

must necessarily appeal to children, the *very* best poetry. Three anthologies of poetry for young people lie before me. All three are good. You will be glad to have them in your library. If I find Walter de la Mare's "Come Hither" (Knopf) the most delightful, it is only because of the rarely conceived introduction and the fascinating notes at the end, which make a greater adventure of a book which could, at any rate, prove an adventure, including as it does some of the greatest of poems. In his notes Mr. de la Mare is forever quoting new poems, parts of other poems, rambling scraps of history. What a book for anyone, young or old, who loves poetry. Take for example his note to poem 213, "Tarantella", containing the line, "And the fleas that tease in the High Pyrenees":

"The flee is a lyttell worme, and greveth men mooste; and scapeth and voideth peril with lepyng and not with runnyng, and wexeth slowe and fayleth in colde tyme, and in somer tyme it wexeth quiver and swyft; and spareth not kynges."

"This Singing World" (Harcourt, Brace), Louis Untermeyer's selection, is in some ways a more human affair. It is well arranged, well ordered, and interesting. In his "Tales and Ballads" section Mr. Untermeyer shows great catholicity of taste and unerring sense of what children like: we find ballads of Kipling, Masfield, Longfellow, Alfred Noyes, Elinor Wylie—what a contrasting list! There are many old favorites and many new ones.

"The School of Poetry", selected by the late Alice Meynell (Scribner), is a reverent book, in which most of the poems are of an older type. Mrs. Meynell has written small explanatory pieces, many of them of a moral tone. This is not so jolly a book as either

### *Poetry for Children and Others*

WHEN we select poetry for children I imagine that we simply select our own favorite poems and let it go at that—for the best poetry

of the others, but it has the true spirit of the fine lyrical poet and the deeply religious woman.

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