



Drawing Lessons for School Children

The decoration of this page was designed by Gordon Smallman, Grade VIII, Rectory street school. It is the first attempt of the kind that pupils in the public schools have made, but we hope by another year to accomplish many things of this sort with greater ease and more successfully. Besides the six drawings, which are given as illustrating the Christmas story which appeared in this page of The Advertiser on Saturday, Nov. 30, a few book covers from the primary grades are shown, which, although not quite so good from the standpoint of design, are perhaps more "Christmasy" than those which were reproduced

fell into this or that error. In other cases I shall give the name so you will have no difficulty in finding and curing your own shortcomings. Some little boys and girls see the whole story so distinctly that they feel that they must tell the whole at once. The result is a confused jumble, and anyone who did not know how little children feel about these things would wonder what it was all about. Illustrations are intended to make things plain, so they should have thought what Milly did first and tried to see just how everything looked at that moment, and then made a picture of it, and so on through each change of

that way, Ernie. You might have rubbed charcoal over the surface, leaving that wedge quite white, and it would have expressed sunlight. Sometimes we draw a few faint lines to stand for rays of light, but we never paint it dark. How could we paint night if we made day dark? All the little girls painted by this class are well done.

Gladys Grey, Grade I, Victoria, has made both Milly's and her grandmother's head hang out of the bed. They look, Gladys, as though they might have apoplexy any minute. Nevertheless, your picture is very fair.

There is something quite attractive about the one by George Mount, Grade II, Chesley Avenue, but it is surely the grandmother who sits in the chair. She has on such a long skirt.

I like the way Willie Scott has made Milly droop in the chair, but she is quite too large for the rest of the picture. It is very unwise to draw any pencil lines when you intend to make a charcoal drawing. Charcoal is preferable to pencil in the lower grades on account of the freedom with which it may be used. Given an imaginative child at one end of the charcoal, and a piece of paper at the other, and the picture almost draws itself. Pencil is the most difficult of all the mediums that are used in school, so let us make our problems as easy as possible, by sticking to the easiest of all mediums when we have the chance.

The pictures from Grades II. and III, King Street, are very good, but would have been sketchier and more natural if they had been drawn at once with charcoal, and without any ruled lines. Your fireplaces are rather too elaborate, and it was not necessary to draw the bricks which you have shown running the wrong way. What made you so sure that the fireplace was made of bricks? When I shut my eyes I could not tell of what it was made, because it was so smoky and dirty. I think I should have to go there and scrub it with Sepolia before I could be sure, even now.

When Kathleen Ashplant, Grade III, Rectory Street, gets hers back I want her to try to sit on a rocker as she has placed Milly in the picture, and just see how she likes it. Willie Baldwin has the legs all on one side of the stove. He has managed the bed better. I wonder, Willie, how the grandmother was able to afford such a "stylish" lamp.

Lillian Crocker, out of the goodness of her heart, has given them a fancy table with a flower in bloom, but the boots, which are well drawn, are actually as big as the chair. Poor Milly! Lillian has drawn a splendid stove; the lamp, however, has no visible means of support.

Harry Brooke, as well as a number of others in all the grades, has tried to show more than one picture. We cannot see the outside and the inside of a house at the same time, so we must not try to put both in one picture.

Grade III, West London, has sent in some splendid outside views. Ernest Wooster's interior is not quite so good, although his dog is excellent, even if it is rather grown up.

John Sockey, Grade III, Colborne Street, has pictured a fine sawmill, but his river pours down out of the sky. This class is the only one which has attempted to show Milly gathering firewood.

In Eric Rehnitz's drawing, both the action and attitude of the little girl are good. His picture does not hold together, however; he has three separate things, a large building, a house, and the little girl. He might have pulled them all together by putting in the horizon line, behind the buildings, and then his drawing would have been splendid.

Have you never noticed, Eric, how we see one thing against another as we walk along? Perhaps it is the nursery houses that hide those that are farther away, or again it may be a group of trees that show one against the other, these in turn hiding some of the distant trees. When you close your eyes and think about it, is not that the way you see it?

I like Ina La Marche's from Grade III, Chesley Avenue, very much, indeed, but I fear it would not reproduce at all, it is so faint. I am not sure

that Corrie Mount's will, but it is much stronger, and the action is so good that I am risking it.

Upon the whole, Grade III, Chesley Avenue, has sent in the best work. Each child seems to have had a very vivid image of his own. I wish they had been less sparing of the charcoal, as the drawings might have been a little less indistinct. I imagine they were trying to show the dim light in the room. That was quite right, but everything would show dark, not light. Grade I, Simcoe, stands next in order. Grade II, does not quite come up to Grades I. and III, in this week's drawings.

Street School.
6. Leroy Crocker, Grade III, Rectory Street School.

SIX BEST IN GRADE I.
1. Constance Wheeler, Colborne Street School.
2. George Axtell, Simcoe Street School.
3. Beatrice Brake, Victoria School.
4. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.
5. Ernie Brooke, Rectory Street School.



1.—Drawn by Carrie Mount, Grade III, Chesley Avenue School. Winner of first prize.

three weeks ago. The drawings from the various grades in the different schools which have not yet been returned will be sent back shortly after school begins.

CRITICISM ON ILLUSTRATIONS BY GRADES I, II, AND III.

When tell you some of the things that might have been improved in your drawings you must not think that your work was unsatisfactory, for you have expressed yourselves well and your chief mistakes have been made because you forgot to close your eyes to compare the pictures you had drawn with the pictures that were in your own minds. Many of you have made Milly too large in proportion to the other things in the picture. Remember, it was quite correct to make Milly large, and I am glad you did

scene or action.

In Grade I, Empress Avenue, Edna Stone has shown Milly up the side of the wall, while Pearl Bryce, Simcoe street, has her little girl rocking in the air. It is wise always to put a light line across the page showing where the floor ends and the wall begins, then we are not likely to make this mistake.

Such a number of you have made Milly two or three times the size of her grandmother. Close your eyes again and see which is larger. In some cases the puppy is a full-grown dog, and as for the boots some of them are so large it must have worn, led poor Milly to carry them around. I like the old-fashioned bed with valances, that Charlie Stephens shows. Evidently a number of you have had on some occasion or other to sleep at



2.—Drawn by Harold Nichol, Grade III, Empress Avenue School. Winner of second prize.

so, as it shows a big improvement on the tiny figures some children are in the habit of putting in their pictures, but everything must be in the same proportion, even if we have room on our paper to show only part of a window or stove or bed or whatever it is we are drawing. If the third drawing reproduces well, you will see how one little girl has drawn only part of the bed and yet manages to show us Milly and her grandmother resting peacefully.

In some cases I shall mention mistakes that have been made, and I want you to try to remember if you

the foot of the bed, judging from the cheerful way in which you tucked Milly in there. Perhaps, you were afraid her grandmother would be cross if she slept at the top.

Edna Humphries has drawn a tiny rocker. I know, Milly would smash it if she sat down.

Veda Wigmore, Grade I, Colborne street, has drawn the bed well. Constance Wheeler evidently believes in nightcaps for young as well as old.

Ernie Brooke, Grade I, Rectory, has made the sunlight come in through the window like a solid wedge of wood. We cannot express sunlight in



3.—Drawn by Constance Wheeler, Grade I, Colborne Street School. Winner of third prize.

We are going to have some more illustrations later on. You have done very well, but you simply haven't begun to show yet what you can do.

Note to Teachers.—In illustrative work, if you think it necessary to make a picture for the children, it is better to choose a scene from some story other than the one that they are to draw, and then rub it off the board as soon as you have finished it. Encourage them to express themselves freely, correcting from their images in their own minds. Never upon any consideration correct a drawing of this sort by pointing out mistakes. Have the child whose drawing is out of proportion close his eyes, and by questions lead him to see his own errors, and correct them himself.

SIX BEST IN GRADES I, II, AND III.

1. Carrie Mount, Grade III, Chesley Avenue School.

2. Harold Nichol, Grade III, Empress Avenue School.

3. Constance Wheeler, Grade I, Colborne Street School.

4. George Axtell, Grade I.B., Simcoe Street School.

5. Eric Rehnitz, Colborne Street School.

6. Myrtle Dunn, Princess Avenue School.

HONORABLE MENTION.

GRADE I.

Pearl Price, Simcoe street.

(Continued on Page Thirteen.)

5. Eric Rehnitz, Colborne Street School.

6. Myrtle Dunn, Princess Avenue School.

7. Beatrice Wilson, Rectory Street School.

8. Willie Scott, Chesley Avenue School.

SIX BEST IN GRADE III.

1. Carrie Mount, Chesley Avenue School.

2. Harold Nichol, Empress Avenue School.

3. Leroy Crocker, Rectory Street School.

4. Iva LaMarche, Chesley Avenue School.

5. Norman Wilson, Empress Avenue School.

6. Gladys Grenfell, King Street School.

7. Beatrice Wilson, Rectory Street School.

8. Willie Scott, Chesley Avenue School.

9. Gladys Grey, Victoria School.

10. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

11. Constance Wheeler, Colborne Street School.

12. George Axtell, Simcoe Street School.

13. Beatrice Brake, Victoria School.

14. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

15. Ernie Brooke, Rectory Street School.

16. Leroy Crocker, Grade III, Rectory Street School.

17. Norman Wilson, Empress Avenue School.

18. Gladys Grenfell, King Street School.

19. Beatrice Wilson, Rectory Street School.

20. Willie Scott, Chesley Avenue School.

21. Gladys Grey, Victoria School.

22. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

23. Constance Wheeler, Colborne Street School.

24. George Axtell, Simcoe Street School.

25. Beatrice Brake, Victoria School.

26. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

27. Ernie Brooke, Rectory Street School.

28. Leroy Crocker, Grade III, Rectory Street School.

29. Norman Wilson, Empress Avenue School.

30. Gladys Grenfell, King Street School.

31. Beatrice Wilson, Rectory Street School.

32. Willie Scott, Chesley Avenue School.

33. Gladys Grey, Victoria School.

34. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

35. Constance Wheeler, Colborne Street School.

36. George Axtell, Simcoe Street School.

37. Beatrice Brake, Victoria School.

38. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

39. Ernie Brooke, Rectory Street School.

40. Leroy Crocker, Grade III, Rectory Street School.

41. Norman Wilson, Empress Avenue School.

42. Gladys Grenfell, King Street School.

43. Beatrice Wilson, Rectory Street School.

44. Willie Scott, Chesley Avenue School.

45. Gladys Grey, Victoria School.

46. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

47. Constance Wheeler, Colborne Street School.

48. George Axtell, Simcoe Street School.

49. Beatrice Brake, Victoria School.

50. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

51. Ernie Brooke, Rectory Street School.

52. Leroy Crocker, Grade III, Rectory Street School.

53. Norman Wilson, Empress Avenue School.

54. Gladys Grenfell, King Street School.

55. Beatrice Wilson, Rectory Street School.

56. Willie Scott, Chesley Avenue School.

57. Gladys Grey, Victoria School.

58. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

59. Constance Wheeler, Colborne Street School.

60. George Axtell, Simcoe Street School.

61. Beatrice Brake, Victoria School.

62. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

63. Ernie Brooke, Rectory Street School.

64. Leroy Crocker, Grade III, Rectory Street School.

65. Norman Wilson, Empress Avenue School.

66. Gladys Grenfell, King Street School.

67. Beatrice Wilson, Rectory Street School.

68. Willie Scott, Chesley Avenue School.

69. Gladys Grey, Victoria School.

70. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

71. Constance Wheeler, Colborne Street School.

72. George Axtell, Simcoe Street School.

73. Beatrice Brake, Victoria School.

74. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

75. Ernie Brooke, Rectory Street School.

76. Leroy Crocker, Grade III, Rectory Street School.

77. Norman Wilson, Empress Avenue School.

78. Gladys Grenfell, King Street School.

79. Beatrice Wilson, Rectory Street School.

80. Willie Scott, Chesley Avenue School.

81. Gladys Grey, Victoria School.

82. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

83. Constance Wheeler, Colborne Street School.

84. George Axtell, Simcoe Street School.

85. Beatrice Brake, Victoria School.

86. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

87. Ernie Brooke, Rectory Street School.

88. Leroy Crocker, Grade III, Rectory Street School.

89. Norman Wilson, Empress Avenue School.

90. Gladys Grenfell, King Street School.

91. Beatrice Wilson, Rectory Street School.

92. Willie Scott, Chesley Avenue School.

93. Gladys Grey, Victoria School.

94. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

95. Constance Wheeler, Colborne Street School.

96. George Axtell, Simcoe Street School.

97. Beatrice Brake, Victoria School.

98. R. Cunningham, Simcoe Street School.

99. Ernie Brooke, Rectory Street School.

100. Leroy Crocker, Grade III, Rectory Street School.