

On lunches he finds  
 In many a chink.  
 The chickadee dines  
 On—What do you think?

The chickadee stays  
 All the year round.  
 On cold winter days,  
 The chickadee stays;  
 The cat-bird delays  
 Till daisies abound;  
 The chickadee stays  
 All the year round.

—St. Nicholas.

Some boys are pencils, some are pens,  
 A clever friend once said:  
 A pen, you know, has to be driven;  
 A pencil must be lead.  
 Which one are you?

If I make a face at Billy,  
 He will make a face at me;  
 That makes two ugly faces,  
 And a quarrel don't you see?  
 And then I double up my fist  
 And hit him, and he'll pay  
 Me back by giving me a kick,  
 Unless I run away.

But if I smile at Billy,  
 'Tis sure to make him laugh;  
 You'd say, if you could see him,  
 'Twas jollier by half  
 Than kicks and ugly faces.  
 I tell you all the while  
 It's pleasanter for any boy  
 (Or girl) to laugh and smile.

—The Religious Herald.

### The Star Pupil.

Deane is a star-pupil. He is always in evidence, in a quiet, nice way. He knows all of his lessons all of the time. His hand is always in the air, during the recitation. — He wants to recite. He doesn't do it in a self-assertive way. His attitude is merely one of keen and intelligent interest in the lesson. Deane is the best pupil in the class. But he is also the worst enemy of the class. He is an agency of ruin.

Deane is always on his feet, reciting. If the principal steps into the room Miss Sperry calls on Deane. If visitors happen to be about, Deane does the reciting. The visitors go away, much impressed. That is certainly a bright class.

Miss Sperry is perfectly honest and well intentioned. She calls on Deane whether there is a visitor in the room or not. Deane compels her to, in a way. He is used to inevitably raising his hand — inevitably being called upon, inevitably reciting, and doing it well.

The other pupils do not often recite. The timid and self-conscious feel too crude, with Deane as a standard of measurement. The lazy ones, also, let him do the talking. They do not pay their fare, in this journey through the lesson. They let Deane pay it. Deane is willing to contribute for them all, and they are willing that he should. The timid become more timid, the diffident become more diffident, the lazy become more lazy.

There is a sprinkling of pupils in the room who would be pretty good talkers if Deane had never dropped into the class. As it is they contribute occasionally, and do indifferently well. But their tendency is more and more to sit and listen. They are steadily gravitating into an inert silence.

So here is a paradox: a pupil who is exemplary in all respects; clean and well groomed; civil spoken and without ostentation; single purposed and well intentioned; a splendid attitude toward study; and yet, withal, Deane is a hurtful influence in the class. He is impoverishing his class-mates in their habits of study, their social attitude, their very personality. And he is ruining his teacher's technique.

What is Miss Sperry going to do about it? What is she going to do for the silent pupils? How is she going to cure herself of this habit into which she has fallen? The remedy looks simple, but somehow the trouble is elusive. Here is certainly a leading question in class management.

Deane is Miss Sperry's Star Pupil. Who is yours?—Walter J. Kenyon.

We are now on the last half of the school year. This is the very best season for successful work. What the class accomplishes in the next ten weeks will decide the value of the year's work. Is every force and agency in operation that ought to be employed to give each pupil the best that this year's school work has for him? For a school that is not in fairly good condition at this time of year there is little hope except through a change of teachers.—The Western Teacher.