

THE REPORTER-TELEGRAM

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How Fares Our Defense Efforts?

Six months ago the American people came to a great decision. Reversing every historical precedent, they decided that they must build great military strength though they were at peace with all the world.

They have not changed that decision. There are differences of opinion as to how we may be forced to use our strength—none as to building it.

How fares the effort after six months? The political campaign being over, we can look at ourselves in the mirror without distortion and ask "How're we doin'?"

We believe progress has been such that no American need be ashamed. Most of the disappointments with the defense effort have come to those who expected miracles. Those who appreciated the task and faced it realistically are not discouraged, not displeased. By next June, roughly a year after the intensive preparedness drive began, the United States will be able to show military strength with which no power in the world will be inclined to trifle.

That is not to say that we will then have the greatest existing military establishment. We won't. A machine such as Germany took 10 years to build, sacrificing butter for guns, cannot be built in six months, or a year. It takes time.

Considering that it takes at least 100 days to build a modern cantonment, the progress of building in the camps, which started only last September, ranges from satisfactory to remarkable.

Housing, clothing, and elementary weapons are ready for the large influx of men to come after the first of the year. Heavier and more complex weapons are not yet on hand in quantity. Instructors for the men are being rapidly trained.

Training is practical and intensive. Discipline seems good without being repressive. Morale of the men is excellent; officers are better qualified than in 1917.

Industrial leaders believe that American industry is producing all that could be expected as fast as any realistic person could desire. They express the utmost confidence that production of war materials, once started on a quantity basis, will "surprise ourselves," as Chairman A. W. Robertson of Westinghouse put it. With a very few exceptions the co-operation of labor and management in defense work has been freely offered.

Naval building is proceeding. Admiral Sterling says, "as fast as anyone who knows shipbuilding could expect," though new yards must be built to expand capacity.

In short, in the preparedness effort, there is room neither for complacency nor for despair.

But we must not relax for a moment. The pace is faster. It must continue in rising tempo until we wield such force that American policy may be determined not by what others do, but by what we as Americans decide is right for us to do.

After the War--

The United States is in the peculiar position that, although it is not in the European war, it has been forced to adopt a "defense economy," and will be faced with all the problems of deflation of that economy when the emergency ends, even if it succeeds in keeping out.

The fact that our viewpoint is not yet clouded by active belligerency makes it possible to give attention to that eventual shift back to peace economy which must come some time. Hence the suggestion is especially valuable that has been placed before the American Society of Mechanical Engineers by William L. Batt, former president. Batt wants a board set up right now to plan how industries expanded beyond normal may be geared to produce a better living in time of peace.

We know, as well as we know anything, that such a problem will come. If anything could be more sensible than to set about solving it as far as possible in advance, we don't know what it would be.

Refuting An Axis Lie

Pope Pius XII recently delivered a sermon which certain Italo-Germans Axis papers at once tendentiously interpreted and twisted as a sign that the head of the Roman Catholic church shared the Axis viewpoint on vital matters.

Now the Pope—unlike political statesmen—cannot rush into the arena and refuse every misrepresentation of what he said and what he meant.

The Vatican newspaper, Osservatore Romano, has clarified the issue, however, by stressing that the Pope in his allocution merely reaffirmed in general terms the five points he expounded last Christmas: independence for all nations, great and small; disarmament; international institutions freed of past deficiencies; satisfaction for just demands of nations; and restoration of divine justice, in keeping with Christian ideals.

When Hitler and Mussolini observe these five points there will be some chance for lasting peace in a stricken world.

The Don't-Do-Anything-That-Might-Offend-Hitler Club



530-Pound Showman Registers For Draft

The U. S. Army and selective service are no respecters of persons or size. Consider the case of L. H. "Tiny" Kistler, who stayed all night in Midland, enroute to El Paso. Kistler, who will appear at the World's Fair Museum at El Paso, is 35 feet tall and weighs 530 pounds; is six feet tall and 76 inches around the waist.

He was required to register for the draft. Kistler stayed here overnight at East Midland Tourist Camp, operated by J. E. Feeler.

Day's Trouble Four-Fold

SANTA CRUZ, Cal. (UP)—Ray Baker, carpenter, reported to the police his list of troubles, in chronological order, for one day as follows: Automobile accident; house burned down imperiling himself and his six children; burglars entered garage and stole fishing tackle; burglars then amused themselves by shooting out all the windows.

Schools Distribute Fruit To Students

Under sponsorship of the government's surplus commodities program, Midland public schools are distributing fresh fruits to students.

Since the beginning of the program, several hundred pieces of fruit have been given daily, officials said.

Fruit is distributed at lunchtime. Apples and pears provide the fare. Citrus fruits will be given later. Fresh fruit distribution is similar to a hot lunch program used by many schools.

Action Swift As Love Fades

PUEBLO, Colo. (UP)—Unusual was a race between W. I. Wighton and the girl he had married two months earlier. He beat her to the courthouse and filed suit for annulment only a few minutes before she filed a divorce suit.

Bankers May Assist Industry In Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 11 (AP)—A project for industrial development of Mexico involving an initial outlay of as much as \$100,000,000 has been formulated by a group of United States bankers, it was reported last night by John A. Hastings, former New York State Senator.

Hastings, speaking as the bankers' representative, said the plan still was in the "embryonic" stage. He emphasized that no agreements had been reached with the Mexican government but added that conferences with government officials in recent weeks gave him "reason to believe" the plan would go through. Mexicans saw as fields for investment by United States interest principally mining enterprises and plants for the assembly of agricultural and other mechanical equipment manufactured in the United States.

CLASSIFIEDS—SMALL COST—BIG RESULTS

England's Blinded Stumble At Estate But Keep Chins Up

By Drew Middleton

LONDON, Dec. 11 (AP)—Along the walks of Long Meadow, beautiful estate of a blinded veteran of the Boer war, a shuffling, sometimes stumbling procession of men and women winds each day.

They are a new class of blind created by a new war using the new methods of bombing large cities from the air. They are civilians suffering a disablement once almost exclusively the risk of a front line soldier in wartime.

Britain's National Institute for the Blind is training them to resume their place in society, places from which they literally were "bombed out."

Of 28 men and women at Long Meadow, at Goring on the placid Thames, all earned their living before being blinded; all but three were married, had homes and a variety of interests.

As soon as they left the hospitals they came to Long Meadow and under the tutelage of its owner, 76-year-old Captain Sir Beachcroft Towse, blinded himself by a bullet in the Boer war, they began to learn again to walk, to eat and to dress.

Blinded children are sent to one of three "sunshine homes" to learn to live in darkness.

When the first bitterness passes in patients and they become more sociable, blind assistants help them plan their lives anew.

All the men invariably want work. They are sent to industrial and commercial schools and, once trained, are assigned to work in a factory or office in company with other sightless employees.

Usually the women turn to stenography, or re-learn the household tasks they knew in a brighter day. There was a girl of five just out of the hospital who was being trained in manual dexterity. She laughed merrily when the teacher told her she had fit pieces of wood into correct spaces of a board.

If she fell while running about the garden she never whimpered and she seemed to enjoy being told about sunshine.

But the drone of a far off plane set her to crying.

SIX BOYS ELIGIBLE FOR DRAFT, BUT ONE STAYS

TEMPLE, Dec. 11 (AP)—John and Olga Coufal, both 51, of Seaton, have 12 children. Six of them are boys.

All six registered in the draft. All six are in Class 1-A.

But today the draft board granted Mr. Coufal's request to let Robert, 29, remain at home to help with the farm work. The others will be inducted within the year, the board indicated.

In the Middle Ages, Italy was the greatest resort for students desiring higher education.

Movies Outlaw Wire Used For Horse Spill Scenes

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 11 (AP)—The Running-W, a wire device which trips movie horses for thrill scenes, has been officially outlawed by the movies, although it has not been widely used for years.

Richard C. Craven, western director for the American Humane Association, reported today that the movie producers, through the Hays office, recently adopted a resolution abolishing use of the running-W, or any similar mechanical tripper, as a result of the campaign to eliminate animal cruelty in pictures.

The running-W is an airplane wire invisible to the camera.

The ivy-leaved duckweed weaves itself into a latticework pattern.

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And Maybe You, Too, Will Feel Like "Happy Days Are Here Again"

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 ♥ 7
 ♦ A K 8 4
 ♣ J 10 6 3 2

642
 ♥ 9 5 4
 ♦ 10 7 5 3 2
 ♣ Q 8

Dealer

Dr. Mark
 ♠ 10 8 7 3
 ♥ A 8 3 2
 ♦ 6
 ♣ A K 5

Duplicate—None vul.

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♣	Pass
2 N. T.	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 N. T.	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	6 ♣	Pass

Opening—♥ K. 11

By Wm. E. McKenney
America's Card Authority.

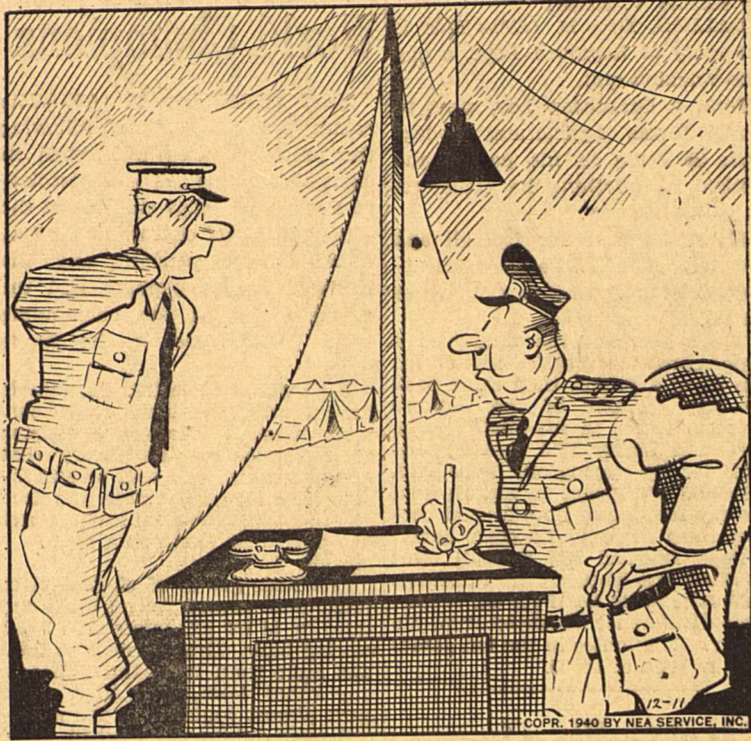
From Indianapolis we drove to Columbus, O., and I had the pleasure of playing with Dr. Louis Mark in a duplicate game conducted by W. A. Klunk, who manages the East End Duplicate Club in Columbus.

The American Contract Bridge League has a splendid unit in Columbus, and their committee wanted to know if the League would consider an invitation from Columbus for the 1941 National Championships Tournament. After seeing the great interest in duplicate bridge among the various clubs in Columbus and the caliber of bridge players there, I was pleased to accept their invitation for presentation to the League's executive committee.

Dr. Mark has been a member of the board of governors of the league for a number of years. I have played against him on numerous occasions, but this was my first opportunity to play with him as partner, and I was gratified when we won top score. One of the hands that helped us win was this interesting slam contract. The doctor handled it in splendid shape in order to make the difficult contract I had put him into.

He won the opening lead with the heart ace, cashed the two top clubs, then led a diamond to cash dummy's top. On the second diamond South let go his small club. Now a trump was led from dummy and West made a good play by holding off. Seeing this danger, the doctor led the jack of clubs from dummy, which East was forced to ruff. South over-ruffed and led a second trump, dropping the last two adverse trumps together.

Note that the contract could have been lost, had Dr. Mark led a second trump after holding the first round. West would win and lead a heart, knocking out the third trump in dummy and killing the club suit, as East would still have one trump. Nor could declarer save his small club after dropping East's queen, since then East would get a club ruff when West got in with the ace of trumps.



"Could I start my 10 days in the guard house now, Captain? I'm going to be A. W. O. L. on the 25th."

Side Glances



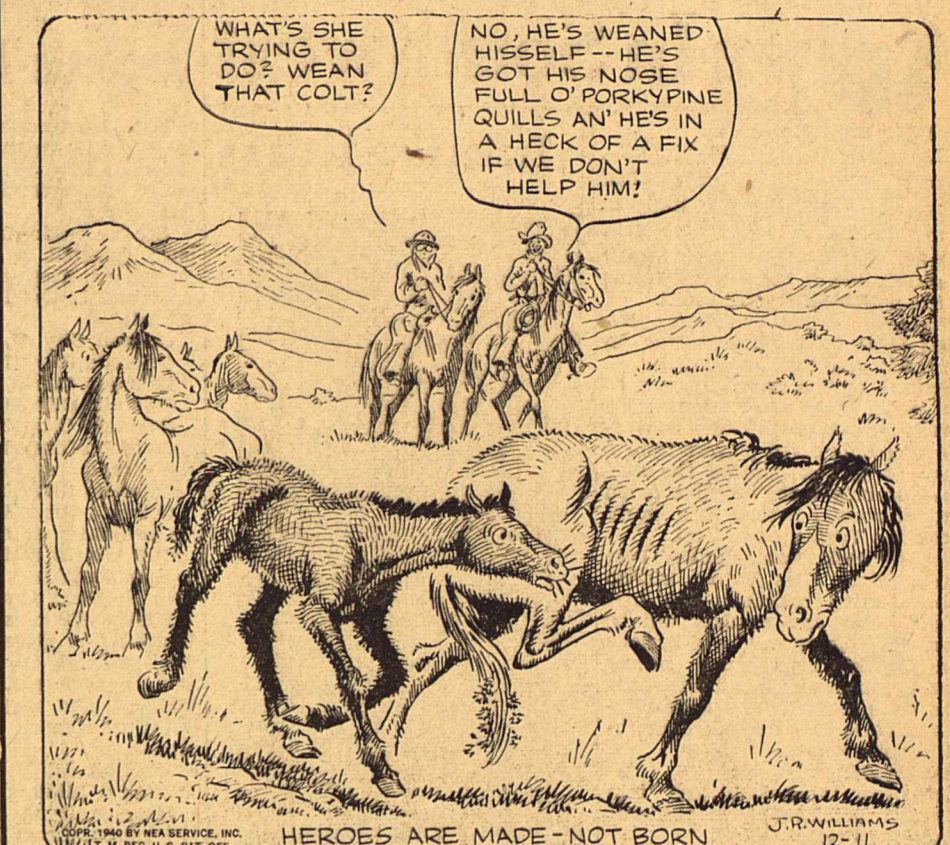
"I asked him about your raise, but he said you were playing Santa Claus, not he."

OUR BOARDING HOUSE with MAJOR HOOPLE



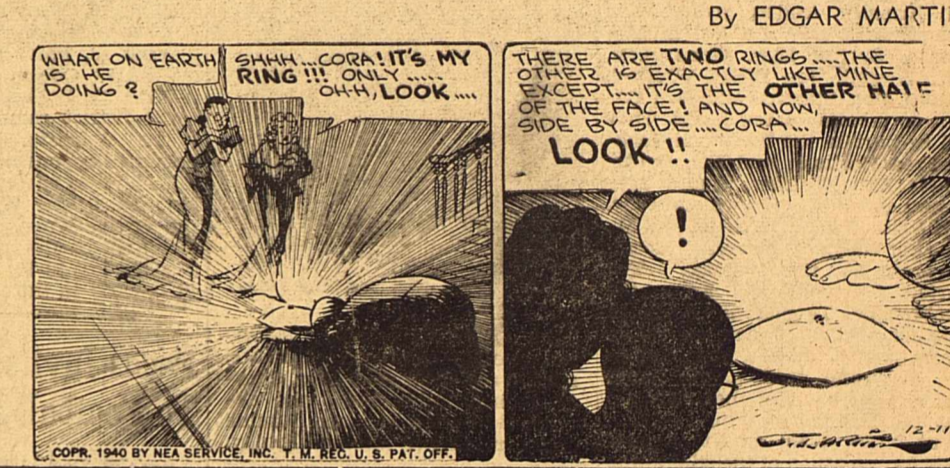
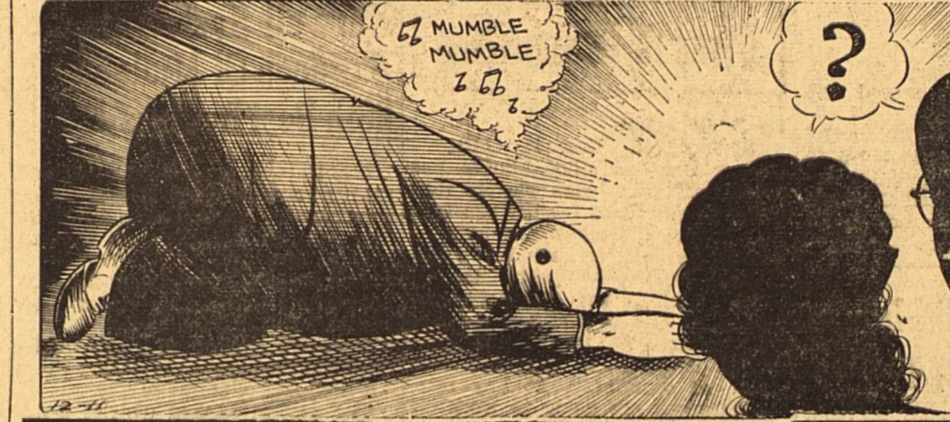
LEANDER IS NO HELP AT ALL IN A SICK ROOM

OUT OUR WAY

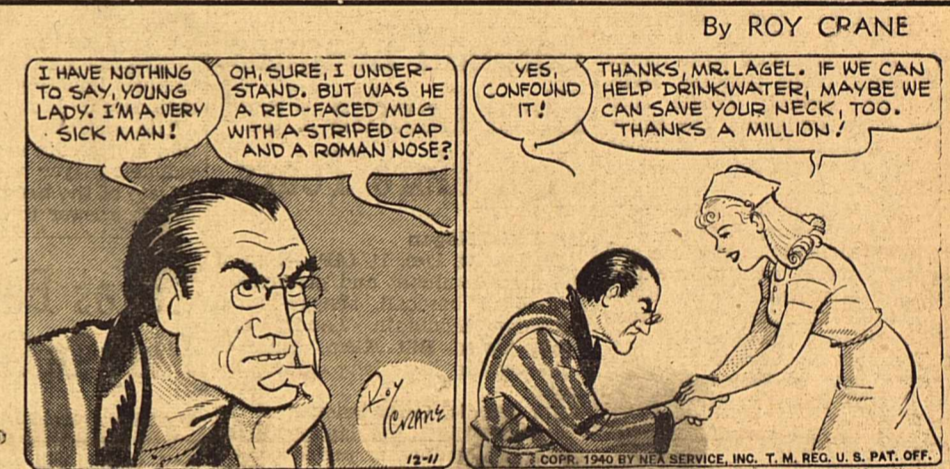
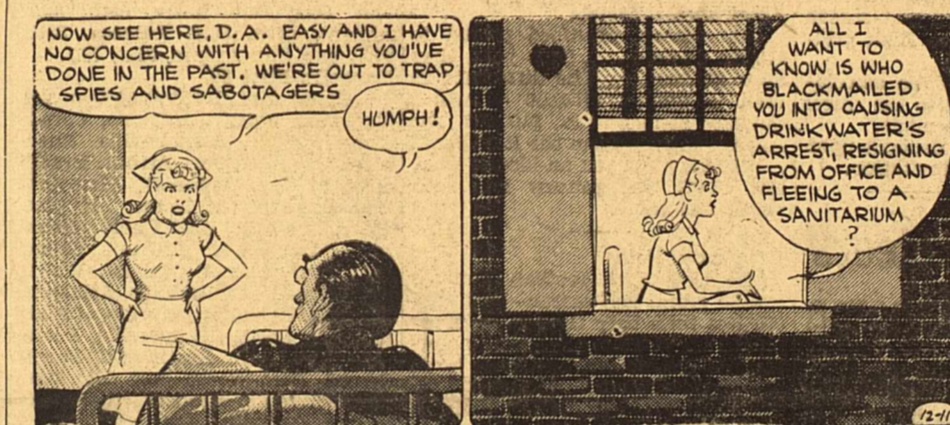


HEROES ARE MADE - NOT BORN

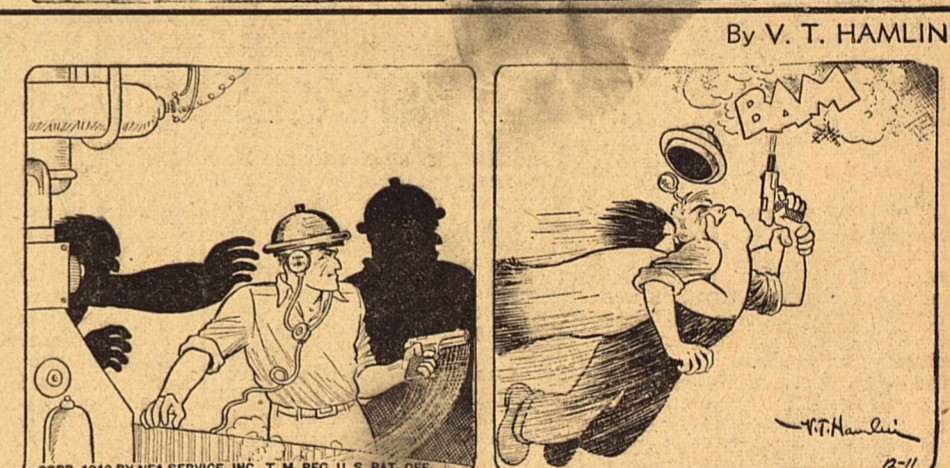
BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES



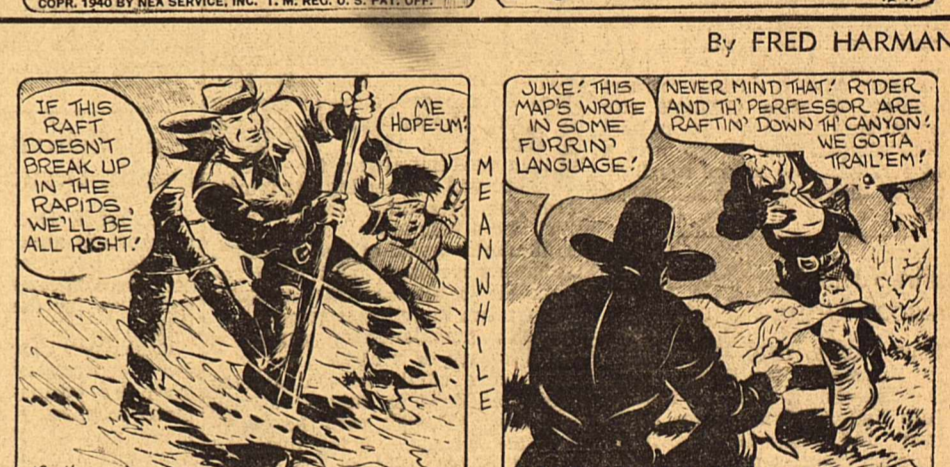
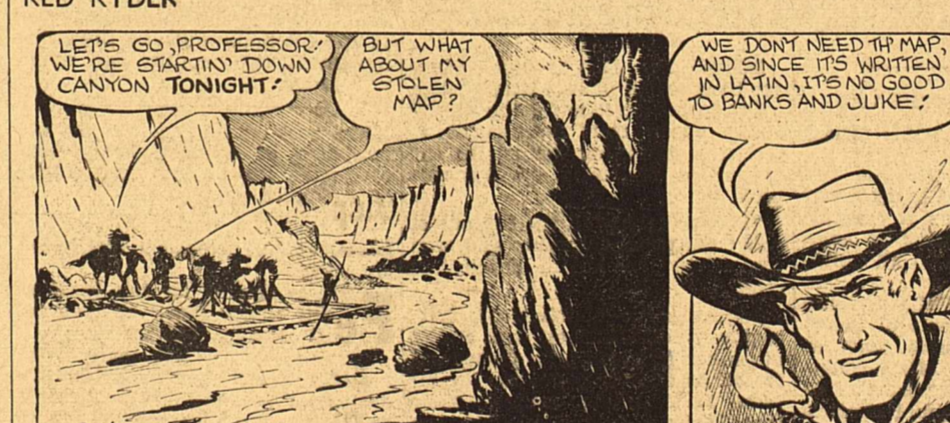
WASH TUBS



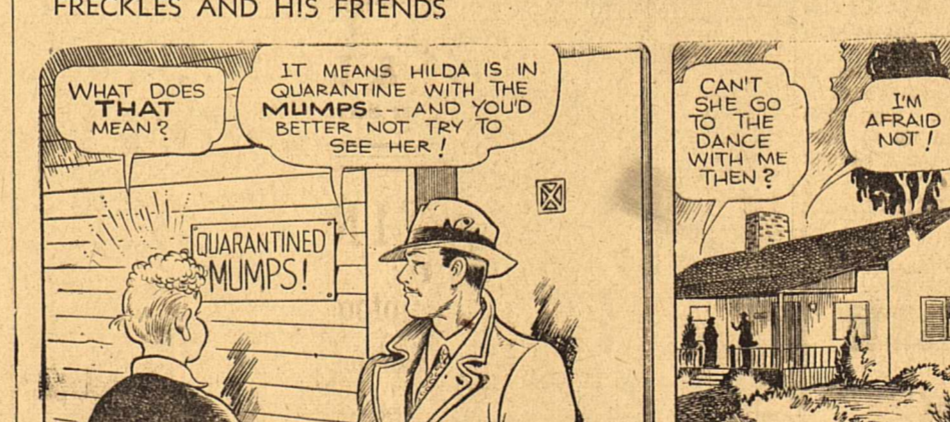
ALLEY OOP



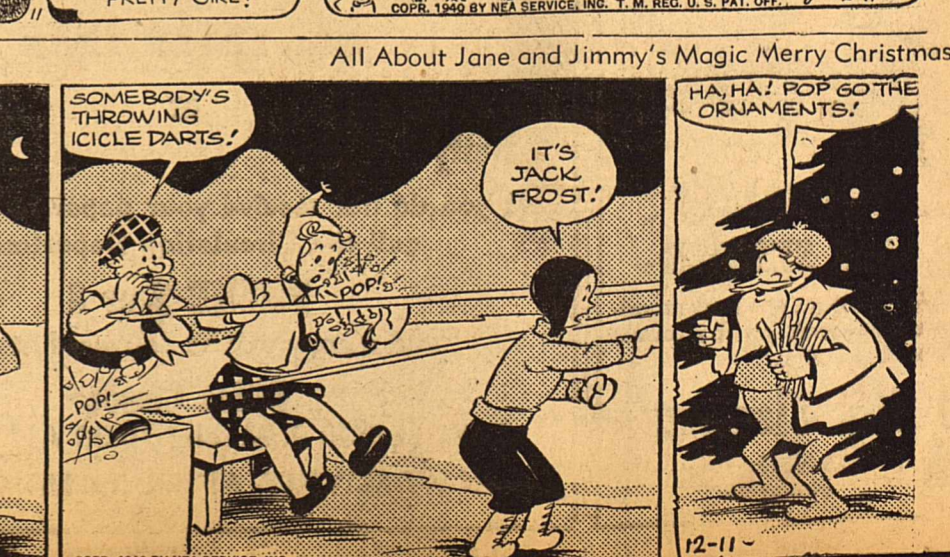
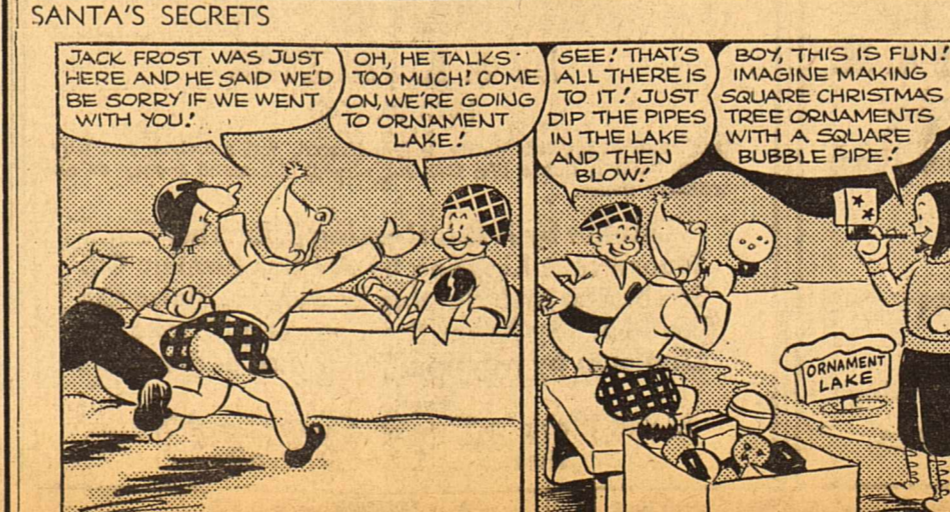
RED RYDER



FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



SANTA'S SECRETS



THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

MOUNT RAINIER HAS MORE THAN FORTY SQUARE MILES OF GLACIERS.

THE DEPOSIT OF HOAR FROST ON FOLIAGE DOES NOT ALWAYS CAUSE DAMAGE! AT TIMES IT ACTUALLY ACTS AS A PROTECTION.

WHY ARE CATS FREQUENTLY CALLED 'FELIX'?

ANSWER: Because of their scientific family name, "Felidae." The common house cat is known as felis domestica.

NEXT: From what are horns and claws formed?

KRLH PROGRAMS

- TODAY
- 6:00—Fulton Lewis, Jr., MBS
 - 6:15—Here's the News, TSN
 - 6:30—Sport Spotlight, MBS
 - 6:45—News, TSN
 - 7:00—Roger Bushfield, TSN
 - 7:15—Hymns at Twilight, TSN
 - 7:30—To be Announced
 - 7:45—Jimmy Dorsey and His Orchestra, MBS
 - 8:00—Songs of Billy Davis, TSN
 - 8:15—Griff Williams' Orch., MBS
 - 8:30—The Five Tunes of the Week, TSN
 - 9:00—Raymond Gram Swing, MBS
 - 9:15—Selective Guy, TSN
 - 9:30—From London, MBS
 - 9:45—The Lone Ranger, MBS
 - 10:00—News, TSN
 - 10:15—Adventures in Rhythm, MBS
- TOMORROW
- 6:45—Morning Tunes
 - 7:30—News, TSN
 - 7:45—Desert Drifters, TSN
 - 8:00—News, TSN
 - 8:05—Piano Moods, TSN
 - 8:15—Rhythm Wranglers TSN
 - 8:30—Keep Fit to Music, MBS
 - 8:45—What's Doing Around Midland
 - 9:00—Organ Melodies, TSN
 - 9:15—Morning Melody, TSN
 - 9:30—Backstage Wife TSN
 - 9:45—Easy Aces TSN
 - 10:00—Neighbors, TSN
 - 10:15—Our Gal Sunday TSN
 - 10:30—Songs of Carol Leighton, TSN
 - 10:45—Sweetest Dreams Ever Sung, TSN
 - 11:00—News, TSN
 - 11:05—Conservation of vision, KBST
 - 11:12—Finky Tunes, TSN
 - 11:30—Eleven Thirty, Inc., TSN
 - 11:45—Man on the Street
 - 12:00—News & Market Reports TSN
 - 12:15—Singin' Sam
 - 12:30—Noon Time Tunes
 - 12:45—Jack Frost's Orch., TSN
 - 1:00—Cedric Foster, MBS
 - 1:15—Mark Love and Piano, MBS
 - 1:30—Afternoon Concerts
 - 1:45—Sterling Young's Orch., TSN
 - 2:00—Johnny Duffy, Organist, TSN
 - 2:15—Songs Treasury, MBS
 - 2:30—Woman World Wide, MBS
 - 2:45—Here's Looking At You, MBS
 - 3:00—News & Market Reports, TSN
 - 3:15—Recorded Romances, TSN
 - 3:30—Radio Gossip Club, MBS
 - 3:45—The Johnson Family, MBS
 - 4:00—National Defense Series, TSN
 - 4:15—Crime & Death, TSN
 - 4:30—Book Review, TSN
 - 4:45—Virginia Nelson, Pianist
 - 5:00—AP News Bulletin, MBS
 - 5:05—Paul Pendarvis' Orch., MBS
 - 5:15—Campus Notes, MBS
 - 5:30—Sunset Reveries, TSN
 - 5:45—American Family Robinson

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