LI'L ABNER — Children's Hour — by AL CAPP

Prince Valiant — IN THE DAYS OF KING ARTHUR

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY HAROLD R FOSTER

Our Story: IT IS THE DAY OF WOJAN'S DEPARTURE FROM CAMELOT, AND KING ARTHUR AND PRINCE VALIANT LISTEN TO HIS FAREWELL SERMON, AND THE WORDS, SPOKEN IN HIS COMPELLING VOICE, FILL THEM WITH UNEASINESS.

"THERE IS BUT ONE KING WHOSE LAW YOU MUST OBEY. HE IS THE KING OF KINGS ON HIGH. ALL EARTHLY KINGS ARE DUST AND MUST RETURN TO THE DUST FROM WHICH THEY SPRANG!" POOR SIMPLE WOJAN DOES NOT KNOW HE IS UNDERMINING THE AUTHORITY OF THAT EARTHLY KING, ARTHUR.

THEN WOJAN PASSES THROUGH THE GATES, WALKING BARE-FOOT AS USUAL, BUT HIS TWO ADVISORS, THE SCHOLARS SLEATH AND DUSTAD, RIDE THE HORSES THE KING HAS GIVEN THEM.

AT FIRST A FEW ZEALOTS FOLLOW THEIR TEACHER, THEN OTHERS JOIN, AND STILL OTHERS UNTIL A CONTAGION SEIZES ALL CAMELOT. SERVANTS, HOSTLERS, SMITHS AND EVEN GUARDSMEN DROP THEIR TOOLS AND JOIN THE PROCESSION.

VAL AND THE KING LOOK AT EACH OTHER IN AMAZEMENT. THEY HAVE WITNESSED THE BIRTH OF ONE OF THOSE STRANGE RELIGIOUS FERVORS THAT MARK THE DARK AGES, BEGINNING WITH THE QUEST OF THE GRAIL AND ENDING IN THE CRUSADES.

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"I HAVE TRIED TO BRING CHRISTIANITY TO OUR REALM WITH LAW AND ORDER, BUT HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO RAISE SUCH ENTHUSIASM. HAVE I FAILED?"

WOJAN'S SIMPLE HEART OVERFLOWS WITH JOY. HE LEADS A GREAT THRONG THAT GROWS LARGER AS PEASANTS LEAVE THEIR FIELDS TO JOIN THE RANKS THERE IS NO DISCIPLINE AND ALL ARE GROWING HUNGRY.

NEXT WEEK: **The Growing Menace**