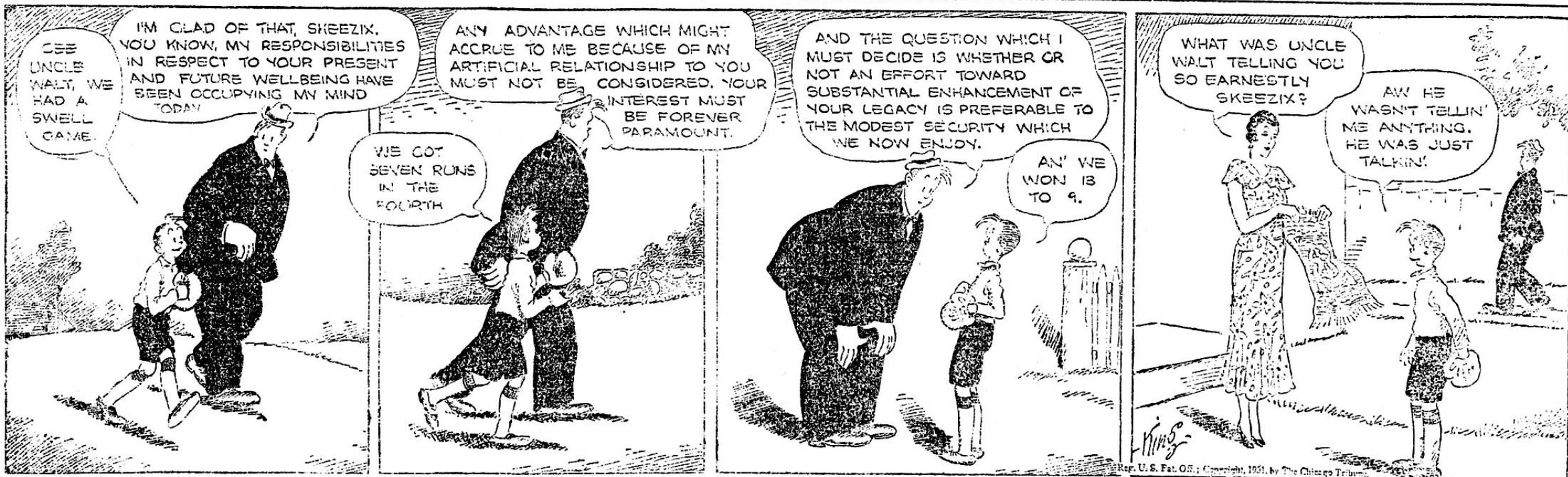


GASOLINE ALLEY—MERELY A BIT OF STATIC



SEE UNCLE WALT, WE HAD A SWELL GAME.

I'M GLAD OF THAT, SKEEZIX. YOU KNOW, MY RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT TO YOUR PRESENT AND FUTURE WELLBEING HAVE BEEN OCCUPYING MY MIND TODAY

WE GOT SEVEN RUNS IN THE FOURTH

ANY ADVANTAGE WHICH MIGHT ACCRUE TO ME BECAUSE OF MY ARTIFICIAL RELATIONSHIP TO YOU MUST NOT BE CONSIDERED. YOUR INTEREST MUST BE FOREVER PARAMOUNT.

AND THE QUESTION WHICH I MUST DECIDE IS WHETHER OR NOT AN EFFORT TOWARD SUBSTANTIAL ENHANCEMENT OF YOUR LEGACY IS PREFERABLE TO THE MODEST SECURITY WHICH WE NOW ENJOY.

AN' WE WON 13 TO 9.

WHAT WAS UNCLE WALT TELLING YOU SO EARNESTLY SKEEZIX?

AW HE WASN'T TELLIN' ME ANYTHING. HE WAS JUST TALKIN'.

GASOLINE ALLEY—LAST AID



GASOLINE ALLEY—SQUANDER A DOLLAR AND SEE THE WORLD

I'VE GOT THE NAMES OF MR. OBLONG'S ENGLISH ASSOCIATES AND HE DOESN'T KNOW I'M GOING TO LONDON. WHILE I'M THERE I'LL CHECK UP ON THEM.

HE TALKS IN BIG FIGURES ON THIS INCORPORATION, WALT. GET PLENTY OF ADVICE BEFORE YOU DO ANNYTHING.

PASSPORT PHOTOS.

SURE, I'LL GET ALL THE DORE ON ALL OF THEM. THEY'LL FIND I'M NO JELLYFISH.

HOLD THE JAW STILL A MOMENT, PLEASE.

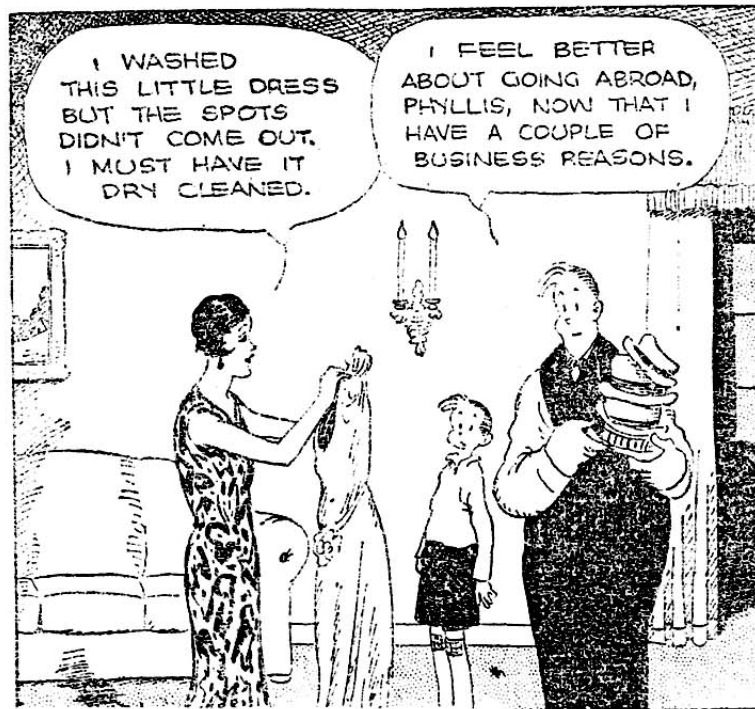
WOULD YOU LOOK AT THIS, PHYLLIS. I LOOK LIKE A GANGSTER.

THEY'LL KNOW THAT'S YOU, WALT, BUT HOW IS ANYONE TO RECOGNIZE ME?

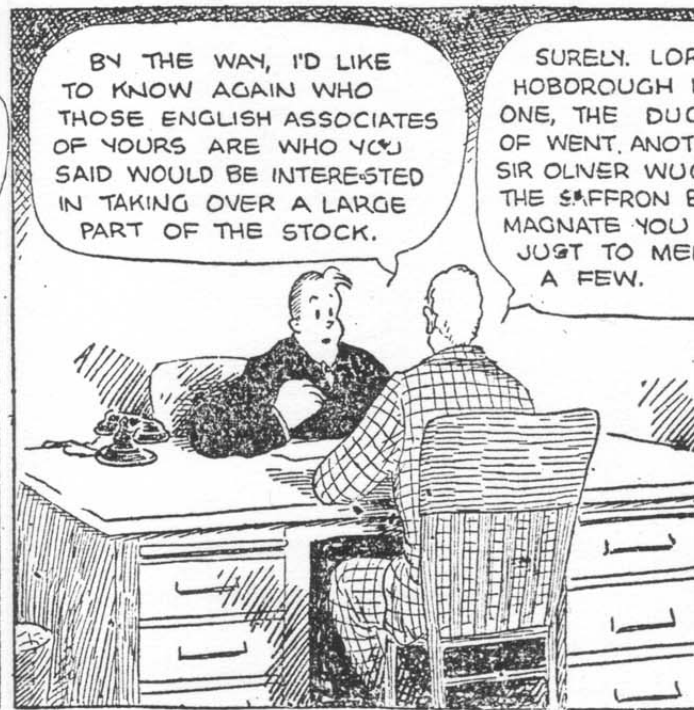
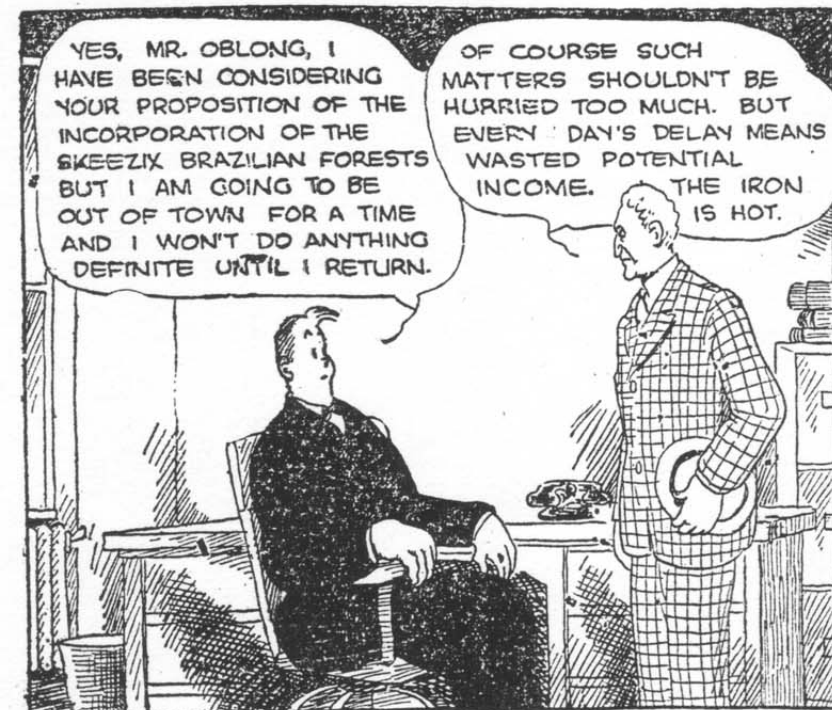
WALT, BEFORE I'D SPEND A DOLLAR FOR A PHOTOGRAPH THAT SIZE I'D STAY IN AMERICA.

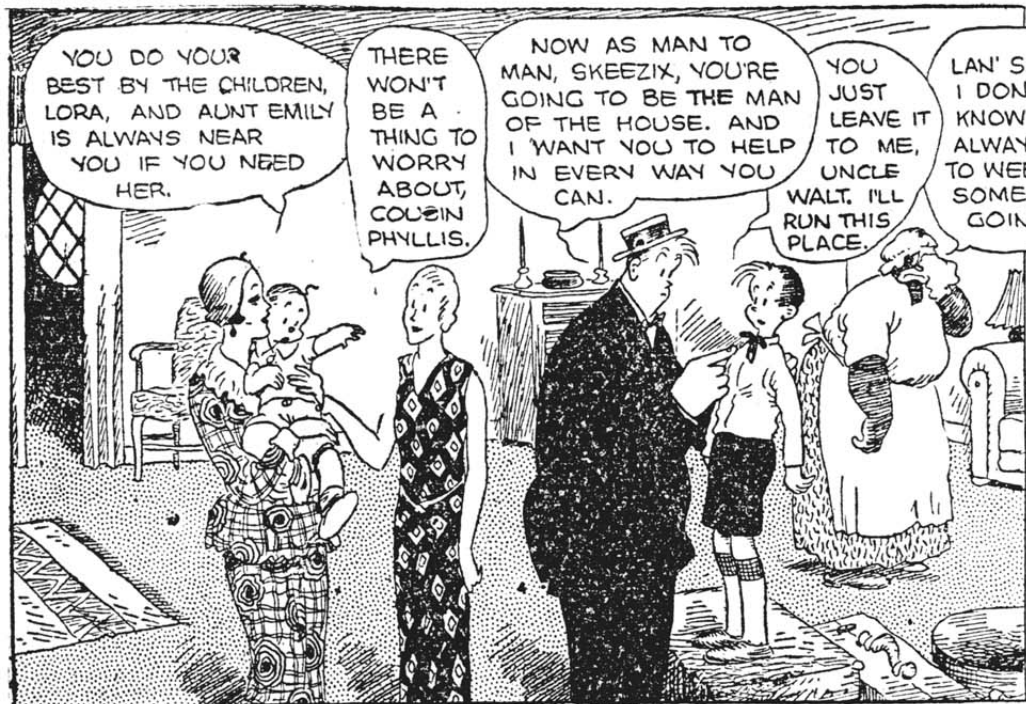
King
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GASOLINE ALLEY—COME CLEAN, SKEEZIX









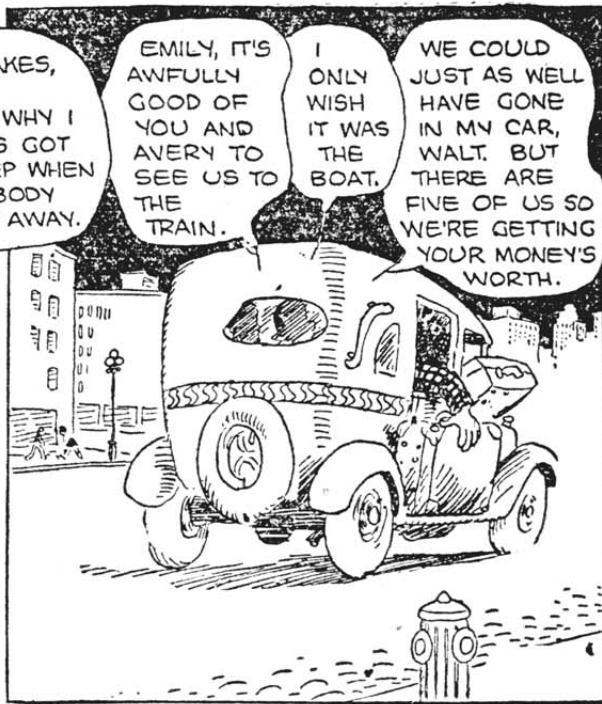
YOU DO YOUR BEST BY THE CHILDREN, LORA, AND AUNT EMILY IS ALWAYS NEAR YOU IF YOU NEED HER.

THERE WON'T BE A THING TO WORRY ABOUT, COUSIN PHYLLIS.

NOW AS MAN TO MAN, SKEEZIX, YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE MAN OF THE HOUSE. AND I WANT YOU TO HELP IN EVERY WAY YOU CAN.

YOU JUST LEAVE IT TO ME, UNCLE WALT. I'LL RUN THIS PLACE.

LAN' SAKES, I DON' KNOW WHY I ALWAYS GOT TO WEEP WHEN SOMEBODY GOIN' AWAY.



EMILY, IT'S AWFULLY GOOD OF YOU AND AVERY TO SEE US TO THE TRAIN.

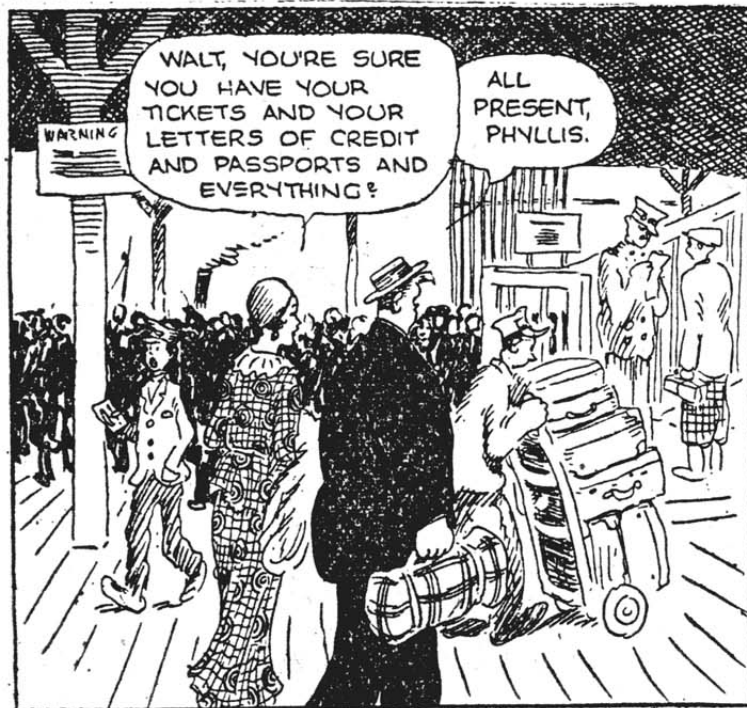
I ONLY WISH IT WAS THE BOAT.

WE COULD JUST AS WELL HAVE GONE IN MY CAR, WALT. BUT THERE ARE FIVE OF US SO WE'RE GETTING YOUR MONEY'S WORTH.

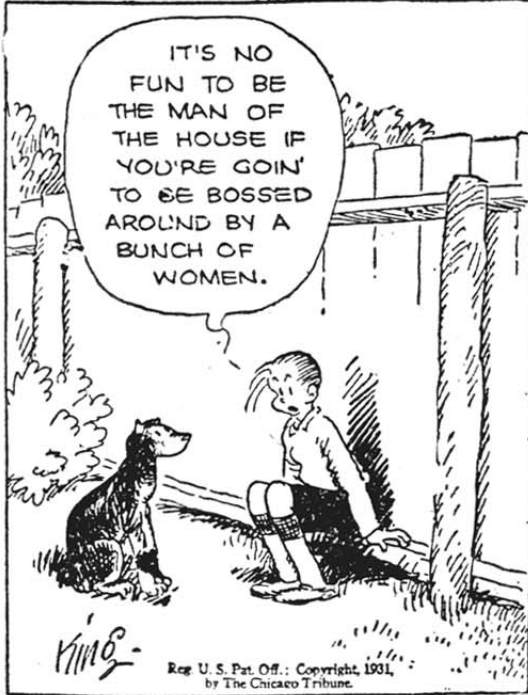
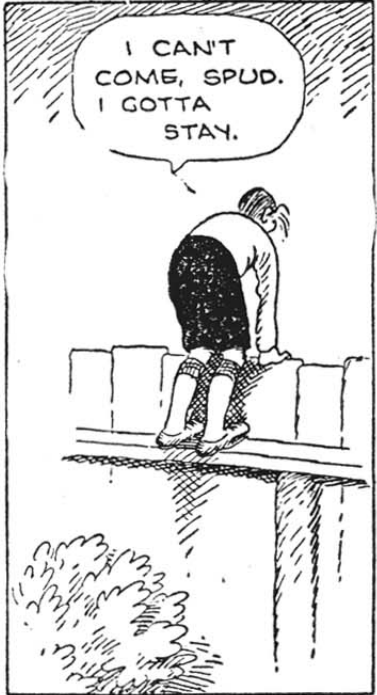
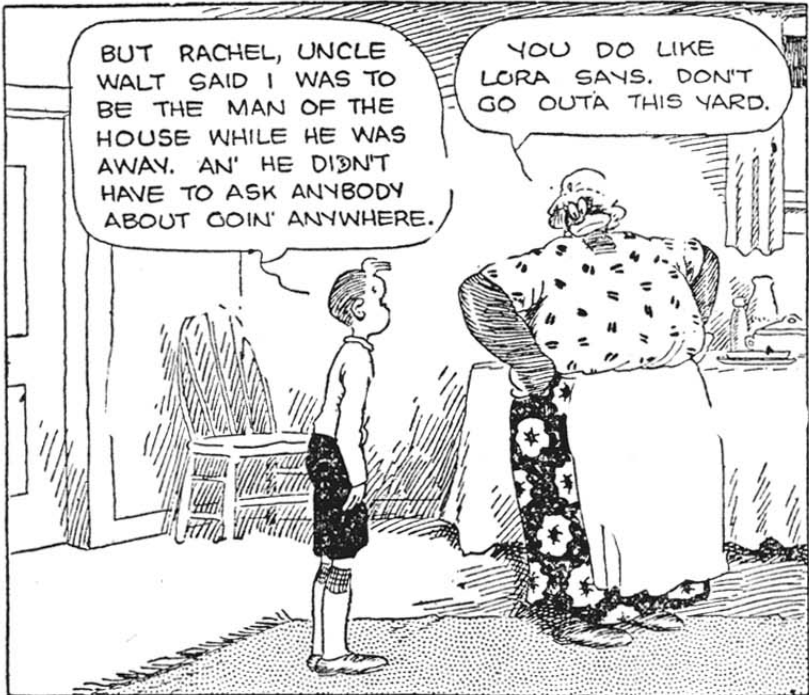


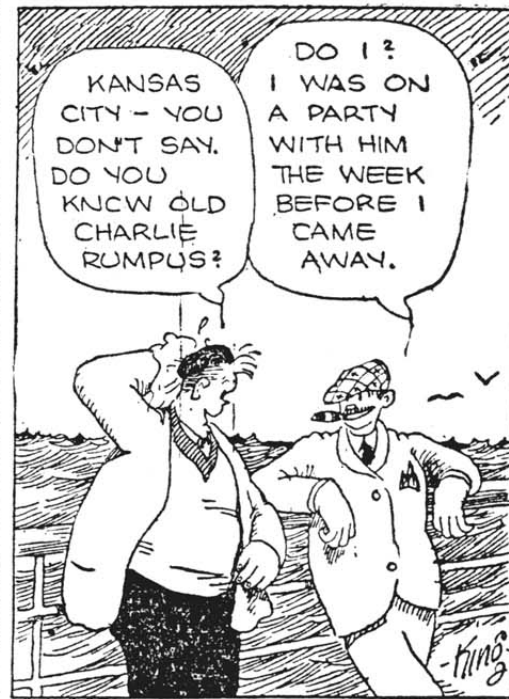
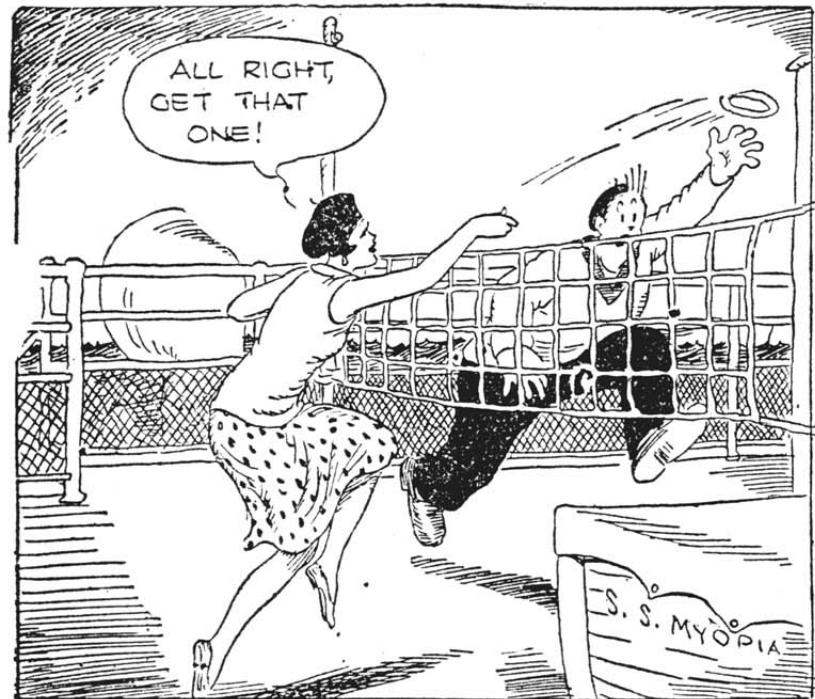
GOOBYE, WALT! DON'T TAKE ANY WOODEN 'ARF CROWNS.

KING









WITH WALT AND PHYLLIS ABOARD THE SS. MYOPIA, BOUND FOR ENGLAND, SKEEZIX LOOKS FORWARD TO THE OPEN SEASON FOR A LOT OF FUN.



WHAT DID YOU FIND BUDDY?

A PACKAGE OF MATCHES. BUT MY NAME ISN'T BUDDY - IT'S SKEEZIX. WHAT'S YOURS?



MINE'S PETE. YOU'RE THE KID THAT WAS COLLECTING POSTMARKS. HOW'D YOU LIKE ONE FROM DUBLIN?

FINE! AN' YOU KNOW WHAT I JUST NOW STARTED COLLECTIN'? MATCH PACKAGES.



ALL RIGHT, MAYBE I CAN PICK YOU UP SOME DIFFERENT ONES.

THANKS, THAT WOULD BE SWELL!

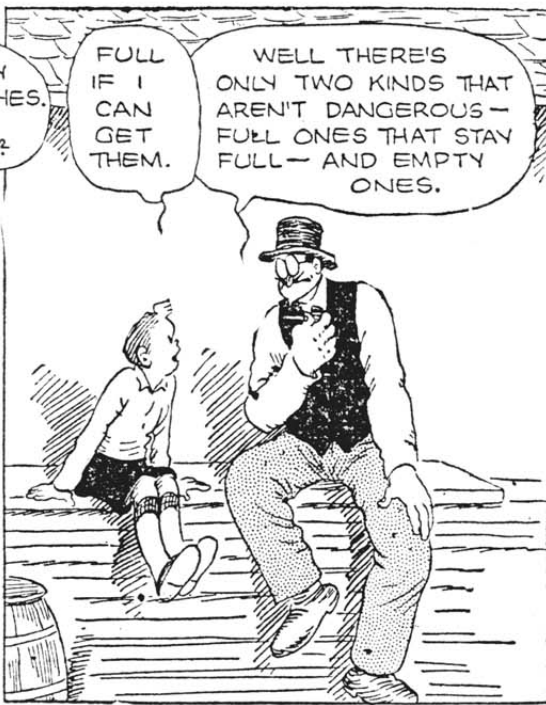


OEE HE'S A KEEN COP!



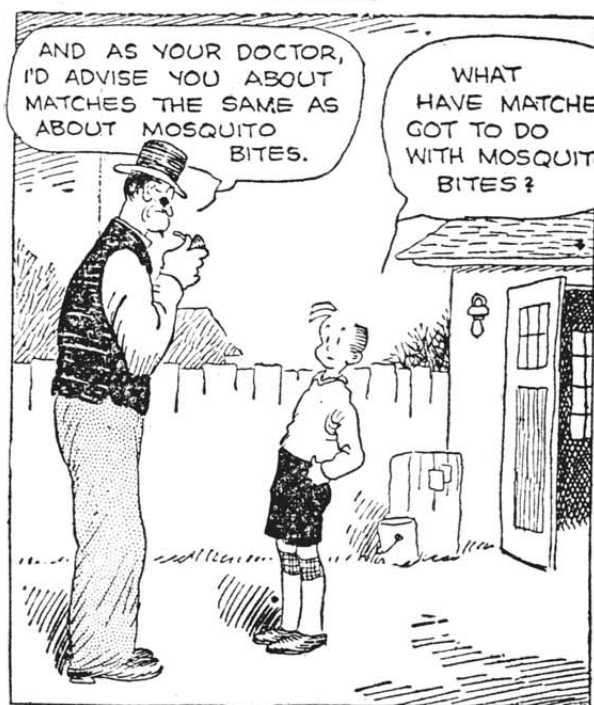
UNCLE DOC, I'M COLLECTIN' MATCH FOLDERS. WILL YOU SAVE 'EM FOR ME?

YOU KNOW THAT'S DANGEROUS — FOR A BOY TO HAVE A LOT OF MATCHES. ARE YOU COLLECTING FULL OR EMPTY ONES?



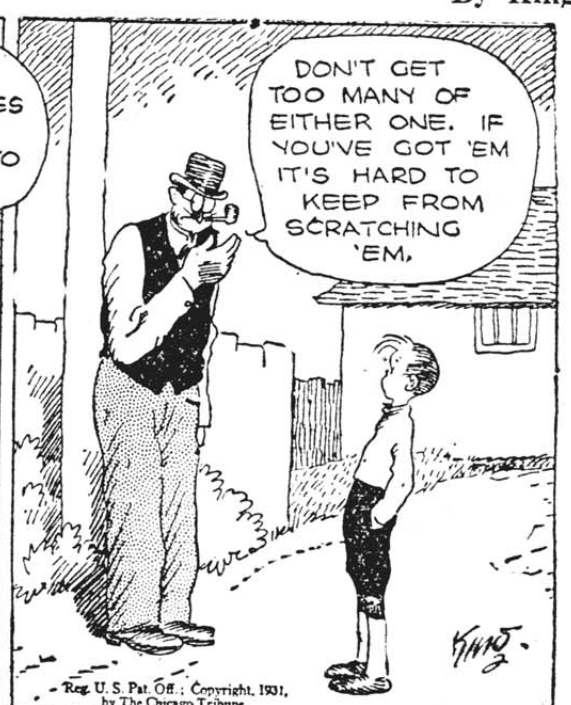
FULL IF I CAN GET THEM.

WELL THERE'S ONLY TWO KINDS THAT AREN'T DANGEROUS — FULL ONES THAT STAY FULL — AND EMPTY ONES.



AND AS YOUR DOCTOR, I'D ADVISE YOU ABOUT MATCHES THE SAME AS ABOUT MOSQUITO BITES.

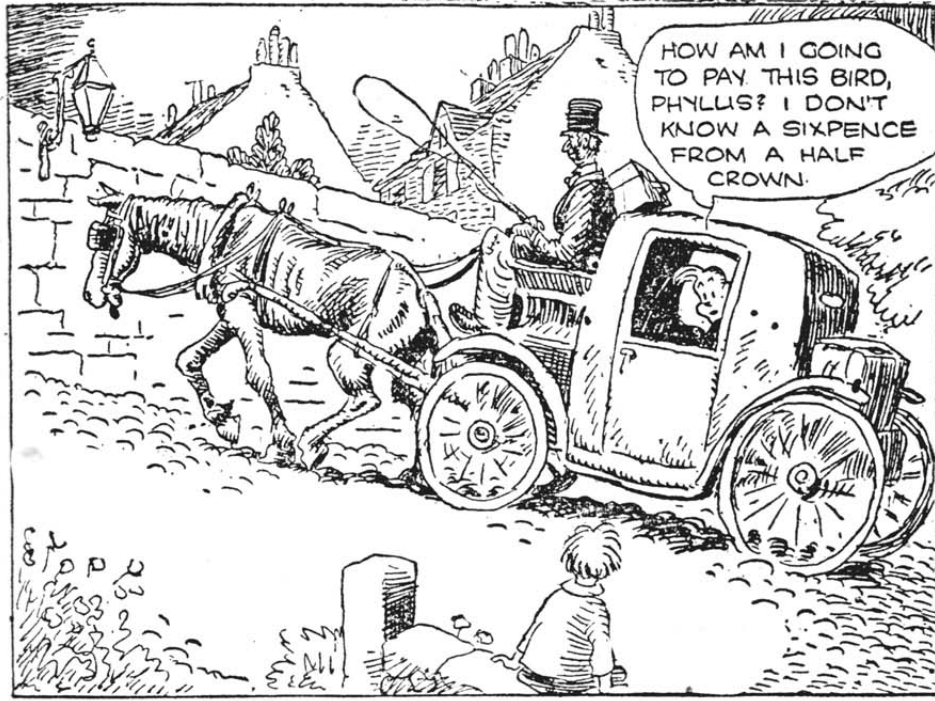
WHAT HAVE MATCHES GOT TO DO WITH MOSQUITO BITES?

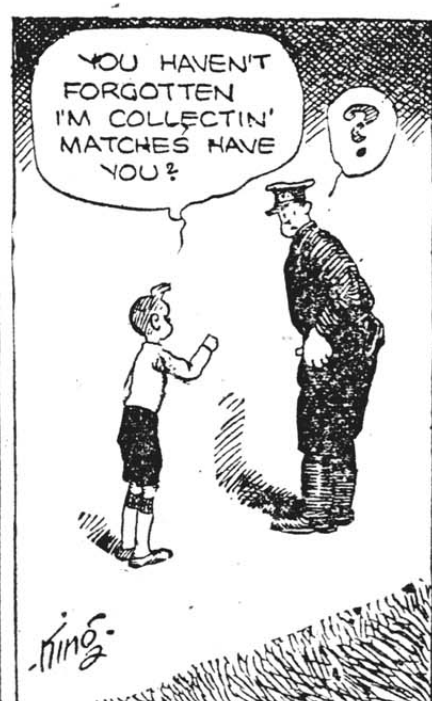
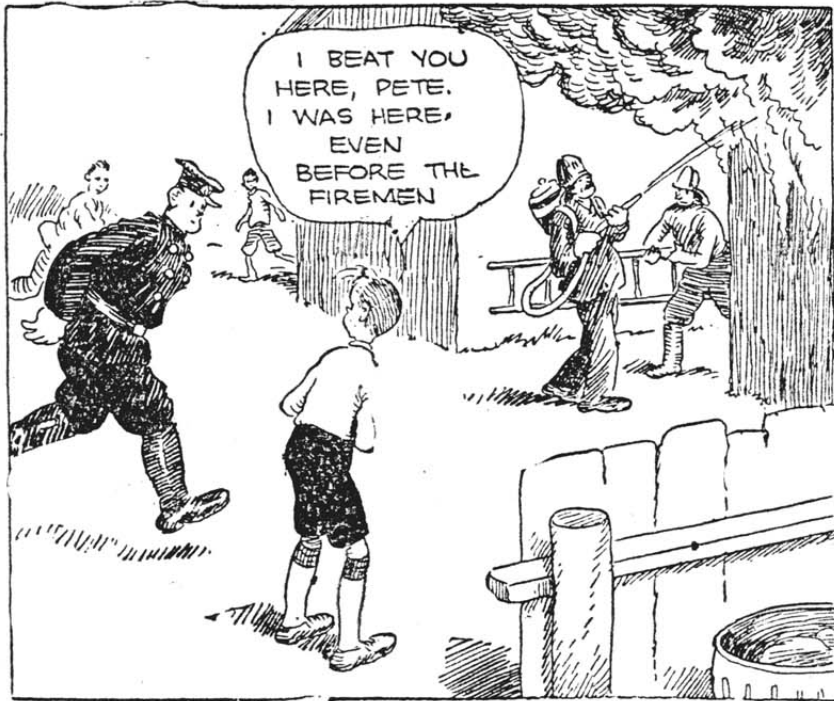


DON'T GET TOO MANY OF EITHER ONE. IF YOU'VE GOT 'EM IT'S HARD TO KEEP FROM SCRATCHING 'EM.

KING







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KING







SEE HOW MANY MATCHES I'VE COLLECTED ALREADY, LORA. I'VE GOT RESTAURANTS AND A GARAGE, CIGAR STORES AND CLUBS.

BUT I'M NOT SO SURE THAT YOUR UNCLE WALT WOULD WANT YOU TO COLLECT MATCHES, SKEEZIX.

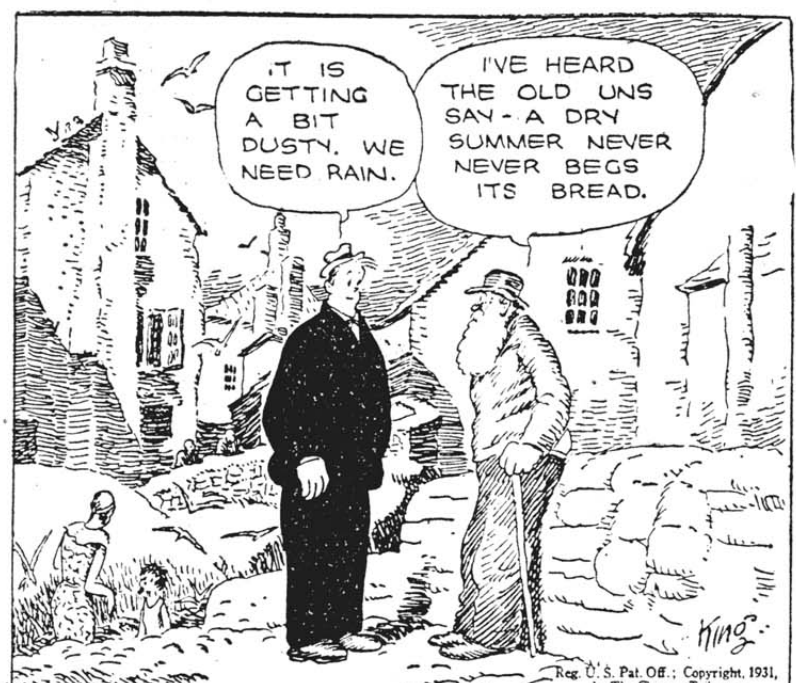


MEANWHILE WALT AND PHYLLIS ARE GETTING ACQUAINTED IN POLPERRO, CORNWALL, DOWN TOWARD THE TOE OF ENGLAND.



HI, THERE, LITTLE FELLA.

LIZ, THE GENT'MAN IS SPEAKIN' TO UM. ER IS BACKWARD WITH STRANGERS. SIR.



IT IS GETTING A BIT DUSTY. WE NEED RAIN.

I'VE HEARD THE OLD UNS SAY-- A DRY SUMMER NEVER NEVER BEGS ITS BREAD.



I'M AS SURE AS YOU ARE, SMOKY, THAT SOMEBODY IS STARTING THOSE FIRES.

AND YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND ANY SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER LOAFING AROUND?



NO. I'VE BEEN NOSING AROUND AND NOBODY HAS SEEN ANYBODY.

KEEP YOUR EYES AND EARS OPEN, PETE. YOU'LL GET HIM SOONER OR LATER.



YOU HAVEN'T SEEN ANYBODY SNOOPING ABOUT?

NO, BUT SOME OF THESE BOYS ARE COLLECTING MATCHES. DON'T OVERLOOK THAT.



RACHEL, DO YOU THINK THAT THE FIRES AROUND HERE ARE OF INCENDIARY ORIGIN?

NO SAH! I THINK SOMEBODY IS SETTIN' 'EM.

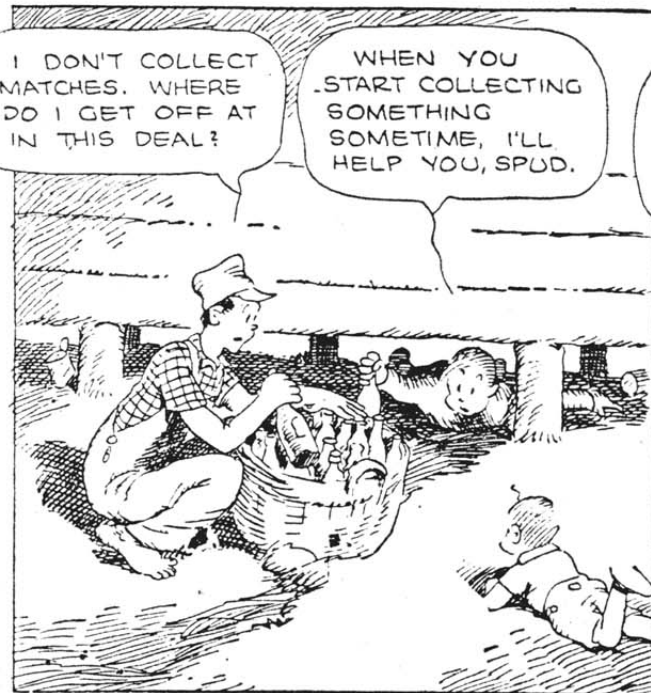


NO, I JUST CAME IN FOR A LIGHT. AND YOU DON'T MIND IF I TAKE A COUPLE PACKAGES OF MATCHES DO YOU?



I'M COLLECTING MATCHES FOR YOU, SKEEZIX. SUPPOSE YOU COLLECT BOTTLES FOR ME.

SURE WE WILL, UNCLE AVERY. THAT'S FAIR ENOUGH.



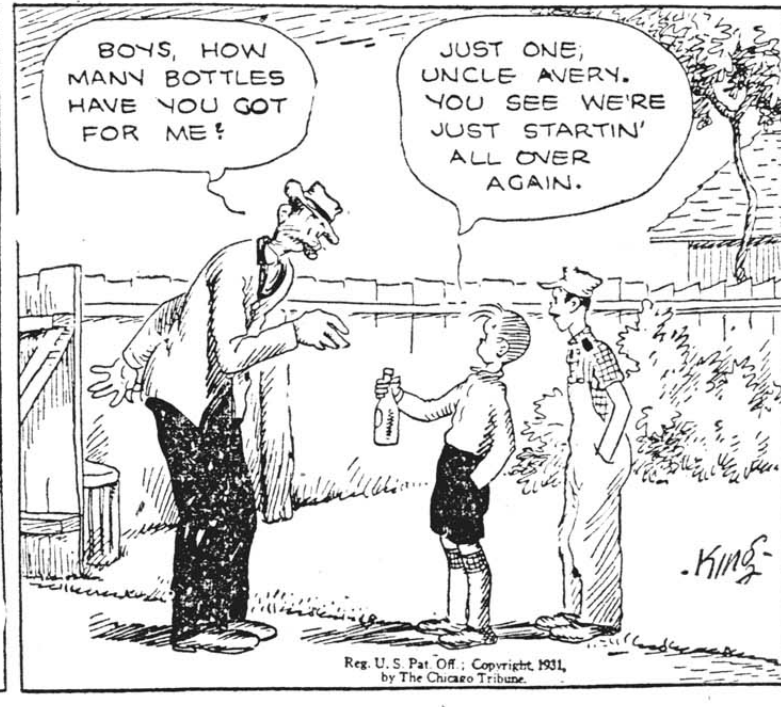
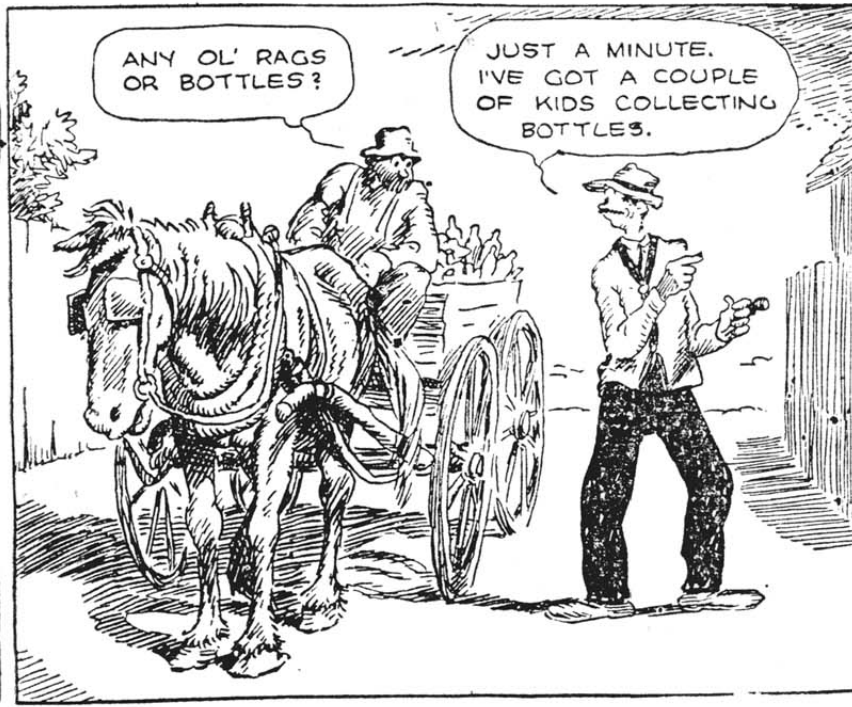
I DON'T COLLECT MATCHES. WHERE DO I GET OFF AT IN THIS DEAL?

WHEN YOU START COLLECTING SOMETHING SOMETIME, I'LL HELP YOU, SPUD.



WHY NOT? I CAN GET THE MATCHES FOR NOTHING, SELL THE BOTTLES AND EVERYBODY'S HAPPY.

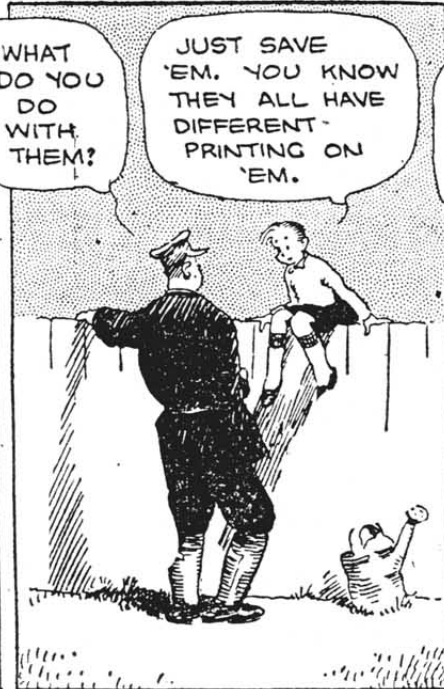
KING





SKEEZIX, I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT YOUR MATCH COLLECTING.

SURE, PETE. YOU WERE GOIN' TO GET ME SOME.



WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THEM?

JUST SAVE 'EM. YOU KNOW THEY ALL HAVE DIFFERENT PRINTING ON 'EM.



DON'T YOU EVER LIGHT THEM?

NO, NEVER. MY UNCLE WALT NEVER LETS ME PLAY WITH MATCHES—SO I DON'T.

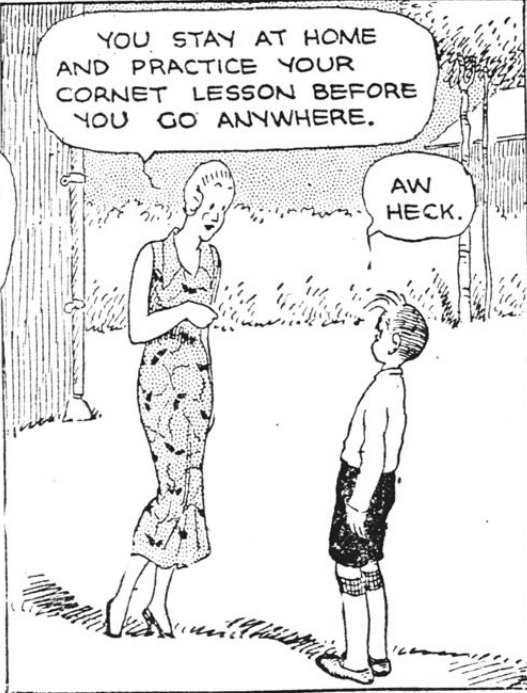
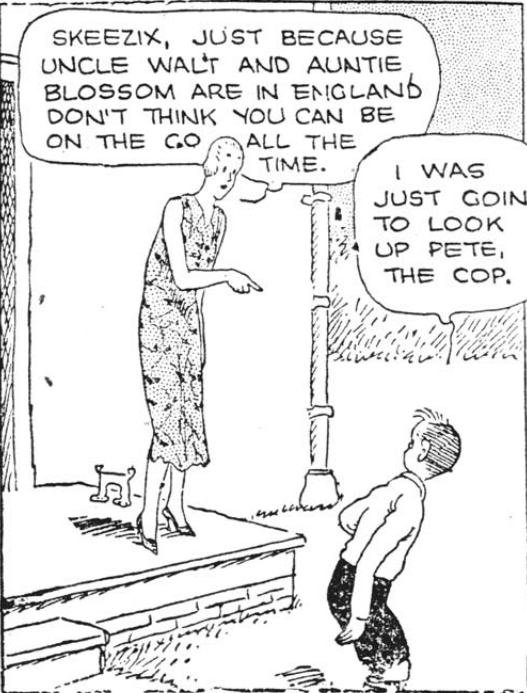


YOU MEAN YOU HAVEN'T LIT A ONE OF ALL THOSE YOU'VE COLLECTED?

NO. UNCLE WALT'S AWAY BUT LORA AND RACHEL WON'T LET ME EITHER.



I'LL BET A LOT THAT THAT KID IS OK.



LORA, IS SKEEZIX AROUND? I'VE GOT SOME MATCHES FOR HIS COLLECTION.

NO, HE ISN'T. HE'S OFF SOMEWHERE WITH SPUD.

OH WELL, I WON'T FEEL SO BAD ABOUT THAT. I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR A WEEK AND THINK I HAVE A VISIT COMING.

I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIND WHO HAS BEEN SETTING THE FIRES AROUND HERE.

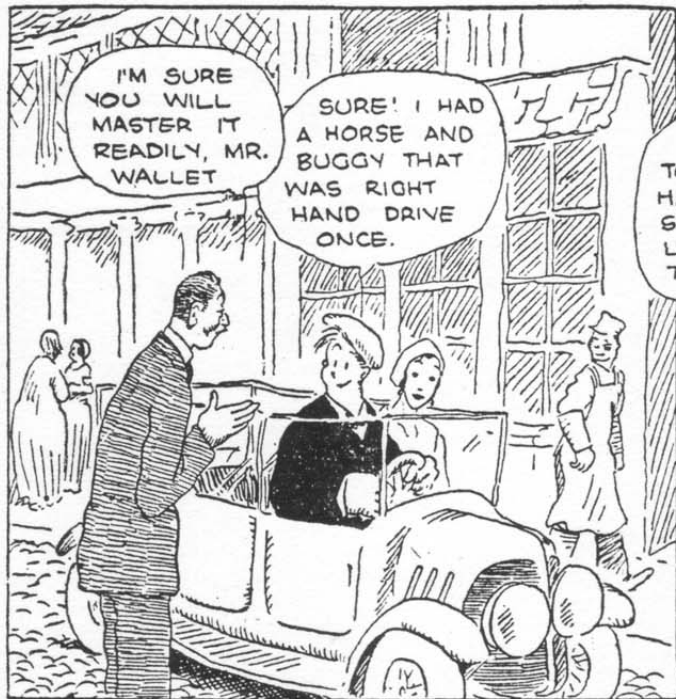
SKEEZIX, PETE WAS HERE WITH SOME MATCH PACKAGES FOR YOU.

GOOD! WHERE ARE THEY?

HE FORGOT TO LEAVE THEM.

AND
3000 MILES
AWAY
WALT HAS
PURCHASED
A LITTLE
ENGLISH
CAR TO
SEE
ENGLAND
FROM.
RIGHT-O!

00
00



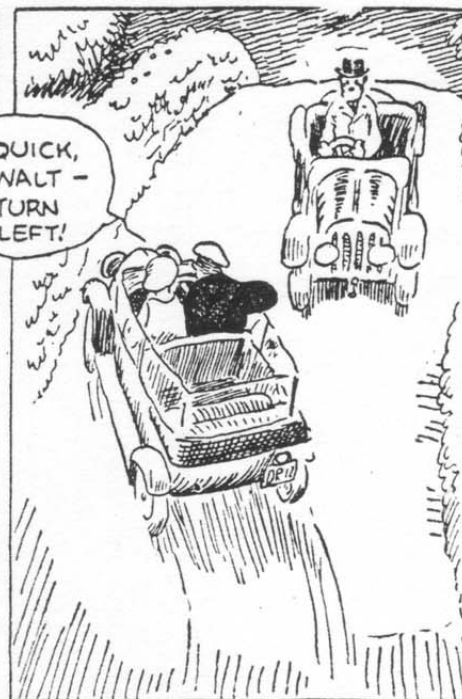
I'M SURE
YOU WILL
MASTER IT
READILY, MR.
WALLET

SURE! I HAD
A HORSE AND
BUGGY THAT
WAS RIGHT
HAND DRIVE
ONCE.

I'VE GOT
TO GET THE
HANG OF
SHIFTING GEARS
LEFT HANDED,
THAT'S ALL.



QUICK,
WALT -
TURN
LEFT!



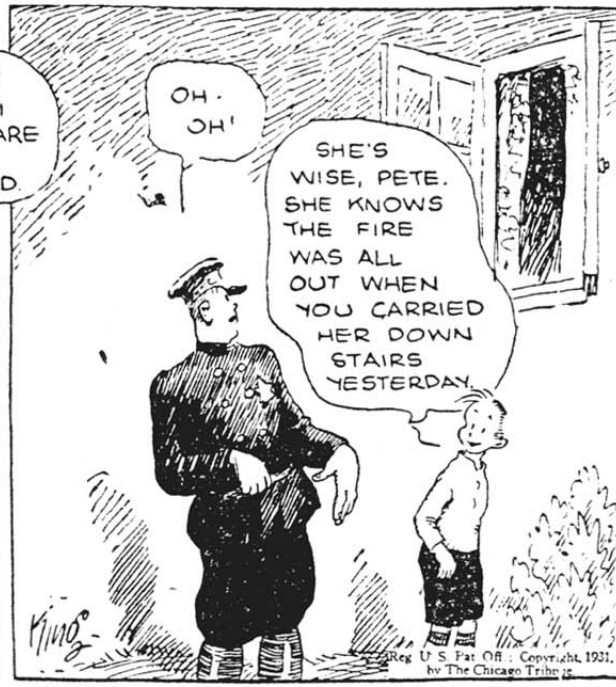
WHOOEE! SUCH A
SCARE! WHEN YOU'RE
LEFT YOU'RE RIGHT AND
WHEN YOU'RE RIGHT
YOU'RE WRONG.

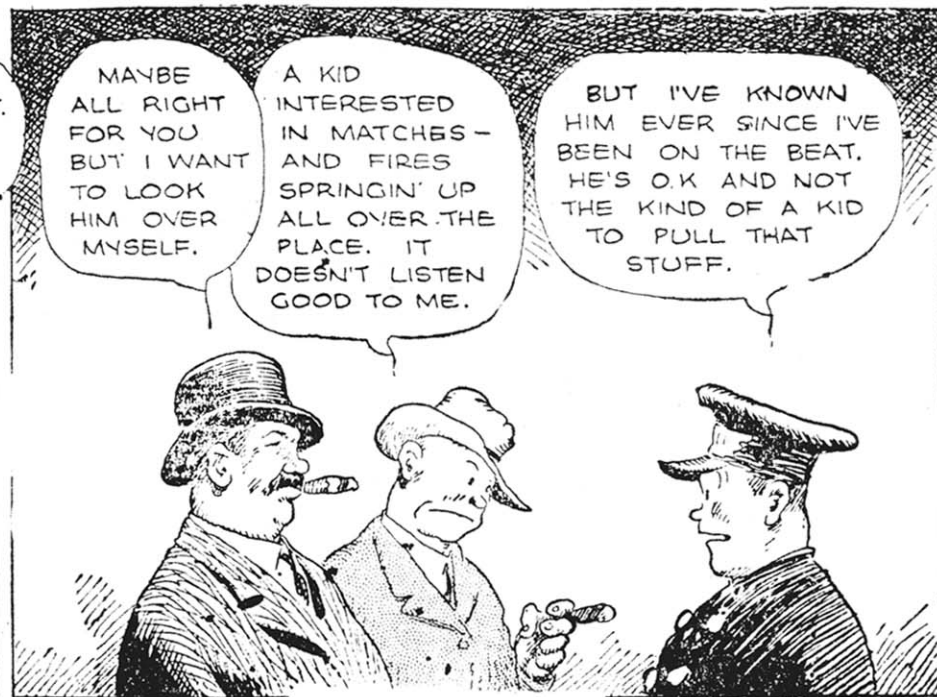


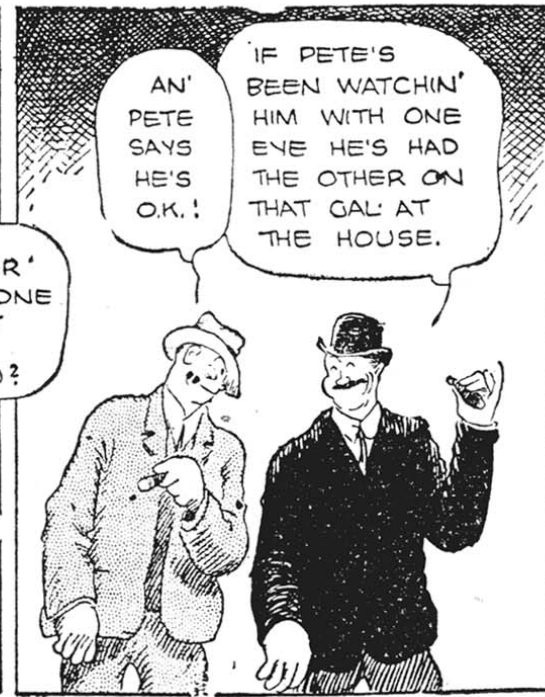
-King-

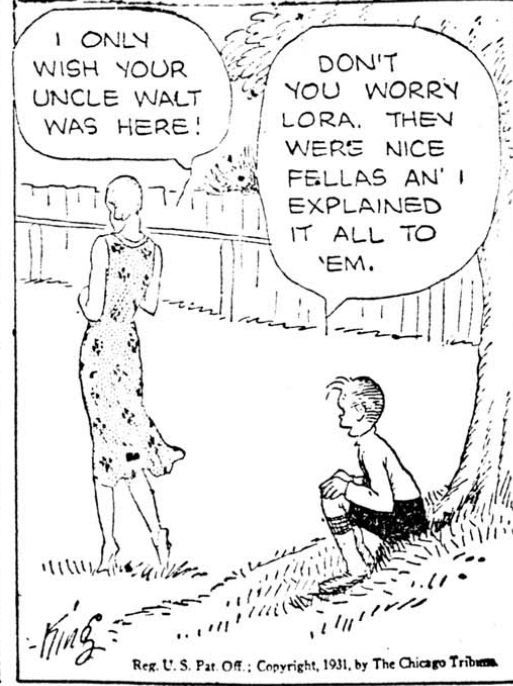
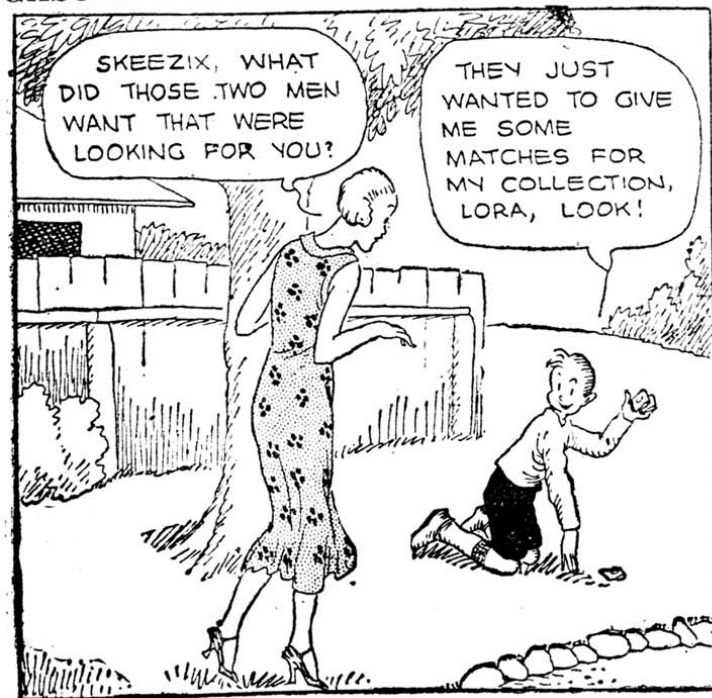
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THIS KID SKEEZIX, CHIEF, COLLECTS MATCHES AND ALL THESE FIRES ARE IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

WHAT'S MORE HE'S A FIRE FAN HE SEEMS TO BE ON THE SCENE PRETTY SOON AFTER THE FIRE STARTS.

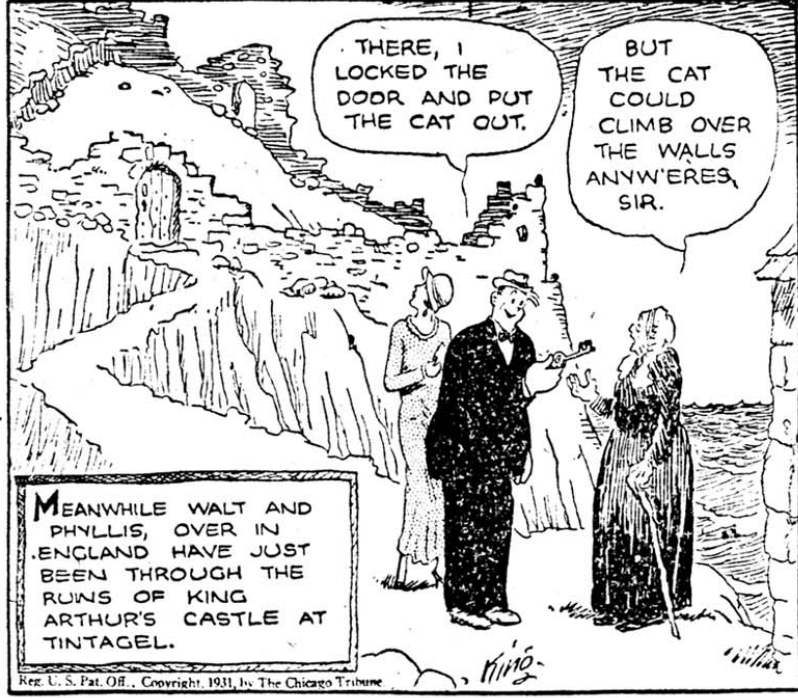
ISN'T THERE ANYBODY ELSE THAT'S BEEN SEEN HANGING AROUND?



NOT A SOUL. YOU SEE IF IT WAS AN OUTSIDER EVERYBODY WOULD SPOT HIM.

HE'S A LIKEABLE KID BUT I CAN'T FIGURE ANY OTHER ANSWER.

BRING HIM IN. I WANT TO TALK WITH HIM.



THERE, I LOCKED THE DOOR AND PUT THE CAT OUT.

BUT THE CAT COULD CLIMB OVER THE WALLS ANYWERES, SIR.

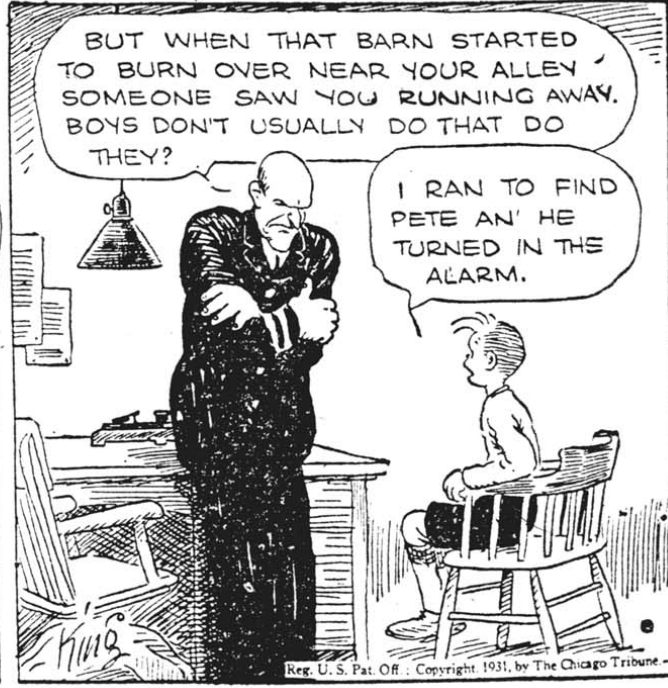
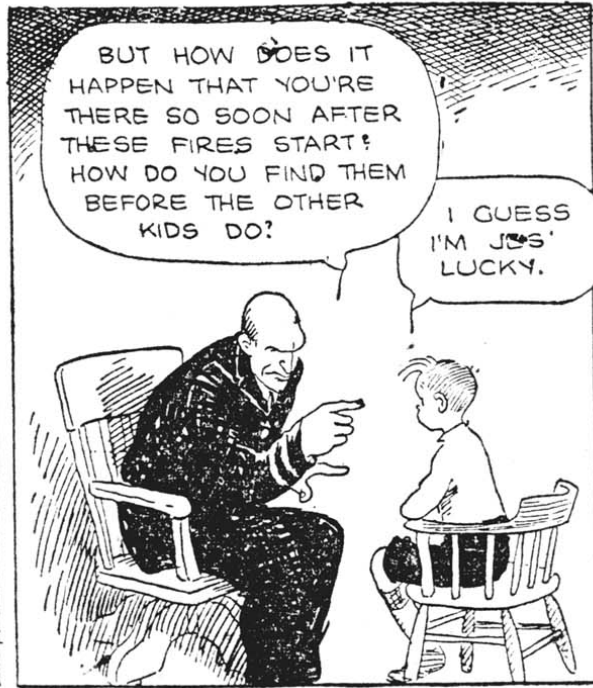
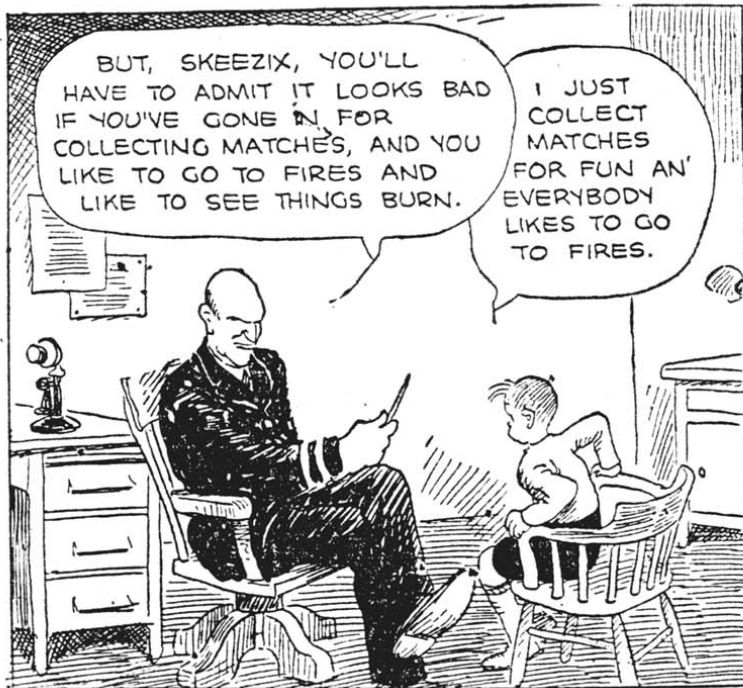
MEANWHILE WALT AND PHYLLIS, OVER IN ENGLAND HAVE JUST BEEN THROUGH THE RUNS OF KING ARTHUR'S CASTLE AT TINTAGEL.

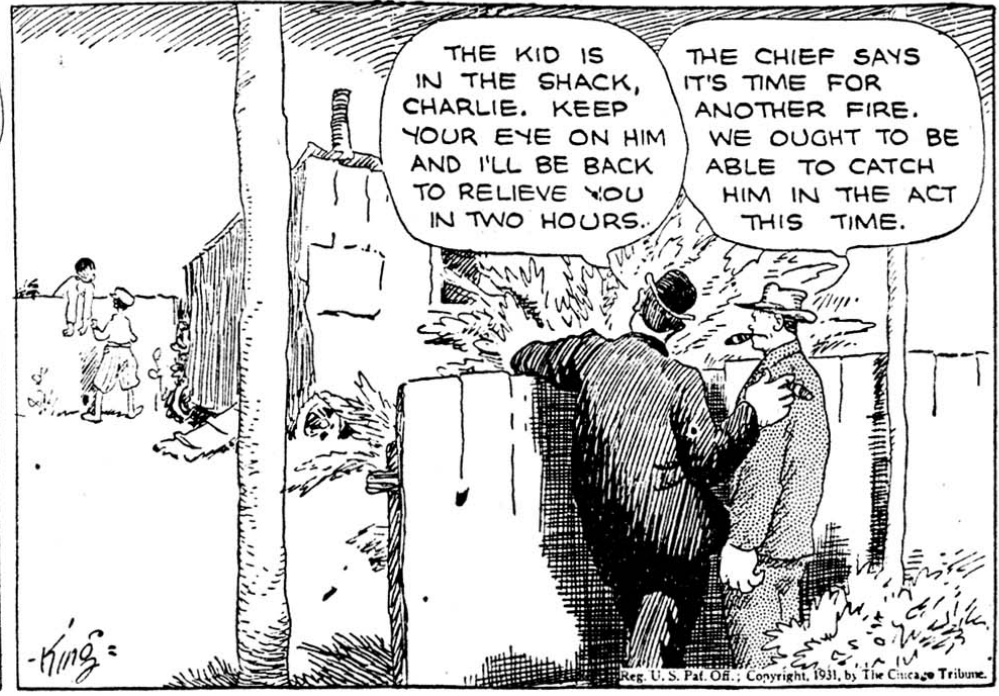


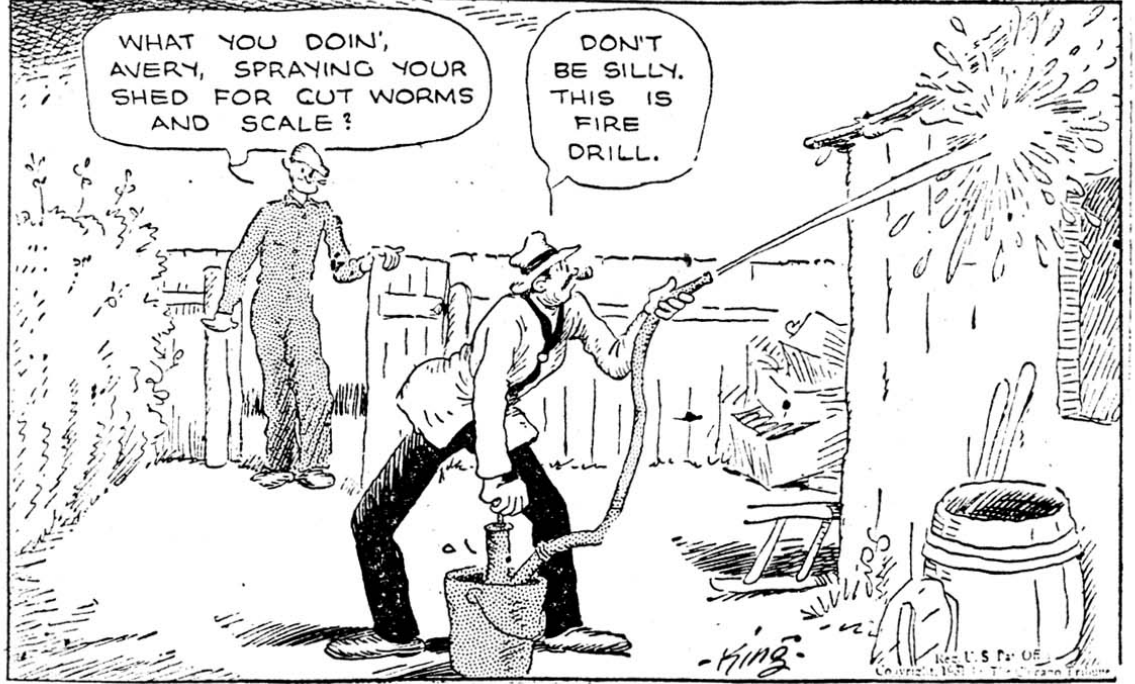
SKEEZIX HAS BEEN CALLED INTO THE DETECTIVE BUREAU TO ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS.

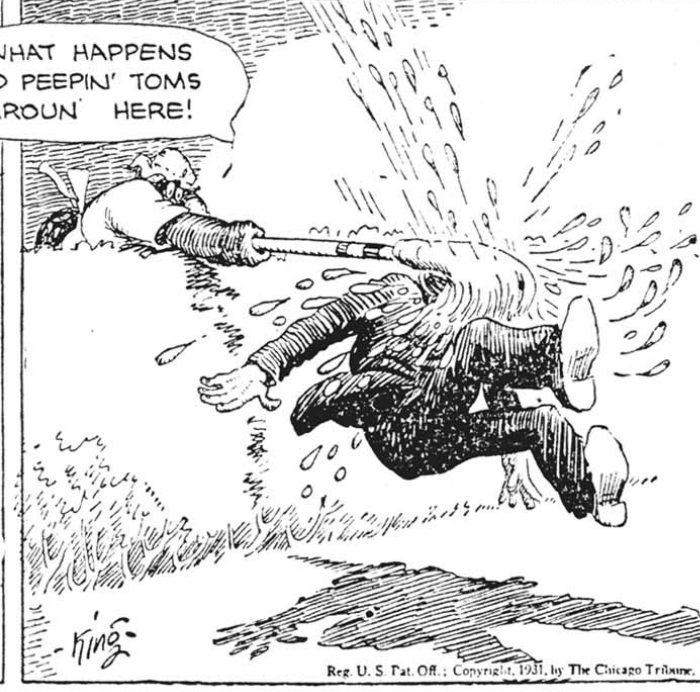
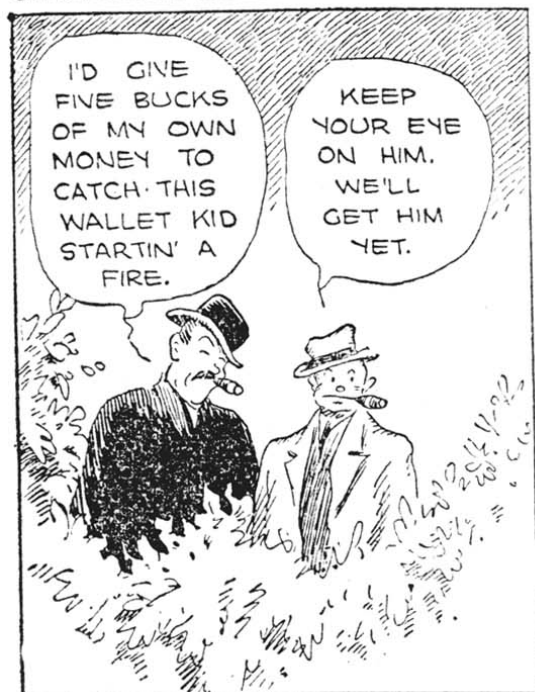
HAVING BEEN NEAR THE SCENE WHEN SO MANY OF THE FIRES STARTED, HIS EVIDENCE MAY BE ENLIGHTENING.

?

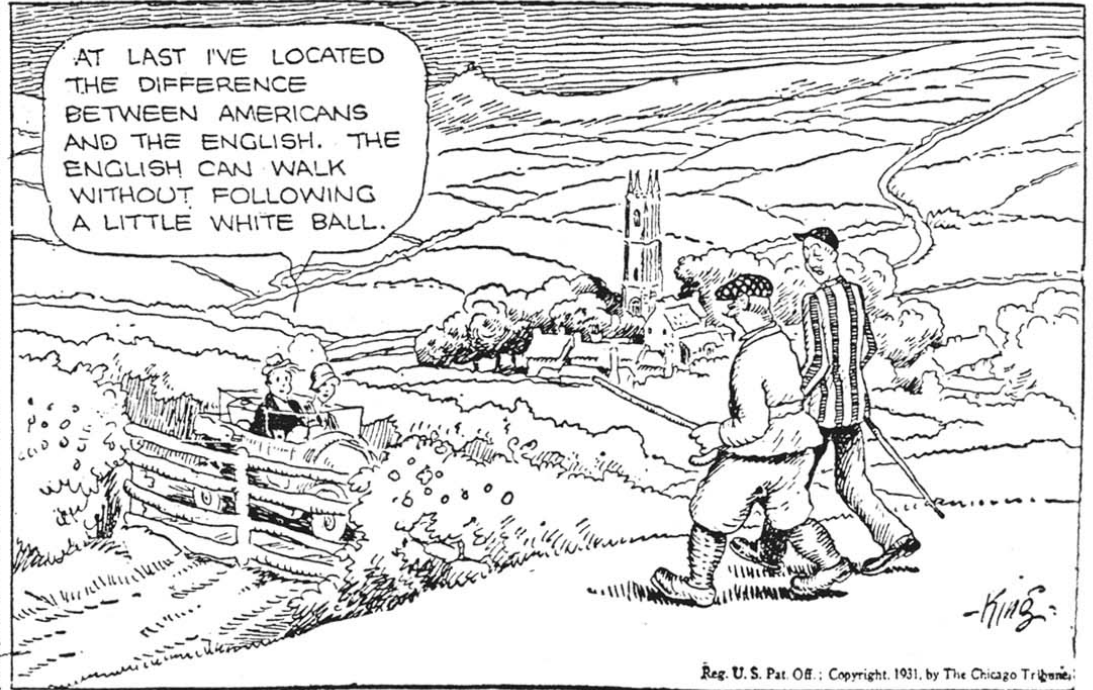
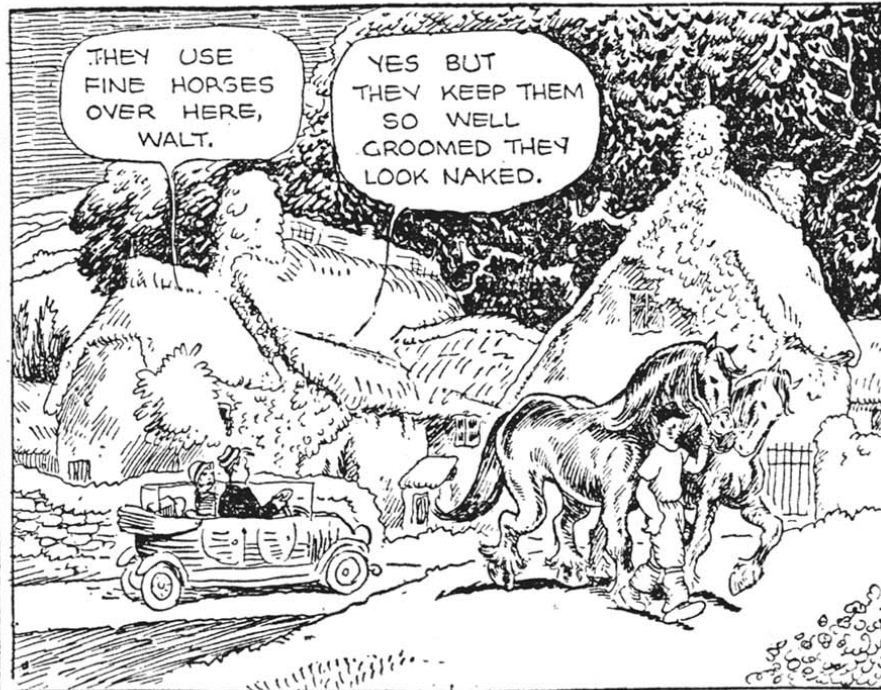


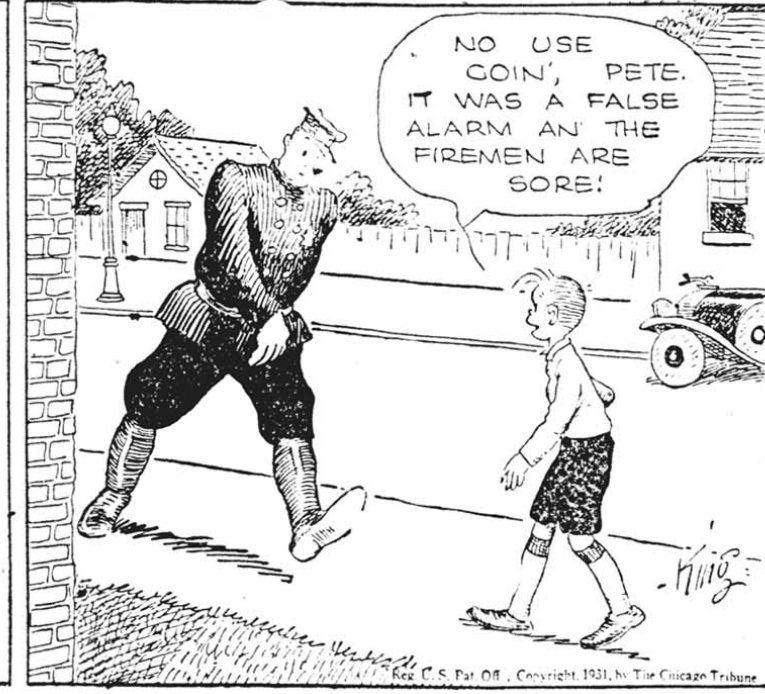
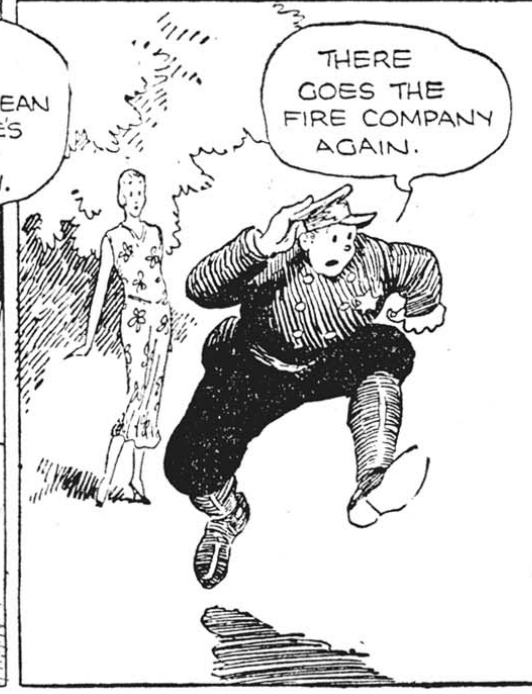






MEANWHILE WALT AND PHYLLIS, IGNORANT OF WHAT HAS BEEN TRANSPIRING AT HOME, CONTINUE TO MEANDER THE LANES AND BYWAYS OF RURAL ENGLAND. TONIGHT'S STOP IS WIDECOMBE-IN-THE-MOOR.





THERE GOES THAT
GARBAGE BUCKET COVA-
IT'S THEM DOGS
AGAIN.

CORKY!

PHOOEY!

FRON IT DOWN, I SAY!
HOW YOU SPOSE I GOIN'
TEACH THEM DOGS KEEP
OUTA THERE IF YOU-ALL
BE LIKE THAT.

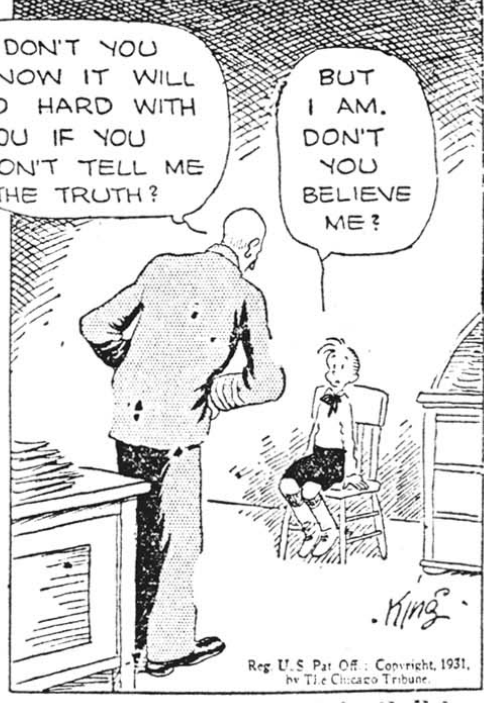
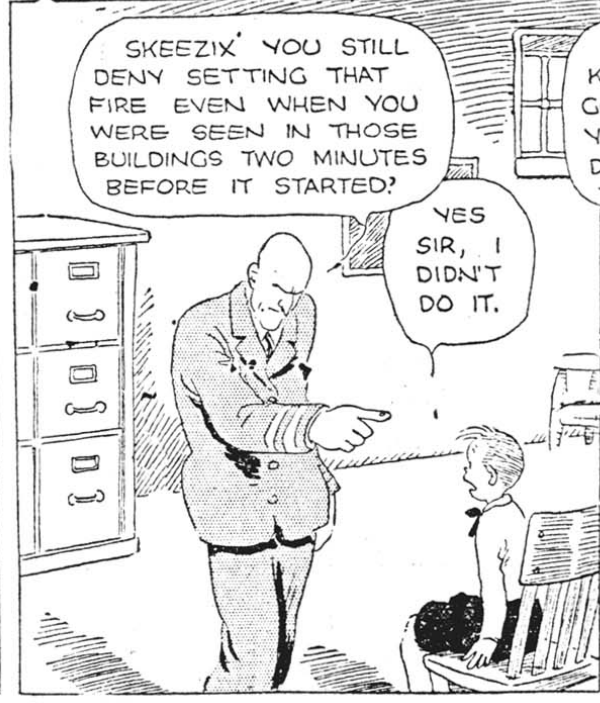
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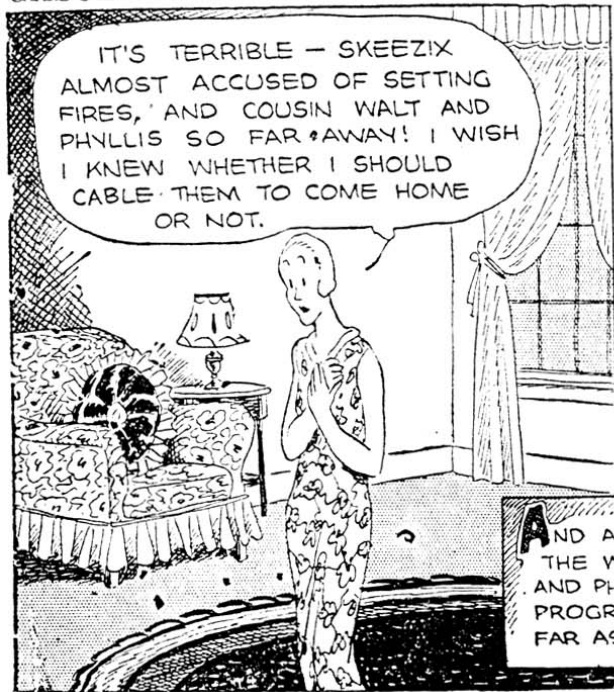
IT IS TIME FOR ANOTHER MYSTERIOUS FIRE AND SKEEZIX IS BEING WATCHED. SERGEANT LUSTY IS ON DUTY, DETERMINED NOT TO LET HIM OUT OF HIS SIGHT. THE SERGEANT DOESN'T KNOW THAT HE IS THIS DAY ADDING TO THE MYSTERY.

OO
OO



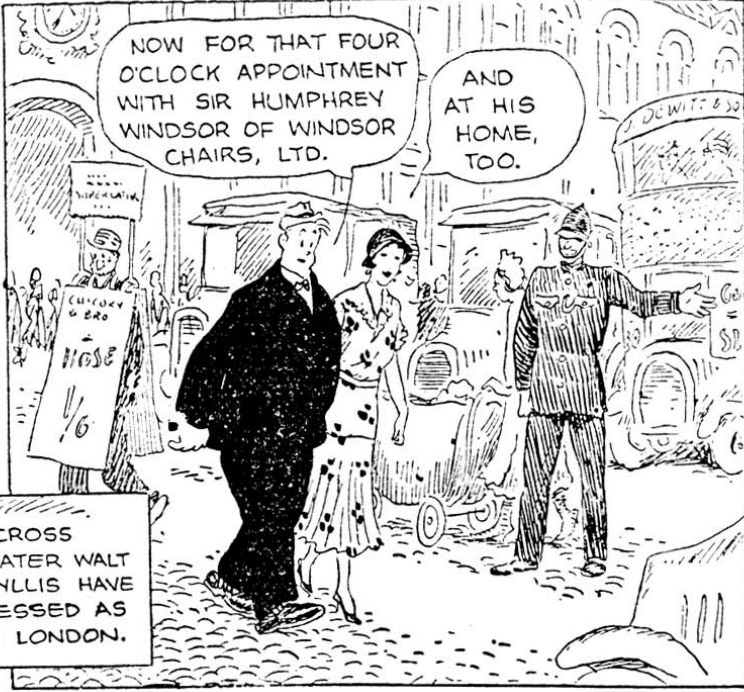
King
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IT'S TERRIBLE — SKEEZIX ALMOST ACCUSED OF SETTING FIRES, AND COUSIN WALT AND PHYLLIS SO FAR AWAY! I WISH I KNEW WHETHER I SHOULD CABLE THEM TO COME HOME OR NOT.

AND ACROSS THE WATER WALT AND PHYLLIS HAVE PROGRESSED AS FAR AS LONDON.



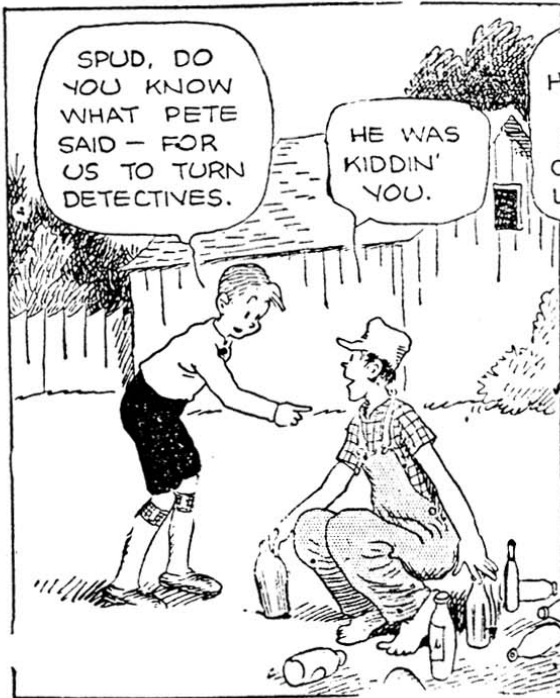
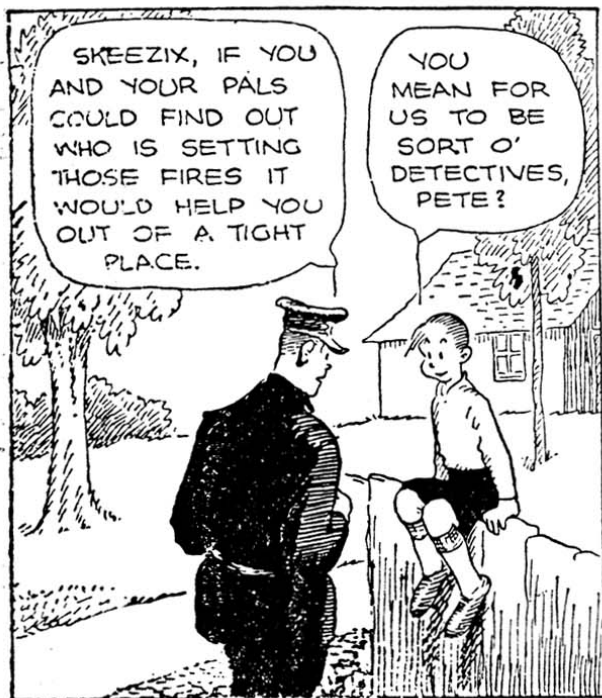
NOW FOR THAT FOUR O'CLOCK APPOINTMENT WITH SIR HUMPHREY WINDSOR OF WINDSOR CHAIRS, LTD.

AND AT HIS HOME, TOO.



AND IN INCORPORATING MY BRAZILIAN HOLDINGS, SIR HUMPHREY, THIS MAN OBLONG SAID HE REPRESENTED LORD HOBOROUGH, THE DUCHESS OF WENT AND SIR OLIVER WIGGAM.

BUT MY DEAR MR. WALLET, THERE ARE NO SUCH PERSONS. HE WAS SPOOFING YOU.





SPUD AN' ARE BEIN' DETECTIVES LIKE YOU SAID. WE'RE WATCHIN' FOR SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS, PETE.

THAT'S THE IDEA, SKEEZIX. SO AM I.

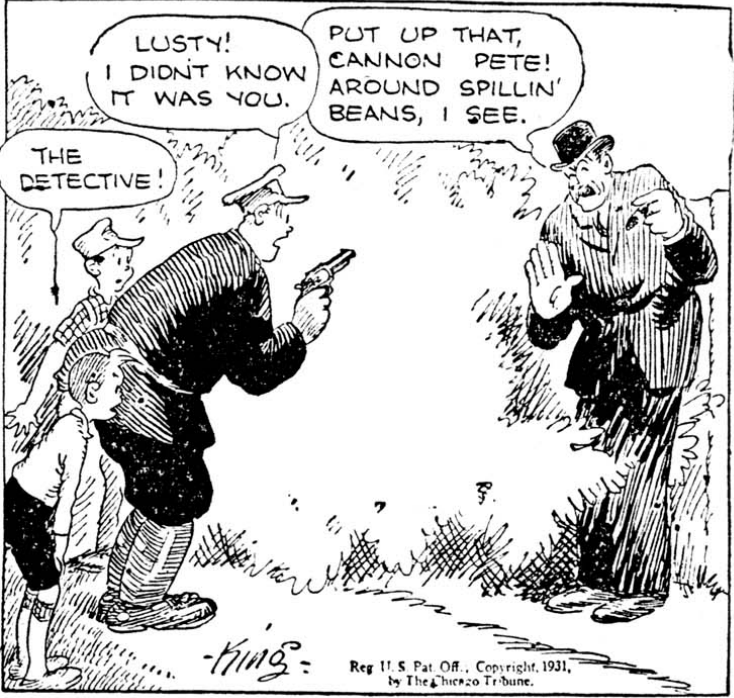


COME QUICK, PETE! I'VE FOUND A SUSPICIOUS GUY SNEAKIN' AROUND. I'LL BET HE GET THOSE FIRES!

?



COME OUT O' THERE YOU! I KNOW YOU'RE BEHIND THAT BUSH.



LUSTY! I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS YOU.

PUT UP THAT, CANNON PETE! AROUND SPILLIN' BEANS, I SEE.

THE DETECTIVE!

-KING-



SMOKY GAVE ME THREE MATCH FOLDERS IF I'D PROMISE TO TAKE 'EM RIGHT HOME AN' NOT CARRY 'EM AROUND.

GIMME THEM MATCHES OR I'LL SOCK YOU.

STOP EMIL! THEY'RE MINE AN' I WON'T.

DON'T EMIL, I'M COLLECTIN' 'EM.

ME TOO!

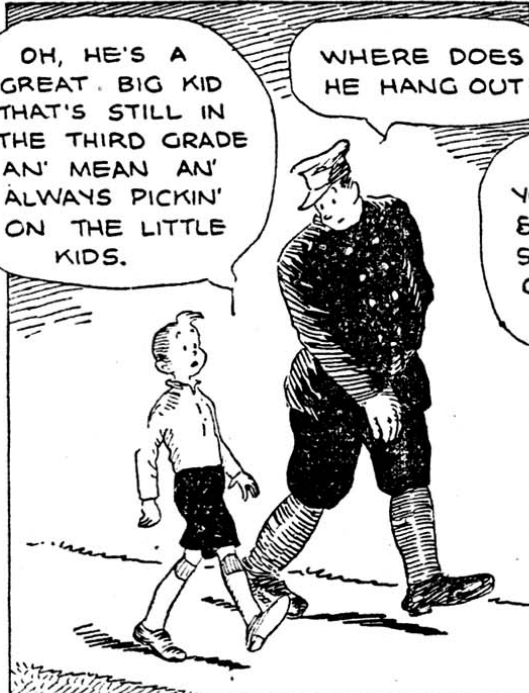
I'LL TELL THE POLICEMAN ON YOU!

YOU DO AN' I'LL SOCK YOU.



YOU KNOW, PETE, I HAD THREE MATCH PACKAGES THAT SMOKY GAVE ME AN' EMIL TOOK 'EM AWAY FROM ME.

WHO IS EMIL ?



OH, HE'S A GREAT BIG KID THAT'S STILL IN THE THIRD GRADE AN' MEAN AN' ALWAYS PICKIN' ON THE LITTLE KIDS.

WHERE DOES HE HANG OUT?

EVERYWHERE. YOU'VE PROB'LY BEEN HIM. HE SAYS HE'S COLLECTIN' MATCHES TOO.

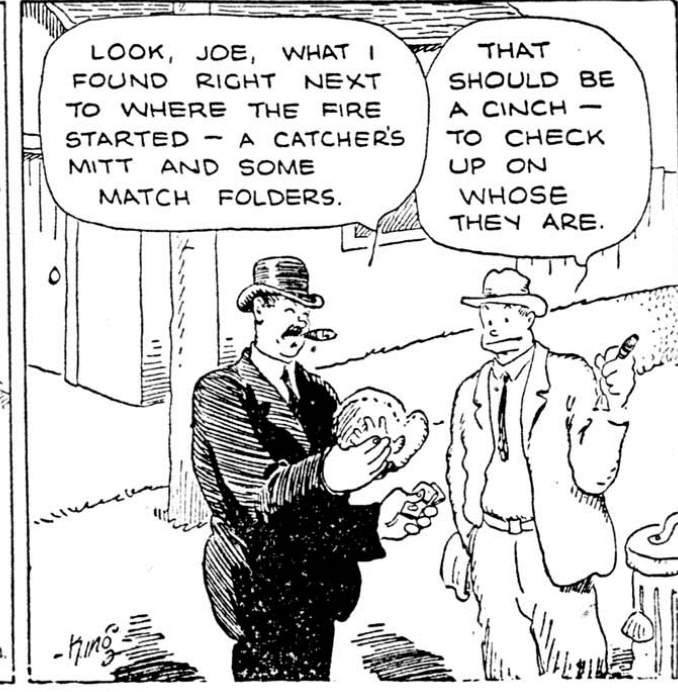
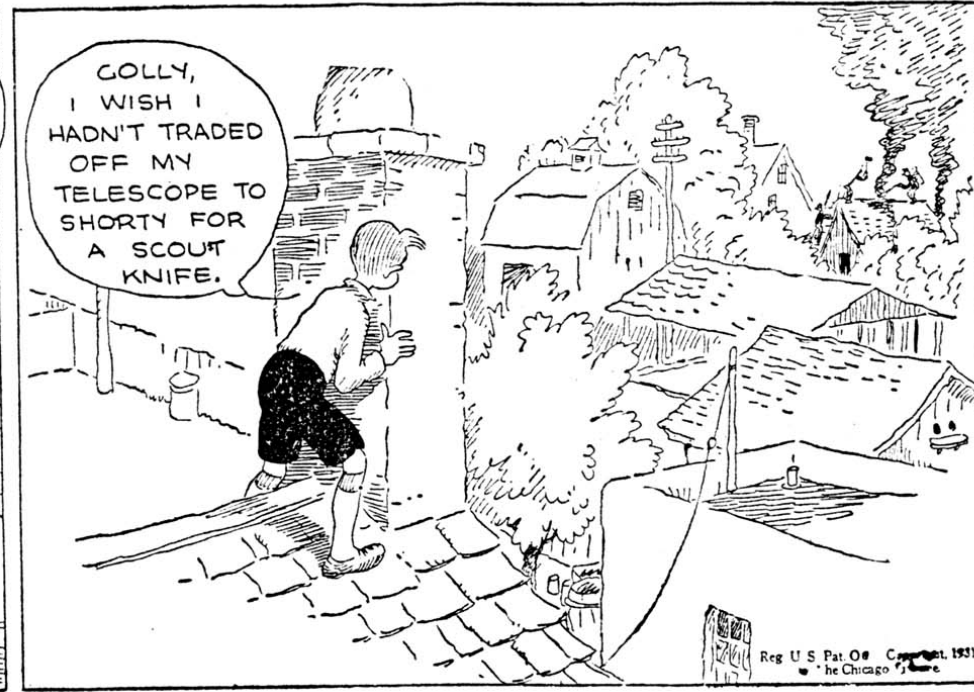


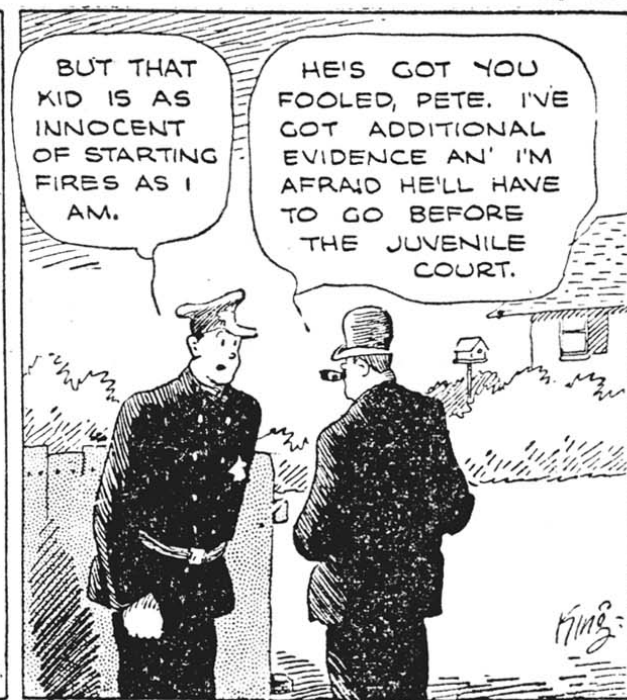
YOU POINT HIM OUT TO ME.

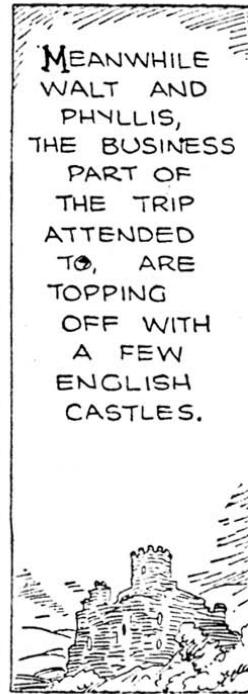
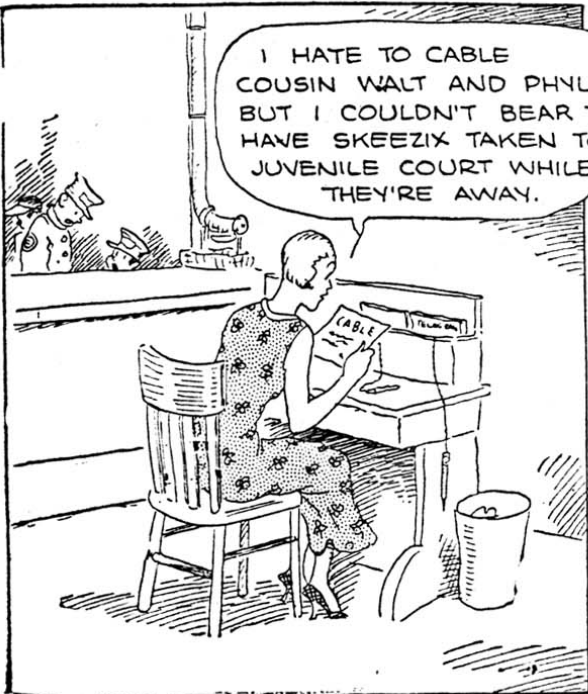


SO THAT'S THE FELLOW. SURE I'VE SEEN HIM.

YES AN' HE CAN KEEP 'EM IF HE'LL GIVE ME BACK MY CATCHER'S MITT HE TOOK ONE TIME.

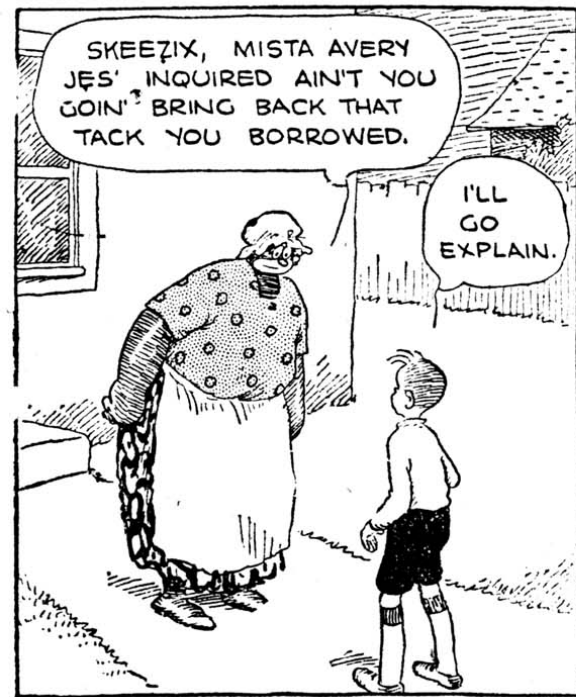






MEANWHILE WALT AND PHYLLIS, THE BUSINESS PART OF THE TRIP ATTENDED TO, ARE TOPPING OFF WITH A FEW ENGLISH CASTLES.





SKEEZIX, MISTA AVERY JES' INQUIRED AIN'T YOU GOIN' BRING BACK THAT TACK YOU BORROWED.

I'LL GO EXPLAIN.



BESIDES, SKEEZIX I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU. IT SEEMS THAT YOUR HOBBY OF MATCH COLLECTING GOT YOU IN TROUBLE. I THOUGHT MAYBE I COULD HELP YOU.



THE BEST THING TO DO WOULD BE NOT TO GATHER ANY MORE AND TO LET SOMEBODY KEEP YOUR COLLECTION FOR YOU. I'D BE GLAD TO DO THAT.

I'D RATHER LET SOMEBODY ELSE KEEP IT.



WHY'S THAT? WHO?

SOMEBODY THAT DOESN'T SMOKE.

King

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. Copyright, 1931, by The Chicago Tribune



I TELL 'EM I DON'T SET ANY FIRES, SMOKY, BUT THEY DON'T BELIEVE ME.

WHAT YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE IS AN ALIBI.



WHAT'S AN ALIBI?

WELL, SUPPOSING YOU WERE TALKING TO SOMEBODY SOMEWHERE AND A FIRE BREAKS OUT SOMEWHERE ELSE—



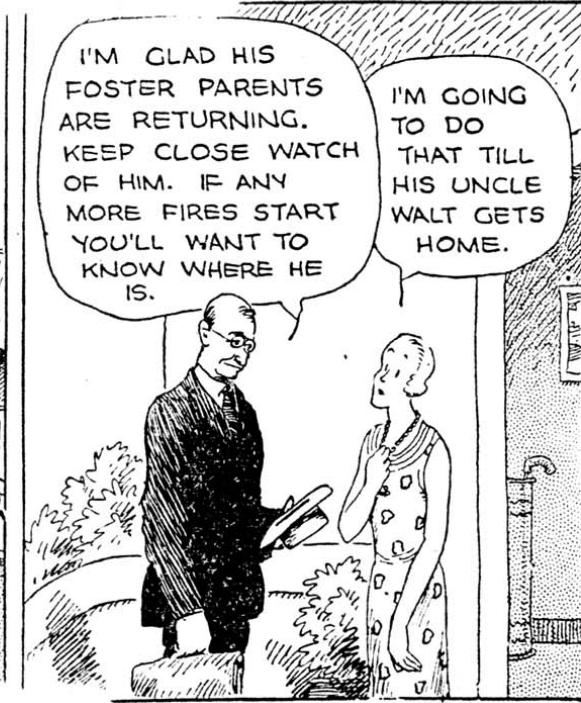
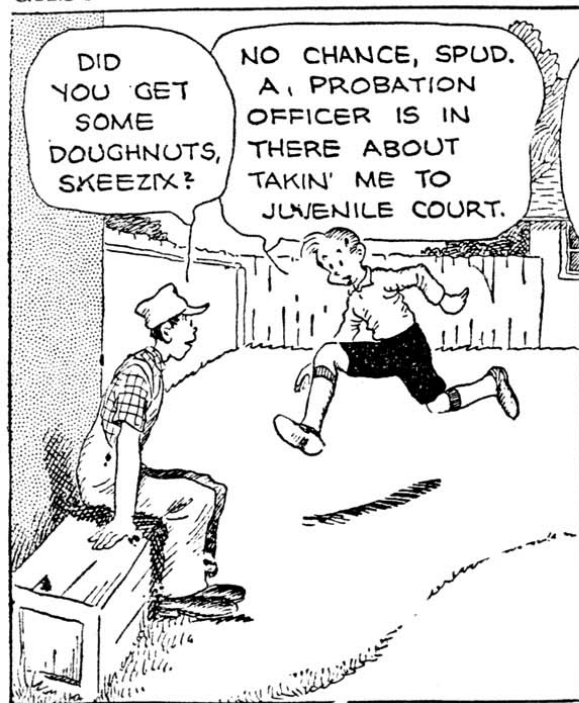
GING GING GING



AN' SMOKY DIDN'T FINISH TELLIN' ME WHAT AN' ALIBI IS.

KING

Reg. U.S. Pat. Off. Copyright, 1931, by The Chicago Tribune

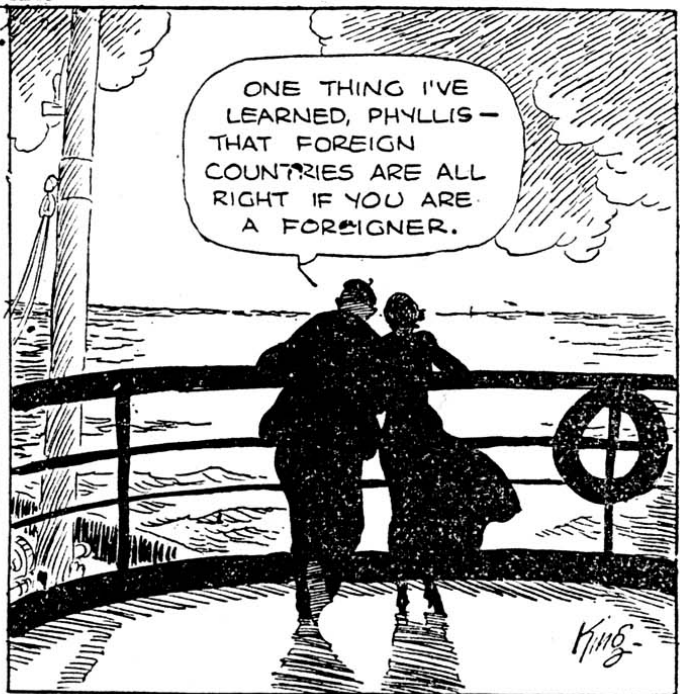




THANK GOODNESS, UNCLE WALT SAID IN HIS RADIOGRAM THEY'D BE HOME THE END OF THE WEEK.

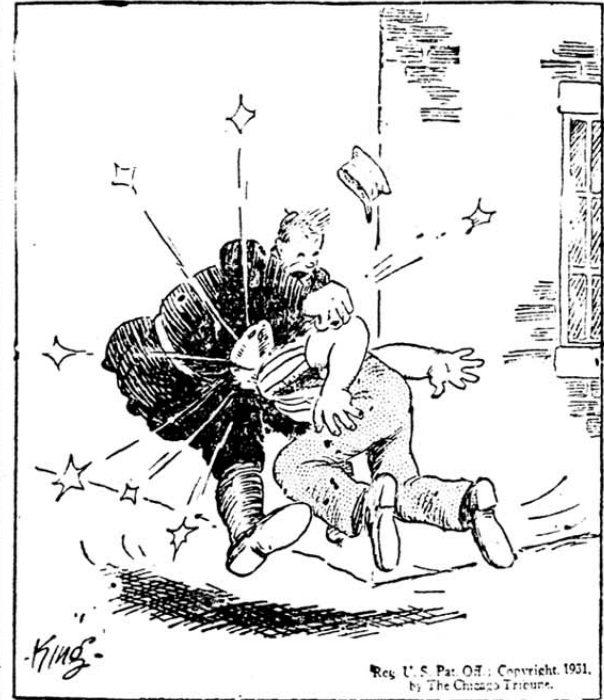
ANYWAY YOU'LL TELL 'EM I HAVEN'T BEEN SO BAD WON'T YOU, LORA.

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. Jan. 1931.
by The Chicago Tribune.



ONE THING I'VE LEARNED, PHYLLIS — THAT FOREIGN COUNTRIES ARE ALL RIGHT IF YOU ARE A FOREIGNER.

King



ANOTHER OF THOSE FIRES HAD STARTED AND, PETE, RUNNING TOWARD IT MADE VIOLENT CONTACT WITH EMIL, RUNNING THE OTHER DIRECTION. HERE THEY ARE.



EMIL! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO GET AWAY FROM THE FIRE FOR? I THOUGHT YOU LIKED FIRES.

NOT WHEN THEY GET BIG.



GOT A MATCH, EMIL?

SURE. GOT LOTS OF 'EM.

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. Copyright, 1931, by The Chicago Tribune.



I'M A FIRE FAN TOO. WHY DON'T YOU LET ME IN ON SOME GOOD ONES.

YOU AIN'T KIDDIN' ME ARE YOU? SURE I'LL LET YOU IN IF YOU WON'T TELL ANYBODY.

KING



TELL THE CHIEF, EMIL, ALL ABOUT HOW YOU'D START A FIRE.

I'D TAKE ONE MATCH AN' LIGHT THE PACKAGE AN' THROW THAT WHERE I WANTED TO START IT. THAT'S HOW COWBOYS DO.

SUPPOSE YOU'VE TRIED IT A GOOD MANY TIMES.

MEANWHILE WALT AND PHYLLIS, GOING THROUGH CUSTOMS AT NEW YORK, HAVE DECLARED \$198.75 WORTH OF FOREIGN PURCHASES. (THEY ARE ALLOWED \$200 WORTH WITHOUT DUTY). HOWEVER THE INSPECTOR IS A BULL ON PRICES - NOT A BEAR.

□□
□□



YOU CAN SEE BY THE NAME TAGS ON THOSE DRESSES, INSPECTOR, THAT I BOUGHT THEM ALL BEFORE I WENT ABROAD

OH YEAH?

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. Copyright, 1931. by The Chicago Tribune.

GASOLINE ALLEY—AT HOME: MR. AND MRS. WALLETT

BACK FROM THEIR TRIP TO ENGLAND WALT AND PHYLLIS TAKE UP LIFE WHERE THEY LEFT IT EARLIER IN THE SUMMER. FOREIGN LANDS ARE FINE FOR FOREIGNERS, SAYS WALT, BUT HE'S GLAD HE ISN'T ONE.

GO AHEAD AND TALK, WALT. I WANT TO HEAR THAT ENGLISH ACCENT.

WHERE'S THAT MONOCLE YOU WERE GOING TO BRING ME?

YOU LOOK FUNNY ENOUGH ALREADY, BILL.

I WAS WISHIN' YOU WERE BACK, UNCLE WALT, AN' YOU ARE.

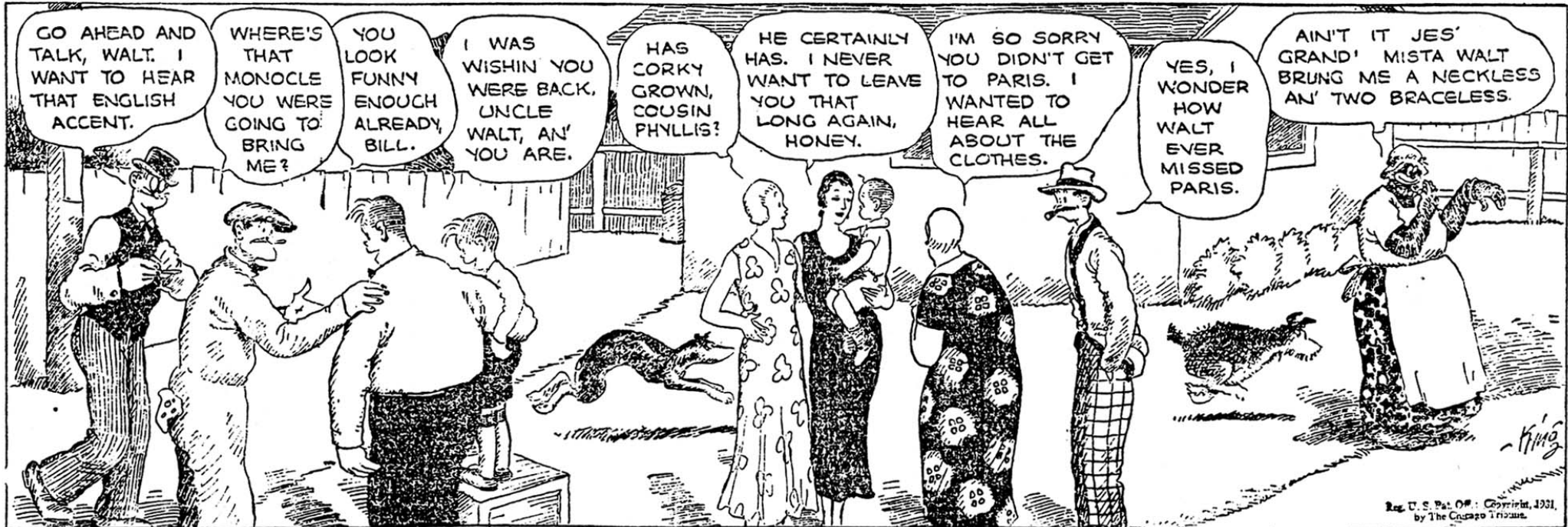
HAS CORKY GROWN, COUSIN PHYLLIS?

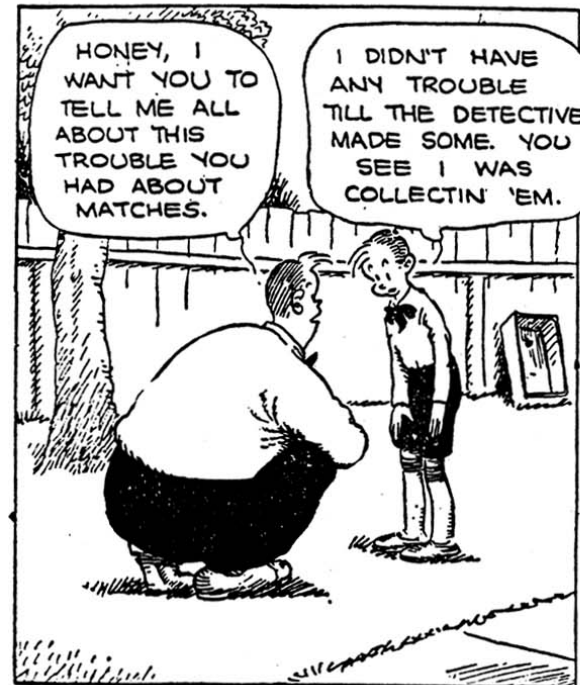
HE CERTAINLY HAS. I NEVER WANT TO LEAVE YOU THAT LONG AGAIN, HONEY.

I'M SO SORRY YOU DIDN'T GET TO PARIS. I WANTED TO HEAR ALL ABOUT THE CLOTHES.

YES, I WONDER HOW WALT EVER MISSED PARIS.

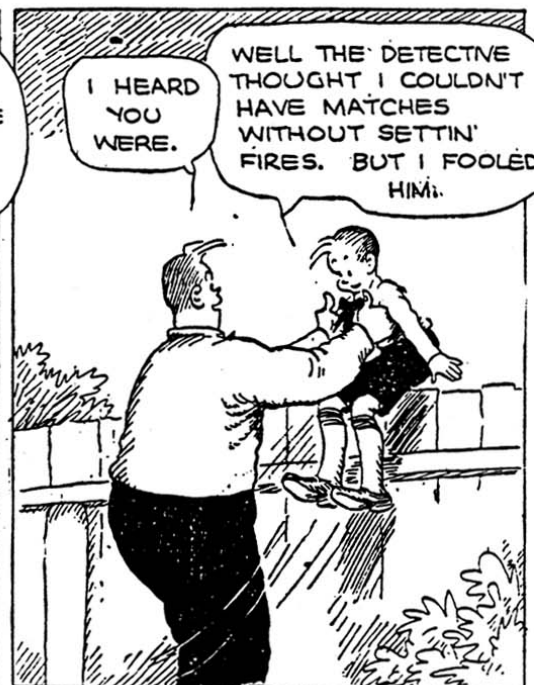
AIN'T IT JES' GRAND' MISTA WALT BRUNG ME A NECKLESS AN' TWO BRACELESS.





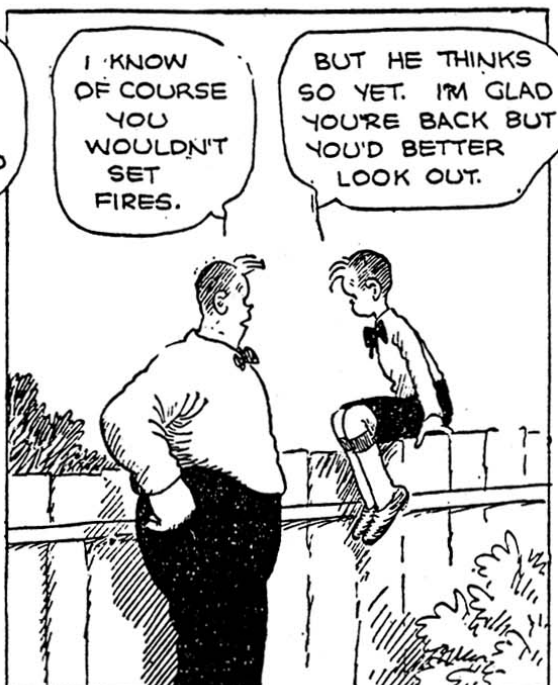
HONEY, I WANT YOU TO TELL ME ALL ABOUT THIS TROUBLE YOU HAD ABOUT MATCHES.

I DIDN'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE TILL THE DETECTIVE MADE SOME. YOU SEE I WAS COLLECTIN' 'EM.



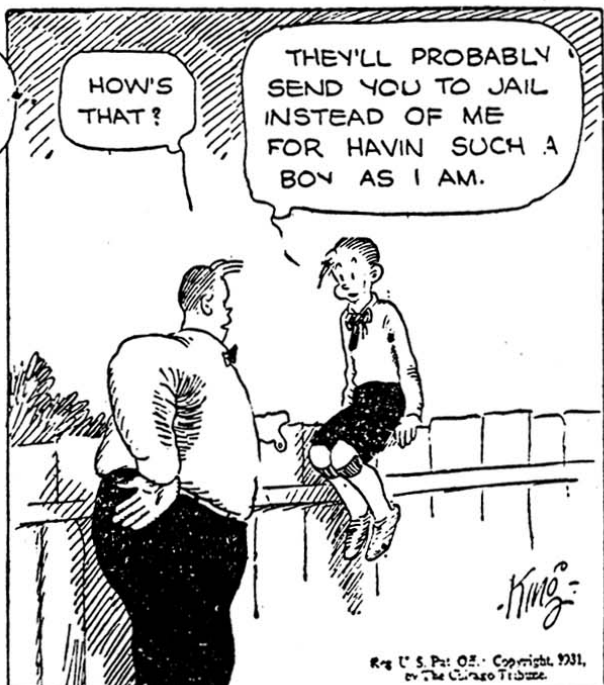
I HEARD YOU WERE.

WELL THE DETECTIVE THOUGHT I COULDN'T HAVE MATCHES WITHOUT SETTIN' FIRES. BUT I FOOLED HIM.



I KNOW OF COURSE YOU WOULDN'T SET FIRES.

BUT HE THINKS SO YET. I'M GLAD YOU'RE BACK BUT YOU'D BETTER LOOK OUT.



HOW'S THAT?

THEY'LL PROBABLY SEND YOU TO JAIL INSTEAD OF ME FOR HAVIN SUCH A BOY AS I AM.

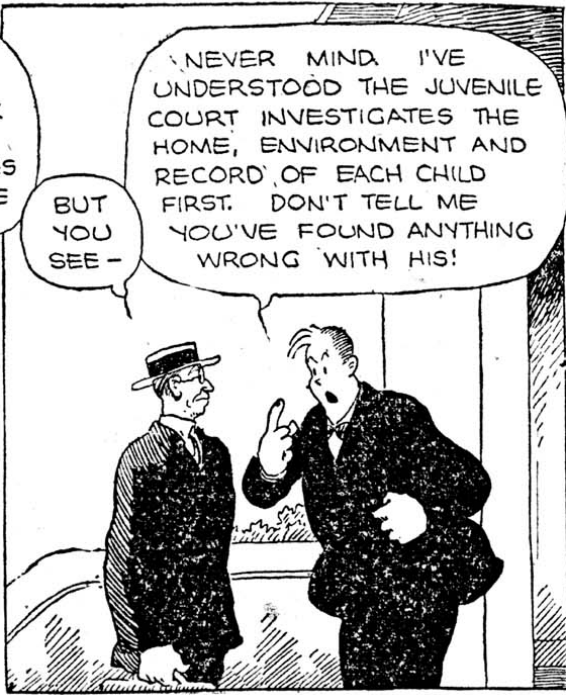
KING



MR. WALLET, WE WILL WANT YOU TO BRING SKEEZIX TO THE JUVENILE COURT TOMORROW.

SAY, YOU DON'T MEAN TO TELL ME YOU ARE GOING TO HAUL SKEEZIX BEFORE THE JUVENILE COURT FOR SETTING FIRES ON THE FLIMSY EVIDENCE YOU HAVE?

BUT YOU SEE—

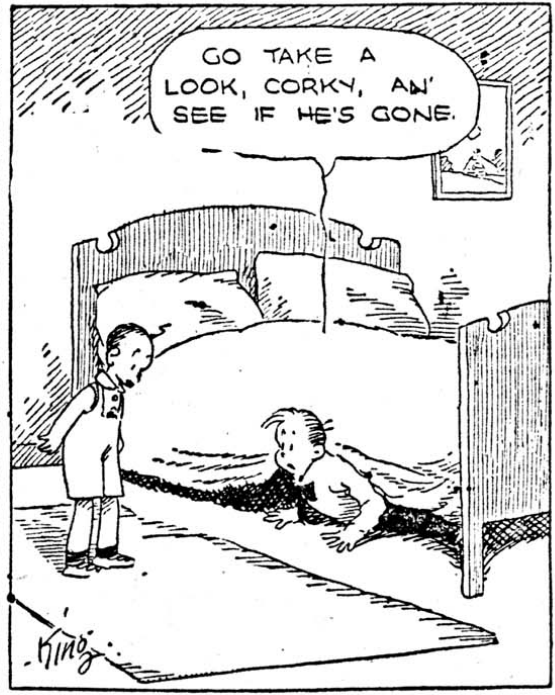


NEVER MIND. I'VE UNDERSTOOD THE JUVENILE COURT INVESTIGATES THE HOME, ENVIRONMENT AND RECORD OF EACH CHILD FIRST. DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE FOUND ANYTHING WRONG WITH HIS!



YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. WE WANT HIM AS A WITNESS.

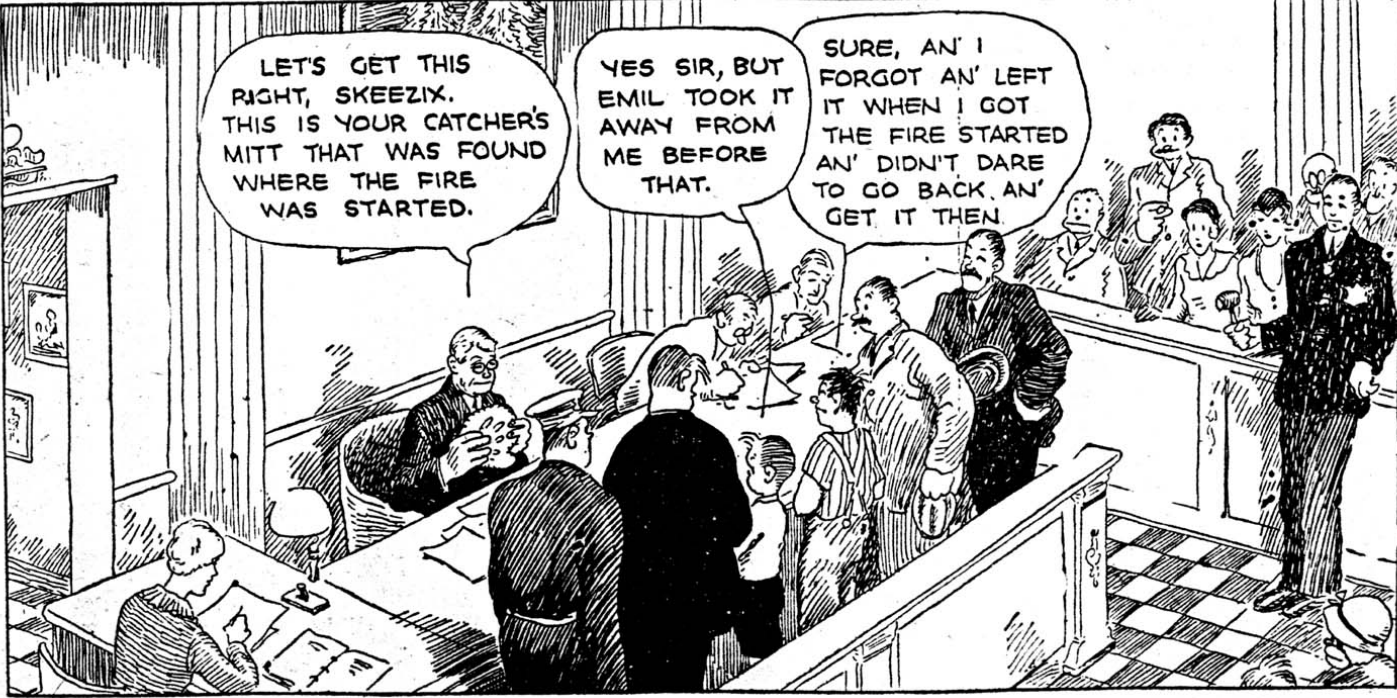
A WITNESS? WELL THAT'S DIFFERENT. WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO?



GO TAKE A LOOK, CORKY, AN' SEE IF HE'S GONE.

KING

SKEEZIX IS BEFORE THE JUVENILE COURT THIS MORNING, BUT TO THE RELIEF OF HIMSELF AND FAMILY HE IS NOT THE ACCUSED, BUT MERELY A WITNESS. WHO SET THE FIRES? THE JUDGE IS FINDING OUT.



LET'S GET THIS RIGHT, SKEEZIX. THIS IS YOUR CATCHER'S MITT THAT WAS FOUND WHERE THE FIRE WAS STARTED.

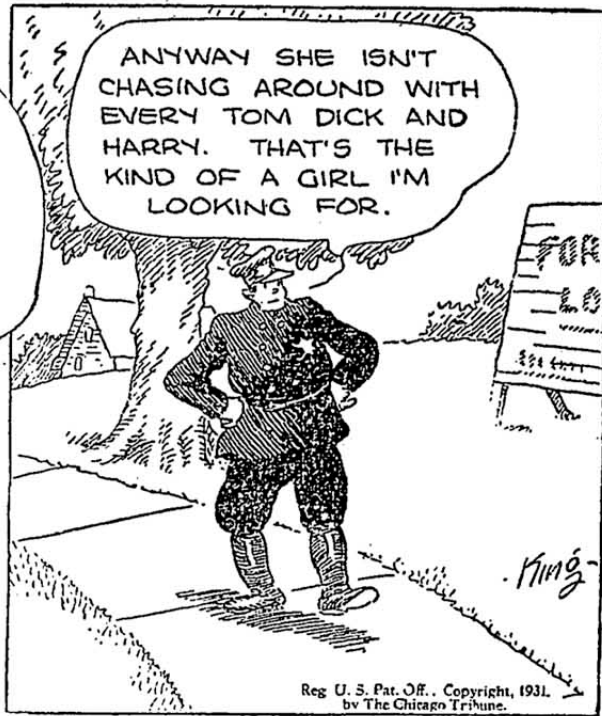
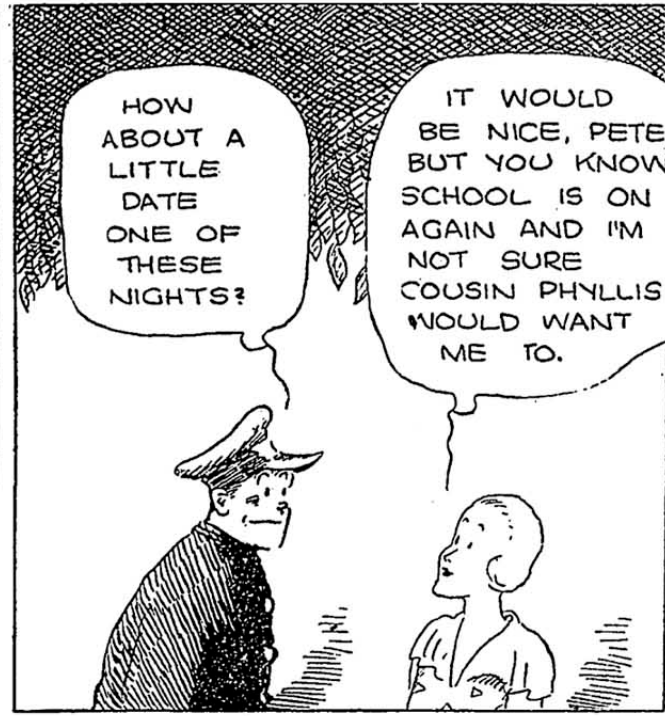
YES SIR, BUT EMIL TOOK IT AWAY FROM ME BEFORE THAT.

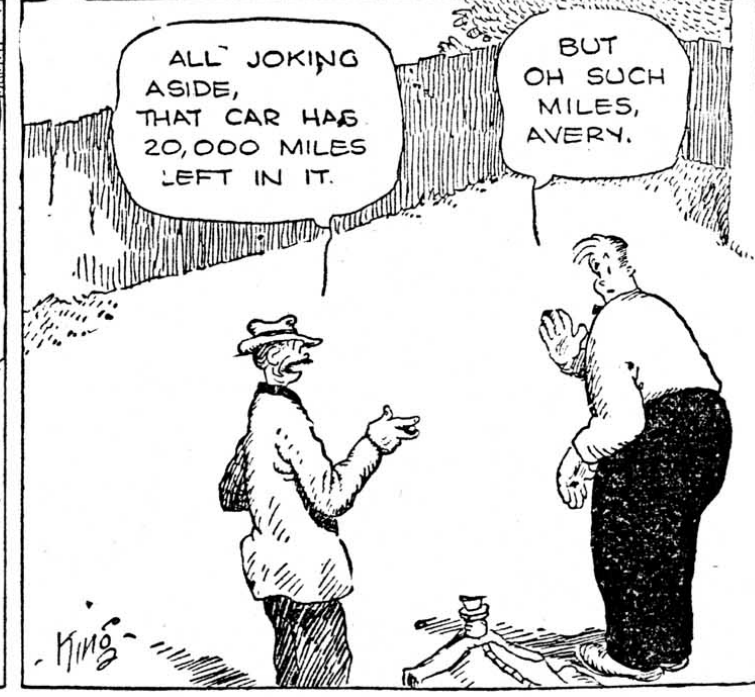
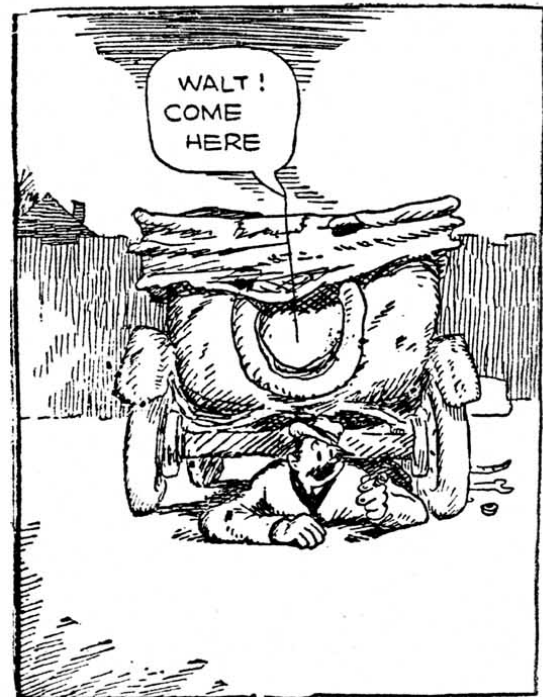
SURE, AN' I FORGOT AN' LEFT IT WHEN I GOT THE FIRE STARTED AN' DIDN'T DARE TO GO BACK, AN' GET IT THEN.

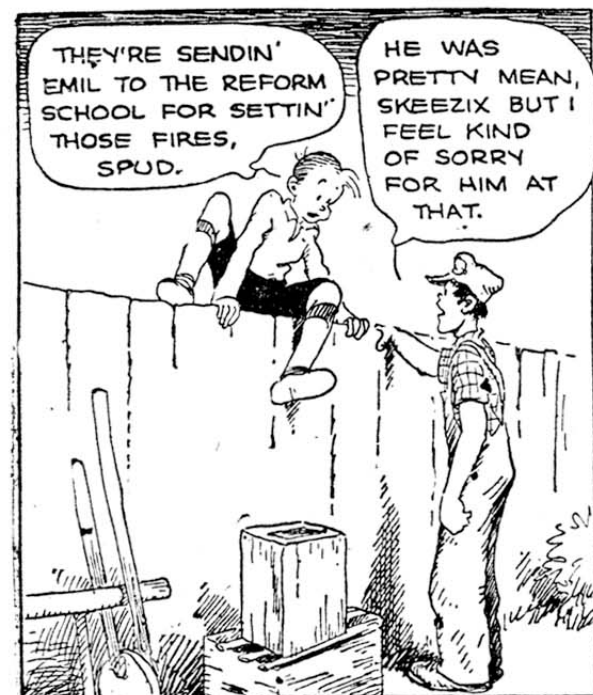


YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU'D BE CAUGHT, EMIL. WHY DID YOU GO RIGHT ON SETTING FIRES?

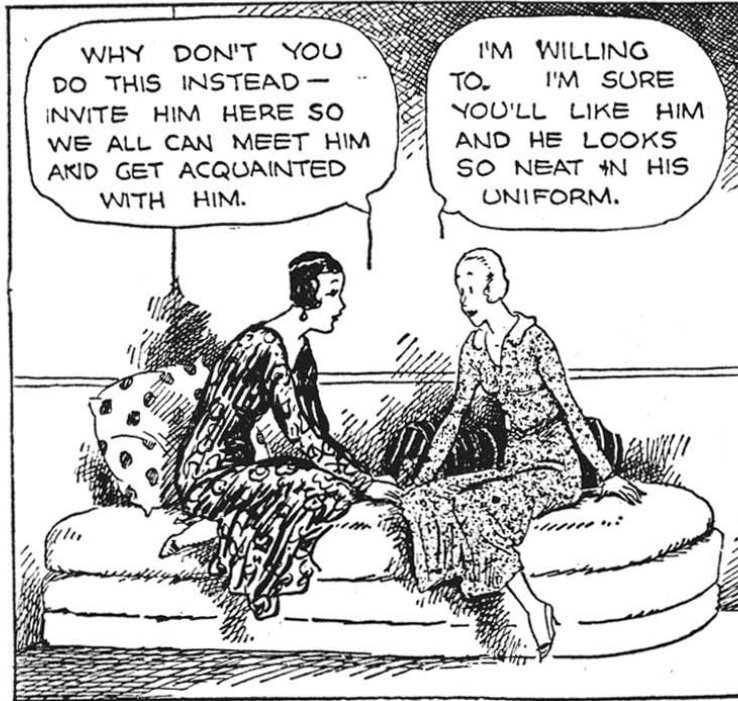
AW I LIKED TO SEE 'EM BURN AN BESIDES SKEEZIX WAS GETTIN' BLAMED FOR 'EM.

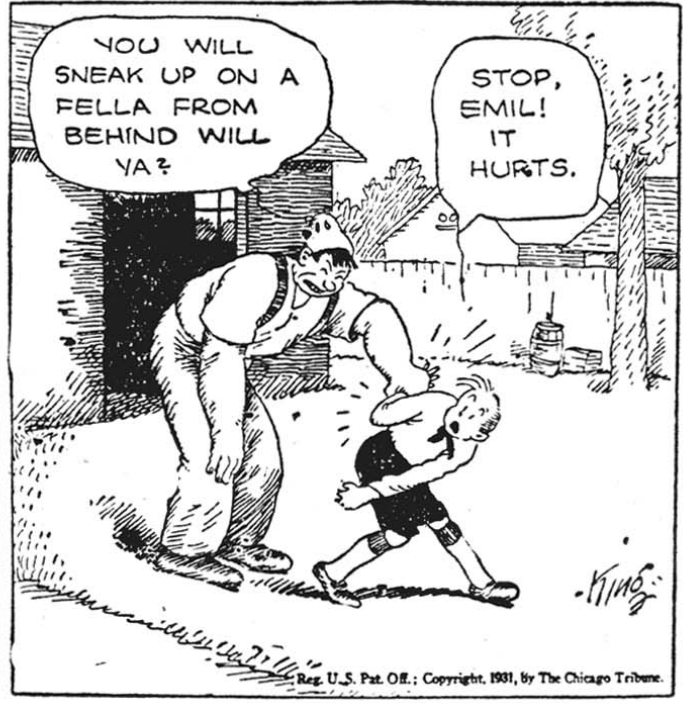


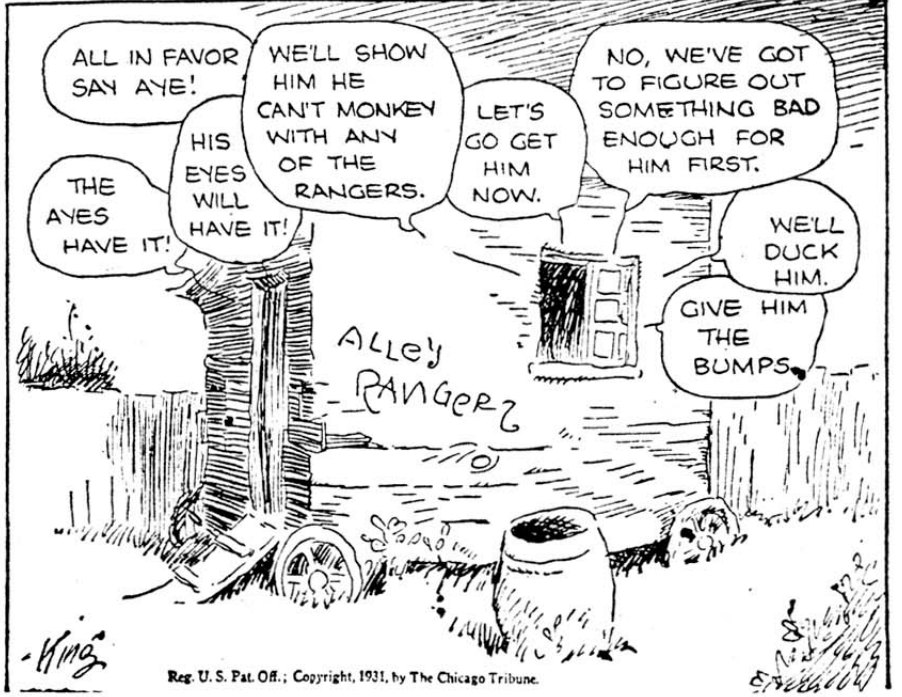


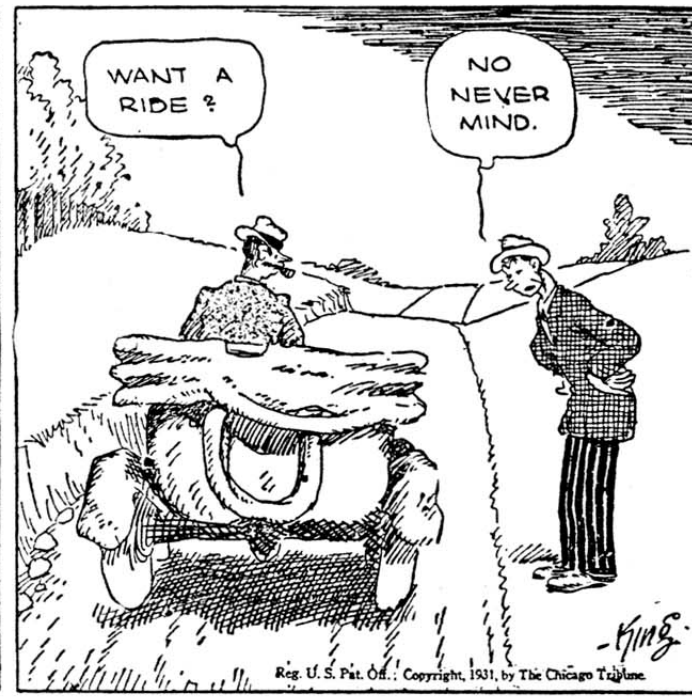




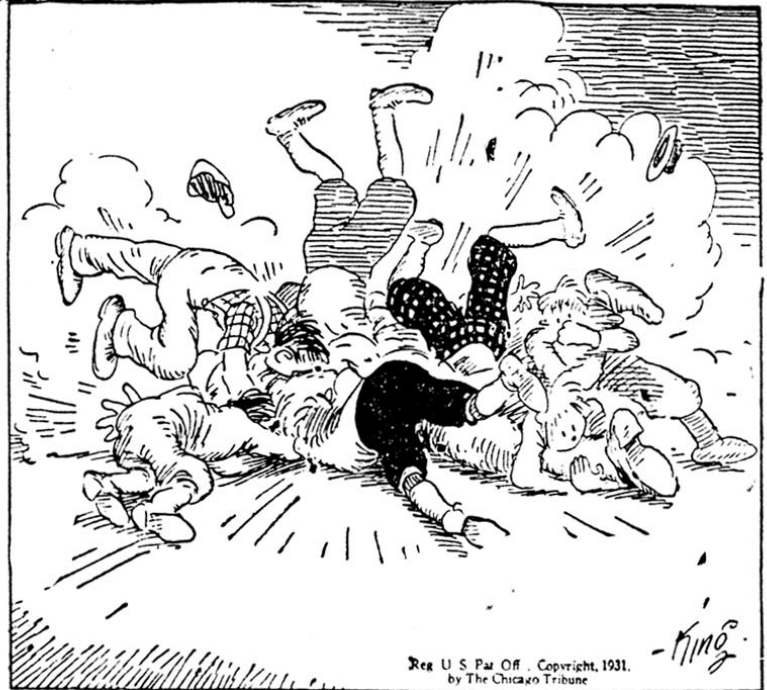




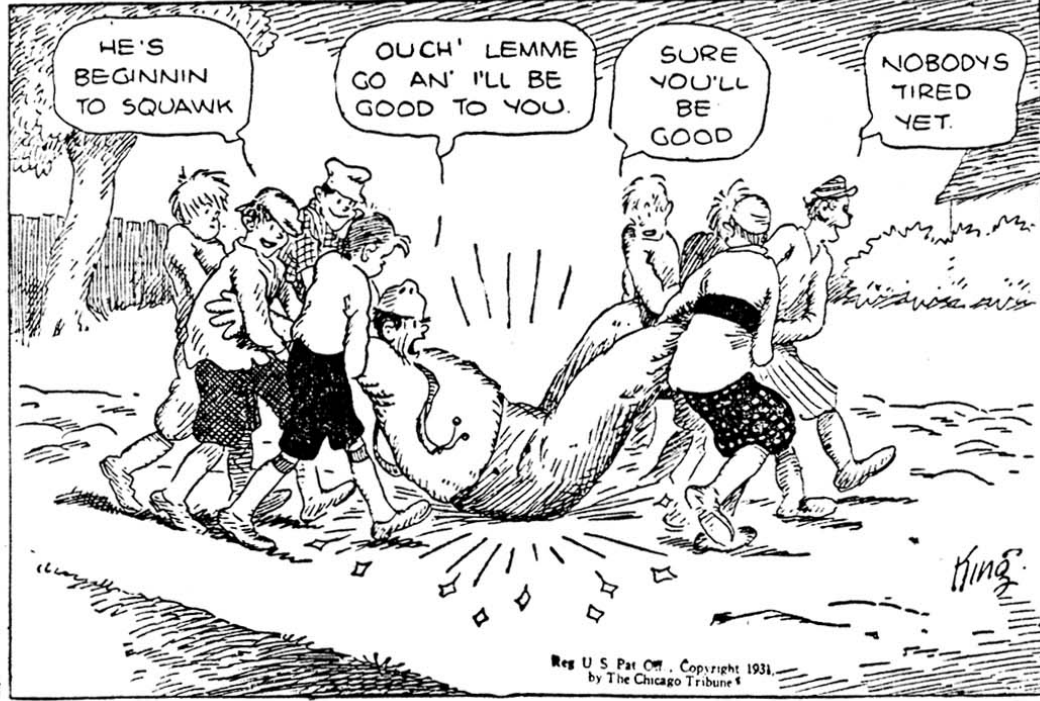




THE GASOLINE ALLEY RANGERS PASSED A RESOLUTION AT THE LAST MEETING THAT EMIL SHOULD BE GIVEN "THE BUMPS" AS A RESULT SKEEZIX IS PUT OUT AS A DECOY THIS MORNING.



A QUORUM OF THE ALLEY RANGERS, HAVING SUBDUED EMIL FOLLOWING A UNANIMOUS RESOLUTION PROCEED TO ADMINISTER DISCIPLINE ACCORDING TO A MANDATE OF THE CLUB. SAID MANDATE SPECIFIES TO "GIVE HIM THE BUMPS"



King



King

AVERY HAS DECIDED THE CITY IS NO PLACE TO TRADE HIS CAR AND HAS STARTED FOR THE COUNTRY. HE HAS ABOUT DETERMINED NOT TO BUY ANY MORE SUCH DURABLE CARS. YOU HAVE TO SUPPORT EM IN THEIR OLD AGE.

IT'S IN TIP-TOP CONDITION AND YOU KNOW THEY PUT FINE MATERIAL INTO CARS IN THOSE DAYS. THERE'S A LOT OF EXTRAS—TWO SHOCK ABSORBERS IN FRONT AND ONE BEHIND.

EARLY 1921 DID YOU SAY? TWELVE DOLLARS.

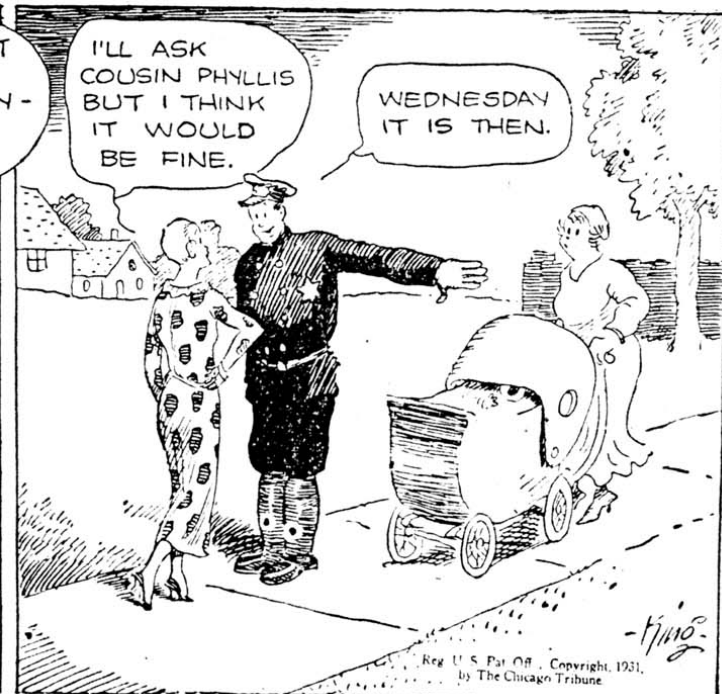
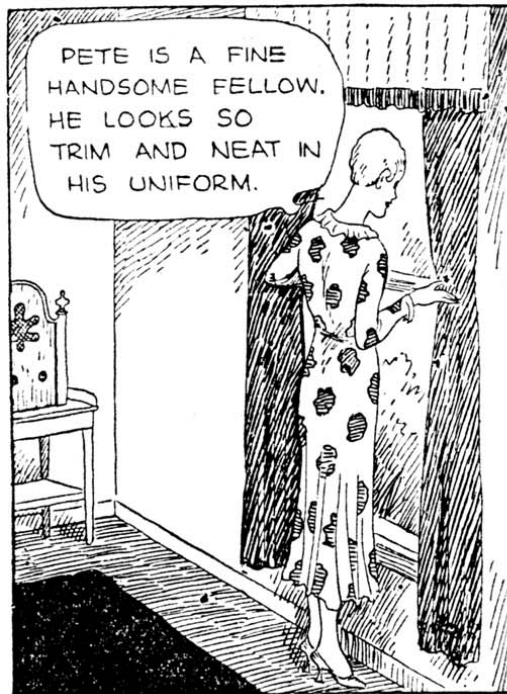
YOU'D GIVE ME MORE THAN THAT! WHY ALL YOU'VE GOT TO DO IS PUT YOUR FOOT ON THE BRAKE AND YOU GET FREE WHEELING! AND YOU HAVEN'T EVEN SEEN IT YET.

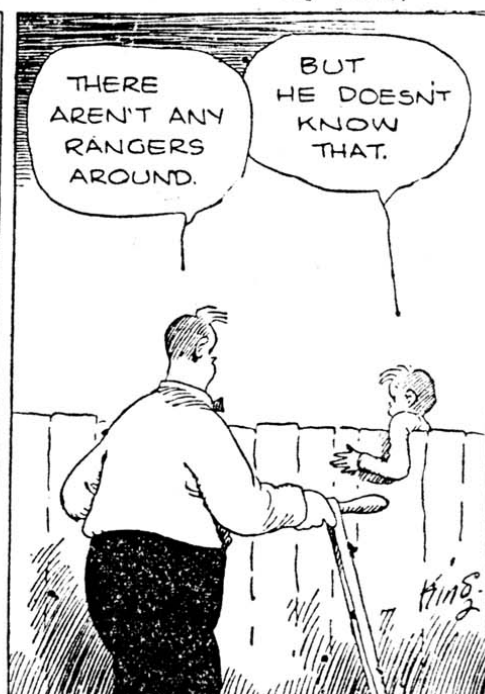
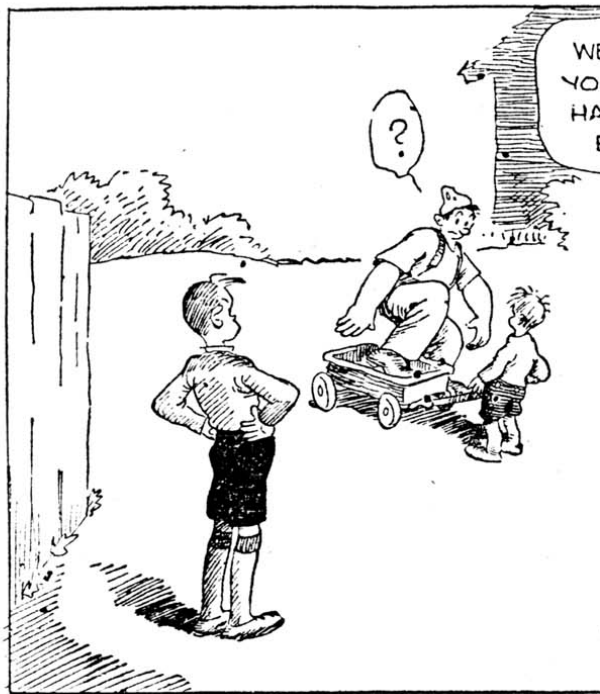
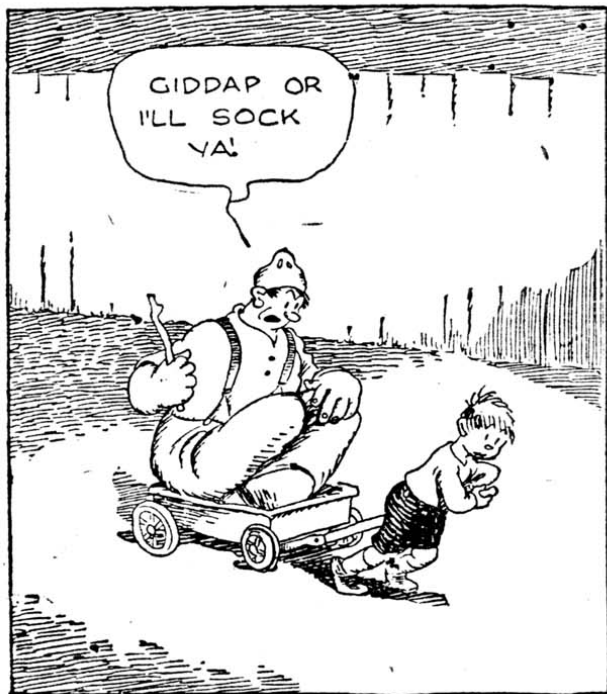
I DON'T HAVE TO SEE IT. BUT IF YOU INSIST.

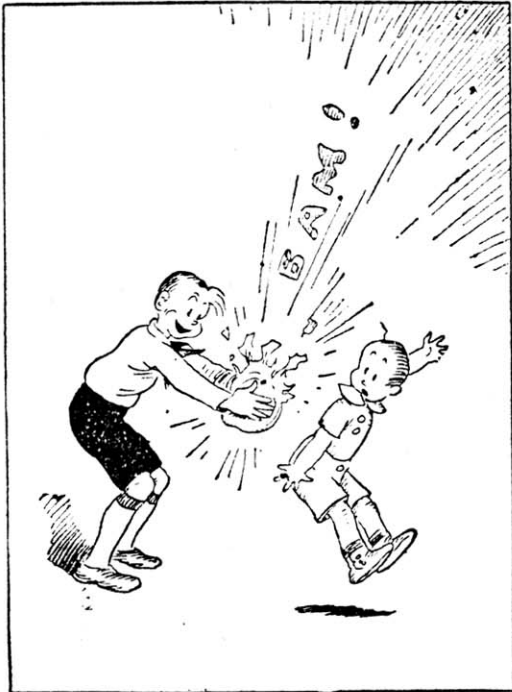
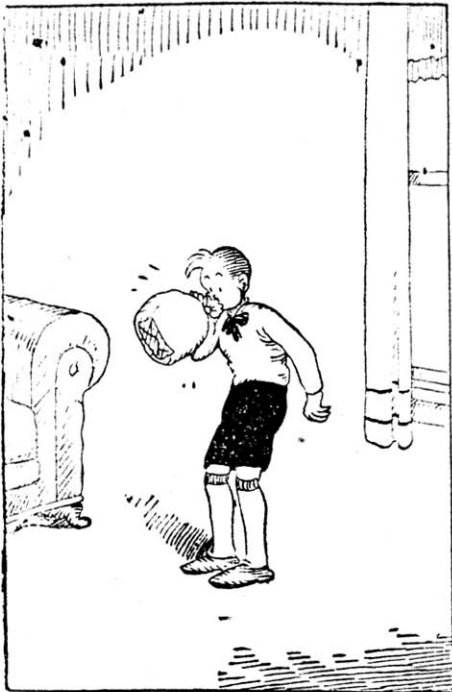
NOW WHAT WILL YOU ALLOW ME?

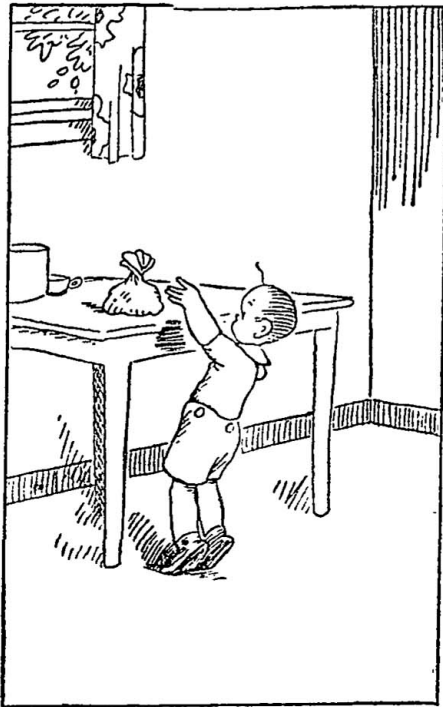
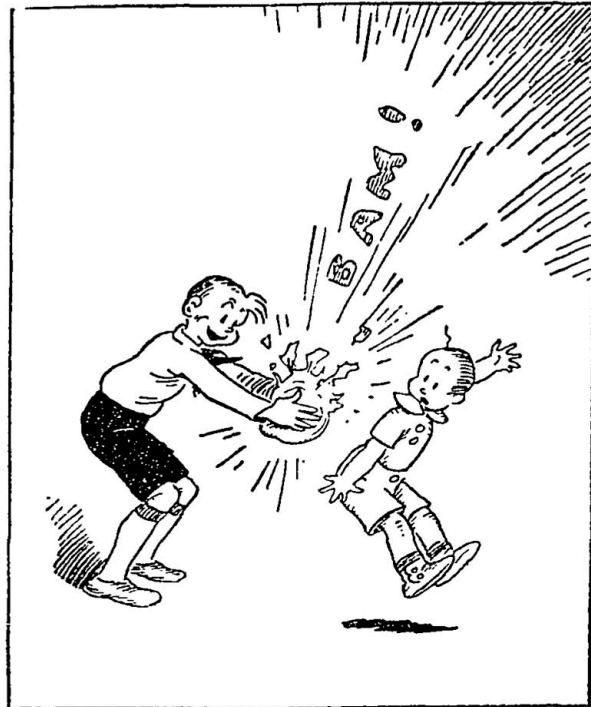
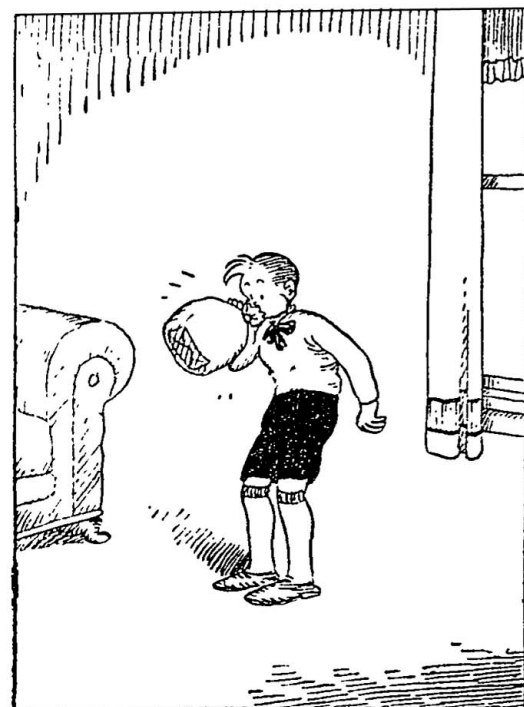
EIGHT DOLLARS.

King









- King -





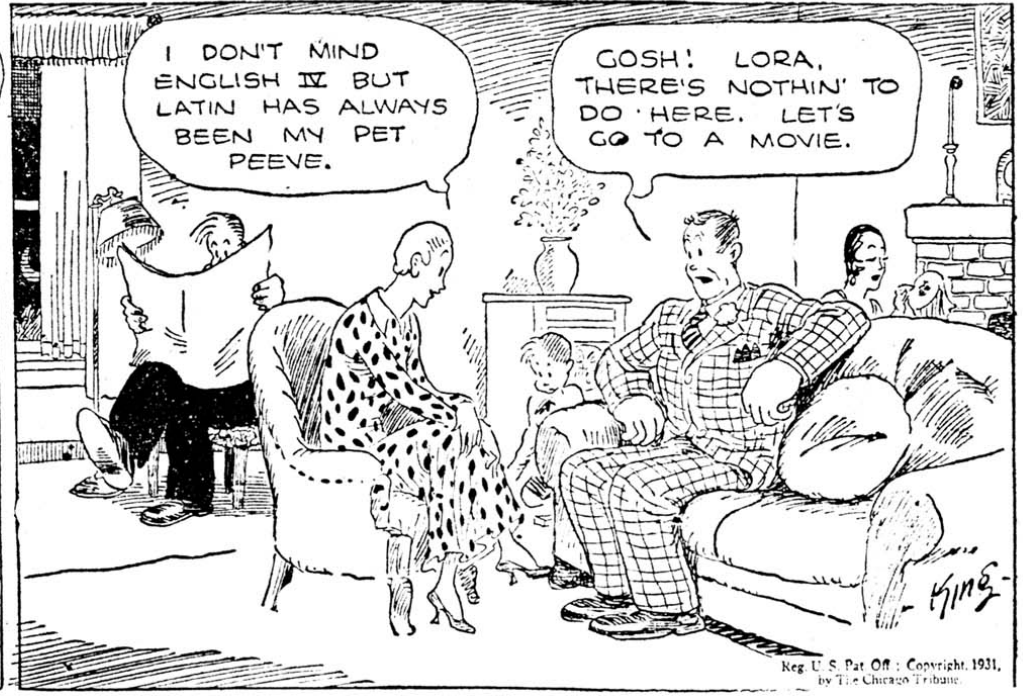
PETE, HOW ABOUT A LITTLE PINOCLE TONIGHT?

NOTHIN' DOIN', FRITZ. I'VE GOT A SWELL DATE.



HELLO, MR. WALLET, IS LORA IN?

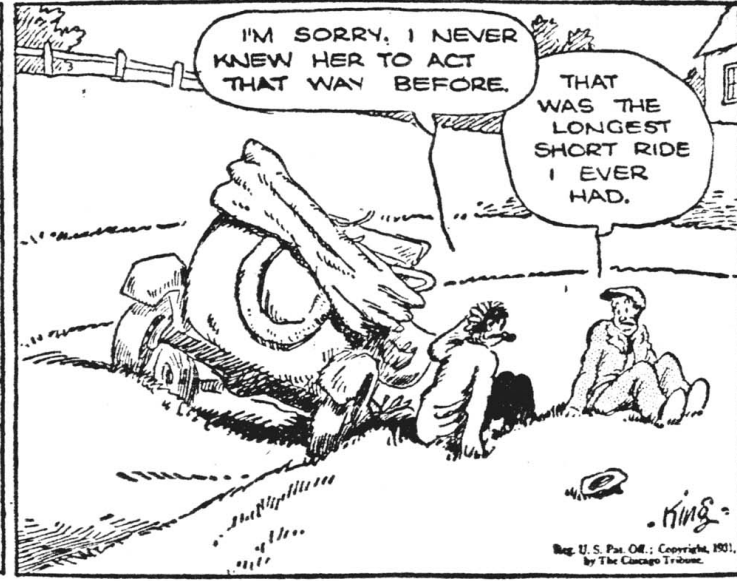
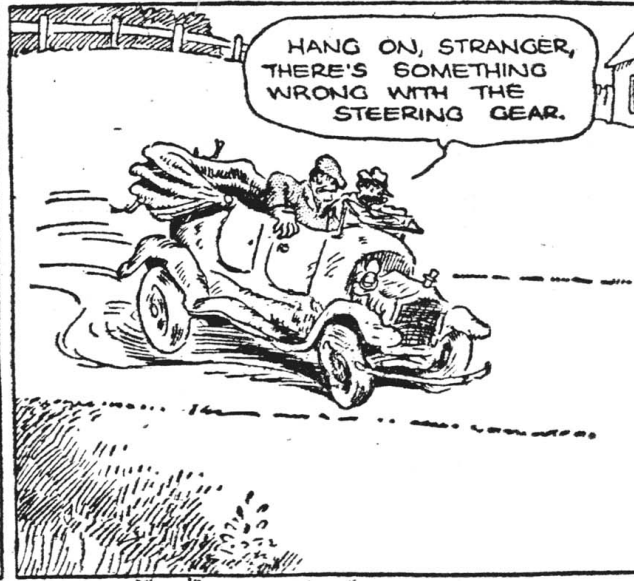
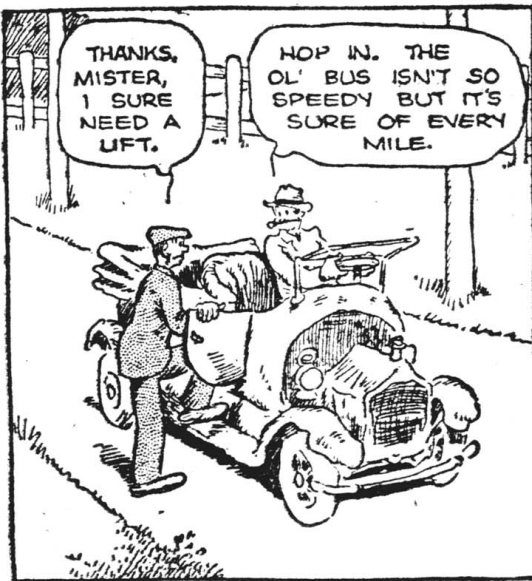
LORA? OH YES. IT'S PETE ISN'T IT! I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU.



I DON'T MIND ENGLISH IV BUT LATIN HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY PET PEEVE.

GOSH! LORA, THERE'S NOTHIN' TO DO HERE. LET'S GO TO A MOVIE.

GASOLINE ALLEY—THERE'S LIFE IN THE OLD BUS, YES?



King
Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.; Copyright, 1901,
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GASOLINE ALLEY—DO YOU CALL THAT GRATITUDE?

AVERY,

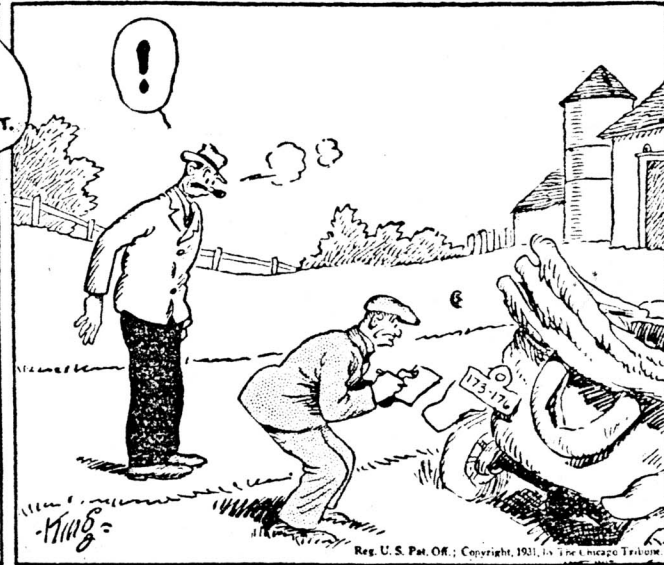
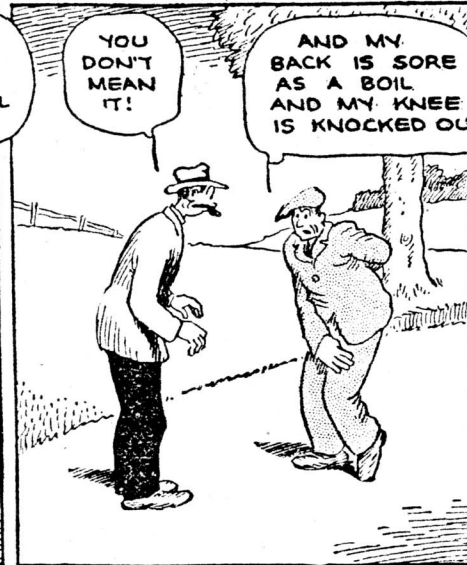
YOU REMEMBER,
PICKED UP A HITCHER
WHO WAS THUMBING
HIS WAY ALONG.

HIS NAME MUST
HAVE BEEN JONAH
BECAUSE THE HARD
LUCK STARTED
RIGHT THERE

THE STEERING GEAR
WENT SOUR AND
THE THREE OF THEM—
AVERY, JONAH AND
THE CAR WENT IN THE
DITCH.

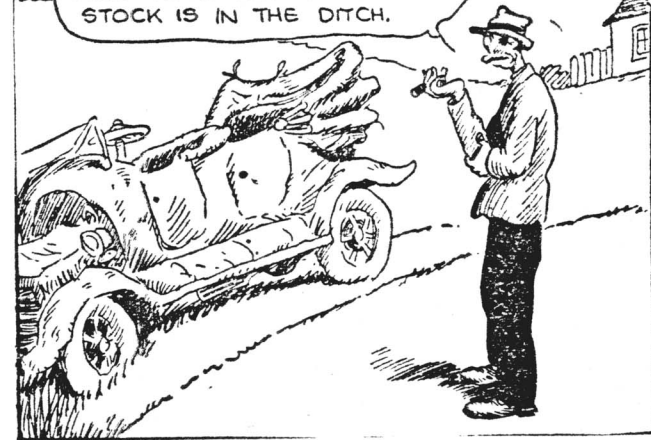
NO BONES BROKEN
AND THEY LAUGHED
IT OFF,

UNTIL —



GASOLINE ALLEY—WHY NOT?

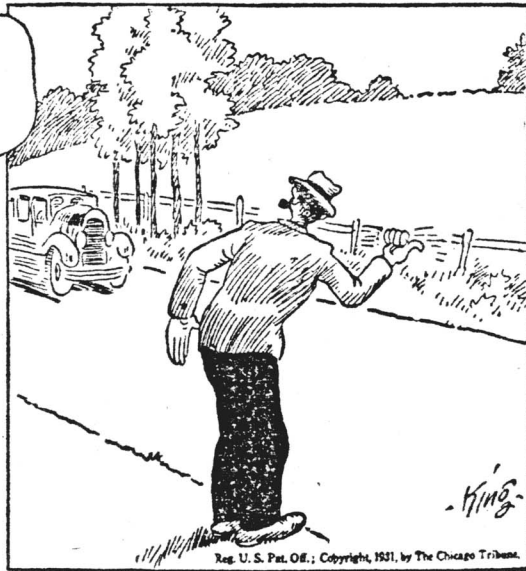
THIS TRADING TRIP SO FAR HAS CERTAINLY BEEN ONE GRAND FLOP. I'M 200 MILES FROM HOME AND MY TRADING STOCK IS IN THE DITCH.



I'VE HAD OFFERS—EIGHT DOLLARS—THIRD INTEREST IN A COW—BICYCLE—REAL ESTATE. BUT WHAT'S THE USE



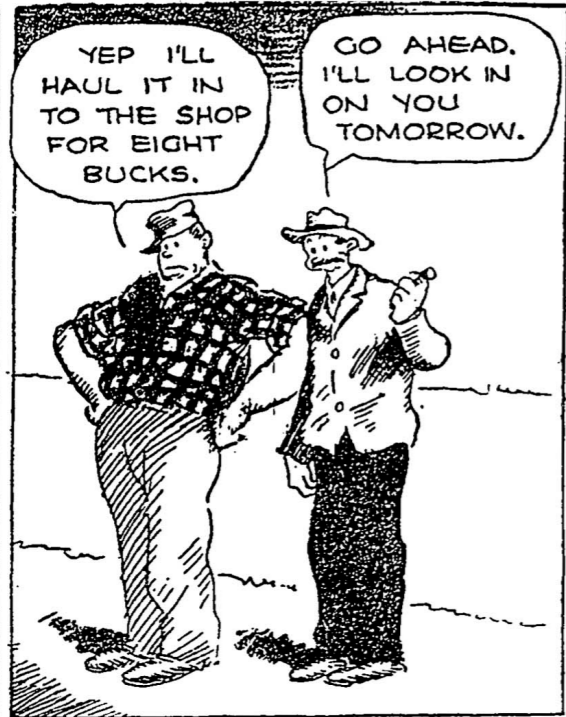
IF I WAS SURE I WOULDN'T GET HOMESICK FOR THE OLD BUS I'D LEAVE HER RIGHT HERE.



YOU REMEMBER AVERY HAD AN ACCIDENT AND SLIPPED INTO THE DITCH. — HE HAS SINCE DECIDED **NOT** TO ABANDON HIS CAR.

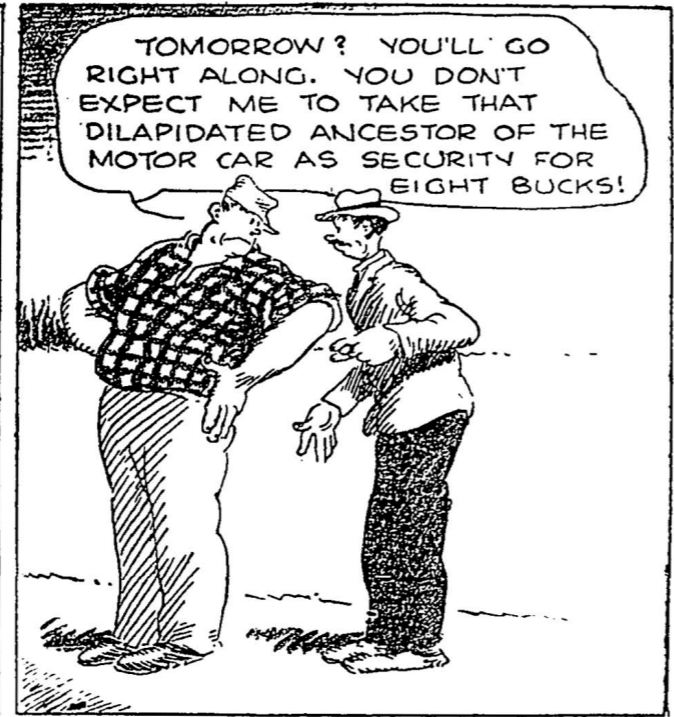
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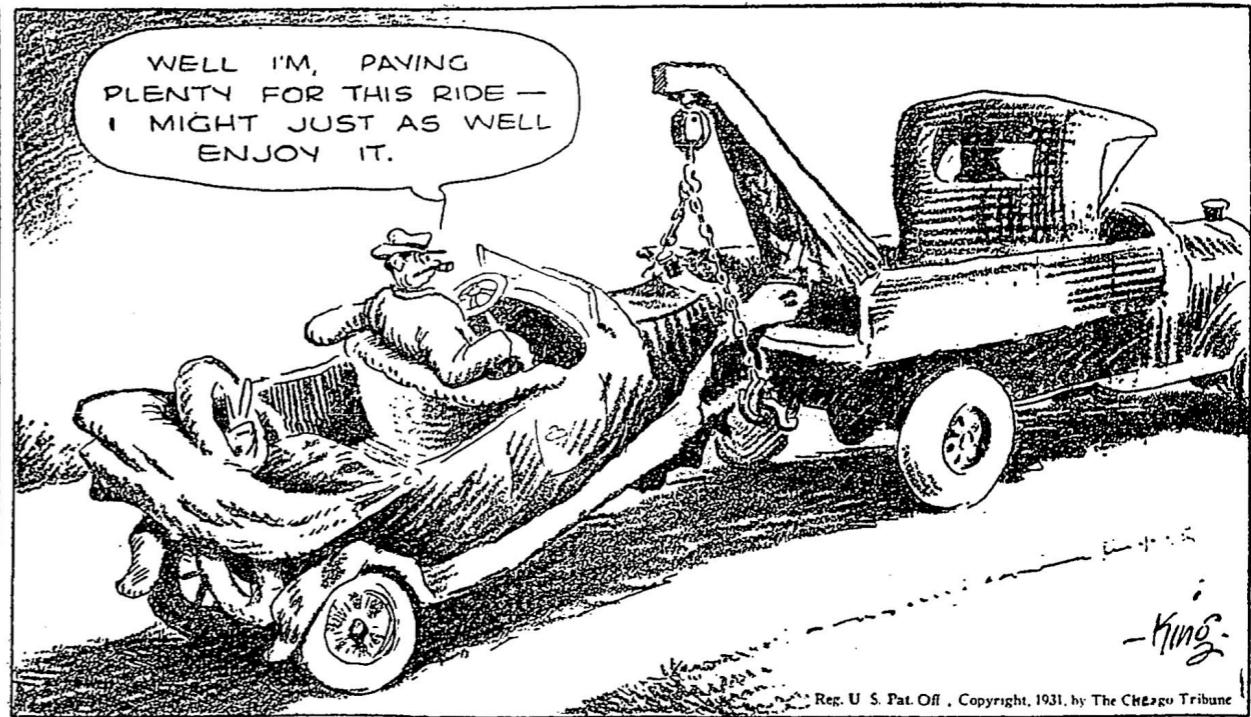


YEP I'LL HAUL IT IN TO THE SHOP FOR EIGHT BUCKS.

GO AHEAD. I'LL LOOK IN ON YOU TOMORROW.



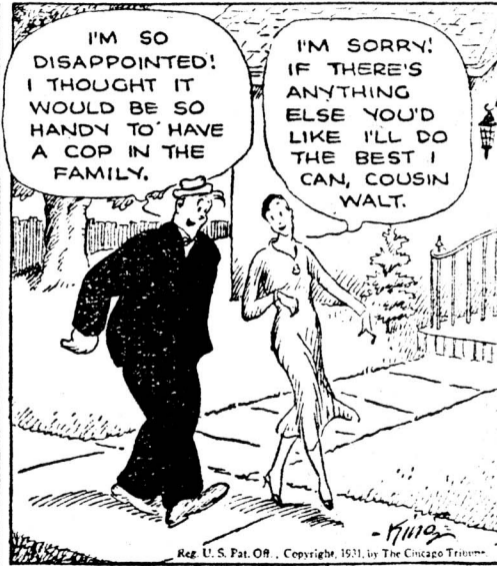
TOMORROW? YOU'LL GO RIGHT ALONG. YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO TAKE THAT DILAPIDATED ANCESTOR OF THE MOTOR CAR AS SECURITY FOR EIGHT BUCKS!



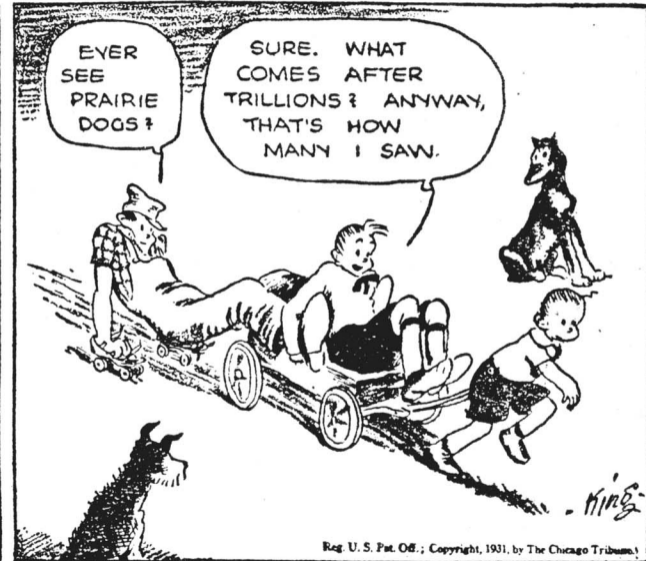
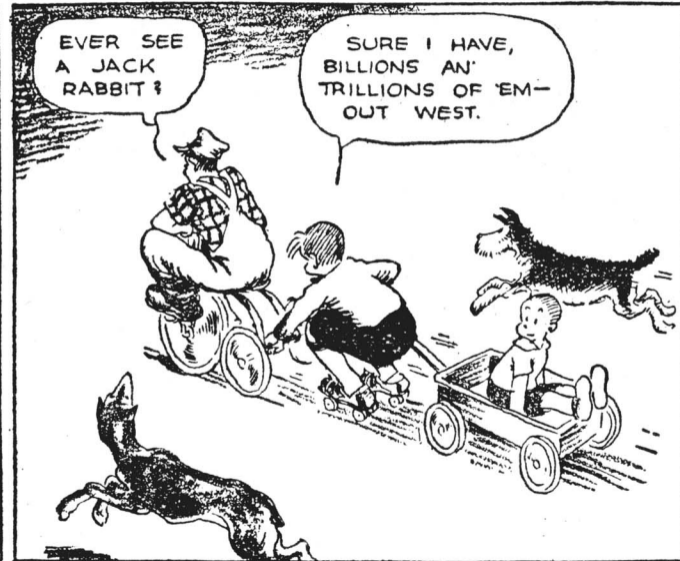
WELL I'M, PAYING PLENTY FOR THIS RIDE — I MIGHT JUST AS WELL ENJOY IT.

-King-

GASOLINE ALLEY—ANYTHING TO OBLIGE



GASOLINE ALLEY—GOING UP





GASOLINE ALLEY—PHYLLIS HAS HER WAY, TOO



LORA, IF YOU RECALL, WAS IN THE RUMBLE SEAT WITH PRIGGY. BUT MADGE AND HER BOY FRIEND IN THE FRONT SEAT SEEMED TO HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT LORA HAD PROMISED TO BE HOME EARLY.

WALT, WAITING WITH PHYLLIS, HAS HIS IDEA OF HOW TO MEET THE SITUATION.



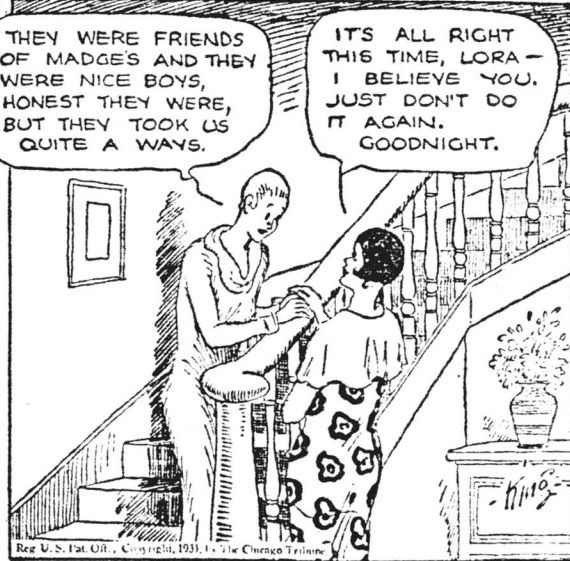
I CAN'T SEE WHAT IS KEEPING LORA. IT ISN'T LIKE HER TO STAY OUT LIKE THIS.

WELL, HOP ONTO HER AND READ HER THE RIOT ACT. THE WAY TO HANDLE THESE THINGS IS TO NIP THEM IN THE BUD.



I'M SORRY I'M LATE, COUSIN PHYLLIS, BUT A COUPLE OF BOYS WERE GOING TO BRING US HOME IN THEIR CAR AND THEY WOULDN'T BE SERIOUS WHEN I TOLD THEM I HAD TO COME IN RIGHT AWAY.

IT IS SCHOOL NIGHT YOU KNOW. WHO WERE THE BOYS?



THEY WERE FRIENDS OF MADGE'S AND THEY WERE NICE BOYS, HONEST THEY WERE, BUT THEY TOOK US QUITE A WAYS.

IT'S ALL RIGHT THIS TIME, LORA—I BELIEVE YOU. JUST DON'T DO IT AGAIN. GOODNIGHT.

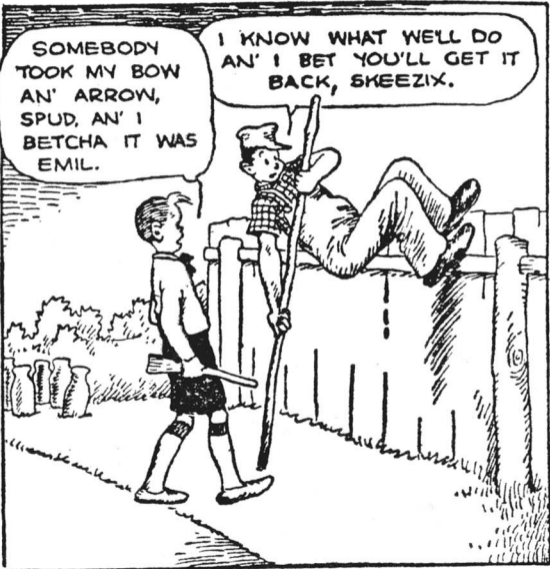
GASOLINE ALLEY—BEWARE!



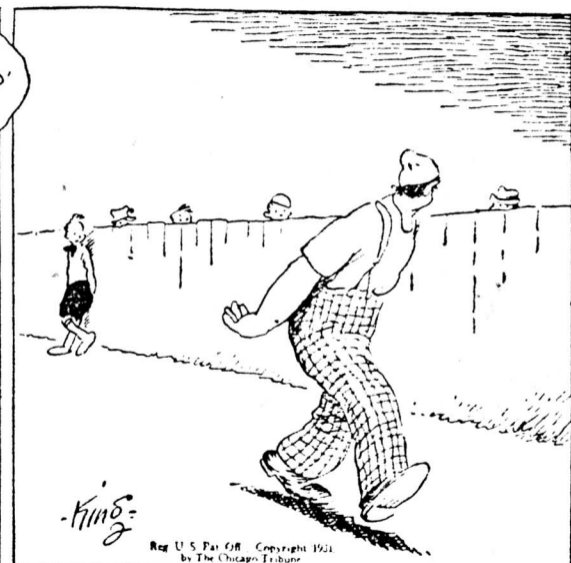
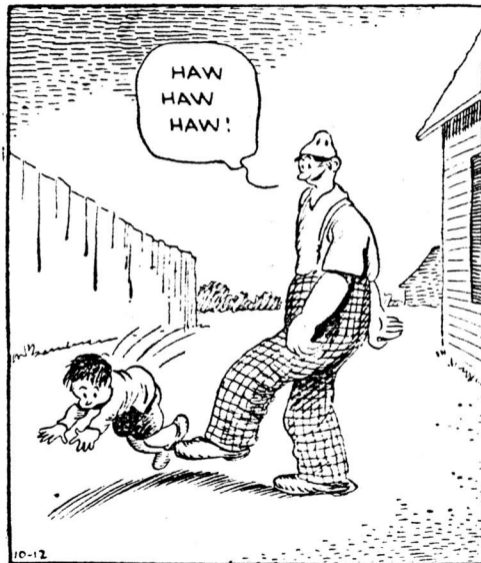
AT THE LAST WEEKLY MEETING OF THE GASOLINE ALLEY RANGERS CERTAIN SECRETS CAME UP FOR DISCUSSION. AS A RESULT THESE FIVE LINES WERE ADOPTED AS A SYMBOL OF WARNING.

—

THIS IS A SECRET TOO, SO DON'T TELL A SOUL.

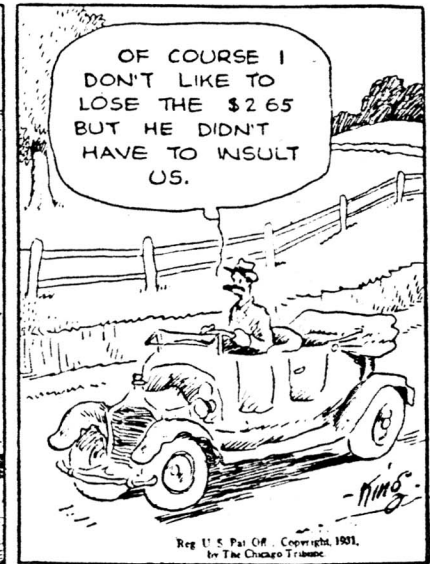
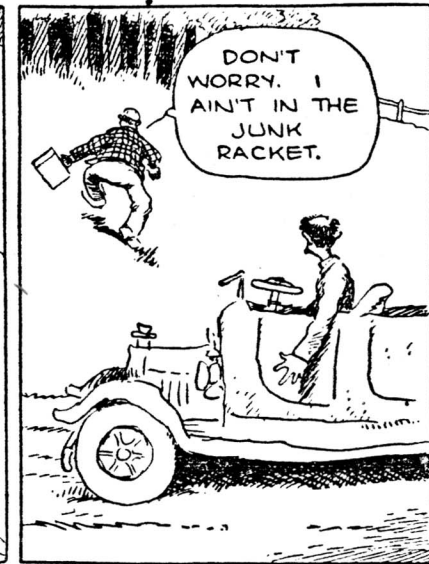
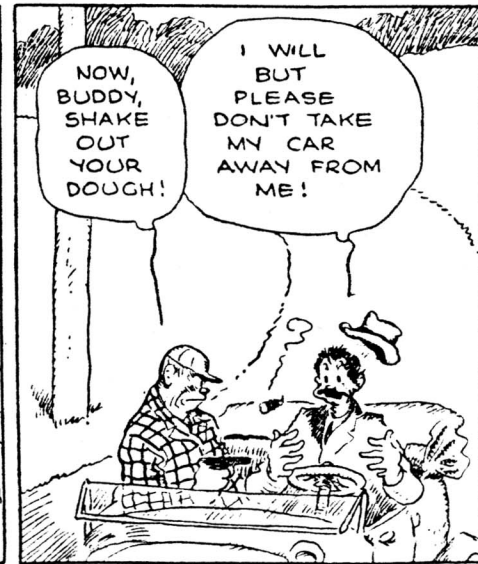


GASOLINE ALLEY—ON YOUR WAY, EMIL!



GASOLINE ALLEY—QUICK WORK

IT COST AVERY \$21 BESIDES THE TOWING CHARGES TO GET HIS CAR FIXED. BUT HE IS ON THE ROAD AGAIN WITH \$29 ADDED TO THE SELLING PRICE. — HE IS OPEN FOR CASH, TIME, TRADE-DICKER OR WHAT HAVE YOU?




GASOLINE ALLEY—A Positive Sign




SURELY YOU CAN HAVE PRIGGY IN SOME EVENING, LORA.

HE WAS THE ONE WHO SUGGESTED IT. HE'S REALLY VERY NICE.



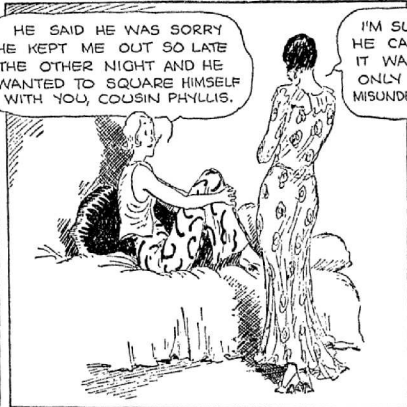
HE SAID HE WAS SORRY HE KEPT ME OUT SO LATE THE OTHER NIGHT AND HE WANTED TO SQUARE HIMSELF WITH YOU, COUSIN PHYLLIS.

I'M SURE HE CAN. IT WAS ONLY A MISUNDERSTANDING.



I THINK YOU'LL LIKE HIM. HE'S DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER BOYS.

LORA, THIS MUST BE SERIOUS. I'VE HEARD YOU SAY SO MANY TIMES THAT BOYS ARE ALL ALIKE.



GASOLINE ALLEY—But Still Going Strong

I THOUGHT YOU WERE OFF SELLING YOUR CAR, AVERY! I SEE YOU BROUGHT IT BACK.

I UNDERSTOOD THE PUBLIC WOULD BE CLAMORING FOR IT.

SAY, I COULDN'T GIVE IT AWAY.

I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT.

SO YOUR TRIP WAS ALL FOR NOTHING.

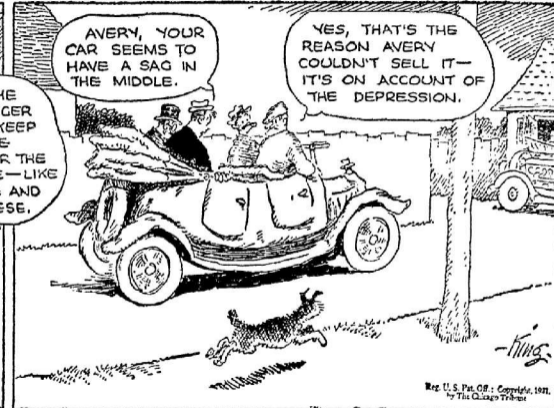
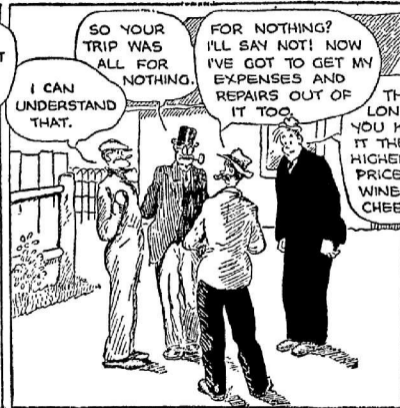
FOR NOTHING? I'LL SAY NOT! NOW I'VE GOT TO GET MY EXPENSES AND REPAIRS OUT OF IT TOO.

THE LONGER YOU KEEP IT THE HIGHER THE PRICE—LIKE WINE AND CHEESE.

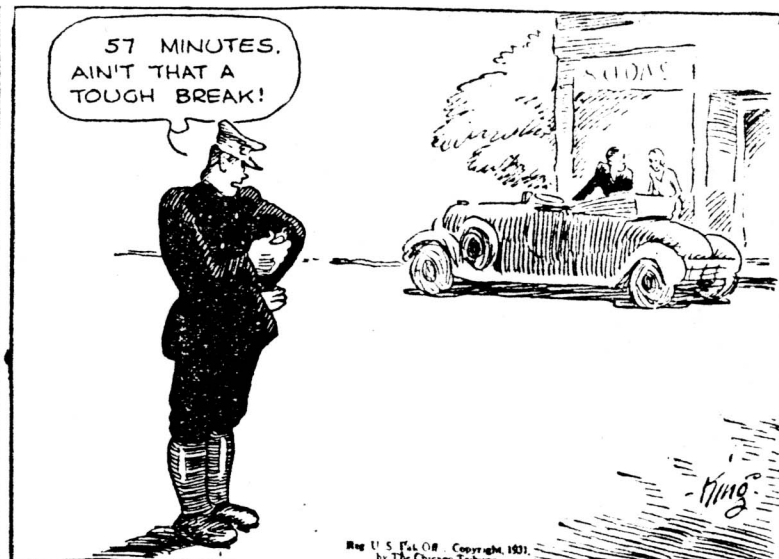
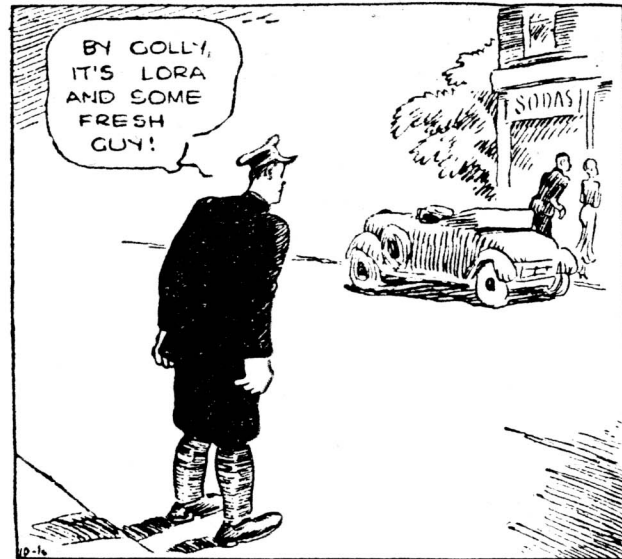
AVERY, YOUR CAR SEEMS TO HAVE A SAG IN THE MIDDLE.

YES, THAT'S THE REASON AVERY COULDN'T SELL IT—IT'S ON ACCOUNT OF THE DEPRESSION.

-King-



GASOLINE ALLEY—ALMOST A CUSTOMER



GASOLINE ALLEY—WHY IS A DEPRESSION?

UNCLE WALT, CAN I HAVE A DIME FOR A FLASHLIGHT BATTERY?

MONEY IS HARD TO GET NOWADAYS, SKEEZIX, ON ACCOUNT OF THE DEPRESSION.

I KNOW IT'S HARD TO GET. THIS IS THE THIRD DAY I'VE ASKED.

BUT IT'S HARDER THAN THAT FOR ME TO GET.

WHAT'S A DEPRESSION AN' WHY IS IT HARD TO GET MONEY?

THAT'S ONE THAT OUR BIGGEST FINANCIERS AND ECONOMISTS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO ANSWER, SKEEZIX.

WHAT'S AN ECONOMIST, UNCLE WALT?

AN ECONOMIST IS A FINANCIER WITHOUT ANY MONEY.

King

GASOLINE ALLEY—Walt Tries the Same

GO AHEAD AND SQUAWK. WHO CARES.

EMIL, YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED — PICKING ON LITTLE CHILDREN LIKE THAT.

YOU'RE BIGGERN I AM. I'M GOIN' TO TELL MY FATHER!

I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS. I'M GLAD I DID IT.

Walt



GASOLINE ALLEY—COMMUNITY SERVICE

IT MAKES ME MAD TO SEE A BULLY LIKE EMIL SCARING AND PICKING ON THE LITTLE KIDS. I GAVE HIM A GOOD SHAKING YESTERDAY.

I HAVE FELT LIKE IT MYSELF.

HIS PARENTS OUGHT TO THANK YOU FOR IT.

YES BUT I'LL LAY A BET THEY WON'T.

I WOULD IF ANYBODY SAW MINE ABUSING SOMEBODY HALF HIS SIZE.

A LOT OF PARENTS HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEIR KIDS ARE UP TO

AND IF ANYBODY TELLS 'EM THEY DON'T BELIEVE IT.

EMIL COMES BY IT HONESTLY—HIS FATHER IS PRETTY MEAN.

I DON'T WANT TO WORRY YOU, WALT, BUT I HOPE HE DOESN'T START ANYTHING.

YES, IF YOU GET INTO A JAM, WALT, I'LL HELP YOU ALL I CAN.

GASOLINE ALLEY—MUST BE A COUPLE OTHER FELLAS



GASOLINE ALLEY—AND THEY CALL THAT GRATITUDE

THAT SUMMONS THE PROCESS SERVER SOCKED ME WITH YESTERDAY WAS AN INVITATION FROM ELMER K. GULK TO A LAWSUIT.

IS HE THE HITCH-HIKER YOU WERE GIVING A RIDE?



YES. AND WE BOTH WENT IN THE SAME DITCH. YOU DON'T HEAR ME MAKING A HOWL ABOUT IT DO YOU?



YES SIR, MR. WICKER, OUT OF THE KINDNESS OF MY HEART I PICKED HIM UP AND WHAT DO I GET? A DAMAGE SUIT.

IF YOU PICK THEM UP YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE YOUR CHANCES.

BUT IT WASN'T AVERY'S FAULT THE STEERING GEAR BUSTED.

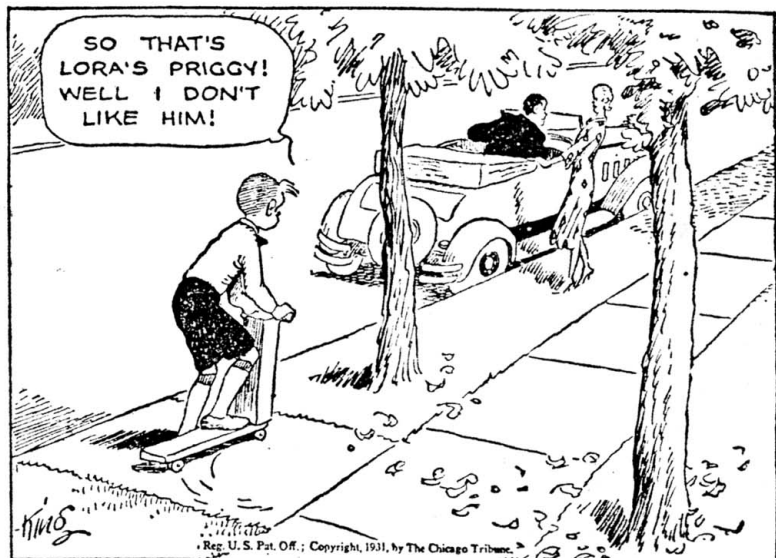
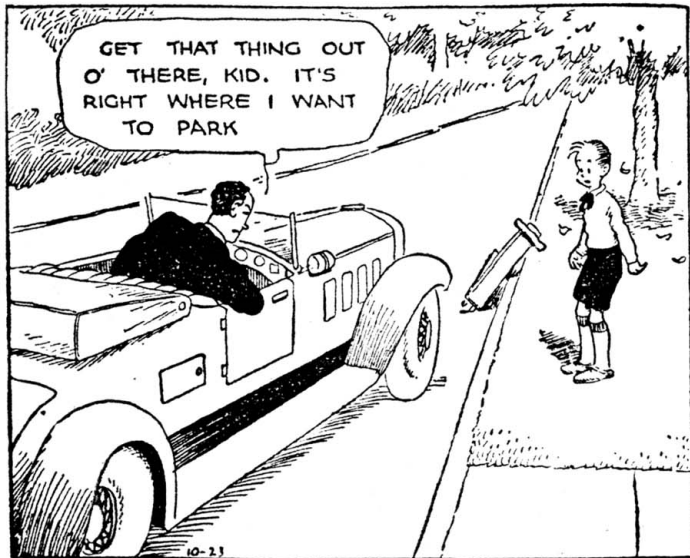
I'D HAND THIS BIRD FIVE BUCKS AND TELL HIM TO SCRAM.

I WOULDN'T GIVE HIM A CENT. I HOPE AVERY FIGHTS HIM.



King

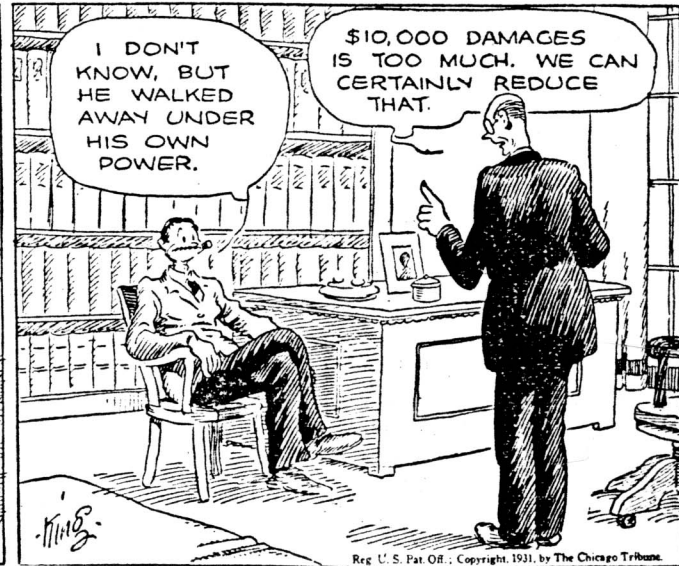
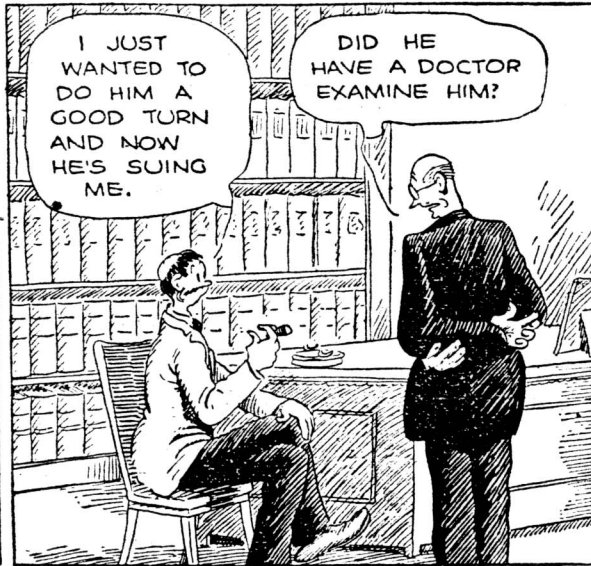
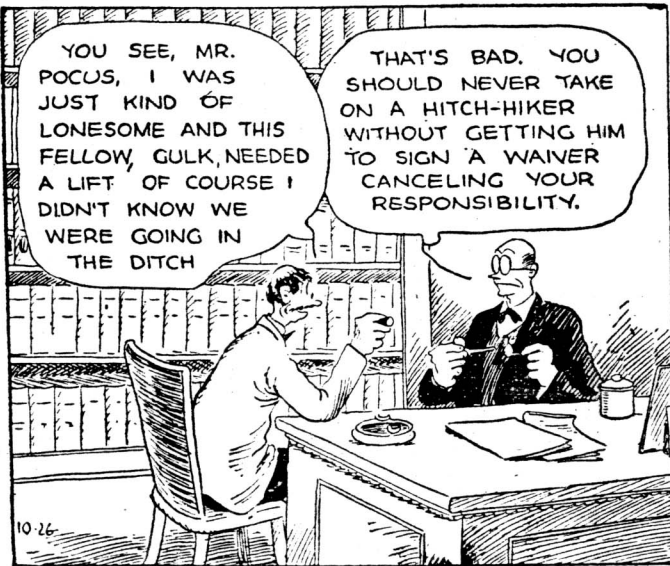
GASOLINE ALLEY—FLUNKED OUT



GASOLINE ALLEY—TWO TO ONE AGAINST



GASOLINE ALLEY—GETTING THE LEGAL LOW-DOWN



GASOLINE ALLEY—THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

THE TRIAL IS ON. AVERY, SUED FOR \$10,000 DAMAGES BECAUSE HIS CAR LEFT THE ROAD AND SPILLED HIM AND A HITCHHIKER INTO THE DITCH, WATCHES AND LISTENS WITH INTEREST AND TREPIDATION.

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00

NOW, MR. GULK, YOU HAVE TESTIFIED THAT THE AFTER EFFECTS OF THIS UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT WERE BRUISES, CONTUSIONS, CUTS, STRAINED LIGAMENTS, INTERNAL INJURIES AND WHAT NOT. YET YOU GOT UP AND WALKED AWAY UNAIDED DID YOU NOT?

I TOLD YOU IT WASN'T TILL AFTERWARDS THAT THESE THINGS BEGAN TO SHOW UP.

ANSWER THE QUESTION.

YOUR HONOR I OBJECT. THESE QUESTIONS ARE IRRELEVANT AND IMMATERIAL.

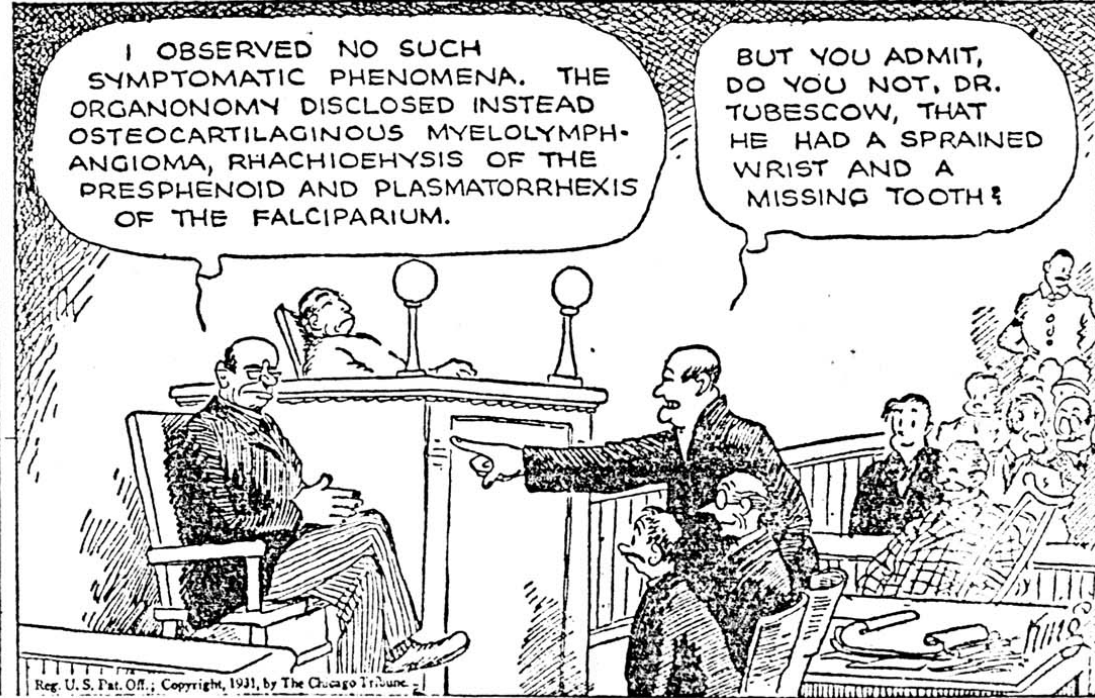
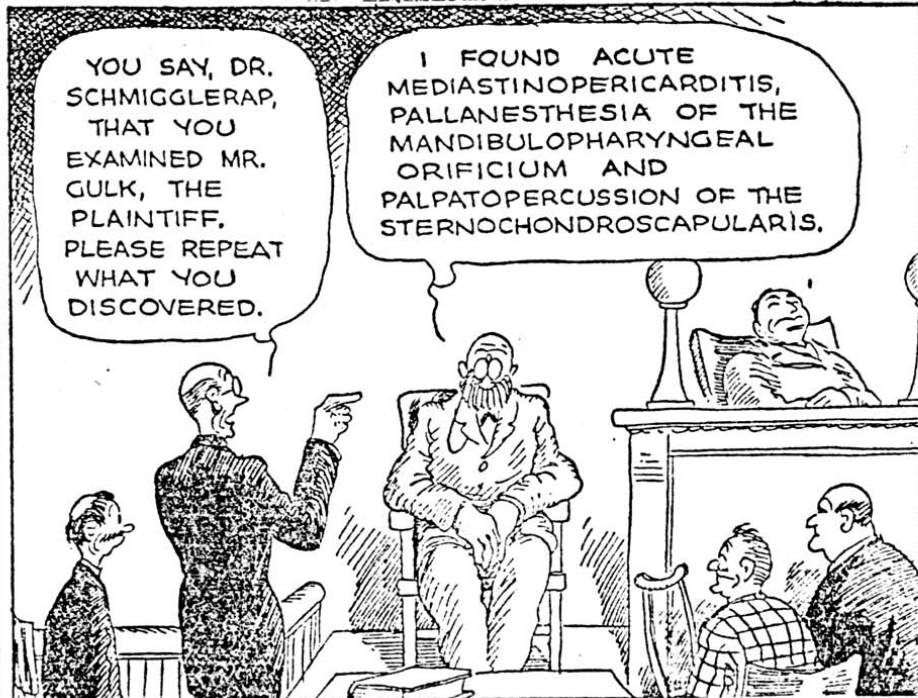
IT IS VERY EVIDENT, MR. GULK, THAT YOUR SUFFERING IS MUCH GREATER HERE IN THE COURT THAN IT IS ON THE STREET.

WHY NOT? SOME LAWYERS GIVE ME A PAIN.

GASOLINE ALLEY—Not to Mention Torn Pants

TWO EXPERTS ARE CALLED TO TESTIFY IN THE \$10,000 DAMAGE SUIT OF ELMER K. GULK VS. AVERY. DR. SCHMIGGLERAP IS A WITNESS FOR THE PLAINTIFF AND IS CROSS-EXAMINED BY AVERY'S ATTORNEY. DR. TUBESCOW, ENGAGED BY AVERY, IS SHOWN BEING CROSS-EXAMINED BY OPPOSING COUNSEL.

10-28



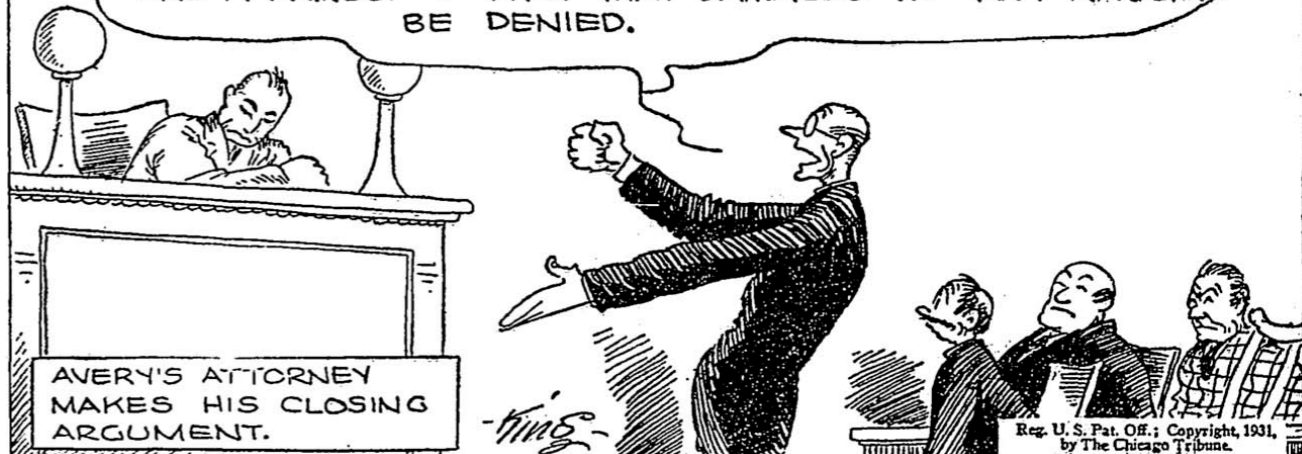
THE \$10,000 SUIT AGAINST AVERY CONTINUES. ELMER K. GULK, THE COMPLAINING HITCH-HIKER, WHO CLAIMS DAMAGES TO BODY, NERVES, AND CLOTHING WHEN UPSET INTO A DITCH, HAS EVERYTHING TO GAIN, (MINUS ONE THIRD TO HIS ATTORNEY), AND NOTHING TO LOSE.

HERE, IF YOUR HONOR PLEASE, IS A MAN, ELMER K. GULK, BROKEN IN BODY AND SOUL, THE VICTIM OF NEGLIGENT CARELESSNESS. WITHOUT A THOUGHT OF SELF HE PLACES INFINITE CONFIDENCE AND TRUST IN THE DEFENDANT ONLY TO BE DASHED INTO THE DITCH AND CRUELLY MAIMED. THE \$10,000 WE ASK IS MERELY A PITTANCE—ONLY A FRAGMENT OF WHAT SHOULD BE AWARDED IF JUSTICE WERE TO BE DONE.



THE COMPLAINANT'S ATTORNEY SUMS UP THE CASE.

YOUR HONOR, THIS ACTION IS A BRAZEN PLOT TO VICTIMIZE THE DEFENDANT, AVERY, AND PREY UPON HIS GENEROUS AND KINDLY NATURE. WE HAVE PROVEN BEYOND A DOUBT THAT THIS ROADSIDE RACKETEER, GULK, BORROWED ONLY THIS WEEK THE CRUTCH AND WHEEL CHAIR BY WHICH HE HOPES TO IMPRESS THE COURT. HIS INJURIES ARE A FRAUD. I PRAY THAT DAMAGES IN ANY AMOUNT BE DENIED.

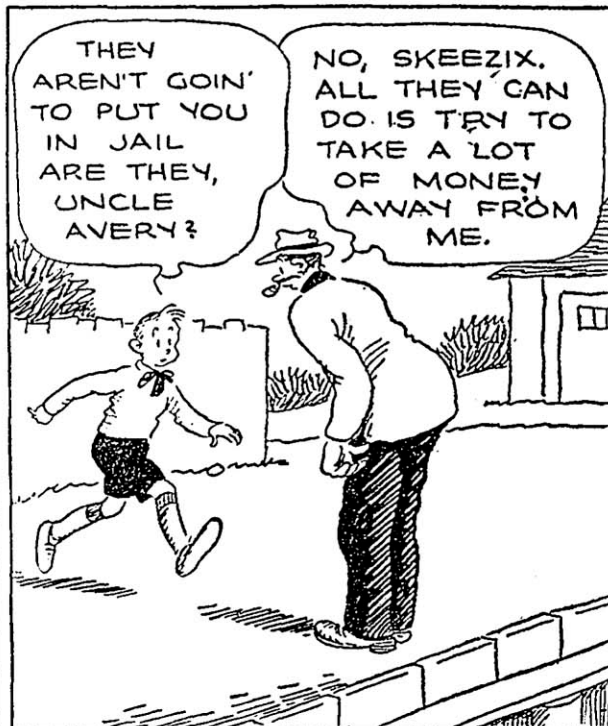


AVERY'S ATTORNEY MAKES HIS CLOSING ARGUMENT.



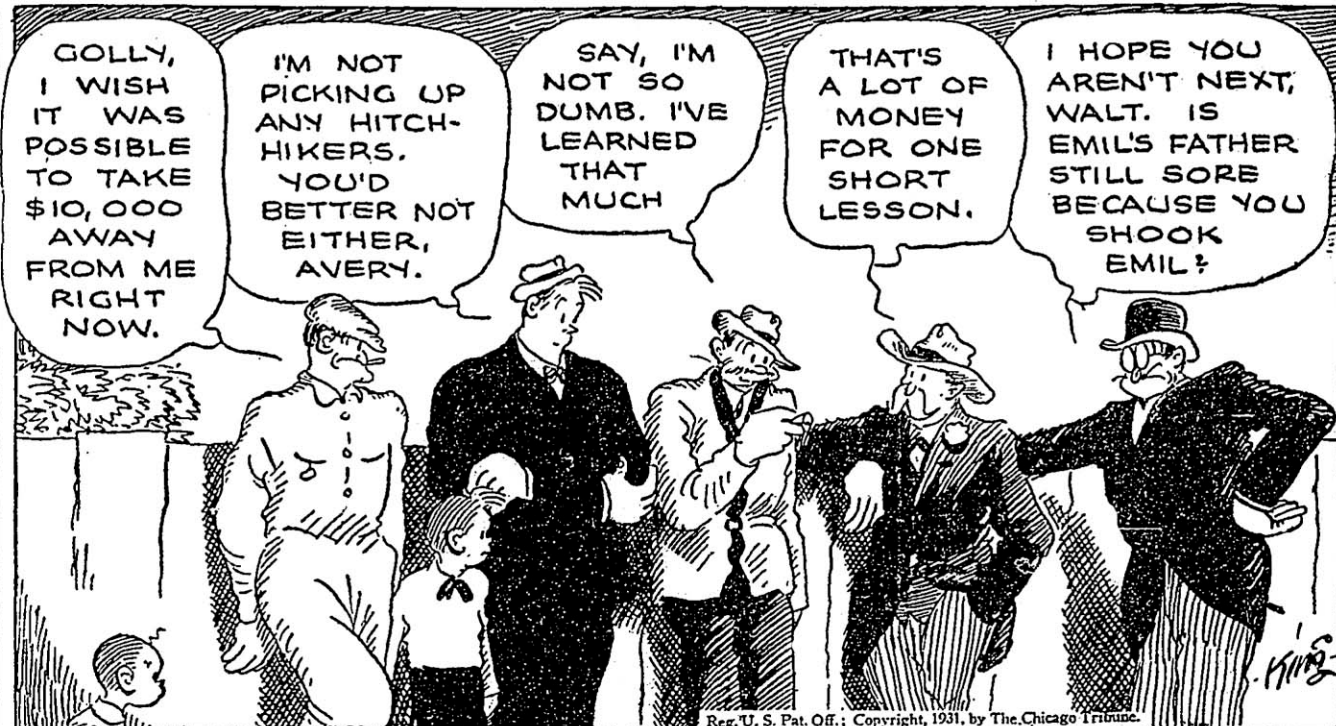
I HOPE THEY'LL HAVE A HEART IN THAT \$10,000 DAMAGE SUIT AGAINST YOU, AVERY.

THANKS, PHYLLIS. THE JUDGE 'GIVES HIS DECISION TOMORROW. I'LL KNOW THE WORST THEN.



THEY AREN'T GOIN' TO PUT YOU IN JAIL ARE THEY, UNCLE AVERY?

NO, SKEEZIX. ALL THEY CAN DO IS TRY TO TAKE A LOT OF MONEY AWAY FROM ME.



GOLLY, I WISH IT WAS POSSIBLE TO TAKE \$10,000 AWAY FROM ME RIGHT NOW.

I'M NOT PICKING UP ANY HITCHHIKERS. YOU'D BETTER NOT EITHER, AVERY.

SAY, I'M NOT SO DUMB. I'VE LEARNED THAT MUCH

THAT'S A LOT OF MONEY FOR ONE SHORT LESSON.

I HOPE YOU AREN'T NEXT, WALT. IS EMIL'S FATHER STILL SORE BECAUSE YOU SHOOK EMIL?

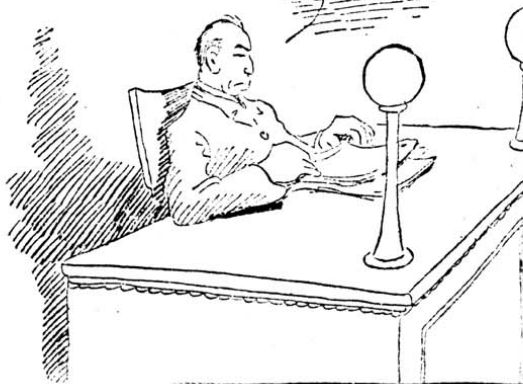
GASOLINE ALLEY—OUTRAGEOUS, SAYS AVERY

HEAR YE,
HEAR YE!

THE JUDGE IS READY TO RENDER A DECISION IN THE \$10,000 PERSONAL INJURY SUIT, GULK VS. AVERY.

HITCH-HIKER RIDE DITCH LAWSUIT.

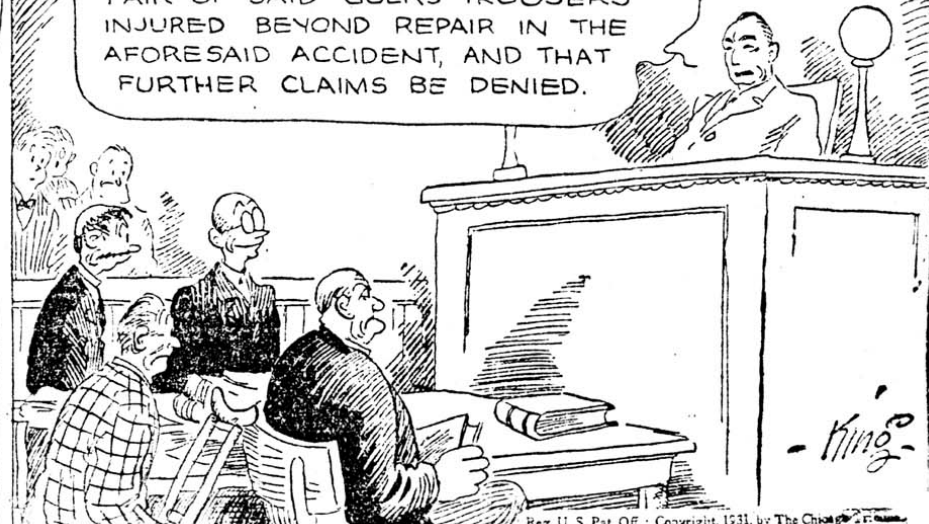
DULY PONDERING THE EVIDENCE SET FORTH IN THIS CASE THE COURT FULLY RECOGNIZES THE LIABILITY OF THE DEFENDANT, AVERY, AS WELL AS THE PURPORTED INJURIES TO THE PLAINTIFF, ELMER K. GULK.



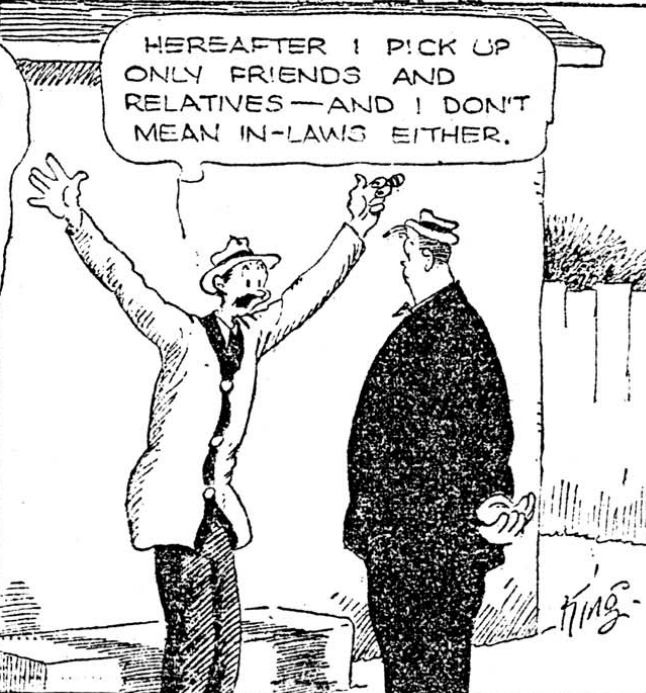
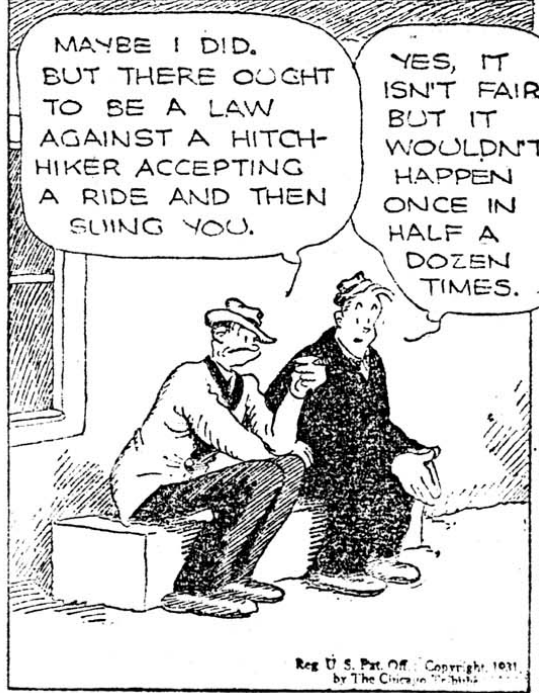
HOWEVER, THE COURT HAS REACHED THE DECISION THAT \$10,000 DAMAGES IS EXCESSIVE. HE DOES NOT ABSOLVE AVERY, WHO PICKED UP AN UNKNOWN HITCH-HIKER ON A PUBLIC ROAD, OF RESPONSIBILITY.



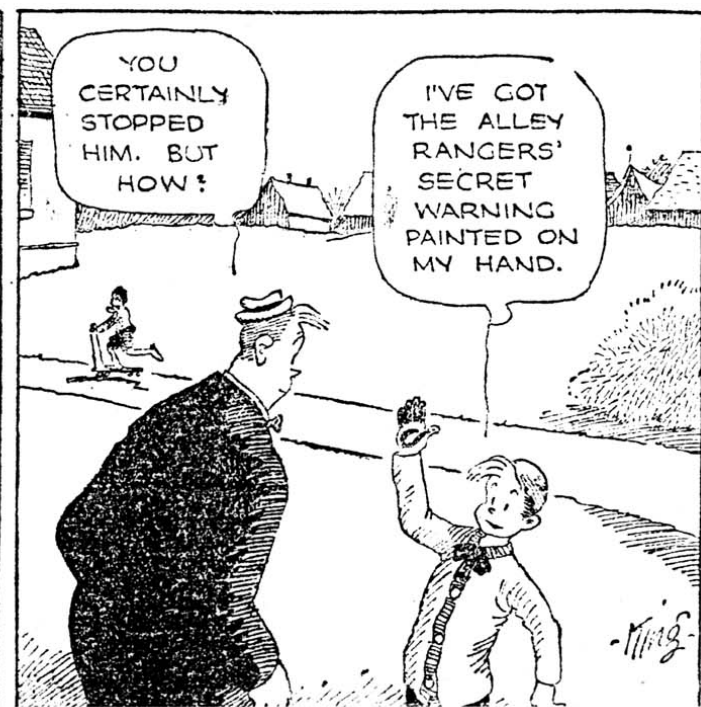
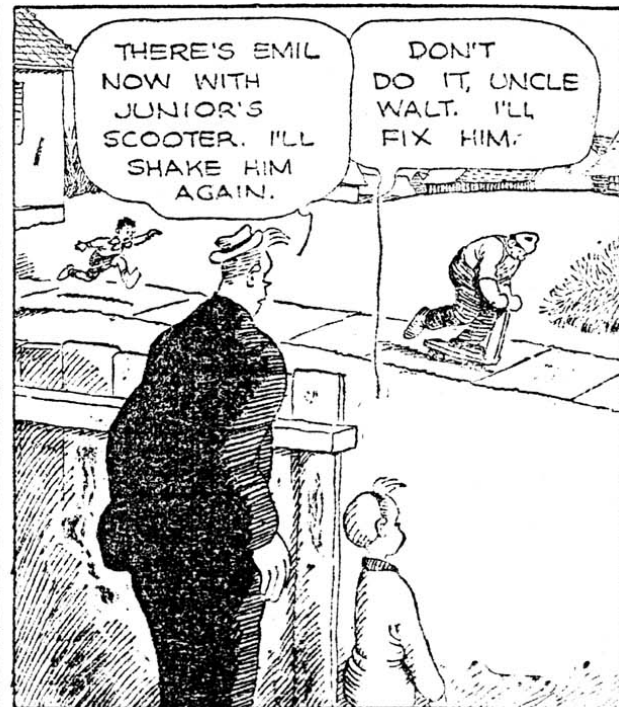
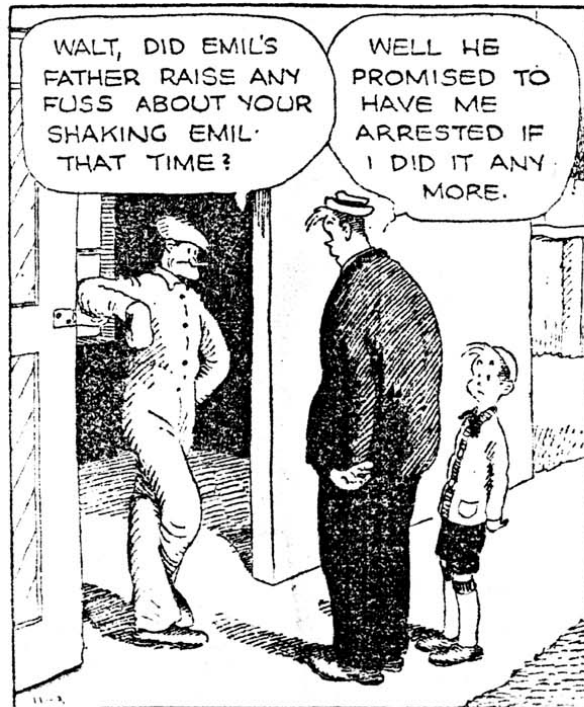
THE VERDICT OF THIS COURT IS THAT SAID AVERY PAY UNTO SAID GULK THE SUM OF \$8.75 IN FULL SETTLEMENT OF DAMAGES TO ONE PAIR OF SAID GULK'S TROUSERS INJURED BEYOND REPAIR IN THE AFORESAID ACCIDENT, AND THAT FURTHER CLAIMS BE DENIED.



GASOLINE ALLEY—AND THAT'S THAT




GASOLINE ALLEY—IT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF



GASOLINE ALLEY—A PAIR OF DISSENTING VOTES




GASOLINE ALLEY—NO SALE




I KNOW TIMES HAVE BEEN HARD THIS YEAR, LORA, BUT IS THIS PRIGGY THAT WAS HERE LAST NIGHT THE BEST YOU CAN DO?

DON'T MIND HIM, LORA. I THINK PRIGGY IS PRETTY NICE.




OH YOU DO, DO YOU? A WOMAN WILL FALL FOR ANYBODY THAT HANDS OVER A BUNCH OF FLOWERS.

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU KNEW THAT ABOUT US, WALT. WHY I DON'T YOU TRY IT?



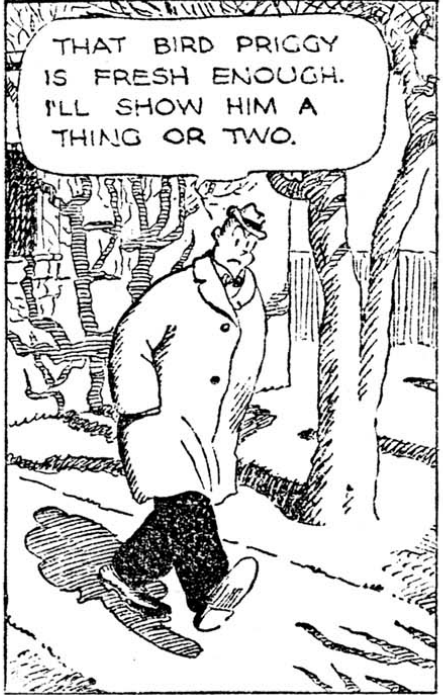
I SPEND MY TIME FURNISHING SOMETHING MORE SUBSTANTIAL—FOOD AND CLOTHES AND RENT. BUT THOSE AREN'T THE THINGS THAT MAKE A HIT IT SEEMS.

WALT, DEAR, YOU WOULDN'T BE SO UNREASONABLE.

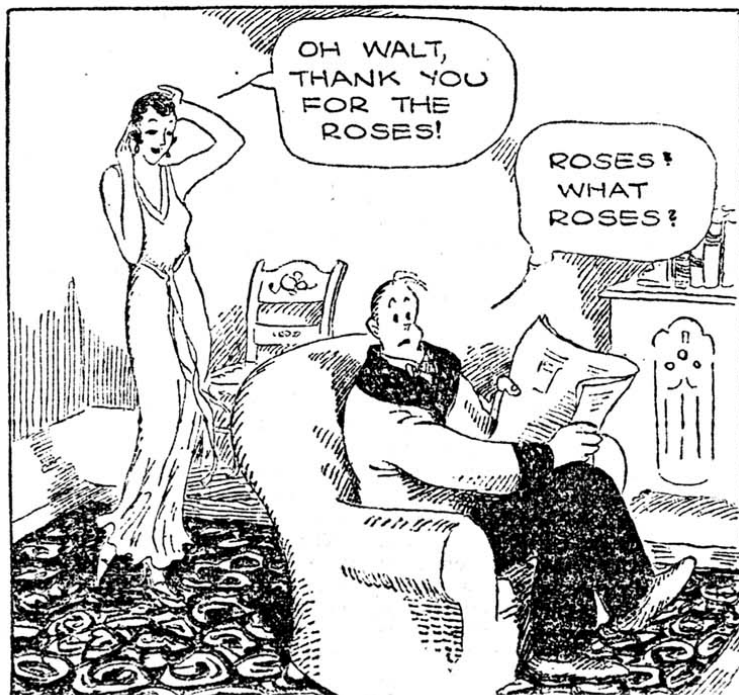


YOU COULDN'T HIRE ME TO WEAR ONE OF THOSE THINGS

GASOLINE ALLEY—THAT'S GETTING EVEN



GASOLINE ALLEY—ONE OR THE OTHER



OH WALT,
THANK YOU
FOR THE
ROSES!

ROSES?
WHAT
ROSES?



NOW, HONEY, DON'T
BE SO INNOCENT.
I KNEW RIGHT AWAY
IT WAS NOBODY BUT
YOU.

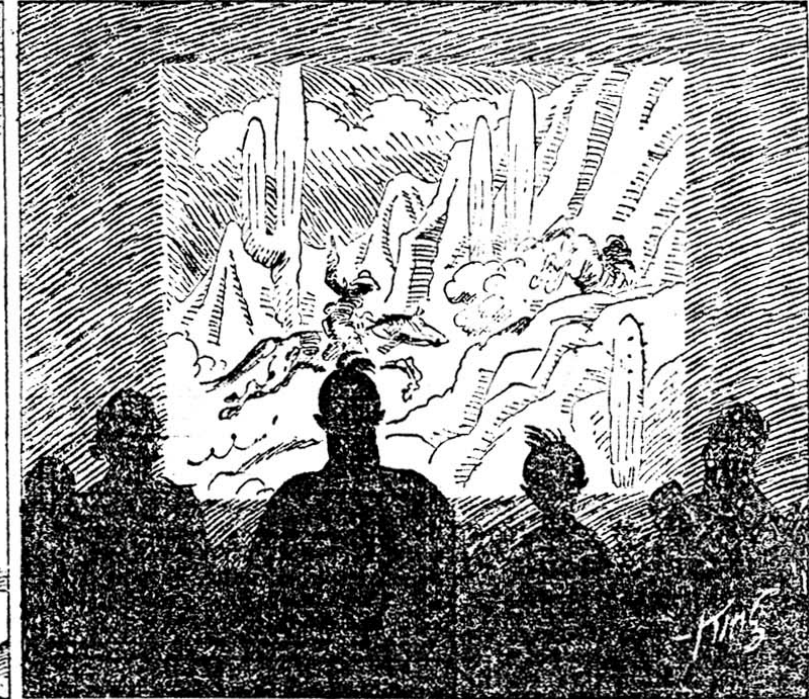
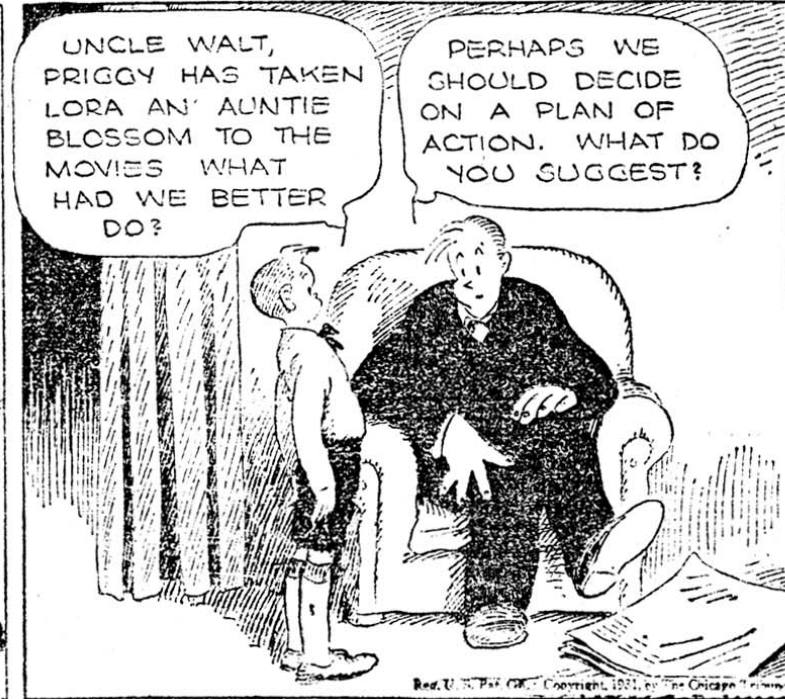
WHAT MAKES
YOU THINK I SENT
THEM, PHYLLIS?
OTHER PEOPLE,
IT SEEMS, FURNISH
YOU ROSES.

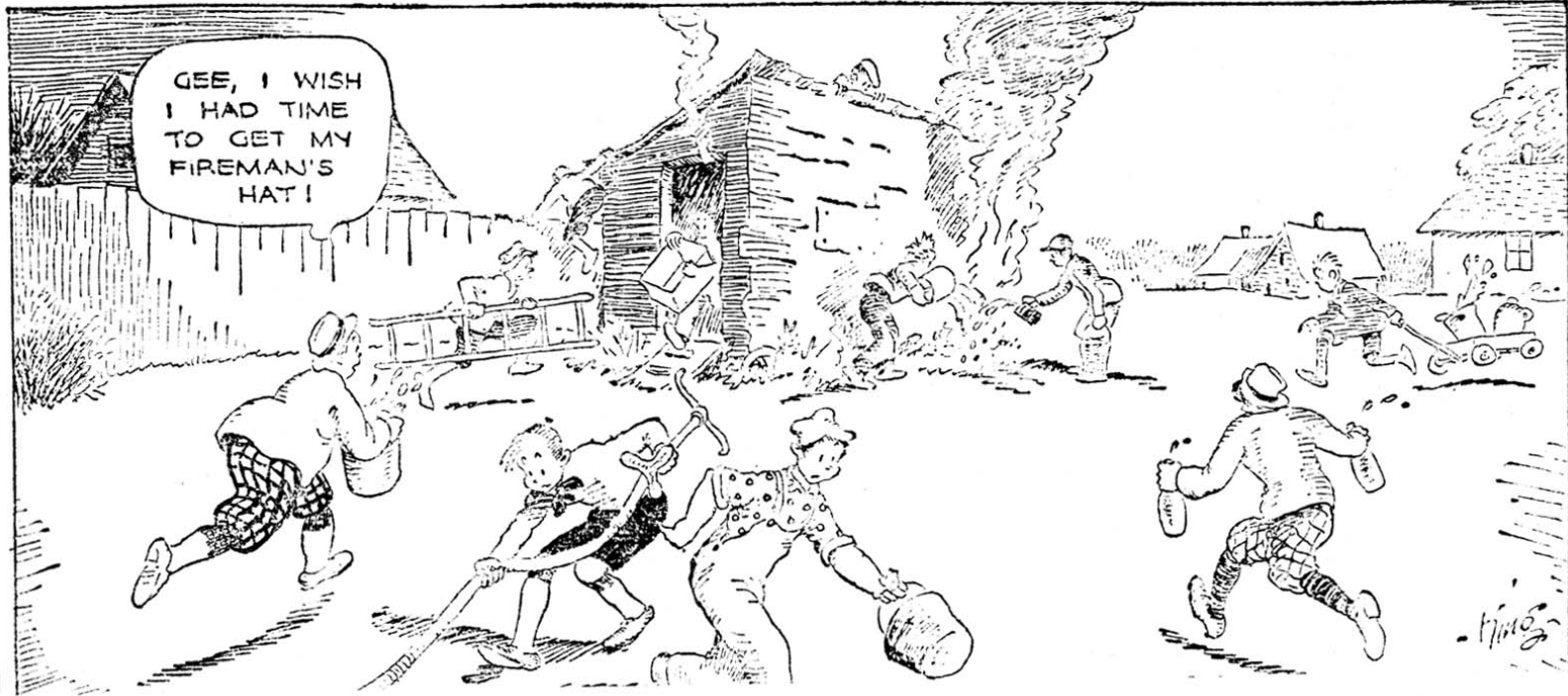
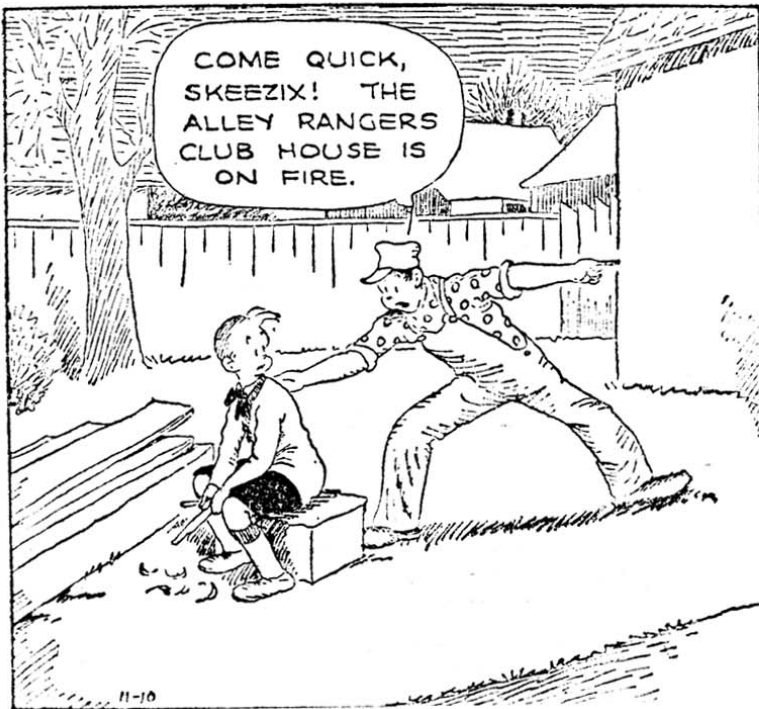


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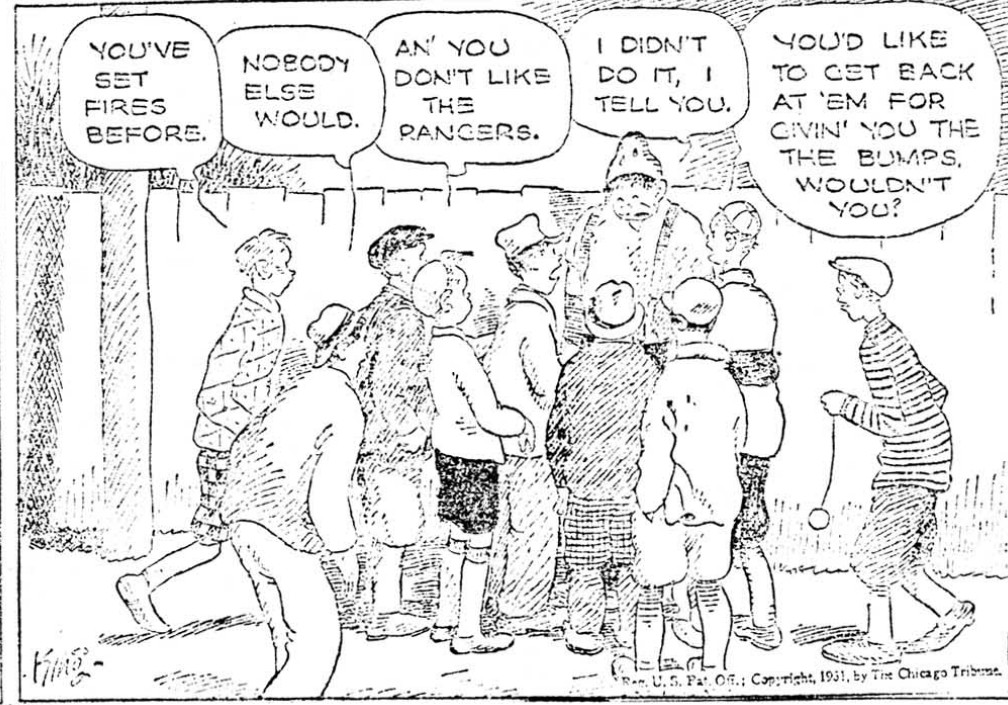
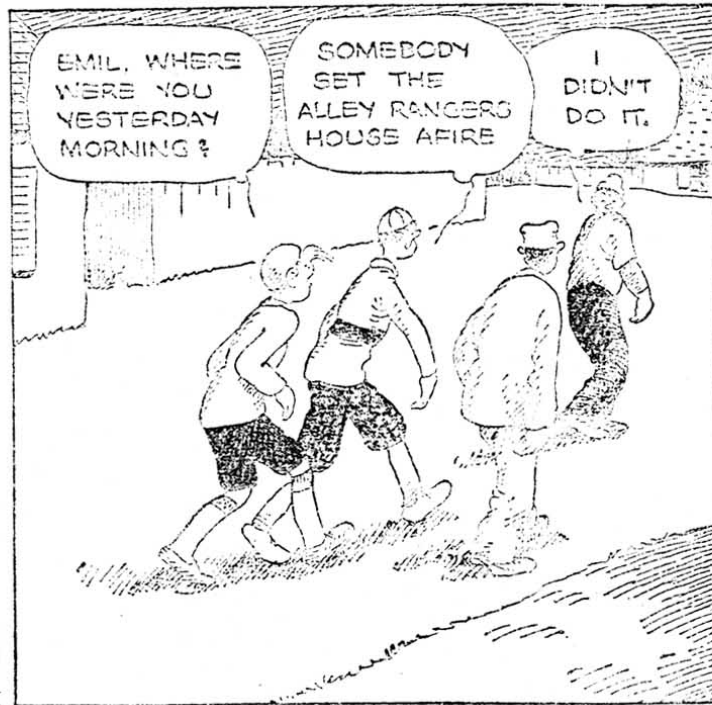
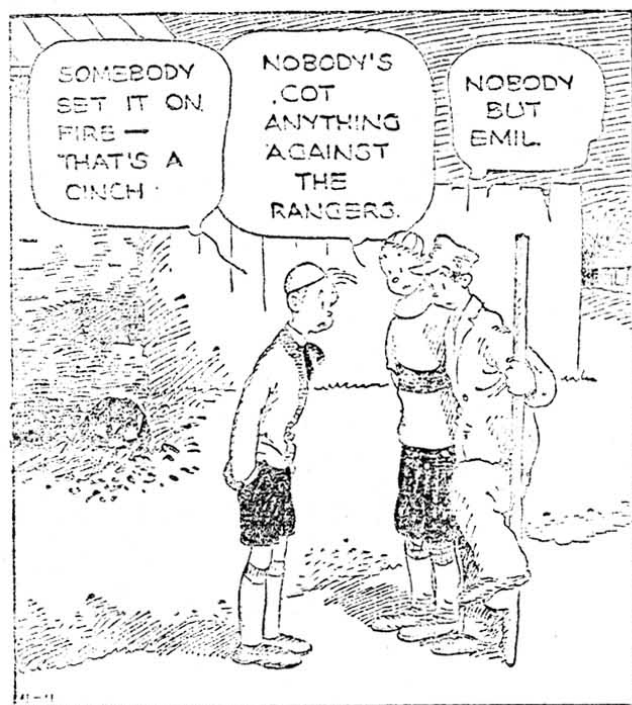
I KNEW THAT ANYBODY
WHO WOULD SEND ME FIVE
DOZEN ROSES WAS
AWFULLY NICE AND AWFULLY
PREEVED.

GASOLINE ALLEY—THAT SIMPLIFIES MATTERS

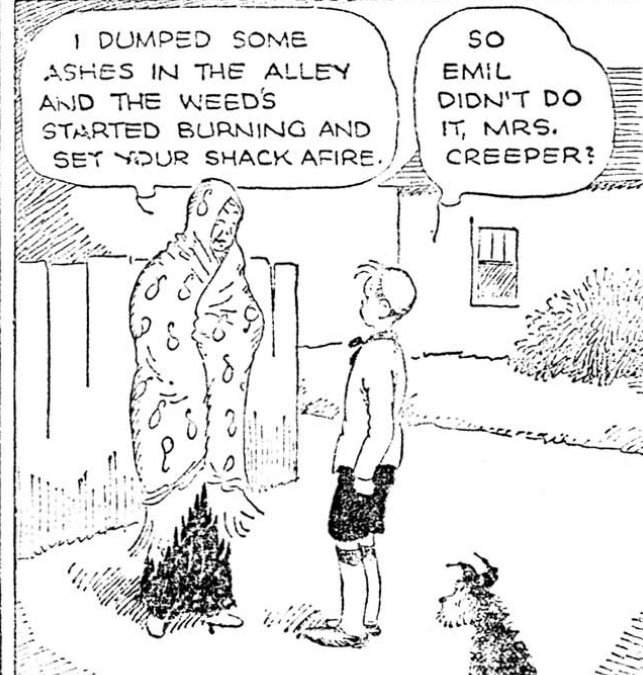
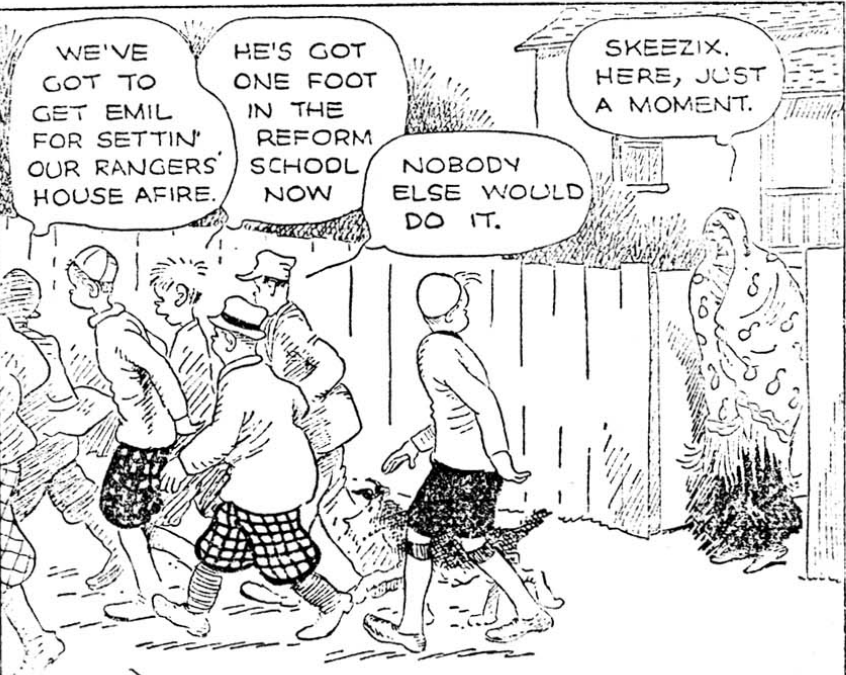




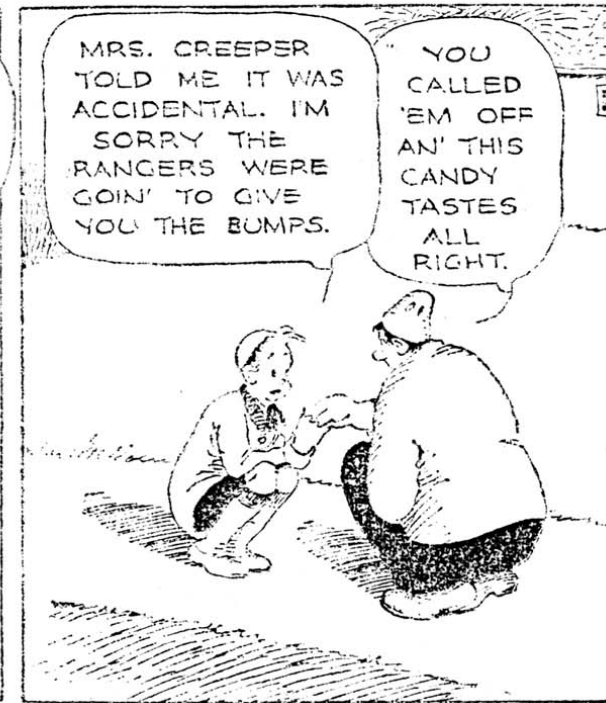
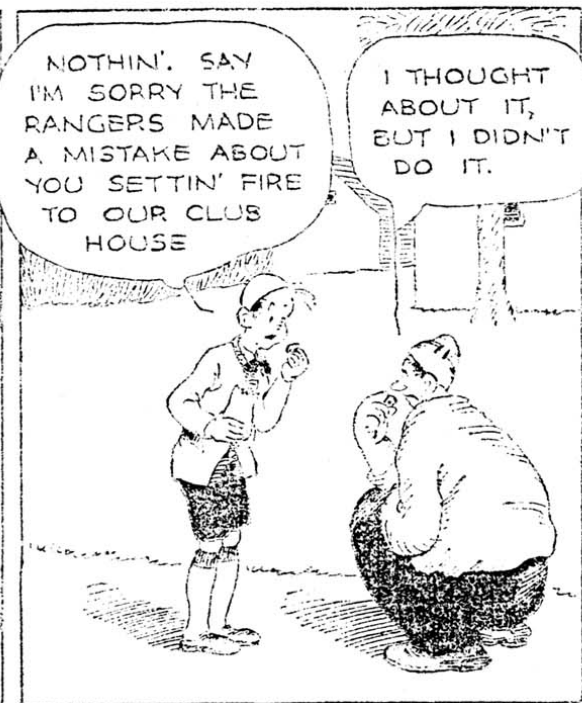
GASOLINE ALLEY—PUBLIC OPINION



GASOLINE ALLEY—REPRIEVE



GASOLINE ALLEY—ARMISTICE



GASOLINE ALLEY—AN' THAT'S THAT!

NO SAH. 'AN'
BESIDES I DON'T PAY
NO BILLS OVA NO
TELEPHONE. COME
AN' SAY IT TO MY
FACE.



I TOLD YOU EIGHT
TIMES I AIN'T GOIN'
PAY NO BACK
'STALLMENTS ON 'EM.
I AIN'T READ 'EM
AN' YOU CAN COME
AN' GET 'EM.



I DON'T CARE IF YOU
DOES SEND ME A BUNCH
O' LAW PAPAHS THAT THICK.
I IS THROUGH AN' YOU
CAN CONSIDA THE
ACCIDENT CLOSED.



YES THAT GOES FOR
THAT ATTORNEY TOO. IF
HE COME AROUND HERE
HE GOIN' GET ALL EIGHT
VOLUMES—ONE AT A
TIME BUT FAST.



King

GASOLINE ALLEY—MUST BE SOME MISTAKE

GEE, I ONLY GOT C IN ARITHMETIC. I SHOULD HAVE HAD AN A



SKEEZIX, HERE'S A NICKEL. TAKE THIS NOTE TO LORA, WILL YOU?

MAKE IT A DIME AN' I'LL DO IT.



HERE'S SOMETHING I WAS SUPPOSED TO GIVE YOU, AUNTIE BLOSSOM.



WHAT ON EARTH!
"DEAR HEART, MEET ME AT THE SWEETY SHOP TONIGHT. PRIGGY."



SKEEZIX, WHAT'S THE IDEA OF HANDING ME YOUR REPORT CARD?



GASOLINE ALLEY—YOU WERE YOUNG ONCE YOURSELF, WALT

KEEZIX MADE A SOCIAL ERROR—DELIVERED HIS REPORT CARD TO LORA AND AN ENDEARING NOTE WRITTEN BY PRIGGY, TO PHYLLIS—
AND IT WAS REALLY A MISTAKE.



GASOLINE ALLEY—A COUPLE OTHER MATTERS SETTLED

SO YOU GAVE THAT NOTE TO YOUR AUNTIE BLOSSOM INSTEAD OF LORA, DID YOU, YOU LITTLE RUNT!

BUT I GOT IT MIXED UP WITH MY REPORT CARD, PRIGGY

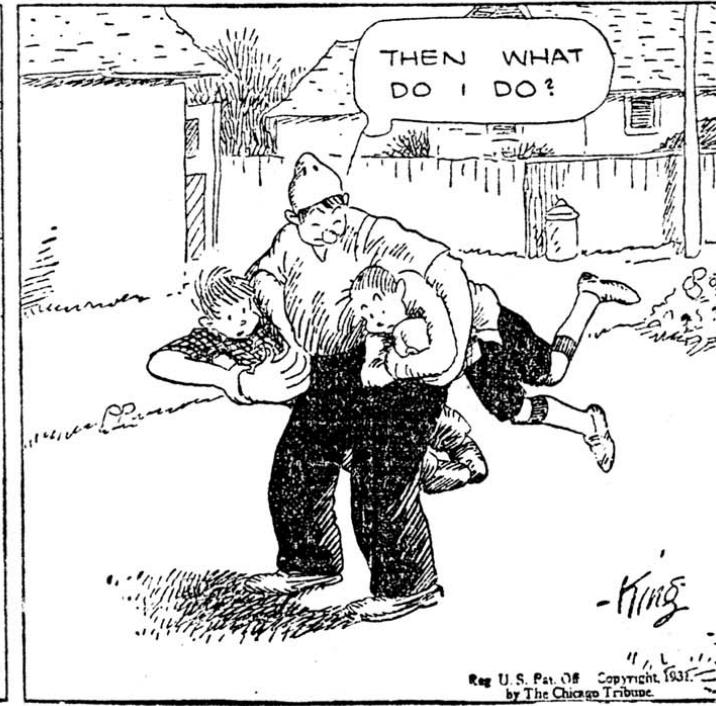
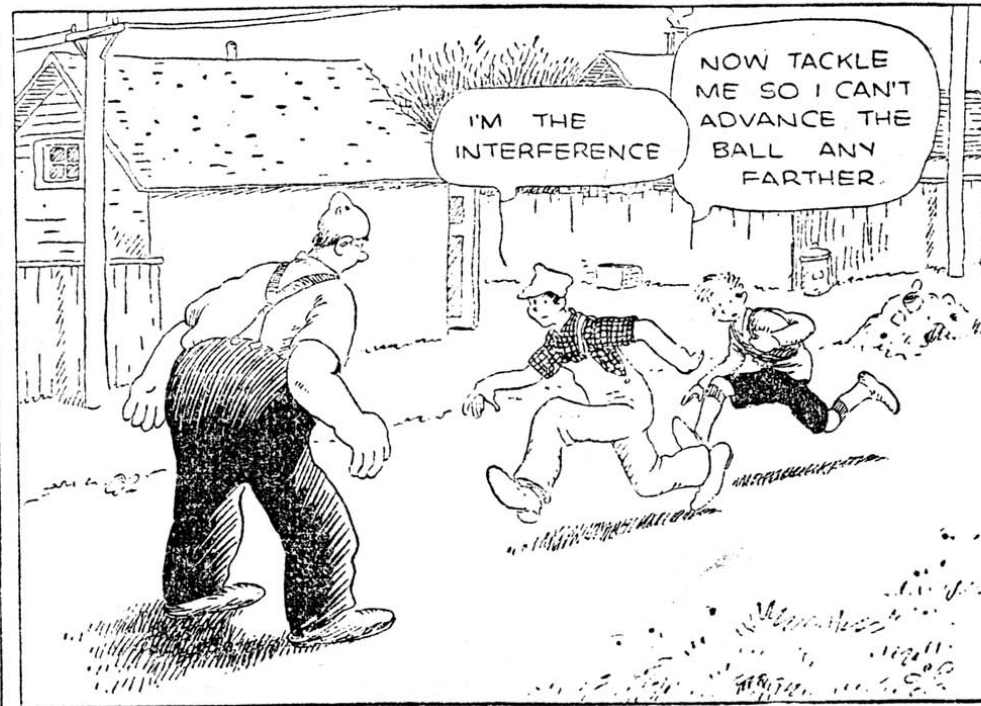
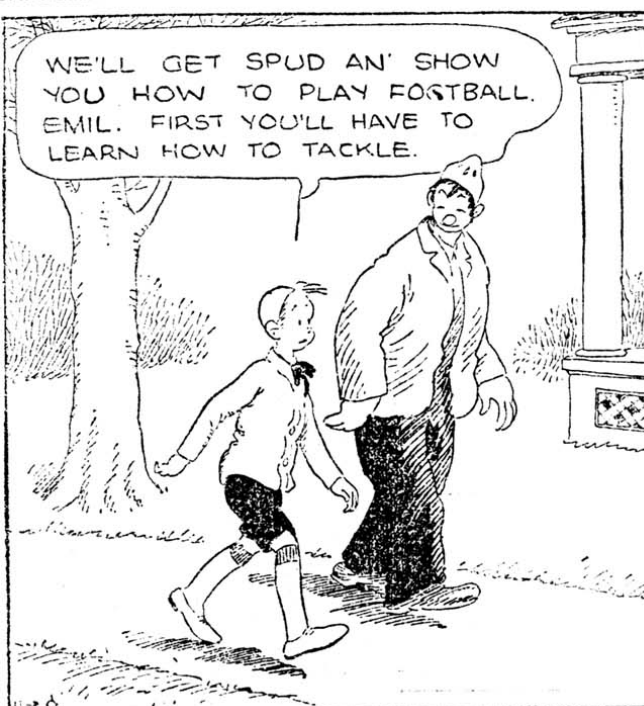
I BELIEVE YOU DID IT ON PURPOSE — JUST BECAUSE I GAVE YOU A NICKEL INSTEAD OF THE DIME YOU WANTED.

I OUGHT TO TAKE IT BACK FROM YOU RIGHT NOW.

TRY AN' GET IT!

ANYWAY UNCLE WALT SIGNED MY REPORT CARD WITHOUT MAKIN' A LOT O' REMARKS.

GASOLINE ALLEY—LESSON ONE



GASOLINE ALLEY—THE BIG PARADE

BY AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY EMIL YESTERDAY WAS ELECTED MASCOT OF THE GASOLINE ALLEY RANGERS.

WE WOULD HATE TO INTIMATE THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS BEING A FOOTBALL PLAYER INFLUENCED HIS ACCEPTANCE.



WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? RINGIN' IN A BIG GROWN-UP ELEPHANT LIKE THAT?'

HE'S ON OUR TEAM AN' HE ISN'T GROWN UP HE'S STILL IN THE THIRD GRADE.



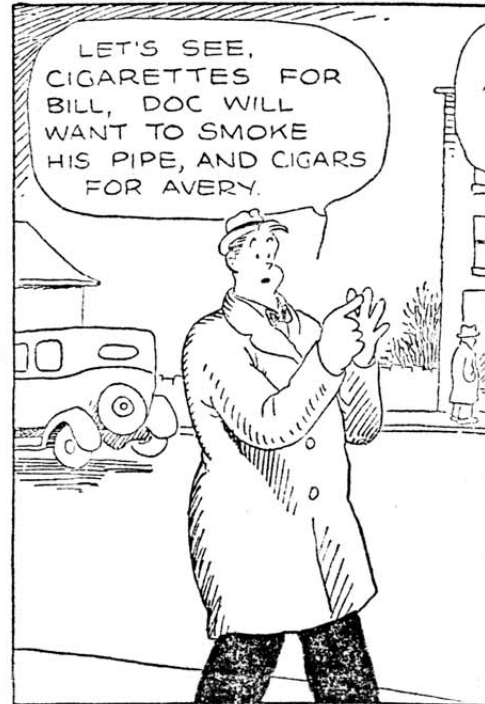
HOLD HIM YOU FELLAS

THE SCORE IN THE THIRD QUARTER IS NOW 37 TO 11
—
IN FAVOR OF THE ALLEY RANGERS WE MIGHT ADD.

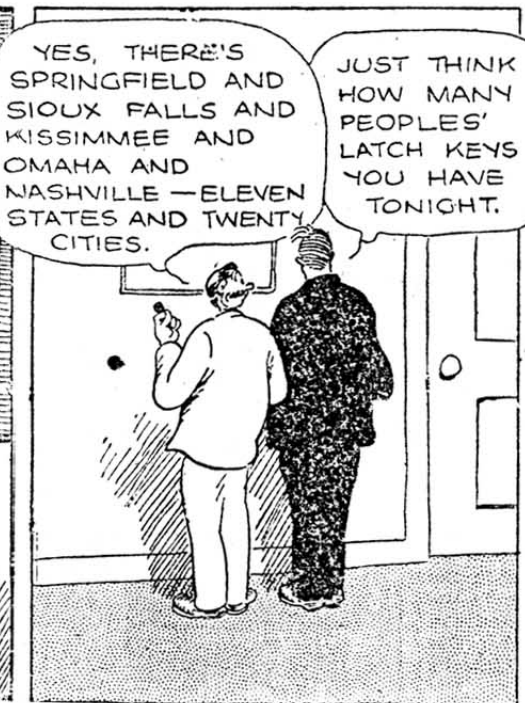
GASOLINE ALLEY—LET THIS BE A LESSON, SKEEZIX



GASOLINE ALLEY—SOUNDS LIKE A PARTY



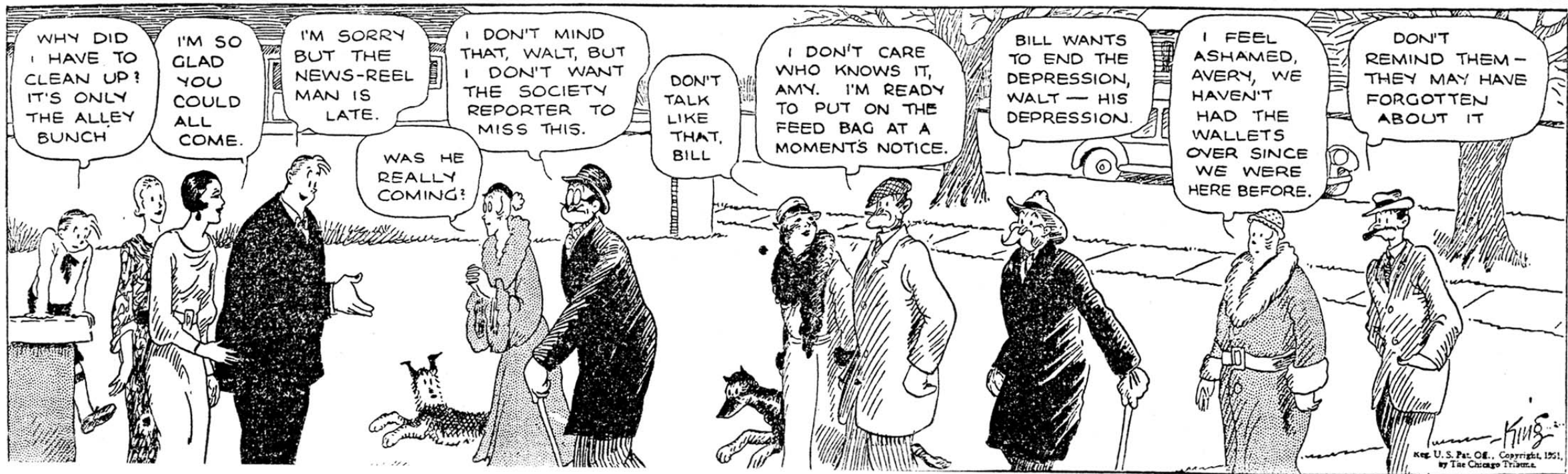
GASOLINE ALLEY—SHOW HIM YOUR COLLECTION OF HOOKED TOWELS



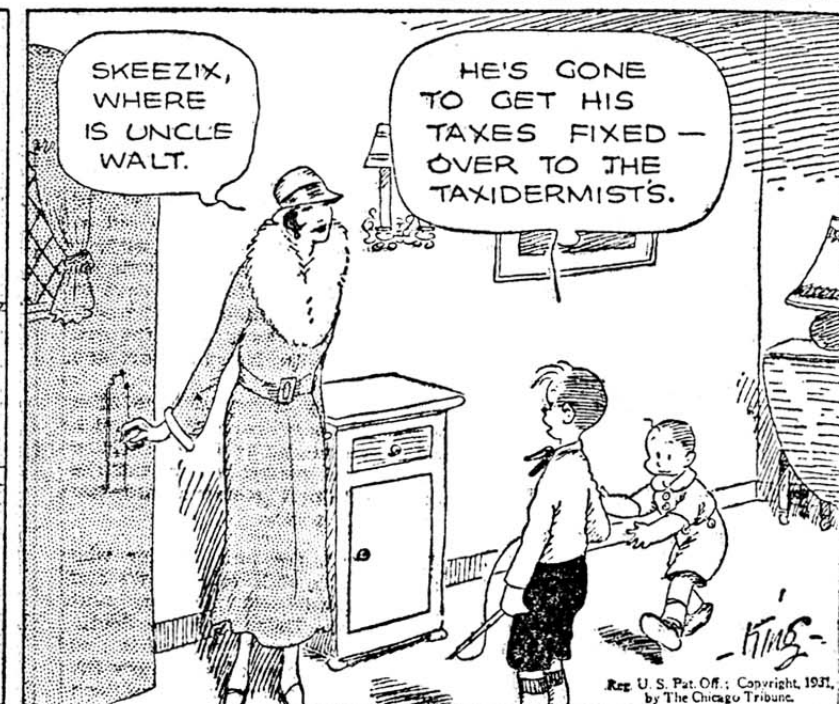
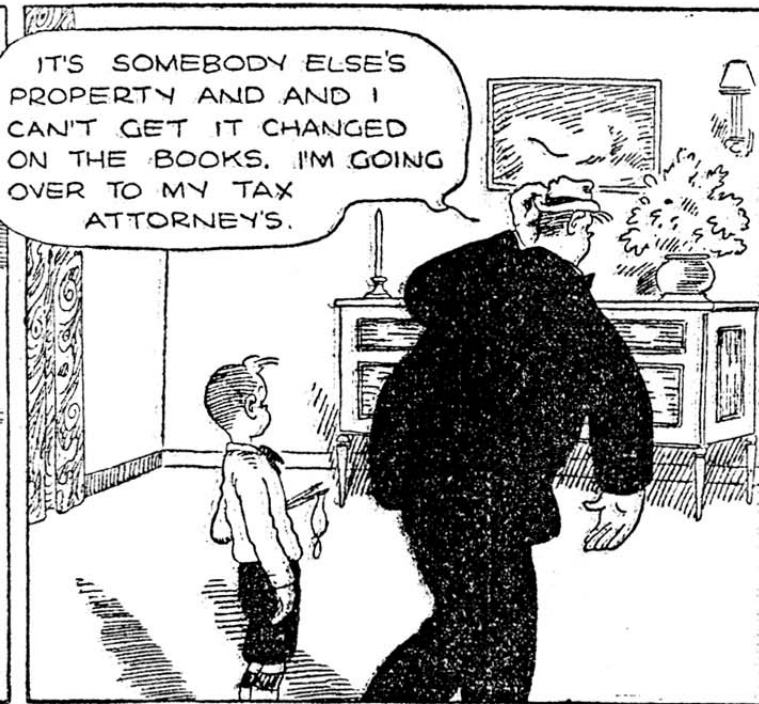
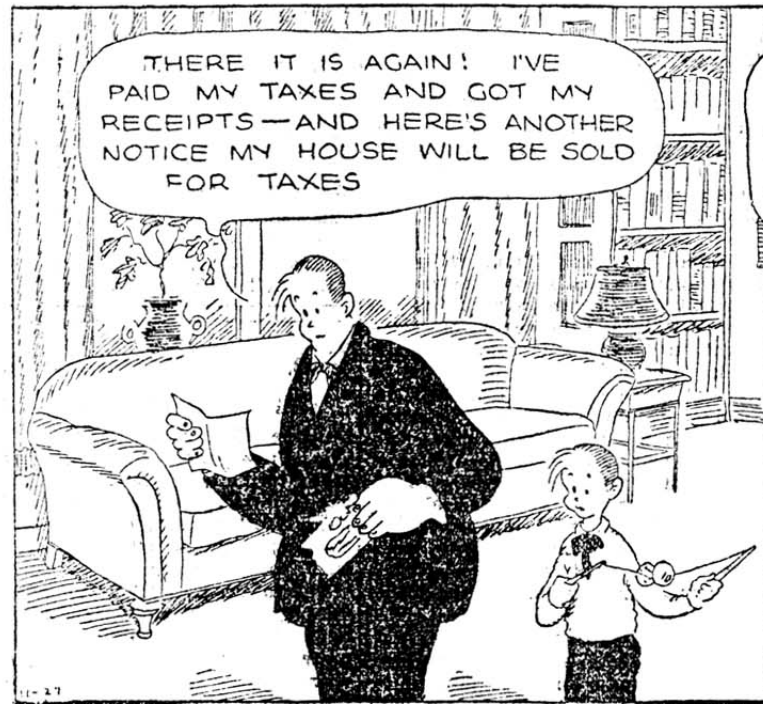
King

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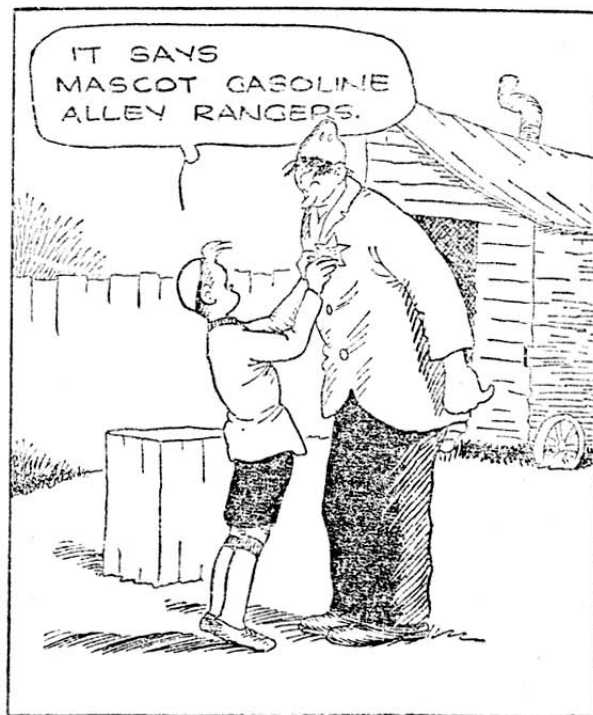
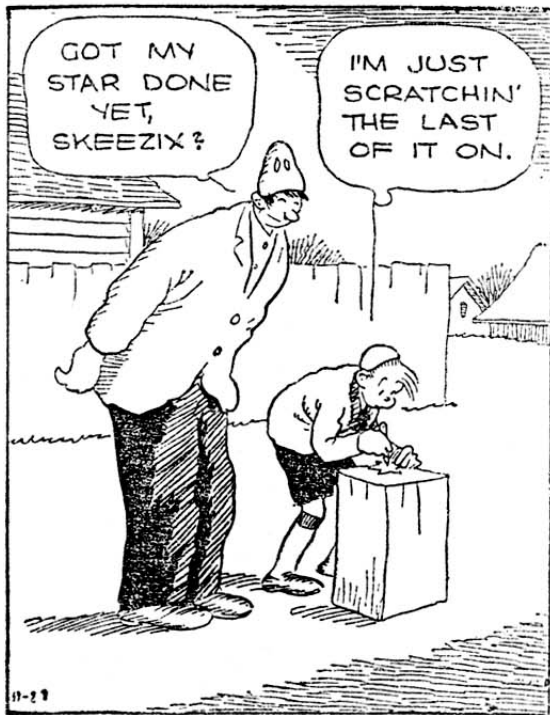
GASOLINE ALLEY — TURKEY, LOOK OUT!



GASOLINE ALLEY—WHY NOT?



GASOLINE ALLEY—THE LAW STEPS IN



GASOLINE ALLEY—SHAKY BUSINESS

PSST!
WALT!

THERE'S A FELLOW
HANGING AROUND
YOUR PLACE THAT
LOOKS TO ME LIKE
A PROCESS SERVER
IF I WAS YOU I'D
STAY AWAY.

I HAVEN'T
ANYTHING
TO FEAR,
AVERY.

EVEN IF
YOU'RE RIGHT I
MIGHT AS WELL
RUN ALONG
AND TAKE MY
MEDICINE.

DO AS
YOU LIKE,
WALT, BUT
I'D STAY
MISSING.

IT'S A SUMMONS TO
APPEAR IN COURT, MR.
WALLET, AND DEFEND
A SUIT FILED BY
ONE AUGUST RUMPH FOR
SHAKING HIS SON EMIL.

I DID SHAKE
HIM UP—BUT
THAT WAS
WEEKS AGO.
THIS IS A
SHAKE-DOWN!

- King -

GASOLINE ALLEY—ASK AVERY, HE KNOWS

EMIL, YOUR FATHER
SUED MY UNCLE
WALT BECAUSE
HE SHOOK YOU ONE
DAY. HE DIDN'T HURT
YOU ANY.

NAW,
HE
DIDN'T
HURT.

BESIDES
THAT, YOU
KNOW YOU
HAD IT COMIN'.
YOU WERE
PICKIN' ON
A LITTLE KID

THAT WAS
BEFORE I WAS
ALLEY RANGERS'
MASCOT. I DON'T
DO IT ANY MORE.

WHAT DID EMIL'S
FATHER SUE YOU
FOR? EMIL SAYS
YOU DIDN'T
HURT HIM A
BIT, UNCLE
WALT.

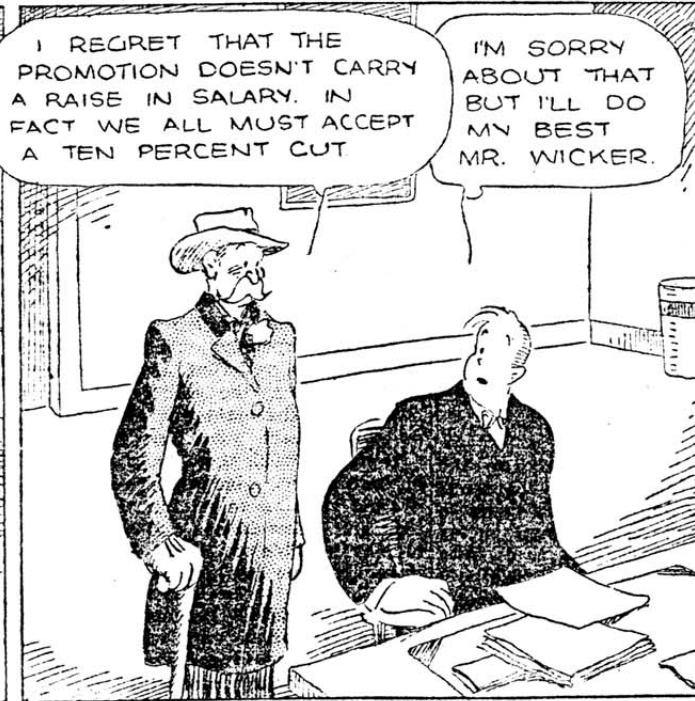
I KNEW
THAT BUT
I'M GLAD
HE ADMITS
IT.

IF YOU
CAN ONLY
GET EMIL
TO SAY
THAT ON
THE
STAND.

SURE,
HE'LL BE
YOUR
BEST
WITNESS,
WALT.

JUST THE
SAME, WALT,
IF YOU WIN
THE CASE
YOU'LL BE
STUCK FOR
THE ATTORNEYS'
FEES.

GASOLINE ALLEY—GOING UP!



GASOLINE ALLEY—NO SALE

WELL, MR WICKER HAS FIRED SMITH AND I'M PROMOTED TO GENERAL MANAGER!

THAT'S WONDERFUL, WALT! HOW MUCH MONEY DO YOU GET?

OH, NONE AT ALL. YOU SEE WE'VE ALL GOT TO ACCEPT A TEN PERCENT CUT.

ANYWAY IT WILL BE EASIER FOR YOU SOMEONE ELSE WILL BE DOING YOUR WORK.

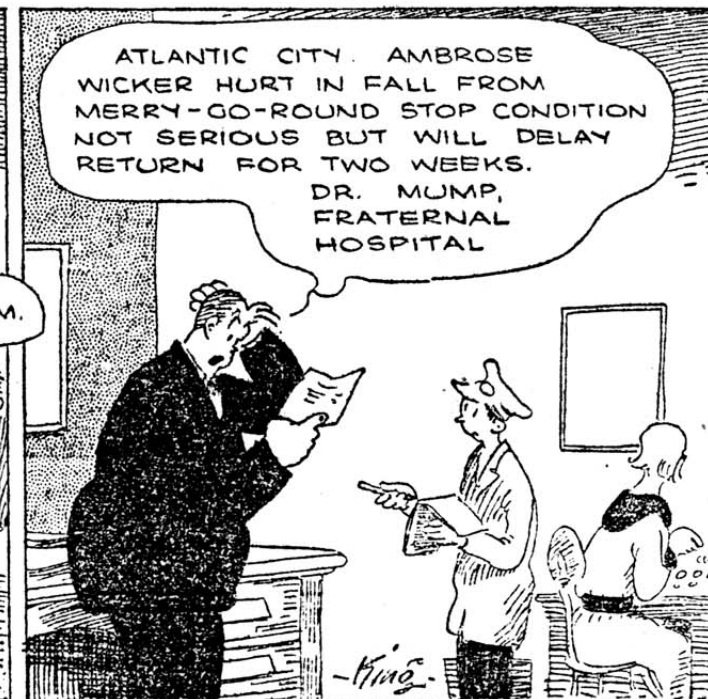
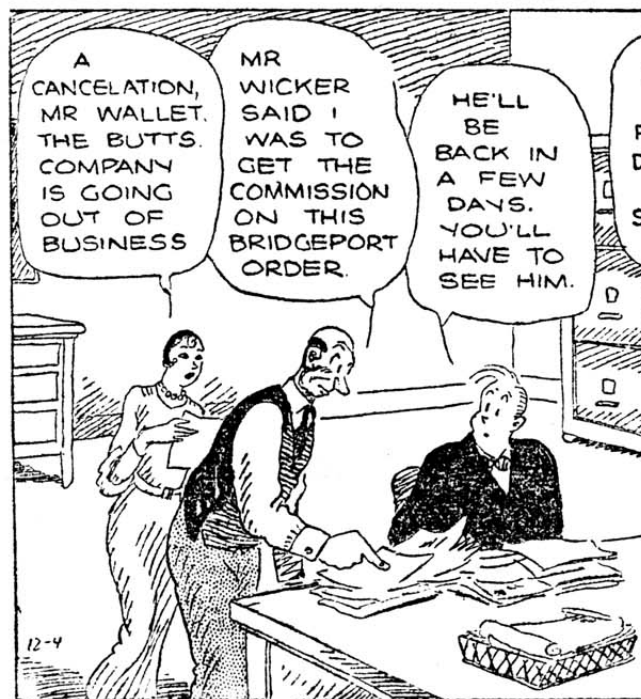
WELL NOT EXACTLY. YOU SEE BOTH POSITIONS HAVE BEEN COMBINED IT'S A PART OF MR WICKER'S ECONOMY PROGRAM.

IT LOOKS TO ME AS IF YOU WERE TAKING ON A LITTLE MORE HONOR AND A LOT MORE GRIEF.

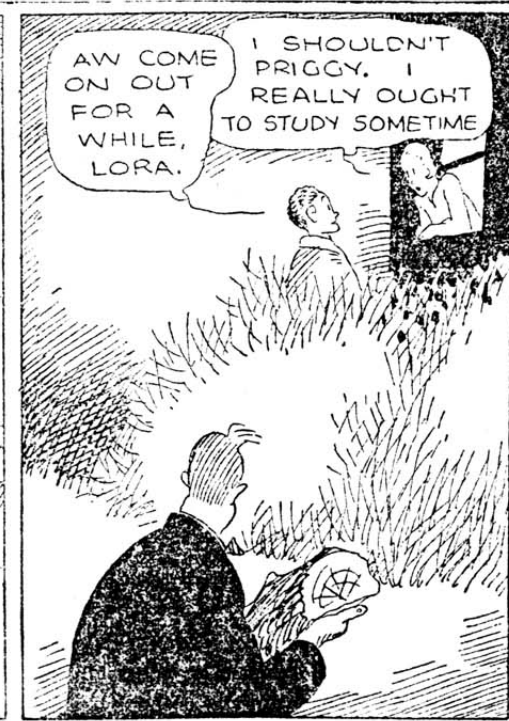
THAT'S THE WAY IT LOOKED TO ME. TAKES PHYLLIS TO LICK OFF THE SUGAR COATING.

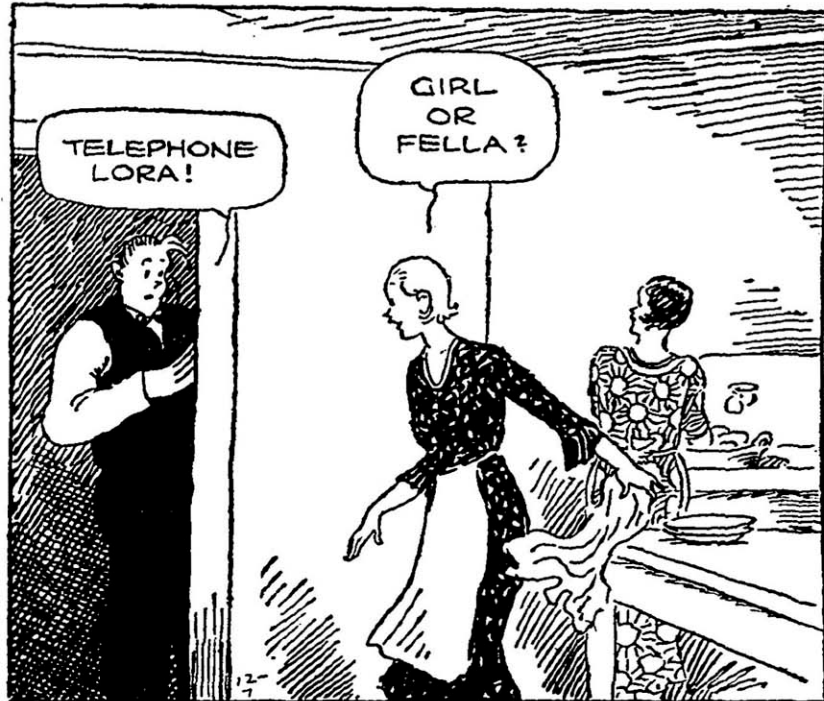
I CAN TOO. UNCLE WALT.

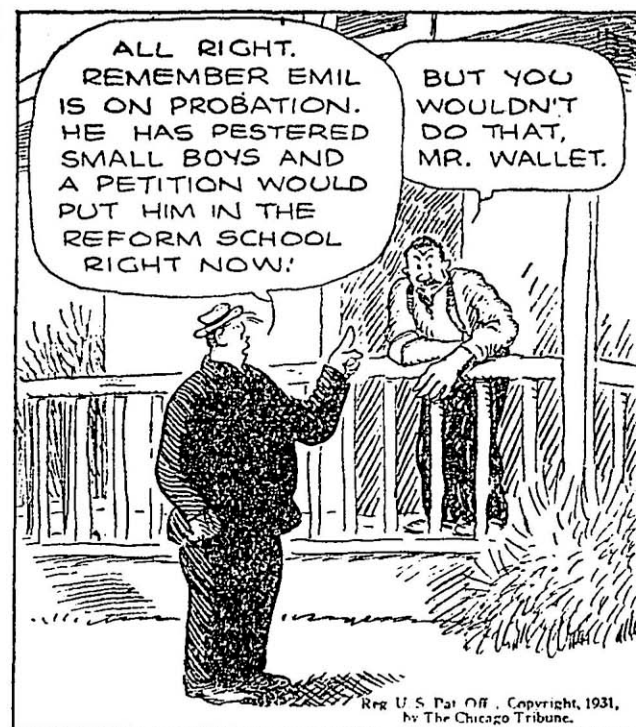
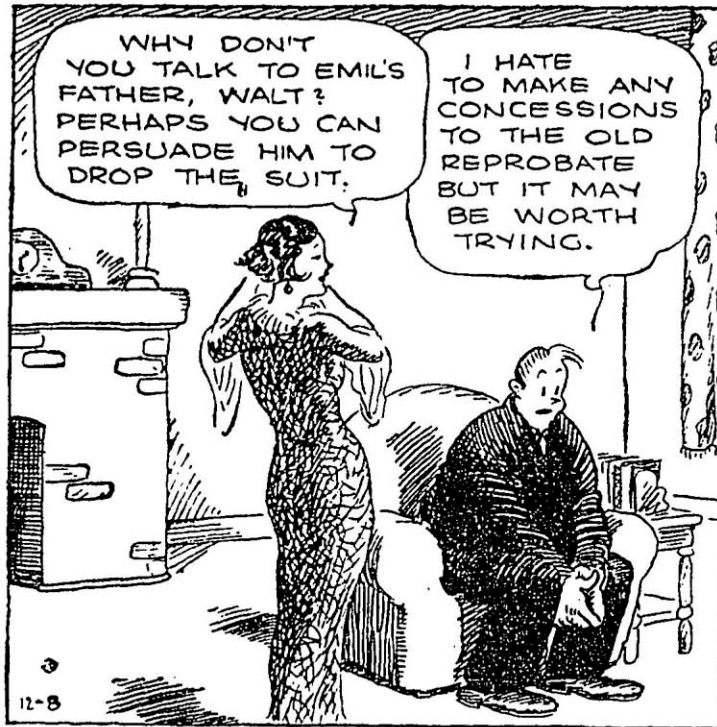
GASOLINE ALLEY—AND STILL THEY COME



GASOLINE ALLEY—EXIT ROMEO







SKEEZIX, MY OL' MAN SAID YOUR OL' MAN IS GOIN' TO SEND ME TO THE REFORM SCHOOL

YOU MEAN UNCLE WALT? NO HE ISN'T. I HAVEN'T HEARD A THING ABOUT IT.

UNCLE WALT! YOU WOULDN'T PUT EMIL IN THE REFORM SCHOOL, WOULD YOU? YOU KNOW HE'S MASCOT OF THE RANGERS NOW AN' ALL RIGHT.

PROBABLY I WON'T BUT IT'S A GOOD ARGUMENT.

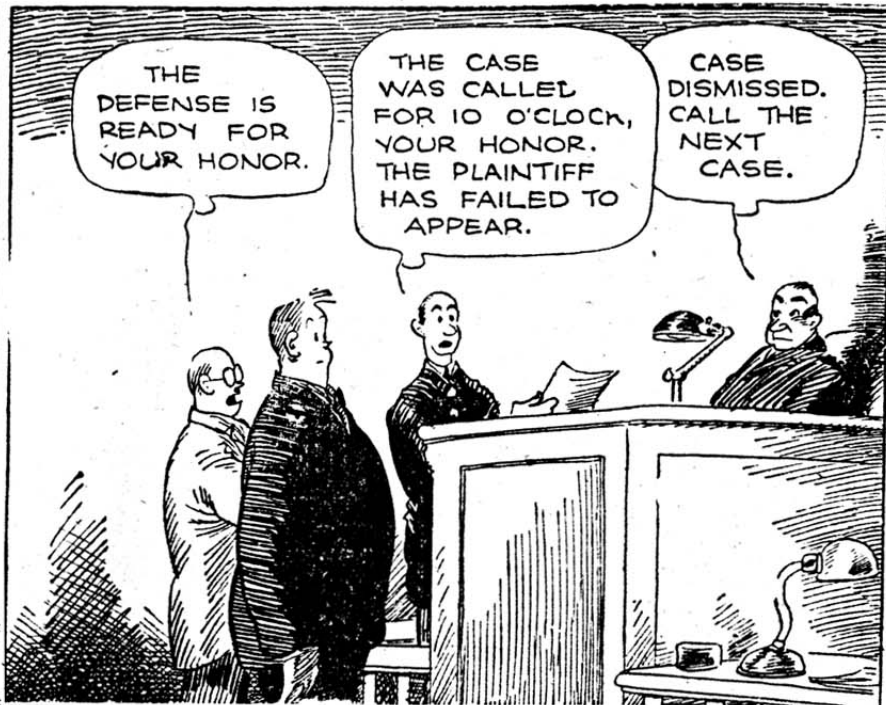
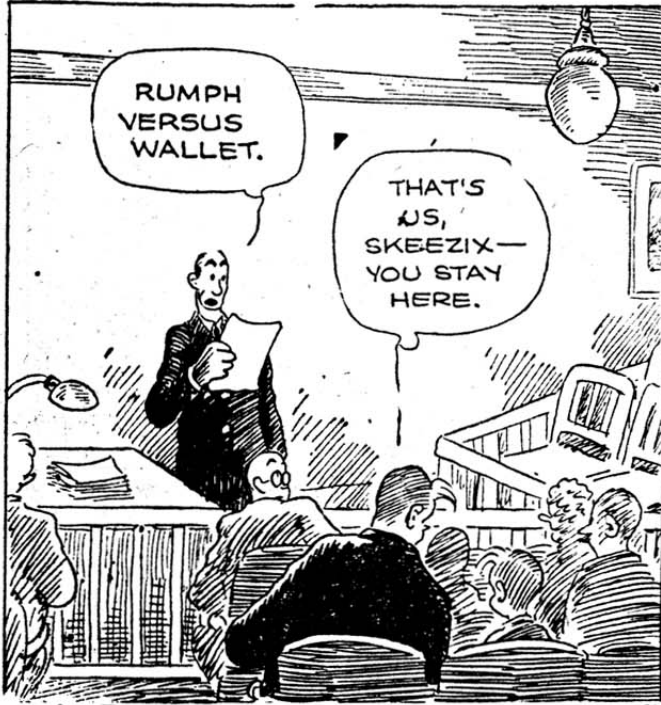
EVEN IF EMIL'S FATHER DOES WIN THIS SUIT I DON'T THINK THE JUDGE WILL BE HARD ON ME, DO YOU, AVERY?

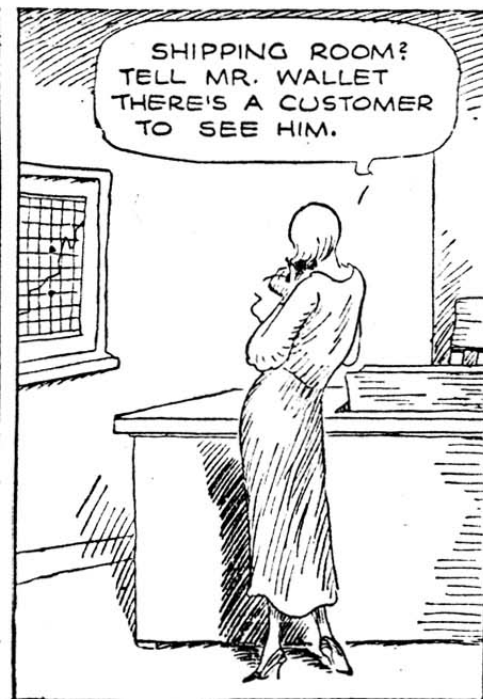
WELL, I WAS PRETTY LUCKY TO GET OFF AS EASY AS I DID IN MY LAWSUIT, WALT. TWO PIECES OF LUCK DON'T COME SO CLOSE TOGETHER.

King

COURT ROOM SCENE TODAY, WALT APPEARING AS DEFENDANT. HE LOST ENOUGH OF HIS TEMPER ONE DAY TO SHAKE BIG EMIL WHO WAS PICKING ON A SMALL BOY. THIS IS EMIL'S FATHER'S SUIT TO RECOVER DAMAGES. HE CLAIMS EMIL IS A TOTAL WRECK SINCE.

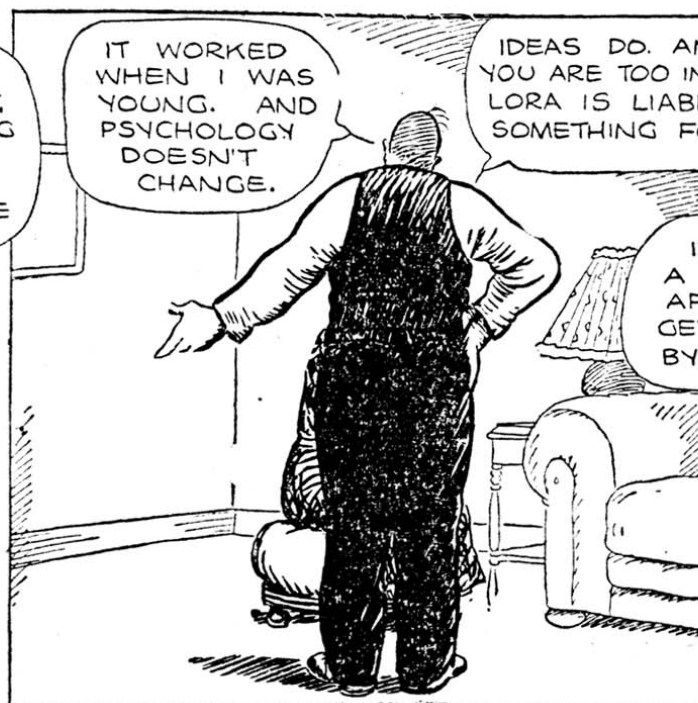
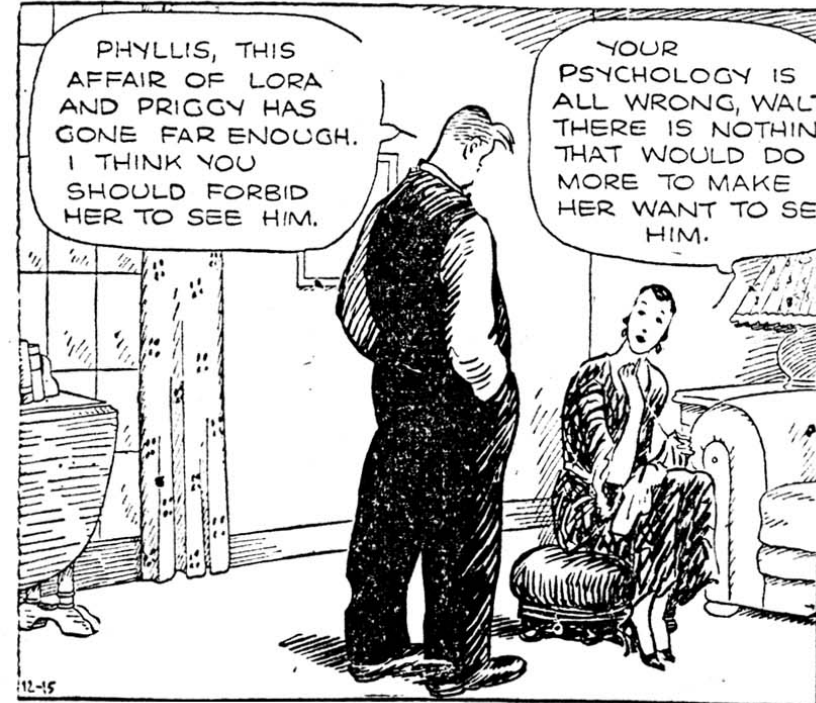
SKEEZIX IS WITNESS.



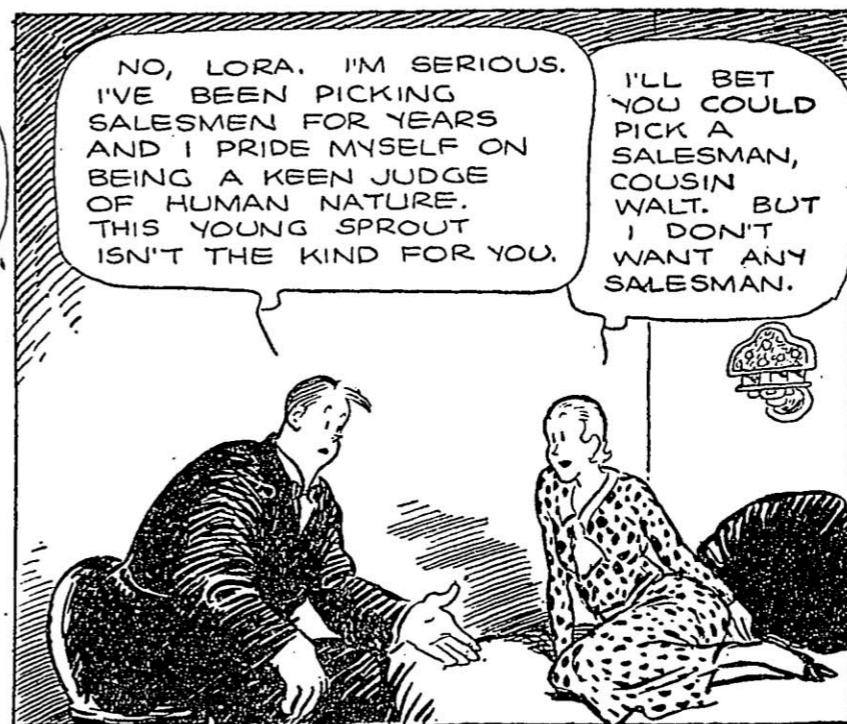








King





I GOT A TINY TIN WAGON OUT OF A PACKAGE OF POPCORN FOR CORKY.



BUT I'VE GOT TO GET SOMETHING FOR UNCLE WALT AN' AUNTIE BLOSSOM AN' LORA.

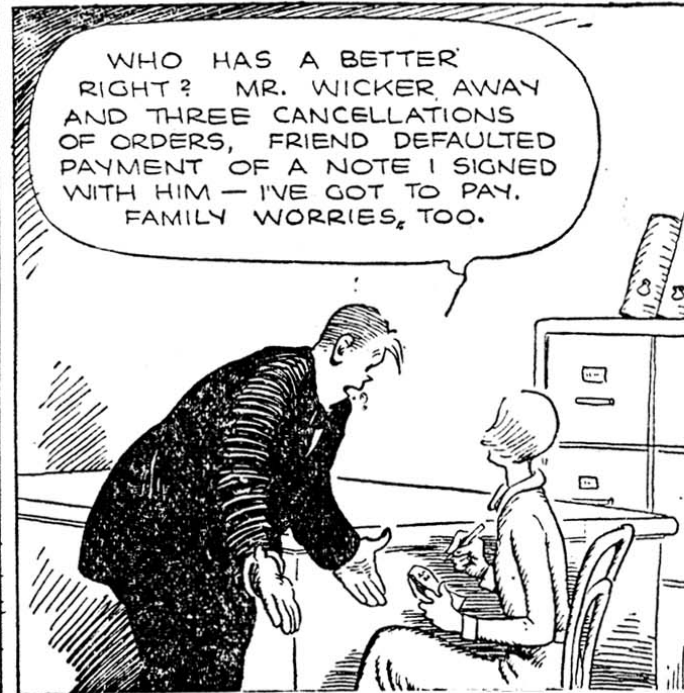


AN' I PROMISED RACHEL SOMETHING, TOO.



GEE, THERE ARE SO MANY NICE THINGS IT'S HARD TO MAKE UP MY MIND!

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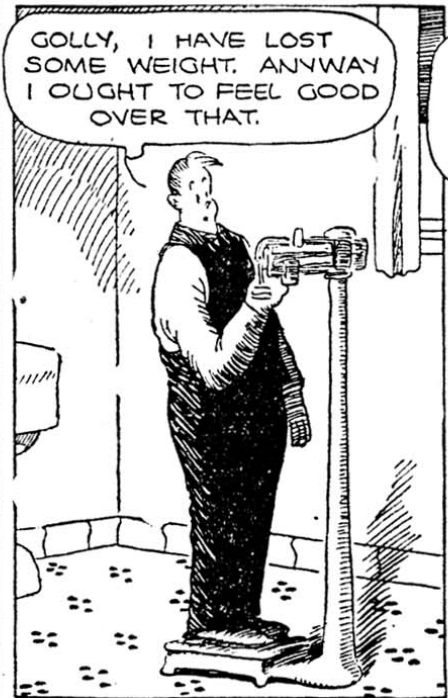
WHAT'S THE MATTER, WALT? YOU'RE LOOKING KIND OF PEAKED. FEELING ALL RIGHT?

SURE I'M FEELING FINE. NEVER BETTER, BILL.



WALT, YOU'RE WORKING TOO HARD. I CAN SEE IT IN YOUR FACE.

I'M ALL RIGHT, DOC. A LITTLE TIRED, THAT'S ALL.



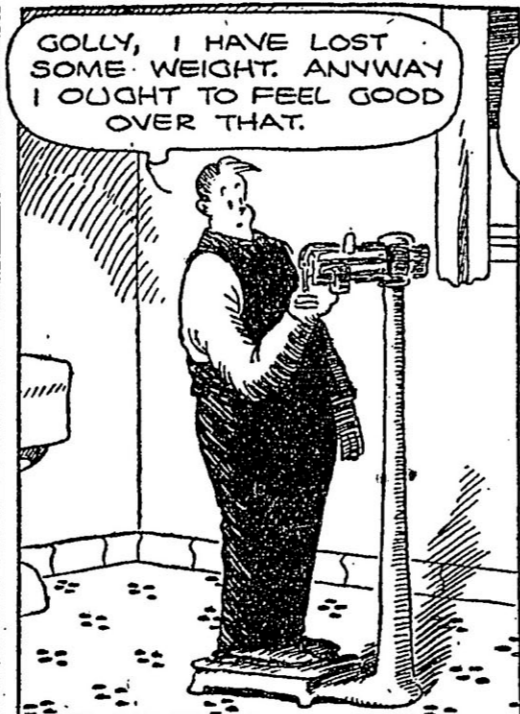
GOLLY, I HAVE LOST SOME WEIGHT. ANYWAY I OUGHT TO FEEL GOOD OVER THAT.

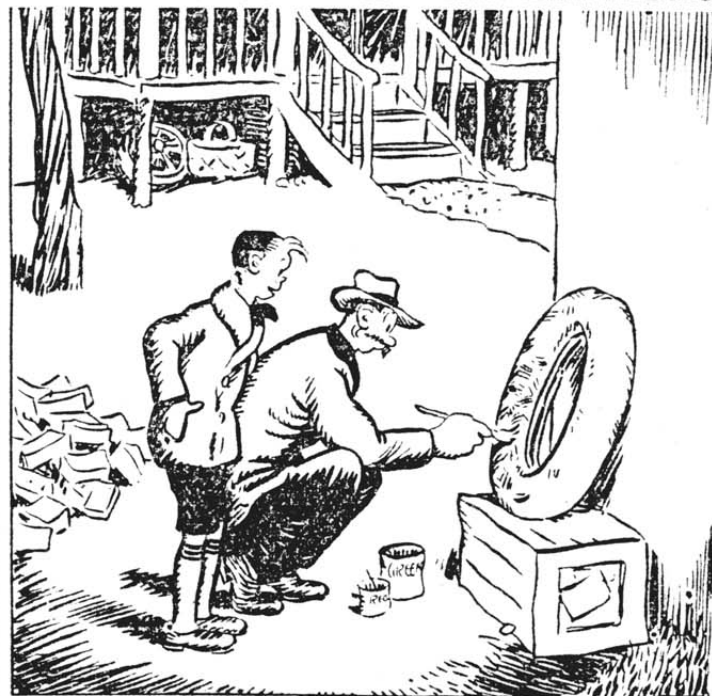


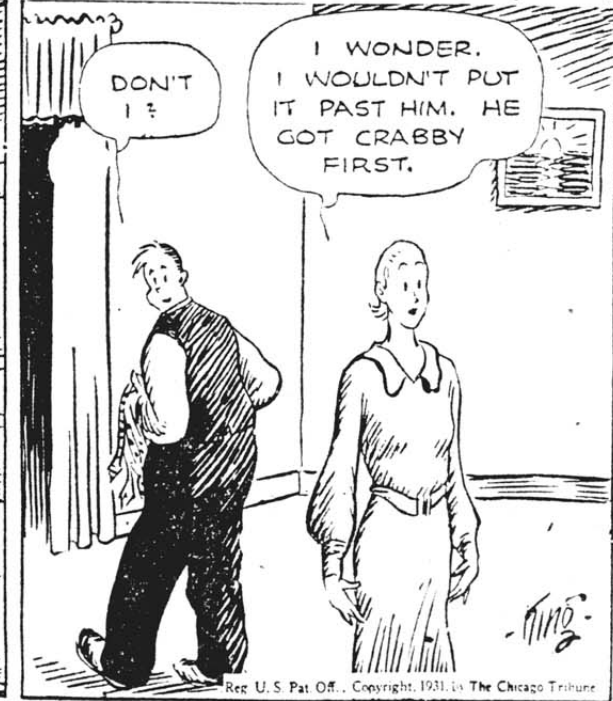
WE ALL HAVE OUR WORRIES, WALT. DON'T LET 'EM GET YOU. YOU DON'T ACT SO CHIPPER.

I AM CARRYING QUITE A LOAD, AVERY, BUT WHO ISN'T. I'LL BE OKAY IN A DAY OR SO.

-King-





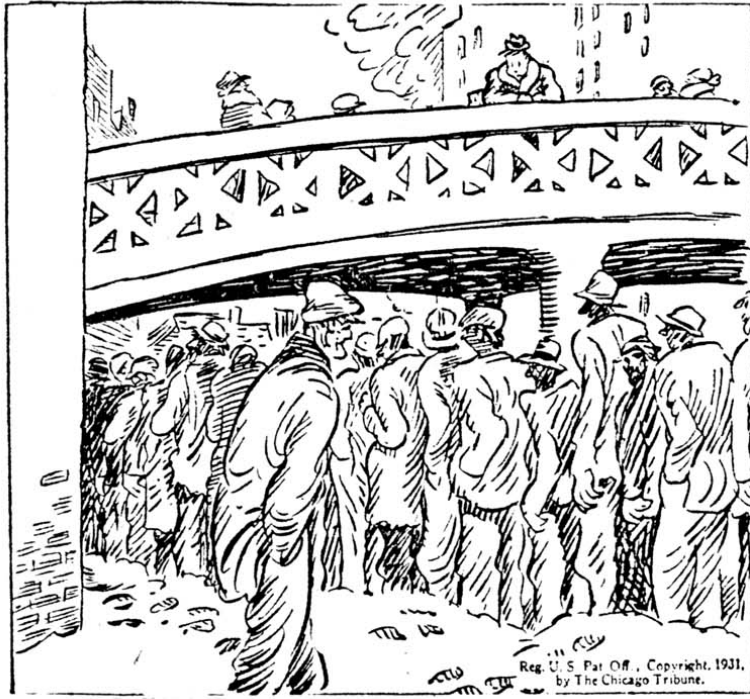


SECOND COUSIN WILL HAVE TO QUIT SCHOOL UNLESS I COME ACROSS AND AN OLD COLLEGE ACQUAINTANCE BORROWS 50 BUCKS WHICH I'LL NEVER SEE AGAIN.



12-23

AND MORE BAD NEWS AT THE OFFICE. I'VE HAD MORE TOUGH LUCK LATELY—



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OH I DON'T KNOW. I GUESS THINGS AREN'T! SO BAD WITH ME.



LISTEN FOLKS!
I'VE GOT A NEW
IDEA. INSTEAD
OF PUTTING
OUR GIFTS
ON THE TREE
WE'LL HANG
CARDS INSTEAD
AND HAVE A
TREASURE HUNT.

SURE,
I
KNOW!

YOU
MEAN
WE'VE
GOT TO
FIND OUR
PRESENTS
?



HERE'S THE PLOT.

WALT, FOR INSTANCE,
FINDS HIS NAME
ON A CARD ON THE
TREE AND ON IT
IT SAYS "LOOK
BEHIND THE PICTURE
IN THE DINING ROOM."

HE LOOKS, FINDS
ANOTHER CARD WHICH
SAYS "FOLLOW YOUR
SHADOW TO THE
REFRIGERATOR."

FROM THERE TO THE
CLOCK, THEN TO THE
BASEMENT—AND
HE FINALLY LOCATES
HIS GIFT IN A HAT
BOX ON THE ATTIC
STAIRS.

OO
JO

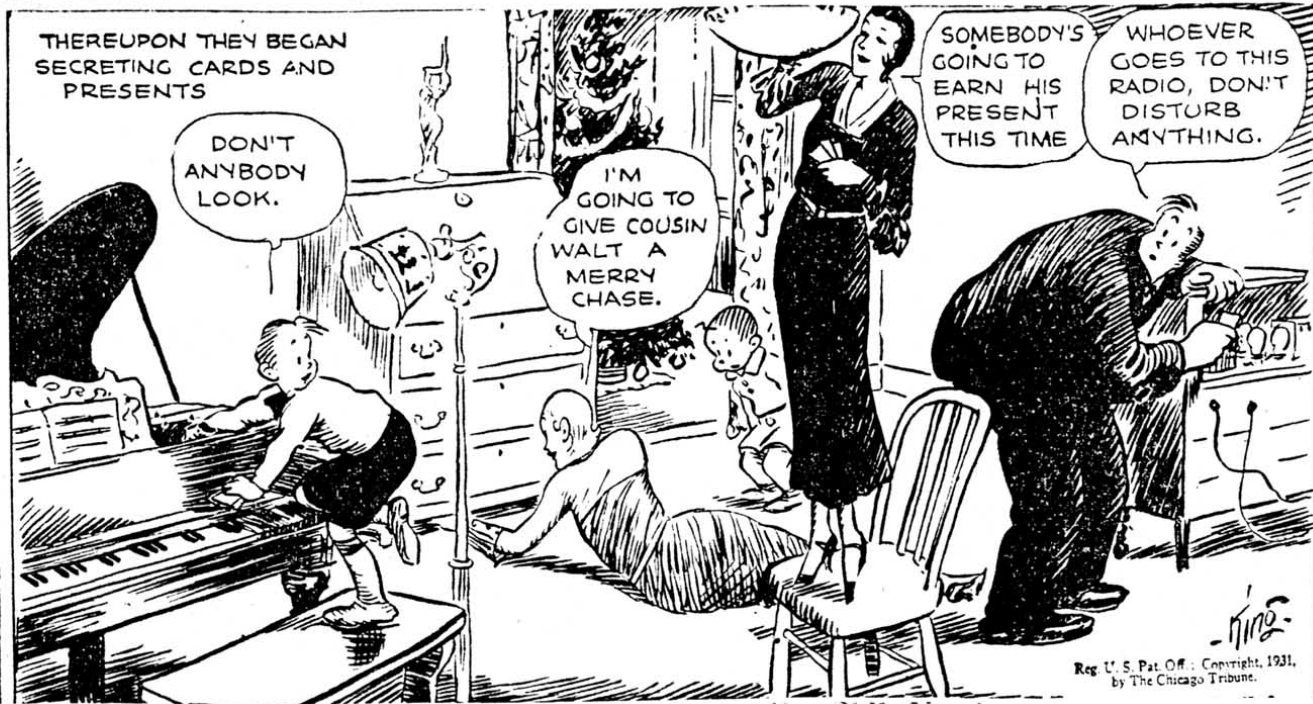
THEREUPON THEY BEGAN
SECRETING CARDS AND
PRESENTS

DON'T
ANYBODY
LOOK.

I'M
GOING TO
GIVE COUSIN
WALT A
MERRY
CHASE.

SOMEBODY'S
GOING TO
EARN HIS
PRESENT
THIS TIME

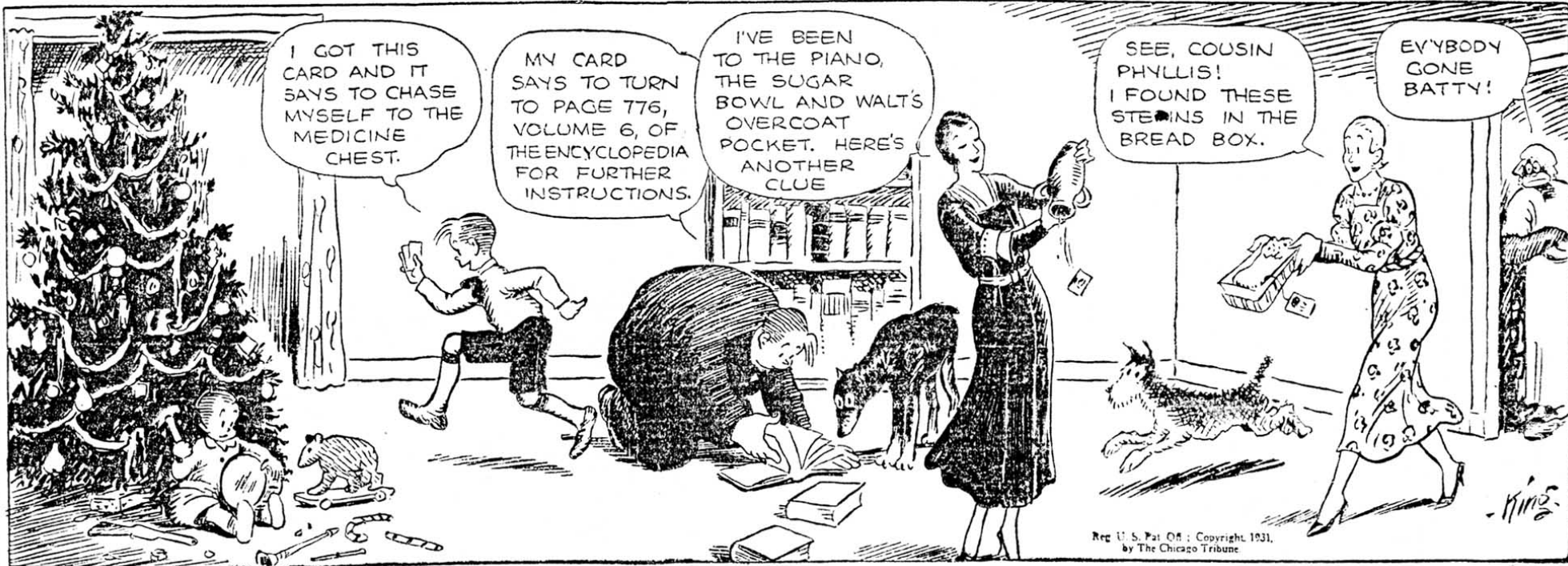
WHOEVER
GOES TO THIS
RADIO, DON'T
DISTURB
ANYTHING.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

YESTERDAY THE WALLET FAMILY DECIDED TO PIN CARDS TO THE TREE, HIDE THE GIFTS IN UNEXPECTED PLACES AND DESPATCH EACH OTHER FROM CELLAR TO GARRET BY WAY OF OTHER SECRETED CARDS.

THAT IS, ALL EXCEPT CORKY. SANTA CLAUS BROUGHT HIM HIS GIFTS DIRECT.



I GOT THIS CARD AND IT SAYS TO CHASE MYSELF TO THE MEDICINE CHEST.

MY CARD SAYS TO TURN TO PAGE 776, VOLUME 6, OF THE ENCYCLOPEDIA FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.

I'VE BEEN TO THE PIANO, THE SUGAR BOWL AND WALT'S OVERCOAT POCKET. HERE'S ANOTHER CLUE

SEE, COUSIN PHYLLIS! I FOUND THESE STEAKS IN THE BREAD BOX.

EV'YBODY GONE BATTY!

MERRY CHRIS'MAS! TODAY OUGHT TO BE THE START O' THE NEW YEAR—NOT NEXT WEEK. THIS YEAR'S PASSED ON. NOTHIN' TO DO NOW BUT SET UP WITH IT TILL IT'S BURIED.



PRETTY WRAPPIN'S AN' TRAPPIN'S GIVIN' GREAT PLEASURE TO THE SENDA BUT THE FELLA THAT GETS 'EM IS TOO ANXIOUS TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE TO NOTICE MUCH. THEN IT'S TOO LATE.

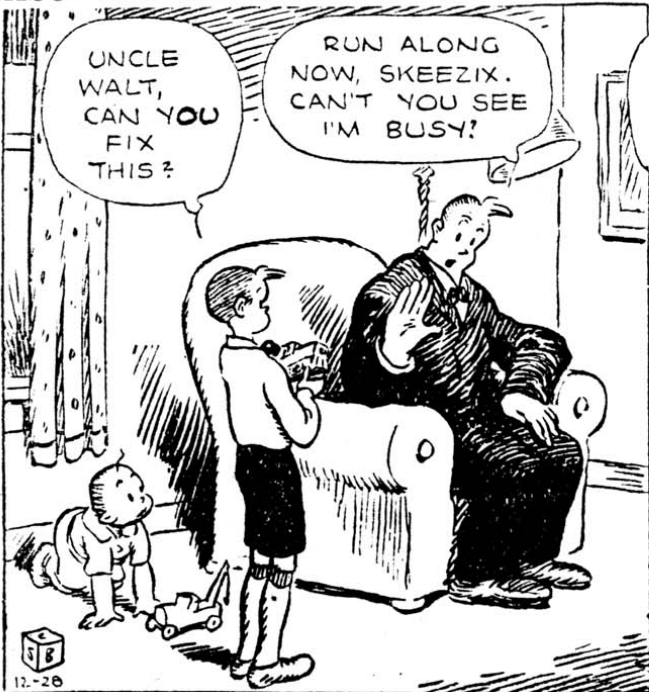


MERRY CHRIS'MAS AN' HAPPY NEW YEAR. DOZENS OF 'EM, DIFFERENT BUT ALL JES' THE SAME. COUNTED AN' INTO THE DISCARD.



MILLIONS O' GOOD WISHES SENT OUT BUT NOBODY EVA CHECKS UP AFTAWARDS TO SEE IF THEY DONE ANY GOOD.







NO, PRIGGY, I COULDN'T THINK OF IT WITHOUT LETTING COUSIN WALT AND PHYLLIS KNOW.

MY FOLKS ARE ALL AGAINST MY GOING WITH YOU AND I'M FED UP LORA. LET'S BEAT IT.



NO, PRIGGY. WHY WHAT WOULD WE LIVE ON?

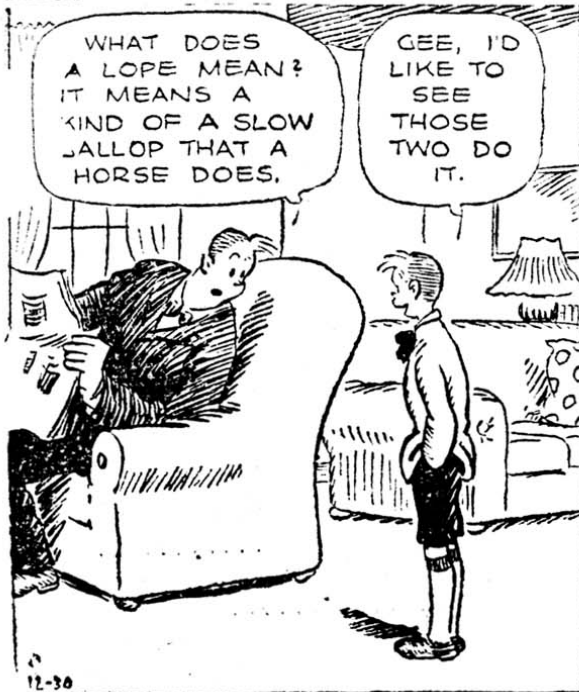
I CAN SELL MY CAR FOR 500 BUCKS. THAT WOULD DO US UNTIL I COULD GET A JOB. THEN WE'D BE ALL SET.



NO, PRIGGY. OUR FOLKS WOULD ALL SAY WE WERE TOO YOUNG. BESIDES THAT, I THINK SO TOO

YOUR COUSIN WALT THINKS I'M POISON. I'D JUST LIKE TO SHOW HIM!

KING

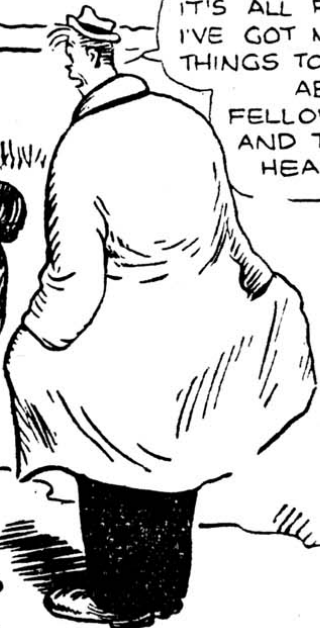


King

TONIGHT'S THE BIG NIGHT, WALT. YOU'RE COMING OUT WITH DOC AND AVERY AND ME TO CELEBRATE THE NEW ARRIVAL AREN'T YOU.



ME? I'LL SAY NOT. IT'S ALL FOOLISHNESS. I'VE GOT MORE SERIOUS THINGS TO THINK ABOUT. YOU FELLOWS GO AHEAD AND TOOT YOUR HEADS OFF



WHAT'S WRONG WITH WALT, DOC. HE'S PACKIN' AN AWFUL GROUCH AND IT ISN'T LIKE HIM.



I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIM, BILL. AND HE WON'T LET ME GIVE HIM ANY ADVICE. HE'S GOT TO BRACE UP AND COME OUT OF IT.



YEAH. WALT ACTS LIKE THE MORNING AFTER NOT THE MORNING BEFORE



King