# SIMPLE READING STEPS

## Billy's Bouncing Ball

BY

M. G. BELLEINE

AND PICTURED BY

I. TOPHAM

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ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date. 4.9.07

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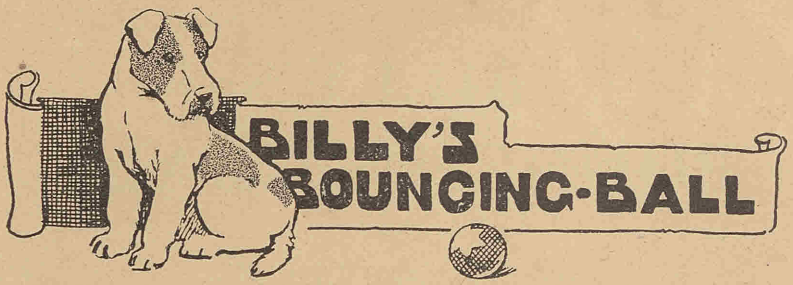
MUNAVIRVI ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
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Billy bounced his rubber ball so high that it went over a wall.

Although he knew it was quite likely he would get into trouble for doing so, he knocked at the door of a house nearby to ask about the ball.

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A little old lady came to the door in reply to Billy's knock, and he asked her, as politely as possible, if the ball had gone into her garden and if so, whether she could return it to him.

"So it has gone into my garden again," said the old lady. "You boys are always giving me trouble over your lost balls."

"I'm sorry," said Billy, "but I did not mean




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to give you trouble."

The old lady looked at him and smiled. "You look a nice little boy," she said, "so I think I shall give you my magic bouncing ball in place of your own."

Billy waited while she went into the house and came back again.

She handed Billy a bright red ball with a white star on one side of it.

"Do not let the star get rubbed off," she said, "or the ball will not be a magic one," and with a nod to Billy she closed the door.

Billy at once began to bounce his new ball, and found that, directly it touched the ground, it continued to bounce lightly up and down without any help.

With a cry of joy, he caught it between his

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ULAM



hands and ran with it to his playmates.

At first the children thought it great fun to see the ball bouncing alone.

Billy was easily the winner when they played

a bouncing ball game.

But after a time the children thought it not fair that Billy's ball should give nobody else a chance, and soon Billy had to play all alone.

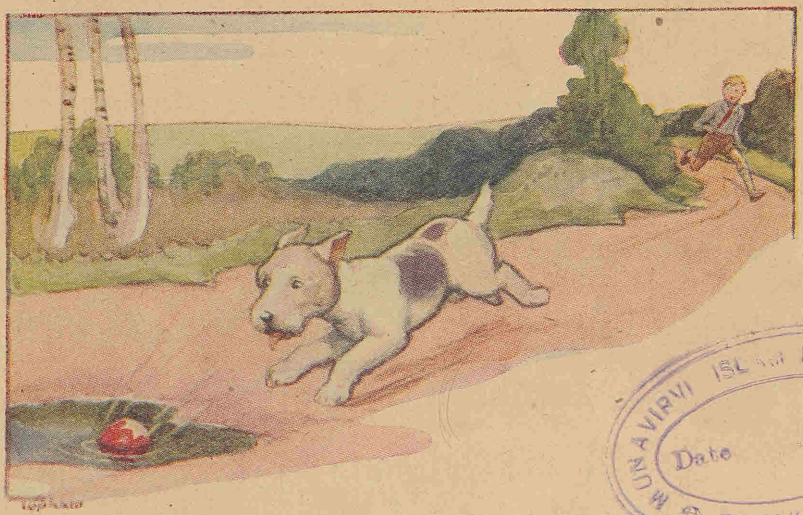
One day it had been raining and there were lots of puddles.

Billy always tried to find a dry place before bouncing his red ball because of the white star on its side, and on this day

he took care not to play near a puddle.

The ball was bouncing merrily and Billy was counting each bounce when a frisky puppy came along, and wanted to play with the ball. But the ball bounced so quickly that the puppy could not catch it.

At last however, he gave a jump, caught the ball in his mouth and ran off with it.



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Billy ran after him but the puppy ran and ran until at last he let the ball roll into a puddle.

Billy rescued it but the puppy and the puddle had taken away the white

star which had given the ball its magic bounce.

At first Billy was sorry because the ball would not bounce by itself.

But soon he thought he would rather bounce his ball fairly and play happily with his little friends after all.

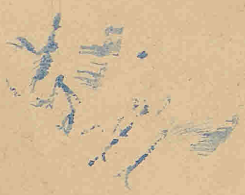
No doubt he was right.

Don't *you* think so?

UNAVIRVI ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
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