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DESERVE

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BY WILLIAM ROSE BENÉT

THE present abundance of fiction for adults is a phenomenon of the age. But a large army of writers is also producing juvenile fiction. The following rapid survey serves to illustrate its variety. The growing girl of today enlists the attention of many thoroughly competent writers and the boy of today has a wealth of stories from which to choose. For their smaller brothers and sisters there are many delightful books of all kinds, some of which are mentioned in this article.

Attention, Young Ladies!

There are varied settings for the stories for girls of from ten to sixteen, the Kentucky hills, the Ozarks, Colorado, on the road with gypsies into Illinois, New Jersey, Czechoslovakia, and even Japan. To begin with: Christine Noble Govan, who is Mrs. Ben Lucien Burman. She has the recommendation of no less an adult author than Gladys Hasty Carroll, and her new book "Five at Ashefield" (Houghton Mifflin, \$2) will appeal to the young of both sexes. It tells what adventures four orphan children found on their Aunt's farm in the foothills of the Appalachians. There they discover a real home and friends, and happiness after a good many doubts and fears. The book becomes distinctly a "family" story. The illustrations are of a pleasant kind. Choice between two other Houghton Mifflin books will depend upon whether you are an Easterner or are more interested in the West. Of the two I myself found Theodora DuBois's story of lively young Diana Froster, at the Eastern boarding-school of Clumber Hall, both original, amusing, and distinctly up-to-date. It is called "Diana's Feathers" (\$2). Here is a girl in an American school whose mother is in England and who has spent her childhood in India. She possesses an effervescent imagination and the courage of her convictions. The contrasted girl who is enamoured of the Moving Pictures is a freshly-imagined, convincing character.

"Penny for Luck," by Florence Crannell Means, from the same publisher, is the story of Penny Adams who runs away from an orphanage, and finds with a family from Denver a delightful location in a deserted Colorado mining town. The large marginless illustrations to the book, by Paul Quinn, deserve special mention, as they are both ambitious and artistic. Penny is a child of nature, with both grit and wit. And Lona Allen of Kentucky is just such another—and also an orphan (orphans seem to be favorites this year!) is "Lona of Hollybush Creek" (Little, Brown, \$2). Genevieve Fox, Lona's creator, has given us other stories of the mountain girl, Sairy Ann Hall, who adopted Lona. Forrest Orr's illustrations seem to me to get the atmosphere of the

Kentucky mountains as does Miss Fox's narrative. Naturally in the stories both about Penny and about Lona you run into dialect. And a Kentucky mountain story wouldn't be a good one if some of the hill ballads didn't enter into it! The Ozark Mountains in Missouri are rather similar.

Alfred A. Knopf publishes Nancy Nance's account of eight girl scouts who camped there one summer ("Girl Scouts in the Ozarks": \$1.75). And in the chapter on Dewey's Cabin you run into a real mountain dance with such shouting from the "caller" as

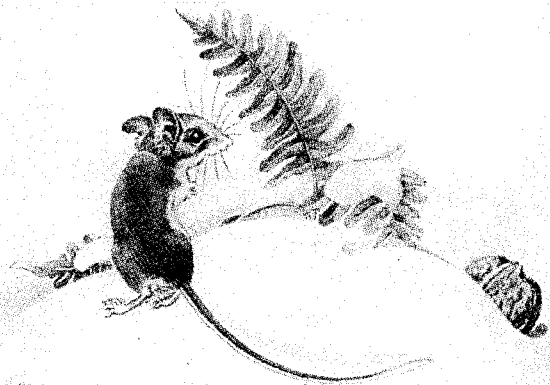
*Up th' river an' round th' bend  
Right hands up an a-goin' ag'in!  
Pig in th' pen, an' a four rails high,  
Feed that pig or else he'll die!*

Yes, there is frolic on the mountain, a yarb-doctor, and, most exciting of all, a Spanish treasure cave. You also learn a lot about the "victuals" of that region. This is a good story for girls who are fond of the open.

I should select "Chiyo's Return" and "The House of Many Tongues" as the most important of the remaining books for girls. The former, because here is the daughter of that delightful Madame Etsu Sugimoto, author of "A Daughter of the Samurai," writing of her reacquaintance with her native land after an absence in America of ten school years. High school girls will gain from it a first-rate knowledge of just what Japan is like today. It is excellently illustrated by Bunji Tagawa (Doubleday, Doran, \$2). Naturally the daughter of so literary a mother writes well, and is unusually well qualified to act as an interpreter of Japan to the country in which she was educated. Her name, by the way, is Chiyono Sugimoto Kiyooka. Fjeril Hess has before this written of Prague. His new book, "The House of Many Tongues" (Macmillan, \$2) tells of how young American Lynn Garrow takes on important responsibilities in Czechoslovakia, and finally an active part in the building of a great student centre. You met Lynn before, if you read "The Mounted Falcon." Active and intelligent girls who wish to enlarge their horizons, and be of real use in the large but closely-knit world of today, will find real inspiration in this story. It is placed just subsequent to the late World War and, on Lynn's part, is a fine example of self-reliance.

Chesley Kahmann certainly knows American gypsies, and his "Tara, Daughter of the Gypsies" (Smith & Haas, \$2) is illustrated by a genuine artist, F. Luis Mora. Travel with the gypsies, young ladies, and see quite a slice of the United States through their eyes! Or, if you prefer a sure-fire girls' book with a nice clipper-ship-era mystery in it, though in

(Continued on page 24)



# BOOK NEWS

—for—

## Young Readers

### The Golden Horseshoe

By ELIZABETH COATSWORTH

*Illustrated by Robert Lawson*

The story of Tamar, a little girl of old Virginia, and her life in a great mansion on the James and high in the mountain passes,—especially the exciting part she played following the great Spotswood expedition disguised as Raccoon, an Indian boy. A distinguished tale of colonial days, beautifully illustrated. \$2.00

—For Younger Readers—



### Four Tales From Hans Andersen

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An Anniversary edition of the first four tales of this great story teller. A choice little book beautifully printed with fine wood cut engravings by Gwen Raverat. \$1.25

### The Box of Delights

By JOHN MASEFIELD

*Illustrated by Judith Masefield*

More adventures of Kay Harker, the hero of THE MIDNIGHT FOLK this time involving a Magic Box. An unusual fantasy by the great English novelist. \$2.50

### Grindstone Farm

By HENRY B. LENT

*Illustrated by Wilfrid S. Bronson*

A visit to an up-to-date farm which has all the modern machines to help the farmer save time and money. A good story and much information also. \$1.75

### The Lotus Mark

By PHYLLIS AYER SOWERS

*Illustrated by Margaret Ayer*

The story of Plick, a little boy of Siam, and his life in that interesting country. \$1.75

### —New Picture Books—

### Who Goes There?

By DOROTHY P. LATHROP

A picture story book of a winter picnic in the woods, with fourteen beautiful full-page pictures by this inimitable animal artist. \$1.50

### Up in the Air

By MARJORIE FLACK

*Illustrated by Karl Larsson*

The story of the first living creatures' ascension in a balloon when a cock and a duck and a sheep took to the air in 1783. Color pictures. \$1.75

### Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp

*Illustrated by Elizabeth Mackinstry*

A favorite fairy tale with pictures in color and black and white by a famous artist. \$1.75



### Jamaica Johnny

By BERTA and ELMER HADER

The story of Johnny, a little black boy, who lives in Jamaica—about his many pets and lively adventures. All the friends of SPUNKY and MIDGET AND BRIDGET will love this new book. Many pictures in color and black and white. \$2.00

### Luck of the Roll and Go

By RUTH and LATROBE CARROLL

*Illustrated by Ruth Carroll*

A stowaway kitten on an expedition to the South Pole. A fine cat and dog story with lots of information about the Antarctic. \$1.50

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### MACMILLAN BOOKS

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS



### Caddie Woodlawn

By CAROL RYRIE BRINK

*Illustrated by Kate Seredy*

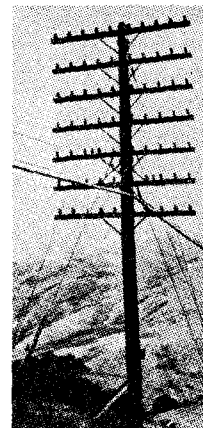
The adventuresome childhood of a lively little pioneer who lived on the Wisconsin frontier in Civil War days. Caddie's story, full of exciting happenings, built out of an authentic background, makes "a book that should endure. It has the very essence of pioneer America." (Child Life.) Many beautiful full-page illustrations. \$2.00

For Older Young People

### Talking Wires

By CLARA LAMBERT

All about the telephone. A remarkable book of dramatic stories, fine photographs, and technical information. A book for all ages. Over 150 photographs. \$2.00



### The Legend of Saint Columba

By PADRAIC COLUM

*Illustrated by Elizabeth Mackinstry*

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### Three Sides of Agiochook

By ERIC P. KELLY

*Illustrated by Le Roy Appleton*

An adventure story laid in Revolutionary New England, and a fine picture of early Dartmouth. \$2.00

### The House of Many Tongues

By FJERIL HESS

*Illustrated by Edward Caswell*

About Lynn Garrow and her unusual job at the Student Center in Prague. \$2.00

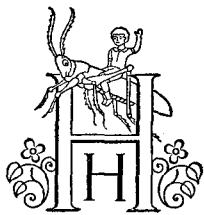
### The Saintons Go to Bethlehem

By HELEN HILL and VIOLET MAXWELL

A collection of fine old folk songs of Provence with music, grouped together to make a Christmas play. Illustrations in color. \$2.00

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By Caroline Singer. Designed and il-  
lustrated by C. L. Baldridge. \$1.75

JAUFREY THE KNIGHT AND  
THE FAIR BRUNISSENDE.  
A Tale of King Arthur's Day. Illus-  
trated by John Atherton. \$2.00

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## The Children's Bookshop

(Continued from page 22)

an entirely contemporary setting, try the latest by an author with thirty girls' books to her credit, "The Figurehead of the Folly," by Augusta Huiell Seaman (Doubleday, Doran, \$1.75). Or, again, if you would like a pleasant excursion into the past—into the Gay Nineties, in fact—acquaint yourself with a most human Southern girl in a very good picture of that period, "Patsy's Progress," by Rose B. Knox (Dodd, Mead, \$2).

### Careers and Adventure for Boys

And now let me turn to the brothers of the family! In the first place—Indians! There's "Injuns Comin'," for the younger boys, a story of a Vermont family in the Minnesota of eighty years ago—about the real Bullis family, written by Franklin H. Bullis in collaboration with M. Winston Pearson, and illustrated by Peter Hurd (Scribners, \$2). Take a look at the red-skin visage rising through the trap-door on page 85, and you'll be into the book before you know it. Ralph Hubbard's "The Wolf Song" (Doubleday, Doran, \$2) is also a junior book, by the son of Elbert Hubbard, who seems to know a lot about the Kiowas. It traces the wanderings of a homeless Indian family guided by a wolf's cry. "Indian Brother," for boys slightly older, is founded on fact. Many parts of the story appeared in *The Open Road for Boys*. The period is early eighteenth century. This is a beautiful book (Harcourt, Brace, \$2) with its excellent illustrations by Henry C. Pitz. If you had been Sam Hilton, and your sister Martha had been kidnapped by the Indians, and you yourself had been taken captive to work for them as a slave, you would have blessed, after rescuing him, your meeting with one who was to become your true Indian brother. Finally, to find your twin sister, Martha, again, after stirring adventures; to escape with her, and finally to come back to Brunswick, both safe and sound—all this, told in the first person, makes a thrilling story. And the author, Hubert V. Coryell, tells you interesting things about his book in his Postscript. He found that such Hiltons as he wrote about were practically his own ancestors! This is an honest story, founded on real research, and exciting from beginning to end.

Among the boys' books dealing with a career, one is by Donal Hamilton Haines, whom boys know well for his stories of Hillton Academy. Here he takes a rich boy, somewhat of a snob, upon his leaving that same Middlewestern preparatory school. The story, "Sporting Chance" (Farrar & Rinehart, \$1.75), brings to mind the story of Kirk Munro's "Rick Dale" and Kipling's Harvey Cheyne of "Captains Courageous." In other words, through George's father suddenly dying bankrupt, you have a boy, who thought he was superior through the power of money, thrown on his own resources, and finally making a man of himself after starting as a character both disagreeable and pitiable. William Heyliger, a very popular writer for boys, now, in "Steve Merrill, Engineer" (Appleton - Century, \$2) places his boy-hero in the electrical industry. This is a business story laid in a modern factory, with the emphasis upon

fair play. And "Bob Gordon, Cub Reporter," by Graham M. Dean, a real newspaperman (Doubleday, Doran, \$2), takes you headlong into the rush and competition of modern journalism. You will learn a lot of its inside workings. For smaller fry, there is the story of an Indiana boy in a village of sixty years ago, who began a chosen career at the age of ten. It is called "The Boy Who Had No Birthday," by Mabel Leigh Hunt (Stokes, \$1.75). Another of those orphans cropping up—but this time a very Tomsawyerish one! There's a lot of charm and laughter in this simple story.

Two other categories are adventure, and mystery; and they dovetail into each other. For adventure, I suppose one thinks of the sea as quickly as anything. Take your choice then of "Wind in the Rigging," "Lubber's Luck," "Harpoon," or "The Nub!" The first-named is by Howard Pease (Doubleday, Doran, \$2), who has written many sea stories popular with boys. In fact I was quite enthusiastic about his yarn of "The Ship Without a Crew," founded on the story of the *Mary Celeste*. "Wind in the Rigging" takes you with Tod Moran to Morocco. Moran is a Third Mate, and the minute he sets foot on the tramp steamer *Sumatra* things begin to happen. The author himself has served as fireman and in the engine room aboard such ships, and he knows all about them. Also he's got a plot based on an actual case in the files of the Department of Justice, that takes you down the African coast to Agadir.

Girls also will enjoy "Lubber's Luck" (Little, Brown, \$2), in which Edith Balingier Price sends Rod Granger overseas on the *Miraflores*, bound for Antwerp. If it's Antwerp, there are sure to be jewel thieves connected with the story. And it's no fun to be shanghaied! This same publishing house also introduces to you a youngster of ten, known as "The Nub," in the story of that title by Robb White III. He hides on a schooner at a wharf of St. Augustine, Florida, and wakes to find himself aboard the *Pirate Gold* heading for the Caribbean. Fortunately the big negro cook befriends him; but they're a villainous crew! The interesting thing about the illustrations to this book is that they're by Andrew, the son of the famous illustrator, N. C. Wyeth. I'll say no more, save that there's a fight aboard ship and a tropical hurricane, among other incidents. Or a-whaling shall we go? In "Harpoon," by Foster Rhea Dulles (Houghton Mifflin, \$2), you get a whole whaling voyage, strikingly illustrated by Clifford W. Ashley. You find Japan and the Fiji Islands among your landfalls, and you learn how to scrimshaw and use a cutting-in spade. So enter with David Worth, in 1846, the tavern of the Crossed Harpoons in New Bedford, and sign up with Captain Obadiah Hunter on the *Sea Turtle*! Otherwise, I don't have to introduce you to Commander Edward Ellsberg, author of the famous "On the Bottom." You can specialize in deep-sea diving in his new "Ocean Gold" (Dodd, Mead, \$2). And you can be sure that the man who raised the Submarine S-51 will give you an entirely truthful, though sometimes almost incredible, story.

Three other adventure books I can just mention here: an unusual story of Pal-

estine called "Adventuring in Palestine," by Marion Rubinstein (Alfred A. Knopf, \$2), up-to-the-minute and illustrated by remarkable photographs; "The Lost Caravan," by Waldo Fleming, a story of the Sahara Desert for older boys (Doubleday, Doran, \$2), and "The Snake God's Treasure," by Laurence Lee (Robert M. McBride, \$1.75), dealing with young people of today who encounter the ancient mysteries of the Aztecs.

**Mysteries**

So we come to mystery: "The Cave Mystery," "Tory House Mystery," "Mystery at Three Chimneys," and so on. The first strikes me as the best of these mystery books. It concerns two Spanish boys investigating caves in the Basque Pyrenees. It is notable both for originality of setting, authenticity, and fine book-making. It's by S. S. Smith, which is the pseudonym of a well-known novelist (Harcourt, Brace, \$2). This author has other mysteries, of Finland and Sardinia, to his credit. The Three Chimneys are in a Cornish cove and the author is Gunby Hadath (Stokes, \$1.75). A fine yarn for boys. Joan Gower in "Tory House" (Smith & Haas, \$1.50), in a short mystery of the Maine shore, will interest girls. Josephine Daskam Bacon also has a new mystery for them, "The Room on the Roof" (Appleton-Century, \$2). She is always mistress of ingenious plots, and her girls are as real as can be. A third for the young ladies is "The Whistling Snake," by Elizabeth Morse (Dutton, \$2). Miss Morse, as they know, specializes on Siam. And both boys and girls will like "Low Bridge," by Jane Abbott (Lippincott, \$2), laid in the palmy days of the old Erie Canal, the period of Walter Edmonds's adult novel, "Rome Haul," out of which Marc Connelly made a fine play. In more wild surroundings are laid a mystery-adventure of the contemporary West, "Boss of the Ragged O," by Norma Bicknell Mansfield (Farrar & Rinehart, \$1.75), and Maribelle Cormack's mystery of the Hudson Bay country, "Runner of the Trail" (Appleton-Century, \$2).

**For Younger Children**

Four books for the smaller fry come from Macmillan. Elizabeth Coatsworth's "The Golden Horseshoe," a story of colonial Virginia, is a joy. Dorothy Parsons Lathrop's marvellous illustrations make "Who Goes There?", her own story of winter chipmunks and squirrels, a delight. The Haders, Berta and Elmer, have done a beautiful illustrated story of "Jamaica Johnny," one of the most charming and exciting of the "Hader Books." And when one has a combination like Padraic Colum and Elizabeth MacKinstry to write and illustrate "The Legend of Saint Columba," you are sure of a myth for children that everyone will cherish, young or old!

One of the best books, for perfect marriage of text and pictures and originality yet naturalness of story is "Honk: The Moose," by Phil Stong, with pictures by Kurt Wiese (Dodd, Mead, \$2). This is for boys and girls from seven to ten. The locale is a small Minnesota town in winter. You all know how well Phil Stong can  
(Continued on page 27)

HERE COMES THE  
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**SUGARPLUM HOUSE**  
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This is the story of Timmie, the mischievous puppy that the Sugarplum family adopted. "Children will be delighted with the way this doll's house comes to life."—*New York Times*. Pictures in color by the author. \$1.00



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By Philip Duncan  
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**LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE**  
By Laura Ingalls Wilder  
The story of a journey to Indian country by covered wagon trail. "Eight to ten-year-olds will find the book of absorbing interest."—*New York Times*. Illustrated by Helen Sewell. \$2.00



**SLOVENLY PETER**  
By Mark Twain  
The Mark Twain Centennial Year sees the discovery and first printing of this translation into English jingles of a classic German folk tale, made for Mark Twain's own children. Illustrations in color. \$1.50



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By W. W. Robinson  
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# The New Books

## Fiction

**THE WEDDING.** By Denis Mackail. Doubleday, Doran. 1935. \$2.50.

Most of us lose our heads at a wedding, whether we are the main actors, relatives, or merely guests. There never seems to be time between handshakes and smiles and trying to get something to eat, to appreciate the significance of our own or anyone else's actions. But Mr. Mackail has obviously attended many weddings, and noted all the details of all of them, for in this novel the sensations, thoughts, and actions of the bride and groom, the various in-laws, the best man, the butlers, the guests are described with accuracy and appreciation from early in the morning until the final waving from the departing car. All are drawn with affectionate irony and complete verisimilitude.

This particular wedding is held in London; there is nothing remarkable about the romance that caused it or the people that attend it. It is the universal large wedding, a pathetic, comic, human, formalized institution. Anyone who has a function to perform in connection with such a ceremony should read "The Wedding" for the humor and balance necessary to carry him through the difficult day.

M. P.

## Juvenile

**SLOVENLY PETER** (*Der Struwwelpeter*), translated by Mark Twain. Illustrated in color, adapted from the original drawings by Dr. Heinrich Hoffmann. Harpers. 1935. \$1.50.

It was a happy thought to put famous old Struwwelpeter (Slovenly Peter) back into circulation, and especially in this now first-printed version by Mark Twain. Every reader whose childhood was touched by German folklore remembers the grand old book by Dr. Heinrich Hoffmann (originally published in 1847) with its delightful bold drawings of Shock-headed Peter, of the boy who wouldn't eat his soup, the little girl who played with matches in spite of the cats' warnings—and was reduced to two slippers and a heap of ashes. No one who goggled upon those moral fables in youth has ever forgotten them.

How good to learn, then, from Clara Clemens Gabrilowitsch, that Mark Twain's children were also duly introduced to the grand old book when they were living in Germany in 1891. Times were hard, she tells us, the Clemenses were economizing in a rather gloomy apartment in Berlin, and this rough-and-ready translation was Mark Twain's Christmas present to his three little girls.

Mark's translation has the gay insouciance one would expect. When a rhyme came hard he did not hesitate to cast grammar overboard; but jocularly warning his young readers (in footnotes) never to do so themselves. The book was first written by Dr. Hoffmann, a physician, to amuse children who had to wait in his office without suitable reading matter, and Mark Twain also took up his translation

in the same jocund spirit. The publishers have had the well-loved illustrations redrawn from the first edition; and satisfactorily on the whole. But it seems odd that they should not have reproduced the originals exactly, for they are sacrosanct to the real devotee. Here and there an old lover finds something to startle him: for instance, surely in the picture where the dog is eating the soup he should have a napkin tied round his neck?

But we are moved and grateful to meet Peter and the others once more, in this unique little edition.

C. M.

## Miscellaneous

**AMERICAN BIG GAME FISHING.** By several authors. New York: The Derrydale Press. 1935. \$25.

In this volume various well known big game anglers have each written a chapter on some game fish or fishing waters particularly familiar to them. They would share their pleasures, which are not without a spirit of rivalry, as also their data of mutual interest, and gain new recruits for the sport. Compilations of known and pertinent facts about the several fishes discussed have been made with great seriousness. There is much about fishing gear and fishing methods of interest only to fishermen, but mixed with it are observations, opinions, and photographs of interest to the naturalist, and passages to be picked out which will charm the general reader. This is a handsome book, beautifully illustrated, and a pleasure to have on one's table to browse over or refer to.

J. T. N.

**FOUR HEDGES: A Gardener's Chronicle.** Written and Engraved by Clare Leighton. Macmillan. 1935. \$3.

This book is on the familiar plan of "The Gardener's Year," from April to March, with all the pleasurable work tucked in the various seasons. It is given distinction of course, real distinction, by Clare Leighton's engravings. Her admirable illustrations of Hardy will be remembered. Her vigorous style with its virile blacks and powerful shading is well adapted to the representation of anything in nature, whether such orchard and planting scenes as one finds in this book or the many plant, and bird, and garden vignettes with which it is ornamented. But Miss Leighton's writing should not be neglected. The story of making a garden out of the rude chalk of the Chiltern Hills "exposed to every wind that blows," is told with freshness and a joy in labor and a richness of concrete detail of incident. It takes this book entirely out of the class of the stereotyped garden manual full of good advice but lacking anything else. There is probably nothing new for the gardener, but there is a renewed experience of a sensitive mind that is happiest in a garden. We should like the book without its pictures, but its pictures make it really memorable.

H. S. C.