SWIMMING SIMPLIFIED. Revised and Enlarged Edition. By Lyba and Nita Sheffield. New York: A. S. Barnes and Company. 1927. Pp. 297. \$2.00.

This book is a storehouse of treasure for the swimming instructor. There are twelve chapters of well-graded lessons from swimming for beginners through life-saving, water sports, and managing of swimming meets. "Faults and Their Corrections" and a well-ordered list of review questions at the end of each chapter are great helps to the instructor. Many clear-cut illustrations add to the attractiveness and value of the book.

SPECIAL DAY PAGEANTS. For Little People. By Marion Kennedy and Katherine Isabel Bemis. New York: A. S. Barnes and Company. 1927. Pp. 48. \$1.50.

A book useful to the primary teacher who has had to struggle through the planning of programs for holidays and other occasions. It contains twenty-one easy, attractive pageants.

EVERYDAY READING. By Henry Carr Pearson and Charles Wesley Hunt. New York: American Book Company. 1927. Book One, pp. 192. Book Two, pp. 255. Book Three, pp. 272. Manual, pp. 141.

These three volumes contain nearly two hundred lessons for silent reading; there are games, nature stories, bits of literature, and selections for special days. With the help of the very usable Manual these books can be made handy tools for the development of the fundamental reading skills in the middle grades.

ARITHMETIC PRACTICE EXERCISES AND TESTS. By John Theodore Johnson. Chicago: Rand Mc-Nally and Company. 1926. Number of Exercises, 70.

Such sets of practice sheets in fundamentals of addition, subtraction, multiplication, short division and long division are welcome in this day of self-testing and self-directing drilling. The exercises in this little book may be used repeatedly; they require no copying; the figures are in large clear type and the arrangement is simple.

SELF-DIAGNOSTIC TESTS IN ARITHMETIC. By John Theodore Johnson. Chicago: Rand McNally and Company. 1926. Pp. 22.

This set of tests is scientifically selected and organized. It is to be used for placement of pupils and for the assignment of work in the Johnson Practice Exercise and Test Book.

STANDARD SERVICE ARITHMETIC. By F. B. Knight, J. W. Studebaker, and G. M. Ruch. Chicago: Scott, Foresman and Company. 1926. Book One, pp. 382. Book Two, pp. 438. Book Three, pp. 545.

Amid the flood of new arithmetic texts these books rank high. The vocabulary is graded, the steps in presenting new work gradual, and the frequent drills, reviews, and tests scientifically compiled and arranged. The books are written directly to the children. Especially valuable is the section on long division: this put into the hands of the average child of the fourth grade almost eliminates the need of a teacher. HAMILTON'S ESSENTIALS .OF ARITHMETIC. By Samuel Hamilton. New York: American Book Company. 1919. First Book, pp. 368. Second Book, pp. 432.

This is a basic series of texts for the elementary grades. Problems and drills are presented in great quantity, but the content and its organization are not for the modern classroom.

NEWS OF THE COLLEGE AND ITS ALUMNÆ

College opened this autumn with 751 students enrolled, an increase of 50 over last year's number. About four hundred new girls entered. The large student body has made it necessary for forty-seven girls to room in town and some of these take their meals in the tea room, since the college dining room is not large enough to accommodate so many.

The freshmen went through the usual week of training designed to "orient" the new girls into the life of the college. The examinations were successfully passed. A little more training in the matter of recognizing upper classmen, and the freshmen were considered ready for admission into the student body. The union of the Old and New Girls was completed with the symbolic wedding ceremony with Anne Everette, freshman, as the bride, and Virginia Turpin, president of the senior class, as the groom. The service was carried out with complete attention to details.

Kathryn Pace of Hampton has been elected president of the junior class. Frances Bass of News Ferry is vice-president; Anne Bulloch of Portsmouth is secretary; Mildred E. Rhodes of Newport News is treasurer; Evelyn Wolfe of Mount Jackson is business manager; and Julia Reynolds, Atlanta, Georgia, is sergeant-at-arms.

The junior class helped the freshmen to organize. Virginia Stark is president; Doris Bane, vice-president; Delphine Hurt, secretary; Dorothy Wheeler, treasurer; Toots Christian, sergeant-at-arms; and Mary Watt, business manager.

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This year there are fourteen new members of the faculty:

Miss Emily Goodlet, B. S., A. M., received her B. S. degree at Peabody, and her A. M. degree at Columbia University. Last year she was director of training in East Carolina Teachers College, and comes to us to take Miss Anthony's place as director of the training school.

Dr. Fred C. Mabee, from Canada, is a B. A. and M. A. graduate from the Mc-Mosta University of Toronto, and has received the M. A. and Ph. D. from Columbia University. Following a three years' stay at Howard, Dr. Mabee was Professor of Chemistry and Physics at Mt. Union, Ohio, and served as instructor in Shanghai College, China, for 14 years. He has also been part time instructor at Columbia and New York University.

Dr. John A. Sawhill, having already an A. B. degree from the University of California, and an A. M. from Princeton, needs only the oral examination to complete his Ph. D. at Princeton. Dr. Sawhill has taught in Ursinus College in Pennsylvania, and comes as Latin and English instructor in this college.

Dr. Newton S. Herod has received his A. B. and A. M. degrees from the University of Texas, and for several years was instructor of physics. He has been an instructor at the University of California, receiving his Ph. D. in June. Dr. Herod takes his place as Professor of Physics and General Science in this college.

Miss Virginia Rath, physical education instructor, has received her A. B. degree at Hollins College, and an A. M. at Columbia University. She has been an instructor in the University of Texas and director of Camp Aloha.

Mrs. Harriet G. Pease comes as violin instructor and supervisor of public school music. She has attended the New England Conservatory of Music and has taught at Smith College, at meene, New Hampshire, and at Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Fred C. Mabee, instructor in English, received her A. B. at Radcliff, and has attended Boston University, Columbia Teachers College, and Union Seminary.

Miss Helen Marbut holds a B. S. from the University of Missouri, and an M. A. from Teachers College. She has taught five years at the Eastman School, Washington, D. C. and four years at Camp Halton, Maine, instructing in athletic sports.

Miss Elva Kirkpatrick is a part-time dietitian. In Toronto Miss Kirkpatrick was dietitian in the hospital for sick children. She has taken a Home Economics course at Mt. Allison College.

Miss Adrienne Goodwin, a B. S. graduate from Harrisonburg, is teaching at Bridgewater High School this year.

Miss Sarah Elizabeth Thompson, also a degree graduate from Harrisonburg, has a position as supervisor in the Junior High School of Pleasant Hill.

Miss Frances Houck, having received her B. S. at Cornell, takes her place as Home Economics supervisor in the Keister School of Harrisonburg.

Miss Alice Fowler, who has her A. B. from the University of Kentucky, and is a graduate of the Kentucky Teachers College at Bowling Green, is a critic teacher in the traning school.

Miss Esther Wagner, also a critic teacher in the Harrisonburg training school, is a B. S. graduate of the Miami University of Ohio.

Mrs. Prentiss Welsh, formerly Miss Hazel C. Brown, is substituting for Miss Goodman as critic teacher. Mrs. Welsh has received her A. B. at Teachers College, Columbia.

Mrs. Dorothy S. Garber will give all her time to the duties of Alumnæ Secretary.

Dr. J. R. Gieger of William and Mary College delivered the Convocation address, his subject being "Some Misconceptions Concerning the Honor System."

Founder's Week was fittingly observed on the campus by appropriate assembly exercises in which different people who have been connected with the college for some time told of the early days of the school.

The college has been visited several times by members of the committee appointed by the Governor of Virginia to investigate educational conditions in the state. Governor Byrd himself paid a flying visit to the school. Dr. Charles McKenney, President of the State Normal College at Ypsilanti, Michigan, made a more extensive stay. His talk in chapel, "A Philosophy for Teachers," was one of the best things the year has brought forth. Dr. Meta Glass, President of Sweet Briar College, also came on the same mission.

In connection with the local and campus Red Cross drive Judge Barton Payne, head of the American Red Cross, spoke in assembly. The message he so forcibly brought was doubtless the cause of the success with which the Drive on the campus went over. Charlotte Turner and Charlotte Hagan had charge of the campaign.

Hazel Davis and Mary Stephens spent most of the summer touring Europe. They visited Scotland, England, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and France.

It is with deep regret that we chronicle the death of Margaret Wolfe, whose old home was at Crozet, and who was a student here about ten years ago. She was the wife of Mr. Ward E. Harper of Huntersville, W. Va., and leaves an infant daughter. The funeral services were held at Crozet.

Pauline Bresko is teaching the third grade at Disputanta. She is doing some interesting work in combining easy history and geography for the little folks.

Carrie Bishop is teaching again in Churchland High School. She enjoys her work with English as her specialty. She is doing work in the summers towards the M. S. degree. Her address is 113 Middle Street, Portsmouth, Va.

Nannie Rose Buchanan is teaching at

Tazewell, Va. We are pleased to know of her good work there.

Dollie Minix holds a position in Morris Church School, near Brookneal, Va. She sends her best wishes to Alma Mater.

June 11, Edna Robertson Scribner to Mr. William Archie Rouse, at Mount Vernon Place Church, Washington, D. C. Mr. and Mrs. Rouse are at home at Orange, Va.

August 6, Carolyn Isabel Wine to Mr. Wilber D. Weaser, at Bristol, Tenn.

August 11, Hester Trump Van Metre to Mr. Scott Hough at Martinsburg, W. Va. Mr. and Mrs. Hough are at home at Venice, Florida.

September 7, Margaret Friend Proctor to Mr. Theron Rice Rolston, at Drakes Branch, Va. They are at home at 201 North Third Street, Richmond.

Y. W. C. A. has been functioning with vigor under the guidance of Marion Wagner. The membership campaign was successful, and the Service of Lights which marked its close was impressive. Both the Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon services have been worth-while and well attended. There is a real interest shown in the programs which are this year quite varied.

The Second District Virginia Federation of Music Clubs was held in the city Friday, October 28, with the college as main headquarters.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

- MACY CAMPBELL was an able professor in the State Teachers College at Cedar Falls, Iowa, at the time of his death last summer. His strong plea for the rural life of America is here reprinted, with permission, from the *Georgia Education Journal*.
- PAULINE SHREVE is a teacher in the schools of Arlington county, Virginia, and a former student in the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg.
- WALTER WILLIAMS is rector of Emanuel Episcopal Church at Harrisonburg.
- MARY E. CORNELL is principal of the Keister School in Harrisonburg.