

PICTURESQUE WORD ORIGINS. Springfield, Mass.: G. & C. Merriam Company. 1933. Pp. 134. \$1.50.

Here are included the "life-stories" of 163 words offered by the publishers of the Webster dictionaries to demonstrate "the extraordinary interest of a subject that has always been hidden behind the forbidding name *etymology*." (They might have included this word and shown that it, too, has an interesting origin that makes it seem less forbidding!)

True—that is, original—meanings are shown of such words as *accurate* (done with care), *ambition* (a going about for votes), *astonish* (thunder-struck), *ballot* (little ball), *bombastic* (stuffed with cotton), *recalcitrant* (like a kicking mule), and *symposium* (a drinking party).

The forty-five full page drawings in this book have been used in the recent advertisements of Webster dictionaries. The book is especially useful for high school libraries. Unfortunately, no table of contents is given, although the words are arranged alphabetically.

VIRGINIA: ECONOMIC AND CIVIC. Edited by R. Lee Humbert and Clarence W. Newman. Richmond: Whittet and Shepperson. 1933. Pp. 427. \$4.00.

Sixteen Virginians wrote the material in this book. It was prepared in the Virginia Polytechnic Institute under the direction of R. L. Humbert and in collaboration with Clarence W. Newman, of the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce, in Richmond.

The publication has an abundance of desirable characteristics. Bringing together much recent information regarding the resources and industries of the state, it will make a helpful and reliable reference book. Statistics are presented with discussions, thus affording applied information. Superficial observations are avoided: the volume is thorough-going and presents any decreases along with many increases in the different kinds of production. The book is technically sound, yet it is written so as to

interest the lay reader. It does not agitate changing all present arrangements within the state, but many suggestions are given looking to improvements which deserve encouragement.

Each chapter deserves comment, but this review can mention only two of them. The chapter entitled "Water Supplies and Waste Disposal" gives specific information regarding the quantity and quality of public water supplies in various parts of the state and mentions the industrial influences associated with the two factors mentioned in the chapter title. The chapter on Education tells what has been done, reports what improvements are being undertaken, and frankly mentions some shortcomings. Each school library in the state should include this authoritative reference book.

RAUS M. HANSON

NEWS OF THE COLLEGE

The hockey team attended the Virginia Hockey Association's tournament at Westhampton November 11. Westhampton defeated them 2-0, as did William and Mary also. But the second team defeated an et-cetera team 5-1, and later the varsity held Farmville to a 0-0 tie. Three girls were chosen for the All-State team: Douglas McDonald, of Scotts, N. C.; Edith Todd, of Richmond; Joyce Lea, of Massies Mill. At Sweetbriar on November 4 the local team had been defeated 4 to 0.

The senior class held its class day on November 1. Dr. Duke and Dr. Converse officially gowned the class. The seniors wore their academic costumes all day. Harrison Hall was decorated in purple and white, the class colors. A reception was held that night. The seniors also elected a class mirror, similar to the one in the annual every year. It was as follows: most talented, Sarah Lemmon, Marietta, Ga.; best all-round, Hilda Hisey, Edinburg; most athletic, Marietta Melson, Machipongo; most popular, Hilda Hisey, Edinburg;

best looking, Elizabeth Carson, Lynchburg; most dramatic, Mildred Simpson, Norfolk; friendliest, Gladys Farrar, Rustburg; best dancer, Evelyn Watkins, Norfolk; most musical, Sirkka Keto, New York City, and Evelyn Watkins, Norfolk; most artistic, Mildred Foskey, Portsmouth.

The average age of the class of 1934 is twenty-one years and five months. This figure was ascertained by a reporter on the *Breeze* staff.

Dr. Walter Montgomery, professor of Latin at the University of Virginia, spoke at assembly Nov. 1. He discussed the value of the classics in modern life.

Eighteen states, the District of Columbia, and Virginia are represented in the 738 enrolment at Harrisonburg this year.

The college had its annual climb to Massanutten Peak October 21. One hundred and twenty-nine students made the climb, which was an all-day affair.

Attending the annual convention of the Virginia Intercollegiate Press Association at the University of Richmond in October were Madaline Newbill, editor of the *Schoolma'am*, Peggy Smith, its business manager; Sarah Lemmon, editor of the *Breeze*, Courtney Dickinson, its business manager, Eugenia Trainum and Margaret James, staff members.

The Stratford Dramatic Club took in five members recently. They were Virginia Bean, Vinton; Mike Buie, Lake City, Florida; Virginia Cox, Woodlawn; Alice Geiger, Los Angeles, California; and Glenn Harshman, Cumberland, Maryland.

The Glee Club announced the following new members: Josephine Miller, Port Republic; Daisy Mae Gifford, Harrisonburg; Mary Page Barnes, Amelia; Marguerite Coffman, Harrisonburg; Margaret Buchanan, Raphine; Annie Glen Darden, Holland; Rosa Ratliffe, Manassas; June Littlefield, Wells, Maine; Martha Way, Kenova, W. Va.; Martha Sheffler, Beckley, W. Va.; Mildred Johnson, Lexington; Sirkka Keto, New York City.

The three literary societies announced their pledges recently. The Lees initiated Mildred Mullins, Roanoke; Lucy Warren Marston, and Helen Marston, Toano. The Pages took in Sylvia Kamsky, Richmond; Ethel Harper, Winchester; Sarah Lemmon, Marietta, Georgia; Mary Shankle, Frederick, Maryland; and Helen Madjeski, Elizabeth, N. J. The Laniers pledged Frances Bowman, Callaway; and Mary Frances Gallagher, Roselle Park, N. J.

The Debating Club took in six new "orators" recently. They were: Mary Truman, New York; Helen Stansbury, Richmond; Helen Madjeski, Elizabeth, N. J.; Mary Parker, Habana, Cuba; Margaret Hopkins, St. Michaels, Md.; and Annie Cox, Baywood.

The education department of the faculty observed Education Week at assembly. Dr. Gifford, Mr. Shorts, Miss Seeger, and Miss Anthony addressed the students.

The annual *Schoolma'am* bazaar will be held in the little gym Friday, Nov. 24. Plans are being made for a refreshingly different affair.

The *Schoolma'am* received first honor rating at the National Press Association convention. Of the possible 1,000 points that could be scored, the *Schoolma'am* made 865.

The Frances Sale Club offered a prize for the best decorated room in any of the freshman dormitories. The winning room was Jackson 21, the room of Dorothea Erlic, Elsie Graves, and Anna Stoneburner.

ALUMNÆ NOTES

The annual meeting of the Harrisonburg alumnae in Richmond during the Virginia Educational Conference is to be a tea at Miller and Rhoads on November 29, from four to five. We hope to have an unusually large attendance.

The Norfolk chapter, with Sherwood Jones for president and Delphine Hurst for secretary, is making plans for work during the ensuing year.