

"Section 1. The Congress shall have power to limit, regulate, and prohibit the labor of persons under eighteen years of age.

"Section 2. The power of the several states is unimpaired by this article except that the operation of state laws shall be suspended to the extent necessary to give effect to legislation enacted by the Congress."

As you see, the power this Amendment would confer upon Congress is limited to one thing, to regulation throughout the nation of the labor by children, that is, to labor in the sense in which the term is used in labor statutes and has frequently been construed by courts—labor for hire. The Amendment is no law, merely an enabling statute. Immediately, however, the question arises as to how far Congress will go in exercising this power, once it is granted. We have an adequate forecast as to that in the child labor provisions of the NRA codes, provided provision is made for certain gaps in them through which some conditions unfair to children seep in. In general, the minimum working age for children set up by the codes has been sixteen years, with hazardous occupation barred for boys and girls between sixteen and eighteen. Provision for a limited amount of work outside school hours has been made for children between fourteen and sixteen years in certain industries.

In 1936 Virginia will have opportunity to go on record in favor of the Child Labor Amendment. If the teachers and other protectors of children's rights in Virginia will consider the present chaotic and in general inadequate assemblage of state laws concerning child labor they will appreciate the need for nation wide, uniform legislation to assure equal rights to all children. They need but reflect that only six states have arrived at the sixteen-year work-age minimum for employment during school hours to realize that the slow progress of

state legislation is a menace to the children of the other forty-two states. It is, in fact, up to the teachers of Virginia to put up a united front in behalf of the children of the nation, as well as of Virginia, who will surely suffer economic exploitation when the codes expire unless the Child Labor Amendment is first ratified.

GERTRUDE ROBINSON

## ESSAYS IN THE EIGHTH GRADE

THE eighth-grade classes in the Training School of the Teachers College at Harrisonburg voted unanimously to make a magazine as their project for the second semester.

In the magazine they decided to include short stories, essays, editorials, poetry, and jokes. The pupils have attempted to do some of each of these types of composition.

Although essays, being contemplative in their nature, are usually considered difficult for any but skilled writers, we feel that our pupils have done their best work in this field. They have been especially successful in presenting numerous concrete details, the result of keen observation. Some of the essays, as written by the children, are presented here.

KATHERINE BURNETTE

MARY VERNON MONTGOMERY

### NAMING DOGS

I get a dog, play with it awhile, and then decide to name it. Now here is my problem. First I call to mind and give due consideration to all the names I know or ever heard of and decide that not one of them will do. I then let it slip my mind and go about my business. Later in the family circle, I bring up the subject again and my mother says it should be named after the last dog we had, my brother thinks it should be named after some famous dog,

and other members of the family say what they think it should be called but none suit. Finally some unheard of name pops into my mind and the dog is christened on the spot.

BEVERLY BLACKBURN

#### AUNTS

Aunts are fussy things. They are always nosing in your affairs and giving their opinions of what you are going to do or have done. Today there are not so many up-to-date aunts but there are plenty of old-fashioned ones. The old-fashioned aunts object mostly to the amount of clothing that is worn today. They think it a sin to stay up later than ten o'clock, being used to going to bed between the hours of seven and eight o'clock. They also hate the modern ways of traveling, being used to the horse and buggy. When summer comes, they aren't seen without a hat and coat on.

All these things make us appreciate up-to-date aunts.

CHARLES BROCK

#### GOING TO CHURCH

Going to church may be a pleasure for some, but it is a punishment for me. On Sunday morning I wake up thinking of some way to get out of going.

How about getting sick? No, I would have to take some medicine. How would toothache do? No, Mother would be sure to take me to the dentist.

Surely I can think of some way. There's Mother calling now.

After breakfast Mother washes me all over, especially behind the ears. Then she puts clean clothes on me, and I can't run and play for fear I will get dirty. I walk to church very slowly beside Mother. When we get there, we walk down the aisle and sit in a high pew. Whenever I talk Mother tells me to be quiet. After church Mother invites some company and I have to sit quietly so as not to disturb the grown

people. Some people may love to go to church but as for me, I'd rather stay at home.

FERBY NELL CLINE

#### BABY OF THE FAMILY

I have been told many times how lucky I am to belong to a large family. I know it is nice to have brothers and sisters, but as to being the baby of the family—well, that's not so nice except for the older ones.

If the family is going somewhere, a place where not everyone can go, it's always:

"Leave her at home; she is the youngest, and she can go some other time." Or it is: "Don't bring her along; she is too little. She can go when she is older."

When at mealtime there is an extra piece of pie it always goes to the older ones; never to the younger. Everyone expects the youngest to wait on him and when anything is said about doing the work, you hear:

"When brother was your age, he always washed all the dishes," or "When sister was your age, she made her own clothes and cooked the meals."

No matter what you are doing, you must jump and run immediately for whatever you are told. If you and your sister are both going out the same night and sister wants to borrow your hairribbon and bobby-pins, no matter whether you want them or not, you must let her have them. If anyone begins to consider the youngest, you hear:

"Oh, she is spoiled to death. She gets everything she wants all the time."

Anyway, when you get left out of things, you can look forward to the "someday" when you are older. How would you spend your time, anyway, if you didn't have your brothers and sisters to wait on?

ALTHEA JOHNSTON

#### A DOG IN THE HOUSE

A dog is something that is liked by some people and despised by others.

The rich lady sits back with her lovely, darling Mitzi in her arms. Oh! It would be awful if anyone would hurt poor Mitzi.

Then comes grouchy father. He is so tired after his big days work. He is reading the paper when Mitzi comes poking along. Suddenly she jumps up and pulled off father's glasses. Then father throws him right out in the floor.

Then comes twelve year old daughter. She is boy crazy, and thinks of nothing but the boys. When the dog comes sniffing around her, she gives him a stiff kick, and sends him away barking.

When big brother sits down to write a letter to the girl friend, Mitzi comes wobbling along. All of a sudden Mitzi jumps up and tears the letter into bits. Then the big brother kicks the dog terribly hard.

Big daughter slips in after four o'clock in the morning. When she turns on the light, she finds that dog on her nice silk bedspread. She pulls off her coat and beats Mitzi nearly to death. She sends him away crying.

So you see, it isn't a very good plan, to have a dog in the house of such a family as this.

AUDREY LEAKE

### GIRLS

Girls are funny creatures. When they get a camouflage of powder, rouge, lipstick and fingernail polish on, they think they are pretty, but if they would look at themselves about seven o'clock in the morning they might look entirely different. They gaze into the mirror to see that each hair of their permanent wave is in place. They strive to keep thin but take little exercise and wonder why they get fat. If they would play baseball all afternoon, or ride bicycles, or do something besides go to the movies, read books, and play dolls, they might get rid of a few unwanted pounds. They are usually very studious and seem to enjoy studying. I guess it takes many kinds of people to make a world, but I'd much rather be a boy.

JOE LOGAN

### FAMILY ROWS

Have you ever witnessed a "family row"? If you have, you know it isn't really as bad as it sounds. For instance, when two sisters are arguing over which is to wear the prettiest dress, they debate for a while, then they decide that they won't fuss about it because one girl has the hat that matches the dress the other one is going to wear. Then they make up, and the one that wants the hat borrows it, and the other borrows some cosmetics. If two brothers want to take a bath at the same time, they will fuss at each other for a while, and each says he will either get in the bathroom first or poke the other in the nose. Then they see that they are not getting any where that way, so the one will say to the other, "If you lend me a quarter, you can get in the bathroom and take your bath first." So the other says, "All right," lends him the quarter, and gets in the bathroom first.

The next time you hear a family row don't think so hard of that family because quarrelers really don't mean all they say.

ROBERT L. LONG

### WHEN TEACHERS WERE IN SCHOOL

When teachers were in school they loved to do homework and never complained about it. In fact they never missed a day having their homework. When their teacher was out of the room, they were very good and did not make a bit of noise. They never spoke out of turn. All their papers were very neat, and were always correct. They made all "A's" and therefore got on the honor roll every month. They always waited anxiously for Monday to come so they could go back to school again.

CHARLES PARKINS

### GIRLS

I think girls are awfully funny in ways and dumb in others. They try to dress up

like people about thirty years old, with earrings, ten cent rings, beads and other ornaments. They think they know everything and think nobody knows more than they do. When you speak to them on the street they stick their noses up in the air, probably meaning "Don't speak to me you old goof."

Sometimes a girl thinks that if a boy speaks or picks up something that she has dropped that he is in love with her. Some are high tempered and fly off the handle when anybody pulls their hair or makes them the least bit mad. They think they are big if they can powder their noses in school or pull their dresses above their knees and draw up a long silk stocking and straighten the garter. Who wants to see a girl fluffing her hair or twisting curls that look like they have been wrapped around a pencil. You can tell the teachers like girls better than boys because when they write notes the teachers never seem to notice them and the teachers never keep them in unless they keep the whole room in.

(Good Points). Although there are more bad than good points the world could not do without girls. They are helpful around the house by washing and attending to the baby. They also make up beds, sweep, and do other helpful jobs. They sometimes lend you money and help you with your homework.

WILSON ROLSTON

### TOUCH-ME-NOT- GIRLS

If girls resemble any kind of flowers it sure isn't roses, it's touch-me-nots. Take for an example in school, when a piece of paper hits a girl that was aimed at John's head, she flies off the handle, and blabs out, "If you do that again, I am going to tell the teacher." Before ten minutes has passed another piece of paper flies across the room. This time the teacher sees it and yelps out, "Who did that?", like some one had been killed. And you might know the teacher

takes every boy's name in the room. All the boys know that means come back after school. It's a good thing that those kind of touch-me-nots don't bloom all the year.

EDWARD F. TURNER

### ARITHMETIC IN THE PRIMARY GRADES

WHEN arithmetic is needed in activities, it has more meaning for the children because it is being used in real situations. A unit of work in "The Grocery Store," which I am teaching in the second grade, will probably illustrate the integration of arithmetic.

On an excursion to a grocery store, the children observed the following things: what the storekeeper did, what was in the store, how the articles were arranged, and the prices of the articles. After the visit they made a list of the articles they would have in their store, with the prices. From this list they printed labels and price tags. The printed names of the articles with their prices were soon recognized by all of the children.

During a discussion the children decided to make the store large enough to stand in. So they measured to determine how large it should be, and estimated the cost of the materials they had to buy such as nails and paint. In order to determine the proper sizes and proportions both computation and reasoning were necessary. The children became more skilled in the use of the yardstick and ruler and more familiar with the terms, inches, feet, yards.

The next question which came up was, What shall we use for money? After much discussion it was decided that the money could be made of tag board, using real money for the patterns. They printed the figures and money signs. To do this the

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