

SERIAL STORY

LADY BY REQUEST

BY HELEN R. WOODWARD

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THE STORY: Pretty, impetuous Diana Tucker agrees to marry Stephen Curt for six months and \$10,000, even though she has just met him, for two reasons: Curt, who must marry before he is 35 or lose a \$200,000 inheritance, is in love with someone who is already married; Diana, having lost her law office job because she refused the advances of flirtatious Richard Thorpe, does not want to leave the exciting city, return to her home and her childhood sweetheart Bill Jackson. Ellen Curt, Stephen's stepmother, likes Diana greatly and adores Stephen. So they are married with handsome Phil Bruce as best man and Phil is obviously attracted to Diana that Stephen lightly warns her against him—until after they are divorced. Her temper flares. "I'll remember I'm being paid for this," she says fiercely.

much about life as the Curtis live it. I'm sure you must have been here a long time. I'm going to need a lot of help—and if you'll be on my side, I'm sure I'll get along."

Frieda opened her eyes widely and looked into the flushed, beautiful face. The news that the young master was bringing home a bride had excited the servants greatly, and Frieda knew that she was being envied this first intimate view of the new Mrs. Curt. But she had not expected such open overtures of friendship. She smiled delightedly and her hand-clasp was firm and reassuring. "You may count on me at any time, Mrs. Curt," she said, pleased and friendly.

"One up on Adela!" Diana was thinking triumphantly. "Frieda will tell me what to do." And the serving woman had been the first to call her by her new name, Mrs. Stephen Curt!

Now Frieda walked to the dressing table, took up a slender jeweler's box, handed it to Diana. "Mr. Stephen asked me to see you got this," she said, smiling. Diana's fingers lifted the clasp. A glittering diamond bracelet met her eyes and on Stephen's card was written, "From the very grateful groom on your wedding day." Stephen had forgotten flowers, but he had remembered in a more substantial way.

It was the most beautiful thing she had ever seen. Diana lifted it, her eyes filling with quick, appreciative tears. He'd wanted to do something kind, to make her feel his concern for her the mo-

ment she entered this room that was to be so intimately hers. Her heart lifted. She would make herself happy and gay and contented. She'd never let Stephen Curt regret his bargain. Which reminded her of Phil Bruce and Stephen's words concerning him. She found that she was still clasping the foolish little valentine bouquet, and opening one of the dresser drawers, she laid it very carefully inside. (To Be Continued)

Eleven years ago Mel Anderson of Glendale, Calif., built tiny motors as a hobby. Now he turns out thousands for model planes and cars. He has built 30,000 single-cylinder engines which go 7500 to 15,000 r.p.m.

Dave Bottrill of Montreal has patented a novel railway-mounted landing platform. As it buzzes along at 100 miles per hour, ultrafast planes may three-point on it easier than on "still" ground.

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ADELA IS RUDE

CHAPTER IX

THE Curt house was on fashionable Green street—a massive, ivy-hung stone mansion set in the midst of beautifully kept lawns. Diana knew that people who lived in Green street had lived there all their lives. No mushroom development, this, but a sturdy, steady growing with the town itself. Stephen Curt had never lived anywhere else. Seeing his home, Diana learned more in a moment about the man than had been possible in all their previous short acquaintance. She felt more of a stranger, an outsider, than ever before in her life. She thought of the simple dining-alighting room at the farm and of Stephen's easy acceptance of their ways. She'd be equally adaptable in his home. She resolved it fiercely.

Stephen introduced her to Larkin, the butler, just inside the great entrance hall. Larkin was old and dignified and looked at Stephen with adoration. He led them into the library where warmth from a log fire penetrated to the far corners of the big, book-lined room. As they crossed the hall Diana glimpsed the elegance of the drawing room—a white grand piano, a blue brocade sofa, soft, thick taupe carpeting, an Adam fireplace and glittering chandeliers.

A girl was standing by the fireplace in the library. A slender, intense-looking, dark-haired girl. As little like Stephen as could possibly be imagined. Yet he said, "Diana, I want you to meet my sister, Adela. She knows all about our—arrangement and she's very grateful to you for helping me out."

Diana held out her hand, felt the strong, claw-like grasp of the girl, looked into dark, hostile eyes, a resentful gypsy face. A thin, discontented face it was, with a petulant expression about the lips. Adela was dressed in the height of fashion, but with an appalling lack of taste, in clothes which did absolutely nothing for her vivid personality. Diana sensed that Stephen was a little nervous, that he was being very careful in giving Adela her cue as to how she was to accept her new sister-in-law. She saw white teeth flash in a cruel, red mouth. The voice was too sweet, too friendly.

"Welcome to the ancestral mansion," Adela said in her peculiar, high, mocking voice. "I do hope you'll be able to stick it—until you've earned your money!"

Stephen flushed darkly, angrily, but Diana said quickly, "I always try to be efficient in any of my jobs."

The eyes of the two girls flashed and, after a moment Adela's fell.

LATER Stephen led Diana to the great carved stairway where Frieda, who was to be her personal maid, waited to show her to her room. Stephen said, his hand on her arm, "Please don't mind Adela. She's young—and spoiled. She's had her own way so long."

"And may continue to have it for all of me," Diana said crisply, then felt sorry for him. She smiled briefly, "Don't worry about me. I'll get along. Remember, I have red hair."

He stood there watching until she disappeared with Frieda in the upper hallway.

"I'll have to be clever—to stand up to that girl," Diana was thinking. "She knows so much more than I do about this sort of life. She'll humiliate me if she can. She's taken a dislike to me. I must be very clever."

Frieda led her into a wide, beautiful room done in blue and silver. A matching bath could be seen through a connecting door. "This will be really nice for a few months," Diana thought, thrilled as any girl would be at so much beauty and luxury. The picture of the only two other rooms she had had came into mind—the cold upstairs room at the farm, and the bare little cubicle at her recent boarding house. She ran gratefully to the bright fire sparkling on the hearth.

After a moment she turned impulsively to Frieda, a middle-aged, kind-faced woman, and held out her hand. "Can't we be friends?" she asked in her quick, impulsive way. "I don't know

OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



OUR BOARDING HOUSE, with Major Hoopie



RED RYDER



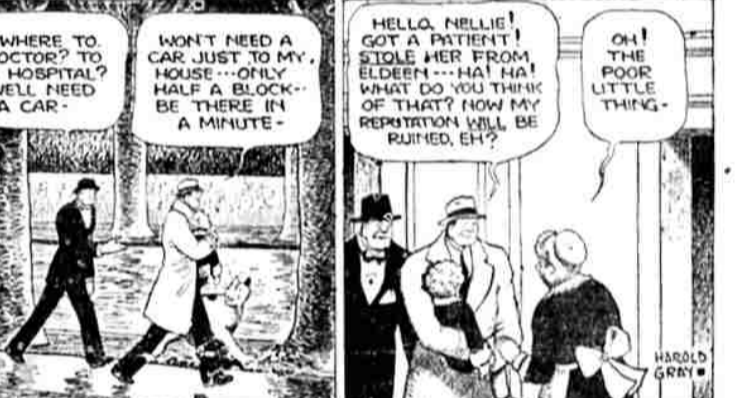
LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE



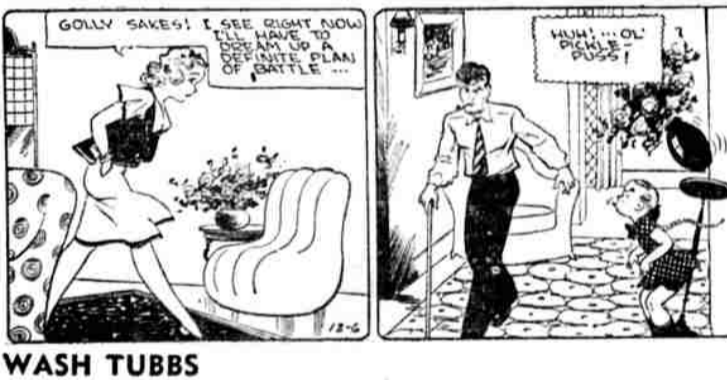
BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES



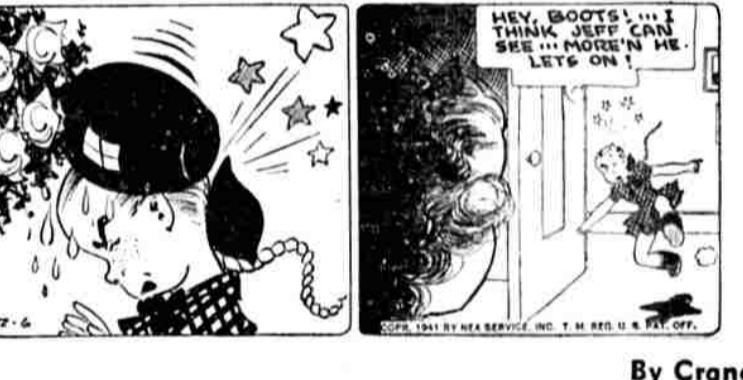
WASH TUBS



FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



ALLEY OOP



THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

The FIRST AMERICAN ZOO WAS IN CANADA, FOUNDED AT HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, BY ANDREW DOWNS. (1847)

IN CHINA, DEER ANTLERS ARE GROUND INTO POWDER AND MADE INTO LOVE POTIONS.

A DORY IS WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING: AN ANIMAL AN INHERITANCE A BOAT

ANSWER: A flat-bottom rowboat used by fishermen.

NEXT: Habits of swimming bears.

U. S. OFFICIAL

Answer to Previous Puzzle

HORIZONTAL

- 1,6 Pictured U. S. official.
- 12 Reiterate.
- 13 Vexed.
- 15 Comparative suffix.
- 16 Troop ship.
- 19 Railroad (abbr.).
- 20 Burmese wood spirit.
- 22 Worm.
- 23 Man's name.
- 24 River in Scotland.
- 25 Exhausts.
- 27 Rendered fat of swine (pl.).
- 29 Indian mulberry.
- 31 Engineering degree (abbr.).
- 32 Males.
- 33 North American rail.
- 35 Afternoon (abbr.).
- 36 Fresh-water fish.
- 38 Memorial.

VERTICAL

- 1 Caravansary.
- 2 Above.
- 3 Encountered.
- 4 Nostrils.
- 5 Greek letter (pl.).
- 7 God of love.
- 8 Pertaining to lore (zoo.).
- 9 Lighted.
- 10 Cloth measure.
- 11 Withered.
- 12 Leases.
- 14 Attire.
- 17 Nova Scotia (abbr.).
- 18 Male parent.
- 21 Tread under foot.
- 24 Feared in a great degree.
- 26 Fragrant oleoresin.
- 28 Eagle's nest.
- 30 Inquire.
- 34 Barter.
- 37 Literary composition.
- 39 Type of jacket (pl.).
- 40 Distinct.
- 41 Male progenitors.
- 42 West African baboon.
- 45 160 square rods.
- 46 Credit (abbr.).
- 47 And (Latin).
- 48 Girl.
- 51 Dry.
- 52 Affirmative vote.
- 55 From.
- 57 Tone E (music).

Crossword puzzle grid with a portrait of a man in the center.