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## MISCELLANEOUS SCIENCES

### EXPERIMENTS IN THE PRINCIPLES OF SPACE

**TRAVEL.** By **Franklyn M. Branley**. Illustrated by **Jeanyee Wong**. *Crowell*. \$2. Mr. Branley, who with **Nelson F. Beeler** has concentrated on popularizing science through experiments utilizing very simple equipment, here considers such problems as rocket design and fuel, temperature control in space, power and pressure in space, and gravity. He explains each principle and then outlines an experiment to illustrate his discussion.

The language is non-technical but it is not oversimplified, and explanations are made even more clear by charts and diagrams. The style of writing is appropriate to the subject and to the teen-age group to which the book is directed, and there is no tinge of condescension or "writing down." Junior-high boys will read it with interest. —E. S.

**THE INDIAN'S SECRET WORLD.** Written and illustrated by **Robert Hofsinde** (*Gray-Wolf*). *Morrow*. \$3.95. Teachers, Camp Fire Girl leaders, and Scout leaders, as well as boys and girls will be interested in this attractive, oversize book which takes the reader behind the curtains of long ago for glimpses into the Indian's secret world. The significance to the Indian of his medicine pipe, his moccasins, his war bonnet, and his other possessions is explained by **Robert Hofsinde**, who was made a blood brother of the Chipewas after saving the life of a young Indian in the Minnesota forests. The author-artist, a former student at the Royal Art Academy of Copenhagen, has illustrated his book with generous marginal drawings in black-and-white and with many full-page drawings, six in color. "The Indian's Secret World" is indeed "good medicine." —R. G.

**MARS.** By **Franklyn B. Branley**. Illustrated by **Anne Marie Jauss**. *Crowell*. \$2.50. The author begins with a comparison of the Earth and Mars and with a discussion of various theories about the formation of the universe. Then he goes on to such specific subjects as geography, atmosphere, temperature, the moons and canals of Mars, how man may reach Mars, and the possible life on Mars. Simple experiments are included to illustrate the scientific principles and many charts and diagrams supplement the text, making the information more easily understood.

In August, 1956 Mars will be in perfect opposition with Earth and so the planet will be studied intently by scientists all over the world. This little book will be helpful to teen-agers—

or adults—who are interested in the anticipated event. —E. S.

**TIME IN YOUR LIFE.** By **Irving Adler**. Illustrated by **Ruth Adler**. *John Day*. \$2.75. **FIRE IN YOUR FAMILY.** By **Irving Adler**. Illustrated by **Ruth Adler**. *John Day*. \$2.75. Today we enjoy many benefits of civilization though we possess little knowledge or thought about the way in which these have developed. Mr. Adler, a writer, lecturer, and teacher, presents background information on the subjects of time and fire in a simple and interesting manner for the junior-high-school age group. In "Time in Your Life" the author explains numerous ways of measuring time which have developed from man's study of the various rhythms of nature:—the rhythms of the sun, the stars, the moon, the tide, the rocks, the trees, and the atom. In "Fire in Your Life" Mr. Adler not only explains what fire is (including the phenomenon of rust, which is fire without flame), but he also explains the ways in which fire has aided man in freeing himself from many of the limitations of his natural environment.

The drawings by Mrs. Adler add immeasurably to the text, clarifying the explanations and the discussion. —NANCY JANE DAY.

**THE STORY OF OUR ANCESTORS.** By **McEdel**. Illustrated by **Herbert Dansko Little**. *Brown*. \$3. This book is chatty, readable introduction to the study of man's beginnings since the author has interspersed his story with fascinating bits which recount the methods used in research by the men of science who have provided a doubtful world with clues to the solution of man's origin. The book is well indexed and generously and attractively illustrated.

It is a book for boys and girls age twelve and upwards who are interested in primitive man and it is suitable companion volume to "Wonderers of the Human Body," by **Anthony Ravielli**. —D. M.



## A Horse for the Lady

*Continued from page 57*

place in which to live. Is it any wonder that these young people became a little bitter and resentful when their efforts to get community support (and the publicity needed to promote their campaign) were almost ignored while every paper in the city carried detailed accounts of the more sensational story? Far better to cut down a few trees than to plant them! No axes were raised, and last year's trees are growing taller while this year's are being selected. But enthusiasm wanes each time one of these young people has to defend himself as a good guy and has to face living down the term juvenile delinquent.

The same feelings are being voiced by thoughtful young people all over America. Betsy Evans, winner of the 1954 Voice of Democracy contest, speaks well for her generation when she says of delinquency, "Sure it's a problem. It's one of the biggest problems facing America today. . . . Our job is to stay on the right track until we reach maturity. It's hard at any time, under any circumstances. It's harder in 1955. And it's hardest of all when headlines continually scream and radios constantly blare that young America is going to the dogs. . . . It's a common fault to make hasty generalizations, to judge the inconspicuous many by the conspicuous few."

**I**T IS not my purpose during Book Week to go into the social, economic, and moral causes of juvenile delinquency, but rather to suggest that young people are jealous of their own identities and are asking to be recognized as individuals in their reading as well as in all other areas of their lives.

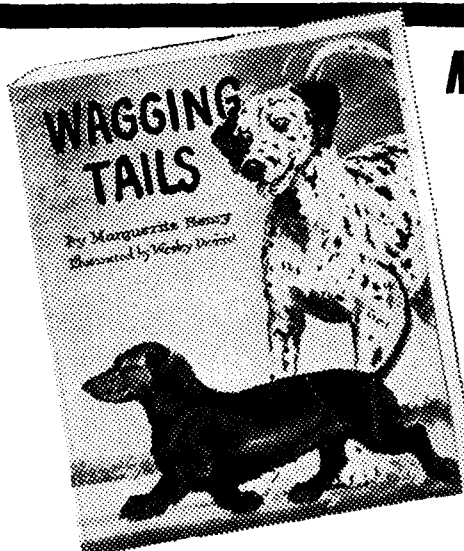
There really isn't such a thing as teen-age reading *per se*, for teen-agers will read as widely as their interests take them and as broadly as the adults around them. About fifteen years ago the teen-age book as we know it today was practically non-existent. Then the Ruth Fielding stories and "Tom Brown's School Days" gave way to "Seventeenth Summer" and "All American." A new note had been struck, for teen-agers in modern dress were being presented in situations that could be readily understood, and identification with the characters was easily accomplished by the readers. These books are indispensable because through them young people can see themselves and discover that they

are not alone in the world they face. These books are only stepping stones and they are not intended to become a body of literature in themselves.

But in the last year or two the idea of writing "especially for teen-agers" has been given an added spurt. A protective note, a note of making adult reading palatable for young people has crept in. Cutting down the classics has always been a questionable practice, but cutting down recent novels to teen-age size is deplorable. If the story was of any interest to young people in the first place, then the original edition has already been read. If not, then two

hundred and fifty words will not be read any more readily than the original five hundred words. Deleting passages which some have thought young people should not read is, to my mind, a waste of time, for the knowing reader is not disturbed and the unknowing one passes lightly by. Leave the books as they are and let him who will read them. To assume that young people cannot take an adult reading bill of fare is to admit that one does not know today's young people and the infinite variety of interests, abilities, and experiences they represent.

A brief look at some of the titles



### MARGUERITE HENRY'S enchanting new book



Anyone who has ever owned a dog, or wanted a dog, or loved a dog, will be thrilled with this beautiful big book by young America's favorite story-teller. In her own warm style, Marguerite Henry tells fascinating stories about 26 popular breeds of dogs — presenting unusual facts and interesting anecdotes with sparkling humor and heart-warming tenderness.

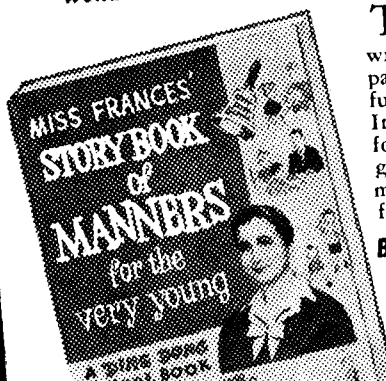
Ages 8 up. Large size, 9" x 11" Only \$2.95

## Wagging Tails

AN ALBUM OF DOGS

*With magnificent illustrations by WESLEY DENNIS*

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wonderful new book by TV's beloved Miss Frances



**TV'S FAMOUS** Ding Dong School Teacher has written the perfect book to help parents teach their children the fundamentals of good manners. In simple, fascinating story form, Miss Frances shows how good manners can be fun and make life much more pleasant for everyone. Ages 3-7 \$2.95

By **Dr. FRANCES R. HORWICH**

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heavily in demand at the present time bears this out. The old and the new, the long and the short, the trite and the distinctive all vie with each other on equal ground for the attention of 1955's teen-agers, for these are not the books required for school reading, but are, rather, those that are read on their own because of an interest in the subject or in the appeal of the story.

Maureen Daly's "Seventeenth Summer" still leads the list. This is so because young people are interested in themselves, and in Angie Morrow's first love affair they see reflected their own joys and broken hearts. The same is true of "Ready or Not" and "To Tell Your Love," which are steadily gaining in popularity, and the escapades of Penny and Pam in "Double Date" are constantly being read. Anne Frank's "Diary of a Young Girl" has taken many American young people to the secret annex in Holland where they have suffered all the growing pains

of adolescence under the dark clouds of war and racial intolerance.

Going out to the ball game is a top interest among boys, the current favorite in books varying with the season or with individual preferences in sports. "Mr. Shortstop," "Warrior Forward," "Football Gravy Train," and "Knockout" are always in demand. Biographies of sports stars have many readers, but the interest in Jim Piersall's "Fear Strikes Out" touches on something more. Sympathy with the ill or handicapped is widespread among young people, whether it be the suffering of John Gunther's son in "Death Be Not Proud," the recovery from leprosy in "Miracle at Carville," or the valiant fight against the hardships of cerebral palsy in "Karen."

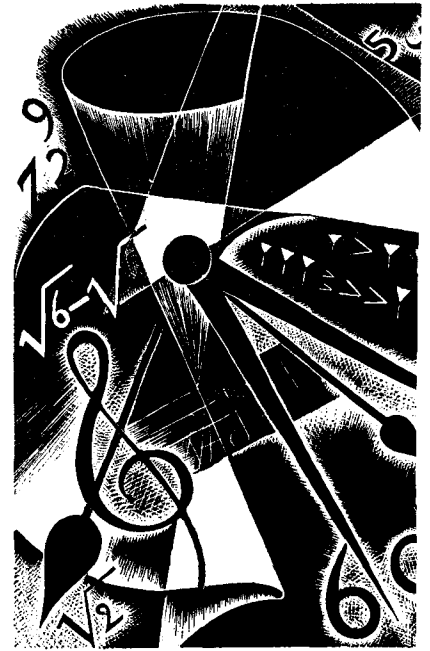
IN THIS scientific age of atomic energy and jet propulsion, "Skyrocketing Into the Unknown" and the books of Willy Ley, "Conquest of Space" and "Rockets, Missiles, and Space Travel," bring trips to the moon within the realm of possibility, while "Currents of Space" and "When Worlds Collide" offer a wide speculation as to just what might be out there. H. G. Wells's "Seven Science Fiction Novels" and Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451" are top favorites among readers of science fiction.

The spirit of adventure carries back into time as well as into the future. Ancient empires still come to life in Anne White's "Lost Worlds," and far more young people than you might think are reading "Gods, Graves, and Scholars." Modern conquests of mountains come in for their share of glory, particularly in Maurice Herzog's "Annapurna"; and to those steeped in the knowledge of submarines it's a wonderful discovery to find that a raft can still sail on the sea as Heyerdahl's "Kon-Tiki" did.

War stories hold an almost fatal fascination for a generation of young people who were growing up during the years of World War II and Korea. Added to the interest in "Hiroshima," "The Caine Mutiny," and "The Bridges at Toko-Ri" are those stories of earlier wars—"All Quiet on the Western Front" and "The Red Badge of Courage."

Humor is found in a number of places from the cartoons of "Hazel" and "Dennis the Menace" through "Cheaper by the Dozen," "The Education of Hyman Kaplan," "The Little World of Don Camillo," and even "No Time for Sergeants."

Robert Montgomery's television show may be partly responsible for the amount of reading by young people of "The Tall Dark Man," but "The Desperate Hours" was widely read



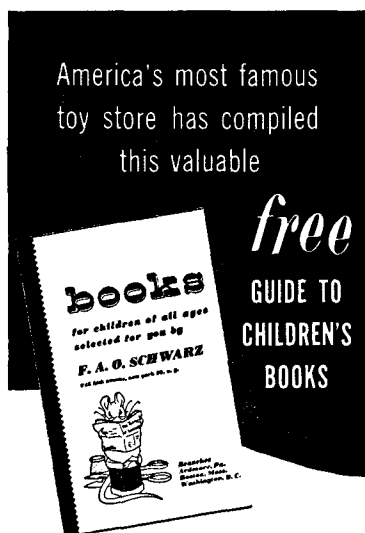
—From "Imagination's Other Place"

### The Kingdom of Numbers.

before either stage or screen took over. Suspense shares the limelight with fantasy and here "Lost Horizon" and "Portrait of Jenny" have a close contender in "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court."

Among historical novels "Desiré Katherine," and "Love Is Eternal" are being read along with Thanet stories of early Williamsburg, Margaret Mitchell's perennially favored "Gone With the Wind," and Helene Hunt Jackson's "Ramona." If "Jane Eyre" and "Wuthering Heights" can be called historical novels, then they should be mentioned here, too. "Fanny Becca," "Mrs. Mike," "Claudia," "Human Bondage," "Cry, the Beloved Country," "The Good Earth," and "The Old Man and the Sea" indicate the diversified interest among modern novels.

This list must end somewhere, I'll stop with "Gertrude Lawrence Mrs. A," "My Several Worlds," and "The Spirit of St. Louis" as indicating the variety of people, places, and events that interest young people about which they are reading. Young people are reading, and not from a selected area "especially for teenagers" but from the whole world of books. Teen-agers are distinct individuals in their reading as well as in their behavior and they are to be held back or fooled by a wealth of broad generalizations. Another group has said "Although eggs may be counted by the hundred dozen, steel by the thousand ton, dollars by the hundred million, people, in terms of their personal integrity and conviction, must continue to be counted by the individual."



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## TEEN-AGE READING

**THE CHALLENGER.** By Frank Waldman. The World Publishing Company. \$2.50. Present-day professional boxing is accurately depicted in this story of Joe Scott, a former Golden Gloves and intercollegiate champion who determined to become heavyweight champion of the world. The book has pace and excitement and good characterization. It is difficult to forget the brutal champion Max Lussi, his sparring partners, Kid Scrutiny and Hard Hitting Phillip, or Joe's shrewd but ailing manager, George Cortinas. Joe himself might be a portrait of the gentlemanly Gene Tunney, who defeated Jack Dempsey.

The whole story is tightly contained within the masculine world of the training camp, Callahan's gym, and the fight rings of the preliminary matches. The climax is reached during the championship bout when the challenger, now a polished fighting machine, wins the title by a knockout. —A. O'B. M.

**CROMWELL'S HEAD.** By Olivia E. Coolidge. Illustrated by Edward A. Wilson. Houghton Mifflin. \$3. James Gilroy, seventeen, apprentice to Dr. Browne, Tory druggist and Boston physician in 1775, cuts down Cromwell's Head, the sign over a tavern, as a daredevil means of impressing Nancy, the doctor's daughter. Accidentally the sign in falling hits Dr. Warren, head of the Committee of Safety. While the doctor is still unconscious Jamey extracts a letter from his pocket that implicates his master and involves Jamey in the tense political situation in Boston, leading him from one danger to another and forcing him to decide for what political ideas he should stand.

A well-written, absorbing story with good characterization and a pleasant romance that should appeal to younger teen-agers. —M. A. E.

**THE PHANTOM RIDER.** By Keith Robertson. Illustrated by Jack Weaver. Viking. \$2.50. This story is a well-balanced combination of mystery and horses. Tim Cottrell, our seventeen-year-old hero, his friend Kate, and their joint project, Eloise the Mule, solve the mystery of the ghostly rider. Tim and Kate love horses so much that it is only natural for Tim to track down the secret of the "ghostly rider who races at night across the ridge of New Jersey's Elbow Mountain."

Once again Keith Robertson has written a fast-paced, exciting story which will not disappoint his many fans. It moves along rapidly until the final pages solve the mystery of the phantom rider—and a few other secrets, too. —A. B.

**TUNNEL IN THE SKY.** By Robert A. Heinlein. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$2.50. A terrifying glimpse into the future is given in Robert A. Heinlein's latest book, which is set in a time when rocket ships have become museum pieces. The enormous increase in population on Earth has made necessary a faster means of locomotion. Interplanetary, even interstellar, travel is accomplished through the Ramsbotham Jump. By this method one merely walks through a tunnel to arrive at any given destination, whether it be a thousand or a million miles away.

The story concerns a high-school senior who takes an examination in advanced survival and manages to survive. Despite some incongruities (the social customs of this advanced period remaining substantially the same as those of today) Heinlein has produced another ingenious piece of scientific imagination. —A. O'B. M.

**WHITE FALCON.** By Elliott Arnold. Illustrated by Frederick T. Chapman. Knopf. \$3. Ten-year-old John Tanner lived with his family in a log house on the Ohio River. One day Ottawa Indians kidnapped John and took him north to their country, where as the adopted son of an Indian couple he became a full-fledged brave. As guide to aging Netnokwa, John went to live with the Chippewa tribe and there he gained fame as a great Indian brave and was given the name White Falcon. He married an Indian maiden and became a great trapper and a leader in the fur-trade struggle.

The author of "Broken Arrow" has written another exciting story for older boys, based on true incidents in North American history. The action moves rapidly until it reaches a dramatic climax and the whole story brings alive the stark adventure which marked America in the late 1770s.

—A. B.

**WILDERNESS WARDEN.** By Edward C. Janes. Decorations by Raymond Abel. Longmans, Green. \$2.75. In this exciting story of northern Maine young Dan Hubbard proves himself as a warden in the Division of Inland Fisheries and Game. Assigned to a district in which illegal hunting had assumed the proportions of big business Dan found himself involved in a dangerous puzzle which took all his wits and endurance to solve. The story is closely knit. It is also full of courage and suspense, of good characterizations, and of fast action; and in addition there are the feel and smell of the outdoors and appreciation for the magnificent forests of northern Maine.

The author knows his locale well and also knows the lives of the game wardens and of the people who make their living from the

## THE Westminster Press LITERATURE FOR YOUTH



How one  
teen ager solved  
the "Johnny-  
can't-read"  
problem

### Operation ABC

By JAMES L. SUMMERS, author of *Girl Trouble* and *Prom Trouble*. A high school football hero hides a secret behind his air of bravado. He cannot read! A vital education problem presented in human terms that will hit home to every teen-ager. Ages 12-16. \$2.75

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**Summer Gold** By HARRY HARRISON KROLL. A college girl converts a worn-out Carolina farm into a summer camp for girls, and explores a legend of hidden gold. Ages 12-15. \$2.75

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**Down Bayberry Lane** By HELEN GIRVAN. A girl gets a summer job on Cape Cod, and is plunged into an amazing seaside adventure. Ages 13-17. \$2.75

**Stranger on the Bay** By ADRIEN STOUTENBURG. A German shepherd dog, labelled "not good enough" to serve as a guide for the blind, proves his worth in a Minnesota forest fire. Ages 12-15. \$2.75



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