

DREAMLAND ADVENTURES

"CATS IN BIRDLAND" BY DADDY

In this story Peggy and Billy save their Birdland friends from danger, and play a joke on the cats.

CHAPTER I The Plot Behind the Hedge

PEGGY heard low voices murmuring behind the hedge. She couldn't make out what they were saying, but she sounded as though they were plotting mischief.

The voices were those of cats—not usually cat voices such as one sometimes hears at night, but secret-telling, mysterious cat voices that were so new to Peggy that she sat up in the hammock where she had been dozing and peered over the hedge.

On the other side were Thomas Cat, Tiger Cat and Blackie Cat with their very close together. This in itself made Peggy suspect that they were up to something wrong. As a rule they would not come to the side of the alley and Blackie Cat kept on the other side, while neither Tiger Cat nor Thomas Cat came across the street from his home down the block. Now here they were, the three as thick as thieves.

Peggy listened very sharply—forgetting for a moment that it wasn't polite to listen to what other persons were saying among themselves—and presently she could make out a mew here and a purr there that told her what they were up to. And sure enough, exactly as she feared, they were up to mischief.

"I hear there is fine hunting in Birdland," mewed Thomas Cat. "I strayed out yesterday, and a golden-crowned kinglet caught me many birds he grew tired of eating 'em and came to town in change of food."

"Well, I'm tired of eating milk and scraps, and I'd like to change to nice game birds," mewed Blackie Cat, licking his lips.

"I like to go hunting for birds," purred Tiger Cat, sharpening his claws on the bark of a tree.

"When shall we start for Birdland?" asked Thomas Cat.

"Right away," answered Blackie Cat and Tiger Cat in one loud mew. "Sh-sh-sh!" warned Thomas Cat. "Some bird might hear us and carry the warning to Birdland before we can get there." All three cats looked at each other, but they didn't see any birds listening. Neither did they see Peggy peering over the hedge, but Peggy felt that it was time to act.

"You ought to be ashamed of yourself, Thomas Cat," she cried. "You have plenty to eat at home, and you don't need to go hunting for poor birds." "Mer-ow!" We're not coming back until we have eaten all the birds we want! Mer-ow! Mer-ow!" And

away scurried the cats over a back fence.

Peggy jumped from the hammock and ran after them as fast as she could, but when she climbed to the top of the fence, she could see them far down the road. At the rate they were going they would be in Birdland long before she could get there to warn the birds. Flushing upward, Peggy saw General Swallow doing airplane stunts in the sky.

"General Swallow!" cried Peggy, and the general came swooping down. "Hasten to Birdland, and tell the birds that three fierce cats are coming to hunt them. Tell them to beware!" shrielled General Swallow, darting toward the distant forest.

Peggy starting to follow, came upon Billy riding Balty Sam.

"Climb up behind me and we'll help save the birds from the cats," Peggy did as he said, and Balty Sam started for Birdland on a gallop.

(Tomorrow will be told how the cats hunt the birds.)

READERS' VIEWPOINT

Letters to the Editor on Current Topics

Respecting the Flag

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—How often do we hear people speak of respecting the flag! Especially during the recent war, when so much stress was placed on the fact that when Old Glory passed by one should raise his hat or stand at attention. This is all right, but when one stops to think of the conditions existing today—and the greedy profiteers who for the lust of the almighty dollar are lining their pockets to the detriment of the public, they are neither respecting the flag nor are they 100 per cent Americans.

When Lincoln in his famous Gettysburg speech uttered those words "A government of the people, by the people, and for the people," etc., he must have realized what the Stars and Stripes stood for. The sooner the profiteering class and camouflaged 100 per cent Americans wake up to the fact of the great wrong they are doing, the sooner our beautiful flag will have a deeper and fuller significance to us all.

H. M. CHRISTIE.
Proportional Representation

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—The constitutional revision committee that is sitting at Harrisburg seems to be in favor of substituting proportional representation for our present

method of electing the Legislature. If they do incline to make a trial of proportional representation, they are only putting themselves in line with progressive opinion all over the world. May I not urge all who would substitute for our present ineffective system of voting a system which gives the minority a voice in the government, and at the same time assures the rule of the majority, to write at once to the commission and ask that the constitution be amended to permit its use. Letters should be addressed to the

constitutional revision committee, Harrisburg, Pa. IMOGEN B. OAKLEY. The Gladstone, May 7.

Glad We Were of Service

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—On behalf of the Philadelphia board of promotion in the One Hundred Million Dollar Campaign of the Northern Baptist convention we want to express in heartfelt terms our deep

appreciation of your co-operation in our work. Without this and the splendid publicity it meant, we feel we would have fallen far short of our objective in the "New World Movement."

We want to specially mention your generous interest during the final week of our campaign, when the press was our immediate medium of appeal, encouragement and report. Our ultimate success is now within sight, and for your part in it—past, present and future—we thank you. Appreciatively yours, THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE, May P. Skerrett, Chairman.

German Army 200,000 by May 16 Berlin, May 10.—The reduction of the German army to a total of 200,000 men will be completed by May 15. It was declared in an official statement just issued.

CROWDS AT DEDICATION

Impressive Scene Enacted When St. Vincent's is Blessed

More than 100,000 persons attended the dedication of the new St. Vincent's Home, the diocesan orphanage, at Lansdowne avenue and Garrettford road, Upper Darby township, yesterday.

The Most Rev. D. J. Dougherty, D. D., archbishop of Philadelphia, officiated. He was assisted by 100 priests and as many seminarians. Governor Sprout and the Very Rev. Joseph A. Whitaker, chancellor of the diocese, spoke.

It was an occasion of splendor. The archbishop, clad in pontifical robes of cloth of gold, with a golden mitre upon his head and a golden crozier in his right hand, was the center of the picture. Next to him sat Governor Sprout and Mrs. Sprout. Grouped about them robed in the cloth of gold vestments of pontifical services were the officers of the blessing and of the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament given at the conclusion of the service by Archbishop Dougherty.

Near East Aid Calls in Churches

Downtown—1117-1119 Chestnut Street Uptown—6th and Thompson Streets

Many of the churches in the Near East district are holding collections for the victims of the war. The collections are being held in all parts of the city.

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- Would lower freight rates make it easier for you to compete?
- Do you have to fight a hostile local government to prevent harassing restrictions on your business?
- Do you need the help of technical and traffic experts to work out your particular problems?
- Are you looking for a suitable place to begin a manufacturing business?
- The vital elements of a logical location are found at Hopewell, Virginia. If lack of any of these elements is hampering your production or distribution then your plant is not logically located.

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