

LITTLEBEESSTIEROWNP

HE editor has made a discovery that she is sure all the little Busy Bees ought to know about. A story was submitted recently and awarded one of the prizes that was not an original story at all, but was copied almost word for word from a book. So much has been said about this being a contest of original stories that the editor supposed all the boys and girls understood that they must make up every bit of the story themselves, without any help from books or older people. Of course, the prize could not be sent when the discovery was made, but that was not the only result-some other boy or girl who had a story in that week that really deserved a prize was crowded to third place and deprived of a just reward.

In future the editor will greatly appreciate it if any boy or girl discovering a copied story on the Busy Bee page will let her know at once. Some other stories have also come in that sound wonderfully old and grown-up for boys and girls and make the editor a bit suspicious that someone has been helping. The Busy Bees must remember that this is a matter of honor and when they do not play fair they are not only taking something that they do not deserve, but are depriving some other boy or girl of what is rightfully theirs.

The pictures have commenced to come in, but there are not enough of them to use as yet. One does not necessarily have to be a prize winner, so let us have some more pictures right soon. Remember to write your names and addresses in ink, on the back of the pictures, and they will be returned to you in good condition.

The editor had such a pleasant surprise last week. Someone sent her a valentine that pleased her greatly. It was a red heart with a pretty sentiment lettered in gold. Thank you, little Busy Bee.

Those who sent in the correct answer of Sunday's rebus of February 17 were: Norine Schulhol, age 9 years, Plattsmouth, Neb.; Wilma R. Howard, age 10 years, 4722 Capitol avenue, Omaha; Edna Hill, age 11 years, 2702 South Thirteenth street, Omaha; Eva Smith, age 14 years, St. Paul, Neb.; Ruth Zittle, age 12 years, 3015 Leavenworth street, Omaha: Alta Wilken, age 12 years, Waco, Neb.; Julia Koewler, age 11 years, 1616 Corby street, Omaha; Mary Brown, age 10 years, 2322 Boulevard, Omaha; Clifford Burns, age 10 ears, Creston, Is.

Correct answer to Sunday's rebus of February 17: "George Washington had a hatchet to play with. He took it into the orchard and cut down a cherry tree.'

The first prize was awarded this week to Maurice Johnson, age 13 years, 1627 Locust street, Omaha, and second prize to Pauline Parks, age 12 years, York, Neb. Those whose stories were deserving of honorary mention were: Frances Waterman, age 10 years, 546 South Twenty-fourth avenue, Omaha, and Edna Levin, age 10 years, 3421 Cuming street, Omaha.

# Spring Days on the Farm Have Their Duties for Children to the state of the state of



GATHERING THE EGGS.

CLEANING THE HARNESS.

was surprised to find a large squirrel house all the time." on our back lawn, which had been built So she went to the door and tried to my birthday present. There is an old push it open with her nose, but it would dead tree in the center with boxes around not open that way, so she turned around the side and up in a kind of garret where and kicked it and it broke open. The masthe squirrels build their nests and sleep. ter, who was asleep upstairs in the house, There were two fox squirrels in the house was awakened by the noise and ran down which 'I named "Jack" and "Jill." "Jack" stairs and out of doors to the barn, but was always master of the other squirrels the donkey had gotten out and was a and always saw that the rest were in bed long way off by this time. As the man did before he was. Since then I have had not see the donkey in the barn he ran in nore than twenty. the house and telephoned the police. They

One day "Jill" fell from the top of the said they would send some men out around house and struck on the sharp edge of a the country to see if they could see her. box, hurting her back. She always limped They sent some men out immediately. Sevafter that and finally her back got so bad eral men on horseback went out around we thought it best to let her out. She the country to look for Jennie. All this home in a large cottonwood

#### My Vacation street, Omaha. street, Omaha

I spent my vacation on a farm last summer. I went on the train and there were some people on the train that told me when I got there. I had lots of fun. I climbed the hay stack, fed the plus, and drove the cows home from the pasture.

The neighborhood had a boy that would come and see me and when I went to his house we would make traps to eatch the chickens. One day I made a trap by myself and tried to catch a rabbit One day my uncle and I were out cutting hedge trees when a rabbit and its family came along and I tried to catch the little one. I caught it and it got loose and ran under the raspberry bushes. One day the neighbor's boy and I ran into the pasture and we thought that we would see a rabbit to catch it. I had lots of raspberries to cate

The Reformation of Tommy By Lotta Woods, age 12 years, Pawnes City, Neb.

The school room was descried. The children had trooped out an hour before and I sat in front of the fireplace watching the fire flicker, then silently go out.

It was the first day of my school and I had quite a little trouble with Tommy Linn. a little boy 9 years old.

Finally I got up and put on my coat and hord and slowly walked down the hill towards my boarding house.

As I was going down the hill I saw a pair of tear-stained eyes gazing at me through the bushes, then I saw the form of Tommy Linn emerge from the bushes. He came and clasped my hand and whis-

pered "Teacher, I'se sorry 1'se been so had," then he hastily crept under the fence and ran along the path to his home. Dear boy, if he is always so truthful he

will make a good and great man by and by.

## Elizabeth's Siste.

By Alta Kibler, age 9 years, Kearney, Neb. Elizabeth was a little girl no more than 3 years old. She had no brother nor sister. Her mother was sick in bed and she had no one to play with, so she went to her nurse and said, "Nurse, I wish I had a sister." "Why do you not want a brother?" asked the nurse. "I would rather have a sister." "Well, we will tell your papa about it." That night when her papa came home he had a little girl with him. He told Elizabeth the little girl was going to live with her a year. When her mother got well enough to sit up the child told her the story. When the year was up the little girl went away. Elizabeth was sorry she had to go away.

# On Our Way to Church By Herbert Montag, age 9 years, Gering,

One night, when my cousin and I were going to church, she was going along singing "Will There Be Any Stars in My Crown." She just got to "will there be



"Friends and fellow toys, I wish to raise ARY and May, two little sisters, aged 7 and 9 years, respectively, my voice against this treatment of us. Bitterly do I rebel against our banishment had a most ideal nursery. There were games and toys galore- from the nursery." 12.12 "Ave, ave," seconded a Roman soldier. dolls, big and little, old and new;

Teddy bears, llons, monkeys, birds and "Here, too, Mike." "And I draw the line at being imprisoned everything, in fact, that could help to

make a nursery happy and full of play in this fashion," said old Noah, his voice full of resentment. "I say, let's strike." "Strike whom and where?" asked the tin

And each day Mary and May found great delight in the big, bright nursery soldier, feeling for his missing sword. "I'm playing with their fine and extensive sup- ready on the word to do battle against favorites who toys and games. Often many littl friends were invited to come in to spend former places. Have we one among us to an afternoon with Mary and May. Then lead? There can be no battle without a woe betide the animals and dolls, for general to plan our modus operandi. Come, many times they lost their heads, tails, let's have a leader."



feet and hands at the rough usage of the Everyone present began to feel a strong young and reckless guests, who tossed admiration for and a faith in the tin solthem about as though they were nothing dier. He was undoubtedly brave, and his use of Latin pronounced him to be a more than cloth, sawdust, sticks, wire and paint. How very, very horrible! scholar, even though from the ranks. Yes, One day Mary and May had a party. It they all agreed mentally that he was the

was on the birthday of one of the little fellow to lead them-to be voted their maidens. For many days the toys and "general." Again the elephant became spokesman; animals had heard the approaching event talked about by Mary and May and their "I move that we appoint the Tin Soldier mamma and governess.

were there

our leader. Do I hear a second?" On the morning of the party Mary's and 'Seconded!" cried the one famous beauty, May's mamma came into the nursery to the maimed French doll, who till now had arrange it for the afternoon. She poked remained a stlent listener. about into all the corners, pulling out "Thirded!" screeched the big monkey, broken dolls and horses. Here was a tin whose fault was the need of a tail. "Besoldier, sword gone and an eye blackened, cause I've lost the part of my anatomy and bent out of shape. There was a dollthat people all declare is not needed I'm

once a French belle-with half her hair set aside as no good. Count me in on the missing and a maimed and shoeless foot. fighting list, Mister Elephant. I'll follow In another corner was old Noah outside his ark, which had been demolished of its of blood." roof and half its four-footed inhabitants

missing. All these maimed and broken folk and animals the mamma of Mary and though it means war to the death." May took and stuck away on a big shelf in a closet, saying they were too dilapidated to be in sight during the party. Only the spick-and-span dollies, wearing their hair in order and their frocks neatly, with the animals that were whole and firm of foot, were allowed to occupy places of through me, wantonly. We must prepare importance in the nursery. And these for the attack before the hour of noon, for favored ones were not only allowed to remain where they might enjoy the gayety and fun of the guests and their hostesses, but had a few extra touches put upon them by way of ribbons and laces. One tion was left on view, he being such a times."

fierce looking fellow that no child had ever dared to play roughly with him. But a fine old elephant was hidden away in the closet ecause one of his tusks was missing. The idea! Then there was the company of sol- confusion, the tin soldier marshaled his

diers in gay uniform. (Mary and May forces. True, they were a maimed and always called them the "Roman soldiers." but they were in no particular country's termined crowd starting to fight for their uniform.) Half of their number was "laid rights. Off from the high shelf they upon the shelf." decidedly the worse for sprang, some hurting themselves by landwear. Some of them were broken or bent ing wrong side up on the hard floor, but helmets, while others wore none at all. such trifling hurts did not deter them, And many were unarmed, their weapons and picking themselves up hurriedly the having been lost and broken through the unfortunates followed the tin soldier rough usage of-not warfare-but children. into the nursery, where tables were

On the morning of the party there was spread for a feast. About the wall were a low murmur of discontent in the closet ranged the favorite toys, some on chairs smong those who were hidden away, the and others sitting or standing on the outcasts of the nursery, so to speak. The carpeted floor. All wore their happiest elephant was the first to grumble against expressions in anticipation of the festive injustice of his fats. Standing bravely cocasion so near at hand. By a window in their midst he addressed his companions stood the ficrce old lion, looking very imin disfavor as follows: portant. Near to him sat a Teddy bear,

**RULES FOR YOUNG WRITERS** 1. Write plainly on one side of the paper only and number the pages.

2. Use pen and ink, not pencil 3. Short and pointed articles will be given preference. Do not use over 850 words. words.

4. Original stories or letters only will be used. 5. Write your name, age and ad-dress at the top of the first page. First and second prizes of books will be given for the best two con-tributions to this page each week. Address all communications to

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT. Omaha Bee.

### (First Prize.) The Bees and the Boy the Tin Soldier, though it be through paths By Maurice Johnson, age 13 years, 1627

Locust street, Omaha. "Of sawdust, wood and rags," corrected . I am

a busy bee. Our queen lead the the French doil. "I'm with the rebels, swarm from field to field where the clovers bloom, so that we may have plenty of honey for the winter. One day our queen feeling: "This hour I have been honored took us away from the outskirts of the greatly. Do not think I shall use the village far into the country. We soon rights careleasly you have invested ms stopped at a field where there were so with. Every move shall be well studied many clover blossoms that the field looked

before it is made. No life shall be lost, all white. On the other side of the field was a house.

Next morning, while we were gathering when the sun marks the hour of 2 the party will begin in the place now called the wearing the smile of satisfaction so com-Nursery, but which shall be one of the greatest battle fields in the history of our mon to the petted nursery toy. But he would change that smile by and by: so pet.

"Bravo, bravo, bravo!" cried out a medthought the tailless monkey as he made ley of doll, soldier and animal voices. "To a lunge for him in obedience to his genthe onslaught!" cried the elephant.

The Tin Soldier rose quickly and said with

eral's order. Before leaving the closet Then, amldst great excitement and some each happy expectant had begged to be allowed to attack in single combat his worst enemy of the nursery. The monkey weaponless army, but they were a dohad chosen the Teddy bear as his bitterest rival. The French doll had declared nothing would so much satisfy her as to jerk the hair from the head of a great doll whose garb pronounced her to be Japanese. Several of the "Roman" soldiers decided to attack an automobilfull of gay gentlemen and lady dolls, the latest addition to the nursery, therefore holding the favored places of that domain. The tin soldier took as his special prey a foot ball here, who stood near a chair, leaning languidly against one of its He was as athletic as his profeslegs. sion would suggest, and the tin soldier

honey, a little boy of about 6 years came Jack became a regular acrobat. He would from the house into the field where we hang from the swing by his hind leegs as are many city boys and girls. He came little head.

He came and did this nearly every morning and we were quite fond of his company. But one day he did not come. We were sick.

I went next morning over to his house where the flowers were many and gathered getting too fat and lazy. enough honey, and just before 1 was to take the honey home I would look in his bedroom to see him. I did this for about

two weeks and then I heard the doctor say that he was well enough to be wheeled out in the meadow in an invalid chair, as fresh air would make him well all the sooner.

So next day and for a week after he was taken out in the invalid chair and wheeled around the field. The next week he came out alone and has played with us ever afterward every morning his mother did not need him.

# (Second Prize.) My Pet Squirrels

By Pauline Parks, age 12 years, York, Neb, Four years ago when I came home from Sloux City, where I had been visiting, I

of the foot ball field, leaving him lying for him, carrying a short dagger that he helpless and spiiling sawdust on the car- had found on the floor near to the spot

Toyland ever was fiercer. Chairs were in loud and victorious words: "So dieth a knocked down and small pieces of furni- deserter from the Ark!" ture broken to splinters. The table covers floor, where many of them were broken.

The hand to paw conflict between the little guests.

But the llon was not long spared in his ing the attacked in a very sad plight. In-They no

tree and raised a family. Papa put some swings in the cage and

were. He did not seem a bit afraid of us, and his tail and he amused us very much I have one squirrel called "Dick Deadright into the midst of us and sat down eye" because one eye is much larger than and made a crown of clovers to put on his the other, which makes him look very queer. He is so fat he can hardly get in his box. The squirrel I like best is called "Nigger" because he has a black stomach He is very tame and I can almost take

> exercise every day which keeps them from run away again.

> > (Honorable Mention.) The Naughty Donkey

By Frances Waterman, age 10 years, 546 South Twenty-fourth avenue, Omaha. There was once a little donkey named Jennie. A very mischievous one, too. It was afraid of its shadow and would walk from one side of the street to the other but of course the shadow always followed. One day a little girl got on its back, but it kicked her off and nobody ever attempted to get on its back again.

One night, after Jennie had been put in the barn, she said to herself; "I am very tired of this old barn. I am going to be world's history. brave and go out into the world, some place where they have no barns so that I won't have to be kept locked up in a barn

where the favorite "Roman" soldiers had To say that the battle waxed fierce and been battling with their foe. In short order hot hardly expresses it. No conflict in the lion was dispatched by Noah, who said

At this moment the door to the nursery were dragged off, spilling the dishes on the opened and Mary and May came in to view the tables before time to admit their

monkey and the Teddy bear was one of Can you fancy their astonishment-hor. the hardest fought. Several times it seemed ror, in truth-when they beheld their toys

beliion, the attacking army draw off, leav- culprita!" And with the assistance of

time Jennie was around prancing in the any stars," when she stubbed her air wondering where she should go next. a wire and fell down. I guess she did see She frolicked all the day long and at night she did not have any place to sleep.

I am a little boy 9 years old and live in "Well," she said to herself. "I might as Oakland, Cal. I am staying with my Aunt well lie down here and sleep tonight." Ida, in Nebraska, for my health. I cannot So she laid down, but the night was very live in California because I have asthma. cold, the ground all mud and it rained that I want to be one of your busy bees. night, too. Oh, what a miserable night it

BOTTMP.

was. Jennie wished she was in her nice The Result of Kindness warm barn now. The men who were sent By Agnes Gaughun, age 12 years, North Bend, Neb. out to look for her found her lying down sleeping. They woke her up and took her

Once there lived in Germany a poor wohome. How glad she was to get back again man who labored very hard. She had and everything so natural, too. Now, this three children, whom she called Elsie, Alice taught her a lesson and she never tried to and Raymond. The girls were very industrious and worked very hard. One Saturday the woman said: "Raymond go and

George Washington get me a pound of coffee," but he only By Mary Engl, age 12 years, 1709 South Eighteenth Street, Omaha. said: "I don't want to;" so Alice had to

go. She loved to go to town, and when George Washington was the son of a she had paid the grocer the money he gave Virginia planter. He was born February her three sticks of candy. On her way 22, 1732. When George was 11 years old his home she met Raymond and he said: "Did father died. Reading, writing and cipher- Mills give you any candy?" and she said: ing he learned in a little country school. "Yes." And he asked how much, "Three sticks, one for Elsie, you and L" When he was a great man he was ap-"Give pointed leader of the United States army it to me," said Raymond, "you and Elaie during the revolutionary war, in which he don't need any." She said "I don't want made America free from England. After any, but I must save one for Elsie. You the close of the war he was chosen first shall have mine."

So she took two sticks out of her pocket president. He died in 1799 at his home at Mount Vernon. Now his name stands and gave them to him. When she reached among those of the great men in the home she found Raymond crying, for he had got home ahead and he was very sorry

When he was a little boy his father he had asked her for the candy, for he gave him a hatchet. George, of course, thought how good she was to give it to was very pleased with his hatchet and him. She said: "Why are you crying, Raywent about the yard, trying it on trees to mond?" He only said, "For taking the see how well it would cut. George did not candy away." She kissed him and said, think it was wrong to cut the trees, so "It was alright," and said she would forwhen he came to the cherry tree he cut give him, and he only cried the harder and it down. When his father saw what had said he would never be bad again and so been done he did not like it, and sent for when his mother asked him to do anything George. "George," said he, "someone has he would say yes, mamma.

arms and sawdust were lying about the Mary and May the Tin Soldier and his folbattlefield. Beauty was marred by bent lowers were thrown headlong from the and broken eyes and noses. But the battle second-story window into the back yard of was over and the victorious army looked the great house, where they had such g

they behaved themselves till tomorrow they "Ah, jealousy has been the cause of all with them. They were an ungrateful lot this strife. Out of the window with the of toys."

happly upon the ruin it had wrought. Now comfortable home.

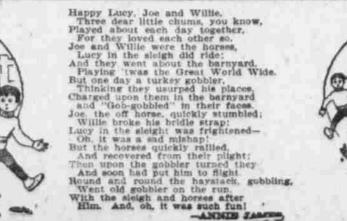
they would be allowed to remain in the "Tomorrow John will throw the whole of nursery, for the party, seeing that there them into the ash can and they will be were no others who could carry the palm' carted out of town. The rebels - to raise a of perfection and beauty over their heads. rebellion just on the eve of a party! Had A few moments later the mamma of Mary would have been sent to the toy hospital and May came rushing in. Her quick un- for mending and come home in a few days derstanding grasped the situation at once, as pretty as ever. But now it's all over

that old Teddy had the best of the "monk." in mortal combat with each other? Mary But the tailless fellow would raily to his ran screaming down statrs, calling her work in a way that started even the lion, mamma to come at once to the nursery. who was not so brave, after all, seeing that May ran into the hall and hid her face But-how can I tell what befell them? he had hidden away under the edge of a against the wall. She had entered just as window curtain when the army of unfor- Noah had sent the dagger into the body of tunates had attacked those in the nursery, the lion. The sight shocked her delicate From his hiding place he could see all that nerves. transpired. So it was that he noticed the Seeing that they had been caught in robattle between the monkey and the bear.

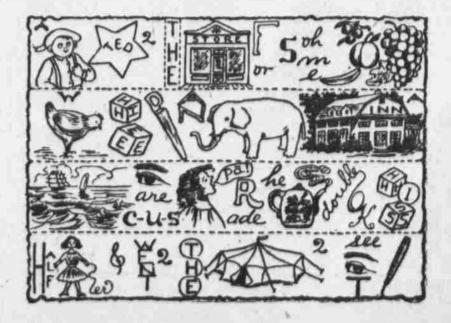
found he had his hands pretty full, inas. seclusion. Old Noah-from whose ark the deed, the favorites of an hour ago were much as he had one bad eye and no lion had strayed-caught a peep of him un- now most terrible to behold. sword. But soon he had ousted the hero der the curtain folds and straightway made longer held their heads so high. Legs and



THEY BEHELD THEIR TOYS IN MORTAL COMBAT WITH MACH OTHER.







quite sad when one of the bees said that him in my hands. I also have several he saw him in bed with the doctor and his grey squirrels, two of which came from mother beside him and we all knew he was Texas. There is a large wheel in the south side of the house in which the squirrels