

# THE MELODY GIRL

**CHAPTER LXI**

Irene had consumed two muffins before she decided she might as well begin immediately with her plan for getting rid of Derry Meade.

"Will you press my green silk dress?" she asked her mother. "I want to wear it on the train."

"On the train?"

"Yes, I'm leaving this afternoon for Oakdale. I've some business there to attend to," Irene added impatiently.

Her mother was worried. "There's nothing wrong, is there?" she inquired anxiously.

Irene shrugged. "No, it's just something I want to see Gaylord about."

Her mother's face cleared and Irene guessed that she hoped there was to be a reconciliation. Irene had intended her to hope this, thereby making her own departure easier.

Mrs. Everett did not question her further. "Please don't say anything to Bert and Dad until I'm gone."

"I don't care to talk to my plans."

Her mother agreed with her that silence was best. Irene left without saying goodby to Tommy, and since her mother would naturally lead him to believe she had gone to remain in town, she hoped he would realize his loss.

All the way to Oakdale she occupied herself with thoughts of her return to Tommy, making her plans for their future and even planning their wedding. She'd wear a gown of delicate pink with just the softest tint of yellow in it. A sash with deep red and white stripes and an armful of pink and yellow roses.

Really it wasn't so far to Oakdale—not half the distance it had seemed when she left the town.

She must watch out for that little station called Old Town, where Oakdale had been before it moved up the hill. She would get off the train there and telephone. Surely there would be a telephone in the station. It would be too great a risk to go on to Oakdale station where she would be sure to encounter some acquaintances.

and the flowers on display during the day. The fruit was brought to her after meals in the dining car. Tea was served to her in her room and she went back several times for dainties she thought she would like.

It made her feel like a princess to travel thus and she half-hoped the other passengers would think her a motion picture actress going to Hollywood. She kept her motion picture magazines prominently in sight.

In company on the trip there were several fascinating young men who picked up magazines and opened doors for Irene, who gave her a seat whenever she appeared in the crowded club car, though the only proper place for her on the train was the observation platform.

Those who remained on the train by the time it reached Oakdale were sorry to see her go but the porter was not. "Two bits an' a couple messy dimes," he grumbled to a fellow porter.

The other porter showed a dollar from a lower berth passenger and grinned. "I see laughin' las," he proclaimed heartily.

Irene had to carry her suitcase herself when she finished saying goodby to her new acquaintances just outside the station. She hadn't wanted to have it taken into the station until she was about. The suitcase was light. She'd told her mother she wouldn't bother about her wardrobe until her "business" in Oakdale was settled. Mrs. Everett understood this to mean until Irene had made up with Gaylord.

Seeing no one she knew Irene entered the small and dingy station and looked around for a telephone. There was none in the waiting room and the station agent was away.

Across the street there was a small general store. Irene went over to see if she could telephone there. She was annoyed to find the instrument in the open but the store was deserted except for the presence of a young man who told her she could use the telephone with pleasure, and she needn't say much to Derry.

The young man had been staring at her, at first openly and then, apparently remembering his manners, more guardedly, ever since she entered the place. Irene was flattered. She accepted this interest as a compliment. Her fur coat was eastern mink and if the youth didn't know that he couldn't help knowing it wasn't cheap. Her sunglasses which barely covered the crown of her head and allowed her wealth of sunny hair to show was the cutest thing she'd ever owned.

Irene smiled over her shoulder as she asked for a number, and she pouted prettily when she failed to get Derry on the line. She tried again and again, and at last was told that Derry was skating on the lake at the country club. She asked to have a message sent to him and gave the number of the store from which she was telephoning so that Derry might call her.

After that she was free to amuse herself for a while. Suddenly it occurred to her that the young store clerk might have some interesting gossip about some of the people she knew. It might even be possible that she could learn something to indicate Gaylord would like to have her return. She'd play her part in a reconciliation if Gaylord and his father would come half-way.

Traveling in luxury had impressed her again with a measure of what she'd lost. She did not know that it is much easier for a poor man to imagine himself rich than for a rich man to imagine himself poor.

Ease and luxury coming to Irene suddenly had given her the idea that she commanded such things because she was herself beautiful. Since she'd left Gaylord she had realized that rich young men do not fall into every beautiful girl's life. As a Prentiss she'd had the opportunity to meet men of wealth. She had not attracted one of them. As an ex-Prentiss she was again just Irene Everett, daughter of a small town grocer. She hadn't enough of the Prentiss money to rise far above the station, and she had no career to remove her from it. She might grow old before she met another wealthy man who wanted to marry her.

Irene tried to open conversation but the young clerk seemed shy. She was still trying to make him talk when the telephone rang.

(To be continued)

## LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE

## How Can She Know?

By HAROLD GRAY

**The Best of the Nation's 'Human-est' and Funniest Comics On This Page Daily**

THAT SURE IS A BIG HOSPITAL—EH, SANDY? THEY SAY IT'S AN AWFUL GOOD ONE TOO—IF THERE IS SUCH A THING AS A GOOD HOSPITAL—BR-R-R—I HOPE I NEVER HAVE TO GO TO ANY HOSPITAL.

THANK GOODNESS WE HAVE OUR HEALTH—HUNDREDS O' FOLKS IN THERE—MOST O' TH' PEOPLE IN THAT HOSPITAL ARE POOR, TOO—GEE, I FEEL SORRY FOR POOR PEOPLE WHO GET SICK—RICH FOLKS GET JUST AS SICK, I SPOSE, BUT THEY CAN HIRE LOTS O' NURSES AND DOCTORS AND SPECIAL ROOMS IT DOESN'T SEEM SO BAD FOR RICH FOLKS—

BUT THERE'LL ALWAYS BE POOR FOLKS AND SICK FOLKS—MIGHTY LITTLE WE CAN DO ABOUT IT—WONDER WHERE DADDY IS—GEE, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE HE WENT AWAY—I SURE HOPE HE'S ALL RIGHT—

WHILE UNKNOWN TO ANNIE, WARBUCKS SITS IN THAT VERY HOSPITAL, WAITING FOR THE DAY WHEN THEY TELL HIM HE CAN GO FORTH—TO WHAT? THAT IS THE QUESTION HE SPENDS THE ENDLESS HOURS IN A FUTILE EFFORT TO ANSWER—

## TIM TYLER'S FLYING LUCK

By LYNN YOUNG

I'LL DIVE THROUGH THAT OPENING, IT'S MY ONLY HOPE—

HIST—TIM—IT'S I—SPUD! D'YA HEAR? OPEN TH' DOOR!—QUICK!

WOW—WHAT A CLOSE SHAVE! I THOUGHT THAT BANDIT HAD ME SURE, BUT I'M SAFE IN HERE, IF THAT BOLT HOLDS! WONDER WHO OWNS THIS LAYOUT—HELLO—I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMEBODY CALLING—

WHY—ER—YOU? MISS MOLLY? HOW—? WHERE—? WHEN—? GEE!!

SH—COME WITH ME—!

CAN THE BOY BE DREAMING? CAN THIS REALLY BE MOLLY? IT MUST BE! HADN'T SHE CALLED TO HIM BY NAME? IN SPITE OF HIS DISGUISE SHE HAD RECOGNIZED HIM!! WHAT A THRILL FOR TIM!!

## POLLY AND HER PALS

By CLIFF STERRETT

I HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST IDEA, ANGEL! I'LL ASK UNCLE SAMUEL!

DOES POISON IVY HAVE A FLOWER, SAMUEL? DEAREST WANTS TO MAKE HER LITTLE PAL A PRESENT!

## BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES

By MARTIN

BOY! THERE GOES WILLIE—WITH A THRILL ON EACH ARM! Y'HAVE T'CHER FOR THAT LAD! HE SURE T'PICK 'EM

WELL—MORE POWER TO 'M! I DUNNO— THERE'S JAG' SOMETHIN' ABOUT PARIS— GEEEEEEEE—

I WISH—I—???

OH!

## BRINGING UP FATHER

By GEORGE McMANUS

DO YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THAT YOU AN' YOUR MOTHER ARE GOIN' OUT IN THEM NIGHT-SHIRT'S—AN' YOU'RE EXPECTIN' ME TO TAKE YEZ?

DON'T BE SILLY, DADDY—IT'S THE VERY LATEST STYLE—

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS WORLD IS COMIN' TO—BUT I SUPPOSE I MUST GIVE IN TO THIS NEWEST STYLE—

COME ON—I'M READY—LET'S GO!

EEEK!

FATHER!

## MICKEY MICE

By WALT DISNEY

THAT DOGGONE GIRAFFE! EVERY TIME IT DAWNS I HAVE TO DATCH UP HOLES HE'S EATEN OUT OF THE "BIG TOP"—GO SEE IF YOU CAN PUT HIM IN A CAGE, MICKEY!

GET IN THERE, YOU ELONGATED ADAMS' APPLE!

SAY, LISTEN, YOU MICROSCOPIC PIECE OF CHEESE—DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO PUT THAT GUY IN A CAGE?

I DID—COME ON, I'LL SHOW YOU!

### Question on Identity

**HORIZONTAL**

1 Secretary of commerce.

6 To sell.

11 Auto body.

12 To regret.

14 Domesticated.

16 Greedy.

17 Requirements.

19 To rub.

20 Mesh of lace.

21 Granted a claim to.

22 Two fives.

24 Southeast.

25 Witticism.

26 Was victor.

28 Behold.

29 Cabin.

30 Affirmative.

32 To scold constantly.

34 Beaten down.

36 Band of twisted twigs.

38 Fairy.

40 To emulate.

41 Relied on.

43 To sunburn.

44 Paid publicity.

45 Dried grass.

46 Point.

**VERTICAL**

18 Designated.

17 Moist.

16 To embroider.

22 To decay.

23 To put on.

25 Mrs.

27 To dose.

29 To hasten.

30 Ye.

31 To place.

33 To secure.

35 To help.

36 To weep.

37 Matching group of dishes.

39 Knock.

41 Label.

42 To scarrate.

45 Feminine pronoun.

47 Nominal value.

49 Part of ear.

50 African title of respect.

51 Style.

53 Story.

55 Bumble bee.

56 Pale.

57 Before.

59 Fuel.

61 Third note.

62 Article.

**Answers:**

1. Secretary of commerce: **WILSON**

6. To sell: **SELL**

11. Auto body: **FENDER**

12. To regret: **REPOSE**

14. Domesticated: **DOMESTICATED**

16. Greedy: **GLUTTONY**

17. Requirements: **REQUIREMENTS**

19. To rub: **RUB**

20. Mesh of lace: **NET**

21. Granted a claim to: **GRANTED**

22. Two fives: **TEN**

24. Southeast: **SOUTHEAST**

25. Witticism: **WIT**

26. Was victor: **WAS**

28. Behold: **BEHOLD**

29. Cabin: **CABIN**

30. Affirmative: **AFFIRMATIVE**

32. To scold constantly: **SCOLD**

34. Beaten down: **BEATEN**

36. Band of twisted twigs: **BAND**

38. Fairy: **FAIRY**

40. To emulate: **EMULATE**

41. Relied on: **RELIED**

43. To sunburn: **SUNBURN**

44. Paid publicity: **PAID**

45. Dried grass: **DRIED**

46. Point: **POINT**

18. Designated: **DESIGNATED**

17. Moist: **MOIST**

16. To embroider: **EMBROIDER**

22. To decay: **DECAY**

23. To put on: **PUT**

25. Mrs.: **MRS.**

27. To dose: **DOSE**

29. To hasten: **HASTEN**

30. Ye.: **YE.**

31. To place: **PLACE**

33. To secure: **SECURE**

35. To help: **HELP**

36. To weep: **WEEP**

37. Matching group of dishes: **MATCHING**

39. Knock: **KNOCK**

41. Label: **LABEL**

42. To scarrate: **SCARRATE**

45. Feminine pronoun: **HER**

47. Nominal value: **VALUE**

49. Part of ear: **EAR**

50. African title of respect: **MBE**

51. Style: **STYLE**

53. Story: **STORY**

55. Bumble bee: **BUMBLE**

56. Pale: **PALE**

57. Before: **BEFORE**

59. Fuel: **FUEL**

61. Third note: **NOTE**

62. Article: **ARTICLE**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70