HUMAN DEVELOPMENT from early childhood through the adolescent period is covered in Psychology of Childhood and Adolescence by Luella Cole and John J. B. Morgan (New York, Rinehart, 1947.) This book includes the essential ideas previously appearing in two volumes: Morgan’s Child Psychology and Cole’s Psychology of Adolescence. It was originally planned that these two authors should collaborate in fusing the two publications, but Professor Morgan’s death made it necessary for Miss Cole to undertake the job alone.

All aspects of development are covered, including physical, motor, emotional, social, and intellectual. Special attention is given to the importance of motivation, home life, play and interests, language development, and personality. Many illustrations, graphs, charts, and diagrams add to the text. At the end of each chapter, a helpful summary is given.

Although this book was intended as a text in teachers’ colleges or in colleges, it has much value for teachers and supervisors who need better understandings of child growth and development. The organization of the chapters and the good index make this useful as a reference tool as well as for general informational reading.

RECORDED MUSIC is of interest to educators, both for their personal pleasure and enrichment and for their use in education programs. One problem it presents is that of selection, particularly in view of the flood of recordings pouring into the music stores these days. Irving Kolodin’s book, New Guide To Recorded Music (Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday, 1947, $3.50) offers sound guidance in this field.

Well known as a music critic, Mr. Kolodin attempts in this comprehensive volume to analyze the available recordings of classical or serious music as to fairness of price, quality of performance, and fidelity of recording. Oscar Levant has said that this book “does for recorded music what Roget did for words.”

The major composers are presented in alphabetical order, and under each composer are listed the significant recordings available. Buying information, including the number of the recording, the price, and the manufacturer are included. The annotations are concise, frank, and readable. The result is a publication useful for ready reference as a guide book as well as for general reading in this field.

Mr. Kolodin has included a commentary on “American Records and Their Makers” which is very worthwhile. This brief essay shows great insight into the field of record production and suggests needed improvement.

Another new book in the music field—this time one of particular value to amateurs—is The Road to Music by Nicolas Slonimsky. (New York, Dodd, Mead, 1947, $2.50). The wonder is that a man of such great scholarly reputation in the music field as Slonimsky could write a book as simple and as comprehensive as this one.

The Road To Music covers the principal points of musical theory with clever pictorial illustrations and interesting musical examples. While it is intended for youngsters, any beginner in the music field will enjoy this book.

AN ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET describing the educational services of the Metropolitan Museum of Art has been prepared to celebrate the Museum’s 75th
anniversary. Libraries may secure a free copy by writing to: Richard F. Boch, Dean, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

ACTION FOR UNITY by Goodwin Watson (N. Y., Harper, 1947, $2.00) is a report of the Planning Survey sponsored by the Commission on Community Inter-relations of the American Jewish Congress. This study is an attempt to analyze the forces engaged in the effort to promote community cooperation. Its purpose is to point out worthless practices and to identify the activities which offer promise.

The types of agencies involved in the battle against bigotry and hate are presented, with specific information about the more important ones. The programs of these agencies are analyzed under seven patterns: (1) exhortation, (2) education, (3) participation, (4) revelation, (5) negotiation, (6) contention, (7) prevention.

After this analysis, Mr. Watson suggests nine principles which might give the direction for future steps toward action for unity. He feels very strongly the need for further research in this area.

RURAL TEACHERS will enjoy the bulletin Public Relations for Rural and Village Teachers (Washington, D. C., Superintendent of Documents, 1946, 15 cents). It was written by a group of educators interested in exploring the ways and means for rural school teachers to interpret the school to the people in an effort to promote community planning for education.

INSTRUCTORS OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT, clinical psychology and mental hygiene will welcome the Harrocks-Troyer case study tests recently published by the Syracuse University Press. (Tests of Human Growth and Development, Syracuse University Press, 920 Irving Avenue, Syracuse 10, N. Y., 1946.) The three cases, the Case of Connie Casey, the Case of Barry Black, and the Case of Sam Smith, are similar to Baller’s well known Case of Mickey Murphy (Baller, Warren, The Case of Mickey Murphy, University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, Nebraska, 1943.) but are deliberately constructed to involve most of the principles and problems presented in courses in adolescent psychology. In spite of their synthetic origin the cases are very realistic and are highly effective in exciting student interest. As in real life, each case has a number of casual factors and there are penalties for jumping to conclusions on insufficient evidence.

As in Mickey Murphy, each case is presented in three sections and the student is asked to read each section and respond to the diagnostic and remedial statements following it before going on to the next. The responses are made by checking the statements on diagnosis as True, Possibly True, No Evidence, Possibly False, or False and the statements on treatment as Strongly Agree, Agree with Reservations, Undecided, Disagree with Reservations, or Strongly Disagree. Answers are easily checked against a key which gives weighted scores based upon the responses of experts in child and clinical psychology. When the materials are used as study aids the answer sheets can be corrected by the student himself with obvious advantages.

Since the average student takes about an hour to read and respond to each case study and because the intercorrelations between scores on the three tests are not high (+.39 ± .10 to +.62 ± .09), it is the opinion of the reviewer that the materials are even more valuable as study aids and spring-boards for class discussion than as formal tests. The nature of the material is such, however, that the complete series of tests should give a much better evaluation of the student’s ability to deal with actual problems than could be derived from any conventional test of factual information. The low intercorrelations appear to be due to the fact that the three studies are designed to cover different problems and areas.
Costs are low. The studies are printed on fairly durable paper and cost ten cents each in quantities. Since answer sheets are separate the test booklet may be used several times. In the experience of the reviewer the total cost of using each case study is about two cents a student.—Donald Snygg, Oswego State Teachers College.

A SIMPLE ACCOUNT of the work of the United Nations is available in Working Together in the United Nations, an interesting booklet written on the fifth grade level. It was developed in the children's school at the University of Nebraska and the manuscript was written by Dr. Clara Wilson. The material has been carefully checked by the Educational Service Section of the United Nations. The booklet may be purchased for twenty-eight cents from the University Publishing Company, 1120 Q Street, Lincoln, Nebraska. Thanks go to Hazel Davis of the University of Nebraska for this information.

CHILDREN'S SPRING BOOK FESTIVAL will be celebrated again this year at the New York Herald Tribune, from May 10-17. It will feature exhibits of the new books for children and many of the original illustrations for them. A colorful poster announcing the festival is available to school libraries on request to the New York Herald Tribune, 230 West 41st St., Room 1105, New York 18.

AT LONG LAST the seventh edition of the Children's Catalog is ready for the public. It includes 4,200 titles of books recommended for children and young people and 133 selected pamphlets. The books are graded, classified, described, and analyzed as to subject content. This valuable book list is available from H. W. Wilson Co., 950 University Avenue, New York 52.

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