

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. What is the income for the fur industry? W. T. F.
 A. The board of trade of the fur industry of the United States estimates the annual turnover in the fur business at \$400,000,000.

Q. What are some of the uses of excelsior and where did it originate? A. C. B.
 A. The forest service says that excelsior has been manufactured in the United States more than fifty years. The name of the United States excelsior in America, and the first machine was made here. Later the produce and the method of manufacture were greatly improved by Europeans and today in France we find excelsior used for a great variety of purposes. They not only use it for packing, mattresses, and upholstery, but also as a substitute for absorbent lint used in surgery, for filtration purposes, and to a limited extent for woven floor coverings. In the United States excelsior is used for packing glass, earthenware, and many other commodities. It is also employed in mattress making, upholstery, including furniture, upholstering, and kennel and stable bedding, for decorative purposes in shop windows, and for stuffing dolls, and toy animals.

Q. What is the minimum age for employment in the special delivery section of the United States post office department? G. T.
 A. Twenty-one years is the minimum age.

Q. How long did Robert Frost write before he became famous? D. D. B.
 A. The American poet, Robert Frost, wrote for twenty years before his work became known. "A Boy's Will" first published in England in 1913 was the first work really to attract attention.

Q. How can electric lights be colored and the color afterwards removed? H. C. E.
 A. If it is desired to color the bulbs temporarily they may be coated with collodion in which aniline dye has been dissolved. Such coloring soon fades and peels off and is therefore more readily removed.

Q. What time is it in Mexico City when it is noon in New York? C. S. A.
 A. It is eleven o'clock in Mexico City by standard time as it is in the central time division.

Q. When two bodies come in contact, as a bird flying against a building, is the building jarred in a small degree? E. J. S.
 A. Yes. The kinetic energy is absorbed by the building, and if this were free to move it would do so until stopped.

Q. What percentage of the boys between 20 and 24 are in college? L. R. N.
 A. Out of 3,594,834 men between the ages of 20 and 24 there are approximately 356,000 in college. This is approximately ten per cent of the male population that are in colleges at that age.

Q. When was the survey of the District of Columbia commenced and at what point? W. V. S.
 A. The survey was commenced April 15, 1791 at the spot where the lighthouse on Jones Point, near Alexandria, now stands.

Q. Everywhere I go, I see copies of the "Blue Boy." Why is it so wonderful? J. A. S.
 A. The "Blue Boy" is one of the most important paintings by Gainsborough, who was an eminent English painter. This portrait was painted when the artist was at the height of his fame, and regarded as one of the greatest masterpieces of the English school of portraiture. It is said to have been painted to refute an argument of Sir Joshua Reynolds that blue was a color unsuitable for the main light of a work.

Q. What is the usual diameter of a tornado? O.
 A. A tornado is usually of small diameter, a few hundred yards, but its great proportional vertical height.

Q. Where is Itini? C. S. W.
 A. It is a colonial possession of Spain in Africa.

Q. Are the chimney-like projections on the Pellatt Castle in Toronto really chimneys or simply ornaments? J. E. F.
 A. The architect of Pellatt Castle, E. J. Lennox, says that all the chimneys on the Pellatt castle are regular chimneys connecting with fireplaces in the different rooms in the castle.

There are no false chimneys. This castle is built much after the castles of the olden times when all rooms depended on fireplaces for their heating, though there is an extensive heating plant for the castle.

Q. Are diamonds inflammable? M. J. S.
 A. The geological survey says that the inflammability of a diamond would depend on what an individual means by "inflammable." Diamonds are not inflammable in air, however, if put in a pure solution of oxygen and temperatured at a certain point the diamond will burn.

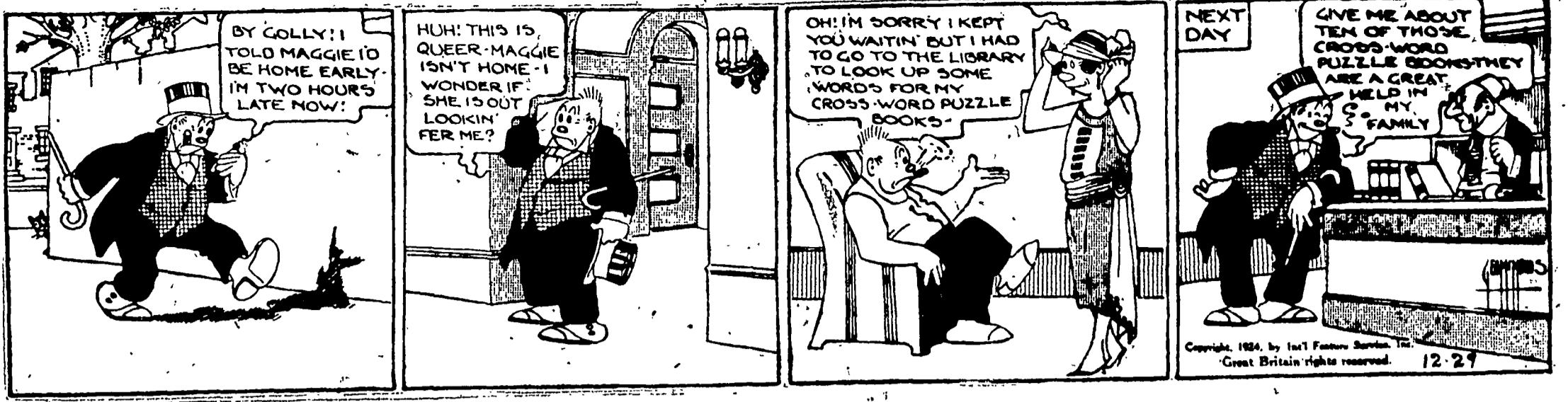
Q. How long must a West Point man stay in the service? W. A.
 A. A graduate of West Point can not resign from the army until he has served four years as graduate, making a total of eight years including the four years at the military academy. However, cases of extreme necessity are considered.

Q. Do the roots of trees continue to grow after the trees are cut down? M. W.
 A. The roots do continue to grow, and bear cubs smaller than other new born animals? C. K.
 A. Bear cubs are much smaller in proportion to the size of the adult animals than the young of any other mammal except the marsupials. The bear cub is from 1-500 to 1-250 of the weight of the mother; deer, 1-30; dog, 1-25; human being, about 1-20; porcupine, 1-15.

Q. What did the Mother Church of the Christian Scientists cost, and what is it now worth? W. S.
 A. The original cost of the land on which the Mother Church of Boston, Christian Science, was built (gift of Mrs. Eddy) was \$20,000. The cost of the original edifice was \$200,000 including the organ which cost \$10,000. The estimated present value of the lot, with its extension, is \$150,000 and the cost of the temple extension \$2,000,000. Its seating capacity is 5,000 and it was dedicated in 1906.

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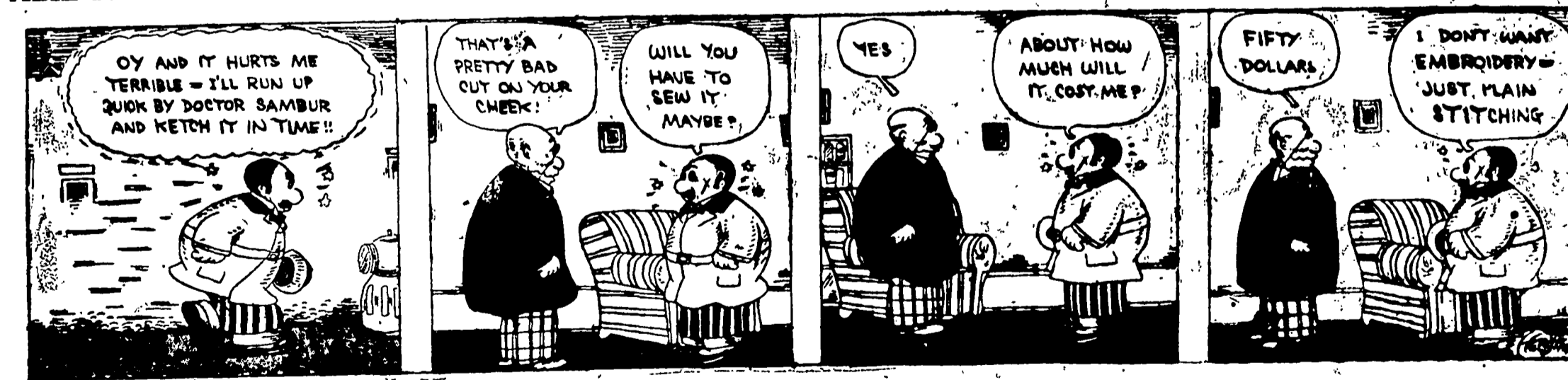
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