

NEW CAROLINA BOOKS

MARGUERITE ALEXANDER. *Kirsty's Secrets*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, 1958. 210 pp. \$3.75.

A staff writer on the Asheville *Citizen-Times*, Miss Alexander is a native of Scotland but lives on a Watagua County farm now. Her book is filled with Scottish lore which makes its main purpose (the *secret*: recipes for Highland food) not only delightful reading but useful as well. Kirsty Cameron is a Scottish lass with "a light hand for cooking, which is what a green thumb is to the gardner." She is full of humor and Highland superstition and the preparation of food is to her both a joy and an art as well as a necessity. The tempting recipes which Miss Alexander has recorded will surely lure numerous Tar Heels to the kitchen, but among the descendants of the Highlanders along the Cape Fear the call should be even stronger.

PAUL M. ANGLE. *The American Reader, From Columbus to Today*. New York: Rand McNally & Company, 1958. 703 pp. \$7.50.

Mr. Angle, Director of the Chicago Historical Society, has drawn together a fascinating collection of personal narratives, relations, and extracts from journals concerning the society, economy, politics, life, and times of America. This is American history as it was recorded by those who made it. We classify it here as a Carolina book only by a great stretch of the imagination. North Carolina and North Carolinians appear only as a small part of the national scene — Presidents Jackson, Johnson, Polk, Daniel Boone (in a positive Carolina setting), Jonathan Daniels, Sir Walter Raleigh and the Roanoke colonies, and the cruiser *Raleigh*. It is, nevertheless, a book which surely will be checked out often from every library in the state which has a copy.

JAMES H. BOYKIN. *The Negro in North Carolina Prior to 1861*. New York: Pageant Press, 1958. 84 pp. \$3.00.

Enlightening facts and spirited bits of historical data, many of them drawn from little known sources, are presented here. Such topics as colonial laws, skills obtained

by Negroes, church reaction toward the Negro, and the struggle to establish schools are covered. Statistics and quotations from original documents are scattered through this study; sources are indicated in a section devoted to "Notes" in the final pages of the book. The author is an assistant professor of history at St. Augustine's College, Raleigh.

RUTH AND LATROBE CARROLL. *Tough Enough and Sassy*. New York: Henry Z. Walck, 1958. 64 pp. \$2.75.

This is the Carroll's fifth book about the Smoky Mountain Tatum family. Beanie and his sisters and brothers do their part to earn extra money to help the family over hard times. Bad weather kept the crops from bringing in enough income. Beanie could hardly find enough food to share with his woodland pets Midnight, Fat Stuff, and Sweetie Pie, much less his pony Sassy and his dog Tough Enough. The children collect pieces of old wood to make into planters to sell in a store down in the valley. They pick strawberries so their mother can make jam to sell. They find acorns and hemlock cones so she can make necklaces, and when autumn comes again they gather hickory nuts to sell. It is while they are busy gathering the nuts that Tough Enough and Sassy get into trouble and are lost. It takes the whole family to right the situation, but in the end everything turns out better than before because they find mica to make Christmas decorations to sell; and they have enough money again. Ruth Carroll's drawings make the charming story come to life for the reader.

OLIVE TILFORD DARGAN. *The Spotted Hawk*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, 1958. 128 pp. \$3.00.

Often poetry, like art, means different things to different people. In this collection of poems there are some which are thought-provoking, others are inspiring; some have a little story to tell and others are simply pictures in words. Mrs. Dargan, a native of Kentucky, has lived in North Carolina for more than a quarter of a century and now makes her home in Asheville.

PAUL GREEN. *Drama and the Weather*. New York: Samuel French, Inc., 1958. 220 pp. \$3.00.

The eighteen essays of varying length in this volume are aptly described by the subtitle: "Some Notes and Papers on Life and the Theatre." Paul Green's readable style makes them all of great interest. His story of the development of the outdoor drama heads the list; this is a strictly factual account and a valuable one for the librarian to have at hand. In many of the other "notes and papers" we find much of the kindly philosophy of Paul Green which has endeared him to a host of friends and followers. For its timeliness, as well as its sympathetic tone, perhaps "Again the Southern Negro" (which is headed "An Old-Time Philosopher Talks") will be found a favorite in this compilation.

JOHN T. FLANAGAN AND ARTHUR PALMER HUDSON. *The American Folklore Reader*. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co., 1958. 511 pp. \$10.00.

This book first came to our attention as a "Carolina Book" because Dr. Hudson is a Kenan Professor of English at the University of North Carolina. He is well known throughout the state and the South for his work in the field of folklore. The selections in this anthology are drawn from American literature, and Tar Heel writers Charles W. Chesnutt, Paul Green, and Johnson J. Hooper are represented. In addition, a

number of the selections in the "Folk Songs and Ballads" section are of North Carolina origin. Biographical notes on the authors represented, a classified bibliography, and an index of authors and titles add to the usefulness of this work.

RICHARD HAKLUYT. *Voyages & Documents*. Selected with an Introduction and a Glossary by Janet Hampden. New York: Oxford University Press, 1958. 471 pp. \$2.50.

From Hakluyt's great "prose epic" of sixteenth century English voyages and travels, Miss Hampden has selected the most famous. They are all first-hand accounts of the great adventures they describe, and all are reprinted with the original spelling and punctuation. Of especial interest to North Carolinians will be the account of the 1584 voyage to our own coast, but the numerous references to Sir Walter Raleigh, to Grenville, Drake, and others will commend this volume to many. Here, in good cloth binding, ably edited with useful notes and glossary, is one of the classics of the English language. No librarian in the state, whose shelves do not have a copy of Hakluyt, should fail to take advantage of this opportunity to get one.

HARNETT T. KANE. *The Southern Christmas Book*. New York: David McKay Company, Inc., 1958. 337 pp. \$4.95.

In an even two dozen chapters, New Orleans-born Harnett Kane tells the story of the Christmas-New Years holiday in the South through the years. Special Tar Heel holiday festivities in Charlotte, Cherryville, Rodanthe, Wilmington, and Winston-Salem are reported. A number of recipes for outstanding Southern dishes are included in the chapter entitled "Sauces, Aromas, and the Inner Man (and Woman)."

WILLIAM S. HOFFMANN. *Andrew Jackson and North Carolina Politics*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1958. 134 pp. \$2.50. (Paper covers)

This is the fortieth volume in the series of "James Sprunt Studies in History and Political Science," and like nearly all of its predecessors is a *must* for any library's collection of North Caroliniana. Dr. Hoffmann, a native of Statesville and currently on the history staff at Appalachian State Teachers College, gives us a close look at North Carolina politics from 1824 to 1837 as it affected American history. A classified bibliography and a detailed index complete the volume.

DOROTHY KOCH. *When the Cows Got Out*. New York: Holiday House, 1958. [27] pp. \$2.50.

Tim is visiting his grandfather on the farm. One day he goes out to the orchard to get an apple and forgets to close the barnyard gate. The next thing he knows all the cows are getting out. Grandfather is cutting hay on the mountain, so Tim has to get the cows back again all by himself. They won't come when he pulls them with a rope or tries to push them. At last Tim finds a bag of corn in the barn. One by one he gets all the cows back by offering each an ear of corn. This is a beginning-to-read book with short pages and easy words. It is a simple but exciting story by Dorothy Koch of Chapel Hill with many very attractive drawings by Paul Lantz.

HUGH T. LEFLER. *North Carolina, History, Geography, Government*. Yonkers-on-Hudson, New York: World Book Company, 1959. 530 pp. [Price not yet announced]

Designed as a textbook in North Carolina history for use in the public schools, this is undoubtedly the most handsome one of its kind ever published. Colored pictures on cloth decorate the binding and numerous full color pictures very aptly illustrate the text. In addition, there are hundreds of black and white illustrations, maps, and charts scattered throughout the text. Each one appropriately amplifies the text and is so placed that it can be studied as the text is read.

The history, geography, and government of North Carolina are fully covered in a style which can be easily understood by the grades for which it is intended, yet at the same time it will not be rejected by any adult with even the slightest interest in the subject.

In the Appendix will be found a list of important dates in North Carolina history, a list of the chief executives, a compilation of county-by-county data, population estimates and reports from 1675, and biographical sketches of some of the state's leaders.

Despite its avowed purpose as a textbook, this volume is a *must* for every Tar Heel library — and surely in more than one copy. At least one should always be on hand for quick reference, and readers undoubtedly will want copies to take home.

WILLIAM S. POWELL. *Ye Countie of Albemarle in Carolina*. Raleigh: State Department of Archives and History, 1958. 101 pp. \$1.50.

The "Countie of Albemarle" was the beginning unit of what is now North Carolina, and it flourished from 1663 until 1689. This volume is a collection of edited documents relating to that unit from 1664 to 1675. A 20-page introduction is in reality a history of North Carolina in the seventeenth century, and the carefully transcribed documents (from originals in the Department of Archives and History) are fuller illustrations of that history. The Appendix is made up of an essay on "Sources for Seventeenth Century North Carolina History," a chronology of seventeenth century Carolina, and a large folded diagram setting forth the "descent" of North Carolina from the time of John Cabot's explorations to independence in 1775.

GRACE AND GILBERT STEPHENSON. *We Came Home to Warren Place*. Raleigh: Alfred Williams & Co., 1958. 182 pp. \$3.95.

In a personal narrative style we are told how the Stephenson's returned to North Carolina from years of living in the North to establish themselves at "Warren Place," Pendleton, Northampton County. They give us a realistic picture of present-day life on a large Southern farm.

GEORGE R. STEWART. *Names on the Land*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1958. 511 pp. \$6.00.

This is a revised and enlarged edition (with illustrations) of a work which quickly proved its usefulness in 1945 when it first appeared. Subtitled "A Historical Account of Place-Naming in the United States," it proves to be delightful reading with a pleasant intermixture of folklore and fiction along with the facts.

There is a great deal in it to interest even a stay-at-home Tar Heel. Librarians who are not averse to marking books to make them more useful may want to add the following North Carolina references to the excellent (though sometimes inadequate)

index: Allegheny, 130; Apalchen, 19; Buncombe 474; Carolina, 475; Currituck, 275; Fear, Cape, 384; Jackson, Andrew, 235; Kings Mountain, 169; Monk, George, 101; Nash, Gen. Francis, 199; Neuse, 58; North Carolina, 122, 126 fol., 134, 142, 145, 155, 164, 168, 195, 199, 200, 202, 328, 474, 477-478; Nottoway River, 127; Pory, John, 34; Weynoke Creek, 127; Why Not, 477-478.

JULIA MONTGOMERY STREET. *Moccasin Tracks*. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1958. 236 pp. \$3.00.

In the early 1800's young Timothy Martin lives with his father, mother, and sister in that section of Western North Carolina which is now part of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. His closest friend is Suyeta, son of Yonaguska, Chief of the Eastern Cherokees. The boys run into unexpected trouble one day when they are out bee-tracking. Some white men are trying to stir up trouble with the Indians. After Tim's father dies, Yonaguska adopts him as his son, and Tim has an exciting time at the ceremony in the council house. While Tim is at the Indian village, his sister Nellie is kidnapped. Mrs. Martin does her best to find Nellie, but it takes the two boys to get her back. It is because Tim wants to learn to read and write the Cherokee language from the great Sequoyah that he is able to solve a mystery about the identity of his sister. Mrs. Street is able to present such an authentic picture of Cherokee customs and way of life because she has studied the history of the region so carefully. She has patterned the main character after young William Holland Thomas who later became the leader of the Cherokees.

DAVID STICK. *The Outer Banks of North Carolina, 1584-1958*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1958. 352 pp. \$6.00.

Until now the story of North Carolina's Outer Banks has been untold. Bits of the history of the region were known — the explorations and attempts to settle Roanoke Island; the fate of the area during the Civil War; and the success of the Wright Brothers in 1903. But for the remainder of the story only diligent research could turn up an occasional fact.

David Stick, who has lived on or near the banks since childhood, has spent years collecting information and sources of information about his local haunts. Often a document which he had just turned up would be used to prod the memory of an old-timer who could fill out the complete story of an event.

As one who has tramped the Banks from end to end, seen them from the air, and explored them from both sea and sound, he tells us their geography with an authentic ring. What he reports from scholarly research is equally as reliable, and he tells the whole story from earliest exploration to recent hurricanes.

Four maps and many attractive black and white drawings by the author's father, Frank Stick, illustrate the book.

MARY LINDSAY THORNTON. *A Bibliography of North Carolina, 1589-1956*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1958. 597 pp. \$7.50.

Here in one alphabet is the North Carolina bibliography. The card catalog of the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina Library formed the basis for this work. It includes material dealing with North Carolina and North Carolinians, writings of North Carolinians, and periodicals published in North Carolina. Titles have been shortened for convenience, collation is limited to its simplest form.

but imprint is given in full. Not included are state and federal documents, newspapers, maps, manuscript theses, and articles appearing in periodicals.

An extensive and detailed index brings out the subject of the various entries in the bibliography.

Librarians and other scholars in many fields will long be indebted to Miss Thornton for the preparation of this magnificent work.

GEORGE HIGBY THROOP. *Nag's Head and Bertie*. With an introduction by Richard Walser. Charlotte: Heritage House, 1958. xxi, 180, 242 pp. \$4.95.

These two novels of Eastern North Carolina first appeared in 1850 and 1851, respectively. They were well received and presented an authentic picture of the contemporary life of the region. They are, in fact, the first novels written of contemporary times in North Carolina. The originals now are extremely rare and their facsimile reproduction in very clear print and attractive format is an excellent example of modern typography.

DARE WRIGHT. *Holiday for Edith and the Bears*. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1958. [53] pp. \$2.50.

Dare Wright, a professional photographer, has spent several vacations on Ocracoke Island. Last summer she took along Edith, a life-size doll she has owned since she was a little girl, and two teddy bears she acquired fairly recently. The excellent photographs and the delightful story will appeal to both children and adults.

Edith and Little Bear and Mr. Bear go to an island [Ocracoke] for their vacation. They wade in the big ocean, climb sand dunes, gather sea shells, climb old ship wrecks, visit a tall lighthouse, watch the wild ponies, find a sea gull's nest with an egg in it, and watch a baby bird learn to walk and a young gull learn to fly. All of these things are interesting to Edith, but Little Bear wants to go out in a boat. When he finally persuades Edith to go out in a rowboat with him, he finds that they get in trouble by disobeying Mr. Bear. Of course, Mr. Bear rescues them, and everything turns out all right; but they are very unhappy when their vacation ends all too soon.