

IN THE PRIMITIVE AGES OF THE CHURCH, THE SUPERSTITION WAS VERY PREVALENT THAT ANYONE BORN WITH A CAUL WOULD LEAD A FORTUNATE LIFE FREE FROM DANGER P AT ONE TIME CHILDREN'S CAULS WERE ADVERTISED FOR SALE TO SAILORS AND OTHERS GOING ON LONG SEA VOYAGES, AS IT WAS BELIEVED POSSESSION OF ONE WOULD BE AN INFALLIBLE PRESERVATIVE AGAINST DROWNING O



THAT AT THE TIME OF COCK-CROWING THE MIDNIGHT SPIRITS FOR SOOK THESE LOWER REGIONS, AND WENT TO THEIR PROPER PLACES O TO VENTURE ABROAD SOONER WAS CONSIDERED TO RISK ENCOUNTER WITH A GROST O

## The Wayward Skunk

## By HAROLD LAWLOR

HOUGH it was raining and he was wet and uncomfortable, it was springtime in the heart of Henry Hildreth. For Henry Hildreth, curator of the Forest Refuge Museum, was in love—a blissful state which, like the comedy relief in a tragic play, was to sharpen the horror of the fantastic adventure so soon to befall him.

As he scuffled through the wet leaves,

stopping occasionally to wipe the raindrops from his thick bifocals, Henry's face was wreathed in happy smiles.

"Eileen, my adored one!" he said aloud. Then he ducked his head bashfully. No, that sounded too stilted. He cleared his throat and squared his narrow shoulders manfully. "Eileen, I love you! Oh, sweetheart! Oh, darling! Oh—"

"Nuts!" a voice said querulously.

