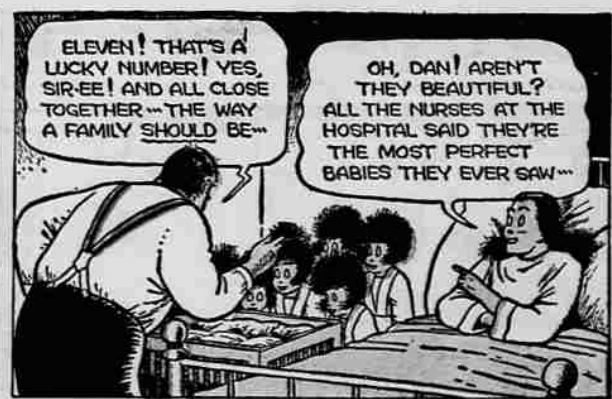


Little Orphan Annie

ONE TOUCH OF NATURE MAKES THE WHOLE WORLD KIN." -- SHAKESPEARE -- ONE TOUCH, THE MAN SAID -- WONDER WHAT HE'D HAVE SAID ABOUT TRIPLETS!



OH, BROTHER! TRIPLETS! TH' JACK POT! THAT'S ALL THEY NEEDED MOST! ISN'T NATURE WONDERFUL? HUMAN NATURE, THAT IS!



ELEVEN! THAT'S A LUCKY NUMBER! YES, SIR-EE! AND ALL CLOSE TOGETHER -- THE WAY A FAMILY SHOULD BE --

OH, DAN! AREN'T THEY BEAUTIFUL? ALL THE NURSES AT THE HOSPITAL SAID THEY'RE THE MOST PERFECT BABIES THEY EVER SAW --



AND ALL THE REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS WERE SO NICE -- DID YOU KNOW OUR PICTURES ARE IN ALL THE PAPERS?

HA-HA -- OH, SURE -- WHY, WE'RE NEWS, DAISY --



AND SO MANY, MANY NICE PEOPLE HAVE COME FORWARD TO GIVE YOU A JOB, DAN -- A REAL JOB!

BUSYBODIES! CHEAP PUBLICITY HUNTERS! HAVE I EVER NEEDED HELP YET TO TAKE CARE OF YOU AND THE GIRLS?



GOT A HOME, HAVEN'T WE? EAT REGULAR, DON'T WE? NO, SIR-EE! I DON'T AIM TO FEEL UNDER OBLIGATION TO ANYBODY -- EVER --

BUT, DAN -- IF ONLY --



"IF ONLY," NOTHING! YOU KNOW I'VE GOT A BAD BACK! I'M AN EXECUTIVE! NOT A LABORER --

OF COURSE, DAN! AND WE HAVE DONE WELL -- WE ARE HAPPY -- OH, DAN -- WHAT SHALL WE NAME THEM?



LET'S SEE -- SO FAR WE HAVE LILY, IRIS, POPPY, ROSE, ASTER, HIL-M -- SORT O' RUNNIN' OUT OF FLOWERS!

HOW ABOUT BLOSSOMS?



I'VE ALWAYS LOVED THE FRUIT TREES IN BLOOM IN THE SPRING -- HOW ABOUT NAMING THEM APPLE, PEACH AND CHERRY?

HEY! THOSE ARE PRETTY NAMES -- YOU BET! OH-OH -- COMPANY -- IT'S YOUR SISTER IVY -- I'LL GO --



OH, IVY! AREN'T THEY BEAUTIFUL? APPLE -- PEACH AND CHERRY -- FOR THE BLOSSOMS, YOU KNOW! -- OH -- SO MUCH -- DOES GEORGE KNOW?

HOW COULD HE HELP IT? PICTURES IN ALL THE PAPERS! BUT THIS MONEY HE SENT!

2-12-50



I WILL ADMIT HE TURNED A LITTLE WHITE WHEN HE READ ABOUT IT ALL -- BUT HE DIDN'T SAY A WORD -- HE JUST HANDED ME THIS MONEY AND WENT TO HIS FACTORY --

OH, YOUR GEORGE IS GOOD AND KIND -- AND WE DO NEED IT SO --



APPLE -- PEACH -- AND CHERRY! HIM -- (MINCE, PUNKIN AND STROMBERRY!) OH, WELL! THEY'LL GROW UP HAPPY AN' STRONG, SPITE O' THEIR NAMES -- AS I SAID BEFORE -- NATURE'S WONDERFUL! HUMAN NATURE, THAT IS!

EH, SANDY?

ARF!

HAROLD GRAY



Maw Green

OH, DOCTOR -- OI HEAR POOR MIKE IS IN TH' HOSPITAL FOR AN OPERATION --

2-12-50



WILL THE OPERATION BE VERY DANGEROUS, DOC?

DON'T BE SILLY!



HE COULDN'T BUY A DANGEROUS OPERATION FOR TWENTY BUCKS!

HAROLD GRAY

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