

## SPRING

A Composition from the Fourth Grade

In the spring the flowers spring up. How beautiful the meadows and green mountains look with pretty flowers and green grass. And I like to hear the birds sing, and the robins rob. When the spring comes all the farmers and gardeners get busy sowing grain and vegetables.

I bought land and, of course I got it cheap, and that's how I felt after I got this land.

When spring came I sowed some beans. Of course I put some cans on the end of the pole, so when the beans crept up the pole they crept into the cans. And after doing this they pulled the lids down and canned themselves, as they were. But this is hard to believe.

And I sowed the tomato seeds, and sliced them up. After doing this I thought, perhaps I could raise some sliced tomatoes, but nothing came up but a big earth worm.

I played baseball too last spring. Before the game commenced the manager came over to me and asked what particular position I played. I told him I played none in particular. He discovered that later on. After long deliberation he put me short stop. It was the shortest stop I ever made in that position. Some impertinent Japanese fans standing near by told me I had a responsible position on the team because it all passed through my hands.

### Bad Boys and Cigarettes.

The effects of cigarette using by young boys would be a startling revelation to many of their mothers if they understood the alarming proportions to which it has grown in this country.

A magistrate in Harlem court, New York, made the following significant declaration:

"Yesterday I had before me 33 boys prisoners, 33 of whom are confirmed cigarette smokers.

"Today, I have found the gruesome discovery, from a reliable source, that two of the largest cigarette manufacturers in this country soak their products in a weak solution of opium.

The fact that out of 35 prisoners 33 smoked cigarettes might seem to indicate some direct connection cigarettes and crime. And when it is announced on authority that most cigarettes are doped with opium, this connection is not hard to understand.

The cigarette is to young boys very much what whiskey is to grown men. It does not directly cause crime it at least accomplishes it in nine cases out of ten.

It must be universally admitted that the majority of young boys addicted to cigarettes are generally regarded as bad boys. It is an addiction that does not ally itself with the high virtues of manly youth. It leaps to bad associations and environments.

He must be a strange boy, indeed, who can derive moral and physical good from cigarettes.

Opium is like whiskey—it creates an increasing appetite that grows with what it feeds upon. Even pure tobacco has the same effects.

The growing boy who lets tobacco opium get hold upon his senses is never long in coming under the dominion of whiskey, too.

Tobacco is the boy's easiest and most direct road to whiskey. When opium is added the young man's chance of resisting the combined forces and escaping physical, mental and moral harm is slim, indeed. It is a deadly combination in most cases. There are a few, if any, cases in which it is not more or less harmful. Stomach and nerve and will-power weakening for life is the common result, even though the habits finally be mastered.—Ex.