

LIFE STEPS IN

By Claire Pomerey

Ana felt as if someone had struck her over the head.

On his way home!

If heaven and earth had crashed together in a shock could not have been greater.

Coming home. On his way now. She knew that Mollie was watching her with suspicion.

"You don't seem surprised," she said sharply. "Did you know? Has he written to you?"

Ana smiled faintly.

"No, he hasn't written to me," she said. "But Mollie, I am sure you need not be afraid of him. He's the kindest—most understanding—"

Mollie laughed.

"Is that how you see him? I suppose you would. But he terrifies me. Last time—when I told him all about—things! he was so quiet about it all, so—unmoved, that it was more frightening than if he had roared at me or struck me."

She pushed her hair back from her pretty face with a distraught gesture. "I wish I'd done what he wanted me to do then," she went on feverishly. "I wish I had—"

She turned on Ana angrily. "Why don't you say something? You don't seem interested. Don't you care what it was that he wanted me to do?"

"It's not my affair," Ana said stiffly.

"Isn't it?" Mollie got up and twitched the tablecloth into place. "It is, and you know it is. He wanted me to give him his freedom—almost begged me to—if a man like Anthony can ever beg anything of anybody. He said that if I was tired of him and there was another man I preferred to him, he would let me go." She laughed harshly. "It wasn't consideration for me that made him say it—it was consideration for himself—because he wanted his freedom."

"Don't talk like that, Mollie."

"It was, you know it was. Oh, I know you always take up the saintly role and won't admit anything, but what's the use? What reward have you got for letting Anthony go away without you, I should like to know? What reward does any saint ever get in this world?"

"I'm not a saint—I don't pretend to be."

Mollie went on heedlessly:

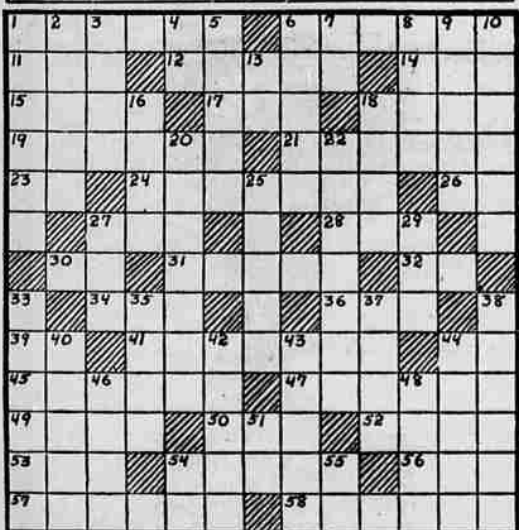
"It's you Anthony loves, why don't you admit it? It was you he was trying to be kind to me. I may be a fool, I know you think I am—but I could see it in his eyes all the time he was listening to me, and trying to be just. If I hadn't been a dog in the manger I should have let him go. But Ralph wasn't free, and he couldn't have married me. I should have been left—and after all Anthony's better than nobody."

"Mollie—Mollie!"

"Oh, don't 'Mollie' me!" Anthony's wife broke out fiercely. "I'm sick of you all. I'm sick of life. There's nothing in it. I didn't want Anthony to forgive me even when I pretended I did, and beg-

(Concluded on Page 10)

Today's Cross-Word Puzzle



- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| HORIZONTAL | rounded by | 4—toward | 16—sagacious |
| 1—slopes | 49—wicked | 6—firmer | 18—a pro- |
| 6—a kind of | 50—to be ill | 6—place or | longed |
| slipper | 52—genuine | room | sound like |
| 11—very warm | 53—a rodent | another | that of the |
| 12—ejects | 54—to speak | has | letter "a" |
| 14—wrath | 56—part of | 7—like | 20—wandered |
| 15—to declare | 57—to be | 8—cones to | 22—books for |
| openly | 58—slumbers | exist | practice in |
| 17—female | 59—struck | 9—furnished | reading |
| deer | | 10—furnished | 25—narrow |
| 18—borders | | with arms | strip of |
| 19—decease | | 10—that which | water |
| 21—comes into | | is learned or | between |
| action, being or | | taught by an | land |
| notice | | express | metallic or |
| 23—conjunction | | 13—in such | vessel |
| 24—long steps | | manner | 29—sorrowful |
| 26—accomplish | | | cry |
| 27—by | | | 33—small wax |
| 28—dot | | | candles |
| 29—to pass | | | 55—uttered by |
| from one | | | mouth |
| place to | | | 37—a band or |
| another | | | girdle |
| 31—was indis- | | | 38—in reality |
| posed | | | 42—nautical |
| 32—concerning | | | 43—causes to |
| 34—playing | | | sit down |
| 36—to recede | | | 45—lubricated |
| 39—indefinite | | | 46—harden by |
| article | | | use |
| 41—to bring | | | 46—a core- |
| back to its | | | mony |
| former | | | 48—one of a |
| state | | | swarthy |
| 44—within | | | race |
| 45—ostentation | | | occupying |
| 47—trust of | | | Arabia |
| land sur- | | | 41—that thing |
| | | | 54—aloft |
| | | | 55—can god |

CATERPILLAR SMASHED
ARABIA PASTIME
ACBOB ESPY DE
TAT TENETS MID
TEDEMIOTIC TIRE
NILES PERFUMED
GALOP REAR
GALDART DROOPS
SLEEPERS BROOD
SLARD SUER SEAR
ANA RESALL EHA
RE PLAT IVA AP
ENGRATE DEUCE
STOOPED ERASER

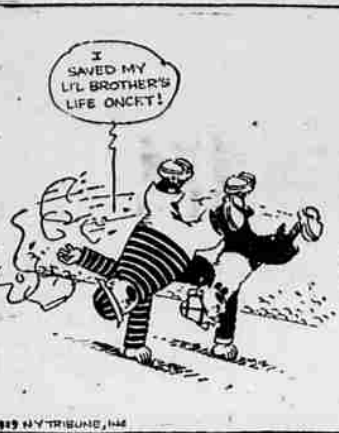
LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE

Little Angler Annie



REG'LAR FELLERS

The Hero



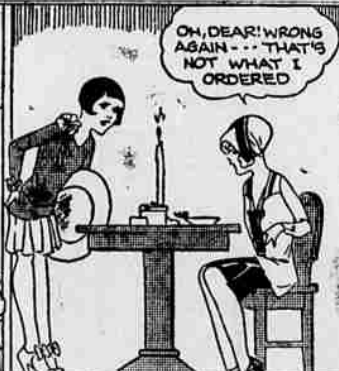
TAILSPIN TOMMY

Tommy Gets The Diamonds At Last



DUMB DORA

Gone But Not Forgotten



BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManus



MUTT AND JEFF

Jeff's Uncle Was Some Egg

