

child is a born imitator and will undoubtedly be wrongly influenced. Children brought up in the city are bound to be different from those reared in the country. Their inner thoughts are called forth by their environment. The city child has many companions. Thus he is not entirely original because he wishes to act and talk like those whom he admires. The country child has few companions and is close to Nature. His thoughts and acts are his own. He learns to love nature, which is always showing him something strange and beautiful. His life is care-free. He returns home from his rambles with hands filled with flowers, mind filled with pleasant thoughts, and a song on his lips. Nature's own inspired pure thoughts! This child has learned to love God through Nature, for does not every blade of grass, every tiny insect reveal to the observer the Creator? Then, with the love of God in his heart he has learned life's greatest lesson. All others will follow.

VALEDICTORY

FRANK JOHNSON, *Alaskan*



TODAY we have reached another milestone on our journey through life, for life's roadway is marked with many of these milestones. There is, perhaps, no event in the life of the boys and girls of our country which is of greater importance than is this one of graduation day. It is for this that we have planned and hoped, and striven, through all those long school years now lying behind us and, at last, our efforts are crowned with success.

Graduation day does not mean, however, that we have finished with all our hard tasks and lessons—that when we close our grammars, histories, and arithmetics, we are done with difficulties and responsibilities; indeed, we are but beginning the real battle of life, and that motto, "Patience and Perseverance," which has helped us over the rough places, kept us steadfast in the face of many discouragements through the past year, and has at last enabled us to stand here today, will be more needed now than ever, since we are to be thrown upon our own responsibilities, to face and to solve the great problems that will too many times confront each one of us on our journey through life, as we become a part of the great work-a-day world.

Hitherto we have been sheltered, helped, and cared for, first as little children in the home, then, later, we were taught, directed, and advis-