

is it? What words or phrases express the coldness and brightness?

When is St. Agnes' Eve? This leads to the story of St. Agnes, and of the belief about the eve of her festival. Who is speaking in the poem? Some child will probably say, "St. Agnes," but let them think out for themselves why this cannot be. For one thing, would this idea about the Eve have come to be a common belief *before* or *after* St Agnes' death? Where is the nun? At what is she looking, and of what is she thinking? Study the six comparisons in the first two verses. What qualities of the snow are impressed upon us? What words from the Bible may the nun have had in mind? What is her prayer in verse one? In verse two? In verse three she has, in a vision, the answer to her prayers.

When reading *Sir Galahad* begin with the story of the Holy Grail. Show a picture of Sir Galahad. (Watts' well known painting is to be had in many cheap reproductions.) See that the children know something about tournaments. Read up the description of the tournament in *Ivanhoe*, and tell them about the lists, the combats, and the parts played by the ladies, to help them to visualize the first verse. They should know that the duty of a knight was to fight for and protect his country, his religion, and all who were weak and oppressed. As Earl Douglas says to Wilton, when he knights him:

"Arise, Sir Ralph, deWilton's heir
For King, for church, for lady fair,
See that thou fight."—*Marmion*.

If you were illustrating the poems, how many pictures would you paint for *St. Agnes' Eve*? How many for *Sir Galahad*?

The first poem is still, while the second is full of movement and sound. Compare them in this respect.

"Argent round." What is the moon called in *Sir Galahad*? "Shattering trumpet." Compare the expression "to *break* the silence." Explain "the tide of combat *stands*," "Shame and thrall," "crypt and shrine" "the stalls are void, the doors are wide." "On *sleeping wings* they sail." (Have you ever seen the gulls sailing through the air with motionless wings?) "Dumb with snow," "on the leads," "brand and mail," "park and pale." Pick out the words that best express sound or movement.

Learn by heart the four lines that you like best in each poem. Compare the poems, as to length of line, length of verse, arrangement of rhymes, and the eleventh line in each verse.

The meaning of the poems will be grasped in different degrees by different classes. Some children will hardly understand them at all. But if we can get them to see and feel even a little of the outward beauty, it will be worth while. Try to have them see the pictures, the winter moonlight, the dark forest, the vision on the lonely lake, the sleeping towns, the winter storms. Let them linger with pleasure over the beautiful words. It is one of the glories of art that it does not force truths upon us, but, rightly studied, helps us to see them for ourselves. And if we can teach our pupils the outward beauty of poetry, we may safely leave the inner lesson to "steal in silence down."

WOMEN SEEKING PLACE ON BOARDS OF SCHOOLS IN MONTREAL.

An appeal to have the laws of the province amended that women may sit on school boards was made to the school management committee of the Protestant Board of School Commissioners last night by a deputation including Dr. Grace Ritchie England, president of the Local Council of Women; Professor Carrie Derick, vice-president of the National Council of Women; Mrs. David Scott, vice-president of the Local Council of Women; Mrs. Fisk, treasurer of that organization, and Miss Hurlbatt.

The present school law states that resident ratepayers and husbands of ratepayers are eligible to election or appointment to school boards. The delegation asked that this be changed to read "ratepayers and wives of ratepayers." They asked the support of the board in securing the necessary amendment to the act.

The various speakers pointed out that in other provinces of Canada, in the United States, in England and Scotland, and in practically all European countries, with the notable exception of Germany, women were included among the members of school boards. The commissioners promised to consider the request carefully.—*Montreal Star*.