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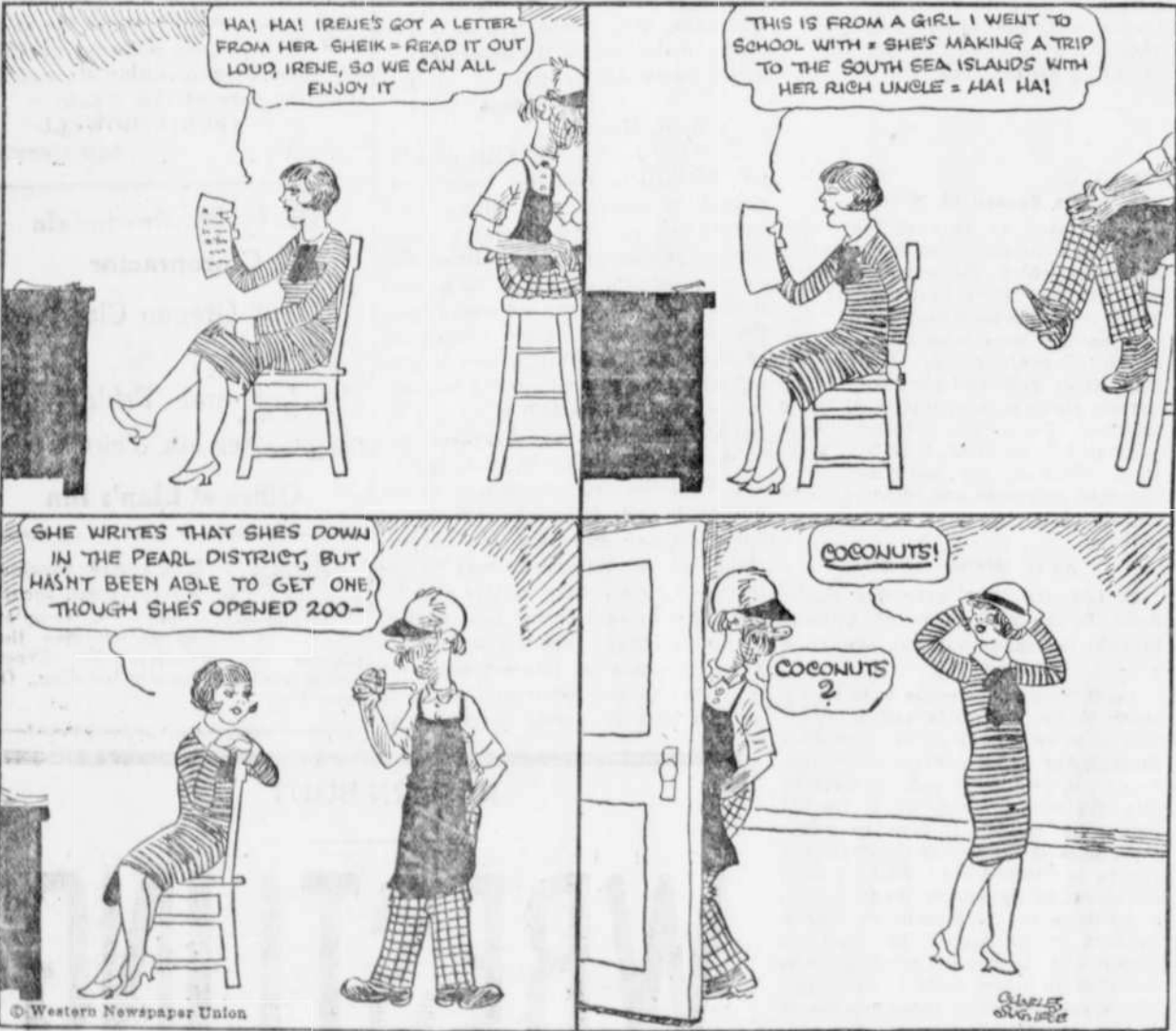
Famous Last Words



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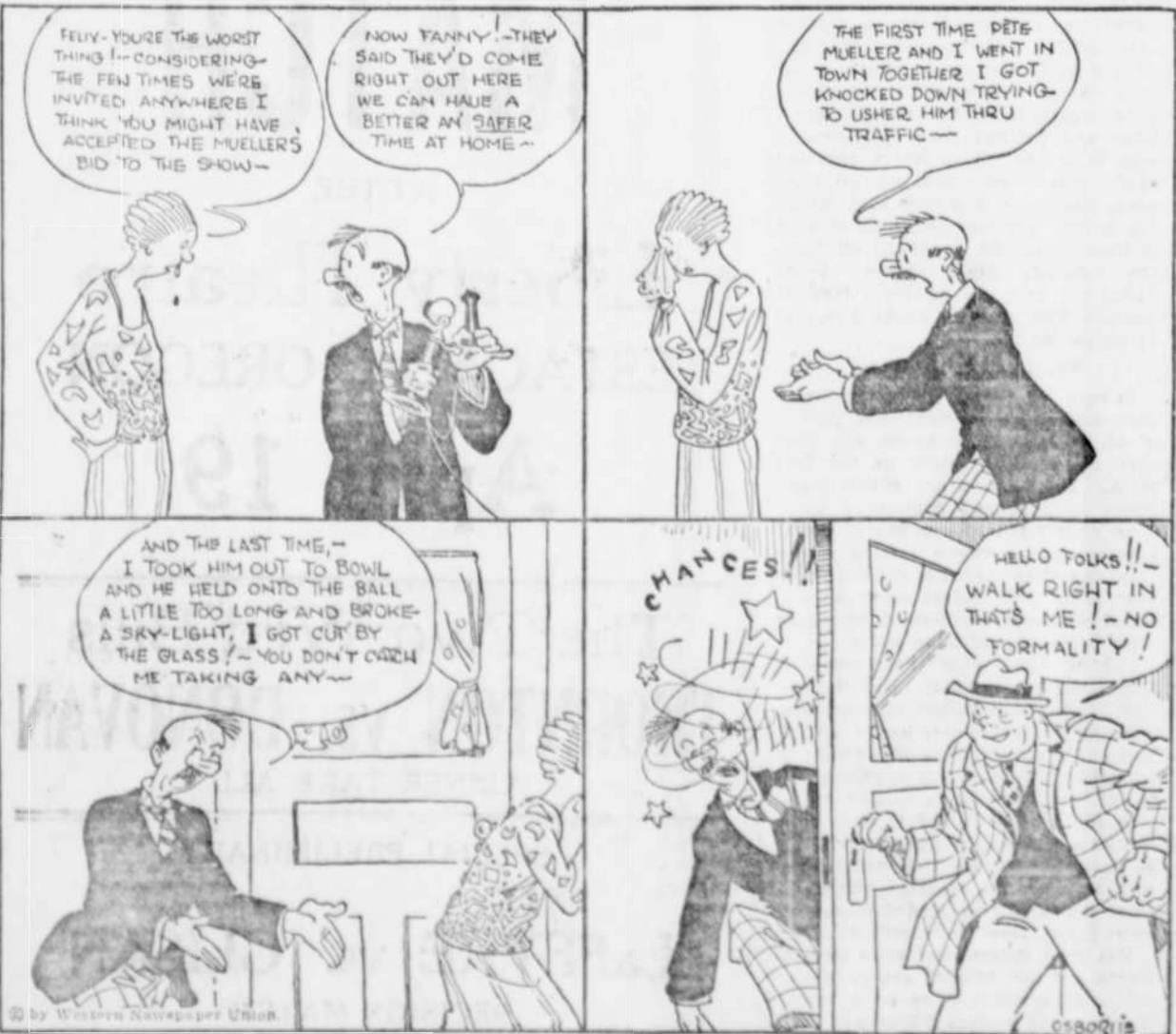


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THE FEATHERHEADS

Pete's Just a Hoodoo for Felix



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Improved Uniform International Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. F. B. FITZWATER, D.D., Dean, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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Lesson for April 17

PETER'S GREAT CONFESSION

LESSON TEXT—Matt. 16: 13-24.
GOLDEN TEXT—Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God.
PRIMARY TOPIC—Peter Pleases Jesus.

JUNIOR TOPIC—Confessing Our Faith in Jesus.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Confessing Christ Openly.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—What think ye of Christ?

The disciples had been with the Lord for several years. They had heard His wonderful words and witnessed His mighty works. Various opinions were extant about Him. Since Jesus was soon to go to the cross it was necessary for the disciples to have a definite and true conception of Him. In order to help them into the right conception, He provoked this confession from Peter as the spokesman of the group of disciples.

I. Peter's Confession (vv. 13-16).
1. How provoked.
Two questions of Christ put to the disciples called forth this great confession.

(1) Whom do men say I, the Son of Man, am (v. 13).

1. He first inquired for the opinion of the people concerning Him. As a wise teacher He knew that this would help crystallize the view of the disciples. The people recognized Jesus as a teacher or a prophet, with more than human authority and power. Today, as then, there is a diversity of opinion among the people as to Jesus Christ. The multitudes today recognize Jesus as an unique personality and as having been a great teacher, but that which offends them is His deity.

(2) "Whom say ye that I am?" (v. 15).

This question involved the personal opinion of the disciples concerning Him. To be able to tell what others think of Jesus is not enough. There must be definite, correct and personal belief in Him. Personal belief is worth infinitely more than the knowledge of what others think, for upon personal belief hinges character and destiny.

2. What Peter's confession involved (v. 16).
Two vital things, the Messiahship and deity of Jesus. That which Jesus called forth from Peter is the burning question of today. "What think ye of Christ?" is the question that must be answered by everyone.

3. Christ's commendation of Peter (v. 17).
He pronounced him blessed. Truly he was blessed, for he both possessed and confessed Christ.

II. The New Body, the Church, Announced by Christ (vv. 18-20).

Christ declared His intention of bringing into existence a new body, to the members of which He will give eternal life and into whose hands He would entrust the keys of the Kingdom. Peter was to have a distinguished place in this body. Christ declared that Peter should be the foundation stone in His church. Christ is the chief corner stone upon which the church is built. Christ's person and Messiahship were confessed by Peter and on this rock (truth confessed) is laid the foundation of the apostles and prophets (Eph. 2:20). All believers are living stones of this house (1 Pet. 2:5). The keys entrusted to Peter were used on the day of Pentecost and again in the case of Cornelius.

III. The Cross the Way to the Throne (vv. 21-23).

From that time Jesus began to show unto the disciples how that He must go unto Jerusalem and suffer many things, be killed and raised again the third day. This indeed startled the disciples. They did not yet realize that redemption was to be accomplished through the passion of the cross. So unwelcome was this announcement that Peter cried: "This shall not be unto thee." Peter later saw through this darkness to the glory of the hilltops. A new hope then filled his heart (1 Pet. 1:3, 4). Many are yet stumbling over the doctrine of salvation and redemption through the suffering of the cross. Salvation by blood is hated by the devil.

IV. The Cost of Discipleship (v. 24).
To follow Christ means to suffer. It means to turn one's back upon the world.

1. There must be denial of self. There is a wide difference between self-denial and the denial of self.

2. Take up His cross.
This cross is the suffering and shame which lie in the path of loyalty to God.

3. Follow Christ.
This means to have the mind of Christ; to be like Christ. Christ will come in glory to reward all such.

The Power of God
Many a battle has been won by the arrival of reinforcements. When a man is fighting a battle against his evil tendencies, the coming of the power of God into his soul often means victory. The human reinforced by the divine assures us of heaven.—Herald of Gospel Liberty.

Nature
Nature has a power to show what is inside of a man that responds to God on the outside.—Echoes.

Writer Claims Vanity

Is Spoiling Language

Vanity is corrupting the French language, says Abel Bonnard, a writer of note.

It is vanity, he says, that leads people to prefer a new word, coined or from another language, to the old one they really know and understand. "The public likes to be fooled," he remarks, agreeing with Mr. Barnum. He cites many words used currently to describe things long used and with names of their own, but which, for commercial purposes, like the hard-working rabbit skin in the fur business, have to be baptized anew to create that "desire to buy" in the customer.

This vanity to have the latest thing, even when only the name is new, Bonnard regards as one of the chief differences between the passing generation of conservative people and the "modernists." Many people who are "up to date," he observes, shy at expressing themselves clearly and need obscure words and phrases to portray the haziness of their own minds.

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First Playhouse Located

According to a writer in the Pathfinder Magazine the first playhouse or theater in the United States was located in Williamsburg, Va. It was built in 1716 during the regime of the colonial governor, Alexander Spotswood. Charles Stagg and his wife, Mary, essentially dancers, contracted with William Lefington for the theater. Some years before, in 1685, the court in Virginia acted as play censor also, having passed judgment on a performance of "Ye Bare and Ye Cub" to satisfy a complaint that the costumes were objectionable. The court found nothing objectionable, however.

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Japan Develops Film Art

American motion pictures have always been popular in the Orient, and those about Indians, and the "Wild West" have been especially popular. Chaplin films also found a ready favor, but Japan is rapidly developing a film art of its own. The most popular film in Japan today is one called "Schoolmaster Matsumoto." It is an extremely simple story of the grammar grades, the climax being the rescue by the schoolmaster of one of his pupils who has fallen into the river. The film, though so simple in theme as to arouse wonder among American movie experts, ran for a full year continuously in Tokyo.

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Case of Example

Charles, age five, watches closely his twelve-year-old brother Morris. As it happens Morris is fond of books, and each night he replies to father's call to go to bed: "Aw, dad, wait a minute till I finish this chapter."

One day Charles was entertaining himself by reading a book, already known by heart, when mother called: "Charles, come here, dear, and pick up your blocks; they're scattered all over the floor."

"All right, mother," he replied in a preoccupied manner. "Wait till I finish this chapter."

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An Ideal Toy

Jones—I want a drum for the baby. And can you give me a pair of head phones with it?

Clerk—Head phones? What for?

Jones—So the baby can hear it and the rest of us can't.

What makes life dreary is the want of motive.—George Eliot.

Says Dangerous Varicose Veins

Can Be Reduced at Home

Rub Gently and Upward Toward the Heart as Blood in Veins Flows That Way.

If you or any relative or friends are worried because of varicose veins, or bunched, the best advice that anyone in this world can give you is to ask your druggist for an original two-



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Ingenious Swindle

Infested with moles, the commune of Martignyburg, Switzerland, offered a bounty of ten sous for every creature destroyed. The tails were to be produced as proof. One man brought in a prodigious array of tails. Suspicion was aroused and a scientist was asked to investigate. Use of a magnifying glass disclosed a hoax on a large scale. The man would catch one mole, shave off its hair, cut a round shoe lace into short bits, soak them in glue, then roll them in the hair. Dozens of tails were produced in this way.

Dog Mothers Pigs

Mothered by a dog, four pigs are thriving on a farm at Kilmacrennan, Donegal, Ireland. A sow on the farm gave birth to a litter of 17 pigs. About the same time the dog had puppies. The farmer drowned the puppies, so the dog adopted the four pigs from the sow.

The man who spends his money like water is supposed to liquidate his debts.