

OUR COMIC SECTION

When the Dandelions Are in Blossom

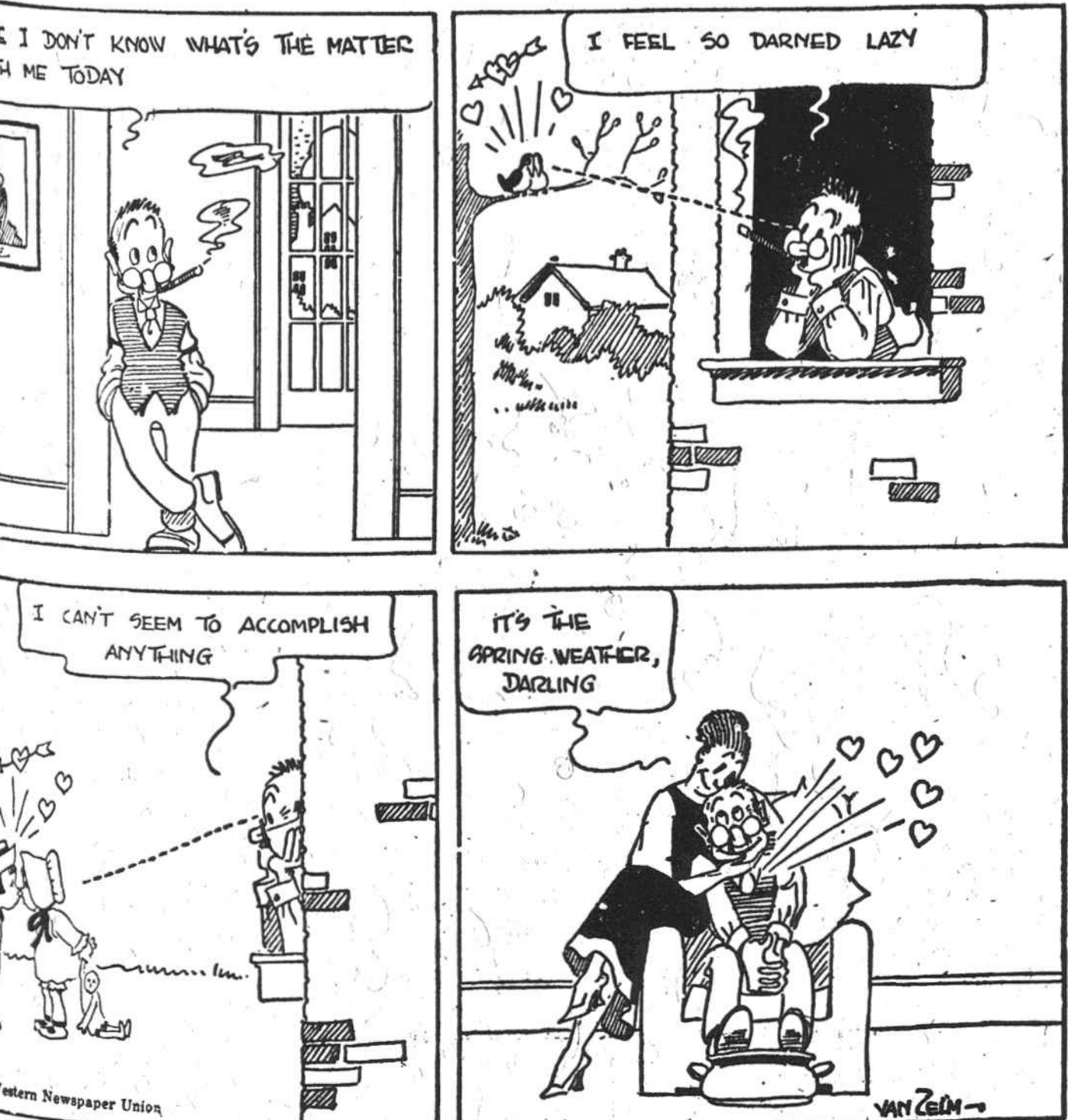


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When Slicker Meets Slicker



Oh, Sweet Patootie!



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Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale

MARY GRAHAM BONNER
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OLD MAN WEATHER

Old Man Weather was much amused. He was around, of course. He always is around. He has such a lot of business to attend to at all times!

He saw a little dog running along a street, getting out of the way of people, going to play with some other dogs who lived further down the street.

The little dog knew just where he was going, oh yes, he didn't need to be told. He knew just as though he were a boy going off to play with some of his companions. No one need tell him the way. He knew!

Old Man Weather watched him and as he watched him Old Man Weather almost forgot about his business for the moment. Although he has such a lot of business to attend to still he does rest a bit at times.

It is then that people find Old Man Weather so undecided about what he is going to do next.

Well, after the little dog had gone on, Old Man Weather began to think of his business affairs, and it was then that he was so amused.

Of course he knew that there were big weather bureaus where they studied the Wind and the Clouds and the Sun and the condition of the At-



"A Little Dog."

mosphere or Air, and all of Old Man Weather's friends and assistants. But he was amused by what he heard.

He hadn't had a chance to speak to the Wind who is the Treasurer in Old Man Weather's business concern.

Nor had he had a chance to speak to the Cloud Secretaries, nor to Vice President Sun, nor to First Assistant Atmosphere.

He had not had a chance to talk to any of them for he had been having one of his birthday parties.

You see, Old Man Weather does not know how old he is. He has really no idea of his age. Only he knows that he is very, very old.

And neither has he any idea when his birthday comes. He never had the same childhood as he had seen others have.

Yes, he had seen others who had had a great fuss made over their birthdays when they were young and go they had kept on celebrating their birthdays right through life.

Old Man Weather couldn't do that because he had not begun right. He could not say that any one day in the year was his birthday. And so he had a birthday whenever he felt like it. He had just been having one of his birthday parties. And to his birthday party had come many of his business friends and his other friends as well, for Old Man Weather has so many friends, even if some do grumble about him and say unkind things about him.

It had been very puzzling to everyone who wanted to find out about the weather for so many kinds seemed to be possible. It was all because of the birthday party.

And if ever you hear that the weather is to be very uncertain and that no one is quite sure what it is going to be like even though they have studied everything about it—then you may know that Old Man Weather is having a birthday party.

And, as I have said, it was following this party, that Old Man Weather was so much amused. He heard a little girl asking her little brother this question: "Is it going to rain tomorrow?"

The little brother said that he thought it might and again he thought it might not, which was not a very helpful answer.

Then the little girl asked her daddy, "Is it going to rain tomorrow?"

Her daddy had answered, "I don't know, dear. I did not get a newspaper this evening so I can't tell."

Well, that was what amused Old Man Weather. Not but what the papers were pretty apt to be correct about him, studying him and his friends as they did, but even the papers could make a weather mistake because they were never quite sure when Old Man Weather might change everything about. They didn't even know that he gave birthday parties. He had always kept that a secret from them.

Oh, Old Man Weather was so much amused to think that people would find out what the weather was going to be like and that he would fool them once in awhile because of his secret birthday parties!

Where it Was Signed.
Teacher—Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?
Willie (after three minutes of silence)—At the bottom.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D.,
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LESSON FOR JUNE 10

NEHEMIAH, THE BOLD BUILDER

LESSON TEXT—Nehemiah 4:6-16.
GOLDEN TEXT—Be ye not afraid of them, remember the Lord.—Nehemiah 4:14.
PRIMARY TOPIC—The Man Who Was Not Afraid.
JUNIOR TOPIC—How Nehemiah Built the Wall.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—How Nehemiah Got Things Done.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Nehemiah, an Example for Men of Affairs.

Nehemiah was a cupbearer to the Persian king. While performing his duty as cupbearer, he learned of the distress of his brethren in Jerusalem.

Having secured a leave of absence from the Persian court and credentials from the king, he journeyed to Jerusalem. After resting three days without disclosing his purpose to anyone, he made a survey of the walls by night. Having thus obtained first-hand information, he called the representatives of the Jews together and said, "Let us build the walls of Jerusalem."

1. Preparation for the Building (Chap. 3).

The division of labor in this project shows Nehemiah's administrative ability. A wise distribution of labor makes difficult tasks easy. Note some outstanding features of this great work:

1. Stress Laid Upon Indifference (3:5). In administrative tasks it is just that unfaithfulness should be pointed out. Such action will be a warning to some and encouragement to others, in that it shows the integrity of the director.
2. Help Rendered by Women (3:12). Perhaps Shalum had no sons to aid him. It was a fine thing for the women to help, even in building a wall, when there were no men to do it.
3. Stress Laid Upon Earnestness (3:20). If one knows that his faithfulness will be recognized, he will earnestly pursue his tasks.
4. Every One Built Over Against His Own House (3:10, 23, 28). No incentive to exertion is quite so strong as that which concerns one's own family.
5. Certain Guilds of Men Undertook Certain Work (3:8, 31, 32). Wise administration sometimes calls for such alignment of efforts. Men of the same class and craft will surely work better together.

II. Hindrances Encountered (4:1-6:14).

1. Scoffing of Sanballat and Tobiah (4:1-6; cf. 2:19, 20). The opposers of God's servants usually begin by hurling at them shafts of ridicule. They called the Jews a feeble folk and asserted that the trend of a prowling fox would break down their stone wall.
2. Conspiracy for a Sudden Attack (4:7-9). When the enemy saw that the work was actually succeeding they changed from ridicule to an attempt to throw the workmen into a panic. When the enemy cannot succeed by scoffing they resort to intimidation.
3. Conspiracy With the Jews (4:10-23). They sought by means of the Jews from the outside to discourage their brethren by showing that the task was hopeless and that at any time they were subject to a sudden and secret attack.
4. Greed and Oppression of the Rulers (5:1-13). The Jews of that day, like the profiteers of our time, took advantage of the poor and oppressed them so that they mortgaged their land and sold their daughters into slavery. Nehemiah boldly rebuked them for their crimes and ordered a restoration to be made, exacting an oath of them that they would fulfill their promises.
5. Plot to Take Nehemiah's Life (6:1-14). When Sanballat and Tobiah failed in every way they sought by craft to get Nehemiah away that they might kill him.

III. The Wall Completed (6:15-7:4).

So energetically did they pursue their tasks that in fifty-two days the wall was completed. When the enemies heard that in spite of all their schemes the work was actually finished they were dejected, for they perceived that the work was of God.

We may learn from this:

1. That God's children are assailed by enemies, but in view of Romans 8:31 they should not fear.
2. That when attacked by enemies we should pray (4:9). Their faith was accompanied by wise precaution: (1) Set a watch (4:9). (2) Men were permitted to be with their families (4:13) and thus would fight better. (3) Half worked and half watched, all armed for battle (4:16). (4) They worked with sword in one hand (4:17). (5) They slept in their clothes in readiness (4:23). Prayer and faith are not slothful or inactive.

Everything.
Everything without tells the individual that he is nothing; everything within persuades him that he is everything.—X. Doudan.

Easier Than to Think.
To follow foolish precedents, and wink with both our eyes, is easier than to think.—Cowper.

Tricks of the Wand.
The mines of knowledge are often laid bare by the hazel wand of chance.—Tupper.

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MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE

Cane Beetle Destroying Sugar-Cane.

One of the most destructive of all insects to the farmer in Australia is the cane beetle, which is still playing havoc on the sugar-cane farms.

Recently, at Norham, in North Queensland, a sugar-cane farmer gave a contract to a man to catch beetles at 18 cents a quart, and the beetle-catcher made £9 in three days. Another man caught 1,647 quarts of beetles in 25 days.

The high prices paid in order to destroy these beetles give us an idea of the amount of destruction wrought by the hordes of these insects.

WOMEN NEED SWAMP-ROOT

Thousands of women have kidney and bladder trouble and never suspect it.

Women's complaints often prove to be nothing else but kidney trouble, or the result of kidney or bladder disease.

If the kidneys are not in a healthy condition, they may cause the other organs to become diseased.

Pain in the back, headache, loss of ambition, nervousness, are often times symptoms of kidney trouble.

Don't delay starting treatment. Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, a physician's prescription, obtained at any drug store, may be just the remedy needed to overcome such conditions.

Get a medium or large size bottle immediately if you wish first to test this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper.—Advertisement.

Occasionally.

All four of the members of a quartet are unalterably convinced that the other three cannot sing, and sometimes they are right about it.—Kansas City Star.

5 Room House 538



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