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## The Phoenix Nest

THE first thing that greeted us this morning on our desk was a large reproduction of a portrait of *Christopher Robin*, attested by his father and collaborator, *A. A. Milne*. \* \* \* Dutton is just launching a new large advertising campaign about "When We Were Very Young". Its success has been phenomenal in every respect. It is now even a best-seller in China! \* \* \* We are secreting our copy of the special Holiday gift edition and expect to hurl it at some unsuspecting child for Christmas. We think the child will thank us for being rough! \* \* \* *Padraic Colum*, whose many books for children have all been distinguished, is the author of two new ones this fall, "The Voyagers: Being Legends and Histories of Atlantic Discovery", and "The Forge in the Forest", the latter most beautifully illustrated by *Boris Artzybasheff*. \* \* \* New editions of old favorites like "The Adventures of Pinocchio," "Kidnapped," and *Mrs. Molesworth's* "The Cuckoo Clock and the Tapestry Room," are also features of the season. \* \* \* *Hugh Lofting's* Doctor Dolittle is still going strong, and "Doctor Dolittle's Zoo," the most recent of his volumes promises to rival the sales of the others. \* \* \* About the best new book of Children's Plays is *Stark Young's* "Sweet Times and the Blue Policeman," a collection originally written for the children of *Dr. Alexander Meiklejohn*, recently President of Amherst College. \* \* \* They can be acted without scenery or costumes by children of from seven to twelve years. \* \* \* And you'd hardly pick *C. Kay Scott* and *Evelyn Scott*, the serious and sombre novelists, to have concocted a fascinating tale for boys and girls about a little American boy who gets lost in the Sahara Desert. But they have! \* \* \* They thoroughly know the life of Arab camps and villages; which makes their story carry conviction. \* \* \* The first collection of *Walter de la Mare's* short stories for children is called "Broomsticks and Other Stories". Some of the delectable titles are "The Three Sleeping Boys of Warwickshire", "Pigtails Ltd." and "Esmeralda". \* \* \* *Louis Untermeyer's* free adaption from the children's stories of *Gottfried Keller*, published under the title of "The Fat of the Cat," is delightfully illustrated by the Viennese artist, *Albert Sallak*. \* \* \* And Untermeyer's excellent anthology of poetry for children, "This Singing World," is still going strong. \* \* \* *Carl Sandburg's* "Rootabaga" books and *Laurence Housman's* "A Doorway in Fairyland" and "Moonshine and Clover," all capital children's books, are also obtainable through Harcourt, Brace. \* \* \* Beautiful Christmas gift books for children are "The Flying Carpet," edited by *Lady Cynthia Asquith* and "The Knave of Hearts," by *Louise Saunders*, with fourteen full-page illustrations by Maxfield Parrish. \* \* \* And the Scribner Series for Young People, a list of famous classics at a popular price, contains such excellent titles as several by *Jules Verne*, several by *Stevenson*, "The Hoosier Schoolboy," by *Edward Eggleston* (a favorite of our youth!), *Kirk Munro's* "At War With Pontiac," *W. H. Frost's* "The Court of King Arthur," several *Hentys*, *Mary Mapes Dodge's* "Hans Brinker, or The Silver Skates," and so on. \* \* \* The *Francis Bedford* illustrations to the new edition of *E. V. Lucas's* "Another Book of Verses

for Children," first published in 1907, are alone worth the price of the volume, which is three dollars. \* \* \* Another book well worth the same price is the new children's story, "Poor Cecco," by *Margery Williams Bianco*, mother of *Pamela Bianco*. *Arthur Rackham* has gorgeously illustrated this fantasy. \* \* \* *Mrs. Bianco*, it will be remembered, was the author of "The Velvetten Rabbit," that delicious book for children that the famous English painter *William Nicholson* illustrated. It was brought out by *Doran*, and so is "Poor Cecco." \* \* \* And in "The Little Library" of dollar books published by *Macmillan*, it may be recalled that *Margery Williams Bianco's* "The Little Wooden Doll," is charmingly adorned with six color inserts and many line drawings by the famous *Pamela*. \* \* \* We have always had a special fondness for *The Bookshop for Boys and Girls* at 270 Boylston Street, Boston, ever since we procured from them a really old-fashioned imported toy theatre of the kind *Robert Louis Stevenson* used to buy, and found it highly valued by the younger members of the home circle. \* \* \* Now this remarkable bookshop has opened a new room, to serve especially parents, teachers, clergymen, social workers, and others who are interested in young people. \* \* \* Here are books on the care of children, the conduct of the home, the history and philosophy of education, new educational methods, religious training, dramatics and entertainments, and so on. \* \* \* Coöperation and general helpfulness is the spirit of *The New Room*. \* \* \* Among young poets, *Nathalia Crane*, twelve years old, remains a modern prodigy. Her second book of poems, "Lava Lane" (*Seltzer*) contains some remarkable things. She was recently invited to join the British Society of Authors, Playwrights and Composers, of which *Thomas Hardy* is president. \* \* \* *The Sunrise Turn, Inc.*, a Modern Book Shop, has new plans. Their First Edition gallery is growing in scope. They have facilities for getting copies signed by the author; they execute good bindings, and make slip-cases and solander cases. \* \* \* They will make an interesting catalogue raisonné of your library. They are beginning a small Americana section. They accept commissions for bookplate designs by *Eric Gill* and *Rockwell Kent*. They continue to bring new ideas from abroad and from other parts of our own country into public notice. \* \* \* Note their address, Yale Club Building, 51 East 44th Street. This is one of the most interesting book-stores in New York. \* \* \* And, speaking of catalogues, *Pierce & Scopes* (O noted name!), Inc. of 59 Maiden Lane, Albany, N. Y. (a climbing by-street of winsome nomenclature that we knew well in our youth!) advertise a "First Collected Edition of the 'Learned' Sir Thos. Browne" as "The Works of the Learned Sir Thomas Browne, Kt. Doctor of Physick; Late of Norwich. Containing—"—well, of course, "Enquiries into Vulgar and Common Errors", "Religio Medici", "Hydrotophia; or Urn Burial, together with The Garden of Cyrus", "Miscellany Tracts", etc. \* \* \* "Hydrotophia" we were guided to early in our career, and to us it exudes a glamour rivalled only by certain writings of *Coleridge*, *De Quincey*, and *Sir John Maundeville*. \* \* \*

THE PHOENICIAN

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