

THE AMERICAN HOUSE

By Virginia Chase

XIX

EARLY in April we still owed the bank \$150. Our business had been picking up with spring, but the money had gone out as fast as it had come in. The roof had to be repaired. The tank had to have a new lining. We had all stopped talking about going home.

My father worked very hard and even sent out monthly bills. My mother's smile grew more and more determined. Though they were very polite and very kind to each other, we sensed for the first time in our lives a barrier between them.

That barrier concerned Mr. Cutter. Right after my mother had found the oil stove empty, her attitude toward him had changed visibly. She became quite sharp.

"The spittoons, Mr. Cutter. You've forgotten to clean them." "These chairs look very dusty." "The telephone! Didn't you hear it?"

When there was pumping to be done, she herself went to get him. What was more, she stayed right in the kitchen while, with each hand wrapped in a handkerchief, he swayed listlessly backward and forward, hardly moving the handle.

One day she noticed that the inkwell had disappeared from the desk in the office. At first she thought that one of the girls had taken it and neglected to put it back.

We hadn't. We couldn't imagine. We would look. We searched everywhere. "A thing like that hasn't just dropped from sight," she said when we made our report.

"The paperweight did, Mama," I reminded her.

She began to look, too. We followed her from place to place. "Isn't there..." "Isn't there..."



By MRS. ANNE CABOT

It's a sort of glorified apron—can't you just see it made in white muslin with the applied tulips and leaves done in pale pink and rose-pink cross-barred muslin? And of course it will make a nice kitchen apron if you do it in unbleached muslin and use bright scraps of gingham or checked materials for the tulips. A good kitchen shower gift, incidentally!

To obtain complete apron and applique pattern for the tulip apron (pattern No. 5886) sizes small, medium and large, send 15 cents in coin, plus 1 cent postage, your

City News In Brief

Rev. Mark A. Tulney left today for Dayville, where he is to deliver the commencement address at the high school, and tomorrow conduct a mission to teachers. He will return Friday.

J. H. Pearce, railroad watch inspector, is up the branch line today on an official inspection trip.

Mrs. L. C. Lloyd of Lostine was in La Grande today.

Mrs. Lucille Medina of Canyon City was in the city today on business.

C. C. Neill of Joplin, Mo., was arrested last evening by city police on charges of drunkenness and vagrancy. Carl C. Farlow of Monterey, Calif., for begging. Steven H. Casmay, transient, on a charge of drunkenness.

Official Records

Water turned off, May 15:
Homer Garrett, 811 Division street; second hand store, 305 Fir street; C. Jermulouk, 1410 Washington avenue; John Holt, 1005 X avenue.

Water turned on:
Mrs. L. D. Huston, 1912 Second street; John Strocker, 811 Division street; H. S. Overpeck, 104 Greenwood avenue.

AUTOMOTIVE HINT

New brake linings sometimes have a tendency to grab. This can be eliminated by driving the car for a block or two with the brakes applied.

name, address and the pattern number to Anne Cabot, La Grande Evening Observer, 709 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif.

SINCE the beginning of the year the newspapers had been printing stories about a comet which would appear in May.

As the time approached, the papers began to remind us that comets had often portended momentous things. A comet had appeared after the death of Caesar. One had sailed, languid and heavy, through the skies before the London Plague; another, swift and furious, before the Great Fire. This comet was Halley's, king of them all. It had whirled through the heavens before the birth of Christ. It had hung suspended over Rome before the death of Agrippa. It had flamed over the Battle of Chalons, where Attila, the Hun, bowed down before the Roman Aetius. It had lighted the battlefield of Hastings. Now, on its twenty-eighth appearance, it would warn a transit across the very face of the sun.

The superstitious began to speculate as to what we might have in store. The country was at peace. We had no princes to dethrone, no tyrants to vanquish. Perhaps a great pestilence, someone suggested. ("What kind might it be?" they asked my father. "Weak-mindedness," he told them tersely.) Perhaps it was intended only as a warning, some would warn against men who were trying to fly in machines. Or against women who were demanding a right to vote. Some thought it might be a warning against hobble skirts and bloomers.

The magazines, too, had a lot of comet talk. The scientific ones told us that Halley's cycle was approximately 75 years. It would be visible to the naked eye around May 10th in the east, two hours before sunrise. We could see it first at night on May 18th, when it would pass the sun's disk. Munsey's assured us that there was not one chance in a million that any one of us would live to see this happen again. Even Methuselah, the Independent reminded us, had never witnessed what we would witness.

We girls could hardly wait until May.

(To Be Continued)

Our Boarding House With Major Hoople



Boots and Her Buddies



Freckles and His Friends



Red Ryder



Wash Tubbs



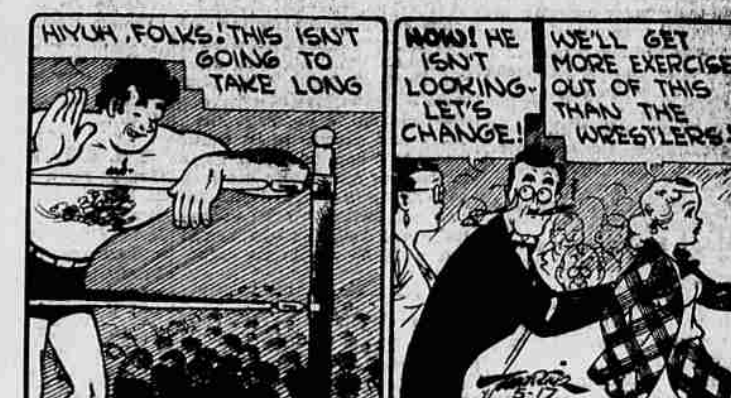
Alley Oop



Out Our Way J. K. Williams



By Edgar Martin



Merrill Blosser



Fred Herman



By Leslie Turner



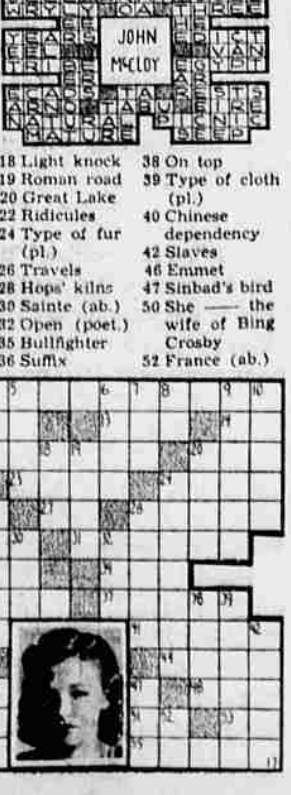
By V. T. Hamlin



Crooner's Wife

- HORIZONTAL**
- 53 Compass point
 - 54 Brown bread former film actress, 55 Intersect
- VERTICAL**
- 11 Area measure
 - 12 Pedal digit
 - 13 Boat paddle
 - 14 Army order (ab.)
 - 15 Decay
 - 17 Country
 - 20 Conclude
 - 21 Wife of Geraint in Arthurian legend
 - 23 Rodents
 - 24 Sea eagle
 - 25 Tendon
 - 27 Measure
 - 28 Bay window
 - 29 Goddess
 - 31 Wandered
 - 33 Interest (ab.)
 - 34 Greek letter
 - 35 One who scatters
 - 37 Heating devices
 - 40 Carries (coll.)
 - 41 Caterpillar hairs
 - 43 Flower
 - 44 Drunkards
 - 45 Diminutive of Benjamin
 - 48 Metal fastener
 - 49 Symbol for erbium
 - 50 Within
 - 51 From

Hold Everything



GAVE HIS WIVES AWAY

Ma Ti-Tai, former military governor of Kashgar, China, rewarded his soldiers for distinguished service by presenting them with wives from his harem. He was crucified in 1924.

Hold Everything

