

IT'S PAPA WHO PAYS!

by JIMMY MURPHY
Registered U. S. Patent Office

MAMA WANTS TO GO UPSTATE AND VISIT HER SISTER FOR A FEW DAYS--

SHE DESERVES A LONGER VACATION THAN JUST A FEW DAYS-- IT'LL BE PRETTY LONESOME FOR ME HERE WITHOUT HER, BUT I AIN'T GONNA BE SELFISH ABOUT IT!

I DON'T KNOW HOW I'LL GET ALONG WITHOUT MAMA, BUT FOR HER SAKE I'M GONNA SEE TO IT THAT SHE HAS A REAL VACATION THIS TIME!

HOW LONG SHALL I STAY WITH MY SISTER, PAPA?

MAMA, I WANT YOU TO STAY WITH HER FOR A WHOLE MONTH!

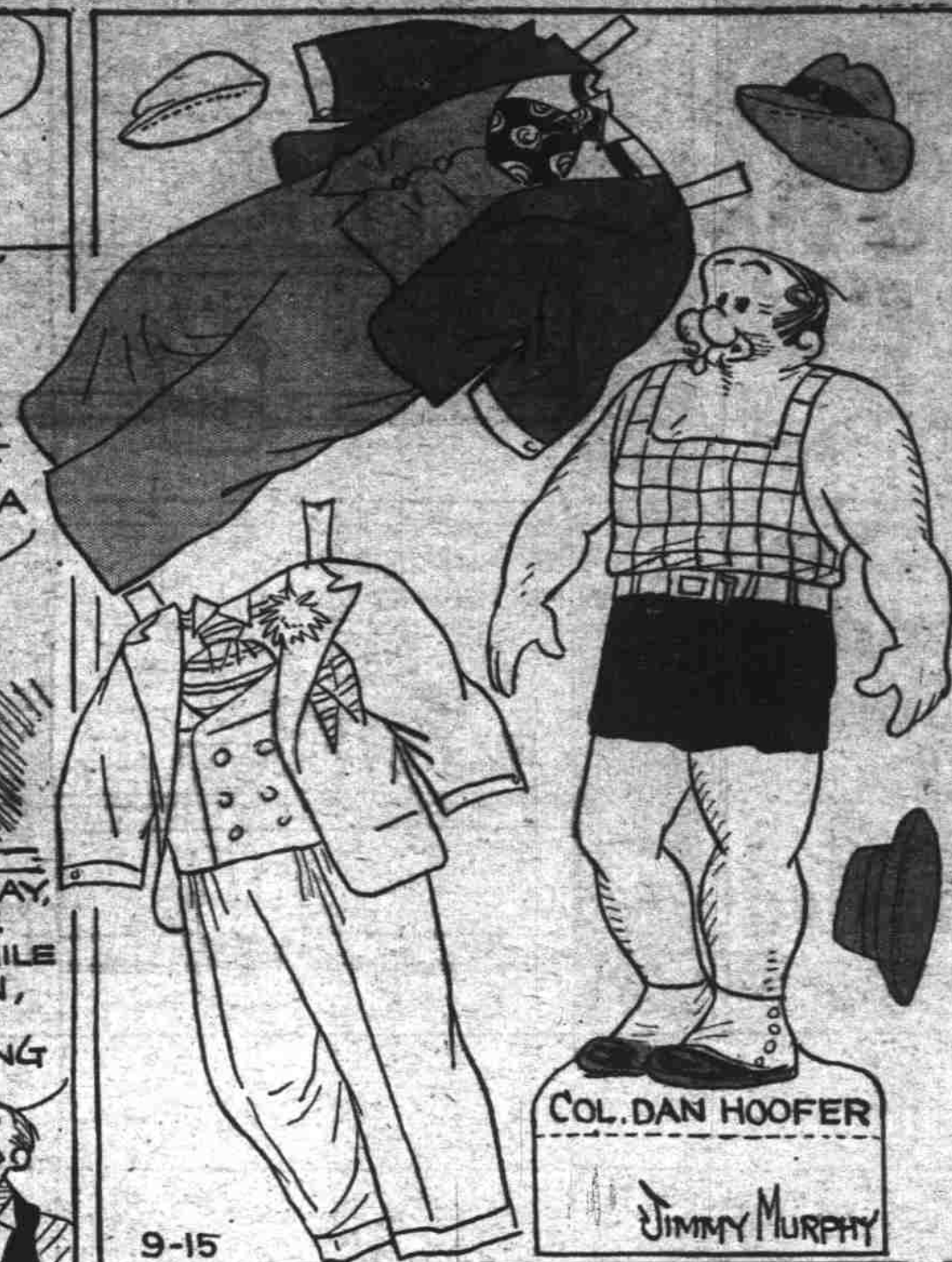
OH, PAPA! DO YOU MEAN THAT?

YOU BET I DO, MAMA

IT'S SWEET OF PAPA TO LET ME GO AWAY FOR A MONTH--HUM-M-- IT WAS HIS OWN SUGGESTION, TOO!

SAY, ARE YOU TRYING TO GET RID OF ME? YOU WANTA GET ME OUT OF TOWN, SO YOU CAN SOW SOME WILD OATS, IS THAT IT?

I WASN'T BORN YESTERDAY, AND IF YOU THINK YOU'RE GONNA MAKE WHOOPÉE WHILE I'M GONE YOU'RE MISTAKEN, BECAUSE I'M NOT GOING AWAY, YOU SCHEMING SCOUNDREL!



9-15

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Toots and Casper

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GEE, CASPER, I HAVEN'T HEARD A WORD FROM LUCY SINCE SHE DISAPPEARED LAST WEEK!

SHE'S MOVED FROM THE PLACE WHERE SHE USED TO LIVE, TOOTS-- I JUST CAME FROM THERE

-- AND YESTERDAY WAS THE FIRST TIME SHE'S FAILED TO CALL FOR OUR LAUNDRY-- THAT'S NOT LIKE HER--

HERE COMES THE MAIL-MAN-- MAYBE THERE'S A LETTER FROM LUCY--

NO, NOTHING FROM LUCY, BUT HERE'S A NOTE FROM ABNER SAYING HELLO-- HE SAYS TO GIVE ROGER KALERTON HIS REGARDS--HUM-M-- THAT MEANS ROGER HASN'T RETURNED TO PRAIRIE JUNCTION YET!

ABNER ENCLOSED A SNAP-SHOT, TOO--WELL, OF ALL THE CRUST!



LOOK AT THAT PICTURE OF OUR RICH UNCLE EVERETT HOLDING THE ABNER TWINS-- THAT BURNS ME UP--

BEFORE WE KNOW IT UNCLE EVERETT WILL BECOME SO INFATUATED WITH THOSE TWINS HE'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT OUR BUTTERCUP--

NOW DON'T BE JEALOUS, CASPER!

WELL, IT WON'T BE SO FUNNY IF HE MAKES THE TWINS HIS HEIRS INSTEAD OF BUTTERCUP--

SAY, IF ROGER ISN'T IN PRAIRIE JUNCTION, WHERE IS HE? AND WHERE IS LUCY? MAYBE THEY LIKED EACH OTHER MORE THAN THEY LET ON--

THAT'S MY HUNCH, TOO, TOOTS--MAYBE THEY ELOPED, AND GOT MARRIED--HELLO-- THE PHONE IS RINGING!

LUCY, IS THAT YOU? WHERE ON EARTH HAVE YOU BEEN? WHAT?

THAT WAS LUCY-- SHE SAID SHE'S THE HAPPIEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD, AND SHE'S COMING RIGHT OVER TO TELL US SOME WONDERFUL NEWS--

I WONDER WHAT THE WONDERFUL NEWS IS, TOOTS?

I'M DYING TO KNOW, TOO, CASPER--MAYBE SHE'S MARRIED TO ROGER--OH, I WISH SHE'D HURRY! HERE SHE IS--

WHAT IS THE GOOD NEWS THAT LUCY HAS TO TELL?

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

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