

THE FORTUNE HUNTER

By RUBY M. AYRES

Author of "The Bachelor Husband," "The One Unwanted," etc. Copyright by Wheeler Syndicate, Inc.

THIS BEGINS THE STORY... Young and good-looking but out of luck...

Hunter had received at Cherry Lodge had made him ashamed. They had accepted him without question...

HER head dropped a little and he had to bend to catch her shy words.

It was in a place like that—near some willows just like that—when you first kiss a girl.

The Fortune Hunter released her with a little forced laugh as Mr. Harding came across the lawn toward them.

It looked out on the garden and the river, and there was an old-fashioned yellow rose climbing the wall and peeping its scented inquisitive head in at the window.

He looked around desperately. "I think if my clothes are dry—"

Tommy closed the door and lumped forward; he was very lame, one foot dragged painfully, and his whole body looked frail and unwell.

"My dear fellow, you're not thinking of going?" Mr. Harding broke out in concern.

Tommy stood behind him, his peaked, fretful face, half eager, half embarrassed.

"Yes, I— I thought so, but— if John does not want to stay—"

Tommy closed the door and lumped forward; he was very lame, one foot dragged painfully, and his whole body looked frail and unwell.

"You're seeing Somerset at its best and prettiest, John," he said.

Tommy closed the door and lumped forward; he was very lame, one foot dragged painfully, and his whole body looked frail and unwell.

"What is it? What's the matter?" The man looked over his shoulder.

Tommy held out his hand. "I'm glad you've come," he said.

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CONTINUED TOMORROW

THE GUMPS—Santa Paused Here

By Sidney Smith

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS HAS ROLLED AROUND—UNCLE BIM AGAIN WAS THE LEADING ACTOR IN THE PLAY OF HAPPINESS—AND NOW WELL HE PLAYED HIS PART—TO THINK A MAN OF HIS AFFAIRS WOULD TAKE THE TIME TO CAREFULLY SELECT SUCH SUITABLE GIFTS—

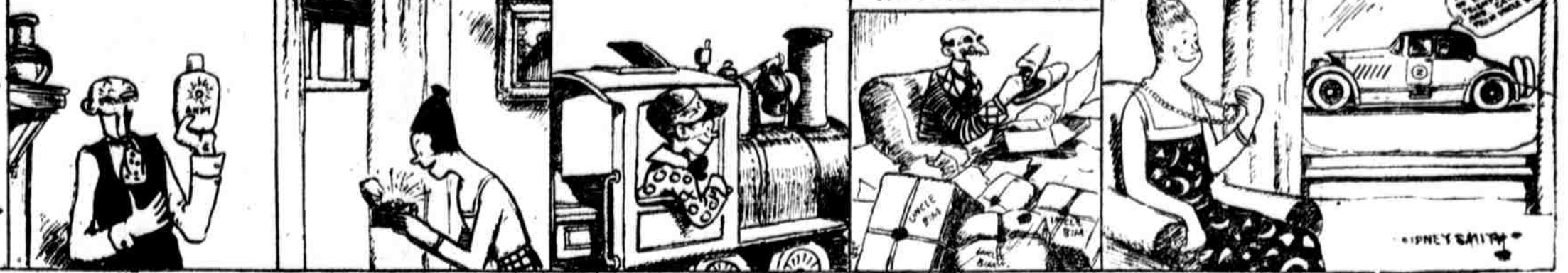
SEE WHAT ANDY GOT FOR XMAS—SOLID GOLD WITH A DIAMOND IN IT—AND THAT'S NOT ALL—IT WAS FILLED WITH THE SPIRITS OF 1907—

AND MIN— A DIAMOND AND PLATINUM BROOCH— JUST THE THING SHE HAS ALWAYS LONGED FOR—

AND LITTLE CHESTER— IS HE THE HAPPY BOY TODAY? HE DREW A LOCOMOTIVE WITH A BELL AND WHISTLE— AND IT'S BIG ENOUGH FOR HIM TO RIDE IN— AND IT RUNS TOO—

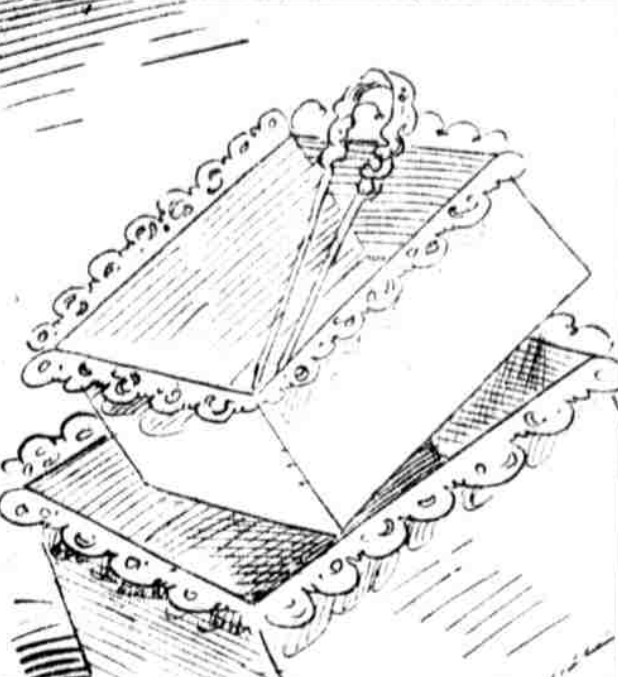
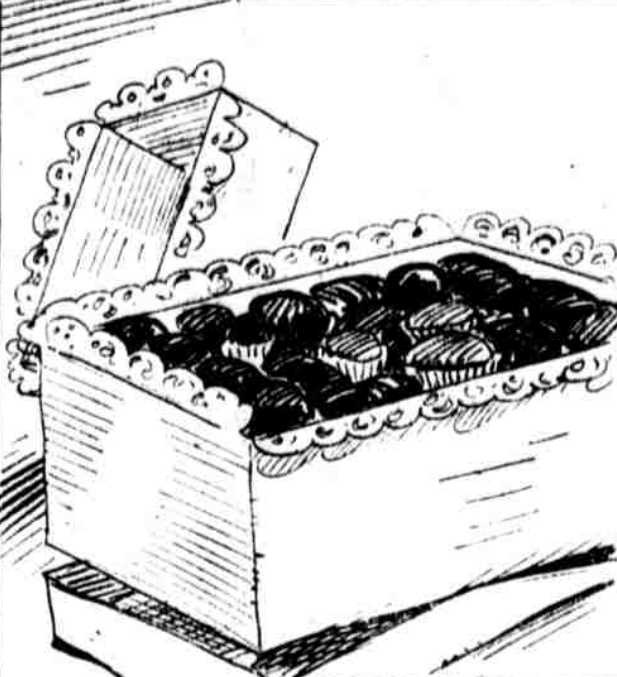
AND UNCLE BIM WAS NOT ENTIRELY FORGOTTEN— HE CERTAINLY WAS REMEMBERED BY THE GUMP FAMILY— THEY FAIRLY SNOWBALLED HIM WITH GIFTS— THEY SENT THEM THE DAY BEFORE AND SAID— "DON'T OPEN TILL XMAS—"

BUT SEE— DEAR READER— WHAT GOOD KIND SANTA CLAUS BROUGHT THE WIDOW— JUST LOOK THROUGH THE WINDOW— HAVE A PEEP— MONOGRAM AND EVERYTHING—



SOMEBODY'S STENOG—The Candy Kid

By Hayward



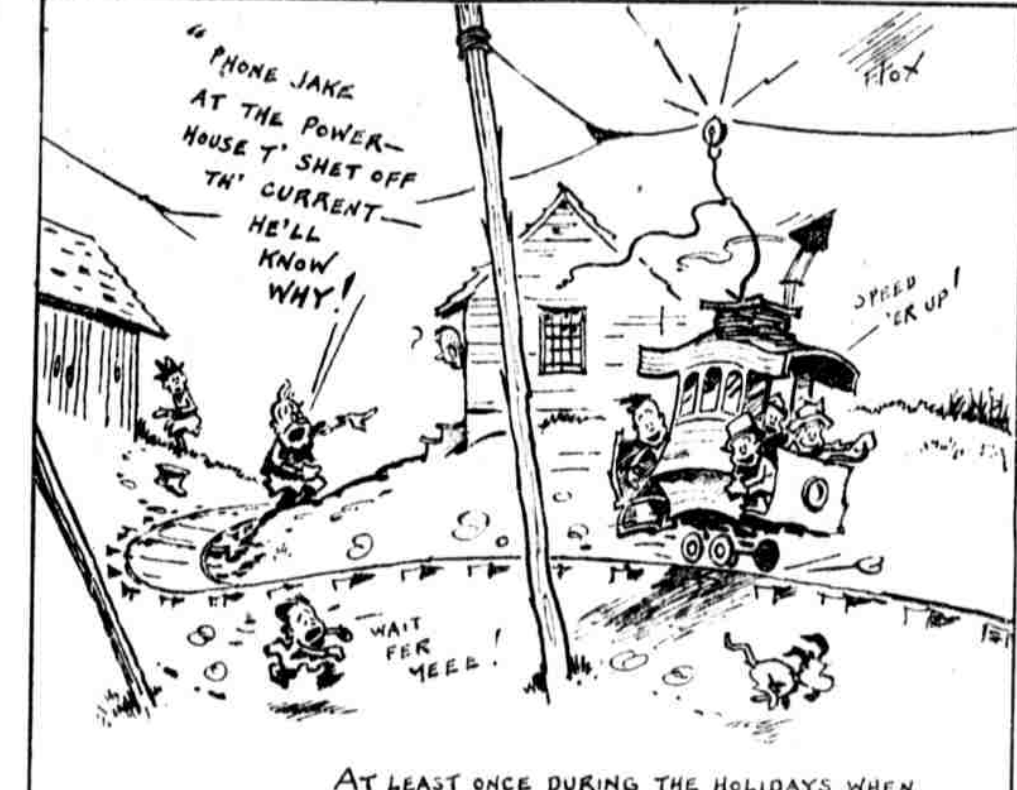
The Young Lady Across the Way

THE TOONERVILLE TROLLEY

By FONTAINE FOX

SCHOOL DAYS

By DWIG



At least once during the holidays when the skipper isn't looking, the kids succeed in stealing the car—this being about the only time that anyone ever gets any pleasure out of kidding on the blame thing.

PETEY—Twice in the Same Place

By C. A. Colchi



GASOLINE ALLEY—WILL WONDER NEVER CEASE?

By King

