ESME OF PARIS by Esme Davis

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GRANDMAMA'S SNAKES

IV

WHILE we were working in the Schumann Circus, our act began to attract the notice of agents and the press. I personally had a nice success, which resulted in Ograinsky's redoubling his efforts to improve my tumbling. He resorted to his old habit of hitting me on the nape of the neck to increase my speed, and I developed chronic headaches that made me so ill I was hardly able to get through the performance.

It was compulsory for me to have a rest and for grandmama to take care of herself, too, so we met mother in Rapallo, on the Italian Riviera, where we stayed at the quiet, old-fashioned Hotel Nervi overlooking the bay and blue waters of the Mediterranean. Rapallo is a favorite resort for singers who find the air and sunshine excellent for their throats.

We had rooms opening on a private terrace with orange trees all around it, where grandmama could bask in the sunshine with her three pet snakes. They were the oldest and best beloved of her reptiles, and it did not occur to us that there was anything very odd in her having them.

After a six-week stay in Rapallo, we went to London. Mother decided to make a trip to Canada and see my father, partly for business reasons and partly to give my brother an Easter vacation. He had just finished the winter term at Beaumont College, the Catholic equivalent of Eton.

Our party consisted of grandmama with her three snakes in a clothes-basket "borrowed" from the Carlton Hotel in London, mother with a sable coat she had just bought on the installment plan, her bag of jewelry, a Spanish maid constantly seasick, myself, and my brother, very sulky on account of the snakes.

My father met us when the ship docked, and I noticed how his face lit up when he saw mother. We went to the Chateau Frontenac, where he had taken a suite for us.

* * *

EVER since we had left London, there had been scenes about the snakes and their feeding equipment which grandmama had handed over to my brother to take charge of. Now my brother refused to have anything to do with it. He was so rude to grandmama that she appealed to my father to take him to task.

Of course father did not enjoy the addition of the snakes and their livestock to our party and could appreciate my brother's point of view, but he really got angry when Bunnie (as my brother was nicknamed) complained bitterly that grandmama would not wear a hat, smoked cigars, and did not look like anybody else's grandmother, and he would not be seen with her.

Grandmama was deeply hurt about my brother's being ashamed of her, for she was very fond of him and proud of his good looks, but after this little upset she packed her things, said she was going off by herself with her snakes, and would meet us in New York for the return trip to Europe. Mother took Bunnie's part in the whole affair but oddly enough got it into her head that it was all father's fault that grandmama went wandering off alone, and that he had insulted her. She took my brother and went to visit some distant cousins in Montreal, and I was left with my father.

He took me to Toronto, where he had a house near the University, and I was happier than ever before. It was the first time I really got to know my own father. When he left his office in the afternoon, we used to go for long walks, and he would talk to me almost as if I were a grown person, teaching me English words and reading to me every night before I went to sleep. All this was too good to last, and one day he received a frantic telegram from mother announcing that Bunnie had suffered a serious motorcycle accident while out racing with some of the cousins they were visiting. He had a ruptured kidney and she was taking him to New York for medical treatment. We started packing immediately to join her there.

Grandmama turned up in New York in answer to the letters we sent to her agents, and as soon as Bunnie was out of danger, mother announced she was taking him to Europe. I will always remember the day we left and the New York docks in the hot sunshine: my brother could not walk, so was carried to the ship on a stretcher, and father seemed unusually sad. I could not understand why he didn't come with us.

We disembarked in Cherbourg and went on to Paris where my brother was first placed in a sanitarium in St. Cloud. He craved the sea, so mother decided to take a house somewhere on the coast of France for his convalescence. The place she rented, on the Island of Guernsey, was once Victor Hugo's house where he wrote "Toilers of the Sea."

Mother had taken the house from a phony estate agent she had met, a bogus "count" of some sort, and everything was wrong with it. The lavatories wouldn't work, part of the staircase caved in, the drawing room walls were mildewed. And she kept receiving incredible bills from the "count" for repairs.

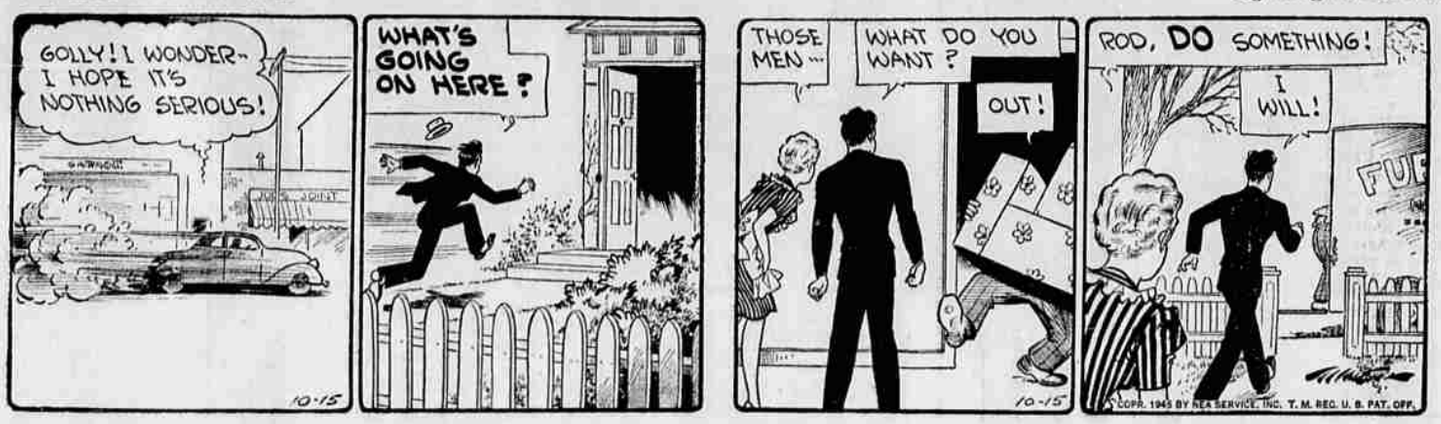
Finally father came over from Canada to see what was going on, his arrival coinciding with a notice from a lawyer in Southampton that the house had been bought the previous year from the Hugo estate by the government, to be used as a museum, and they could not understand how the agent managed to rent it to us. In the meantime, the "count" disappeared with three months' advance rent and the check for the plumber.

(To Be Continued)

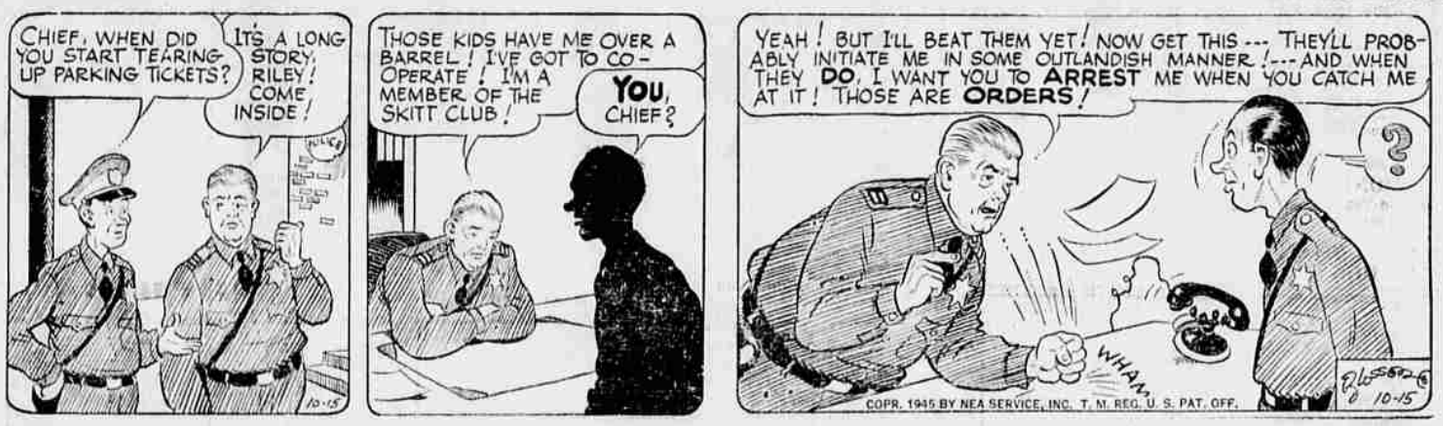
Our Boarding House — With Major Hoople

Out Our Way — J. R. Williams

Boots and Her Buddies — By Edgar Martin



Freckles and His Friends — Merrill Blosser



Red Ryder — Fred Harman

Wash Tubbs — By Leslie Turner

Alley Oop — By V. T. Hamlin

Knit Bed Socks

By MRS. ANNE CABOT

A knit-and-pearl job that will keep your feet warm and snug on the coldest night ever! Make them of white wool and lace a one-inch pink or pale blue satin ribbon through the lacy tops. They're 15 inches from top to toe, knitted without any difficult shaping!

To obtain complete knitting instructions for the White Bed Socks (Pattern No. 5049) send 15 cents in COIN plus 1 cent postage, YOUR NAME, ADDRESS and the PATTERN NUMBER to Anne Cabot, La Grande Evening Observer, 709 Mission street, San Francisco, Calif.

Deeds Filed

W. E. Wilkins et ux to Conrad C. Huntsman et ux, Lot 6, Blk. 6, Romig's addition, $10 and other considerations.

Louis F. Heidenreich et al to Harry H. Cleaver et ux, portion of Lot 1, Blk. 15, Coggin's addition, La Grande city, $1 and other considerations.

Chriss Lee et ux to Carroll Bertelsen, S½SW¼, SW¼SE¼, Sec. 9, Twp. 6 S, R. 39 E, portion of W½SE¼, Sec. 16, portion of W½NE¼, E½NW¼, NW¼NW¼, and SW¼NW¼, all in Sec. 16, Twp. 6 S, R. 39 E, $25,000.

L. G. Terry to Edward L. Hall, Lot 3, Blk. "Y" sub-division of Blks. "X," "Y," "Z," Coggan's second addition, La Grande city, $10.

Robert Kelley to Jesse Turbow et ux, E½SW¼, Sec. 5, Twp. 4 S, R. 38 E, $1 and other considerations.

Heirs of Marion McMurry to Jesse Turbow et ux, E½SW¼, Sec. 5, Twp. 4 S, R. 38 E, $1 and other considerations.

Paul I. Conley et ux to W. A. Roundy et ux, N½ Lots 1, 2, 3, Blk. 154, Chaplin's addition, La Grande city, $10 and other considerations.

M. J. Sevier et ux to Claude W. Anson, et ux, SW¼, and S½-NW¼, Sec. 20, Twp. 2 S, R. 39 E, $10.

Edith B. Simmons et al to John White et ux, portion of SW¼-NE¼, Sec. 4, Twp. 3 S, 38 E, $1 and other considerations.

Elmer Case et ux to Lillian M. Fleming, Lot 6, Blk. 110, Chaplin's addition, La Grande city, $1 and other considerations.

Paul Meyers et al to Nels Nelson et ux, Lot 3, Blk. 13, sub-division of Blk. 13, Grandy's second addition, $1 and other considerations.

Union county to school district No. 23, Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, Blk. 53, Hindman's addition, Elgin, $20.

Bleun E. O'Neil et ux to Ilo Fields, Lot 57, and west 88 feet of Lot 53, Park addition, La Grande city, $1,250.

Maternity Dress

By SUE BURNETT

Youthful charm distinguishes this smart two-piece frock for the mother-to-be. The skirt has an adjustable pleat on each side and is attached to a bodice for comfort and practicality.

Pattern No. 8921 is designed for sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20; 40 and 42. Size 14, skirt and jacket, requires 4⅜ yards of 35 or 39-inch material; bodice, 1 yard.

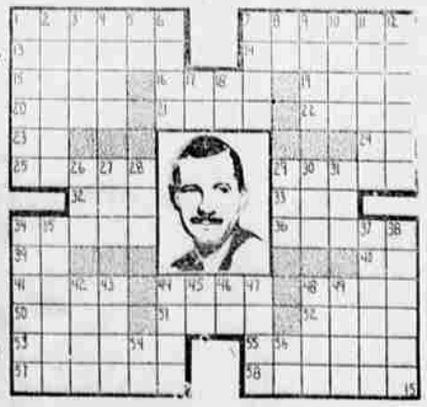
For this pattern, send 20 cents, in COINS, your name, address, size desired, and the PATTERN NUMBER and Sue Burnett, La Grande Evening Observer, 709 Mission street, San Francisco, Calif.

Author

Answer to Previous Puzzle

HORIZONTAL
1,7 Pictured author
13 Sore
14 Warmer
15 Poker stake
16 Notion
19 Preposition
20 Midday
21 Display
22 Comb
23 Credit (ab.)
24 One (Scot.)
25 Debar
29 Dots
32 Ventilate
33 Boat paddle
34 Morose
36 Of the moon
39 Chaldean city
40 Myself
41 Dozes
44 Worry
48 Pitcher
50 Stamp
51 Fury
52 Unusual
53 Continent
55 He writes about ——
57 African fly
58 Endured

VERTICAL
1 Posture
2 Singers
3 Until
4 Arabian gulf
5 About
6 Journey
7 Chafe
8 Behold!
9 Of the ear
10 Heating device
11 Group of four
12 Eats away
17 Accomplish
18 Type measure
26 Dark liquid
27 Grease
28 Poke
29 The sun
30 Greek letter
31 Vase
34 Evening
35 Serpent emblem
37 Mulct
38 Peruse again
42 Peel
43 Groove
44 Release
45 Sun god
46 Exempli gratia (ab.)
47 River duck
48 Mistakes
49 Abide
54 Postscript (ab.)
56 Note of scale



Behind the Scenes In Washington

(Continued From Page 2)

on improvements in artificial limbs for the government. It is hoped that this organization will produce something noteworthy.

Navy is making its own prosthetic devices. It reports most success with artificial hands. The hook, still found most convenient, is shunned by many who have lost arms and hands because of its undesirable appearance. Navy has a hand that can do almost as many things as a hook but can be made almost identical to a human hand in appearance.

Army and veterans administration is buying the best artificial limbs it can get from private manufacturers but are lagging in making improvements.

Rep. Kelley says that one of the troubles is that persons and firms who are manufacturing artificial limbs don't understand enough about anatomy. He says it takes and expert knowledge of bone structure to produce a satisfactory artificial leg. He plans to urge congress to provide money to make prosthetic devices as good as possible, not only for veterans but for the thousands who annually lose legs and arms in accidents.