

"All Quiet on the Western Front"



CHAPTER V
 Meanwhile the German airplane has been shot down. Like a comet it bursts into a streamer of smoke and falls headlong. Kropp has lost his bottle of beer. Disgruntled he counts out the money from his wallet.

"Surely Himmelstoss was a very different fellow as a postman," says I, after Albert's disappointment has subsided. "Then how does it come that he's such a bully as a drill sergeant?"

The question revives Kropp, more particularly as he hears there's no more beer in the canteen. "It's not only Himmelstoss, there are lots of them. As sure as they get a stripe or a star they become different men, just as though they'd swallowed concrete."

"That's the uniform," I suggest.

"Roughly speaking it is," says Kat, and prepares for a long speech; but the root of the matter lies elsewhere. For instance, if you train a dog to eat potatoes and then afterward put a piece of meat in front of him, he'll snap at it. It's his nature. And if you give a man a little bit of authority he behaves just the same way, he snaps at it too. The things are precisely the same. In himself man is essentially a beast, only he butters it over like a slice of bread with a little decorum. The army is based on that one main principle: always have power over the other. The chief is merely that each one has much too much power. A non-com. can torment a private, a lieutenant a non-com., a captain a lieutenant, until he goes mad. And because they know they can, they all soon acquire the habit more or less. Take a simple case: We are marching back from the parade ground dog tired. Then comes the order to sing. We are glad enough to be able to trail arms, but we sing spiritlessly. At once the company is formed about and has to do another hour's drill as punishment. On the march back the order to sing is given again, and once more we start.

Himmelstoss was thrown down, he rolled five yards and started to yell.

"Now what's the use of all that? It's simply that the company commander's head has been turned by having so much power. And nobody blames him. On the contrary, he is praised for being strict. That, of course, is only a trifling instance, but it holds also in very different affairs. Now I ask you; let a man be whatever you like in peace-time, what occupation is there in which he can behave like that without getting a crack on the nose? He can only do that in the army. It goes to the heads of them all, you see. And the more insignificant a man has been in civil life the worse it makes him."

"They say, of course, there must be discipline," ventures Kropp meditatively.

"True," grows Kat, "they always do. And it may be so; still it oughtn't to become an abuse. But you try to explain that to a blacksmith, or a laborer or a workman, you try to make that clear to a simple soldier—and that's what most of them are here. All he understands is that he has been properly trained so that when he comes up to the front he thinks he knows exactly what he should do in every circumstance and what not. It's simply amazing, I tell you, that the ordinary soldier survives so long up here in the front line. Simply amazing!"

No one protests. Everyone knows that drill ceases only in the front line and begins again a few miles behind, with all the absurdities of saluting and parade. It is an iron law that the soldier must be employed under every circumstance.

Here Tjaden comes up with a flushed face. He is so excited that he stutters. Beaming with satisfaction he stammers out: "Himmelstoss is on his way. He's coming from the front!"

Tjaden has a special grudge against Himmelstoss, because of the way he abused him in the barracks.

Meanwhile Hale sits down beside us. He winks at me and rubs his paws thoughtfully. We once spent the finest day of our army-life together—the day before we left for the front. We had been allotted to one of the recently formed regiments, but were first to be sent back for equipment to the garrison, not to the reinforcement depot, of course. Himmelstoss was thrown down; he rolled five yards and started to yell. But we were prepared for that. And we brought a cushion. Hale squatted down, laid the cushion on his knees, felt where Himmelstoss's head was and pressed it down on the pillow. Immediately his voice was muffled. Hale let him get a gasp of air every so often, when he would give a mighty yell that was immediately hushed.

Tjaden unbuttoned Himmelstoss's braces and pulled down

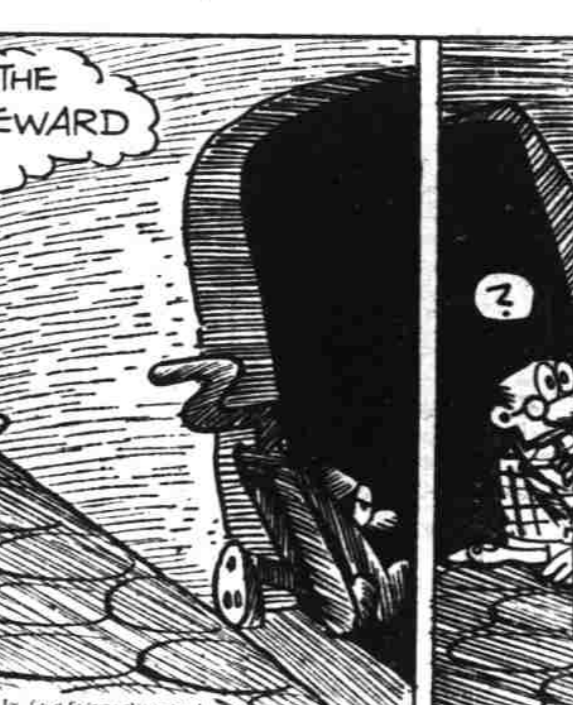
POLLY AND HER PALS



"IF THEM COPS IS RIGHT, AN' KITTY'S LEAD A DOPE ADDICT, SHE'LL LEAD ME TO THE SMUGGLERS' SUPPLY!"

"AN' THEN THE \$10,000 REWARD IS MINE!"

"Gettin' the Dope on Kitty"



By CLIFF STERRETT

INSURING THE BABY'S BIRTH-RIGHT-HEALTH

Dr. Copeland, Advising the Expectant Mother. Stresses the Importance of Diet and Contentment to Assure the Newcomer a Good Start in Life.

By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.
 United States Senator from New York.
 Former Commissioner of Health, New York City.

WE talk a great deal about the kind of food people eat. We advise the fat, the thin, the undernourished and all the others affected by food.

The expectant mother too may need advice. Many women, or I should say, most women, go about having a family with thought only for the expectant child. She should give serious thought too, to her own precious self.

The foods eaten during pregnancy have a marked effect on the entire life of the child. From the beginning of pregnancy the mother should eat the same nourishing food that would keep any other woman in health and vigor. After the fourth month the food intake should be increased. By the end of the pregnancy, the intake should be 20 per cent more than normal.

If the mother's diet is lacking in certain elements the child suffers. Lime, iron and phosphorus are important. Unless the diet supplies these, the mother must use her own reserve. This results in her developing decayed teeth, some weakness of the bones, or other serious changes. Milk, salads, green vegetables, oranges and other fruit supply these elements.

Meats, eggs and milk will give protein, as will also butter, cream, olive oil, cheese and buttermilk. These, too, are rich in vitamins which are so essential to proper development of the teeth and bony structures.

Without the vitamins and these poor elimination and drink water between meals. Sleep as many hours as possible.



DR. COPELAND

Q—How can I gain weight?
 A.—Proper dieting and deep breathing is the secret. You should eat nourishing foods and have plenty of sleep and rest. For full particulars send a self-addressed stamped envelope and repeat your question.

Q—What causes the left side of my face to numb?
 A.—This is due to a circulatory condition and you should consult your doctor. Poor circulation is caused by a run-down state of health. Try to build up your entire system and you will benefit generally.

Q—What causes varicose veins?
 A.—This condition is caused by increased tension in the veins, due to either constant external pressure or some obstruction of the deep veins, as in many cases to habitual constipation, such as long standing wearing elastic stockings is often effective, but in most instances surgical procedure is necessary.

Q—What will fill out the cheeks?
 A.—You should try to gain weight in general. Eat plenty of good nourishing food, including milk, eggs, fresh fruits and vegetables. Exercise daily in the open air.

TILLIE, THE TOILER



"Nothing But The Truth"

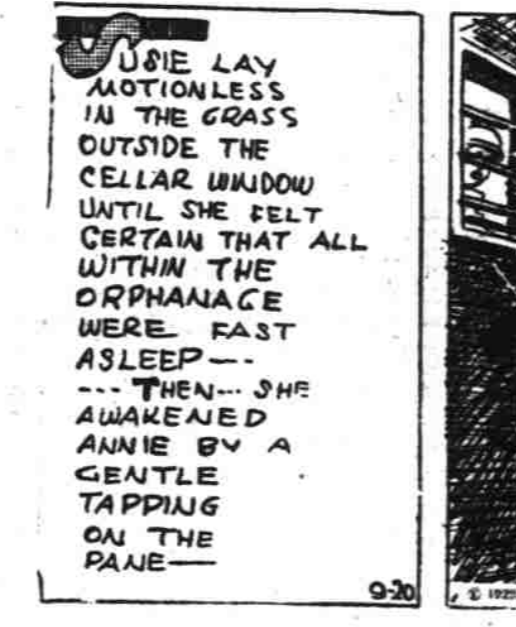


"Wrenching" Herself Free From



By BEN BATSFORD

LITTLE ANNIE ROONEY



"Getting Ready For the Worst"



By JIMMY MURPHY

TOOTS AND CASPER

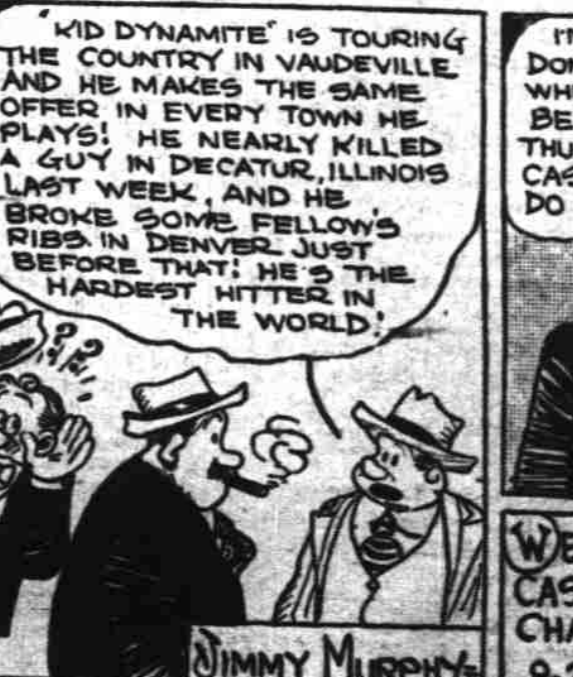


"Kid Dynamite" is Touring



By JIMMY MURPHY

"We Can Hardly Wait to See Casper in the Ring with the Champion"



By JIMMY MURPHY