

AN ANNOTATED LIST OF BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

THE most complete and attractive booklist available is no doubt that compiled by Bertha E. Mahony and Elinor Whitney under the title, *Realms of Gold* (Doubleday, 1929), but this is an expensive book. For the benefit of teachers who need a short, accurate list of basic juvenile books, with detailed information about editions and grade placement, such a list as the following, it is hoped therefore, will be serviceable.

Students in a class in children's literature in Teachers College, Columbia University, in the summer session of 1929, at my suggestion, accordingly prepared summary reports giving the information here presented. As most of the reports consist of individual opinions, it was manifestly undesirable to do more than check for accuracy and bring the whole into a general conformity of plan.

Obviously, the reports are not equally satisfactory, some being much more discerning than others, but, after all, this is a characteristic of most annotated lists.

The list is arranged alphabetically. It has been checked against two authorities in the matter of grade placement. First, in parentheses, appear the suitable grades according to Sears' *Children's Catalog* (Third Edition; H. W. Wilson Co.); next, in brackets appears the grade advised in the *Winnetka Graded List* (American Library Association). Price range and various publishers and illustrators are next indicated.

Beneath each title appears a rough attempt at classification, followed by two statements in parallel columns. The paragraph at the left undertakes to approach the book from the standpoint of pupils' interest in it; the paragraph at the right is supposed to offer additional comment on the book's value from the standpoint of the teacher.

C. T. L.

ADAMS, KATHERINE—MEHITABLE (6-8) [W-7] Macmillan; il. by J. Henry. \$175; 75c
A story of boarding school life in France for girls.

Soon after Mehitable Webster's sixteenth birthday she goes to the "Chateau d' Estes" in the outskirts of Paris to boarding school. She leaves quaint Cherryvale in New England—and all her friends—and crosses the ocean. Here an entirely new world of places and people is before her. And we are told of her pleasures and disappointments during the next year, of midnight spreads, the opera in Paris, a vacation in Dublin. All this on the eve of the World War.

Rather good from the "international" viewpoint, for in the school are girls from many lands. Ethically sound. Mehitable is a truly lovable young girl. Rather inspirational to one who has latent literary talents, for throughout the story Mehitable is writing plays and sonnets, each one a little better than its predecessor.

ALCOTT, LOUISA MAY—LITTLE MEN (5-8) [W-7] Winston; il. by Charles M. Burd. 88c.
Little; il. by Reginald Birch. \$2.00.

A story of boy life, stressing character training.

How would you like to live in a home with twelve boys, go to school in this home, play in their band, and care for your own garden and pets? You can join them in their fun by reading this story.

A group of boys influenced by the loving care and sympathetic understanding of Father and Mother Bhaer, who help to form the characters especially of two boys from a poor environment. The book is a useful tool in helping children distinguish good from bad, and in teaching self-control, gratitude, and kindness.

ALDRICH, THOMAS BAILEY—STORY OF A BAD BOY (6-8) [W-7] Houghton; il. by Harold M. Brett. \$2.00.

Biography (founded largely on the author's own boyhood experiences).

This is a biographical sketch of a New England boy who had spent much of his early youth in the South. There is much of the history of the times brought in. We see the influence of the aristocratic South on this youth; we realize the traces of stern Puritanism left in the New England town. "This is the story of a bad boy. Well, not such a very bad boy, but a pretty bad one; for I am, or rather I was, that boy myself."

Since this book was published so long ago, one might think it would be too dry for children of today; but not so. There is much of interest in it for a youngster—the boyish pranks of these New England children would interest a boy. It shows a good picture of the stern New England Sundays which would amuse a child of today.

BARRIE, JAMES M.—PETER PAN AND WENDY (5-7) [W-7] Scribner; il. by Mabel Lucie Atwell. \$2.50.

Fairy story.

If you journey to Never-Never Land with Peter Pan, you have just all kinds of experiences with mermaids, redskins, pirates, and even an alligator who had swallowed a clock.

A whimsical tale, delightfully told, of the adventures of three children in Never-Never Land who have flown from their nursery with Peter Pan.

How the pirates capture the children and are saved by Peter Pan is one of the incidents exciting enough to appeal to the liveliest taste.

BAUM, L. FRANK—THE WIZARD OF OZ [W-5] Bobbs; il. by W. W. Denslow. \$1.58.

A modern fairy tale, fantastic.

Would you like to know what happened to a little girl and her dog when they were carried away by a cyclone? If so, read *The Wizard of Oz*.

Dorothy and her dog, in the Land of Oz, journey about with a scarecrow who can talk, a tin woodsman, and a lion. In the end, Dorothy is carried back to Kansas by the silver slippers. Perhaps the book has no great value, but it may well prove an "opening door" for children who do not care about reading.

BENNETT, JOHN—MASTER SKYLARK. (6-8) [W-8] Century; il. by Reginald Birch. \$2.00. il. by Henry Pitz. \$3.50.

A story of Shakespeare's time.

The story centers around a little boy, Nick Attwood, who was stolen by the master player of the Lord Admiral's Players because he had a voice like a skylark. In spite of the fact that he begged to return to his mother he was forced to stay in London a year studying singing, dancing, and acting that he might earn money for the master player. Nick's experiences during this year give a vivid picture of English life in 1596.

There is much to appeal to the imagination and emotions. The story is full of adventure elements of suspense, concrete images, and concrete situations which appeal. The pictures of Shakespeare, Ben Jonson, Queen Elizabeth, English schools, prisons, customs and dress of the day, theatre and traveling players, modes of travel, etc., are woven into this story in such a way as to appeal. A valuable book, both because of the story and the appeal to the imagination, and because of its literary and historical worth.

BIANCO, MARGERY W.—POOR CECCO. Doran; il. by Arthur Rackham. \$3.00.

A wonder story suitable for reading to very young children.

"And immediately, through the hole in the roof which Mr. Woodchuck had still forgotten to repair, something fell with a thud right at Jensina's very feet. It was a large stone, with a piece of paper wrapped around it. Poor Cecco was the first to snatch it up, and when he had unfolded the paper he saw a skull and crossbones with this message beneath—

GIVE BACK THE TRESSURE

Instantly the music stopped."

Poor Cecco, a loose-jointed wooden dog, is the happiest toy of all until he lets the other toys out of the toy cupboard where Murrum, the cat, has locked the door on them. Then all the toys go on a treasure hunt, following which Poor Cecco and Bulka start out to see the world. They meet Jensina, a wooden doll, who goes with them and brings them some trouble. Finally Jensina proves to be of great help to them. The story tells of many homely experiences and contains beautiful color and sound pictures.

BONSELS, WALDEMAR—THE ADVENTURES OF MAYA THE BEE (4-6). Seltzer. \$3.00.

A story based on insect life.

Maya, a rebellious little bee, soon after birth leaves her home, The Bee City, which she considers monotonous, to seek adventures in the wide world after having been advised by Cassandra, the elderly bee, of the duties and hardships in life. She meets insects of all kinds and always remembers she must be mannerly and kind and demand respect. She has several narrow escapes from death. The last time she is caught by a hornet and taken to its nest as a prisoner. Here she over-hears a plot to attack her home. Maya escapes, warns her people, and saves her city, so redeeming herself in the eyes of the queen and citizens.

This book can be read by young children and adults with equal interest, I think. It will especially bring about an intimate interest in the study of insect life, showing that insects establish a great government and democracy of their own as well as do people. It is written in a natural, but fantastic manner, appealing strongly to the imagination. The beauty of a book like this is that real truths can be taught in a beautiful and interesting way.

BOYD, JAMES—DRUMS. Scribner; il. by N. C. Wyeth. \$2.50.

A history story of the American Revolution, with North Carolina for its setting.

Johnny Fraser, son of a farmer father, is very fond of adventure. He leaves his home in North Carolina to visit London and France, fights on the "Bonhomme Richard," is wounded, returns to America, and joins the army.

The story contains so much spicy conversation that I believe it is very appealing to children. The facts of history are accurately told. My only objection to the book is the stress it places on the "glory of battle." It rather overlooks the terrible loss of life and suffering caused by war. On the whole I consider the book well worth-while reading.

BULLEN, FRANK T.—THE CRUISE OF THE CACHALOT (7-8). Grosset. \$1. Appleton. \$2.

Dodd; il. by Mead Schaeffer. \$3.50.

Adventure story about a South Sea whaler in her worldwide wanderings after sperm whale.

Many children have had the urge to run away to sea. In imagination they can feel salt spray, smell fishing schooners, taste the oily fishy taste that a true fisherman loves, and hear the shouts of the whaler as the catch is safely pulled aboard. To travel on *The Cruise of The Cachalot* is to cast away imagination and live on the voyage.

The story is readable and interesting. It is in no sense exclusively a book for boys. Rudyard Kipling said of it: "I've never read anything that equals it in its deep-sea wonder and mystery."

BURNETT, FRANCES HODGSON—LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY. (4-5) [W-7]. Scribner; il. by R. B. Birch. \$2.50; \$1.20.

A story of a little American boy, who wins the love of his crusty English grandfather.

Suppose, some day when you were playing, you were called home and found a strange man there. He told you that you must go far away across the ocean and live with an old man whom you had never seen. Not even your mother could live with you. How would you feel and what would you do? This book will tell you about a boy to whom this really happened and what he did in his strange new home.

The loving trustful nature of a little American boy changes the life and habits of his grandfather and many others whom he meets. Little Lord Fauntleroy seems not quite in keeping with our ideal of the real American boy. One could scarcely conceive of him as a Boy Scout. Nevertheless, a *nice* little story!

BURNETT, FRANCES HODGSON—THE SECRET GARDEN. (5-8) [W-7]. Stokes. \$2.

Story of adventure.

Mary Lennox, who was born in India, finds herself suddenly an orphan (her mother and father having died from cholera), is sent to live with her uncle in a big, desolate house in the country in England. He has the reputation of being so horrid that no one goes near him. Read about Mary's life there and of her adventures with Dickon and Colin in the wonderful "Secret Garden."

The moors of England are the scene of this interesting story of adventure and mystery, by a writer who so vividly pictures the dramatic events that illustrations are not needed. A child will become intimate with nature by living with these characters, but the book is not written for that purpose. It is involved in a series of surprises and adventure, full of action.

CANFIELD, DOROTHY—UNDERSTOOD BETSY. (5-8) [W-7]. Holt; il. by Ada C. Williamson. \$1.75.

A charming entertaining story of the life of a child in a New England home, with many suggestions in child development and training; for child or child lover.

Aunt Frances, a maiden lady, determines to "understand" Elizabeth Ann (Betsy) whom she is bringing up. Circumstances arise which make it necessary for Betsy to live with Aunt Abigail, Uncle Henry, and Cousin Ann, for whom the reader feels an impulsive affection. Aunt Abigail tells of school before the days of stoves, clocks, and matches. Betsy attends this school years later and notes the changes; finds herself in the second, third, and seventh grades at the same time.

A book which gives vivid word pictures of the life of the typical New England farmers. Excellent description of the New England school of early times.

CHRISMAN, ARTHUR BOWIE—SHEN OF THE SEA. (6-8). Dutton; il. by Elsie Hasselriis. \$2.

A series of fascinating Chinese stories including folk lore and mythology.

Those who like fairy stories and myths will want to read about the Princess who would rather make mud pies than do anything else, a Chinese airplane a thousand years ago, a lazy boy who invented something, and a stupid boy who would not learn to think.

Sixteen separate stories, six of which deal with folk tales and myths woven around the ideas of inventions or discoveries, as: how the Chinese conceived the idea of printing; why the Chinese use chop sticks; how gunpowder came to be invented; how the Chinese came to drink tea; beginnings in the art of flying; and the making of chinaware.

Won Newbery Award in 1925.

COLLODI—PINOCCHIO. (3-5) [W-5]. Winston; il. by Frederick Richardson. \$1.50. Ginn. 64c.

Lippincott; il. by Maria L. Kirk. \$1.50. Macmillan; il. by Attilio Mussino. \$5; \$1.75.

Resembles a folk tale, but is a "true" fairy story.

This book is to Italian children what *Alice in Wonderland* is to English speaking children. Pinocchio is a marionette, carved out of wood by an old man. The story tells how he learned that it is best to do the right thing.

Pinocchio is one of the most interesting of books for children. Teachers will find the children enjoy reading it aloud to the class and discussing Pinocchio's various adventures. They will notice that he becomes a good boy on practical grounds when he finds that his naughtiness always brings him into trouble.

CRAIK, DINAH MARIA (MULOCK)—THE LITTLE LAME PRINCE. (3-5) [W-5]. Macmillan; il. by J. M. Ralston. \$1. Lippincott; il. by Maria L. Kirk. 75c.

A parable for young and old; a modern fairy tale.

The most beautiful Prince that ever was born in Nomansland. A careless happening at his christening made him unable ever to walk. The King and Queen died. A wicked uncle spirited him away to the top of a high lonely tower in the midst of a dreary plain. But he escapes and takes his rightful place as King. The story has a hidden meaning. Can you find it?

This story seems to meet the test of real literature in that it contains for the child a permanent enrichment of the mind. Its fanciful delicacy of form and theme appeals to the imagination and emotions with a charm that lingers.

CROTHERS, SAMUEL McCHORD—MISS MUFFET'S CHRISTMAS PARTY. (5-6) [W-5]. Houghton. \$1.25.

A Christmas story. Realism combined with fantasy.

Because of the severeness of her mother, Christmas looks very gloomy to little Miss Muffet. Mr. Spider appears, and with his aid and enthusiasm a party is planned. The guests invited are familiar characters from story books. While at the party their many and varied characteristics are revealed in an interesting way.

This story is interesting because it brings together so many of the characters in the book world that children love and are familiar with. It is clearly illustrated (black and white) and easy to read. It is refreshing to see the great joy a child can get out of her book friends. The style is bright and entertaining, and contains delightful bits of humor.

DAVIS, WILLIAM STEARNS—A FRIEND OF CÆSAR. (7-9). Macmillan. \$2.50.

A tale of the fall of the Roman Empire.

BOYS: There is a thrilling fight between Drusus and gladiators hired to kill him on pages 172-187.

GIRLS: The thrilling flight of Cornelia and Fabia, a Vestal, in a pirate boat to Egypt is on pages 364-386.

Around the love story of Cornelia and Drusus Roman customs, costumes, habits, religion, slaves, education, freedmen, and history are described and discussed. The first half of the book is faster moving and holds interest better than the last. Fine notes at the bottom of pages on Latin words and terms. Will broaden one in judgment and views of Pagan Rome.

DIX, BEULAH MARIE—MERRYLIPS. (5-6) [W-7]. Macmillan; il. by Frank T. Merrill and Anne Cooper. \$1.75; 75c.

Historical (during the days of Roundheads and Cavaliers).

Merrylips, whose real name was Sybil Venner, had always wanted to be a boy. She goes to live with her godmother; is held prisoner by Will Lowry, the Roundhead; lives in the Cavalier garrison disguised as a boy; experiences adventurous wanderings with Rupert, her godmother's lost nephew; finally reaches home and decides after all her hardships that it is better to be a real girl.

Historical background, gripping story of adventure of two children, mystery concerning Rupert's parentage, would thrill the heart of any little girl who longs to be a boy. The Godmother is a brave, lovable, unselfish character.

DODGE, MARY MAPES—HANS BRINKER. (5-7) [W-7]. Ginn; il. by Sears Gallagher. \$1. McKay; il. by Maginel W. Enright; \$3.50. Rand; il. by Milo Winter. \$1.25. Scribner's;

il. by George Wharton Edwards. \$2.50.

General fiction. Life in old Amsterdam.

Humorous anecdotes in the family life of a sturdy Dutch family.

Splendid book for children to read while studying Holland.

DOYLE, CONAN—THE WHITE COMPANY. (8). Cosmopolitan; il. by N. C. Wyeth. \$3.50. Harper; il. by James Dougherty. \$2.50.

An adventure story.

This is a "blood and battle" story about brave men, something like Robin Hood and his men, who are always fighting for the right of things. They put up a good honest square fight, too, both on land and sea. One Bowman cries, "There is a bucketful or more of my blood over in France, but it was spilled in 'hot fight'—I should think it shame to die from an iron ball from the fireworks or any such unsoldierly weapon, which is only fit to scare babies with its foolish noise and smoke." (He is speaking of cannon, of course.)

This book has a much deeper significance than the average child will grasp. However, he will get enough action, contest, sea fighting, chivalrous deeds of bravery to make him sit up all night to finish it if he once starts reading the book.

Much history may be learned concerning the monasteries, monks, laws, language, and customs of the people during that time. (About the 12th or 13th century in England and France.)

FOX, JOHN, JR.—THE LITTLE SHEPHERD OF KINGDOM COME. (7-9). Scribners; il. by F. C. Yohn. \$2. Grosset; 75c.

Fiction.

Chad is left a foundling in the mountains of Kentucky. With his dog Jack, from whom he has never been separated, he finds a home with a mountaineer family. He becomes a general favorite with most people, and is respected even by his enemies. He goes to college. Later he has to decide for the Union against his best friends.

This book will appeal to both boys and girls. It is not lacking in sentiment, but is not over-sentimental. It gives a good picture of life among the mountains. While Chad is very much a hero, he is a very human one. This book can well be placed on the teacher's list of books on 'character building.' It does not preach, but makes nobility seem worthwhile.

GRAHAME, KENNETH—THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS. (6-8). Scribner; il. by Nancy Barnhart. \$2.50; \$1.75.

Tale of animal adventures.

Minute description of animals, their habits and customs. The toad is intellectual and ingenious; the rat is a composer; the mole is domestic; the weasel is dull-witted; the badger is an efficient general manager.

Charmingly told adventures of animals in the wild wood, on the open road, and on the river bank. Some portions are difficult for young readers, but it may be read to these with thorough enjoyment.

HALE, LUCRETIA PEABODY—THE PETERKIN PAPERS. (4-7) [W-6]. Houghton; il. by Harold M. Brett. \$2.

Humorous adventures of a quixotic family.

Suppose that you wanted to go to school, but you could not open the front door. What would you do? The Peterkin family had many curious ways of doing things. How they celebrated the Fourth of July and how they played their piano are most amusing.

A book with much humor, but such nonsense may not have a wide appeal. General theme—Some obstacle appears and the family all consult as to the possible solution. Finally, the "lady from Philadelphia" solves each difficulty.

HARRIS, JOEL CHANDLER—NIGHTS WITH UNCLE REMUS. (5-8) [W-6]. Houghton; il. by Milo Winter. \$2.50.

Afro-American folk-lore.

These are stories and adventures of Br'er Rabbit and Sly Br'er Fox, just as Uncle Remus told them to a little boy. All children dearly love them.

A series of myths and legends of the old plantation. Most of them have a charming setting. They are somewhat fantastic and contain a good bit of humor. This edition has twelve illustrations most of which are in black and white. These stories are enjoyed more by the listener than by the reader himself, for they are largely written in negro dialect.

HAWES, CHARLES BOARDMAN—THE DARK FRIGATE. (7-8) [W-8]. Little. \$2.

Adventure tale of the sea.

The story of Philip Marsham (19 years old) "who lived in the time of King Charles and was bred a sailor, but came home to England after many hazards by sea and land and fought for the King at Newbury and lost a great inheritance and departed for Barbados in the same ship, by curious chance, in which he had long before adventured with the pirates."

A racing style, with incident quickly following incident. Enough of the vocabulary of the sea and the century to give tang and atmosphere. Love story incidental; does not end in marriage; will not spoil the interest for the younger boys.

Won Newbery Award in 1923.

HUDSON, W. H.—LITTLE BOY LOST (6-8) [W-5]. Knopf; il. by A. D. McCormick, \$1.25; il. by Dorothy P. Lathrop. \$4.

A modern fairy tale.

The story tells of a little boy who loses himself in the wilds of South America. He plays with a leopard and other wild beasts. Full of the "little thrills" that nature itself gave the boy.

"In this simple and beautifully written book the naturalist-writer expressed his ecstatic love as a child for, and freedom in, the lonely wild spots of nature."—*Realms of Gold*.

JAMES, WILL—SMOKY. (6-7). Scribner; il. by the author. \$3; \$2.

The story of a mustang cow pony, told in the vernacular of the cowboy.

The coyote entices the curious young colt over the hill out of sight of his mother and then turns and makes a grab for his neck. Read the story in order to find out how he is rescued, for of course he is, or else we should not have the story of this lovable horse's eventful life.

The story is of Smoky's colthood, his meeting with Clint, who masters him, of his harsh treatment by a half-breed, and of his final return to the only master he will own. Children, especially boys, will enjoy this—the movement is anything but slow, and every situation as natural as can be. They will not be apt to use the "vaquero's" grammar, as they will immediately recognize it for what it is—just the cowboy's lingo.

KELLY, ERIC P.—THE TRUMPETER OF KRAKOW. Macmillan; il. by Princess Angela Pruszyńska. \$2.50.

Polish folk lore, with a historical background of Ivan the Terrible.

The exciting adventures of a fifteen-year old boy who helps his father capture the villain and regain the treasure. This Great Tarnov Crystal is a jewel of great value. You'd never guess what finally becomes of it.

Not only fascinating and interesting, but written with feeling and taste. The book will impress on children ideals of patriotism, intelligent patience, a high sense of honor, respect for chivalry, and reverence for the past.

Won Newbery Award in 1928.

KIPLING, RUDYARD—KIM. (7-8). Doubleday; il. by the author. \$1.90.

An adventure story.

Kim, the clever orphan son of an Irish private in India, believed that he would become great by means of a Red Bull on a green field. Read how it came true!

Kim is one of Kipling's very finest stories and it is especially worth while because of the rich background of Indian life. It is a book that no child can afford to miss, but Kipling's style and especially the Indian manner of speech which he uses for the direct discourse makes the book somewhat difficult. It should not be used to introduce the child to this type of story, but to enrich experience after the interest has been developed.

KIPLING, RUDYARD—PUCK OF POOK'S HILL. (6-8) [W-5]. Doubleday; il. by Arthur Rackham \$1.90.

English history told in fairy-tale fashion.

Listen to Weland's singing sword, and to what Puck has to say. Why does he always throw something from the Oak, Ash, and Thorne trees at the children?

The book gives earliest English history in a charming manner, though it seems to lack the spontaneity, dash, and vigor of Kipling's earlier stories. We are almost persuaded to believe in fairies when they bid us listen and look, and so we are quite sure it is true that Puck came to Dan and Una and told them of the "old things" and showed them how to recall the long ago of their ancestors and ours. A good book for children, with proper historical background.

KIPLING, RUDYARD—THE JUNGLE BOOK. (4-6) [W-6]. Doubleday; il. by John Lockwood Kipling. \$1.90.

Seven stories that picture animal life in the jungle, the sea, and the camp.

The adventures of Mowgli, the brown baby who was rescued and nursed by a gray wolf, protected by a black panther, and taught the language and the laws of the jungle by the brown bear.

Without sentimentalizing his subject, without making it scientific, bringing the far-away near, with its people vigorously alive, Kipling has made animals the actors in jungle, sea, and camp dramas, which are remarkable in their beauty and in their revelation of the hidden world of the beasts. The book arouses in the reader wholesome imagination, sympathy, and patience. It possesses humor that is subtle and clean.

KIPLING, RUDYARD—THE SECOND JUNGLE BOOK. (4-6) [W-6]. Doubleday; il. by J. L. Kipling. \$1.90.

Eight romantic nature stories.

Mowgli seems to be the only one of the Man-Pack whom the animals like well enough to be friends with. He is admitted into their pack and is taught the language and laws of the jungle. This group of stories related to us by Mowgli and his animal friends reveal many thrilling incidents of jungle life.

A collection that should go far toward developing in the young mind a wholesome imagination, a clean sense of humor, and fine standards of human and life relationships.

KIPLING, RUDYARD—JUST SO STORIES. (4-5) [W-5]. Doubleday; il. by Kipling. \$2; \$1.90.

Successful examples of the Pourquoi story.

How did the camel get his hump? How did the leopard get his spots, the whale his throat, the elephant his trunk? Some other stories are entitled: How the Alphabet was Made, How the First Letter was Written, The Butterfly that Stamped, and The Cat That Walked by Himself.

Full of little every-day truths which every child should practice. Obedience, alertness, sociability, helpfulness, and good humor are stressed. All these good qualities are given in such a way that the child will be sure to see them, and yet not feel that he is being preached to. These stories would be good ones to read aloud. Pictures are very interesting and are explained by the author.

LAGERLOF, SELMA—THE WONDERFUL ADVENTURES OF NILS. (4-5) [W-6]. Double-day; il. by Mary Hamilton Frye. \$2.

A charming fairy story combining with Swedish natural history.

Nils Holgersson, a fourteen-year-old boy, is changed into Thumbletrot, an elf, and lives with a flock of wild geese. Because he has never been kind he is not welcome among them, but learns many lessons throughout his adventures and befriends the geese whom he has learned to love. He finds that he will become human again only on condition that the white gander is returned home safely. This is an account of his travels and adventures with them for a month, during which time he can understand and talk to all of the creatures whom he meets.

This is a fairy story, rich in all factors of enjoyment. An ordinary mischievous boy who does not want to go to church goes to sleep over his book. An elf appears and because Nils is unfair, changes him into an elf, who can understand the language of the animals. The gradual change that comes over him as the story progresses carries its own message to the reader and needs no comment.

LOFTING, HUGH—THE STORY OF DR. DOLITTLE. (2-4) [W-5]. Stokes; il. by the author. \$2.

Humorous, fantastic story.

If you like pets, you will enjoy reading this delightful story of Dr. Dolittle, who was so fond of pets that he learned their language and became their doctor. He even went to Africa to cure the monkeys there. Among his many pets were Polynesia, the parrot; Gub-Gub, the pig; Dab-Dab, the duck; Jip, the dog; the white mice in the piano, the rabbits in the pantry, and the hedgehog in the cellar.

This story is very entertaining. It can be put in the pupil's hands, with very little introduction as low as the fourth grade, and yet might be heartily enjoyed by adults. The story tells how Dr. Dolittle happened to become an animal doctor. It also tells of his adventures in Africa, and of his experience with the pirates on his voyage home.

LONDON, JACK—THE CALL OF THE WILD. (8) [W-7]. Macmillan; il. by Paul Branson. \$2. Grosset. 75c.

The life of a dog in the Klondike gold region of Alaska.

If you love dogs and like stories of adventure, you must be sure to read this story of Buck, the Northland dog, who helped to draw many sleds across the Alaskan snow and ice.

Probably Jack London's best piece of writing, this story's vividness and vigor make a very strong appeal. It gives a glimpse of the Northland during the Klondike days and could be used very helpfully in this connection with the seventh and eighth grades. The central idea of the book is that every animal is the descendant of wild ancestors and that certain instincts are retained even after domestication. Buck, through selective breeding, was the best of his kind. In the end he goes back to improve nature's children—the wolves.

LUCAS, E. V.—THE SLOWCOACH. (6-8). Macmillan; \$2.

A story about a curious vacation.

The story is of the Avory family—Mrs. Avory, Janet (14), Robert Oliver (13), Hestor (9), and Gregory Bruce (7), living at "The Gables," Cheswick, England. Unable to spend their usual vacation at the Isle of Wight, the family rejoice when a caravan, fully equipped for travelling (with the exception of a horse) is left at their door. An enclosed key unlocks a secret door which hides twenty-five sovereigns. After renting a horse, Moses, and buying a dog, Diogenes, the four children with three friends set forth in the "Slowcoach." They have many experiences with authors, artists, gypsies, tramps, giants, beggars, lords, and ladies, and return home to find that "Slowcoach" belongs to someone else!

The average American boy and girl are not familiar enough with Shakespeare or the Shakespeare country to appreciate fully this narrative. The whole book is of adventure, yet one will agree with Janet that "Everybody is much too kind." Whimsical humor throughout.

MACDONALD, GEORGE—AT THE BACK OF THE NORTH WIND. (5-6) [W-4 (boys); 6 (girls)]. Lippincott; il. by Maria L. Kirk. \$1.50. Macmillan; il. by Francis D. Bedford. \$1.75. McKay; il. by Jessie Wilcox Smith. \$3.50.

Life story and dreams of an English boy.

Diamond, the boy, helps his mother; drives Diamond, the horse, while his father is sick; and plays fairy to his little friends. He was an imaginative little boy, and his friend, the North Wind, taught him many things.

"The North Wind first came to the boy Diamond, in the hayloft where he slept. Later he took journeys with her to the country at the back of the North Wind. For Diamond was never afraid of anything, not much at least. . . . And he saw things, heard things, felt things, other people don't see and can't hear."—*Realms of Gold*.

MAETERLINCK, GEORGETTE (LEBLANC)—THE CHILDREN'S BLUEBIRD. (4-5) [W-6]. tr. by Alex. Teixeira de Mattos. Dodd; il. by Herbert Paus. \$3.50; \$2. Silver; 92c.

Modern fairy tale.

This is a story of a boy and a girl, Mytyl and Tytyl, who search for the bluebird of happiness on Christmas Eve. Fairy Berylune is their guide and takes them to see many strange and wonderful things.

This fanciful tale is based upon the play by Maurice Maeterlinck. The theme of the story is the search for happiness and the idea is brought out that happiness can be found wherever one is, but only by sharing and giving it to others.

MAJOR, CHARLES—THE BEARS OF BLUE RIVER [W-5]. Macmillan; il. by A. B. Frost. \$1.75.

An adventure story dealing with animals that all children love.

Wouldn't you like to have some of the experiences with animals that you have dreamed about? You will be delighted to go with Balser as he knows what to do at all times.

All children have an interest in bears. Everyone remembers the thrill he got from the first hearing of *The Three Bears*. Here is an adventure that all boys have dreamed of and all girls delight to read about.

MARTIN, GEORGE MADDEN—EMMY LOU [W-7]. Grosset; il. by Chas. Louis Hinton. \$1.20.

The charming story of a little girl's school life from primer class into high school.

Do you enjoy a funny, true-to-life story? Here's just the thing—experiences of a little girl who wasn't a bit smarter than anyone else, but who "got there" just the same.

A humorous and wholesome account of a little girl's school days. Its simple, homely form and life-like characters hold the child's interest to the end. The book has an especial appeal for girls.

MASEFIELD, JOHN—JIM DAVIS. (7-8) [W-7 (boys); 9 girls)]. Stokes; il. by Mead Schaeffer. \$2.50. McKay; il. by Stephen Read. \$1.50. Grosset. \$1.

Adventure story.

A story of smugglers in England a hundred years ago and of a boy who was made their prisoner and who was forced to sail with them. Secret caves, ship wrecks, gypsies, soldiers, and coastguards!

A Treasure Island type of a story. Fascinating, straightforward, clean. Correct historical atmosphere.

MASTERS, EDGAR LEE—MITCH MILLER. Macmillan; il. by John Sloan. \$2.00; \$1.60.

Outdoor and adventure story.

Did you feel, after reading *Tom Sawyer*, a strange desire to imitate some of his performances?

A story of the friendship of two boys in a mid-western town, supposedly told by one of them. The story relates the influence of *Tom Sawyer* on their childhood activities. The story gives interesting lights on the social and political life of the post-Civil War period.

MEIGS, CORNELIA—TRADE WIND. Little; il. by Henry Pitz. \$2.

A sea story of the American Revolutionary period.

David Dennison inherited from his sea-captain father a longing for the sea and a desire to do something to aid the colonies in the war which was evidently soon to come. His secret chance to go to sea came. The story is about adventures with hostile savages, sea-fights and races with enemy ships, Moorish pirates, tyrannical sea-captains and mutinies, and finally the success of the plan which aided his country.

Trade Wind probably has more appeal to boys than girls. A certain amount of understanding of the causes leading up to the American Revolution is necessary for an appreciation of the story. The tale is filled with daring escapades and other blood-curdling sea-adventures. The story, however, seems to be somewhat lacking in realism of characterization, in unity and directness of plot, and in the true "sea flavor." One seldom forgets that he is merely reading a story.

MEIGS, CORNELIA—THE WONDERFUL LOCOMOTIVE (6-8). Macmillan; il. by Berta and Elmer Hader. \$2.

A railroad story full of realities and magic.

Peter, a small boy, spent most of his time with Nels Stromberg, an old Swedish engineer who pattered with an old engine, Number 44, until one day it ran. Nels let Peter and his stray dog, Terry, go alone to San Francisco. For five days the daring old engine puffed through valleys and over winding mountain tracks, through blizzards and forest fires, helping many on the way, and then back East it almost bounded.

Every sentence of the story is pulsing with interest, and the characters are all very human. It should make a small boy's heart beat faster. An adult is fascinated by the beauty of the language and the sincerity and strength of the story as it portrays the spirit of childhood.

The illustrations are very fine, bold line pictures, three colored plates, and one or more pen and ink sketches on every page.

MILNE, A. A.—WINNIE THE POOH. (4-5). Dutton; il. by Ernest Shepard. \$2.

Modern fantastic tales.

Edward Bear, or Pooh, finds a bee tree. Pooh goes up in a balloon to get the honey from the top of the tree. Pooh and Piglet try to catch Heffalump.

A delightful tale of Christopher Robin and his friends. Children are charmed with the nonsense and fun of the absurd situations in which the characters find themselves.

MILNE, A. A.—THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER. (4-5). Dutton; il. by Ernest Shepard. \$2.

Modern fantastic tales.

Pooh and Piglet transfer a house. Tiggers can't climb backward, because their tails get in the way, so Tigger had to stay in the tree.

This is a companion to *Winnie the Pooh*, and is a story of clear fun and enjoyment. It has many humorous situations and Christopher Robin has to think hard to extricate them, the characters, from their many amusing accidents. Children will love this book.

MONTGOMERY, L. M.—ANNE OF GREEN GABLES. (7-8) [W-7]. Page; il. by Elizabeth R. Withington. \$2.

Story of the girlhood of an orphan, Anne Shirley.

Everyone will love Anne (with an "e") from the first introduction to her. Her gayety and originality, and her quaint expressions endear her to all. The story takes place at Avonlea, Prince Edward Island, between Anne's tenth and seventeenth years.

The ordinary, everyday incidents appeal to girls of this age. They will enjoy reading it by themselves.

MOORE, ANNE CARROLL—NICHOLAS: A MANHATTAN CHRISTMAS STORY. (4-7). Putnam; il. by Jay Van Evergren. \$2.

A Christmas story containing fairies, brownies, etc., with New York as a local color background.

Nicholas was just eight inches high. "His face glowed like a Christmas fire as he shook the snow from his woolen muffler and stood there on the window sill, looking out over the red-tiled floor."

This is quite a charming Christmas story. It has a special appeal for the boys and girls of New York who are familiar with the places visited by Nicholas and his friends.

MORLEY, CHRISTOPHER—I KNOW A SECRET. (4-5). Doubleday; il. by Jeannette Warmuth \$2.

Delightful, humorous, and fantastic stories written by Mr. Morley for his children.

"A mouse's legs move faster than his mind; when he hears a sound in the dark house, he always runs first and thinks about it afterward. If you are a mouse, that is the safest plan."

Animals and children live and talk through the pages. The author has used all his inventive genius, whimsey, and understanding, and the resulting book appeals to children of all ages. Especially adapted for reading aloud. A good "bed-time story book." Stories of especial worth: "Paper Daffodils," "The Unamiable Child," "A Story about Bar Beach."

MUKERJI, DHAN GOPAL—GAY NECK. Dutton; il. by Boris Artzybasheff. \$2.25.

Nature story with setting in India.

A boy's story of his pigeon, its ancestry, birth, training, adventure, and extracts from the bird's own story.

This story is a detailed study of Indian customs with their pigeon pets. Won Newbery Award in 1927.

MUKERJI, DHAN GOPAL—GHOND THE HUNTER. Dutton; il. by Boris Artzybasheff. \$2.50.

Nature story of the wild animal life in the jungle.

A vivid and fascinating picture of the sights, sounds, and cruelties of animal life in the jungles of India.

Ghond is an Indian boy of high caste who lives in a village on the edge of the jungle. The story tells beautifully how an old Hindu priest teaches Ghond the habits and life of wild animals. Excellent supplementary reading; prose that will bring pleasure to lovers of good writing.

MUKERJI, DHAN GOPAL—KARI THE ELEPHANT. (4-7) [W-6]. Dutton; il. by J. E. Allen. \$2; \$1.25.

An animal story picturing jungle life.

How many of you have been to a circus or a zoo? Did you ever wonder how elephants live in the jungle? This story is about an elephant in India. He was taught to do many interesting things. Once he even saved a boy's life.

The reader comes face to face with jungle life and knows the feeling of suspense and fear so prevalent in the jungle. Portions of it are decidedly imaginative, yet underlying them is a deep understanding of the jungle animals. Each chapter is a short story in itself, interesting, but the whole is a continuous story of an elephant's life.

MUKERJI, DHAN GOPAL—HARI, THE JUNGLE LAD. (5-7). Dutton; il. by Morgan Steinmetz. \$2.

Story of the East India jungles.

"The bear came nearer and nearer. I could feel his hair standing on end in anger. His eyes glowed like red, brown fire, and from his lolling tongue was falling a stream of foaming white saliva. His teeth gleamed like knives. I longed to turn around and run, but my feet felt heavier than lead as I stood rooted to the spot in terror—hypnotized by my fear." What could possibly save Hari with the crazed bear scarcely two yards away? Read this book and learn the tricks of the jungle.

This story is intensely vivid—full of color and action laid in the sinister back-ground of the jungle. It is fascinating as well as informational. From it one learns that the code of the jungle is often on a higher plane than that of civilization. This book will thrill all ages, and hold boys of junior high age spellbound.

OLLIVANT, ALFRED—BOB, SON OF BATTLE. (8) [W-9]. Doubleday; \$2. Burt; 75c.

A story of a shepherd dog.

Do you like to read about animals? Read about a brave and clever dog that became the central figure and hero of his community. There are contests and encounters which you will be unable to stop reading until you know all about them.

The Scotch dialect may be a little hard to comprehend at first. The story gives a good idea of the life of the shepherds and their dogs. Because it is woven largely around the enmity of one man toward his son and his neighbor, I would not suggest it for children who are not well able to form their own judgments.

OTIS, JAMES—TOBY TYLER. (4-6) [W-6]. Harper; il. by W. A. Rodgers. \$1.75; 75c.

Story of adventure, depicting circus life.

Toby was an orphan. He became dissatisfied with his home at the orphanage because he thought he didn't get enough to eat. When the candy man at the circus asked him to leave home and work for him, Toby thought it would be great fun. He did not notice the sly, cruel look in the man's eyes. Read *Toby Tyler* and find out what happened to him!

Although written fifty years ago to show circus life of that day, the story has the human quality which makes it just as interesting today. The cruelty of Toby's boss, the kindness of the fat lady and her husband, of the skeleton man, and other circus folks, and the deep love of Toby for Mr. Stubbs, the monkey, are all vividly pictured. With its humor and sadness, it makes an appeal to both young and old.

QUIDA (LOUISA DE LA RAMEE)—THE DOG OF FLANDERS. (4-7) [W-6]. Macmillan; il. by Gustav Teuggren. 75c. Lippincott; il. by M. L. Kirk. 75c.

The story of a dog in Antwerp.

Nello lived in a poor little hut with his old grandfather. One day when they were returning from Antwerp they saw a dog lying in the ditch where he had been left to die by his cruel master. They took him home and cared for him. Read and see how he returned their kindness.

This story is intensely dramatic, with sentiment rather high pitched. Intense human interest is present, although it rather verges on the sensational. Fine for its information about Flanders.

PUTNAM, DAVID BINNEY—DAVID GOES VOYAGING. (5-6). Putnam; il. by Isabel Cooper, Don Dickerman, Dwight Franklin. \$1.75.

A book of travel, short but with many pictures, written for youngsters by a youngster.

A lucky twelve-year-old boy tells his own story of the Beebe "Arcturus" Expedition, which he accompanied for three exciting months in the Pacific—sea lions, devil fish, volcanoes, buried treasure, and other thrilling events occupy his attention.

These stories told in the simple language of a twelve-year-old boy are most fascinating reading. The numerous illustrations scattered throughout the book supplement the written descriptions very well.

PUTNAM, DAVID BINNEY—DAVID GOES TO GREENLAND. Putnam; il. by Kakutia. \$1.75.

A story of travel, written by a boy.

An interesting account of a trip to Greenland, telling something of the life of the Eskimos, but more about the animals of the northern waters and the methods of hunting them.

In a boy's language one learns about the animal life of the Arctic waters. The illustrations are done by an Eskimo artist.

PLYE, HOWARD—OTTO OF THE SILVER HAND. (5-7) [W-7]. Scribner; il. by the author. \$2.50.

A tale of medieval robber barons in Germany.

Otto of the Silver Hand, son of a robber baron, is stolen away by his father's enemy. His friend, one-eyed Hans, comes to his rescue. Hans gets into the castle by "hook and crook." Covered with soot, he hides in a great mixing trough. By his antics he completely upsets the servants of the household. Finally he reaches Otto in his prison room. Then begins the story of the rescue.

The book pictures, with the well-known accuracy of Howard Pyle, the life of a gentle boy among the robber barons of the Dark Ages. The description is brief and concrete. The tale is full of dramatic scenes. Otto is tossed about in the strife and hatred of the times, but his noble spirit is eventually rewarded.

PLYE, HOWARD—MEN OF IRON. (6-8) [W-8]. Harper; il. by the author. \$2.

Historical story of knighthood in the 15th century.

A boy of sixteen leaves his home at Crosby Holt to become an esquire to the Earl of Mackwork. He becomes a comrade of Master Gascoyne with whom he has many adventures, such as the discovery of secret passages in a forsaken tower, and the over-powering of the bachelors who wish to make servants of the younger squires. Myles becomes a great knight and is able to right some of the wrongs inflicted upon his father by enemies in the Court of the King.

A story of court intrigue of the early 15th century. The hero, Myles Falsworth, is sent from his father's home to be trained in the arts of knighthood. Myles is a venturesome, strong-willed lad, kind to his inferiors, but never cringing to his superiors; a seeker after fair play and ready to revenge a wrong. He becomes a leader of his mates and a favorite of the Earl and his court.

RICE, ALICE HEGAN—MRS. WIGGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH (6-8) [W-7]. Century; \$1.25.

Short realistic story treated with much humor.

Mrs. Wiggs has five children, three girls and two boys. The girls have geography names: the oldest is called Asia, the next Australia, and the little one is Europa. This interesting family live in a little house with a tin roof which was made from cans that the boys had picked up on the common. The family is very poor, but they have some wonderful times, like the benefit dance to buy Chris Hazy, a neighbor boy, a new wooden leg.

Mrs. Wiggs and her children are very, very poor, but Mrs. Wiggs has a homely philosophy which is most satisfying. She believes that

"In the mud and scum of things
Something always, always sings."

In her understanding of human nature she says, "Those there are whose hearts have a slope southward, and are open to the whole noon of nature."

SALTEN, FELIX—BAMBI. Simon. \$2.50.

The life of a deer.

How animals feel when hunters pursue them; how they enjoy their lives; how they "live and learn."

Sympathy and understanding for dumb animals. Beautifully written.

SANDBURG, CARL—ROOTABAGA STORIES. (4-7). Harcourt; il. by Maud and Miska Petersham. \$2.

Humorous and fantastic stories with some American folk-lore.

Interesting characters such as The Baked Clown, Polka Dot Pig, Wing Tip the Speck, and Gimme the Ax. All about "How the Five Rusty Rats Helped Find a Village," "How to Tell Fairies when You See 'Em," "How the Animals Lost Their Tails and Found Them Again," and "How Henry Hagglyhoagly Played the Guitar with His Mittens."

A very humorous, fantastic, and entertaining book. Whimsically written and enjoyed as low as the fourth and fifth grades. Beautifully illustrated with full page pen drawings, which are clever, appealing, and funny.

SPYRI, JOHANNA—HEIDI. (4-6) [W-6]. Rand; il. by M. W. Enright. \$1.75. Lippincott; il. by M. L. Kirk. \$1.50. McKay; il. by Jessie Wilcox Smith. \$3.50. Ginn; il. by Marguerite Davis. 84c.

Story of a little orphan Swiss girl.

Five year old Heidi is taken up to live with Grandfather in the Alps. He is called an "old dragon" by people in the village. She is later stolen away to be the companion of Clara, a sick rich child. Her adventures are varied but she becomes sick through loneliness and is returned to her beloved Swiss mountain home. Clara soon follows her and is restored to health. Grandfather is brought back to faith in God and man by Heidi.

"Its chief charm lies in the author's harmonious pictures of the child Heidi and the out-of-door life about her."—*Power and Prentice.*

STEIN, EVALEEN—GABRIEL AND THE HOUR BOOK. (4-6). Page; il. by Adelaide Everhart. \$1.50.

A realistic story of the middle ages—Monks and their illuminations.

During the Middle Ages, boys as well as monks helped to illuminate books. They mixed inks of all kinds and were called "colour-grinders." Gabriel helped famous St. Stephen. This monk was capable, but was discontented and moody. Gabriel, in helping to make a beautiful book for a queen, helps the monk and also other friends.

Although not widely known, this book has many merits. An appreciation of the slow development of books and the contribution of monks is clear. The story lends itself well to dramatization. (The Lincoln School uses it.) It is filled with pathos, and at times it is sentimental. The descriptions are rather over-drawn. There seems to be a wholesome thread of psychology running through it.

STEVENSON, ROBERT LOUIS—TREASURE ISLAND. (6-8) [W-7]. Scribner; il. by N. C. Wyeth. \$2.50. Doubleday; il. by Edmund Dulac. \$5. Harpers; il. by Louis Rhead. \$1.75. Rand; il. by Milo Winter. \$1.75. Grosset; 75c.

Story of pirates, lost treasure, swashbuckling buccaneers.

Blind Pew, John Silver with his crutch, Captain Flint the parrott, Ben Gunn, and many more entrancing characters claim your attention. The mystery of the hidden treasure will hold you breathless.

A good story. Standard book for every boy and most girls. The only troublesome point lies in the shift of narrator while Jim is in the stockade.

SUBLETTE, C. M.—THE SCARLET COCKEREL. (7-8). Atlantic; il. by F. M. Rines. \$2.50.

Historical novel.

"The Scarlet Cockerel" sails from France to America, and with his friend Martin Belcastel after many adventures becomes a great friend of Indians. They fight the Spaniards. "The Scarlet Cockerel" rescues his sweetheart from Spaniards, then returns to France, comes into great wealth, and marries her.

Well written, with interesting and correct data showing the feeling that existed between the French Huguenots and French Catholics, and also the hatred between the French and Spaniards. Describes most vividly and thrillingly the attempts of the French to establish a Huguenot colony on the coast of Florida, the destruction of this colony by the Spaniards, and the revenge taken by some of the survivors. Romance, thrilling adventures, mystery, and surprise. It is a splendid character story as well as a good historical novel.

TARKINGTON, BOOTH—PENROD. (7-8) [W-8]. Doubleday; il. by Gordon Grant. \$2. Grosset. 75c.

Realistic story portraying "The Worst Boy in Town."

"One August afternoon was so hot that even boys sought indoor shade. In the dimness of the vacant carriage-house lounged Masters Penrod Schofield, Samuel Williams, Georgie Bassett, and Herman. They sat still and talked. It is a hot day, in rare truth, when boys devote themselves to conversation, and the day was this hot. Peril hovers near when the fierceness of weather forces inaction, and boys in groups are quiet."

Both boys and girls enjoy the truthful picture presented in this story. Very human. Teachers who take life too seriously will find out about realities here.

TARKINGTON, BOOTH—PENROD AND SAM. (7-8) [W-7]. Doubleday; \$2. Grosset; 75c.

A story about two mischievous boys and their friends.

Penrod and Sam, George Bassett, Maurice Levy, Roddy Bitts, and Herman and Verman (colored) engage in a number of lively adventures. They capture a remarkable cat—"part panther or something." A dramatic incident occurs to Herman who is terrified at finding himself in the "white folks' house." Penrod goes to a party and feels himself unjustly blamed for its dramatic ending. If you liked Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn, and Penrod, you will enjoy reading more about Penrod and his friend Sam.

The author has a keen insight into boy nature. In addition to being an interesting and amusing book for boys, it might also be classed as a book about boys for grown-ups.

TWAIN, MARK—ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER. (7-8) [W-7]. Harper; \$2.25; il. by Worth Brehm. \$2.50.

Humorous fiction.

Did you ever hear of a boy attending his own funeral sermon? Would you like to know how he accidentally discovered a robber and his hidden treasure?

A description of life along the Mississippi years ago, with special reference to youthful superstitions of the time. A story to be read for pleasure and not for class study.

TWAIN, MARK—ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN. (7-8) [W-7]. Harper; il. by Worth Brehm. \$2.50.

A humorous and highly imaginative narrative of adventure.

Adventures of a boy who disappeared from his home town in Missouri to avoid being "civilized" by his foster-mother. Huck was accompanied by a slave, Jim, who hoped to enter the "free states."

Some of the interesting experiences in the story are: Huck's life in the woods with his father, his escape from his father, the search for Huck and Jim while they were safe on an island, their misleading the two men who were looking for runaway negroes, the capture and imprisonment of Jim, Huck's attempt and failure to help him escape, and the granting of Jim's freedom.

TWAIN, MARK—THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER. (6-7) [W-8]. Harper; il. by Franklin Booth. \$2.50.

Historical narrative.

The whipping boy was delighted to believe that he was helping in Tom's "cure," for always, as so on as he had finished calling back to Tom's diseased mind the various particulars of his experiences and adventures in the royal schoolroom and elsewhere about the palace, he. . . .

A poor boy and a prince exchange clothing and positions in life. Interesting and imaginative material.

WADSWORTH, WALLACE—PAUL BUNYAN AND HIS GREAT BLUE OX. Doubleday; il. by Will Crawford. \$2.

North American lumberjack legend.

Paul Bunyan was the mightiest and cleverest lumberjack that ever lived. He logged the woods of Maine, cleared the Dakotahs, and made big camps in the giant pine woods of the Northern Lake states and in those of the Rocky mountains. Every living lumberjack has known him and loves to tell of his mighty deeds and quick wit.

Based on the grotesque and exaggerated yarn-spinning of the lumbermen. The tales explain why the tides are high in the Bay of Fundy, why there are 10,000 lakes in Minnesota, and why the Dakotahs are a flat prairie.

WALPOLE, HUGH—JEREMY. Doubleday; \$2. il. by Ernest H. Shepard. \$3.

A simple account of a child's experiences, and the development of a boy's character through those experiences.

A real boy and a clever dog. A quotation from page 124. "Hurt!" said the Captain, "I should just think it did. I'd to put cotton behind my teeth to prevent myself from screaming. But that's nothing. What do you say to be tortured by the Caribbees natives everyday after breakfast for three 'ole months. A tooth out a day. . . ."

The story will have the tendency to instil qualities of courage, truth-telling, manliness, and politeness. It shows the gradual development of an independent and manly spirit in a boy as he grows from six to nine. It is quite worth-while for boys to read, for it is not only intensely interesting but also contains a high moral tone, in the larger sense of the word.

WALPOLE, HUGH—JEREMY AT CRALE. Doubleday; \$2.

A realistic story of a young English boy at school.

The trials and delights of a robust and combative adolescent away at school. Jeremy of fifteen has many friends who adore him chiefly because he is a good footballer, and happily one enemy who hates him chiefly because he is a good footballer. This animosity provides the bulk of the story. Of course Crale wins the "big game"—the result of our hero's prowess. The adolescent boy will find much comfort in Jeremy because, like himself, Jeremy is for the first time divided between the delight of simple animal living and the perturbations of his inner self. The "big game" will thrill every fellow, and the rows between the sheep and the "goats" are beautifully satisfying. And a fellow just has to take sides. And there's Uncle Samuel, who is just a peach.

A sort of glorified *Tom Swift* is this story by Walpole. The boys will enjoy it, to be sure, but that's about all. But since the *Tom Swift* type does seem to answer a need, it is well enough to have books like *Jeremy at Crale*.—An "innocuous trifle."

WIGGIN, KATE DOUGLAS—REBECCA OF SUNNYBROOK FARM. (6-8) [W-7]. Houghton; \$1.90. Grosset; 75c.

A story for girls.

Rebecca does all sorts of entertaining things, both at home and at boarding school.

A clean piece of fiction. Rebecca's proneness to poetry creates humor which would probably please girls more than boys.

WILLIAMSON, HENRY—TARKA, THE OTTER. Dutton; \$2.50.

The story of the life of an otter in true nature surroundings.

Tarka, the otter, had a very "joyful water-life." He lived in the country of the Two Rivers. His travels were many and his experiences were varied. Living in the great out-doors, he had always to be on the lookout for danger from man and beast. Fortune seemed to favor him and he always escaped serious injuries. Some of his little tricks were humorous. In the end he returned to the land tracks of his ancestors.

The story is written by a man who saw the otter and studied him in his natural settings. He observed the mother's protection of young, the instinct of self-preservation, and the daily life as they gathered their food and built their homes, with a little interspersing of their love making and mating. A fine story of nature well written.