PRODUCTION NOTE

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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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New Titles for Children and Young People


A history of the six Lords Baltimore, beginning with the English background of George Calvert, created the first Lord Baltimore in 1617. The story of the Chesapeake Bay grant is of interest because of the record of religious tolerance; the first Lord Baltimore had seen persecution in England and had become converted to his mother's faith, Catholicism. The historical material is authoritative, but the book covers so much history that the text is heavy with detail, fact, and anecdote. An extensive bibliography is appended.


Bright and lively illustrations but a rather slight text for science information. The book points out that each finger in a hand is different, that the human hand has an opposable thumb, that hands are used for many tasks, and that parts of the hand are used in different ways. The information is at such a simple level, and is about such a familiar subject, that much of the text seems of little use.

Ad Arthur, Ruth M. Dragon Summer; illus. by Margery Gill. Atheneum, 1963. 6-8 107p. $3.

Kate, just having bought the cottage at Stone Place, describes the long, happy summer she spent there as a girl; part of the enchantment for her was the huge stone that looked like a dragon. Here Kate met the lovely Romilly with whom Kate's cousin Stephen fell in love, and here she was visited by the gentle ghost of the former owner, a frail old man whose presence was evoked by an old music box. The story ends in the present, with Kate as hostess to the three children of Romilly and Stephen—Kate, having always loved Stephen, has never married. A romantic story, rather sentimental and a bit slow-paced; the story-line is thin, but the atmosphere of the English countryside is excellent.


An unusual story about an Apache family of today, light in treatment but having some meaningful and quite moving aspects. Ebon Strange and his twin sister wonder what will happen when their great-grandfather comes to spend the summer with them... they are thoroughly modern, and are taken aback by the dignified old man who refuses even to sleep in a house. "Not Indian." He will not eat a hamburger; "Not Indian." Ebon and Melody decide to please Great-Grandfather and learn what they can of Apache ways; they learn a great deal and begin to appreciate some of the values
of the Apache culture, but they also run into a great deal of trouble with a TV company on location, with the old man's determination to go on just one more raid, and with his bitter denunciation of their beloved uncle, Red Eagle. A sympathetic picture of relations between old and young, a well-paced story with humor and good characterization, and a fresh view of cultural conflict.


An authoritative and serious report of archeological investigations of early Indian cultures from the primitive nomadic tribes that roamed the New World over 20,000 years ago to the Temple Mound Indians of the southeast. Although the writing style is rather dry, the material is interesting, photographs are good, and the text gives a great deal of information about archeological methods as well as about the finds. A chapter entitled "Science Dates the Past" gives detailed and lucid explanations of the uses of dendrochronology and carbon 14. A bibliography, a glossary, and an index are appended.


5-7 yrs.

Sherry thought she would have no horse of her own at Grandmother's ranch, but she was given Little Princess; after Sherry had been thrown twice, she determined to stay on—and did. After that she rode every day, and at the Fair, Sherry and a friend won blue ribbons in the quadrille. A slight plot and a particularly weak turning point, since there seems no reason why the child couldn't have had the same determination when she first rode; the writing style is banal; the illustrations are mediocre and repetitive.


7-10 yrs.

A moving story of the love between young people of warring tribes, set in Denmark during the Bronze Age. Heather, daughter of a chieftain of the Forest People, meets a lad of the Sun People, and they fall in love. Wolf Stone warns Heather and her father that his father means to destroy the forest village; despite intrigue and counterplots, the move toward peace is made when Wolf Stone tells his father of his love. Then Wolf Stone is killed by a jealous rival . . . and Heather, hearing of his death, accepts resignedly the fact that she will die too, a tribal sacrifice. The characters come alive in this poignant story, the plot is developed with pace and a gathering suspense, the writing style is excellent—sustaining atmosphere and incorporating cultural details effortlessly.


6-9 yrs.

Katy Jamison is not ashamed that she is an Indian, but she is distressed by the apathy of many of the other Indians of the community, especially distressed by the school dropouts. She thinks she is in love with a white boy, but finds that his family is prejudiced and that she is really in love with Pete, who is part-Indian. A very patterned teen-age story, despite the fact that Katy is Indian; all the formula elements are in the book: the boy who has always been around and is appreciated in the end, the spiteful rival girl, the dowdy girl who is helped by the heroine. Although several of the characters express much concern over the role of the Indian and the prejudice against him, nothing happens—save a potlatch inspired by Katy. The writing style is pedestrian, with many cliché phrases and a liberal use of exclamation points: "The Rogue! Eric's boat was tied to the dock! It was a beautiful white outboard sports cruiser. Just like in Janey's picture! Eric was in the boat, leaning over, and hadn't
looked up. She stood still, looking down on the mahogany bow. This boat was expensive! Kicks barked sharply. Eric looked up. His blue eyes crinkled at the corners just as she remembered that his welcome smile went straight to her heart."

Lesya was excited not only because her Aunt Lydia was coming to visit all the way from America, but also because they were going in to Kiev to meet her. Lesya had a worry: her cousin Elena's father seemed so much wiser than her own. Lesya's father had been in prison for political reasons, and she was bitter about his rashness. Seeing the reaction of her aunt from America, Lesya had new perception about her uncle: he was a toady, and it was her father who was free because he had courage and integrity. Lesya's growing understanding is handled convincingly, and the importance of the concepts in the story are no less clear because of the sub-plots: Lesya steals a coveted doll and returns it, and she risks danger to warn her aunt that she may become politically suspect. A tightly-knit story, with the unusual background of a small Ukrainian village of today, and of the adjustment of the new generation to life behind the Iron Curtain. The illustrations are not attractive, some of them having especially awkward figures.

A simplified description of the surface and atmosphere of the moon, with a prediction of man's exploration there. Dr. Branley explains lunar seas and craters, mountains and valleys; the illustrations show comparative size clearly by using human figures. A lucid and unified first science text, with illustrations that are helpful, although the background color on two pages makes reading difficult: black type on deep purple.

NR Buckley, Helen E. *Where Did Josie Go?*; illus. by Evaline Ness. Lothrop, 3-5 1962. 32p. Trade ed. $2.95; Library ed. $2.84 net.
A picture book with a rhyming text; this is less a story than a long rhyming game. Josie is a little girl—these are her mother, father, and brother. "Did she go outside the house/ rosy house/ posy house/ Did she go outside the house? Is that where Josie is? Here there is a cozy place/ cozy place/ cozy place/ Here there is a cozy place. Is that where Josie is?" A slight text, with little to sustain interest; the rhythm is good, and the book may have a very limited use as a game: a series of questions to which a child may make a response.

A collection of myths, stories and poems about the world of nature, with the name of the author of each selection given in both the table of contents and after the selection itself. The sources for the compilation are varied, and the collection reflects this in variability of writing style. Some of the selections are in rather dull style, but many of them are excellent for reading aloud, and the book has much material that is useful for storytelling.

A slight read-aloud picture book with a more-or-less rhyming text; it asks a ques-
tion and suggests alternate responses, thus: "How do you get to your Grandmother's house? Do you travel by ostrich? Or ocelot? Or mouse? Do you peel a banana and slide on the peel? Or do you get there by - - - - - - - - - - ?" The several questions that repeat this pattern are not related, so that the book is more a game than a story; since the text is for reading aloud, the omission of letters in the final rhyming word seems to have a purpose only if it is a hint to the adult reader to let the child listener guess the final rhyming word. Some of the ideas will have a moderate nonsense appeal, but the book seems much over-extended.


An English family story, in which the Lettengars and their six children, having had a financial loss, migrate to Tasmania in 1911. There is interesting contrast between the two settings and in the adjustment of a well-to-do family to wilderness life, but there is an oddly outdated quality to the writing. Jaffy adores her brother Ben, the governess is harsh and rigid, Roddy (age eight) is cute and lisping, Aunt Voo is a character. The end of the story is a bit sugar-frosted: Aunt Voo and Uncle Wuff come to Tasmania; beloved Ben, who had stayed in England, arrives unexpectedly, cousin Pippi marries the nice young man she met on shipboard.


A good biography of William and Charles Mayo, and a good picture of the growth and improvement of medical services generally. While the writing is occasionally abrupt in style and over-simplified at the beginning of the book, it loses this awkwardness as the biography progresses. Not too much fictionalized, admiring in attitude but not adulatory, and with the material well-organized. For the high-school reader (or even for the younger reader whose interest in medicine compensates for reading difficulty), the author's adult biography, *The Doctors Mayo*, is to be preferred. An index is appended.

M Cleveland, Anne. *The Life-Savers*; written and illus. by Anne Cleveland. K-2 Norton, 1963. 64p. Trade ed. $2.75; Library ed. $2.78 net.

Annoyed by the taunts of his older brother and sister, Sandy taught himself to swim in the bathtub. When they went to the lake to visit Aunt Martha, Sandy's prowess was unsuspected and he was kept from swimming by the large dog that Aunt Martha had told to guard her young nephew. The tables were turned when Sandy rescued the dog one day; after that Sandy guarded the dog. Although it is most doubtful that one can learn to swim well in a bathtub, the story of Sandy's perseverance is entertaining and the plot is uncluttered. The illustrations are not unusual, but are lively; a few are very funny indeed, such as the series of small drawings in which Sandy, practicing breath-holding, looks apoplectic.


A most interesting book about the hunt for man's ancestors, written in an easy style; the material is nicely organized and fully treated. Mrs. Clymer gives ample background of scientific investigations and theories of the past; contemporary discoveries are made more meaningful because she explains (and shows in illustration) the methods used in assaying the value of finds. A bibliography, a glossary, and a relative index are appended.

An unusual setting: the royal household of Abyssinia in the eighteenth century. All of the sons of the king were kept in prisoned isolation, with only the prince designated as successor to the throne being allowed to return. Princess Mariam was stunned to hear that her only brother, Michael, had been selected as future king—stunned, because she had set in motion a plan for his escape from the Prison of Princes. Disguised as a boy and accompanied by a tame lion, Mariam made a hazardous journey and accomplished her mission, reaching the Prison before Michael could escape and thereby ensuring his regency. Good background, good writing style, and more action in the story than there is in most of Miss Coatsworth's books.

R Davis, Julia. Ride with the Eagle; The Expedition of the First Missouri in the War with Mexico, 1846; maps by Jean Paul Tremblay. Harcourt, 1962. 191p. $3.25.

Based on diaries of six members of the expedition, a dramatic record written in a vivid and informal style. The author writes without melodrama about the battles won and hardships endured; the men and their leaders are real people with distinct personalities; there is no glorification of the soldiers and no euphemizing about their habits or their interests. A list of source materials, several maps, and a calendar of events are included in the book.


When his dog brings home an old lamp, Al discovers that he has acquired Aladdin's lamp, complete with Genie; delighted, he issues orders only to find that he is in trouble every time. The Genie is literal: when Al wishes for a magic bat during a baseball game, a real bat swoops over the diamond; when Al orders the Genie to clean his messy bedroom, the room is instantly and completely stripped. Al sends the Genie off forever, lamp and all, only to acquire a new Genie when his dog finds an old ring that looks like Aladdin's magic ring. The story ends with the dog moaning, "Bones and biscuits! Here we go again!" The variations of incident on the theme of literalness are somewhat repetitive; they substitute for momentum in the plot, since the reader soon knows what to expect. On the other hand, they permit the reader to anticipate a dilemma situation, a brand of humor that appeals to this age group.


For beginning independent readers, an introduction to the use of a magnifying glass. Johnny and Jessie, seeing their grandfather use a glass for reading, try it and are enchanted; they keep interrupting the reading to borrow the glass. Grandpa gives up and goes for a walk. The writing is just a bit stilted, but much less so than in most books for beginning readers, and there is some humor in the story—as well as a few interesting facts about what the children see when they use the magnifying glass.

Ad Feagles, Anita MacRae. The Genie and Joe Maloney; with illus. by Don Sibley. 3-4 Scott, 1962. 64p. $2.75.

Playing alone in the woods, Joe met a plump and amiable little man who claimed to be a genie, although he seemed to Joe rather confused. Joe made two wishes: he didn't want to go to school the next day, and he wanted (having three sisters and no boys living nearby) a friend to play with. He stayed home, all right: chicken pox. Joe began to doubt his genie on the chicken pox; then he asked for a magic lamp and was given an ordinary table lamp. Complaining to the genie resulted only in the latter becoming enchanted with the magic of electricity. Joe's most important wish
came true when a boy his age moved to the house next door . . . but they never again saw the genie. Mildly humorous, with a nice blend of realism and fancy; the family situation, although developed only slightly, is a pleasant foil to the story line.

A read-aloud picture book about the seasons of the year, with illustrations (both black and white and full color) that are gentle and evocative. Following the cycle of the year, the rhyming text tells, through the voice of a small boy, of the special delights of each of the seasons. Some of the lines and concepts seem patterned, but much of the text has freshness and vitality.

A rather pointless story about an aardvark with a beautiful voice. Taken by his teacher from South Africa to New York, Arturo was auditioned by Mr. Bang of the Gigantic Opera. Cast in a debut role, Arturo's part had to be changed three times as he grew; rapidly he shifted from soprano to alto to tenor to bass. Now Mr. Bang stands at the back of the house and sometimes he shouts, "Bravo! Bravo Arturo Aardvark!" There may be a small element of humor for adults who know of Rudolf Bing, but the book has little value for children; the aardvark seems an unappealing animal even as a nonsense character, and there is no humor to mitigate the flat unreality of an animal singing opera roles.

M Fritz, Jean. Tap, Tap, Lion—1, 2, 3; illus. by Leonard Shortall. Coward-K-2 McCann, 1962. 46p. Trade ed. $2.75; Library ed. $2.68 net.
A fanciful story about imaginative play amongst the animals; bored, Rabbit, Squirrel, Bear, and Lion decided to pretend that they were children and play the games that children play. Sally joined them and discovered that they were indeed behaving like children as they played. When they played House, Sally (as the mother) told them all to go to sleep; then she tiptoed out of the forest and ran home. The idea of animals playing children has some humor, but the concept seems less humorous when a real child participates. Light, pleasant writing but a slight theme; illustrations have humor but are rather busy.

R Garthwaite, Marion (Hook). Holdup on Bootjack Hill; illus. by Leo Summers. 5-6 Doubleday, 1962. 168p. $2.75.
Tomboy Callie helps solve a mystery and absolve her Indian friend. Set in a small California town in 1862, a story with good pace, vivid period details, and believable characters. Callie and Andy call a truce to their usual hostilities and work together, sure that their jailed friend has been framed. The relationship between the children and the Indians is sympathetic, and the role of the two youngsters in solving the mystery is not overdone, since an adult helps them with a clue and information about the real culprit, and since they are accompanied by another adult part of the time.

A fine biography of Keats, written with warmth and dignity; the authors have avoided sentimentality or adulation, and the book has a good balance of material about Keats the man and Keats the writer. The people come alive, and the literary circles in which Keats moved are in themselves of great interest. The book has as additional appeal the inherent drama and pathos of the facts of Keat's life: the deaths of his parents, his abandoned medical career, his separation from a loved sister by a stern guardian, his great and unhappy love affair, and his early, lonely death in Italy.
NR Greene, Carla. I Want To Be a Musician; pictures by Frances Eckart. Children's Press, 1962. 27p. Trade ed. $2; Library ed. $1.50 net.
A text that is poorly organized and that moves abruptly from one subject to another (with an occasional change of tense) and combines information about orchestral instruments and the musical interest of Dick and Mary. Illustrations are pedestrian, one of them showing a happy caveman plucking the string of his bow, while a happy bear shows appreciation; in the air between them floats notes of music.

Ad Hill, Robert W. What Colonel Glenn Did All Day. Day, 1962. 64p. illus. 5-9 Trade ed. $2.50; Library ed. $2.52 net.
A misleading title, since the text covers a good deal more than the title would indicate. The first part of the book describes the previous work in the Project Mercury program: the training of seven men, Shepard's flight, pictures of the Atlas rocket booster and the Mercury capsule, diagrams of flight trajectories and a scale drawing of the Atlas rocket. This is a pictorial record, with one or two photographs or drawings on each page and a small amount of text. The subject is of enough interest and with enough inherent drama to compensate to large extent for the fact that the book is a bit cut-and-paste. The author writes competently about space flight, but the book is basically a series of captions to photographs, with some longer passages of text for continuity.

A broad survey of the kinds of opportunities for careers in theatre in the United States; although directed chiefly to the aspiring actor, the text gives advice to those interested in working as talent agents, stagehands, choreographers, producers, playwrights, etc. Since such a wide range of vocations is covered, treatment is—for most careers—necessarily superficial. The book is a combination of very useful facts about sources of information, wages, and procedures, and of informal (often slangy) writing about theatre history and theatre gossip, with anecdotes and cases cited. The writing style is careless: for example, "dues scaled at twenty-four dollars a year . . ." or, " . . . it (making rounds) is a time-consuming and energizing activity. It demands much of the young actor . . ." Appended are a list of books and periodicals suggested for further reading, a two-page glossary of theatre terms, and an index. For the stagestruck, a book that will be of great interest, although it is by no means comprehensive: the glossary, for example, gives no definition of striking a set or of a sight gag, the index does not list the American Shakespeare Festival Theatre, or Beckett, or Ionesco.

Ad Hoffine, Lyla. The Eagle Feather Prize; illus. by Earl Lonsbury. McKay, 4-6 1962. 149p. $3.25.
Another story about the Youngbear family of Jenny's Mandan Bowl (Longmans, 1960), with the central character being Jenny's younger brother Billy, a sixth-grader. Billy and his father share a 4-H project, but the boy wants also to win a prize in a calf-roping contest; he doesn't win the prize, but his grandmother gives him a long-coveted eagle feather as a reward for his efforts. A good family story, with good values; the book gives an interesting picture of the modern Indian who appreciates the old and the new ways, but it lacks the impact of Jenny's Mandan Bowl in which there was a conflict about relationships and a growth of understanding and confidence in the central character.

Descriptions of eight dramatic adventures in spelunking, some of discovery, some of investigation; some of the explorations were successful, some ended in tragedy.
The writing style is adequate but is punctuated by occasional florid passages: "A torrent of ice-cold air flooded out from the cave mouth, emitting a rising- and-fall ing, banshee-like wailing sound as though all the tormented spirits in the Hell of old mythology were shrieking in their eternal agony." Nevertheless, the excitement and danger of cave exploration emerges vividly, as do the courage and persistence of the explorers. A bibliography and an index are appended.

R Hutchins, Ross E. **This Is a Leaf**; photographs by the author. Dodd, 1962. 6-9 121p. $3.
A most informative and interesting book, illustrated with good photographs (many of them highly magnified) and with clear diagrams. The text is comprehensive, well-organized, and is written in a straightforward and lucid style. Some of the chapters are based on structure, but the majority are based on a particular function, such as photosynthesis or defense mechanisms. An index is appended.

In straightforward writing style, a book in which the two subjects are treated separately; short sub-topics (a page or two in length) within each chapter give a somewhat fragmented construction to the text. The book is useful; the writing is authoritative but not as complete in detail and coverage as is Pough's *All About Volcanoes and Earthquakes* (Random House, 1953). Mr. Irving makes no mention of Fujiyama, nor does he explain that a tsunami is usually—and erroneously—called a tidal wave. The bibliography gives good source material, but the titles are really adult. An index is appended.

An exciting story of gold mining at the turn of the century. Motherless Andy had been brought up by his grandparents; he was apprehensive about going to a tough mining town and living with the father he didn't know. A taciturn man, Bill Brett gave his son no explanation of his unmerited reputation as a crooked operator; through all the tense weeks of working the mine in which they had shares, Andy waited to find who was really robbing the others. The mystery is logically concluded and well constructed; the book has strong characters, fascinating background, and a fine development of affection and respect between father and son.

A companion volume to *The Presidency* and *The Supreme Court*; a book that is authoritative and often opinionated, but one that does not state an opinion as though it were a fact. Not a textbook, but an informal and candid overview, written in an informal style; the book not only describes the way in which the Congress operates, but gives the historical and theoretical background for Congressional structure and changes. In particular, Mr. Johnson does an excellent job of clarifying the ways in which the three branches of government use the system of checks and balances established by the Constitutional Convention. Appended lists give all of the Speakers of the House, Vice-Presidents of the United States, and names of the standing committees of both houses; the index is starred to indicate illustrations.

M Kay, Mara. **In Place of Katia**; illus. by Janina Domanska. Scribner, 1963. 5-7 224p. Trade ed. $3.25; Library ed. $3.12 net.
A story about an American child who goes to live in Russia on an estate threatened by a local uprising during the reign of Catherine the Great. Carrie's father does not explain why he cannot take her with him when he leaves New York; she goes as a
companion of Lisa Nazarov, and is thought by Lisa's deranged uncle to be his dead daughter Katia. Eventually (and partly through Carrie's bravery) the rebellion is put down, Uncle Philip regains his senses and is betrothed to the lovely French governor, and Carrie becomes a daughter of the house, having heard meanwhile that her father has died. The unusual setting and the small amount of Russian history that emerges are the most valuable aspects of the book. Characterization is unconvincing, the plot moves creakily, and there is much contrivance in the moving. For example, in the beginning of the book, Carrie is weeping while waiting for her father; a strange girl comes along, and they become quickly confidential. Lisa brings her relatives to call, they having decided that they might take Carrie to Russia with them—this decision being based on a few minutes of conversation with a strange child in a foreign country, a child about whom they know nothing.


In a sequel to *Meet the Austins* (reviewed in the March 1961 issue of the Bulletin), the Austin family goes on a cross-country camping trip; again the story is told by Vicky. Now fourteen, Vicky is more concerned with boys—and she meets two—and with some of the concerns of a maturing adolescent: religion, prejudice, conflicting loyalties. The viewpoint is kept consistent in the writing; characterization and family relationships are particularly good. One of the most valuable assets of the book is in the calibre of the Austin family: they are intelligent and thoughtful people with broad interests.
Jane Carlyle remembers the year she spent with the Weber family: a happy, wonderful year although she was with them as Sophie Weber's charge, being cared for because she had lost her memory. Jane, age ten, had been a witness to her mother's murder. Because of the amnesia, the recollected year is, for the most part, a happy one. The mystery is in the background of the story, adding a suspenseful note (and being solved with both logic and impact at the end of the book) but it is the Weber family that is the group protagonist. Grandma is the earthy, crafty, and autocratic queen of a large household; many of them are odd but all of them are believable. Grandma tries incessantly to get Sophie married off, Hugo comes home to Mama with his four children, everybody goes down to the family store to help out for the sale, and through a year of rich and exciting turn-of-the-century life, Jane accepts the Webers completely as her own family.

A comprehensive and meticulously detailed survey of Israel's history and of the present political problems, cultural developments, and industrial growth. The writing style is objective and analytical, the many photographs are—almost all of them—of excellent quality, handsome and informative. A useful and interesting book, with an extensive index and with lists of important holidays, historical dates, and famous Israeli cultural figures. A bibliography is included; endpapers are double-spread maps.

R  Life Magazine.  Tropical Africa; by Robert Coughlan and the editors of Life.  Time, 8-1962. 176p. illus.  $2.95.

An informative book, well-written and well-organized, giving succinctly an analysis of the complicated and colorful African nations. The historical material covers the early migrations and civilizations, colonial exploitation and the slave trade, and some of the explorations into the interior. Only one chapter, on cultural heritage, bridges the material about the past and that about the present. The problems of the emergent nations and the basic questions that underlie those problems are discussed in the closing chapters in an impartial and authoritative manner. An index and a bibliography are appended; included also are endpaper maps, a list of important dates, and a list of political units in tropical Africa as of the end of 1961.

M  McCarthy, Agnes.  Let's Go To Vote; illus. by Ruth Van Sciver.  Putnam, 4-6 1962. 48p. Trade ed. $1.95; Library ed. $1.86 net.

A book that gives information about residence requirements, registration procedures, and voting laws; the text follows the path of a typical campaign from the primary election to the election of a governor, with an explanation of the voting machine and a rather superficial explanation of political parties. There is opportunity for confusion in several instances where the device of a mythical state is used: "In some states, citizens can register at any time during the year. In your state, certain days are set aside . . ." The writing is dull, illustrations are in cartoon-style.

Ad  Martin, Patricia Miles.  The Birthday Present; illus. by Margo Locke.  Abingdon, 3-5 1963. 47p.  $2.25.

A small boy, realizing that he has forgotten his father's birthday, tries to get a present: it doesn't work out. Joey is gently reminded by his mother that he can't give his father's gift (a calf) back to him; he knows that the beaded Indian belt was made just for him, and he shouldn't give it to his father; he finds a fawn, but lets it go when he sees the worried doe. Joey's father has seen the fawn caught, and he says that having a son with a good heart is better than any gift in a fancy package. A
quiet story; a bit slow, but with several excellent ethical concepts; the values are stressed a bit obtrusively, but are confined to narration—were they put forth in dialogue form, the writing would verge on sentimentality.

En route to her parents in Iran, seventeen-year-old Mona is to be escorted to her ship in Genoa by her uncle; she finds that Uncle Rocco has just died and she proceeds to hunt for his lost rubies. Pitting her wits against young Faustino, Mona finds the jewels (which the police have missed) and leaves. She is followed on board by Faustino, then by her uncle's ex-fiancee, then by her co-heir, who turns out to be the foster son of the unscrupulous ex-fiancee, Mrs. Charles. Mrs. Charles gets cholera, and all her belongings are burned when she dies. Except the rubies, which turn up later. The plot is involved and melodramatic, heavily dependent on coincidence and quite unconvincing. Characterization is weak; writing style is patterned.

Urbane nonsense based on a real problem, with the author's humor exemplified in his dedication: "To the wonderful metric system without whose absence in this country this book would not have been possible." Once upon a time a King wanted to give a present to his Queen, who had everything; he came up with the idea of a bed, eminently suitable for a Queen who had everything because beds had not yet been invented. The rest of the brief story describes the tribulations of the bed-builders because there was no standard measure; the apprentice who had been jailed for building too small a bed ended as a prince and a hero when he realized that "three feet wide" meant three Kings'-feet wide. A light story told in ingenuous style.

Ad Nodset, Joan L. Who Took the Farmer's Hat?; pictures by Fritz Siebel. 3-5 Harper, 1963. 27p. Trade ed. $2.50; Library ed. $2.57 net.
yrs.
A light-hearted and simple read-aloud story, with bright and lively illustrations. The farmer lost his hat, of which he was most fond, and asked around; who had seen it? None of the animals had, but each had seen something; the goat had seen a flowerpot (the hat), a fly had seen a big brown hill (the hat), and the duck had seen a silly round brown boat in the water. The lost article turned up in guise of a bird's nest, and the farmer saw that there was an egg in it; he was most fond of the new hat he then bought, and the bird was most fond of her well-populated brown nest. Slight but good-natured, the story may well make small children aware of different viewpoints.

A quite unusual story, beautifully written, about a gentle, dreaming boy. Living in a crowded London flat, Ben knew he could never have a dog; he had been given a picture of a Chihuahua, which captured his imagination. Chiquitito, his imaginary dog, became Ben's constant companion; first he pretended at night only... then he became the captive of his own longing, and daydreamed through the day. At home and at school, the adults worried about Ben's behavior; eventually he was hit by a car when he crossed a street with his eyes closed. Ben, after the family had moved near Hampstead Heath, did get a dog; the large creature was so unlike the perfect imaginary Chiquitito that Ben spurned him—then he realized that one must compromise between desire and reality, and he accepted and loved the real dog. There is a haunting quality to the description of the boy's obsession, and appreciation of it will demand considerable maturity on the part of the reader. In every other aspect, Ben is a rather subdued character in the midst of a large, noisy family; they are drawn
with perception and humor—especially the rather tyrannical grandmother by whom everybody is a bit awed.


A fanciful read-aloud picture book with text in rhyme and with lively illustrations. A turtledove whose children have flown away finds a huge egg, deserted, and decides she must hatch it; the odd creature that emerges is a griffin. The griffin, Zeke, is taught flying and fussed over by the dove he soon outgrows; the other birds are apprehensive about Zeke, but Myrtle stoutly defends her adopted child. Only when the griffin seizes and maroons some predatory wolves and foxes do the other birds concede that Zeke is a tame and peace-loving creature. The griffin is a variant on the not-unfamiliar theme of an outcast animal who wins approbation by a good deed, but the rhythm of the text and the humor of the illustrations make the variant a pleasant one.

M Pierce, Philip N. John H. Glenn: Astronaut; by Philip N. Pierce and Karl 7- Schuon. Watts, 1962. 208p. illus. $3.95.

A biography of the astronaut, with most of the text devoted to space flight training and to the historic flight of Friendship Seven. The authors describe Glenn's boyhood and his young manhood in one chapter; chapters cover his service during the years of the war, then his work as a test pilot, and as a candidate for the NASA program. The training for space flight and the flights by Shepard and Grissom are described, and Glenn's flight is reported in infinite detail (he took 14 steps between the hangar door and the van, the four-mile trip to the launching pad took 17 minutes), and the book concludes with the various honors and celebrations that succeeded the flight. Of temporary value, the book is weakened by the writing styles: there are two. Part of the time the text is written in purest journalese: "The stillness was broken only by the plaintive cry of seagulls, wheeling in soaring arcs against the infinity of limitless blue sky." Most of the book is written in a heavy style with long paragraphs and, in many parts of the text, minute technical details. Appended are a transcript of Glenn's message to the Congress, a glossary, a list of important dates in Mercury testings, and an extensive index.

R Rosen, Sidney. The Harmonious World of Johann Kepler; illus. by Rafaello 8- Busoni. Little, 1962. 212p. $3.75.

An excellent biography, written with ease and dignity; dialogue is good, characterization is good, astronomical and mathematical theories are explained simply, and there is smooth integration of material about Kepler's work and about his personal life. The biography is made more interesting by the colorful background: Kepler was banished from Styria because he refused conversion to Catholicism; his mother endured a four-year trial for witchcraft; while Kepler investigated planetary motion he was corresponding with another genius, Galileo. A bibliography and an index are appended.


A detailed book by a London newspaper editor who loves his city and knows it well. Mr. Rosenbaum describes London in profuse particulars, and he writes well. There is one brief section that is historical, but history permeates almost all of the book; the writing is fact-laden, but informal to the point of rambling. While the book will be of greatest interest to the young person who has visited—or is going to visit London—it has, because of all of the associations with a parent country that shares a language and a literature, interest for all readers. The illustrations of buildings are
good, the few drawings that do not show buildings are ineffectual. Several excellent street-maps that will serve as a walker's guide are included, and the appended index is unusually good.

R Schull, Rebecca. Government at Work. Sterling, 1962. 144p. illus. $3.50. 7-10
A well-organized and comprehensive book about governmental structure at the federal level, giving enough historical background and enough material on policies and procedures to put flesh on the structural bones. The text is divided into discussion of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches; there is no chapter division, but sections and sub-sections within each main division. An index is appended.

Thoughtfully edited and attractively illustrated, a selection of excerpts from Humboldt's travel journals; the selections have been chosen with discrimination and smoothly bridged by Mrs. Selsam's comments. A fascinating picture of the versatile and indefatigable scientist emerges; editorial comment and source material are distinguished from each other by use of different type. A brief epilogue describes Humboldt's later years; lists of sources and of the original selections included in the book are appended.

For beginning independent readers, the Seuss substitute for a first book. As fragmented as Dick, Jane, Spot, up, down, but much more fun. The book has the usual mad Seuss drawings and many nonsensical combinations of words that will be easily remembered either because of association with illustrations or because they are such nonsense. For example, "PAT SAT, Pat sat on hat." Blandly smiling creature. Then, "PAT CAT, Pat sat on cat." Startled creature, indignant cat. In this pattern, each page has two or three words in very large capital letters, one or two crisp sentences using the word or words, and an illustration.

Ad Shapiro, Rebecca. Wide World Cookbook; illus. by the author. Little, 1962. 6-9 58p. $2.95.
A collection of recipes listed alphabetically by country of origin in the table of contents, and indexed by type of food. There is one recipe from each country (except for the United States); some of the recipes in the book have been published in a newspaper supplement. Some of the recipes are quite simple, some a bit more complicated; the directions given for the latter are adequate for a reader with cooking experience, but not always adequate for the beginner. Each recipe is preceded by a few lines about the country or the dish; some of these are a bit cute, some are generalizations, and they add little to the usefulness of the book, only occasionally giving information about serving the dish. For example, Russian Cherry Vareniki: "In the vast wheat fields of Russia the people work from early morning, filling the air with songs. At mealtime, food is eaten leisurely with glasses of hot tea." or, Polish Potato Pancakes: "The hard-working Polish farmer loves his land and depends largely on the potatoes he grows to see him through the winter when food is scarce."

M Shepherd, Walter. The Universe; illus. with photographs and diagrams. 7-10 Messner, 1962. 192p. $4.95.
An introduction to astronomy that gives the development of the science, with a history of theories, and describes the solar system, the milky way, and the universe; the concluding chapters discuss instruments for observation, measurement, and
analysis—including space probes. The writing style is a bit heavy, with several weaknesses: an occasional writing down to the reader, the use of quotation marks for common terms, and a British orientation that may hinder comprehension for the reader in our country, as when the text reads, "We may represent the Galaxy by London, and then the outlying boroughs of Harrow, Slough, Staines ... (etc.) would do for the globular clusters. But we should have to go right out to the towns of Guildford and Redhill to represent the two Magellanic Clouds." The lack of an index limits the usefulness of the book and certainly prohibits use—as suggested on the jacket flap—as "an invaluable reference book for the student." Not as well written as Schealer's This Way to the Stars (Dutton, 1957), which has a bibliography and an index.


A book about teeth: slight, with information that most children have, but simply presented and illustrated with lively, attractive illustrations. The text discusses the fact that infants have no teeth because they don't need them—a one year old has several teeth and chews on everything in sight, and so on to the adult who has a full set. The fact that losing teeth and getting a second set are indications of growth is mentioned; there are several matter-of-fact references to brushing teeth.

Ad Simon, Shirley. Cousins at Camm Corners; illus. by Reisie Lonette. Lothrop, 4-6 1963. 192p. $3.

Orphaned Marcy had hoped to live with her father's friend, Alice, and was resentful at being sent to stay at the home of an aunt in a small Ohio town. Marcy learned some of the satisfactions of family life, however, so that when the time came, she chose Camm's Corners rather than New York. Marcy had learned something about economic status, too; she found new values that were more important than material possessions. A good family story, but a patterned plot and dénouement; characters are not drawn in depth, but values are excellent.

Ad Spingarn, Natalie Davis. To Save Your Life; illus. by Marvin Waller. Little, 6-9 1963. 213p. $3.95.

A book about the work of the United States Public Health Service, with a brief first chapter that describes the scope of the work done in the field of public health. The major part of the text is devoted to fictionalized incidents, based on fact, that illustrate the past and present work of the agency in prevention and detection of illness, in research, and in maintenance of high standards in community medical care. Many of the incidents are dramatic, the writing style is adequate and the book gives useful information; the weak aspect of the book is in the lack of background or of summation about the work of the agency. The formation and development of the United States Public Health Service is covered in just a few paragraphs, and although the cases cited give the reader a good idea of the variety of activities, the text lacks unity.


For the beginning independent reader, a compilation of photographs taken at a zoo, with a few lines of text on each page. Mogul is a baby elephant, and he goes about making overtures of friendship to other animals, finally finding a friend when he meets another baby elephant. None of the photographs is unusual, although all have the appeal of any zoo picture; the text is useful for supplementary reading, but it is adapted to the photographs and is rather static.

A biography of Olivia Langdon Clemens; frail and shy, protected by wealthy and conventional parents, Livy seemed ill-prepared for life with the obstreperous and ebullient Sam Clemens. With only a modicum of sentiment, the authors draw a moving picture of a love affair that lasted as long as Olivia lived. Much of the material about family life will be familiar to readers of biographies about the author himself, but the emphasis here is always on Livy: this is truly a book about the wife, not about the author. Well-written, with sources of information listed and with an appended index.


Set in a fishing village in Vietnam, a story that centers on the role of Dinh, a small boy who was taking part for the first time in the communal hauling. Excited and nervous, Dinh found it difficult to wait for the pulling in of the big net, but he worked diligently when the net came in, proud of his share in gathering the silver from the sea. The technique of the hauling operation is interesting, and the story has satisfaction in the accomplishment of a task that denotes maturity, but the writing has a static quality that robs the story of momentum.


A good book about operations in the Solomon Islands during World War II, with the story of Kennedy's shipwreck while in command of Torpedo Patrol-109. The material is dramatic, some of the battle scenes are vividly described, and there is no adulatory note in any of the author's references to Lt. Kennedy. The book is weak in the organization of material: in the first six chapters the scene shifts back and forth between John Kennedy and his training, and military action in the Solomons. A minor weakness is the repetition of facts, giving the impression of careless use of notes: "After his rejection by the Army, he had taken a course of corrective exercises . . ." and, five pages later, "Jack, after being turned down by the Army, took exercises . . ."

Ad Waber, Bernard. *How To Go about Laying an Egg.* Houghton, 1963. 32p. 4-6 illus. Trade ed. $2.50; Library ed. $2.57 net.

A small book of elaborately bland nonsense, giving, in humorous illustrations and text, some sensible advice to hens. Rule I asks, "Are you all feathers? . . . When taking a walk, do you sometimes catch yourself flying? . . . If your answer has been yes to each of the above questions, it is safe to say you are a hen. CONGRATULATIONS! " and later, "Bring along books, puzzles and games to while the time away." Slight but amusing; one set of pictures, needing no caption, show the hen looking frowning and intent—in the next drawing, she is startled at her achievement.


A read-aloud story about a small girl whose father had promised to take her to see the butterfly trees; Clorinda's Daddy had added Clementine to her name because that was Clorinda's favorite song. The family went to Pacific Beach and saw the butterflies, and Clorinda, back home, went happily to bed to dream of the pretty butterflies. The story really is an extended fictional framework for an explanation of the migration of Monarch butterflies; it is a slow-moving book with good family relations as a mitigating feature. The style is rather stilted, especially in conversation.
A compilation of advice on all aspects of college life for girls who will be going to college. The text discusses planning of clothes and room decoration, problems of finances, getting along in the dormitory, social life, and extracurricular activity. Academic matters are given less attention with chapters on planning courses and on study habits. The book has some informational value and gives some common sense advice, but it is rather rambling in arrangement of material, and it assumes no great amount of intelligence on the part of the reader.

Based on an incident in the author's life, a story of a desert orphan whose life was changed by a gift from an American lady, "a lady with blond hair and blue eyes—the most beautiful person Bouboukar had ever seen." Inspired by gratitude, the boy used his money to get new clothes, to have his head shaved after cleaning himself, and to buy his first pair of sandals. Unjustly accused of stealing the money, the boy is released, adopted by a childless couple, and sent to school. The book gives a few interesting facts about a Sahara Desert community, but the story is quite weak. Bouboukar's change of fortune comes about by pure chance; he is described as knowing nothing of keeping clean, yet he is moved to wash his robe and scrub himself with sand... presumably out of devotion to the lady who is "so fresh and so clean," who smiled "the way the angels in the Moslem heaven smiled..." The descriptions of Mrs. Barton seem exaggeratedly reverential; too much happens in too short a time, and the change of attitude on the part of the adult citizenry is unconvincingly sudden.

A read-aloud book in which a small boy asks his mother questions about his environment... where does the wind go when it stops, where does the road go when it is out of sight, where does the rain go when the storm is over? Some of the answers are over-simplified: the answer to the last query is, "Into the clouds to make another storm." The answer to a question about where falling leaves go—"Into the ground to become part of new trees with new leaves that will fall again." may also confuse the child. The book does give the child some concept of continuity, but it covers too many phenomena too superficially.
Reading for Parents


Richeimer, Mary J. "How Can We Upgrade Their Reading Interests?" *PTA Magazine,* January 1963, pp. 8-10.


