

Letters to Aunt Laurie From Nephews and Nieces

DECLARES BIBLE INTERESTING

Group of Girls Read It Together and Derive Much Benefit

(First Prize)

Dear Aunt Laurie:

If I could only have one book I certainly would choose the Bible, for I think it is the most interesting book of all. My papa promised me \$1 if I read it through by July 1. Some of my girl friends are reading it too, and they enjoy it very much. I think it is the best book for children to read. Mamma says that she is very glad to see me enjoying it, for she says that it is better than most every other book.

I enjoy the histories of the olden times and reading about the Christ child, who was born on Christmas day, and the beautiful story of his life. My sister reads it with me and explains it to me. My papa has a large library of books which are mostly all Bible books, and they tell us of the beautiful world beyond us and of the pretty gates of heaven.

The Bible is an old book, but it seems new because so many people read it now. The Old Testament tells us about Jesus coming, and the New Testament tells of his life after he came. I think the Bible would be a good textbook for school, and so if we could only have one book the Bible would be the best because it tells us how to live. Your niece,
HAZEL KLINKER.

Norwood school, grade 6. Age 12 years. 1308 West Twenty-second street.

FINDS PLEASURE AND PROFIT IN BIOGRAPHIES

(Honorable Mention)

My Dear Aunt Laurie:

I THOUGHT I would write something upon this subject. The subject being "The Best Book for Me. What I Would Choose if I Could Only Have One."

Well, Aunt Laurie, I have so many choice books that it would be hard for me to choose one, but I think either the life of Lincoln or the life of Ramona in California would be best for me, but above all would be the Bible. But of course the Bible is the best book, and there is no story half as good as the life of Jesus. I think lots of other people will agree with me also. All the boys and girls of the United States ought to read the Bible; also the children and people of other lands.

Reading is a great thing, and people like to read better when they have good books.

I think next the best books for me are my school books, because in our histories we learn what the people in the olden days did, and in our grammars we learn to use correct English, and we learn how to figure different things in our arithmetics.

Well, I guess I will close, with love and best wishes to you and The Herald Junior. I remain affectionately your niece,
HAZEL FOUST.

Monrovia, Cal., Orange avenue school, grade 8; 14 years old.

ADMIRE GENTLE EVA AND PATIENT UNCLE TOM

(Honorable Mention)

Dear Aunt Laurie:

If I were away off on an island and could have only one book to read, I think my choice would be "Uncle Tom's Cabin." I like it because it teaches such good lessons. One of these lessons it teaches is to be content with what you have and whatever befalls you. Uncle Tom was one of this disposition. Although he had bad luck and was treated so cruelly, he always tried to look on the bright side of things and not grumble.

Another good lesson I find in this book is to be good and kind to everyone. Eva was always trying to do good to someone. The negroes were much inferior to the white people, yet Eva was very kind to them. To be in good company is like reading a good book. If you go in good company or read good books it improves one's mind. My motto is to do as you would be done by and act as you would like others to act to you. JANIE McMILLAN.

Chloride grammar school, grade 8; age 14; Chloride, Ariz.

HISTORICAL READING PROVES OF VALUE

(Honorable Mention)

Dear Aunt Laurie:

I THINK the book that I would choose if I only had one choice would be the History of the United States. I would like to know all about my own country before I learned about

GOOD EXERCISE



Get a Hobby and Ride It

—From the Minneapolis Journal Junior.

others. There are many interesting things in the history to read about besides all the good it will do us.

There are many other books I would like to have too, but I think that one would do me the most good. I have five or six volumes of the United States history of my own and enjoy reading them and looking at the pictures. If one cannot travel much and has a history they can learn a great many things about traveling.

History is one of the most important studies in school and about the nicest. When you are reading history it is just like reading a story book, only you are learning more. And in that way I think that the United States history would be the best book I could choose.

OWEN NOLTON.

Temple Street school, A7 grade. 809 Kensington road.

Objects to Dime Novels

My Dear Aunt Laurie:

There are many different kinds of books and also many different kinds of

boys and girls to read them. I suppose the best book for me or any other young person would be one that would teach me something useful, good morals and such things. There are some good story books that help, too, but there are as many bad ones; these paper back novels, for example. A great many children read these books and think they are fine, although they are the worst books they could get hold of. They put all sorts of queer ideas in a boy or girl's head.

I had a boy friend who would read books with titles such as "Dead Eye Dick," "Indian Bill," etc., and tell me all about them, and tell stories like them when asked to give an oral composition at school. Such books as he read should never have been published.

When it comes to choosing a book I suppose I would take a good story book, but I am sure I don't want a book like "The Nihilists!" by Nick Carter.

DAVID G. BAILLIE, JR.

Thirtieth Street school, F3 grade, 134 West Thirty-sixth street.

WOULD CONSOLIDATE BOOKS

Boy Declares He Would Not Follow Robinson Crusoe's Example

(First Prize)

Dear Aunt Laurie:

If I was to be cast on a desert island, I hate to think I could only have one book to read. I have read a great many books by different authors. Among them are "Sam's Chance," "Sink or Swim," "The Store Boy," "The Erie Train Boy" and "Strive and Succeed," by Horatio Alger; the Jack Hazard series, "Cudjo's Cave" and "Tide Mill," by J. T. Trowbridge; "Milbank," "Dora Deane," "Mildred," "Lena Rivers," "Meadow Brook" and "Rosamond," by Mary J. Holmes; "Little Men," "Little Women," "James Boys" and "The Old Fashioned Girl," by Louisa M. Alcott, and a great many others I cannot take time to name. But among them all I think I like the Alger books best. I like the Alger books because they have such good morals and the heroes are so brave and kind. If I could have the choice of my book I would like to have all the books ever written by Horatio Alger made into one large volume. And I think by the time I had that read through I would have made some plan to escape from the island. For I would not be like Robinson Crusoe and be content to live on a desert island as long as he did. ALVIN TORRY.

Garden Grove school, grade 6. Age 11.

FRENCH HISTORY IS GIVEN PREFERENCE

(Honorable Mention)

Dear Aunt Laurie:

If I were cast away on a desert island for an indefinite length of time, the book which would interest me most would be the History of the Life of Napoleon Bonaparte, emperor of France, who tried to conquer the world.

My great-grandfather was one of Napoleon's body guard. My mother was her grandfather's pet, and she always went with him when he went to get his pension, a distance of four miles from Riquewihr, their home in Alsace-Lorraine. During these walks mamma's grandfather told her many stories of the French wars.

The fall of the Bastille, the Reign of

The Week's Roll of Honor

WRITERS' CONTEST

Los Angeles, first prize, \$1.00—Hazel Klinker, 1308 West Twenty-second street.

Honorable mention—Maude Edwards, 3027 West Tenth street; Owen Nolton, 809 Kensington Road.

Out of town, first prize, \$1.00—Alvin Torry, Garden Grove.

Honorable mention—Janie McMILLAN, Chloride, Ariz.; Hazel Foust, Monrovia.

LIMERICK CONTEST

Los Angeles, first prize, book—Voris H. Connor, 947 East Forty-eighth street.

Honorable mention—Ruth Grant, 1923 Staunton avenue; David Baillie, jr., 134 West Thirty-sixth street.

Out of town, first prize, book—Richard W. Miller, 1326 Appleton street, Long Beach.

Honorable mention—Lawrence Kingsland, Escondido, R. F. D. No. 2; Agnes Anderson, Morenci, Ariz.

UNFINISHED STORY CONTEST

Prize story, book—Elsie MacWilliams, Buena Park.

Honorable mention—Florence Brady, Coachella; Owen Nolton, 809 Kensington Road.

YOUNG ARTISTS' CONTEST

Prize Picture, \$1.00—Marie Hutchinson, 424 West Thirty-seventh place.