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*Bulletin*  
*of*  
*the*  
*Center*  
*for*  
*Children's*  
*Books*

*November 1962 · Vol. XVI · No. 3*



## 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

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Volume XVI

November, 1962

Number 3

## *New Titles for Children and Young People*

Ad Air Force/Space Digest Magazine. Our Air Force; by the editors of Air  
5-9 Force/Space Digest. Putnam, 1961. 64p. illus. Trade ed. \$2.50; Li-  
brary ed. \$2.52 net.

A survey of the aircraft and missiles in use or being tested by the Air Force. Much like the Colby books in format, with photographs on each page being accompanied by a condensed paragraph of facts and statistics about the model shown. A running text of several lines of print accompanies this, in two columns at the page bottoms. A useful book, with material divided by the functions of the airplanes: tankers, transports, missiles, rescue aircraft, etc. A two-page glossary of terms is appended.

R Asimov, Isaac. Words on the Map; decorations by William Barss. Houghton,  
7- 1962. 274p. \$5.

An interesting book about the origin of place names; comprising 250 one-page dissertations, the volume concludes with two indexes to the many additional names cited in addition to the names used in headings—one index for people, one for places. The author does not attempt to be comprehensive; the book cannot be used as a reference source for all place names, but will have great interest for the browsing reader. A typical page-length essay is that on Portugal; it traces the change of name of the Ebro River from the name Iberus, given by Greek colonists, and notes the term Iberia for the peninsula. It points out the Roman name for the peninsula was Hispania, developing into our use of the name Spain. Some peninsular history follows; Mr. Asimov cites the evolution of Portugal from the city of Porto or Oporto, from the Roman town of Portus Cale (a town at the mouth of the river in a province called Cale). Pre-Roman Lusitanians gave the name to Lisboa, a corruption of the Celtic Olisipo, called by us Lisbon. The example is cited to indicate the rambling and informal nature of the information given: more than a derivation of the place name heading the page, with material that is extraneous but related, and interesting.

R Benary-Isbert, Margot. A Time To Love; tr. from the German by Joyce  
8-12 Emerson and the author. Harcourt, 1962. 256p. \$3.50.

A thoughtful novel for mature readers, set in Germany in the years just before and during the last world war. When Annegret was fifteen, her parents sent her to a boarding school where they hoped she could avoid the Nazi philosophy by then imposed on public schools. As a child of liberal and intellectual parents, Annegret was oppressed by the Nazi regime, especially by what was happening to the Jews in Germany. She disliked her six-month term of Labor Service, but got through it; by the time she was in college, Annegret was in love with an old school friend, by then at the Western Front. While Annegret's family is consistently anti-Nazi in their attitude, this is not a political novel, since their objection is passive. The characteri-

zation is perceptive, the boarding school background is lively, the writing has momentum and, in this book, more variety than in others by this author since some of the story is told in third person, and some of it is in the form of the diary and the letters of Annegret.

R Bevans, Michael H. The Book of Sea Shells; written and illus. by Michael H. 6-9 Bevans. Doubleday, 1961. 56p. \$2.95.

An oversize book that gives a good introduction to conchology, with illustrations and descriptions that serve very well for identification, since they are large, meticulously drawn, and (most of them) in color. Not as extensive as Johnstone's Sea Treasure (Houghton, 1957), but quite adequate as a first book to awaken interest in the subject. The text is divided into sections on univalves, bivalves, chitons, tusk shells, and Cephalopoda. An index is appended.

R Blish, James. A Life for the Stars. Putnam, 1962. 188p. \$3.50.  
7-10

A very good science fiction book, with an original idea developed with unity and pace. A thousand years in the future, the resources of Earth are depleted, and the planets of outer space are filled with nomad cities. Chris is impressed by a press-gang and so is in the city of Scranton when it lifts off in flight; later he is transferred to New York as part of a trade. While Chris is in training for citizenship, being educated by sleep-teaching, New York arrives on a new planet to find itself in competition with Scranton for a work contract. The boy's knowledge of Scranton enables him to help the Mayor of New York win a victory over the corrupt Scranton regime; Chris is given the status of citizen and notified that he will be trained for the important job of city manager. Well-written, consistently developed, with a restrained scientific attitude and some scientific facts presented.

Ad Braenne, Berit. Trina Finds a Brother; tr. from the Norwegian by Evelyn 4-6 Ramsden; illus. by Borghild Rud. Harcourt, 1962. 156p. \$2.75.

First published in Norway in 1959 under the title Om Tamar Og Trine. Although her family had a house in Norway, Trina spent much of her life on her father's ship; an only child of six, Trina was lonely. When she became friendly with an orphaned Arab boy her own age, Trina begged her parents to adopt Tamar. The story of Tamar's introduction to shipboard life and of his integration into a Norwegian family is interesting, and the calm and open discussion of prejudice is valuable especially because it is treated at the level of the reader. The style (perhaps due in part to translation) is rather stilted, and the fact that Tamar and Trina are only six will limit the book's appeal to children who are old enough to read it independently.

R Brick, John. Yankees on the Run. Duell, 1961. 149p. \$2.95.  
6-9

An excellent Civil War story. Matt and Eben, both from Vermont, are captured and imprisoned at Andersonville; they escape by posing as smallpox victims, knowing that the guards will not want to come near the bodies of men supposedly dead of that disease. Harbored first by a free negro and then by a Yankee widow of a southerner, the men make their way to Sherman's headquarters. Hearing their report on the conditions at Andersonville, Sherman gives the order to try a rescue operation; the book concludes realistically just after the failure of that attempt. A tightly-knit story, written in restrained style, with good pace in the action and good dialogue; the story is also commendable for the realistic way in which it describes the behavior and attitude of the average soldier.

Ad Buchanan, William. Dr. Anger's Island. Abelard-Schuman, 1961. 191p.  
6-9 \$3.50.

A mystery story in which Max McCoy takes his family to an island in Lake Huron where he is going to investigate a lost literary treasure. Kelly McCoy, fifteen, and his friend Biff take over the investigation when father is injured; the boys become involved with two criminals who are also searching, since it has developed that hidden with the poems is a valuable necklace. The plot is not unusual, and the prowess of the boys is a bit contrived, but the book has pace and suspense, good atmosphere, and some rather diverting clues presented through a series of quotations from Shakespeare arranged in a particular order of play titles.

R Caudill, Rebecca. The Best Loved Doll; illus. by Elliott Gilbert. Holt, 1962.  
K-2 58p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.27 net.

A read-aloud story for girls, written with simplicity and warmth. Betsy is invited to a party to which each guest is asked to bring a doll; prizes will be given for the best-dressed doll, the oldest doll, and the doll that can do the most. Betsy's four dolls discuss their own chances very sensibly, all agreeing that battered and beloved Jennifer couldn't win any prize. But Betsy takes Jennifer, who doesn't win any prize, but is given a hastily-made medal by the understanding mother of the birthday girl. It says, "Best-loved Doll." Gentle, pleasant, and sympathetic; the author makes Jennifer's character very convincingly amiable, so that it is no surprise to find that she is planning, at the close of the book, to share her party favors with the three stay-at-home dolls.

R Clark, Ann (Nolan). Paco's Miracle; illus. by Agnes Tait. Farrar, 1962.  
4-6 159p. \$2.95.

Set in a Spanish-speaking village near Santa Fe, a gentle story that verges on the mystical at its close. Paco has been living high in the mountains with an old guardian; when the Old One had to go into a hospital, Paco came to live with Tomas. Tomas married Pita, and the three made a happy family; once Paco went back to the mountains, but was too lonely. The story gains impetus at the end of the book—Tomas has not appeared with money for the Posada, and the food and decorations are supplied by Paco, who has been told by his animal friends—in a dream—of the food supplies and the greens he could find on the mountain. The Padre explains that this is Paco's miracle—the animals love him for his kindness. A bit sentimental at the close, but acceptably so as an ending to a warm and sympathetic portrayal of a kindly community of people and of the newlywed couple who have accepted with love an orphaned child.

R Clarke, Arthur Charles. Indian Ocean Adventure; photographs by Mike Wilson.  
6- Harper, 1961. 104p. \$2.95.

A most interesting book, profusely illustrated with black-and-white photographs, describing an expedition that was based at a lighthouse on a reef in the Indian Ocean. The team of three men who were exploring and photographing marine life found and recorded on film some unusual behavior-patterns: for example, three huge groupers learned to swim through a hoop for food. The author writes with ease, communicating his own enthusiasm and sense of wonder to the reader; almost as interesting as the material on undersea adventure is the description of the lighthouse. No less exciting than Mr. Clarke's fiction, and a handsome specimen of typography and format.

R Cole, William, ed. Poems for Seasons and Celebrations; illus. by Johannes  
5-8 Troyer. World, 1961. 191p. \$3.95.

A useful anthology of poems for holidays and seasons, with chronological arrangement of material; some of the selections are from poets of the past, but the majority are the work of recent or contemporary writers. Only two contributors have written new poems for the book, and theirs are not the most distinguished contributions. The book is handsome, with attractive illustrations; each selection is followed

by the name of the author, also cited in the table of contents; separate author and title indexes are appended.

Ad Cunningham, Julia. Macaroon; illus. by Evaline Ness. Pantheon Books, 1962.  
3-5 63p. Trade ed. \$3; Library ed. \$3.29 net.

An unusual story about a raccoon and a little girl, fanciful in conception but sedate in treatment. Each fall the raccoon had picked a child for adoption and had been able to have a pleasant winter, always departing in the spring. Each year the raccoon became attached to the child and found it hard to leave, so he decided to pick an unpleasant child. Erika is as unpleasant as a girl can be, but the raccoon (whom she calls "Macaroon") suspects there is good reason, and when she risks her life to save his and that of a fox who had befriended her, Macaroon is proud of his child. The two animals talk matter-of-factly to Erika, the child's behavior seems overdrawn, and the ending is slightly sentimental; the story is well-written, however, there is a genuine warmth in the relationship between the child and the animals, and the illustrations are attractive.

R De Camp, L. Sprague. Man and Power; The Story of Power from the Pyramids to the Atomic Age; illus. with original documents, photographs by Russ Kinne, Roman Vishniac and others. Golden Press, 1961. 189p.  
7- Trade ed. \$4.95; Library ed. \$4.99 net.

A comprehensive and well-written survey, with good organization of material; the book is profusely illustrated by excellent photographs and diagrams. Chapter division is on the basis of the sources of power: manpower, water power, chemical power, nuclear power, etc. The text covers the history of power from Egyptian times to today, with a concluding chapter on needs and production of power in the future. An extensive relative index, giving entries for illustrations, is appended.

Ad Dolson, Hildegard. William Penn; Quaker Hero; illus. by Leonard Everett  
6-9 Fisher. Random House, 1961. 186p. (Landmark Books.) \$1.95.

A good biography, informally written and considerably fictionalized. The style is occasionally a bit florid: "Then came the King in his jeweled coronation cloak, the swarthy, clever, weak, wildly extravagant man who would be called the Merry Monarch." The book does not have the literary quality of Peare's William Penn (Lippincott, 1957) or Gray's Penn (Viking, 1938), but the humor and the informality of style have appeal, and the book will be useful for slow high school readers. A bibliography and a reading list are appended.

M Dougherty, Katherine. A Street of Churches; pictures by Judith Brown.  
K-2 Abingdon, 1962. 21p. \$1.25.

A read-aloud book, written in first person, about the different kinds of churches on the street on which the child lives. The writing style is pleasant, the illustrations are pleasant, and the book will quite probably give the child the impression that all churches are good, or even that all faiths are good. However, the text seems weak in two ways: the different churches are described chiefly in terms of physical differences, with little to suggest acceptance of differing faiths or denominations. There is one exception to this, and the treatment of it is the second weakness of the text: the author's purpose is clearly the encouragement of inter-religious understanding, but the effort seems unsuccessful. The child mentions the fact that his friend Solly goes to a temple in the center of town on Saturdays. Since there is no reference elsewhere to any other difference in creed, and since all the other houses of worship are grouped physically, this treatment seems to set Solly (the book does not mention Judaism) apart.

M Eastwick, Ivy O. Cherry Stones! Garden Swings!; illus. by Robert A. Jones.

2-4 Abingdon, 1962. 63p. \$2.

A collection of poems, two of which have been previously published; illustrations are not outstanding but they have a lively quality. One page has a background so dark as to make reading difficult. Some of the poems have humor and an occasional poem has fresh imagery, but most of the selections are rather ordinary. A few of the selections can hardly be called poems at all: "Holidays are jolly days!" is one complete "poem"; another is, "The Tufted Titmouse / told his Teacher / he had changed his / home address / which was now: WOODPECKER HOLLOW, No. 6, THE WILDERNESS."

R Evans, Edna Hoffman. Written with Fire; The Story of Cattle Brands; illus. 3-6 with diagrams. Holt, 1962. 87p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net. A useful and interesting book, detailed and comprehensive. The author gives a considerable amount of historical and anecdotal material—much of it humorous—and very painstakingly explains the various symbols and positions of symbols in brands. She describes many famous brands, gives instruction on how to read brands, and makes suggestions for designing one's own brand. Included is a chapter on branding irons, another on the procedures used at roundup time, another on the registration of brands. The text is supplemented by many diagrams, all clearly labeled and explained.

Ad Evarts, Hal G. The Secret of the Himalayas. Scribner, 1962. 185p. Trade 7-9 ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.91 net.

Jerry Dunham, a college freshman in the field of natural history, is chosen as the junior member of an expedition to Nepal to investigate the abominable snowman. The expedition fails to find a snowman, but they gather important material, and Jerry learns something about the patient persistence of the scientist. The details of Himalayan scenery and wildlife, and some of the material about scientific aspects of the expedition are most interesting; the writing style is adequate and there is an element of suspense. The weak aspect of the book is in the peripheral plot of sabotage—inspired, it develops, by Communist agents—which really seems extraneous in a story with dramatic background, inherent dangers of weather and terrain, and the color and contrast in the varied personnel of the staff and their guides.

R Fleischman, Sid. Mr. Mysterious & Company; illus. by Eric Von Schmidt. 5-7 Little, 1962. 151p. \$3.25.

An entertaining story with unusual background: a magician with his family traveling west by covered wagon, Mr. Mysterious is really the father of three lively children. Teen-age Jane longs to put her hair up and go to parties, little Anne wants to take dancing lessons when they settle in California, Paul isn't sure he wants to give up the joys of nomad life. Light, but amusing; nothing unbelievable in the plot, but some dramatic incidents tied by two themes: reaching the west, and earning enough money to buy a sewing-machine for mother and a repeater watch for father. There is a tongue-in-cheek humor about the readiness of the Hackett children to see evidences of the melodrama of the Wild West: they turn in as a desperado, for example, a doctor they encounter, because any man who picks his teeth with a Bowie knife must be the Badlands Kid.

Ad Fox, Charles Philip. When Winter Comes; story and photographs by Charles 1-2 Philip Fox. Reilly and Lee, 1962. 31p. (Easy-To-Read Photo Series.) \$2.75.

A book of photographs of eight animals, some of the pictures showing the animals or their tracks against a winter landscape. The text consists of one or two sentences relating to each illustration; the brief sentences are fairly dull, but the book gives some conception of the ways that small wild animals live during the winter, and it

will be moderately useful for beginning independent readers. The photographs in the book will be useful in themselves for kindergarten users.

R Gray, Elizabeth Janet. I Will Adventure; illus. by Corydon Bell. Viking, 5-7 1962. 208p. \$4.

Andrew Talbot, age twelve, goes to London in 1596 to serve as page to his father's cousin, Sir John Talbot. Homesick, Andrew tries unsuccessfully to get back to Kent, but is caught. Having met William Shakespeare en route to London, Andrew is very proud when he is able to introduce Sir John to the playwright; he is then cheered to hear that he is going to be sent to school in London. The story line is not strong, but it is used chiefly as a vehicle for details of Elizabethan life and particularly of Elizabethan theatre; the writing style is excellent, with smooth integration of narrative, historical detail, and dialogue.

Ad Gray, J. E. B. India's Tales and Legends; retold by J. E. B. Gray; illus. by 6-8 Joan Kiddell-Monroe. Walck, 1961. 230p. Trade ed. \$3.75; Library ed. \$2.81 net.

A collection that comprises some of the Jataka tales, some animal fables, some from the Katha-Sarit Sagara, and some from the Mahabharata and Ramayana. Some of the material, the author's preface states, is adapted as well as translated. The style of the retellings is rather heavy, the print is small, the vocabulary fairly difficult; the book seems a bit too mature for the largest audience (middle-grades) for folk literature. Not as well-written as the retellings by Jacobs or Gaer, but a useful collection where there is need for additional material, and most useful as a source for storytelling.

R Hamre, Leif. Perilous Wings; tr. from the Norwegian by Evelyn Ramsden. 7-10 Harcourt, 1961. 128p. \$2.75.

Written by an officer in the Norwegian Air Force, a good adventure story for boys. Squadron 317 was given the honor of being the first in the Force to fly a new super-sonic plane. As one accident after another happened, the flyers became worried and baffled, since crash commissions couldn't find the reason for the recurrence of fires in the wings of the crashed planes. Not until two courageous men risked their lives and took the machine out on a test-flight, suspecting that the fires were caused by ice-formation, was the mystery solved. In the description of the flight accidents and the rescuing of their survivors there is suspense and excitement. Dramatic as the story is, it is completely convincing.

Ad Hayes, William. Project: Genius; written and illus. by William Hayes. 5-6 Atheneum, 1962. 135p. \$3.25.

Pete Sheldon describes some of the projects he has worked on in hopes of winning the prize for an original outside project, the prize being a trip to the State Science Fair. The writing is humorous, with some of the humor in stereotyped characters (Pete's friend Chet is the straight man), some in exaggeration (Pete's baby brother has heard Pete read definitions, and his first spoken word is "pusilanimous"), and some in the use of elaborate sarcasm in conversation.

Ad Hurd, Edith (Thacher). Christmas Eve; pictures by Clement Hurd. Harper, K-2 1962. 45p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

A read-aloud book about the animals on the first Christmas Eve, illustrated by soft pictures with a pale blue ground—very appropriate for the quiet text. The text of the retelling is slight: a raven, seeing angels, is the first to know, a cock crows the news, etcetera; the animals gather in the manger and are able to talk on this special night, while outside the birds sing more sweetly than they ever have before. The simplicity of style is engaging, but the use of Latin seems no enhancement:

"The ox lowed in his deep soft voice. 'Ubi? Ubi?' 'Where? Where?' . . . The little donkey wanted to go quickly to see the baby boy. 'Eamus.' 'Let us go,' he said."

M Jane, Mary C. Mystery Behind Dark Windows; illus. by Raymond Abel. Lip-4-6 pincott, 1962. 128p. \$2.75.

A mystery story that seems rather attenuated, with an ending that is logical but somewhat anticlimactic. Ellie and Tom live with their Aunt Rachel, all of them much resented by the residents of Darkwater Falls because Aunt Rachel's decision to keep the family mill closed has meant unemployment. Mysterious noises and thefts of odd articles lead Ellie and her only two friends to investigate the closed mill. When a fire starts, it develops that it was set by a man with a grudge only to frighten Aunt Rachel into selling the mill. Everybody apologizes, the air is cleared, the mill is sold, and a celebratory dinner is given.

R Jenkins, Geoffrey. A Grue of Ice. Viking, 1962. 242p. \$3.95.  
9-

A well-written adventure story with pace, suspense, and background details that are both dramatic and convincing. Bruce Wetherby, a former captain in the British forces, is now on a grant from the Royal Society; while engaged in oceanographic research, Wetherby is kidnapped by a whaling magnate, Sir Frederic Upton, who is sure that Wetherby can lead him to the breeding ground of the blue whales and thereby bring him new wealth. Wetherby finds that Upton has a secret motive: the location of a lost island that has a rare metal needed for space-age fuel. Upton's daughter helps Wetherby in one crisis after another when she realizes that her ruthless father will stop at nothing—murder included—to reach his goal. There is an occasional trite phrase, and there is a profusion of high-tension incidents, but the tempo and the vivid setting are good enough to compensate for small deficiencies of the book.

R Joslin, Sesyle. Baby Elephant and the Secret Wishes; pictures by Leonard K-2 Weisgard. Harcourt, 1962. 38p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.67 net. A Christmas story: another delightful story about the engaging only child elephant of Brave Baby Elephant and Senor Baby Elephant, the Pirate. Baby Elephant asks his parents and grandparents what secret wish they have always cherished; when they respond, he anxiously inquires about whether (for example) they had ever secretly wanted a red potholder trimmed in green. Each adult is struck with amazement at being asked about exactly the wished-for thing. Happy, Baby Elephant collects the gifts which he now knows are the secret desires of all and puts his presents under the tree. Pleasantly illustrated, gently humorous, and most engaging in the way the adults converse with their child: polite, tender, gravely ignoring the significance of the question so that they may reassure the small questioner.

R Kadesch, Robert R. The Crazy Cantilever and Other Science Experiments; 6-8 illus. with photographs and drawings. Harper, 1961. 175p. \$3.95. A good book for the beginning science investigator, with forty varied home demonstrations and experiments requiring only inexpensive or easily available materials. Although there are some diagrams, most of the illustrative material is photographic; illustrations are well-placed, and the type is large and clear. The author, a professor of astronomy and physics, writes in a style that is light and lively, yet gives facts in a straightforward fashion. Explanations of the theories or phenomena that are being demonstrated are as clear and simple as are the instructions for the demonstrations and experiments.

R Landau, Lion D. What Is Relativity?; by L. D. Landau and G. B. Rumer; tr. by 8- N. Kemmer. Basic, 1961. 72p. (Science and Discovery Series.) \$1.95.

First published in Russia in 1959 under the title What Is the Theory of Relativity, a simplified but more than adequate explanation of relativity. The authors give some familiar examples of relativity of space and direction, moving on to the more complicated problem of relativity of motion. They demonstrate, by setting up a plausible argument that is demolished when experiments show incompatibility of conclusions, the scientific method. The explanations are somewhat popularized, requiring more an ability to follow logically a complicated concept than they do a scientific background. Despite the simplicity of the first pages, the cartoon-style drawings, and the often-humorous approach, the intrinsic difficulty of concepts and a good deal of the vocabulary are such that few elementary readers could understand the text. An index is appended.

M Lawrence, Cynthia. Here's Barbie; by Cynthia Lawrence and Bette Lou May-  
7-9           bee; illus. by Clyde Smith. Random House, 1962. 186p. \$1.95.

As introduction to a series of junior novels about Barbie (familiar to most girls in doll form), a collection of six short stories and a one-act play. Each is written by one of the two authors, and the two novels (Barbie's New York Summer and Barbie's Fashion Success), also reviewed in this issue, are separately authored. The selections are in pedestrian style, with plots that deviate little from formula; each is followed by a form-outline page pertinent to the selection: a form for party plans, a blank for a Christmas card list, etc. The book escapes mediocrity only because of a brightness in attitude and a basis of good values in Barbie's behavior with friends and family.

M Lawrence, Cynthia. Barbie's New York Summer; illus. by Clyde Smith. Ran-  
7-9           dom House, 1962. 179p. \$1.95.

Barbie, a smashing success whatever she does, wins a contest and gets to New York for the summer as a featured teen model for a special issue of a fashion magazine. The plot is routine, the fashion details are authentic and will be of particular interest to readers who are attracted by the subject. Barbie stays with her uncle, who is a Broadway producer; she finds that his son has left home to make a career as an actor, spurning his father's guidance. With Barbie's help, the stubborn pair are reunited when her cousin shows his ability in a television play. She also has a summer romance and is offered a job because of her successful work as a model and as a fashion writer. As in the title reviewed above, what merit there is in the book rests in the fact that Barbie is stable, good-natured, and sensible; she refuses the job because she wants to go back to her parents and wants to complete high school. See also Maybee review, page 45.

R Lenski, Lois. Policeman Small. Walck, 1962. 47p. illus. \$2.25.  
2-3

A day in the life of a policeman on traffic detail is told in simple text, with a few lines on each page being faced by a page of illustration. As Policeman Small greets children en route to school, stops traffic for an ambulance, hands out tickets to two drivers who have collided, or warns a speeding driver, the reader learns some aspect of a policeman's job. The chief appeal of the book, as of all the Small books, is in the familiarity of everyday experiences; here the text, despite the bland style of writing, is satisfying in its provision of a picture of the flow of community life.

Ad Liberty, Gene. The First Book of the Human Senses; pictures by Robert Tidd.  
5-6           Watts, 1961. 62p. \$1.95.

An introduction to the topic that is accurate in the information given, but has some minor weaknesses. The text is adequately organized, but has some material that seems extraneous and some that seems repetitive. For example, "There are four simple tastes that can be detected by the tongue without the help of the sense of

smell. They are bitter, sweet, sour, and salt. Unlike the varied tastes of meats, vegetables, fruits, and many other foods, these four tastes can be detected by the tongue without the help of the sense of smell." A glossary and an index are appended.

R Luckhardt, Mildred C., comp. Christmas Comes Once More; Stories and  
4-6 Poems for the Holiday Season; illus. by Grisha Dotzenko. Abingdon,  
1962. 176p. \$3.50.

A collection of poems, short stories and excerpts from books, all the material having been previously published. The Christmas selections are well-chosen, and the book will be a useful addition to holiday material, appropriate for reading aloud as well as for use by independent readers. Instructions for making an Advent wreath are included; an author-title index is appended.

M McCandless, Hugh. The Christmas Manger; from a story told by Hugh  
2-3 McCandless; pictures by Mary E. Little. Scribner, 1962. 28p. \$2.95.  
An adaptation of a story told by Rev. McCandless of the animals, assembled by a third grade class for their project, who found on Christmas Eve that they could talk. The children had left a doll to be used in the manger scene, and the animals in the garage were worried because the baby didn't move or make a sound. Jake, the ox, nudged the doll and its eyes opened; all night long small animals crept in to look at the baby. On Christmas morning when the children came in to prepare for the pageant, they noticed that the doll was sitting up, hand raised as though it were blessing the animals. A pleasant Christmas story, but slight; the ending seems somehow inconclusive. The illustrations are not outstanding, but are executed with a softness that makes them appropriate for the story. The words and music (melodic line only) of "Away in a Manger" are printed on the last page of the book.

R MacFarlan, Allen A. Fun with Brand-New Games; by Allan and Paulette  
6- MacFarlan; illus. and diagrams by Paulette Jumeau MacFarlan. Association Press, 1961. 255p. \$3.50.

A useful book, with many new games conceived by the authors and in print for the first time; while the range of games is for all ages, the style and vocabulary of the instructions are difficult, so that some of the material will be used by older readers who are guiding children in recreational activities. Prefatory material describes the organization of the text, gives some advice on leadership and on safety rules, and discusses equipment and planning. Each game is preceded by such information as the number of players, the appropriate age range, etc.; the text is divided into fourteen chapters with such headings as Picnic Games, Tag Games, Games Requiring No Equipment, Active Games for Little Folk, and Quiet Games for Little Folk. An index is appended.

M Maybee, Bette Lou. Barbie's Fashion Success; illus. by Clyde Smith. Random  
7-9 House, 1962. 188p. \$1.95.

One of a series of books about Barbie (see Lawrence reviews, above), a pretty high school girl who is consistently popular and immoderately successful. With no real problems, Barbie is a happy character, although the characterization is shallow. Here Barbie goes to San Francisco for a summer job as a designer-apprentice for a swimsuit manufacturer. As she did in her New York summer, Barbie stays with relatives; as she did in her New York summer, Barbie is a success in her work. As in New York, she has a summer romance with a wealthy young man, and she patches up a misunderstanding between father and daughter (which, almost exactly as in New York, is because the child wants to achieve in the same arena). The writing styles of the two Barbie authors are remarkably similar: light in tone, rather superficial in characterization and mediocre in style, but with good values and good career inter-

est. The books are poorly bound, and have thin paper and narrow margins.

R Mayne, William. A Grass Rope; illus. by Lynton Lamb. Dutton, 1962. 167p. 5-7 \$3.

An enchanting and enchanted book, winner of the Carnegie Medal for the best children's book published in Great Britain in 1957. Four children in the Yorkshire country-side investigate traces of an old legend; these four, and other minor characters in the story, are wonderfully distinctive and sympathetic. The relationships are tender and perceptive; the evocation of the atmosphere of mist-shrouded dales is vivid. The older boy and girl have a realistic approach, but small Mary (a wonderful character, indeed) is convinced that she will find the fairies of the legend, and she confidently weaves a grass rope by which she will lead the mythical unicorn home. One of the most pleasant aspects of the book is the delicacy with which Mary's fanciful ideas are treated by the other children. A slow book in pace, but the pace is perfectly suited to the imaginative theme and the mystical mood.

M Nickerson, Jan. Circle of Love. Funk and Wagnalls, 1962. 216p. \$2.95. 7-9

A junior novel for girls that deviates slightly from pattern. Connie's father takes a job in a new town, but her mother stays on with Connie until her senior year is over. Connie adjusts fairly well, but her mother is bitter about moving to a small town and is angry with her husband. Dominated by her sister, a social snob, Mrs. Alden refuses to join her husband and Connie at Christmas; however, when Connie wires, she deserts her sister on a Jamaican holiday cruise, and the family is reunited at the new year. Although Connie's values improve as the story moves along, there are indications of snobbery that are unpleasant: Connie becomes friendly with Paul . . . "Imagine being pleased at a compliment from Paul. That showed to what depths she'd let herself sink. At school, she'd hardly even have spoken to him." And Connie knows what her mother would think of Paul . . . "The south side was the old and less fashionable part of the city. Mrs. Alden would not want her daughter being dated by a boy who lived there." Connie does come to appreciate Paul, and her mother to accept him, by the end of the book. One of the weakest aspects of the story is in the domination of Mrs. Alden by her sister; Aunt Selina walks in one day to announce that she has brought material (which Connie and her mother dislike) and that they will all, after lunch, make new curtains for the kitchen (the Alden's kitchen) . . . and Mrs. Alden meekly submits.

R Ogilvie, Elisabeth. Turn Around Twice. McGraw-Hill, 1962. 160p. \$3.25. 6-8

When she wins an essay contest, sixteen-year-old Bun Wilder takes the alternate prize, a Maine island, rather than money. Her parents cannot go on the planned trip to the island, so Bun goes to Hopkins Island with the three younger children. Shy, intellectual Bun falls in love with a young lobsterman; she and the other Wilders become involved in a mystery (refreshingly, they do not solve it with improbable acumen) and learn to love island life. The Maine background is good; perhaps the most interesting aspect of the book is in the relationships among the Wilder children, who are competitive and quarrelsome, learning when they are alone the need and the methods for getting along together.

Ad Parish, Peggy. Let's Be Indians; drawings by Arnold Lobel. Harper, 1962. 3-5 96p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.73 net.

Illustrated with gay drawings and diagrams, a book of instructions for making Indian costumes and accessories, models of Indian articles from puppets to villages, and explanations of some Indian games. The instructions are clear, the materials used are easily available and cost little or nothing. The child who can read and understand

the directions is perhaps a bit too old for playing Indian, but the book will appeal to many because it is a stimulus for creativity, and it will certainly be suitable for adult use in guiding younger children.

NR Peters, John P. The Animals' Christmas Tree; pictures by Walter Erhard. 2-3 Walck, 1962. 47p. \$2.95.

A story that first appeared in The Churchman magazine. The animals, wild and tame, discussed together the possibility of having a tree as people did at Christmas; soon they began to quarrel as each voted for what his own gift was to be, because the wolf wanted a lamb to eat, the fox wanted a turkey, etc. Then the lamb and the dove offered themselves as sacrifices; angry, the king of the beasts, the lion, roared scorn. So they all agreed to hang animal images on the tree instead; people followed that custom and did the same. A story with a concept that is right for animal-interest of the young child, but with language suitable for older children. The writing style is rather heavy, and there is an occasional awkward phrase. For example, all the animals speak; the lamb says, "I, too, shall have what I want, for I shall have brought them all together again and make each one happy." It is obtrusive, therefore, when the pig's speech is prefaced by a grunt: "Grunt, grunt, I will have what I want to eat, too, and what I want is a pail of swill."

R Poole, Lynn. Danger! Icebergs Ahead!; by Lynn and Gray Poole. Random 3-5 House, 1961. 79p. illus. (Easy-To-Read Books.) Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$2.19 net.

Written with great simplicity and good organization of material; photographs, maps, and diagrams are clear and informative. The authors describe glacial flow, iceberg formation, and the movements of icebergs in ocean currents. Several chapters discuss the work of the International Ice Patrol in locating, reporting, and bombing icebergs. An index is appended.

NR Price, Olive May. The Donkey with Diamond Ears; A Salute to Little Donkeys 4-5 at Work in the Jewel Mines of Brazil; illus. by Mel Hunter. Coward-McCann, 1962. 96p. \$2.75.

Carlos, a Brazilian boy of thirteen, was given a donkey that was too ill to work in the jewel mine, and he carefully nursed Poncho back to health. Stolen by two criminals who wanted him as a carrier for some contraband diamonds, Poncho cleverly blocked a tunnel entrance. The thieves were thereby caught, the stolen diamonds were discovered hidden in Poncho's ears, and the little donkey was returned to his owner. The plot is made diffuse by some extraneous sub-plots; characterization is shallow. The story demonstrates kindness to animals and gives some information about diamond mining, but it is written in dull style. Conversations between Carlos and his friends sound like the speech of much younger children.

Ad Rand, Ann. So Small; with pictures by Feodor Rojankovsky. Harcourt, 1962. K-2 43p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$3.12 net.

A picture book about a mouse that was the runt of a litter of six; Little Bit, feeling left out and being teased by his brothers and sisters, kept getting into trouble. When threatened by an owl, Little Bit saved himself by hiding in an acorn shell; for once he was glad to be so small, but he decided that it was better to do what he was told than to misbehave. A slight story, but with touches of humor that are echoed in the quite lovely illustrations; the writing is weakened somewhat by an erratic rhyming—the rhymes themselves being occasionally faulty.

R Ripley, Elizabeth (Blake). Titian; A Biography. Lippincott, 1962. 72p. illus. 7-10 \$3.50.

The eleventh volume in a uniformly excellent series of biographies of great artists;

each page of text is faced by a full-page black-and-white reproduction of good quality. The book is devoted to a detailed description of Titian's adult life as an artist, with only a few introductory paragraphs about his boyhood, and little about his personal life. The writing is straightforward and rather dry, oriented to incidents relating to the paintings reproduced in the book. A brief bibliography and an index are appended.

R Rugh, Belle Dorman. The Path above the Pines; illus. by Dorothy Bayley  
5-7 Morse. Houghton, 1962. 213p. \$3.

A lively and entertaining story, with some familiar characters from Crystal Mountain. Gerald and Harry, American schoolboys living in Beirut, investigate (with the two other members of their very secret society) a mysterious wailing noise in a ravine. Their detective efforts are hampered by some girls, and their secrecy is invaded when they have foisted upon them a new classmate, Gustave. Gustave is a delightful character, a pedantic but amiable boy whose mild and serious approach to all problems is described with humor. The relationships amongst the children, the easy and courteous attitude toward the Arab characters, and many vivid and individualized minor roles of adults are excellently drawn, giving depth to the more obvious appeals of humor, background, and sprightly action.

R Seuberlich, Hertha. Annuzza; A Girl of Romania; tr. by Stella Humphries;  
8-10 illus. by Gerhard Pallasch. Rand McNally, 1962. 198p. \$3.50.

A novel told in first person by Annuzza, who lived in a small Romanian village; having had a chance to go to school in the city, Annuzza had to decide whether to leave her family or to teach in the village school. Annuzza's problems are serious: her father's drinking has impoverished the family, and she longs for more education and the freer life of the city. An honest book; rather slow in pace, but giving a good picture of Romanian rural life and of the mores of the peasant family. The treatment of both personal relationships and of problems is completely realistic: Annuzza's friends in the city do not, for example, rally loyally when they read her letter explaining that she had deceived them. When Nadine and Nelo find that Annuzza is not the daughter of a wealthy landowner (she had become trapped in a structure of fibs) they drop her—they are polite, but they lose interest.

R Showers, Paul. Look at Your Eyes; illus. by Paul Galdone. Crowell, 1962.  
1-2 34p. (Let's Read and Find Out Books.) Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed.  
\$2.35 net.

A first science book for beginning readers, and an unusual one. It is lucid in explaining basic facts about eyes, it does not cover too much material, and the writing is not any more stilted than a book for beginning independent readers must be. It is unusual, also, in the simplicity with which the text and the illustrations show the speaker to be a Negro child; he is quite matter-of-fact about brown eyes, quite matter-of-fact about his friends, whose eyes may be blue or brown. And in the last illustration, waiting in utter boredom for his mother to get back to the car from her shopping and then seeing his mother's smiling eyes between bundles, he is every child.

R Slaughter, Jean. Pony Care; photographs by Hugh Rogers. Knopf, 1961. 115p.  
6-9 \$3.50.

A useful and comprehensive book that gives clear and specific instructions for every aspect of care of ponies. Written in a straightforward style and illustrated by many photographs, most of which are instructive. Information is given on training and handling, on equipment and housing, on food and exercise, on safety and first-aid. A glossary and an index are appended.

R Softly, Barbara. Plain Jane; illus. by Shirley Hughes. St. Martin's, 1962.  
6-8 256p. \$3.25.

First published in England in 1961, a story set in England at the time of the Civil War. Motherless twins, Jane and Jeremy Kester are thirteen; their father is a militant Royalist, and both children become involved in a series of adventures when Jeremy is entrusted with the delivery of a packet of important papers. Jane, plain and uncherished, is married by her father to a man to whom he owes money; detesting her husband, Jane is happy at last when she is taken in by a Roundhead family who will act as her guardians until her marriage can be annulled. The writing style is rather stolid, and the story has little humor, but the background details and the characters are convincing, and the plot is developed with pace.

SpR Stafford, Jean. Elephi; illus. by Erik Blegvad. Farrar, 1962. 77p. \$3.50.  
5-6

A most unusual fanciful story about a most unusual cat, Elephi Pelephi Well Known. Cat Formerly Kitten, being patterned on the author's cat. Elephi, desirous of a companion, escapes from his apartment to leave a stolen "Do Not Open Until Christmas" sign on a small stalled car; he is rescued by the janitor, who thinks the car is a surprise gift for Elephi's owners. The tiny car, found in a room where the janitor had put it, is returned to its owner, but Elephi's ploy pays off; his people decide he needs a companion. The writing style is most sophisticated, with much latent content in addition to the more obvious humor; there is a tongue-in-cheek charm to Elephi's views on life and human beings.

R Steinbeck, John. Travels with Charley; In Search of America. Viking, 1962.  
8- 246p. \$4.95.

The author describes his travels about the United States with only his dog (Charley), driving a truck that had been fitted out with a camper top. The book is entertaining, occasionally informative, frequently thoughtful and thought-provoking. Mr. Steinbeck writes with lively ease of the people he meets and with appreciation of the beauty he sees in the countryside. There is some digressive writing and perhaps undue attention given to Charley, but much of the social commentary is poignant or vivid.

R Stevens, Carla. Catch a Cricket; About the Capture and Care of Crickets, 4-7  
Grasshoppers, Fireflies, and other Companionable Creatures; photos by  
yrs. Martin Iger. Scott, 1961. 95p. \$3.

A very good read-aloud book for beginning nature study; drawings, photographs, varied type, and liberal use of white space combine to handsome effect, although some of the photographs give no information. In separate sections, instructions on catching and caring for crickets, grasshoppers, fireflies, worms, and caterpillars are given. The simple, conversational text emphasizes the need for gentleness: "Oh look, he has curled himself into a little ball. Is he dead? No. He is playing dead so that you'll put him down. Stroke his furry body gently. Your little caterpillar will crawl again when he is not afraid."

R Stoutenburg, Adrien. Window on the Sea. Westminster, 1962. 159p. \$2.95.  
7-10

A teen-age novel that deviates refreshingly from the usual pattern. Mollie Lucas has a devoted beau, and her parents feel that she should marry; Mollie is only seventeen, but her parents' feeling about college is: "Girls get all kinds of crazy notions." Mollie is awakened to a realization of her own limitations by meeting an "egghead" at whom her friends and family jeer. She is in conflict about her role and her future until she realizes that the integrity of her new friend and his satisfaction in learning are challenging her to give up mediocrity. The change in Mollie

is deftly handled by the author, and the relationship between Mollie and her family is described with perception and restraint.

Ad Sutton, Ann. Steller of the North; by Ann and Myron Sutton; illus. by Leonard 6-8 Everett Fisher. Rand McNally, 1961. 231p. \$3.50.

A biography of the German naturalist who joined Bering's last expedition to the North Pacific, hunting for De Gama Land. One of the first white men to set foot in Alaska, Bering had travelled across Russia to Kamchatka in 1741; there the two ships of the expedition were being outfitted for the exploration. In the course of the journey, one ship disappeared and the other had to be taken apart and rebuilt; many of the crew became ill and were cared for by Steller; Bering and thirty others died; Steller returned with a mass of notes and descriptions of the strange flora and fauna he had discovered. Based on authentic source material, the book is detailed and quite heavily fictionalized, especially in the conversations. Although the style is over-simplified, an interesting book, with good maps, and excellent index, and a list of adult books suggested for further reading.

M Taylor, Carl. Getting To Know Indonesia; illus. by Eleanor Mill. Coward-4-6 McCann, 1961. 64p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.52 net.

An introduction to the Indonesian islands, with continuous text, most of it in second person and with occasional introduction of imaginary families. The writing style is adequate, but the text contains a considerable amount of material that seems irrelevant or goes into a great deal of detail about a small area of information. For example, two pages are devoted to the processing of rubber, while Indonesian history from 1500 to the "guided democracy" of today is covered in one page. There are later references to some of the contemporary problems, but the treatment throughout the book has some imbalance. An index and a list of dates important in Indonesian history are appended.

R Thomas, Henry. Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Putnam, 1962. 191p. (Lives 6-9 To Remember.) \$2.95.

A good biography, written with liveliness and simple informality; although the book has a considerable amount of fictionalization, this is used chiefly in dialogue. Factually accurate, mildly adulatory, the text is devoted primarily to Roosevelt's years in the White House; throughout the book there are anecdotes about personal matters and family life. A bibliography and a rather extensive index are appended.

M Van Stockum, Hilda. Little Old Bear; written and illus. by Hilda Van Stockum. 4-6 Viking, 1962. 32p. Trade ed. \$1.75; Library ed. \$2.06 net.

A read-aloud book about a deserted toy; the old Teddy Bear was swept out of an attic and tossed into a trash can. A few children picked him up and tossed him about, but nobody really wanted a decrepit bear. An old lady took the little old bear home to fix him up for the church bazaar; when her grandson saw the bear he threw away his brand-new bear so that he could keep the old (because it looked more interesting) and told his grandmother to give the new bear to the church bazaar. Simply told and a bit sentimental; the ending seems rather weak.

R Weilerstein, Sadie Rose. Ten and a Kid; pictures by Janina Domanska. 4-6 Doubleday, 1961. 186p. \$2.95.

A pleasant story of a Jewish family in a small Lithuanian village of the past, told in a rather rambling anecdotal style. On the night of Passover, a small goat wandered into the home of Avrom Itsik, father of eight; Reizel, one of the smaller girls, was ever afterward convinced that the kid had been sent by a prophet to bring them each their heart's desire. At any rate, most of their wishes came true; since they

were poor people and their wishes modest ones the story is a succession of small pleasures. Based on familial reminiscences, the book has warmth and color; it describes religious customs and holiday celebrations, and might be useful in a religious education collection as well as being enjoyable for the general reader.

Ad Werstein, Irving. The Many Faces of the Civil War. Messner, 1961. 192p. 7-10 \$3.95.

A good history of the Civil War, with a first section that gives some background of events and areas of tension that led to secession. The style is often florid: "Like a proud lioness, Virginia . . . stood haughtily aside and watched the jackals tear apart the Union." or "Oh, that summer's day with the sun hot and the sky blue, war was a ball, a parade. . . ." The same material is covered in Barnes' The War between the States (McGraw-Hill, 1959) with similar detail and accuracy, but with a clear and dignified writing style. Several good maps are included; a list of suggestions for further reading and a good relative index are appended.

R Willard, Barbara. The Summer with Spike; illus. by Anne Linton. Watts, 5-7 1962. 195p. \$2.95.

A good family story, with emphasis on the friendship between the youngest Trevelyan, Perry, and his friend Spike. Spike and Perry become involved in the affairs of Bodger's Field, the site where Spike's grandfather lives in a trailer; the saving of the Bodger's Field community is the chief plot line, but it is given solidity by the background of Perry's family's struggle to keep their business going. Good English country background and characters, and a lively writing style.

R Williams, Beryl. Plant Explorer; David Fairchild; by Beryl Williams and 6-8 Samuel Epstein. Messner, 1961. 192p. \$2.95.

A most interesting biography, written with informality and enthusiasm. Fairchild's experiences and experiments in discovering and bringing to this country plants from tropical countries were varied and original. His work took him to exotic places that are vividly described, so that his story is a romantic one. Mr. Fairchild is an appealing personality, and his patron, Barbour Lathrop, is—in crisp contrast—acidulous and impatient as he is generous. A lengthy index is appended. A book that will also be useful for slow high school readers.

Ad Williamson, Stan. The No-Bark Dog; illus. by Tom O'Sullivan. Follett, 1962. 1-2 32p. Trade ed. \$1; Library ed. \$1.14 net.

Timothy Trotter gets a dog, but is worried because his new dog doesn't bark. The other children say that their dogs all barked even when they were small; they all troop to the pet store, where Mr. Catterwaller says just to give the dog time. On the way home, Timothy's dog sees other dogs that have socks on their ears, and at this strange sight he barks. He barks all the way home. Dull style and a slight plot with anticlimactic ending. The book will be of some value because the illustrations show Timothy's home and family—pleasant, middle-class, Negro; friends and neighbors are both white and Negro. The fact that this is ignored in the text is obtrusive only because there are still so few books that do this.

Ad Wohlraabe, Raymond A. The Land and People of Denmark; by Raymond A. 7-10 Wohlraabe and Werner E. Krusch. Lippincott, 1961. 128p. illus. (Portraits of the Nations Series.) \$2.95.

An excellent survey of Denmark, past and present; although the writing has minor awkwardness of style, it is straightforward in attitude and comprehensive in scope. The first chapter gives a brief geographic and historic overview; it is followed by several chapters that give Danish history from prehistoric times to the nineteenth century. Succeeding chapters discuss specific cities or islands, or cover such

topics as holidays and customs, art and science, or Danish literature (with a separate chapter devoted to Andersen). The book concludes with a chapter on modern Denmark. Photographs (none, unfortunately, that shows the outstanding modern architecture) are bound into the middle of the book; the text is prefaced by a map; an index is appended.

R Woolley, Catherine. Look Alive, Libby!; illus. by Liz Dauber. Morrow, 3-5 1962. 191p. \$2.75.

Libby goes to Cape Cod for the summer when her parents go abroad; she is dubious about rural life in her aunt's cottage, she has never done any housework, and she is frightened of almost every form of animal life. But she learns. By the time her mother arrives, Libby has become a proficient gardener, does her share of the housework, has become tolerant of mice and is fascinated by birds. The plot line is slim, but the change in Libby is a unifying theme; the writing is smooth and the sea-shore atmosphere is vividly evoked.

NR Ylla, illus. Look Who's Talking; story by Crosby Newell Bonsall. Harper, 4-6 1962. 30p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.57 net.

yrs.

A compilation of photographs from the estate of the well-known photographer of animals; excellent pictures but a text that seems completely contrived. An ostrich doesn't talk, and all the other animals at the zoo makes suggestions and comments; finally a baby leopard addresses the ostrich directly, and the bird answers, having been told "not to speak unless spoken to." Most of the pictures show an animal with open mouth, and the writing seems adapted to the facial expression in the style of humorous captions.

R Zion, Eugene. The Meanest Squirrel I Ever Met; pictures by Margaret Bloy K-2 Graham. Scribner, 1962. 36p. Trade ed. \$3; Library ed. \$2.97 net.

A most attractive picture book that reads aloud particularly well because of the light conversational style and the humor; illustrations in woodsy green and brown are appropriate in mood as well as color. A small squirrel, playing with the nuts intended for Thanksgiving dinner, loses them to a confidence squirrel. The family goes out for dinner, and little Nibble realizes that the cook is his shyster acquaintance; bravely, he demands reparations, and not only gets back the sum of sixty nuts but so impresses the meanest squirrel that he appears at Christmas with nuts and gifts for Nibble and his parents. Some of the dialogue between Nibble and his father has the bland charm of the bedtime scene in Hoban's Bedtime for Frances, in which only parental love fends off an explosion.

R Zolotow, Charlotte (Shapiro). Mr. Rabbit and the Lovely Present; pictures by K-2 Maurice Sendak. Harper, 1962. 28p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

A delightful book to read aloud, with illustrations that are beautiful, humorous, and in perfect harmony with the gentle candor of the text. A small girl consults a rabbit (a creature of distinct personality) for advice on a birthday present for her mother. Gravely they discuss possibilities and reject articles that might not be appreciated. "Something red, maybe. . . . What is red?" The rabbit suggests a fire engine or red underwear, but the little girl doesn't think her mother will like them. They decide on a red apple, and they have, finally a lovely basket of fruit. "A happy birthday and a happy basket of fruit to your mother," the rabbit says, courteously, and the story ends.

## *Reading for Teachers*

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- Carnegie Corporation. Learning To Read; A Report of a Conference of Reading Experts. 1962. 32p. \$.25; 10 or more, \$.10 each. Educational Testing Service, Princeton, N.J.
- Huck, Charlotte. "Planning the Literature Program for the Elementary School." Elementary English, April 1962, pp. 307-13.
- Kelly, Sam. "A Great Books Program for High School Pupils." The Clearing House, October 1962, pp. 117-18.
- New York City. Board of Education. Mental Health Approaches to Reading Problems; a report from the Bureau of Curriculum Research. \$.50. Check or money order payable to Auditor, Board of Education. Available from the Publication Sales Office of the Board, 110 Livingston St., Brooklyn 1, N.Y.
- Reich, Riva. "More Than Remedial Reading." Elementary English, March 1962, pp. 216-19 and p. 236.
- Rosenheim, Edward. What Happens in Literature. University of Chicago Press, 1960. 162p. \$3. Paperback, \$1.25.
- Russell, David. Children Learn To Read. 2d ed. Ginn, 1961. 612p. \$6.
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- Skoglund, Marjorie. "Junior High Social Studies Correlate Geography and Literature." The Clearing House, September 1962, pp. 30-32.
- Weiss, M. Jerry. Reading in the Secondary Schools. Odyssey, 1961. 463p. \$2.50.
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