

Vacation Memories Exchanged as Children Tramp to School

By Clarice Tapsen

Have you noticed a peculiar, one might almost say a funeral, tramp tramping since a week ago Tuesday morning in the direction of Oakland and Adams avenues, or Curdy and Frank streets, or Chester and Merrill, or Pierce and Bird?

And did you go to your window and look out with a sympathetic smile at the shining faces, the painfully clean hands, the freshly starched dresses and blouses, the sturdy school young feet so lately were patterning around bare and fro?

And did you wish just for a minute that you were among the youthful throng, that you were once again at the age when September means stepping back into the harness, with all its joys and cares?

And did you just casually let yourself drift by the school yard about recess time and listen to the conversation?

"Hello, Billy." When did you get back? Where've you been all summer?"

"Hi, Skinny. I've been at our cot-tage. Sweet time. What'd you do?"

"Me? O, I didn't do much. Except I went to my grandma's for three weeks. Gee, it was great. You should have been there. I learned to milk their cows, too. And I rode a horse only I fall off once, but it didn't hurt."

Maybe Whales.

"Gee you go to your window and look at our lake. All kinds. I'll bet maybe there was whales in there some place. It's a wonder. You should've caught a trout that was easy a yard long."

"Hello, Spike!" A newcomer was greeted enthusiastically, "Where have you been?"

"In Chicago," Spike answered. "Boy, did I have a real time. Gee, that's a wonderful city. It's got it all over Detroit. Gosh, elevated trains, well shows, LaSalle, and all that thing you want. When I grow up that's where I'm gonna live. I'm gonna run one of those elevated trains. Yes, sir, I—gee whiz, there comes Johnny Buck. Hi there, Johnny!"

At which Johnny joined the group. "How are ya, gang? When'd you get back, Spike? How's Mary?"

"O, you ain't missed the gang affected, 'how's Mary?' Then as Johnny blushed furiously, "Bet she found herself a new fella in Chicago. Ha, ha, Johnny lost his girl-ol'."

A Cowboy.

"Gee, dry up, I've had some time this summer. I was out West and I learned to lasso, just like Tom Mix."

"I'll bet you do it just like Tom Mix," Billy raised.

"Well, one of the men on my uncle's ranch said I learned real easy. I guess you wish you could lasso. And I got a pair of chaps, with fur on the front. I wanted to wear 'em today, but my mother wouldn't let me. But if you come over after school I'll show 'em to you. You can all try them on, with a great show of magnanimity, Billy said.

"Let's go," cried Spike, and then, his face falling, "I forgot, school's started again. Gee, it's tough, though. We hafta do everything by bells now. I wish it was always summer. It goes so fast. Why, it doesn't seem over a week ago that school let out and here we are back at the grind again."

"Yeah," mourned Billy, "I'd be satisfied if I only had two vacations a year myself, each one six months long. Gee, when I looked at Miss Dinglehopper's face this morning, and thought I'd have to look at it every day till next summer, I almost didn't want to go to school."

"An' did you see the new 'rhythmic teacher'?" Skinny broke in. "Boy, I'll bet she'd just as soon eat you up as look at you. I hate rhythmic anyway. Jiggerly isn't so bad, but 'rhythmic'—"

O To Be Foreign.

"Applesauce, rhythmic's got it all over jiggerly. But anyway, spelling's hardest. Gee whiz, I wish I was German and then I wouldn't have to learn all this crazy spelling. Johnny had joined in the morning. "I wish I was through school and then I wouldn't have to do anything I didn't want to. I could play baseball or football or—"

"Gee whiz, it's time for football again, ain't it? Let's have a game this afternoon after school."

"All right. We can get in practice because our room is gonna have the best team in school this year," I bet, Skinny was all enthusiasm again.

"I'll get a penny it now," Johnny came back. (Johnny was in another room.) "Gee whiz, we got Rod Donovan in our room, and he's got red hair and so has Rod Grange and—"

"There goes the bell," cried Skinny. "C'mon fellas, let's hurry in. I have jiggerly next, and that's my favorite class. It's funny, but honest, I really don't mind coming back to school so much. It's kind of nice to see everybody again, and Miss Dinglehopper is the only teacher I don't like, and gee, I think Miss Smith is swell."

Then To College.

"Yeah, and if we go to school now," Billy took up the cudgels in defense of school just as readily as he had taken them up a few minutes before in opposition to it, "we can go to college some day, and my brother Rod says it's swell here. He's gonna be a lawyer. I'd like to be a doctor, but he says it's awfully hard, but I don't care."

"I'm gonna be an engineer," Johnny spoke up. "That's why I'm gonna study hard at arithmetic and things like that. Gosh, I hope I have a good report card this year. It makes my mom feel swell when I don't get any poor marks."

"Mine, too," Spike agreed, in the

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PLENTY OF RECREATION IS URGED BY SPEAKER

"What one does after 7 a. m. depends upon what he did after 5 p. m. the night before," C. E. Brewer, commissioner of recreation of Detroit, recently told Rotarians here. Mr. Brewer was here as the guest of E. L. Manson.

"With the specialization of industry, and the congestion of population," Mr. Brewer went on, "after giving a brief outline of the development of industry, 'the opportunity of expressing one's feelings after a strenuous day's work, decreases."

Mr. Brewer cited figures of the London Express on the division of a normal life of 70 years: sleep, 23 years, 4 months; work 19 years, 8 months; leisure and recreation, 10 years, 8 months; eating 6 years, 3 months; illness, 4 years; dressing 2 years; religious devotion, 1 year, 8 months; and education, 2 years, 8 months. "That would make 1,050,000 hours in Birmingham or 420 years of leisure time," he said.

Hi Finance

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"Naw," answered "the hick," "I reckon I'll want that ere Woolworth Building, stranger. How much kin ya take for it?"

"That'll cost you ten. Now, if you're looking for something good, here's the Aquarium you can get cheap."

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