

XI. Thou shalt laugh—when it rains, and wee, woolly ones muddy the floor, when it blows and doors bang, when little angels conceal their wings, and wriggle, when Tommy spills ink and Mary flops a tray of trailing letters; when visitors appear at the precise moment when all small heads have forgotten everything you thought they knew.

And again I say unto you, laugh, for upon these commandments hang all the law and the profits in thy schoolroom.

Our machinery is modern; but our institutions are medieval. They are changing—into what, we do not know. For the present we think of the process as the “deplorable loosening of modern life.” Manners and morals, we say, are being “relaxed.” We do not reflect when we say this that those manners and morals belong to an era which we snub with the epithet “dark ages.”

C. E. AYRES, in *Science the False Messiah*

Speaking of fraternities, Dr. R. E. Blackwell, president of Randolph-Macon College at Ashland, made the following statement to the press recently. “Enemies of frats say they’re undemocratic. They are. They say they’re expensive. They are. They say they foster snobbishness and cliques among students. They do. But even with all that, they do a lot of good.

“Many fraternities bring up scholarship standards. Many of them require a far higher grade as a prerequisite of initiation than their universities require as a requisite for a student remaining in school.

“If we don’t have fraternities, we must remember, we’ll have cliques and snobbishness just the same.”

To assist in the building of the new high school at Bedford City, a loan of \$25,000 from the literary fund has been authorized by the State Board of Education.

THE READING TABLE

Important Magazine Articles

The ten outstanding magazine articles selected by the Franklin Square Council of Librarians from the April issues of magazines published in America, are as follows:

The Future of America—Anonymous, in *Harper's Magazine*.

The Eighteenth Amendment is Void—Henry Alan Johnston in *Century*.

Business in a Presidential Year—David Friday in *Review of Reviews*.

Trial by Jury: Is It Passing?—Robert H. Elder in *Harper's Magazine*.

Dupont: A Story of Industrial Genius—M. S. Rukeyser in *Review of Reviews*.

Nomadic America's Changing Spending Habits—Frank E. Brimmer in *Magazine of Business*.

Spanish-American Literature—Frederick Luqens in *Yale Review*.

My Philosophy of Industry—Henry Ford in *Forum*.

Adolescent America—William B. Munroe in *Survey Graphic*.

The Deeper Significance of Prohibition—Henry Fairchild in *Virginia Quarterly Review*.

THE NEW VARIORUM EDITION OF SHAKESPEARE HAS ITS TWENTIETH VOLUME

With the appearance of “Coriolanus,” edited by Horace Howard Furness, Jr., in the New Variorum Edition of Shakespeare, the twentieth volume of this scholarly work is complete. Edited for over forty years by Dr. Horace Howard Furness, who upon his death bequeathed the task to his son, this critical heritage has become at once a staff and a mecca for lovers and students of the Stratford dramatist, as well as for painstaking producers of his plays.

“Who holds a volume holds the fruit of all past criticisms and comment on that play,” said the late Talcott Williams in speaking of the Variorum Edition. This is made possible in “Coriolanus,” as in each of the preceding nineteen volumes, by the thorough correlating of pointed, interesting

comment from the greater critics on important passage, dubious phrase or obsolete term. The reader embarks upon the "adventure of unsealing the cave of all the winds of scholarly criticism," as Frederick Tupper put it so aptly in the Nation.

The careful and authoritative scholarship on the part of the editors has made the Variorum Edition an essential part of the libraries of hundreds of schools and colleges. As history, biography and criticism all in one it has become indispensable for reference wherever students are aware of Shakespeare.

The New Variorum Edition is published by the J. B. Lippincott Company.

A one-volume work on the philosophy of John Dewey is now announced by Henry Holt and Company for early publication. Under the editorship of Dr. Joseph Ratner and with the personal supervision of Dr. Dewey, the thoughts of America's most original living philosopher are being assembled into one comprehensive volume.

THOM RECEIVES MEDAL FOR BEST BOOK FOR PARENTS

Dr. Douglas A. Thom, Director of the Division of Mental Hygiene of the Massachusetts Department of Mental Diseases, has been awarded the medal for the best book for parents published during 1927. The medal, which is presented by "Children, The Magazine for Parents," is awarded for Dr. Thom's book, "Everyday Problems of the Everyday Child."

Last year the first award of this medal was made to Angelo Patri for his book, "The Problems of Childhood."

The medal is the work of Miss Jessie Gillespie, and the inscription reads "Puer melior—civis optimus," or "The better the child, the better the citizen."

BOOKS OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS

HOW TO MAKE LINOLEUM BLOCKS. By Curtiss Sprague, Pelham, N. Y.: Bridgman Publishers. 1928. Pp. 64. \$1.00.

It is good to know that the author regards design as the first and foremost consideration in linoleum printing. He wisely states that art and craftsmanship must not be sacrificed for the joy of the printing process and printing results.

Splendid designs by various artists illustrate, in various subjects, the results of linoleum engraving. The strongest ones in design, value, and workmanship seem to be portrait and figure illustration engravings. The daintier and more complex ones are landscape and architectural in nature.

In a clear way the practical uses of linoleum printing are explained and every step in linoleum cutting and printing is described, from the selection of suitable linoleum, tools, handling of tools, tracings, and printing, to the final results. Careful instruction is given to the process of printing several colors in one design.

One admires the general appearance of this little book which is of attractive paper and cover designs. Would it be of more value had a short history of block printing been given?

A. A.

THE GOLDEN TRUMPETS. By Blanche Jennings Thompson. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1927. Pp. 163. 80 cents.

Miss Thompson brought joy to the hearts of many little children by compiling a beautiful collection of poems under the title of "Silver Pennies." In *The Golden Trumpets* she presents delightful reading material in prose about fairies, goblins, and dragons. Children of the second and third grades will enjoy the pranks and revels of Cobweb, Coralwing, and Peachbloom, and will gleefully follow Molly and Billy into Fairyland on a wonderful adventure.

In this little book we find valuable supplementary material for reading that will hold the child's interest, call into play his imagination, enlarge his reading vocabulary, and create a love for stories. All of this will do much to further the aims of teaching reading in the primary grades. In addition, there are valuable training exercises to test comprehension, as *Something to Find*, *A Puzzle*, *Is This What the Story Tells?*, *A Pantomime*.

E. G.

NEWSON READERS, *Primer, First, Second, Third Books and Teachers' Manuals*. By Catherine T. Bryce, Rose Lees Hardy, and Edna Turpin. New York: Newson and Company. 1927. *Primer*, pp. 128; *Book I*, pp. 128; *Book II*, pp. 208; *Book III*, pp. 288.

Knock at the Door, Peep In, Lift the Latch, and Walk In are the four themes for this delightful set of readers. A child can hardly help reading from them, for the material is so interesting that his curiosity is at once aroused; the illustrations are so bright, colorful, and suggestive that they carry him on almost in spite of himself. The

manuals are carefully worked out with suggestions for checking the child's reading.

This series embodies the results of all the research made in the field of reading. No teacher would make a mistake in including it in her library.

M. L. S.

LATIN—FIRST YEAR. By Ralph Van Deman Magoffin and Margaret Young Henry. New York: Silver, Burdett and Company. 1928. Pp. 392+xi.

The teacher will find this volume simple in language, modern in method, insistent upon daily mastery and review, mindful of derivative values, and provocative of independent thought. In both material and method of presentation, this book conforms to the spirit and specific recommendations of the Report of the Classical Investigation. Beginning with the second lesson, the pupil is trained to read simple and connected Latin narrative based on material from Roman history or classical mythology. The vocabulary, inflection, and syntax are functional. They are purposely incorporated in the narrative and are studied as an aid to reading the Latin. The illustrations, with few exceptions, will enable pupils to visualize Rome at the apex of her glory. Each is an integral part of the book and has a purpose. One lesson in every ten is devoted to derivation. In addition, almost every lesson contains a Word Study based on the vocabulary of that lesson. Descriptive paragraphs in English of either classical or modern works of art link the life of the ancients to our own.

JOHN A. SAWHILL.

ESSENTIALS OF LATIN. By Charles A. Buffum. New York: Globe Book Company. 1928. Pp. 153. 67 cents.

This little book embodies a review of the essentials of Latin grammar presented with good old-fashioned thoroughness. At the same time it is so richly supplied with apt and simple illustrations of every principle as to conform with present-day methods of teaching. This book should be in constant use beginning with the second year. It has been prepared after a careful study of examination questions in Latin Grammar and Latin Composition set since 1901. It will be found to satisfy the requirements of our best secondary schools.

JOHN A. SAWHILL.

BROWNE'S VELVET SURFACE: A flexible hard surface for tennis courts, play grounds, school yards, walks, etc. By A. D. Browne. Nashville, Tenn. Pp. 24. \$5.00.

After experimenting for fifteen years to find the ideal mixture and lowest price technique for a perfect play ground and tennis court. Dr. Browne announces the successful completion of his search in this booklet.

During the course of his experimentations Dr. Browne has tried out all kinds of materials and methods in building more than two hundred tennis courts and has proved the validity of his "Velvet Surface" during the past six years in the building of forty-two tennis courts, mostly in Tennessee and California, with his method of mixing bitu-

minous compounds and saw-dust. All materials can be bought at any local market.

The number of days in which physical training can not be conducted in the open is, in the large majority of states, very limited. During the school year of 1926-1927 there were in Nashville, according to Dr. Browne's tests, only twelve days when overhead weather conditions would not have permitted outdoor exercises. He states it is mud and ground conditions that prevent outdoor recreation, tennis, etc. all the year round.

The new publication gives specific details and directions for surfacing play areas and should be of vital interest to school officials, play ground and park commissioners, city and realty engineers, and landscape architects.

NUMBER FRIENDS. By Inez Howard, Alice Hawthorne, and Mae Howard. Illustrated in color by Maud and Mishka Petersham. New York: Macmillan Co. 1928. Pp. 242.

This small number textbook is filled with many games for drill which will interest any child beginning the addition and subtraction combinations. Besides these games there are many practical exercises and problems which give much opportunity for the use of the number facts gained. The book is meant to be put in the hands of children in the second grade.

The context is simple and clear enough to be easily read and used in this grade and will thus afford good practice in silent reading. The illustrations are unusually attractive and will help to create a lively interest in this study of the number combinations.

V. B.

A CHILD'S BOOK OF SONGS. By Robert Foresman. New York: American Book Company. 1928. Pp. 95.

The appeal of music is universal. In order to waken a classroom of drowsy children or quiet a restless group, the teacher has only to say, "Children, what song would you like to sing?"

When a book like this is given to children during their first year of school, they cannot help singing nor getting a feeling for music. The music is full of rhythm, the words are good literature, and there is a wide range of material—from folk songs to those about the circus—so that individual interests are satisfied. The book is attractively gotten up with many black and white sketches illustrating the songs.

M. L. S.

NEWS OF THE COLLEGE AND ITS ALUMNÆ

CAMPUS NOTES

Alpha Chi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi has recently elected the following new members: Mary Moore Aldhizer, Broadway; Frances Bass, News Ferry; Martha Derrick, Pulaski; Leonide Harriss, Norfolk; Virginia Harvey, Roanoke; Lillian Jackson,