

BLACKIE BEAR

By D. SAM COX

GRANDPA PUTS ONE OVER
Story 115

While the rabbit hunt was going on yesterday, Benny was sitting on the joggle board near the boat house, and when he saw Grandpa coming across the log with the big rabbit in his mouth—the very rabbit that made Howler throw Jenny so high up above the water that when she came down she splashed a lot of terrapins off their sunny log—he woofed most as loud as Blackie could have done. Certainly it did seem like a real frolic to see Grandpa go hunting, and bring in meat that way. He had been thinking, just as even Grandpa himself had thought, that he was so old and stiff-jointed, that he could never catch anything else but a fish, but now he had really caught a fast rabbit, and had even beat Howler in the chase. Wasn't that something to tell about? Indeed it was, and Benny slipped down from his joggle board and scooted to the house to tell Bettie and Grandma what Grandpa had done; and so, by the time the old fellow got to the house, both the women were out on the porch, waving their aprons, and saying: "Hoorah for Grandpa, the great hunter of the mountains." And you may believe that the old fellow was tickled over what he had done, but he went around to the kitchen and laid the rabbit down on the step, and said: "That's nothing; ANYBODY can catch a rabbit."

And now dinner was ready, and if you believe Howler and Grandpa hadn't had enough exercise to work up an appetite, it's because you were not sitting at that table. You certainly couldn't get those two cooks to help you believe such a thing. But they always said that they would rather feed two or three hungry people, who could eat just anything, and a lot of it, than to cook for just ONE who minced over their dinner and left most of it on their plates.

It was a nice sunny day, and after dinner Grandpa and Howler and the children all went down to the lake, where, for a long time, they just sat around on the nice soft straw that covered the ground under that big pine tree that you have heard about. After a while, the children went over and played on the joggle board and see-saw, while Grandpa and Howler smoked and talked about things down on the Creek. Yes, it is a fact that the children had all of those playing, for Jocko was a mighty good carpenter, and he had made a lot of things while he was up there for nearly a whole week, not so long ago.

One end of the see-saw was set towards the hill, and the other end towards the water, and while the children were playing on it, a twinkle came into Grandpa's eyes, and he said: "You children have had that board long enough. Swap seats with us, and let the old folks ride a while." The truth is that Grandpa had made up his mind to show the whole crowd that he was alive, and could stand another joke, just to help the Old Man out. Of course Howler didn't know that Grandpa was up to anything when they both got on the see-saw and it didn't mean a thing to him when Grandpa said he would rather sit on the end next to the water. And when he told Howler that because he was so much heavier than Howler he would have to take the short end of the see-saw, there was nothing curious about that.

And now sit there with Benny and Jenny, and see what happens. Grandpa would just jog up and down a little way on his short end of the board, while Howler would go away up every time Grandpa went down. Grandpa would slip around and wiggle just like he was about to fall off and then he slipped clear down to the end of the board, and went down hard. The end of the board struck the ground with a thump, and it threw Howler clear loose from the board, and away over Grandpa's head into the lake. And what a splash!

(To be Continued)

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Having qualified as executrix of the estate of Anderson Sanford, deceased, late of Haywood County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Waynesville, North Carolina, on or before the 8th day of October, 1942, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payments. This the 8th day of October, 1941.

MRS. MANDY SANFORD,
Executrix of the Estate of Anderson Sanford, deceased.
No. 1116—Oct. 9-16-23-30-Nov. 6-13.

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