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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO · GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

EXPLANATION OF CODE SYMBOLS USED WITH ANNOTATIONS

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

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

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Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO • GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Volume XIII

October, 1959

Number 2

New Titles for Children and Young People

- M Alexander, Anne. I Want To Whistle; pictures by Abner Graboff. Abelard-K-2 Schuman, 1958. 42p. \$2.50.
Told in verse, the story of a little boy who simply cannot learn to whistle. He notices the ways that other people whistle; he sees that trains whistle and tea-kettles whistle; Daddy even whistles when he's snoring (which Mommy finds boring); even Johnny's little sister can whistle. Some of the "whistles" seem inaccurately described: a robin's song is not precisely a whistle, for example. The description of Johnny's frustration being in the present tense, it may be confusing to read the happy ending in the past tense. The stylized illustrations are attractive and there is some appeal in the challenging plight which is shared by many children.
- R Andersen, Hans Christian. The Emperor and the Nightingale; drawings and 4-5 design by Bill Sokol. Pantheon, 1959. 31p. \$2.95.
The familiar and lovely fairy tale about the small green bird that sang the Emperor of China back to life when the beautiful mechanical nightingale had broken down. The story of the power of humility and love is handsomely illustrated in this edition. Two drawings in color (one of which is repeated at the end of the book) are stunning, and they overshadow the black and white illustrations, good as they are. The appeal for older readers may be limited by format, and the text is simpler than the editions illustrated by Tudor or Szyk.
- R Andersen, Hans Christian. Seven Tales; tr. from the Danish by Eva Le Galli-3-5 enne; pictures by Maurice Sendak. Harper, 1959. 128p. \$3.95.
Pleasant re-tellings of seven favorite stories, in which Eva Le Gallienne has preserved the charm and individuality of Andersen's style. The two prefatory sections by the translator and the artist are interesting to the adult, but not suitable for the age of the probable audience. Sendak's illustrations are delightful. The stories included are The Fir Tree, The Princess and the Pea, Happy Family, The Ugly Duckling, The Darning Needle, It's Absolutely True!, and The Steadfast Tin Soldier.
- R Anglund, Joan Walsh. Look Out the Window. Harcourt, 1959. 40p. illus. 3-5 \$1.95.
yrs.
A modest and engaging expression of the importance of individuality and of the special quality that belongs to whatever is one's own. Look out the window . . . and you see many houses, but none quite like your own; walk out in the yard, and your dog, different from all other dogs, follows you; walk down the street and there are all kinds of people, but no two people like one's own mother and father; and, although the world is full of children of all sorts, each child is unique. Slight but appealing in its theme.

M Barr, Cathrine. Dan and Sandy. Walck, 1959. 32p. illus. \$2.25.

4-6

yrs.

The story of two dogs, Dan and Sandy, who were strays from the railroad yard, but who wanted to be in the Pet Parade. They tried repeatedly to get into the parade groups, but were shunted aside by people and other animals as well as by the officials. Then they sat near a lonesome little boy who had no pets; they joined the parade as his entries and they were so happy that they won the prize for the Happiest Pets. Unoriginal story and rather dull style. The illustrations are occasionally confusing when drawings on opposite pages run together.

Ad Beim, Jerrold. Sir Halloween; illus. by Tracy Sugarman. Morrow, 1959. 48p. K-2 \$2.50.

Randy had a hard time deciding what costume to wear for the party and costume parade to be held at school on Hallowe'en until he saw a television program about knights in armor. That's what he'd be, he decided. His mother helped him make a costume, and he was very pleased until he got to school and found that there were quite a few other knights. Then he had the idea of having them all appear as a group, and they won first prize. A pleasant and realistic story with large print and illustrations of holiday costumes that have a timely appeal.

R Bemelmans, Ludwig. Madeline and the Gypsies. Viking, 1959. illus. 56p. K-3 \$3.50.

Another picture book about the intrepid Parisian orphan will be hailed with delight by Bemelmans fans. When Pepito, the lonely boy next door, treats all the orphans to a visit to a Gypsy Carnival, he is left in a storm with (of course) Madeline atop a Ferris wheel. They are accepted with joy as part of the troupe, and participate in the performance. Exciting at first, the life grows tedious, and Madeline is happy indeed when Miss Clavel and her charges appear to spirit her back home. The familiar enjoyable combination of mild text and improbable plot are enhanced by colorful scenes of Paris and of the circus. Like the other books about Madeline, this affords pleasure for reading aloud, although there are awkwardnesses in the writing style which are obtrusive.

Ad Bentel, Pearl Bucklen. Freshman at Large; decorations by Johannes Troyer. 7-9 Longmans, 1959. 186p. \$2.95.

A college story that is competently written, differing from the routine first-year-away-from-home formula in one aspect—the kind of college that the heroine attends. Making new friends, drifting away from the home town boyfriend, Beth behaves in a fashion that is typical of the college freshman story, but this is realistically described. The fact that Beth's college has a five-year work-study plan lends interest to the story especially since her first job, working in an orphanage, is logically used as a stepping-stone to a job in a settlement house.

Ad Betinna. Trovato. Ariel, 1959. 48p. illus. \$3.50.

3-4

The story of a small Italian boy who was adopted by a British spinster. Trovato, the boy, was found after an earthquake by the vacationing Miss Pattison; at first the shock left the orphaned boy dumb, but when he recovered, it was found that he had a beautiful voice. Once in England, he studied (with a Mr. Shriek) after being recommended by the local organist (Mr. Keys). Thus began Trovato's climb to a concert career and fame; never did he sing unless Miss Pattison was in the audience. The book would be more suitable if, with its picture-book format, it were shorter and did not follow the adult career of Trovato. Vocabulary is difficult and some of the humor sophisticated; the story is appealing, however, and the illustrations are delightful.

Well-suited, also, to reading aloud to younger children.

Ad Blough, Glenn Orlando. Soon after September; The Story of Living Things in Winter; illus. by Jeanne Bendick. Whittlesey, 1959. 48p. \$3.25.

A beginning nature study book about the winter life of plants and animals. Illustrations amplify the explanations of plants and the ways in which seeds have been distributed and are ready for spring growth; of the hibernation of some animals and insects; of the migration of birds; and of the winter habits of some of the animals—their tracks in the snow, their diet and their habitat. The book does not attempt a comprehensive treatment of plant and animal life through the winter months, but gives a good general picture of the seasonal changes and of their relationship to activities of the autumn and the spring. The use of a "Road of the Seasons" to facilitate organization seems artificial and obtrudes on the presentation.

SpC Booth, Esma (Rideout). New Magic; illus. by William M. Hutchinson. Friendship Press, 1959. 128p. \$2.95.

The "new magic" that is brought to Africa by the work of the missions is described in ten short stories. Each story has a different African (chiefly South African) background; each is preceded by a very brief description of the country in which the story takes place. The information given in the story is minimal as relates to the country, and the emphasis on mission activities indicates the book will be more useful in religious education collections than in general collections, although some of the problems encountered by the African children are universal and translatable into any classroom situation, indicating that the book may have value for some general collections.

SpR Boston, Lucy Maria. The River at Green Knowe; drawings by Peter Boston. Harcourt, 1959. 153p. \$3.

The old house at Green Knowe, familiar to readers of the two previous books about Green Knowe and its enchanting past, is the setting for the adventures of a new cast. Dr. Maud Biggins, who has rented Green Knowe for the summer while she is doing research, decides to have some children as guests; she sends for her great-niece Ida and for two displaced children. Oskar, a Polish boy, and Ping, a smaller Chinese boy, join forces with Ida for a summer of adventure on the river; the children have complete freedom, and they explore the river world to find beauty, fantasy, and excitement. The children are precocious in their concepts and their conversation, but their precocity is quite suitable in the imaginative and fanciful writing. Some of the descriptions of nature are enthralling, particularly that of early dawn on the quiet river.

R Boynick, David K. Pioneers in Petticoats. Crowell, 1959. 245p. \$3.

The biographies of eight American women who were pioneers in the careers they pursued: Mary Lyon, college founder; Susan B. Anthony, champion of equal rights for women; Belva Ann Lockwood, attorney; Antoinette Brown, minister; Alice Hamilton, industrial physician; Lillian M. Gilbreth, efficiency engineer; Amelia Earhart, flyer; and Dorothy Shaver, department store president. Brief bibliographies are given for each of the subjects. The courageous and often difficult paths of these vocational pioneers are described with warmth in a straightforward writing style.

M Caldwell, John Cope. Let's Visit Americans Overseas; The Story of Foreign Aid, The Voice of America, Military Assistance, Overseas Bases. Day, 1958. 96p. illus. \$2.95.

A description of the overseas programs of the American government, and of the ways in which the American families who are employed in these programs live and work.

The author writes of the destruction of war-torn countries, the cold war world, the threat of communism; he tells of the economic programs for relief, defense, development and information that have been established. While the book gives adequate information about specific programs, it has two weaknesses. The first is in the uninformative captioning of the photographs and in the inaccurate placement of some of them. A second weakness is the pervasive attitude that emerges from the book (which the author may not feel, but which is nevertheless the effect given) because of the constant stress on what we are doing, building, giving, exemplifying: the attitude of complacent admiration of our national role on the international scene.

R Caldwell, John Cope. Let's Visit Japan. Day, 1959. 96p. illus. \$2.95.
4-6

A pleasant and informative introduction to Japanese history and the country as it is today. After a brief examination of the history, topography, and cultural influences of the past, the author gives an overview of such topics as government, and industry, rural life, transportation, schools, holidays, and family life. Two sections are of unusual interest: one, a discussion of the combined alphabets used in Japanese writing, and the second a discussion of Japan and its present-day problems.

R Carroll, Ruth (Robinson) and Latrobe. Tough Enough and Sassy. Walck, 1958.
3-5 64p. illus. \$2.75.

Another book about the big Tatum family who live in the Smoky Mountains. The mountain way of life, the members of the family and their horde of pets, and the vivid descriptions of the natural surroundings again provide a pleasant reading experience. The authors are equally skillful at writing dialect and at presenting a warm and lively picture of family relationships. In this sequel, the children are worried about losing their beloved pony Sassy, and all of the members of the family work hard at making souvenirs to sell, so that it won't be necessary to sell the pony. The possibility that Sassy will be sold gives motivation, but the danger is removed rather quickly and simply; there is no melodramatic last-minute reprieve.

R Caudill, Rebecca. Time for Lissa; drawings by Velma Ilsley. Nelson, 1959.
3-5 139p. \$2.95.

Each of the nine-year-olds at the orphanage were to spend a week with the Kind Ladies of the Board. Lissa did hope there would be a grandmother, and when she got to the Coatsworth's house, there was the nicest Grandma one could wish for. Mr. and Mrs. Coatsworth were busy going to meetings, but Grandma had time for sewing and playing, and she even arranged for a puppy. Lissa had everything she wanted except a doll—and some attention from beautiful Mrs. Coatsworth. But resourceful Grandma, who had a plan, somehow convinced her son's wife to make a doll for Lissa. When the family told Lissa they would like to adopt her, they were surprised to find that she really liked her life, and Lissa was rather surprised herself to realize that she had missed the activity of the orphanage. She told them to adopt baby Stevie instead, and promised that she would come to visit them all. Although the tale is rather sentimental, it is appealing. Grandma is idealized, but charming; Lissa is sweet and docile, but believable. The writing style is smooth and natural, with the conversation skillfully used to develop the characterizations.

NR Charlton, Ella Mae. A Gift of Turtles; illus. by Irma Wilde. Friendship Press,
3-4 1959. 127p. \$2.75.

The move from Oklahoma to Louisiana was not welcomed by eight-year-old Maida, and she didn't like the town of Latrelle when they got there. For one thing, the church had no Sunday School. Maida and her little brother made a few friends in time, and all of the children worked hard at catching and selling turtles, so that they could contribute to the building fund of the church. When the minister congratulated the chil-

dren on their participation, Maida felt really happy for the first time. Pedestrian writing, with stiff dialogue and characters that never come alive.

Ad Ciardi, John. The Reason for the Pelican; illus. by Madeleine Gekiere. Lip-K-2 pincott, 1959. 64p. \$3.

A variable collection of poetry. Most of the poems are gay and nonsensical, some of the humor being dependent on imaginary animals with fantastic names, as in "The Saginsack" or "The Bugle-Billed Bazoo"; some are fresh and imaginative. The best of the collection are the few selections that are serious. The gentle simplicity of "Rain Sizes" and the ingenuous charm of "Prattle" have a less superficial appeal than most of the humorous titles, some of which approach mediocrity.

M Colman, Hila. Julie Builds Her Castle. Morrow, 1959. 221p. \$2.95.
7-9

Julie's father was an artist and believed in individuality; he felt that most people were dull conformists. Julie resented him and felt that he was dominating, especially when the family had to leave Taos because Mr. Hartman wanted to paint the ocean. But the charms of Cape Cod won Julie, she was soon dating a very attractive youth, and she had to revise her opinion of her father when he helped a rebellious teen-ager in a tense situation for which Julie felt in part responsible. A fairly patterned plot and little characterization in depth, but there is interest in the relationship between father and daughter—Julie resenting the fact that her father is "different," yet influenced in her own behavior by his example of independence.

R Craig, Margaret (Maze). Now That I'm Sixteen. Crowell, 1959. 185p. \$2.75.
7-10

Beth hoped that her life would be different when she became sixteen; unhappily aware that her strict parents would not permit a normal social life, she had rejected the few advances her schoolmates had made earlier. Now a junior, she had only one friend, the stolid Sarah Jane. Beth had a temporary happiness when Chip began dating her, but she never felt accepted by the crowd; the one party she gave was a fiasco, and her resentment and unhappiness soon alienated even Chip. Slowly Beth began to realize her own role: her neglect of Sarah Jane, her tendency to blame her parents more than they deserved, and the fact that she had never been honest with herself about her own limitations. A perceptive book, with good characterization and a realistically presented familial situation.

M Davis, Mac. 100 Greatest Sports Heroes; illus. by Samuel Nisenson. Grosset, 6-9 1958. 145p. (An Illustrated True Book) \$2.95.

A compilation of brief (one or two-page) biographical sketches of sports immortals, emphasizing their careers or their one greatest achievement. The one hundred were selected by sports writers who are listed alphabetically with the names of the newspapers for which they write. Biographees are listed alphabetically also; there is no division or listing by sport, so that reference use is minimal. First published in 1954, and brought up to date in this edition.

M Dennis, Morgan. The Sea Dog. Viking, 1958. 42p. illus. \$2.
2-3

Splash, an Irish water spaniel, lived on a houseboat with Heather and her parents, Himself and Herself. The book describes the building of the houseboat, the pleasant life aboard, and the danger that was averted when the houseboat, The Sea Dog, was caught in a hurricane. A pedestrian picture book, the chief asset of which is the glimpse it gives of the Key West atmosphere of boats, palm trees, and the leisurely life. The illustrations, attractive in themselves, cover almost the full page, so that two scenes are often confusingly close on opposite pages.

R De Regniers, Beatrice Schenk. What Happens Next?; The Adventures of a
4-7 Hero; illus. by Remo. Macmillan, 1959. 40p. \$2.75.
yrs.

A delightful tall tale, brimming with humor and spontaneity. Format and illustrations are handsome, and are particularly well suited to the text. This is the story of Michael, who wanted to be a hero and have adventures, so he packed a knapsack with button-on wings and a long-loaf sandwich and all the obvious things that a hero would need. He had an adventure with a bear and just as she reached with her paw . . . "What happens next?", asks the author, and Michael is off on another ploy. One heroic deed after another is accomplished with nonchalance. Finally (after several years' worth of adventures) the sandwich is gone, so Michael goes home. An enchanting book.

R Dodge, Bertha Sanford. Plants That Changed the World; illus. by Henry B.
8- Kane. Little, 1959. 183p. \$3.50.

An absorbing book, well-researched and adult in tone. The author describes some of the plant products that have made impact on men's lives, giving the historical background and the details of the search for or discovery of the plants that produced the following products or useful foods: breadfruit, chaulmoogra oil, chocolate, curare, Manila hemp, palm, quinine, and rubber. The emphasis is on the product and its parent plant, rather than being on the lives of plant hunters as described in the recent book by Jewett and McCausland; the only duplication is that of the work of Joseph Rock in the search for the chaulmoogra tree.

R Epstein, Samuel and Beryl. The First Book of Maps and Globes; pictures by
4-6 Laszlo Roth. Watts, 1959. 63p. \$1.95.

A good introduction to the subject, though many topics are given rather brief coverage. Maps are explained first in terms of making a simple sketch map of one's own neighborhood; then the special features and usefulness of accurate printed maps are discussed. Globes and maps are compared, and the "worldwide network" of parallels and meridians is explained. Illustrations help to clarify the text, though in a few places the references to a map continue to be made an inconvenient number of pages away from it. Included are a list of places to get maps, a short bibliography, glossary, and index.

R Fatio, Louise. The Three Happy Lions; pictures by Roger Duvoisin. Whitt-
K-2 lesey House, 1959. 32p. \$2.25.

The Happy Lion and his wife were proud of their cub but concerned about his future; with so few careers open to lions, what was Francois to do? First he was taken as a pet, but as Francois grew larger, being a pet became less suitable. So he tried the circus—but he simply couldn't roar with convincing ferocity. Back to the zoo he went, and his parents were delighted to see their child; here Francois found his true vocation—gardening. Illustrations and text have like appeals of gaiety, candor, and a light sprinkling of French words. Good material for reading aloud.

Ad Fenton, Carroll Lane and Carswell, Evelyn. Wild Folk in the Desert; illus. by
4-6 Carroll Lane Fenton. Day, 1958. 128p. \$3.50.

Describes the five great deserts of the United States, and tells of the plants and animals that prosper in the desert. Drawings of plants and animals are informative and are handsome in their infinite detail. The authors use a combination of narrative style (giving a name to the animal being discussed) and straight factual writing. Organization seems random, but the index mitigates somewhat this weakness. Useful for studies in natural science and especially in ecology.

R Freeman, Don. Space Witch. Viking, 1959. 48p. illus. \$2.
1-3

The unearthly adventures of Tillie Ipswich, Queen of Hallowe'en, are told and illustrated in humorous and fanciful vein. Tillie constructed a marvelous space ship from odds and ends about the house, and took off for space with her cat—who was reluctant about going until he heard that they were going through the Milky Way. They landed on Mars (they thought) and were terrified by a shouting band of ghosts screaming "Trick or treat!" By the time Tillie and her cat had returned home the old-fashioned way, by broom, they were happily aware that there's no space like home. A gay and timely tale; even older children can enjoy the humor.

R Gidal, Sonia and Tim. My Village in Israel. Pantheon, 1959. 78p. illus.
5-7 \$3.50.

An interesting addition to an excellent series. Shmuel, a resident of a communal village, tells of his life in the Mosad, the children's community. His parents' home, the co-operative distribution of tasks, the schoolroom, the countryside, and the festive celebrations are illustrated with the same kind of photography that distinguishes the other "My Village" books. Because the setting is that of a modern pioneer commune against the background of familiar and ancient Biblical places, this volume is somewhat different in its atmosphere from the others; also it is unusual in the way it communicates to the reader the attitude of the Israeli-born children who accept with such enthusiasm the life of the Mosad.

M Guillot, Rene. Prince of the Jungle; tr. by Brian Rhys; illus. by Brian Wild-
7-9 smith. Criterion, 1959. 215p. \$3.

An adventure story of the Indian jungle, in which the boys of the Kiang tribe prove their manhood by hunting with the jungle animals. In order to prove that he, rather than another contender, is fitted to be the new leader, fifteen-year-old Raani must submit to the test of the tiger. Raani, the jungle prince, engages in hand-to-hand fight with the enemy tribe, struggles with a mad elephant, tames the great tiger Sharka and has other dramatic adventures. The characters are in a familiar and stereotyped mold: the adoring slave girl, the treacherous high priest, the devoted friend. There is, despite the relentless pace of the action, a vivid portrayal of the jungle atmosphere. Writing style is elaborate and turgid, perhaps due in part to translation.

M Hammond, Winifred G. Elephant Cargo; illus. by Charles Geer. Coward-
4-6 McCann, 1959. 217p. \$3.

Based on a true happening, this is the story of animal cargo rescued from starvation by Navy planes that dropped food bundles while the freighter (which had been slowed in its voyage when the propeller was damaged by a storm) was still at sea. The chief interest of the book is in the voyage and the rescue; for the most part, the fictionalized version is weakened by rather artificial embellishment about the son of the animal buyer and his part in the adventure. Van, age twelve, had purchased a baby elephant and felt that her safe delivery was a test of his status. The story is weakened by the unlikely role taken by Van in caring for the cargo, training his own elephant and engineering the rescue. (He had become friendly with Sparks, who talked to another ham operator whose little sister reported to her class, resulting in newspaper publicity, etc.) Another limiting aspect is the way in which a Thai boy is presented; Choop's speech and his role in the action seem unnecessarily inferior.

R Haywood, Carolyn. Eddie and Louella; written and illus. by Carolyn Haywood.
3-5 Morrow, 1959. 192p. \$2.95.

In the process of loaning his parrot Louella as a dance decoration, Eddie gets caught with his bird and a strange dog while going through a revolving door. Eddie, with his usual affinity for strays, emerges from this hilarious incident with a new dog. When the dance is over, Eddie is given a parrot belonging to somebody else; the remainder of the book is devoted to untangling Eddie's pets. He keeps the dog, Louella is re-

stored to her home, and the reader has enjoyed another pleasant story about Eddie's doings, with nice humor and a simple plot line.

Ad Hickok, Lorena A. The Story of Helen Keller; illus. by Jo Polseno. Grosset, 4-6 1958. 182p. (A Signature Book) \$1.95.

A fictionalized biography, adequate in presentation although the writing style is occasionally banal or careless. The author tells of Helen at the age of six, and of her education by Anne Sullivan; of her years at the Perkins Institution and at Radcliffe with other teachers; and of the long years of service to the cause of the blind and the deaf-blind all over the world. Worth reading for those for whom the Peare biography, reviewed elsewhere in this issue, is too difficult.

NR Hobbs, Barbara. The Hungry Sea Monster. Houghton, 1959. 27p. illus. 4-5 \$2.75.

yrs.

Marta and her little brother saw a sea monster; they offered it various foods, which it refused. But it followed them everywhere. A hamburger man wanted to cook it, and a sea captain wanted to stuff it, and the schoolteacher said there was no such thing. Marta's little brother knew what it wanted to eat—people; so they packed it in a crate and sent it to New York, because there are lots of people there. "MORAL: If you have good common sense, you will never be gobbled up by sea monsters," is the end of the story. While the monster as illustrated looks completely innocuous, the fact that he has been shipped off to dine on citizens of New York may disturb some children of the age for whom this story is written. It is not meant, of course, to be taken seriously, but it fails, as nonsense writing, to be either imaginative or amusing.

R Hoff, Syd. Julius; story and pictures by Syd Hoff. Harper, 1959. 64p. (An I 1-2 Can Read Book) \$1.95.

Davy went with his father to Africa to catch a gorilla for the circus, and one day Davy wandered off by himself. He kicked a coconut into the bushes and someone kicked it back at him—and that was how Davy met Julius, the amiable gorilla with gentlemanly ways. Julius came home with Davy, joined the circus, was lost and found again. Amiable nonsense that serves well as entertaining supplementary fare for the independent beginning reader, but this story hasn't quite the spontaneity of the two previous books by Hoff.

Ad Holsaert, Eunice. Dinosaurs; illus. by Robert Gartland. Holt, 1959. 48p. (A 1-3 Book To Begin On) \$2.50.

Describes in a simplified manner the formation of fossil remains, and thus introduces the subject of dinosaurs. Their evolution is briefly discussed, and the remainder of the book is devoted to identification and illustrations of some of the dinosaurs. There is no pagination, index, or table of contents, and no guide to pronunciation. Illustrations are labeled with the scientific name of the animal, while the text gives the meaning of the name; for example, Ornitholestes is called "Bird Robber." The book is very much like Clark's True Book of Dinosaurs (Childrens Press, 1955), and the simple vocabulary and large print will make the book useful, despite its limitations.

R Holsaert, Eunice. Outer Space; pictures by Ronni Solbert. Holt, 1959. 48p. 1-3 (A Book To Begin On) \$2.50.

A book that will undoubtedly be welcomed by the primary readers who are avidly interested in outer space. A simplified explanation of space travel, the text describes a three-stage rocket, gravity and weightlessness, clothes and equipment needed in outer space. Direct and informal style gives information pleasantly, and the book will be useful for slow older readers because of its subject interest. Some of the diagrams,

particularly that of a three-stage rocket, might be more useful if they were captioned.

NR Howard, Matthew. Nancy and the Unhappy Lion; illus. by Earl W. Moline. Den-
3-4 iso 1958. 31p. \$2.50.
yrs.

Nancy and her parents go to the zoo, where Nancy especially wants to hear the lion roar. Instead of roaring, the lion weeps; none of the other animals can tell Nancy what is wrong until a parrot suggests that the lion may be unhappy because nobody feeds him peanuts. Nancy tries peanuts, but the lion doesn't like them; however, he does roar. This satisfies Nancy, and she leaves the zoo, happy with her bag of peanuts. Told in a doggerel that frequently fails to rhyme or to scan, this slight and contrived picture book has little value.

R Janice. Minette; pictures by Alain. Whittlesey House, 1959. 32p. \$2.25.
K-2

Minette tells her own story as the cat of the Palace of Versailles; formerly she lived with the caretaker's wife, but the caretaker himself had no use for cats. Then Minette got rid of the mouse that had been nibbling national property, dispatching the malnourished creature to a grocery store where he could dine on more appropriate fare. In gratitude, Monsieur le Ministre offered Minette the hospitality of the Palace. So now Minette sleeps in the King's apartments . . . but with one eye open. Minette talks (with a smattering of French) but otherwise is consistently feline in her behavior. A gentle humor pervades text and illustrations; an entertaining story for reading aloud.

M Johnson, Margaret Sweet. Jamie, a Basset Hound; written and illus. by Mar-
2-3 garet S. Johnson. Morrow, 1959. 64p. \$2.50.

Jamie loved to play with his master, Bob, but the boy wasn't there all the time, so Jamie spent much of his time with Priscilla, a goose. Bob's father decided that the puppy was a nuisance and gave him away, but one day Jamie got free and found his way back. Bob asked to keep him, but was refused; then Jamie found the boy lost and asleep in the woods, and Father said that now the basset hound could stay. Weak story line and quite static writing; the simple vocabulary and large type provide easy reading.

R Kalnay, Francis. The Richest Boy in the World; illus. by W. T. Mars. Har-
5-7 court, 1959. 92p. \$2.75.

The story of a Hungarian boarding school for sons of railroad employees, and in particular the story of Tony, the smallest boy in the school. The pompous headmaster had decreed that all the boys must turn in their marbles; this was a great blow, since marbles were the coin of that particular realm, and were taken in trade for anything. During a school holiday the headmaster, to get them out of his room, gave the huge sack of marbles to Tony, who lugged them home feeling that he was the richest boy in the world. But Tony discovered that wealth depended on use, that marbles were only marbles when he was back home, and that one didn't feel comfortable with property that truly belonged to others. A warm and perceptive story, with unusual background and with especially vivid and perceptive characterization; told with humor and written in distinctive style.

R Kay, Helen. The Magic Mitt; illus. by C. L. Hartman. Hastings House, 1959.
2-4 54p. \$2.75.

Lewis wanted to play baseball, but he wasn't very good and he knew that he'd never be asked unless the fellows didn't have enough to make up a team. He wasn't a good catcher at all, and he always was put in the outfield; he knew that if he had a new mitt like Jonathan's he could be good. A mitt like Jonathan's cost \$12, and Lewis planned with his Dad ways of earning the money. He did all sorts of odd jobs and he had Dad

practice playing ball every evening while he waited for the day he could pay for the mitt. The first time he used it in a game, the mitt did seem to be magic . . . but the mitt fell off and Lewis caught a long ball to the outfield with his bare hands. He realized, at that point, that the practice he'd had—the courage he felt—and the determination to be accepted by the other boys were the things that had helped him realize his goal. The moral purpose of the story is so gently implied as not to interfere with the movement of the plot and the simple realism of small events.

R Kay, Helen. A Pony for the Winter; illus. by Ingrid Fetz. Ariel, 1959. 48p. 3-4 \$2.75.

A pleasant and modest horse story. Deborah found out that the ponies from Playland Park were boarded out for the winter, and she convinced her parents that she could take care of Molly, a small black pony. At first all the children of the neighborhood wanted to ride Molly, but they lost interest when Deborah suggested that they help with the work in return for the rides. Her parents were busy, her little sister was too small to be much help, and her older brother had his own interests. Deborah learned the hard way that ponies are a lot of work, but she found it all worthwhile; when she learned that spring that Mollie could be had for the following winter, Deborah was overjoyed.

M Kjelgaard, James Arthur. The Story of Geronimo; illus. by Charles Banks 4-6 Wilson. Grosset, 1958. 180p. (A Signature Book) \$1.95.

The story of the Apache war chief and his desperate struggles for revenge against the Mexicans and for independence in the face of the white man's usurpation of Indian territory. A more softened picture of Geronimo's personality and his behavior than is presented in the Moody biography, reviewed on page 36. Motivation is ascribed, as is usual in the case of the American Indian, to resentment and indignation over the treatment by the white man without reference to the factors that affected an individual: accurately but in a superficial fashion. Writing style is quite pedestrian.

M Lauber, Patricia. The Runaway Flea Circus; illus. by Catherine Barnes. Random House, 1958. 73p. (An Easy-To-Read Book) \$1.95.

Tom and Susie overhear Tom's parents talking about the sad disrepair of their home. The children decide to give a circus, using fleas from Tom's dog Bimbo. They chase him outdoors and the foolish adults spread the rumor that a wild animal has escaped . . . has eaten two children . . . it was a lion . . . it was a pack of lions, etc. Meanwhile, the children collect the dog's fleas, but lose the box in which they have been placed. Great commotion ensues, the flea circus is given the quietus, and somehow out of Susie's prattling comes a raise for Tom's father. A rather disconnected tale, in which none of the people seem real, let alone sensible. Useful for slow readers up to sixth grade.

R Leonard, Jonathan N. Exploring Science; illus. by Louis Darling and I. N. 6- Steinberg. World, 1959. 319p. (A Rainbow Book) \$4.95.

An interesting and useful book, comprehensive in scope and lucid in its explanation of complex phenomena. The first section of the book treats of the natural world around us: the planet itself, the beginnings of life, the formation and erosion of land, ocean currents, weather, the parts of the solar system, and deep space. The second half of the book discusses the human being and his evolution, achievements, progress and possible future. Some of the topics included are communication and transportation, agriculture, medical progress, technological progress, and the new possibilities for energy from fission and fusion. A list of books for further reading, chosen by a librarian for readers age ten and up, is given at the back of the book, as is an index.

Ad Lewellen, John Bryan and Shapiro, Irwin. The Story of Flight; From the An-

5-8 cient Winged Gods to the Age of Space; illus. with old prints, photographs, and original paintings and drawings by Harry McNaught. Golden Press, 1959. 97p. (A Giant Golden Book) \$3.95.

An oversize book profusely illustrated with photographs, diagrams, and drawings, giving the history of man's progress in the development of guided flight. The major portion of the book is devoted to the advances made since the flight of the Wright brothers, and sections on jets, helicopters, guided missiles, and the space age are included. All of the information is available elsewhere: some, for example, in Fisher's The Wonderful World of the Air, some in Bishop's From Kite to Kitty Hawk, but the coverage and style are adequate and the book gives a good survey, although it is too broad to be thorough on any one aspect. The format and illustrations indicate that the book will probably be used by boys below fifth grade for browsing.

M McDonald, Lucile Saunders and Zola, Helen Ross. Assignment in Ankara. 7-9 Nelson, 1959. 184p. \$2.95.

Norma was thrilled at the prospect of her first assignment abroad as a secretary in the Foreign Service: Seville. Just before she left Washington, she dated Rash O'Connor, who had spent most of his life abroad, but seemed to have a rather ordinary job in the Service. When last-minute orders to go to Ankara came through, Norma was disappointed; she found the work exciting, however, and enjoyed sharing an apartment with another secretary. She also enjoyed having Turkish friends; when Rash showed up, her life became more interesting still, although he had a disconcerting habit of leaving town. Norma played an instrumental role in unmasking a Turkish traitor who was spying in the United States Embassy, and through this learned that Rash actually worked for Security; she also agreed to marry him at the end of the year. Pedestrian writing and superficial characterization are mitigated by the fairly interesting information about the Foreign Service and by the unusual background.

R McSpadden, Joseph Walker. The Book of Holidays; illus. by Robert Galster. 6- Crowell, 1958. 246p. \$3.

Third revision of the 1917 publication. The writing style is informal enough to make the information appealing to upper grade readers, although some of the material is presented with a flavor that seems more garrulous than informative. The sections, beginning with New Year's Day, deal each with a major or minor holiday celebrated in the United States. The origin of each holiday and some of the customs and superstitions related to it are described. One chapter discusses Jewish holidays, another some of the holidays of some other countries, and of the Moslem religion. A list of holidays of the United States and of the states in which they are celebrated is appended, as are a brief bibliography and an index.

Ad Massey, Jeanne. The Littlest Witch; illus. by Adrienne Adams. Knopf, 1959. K-2 34p. \$2.75.

All of the witches wanted to take part in the race to the moon on Hallowe'en night, because the prize was a beautiful cobweb. The littlest witch wasn't sure that she liked pulling dogs' tails or changing into a ghost, but she was sure she'd like to ride to the moon. Alas, first she stopped to help a lost kitten—then she was held up while she helped a pumpkin—then a boy. She knew it was too late to race, so she went back to the witches' circle to wait. While she waited, she slept, and as she slept the spiders wove a veil about her. When the other witches came back, they were most annoyed, because her veil was lovelier than the prize, but the Oldest Witch defended the little one's unnatural behavior. Every circle, she explained, had its odd member: they would simply have to put up with a good witch who liked helping people. A pleasant Hallowe'en story.

R Meyer, Edith Patterson. Champions of Peace; Winners of the Nobel Peace

7-10 Prize; illus. by Eric von Schmidt. Little, 1959. 216p. \$3.50.
A well-researched collective biography of some of the winners of the Nobel Peace Prize; a good companion volume to the author's biography of Alfred Nobel. The brevity of treatment of each subject, and the fact that emphasis is on the work for peace rather than other facets of the lives of the prize winners lend a unity to the random selections. Writing style is dignified but never dull. Appended are a copy of the relevant portion of Nobel's will, the regulations for the award of the Nobel Peace Prize, and a list of the winners of the prize. A listing of source materials and an index are included. The prize winners whose work is described in this volume are, in chronological order, Dunant, Passy, Cremer, von Suttner, Theodore Roosevelt, Wilson, Nansen, Addams, Butler, Angell, von Ossietzky, the International Committee of Red Cross, the British Friends Service Council, the American Friends Service Committee, Bunche, Schweitzer, and Pearson.

R Molloy, Ann Stearns (Baker). Blanche of the Blueberry Barrens; illus. with 4-7 linoleum cuts by Arline K. Thomson. Hastings House, 1959. 168p. \$2.95.
Blanche's family moved to the blueberry barrens every summer to pick, on leased land, for the cannery; this summer Blanche had been told that she was to take the place of her older sister as housekeeper while the others picked. Blanche disliked the solitude, although she enjoyed having the care of her baby brother, and she had a hard time learning to assume responsibility. A rather strange girl became her friend and made her days more interesting; Blanche learned quite a bit about growing up and getting satisfaction out of her dull duties by the time the summer was over. A convincing story, with good characterization, lively writing pace, and a distinctive flavor of period and locale.

R Moody, Ralph. Geronimo: Wolf of the Warpath; illus. by Nicholas Eggenhofer. 6-8 Random House, 1958. 186p. (A Landmark Book) \$1.95.
A biography of the renegade Apache warrior that gives a good background of both the relationships among the Apaches, Mexicans, and Americans and of the family background of Geronimo. The author draws a forceful picture of the bitter and desperate struggle of the last of the outlaw bands. Neither the white man nor the Indian is drawn as a stereotype, and Geronimo emerges the more vividly because the author has described his childhood and the part played by his mother in encouraging the young warrior to revenge. Also of interest is Geronimo's relationship with other Apaches, since his behavior as an outlaw is more natural for a hostile personality than for one completely accepted by his tribe.

NR Myers, Madeleine N. The Courting-Lamp Mystery; illus. by Mircea Vasiliu. 7-9 Holt, 1959. 190p. \$3.
Julie Cameron had failed her senior year at college and was depressed by her failure as well as being discouraged by comparisons with other members of her intellectual family. When the Camerons came to their summer home on Cape Cod, Julie found a job in a gift shop, became interested in old glass, fell in love with Brad, and became involved in the affairs of some of the local residents who had had inter-familial friction. A summer romance-cum-new career novel written to a familiar pattern in pedestrian style.

SpC North, Sterling. The Birthday of Little Jesus; illus. by Valenti Angelo. Gros- 4-6 set, 1959. 56p. \$1.50.
yrs.

A Christmas story to read aloud; most useful for religious education collections. On the day before his seventh birthday, Jesus finds that a favorite sheep, Deborah, is missing, and He asks parental permission to go from home and hunt for her. When He still has not found her toward the end of the day, the Child prays; his prayers are

answered and He finds the lost sheep in a cave with her newborn lamb. When He is home and the night has fallen, Mary tells Jesus again the story of His birth. Then the Child sleeps and the star shines. Although it seems an embroidery on the Christmas story, and an attempt to identify the childhood of Jesus with that of the listener, the tale is told with dignity and the illustrations have a quiet charm.

R Peare, Catherine Owens. The Helen Keller Story. Crowell, 1959. 183p.
6-9 \$2.75.

Although Helen Keller's story has been told many times, this presentation is as fresh and as moving as though it were a first account. The author has created vividly real scenes in this biography; she writes with compassion and excitement, and she writes extremely well. Appended are a selected bibliography; a brief list of suggestions for behavior with the person who is blind, deaf, or deaf-blind; and a chart of the finger positions in the one-hand alphabet used by deaf-blind people.

NR Plasmati, Valdine. The Magnificent Pumpkin; illus. by Heidi Ogawa. Viking,
4-6 1959. 47p. \$2.50.
yrs.

Millie and Bill Brown had great expectations when they planted their pumpkin seeds, and when the crop ripened, they were sure that their largest pumpkin could win a prize at the harvest fair. The children were dismayed when the magnificent pumpkin fell and broke, but Mother saved the day. She made an enormous and wonderful pie that won a blue ribbon and a silver medal, and that night Millie and Bill realized that they'd never tasted the pie at all—and that Mother would simply have to make another one. A read-aloud picture book with text of only the mildest interest, and crayon illustrations that are awkwardly proportioned and pedestrian in conception.

NR Priddy, Frances. TV Bandstand. Westminster, 1959. 191p. \$2.95.
7-9

When the Kelsey house burns down, Susan goes to stay with her aunt while the new house is being built. Aunt Laura helps Susan choose new clothes and get a new coiffure. Susan agrees to help the boy next door learn to dance so that his true love will be impressed. With new confidence, she makes new friends when school starts and becomes one of the elite group that attends a TV dance program. Susan, a very good dancer, wins a prize and eventually finds a true love of her own. The concentration of interest in the book gives a rather unrealistic picture of adolescent activities, and the shallow values of the young people are only slightly mitigated by Susan and her boy friend avoiding each other (temporarily) to avoid wounding the girl with whom he had been going steady. The opening scene of the book, in which the Kelsey family surveys the ruins of the house with remarkably casual reaction, is jarring in its superficiality.

NR Richmond, Cecil Jane. Copy Girl. Westminster, 1959. 188p. \$2.95.
7-9

Sue Whitmer's father had been a foreign correspondent, and she dreamed of a career as a newspaperwoman. After her final year of high school, Sue took a job as copy girl for a local paper. Here she was amazingly successful, writing a front-page story complete with byline, on her third day of work. Since the paper is not a small local sheet, but a sizeable publication put out by a large staff, such a coup is hardly credible. Superficial characterization, shallow values.

R Selby-Lowndes, Joan. The Blue Train; The Story of Anton Dolin. Abelard-
6-8 Schuman, 1958. 253p. \$3.50.

The biography of Pat Kay, the English lad who became a famous ballet dancer under the name of Anton Dolin. The climax of his success came when he danced the lead in

"The Blue Train," written for him by Cocteau and Milhaud, produced by Diaghileff—the first time in the history of the Russian Ballet that a leading part had been given to an Englishman. The writing is brisk and informal, and the material interesting because of the unusual subject; the audience for the book may, however, be limited because of this very factor.

Ad Sexton, Gwain. There Once Was a King. Scribner, 1959. 86p. illus. \$2.50.
K-2

For reading aloud, a long nonsense tale in rhyme; illustrations are vivacious and gay. Maximilian was a spoiled and bad-tempered monarch who drove his dragon recklessly, tweaked the noses of his pages, and never, never was polite. One day a pigeon flew off with his wishing stone, and when the King became ill, all his wishing was in vain. No friends, no dainty foods, no dragon appeared in response to his screams. Maximilian was sadder and sadder—until a small friendly mouse appeared and cared for him. In gratitude for this relief, His Majesty changed his ways and became polite, generous, and modest. The metamorphosis is fast even for a fanciful tale, and is therefore somewhat jarring. The metric weaknesses of the writing are a minor distraction.

NR Simister, Florence Parker. Girl with a Musket; illus. by Lloyd Coe. Hastings
6-8 House, 1959. 116p. \$2.75.

A Revolutionary War story. Anne Saunders, although orphaned and alone, rejected the security of marriage to Sam Prentice. He was making weapons for the Rhode Island army and would be staying in Browne's Mill; Anne wanted to do something active for the patriot cause when she heard the news of the occupation of Newport. She donned men's clothing and enlisted, took an active part in the fighting, fell in love with a man who proved himself a coward. Not until she was wounded was her sex discovered, and during her convalescence Anne had time to think and to realize that there are many ways of giving service. She knew then that she loved Sam. At the close of the book she returns home to Browne's Mill and Sam's arms. There is no explanation of how the girl lived with soldiers and yet concealed her sex; since the author based the story on historical incident, the deception is undoubtedly possible, but the omission of any explanation is a weakness. The action is slow, and there is little important historical value in the book, although the facts that are incorporated are authentic.

R Stefansson, Evelyn (Schwartz) Baird. Here Is Alaska. Rev. statehood ed.
5-9 Scribner, 1959. 178p. illus. \$3.50.

Rewritten edition of an excellent 1943 publication. Information on Alaska's statehood and on the industrial progress of recent years has been added, as have photographs. The text has kept all salient information of a historical or anthropological nature; incorporation of new material and revision of old have been carefully done so that the text reads smoothly. New facts on education, defense, and urban development are presented. A useful and interesting book, especially so because of Alaska's new status.

R Steinbeck, John. The Red Pony; with illus. by Wesley Dennis. Viking, 1959.
9-12 120p. \$2.75.

First published in 1937, this story of a shy and sensitive boy is tremendously effective and beautifully written. Jody loves the red pony colt with an intensity that is in part the result of the loneliness of his own life on the ranch. The boy learns bitterness when the pony dies and he later finds a new interest in the colt he has been promised when it is born. All through a long year, Jody works and plans for the colt that will be born; again he has a heart-rending experience, for the colt is brought into the world at the cost of its mother's life. The elemental simplicity of the ranch life and the powerfully-constructed characters lend dignity to some of the harshly realistic scenes.

NR Steiner, Charlotte. Listen to My Seashell. Knopf, 1959. 34p. illus. \$3.25.
3-5
yrs.

Familiar sounds are described in a rhyming picture book for reading aloud. Unfortunately, the rhyme is often halting and the sounds are not always clearly representative; for example, "frum" is a cat purring and the canary sings "tirrilee." Some of the sounds—a harp or a cello, for example—will be unfamiliar to many pre-school children.

NR Stephane, Nelly. Roland; pictures by Andre Francois. Harcourt, 1958. 32p.
4-6 \$3.25.
yrs.

Roland was standing in the corner, because he had been late to school; because he had nothing to do, he drew a tiger on the wall with his pencil. When he said "crack" to the tiger, it came to life; but it left the schoolroom at the request of the teacher. Roland found that "crack" made other things come to life, and when he said it to a fur coat and the skins became animals and ran away, he was sent to prison. But one of the animals rescued him, so he went to visit a poor little girl who had no toys. The story goes on in episodes that have no continuity and little humor. Illustrative technique is interesting, although some of the pictures may be confusing; for example, one page shows Roland falling into a canal, with five bodies being depicted to indicate the direction of the fall.

NR Ward, Nanda and Haynes, Bob. Wellington and the Witch. Hastings House,
3-4 1959. 56p. illus. \$2.95.

Difficult vocabulary for the age reader who would probably most enjoy the story of a Hallowe'en cat. Wellington, a grocer's cat who is dissatisfied with his sedentary life, follows a customer home. She turns out to be a witch, and Wellington has a rather boring time of it until he participates in a Hallowe'en flight. He finds broomstick-riding exhilarating, but when an effort is made to send him to the moon by magic, Wellington suffers space-sickness and protests. He is delighted to find himself rejected and back in the familiar grocery store. Labored writing style and unattractive illustrations.

NR Webb, Robert N. We Were There with Florence Nightingale in the Crimea; his-
5-7 torical consultant: Louis L. Snyder; illus. by Evelyn Copelman. Grosset,
1958. 180p. \$1.95.

Written in the familiar pattern of this series—fictional adventures set against a historical background. Pamela, who wants to be a nurse, is allowed to work as a volunteer in a London hospital, and later at Scutari. Although her mother thinks nursing is not a proper career for ladies, she is aware of the great need for all helpers when she comes to the Crimea to search for her husband (for Pam's father is a member of the famous Light Brigade) and her son, who has run away to join the army. They are all reunited in time and sail back to England, the thirteen-year-old Pam having been at Florence Nightingale's side in somewhat unbelievable situations. While there is historical interest in the Crimean War as well as in Miss Nightingale's story, the melodramatic portrayal of the fictional characters lessens rather than aids such interest. There are many better accounts of nursing in the Crimea for upper grade readers, and the brief review of Florence Nightingale's career in Armed with Courage (McNeer and Ward; Abingdon, 1957) gives as much of the pertinent information as can be found in this volume.

R Weber, Lenora Mattingly. A Bright Star Falls. Crowell, 1959. 260p. \$3.
7-9

A new Beany Malone story, in which Beany meets some problem situations in a mature fashion. First, her brother Johnny: Beany knew that Garnet, the girl with whom

he had fallen in love, was mercenary and cheap—but she couldn't say it to Johnny. Then, the true tragedy of the book, the death of Rosellen (the bright star of the title) and its effect on her circle. Especially poignant, to Beany, is the effect on Andy, who turns away from her in his bitter reaction to his sister's death. Although the author tends to sentimentalize about Rosellen, the writing style is, on the whole, vigorous and crisp. The perennial appeal of familiar characters will attract the large existing Malone audience.

R Wellman, Paul Iselin. Gold in California; illus. by Lorence Bjorklund. Houghton, 1958. 184p. (A North Star Book) \$1.95.

The story of California gold and the influence its discovery had on shaping the new state. The author gives an interesting picture of life in peaceful California before the gold rush, and of the small empire built up by Sutter, whose employee found the first gold and whose life was ruined by the find. Lively writing style and realistic illustrations give an excellent picture of early California as well as of the gold rush itself.

Ad Whitney, Phyllis Ayame. Creole Holiday. Westminster, 1959. 206p. \$2.95.
7-9

When Laure Beaudine was eighteen, she went for the first time away from the cold, strict aunt who had brought her up; for the first time she met some of her Creole relatives and knew the charm of life in New Orleans. Laure's father was one of the great actors of the 1890's, but his proud mother had never forgiven his choice of profession. Laure could not convince her father that she had a talent for acting also; by the time she did impress this upon him, the girl had found that she wanted the man she loved rather than the goal of a stage career which she had so long held dear. Good writing style. The characters are consistently motivated, although some of the older members of the Beaudine family are rather stereotyped, like the two fluttery maiden aunts, dressed all in black, with high laced shoes and ancient bonnets.

R Wibberley, Leonard. John Treegate's Musket. Ariel, 1959. 188p. \$2.95.
6-9

A Revolutionary War story that is out of the ordinary. Peter's father, John Treegate, a respectable Boston citizen, was loyal to the king. Peter himself, when his father left him apprenticed and went off to England on business, struggled to maintain his position against the evidences of the validity of patriot claims. Innocently embroiled in an unpleasant episode, Peter left Boston, and came, after sundry adventures, to North Carolina, where he grew up in the wilderness as the companion of a lonely Scotsman named Maclaren. Eventually the young man Peter Treegate remembered his father who thought him dead, and with Maclaren went to Boston, where with John Treegate they fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill. The musket, which Treegate had never expected to use against his king, was fired in the patriot cause; the author does a very convincing job of converting the ardent royalist to an angered citizen fighting against oppression. This is the first of a Revolutionary War trilogy about the Treegate family.

R Wohlrabe, Raymond A., and Krusch, Werner E. The Land and People of Venezuela. Lippincott, 1959. 124p. illus. (Portraits of the Nations) \$2.95.

An interesting addition to the series, this volume gives a balanced picture of Venezuelan history, geography and economic status. The chapter divisions are chiefly by large geographical areas, and include local history, facts about the inhabitants, agriculture and industry—or they are divided in broad chronological segments, such as a long period of exploration and conquest, or a chapter on recent history that covers the years 1935-1958. A small number of photographs is bound into the center of the book, and an index is included. The style of writing is straightforward, even a bit dry.

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