



I L L I N O I S

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

-

PRODUCTION NOTE

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

*Bulletin
of
the
Center
for
Children's
Books*

May 1960 · Vol. XIII · No. 9



EXPLANATION OF CODE SYMBOLS USED WITH ANNOTATIONS

- R Recommended
- Ad Additional book of acceptable quality for collections needing more material in the area.
- M Marginal book that is so slight in content or has so many weaknesses in style or format that it should be given careful consideration before purchase.
- NR Not recommended
- 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.

Except for pre-school years, reading range is given for grade rather than for age of child.

* * *

BULLETIN of the Center for Children's Books. Published by the University of Chicago Press for the University of Chicago, Graduate Library School. Sara I. Fenwick, Acting Supervising Editor; Mrs. Zena Bailey, Editor.

Published monthly except August. Subscription rates: one year, \$4.50; two years, \$9.00; three years, \$13.50. \$2.50 per year each additional subscription to the same address. Single copy, 75¢. Checks should be made payable to the University of Chicago Press. Correspondence regarding the BULLETIN should be addressed to the University of Chicago Press, 5750 Ellis Avenue, Chicago 37, Illinois. All notices of change of address should provide *both* the old and the new address. Subscriptions will be entered to start with the first issue published after order is received.

Second-class postage paid at Chicago, Illinois.

Cover drawing adapted with permission of the Grolier Society from an illustration by Erika Weihs.

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO • GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Volume XIII

May, 1960

Number 9

New Titles for Children and Young People

NR Ashley, Audrey Zinser. Some Do and Some Don't; story and pictures by Audrey
4-5 Zinser Ashley. Steck, 1960. 40p. \$1.75.
yrs.

A Little Animal in the woods was looking for something to do; he swam happily until a duck said he'd drown—so he sank; he climbed a tree until a squirrel told him that he might fall—so he fell. Finally he wallowed in the mud at the invitation of a pig, but that didn't turn out to be as much fun as it looked, so he ran to the pond to get clean and found he could, after all, swim. Story is slow, animal behavior not realistic, and illustrations are quite ordinary.

Ad Ayer, Jacqueline. A Wish for Little Sister. Harcourt, 1960. 27p. \$2.95.
K-2

Little Sister woke on the morning of her birthday, and she was told by a mynah bird that she could have one wish. She asked other people what they would wish for, and decided, each time, that this wasn't a good wish for her. At last she decided that all she wanted was to have somebody wish her a happy birthday, and just then everybody came with their gifts for her, and they all did wish her a happy birthday. The wishes expressed by Little Sister's friends give a wonderful opportunity for variety of subject in illustration; the author takes full advantage of this, and the illustrations are indeed attractive, but the device weakens the book by substituting for a story line.

NR Bailey, Alice Cooper. The Hawaiian Box Mystery; decorations by Yukio Tashiro.
7-9 Longmans, 1960. 214p. \$3.25.

The story of an American family that has been living in Hawaii for a hundred years, and are just about to open a mysterious box saved for the hundredth anniversary. There is a ranch manager who has been bilking the Harmon family; also three daughters trying to get away from their possessive mother, Mrs. Harmon. Each girl has a problem that forms a sub-plot, so that there is a plethora of problems, not very realistically handled. One daughter, for example, has a beautiful voice, but can't get away to study; when a famous opera singer comes to the Islands, she just happens to be climbing around on the same lava flow where Wendy Harmon just happens to be alone, singing Schumann's "Meine Rose." Immediately she becomes Madame Alberti's protege, and Madame convinces Mrs. Harmon to let Wendy come to New York to study. Trite situations, mediocre writing.

R Bannon, Laura May. Whistle for a Pilot; story and pictures by Laura Bannon.
3-4 Houghton, 1959. 48p. \$3.

The story of two boys living on the Nova Scotian coast. Joadie's father was a pilot, and Joadie and Ned seized every chance to go along when Dad answered the whistle-signal that was a call for a pilot. The boys were anxious to buy their own small boat

and earn some money, and they found several ways of working toward their goal . . . and finally achieved it. The characterization is adequate, and the story is unified and moves along at a brisk pace; chief attraction of the book is the background detail of ships and boats along the Nova Scotia shore.

Ad Bard, Mary. Best Friends in Summer. Lippincott, 1960. 185p. \$3.50.
4-6

A sequel to Best Friends, in which Suzie's mother, a widow, fell in love with Co Co's father, a widower. Now the two girls, just of an age, go off to a ranch while their parents are honeymooning. While the episodes of the book deal with horses, donkeys, and other aspects of western life, the main interest is in the shifts and adjustments made in the relationship between the two new sisters and also in their relationships with other girls of the same age. The girls are quite different, and they all are consistently characterized. Some of the small problems are solved in a rather pat fashion, but the developments are believable.

R Baudouy, Michel-Aimé. Old One-Toe; illus. by Johannes Troyer. Harcourt, 4-7 1959. 190p. \$3.

First published in France in 1957, an unusual and moving book. Almost two stories in one, but beautifully meshed together. Four children who are visiting their aunt in the country become intrigued by the wild life of the nearby forest, and especially by the wily fox, One-Toe. The story of One-Toe as he moves into adult life and independence to become the raider know to all the countryside is exciting, and the sympathy that the children feel for the animal who is so splendid and so daring is communicated to the reader. Good descriptions of the forest community, good characterization and a fine writing style.

NR Beeby, Betty. Just Josie. Reilly and Lee, 1960. 32p. illus. \$2.
3-5
yrs.

Sentimental illustrations of a small girl in her everyday life . . . taking a bath, playing in the snow, relating to herself. Inappropriate for the older child and too static for reading aloud to the younger, the appeal of this book is probably only to an adult. Each page has a line or two of text in rhyme; the rhyming is frequently false; for example, "Arms to go in a sweater hole; arms that say I love you so."

Ad Black, Irma (Simonton). The Troublemaker; illus. by Rita Fava. Knopf, 1959. 3-5 90p. \$2.50.

When Mickey and his mother moved to an apartment house, they found that their collie pup, Prince, was too noisy and undisciplined. Some of the other children had an Animal Club in the yard, but Mickey had to keep Prince indoors; he was a bit resentful, and his relationship with the other children was thereby strained. During the summer, one of Mickey's friends helped train Prince by the methods used in obedience school; by the time all the children were back from vacation, Prince was no longer a nuisance or a troublemaker. The sedate writing style suits the matter-of-fact realism of the plot; conversation is very natural, characterization minimal; information about training animals is useful and the basic attitude toward pets and their behavior is excellent.

Ad Bradbury, Bianca. Jim and His Monkey; pictures by Vee Guthrie. Houghton, 2-4 1960. 44p. \$2.50.

Mr. and Mrs. Dolan took Jim and Mary to the circus, and Mrs. Dolan told Mr. Dolan that the children would be ill with all the stuff they were eating. He thought that everybody ought to do that at a circus—once; but he was chagrined when it really happened. Jim was too sick to go to school the next day. A monkey, escaped from the circus, found its way to Jim's room, and for two days Jim and Mary kept Coco, fed him, and

didn't tell their parents. Not outstanding, but a very nice family story; believable events described in a pleasant writing style. Nice for the attitude toward animals as well as the family relationships.

R Branley, Franklyn Mansfield. A Book of Moon Rockets for You; illus. by Leonard Kessler. Crowell, 1959. 66p. \$3.

An excellent introduction to the topic: text is basic and lucid, diagrams clear, pages are well laid out and uncrowded. The author describes the several kinds of rockets that will be used, citing the functions of each kind. Lively and interesting writing that concludes with a survey of some of the areas of knowledge that scientists hope to expand by observations made on or from a moon base.

R Braymer, Marjorie. The Walls of Windy Troy; A Biography of Heinrich Schliemann; illus. with photographs. Harcourt, 1960. 189p. \$3.50.

A good biography of Heinrich Schliemann, the grocer's apprentice who was determined to become rich so that he could afford his heart's desire: an investigation of the site of Troy. Brilliant, arrogant, and dedicated, Schliemann amassed a fortune in Russia and the United States and, retiring from business, devoted himself from 1870-1890 to planning and superintending excavations. Well-written, well-documented; time-chart, bibliography and index are appended. The author gives a strong picture of Schliemann, not always flattering; there is little humor or lightness in the writing style, and the last section of the book (in which the digging is described in detail) is especially solid and serious.

R Boutwell, Edna. Sailor Tom; illus. by Kurt Werth. World, 1960. 93p. \$2.95.
4-6

A robust nautical story, the narrator and none-too-modest hero of which is a black cat. Since there is a tradition that a black cat is bad luck aboard ship, Sailor Tom is resented by all the crew of the Bouncing Bet; only Barnacle Bill, the captain, wanted the cat. When the crew abandoned ship, only Sailor Tom stayed aboard and, by his presence, kept the ship from being declared a derelict and therefore the property of the malevolent Captain Biggety. A romping, salty tall tale, told in delightful style; Sailor Tom is a cat with a distinct personality. Humorous and vivacious.

R Butterworth, Oliver. The Trouble with Jenny's Ear; illus. by Julian de Miskey.
4-7 Little, 1960. 275p. \$3.

A delicious spoof on television quiz shows, telepathy, men, women, and children. With bland ingenuousness Mr. Butterworth describes the ridiculous and wonderful ploys engaged in by the Pearson boys when they discover that their six-year-old sister Jenny is telepathic. Some of the schoolroom scenes are hilarious, and they are surpassed by the scenes in broadcasting studios. There are several other threads in the plot, and they are neatly tied together by the time of the satisfactory ending. Genuinely humorous, a book that is hard to put down. Fun to read aloud.

Ad Caldwell, John Cope. Let's Visit China. Day, 1959. 96p. illus. \$2.95.
5-7

The author describes the geography and history of China, commenting on the relationship between China and the Western World. The major portion of the book is devoted to an examination of recent Chinese history and the communist regime. The book is useful and informative; it is not always objective but the author makes no claim to impartiality. It is his stated purpose to give young people information that will enable them to understand United States' policy on China and the possibilities of alternatives to that policy.

R Calhoun, Mary Huiskamp. Katie John; pictures by Paul Frame. Harper, 1960.

3-5 134p. \$2.50.

A very pleasant and realistic story about a ten year old girl as she adjusts to a new home and new friends. This is the sort of book that will be especially welcomed by those readers who enjoy the details of everyday life. No dramatic events occur in the life of Katie John Tucker, save for the small dramas that happen to any lively youngster. The Tuckers have moved into an old house (newly inherited) so that they can sell it more easily; they grow to love it and decide to stay. Katie John's new friend, Sue, says the house is haunted, but it seems the noise comes from the old system of speaking tubes; Katie John gets stuck in the old dumb-waiter—but is easily rescued by her mother; the two girls have a sapt, but they quickly forget their grievances. All very simple, credible, smoothly written; characterization is consistent and the author has written perceptively of the attitudes of pre-adolescent girls toward boys and toward older sisters.

Ad Carter, Katharine J. Willie Waddle; illus. by Elizabeth Rice. Steck, 1959.
1-2 40p. \$1.75.

The story of a small duckling who was teased about his big feet; but the chicks who had been taunting Willie found that sometimes big feet were useful. When it rained, Willie was able to have fun in the puddles, and he even was able to help the chicks get across a big puddle. A clear presentation of the fact that it isn't always bad to be different; the writing style is a bit tepid, but the book is useful for beginning independent readers. Illustrations are rather coy, but are remarkable in the variety and authenticity of detail of floral background.

R Colby, Carroll Burleigh. Snow Surveyors; Defenders against Flood and Drought.
4-7 Coward-McCann, 1959. 48p. illus. \$2.

In the usual format of Colby books, the pages are chiefly filled with photographs, with no text on some pages, and approximately one-fourth of the space on all pages being given to the text. A foreword by the author describes the survey system set up by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in 1935, and tells of the scope and the purposes of the program. Although heavy reading for the audience for whom the vocabulary of the text is appropriate, this is probably the most informative part of the book. The text itself has more continuity than does that of the usual Colby book, and the subject has more human interest.

R Cooke, David Coxe. Bomber Planes That Made History. Putnam, 1959. 72p.
5-8 illus. \$2.50.

A compact and informative book about famous planes in the history of bombardment aviation. A page of text about each plane is faced by a full-page photograph. Earlier models are French, British or German; later in the book, Japanese bombers appear and the number of models made in the United States increases. The pages of text give background information about military or industrial aspects as well as facts about the planes themselves and their design and manufacture. The concluding paragraph on each page gives pertinent data such as wing span, bomb load, and maximum speed. Arrangement is chronological; there is no index; almost forty bomber planes are described. In some cases the reproduction photographs are dark and fuzzy.

Ad Davis, Reda. Martin's Dinosaur; illus. by Louis Slobodkin. Crowell, 1959.
K-2 40p. \$3.50.

Martin's mother was fascinated by castles: everywhere they went in Wales, she wanted to see all of every castle. They came to one that wasn't on the map, and Martin wandered down to the dungeon; there he found a dinosaur, although the creature claimed to be a dragon. It left the castle with Martin for a while, and by the time Martin drove off with his family, the rumor had spread that a dragon and a knight in armor (Martin) were roaming the neighborhood. Slight and mildly humorous tale, much enhanced by the Slobodkin illustrations.

M De Leeuw, Cateau. One Week of Danger; illus. by Kurt Werth. Nelson, 1959.
4-6 96p. \$2.95.

A story of the Kentucky frontier in 1788. Dave and Jem were captured by a Shawnee raiding party when they foolishly left the fort during an attack; after careful plotting they escaped during the night while the Indians slept. Several days later, the boys, hungry and exhausted, met a man who gave a false name; they were sure he was a notorious outlaw, so they set a trap, ambushed the man and his companion, and escaped a second time. Trying to get across the Ohio river on a raft, the boys capsized, lost each other in the night, found each other in the morning, and eventually got back safely to the fort just as a searching party was being organized. The derring-do is rather thickly laid on, and the boys' success in outwitting Indians and experienced woodsmen not quite believable. Pace is fast, and writing style good.

R Dillon, Eilís. The Singing Cave; illus. by Stan Campbell. Funk and Wagnalls,
7-9 1960. 186p. \$2.95.

An exciting and suspenseful adventure story, set on the Irish island of Barrinish. Pat and his grandfather tell a friend, erudite Mr. Allen, that they have found a Viking skeleton in a cave. When they return to the cave, all of the objects around the Viking, as well as the skeleton itself, have disappeared. In pursuing the reasure, Pat stows away on a lobster boat bound for Brittany. The author has, amazingly, combined in this absorbing book unity, pace, and fine characterization. After the mystery is solved and the culprits are known, the people of the island forgive and forget, because they are all one people and they must live together.

M Duvoisin, Roger Antoine. Day and Night. Knopf, 1960. 32p. illus. \$2.95.
K-2

Day was the name of a French poodle; he had to spend his nights indoors. Night was the name of an owl who, of course, was up at night and slept through the day. When Day rescued Night from a fox, they became fast friends, but they had a problem: when could they see each other? Just as day turned into night. They tried talking through the door, but it disturbed the people in the house; their problem was solved when the boy of the house built Day a doghouse. Amusing idea, but the double use of the words day and night may be confusing. Illustrations are in black and white or in bright and busy colors. The last page is difficult to read: blue text on black background.

NR Eager, Edward McMaken. The Well-Wishers; illus. by N. M. Bodecker. Har-
4-6 court, 1960. 191p. \$3.25.

The continued adventures of the group of children of Magic or Not?, this time told by the children themselves. Each of the six youngsters takes a turn at recording events, and the device is not successful: in part this is due to the fact that the author has a writing style that is not simple and seldom reads like the writing of a child, and in part the lack of success is due to the fact that there is not enough differentiation between the writings of the various children. The plot involves the efforts of the children to propitiate and use a magic wishing well; action is episodic to the point of being choppy. One episode has to do with some blitzkrieg therapy practiced by one child; another—most laudable in intent—concerns the concerted effort of the children to welcome some new neighbors against whom some of the townspeople have indicated hostility; there is a great deal written about the adverse sentiments, the shame of prejudice, etc. There is never any direct mention of the fact that the new family is Negro, although this eventually becomes clear; it seems unnecessarily evasive—for no apparent reason, since the author's whole purpose is to derogate prejudice.

Ad Faralla, Dana. The Willow in the Attic; pictures by Rita Fava. Lippincott, 1960.
3-4 96p. \$3.50.

The four children were desolate when the old willow tree had to be cut down . . . it was dying and some new owners had ordered it cut down. Here they had had their

treehouse, and here in the willow there had been an unforgettable flight of monarch butterflies. They planted a branch of the tree for their attic playroom; once they made butterflies on a rainy day and covered the tree, once they made paper snowflakes for a lovely Christmas tree, once they hung blown eggs for an Easter tree. And in the spring the willow in the attic burst into leaf, so they took it out and planted it with ceremony. A story that is static in its action and a bit sedate in style and conversational passages, but unusual in the subject emphasis. The book is especially provocative in the picture of family projects and creative, imaginative play. Vocabulary is difficult for independent reading.

R Flakkeberg, Ardo. The Sea Broke Through; tr. from the Dutch by K. E. Bendien; 6-9 illus. by Peter Spier. Knopf, 1960. 179p. \$2.75.

First published in 1953 in Dutch, and newly translated, a book based on the great flood that took many lives in Holland in 1953. Four young men are brought together during the rescue work in southern Holland; they are from different parts of the country, and each is a volunteer. Through the grim and unforgettable experiences they share, the lads become fast friends. The book has a very definite pattern, beginning and ending with separate accounts of the four—first, before they have met and before the full threat of the flood is known, and at the last of the book, after they have separated. The central portion of the book is in brief episodes, moving back and forth between the several characters and reflecting in style the atmosphere of tenuous relationships and discontinuity. The story of the boys is interesting, but it is actually only a vehicle for the real drama of the whole rescue operation.

R Françoise. The Things I Like. Scribner, 1960. 31p. illus. \$2.95.

3-5
yrs.

A charming picture book, in which each page of text is faced by a page of illustration, the illustrations alternating: full color, then blue, black and white. Each page of text cites a pleasant thing that is liked, each of these being quite separate. Most of the comments will evoke a shared response in the hearer, since they refer to universal childhood preferences: picnics, animals, the circus, vacations, home, good things to eat. Simple, warm, satisfying.

Ad Freeman, Mae (Blacker). The Sun, the Moon and the Stars; by Mae and Ira 3-5 Freeman; illus. by René Martin. Random House, 1959. 81p. (An Easy-To-Read Book) \$1.95.

A simplified description of our universe; accurate, amplified by good diagrams, and giving suggestions for easy home demonstrations with which to verify statements. A welcome encouragement of good scientific attitudes by such suggestion of corroborating by observation. Brief chapters take up separate topics: the earth itself, rotation of the earth, sunlight, the sun, the stars, the galaxy, etc. Index is appended. A weakness of the book is that it covers a great deal very briefly at a level at which most readers want specific knowledge, but the book is useful for easy reading.

Ad Friskey, Margaret (Richards). Indian Two Feet and His Horse; pictures by 1-2 Katherine Evans. Childrens Press, 1959. 60p. \$2.50.

Controlled vocabulary for beginning independent readers. Useful for this purpose, but a rather bland and contrived text. A wild horse does not often come up to a boy and hold out a sore foot to be looked at. The illustrations are quite pedestrian. Distribution of the text facilitates reading, there being twenty-five words or less on each page.

Ad Galdone, Paul. Paddy the Penguin. Crowell, 1959. 32p. illus. \$3.

K-2

Paddy and the other penguins slid and swam, and had all kinds of games and fun, but

Paddy wished that he could fly. One day he saw a "giant bird" land, and out of it stepped a "giant penguin" who bowed when Paddy bowed. The giant penguin put Paddy in a sort of sling and flew him along; all the other penguins wanted to do the same thing, so they all waddled over to the giant bird and there were all obliged so that the sky was full of penguins parachuting to earth. The drawings are delightful, but the book seems to waver between factual and fictional; all of the action is quite within the realm of possibility until the episode of the mass parachuting—yet there is no real story, the major part of the book describing true penguin behavior, yet the accuracy of the observation being confused by the fictional aspect.

M Garst, Doris (Shannon). Tall in the Saddle; illus. by Ralph E. Ricketts. Hastings House, 1960. 160p. \$3.

A sequel to Crazy About Horses, in which Dave Brandt spent the summer on a Wyoming ranch, and was overjoyed to find that his father had decided to marry the widowed owner of a neighboring ranch and settle there. The description of the daily lives of the children on the two ranches is somewhat idealized, and the book consists of a series of hackneyed adventures: a birthday Dave thinks nobody remembers, only to receive the much-desired horse as a surprise gift; the stampede that is stopped by Dave's quick action; the bus marooned in a snowstorm, full of smaller children saved by Dave's heroic efforts. The gradually improving relationship between Dave and his father is a positive theme running through the book, although the father seems to give his affection based on a merit system. The appeal of the book is to the inveterate lover of horse-and-Western background stories.

NR Gay, Zhenya. The Dear Friends; story and pictures by Zhenya Gay. Harper, 3-4 1959. 48p. \$1.95.
yrs.

When spring came, all the baby animals of the woods played together; they formed a club called The Dear Friends and agreed to meet every day. Each brief chapter of this picture book concentrates on a different animal: Bertram Bear gets his first spanking and his first lesson in tree climbing; Rachel Raccoon learns that you can't wash a piece of fudge, and she realizes that she has been tricked because she hasn't been a good sport; Sarah Squirrel and Carolyn Chipmunk have a fight and their mothers have sharp words about this. Because of the brevity of the chapters, the book may be used for installment reading sessions, but the moral tone is obtrusive.

R Godden, Rumer. Candy Floss; illus. by Adrienne Adams. Viking, 1960. 65p. 3-5 \$2.50.

A graceful and tender story, illustrated by appropriately gay drawings, some in black and white and some in handsome crayon. The book has a mild allegorical flavor, good background, a prototype of the Poor Little Rich Girl, and an entirely satisfactory ending. Candy Floss was a small doll that sat on a horse atop a music box; Jack, her owner, kept a cocoanut shy at fairs. The author makes her wandering minstrels very attractive and quite credible; Clementine, the spoiled only child, is utterly awful. Clementine stole Candy Floss, but one way and another found herself returning the doll . . . and then helping Jack at the cocoanut shy. This first gesture of unselfishness made Clementine happier than she had ever been, and Miss Godden has had the discretion to drop Clementine's reformation at this point: a small, believable change in the child, a glimmer of appreciation on the part of her parents, and a traditional reunion between the loved ones who had been separated. For reading aloud to younger children—enjoyable for the adult reader as well as for the listener.

R Grimm, Jacob Ludwig Karl. Favorite Tales Told in Germany; retold from the 3-6 Brothers Grimm by Virginia Haviland; illus. by Susanne Suba. Little, 1959. 85p. \$2.75.

One of the excellent series of three volumes of fairy tales retold in simplified style for easy independent reading. Literary quality and fairy tale flavor are good, format handsome. Illustrations in color and in black and white have humor and vivacity. In this volume are "The Frog Prince," "The Elves and the Shoemaker," "Rapunzel," "The Cat and the Mouse in Partnership," "Rumpelstiltskin," "Hansel and Gretel," and "The Bremen Town Musicians." For reviews of the other books in the series see Jacobs (p. 149) and Perrault (p. 153). The author is Readers' Advisor for Children at the Boston Public Library.

R Grimm, Jakob Ludwig Karl. The Sleeping Beauty; a story by the Brothers 3-5 Grimm; with pictures by Felix Hoffmann. Harcourt, 1959. 30p. \$3.50. First published in Switzerland in 1959, a simply-told picture book version of the old favorite. The illustrations are enchanting: romantic, in muted tones, yet having both humor and dignity. The arrangement of text and illustration varies from page to page, itself an asset, some of the pages achieving an impressive composition.

Haviland, Virginia. Editor of the three-volume set of fairy tales. See entries under Grimm, Jacobs, and Perrault.

R Hoff, Syd. Oliver; story and pictures by Syd Hoff. Harper, 1960. 64p. (An I 1-2 Can Read Book) Trade ed., \$1.95. Library ed., \$2.19. A delightful addition to the series for beginning independent readers. Oliver the elephant is the essence of sweet and amiable reason. Disembarking from the ship with a group of elephants bound for a circus, Oliver discovers that only ten of the group were expected. And he is the unwanted eleventh. He wanders about, trying to make friends and agreeably being a steed (until he comes a cropper trying to jump a fence) or being put on a leash and walked. People thought him a nice dog . . . but big. Oliver was playing with some children and dancing for them when the circus parade went by, and the circus man realized that Oliver was a great dancer; and so Oliver joined the circus after all. Delicious humor in the combination of the bland innocence of text and the outrageous nonsense of illustrations—one of Hoff's best.

Ad Holberg, Ruth (Langland). Wendy's Private Life; illus. by Anna Marie Magagna. 4-6 Doubleday, 1959. 187p. \$2.75. Wendy was too tall for twelve, she was freckled, she was totally dissatisfied with herself. Highly imaginative, she dreamed of being a glamorous movie star, and she was the leader in back-yard dramatic play. When a television troupe came to town and one of the troupe saw Wendy, there was a stunning result: Wendy was asked to take a part in a filmed television story. Encouraged by her success, Wendy began to accept her limitations and her private dreams became more realistic—she no longer had fantasies about Hollywood, but plans for the real Wendy. Nice characterization and pleasant family relationships; pace of the book is slow at the start, and the television sequence is rather artificial as a solution to Wendy's mild problems.

Ad Hyde, Margaret Oldroyd. Off into Space!; Science for Young Space Travelers; 3-5 illus. by Bernice Myers. Whittlesey House, 1959. 64p. \$2.50. Information about space travel, the solar system, gravity and atmosphere, and the principles that make rocket ships operate is given in a very informal and simplified writing style. The author uses the device of discussing these aspects of space as though they were being encountered by a traveler, and the auxiliary device of an imaginary film (which does not clearly distinguish known fact from speculation) shown at a space station. Some suggestions are given for elementary home demonstrations of basic principles: a glass of water covered with heavy paper and turned upside down, for example, as a demonstration of air pressure. The explanations are not as comprehensive as those of such authors as Nephew and Bendick, but the simple terminology

and the format make the book more useful for the third and fourth grade readers.

R Jacobs, Joseph. Favorite Fairy Tales Told in England; retold from Joseph 3-5 Jacobs by Virginia Haviland; illus. by Bettina. Little, 1959. 88p. \$2.75. Retold from the collection published in 1892. Six stories have been selected by Miss Haviland: "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Johnny-Cake," "Tom Thum," "Molly Whuppie," "Dick Whittington and His Cat," and "Cap o' Rushes." Attractive and fanciful illustrations, some in black and white, some in muted blues and browns. A useful book for public or school library, or for a home collection.

R Johnson, Annabel. Torrie; by Annabel and Edgar Johnson. Harper, 1960. 7-10 217p. \$2.75.

A compelling story of westward migration. Torrie Anders, who is fourteen, can't understand why her family should leave St. Louis to join a California wagon train. During the long and difficult trip, Torrie learns a great deal about herself and sees with increasing perception the parents she had not really understood. The authors have described with conviction and sensitivity the process of a young girl's maturation. A good period story, a good adventure story, a good love story.

Ad Kahl, Virginia. The Perfect Pancake; told and pictured by Virginia Kahl. 3-4 Scribner, 1960. 31p. \$2.75.

A rhymed story of the housewife who baked the absolutely perfect pancake, light and flavorful . . . but only one to a person. She refused to bake more. The townsfolk were desolate, but resigned. One day a beggar came along and prepared to eat a stack; nobody told him that he'd only get one. And he did—just one; but he was smarter than the others, he remembered the cook's pride. He criticized each cake until he had had as many as he could eat; the others followed his example, and THEY had enough for the first time; the exhausted cook took to her bed. A pleasantly entertaining tale, but a bit repetitive and—after a point—predictable. Nice to read aloud to younger children.

R Kuskin, Karla. Which Horse Is William? Harper, 1959. 29p. illus. \$1.95. 3-6 yrs.

A delightful picture book. William Short asked his mother if she could tell him from everyone else in the world. Yes, she could. "If I were a horse would you know it was me?" Of course she would. Then, plunging happily into the world of fantasy, William assumes different animal shapes . . . and each time, his mother knows him as he plays about. (He is the only songbird standing on its head, he is the only lamb wearing a sweater.) He is the only pig who hasn't yet had lunch—and William Short, real as can be, sits down in the kitchen and has his lunch. Attractive illustrations enhance the deft humor, and the suggestion for imaginative play is provocative.

R Lansing, Elisabeth Carleton (Hubbard). Liza of the Hundredfold; illus. by Dorothy Bayley Morse. Crowell, 1960. 194p. \$2.95.

A story set in the Kentucky mountain regions. Liza's mother had died, and the twelve-year-old tomboy found it hard to stay home and tend her baby brother and do housework, when she wanted to go hunting with her older brother. Her stern father disapproved of Liza's hoydenish ways. Involved in a disagreement with the neighbors, the family found how much they all needed each other when storm and flood left some of the neighbors homeless. Liza herself found that there were satisfactions in the work that women had to do; for the first time she accepted her role and her responsibility. The author has made Liza's development quite convincing, despite her youth; all of the characters in the book are thus molded by the hardy lives they must lead. The relationships between Liza and her older brother, and between the girl and her father, are described with insight and clarity.

M Larrick, Nancy. Color ABC; illus. by Rene Martin. Platt and Munk, 1959.
4-6 52p. \$2.95.
yrs.

Each letter of the alphabet is illustrated by a full page picture in full color in this oversize alphabet book, and on the facing page are examples of the letter in upper and lower case, and a small amount of descriptive text. An example of this is, "L is for lion, the lordly lion. This one is probably a circus lion because his mane is so long and fluffy. In the wild it is likely to be ragged. His mate, the lioness, has no mane. She is shorter and more slender than the male, which can weigh 500 pounds or more." It is a moot point whether or not the informational material is appropriate for the age of the child to whom the book will be read by an adult. In an introduction to the book, Mrs. Larrick gives suggestions for use that include stopping to discuss facts with the child and using phonic precepts: these are, of course, applicable in any case where an adult is helping a pre-school child with an alphabet book, this or any other. Letters and pictures are large and well-placed; the illustrations are well-chosen for interest.

M Lauritzen, Jonreed. Treasure of the High Country; illus. by Eric von Schmidt.
6-8 Little, 1959. 211p. \$3.

An odd and involved story in which three children stray off into the high cliffs where the legendary Guatsi spirits are said to dwell. Here they become involved with a strange old man who takes a fancy to a small girl and helps her get safely home with a sack full of money. The money belongs to some desperate robbers by whom the two brothers of the little girl have been captured and from whom they escape. The scenes in which the desperadoes become increasingly nervous about the spirits are not believable, and all of the characterization seems exaggerated.

R Lewiton, Mina. Candita's Choice; pictures by Howard Simon. Harper, 1959.
4-6 185p. \$2.95.

A warm and understanding story about the difficulties encountered by a child of eleven who comes from Puerto Rico to New York. Candita cannot understand the language, she is homesick for the life she knew, she is bewildered by many of the aspects of urban life. Slowly she makes friends as her timidity decreases; when she has the choice of returning to Puerto Rico or staying in New York, Candita becomes aware that she has made a place for herself and that she would prefer to stay in her new home. The sympathetic portrayal of the child who feels alien has appeal, and the larger implications of the situation of the whole Puerto Rican community are of great value, especially to the reader who encounters in real life the problems of integration of newcomers.

Ad Lindgren, Astrid (Ericsson). My Swedish Cousins; photos by Anna Riwkin-Brick.
3-5 Macmillan, 1960. 62p. \$3.

Translated from the Swedish, the text tells of Bjorn, who lives with his grandmother in the country, and of his six cousins who live in other parts of Sweden. Bjorn thinks that all of Sweden is like Dalarna, where he lives; the letters from the cousins to grandmother tell of their differing ways of life, however. Two live on a farm, two in the great city of Stockholm, one in a small fishing village, and one in the mountains. Some of the pictures—and portions of the text—give information about parts of Sweden; but some of the photographs seem to be included only because they are attractive. There are, for example, sixteen pages of combined text and photographs illustrating Eva and Johan's adventures with their cat in Stockholm; some views are pictorially informative, but some are simply pretty pictures of a girl and a cat.

R Lines, Kathleen M., comp. Poems and Pictures; chosen by Kathleen M. Lines
4-6 and Norah Montgomerie; illus. by Norah Montgomerie. Abelard-Schuman,
1959. 64p. \$2.95.

A collection of poems some of which are by well-known poets old or new, and many of which are anonymous or traditional. A good selection that includes many standard favorites; illustrations are attractive in black and white—with six double-page spreads in green and yellow. Each poem is printed on a separate page and the author's name given below the last line.

R Lloyd, Norris. The Desperate Dragons; illus. by Joan Balfour Payne. Hastings 3-6 House, 1960. 64p. \$2.75.

What could be nicer than an enchanting first book by a new children's author? Mrs. Lloyd has written a delicious spoof about the last remaining dragons in the world. Not enough of the favorite food (king's daughters) and too many brave knights out being courageous. When Harold the cowherd found a novel way of vanquishing dragons, the last dozen extant moved off to live in the sea, Harold won the last daughter, and absolutely everybody was happy. There never was a more engaging dragon than Kip. For example, the time he was showing off, lying on his back, spouting fire and saying, "Look, Grandpa, I'm a volcano." Spontaneity and smoothness in the writing style make the book delightful to read aloud.

R Lubell, Winifred. The Tall Grass Zoo; by Winifred and Cecil Lubell. Rand 2-4 McNally, 1960. 55p. illus. \$2.75.

A book about the animal life that can be found and watched in a back yard: moths, butterflies, ants, spiders, and other small, familiar creatures. The text is very simple, dignified yet informal; the authors have wisely refrained from giving too many facts. Two or three pages of text and illustrations are devoted to each subject; the illustrations are delightful, with clear, vivid colors and accurate detail of flora and fauna. Good writing style, although there are occasional statements that may be misleading: in speaking of a Daddy Longlegs, "He grows back a new one within a short while—just as you grow front teeth." or "No one's quite sure why Fireflies glow."

Ad McElfresh, Adeline. Summer Change; illus. by Charles Geer. Bobbs-Merrill, 7-9 1960. 192p. \$3.50.

Cathy, resenting the fact that her sixteenth summer will be spent in a small Indiana town, decides nevertheless to act as though she likes it. The family must be out of city for her father's sake anyway, and perhaps if she pretends convincingly that she is happy, her parents will realize that she does have acting talent. But Cathy finds that she has changed by the end of the summer: the small town seems like home, and the local people like friends. She has learned the satisfaction of belonging and the joy of participating; happily she helps in the decision to stay. The story line is hackneyed, Cathy's development is quite credible and the values of the book are excellent: good familial relationships, good attitudes toward older people, a sense of responsibility and an appreciation of community life and shared experiences. The fact that the author uses "mango" as an Indiana plant may confuse the reader who does not use this term for a green pepper.

R McLean, Allan Campbell. Master of Morgana. Harcourt, 1959. 222p. \$3. 7-12

A truly absorbing novel about smuggling and salmon-fishing; like Storm over Skye, the action is set on the Isle of Skye. Niall, who is sixteen, goes to work in his brother Ruari's place when Ruari has a serious accident. Niall suspects that it was no accident, and he is sure that one of the men on the fishing crew has had something to do with Ruari's fall; he also suspects that there has been smuggling going on. The background, the flavor of the language in conversation, the swift movement of the plot and the gripping descriptions of excursions at sea combine to provide the reader with an exciting reading experience. This is a superlative adventure story.

R Meader, Stephen Warren. Wild Pony Island; illus. by Charles Beck. Harcourt, 6-8 1959. 192p. \$2.95.

The atmosphere of an offshore island community is vividly created as background for the story of Rick Landon's adjustment to a new life. Fourteen-year-old Rick had had his first encounter with the Brooklyn police after a gang fight, and his widowed mother decided to take her two boys back to her home town. The boys adapted quickly and happily to the pattern of village life; Rick especially enjoyed riding the ponies that roamed freely over the island. Good characterization and convincing development of the adolescent as he matures. The details of island life—the sea birds, the wild ponies, the Coast Guard going to rescue a pleasure craft in a hurricane, the fishing and the swimming—these create a strong and beautiful background for an excellent story for boys.

M Mincieli, Rose Laura. Pulcinella; Or Punch's Merry Pranks; illus. by Joseph 3-4 Low. Knopf, 1960. 31p. \$2.95.

A picture book based on the centuries-old tale of the buffoon Pulcinella or Punch. The humpbacked dwarf who found a home with a theatrical troupe was, on stage or in person, always ready with a prank or a jest and always into other people's business. The picture-book-age child may easily be confused, since the Punch character is in a genre that is probably unfamiliar. The illustrations are not likely to clarify an understanding of Pulcinella's dual role. Writing style is flat.

Ad Montgomery, Elizabeth (Rider). Susan and the Storm. Nelson, 1960. 191p. 8-10 \$2.95.

Susan had been trying to get a part in a movie, but had had no success; when her brother-in-law called to plead that she come stay with the two small children while their mother went to the hospital, Susan was bitter at the thought that she might miss a casting call. Reluctantly, she went, and found herself with a group of total strangers marooned by a storm. The children were not too much trouble, and Susan was much impressed by the neighborliness and competence of some of the people in the community. Banded together, they all became privy to each other's private lives very rapidly. Susan fell in love with Pete Arnold as she came to appreciate the values that were important to him and realized how shallow her own values had been. Susan matures commendably but a bit rapidly, even under the circumstances. The characters are vividly drawn, but the book suffers from almost too many strong characters and relationships and almost too much drama in the details of the storm. A better than average teen-age romance, with appeal in the locale.

M Niclas, Yolla. The Island Shepherd; photographs by the author. Viking, 1959. 4-6 91p. \$3.

David was having a lonely summer on the Maine coast until he went over to Faraway Island in his boat; here he found an elderly recluse who kept sheep. Day after day David went back, becoming increasingly fond of Captain Grover and his tame flock. The photographs seem to determine the story line, so that a picture of David alone—or of some sheep—may be accompanied by text that does nothing to further the story. Although the friendship between the man and the boy is the theme of the book, there is only one photograph in which they are pictured together. The photographs are excellent; some are beautiful; all are full-page size, either spreading across the pages or being faced by the text page. Many of the latter have little letterpress and much space, resulting in a handsome and restful format. Attractive but not very substantial.

NR Nixon, K. Poo and Pushti; written and decorated by K. Nixon. Warne, 1959. K-1 46p. \$2.

Pushti was a Siamese kitten whose mother had said he must leave home, there were too many living there. Poo was Pushti's dear friend, a Dachsund puppy who wished

that Pushti would come live with her and was overjoyed when this was arranged. Together the two played with Hop-a-long, the Hare, and Bushy-Tail, the Red Squirrel; together they escaped a grass fire. Slight and saccharine, with very little action; illustrations are not far removed from sentimental calendar art.

Ad Norman, Gertrude. Dorothea Lynde Dix; illus. by Lili Rethi. Putnam, 1959. 5-7 122p. (Lives To Remember) \$2.50.

A biography of the reformer who was one of the pioneer workers in the United States in the fight to get humanitarian treatment for the mentally ill. The book is for the most part about the years in which Miss Dix traveled about the country, investigating prisons and asylums and agitating for reform; her childhood and her declining years are given but cursory appraisal. The description of the long, patient years of struggle and rebuff are too repetitive to form an exciting report; Miss Dix herself, strong though she was, was not a vivid personality. The book is useful because of its subject; it gives information about both a great woman and a great cause; but it is quite dry in style and a bit heavy.

R Perrault, Charles. Favorite Fairy Tales Told in France; retold from Charles 3-6 Perrault and other French storytellers by Virginia Haviland; illus. by Roger Duvoisin. Little, 1959. 92p. \$2.75.

Beautifully illustrated, nicely retold: five of the most loved and familiar fairy tales from France. Included are "The Twelve Dancing Princesses," "Puss in Boots," "Beauty and the Beast," "The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood," and "Drakestail." A handsome book, useful for reading aloud or as a source for storytelling.

SpR Peterson, Hans. Magnus and the Squirrel; trans. by Madeleine Hamilton; illus. 4-6 by Ilon Wikland. Viking, 1959. 128p. \$2.50.

First published in Sweden in 1956; a quiet and beautiful story about a small boy of seven and his pet. Magnus was the only child in the apartment building, lonely and shy; he was afraid of bigger boys like Matthew, who delivered parcels from the grocery. Until he found that Matthew felt protective and could be like a big brother, that is. Matthew gave Magnus a baby squirrel, Jimjim; the squirrel was a wonderful pet, but he grew up . . . and Magnus finally, reluctantly took his squirrel to the park and let him go free. The relationship between the boys is set out with tenderness and restraint, as is the love Magnus feels for his pet. The understated and perceptive writing holds the reader's interest by its faithful realism, but the book is limited by disparate levels: the vocabulary is for older children, but the main character is a seven-year old boy in whom the child older than seven will probably feel little interest. Because of this it will need special introduction.

M Potter, Miriam (Clark). Queer, Dear Mrs. Goose; illus. by Zenas and Miriam 2-3 Potter. Lippincott, 1959. 125p. \$2.75.

A collection of stories originally published in American Childhood, Mrs. Goose is a naive and foolish character who is both exasperating and endearing to her animal friends. In one instance, envious of all the newly cleaned teeth of her friends, she goes to the dentist (a fox) only to realize she has no teeth; in another anecdote, she has an enormous amount of trouble with her feet hurting, only to find that she has put her shoes on wrong. The situations are repetitive and the humor often strained, but the element of the ridiculous will appeal to some children. The animals are not realistically depicted, so that the occasional bit of behavior that is natural seems obtrusive: for example, after Black Cat has "said," "called down," or "counted" it seems inconsistent to read that he "mewed."

M Prior, A. Fullarton, tr. The Legend of the White Serpent; retold from the Chi- 4-6 nese by A. Fullarton Prior; illus. by Kwan Sang-Mei. Tuttle, 1960. 67p. \$2.50.

A long and involved retelling of a Chinese legend. The small white snake loved by a schoolboy was changed after many years into a beautiful woman; when the boy was grown she searched through the land and found him and they were married. Told as a continuous story, a long series of episodes of danger, death, magic, etc. then follows. Language does not convey the folk flavor, and the plot, even for a fanciful story, becomes much too ornate.

R Reinfeld, Fred. The Great Dissenters; Guardians of Their Country's Laws and Liberties. Crowell, 1959. 180p. \$2.75.

Abbreviated biographies of six men who were leaders in new trends or causes in the United States: John Quincy Adams, Horace Mann, Ralph Waldo Emerson, William Lloyd Garrison, Henry David Thoreau, and Oliver Wendell Holmes. Each demonstrated in his life vitality, independence, courage and integrity; although there are many other great Americans who might have been included, in the selection of these men the author has given a good basis for understanding the spirit of the early leaders in our national development. The writing style is serious and compact, with neither popularization nor adulation of tone, although there is some use of superlatives. Bibliography and index are appended.

M Ridge, Antonia. Never Run from the Lion; And Another Story. Walck, 1959. 4-6 68p. illus. \$2.25.

A retelling of two Algerian folk tales. The title story tells of the young prince, Azgid, who must prove himself by vanquishing the lion. Repeatedly he runs from the lion until he admits to himself his own fear . . . then he knows that the greatest burden is fear itself. The tale is weakened by the fact that Azgid never actually fights the lion; rather, he finds that the lion is afraid of him and wants escape. In the second tale, a frightened boy is willing to face wild animals when his baby brother is lost; he becomes involved in a series of mixed babies: lion, tiger, monkey and human are claimed by the wrong mothers. The language of the retelling does not capture the folktale flavor; the tales seem drawn out because of repetitive patterns of incidents.

M Rosner, Joan. Let's Go for a Nature Walk; illus. by Betty Harrington. Putnam, 3-4 1959. 47p. \$1.95.

Discusses some of the common flora and fauna that may be found on a walk in the woods. First, the more common trees and wildflowers are described; then the author explains the differences between the three kinds of rocks, giving examples of these. The book concludes with a survey of the animal life (including insects and birds) one might see on a nature walk. While the information is accurate, the coverage is too ambitious and results in a smattering of information about many kinds of wild life, and no adequate treatment of any one group. The reader is told that the walk is being taken with a naturalist, which seems to imply use of the book with an informed adult. Very few nature walks would give opportunity (or time) even with an expert, to observe such variety as is here listed as being seen in one walk. Illustrations are adequate.

M Ryan, John. Pugwash Aloft; A Pirate Story. Criterion, 1959. 32p. illus. \$2.75. K-2

First published in England in 1958. Another story about Captain Pugwash, who gets into trouble this time because he is busy teaching his pirates to sing. So busy, in fact, that he doesn't notice that the crew of the terrible Cut-throat Jake has boarded the ship. Captain Pugwash is trapped when he climbs the mast, and is saved only by the cool and brilliant action of young Tom, the cabin boy. A tale with mildly nonsensical appeal, but with a writing style so bland as to weaken the effect of the action.

M Scott, Sally. There was Timmy!; pictures by Beth Krush. Harcourt, 1959. 47p. 2-3 \$2.25.

Timmy belonged to a large and very lively family. Something was always going on at Timmy's house, and whatever and wherever it was, Timmy was in the middle of it. A nuisance. He especially annoyed the family when he woke them at night by barking, and they then found that their dog Timmy had been into the garbage cans. They forgave him when they found that the culprit was a raccoon and that Timmy had been trying to catch the raccoon. A slight story that puts too much stress on one idea, with a rather repetitious text and a forced gaiety.

M Seidman, M. S. Who Woke the Sun?; pictures by Karla Kuskin. Macmillan, 5-6 1960. 31p. \$2.25.
yrs.

A small book with charming crayon illustrations. All of the animals of the Three Cornered Woods were summoned to a meeting, the code message being tapped out by woodpeckers. The owl, who was Mayor, had called the meeting to settle a dispute between the crow and the rooster, each of whom claimed to be the one that woke the sun. The Mayor explained that the earth's rotation made the sun appear each morning, and all the animals danced while they sang about the sun that was always in the sky each day. A not-unpleasant story, but it lacks a light touch; the animals are a little cloying, and the dialogue stiff. In this context, there is no clue to the fact that the information about the diurnal cycle is accuracy in the midst of fantasy.

R Spykman, E. C. Terrible, Horrible Edie. Harcourt, 1960. 224p. \$3.25.
5-8

A third delightful book about the Cares family in the middy-blouse and motoring-duster years. Here the children are spending the summer at the shore while their parents are in Europe. Edie, who is ten, is the despair of the servant staff; always into mischief of a most inventive kind. The writing is lively and humorous, family relationships and personalities are understandingly described, and the atmosphere of vacation life at the seashore is vividly evoked.

R Stamm, Claus. The Very Special Badgers; A Tale of Magic from Japan; illus. 2-4 by Kazue Mizumura. Viking, 1960. 40p. \$2.25.

A fresh and charming picture book, illustrated by black and white drawings (line and brush) that are appropriate to both the Japanese background and the quality of humor. This is a tale of magic. On two islands lived two tribes of badgers; they were rivals and they were having a dispute over territory. To settle the argument a representative of each tribe engaged in a contest to see who could out-cheat, out-guess, and out-magic the other. As ought to happen in a fanciful story, the younger badger outwitted the old, self-confident Bald Badger. Lively and imaginative writing, with just enough sophistication for the age of the audience.

R Untermeyer, Louis, comp. The Golden Treasury of Poetry; selected and with 1-6 a commentary by Louis Untermeyer; illus. by Joan Walsh Anglund. Golden Press, 1959. 324p. Trade ed., \$4.95. Cloth ed., \$6.65.

A useful anthology containing over 400 poems, delightfully illustrated, and printed several to a page. The book is divided into sections of varying lengths: poems about animals, about people; humorous poems and "rhymes with reason"; classics of narrative poetry, etc. A foreword to the book and a prefatory paragraph for each section have been written by Mr. Untermeyer, and explanatory notes are given by him for many individual poems or authors. The selections range through the centuries from Chaucer to Ogden Nash; a comparatively few inclusions are translations, almost all being English. A good book for any collection, perhaps especially nice for family use in reading aloud. One error should be caught if there is to be another edition: a reference in one of the editor's notes to "Phoebe Cary and his sister Alice." Indexed separately by author, title and first line.

M Ward, Patricia. The Secret Pencil; illus. by Nicole Hornby. Random House, 5-7 1959. 277p. \$2.95.

Vacationing at her uncle's home in Wales, Anna found an old pencil in a cave, and when she had taken it home and polished it, she found that it was magic—it wrote by itself. As the book progresses, it becomes clear that the pencil is speaking as the spirit of Anna's great-grandfather. The action is episodic and many of the episodes are trite, but the writing style is lively and the Welsh atmosphere good. Characterization is fairly stereotyped: the understanding bachelor uncle, the sweet old woman who has been a world-famous singer and is now happy in her cottage, the surly tinker whose heart is softened by little Anna's bravery.

NR Watson, Jane Werner. The Lion's Paw: A Tale of African Animals; pictures 4-5 by Gustaf Tenggren. Golden Press, 1960. 23p. Trade ed., \$1.50. Cloth yrs. ed., \$2.50.

The lion had a thorn in his paw, and wanted some animal to help him by taking it out; each animal pictured gives some reason for not having time, and finally the little mouse says he will do it, and she does. An oversize book, with full page or double-page illustrations that cover almost all the space. The story of the lion and the mouse is completely vitiated; and there seems to be no reason for, or arrangement in, the animals chosen: kudu, elephant, ibis, gazelle, etc. The language used in the two-line answers of the animals is difficult, employing unfamiliar words beyond the names of the animals themselves. For example, "Not I," said the elegant gazelle. "I am leaping across the veld." Or, "Not I," said the solid rhinoceros. "I am whetting my pointed horn."

M Weil, Ann. John Philip Sousa, Marching Boy; illus. by Katherine Sampson. 3-4 Bobbs-Merrill, 1959. 192p. (Childhood of Famous Americans Series) \$1.95.

The story of Sousa's boyhood and his early musical achievements. His precocity and perseverance enabled the boy to be enrolled as a member of the Marine Band when he was only thirteen; he had by this time begun composing and could play several instruments. The writing style of this biography is quite pedestrian, and the author gives no feeling for the historical background, although the Civil War and Lincoln are mentioned. Sousa himself does not come alive as a real person, and the general impression is of flat writing; the only merit of the book lies in the small amount of factual information given.

R Wibberly, Leonard. Peter Treegate's War. Ariel, 1960. 156p. \$2.95. 6-9

The second of a series of four books about the Treegate family during the Revolutionary War. The action of this volume takes place during the war years, starting at the battle of Bunker Hill. Peter is torn between loyalty to his father, a Boston merchant, and to the Maclaren of Spey, his foster father; both older men are on the ramparts with Peter, and Maclaren is wounded. Peter goes on to become a British prisoner, he escapes from a prison ship, crosses the Delaware with Washington, and goes back to the hills to stay with the Maclaren until the man's death. Exciting action provides a vivid picture of the American scene; Mr. Wibberley is superbly at home as a writer of historical fiction.

Reading for Librarians

- Agree, Rose H. "Building A Library Enrichment Program." Elementary English, March 1960, pp. 159-63.
- Ahlers, Eleanor E. "How Will the New School Library Standards Affect High School Libraries?" The High School Journal, November 1959, pp. 42-46.
- American Library Association. Standards for School Library Programs. Prepared by the American Association of School Librarians. A.L.A., 1960. Paper. 144p. \$2.50; with study guide, \$3.
- _____. Young Adult Services in the Public Library. ALA, 1960. Paper. 58 p. \$1.50.
- Douglas, Mary Peacock. "How Well Will the School Library Serve?" The High School Journal, November 1959, pp. 47-51.
- Edmonds, May H. "Standards for Children's Library Service." Florida Libraries, Vol. 2, September 1959, pp. 5-6.
- International Youth Library. Children's Prize Books. pamphlet. 48 p. \$1. Available from the Library, 11a Kaulbachstrasse, Munich 22, Germany. A compilation of awards for children's books in 12 European countries, Canada and the United States. Text is in English; titles are not translated.
- Klingmeyer, Faye M. "Paperbacks and Hardbacks." The Clearing House, March 1960, pp. 415-16.
- Kublin, Hyman. "Paperbacks on Asia for High School Use." Social Education, February 1960, pp. 58-60 and p. 81.
- McCarthy, Joseph. "When Elementary Children Use Reference Books." Elementary English, April 1959, pp. 240-43.
- National Association of Secondary School Principals. "The Effective Secondary School Library." Bulletin, entire issue for November, 1959. Available from the association, 1201 Sixteenth St., Washington 6, D.C. \$1.50, single issue.
- North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Reference Materials for School Libraries. 1959. \$.50, except in North Carolina, where it is free. Director of Publications, State Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, North Carolina. For grades 1-12, emphasis being on gr. 7-12.
- Schick, F. L. "Library Research in Progress." School Life, October 1959, pp. 22-23.
- Silver, Evelyn. "A School Library for Every Child." Elementary English, March 1960. pp. 164-66.
- Syracuse University School of Library Science. The Reading of Youth. Edited by Virginia Tozier. Papers presented at a symposium in July of 1959 on reading patterns of normal, delinquent, and gifted youth. Syracuse University Press, 1960. 28p. \$1.50. From the Press: University Station, Box 87, Syracuse 10, N. Y.
- University of Chicago Graduate Library School. New Definitions of School Library Service. Sara I. Fenwick, Editor. Proceedings of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Conference of the Graduate Library School. University of Chicago Press, 1960. 93p. \$3.75.
- Wheeler, Helen. "The Teaching of Library Skills and Attitudes." The High School Journal, November 1959, pp. 52-57.

