

ANSWERS to QUESTIONS

by Frederic J. Haskin

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Q. In the West Point class where Robert E. Lee ranked second, who ranked first? S.M.

A. Charles Mason stood first in the class of 1829 in which Robert E. Lee stood second.

Q. How were Indian tribes formed? R.C.

A. Indian tribes were formed originally as family units, that is, the members of a certain family banded themselves, maintaining certain customs of life and religion. Various factors afterwards caused the tribes to expand.

Q. When did Cuba become a republic? L.M.

A. Cuba attained independence of Spain by the Treaty of Paris, December 1, 1898. A constitution, modeled after that of the United States, was adopted February 21, 1901.

Q. What part of the total trade of the United States is the foreign trade? B.T.

A. In normal times it is about 10 per cent.

Q. Are silent pictures still being made? H.M.

A. Some few—but very few—are still being made for amusement purposes. A considerable number of silent films are made for educational and industrial purposes.

Q. Are surnames increasing to any extent? W.B.D.

A. Surnames are not multiplying at any great rate at the present time. The civilized nations of the world have adopted surnames of the past and changes are infrequent.

In the United States foreigners who become naturalized often change their names or Anglicize them.

Q. How long have the drums of the marine corps borne the motto, Don't Tread on Me? A.N.

A. The marine corps was authorized by the continental congress, November 10, 1775, and shortly afterward the drums of the marines recruiting the regiment bore the inscription and a rattlesnake.

Q. How are fourth class postmasters appointed? A.G.S.

A. On October 15, 1912, they were put under civil service.

Q. Isn't there a new rule governing the revoke in contract? C.D.

A. In some tournaments the rule is followed that if neither the trick on which the revoke occurred nor any of the following tricks is taken by the revoking side there shall be no revoke penalty and the hand shall be scored as played.

Q. Why is salt water sometimes encountered in drilling an oil well? M.E.W.

A. It is a common occurrence to strike salt water when drilling an oil well. The geological survey says that the salt water found in oil wells is fossil ocean water which was left in rocks when sand and mud were originally laid down in the ocean. In the eastern states where oil is found in mountains, fresh water is found in oil wells, but in the mid continent fields the water is salt. Drilling through large amounts of water presents difficulties to the driller, but the drilling is continued until oil is struck.

Q. Which territory was admitted to the union first, Hawaii or Alaska? J.M.B.

A. Hawaii was admitted in 1900, while Alaska assumed the status of a territory in 1912.

Q. How many people did Pompey's theater seat? H.S.

A. It is variously stated as seating 10,000, 17,000 and 40,000. It was erected by the great Pompey and completed in 52 B. C. It was the first stone theater in Rome, and had a marble interior. It finally collapsed in the sixth century A. D.

SUNSET PASS by Zane Grey

Chapter 46

Preston was sagging. Bloody magnificent, mortally stricken, he had no will except to kill. He saw his enemy prostrate, weaponless. He got his gun up, but could not align it, and his last bullet struck far beyond Rock, to whine away. Ash's physical strength had not matched his unmatchable spirit. He actually tried to fling the empty gun. It flipped at random. To and fro he swayed, all instinctive action ceasing, and with his ruthless eyes on his fallen foe, changing, glazing over, setting blank, he fell.

Gage Preston hurried to Rock's side. Men came running with hoarse shouts.

"Help me—up," said Rock, faintly.

They raised him, speaking in awed voices. Then he dragged them, half-hopping, careless of his dangling leg, over to the writhing Ash in time to see his last shudder.

"Ah—huh!" gasped Rock in emotionless finality, with strength and sense slowly failing into oblivion.

When Rock came to his senses again he was lying on the floor of his cabin, where seemingly only a few moments before he had given advice as to the proper care of the wounded Dunne.

He gazed around up at the grave faces of cowboys and cattlemen, at Gage Preston, who, grim and white, was binding his leg; at Peebles, still working over the prostrate Dunne.

"Preston, how is it—with Rock?" asked Dunne, looking off the bone.

"Wal, the top bullet glanced off the bone," replied the rancher. "Ugly hole, but nothin' for this feller. The leg shot, though, is bleedin' bad."

"Bind it tight," whispered Rock. Rock became conscious of awakening pain, of a burning in his breast and a dull spreading fire in his right leg. Presently Preston rose from his task, wiping his bloody hands, and the voices of watchers ceased.

"Somebody get Rock to town pronto," he said, gruffly. "Ain't safe to let him wait for the doctor."

"Lon Bailey has his four-seat buckboard," replied a cowboy. "We can take out the hind seat an' fix a place for Rock to lay."

"Rustle now," replied Preston and then bent his gloomy gaze down. "Rock, if the artery ain't cut you're nothin' bad."

"Gage, I'm—sorry," whispered Rock, faintly. "No—other way."

"Ha! You needn't be. Shore, I'm not," rejoined the rancher. "Will you—come to town?"

"Tomorrow. Me an' the boys will see Dabb. Mebbe it ain't too late."

"It—never—us, Preston."

"It—thankin' you. Goodby an' good luck," he returned and stamped out.

Rock closed his eyes.

"Say, fellars, nobody hain't told me what happened to that Ash Preston," spoke up Dunne. "He's done for me, an' most the same for Rock. If you all let him—"

"Daid," interrupted a blunt cowboy, without solemnity.

Preston had the side of his head half shot off," replied another rancher. "Shot clean through the middle an' then plumb center. He died awful hard."

"Rock, you heah me?" said Dunne. "I had you wrong—an' I'm askin' pardon. . . . An', fellars, if I have to die—I'll go happy."

Rock was lying in the pleasant sitting-room of the Winters home.

where a couch had been improvised for him. It was late in the day, according to the slant of the sun rays coming through the low window above his bed. He had awakened to less trouble, but he could move only his one arm and head.

Another day Rock awoke to rest, if not ease, and slowly the stream of consciousness resumed its flow. Sol Winter came bustling in.

"Trueman, there's news," said Winter. "Might as well get it over, huh?"

"I reckon so," rejoined Rock, slowly.

Then Mrs. Winter entered with breakfast for Rock. She was a slim, plain, busy little body, with gray hair, kindly eyes, and a motherly manner.

"About my news," said Winter when Mrs. Winter had left the room. "Gage Preston paid me the money you gave Slagle. Yesterday, before he left."

"Left?" echoed Rock, putting down his cup.

"Yep, he left on No. 10 for Colorado," replied Winter, evidently gratified over the news he had to impart. "Go on with your breakfast son. I'll talk. I've been waitin' in to for days."

"Rock, it all turned out better'n we dared hope. They tell me Hebbitt was stubborn as a mule, but Dabb an' Lincoln together flattened him out soft. I got it all from Amy, who has been most darn keen to help. Rock, that little lady has a bad conscience over somethin'."

"Wal, with the steer market jumpin' to 75, even Hebbitt couldn't stay sore long. They fixed it up out of court. Dabb an' Lincoln made it easy for Preston. They bought him out, ranch, stock, an' all. Savvy those foky ranchers! They shore had a chance an' they felt on it like a turkey on a grass-hopper. Cost Preston somethin' big to square up, but at that he went away heeled. I seen him at the station."

"Did he go—alone?" asked Rock, gazing away out of the window at the distant pine slopes.

"No. His three grown sons were with him. All slicked up. Shore an adventure for them. Looked to me they didn't care much. At that, there's darned little gossip. The rest of the Prestons are in town, but I haven't seen them."

"Fanny Thiry doesn't run in to see me. I met Sam Whipple's wife. She saw Thiry an' Alice, who are stayin' at Farrell's. She said she couldn't see much sign of Thiry's takin' Ash's death very hard. That shore stumped me, but Thiry is game."

"Sol, you can't expect them to thank me for—deplettin' their family somethin'."

"I didn't mean that. . . . Wal, I'll go out an' do some work around the barn. First off, though, I'd better shave your whiskers. There's likely to be callers, an' shore Amy, 'cause she said so."

"Sol, I don't want to see anybody," replied Rock, hastily.

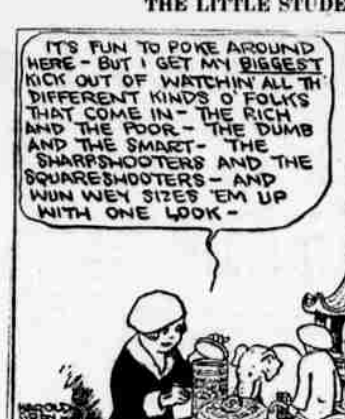
"Wal, I'm shore sorry, but I'll be darned if you won't have to. Suppose, for instance, Thiry would call!"

"You're loco—Sol," choked Rock. "She couldn't stand sight of me. . . . Please—don't—"

"Son, I may be loco, at that," replied Winter, with remorse, and evidently he controlled desires to argue the point.

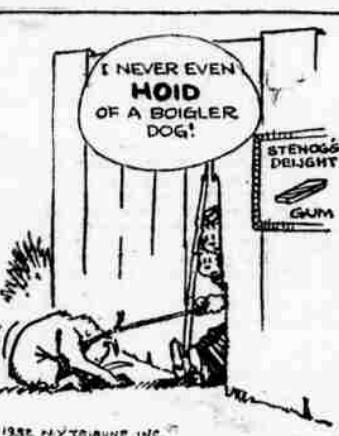
(To be Continued)

LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE

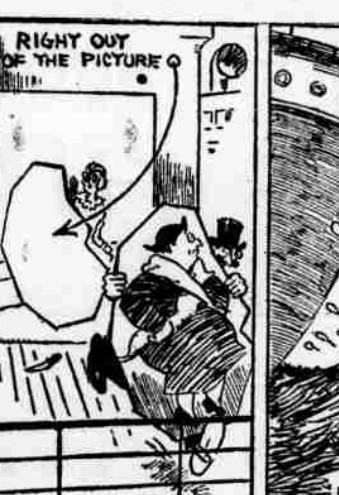


A SNOZZLE HOUND

REG'LAR FELLERS



THE GUMPS



A COMIC CUT OUT FOR YOUR SCRAP BOOK

BTJING UP FATHER



MUTT AND JEFF



LET JOY BE UNCONFINED

TAILSPIN TOMMY



TRAGEDY HITS CLOSE TO HOME!