

**ONE THING
And
THEN ANOTHER**
By Fred Gipson

CORPUS CHRISTI.—My next door neighbor who sits on an apple box in the back yard of his home here was sitting on his apple box and watching his quackless black Belgium ducks pick grass in the shade of a fig tree when I rolled into town.

That's what he was doing when I left here three weeks ago.



I've quit wondering what my neighbor thinks about as he sits all day long on his apple box and watches his ducks pick grass. I now wonder what the ducks think about.

My neighbor was mighty glad to see me come back, he said. He had some problems that needed discussing and I guess he'd not found his ducks very communicative.

For one thing, he was bothered about the rain that had been falling for the last couple of days. Not only had it kept him in the house and off his apple box, but he was troubled about what the rain might do to the cotton crops around.

Just because a man has no cotton is no sign he's not qualified to worry about it.

"Rain'll rot the cotton, won't it?" my neighbor wanted to know. "And some people say it'll bring flea hoppers and leaf worms and things like that. Be mighty bad if it does."

"Still," he mused, "there's already too much cotton. Government's having to store it. . . . Funny thing, too. People raise

too much cotton. Government tries to handle it for them. And they all raise a howl."

"People," I said, "are just born to howl. They come into this word howling. They go out the same way. Government can't keep the people from howling."

He agreed I was on the right track there.

From that, we went to huddle about these relievers that went on a strike the other day. We agreed that was about the damdest thing we'd heard of yet. A relief strike! We couldn't quite get that. And it was our opinion that while the strike was on was a mighty good time for the government to cut off relief altogether. Just whack it off like a chicken's head and then say to the relievers: "Now strike, and see what it gets you!" That's how we'd handle the situation.

But we agreed that there were too many relief officials dipping their big spoons into the relief gravy for any thing like that ever to happen.

We compared the Tea Pot Dome scandal of some years back to the mess they've uncovered in Louisiana and came to the conclusion that the world's really progressing. The scandals get bigger and better all the time. Put the Tea Pot Dome scandal up beside the Louisiana scandal, and it would

look like steam from a kettle rising beside the fumes and smoke from a volcano.

We were pretty certain there are plenty more political scandals that could be uncovered if somebody just had the nerve and initiative to lift the right lids.

We sat and wondered awhile about what this world is coming to anyway and decided it was to no good end.

Then we sat and decided that what this country needs is more people who will get up and work and make their own livings and quit expecting the government to make it for them—and do less talking.

Then we just sat awhile and watched the black and quackless Belgium ducks picking grass under the fig tree. The ducks never did over their opinion on matters pertaining to government and people.

I guess, to a duck, it doesn't make a whole lot of difference what this world's coming to, anyhow.

Peter Matcher and David Miller of Culpepper, Va., who have each lost a different leg and wear the same size shoe, buy their footwear jointly so that one pair of shoes does for both.

The darned thing went cock-a-doodle-doo' every morning when I

was sleeping," pleaded James Murray of Alton, Ill, when sued for killing a neighbor's rooster.

After carrying a piece of pipe stem in his throat for two years without knowing it, Samuel Carlsson of Fotala, Sweden, ejected it during a violent coughing spell.

Calmly smoking a cigar, James Colazzo was found by Cleveland police lying beside the railroad tracks after he had been hit by a train.

Shuffling along a parkway near Hartsdale, N. Y, Charles Kane, who was job hunting, stumbled on a valise containing jewels valued at \$25,000.

The mystery of the missing golf balls on the Tacinic Club fairways at Pittsfield, Mass., was solved

when a Jersey cow was butchered and 29 golf balls were found in her stomach.

William Diley, seven feet tall, jailed for a traffic law violation in Los Angeles, had to sleep in the corridor as he was to large for a cell.

A bill asking \$5,000 for digging

a grave was ruled a little high" by a county judge in Sterling, Ill, who allowed the grave digger \$5 against the estate of the deceased.

On the grounds that a fall prevented her from dancing, skating and other sports, Mrs. Isabelle Hamilton, 72, of White Plains, N. R., sued the New York Central railroad for \$35,000.

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the City Council of the City of Eldorado, Texas, on the 2nd day of August, 1939, at 8 p. m. o'clock, at the office of the City Secretary in the City of Eldorado, Texas, on the following described fire engine and equipment:

One triple combination pumper, booster tank and hose truck including 1300 feet of fire hose, all in accordance with the specifications now on file in the office of the City Secretary, Eldorado, Texas, and other fire fighting equipment described in said specifications.

If purchase is made pursuant to said bids, the City of Eldorado will issue time warrants for the payment of all or a part of such purchase price, such time warrants to be issued in the maximum amount of not exceeding \$6,000.00, bearing interest at the rate of not to exceed 6 percent per annum and having a maximum maturity date not to exceed ten years from the date of said warrants.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

This notice is given in accordance with law pursuant to a resolution duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Eldorado, Texas.

Leslie L. Baker, Mayor, City of Eldorado, Texas

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