

THE AMERICAN HOUSE

By Virginia Chase

VI

WHEN we took over the American House, we had only one regular boarder. This was Mr. Martin Tapley, who owned the dry goods store. Mr. Tapley was a bachelor, middle-aged and growing bald. He dressed very untidily. His teeth were stained, and his skin was sallow. ("That's what comes from his smoking so many cigars," people said, nodding wisely.) But smoking wasn't the worst of it. . . .

He had a good business—people were careful to point out that he had inherited it—but he took it lightly, seeming not to care whether his books showed a profit or loss. He seldom appeared in his dry goods store until noon, leaving everything to his two officious clerks. . . .

You could always count on Mr. Tapley to be contrary. He called himself a Socialist and kept a picture of Eugene Debs in his office. Whenever the Censoring Committee of the library banned a book—one by Henrik Ibsen or George Bernard Shaw or Upton Sinclair or Robert Ingersoll, for instance—he sent away and bought a copy and then carried it around openly under his arm. . . .

Naturally, there was a lot of talk about him. People didn't approve of his never going to church. They didn't like the idea of his selling his house—it had been in the family for three generations—and moving into a hotel. There was talk, too, about the way his family lot was kept. There wasn't even a marker on his mother's grave. . . .

Mr. Tapley's mother had been a very important person in the village. No project was ever begun without her approval or completed without her zest. She was superintendent of the Sunday School, president of the Thursday Circle, and founder of our branch of the W. C. T. U. . . .

"What a blessing it is that she isn't alive to see the way her son has turned out," her friends said, sighing.

ONE Saturday evening late in May Julia and I were sitting on the steps of the American House watching the farmers come in to trade. In one of the buggies that passed we recognized Luther Sawyer and Eunice, walking down her end of the seat. . . .

We looked at each other, remembering. Then we looked back at her. She was still pretty in a heavy, faded way. Too pretty, at least, we decided, for the little pinched man who tied the



horse on the railing of the general store and without a word headed toward the barber shop. . . .

We watched her get out, pat the horse, pick up her basket, and start off. . . .

"Do you suppose she will go to his store?" asked Julia. . . .

I had just been wondering that. We didn't take our eyes off her as she passed from one store to another. First the meat market, then the hardware, then the cobbler's, across the street again to read the notices on the Post Office. Then toward the long line of gray buildings where the dry goods store was. Would she go in? . . .

We watched the next Saturday, the next, and the next. She had gone into every store but his. Had they met face to face since their quarrel? We wondered. What would happen if they did? (To Be Continued)

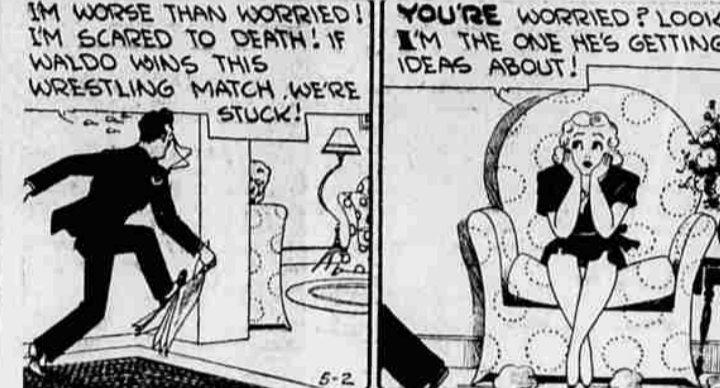
Our Boarding House With Major Hoople



Out Our Way J. R. Williams



Boots and Her Buddies



By Edgar Martin



Sew Them Yourself



By MRS. ANNE CABOT

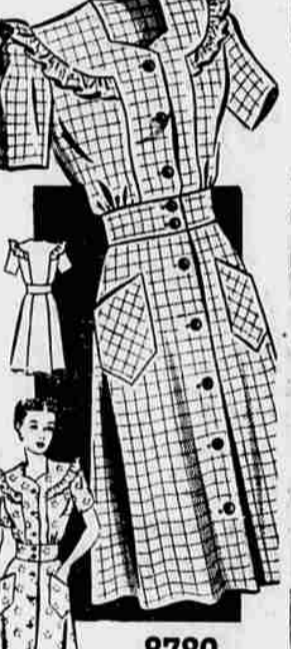
Slip-covering isn't half as difficult a job as we've been taught to believe and now that you can't get an upholsterer for love or money, why not turn out a perfectly slick job yourself? Takes five yards for an upholstered chair—fifteen yards for a davenport. Measuring, fitting, sewing and finishing instructions are given in the instructions. To obtain complete instructions on "How to Make Slipcovers" (pattern No. 5727) send 15 cents

City News In Brief

Hollis Solomon, Negro transient, last night was arrested by city police on a vagrancy charge on complaint of Union Pacific railroad officials. He was placed in the city jail pending a hearing in the municipal court. . . .

Glenn Victor of The Dalles and his sister, Mrs. Beverly Pyles of Battle Ground, Wash., returned to their homes last night. They had been called to La Grande for the funeral of their brother, Eddie Victor. Mr. and Mrs. Lester Wells of Pondosa, a brother-in-law and sister, have also returned to their home. Another sister, Mrs. Getta Davenport of San Francisco, will remain here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Victor, for two weeks.

Button-Front



By SUE BURNETT

This practical and comfortable house dress with brief over-shoulder ruffles has the set in belt you like and buttons from top to bottom. . . .

Pattern No. 8780 is designed for sizes 14, 16, 18, 20, 42, 44 and 46. Size 16, short sleeves, requires 3 1/2 yards of 35-inch material. . . .

For this pattern, send 20 cents, in coins, your name, address, size desired, and the pattern number to Sue Burnett, La Grande Evening Observer, 709 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif. . . .

Best-Seller Story Comes to Liberty

A film version of A. J. Cronin's best-seller, "The Keys of the Kingdom," will be the Liberty theater's offering beginning tomorrow. . . .

Gregory Peck heads the cast, which includes Roddy McDowell, Peggy Ann Garner, Sir Cedric Hardwicke and other well known film personalities. . . .

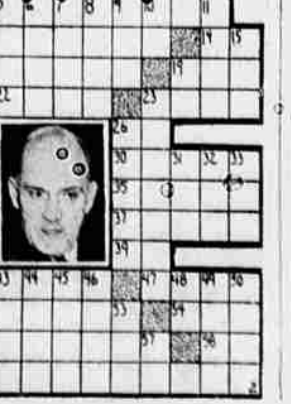
The story is that of a young rebel who speaks for everyone who ever dreamed ambitious dreams. . . . and for everyone who fought to make them come true. . . .

in coin, plus 1 cent postage, your name, address, and the pattern number to Anne Cabot, La Grande Evening Observer, 709 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif.

Weatherman

- HORIZONTAL 52 Cask tap
1 Pictured chief
U. S. weather-
erman, Fran-
cis W.
12 Upon
13 Former
French
province
14 Type measure
18 Egg (comb
form)
18 Luminous
phenomenon
19 Literary
scraps
20 Novice
22 Tiers
23 He predicts
rain and
24 Rubidium
(symbol)
26 District of
Columbia
(ab.)
27 He is a
former
commander
30 Radicals
34 Army
36 Titled
36 Native of
southern
Nigeria
37 Freshet
38 Hypothetical
force
39 Electrical
engineer (ab.)
40 Uncluse
43 East Indian
posts
47 Crushing blow
(coll.)
51 Vase

Answer to Previous Puzzle



Official Records

- Water Turned on, April 30:
A. C. Buntin, 802 C; C. V. Tal-
bott, 220 Fir street; Leo C. Street,
1311 N. avenue. . . .
- Switzerland systematically col-
lects and utilizes all essential
waste products. . . .

Hold Everything



Wash Tubbs



By Leslie Turner



Alley Oop



By V. T. Hamlin

