

I have an official right to the title myself, but like other academic bearers of it I much prefer to be termed merely "Mr." I believe that, leaving out of account the catalogues of educational institutions, the title "Professor" is now applied more often jocularly than seriously.

BOOKS

A COMBINED HISTORY AND ANTHOLOGY OF DRAMA

AN INTRODUCTION TO DRAMA. By Jay B. Hubbell and John O. Beatty. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1927. Pp. 838. \$3.50.

The authors of this book, in their *Preface*, state that it is intended primarily for college classes, but also for "playgoers, and the increasing body of people who read plays." The book discusses the principles and illustrates the history of the drama. The method used is admirably adapted to the purpose: it is a combination of history and anthology, and the book is a real *Introduction to Drama*.

The volume is divided into ten sections. The first is an introductory chapter on *The Study of the Drama*, which defines the subject, and raises many pertinent and undecided questions about dramatic art. If some of these are treated rather briefly, or settled with a too-easy decisiveness, it arises out of the purpose of the chapter, which is to place the facts simply before young students, who are quite properly not to be disturbed by the varying winds of critical scholarship. The facts discussed in this chapter are both important and interesting, and in using the book as a classroom text, they should be referred to again and again. Perhaps it is not too much to say that all the remaining parts of the book may be used as evidence bearing on the questions raised in this first chapter. A clever teacher could erect an entire study of the drama as an inquiry into the truth and the philosophy of some of the authors' fundamental propositions: for example, that the dramatist differs from other literary artists in that he must "write for the crowd" (p. 1.), or that "the effectiveness of a play depends very largely upon the playwright's selection of what to include and what to leave out (p. 4.).

Each of the remaining nine sections consists of a discussion of the drama of a historical period, and of one or more typical plays. Thus, there is an excellent twelve-page discussion of *The Drama of Greece and Rome*, followed by Sophocles' *Antigone*, and Plautus' *Menaechmi*. There can be no quarrel with this choice of illustrations. In general the plays chosen are the obvious ones, which is a virtue in a book of this sort. The illustrations for the chapter on *The Drama of the Elizabethan Age* are *Doctor Faustus*, *Volpone*, and *Philaster*; and for *The Drama of the Eighteenth Century* there are *She Stoops to Conquer* and *The School for Scandal*. At first glance, one is surprised to find Gilbert's *Iolanthe* as the sole example of *The Drama of the Nineteenth Century*. One would expect to find something by Bulwer-Lytton, or by Robertson. But perhaps it is correct to leave the early nineteenth century entirely unrepresented, and to represent the last decade of it in the section called *Contemporary Drama*, with plays by Wilde and Pinero. The last section deals with *The One-Act Play*, of which it contains nine examples. Altogether, the book contains twenty-nine complete plays. There is a bibliography of critical works on the drama, and of anthologies.

The clear and interesting treatment of the various periods, and the excellent choice of plays, make this volume a valuable text, with the aid of which it should be a delightful task to introduce students to the drama.

MILTON SMITH

A TEXTBOOK ON VOCAL EXPRESSION

SPOKEN THOUGHT. By Lily C. Whitaker. New York: A. S. Barnes and Company. 1927. Pp. 596. \$3.00.

This is a most interesting and worthwhile text on the spoken word. It is intended to help those who would speak well in public, and is therefore useful for the teacher in particular. The book is divided into three

parts: "The Training and Fundamentals of the Voice," "Fundamentals of Spoken Thought and Their Opposites," and "The correlation of the Arts." Helpful exercises, outlines, and illustrations are given to awaken thought and interest, which, if followed, will give the teacher more ease and poise. All through the book there is the tendency to stimulate the young speaker to work and to make the method of working plainer and easier. Through this study the student will have a better insight into voice training and the spoken word.

R. S. HUDSON

OTHER BOOKS OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS

TEACHING ARITHMETIC IN THE PRIMARY GRADES. By Robert Lee Morton. New York: Silver, Burdett and Company. 1927. Pp. 242. \$1.80.

This book discusses the place of arithmetic in the primary grades and gives valuable suggestions for improving the teaching of this subject.

The chapter on "Games and Drill Devices" is especially good and offers practical helps in making arithmetic more suitable to the child's needs.

The book is usable and helps to solve many problems of the arithmetic teacher.

THE SQUIRREL TREE. By Margaret J. McElroy and Jessica O. Younge. New York: American Book Company. Pp. 94.

The author has taken the everyday experiences of children and made them into an enjoyable story. The book is well bound, the print is large, the illustrations are vivid and numerous, and the sentences are divided into phrases to encourage proper eye sweep. It is best used as a library or supplementary book.

BEGINNERS' BOOK IN WRITING AND SPELLING. By Norman H. Hall. Chicago: Hall and McCreary Company. 1927. Pp. 48. 20 cents.

READ AND DO. By Maud C. Stubbings. Illustrated by Genevieve M. Watts. Chicago: Hall and McCreary Company. 1927. Pp. 32. 20 cents.

Two attractively printed little books that should provide a real stimulus for primary children. Both are well done, and will prove valuable work books.

PRACTICAL FOOTBALL AND HOW TO TEACH IT. By G. S. Lowman. New York: A. S. Barnes and Company. 1927. Pp. 280. \$4.00.

A revised, enlarged, and more complete presentation of lectures, discussions, and subject matter in football offered in classes in the University of Wisconsin Summer Sessions of 1921 to 1924. The book is rich in diagrams of plays and photographs of players in action.

THE BLACK ARROW. By Robert Louis Stevenson. Edited by Dorothy Loomis Holm. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. 1926. Pp. 436. 80 cents.

Another issue in the excellent Academy Classics for Junior High Schools. This story of youth, with a background of the War of the Roses, is of course a popular volume.

NEWS OF THE COLLEGE AND ITS ALUMNÆ

STUDENT DIRECTORY FOR FALL QUARTER, 1927-28

Student Association—Mary Ellen Fray, Madison, President; Mary McNeil, Fishersville, vice-president; Florence Reese, Atlee, secretary-treasurer.

Y. W. C. A.—Marion Wagner, Appomattox, president; Margaret Knott, Portsmouth, vice-president; Virginia Harvey Roanoke, secretary; Mary B. Murphy, Machadoe, treasurer; Adelia Krieger, Portsmouth, undergraduate representative.

Athletic Association—Jane Nickell, Herndon, president; Elizabeth Miller, Smedley, vice-president; Virginia Hughes, Ore Bank, secretary; Anne Proctor, Drakes' Branch, treasurer; Mary B. Miller, Smedley, business manager.

Pi Kappa Omega—Lorraine Gentis, Norfolk, president; Mary Lacy, Madison, vice-president; Helen Goodson, Norfolk, secretary; Florence Reese, Atlee, treasurer; Kathryn Pace, Hampton, alumnae secretary; Hilda Blue, Charlottesville, Historian.

The Schoolma'am—Helen Goodson, Norfolk, editor; Lucy Gilliam, Petersburg, business manager.

The Breeze—Hilda Page Blue, Charlottesville, editor; Elizabeth Knight, Plainfield, N. J., business manager.

Stratford Dramatic Club—Anne Bulloch, Portsmouth, president; Phyllis Palmer, Greenville, vice-president; Ruth Dold, Buena Vista, secretary; Lorraine Gentis, Norfolk, treasurer; Elizabeth Hopkins, McGaheysville, business manager.

Glee Club—Bernice Wilkins, Portsmouth, president; Linda Malone, Petersburg, vice-president; Ruth Beery, Harrisonburg, secretary; Virginia Harvey, Roanoke, business manager; Sylvia Myers, Harrisonburg, librarian.

Choral Club—Elizabeth Malone, Roanoke, president; Eugenia Eley, Suffolk, vice-president; Bess Cowling, Eastville, secretary; Ruth Dold, Buena Vista, treasurer; Lillian Derry, Norfolk, house chairman; Sylvia Myers, Harrisonburg, librarian.

Orchestra—Maggie Roller, Staunton, president; Eunice Lindsay, Norfolk, vice-president; Rebecca Spitzer, Hinton, secretary-treasurer.

Aeolian Music Club—Martha Derrick, Pulaski, president; Sallie Norman, Culpeper, vice-president; Mildred Kline, Waynesboro, secretary; Eugenia Eley, Suffolk, business manager; Thelma Lewis, Richmond, chairman program committee.

Cotillion Club—Bernice Wilkins, Portsmouth, president; Virginia Curtis, Hampton, vice-presi-