### THE FINEST AGE.

When he was only nine months old. And plump and round and pink of cheek, A joy to tickle and to hold, Before he'd even learned to speak His gentle mother used to say "It is too bad that he must grow. If I could only have my way

His baby ways we'd always know." And then the year was turned, and he Began to toddle round the floor And name the things that he could see And soil the dresses that he wore Then many a night she whispered low: "Our baby now is such a joy I hate to think that he must grow

To be a wild and heedless boy." But on he went and sweeter grew, And then his mother, I recall, Wished she could keep him always two, For that's the finest age of all. She thought the selfsame thing at three, And now that he is four she sighs

To think he cannot always be The youngster with the laughing eyes. Oh, little boy, my wish is not Always to keep you four years old. Each night I stand behind your cot And think of what the years may hold:

And looking down on you I pray That when we've lost our baby small, The mother of our man will say "This is the finest age of all." -Edgar Guest.

### THE FIELD OF HONOR.

A Story of Courage and Self-sacrifice.

Old Eph's favorite stand was on Tremont street, just outside the subway where every foot in Boston soon or late must pass. He appeared here about dusk every evening, when the rush was over; and he hugged his banjo to his ragged breast, and picked at it and crooned his old melodies so long as there were any to listen. When coins were tossed him, he had a nimble trick of whisking his banjo bottom side up, catching the contribu-tion, flipping it into the air and pocketing it without interrupting his music. Each time he did this, his fingers returned to the strings with a sweep and a clang that suggested the tri-umphant notes of trumpets.

When a particularly liberal coin came his way, he gave thanks in the midst of his song. Thus: "I'm comin'; I'm comin'; and my head is

thank ye, ma'am . . I hear dem darky voices calling: Yes, mum-ma'am."

No one ever saw Eph about the streets in the daytime. He appeared at dusk; and it was known that he sometimes remained at his post, singing and picking at his banjo, long after the streets were empty. Sometimes, in those hours between night as he finished college, and Jim had and morning, when there was no one given up law school to buckle down near, the songs he sang became ineffably sad and mournful, he crooned near, the songs he sang became ineffably sad and mournful, he crooned them, under his breath, and his sweet teen dollars a week, and at the end of old voice was like a low lament. Once Walter Ragan, the patrolman on the beat, passing along at four in the morning, heard Eph singing, over and

"Tramp, tramp! De boys is march-

cheeks, but Eph grinned cheerfully as "Jes' thinkin' on de old times, Miste' Ragan. Thinkin' on de old times,

There was something so pathetic about the lonely old figure that Ragan, with gruff kindliness, ordered the darky to go on home. Eph got up and tucked his banjo under his arm.

the street, he started up Beacon Hill. "The darned old nut," said Ragan gruffly to himself as he watched old Eph shuffle off into the darkness. 'Not sense enough to go to bed."

the songs of the Southland that all the world knows. His listeners used Jim one day to go see old Eph. to ask for certain ones that were their favorites; and sometimes Eph sang ed Jim. "You can write a yarn about

rebelliums. Na, suh!" Those who had enough curiosity to

served in that colored regiment whose black ranks are immortalized in the as he softly strummed. Shaw Memorial, opposite the State House, just up the hill from where Eph had his nightly stand. And, by "Tol'able, Eph," Ragan mimicked. the same token, though he would never sing "Dixie," it required no more to you." than a word to start him off on that mighty Battle Hymn, "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory . . ." When he sang this, his old voice rolled and he sang this, his old voice rolled and throughout throughout and thrummed with a roar like the roar of drums, and there was Eph shook his head stubbornly.

the beat of marching feet in the cadence of his song. His banjo tinkled shrilly as the piping of the fifes, and his bent shoulders straightened, and his bent shoulders straightened, and his head flung high, and his old eyes a reporter's armory—the art of mak-snapped and shone.

When Europe went to war, Eph forsook the gentler melodies and in a tender spot. chose songs with a martial swing. And when he sang them there was way you fought in the Confederate the blare of bugles in his voice. He army," he explained. was, from the beginning, violently against the Germans; and now and then, when his enthusiasm overcame then, when his enthusiasm overcame then the said that the said the said that the said the him, he delivered an oration on the kin prove it. subject to his nightly audience. When the United States entered the war, he derstood that you fought for three

"I've come to join up in the army, letter . . . ."

Eph studied Jim, leaning closer to

charge.
"You mean you want to enlist?"

"I can pint a gun an' pull a trigger," Eph urged wheedlingly.

shoulder. "I'm sorry," he said. "I'ts no use."

Eph passed from anger to pleading. Spos'n I'uz to go along an' sing to

"No; they wouldn't take you."
"I'm a jim-dandy cook," Eph offered pitifully.

"Get out of here, you damned old scamp!" the sergeant exclaimed with assumed fierceness which did not at all deceive old Eph. He knew white folks, and he understood that this was only the sergeant's way of saying that there was no hope at all and that he was sorry. So Eph said simply, "Thank'ee, sir;" and with a sad and dreary dignity he went down the stairs to the street, and home to the

ittle room where he lodged. During the day the billowy negress who kept his boarding house heard little cries and lamentations coming from behind his closed door; and once she knocked and offered her comfort. But Eph nursed his sorrow alone.

That night he made an innovation in his singing. Across the street rose the spire of the Park Street Church. And whenever the hands of the clock in the spire touched the hour, old Eph rose, took off his hat, and lifetd up his voice and sang:

"Oh, say, kin you see . . . He sang this each hour that evening, and each hour in all the evenings that were to come. At first people thought he was playing patriotism for his own ends; but when they felt the wistful tenderness in his tones, they faintly understood and more respect-

It was Ragan, in the end, who brought Jim Forrest, a reporter on

his first year was raised to twenty. When he was earning fifteen dol-lars a week, Jim and his mother lived, and that was about all. They had As the old negro looked up, Ragan dollar do the work of two; and they saw that there were tears on his black got along. But when the United States went into the war, newspapers will look back to those days of 1917, and will understand how the sight of Jim's friends decked out in khaki, gave him a homesick longing for the gave him a homesick longing for the "Yas suh, Miste' Ragan. Yas, suh, I'm goin' right along." And crossing training camps that was so acute it was actually physical suffering for

But if he went, his mother could not live. That was pure mathematics. Jim had reluctantly accepted this fact. And he went on down the street whistling between his teeth and trying not to think of Eph's bowed body to earn a little extra money by writ-But he did not give up the situation and the tears upon the black old ing special stories for his paper. He was a likable boy with plenty of Eph's songs in the old days, were friends, and the helped him with sugsimple darkey ballads, or lullabies, or the songs of the Southland that all Ragan; and it was Ragan that told

song? Lawdy, man, no, suh."

They told him laughingly, that he war was over. "Da's all right," he agree. "De war's over. Mebbe so. But I ain' over! An' I don' sing no rebelliums. Na. sub!"

down. Offered to go along and sing to the boys, or cook for them. You're through at four in the morning." Ragan went on. "He'll probably be at his stand till then. Hunt me up and I'll take year event." I'll take you around.'

That was a warm, still night of earmake inquiries found that Eph really ly fall; and they found old Eph still had fought for the North. He had squatting with his back against the

> "How'dy, Miste' Ragan?" Eph said, "This is Jim Forrest-wants to talk

Eph looked at Jim suspiciously. "How come?" he asked. Forrest smiled. "I'm a reporter,"

ing your victim angry. And he knew enough about Eph to hit the old man

"I want to get your story about the

went unostentatiously to the mecruit-ing office and offered himself to the that General Lee himself gave you a

suh," Eph said to the sergeant in look into his eyes. "Y'all know dat charge.
"You mean you want to enlist?" look into his eyes. "Y'all know dat ain' right," he said steadily. "Howcome you want to pester an ol' nigger

The attack was so unexpected, it

Jim had turned hopelessly away. Eph looked at the boy's straight shoulders, looked long and thought-fully. Then the old darkey did a surprising thing. He crossed, and touched lim's arm. ed Jim's arm.

"You, suh," he said softly. more.

cain' bother me. Listen. . . . You come 'long home with me now. I aim tuh talk to you some." Jim hesitated. "You come 'long," Eph insisted, and took Jim's arm and in honor of our soldier dead, victims

sesses the souls of good old negrofolk that gives them a power not
granted to other men. They have,
above everything, the ability to inspire confidence, to win confidences.

Perhaps this is because of their simspire confidence, to win confidences. Perhaps this is because of their simplicity, or because of their vast sympathy. White children in the South will love and trust their darky friends and will share with them those intimate secrets of childhood from which even parents are excluded. These old darkies have a talisman against the griefs that visit others; they murtiple trees should be taken. The lusty spirite of patriotism is not satisfied with anything but that of the most enduring character. Our native white oak, red oak, pin oak, scarlet oak, elm, sugar maple, black walnut, the pines and the spruces commend themselves for memorial purposes. The grounds about many of our schools are ample for tree planting, and the pupils griefs that visit others; they mur-mur, "Nemmine now, chile!" and the suffering is forgotten. In their own sorrows they will wail and lament theatrically. But when white folks weep, the darky has comfort to give, and he gives it. . . . To tell them a experience had and the lesson so const is like whispering it to one's own self.

Jim Forrest was never able to understand how he had been led to unbosom himself to old Eph; but he did.

Serviceable to the papins as the helpful to the community.

Therefore, I, William C. Sproul, Governor of the Commonwealth, in down to a little room that was as clean as a new pin. It was tiny, but it was large enough to be a home, lity and patriotic service to be rendered by tree-planting, do hereby set aside Friday, April 125, 1919, as Arrive and the company to hear Fibrage. It was large enough to be a home, Jim, who had come to hear Eph's story, found himself telling his own instead. And though he held his head high and steadily, there was in the boy's tones something of the longing schools with an early closing date to the processed him comething of the and that was about all. They had been accustomed to "manage" with five thousand a year before Mr. Forrest died and a dollar still looked small and unimportant to them. By the time Jim was raised to twenty, that he could not understand the local department of the participate in the planting of trees. This practice which I commend to the pupils in our schools and to all our people, is of wise and generous character. In urging the best of the participate in the planting of trees. This practice which I commend to the pupils in our schools and to all our people, is of wise and generous character. In urging the observance of the participate in the planting of the participate in the planting of trees. Ragan came up quietly behind him and asked: "What's the matter, ithe time Jim was raised to twenty, ither than the time Jim was raised to twenty, ither than the time Jim was raised to twenty, ither than the time Jim was raised to twenty, it was two nours after the way that he could not understand, it was two nours after the time Jim was raised to twenty, it was two nours after the way that he could not understand, it was two nours after the way that he could not understand, it was two nours after the way that he could not understand, it was two nours after the way that he could not understand, it was two nours after the way that he could not understand. cheered and content as he had not State, I do so in the expectation that been for months.

stopped raising salaries. And the sat down and thought hard. He was in the years to come."

stopped raising salaries. And the sat down and thought hard. He was in the years to come."

a shrewd old man, for all his simplication and the wished to the property of the prope time. In the years to come, the years do. He was doubtful only of the of peace, over whose threshold we are method. When this was settled in his stepping even now, thousands of men mind, he went out to find the man he

# (Concluded next week).

Second-Hand Airplanes.

A New York concern has purchased ten million dolars worth of airplanes and airplane parts from the British ed to Government. The machines and parts are in Canada, but it is said they will method has killed its tens of thous be brought to this country and disposed of to persons who desire to pur-"come to stay."

what they wished to hear, and sometimes he refused. He would never sing "Dixie."

"I ain' no slave nigger," he would protest. "I fit ag'in de South, in de big war. Rackon I'm gwine sing dat song? Lawdy, man, no, suh."

"I awdy, man, no, suh."

"I awdy, man, no, suh."

"I sin' no slave nigger," he would be were into the war? Sergeant Hare told me about it. Said big war. Rackon I'm gwine sing dat song? Lawdy, man, no, suh."

"I sin' no slave nigger," he would be were into the war? Sergeant Hare told me about it. Said big war. Rackon I'm gwine sing dat song? Lawdy, man, no, suh."

"I sin' no slave nigger," he would be were into the war? Sergeant Hare told me about it. Said but cried at being turned down. Offered to go along and sing prices compared with the original for the market at ridiculously low prices compared with the original for the market at ridiculously low prices compared with the original for the market at ridiculously low prices compared with the original for the patient's inside works. Water, the universal solvent will sooner or later find its way to the market at ridiculously low prices compared with the original for the patient's inside works. Water, the universal solvent will sooner or later find its way to the market at ridiculously low prices compared with the original for the patient's inside works. Water, the universal solvent works. Water, the universal solvent works works. Water, the universal solvent works works works. Water, the universal solvent works works. Water, the universal solvent works works works works. Water, the universal solvent works works works works works works. Water, the universal solvent works works works works works works. Water, the universal solvent works works works works works works works works works works. Water, the universal solvent works The United States Government also dollars' worth of airplanes and parts accomplish a thorough and immediate cost. Already there are several com-mercial firms figuring upon taking much of it, with a view to distributing glass of water as hot as he can drink it to persons who desire to go into the flying game. So it seems it will not be a great while until second-hand air-planes will be as common as second-of calomel at half-hour intervals, hand automobiles.

At the same time we are told that the aviators who took part in the war machines; that the men who have learned to fly and who have had ex-perience in the game are not enthusiasts in the matter of planing. Even Orville Wright, who ought to know more about planes than any other man in this country, says the present plane is not practical for ordinary use, and he does not look for general employment of planes until a type is devised that can be landed with less risk than those now made. But there will be a demand for these

second-hand planes, just the same.
There will be persons to buy them venturesome youths from taking a flight, and in good time these same venturesome youths will work out types of planes that will be safer and more easily handled.

Ittle to do with their curative effects. People who go to such places usually imbibe the water in great quantity day after day and the "cures" accomplished are due to thorough internal cleansing.

Shoe On the Other Foot. "So your wife is doing her own

cooking. That must save you a lot of money. "Not at all! Dyspepsia specialists are a good deal more expensive than cooks."

cautiously.

"Forty-five."
Eph cackled with delight. "I declare, dat jes' lets me in. Me, I'm gwine on fo'ty four this minute."
"Ge out!" protested the sergeant.
"You'll never see seventy-four again. You're too old and your eyes are no good, and your teeth are great to me wrong," he said. "Maybe they roes who have made the supreme sacrifice in a long-lived tree," says Governor Sproul in his first formal proclamation, designating April 11 and 25 as the spring Arbor days. The Governor refers in the proclamation to the breast. "Nemmine me," he said slow-ly. "Nemmine me. Le's talk bout you. Howcome you ain' got the makes of the heroes who have made the supreme sacrifice in a long-lived tree," says Governor Sproul in his first formal proclamation, designating April 11 and 25 as the spring Arbor days. The Governor refers in the proclamation to the vital importance of restoring forests and conservation of the heroes who have made the supreme sacrifice in a long-lived tree," says Governor Sproul in his first formal proclamation, designating April 11 and 25 as the spring Arbor days. The Governor refers in the proclamation to the vital importance of restoring forests and conservation of the wrong," he said. "Maybe they were trying to start trouble between us. What was the straight of it? Didn't you fight in the war at all?"

Eph tapped Jim slowly on the breast "Nemmine me," he said slow-law in the proclamation, designating April 11 and 25 as the spring Arbor days. The Governor refers in the proclamation of each of the proclamation in the proclamation of the proclamation of the proclamation of the proclamation of the proclamation in the proclamation of the proclamation

"Whereas, The restoration, protecger," Eph urged wheedlingly.

"There's more than that to war," the sergeant told him, and Eph's eyes blazed.

"Whut you know about war, man?" he demanded. "Ain' I been in it? Ain' I slep' in de rain, an' et raw corn, an' fit in mud to de knees, an' got a bullet in my laig, an' laid out in de snow three days till they come and fotch me in? Don' you let on about war tuh me, I been it, an' I done it, befo' you'uz born."

Eph was so deadly earnest that the sergeant's voice was full of sympathy as he dropped his hand on Eph's shoulder. "I'm sorry," he said. "I'ts no use."

There's more than that to war," the demanded. But Ragan took his part. "There now!" he said. "I'm was silenced. But Ragan took his part that the surpletted, it jum was silenced. But Ragan took his part that the surpletted, it jum was silenced. But Ragan took his part. "There now!" he said. "I'm was silenced. But Ragan took his part. "There now!" he said. "I'm was silenced. But Ragan took his part took his part. "There now!" he said. "I'm was silenced. But Ragan took his part. "There now!" he said. "I'm was silenced. But Ragan took his part. "There now!" he said. "I'm said right. But he's got a mother to support. If he don't take care of her, nobody will."

Eph looked from Jim to Ragan, puzzling. "Ain' he got tuh tek care of discountry, too?" he demanded. "Why cain' his maw tek in washin'?" Ragan chuckled. "Don't you worrry," he told Eph. "Jim will go when he can. Why—here, Eph! He wants to write this story about you so he can make extra money—get enough ahead so he can go. . . Enough to take care of his mother."

Jim had turned hopelessly away.

The said ratio of forests is now recognized as a proper function of statecraft, the one important and struck so acutely to the mark, that tion and utilization of forests is now

the tree-clad hills will be lacking that cover which should be there to retain the rains and melting snows. The water will pass out of the State in Jim looked at him. "I'm sorroy," disastrous floods, leaving us at the he said. "I won't bother you any most critical season of the year with most critical season of the year with insufficient water either for the pro-Eph chuckled. "Lawdy, man, you tection of power or for ordinary pur-You poses; and

"Whereas, Having fought a victorious foreign war we are now filled with the spirit of the memorial true utrned him about and led the boy, of a great and cruel contest, held in half unwillingly, across the street, tender memory by the public mind. past the tall old church and up the the names of these heroes who made the supreme sacrifice, in a long-lived, There is some quality which possesses the souls of good old negrothe centuries, to bless those who are and he gives it.... To tell them a experience had and the lesson so secret is like whispering it to one's learned will be of an enduring kind, serviceable to the pupils as well as

The negro took him over Beacon Hill, pursuance of the foregoing, and in way that he could not understand, these Arbor days throughout the Old Eph, when the boy was gone, ted on their future growth to bless us

### -For high class job work come to the "Watchman" office.

Water as a Medicine.

but no water" said the doctor. Thus the patient, craving water, was systematically starved for exactly the thing he most needed.

Today the enlightened physician, in a fever case, prescribes quantities of water—all the sufferer can be persuaddrink. It is beyond a doubt that water-deprivation under the old

The water has two good effects. It chase second-hand airplanes. All of tends to reduce the fever, and it which is evidence that at least one big concern believes the airplane has cidentally getting rid of the bacterial

"toxins" that are true poisons. has on hand several hundred million es, the thing of first importance is to

—as much as he can manage to pour into himself. The simple treatment,

brings quick recovery. There used to be quite a fad for drinking one or two tumblers of hot will not be in the market for the water before breakfast every day. Excellent idea. But it is not an agreeable dose, and water at the temperature of the air will serve the purpose just as well. Most people who make a habit of taking drugs to encourage proper functioning of the body will find that a daily pint of water before breakfast is equally serviceable.

The benefits derivable from the water of mineral springs have for centuries gained popularity and profitable patronage for various "spas" in this country and abroad; but the fact is that the salts contained in them have

of ordinary water it is likely that the effects would be not less beneficialeven more so, perhaps, inasmuch as the waters of the spas are heavily charged with mineral salts that are true medicinal drugs and liable to be injurious when taken so recklessly.

-Subscribe for the "Watchman." | time.

## FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT.

Reputation is what men and women think of us; character is what God and the angels know of us .- Thomas Paine.

Have you an old white skirt which

you thought ready for the rag bag? What is the matter with it? It is too tight around the hips. Rip out the hem and if it is worn on the fold cut it off. Raise the skirt until it is large enough around the hips. Cut off the top and attach to an inner Unless your old inner belt is as good as new buy a new one, for the inner belt often makes the success or failure of a skirt. Even off the bottom, and if not too short, face it. Otherwise you will have to make a false hem. What is a false hem? It is merely a strip of cloth, straight or bias, as preferred, which is set on the bottom of the skirt to represent a public in organizing and carrying out a plaid or a striped material, add a on the subject.

The subject of their natural enemies of their natural enemies. your friends a brand new sport skirt. is urged as an important aid in con-Is your skirt too large? Either trolling rodent pests. take up the seams or recut it into a new style. Or, perhaps the top is too worn to use any more. Put on a new as much loss as more than 750 native as much loss as more than 750 native. yoke of similar material. In case you rogues. The damage by the former is have no more of the old material use estimated at \$200,000,000 annually any white material and wear the skirt and by the latter at \$300,000,000 anwith middy blouses or one of the new nually. long blouses. You might make a new middy blouse from the old skirt. Use the bottom of the skirt for the bottom of the blouse. Measure up the length desired and cut the top of the blouse by a plain waist pattern. Add sleeves, collar, and belt of similar or contrasting material and you are ready for the next picnic.

and arrange all of it on the unworn parts of the skirt before cutting. Make it all white or trim it with col-The material is strong enough to last that is in need? Make her a jumper dress to wear with thin white guimpes which you can make from your old

waists. But you have no Mary or Johnny and you don't need another middy blouse? However, you do need a vestee for your tailored suit and that old pique, linen, or madras skirt will furnish the very latest material. Use your old vestee for a pattern or get a it lined with the same material or line it with lawn and have two vestees. Cover button molds with the same material, or use pearl or black bone buttons, and you have as stylish an article as you'll find in the shops and for a much smaller amount. And that green linen needs a new collar and cuff set which you can cut from the old skirt.

and look it over to see what wonders

you can perform. floppy shapes, mushrooms and rolling game. Cognizance has not been taken sailors. In the smaller shapes the high-crowned mushrooms are very effectively being small native animals destroy numerate and are thus contained and the small native animals destroy numerate and are thus contained and the small native animals destroy numerate and are thus contained and the small native animals. ntrasting shade linen, nave

the trim. A Scotch Highlander cap is effective in the combination of silk-plaid and white linen, the plaid appearing on the top of the crown and as a narrow band around the headsize. A white linen eight-pieced tam is trimmed at the tip of the crown with a large white silk floss tassel. The lattral enemies of the rodents may do a great deal toward prodents m

To remove scorch from white goods cut an onion in half, rub the scorched part with it, then soak for one hour in cold water. The mark usually disappears promptly; if not, repeat the

how much more easily it will through and seldom causes splitting.

If new tinware is rubbed with fresh lard, then heated in the oven before lard, then heated in the oven before set almost anywhere—behind furni-using, it seldom rusts, and food does ture, behind boards against the wall not stick to it.

Daytime Frocks.—Short skirted they are, one sees many bead embroidered tunic frocks, short-sleeved, rather open at the throat and never, never, by any chance, are there collars; oh, my no. The opening at the neck, generally "round" or straight across from shoulder to shoulder, is outlined with beads or embroidery, or with nothing at all; but there is no

Beads, beads, beads. Jet beads, steel beads and tubular ones of semitransparent crystal. All of them are particularly effective on black. Rather straight in line and girdled loosely, these frocks are. One sees worn with them odd turbans of gold and silver brocade, jet and tulle.

collar.

To Make Beaded Bag.—In making one of the fashionable beaded bags you can sew the beads on more evenly and more quickly by tacking the canvas to a child's slate frame.

When putting a hem in a garment, if a piece of cardboard is cut the required width it may be slipped along and the task neatly accomplished. It saves the constant handling of the tape measure, and as the cardboard is stiff it is easier to handle.

Inexpensive Fernery.—Take all the uncut seeds of a grapefruit and soak in warm water over night. In the morning fill your fern dish three-quarters full of good dirt, mixed with a little sand. On top place the seeds until the dirt is completely covered, then cover with more dirt. Place the dish in a warm, sunny place and each day sprinkle with warm water. In a month you will have the loveliest fernery and it will last quite a long

## FARM NOTES.

-Get Rid of the Rodents.-The annual losses from rodent pests in the United States have been estimated at fully \$500,000,000.

About two-fifths of this damage is inflicted by house rats and mice, both introduced from the Old World, and the remainder by native species.

This enormous waste of resources may be greatly reduced through systematic and organized campaigns against the injurious species.

The bounty system effects no permanent relief and is far more costly than the use of poisons and traps. The United States Department of

Agriculture has developed and perfected practical methods of extermi-

hem (not a facing). It may be of the systematic campaigns againsts anisame or of contrasting material. Use mal pests and invites correspondence

The chief alien enemies are the house mouse and three kinds of rats. The introduced European hare is also proving injurious in some localities. The natives are the more than 750 kinds of rodents that inhabit this con-

tinent north of Mexico. Now, all of the 750 are, or may beeady for the next picnic.

Come, depredators, though many of them are only mildly and occasionally a Sunday suit? Get out your pattern and arrange all of it on the unworn parts of the skirt before cutting. the four alien rodent pests. For the ored scraps from the useful rag bag. aliens are in practically every house, every barn, every mill, every elevator, Johnny a season and by that time he every storehouse, over most of the will have outgrown it. Or is it Mary country, while the natives run largely

in the fields, ranges and woods. -Some of our native rodents are very bad citizens—such as the prairie dog, the pocket gopher, the ground squirrel. Even that ancient rival of the Weather Bureau, the groundhog, sometimes causes great damage, crunching corn like a litter of shoats or mowing down alfalfa or soy beans like a herd of steers. Against all these, unremitting warfare should be new style. Cut it double if you want waged-unremitting or at least such occasional warfare as is necessary to hold them in check.

But the case is quite different as to certain other animals usually regarded as destructive—the skunk, the weasel, the mink, the fox, and the badger. These are among the most potent natural agents, says the United States Department of Agriculture, in preventing an undue increase in So take that old skirt out of the bag mice, rats, ground squirrels, pocket gophers, and the like. Some of these ou can perform. New Hats for Children.—Heavy linen is used in these models in large enemies of domestic animals and fective. Stitched brims, with an edge ous injurious rodents and are thus an asset to the country. An occa colored linen crowns to correspond. skunk, mink or fox does commit dep White is effectively combined with redations in the poultry yard, bu redations in the poultry yard, blue, pink and layender. A narrow that is merely a case of an individual band and tied bow at the side furnish gone wrong, and punitive measures gone wrong, and punitive measures should be directed against the individual and not against the species. They are also in many places very destructive to game and are then destroyed as vermin.

-The natural enemies of the rostraw tam is a big feature of this line in different shades of fine Italian Milan.

always, of course, do chought skunks, minks, weasels, and foxes will get a good many of the rats and mice in the fields and even around the barn, always, of course, do enough. The but they cannot be expected to make a clean-up even there and, of course, they can accomplish nothing against rats and mice in the house, mill or store. There artificial means have to be employed.

-The United States Department of When brooms begin to wear cut the corn level again and the brush thus formed, will do its work nearly as well as when new.

Agriculture, through the Bureau of Biological Survey, has devoted a great deal of study to methods of rodent control. Poison has been found the most potent weapon against Before trying to drive a nail into such rodents as live in the open, but any kind of wood, push it into soap as a rule it cannot be employed in several times; you will be surprised houses where people live or work. In go such places the trap is the safest and most certain method of eradication and the "guillotine" type of trap is recommended as the best. It may be or at the entrance of rat holes. Rolled oats is recommended as usually the best bait, though if conditions are such that the rodents are likely to have a surfeit of grain, the best bait may sometimes be meat, fish, or

cheese, or even pastry.

The Bureau of Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture co-operates with the public in carrying out systematic campaigns against animal pests, including rodents, and invites correspondence on the subject.

-It is often desirable in pasturing hogs to fence off a portion of a field temporarily. About the best temporary hog fence is made of 32-inch or 36-inch woven wire stretched and tacked to stakes driven in the ground. Well-fed hogs are easily kept in place, but underfed ones will require more substantial fencing.

-Green forage is an aid to the economical production of pork. A permanent pasture supplemented with quick-growing, heavy yielding, temporary forage crops is most satis-

factory. Green forage alone is little better than a maintenance ration. Where rapid gains are desired, the hogs should have a liberal allowance of grain. The rule should be: All the grain they will eat without waste. Growing forage crops and grazing them off on the land is an efficient

method of improving soils depleted in organic matter. The exercise obtained in grazing has a beneficial influence on the

health of hogs. -Old sows farrow heavier pigs than young sows do. Feeds rich in protein are necessary for the brood sow. The fewer sows kept together during the breeding season and until

farrowing time, the better.