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Bulletin
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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 XV

April, 1962

Number 8

New Titles for Children and Young People

R Baruch, Dorothy (Walter). Kappa's Tug-of-War with Big Brown Horse; The
K-2 Story of a Japanese Water Imp; paintings by Sanryo Sakai. Tuttle, 1962.
36p. \$2.95.

A read-aloud book that retells a Japanese legend about a kappa, one of the creatures who look almost human, and who must have water in the hollow on top of their heads or they cannot live. Kappa, who has been stealing farmer Shiba's produce, tries to steal his horse as well; he is outwitted by the farmer when he is tricked into spilling the water from his head-dish. Pleading that his life be spared, Kappa promises never again to steal, and in gratitude he leaves, forever after, a pile of fresh fish every day for Farmer Shiba. The character of the traditionally mischievous water-imp is familiar to readers of Lifton's Kap the Kappa (Morrow, 1960); this is another good story, well-written, with unity and pace. The illustrations are soft in technique, alternating black and white with gentle colors.

NR Block, Irvin. George and the Ferocious Ferblundget; illus. by Flo Jacks.
K-2 Barnes, 1961. 30p. \$2.75.

A read-aloud story that combines fantasy and a message, each to the detriment of the other. Ferblundgets hate people and cheerfulness, and a particularly ferocious specimen came above ground when his hiding place was discovered by George. With the help of other children, the beast was outwitted; George realized the value of friends and thenceforward shared his special play place with them. The other children are carefully depicted—too carefully to be unobtrusive—as racial or national representatives: one Chinese boy, one Negro, one Italian name, etc. The double messages of brotherhood and cooperation are worthy but overburden the story and are not congruent with the fanciful conception of an imaginary creature. Some of the concepts are sophisticated for the audience: the Ferblundget comes above ground, for example, by turning into a Rumor and whooshing up the pipe of the periscope through which he had spied George.

Ad Bothwell, Jean. The Animal World of India; pictures by Russell Francis
7-10 Peterson. Watts, 1961. 202p. \$3.95.

Interesting and informative, although the combination of natural history and allusions to folklore, custom, and literature indicates a limitation to reference use. This is, however, the very aspect that gives the book color; the references to legend or the description of a hunt add interest. The extensive and careful indexing reflects the diffusion of text: for example, there are twenty-five entries under "Rhinceroses" one of which is "sight of." Most of the text is devoted to forms of wild life, with two chapters on domestic animals and one on the treatment of animals in Indian religious art. Discursive, but well written, with the kind of vivid detail that stems from observation.

R Branley, Franklyn Mansfield. Exploring by Astronaut: The Story of Project 6-9 Mercury; illus. by Helmut K. Wimmer. Crowell, 1961. 104p. \$3.50. Written before the orbiting of Colonel Glenn, but excellent background material for a topic of immediate and universal interest. The first chapter is most useful, reviewing the record of each of the satellites placed in orbit since October, 1957. Dr. Branley describes space environment and the astronaut's training, with brief descriptions of the seven candidates for Project Mercury. The major part of the text details the construction, testing, boosting, and tracking of the capsule; the book concludes with a description of orbit and recovery. An index and a few suggestions for further reading are appended.

R Brown, Myra (Berry). Benjy's Blanket; pictures by Dorothy Marino. Watts, 3-5 1962. 54p. \$1.95.
yrs.

To many children this story of a small boy who clung to his old baby blanket will be familiar, and to those who are themselves still clinging, encouraging. Benjy found reactions to his blanket varied from teasing to sympathy, but he needed it; then he found that he'd sometimes forget to take it; finally he found that somebody needed it more—the kitten next door. And Benjy understood quite well his own status then as a big boy. Simple and natural style, with realistic conversation; a satisfying conclusion that is gentle and believable.

R Carlson, Natalie Savage. A Pet for the Orphelines; pictures by Fermin Rocker. 4-6 Harper, 1962. 97p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

A diverting sequel to the two previous books about the lively little girls in a Parisian orphanage. Now the girls decide they want a pet, but can't agree on what kind; Madame Flattot is driven to distraction by their wrangling and buys a goldfish. Goldfish disappears down the drain; girls go on wrangling. Visiting a cat show, the orphelines discover that stray cats are being given away in another room. Each girl happily goes off with a cat; Madame Flattot is distracted but resigned. The girls and their conversation are lively and natural; the adult characters are colorful; the writing has an easy humor and gives the Parisian background vividly.

Ad Carroll, Ruth (Robinson). Old Mrs. Billups and the Black Cats. Walck, 1961. K-2 48p. illus. \$3.25.

An amusing story for reading aloud, although a bit long and a bit sophisticated in its brand of humor. The author so clearly enjoys elaborating with words that the fun is communicated even if some of the concepts are too mature; and the device of cumulation is used in enhancement. Old Mrs. Billups is as superstitious a woman as there could be, and she goes to inordinate and ridiculous lengths to avoid having her path crossed by a black cat. Finally, treed and dishevelled, she succumbs to the charm of the cat and her kitten; having had succeeding mishaps while trying to avoid mishaps, Mrs. Billups goes home to cuddle the black kitten. But on the way home, she stops to pick up a pin, having learned little.

Ad Chester, Michael. Let's Go to a Rocket Base; illus. by Denny McMains. 4-6 Putnam, 1961. 48p. Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$1.86 net.

A detailed description of the operations at a rocket base and of the launching of a rocket. The various controls and tracking devices at the base are discussed, as are the construction and performance of the rocket itself. The description of the actual firing is good, having the excitement that the rest of the rather dry text lacks. The device used in this series—a second-person reference to two children visiting the scene—seems quite superfluous. A two-page glossary is appended. The value of the illustrations is diminished by the fact that none are captioned and few are labeled.

Ad Colver, Anne. Florence Nightingale: War Nurse; illus. by Gerald McCann.
3-4 Garrard, 1961. 80p. (Discovery Books) Trade ed. \$2.25; Library ed.
\$1.69 net.

A simplified biography that gives the highlights of Florence Nightingale's career. The large print and short sentences are good for the primary reader, but the style is rather choppy and the writing slightly sentimental. The book will probably be useful as supplementary material for independent reading.

R Darling, Lois. The Science of Life; written and illus. by Lois and Louis
7- Darling. World, 1961. 256 p. \$4.95.

Profusely and beautifully illustrated, a comprehensive and well-organized biology book. The material is up-to-date and accurate, the writing style is straightforward, placement and labeling of illustrations is excellent, with little illustrative matter included that is not informative. Appended are a list of books for further reading and a very good index.

R De Borhegyi, Suzanne. Ships, Shoals and Amphoras; The Story of Underwater
8- Archaeology; illus. by Alex Schomburg. Holt, 1961. 177p. \$3.95.

A very well written book on a fascinating subject; the writing is straightforward yet lively, and the material is well organized. Maps and diagrams are clear, indexing is extensive. The appended bibliography stars suggestions for further reading. Mrs. de Borhegyi describes marine investigations of the past, famous archeological finds in waters all over the world, and the preparations and equipment of a modern expedition. The book is unusual in the combination of authoritative information, enthusiasm about subject matter, and literary quality.

SpR De Jong, Meindert. Nobody Plays with a Cabbage; pictures by Tom Allen.
4-5 Harper, 1962. 52p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.73 net.

A gentle and slow-moving story about a small boy. Quiet, patient, absorbed in the delight of his own small world, Jim has his first garden. All of the small plants are damaged by marauders . . . except for one cabbage. His family can't see why Jim spends so much time in his garden, but Jim watches the little toad sheltering under the growing plant, he feeds a baby rabbit leaves from his own cabbage, and he finally brings it home—huge, green, and beautiful—for all the family to enjoy. Not all children will appreciate the style and the mood of this quiet book, but for the sensitive reader it will be a delight.

M Dennis, Morgan. Kitten on the Keys; written and illus. by Morgan Dennis.
3-5 Viking, 1961. 43p. \$2.25.

A homeless kitten is picked up by a boy living in Key West and working on his father's shrimp boat. The kitten goes along when Tommy gets permission to spend a night alone on an island; Tommy digs up a bar of raw silver, and puts the money he gets for it into an account, planning one day to own his own boat. The book has some interesting information about the Keys and about shrimping, but the writing style is dull, the kitten really has little to do with the story, the ending of the book is quite weak, and the format is juvenile for the text.

M Duncan, Lois. Silly Mother; illus. by Suzanne Larsen. Dial, 1962. 30p.
4-6 \$2.50.
yrs.

A read-aloud book about a mother who made foolish mistakes: put the tablecloth on Michael's bed and set the table with a blanket, put the puppy in the bureau drawer and pajamas in the puppy's basket. Michael worried about her; next day he helped her, and in the evening she baked a cake and played with him, because his help and Daddy's gave Mother extra time. There is some appeal for small children in the ex-

aggerated humor they enjoy, but the message is obtrusive and the rather slight theme is belabored.

Ad Dupuy, Trevor Nevitt. The First Book of Civil War Naval Actions; maps by 6-9 Pictograph Corporation Graphic Syndicate, Inc. after sketches by the author; decorations by Leonard Everett Fisher. Watts, 1961. 95p. \$1.95.

A useful book, attractively illustrated, with excellent maps and with an index that uses symbols to denote Union or Confederate officers. The writing style is straightforward and rather dry; the material is well-organized, with such topics as "Naval Warfare Begins on the Mississippi" or "Blockade and Blockade Runners" being divided into four or five sections. A very good book for supplementing study of the Civil War. Some of the material, especially at the beginning of the text, is oversimplified for the audience for which the rest of the text is appropriate.

R Eberle, Irmengarde. Fawn in the Woods; photographs by Lilo Hess. Crowell, K-2 1962. 43p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.36 net.

Charming photographs show a fawn from birth through her first year; most of the text describes the ways in which the mother doe teaches and protects the fawn. The text is written in a simple and straightforward style; print is large, photographs clear.

Ad Elkin, Benjamin. The Man Who Walked around the World; (based on an old 2-4 folktale); pictures by Katherine Evans. Children's Press, 1961. 31p. \$2.50.

An adaptation of an old folk tale about the efforts of a village to keep with them the Boola bird that was reputed to bring good luck. After several foolish and futile ploys, the advice of a stranger is sought; he suggests that the Mayor see urban towers. The Mayor goes off, becomes confused, returns home after two days to be feted because he had gone around the world in two days, whereas he had simply reversed direction. Illustrations are adequate, writing style is adequate.

SpR Farmer, Penelope. The Summer Birds; illus. by James J. Spanfeller. Har- 4-6 court, 1962. 155p. \$2.95.

A fantasy unusual in sustained mood and quiet style. Two sisters meet a strange boy who teaches them to fly; one by one, all the children in school are taught and they spend the summer secretly enjoying the joy of flight. Until the end of the summer, the children do not learn who the strange boy is, and when they find out, he must leave them and they lose their ability to fly. The sedate writing and the lack of humor will limit the audience for this book, which will appeal—even amongst the lovers of the fanciful—to the more sophisticated reader who can enjoy the subtleties of style and mood.

Ad Fisher, Leonard Everett. Pushers, Spads, Jennies and Jets; A Book of Air- K-2 planes; written and illus. by Leonard Everett Fisher. Dial, 1961. 31p. \$2.75.

Although this read-aloud book on the development of airplanes is quite superficial as a survey, it is useful for the age level because of the bold and simple doublepage spread illustrations. A few lines of text are given to describe each of fifteen different types of planes; the title is somewhat inadequate, since it does not make clear the scope of the text.

M Hager, Alice (Rogers). Love's Golden Circle. Messner, 1962. 189p. \$2.95. 7-9

The story of Lisa Sanford's year of working after high-school graduation. Not the usual formula for a teen-age love story, but marred by a too-good heroine and an

ever-understanding family. The writing style is weakened by sentimentality and trite passages: for example, "High in a heavenly vault clouded with stars a full moon rode, and a soft breeze from the Blue Ridge gentled the warmth." Lisa works as a practical helper for housebound people and becomes much involved in the lives of two elderly women, both of whom come to dote on her. Were Lisa a character less sunny, competent, intelligent, sensible, affectionate, etc. the book would have more value in the warm relationships between a young girl and older people.

Ad Hall, Adele. Seashore Summer. Harper, 1962. 197p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

The story of a Quaker girl in the years just before the Civil War; Betsy, more lively than a Friend should be, was sent by her father to help an aunt run a boarding house in Atlantic City, then just beginning to be fashionable. Betsy learned responsibility, found new friends, and looked forward to coming back the next summer. The writing style is good, the background interesting; the book is weakened somewhat by a few too many sub plots and by a failure to establish a convincing period atmosphere despite all the period details.

M Hayes, Will. About the Biggest Salmon; illus. by Henry Luhrs. Melmont, 3-4 1961. 31p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$1.88 net.

A description of the life cycle of a Pacific salmon. One of the school of salmon whose growth and migration is detailed is bigger than the others: the Biggest Salmon; the book is weakened by the fact that the story is not restricted either to one fish or to the school of salmon, but refers first to one, then the other. Although the information given is accurate, the writing is dull and the author's effort to introduce suspense ("Would the Biggest Salmon ever be able to get her school past these fishermen? Would the salmon ever reach home safely?") is not successful. The book compares unfavorably with McClung's Leaper (Morrow, 1957) which describes an Atlantic salmon, but is better in style and in the way it presents information.

R Hazeltine, Alice Isabel, comp. Hero Tales from Many Lands; illus. by Gordon 7-10 Laite. Abingdon, 1961. 475p. \$5.95.

An excellent collection of thirty tales chosen from classic retellings for young people of the world's heroic literature. Selected with discrimination, the tales may well lead the reader to interest in the original volumes; this collection makes available much material that is no longer in print. The illustrations (some in color, some in black and white) are good; a list of suggestions for further reading is appended; the index and glossary—both of which give pronunciation—are extensive.

M Henriksen, Hild. Sea Hawk Calling!; tr. from the Norwegian by Holger Lund- 7-9 bergh. Harcourt, 1962. 157p. \$2.95.

First published in Norway in 1959 under the title Vestover Til Osten, a junior love story about a girl who is a radio operator on a ship; the author writes from experience in this career. Lena is on one ship and her fiance serving on another; after a year and a half of separation they meet in Karachi and marry. The slim plot is a minor aspect of the book, which really serves as a vehicle for descriptions of radio work and incidents of shipboard life. The writing is quite stilted (at least in translation) and quite pedestrian.

M Holl, Adelaide. Lisette; illus. by Roger Duvoisin. Lothrop, 1962. 28p. Trade K-2 ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.73 net.

An oversize read-aloud book about a French poodle. A photographer's model, haughty Lisette lived a life of luxury. En route to Hollywood, Lisette stayed on board ship waiting for a proper reception, but all went off and she wandered away, lost in New York. Since nobody understood French, Lisette was desolate; then she met a German

shepherd who had had war service in France: he took Lisette home to his mother, he and Lisette fell in love, were married, had sixteen children; and Lisette learned to speak English. The rhyming text uses some French words and phrases, but the picture book format may discourage independent readers who are learning French. The story is told in verse and gets off to a fairly lively and amusing start, but it sags from light fancy to a rather coy canine love story.

M Holm, Hannebo. Beauty Queen; tr. by Patricia Crampton. Abelard-Schuman, 8-10 1962. 159p. \$3.

First published in Norway in 1956 under the title Skjønnhetsdronning. Astrid, nineteen, works in a department store where the management helps her win a beauty contest; as Miss Norway she goes to the United States to compete at an international level. Astrid loses the contest, but she has gained perception: she plans to study in New York and she turns to her old beau from Oslo after a brief romance with a superficial young American less interested in Astrid than in himself. The author gives some refreshingly candid vignettes of adult behavior, but much of the writing seems too sophisticated for the American readers of junior novels. The book also seems crowded with incident, so that Astrid's experiences happen at a pace too precipitate and abrupt.

NR Honness, Elizabeth (Hoffman). Mystery of the Secret Message; illus. by Beth 4-6 and Joe Krush. Lippincott, 1961. 188p. \$2.95.

Penny, living with her aunt and uncle, keeps hoping to hear that her father, whose plane had disappeared in the Orient, is still alive. Only after she has become involved with a spy ring and has been instrumental in capturing some spies does she learn that her father was a foreign agent who had been murdered. Unable to reach his regular contact, he had sent Penny a Japanese scroll bearing a secret message. In the last chapter, Penny meets the President of the United States, who congratulates her and gives her an autographed photograph. The story has pace and some of the relationships (between Penny and her aunt, especially) are good; it is unfortunate that the plot is so lurid.

NR Hornblow, Leonora. Cleopatra of Egypt; illus. by W. T. Mars. Random House, 7-9 1961. 180p. \$1.95.

A highly fictionalized account of Cleopatra from the time of her meeting with Caesar until her death. Illustrations are mediocre, with little value except for costume details. The writing style is pedestrian, with frequent instances of pat comments and awkward phrases: ". . . she was going to become one of the ten most famous women who have ever lived." or, "Nor did Caesar like him either." The author also is liberal in interpretation: quoting Caesar's message, "Veni, vidi, vici." she comments, "This brief despatch reveals the man just as he must have been." Only in the fact that there is historical material does the book have a minimal value.

R Hunt, Kari. Masks and Mask Makers; by Kari Hunt and Bernice Wells Carlson. 4-9 Abingdon, 1961. 69p. illus. \$2.75.

An interesting book on an unusual topic. The first section discusses the fact that masks are worn—or have been—for diverse purposes: disguise, theatrical performance, protection, etc. The major portion of the text describes masks used in various parts of the world, and the legends or ceremonies with which they were associated. Photographs show one example of each type, with caption noting the source (usually a museum). The last part of the book gives instructions (also illustrated by photographs) for making a mask of plasticine and papier-maché. Lists of books, pamphlets and magazines to be used as source materials are appended. A useful book for art classes.

R Joslin, Sesyle. Señor Baby Elephant the Pirate; pictures by Leonard Weisgard. K-2 Harcourt, 1962. 41p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.67 net.

A Spanish-sprinkled delight. Baby Elephant, living in Puerto Rico and playing pirate, organizes a treasure hunt; into the amusing description of his preparations and expedition are woven simple words and phrases in Spanish. For example, the cook (a cooperative filler of the treasure-trunk) has used "exactamente"; when she wishes our hero "Buene suerte!" he asks does that mean good luck to him, and told that it does, says "That is exactamente what I thought." While the subject of the story and the format of the book indicate that it will be most useful as a read-aloud book, it is also appropriate for independent use by children participating in an early language instruction program.

R Kettelkamp, Larry. Gliders; written and illus. by Larry Kettelkamp. Morrow, 4-6 1961. 48p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.78 net.

A book about gliders and model gliders; the first section of the text gives instructions for building and flying models of paper or of balsa wood. The instructions are clear and simple, and the diagrams helpful. The second part of the book describes the principles of glider flight and surveys briefly the development of gliders. A straightforward presentation of informational material, neither digressive nor elaborated.

Ad Kidwell, Carl. Arrow in the Sun; written and illus. by Carl Kidwell. Viking, 7-9 1961. 254p. \$3.50.

A good adventure story, set in pre-Aztec Mexico. An adolescent prince, Netzah, is captured by the tyrannical ruler who has killed his father. Rescued by a friend, Netzah spends several years in hiding, preparing for the day when he can return to his homeland and reign again. The final chapters that describe the battles, the intrigue, and the victory of Netzah are fast-paced and exciting. The period and the background of the story are unusual and are vividly recreated. Characterization is good, although at times the characters seem too modern; the plot slows a bit occasionally, but most of the story has suspense and momentum.

SpC Kramer, Nora, ed. The Grandma Moses Storybook; with a biographical sketch 4-6 of Grandma Moses by Otto Kallir. Random House, 1961. 141p. \$5.95.

An oversize book, with a rather misleading title, profusely illustrated by the paintings of Grandma Moses, one of which was done for the book. The collection includes almost thirty poems, short stories, and excerpts from longer works. The material is prefaced by a fairly extensive biographical sketch of Grandma Moses that gives quotations from her autobiography. Sources are cited in the list of acknowledgments only, so that an excerpt from Field's Hitty appears under the title "Sold at Auction" by Field. The illustrative material is beautifully reproduced and has been carefully combined with the text: for example, "Father's First Automobile" is illustrated by a painting entitled "The Old Automobile." Some of the text was probably chosen to correspond to paintings, so that quality is variable. Occasionally the placement of pictures is not of the best: for example, the Malkus excerpt from "We Were There at the Battle of Gettysburg" has the Gettysburg Address on the facing page, while one must turn that page to see the painting "Death of Lincoln" which faces the story "Little Tuck and the Wild Turkeys." Best used in an art collection.

NR Krauss, Ruth. Mama, I Wish I Was Snow; Child, You'd Be Very Cold; illus. by 4-6 Ellen Raskin. Atheneum, 1962. 24p. \$2.50.
yrs.

An interestingly illustrated picture book with an unusual text, all of which is in the same form as the title. Some of the comments have humor: "Mama, I wish I was a chair." "Child, you'd be sat on." Many of them, however, have latent concepts that

are rather complicated for a read-aloud audience: "Mama, I wish I was a piece of paper." "Child, you'd need to be a tree first." The book has imaginative quality, but it seems doubtful that it is of the sort to be appreciated by small children.

Ad Leitner, Irving A. Lady Poole and Mr. Potts; illus. by Beth and Joe Krush. K-2 Harcourt, 1962. 42p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$3.09 net.

A slight read-aloud book about a wealthy old lady who kept cats and dined alone on splendid dishes served by a retinue of servants. When she suddenly refused food, her chef (Mr. Potts) prepared to depart, then decided to fix one last treat. He baked a cake, was invited to share it, was told that Lady Poole had been cross because she didn't like eating alone; after that they always dined together. The illustrations are amusing, and the story has some appeal in its exaggeration, but is illogical in development.

R Life Magazine. The Wonders of Life on Earth; by the editors of Life and 7- Lincoln Barnett; text especially adapted by Sarel Eimerl from the original version; special edition for young readers. Golden Press, 1961. 215p. illus. (DeLuxe Golden Books) Trade ed. \$4.95; Library ed. \$4.99 net.

A most interesting book about evolution and adaptation, emphasizing the work of Charles Darwin. Environmental and hereditary factors are discussed; some of the chapters are devoted to special aspects such as flightless birds or animal partnerships. The material is up to date, including such recent developments as the role of the DNA molecule and the investigations of Dr. Limbaugh on fish-cleaning stations. Illustrations are profuse, photographs are beautiful, and some of the charts (four full pages for species migration) are excellent. A relative index is appended, with illustrations denoted in italics.

Ad Ludovici, L. J. Links of Life; The Story of Heredity; illus. by Robin King. 6-9 Putnam, 1962. 160p. \$3.50.

A painstakingly detailed book about the history of theories of heredity and the evolution of the science of genetics. The major part of the book is devoted to theories and investigations from the time of the Greek philosophers to the time of the mid-nineteenth century. The work of Darwin and Pasteur and the contributions of the men following them are described in the third portion of the text, which discusses also the details of genetic experiments—although the material includes nothing about DNA. The writing is burdened with too much detail for the general reader, and is tremendously informative but quite dull. A glossary and an index are appended.

M McCoy, Paul S. Modern Comedies for Teen-Agers; A Collection of Royalty- 8-10 Free One-Act Plays for All Occasions. Plays, Inc., 1962. 382p. \$5. Eighteen one-act plays; twelve are approximately half-hour productions, six are short skits. Brief production notes follow each selection; none has a large cast or requires elaborate staging. Although the material is of quite pedestrian character, the collection will probably be useful as an additional source of dramatic material for amateur groups.

Ad Martin, Lealon E. Conquest of Disease; The Challenge of Your Life. Coward- 6-8 McCann, 1961. 121p. illus. \$2.95.

An overview of the advances that have been made in medical science, with brief descriptions of the work of some famous doctors. The organization is chronological, with fictionalized incidents used occasionally to illustrate treatment. These incidents are little addition to the text, injecting a chatty note into material that might better be directly informational. The book concludes with some conjectures about the future of medical science and world health, some suggestions for health careers other than (and in addition to) medical training, and a list of sources for further information.

While an interesting and accurate view is given to the general reader, the text is by no means comprehensive. It makes no mention of Paré or Avicenna; the names of several patients are entered in the index separately, whereas all doctors are entered under "Men of Medical Science." A list of diseases is appended, as is a glossary of terms; the latter is a two-page list that includes such entries as Hermes, two titles of early works in Latin; it does not include the words hormone or immunizing (which are used in the text) and it uses the term "anesthetologist" rather than the preferred "anesthetist" or "anesthesiologist."

Ad Morgan, Mary. Rainbow for Susan; illus. by Richard Kennedy. Abelard-5-6 Schuman, 1962. 159p. \$3.

Susan O'Day leaves her home in Georgia to spend the summer on a New York farm; Susan, an orphan, has never met her father's people. To her dismay, the farm turns out to be a combination of junk-yard, ramshackle cabins, and goats. Although there is little action in the story, the characters and the background are unusual enough to hold interest; both are realistic. The writing style is good; perhaps the best aspect of the book is its moderation—which contributes also to a static quality—Susan's troubles are minor, her successes are believable, other characters are never all good or all bad.

M Mosheim, Lilly. A Secret Birthday Present for Elizabeth; pictures by Audrey 1-2 Walker. Watts, 1961. 31p. \$1.50.

First published in England in 1960, and one of a series designed for beginning independent readers. The large print is good for the age level, but some of the text seems difficult: for example, "Three days are a very long time to wait and Elizabeth kept on thinking and thinking about the big present that was as long as the path in the park and yet could be kept in a drawer." is a sentence too long for the beginning reader. The idea of the present itself is the most appealing aspect of the book: a ball of yarn from which small presents emerge as Elizabeth knits a sweater for her doll. While many British girls do knit at an early age, it may seem unusual here to read of a child who is five knitting without instruction.

Ad Nelson, Marg. A Girl Called Chris. Ariel, 1962. 184p. \$2.95. 7-9

A fairly patterned career story, with some deviation from formula in the choice of career; the writing style is pedestrian, but the book has good values: responsibility, understanding of economic differences, and loyalty to friends. Chris, sure she would get the scholarship that didn't come through, finds that it is hard to get a summer job. Tall, thin, withdrawn, Chris is unhappy and bitter. She finds a job at a cannery, to her family's dismay; she acquires a beau, makes some friends, does well at her job, and wins the owner of the cannery completely, earning the first college scholarship ever to be awarded by the company to a girl.

Ad Nolan, Paul T. Round-the-World Plays for Young People; a collection of roy-6-8 alty-free, one-act plays about lands far and near. Plays, Inc., 1961. 285p. \$5.

Eighteen one-act plays: two representing the United States, one Christmas play, and fifteen that are each from a different country. Production notes are appended; a page preceding the play gives notes from the author. Some of the plays are based on familiar stories (incidents from Robin Hood or Hans Brinker) and some are original dramatizations using a typical national form or situation. Although the writing is fairly pedestrian, the book offers more variety than most of the collections from Plays, Inc. and will probably be useful additional material for classroom or assembly productions, especially for such occasions as United Nations Day.

Ad Oterdahl, Jeanna. April Adventure; illus. by Birgitta Nordenskjöld, tr. from 3-4 the Swedish by Annabelle MacMillan. Harcourt, 1962. 125p. \$2.50. First published in Sweden in 1958 under the title Kasja Reser Till Solköping. Six-year-old Tina goes to Sun Village to visit her great-aunt for two weeks; her visit is uneventful and delightful until the very end, when she gets lost. Episodic chapters describe Tina's days in a restrained and pleasant story; the writing has a gentle humor, and Tina's relationship with Auntie is delightful. The book is a bit too long and too mature for reading aloud to very young children, and for the audience that can read it independently the story has a rather young protagonist.

Ad Palmer, Helen Marion. A Fish Out of Water; illus. by P. D. Eastman. Ran- 1 dom House, 1961. 64p. (Beginner Books) Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$2.19 net.

An amusing book for beginning independent readers, with the element of exaggerated nonsense children enjoy. A small boy buys a goldfish and is told by the pet shop owner never to feed it too much. But Otto swims around looking hungry, so he gets more fishfood; his growth is rapid and continuing—from bowl to tub to swimming pool Otto is rushed frantically. Finally the storekeeper is called on for help, dives into the pool, and—by a process he will not divulge—shrinks Otto to normal goldfish size. The story is a bit extended, but it is written with a light touch.

Ad Pearce, A. Philippa. Mrs. Cockle's Cat; with drawings by Antony Maitland. 3-5 Lippincott, 1962. 30p. \$3.

Widowed Mrs. Cockle sold balloons on the streets of London and lived alone with her cat, Peter. When Peter ran away in search of fresh fish, Mrs. Cockle grew so thin with worry that she was lifted aloft by her balloons one day; she enjoyed cloud-walking, lost her balloons, and parachuted down via umbrella into a fisherman's net. And who should be in the boat but Peter; Mrs. Cockle came to housekeep for the fisherman and they all lived happily together. The author has a pleasantly restrained style, perhaps too sedate for the introduction of the fanciful element after the first pages that give a realistic picture of Mrs. Cockle; the ending is a bit flat.

M Portland, Michael. Children of the Fishing Boats. Taplinger, 1961. 28p. 4-5 illus. (This Is Our Country Series.) \$2.50.

The first of a series of books about children of other countries, with the text focused on one child, somewhat in the style of the "My Village" series. Giovanni lives in a small fishing village south of Rome; he goes with his father to Rome and then to Santa Margherita to attend a wedding. The color photographs are handsome, but many of them do not really relate to the text. The writing is pedestrian, with occasional phrases that are truly careless: "It is very easy to guess for it is holiday time and all their thoughts are of how they can best fill them." The book gives some information, but there is little that is not available elsewhere, and the chief value of the book is in the photographs.

R Robb, Esther Chapman. There's Something about a River; illus. by Everett 4-6 Raymond Kinstler. Duell, 1961. 182p. \$3.

A good story for boys, written in a brisk style, with variety in the action and with a satisfying conclusion. Characterization is not outstanding, but is adequate; dialogue is very good. While his mother is away for the summer, Davey (age ten) helps his father tend river lights and run a boat rental business. He makes friends with the new summer boy nearby (a situation that is not accorded formula treatment) and the two boys help catch a man who has been stealing boat motors. The role of the boys in the apprehension is believable; the atmosphere and lore of river life permeates the book unobtrusively but effectively.

Ad Ruchlis, Hyman. The Wonder of Heat Energy; A Picture Story of the Vital Part Heat Plays in Our World; drawings by Alice Hirsh. Harper, 1961. 6-8 186p. Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.79 net.

A discussion of both the natural manifestations of heat energy and the uses of heat energy that is man-made. The functioning of heat in weather phenomena and geographical changes, and the importance of heat in the lives of plants and animals are described; the manipulation of heat in refrigeration, home heating, and industrial application is detailed. The style of writing is quite informal, with text and illustrations posing problems which are answered in a brief appended section. Photographs and diagrams are good; the book is not indexed; the concluding chapter discusses forms of energy and conversions from one form to another.

M Saviozzi, Adriana. Somebody Saw World, 1962. 27p. illus. \$2.95. 3-5 yrs.

A slight picture book about the imaginary things seen by a small boy. "Somebody saw three mice in a boat? Was it a lion? No! Then who was it?" . . . with variations. The answer, "A little boy playing games with you." comes at the end of the book. The drawings (full or double page spreads) are very attractive, making good use of space, but the book as a whole is merely an extension of the idea of imaginative play, and the ending seems anticlimactic.

R Selsam, Millicent (Ellis). The Language of Animals; illus. by Kathleen Elgin. 5-9 Morrow, 1962. 96p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.78 net.

Good scientific writing: objective, simple, dignified, but never dry. Mrs. Selsam gives to the reader, in addition to the information in the text, a consistency of scientific attitude that is most valuable. The text is divided into chapters on fish; frogs, snakes, and alligators; birds; mammals; and insects. A first section describes some techniques of investigation, and throughout the book the methods of testing and experiment that demonstrate communication are cited. A bibliography is appended; the index is starred to indicate location of illustrations.

Ad Selz, Irma. Katy, Be Good!; written and illus. by Irma Selz. Lothrop, 1962. K-2 30p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.73 net.

A read-aloud picture book with rhyming text that tells of a little Amish girl's visit to her friend in the city. The story tells quite a bit about the Amish, and the Amish phrases are delightful; the rhymes are often faulty, however, and it seems probable that prose would be a better vehicle for the exposition of the Amish idiom. Katy finds abstract paintings unappealing, she doesn't like air conditioning, and she can't understand the need for a baby-sitter (The Sitzer) when there's no baby. On a shopping trip, she is tempted by frills, but remembers that her father said "Katy, be good." and buys sensible presents. Back home, she admits that she is as happy to be back as she was to go away—a reaction that many children will recognize.

R Serrailier, Ian. Beowulf the Warrior; illus. by Severin. Walck, 1961. 48p. 6- \$2.75.

First published in England in 1954, an impressive retelling of the classic verse epic. Handsome format, strong and appropriate black and white illustrations. The author has simplified the language yet maintained a style that is powerful and appropriate for the genre; he has preserved the sweep of movement, the flavor of phrasing, the heroic mood. A wonderful book to read aloud.

Ad Shamir, Moshe. Great Day in Israel; Why Ziva Cried on the Feast of First Fruits; tr. by Tamara Kahana; illus. by Cyril Satorsky. Abelard-Schuman, 1961. 32p. (Great Day Books.) \$2.50.

Translated from the Hebrew; this is the first of a series designed to give information about children in other countries by describing one child as he celebrates a national holiday. Ziva, ten years old, lives on an Israeli Kibbutz; she suggests to her schoolmates that their gift for the Feast of First Fruits be cheese made from the milk of their goats. But Ziva gives so much milk and cheese to a sick boy that there is none for the feast day. To her joy, the grateful father of the boy steps up to donate a kid, so Ziva and her classmates share in the holiday gift to the National Fund. The story has interesting material about the farm and about the holiday customs, but the writing is heavy in style and the plot is sentimental. Some of the pages, with yellow background flecked in white, are difficult to read.

NR Shapp, Martha. Let's Find Out What Electricity Does; by Martha and Charles 1-2 Shapp; illus. by Ida Scheib. Watts, 1961. 38p. \$1.95.

A slight and superficial book that seems to have little purpose. The text points out that Aladdin produced a genie when he rubbed his lamp, and that we have a genie that appears when we push a button or turn a dial. The remainder of the text merely amplifies with examples the ways in which machines that are electrically operated serve people.

M Simon, Shirley. Molly and the Rooftop Mystery; illus. by Kurt Werth. Lothrop, 4-6 1961. 190p. \$3.

Although fairly patterned in plot, this middle-grades mystery story deviates from formula by having the children believably involved in the detection of the culprit rather than being omniscient. Molly, in sixth grade, works on the school newspaper and makes a new friend; these situations are treated in routine fashion, as is the suspect: the annoying friend of Molly's brother who turns out to be a Good Kid and who is cleared of guilt. Rather stock characterization despite the realistic family relationships. The denouement is weak: Molly's uncle's jewelry store has been robbed by an employee whose motive is keeping prospective buyers away so that the store won't be sold—otherwise he might have to work in a store that kept open Saturdays, which would prohibit his participation in Saturday amateur theatricals.

Ad Stirling, Lilla. The Stowaway Piper; illus. by Kurt Werth. Nelson, 1961. 3-5 128p. \$2.95.

Set in Scotland in the late eighteenth century, the story of young Dougal McDonald, last of a family of pipers. When his uncle went off to the New World, he promised Dougal he would send for him later. Lonely and impatient, Dougal stowed away on a Nova Scotia-bound vessel and later piped the men ashore. Somehow the use of Scottish words and period details fail to evoke a feeling of the period: Dougal seems a modern boy. The background is good, characterization adequate; the writing lacks pace, but has humor and unity.

R Sutton, Shaun. Queen's Champion; illus. by Shane Miller. St. Martin's, 1961. 6-9 245p. \$3.75.

A good adventure story of Elizabethan England. The Penlynden family's chief treasure is a statuette called the Queen's Champion, symbol of their devotion to the Crown. Falsely accused of treason, Sir Henry is murdered and young Roger Penlynden becomes a fugitive. One of the Spanish noblemen from the attacking Armada reveals the real traitor; in a dramatic scene of vindication, Roger proves to Queen Elizabeth the loyalty of the Penlyndens. Fast-paced action, suspensive and colorful writing.

R Swinton, William Elgin. The Wonderful World of Prehistoric Animals; 27 7-12 paintings by Maurice Wilson. Garden City, 1961. 89p. \$2.95.

An excellent addition to a good series. The writing is authoritative and crisp, the material well-organized; the text is divided into four parts: a section on the formation

of the earth's crust, the deposit of fossil material, and the development of paleontology as a science. Evolving forms of animal life, through the age of mammals, are then described, and the last part of the book gives lucid and interesting information about fossil hunting, and about the preservation and reconstruction of fossil remains. A world map of fossil finds and an index are appended. The illustrations and layout in this volume are considerably less distracting than they are in many of the books in this series; they are carefully labeled and captioned.

Ad Tague, Lola. The Wonderful Merry-Go-Round; illus. by Kurt Werth. Lothrop, 3-5 1961. 46p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.84 net.

The story of a boy of eleven, Johnny Andrews, who left an Indiana farm in 1844 to help a neighbor run a summer merry-go-round in Cincinnati. While Johnny's small sister was visiting him, the horse that had pulled the merry-go-round platform was stolen and the children set off to find him. It was little sister who realized that the blaze on a horse was painted and that this was their stolen horse. Some of the period background is interesting, but the story is weakened by the rather contrived interest of the theft, which really has little to do with the rather pleasant theme of the old-fashioned merry-go-round.

NR Thaler, Mike. The Clown's Smile. Harper, 1962. 30p. illus. Trade ed. K-2 \$2.25; Library ed. \$2.39 net.

A picture book about a clown who lost his smile. It flew away and traveled from one performer or animal to another (sometimes floating free in the air) until it came back to the clown and the circus could go on. The text is slight and repetitive; the page layout is attractive, with only the red smile amid black and white drawings. The theme is too attenuated to sustain humor; the value of the book rests with the illustrations, which have vitality but are impressionistic and probably are more evocative to the adult than to the child.

R Tharp, Louise (Hall). Louis Agassiz; Adventurous Scientist; illus. by Raffaello 6-8 Busoni. Little, 1961. 200p. \$3.75.

A good biography about the versatile scientist, describing his childhood briefly, his education and career in Europe, and his work at Harvard and in Brazil. The writing is less formal and less distinguished than it is in Forsee's Louis Agassiz (Viking, 1958) but the material covered is about the same. A fairly extensive relative index is appended.

M Tufts, Georgia. The Rabbit Garden. Lothrop, 1961. 19p. illus. Trade ed. 3-5 \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.73 net.

yrs.

Nora, visiting her grandfather, George, helped him build a fence to keep out the rabbits that were eating his vegetables. No matter how high the fences, the rabbits got in or under. So, at Nora's suggestion, George planted a garden of all the things rabbits like best; he put a fence around for them to climb over or under, and after that the rabbits came to their very own garden. Slight, but unified in construction. While the relationship of child and grandfather is pleasant, it may seem strange to some children to use grandfather's first name. The idea that the rabbits will stay out of the original garden might lead to misconception. The text has one rather jarring sentence: after the question ". . . and do you know why they always came at night?" the answer is, "For what a rabbit loves best is . . ."

M Watson, Nancy Dingman, comp. Puppy Dog Tales; illus. by Aldren A. Watson. 4-6 Doubleday, 1961. 38p. \$1.25.

yrs.

A compilation of traditional nursery rhymes about dogs, somewhat dated for today's

children. The jingles, many of which are rather coy, are printed without title; the sequence on the pages is confusing because the rhymes seem to run together. Illustrations, which are of pedestrian caliber, show dogs sometimes au naturel and sometimes costumed.

M Wilcke, Ella. Mona's Island Summer; tr. by Alan Tapsell. Watts, 1962. 136p. 6-8 \$2.95.

First published in Sweden in 1959 under the title Monas Skärgårdsommar. Mona, who feels that she is the only one of her family who still cares for her dead father, represents the man who admires her mother. They become friends when they find that each is trying to help a distraught boy who has run away from home. Characterization is adequate although not deep; relationships are realistic; the book is weakened somewhat by a pat ending. The writing style is—at least, in translation—rather static.

Ad Winslow, Marjorie. Mud Pies and Other Recipes; illus. by Erik Blegvad. 3-4 Macmillan, 1961. 39p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$3.

A slight but amusing book, delightfully illustrated. Although the material is best suited to the very young child who does pretend to cook, the humor of the culinary terminology will be more appreciated by the child who is both old enough to read the book independently and old enough to feel indulgent about mud pies. Some of the recipes have delightful titles: Crabgrass Gumbo, Hot Dogwood; some of the instructions within the recipes for dolls' food are entertaining. An original idea, but not quite right for either the pre-school or the primary group.

R Worstell, Emma Vietor, comp. Jump the Rope Jingles; illus. by Sheila Greenwald. Macmillan, 1961. 54p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$3.25.

Amusingly illustrated, a compilation of calls and jingles used in jumping rope. Several pages of instructions for jump-rope games are appended, as is an index of first lines. A useful book, and one that can be used by an adult with children too young to read the text independently.

Ad York, Carol Beach. Sparrow Lake. Coward-McCann, 1962. 155p. \$3. 7-9

A rather poignant junior novel for girls, convincingly told in first person. Shy and bookish, Liddie came to live at Sparrow Lake, which had been her summer home. Orphaned, she lived with her vague, kind aunt; her other aunt, a New York socialite, urged that Liddie go to a private school. When it was discovered that her first beau was common clay (a drifter who had quit school and worked in his brother's garage) Liddie was packed off to New York. She never saw Johnnie again, and she was sure she would never forget him. The book would be stronger if Liddie's circumstances were such that the solution is not so easy; the problem of separating young people because of adult disapproval is usually complicated by continued proximity. The story is, however, realistic in the undramatized unfolding of events. Conversation and characterization are excellent.

Ad Ziner, Feenie. Counting Carnival; illus. by Paul Galdone. Coward-McCann, 3-5 1962. 29p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.52 net. yrs.

Attractive illustrations in red, white, black, and grey show children gathering one by one; on each page a number, a simple couplet, and a picture of the child, while on the facing page the accumulated children sit on the steps. On the last page, the children form a parade with balloons. The jingles are easy for a small child to remember: "Just one. No Fun." and "Now two. Something to do." The children portrayed represent all races and are clad in a variety of costume, which lends some interest to compensate for the fact that the cumulative page is static.

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