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## Round Robin

Dorothy E. Smith

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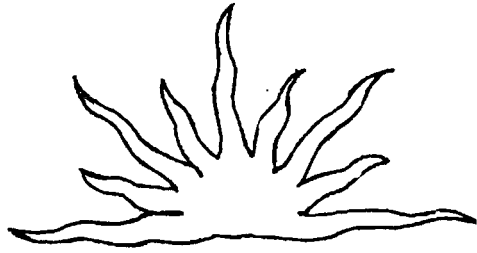
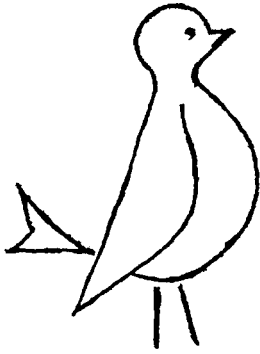
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## ROUND ROBIN

*Dorothy E. Smith, Editor*

In this issue we are continuing with the Annotated Bibliography of Books for Junior High School Retarded Readers. As you will remember, this bibliography is provided through the kindness of Mrs. Mary Small, Remedial Reading Teacher at Northeastern Jr. High School, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

She precedes this section with the following statements:

“Any of the three series of short story collections which I examined would be useful in a classroom library. All contain stories designed to appeal to a wide range of interests. The format of the *Teen-Age Tales* series makes it perhaps the most attractive to students.

The series books are generally quite short and include some titles at or below third-grade reading level. These books are generally most suitable for students who are severely retarded in reading or for students who need to experience the satisfaction of reading an entire book but who might not attempt a longer book.”

### SHORT STORIES

*Reading-Incentive Series*. Edward G. Summers, ed. St. Louis: Webster Division, McGraw-Hill. (rd 3-7)

A collection of short stories written to appeal to junior high school students and organized according to subject or theme. A glossary is included in each book. The teacher's guide contains a summary of each story, teaching suggestions, and short bibliographies of titles for follow-up reading. Titles include the following:

*Mystery in the Sky* (rd 3)

*Swamp March* (rd 4)

*Full Speed Ahead* (rd 5)

*Venus Bound* (rd 6)

*To Climb a Mountain* (rd 7)

*Stories for Teen-Agers*. New York: Globe. (rd 4-6)

Collections of short stories and sketches suitable for junior high and high school. Most of the selections are reprinted or adapted from teen-age magazines; a few excerpts from books are included. Each selection is preceded by an introduction apparently designed to motivate the student and to lead him to read for specific purposes. Comprehension questions on each selection are included at the end of each book along with "quiz exercises" to be done after the student has completed the entire book. The teacher's guides contain a synopsis, teaching suggestions, and an approximate word count for each selection, and answers to the exercises. The series includes the following books:

Gershenfeld, Howard. Book A (rd 4)

Gershenfeld, Howard, and Ardis Edwards Burton, eds. Book B (rd 4)

Burton, Ardis Edwards, and Joseph Mersand, eds. Books 1 and 2 (rd 5-6)

*Teen-Age Tales*. Boston: D. C. Heath. (rd 3-6)

Collections of short stories and sketches suitable for junior high and high school. Most of the selections are adapted from popular magazines. Comprehension questions and a word count for each selection are included at the end of each book. The teacher's manuals contain teaching suggestions and exercises for each selection and bibliographies of other easy reading with mature content. The series includes the following books:

Heavy, Regina, and Harriet L. Stewart, eds. Books A, B, and C (rd 3)

Strang, Ruth, and others, eds. Books 1-6 (rd 5-6)

#### BOOKS IN SERIES

*The Deep-Sea Adventure Series*. San Francisco: Harr Wagner. (rd 1-5)

An attractively illustrated series of simple, fast-moving, and informative short novels. Comprehension questions on each chapter and a complete vocabulary list are included at the end of each book. (A "very popular series . . . adult appeal"—Strang.) Titles, by James C. Coleman and others, include the following:

- The Sea Hunt* (rd 1)  
*Treasure Under the Sea* (rd 2)  
*Submarine Rescue* (rd 2)  
*The Pearl Divers* (rd 2)  
*Frogmen in Action* (rd 3)  
 \**Danger Below* (rd 4)  
 \**Whale Hunt* (rd 4)  
*Rocket Divers* (rd 5)

*The Morgan Bay Mysteries*. San Francisco: Harr Wagner. (rd 2-3)

A series of short, simple mystery stories designed for use as supplementary readers in grades 2, 3, and 4, and as remedial materials for grades 4 through 9. Comprehension questions on each chapter and a complete vocabulary list are included at the end of each book. The teacher's handbook contains synopses of the books and suggestions for using them, answers to the exercises, and a comprehensive vocabulary list. Titles, all by John and Nancy Rambeau, include the following:

- The Mystery of Morgan Castle* (rd 2)  
 \**The Mystery of the Marble Angel* (rd 2)  
*The Mystery of the Midnight Visitor* (rd 3)  
*The Mystery of the Missing Marlin* (rd 3)

*Pacemaker Story Books*. Palo Alto, Calif.: Fearon Publishers. (rd below 3)

A series of very short paperbound books designed especially for the mentally retarded and the slow learner in grades 5 through 12 but recommended also for use as remedial material. The teacher's manual contains synopses, teaching suggestions, and exercises for each of the titles listed below.

- The Fire on the First Floor*  
*The Clubhouse Mystery*  
*Catch Tom Rudd!*  
*The Haunted House*  
*Over the Rickety Fence*  
 \**The Man Without a Memory*

*Pacesetter Books*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston. (Reading level unknown)

A series of short novels with slight plots designed as easy-reading-high-interest material. (Inferior to virtually all of the trade books listed previously and more difficult reading than the series books

\* Titles marked with an asterisk are annotated on pages 92-93.

listed in this section.) Titles include the following:

\*Ellis, Mel. *Sad Song of the Coyote*.

\*Place, Marian T. *The Frontiersman*.

\*Silverberg, Robert. *Planet of Death*.

*Reading-Motivated Series*. San Francisco: Harr Wagner. (rd 4)

A series of short adventure novels. The story takes up about half of each book; the remainder of the book contains factual material related to the setting of the story and study plans for each chapter of the story and the supplementary material. ("A popular series . . . of special appeal to junior high schools."—Strang) Titles, by Helen Heffernan and others, include the following:

\**Desert Treasure*

\**The Mysterious Swamp Rider*

*The Secret of Lonesome Valley*

\* Titles marked with an asterisk are annotated below.

#### BOOKS IN SERIES—ANNOTATIONS

Coleman, James C., and others. *Danger Below*. San Francisco: Harr Wagner, 1962. 97 p. Fiction. (rd 4)

Dan discovers that the sunken ship he has been hired to salvage contains a case of smuggled diamonds. (The Deep-Sea Adventure Series) (Boys)

Coleman, James C., and others. *Whale Hunt*. San Francisco: Harr Wagner, 1962. 98 p. Fiction. (rd 4)

Dan and Carlos run into sharks, a killer whale, and a ghost ship while they are at sea taking photographs of whales for Marineland. (The Deep-Sea Adventure Series) (Boys)

Crosher, G. R. *The Man Without a Memory*. Palo Alto, Calif.: Fearon, 1966. 44 p. Fiction. (rd below 3)

Linda and Paul follow a man who has lost his memory and find that he is also being followed by two crooks. (Pacemaker Story Books)

Ellis, Mel. *Sad Song of the Coyote*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1967. 127 p. Fiction. (Reading level unknown)

Mark Strand, son of a game warden, kills coyotes for bounty until he finds a more satisfying way of earning money for his college education. (The best of the Pacesetter Books. Conservation theme stressed.) (Pacesetter Books)

Heffernan, Helen, and others. *Desert Treasure*. San Francisco: Harr Wagner, 1955. 309 p. Fiction. (rd 4)

Steve and his Cousin Dan set out to find the gold mine their grandfather discovered just before he died and uncover a smuggling operation. The second section of the book contains information on the life, geology, history, and use of the Mohave Desert. (Reading-Motivated Series) (Boys)

Heffernan, Helen, and others. *The Mysterious Swamp Rider*. San Francisco: Harr Wagner, 1955. 314 p. Fiction. (rd 4)

During the Revolutionary War, a man named Canolles, who refuses to fight under either the American or the British flags, and his band of "swamp riders" fight their own battles with the British in Virginia. The second section of the book includes information on life and customs in the colonies at the time of the Revolutionary War. (Reading-Motivated Series)

Place, Marian T. *The Frontiersman*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1967. 128 p. Fiction. (Reading level unknown)

A fictionalized account of Billy Dixon, who ran away from home to become a bull-whacker, a buffalo hunter, and an army scout. (Objectionable portrayal of Indians as nothing more than savages.) (Pacesetter)

Rambeau, John and Nancy. *The Mystery of the Marble Angel*. San Francisco: Harr Wagner, 1962. 90 p. Fiction. (rd 2)

Ham Clark buys an old Cadillac hearse and finds that it may have something to do with a \$90,000 robbery. A marble angel provides a clue to the mystery. (The Morgan Bay Mysteries)

Silverberg, Robert. *Planet of Death*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1967. 125 p. Fiction. (Reading level unknown)

Roy Crawford is framed for murder on the planet Velliran. He escapes life imprisonment by joining a group of space scientists who explore the terrifying tropical jungles of the "planet of death." (Grotesque science fiction) (Pacesetter Books)