

THE KIND DEEDS MESSENGER

The Latham Foundation Story Service
for the Public Schools

Number 32

SCHOOL PROJECTS FOR 1930

"BE KIND TO ANIMALS WEEK" PLAY

April 21 to 27

EXCERPTS from "VIRGINIA'S DREAM," a Play for Grade Schools

Music by FLORENCE CHAMBERS, internationally known Composer and Pianist. Book by DOLORES WILKENS KENT
Dramatized from story of MRS. E. M. S. FITE, in K. D. M., No. 21. Costume Designs by MYRLE WRIGHT

A prologue follows the melodious overture. Curtain rises on Virginia's bedroom. She has just retired and her mother is still tucking in the covers. Cat is curled up asleep at foot of bed.

VIRGINIA

You promised me this morning, mother dear,
A story when the day was done,
And now 'tis over and my prayers are said.
It is such fun to lie here safely tucked in bed.
Pussy, too, is listening, waiting for a tale from you.

MOTHER

Mother sits in chair beside bed. Tells the legend of St. Francis and the Wolf.

A story, let me see, I've told so many,
Little daughter,
It is hard to think of something new.
But here is one, so old it will be new again,
About St. Francis who lived in Assisi, in Italy,
Some centuries ago. . .
He had such great love within his heart
For man and bird and beast,
His name goes on an ever living thing. . .
Once there was a wolf so wild and fierce
That he caused great trouble in the country
Where he lived. . .
One day St. Francis went to meet the wolf. . .
St. Francis said, "Brother Wolf, in God's name
I command you that you do not harm me nor anybody." . . .
And from that day he like a great dog followed
Brother Francis close at heel.
He taught the little children not to fear him. . .
When in course of time the wolf died the children
Wept for their old friend.
So love brings love, you see, and casts out fear. . .

Mother puts out lights and opens window, the moon-light streaming through it, bids Virginia good-night and leaves room.

VIRGINIA

Virginia sits up in bed, addresses cat
Pussy, did you hear about that wolf?
I wouldn't fear him either.
Oh, I wish that I had lived long, long ago
In Italy,
And known the wolf and that good saint
Of Assisi.
Voice dies away—she lies back upon pillows and

sleeps. Room darkens for a second, then moon-light again showing, reveals a dainty little fairy, who waves a silver wand at Virginia, saying:

FAIRY

Moon-light shining silver bright,
Carries far your wish tonight.
In a dream 'twill granted be.
And St. Francis you will see.

CURTAIN

End of Prologue.

* * *

INTERLUDE

Between Prologue and First Act.

SCENE

Meadow,—moon slowly rising. Music of Moon-Beam Chorus plays softly as, through trees at back, the children dressed as moon-beams steal to form in dance rank on stage. When complete number are assembled the music rises to full and they dance—sing chorus and dance again as curtain falls.

MOON-BEAM CHORUS

Moon-beams are dancing
Gaily tonight,
Gliding and glinting
In streamers of light.

Over the sleeping
World in a dream,
Weaving together
Things as they seem.

Say who can tell us
Which is most true,
Stories of dream-land,
Or day-light and you.

End of Interlude—CURTAIN

ACT I—SCENE I

Street in the Land of Dreams

Enter Virginia and Pussy.

VIRGINIA

Where are we, Pussy? Oh, see, a dog.

DOG

The friend of man am I, so meet you
At the portals of the Land of Dreams.

St. Francis enters. He greets Virginia and then the Wolf comes. Virginia begs to meet him. St. Francis speaks to Wolf.

ST. FRANCIS

The earnest wish of this small maid
Has brought her into Dreamland, unafraid.
Tell your story so that she may understand
The bitter hardship of the wild folk land.

THE WOLF

Dear master, ere you came naught did I know of
kindness,

When but a cub men killed my mother and I saw
her die.

That ended all the good in me.

I nearly starved but managed to struggle on,
Until at last I grew, the hand of all against me.
Out-lawed, hunted, so I struck back,

And bared my fangs in glee to see the fear men
had of me.

Then you came with pity, love, compassion in your
eyes and voice.

You called me "Brother" I who had ever lived
alone.

You made me understand the kinship
Of God's whole creation.

VIRGINIA

Dear Wolf, let us be friends.
This dreaming is so wonderful
I hope it never ends.

Enter Deer (to St. Francis) :

DEER

Hark, St. Francis to my prayer,
One I love is in distress.

Weary, old and heartsick, too,
Weeping tears of loneliness.

Often she has sheltered us
In her tiny cabin home.

Many deeds of kindness
To the forest folk has shown.

Dear St. Francis, hear my prayer,
Come and banish her despair.

ST. FRANCIS

Gladly we will comfort bring
To one who seems well worth
The comforting.

Together let us follow, lead the way.

They go off stage, Deer leading, St. Francis and
Virginia earnestly talking; then the Dog and Wolf.
The Cat, seeing that she is the last, instantly pushes
in ahead of the latter, saying haughtily:

Pray pardon me, but I am a guest
So take precedence o'er the rest.

End of Scene I—CURTAIN

* * *

ACT I—SCENE I

Meadow on way to cabin, trees at back, St. Francis,
Virginia and animals come on in order of exit in last
scene, Cat still proudly walking ahead of Dog. Music
plays St. Francis Chorus. Animals and birds steal
from trees and beckon to others until full chorus is
assembled. They then sing and dance. Principals
grouped in center.

CHORUS OF ST. FRANCIS

Dear St. Francis of Assisi,
Truest love we give to thee,
Food and shelter always sharing
With all creatures thou dost see.
Brother Francis of Assisi,
In our hearts we ever hold,

Aiding us in health or sickness,
When the winter winds are cold.

Dear St. Francis of Assisi,
Idolized by bird and beast.
Sing we now our thanks and praises
From the greatest to the least.

Chorus dances off singing.

Principals walk off in same order as they entered.

End of Act I—CURTAIN

* * *

ACT II

Curtain rises in outskirts of woods, little old
woman seated at door of tiny cabin. She is crying.
Enter St. Francis, Virginia, Dog, Wolf and Cat in
order of last scene. Deer runs ahead to old woman.

DEER

Kind mistress, do not be dismayed.

St. Francis comes himself to give you aid.

ST. FRANCIS

Good mother, this your sorrow pray relate,
A burden shared is only half as great.

OLD WOMAN

... My hearth is comfortless and cold,
I am forgotten both by kin and friends.
'Tis hard St. Francis to grow old.

ST. FRANCIS

Not alone, for this fine deer had thought of you
And brought us to your side.

But who are these I see approaching
Through the trees?

One by one the Rabbit, Quail, Squirrel, Crow, Fox,
Dove, Bear and Meadow-lark enter, tell the story of
the kind deeds that the Old Woman did for them,
then retire to sides of stage.

ST. FRANCIS

See, mother, your kind deeds as flower-fairies
come.

Music plays Kind-Deeds Fairies Chorus as they
dance on. They sing as they go through lovely flower
ballet.

KIND DEEDS FAIRIES CHORUS

We are kind-deeds fairies,
Such a happy band,
Wearing pretty flowers
Here in Dreamy Land.

Every deed of kindness
Any mortals do,
Adds another fairy,
And a flower, too.

Dancing in the moon-light,
Sleeping all the day,
Joyous little fairies
Sing their songs away.

Then they mix with birds and beasts at side and
back of stage, leaving the principals in the center
front.

OLD WOMAN

How could I know they would remember me?
When my own flesh and blood forget—

ST. FRANCIS

A kindness done to animals will never be forgotten.
The dog dies broken-hearted on his master's grave.
So will these loyal friends be true. . .
Your kind deeds like seedlings planted long ago,

(Continued foot of page 3)

Fifth Annual Humane Poster Contest of The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education

GROUP I—Grades 1, 2, and 3

Nine first prizes, each.....\$2.00
 Nine second prizes, each..... 1.00

GROUP II—Grades 4, 5, and 6

Ten first prizes, each.....\$3.00
 Ten second prizes, each..... 2.00
 Ten third prizes, each..... 1.00

GROUP III—Grades 7, 8, and 9

Seven first prizes, each.....\$7.50
 Seven second prizes, each..... 5.00
 Seven third prizes, each..... 3.00

GROUP IV—High Schools

Seven first prizes, each.....\$10.00
 Seven second prizes, each..... 6.00
 Seven third prizes, each..... 4.00

GROUP V—Art Schools and Artists Anywhere
 First prize.....\$50.00
 Second prize..... 25.00
 Third prize..... 15.00
 Fourth prize..... 10.00
 Fifth prize..... 5.00
 Sixth prize..... 4.00

PURPOSE—To inculcate the higher principles of humaneness, upon which the peace and the happiness of the world depend; to foster a deeper understanding of and sympathy with man's relations—the animals—who cannot speak for themselves.

PRIZES—Prizes in cash will be awarded to the winning contestants. The Latham Foundation reserves the right to reject any poster which does not meet all conditions of the contest. Only posters suitable to be entered for exhibit will be eligible for prizes. Certificates of Merit will be awarded in all groups.

SUPREME PRIZE—A 1930 full Summer Session Scholarship in the California School of Arts and Crafts, Oakland, California. *It will be awarded the poster which best expresses in thought and workmanship the message of "Be Kind to Animals" for use in Be Kind to Animals Week.*

SPECIAL FEATURE—Four trophies will be presented to the schools whose pupils draw the largest number of prizes in Groups I, II, III, and IV, respectively.

JUDGING OF POSTERS—The Judging Committee will be composed of experts who are qualified to pass impartially upon the merits of the work in the following order: First, Humane Expression, which is the subject motive of the contest; second, Workmanship.

EXCERPTS FROM "VIRGINIA'S DREAM"

(Continued from page 2)

Now rise sweet flowers in full bloom,
 Weaving a wreath of happiness for your last years.
 While they have been talking the full choruses of
 Moon-beams, St. Francis and Kind-Deeds Fairies are
 assembling. Music now softly plays overture while
 Virginia coming to footlights—

VIRGINIA

When I wake from this fair dreaming,
 May these scenes and all their meaning
 Still remain with me.
 Teach me to be kind and tender,

SUGGESTED SUBJECTS for Group I:
 "My Pal"; Be Gentle with Animals; Remember to
 Feed Your Pets.

Other groups: World Peace Is Prepared for in
 Childhood; Kindness the World's Greatest Need;
 Open Your Heart to Animals; Protect the Helpless;
 Saved (for this subject send to the Foundation for
 material); Share; Universal Kinship; Shelter Your
 Livestock; Befriend the Friendless; I AM Hungry
 —Take Me In; Shoot With a Camera; A Little Child
 Shall Lead Them (The Lion and the Lamb Shall Lie
 Down Together).

Students are urged to devise their own slogans
 expressive of kindness.

RULES OF THE CONTEST

SIZE OF CARD—9x12 inches for Group I; 14x22
 inches for all other groups; used vertically or hor-
 izontally. No other sizes will be considered.

MATERIAL—Manila tag or any stock of similar
 weight. *No heavy cardboard will be accepted.*

MEDIUM—Tempera or show-card colors; crayon,
 pastel, water color.

LETTERING—A brief slogan, appropriate to the
 illustration, may be used. Students are encouraged
 to devise their own slogans. Avoid fanciful lettering.
*All illustrations must be original; copies of pictures
 will not be considered.*

IDENTIFICATION—Name in full, school ad-
 dress and group must be written on the back of the
 poster, in the lower right-hand corner.

TIME OF DELIVERY—Posters in Groups I to
 IV, inclusive, must be sent **FLAT** to the Art Super-
 visor of the schools where the contests are held. The
 Art Supervisors will be responsible for forwarding the
 posters to the Latham Foundation not later than
 March 15, 1930. Posters received after that date
 will not be considered. No posters will be returned
 unless stamps are forwarded for the purpose; when
 posters are reserved, the stamps will be returned.
 Any poster receiving a prize or an award becomes
 the property of the Foundation. No commercial
 posters will be entered and contestants are requested
 not to submit game law observance posters.

For further information address

THE LATHAM FOUNDATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF
 HUMANE EDUCATION

Latham Square Building, Oakland, California

Closing Date March 15, 1930

Teach my eyes to clearly see,
 And the whole of God's creation
 In each clime and in each nation,
 Will my brothers be.

Music plays St. Francis Chorus as stage darkens
 and then brightens to full moon-light. Whole chorus
 combining Moon-beams, Birds and Beasts and Kind-
 Deeds Fairies dance and sing together.

The End—CURTAIN

The libretto of this play is now available
 upon application to the Latham Foundation.
 Price of complete book, containing text, music
 and costume suggestions, is 50 cents.

FOURTH ANNUAL HUMANE ESSAY
CONTEST

Open to All Schools

CLASSIFICATIONS

GROUP I—Grades 4 and 5

Three first prizes, each.....	\$3.00
Three second prizes, each	2.00
Three third prizes, each	1.00

GROUP II—Grades 6, 7, and 8

Three first prizes, each	\$5.00
Three second prizes, each	4.00
Three third prizes, each	3.00

GROUP III—High Schools

Three first prizes, each	\$10.00
Three second prizes, each	5.00
Three third prizes, each	4.00

PURPOSE—To teach the higher principles of humaneness and to foster a better understanding of our kinship to the animal world.

SUGGESTED SUBJECTS

GROUP I

1. The best humane story in our reader.
2. What my Kind Deeds Club is doing.
3. Animals I have helped.
4. Why it is cruel to desert an animal.
5. What are my duties to the dog I own?
6. What are my duties to the cat I own?
7. What animals have taught me.

GROUP II

1. Heroism and loyalty of animals.
2. The need of animals for friendship.
3. Why I prefer the camera to the gun.
4. The tragedy of the deserted pet.
5. What each of us can do to prevent cruelty.
6. What I have done to help birds.
7. The service of the lowly earth-worm.

GROUP III

1. The kinship of the animal to the human considered scientifically and psychologically.
2. Relation of the humane movement to the peace movement.
3. Kindness the world's greatest need.
4. Substitution of the camera for the gun.
5. The value of bird sanctuaries.
6. What the study of animals has taught me.
7. The value of humane education in the building of character.

RULES OF THE CONTEST

LENGTH—Essays in Grades 4 and 5 must be limited to 200 words; in Grades 6, 7, and 8, 400 words; and in High Schools, to 1500 words. Longer essays will not be eligible.

HOW WRITTEN—Essays must be written in ink or typewritten, and on one side of the paper only.

SUBJECTS—Subjects may be selected from attached lists or be along kindred lines; all essays must be original.

IDENTIFICATION—The full name, age, grade, year, school and town of the contestant must be written clearly in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the essay.

TIME OF DELIVERY—Essays must reach the

Latham Foundation on or before March 15, 1930; those received after that date will not be considered. The Foundation reserves the right to keep all essays submitted that are found suitable for its educational work. No essays will be returned unless stamps are enclosed for that purpose; in the event of stamps being sent and the essay reserved, the stamps will be returned to sender.

PRIZES—Prizes will go to individual contestants.

~~SUPREME PRIZE—Open to everybody every-~~
~~where.~~

\$25.00 for a play which may be used for "Be Kind to Animals Week." Suggested subject: KINDNESS WINS.

HOW TO SEND—Essays must be sent flat or folded and mailed in a large envelope; do not roll. Address plainly to THE LATHAM FOUNDATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF HUMANE EDUCATION, LATHAM SQUARE BUILDING, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

BOOKS HELPFUL TO READ

Four-Footed Friends; by Mrs. Huntington Smith; Ginn and Co., Boston.

Friends and Helpers; by Sarah J. Eddy; Ginn and Co., Boston.

Black Beauty; by Anna Sewell; American Humane Education Society, Boston.

A Dog of Flanders; by Ouida; Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.

Greyfriar's Bobby; by Eleanor Atkinson; Harper & Bros., New York.

Billy and Hans; by W. J. Stillman; Thos. B. Mosher, Portland, Me.

Bambi; by Felix Salten; Translated by Whittaker Chambers; Simon & Schuster, New York.

In Beaver World; by Enos A. Mills; Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.

The Story of My Cousins; by Henry S. Salt; Watts & Co., London.

True Bird Stories; by Olive Thorne Miller; Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.

Seventy Years Among Savages; by Henry S. Salt; George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., London.

Every Living Creature; by Ralph Waldo Trine; Dodge Pub. Co., New York.

The Universal Kinship; by J. Howard Moore; The Humanitarian League, London.

A Sheaf; by John Galsworthy; Chas. Scribner's Sons, New York.

THE KIND DEEDS CLUBS

Through a lack of space we are deprived of the pleasure of giving a report of the work which has been achieved by the KIND DEEDS CLUBS in Alameda County during the first semester. It has surpassed in volume and interest all former records. In our February number special space will be devoted to this subject. Gratifying beyond all former experience has been the zeal of our school children who led by their teachers have combined to make happy during the holiday season homes other than their own.

We wish to express to teachers and pupils the joy that their work has brought to our office, and to wish them all a New Year brimming over with happiness.

The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education
Latham Square Building, Oakland, California