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Bulletin
of
the
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October 1960 · Vol. XIV · No. 2



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.

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Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO • GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Volume XIV

October, 1960

Number 2

New Titles for Children and Young People

Ad Angelo, Valenti. The Candy Basket; written and illus. by Valenti Angelo. Viking, 1960. 39p. \$2.50.
4-6 yrs.

A little mouse who lives in a hotel kitchen gets caught while eating a basket made of candy; the basket has been prepared for a banquet and is filled with animal-cookies. The mouse frightens all the ladies at the banquet except the president, who says nobody must harm the poor little mouse because the group that is meeting is the Friends of Animals Club. Relieved and happy, the little mouse goes home and to sleep. A story with unflattering implications about the hygiene of hotel kitchens and about the reaction of women to mice. The ladies also say "Yum" as they choose their cookies. The most attractive feature of the book will probably be the idea of an elaborate and delicious confection. The illustrations are attractive, and there is a satisfying suspense about the fate of the mouse.

Ad Armstrong, Warren. Tales of the Tall Ships. Day, 1960. 254p. \$3.50.
6-8

A selection of true stories about clipper ships, told in fictionalized form. Some of the tales have dramatic interest, but most of the writing is so heavily nautical as to limit the audience to whom the book will appeal. Long paragraphs on tonnage, mast measurements, cargo, etc. slow the pace of the writing, which is quite vivid in narrative passages.

Ad Bauer, Helen. Hawaii, The Aloha State. Doubleday, 1960. 192p. illus. \$3.50.
5-8

A comprehensive book about the Hawaiian Islands. The first part of the book describes the geography and climate, the early migrations to the islands, and the history of Hawaii up to present times. Part two gives information about each of the smaller islands, about island flora, and about holidays and festivals. A fairly lengthy glossary is appended, and the index is extensive. There are errata in illustration: for example, "Manua Loa" rather than "Mauna Loa" on one map, kapa cloth made by "heating" rather than "beating" in a caption. The chief weakness of the book is in the style, which frequently is coy and employs many exclamatory sentences. The role of the Big Five planters in the history of Hawaii does not emerge very clearly. Despite the inadequacies, the book contains a great deal of information; it does not compare with the more mature book by Borden (Hawaii, Fiftieth State: Macrae, 1960) but it is most useful for the somewhat younger reader.

NR Belting, Natalia Maree. Verity Mullens and the Indians; illus. by Leonard Everett Fisher. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1960. 29p. \$3.25.

Verity was a very small dog belonging to a member of the Plymouth Colony. She'd

always been useless, and she'd often been laughed at. One day she decided to be a Discoverer as all the other dogs were, so she went hunting for food. Verity thought she was catching a turkey, but was herself caught by an Indian, Samoset; he took her back to the colonists and he became their friend. There is no reason for Verity to be "sure she did not like Indians" since she'd never even seen one . . . there is no reason for her to shut her eyes in fear when she does see Samoset. This does not seem the best way to present history, and the fact that there are frequent references in the text to names like Bradford and Alden does not lend historical credence. There are humorous aspects to the description of Verity, but the ascription of a human type of thought process lessens the fun. Judging by the short sentences and the repetitive style, the book was written for beginning readers, but the vocabulary is too difficult and the pages are too heavy with text.

Ad Berquist, Grace. The Boy Who Couldn't Roar; illus. by Ruth Van Scriver. 1-3 Abingdon, 1960. 32p. \$1.50.

Docile Tommy accepted the fact that his older brother made the decisions, but his father said Tommy needed to roar like a lion. Tommy took it literally, and tried. When, finally, the boy decided that he ought to take his turn at leading the new horse as well as doing his share of the chores, Father said "I heard you roar just now." Tommy didn't quite understand, but he was glad that he could roar. The author presents a very neat little picture of sibling relationships in an easy-to-read, simple tale. Children who read or hear the story will understand Tommy's declaration of independence, but the significance of the lion's roar may well escape them and the use of this reference doesn't add to the story. Makes an attractive title, though.

NR Bigham, Madge A. Merry Animal Tales; illus. by Clara Atwood Fitts. Little, 2-3 1960. 92p. \$2.50.

First published in 1906. Chapters tell episodes in the life of a family of rats, Mr. and Mrs. Blackrat and their adventurous son, Blackie. They and their friends have so much trouble with the cat who lives in the Madison Square house that they move to the country. Here Blackie befriends a lion (No explanation of a lion near town) and ruins his Sunday coat bringing home an egg. Original illustrations, stories revised but still dated in their style: for example, the little girl who saves Blackie's life has . . . "soft brown curls and violet eyes and a sunny face." and the conversation has a period flavor, ". . . someone has come to see me. Oh, how fine! "

Ad Borreson, Mary Jo. Let's Go to an Art Museum; illus. by Moneta Barnett. 3-4 Putnam, 1960. 48p. \$1.95.

An introduction to the art museum, cursory in treatment but giving information about several aspects of acquisition and processing of collections and special exhibits. The first half of the book discusses the nature of the collection: period rooms, Oriental art, ancient art and artifacts, etc. A pedestrian presentation, not well illustrated and not comparable to Weisgard's Treasures To See (Harcourt, 1956) which is an introduction that gives a better and more exciting idea of the extent of a collection. The second part of the book discusses the sources of acquisition and the work of the museum staff. The style of writing is tepid, and there has been a failure to screen out unimportant, uninteresting details.

Ad Budd, Lillian. The Pie Wagon; illus. by Marilyn Miller. Lothrop, 1960. 36p. K-2 \$2.75.

A slight picture book that depicts one of the old-fashioned customs of the earlier part of the century: the pie man. Pleasantly illustrated in period style, the pie man is described as he sold his wares. A little girl who came into the wagon to choose from the racks of pies found that there were some beginning with every letter but "X" . . . that was used for pies that were "eXtra big and eXtra delicious." The vari-

eties of pies are listed in series as a picture-alphabet; the use of both story and alphabet weakens each. The illustrations are the only indication of the fact that the story takes place in the past, and it would have been an asset to have the fact included.

Ad Buff, Mary (Marsh). Trix and Vix; by Mary and Conrad Buff. Houghton Mifflin, 1960. 37p. illus. Trade edition, \$2.75; Library edition, \$3.50. Trix was a small grey fox who occasionally came to the garden of some humans to eat the food they had set out for him. When he showed up with a smaller fox with whom he shared his food, the children in the "House of Good Smells" hoped that some day Trix and Vix would bring their babies to the garden. The first part of the book, describing Trix as a pup, is told with gentle simplicity and charm, but the latter part is somehow anticlimactic: the meeting of Trix and Vix, and their return to the garden of the House moves toward the more usual and pedestrian animal story. The book does not have the sustained dignity of Dash and Dart or Elf Owl, although the illustrations are equally attractive.

Ad Byrd, Ernestine N. The Black Wolf of Savage River; A Story of the Alaskan Wild; illus. by Ruth Robbins. Parnassus, 1959. 161p. \$2.95. The story of an Alaskan wolf as he grows from puppy to experienced hunter and leader. As background to Balta's story of the dangers and excitement of wild animal life is the impressive wilderness, vividly described. Balta is seen and hunted by a trapper, Tom Hunter, one of whose dogs has left him to become Balta's mate. In a stirring final episode, the man barely escapes death from the wolf and vows never again to hunt the animal. A good tale of animal and outdoor life, weakened by the repeated suggestion that Balta has a mind capable of reason: "Balta thought the big fellow looked amused. Did the gray suspect that he had wanted to show off?" or "Balta was aware of Dandy's growing affection for Little One, but he was not jealous."

Ad Caldwell, John Cope. Let's Visit West Africa. Day, 1959. 96p. illus. \$2.95. 4-6 A good survey of the countries of West Africa, in a book that is well-organized and adequately indexed. A minor weakness is the fact that there is only one map, so that the reader must refer back; it would have been helpful to have a small map in each section. The author discusses in three chapters of background the geography and climate of the region, the peoples—their origins, languages, and mingling of cultures—of West Africa as a whole, and the exploration and exploitation by western nations. Chapters on the individual countries are followed by a brief discussion of future problems. The text is objectively written, and the author has given a balanced presentation of material; there is, however, some question of the value of some of the illustrative material.

M Carlson, Esther Elisabeth. Sixes and Sevens. Holt, 1960. 223p. \$3. 7-9 Gail Farnsworth, a high school senior, is so busy with steady dating and extra-curricular activities that she hasn't time for much else. When her mother has an accident while away from home, Gail finds that the burden of supervising the younger children is irritating her. Her grades go down . . . her boyfriend finds another girl . . . her best friends drift away. In a patterned plot, Gail learns to appreciate her family and the other boy, to learn the true worth of the girl she had snubbed, and to gain satisfaction in improved school work. Characterization is adequate, although it seems unlikely that a high school senior in a middle-income home where there are three younger children could be as free of responsibility as Gail is pictured.

R Caudill, Rebecca. Higgins and the Great Big Scare; pictures by Beth Krush. Holt, 1960. 87p. \$2.95. 2-4

A mild and engaging tale about a girl who sets out to re-train a puppy that has been frightened. Henny knows that Higgins, her neighbor's puppy, will be given away unless she can get him to stop cowering and hiding. Henny has one week to accomplish the task—and she does it, with love, patience, help from her mother, a handbook, and the willing participation of five smaller children. Henny's concern for the dog is sympathetically told, and her relationships with the younger children charming. The illustrations are a bit sentimental, but they reflect the warmth of the story. Miss Caudill has a simplicity and ease of style that is perfectly suited to the theme.

Ad Colby, Jean Poindexter. Tear Down To Build Up; The Story of Building Wreck-
4-7 ing; illus. by Joshua Tolford. Hastings, 1960. 56p. \$2.95.

A book about the wrecking and demolition that are common scenes in the metropolitan areas of today. Mrs. Colby describes the machinery that is used and gives information about the workers on wrecking projects. In more detail, some of the work done in Chicago, New York, Boston, Washington and London is described. Illustrations are helpful, although several would be more clear with labelled parts. The text is brisk and a bit dry; the author concludes with some comments on the constructive purposes for which the demolition paves the way, and on the sociological relationship between good citizenship and decent living conditions.

NR Cunningham, Julia. The Vision of Francois the Fox; illus. by Nicholas Angelo.
5-6 Houghton, Mifflin, 1960. 35p. Trade edition, \$2.75; Library edition, \$3.50.

Francois was as sly as any other fox until he saw the stained glass window—then he decided to become a saint also. He rescued and adopted a baby duck, together they planned to raise vegetables; Francois gave up his cellar of stolen vintage wines, his house became a home, and he saw that in the incredible blue of Paradise there were now four pale stars instead of three. The story doesn't come off: it is neither successfully poetic nor convincingly religious; it is not good allegory or good nature writing; it is not humorous. All of these elements are present, but they conflict with each other to the detriment of the whole. The vocabulary and the concepts are at an adult level.

M Dale, Ruth Bluestone. Benjamin—and Sylvester Also; pictures by J. B. Handels-
4-6 man. Whittlesey House, 1960. 32p. \$2.25.
yrs.

A read-aloud picture book about two basset hounds who lived in the city and loved to be taken for walks. People always pitied them because they looked so sad, and said the dogs ought to live in the country; their family therefore took them to the country for the summer. Sylvester and Benjamin failed at beagling, so they were sent to training school. They failed there, too—they were city dogs and they loved people and city life. A slight story with little humor; the owners of Benjamin and Sylvester are unconvincingly dog-centered and the only contribution of the book is probably in the information about bassets and beagling.

Ad De Regniers, Beatrice Schenk. The Shadow Book; photographs by Isabel
3-5 Gordon. Harcourt, 1960. 28p. \$2.75.
yrs.

A small boy tells of all the shadow games he plays and of the ways in which he can use shadows to tell time. Photographs show him and other children as they shadow-play, indoors and out; the photographs are excellent per se, and they illustrate the text well, but they are almost all photographs of children, and as such are probably more attractive to adults than to a child audience.

NR Donovan, Edward J. Adventure on Ghost River. Duell, 1960. 150p. \$3.
6-8

Two boys of teen age, Cliff Trailson and Sam Price, become involved with stolen gold, murderous gangsters, the Mounted Police, and a jumped mining claim belonging to Cliff's father. The boys are unduly instrumental in capturing the thieves, and the writing style is poor, melodramatic and replete with clichés.

Ad Drowne, Tatiana Balkoff. But Charlie Wasn't Listening; illus. by Helen Merck-
K-2 dith. Pantheon, 1960. 30p. \$3.25.

Long lectures from his sire made no impression on Charlie, a Pekingese puppy; Puddi talked about their origin, their noble lineage, and their obligations . . . but Charlie wasn't listening. When he was stung by a bee, Charlie knew he had to be brave because he was a Pekingese. He had a secret: he'd been listening all the time. A most anticlimactic ending to a slight but quite interesting picture book. The information about the breed, as incorporated into Puddi's lecture, is colorful although perhaps too detailed and too difficult of language to be of great interest to many children. Illustrations in black, brown, and white are gentle and attractive.

M Dupré, Ramona Dorrel. Too Many Dogs; illus. by Howard Baer. Follett, 1960.
1 32p. (A Beginning-To-Read Book) Trade edition, \$1.00; Library edition, \$1.08.

Controlled vocabulary for the beginning independent reader. Mr. and Mrs. White, who have two dogs, take a third dog that has just had a litter of nine pups. In addition to the cost of their food, the problem of space becomes burdensome. So the Whites take Molly and the pups to a sale and return with pleasure to their quiet home, glad that the puppies have good homes . . . but glad to be alone. A contrived and rather boring story, with the redeeming feature of demonstrating kindness to animals balanced by the unlikelihood of having twelve dogs just from kindness. Parents whose children are all too prone to appearing with stray animals that want putting up may take a dim view of the example here. The book is dull but useful as supplementary material for the beginning reader.

Ad Eastman, Philip D. Are You My Mother?; written and illus. by P. D. Eastman.
1-2 Random House, 1960. 64p. (A Beginner Book) \$1.95.

A book for the beginning reader, using a vocabulary of 100 words. Amusing illustrations augment the humor of the text situation: a baby bird, fallen out of his nest, asks every creature (and a few inanimate objects) he meets if it is his mother. The responses are varied, the kitten staring without comprehension while the cow looks supremely supercilious. The small reader will have several satisfactions in addition to that of independent reading: the lost fledgling is reunited with his mother; the means to this end are delightfully improbable; and there is a modicum of cumulation in the text. There is however, a poor nature concept in the fact that the small bird is so immediately ambulatory, having just hatched.

Ad Eastwick, Ivy O. I Rode the Black Horse Far Away; illus. by Robert A. Jones.
4-6 Abingdon, 1960. 63p. \$2.00.
yrs.

A collection of poems, most of which are about animals, the outdoors, and the weather. The poetry is rhythmic and pleasant, although not many of the pieces are highly original or imaginative. Only occasionally does the fact that the author is British emerge in the mention of flora that may be unfamiliar to children hearing the poems. Illustrations are variable, some being mediocre, some humorous, some quite poor in technique.

M Fletcher, David. The Village of Hidden Wishes; illus. by Dorothea Stefula.
4-5 Pantheon, 1960. 158p. \$3.

A fantasy about a magician who changes two sisters into dolls, while their dolls pre-

tend to be the two little girls. Lucy and Tessa explain their plight to their own toys, then flee to a magical village where each has a wish come true; the village duplicates their own in real life, except that their parents are missing and that the existence is idealized. After much tribulation, the girls get back home by stealing the Crystal of Dreams that breaks the spell. Too long and overly whimsical, the story is rather dull; the book does not at all compare with the author's delightful Confetti for Cortorelli.

R Floethe, Louise Lee. The Indian and His Pueblo; with pictures by Richard
2-4 Floethe. Scribners, 1960. 32p. \$2.95.

A description of the lives of Pueblo Indians of the present day, told in a simple style that is factual, as well as attractive. The making of adobe bricks for homes, the agricultural practices, the making of Pueblo pottery, and traditional tasks of men and of women are discussed. Other aspects of Pueblo life are lightly touched upon: religious practices, education, recreation, and the influences of the contemporary culture. The short sentences will make for easy independent reading, but the book is tedious and choppy when read aloud. A good general picture of the Pueblo people emerges, especially interesting because the author has made very clear the importance of the climate and natural resources in a cultural pattern.

Ad Freeman, Don. Cyrano the Crow. Viking, 1960. 48p. illus. \$2.75.
K-2

Cyrano was different. He imitated other birds instead of cawing like a crow, and he slept inside Farmer Ferguson's mailbox. Farmer Ferguson submitted Cyrano's name to a TV station, and the crow was invited to come to New York and win a prize by doing imitations. By airplane and taxi, Cyrano travelled to the studio—but he almost missed the prize, because he had such trouble with the last imitation: he couldn't remember how a crow called. However, he cawed as he departed in haste, so he won the prize; but he was happy on getting home to be an ordinary crow from then on. Lively illustrations and amusing, albeit slight, tale. The story is not as humorous or as well-constructed as the author's Pet of the Met or Norman the Doorman.

R Gilbert, Nan. Champions Don't Cry; pictures by Paul Frame. Harper, 1960.
5-8 198p. \$2.95.

Sally Barrett, age thirteen, plays tournament tennis with ambition, but she has to learn to be patient and to keep her temper. As she matures, Sally also learns to accept other responsibilities in other situations. She achieves her goals in realistic fashion; the story has a pleasantly understated quality that makes the action natural and believable. Family relationships are well drawn, with Sally and her brother participating in problems of home tasks and finances.

R Guilcher, J. M. A Fruit Is Born; by J. M. Guilcher and R. H. Noailles.
5-7 Sterling, 1960. 111p. (Sterling Nature Series) \$2.50.

A book about the development of the fruits of different groups of plants: drupes, berries, follicles, pods, capsules, and achenes. Preceding each section is a definition of the type of fruit with its distinguishing features. The text describing the transformation is very simple, the authors depending on the photographic illustrations for clarification. These are magnificent. They are also beautiful, explicit, and accurately labelled; 137 magnified pictures of stages of development, some of these in cross-section. The purpose of the book is informational, the manner of presentation matter-of-fact, yet the reader will surely feel a sense of awe at the beauty and the infinite variety of the plant life pictured.

Ad Hahn, Emily. Around the World with Nellie Bly; illus. by Bea Holmes.

5-7 Houghton, 1959. 181p. (North Star Books) \$1.95.

The story of the famous voyage made in seventy-two days by Nellie Bly; already known as an intrepid and unusual young woman, this trip in 1889 established Nellie Bly's fame. The author gives a brief resume of Nellie's childhood and of her career up to the time of the voyage, but the major portion of the book is devoted to the trip itself. Some of the description is given by using quotations from Nellie's despatches to the World, the New York paper for which she was a reporter. The author writes in a style so informal as to be breezy; the book is easy to read but not impressive. The details of the voyage are of dubious interest to the present generation of readers, who are accustomed to fast travel as well as to girl reporters.

R Harnett, Cynthia. Caxton's Challenge; written and illus. by Cynthia Harnett. 7-9 World, 1960. 254p. \$3.95.

An absorbing book, full of color and movement; Cynthia Harnett is surely unsurpassed as a writer of historical fiction. The details of the London scene during the reign of Edward IV come vividly to life, and both text and maps show the scrupulous research that give authenticity. The resistance of the scribes of London to the new art of printing is sharply shown in the story of Bendy, who became one of William Caxton's apprentices. Entranced by the new invention, Bendy was dismayed to find that his half-brothers, who kept a scrivener's shop, were involved in plotting against Caxton. The boy, sent on a mission to find some manuscript of Sir Thomas Malory, became involved in a series of episodes that were exciting and dangerous.

M Hill, Margaret. Really, Miss Hillsbro! Little, 1960. 233p. \$3. 7-9

Anne Hillsbro is young and enthusiastic, throwing herself with zeal into her first year of teaching fifth grade. She struggles with each problem: the gifted child who is bored, the boy who can't read, the solemn Mexican boy who never laughs. Some of the ideas that Anne has of the role of a teacher are stimulating, and it is this aspect of the book that gives it some merit. However, Anne is remarkably proficient for a new teacher, and her performance is unrealistic. The other aspects of the book: relationship with the principal, love affairs, and some of the stereotyped parents and teachers, are quite patterned. In contrast to Anne's high principles as a teacher, her social attitudes have some poor values. In a frank attempt to make Eric jealous while dancing, Anne thinks (when she is cut in on) that she would have "burrowed her head against Jon's shoulder" if she had known Eric was watching.

M Hoff, Syd. Where's Prancer?; story and pictures by Syd Hoff. Harper, 1960. K-2 32p. Trade edition, \$1.95; Library edition, \$2.25.

A slight but pleasant Christmas story in picture book format. Santa Claus goes out to feed the reindeer after distributing Christmas gifts, and finds that one is missing. He and the other reindeer leave the North Pole and go hunting for Prancer, who is found in Philadelphia. Prancer has stayed behind because he wanted to see how people look on Christmas Day, and all the other reindeer enjoy seeing people's joy. Then they all go happily to the North Pole. Illustrations are somewhat repetitive, and the book has less of the typical incongruous Hoff humor than its predecessors in the series.

M Ipcar, Dahlov. I Like Animals; written and illus. by Dahlov Ipcar. Knopf, 4-6 1960. 34p. \$2.95. yrs.

A picture book with illustrations some of which are distracting, although they are handsome in design and use of color. Some of the text is printed on dull green background and is therefore quite difficult to read. The book tells no story; a small boy begins, "I like animals." and goes on to tell of all the animals he would like to have

were he a farmer . . . or a zookeeper . . . or the owner of a pet shop. Some of the animals will be unfamiliar to small listeners and therefore have the attraction of the exotic; but the long listing of animals becomes a bit dull as it proceeds without respite.

R Johnson, Gerald White. America Moves Forward; A History for Peter; illus. 5-8 by Leonard Everett Fisher. Morrow, 1960. 256p. \$3.95.

The third and last volume in Mr. Johnson's unique presentation of the history of the United States (the first volume was reviewed in November, 1959; the second in June, 1960). Like the others, this volume is competently indexed and is illustrated by magnificent black and white drawings. The first chapter reviews briefly the events leading up to World War I, and goes on to record the history of our country through the two wars, the depression, participation in the United Nations, and the leadership of the men who were instrumental in shaping the path of our history. The author writes with marvelous clarity and vigor, but it is his whole conception of the historical writing for young people that makes the trilogy so valuable. The presentation is objective and comprehensive—it explores the causes of events and the interplay of situations and men—the approach is sophisticated in the true sense of the term.

M Lawrence, Mildred (Elwood). The Shining Moment. Harcourt, 1960. 187p. 7-9 \$3.

A variation on a fairly patterned teen-age adjustment story. Janey was so used to winning beauty contests that she decided, when her face was temporarily scarred by an accident, that she couldn't face her freshman term at college. She stayed with her grandmother in a small town where—in the formula of novels about adolescents whose values are deepened—she learned: to forget herself in working for others, appreciate her family more than she had, enjoy less snobbish friends, earn money, win friends and influence people, value education, and get a clearer perspective on a matter so superficial as appearance. Despite the pattern and the rather slangy style, the book has merit because the values Janey learns are worthwhile, and because the writing has pace.

R Leavitt, Hart Day, ed. The Looking Glass Book of Stories. Random House, 7-1960. 511p. (Looking Glass Library) \$1.50.

A most unusual collection of thirty-three short stories for the teen-age reader, carefully selected and representing some of the best of those authors who wrote with imagination whether in the fields of horror, humor, or fantasy. Old favorites like Saki's "The Open Window" or Broun's "The Fifty-first Dragon" are included; stories by Poe, Wilde, and Twain and the work of contemporary writers like Shirley Jackson, E. B. White, and Thurber are also in this excellent anthology. An appendix gives brief notes on the authors. Cover is paper board.

R Leighton, Margaret (Carver). Journey for a Princess. Farrar, 1960. 216p. 7-10 \$2.95.

The story of Princess Elstrid, shy youngest child of Alfred the Great. When the girl's hand is sought by a Viking "barbarian," she is sent off to Rome on a pilgrimage to delay decision. A secret letter from the king tells Elstrid that her father wants her to wed Baudouin; Elstrid cares for neither suitor, but during the course of her subsequent capture by the Vikings and Baudouin's rescue, she comes to love the Frankish warrior. This is good historical fiction: fast-paced, well-written. Both the background material and the more immediate incidents of the plot are smoothly constructed, and the love story adds to the appeal of the book.

M Lesser, Milton. Stadium Beyond the Stars. Winston, 1960. 207p. \$2.50. 8-10

While travelling to the center of the galaxy for the Interstellar Olympic Games, Steve is part of a rescue mission to another spaceship. He sees a strange non-human being, but finds that there are powerful political forces to whom his story is an embarrassment; he is therefore disqualified from the games on a false charge. When Steve proves his merit by saving the lives of his enemies, he is exonerated and believed, wins over the enemies, and gets a special medal for his outstanding sportsmanship even though he was not officially in the games. Rather ordinary science fiction fare, with little characterization and unremarkable plot; the book will probably be enjoyed by avid readers of science fantasy despite its pedestrian nature.

M Littlefield, William. Seventh Son of a Seventh Son; illus. by Harold Berson.
6-8 Lothrop, 1959. 190p. \$3.50.

All of the six older brothers of Percival Pounce did well in the business world—but not Percival. All he inherited from a disgruntled father was a sunken ship . . . so Percival became a sailor. He rose to captain, raised his ship, the Pelican, and became a pirate. After gaining a reputation and a fortune, Percy retired to a South Sea Island and a lovely native bride. The writing style is rather turgid, and not well suited to an action tale; the chief audience for the book will probably be the boy who particularly enjoys stories of the sea. There is some humor in the extravagance of saltiness, and one suspects the author of writing tongue-in-cheek; but the humor never quite develops, and the exaggerations remain closer to stereotype than to satire.

M Loisy, Jeanne. Don Tiburcio's Secret; trans. by James Kirkup; illus. by
5-7 Francoise Estachy. Pantheon, 1960. 144p. \$3.

Awarded the Prix Jeunesse when published in France in 1956 under the title Le Secret de Don Tiburcio. The story is told by Pepe, a boy of eleven whose parents are Spanish gypsies. Pepe becomes involved in the mysterious affairs of the schoolmaster, Don Tiburcio, whose hidden family fortune is in some way related to his lost blue parrot. There is little doubt that the book has suffered in translation, at least as far as the dialogue is concerned. The old Spanish peasant, Ramon, sounds like a British countryman, for example, when he says "I reckon it were his ghost, his sperrit, feeling a bit restless like. . . ." The story line is melodramatic, and the narrative is quite sophisticated as the product of age eleven. The background is unusual and some of the characters are vivid and salty, but the complications of plot and the rather heavy writing (whether the result of translation or not) detract from the value of the book.

NR McDowell, Obolensky, pub. The Second Treasure Chest of Tales. McDowell,
4-6 Obolensky, 1960. 573p. \$4.95.

A collection that comprises six poems and ten stories of varying length. No contemporary writing is included; some of the authors are Lear, Yonge, Stevenson, Caldecott, Verne, and Grimm. The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood and Pinocchio are also included, and some of the selections are accompanied by the original illustrations. The inclusion of three Indian folk tales makes a rather motley collection despite the merit of some of the individual pieces of writing. Texts are complete; and the reading range—from the simplicity of "Dame Wiggins of Lee" to "The Blockade Runners"—indicates that the only use of the book may be in a home collection, but the volume really seems to have little purpose, since that material in it which has endured is available in separate titles, and is more likely to be read that way.

M McIntire, Alta. Follett Beginning-To-Read Picture Dictionary; illus. by Janet
K-1 LaSalle. Follett, 1959. 31p. (A Beginning-To-Read Book) \$1.00

A dictionary for beginning independent readers, using a vocabulary of 174 words that are included in the primary curriculum, and including an appended list of sentences

in which words not in the dictionary are printed in blue. The pages are rather distracting to the eye, with seven or eight words on each page being illustrated in full color. The book is not unusual and the text not very extensive; while it may reinforce reading skills, it is not likely to expand them. This is an easy introduction to the concept of a dictionary, but it is so slight that the true extensive function of a dictionary is not easily apparent.

Ad Malkus, Alida Sims. Meadows in the Sea; illus. by Margaret Cosgrove. World, 5-8 1960. 71p. \$2.75.

A book about the myriad forms of plant and animal life that form the masses of sea plankton upon which larger life-forms feed. The author makes some prefatory remarks, and proceeds to discuss in separate sections phytoplankton and zooplankton, the latter a much longer section. An appended list gives planktonic forms of the major divisions of the animal kingdom, and the index is starred to indicated illustrative material. One illustration is confusingly labelled. The material is interesting, but the book is weakened by the fact that the text seems to have little internal organization; the author moves in a somewhat desultory fashion from one group of forms to another.

M Malvern, Gladys. Patriot's Daughter. Macrae, 1960. 223p. \$2.95.
6-8

The story of Anastasia Lafayette, her childhood and her love affair with Charles de Mauborg that ended in a very happy marriage. Written in a sentimental and fulsome style, the book seems of little value except as it gives biographical material about Lafayette himself. Most of this is available in other biographies; this book is basically a romantic novel. The writing style is exemplified in the closing lines, "As he spoke, they heard the Angelus bell. Charles removed his hat, and for a few minutes they stood in silent reverence—two people hand-in-hand, young and wondrously aglow with the joy of living."

R Martin, Patricia Miles. Suzu and the Bride Doll; illus. by Kazue Mizumura.
K-3 Rand McNally, 1960. 57p. \$2.75.

A charming story about a small Japanese girl who yearned to hold her grandmother's beautiful bride doll, dearly as she loved her own dolls. While preparing for the annual Festival of Dolls, Suzu heard the bride doll speak; Grandmother was away and the bride doll begged to be taken out of her box. She flew on the back of a bronze crane to the shop where her bridegroom sat on a dusty shelf . . . and, after all the years, the miracle happened. Grandmother came into the shop, bought the bridegroom doll for Suzu, and the pair was reunited. A happy and delicate fantasy, delightfully illustrated. The book has a satisfying unity, due in part to the straight line of the story, in part to the fact that there are only three people involved, in part to the fact that there is a good blend of realism and fantasy.

M Matias. The Gay Colors; Les Couleurs Gaies. Walck, 1960. 18p. illus. \$2.
K-2

A book with the text in English and in French printed on each page. The words describe the activities of Mr. Blue, Mr. Red, and Mr. Yellow; they go about painting objects in appropriate colors and they occasionally mix to form a complementary color. The book is useful for the French vocabulary it provides, but the idea is stretched to the point where both story and pictures become a bit boring. The attempt to make the book serve two purposes is not successful.

Ad Merriam, Eve. A Gaggle of Geese; illus. by Paul Galdone. Knopf, 1960. 32p.
2-4 \$2.95.

An amusing and interesting picture book that presents unusual words that describe groups in the animal world. The words are authentic and most of them will probably

be unfamiliar to readers: an exaltation of larks, a murder of crows, a shrewdness of apes, etc. Illustrations are pleasant, although some of the pages are distractingly full. The weakness of the book is in the picture book format; the humor of some of the terminology can be best appreciated by the reader who is familiar with the words in their ordinary usage. Can be used by a teacher in the middle grades as a spring board for a discussion focusing on interesting words.

Ad Merrill, Jean. Emily Emerson's Moon; by Jean Merrill and Ronni Solbert.
4-6 Little, 1960. 32p. illus. \$2.75.
yrs.

A slight and pleasant story told in rhyme, with an occasional flaw in meter, but, for the most part, smooth-flowing for reading aloud. Emily's father gives her a sunflower for wearing as the sun, and he ties a many-colored ribbon in her hair as a rainbow. But Emily's older brother scoffs at these substitutions; he tells his sister that she can never have the real moon. Daddy has promised the moon, and he gives it to Emily in a form that satisfies her and silences her brother.

R Meyer, Jerome Sydney. Prisms and Lenses; illus. by John Polgreen. World,
4-7 1959. 64p. \$2.50.

A most lucid explanation of the theories of light and of the various kinds of devices based on the use of prisms and lenses. With the exception of a few diagrams that are complicated, the illustrations are as clear as the text. The phenomena of reflection, refraction, and dispersion are discussed; the way in which light travels is described; the instruments that utilize this knowledge by manipulation of prism or lens or a combination of the two are described. Excellent informational writing, and very useful as supplementary curricular material.

R Minarik, Else Holmelund. Little Bear's Friend; pictures by Maurice Sendak.
1-2 Harper, 1960. 62p. \$1.95.

For the beginning independent reader, another enjoyable book about that delightful creation, Little Bear. Here he finds a friend in Emily, a little girl who is a summer visitor; he introduces Emily to all his old friends. Saddened by Emily's departure, Little Bear is soon comforted by learning to write so that he is able to write to his friend. In this simple story, divided into four chapters, the author has instilled warmth and humor; the illustrator complements with charming drawings the virtues of the text.

M Monheit, Albert. Picnic in the Park; pictures by Anne Lewis. Harvey House,
3-5 1960. 34p. \$2.50.
yrs.

Little Lisa and her father go to the park for a picnic lunch. Lisa tries everything—slides, swings, and merry-go-round; Daddy gets exhausted, but Lisa is indefatigably energetic and takes the lead. But they both agree that it was a wonderful picnic. Illustrations are bright and pleasant, although not outstanding; the text is pedestrian but can be useful for beginning independent reading. Despite the fact that Lisa does just about what she pleases, the father-daughter relationship is warmly established.

R Munari, Bruno. A B C. World, 1960. 48p. illus. \$3.50.
4-7
yrs.

Can an alphabet book be enchanting? This one is; every page is impressive in design, beautiful in color and technique. Imagination and humor are in the text and the illustrations, making the book enjoyable for the adult (and most adults will be willing to read this book aloud many times) as well as the pre-school child. Beginning readers can enjoy the humor of tiny fly who creeps into several pages past his own letter,

being shoo'd away from the luscious pink ice cream and circling madly near a Vertical Violet Violin, where small print points out that this is a fly on a Voyage.

R Nephew, William. Moon Base; by William Nephew and Michael Chester; illus. 4-6 by Walter Buehr. Putnam, 1959. 72p. \$2.75.

Written by men who head industrial missile-research teams, a matter-of-fact treatment of the probable development of the first moon base. The topography, atmosphere and origin of the moon are discussed in the first chapter, giving adequate background information for the text that follows. From robot-rocket scraps to a community from which planetary explorations can proceed, the growth of a moon-based station is portrayed. The pages are solid with information and the writing style is clear, simple, and unemotional.

M Nieri, Lorraine Adele, comp. Dear American Friends; Letters from School 7- Children around the World. Vanguard, 1960. 233p. \$3.25.

A collection of letters from boys and girls of thirty-three countries, some written in English and some that have been translated from the native tongue. Each land is represented by from two to four letters; the letters have been written expressly for American children by young people between the ages of eleven and twenty. A map and a page of informational text about each country gives background for the reading material. The writing is, of course, variable: some of the letters are stiff and formal, others chatty, and some few are of excellent literary quality. Since most of the children give considerable detail of autobiographical nature as well as writing about their countries, there is enough repetition so that the book will probably not be read at one sitting. The letters give an interesting picture of youth all over the world, and because the children are speaking for and about themselves, there is no need for a comment on the fact that children all over the world are much the same. The book would be more valuable were the letters all of recent date—but many were written in the 1940's. Probably the best place for the book is in school libraries, where it can serve for occasional supplementary use.

Ad Olds, Helen (Diehl). Kate Can Skate; illus. by Carol Beech. Knopf, 1960. 31p. K-2 \$2.50.

There are no sidewalks where Kate lives, so that she has never learned to skate; when she visits her grandmother, Kate tries skating for the first time. She has trouble. Here she is seven, and a smaller girl can skate, while she falls. Embarrassed, Kate refuses to try; but the next day she practices while the others are in school, and is able to join them triumphantly by the end of the day. Simply told, an experience that most children have (at some task) when they try to acquire a new skill. A slight story, with the perennial satisfaction of an obstacle overcome to be shared by the reader.

M Parkinson, Ethelyn M. Good Old Archibald; illus. by Mary Stevens. Abingdon, 4-6 1960. 160p. \$3.

Trent Conway tells about the new boy in the sixth grade class, Archibald. Archibald is wealthy, polite, intelligent, even prim. The sixth grade boys despair, the sixth grade girls sigh, but Archibald soon becomes Good Old Arch: out-wrestling everybody, proving himself in every way a regular guy. This much would be adequate, but the author has added a tubercular mother for the poor little rich boy, and a totally obstreperous Conway family as contrast. There are seven Conway boys, with an ever-friendly father, an ever-understanding mother, and no surcease from "cute" conversation. The artificiality of the dialogue is one of the weaknesses of the book, in fact; another weakness is in the stereotyped Archibald and his perfect conversion from "sissy" to "regular guy."

R Parsons, Tom. Boys' Book of Outboard Boating. Macmillan, 1959. 120p.
5-8 illus. \$2.50.

Clearly written, and most useful for the novice; wide enough in scope to be a help to experienced boaters as well. The author gives an extensive glossary as the second chapter, pointing out that the words will be used throughout the book, and this proves to be a very practical arrangement. Diagrams are clear, photographs are chosen for instruction. Amongst the topics discussed are the choice of boat and of motor, markers, compass and chart navigation, handling and safety rules, and the boatmen's rules of the road. Included is a list of boatable waters, listed by state and giving the address to which one may write for additional information about the facilities in each state.

NR Rauch, Mabel Thompson. The Little Hellion; A Story of "Egypt" (Southern
5-7 Illinois). Duell, 1960. 180p. \$2.95.

The author reminisces about life on a farm in southern Illinois in the years after the Civil War. Parts of the book have appeared in various magazines. There is some interesting material in the atmosphere of the period, but the anecdotes are told in very sentimental fashion and often seem artificially developed. For example, little Sally, who tells the story, is taken along by her father to the town where he is presiding over a murder trial. Father knows the man is innocent, but it is Sally who saves him. She finds the only witness, who just happens to be singing a song that only Sally knows, so she recognizes him as the long-lost Negro her parents befriended when he was a small runaway. When little Sally stamps her foot and scolds him, Amos is so touched and joyful at seeing "Li'l Cotton-top" again that he testifies even though "Colored boys aint got no business gittin' mixed up in white folks' murders."

Ad Rose, Mary Catherine. Clara Barton: Soldier of Mercy; illus. by E. Harper
2-4 Johnson. Garrard, 1960. 80p. (A Discovery Book) \$2.25.

A biography of the founder of the American Red Cross, the text of which has been tested by the publisher by the Spache readability formula. The writing style is pedestrian; childhood incidents are told in an adulatory fashion, the second part of the book being somewhat more dispassionate. The illustrations, technically proficient, are in places at variance with the text; for example, one picture shows a child quite a bit older than the three-year-old in the anecdote and another shows a youngster in clothes far too modern for the years in which Clara Barton was a child.

M Rowntree, Lester. Denny and the Indian Magic; illus. by Roberta Moynihan.
3-4 Viking, 1959. 128p. \$2.50.

Denny loved animals, and that was one reason that he found exciting the prospect of spending Christmas day with the wise and knowledgeable old Indian, Mojave Owl. The visit was rewarding, but Denny had a serious accident while riding home alone that taught him even more. An unusual story, with several weaknesses as well as some charms. First, the good quality of the style is disrupted by the fact that there are fanciful passages (while Denny is in the hospital and asleep) in which the animals talk; the fact that the boy, in the other parts of the book, imagines that the beasts may talk is thereby made less effective. The background of nature lore in the west is vivid, but the independence given a boy of eight to travel alone is not convincing. Denny's age will discourage readers who are older, yet the style would be most appreciated by them. The author gives all of the characters dignity, yet he relies a bit heavily on the use of dialect to give them flavor and variety: the cowboy, the Indian, the Scottish cook. The story of the Christmas visit is satisfying as a narrative whole, and the addition of the hospital episode complete with talking animals seems redundant.

Ad Ruchlis, Hyman. The Story of Mathematics; Geometry for the Young Scientist;

- 7- by Hy Ruchlis and Jack Engelhardt. Illus. with photographs and drawings by Frank Angelini. Harvey House, 1959. 149p. \$2.95.

The subject of mathematics is approached through some of its practical uses, and is enlivened by suggestions for using mathematical principles in play. The drawn and cut-out figures need only pencil, scissors, ruler, compass, protractor and paint or crayons: designs proceed from simple to complex, with illustrations and instructions to help the reader. While the book may supplement the reader's knowledge and stimulate creative thinking about mathematics, it requires both background and subject interest to be best understood. The topics, the terminology and the diagrams require a considerable amount of channeling of attention; the audience for the book will probably be limited to the student with a special interest. A brief list of other books about mathematics is appended. A pronouncing index is also included; the need for this is dubious, since not all the words have pronunciation given, those which do so have already been pronounced in the text.

- R Samachson, Dorothy. Good Digging; The Story of Archaeology; by Dorothy and
8- Joseph Samachson; illus. with photographs and maps. Rand McNally, 1960.
224p. \$3.50.

A comprehensive and well-written book about archeology, the text having much wider scope than most books that are on one or two aspects of the subject. Discusses the development of archeology as a science, the other scientific and technical fields that assist the archeologist, and some of the methodology in field work and in research. The authors give some of the highlights of great discoveries, and they include chapters on preparation for the career, on the uses of the science and on the organization of an expedition for a dig. Glossary, bibliography and index are appended. The writing style is smooth, and the maps at the beginning of those chapters that mention a new region or dig are very helpful.

- R Selsam, Millicent (Ellis). Plenty of Fish; with illus. by Erik Blegvad. Harper,
K-2 1960. 62p. (I Can Read Books) \$2.19.

A delightful book: it is enjoyable as a story, having sequence and humor; it gives accurate science information with clarity; it is excellent material for the beginning independent reader; it has enchanting illustrations. As Willy shops for two goldfish and the equipment for their proper care, he learns from his father and from other sources some of the biological facts about fish: how and what they breathe, why an aquarium needs plants and snails, and how fish differ from boys in the way they eat and breathe. Some of Willy's attempts to learn by doing are most entertaining, and his ingenuous zeal as a goldfish-keeper ("Oxygen! Oxygen!" he says to himself as he goes homeward from the pet store.) is vividly emergent in both text and illustration.

- Ad Seuss, Dr. Green Eggs and Ham. Random House, 1960. 62p. illus. (A Be-
K-1 ginner Book) \$1.95.

Specially designated as a book for "Beginning Beginner Readers," a picture book with nonsense text that uses only fifty words in a cumulative and repetitive pattern. A typically-drawn Seuss character called Sam-I-am offers green eggs and ham to the frenetically reluctant recounter of the story. Sam-I-am offers the dish in new situations, and the answer cumulates the previous responses so that the green eggs and ham are refused with: "Not in a box. Not with a fox. Not in a house. Not with a mouse. I would not test them here or there. . . ." The illustrations are somewhat more restrained and humorous than those of the most recent Seuss books. There is little humor in the text, and the book's usefulness as supplementary material for beginning independent readers is its chief asset. The use of only fifty words in a text with the appeals of repetition and cumulation is ingenious.

M Sindall, Marjorie A. Matey; illus. by Sheila Rose. Macmillan, 1960. 230p.
6-8 \$3.25.

Matey at the age of thirteen was a London cockney through and through; and she was dismayed by her father's decision to move to the country when he fell heir to a small bit of land and a caravan. Matey had as much trouble accepting the changes in her life as she had in being accepted by the country folk who were not impressed by her jewelry, high heels, and self confidence. The characters tend to be stereotypical, and Matey's conversion from a brash urban adolescent to a garden-loving choir participant (low heels and all) is not convincing. The most interesting aspect of the book is the picture it gives of one stratum of London life; the author has not been derogatory about this even though the book concludes with the obvious delights of rural life.

NR Steiner, Charlotte. Ten in a Family. Knopf, 1960. 32p. illus. \$2.95.
K-1

Designated as an arithmetic book for ages 3-6, a picture book that tells of two little mice who have eight children. As the children arrive, and later as they go about their family activities, the text uses numerals and equations to teach the reader to count. The presentation seems confusing; for example, "They saw many boats. 1 steamship, 3 rowboats, 3 sailboats, 1 tugboat. $1 + 3 = 4 + 3 = 7 + 1 = 8$ boats." This is not only complicated arithmetically, but it also adds different objects, a technique even more confusing when the addition concerns apples, fish, and lilies, as it does on another page. Subtraction is also introduced. The book is not effective as a simple teaching tool, nor is it entertaining as a story.

NR Stuart, Mary. The Pirates' Bridge; illus. by Winifred Lubell. Lothrop, 1960.
2-3 36p. \$2.95.

A picture book that tells of a schoolhouse that was claimed by a pirate crew that had once owned it. The teacher tricked the pirates into giving the class ten gold coins (enough to build a bridge across the marsh that led to the school) and into going away to hunt for treasure. The story doesn't quite jell: the pirates are foolish without being humorous and the denouement is an anticlimax. Illustrations show the children in rather Victorian garb, the pirates in traditional costume; there is no reference in the text to the fact that the story takes place at any time other than the present.

M Swift, Helen Miller. First Semester. Longmans, 1960. 210p. \$3.25.
8-10

A college story that varies somewhat the usual treatment of roommates who come from different backgrounds. Betsy is from a happy home in a small town, Jan from an unhappy one in New York; the girls do not have the usual cold-war-ending-in-a-new-understanding, however, they do have a more realistic friendship-with-ups-and-downs. The author handles Jan's problem with sympathy: that of a child who is disturbed emotionally because of an over-ambitious and aggressive mother. Characters are differentiated, and the mistakes they make are consistent with their personalities, but one of the weaknesses of the book is that it is complicated by too many characters. A second weakness of the book is in the writing style, which is sprinkled with cliches and contrivances; for example, "The old convertible . . . hesitated before the brick building, then, as if shaking its head, veered to the right and groaned to a halt. . . ."

Ad Thampi, Parvathi. Geeta and the Village School; illus. by Ronni Solbert.
2-3 Doubleday, 1960. 64p. \$2.

Geeta lived in a village in India where there was a school being built for the first time; she wasn't sure what a school was. People told her it was a place where you had to be clean, where you had to stay away from home all day, and where something called a Teacher "would-whack!" Being timid about many things, Geeta (who was

only six) was afraid and refused to go to school. But she did go, finally, and was very happy about it. A good picture of India today, and the meeting of old and new customs; a problem of adjustment that is universal amongst children who are shy is nicely described; family relationships are perceptively drawn. The one weakness of the book is the fact that the audience for independent reading is older than the protagonist.

M Trevor, Elleston. Badger's Wood; illus. by Leslie Atkinson. Criterion, 1959. 4-5 148p. \$3.

An animal fantasy that is strongly reminiscent of both Wind in the Willows and Winnie-the-Pooh in background, characters, and especially in style. The story line is continuous rather than episodic. The animals of Deep Wood, disturbed because of thievery, build a boat in order to capture the pirate crew; they turn the other cheek by raising the stranded pirate ship and invite the pirates to live in Deep Wood. The style is best evidenced by some examples: "'Oh, pish!' declared Woo crossly, and heaved and hauled and levered . . . most breathless and cussy, he did. 'Oh, tosh and-and buttle!' he announced . . ." or "'Potter wrinkled his nose again to see if it could tell any better with wrinkles in it. . . ." The book may have some value in reading aloud to the younger child who likes animal stories, but the writing—even for the child who does not find it imitative—is not smooth nor is the humor successful.

R Trez, Denise. The Butterfly Chase; by Denise and Alain Trez. World, 1960. K-2 40p. illus. \$3.

A charming picture book in light-hearted, fanciful style, in which the colorful illustrations echo the absurd humor of the text. Freddy's grandfather, a member of the Academy, was determined to prove his contention that there was a butterfly in France that had the three colors of the French flag. So they went off to prove it, and the story of their wild butterfly chase (successful, of course) is hilarious. The author-illustrators have the happy faculty of using deft touches in the drawings that may not emerge at first glance: one suddenly realizes that the object on the floor of the Academy is a slingshot, or that all the sheep are looking one way except the perverse black sheep.

Ad Walters, Marguerite. Up and Down and All Around; pictures by Suzanne Suba. 3-5 Watts, 1960. 42p. \$2.95.
yrs.

A read-aloud picture book, with the text in rhymed couplets. "Up is up at the window to see, Up is a songbird in a tree." All the things that are up—or down—or around—are described in separate sections, so that the reiteration makes a pattern for comprehension. Despite the organization, there are somewhat confusing aspects for the small child; for example, the sun shines down after a shower (although the sun is obviously upward). The relativity of up and down is not explained, it is just described. The pleasant rhythm, familiar examples, and gay illustrations are most attractive.

NR Warburg, Sandol Stoddard. The Thinking Book; designed and illus. by Ivan 3-5 Chermayeff. Little, 1960. 32p. \$3.
yrs.

The thought processes of a small boy, day-dreaming as he gets dressed in the morning. Sample: "I was thinking I was thinking of moons and balloons I was thinking of wheels I was thinking of seals and eels. . . ." Bold, bright illustrations are handsome but fill the page to the extent that they are distracting; since the book is not suitable for reading aloud to a group, there is no advantage to having pictures that are better seen at a distance. The text is slightly precious, although the writing has rhythm and imagery; it is doubtful that the stream-of-consciousness technique would have wide appeal, and the words require careful reading to be effective.

Reading for Parents

- American Library Association. "Interesting Adult Books of 1959 for Young People." Chosen by the Book Selection Committee of the Young Adults Services Division of the A.L.A., Marian L. Trahan, Chairman. Available from the publishing department of the A.L.A.; single copies free, 50 copies, \$3.50. 100 copies \$5. 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago 11.
- _____. "Notable Children's Books of 1959." Chosen by the Book Selection Committee of the Children's Services Division of the A.L.A., Mary K. Eakin, Chairman. Available from the same source and at the same prices as the list above.
- Brodkin, Adele M. "First Steps in Learning To Read." The New York Times Magazine (August 23, 1959), p. 88.
- Boutwell, William Dow. "New Dimensions in Literacy." National Parent-Teacher, April, 1960, pp. 21-23.
- Greenwald, Bernice and Stecher, Judy. "Children's Books: How 'easy-to-read'?" Child Study, Spring, 1960, pp. 37-39.
- Johnson, Edna, Sickels, Evelyn, and Sayers, Frances Clarke. Anthology of Children's Literature. Houghton, 1960. 1239p. \$10.50.
- Johnson, Eric W. How To Live through Junior High School. Lippincott, 1959. 288p. \$3.95.
- National Education Association. How To Help Your Child Learn. 40p. \$.50. Discounts on quantity orders. Available from the N.E.A., 1201 16th St., N.W., Washington 6, D.C.
- New York Public Library. Children's Books Suggested as Holiday Gifts. 1959. \$.25. 46p. Available from the library, Fifth Ave. and 42nd St., New York 18.
- Rowland, Lloyd. I'll See You after School; a play about the parent-teacher relationship. 24p. \$1. Louisiana Association for Mental Health, 1959. 1528 Jackson Avenue, New Orleans 13.
- Sullivan, Frances A. "A Summer Picklick." National Parent-Teacher, June, 1960, pp. 32-34. Lists the "Notable Children's Books of 1959."
- Wollner, Mary H. B. "Should Parents Coddle Their Retarded Readers?" Education, March, 1960, pp. 430-432.

