

SERIAL STORY

Ticket to Hollywood

BY W. H. PEARS

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YESTERDAY: When Francie refused to ride with him, Gustie...

CHAPTER VI

FRANCIE tried to scream. No sound came from her throat.

She heard the metallic rip of a knife on screen.

Francie never knew what happened then. It was as if something snapped inside of her.

She sat up in bed. Her outflung hand overturned the wrought iron lamp on the stand.

She felt the lamp come to an abrupt stop, bite into something hard.

When she opened her eyes, the cabin was flooded with light.

"Are you all right, dear?" he asked.

With a shudder, Francie stared at the man on the floor.

John Weston nodded. "You bet you did! See, it's our friend Blubber."

"He... didn't get my purse," Aunt Hat announced, her teeth chattering.

"But he did get Gustie's," John Weston said grimly.

"Oh...," Francie seized the wallet and pin. "They are his, Pops."

John Weston's eyes were hard. "I'm going to see what's happened to that boy."

Francie was pulling on slacks over her pajamas.

ing his trumpet just before I went to sleep. I know the direction it came from."

They followed the highway, Mr. Weston searching in all directions with the long beam of his flashlight.

Francie clung to her father as they stumbled forward.

Francie threw herself at his side, sobbing. "Oh, Gustie, Gustie, it's all my fault. I'm so sorry. Please don't die."

Mr. Weston pulled her gently away. He bent, making a quick examination.

"Easy, dear, Gustie's not dead. He's just had a nasty blow. Take the flashlight and run back to camp. I'll need someone to help me carry him. Have the proprietor get a cabin ready and telephone for a doctor."

It was all done so quickly that Francie had no time to think.

A brisk young doctor arrived, examined Gustie and said with a grin, "Tough-skulled youngster. Except for a severe headache, he'll be okay in the morning."

Francie hurried into the cabin. Gustie's eyes were still closed, but he breathed evenly.

Mr. Weston entered and Francie turned tear-clouded eyes to him.

"I'm going to stay with him, Pops. He might waken and need me."

ALONE, Francie switched out all the lights except a small lamp by the bed.

As she did, she felt the weight of Gustie's wallet in her pocket.

Another thought struck her. She opened a side flap in the wallet. It was there! The precious ticket to the Pegasus-I. B. C. broadcast,

along with a hastily scribbled note of consent from Gustie's father.

At that moment Gustie's eyelids fluttered open. He gazed about the room, puzzled. Then he said "Gosh, what happened?"

Francie bent over him, imagining herself a lovely Florence Nightingale, candle in hand.

touched the wallet, drew back as if it were hot. She'd saved Gustie's money for him, and maybe his life.

With shaking hands, Francie fumbled with the wallet flap.

"Okay, I'm grateful," he fretted. "But what happened?"

"You socked him and got my money back? Say, that's good. But what'd you put me to bed for? I'd have been all right. These cabins cost dough."

Francie's heart felt numb, hurt. Blindly she struck back at him: "It's your own fault, Gustie Gair! If you'd listened to Pops..."

"That's right; rub it in," he growled. "Maybe I ain't got enough trouble, huh? I guess you never made a mistake!"

Francie started to hold him back, but it wasn't necessary. A wave of dizziness took all the fight out of Gustie.

Francie stood looking at him, now without tenderness. It was hopeless trying to be nice to Gustie.

Gustie's wallet lay on the dresser. Francie-like, Francie found herself drawn to it.

It wouldn't be stealing. She had as much right to it as Gustie. She

opened the door. "Are you all right, dear?" he asked.

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OUT OUR WAY

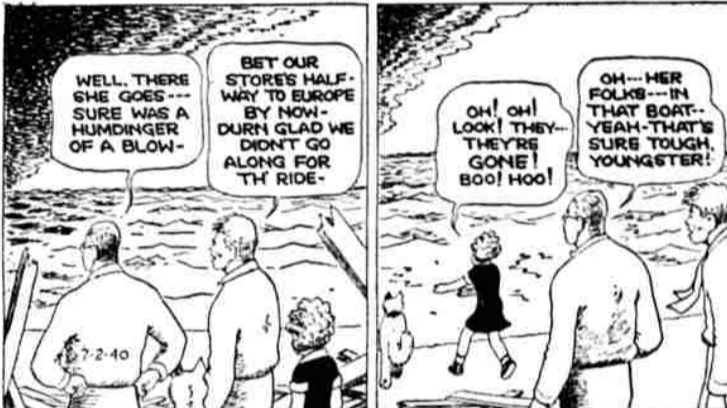
By J. R. WILLIAMS



RED RYDER



LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE



WASH TUBS



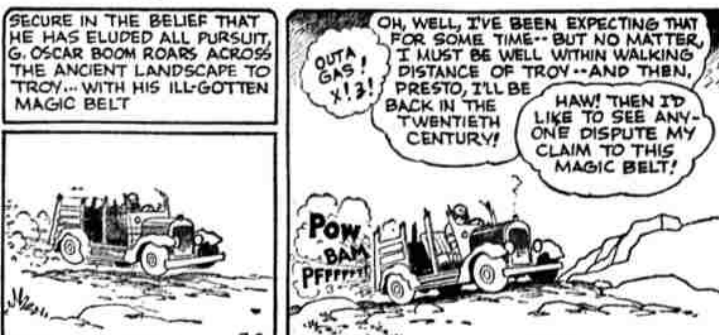
FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



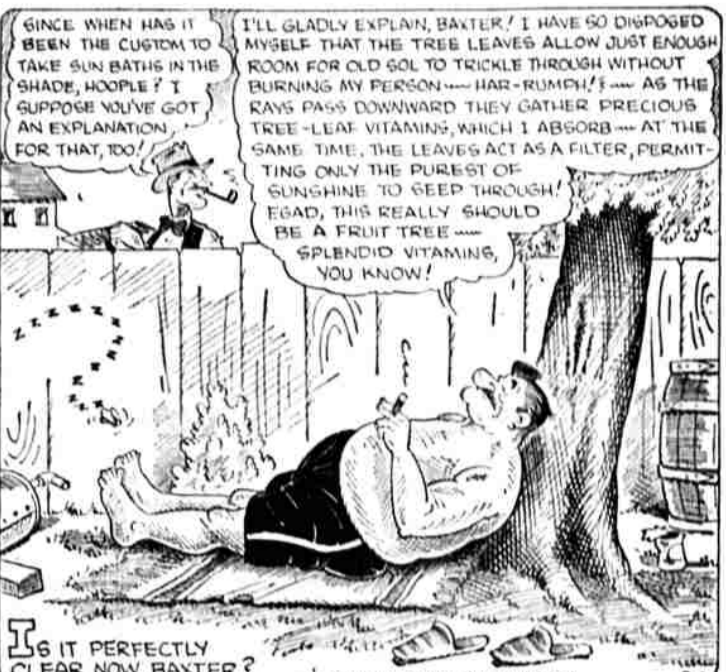
BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES



ALLEY OOP



OUR BOARDING HOUSE With MAJOR HOOPLE



BY FRED HARMAN



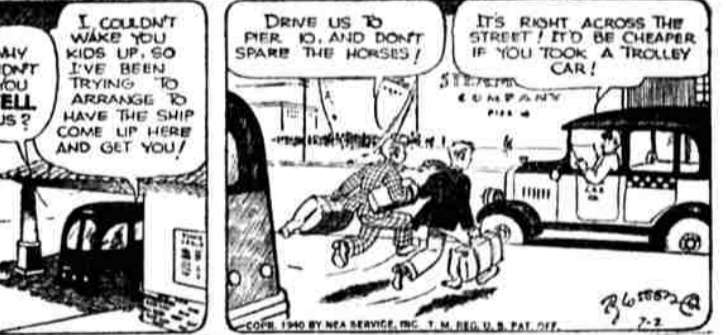
BY HAROLD GRAY



BY CRANE



BY BLOSSER



BY MARTIN

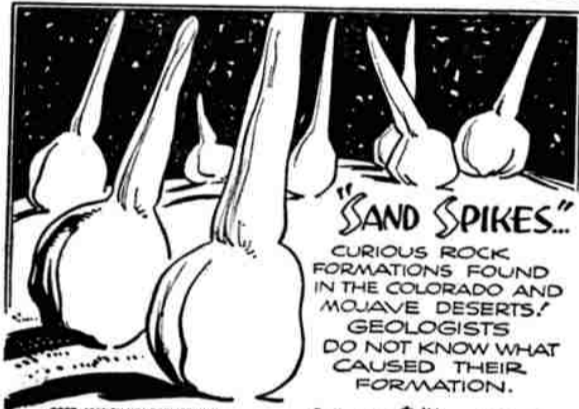


BY V. T. HAMLIN



THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



SAND SPIKES... CURIOUS ROCK FORMATIONS FOUND IN THE COLORADO AND MOUAVE DESERTS. GEOLOGISTS DO NOT KNOW WHAT CAUSED THEIR FORMATION.



NOT MORE THAN ONE-FIFTH OF THE WATER IN THE OCEAN HAS A TEMPERATURE EXCEEDING 40 DEGREES F

RIGHTERONG? THE DROMEDARY IS AN EXAMPLE OF A UNICAMERAL BODY.

ANSWER: Wrong. A unicameral body is an assembly consisting of a single chamber, . . . such as a certain type of legislative assembly.

LEAPING INSECT

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and answers.

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