

• SERIAL STORY

LUCKY PENNY

BY GLORIA KAYE

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THE STORY: Wealthy Penny Kirk has returned from Paris to Kirktown to learn something about the great steel mills she owns and the people who work in them. She gets a job as waitress, under the name of Penny Kellogg. A fight breaks out in the restaurant between a workman and the waiter, a gang of gamblers who prey on the mill workers. Later she meets Jim Vickers, local newspaper editor, whom she had met in Paris but who doesn't recognize her. On a ride he tells her the story of his life.

TROUBLE'S BREWING

CHAPTER V

JIM studied her upturned, eager face.

"Are you very tired, Penny?"

"Not a bit," said Penny, stretching the truth a little. "Why?"

"I'd like to show you something."

By now they were back in the center of Kirktown, bumping along down Central avenue. Jim steered into one of the side streets, shifted gears and climbed slowly up the hillside.

"All this is terrible," said Jim, waving his hand in the direction of the tumbledown shacks. "No one should have to live like that. It's criminal to herd people into such unhealthy holes."

At the top of the hill he stopped, inviting Penny to join him as he jumped out of the car.

"This street," he said, "is the only decent street in Kirktown. It's high enough so that the air is pure and the few business cool breezes make life pleasant up here."

"There's a plateau stretching back beyond the Kirk Memorial Building that's big enough to build at least 500 homes, enough to house everyone who lives in Kirktown now. There's a lot more room for expansion, too. I would tear down every one of the shacks along the lower hill. Make all that land a beautiful park, with a boulevard winding down through it to the edge of the mill."

Jim studied Penny's reaction. He was flushed with the excitement of his idea.

"A model town would pay for itself," he said. "I know it sounds revolutionary. But the councilmen and the mayor and the few businessmen with sense in this town think it's impossible. They laugh at me."

"Wonderful!" enthused Penny. "Some day, Penny, I'll show them. I have an idea." He paused, searching for words.

"Do you see that house hidden up there in the trees?" Penny followed the direction of his finger, pointed at her home, the Kirk estate.

"That's where John Kirk lived," she heard him say. "I have a hunch Penelope Kirk will come back there, eventually. Then I'll get my chance to tell her a few things. I'm going to tell her, Penny. Even if I have to go back to Europe and kidnap her."

She started to say, "I'll help you, Jim." Then she clamped her hand over her mouth as if to hold the words in. He studied her, curiously.

HE was so full of his crusade for a better Kirktown that he didn't notice Penny's embarrassment.

"You're the first one who hasn't laughed at the idea," he said. "But it's just a dream that sounds good. What could you or I, or anyone else do to make it come true?"

"You'd be surprised," Penny said, finding new courage. Jim Vickers, though he didn't know it, had won a powerful ally for his reconstruction program.

If Jim could have understood the determination in her chin, and the resolution in her eyes, he might have wondered just what was running through Penny's mind. In the gathering darkness, he noticed only that she had a lovely profile.

"Hop in," said Jim, "I'll take you home."

"Thanks," Penny said. "You've made my first day in Kirktown a real pleasure."

"It's only the beginning," he told her. "I'm going to make it my business to see that every day is pleasant."

The week that followed was an illuminating one for Penny. She was glad, now, that no publicity had attended her return from distant shores. For a little while, at least, she preferred to remain unnoticed.

With increasing frequency, Penny observed, the men who came to Pietro's huddled together in serious conversation. She studied their set faces.

"Midge," she asked one day, "is something wrong? Have you noticed the strained way the men are acting?"

"Yes, Penny," was the quiet reply. "I've noticed a lot of things in the last few weeks. There's trouble brewing at the mill."

"Trouble?" Penny asked, bewilderedly.

Before Penny could make further inquiries, Midge had lost interest in the conversation. Over Penny's shoulder she grinned the big smile she reserved only for Bud Walsh.

"Bud," Midge called, "what brings you here so soon?" In her eagerness to reach him, she dropped her towel, and saved herself from tripping only by a miracle of acrobatic balancing.

"Howdy, Midge. Hello, Penny." Bud answered, with a shy wave of his hand. He was tall, husky, handsome. His hands were the tough hands of a steel man accustomed to hard work. He had the quiet power that characterized so many of the workers Penny had met.

PENNY waited until Midge was called away. Then she asked, nonchalantly, "What's new at the mill?"

"Nothing much," Bud answered. "It's always the same."

Midge. In her mind a bold plan was forming. She would need help—Jim Vickers' help—to execute it. Trouble at the Kirk mills meant trouble for Penny. She wanted to strike at its source. (To Be Continued)

HOW IT ORIGINATED

The word "tonnage," which is used in referring to the cubical content, burden, or capacity of a ship, originated as "tunnage" and was used to designate the tuns, or casks of wine the ship could carry.

OUNCE OF PREVENTION
Allegheny county citizens, near Pittsburgh, Pa., once considered the planting of poison ivy on the hillside along the scenic Ohio river boulevard in order to prevent sign painters from spoiling rocks and trees.

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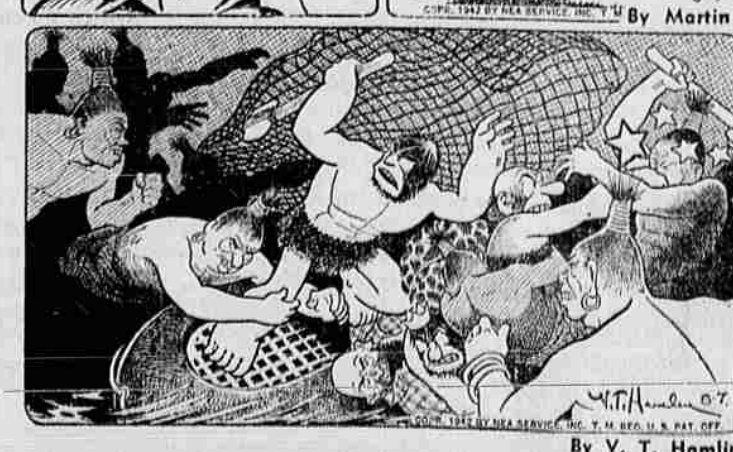
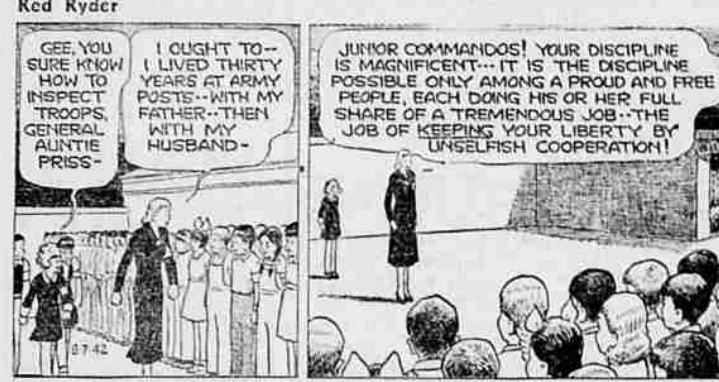
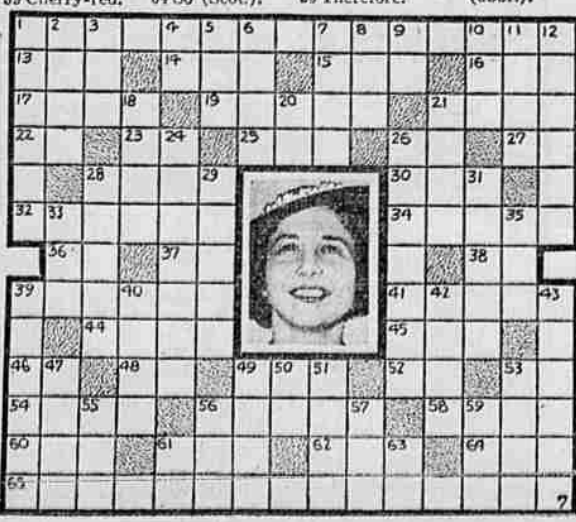
THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



TENNIS STAR

HORIZONTAL											
1 Pictured famous tennis star, —	13 Exist.	14 Bout paddle.	15 Age.	16 Trouble.	17 Decays.	18 Pertaining to the nose.	21 Greek letter.	22 Doctor of Science (abbr.).	23 Military police (abbr.).	25 Incline head.	26 Electrical engineer (abbr.).
27 Symbol for erbium.	28 Swell of sea.	30 Gain.	32 Amount of rent.	34 Snare.	36 International language.	37 Mythological maiden.	38 Barium (symbol).	39 Cherry-red.	41 Moves by turning.	44 Pedal digit.	45 First woman (abbr.).
46 Alleged force.	48 Nova Scotia (abbr.).	49 Menagerie.	52 Deposit account (abbr.).	53 Jumbled type.	54 Courtesy titles.	56 Statements.	58 Quiet.	60 Australian bird.	61 Metal.	62 Drag.	64 So (Scot.).
VERTICAL											
1 More difficult.	2 God of love.	3 Permit.	4 Negative.	5 Pale.	6 Persia.	7 Conduct.	8 Sun.	9 Manganese (symbol).	10 Be indebted.	11 Love to excess.	12 Long.
13 Smoke stain.	14 Therefore.	15 Ten-cent piece.	16 Metal.	17 Oleum (abbr.).	18 Wide-mouthed jar.	19 Program.	20 Speed.	21 Twice.	22 Total.	23 United Service Organizations (abbr.).	24 Graduate in (abbr.).



By V. T. Hamlin