

The Nice Long Vacation

By William Neubauer

AP Newsfeature

CHAPTER 16
Frightened, on the verge of hysterical tears, Leslie looked across the room at her husband and cried angrily. "Why are you so cruel to me, George? If you want to dispose of me, why don't you simply sell me and have done with it? Why must you torment me this way?"
George, who had been standing there feeling sorry for her, was astonished to see her. But he had perceived now that this was one of the things his experience as a soldier had given him. Crossing the room in several quick, long strides, he knelt beside the bed and took one of her hands and kissed it tenderly. "You mustn't say such things," he told her. "You know better than to say or think such things."
She threw her arms about his neck, almost strangling him in an excess of emotion. "I love you so, George, I love you so."
"A rather good thing," he said with an attempt at levity, "considering that you're my wife. Now dry your hands and put on some lipstick and rouge. You don't want your new nurse to think you're a frump, do you?"
George, she'll look at me and laugh. Please, George, don't have her. I don't need a nurse, really I don't. In another day or so I'll be able to hobble about on crutches. "Nonsense," he rose, his blue eyes flashing. "Dr. Hall has said that you remain in bed for at least two weeks. You didn't break any bones, but you gave your back a bad wrench. And as for what Jane Bancroft thinks or doesn't think—well, it isn't very important." He turned as the doorbell rang. "That must be Jane now. I'll let her in."
Paying no attention to her cry of protest, he left the bedroom and hurried downstairs. As he passed through the living room, he noticed that the strong wind blowing through the open windows had sent his wife's framed photograph flying across the room. He picked it up and restored it to its place of honor on the mantel. Looking at her face, he suddenly realized that he had done very well the day he had married Leslie. She had been a perfect wife in all respects. She had not protested when he told her he was taking her to America to live, and she had not protested when he told her that he had decided to dedicate his life to the service of others.
"I understand, George."
Nothing more. Just those three, quietly uttered words. And help. Help such as he had never expected to receive from her. Aware, as he had not been aware in the beginning, that it would cost a great deal of money to found the sort of industrial training school he wanted to found, she had set out to charm people into backing his enterprise. And when she wanted to be charming she could be very charming indeed. In no time at all she had won Bruce Hall and Frederick Forsythe over to their side. But his common sense returned. There would have been no industrial training school if she hadn't done such a good job of work on Alice Cranby, their biggest backer. And they had won through. Because of Leslie.
He glanced about the room and felt angry with the girl who had come back from the past, the girl whose very presence in the vicinity was enough to cause Leslie to tremble with doubt, with fear. He cursed Bruce Hall for having arranged for Jane to be Leslie's nurse. But his common sense returned. Sooner or later, as Bruce Hall had said, the question would have to be settled. And now was the best time to dispose of it one way or another.
He went to the door and opened it. It gave him a start to see Jane standing there in a green dress, her hair blowing, her brown eyes considering his face. She looked now exactly as she had looked in Paris.
"Hello," he said stiffly, trembling despite himself. "It was very

Carol Curtis Pattern



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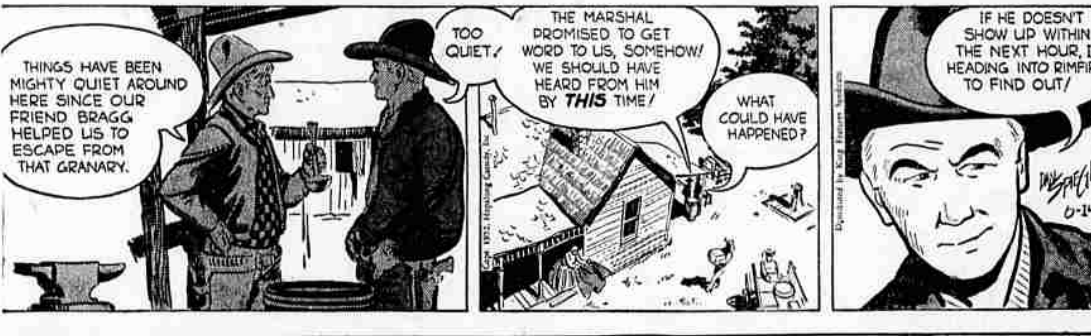
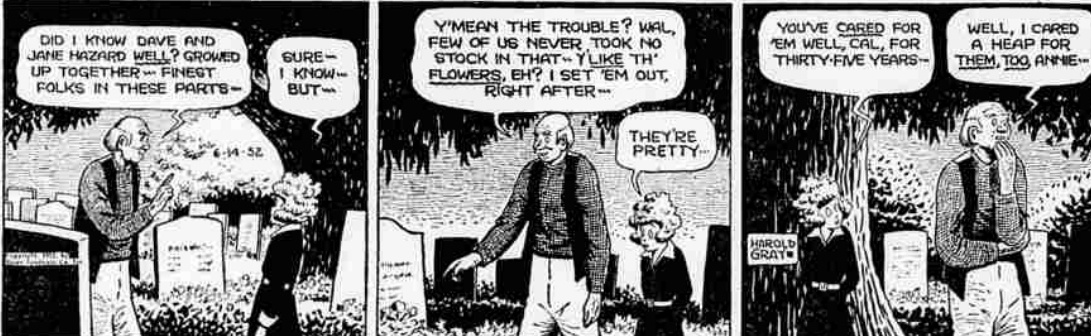
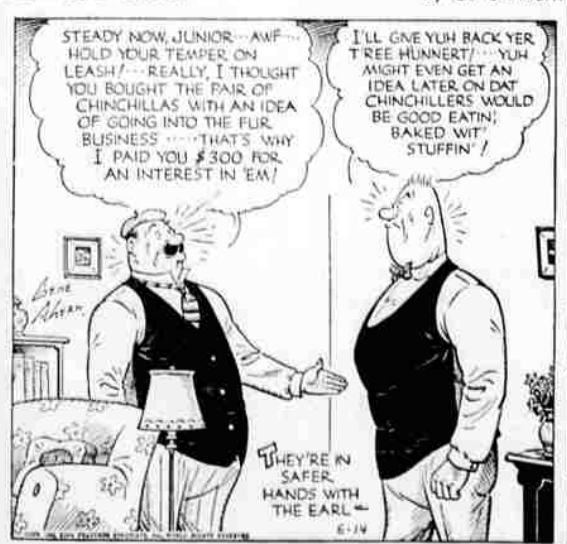


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ROOM AND BOARD

By Gene Ahern



RADIO PROGRAMS

ALL TIMES GIVEN ARE SALEM TIME						
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