

# Here's Good News!

The Editors of OUR BOYS AND GIRLS have just succeeded in obtaining

## THE MOST WONDERFUL SERIES OF STORIES

that we think were ever written for children of all ages in any language. They are called

# VOICES OF THE WOODS

AND ARE BY

**ROBERT W. CHAMBERS**

In this series of stories, full of sustained interest and delightful imagery, Mr. Chambers creates a new Garden Land and a Forest Land for all children.

Here Peter and Geraldine find the fairies—not make-believe, unreal creatures that live only within the covers of a book, but earth-fairies, butterflies, moths, humming-birds, singing trees and all the wonderful dwellers in garden and wood, who have so much to teach children about their wonderful lives.

Each story, while complete in itself, stimulates a curiosity as to another incident to follow and another outdoor wonder that is waiting for the children.

These stories will begin in our issue of April 20th, and will run in the following order:

**CAPTAIN WOODCOCK**  
and the **FOREST DRUMMER.**  
**MOLLY MOLE.**  
**AUNTY ANT.**  
**THE HIDERS.**  
**THE SEEKERS.**  
**THE HOME TRAIL.**

They will be beautifully illustrated in colors by Emily Benson Knipe and Damian T. Russom.

## An Age of Wonders.

Children of to-day live in the most wonderful age of the world, for even boys and girls of ten and fifteen can remember when there was no "wireless," and when the first flying machines were made. Talking pictures, which means the moving picture and the phonograph, combined, are just beginning to be made. "Sky-scrapers" are being built up to the forty-seventh story. Doctors are discovering remedies for all the old, supposedly incurable diseases, and Mr. Burbank is making the stoneless cherry and the pitless grape.

In the matter of history, there never was an age when so many interesting things were happening. The old, old Christian countries of Serbia and Bulgaria and Greece are steadily taking his country away from the Turk. Within the memory of the smallest children Japan has arisen to a great world power, whipping the soldiers of that mighty Russia which defeated even the invincible Napoleon.

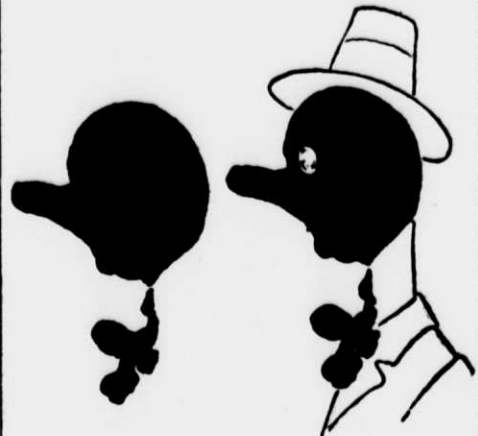
The young men and young girls of the next graduating classes will be able to remember the beginning of that most as-

# How to Make Pictures from Ink Splotches.

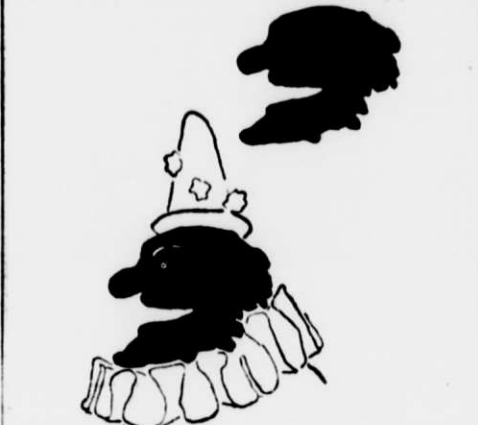
By E. G. LUTZ.

**W**HEN the desk blotter is too dirty to use any longer, do not throw it away, but save it for some rainy day when you do not know how to amuse yourself.

Then take out the blotter, and look carefully at the splotches of ink which are



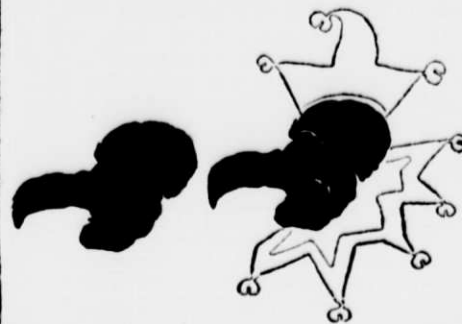
scattered all over it. At first, you will see nothing but irregular blots, dashes, drops and dabs of ink, but regard them attentively for a while, and you will soon see a good many vague resemblances to things you know. Many of them, where the flour-



ishing stroke of an unending letter has been blotted, look like fish, or tadpoles.

Now, using all of your imagination, try to see what each discoloration looks most

like, and then proceed to increase the likeness by a few strokes of your pen or pencil. For instance, to a blot which looks



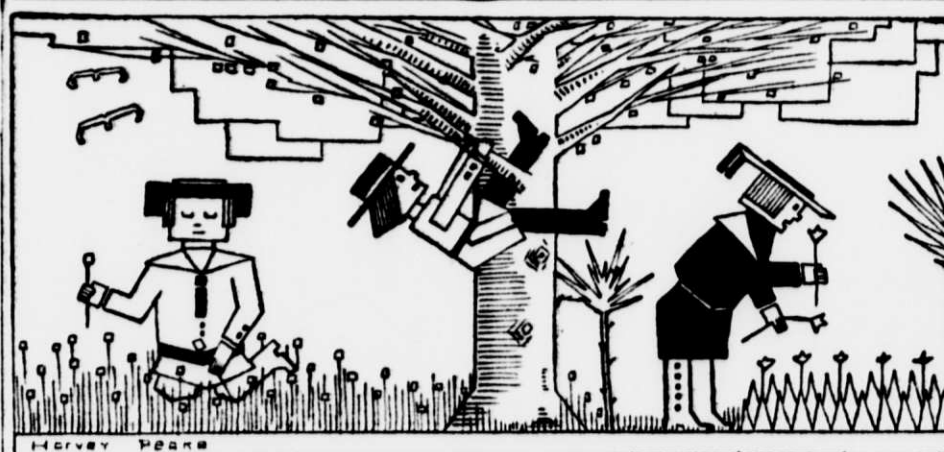
like a smiling profile of a clown, add a peaked cap and a ruffie. Another splash of ink can be turned into a man's face by drawing a hat and a collar. Sometimes there will be a streak of ink that can be made to look like a cigar by adding a few lines to indicate smoke.

Maybe, though, the blotter and the desk pad have just been replaced by fresh ones, spotless—in other words, with no ink spots—on which you can try your creative



skill. In that case you will have to make ink blots on scraps of paper, or with a brush and some black paint haphazardly make blotches. They will never be, however, so good or so surprisingly varied as those which have been the result of chance and accident.

With the white paint from your color box put in eyes and other interesting details to heighten the effect.



SPRING PASTIMES IN SQUARETOWN.

tonishing thing of all the history of the earth—the waking of China—old, old, unchangeable China—into a republic.

Subways in great cities are the products of the last fifteen years. Rapid transit has practically sprung into being within the same period. Concrete houses, electricity as a means of lighting and great department stores had their real rise while

the girls and boys of this generation were growing up.

The use of automobiles for every purpose of transportation began not more than ten years ago, while printing, warfare, manufactures and every line of commerce have changed all of their aspects.

It's a wonderful age to be born in—an age of miracles and wonders!

## ADVERTISEMENT.

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