teacher, or what I would think was a model teacher, would not teach for the money only, but for the good of her pupils and for the people who will live after her. So when I grow up I shall try to be a teacher and make my work a benefit to all mankind.

—Emma Taylor,
Sixth Grade. Princeton, Minn.

WHEN DAYS SEEM DARK.

My choice in occupation would be that of an author. Books are one of the greatest helps to mankind. A good book will often influence the heart of the reader more than any great speech would. I should also like to write a good book because it might help someone else whose life is perhaps something like the one described in the book. A jolly story often cheers up an invalid more than any amount of talking or playing. It puts more spirit into life, and makes a pleasant and amusing pastime. When a person who is very downhearted takes up an interesting book and begins to read, he forgets all about his cares and troubles, and when he is thru he will feel more rested and cheerful than he did when he began. So I think with all these reasons that a good book ranks very near the first in its usefulness to mankind. —Olga Anderson,
Eighth Grade. Jackson, Minn.

THE USEFUL TOOTH MAN.

The dental profession is very helpful. Of course, it is not very much fun to sit in a dentist chair and have the dentist pull and drill and fill your teeth, but when that is all done then you can enjoy life. You can eat anything when before you could not. If we had no dentists how much pain we would suffer! We should lie awake nights, eat nothing but soft food, go around with a swollen face and decayed teeth. Some people lose all their teeth and if there were no dentists to make new teeth for them they would nearly starve to death. People who have decayed teeth can not chew their food properly and that causes stomach trouble, and to see a person with their mouth full of decayed teeth is not a pleasant sight. But with the dentists we have no excuse for these faults. —Bernice Allen,
Seventh Grade. Spring Valley, Minn.

PARTNERS WITH MOTHER EARTH.

If I were to choose the trade or profession that would make me a benefactor of mankind I would choose Mother Earth to win the title with. If there were no farmers, there would not be anything to eat. No grain would be produced, no hay nor anything for the cattle to eat, with the result that there would be no meat in the market. There are also many other things which the farmer produces which would not be if it were not for him and surely he deserves the title of benefactor of mankind. —Eiling Aasgaard,
Sixth Grade. Twin Valley, Minn.

WHERE ALL MIGHT COME.

If I wished to earn the title, "benefactor of mankind," I would like to be a lecturer—not a lecturer for the rich but for the poorer classes. The lectures should be free, so all could attend, and no one be shut out for lack of money. I would not lecture on some of the questions that are chosen by the lecturers of to-day, but would choose some of the simpler ones that every one could understand. I would teach them to see the beautiful side of life and all the beauties around us in nature. After seeing and recognizing the beauties around them in the world, most people would aspire to higher things and try to make their lives more beautiful, and my choice would be this to help people whose lives are devoid of beauty.

—Ethel Buck,
Eighth Grade. Twin Valley, Minn.

INVENTORS ALWAYS INVENTED.

The most useful profession is that of an inventor. If inventors had never existed I do not believe there would be a world to-day. Even in olden times when half of our useful things were not to be found, there were inventors who invented the things they had then. If some one had not invented a spinning machine, where would we get our stockings? If a loom had not been invented, where would we get our clothing? If the trains had not been invented what a dreary and tiresome journey it would be to ride in a stage coach from the Pacific ocean to the Atlantic. If the steamship had not been invented we would probably be three or four weeks, or even months, on our journey from the United States to Europe. If manufactures had not been established think of the work our mothers would have in keeping their families clothed. If the street cars had not been invented how hard it would be to walk in a large city from one end to the other. If there were no telegraphs many lives would be lost to-day by train wrecks. Many are the useful things inventors have done. Signe Beck,
Eighth Grade. Two Harbors, Minn.

FOR RICH AND POOR.

I should like to be a doctor. More people are made useless by sickness than any other trouble, and if I was a doctor I could cure them and by so doing be a great help in the world. There are a great many poor people who are sick and cannot afford to pay doctor bills, and therefore die. I would not charge them anything and by so doing be a great help in the world. I should want an automobile, so that when needed quickly, if I could not go on a train I could still reach the sick person in time. If I could accomplish all these things I should be content.

Fifth Grade, —Willie Blades,
Chase School. Grafton, N. D.

True Greatness.

True greatness consists in being the best and doing the best that our nature is capable of. It is making the most of ourselves. It is the complete development of all our powers.

TO BE WELL SHOD.

Take what profession you may, one can get along without a great many of them, but there is one humble trade, honorable tho lowly, that no one can do without, and that is the shoemaker. Without his kindly aid we should either be compelled to wear sandals as they did in the good old days, or go barefooted. Fancy going to school barefooted in snow to your ankles with the thermometer 40 below zero. Since he provides the casings whereby our feet are kept safe from the bitter attacks of Jack Frost, he prevents a great deal of suffering. The shoemaker is everybody's benefactor and I say, "Long live King Shoemaker."

Eighth Grade, —Matie Dangerfield,
Central School. Grafton, N. D.

THE MICROBES FEAR HIM.

To me the most useful trade or profession is that of a doctor. If there were no doctors there would be much more suffering in the world than there is now. A great many more would die also. Doctors have discovered a cure for many diseases which were before thought incurable. They have discovered antiseptics which kill disease germs and they have also discovered many other medicines and cures which have saved millions of lives. One of the greatest things ever discovered to decrease suffering was such medicines as chloroform and ether. People could not live thru the operations of to-day without some anaesthetic. If a doctor should discover a cure for consumption or cancer I think he would be a "benefactor of mankind" and a man whose work would be of more benefit to people than that of any other man. For this reason I think the profession of physician is of great value, and were I one I should devote my life to the discovery of cures for consumption and cancer.

—Hazel Dingle,
Seventh Grade. Devils Lake, N. D.

FIRST STEP IN A STONY PATH.

In my opinion the most useful profession one can follow in this country is that of a lawyer. To be a lawyer is to take the first step up the stony path of fame. Name over the most brilliant stars in American history—Lincoln, Clay, Webster, Henry, Blaine, McKinley alone. Were they not all lawyers? Name the presidents and note how many of them were lawyers; more than two-thirds, you say? Then would you not naturally come to the conclusion that the lawyer's profession is the gateway to the presidency? In this great country there are many and pressing needs for a lawyer. The great number of immigrants that come here every year must needs know the law of their adopted nation. Perhaps the kindly advice given by a lawyer may be the means of saving many such a one from a life of anarchy, poverty and crime. Verily, a great responsibility rests upon the lawyer—that responsibility which may for coming generations be the stepping stone to a higher civilization. —Le Grande Dyke,
Ninth Grade. Prairie du Chien, Wis.

WIELDER OF THE PEN HAS POWER.

All hail, the power of fragil pen,
That opens and wakes the hearts of men.

This is the tribute of the poet to my chosen profession, the profession of a writer. Coming down to us from times immemorial, its influence has been felt in every age. It has aided in the uplifting and upbuilding of every race and has been instrumental in the advancement of civilization. Addison realized its importance and, producing the Spectator, raised the moral standard of England to a higher plane. Franklin realized it and edited his "Poor Richard's Almanac," giving his maxims of thrift to a thriftless people. Holmes realized it when he wrote "Old Ironsides," and saved the Constitution from destruction. Every great event in history has been hastened by the influence of writings. The great rebellion did not occur in a second. Eighteen hundred and sixty-one did not mark the beginning of the struggle. Long before this the abolitionists were at work, Garrison published the Liberator and awakened the interest of the north. Emerson and Whittier wrote their simple but appealing verse and heightened that interest, and, finally, Mrs. Stowe in "Uncle Tom's Cabin" told the pathetic story of the negro and aroused the storm of protest that marked the beginning of the war. All this and more has been accomplished by my chosen profession. "Truly the pen is mightier than the sword." —Theadore Gronert,
Twelfth Grade. Prairie du Chien, Wis.

THE SAILS THAT DOT THE OCEAN.

Ship building is the trade most beneficial to mankind. England would starve if it were not for boats bringing flour to her from America. She would not be so strong and prosperous if it were not for boats that carry on her commerce. Her fine large navy would not be if it were not for the shipbuilder. If the people of Asia had not built boats none would have been lost. These lost junks drifted to America, where the people on them landed to inhabit this country. America's prosperity depends greatly on boats to export her products. Columbus could not have come here if it had not been for ships. France consumes yearly a vast amount of fish that are caught by men in fishing boats. If it were not for the ships that bring Marseilles cotton seed oil she could adulterate olive oil. So it is that all the earth depends on boats either to carry its produce or to bring it food. Many Chinese live in boats. The people of Africa and South America depend on boats for fish and other things. —Claude Hitchcock,
Washington School. St. Cloud, Minn.

FOR BUTCHER AND BAKER.

Farming is the most profitable trade to mankind. All flour mills depend on the farmer for wheat. All the people in the cities depend on the farmer for fuel and food. The butcher depends on the farmer for cattle, hogs, sheep and chickens. The dray and delivery men depend on the farmer for hay and feed. Whenever there is a failure in wheat, or hay, there is expensive living in the city. I am going to take up farming every year, because it is the most profitable trade.

Eighth Grade, —Willie Hall,
Central School. Grafton, N. D.

THE QUESTION OF TWO BOYS.

Two boys were sitting on the green grass in the shade of an apple tree. They were evidently studying some lesson, for I saw them reading out of two large books. As I stood there wondering what question or what lesson they were pondering over, one of them asked me, "Say, mister, what trade do you consider the best and most beneficial of all?" I answered: "My boy, that is a most difficult question, but since you are asking my opinion I will give it to you. I consider agriculture the most useful, for without the farm products you or I could not live. The farmers raise sheep, cotton, hogs, cattle and flax. They raise wheat and all the useful grains. If it were not for the farm, where would the factories get wood?" "Oh," said the boy, "You may go now, as I want to study geography." I then walked away and was glad to know they were studying geography. —Leopold Herrmann,
Sixth Grade. Henderson, Minn.

A SHORT, CRISP ANSWER.

If someone should ask me what trade or profession I thought was the most useful I should answer "teaching." What could one do without a teacher? Think of all the children now in school running hither and thither with no one to teach them. Think of all the nice things our teachers do for us. We would probably still think the world was flat instead of round and that the sun moved instead of the earth. Why, we would be idiots, surely! I am sure I should not like to be my own teacher. I should pronounce words wrong and work examples backward if I worked them at all. I would rather be a teacher than anything else, because I should know I was helping people to understand things and also be showing them how to help themselves.

B Sixth Grade, —Hazel Hystedt,
Jackson School. Maple Plain, Minn.

CHILDREN, THE UNKNOWN QUANTITY.

Teaching is one of the most useful of the professions, tho I do not think I would be a teacher when I am grown up because the children might not be good and I should have to scold or punish them. But one reason why I think it is useful is, if there were no teachers we should never know anything and be what the people were long ago. Still another reason is I think teachers do a great deal of good, that is, that they teach us what will be useful to us when we are grown up. —Elinor Isaacson,
A Sixth Grade, Red Wing, Minn.
Central School.

ALL HAIL THE BRIDGE BUILDER.

Engineering is the most useful trade, because engineers have constructed large bridges, railroads, tunnels, canals, etc., which are of great use to the people, and without which they could not get along very well. They have built railroads from one side of America to the other, thus making travel very easy, cheap and accomplished in much shorter time. Those men who build great canals, have been praised very much for their great work. Those who have built great engines and steamboats have helped the country, and their names should be among those of the greatest men of the world. Those men who have erected great bridges should have their names among the greatest men, too, because it takes so much hard study and work, for so many years, before an engineer can become capable of his work. —Neil Kennedy,
Eighth Grade. Luverne, Minn.

PLEASANT TO MEET.

After comparing and studying the quality and amount of usefulness of several trades and professions I have come to the conclusion that a bright, intelligent, wide-awake, devoted minister of the gospel has the most useful profession. He can make you forget yourself and think of others. He changes your thoughts, words and actions from evil to good. He gives much on which to build that most desirable thing in the world, a good character, and his influence makes you have a higher aim in life. He is not only satisfied with his lot, but he makes those with whom he comes in contact satisfied also. Being a Christian he is of more use to this world than other trades and professions that do not require that as an essential attribute.

—Reginald Litchfield,
Eighth Grade. Prairie du Chien, Wis.

RAISER OF FOOD, PROVIDER OF CLOTHES.

Many of our clothes and about all of our food are products of the one great industry—agriculture. One reason why I think it is the most useful is that our meat supply depends upon it. What would a supper, dinner or breakfast be without meat? If there were no farmers where would the food which the hogs and cattle eat

Northwestern Topics.

For Saturday, Dec. 19:

"IF YOU WERE PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA."

Everybody knows something about the trouble down on the isthmus, the secession of Panama, the recognition of the republic by the United States and the conclusion of a treaty for the building of the canal—so just imagine yourselves president of Colombia, then go little farther and see what you would do in the present case. The topic is a good one, very good, in fact, if you will only think twice. Surely three thinks would be enough to make the best sort of a paper. The papers must be mailed so as to reach the office of The Journal Junior

Not Later Than Thursday Morning, Dec. 10.

The papers must be strictly original, written in ink on one side only of the paper, not more than 300 words in length, nor less than 100, marked with the number of words and each signed with the grade, school, name and address of the writer. The papers must not be rolled.

For Saturday, Dec. 26:

"SNOW."

What does the word "snow" suggest to you? Anything connected with snow will answer the topic, except descriptions as to what snow is, its causes, etc. The papers should be bright and alive. Do not be contented with a plain unadorned statement of fact. Try to make the stories attractive and interesting. There is ample opportunity if you choose to do so. There is generally plenty of snow here in the northwest and all sorts of happenings are associated with it. The papers must be mailed so as to reach the office of The Journal Junior

Not Later Than Thursday Morning, Dec. 17.

They must be strictly original, written in ink on one side only of the paper, not more than 300 words in length, nor less than 100, marked with the number of words and each signed with the grade, school, name and address of the writer. The papers must not be rolled.