

NEVER MIND THE LADY

by David Garth

SYNOPSIS: Terry Willett met in the tropics, where Terry was trying to make up an engineering job, and Allaire was killing time—the highest possible speed. But Terry went back up river and found that his father was dead and had left his father's car and found a note more than she wanted to think of Terry. Allaire has been killing time at the bar of the Arundel, which is a high class gambling joint, talking with a friend named Charley.

Chapter 15
SPEED

...I all aren't as nice as you, Charley." Allaire stood with hands on hips and regarded the polished interior of the Arundel speculatively. "We really can't blame the Trigger Fish. Why should it go seventy miles an hour when it's just as satisfied to sleep and eat?"

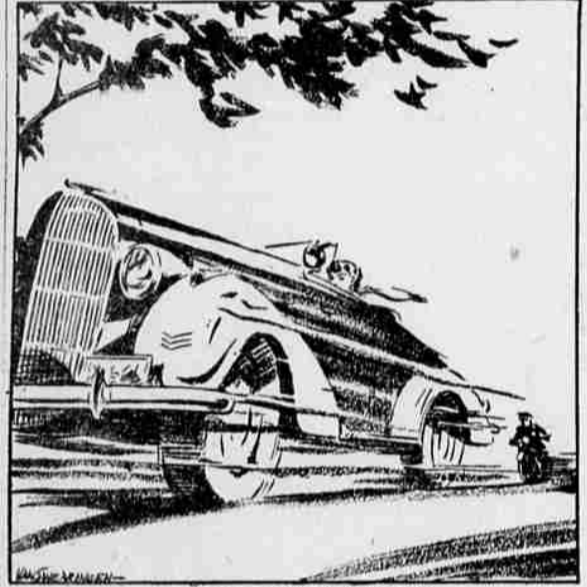
"Pshaw," said Charley. "I'm no botanist. Or is it biologist? Say, where are you going?"

Allaire turned. She leaned forward and patted him on the shoulder.

"Out," she said mysteriously, "to go seventy miles an hour. 'Night, Charley."

He saw her take her wrap in the foyer, nod to the doorman, and slip out into the night. Charley couldn't figure her out.

She never got drunk, but when she



wanted to blow off steam she pulled the throttle wide open in bursts of sheer heading speed. She'd been driving like that ever since she came back from South America. Probably plenty angry at somebody or something, although she'd never choose to let you know it.

He gave up. Much easier to deliberate on the whys and wherefores of the Trigger Fish who sat on the bottom of the aquarium like a rock. What an existence for a fish. Charley was convinced it was the stupidest existence he'd ever seen.

ALLAIRE operated independently of the separate establishments maintained by her parents. Her course lay between her father's New York town house, her mother's family home in Washington, and her father's country place in Virginia, with little side excursions and disappearances of her own thrown in for good measure.

And she was driving like hell again. She whipped down to Washington, spent a couple of days there, and then took to the open road again.

It was thirty miles to sunrise when her long blue roadster raced through a quiet Virginia countryside in the hush of early dawn. Already the first faint red glow was touching the hills, and her father's country home was thirty miles up the valley.

A police motorcycle picked up her trail and chased her down a long stretch of open pavement in a duel of roaring motors.

Then the policeman won. He drew up abreast and careened about a curve with the car in a hairbreadth partnership of burning tires and screaming brakes.

"Get over!" he yelled frantically. The girl flung a hand and brought the car to a stop. Her white polo coat was streaked with dust and her bright hair bound by a purple ribbon was whirled at her temples from the windlash of her terrible speed.

"Hello, Murphy," she greeted lazily. "Well, this is a pleasure. It's been a long time since you arrested me last."

The officer shoved his goggles up on his brow and stared.

"Well, for the love of Mike! Miss West—!"

A beautiful morning is shattered, tomorrow, for Allaire.

WPA ADMINISTRATION COSTS ORDERED CUT BY HARRY L. HOPKINS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—(AP)—A general overhaul of the WPA administrative staff directed at decreasing overhead costs and increasing efficiency, was said by officials to have been ordered by Harry L. Hopkins.

Although emphasizing his action meant no change in policy of the \$4,000,000,000 program, officials said Hopkins proposed to hold WPA administrative costs to around \$30,000,000. With approximately 3,500,000 needy employed and sufficient projects approved to continue the program until July 1, the Washington WPA staff has been ordered cut 50 per cent. Average reduction of 30 per cent was said to be the objective including the WPA field staff.

Along with closer supervision of the projects being carried out, Hopkins was said to have acted to end delay in paying the more than 2,000,000 needy employed WPA.

His order called for delivery of pay checks within 72 hours after completion of a work period, instead of the week or more which originally prevailed.

Those given WPA jobs have had to be continued on the dole until their checks actually arrived.

Be correctly corrected in Ethelwyn B. Hoffmann.

STRANGE AS IT SEEMS—By JOHN HIX

For further proof address the author, enclosing a stamped envelope for reply. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

CONVERSION AFTER TOUCHDOWN USED TO COUNT TWICE AS MUCH AS THE TOUCHDOWN!



EVERYBODY HAS "WATER ON THE BRAIN"—THE HUMAN BRAIN IS 90% WATER!



"BOILING LAKE"—A VOLCANIC BODY OF WATER, NORMALLY WITHIN A FEW DEGREES OF THE BOILING POINT REMAINED UNDISCOVERED FOR CENTURIES DURING THE EXPLORATIONS OF THE TINY ISLAND OF DOMINICA—West Indies—

Football played today under the rules of 1884 would seem a strange game to followers of the gridiron sport. Touchdowns were unimportant as compared with conversions and field goals. For a touchdown the score was only 2 points. Conversion after touchdown, however, was worth 4 points, and a field goal was valued at 5 points. Interference was something new for fans to puzzle over, nothing like it had been seen before.

Another novelty of the season was the "T" trick, but not until eight years later was the flying wedge introduced. The game was a one-man show so far as officials went—the referee having complete authority. Each contesting team, however, selected a "judge" to be present on the field and watch out for their interests. The "judges" had no authority, but it was their duty to watch out for fouls that the opposing team made—then argue the case before the referee whose decision was final. The abolition of this system during the 1884 season was a radical change on the playing field. It was not until three years later that umpires were employed.

Strange as it seems, there is an annual production of a million pairs of wooden shoes for use in the United States, according to the department of commerce. This does not include souvenir wooden shoes sold at tourist shops. Most wooden shoes are used not by recent arrivals from the Netherlands, but by American workmen who are employed in canneries and similar establishments where it is necessary to stand on damp wet floors. Less picturesque, but more serviceable than the wooden shoes of Holland, most American wooden shoes have leather or fabric uppers.

TAILSPIN TOMMY—Prisoners in the Sky!



ONE OF THE FERCE SAVAGES WHO HAD CAPTURED TOMMY AND SKEETER THREW AWAY SKEETER'S DISTOL. THE WEAPON EXPLODED AS IT STRUCK THE GROUND. MAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY, THE BOYS RAN FOR THEIR PLANE, BUT

DARN!

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA O'NOT TACKLING THE ISLAND RIGHT NOW? YAIN'T SCARED, ARE YOU?

OH, PIPE DOWN, CRIP! DON'T BE IN SUCH A HURRY—

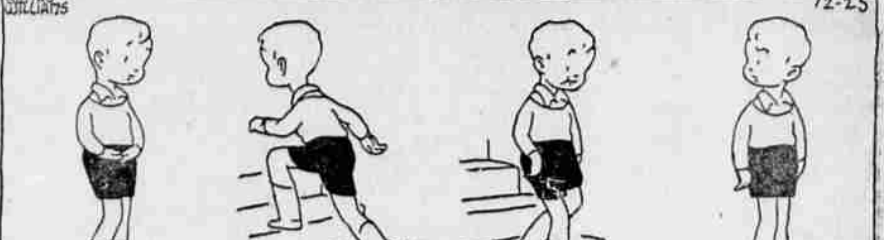
I'VE A SPECIAL REASON FOR US ALL GOING IN ONE BOAT—IF THERE'S ANYBODY ON THE ISLAND, I DON'T WANT HIM TO KNOW WE'VE GOT TWO BOATS—NOW THEN, WELL EAT—

GEE, BEN, SOMETIMES WHEN I SAY THINGS I WISH I'D NEVER SAID 'EM—I SEE NOW WHY YOU WANT US ALL TO GO IN JUST ONE BOAT—

FORGET IT, OLD TIMER—I KNEW YOU WOULD—

JUMP IN, BIRGIE—ALL RIGHT, CRIP, LET'S SHOVE OFF!

WAITING



FIDGETS AROUND, ASKING EVERY FIVE MINUTES ISN'T IT TIME TO HAVE THE PRESENTS NOW?

MOTHER FINALLY SAYS THEY'LL HAVE THEM AS SOON AS AUNT EM IS READY. DASHES UP TO AUNT EM'S ROOM

WANTS UNTIL AUNT EM HAS WRAPPED A LAST GIFT AND LEADS HER DOWNSTAIRS

DISCOVERS THAT NOW MOTHER HAS VANISHED

TRACKS HER DOWN IN KITCHEN AND LEADS HER BACK ONLY TO FIND THAT FATHER IS NOW MISSING

SHOUTING REVEALS THAT HE WENT UP TO LOOK FOR A PRESENT THAT HE HAD SOMEWHERE AND FORGOT. GOES UP AFTER HIM

WHOLE FAMILY IS ASSEMBLED AT LAST, WANTS QUVERING WITH IMPATIENCE FOR THE SIGNAL

AT LAST MOMENT, PHONE RINGS, COUSIN ALICE WANTING TO WISH EVERYONE AN INTERMINABLY LONG MERRY CHRISTMAS

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SMATTER POP—



TIS I, DESPERATE AMBROSE, THE WISE-CRACKER

OKAY! CRACK!

I KIN SPELL ALL DIFFICULT WORDS!

ASK ME HOW I SPELL THEM

HOW DO YOU SPELL THEM?

I SPELL THEM WRONG!

NOW I HAVE SIX MORE CALLS TO MAKE!

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BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—All Aboard!



By EDWIN ALGER

TEXAS OPENS WARFARE ON BIG SHOT GAMBLERS

AUSTIN, Tex., Dec. 31.—(AP)—L. G. Pharis, acting director of the Texas department of public safety, said today the state had declared a relentless war against "big time" gamblers.

"We have made up our mind gambling can be stopped," Pharis said. "That is what we are going to do. We told the big shot gamblers they may as well get out of Texas and if they don't, we'll put the most. We will close up every 'big shot's' place if it takes the entire force to do it."

When an American mission visited Ethiopia in 1903, a commercial treaty between the United States and Ethiopia was signed.

SHARP EARTHQUAKES HIT GERMAN REGION

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—(AP)—About 25,000 square miles of Baden, Württemberg, Hesse and parts of Bavaria experienced two sharp earth tremors each of from two to three seconds duration, today. Scientists said they were the most severe shocks in 24 years.

In Pirmasens walls were split, windows cracked and the suburban population fled into the open fearing their homes would collapse. The tremors coincided with a sudden thaw in the mountains.

No casualties were reported.

The Italian clameleon has a telescopic tongue with which it can catch insects six inches distance.

THE NEBBS—Revenge!



By SOL HESS