

LITTLE SPITFIRE

By Jean Randall

YESTERDAY: Brenda's scheme works. Adelaide, wondering why her housekeeper is even worse than usual, agrees to go away for a rest, and Isabel gladly agrees to run the house. Mac catches on to Brenda's conniving.

Chapter 22

Home Sweet Home

"AT FIRST I thought it was simply to get Adelaide this vacation; she does need a little rest from us, poor old girl!" said Mac.

"Now you've got her out, something's worrying you. I sat down in the library hearing you pace about as long as I could bear it. Want to tell me about it, Brenda?"

"She shook her head. 'N-not just yet, Mac, but thank you! It's terribly nice of you to realize I wouldn't indulge in such foolish behavior without—without a purpose. I won't pace any more. You've taken part of my worry away already!' She smiled at him and he returned the smile.

"That's good!"

Monday morning Brenda lingered nervously at the breakfast table, waiting for Isabel to summon Grenadine and give her the orders for the day. That was Adelaide's habit. Daily she indulged in a monologue which ran something like this:

"Well, Grenadine, I suppose we're going to have to eat again today: Dear, dear, I wish somebody would invent a new animal; seems as if all the old ones have been used so many times we're all tired of them. Let's see. Better start with dinner, that's the hardest. Steak—we had steak last night. A roast, then. But I said I wouldn't have roast before Sunday, meat is so terribly high. Chops? M'm; yes, I guess chops. Tell the butcher to cut them thicker than he did the last ones. And Grenadine, try not to cook them till they're like bits of wood, won't you?"

"Vegetables. Well, there are always potatoes, thank goodness. Creamed? No, better not creamed. Baked, then... What? Oh, dear, oh, dear! Yes, we did have them baked last night with the steak. Grenadine, couldn't you just for once suggest something?"

Amusedly Brenda wondered how long this sort of thing would go on if an interruption did not invariably put an end to it. Sometimes it was the telephone, sometimes it was Miss Ormond who rose very early and began to crave the society of others soon after breakfast, sometimes it was Grenadine herself who in a flash of unusual inspiration suggested a tentative menu.

Remembering all this, she sat tensely waiting for Isabel to summon the cook. But Isabel rose and started upstairs in the most leisurely fashion imaginable.

"Isabel!" Brenda's voice was panicky. "Aren't you going to plan dinner?"

Isabel gave her a quiet smile. "The meals for three days ahead are planned, and the day's order was in before you were downstairs. Grenadine has a typed menu with full directions—not that I intend to trust to her judgment in the matter, however—in the kitchen."

Brenda almost staggered with relief. This did sound like efficiency!

Pure Magic

SHE shut herself into her room and tried to apply herself to the day's work, but subdued sounds from below kept her from concentrating on her task. When she was called down to lunch, she looked about her in astonishment. Dining room and living room had undergone slight but important changes.

"W-what have you done, Isabel?" she faltered.

"Nothing that can't be undone in a short time if Adelaide objects." Isabel viewed the work of her hand (and of Grenadine's) proudly. The big wire plant stand filled with languishing palms and ivy which shut off most of the light in the two east windows of the dining room had been moved into a south window in the library across the hall. The listless lace curtains had been replaced by crisp dotted swiss. The dull surface of the big mahogany table shone with wax. The dining room looked airy and inviting, especially as Isabel's clever hand had set a bowl of golden calendulas where they drew the morning sun.

In the living room, the same hand had been at work. Chairs had forsaken their stiff parade about the room and gathered themselves cozily about a table, or grouped in twos and threes. For the first time since Brenda had been in the house the numerous magazines lay in trim piles, the newspapers were folded and lay ready to hand. The mantelpiece had lost its confusion of unrelated ornaments and was serenely beautiful with a pair of bayberry candles in shining brass holders, the matching bowl between holding rusty chrysanthe-mums.

"It's magic," Brenda gasped, glancing about. "Pure magic!"

The new housekeeper shook her head, and hurried away upstairs.

Monday was always a hard day for both Mac and Eric. They came in a little apprehensively that evening, Adelaide had her limitations but after all she was a housekeeper with years of experience behind her.

Eric eyed the changes in the living room with patent misgivings. Mac was more appreciative, complimenting Isabel warmly on the increased comfort; but he too glanced anxiously now and then toward the dining room. Presently Eric sat up with a jerk. His nose detected an odor which made him remember that he'd had no luncheon that day.

At six-thirty exactly the grinning Grenadine announced dinner. And what a dinner it was!

"What is this heavenly stuff, Isabel?" Brenda demanded. "I've never eaten anything like it before in my life!"

"Stew," was the demure reply. "Plain Irish stew—well, perhaps not exactly plain since I flavored it a bit myself. You see, I want to keep the bills down while Adelaide is away."

"Keep the bills down! The boarders stared at one another in amazement. If to serve, in addition to the delicious stew, delicate young beets, a big bowl of salad whose leaves glistened with a dressing, tantalizingly good, crisp fresh rolls, and for pudding with hard sauce—if to serve all these to perfection was the way to keep the bills down, then heaven be praised for economy!"

Need Of Consolation
[ISOBEL] mounted on triumph to triumph as the week went on. Gone were the slightly rumpled tablecloths and in their stead were fringed oblongs of gay pink and white material. "Bought at the five and ten with what I've saved on the grocery bills," said the housekeeper nonchalantly.

"Mac, what do you know!" Eric demanded one evening. "My laundry has all been put away—where it belongs, mind you!—and not a button's missing, not a sock has a hole. Home was never like this!"

Mac's grateful glance went to Isabel who had flushed becomingly. Eric was loudest in his praises of the new regime but it was Mac who showed his appreciation in tangible ways. Mac brought Isabel a box of the chocolate peppermints of which she was fond, Mac appointed himself official correspondent to Adelaide, wording his letters tactfully so that she neither worried about her household's welfare, nor experienced a pang at her young successor's achievements.

"Well, that's one thing I've started along the right track anyway," the little schemer consoled herself.

She had need of some consolation. It was undeniably Isabel's week. Both men accorded her the warm regards of those who had been uncomfortable without entirely realizing it, and now were supremely comfortable.

Brenda soon could take a quiet pride in efforts of her own. "Though I can't serve 'em on the table twice a day as Isabel does," she thought, sighing audibly.

The greenhouse on the Abernathy farm was in process of construction. Ned Barrow telephoned her triumphantly that he had got Ab to listen to reason on the subject.

"How!" Brenda marveled, and indeed she did wonder how so difficult a feat had been accomplished.

"Just as you suggested," he said gratefully. "I had some blueprints made, and I got a list of horrid prickly plants that some Chicago expert recommended. I wired him for advice. Then I took the whole lot to Alaine, and she went and over 'em. I let her rave a while, and then proposed that the twins take me into partnership, they to supply the land, I the cash for scientific experiment." He chuckled.

"It was the experiment part that she thought. They think it was the scientific anyway. I came away and let Alaine work on that dumb bunny of an Ab. It took her two days, but either he fell for a particularly hideous and wartyactus which—mark you this, Brenda!—cost six hundred dollars for one measly plant—or the self-regulating heating system in the greenhouse won his heart. At any rate, I'm a partner in the firm of Abernathy and Barrow, and you can bet your sweet life I'm not going to be a silent one either!"

Brenda raised her eyebrows, tilted and turned away from the telephone in a glow of self-approval.

It faded, however, when she considered how badly matters were going with Hugh Saltus. Almost daily he called her up and complained, or entreated, as his mood might be, that she meet him behind the deserted house and tell him over and over again what she knew about Linda.

Brenda knew the story of their quarrel now. Hugh had insisted on telling her; pleaded that it would do him good to pour it out to a sympathetic soul.

On the Radio Chains

STATIONS
Where to Find Them on the Dial:
KEX, 1160, Portland; KFI, 640, Los Angeles; KGA, 1470, Spokane; KGO, 750, San Francisco; KGW, 520, Portland; KJR, 970, Seattle; KXN, 1050, Los Angeles; KOA, 830, Denver; KOIN, 340, Portland; KOMO, 880, Seattle; KPO, 630, San Francisco; KSL, 1130, Salt Lake.

Thursday
5:00—Drama, KGO, KEX, KGW; News of 1940, KPO, KFI, KGW; Major Bowes, KNX, KOIN, KSL; 5:30—Rudy Vallee, KFI, Safety First, KPO.

5:00—Miller's Orch., KNX, KOIN, KSL; Music Hall, KPO, KFI, KGW; Dance Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR; 7:00—Fred Waring, KPO, KGW; KFI; Amos and Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Kinney's Orch., KEX.

7:15—Lanny Ross, KNX, KOIN, KSL; James' Orch., KPO, KGW; News, KFI.

7:30—Musical Americana, KGO, KJR, KEX; Ask-It-Basket, KNX, KOIN, KSL.

8:00—Strange As It Seems, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Modern Strings, KGW; Judy Deane, KGO; Dress Rehearsal, KPO; News, KEX.

8:30—Symphony Hour, KPO, KGW, KFI; Answer Auction, KNX, KOIN, KSL; 9:00—Avison's Orch., KJR; Paul Sullivan, KSL, KNX, KOIN.

9:30—I Love a Mystery, KPO, KFI, KGW; Duffy's Orch., KNX, KSL; Primi Jr.'s Orch., KOMO.

10:00—Reporter, KPO, KGW, KFI; Arnsheim's Orch., KJR.

10:30—Malneck's Orch., KPO; Pastor's Orch., KSL, KNX, KOIN; Nottingham's Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR; 11:00—Fields' Orch., KPO; This Moving World, KEX; Noble's Orch., KSL, KOIN; News, KGO, KGW, KNX.

Friday
5:00—Between Afternoon and Evening, KGO, KJR, KEX; Waite Time, KPO, KFI, KGW; Al Pearce, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

5:30—What's My Name, KPO, KFI, KGW; Drama, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

6:00—Gay Nineties, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Don Ameche, KPO, KFI, KGW; Dance Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR.

6:30—Believe-It-Or-Not, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Drama, KFI; Book Window, KOMO; Concert Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR.

7:00—Fred Waring, KPO, KGW, KFI; Amos and Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Barnet's Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR.

7:15—Thompson's Orch., KGW, KPO; Lanny Ross, KNX, KOIN, KSL; News, KFI.

7:30—This Amazing America, KGO, KJR, KEX; Johnny Presents, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Show Boat, KPO, KFI, KGW.

8:00—Dance Orch., KEX; Treasure Island Varieties, KPO; News Conference, KGO, Kate Smith, KNX, KOIN, KSL.

8:30—Death Valley Days, KPO, KGW, KFI.

9:00—Ebener's Orch., KFI; Paul Sullivan, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

9:15—University Explorer, KPO, KGW; Paul's Orch., KNX, KSL.

9:30—Music by Woodbury, KPO.

KFI, KGW; Hutton's Orch., KSL, KNX.

10:00—Reporter, KPO, KFI, KGW; Gluskin's Orch., KOMO.

10:30—Nottingham's Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR; Fields' Orch., KPO, KFI; Pastor's Orch., KSL, KNX, KOIN.

11:00—Draper's Orch., KPO; Noble's Orch., KSL, KOIN; This Moving World, KEX; News, KGO, KNX.

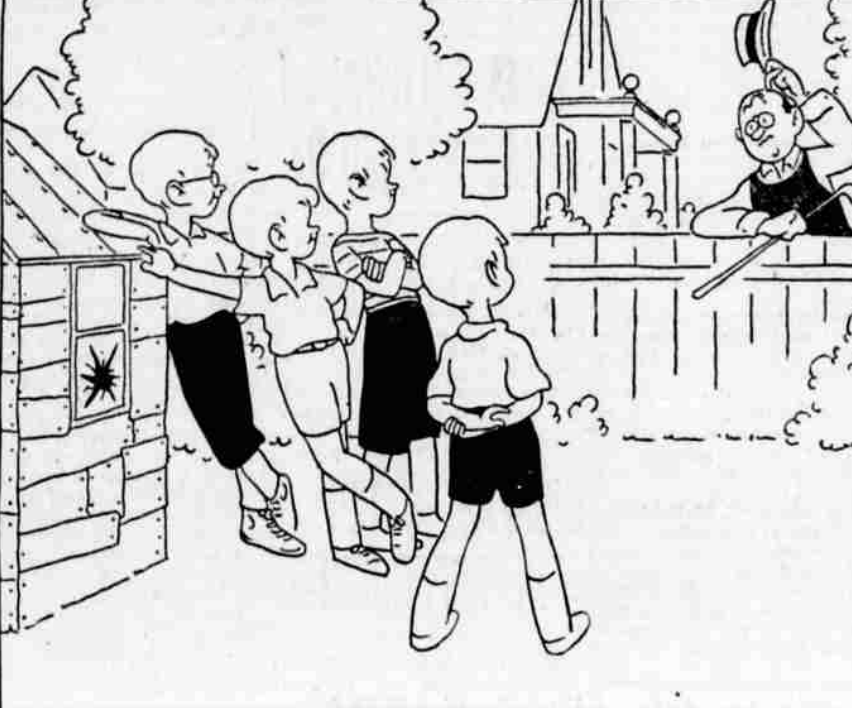
Dr. Hill Appointed
Salem, May 29.—(P)—Dr. Irvin B. Hill, 25, graduate of the University of Oregon in 1933 and of the University of Oregon medical school in 1939, was appointed today by the board of control to be resident physician at the Oregon Fairview home for feeble-minded.

Fewer Poults
Portland.—(U)—The production of turkey poults in the United States during April was 12 per cent less than the output for a year ago, the U. S. department of agriculture reported here. Reports gathered by the service showed 1,062,000 poults hatched in the month compared to 1,202,000 for April hatchings of 1939.

More Peas Sown
Portland.—(U)—Acreage sown to Austrian winter peas in Oregon this year has grown to 70,000 compared to 23,000 for last year, the U. S. department of agriculture reported.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD LEAGUE

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



THE BOYS NEVER ENJOYED ANYTHING MORE THAN WHEN THE MAN WHO HAD RAISED SUCH A ROW OVER HIS BROKEN GARAGE WINDOW WAS PRACTICING GOLF SHOTS ON HIS LAWN AND BROKE A WINDOW IN THE TEAM'S CLUBHOUSE

5-31 (Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

TAILSPIN TOMMY—"Putting Two and Two Together!"



BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—Baby's Sick



THE NEBBE—It's a Good Idea



CCC TRAINING HELPS YOUTHS TO GET JOBS AT AIRCRAFT PLANTS

Washington, D. C.—(Spl)—Mechanical training taught in civilian conservation corps camps has enabled 85 CCC youths to obtain jobs in west coast aircraft manufacturing plants in recent months, James J. McEntee, director, disclosed here.

The men, members of California camps, took courses in aviation mechanics in addition to training in handling machinery on work projects.

"Aviation mechanics is only one of the many courses made available to CCC enrollees in these camps," Mr. McEntee said. "We have not stressed this particular field above any other, but in these cases the enrollees had an aptitude and desire for such training and our camp in-

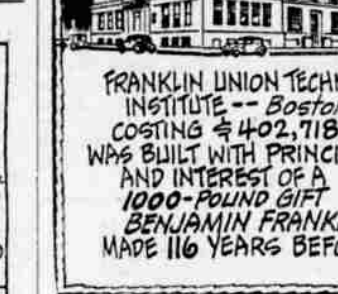
structional staff was qualified to teach it. We had fine cooperation from neighboring schools and the California board of education, which made possible the use of school facilities."

Of the 85 obtaining jobs, 38 went to the Consolidated Aircraft corporation, 17 to the Lockheed Aircraft corporation, 14 to the Ryan Aeronautical company, 9 to Douglas Aviation and 3 to North American Aviation.

A species of striped catfish, never longer than four inches, is found only in North Carolina rivers.

STRANGE AS IT SEEMS

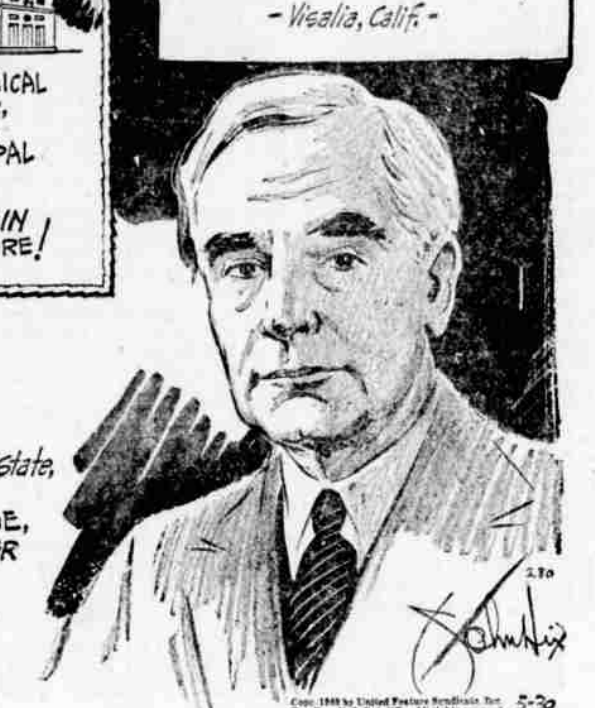
by JOHN HIX



Answer to yesterday's problem: A MAN BOUGHT A CAR FOR \$70, SOLD IT FOR \$80, BOUGHT IT BACK FOR \$90, AND SOLD IT AGAIN FOR \$100... WHAT WAS HIS PROFIT? ANSWER \$20...

CORDELL HULL

U.S. Secretary of State, ONCE WHEN A CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, FINED HIS OWN FATHER \$5.00 FOR SITTING IN THE COURTROOM WITH HIS HAT ON!



Strange as it seems, Cordell Hull, U. S. Secretary of State, was admitted to the Tennessee bar at 19 after only a ten-months law course at Cumberland University. In 1903 Hull became circuit judge at Carthage, Tenn., known for his impartial justice. Once he fined his own father \$5 for sitting in court with his hat on.

FRANKLIN UNION TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Boston, COSTING \$402,718, WAS BUILT WITH PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST OF A 1000-POUND GIFT BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MADE 116 YEARS BEFORE!

1791 Franklin bequeathed Boston 1,000 pounds to be used a century later "for public works to make living more convenient. . . . Litigation held up the growing fund from 1891 to 1907, when it totaled \$438,742. With this money Franklin Union was built, costing \$402,718—all on a gift amounting to about \$5,000.

Tomorrow: Michigan Miracle

BY HAL FORREST



BY EDWIN ALGER



BY SOL HESS



EXCITEMENT KILLS HEROIC PRINCIPAL

Lima, Ohio, May 30.—(U)—Principal L. L. Weaver of the Lincoln elementary school at Lima, Ohio, died 300 pupils to safety today when lightning struck the school building.

COLONEL'S EX-WIFE REQUESTS NEW TRIAL

Columbia, S. C., May 30.—(U)—Attorneys are attempting to get a new trial for Mrs. May Walker Burleson, convicted Wednesday of manslaughter in the killing of the second wife of Colonel Richard Burleson.

POWER PILL LABORATORY



SOPHIE! SHE'S THE DECIDING FACTOR

