

The New—in Review

Sara M. Krentzman, Editor

HUGH WALPOLE'S famous comment, "It isn't life that matters! 'Tis the Courage you bring to it" is used as a preface for "Challenge," the newest title in the *Reading for Background Series*. "Challenge" is a booklist suggesting helpful readings "for and about the physically handicapped adults and children."

Agnes Shields, school library specialist, and Elizabeth Hill, school reference librarian, of the Oregon State Library are the authors of this new list. Their experience in reading guidance is reflected in the careful selection of the titles included. These range from books suitable for the elementary school to those with adult interest. Two types of material are included, popular books with literary merit and books which describe techniques of value to the handicapped person or to those who work with him.

"Challenge" is the sixteenth publication in the *Reading for Background Series*, a joint enterprise of the Association of School Librarians and the H. W. Wilson Co. (N.Y.: H. W. Wilson Co., 1946. 60 cents).

A GOOD audio-visual program for a school or a community never just happens. It is planned and developed cooperatively by all those who are to direct it or to benefit from it. Two new publications on this subject offer excellent guidance.

The first, *Building an Audio-Visual Program*, is written by Robert E. Schreiber of the Department of Education, University of Chicago, and Leonard Calvert, director of Vocational Guidance, Davenport, Iowa Public Schools.

In the preface to the publication, Stephen Corey says, "The present book has been written to give help to those teachers who wish to make it possible for boys and girls to benefit from all of the rather recently

developed instructional materials in the form of motion pictures, slides, models, flat pictures, and radio programs. Such materials provide opportunities for perceptual learning in contrast to exclusively verbal teaching. Using this type of material presupposes familiarity with the sources from which it can be procured, with criteria for evaluation of materials, with utilization procedures, and with desirable administrative arrangements. *Building an Audio-Visual Program* is a rich storehouse of this kind of information. It should result in making guidance activities markedly more meaningful."

One of the most valuable sections of this publication is the appendix. Here are tabulated in graphic form "Sources of Audio-Visual Materials and Equipment," "Selected Sound Films," "Filmstrips and Recordings," and "Suggested Supplementary Reading." *Building An Audio-Visual Program* is recommended for all school people interested in improved provision and use of instructional materials. (Chicago, Science Research Associates, 1946.)

If audio-visual programs are to be effective in schools, teachers and administrators must be aware of their value and of ways to use materials. Western State Teachers College has contributed a valuable bulletin, *The Functions of An Audio-Visual Department in a Teacher Education Institution*, written by their Audio-Visual Education Committee, Arthur G. Tillman, chairman, Frank A. Ben, Alvin Roberts, Roy M. Sallee, and Kimbrough Shake. (Macomb, Ill., Western Illinois State Teachers College Bulletin, December, 1946.)

This bulletin stresses the necessity for pre-service and in-service education in this field and explores the nature of such education.

The appendix includes a set of course

units prepared by Lelia Trolinger of the University of Colorado for use in teaching a college course in visual aids. Special units are devoted to the field trip or journey, object-specimen-model materials; two-dimensional, non-projected, and three-dimensional pictures; glass lantern slides; slide films; motion pictures; graphic materials; auditory aids; miscellaneous aids; and the administration of a Visual-Sensory Program. A bibliography is also appended.

This bulletin offers much help to teacher training institutions or to individuals who wish to acquire information on audio-visual education.

THE FIRST BOOKLET produced at the Florida A. and M. College for Negroes in Tallahassee in cooperation with the Sloan Foundation Project in Applied Economics is *Gertrude's New House* (Project in Applied Economics, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 1946, 35 cents).

This is a true story of a little girl who attended the Lucy Moten Demonstration School and participated in a study of housing. It is intended for use at the third grade level in helping boys and girls to want to improve their homes. Gertrude encouraged her family to build a new house and with the help of her sister and parents, she made many changes in their way of living.

The booklet is written in a simple yet interesting style. There are large drawings in black and white which show the medicine cabinet, clothes closet, and other improvements discussed. The type is large and clear, contributing to the readability of the book. It is unfortunate that the illustrations are not in color and that it was necessary to print textual material on the opposite sides of the pages with illustrations.

Gertrude's New House should prove helpful instructional material in the elementary grades.

THE INADEQUACIES of education are deplored by many professional and lay people, but few have constructive suggestions for ways to improve the sit-

uation. Dan Stiles, a former high school teacher who has recently visited 1000 high schools in 30 states, suggests many ways to vitalize school programs in his book, *High Schools for Tomorrow* (New York: Harper, 1946, \$2.50).

In his visits to schools throughout the country as a lecturer, Mr. Stiles observed many new and effective practices in secondary schools. It is his purpose to describe these practices so that educators can learn from each other and take definite steps toward school improvement. He contends that school life should reflect in miniature the typical life of the community, including work and play activities.

Mr. Stiles attacks such controversial problems as the place of religion in the modern high school; what to do about sex education; what we mean by delinquency; teachers as human beings; and the effectiveness of motivation and grading in current school systems. In each case the author presents his ideas as to ways to improve the situation. He admits that the high school he describes is an ideal.

High Schools for Tomorrow is written in an easy, conversational manner and bears no resemblance to an educational text. The result is a stimulating book.

On the Record is a monthly publication that is very useful in building a record collection. It is published as a free service to customers of Carl Fischer, Inc., 119 West Fifty-seventh Street, New York, and other subscribers may receive it for \$1 a year. It consists mainly of reviews of new recordings.

The Library of Congress has issued two catalogs of selected titles from the *Archives of American Folk Song* which may be purchased from the Recording Laboratory, Division of Music, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

For those interested in the Organization of record collections, *The Code for Cataloging Phonograph Records* is recommended. It is published in mimeographed form by the Music Library Association and available from Mary R. Rogers, secre-

tary of the Association, Music Division, the Library of Congress.

PRACTICAL IS THE WORD for the new pamphlet *Planning and Equipping the School Library*, written by Mary P. Douglas, State School Library Adviser in North Carolina (Raleigh, North Carolina, State Department of Public Instruction, 1946, 25 cents, cheaper in quantity). Written in outline form to answer the questions which inevitably arise when a new library is to be built or an old one remodeled in a school, the bulletin is definite and easy to understand.

Phases of school library planning discussed include the location of the library; areas to be included; space to be allowed

for each area; provisions for related areas; suggestions for proper lighting, and sound control; decoration, equipment, and furniture; floor arrangement; and manufacturers of library furniture and equipment. All suggestions effectively demonstrate a philosophy providing library quarters which will increase use of books and other instructional materials in school.

T. Cecil Brown is responsible for the simplified drawings of equipment and the suggested floor plans for libraries. Two photographs illustrate the kinds of libraries the author thinks effective.

This bulletin should prove helpful to administrators, supervisors, and librarians who are interested in school library improvement.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN GROUPING — A MINIMUM BIBLIOGRAPHY

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