

NUMBERLAND. By Ina M. Hayes, Charles S. Gibson, and George R. Bodler. New York: D. C. Heath and Co. 1928. pp. 276. \$1.28.

One of the difficult tasks of the primary teacher is to give young children number concepts, for the learning of numbers involves many mental activities which the child must acquire through actual experiences. The approach to Numberland is made through the child's natural use of numbers and is linked up closely with his desire and ability to read. This can best be illustrated by a lesson from the book itself.

The big boy is Jack.

The little boy is William.

The other boy is Peter.

Jack says, "Let's run a race, I will count so we can all start together."

He counted, "One, two, three—go."

When they got to school, William was first and Peter was second.

It is carefully graded, well illustrated, and every lesson relates to some interest of the children.

M. L. S.

MASTERY SPELLERS. Book I, Grades 2-4. Book II, Grades 5-6. Junior High School, Grades 7-9. By James H. Smith and William C. Bagley. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. 1929.

What words shall be taught in each grade? The authors have utilized modern word studies, selecting the words from such lists as Thorndike, Ayers, and Tidyman's and have given much care to the grade placement of the words. Provision for individual differences has been made by giving a minimal list of words, varying in difficulty for each grade, a supplementary list, and an additional supplementary list. I do not know of any other book which provides as much suitable material for pupils of all abilities.

How well shall these words be taught? The authors make a strong plea for one hundred percent mastery and so arrange the test lessons that this may be accomplished.

How shall these words be taught? A variety of procedure in presentation is suggested which will stimulate interest in the spelling lessons. Ardent advocates of either the test-study or the study-test method of teaching spelling will find the books adapted to their pet method.

EMILY GOODLETT

YUKON, THE SILVER FOX. By Arland D. Weeks. Boston: D. C. Heath and Company. 1929. Pp. 96. 68 cents.

A supplementary reader for grades 4 to 6, this little book has as its scene a modern fox ranch in Minnesota. A little boy visits the ranch and learns much about the habits of the fox, the value of its fur, the care and feeding of the cubs.

HONEY BEES AND FAIRY DUST. By Mary Geisler Phillips. Boston: D. C. Heath and Company. 1929. Pp. 213. 88 cents.

ANT-HILLS AND SOAP BUBBLES. By Mary Geisler Phillips. Boston: D. C. Heath and Company. 1929. Pp. 265. 92 cents.

These volumes contain authentic scientific data

concerning the habits of bees and ants, which two children observe at first hand with the help of a friendly fairy and an elf. Only the children are "magicked"; the insects retain their normal characteristics without a trace of the anthropomorphism which mars many pseudo-scientific narratives.

TEN OUTDOOR MEN. By James Speed. Boston: D. C. Heath and Company. 1929. Pp. 138. 72 cents.

The author has a knack of writing interestingly and humanly of life in the open. He has here told the stories of John Burroughs, Theodore Roosevelt, Luther Burbank, John Muir, Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Daniel Webster, Johnny Appleseed, John James Audubon, and Alexander Wilson, not as scientists or statesmen, but as adventurous men among the woods and mountains and streams.

MACAULAY'S LIFE OF SAMUEL JOHNSON. Edited by Charles Lane Hanson. Boston: Ginn and Company. 1928. Pp. 121. 52 cents.

This edition contains the entire article which Macaulay contributed to the *Encyclopedia Britannica* and only those portions of the article in the *Edinburgh Review* on Croker's edition of Boswell's *Life of Johnson* which bear directly on Johnson. The volume is well equipped with editorial materials, and is designed especially for pupils who are preparing to take the College Entrance Board Examination.

BETTER HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH THROUGH TESTS AND DRILLS. By Garibaldi M. Lapoppa and Kenneth W. Wright. New York: Noble and Noble. 1929. Pp. 138. 85 cents.

The book contains eight diagnostic tests and three sections of "follow-up" tests—to be taken as directed. Most of these 117 exercises contain 20 judgments each, and offer a variety of practice in three departments: correct grammatical form, corrective English, and correct punctuation.

CONTEMPORARY ESSAYS. Edited by Odell Shephard. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1929. Pp. 248. \$1.

A "different" anthology, built, the editor tells us, "to produce out of the writings of other people a book with as definite shape and trend as it would have had if produced by a single mind." Mr. Hanford Henderson's essay on "The Aristocratic Spirit" served as a nucleus about which thirty-two others cluster to provide setting, illustration, and deductions.

NEWS OF THE COLLEGE

Freshman Day had its annual observance on April 24. The red and white of the class colors, with a ship sailed by freshmen in sailor costumes, made a unique feature of the class celebration. Crowning the success of the day was an attractive entertain-

ment, "Alma," presented in Walter Reed Hall that night. The sophomores observed their annual tree planting ceremony on April 23. A short pageant, *The Planting of a Tree*, with various members of the class participating, was presented. It was an impressive service, ending with the singing of "taps" by the entire class.

Captain D. Melville Carr, American Red Cross Life Saving field representative from Washington, during the week of April 22-27 gave live-saving tests to the examiners and life-saving squad, renewing the life-saving and examining certificates for those already possessing them.

The May Day celebration, one of the outstanding events of student interest during the year, was held on May 4. This year the theme was unusually attractive in its plot arrangement. The scene disclosed brownies in a workshop making a crown for the May Queen. A poet, strolling into their midst, suggested that they borrow a crown from King Neptune and complete the masterpiece with a gift of one jewel from each flower kingdom.

Elizabeth Miller, a senior, was crowned May Queen, with Harriet Pearson as maid-of-honor. The court was composed of the following twelve girls: Florence Mitchell, Doris Bane, Delphine Hurst, Anne Everett, Grace Mayo, Virginia Stark, Mary Greene, Frances Ralston, Margaret Beck, and Grace Kerr.

The entire pageant was one of the loveliest ever given here. Helene Duvall as director, Miss Virginia Rath as faculty adviser, and Helen Lineweaver as general manager, are due a great deal of credit for their direction and guidance.

As a fitting end to May Day, the seniors had an enjoyable dinner dance, held in the Senior Dining Room with the College Dance Orchestra playing.

"Heavy-Weight May Day" was presented by members of the senior class who could qualify as bona fide heavy-weights. The entire ceremony was a highly amusing

burlesque. Julia Reynolds, as Queen, was crowned with a decorative lamp-shade.

The Choral Club gave as its annual presentation "The Sunbonnet Girl," a well-planned and well-acted operetta, on May 10.

May 11 was the date for the first inter-collegiate contest in both tennis and swimming ever entered by H. T. C. The meet was held with George Washington University, in Washington. The tennis team of G. W. was easily defeated by the H. T. C. girls, with a 4-1 score, by Frances Rand, Lena Bones, Evelyn Bowers, and Elizabeth Miller playing. The H. T. C. swimming team lost a hard-fought contest to the G. W. team by a score of 19-39. Evelyn Wilson, Irene Garrison, Anne Proctor, K. N. C. Harris, Julia Duke, and Katherine Wherrett were the Harrisonburg representatives.

Kappa Delta Pi has initiated into the fraternity Margaretta Coffman, Mary Dunn, Elzie Gochenour, Marguerite Goodman, Edna Brown, Maude Forbes, Margaret Ford, Bronner Leach, Preston Starling, and Elizabeth Woods. The fraternity has also elected its officers for the ensuing year. They are: Elizabeth Kaminsky, president; Elizabeth Knight, vice-president; Mary Crane, secretary-treasurer; Irene Garrison, reporter-historian.

As a concluding number of the entertainment course for this year, A. Winfield Hoeny, interpreter of Biblical drama, appeared at the college May 17, in recital. Mr. Hoeny gave a performance which was full of interest.

On May 18 a tennis meet was held between faculty and student contestants. The entire program of games was not completed on account of rain, but at the end of the afternoon's playing, the results were as follows: Frances Rand won from Mr. Duke in singles, Dr. Mabee won from Elizabeth Miller two out of three sets, Lena Bones captured the entire three sets from Miss Marbut. In the incompleting doubles, whose participants were Miss Rath and Mr. Duke

against Lena Bones and Frances Rand, the students had won the games played.

The first of its kind to be given here, the Junior-Senior Ring Dance was one of the most attractive features of the year's calendar. At the beginning of the figures, the letter "J" was formed, after which the seniors presented the juniors with their class rings. Immediately following this, the dancers formed an "S." The entire dance was decidedly enjoyable.

Of great interest is the organization of a University Women's Club in the city of Harrisonburg, federated with the American Association of University Women. The local officers, all members of the college faculty, are Miss Virginia Harnsberger, president; Miss Margaret Hoffman, vice-president; Mrs. W. B. Varner, secretary; Miss Bessie Lanier, treasurer.

The Schoolma'am, sent to press on April 27, was delivered to the students May 30. The annual for the session of 1928-29, with Lucy Gilliam as editor, and Catherine Guthrie as business manager, is one of the outstandingly attractive annuals in the history of H. T. C. It was dedicated to Mrs. Varner, dean of women.

The handbook for 1929-30, edited by Doris Bane, is now being made ready for publication and distribution before the opening of college in September.

Examinations for juniors and seniors were given June 4 and 5, sophomores and freshmen having theirs on June 6 and 7.

Finals began on Saturday, June 8. The annual meeting of the Alumnae Association brought together a large group of "old girls."

In the afternoon the freshmen entertained the juniors at a dansant in the little gym, and at seven o'clock the annual Alumnae banquet was held in the Blue Stone Dining Hall. Golf was the theme of this year's dinner as developed by the Alumnae secretary, Mrs. Garber. Beginning with the menu with its "creamed *birdie in cups*" and "*marshie putt'taters*," not neglecting the fav-

ors of miniature golf sticks, and including delightful entertainment provided by classes and clubs, the program was full of golf. Mr. Logan, as *Mr. Bogey*, acted as toastmaster, and faculty golfers made toasts to *duffers*, to *caddies*, to *links*, and to *pros*, carrying out the golf symbolism.

The Rev. J. J. Murray, of the Presbyterian Church, Lexington, Virginia, preached the commencement sermon at 11 o'clock Sunday morning in Walter Reed Hall. Following the Y. W. C. A. vesper service in the open air auditorium, an Alumnae buffet dinner was held at the Spotswood Country Club.

Tennis and swimming events Monday morning were followed by a faculty reception to alumnae and guests in the afternoon. At night the annual recital was given by the music and expression students.

Moliere's "The Learned Ladies," presented by the graduating classes on Tuesday evening in the open-air auditorium, was a charming feature of finals. The costuming was elaborate, and the subordination of stage setting in the simple outdoor surroundings enabled the scintillating lines of the comedy to make their best effect. The cast included Christine Mason, Doris Bane, Kathryn Harris, Anne Ragan, Margaret Shackelford, Delphine Hurst, Axie Brockett, Leonide Harriss, Edna Phelps, Elizabeth Brinkley, Jeanette Duling, Lucy Gilliam, and Lois Hines.

Professor George D. Strayer, of Teachers College, Columbia University, was the commencement speaker. Dr. Strayer urged upon the graduates that they distinguish "between the making of a living and the making of a life." Citing Matthew Arnold's interpretation of culture, he suggested that they should help "make all men live in an atmosphere of sweetness and light."

"A life worth living," Dr. Strayer concluded, "is one in which we are associated with the great men and women of all time. It is one in which we enjoy that which they may have contributed in song, in story, in

scientific formulae, or in social institutions. If our leisure hours are devoted to these nobler pleasures of life, we cannot help but influence others to share with us these satisfactions of great worth."

Award was made to J. Edna Phelps of the Snyder Prize for the best contribution to *The Breeze* during the session.

ALUMNÆ NOTES

MUCH ENTERTAINING FOR RETURNING ALUMNÆ

All of Alumnæ Hall and part of Johnston Hall were turned over to the alumnæ who returned for commencement this year. Everything possible was done for their comfort and enjoyment while they were with us. As each alumna registered in the alumnæ book, she was given a tag for her name to be filled in and which, if worn, would admit her to all entertainments during finals. The Y. W. C. A. girls were on duty in Alumnæ Hall from Friday evening until Tuesday morning, registering visiting alumnæ, showing them to their rooms, and answering any questions that they could.

The annual alumnæ meeting was held in Alumnæ Reception Hall, Saturday morning, June 8, at 9:00. Mrs. Garber, Alumnæ Secretary, in the absence of the President and Vice-President of the Association, conducted the meeting.

Saturday night the Alumnæ Banquet was well attended, nearly three hundred being present. The banquet was acclaimed this year to have been the best one ever "pulled off" at H. T. C. Mr. Logan, who was the toastmaster of the evening, imagined Alice to be in Gollfand instead of Wonderland and the toasts and responses were unusually good. The entertainment, furnished by the various classes and associations, demanded great applause. The banquet closed with the usual singing of Blue Stone Hill and Auld Lang Syne.

Sunday morning the alumnæ attended the commencement sermon by the Rev. J. J.

Murray of the Presbyterian Church of Lexington. Sunday evening the Harrisonburg Local Alumnæ Chapter entertained the visiting past students at the Country Club at a buffet supper. Delicious fried chicken, salad, hot biscuits, pickles, cake were served. This affair has proved to be one of the most enjoyable features to the commencement exercises, as it is very informal and the girls have a chance to really see and talk to each other.

Monday afternoon a reception was given in Alumnæ Hall to the alumnæ. Many girls who were late in returning for the finals had a chance at the reception to see and talk to old friends and to the members of the faculty. Tuesday morning a number of the faculty members offered their cars to take the girls on little tours over the city and county. These rides seemed to be greatly enjoyed by all. This ended the special entertainment for the alumnæ, but of course they all attended the regular features of the commencement program.

NEW PRESIDENT ELECTED AT ANNUAL ALUMNÆ MEETING

Miss Sarah Elizabeth Thompson, principal of the Pleasant Hill School, which is near Harrisonburg, was elected president of the State Alumnæ Association, taking the place of Elizabeth Ralston, the president for the past two years.

PETERSBURG CHAPTER ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

President Agnes Nunnally
Vice-President Lucy Gatling
Secretary and Treasurer Elsie Burnett

FIRST GIRL TO REGISTER AT H. T. C. RETURNS FOR COMMENCEMENT

Beatrice Marable, Blue Stone Hill's first daughter, returned for commencement this year. Beatrice is now nursing at St. John the Baptist Mission, Ivy Depot, Virginia.