

## The New—in Review

Alice Miel, Editor

**GIT ON BOARD** is the title of a new collection of folk songs for group singing compiled by Beatrice Landeck of The Little Red Schoolhouse. The selections, which are arranged for mixed choruses, are organized around such headings as Songs of Conviction, including "Peat Bog Soldiers"; Early Days in America, with songs like "Ground Hog"; Ballads, of which "Boll Weevil" is an example; Work Songs, such as "Erie Canal"; Songs of Negro Origin, containing the title song "Git on Board"; and lastly a number of rounds, among which is "Alleluja." Published by E. B. Marks Music Corporation, RCA Building, New York, \$1.

A **FULL COLOR** motion picture showing the techniques employed by school children in handling various art media is *How Young America Paints*, the third edition of such films produced by Binney and Smith Company. The film is distributed free for transportation charges only by the Y.M.C.A. Motion Picture Bureau (offices in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and Dallas). Available in 16mm sound or silent.

For \$2 a year an educational institution may subscribe to the Y.M.C.A. motion picture service and receive its catalog which lists many free films.

**MOST COMPLETE** and convenient guide around the educational film world is a publication of the Research Division of the National Education Association (1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.). The bulletin *Sources of Educational Films* gives information on general bibliographies of sources, U. S. government departments and agencies, state education department and agency libraries, university and college libraries, country and city school libraries, museum and public libraries, association libraries, industries producing films, commercial producers and distributors, centers for obtaining foreign films, educational film

magazines, film news bulletins and periodical releases, magazines containing educational film check lists and critiques as a regular feature, film catalogs, and general and specialized compilations of film selections.

**ART FOR YOU**, Your School, Home, and Community is the subtitle of a nine-book series *New Art Education*, just published by the American Crayon Company (9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York). Prepared by Elise E. Ruffini and Harriett E. Knapp, the books are designed to help pupils and teachers understand the use of art in everyday living. Every process or project suggested is well illustrated and accompanied by twenty-five to fifty words of simple text.

The books are definitely not meant to supply patterns to be copied.

Each book is planned for a different grade in the elementary and junior high school and the text varies accordingly. In a typical book are suggestions for making things of paper—pictures, Christmas cards, tree ornaments; for doing lettering; for using color and design; for making books, masks, and puppets; for painting, drawing, and crafts. There are ideas on art in the home, hints on selecting and arranging things, and suggestions on how to look at painting. There is help on the making of posters and murals and on the use of clay.

The book concludes with a page on "Art and Our School Interests" and another on "Art and Vacation Time." There is a convenient table of contents on the inside back cover.

The books sell for 50 cents apiece or \$3.60 for the set. Accompanying manuals for teachers will soon be available at 40 cents.

**MORE THAN** 700 Kodachrome transparencies of artistic photography and vivid coloring, comprise a collection of 2 x 2 slides of scenic points of interest in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Hawaii, and Latin America,

now available from DeVry Films and Laboratories, 1111 Armitage Avenue, Chicago. Each subject is covered by six slides, which are sold only in sets, at \$3 per set. Descriptive literature is available free.

FROM UNEXPECTED sources often comes some of the most fascinating educational material. Take as an example a monthly magazine *Arizona Highways* (State Highway Department, Phoenix, \$2 a year, 25 cents a copy). This periodical contains exquisite colored photographs of the scenery and the people of this southwestern state. The text is simple enough to appeal to upper-elementary children. Typical issues are "Give Me My Boots and Saddle" (May '44), "Call of the Open Road" (July '44), "Arizona Indians" (August '44), "Arizona Schools" (September '44).

ASK A LIBRARIAN what she considers to be an outstanding source of information on free and inexpensive educational materials and she will be likely to mention first and foremost the cumulative *Vertical File Service Catalog* of the H. W. Wilson Company, New York. The service, which is on a monthly basis, varies in cost with the size and nature of the library.

ENTHUSIASTIC COMMENTS are coming from classroom teachers who have read *Planning for American Youth*, the National Association of Secondary-School Principals' graphic presentation of an educational program for youth of secondary-school age. This pithy, concise study of education in the broadest sense analyzes conditions and needs of the typical rural, urban, and state community, and suggests programs for improvement. Teachers are urging that other solid ideas be put into such form. The booklet may be ordered for 25 cents from NASSP, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

*Planning for American Youth* is based on a more detailed volume entitled *Education for All American Youth*, a publication of the Educational Policies Commission, NEA. Here, as in the briefer publication, material is presented in the down-to-earth practical way that appeals to persons who want to follow their reading with action. Devices in

treatment, such as "The History That Should Not Happen" with which the book opens and "The History That Must Be Written," the closing section, have made it possible to present some old truths in a new light. The second chapter "For All American Youth" does well two important jobs—showing how youth differ and revealing what youth have in common. The writers used good judgment also in presenting detailed portraits of two very different types of good secondary schools as they might be operating five years after cessation of hostilities—one in a rural community, one in an American city. A proposed state system of youth education rounds out the presentation. The Commission in this volume takes a clearcut position in favor of federal aid for improved schools with responsibility and control lodged in states and localities. *Education for All American Youth* sells for \$1 and may be ordered from the National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

NEW IN SOCIAL STUDIES for children are the first two volumes in a series "Our Growing World" by Lucy Sprague Mitchell and others. Book I, entitled *Farm and City*, gives some good sketches of processes on the farm such as haying. Illustrations of rural life by Anne Fleur are not too glamorous for reality. Book II, *Animals, Plants, and Machines*, through the story of Silly Will, shows man's need for plants and animals. There is also material on the making of paper, the mining of coal, the raising and ginning of cotton, the making of silk and rayon, and of various aspects of man's provision of food and shelter. Illustrations by Clare Bice are splendid. Published by D. C. Heath, these books list at 88 cents and 96 cents, respectively.

Two volumes of the Cutright, Charters, and Clark elementary social studies readers are also off the press. The first *Living Together at Home and at School* is illustrated by Kate Sereby. Illustrations for the second *Living Together in Town and Country* are by Wesley Dennis. Teachers will be interested in the way in which simple concepts of community cooperation in education and government are developed in these books. Simple maps and pages of drawings illustrating such a project as putting in water pipes

in a village make it possible to carry children beyond the bounds of a first or second grade reading vocabulary. Both books list at \$1.20 (Macmillan).

**AIDS TO TEACHING** as furnished by business institutions are discussed in a new bulletin *Commercial Supplementary Teaching Materials*, prepared by the Consumer Education Study of the National Association of Secondary-School Principals. Although the bulletin is directed to teachers in high schools, its contents are equally applicable to elementary schools. The usual objections to use of commercial materials in schools are discussed most adequately, and eight purposes for the use of such material are presented. Finally, two criteria for selection are offered: 1) contribution to the educational program and 2) absence of sales promotion. The Consumer Education Study stands ready to advise business in planning and producing materials for use by schools and to transmit to business suggestions by teachers for supplementary materials they would like to have provided. Single copies of this bulletin are free upon request. Address: 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

WHAT IS the truth about Russia and who is a Russian are two questions which the current issue of *Building America* attempts to answer. Additional topics discussed are: "One-sixth of the earth's land surface," "The long road that led to communism," "A one-party government," "Making the state safe for socialism (through education)," "Machines transform Russia," "Buying and selling under government control," and "Everyday life in the Soviet Union." The study unit concludes with a section "Facing the facts and the future" in which the point is made that America must not only see the similarities between the USSR and the USA that make for easier understanding but must also take into account the differences in the history and systems of government under which the two peoples live.

Pictures of some of the population types in the USSR, maps showing vegetation, mineral resources, and agricultural production, a chart showing the structure of the Soviet government and the Communist party, and a host of other valuable illustrations accompany the text. Order from the Department

of Supervision and Curriculum Development, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. Price, 30 cents a copy.

**SPEAKING OF USSR**, here is a list of new books on that subject suitable for upper-elementary and junior high school youngsters:

*Young Fighters of the Soviets* by Vera Edelstadt, illustrated by Florian. A. A. Knopf, \$2.

*Made in the USSR* by William C. White. A. A. Knopf, \$2. (This is a continuation of the series *Made in America*, *Made in France*, *Made in Mexico*, *Made in Canada*, and *Made in China*. Many photographic illustrations.)

*Peoples of the USSR* by Anna Louise Strong with photographic illustrations. Macmillan, \$2.50.

*Timur and His Gang* by Arkady Gaidar, translated by Zina Yoynow and illustrated by Zhenya Gay. Scribner, \$1.75.

*Igor's Stammer*, a story of our Russian friends, by Lorraine and Jerrold Beim, illustrated by Kurt Wiese. Published by Russian War Relief Inc., 11 East Thirty-fifth Street, New York, \$1. (Proceeds to purchase clothing, food, and medical supplies for immediate shipment to the Russian people.)

*A Ring and a Riddle*, a riddle-story by M. Ilin and E. Segal, translated by Beatrice Kinkead. Illustrative border motifs by Vera Bock add to the flavor of the book. Lippincott, \$2.

For the middle grades is *Sasha and the Samovar* by L. and J. Beim, pictures by Rafaelo Busoni. Harcourt Brace, \$1.75.

THOSE SERIOUSLY interested in preparing for a better understanding of the Russian people will appreciate three new publications distributed by E. P. Dutton. Two are dictionaries, Russian-English and English-Russian, compiled by V. K. Muller, each containing 60,000 words used in the Russian spoken language, science, politics, literature, and technology with the addition of short grammatical rules. Pronunciation is indicated in phonetics. The dictionaries are \$3 per volume.

The third volume *Colloquial Russian* by Mark Sieff is a manual of Russian grammar and syntax and is designed for self-instruction by adults. This book sells for \$2.50.

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