

FRANTIC FESTIVAL

BY EDMUND FANCOTT

THE STORY: Myra Mack and Fay Rathbone, two Montreal girls, are invited to spend their Christmas vacations as guests of...

Chapter II

MEET BEANO

THE door of the office showed a sign more pretentious than the exterior of the office, which was one of many in a large but not very modern building.

BENNY BRIEN

There was a light behind the glass of the window although it was past Benny Brien's usual hour of closing. Benny Brien was a small man and plump, hiding a hard heart under a soft exterior.

"No, Beano. If it was honest I'd help you. Ten years I booked your business and never made a penny more than 25 per cent out of you. Three times when you were with me I fixed it for you. Three times champion of the world, and the circuit I got you brought you more than you ever had to pay out to be champion."

"I know, Benny, you was a pal to me all through."

"A pal," exclaimed Benny. "And what did I get for it? The Maxo outfit offered to put you back in the wrestling game for a 15 per cent cut and where are you now? You got the blame and they got the dough. All washed up, and then you come to Benny to help you out."

The other waited patiently. "Listen, Benny, I ain't washed up. I got 50 grand in my pocket and I want to give you 25 for what you have done for me in the past."

Benny snorted. "Fifty grand! Hot! Why if the cops walked in here and found you with them diamonds on you we'd both get 20 years in the penitentiary, you for having 'em and me for knowing it. And me as innocent as a newborn babe."

Beano sighed. "Listen, Benny. I didn't steal 'em. I was only in Lafferty's when Bretto rushed in and says to me, 'Hold this for me till I get back.' But he never got back, the boys got him outside and when they searched him for the ice they couldn't find it. Then the cops got them and gave 'em the chair, so you see, Benny, I came by them honest."

"Honest!" snorted Benny. "I'll bet the insurance dicks are sniffing your trail right now, not to mention the cops."

"That's it," said Beano. "All I want to do is to lay up in a nice quiet circuit for a couple of months up in Canada and it's a cinch. Fifty grand ain't hay, Benny."

"The bell rang. Benny picked up his telephone."

"Hello," said Benny. "Oh, yes, sure, yeah, sure I believe in Christ-



"Aw, Benny," protested Beano. "I don't want to be a Santa Claus. Kids bother me. I just want to go to Canada for a while and then I'm going to finish my correspondence course in Physical Education. Maybe I can get a job in one of them colleges."

mas. Sure, a good time was had by all, the kids like it, too, but I got a business. Skiing. Sure I like it... on the movies. How's that girl with the dead pan, yeah, Mack, that's the name. Maybe I will at that. Couple of days, maybe. Busy time, New Year's, got a couple of shows lined up. Sure I'll be up. O. K. if I bring a friend?"

"Beano's eyes twinkled with hope. Benny set the receiver down. "What do you think about that?" he said to Beano. "That's the best artist in Canada, that is, real artist, I mean, not an act. Asking me up for Christmas week. Swell place up where they all ski. Maybe I can do something for you, Beano."

"Aw, Benny, I knew you'd come across. Split 50-50 and help me get rid of the ice."

"Nothing doing, Beano. It's too hot, but I'll give you a break. Never let it be said I didn't help a pal and that's more than the Maxos' would do for you."

"I'll ring up Johnny Goodman in Montreal and get you a Santa Claus act in one of the stores. Nobody'll recognize you as Santa Claus."

"Aw, Benny," protested Beano. "I don't want to be a Santa Claus. Kids bother me. I just want to go to Canada for a while and then I'm going to finish my correspondence course in Physical Education. Maybe I can get a job in one of them colleges."

Benny Brien sighed. "That's the trouble with you. Physical education. You took it all in your muscles and none in your head. Here. Get into this costume. Nobody will think of looking for hot ice on Santa Claus."

United States consumed 8,993,000 cases of grapefruit juice during 1940.

Fort Jefferson national monument, in Florida, was visited by 1141 persons during 1940.

Chicago's Field Museum has more than \$1,000,000 worth of plate glass protecting its exhibits.

The final transcontinental motorcycle trip ended in New York City on July 6, 1903.

SIDE GLANCES



"If you send that pretty girl plumber again, please understand I don't expect to pay for the time she spends talking to my soldier son and his father."

SLIM; LONG-WAISTED



4044

by Anne Adams

If you want slim lines and young style, this is the frock for you! Pattern 4044 is designed by Anne Adams who knows the mature figure; The long, front-pointed bodice lines and the front skirt panels are figure flattering. Have the pretty collar in contrast.

Pattern 4044 is available in women's sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46. Size 36 takes 3 1/2 yards 39 inch fabric; 1 1/2 yard contrast. Send SIXTEEN CENTS in coins for this Anne Adams pattern. Write plainly SIZE, NAME, ADDRESS and STYLE NUMBER.

Buy our Winter Pattern Book and cover the American Fashion Scene. Simple, fabric-saving designs for outfits in every size. Scrap-bag fashions; war work styles; accessories. Pattern Book, ten cents.

Send your order to Register-Guard Pattern Department. (If stamps are used in remittance please use one, two or three cent denominations. Larger denominations cannot be accepted.)

medium, large sizes; illustration of stitches; materials required. Send ELEVEN CENTS in coins for this pattern to Register-Guard Needlecraft Dept. Write plainly PATTERN NUMBER, your NAME and ADDRESS.

(If stamps are used in remittance please use one, two or three cent denominations. Larger denominations cannot be accepted.)

FOR FUEL-LOW NIGHTS



512

Put your best foot forward—in these warm, jiffy-crocheted "booties" or slippers. They're easy to do in single crochet, with contrasting trim added. Use two strands of inexpensive Shetland Floss; the soles are crocheted of rags. Pattern 512 contains directions for slippers in small...



LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE



GASOLINE ALLEY



BLONDIE



POPEYE



BOOTS and HER BUDDIES



WASH TUBBS



OVERDRIED



OUR BOARDING HOUSE

