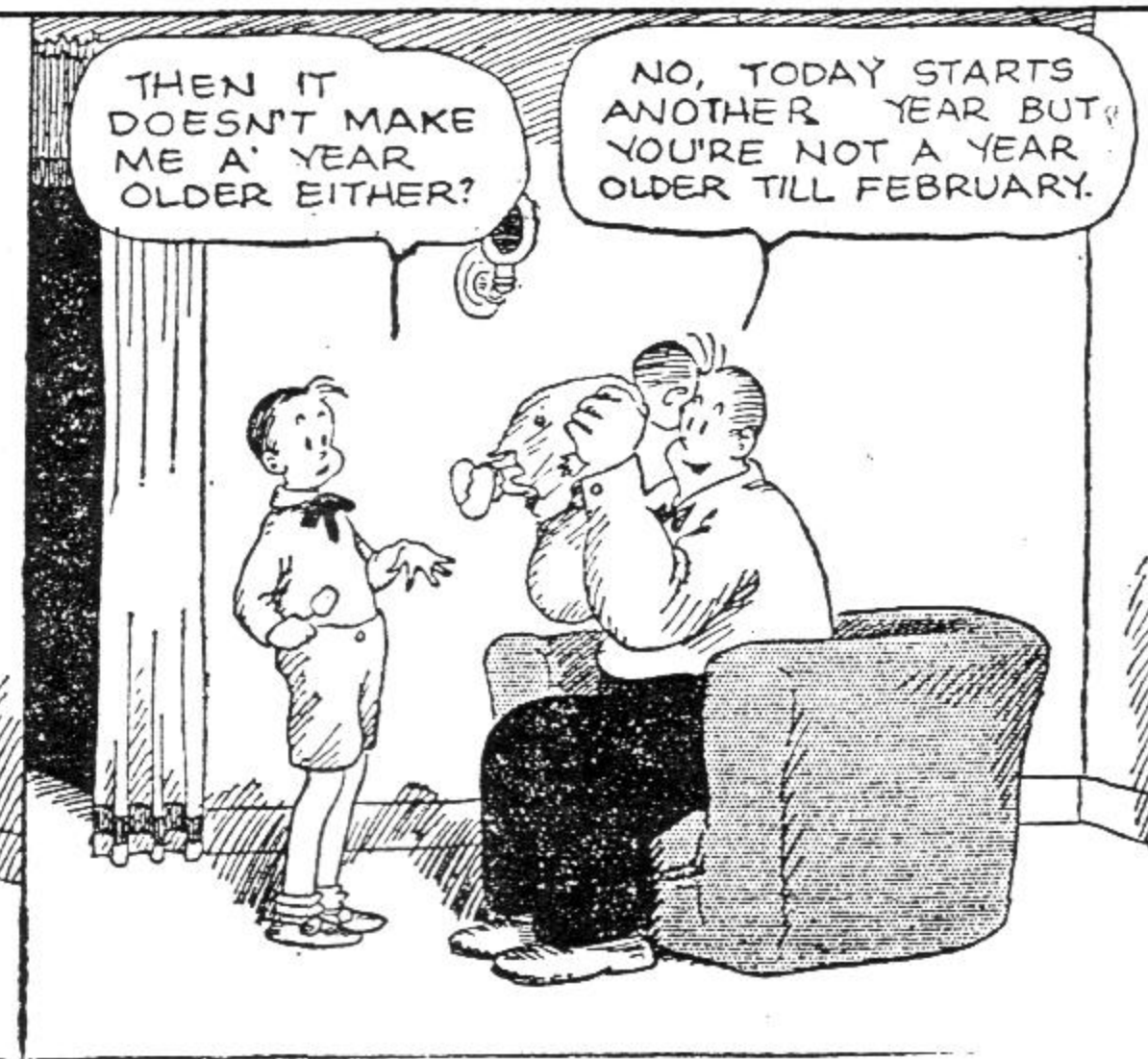


GASOLINE ALLEY—STARTING A FRESH ONE

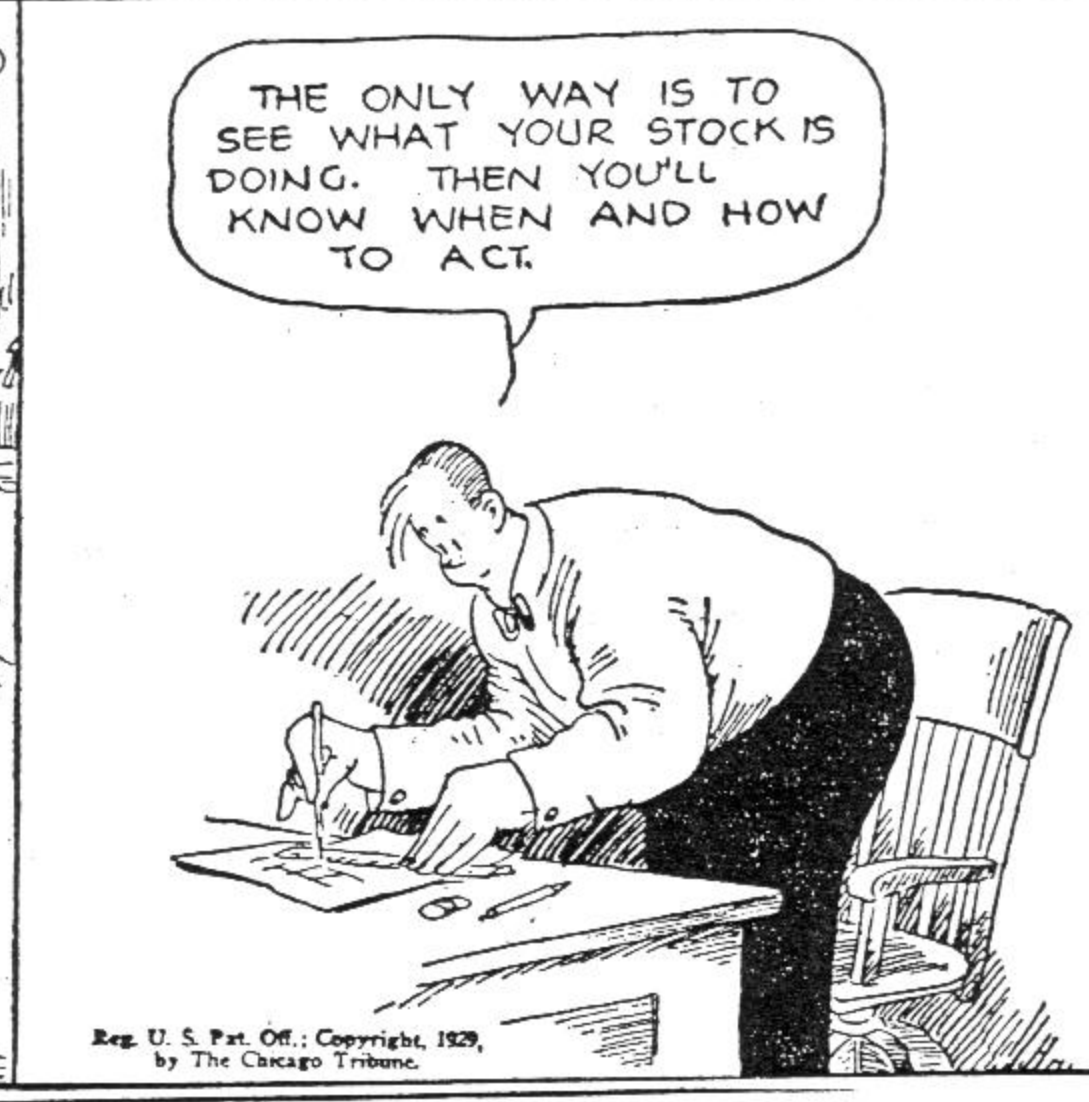




IT'S A GOOD THING I DIDN'T SELL AT 20 AS I SAID I WAS GOING TO. RUBBER KEYHOLE IS 21½ AND GOING UP.



I THOUGHT THE OTHER DAY THAT WHEN IT GOT UP TO 20 I'D TAKE MY PROFIT. BUT I'D HATE TO DO THAT AND THEN WATCH IT CLIMB TO 30.

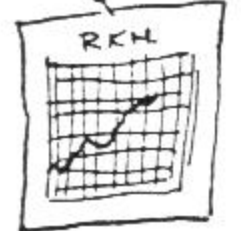


THE ONLY WAY IS TO SEE WHAT YOUR STOCK IS DOING. THEN YOU'LL KNOW WHEN AND HOW TO ACT.

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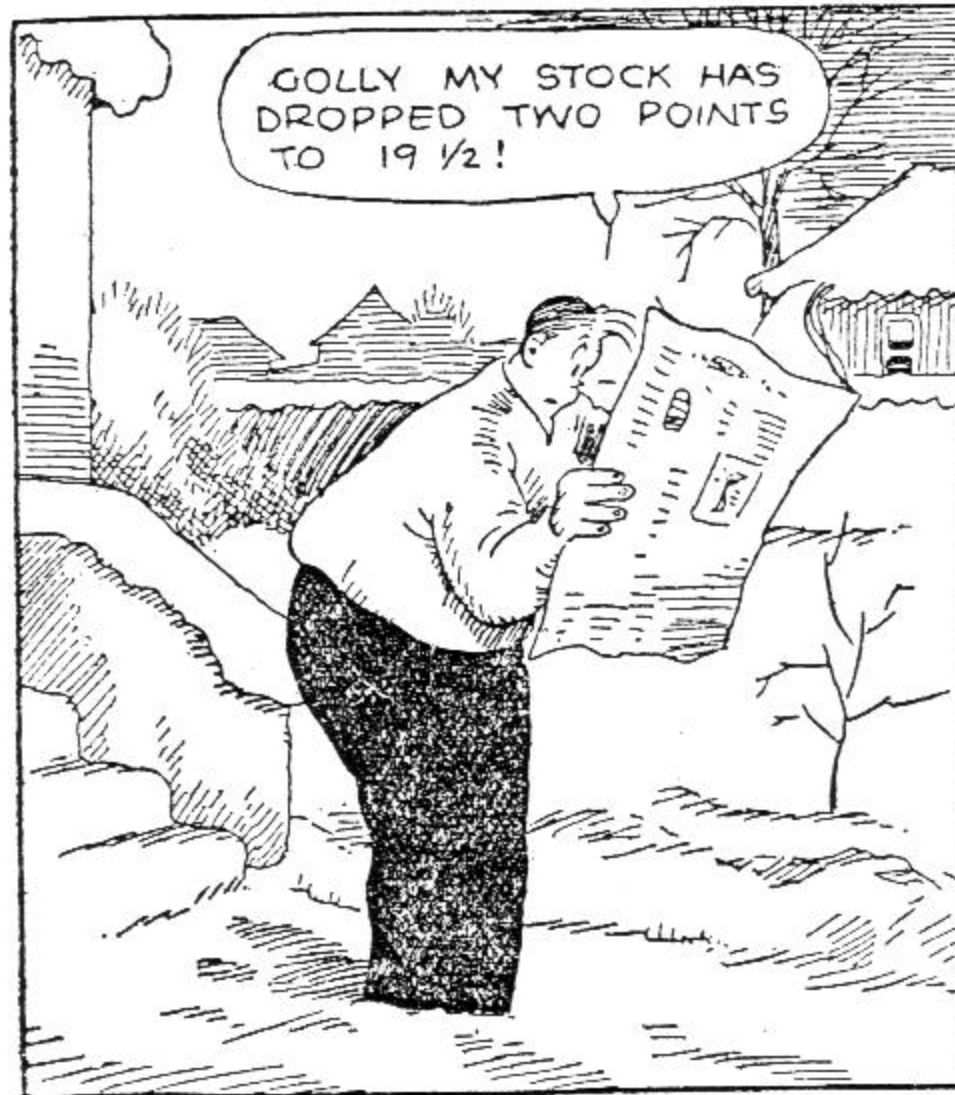


THERE'S A GRAPH! I'VE MADE 'EM FOR EVERYTHING FROM RED CROSS DRIVES TO MY WEIGHT DAY BY DAY. WHEN THE BLACK LINE CRAWLS OFF THE PAPER AT THE TOP, I'LL SELL.



- KING -

GASOLINE ALLEY—A SKID



GOLLY MY STOCK HAS DROPPED TWO POINTS TO 19 1/2!

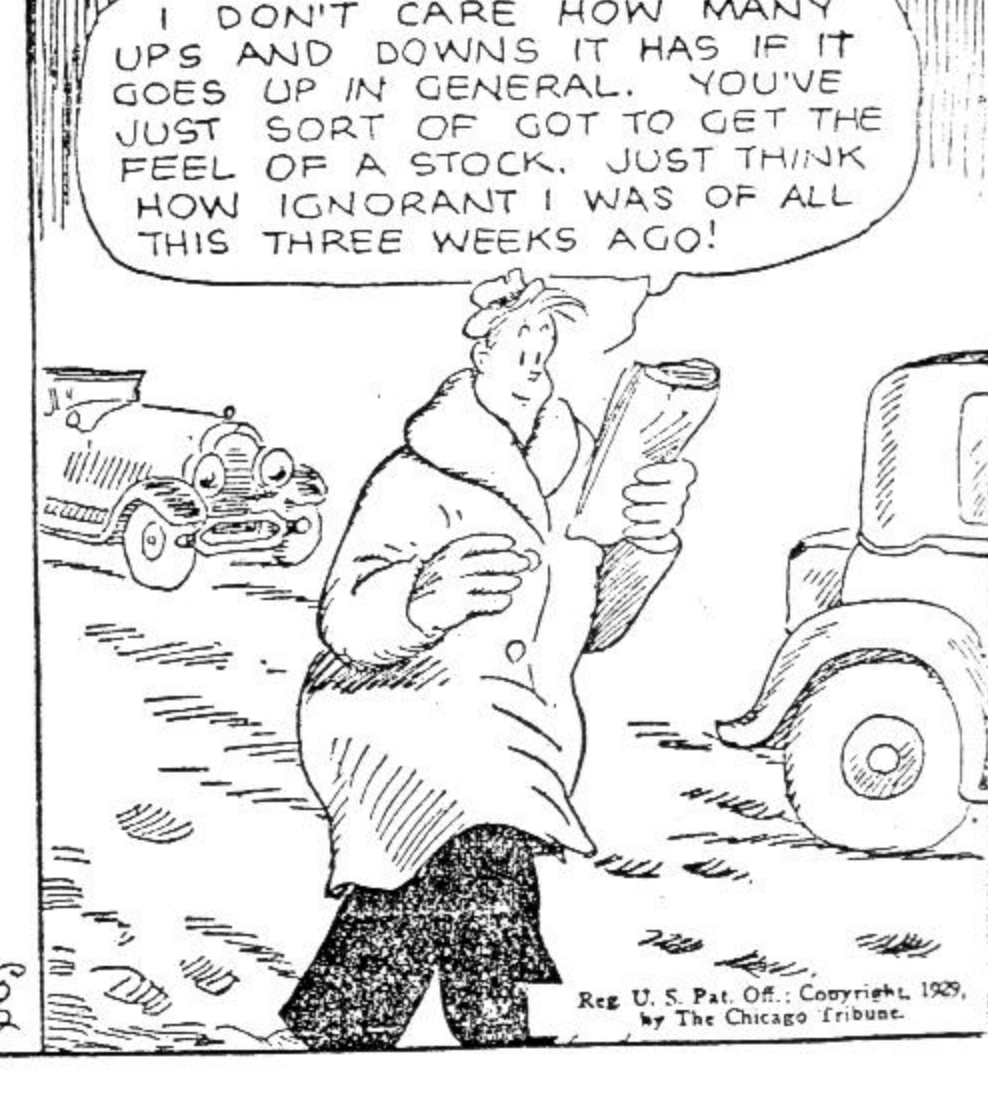


WALT, WHAT'S SO INTERESTING IN THE NEWS? YOU'LL TAKE YOUR DEATH OF COLD

NOTHING



OH, WELL, THAT DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING! IT'S JUST PROFIT TAKING. RUBBER KEYHOLE WILL REBOUND IMMEDIATELY. IN FACT I EXPECTED THIS.



I DON'T CARE HOW MANY UPS AND DOWNS IT HAS IF IT GOES UP IN GENERAL. YOU'VE JUST SORT OF GOT TO GET THE FEEL OF A STOCK. JUST THINK HOW IGNORANT I WAS OF ALL THIS THREE WEEKS AGO!

RUBBER KEYHOLE WAS DOWN THREE POINTS YESTERDAY BUT IT WAS ONLY THE BIG BOYS SHAKING OFF THE PIKERS. I KNEW IT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN ALL THE TIME.



YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE NERVE

THERE'S NO NEED TO GET PANICKY. USE YOUR COOL JUDGMENT. THAT'S WHAT I DO AND SURE ENOUGH BACK IT COMES — 22⁷/₈ THE HIGH OF THE SEASON!



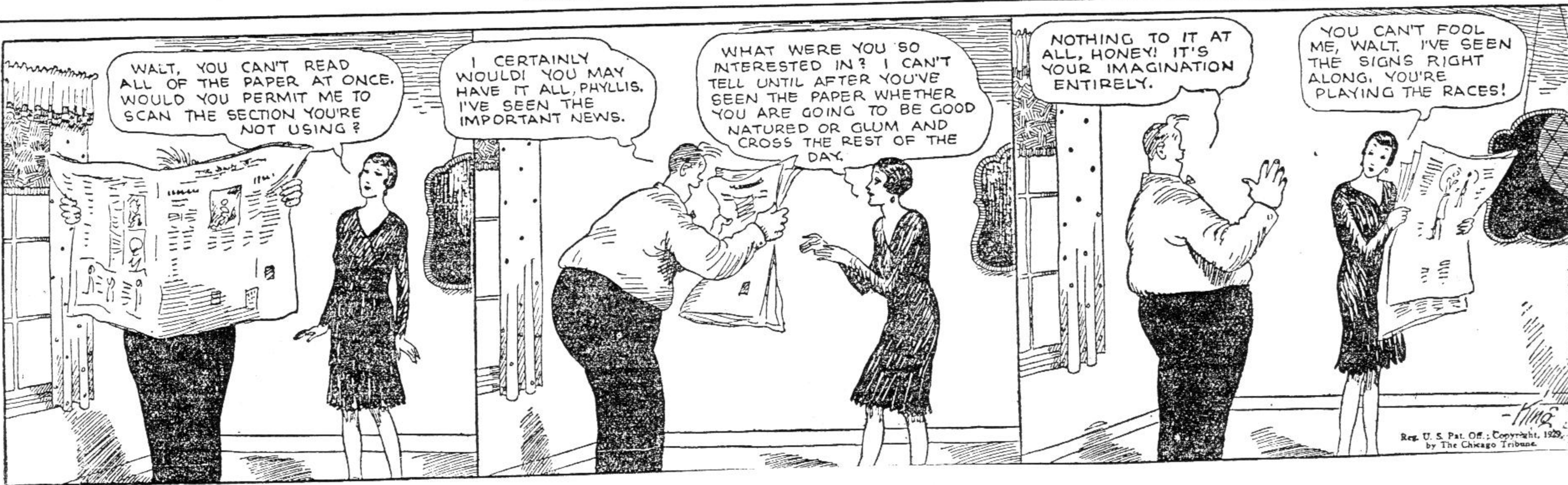
I HEAR VOICES. WHO IS THAT TALKING?

IT'S ONLY UNCLE WALT ARGUIN' WITH HISSELF IN THE MIRROR.



Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.; Copyright, 1929, by The Chicago Tribune.

GASOLINE ALLEY—ONE MORE GUESS



WALT, YOU CAN'T READ ALL OF THE PAPER AT ONCE. WOULD YOU PERMIT ME TO SCAN THE SECTION YOU'RE NOT USING?

I CERTAINLY WOULD! YOU MAY HAVE IT ALL, PHYLLIS. I'VE SEEN THE IMPORTANT NEWS.

WHAT WERE YOU SO INTERESTED IN? I CAN'T TELL UNTIL AFTER YOU'VE SEEN THE PAPER WHETHER YOU ARE GOING TO BE GOOD NATURED OR GLUM AND CROSS THE REST OF THE DAY.

NOTHING TO IT AT ALL, HONEY! IT'S YOUR IMAGINATION ENTIRELY.

YOU CAN'T FOOL ME, WALT. I'VE SEEN THE SIGNS RIGHT ALONG. YOU'RE PLAYING THE RACES!



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...THE NEW WAVE GETS A II

GASOLINE ALLEY—WALT GETS A HEARTY LAUGH

I CAN'T GO TO SLEEP. BUT THANK GOODNESS, I'M NOT WORRYING LIKE I WAS A WEEK OR SO AGO. RUBBER KEYHOLE IS UP TO 25 AND I'M JUST ABOUT A THOUSAND AHEAD!

THAT SHOWS HOW THINGS WORK OUT FOR THE BETTER. I SIGNED THAT NOTE FOR JOE GUNK FOR \$150 AND HAD TO BORROW FROM AVERY TO PAY IT. IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THAT I WOULDN'T HAVE BOUGHT STOCK.

GOLLY, IT'S NICE TO THINK OF ALL THAT MONEY AHEAD - AND GETTING BIGGER AND BETTER ALL THE TIME!

WALT, I SAW A FINE KITCHEN MIXER FOR \$4.25 YESTERDAY BUT I'D HAVE TO PAY CASH. DON'T YOU THINK I COULD GET IT?

GEE, PHYLLIS, I HAVEN'T GOT \$4.25 IN CASH THAT HASN'T BEEN SPENT AT LEAST TWICE.

HA! HA! THAT'S GOOD! A THOUSAND READY TO BE PICKED ANY TIME AND I CAN'T SCARE UP \$4. SOME FINANCIER!

- KING
Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.; Copyright, 1929, by The Chicago Tribune.

THE ONLY BAD PART OF THIS STOCK PROPOSITION IS THAT I HAVEN'T DARED TELL PHYLLIS. BUT I'D FEEL A LOT BETTER ABOUT IT IF I'D MAKE A FULL CONFESSION.

BY GOLLY, I'M GOING TO DO IT. SHE'LL HAVE PLENTY TO SAY BUT I DESERVE IT.

PHYLLIS, I'VE DONE SOMETHING I HAVEN'T BEEN MAN ENOUGH TO OWN UP TO BUT I WANT TO CONFESS THE WHOLE THING. I'LL FEEL BETTER

WHY, WALT, WHAT IS IT? DON'T FRIGHTEN ME THAT WAY.

I BOUGHT SOME RUBBER KEYHOLE STOCK ABOUT A MONTH AGO AND I'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET UP MY NERVE TO TELL YOU ABOUT IT.

WHY THAT'S GONE WAY UP HASN'T IT? THAT'S WONDERFUL! I THOUGHT IT WAS EMBEZZLEMENT OR FORGERY AT LEAST!



THOS

GASOLINE ALLEY—AGREED



WELL, IT'S HAPPENED AT LAST! I WONDERED HOW SOON IT WOULD BE.



PHYLLIS, COME QUICK! I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING!



AREN'T YOU SURPRISED AT OUR LORA?



I'M ONLY SURPRISED BECAUSE IT HAS TAKEN THE BOYS SO LONG TO DISCOVER HER.

I WON'T GIVE YOU YOUR BOOKS UNLESS YOU PROMISE ME I CAN WALK HOME WITH YOU TOMORROW NIGHT, LORA.



I WOULDN'T PROMISE YOU A THING, BIB. TOMORROW IS A LONG WAY OFF.



- KING

GASOLINE ALLEY—AS DISTINGUISHED FROM BOYS

CORKY
LIKES MY
BEADS!

OH, CORKY!
NOW SEE
WHAT YOU'VE
DONE!

THAT'S A NICE
BOY SKEEZIX.
SEE IF YOU
CAN FIND
THEM ALL

BABIES ARE
A AWFUL
NUISANCE, LORA.

YOU GOT TO
BE PICKIN' UP
AFTER 'EM ALL
THE TIME.

GASOLINE ALLEY—FALSE ALARM

HOW IS THE STOCK MARKET, WALT?

ALL I KNOW IS THAT RUBBER KEYHOLE IS CLIMBING, DOC. IT HAS BEEN PRETTY CONSISTENT WHEN THE REST OF THEM HAVE SLUMPED.

AREN'T YOU AFRAID THERE'S A FLOP COMING? A STOCK DOESN'T GO UP, YOU KNOW, IT'S PUT UP.

I CAN'T SEE IT, DOC. I'VE GOT IT FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE THAT THEY'VE GOT A NEW PROCESS OF REFINING OLD RUBBER FOR KEYHOLES AND HAVE BEEN QUIETLY BUYING UP STOCKS OF OLD TIRES.

WELL, NOBODY EVER WENT BROKE TAKING A PROFIT.

TRUE ENOUGH, BUT NOTHING VENTURED NOTHING GAINED.

DOC'S A BEAR. I WONDER IF HIS HUNCH IS ANY GOOD.

RUBBER KEYHOLE UP TO 27½ DOC'S NOT A CONSERVATIVE HE'S A PESSIMIST.

GASOLINE ALLEY—THE MAN BEHIND

FROM ALL I HEAR WALT IS JUST COINING MONEY ON THE STOCK MARKET. IF HE IS IT'S A WONDER HE WOULDN'T PAY ME BACK THE 150 HE BORROWED FROM ME.



HE STARTED ON A SHOESTRING AND I FURNISHED THE SHOESTRING HE'S GETTING RICH AND I'M GETTING A MEASLY 6 PERCENT A YEAR.



AT FIRST THEY SAID HE WAS LUCKY—NOW THEY SAY HE'S SHREWD.



IF RUBBER KEYHOLE GOES UP HE'S A SUCCESSFUL OPERATOR. IF IT GOES DOWN HE'S JUST ANOTHER POOR FISH.



I JUST WANT TO GET MY 150 OUT WHILE HE'S A WISE INVESTOR, THAT'S ALL.





YOUR UNCLE WALT IS GETTIN' RICH ISN'T HE SKEEZIX?

WHO SAID SO, JEAN?



I HEARD MY PAPA TALKING AN' HE SAID SO.

HE DIDN'T TELL ME HE WAS ANY RICHER.



UNCLE WALT, CAN I HAVE A LOWANCE OF 50 CENTS 'STEAD OF 25 THIS TIME?

SAY, THAT'S QUITE A RAISE ALL AT ONCE! WHY, MAY I ASK?



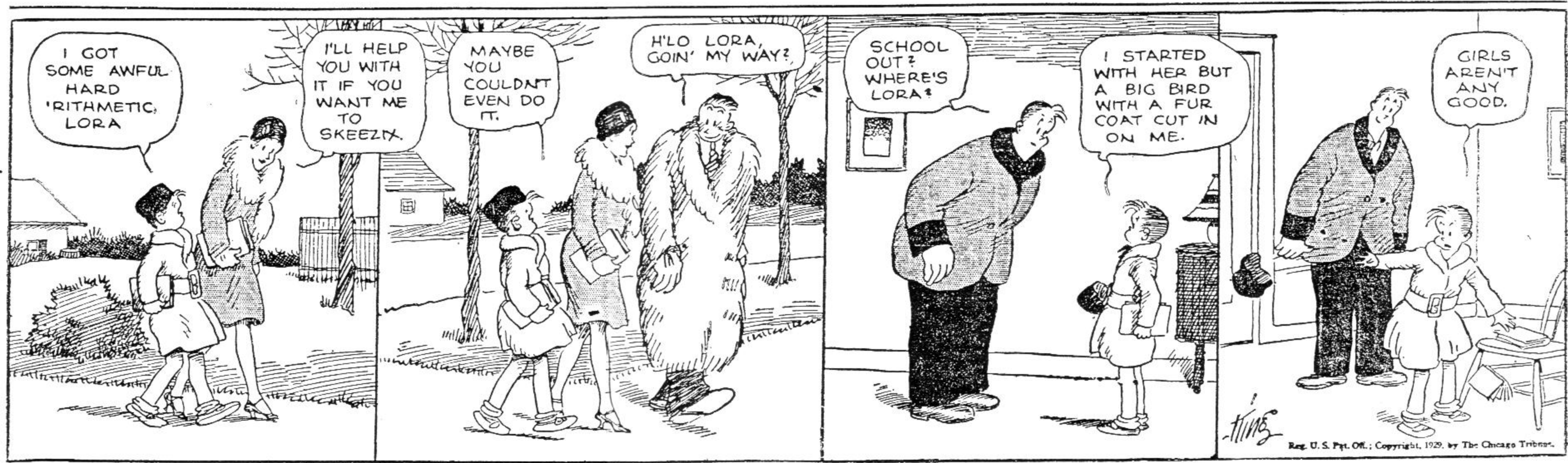
JEAN SAYS YOU'RE GETTIN' RICH.



GREAT, SCOTT! A LITTLE LUCK IN THE STOCK MARKET WILL BE MY UNDOING YET!

Mingo

GASOLINE ALLEY—DISILLUSIONED



I GOT SOME AWFUL HARD 'RITHMETIC, LORA

I'LL HELP YOU WITH IT IF YOU WANT ME TO SKEEZY.

MAYBE YOU COULDN'T EVEN DO IT.

H'LO LORA, GOIN' MY WAY?

SCHOOL OUT? WHERE'S LORA?

I STARTED WITH HER BUT A BIG BIRD WITH A FUR COAT CUT IN ON ME.

GIRLS AREN'T ANY GOOD.

T. T. T. T.

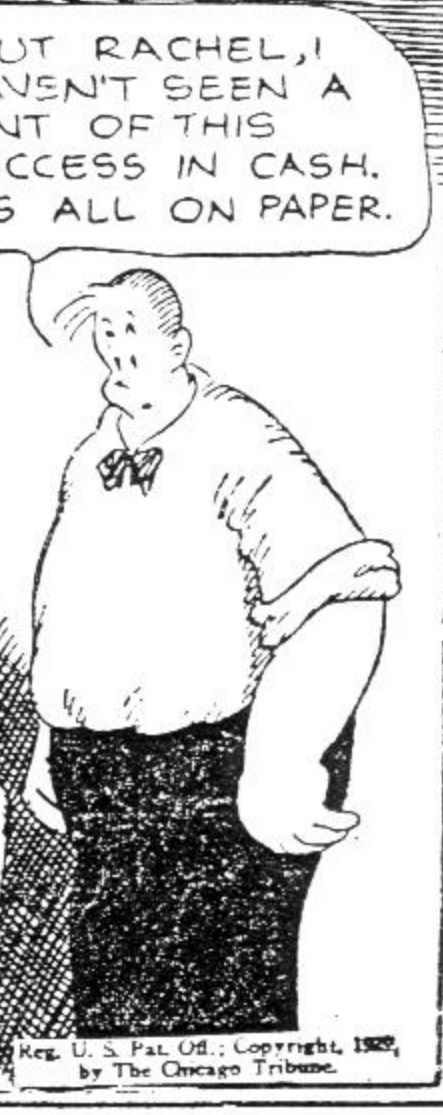
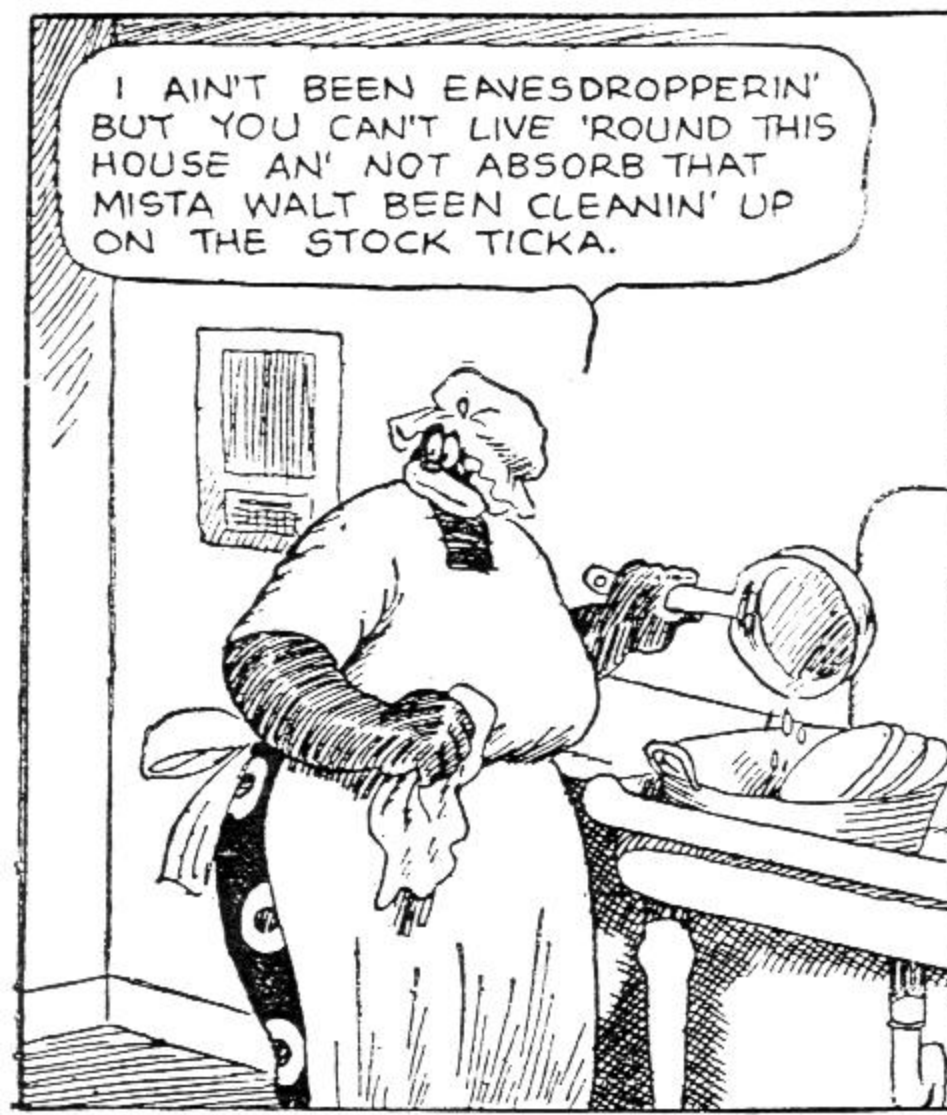
I AIN'T BEEN EAVESDROPPERIN' BUT YOU CAN'T LIVE 'ROUND THIS HOUSE AN' NOT ABSORB THAT MISTA WALT BEEN CLEANIN' UP ON THE STOCK TICKA.

WELL I GLAD FOR HIS SAKE. I ALWAYS LIKE TO SEE FOLKS GIT ALONG.

ANYWAY HE AINT BEEN SPENDIN' MUCH AROUND HERE. HE MUSTA STILL GOT ALL HE MADE.

MISTA WALT, I WANT TO 'GRATULATE YOU ON YOUR SUCCESS AN' I FIGGURED MAYBE THIS WAS THE BEST INOPPORTUNE TIME TO AST YOU IF MAYBE PERHAPS YOU COULD GIVE ME A LITTLE RAISE.

BUT RACHEL, I HAVEN'T SEEN A CENT OF THIS SUCCESS IN CASH. IT'S ALL ON PAPER.



King

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GASOLINE ALLEY—HE MIGHT CATCH YOUR BARK, SKEEZIX

PAL, COME DOWN FROM THERE! YOU'RE SMUDGING UP MY NICE CLEAN WINDOW!

GREAT HEAVENS, SKEEZIX! YOU MUSTN'T USE YOUR HANDKERCHIEF ON PAL'S NOSE!

I WAS JES' WIPIN' IT SO HE WOULDN'T GET THE WINDOW DIRTY.

GO 'LONG PAL! AUNTIE BLOSSOM WON'T LET ME WIPE OFF YOUR NOSE ANY MORE. SHE'S AFRAID YOU'LL GET MY COLD.

King

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GASOLINE ALLEY—BYE-BYE

BUT YOU WON'T BE AWAY LONG, DEAR.

NO, ONLY A FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS. IT'S ONLY A LITTLE TOWN BUT THE COMPANY WANTS ME TO LOOK OVER A FACTORY THERE

BRING ME SOMETHIN' UNCLE WALT

WELL ANYWAY, RUBBER KEYHOLE IS DOING IT'S STUFF—UP A HALF A POINT TO 28½ THE BIG BOYS THINK IT'S GOOD OR THEY WOULDN'T BE BUYING IT.

I COULD PUT IN A STOP ORDER IN CASE IT SHOULD BREAK WHILE I'M AWAY BUT THEN THE BROKER MIGHT SELL ME OUT JUST WHEN I WOULDN'T WANT TO BE SOLD OUT.

IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR THEM TO SHAKE OFF THE TIMID ONES AGAIN ANYWAY. I'LL WATCH IT AND I CAN WIRE HIM FROM LEBANON AS WELL AS CALL HIM FROM HERE.

GASOLINE ALLEY—ANOTHER PROSPECT

ISN'T WALT THE LUCKY GUY!
HE GOT IN ON RUBBER
KEYHOLE AT ABOUT 15 AND NOW
IT'S 28½

AND HE'S
HANGING ON. HE
SEEMS TO KNOW
WHAT HE'S DOING

HE'D BE GETTING
OUT IF HE WASN'T
PRETTY SURE IT
WAS GOING HIGHER

I'LL BET I COULD
STILL MAKE SOME
MONEY IN IT
MYSELF.

I HAD THAT PAIN
ABOUT 9:30, DOCTOR,
AND MY HUSBAND
GAVE ME TWO PILLS LIKE
YOU SAID. BUT I
COULDN'T GET TO SLEEP
AND I WAS NERVOUS
AND MY HANDS
SWEAT.

WHEN I GET
THROUGH WITH THIS
CALL I'M GOING TO
PUT IN AN ORDER
WITH WALT'S
BROKER TO BUY
SOME

GASOLINE ALLEY—AMONG THE MISSING

IS UNCLE WALT GOIN' TO BE AWAY VERY LONG, AUNTIE BLOSSOM? I'M MISSIN' HIM.

HE'LL BE BACK IN TWO OR THREE DAYS I GOT A WIRE FROM HIM THIS MORNING

THIS IS HIS HAT GEE, I'M LONESOME FOR HIM!

I'LL GO ANSWER THE BELL, RACHEL

IS THE MAN OF THE HOUSE AT HOME?

SURE! I'M THE MAN O' THE HOUSE!

GASOLINE ALLEY—OUTLOOK NOT SO BRILLIANT

IT ALWAYS HAPPENS THAT WAY! AS SOON AS I BUY A STOCK IT DOES A NOSE DIVE! MY ORDER FOR RUBBER KEYHOLE WAS TOO HEAVY AND IT SUNK

OH WELL I OUGHT TO LEARN AFTER A WHILE I SPOT SOMETHING THAT LOOKS LIKE A BALLOON AND WHEN I CLIMB IN IT'S A TOBOGGAN.

I SUPPOSE AN INVESTMENT EXPERT WOULD FLOP AS BADLY DOING A SURGICAL OPERATION, BUT HE HAS SENSE ENOUGH NOT TO TRY SOMETHING OUT OF HIS LINE.

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY FOR ME TO MAKE MONEY IN THE STOCK MARKET - ORGANIZE A SYNDICATE THAT WILL PAY ME FOR STAYING OUT.

King
Reg U.S. Pat. Off., Copyright, 1929, by The Chicago Tribune

GOLLY, WALT, I'M GLAD YOU'RE BACK! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.

SO AM I, DOC. COME IN.

WHILE YOU WERE GONE I DECIDED I WANTED TO GET IN ON THIS RUBBER KEYHOLE RISE, WALT, SO I BOUGHT SOME. AND IMMEDIATELY IT STARTED DOWN. IT HAS SKIDDED FROM 28 1/2 TO 24.

DON'T LET THAT WORRY YOU, DOC. I'VE HEARD A RUMOR SINCE I GOT HOME THAT THERE ARE TWO BIG CONSOLIDATIONS IN PROSPECT WITH AN EXCHANGE OF STOCK TO OUR ADVANTAGE.

THEN WHY SHOULD RUBBER KEYHOLE GO INTO A TAILSPIN? YOU'D THINK IT WOULD DO A SKY ROCKET.

THE PUBLIC HASN'T HEARD ABOUT IT YET AND THE PUNY SPECULATORS ARE BEING SHAKEN OFF AGAIN. I THINK IT WILL KEEP ON GOING UP.

THANKS WALT. YOU'VE CERTAINLY MADE ME FEEL A LOT BETTER

WELL YOU KNOW, DOC, I MAY MAKE MISTAKES BUT IN LIGHT OF MY EXPERIENCES THAT'S MY BEST OPINION.

GASOLINE ALLEY—THERE—THAT'S THAT!

WALT'S INFORMATION
MAY BE OK BUT I'VE
GOT A HUNCH AND I'M
GOING TO GET OUT
FROM UNDER AND
TAKE MY LOSS.

UNDER
WHAT?

I'VE GOT A CALL
TO MAKE ON A VERY
SICK PATIENT FIRST.
TELL YOUR WIFE TO TAKE
A TEASPOONFUL OF
SODA AND GARGLE
WITH SALT WATER.

WALT CAN STAY IN IF
HE WANTS TO BUT HE
GOT IN AT 15. I PICKED
THE TOP AS THE PLACE
TO BUY. AS A
SPECULATOR I'M A FIRST
CLASS DOCTOR—ALSO
SUCKER.

GOSH!
RUBBER KEYHOLE
DOWN TO 25
AND SINKING
FAST. I'LL SAY
IT'S SICK.

SELL MY FIFTY SHARES OF
RUBBER KEYHOLE AT THE
MARKET

OK.
DOC



SURE, DOC, I GOT YOUR VOICE THE FIRST THING — WHAT! — NO! — THREE POINTS!



GOLLY I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO SLIDE LIKE THAT!



STILL SLIPPING. WELL THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO — GET OUT WHILE I HAVE PART OF A SHIRT LEFT.*



SELL MY HUNDRED SHARES OF RUBBER KEYHOLE AT THE MARKET.

GASOLINE ALLEY—DIRGE

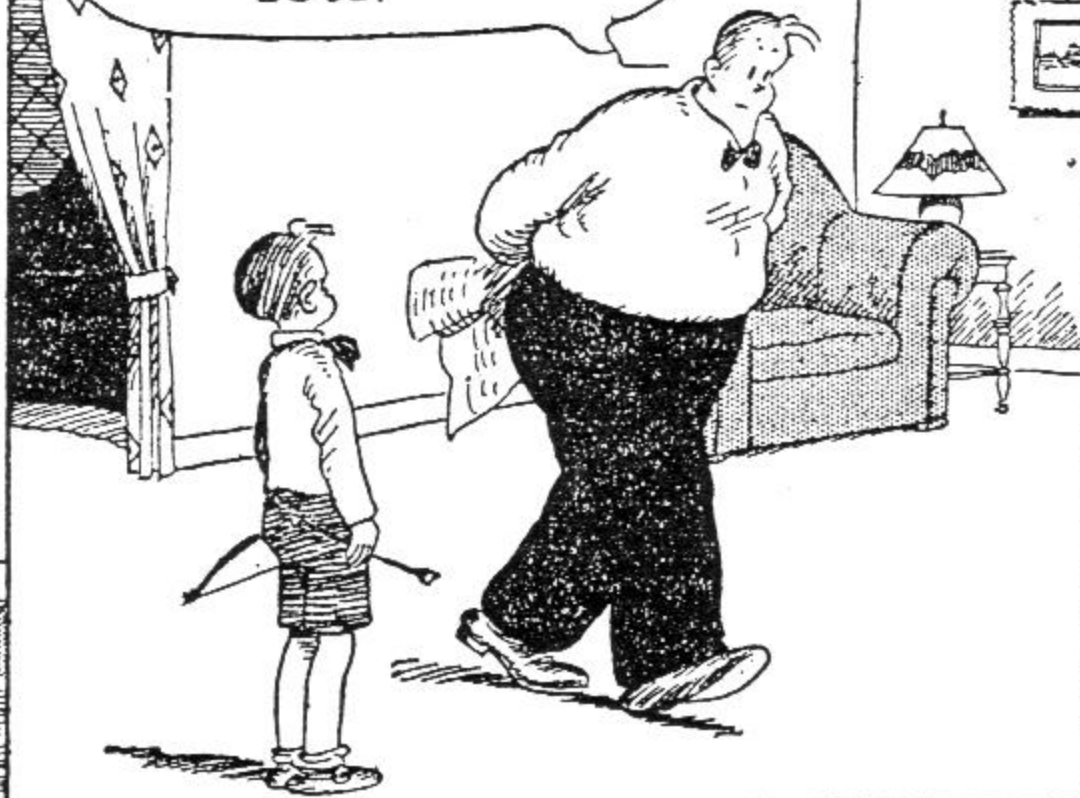
I DON'T KNOW WHY I SHOULD BE READING THE STOCK MARKET REPORT TODAY—I SOLD OUT MY RUBBER KEYHOLE YESTERDAY



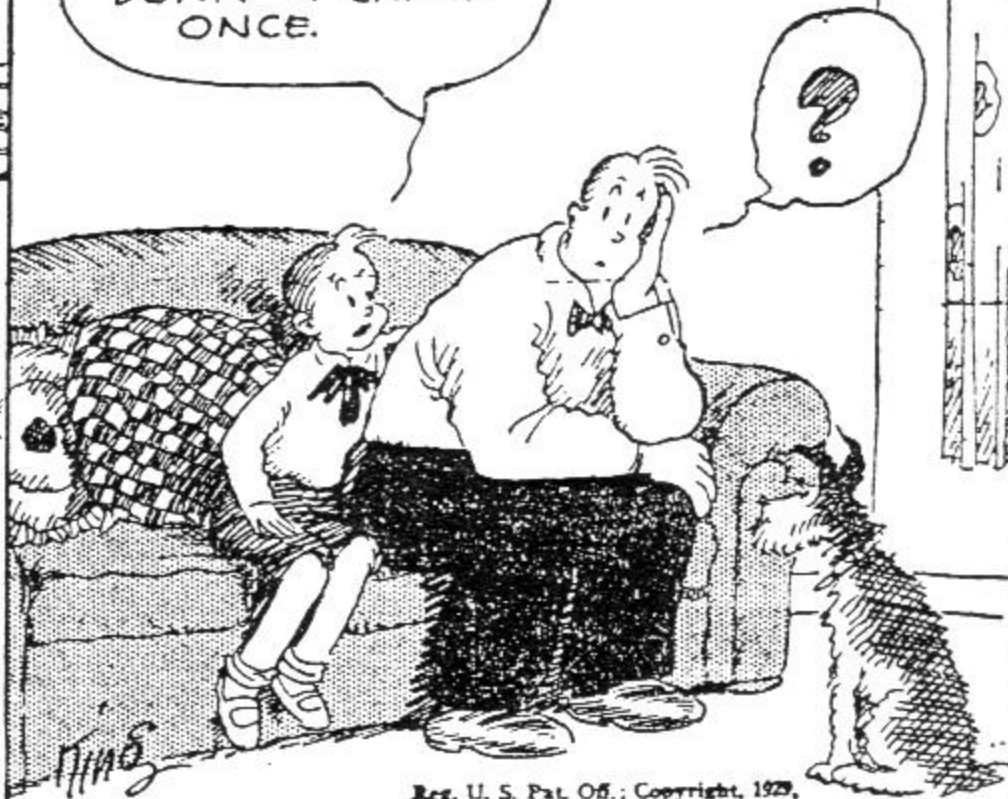
I PUT IN MY SELLING ORDER WHEN IT STOOD AT 20½ AND IT GOT DOWN TO 17 BEFORE I COULD SELL. IT CERTAINLY WAS ON THE SKIDS.



I HAD A HUNCH TO SELL AT 28½ BUT I DIDN'T. I'D HAVE CLEANED UP 13½ POINTS! THAT'S A LOT OF MONEY TO LOSE!



NEVER MIND, UNCLE WALT. I LOST A NICKEL DOWN A CRACK ONCE.



Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.; Copyright, 1929,
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WHY SO GLUM AND MELANCHOLY WALT?

WHY SHOULDN'T I BE, DOC? I JUST LOST \$1150 IN RUBBER KEYHOLE.

LOST? YOU BOUGHT AT 15 AND SOLD AT 17 DIDN'T YOU? HOW DO YOU FIGURE THAT A LOSS?

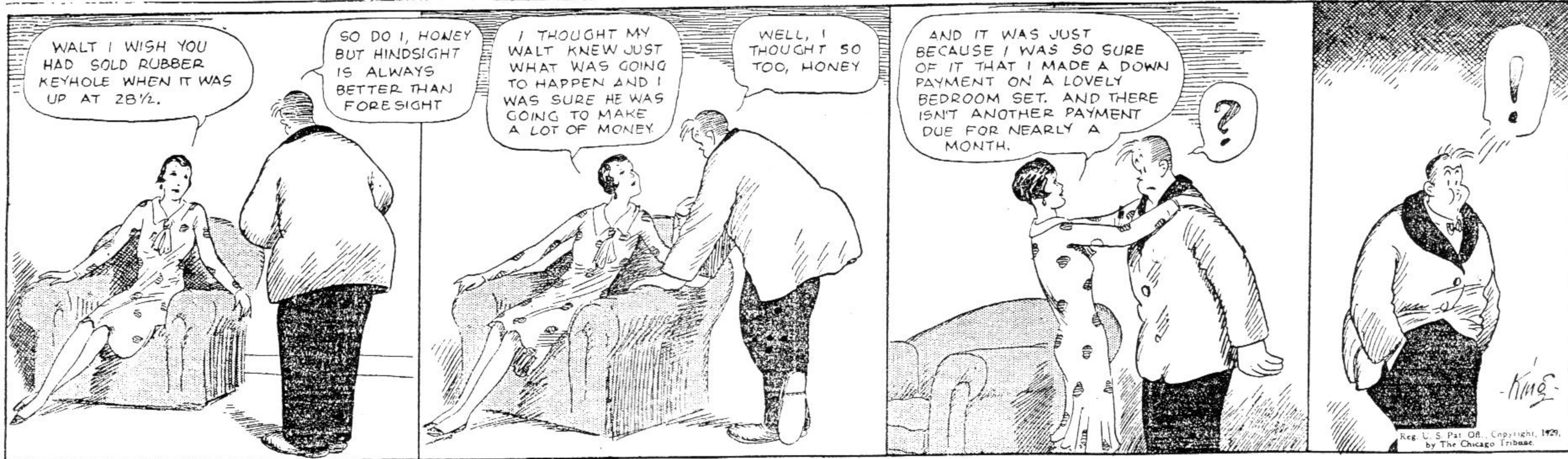
BUT, DOC, I COULD JUST AS WELL SOLD AT 28 1/2. THERE'S 11 1/2 POINTS GONE! I MIGHT JUST AS WELL HAVE HAD THAT 1150 AS NOT.

WELL I BOUGHT AT 28 1/2 AND SOLD AT 24. THAT WAS REAL MONEY I LOST—NOT MONEY CHALKED UP SOMEWHERE ON SOMEBODY'S BOOKS BUT MONEY I'VE EARNED, FINGERED AND HAD A PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE WITH.

YES THAT WAS TOUGH, DOC. I'M SORRY

I SUPPOSE DOC IS RIGHT BUT JUST THE SAME HE HADN'T COUNTED HIS ANY OFTENER—EVEN IF MINE WAS ONLY ON PAPER. AND A LOSS IS A LOSS, WHETHER THEY TAKE IT OUT OF YOUR POCKET OR OUT OF YOUR MIND.

GASOLINE ALLEY—MORE GRIEF



GASOLINE ALLEY—AVERY GETS HIS DIVIDEND.

(Copyright 1929.)

WELL ANYWAY,
I CAN GO BACK
AND PAY AVERY
WHAT I OWE HIM.

AVERY,
IT CERTAINLY
GIVES ME
GREAT PLEASURE
TO RETURN
THE \$150
I BORROWED
OF YOU.

MUTUAL,
I'M SURE,
WALT.

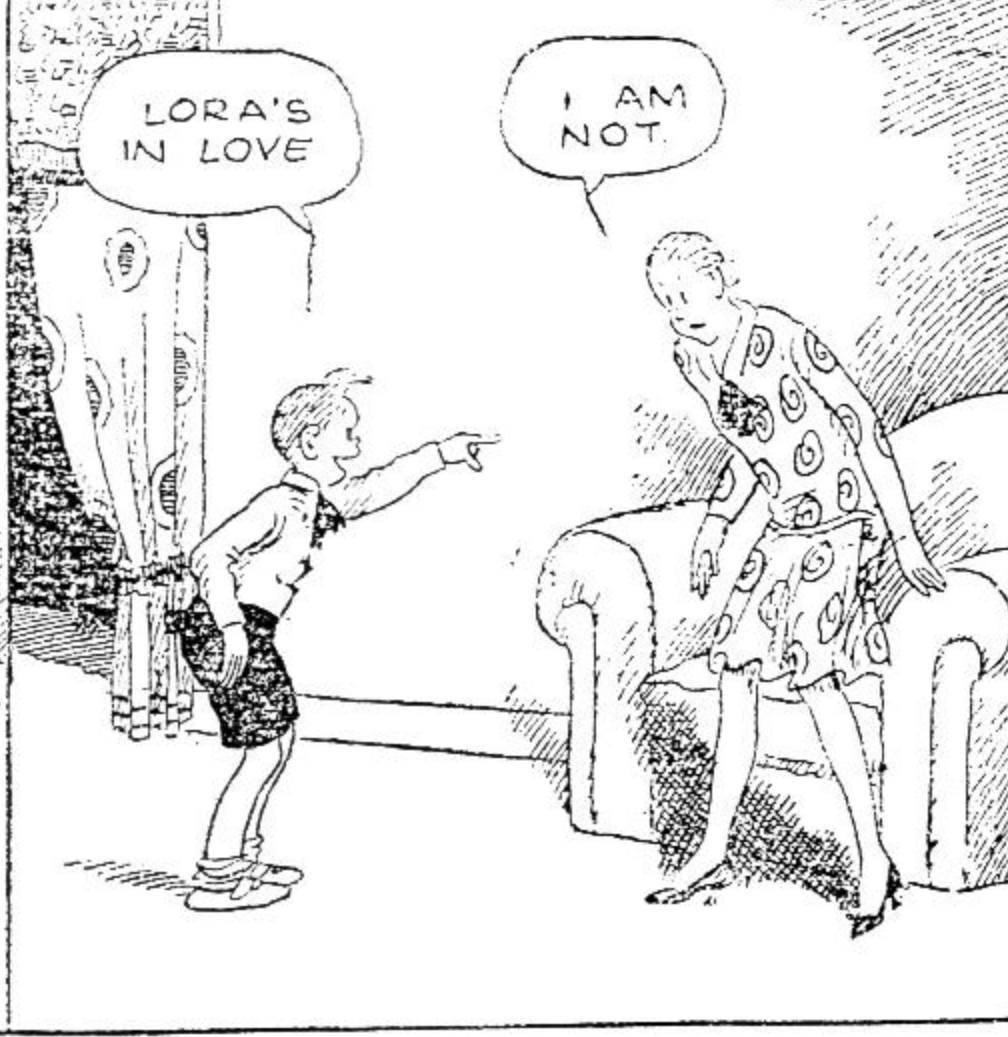
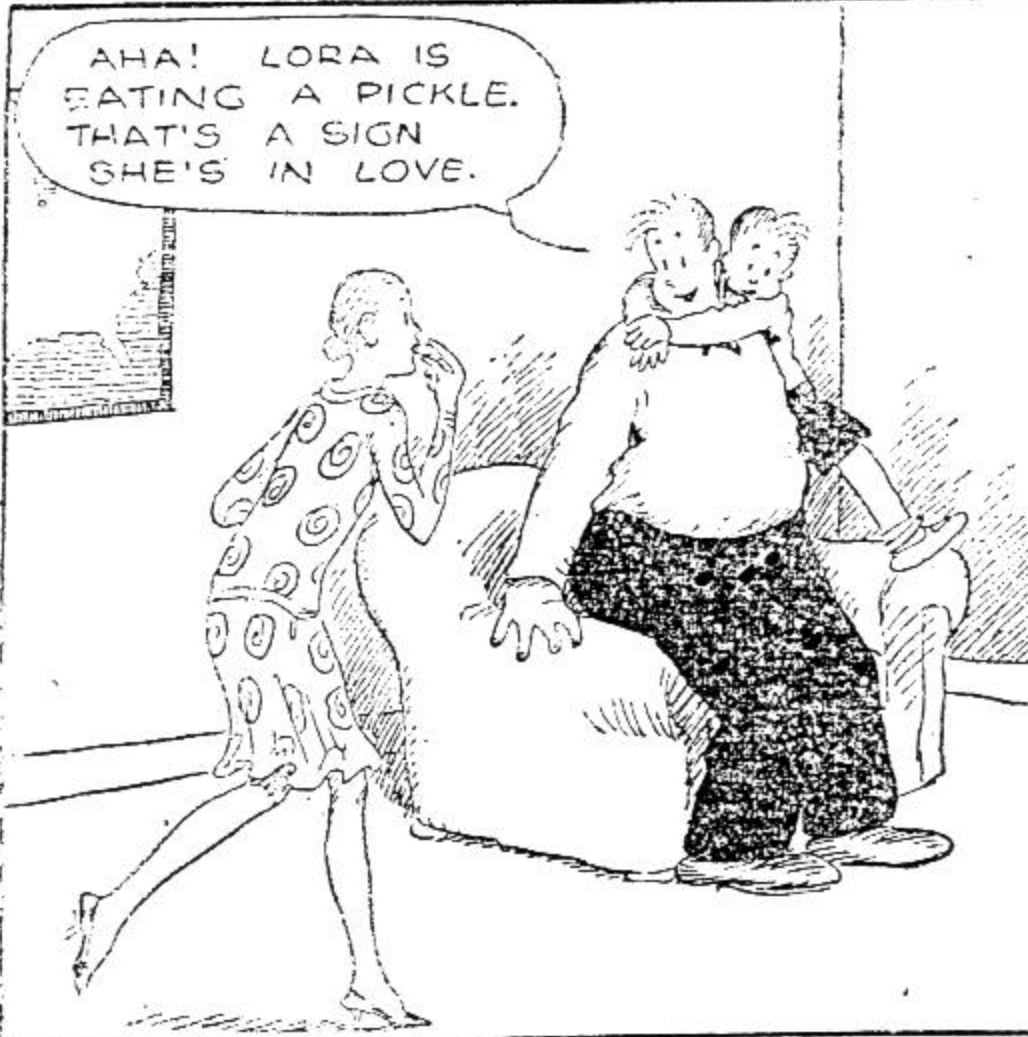
AND I
FIGURE THE
INTEREST
TO AMOUNT
TO \$2.37.

\$2.39, WALT.
I'VE BEEN KEEPING
TRACK OF IT.

THEN MAYBE
YOU CAN PAY
ME MY LAST
THREE WEEKS
'LOWANCE FOR
MY SAVINGS
BANK, UNCLE
WALT.

I'LL BE BROKE
AGAIN IN NO
TIME.

King



GASOLINE ALLEY—A RIVAL IN BLUE.

(Copyright, 1929.)



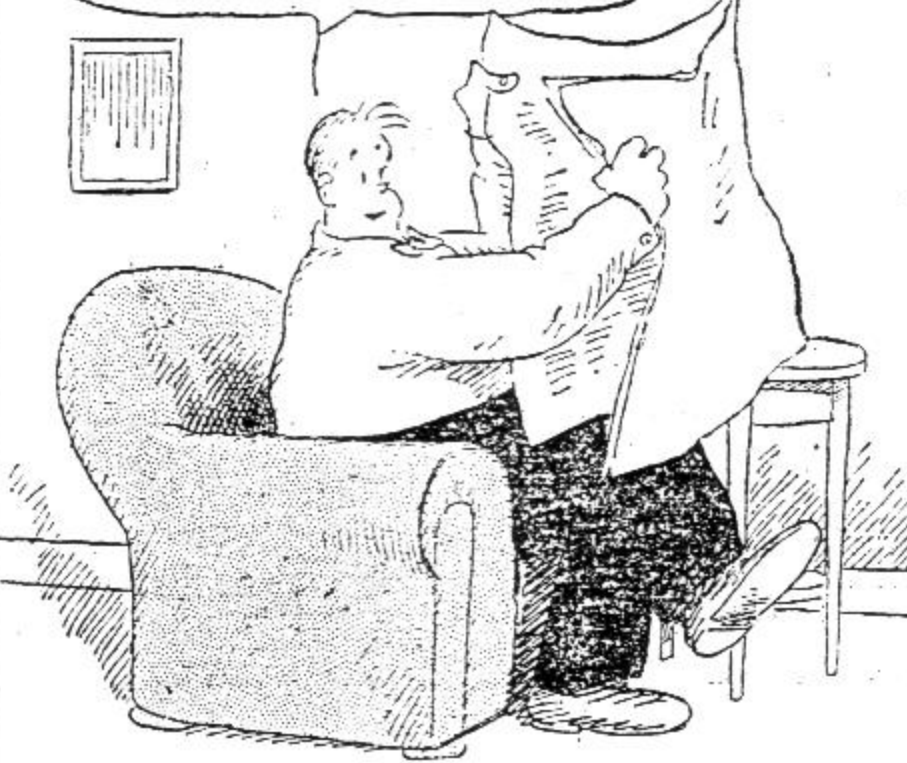
Reg. D.

King

IT'S LUCKY FOR ME I GOT OUT OF RUBBER KEYHOLE JUST WHEN I DID. IT'S BEEN SINKING EVER SINCE. THE LAST QUOTATION WAS 15 AND I SOLD AT 17. I SAW IT COMING.



TO GET IN THAT GAME YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE AN INSTINCT FOR IT. I HAD A SORT OF INTUITION IT WAS GOING WAY DOWN.



WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT! IT'S UP TO 18 AGAIN. I WONDER WHAT SENT IT UP!



GOLLY, IF IT'S GOING UP WHERE IT WAS I'LL BE SORRY I SOLD. I WISH I'D KNOWN THAT AND I'D HAVE HUNG ON.



IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR SKEEZIX AND LORA TO BE GETTING OUT OF SCHOOL. I MIGHT AS WELL STOP BY AND PICK THEM UP.

NO CHUCK, NOT ANY RIDE. JUST TAKE ME HOME.

ALL RIGHT, LORA. I KNOW THE LONGEST WAY HOME.

I CAME FOR YOU AND LORA, SKEEZIX. BUT LORA'S GONE

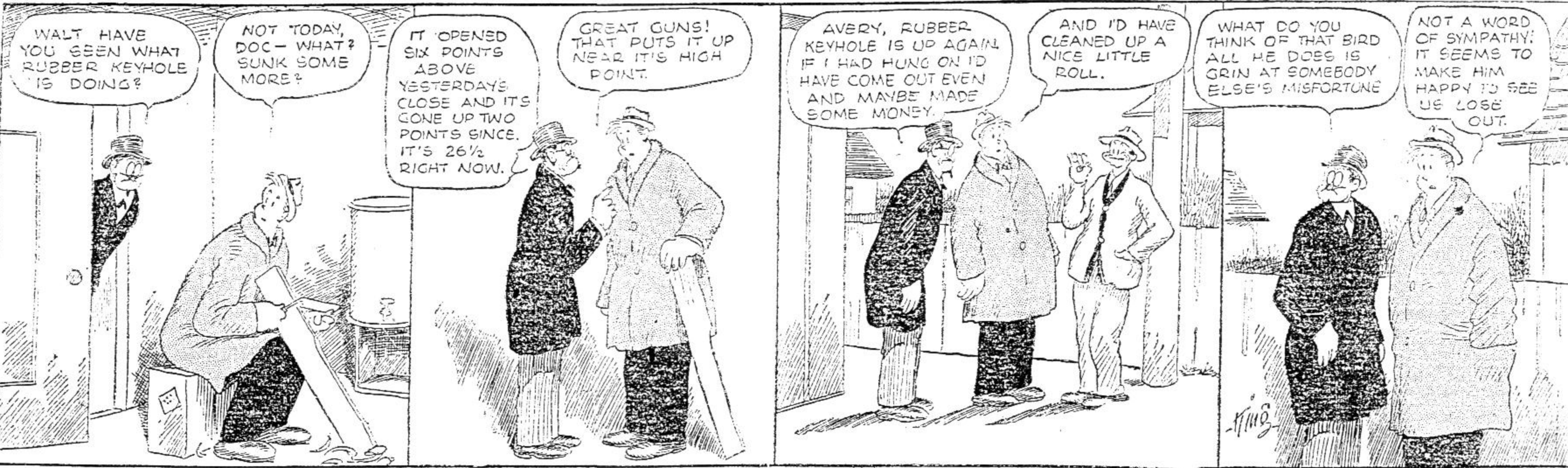
YES SHE WENT WITH CHUCK IN HIS NEW PACKALAC ROADSTER.

I WON'T WASTE MY TIME ON GIRLS WHEN I GET BIG ENOUGH FOR A COONSKIN COAT.

-King

GASOLINE ALLEY—AVERY IS A POOR MOURNER.

(Copyright, 1929.)



WALT HAVE YOU SEEN WHAT RUBBER KEYHOLE IS DOING?

NOT TODAY, DOC—WHAT? SUNK SOME MORE?

IT OPENED SIX POINTS ABOVE YESTERDAY'S CLOSE AND IT'S GONE UP TWO POINTS SINCE. IT'S 26½ RIGHT NOW.

GREAT GUNS! THAT PUTS IT UP NEAR IT'S HIGH POINT.

AVERY, RUBBER KEYHOLE IS UP AGAIN! IF I HAD HUNG ON I'D HAVE COME OUT EVEN AND MAYBE MADE SOME MONEY.

AND I'D HAVE CLEANED UP A NICE LITTLE ROLL.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT BIRD ALL HE DOES IS GRIN AT SOMEBODY ELSE'S MISFORTUNE

NOT A WORD OF SYMPATHY! IT SEEMS TO MAKE HIM HAPPY TO SEE US LOSE OUT.

King

GASOLINE ALLEY—SMILE THAT OFF.

(Copyright, 1929.)

THERE IS AVERY AGAIN EXULTING MORE THAN EVER BECAUSE RUBBER KEYHOLE IS UP TWO AND A HALF POINTS MORE TODAY—WAY ABOVE WHERE WALT AND I SOLD IT!

WALT, THAT BIRD IS GETTING ON MY NERVES. I'M GOING TO TELL HIM A FEW THINGS PRETTY SOON. HE'D HAVE HAD THE BLUES IF WE HAD MADE SOME MONEY!

HE'S ONE OF THOSE I TOLD YOU SO GUYS.

AVERY I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR GIVING US THE QUIET HA HA JUST BECAUSE WE LOST MONEY IN RUBBER KEYHOLE

SAY, I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU GINKS DID.

BUT WHEN IT SLUMPED TO 15 I BOUGHT MYSELF 50 SHARES AND NOW IT'S UP TO 29.

King

GASOLINE ALLEY—OUTLOOK FAVORABLE.

(Copyright, 1929.)



CORKY, I DOESN'T GIT MY HANDS ON YOU SO OFTEN AS I USE TO ON SKEEZIX. I AIN'T GOT THE BRINGIN' OF YOU UP LIKE I DID HIM.



STILL YOU AIN'T SO SPOILED AS YOU MIGHT BE. BUT YOU COULD BE IMPROVED A LOT. LOOK WHAT SKEEZIX WAS UP TO WHEN MISTA WALT GOT MARRIED.



THERE, CHEW YOUR BACON RIND - YOU GOIN' GROW UP INTO A FINE BIG BOY ANYWAY. YOU JES' FOLLA SKEEZIX. HE STILL GOT THE BENEFITS O' HIS EARLY TRAININ'!



I HAS RAISED DOZENS OF 'EM AN' I KNOWS GOOD MATERIAL. YOU GOIN' BE SOMEBODY. I GOIN' TELL YOU YOUR FORTUNE WITH CARDS SOME DAY AN' SEE IF I AIN'T RIGHT!

GASOLINE ALLEY—BAD LUCK VS. GOOD JUDGMENT.

(Copyright, 1920.)

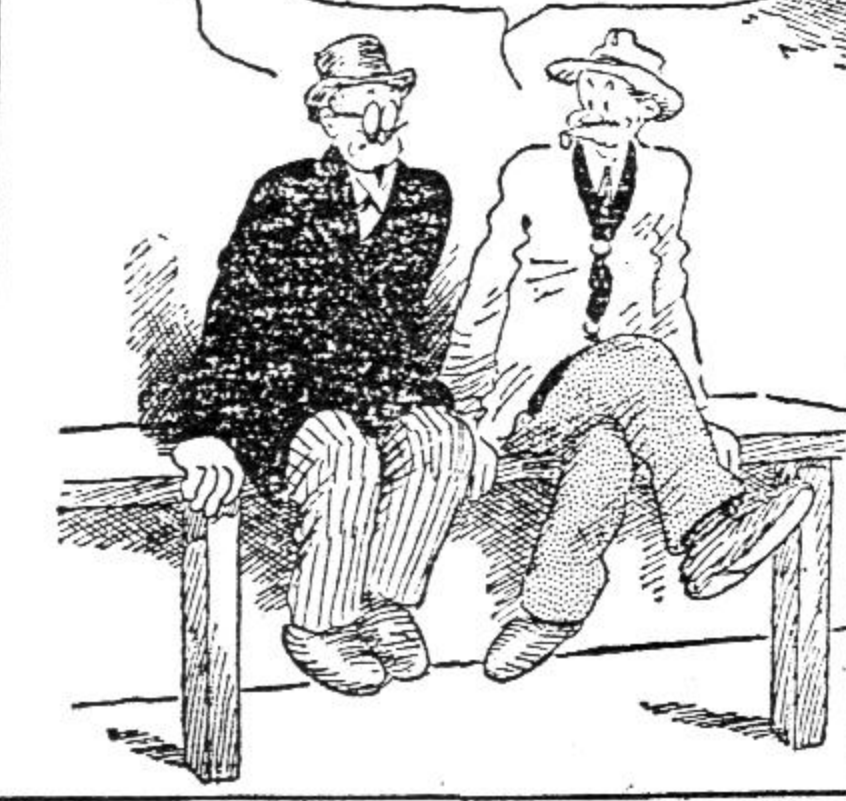
NOW THAT YOU GOT INTO RUBBER KEYHOLE AND GOT IN RIGHT—AT 15— I WISH YOU A LOT OF LUCK, AVERY.

I'VE HAD THAT ALREADY, DOC. IT'S UP TO 30.



I WISH I WAS LUCKY.

WELL, YOU SEE I HAD THE ADVANTAGE OF WATCHING IT WHEN YOU FELLOWS WERE IN SO I LEARNED SOMETHING OF ITS HABITS. TOO BAD YOU LOST.



I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON.

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW YOU CAN MAKE IT BACK— BUY PATENT PARACHUTE, INC. I GOT A HOT TIP ON IT AND THE PUBLIC HASN'T GOT WISE TO IT YET.



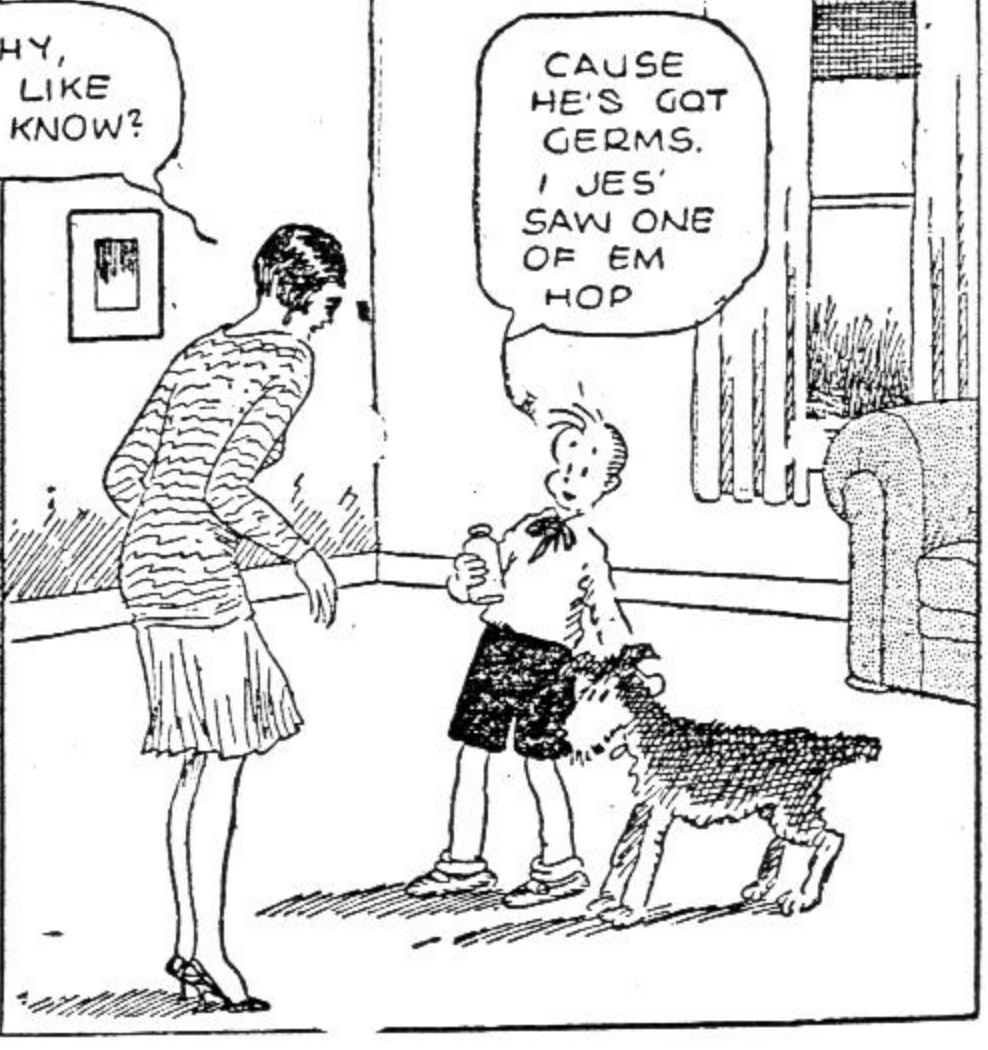
NO, I'LL WATCH IT FROM THE SIDE-LINES

OUR LAUNDRY MAN ROOMS WITH A FELLOW IN A BROKER'S OFFICE AND HE SAYS HOOKER AND SOME OF THE BIG BOYS ARE BUYING ALL THEY CAN GET OF IT. SO I'M GETTING IN ON IT TOO.



GASOLINE ALLEY—EXTERNAL HYGIENE.

(Copyright, 1929.)



MINGO

YES WE THINK CORKY IS A PRETTY FINE BOY.

HE HAS HIS FATHER'S EYES AND HIS FATHER'S HAIR.

YES BUT HE HAS YOUR NOSE MRS WALLET.

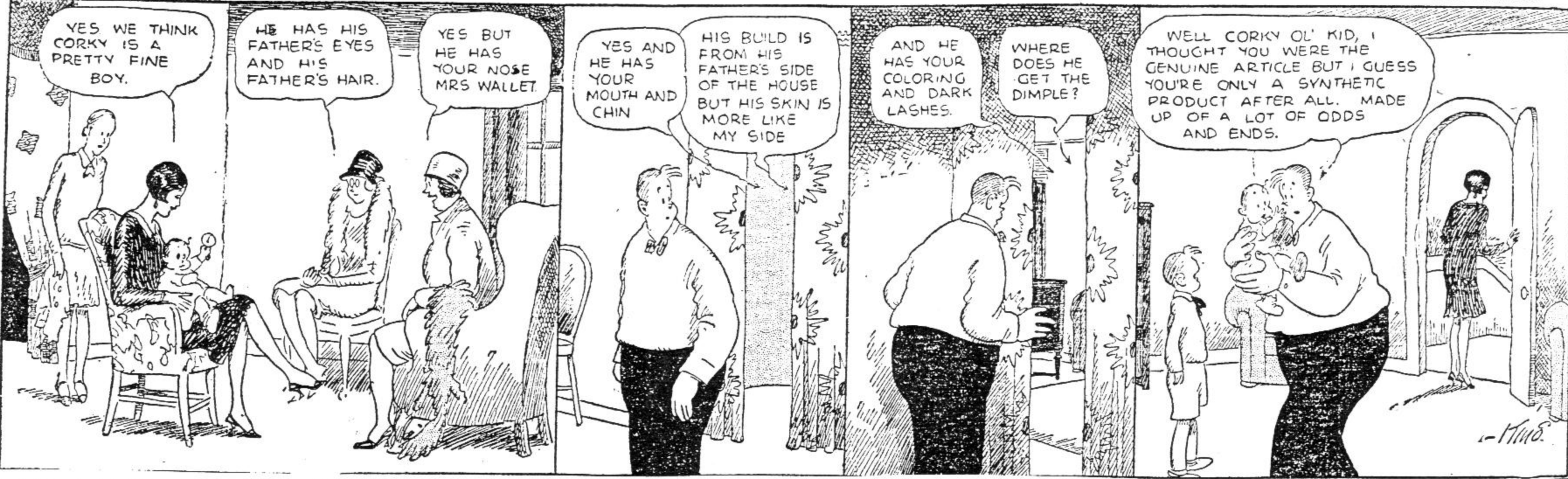
YES AND HE HAS YOUR MOUTH AND CHIN

HIS BUILD IS FROM HIS FATHER'S SIDE OF THE HOUSE BUT HIS SKIN IS MORE LIKE MY SIDE

AND HE HAS YOUR COLORING AND DARK LASHES.

WHERE DOES HE GET THE DIMPLE?

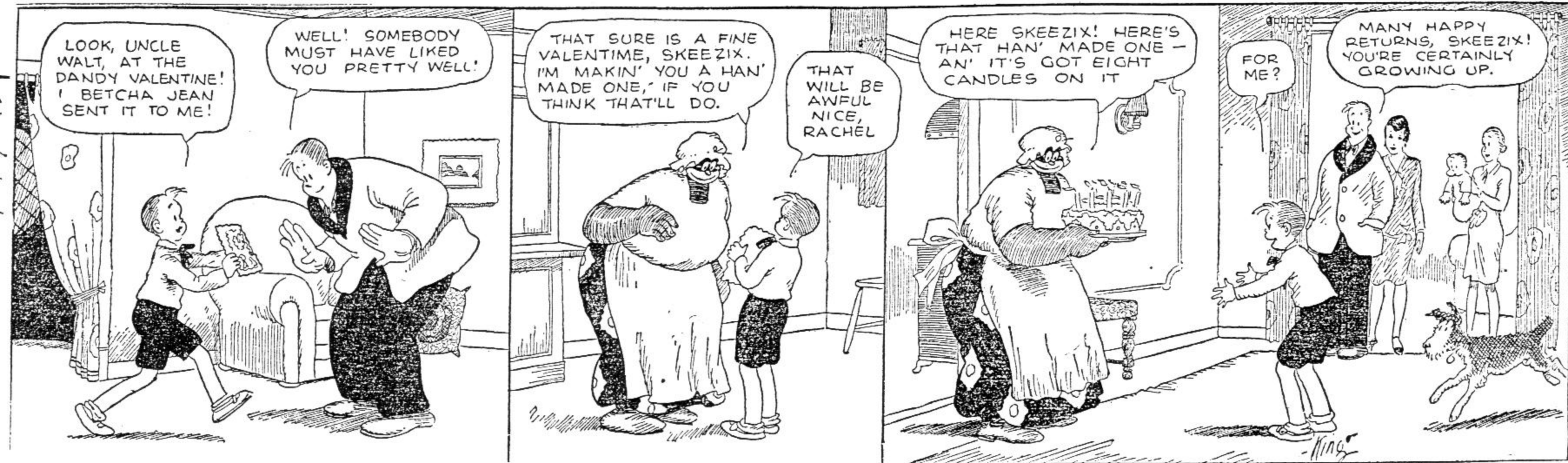
WELL CORKY OL' KID, I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE GENUINE ARTICLE BUT I GUESS YOU'RE ONLY A SYNTHETIC PRODUCT AFTER ALL. MADE UP OF A LOT OF ODDS AND ENDS.



- KING

GASOLINE ALLEY—ANOTHER YEAR HAS ROLLED A ROUND.

(Copyright, 1929.)



WHY MANDY!
THIS IS A S'PRISE!
WHERE YOU BEEN
KEEPIN' YOURSELF
SINCE A LONG
TIME BACK?

OH, I BEEN
TO SPRINGFIELD
AN' AROUND.
HOW YOU
BEEN RACHEL?

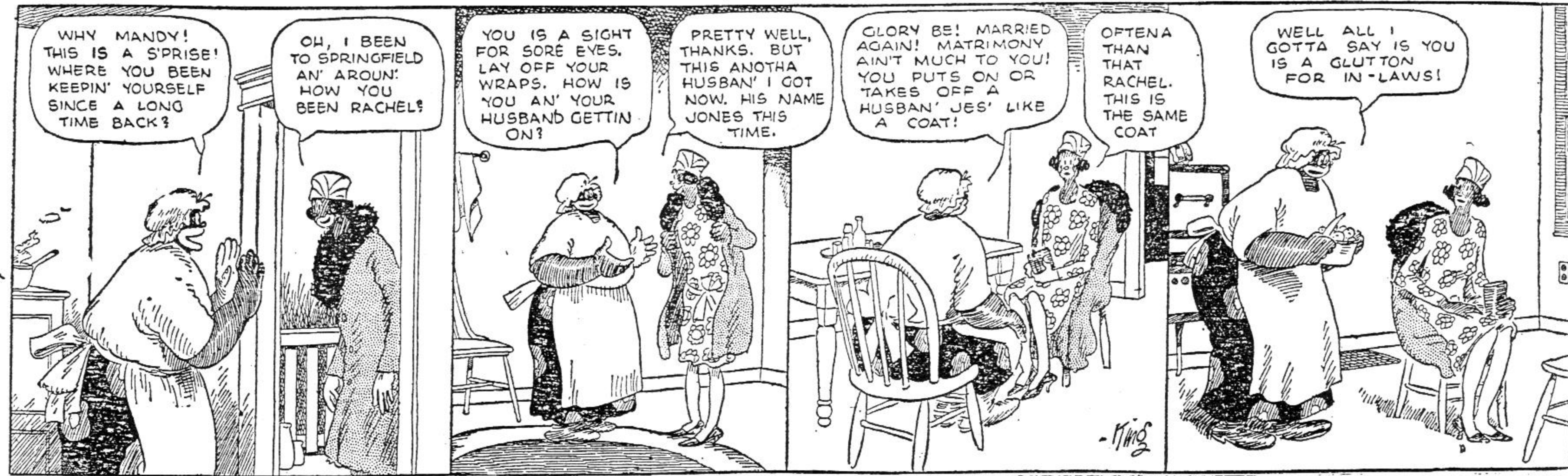
YOU IS A SIGHT
FOR SORE EYES.
LAY OFF YOUR
WRAPS. HOW IS
YOU AN' YOUR
HUSBAND GETTIN
ON?

PRETTY WELL,
THANKS. BUT
THIS ANOETHA
HUSBAN' I GOT
NOW. HIS NAME
JONES THIS
TIME.

GLORY BE! MARRIED
AGAIN! MATRIMONY
AIN'T MUCH TO YOU!
YOU PUTS ON OR
TAKES OFF A
HUSBAN' JES' LIKE
A COAT!

OFTENA
THAN
THAT
RACHEL.
THIS IS
THE SAME
COAT

WELL ALL I
GOTTA SAY IS YOU
IS A GLUTTON
FOR IN-LAWS!



- KING

GASOLINE ALLEY—FATHERLY ADVICE.

(Copyright, 1929.)



GASOLINE ALLEY—WHAT TO DO?

(Copyright, 1929.)

CONGRATULATIONS, AVERY— I SEE RUBBER KEYHOLE IS UP TO 34. YOU CERTAINLY ARE COINING MONEY!

DOING FINE ISN'T IT? TOO BAD YOU LET GO JUST WHEN YOU DID, WALT. WELL, LIVE AND LEARN.

I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU CLEAN UP, AVERY. YOU HAD THE RIGHT HUNCH.

I DID ON THAT, BUT THAT ISN'T THE WHOLE STORY.

THE TROUBLE IS, WALT, I BOUGHT SOME OF THAT PATENT PARACHUTE I TOLD YOU ABOUT, AT 24, AND THAT'S DOWN.

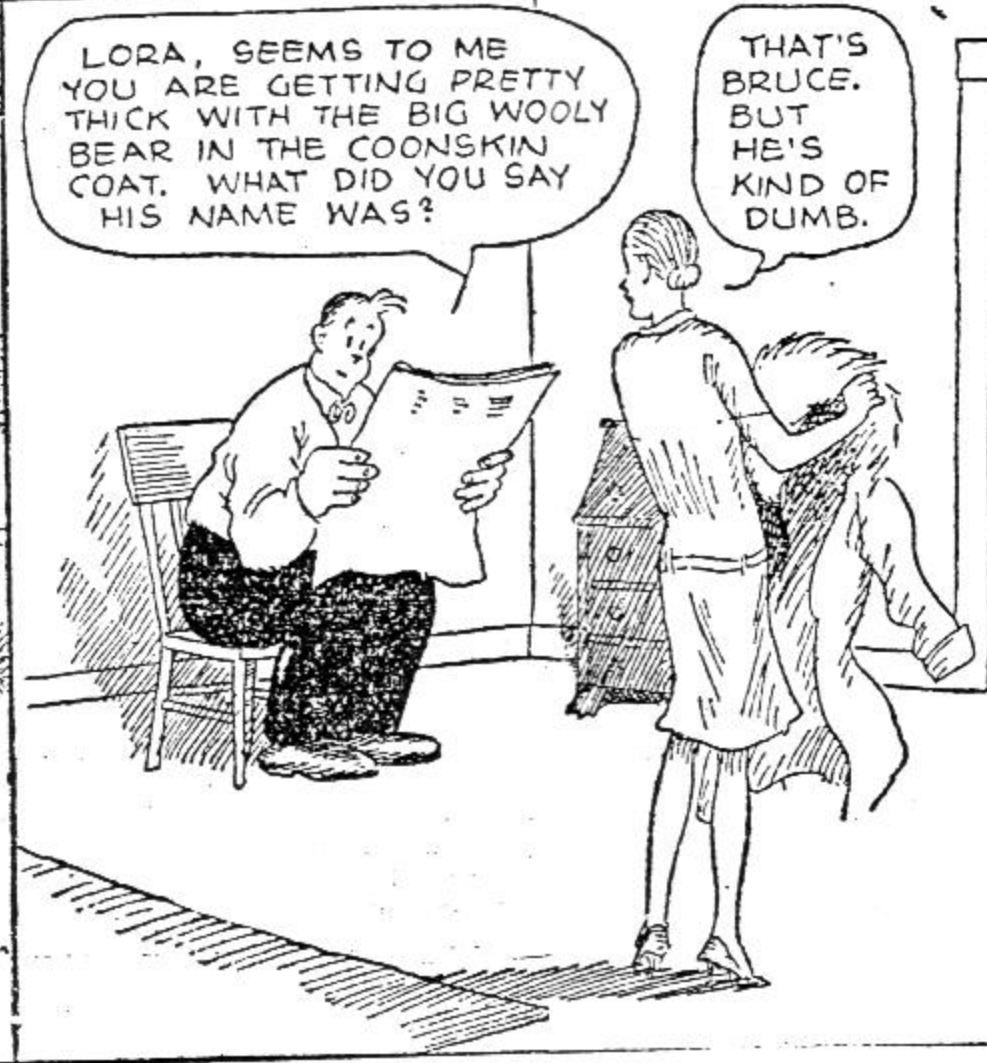
BUT RUBBER KEYHOLE HAS GONE UP THREE POINTS LATELY AND PAT PARACHUTE HAS LOST ONLY 1½. I'VE BEEN WATCHING IT. YOU CAN'T LOSE AT THAT RATE.

YES BUT I'VE GOT ONLY 50 SHARES OF RUBBER KEYHOLE AND I'VE GOT 100 OF PARACHUTE— SO I'M ONLY BREAKING EVEN.



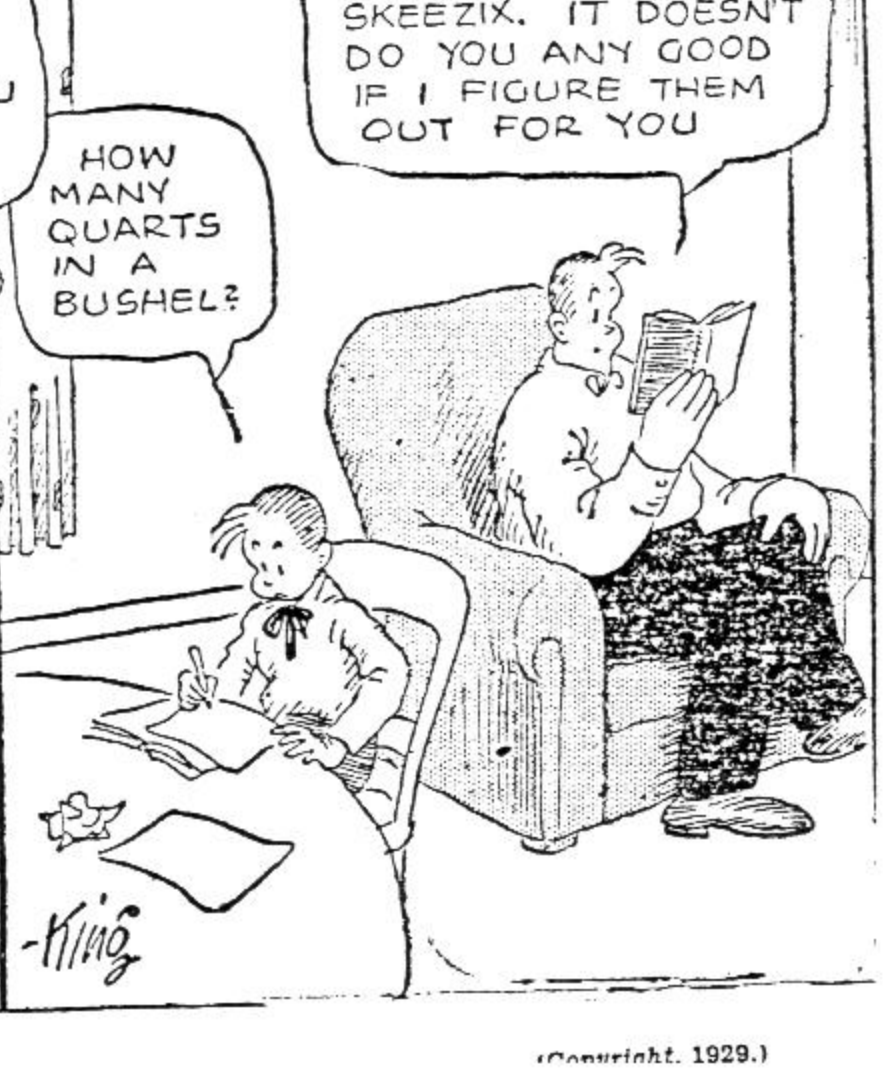
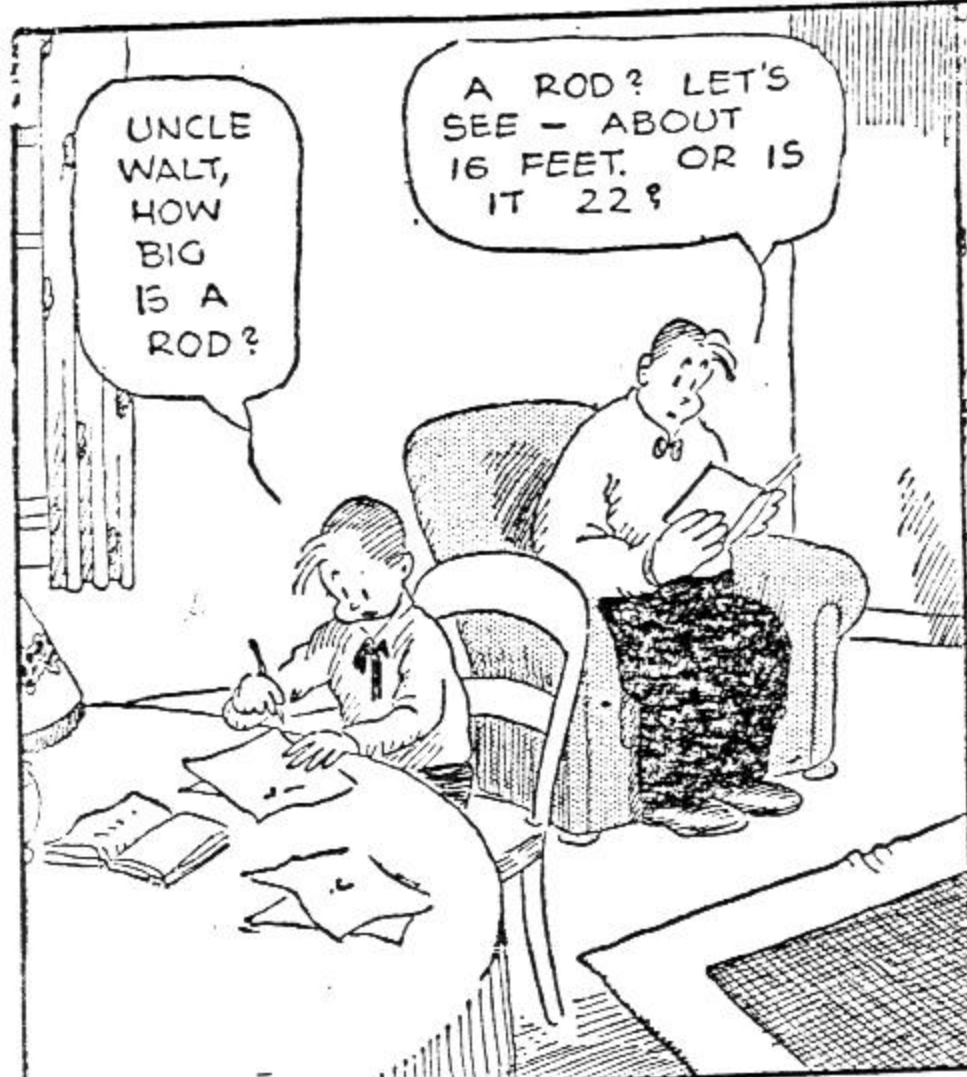
GASOLINE ALLEY—DISTINCTIONS AND DIFFERENCES.

(Copyright, 1929.)



GASOLINE ALLEY—BESIDES, WALT IS READING.

(Copyright, 1929.)



(Copyright, 1929.)

GASOLINE ALLEY—DON'T FORGET THE LOWLY PRUNE.

(Copyright, 1926.)

CHUCK WROTE SOME SILLY POETRY TO ME AND I WANT TO WRITE SOME SILLIER BACK AT HIM, SKEEZIX. LET'S SEE, WHAT RHYMES WITH MOON? LOON, AND TUNE AND DUNE—

AN' JUNE AN' COON.

AND CROON AND SPOON.

AN' NOON.

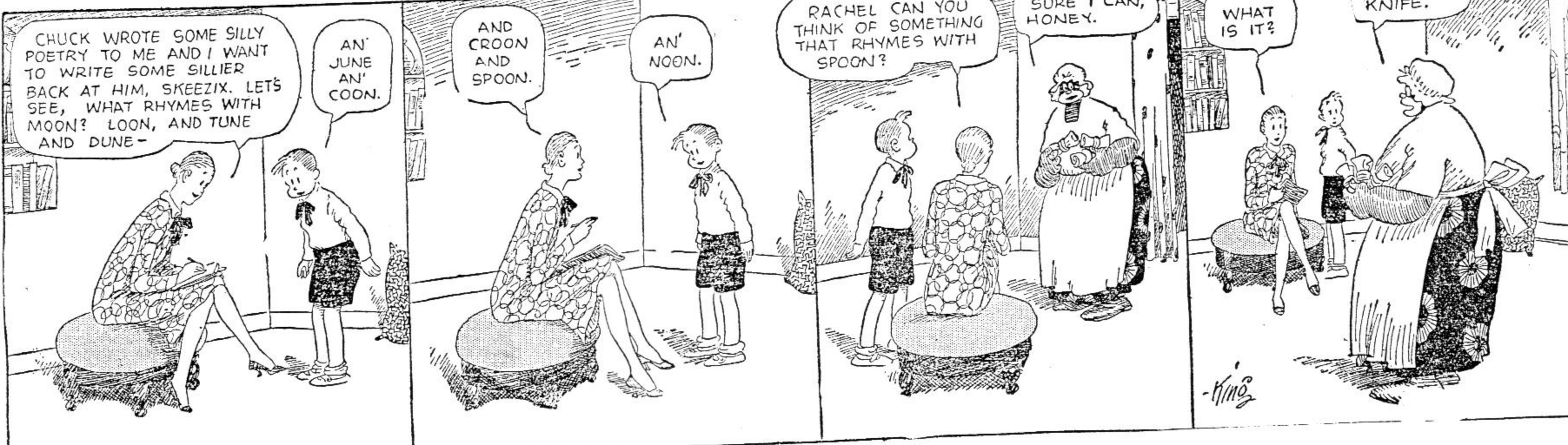
RACHEL CAN YOU THINK OF SOMETHING THAT RHYMES WITH SPOON?

SURE I CAN, HONEY.

WHAT IS IT?

FORK AN' KNIFE.

-King



GASOLINE ALLEY—CONSULTING EXPERT.

(Copyright, 1929.)

A FEW DAYS AGO AVERY WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT STOCKS. NOW HE'S AFTER MY ADVICE AND I GAVE UP KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT THEM TWO WEEKS AGO.

IT'S AWFULLY GOOD OF YOU TO COME ALONG WITH ME AND GIVE ME THE BENEFIT OF YOUR JUDGMENT.

IF YOU LISTEN TO MY ADVICE, AVERY, AND DO JUST THE OPPOSITE YOU ARE LIABLE TO MAKE SOME MONEY. THAT'S HOW GOOD I AM.

YOU SEE I BOUGHT PAT PARACHUTE AT 24 AND IT'S DOWN TO 19 INSTEAD OF GOING TO 40 AS THEY SAID IT WOULD. AND THE BROKER IS HOWLING FOR MORE MARGIN.

WELL IF YOU'RE SURE IT'S GOING UP AGAIN YOU DON'T WANT TO SELL NOW

WHAT I'D DO, AVERY, IS SELL YOUR RUBBER KEYHOLE AND USE YOUR PROFIT FOR MORE MARGIN ON PAT PARACHUTE. THEN YOU WON'T HAVE TO PUT IN ANY MORE MONEY.

BY GOLLY, WALT THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. YOU OUGHT TO BE IN WALL STREET.

-KING

GASOLINE ALLEY—EXTERIOR DECORATION.

(Copyright, 1929.)



WHAT DID YOU SPEND THAT TEN CENTS FOR THAT YOU TOOK OUT OF YOUR ALLOWANCE, SKEEZIX?

I GOT A FOUNTAIN PEN AT THE TEN CENT STORE.



WHY, SKEEZIX, YOU'VE MARKED YOURSELF ALL UP WITH INK!

THAT'S TATTOOING. I DID IT WITH MY TATTOO PEN.



SKEEZIX, WHEN YOU DO YOUR TATTOOING, YOU LEAVE CORKY OUT OF IT NEXT TIME!



MAY I BORROW YOUR PEN A MINUTE, SKEEZIX?

YES, BUT IT'S GOT DOG HAIR IN IT. PAL IS AWFUL HARD TO TATTOO.

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GASOLINE ALLEY—IN THE NICK OF TIME.

(Copyright, 1929.)

MY PO' FEET IS TROUBLIN' ME TERRIBLE THIS MORNIN'. I WISH FOLKS WOULD QUIT RINGIN' THAT DOORBELL. I GOT NUFF TRAVELIN' TO DO.

NO, I DON'T NEED IT. I AINT GOT NONE O' THEM AILMENTS YOU MENTION.

IT'S ALSO GOOD FOR FALLING HAIR, DIZZY SPELLS, LUMBAGO, SOUR STOMACH, LOSS OF HEARING, FLATULENCE—

ALL RIGHT. MEBBE I TAKE ONE.

YES, MADAME, IT'S GUARANTEED TO CURE ANY OF THOSE MALADIES OR MONEY REFUNDED. JUST TAKE THESE POWDERS ACCORDING TO DIRECTIONS.

THAT'S MY TROUBLE — FLATULENCE O' THE FEET.



- King

AVERY BOUGHT RUBBER KEYHOLE AT THE BOTTOM—AROUND 15 AND WATCHED IT SOAR WAY UP PAST 30. HE HAD 50 SHARES OF IT. HE ALSO GOT AN INSIDE TIP ON PATENT PARACHUTE AND ANNEXED 100 SHARES OF THAT AND SAT BACK TO WATCH IT CLIMB. BUT IT SETTLED SO FAST HE HAD TO SELL HIS RUBBER KEYHOLE, USE HIS PROFITS FOR MARGIN AND PAT PARACHUTE IS STILL SINKING.



MR BEAR OF BULLOCK AND BEAR? LISTEN SELL MY ONE HUNDRED SHARES OF PAT PARACHUTE AT THE MARKET QUICK!



I JUST SOLD MY STOCK, WALT. IT WENT DOWN TO 15½ AND BEFORE I COULD SELL IT WENT TO 13¼. THAT'S \$1075 I LOST AT ONE CRACK.

GOLLY, AVERY, THAT'S TOUGH! OF COURSE YOU MADE SOME MONEY IN RUBBER KEYHOLE SO YOU'RE NOT THAT MUCH OUT ALL TOGETHER.

AVERY YOU SHOULD HAVE LET GO SOONER

A SWELL TIME FOR THAT TIP, DOC. I MADE \$950 IN RUBBER KEYHOLE AND TURNED AROUND AND SUNK THAT AND \$125 MORE IN PAT PARACHUTE.

I WAS AFRAID WHEN PAT PARACHUTE STARTED TO DROP THAT IT WOULDN'T RISE AGAIN RIGHT AWAY BUT I THOUGHT YOU HAD THE INSIDE DOPE.

THE TROUBLE WAS THAT WHEN PAT PARACHUTE STARTED TO DROP IT FAILED TO OPEN. AND WHAT A BUMP!



GASOLINE ALLEY—AUTOPSY.

(Copyright, 1925.)

NO USE CRYING
OVER SPILT MILK
BUT I WISH I'D SOLD
PAT. PARACHUTE
WHEN I FIRST HAD
THE HUNCH.

BUT I THOUGHT THE BIG
BOYS KNEW WHAT THEY
WERE DOING. WELL
PROBABLY THEY DID. THEY
STARTED LOADING UP
AROUND 20 AND IT WAS
24 BEFORE THE GRAPEVINE
GOT AROUND TO ME

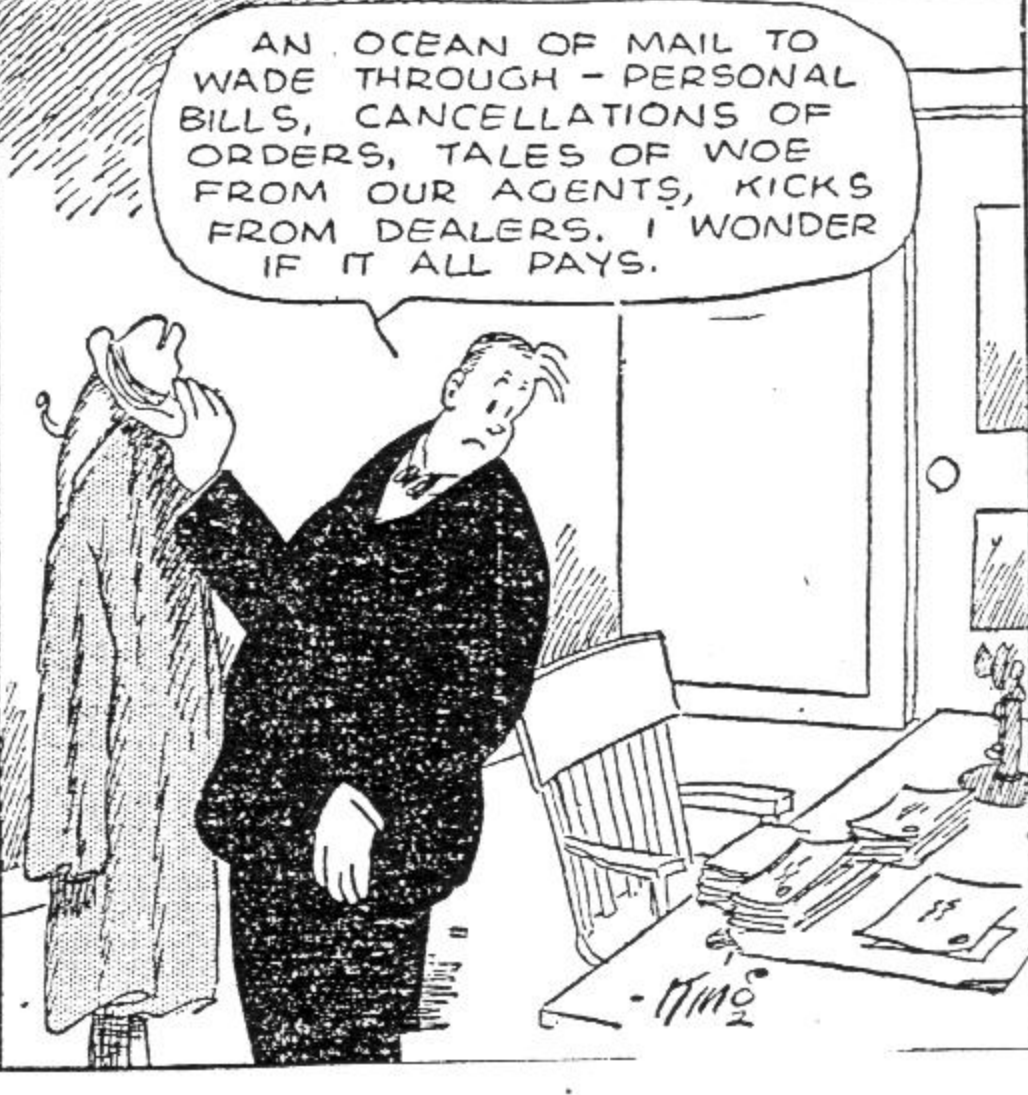
ALL I DID WAS GET
IN IN TIME FOR
THE BIG CUT PRICE
SALE—BARGAIN
PRICES FOR
EVERYBODY BUT
ME.

AND THINK OF ALL
THE SWEET PROFITS
FROM RUBBER KEYHOLE
I DROPPED WITH PAT.
PARACHUTE! WELL
I'VE HAD MY LESSON.
NEVER AGAIN FOR
ME! NO SIR—I'M
THROUGH!

I ONLY WISH I HAD MY
RUBBER KEYHOLE MONEY
RIGHT NOW. I'D BUY
HIJACK PRODUCTS INC.
I'VE GOT A TIP IT'S
GOING TO GO.



-KING



BOY, ISN'T THIS A BEAUTIFUL MORNING! SPRING CERTAINLY ISN'T FAR OFF!

THAT SOUNDS MORE LIKE THE REAL WALT! YOU SEEMED AWFULLY WORRIED YESTERDAY. HONEY.

CAN I WALK TO SCHOOL WITH YOU UNCLE WALT?

I WASN'T WORRIED. I WAS JUST DOWN IN THE DUMPS. I CAN'T UNDERSTAND TODAY WHY EVERYTHING LOOKED SO DARK BLUE YESTERDAY. THINGS ARE GOING ALL RIGHT. I'M OUT OF JAIL, GOT A FINE FAMILY AND A GOOD JOB—WHAT MORE COULD ANYBODY WANT?

ANOTHER BUNCH OF MAIL. THERE OUGHT TO BE A COUPLE OF GOOD ORDERS, SOME FAVORABLE REPORTS FROM OUR WESTERN SALESMEN AND A CHECK OR TWO. IF THERE ARE ONE OR TWO KICKS WHAT'S THE ODDS. I'VE HAD SO MANY I'VE GOT CALLOUSES.

WHEN I GET THE BLUES I'M CERTAIN THEY ARE PERMANENT. I THINK THAT IS MY NORMAL STATE AND EVERY PLEASANT THOUGHT IS AN ILLUSION. BUT WHEN I COME OUT OF THEM I WONDER HOW I EVER COULD HAVE BEEN SUCH A CHUMP.

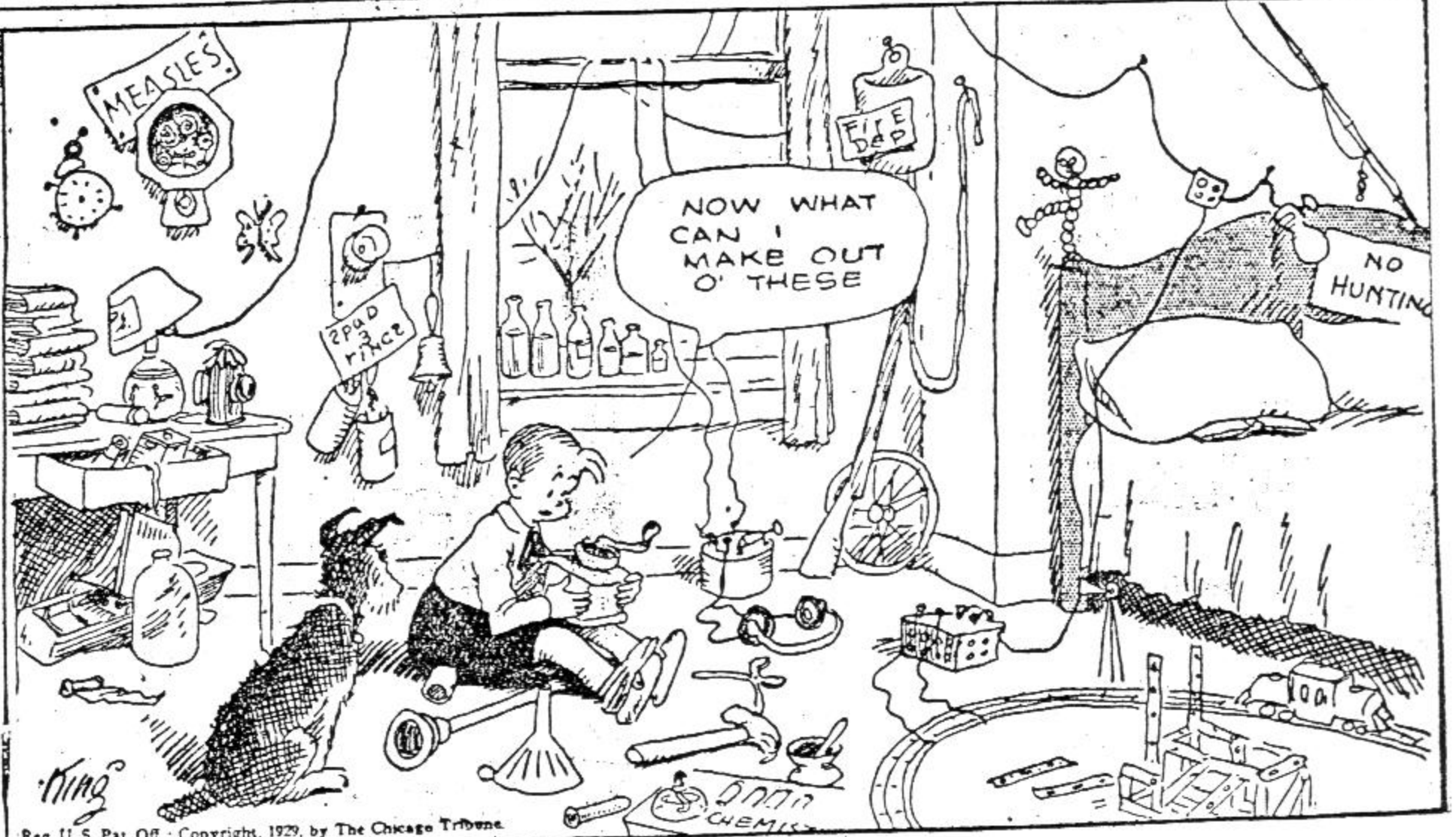
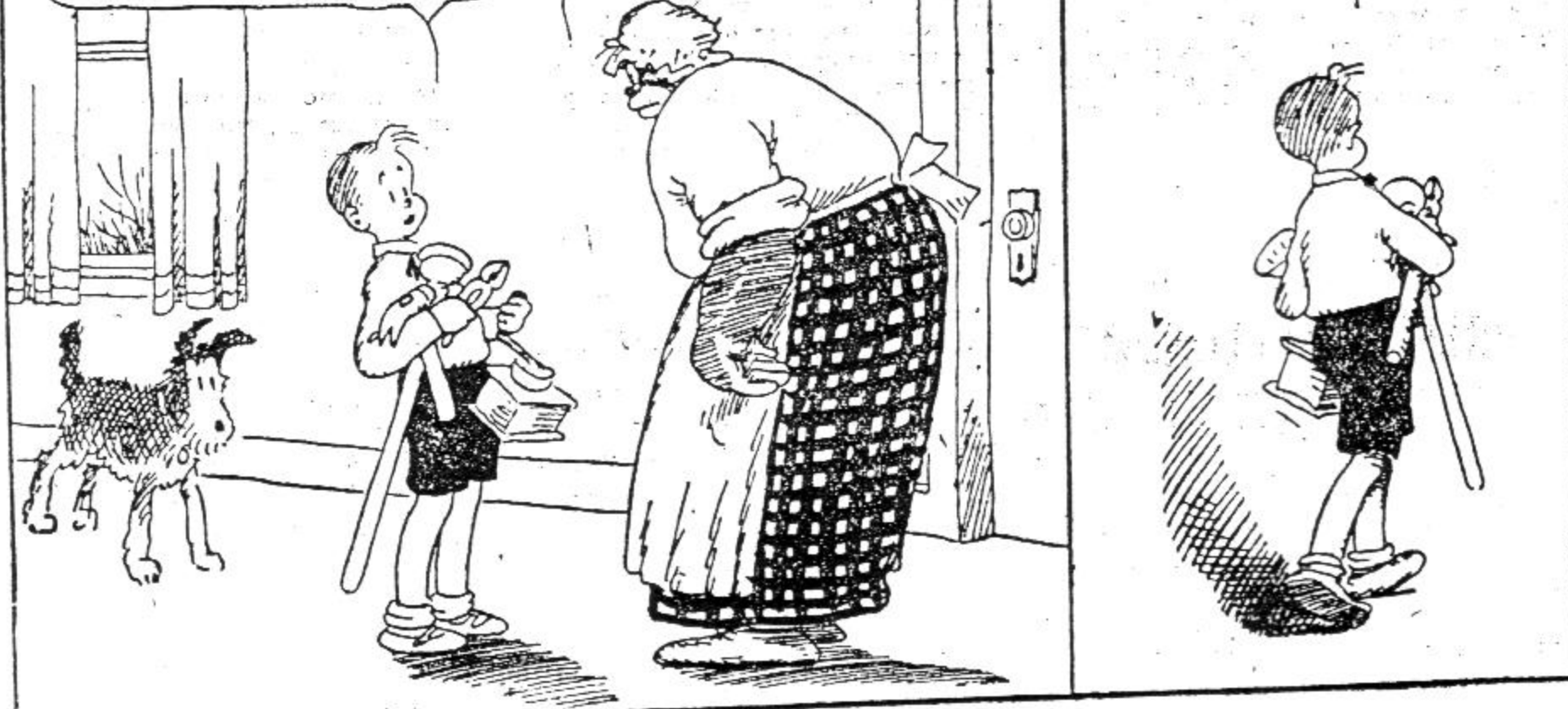
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GASOLINE ALLEY—SATURDAY IS WORK DAY

RACHEL, I'M ONLY TAKIN' THESE TO MY ROOM FOR JES' A LITTLE WHILE. WHERE'S THE FUNNEL?

IF YOU GOIN' TAKE ALL THAT JUNK YOU BRING 'EM BACK. THEY'S ENOUGH FOR ME TO DUST THERE ALREADY.

SURE, RACHEL, I BRING 'EM BACK.



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GASOLINE ALLEY—SIX CARS ARIZONA CATTLE ARRIVE



I SAY, IS OL' MAN WALLET IN?

SQUINT YOU OLD SON OF A SEA COOK! WHERE DID YOU DROP FROM?

OH, I JUST BLEW IN ON AN ILL WIND, WALT. HOW'S TRICKS?

SIT DOWN YOU OLD HOBO. HOW YOU BEEN BEHAVING?

PRETTY GOOD FOR ME. BROUGHT SIX CARS O' STOCK IN TO SELL HOWS THE WIFE?

FINE. YOU MUST COME OUT AND STAY WITH US. YOU'RE NOT GOING TO ANY HOTEL?

TRY ME OUT FOR DINNER FIRST, WALT. I GOT TO GET CIVILIZED GRADUAL LIKE. I MAY HAVE TO ROLL UP IN A BLANKET ON THE FLOOR, AN' RING FOR ICE WATER TO WASH IN.

GASOLINE ALLEY—REUNION

PHYLLIS,
LOOK WHO I
BROUGHT
ALONG

HE WOULD DO
IT MIS WALLEY.
BUT I DIDN'T
TUG SO HARD
ON THE LARIAT
TO GET AWAY.

SQUINT!
I'M CERTAINLY
GLAD YOU
CAME. IT'S
WONDERFUL
TO SEE
YOU!

NOW DON'T TELL ME
THIS IS SKEEZIX! NOT THAT
SAME LITTLE RUNT YEARLIN'
THAT RODE ALL OVER
ARIZONA WITH ME, STRADDLE
OF A BURRO? WHY HE'S
NEARLY
GROWN UP.

DID YOU
BRING ME
A BURRO,
SQUINT?

LOOK
IN HIS
POCKETS,
SKEEZIX.
MAYBE
HE DID

THIS IS CERTAINLY SOME CHOW,
FOLKS. IT'S LUCKY FOR ME I GOT
ACQUAINTED WITH YOU GUIDIN' YOU AROUND
OUT WEST. MY MANNERS AN' CUSTOMS
MAY BE A LITTLE RUSTY I'VE BEEN OUT
IN A COW CAMP SO LONG. I AIN'T
DRINKIN' COFFEE OUT OF MY SAUCER
BUT I MAY TRY TO FOLD UP MY
KNIFE AN' SLIP IT IN MY POCKET.

King

GASOLINE ALLEY—AS THE ROMANS DO



GASOLINE ALLEY—SQUINT WANTS THE WIDE OPEN SPACES

WALT, I OVERHEARD SQUINT SAY HE WAS GOING TO TAKE US ALL OUT FOR A PARTY. YOU'VE GOT TO MAKE SOME EXCUSE. I DON'T WANT TO GO.

GOLLY, PHYLLIS YOU'LL HAVE TO DIG UP YOUR OWN ALIBI. I'M NO GOOD AT THAT.

COME ON NOW, PHYLLIS. YOU WOULDN'T TURN ME DOWN. I DON'T GET TO TOWN VERY OFTEN. AND IT'LL DO YOU FOLKS AS MUCH GOOD TO CUT LOOSE AS IT WILL ME.

BUT I'VE GOT MENDING TO DO AND SOME LETTERS TO WRITE.

SAY, I'VE GOT A TWITCHING INSTEP. COME ON, LET'S DANCE.

OH, THE FLOOR IS TOO CROWDED.

I DIDN'T THINK THE 'FLOOR WOULD BE SO CROWDED WHEN WE GOT GOING

GASOLINE ALLEY—LET'S SEE, WHAT'S A GOOD ALIBI!

WE HAD A FINE TIME AT YOUR PARTY LAST NIGHT, SQUINT, EVEN IF YOU DID KEEP US UP PRETTY LATE.

LATE? SAY WE HADN'T GOT STARTED YET. WE CAME HOME TOO EARLY. WALT AN' I ARE GOIN' OUT ON A PARTY TONIGHT. DON'T SEE HIM VERY OFTEN YOU KNOW.

SQUINT IS GOING TO TRY TO TAKE YOU OUT TONIGHT, WALT. I THOUGHT I'D TELL YOU SO YOU COULD HAVE YOUR EXCUSE READY.

EXCUSE? WHAT DO I WANT AN EXCUSE FOR? THERE ISN'T ANY HARM IN SQUINT?

I KNOW BUT HIS KIND OF FRIENDS AREN'T YOUR KIND. HE GOES OUT WITH A ROUGHER, GAYER CROWD. YOU DON'T ENJOY THEM.

SURE I DO—ONCE IN A WHILE. WHY NOT?

HERE HE IS NOW, WALT. BE SURE TO HAVE A GOOD EXCUSE.

I'VE OFTEN THOUGHT I'D LIKE TO HAVE A FINE LITTLE HOME AN' FAMILY LIKE YOU'VE GOT, WALT. BUT I'M AFRAID IT WOULDN'T WORK. I'VE GOT TO BUST OUT EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.

-HIND-
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GASOLINE ALLEY—TOO LATE, SQUINT

YOU COME WITH ME CORKY AND I'LL MAKE A COWBOY OUT O' YOU. CAN I HAVE HIM, LORA.

NO SIR. WE COULDN'T GET ALONG WITHOUT CORKY.

I LIKE KIDS AN' HORSES. THIS IS GOIN' TO BE A FINE FELLER WHEN HE GETS A LITTLE BIGGER.

HE'S A FINE FELLOW NOW, MR. SQUINT.

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT, LORA, I'LL TAKE CARE O' HIM. I KNOW YOU'RE DYIN' TO GET OUT WITH ONE O' THESE YOUNG BLOODS THAT HAVE BEEN HANGIN' AROUND HERE LIKE FLIES AROUND A HONEY JUG.

WHY NO I'M NOT!

FINE GIRL THAT. IF I'D ANY SENSE I'D HAVE HIT IT OFF WITH ONE OF 'EM WHEN I WAS YOUNG AN' SETTLED DOWN. NO USE NOW. I'M TOO USED TO THE OPEN RANGE—NOT TO A PASTURE.

THE PROCEEDS O' THOSE CATTLE I BROUGHT IN IS LASTIN' PRETTY WELL, WALT. THIS IS WHAT'S LEFT ASIDE FROM A COUPLE O' YELLOW ONES I PEELED OFF TO GET BACK HOME ON.

SQUINT YOU SHOULDN'T FLASH YOUR MONEY LIKE THAT!

THIS IS MINE, SQUINT. YOU'RE IN MY TOWN AND STILL YOU HAVEN'T LET ME PAY FOR A THING FOR A WEEK.

DON'T YOU WORRY, WALT. WHILE THE OLD ROLL LASTS I'M GOING TO HAVE MY FUN.

LISTEN, GIRLIE, I HATE TO SPRING A 50 DOLLAR BILL ON YOU FOR A NICKEL CALL, BUT IT'S THE SMALLEST I'VE GOT.

OH THAT'S ALL RIGHT, BROTHER. IF YOU DON'T MIND MY DIVING YOU YOUR CHANGE IN TWENTIES AND THIRTIES.

SHORTY, MY PAL OUT WEST, TOLD ME TO CALL UP A GIRL FRIEND OF HIS, WALT, AN' I'M TAKIN' HER TO DINNER TONIGHT. AS SOON AS I CAN GET HER HOME IN A TAXI I'M GOIN' TO PICK YOU AN' PHYLLIS UP FOR A BIG NIGHT.

ALL RIGHT, SQUINT BUT DON'T TRY TO CUT IN ON SHORTY.



King
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GASOLINE ALLEY — SOMEBODY BLUNDERED

GOLLY I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO SQUINT! HE'S HAD PLENTY OF CHANCE TO GET HIS GIRL FRIEND HOME AND COME TO PICK US UP

A FINE ARRANGEMENT YOU MADE — FOR US TO WAIT UNTIL HE'D GOT RID OF HIS GIRL FRIEND!

ANOTHER HOUR AND STILL HE'S NOT HERE. YOU HAVE FINE FRIENDS I MUST SAY!

IT ISN'T MY FAULT, PHYLLIS. BESIDES I'M KIND OF WORRIED. HE WAS AWFULLY CARELESS ABOUT FLASHING HIS ROLL.

AW, PHYLLIS, DON'T QUIT NOW. HE MAY SHOW UP YET. WE'VE STILL GOT TIME TO GO SOME PLACE BEFORE IT CLOSES UP.

I'M NOT GOING TO SIT AROUND ALL NIGHT WAITING HE'S OUT WITH A GIRL AND HE'S FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT US. I'M JUST GLAD TO FIND OUT THE KIND OF A FELLOW HE IS THAT'S ALL.

GASOLINE ALLEY—WHY, WALI!

I CERTAINLY HAVE MY OPINION OF YOUR FRIEND, SQUINT! HE HAD A DATE TO TAKE US OUT LAST NIGHT AND HE HASN'T SHOWN UP YET!



I'M SURE IT WASN'T HIS FAULT PHYLLIS! HE HAD A BIG ROLL OF MONEY ON HIM AND I'M WORRIED SICK ABOUT HIM. I'M AFRAID HE'S MET WITH FOUL PLAY.



PHYLLIS SAYS THAT IF HE MET WITH FOUL PLAY IT WAS BECAUSE SOME CHICKEN GOT HOLD OF HIM. HERE IS A NAME AND PHONE NUMBER IF THAT'S THE GIRL HE WAS TAKING TO DINNER SHE MAY KNOW ABOUT HIM.

IS THIS BITTERWOOD 1636? I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO HELEN IF SHE'S THERE? OH ALL RIGHT. I'LL CALL AGAIN. NEVER MIND WHO THIS IS.



WHY, HONEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER?



KING

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GASOLINE ALLEY—SOMEBODY'S IN BAD

LISTEN, HONEY, YOU HAD ME ALL WRONG WHEN YOU HEARD ME CALL UP AND ASK FOR HELEN. I JUST FOUND THAT NUMBER IN SQUINT'S ROOM AND THOUGHT I MIGHT FIND OUT SOMETHING ABOUT WHERE HE WAS.

I DIDN'T DOUBT YOU FOR A MINUTE, WALT DEAR—IT JUST SOUNDED AWFULLY STRANGE.

BUT I AM REALLY WORRIED. A NUMBER OF PEOPLE KNEW HE HAD A BIG ROLL OF MONEY ON HIM.

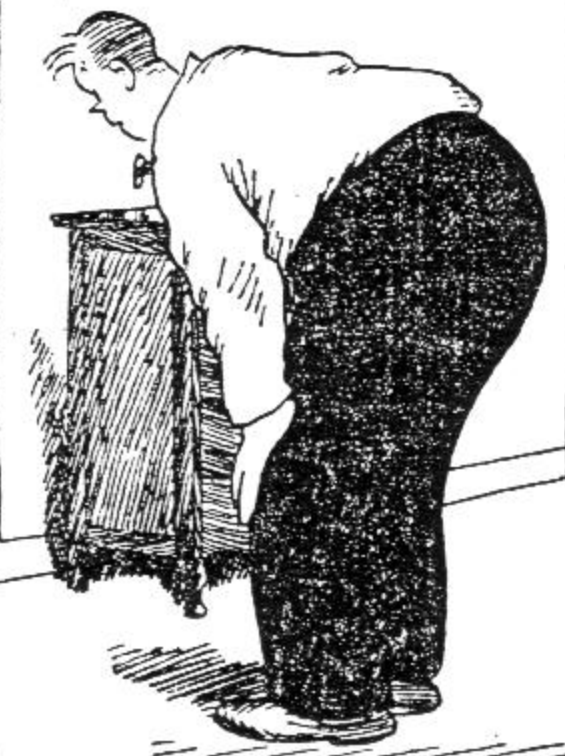
YES AND ONE OF THEM WAS A GIRL FRIEND OF HIS OUT WEST. NO TELLING WHAT KIND SHE WAS. SERVES HIM RIGHT FOR GETTING MIXED UP WITH PEOPLE HE DON'T KNOW.

UNCLE WALT, WHERE'S SQUINT. I WANT HIM TO SHOW ME HOW TO LASSO

HE'S AWAY JUST NOW, SKEEZIX. HE'LL BE BACK MOST ANY TIME I HOPE.

I WANT TO SEE IF ANYBODY UNIDENTIFIED IS IN ANY OF THE HOSPITALS.

AND I WOULDN'T OVERLOOK THE JAILS IF I WERE YOU.



GASOLINE ALLEY—ONE MORE GUESS

IF I DON'T HEAR FROM SQUINT TODAY I'M GOING TO TAKE IT UP WITH THE POLICE. MOST ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN IN THIS TOWN TO A COWBOY WITH A ROLL AND A HEART AS BIG AS HIS.

WHAT'S THAT? FRIEND OF MINE IN JAIL WANTS TO KNOW IF I'LL GO HIS BAIL? I KNOW WHO IT IS. SURE I WILL. I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN!

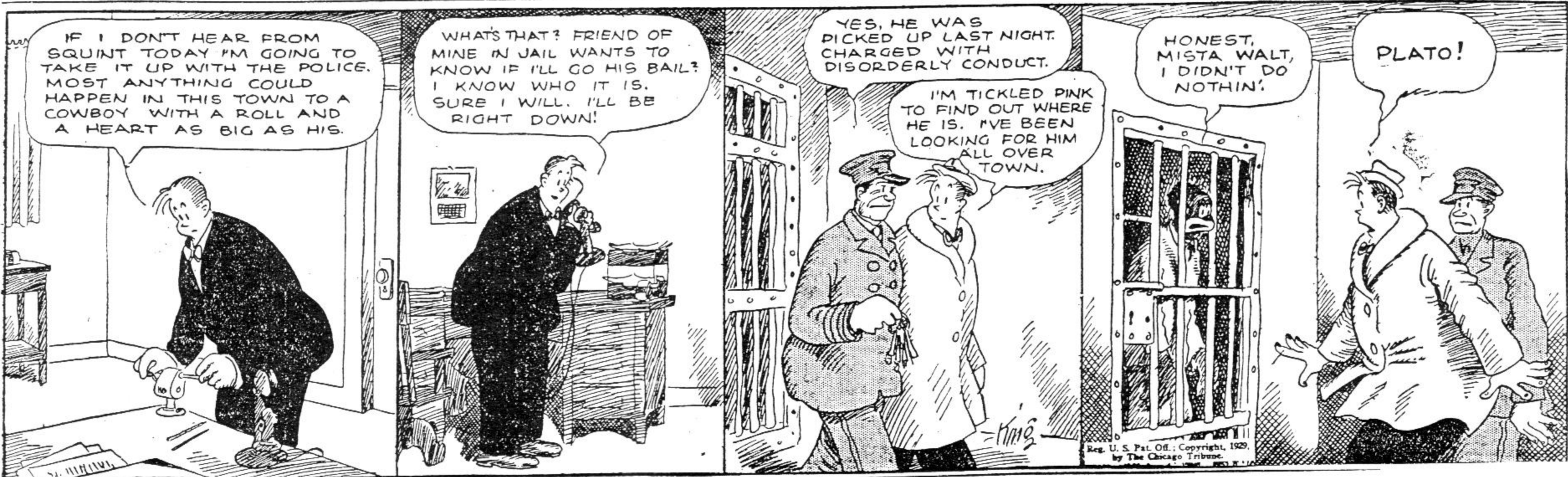
YES, HE WAS PICKED UP LAST NIGHT. CHARGED WITH DISORDERLY CONDUCT.

I'M TICKLED PINK TO FIND OUT WHERE HE IS. I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR HIM ALL OVER TOWN.

HONEST, MISTA WALT, I DIDN'T DO NOTHIN'.

PLATO!

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GASOLINE ALLEY — STILL A. W. O. L.

HAVEN'T YOU HEARD A THING FROM MR. SQUINT, COUSIN WALT.

NOT A THING, LORA BUT I'M SURE HE CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF.

I WAS AFRAID SOMETHING MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM.

NOTHING SERIOUS, I'M SURE HE'LL TURN UP HERE ONE OF THESE DAYS.

ISN'T SQUINT COMIN' BACK, UNCLE WALT? HIS GRIP IS UP IN HIS ROOM, UPSTAIRS.

OH YES, HE'LL BE DROPPING IN ON US AS SUDDENLY AS HE DID BEFORE

I ONLY WISH I WAS AS SURE OF IT AS I HAVE TO APPEAR TO BE. I WARNED HIM ABOUT DISPLAYING HIS ROLL IN PUBLIC. — BUT SOMEHOW I STILL FEEL SORT OF RESPONSIBLE.

WE'RE SCHMIDT AND MULDOON FROM HEADQUARTERS. WE'VE FOUND A SILVER MOUNTED BELT AND SPURS LIKE YOU SAID YOUR FRIEND SQUINT WORE WHEN HE DISAPPEARED. THEY'RE IN A PAWNSHOP.

THAT'S A CLUE! I'LL GO AND IDENTIFY THEM.



YES SIR, THE VERY ONES! JUST AS I THOUGHT—HE'S BEEN ROBBED AND SOME THIEF HAS PAWNED THEM HERE.

WHO WAS IT JAKE. COME ACROSS. NO FAKING.

GIVE THE NAME JOE SMITH. ON THE LEVEL I NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE YET. SHORT AN' FAT AN' GLASSES



IT'S A CINCH SQUINT DIDN'T HOCK 'EM HIMSELF

NO, IT ALL BEARS OUT MY THEORY SOMEBODY THAT KNEW HE HAD A ROLL OF COIN ROBBED HIM.

I GOT ANOTHER THEORY. COME ON, SCHMIDT, WE'LL GO LOOK UP A COUPLE O' GUYS.



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GASOLINE ALLEY—HERE'S A REAL CLEW

HEADQUARTERS?
ARE SCHMIDT AND
MULDOON THERE? OUT
RUNNING DOWN A CLUE
IN CONNECTION WITH
SQUINT? OH, THANKS



NO NEWS OF SQUINT,
PHYLLIS, BUT THE DETECTIVES
ARE WORKING ON THE CASE,
THEY MAY BE HERE ANY
TIME.

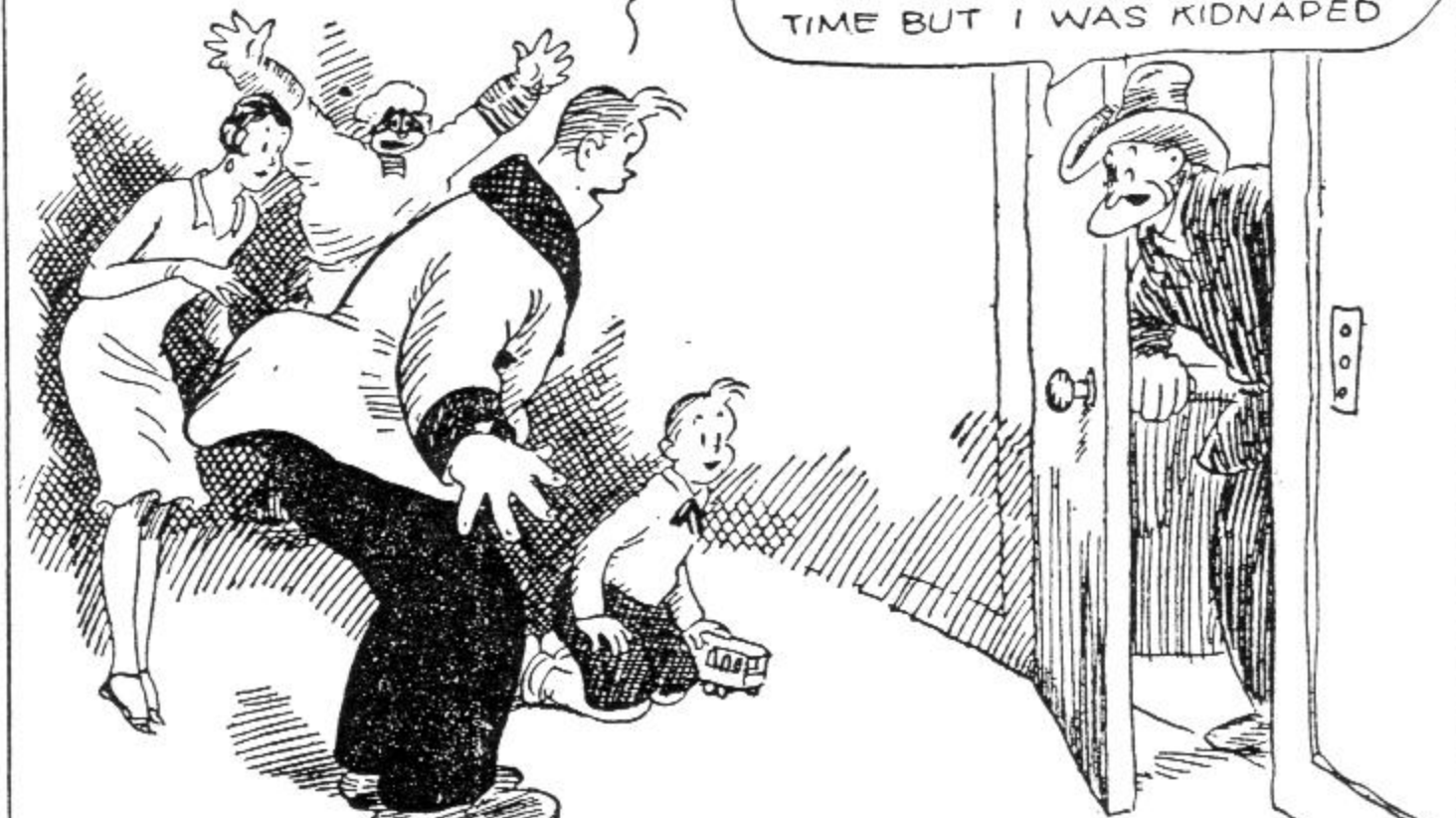


THERE'S THE BELL
NOW. I HOPE THEY
HAVE PRODUCED
SOME RESULTS.



SQUINT!

HELLO FOLKS! GUESS
I'M A WEEK LATE FOR
THAT APPOINTMENT TO
TAKE YOU OUT FOR A HIGH
TIME BUT I WAS KIDNAPED



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"I'D HAVE BEEN BACK TO TAKE YOU ON A PARTY THAT NIGHT FOLKS BUT AS I WAS MEANDERIN' ALONG A CAR PULLED UP TO THE CURB AN' A GUY SAYS, 'WHERE'S VINE STREET?' 'COULDN'T SAY,' SAYS I, 'I'M A STRANGER HERE MYSELF.' 'THEN MAYBE YOU'D BETTER GET IN,' HE SAYS. I LOOKED AN' HE HAD A HAND CANNON TRAINED ON ME THAT LOOKED JUST THEN ABOUT THE SIZE OF A FIRE EXTINGUISHER. 'I'LL BE SOCIABLE,' SAYS I, AN' CUMBED IN.

GREAT SCOTT, SQUINT, WHAT AN EXPERIENCE!

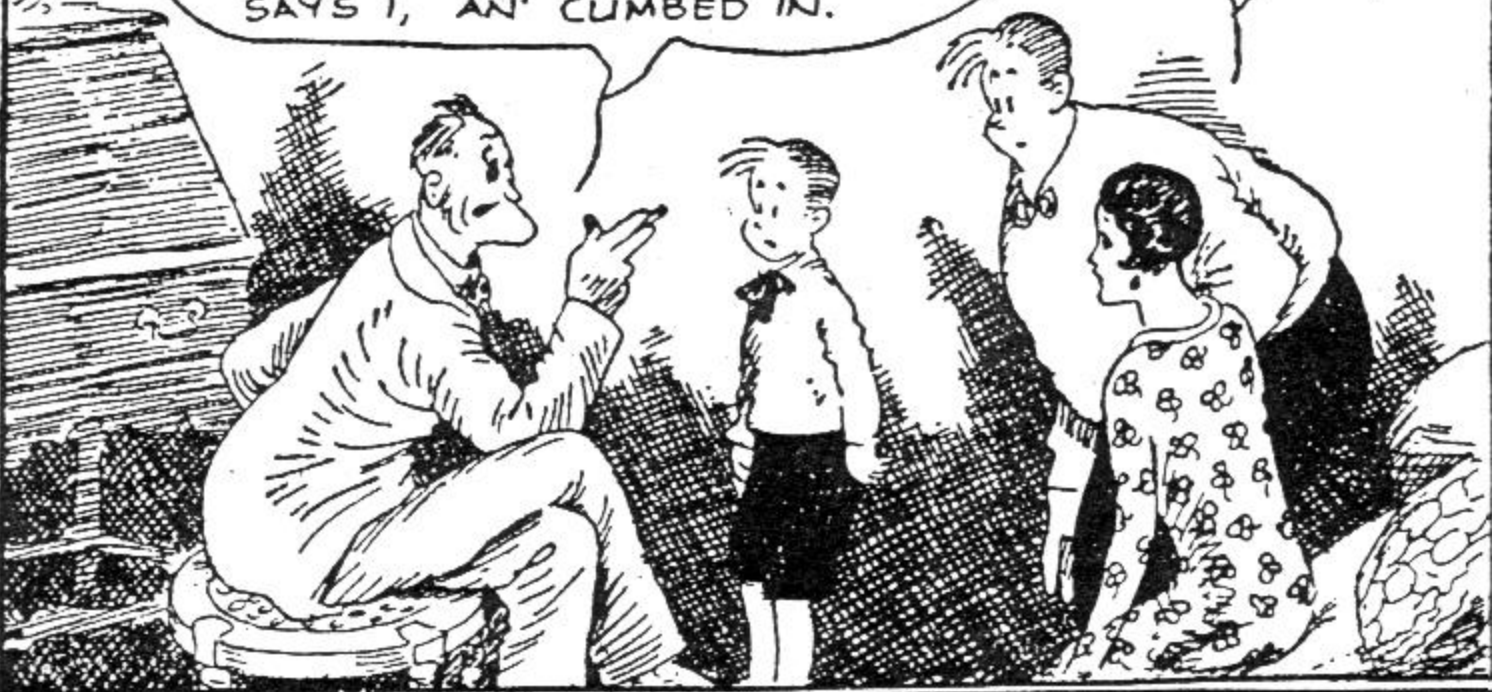
WEREN'T YOU FRIGHTENED TO DEATH?

IN THE BACK SEAT WAS TWO OTHER BIRDS, NOT SO HANDSOME, AN' ONE OF 'EM KEPT SOMETHING BETWEEN MY SHOULDERS THAT FELT LIKE ANOTHER EXTINGUISHER. THEY DROVE AROUND A FEW CORNERS AN' OUT SOMEWHERE TO THE EDGE O' TOWN AN' DOWN AN' ALLEY AN' THEY MADE ME GET OUT AN' WALK UP SOME BACK STAIRS.

WE MUST REPORT IT TO THE POLICE AT ONCE.

NO, I DON'T WANT ANY PUBLICITY. INSIDE THEY WENT THROUGH ME AN' TOOK MY ROLL WHICH STILL HAD A NICE SOLID CORE—JUST A FEW LOOSE LEAVES HAD BEEN PEELED OFF—AN' MY WATCH AN' BELT AN' SPURS. AN' THEY KEPT ME IN THAT ROOM FOR THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS.

HOW TERRIBLE!



GASOLINE ALLEY—SAFE AT LAST

BUT YOU DIDN'T TELL US, SQUINT, WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THE BANDITS GOT YOU IN THE CAR AN' TOOK YOU TO A HOUSE AN' TOOK ALL YOUR MONEY.

WELL AS I SAID, THEY KEPT ME THERE THREE DAYS AN' NIGHTS. THE FELLOW GUARDIN' ME TOOK A LITTLE NAP WHEN HE THOUGHT I WAS ASLEEP. I GAVE HIM AN UPPERCUT TO THE JAW, TOOK HIS GUN, SHOT MY WAY OUT AN' ESCAPED.

BUT NOT FOR LONG. I HAD ROUSED THE GANG. I WAS IN A STRANGE NEIGHBORHOOD AN' THEY FINALLY CAUGHT ME GOIN' OVER A BOARD FENCE. THEY THREW ME IN A CAR, AN' TOOK ME MILES AND MILES AWAY AN' BEAT ME UP AN' TOSSED ME IN A DARK CELLAR. THAT'S WHERE I GOT THIS SHINER.

BUT I SET THE HOUSE AFIRE AN' IN THE EXCITEMENT I GOT OUT AN' I'VE BEEN WALKIN' BACK EVER SINCE.

WHY YOU POOR MAN. YOU MUST BE FRIGHTFULLY HUNGRY.

SIT DOWN AN' REST, SQUINT. DONT STAND UP AFTER ALL THOSE HARROWING EXPERIENCES.

I'M AWFULLY GLAD YOU CAME TO SEE US, SQUINT, BUT I'M SORRY YOU HAD SUCH A LOT OF BUM LUCK SUCH AS BEING KIDNAPED AND ROBBED AND TAKEN PRISONER TWICE AND ALL THAT.

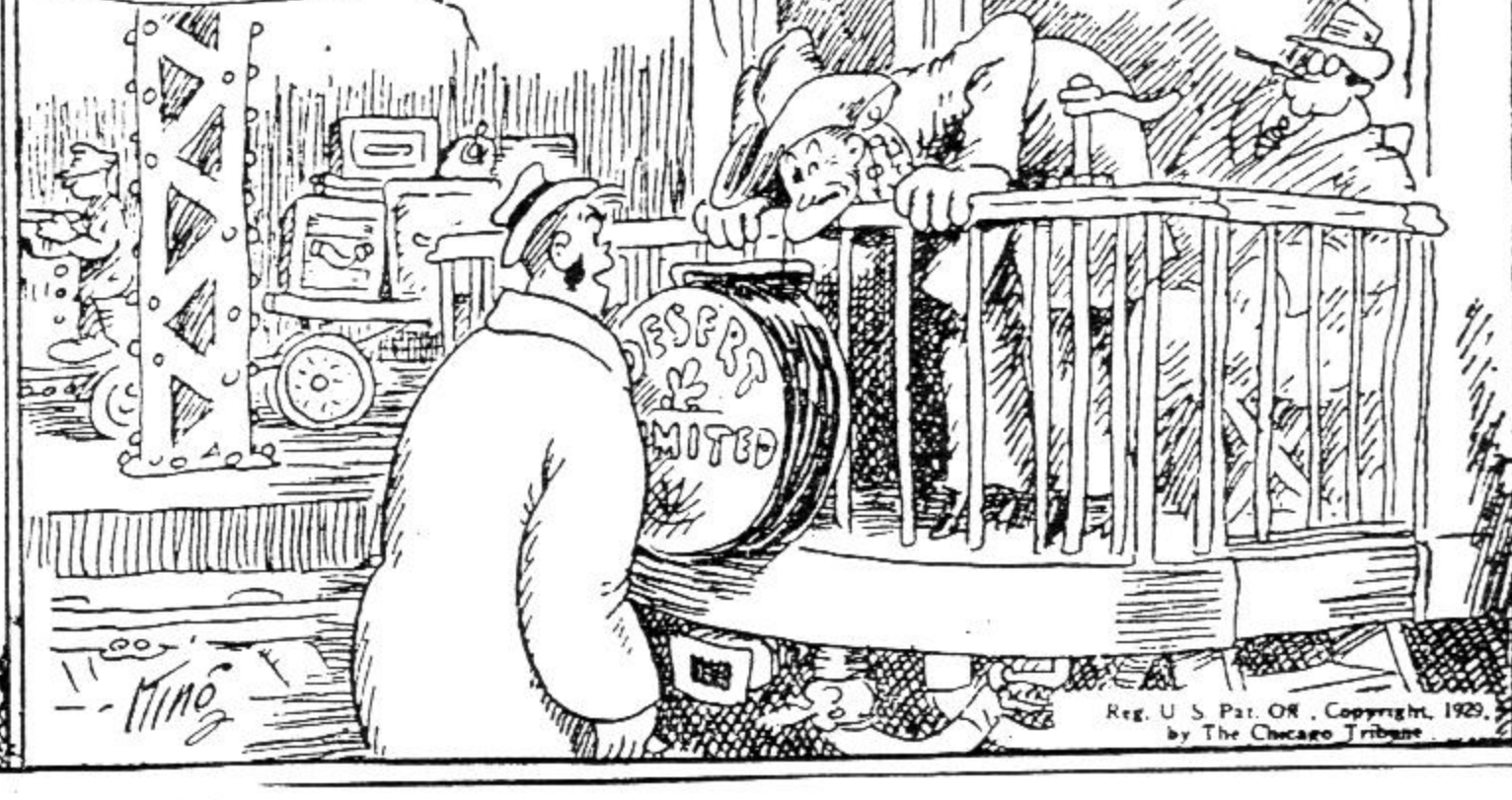
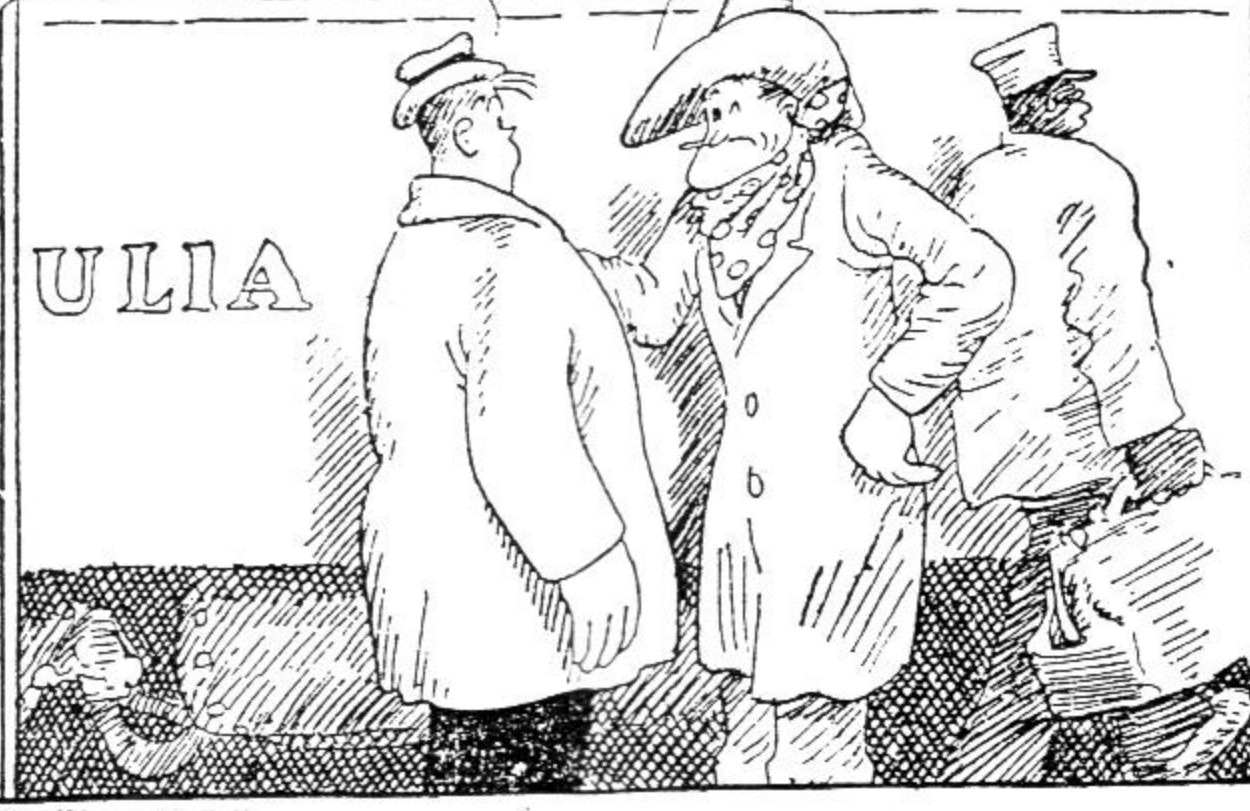
WELL WALT, I'VE HAD A LIBERAL EDUCATION SINCE I ARRIVED.

YOU CERTAINLY HAVE SOME TALES OF YOUR EXPERIENCES TO TELL THE BOYS BACK IN ARIZONA.

TROUBLE IS, WALT, KNOWIN' ME, I'M GOIN' TO HAVE A HARD TIME MAKIN' 'EM BELIEVE ME.

NOW SQUINT, SETTING ASIDE ALL THIS KIDNAPING AND ROBBERY AND GUN PLAY WHAT REALLY DID HAPPEN?

WELL, WALT, I GOT INTO A CRAP GAME WITH SOME STRANGERS



GASOLINE ALLEY — WHY, CERTAINLY

WALT, JUST LOOK AT SKEEZIX'S TOWEL YOU'VE GOT TO TALK TO HIM ABOUT USING MORE SOAP AND WATER.

THE LITTLE RASCAL! I CERTAINLY WILL.

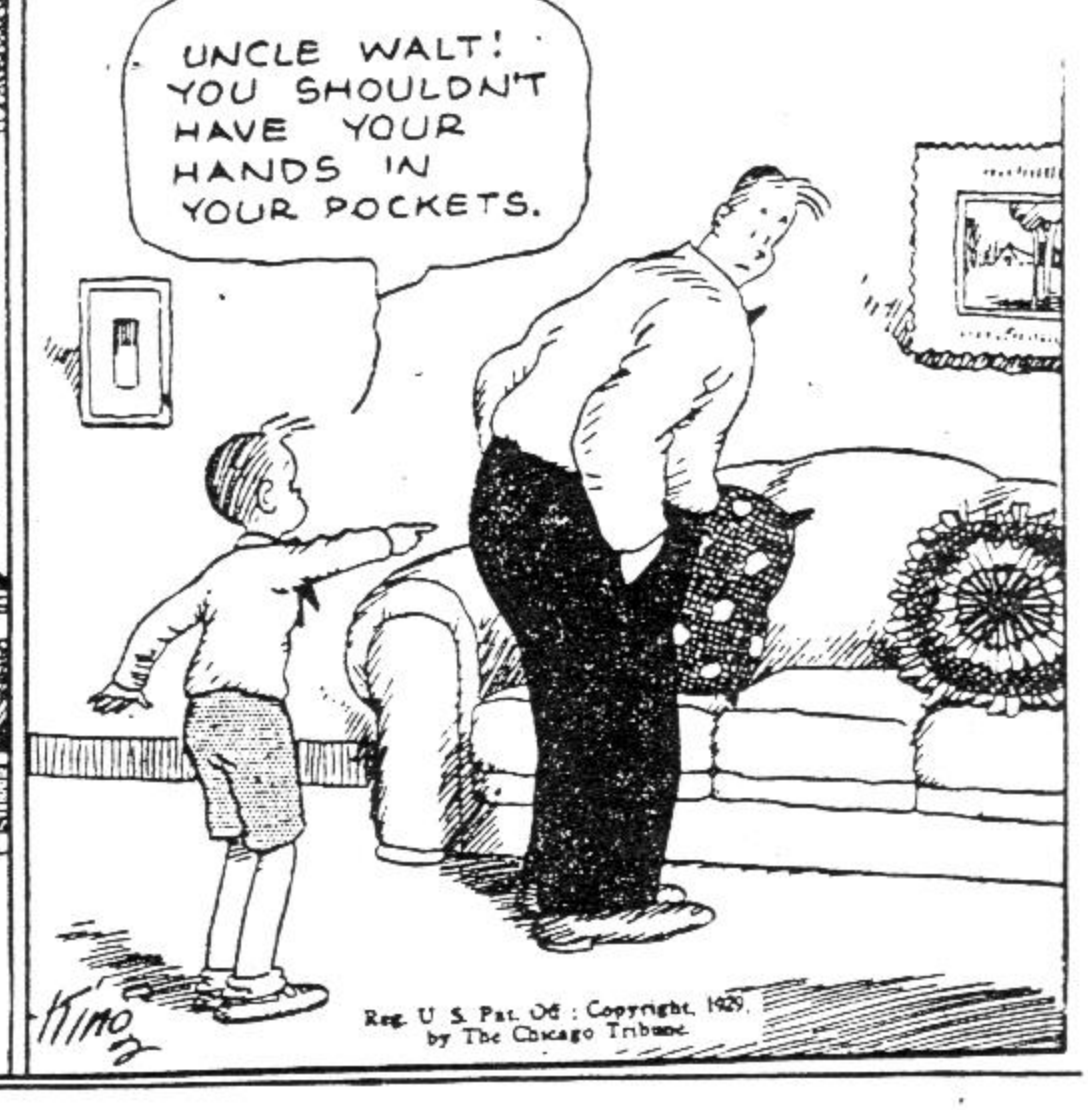
SKEEZIX! THIS IS YOUR TOWEL. LOOK AT IT! YOU'RE GETTING TO BE A BIG ENOUGH BOY SO THIS SHOULDN'T HAPPEN.

YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO TO KEEP A TOWEL FROM GETTING DIRTY LIKE THIS!

SURE. ANYBODY KNOWS THAT.

JUST WIPED LIGHTLY AND NOT SO HARD.

GASOLINE ALLEY—SAUCE FOR THE GANDER



GASOLINE ALLEY—CATCHING UP

EVERYBODY GONE AWAY, LE'S SEE, HAS THEY GOT ANY NEW DEFECTIVE STORIES I AINT READ.

MIS WALT HAD SOME NEW PERFUME GIVE TO HER I AINT TRIED YET, M-MM- SWEET!

AN' I AINT HAD NO CHANCE LATELY TO SHAKE OFF NO AVERAGE DUPOIS ON MISTA WALT'S CALORY SHAKER.

ALSO I'M 'WAY BEHIND ON MIS' WALT'S HATS.

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GASOLINE ALLEY—VOICE FROM THE SAGEBRUSH

HERE'S THE MAIL MISTA WALT. ONE POSTMARKED OMAHA, LOOKS LIKE A AD. GAS BILL, LETTER FROM YOUR MA, AN' ONE FROM TUBA CITY, ARIZONA. DON'T KNOW WHO THAT'S FROM.

THEN PERHAPS I'D BETTER OPEN IT RACHEL.

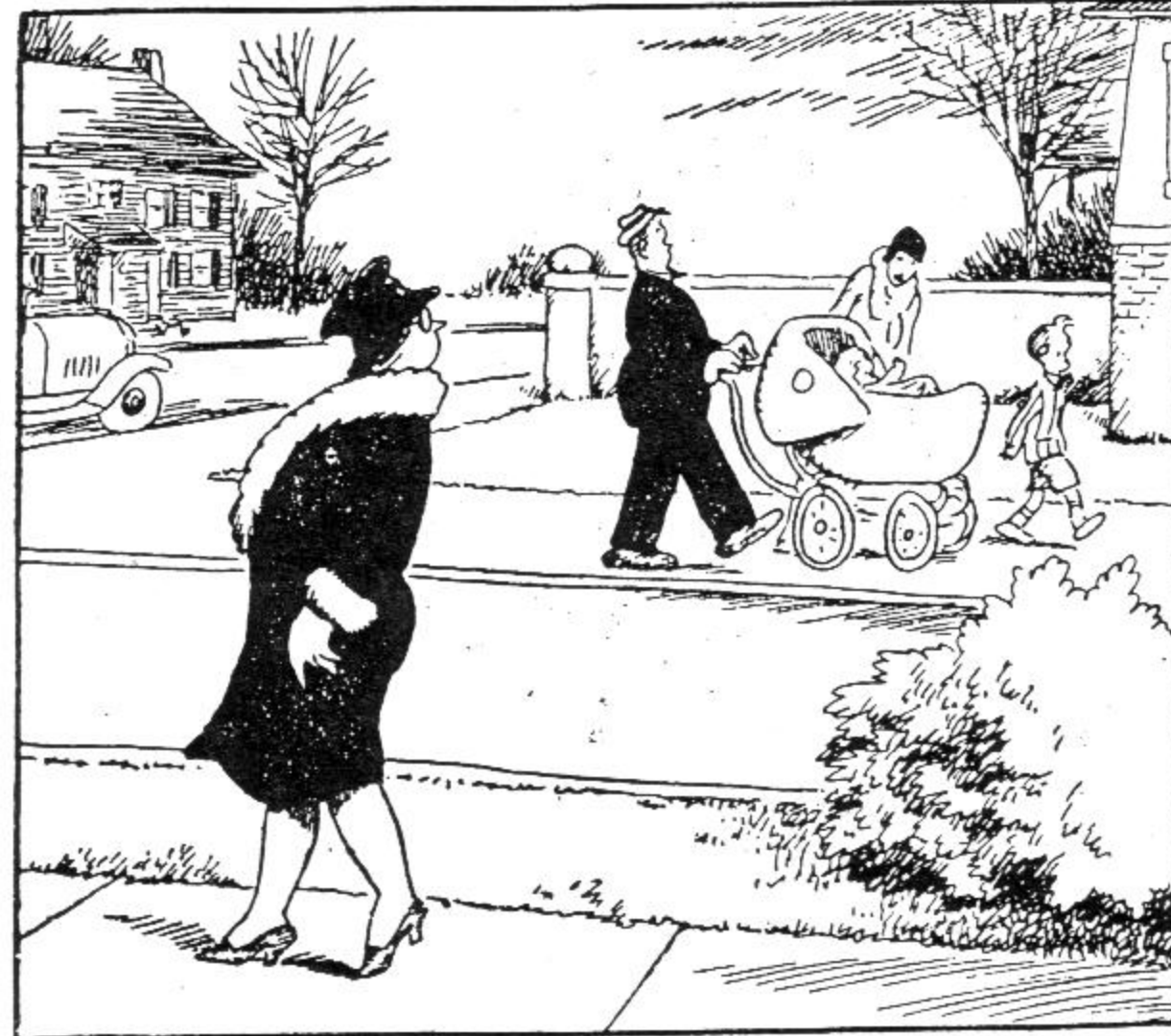
"DEAR WALT: ENCLOSING MONEY ORDER FOR 11 BUCKS AND PAWN TICKET PLEASE CALL PAST UNCLE JAKE'S AND REDEEM MY SPURS AND SILVER MOUNTED BELT. I'M BACK IN THE GREASEWOOD RAISING MORE \$TEERS TO SPEND IN TOWN NEXT YEAR.

"NOW AND THEN OUT HERE SOME BIRD GETS TO PLAYIN' AROUND WITH A GUN THAT SOMEBODY SAYS AIN'T LOADED AN GETS ALL SHOT TO PIECES. I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON. I AIN'T GOIN TO PLAY AROUND ANY MORE WITH ANY DICE SOMEBODY TELLS ME AIN'T LOADED, GUNS AN DICE YOU KNOW IS LOADED IS THE SAFEST KIND.

"BY THE WAY, WALT, YOU OUGHT TO WEAR SPURS. I FOUND 'EM INVALUABLE IN STREET CARS AN' ELEVATORS. YOURS TILL DOOMS DAY, SQUINT."

King
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GASOLINE ALLEY—THE QUIZ IS ON





YOU DON'T KNOW ME BUT I'M MRS. NOSEY. YOUR HUSBAND, THE DOCTOR, HAS CALLED UPON ME. I JUST THOUGHT I'D DROP IN AND MEET YOU.

COME RIGHT IN, MRS. NOSEY.



I JUST CAME PAST YOUR NEIGHBORS, THE WALLETS. MR. WALLET'S SECOND WIFE IS A BUSY LITTLE PERSON ISN'T SHE RATHER YOUNG LOOKING TOO FOR ONE OF HER AGE - SHE WAS A NURSE IN THE WAR YOU KNOW.

MR. WALLET'S SECOND WIFE! WHY HE'S NEVER BEEN MARRIED BEFORE.



OH DIDN'T YOU KNOW? OF COURSE CORKY IS THEIR CHILD BUT SKEEZIX ISN'T. THEY DON'T SAY MUCH ABOUT IT.

I'M SURE YOU'RE MISTAKEN, MRS. NOSEY. WE'VE KNOWN THEM ALL FOR A GOOD MANY YEARS



DO YOU KNOW, DEAR, IF WALT WAS EVER MARRIED BEFORE?

OH BOY, THAT'S A GOOD ONE! THAT OLD BATCH - BEFORE HE MARRIED PHYLLIS? THAT'S THE BEST LAUGH I'VE HAD THIS YEAR.

King

GASOLINE ALLEY—A GOOD WITNESS

NO USE SHOPPIN' BY TELEPHONE THESE NICE DAYS. I PREFER TO CATCH AND CARRY MY GROCERIES.



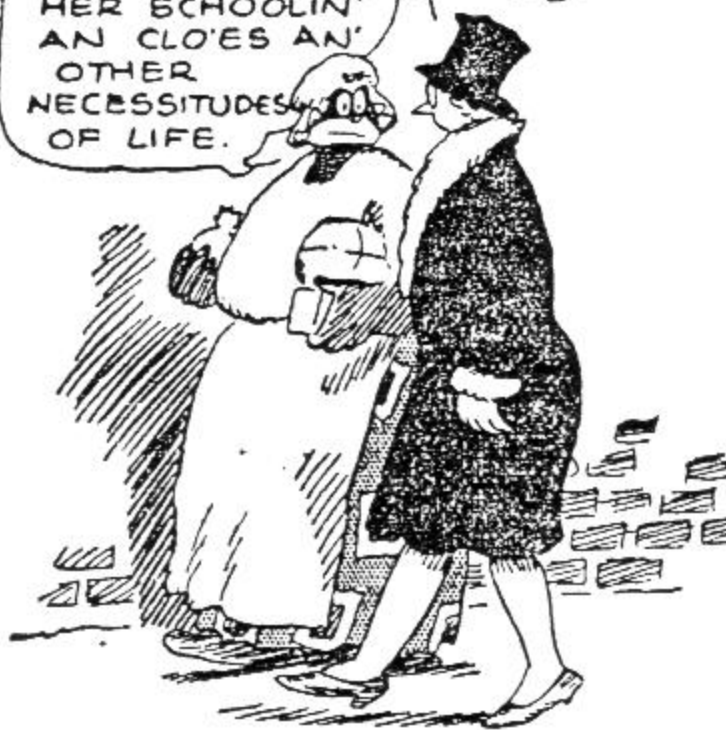
GOOD MORNING RACHEL. GETTING SOME BREAD FOR LUNCH? I SAW LORA IN THE STORE THIS MORNING. SHE BOUGHT A LOAF OF BREAD TOO. YOU FOLKS MUST EAT A LOT OF BREAD

NO'M, I GETTIN THIS FOR THE GOLDFISH.



BY THE WAY, I HEAR LORA IS AN ORPHAN AND HAS TO WORK AWFULLY HARD AT THE WALLETS AND ALL SHE GETS IS HER BOARD AND ROOM

WELL SHE GITS HER SCHOOLIN' AN CLO'ES AN' OTHER NECESSITUDES OF LIFE.



WHERE DOES SHE COME FROM AND WHAT RELATION IS SHE OF WALT'S?

I DUNNO. AN' I COULDN'T FIND OUT WITHOUT ASKIN' SOMEBODY A LOT O' FOOL QUESTIONS.

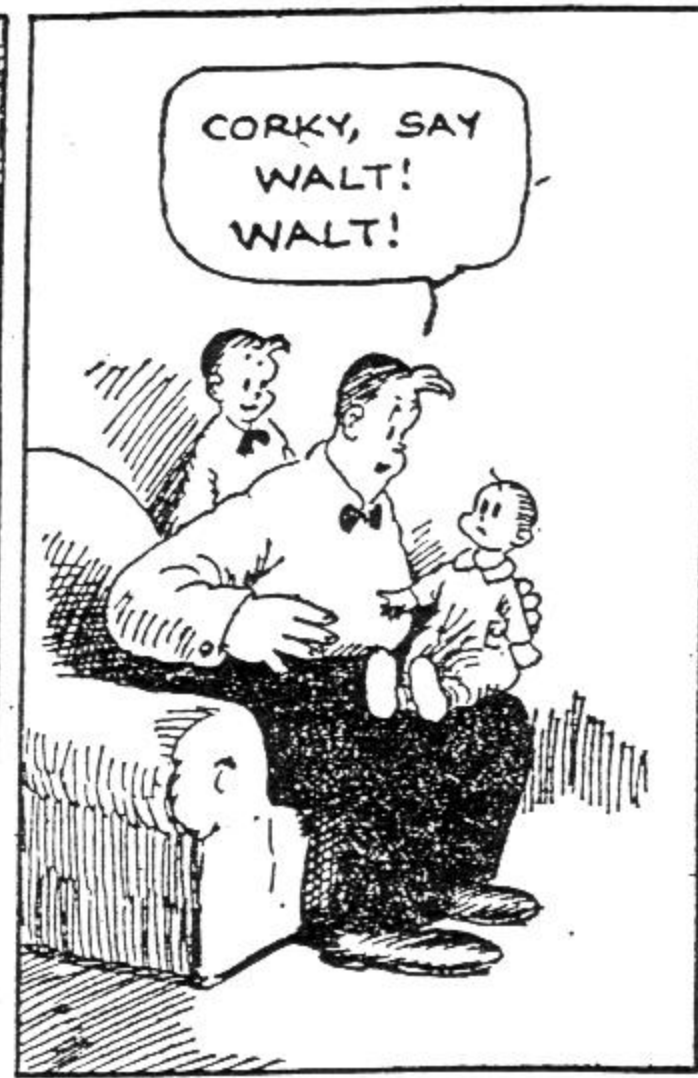
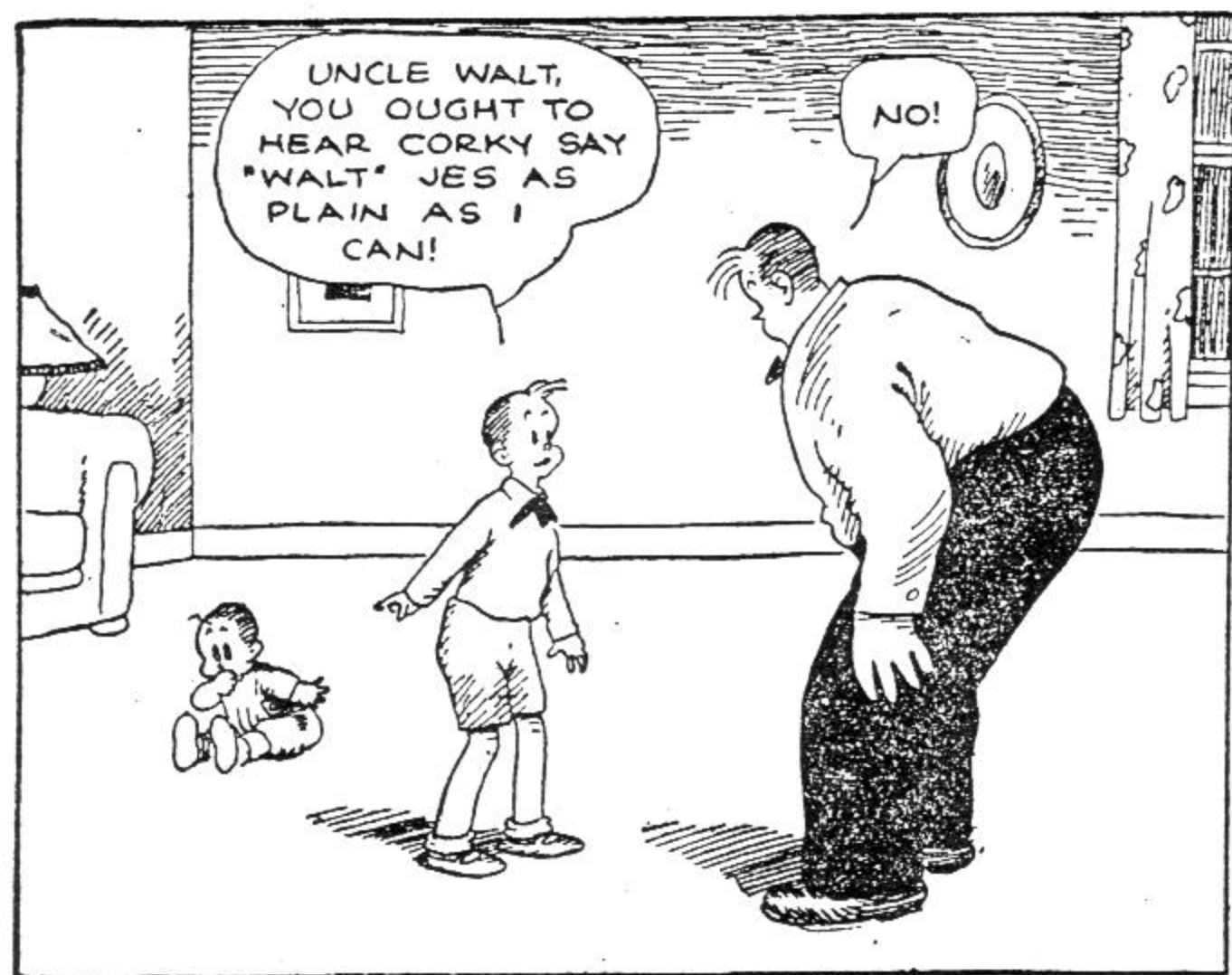


THERE. I GUESS THAT WILL HOLD OL' GIMLET FOR A WHILE.



-King-

GASOLINE ALLEY—THE WRONG DAY OF THE MONTH



GASOLINE ALLEY—INFORMATION BIT BY BIT



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GASOLINE ALLEY—FLAVORED TO TASTE



GASOLINE ALLEY—CORKY WINS



GASOLINE ALLEY—PROVEN

I JUST SAW YOU TALKING TO MR. WALLET. HE'S A NICE MAN THEY SAY, THOUGH I HEAR HE AND HIS WIFE DON'T GET ALONG SO WELL.

WHO, WALT? WALT GETS ALONG WITH ANYBODY!

HADN'T YOU HEARD THAT THEY FIGHT LIKE CATS AND DOGS? YOU LIVE NEAR THEM. YOU OUGHT TO KNOW.

I SURE HAD WHY THERE HASN'T A CROSS WORD PASSED BETWEEN THEM THAT I EVER HEARD.

THE OLD GIRL ISN'T GOING TO GET ANY MATERIAL FOR GOSSIP OUT O' ME.

THAT PROVES IT ALL THE MORE! HIS FRIENDS TRY TO COVER UP. THERE MUST BE SOMETHING TO COVER UP.

-King
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GASOLINE ALLEY—THE FOOT OF THE CLASS, SKEEZIX

LET'S SEE, YOU'RE SKEEZIX AREN'T YOU? PERHAPS YOU CAN TELL ME WHAT RELATION LORA THAT STAYS AT YOUR HOUSE IS TO YOU?

I DON'T KNOW, MRS. NOSEY.

CAN YOU TELL ME YOUR AUNTIE'S NAME BEFORE SHE WAS MARRIED?

I DON'T KNOW.

THEN PERHAPS YOU KNOW WHERE MME. OCTAVE IS NOW?

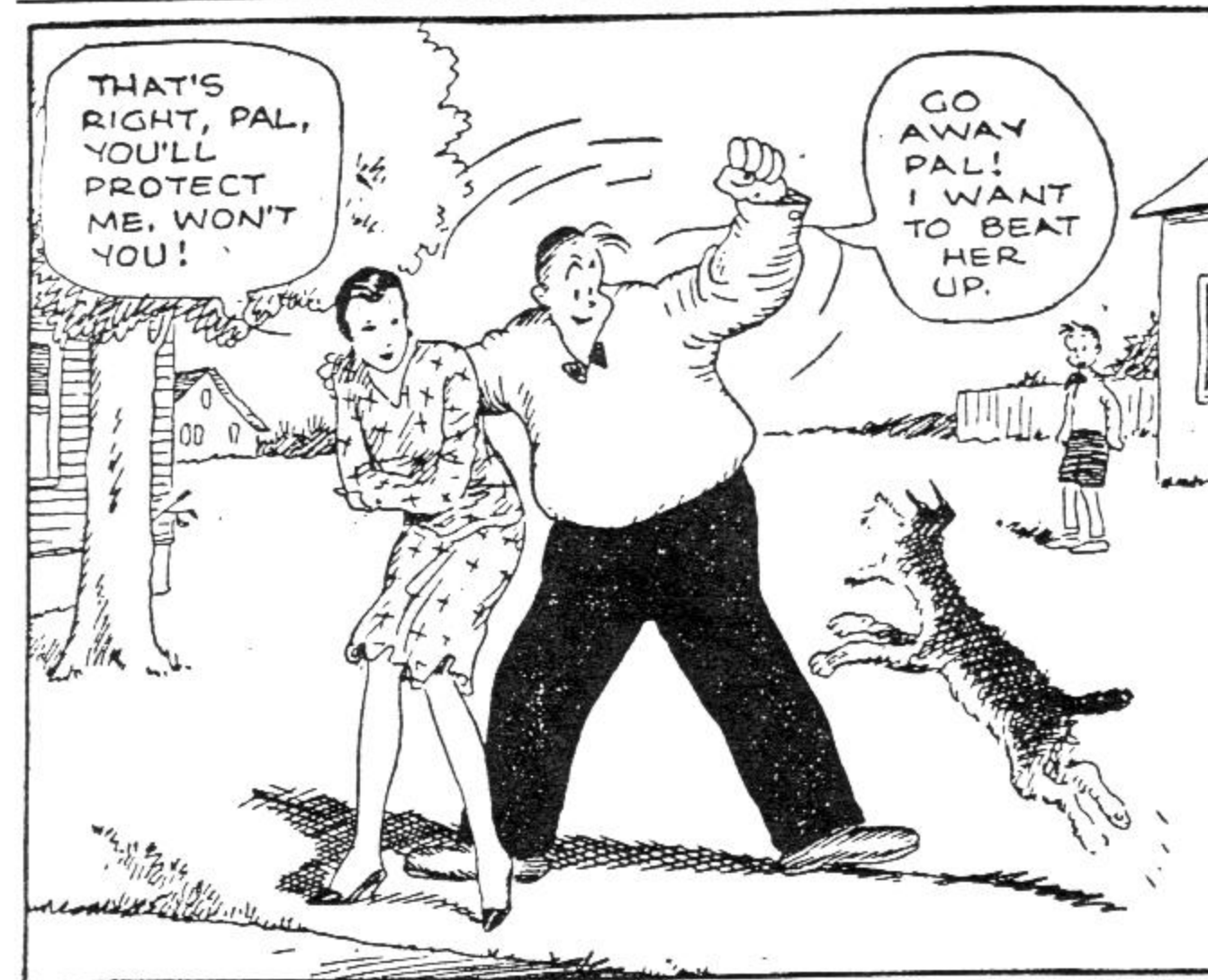
NO MA AM, I DON'T KNOW THAT EITHER.

I WOULDN'T TRY TO, PRY INTO OTHER PEOPLES AFFAIRS BUT I THINK IT'S STRANGE THAT A BOY OF HIS AGE SHOULDN'T KNOW MORE ABOUT HIS OWN FOLKS.

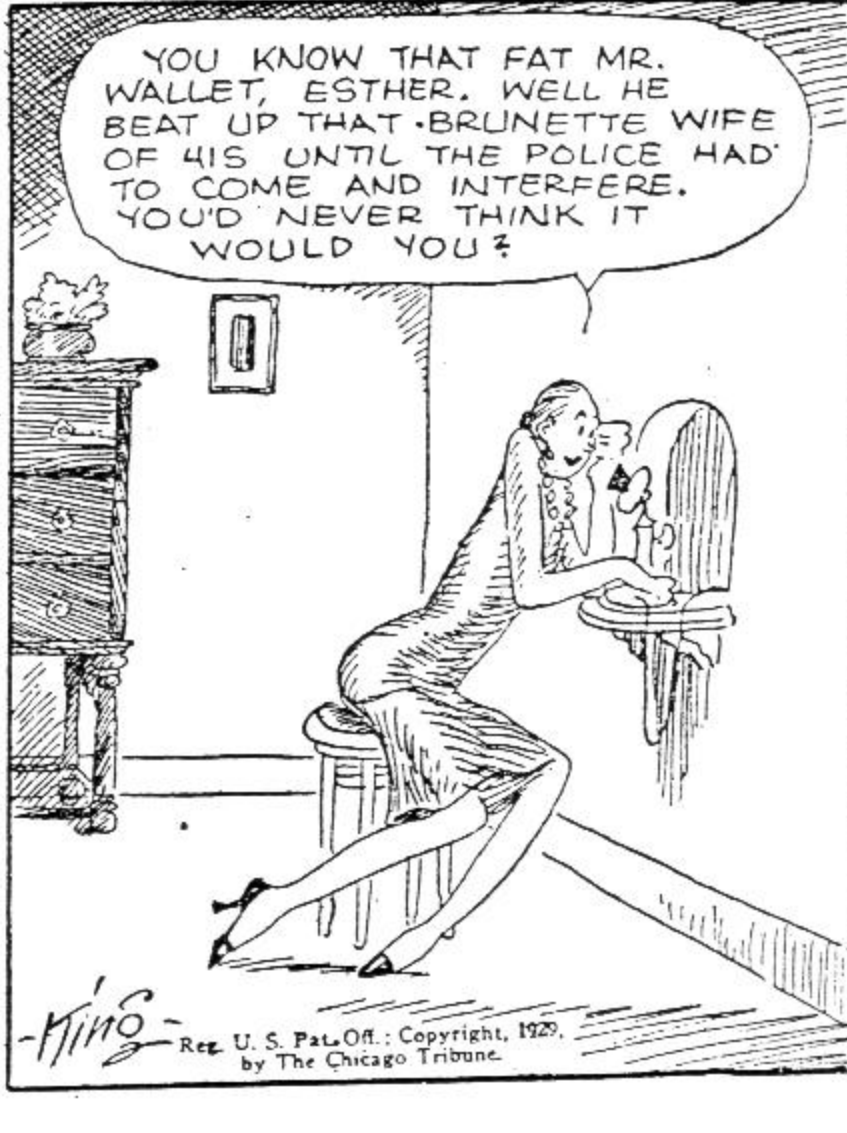
King

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GASOLINE ALLEY—ACTIVITIES DULY NOTED



GASOLINE ALLEY—BUT DON'T SAY I TOLD YOU





AVERY, THEY ARE TELLING SOME PERFECTLY AWFUL STORIES AROUND ABOUT THE WALLETS. I'M GOING OVER AND TELL MRS. WALLET ABOUT IT.

YOU'D BETTER STAY OUT OF IT, EMILY. YOU'RE LIABLE TO GET IN DUTCH.



IT JUST MAKES MY BLOOD BOIL TO HAVE SOMEBODY START STORIES LIKE THAT WHEN I KNOW THERE ISN'T A WORD OF TRUTH IN THEM.



MRS. WALLET, MRS. NOSEY IS SAYING SOME THINGS ABOUT YOU AND MR. WALLET AND I THINK YOU OUGHT TO KNOW ABOUT THEM. FOR INSTANCE MR. WALLET BEATS YOU, HE IS CRUEL TO SKEEZIX AND HE WAS DIVORCED BEFORE FOR NON-SUPPORT.

THE IDEA! THE WOMAN MUST BE CRAZY!

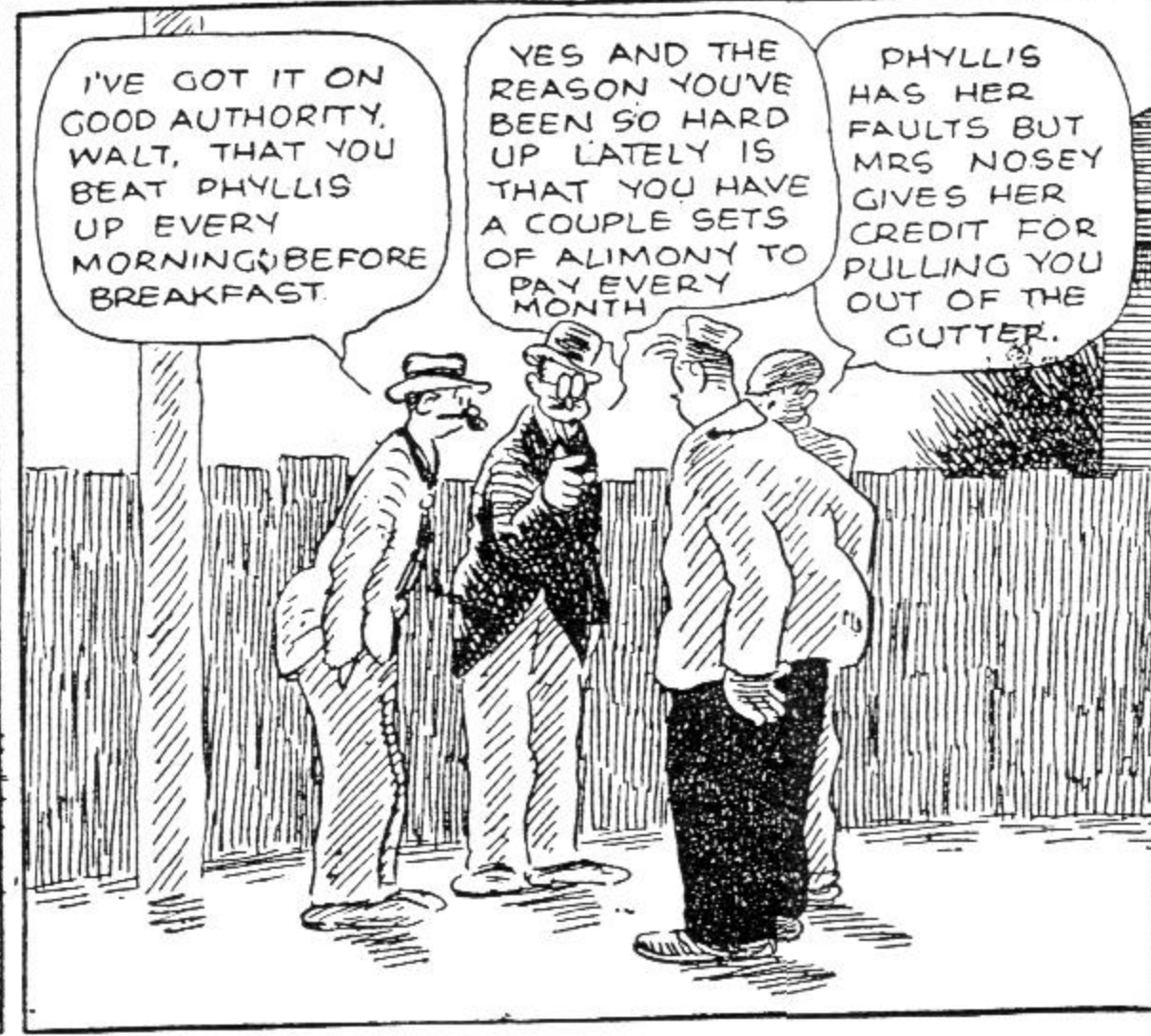


AND YOU KNOW HOW SUCH THINGS TRAVEL. IF YOU SAY THE WORD I'LL GO OVER MYSELF AND GIVE HER A PIECE OF MY MIND!

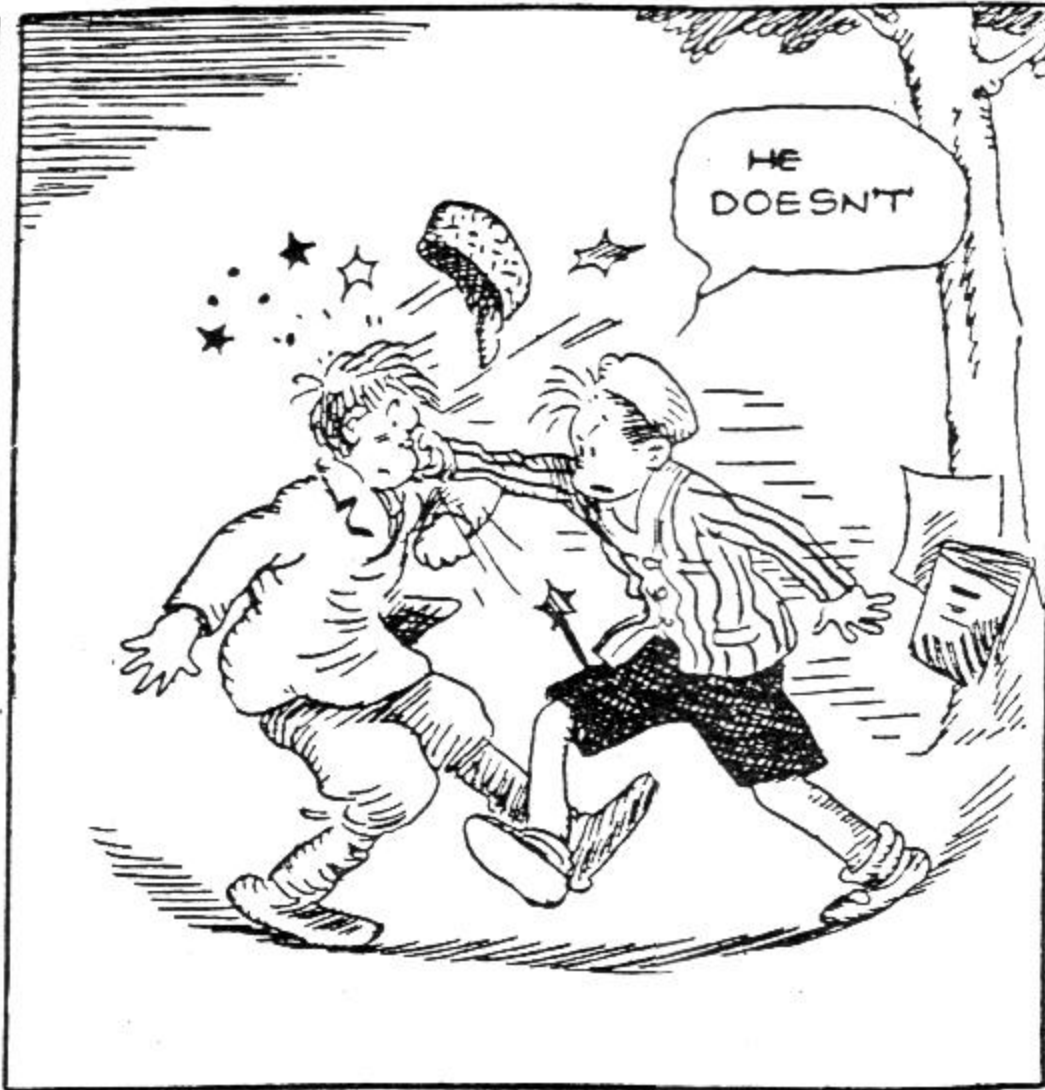
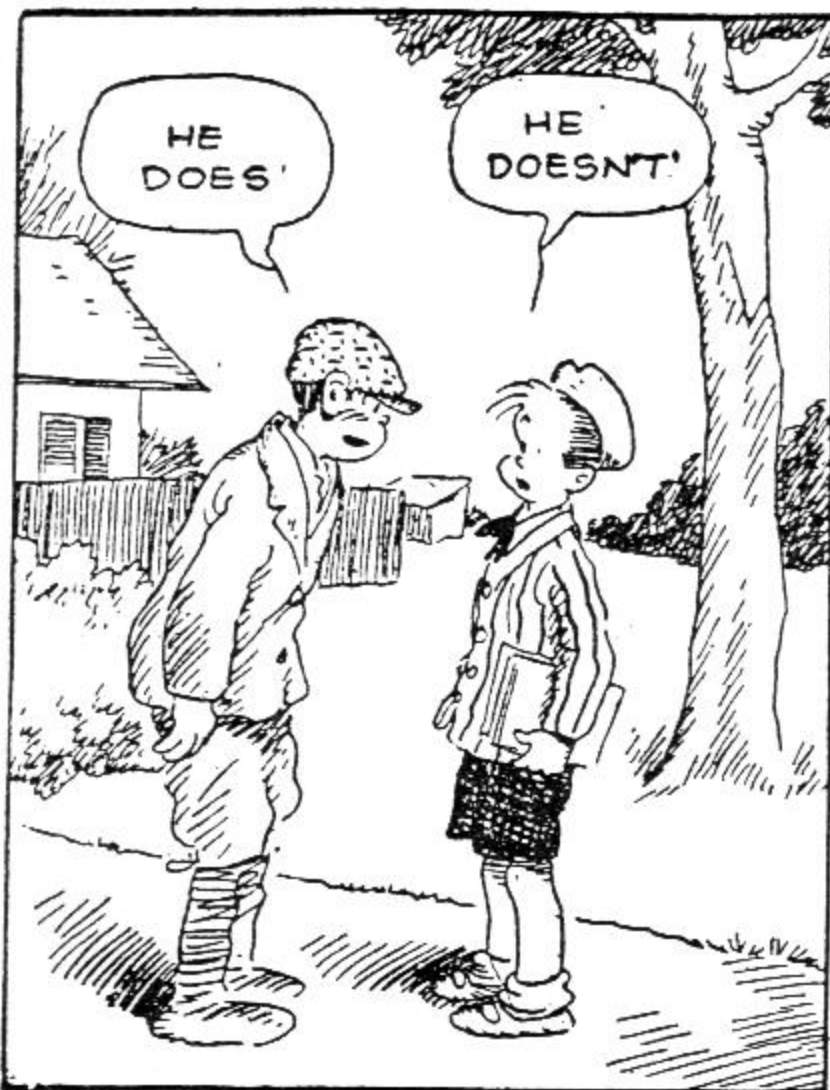
IT'S TERRIBLE! BUT WAIT. THERE MAY BE A BETTER WAY. IT CERTAINLY CAN'T GO ON!

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GASOLINE ALLEY — SUPPRESSING THE NEWS



GASOLINE ALLEY—PROVEN



GASOLINE ALLEY—RACHEL SAYS A MOUTHFUL

IF THEY'D LEAVE IT TO ME I'D MAKE THAT OL' MIS NOSEY EAT EVERY WORD SHE SAID 'BOUT OUR FAMBLY. IF SHE DON'T QUIT STICKIN' HERNOSE IN OUR BUSINESS SHE GOIN' GET IT BENT.

MOLICIOUS STORIES SHE STARTS IS BOUND TO SPREAD LIKE THE SMELL O' COOKIN' CABBAGE THEY'S PLENTY O' DIRT TO DISH MOST EVERYWHERE WITHOUT MAKIN' MORE

AS I WAS SAYIN' WHEN INTERRUPTED BY KEEPIN' QUIET FOR CORKY—I WISH THEY'D JES' TURN ME LOOSE AN' I'D MAKE THAT OL' BUZZARD SWALLER ALL HER STORIES ON THE COURT HOUSE STEPS.

TOO BAD THEY AIN'T A LAW 'GAINST LYIN' BUT I S'POSE IF THEY WAS THEY WOULDN'T BE NO POLITICIANS TO MAKE LAWS

GASOLINE ALLEY—ULTIMATUM



GASOLINE ALLEY—THE PLOT THICKENS



GASOLINE ALLEY -- NOTHING VENTURED, NOTHING TO BRAG ABOUT

MRS. NOSEY'S TALES AND RUMORS HAVE BECOME TOO OBSTREPEROUS FOR WALT AND HE HAS DETERMINED TO START SOMETHING HIMSELF. HE AND PHYLLIS DEVISED A TELEGRAM WHICH HE AND BILL SENT TO HER. -- SIGNED "XYZ."

GREAT SNAKES ALIVE! WHO CAN XYZ BE?



FELLAS, WE'VE JUST TRIED OUT SOMETHING ON MRS. NOSEY. BILL AND I JUST SENT HER A WIRE. PHYLLIS HAS A HUNCH THAT SHE DOESN'T WANT A LOT OF FREE PUBLICITY HERSELF. WE'RE GOING TO SEE.

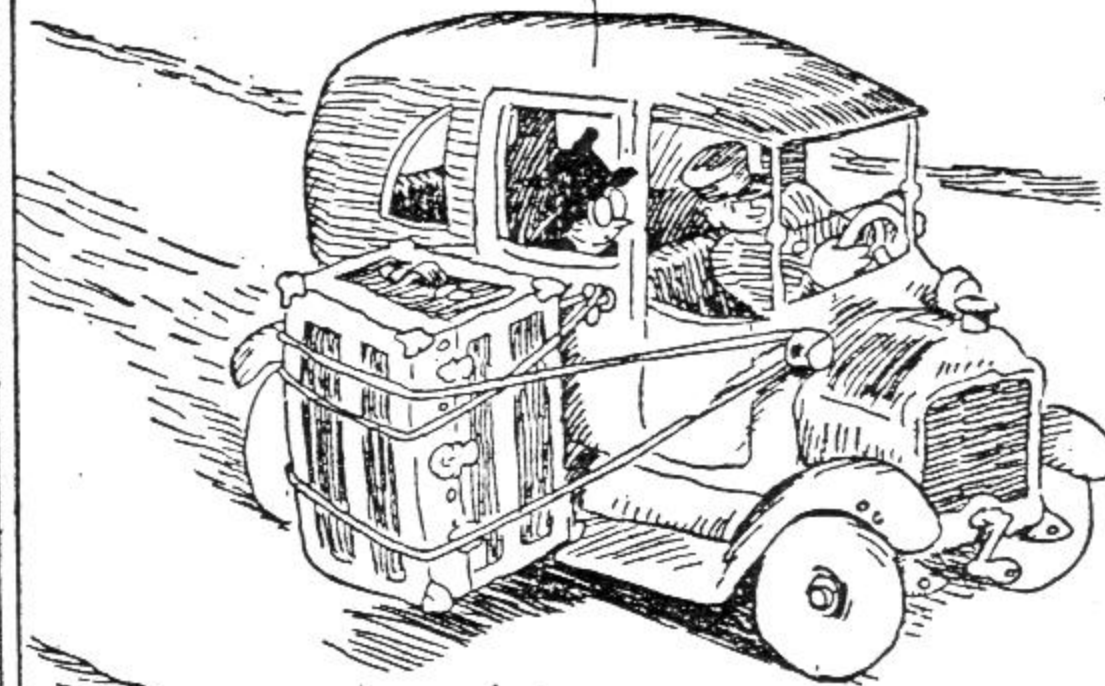
MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE HER KIND OF PUBUCITY.

ALL RIGHT, BILL. WHAT WAS THE WIRE?

"ALL IS FOUND OUT. LEAVE AT ONCE" SIGNED "XYZ."



DRIVER GO DOWN THE BACK STREET TO THE STATION.

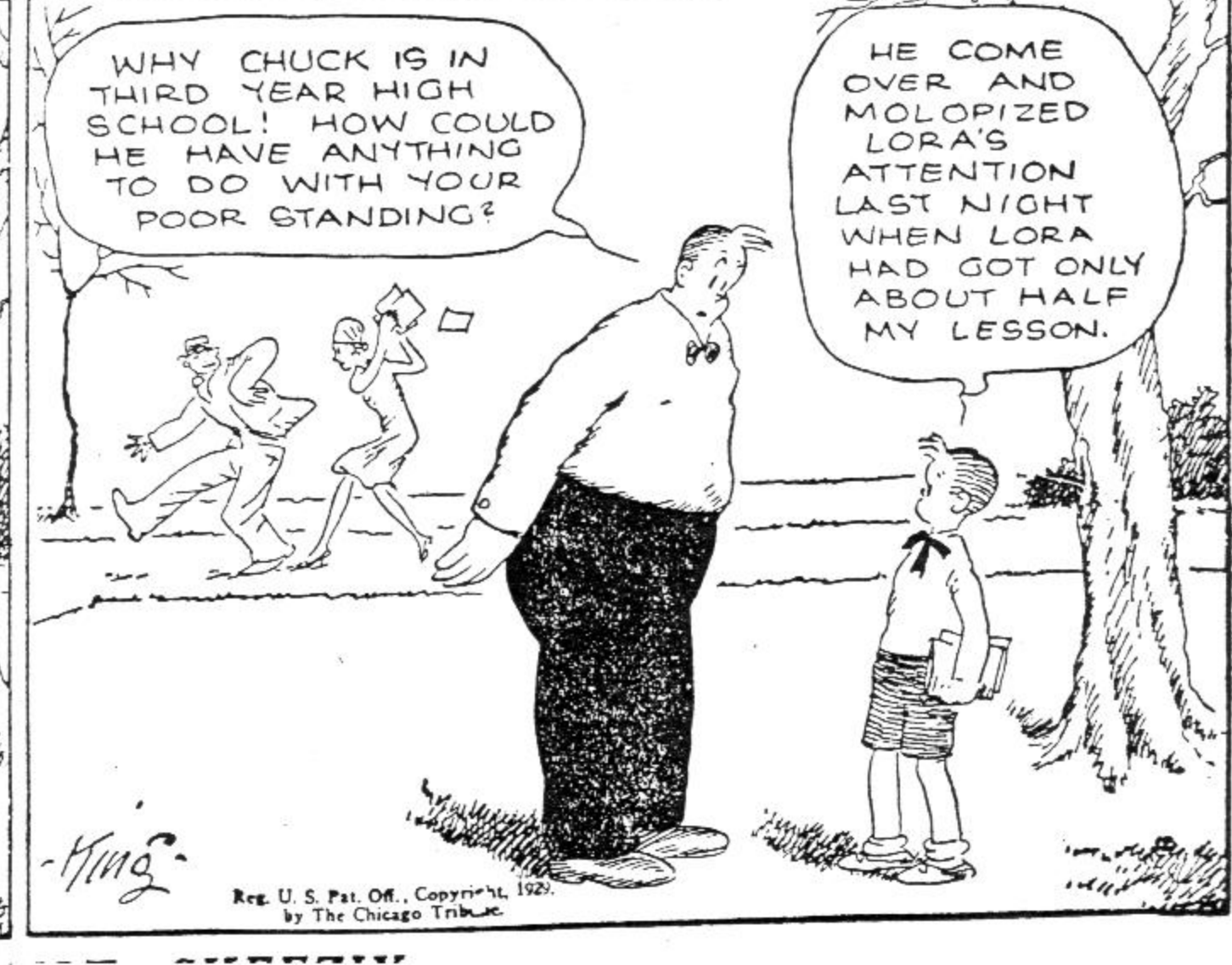


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GASOLINE ALLEY—PSYCHOLOGY WINS



GASOLINE ALLEY—EDUCATION HAS ITS PITFALLS



GASOLINE ALLEY—IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT, SKEEZIX

AHA, SKEEZIX IS TRAVELING IN MY FOOTSTEPS! I ALWAYS HAD A GLACK WIRE STRUNG UP SOMEWHERE. I USED TO BE PRETTY GOOD ON ONE.



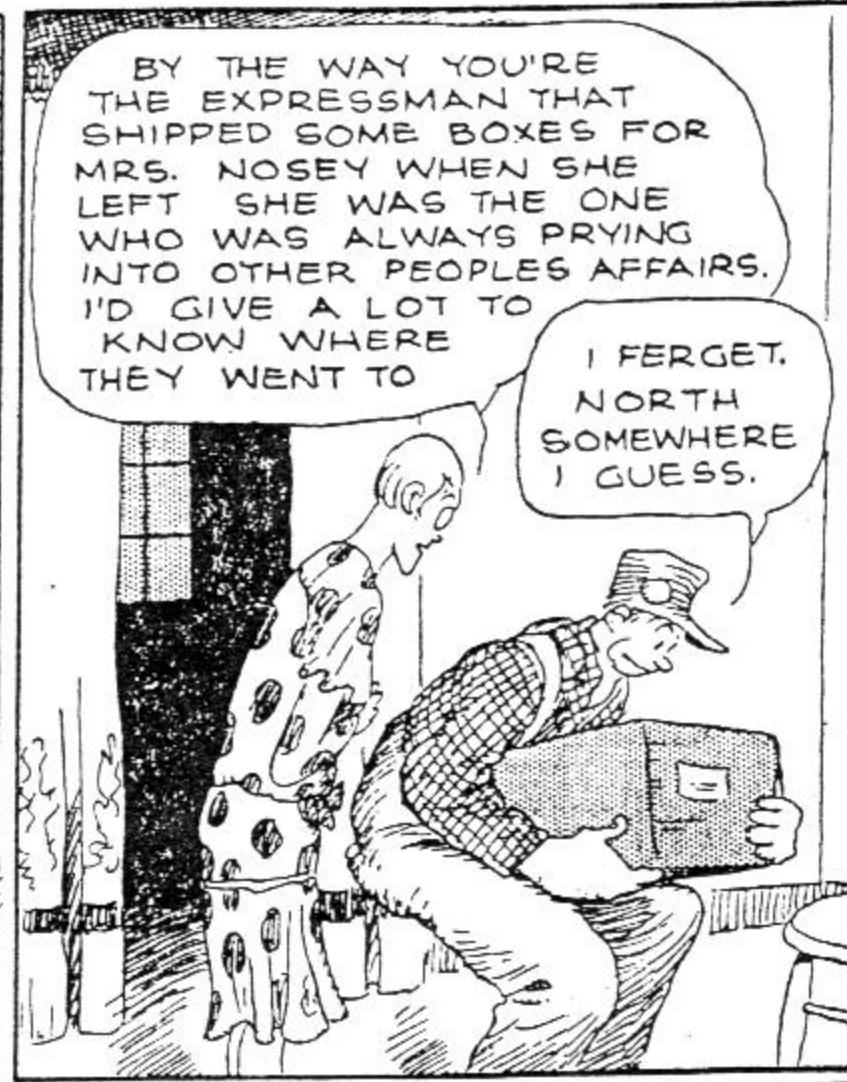
WHAT'S THE MATTER, UNCLE WALT?

YOU'D BETTER TAKE THIS SLACK WIRE DOWN FROM HERE, SKEEZIX. I JUST TRIPPED OVER IT.

MING

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GASOLINE ALLEY—A FEW MORE QUESTION MARKS



GASOLINE ALLEY—A PROPOSAL

MR. WALLET? MY NAME IS CORPUS. I AM CALLING ON YOU IN THE INTEREST OF YOUR ADOPTED SON, SKEEZIX

I AM NOT IN THE MARKET FOR ANY SET OF CHILD'S BOOKS EQUIVALENT TO A COLLEGE EDUCATION.

I HAVE NOTHING TO SELL. BUT I CAME TO SUGGEST THAT A FEW YEARS SCHOOLING ABROAD MIGHT BE OF INESTIMABLE BENEFIT TO THE BOY. A SOJOURN ON THE CONTINENT IS ALMOST INDISPENSIBLE TO A COMPLETE PERSONALITY.

WHY, MAY I ASK, ARE YOU SO INTERESTED IN SKEEZIX'S WELFARE, AN ADOPTED CHILD, AND ONE WHOSE EDUCATION IS ALREADY PRACTICALLY ASSURED?

I HAVE ONLY RECENTLY BEEN ACQUAINTED WITH HIS HISTORY, WHICH IS INTRIGUING. THE MOTIVES BEHIND MY COMING TO YOU ARE ENTIRELY PHILANTHROPIC. I REPRESENT A SCHOOL IN PARIS - AS A HOBBY NOT AS A PROFESSION.

THEN I CAN ASSURE YOU THERE IS NO NEED TO MAKE ME ANY PROPOSITION.

BUT THERE WILL BE NO NEED OF GIVING UP EVENTUAL POSSESSION OF THE CHILD. IN THE MEANTIME ADVANTAGES WHICH -

I THINK I RECOGNIZE THE TECHNIQUE - I AM NOT INTERESTED!

GASOLINE ALLEY—SOLILOQUY

THAT WALT WALLET IS A TESTY INDIVIDUAL. HE DIDN'T TAKE KINDLY TO MY SUGGESTION— THAT OF EDUCATING HIS BRAT 'ABROAD. WELL I DIDN'T EXPECT HIM TO — AT FIRST.



HE'LL REQUIRE TACT— AND PATIENCE. WELL, I PRIDE MYSELF THAT I HAVE BOTH AND I'LL BRING HIM AROUND OR MY NAME ISN'T ABIE S. CORPUS.



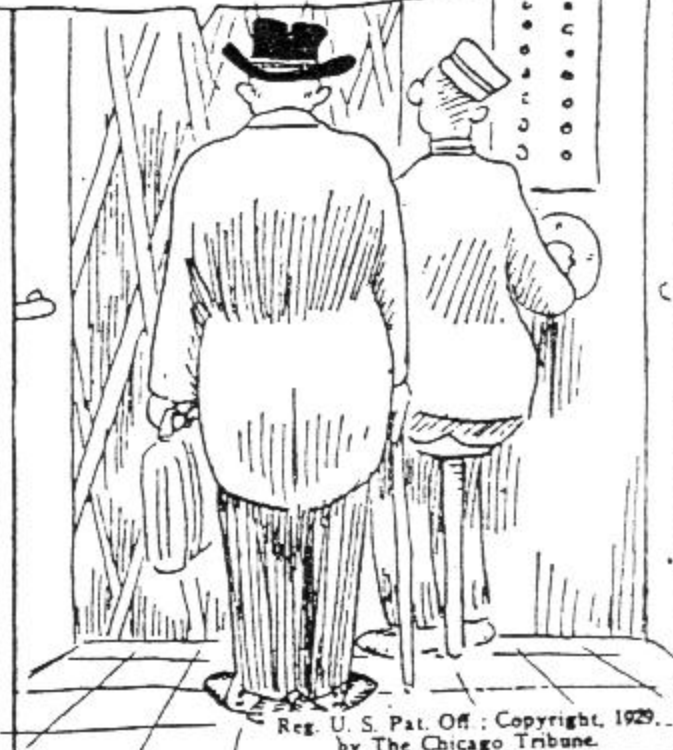
IF I HAD THIS CASE FROM THE START IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN BUNGLED AS IT WAS. BUT I CAN YET PULL THE CHESTNUTS OUT OF THE FIRE.



ESPECIALLY NOW THAT THERE ARE SOME NICE FAT CHESTNUTS IN SIGHT — RIPE AND DONE TO A TURN.



WALLET CAN BE APPROACHED ONLY THROUGH ONE CHANNEL— THE GOOD OF THE CHILD SKEEZIX. BUT FIRST HIS BARRIER OF SUSPICION MUST BE BROKEN DOWN — OR MELTED AWAY. I'M THE MAN TO DO IT.



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GASOLINE ALLEY—AN EXPERIMENT

I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT, PHYLLIS, BUT A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO A FELLOW SLID IN AND WANTED TO SEND SKEEZIX TO SCHOOL ABROAD.

SOMEHOW THAT HAS A SORT OF A FAMILIAR RING TO IT. WHAT KIND OF A PERSON WAS THIS ONE?

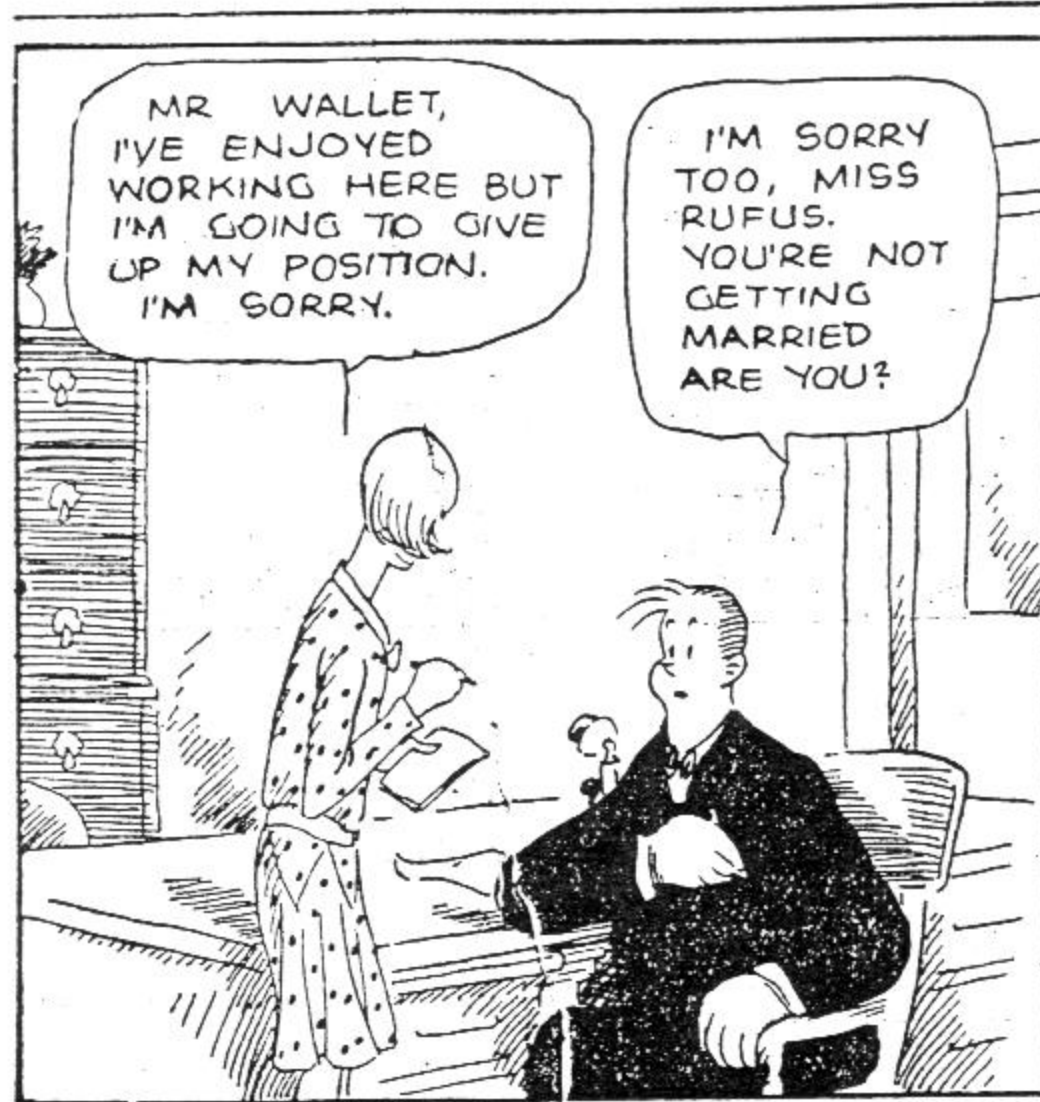
OH HE WAS A SLIPPERY SLATHERY SOAPY LITTLE FELLOW BUT PRECISE AND PRIM — BUTTER WOULDN'T MELT IN HIS MOUTH.

SURE OF SUCCESS I SUPPOSE

AND CONCEITED! WHY IF ANYTHING EVER HAPPENS TO HIM THE EARTH WILL STOP IN IT'S ORBIT FOR TWO MINUTES. ON EACH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OCCASION THEREAFTER.

RACHEL, WHAT DOES IT MEAN IF BUTTER WON'T MELT IN YOUR MOUTH?

MEANS IT'S BUM BUTTA. NOW RUN ALONG.



MR WALLET,
I'VE ENJOYED
WORKING HERE BUT
I'M GOING TO GIVE
UP MY POSITION.
I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY
TOO, MISS
RUFUS.
YOU'RE NOT
GETTING
MARRIED
ARE YOU?



NO SIR, I'M GOING
TO WORK FOR A MAN
BY THE NAME OF
CORPUS WHO IS
AMERICAN
REPRESENTATIVE FOR
A SCHOOL IN PARIS.
IT'S A NICE JOB.

AHA,
I KNOW
THE
FELLOW
WELL I'LL
HAVE TO
LOOK AROUND
FOR ANOTHER
SECRETARY
WONT I?



PLEASE TAKE THIS. WANTED
COMPETENT OFFICE GIRL AND
SECRETARY OPPORTUNITY
EXCELLENT FOR RIGHT PARTY.
MUST HAVE REFERENCES
STATE AGE, EXPERIENCE AND
SALARY DESIRED

SOUND
ALL
RIGHT
AS A
WANT
AD,
MISS
RUFUS?



OK. I'M
ALMOST
TEMPTED TO
ANSWER
THAT ONE
MYSELF.

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King

GASOLINE ALLEY—THROUGH THE SIEVE



MR WALLET?

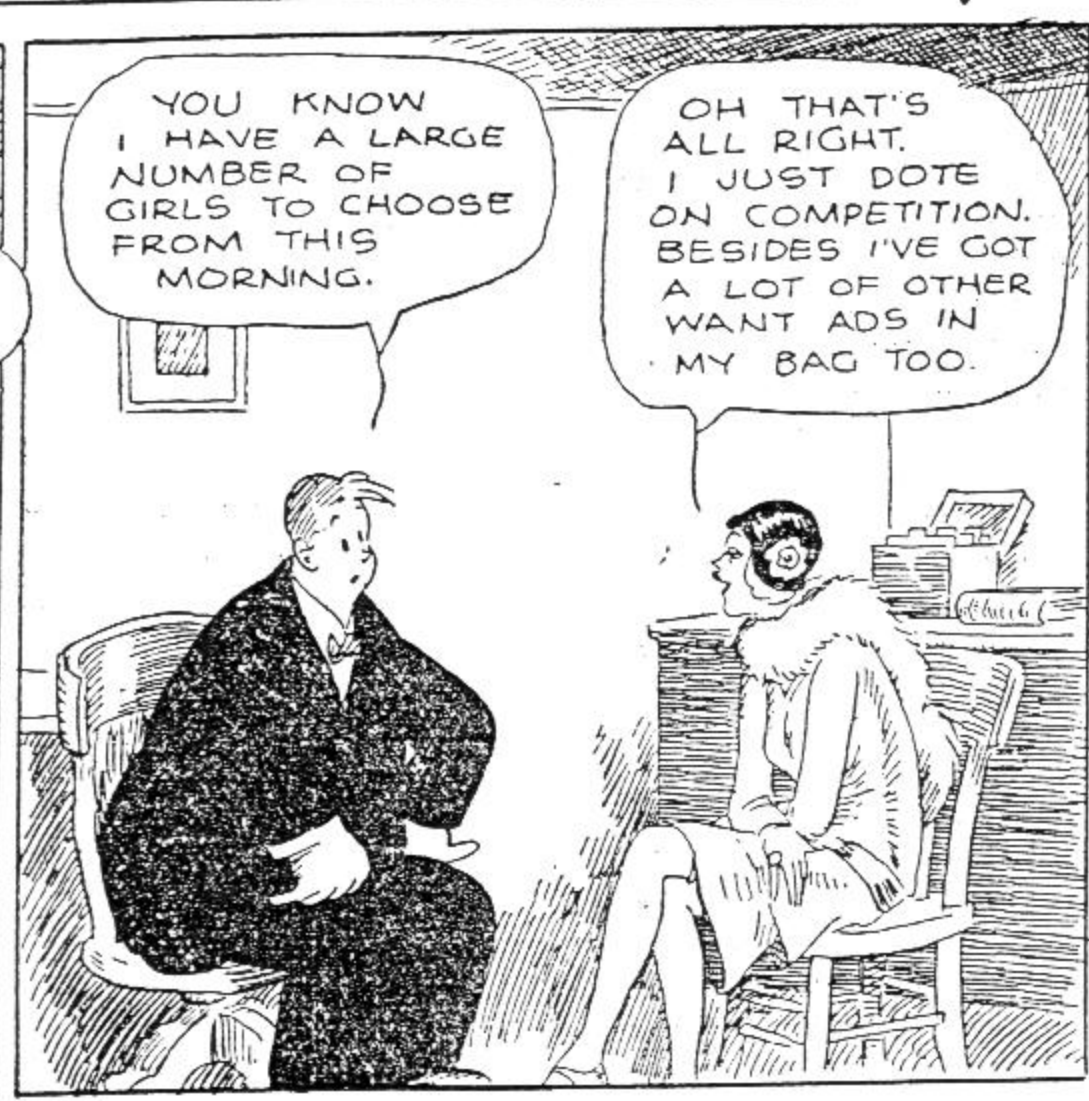
I'M ANSWERING YOUR AD IN TODAY'S PAPER.

GIVE A FELLOW A CHANCE, GIRLS.

I DON'T LOOK IT BUT I'VE HAD EIGHT YEARS EXPERIENCE.

I WAS HERE FIRST.

WHY YOU LITTLE CAT! I WAS HERE WHEN YOU CAME



YOU KNOW I HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF GIRLS TO CHOOSE FROM THIS MORNING.

OH THAT'S ALL RIGHT. I JUST DOTE ON COMPETITION. BESIDES I'VE GOT A LOT OF OTHER WANT ADS IN MY BAG TOO.



I MUST HAVE MY LUNCH HOUR PROMPTLY AT 12 AND I HAVE MY OWN SYSTEM FOR RUNNING AN OFFICE.

I'M NOT CHOOSING TODAY. I'M ONLY ELIMINATING. YOU'RE ONE MORE THAT'S ELIMINATED.

Kino 2

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THE POSITION WILL BE SORT OF SECRETARY, STENOGRAPHER AND OFFICE GIRL. IF YOU CARE TO TAKE IT UNDER THOSE CONDITIONS YOU MAY START AT ONCE, MISS — ?

MISS TOSY, THAT'S ALL RIGHT WITH ME. LET'S GO.



TAKE THIS: WOGG AND CO, SEATTLE. GENTLEMEN: CONCERNING YOUR CUSTOMER'S COMPLAINT THAT OUR WICKER LOVE SEAT IS TOO SKIMPY WILL SUGGEST SHE GET A SMALLER BEAU. TO DATE WE HAVE HAD NO OTHER COMPLAINTS. IN FACT HAVE BEEN SELLING MANY OF OUR SINGLE WICKER ARM CHAIRS FOR THE SAME PURPOSE. YOURS VERY TRULY.

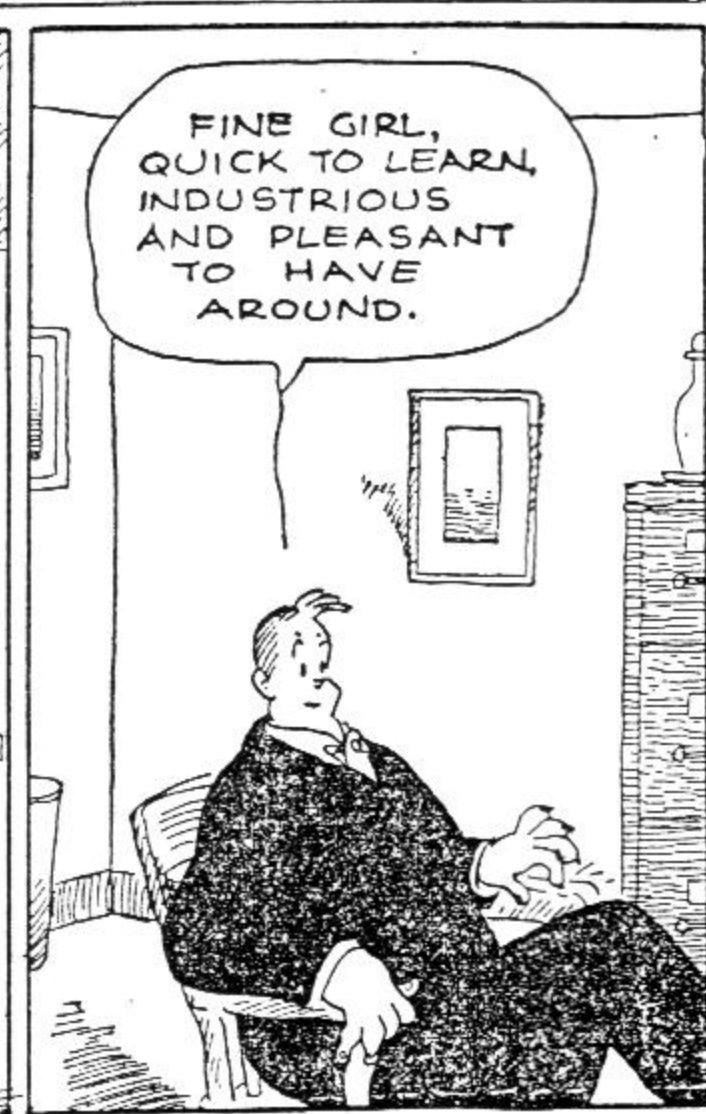


SHE'S SMART AS A WHIP AND VERY QUICK. DON'T YOU THINK I USED GOOD JUDGMENT, MR WICKER?

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOUR JUDGMENT BUT THERE'S NOTHING THE MATTER WITH YOUR EYES.



GASOLINE ALLEY — EVERYBODY SATISFIED



GASOLINE ALLEY—WALI OFFERS A RECOMMENDATION

WELL I FINALLY GOT A NEW SECRETARY AFTER SIFTING ABOUT THIRTY APPLICANTS. I THINK SHE IS GOING TO BE FINE.

HOW OLD IS SHE?

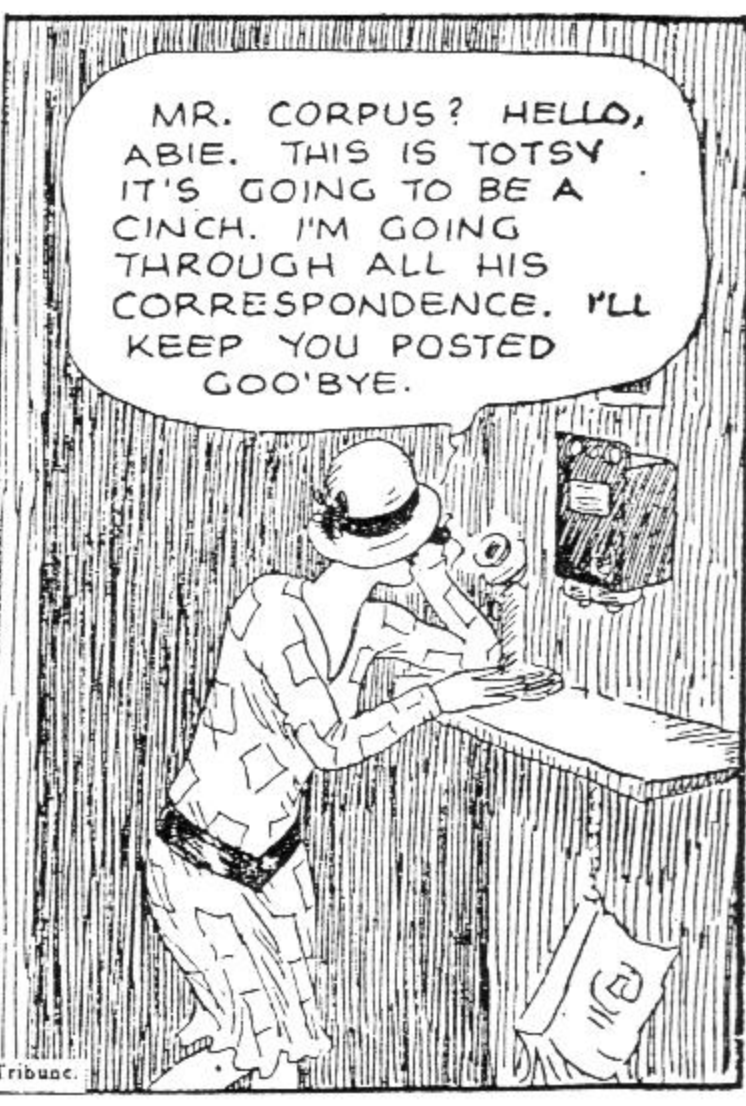
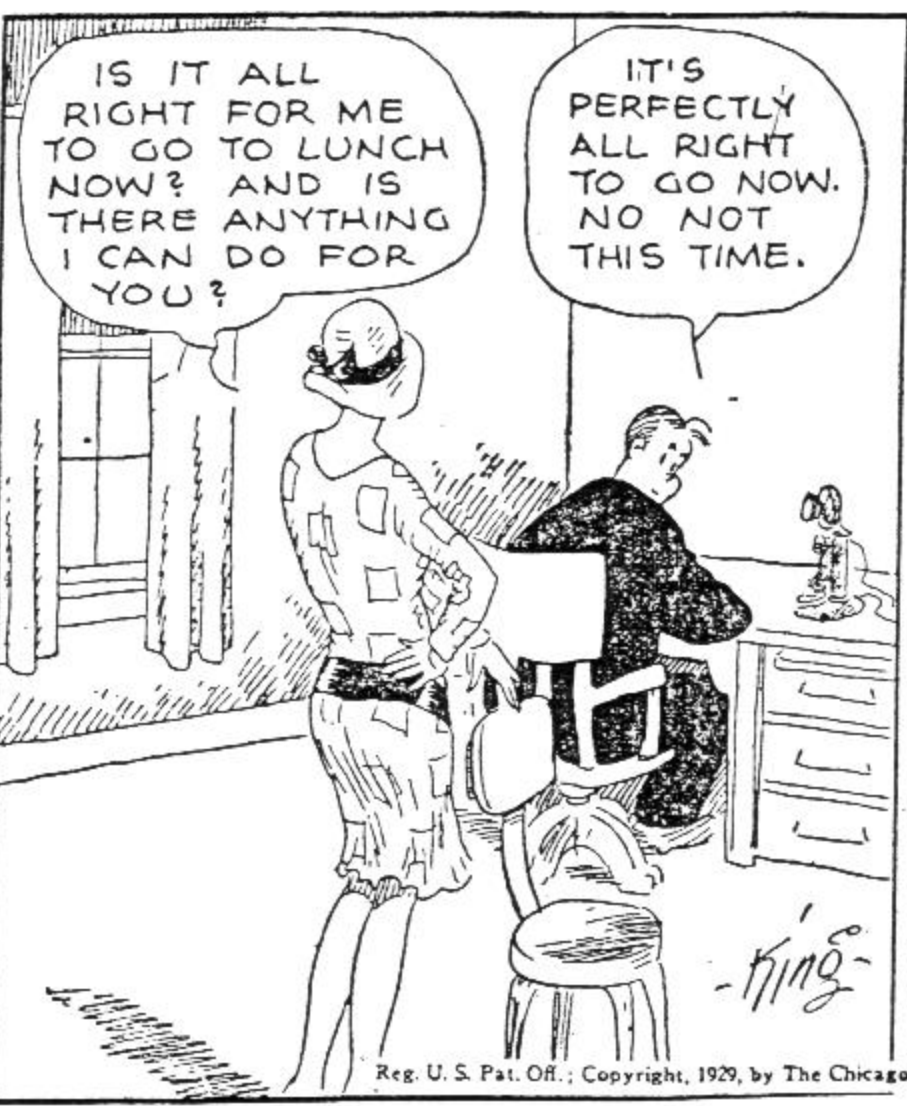
OH SHE'S IN HER TWENTIES. SHE'S SMART AND WILLING AND INDUSTRIOUS AND CAN TAKE DICTATION AND GET IT ALL.

GOOD LOOKING?

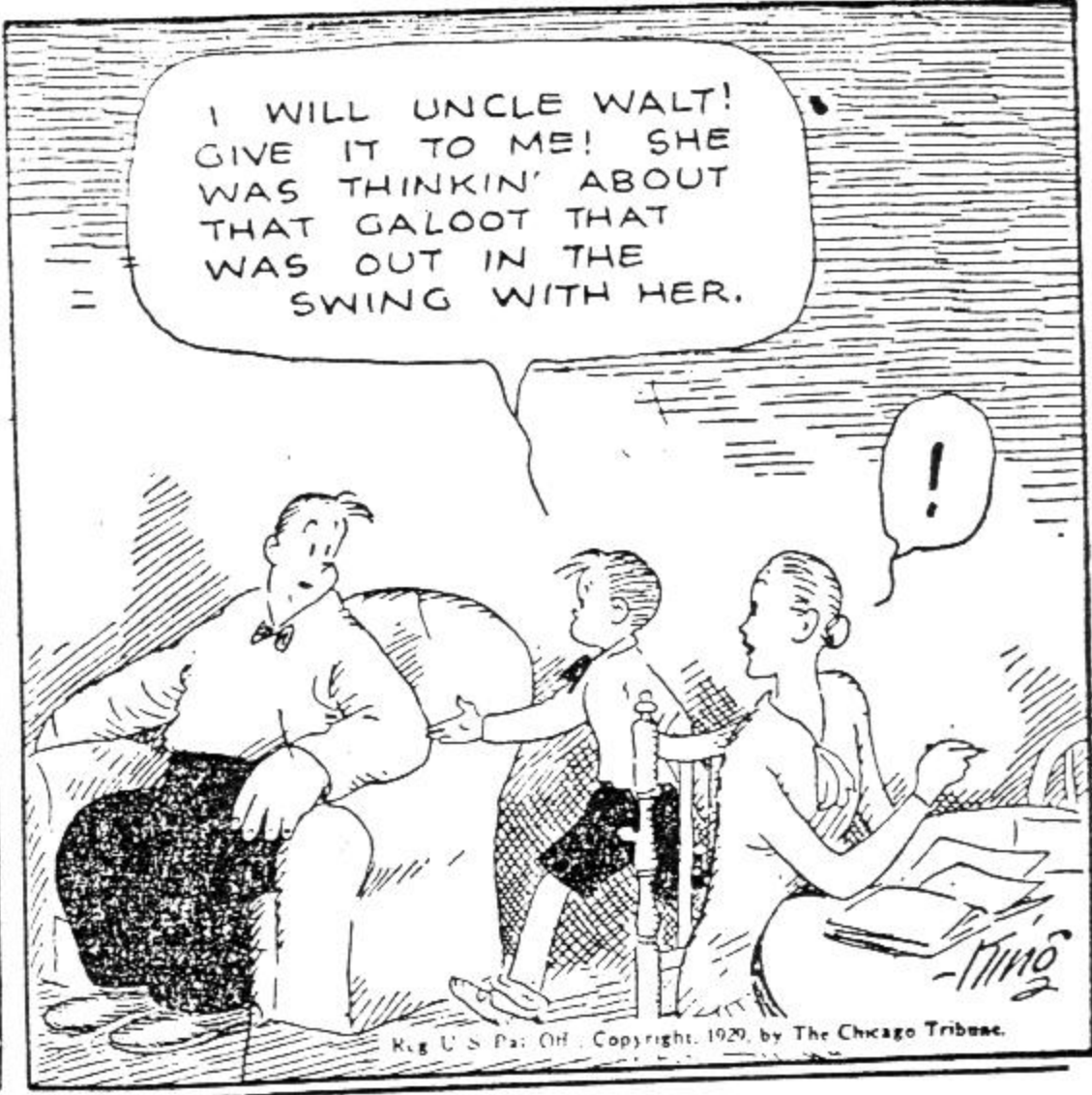
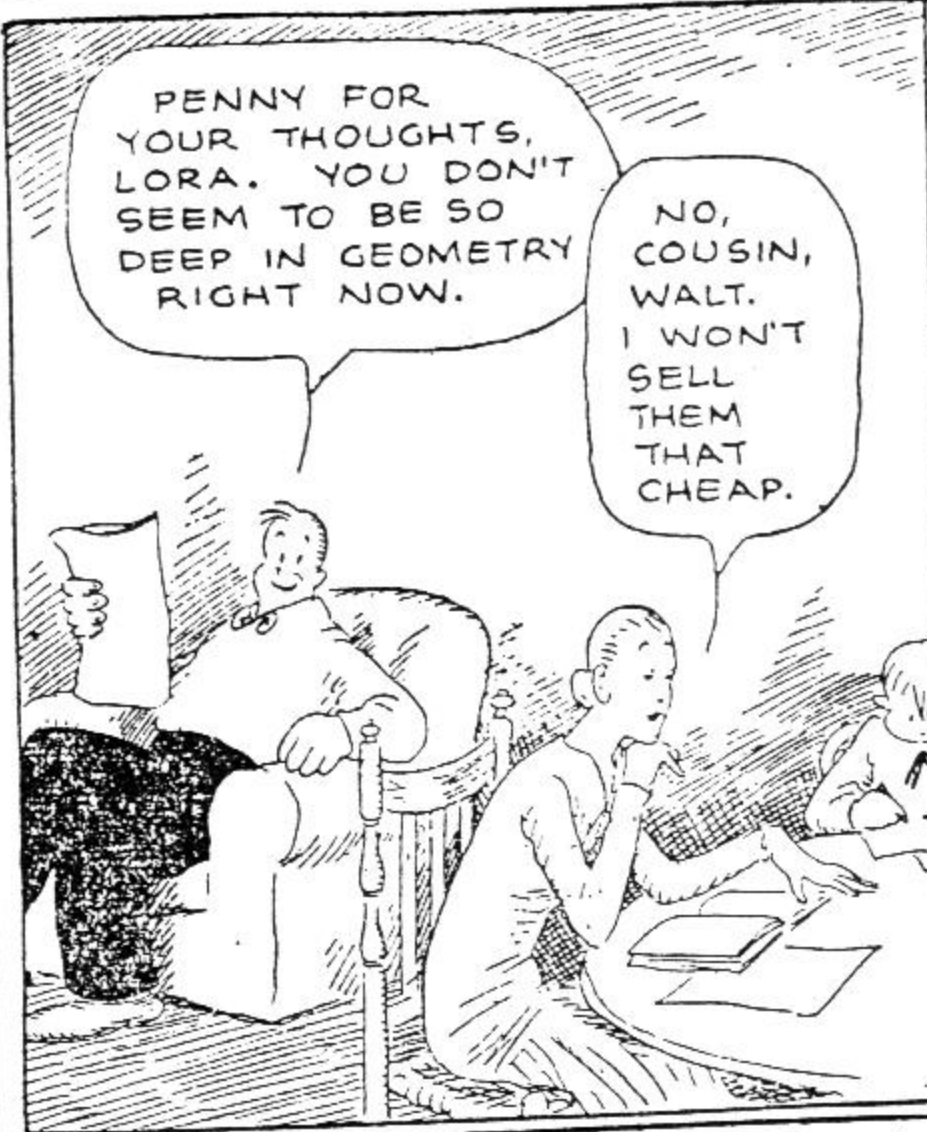
WELL PROBABLY A LOT OF MEN WOULD CONSIDER HER GOOD LOOKING.

THEN I'LL HAVE TO COME DOWN AND LOOK HER OVER AND SEE IF YOU ARE ONE OF THE MEN THAT DO.

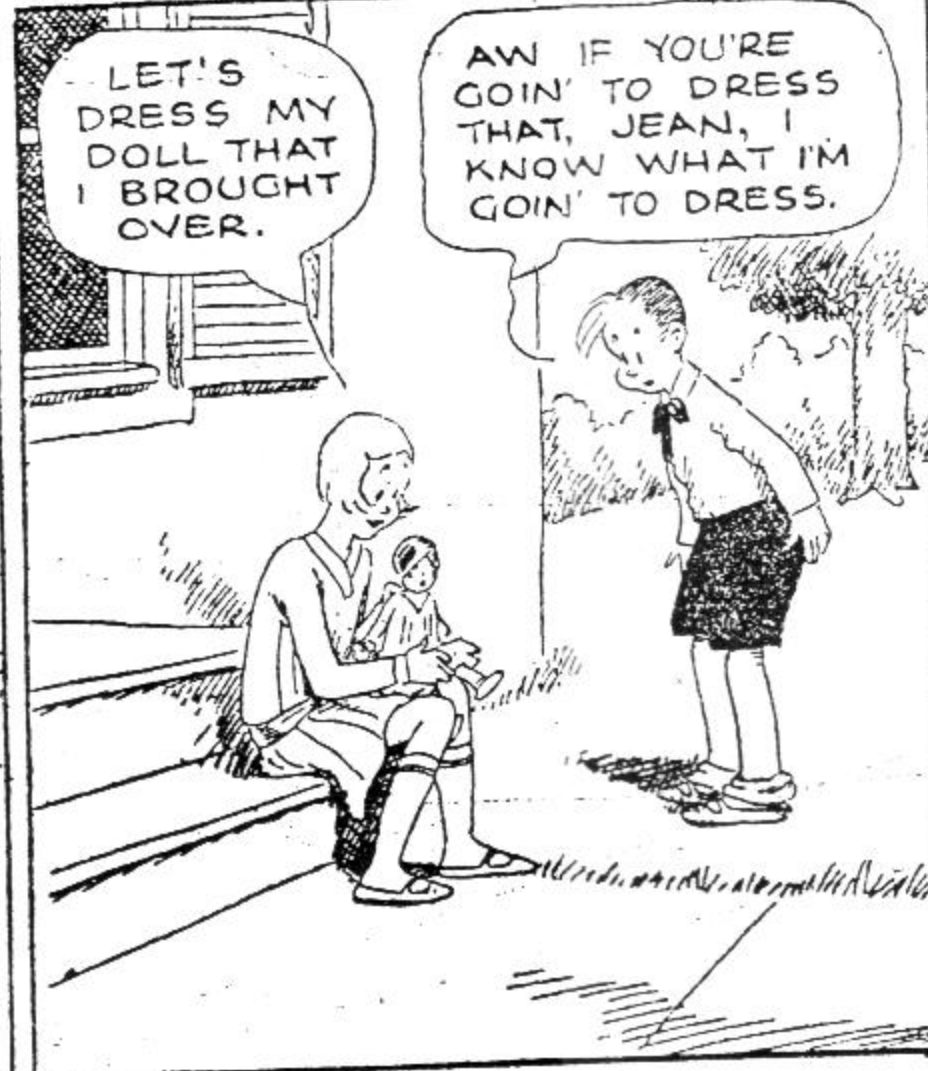
GASOLINE ALLEY — NOTHING LIKE KEEPING BUSY



GASOLINE ALLEY—SOLD



GASOLINE ALLEY—ACCORDING TO CONTRACT



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GASOLINE ALLEY—ONE TALKING POINT

CORKY OL' KID,
HOW DOES IT SEEM
TO BE A YEAR OLD?
FROM NOTHIN' TO
WHAT YOU ARE IN
A YEAR! THAT'S
SOME GAIN!



YOU'VE GOT A GRAND
START. JUST KEEP
GROWING RIGHT ALONG LIKE
YOU HAVE BEEN AND YOU'LL
BE A HUSKY TWO-FISTED
HE-MAN BEFORE
ANYBODY
KNOWS IT.



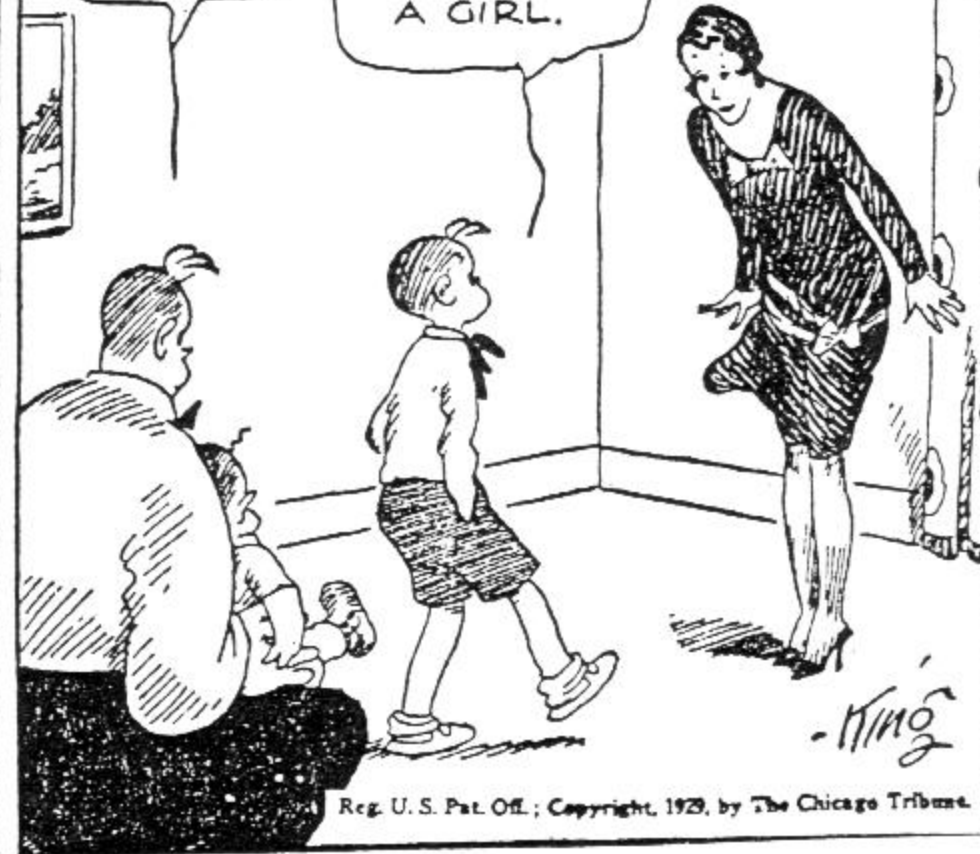
SKEEZIX,
YOU'VE GOT A
PRETTY FINE
LITTLE BROTHER,
DON'T YOU
THINK?

WELL
THERE'S
ONE NICE
THING
ABOUT
HIM.



WHAT
IS
THAT?

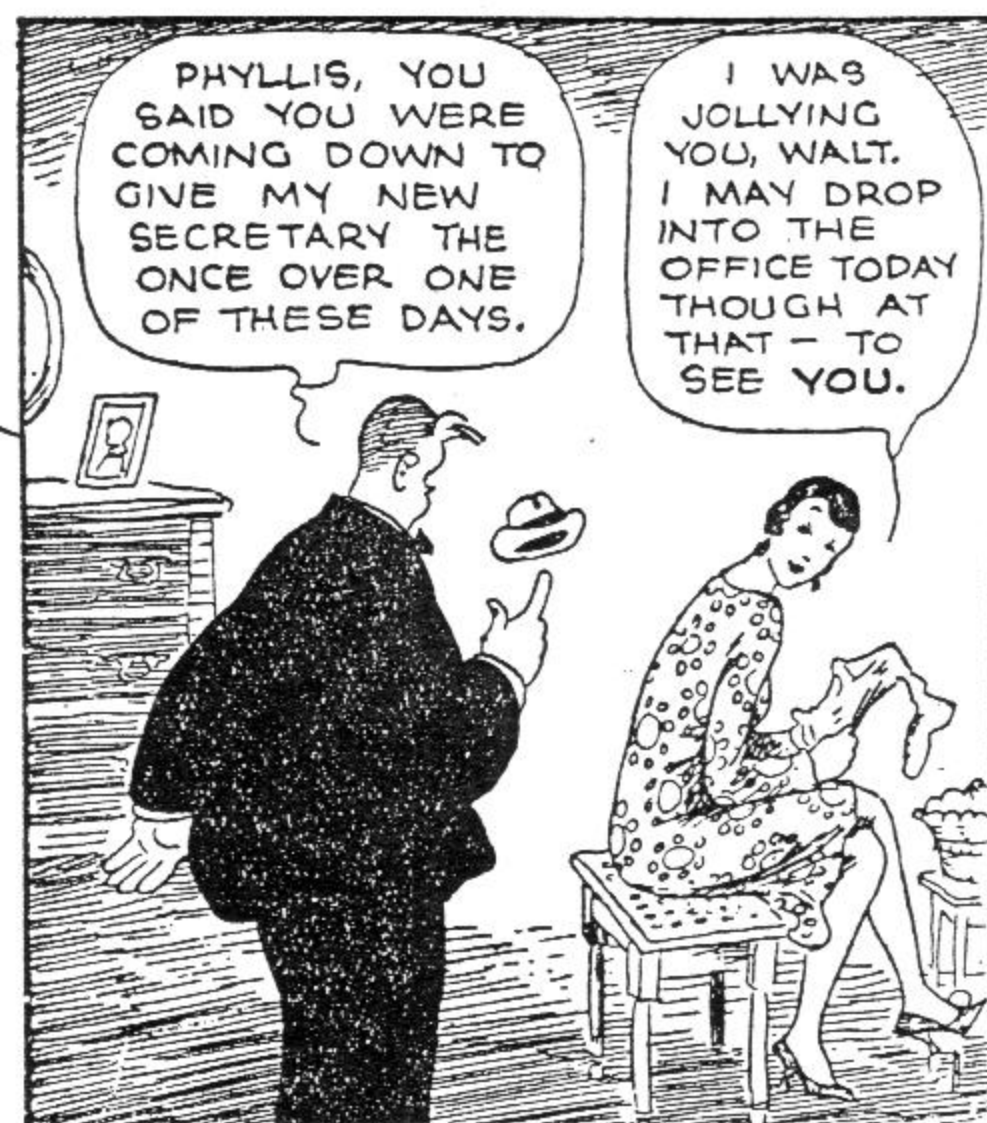
HE
WON'T
GROW UP
TO BE
A GIRL.



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- KING

GASOLINE ALLEY—ANYWAY, THAT'S DONE



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GASOLINE ALLEY—THE FLOWERS OF SPRING, TRA LA



GASOLINE ALLEY—THE PLOT CONGEALS

WELL, HOTSY, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO FIND OUT FROM WALLET'S FILES?

OH GIVE ME TIME, ABIE. I CAN'T SPEND ALL MY TIME AT THAT. BUT MME OCTAVE IS SKEEZIX'S MOTHER ALL RIGHT. HOWEVER THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT WALT'S ADOPTION DECREE IS SOLID AS GIBRALTAR.

YES, I'VE GOT THAT FROM THE RECORDS BUT WE'VE GOT A BIG ADVANTAGE IF THE BIG NEWS DOESN'T BREAK OVER HERE TOO SOON FOR US.

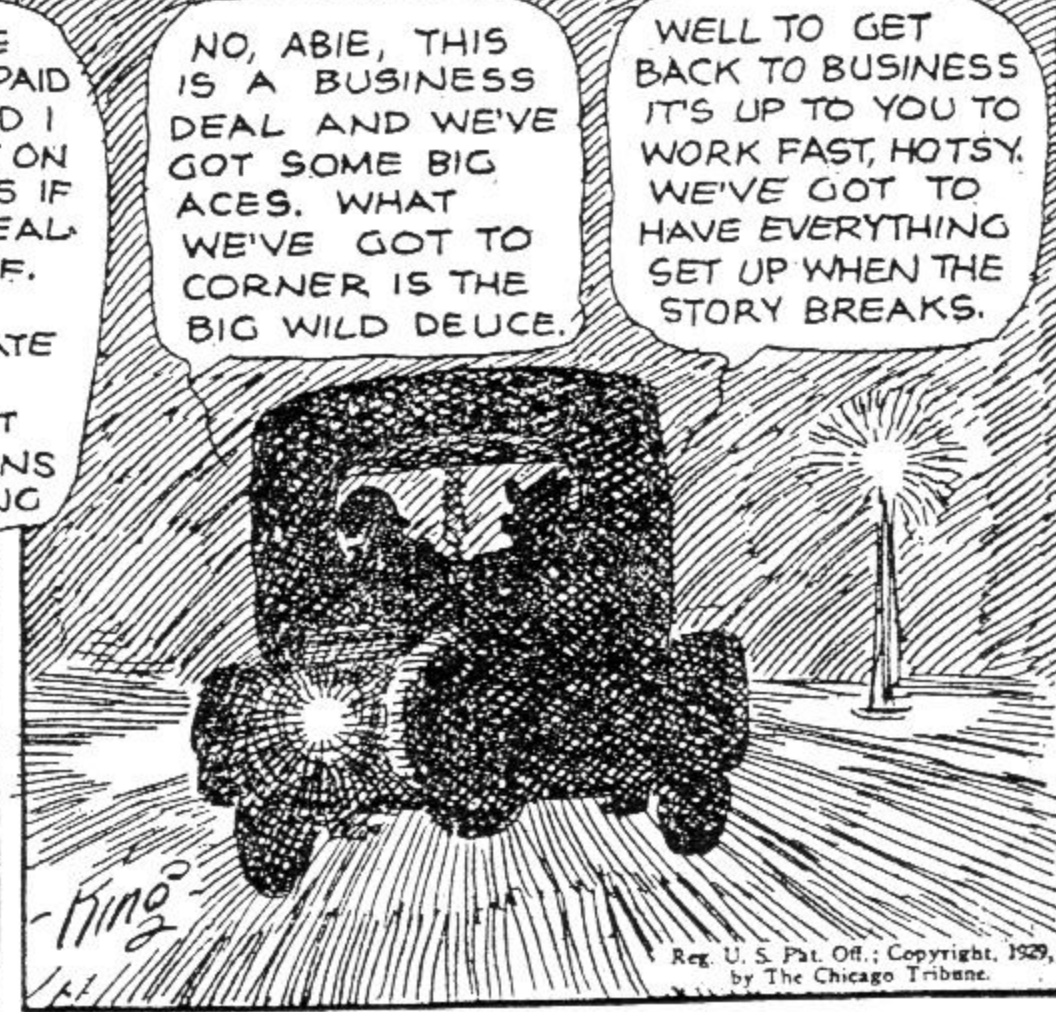
OCTAVE WILL HAVE TO HAVE A SPLIT. BUT YOUR STUMBLING BLOCK IS GOING TO BE, WALT. THE SUN RISES AND SETS IN THAT KID FOR HIM. WE'VE GOT TO LAND WALT AND THAT'S WHERE I COME IN.

YOU'VE GOT A SWELL BUSINESS HEAD, HOTSY, BUT HAVEN'T YOU GOT A LITTLE SENTIMENT TOO? WE'VE BEEN WORKING TOGETHER FOR A LONG TIME BUT YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SEE ME WITH BINOCULARS. TAKE ANOTHER LOOK.

LISTEN ABIE I'M GETTIN' PAID BY YOU AND I GET A SPLIT ON THE PROFITS IF THIS BIG DEAL COMES OFF. IF I'D GET AFFECTIONATE RIGHT AWAY YOU'D WANT ALL MY BRAINS FOR NOTHING

NO, ABIE, THIS IS A BUSINESS DEAL AND WE'VE GOT SOME BIG ACES. WHAT WE'VE GOT TO CORNER IS THE BIG WILD DEUCE.

WELL TO GET BACK TO BUSINESS IT'S UP TO YOU TO WORK FAST, HOTSY. WE'VE GOT TO HAVE EVERYTHING SET UP WHEN THE STORY BREAKS.



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GASOLINE ALLEY—IT'S IN THE AIR



DOC LUX,
THE DENTIST,
DIDN'T KEEP ME
AS LONG AS I
EXPECTED. I'VE
GOT TIME TO
DROP IN AT THE
OFFICE BEFORE I
GO HOME.



SO THAT'S
WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN THE OLD
CAT'S AWAY.



I'LL TAKE THE
MATTER UP
TOMORROW AND
SEE THAT IT
DOESN'T HAPPEN
AGAIN



!

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GASOLINE ALLEY — LOOKING AHEAD



WILL YOU PLEASE TAKE MY DIMES OUT O' MY DIME BANK AN' KEEP 'EM IN YOUR BIG BANK FOR ME?

I'LL BE DELIGHTED TO DO THAT FOR YOU, SKEEZIX.

RECEIVING TELLER



ALL THAT MONEY THE MAN HAD PILED UP THERE — HOW MUCH WAS IT?

I HAVEN'T THE SLIGHTEST IDEA, SKEEZIX, BUT HERE'S A DRUG STORE AND I'LL TREAT YOU!



HOW MANY ICE CREAM SODAS WOULD THAT MONEY BUY, UNCLE WALT?

MAYBE A HUNDRED THOUSAND. THAT'S A GUESS. AT TWO A DAY IT WOULD TAKE YOU — LET'S SEE — ABOUT A HUNDRED AND FORTY YEARS TO GET AWAY WITH THEM

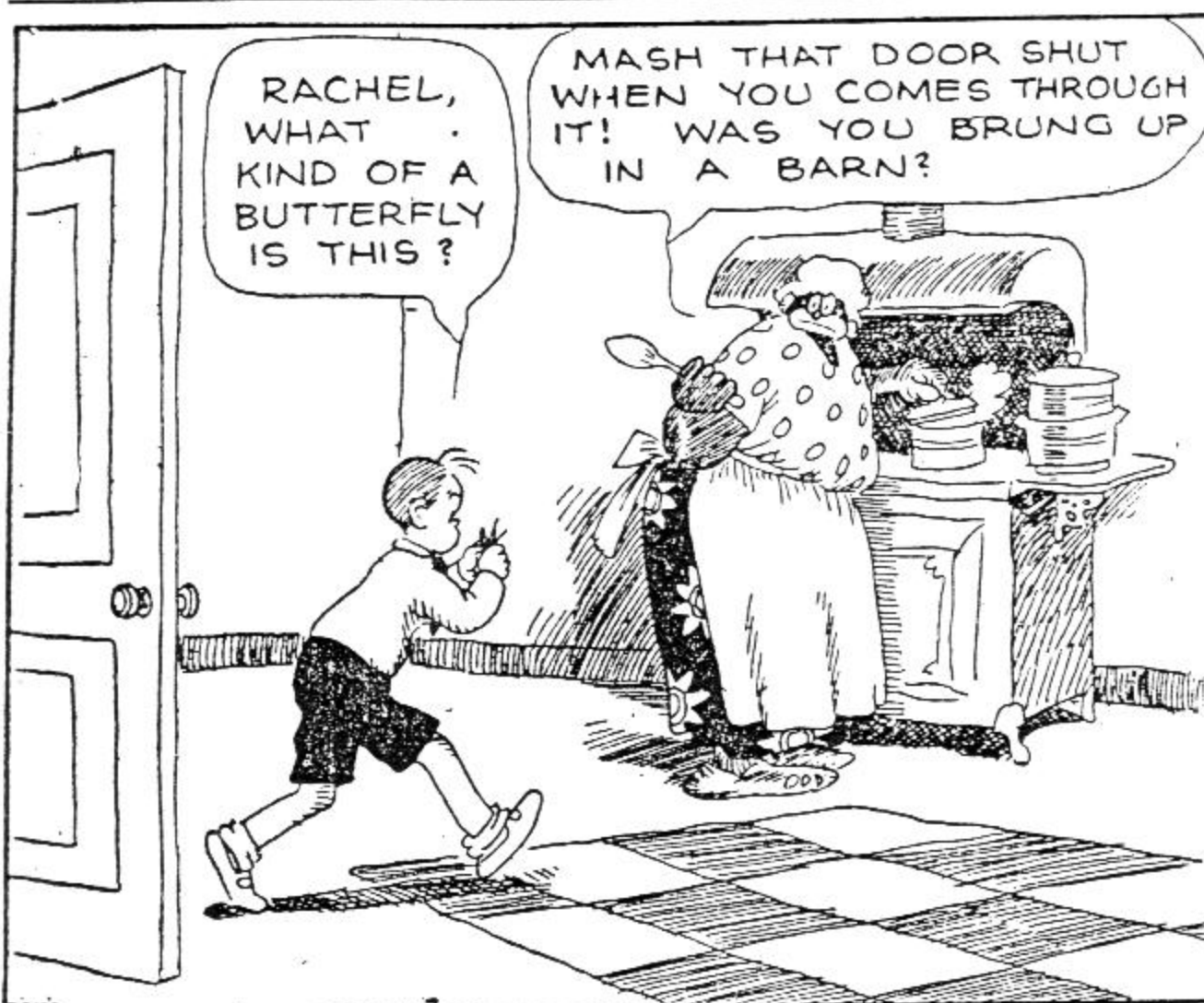


THEN THAT WILL TAKE TOO LONG. I'LL HAVE TO GET THREE A DAY OR EAT SOME CANDY TOO.

SAY, YOUNG MAN! NEVER SPEND YOUR MONEY BEFORE YOU GET IT!

King

GASOLINE ALLEY—SPEAKING OF EDUCATION



GASOLINE ALLEY—THE PEST IS BACK AGAIN

MY NAME IS CORPUS AND I'D LIKE TO SEE MR. WALLET ON AN IMPORTANT MATTER.

I'M SORRY BUT MR. WALLET IS IN CONFERENCE. IF YOU'LL GIVE ME YOUR CARD I'LL TAKE IT IN.

THERE'S NOTHING NEW IN REGARD TO THE MATTER YOU HAD UP WITH ME. IF THERE SHOULD BE I CAN CALL YOU UP. I HAVE YOUR NUMBER.

THAT MAN HAS SOME WILD IDEA, MISS TOSY, OF INTERESTING ME IN A SCHEME TO SEND MY BOY, SKEEZIX, AWAY TO SCHOOL IN PARIS. JUST AS IF I'D GIVE THE CARE OF HIM OVER TO STRANGERS AND PUT HIM IN A EUROPEAN SCHOOL WHEN WE HAVE SUCH EXCELLENT ONES RIGHT HERE.

THAT IS A WEIRD IDEA ISN'T IT. STILL IT'S BEING DONE. SOME THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE ARE DECIDING THEY WANT THEIR CHILDREN TO HAVE A WORLD BACKGROUND. I'VE READ IT'S THE COMING THING.

King

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I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT WHAT THAT MAN CORPUS SPOKE OF, MR WALLET—SENDING YOUR BOY SKEEZIX TO A SCHOOL IN PARIS.

WELL I'M NOT THINKING ABOUT IT AND I'M NOT GOING TO. I WONDER HOW I GOT ON THE SUCKER LIST ANYWAY.

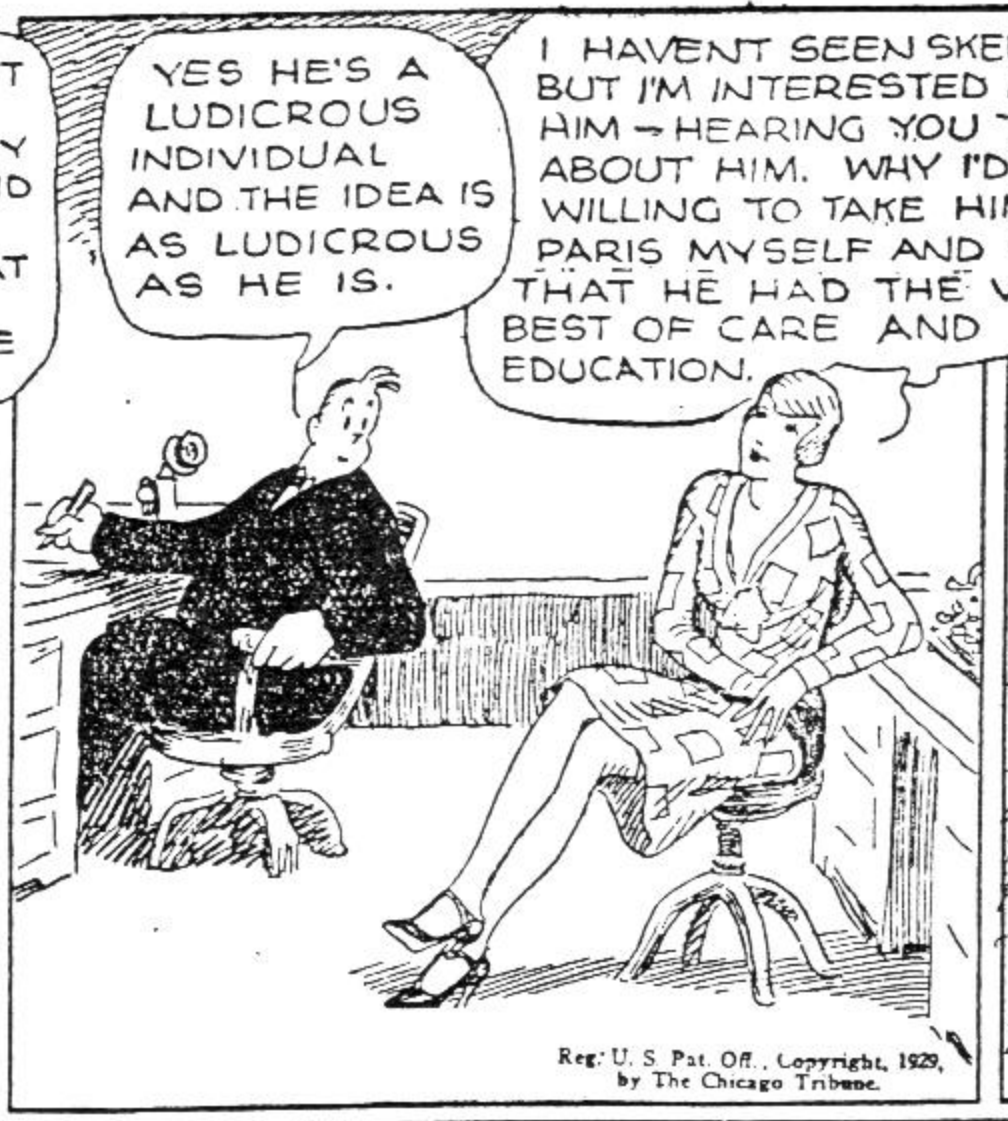
IF THERE WAS NO OTHER REASON, MISS TOSY I COULDN'T AFFORD IT.

OF COURSE I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS FUNNY LITTLE FELLOW AND HIS SCHOOL—IT'S JUST THE IDEA THAT SOUNDS REASONABLE TO ME.

YES HE'S A LUDICROUS INDIVIDUAL AND THE IDEA IS AS LUDICROUS AS HE IS.

I HAVEN'T SEEN SKEEZIX BUT I'M INTERESTED IN HIM—HEARING YOU TALK ABOUT HIM. WHY I'D BE WILLING TO TAKE HIM TO PARIS MYSELF AND SEE THAT HE HAD THE VERY BEST OF CARE AND EDUCATION.

YES WHO WOULDN'T! WELL I'M AFRAID NOBODY IS GOING TO PARIS. AND AN AMERICAN EDUCATION IS PERFECTLY GOOD FOR ANY CHILD OF MINE.



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GASOLINE ALLEY — UNAVOIDABLY DETAINED



I'M SORRY, WALT, IF YOU HAVE TO STAY AT THE OFFICE TONIGHT. WE'D PLANNED A NICE DINNER.



I'M SORRY TOO, PHYLLIS, BUT I JUST CAN'T CLEAN UP WHAT I'VE GOT TO GET OFF IN THE MAIL TONIGHT. SEE YOU LATER.



WHERE'S UNCLE WALT? WE GOT SOME 'RITHMETIC TO DO.

TOO BAD, SKEEZIX, BUT UNCLE WALT IS STAYING LATE AT THE OFFICE TONIGHT. CAN I HELP YOU?



OH WELL I SHOULD BE THANKFUL I SUPPOSE. HE DOESN'T DO IT VERY OFTEN. HE'S ALWAYS BEEN VERY GOOD ABOUT COMING HOME TO ME NIGHTS. I DON'T WORRY.



GASOLINE ALLEY — OLD SOL GETS A TREAT

THIS IS A LOVELY WARM DAY, CORKY. YOU OUGHT TO BE OUTDOORS SOAKING IT IN.

THAT REMINDS ME — THIS IS THE TIME TO TRY OUT THAT LITTLE SUN SUIT THAT GRANDMA SENT.

THERE, SKEEZIX, HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR LITTLE BROTHER?

HE'S KEEN!

COME QUICK AN' SEE CORKY UNCLE WALT. HE'S GOT ONE OF THOSE SUITS — YOU KNOW — SO THE SUN CAN SEE HIM!

King
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GASOLINE ALLEY — BACK INTO HISTORY

OF COURSE NOW THAT YOU HAVE CORKY, SKEEZIX DOESN'T MEAN AS MUCH TO YOU AS, IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE A CHILD OF YOUR OWN.

HE CERTAINLY DOES MISS TOTSY. JUST BECAUSE SKEEZIX WAS LEFT ON MY DOORSTEP DOESN'T MAKE THE SLIGHTEST DIFFERENCE IN MY FEELINGS. THAT HAPPENED BEFORE I WAS MARRIED, OF COURSE, AND I PRACTICALLY BROUGHT HIM UP BY HAND.

YOU FOUND OUT LATER WHO HIS PARENTS WERE DIDN'T YOU, MR. WALLET?

YES COL. HENRI CODA AND HIS WIFE, MME. OCTAVE THE SINGER. SHE TRIED TO GET SKEEZIX AWAY FROM ME IN THE COURTS. BUT HE WAS FINALLY AWARDED TO ME BY THE SUPREME COURT CODA EVEN TESTIFIED IN MY FAVOR — CROSSED THE ATLANTIC TO DO IT.

OCTAVE WAS ABOVE EVERYTHING THE ARTISTE AND WAS NOT TEMPERMENTALLY FITTED TO HAVE THE CARE OF THE CHILD. AFTER THE TRIAL CODA, POOR FELLOW, TRIED TO FLY BACK TO EUROPE AND NEITHER HE NOR HIS PILOT HAVE BEEN HEARD OF SINCE. FROM ALL INDICATIONS THE PLANE WENT DOWN IN MID-ATLANTIC. I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAS BECOME OF MME. OCTAVE



King

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GASOLINE ALLEY—WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

WELL IT'S ABOUT TIME, TOSY. I'VE BEEN WAITING FORTY-FIVE MINUTES.

OH WELL, YOUR TIME ISN'T WORTH MUCH TO ME, ABIE. AND BESIDES THAT—BAD NEWS. WE'RE GETTING NOWHERE. WALLET WILL NEVER LET GO OF THAT KID



COULDN'T WE GET SOMEWHERE IF YOU'D GET SOFT AND SENTIMENTAL WITH HIM.

NOT A CHANCE. HE'S CRAZY ABOUT HIS WIFE AND KIDS. AND BESIDES THAT WASN'T IN ANY BARGAIN I MADE WITH YOU.



IF WE COULD ONLY FIND SOMETHING ON HIM—SOMETHING TO PRY WITH. I'VE BEEN SCRATCHING AROUND BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO DIG UP A THING.

WE ARE WASTING OUR TIME. WHAT YOU'VE GOT TO DO ABIE IS LAY YOUR CARDS ON THE TABLE—AT LEAST PART OF THEM.



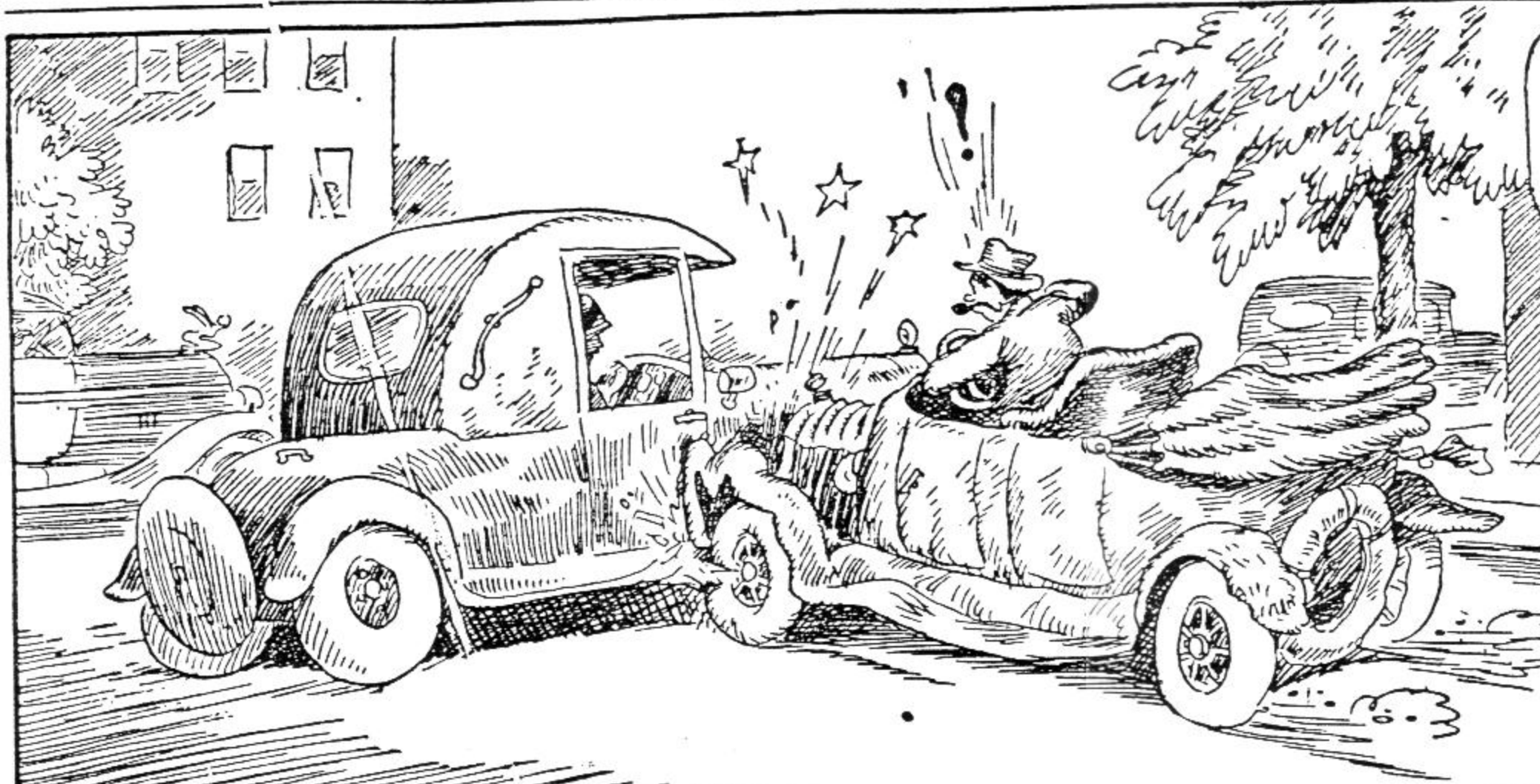
HE ISN'T SO DUMB AND HE'S SUSPICIOUS OF EVERYBODY WHERE THE KID IS CONCERNED YOU'VE GOT TO SHOW HIM PART OF THE PLOT AND DO SOME CONVINCING.

WE'VE GOT TO, TOSY, YOU AND I. IF I ONLY KNEW JUST HOW MUCH TIME WE HAD.



King
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GASOLINE ALLEY—GOES BOOM!



YOU
RAMMED INTO
THE FRONT
END OF MY
CAR WITH
THE SIDE OF
YOURS.

THERE WILL BE
NO DISCUSSION.
HERE IS MY CARD.
I WILL SEND YOU
A BILL WHICH YOU
WILL PAY OR IT
WILL BE COLLECTED
IN THE COURTS.

I'VE GOT
HIS
NUMBER,
ABIE, AND
I DIDN'T EVEN
HAVE TO
LOOK AT HIS
LICENSE
TAG.

ABIE S. CORPUS,
ATTORNEY AT
LAW. NOW
WHAT CHANCE
HAS A FELLOW
COLLECTING
DAMAGES FROM
A GUY LIKE
THAT?



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...GASOLINE ALLEY THE CAST OF CHARACTERS GETS COMPLICATED

GASOLINE ALLEY—THE CAST OF CHARACTERS GETS COMPLICATED

HE RAN INTO ME AT A CROSSING HE BUMPED MY RADIATOR WITH THE SIDE OF HIS CAR.

ABIE S. CORPUS, ATTORNEY AT LAW WHY THAT'S THE FELLOW THAT'S BEEN PESTERING ME ABOUT SKEEZIX.

CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT FELLOW'S CAR HOPPING SIDWAYS? AND AVERY STANDING STILL AT THE TIME OF COURSE.

AVERY IF YOU HAVEN'T ANY BRAKES YOU OUGHT TO DRAG YOUR FEET.

HE DIDN'T TELL ME HE WAS AN ATTORNEY. HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AN EDUCATOR. THERE'S SOMETHING BEHIND ALL THIS. I THOUGHT AS MUCH.

?

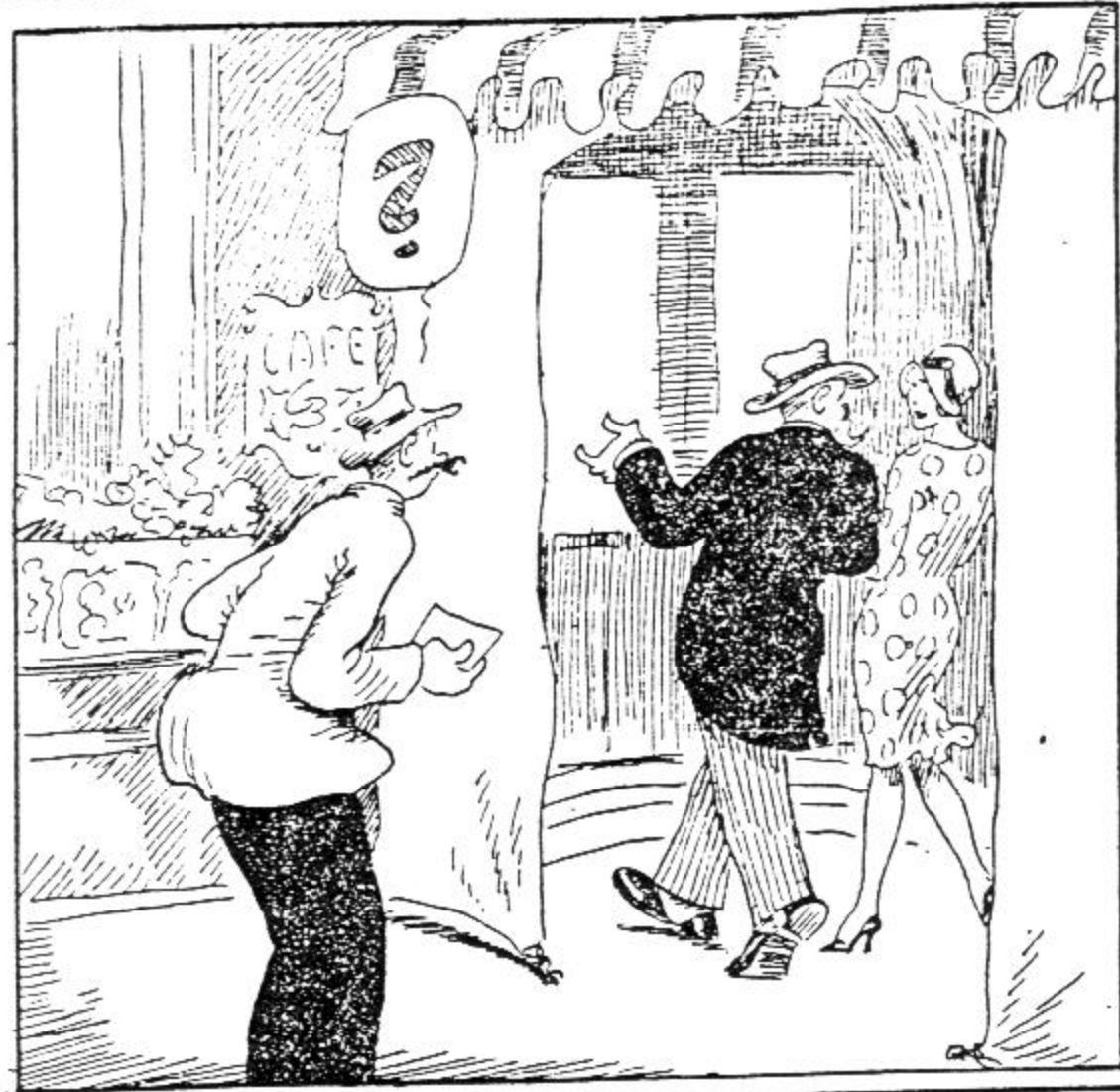
-King-
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GASOLINE ALLEY — SURPRISES COME IN PAIRS

WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT! A BILL FROM CORPUS FOR \$87 DAMAGES FOR RUNNING INTO HIS CAR. AND HE THREATENS TO SUE ME IF I DON'T COME ACROSS.



I'VE GOT TO WAIT FOR THAT MAIL MAN AND GET BACK THE BILL I JUST MAILED CORPUS. IT WAS FOR \$4.62 DAMAGES TO MY CAR. I'VE GOT TO STEP IT UP TO \$88 AND MAIL IT AGAIN.



THAT'S A FUNNY HOOK-UP — WICKER AND THE GIRL THAT WAS WITH CORPUS WHEN WE HAD OUR COLLISION. I MUST SEE IF WICKER LOOMS BIG ENOUGH WITH HER TO GET HER TO GET CORPUS TO LAY OFF ME.



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GASOLINE ALLEY—AVERY PULLS A WIRE OR TWO

Panel 1 shows two men in a hallway. The man on the left, wearing a light-colored suit and a hat, is speaking to the man on the right, who is wearing a dark suit. A small boy is sitting on a ledge in the background.

IM COMING DOWN TO THE WICKER COMPANY TO SEE WICKER TODAY, WALT. I SAW HIM OUT LAST NIGHT WITH THE SAME BLOND THAT WAS WITH CORPUS WHEN OUR CARS BUMPED. MAYBE HE CAN GET HER TO FIX IT WITH CORPUS

WICKER OUT WITH A LADY FRIEND OF CORPUS? ALL RIGHT. AVERY DROP INTO MY OFFICE AND WE'LL SEE MR. WICKER

Panel 2 shows a man in a light suit talking to a woman in a polka-dot dress in an office setting. The man is looking at the woman with a surprised expression.

AH - ER - IS MR WICKER IN ?

OH! JUST A MOMENT - I'LL SEE.

Panel 3 shows the man in the light suit and the man in the dark suit talking in an office. The man in the light suit is gesturing with his hand while speaking.

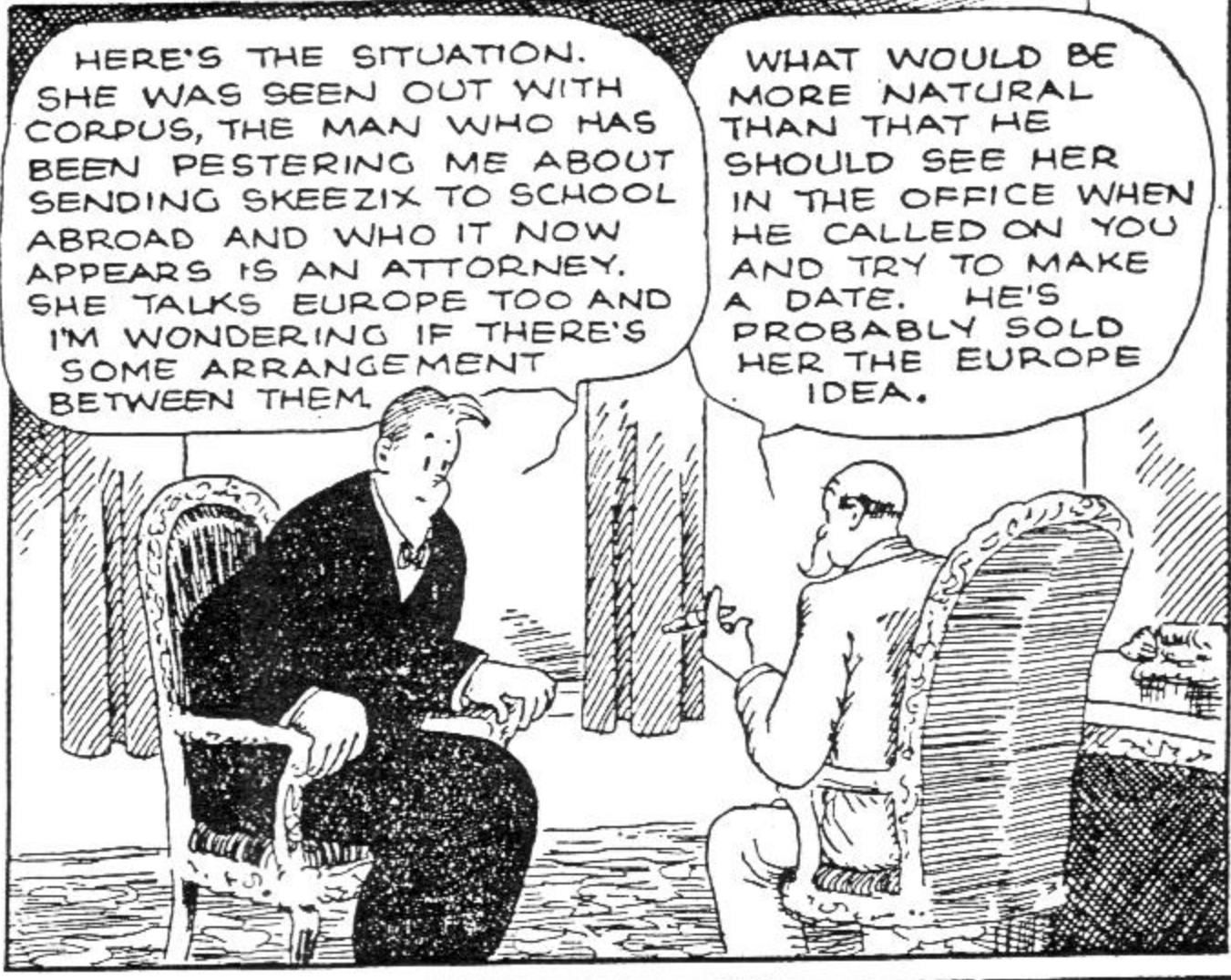
WALT THAT DAME OUT THERE IN YOUR OFFICE IS THE SAME ONE THAT WAS IN CORPUS' CAR AND THE ONE WICKER WAS OUT WITH. MAYBE YOU COULD GET HER TO GET CORPUS TO FORGET HIS BILL FOR DAMAGES.

MISS TOSY OUT WITH CORPUS? I DIDN'T KNOW SHE EVEN KNEW HIM, EXCEPT SEEING HIM UP HERE I MUST GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS.

YING

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GASOLINE ALLEY—AS MAN TO MAN



GASOLINE ALLEY—THAT EXPLAINS IT

GOOD MORNING, MR. WALLET! I UNDERSTAND THIS AVERY FELLOW THAT BUMPED US THE OTHER DAY IS A FRIEND OF YOURS.

YES I'VE KNOWN HIM FOR YEARS BUT WHO DO YOU MEAN BY "US"?

OH I FORGOT TO TELL YOU! THAT WAS CORPUS. HE CAME UP TO SEE YOU AROUND QUITTING TIME AND I TOLD HIM YOU WERE BUSY. I KNEW YOU DIDN'T WANT TO SEE HIM.

YOU GUESSED RIGHT, MISS TOTSY.

BUT I DIDN'T KNOW YOU KNEW HIM WELL ENOUGH TO BE RIDING AROUND IN CARS WITH HIM.

WELL HE HUNG AROUND AND HUNG AROUND, AND FINALLY OFFERED TO DRIVE ME HOME. SO JUST TO GET RID OF HIM I LET HIM. THAT'S WHEN IT HAPPENED.

WELL SHE TELLS A LOGICAL STORY I GUESS I WAS TOO SUSPICIOUS ABOUT THEM WORKING TOGETHER.

King

GASOLINE ALLEY—GET BUSY, SOMEBODY!

ABIE, WALLET KNOWS WE WERE OUT TOGETHER AND WAS SUSPICIOUS. I STALLED OUT OF IT THIS TIME BUT AS I TOLD YOU, YOU'VE GOT TO LAY YOUR CARDS ON THE TABLE MARKED AND STACKED, BUT ON THE TABLE JUST THE SAME.

LISTEN, TOTSY, I GOT YOU INTO HIS OFFICE AND I'VE PROMISED YOU A SPLIT TO PUT THIS OVER. OF COURSE IF YOU CAN'T DELIVER YOU CAN'T EXPECT TO BE IN ON THE SPLIT.

HEarken to this, you little runt. I'm telling you what to do to come out prosperous. It's my brains that's getting me in on this split, against your mental brawn—otherwise known as gall.

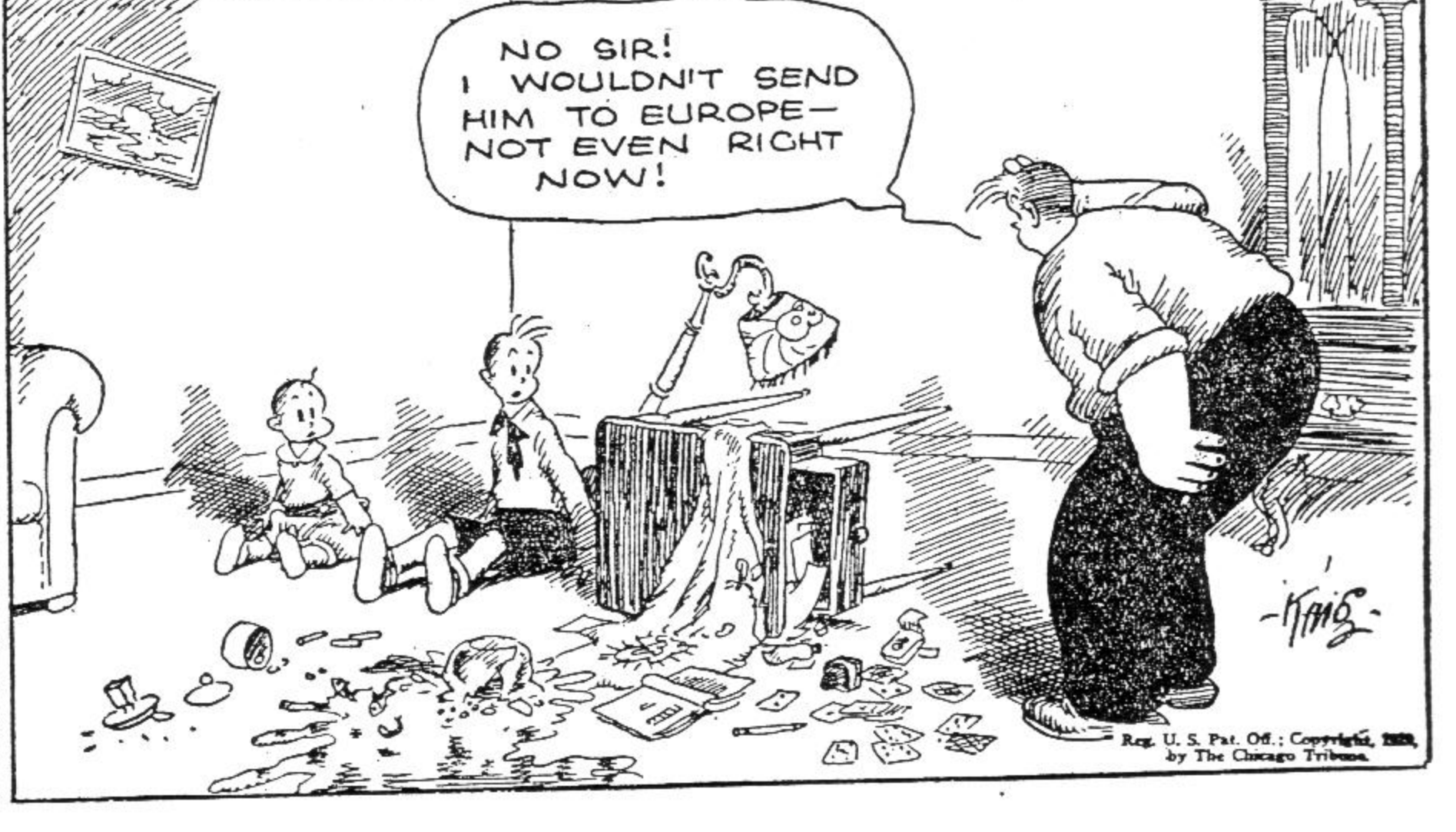
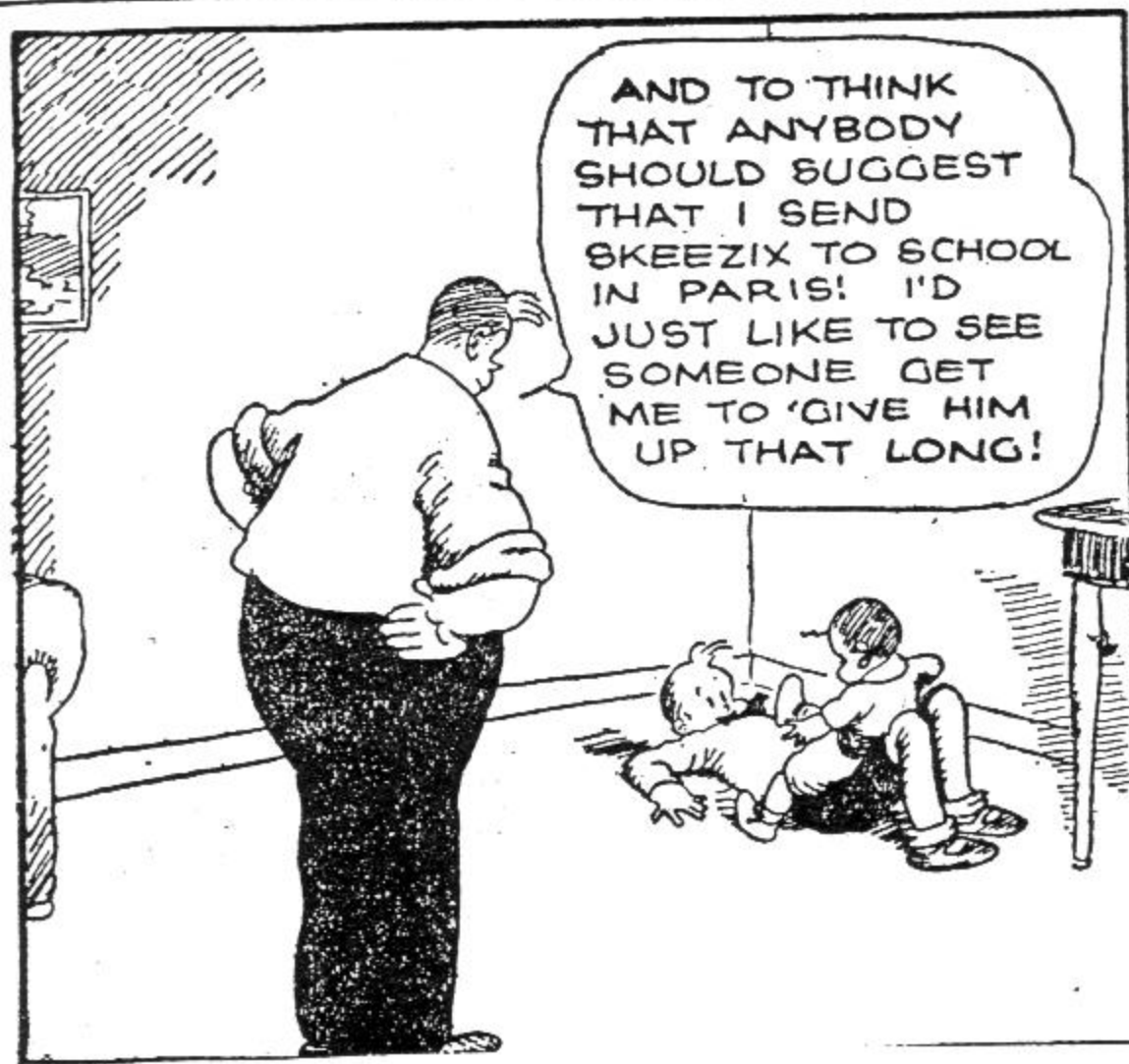
Well with all your many brains how far are we? Right where we started. Put a brain cell or two to work and produce something or you're going to be nothing but Wallet's stenographer.

All right dearie. I'll get you in to him tomorrow. You tell him who is behind this skeezix-to-Europe idea and harp on love-interest. Of course, he won't fall for it but it will break a path for the old girl herself.

I'll try it. I don't think much of it but if it doesn't work we can always get rough.

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GASOLINE ALLEY—THE ACID TEST



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IT'S MR. CORPUS. HE SAYS IT'S VERY IMPORTANT. SOMETHING ABOUT A WOMAN YOU BOTH KNOW.

A WOMAN?

FIRST I WANT TO CONFESS, MR. WALLET, THAT I DIDN'T TELL YOU ALL ABOUT MYSELF IN THE FIRST INTERVIEW I HAD WITH YOU. I AM AN ATTORNEY AND I REPRESENT MME. OCTAVE.

YOU DIDN'T FOOL ME MUCH, CORPUS.

SHE DESIRED ME TO WITH-HOLD THOSE FACTS FROM YOU BUT I HAVE DECIDED TO LAY MY CARDS ON THE TABLE. SHE IS THE ONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN SKEEZIX'S EDUCATION BEING HIS MOTHER THAT IS NATURAL.

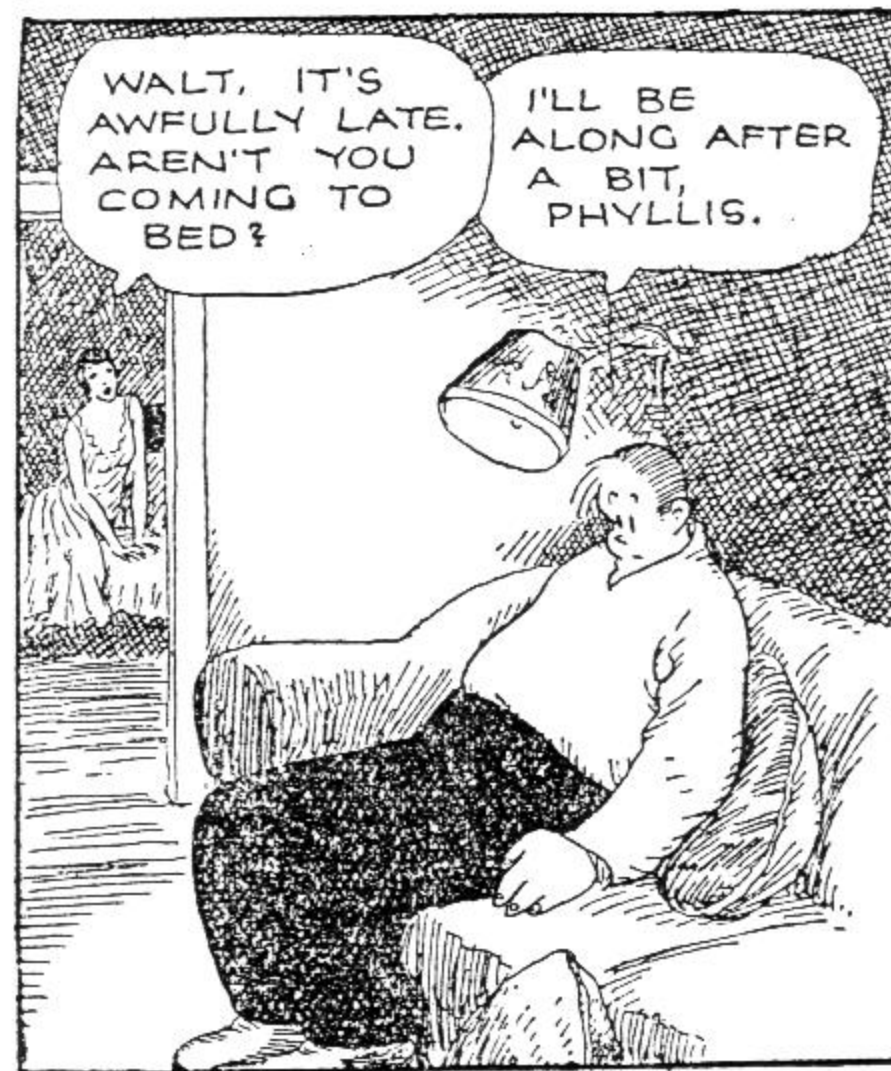
SO SHE WANTS TO SEND HIM TO PARIS.

BEING INTERNATIONALLY MINDED SHE VALUES HIGHLY THE COMMINGLING OF AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN CULTURES. SHE WOULD GIVE HIM TWO YEARS IN PARIS AT NO EXPENCE TO YOU.

YOU ARE DOUBTLESS AWARE THAT THE COURT AWARDED SKEEZIX TO ME UNCONDITIONALLY. SHE'S OUT OF LUCK.

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GASOLINE ALLEY—INTO THE WEE SMALL HOURS



GASOLINE ALLEY—SOLITUDE AT LAST

THE SIGNS ALL SHOW IT THERE IS SOME NEW REASON MME. OCTAVE WANTS TO GET HER HANDS ON SKEEZIX AT THIS TIME.

UNCLE WALT, WHAT'S BLACK, AN' WHITE AN' RED ALL OVER? NEWSPAPER! DO YOU GET IT?



SHE'S MAKING A NEW TRY, WITH A NEW ATTORNEY TO DO HER DIRTY WORK. BUT IT CAN'T BE A LEGAL MATTER. THAT'S ALL SETTLED IN MY FAVOR.



SHE HASN'T THE NERVE TO TRY FOR SKEEZIX PERMANENTLY AGAIN SO SHE WANTS HIM LONG ENOUGH TO SEND HIM TO SCHOOL IN PARIS. I'VE GOT TO THINK THIS THING OUT. IF I COULD ONLY BE OFF BY MYSELF FOR A WHILE!



IF YOU CAN'T GET UP INTO THE NORTH WOODS THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE YOU CAN BE ALONE!



GASOLINE ALLEY—A DATE

BUT I'M NOT IN THE HABIT OF MEETING YOUNG LADIES IN DRUG STORES UNLESS I KNOW WHO THEY ARE - I MEAN I'M NOT USED TO MEETING THEM THERE ANYWAY!

SHE WOULDN'T GIVE ME HER NAME EVEN. SHE'S GOT MY CURIOSITY AROUSED. OTHERWISE I WOULDN'T BE HERE.

WHY MISS RUFUS, IT'S YOU!

YES, MR. WALLET. I DIDN'T WANT THAT GIRL IN YOUR OFFICE, MISS TOTSY, TO KNOW I WAS CALLING YOU. BUT SINCE I LEFT YOU TO WORK FOR MR. CORPUS I'VE FOUND OUT THEY TALK TO EACH OTHER BY PHONE.

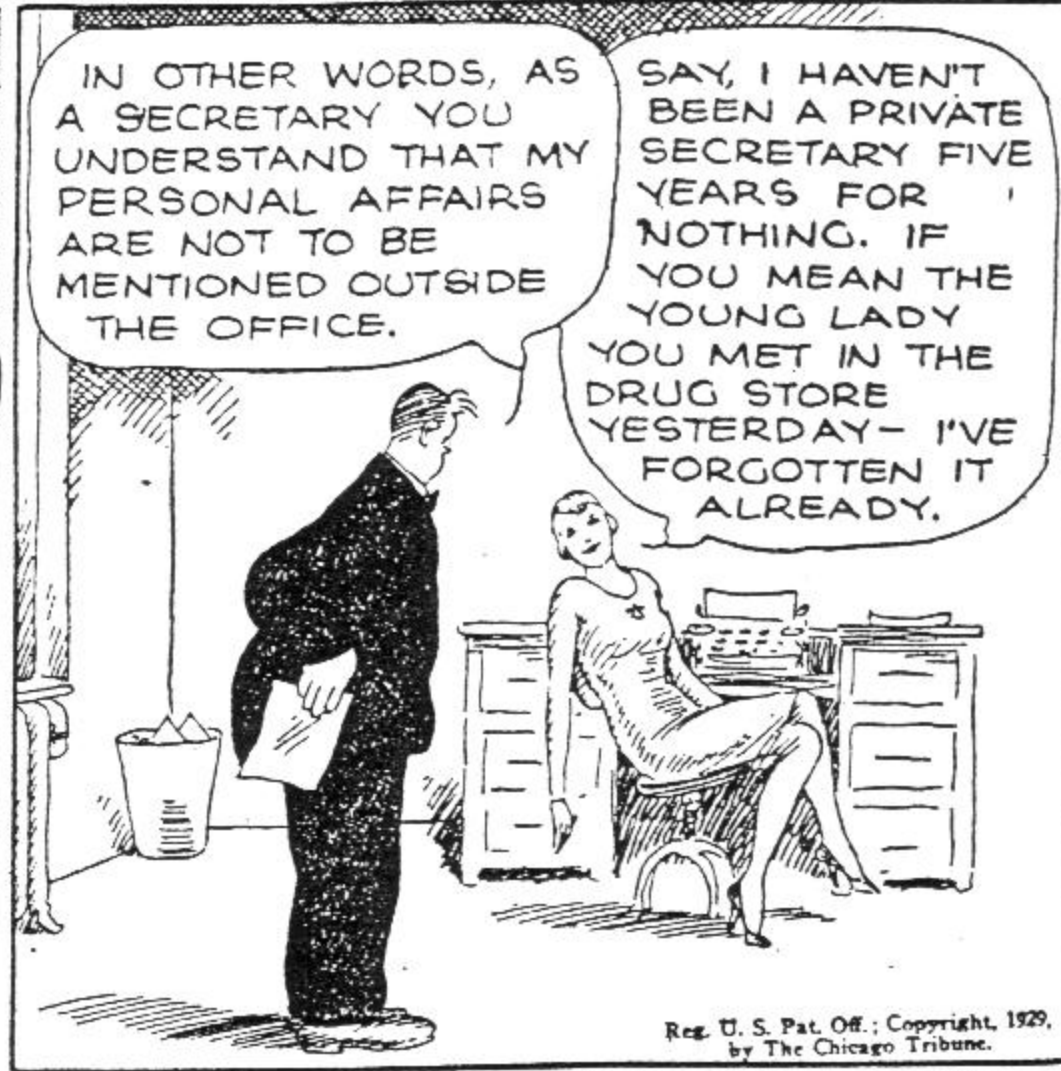
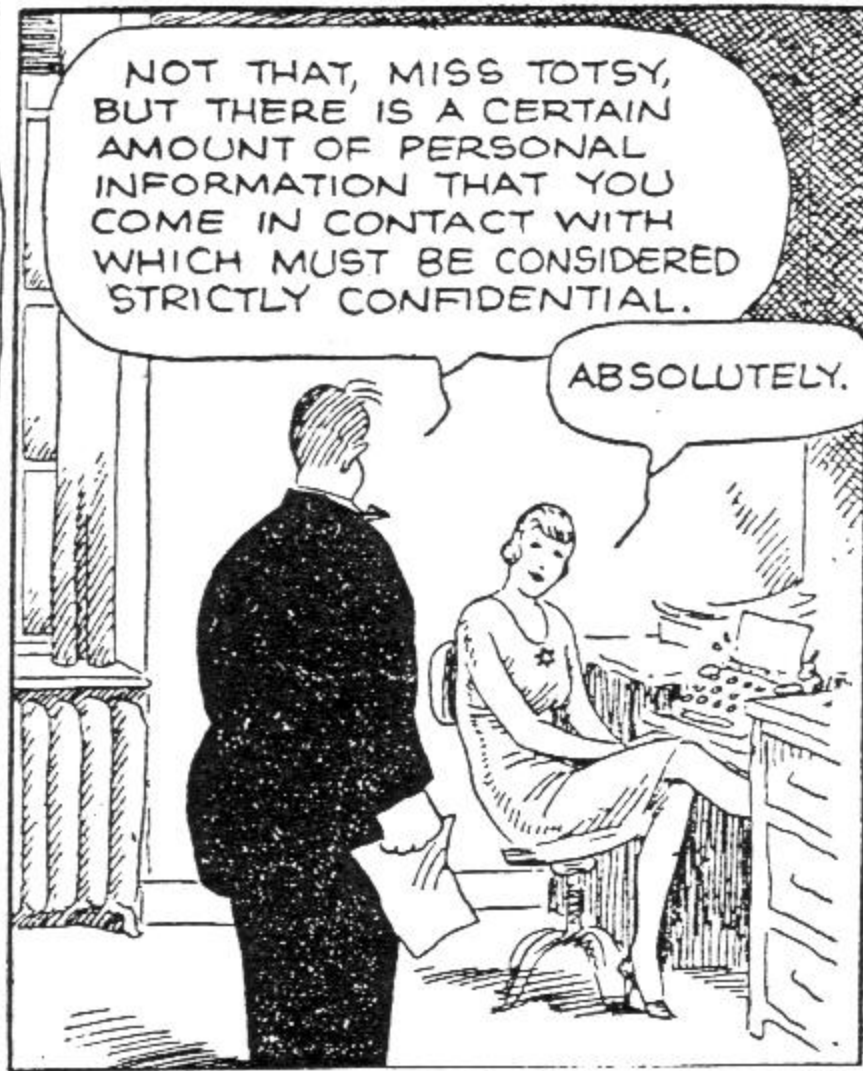
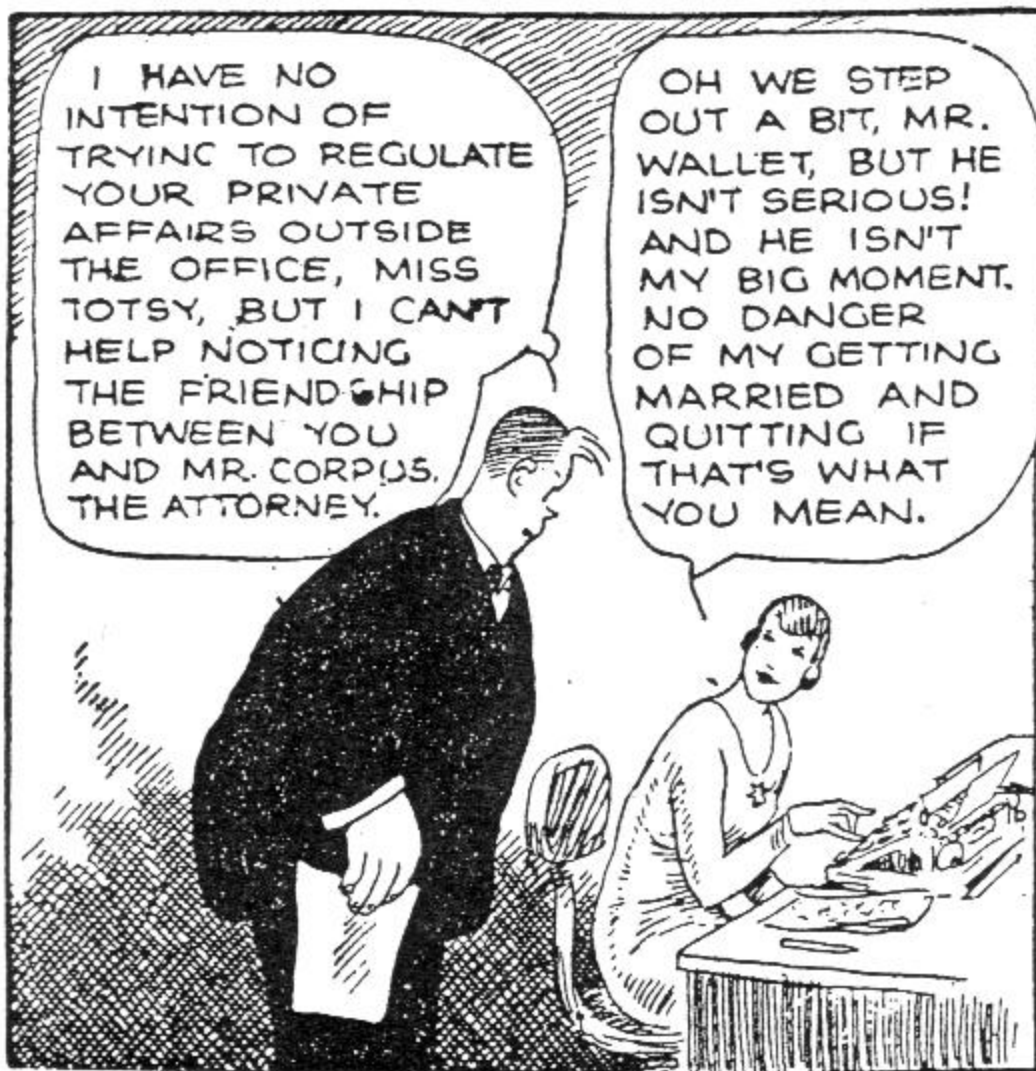
YES, I BELIEVE HE'S SORT OF SWEET ON HER. I'D NOTICED IT.

BUT THAT ISN'T ALL. IT'S ABOUT YOU AND I'VE HEARD MME. OCTAVE MENTIONED. I THINK THEY ARE ALL IN CAHOOTS. I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW. YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN ON THE SQUARE WITH ME.

KING

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GASOLINE ALLEY—BE MORE LUCID, WALL



GASOLINE ALLEY—COULDN'T THINK OF IT

OH WALT! I'VE GOT ANOTHER NOTICE FROM THAT BIRD CORPUS DEMANDING PAYMENT OF \$87 DAMAGES TO HIS CAR IN OUR LITTLE MOTOR ACCIDENT— ONLY I DON'T CALL IT AN ACCIDENT.

YES?

IT WAS MORE OF A COINCIDENCE— OUR BOTH BEING ON THE SAME SPOT AT THE SAME TIME. YOU KNOW HIM, WALT. COULDN'T YOU GET HIM TO LAY OFF ME?

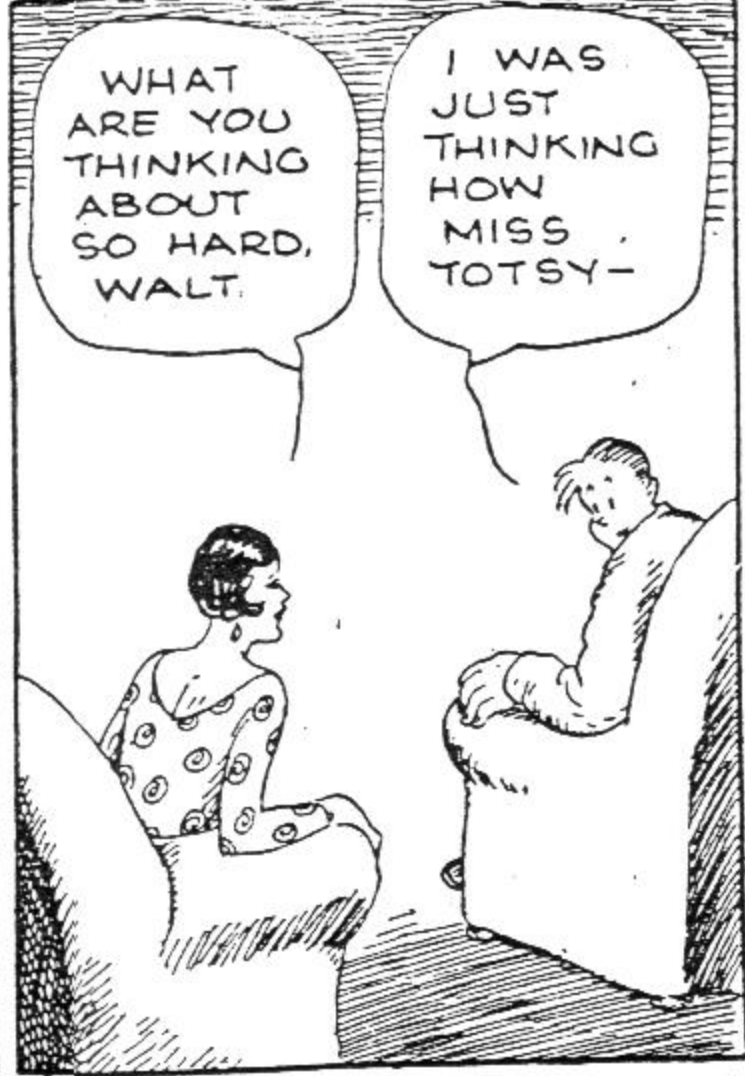
AVERY I'D DO ANYTHING IN THE WORLD FOR YOU.

BUT I WOULDN'T BE UNDER OBLIGATIONS TO THIS FELLOW CORPUS FOR ANYTHING. I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND.

YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO MUCH— JUST CASUALLY MENTION IT.

I WANT YOU TO GET ME RIGHT, AVERY. I'D RATHER PAY THE WHOLE \$87 MYSELF THAN ASK ANY FAVOR OF THAT BIRD.

OH, I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO DO THAT, WALT! ONLY OF COURSE IT WOULD SAVE YOU THAT MUCH EMBARRASSMENT.



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GASOLINE ALLEY—SUMMER SEASON OFFICIALLY OPENS



GASOLINE ALLEY—NOT SMOOTH SAILING

I HAVE USED EVERY ARGUMENT AND SUBTERFUGE AT MY COMMAND, MME OCTAVE, TO NO AVAIL. THIS MAN WALLET KNOWS THE SECURITY OF HIS POSITION AND IS SUSPICIOUS OF EVERY SUGGESTION. THE NEXT MOVE IS FOR YOU TO MAKE A PERSONAL PLEA TO HIM.

IN OTHER WORDS, CORPUS, YOU HAVE FAILED AND NOW IT IS UP TO ME. THAT BEING THE CASE YOUR SERVICES ARE AT AN END

MY DEAR MME. OCTAVE, I AM HANDLING THE SITUATION AND NO MATTER WHAT THE METHOD THE RESULT IS WHAT WE ARE AFTER. IF YOU HAVE AN INTERVIEW THAT IS A MERE DETAIL IN MY PLAN.

HOWEVER, IF I PUT OVER WHAT I WANT THAT LETS YOU OUT.

I CAN INFORM YOU IN ADVANCE THAT YOU CAN'T. BUT A PLEA TO LET YOU HAVE SKEEZIX FOR A LIMITED TIME NOW THAT WALT HAS A SON, CORKY, OF HIS OWN MIGHT HAVE IT'S EFFECT.

I REFUSE ABSOLUTELY. I HAVE SWALLOWED MY PRIDE BEFORE THIS AND PLED WITH HIM BUT HE HAS A HEART OF STONE. HE IS PREJUDICED AGAINST ME A MOTHER'S TEARS WILL NOT DISSOLVE AN ATOM OF HIS COLD SELFISHNESS.

-King

GASOLINE ALLEY—NOTHING STIRRING

NO MADAM,
IF YOU HAVE
ANYTHING TO
DISCUSS WITH
ME IT CAN BE
DONE IN
MY OFFICE.

WALT, IT HAS
BEEN A LONG
TIME SINCE I ASKED
ANYTHING FROM
YOU BUT THE
SITUATION HAS
CHANGED SO MUCH
THAT I'M SURE
YOU WILL LISTEN
TO WHAT I HAVE
TO ASK.

IF IT IS SOMETHING
NEW I WILL LISTEN,
MME. OCTAVE. BUT
IF IT'S THE SAME
OLD PLEA YOU
NEED NOT BEGIN.

IT'S THE CRY
OF A MOTHER FOR
HER CHILD. I WON'T
DENY THAT HE USED
TO MEAN MUCH TO
YOU BUT NOW THAT YOU
HAVE A SON OF YOUR
OWN YOU CAN'T BE
DEAF TO MY PLEADING
FOR SKEEZIX—
ESPECIALLY AS I
WANT HIM FOR
ONLY TWO YEARS.

THE
SITUATION HAS
NOT CHANGED
AS FAR AS
SKEEZIX IS
CONCERNED. HE
IS MY CHILD IN
EVERYTHING
BUT BLOOD
AND BIRTH.

BUT SURELY NOW
THAT YOU HAVE CORKY
YOU KNOW THE VAST
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
A SON OF YOURS BY
BLOOD AND BIRTH
AND A FOSTER CHILD—
ONE LEFT ON YOUR
DOORSTEP.

THERE
IS NO
DIFFERENCE,
MME. OCTAVE,
AND I AM IN
A POSITION
TO KNOW.
YOU MIGHT
AS WELL
ASK FOR
CORKY.



PHYLLIS WHO DO YOU THINK CALLED ON ME TODAY? OCTAVE! SHE HAD SOMETHING SHE WANTED TO TALK OVER IN HER APARTMENT BUT SHE CAME TO MY OFFICE WHEN I WOULDN'T CALL ON HER.

WHAT DID SHE WANT THIS TIME?



OH THE USUAL! SKEEZIX OF COURSE, THE ARGUMENT BEING THAT NOW I HAVE A SON OF MY OWN SKEEZIX DOESN'T COUNT ANY MORE.

WITH ALL HER SOPHISTICATION SHE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND VERY DEEPLY.



SKEEZIX!



WHAT DO YOU WANT, UNCLE WALT? THE KIDS WANT ME FOR SHORTSTOP.

NOTHING SKEEZIX I JUST WANTED TO GET HOLD OF YOU A MINUTE!

Mingo

GASOLINE ALLEY—LOAFER!



THERE, HOTSY, YOU'LL DO!



I DON'T SEE WHY YOU SHOULD PAY ANY ATTENTION TO ME, MR. WICKER. JUST ONE OF THE GIRLS IN THE OFFICE.

I'VE NEVER NOTICED ONE BEFORE, MISS TOSY, BUT YOU KNOW YOU ARE DIFFERENT.



WHAT'S MATTER, ABIE? WHO DO YOU SEE?

NOBODY.



THAT'S A WOMAN ALL OVER! TOSY HAS GOT TO PLAY HER OWN GAME WHEN THE BIG STAKES ARE SOMEWHERE ELSE. PLAYING THIS WICKER GUY WHEN THERES WORK TO BE DONE!

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GASOLINE ALLEY—IT'S A BUSINESS

YES—NO—I'LL TALK TO YOU ABOUT IT LATER. NO NOT TILL LUNCH HOUR. I SAID LATER!

THAT WAS SMART OF YOU, ABIE, CALLING UP AND SPILLING ALL THAT HOOEY OVER THE WIRE. THE BOSS WAS RIGHT THERE.

MAYBE YOU DON'T THINK I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO TOTSY. I SAW YOU LAST NIGHT. IF YOU'D DEVOTE SOME OF THE WILES TO WALLET THAT YOU'RE WASTING TRYING TO MAKE THIS WICKER GUY WE'D GET SOMEWHERE.

I'M NOT NEGLECTING YOUR BIG IDEA, ABIE, BUT A RICH WIDOWER DOESN'T FALL INTO A GIRL'S MITT EVERY DAY.

WE'RE PLAYING FOR BIG STAKES AND YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP YOUR MIND ON YOUR WORK.

THOSE STAKES ARE MOSTLY YOUR STAKES. WICKER HAS HAD ME TO DINNER FOUR TIMES IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS. HE LIKES ME AND I'M LIKING HIM IN SPITE OF HIS WALRUS DRAPERIES. YES A GIRL HAS GOT TO LOOK OUT FOR HERSELF IN SPITE OF YOU PHILANTHROPISTS WHO WANT TO DO A LOT FOR HER.

YOU SAW WOOD AND CUT OUT CHASING RAINBOWS

GASOLINE ALLEY—DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU SEE IN BLACK AND WHITE, RACHEL

GLORY BE, SKEEZIX,
BUT YOU IS A DIRTY
SIGHT. YOU GIT OFF
YOUR CLOES AN HOP
IN THE TUB THIS
MINUTE.

AW
RACHEL
THAT'S
TAN.

LAND SAKES ALIVE
LOOKA THAT! YOU KNOW
WHAT? WE GOIN' TO
NAME THAT TUB ROSIE!

WHY
RACHEL?

CAUSE THEY'S
ALWAYS A
RING AROUND
ROSIE!

MR. CORPUS, ALL JOKING ASIDE, THAT BILL FOR \$87 YOU SENT ME WHEN OUR CARS CONTACTED IS PRETTY HIGH. I CALLED TO SEE IF YOU WOULDN'T CUT IT. HAVE A CIGAR.

NO THANKS. I DON'T CARE TO SMOKE NOW. BUT YOU'RE A FRIEND OF WALT WALLET'S. IF YOU'LL PERSUADE HIM TO SEND SKEEZIX TO PARIS TO SCHOOL I'LL FORGET THE BILL.

ALL RIGHT I'LL SMOKE IT AFTER DINNER. OF COURSE I CAN'T PROMISE BUT I'LL TALK MY HEAD OFF I'LL DO WHAT I CAN.

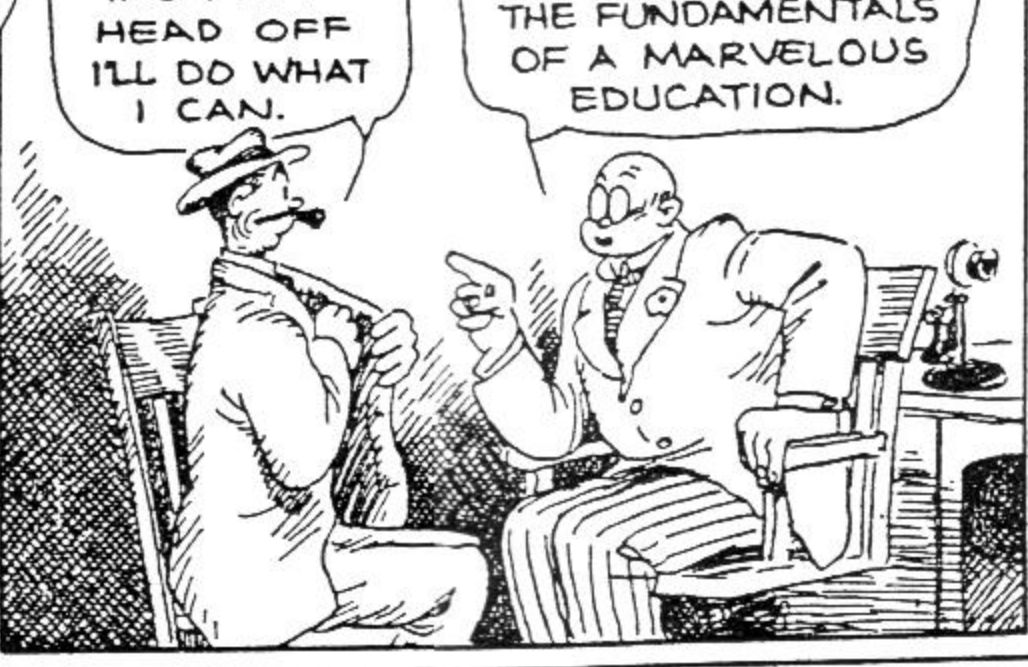
YOU SEE IT WILL BE A WONDERFUL THING FOR THE BOY. IT WILL COST WALLET NOTHING—HE WILL BE RETURNED IN TWO YEARS WITH A BACKGROUND AND THE FUNDAMENTALS OF A MARVELOUS EDUCATION.

LISTEN WALT, YOU SPOKE ABOUT SOMEBODY WANTING TO SEND SKEEZIX ABROAD TO SCHOOL. I'VE BEEN THINKING IT OVER AND I CAN'T SEE WHY IT ISN'T A FINE IDEA.

WHY I WOULDN'T GIVE SKEEZIX UP FOR ANYTHING!

BUT THINK WHAT YOU GET FOR NOTHING—A EUROPEAN BACKGROUND FOR SKEEZIX, AND AN AMERICAN FOREGROUND—A SWELL COMBINATION. DON'T TURN THE OFFER DOWN. THINK OF ALL THE ADVANTAGES!

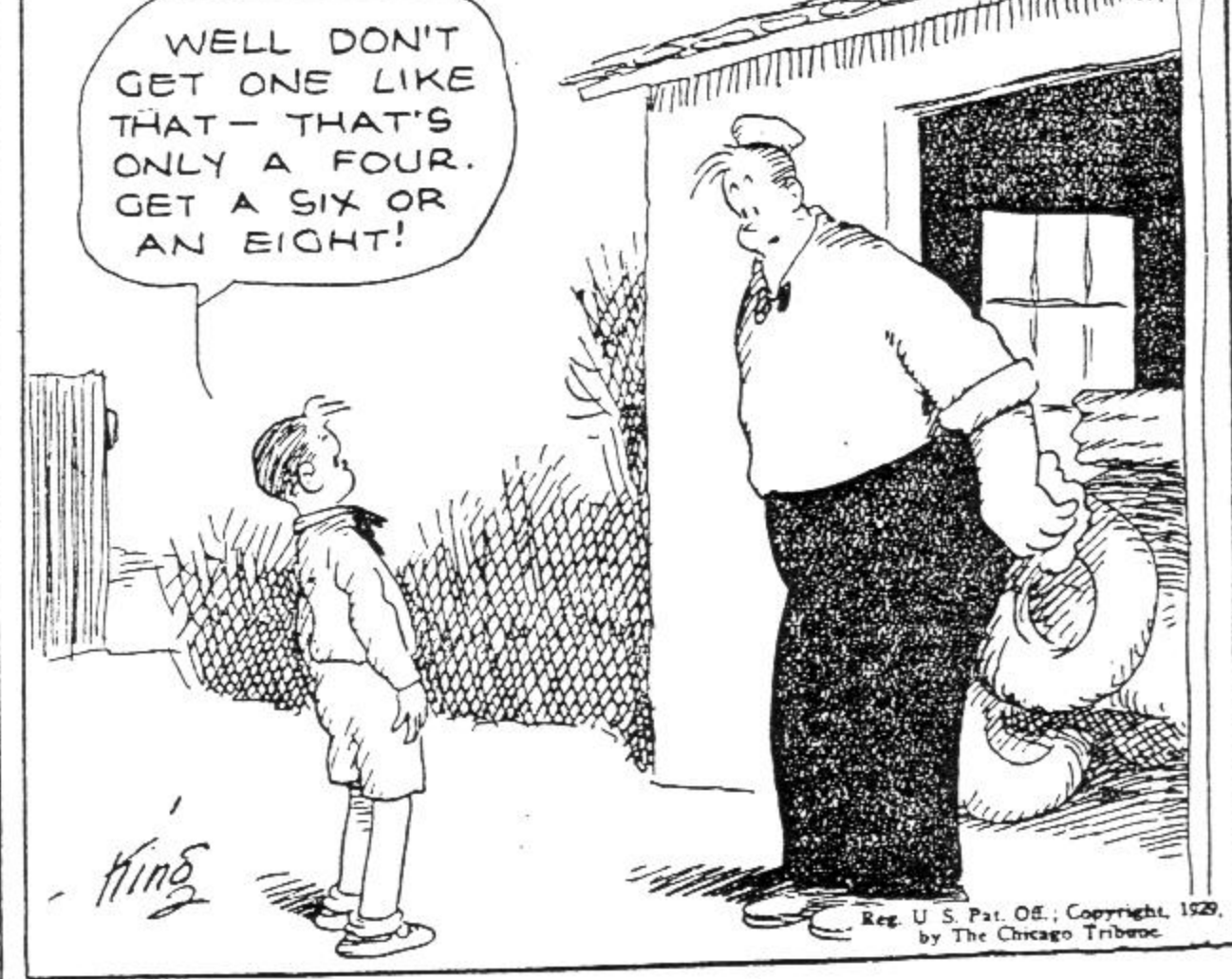
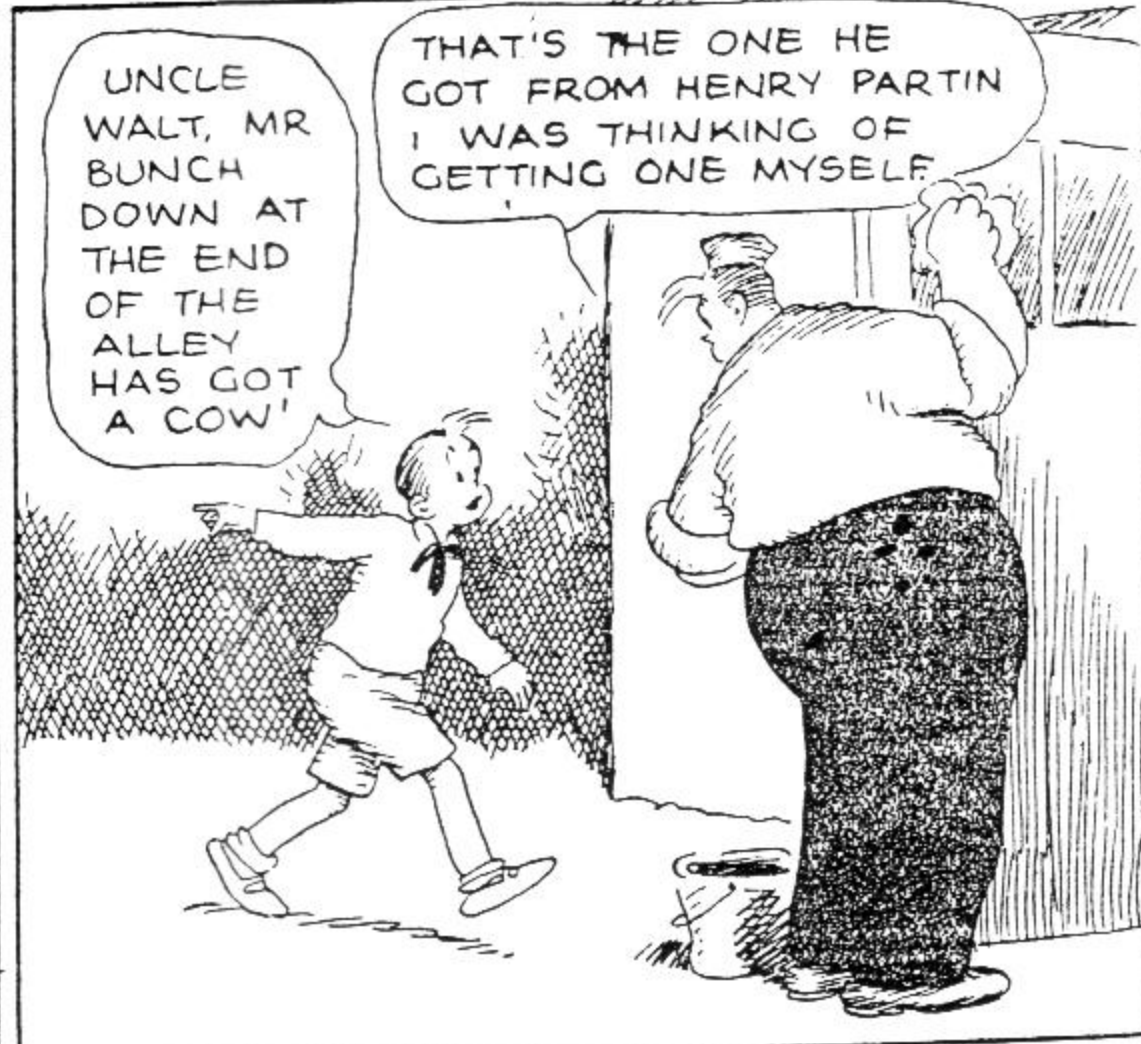
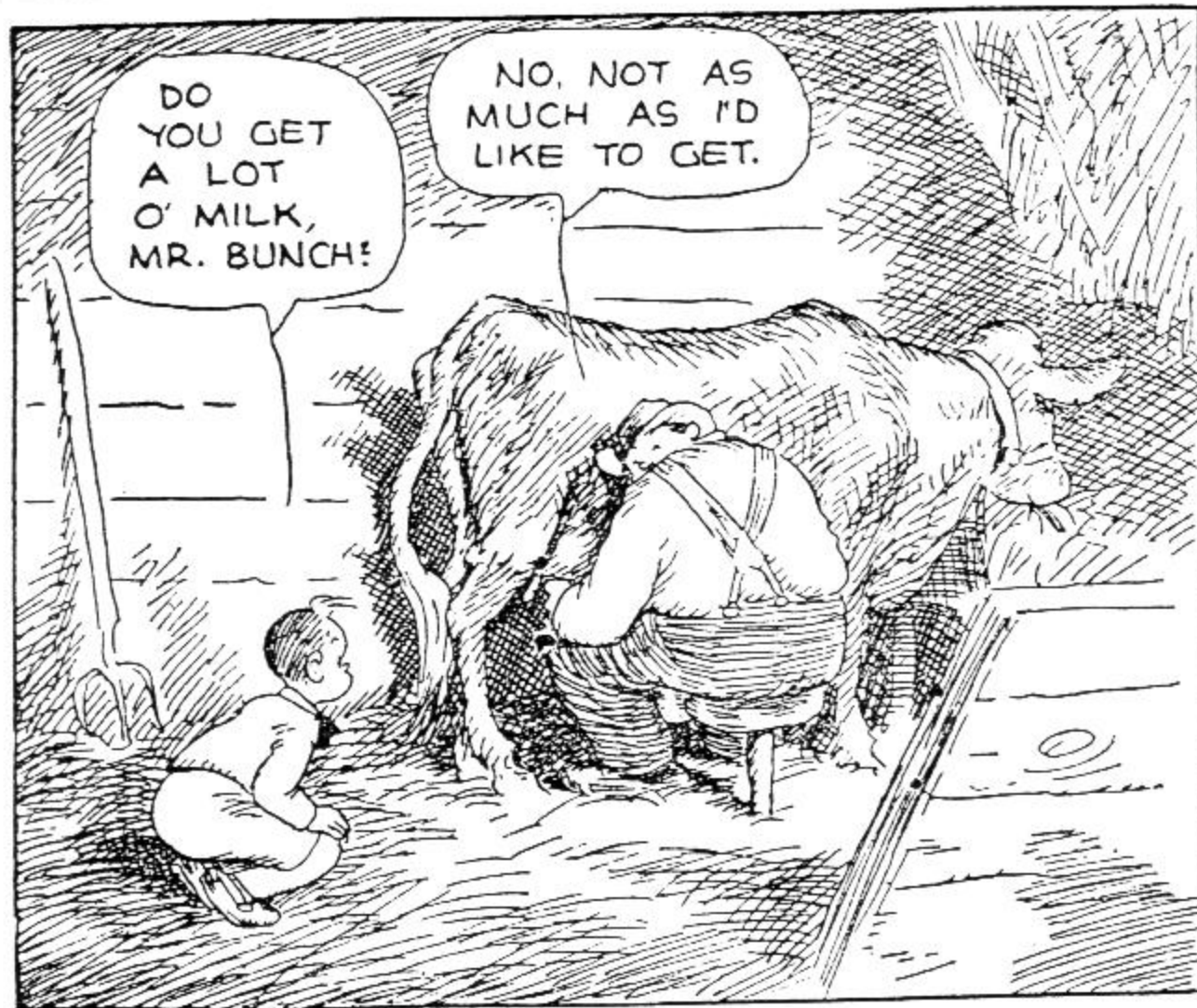
WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR INTEREST IN SKEEZIX ALL OF A SUDDEN?

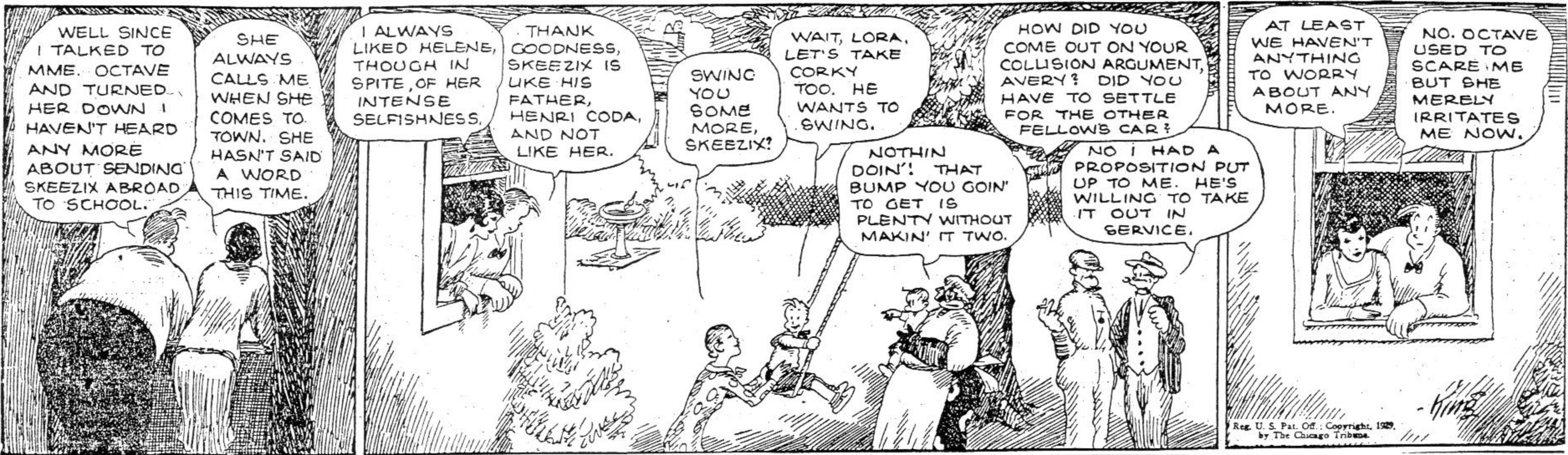


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GASOLINE ALLEY—AND A LATER MODEL





WELL SINCE I TALKED TO MME. OCTAVE AND TURNED HER DOWN I HAVEN'T HEARD ANY MORE ABOUT SKEEZIX ABROAD TO SCHOOL.

SHE ALWAYS CALLS ME WHEN SHE COMES TO TOWN. SHE HASN'T SAID A WORD THIS TIME.

I ALWAYS LIKED HELENE, THOUGH IN SPITE OF HER INTENSE SELFISHNESS.

THANK GOODNESS, SKEEZIX IS LIKE HIS FATHER, HENRI CODA, AND NOT LIKE HER.

SWING YOU SOME MORE, SKEEZIX?

WAIT, LORA, LET'S TAKE CORKY TOO. HE WANTS TO SWING.

NOTHIN DOIN'! THAT BUMP YOU GOIN' TO GET IS PLENTY WITHOUT MAKIN' IT TWO.

HOW DID YOU COME OUT ON YOUR COLLISION ARGUMENT, AVERY? DID YOU HAVE TO SETTLE FOR THE OTHER FELLOWS CAR?

NO I HAD A PROPOSITION PUT UP TO ME. HE'S WILLING TO TAKE IT OUT IN SERVICE.

AT LEAST WE HAVEN'T ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT ANY MORE.

NO. OCTAVE USED TO SCARE ME BUT SHE MERELY IRRITATES ME NOW.

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KING

GASOLINE ALLEY—IT NEVER RAINS—IT POURS



COME IN BITLAZI. WHAT BAD NEWS DO YOU BRING?



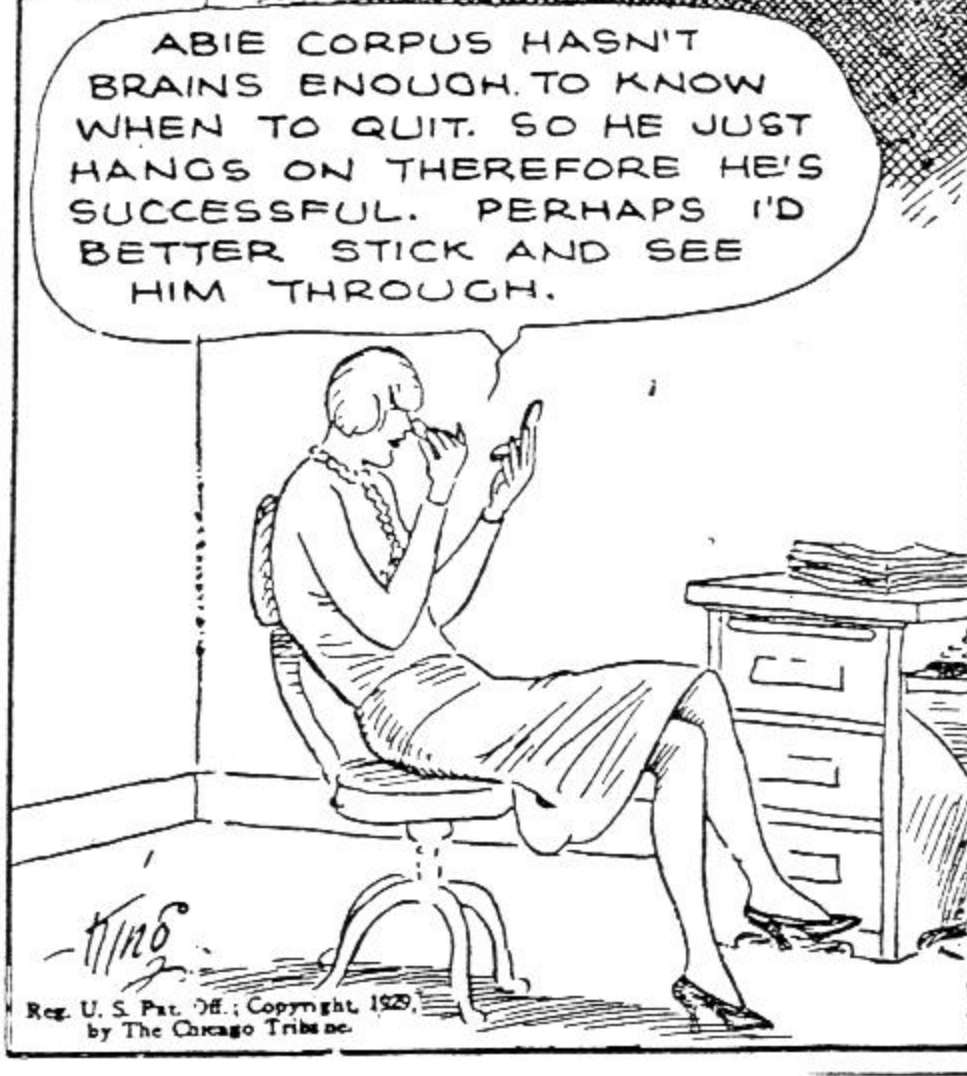
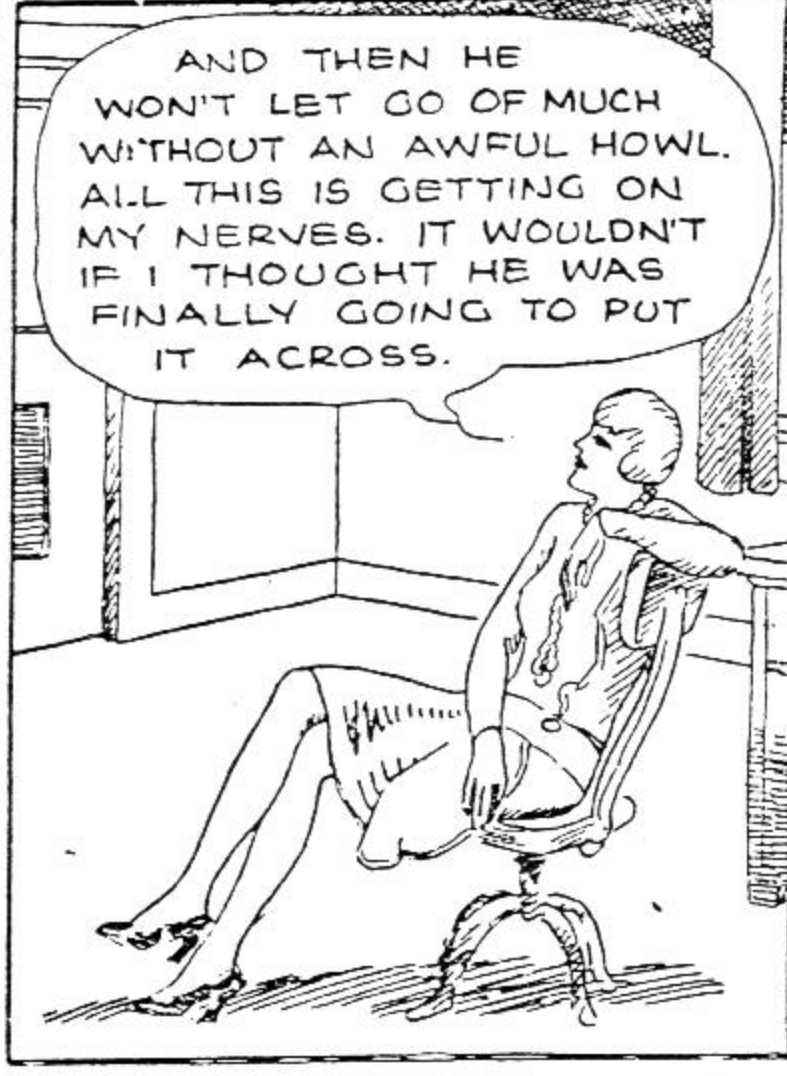
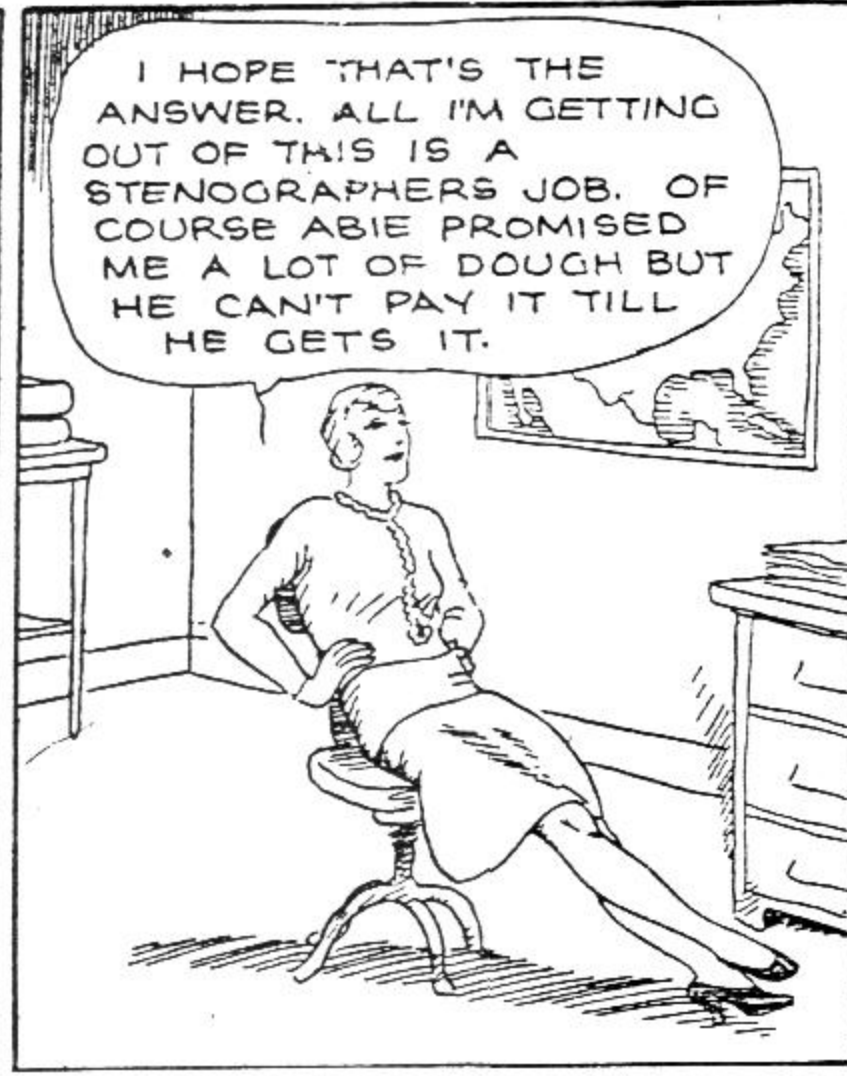
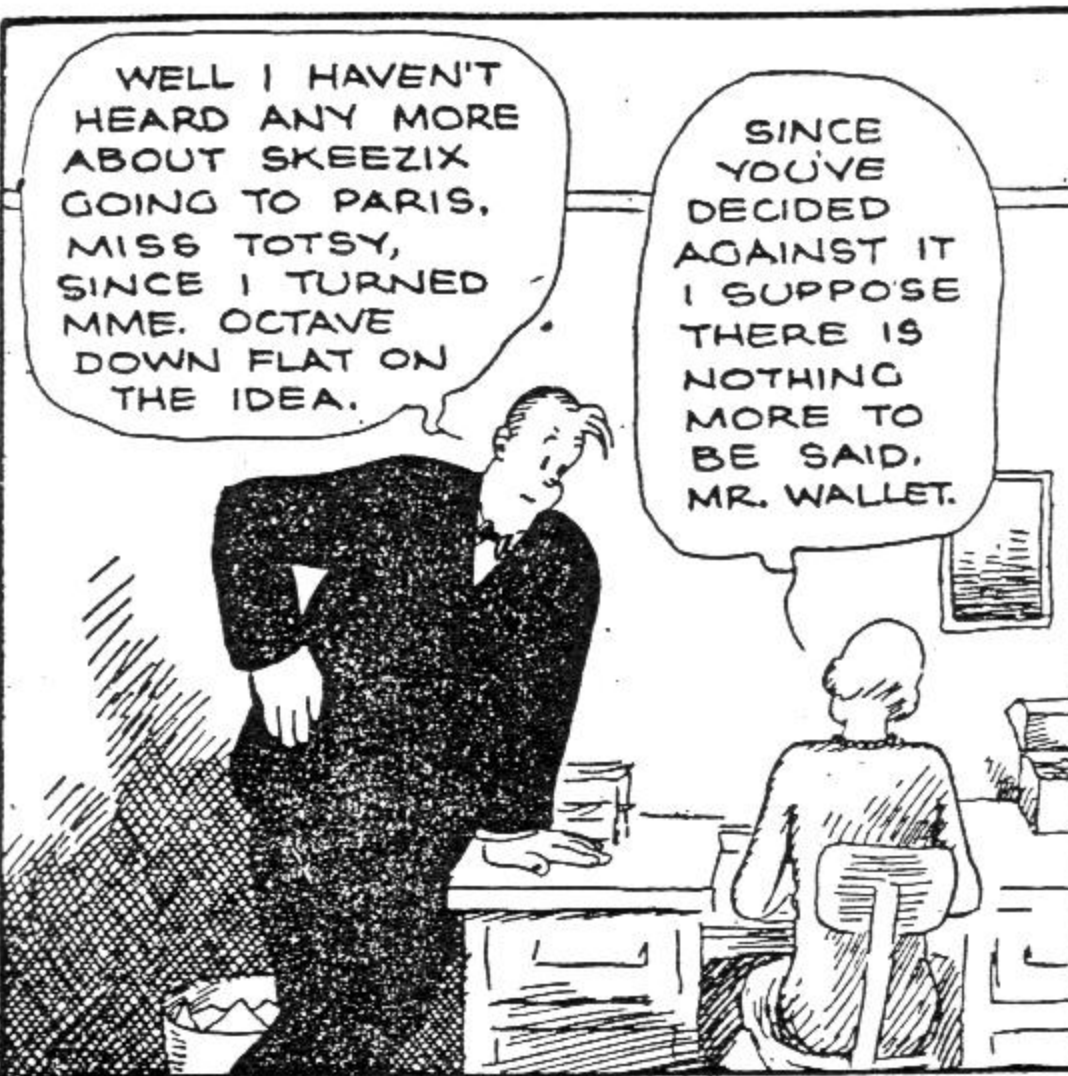
WELL YOU CAN'T PROVE IT BY ME. WHAT DOES IT SAY?

IT SAYS CODA'S WILL COMES UP FOR CONSUMMATO NEX' WEEK. CONSUMMATO— WHAT YOU CALL PROBATE.

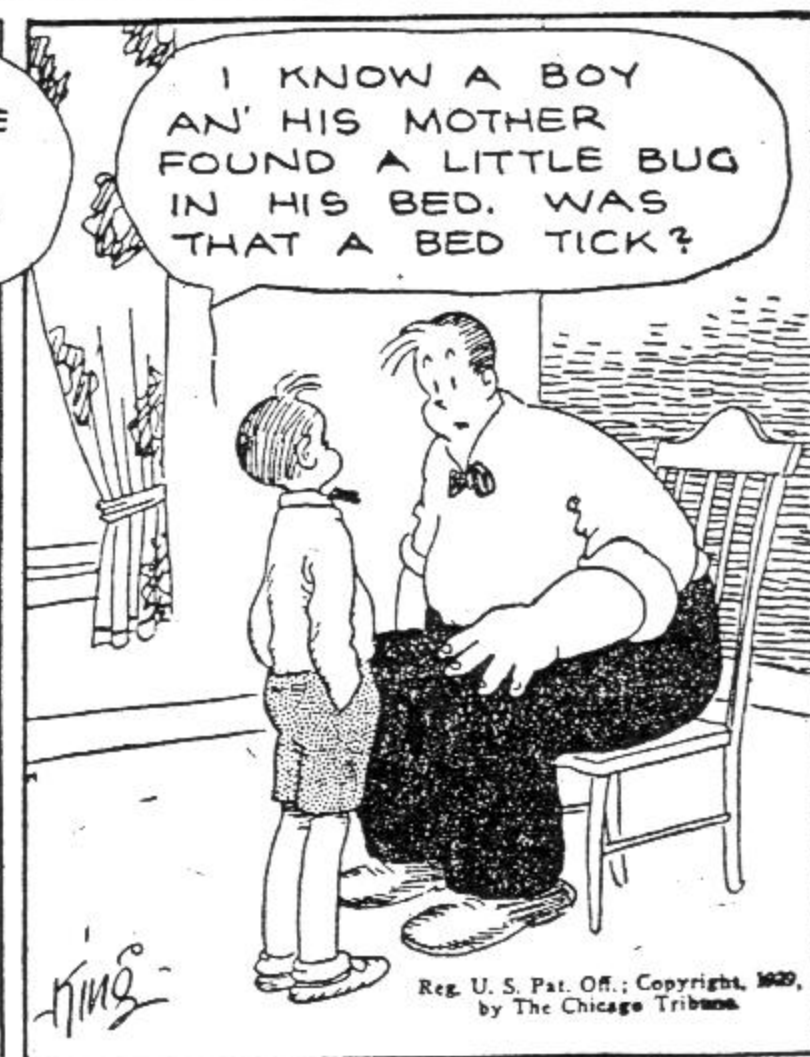
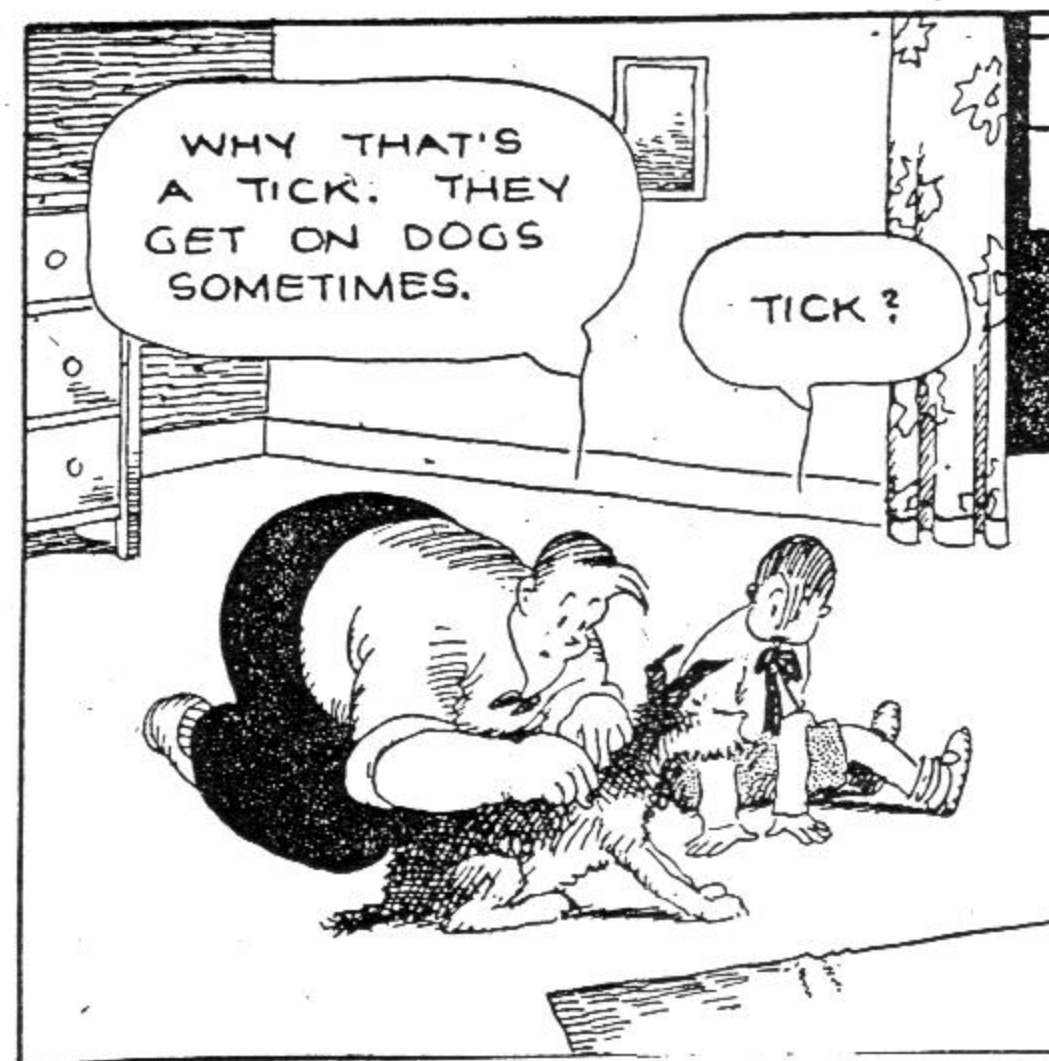


HE CAN'T READ GLOVIANIAN ANYWAY.

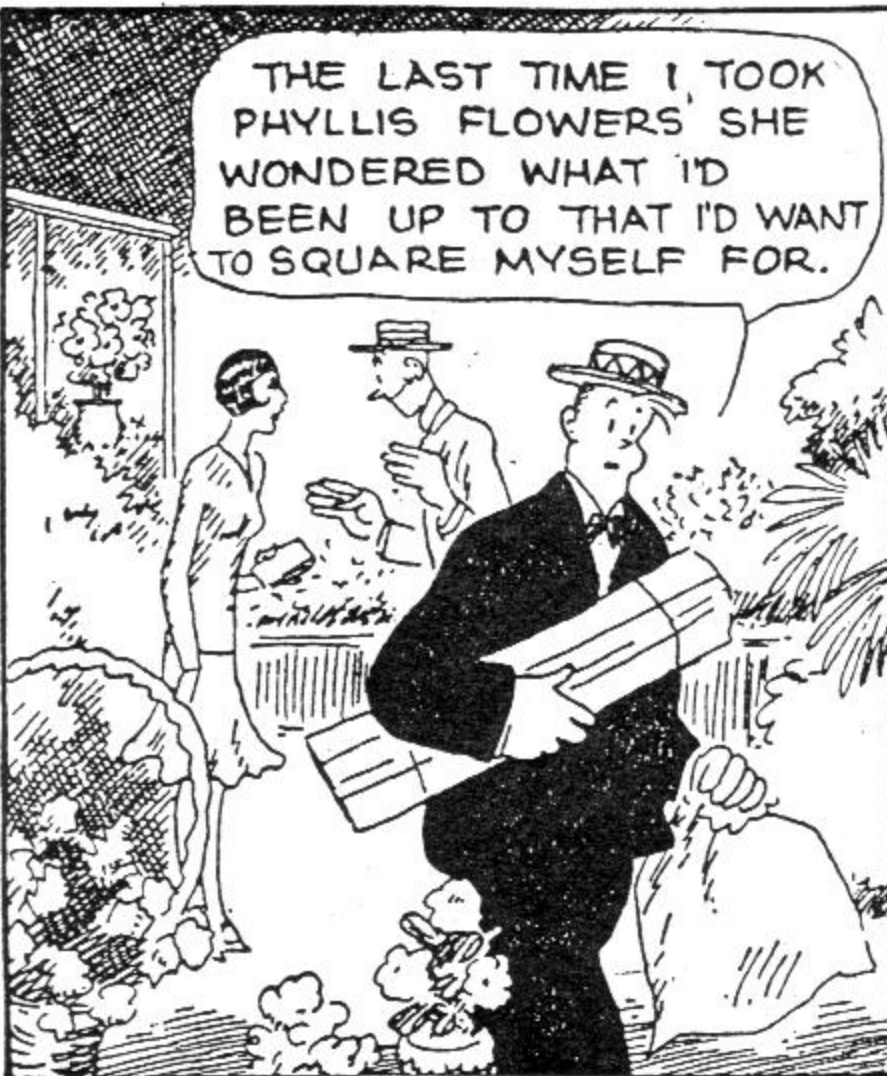
GASOLINE ALLEY—ALL'S QUIET



GASOLINE ALLEY — ZOOLOGY SESSION



GASOLINE ALLEY—SAVED!



GASOLINE ALLEY—NO RESULTS

PHYLLIS!
YOU LOOK
WONDERFUL!
MARRIAGE,
MOTHERHOOD
AND THE
YEARS ALL
REST LIGHTLY
ON YOU.

HELENE
OCTAVE! I AM
GLAD TO SEE
YOU. I WAS
AFRAID
YOU HAD
FORGOTTEN ME
ALTOGETHER.

I HAD A TALK WITH WALT AS
YOU KNOW, PHYLLIS, ABOUT
SENDING SKEEZIX ABROAD. BUT
NATURALLY HE LOOKS AT THINGS
DIFFERENTLY THAN YOU WOULD.
I KNOW WELL ENOUGH THAT
SINCE YOU HAVE A CHILD OF
YOUR OWN, SKEEZIX CAN'T MEAN
NEARLY AS MUCH TO YOU.

HELENE, YOU
WILL NEVER
UNDERSTAND!
SKEEZIX IS AS
MUCH A PART OF
US AS CORKY IS.
WE WOULD NEVER
GIVE HIM UP NOW.
OF COURSE THE SUN
RISES AND SETS IN
CORKY BUT THAT
DOESN'T AFFECT
OUR LOVE FOR
SKEEZIX.

I HAD HOPED,
PHYLLIS, THAT
YOU WOULD SEE
THE ADVANTAGE
TO SKEEZIX IN
THE THINGS I
SUGGEST. I AM
ONLY INTERESTED
IN HIS FUTURE.

I AM AS MUCH
INTERESTED IN HIS
FUTURE AS YOU ARE,
HELENE, AND I AM
WILLING TO SACRIFICE
A LOT MORE TO
INSURE IT. I HAVE
BEEN DOING IT FOR
THREE YEARS.

GASOLINE ALLEY—TRULY SPOKEN

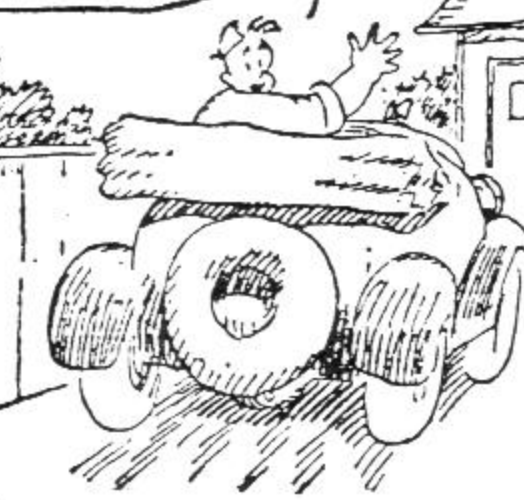
CAN'T FIND THE KNOCK AND THE ENGINE'S MISSING. I MIGHT AS WELL TAKE OLD BETSY DOWN TO THE SHOP AND HAVE THEM LOOK HER OVER.

MAYBE IT'S THE EXHAUSTION

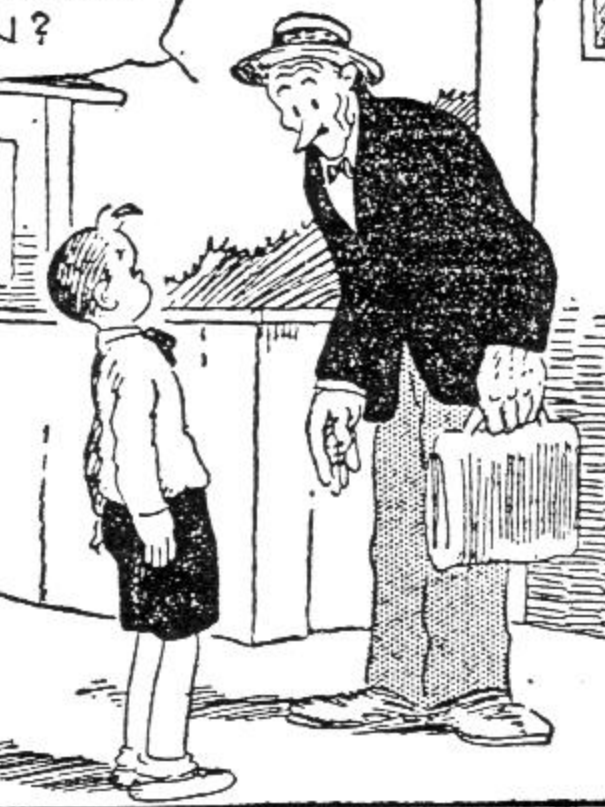


CAN'T I GO UNCLE WALT?

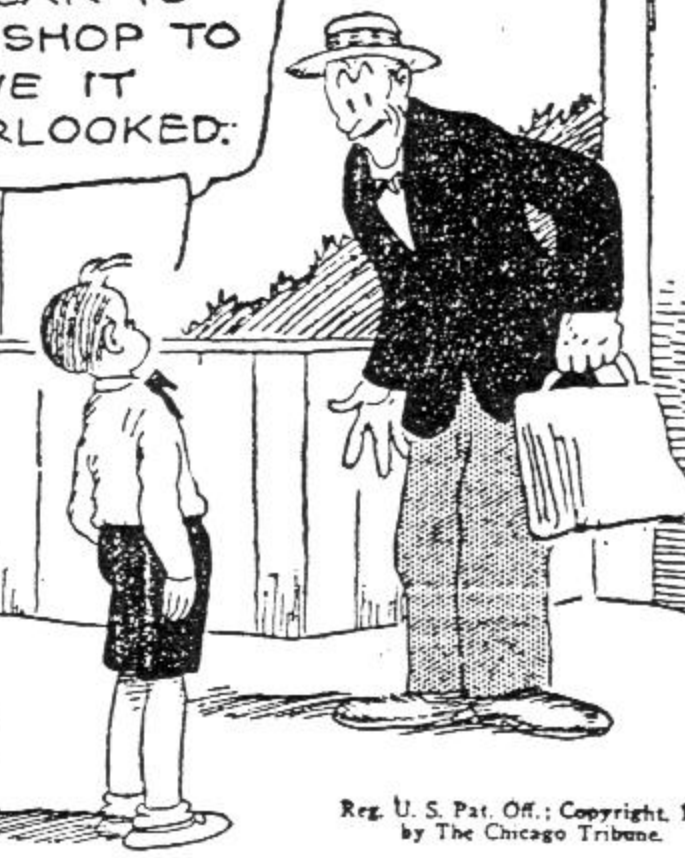
YOU STAY AND TAKE CARE OF THINGS AT THE GARAGE.



MORNING, SONNY. IS MR. WALLET IN?



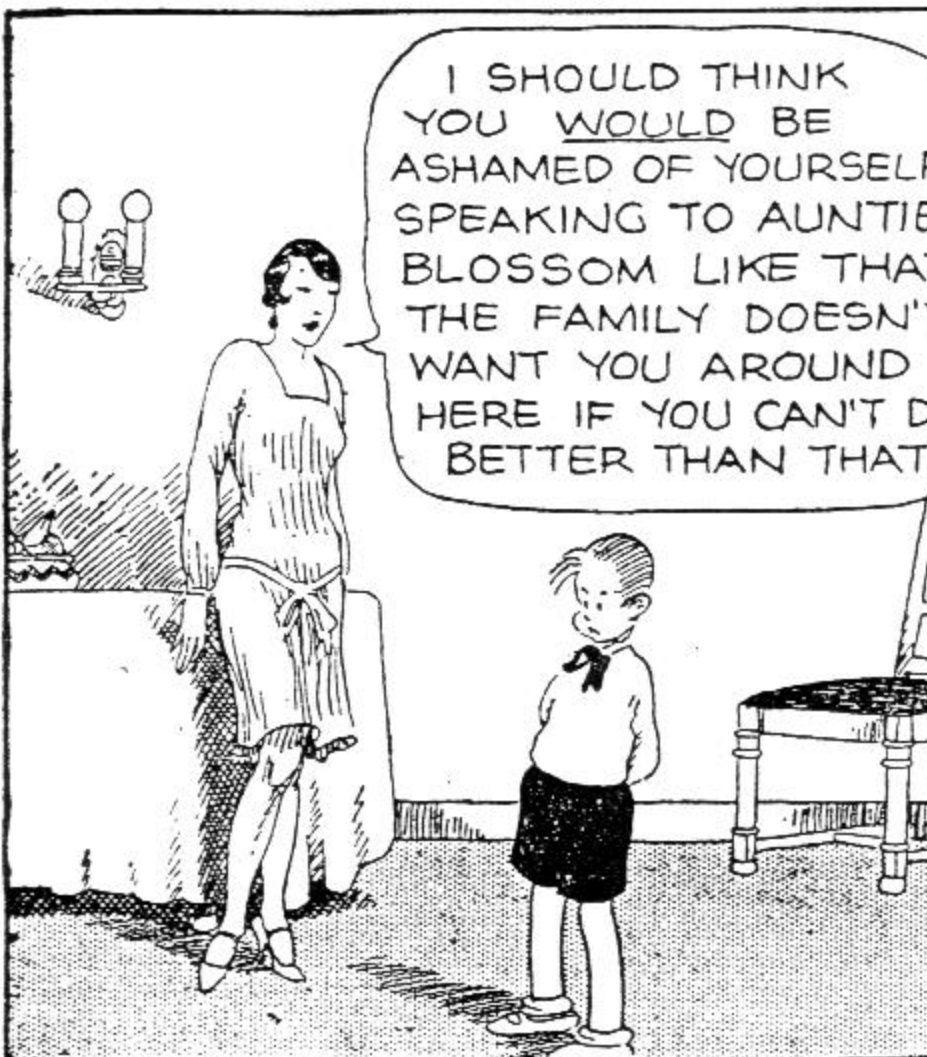
NO SIR, HE JUST TOOK THE CAR TO THE SHOP TO HAVE IT OVERLOOKED.




-King

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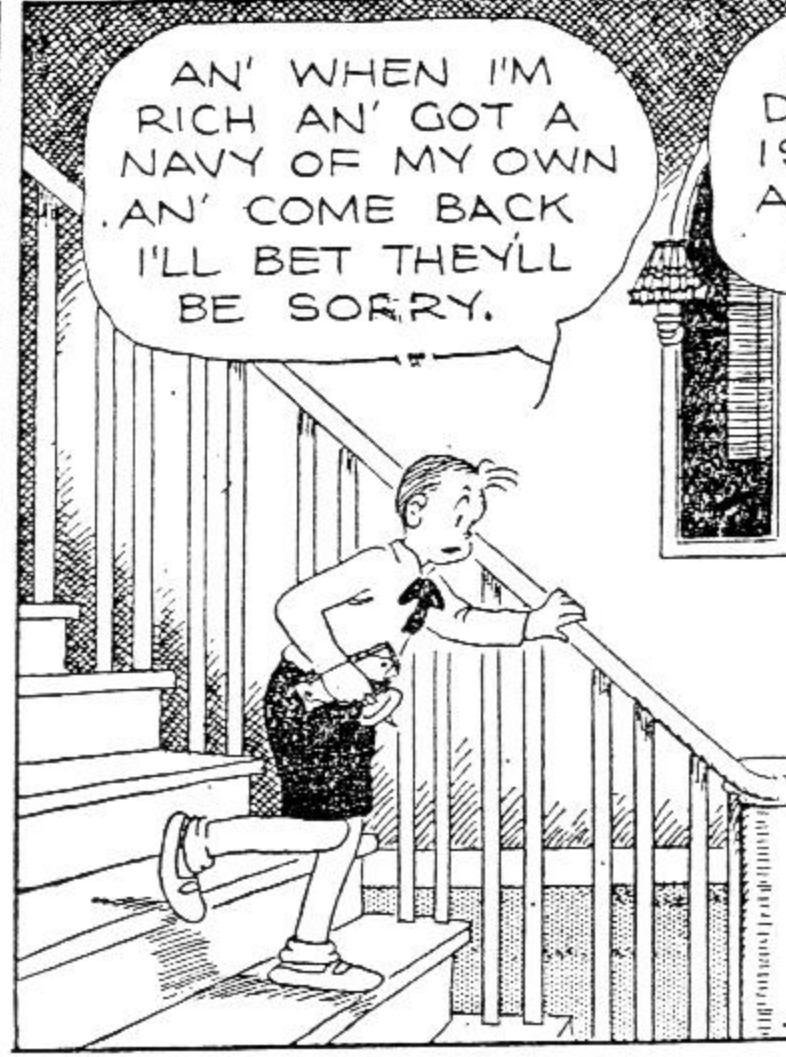
GASOLINE ALLEY—GOOD-BY EVERY BODY



I SHOULD THINK YOU WOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF—SPEAKING TO AUNTIE BLOSSOM LIKE THAT! THE FAMILY DOESN'T WANT YOU AROUND HERE IF YOU CAN'T DO BETTER THAN THAT.



THEY DON'T WANT ME AN' I'LL GO AWAY AN' GROW UP AN' BE A SAILOR!



AN' WHEN I'M RICH AN' GOT A NAVY OF MY OWN AN' COME BACK I'LL BET THEY'LL BE SORRY.

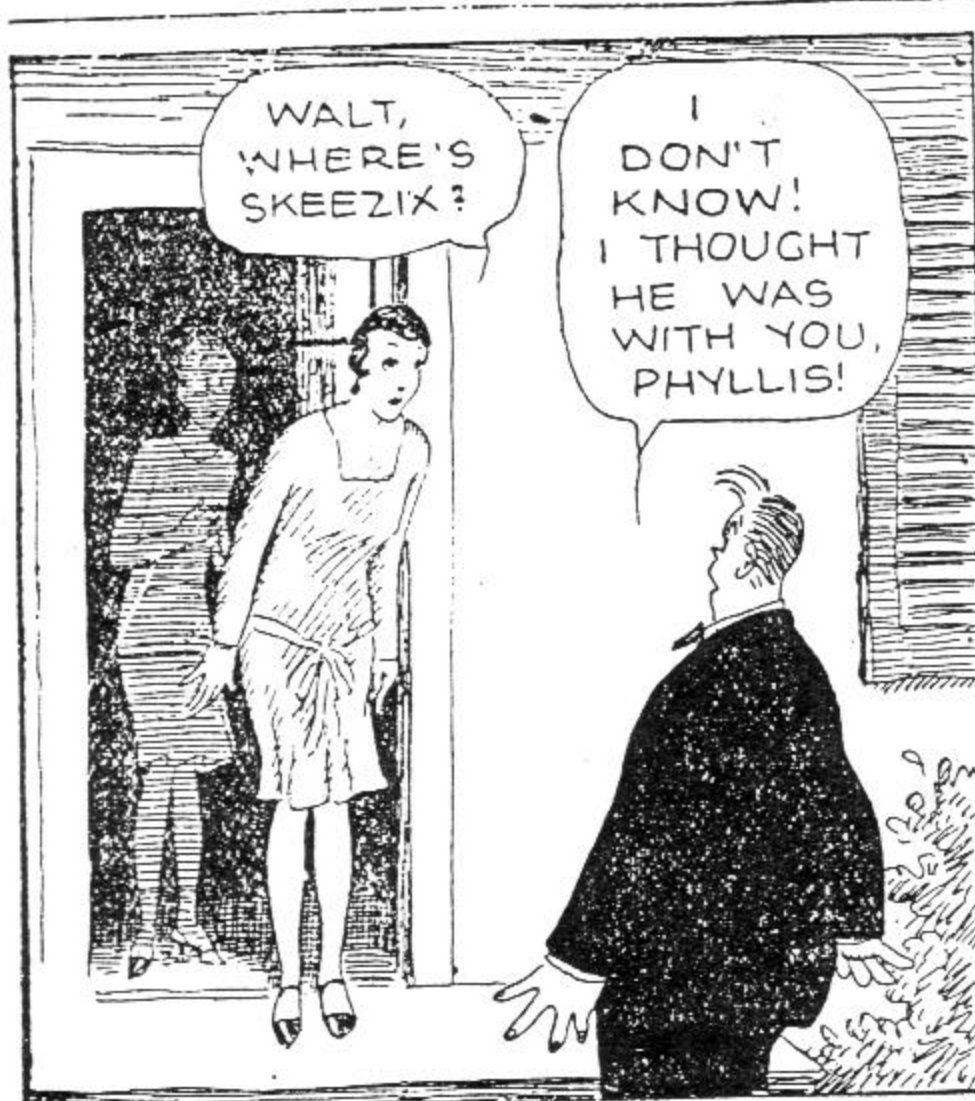


HOW DO YOU DO, SKEEZIX? IS YOUR AUNTIE BLOSSOM AT HOME?

HOW DO I KNOW? I DON'T LIVE HERE ANY MORE.

- King

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GASOLINE ALLEY—YOU MAY FIND IT YET, AVERY



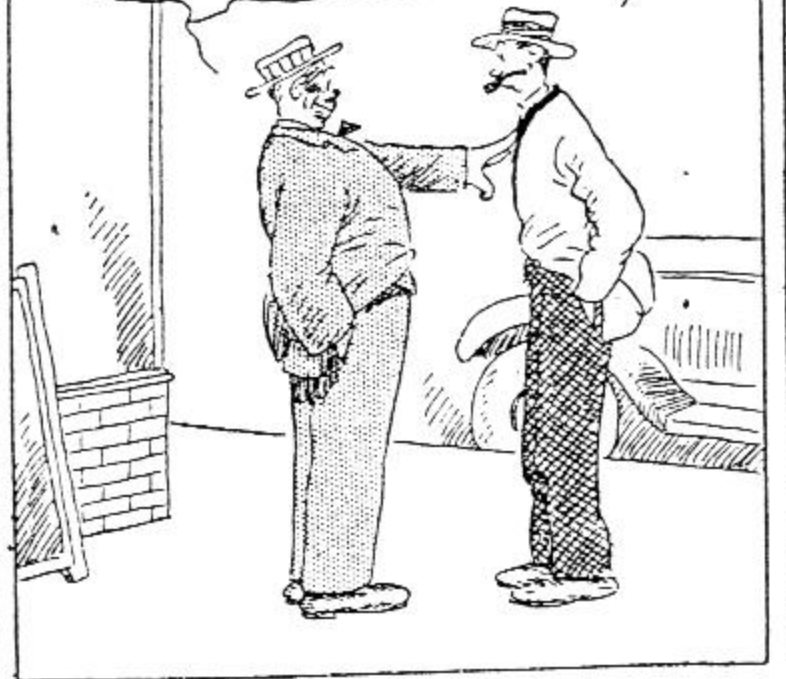
WELL WELL, AVERY! WHAT A COINCIDENCE! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN YEARS! HOW ARE THEY GOING?

ALL RIGHT, JONES. I CAN'T COMPLAIN. YOU'RE LOOKING HUSKY.



THAT'S THE WORD! I DO 18 HOLES ON SATURDAY AND 36 ON SUNDAY. HOW'S YOUR GOLF, AVERY?

OH I GAVE THAT UP.



GAVE IT UP! I NEVER HEARD OF ANYBODY DOING THAT! WHY?

WELL, I LOST MY GOLF BALL ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO.



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