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Bulletin
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EXPLANATION OF CODE SYMBOLS USED WITH ANNOTATIONS

- R Recommended
- Ad Additional book of acceptable quality for collections needing more material in the area.
- M Marginal book that is so slight in content or has so many weaknesses in style or format that it should be given careful consideration before purchase.
- NR Not recommended
- SpC Subject matter or treatment will tend to limit the book to specialized collections.
- SpR. A book that will have appeal for the unusual reader only. Recommended for the special few who will read it.

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

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Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

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Volume XVI

February, 1963

Number 6

New Titles for Children and Young People

Ad Aesop. The Miller, His Son, and Their Donkey; illus. by Roger Duvoisin.
1-3 Whittlesey House, 1962. 32p. \$2.50.

The retelling of this Aesop fable is done in simple style, yet the story seems one that will have little appeal to children: they will perhaps enjoy the dénouement of the plot, but could have only a superficial appreciation of the moral. With slight appeal and a slight theme, the choice of fable seems weak for a young audience. The illustrations are competent and not unattractive, but not Duvoisin at his best.

M Aliko. The Wish Workers; written and illus. by Aliko. Dial, 1962. 30p.
K-2 \$3.50.

A read-aloud picture book, illustrated by attractive pictures that have good stylized design in both black and white and in pages with color. The story is not particularly original: a small bird wants to be big, and applies to the Wish Workers (a panel of senior citizens assigned the job of keeping other birds happy) for elephantine size. Twiddle finds that he doesn't like being big, and each subsequent change is no improvement; he has used up all his wishes, but is restored to his desired original size when lovely Bellaglinka (a ladybird) gives up one of her own wishes for Twiddle. And so they were married.

R American Heritage Magazine. The French and Indian Wars; by the editors of
7- American Heritage Magazine; written by Francis Russell; in consultation
with Lawrence Henry Gipson. American Heritage, 1962. 153p. illus.
(American Heritage Junior Library Series.) Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed.
\$3.79 net.

Another good book in a very good series, slightly harder to read because, in addition to the usual double column on a page, the print is more crowded in this volume. The quality of reproductions of portraits, prints, maps, and diagrams is excellent. The writing style is a bit heavy, but the dramatic material and the introduction of many anecdotes about the courageous action of individual colonists enliven the text. A brief list of suggestions for further reading and an index are appended.

R Andersen, Hans Christian. The Nightingale; pictures by Harold Berson.
4-5 Lippincott, 1962. 32p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$3.95 net.

An interestingly illustrated edition of the classic Andersen tale of the small bird that saved the life of the Emperor of China. The drawings are in soft green, brown, and rose pink, marvelously detailed and often humorous; some of the illustrative pages seem overly busy, although each detail may be meticulous.

NR Baker, Betty. The Sun's Promise; illus. by Juliette Palmer. Abelard-
K-2 Schuman, 1962. 31p. \$2.50.

A read-aloud story about Chippy Chipmunk, who wished that the sun would never go down so that he could play all the time. He asked several other animals to join him in asking the sun to stay in the sky, but they all found the night useful; Chippy reported this to the sun, and announced that he guessed he needed the night, too. A slight story, with no mitigating humor, written and illustrated in pedestrian style, and with misleading nature concepts.

NR Baker, Laura Nelson. Other Brother; illus. by Norah Montgomerie. Abelard-K-2 Schuman, 1962. 60p. \$2.50.

Owly, the elf owl, was asked by the Three Foolish Sparrows to help them find their Other Brother; first they asked Pack Rat, but Packy didn't know, then they sought out Jack Rabbit, but Jack didn't know. After long searching, Owly discovered that Other Brother was right in Owly's own doorway. The Foolish Sparrows told Owly he was a wonderful hunter, and the exhausted Owly went home and fell asleep. A thin plot, much extended; the animals in behavior and conversation are neither humorous nor realistic.

M Bannon, Laura May. Hawaiian Coffee Picker; written and illus. by Laura 2-3 Bannon. Houghton, 1962. 48p. Trade ed. \$3; Library ed. \$2.90 net.

Tim and his sister Sumie helped their parents on the family coffee farm, but Tim was continually distracted by his pets. His uncle gave Tim a repeater watch, and Tim made a game of picking faster—racing the watch and fulfilling a quota. Tim's work improved, but then the watch and a pet disappeared; both were found in a lava tube. Tim's joy was complete when Uncle Pete came back with a new watch and said that Tim might keep the old one. The story line is slow-moving and rather diffuse; information about the coffee farm is interpolated rather obtrusively throughout the book to the detriment of the story, although it is fairly interesting as information.

R Bergere, Thea. Homes of the Presidents; illus. by Richard Bergere. Dodd, 5-7 1962. 91p. \$3.50.

A useful book for quick pictorial reference, comprising drawings of the birthplace and the official residence of each president. A small drawing of the former and a drawing of the president is accompanied by a brief biographical note and a paragraph of information about the presidential residence, which is pictured on the facing page. Some interior and exterior drawings of the White House follow; the book concludes with a chronological list of presidents, their terms, political affiliations, birthplace and date, date of and place of death, wife's name, and family home. The drawing is precise in architectural detail and handsome in execution; Mr. Bergere uses black and white to fullest advantage. An index is appended.

NR Borten, Helen. Copycat. Abelard-Schuman, 1962. 40p. illus. \$2.75.

4-6 yrs.

A read-aloud picture book about a cat (Algernon Longwhisker the Third) who admired and copied other animals because he had an inferiority complex. The squirrel, the birds, a swan, a rooster: all of these laughed when the cat tried to copy them and said, "Scat, Copycat!" Copycat even tried being a tree, but grew tired of holding his arms up. Returning to the farm, he overheard one conversation after another that showed he was admired, so he stopped worrying. A quite hackneyed plot executed in mediocre writing style, with unnatural animal behavior, and with little humor in the writing. The illustrations are interesting but many are distractingly page-filling; one drawing shows a rooster with olive, black, and blue feathers—the text reads, "Copycat looked at his red crown and bright feathers . . ." but there is no red crown. Mrs. Borten's previous books have utilized her ability as an imagin-

ative artist to very good advantage; this story is unfortunately dull compared to the interesting discussion of colors and shapes in Do You See What I See?

NR Bottomley, Peg. Clifford the Clumsy Dragon; illus. by Burton Groedel.
K-2 Barnes, 1962. 30p. \$2.95.

Clifford was so clumsy that he had little chance of being admitted to the select Academy of Excellent Dragons: his tail work was bad, his aim was bad, and he tripped on things. After burning some lady dragon's hats while watching a jousting tournament, Clifford ran away from home. He stumbled into the home of an elderly knight, and they helped each other: the knight realized that Clifford was near-sighted and gave him some glasses, and Clifford taught the knight how to make fires. Clifford returned home, practiced his skills, entered the Academy and was hired as Instructor in Advanced Footwork. The writing has an occasional bit of humor, but the book is too juvenile for the child who might be able to read it independently, and a bit too heavy in vocabulary for the read-aloud audience. Another weakness is inconsistency within the setting: the barbecue sold at a jousting, or the incompatibility between having to live in a cave but having such objects as hats and cookies.

R Bradbury, Ray. R is for Rocket. Doubleday, 1962. 233p. \$2.95.
7-10

A collection of seventeen science fiction short stories, almost all of which have been previously published in either books or magazines. The author has chosen wisely for his audience; the collection is varied in subject, locale, and style, and the stories are uniform in being imaginative and well-written.

R Brenner, Barbara. A Bird in the Family; with illus. by Fred Brenner. Scott,
2-4 1962. 60p. \$2.75.

A pleasant and realistic story about a pet parakeet, with modest and attractive illustrations. The parakeet was named Jetsam because he had been found on a beach; although he was often a nuisance, he was loved by all the family. Jet learned to say one thing: "Cut it out," he learned to stay away from the family table when he was burned in some cocoa, he learned to open the door of his cage. Each chapter is a separate incident, so that the book is useful for installment reading-aloud; the writing has enough unity, however, that the story does not seem fragmented. The love of pets is communicated warmly, so that Jet's illness and recovery in the last episode are truly suspenseful.

Ad Buckland, Jane. Terriers. Viking, 1962. 62p. illus. \$3.50.
6-

A good informational book, with succinct text and good organization of material; although the topic is a narrow one, the absence of index or table of contents is a minor drawback. The first part of the text gives a history of the "earth dogs," and discusses their characteristics and temperament. The remainder of the text is divided geographically: Terriers of England, Terriers of the Border Country, of Ireland, Wales, and Scotland; with two sections on other terriers (Boston and Tibetan) and toy terriers. The separate breeds are described under the appropriate division. About thirty photographs are bound into the center of the book, rather than being placed near the descriptive text. The book gives useful facts about the characteristics desirable in show dogs for each breed, but these are for the British reader, since references to dog shows or associations are all British.

Ad Buckley, Peter. Okolo of Nigeria. Simon and Schuster, 1962. 125p. illus.
4-6 Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.99 net.

Illustrated by photographs, the story of a Nigerian boy's efforts to earn money enough to continue his schooling. Okolo knows that the uncle who has promised to

give him an education will not keep the promise; after scraping together enough money to finish a term, he is faced with even greater financial need for the more expensive secondary school. He seeks audience with the ruler of his people, who gives comfort but no promise; meanwhile the king has arranged with an architect to give the boy work if he proves worthy; Okolo is delighted and grateful when his employer tells him that his educational future is assured. Some of the photographs have only a peripheral relation to the story, and the writing style is a bit stodgy, but the book gives a realistic and sympathetic picture of a dignified and diligent people.

M Burch, Robert. A Funny Place To Live; illus. by W. R. Lohse. Viking, 1962. 41p. \$2.50.

A read-aloud book that amplifies one theme: different sorts of animals live in different sorts of homes. Trudy and Vic, trying to find their way back home when they are in the woods, discuss the problem with each animal they meet. The robin asks what sort of nest they live in. "We don't live in a nest." "I forgot, only birds live in nests." Corrected by a squirrel: "I live in a nest and I'm not a bird.", the robin says, "As I was saying, only birds and squirrels live in nests." A spider comments that he needn't worry about losing a home, he can always spin another . . . the turtle recommends a home you can carry with you . . . etc. The fictional framework is very weak, and the facts about animal homes could as well have been presented in straightforward manner; the illustrations are adequate, the writing rather dull.

R Ceder, Georgiana Dorcas. Winter without Salt; illus. by Charles Walker. 4-6 Morrow, 1962. 125p. \$2.75.

Peter and his sister lived in a log cabin with their aunt and uncle, since their parents were dead; Peter felt bitter hate for the Indians, who had killed his father and caused his mother's death. Mr. Dan, a circuit rider, tried to help Peter see that not all Indians were bad, and that white men had disrupted the Indian way of life, but the boy felt no kindness, although he admitted his little cousin had been helped by an Indian. Seeing an Indian on Mr. Dan's horse one day, Peter shot and wounded him; it turned out that Tallcorn was Mr. Dan's friend and guide; when the Indian showed only friendliness and forgiveness to Peter, the boy realized at last that his vengefulness had been unreasonable. A worthy theme, but the true appeal of the book is in the simple and realistic description of the everyday life of a pioneer family—in the winter without salt, the Rowan family find pleasure in the small comforts that they have despite the privations of their lonely life.

R Coatsworth, Elizabeth Jane. Ronnie and the Chief's Son; illus. by Stefan 5-6 Martin. Macmillan, 1962. 39p. \$3.

An African story illustrated with interesting two-color woodcuts resembling the earlier style of Lynd Ward. When the son of a native chief is accidentally killed by a falling tree, the chief kidnaps Ronnie as retribution, saying, "Your father has taken my son, I shall take his." At the very point at which Ronnie is being prepared for sacrifice, another son of the chief saves the boy's life. Ronnie had come to the village hidden in a slow-moving herd of bullocks; he escapes by hiding in a run of antelopes. The author writes beautifully, creating imagery and moods, but the story has little pace despite the drama of the situation. A book to read for style—not for information on Africa today.

M Corbett, Scott. Cutlass Island; illus. by Leonard Shortall. Little, 1962. 151p. 5-6 \$3.25.

Skip and Harv, adolescents, are hired by the owner of Cutlass Island to help Hurd, the resident hired man, and to investigate—secretly—Hurd's odd behavior. On the island, the boys find a well-maintained Civil War Fort; they also find hidden some mysterious crates. Skip and Harv learn that Hurd is an accomplice-under-duress of

a man they had completely and mistakenly trusted; in a slightly lurid final sequence, the boys (with Hurd and two others) use the weapons and fireworks of the fort to attract the Coast Guard and fight off the real criminals. The book has pace and suspense, but the ending seems overdone, and there is not an adequate explanation of the role of the criminals or the nature of their cache.

R De la Mare, Walter John. The Magic Jacket; illus. by Paul Kennedy. Knopf, 5-7 1962. 277p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.29 net.

First published in 1923, a collection of ten short stories beautifully told. The collection has variety, the illustrations are in appropriate mood, the writing is of superb and distinctive literary quality. An excellent book for reading aloud to younger children.

R Duggan, Alfred. Arches and Spires; A Short History of English Churches from 7- Anglo-Saxon Times; illus. by Raymond Briggs. Pantheon Books, 1962. 87p. \$2.95.

A brief history of English churches from Anglo-Saxon times to Restoration times, with a short chapter on architectural changes since that time. The black and white illustrations are handsome, some giving architectural detail, some showing ornamental detail. The writing style is very good: straightforward, informal, authoritative. Mr. Duggan gives, as he has in previous books, specific information about the dependence of style on function; for example, in writing of the first Saxon churches, he points out that before their conversion to Christianity these people had worshipped outdoors, so that their only models were the few remains of Roman buildings. Their first churches, therefore, were adaptive: large rooms to hold the whole population, a raised step so that the priest could be seen by all, little light because the congregation could not read, small windows to keep out cold and rain.

Ad Eastman, Philip D. Snow; by Roy McKie and P. D. Eastman. Random House, 1 1962. 61p. illus. (Beginner Books) Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$2.19 net.

A rhyming text for beginning independent readers, with illustrations that are repetitive, but are gay with primary colors. The book has no story line, but describes the joys of playing in the snow; "What makes it snow? We do not know. But snow is fun To dig and throw." The text, also repetitive, is useful for supplementary reading, but is a routine compilation of controlled vocabulary; the pictures are lively, however, and the text does communicate some of the indefatigable excitement of children playing in snow.

Ad Fairservis, Walter A. Horsemen of the Steppes; illus. by Richard M. Powers. 7- World, 1962. 128p. \$3.50.

A book about the nomadic tribes that, for three thousand years, came out of the central lands of Europe and Asia to ravage their neighbors. Mr. Fairservis describes the steppes themselves, the nomadic life and its dependence on the horse; succeeding chapters discuss the Scythians, the depredations on China and on Rome, Genghis Khan, Tamerlane, and the flight of the Kalmucks from Russia in the eighteenth century. A final chapter is on the legacy of the steppes in music, literature, and language. A chronological list of events, a brief bibliography, and a good index are appended. The book gives much useful information and contains much material that is dramatic; it is weakened by the writing style, which is occasionally faulty in syntax or florid in description.

Ad Felton, Harold W. A Horse Named Justin Morgan; illus. by Leonard Everett 6-8 Fisher. Dodd, 1962. 160p. \$3.

The biography of the bay colt that sired the famous American breed of Morgan horses.

The author describes Justin Morgan's purchase of the colt, and then goes back to trace the acquisition of his sire by an American who stole him from a British officer during the American Revolution. The history of Justin Morgan's horse is followed through a succession of many owners, his prowess being dwelt on lovingly. While the bay was a remarkable animal, the book about him seems over-extended and slow, occasionally becoming lyrical. Mr. Felton cannot write badly, but he does not write as well here as he usually does.

M Fenton, Carroll Lane. Animals and Plants; written and illus. by Carroll Lane
4-6 Fenton. Day, 1962. 64p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.29 net.

A book that began as a series of pages in a children's magazine; unfortunately, the text retains the treatment, so that it has isolated bits of information. The information is excellent, the illustrations are superb. The text, however, moves at random from one topic to another: three pages on some winter birds, two pages on plants that eat animals, two pages on food for birds; then—silkworms, mushrooms, seeds, shells, spring flowers, animals in armor, etc. The material is interesting and the writing authoritative; it is regrettable that the lack of organization or index so severely limits the use of the book.

M Frost, Lesley. Really Not Really; illus. by Barbara Remington. Channel,
K-2 1962. 63p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$3.25 net.

A read-aloud nonsense book in first person, in which the mother of two little girls describes, in separate episodes, some of the family adventures with dog and giraffe. The writing has some humor and imagination, but the nonsense is often strained, and the style is occasionally coy; although the giraffe is accepted at face value through most of the book, he is described as imaginary at one point. The level of action is not liable to appeal to children old enough to read the book independently, and the read-aloud audience would be unlikely to appreciate the attitude expressed near the beginning of the book: "Then when Elinor was five and a half and Lee was three and a half we decided they couldn't be pets any longer. It wouldn't be good for them. So we gave it up that very day and began calling them by their real names and treating them differently. Of course they thought the change was exciting." Elinor and Lee are the author's daughters.

M Glen, Edwina Hazard. The Wonderful New Book of Ballet. Rand McNally,
6-8 1962. 95p. illus. Cloth ed. \$2.95; Paper ed. \$1.50.

A book intended for the ballet student, but not suitable for either the young beginner, since the text advises on choosing an apartment, buying dance trade magazines, etc. or for the advanced student, since the book also gives advice on choosing a first teacher and since much of the information in the book is elementary. The treatment is diffuse and coverage is superficial, although there is enough information given to serve as an introduction. Some of the illustrative photographs are useful, some seem to have little use: for example, a picture of an empty studio, with a caption reading "The mirrored walls of the studio hold the images of dancers who have worked before them." One chapter gives ballet history; one includes some paragraph-length biographical notes on American dancers. A brief glossary and an index are appended. The inadequacy of coverage may be indicated by omissions in the index: no Giselle, no Ondine, no mention of the Bournonville system, no Shearer or Grey.

Ad Heal, Edith. What Happened to Jenny; drawings by Abbi Giventer. Atheneum,
K-3 1962. 63p. \$2.75.

One morning Jenny was very sleepy and was kept in bed by her mother; she had a long, long dream and woke to learn that she had measles. The dream sequence is the major part of the story: fanciful adventures with talking dogs and familiar characters who behave strangely. The writing is occasionally a bit cute, but it has humor

and it captures somehow the hazy non-sequitur quality of feverish dreaming. Because the treatment is episodic, the book is suitable for reading aloud in installments.

R Heinlein, Robert Anson. Podkayne of Mars; Her Life and Times. Putnam, 7-10 1963. 191p. \$3.50.

An excellent science fiction story; Mr. Heinlein has, with remarkable success, told his story through the voice of a girl of sixteen. Poddy's description of her family—longtime residents of Mars—of the society of her home planet, and of her reactions to a first trip to Venus, are most convincing. Podkayne always sounds female, sixteen, and a Marsman; she realizes that people from Earth look down on those from Mars because they were originally a penal colony and because they practice no social discrimination . . . but she is proud of her country. The book has adventure and suspense; the writing has humor and the characterization is very good.

R Hemphill, Josephine. Fruitcake and Arsenic; illus. by Marvin Friedman; 7- Little, 1962. 144p. \$3.95.

An interesting book about the establishment and operation of the Food and Drug Agency, written by a former employee and based on agency files. The first chapters give a quick biographical sketch of Dr. Wiley, appointed Chief of the Chemistry Division of the Department of Agriculture in 1883. His determined campaigning led to the first protective legislation, later expanded by other statutes. The book is enlivened by accounts of various transgressions, hunts for dangerous foods or drugs, frauds and rackets—the title being taken from one of these cases. The author also describes the day-to-day operations of federal agents in visiting, investigating, testing, and tracing people, industrial plants, and products. An index is appended.

R Hoke, Helen L., comp. Love, Love, Love. Watts, 1963. 238p. (Terrific 7-10 Triple Title Series.) \$2.95.

A selection of short stories, poems, and excerpts from books, all previously published; the leitmotif of the anthology is wider than the title might indicate. The compiler has chosen material about love of many kinds: love for a child, love for a friend, the love of God, love for an animal, love for a mate. Some of the authors are of such distinguished calibre as France and Stevenson; some of the material is of moderate literary quality (especially some of the short stories that were first published in popular magazines), a few verge on sentimentality.

M Hoopes, Ray. What the President Does All Day; A "typical office day" in the 4-5 Presidency, presented through photographs and brief text. Day, 1962. 64p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.68 net.

A compilation of photographs, one or two on each page, with a few lines of text per page. Many of the pictures are familiar shots from various communications media; some are illustrative, some are human interest shots (Caroline wearing her mother's shoes), some few have historic significance, many are repetitive. The last section of the book—"The President's many jobs"—has some value, not in the photographs (all of which seem, again, to have been pulled from a publicity file) and not in the information given ". . . the President has to spend a lot of time talking with other important people . . . has to greet the important people of other lands . . . to appoint his 'official family' . . . give a lot of speeches . . . keep in touch with the people . . ." etc. but the text here does give some idea of the scope and the arduousness of the office.

R Hylander, Clarence John. Flowers of Field and Forest; illus. by the author. 7- Macmillan, 1962. 231p. \$4.50.

An ecologically oriented guide to the identification of wild flowers, profusely illus-

trated by drawings and photographs in (alas) black and white. The organization of material is unusual and very practical: following two detailed chapters on environmental factors and on structural differences, the text is divided into chapters on flowers "at home in water," "at home in swamps and bogs," "at home in woods and forests," and "Flowers of fields and roadsides." Within each chapter, division is by color—occasionally by some other characteristic, such as special function. The writing is solid and straightforward, with each section having a series of questions and clues leading to identification; the appended "index" is actually a listing by families, with popular and scientific names. The lack of an alphabetical index, and the fact that there are no pictures in color, means the book cannot be used for quick identification; it is however, highly informative and is excellent for identifying specimens or drawings from a field trip.

R Johnson, Sally Patrick, comp. The Princesses; Sixteen Stories about Princesses; with biographical notes on each author; pictures by Beni Montresor. Harper, 1962. 318p. Trade ed. \$4.95; Library ed. \$4.79 net.

A delightful collection of stories about princesses, in a handsome book, attractively illustrated. The selection had been most judicious, with stories by such authors as Farjeon, Andersen, Wilde, Nesbit, and De La Mare. The collection has variety and distinction; a good book for any collection, for a story-telling source, or for reading aloud. An appendix gives brief biographical notes on the authors.

R Le Grand. How Basketball Began. Abingdon, 1962. 64p. illus. \$2.
3-5

You won't believe it, but basketball started with the Chicago Fire. There is a premonition of disaster in this tongue-in-cheek tall tale when Mrs. O'Leary says, "The wind is blowing a gale entirely. It would be a bad night for a fire in Chicago." Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicks, the fire burns, and the five O'Leary boys are hounded eastward until they reach Boston, where nobody has heard of their cow's crime. In expiation, the boys try to help a fire brigade; they become rivals of the five Jones brothers, who are partisans of another fire brigade. One thing leads to another, with five boys on each side; they replace a hat with a basket for their target . . . the boys save the life of the Mayor with prowess learned by tossing the ball into the basket. Conclusion: the O'Learys are welcome in Boston, the new game will be called "basketball" and taught in every school. The author has a distinctive style, his writing is nonsensically humorous; the book seems, however, to become somewhat repetitive in the several contests between the two sets of brothers.

R Leighton, Margaret (Carver). Bride of Glory; The Story of Elizabeth Bacon Custer. Farrar, 1962. 212p. \$3.25.

A good biography of the wife of the Civil War hero, Custer, romantic but not sentimentalized. Libbie Bacon's father disapproved of his beautiful daughter's suitor, but Libbie's devotion and Custer's early military fame convinced the Judge to give his consent. The combination of good period detail, wartime drama, love story, and historical interest is reminiscent of Gone with the Wind. Libbie Bacon verges on that stock figure, the lovely young bride who becomes queen of the regiment and charms all the great men (including Lincoln), yet the author writes with such consistency that Libbie is convincing: the real model for the stock figure. The bibliography includes books by both George and Libbie Custer.

Ad Lindgren, Astrid (Ericsson). The Children of Noisy Village; tr. by Florence Lamborn; illus. by Ilon Wikland. Viking, 1962. 124p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.62 net.

Translated from the Swedish, an episodic account by a girl of ten of the lives of her family and her friends in a farm community. With six children from three neighbor-

ing farms, life is so lively that the three farms are called "Noisy Village." The writing style is subdued and appropriately ingenuous, describing daily events, neighbors, observance of holidays, etc. The book's chief appeal is the Swedish background. The anecdotes are realistic detailings of small events; there is, however, a bland quality to the writing—slightly sweet, slightly self-consciously childlike—that may limit reader interest: for example, "Miss Johnson said it was nice to see us again, and I thought it was nice to see her too because I like her so much." or, "I was so happy that I laughed and jumped up and down and thought it was the best birthday present I had ever had."

R Loomis, Ruth. Amanda; illus. by Sheila Greenwald. Macmillan, 1962. 168p.
4-6 \$3.

A fanciful story, episodically told and most suitable for reading aloud in installments. Liz and her little sister Keechie become the immediate disciples of the big girl who moves in next door. Amanda can shoot off a rocket, operate a Time Machine, bully a bully, outwit a salesman, or fly a broom. She is a combination of Pippi Longstocking, Eloise, and Mary Poppins. The writing has imagination and humor, and the behavior and conversation of the children are realistic, although the things they do are not. The author is especially perceptive about the relationship between the two sisters: Liz is sometimes protective toward three-year-old Keechie, sometimes jealous or irritated; faced by a common danger, they present a united front.

R McBain, William N. The Science of Ourselves; Adventures in Experimental
8-12 Psychology; by W. N. McBain and R. C. Johnson; illus. by Ilse Koehn.
Harper, 1962. 211p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.27 net.

A good introduction to experimental psychology, written in informal style; the book covers much of the same material that is in Candland and Campbell's Exploring Behavior (Basic Books, 1961), but both style and approach are simpler here, and seem more appropriate for the age of the audience. Most of the chapters have many demonstrations, experiments, and problems to illustrate testing methods as well as to clarify theories presented. The authors, after discussing such topics as memory, the senses, learning, illusions, conditioning, etc., suggest some of the ways in which the reader may use such knowledge to improve memory skills and study habits. Two concluding chapters are on understanding others—an excellent chapter—and on science and psychology, with implications for the future. An annotated bibliography and an appendix giving some longer experiments precede an extensive relative index. A list of experiments and demonstrations precedes the text.

Ad Marokvia, Mireille. Belle Arabelle; by Mireille Marokvia and Artur Marok-
4-5 via. Lippincott, 1962. 46p. illus. Trade ed. \$3.95; Longlife binding
\$4.75.

Paul is delighted when his friend Ann follows him to stay at Aunt Annik's, in Brittany, after both of them have had measles. The children learn some of the local customs; they participate in a slight scavenging party when a ship is wrecked just off the coast. Ann finds the ship's cat, Arabelle, and cares for her; later the ship's cook announces that he is going to open a restaurant, and the children rejoice when they find it is to be very close to their home town. The attractive illustrations are lively and have nice Breton detail; the story is placid and well-written, with mild humor and a somewhat inconclusive ending. The picture-book size and format may deter the independent reader; the book is suitable for reading aloud to younger children.

R Meyer, Edith Patterson. The Friendly Frontier; The Story of the Canadian-
8-12 American Border; illus. by W. T. Mars. Little, 1962. 296p. \$4.75.

An objective and detailed chronological survey of events on the Canadian-American

border, beginning with the conflict of French and British interests in colonial times. While the author gives enough background in the nation-wide affairs of each country, the emphasis is on border country: the explorers and the leaders, the settlements and the affective natural resources, the legal disputes and the military engagements. The two concluding chapters give a comprehensive picture of contemporary Canadian-American relations and of the operation of cooperative agencies, customs procedures, and joint projects operating along the long frontier. A bibliography and a full relative index are appended.

Ad Miles, Miska. Dusty and the Fiddlers; illus. by Erik Blegvad. Little, 1962.
2-4 52p. \$2.95.

A pleasant story about a farm boy who wanted very much to go to a community picnic, but was barred by his father's feud with the owner of the picnic grounds. Pa and Mr. Folly each maintained that he was the better fiddler; the feud ended when the men heard a professional violin trio, the Fiddling Family. Dusty, having found the Fiddling Family stranded at the depot, had invited them home and arranged a show. Next day, the Family again missed their train, so everybody went to the picnic. The picture of a rural community and the realistic family relationships are the most attractive aspects of the book, the plot seeming a bit thin. Blegvad's illustrations are attractively appropriate for the bucolic turn-of-the-century background.

Ad Nash, Ogden. The New Nutcracker Suite and Other Innocent Verses; designed K-3 and illus. by Ivan Chermayeff. Little, 1962. 48p. \$3.50.

A collection of verses, imaginative and rhythmic; occasionally the metre flags, but the rhyming and the word-play are, in some selections, pure delightful Nash. As an example, "The Hobby Horse": "I'll tell you the kind of horse I've got/ He'd rather gallop than trot, trot, trot/ He can jump like a wallaby, run like a wapiti/ He's my very own clippety-cloppety property. He's herbivorous, so I call him Herbie/ And if he were alive, he'd win the derby." The illustrations are bold in color and design, one page with dark background being hard to read.

M Olschewski, Alfred. The Wheel Rolls Over; This Book Tells How It Happened
K-2 that People Can Move About So Quickly; written and illus. by Alfred Olschewski. Little, 1962. 48p. \$3.25.

In a read-aloud book, a light-hearted approach to the discovery of the wheel and to its use and improvement up to the present day. Cavemen first used the wheel for play, later involving animals in "the game" . . . "Pretty soon ox and horse discovered that pulling stone wheels uphill was a very heavy task, and they announced that they'd quit the game." And so the wooden wheel was invented. The author has clearly tried to give in simple fashion the ideas of chance discover, application by design, and wider use by diffusion; because there exist possibilities for confusion on the part of the independent reader who might take some of the blithe irreverencies literally, the book seems better suited to reading aloud. There is a bit too much realism for sustaining the humorous mood, and too much tongue-in-cheek humor (reflected in the illustrations) for an informational book.

M Palmer, Helen Marion. I Was Kissed by a Seal at the Zoo; with photographs
1-2 by Lynn Fayman. Random House, 1962. 62p. (Beginner Books.) Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$2.19 net.

A book of photographs showing children and animals at the San Diego Zoo; text is for beginning independent readers. The writing is mediocre: one girl visits a camel, saying, "'Hello, Hump-Bump. Here! Have a Cookie! And that funny old camel would eat it. Glump! Glump!" There is some interest in the animals as subjects, but the text seems contrived to fit the photographs.

R Paradis, Marjorie B. Mr. De Luca's Horse; drawings by Judith Brown.
4-6 Atheneum, 1962. 167p. \$3.50.

Brett's mother was in England, recovering from tuberculosis; his father, an artist, had promised to find a house by the time she returned. Brett wanted their new home to have a place for the old horse he was buying; much as he yearned for a lively horse, the boy wanted to save Mr. De Luca's old nag. Every day Mr. De Luca picked Brett up for a ride home in his junk-wagon. The two threads of plot—the hunt for a house and the plan to buy the old horse—are smoothly interwoven; the background of New York City life is very good. Characterization is good, and the writing style is lively. The story has a fairly pat ending (Mother comes home, the house is found, there are plans to buy Brett a horse) that is saved from sentimentality by the fact that there is the realistic touch of the death of the old horse.

M Pilgrim, Anne. Clare Goes to Holland. Abelard-Schuman, 1962. 191p. \$3.50.
7-9

An English girl of eighteen, unhappy at having been told that she must give up a nursing career because of her health, takes a job as stewardess on a ship cruising the waterways of Holland. She has a love affair, helps others with their problems, enjoys her job, decides to write children's books when her first effort is accepted by a publisher. The descriptions of the country are mildly interesting, but the book is otherwise a standard junior novel: unhappy girl finds new career and (after some misunderstandings) a suitor. The characters are flat, and there are many of them; Clare becomes involved in the affairs of several passengers, so that the story is heavily saturated with sub-plots—there are, for example, three other love affairs.

Ad Piper, H. Beam. Junkyard Planet. Putnam, 1963. 224p. \$3.75.
8-

A good science fiction story. Conn Maxwell, returning to his home planet after being educated as a computer expert on the earth, decides to lie. His countrymen on their dilapidated planet, Poictesme, have pinned all their hopes of rehabilitation on Merlin, a long-lost giant computer. Conn knows there is no Merlin, but pretends to organize a hunt for it, knowing that the discipline of organization, and the optimism engendered, will speed national recovery. The author has a nicely unified concept of a space-age state; characterization and plot are good. The weakness of the book is in the writing style, which is slow, occasionally heavy with descriptive detail and occasionally retarded by incidents which do not advance the action of the story.

R Ritchie, Rita. Ice Falcon. Norton, 1963. 237p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed.
7-10 \$3.28 net.

An exciting adventure story about a Saxon youth's trip to Iceland on a Viking ship. Kurt is a falconer; his father and brother are being held as hostages by the Viking raider, Bror Spearfist. Kurt determines to go to Iceland to catch the rare white gyrfalcon, so that he may use it for ransom. He finds himself on Bror's ship; by the time they get back to Norway, Kurt has fought Bror's battles and been helped by him. Kurt helps Bror absolve himself so that he may return to the home from which he had been banned; he rescues his family and accepts a job as Bror's new falconer. The details of falconry are fascinating, the period background is vivid and completely convincing. The writing has pace, the story has suspense.

M Schmitt, Gladys, ed. The Heroic Deeds of Beowulf; retold by Gladys Schmitt;
5-7 illus. by Walter Ferro. Random House, 1962. 51p. (Legacy Books.)
Trade ed. \$1.50; Library ed. \$1.69 net.

A prose retelling of the verse epic, illustrated by vigorous woodcuts. The author has not captured the flavor of the language or the brooding mood of the tale that make so effective the version by Sutcliff (Dutton, 1962), in which the prose has both richness

and authenticity. Miss Schmitt's version is a bit easier to read, and the story of Beowulf has indestructible dramatic appeal, but there seems little reason to use an inferior retelling simply to achieve presentation at an earlier age.

R Scott-Giles, C. W. Looking at Heraldry; with 153 line illus. Roy, 1962. 166p.
8- \$3.

An authoritative and comprehensive book that explains in extensive detail the history of heraldry and the origins and language of armorial bearings. The author describes heraldic forms and fields, the signs of rank and of office, the familial quarterings and marshallings of arms. Chapters on some historic arms and on royal heraldry give interesting historical material as well as heraldic information; chapters on arms of churches, of universities, and of counties and towns are followed by a final chapter on heraldry in everyday life. While solidly written, and certainly material that will be less familiar to the American than to the British reader, the book is both useful and interesting. It can (especially since the index uses italics to denote heraldic terms) be used as a reference source; it has many small, vivid historical details and it gives the reader to whom the subject is unfamiliar the key to a complete, intricate, and precise language.

R Selsam, Millicent (Ellis). The Quest of Captain Cook; illus. by Lee J. Ames.
5-8 Doubleday, 1962. 128p. \$2.75.

A well-written account of Cook's three voyages, preceded by a brief explanation of the roles of the Admiralty and the Royal Society in planning the first voyage and in giving the command to James Cook. Mrs. Selsam communicates her admiration for Cook as a humanitarian, amateur anthropologist, explorer, and navigator. The illustrations are adequate, the writing style straightforward, with a minimum of embellishment. An index is appended. The combination of subject interest, dignified style, and simplicity of narration will make the book useful to slow readers in high school.

Ad Sendak, Maurice. Chicken Soup with Rice; A Book of Months. Harper, 1962.
K-2 31p. illus. \$1.84.

A small read-aloud book with a nonsense verse for each month of the year; the illustrations are delightful, but the text seems to get a bit thin and repetitious. The paramount joys of chicken soup are cited on each page: "In January it's so nice while slipping on the sliding ice to sip hot chicken soup with rice. Sipping once sipping twice sipping chicken soup with rice." or, "In September for a while I will ride a crocodile down the chicken soupy Nile. Paddle once paddle twice paddle chicken soup with rice."

R Sendak, Maurice. One Was Johnny: A Counting Book. Harper, 1962. 42p.
K-2 illus. \$1.84.

A small book, engagingly illustrated, told in rhyme; Johnny is descended on by a cumulation of visitors and solves his problem of population density with a countdown. The text is one that children can memorize easily, to "read" the book and count to ten: ". . . 5 was a turtle who bit the dog's tail—6 was a monkey who brought in the mail . . ."

M Shapp, Martha. Let's Find Out about Policemen; by Martha and Charles Shapp;
1-2 pictures by Peter Costanza. Watts, 1962. 42p. \$1.95.

For beginning independent readers, a book with a sentence or two on each page; the text is rather abrupt, the vocabulary controlled. Illustrations are of comic strip calibre. The book gives a modicum of information about policemen; occasionally the text seems most inadequate, even at this level; for example, "A car is going too fast. Somebody may get hurt. The policeman stops the car. He gives the man a ticket." . . . and, on the next page, "Stop that thief!" Most children know the sense in which

"ticket" is used here, yet the paper and the consequence might well have been explained. The book gives less information than either Green's What Do They Do? (Harper, 1962) or Dillon's Policemen (Melmont, 1957).

M Shapp, Martha. Let's Find Out About Wheels; by Martha and Charles Shapp; 1-2 pictures by Peter Costanza. Watts, 1962. 42p. \$1.95.

For beginning independent readers, with controlled vocabulary and with one or two brief sentences on each page. The text is slight; several examples are given of instances in which wheels help in work or play. "Wheels help father mow the lawn. Wheels help father keep the yard clean." A few pages are devoted to the discovery of the wheel-principle by a caveman, with the rather broad assertion that "One day somebody happened to pull a heavy load over a log, The log rolled . . ." etc. The rather dull text does point out that wheels are in wide mechanical use, and that they may differ in many ways but are all round. The book does not explain the reason that the wheel increases efficiency, and it would be difficult to explain for the beginning reader, but the omission seems to leave a gap.

R Shortall, Leonard. Sam's First Fish; written and illus. by Leonard Shortall. 2-3 Morrow, 1962. 48p. Trade ed. \$2.75; Library ed. \$2.78 net.

A short and satisfying story for primary grade readers. Sam was saving his money for fishing equipment so that he could fish instead of just watching his older brother. While watching, Sam saw a huge fish, but his family didn't believe his description. He borrowed his brother's new plug—and lost it; he dipped into his savings to buy a new one. Sam asked the best fisherman he knew to come catch the big one—and together they caught the huge trout; Sam's family decided he was old enough to be given his own rod and reel. Large print and pleasant illustrations; a nice unity and simplicity of style; a satisfying yet believable conclusion.

NR Simon, Norma. Elly the Elephant; pictures by Stanley Bleifeld. St. Martin's, 3-5 1962. 38p. \$2.25.

yrs.

A little girl describes some of her day-to-day small adventures with a beloved stuffed animal: Elly is lost, then found in the bathtub, visiting his cousins; Elly is unhappy left with a doll as baby-sitter while his owner goes to the dentist; Elly has a party whenever he says it's his birthday. Interspersed through the text are words and music for "Elly songs," each being several measures of innocuousness. Elly is described as being a toy of nine, but the child who tells the story (and remembers receiving Elly) is apparently much younger. The imaginativeness of the little girl may appeal to adults reading the book aloud, but the text is likely to be accepted matter-of-factly by small children. The illustrations have an Ardizzone touch, very attractive.

NR Smith, Garry. Flagon the Dragon; by Garry and Vesta Smith; illus. by Fred K-2 Crump. Steck, 1962. 32p. \$2.

A read-aloud fantasy. Dragons no longer being needed to guard castles, Flagon had no job. He lost one job after another because of his fire-breathing: the ice cream melted on the ice-cream truck, the meat in the barbecue pit was burned to a crisp when Flagon over-heated. Finally the dragon found his niche: as a fuel-tester for rocket-fuel, Flagon was happily established in his own office at the Rocket Testing Center in Washington. The first part of this rather slight story is quite weak, with the dragon (the only animal in a human world) just another being looking for a job, buying a newspaper, taking a shower. The latter part of the story has, however, humor in some of the incidents. Illustrations are of comic book quality.

R Stinetorf, Louise (Allender). The Shepherd of Abu Kush. Day, 1962. 127p. 6-8 \$3.

A story with an unusual background: an Arab village, Abu Kush, was purchased and evacuated under British supervision at the time of the establishment of Israel. Khalil, an Arab shepherd boy, is mystified as are all the villagers by the difference in laws: the sale of the village is to them a splendid and legitimate hoax, the sale papers valueless. Displaced, the villagers suffer hunger, fear, and resentment; Khalil, befriended first by a British officer and later by the Jewish community at Abu Kush, comes to have understanding of differences and an appreciation of the good will of the Israeli. Although the book simplifies the problem and has an almost-pat ending, it is impartial—in fact, sympathetic in attitude—to both the Jewish and the Arab peoples. It gives, also, an authoritative and interesting picture of the village customs and ethics. The slight discrepancy between interest-level and usefulness (for explaining cultural conflicts) weakens the book somewhat.

Ad Strachan, Margaret Pitcairn. Patience and a Mulberry Leaf. Washburn, 1962. 7-9 137p. \$3.

Mabel Dong, in her senior year of high school, considers dating Pete, a Caucasian boy even though she knows her father (mayor of Seattle's Chinatown) will disapprove. The story is set in 1950, and the young people of Chinese extraction find that there is prejudice against them on the part of people who assume that, because of the Korean War, all Chinese are communist sympathizers. Mabel and several others put on a Chinese show for Korean War Relief, and through class discussions and the publicity of the Chinese community there is better understanding. Mabel finds that her date with Pete is not successful, but she resents being restricted to Chinese boys as much as she resents being refused a job because she is Oriental. The problem of conflict between two cultural patterns is discussed as honestly as is the problem of race relations, but the book is weakened and the writing dulled by being purposive in a determined and detailed way. There is so much discussion of the problems in all their facets, and so much quoting of the newspapers, that the characters in the story often seem artificial—especially in the dialogue.

Ad Strousse, Flora. John Milton; Clarion Voice of Freedom. Vanguard, 1962. 8-10 283p. \$3.50.

A biography of Milton that gives a good picture of the political life of England and of Milton's involvement as a political as well as a literary figure. Although John Milton is a tragic and powerful figure, he is drawn with respect rather than with warmth. The book is weakened by a writing style that is ornate and often formal, especially in dialogue.

R Swift, Hildegard (Hoyt). From the Eagle's Wing; A Biography of John Muir; 7- illus. by Lynd Ward. Morrow, 1962. 287p. \$3.95.

An excellent biography of John Muir. Mrs. Swift writes with ease and sensitivity; she draws an impressive picture of Muir and, in writing beautifully of the outdoors he loved, makes Muir's own indefatigable enthusiasm and wonder more convincing. A fine amateur geologist, an impassioned conservationist, Muir was able to give up the necessary and boring jobs that kept him from his beloved outdoors only when he began to write, using a quill from an eagle's wing. A bibliography is appended.

R Tooze, Ruth. Cambodia: Land of Contrasts; illus. with photographs. Viking, 6-9 1962. 144p. Trade ed. \$4.50; Library ed. \$4.13 net.

A handsome book, well and profusely illustrated by photographs and prefaced by two clear maps. An introductory chapter giving a general description of the land and the people is followed by a chapter on Cambodian history; succeeding chapters describe in more detail such aspects of contemporary Cambodia as natural resources, life in the capital city, national holidays, etc. Well organized, and written in a style both easy and straightforward. The appended relative index uses itali-

cized numbers to indicate illustrations.

Ad Warner, Edythe Records. The Fishing River; written and illus. by Edythe
5-6 Records Warner. Viking, 1962. 63p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.62
net.

A small boy and his brother fish with their grandfather in the Kinnikinick River. The boy describes his beloved river, tells of the way they fish: the careful casting, the wily ways of trout, the rules of trout fishing. The book gives a great deal of information about wild life and conservation, as well as detailed facts about species of trout, wet and dry flies, breeding, and fishing equipment. The illustrations are handsome, the writing is slow, gentle, and simple; a very good book, but the sedate pace may discourage some readers, and the minutiae of trout-fishing are probably not of general interest, much as they will fascinate the reader who enjoys fishing.

M Watts, Mabel. A Little from Here, A Little for There; pictures by Sheila
K-2 Perry. Abelard-Schuman, 1962. 31p. \$2.50.

Hiram, the hired hand, doted on his beautiful red shirt, and when it ripped after years of wear, Hiram cut off the cuffs to patch the ripped elbows. He used one part to patch another until he looked odd; finally he bought a new red shirt and kept the old one for patching. A read-aloud story with a slight plot and little humor, and with a minimal amount of information about farm life; the illustrations are in bold, clear colors, with some pages seeming over-filled.

NR Webb, Clifford. The Friendly Place. Warne, 1962. 43p. illus. \$3.
K-2

The island was a place where the Man, the Woman, and the Boy lived in peace with all the animals, who were at peace together. "They lived on grass and fruit and roots because they had always done so." One day the Boy rescued a Little Green Snake; trouble began because the Little Green Snake made malicious gossip and suggested there ought to be a king, etc. All the animals began to quarrel; the Boy caught the snake, had the monkeys weave a cage for him, and asked the eagle to fly the cage out to sea. So they were rid of the Little Green Snake, "And the Man and the Woman and the Boy and all the animals were extremely happy because the island was once again A FRIENDLY PLACE." The book has some good full-page colored prints of animals, but little else to recommend it, since the story is dull and sentimental, with little realistic behavior and no humor.

R Weil, Lisl. The Lionhearted One. Houghton, 1962. 48p. illus. Trade ed. \$3;
K-2 Library ed. \$2.90 net.

A charming read-aloud picture book about a small Austrian boy; Franzl is the boot-boy at his grandfather's inn, and one day he sees the marvelous boots of a Texan tourist. Franzl dreams about the boots to the detriment of his schoolwork . . . then he tries them on and wears them to school. In the excited scuffling after school, the boots are ruined. Franzl thinks of desperate (and mendacious) excuses; then he remembers the picture of the man after whom the inn is named: Richard the Lionhearted, and he confesses. The understanding guest leaves, mollified, and later sends a whole case of cowboy boots, so that every child in the class has a pair. The illustrations have delightful local color and nice touches of humor that echo the text, such as Franzl, daydreaming, with a little boot in place of the iris of each eye. The writing is light in touch, good for reading aloud.

R Whipple, Dorothy. The Tale of a Very Little Tortoise; pictures by Hubert
K-2 Williams. Warne, 1962. 45p. \$2.50.

A small tortoise describes his life one summer between winter naps. In a very simple and ingratiating style, he describes being purchased by someone who knew noth-

ing about caring for such a pet, and being found later by a someone who did. Person knew what a tortoise liked to eat, and Person knew when a tortoise liked to sleep. For a time, the small tortoise was in awe of the other and much bigger pet tortoise, but the two became friends. Gentle and slow-paced, but with a certain modest charm; the story has unobtrusive advice on care of tortoises and kindness to pets; the behavior of the animals is always realistic. A good read-aloud story that may also be read independently by third grade readers.

M Wilson, Mitchell. The Body in Action; The Parts of the Body and How They
6-8 Work; text especially adapted by Ann Reit; illus. by Cornelius DeWitt.
Golden Press, 1962. 54p. (Golden Library of Knowledge.) \$1.49.

An adaptation of the author's The Human Body, with illustrations based on those in Kahn's Man in Structure and Function. The writing shows evidence of being abstracted by the abruptness of style; another weakness (perhaps also due to revision) is in the occasional bit of information that is not adequately amplified. The illustrations are profuse and elaborate, too detailed for the text: for example, a cutaway section showing details of dermal layers is too complicated to be comprehensible. The text is broken down into small topics, each treated briefly: a page on the larynx, three pages on the circulatory system. Reading ease is impeded by the use of double columns: a one-page index is appended. Slightly different in coverage, but better written and illustrated are Glemser's All About the Human Body (Random House, 1958), Gruenberg's The Wonderful Story of You (Garden City, 1960), and Ravielli's Wonders of the Human Body (Viking, 1954).

R Wright, Anna Maria Rose. Land of Silence; illus. by Pru Herric. Friendship
5-7 Press, 1962. 144p. Trade ed. \$1.75; Library ed. \$2.95 net.

Toby is the most recalcitrant boy in seventh boy: a poor student, rude and sloppy in his dress, resentful and uncooperative. By chance he sees the work being done in a wing of the school in which there are classes for the deaf; interested at first in some of the small children, Toby becomes more and more interested in deafness itself and education for the deaf. He feels useful, becomes more co-operative and friendly, his own work improves. Despite the purposiveness of the book, and despite the heavy interlarding of information on education for the deaf, the book has momentum and direction. Both the hearing children and the deaf ones are realistic and are distinct personalities; the change in Toby is gradual and believable. Although the pace of writing is occasionally slowed by informational passages, there are enough suspenseful situations to hold the reader.

Ad Young, Mary. Singing Windows; written and illus. by Mary Young. Abingdon,
5-7 1962. 63p. \$3.75.

A book that has much interesting information but seems to be diffuse in the attempt to cover several aspects. The author gives a detailed description of the cathedral at Chartres and a history of the making of stained glass that is of more general interest. The next section includes the legends on which some windows are based; the last section gives instructions for several methods of making pictures that imitate stained glass, chiefly with construction paper or thinner colored paper. A bibliography is appended. Only a few of the illustrations give a true idea of the appearance of stained glass; there seems no reason to devote so much of the text to one cathedral; the last section goes into too little detail to be truly useful. Despite the uneven treatment and diffusion, the book will be quite useful because of the paucity of material on this subject.

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