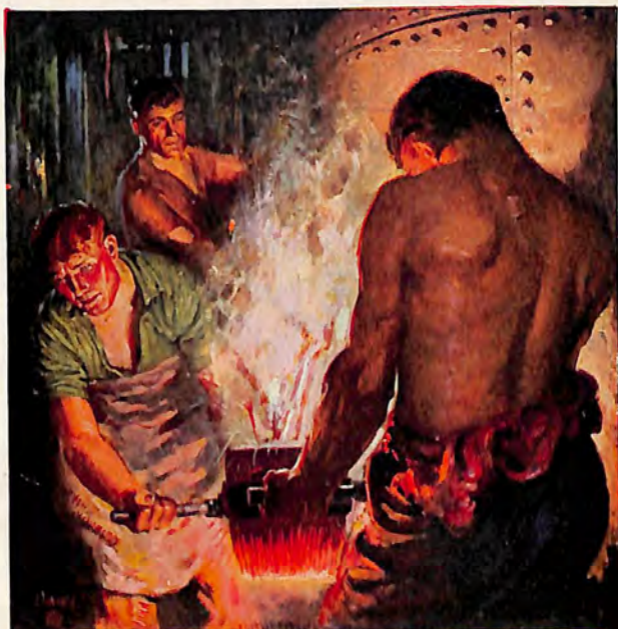


To the Pupil: TAKE THIS FOLDER HOME



**Working Steadily and Saving Regularly
is the One Sure Way Towards Progress**



To the Parents: This is one of a series of lessons being taught in the public schools. Reading this folder will enable you to help your child in the preparation of his or her Essay.

Working Steadily

That great mass of steel in the hands of those straining, sweating, panting workmen is much like the life of the average boy or girl—it contains all the material necessary out of which something useful and valuable can be made, but a very great deal of work must be done on it. In its present form it has little value—its value increases as more work is put on it. If it is made into hammers and axes, it will be worth much more than it is now, but if it is made into watch springs, it will be worth thousands of dollars.

As it comes from the great furnace, white-hot, it has no shape and must be put under a powerful trip-hammer and moulded into the desired form. But steel cannot be moulded while it is cold, and for that reason the men are working like mad to get it into the required shape before it cools off. Just so, a child must prepare for his life of usefulness during the days of his youth when he is most easily moulded, for when he is older it is much harder, if not impossible, to change.

The years of childhood, therefore, are the years when he must cultivate good habits and conquer bad ones; when he must train his hands and eyes to do his will; when he must learn to be cour-

teous, brave, industrious and thrifty; when he must submit to hard schooling and careful training if he is to succeed.

If it pays to put in a great deal of work on a big lump of steel, it will pay to put in a great deal of work on the life of a boy or a girl—it will pay the boy or girl to put in a great deal of work on himself. Suppose the workmen quit working on that steel as soon as it was good enough to make hammers out of, when, with a little more work, they could make it good enough to make watch springs out of. That would be wasting good steel. But suppose a boy quits school at the end of the eighth grade, because he is able to earn ten dollars per week, when he would be able to earn eighteen dollars per week if he stayed at his books until he had finished high-school. That would be wasting a good boy.

These men are working together. Each has some part to do which is all his own, and no one of them will be able to do the entire job alone. If one of them fails, the other two suffer.

The world we live in is just like that. We must all work together to keep the grass neat and tidy, for one ugly lawn spoils the appearance of the entire block. We must all watch the streets and

keep them free from glass or everybody's automobile tires will be cut to pieces. We must all watch our garbage cans and keep our premises clean or disease will start somewhere and all of us will get sick. We must all help to keep the schoolhouses, churches, parks and sidewalks in good condition for they belong to all of us and if anyone damages them all the rest of us have to help pay for them.

All of us must do our duty, wherever we are, the best we are able to do it or somebody will suffer. If the milkman does not bring good milk, then little babies he has never seen will suffer. If the delivery boy loiters along the way, mother's dinner is delayed, and people that the boy never heard of will be inconvenienced. If children forget to turn off the lights, someone has to pay the bill. If anybody takes a tool out of the car and loses it or forgets to put it back, all of us may have to wait alongside the road in the hot sun while father walks to a farmhouse a mile away to get another tool so that he can start the car again.

Good work, dependability, honesty, punctuality—these are all habits. Likewise loafing, bluffing and wasting are habits. The first bring rich rewards. The others bring bitter disappointments. You can choose your own habits.

Keep fighting your bad habits and encouraging your good ones.