

that it isn't, but I thought I would try. I don't go to school, but have lessons at home.

With best wishes for a happy new year, your new niece,  
VIRGINIA R. SMITH.  
413 West Islay street, Santa Barbara, Cal. Age 14.

#### Enjoy All Features

Dear Aunt Laurie:  
The funny paper and The Herald Junior in our house are great excitement.

Papa and we girls try to see which can get the paper first. Mamma does not care much for it. If we do not get to look at it before we go to Sunday school we most generally look at it after we come home.

I do not know exactly which one likes it the best.

I think sometimes what else "Bud Smith" is going to do, what other mischief "Rosy Posy" can think of to do, what other trouble "Major Ozone" is getting into about his fresh air crusade, what kindness "Pinky Prim" is doing, what deceitful thing "Handy Andy" is going to do, what wish "Mooney Miggles" is making, and what "Bruno and Pietro" are doing. I think they are all funny.

I do think other reading matter ought to be preferable, but some would rather read the funny paper than any other thing.

If the funny sheet was not published I would lose a great deal of pleasure Sundays.  
BEULAH M. FOUST,  
Age 12 years, Orange avenue school, grade 7, Monrovia.

#### Follows Best Example

Dear Aunt Laurie:

I think the funny pictures are nice. My brother likes them too. When the paper comes we are very anxious for it, so one of us, either my brother or I, goes and gets it.

Then mamma reads it to us, and gives the green page of the paper to the baby to play with, and sometimes she holds the baby in her lap, and what happens then? She pulls and tears it, and then my brother cries, but he doesn't really care.

I like Pinkie Prim the best because I would like to follow her example of being kind to everybody that passes. I like Little Nemo because he tumbles out of bed at the end of the picture.

Jimmy is a funny little fellow because he is so much like a real boy.

Mamma says many of the pictures do more harm than good. When Hair Breadth Harry was in the paper mamma would read the good part of the paper and then throw the rest in the stove. We would like you to come and see us any time you can come to the beach.  
BERYL UPSON,  
Washington school, A3; age 9.

Thank you for the invitation, Beryl. I will try to accept it some time.

#### Valuable Lessons in Comic

My Dear Aunt Laurie:

For my part, I enjoy reading the funny paper very much. Every Sunday morning I run out to get the paper, because I am so anxious to see the funny paper with all its comics.

I think that there are a great many lessons that can be taken from this paper. For instance, "Pinky Prim" generally teaches us some lesson of kindness; Mooney Miggles usually teaches us to be satisfied with such as we have and not always be wishing and craving for more. "Handy Andy" shows that we should not be too certain of our luck, while "Major Ozone" proves that it is better to mind one's own business.

I think if children did not have a funny paper to read they would be losing a good deal of what they enjoy.

I also think that this comic paper is preferable to any other reading matter and that nothing could take its place.

And now I feel certain that if children were taught to look at the funny paper in the way I have written, to learn the lessons that it teaches, there would be no harm in their reading it.  
EDITH C. WALKER,  
Bell school, grade 8, age 14. Bell, Cal.

#### Some Hideous Pictures

Dear Aunt Laurie:

I won't say that I don't like to look at the funny pictures, because I do think some of them are funny. After I look at them I think how silly they are and wonder why I do it. My little sister likes to look at it and she seems to enjoy them, but maybe she won't when she gets bigger.

Papa and mamma never look at it. Papa says he thinks it is foolish. I have seen a great many men on the cars who are looking at them and I always supposed that they were for children. I think some of the pictures that they draw are hideous and the only good I ever received from them was one time when we had to have action figures in school to draw.

I think that other reading which would be much more profitable could be obtained, especially for Sunday. I always enjoy and look forward to the stories in The Herald Junior section.  
FLORENCE CASEY,  
Postoffice Altadena, Cal.

#### Entertains Country Folk

Dear Aunt Laurie:

The funny paper at our house is read mostly by the children, but the older folks also read it. It is enjoyed both by the children and older folks, but the children express their joy most.

My little sister is not old enough to read, but she can enjoy the pictures as much as any one. When the paper comes the first cry is for us to read it to her, and it aids greatly in encouraging her to read.

I don't think any other reading is

### WRITERS' CONTEST

Two prizes will be given in this contest each week.

One dollar for the best original paper submitted by a Los Angeles girl or boy and one dollar for the best paper submitted by the girl or boy living outside the city limits of Los Angeles.

Papers must be from 150 to 300 words in length, written on one side of the paper only and with margins at top and side of each paper.

All contributions must be signed with name and address and name of school and grade.

Papers for this competition must be addressed Aunt Laurie, Herald Junior, care The Herald, Los Angeles, Cal., and must reach the office not later than Saturday afternoon, February 6.

Topic: "The Best Book for Me—What I Would Choose if I Could Only Have One."

preferable, because the people that live in the country have no chance to go to entertainments, and it is much nicer to sit down and look at the funny pictures than to read funny stories at night when you are tired.

An old lady sometimes visits our house who reads and enjoys the funny page.

I say encourage the funny paper and make it more interesting each week, as it certainly does a great deal of good.  
JENNIE STEWART,  
Eighth grade, Lake school, Elsinore, Cal.

#### A Tiny Reader

Dear Aunt Laurie:

I am so glad there are to be two new departments in The Herald Junior.

Oh, I do like the funny page so much.

Sunday morning I get up before either my papa or mamma are up. My papa and mamma like to look at the funny page, too. It seems as if there ought to be three funny pages in our family. I am so glad I am big enough to read the funny page now. Mamma says she is, too, for when I was little I would bother her all the time to read it over and over.

I enjoy reading it to my little playmates, too.

I enjoy reading the little letters and stories in the Junior, too.

There is a little boy who has had a birthday this month living on my street. I think he is going to write you a birthday letter. There is a little girl visiting me now. She would like

to write, too, but she is only 4 years old. Yours with love,

HELEN MARIE BURGE,  
Age 8. A 2 Washington school.

#### Sunday School First

Dear Aunt Laurie:

Of course we children enjoy the funny paper most at our house, but mamma and grandpa enjoy it too. We each try to get it first, and sometimes in our haste we can hardly finish dressing, we want it so bad. When we are a little late and have to hurry off to Sunday school without looking at it, it does not seem like so long to wait, but mamma will not let us have it till we get home, and sometimes each one of us tries to get home first and get the paper. I think since The Herald Junior has been out we are more pleased to see that, and I am sure it does us more good and is worth more than a dozen funny papers. Your letters to us are always so nice and make us feel more like trying.

LOIS NOLTON,  
B5 Temple street school; 809 Kensington road.

#### Family Reads Comics

Dear Aunt Laurie:

The funny paper in our house causes great times as well as lots of fun. We all look anxiously for it and see who can get it first. We all read it and then have mamma or grandpa read it to us over again. They enjoy it too, and so when we see them looking at it we get them to read it out loud. Some how it sounds better when they read it and we can understand it better.

## Tale of the Snow Weaver

Wonderful White Frost Maiden in Far Off Snow Land Compassionately Covers Earth's Unsightly Surface with Shimmering Snowflakes, and Discontented Mortal Learns Lesson of Value from Grandmother's Story

THE outside world was dull and gray. Inside things did not seem much brighter. Elizabeth felt herself to be a most ill-used child. Accustomed to having every wish gratified by indulgent and devoted parents, she could not understand why she should have been left at home this early morning when they went to the city for the day. The country was a horrid place, anyway—lonely and cold

and ugly—the city presented such a bright contrast with its toy shops, lights and people. So she enlarged upon her troubles until they seemed, indeed, to grow from mole-hills to mountains. Her placid old grandmother, inwardly much grieved at the little girl's ill-temper, pretended not to notice it, but went about her household tasks with her usual industry and then sat in her great rocking chair by the window, knitting, knitting the hours away. Elizabeth was learning to knit, too; but today the yarn would tangle and the stitches slip.

"It's always so!" she complained. "Nothing ever goes right for me. It's a very ugly, miserable world!"

Just then they caught sight of the first few snowflakes that fell from the leaden sky.

"Ah," observed the old lady, quietly, "the Weaver of Snow is at her old task again. She will soon beautify the earth and cover up all defects from us."

"The 'Weaver of Snow!'" exclaimed Elizabeth curiously. "What can you mean, Grandma?"

"Have you never heard the story of 'The Weaver of Snow'? Listen then,"

Sometimes our dear grandmother thinks maybe it is not the best thing for children, but she has to laugh herself sometimes. I don't think "Pinky Prim" is as funny as some of the others, but just the same some of us could learn good lessons in manners and kindness from her.

I like The Herald Junior best, though, because we can learn more from it and it keeps us thinking. It pays us in many ways to read it and work for it, and after all it beats the funny paper all to pieces. With regards,

SHERRARD NOLTON,  
Temple street school, age 11, grade B6. 809 Kensington road.

#### Slang Is Detrimental

Dear Aunt Laurie:

Though I cannot write much on this topic, I will tell you what I think of it. We all read the funny papers except mamma, but I think Violet and I enjoy it most.

But when one gets to thinking seriously on the subject other reading matter is preferable because it teaches the use of slang words and other improper expressions. It also teaches cruelty to animals.

I do think, though, that Pinky Prim is all right, for it shows many little acts of kindness and unselfishness.

GLADYS GERVAIS,  
Anaheim school, Anaheim, Route 4. Age 13 years.

#### Want New Games

Dear Aunt Laurie:

Would please tell me how to play some game for just two people? I have played all the games you have told us about and I have found them great fun. I am a very lonesome little girl, as I have but one little girl to play with where I live. BLANGHE REED,  
1152 Magnolia avenue, Long Beach.

Why don't you and your little playmate try some of the tricks with bubbles which were illustrated in last Sunday's paper? Perhaps some of the Juniors will suggest some games for you.

#### Comics and Limericks

Dear Aunt Laurie:

We all read the funny paper. I like it very much and I hope others do, too. I think my brother likes it most, although we all read it and we all enjoy it.

But the one part of the paper I like best is the Limerick contest and the unfinished story. DOROTHY BAAS,  
1605 New Hampshire, Washington street school. Age 12.

and over her clicking needles the old lady began: "In the far off polar region, where the moonshine glimmers and the Frost Fairies dance the hours away, there dwells a Maiden, pale as a pearl. She sleeps for three seasons of the year, wrapped in blue snow shadows. But when the earth grows barren and brown and the trees of the forest bare and sere; when the little roots of grass and flowers and grain are shivering in their earthy bed and the world in general is looking very ugly in the eyes of mortal folk, then this fair, white Maiden arises from her fleecy couch, and shaking out her shimmering hair gathers the snow flowers where they grow, holding them in the folds of her flowing mantle. Then, with a radiant face, she climbs to the top of a big iceberg, accompanied by the whirling Frost Fairies, and together they sail to the edge of our world. She gazes in pity at the barren sight that meets her misty eyes, and heeding the pleadings of the shivering shoots of baby grasses away down in the earth, she empties her lapful of shimmer and sheen into the arms of the North Wind, who, with a wild laugh of glee, carries the shining snow flowers to every corner and crevice of this dull old earth. Thus the Weaver of Snow covers and hides all defects and ugliness even while she aids the hidden beauties beneath to keep warm and grow through the winter months. And so we must welcome the coming of 'The Weaver of Snow.'"

"Oh, I do, I do, Grandma, dear! It is a very beautiful story," continued Elizabeth. "I wish I could cover up ugliness like this Maiden does."

"You might help a great deal by ceasing to complain when things seem to go wrong," answered her grandmother. "To look on the bright side of things and to pretend not to see the disagreeable ones is to follow the example of this Weaver of Snow. It may even be that you will discover unseen beauties and blessings beneath the ugliness of appearances in time to come, just as now the country is growing so beautiful in its new covering and offers so many pleasures to a little girl who owns a sled."

"So it does!" exclaimed Elizabeth. "I am so glad that I was left behind this morning now that the snow has come. Oh, I will never complain of anything again! Instead, I'll do my best to be a 'Weaver of Snow' and try to cover all unpleasant things with a smile."—Philadelphia Record.

#### INITIALS OF THE STATES

If New Mexico, with Arizona, is admitted under its present name, there will be eight states with an initial "M" and eight "N's," the "News" and the "Norths" being chiefly responsible for the latter list. There will also be four "W's," four "I's," three "O's," three "A's," three "C's" and two each of "K's," "T's," "S's" and "V's," while the seven remaining letters of "D," "P," "R," "U," "G," "F" and "L" will be represented by a state each.—Boston Transcript.

