

THE OPTIMIST.

An optimist is a man who would celebrate the anniversary of the day on which his leg was broken, because the automobile didn't spoil his clothes when it ran over him.

The optimist sees only the bright side of things. Every dark cloud to him has a silver lining and is perpetually inside out. There is no such thing as misfortune to the optimist. He has torn the misfortune page out of his lexicon, and has used it for a cigar lighter. If he is poor, he is glad because he will enjoy so much more being rich week after next. If he is sick, it is a most auspicious occasion because he is indoors with liver complaint, instead of outdoors catching pneumonia. If he has lost his job, it will enable him to enjoy a nice vacation. If he is starving, he remembers how uncomfortable fat people are, and smiles. If the home team is seven runs behind in the eighth inning, does he leave the park in disgust? No, indeed. Something is bound to turn up in the ninth, so he bets another dollar and stays on.

In fact, betting, gold mining, and stock selling would hardly be paying games if it were not for the optimist. He will bet on a three-legged horse, because for all he knows it may grow another leg on the back stretch. He will buy \$1,000 worth of stock in a hole in the ground with traces of brass filings in it and will pay assessments for forty years, greasing up his wheelbarrow every month in order to be ready when the dividend

Her Quiet Ways

By VICTOR REDCLIFFE

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most riotous weeks that followed his

graduation. Leslie Warren had won

the best college prizes. His father

was more than ready to start him in

business in a good way. And there

Succeeding the period of vacation

and festivity awarded by his student

friends, there had come a week spent

at Hazelwood, the palatial country

home of the Waldrons. About a se-

tected dozen were invited. Norma and

her closest college girl friends were

the hostesses and from the start Leslie

had been attracted by Norma, and at

the finish it was pretty generally be-

Norma was a veritable madcap. It

never occurred to Leslie that his staid,

eminently, conservative parents would

never receive as prospective daughter-

in-law a romp, a mere butterfly of

flashiness, folly and mischief. The

practical phase of marriage he had

never paused to consider. It was the

last evening of his visit when he man-

lieved that there would be a match.

was Norma Waldron!

He never forgot the few lively, al-

is declared. He will buy a block of stock in a perpetual motion company and will hold onto it even after some other sucker has offered to cart it away for him free of charge.

Thus optimism is profitable, but not always to the optimist. However,



The optimist sees only the bright side of things.

life is very beautiful to him, and he is always happy. Once an optimist was lynched for horse stealing out west, and just before they kicked the barrel out from under him, he was asked if he had any last words. Looking over towards the mountains he murmured: "You couldn't have picked out a spot with a nicer view."

aged to get Norma alone to himself. "Norma," he said, "there is something I must tell you before we part." She slipped from his caress and moved away with tantalizing swift-

ness and grace. "Don't spoil it all!" she responded. 'Wait till we meet again."

"But when?" he remonstrated. "Very soon-I promise it. Then you

shall tell me all your troubles." "Troubles! You mean the cause

of my alternate delirious hopes and blackest despair!"

"Listen-they are coming. They will be here in a few moments. Ruth Glidden has invited me to spend a week at Oakhurst. You know her brother Percy well. I will so arrange it that you, too, shall be there during my stay. Is not that enough to sustain your hopes and banish your despair, my loyal and trusted cheva-

And then she flitted away, a dazzling sprite, and Leslie felt as though the rarest gifts of the gods were his of a verity. Oh! he was sure he had found unending happiness and he was still more certain of it when Percy Glidden met him one day and said to him:

"This next week of yours belongs to my sister Ruth and Norma Waldron. Of course we can count on you," and Leslie flushed slightly at the sure intimation that his friend was aware

est, loveliest being in the world, but trast to the flashing, dashing methods of our charming Norma."

The thought of meeting Norma and ing week, however, he had been a good deal disturbed with rumors that his capricious ladylove was acting existence. the flirt and coquette. There was a flashy stranger who was said to be paying her unusual attention.

his sister Ruth only slightly. When ing the fitful flash of fancy? Leslie he reached Oakhurst and was driven seemed to have entered upon a new along its quiet streets, it seemed good | life. The house, its occupants, all nato him to experience a certain restful calm after the arduous social activity with rational enjoyment, and Leslie that had become continuous and wearisome. Somehow the old-fashioned home of the Gliddens presented a haven of restfulness. There was a severe disappointment at the start,

ments is her plea. Do you think you can stand seven lonely days of our dull routine?"

and I'll be the very peacefulest being to woo and win the woman whose los in the world, Percy," declared Leslie. | would have shadowed all his life. A grand old place it was, indeed,

of his attachment for Norma. You and within twenty-four hours it see, Norma is so used to excitement seemed as though a salutary spell was Astronomers aver that no one has and variety and lots of company that cast over the volatile spirits of the ever seen the sun. A series of concenit would be pretty dull for her down guest. He had always known that tric shells envelops a nucleus of which at Oakhurst. My sister is the dear- Ruth, with her quiet ways, was a we apparently know nothing except interest in her that absorbed him, real sun, forever hidden from us. The not in her presence a strange new in- the "chromosphere." fluence seemed to have come into his

What was it-new surroundings, the fever of excitement subdued by calm and wholesome environment, or was Leslie knew Percy Glidden well, it an uprising of genuine love quenchture appeared in harmony complete was sorry when that week neared its end.

aroused his jealousy.

His spirits were rapt and joyous as -Lowell. he realized the news. He was free-"Give me a hammock and a book if he had ever been otherwise-free

No Person Has Seen the Sun.

strong contrast to Norma, but now, that it must be almost infinitely hotter her quiet ways are in very strong con- as those quiet ways accorded with the than the fiercest furnace, and that it sweet, soothing peacefulness of her must amount to more than nine-tenths environment, Leslie began to take an of the solar mass. That nucleus is the of having her all to himself greatly Gracious, gentle, almost queenly in outermost of the enveloping shell is relieved Leslie. During that interven- her quiet, girlish dignity, when he was about 5,000 miles thick, and is called well run.

Thinking of Strenuous Days.

Barber (carried away by his reminiscences)-"And when he'd looped the loop he did a nose dive that fairly took your breath away."-Boston Evening Transcript.

Pope's Poetry.

His poetry is not a mountain-tarn like that of Wordsworth; it is not in He was uneasy. He was almost sympathy with the higher moods of the tempted to leave Oakhurst, not car- mind; yet it continues entertaining in ing to again meet the old idol of his spite of all changes of mode. It was dreams. Then, opening a newspaper a mirror in a drawing-room, but it gave "Sorry, Leslie," Percy Glidden told that had just come by mail, he read back a faithful image of society, powhim, "but Norma is not coming until an account of the elopement of Norma dered and rouged, to be sure, and innext week-some important engage- Waldron with the man who had once tent on trifles, yet still as human in its way as the heroes of Homer in theirs

Ordering One's Life.

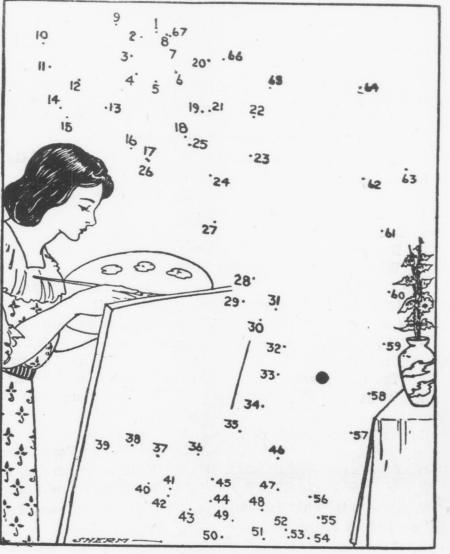
Take time to scrutinize your life. Try to define just why you are "run" and decide for yourself that if you are going to be ruled, as most of us are, it must be by something or somebody well worth the arduous sprinting we are all indulging in. If the goal toward which we are being steered is worth while, only then can we look back and feel that the race has been

Invisible Airplane Wings.

Wings of cellulose acetate, being transparent, make an airplane invisible at the height of a few thousand feet, also increasing the operator's field of vision. Sheets one one-hundredth-inch thick are about as strong as the ordinary wing cover, and the weight of nine ounces to the square yard is but slightly greater. The rapid spread of a tear when started is a disadvantage that may be overcome with a re-enforcing of loosely woven

Be Slow to Condemr..

Why condemn an individual or institution before you hear both sides? Does a jury convict or a judge sentence a prisoner before the evidence is heard?



THE TANGLED DOTS. By Clifford Leon Sherman.

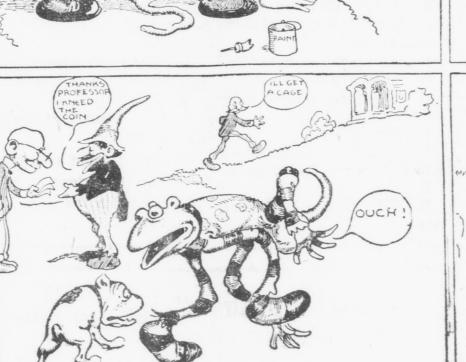
"I am going to paint my dot picture," said Phyllis, who was very proud of her new talent. But when she had finished there was a mighty uproar because all the children insisted that it might be a fish if it hadn't been for

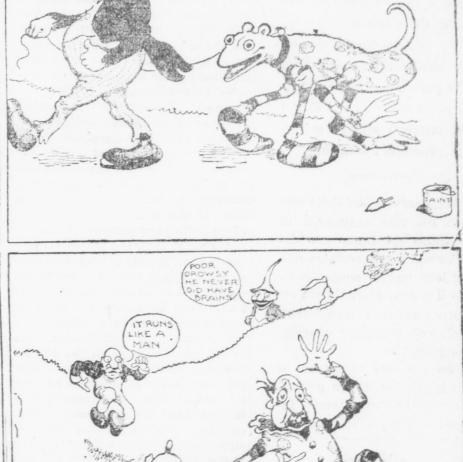




Brainy Bowers Sells His Backward Walking Guss Bug.







YOU THE

WALKIN

NEW BACK.

GUZZ-BUG



