

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

Address Letters to "The Young People's Department", The Progressive Farmer

BRAINS

FROM the tip of his toes to the point of his chin,
A man's worth three dollars a day,
Whether driving a street car or pushing
a quill
Or out on the farm making hay.
But north of his chin, where his values
begin,
His worth will increase with a bound.
For the brain of a man is his treasury
house,
It is there where true riches abound.
His avoirdupois will not count for a cent,
In fact, he may wish it weren't there!
But that piece of machinery way up
aloft
May make him a great millionaire,
May make him a statesman, a warrior, a
poet.
For brains are not measured by rule,
But if he's not careful to use them
aright,
He may turn out to be a wise fool.
—M. J. Nosnibor.

What I Did "Clean-up" Week

IN OUR yard were two ugly places—one was an old flower pit that had been partially filled and the other was an old well that had been filled once but the dirt had sunk. I set to work and raked dirt till I had them leveled and looking fine.

We had had a new dining room built and the workmen left a lot of sticks, trash and saw dust. I cleaned this up too.

We have an arbor at the end of the front yard which I trimmed up, and also the other shrubbery in the yard. Then I brought manure from the barn-lot and put around the violets to make them grow. I also planted several kinds of flower seeds which will bloom in summer.

ABBIE TILMAN.

Helping to Win the War

DURING the last term of school we did everything we could to help win the war.

Before Christmas a man visited our school soliciting funds for the Y. M. C. A. fund. class and society pledged about \$10, or about \$100 in all, and before the close of school the last cent was paid.

The next thing we were interested in was War Savings Stamps. A number of the pupils were raising war gardens, and were members of the tomato and poultry clubs.

Then came the Junior Red Cross campaign which we liked best of all. Our school was 100 per cent. A gentleman lectured for us on "Mexico" and the funds realized from this were given to the Red Cross.

The cooking class was taught to cook meatless and wheatless dishes.

MARY TOM MURPHY.

How the Scouts Make Money for the Red Cross

THE girl and boy scouts have become very much interested in making money for the Red Cross. The first entertainment was given by the Park Field soldiers. They offered to give a minstrel for the Red Cross if the scouts would furnish them dinner. The boys brought the soldiers from the camp to the auditorium in their automobiles. The girls served them sandwiches, salad, coffee,

STRIKE OUT "CAN'T" AND "BECAUSE"

EVERY Southern farm boy and girl ought to strike the words "can't" and "because" out of their vocabularies.

We too often get in the habit of using these words as an excuse for not doing things, when there is really no reason why we should not do them.

If someone asks us to do a task that is really impossible, we ought to give specific reasons why it is necessary to refuse their request—not merely say "I can't," and then in reply to their question "Why?" answer "Because!"

If a person early in life forms the habit of doing everything that comes to hand unless there is a good and sufficient reason for not doing it, the habit will be a valuable one.

Let's strike out the words "can't" and "because!"

tea, ice cream, cake, and cigarettes. The minstrel proved a great success and the \$108 which was taken in at the door was given to the Red Cross.

On Saturday afternoons the boys and girls sell ice cream so that they may earn the two hundred dollars that they pledged to the Red Cross. ANNIE RUTH WILLIAMS.

Walked 5,000 Miles; Who Can Beat It?

(Boys' \$1 Prize Letter)

WHILE I admit that 516 miles is a pretty good record for a girl, I have beaten that record for the past six years. I live two and one-half miles from Fort Deposit, Ala., and entered the fourth grade there when I was nine years old, walking back and forth every day.

I went to the public school three years, and then entered the county high school at Fort Deposit when I was twelve years old. I have made a grade each term without being conditioned and last term I finished the tenth grade, and am fourteen years old.

Now, while attending the public school three years I walked 2,400 miles—5 miles per day, 160 days each term. In the high school in three years I walked 2,700 miles—5 miles per day, 180 days each term, or a grand total of 5,100 miles that I have walked to school. I have ridden a few times, but at the outside not more than 100 miles, so you can see that I have walked 5,000 miles to school.

Last year we had two literary societies—the Benjamin Franklin, to which I belonged, and the Lee.

In Fort Deposit we have a Boy Scout troop of which I am a member. The Boy Scouts are of great benefit to a community. They helped in the Third Liberty Loan and the Red Cross drive and in many other ways.

I am at present staying at home working on the farm and also learning to use the typewriter. I think typewriting will do me good, and probably I can help my government in reconstruction work after the war, as I aim to be a civil engineer.

FRED MARTIN.

A Visit to Mount Vernon

(Girls' \$1 Prize Letter)

MOUNT Vernon is one of the most interesting places in America, I think; first, because it was the home of "the Father of His Country," and second, because it is such a typical Colonial home.

We went down the Potomac on a steamboat from Washington, and when we rounded a curve the band played "America" and we all stood up, for there on a high slope, almost hid by trees, stood the mansion. I shall never forget the feeling I had, though I cannot describe it rightly.

After landing, we went by the tomb and saw the tribute General Joffre had laid there.

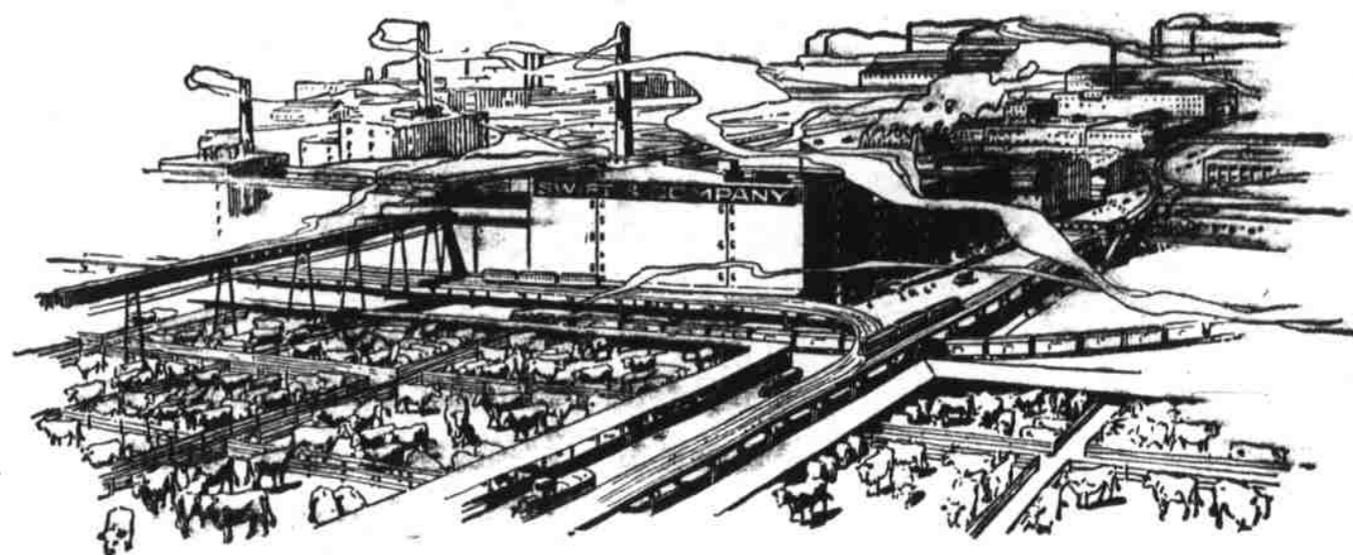
Everyone has seen pictures of the mansion, but it is much larger and more interesting than the impression the pictures give.

In General Washington's room is a queer little trunk in which some of his clothing is kept. His sword hangs on the wall. In Nellie Custis' room you see a miniature step-ladder which she used in climbing upon her high bed. In fact every room contains objects of interest.

The lawn is perfectly kept and the view of the river is wonderful. A big flag floats from a tall pole. At the back are small servants' houses. The coach-house contains an old coach used by General Washington. Martha Washington's garden of flowers is kept exactly as she had it, with its stiff rows of hedge and sweet old-fashioned flowers.

RHODA COLEMAN ELLISON.

Make your neighborhood a reading neighborhood.



A business that is as big as its job

KEEPING a nation of over 100 million people regularly supplied with meat and meat products is a big and complex job.

And a still bigger job when to it is added the needs of the American soldier here and in Europe and of the Allies as well.

It is a job of converting the live stock of the West into meat and meat products and distributing them in perfect condition over long distances to the consuming centers—the North, South, East, West and abroad.

A job of supplying with *unfailing regularity* products that in the main are perishable, in the exact qualities and quantities needed, to the smallest out-of-the-way village as well as to complex and congested metropolitan centers.

Only organizations like that of Swift & Company, with its highly-

specialized methods of meat-dressing, its hundreds of branch-distributing houses, and its thousands of refrigerator cars, could have handled such a job efficiently and at a minimum of expense in the present war emergency.

Today American meat and meat products are the recognized standard of the world.

And the economy with which these products are produced is indicated by the fact that today the meat of a steer, dressed, is sold for less than the cost of the steer on the hoof! The proceeds of by-products, made out of what once was waste, have made this possible.

The size of the job has dictated the size of America's packing industry. And America's packing industry has proved itself to be equal to its job.

Swift & Company, U. S. A.

A nation-wide organization with more than 20,000 stockholders

