



# THE KIND DEEDS MESSENGER

THE LATHAM  
FOUNDATION  
STORY SERVICE  
FOR THE PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS



No. 48

## HERO ANIMALS OF AMERICA

### BROWNIE

Gold Medal Winner for the State of Iowa

*Decorated by The Latham Foundation and The Des Moines Register and Tribune*

THEY had saved their pennies for a long, long time, these two little brothers, Kay and Lane Lowery of Osceola, Iowa. Saved a whole toy bank full of them. And what do you think they bought with all this wealth? A tiny puppy, white and brindle, with brilliant dark eyes, an eager pink tongue that caressed them, and a real wiggly cork-screw tail.

Just an honest-to-goodness pal of a dog.

What fun they had with him. Such romps and races, and happy, tired slumber, with the wee bunch of canine love cuddled close as the darkness folded down.

As time went on they grew bigger and wiser, boys and dog. Grew to know that responsibility and love go hand in hand, so that Lane and Kay guarded Brownie carefully, and how that small dog-person responded this story will tell.

Last January a fire broke out in a cafe adjoining the Lowery apartment, and had already destroyed the contents of two rooms when Mr. and Mrs. Lowery were aroused by Brownie, who leaped into their beds, barking madly and tearing and pulling at the bedclothes in order to wake them up.



*Lane and Kay Lowery with Brownie*

They were being gradually overcome by smoke and fumes, and declare they never would have awakened if it had not been for Brownie. Then parents and dog rushed to the room in which Kay and Lane were still slumbering, and they all made their escape clad only in night garments.

Brownie ran back again and again, while it was possible, to the burning house, fearing that some one might still be within. His lungs, nose and throat were badly irritated by the fumes and he has only recovered now.

He is still extremely nervous in the vicinity of a stove or even a trash fire.

We have just received a letter from his little masters, Kay and

Lane, in which they say "We are so proud of Brownie, we love him as a brother."

And Brownie wears with due modesty, the beautiful gold medal donated by the Latham Foundation and bestowed by the Des Moines Register and Tribune.

The presentation of the medal took place at an outdoor mass meeting in Osceola, with a band concert of fine music adding to the program. All this in honor of a loyal, courageous little dog who rewarded the kindness of the boys by saving the lives of the whole family.

## RADIO TALK ON THE VALUE OF HUMANE EDUCATION

By KENNETH P. GLEES, *Principal Cornell School, Albany, California*

Under auspices of The Latham Foundation

Under the leadership of the Latham Humane Foundation many schools in California have been sponsoring a program which has become known as Humane Education. By this instruction a child is taught to respect not only the rights of his fellow men, but also to give some thought to the dumb and helpless creatures who depend on us for their very existence. The idea is not to develop a spirit of kindness toward one particular thing, but to create within the child a kindly feeling toward all things so that this attitude becomes a part of his very being. It would be of little value for a child to have a considerate attitude toward his own pet, if at the first opportunity he injured his neighbor's dumb friend. It would be of little value to teach him kindness toward things of his own, if in later life he was not considerate of his competitor in business or of an individual of another race or color. So the same thing holds true in a larger sense. Of what use is it to teach patriotism to our future citizens if such patriotism is to encroach on the rights and privileges of other nations, thus causing them to hate and distrust us. Surely such an arrangement is not conducive to the plan of world peace.

We hear on all sides such common expressions as "The world must forsake war" — "We must have peace" — "The rights of mankind" — "Brotherhood toward all." Are we ready to admit that such statements are mere jingles—that "Peace on earth, goodwill to all men" is a forlorn hope?

Whose task is it to inculcate into the minds and characters of our children the right ideals of citizenship? Primarily it is the work of the home, church and school. What better agency for instruction can any of these use than in the development of a humane

attitude on the part of the child toward the weaker creatures around him.

The California School Law reads in part, "Instruction must be given in the principles of morality, truth, justice and patriotism, in the principles of free government and in the rights, duties and dignity of American citizenship." These are commonly classified under the headings of "Character Education" or "Citizenship Training."

In an effort to make these things have a more definite meaning for the child we have adopted the plan of teaching Humane Education or Kindness to Animals. We do not claim to have a panacea for all the troubles of mankind, but we do feel that we are taking a step toward making better citizens who eventually will help to make a finer nation and happier world.

John Bright has put it quite aptly when he said: "*There is nothing meaner than barbarous and cruel treatment of the dumb creatures who cannot answer us or resent the misery which is so often needlessly inflicted upon them. If children at school can be made to understand how just and noble it is to be humane, even to what we term inferior animals, it will do much to give them a higher character and tone through life.*"

In closing I would like to quote to you the pledge which is memorized by the school children, "I will try to be kind to every living creature and to cultivate a spirit of protection towards all who are weaker than myself, and I will try to treat animals as I would wish to be treated if I were in their place." A simple thing, yes, but within its simple lines can be found those principles which will add immeasurably to the progress of our civilization.



## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

For many years Mrs. Agnes Weber Meade, Superintendent of Yuba County Schools, has carried on the Latham Foundation work in all her schools with great perseverance and enthusiasm, and her results have always been a source of encouragement in the promotion of the work in other counties.

This week there were 85 new Kind Deeds Club members who reported in for pins from Yuba County, and we take great pleasure in quoting the following lines from a letter containing the report from the Superintendent of Yuba County Schools, Mrs. Agnes Weber Meade.

Mrs. Meade says: "I trust our little people will form worthwhile habits that will be carried through their lives in the performance of kind deeds to all of God's creatures."

We are giving the following reports from three of the new members:

MARVIN THOMAS, 5th Grade, New England Union School, Yuba County.

1. I saw a butter-fly on the road. I put him on some grass.
2. I wash the dishes for my mother every day.

ROBERT CRIDDLE, 7th Grade, Marigold School, Yuba County.

### A KIND DEED TO A PERSON

One day I discovered a lady with a flat tire on her automobile, so I ran down to see what I could do for her. She said that she didn't know how to change a tire, but I knew how to change one, so I took the tire off, patched the tube, and pumped it up, and put it on the wheel. She thanked me and said that she would like to do something for me some day.

### A KIND DEED TO AN ANIMAL

One day a dog came to town, and all the children were afraid of him. He had a kind face and was friendly. I got a bone and coaxed him to me. My sister and I took him home. He took me for his master and I took him for my dog.

HELEN CRIDDLE, 6th Grade, Marigold School, Yuba County.

### A KIND DEED TO A PERSON

A short time ago my teacher had a dreadful tooth-ache. She wanted to clean up the school house. So I immediately took the broom and swept the floor. Then I took the dust cloth and dusted her desk. Aite! I had finished, she said, "Thank you. Thank you. Helen."

### A KIND DEED TO A BIRD

Yesterday as I was sitting in the living room, my brother came running in looking very excited. I jumped up and asked him what was the matter. He said that he just saw a bird fly out of my bird house. So we both got some bread and bacon rind and put them on the fence for the bird.

After a while two boys came with their bee-see guns to shoot the little birds. I immediately ran out of the house and gave them strict orders not to shoot over in our yard. After I gave them my orders, they got disgusted and went home.

### KIND DEEDS CLUB OF MARSHALL SCHOOL, SAN FRANCISCO

Very fine work is going on in the Marshall School of San Francisco, by the children who have organized a Kind Deed's Club.

The following letters and charming little poem have just been sent to us by three of the members:

Marshall School,  
San Francisco, Calif., Dec. 14, 1931.

Secretary of Latham Foundation,  
Oakland, California.

DEAR MADAM: One Saturday afternoon I took a walk on Mission Street. I was looking at the pictures outside a show when a lady tapped me on the shoulder and asked me if I would go to the store across the street and pay three dollars on her bill. I told her I would and she gave me the three dollars, so I went over and had her bill paid and then came back.

She gave me a dime but I said, "No thank you, I belong to the Kind Deeds Club and we do not accept money."

Yours truly,  
ALBERT GAGNON.

Marshall School,  
San Francisco, Calif., Dec. 14, 1931.

Secretary of Latham Foundation,  
Oakland, California.

DEAR MADAM: I am enclosing a Christmas poem written by a boy in our class. On our blackboard we have a paper Christmas tree. For every kind deed we do during Christmas vacation, we are going to paste an ornament on the tree. Our class wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,  
HELEN ASHTON,  
Secretary Kind Deed's Club.

### CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a day to give,  
Christ gave his life so we might live,  
Christmas a day to bear in mind,  
Because Christ taught us to be kind,  
To give something to the poor,  
Will make them happy, I am sure,  
Giving to man and beast that need  
Ever is the kindest deed.  
Then upon each Christmas Day  
We will happy be and gay.

HOWARD GOLD, Age 12 years,  
6A Grade, Marshall School, S. F.

## MOTHER HUBBARD VISITS OAKLAND

Ruth Thompson, editor of the children's page in the *San Francisco News*, enters 85,000 homes where there are children, and is known and loved as "Mother Hubbard," the name under which she writes.

Miss Thompson has conducted, as one of her activities, the Latham Foundation work through the columns of her paper, and has awarded hundreds of badges supplied by the Foundation, to those children who have done outstanding deeds of kindness, thus becoming LATH—LEND A HAND—members.

So Mother Hubbard came to town and went to see a demonstration of our work in the large, new auditorium of the Cornell School, in Albany, of which Mr. Kenneth P. Glines is principal.

The program for the occasion was the storyboard "THE DOG OF SAN ANDREAS" and Mother Hubbard enjoyed it immensely. Afterwards she attended a meeting of the 6th Grade Kind Deed's Club. We are sure that the pupils were as pleased to meet Mother Hubbard as she was to be with them.

Miss Thompson says in a letter to the Foundation:

"I was greatly interested in Mrs. Tebault's presentation of her story. She has the love and confidence of the children and teachers and her building of her subject, her story and dramatic but simple telling, her masterly way of drawing the lessons and rousing thought on the part of the children, is an inspiration. I did not dream how great the influence your work carried on by you and a sympathetic, enthusiastic and intelligent staff, could be."

### SPECIAL ACTIVITIES OF KIND DEEDS CLUBS

The Kind Deed's Clubs not only carry on each year very active work in welfare to human and animal needs, but have the distinction of having originated in Alameda County the giving of Christmas baskets to those who most need this kind of help.

This year over 300 baskets were distributed by the Kind Deeds Club members of the schools of Alameda County and Albany, breaking the record of all former years.

The children, we are glad to say, have made many sacrifices in their way and have been made happy in the lending-a-hand results.

THE LATHAM FOUNDATION,  
Latham Square Building,  
Oakland, California.

Attached, find \_\_\_\_\_ to cover my subscription for *The Kind Deeds Messenger* for a period of \_\_\_\_\_

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

Single copies—From September to April, inclusive, twenty-five cents.

Each one hundred copies—Sixty-five cents.

### THE HERO ANIMALS OF AMERICA IN SLIDES



Animals who have been decorated by the Latham Foundation for outstanding acts of courage may now be seen in a series of beautiful slides prepared by the Oakland City School Department of Visual Education. These slides will be shown in the Oakland schools and are now available for the use of schools all over the country. There will be no charge except that of transportation. A syllabus accompanies the set. Let us enroll your school on our traveling circuit. We wish to record the Foundation's appreciation of the courtesy and service extended by the Visual Department under the management of Mr. Roy T. Granger.

Address the Latham Foundation, Latham Square Building, Oakland, California.

