

YOUNG LOCAL ARTISTS, 7 TO 14 YEARS OLD, SHOW FUTURE PROMISE



Brookside School is recorded in this water-color view by 10-year-old Peggy Lichten, niece of the principal of Brookside School, Miss Jessie Winter.



More, you'll remember, was found in the burshes,— fact always of supreme interest to children of every generation. Ellen Milotte, 14, at Kingswood when the drawing was made, is now a pupil in the Birmingham High School. She has recorded the burshes event with fine feeling for detail and atmosphere.



Marked sense of rhythm and good imagination are shown in this design by 12-year-old Sally Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Manly D. Davis of Oak Knob Farms who are spending the winter in Warm Springs, Georgia. Sally left Friday for Georgia to be with her parents the rest of the winter.

Drawings by courtesy Miss Florence Davies, art critic, and The Detroit News

Maintain Child's Confidence; Happy Achievement Results

Feature the stories that they enjoy, in line and color, with crayons and water-colors, local children at the Brookside and Kingswood schools, Crabbrook, have developed some interesting art creations, a few of them pictured on this page.

"Every child draws naturally," says Mrs. M. Corie-Stanford of Kingswood street, who directs the art classes at the schools mentioned above. "The child does not draw accurately to locate the point. He draws the thing he thinks about, and as long as he believes in himself and is unafraid, that thing, whether it be a rabbit or the picture of a boy or house or dog, will have a certain spark of vitality."

"Once we begin to worry too much about accurate representation, the creative spark dwindles and is finally snuffed out by fear and self-consciousness."

Left alone a child will create freely until the age of self-consciousness. The difficult task of the teacher is to create an atmosphere of confidence and success, of happy achievement, so that the creative urge may be carried safely over the dangerous moments of self-consciousness and the development of those critical faculties which destroy self-confidence.

"Thus, at Brookside, they think and talk and feel the thing they want to picture, and then let the hand report it. The image takes shape within the mind and is reported with the tools of the craft. The old way was to copy, copy, copy; to look at the model, cast and look at the drawing only to discover persistent discrepancies between the two, which frustrated the beginner in belief in his own ability to report the thing he wants to say."

"If the figure he draws is at first misshapen, it at least has a certain authority for the child. To him the figure is a satisfactory symbol. After a while he makes this symbol more authoritative. The boy really jumps, the girl walks, the body has weight or motion, or direction as it should."

"As the student gains in experience and observation he gains the ability to report the thing he has observed, but he does it without inhibitions and blighting self-consciousness."

"Thus we have a child of 7 telling history of a nursery rhyme, or recording the footprint of a rabbit in a dream landscape. "A little later, as in the classes at Kingswood School at Crabbrook, a secondary school for girls, the problems of decoration are considered."

"The American child," Mr. Stanford observes, "is a realist. He is not naturally interested in decoration. His first impulse is for realistic representation. But when he comes in contact with decoration he responds to it readily and soon learns to distinguish the essential difference between purely pictorial art and design."

"Thus the themes suggested by history and literature are translated into well-designed lineaments, which have a remarkable sense of organization and design of organization and design."

"Art training is primarily a means of developing personality and art appreciation. "We are more interested in

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ingering souls, and symbols of the mind than in making artists," Mrs. Stanford explains. "And through this means of self-expression we often find a way to establish a child's confidence in himself to release his desire to create, to help him find himself. Thus he comes, not a difficult technical study for the few, but a means of pleasure and self-realization for every one."

School Honor Won By Village Youth

Carl Hilly, the son of Mrs. Joseph Stroup, 242 Elm street, recently was elected president of the senior class at Tom's School at Port Deposit, Md., it was learned last week. Hilly, a graduate of Baldwin High School, is in his second year in the school. During his first year at Tom's he was a member of the cross-country and track teams and a member both of the basketball team and the Christian Association. Hilly this year has been added to the Quill and Tome club and president of the student council.

Hilly is spending the Christmas holidays here with his parents.

Subscription to The Eccentric, \$2.00 per year. Two years, \$3.00.

In Detroit Theaters

CIVIC THEATER
"Little Women," Louisa May Alcott's famous home drama, will be revived at the Detroit Civic Theater for Christmas week, opening Monday evening, Dec. 22. Preceding the play the Sixth Annual Christmas Fantasy will be given by the pupils of the Janeing class of the Bonstelle Training School. This year's fantasy is called "The Magic Hat."

Miss Bonstelle will be featured in "Little Women" in the role so pleasing to lovers of this play, that of Mrs. March or Marmee. She is called by the girls, Miss Jo, Beth and Amy are still the heroine they were to our grandmothers and "Little Women" is being given at this time as a grand play.

Joan Madison will play the visible part of Jo with Emily Ross as Mrs. Elizabeth Dana as Amy and Helen Lane as Beth. John Griggs will be cast as the romantic Laurie.

"Little Women" hasn't been in Detroit since the Bonstelle play closed it in 1925 with Louise Boyce Landis as Jo. This company will be the 14th cast which Miss Bonstelle has rehearsed for his play, she reports.

It will be remembered by all her admirers that Katharine Cornell made a name for herself in her first important role, that of Jo, when Miss Bonstelle directed her, first English company in 1919. "The Magic Hat" will be directed

BLACKBURN RESIGNS OAKLAND MOTOR CO.

Leonard A. Blackburn, of Old Station Court, has resigned from the Oakland Motor Car Company where he was former superintendent of non-productive operations. It was announced last week by I. J. Reuter, president and general manager of the company. A different form of organization has been planned and no successor will be named to succeed Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Reuter said.

Rebuilding Children

Ann Arbor, Dec. 22.—Continuing the development of the minds of child patients while medical treatment is rebuilding ill or injured physical bodies, so that the child returns to take up his normal place in his home school, is the work of the Hospital School maintained by the Social Service Department of the University of Michigan Hospital. The school is a pioneer in this form of education and the largest of its kind, enrolling approximately 1400 students during the year 1929-1930.

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Bunny foot-prints. "Gone places, gone things," are rhythmically drawn into the design shown above, by Natalie Towle, 7, young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Ledyard Towle of Franklin Village. Bunnies, some way, are always associated with pleasant things, for small children. Water colors tell the story here.



The Three Bears, and their cozy home with a cheerful smoke arising, and trees and submountains in the close background, show Nancy Smith's artistic tendencies. Nancy is 13.



Ereosious lions are tame for little children, and one can stand on the peak of a big rock and pluck off flower petals for them, easily, while they sit gently, waiting. Christmas trees would glow for the eyes of youth in times like these; Peggy Stroup, 10, expresses things



Ah, the Queen—and perhaps a stocking-capped courtier. Or is it the court jester? Small trees, or enlarged mushroom, decorate a cloudless background. Oh for the eyes of youth in times like these; Peggy Stroup, 10, expresses things