

READY MADE WIFE

BY CORALIE STANTON

SYNOPSIS: Laurie Moore suddenly has discovered that she must marry her former employer Mark Albery, to save the career of Rex Moore, the man she loves. So far as the public knows, she and Rex are married. Albery knows they are not, however, and declares he will be able to arrange a "divorce" soon, and will insist that Laurie marry him at the earliest possible time.

Chapter 36 GLADYS AGAIN

Laurie shivered with sad memory when Albery used the same phrase as Rex Moore had done. She felt like something of no importance, tossed from one hand to another. Fool-proof story to get rid of her; fool-proof story to get her. She had sold herself into bondage, and she was terrified.

"And, of course, at present, you must stay on at the office, for the sake of appearances. We can keep in touch that way. Moore will get off on his flight as soon as possible. And then we can plan our little summer holiday, you and I."

His smile, so outwardly charming, lighting his impassive face into virile life, made her tremble.

"Then, that's all fixed up, dear little girl!" he said. "And now I must get off. I've got a business banquet tonight, worse luck!"

He took her in his arms. She went icy cold under his passionate kisses. A tragic figure, a shivering victim of the man she loathed, but to whom she had given the right of possession, because she could not help herself.

Laurie had been spending Sunday with her newly-married girl friend from the office out in the suburb where she lived, almost on the fringe of the country.

The tube train took her back to Piccadilly Circus, and she started out to walk back to Westminster by the pleasant route of St. James's Park. It was such a lovely mellow night.

There was nothing to go back for. Gladys was not at home. The troupe had gone to the outlying Surrey towns for three weeks, too far for her to come home every night. Mark Albery was in Paris over the week end, much to Laurie's relief. He had wanted her to go with him. There had been a scene, but she had made a firm stand. It was amazing, even to herself, what power she had over him.

Around Piccadilly Circus was a stream of traffic unusual on a Sunday night. But everybody who could had spent the day in the country. As she was about to cross the Circus, Laurie was held up as the traffic was let through.

A taxi came along and slowed down for a few moments. Its occupants caught Laurie's eye. A young man in evening dress sat on the side nearest her. She remembered, of course, it was Lord Dagenbury's son, young Dallas, whom she and Gladys had met at Fen Gretton. She had taken a dislike to him, and what Albery had told her of him had not made her change her mind.

Suddenly he moved, and a girl's head appeared beside him, leaning forward. Laurie's heart gave a loud knock. Gladys's lovely little head, bare, the dim light on her glorious dark golden curls, Gladys, smiling and smiling, in evening dress, an exquisite bunch of orchids on her shoulder, from which the light wrap had fallen.

He bent towards her. The taxi moved on, shot away, leaving Laurie rooted to the spot.

Gladys—and young Dallas! What was she doing with him at this time of night in a taxi, when she was staying in lodgings at Gulliford? It was past ten o'clock now. She must have come from Gulliford, dressed for the evening, and be going back there.

Oh, if only Gladys would confide in her! Laurie tried to reason with herself, as she walked on. After all, there was nothing out of the way in going out to supper on a Sunday night with a young man. But Glad had not said she had met young Dallas again.

And there was the fear that was always subconsciously gnawing at her heart. If anything should happen to Glad!

She had a vision of the young man's blunt, blurred face; his eyes, as she remembered them, green and frivolous; his hat ears standing out. It would not let her sleep.

The next morning she had a telegram from Albery from Paris. He would not be back until the evening. He would call and take her out to dinner.

She decided to go to Gulliford. She could not rest until she had seen Glad.

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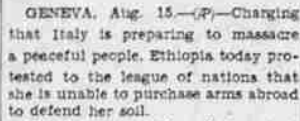
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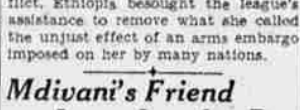
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THE CLOWN

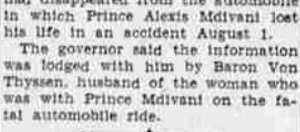
By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



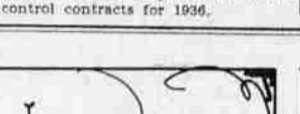
WHAT WITH A TOOTH AND HOT WEATHER, DOESN'T FEEL SO GOOD AND BEGINS TO WHIMPER



UNCLE GEORGE, WHO CONSIDERS HIMSELF A BIT OF A CLOWN, SPRINGS TO THE RESCUE



UNCLE GEORGE MAKES A FUNNY RABBIT OUT OF HIS HANDKERCHIEF



URNS AWAY WHEN UNCLE GEORGE BEGINS HIS REPERTOIRE OF COMICAL FACES



UNCLE GEORGE FOLLOWS HIM ROUND TO SHOW HIM HOW TO OPEN A WATCH BY BLOWING ON IT



URNS BACK ON UNCLE GEORGE, WHO, RUNNING OUT OF IDEAS, GIVES UP



CONTINUES WHIMPERING QUIETLY, KEEPING A WARY EYE ON UNCLE GEORGE



BURSTS INTO SQUEALS OF JOYOUS MERRIMENT AS CAT STALKS SOLEMNLY INTO ROOM

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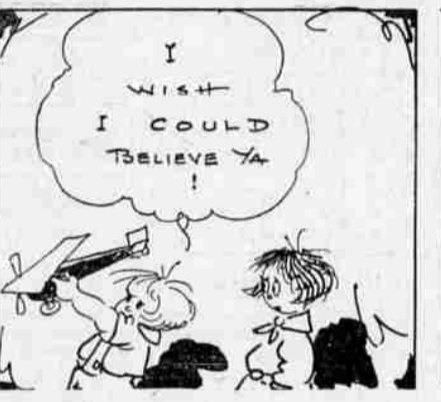
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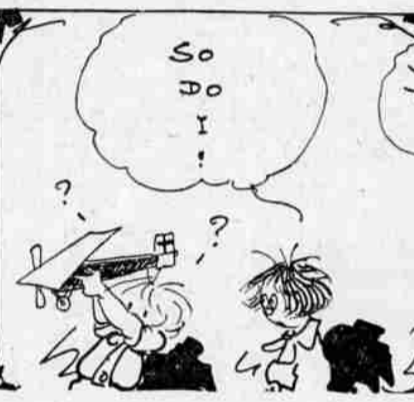
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TAILSPIN TOMMY—No Choice—But to Jump



By Hal Forrest



By Edwin Alger



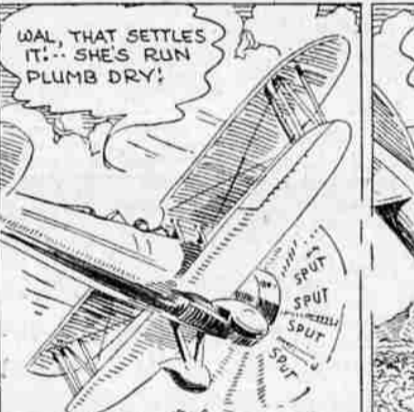
By Sol Hess



BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—The Campfire



By Sol Hess



By Sol Hess



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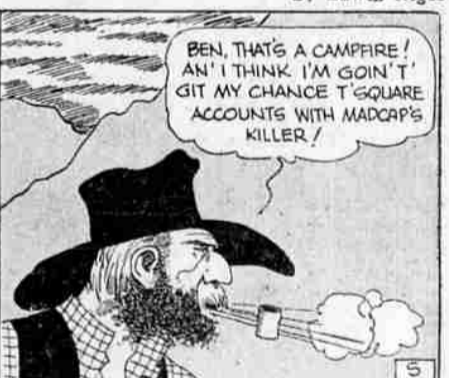
THE NEBBES—Good News



By Sol Hess



By Sol Hess



By Sol Hess



THE BUNGLER FAMILY—Wedding Plans



By Harry J Tutthill



By Harry J Tutthill



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QUINTS DOCTOR VEToes OFFER BY HOLLYWOOD

CALLANDER, Ont., Aug. 15.—(AP)—Dr. Allan R. Dalcoe has told Hollywood "Nothing doing" in response to overtures to have the Dionne quintuplets appear as co-stars with Harold Lloyd in a film, he said today.

Washington, Aug. 15.—(AP)—President Roosevelt today reiterated his approval of the Central Valley, Cal. Reclamation project and said he assumed the delay in setting funds was due to the heavy work in the comptroller general's office.

HERMIT OF COALEDO BLOWS OWN HEAD OFF

MARSHFIELD, Ore., Aug. 15.—(AP)—A blast from one load of a fully loaded double-barreled shotgun caused the chin upward through the head of Gusmeroll Battista, 37, hermit of the Coaledo district, and killed him today.

Salem, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Brigadier-General E. A. Williams, adjutant-general of the Montana National Guard, visited here today with Major-General George A. White, commander of the 41st division, National Guard.

