

The purpose of this book, as stated by the author, is not to write a complete History of the World, but "to trace, very simply the line of economic development throughout the rise and fall of Empires, showing in closest connection with this theme the general principles of cause and effect, as one nation after another rises, comes to the front, and passes away into obscurity." In fulfilling this purpose the author in 219 pages has given a good survey of world history from prehistoric times to present times. The introductory chapter contains a brief account of prehistoric man, and of the ancient civilizations of the East, such as Assyria, Persia, etc., but before treating of Greece and Rome, as is usually done by historians, the author takes up the ancient civilizations of the Far East, China and India. Too frequently these nations are never mentioned until they were exploited by the western nations in modern times. Too much space, however, is devoted to ancient and medieval nations and the events of the past decades which are of such tremendous significance receive too scant attention.

While not a text-book by itself—in fact it is dependent upon the general historical knowledge of the reader for a full appreciation—yet the book is well adapted to parallel reading in high schools.

RAYMOND C. DINGLEDINE.

THE TECHNIQUE OF PAGEENTRY, by Linwood Taft. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co. 1921. 168 pages. (\$2.00).

Pageentry is the most vital means of expressing any particular phase of community life.

This volume offers valuable material to those wishing some expression of the life of their communities through the celebration of anniversaries which they wish to commemorate.

There are two main types of pageants: the local or historical pageant which is given in connection with centennial celebrations, and the pageant dealing with impersonal forces such as the spirit of Thanksgiving.

Some of the author's suggestions are that each pageant have its committee and sub-committees, and that they consist of the following: pageant master, business manager, pageant artist, costumer, musical director, scenic manager, electrician, advertising manager, and director of episodes. But since a pageant is essentially a community affair, the best means of making it a successful issue is to make each individual officer responsible for a definite part of the whole pageant. This book would be a great help to individuals or to schools wishing to give a pageant.

R. S. HUDSON.

CONTEMPORARY BRITISH LITERATURE, by John Matthews Manly and Edith Rickert. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Co. 1921. 196 pages. (\$1.25).

In their foreword, headed "Please Read

This First", the authors have promised that the present volume will be followed by a similar book for American authors if the demand warrants. The demand should warrant.

The book is a laboratory manual for use in the study of contemporary British literature. It is not a collection of dogmas, but a valuable assortment of outlines, suggestions, questions, and references. The book thus accords with its authors' aim, to enable students "to form intelligent judgments of individual authors and to discover and appraise for themselves the outstanding literary tendencies."

Authors are listed alphabetically, and under each name are significant biographical notes, suggestions for study, bibliography, and references to reviews and studies. The treatments thus vary from several lines to three or four pages. There are included 84 poets, 54 dramatists, 138 novelists and short story writers, 45 essayists, and 41 critics; and yet let it be said that the authors have taken the last word of their title seriously enough to omit all mention of Florence M. Barclay, Ethel M. Dell, Marie Corelli, and Hall Caine. But it goes without saying that discrimination is employed in any work of Dr. Manly's.

Special attention should be directed to the valuable bibliography on page vi, and to the list of critical periodicals beginning on page xi.

Not only college students but all who are interested in contemporary literature will find here a useful, thought-provoking guidebook.

C. T. LOGAN.

THE NURSERY SCHOOL, by Margaret McMillan. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. 1921. 356 pages. (\$2.50).

A revised edition. In a foreword by Professor Patty Smith Hill, Director of Kindergarten and Primary Education, Teachers College, New York, it is called "an epoch-making book which all who have to do with the welfare of children cannot afford to overlook."

XI

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

President Duke represented the Harrisonburg State Normal School at Williamsburg on the occasion of the inauguration of President J. A. C. Chandler as president of the College of William and Mary on October 19.

President Duke was called to Richmond October 26 to appear before the Budget Committee. The request for appropriations for the Harrisonburg school was taken up at this time. The budget now being pre-

This
and
That

pared will be placed before the Legislature which meets February 1, 1922.

Senator E. Lee Trinkle made a brief visit to the State Normal School when he was in Harrisonburg October 17 to address voters as the Democratic candidate for governor of Virginia.

William Jennings Bryan spoke in the New Virginia Theatre the evening of October 24 under the auspices of the Wilt Bible Class of the United Brethren Church. Mr. Bryan gave his address called "Brother or Beast." A large part of the student-body heard the "Great Commoner."

Many students heard Marie Rappold, of the Metropolitan Opera Company, when she sang under the auspices of the Harrisonburg Music Lovers Club at the New Virginia Theatre the evening of November 1.

Melvena Passmore and associated artists offered the first in a series of entertainments provided for students of the Normal School when they gave a concert here the evening of November 4.

Other numbers in this series include Margaret Romaine, prima donna soprano of the Metropolitan Opera Company, who will sing here December 2; William Sterling Battis, who will give an evening of impersonations of famous characters from Dickens's novels December 16; a dramatization of John Fox's famous novel, "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," February 3; The Crawford Adams Company, March 10; and Edgar A. Guest, well-known American poet, the time of whose engagement will have to be announced when he has recovered from his present illness.

This is the most ambitious series of entertainments yet undertaken, and it is to be noted that it includes such a variety as to reach many special interests among students.

The Senior Tea Room is now in full swing, opening at the beginning of the third

period each day and serving breakfast to large crowds on Saturday morning. The Tea Room is coming to be regarded as one of the traditions of the school, and besides being a decided convenience provides the seniors each year with an outlet for abundant energy and with a sound source of revenue.

Harrisonburg's enrolment of 372 students for the first term is distributed over nine states and the District of Columbia. States represented and Near besides Virginia are North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, West Virginia, Ohio, Maryland, and New York. The largest county representation naturally comes from Rockingham county, in which the State Normal School is situated, but more than three-fourths of Virginia's hundred counties are represented. From Rockingham 22 students have registered, from Augusta 16, from Albemarle 11, from Southampton and Shenandoah each 10. Norfolk leads among cities with 24 students, Portsmouth sends 12, Newport News 7. There are 12 students registered from Harrisonburg, 8 from Richmond, and 8 from Roanoke.

Ladies of the faculty, aided in their conspiracy by members of the two upper classes, provided a thrilling evening "Spooks?" (yes, literally) in celebration of Hallowe'en. The scene of the evening's fun, with attendant shivers and quakes, was the frame building just south of the open-air theatre, which since the departure of the school laundry to other quarters has somehow picked up the name of "The Rabbit Hole." No one seems to know positively whether the building was named in honor of Mr. George Warren Chappellear. (In that case, blame the printer by all means!)

At Hillcrest there was a faculty Hallowe'en party the evening of October 29. Mrs. Duke resolved her guests into entertainers, and what with songs, orations, debates, funny stories, conundrums, ghost stories, and a thrumming guitar all to be put in shape, there was a tense fifteen minutes of lesson planning—or perhaps supervised study.

President S. P. Duke and Dean W. J. Gifford assisted at the installation of a new chapter of the educational fraternity, Phi Delta Kappa, at the University of Virginia the evening of October 31. Dr. John W. Wayland met with the Norfolk Alumnae of the Harrisonburg State Normal School on November 3, and

addressed the Accomac County Teachers Association at Onley November 4. Miss Mary Louise Seeger on October 14 addressed the District Superintendents' Conference meeting at Free Union, Albemarle county. Dr. W. J. Gifford spoke at a meeting of the colored teachers of Harrisonburg and Rockingham county on November 4. Miss Grace Brinton spoke before a patrons' meeting at Lacey Spring and acted as a judge at the Front Royal Fair recently. Miss Elizabeth Cleveland addressed the pupils of McLean High School, and as a guest of its principal enjoyed Armistice Day in Washington. On the same trip she also spoke to the student body at Fairfax Hall and took part in a Community League meeting for erecting a new high school building at Palmyra.

The Junior Class, with a membership of practically 200, set aside a period of four or five weeks for "getting acquainted" at the beginning of the year. Now that their orientation has proceeded successfully, they have just elected their class officers, as follows:

Juniors
Elect
Officers

at the beginning of the year. Now that their orientation has proceeded successfully, they have just elected

Roselyn Brownley, Norfolk, president; Mary Stuart Hutcheson, Brownsburg, vice-president; Annabel Dodson, Norfolk, secretary; Nan Taylor, Waynesboro, treasurer; Elizabeth Sparrow, Wilmington, N. C., business manager; Mildred Lamphier, Norfolk, sergeant-at-arms.

When the Athletic Council presented a benefit picture, "Heliotrope," at the New Virginia Theatre, over \$38 was cleared, and a good start was made in accumulating a balance that will help finance the basketball team in the inter-scholastic series of games for which arrangements are now being made.

Under the auspices of the Young Women's Christian Association, Mrs. Mary E. Bell gave an entertainment the evening of October 14, interpreting the ante-bellum Negro through a program of readings, songs and recitations.

The Stratford Dramatic Club at its fall "goating" added to its membership Anne Gilliam, Blanche Ridenour, Anna Forsberg, and Florence Taylor.

The Home Economics Club entertained in honor of its new members at a tea in the

Y. W. rooms Saturday afternoon, October 8.

Announced by a poster reading "When Dreams Come True", the Senior class provided entertainment for the entire student-body with a dance in the auditorium the evening of November 5.

Winifred Williams, of Norfolk, recently had the distinguished privilege of serving as sponsor-in-chief for the Army of Northern Virginia when she represented the Sons of Confederate Veterans at the Chattanooga encampment.

The faculty of the State Normal School has recently reorganized its chapter of the State Teachers Association with Dr. W. J. Gifford president, Dr. J. W. Wayland secretary, and Miss Natalie Lancaster treasurer. Dr. J. W. Wayland and C. T. Logan have been named delegates to represent the chapter at the meeting of the State Teachers Association at Richmond at Thanksgiving.

XII

NEWS AND NOTES OF THE ALUMNAE

The Alumnae of the Harrisonburg Normal School have undertaken to erect on the campus and present to the school a building that shall provide for some needs of the students that the Legislature of Virginia has not been able to provide.

The building will contain a large reception hall known as "The Home-Coming Room" in which the various receptions of the school may be held. In addition to this room on the first floor, there will be a number of offices for the staff of the student publications, the Y. W. C. A. and student Government Executive Council, an Alumnae Secretary, and the two publications issued by the Normal School, the annual, known as "The Schoolma'am," and THE VIRGINIA TEACHER, a monthly magazine. On the second floor of the building there will be two homes for the Literary Societies and a small number of guest rooms, something much needed by the school now on account of the fact that the large number of students makes it impossible for the school to entertain any of the parents, alumnae, or other visiting friends.