

the woman's house, and sneaked up to the house about 9 o'clock.

They were going to make her think that a robber was outside trying to get in, and when she came they would cry out "April fool!" But she sneaked out the back door and went around the house. Here she stood with a bucket half full of water. Her girl was making believe that she was scared nearly to death. As the girl came up to the window with a light the boys cried out "April fool!" Just about the time the boys cried out the woman threw the water on them. They all ran for home as fast as they could. Their parents laughed at them for getting fooled. Your nephew,

CLYDE WARNER.

660 Logan avenue, San Diego. Logan Heights school, grade 5A. Age 11.

#### A JACKAL'S FRIEND

Dear Aunt Laurie:

One day a camel and a jackal went down to the river, where the camel lay down under a tree while the jackal walked along the shore, eating crabs. When he had eaten all he could find he was still hungry, and knew that there were more crabs on the opposite side of the stream, but he could not swim.

He went over to the sleeping camel and cried:

"Oh, camel! I know where there is a field of sugar-cane. If you will carry me over the river I will show you where it is."

When the camel heard the words "sugar-cane," he sprang up, and the jackal climbed upon his back and was carried across.

After the jackal had shown the camel the sugar-cane field he began eating crabs. He had eaten all he could; the camel had only begun. The jackal wanted to go home, but the camel was not ready, so the jackal went to another part of the field and began howling at the top of his voice. When the farmers heard the noise they said:

"There's a jackal in the sugar-cane field. Let's go and drive him out." So they ran to the spot, but instead of a jackal they saw a camel. They beat him and threw stones at him until the poor camel was nearly dead.

After they had gone away, the jackal came back.

"Why did you make such a noise? The farmers heard you and came here and beat me almost to death," said the camel.

"Oh, I don't know why I did it, but I always like to sing after my meals," replied the mischievous jackal.

"Very well. Let us go home now." The jackal got upon the camel's back and the latter started to swim across, but when in the middle of the river he stopped.

"What is the matter?" asked the jackal.

"I feel like lying down and rolling over," answered the camel.

"Oh, don't do that! I can't swim. Why do you want to roll over?" inquired the little jackal.

"Oh, I don't know, but I always want to lie down and roll after eating."

So the camel rolled over and the poor little jackal was drowned.

S. PEARL CHURCHILL.

711 Ceres avenue, grade A5; age 13; Ninth street school.

#### BOY PLAYS VARIOUS PRANKS

Dear Aunt Laurie:

I went to school the first of April last year. At noon I saw a boy giving candy. He gave me a piece and on the outside it was very good, but when I bit inside my mouth was filled with red pepper.

Another boy came up with a note, which he pinned on the candy boy.

At this about fifty of the other boys chased him. One caught up with him and gave him a good hard kick, for this is what the note read:

"Please, O please, kick me!"

At noon I came home and drank some milk which was made of flour and water, and that evening I gave my father some cornkinks which were made of shavings. Flour and water for milk. You should have seen him sputter.

That night I went out to fool the neighbors, just to have some fun, when the doorbell rang. It rang so long that we came out to see what was the matter, but there was no one there.

WALLACE PHELPS.

1112 Pasadena avenue, Pasadena; age 9, third grade, Garfield school.

#### BOY SCARES SISTER

Dear Aunt Laurie:

Charley and Mary Perkins lived in the country. They often played April fool jokes on one another.

One day when Charley and Mary were carrying the milk to the house—their hired man had just milked and it was their duty to carry the milk from the barn—it came into Charley's mind that it was April fool's day. He picked up an old piece of leather and threw it at Mary and yelled "Snake!" Mary spilled all her milk, and went to her mother crying. Charley received a very hard whipping.

After the children had eaten their supper they went out to shut up the chickens. Mary was always afraid that there was something in the chicken house. Charley came running around the chicken house as fast as he could.

He told Mary to run as fast as she could to the house, because a funny looking animal was coming after him. This scared Mary, because she was afraid in the dark. On the way to the house Mary met something big and black coming toward her. She was so



#### WRITERS' CONTEST

First prize—Elsa Winkler, Twenty-eighth street school, grade 5.

Second prize—Edna Murphy, Long Beach.

Honorable mention—Ray Lookabaugh, 245 South E street, San Bernardino, Fourth street school, grade 6; Ruth Robinson, Normandie avenue, age 12, no school; Rubidean Wilchar, 558 Wistaria drive, Ramona school, grade A5; Marion Atwater, 3805 Woodlawn avenue.

#### LIMERICK CONTEST

First prize—Duncan Frew, Newhall, age 9, grade 2.

Second prize—Ethel Barnes, 1177 East Fiftieth street, Hooper avenue school, grade 8.

Honorable mention—Charlotte Fay, 674 East Eleventh street, Riverside, grade 6, Longfellow school; Claudina Pesqueira, San Fernando, San Fernando Union high school; Nettie Newton, Carmenita, grade 8, grammar school; Lela Campbell, Lankershim, age 15.

#### CURRENT TOPICS CONTEST

First prize—Catherine Baird, 2047 East Ocean avenue, Long Beach, L. B. H. S., grade 9A.

Honorable mention—H. F. Thornton, 763 East Fifty-first street; L. A. H. S., grade A9. Lois Wagner, grade 8, El Centro.

#### YOUNG ARTISTS' CONTEST

First prize—Virginia R. Smith, 413 West Islay street, Santa Barbara.

Second prize—Helen Knecht, 110 Washington street, Redlands, grade 9.

frightened she never stopped to think it was only their old black cat.

EUNICE JACKSON.

Sawtelle school, grade 6.

#### SENDS MOCK BIRTHDAY PAPER

Dear Aunt Laurie:

One April fool morning my mother asked me if I was going to play any tricks that day. I said why would I play any tricks when it is not April fool. Mamma said that it was the first of April. Then I went to my room and began to think.

All of a sudden I thought of one. I got a whole lot of sand, and first I wrapped it in a piece of cloth and then another piece of paper and so on until it looked like a nice bundle of something, and then I addressed it to my friend and put it in the postoffice.

That evening I went with her—I did not know but that she had inquired for the mail. She had not. The postmaster said:

"Here is a package for Bessie Grant."

She was so tickled because she

thought it was something for a birthday present.

When she got home and opened it she was as mad as she could be. She threw it down on the floor. Her mamma made her clean it up.

The next day she told me all about it. Of course I knew all about it, but let on I did not. I laughed when she told me. She told nearly everybody on the school yard that day.

FLORENCE YATES.

Sawtelle public school, grade 6.

#### GUESTS HUNT FOR CANDY

Dear Aunt Laurie:

Just before April we planned to have a party. While papa was in Los Angeles he bought some April fool chocolates. They were chocolates with pasteboard inside.

We invited ten people and all but four came. The first games had no fooling in them. This was to get the company to think there was not any fooling in it.

Papa said: "We will play hunt for candy."

They began and found some of the



First Prize—Charles Wallace, 216 South Boyle Avenue.

A first and second prize will be given in this department each week for the best two papers of letters submitted in the contest by boys and girls of public school age.

The first prize will be one dollar in cash, with the usual subscription alternative if desired, and the second prize will be a handsome book.

Contributions must be from 150 to 300 words in length, must be written on one side of the paper only, signed with name, address, school and grade and be entirely original and the work of the person who signs and submits it.

Papers for this competition must be addressed Aunt Laurie, Herald Junior, care The Herald, Los Angeles, Cal.

Topic: "Grandmother's Favorite Story." This may be some story of her girlhood days or something relating to her children, or it may be fiction.

Papers for this contest must be received at this office not later than Thursday, March 31, for publication April 10.

Topic: "The Telegram and What Followed." Write a good short story on this subject. You may use some actual happening or have the entire story one of the make-up kind. Letters for this competition must be received at this office not later than Thursday, April 7, for publication April 17.

chocolates. They did not eat them right away because the children wanted to save it awhile. When they did begin they chewed and chewed until one of them found a piece of pasteboard in the candy. They didn't chew any more, but they sucked the chocolate off.

After that mamma invited them to have some cake. The cake had some red pepper in it, and they left it. After that we had our party and they went home.

LLOYD WILLIAMS,  
Sawtelle city school, grade 6.

#### OLD LADY TURNS THE TRICK

Dear Aunt Laurie:

Leslie and I are twins, so on our sixth birthday we started to school in a little country school house. Each day we passed a queer old fashioned house. Our playmates told us that that was where a real old old woman lived. Some even said that she was an old witch. We, always being up to tricks, had gotten up very early on April fool's day.

For some reason or other Leslie seemed to get the worst of the bargain. So after breakfast, only too glad to get away, he slipped on my dress and sunbonnet. Running to the barn he got on the pony and rockaway. I had not missed him, for I was busy trying to make the cat play a trick on my doll. It has been too long to remember just what the trick was.

As Leslie rode away he said to himself:

"If I can't fool any one, I'll not be fooled all the time myself."

As he was passing the old lady's house he saw some pansies. Being very fond of flowers and feeling kind of revengeful, he opened the gate and walked in. No sooner had he entered the gate than the old lady came out. Thinking that here was his chance to fool somebody, he said:

"I have been picking your pansies." "What! You have?" cried she, with a seemingly cross look. Then adding:

"Well, come with me, for I have something in store for you."

Leslie tried to tell her that he was only April fooling her. April fool or not, it does not matter to her, so she took him into the house. Taking off the sunbonnet she burst into a laugh, to see the face of a frightened little boy.

"Well, well!" said she. "You sure have fooled me this time." After having been told everything she said: "Well, as a rule I don't care much about children, but I would like to have you and Lavonne come and have dinner with me tomorrow." "Of course," she added with a wink, "there are exceptions to every rule."

Hoping to become one of your nieces,

LAVONNE POTTER.

3542 South Flower street; age 13; grade 8S, Jefferson street school.

#### A CHINESE BOY'S FIRST APRIL FOOL DAY

Dear Aunt Laurie:

Sing Fat was a little Chinese boy. He lived in San Francisco. When he had been here a year he thought it would be fun to play an April fool trick on his little friend, Sing Sing, who lived across the way.

Sing Sing had lived in San Francisco longer than Sing Fat, and when Sing Fat's first April fool day came Sing Sing played one on Sing Fat. So Sing Fat worked to play one on Sing Sing.

The first of April dawned bright and sunny. Nothing happened till toward evening, then Sing Fat bought two large dishes of ice cream and tied a string on each dish. He knocked on Sing Sing's door and Sing Sing came out. He was very surprised and exclaimed: "Oh! Oh!"

Just as he started to pick them up Sing Fat pulled the strings and the dishes disappeared.

Sing Fat said: "April fool!"

After they had had their fun over the ice cream they sat down and ate it.

DOROTHY TAFT.

Sawtelle city school, 6th grade.

#### BOY FINDS TACK IN SHOE

Dear Aunt Laurie:

There is no boy but will play a trick on April fool's day. I had planned for a week before April 1 to play a trick on my brother, but I couldn't think of any good plan, and so I let it go until the day before April, and then I thought of a fine plan which I had played on my cousin the last April fool's day.

The next morning I got up a little early, but my brother was still asleep. I got the tack box and put a tack in his shoe. When he got up he started to put on his shoe, but when he struck the tack he jumped around and kicked like a mule. Then, when he found the tack in his shoe he said that I did it, and he said he would get even with me. That evening just as I was going to sit down, he put some glue on the chair, and when I started to get up I couldn't do it.

FENNER MYERS.

San Diego, Logan Heights school, grade A5. Age 13 years.

#### ENJOY APRIL FOOL PARTY

Dear Aunt Laurie:

One night several years ago my mamma and aunt were invited to an April fool party. There were several tricks played on the guests before they went into the dining room for refreshments.

The cake, lemonade and several dishes of candy were passed and were all right, so when the dish of April fool candy was passed nobody thought