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**Christmas Books for the Children's Bookshelves**

The Christmas season, ushered in by another annual Book Week celebration, is again upon us and once more we turn our thoughts toward the replenishing of the children's book shelves.

The book displays in the shops present an unusually colorful and enticing array of reading material for the boys and girls. Here and there among the new and unfamiliar titles one recognizes an occasional old friend resplendent in a most becoming new dress. It is indeed encouraging that so many of the publishers are bringing out these standard titles in such attractive form.

Older boys and girls will welcome the new edition of five of the Paul DuChaille books (Harper) illustrated by Erick Berry. Miss Berry lived in Africa while doing the illustrations for these books so as to catch the proper atmosphere. Everyone must agree that the result is all that could be desired. With such fascinating pictures, good paper and a clear type "The Country of the Dwarfs," "Lost in the Jungle," "My Apingi Kingdom," "Stories of the Gorrilla Country" and "Wild Life Under the Equator" should undergo a great revival of popularity.

Two old favorites have been added to Houghton, Mifflin's "Riverside Bookshelf"; one for younger children, "Davy and the Goblin" by C. E. Carryl and one for the older, C. A. Kneelands' "Smuggler Island." Most welcome indeed are two more of the Alcott books in the "Beacon Hill Bookshelf" published by Little, Brown & Co. This year they have added "Under the Lilacs" and "Jack and Jill" to an already commendable array of books. The same firm is giving us Mrs. Mary Prudence Wells Smith's "Jolly Good Times at School" as a companion volume to "Jolly Good Times" which was published in 1927. Mothers who read these wholesome stories when they were young will enjoy re-reading them with their young daughters. Another Little, Brown revival is M. W. Tilston's "Sugar and Spice and All That's Nice." In its bright red and gold cover and with its quaint illustrations, this book, which contains the best of Mother Goose, Edward Lear, and R. L. Stevenson, and other verses beloved by children, is particularly lovely.

Speaking of quaintness reminds one of the new edition of "Damo Wiggins of Lee" illustrated by Kate Greenaway and published by Dutton. Elizabeth McKinstry is one of the leading illustrators of juveniles belonging to the modern school. There is an old world charm and gay sprightliness to her drawings which make them quite irresistible. For this Christmas season we have Clement Moore's inimitable poem, "Night Before Christmas" (Dutton) illustrated by her and "The Princess and the Goblin" by George McDonald (Doubleday, Doran).

Outstanding Juvenile Titles 1928 But what of the new titles? There is indeed a goodly assortment of them—all books, small books, books fat and books thin, books of outstanding literary value, mediocre books and poor books! It is no wonder one is bewildered and confused when it comes to making the final selection. To help in this choice brief mention of a few of the meritorious newer books is offered.

Picture-Story Books It is hard to resist the lovely picture books for the two, three and four year old. What little girl would not squeal with delight to find the story of "Aunt Green, Aunt Brown and Aunt Lavender" (Harper) underneath the tree on Christmas morning? It is a most attractive picture book translated

from the Swedish of Elsa Beskow by Siri Andrews, illustrated with full colored pictures opposite every page of text. As gay and whimsical an alphabet book as any child could wish is Lois Lenski's "Alphabet People" also published by Harper. There are one-hundred pages in color, with verses about the cook, the ice-man, the teacher, the doctor and other familiar friends of every child's day. "Jack Horner's Pie" (Harper) is a new Mother Goose not at all like any of its predecessors. Miss Lenski's quaint line drawings are as aptly as a child's own pictures might be and yet they are extraordinarily individual.

Not to be forgotten are the Macmillan "Happy Hour Books." Here are inexpensive little volumes full of life and color with simple, funny pictures that small children love. Twelve of these were published in 1927. The new ones for this year are: "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," "The Little Red Hen," "The Old Woman and the Crooked Shixence," "The Golden Goose," "The A.B.C. Nonsense Book" and "Three Little Kittens." For children just a little older would be Cornelia Mbits' "Wonderful Locomotive" (Macmillan). This is the first book Miss Mbits has done for younger children. We hope it will not be her last. Small boys with a mechanical bent will welcome this tale which mixes magic and realism unusually well. Younger girls may find Miss Hurlbutt's "Little Helakell" (Dutton) more to their liking. Helakell, the weather vane, had guarded the top of the Market house for years. One day he grew tired of his perch and came down to the street and then things began to happen.

To Read Aloud Fortunate indeed are the boys and girls who will be able to look back upon pleasant evenings spent around the fireside while father, mother or even one of the children read aloud. Some of the new books are admirably suited to this purpose. It would be interesting to know how many family groups have chuckled over Lois Lenski's "Sleeping Villager" (Stokes). Aside from the delightfully reminiscent story of village life thirty or forty years ago, the amusing, detailed pictures are fascinating to pore over. This year Miss Lenski has given us "A Little Girl of 1900" (Stokes). Parents cannot but enjoy it as keenly as the children for it will set them to remembering and recalling incidents in their own childhood days.

"Winnie," "Christopher Robin's Teddy Bear," "Piglet" and the rest of the book friends the children become acquainted with in A. A. Milne's "Winnie-the-Pooh" (Dutton) have come back this fall in a new and just as deliciously funny book called "The House at Pooh Corner" (Dutton). It is the kind of humor that should be shared to be fully appreciated.

One of the really outstanding publications for boys and girls this year is Carl Sandburg's "A Little Boy Grows Up" (Harcourt, Brace). This is the story of Lincoln's boyhood taken from the first part of the poet-author's two volume biography which has been so popular with adults.

Tales with Travel Interest The efforts of teachers and librarians to instill into the children the feeling of friendliness and good will toward the boys and girls of other lands is being consistently carried on by the publishers of juvenile books. A great number of the books published during the past months have this travel interest for their background. "Where It All Comes True" by C. E. Latoughlin (Houghton), M. B. Greenbie's "Young America Travels Abroad" (Stokes) and "Timothy Travels" by Daisy Neuman (Coward McCann) are interesting accounts of European travels by young Americans. Erick Berry, the artist for the DuChaille books, has written and illustrated an African travel story book for older girls, "Girls in Africa" (Macmillan) is unusual and distinctive—a worthwhile Christmas gift for any girl who is a discriminating reader.

There are two new books about Egypt, both published by Macmillan. "Abdul" by Winthrop Palmer is a clear and accurate picture of Egyptian city and country life of today, while A. W. Howard's "Sokar and the Crocodile" is a lively tale of a small boy who lived in Egypt five thousand years ago. France is represented by three outstanding books—again two are published by Macmillan. It would be hard to find a story of French family life of today to surpass "Juniper Farm" by Rene Bazin. "Little Tonino" is for children a trifle younger. Its authors, Helen Hill and Violet Maxwell have been living in Provence where they knew a real Tonino. One of the really distinctive books of the year is A. Robida's "The Treasure of Carcasone" (Longmans) a story of the middle ages. An unusual mystery story of fifteenth century Poland is E. P. Kelley's "Trumpeter of Krakow" (Macmillan), while Ellnor Whitney's "Tod of the Fens" (Macmillan) with its old English atmosphere is a colorful tale of mysterious adventure.

Airmen and Aircraft No real boy of today can fail to be interested in aeronautics. For the young model airplane enthusiast there are two new volumes which should please: "Model Airplanes" by E. L. Allen (Stokes) and Merrill Hamburg's "Beginning to Fly" (Houghton). The adventure element is represented by two books which were published several years ago but which have been revised and brought up to date. C. C. Fraser's "Heroes of the Air" (Crowell) give stories of air journeys from the first flight across the Atlantic to the achievement of 1927. In Irving Crump's "Boy's

Book of Airmen" (Dodd) may be found stirring tales of some of the best known airmen and record flights. "A. M. Jacobs' "Fights of the Wings" (Century) is a combination of stories of aviation and historical facts, written by a woman who was for many years associated with the Wright brothers. Claire Nolle, Supervisor of Work with Children, Los Angeles County Free Library.

NOTICE OF MEETING The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Torrance Auditorium Company will be held Thursday, December 6, at 4 p. m. in the office of the Dominguez Land Corporation, Torrance, Calif.

PIGGLY WIGGLY PROFITS After the deduction of federal taxes, net profits for Western Division of Piggly Wiggly stores for the three months ending September 30th, 1928, were \$15,669.67, according to a statement just made by A. B. DeNault, president of the Piggly Wiggly Western States company.

**Read Our Want Ads**

**Local Real Estate Man Learns Things About Old Time Tradin'**

You've all heard about the old time horse traders—perhaps you had dealings with a horse trader yourself—either good, bad or indifferent. But horse trading hasn't ceased, although horses are passed no indeedly, for people who love to be all the time trading will trade anyhow if they have to trade Egyptian mummies for a slice of pineapple.

Anyhow, G. L. Morris had a letter from a man the other day who wanted to trade the following articles for a plot of ground:

Knitting machine	\$ 90
Radio	75
3 pc. overstuffed furniture set	200
Victoria	50
Total	\$415

He writes: "After looking at the lots, I can offer \$500 worth of things." He itemizes \$415 worth and adds that he will give the rest in furniture or 200 Spanish leather

footballs for boys, valued at \$60, and 3 pieces of Children's furniture, value \$40.

And all he wanted for that was a nice lot, all clear. Another time, Mr. Morris said a man wanted to trade a petrified man for something—most anything would do, just so he could trade the petrified man off.

Another wanted to trade oil stock—a man came to Mr. Page the other day wanting to trade a lot of baby buggies for real estate. The old trading spirit is still going strong!

**BACK FROM DESERT**

Grace Hamilton and her mother, Mrs. A. Hamilton returned to Torrance recently after a three or four months' stay in the desert near Lancaster. They live at Western avenue and 21st street.

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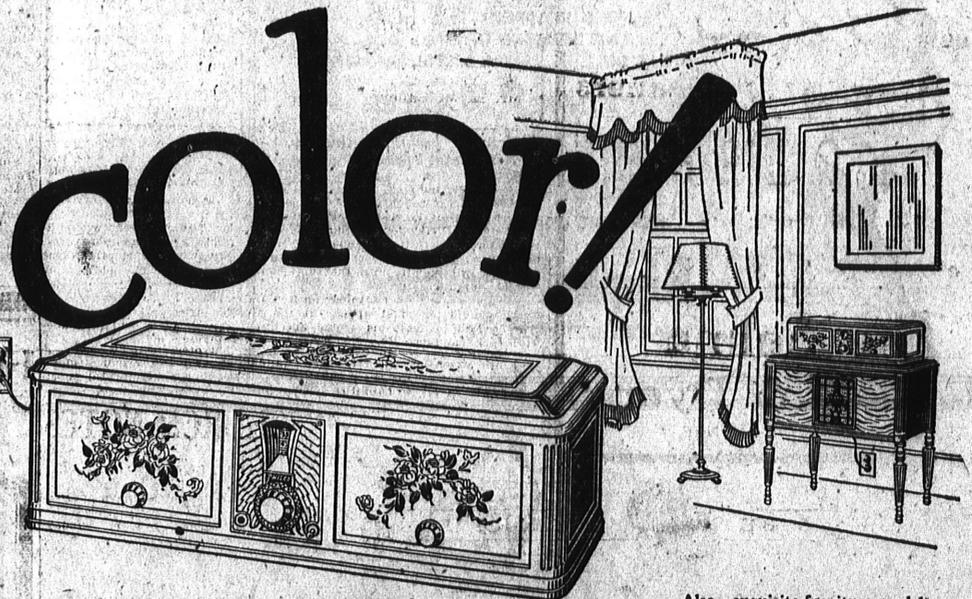
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