

GREAT RICHES

by Mabel Howe Farnham

SYNOPSIS: James Stimson, III, is a rising young lawyer and the best "catch" in New Concord, Kas., and the ladies of New Concord have chosen the rich James Northrup as his wife to be. James prefers Leslie Harris, whose father is a doctor. James is broken hearted—but she might not get up a better front if it were not for her twin brothers, Nate and Norris.

Chapter 17

THE TWINS

THE twins were built on the lines of a pudding and their round pink faces and round blue eyes, whenever they gazed that they were being watched, were as completely devoid of expression as figures of porcelain.

They were silent children, silent at least in the presence of their elders, but carried on a never-ending and elaborate system of communication by almost imperceptible winks, jerks of the head, twirls of the thumb and similar manifestations.

They were almost never heard criticizing grownups, yet the latter were always conscious when the twins were near of being watched and perhaps made fun of. Indeed their continued presence, except when they were actively employed in absorbing food, so embarrassed their father that he had as little to do with them as possible and even their mother was often uneasy under their combined impassive stares.

Jane and the twins usually maintained an armed neutrality. Jane's twelve years seniority and her father's open favoritism gave her an apparent advantage over her brothers.

She was able for instance to have their pocket money curtailed if they offended her. At times, when the offense was serious enough, she could get them punished in the good old-fashioned way; and when Mr. Northrup's secret irritation against his sons crystallized into whippings they were occasions to be remembered shudderingly.

But Jane had learned that many an unpleasantness, usually impossible to trace, happened consistently whenever she interfered with her brothers; she found it wiser to leave them severely alone. Unfortunately for Jane the twins had recently eaten the four under layers of her gorgeous box of birthday candy, leaving the top layer untouched, and was soundly whipped for it.

For days they made no move to pay Jane back. Now when she was most unhappy, frowning, as she thought, in secret over James' preference for the despised and detested Leslie, Jane found that the twins had neither forgiven nor forgotten.

Jane took her breakfasts in bed. The twins, passing her door in the mornings, would sing in falsetto voices, "Only a bird with a wounded heart," over and over, and then laugh stridently.

"Stop that horrible noise," Jane commanded daily, but the noise went on. Once they lingered and debated loudly whether it was a bird with a wounded heart or a wounded wing.

"The evidence points to a wounded heart," Norris snickered. "Yeah, you bet it's a wounded heart, all right, all right," Nate added, and the two leaned up against the wall convulsed with their own wit.

Jane appealed to her mother to stop the outrage. "But you sing it yourself," the twins answered in chorus. "We learned it from you."

"It's a silly song," their mother said firmly, "but if you must sing it, sing it outdoors and sing it correctly. It goes like this, 'Only a bird in a gilded cage...'" She sang the chorus through, and made the twins repeat it after her.

"THANK you," her sons said gravely and bowed. As one man they turned and walked out of the front door, down the porch steps and around the yard till they stood below Jane's window.

"Only a bird in a gilded cage," Nate carolled at the top of his lungs. "Only a bird with a wounded heart," Norris boomed. Then together, "Only a bird... a bird, a bird... a bird wounded to the heart... to the heart... In a gilded cage," until their mother descended on them and jerked them inside.

"If you ever do that again, if I ever hear you, if Jane hears you so much as hum that tune I'll see that your father gives you such a whipping as you've never had yet." Mrs. Northrup threatened furiously and her sons stared at her blankly. They started at her blankly.

"Anything else?" Nate inquired blandly.

"Nothing. But remember your father's bought a new carriage whip

and if you don't want him to use it..."

At that moment the voice of the Irish cook was heard in the kitchen uplifted in song, "Only a bird, in a gilded cage," carolled honest Ellen O'Flaherty.

While Mrs. Northrup fled towards the kitchen the twins rolled on the floor, shrieking and gasping and pounding the floor and each other. Only too well they knew that Jane was hanging over the banister. For days that memory was sweet.

The singing ceased, but except in the presence of their parents Jane never encountered her brothers but that one or both of them emitted faint little chirps that exasperated her almost to the screaming point. Family meals became a nightmare.

"I saw Leslie Harris walking up the street with a bunch of violets as big as a cabbage," Nate would state innocently.

Or Norris would quote Judge Holcomb as saying that these days James Stimson didn't know whether his head was screwed on behind or before, and ask his mother what the Judge meant by that.

They never made but the one remark at a meal and sometimes delayed it until the dessert, but Jane knew that it was coming and watched and waited for it, shrinking almost visibly.

She never answered her brothers, never if possible so much as looked in their direction, but she knew well that across the table four impish china blue eyes were watching her covertly. Sooner or later she would feel herself flushing and could all but hear the twins' diabolic inward chuckles.

OH, to pay them back! The hateful little devils! They deserved to be beaten until the blood ran. If only she could beat them herself, strip them naked and beat them and beat them with a black snake!

If she did they would be capable of poisoning her... might use needles and put them in her food. She wouldn't put even murder beyond them. They were so careful now to do nothing of which she could complain to her father.

But sooner or later she would get even. She would turn the tables and they would laugh then on the wrong side of their mouths. She would get even, she would. But how?

Her mother told her to laugh, to pay no attention. Hadn't she tried? Wasn't she always trying? Outwardly no one could have been gayer than she was that early summer.

She had given party after party, got up picnics, hay rides, a tennis club. Her father grumbled that he never saw her alone for more than ten minutes at a time. No one in New Concord could say that she was grieving her heart out for that gawky James Stimson.

And she wasn't, she wasn't. Except to make the twins look silly she wouldn't have James back on a bet.

The twins and Leslie Harris! Nothing would so thoroughly spite the three of them than for James to return to his former allegiance. Perhaps her mother was right. Perhaps Leslie had said something... Perhaps poor James was more victim than sinner...

That afternoon Jane broke an engagement to play tennis and went to call on Miss Julia Pratt.

Jane did not bring up the subject of James, but Miss Julia Pratt did. She told Jane, confidentially, of course, that Sarah Stimson had said that she would rather see her nephew in his coffin than married to that designing common Harris girl.

Miss Julia added that this was unjust. Leslie was neither designing nor common. But Sarah, since losing her money, had developed an oversensitive pride in family. For her part Miss Julia was fond of Leslie. Still, it did seem rather a pity...

MINISTERS' UNION TO BE STRIKELESS MEMBER OF A. F. L.

NEW YORK, April 4.—(AP)—The pastor may carry a union card—the Ministers' Union of America has approximately 100 members—but there is no danger that the congregation will find him picketing the church on Sunday morning.

Although a ministers' strike is unlikely, the organization will assist other unions in strikes which the clergymen believe are justified.

In two recent New York strikes union members carried sandwich boards on picket lines, exhorted the strikers at mass meetings and led a helping hand with the strikers' clerical work.

The primary aim of the union is to aid the cause of labor, said the Rev. George Mills, the union's organizer.

"Our object in forming the union is to indicate the oneness of the church with the marchers in the ranks of the disinherited," he explained.

"We have made application to become part of the American Federation of Labor because our beliefs are in accordance with the aims of the federation. The affiliation would be of great benefit to both groups."

The union is interdenominational and open to all races.

The membership has extended to cities in nearly all parts of the east. Mr. Mills said. The dues are only 25 cents a month.

REPUBLICANS AGAINST SPARING ROOSEVELT IN ATTACKS ON NEW DEAL

WASHINGTON, April 4.—(AP)—A belief Republicans should not hesitate to use President Roosevelt's name in the future attacks upon the new deal is spreading among party members in the capital.

Some of them hope to see a direct drive against the president get under way at a meeting of middle-western Republicans in Kansas City next month.

Leaders familiar with plans for that gathering have predicted it will take particular exception to the administration's crop control program, the federal deficit, the number of persons on relief or otherwise dependent upon the government, what critics call the "regimentation" of industry, and the work relief bill now in congress.

The demand that the party attack the president by name, instead of indirectly in criticism of his policies and assistants, was explained in this way by one prominent Republican:

"We tried indirectness in the last campaign and got nowhere. If the Republicans are afraid to call the president by name in assailing new deal tactics, the party might as well fold up now and not have a 1936 campaign."

Phone 542. We'll haul away your refuse. City Sanitary Service.

When it comes to radios, remember. "Prutt's can do it." Phone 22.

CENTRAL POINT P. T. A. WILL MEET ON FRIDAY; REV. LEWIS TO SPEAK

CENTRAL POINT, April 4.—(Sp.)—April meeting of Central Point P. T. A. will be held Friday afternoon at the high school with Rev. R. C. Lewis speaking on the subject, "Have we forgotten the religious and character development of our children?"

The program will be given by the third and fourth grades. Tea will be served at the social hour by the sixth grade mothers.

Executive committee met March 26 with Mrs. Bert Langston. It was voted to sponsor the garden program being conducted by the city. It was voted to have a "What-Not Sale" Friday and Saturday before Easter with everything on sale from cooked food to garden seed. A lot of fun is anticipated and it is hoped to raise sufficient money to carry out the work planned for the year by the P. T. A.

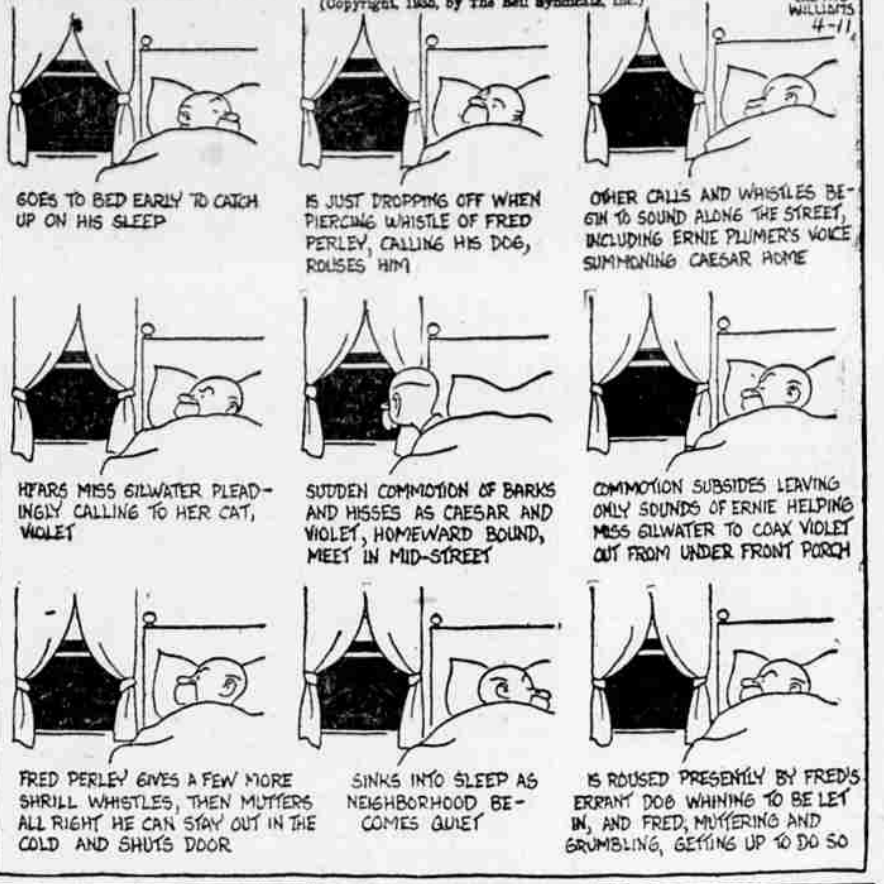
Central Point P. T. A. is working hard for betterment of the community and welfare of the children. They have sponsored a boy scout troop and girl scout troop, a Sunday school contest, have provided clothing and school supplies for needy children and each month a nice picture is given to one of the school rooms. All mothers of the community are invited to join and share in the good work.

For Hose that Wear Buy NOLDE & HORST Ethelwyn B. Hoffmann

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

SUBURBAN HEIGHTS—NEIGHBORHOOD PETS

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



GOES TO BED EARLY TO CATCH UP ON HIS SLEEP

IS JUST DROPPING OFF WHEN PIERCING WHISTLE OF FRED PERLEY, CALLING HIS DOG, ROUSES HIM

OTHER CALLS AND WHISTLES BEGIN TO SOUND ALONG THE STREET, INCLUDING ERNIE PLUMMER'S VOICE SUMMONING CAESAR HOME

HYPERS MISS GILWATER PLEADINGLY CALLING TO HER CAT, VIOLET

SUDDEN COMMOTION OF BARKS AND HISSES AS CAESAR AND VIOLET, HOMEWARD BOUND, MEET IN MID-STREET

COMMOTION SUBSIDES LEAVING ONLY SOUNDS OF ERNIE HELPING MISS GILWATER TO COAX VIOLET OUT FROM UNDER FRONT PORCH

FRED PERLEY GIVES A FEW MORE SHRILL WHISTLES, THEN MUTTERS ALL RIGHT HE CAN STAY OUT IN THE COLD AND SHUTS DOOR

SINKS INTO SLEEP AS NEIGHBORHOOD BECOMES QUIET

IS ROUSED PRESENTLY BY FRED'S ERRANT DOG WHINING TO BE LET IN, AND FRED, MUTTERING AND GRUMBING, GETTING UP TO DO SO

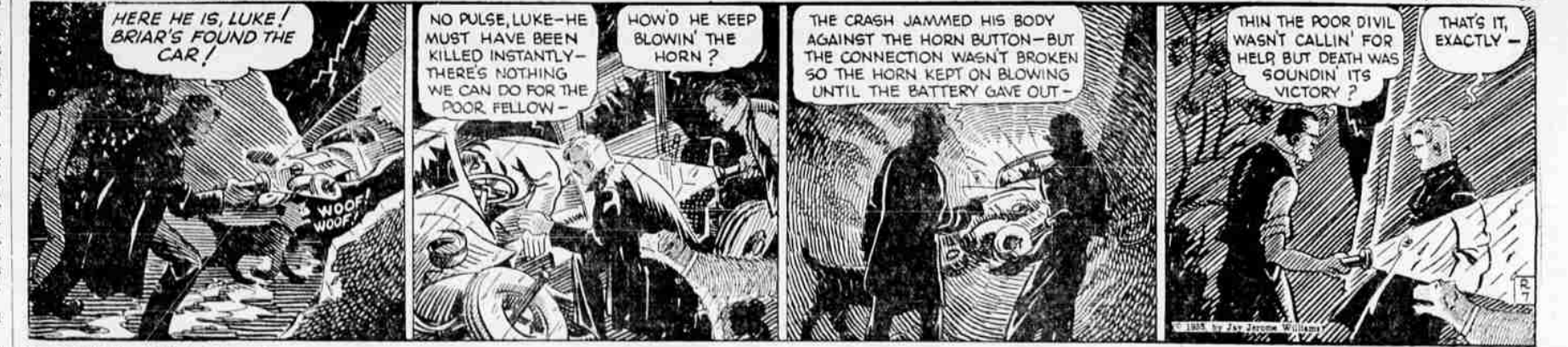
S-MATTER POP—



TAILSPIN TOMMY—Betty Is Worried



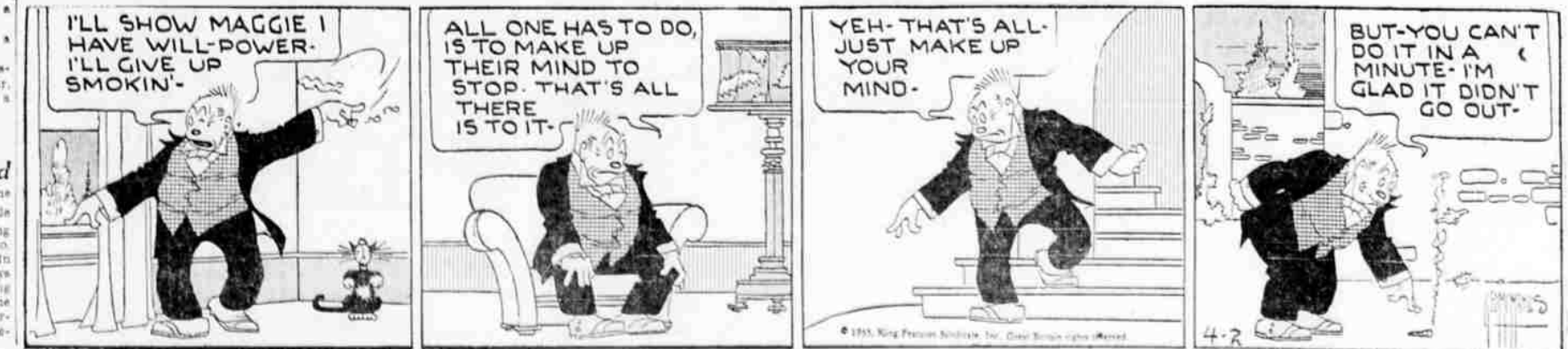
BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—Death



THE NEBBS—Added Attraction



BRINGING UP FATHER



GOOD JOBS AWAIT IN CIVIL SERVICE

Competitive examinations are open for several good civil service positions. It was announced today by Earl H. York, secretary of the local board of examiners, from whom full particulars may be obtained. His offices are in the postoffice. The examinations are:

- Senior stock clerk, \$1800 a year; stock clerk, \$1620, departmental treasury, Washington, D. C.
- Junior graduate nurse, \$1620 a year.
- Junior biologist (wildlife research), junior entomologist (man and animals), junior forest ecologist, junior forest pathologist, junior meteorologist, junior nematologist, junior plant physiologist, junior plant quarantine inspector, junior pomologist (fruits), junior pomologist (plant propagation), junior seed botanist, junior seed biologist, junior soil scientist (arson), junior soil surveyor, \$2000 a year, department of agriculture.
- Junior forester, \$2000 to \$2600 a year.
- Junior range examiner, \$2000 a year.
- Range examiner, \$3800 a year, associate range examiner, \$3200 a year, assistant range examiner, \$2600 a year, geological survey.

Bank Of Mexico Buys More Gold

WASHINGTON, April 4.—(AP) The treasury today announced a new sale of \$1,200,000 of gold, amounting to \$1,800,000, to the Bank of Mexico. The sale was termed similar in every respect to one made a few days ago, when \$2,000,000, amounting to \$1,120,000, was transferred to the Mexican Central bank for the purpose of building up its money reserves.