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Children's Book Council Calendar

APRIL • MAY • JUNE 1957

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and information center in
connection with the field
of literature for children.*

*Executive Secretary:
Lucy Tompkins*



VOLUME XV

NUMBER 2

Children's Book Council Calendar

APRIL

- 1—Nov. 30—Jamestown Festival celebrating 350th anniversary of the settlement of the Virginia peninsula. 175th anniversary of the Battle of Yorktown.
- 1—30—National Hobby Month. Cancer Control Month (American Cancer Society, Inc., 521 W. 57th St., New York 19).
- 1—7—National Arts and Crafts Week. (Sponsor: Hobby Guild of America, 550 Fifth Avenue, New York 19.) National Boy's Club Week. (Sponsor: Boys' Clubs of America, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16.)
- 1—April Fools' Day. Edmund Rostand, 1868—1918, French dramatist.
- 2—Hans Christian Andersen, 1805—1875, Danish writer of fairy and folk tales.
- 3—Washington Irving, 1783—1859, American historian, humorist. Edward Everett Hale, 1822—1909, author of THE MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY.
- 5—Algernon Charles Swinburne, 1837—1909, English poet.
- 6—Army Day.
- 7—William Wordsworth, 1770—1850, English poet. John McGraw, 1873—1934, manager of the New York Giants, 1902—32.
- 8—14—National Sunday School Week. (For materials write to Layman's National Committee, Inc., Manager, Hotel Vanderbilt, New York 16.)
- 8—Ponce de Leon, 1460—1521, Spanish soldier, landed in Florida near present site of St. Augustine, 1513.
- 10—Matthew Calbraith Perry, 1794—1858, Commodore in U. S. Navy; negotiated treaty with Japan, signed 1854.
- 12—Henry Clay, 1777—1852, American statesman, orator and political leader.
- 13—Thomas Jefferson, 1743—1852, author of the Declaration of Independence and third President of the United States.
- 14—Pan American Day (Materials available from Pan American Union, Public Relations Office, Washington 6, D. C.). First edition of Webster's DICTIONARY published 1828. Palm Sunday (Sunday before Easter). Lincoln shot by Booth 1865.
- 16—23—Passover.
- 19—Jean Lee Latham, 1902—, author of CARRY ON, MR. BOWDITCH (Houghton).
- 21—Easter Sunday. Friedrich Froebel, 1782—1852, German educator; founder of the kindergarten system. Charlotte Bronte, 1816—1855, author of JANE EYRE.
- 23—William Shakespeare, 1564—1616. Joseph Mallard Turner, 1775—1851, English landscape painter.
- 24—Library of Congress established 1800.
- 24—30—National Photography Week.
- 27—Edward Gibbon, 1737—1794, British historian; author of DECLINE AND FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE. Ulysses Simpson Grant, 1822—1885, Union general under whose leadership the Civil War was won.
- 30—Washington inaugurated first President of the United States in New York.

MAY

- 1—May Day. Child Health Day.
- 3—May Fellowship Day (Sponsor: United Church Women, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York 10).
- 5—Arbor Day. Kentucky Derby Day. Napoleon died on island of St. Helena 1816.
- 5—12—National Music Week. (For list of books and pamphlets send self-addressed stamped envelope to National Recreation Association, 8 West Eighth St., New York 11).
- 6—Rabindranath Tagore, 1861—1941, Indian Poet and philosopher, winner of the Nobel Prize for literature in 1913.
- 7—Robert Browning, 1812—1889, English poet. Johannes Brahms, 1833—1897, German concert pianist and composer. Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky, 1840—1893, Russian composer.
- 9—John Brown, 1800—1859, radical advocate of abolition of Negro slavery. Sir James Matthew Barrie, 1860—1937, Scottish novelist and dramatist. Richard E. Byrd and Floyd Bennett, first to fly over the North Pole, 1926. William Pène DuBois, author of LION (Viking).

- 11—Ottmar Mergenthaler, 1854–1899, American inventor, born in Germany; invented typesetting machine known as linotype.
- 12—Mother's Day. (Sponsor: American Mothers Committee, Inc., 525 Lexington Avenue, New York 17). Florence Nightingale, 1820–1910.
- 12–18—National Hospital Week. (Sponsor: American Hospital Association, 18 East Division Street, Chicago 10, Ill.).
- 13—Sir Arthur Sullivan, 1842–1900, British composer of light operas. Jamestown, Va. settled 1607. The first permanent English settlement in the U. S.
- 15—First regular air mail service in the world inaugurated by U. S. government 1918.
- 19—"I am an American Day." (Third Sunday in May — often referred to as Citizenship Recognition Day).
- 21—American Red Cross organized with Clara Barton as President 1881. Charles Lindbergh completed first non-stop flight from New York to Paris 1927.
- 25—Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1803–1882, American philosopher, poet and essayist.
- 30—Memorial Day.
- 31—Walt Whitman, 1819–1892, American poet, author of LEAVES OF GRASS.

JUNE

- 1–7—Nat'l. Circus Week. (For posters and lists of source material write Clown Club of America, R n R Ranch, Bernardston, Mass.)
- 1—Jacques Marquette, 1637–1675, French Jesuit priest, explorer of the Mississippi. Brigham Young, 1801–1877, leader of the Mormons, builder of Salt Lake City.
- 2—International Shut-In's Day. (Sponsor: The Shut-In's Day Assn. of the U.S.A., 1505 Land Title Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.)
- 3—Jefferson Davis, 1808–1889, President of the Confederate States of America.
- 6—Nathan Hale, 1755–1776, American soldier and patriot.
- 9—Children's Day.
- 9–15—National Flag Week. (Sponsor: The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House Assn., Inc., 844 E. Pratt St., Baltimore 2, Md.).
- 10—Maurice Sendak, illustrator and author of KENNY'S WINDOW and VERY FAR AWAY (Harper).
- 11—John Constable, 1776–1837, English landscape painter. The Continental Congress appointed John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston to draft a declaration of independence 1776.
- 12—Baseball centennial celebration of the invention of the game at Coopers-town, N. Y. 1939.
- 14—Flag Day. On June 14, 1777 the Continental Congress formally adopted the flag. Harriet Beecher Stowe, 1811–1896, American novelist and reformer. Hawaii organized as a U. S. territory 1900.
- 16—Father's Day. (Sponsor: Nat'l. Father's Day Committee, 50 E. 42nd St., New York 17).
- 21—Summer solstice, first day of summer. Donald Culross Peattie, 1898–, distinguished nature writer, see "Wonder Questions" in THE BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE (Grolier).
- 23–29—Annual ALA Conference, Kansas City, Mo. William Penn signed treaty of peace and friendship with the Indians 1683.
- 24—John Cabot, 1450–1498, Venetian navigator, reached the shores of North America 1497.
- 25—Newbery-Caldecott Banquet, ALA Conference, Kansas City, Mo. (see page 4).
- 26—Abner Doubleday, 1819–1893, founder of baseball. Walter Farley, 1915–, author of THE BLACK STALLION, THE ISLAND STALLION RACES and THE BLACK STALLION MYSTERY, coming in the fall (Random).
- 27—First John Newbery Medal awarded Henrik Van Loon for THE STORY OF MANKIND.
- 28—United States purchased rights and franchises of France in the Panama Canal 1902. Treaty of Versailles ending World War II signed 1919.
- 29—Julia Clifford Lathrop, 1858–1932, American leader in child welfare; first head of the U. S. Children's Bureau 1912–21.
- 30—Congress granted Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Big Tree Grove to California for a public park in 1864.
- 30–July 5—National Education Association centennial convention in Philadelphia.

Through The Looking Glass

NEWS AND VIEWS in the FIELD OF BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

Winners of the 1956 Newbery-Caldecott awards for "the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children," and "the most distinguished picture book for children" are Virginia Sorensen for *MIRACLES ON MAPLE HILL* (Harcourt) and Marc Simont for his illustrations in *A TREE IS NICE* by Janice Udry (Harper). This is the 36th Newbery award and the 20th Caldecott, chosen annually by the Children's Library Association and donated by Frederic G. Melcher. Runners-up for the Newbery were: *OLD YELLER* by F. B. Gipson (Harper); *THE HOUSE OF SIXTY FATHERS* by Meindert DeJong (Harper); *MR. JUSTICE HOLMES* by Clara Ingram Judson (Follett); *THE CORN GROWS RIPE* by Dorothy Rhoads (Viking); and *BLACK FOX OF LORNE* by Marguerite De Angeli (Doubleday). Runners-up for the Caldecott Award were *MR. PENNY'S RACEHORSE* by Marie Hall Ets, illustrated by the author (Viking); *I IS ONE* by Tasha Tudor, illustrated by the author (Oxford); *GILLESPIE AND THE GUARDS* by Benjamin Elkin, illustrated by James Daughtery (Viking); and *LION* by William Pène duBois, illustrated by the author (Viking).

The Newbery-Caldecott Banquet at which the medals are formally presented will be held June 25th at the ALA Conference in Kansas City in the Arena of the Kansas City Municipal Auditorium. Tickets are \$7.50 and reservations with check or money order may be addressed to Miss Gladys Deever, Schools Division, Public Library, Kansas City, Mo. First visitors to the ALA Conference please indicate this fact. People wishing to sit together please send reservations together.

Newbery-Caldecott bookmarks for 1957 listing winners of the awards of all years are now available from the Children's Book Council, 50 West 53rd St., New York 19. Imprinted in black on light blue and salmon coated stock with new reproductions of the medals, they may be ordered in one color or combination as follows: 100 for \$1.00, 500 for \$4.50, 1,000 for \$8.00. Please do not send stamps.

The first Frederic G. Melcher scholarship — in honor of the distinguished and beloved friend of children's books — which provides \$750 for basic graduate education in children's library work, will be awarded at the ALA Conference this year. For application forms write Children's Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago 11, Ill.

"Explore with Books" is the winning slogan in CBC's recent contest for the 1957 Book Week slogan. It was submitted by Mrs. Suzan Huff of Athens, Ga., a student in elementary education at the University of Georgia and mother of two young daughters. Coincidentally, the judges felt, it's a particularly timely slogan in this geophysical year.

Children's Book Week 1957 will be celebrated November 17-23.

The New York Herald Tribune Children's Spring Book Festival will be held May 12th-19th. An annual feature of the Festival is the presentation of three awards of \$200 each to authors of the best children's books in three age groups, as well as 12 honor books — among books published since the first of the year. The special Children's Book Festival issue of the *Herald Tribune Book Review* will be published May 12th. Book fairs and exhibits of interest to parents and children throughout the country will mark the Festival Week. Festival materials are available at postage cost: poster (see cover) designed by Leonard Weisgard 15¢ each for one, 30¢ for two, 6¢ for each additional; workbooks on How to Plan a Book Festival 10¢ each; 25 Festival bookmarks 5¢ a set; 25 stickers for labeling prize books 5¢ a set; 25 stickers for labeling honor books 5¢ a set. The special Children's Book Review issue of May 12th may be ordered before April 29th as follows: single copies 15¢ each; 10 or more copies 5¢ each. Send all requests for Festival materials with money, in stamps, or by check to Children's Spring Book Festival, *New York Herald Tribune*, 230 West 41st Street, New York 36, attention: Joan Rothschild.

WNYC's fifth Annual Book Festival, April 7-13, will be available to listeners within a 50 mile radius of New York. The CBC, the Children's Library Services of Greater New York and the Bureau of Libraries of the New York Board of Education have cooperated on "Tales from Many Lands," a daily series of programs of special interest to children — as follows: April 7, 6-6:30 p.m.; April 8, 6:30-6:45 p.m.; April 9, 1-1:15 p.m.; April 10, 5:30-5:45 p.m.; April 11, 3:30-3:45 p.m.; April 12, 5:30-5:45 p.m.; April 13, 5:30-5:55 p.m.; also a program of special interest to parents, "Children Like Reading," April 12, 11:30-11:55 a.m.

Ruth Harshaw's "Carnival of Books" radio program, over station WMAQ, Chicago, Saturdays 8:45-9:00 a.m. (check your local station for dates and time elsewhere), concludes its series of European interviews and returns to interviews and discussions with authors and children here at home. "Carnival" fans will be interested to know that the tapes of Mrs. Harshaw's program are now being used on 49 NAEB (National Association of Educational Broadcasters) stations as well as on 6 NBC stations. Books featured on "Carnival" this quarter (dates given are for Chicago broadcast) are: April 6, **BIG TIGER AND CHRISTIAN** by Fritz Muhlenweg of Munich (Pantheon); April 13, **EMIL AND THE DETECTIVES** by Erich Kastner of Munich (Doubleday); April 20, **CAVES OF THE GREAT HUNTER** by Hans Baumann of Munich (Pantheon); April 27, **JONAH, THE FISHERMAN** by Reiner Zimnik of Munich (Pantheon); May 4, **THE ANIMALS' CONFERENCE**, talk with Jella Lepman, International Youth Library, Munich (McKay); May 11, **THE HOME RANCH** by Ralph Moody of San Francisco (Norton); May 18, **TONY OF THE GHOST TOWNS** by Marie Halun Bloch of Denver (Coward-McCann); May 25, **THE LONE HUNT** by William O. Steele of Tennessee (Harcourt); June 1, **TIME FOR THE STARS** by Robert A. Heinlein of Colorado Springs (Scribners); June 8, **MR. JUSTICE HOLMES** by Clara Ingram Judson of Evanston (Follett); June 15, **STARS FOR CRISTY** by Mabel Leigh Hunt of Indianapolis (Lippincott); June 22, **FAMILY SABBATICAL** by Carol Ryrice Brink of St. Paul (Viking); June 29, **CURIOUS GEORGE** and **FIND THE CONSTELLATIONS** by H. A. Rey of New York (Houghton).

Laura Ingalls Wilder, author of the beloved "Little House" books (Harper) died in February at her farm near Mansfield, Mo. She had just celebrated her 90th birthday. . . . And in the same month **Helen Sewell**, illustrator of more than 60 children's books, died in New York at the age of 60.

News from CBC Cooperating Organizations—A salute to the National Education Association which will celebrate its 100th anniversary on April 4th with the theme "An Educated People Moves Freedom Forward." For the year-long centennial celebration the NEA Centennial Office, 1201 - 16th St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. has prepared seven important discussion topics of special interest to women's groups, parent-teacher associations and all other groups concerned with the role of education in a changing world. And the NEA launched its centennial year in the January issue of its *Journal* with a special article "Books That Enchant"—"a long look backward at children's books that do." . . . "Distinguished Children's Books of 1956," 19 titles chosen by the Book Evaluation Committee, Children's Library Association of the American Library Association which annually selects a limited list of outstanding children's books from publications of the previous year, appears in the March *ALA Bulletin*.

Here and there—A thoughtful parent, Mrs. John Huntington of Carmel, N. Y. has successfully inspired an innovation in classroom celebrations of children's birthdays in a local elementary school. Instead of the usual cakes and cookies mother buys a book which her birthday child inscribes and presents to the school's permanent library collection. The book must first be read aloud to the class by the teacher before going to the library shelves. The children take pride in their inscribed gifts, the class enjoys the guarantee of periodic read-alouds, the library grows apace for the pleasure of all classes, and last but not least, the mothers and teachers warmly support this new custom for obvious reasons! . . . If you're interested in children's picture books don't miss "Some Notes on Communication in Picture Books," a knowing and memorable article by William R. Scott, for many years a distinguished pioneering publisher of books for very young children, in *Elementary English* (University of Chicago Press) for February. . . . Speaking of picture books, librarians and teachers will be interested in the recently published **THE SCHOOL OF INFANCY** (U. of Carolina Press) by John Amos Comenius, edited with a long biographical introduction by Ernest M. Eller. Comenius, 17th century Czechoslovak religious and educational leader, has been called the "author of the child's first picture book," as well as the "father of modern education." Cuts from his famous picture book, **ORBIS PICTUS**, are included in this volume. . . . We are delighted to report that children's librarians are receiving many inquiries and requests for cooperation from employee relations departments of banks, insurance companies and other firms interested in trying the reading aloud bookshelf idea described in "An Experiment in Reading" by Gilbert W. Chapman (*Harper's Magazine* December, 1956, and *Reader's Digest*, March, 1957—see Jan.-Feb.-Mar. 1957 CBC Calendar). . . . The April issue of **THE HORN BOOK** is in special recognition of the artistry of Elizabeth MacKinstry, illustrator and poet, and the June issue will pay tribute to Walter de la Mare with contributions from Eleanor Farjeon, Pamela Bianco, Herbert Read and others. . . . See the March *Wilson Library Bulletin* for "TV—Friend or Foe?" by Eleanor F. Brown, about a television set in the children's room of an Oregon library, how they got it, how it worked. . . . Watch for NBC's "Home Show" feature, "The Child's World," April 23, which will open 10-10:25 p.m. e.s.t., with "The Art of Story Telling" moderated by Dr. Leland Jacobs. . . . *Scholastic Teacher* announces a new contest with 10 prizes of classroom libraries for teachers reporting the best book fairs held after December 1, 1956. Reports may be brief and informal. For further information and contest forms write to *Scholastic Teacher*, 33 West 42nd St., New York 36. Send also for their information on packet of *Book Bazaar* materials.

Materials — "Latin America in Books for Boys and Girls," an annotated list of nearly 300 titles in English for all ages of children in the Americas, selected by The Children's Book Committee of the Child Study Association of America, 132 E. 74th St., N. Y. 21, may be ordered at 25¢ a copy, 5 copies for \$1.00 . . . a booklist, "The Best in Catholic Reading for Children" may be ordered from the Catholic Library Association, Villanova University, Villanova, Pa. . . . "Books Are Bridges," a 64 page bibliography of children's books, designed to foster better understanding of persons of different race, religion and nationality, selected by leading educators, librarians and religious leaders, with a foreword by George N. Shuster, President of Hunter College, and published jointly by the American Friends Service Committee (20 S. 12th St., Philadelphia 7) and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (515 Madison Avenue, New York 22) is available from either organization for 25¢ a copy. . . . Re-prints of "Literature For Children," an article by Virginia Haviland of the Boston P. L. in the 1957 edition of AMERICAN EDUCATOR ENCYCLOPEDIA, are available, single copies on request, from Victoria S. Johnson, Tangley Oaks, Lake Bluff, Ill. The article includes an introduction on the history of children's literature and an annotated booklist of outstanding children's books over a span of 300 years.

Awards — Winners of the Thomas Alva Edison Foundation's National Mass Media awards for 1956 in the field of children's books are: Roy A. Gallant's EXPLORING THE UNIVERSE (Garden City), "The Best Children's Science Book"; Clara Ingram Judson's MR. JUSTICE HOLMES (Follett) "For Special Excellence in Contributing to the Character Development of Children" (for younger children); Samuel Eliot Morrison's THE STORY OF THE "OLD COLONY OF NEW PLYMOUTH" (Knopf) "For Special Excellence in Portraying America's Past" (for the high school age). . . . Meindert de Jong, 1954 Newbery winner, received the 14th annual Child Study Association of America's Children's Book Award — for a "book for young people which deals realistically with problems in their contemporary world" — for his THE HOUSE OF SIXTY FATHERS (Harper). A special citation was given to William O. Steele for THE LONE HUNT (Harcourt). . . . The Boys' Clubs of America presented their 1956 Junior Book Award Medals to Carolyn Haywood for EDDY AND HIS BIG DEALS (Morrow); Patrick Pringle for GREAT DISCOVERIES IN MODERN SCIENCE (Roy); Ray Bradbury, author, and Madeline Gekiere, illustrator, for SWITCH ON THE NIGHT (Pantheon); Edwin Tunis, author and illustrator of WHEELS (World); Natalie Savage Carlson, author, and Mircea Vasiliu, illustrator, for WINGS AGAINST THE WIND (Harper). . . . The 1957 Charles W. Follett award of \$3,000, given by Follett & Co. for a worthy contribution to children's literature will be presented to Eula Mark Phillips for CHUCHO, THE BOY WITH THE GOOD NAME. . . . Winner of the Dodd, Mead librarian prize competition is SHADOW ACROSS THE CAMPUS by Helen R. Sattley (see new books). And two first prize winners have been announced in the *Dodd, Mead-Boys' Life* contest for a teen-age story; Marie Holmstrand for TROUBLE AT TURTLE BAY and Mildred A. Wirt for DANGEROUS DEADLINE.

New books — More for the Jamestown Festival (April 1–November 30): THE MOORING TREE: A STORY OF JAMESTOWN by Gertrude Robinson (Oxford), Gertrude E. Finney's IS THIS MY LOVE (Longman), POCAHONTAS AND HER WORLD by Frances Carpenter (Knopf). (See also last CBC *Calendar*, and lists of juveniles of this and other years in "Books to Tie in with the Jamestown Festival," *Publishers' Weekly*, March 11, and "Books for the Jamestown Festival" by L. H. Mortensen, *Elementary English*, December 1956.) . . . For Patriots' Day in Mass., April 19th: OZZIE AND THE 19th OF APRIL by Elaine McMann (Putnam), and a new edition of Robert Lawson's WATCHWORD OF LIBERTY (Little). . . . Tying in with the voyage of the *Mayflower II* from England to Plymouth, Mass. in May — CHRISTOPHER JARRETT OF NEW PLYMOUTH by Winona Strachan (Dutton) and THE STORY OF THE "OLD COLONY" OF NEW PLYMOUTH by Samuel Eliot Morison (Knopf). . . . For the Lenten season, GOD'S TROUBADOUR by Sophie Jewett (Crowell), a new edition of this story of the life of St. Francis, with reproductions of Giotto's frescoes, PORTRAIT OF JESUS by Marian King (Lippincott), portraits and engravings in black and white from the National Gallery in Washington with biblical selections and descriptive texts, PRAYERS AND GRACES FOR A SMALL CHILD by Mary Alice Jones and Kate Smallwood (Rand). . . . Children's and young people's librarians often turn authors as well. In SHADOW ACROSS THE CAMPUS (see Awards) Helen R. Sattley, Director School Library Service, New York City Board of Education, has written a distinguished junior novel with a college background. And there's a new book from another librarian-author, THE LATE SPRING by Jean Fritz (Coward). . . . Vacations are coming and there's a new story about an exciting one by Elizabeth Enright, GONE AWAY LAKE (Harcourt). Also for vacation time — five of Harper's Region of America books are being reissued in April. Or if you're going abroad and taking the youngest along there's I WISH, I WISH by Lisl Weil (Houghton), a picture story book about a little girl and a cat in the magnificent city of Florence. And last, but not least, Paris and Ludwig Bemelmans again with MADELINE AND THE BAD HAT (Viking). . . . For the grown-ups John Day has just published THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING: WHAT CHILDREN READ by Phyllis Fenner, one of our best known and best loved authorities on children's books, and Prentice Hall announces YOUR CHILDREN WANT TO READ by Ruth Toozee, a well known consultant in the field.

The number of juvenile books published in 1956, according to *Publishers' Weekly's* annual report (January 21, 1957) came to 1,495. The total of all books published was 12,538.

CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL

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