LI'L ABNER The Baby-Sitter — by AL CAPP

Prince Valiant — IN THE DAYS OF KING ARTHUR

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY HAROLD R FOSTER

Our Story: QUEEN GUINEVERE HELPS ALETA PUT THE TWINS TO BED FOR THEIR NAP, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME FEELS A CHILD'S ARMS AROUND HER NECK; AND WITH THAT WET KISS ALL ENMITY SHE MAY HAVE HAD TOWARD ALETA VANISHES.

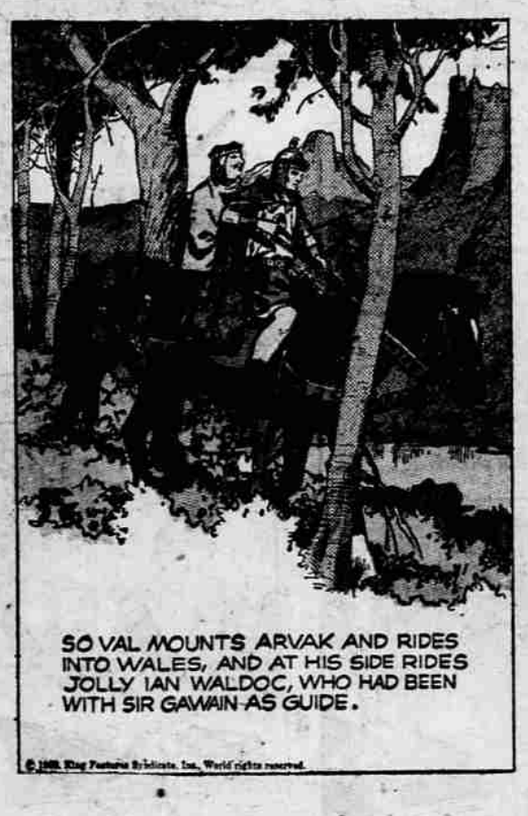
"I AM BRUISED, SOAKING WET, WEARY," SIGHS THE QUEEN, "BUT IT WAS FUN!"

THEN PRINCE VALIANT BLUNDERS IN AND STAMMERS AN APOLOGY FOR HIS INTRUSION.

THE QUEEN BIDS HIM ENTER, BUT ALETA FROWNS. SHE HAS JUST CAUGHT THE ADMIRING GLANCE HER HUSBAND HAS CAST AT THE QUEEN'S SHAPELY FIGURE..... HE WILL HEAR ABOUT THIS LATER!

"SIR GAWAIN IS MISSING! HE LED A TROOP OF KNIGHTS INTO WALES, AND AFTER THEIR MISSION WAS FINISHED AND THEY WERE RETURNING, HE VANISHED!"

"BY YOUR LEAVE, SIRE, I WILL GO AND SEARCH FOR SIR GAWAIN. HE IS MY FRIEND, AND I WILL KNOW NO PEACE OF MIND UNTIL HE IS FOUND."



SO VAL MOUNTS ARVAK AND RIDES INTO WALES, AND AT HIS SIDE RIDES JOLLY IAN WALDOC, WHO HAD BEEN WITH SIR GAWAIN AS GUIDE.

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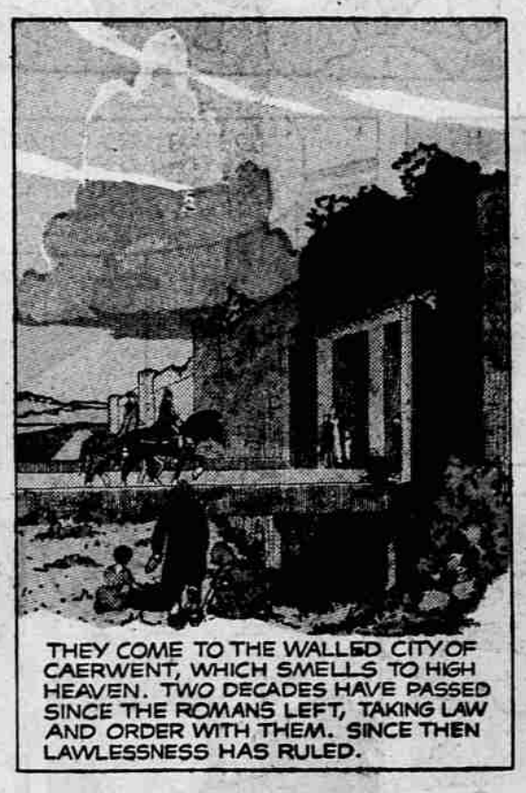

THEY COME TO THE WALLED CITY OF CAERWENT, WHICH SMELLS TO HIGH HEAVEN. TWO DECADES HAVE PASSED SINCE THE ROMANS LEFT, TAKING LAW AND ORDER WITH THEM. SINCE THEN LAWLESSNESS HAS RULED.

THROUGH THE DIRT AND RUIN OF THE DYING CITY THEY PICK THEIR WAY, INQUIRING FOR THE HEADMAN

NEXT WEEK — First Tidings.