

Mickey Mouse Makes His Bow As Comic Strip Character

Lovable Little Animal Already Popular Here; Creator Is "UB" Iwerks

The hard and thorny path that most comic artists have to travel before winning fame and fortune was not traversed by "UB" Iwerks, who, at the age of 28, is known to millions of Americans—and foreign movie-fans as the creator of "Mickey Mouse," comic strip and movie character who is introduced on this page today. He will appear hereafter each day on the feature page.

You see, Iwerks made his first hit at the ripe old age of 14! Believe it or not, but his first comic art effort brought him a generous check and the offer of a big salary at a time when most boys are wrestling with high school studies!

Name Is Easy Once You Get the Hang But before going into that, let's get set on the pronunciation of his name. Notice the "UB" you see. And as for the last name, it's pronounced "eye-works."

Iwerks was presented with the name of Hubert when he was too young to enter any more than a loud verbal protest. Later his playmates shortened it to "Hubey" and finally he cut it down to the "UB"—"Because," as he explains, "it makes less work for me to sign it that way, had capital letters always come easier to a comic artist."

Now we'll flash back to 14 years ago. His first efforts showed the editors out there in Kansas City, where "UB" was born and "raised," that here was a fellow who had a lot of stuff. The check and the invitation to come in and take a regular job followed.

Editor Wouldn't Believe It Was He Two days later, the editor was informed that Mr. Iwerks was outside, waiting to talk to him about that job. "Send him in," said the editor.

"I'm Mr. Iwerks," he said. "I haven't got time for practical jokes," replied the editor. "Send your old man in here."

With some difficulty "UB" convinced the editor that he was the artist in question. Of course, he didn't get the salary that a grown-up man would have, but he did get an amount that might have boys of 14 have ever started on.

Iwerks made good from the start. Pretty soon his commercial work was in such great demand that he quit the job and opened his own offices at the age of seventeen! Tie that, if you can!

Drops Commercial Work for Comics Iwerks had so much luck and his early experiences had given him such great business astuteness, that other artists flocked to him—from all over Missouri and had him handle their work for them.

"Finally," says Iwerks, "I found that I was getting to be all business and too little creative art. So I spent my spare time brushing up on my technique, and it was then that the idea for Mickey Mouse came to me."

"I thought the public would like a little animal that sort of satirized the fads and foibles of all of us—the silly things that we do every day and laugh at the other fellow for doing!"

Seriousness Really What's So Comical "I thought that people might take a fancy to Mickey Mouse if I kept him as serious and sensible as possible in all these situations, and the scheme worked out nicely."

"The real secret of Mickey Mouse's success is that he is never consciously funny. His ways so dead serious about the things he's doing—even as you and I!"

"Somebody sent my drawings of Mickey Mouse out to Hollywood and well, I guess you know what happened after that," the young artist concluded modestly.

Iwerks, who is even better looking than his pictures—in fact, he's turned down several offers to appear before the camera—is married, and makes his home in Hollywood. He is one of the prime favorites of the motion picture colony, for he's a good entertainer, and his astonishing successes have not gone to his head.

Success Merited But Iwerks Modest "There's nothing to be well-headed about, anyway," Iwerks grinned. "To get anywhere, you've got to have the stuff, of course, but you've also got to get the breaks. I've just been lucky, that's all."

But it isn't all luck. "UB" figured out his "Mickey Mouse" situation exactly right. His jokes are well planned, his situations are neatly advised, his drawing technique is exceptional, and he is reputed to be one of the best, if not the very best, at advising a clever, air-tight story to keep his Mouse busy.

The many local people who have roared over the antics of "Mickey Mouse" on the screen, and the few—if any—who haven't, will be in for an additional treat every day when they turn to the feature page and follow his comic strip adventures.

Zena Homes Have Numerous Guests ZENA, Feb. 4.—Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Higgins were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Lewis of Zena.

Mrs. W. N. Crawford was a Monday afternoon visitor in Lincoln at the home of her mother, Mrs. Alice Simpson and her house guests, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grangle of Salem. Mr. Grangle

Silverton Girl Wins Scholastic Honors at Eugene

SILVERTON GIRL—VAL UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Feb. 8 (Special)—Beatrice Bennett, of Silverton, has been appointed as the chief night editor on the Oregon Daily Emerald for the issue of February 20, when the women of the Emerald staff will get out the entire paper.

Miss Bennett is a junior in Journalism and is an honor student. Last year she won the Murray Warner contest. She is a member of the staff of the two student publications, the Emerald and Oregonian. Miss Bennett is affiliated with Delta Zeta.

WEST STAYTON HAS CLUB PROGRAM

WEST STAYTON, Feb. 7.—The West Stayton community club held their regular meeting Tuesday evening in McClellan's hall. A short business meeting was held after which the following program was given:

Reading, "Agnes I Love Thee," by Mr. B. H. Chamberlain. Song, by the school children. Reading, Mrs. Shields. Play, by the primary children of the school. Song, "Dream Train" by Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain and Paul McClellan. Reading by Frank Infeld. Reading, Harry Stewart. Play, "Going Somewhere" by the club members. Song, "I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen," by Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Chamberlain and Paul McClellan. Play, "Mrs. Snodgrass Reads the Locals." Reading, Mr. McClendon. Song by Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Chamberlain and Paul McClellan.

Central Howell to Have Local Talent Plays at Club

CENTRAL HOWELL, Feb. 8.—The two short plays sponsored by the Central Howell community club are being industriously practiced. It is thought they will be given February 21. The definite date will be announced later.

Both plays are one-act comedies. "Mix Well and Stir" is directed by Mrs. Clarence Simmons and in the cast are Mrs. Glenn Parrish, Mabel Werner, Mrs. Robert Jans, Myrene Lichty, Mrs. Milo Wilcox, A. A. Hall, F. E. Way, Robt. Bye, Sr., Glenn Parrish, Edgar Tweed and Russell Lichty. The other play, "Squaring It with the Boss," is being directed by Mrs. R. C. Ramsden. Those under her direction are Mrs. A. A. Hall, Mrs. Lester Lichty, Mrs. E. Way, Clarence Simmons, John Landerback and Grover Lichty.

Dan Poling Will Talk on Lincoln On Radio Today

Commemorating Lincoln's birthday, Dr. Daniel A. Poling will talk over KGW between 12 and 1 o'clock today on "Lincoln's Spiritual Leadership." This will be in connection with the National Youth conference program. A mixed quartet will sing.

Silverton Fire Department Will Sponsor Dance

SILVERTON, Feb. 8.—The Volunteer Fire Department of Silverton is planning a big St. Valentine's dance for the evening of February 14th. The dance will begin earlier than has been the rule at Silverton dances. The time has been set for 8:30 promptly, the members of the department announce.

The Happy Hour Girls of Portland, who are featured over KEX every noon, will furnish the music for the evening.

The proceeds of the dance will be used for repairs and new equipment needed by the department.

DALLAS DEBATERS DEFEAT STAYTON

DALLAS, Feb. 8.—The negative debate team of Dallas high won a two to one decision over the Stayton affirmative here tonight. This was the second of a series of debates Dallas is taking part in to determine the champion team of the district. The winner is decided by the team

making the most points during the year. Each judge votes counts as one point and one point is given for winning the debate. So far Dallas has scored eight points. The Dallas affirmative went to Salem to debate the Salem high negative team. The debates are under the rules of the Oregon Debating League.

The question was: Resolved That Oregon Should Adopt a Compulsory Automobile Liability Insurance Law. The affirmative was represented by Stayton high with Lula Lewis and Fred Davis on the team. Dallas had the negative side and was represented by

Margaret Ellen Kelley and Otto Fisher. The judges were furnished by the public speaking department of O. S. C. and were: Professor Chambers, Professor Moore and Mr. Blake.

HEALTH CLINIC HELD

JEFFERSON, Feb. 8.—Thirty-eight children were examined at the health clinic held at the school house Monday, conducted by Dr. E. L. Russell and Margaret McAlpine, county health nurse, assisted by Mrs. Keith Smith of Jefferson.

FATHER-SON MEET STAGED THIS WEEK

WEST SALEM, Feb. 7.—(Special)—The annual Father and Son banquet was held Tuesday evening. Over 50 boys and men gathered for this occasion, and all enthusiastically say they had a wonderful time. The dinner was potluck. Ralph Soborn acted as chairman of the dinner com-

mittee. A. R. Bouluare, Floyd DeLapp and Ben Williams were committee on tables and dishes and the young men of the Epworth League, Ervin Simmons, Harold Davis, Charles Fredrickson, Lester Lippert, Charles Wright, Frederick La Due, Chester Fredrickson, Roy Finster and Wesley Warren acted as waiters.

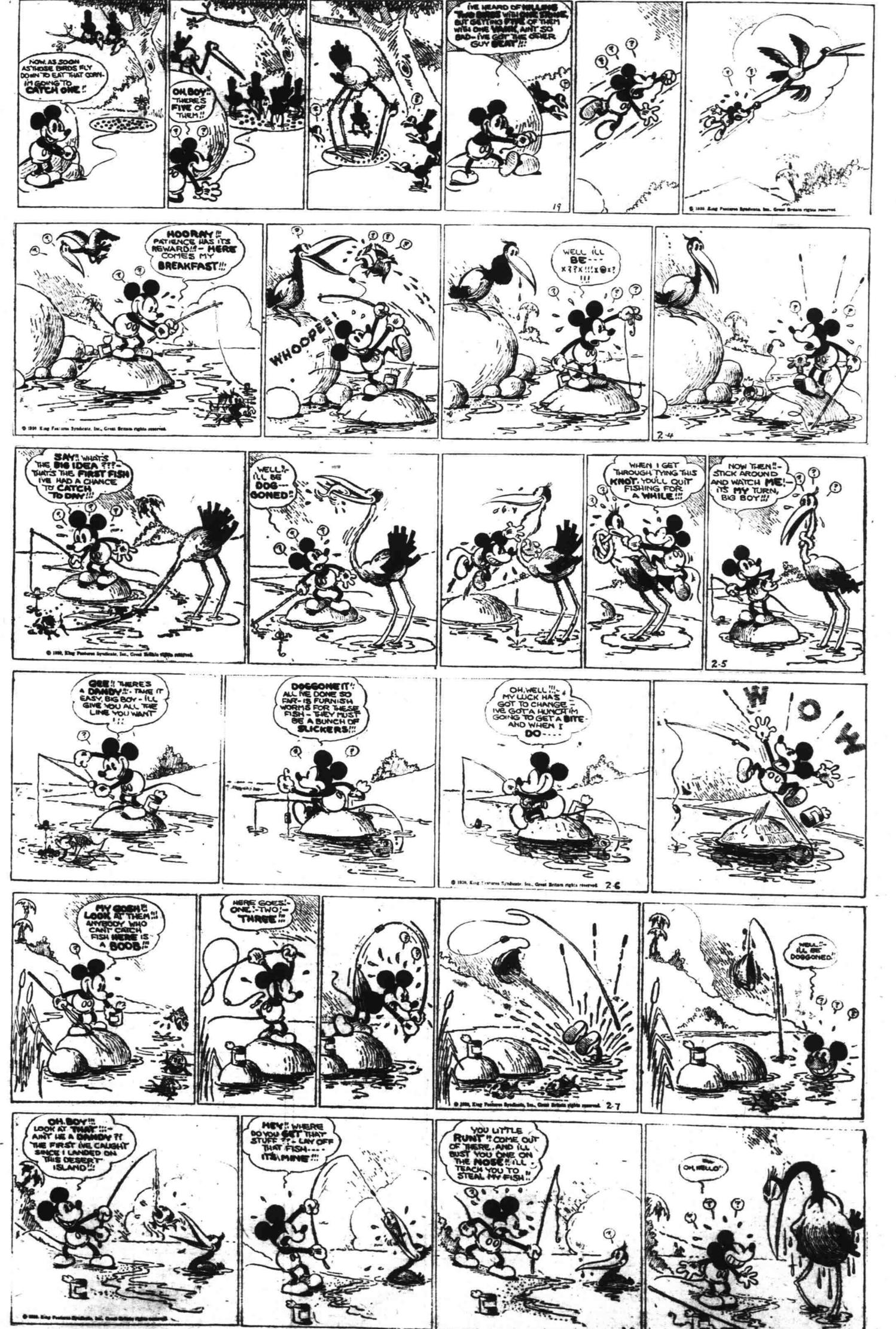
After the bountiful meal served by the above named parties, a very interesting program was presented by the program committee, J. A. Gosser, Ray Ferguson and Rev. M. A. Groves. The following numbers were given: community singing, toast; by

Wesley Warren for the song, Toast: by Rev. W. J. Warren for the fathers. Playlet "Tenderfoot Tricks" by the Boy Scouts. Howard Glover of Salem delivered a very inspirational address. There was music interspersed through the program played by Peter Foelke and his father on the accordion and the violin.

There will be a special called meeting of the official board following church Sunday evening.

By carrier you should receive your copy of The Statesman not later than 6:30. We guarantee carrier service.

MICKEY MOUSE



By IWERKS