

**THE HOUSES
WE LIVE IN**

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The houses we live in by Frank G. Carpenter & Frances Carpenter

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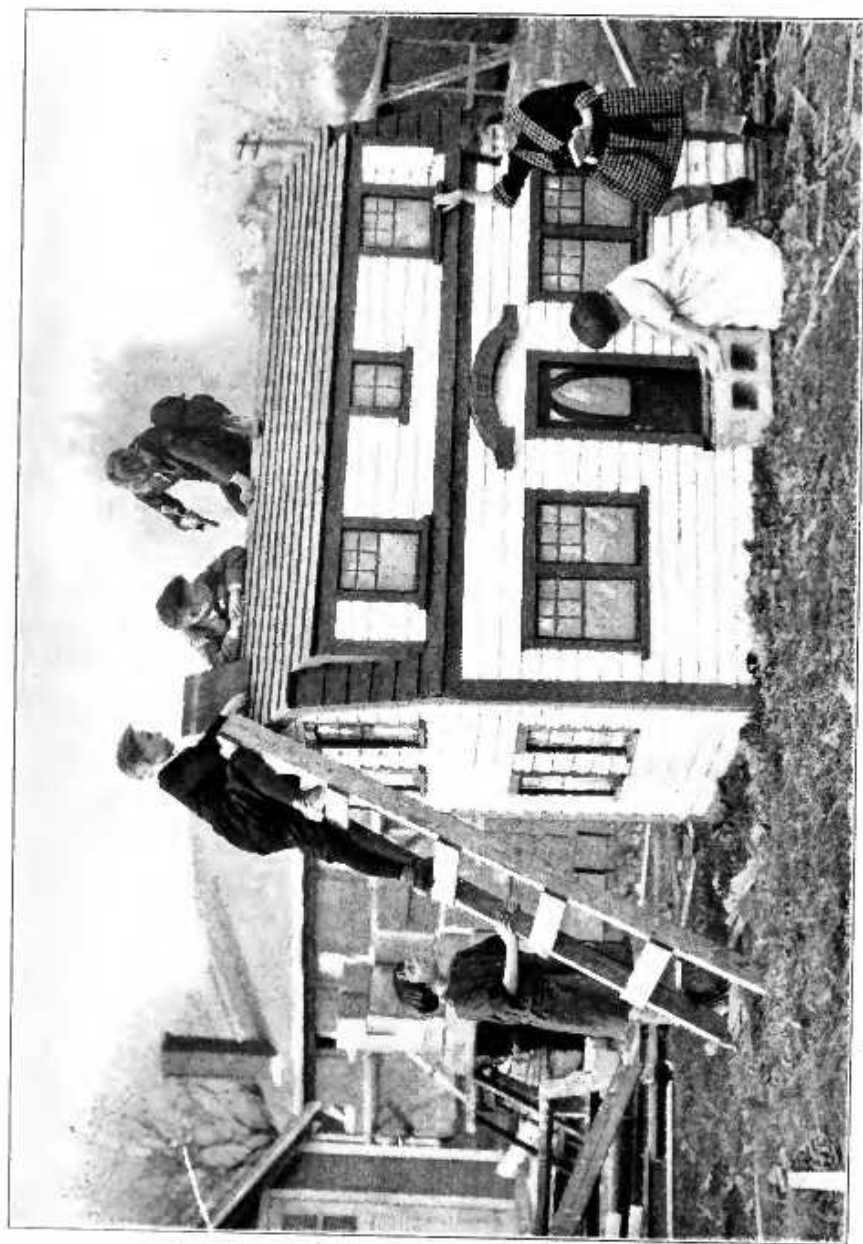
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FRANK G. CARPENTER & FRANCES CARPENTER

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WE LIVE IN**



The Journey Club builds a house: Edith, Bob, Dick, Jack, Mary, and Helen]

CARPENTERS' JOURNEY CLUB TRAVELS

THE HOUSES WE LIVE IN

BY

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PREFACE

CARPENTERS' "Journey Club Travels" is a series of industrial readers on food, clothing, and shelter, designed for the use of pupils in the lower grades of the elementary schools. The children organize a Journey Club for the purpose of making trips to various parts of the world to find out about the foods they eat, the clothes they wear, and the houses they live in. They make their own investigations, and their personal observations are reported to the Club. These are supplemented by a Museum which they create with the samples of raw materials and finished products collected on their travels.

The Houses We Live In treats of the experiences of the Journey Club members as they learn about the materials used in building their homes. During their travels, the children keep before them the motto they have chosen, "to find out"; and they absorb

the principles of the production of their food, clothing, and shelter, and the manners and customs of their own land in the past, and of the people in other parts of the world of to-day. The primary features of transportation and commerce are clearly brought out, and all travels are made along geographical lines.

These books are based on the latest educational ideas of child interest and vitalized experiences. The plan is developed through a chain of industrial projects in which the personal element is emphasized, and every possible device is employed to stimulate the imagination. There are no cut and dried lessons. The subjects are presented as the adventures and actual experiences of the children themselves, and the Journey Club lives for the child-reader. Several of the Club members are mentioned by name and photographs of these same

children are used in illustrating each chapter. This series is the narrative of real trips made by real children.

Before starting out on their travels to find out about *The Houses We Live In*, the children talk of the homes of other times and other lands. They learn of the cave of the savage child, and they trace the evolution of house-building to the present day. In their first trip, they ride upon camels to see the tents of the desert; they photograph huts of mud, cane, and grass; and they visit the children of the Far Eastern countries. Then two of the Club members impersonate a boy and a girl of Colonial times, telling of the home life of our forefathers.

Airplanes carry the Journey Club over the great woodlands of the United States. The children spend several days with the lumber-jacks; there they watch a tree felled, cut up into logs, and sent through the mill. They climb down the side of a marble quarry in Vermont, and later chat with bricklayers and men who make concrete blocks.

By making actual trips throughout our country and over many parts of the world, they learn about iron and steel, glass, and paper, paints, oils, and varnish, and water supplies. Nor do they forget to find out about lighting and heating, furniture, rug weaving, and life in great hotels.

The adventures of the Journey Club end with the building of a playhouse by the children. The stages of construction are described one by one. The amount of labor and time involved in producing a house is emphasized so that the children may realize the part played in their lives by their fellows in other parts of the world, and the relation of all that they have seen to their own homes.

The idea of the Club formation and arrangement of the Museum should be carried out further in the schoolroom. If possible the playhouse should be built, or its building enacted in the form of a schoolroom play.

Some suggestions to teachers concerning class work and the contents of the museum will be found on pages 202, 203, 204.

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