

LECTURAS FACILES. By Lawrence A. Wilkins and Max A. Luria. New York: Silver, Burdett and Company. 1931. Pp. 266. \$1.44.

For fifteen years *Lecturas Fáciles* has been widely used in the Spanish classes of schools and colleges. The educational principles upon which this book is based have been amply tested and their worth and suitability fully proved. The outstanding features of this book may be summed up as follows: interesting material in stories and articles; correct, idiomatic Spanish easily comprehended by students who are in the important transition stage between mastery of fundamentals and the reading of pure literature; effective, "doable" exercises; and useful appendices.

The first part of the book, *Sección de cuentos europeos*, has been entirely reset. Drawings illustrative of the stories have been inserted, and the texts have been considerably simplified and graded in difficulty in the light of the recent studies and investigations carried on under the direction of the Modern Foreign Language Study. The new exercises are devised to test easily the attainment of facile and comprehending reading ability, not only ascertaining the degree of comprehension but also building and extending vocabulary.

The second part, *Sección panamericana*, has been altered where necessary to bring informational material up to date.

Lecturas Fáciles is meant for use in the second and third term study in high school and in the second semester of Spanish in college.

J. A. S.

ZARAGUETTA. By Ramon Carrion and Vital Aza, and edited by Carlos Castillo and Agatha Cavallo. New York: Silver, Burdett and Company. 1931. Pp. 153. 96 cents.

That this play is a very suitable means of holding the interest of a class in Spanish is generally conceded, for its humorous situations, its characters, and its action, furnish a much needed stimulus during the early stages of the reading adjustment.

The editors have supplied notes, new-type exercises, and vocabularies. The exercises are designed to aid the rapid development of comprehension and reading ability. The notes are placed at the bottom of the page to assist the student in learning to read with satisfactory rapidity.

The text is brightened with attractive drawings which picture the characters of the play and reproduce details of costumes and settings.

J. A. S.

PROBLEMS IN BIOLOGY. By George W. Hunter. New York: American Book Co. 1931. Pp. 706. \$1.76.

For the high school this is nearly the perfect text, and because of its wealth of selective material it is equally adapted to freshman college classes. This book contains an ideal selection of subject matter which is both accurate and teachable. The author knows his subject and how to present it. The material is ample to allow selection.

This book is organized on the unit basis. Twenty units are subdivided into one hundred and forty-one problems. The illustrations are well chosen and the experiments are numerous and excellent. In my opinion, this is the best book in its field.

GEO. W. CHAPPELEAR.

NEWS OF THE COLLEGE AND ITS ALUMNAE

The opening of the college session, on September 21, brought many old girls back for the purpose of introducing their younger sisters or nieces or high school pupils or other freshmen in whom they are interested.

Mrs. Lilla (Gerow) Diehl was installing a niece, and Lucile Early (Mrs. Albert Fray) once again stood in line on registration day so as to see two of her pupils through and to get them settled in their courses of study.

No alumna has yet brought hither her own girl, to be enrolled as Alma Mater's first grand-daughter, but many have been declared prospective students, even from very tender years. Of this list of probabilities, Alma (Ross) Harper's baby was number one. The total count now would be an interesting problem in higher mathematics. For instance, Althea (Cox) Pace is the proud mother of seven children, her eldest daughter being in high school. The household of Ellen Bowman (Mrs. L. H. Fowler, of Denbigh, Virginia) is not so crowded. Her girl is about eight years older than the boy, L. H. junior.

Of course great numbers of the former students—like Kathleen Watson, of Charleston, West Virginia—send their pupils to Harrisonburg, although prevented from accompanying these during the busy opening weeks of their own schools. At least we shall look for such alumnae at commencement four years hence, when these freshmen take their degrees.

One who sent up a niece this fall was Mrs. F. H. Drewry, of Boykins, who was a score of years ago Willye White of tennis fame on the campus.

Evelyn Groton is enjoying the novelty of teaching on the island of Tangier, Virginia. The unique thing about this experience is that there are no automobiles or horses to be seen. But she does not miss them, for

she has only to walk a little way to the shore and take a boat instead. Evelyn Wilson, who is with Miller and Rhoads, in Richmond, could doubtless tell a very different story.

It was most fitting that Rosa Hopkins and her husband, Mr. Epperley Agee, should come to Harrisonburg and Massanetta on their bridal trip.

Miss Azile Schwarz, who graduated last year, is teaching the sixth grade in Chat-ham, Va.

Miss Elizabeth Dishman, who graduated last year, is teaching now at Gainesboro.

Miss Norma Wilson, of Big Stone Gap, is teaching at Overton, Va.

Miss Margaret Kelly, of Big Stone Gap, is teaching at East Stone Gap, Va.

Miss Virginia Gilliam, editor-in-chief of last year's *Schoolma'am*, is now teaching at Carson, Va.

Miss Emma Mantiply, a graduate of '29, is now teaching at Maple Run School in Amherst County, Va.

Miss Louise Myers is now teaching in New Castle, Va.

Miss Helen Caldwell is now teaching in Barbours Creek, Va.

Miss Virginia Jordan Stark, a graduate of '31, is teaching in an elementary school in Norfolk, Va.

Miss Florence Stephenson, a graduate of '31, is teaching in Wakefield, Va.

Miss Mary Lowman, who graduated in 1931, is spending the winter at her home in Pulaski, Va.

Miss Mae Brown, who graduated in 1931, is teaching 330 pupils in Washington and Lee High School. She was a guest on campus the week-end of September 26.

Miss Evelyn Groton, 1933, is teaching on Tangier Island, Va., where there are neither automobiles nor horses. But then there is no place to go!

Miss Evelyn Wilson is with Miller and Rhoads in Richmond, Va.

Miss Mary Watt is teaching in Franklin, Va.

Miss Anna Keyser is county demonstrator in Louisa County, Va.

Marriages recently reported are the following:

Miss Alice Bartlett was married last Easter to Mr. Lawrence Edmonds.

Miss Margaret Birsch was married in February to Mr. Leon Hall, of Norfolk, Va.

Miss Velma Barker was married to Mr. Percy Jennings Searce, in Richmond on September 26.

Miss Catherine Fagan was married October 17 to Mr. Gladly Birsch, of Norfolk, Va.

Miss Lillian Derry was married to Mr. Ralph Brown last June, in Norfolk.

Miss Bernice Wilkins was married last August at her home in Portsmouth to Lieutenant Francis Marion McAlister. He is now situated at Camp Rapidan.

Miss Helen Knight became the bride of Harry Berry and at the same time Miss Julia Becton was married to Mr. James Rodgers, in Bluntville, Tenn., on September 7.

Miss Katherine N. C. Harris is now Mrs. Geo. B. Evans, and her address in the spring was 122 East 64th Street, New York City.

Miss Ida Pinner was married August 1 in Suffolk to Mr. Hugh Lefler, a professor in the State College at Raleigh, N. C.

On October 9, Miss Frances Clarke was married to Mr. William Heffinger. Their residence is at Hanland Circle, Danville, Va.

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DIRECTORY OF STUDENT OFFICERS FALL QUARTER, 1931-32

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OUR CONTRIBUTORS

JOHN A. LEJEUNE, superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute since 1929, has been an officer in the United States Marine Corps since 1890, serving as major-general in command from 1920 to 1929. General Lejeune read this paper before the student body at the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg on November 19.

STRINGFELLOW BARR is editor of the *Virginia Quarterly Review* and professor of history at the University of Virginia. The short statement printed here is the speaker's summary of his stimulating convocation address delivered at the Harrisonburg college on September 30, 1931.

M. DORISSE HOWE is associate professor of biology in the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg.

KATHERINE M. ANTHONY is director of the training school of the Harrisonburg State Teachers College.

HELEN M. HARRIS is a librarian in the Lawson-McGhee Library, Knoxville, Tennessee, and read this paper before the Junior-Senior High School Libraries group meeting on the American Library Association in New Haven last June.

SIMON FLEXNER is well known as director of laboratories of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York City.

SAMUEL P. DUKE has been president of the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg since 1919.

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