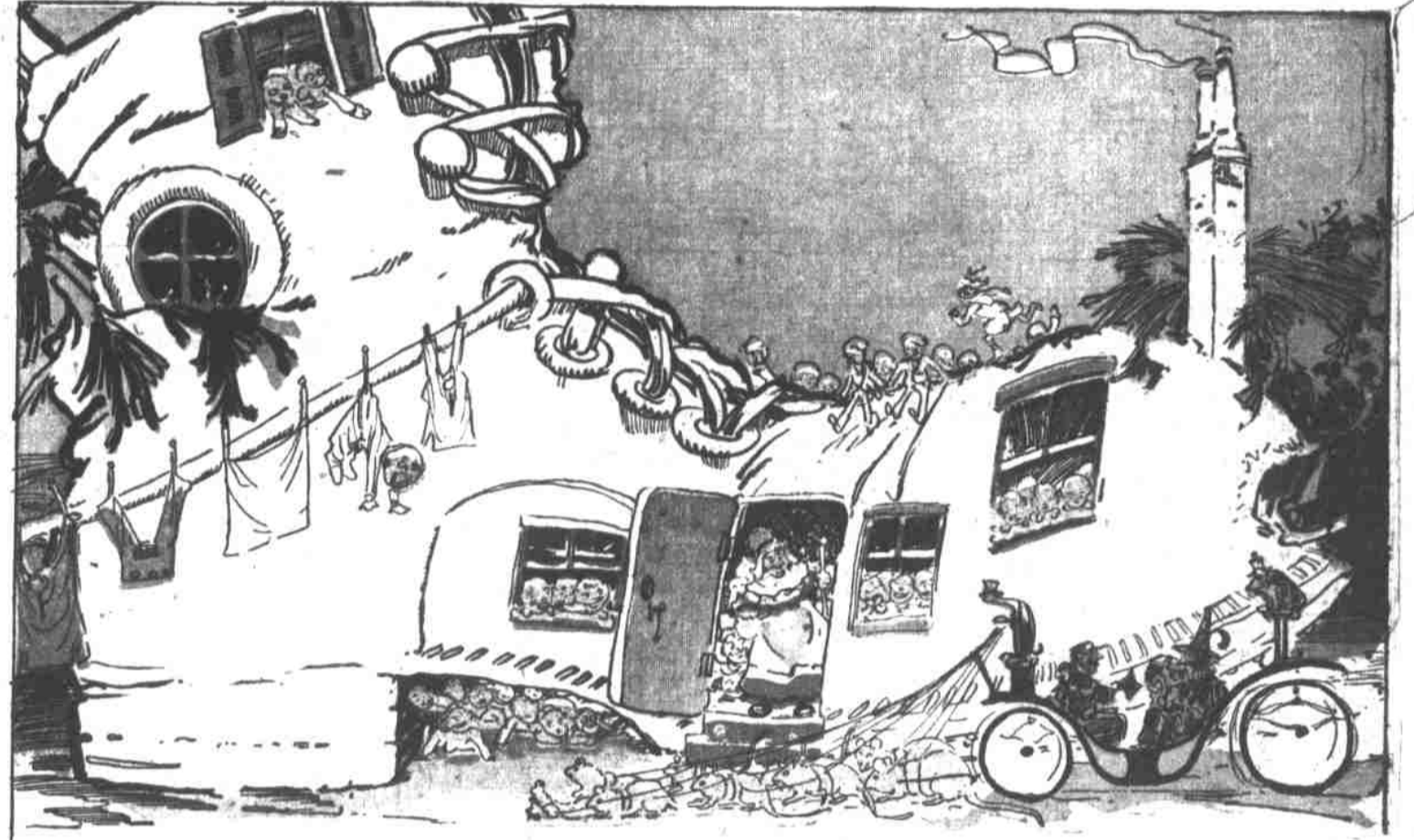
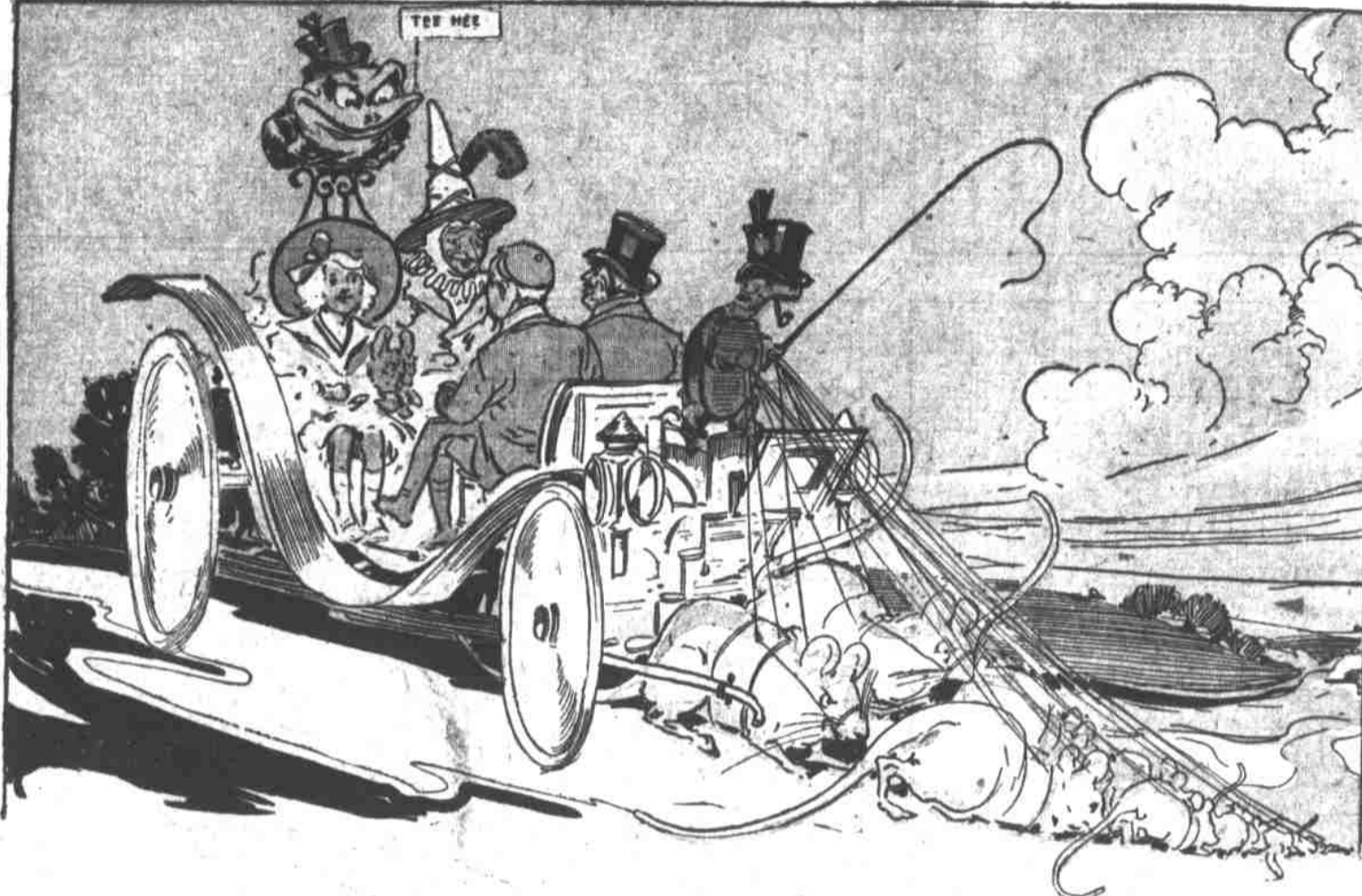


THE LITTLE JOURNEYS OF NIP AND TUCK

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1. "Come," said Doc Foster, "here's something we'll do: we'll see the old lady who lives in a shoe." So they hitched up the mice to a golden barouche—Nip and Tuck and the Doctor and old Mother Goose. With a turtle for driver, the footman a frog, the party set out with a jog-gity jog.

2. They came to the shoe—it was awfully large. 'Twas big as a barn or a lumberman's barge. There were windows and doors in neat-arranged rows. The old lady used shoestrings for airing the clothes. Everywhere there were children, both outside and in; all were laughing or crying—a terrible din.



3. The old lady said: "Dear! I have so much to do, and no one to help me. I'll never get through. The children need baths, there's clothing to mend. I can't rest a minute—it's work without end. Oh, fiddle dum dee, what shall I do?" said this charming old lady who lived in the shoe.

4. Mother Goose took an armful of kids to the pump, stood them all in a row; they were washed in a lump. Doctor Foster darned stockings and ironed pinafores; Nip and Tuck washed the windows and scrubbed all the floors. The old lady made broth. "When it's ready," she said, "I'll whip all the children and put them to bed."



5. The children had supper; then, laid in a row, from one to the other the old lady did go. She paddled them lustily with a big stick; they needed it badly, she laid it on thick. Nip and Tuck got mixed in, and she spanked them both, too. She'd have spanked Doctor Foster, the first thing he knew.

6. "I won't stay any longer," old Doc Foster said. "I'm too big to be spanked, and I won't go to bed." "Beg pardon, dear sir," the old lady did say. But the Doctor was mad, and said, "No, we won't stay. We won't say good-bye, and we'll not come again." They left—each one as mad as an old setting hen.