing with him a new wife. None of the girls had heard of Nan before nor had they any inkling that their father was contemplating such a move and their first reaction was to declare war on their new stepmother. Nan proved equal to the situation, won their affection, fostered a love affair between Allison, the oldest girl,
and Nan's brother and helped forward Elizabeth's career as an actress. The story sets some interesting problems in family relationships, but they are given only the most superficial of treatments and all are neatly, tidily solved at the end. The characterizations are generally adequate although it is doubtful that even so casual a family as the Verney's would have allowed Georgie, the nine-year-old, to be quite so unpleasantly rude on all occasions.

NR Craige, Dorothy. The Saucy Cockle. 4-6 Abelard-Schuman, 1957. 36p. yrs. $2.25. The Saucy Cockle is a small boat whose existence is being threatened by the Mayor and Corporation who want to tear down its pier and bring in a much larger boat. A conveniently timed storm gives the little boat an opportunity to make a daring rescue of a fisherman, and its position is thereupon secured forever. A slight story with little originality to the plot. The book's appeal as a picture-book is lessened by the quite ugly type that has been used and the muddy colors of the illustrations.

Ad Dick, Trella Lamson. Tornado's Big Year; illus. by Mary Stevens. Follett, 1956. 224p. $2.95. In this third story about Tornado, he and his grandmother have moved to Wheatley after a fire destroyed their home in North Platte. At first Tornado is unhappy over the move for his earlier experiences with Wheatley boys had been most unpleasant. However, he discovers that he himself has learned more about getting along with people since that time, and his ability as a basketball player helps him win a place in the school. In addition he is too concerned about helping a D.P. family adjust to the new community to worry too much about himself. As in the earlier books, this one tends to be quite episodic, but readers who have enjoyed the earlier titles will find these episodes of equal interest.

NR Disney, Walt. Adventures of Robin Hood; adapted from the Walt Disney Motion Picture; illus. with scenes from the motion picture. Simon and Schuster, 1956. 46p. $1. (Walt Disney Library). Following the script of the Disney version of Robin Hood and illustrated with beautifully colored pictures from that movie, this story only vaguely relates to the traditional versions of the Robin Hood tales. Though not lacking violence, this is an emasculated version, retaining little of the lustiness of the Middle Ages, but utilizing the techniques of American Westerns.

M Dudley, Ruth Hubbell. Good Citizens, 1-2 Good Neighbors; illus. by Eleanor Mill. Melmont, 1957. 23p. $1.75. A series of ten short episodes, each of them one or two pages in length, and each emphasizing some aspect of citizenship. Two boys break a window and confess their deed; a child at the zoo learns to abide by the "Do Not Feed the Animals" sign; a family pick-nicking clean up the area before leaving, etc. There is no story appeal to attract the general reader and the only value of the book would be for classrooms wanting material of this kind. The text is written at a middle second grade reading level.

M du Jardin, Rosamond (Neal). The Real Thing; A Tobey Heydon Story. Lippincott, 1956. 192p. $2.50. Another story of Tobey Heydon and her boy friend, Brose. This time the two are separated for a year as each attends a different college. They sample other friendships, but come together in June more convinced than ever that they are meant for each other. The plot and characterizations have little substance but the book is acceptable as a light love story.

R Eisenberg, Philip. Won Kim's Ox; 4-6 illus. by Hilda Eisenberg. Follett, 1956. 160p. $2.75. Won Kim, a young Korean boy, was pleased when the family's ox began to show a preference for him, but this became a problem when the ox would no longer let Won Kim's father, Che-Won, drive him. Won Kim was too young to do all the plowing, so some solution to the problem had to be found. Since, at this same time the ox had also begun to have bumps on its back, the family decided that an evil spirit had entered it. In their search for someone to drive out the evil spirit, Won Kim and his father came to the free clinic at Seoul and there the doctor not only gave them medicine for the ox but also started them to thinking about the difference between a knowledge of the effect of germs and a belief in evil spirits. A pleasing story of modern Korea, written with understanding of the country and the people.

R Elkin, Benjamin. Gillespie and the K-3 Guards; illus. by James Daugherty. Viking, 1956. 63p. $2.50. An amusing variation on an old folk theme. The king has three guards with eyesight so
good that nothing can be put over on them. A reward is offered to anyone who can fool them, and it is claimed by young Gillespie after he has left the palace each day with a wagon loaded with leaves, sand, rocks and other junk. He is, of course, taking a different wagon from the palace each day. When this is disclosed, Gillespie wins the award and the guards become less pompous. Daugherty's illustrations are a perfect complement to the text.

R. Fatio, Louise. The Happy Lion Roars; pictures by Roger Duvoisin. Whittlesey House, 1957. 32p. $2. Sadness reigns around the Paris zoo when the "Happy" Lion ceases to live up to his name. No one knows what to do until a circus comes to town and the Happy Lion himself solves his problem by eloping with the Beautiful Lioness from the circus. The city fathers buy the Lioness—and the Lion is once more Happy. In like manner, the Fatio-Duvoisin combination is once more a Happy one.

NR. Fitt, Mary. Pomeroy's Postscript; illus. by Peggy Fortnum. Nelson, 1956. 232p. $2.75. A mystery story set in the English countryside of Cornwall and bordering too closely on the melodramatic to be wholly acceptable. Pomeroy and Marguerite Parker, twin brother and sister, are invited to Creek House, ostensibly as potential adoptees, by the owner, Mrs. Livingstone. They soon realize that something is amiss when Mrs. Livingstone's Cousin Job tries to have them murdered. The solution to the mystery is furnished by Merritt Jones, a boy of about their own age and also a distant relative of Mrs. Livingstone's, who exposes Cousin Job, reveals the twins to be the children of Mrs. Livingstone's dead brother, and finds the long lost family treasure.

R. Freeman, Ira Maximillian. All About the Atom; illus. by George Wilde. Random House, 1955. 146p. $1.95. With his usual fine organization and graphic style the author discusses kinds of matter and energy, the history of the atomic theory, the components of atoms and how each reacts under different conditions, nuclear fission and nuclear fusion, nuclear reactors for furnishing power, and radio-isotopes at work in medicine and industry. Format, illustrative sketches and index are excellent.

R. Galt, Thomas Franklin. Seven Days from Sunday; illus. by Don Free-
A fictionalized episode from the life of a real person. Samuel McIntire is best known for the beautiful houses of Salem that he designed and built during the late Eighteenth Century. The author has imagined what life might have been like for a talented young boy who was interested in beautiful houses at a time when every other boy in Salem could think of nothing but the day he would first go to sea. The episode in which Samuel earns a shilling to be put aside for a book on architecture, shows his conflict between his real interest and what is expected of him by part of his family and the townspeople, and his final decision to follow his own interests. Through it all the author has woven a clear picture of Salem at this period.

NR Healey, Dorothy. All About Bicycles; period.
Harcourt, 1957. 28p. $2.75.
Retelling of a less well-known folk tale. Chanticleer and his wife, Partlet, go to the woods to eat nuts. When it comes time to return home, they build a cart, forcing a duck to pull them, and spend a night in an inn on the way, where they rob the landlord and leave the next morning without paying their rent. The story itself has considerably less appeal than have Fischer’s humorous, lively drawings, which are among his best so far.

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NR Hahn, Emily. Francie Comes Home. 7-9 Watts, 1956. 247p. $2.75.
Francie comes back to Jefferson to help keep house for her father and Aunt Norah when her father is forced into temporary retirement by a lawsuit. Bored with small town life, she decides to take a job in a local gift shop and through her work becomes involved in the social life of the town’s wealthy social set. She goes through a temporary love affair with an unstable young man and then realizes that her true love is still Glenn Stevens, the boy she had dated in high school. An exceedingly superficial story with some very questionable values.

Interesting, informal account of the artist’s life and work. The author supplies a rich background setting as the stage for Leonardo’s creative ambition and often unfinished projects. This background material is more clearly and vividly presented than is the somewhat confusing description of the artist’s approach to his material and subjects. The book is useful for its portrait of the man; Elizabeth Ripley’s study (Oxford, 1952) is more important for an appreciation of the artist’s work.

Slight, somewhat saccharine account of the activities of a small boy in an exceedingly well-equipped, up-to-date Sunday School. There is no story interest and the primary use of the book would be in situations where the Sunday School is equally well organized and equipped.

M Harkins, Philip. Young Skin Diver. 7-9 Morrow, 1956. 188p. $2.75.
Ned Palmer was well on his way to becoming a beach bum until a surf board accident almost cost him and his friend, Charlie, their lives. For a time he was afraid to go near the ocean, but through the influence of Mark Owen, an oceanographer who had saved the two boys from drowning, he became interested in skin diving. There is no real plot to the story, which is devoted almost entirely to a description of the techniques of skin diving, the steps in learning how to skin dive and the ways in which skin diving is used for scientific purposes. Interesting from the subject point of view, but not satisfactory as a piece of fiction.

A true story of a fawn adopted into a Danish farm home by a mother, father, teen-age daughter and son, a Doberman and a cat. Nothing is barred to Bambi; she consumes delicacies from the dining table and eats at will from the vegetable and flower gardens. Eventually Bambi brings twin fawns to the house to grow up, and when the family begins to worry about the grandchildren coming too, Father says, “We will manage.” The text is printed on the left hand page, with excellent photographs of the principal characters opposite, although the incidents in the text do not always match the accompanying picture. Pencil sketches at the bottom of each page showing Bambi in various poses detract from rather than enhance the total effect, and the story itself is rather dull.

NR Healey, Dorothy. All About Bicycles;
By no means "all" about bicycles. There is, in fact, little actual information given here other than that there are many kinds of bicycles and many ways to use them. A list of bicycle safety rules is included, and is the only really useful part of the book. The condescending tone to the writing will keep the book from being taken seriously by readers who are of a bicycle age.

Ad Holland, Marion. No Children, No Pets. 4-6 Knopf, 1956. 182p. $2.50.
When word came that she had inherited a Florida resort hotel, Mrs. Sanders, a librarian, decided to take a two weeks vacation and go, with her three children, to see what its possibilities might be. At Palm Glade, she discovered the hotel, with its large sign stating that no children or pets were allowed, to be in a run-down condition, the manager mysteriously missing, and one of the tenants complaining of a stolen ruby clip. The children helped put the hotel back to rights, with considerable assistance from a young boy who appeared to have nothing more to do than help them each day; the manager reappeared and claimed the boy as his run-away son, and the clip was found under a hibiscus bush. In addition to the slight mystery there is a hurricane thrown in for good measure. Not a noteworthy story, but adequate.

The simple chronicle of Thérèse, youngest of the five charming daughters of the widower, Louis Martin of Lisieux. They are a devout and devoted family and so the father experiences both pride and pain as his daughters step one by one into Holy Orders—four of them into the severely cloistered Carmelite Order. Because Thérèse, never robust, contracts tuberculosis in the cloisters, her older sister, the prioress, commands her to write the story of her life, "The Story of a Soul." None of the characters, including Thérèse, ever takes more than a tenuous hold on the reader's interest.

NR Horwich, Frances R. Miss Frances' Young; illus. by Marge Opitz. Rand McNally, 1956. 126p. $2.95.
Thirty short stories dealing with various kinds of pets. The stories are wholly without literary merit, substance or point. Although they theoretically are supposed to supply parents and children with information on the care and selection of pets, there is actually very little information to any of the stories, and occasionally what is given is not correct, or at least is not the practice recommended by authorities on the subject. The determinedly bright, quite condescending tone to the writing will appeal to neither children nor their parents.

Calista Heath's family had moved frequently during her sixteen years, but no place had pleased her quite so much as the farm community at Martin's Haven, near Traverse Bay, Michigan. Part of the charm of the country lay in the presence of two young men, Mark Treely and Bruce Cameron, both of whom vied for Calista's affection. Although she was somewhat attracted to Mark, she never felt toward him as she did toward Bruce, and her judgment was borne out when Mark proved to be responsible for setting out false lights and wrecking ships for their cargo. There is no great depth to the story, but it does give a pleasing picture of the period.

Beginning with a discussion of the West Indies in general, the author traces the history of the area as a whole and then proceeds to discuss each of the major islands or groups of islands individually. The account is a straightforward, factual presentation that, nonetheless, manages to convey something of the flavor and individuality of each of the islands.

Wilson Hadley, his father and grandmother, moved to the North from their Tennessee mountain home in the hope that Wilson would have less trouble in the new school where there would be no deep-rooted family quarrels for him to carry on with his fellow students. His hot temper continued to cause some trouble, but in the course of the year he became absorbed in the school's baseball team and learned to control his temper in order to play a better game. A fairly typical sports story with nothing unusual in the quality of writing, plot or characterizations.
An absorbing account of the witchcraft trials of New England in 1692. The hysterical nature of the girls who started the whole affair is indicated, although the attitude that a good whipping would have solved the problem is an oversimplification that fails to do justice to the author's otherwise careful analysis of the situation. Parallels to present day witch hunts are suggested, but not labored. The book will be of especial interest for social studies classes.

An unhappy attempt at humorous fantasy that is fantastic enough but scarcely funny. Don Barcelo, a matador, is afraid to fight El Sarten the "terrifico" bull owned by Senor Martillo. He goes to church to pray for his safety and there unwittingly steps on Don Domino, leader of the church cockroaches. Don Domino's spirit goes to El Sarten with a message for Don Barcelo but the bull is unable to deliver it until the day when Don Barcelo's only son, Zonta, decides to try his hand at bull-fighting. The message: "We must learn to love our enemies and to tread carefully, lest we tread on a friend", is delivered; Zonta and his girl-friend, Senorita Estrella, both mutes, regain the power of speech, and every one is happy. The author has tried to include too many elements in one story and has succeeded with none.

Ad James, Harry C. A Day with Poli; A 1-3 Hopi Indian Girl; illus. by Don Perceval. Melmont, 1957. 31p. $2.
A simple, rather pleasing account of a day in the life of a small Hopi Indian girl. Poli helps her mother to prepare the day's food, and as a reward for her industry is given a string of beads by her grandfather. The illustrations are attractive and generally informative, although in two instances they contradict the text. The text is written at a beginning third grade reading level.

Janice and Tommy Brooks go for a visit to their aunt's new home—a tourist home near the Canadian border in Maine—and find themselves in the middle of a mystery. The house is supposed to be haunted, ghostly hoofbeats are heard in a nearby rock, and there is the usual sinister character who is all too obviously up to no good. A friendly Border Patrol man living nearby helps solve the mystery by proving the sinister character to be smuggling aliens across the border, but the children provide him with his main clue. Very mediocre writing and an unrealistic plot.

A rather mild mystery story set in a New England coastal resort town. Gail Netherby was disturbed, on returning to Point Wansett one summer, to hear rumors that one of her favorite spots—an old house known as Cobbler's Knob—was haunted. On investigating, she discovered the "haunt" to be Nanette, a young girl from an orphanage who was using the house as a retreat when she needed privacy from the other children. The two became friends, helped the owner of the house to find some missing papers, and eventually found a real home for Nanette. Not an important story, but adequate as a mystery.

NR Kelly, Frank K. Reporters around the 7-9 World; illus. by E. Harper Johnson. Little, 1957. 242p. $3.
A collection of eighteen brief episodes from the lives of famous reporters—from Defoe to Hal Boyle. Many of the sketches have little or nothing to do with reporting, and the author's statement that the person later became a reporter is often the only clue as to why he is included in the book. There is nothing in the book to inspire young readers to an interest in reporting as a possible career or to give them an understanding of the importance of the work of such persons in interpreting events or influencing public opinion.

Following his graduation from high school, Jase Mason persuaded his father to allow him to spend the summer camping in the Lasher Wilderness where he hoped to prove his ability to earn a living as a wildlife photographer. In addition to learning a great deal about the difficulties and rewards of such work, Jase has a run-in with a poacher and with a rogue bear, but comes through both successfully. He also ends the summer with a job as photographer for a forest service publication. Tom Rainse and his dog Smokey (Nose for Trouble and Trailing Trouble) are
brought in as minor characters. Once again Mr. Kjelgaard has written an adventure story that has all the suspense and danger that boys like without resorting to melodrama or sensationalism.


The "mysteries" to which the title refers are derelicts that have proved a source of danger ever since the first ship was abandoned or wrecked at sea. The author describes some of the better known derelicts, discusses the ways in which governments have attempted to conquer this menace, and recounts some of the almost supernatural events that have occurred in connection with derelicts. The material is quite interesting and should have wide appeal, in spite of the author's confusing habit of starting a story in the middle and then trying to tell both the beginning and the ending at once.


An absorbing account of the history of the development of the English language. Beginning with a discussion of what life would be like without language, the authors then proceed to the beginnings of language; the beginnings of the English language; Anglo-Saxon; Chaucer, Shakespeare and Modern English; the history of the alphabet; the how and whys of English spelling; the history of printing; the development of names; and some odd things about words. The final section consists of one hundred "Word Stories" in which the derivations of words are traced and changes in meaning discussed. There is much here to stimulate the reader to further study of the origins and development of words and word usages.


Although the text is reasonably well written, the format with its crowded pages and small type will limit the appeal of this heterogeneous collection of capped careers of modern "dare-devils." Among those included are Elephant Bill, Hillary, Tenzing and others on Everest, numerous escapees from the notorious Colditz Prison Camp, Hans Hass, the skin diver, Spencer Chapman in snow and jungle, and John Cobb, holder of the Land Speed Record. To the author's credit, he has indicated in each case other books by or about the adventurer.


Designed to prepare a small child for the arrival of a new baby into the family, this book of photographs and text is the result of the author's desire to help others solve the problem which she had faced. Although the text is of little value, the excellent photographs could be used to show a child how he might participate in the care of a new baby brother or sister.


Ten-year-old Patricia Lowell had never known her father, a major in the Air Force, and had no great desire to become acquainted. She particularly rebelled at the thought of leaving the two great aunts with whom she had lived most of her life and going with her father to California where he was to be permanently stationed. She planned to be so naughty that he would send her back East, but somehow her plans never worked out right, and even when she did something that her aunts would have frowned on, her father simply accepted it as typical behavior for a ten-year-old. In the end she came to love her father and to want to stay with him. Although the plot is similar to that of Eyre's *Spurs for Antonia* (Oxford, 1943) the story has none of the depth of perception or reality of characterization of that book.


Writing informally and quite directly to the reader out of his own experiences and observations, the author has somewhat spoiled what might have been an attractive and informative book with the over-use of colloquialisms, coy phrases and other bits of bad writing. His aim has been to interest the young reader in becoming a bird enthusiast—observing, recording observations, reading, and furnishing food and shelter for birds when necessary.


In the style and format of her other Davy stories, the author traces Davy's growth from the time he was a new baby until he became a "big" boy—old enough to start school. There is no story plot but young children will
be interested in following Davy's growth and comparing it with what they have been told of their own early years, or with what they have observed with their own younger brothers and sisters. The style is easy enough for second grade readers to handle alone.


In a vivid, almost reportorial style, the author describes the events of August 19, 1955, when Connecticut suffered the most severe flood in its history. The events are seen through the experiences of young Sally Graham, whose family are forced to leave their home by way of a second floor window. At the school, where a refugee shelter has been established, the children alternate between bouts of excitement, unhappiness (as tales of lost children and of drownings come in), and boredom. The last becomes especially serious when they move from the school to a private home, where they are not allowed out of the house and must entertain themselves while waiting for their own house to be rehabilitated. The book gives a much more vivid picture of the discomforts of a flood than does the Beim, Flood Waters (Morrow, 1956).


"Simple facts of birth and growth for the child from nine to twelve." Contents include: Growing Fast and Slow; How Your Life Began; Growing from an Egg into a Baby; The Baby Is Born; Boy or Girl?; Growing from a Baby to a School Child; and What Comes Next?. An excellent book for beginning sex education.


The island of Mandolia was famous for two things—the Mandolia tree that produced mandolines and the Great Wall within which was the island's only vegetable garden. What happened when Yorick, a bull, got into the garden one day and ate all the vegetables makes a rather dull story with a labored attempt at humor. The illustrations, with their gay colors, vigor and humor give the book its only value and appeal, but they deserve a better text.

NR Lindquist, Willis. Call of the White Fox; illus. by P. A. Hutchison.

Whittlesey House, 1957. 192p. $2.75.

Mark McRoy, thirteen-year-old son of the owner of a trading post on the Far North coast of Alaska, makes a pet of a silver fox cub and teaches it to follow him the way a dog would. The Eskimos of the village are strongly disapproving of the boy's action for they are Seal people and the fox is the symbol of their ancient enemies. Following a series of rather contrived adventures, aimed at displaying Mark's unusual daring and bravery, the boy is able to use his friendship with the fox to reconcile the two Eskimo tribes and bring them to peace after years of intermittent warfare. A disappointing book after the author's excellent Burma Boy.


An excellent collection of Indian folk tales and legends from Canada. Glooskap is the supernatural hero of the Micmac Indians of Eastern Canada and many of the stories involve his efforts to help the Indians in the days before the coming of the white man. Several of the stories have counterparts in the folk tales of Europe and Africa. The material will be interesting for storytellers and will also have appeal for children to read for themselves.


New edition of a book first published in 1947. The illustrations have been modernized, with a diesel replacing the steam engine of the earlier book. The text is completely re-written and will now appeal to older readers since it does not have the condescending tone of the earlier text. As a book about trains it will be quite satisfactory. As a counting book it is less so, since neither the text nor the first illustration make clear that the diesel is in two parts, although both parts are clearly shown throughout the remainder of the book.


At the beginning of his senior year in high school, Andy Carter was torn between his desire to take a machine shop course that would help him in college, and his hope of making the varsity football team. He finally settled on the machine shop course, but was given a chance to play with the second team, where his coming late to practice each day
would not matter. His efforts with that team, especially as a kicker, won him the attention of the head coach and he was transferred to the varsity, as a place kicker, in time to win his letter. A routine sports story, with good game descriptions but typed, unrealistic characterizations. Andy in particular is too good to be true.

NR Milne, Ruth. TV Girl Friday. Little, 7-9 1957. 248p. $3.

Susan Doyle, intent on making a career in television, agrees to take on any job that is offered her, so long as it is in some way connected with TV. She starts as an assistant in the mailing department that handles films, and works her way through each of the other behind-the-scenes departments, thereby providing the author an opportunity to inform the reader about each aspect of television work. There is, of course, the usual girl rival, who reforms under the influence of Susan's personality, and the two standard male leads—one a superior being and the other a heel. In true form, Susan falls for the wrong man first before she recognizes the sterling qualities of the hero. The lack of originality in the plot and characterizations keeps this from being acceptable as a work of fiction.


A rather stolid, fictionalized biography of Joe Meek that gives a good picture of the West during the height of fur trapping days, but does little to bring Meek alive as an individual or to show his influence on the development of the country.


Young, proud, ambitious, luxury-loving Francis Xavier was able, through his widowed mother's sacrifice, to attend the University of Paris. There, under the spell of Ignatius Loyola, he became a member of the Society of Jesus and determined to devote his life to missionary work. About mid-sixteenth Century his travels took him to India, Malaya, Japan, and while awaiting an opportunity to enter hostile China, his frail body failed him. This book will be most meaningful to young Catholics, although the pedestrian style will limit its appeal for them.


Another story of the underprivileged, artless but devout Bernadette Soubirous of Lourdes whose visions of the Lady in the Grotto immortalized her and her little city. Characters are introduced so rapidly in the first chapter that it becomes difficult for the reader to sort them out. In the following chapters, the author presents a quite realistic picture of the situation, noting that many of the townspeople, including the clergy and police were loath to register an interest in Bernadette's visions because of her lowly position, and yet afraid of the many erstwhile disbelievers who had been convinced by observing the girl's transformation during the visions. The text is adequate.


Jake Brown is determined to become a tennis star in spite of the handicap of his short stature. He is a very good player but goes to pieces whenever an opponent begins to ride him about his size. His problem is not helped by the conflict between his mother, who has forbidden him ever to become involved in a fist fight, and his coach, who thinks there is no other solution to most problems. In fairly typical fashion, he struggles along to the final crucial game of the National Boys' Tournament at Kalamazoo and then conquers both himself and his opponent. The characterizations are types, and the psychology is questionable at the very least.


An English story with overtones of Swiss Family Robinson. Three young school boys are offered a summer vacation on a five hundred acre woodland estate in Devonshire, with the provisions that they stay within the boundaries of the estate, obeying all fish and game laws, and provide their own food and shelter from the materials available within the area. Their host provides food for the first three days, plus a gun and ammunition. There are also fishing rods, in a state of disrepair, although not so badly broken but that the boys can put them together with a bit of effort and considerable patience. In addition to the ever present problem of obtaining food, the boys have run-ins with a band of gypsies and a retired army colonel who does not like the idea of having three boys loose in his neighborhood. In the end, however, they have a successful
vacation and one of the boys is adopted by the man who owns the estate. There is considerable appeal to the account of the manner in which the boys cope with their problems and the boys themselves emerge as fairly well-defined characters. The adults do not come off quite so well, being types rather than individuals. Although by no means up to Ransome in quality, there is much here to appeal to young boys who will especially appreciate the relative freedom from adult supervision enjoyed by the three.


A very slight story contrived to teach a lesson in value building. Young Tommy is disappointed when his father, a fisherman, buys a dory instead of a cabin cruiser. He is also concerned because he is not allowed to go out with his father, but must be content to help from the shore. There follows a series of episodes in which both Tommy and the dory are put into situations contrived to show that size does not matter and that sometimes a small boat or a small boy can be more helpful in an emergency than a larger boat or a man might be. The action is too obviously made to order to have much appeal, the characters are mere types, and there is little substance to the story. Barnum’s *Little Old Truck* (Morrow, 1953) is a better story for developing the same concept.


A history of West Point as seen through the careers of some of the more famous of its graduates. The style is uneven, and an occasional chapter, i.e., "Dangerous Journeys", seems entirely irrelevant, having nothing to do with West Point other than to show the kinds of adventures some of its graduates have had. Engeman’s *West Point* (Lothrop, 1956) will give readers a better understanding of what goes on at the school today than will this book.


*Couturier* Charles Frederick Worth arrived in Paris at the age of twenty without friends, money or a knowledge of the French language. His meteoric rise as arbiter of world fashion was due for the most part to the extravagance and elegance of the Second Empire, although his intelligence, his confident bearing and the experience gained in his six years apprenticeship to London’s most famous drapers were important accessories. Word portraits of Worth, Napoleon III and Empress Eugénie are excellent, and world political and social climates of the period are vividly portrayed. This is excellent supplementary reading for girls in Modern European History classes, although the appeal does not cease there. Well documented and includes an excellent bibliography.


A small girl tells of the many ways in which she helps to take care of her baby brother and enjoys playing with him. A slight story, and somewhat unrealistic in that no adult is ever shown assisting the little girl. Used judiciously, the book might help to give a young child an understanding of some of the pleasures of having younger brothers or sisters.


For the most part this is an extremely well developed story of water. Using photographs of the boy Andy, with occasional cartoons and a slight amount of accompanying text, the book discourses on the availability of water and its use by plant and animal life. Andy performs experiments showing how water evaporates when heated, and how the vapor returns to a liquid state on cooling. Accompanying cartoons demonstrate what happens to the water molecules in each case; also how the clouds which form over the ocean drop their moisture as they cool going over mountains. The need for conservation is stressed throughout, even to each family’s responsibility for keeping leaky faucets in repair.


A mystery story set on Cormorant Key, Florida, and involving a kidnapped child. The Brownings’ baby boy had been kidnapped two years earlier, and sixteen-year-old Katy Browning, home for Christmas vacation, thinks she has a new lead to his whereabouts. With the help of young Randy Watrous, she tracks down the lead, only to discover that it too is false. Then, in a highly melodramatic climax, the baby is discovered to be the sup-
posed son of Randy's half brother, Carl Huber, whose wife had kidnapped the baby and passed it off as her own. Several issues are introduced into the story and never resolved, and the entire plot is too improbable.

**Ad**


Erik Dahlquist, a young boy living in the Swedish coastal village of Lilleborg, was interested in photography, but had to be content with the quite meager equipment that he could afford. The story takes him through a part of one year when he learns to get along with a rather difficult cousin and makes friends with a mysterious neighbor who turns out to be a famous photographer. Not an outstanding story, but an interesting picture of typical Swedish life.

**NR**


Thirteen-year-old Peter Barrett lived in Greece, where his father was connected with the American forces that were giving aid to the Greeks against the Communist guerrillas immediately following World War II. The story is primarily concerned with Peter's efforts to persuade his parents of the value of his boxer, Arno. There is also the search of a lost Greek girl, Irene, whose brother Alexis is living with the Barretts, and Arno plays an important part in this search. The story has many elements of interest, but it is too loosely woven together, and too obviously didactic in spots to be very successful.

**M**


Eighteen-year-old Leeann Storm was determined to break away from the Junction and from her very large, very poor family. Her first chance came with a job as a governess to the Kingsley children, living in wealthy Mountcastle, an exclusive residence section set off by a high white wall. There she met Dirk Barton, Mrs. Kingsley's son by a previous marriage, helped him to escape from his over-protective, domineering mother, and agreed to marry him, even though it meant returning to the Junction to live. The author has introduced some interesting problems in personal and family relations but has given them such glib, superficial treatment that they become meaningless.

**R**


A perceptive, warmly sympathetic biography of Schweitzer, drawn in part from his own writings and in part from the author's experiences in visiting him in Africa and Europe. The personal touches which the author uses as a result of her own experience give an added note of authenticity to the account of the man and his work. The forces that led to Schweitzer's choice of his life work are explained, and the importance of all aspects of his work—as doctor, musician, philosopher—clearly shown. Although this is a less mature piece of writing than the Goldomb, Albert Schweitzer (Vanguard, 1949) it is, nonetheless, an excellent biography for readers at a junior high school level.

**R**


Twelve-year-old Janie, daughter of a lobster fisherman on Lee's Island off the coast of Maine, dreamed of the day when she would go to high school on the mainland. When her father announced that he probably would not be able to afford to send her, she began to make plans to earn enough money to buy a one volume encyclopedia that was advertised as having answers to all questions. Her money making activities more often ended in grief than in financial success, but in the process Janie learned to readjust some of her values, to become reconciled to her role as a girl, and to better understand her parents, especially her father. Although for a somewhat younger audience than Island on the Bay, this story has the same depth and warmth of characterization and vivid picture of island life. A mature handling of problems that will be of interest and concern to many youngsters.

**R**


Numerous activities of young children—pulling a wagon, swinging, pretending to row a boat, playing store, etc.—are depicted, showing how one can do each activity, but it is more fun with two. At the end the activities are expanded to include some that require several children. A delightful picture book for young children to enjoy, and perhaps even to learn the beginnings of the pleasure of sharing. When read to a single child, the text, with its use of the second person pronoun, may become confusing.
NR Smaridge, Norah. Ludi, the Little St. Bernard; pictures by Sister John Vianney. Bruce, 1956. 26p. (Christian Child's Stories). $0.50. A poorly written story of a St. Bernard puppy who decides he does not want to be a rescue dog at the hospice and runs away from home. He meets several children, all of whom have objectionable traits of one kind or another. Then he finds a boy who is injured and in rescuing the boy discovers that he likes the work after all. The dog is too personified to be real. The illustrations are coyly sentimental and not always realistic.

Ad Smith, Fredrika Shumway. The Fire Dragon; A Story of the Great Chicago Fire; illus. by Ray Naylor. Rand McNally, 1956. 174p. $2.75. A fictionalized account of the Chicago fire of 1871 as seen through the experiences of two young boys. Andy Winthrop, son of a wealthy Chicago businessman, and Terry Shawn, son of an Irish laborer and a recent comer to this country, become friends at school. Their friendship deepens during the fire when both their fathers are temporarily lost and, on being found discover that each has been the rescuer of the other at some point in the disaster. The story ends several years later with Terry and Andy partners in a successful architectural firm. The tone is somewhat sentimental and there is more than a little coincidence in the manner in which the two fathers take turns rescuing each other. There is, nonetheless a good pace to the story and a vivid description of the fire.

R Sobol, Donald J. The Double Quest; illus. by Lili Réthi. Watts, 1957. 240p. $2.95. Historical fiction based on an obscure episode during the reign of Henry II, while he and the English army were in France defending his rights there. Although little is known of the matter except that the Flemish are supposed to have planned, or even perhaps attempted, an invasion of England around 1161, the author has contrived an account of what might have happened that is well within the tradition of tales of chivalry. The story is told in the first person by young Martin, squire to Sir Jabra. The two quests involve Martin's search for the murderer of Sir Jabra and the warriormaid Brynoble's search for the murderer of her mother. The two quests end with the same man and prove to be parts in a plot, by him, to sell England to the Flemish.

M Steele, William Owen. De Soto: Child of the Sun; The Search for Gold; illus. by Lorence F. Bjorklund. Aladdin, 1956. 190p. (American Heritage Series). $1.75. A misleading title in that while the story is about De Soto's exploration in the New World, he is only a very minor character in the book. The main character is Lucas Cordova, a young tailor who has ambitions to become a soldier. There is some interest in the descriptions of the grueling hardships of the trek from the coast of Florida to the Mississippi River and south to the Gulf of Mexico. There is little by way of character development and the forces that lead men to participate in the journey are hinted at but never fully clarified. The paper and illustrations are of exceedingly poor quality.

R Steele, William Owen. The Lone Hunt; illus. by Paul Galdone. Harcourt, 1956. 176p. $2.75. Tennessee in 1810 is the setting for this absorbing story of a young boy's hunt for the last buffalo to be found in that area. Elevenyear-old Yancy Caywood rebelled at the restrictions imposed on him by his mother who insisted that he stay at home and help with the chores while his older brother, Pleas, took over the farm work after their father died. When a chance came to run away and hunt the buffalo that was known to be in the neighborhood, Yancy took it, with little thought of the consequences. He got the buffalo, but lost his beloved dog, Blue, in the process. Matured by his experience, Yancy was more willing thereafter to accept responsibilities as they came. The story has the same well-developed plot and reality of characterizations of Winter Danger.

R Sterling, Dorothy. Wall Street; The Story of the Stock Exchange; photographs by Myron Ehrenberg. Doubleday, 1955. 128p. $2.75. Writing in a light vein, the author has included a brief history of finance from barter to corporations, accounts of the histories and intricate functioning of the New York and American Stock Exchanges, and a review of government controls on the market which came as the result of the 1929 crash. Considering the fact that maximum use of this volume will be as supplementary reading in secondary school Economics and United States History classes, the author's examples are inclined to be on the too youthful side. Photographs are many and excellent. A useful book for reference purposes.

Ad Stinetorf, Louise A. Elephant Outlaw;
Kenya, Africa, provides the setting for this story of a jungle trek by two young boys. Bady, a native boy whose tribe has rejected him because they think he lost his soul as a result of a serious illness, persuades Rickey Allison, son of a plantation owner, to join him in a search for a rogue elephant that has been terrorizing the countryside. Bady thinks that if he can kill the elephant that will be proof to his tribe that he has sufficient skill and courage to also win back his soul. The two boys have many adventures, including a brief stay with a tribe of pygmies before they find, and kill, the elephant. The descriptions of the country and of the activities of the boys in finding food and defending themselves are adequately handled. Rickey's rationalization in going with Bady in opposition to his parents' orders and his own good sense does not ring true.

NR Storm, Mark. Gruyo of the Flying H. 5-7 Children's Press, 1956. 95p. $2.50. A quite mediocre horse story, with a predictable, well-worn plot and one-dimensional characters, told in an excessively colloquial style that quickly becomes burdensome. Gavvy, a nine-year-old Mexican-American boy working on Jim Turnbull's Flying H ranch, is given the new colt Gruyo when it turns out to be off-color instead of the hoped for palomino. The boy trains the colt and enters it in the local rodeos where it turns out to be off-color instead of the hoped for palomino. The boy trains the colt and enters it in the local rodeos where it proves to be a champion in spite of its color. There is a slight side plot of a misunderstanding between Turnbull and his neighbor, Tom Barnsley, and that, too, is settled by Gruyo. The large size print makes the text look much easier than it actually is.


NR Styles, Showell. The Lost Glacier. 7-9 Vanguard, 1956. 192p. $3. Two English boys are invited to join an expedition to the Himalayas to search for a valley that is supposed to lie between the frontiers of Nepal and Tibet. One member of the expedition is also concerned with hunting for the home land of the yetis (Abominable Snowmen). Before the expedition reaches India the two boys suspect two of their companions of being enemy agents—and they are right. The valley is found, the yetis are found, and the Communists are thwarted in their attempt to claim the valley for China. The mountain climbing sequences are well-done but the melodramatic plot is better suited to a B Grade spy movie than a piece of fiction.

R Sullivan, Peggy. The O'Donnells; illus. 6-8 by Mary Stevens. Follett, 1956. 160p. $2.75. A period story set in Kansas City in the early 1900's. The O'Donnells are an Irish-Catholic family consisting of five girls and their parents. Mr. O'Donnell is a policeman. The episodic story is told primarily from the point of view of Ella, oldest of the girls, and shows some of the typical pleasures and problems of a large family of this period. Although not quite of the caliber of Taylor's All-of-a-Kind Family (Follett, 1951), this comes close to doing for an Irish-Catholic family what Taylor has done for a Jewish family of the same era.

R Syme, Ronald. Balboa, Finder of the Pacific; illus. by William Stobbs. Morrow, 1956. 95p. $2.50. A vigorous, forceful biography of Balboa, with the emphasis on the years he spent in the New World. Although history books seldom mention more than Balboa's trek across the Isthmus of Panama and rest his fame entirely on the fact that he was the first white man to view the Pacific, he actually played an important role in the exploration and early settlement of America, and this role is given full treatment by Syme. The rugged illustrations give added force and vigor to the text.

R Taylor, Duncan. Living in England; 9-12 The Elizabethan Age. Roy, 1955. 184p. $3. Even though, as the author remarks, it is difficult to recreate the lives of ordinary people of a period since it is the dramatic which tends to have been recorded at the time, still, he has succeeded, with a fascinating person-to-person style in sketching the life of the average Elizabethan. There is drollery and realism in his discussion of the public works, industries and government of London of that period; in the picture of family life and the homes' architecture and furnishings; of food, etoe and clothes; of school life and church strife; of games, entertainment and rituals; of occupations, and, finally, of crime and punishment. Pictures
are not opposite the text and there is no
index, but the book can, nevertheless, be an
invaluable supplement to the study of history
or literature of the period.

M Taylor, Florance Walton. Carrier Boy;
6-8 illus. by Leonard Everett Fisher.
$2.50.
A rather pedestrian story, set in Manheim,
Pennsylvania, at the time when Baron Stie-
gel was at his height. Thirteen-year-old
Tim Tatman and his nine-year-old sisters,
Maryann, wandered into Manheim from
western Pennsylvania after their parents
were captured by Indians and their cabin
wrecked. They were taken in by Gaffer
Gatewood and his wife, and Tim became a
carrier boy in the glass factory. There is a
slight mystery in the disappearance of some
pieces of the famous Stiegel Blue glass and
in solving the mystery Tim finds his parents.
The setting is mildly interesting but the
author has not created nearly so vivid a
picture of Stiegel and Manheim as that found
in Rogers' Jeremy Pepper (Lippincott, 1946).

Ad Tenggren, Gustaf. Jack and the Bean-
stalk; An English Folk Tale.
Not outstanding, but an adequate version of
a well-known folk tale. Tenggren's color-
ful illustrations have considerable vigor
and humor.

Ad Tolboom, Wanda Neill. Little Eskimo
3-5 Hunter; pictures by Torson Gide.
Sterling, 1956. 92p. $2.75.
A very slight, but pleasing story of a small
Eskimo boy, Sala, and his efforts to prove
himself old enough to own a rifle and help
provide meat for his family. Because Sala
plays with a small carving that his grand-
father made, his father chides him for being
childish. Then the opportunity comes to sell
the carving for enough to pay for a rifle and the
father realizes that he is the one who
had shown a poor sense of values. Not an
outstanding story, but acceptable where
there is need for additional materials about
the Eskimos.

R Tresselt, Alvin R. Wake Up, Farm!
2-4 pictures by Roger Duvoisin.
Lothrop, 1955. 30p. $2.50.
A gay picture book in which birds, fowls
and farm animals are to be observed making
waking-up sounds or having morning ablu-
tions or beginning their search for food.
Just as the sun starts over the hill, Father

is to be seen walking toward the barn with
milking pails, while in the house one small
boy opens sleepy eyes to greet the day.

NR Tworkov, Jack. Tigers Don't Bite;
3-5 pictures by Roger Duvoisin. Dut-
yrs. ton, 1956. 32p. $2.25.
A rather precious attempt at fantasy. The
text, in the guise of a conversation between
child and adult, begins with comments on
the more unpleasant aspects of a hot day,
wanders on to talk of the jungle and a con-
sideration of which of the animals there do
and do not bite. When the question of tigers
is raised, the answerer begins by hedging
and then states firmly that tigers don't bite
because Mommy and Daddy tell them not to.
The book ends with a 'good night', and the
listener presumably goes to sleep reassured
that tigers won't hurt him.

R Vance, Marguerite. The Empress
7-9 Josephine; From Martinique to
Malmaison; illus. by Nedda Walker.
Dutton, 1956. 160p. $2.75.
An interesting, moderately penetrating bi-
ography of Josephine that attempts to show
how the events of her life affected her actions
and the development of her personality. The
account begins with Josephine as a fifteen-
year-old girl on Martinique just before she
sailed for France to be married to Alexandre
de Beauharnais, takes her through her un-
happy first marriage, through the trials of
the Revolution, and through her life with
Napoleon, to the unhappy end. Josephine is
the only character in the book who emerges
as a fully-developed person.

NR Wallace, May Nickerson. The Plume
7-9 Hunters Mystery. McKay. 1956.
151p. $2.50.
The Florida Everglades in 1916 provide the
background for this combination murder
mystery and conservation tract. Klondike,
a semi-recluse, is murdered and Red Smith,
a young boy living with him, is suspected.
The Adams family believe in Red's innocence
and set forth to prove it. They are equally
concerned with the attempts of conservation-
ists to protect the egrets from plume hunters
who are about to wipe out the entire breed.
After much sleuthing and many narrow es-
capes, the Adams children and Red prove
that both Klondike and Red's father were
murdered by a supposedly respectable man
living in their neighborhood and posing as a
Treasury agent, but really hunting egrets.
The conversations are unrealistic, especially
when the children quote from encyclopedias
and text books, and the plot much too melo-
dramatic to have conviction.