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**NEXT ISSUE—APRIL 20**

**SRL'S Monthly Children's Book Feature**

by **Mary Gould Davis**

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that the attacks being made upon it from other sections in a mounting crescendo will have the effect of stifling the authentically progressive movements which are under way in



the region. Just as in the 1830's the unbridled attacks of the Northern Abolitionists drove the entire Southern people into a defensive position from which they were never able to extricate themselves, and killed the promising indigenous effort for the

elimination of slavery, so the assaults being delivered currently upon the South, and many of its more enlightened leaders, tend to discourage, and even to crush, movements which otherwise might bring important and far-reaching advances. Let it be remembered that the Southern people are a proud people. They can be persuaded but they can never, under any circumstances, be driven.

Given the South's history, its social and economic background, and its racial composition, there is no valid reason for pronouncing it preponderantly reactionary or more wedded to the Tory ideology than any other section of the country would be under similar circumstances. It has its mountebanks and mad mullahs, its witch-hunters and warlocks, but there is in the region much genuine liberalism in which the nation can take pride and the South's future, as Donald Nelson and others have testified, is a future completely without metes or bounds.

Virginus Dabney is editor of the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

<b>The Criminal Record</b>			
The Saturday Review's Guide to Detective Fiction			
Title and Author	Crime, Place and Sleuth	Summing Up	Verdict
THE DOLL AND ONE OTHER Algernon Blackwood (Arkham House: \$1.50)	Two "supernatural" stories, both with English backgrounds, by recognized master in this field.	Slim volume may be read in one gulp and two shudders. Admirable writing and spooky atmosphere make it worthy item.	Add to your Blackwoodiana
ONCE ACQUITTED Amelia Reynolds Long (Phoenix: \$2.)	Death of Penna. doctor sets sleuth Jeff Carter and lawyer brother at loggerheads. Detective-minded D. A. wins.	Court-room scenes, always hard to handle, are rather tough going. Plot is well constructed.	Average
MURDER STRIKES AN ATOMIC UNIT Theodora DuBois (Crime Club: \$2.)	Dr. Jeff McNeil and wife Ann "investigate" murder of worker on bomb project—with explosive results.	Pair of semi-pro sleuths do an able job and plot has plenty of odd quirks, also much confused dashing around.	Rather helter-skelter affair
CALL THE NEXT WITNESS Philip Woodruff (Harcourt Brace: \$2.50)	Death of young bride in Northern Indian village sets two local clans against each other in unscrupulous battle.	Hardly a "detective story" although British police and local authorities are involved—but a realistic analysis of mixed human motives.	Very good
DANGEROUS GROUND Francis Sill Wickware (Crime Club: \$2.)	Leading citizen—a nasty lot—of Midwest town supposedly poisoned by wife. Local doctor thinks otherwise and proves his case.	Beautifully constructed job of psychological sleuthing with punch ending that may be illegal but is certainly convincing.	Great stuff!
MURDER BY MATCHLIGHT E. C. R. Lovac (Mystery House: \$2.)	Slugging in London Park during wartime involves houseful of odd characters—and chief Inspector Macdonald.	Better for its character studies than for detective work which is of dogged British breed—with an unusual and effective finish.	Worth while

# Rosie Goes Wild

HONEYFOGLING TIME. By Virginia Dale. New York: Harper & Brothers. 1946. 262 pp. \$2.50.

Reviewed by GRACE FRANK

WHAT were the ordinary people like in a small town some fifty miles from Chicago around the year 1880? This novel supplies an answer. It was a time when women hid their brains and their legs, when conservatives did not believe in the future of the telegraph or the bicycle, when good mothers deliberately exposed their children to measles in order to get it over with, when girls dreaded the unknown but shameful intimacies of marriage, and when, as Gran'ma Hollis put it, "if a girl's been where a boy could ruin her, that's enough. Makes no never mind whether he done so or not."

Thus it was that Rose lost her good name by innocently staying out late one night with a boy whom the whole community considered "wild." Pierre's claim to this adjective derived from his French descent, from his enterprising originality, and from the awful fact that he sold sewing-machines, those tools of the devil designed to lighten the labors of housewives, whose labors, as everyone knew, God never intended should be lightened. What happened to Rose and her family after Pierre left town without marrying the girl he had supposedly ruined supplies most of the plot of the story.

But there are many minor people and incidents to fill out the tale, and the picture of the not too Arcadian simplicities of the town is as important as the plot. This community deludes itself ("honeyfogles" itself) with the notion that its world is static and secure, that its ignorant folkways need no change. Only a few faint echoes of the future reach it, and these are misinterpreted. Pierre spectacularly arrives on a "bone-shaker" and the steam cars occasionally bring Aunt Emma back home predicting that women will one day have a vote. However, the local livery man has no apprehensions about any kind of contraption replacing his horses, and the radical Aunt Emma is universally regarded as a "betsy bug."

The story is fabricated of homely stuff, honestly woven. Like the period and community it chronicles, it achieves no bold or glamorous pattern. The novel consists for the most part of well-realized details and small happenings which seem more likely to interest feminine than masculine readers.

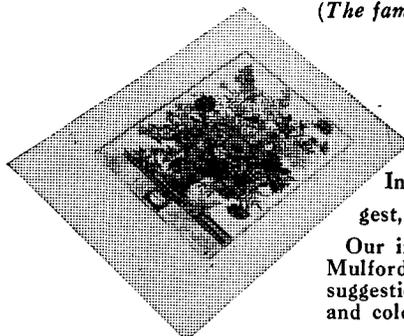
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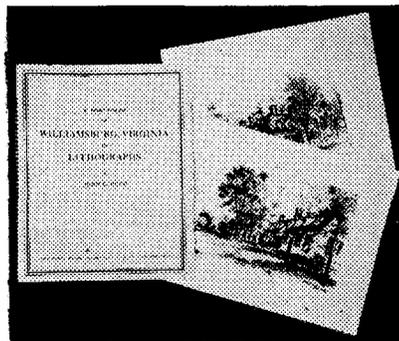
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great artist the Palace of the Royal Governors, the Capitol, the famous Raleigh Tavern, the Powder Horn, Public Gaol, Wythe House, the beautiful gardens, quaint homes, and the ancient gnarled oaks that have swayed in the breezes as history passed in its procession along the same streets that travelers trod today. You will find much of the soul of America in these sixteen lithographs—and they will be unusual additions to your home and office, and the homes and offices of your friends.

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