



IT'S PAPA WHO PAYS!

JIMMY MURPHY

THEY'RE HAVING SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS AT THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL TODAY, AND IF THAT BOY NEXT DOOR GETS BETTER MARKS THAN JUNIOR I'D BE MORTIFIED!

JUNIOR IS FAIR AT ARITHMETIC AND GEOGRAPHY, BUT HE'S NOT SO HOT AT SPELLING!

JUNIOR HAS THE SEAT BY THE WINDOW AT THE REAR OF THE CLASS ROOM, HASN'T HE, MAMA?

YES, YOU NIT-WIT, BUT WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH HIS EXAMS?



HERE IS A BOW, ALSO A SWEATER, FOR YOUR JOY PAN DOLL PRINTED LAST WEEK

HERE'S ANOTHER CUT-OUT OF JUNIOR'S SISTER! HER PRETTY CLOTHES WILL BE PRINTED NEXT WEEK, TOGETHER WITH A NEW CUT-OUT DOLL OF HER BIG SISTER BUNNY!



THESE TWO DRESSES ARE FOR THE STELLA CLINKER CUT-OUT DOLL OF LAST WEEK

JUNIOR'S SISTER
BEND BACK ON DOTTED LINE

JIMMY MURPHY

IT'S GOT A LOT TO DO WITH IT BECAUSE I'LL BE OUTSIDE OF THAT WINDOW TO SEE TO IT THAT JUNIOR DOESN'T FLUNK IN SPELLING! THAT BOY NEXT DOOR AIN'T GONNA GET AHEAD OF US!

-AND NOW CHILDREN, GET YOUR PADS AND PENCILS READY AND WRITE DOWN THE FOLLOWING WORDS AS I READ THEM TO YOU---
VOLCANO
RADIO
WEARY
BICYCLE
HORSE

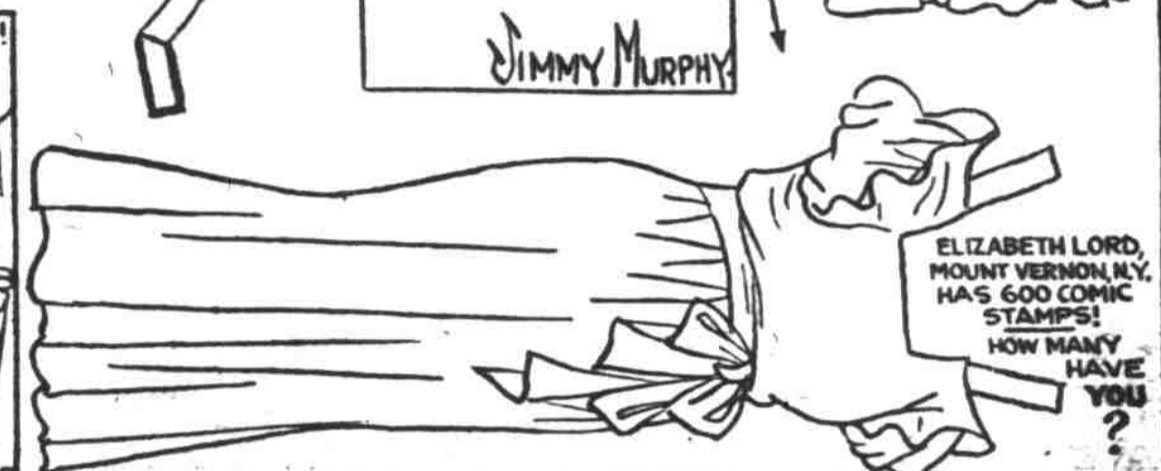
PS-T, JUNIOR! I WROTE THE TEN WORDS AS YOUR TEACHER CALLED THEM OUT! JUST HAND THIS PAPER OVER TO HER! I DISGUISED MY HAND-WRITING TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE YOURS!

WOW! I FLUNKED IN SPELLING AND I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT BECAUSE PAPA WROTE THESE WORDS HIMSELF!

LET ME SEE WHAT PAPA WROTE, JUNIOR!

Volcano
Radio
Weary
Bicycle
Horse
Grammar
Swimming
Tree
Elephant

YOU ONLY MISPELLED EIGHT OF THE TEN WORDS! 80% WRONG! THAT'S A GOOD AVERAGE FOR YOU! I WISH THEY'D RAISE THE AGE LIMITS SO I COULD STICK YOU BACK IN GRAMMAR SCHOOL! YOU'D BE THE TALLEST PUPIL IN THE CLASS BUT YOU WOULDN'T BE THE SMARTEST ONE!



ELIZABETH LORD, MOUNT VERNON, N.Y., HAS 600 COMIC STAMPS! HOW MANY HAVE YOU?

Toots and Casper

Registered U. S. Patent Office

HERE COMES UNCLE EVERETT, THE FAMOUS PRAIRIE JUNCTION MILLIONAIRE, AND A WOMAN IS IN THE LIMOUSINE WITH HIM!

CAN IT BE THAT THE WOMAN IS ELSIE, THE GOLDEN-HAIRED SWEETHEART OF HIS YOUTH THE WOMAN HE'S SEARCHED THE WORLD TRYING TO FIND?



HELLO, UNCLE EVERETT! GEE, I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU! IS ELSIE WITH YOU?

TAKE IT EASY, LITTLE LADY! WATCH YOUR STEP!



I GUESS I LET MY IMAGINATION RUN WILD, UNCLE! I THOUGHT THE LADY WITH YOU WAS ELSIE!

NO, TOOTS! THIS IS MRS. FERGUSON, AN OLD FRIEND OF ELSIE'S, FROM PRAIRIE JUNCTION! MRS. FERGUSON WENT THROUGH A SEVERE SPELL OF SICKNESS RECENTLY AND I INDUCED HER TO COME TO THE CITY AS YOUR GUEST FOR A LITTLE VACATION!



THIS IS MRS. FERGUSON'S FIRST TRIP TO THE CITY, CASPER, AND I WANT HER TO STAY HERE WITH YOU AND TOOTS! SHE'S A BIT OLD FASHIONED AND SHE'D FEEL OUT OF PLACE IN A HOTEL! TREAT HER NICE, WON'T YOU? SHE'S BEEN MIGHTY GOOD TO ELSIE IN DAYS GONE BY.

WE'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF MRS. FERGUSON!



DEAR LITTLE BUTTERCUP! I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE HE WAS IN PRAIRIE JUNCTION WITH YOU LAST JULY, TOOTS!

THIS IS YOUR ROOM, MRS. FERGUSON! MAKE YOURSELF RIGHT AT HOME! DO YOU KNOW IF UNCLE EVERETT EVER FOUND ANY CLUES AS TO WHERE ELSIE IS NOW?



NO, NOT A TRACE, TOOTS, AND I FEEL SO SORRY FOR HIM! HE'S A WONDERFUL MAN! FOR YEARS HE'S SPENT HIS TIME AND DEVOTED HIS FORTUNE TO MAKING OTHERS HAPPY! HIS CHARITIES AND GOODNESS HAVE BROUGHT SUNSHINE INTO THOUSANDS OF HOMES! WHAT A PITY THAT HE SHOULD BE SO UNHAPPY HIMSELF!



DAY AND NIGHT SINCE I SAW YOU LAST JULY I'VE SEARCHED FOR ELSIE WITHOUT SUCCESS, CASPER, BUT I'M NOT DISCOURAGED! SOMEWHERE, SOME PLACE SHE'S THINKING OF ME--- LONGING FOR ME--- AND SOMEDAY I'LL FIND HER!

I KNOW YOU WILL, UNCLE EVERETT, AND I TOLD YOU SO IN THE LETTER I MAILED TO YOU AN HOUR AGO! I WROTE TO TELL YOU ABOUT UNCLE ABNER!



WHAT ABOUT ABNER?

HE AND STELLA CLINKER HAVE MADE UP AND HE'S MADLY IN LOVE WITH HER! I'VE GOT A HUNCH HE'LL MARRY HER BEFORE LONG AND I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO BRING HIM TO HIS SENSES!



HE MUSTN'T MARRY HER! THAT WOULD BE A MISTAKE AND I'LL PUT A STOP TO IT! STELLA CLINKER IS THE MOST SELFISH, DESIGNING, MERCENARY, CALCULATING WOMAN I EVER KNEW!

THAT'S WHAT TOOTS TOLD HIM, BUT HE WON'T LISTEN TO US! PS-T! HERE HE COMES NOW!



I TOLD EVERETT ABOUT ABNER'S ROMANCE WITH STELLA, AND, OH, BOY! WAS HE MAD? I'LL BET HE'S TELLING ABNER PLENTY RIGHT NOW! LET'S LISTEN TO HIM LAYING THE LAW DOWN, TOOTS!

TOOTS AND CASPER ARE PREJUDICED AGAINST STELLA, BUT I HOPE YOU AIN'T, EVERETT!

OF COURSE I'M NOT, ABNER! YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, AND IF YOU LOVE HER AND SHE LOVES YOU THAT'S ALL THAT IS NECESSARY! DON'T FORGET TO INVITE ME TO THE WEDDING!

LEAVE IT TO YOU! OH, YES! WHY, YOU ACTUALLY ENCOURAGED HIM!

I VALUE ABNER'S FRIENDSHIP TOO MUCH TO JEOPARDIZE IT BY ARGUING WITH HIM ABOUT STELLA! I'LL PREVENT HIM FROM MARRYING HER, AND I HAVE A PLAN! CASPER, WHEN YOU'RE AS OLD AS I AM YOU'LL KNOW THERE ARE MORE WAYS THAN ONE TO SKIN A GOOSE!

WE CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT EVERETT'S PLAN IS BUT HE'S CLEVER AND IT MUST BE A GOOD ONE!

AND IT DID US GOOD TO SEE HIM LAUGH! A SMILE MAY OCCASIONALLY CREEP OVER HIS WEARY FEATURES, BUT THERE'S SADNESS IN HIS HEART!



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JIMMY MURPHY

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