

## THE NEWS

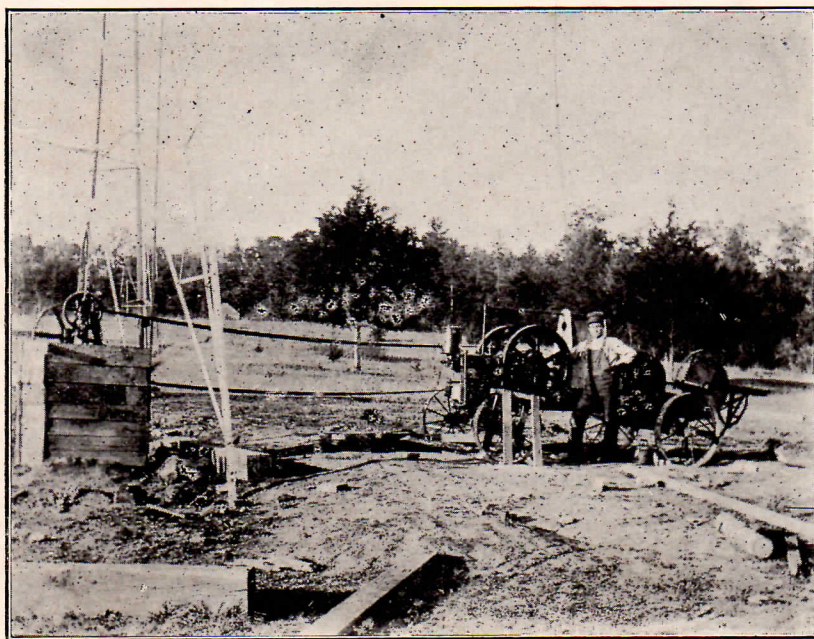
alone, is indicated by the fact that one of them, who began work in the cotton mill when he was ten years old, has gained eleven pounds in weight since he came to us, just three weeks ago. Another of this group, who has been with us only two weeks, and who did not even know his alphabet when he came, is now able to write. His joy at the progress he is making under Miss Pinckney's skillful guidance is almost pathetic. The other night, after one of the extra periods which she is giving him, he looked up eagerly from his book and said, "I tell you Miss Pinckney, I'm getting along fine, ain't I?" In two weeks his face had lost its cotton mill pallor and listlessness and he looks more like a normal boy and less like a premature and sickly old man. "John," I said to him recently, "how old are you?" "I'm seventeen," he replied. "And how long have you been working in the cotton mill?" "Nearly nine year," he answered. What, my friend, does this teach you about the observance of the child labor law in the cotton mills of this state?

Our problem, with both the boys who come from the cotton mills and those who have never left their mountain homes before, is to broaden their horizon, to arouse the ambition which has never been awakened within them and help them to realize the great, big joy of living and working. I wish all who read this might see the boys to-day or any day as they do the three hours work required of them. They are certainly as joyous and earnest a lot of workers as I

have ever seen.

**How we Are Meeting It.** Having stated our problem, let us take you thro a day and show you how we are meeting it. The rising bell for the whole school is rung at 6:50 A. M., two of the boys having risen at 5:45 to feed the stock and do the milking. Breakfast at seven is served by the boys comprising the "waiters' squad," after which the four boys of the "kitchen squad," clear the tables and wash, wipe and put away the dishes. While this is being done the "bed-making squad," composed of four boys, is making the beds in the dormitory, and another squad is filling the lamps and sweeping. All of this work is under the personal supervision of the housekeeper, and is completed in thirty minutes. The boys are then free until 9 A. M., when the day pupils arrive and school begins. It continues until 2:45,—with a noon recess and time for the kitchen squad to care for the dishes,—and the following subjects are taught: Arithmetic, Algebra, English, Writing, Spelling, Bible, Reading, History, Geography, Latin, Greek, Nature Study, Drawing and Agriculture.

At the close of the day's session the day pupils go home and the boarding pupils go at once to their "employment." Three hours work daily is required of each boarding pupil, inclusive of his squad work. This is spent in any employment which may be required of him, and is worth to the school, for each boy, \$40 for the whole school year.



This boy earns his education by running our gasoline engine, which pumps all our water and saws all our wood.