

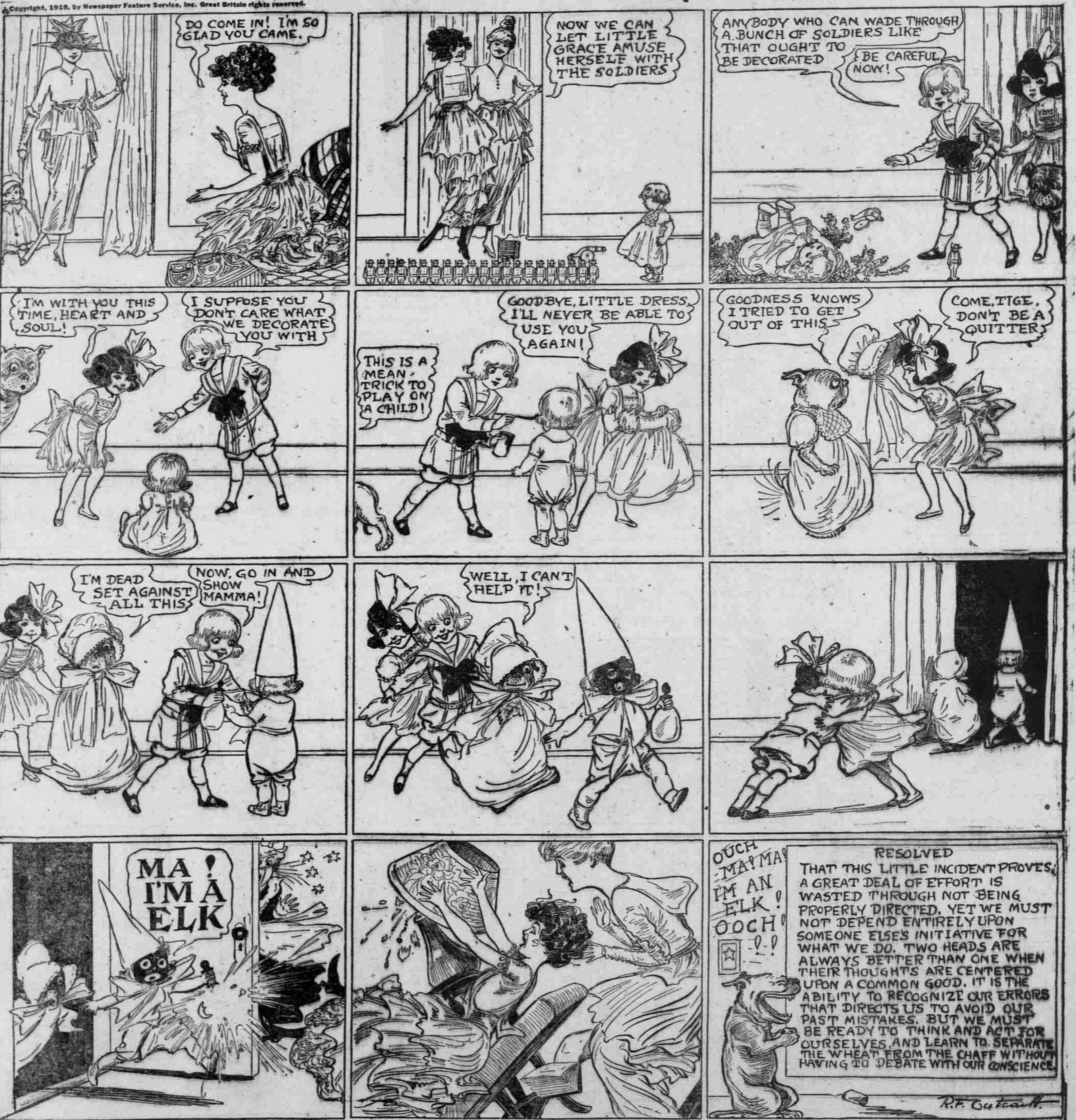


SOMETHING TELLS ME YOU'LL NEED A NURSE SOON.

I'VE TRIED TO MAKE A GOOD BOY OUT OF HIM!

Dear Eddie
 Smithy's ma says the deeds our brave soldiers are doing "over there" prove that valor was made before medals - otherwise medals would be made in anticipation of the deeds - which they are not. Then she gave an example, speaking of Mr. Smith's eye. His eye was beautifully decorated as a result of a combat, and Smithy's ma says that if he had known he was going to get it before the combat, there wouldn't have been any combat! A decoration is the public recognition of what we have been through.
 Yours truly,

YES, HE WILL BE DECORATED FOR THIS DEED



DO COME IN! I'M SO GLAD YOU CAME.

NOW WE CAN LET LITTLE GRACE AMUSE HERSELF WITH THE SOLDIERS

ANYBODY WHO CAN WADE THROUGH A BUNCH OF SOLDIERS LIKE THAT OUGHT TO BE DECORATED

BE CAREFUL NOW!

I'M WITH YOU THIS TIME, HEART AND SOUL!

I SUPPOSE YOU DON'T CARE WHAT WE DECORATE YOU WITH

GOODBYE, LITTLE DRESS, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO USE YOU AGAIN!

THIS IS A MEAN TRICK TO PLAY ON A CHILD!

GOODNESS KNOWS I TRIED TO GET OUT OF THIS

COME, TIGE, DON'T BE A QUITTER

I'M DEAD SET AGAINST ALL THIS

NOW, GO IN AND SHOW MAMMA!

WELL, I CAN'T HELP IT!

MA! I'M AN ELK

OUCH - MAMA! I'M AN ELK! OUCH!

RESOLVED
 THAT THIS LITTLE INCIDENT PROVES A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT IS WASTED THROUGH NOT BEING PROPERLY DIRECTED, YET WE MUST NOT DEPEND ENTIRELY UPON SOMEONE ELSE'S INITIATIVE FOR WHAT WE DO. TWO HEADS ARE ALWAYS BETTER THAN ONE WHEN THEIR THOUGHTS ARE CENTERED UPON A COMMON GOOD. IT IS THE ABILITY TO RECOGNIZE OUR ERRORS THAT DIRECTS US TO AVOID OUR PAST MISTAKES. BUT WE MUST BE READY TO THINK AND ACT FOR OURSELVES, AND LEARN TO SEPARATE THE WHEAT FROM THE CHAFF WITHOUT HAVING TO DEBATE WITH OUR CONSCIENCE.

R.F. Cutshaw

