OUR NEURALITY ENDANGERED

By W. A. RUANE, GALENA, MD.

Recent dispatches from the Ethiopian front state' that the heavy tanks being used by the Italian armies in their advance are falling into camouflaged animal pits set by ingenuous natives and to order to overcome this situation, Mussolini has sent out a call for all available American mules to transpart their lighter field pieces.'

Only those whose lot has been cast in the vicinity of an American mule and has been so repaired, as to be able to communicate their thoughts, know the true character of that extraordinary beast. The Mule looks upon the world as a place in which to kick.

Archimedes, who was the earliest scientific person who mentioned the mule, remarked 'that if he were to give his mule a place detached from the earth, on which to stand, that energetic animal would kick all creation into kindling wood.'

This was by no means an exaggerated estimate of the army mule. The mule's full capabilities never became known until he was introduced into the army during the Civil War. In the presence of strife and lawlessness, the animal promptly undertook to have his share of both. When in camp the mule generally managed to keep an average of at least one brigadier-general and three regimental officers constantly in the air and the enemy frequently learned the situation of a Federal encampment by noticing the constant rise and fall of blue-clad soldiers, as displayed against the clear background of the sky. The losses resulting from mule accidents were so enormous that they would seem scarcely credible were they to be mentioned, but in th absence of official figures they cannot here be given, without running the risk of inaccuracy.

As is well known, the mule is not the only animal that kicks, for the horse, the cow and even some of our local countyp oliticians, whenever the proposed Bay Bridge is mnetioned have been known to kick to a greater or less extent.

The peculiar characteristic of the mule as a kicker, is the practically illimitable distance at which he can kick his victms. The horse and the other animals just mentioned, can kick only within a circle, of which the extreme length of the leg is the radius. Thus cautions persons by keeping out of the circle can save themselves from all injury. The mule on the other hand, can send a brigadier-general, or second 'looey' into the air whenever these gentlemen approach, within forty, or fifty feet of his hind legs. It was the universal belief in the army during the World War that no man was safe in the vicinity of a mule, unless he kept himself directly in front of the beast's head. This however was a mistake. A learned scientific person, either Professor Peters, or Professor Harkness, of the Smithsonian Institute, investigated the matter back in the winner of 1864, at the request of the government and claimed that the range of a mule's hind legs was capable of being accurately calculated. The rule given (Smithsonian Transactions, Vol VI, P. 84) is to multiply the square of the radius, or mule's leg, by 3.14159. Thus if the hind leg of a given mule is four feet long, its range for kicking purposes will be 77.52 feet. This corresponds closely with the majority of known facts, as proven by the army mule in France, during the World War; but it must be mentioned that several scientists refuse to admit the truth of this formula and that the apparently well-authenticated case of a Secon d Lieut. who was found with his head bruised and without his Sam-Browne belt, 107 feet from an artillery mule, which according to the testimony or several disinterested soldiers, had kicked him, it sems directly in conflict with the so-called Smithsonian law.

It is this terrible animal which was introduced in the last war and is destined to produce results in comparison with which the ravages of typhoid and malaria will seem trial. How the mule will reach Ethiopia is however a matter of small importance. If he gets there providing the so called 'sanctions' will permit, it will not be long before the astonished Italians, as they sail swiftly through the air, will be comparing the merits of the mule and their native volcano Vesuvius, with a strong preference for the latter. Ethiopia is a densely populated country, in parts and any mule that can kick over an area of a moderate-sized American county, can fracture more Italians and Ethiopins in a day than all the surgeons, or Red Cross can repair in a month. Before many weeks are over, the air in Ethiopia will be dense with flying combatants ascending and descending and the insecurity bred by the presence of a animal which can kick a man, who is out of sight around a corner will create a dissatisfaction which our government will find it hard to aliay.

It is hoped that peace negotiations will become a reality long before this dynamited quadruped has a chance to reach Addis Ababa and kick that worthy capital city to pieces; thus endangering our own country's neutrality, but at present, it cannot be denied that the prospect is anything but hopeful.

STILL POND

Charles Ford was the leader for last Sunday evening services. His grandfather, Mr. Wilmer Ford, of Kennedyvillee was the guest speaker. After the worship service was held a Friendship Circle was made and enjoyed by all.

October 27th is the date set for our Harvest Home Services. A hearty welcome is extended to everyone.

Jean and Jack King, of Kennedyville, spent last Saturday with their aunts, Mrs. Jennie Boulden and Miss Pearl Coleman.

Mrs. William Haddaway, Mrs. Annie Mason, and Mr. Charlie Guiser, of Worton, attended the services at the Pennycostal Church in Baltimore, last Sunday week. They were made welcome and enjoyed the services very much.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Clough and Miss Eloise Hepburn, of Baltimore, spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hepburn. Miss Eloise Hepburn has accepted a position of teaching in a private school in Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Moore, of Easton, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Harper last Sunday.

Mr. Gunby, the District Superintendent was the guest of Rev. and Mrs. Moore last Thursday evening.

Miss Audrey May Harper, Rodger Fellows and Francis Lewis Lamb are housed with the measles.

Mr. and Mrs. Carson Greenwood and son, James visited in Delaware last Sunday.

Rev. and Mrs. Moore entertained the Betterton Ladies Aid Society last Friday afternoon.

Mr. Galen Clark and Mr. Vaughn Moore, Jr., attended the football game last Saturday between Washington College a nd Swarthmore College at Swarthmore.

Mrs. William Medders, Rev. and Mrs. Moore attended the Ministers and Laymen Conference held in Dover last Tuesday afternoon and evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Durham, of Chesterville, Mr. and Mrs. Skinner and daughter, of Sudlersville, Mr. Harry Jones, Jr., and friend, Mr. Ross, of Georgetown, were guests of Mr. Harry Jones and family last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Jarvis and Mrs. Emma Thompson spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Jewell Thompson, of Rock Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mann and daughters, Alice and Theresa visited with Mr. and Mrs. Milbourne Sutton near Worton.

WORTON

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Joiner, of Baltimore, visited her father, Mr. B. F. Sewell, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Williams, Jr. and little son have returned to their home in Baltimore after spending last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Williams.

Mrs. Esther Duyer, of Philadelphia, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John Duyer.

Mr. Norman Baxter who has been very ill with flu is convalescent.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert P. Williams were given a variety shower at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Williams Wednesday evening. Many useful and beautiful gifts were received including quite a large sum of money. A very pleasant evening was spent, games were played after which ic cream and cake were served in abundance.

Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Sunfield, of Hanover, Pa., were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Rash last week end.

Mr. and Mrs. James Coleman and little son 'Jimmie' were the guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coleman, of near Massey, Sunday.

The tairty-fifth anniversary and Home Coming of Worton M. E. Church was well attended last Sunday, Rev. E. C. Sunfield, of Hanover, Pa., was the speaker morning and afternoon. Rev. S. L. Hanby, of Lincoln City, Del., preached a very splendid sermon at night. The Revival services are being held here the boy preacher, Chas. Schaffer will assist Rev. Hamblin.

Mr. and Mrs. Romie Fogwell entertained at a turkey dinner last Thursday evening occasion being Mr. Fogwells sixty seventh birthday. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mason and children, Hilda, Hazel and Franklin, Mr. Wilton Fogwell and daughters, Thelma and Christine.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Williams entertained Rev. and Mrs. S. L. Hanby, of Lincoln City, Del., Sunday.

Getting Up Nights

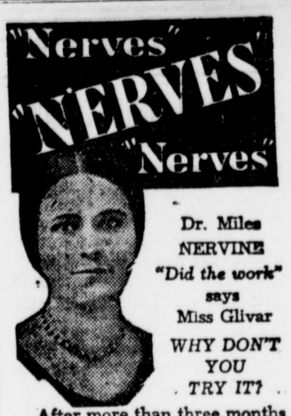
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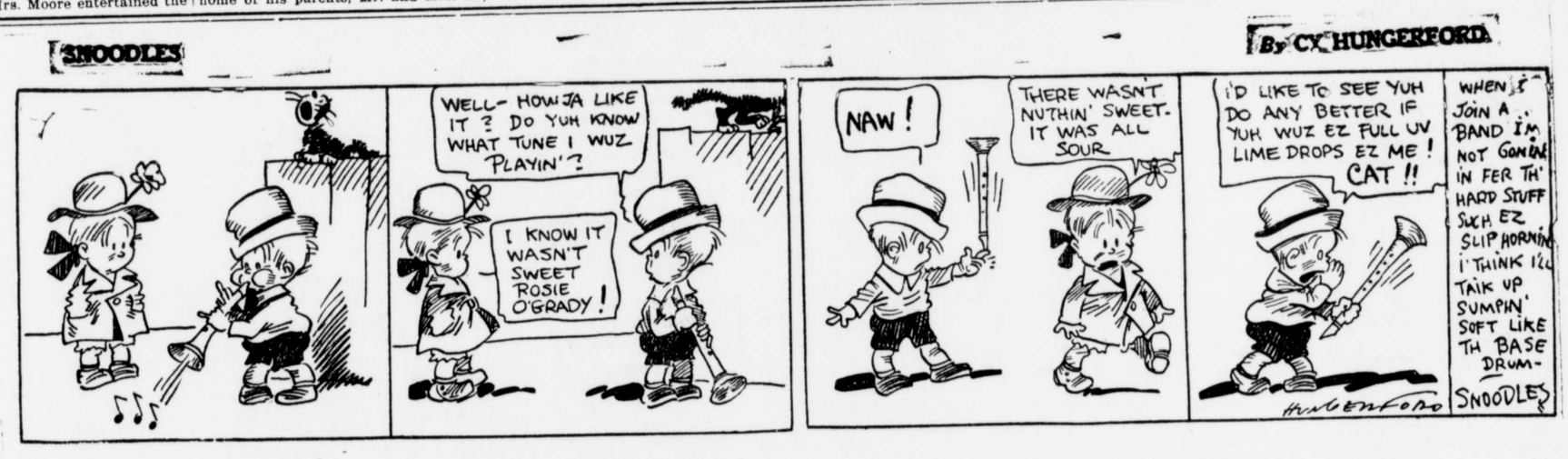
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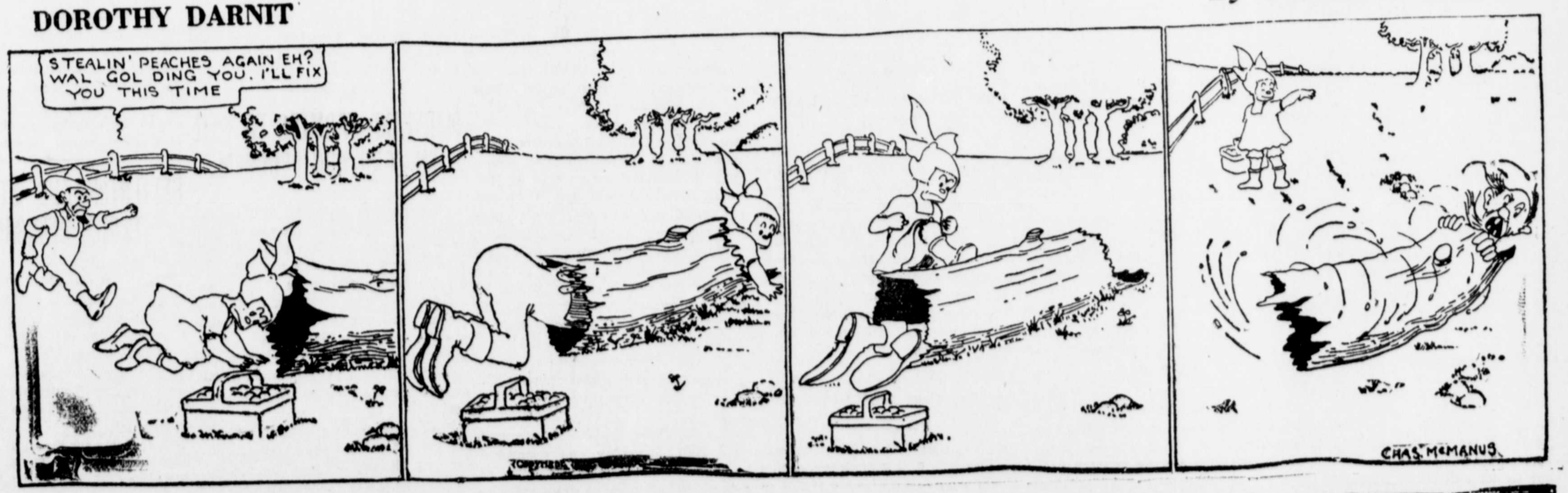
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