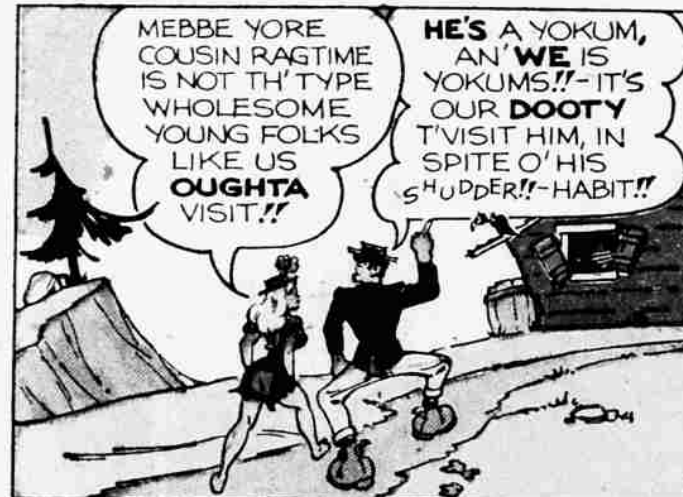
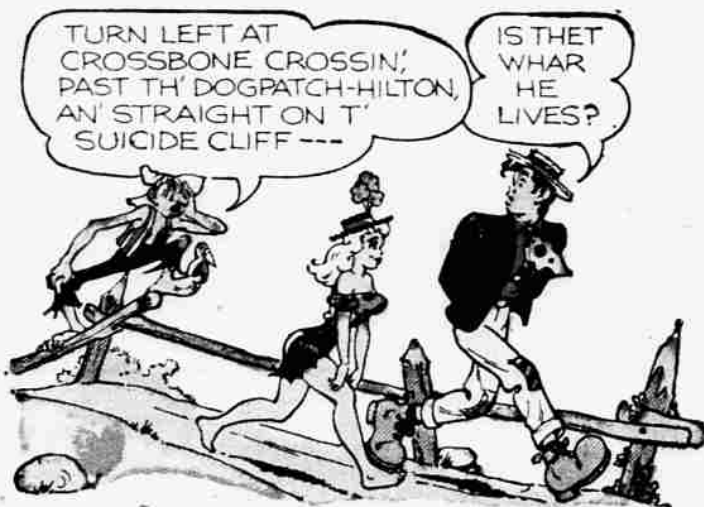


LI'L ABNER

Such Popularity
Must be
Deserved—

by **AL CAPP**



Prince Valiant



Our Story: KING HAPATLA OF THE 'INNER LANDS' COMES TO THE COUNCIL BRINGING ARN WITH HIM, AND FATHER AND SON HAVE A HAPPY REUNION. 'BUT WHY DID YOU NOT BRING MY SON WITH YOU, VALIANT?'



'BECAUSE THE GROWING ENMITY AGAINST THULE MAY BREAK OUT IN VIOLENCE AND MAKE THE JOURNEY HOME A DANGEROUS ONE. YOUR SON SVEN IS TOO YOUNG FOR WAR.'



AS THE COUNCIL OF KINGS COMES TO A CLOSE, PRINCE VALIANT STANDS ALONE IN HIS DECISION TO AVOID A RUINOUS WAR. AND MANY SAY KING AGUAR IS TOO OLD AND FEEBLE FOR THE JOYS OF FIGHTING AND HIS SON IS TOO TIMID!



AS THE COUNCILORS DEPART THE CAPTAIN OF VAL'S SHIP REPORTS: 'YOUR SHIPS ARE HIDDEN IN THE NEXT FJORD, BUT OUTSIDE MANY LONGSHIPS ARE GATHERING.'



DODGING AMONG THE ISLANDS, RISKING THE SHOALS, VAL JOINS HIS FLEET. BUT BEHIND HIM COME ARMED FIGHTING SHIPS BENT ON DESTROYING THE POWER OF THULE.



VAL HAS BUT A SHORT TIME TO SHOUT THE PLAN OF BATTLE TO HIS CAPTAINS BEFORE THE SHIPS CRASH FURIOUSLY TOGETHER.



IT SEEMS AS IF PRINCE VALIANT REALLY IS TIMID, FOR HE ORDERS THE RETREAT OF HIS LITTLE FLEET. IN CLOSE ORDER THEY FLEE UP THE FJORD TO CERTAIN CAPTURE. VAL WATCHES THE WILD PURSUIT AND THE FOG THAT IS ROLLING IN FROM THE SEA.

NEXT WEEK—
Battle in the Fog.