



IT'S PAPA WHO PAYS!

by JIMMY MURPHY
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Z-Z

OH, POP! PAPA!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE AWAKENED ME, JUNIOR!

THEY'RE GONNA ANNOUNCE THE PRIZE-WINNERS OF THE FUNNY NAME CONTEST NEXT WEEK, PAPA!

IT'S NOT THE PRIZES THAT COUNT, JUNIOR! THE CHIEF PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST WAS TO GIVE THE CHILDREN SOMETHING TO DO! THEY ALL HAD LOTS OF FUN THINKING UP FUNNY NAMES! IT MADE THEM PRACTISE WRITING, AND HELPED TO DEVELOP THEIR IMAGINATIONS AND SENSE OF HUMOR—



GEE, PAPA IS SOUND-ASLEEP AGAIN!



PAPA! OH, PAPA!



NOW WHAT DO YOU WANT, JUNIOR?



DO YOU THINK I'LL WIN A PRIZE?



NOBODY CAN SLEEP WITH JUNIOR AROUND, MAMA! THE NEXT TIME I WANT TO TAKE AN AFTERNOON SNOOZE I'LL GO TO A HOTEL!



GET AS MANY COPIES OF EACH CUT-OUT AS YOU CAN SO YOU'LL HAVE EXTRA ONES IN CASE YOU SPOIL OR LOSE ANY!

BUNNY FOLD BACK ON DOTTED LINE
JIMMY MURPHY

HERE'S BUNNY, JUNIOR'S BIG SISTER! ALSO SOME CLOTHES FOR HER! TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT THE 'TOOTS AND CASPER' CUT-OUTS SO THEY CAN SAVE THEM, TOO!

ATTENTION, CHILDREN!

NEARLY HALF A MILLION LETTERS WERE RECEIVED FROM CHILDREN IN THE RECENT 'FUNNY NAMES CONTEST.' THE HUGE TASK OF CAREFULLY GOING THROUGH THIS VAST AMOUNT OF MAIL IS TAKING LONGER THAN WE THOUGHT. THE JUDGES WERE UNABLE TO COMPLETE THE TASK OF SELECTING THE PRIZE-WINNERS IN TIME FOR PUBLICATION TODAY! PLEASE HAVE PATIENCE! THE PRIZE-WINNERS WILL POSITIVELY BE ANNOUNCED NEXT WEEK!

Toots and Casper



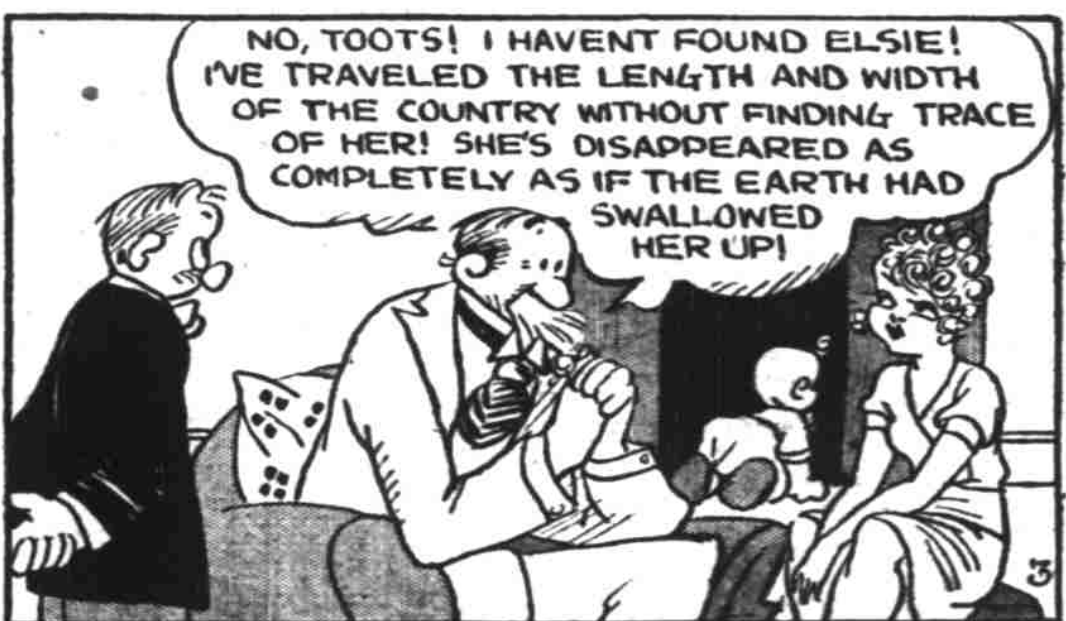
WELL OF ALL PEOPLE—! TOOTS AND CASPER! THIS IS A SURPRISE! I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU IN PRAIRIE JUNCTION!

WE CAME HERE FOR A LITTLE REST, UNCLE EVERETT! GEE, WE'RE GLAD TO SEE YOU!



— AND BUTTERCUP! YOU LITTLE TIKER! YOU'RE GETTING PRETTIER EVERY DAY, JUST LIKE YOUR BEAUTIFUL MOTHER!

I WAS HOPING ELSIE WOULD RETURN WITH YOU, UNCLE! DID YOU FIND HER?



NO, TOOTS! I HAVEN'T FOUND ELSIE! I'VE TRAVELED THE LENGTH AND WIDTH OF THE COUNTRY WITHOUT FINDING TRACE OF HER! SHE'S DISAPPEARED AS COMPLETELY AS IF THE EARTH HAD SWALLOWED HER UP!



SHE SHOULDN'T HAVE LET THAT SCOUNDREL BROTHER OF HERS COME BETWEEN US! I LOVE HER! SHE LOVES ME! NOTHING ELSE MATTERS! SHE MEANS EVERY THING IN THE WORLD TO ME! I'LL NEVER REST UNTIL SHE'S WITH ME AGAIN!



IF YOU'RE GOING FOR A WALK LET ME GO WITH YOU, UNCLE EVERETT!

THANKS, CASPER, BUT IF YOU DON'T MIND I PREFER TO GO ALONE!



I FEEL SO SORRY FOR HIM! POOR FELLOW, HE'S SO UNHAPPY! HE LOOKS SO TIRED!

I'LL BET HE'S COME BACK FOR A WHILE JUST TO BE AMONG THE SCENES OF THEIR ROMANCE ONCE AGAIN! EVERY FOOT OF GROUND AROUND HERE REMINDS HIM OF ELSIE! IT'S SACRED TO HIM!



DOWN 'MEMORY LANE' HE SLOWLY WALKS... ALONG THE SAME ROAD THAT HE AND ELSIE SO OFTEN TROD, ARM IN ARM, YEARS AND YEARS AGO... AND AS HE WALKS A SMILE COVERS HIS WEARY FEATURES, AS HIS MIND WANDERS BACK TO THE HAPPY DAYS WHEN HE AND ELSIE WERE INSEPARABLE...



HERE THEY ARE! THE INITIALS THAT ELSIE AND I CARVED DEEP ON THIS TREE THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO! IT SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY! WE WERE SO HAPPY! WE PLEDGED THAT WE'D BE TOGETHER ALWAYS— AND NOW— NOW—



IT WAS ON THE SAME DAY THAT SHE GAVE ME THIS TIN-TYPE OF HER THAT I'VE CARRIED IN MY WATCH EVER SINCE! WASN'T SHE BEAUTIFUL? BLUE-EYED AND GOLDEN-HAIRED! SHE WAS JUST SIXTEEN! I IDOLIZED HER THEN! I ADORE HER NOW— IN ALL THE YEARS THAT HAVE PASSED MY LOVE HAS GROWN STRONGER!



SHE LOVES ME! I KNOW IT! I FEEL IT! I COULD READ IT IN HER EYES— SOMEBODY— SOMEPLACE— RIGHT NOW SHE'S THINKING OF ME!— LONGING FOR ME— SHE'LL NEVER BE HAPPY AWAY FROM ME— I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT HER— OUR PATHS MUST CROSS AGAIN! IT'S GOT TO BE—



NO MATTER WHERE SHE IS I'LL FIND HER AGAIN IF I HAVE TO SEARCH THROUGH EVERY VILLAGE, HAMLET AND CITY ON THE FACE OF THE GLOBE!! I'LL MOVE HEAVEN AND EARTH TO LOCATE HER! I SWEAR IT!



BIG-HEARTED, GOOD-NATURED, LOVABLE UNCLE EVERETT! HE'S SPENT MOST OF HIS TIME AND FORTUNE MAKING OTHERS HAPPY— SURELY HE DESERVES SOME HAPPINESS HIMSELF! WILL HE EVER FIND HIS ELSIE? (CONTINUED)
JIMMY MURPHY 5-22

