

BESSIE BUSYBODY RESCUES A PRINCESS AND WINS WEALTH



1—I HAD BEEN SO busy catching sea-serpents and fighting dragons that I forgot all about keeping my water tanks and food lockers full. Now I discovered they were almost empty, and I had to stop at the very first land sighted and get more.



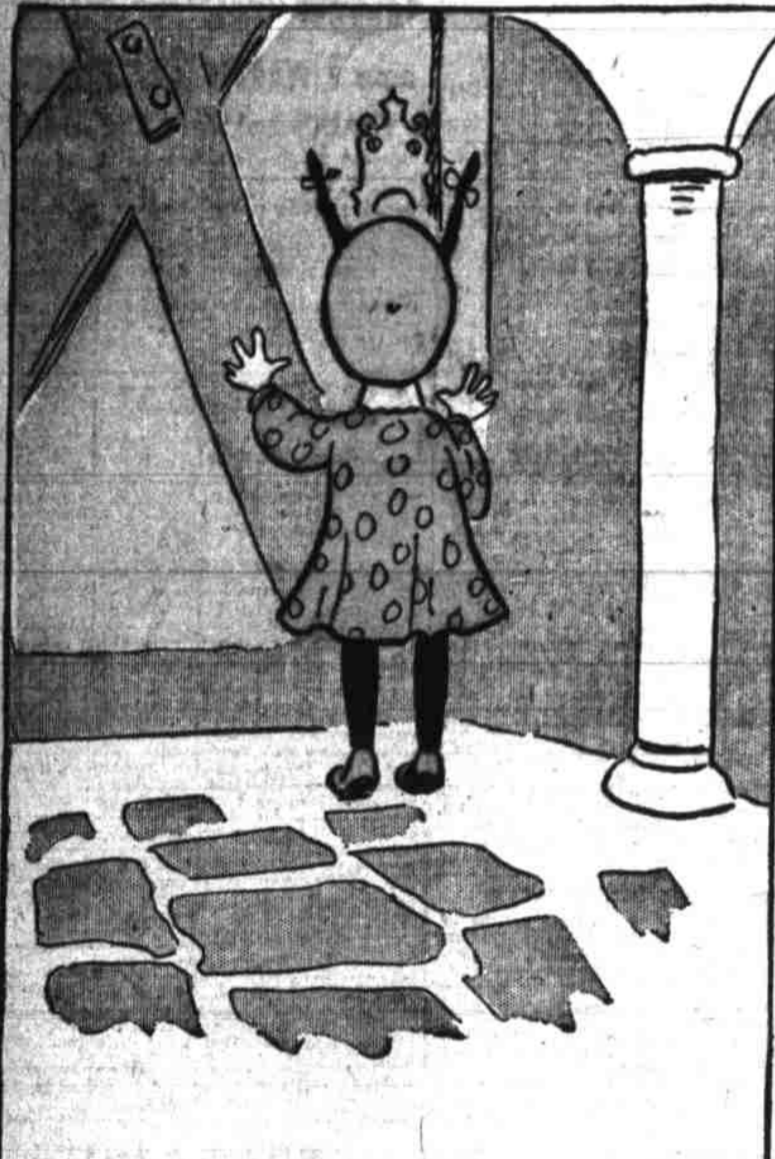
2—I CAME DOWN on a strange coast, where the first thing I saw was a sign telling of a big reward. Well, getting rewards seemed to be right in my line, so I thought I'd step around to the King's Palace and offer my services.



3—HE TOLD ME HIS daughter, the Princess, had been spirited away from the castle, and was held prisoner by a Ferocious Two-headed Giant they called Twoface. Phoo-ew! That looked rather serious, but I was in for it.



4—After getting something to eat, I sailed away for the Giant's Castle, which stood on a high mountain on the horizon. In a jiffy I was anchored to the castle, and scampered down the ladder and into the stone windows of the great building.



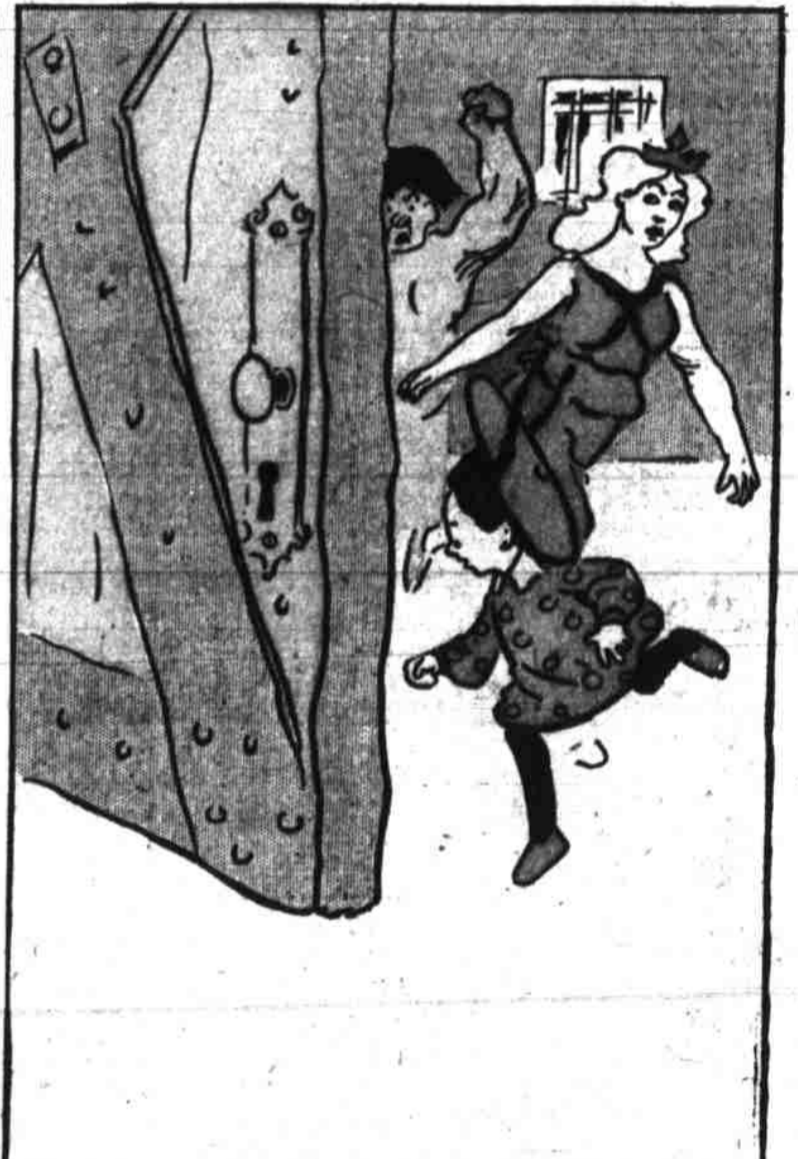
5—I HEARD AN "AWFUL" roasting sound way down a long passage, and knew that must be where the Two-headed Gentleman was. Peeking through the keyhole, I saw the Ugly Monster sound asleep and moving like a steam engine.



6—I PULLED THE great door open and heard a moaning voice, which came from a dungeon cell opposite. Of course, I supposed it was the Princess. I ran to the door, which was locked securely.



7—THEN I NOTICED A bunch of keys at the Giant's feet, and quickly tried them in the lock. At last the door swung open and out flew the Beautiful Princess. The Giant moved about uneasily, and as we ran out the door he gave a terrible roar and started after us.



8—WE RAN AT TOP SPEED up the great steps, and along the top of the wall, with that Double-headed Fiend following at our heels and swinging his club in rage. It was pretty close work, I can tell you.



9—THE PRINCESS CLIMBED the ladder and I scrambled up after her like a streak. I turned on the power, and the good old airship shot up into the air. Not till then did I dare look down.



10—BUT WHEN I DID! Oh, I thought we were lost sure, for the Giant was climbing up the rope ladder! I sailed up and down, back and forth and sideways, but I couldn't shake the villain off.



11—THEN I THOUGHT OF the hatchet in the tool chest, and snatched it out. Whack! Whack! Whack! There was a loud shriek like a locomotive whistling as it passes you, and the Giant turned a million somersaults into space.



12—WELL, THAT WAS ABOUT all for that Giant, I guess! We sailed back to the King's Palace, and you never heard tell of such a joicing and feasting as followed the announcement that the Princess had been rescued. After it was all over the King piled a lot of gold in my ship and I sailed away.