

A QUEER SUM

Here is a sum that puzzles me –
It also pleases, too –
And what I learned about the thing
I now pass on to you.

Add, if you will, to somebody's joy
As day by day you live,
And surely you'll find true happiness
Come back from what you give.

Subtract the load your neighbor bears,
And very soon you'll see
Your own old burden is lighter far
Than you ever hoped 'twould be.

Multiply somebody's gladsome thoughts
As on through life you go,
And surely the lovely thoughts you spread
Will grow and grow and grow.

Divide with those you chance to meet,
The faith that is in your heart,
And life become a joyous song
Of which you claim a part.

Just try it, friends, and you will find
In doing this queer sum,
The more you work the easier
Life problems will become.

by Alice W. Norton

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