

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. What is the oldest cross-word puzzle? J. J.

A. For many years the archaeologists have been trying to solve the puzzle. It was made by a Cretan about 2,000 years ago and a copy of it now lies in the archaeological museum at John Hopkins hospital, Baltimore. This puzzle is called the Phœneus disk. It was found on the island of Crete by an expedition many years ago.

Q. What percentage of our present population are college graduates, and how does this compare with 30 years ago? G. S.

A. In 1917 there were 40,810 college graduates living, out of a population of 103,635,000. In 1937, there were 11,818 living college graduates out of a population of 58,715,978.

Q. How should a place be treated when vacated by a person having tuberculosis? The public health service says that a house occupied by a tuberculosis patient should be well aired, allowing the rays of the sun to penetrate the rooms as much as possible. Tubercle bacilli live in dark rooms or in the air for months, but sunlight kills it in a few hours. Dirt serves as a preserver of these germs, therefore, a house so infected should be well cleaned, the woodwork and the floors being washed with hot water and soap. It would be safest to have the walls repapered.

Q. Where was the first shirt factory in the United States and who ran it? M. C.

A. The first shirt factory of which there is a record was owned by David and Isaac N. Jordan, merchants in New York City. They frequently received from the south orders for shirts which they employed seamstresses to make. In 1840 another firm in New York City began manufacturing shirts, and in 1846 the first shirt factory was opened in Troy.

Q. Please give length of presidential terms in the various republics. R. S. D.

A. Argentine republic, term 6 years; Austria, 4 years; president may be re-elected once; Bolivia, 4 years, not eligible for re-election; Brazil, 4 years, not eligible for re-election; Chile, 4 years, not eligible for re-election; China, 5 years, president may be re-elected; Colombia, 4 years, not eligible for re-election; Costa Rica, 4 years; Ecuador, 4 years; Finland, 6 years; France, 7 years; Germany, 7 years; Latvia, 3 years, no person can hold office more than 6 consecutive years; Liberia, 4 years.

Q. How many people were killed and injured in England by air raids during the war? N. W.

A. The British Library of Information says that the civilian casualties in airship raids from Jan. 19, 1915 to August 5, 1918 were 498 killed, 1236 injured. Airplane raids, Dec. 24, 1914 to July 20, 1918, 619 killed, 1650 injured.

Q. What causes potatoes to turn black after they are boiled? A. M.

A. The department of agriculture says that the discoloration of your potatoes is undoubtedly due to sunscald. This does not render the potatoes poisonous nor unhealthful for food.

Q. Please tell me the meaning of Burne-Jones' picture "The Golden Stairs." I. N. D.

A. "The Golden Stairs" was originally named "The King's Wedding," then "Music on the Stairs." It was designed in 1872, begun in 1878 and finished in 1880. From the fact that the canvas was first titled "The King's Wedding," it is safe to assume that the picture simply depicts the musicians assembling for the wedding of their king.

Q. Why was the salary of the President first fixed at \$25,000? A. B. A.

A. George Washington, the first President, refused a salary saying that he would accept expenses only. President Washington kept a minute account of the first year and found that he had spent \$5,000 English pounds, about \$25,000. For this reason the salary of the President was fixed at \$25,000.

Q. Does the law of the United States permit a surgeon to attend his own family? S. A.

A. There is no law in the United States which prohibits medical men from attending members of their family. This is entirely a personal matter, but a rule physicians and surgeons agree that it is best for persons outside of the family to treat their relatives. This is usually advised because of the fact that physicians in a family are likely to be more lenient to their relatives than an outsider would be.

Q. When was that branch of army aviation known as the flying cadets started? F. S.

A. The grade of flying cadet was established by a law of congress in 1919. There are two classes held yearly in the heavier-than-air type, one in March and one in September. There is one class held yearly in the lighter-than-air type.

Q. Who discovered the Sargasso sea? B. F. G.

A. The Sargasso sea was discovered by Columbus on his first voyage. He became involved in it for about a fortnight. The sea is so named because of the large amount of sea weed particularly in the form of Sargassum baciferum which it contains.

Q. What is a "two-toed sloth"? R. L.

A. "Sloth" is the term applied to any of the several slow-moving arboreal animals of tropical forests of South and Central America, consisting of three-toed sloths, having three claws on each front foot, and two-toed sloths, having the front feet two-clawed. They vary in size from that of a small bear to that of a cat. They feed on the leaves, buds, and young shoots of trees, and are chiefly nocturnal, resting sleepily during the day from which, and from a misunderstanding of their habits, the misnomer of "sloth" arose.

Q. How does the mass of the earth compare with that of Jupiter and Saturn? F. A. B.

A. If a bronze cent were to represent the mass of the earth, Saturn could be 11 silver dollars, Jupiter 37 silver dollars, and the Sun 750 times the mass of all the planets and their satellites together.

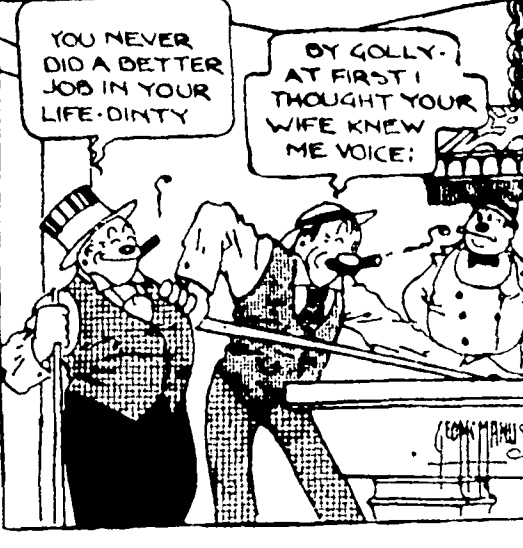
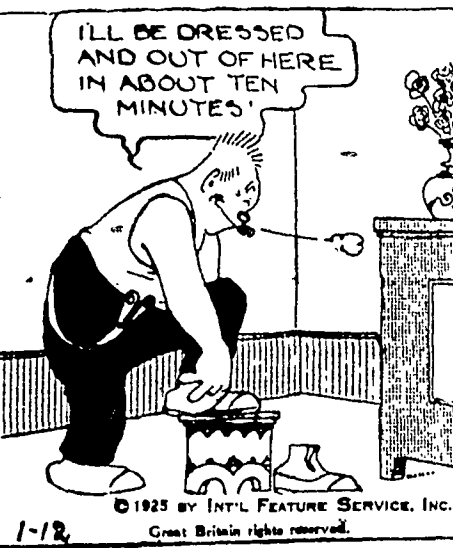
Q. What were the gate receipts in the last world series? J. W. M.

A. They amounted to \$1,093,104.

(Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing The Evening Gazette, Information Bureau, Frederic Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C. Give full name and address and enclose two-cent stamp for return postage. Be brief. All inquiries are confidential, the replies being sent directly to each individual.)

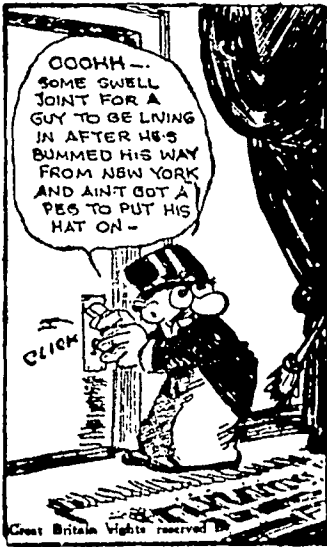
BRINGING UP FATHER

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BARNEY GOOGLE AND SPARK PLUG

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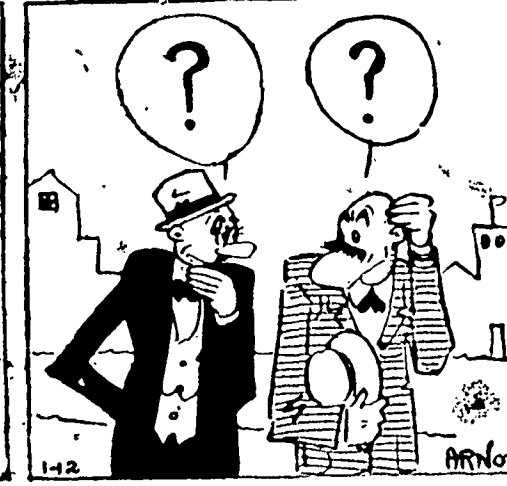
POLLY AND HER PALS

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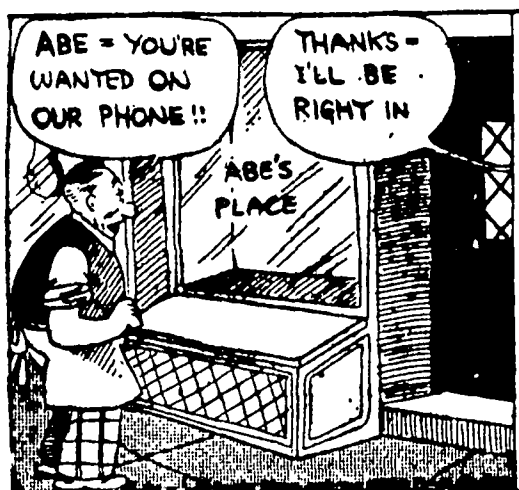
HOW DO THEY DO IT?

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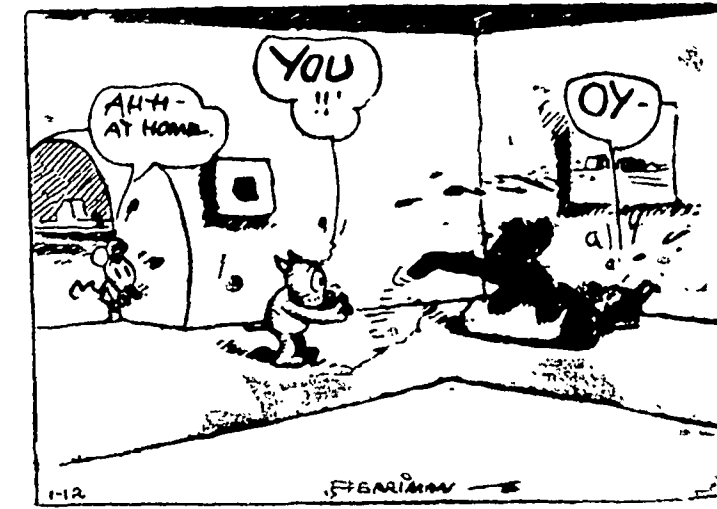
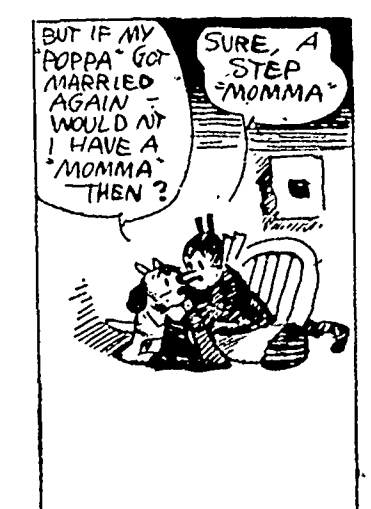
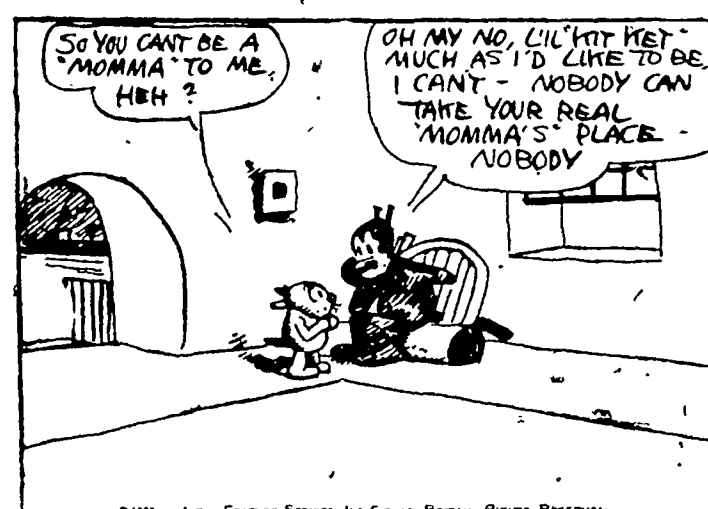
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KRAZY KAT

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Framing Up Father

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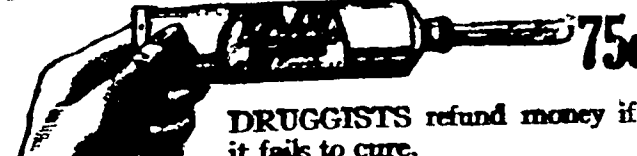
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