

WILKINS, LAWRENCE A. *Prognosis Test in Modern Languages*. World Book Company, Yonkers-on-Hudson, New York.

VOCABULARY STUDIES

BUCHANAN, M. A. *A Spanish Word Book*. (Based on a count of 1,200,000 running words.) To be published by the American Council on Education.

HENMON, V. A. C. *A French Word Book*. (Based on a count of 400,000 running words.) Bureau of Educational Research, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin; September, 1924.

MORGAN, B. Q., and HENMON, V. A. C. *A German Word Book*. (A reduction of Kaeding's Häufigkeitswörterbuch—a count of 10,000,000 running words—to a dictionary basis.) To be published by the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

ENGLISH NOTES

ENGLISH PROGRAM AT NORFOLK

PROMISE of unusually interesting meetings of the English Section of the State Teachers Association is held out by the announcement of the programs at Norfolk on November 25. The hour and place of meetings will be announced in the complete program issued from the office of Secretary Heatwole.

English Teachers Section

Wednesday morning, November 25

H. AUGUSTUS MILLER, JR., Presiding

1. President's report
2. Discussion of plans for the future
3. Report of the Publication Committee.
4. Treasurer's report
5. Election of officers

Wednesday afternoon, November 25

H. AUGUSTUS MILLER, JR., Presiding

1. Some English Problems, Mrs. C. B. Bowry, Haytokah Agricultural High School, Nottoway
2. English Grammar in the High School, Professor Asa D. Watkins, Hampden-Sidney College
3. Social English, Mr. S. A. Martensen, Supervisor of Elementary Education, Petersburg

4. The Study of English Literature at Oxford, Professor Arthur Kyle Davis, Jr., University of Virginia
5. A Special Course in Literature for High School Seniors, Mr. T. G. Pullen, Jr., Newport News High School

POETRY AT PETERSBURG HIGH

Three sheaves of verse which appeared in the May issue of *The Missile*, quarterly magazine published by the students of the Petersburg High School, have received merited praise from Miss Harriet Monroe, editor of *Poetry, A Magazine of Verse*.

The verse was written by three seniors in the high school last session; Miss Ruth Ackerman's verses were called "Keepsakes," Miss Elizabeth Ellis's were collected under the title "Thistledown," and Miss Honoria Moomaw's were entitled "The Enchanted Realm."

Miss Monroe's comment, which appeared in the October issue of *Poetry*, follows:

"Although groups of poets, and magazines printing serious verse, are common in undergraduate college circles, parallel movements among high school students are rare. Of unusual interest is the May number of *The Missile*, printed at the town high school of Petersburg, Va. A number of these boys and girls have developed a modern technique in writing verse, and have learned to speak in an individual idiom. Since the talents of promising adolescent poets are often quickly exhausted, perhaps it would be well if young poets everywhere were encouraged to achieve their literary careers before going to college. Most of them would be sifted out, and the others would have a head start in their poetic apprenticeship."

LITTLE THEATRE PROGRAMS

That six separate little theatre organizations in Charlottesville, Lynchburg, and Richmond were active during the past year in presenting programs is disclosed in the October issue of the *Little Theatre Monthly*, published in conjunction with *The*

Drama. The list of programs offered by these organizations is as follows:

CHARLOTTESVILLE: ALBEMARLE COMMUNITY PLAYERS

The Rehearsal, a farce, by Christopher Morley.

The Boy Comes Home, a comedy, by A. A. Milne.

Pennington's, Too, by J. C. Barden.

CHARLOTTESVILLE: VIRGINIA PLAYERS

Back of the Yards, a drama, by Kenneth Sawyer Goodman.

Modesty, a comedy, by Paul Hervieu.

LYNCHBURG: LITTLE THEATRE

Fashion, a comedy, by Anna Cora Mowatt.

RICHMOND: LITTLE THEATRE LEAGUE AND COLLEGE CLUB

The Mollusc, a comedy, by H. H. Davies.

RICHMOND: LITTLE THEATRE LEAGUE WORKSHOP

The Apache, by Charles Mere.

RICHMOND: UNIVERSITY PLAYERS

Romeo and Juliet, a tragedy, by William Shakespeare.

AMERICAN SPEECH

The painfully precise and dry-as-dust formality of what is called "schoolma'am English" is more than a legend—it is often a fact. There is no doubt that teachers of English continually exert an influence toward language fixation. This may be desirable—at least it is to be expected; but on the other hand it is important that among teachers there should be at least some realization of the developing character of language, some perception of its essentially fluid character.

Teachers of English who wish to inform themselves of philological studies in current usage, of shifts in current pronunciation, of dialect studies, and of serious investigations of slang, will find great satisfaction, therefore, in *American Speech*. The first issue

of this magazine, edited by Miss Louise Pound of the University of Nebraska and Professor Kemp Malone of The Johns Hopkins University, has just come from the press of the Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, Maryland. The subscription rate is \$4.00 a year, but all who wish to become charter subscribers may be enrolled at a subscription price of \$3.00 a year. This offer expires January 1, 1926.

In a field which has been covered so far only in part by *Dialect Notes*, *Publications of the Modern Language Association*, various series of University studies, and occasional essays in popular magazines, *American Speech* will serve to present scholarly linguistic study in a semi-popular form.

In the first issue is a study by Professor George H. McKnight setting forth by example the greater grammatical freedom of British writers as compared with their American contemporaries. There is an entertaining characterization of Noah Webster under the title of "A Linguistic Patriot"; a discussion of new words titled "A Ramble in the Garden of Words," by Frank H. Vizetelly, editor of the New Standard Dictionary; a transcript of "Troupier Talk"; and a delightful consideration of "ABCD goldfish," and what it proves.

IMPROVE ENGLISH OF UPPER CLASSMEN

An English "clinic" is maintained at the University of Wisconsin to aid upper-class students who have completed the required freshmen courses in written English but whose later work shows inaccuracies in English construction. The "clinic" is directed by a committee of five instructors from the departments of journalism, chemistry, history, education, and English. Seventy-six upper-class students in the College of Letters and Science whose English was "sick" were treated in the clinic last year.

—*School Life.*