

so that teachers will understand its aims and ideals and will come to Washington to help make this unique Fourth of July celebration a success. For this purpose you may publish this letter if you wish.

Thanking you most heartily for your cooperation, I am

Sincerely yours,

OLIVE M. JONES
President.

"COLDS" IN SCHOOL CHILDREN

The ordinary "cold" or coryza, has not received adequate consideration. Too often it is deemed merely an inconvenience or an uncomfortable nuisance. At the Lincoln School of New York City more days were lost by pupils with colds than from all other causes combined, and this probably represents the general school experience. The serious complications such as inflammations of the middle ear, of the various sinuses, and of the glands, that may arise from a cold make it sound policy to protect children from unnecessary exposure to this disease.

Parents are constantly importuned by educational authorities to send their children to school lest they fall behind in their work; minor ailments are ignored. Even the medical profession is inclined to underestimate the seriousness of colds, and, in the absence of complications, to permit children to attend school regularly. There can be no doubt, however, that the ideal medical position is to advocate absence from school far more frequently than is now the practice. The mere fact that we know so little about coryza indicates the importance of giving it more thoughtful attention. It is a condition that does not induce much immunity; indeed, it appears to reduce individual resistance to various infections. Our knowledge of the microbic causes of colds is still unsettled and the results of treatment vaccines, either to prevent or to cure the disease, are as yet most inconclusive. Until we have much more definite and satisfactory knowledge of these matters the wise plan is to keep children with colds out of school. They are a serious factor in the illness and mortality of children of school age. This will be more difficult

in public schools than in private institutions, but should be urged by every physician.

—HYGEIA.

CURRENT EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

SPECIMENS OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE, by James Muilenburg. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company. 1923.

A LITERARY GUIDE TO THE BIBLE, by Laura H. Wild. New York: George H. Doran Company. 1922.

Designed for use in school or college, Mr. Muilenburg's book attempts to indicate the main literary types that are to be found in the Bible and then gives selections from each type with notes, suggestive readings, theme subjects, a brief bibliography (rather inadequate), and a glossary with the pronunciation of difficult names. The various types given are as follows: Narrative, including history, short story, parable, and fable; poetry, lyric and dramatic; reflection (proverbs); essay; prophecy, including rhapsody, invective, emblem, satire, lament, dramatic prose; gospel; oratory; and letters. Although some critics may object that the drama, the essay, and the short story are modern types of which the ancient Hebrews were totally ignorant, it may prove a pleasant and profitable task to select and compare those passages from the Bible which approximate to modern literary categories. The selections, on the whole, are well made and well arranged. The editor wisely avoiding all controversial questions has produced a book that may safely be used in any school or college.

Unlike Mr. Muilenburg's book, Miss Wild's contains no selections, but like his it seeks to make a classification into literary types, and her classification agrees in the main with his. It is surprising, however, to discover that in neither book are the fine rolling periods in Deuteronomy, with their alternation of passionate pleading and stern denunciation, included among the examples of Biblical oratory.

"There is need just now," declares Miss Wild in her Introduction, "for a text-book for the beginner in the study of the English Bible which will help him so to realize the art and beauty of Biblical literature that he can read it along with other world masterpieces and

understand its excellencies clearly and intelligently."

Studied for generations as a single literary unit, altogether unique in conception and treatment, held to be "inspired" *literatim et seri-
atim*, the Bible became a sort of fetish in former generations, set apart by a great gap from secular writing and having no analogues and no literary relationships. As a consequence, the human qualities in this great collection of sacred books have been obscured and its vital appeal has in recent years been weakened. With two such books as these of Mr. Muilenburg and Miss Wild the teacher will find a new method of approach which, without lessening the spiritual appeal, will help to vitalize and humanize the stories and characters of the Bible and relate them more nearly to modern life and modern ways of thinking.

Tulane University. JOHN M. MCBRYDE,

OTHER BOOKS OF INTEREST

WHERE OUR HISTORY WAS MADE, by John T. Farris. New York: Silver Burdett and Co. 1923. Pp. 326.

A charmingly written and illustrated book. As a supplementary reader it will be very effective.

LES TROIS MOUSQUETAIRES, by Alexandre Dumas. Edited by Victor E. Francois. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. 1923. Pp. 237. \$.80.

THE PHONETIC CHARDENAL, by C. A. Chardenal. Revised by Mars S. Brooks. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. 1923. Pp. 521. \$1.60.

A revision of a well-known textbook in which phonetic symbols are now employed.

PARIS PITTORESQUE, by Jean Leeman. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. 1923. Pp. 197. \$1.20. Well illustrated.

LIPPINCOTT'S HORN-ASHBAUGH SPELLING BOOK, by Ernest Horn and Ernest J. Ashbaugh. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1920.

A concise set of rules has been added for the benefit of those who insist on having them. Otherwise identical with the original edition. An excellent speller, too.

SHEET-METAL WORK, by Marion S. Trew and Vernie A. Bird. Peoria, Illinois. The Manual Arts Press. 1923. Pp. 64. 85 cents.

PRACTICAL MAP EXERCISES IN GENERAL HISTORY and IN ENGLISH HISTORY, both by R. C. Willard and Edward K. Robinson. Boston: Ginn and Company. 1923. Each, 56 cents.

A convenient and practical device for map tracing. Substantially bound.

NOTES OF THE SCHOOL AND ITS ALUMNAE

INKKLINGS

Mrs. Varner seems to have a fixed policy of brightening up the corner where you are, as the song puts it. The November birth-days—thirty-seven of 'em—were all celebrated at a fine party in the dining-room the evening of Saturday, November 17. The November girls were seated at a special table in the center of the dining-room and entered together to the lyric greeting of the student-body singing "Happy Birthday To You." Betty Cleaves presided and called for toasts from Louise Sheppe, Genevieve Brett, Leland Sutherland, Elizabeth Buchanan, and Helen Gardner. There were pleasing responses from Professor W. B. Varner, of Bridgewater College, Mrs. Varner, and Miss Turner. December girls are now eagerly waiting for an announcement, for Mrs. Varner plans to have a birthday party each month.

The quarterly dance was held Saturday night, November 24, with almost two hundred young men in attendance. With the girls in an inner circle, the evening's visitors went the rounds until everyone had met everyone; and there followed a merry evening which ended, much to everyone's regret, before the clock struck twelve. In the receiving line were Mildred Morecock, president of the Blue-Stone Cotillion Club, Dorothy Mayes, representing the student-body, Mrs. Varner, and President and Mrs. Duke.

Another cheerful occasion was the Thanksgiving dinner to which members of the faculty and their families were invited. About half of the student-body was away over the week-end, but the more than two hundred and fifty who remained felt repaid. After dinner, a short Thanksgiving service was held in Sheldon Hall, when Rev. W. W. Hamilton, Jr., of the Harrisonburg Baptist Church spoke on the relation of "think" and "thank." Later, there were games and fun in the reception room of Alumnae Hall, with a big log fire to make things cosy.

There has been a feast of good music this fall. Reinald Werrenrath, of course, was the trump card; his concert here was possible through the joint support of the Harrisonburg Music Lovers Club and the State Nor-