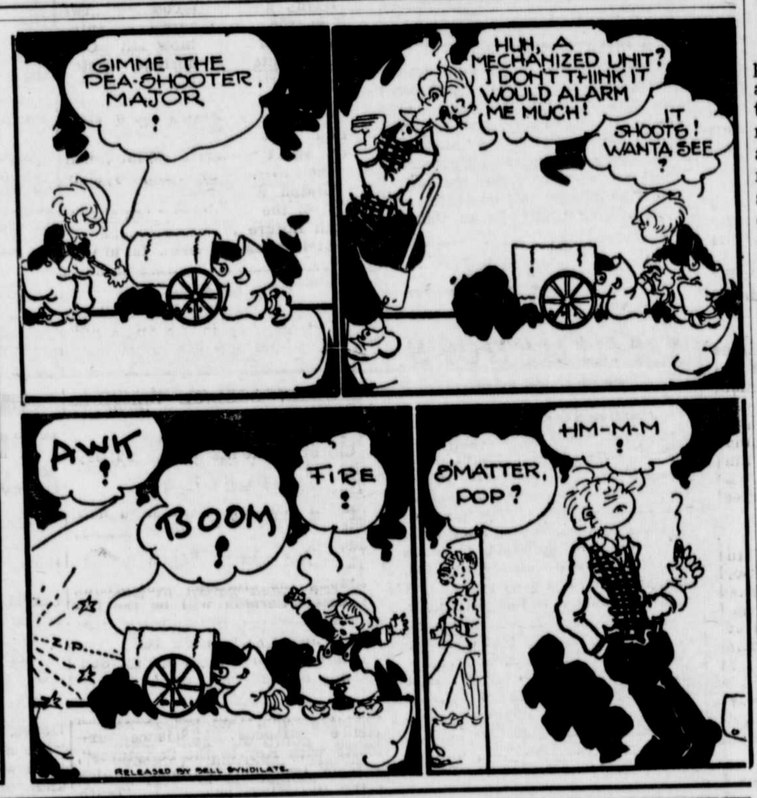
• OUR COMIC SECTION •

Events in the Lives of Little Men

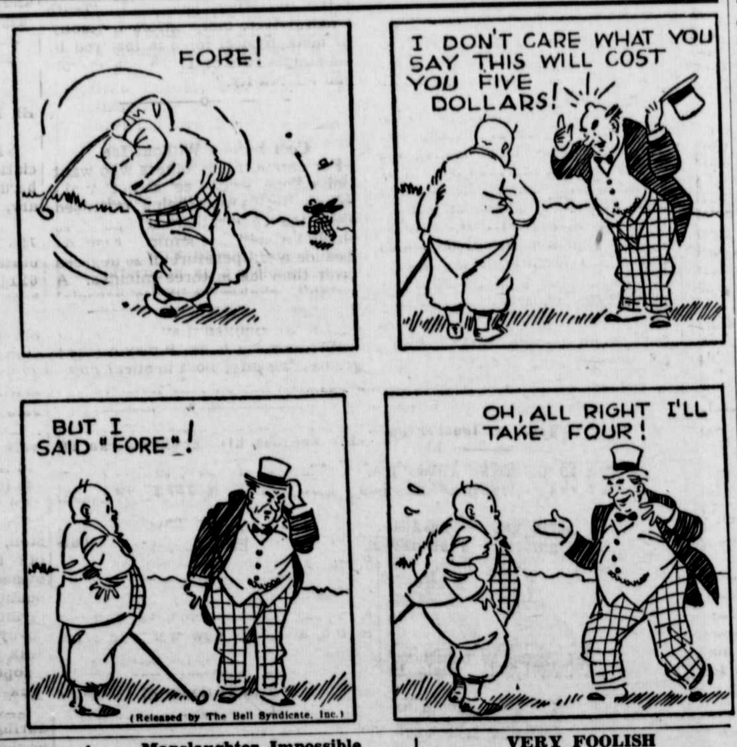
S'MATTER POP

By C. M. Payne



POP

By J. Millar Watt



BUSY FARMER

"Moggs is a busy farmer."

"Makes hay while the sun shines, eh?"

"Yep, and raises mushrooms in the dark."

Manslaughter Impossible

Lawyer (patiently) — Now, you know what to do in the courtroom, don't you?

Client—Yes, I guess so.

Lawyer—When the judge asks you if you are guilty or not guilty of manslaughter be sure you tell 'im "guilty."

Client—I won't say that. My conscience wouldn't let me.

Lawyer (exasperated)—Why not?

Client—Because I didn't kill a man—I killed a woman.

VERY FOOLISH

"A man always looks foolish when he is proposing marriage."

"Well, in a great many cases he is."

Kathleen Norris Says:

The Piper Must Be Paid

(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)

Elise had an affair eight years ago with a college boy. They were both much in love for awhile, then the matter ended.

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

CONFESSION

An engaged young miss comes to Kathleen Norris for advice—she had an affair with a college man. He is now married, but has her letters which contain unmistakable facts. Should she tell her fiance and risk his altering his determination to marry her? Read this week's problem and learn Kathleen Norris' timely answer.

WE ALL make mistakes in this queer twisted life. Our parents and grandparents had their weaknesses and stupidities, and we pay for them. As far back as the human family extends, its story is a story of crime and punishment for crime. Sometimes the sinner for a long, long time escapes retribution, but it always catches him in the end.

Unless, of course, we take ourselves in hand very early in life and with prayer and thought and care train ourselves out of our inherited failings. And few of us have either the courage or the foresight to do that!

For example I knew a rich and influential woman once who was head of the board that arranged a charity entertainment. Five hundred of the school children of the city were in this kermis, which was a great success. But as a newspaper reporter I knew, and of course she knew, that the city had condemned the hall in which the party was given as an absolute firetrap. Nothing happened and she seemed to be justified in risking thousands of lives for the sake of saving on rent.

Payment With Interest Inevitable.

But some years later a building this woman owned and rented collapsed. The insurance company refused payments because she had been twice warned that the foundations, laid in all the hurry of the earthquake-recovery year, were unsafe. Damages cost this woman and her children every penny of their fortune and she ended life struggling with a boarding-house she was completely unfit to manage.

Another case. There was a careless, slatternly girl in our town years ago whose car was always involved in smashes, whose hats blew away and purses got lost, who never remembered tickets or engagements. She was arrogant about it, telling all critics that that was the way she was and there was no use scolding her. A year or two after a brilliant marriage she hooked her heel in a torn hem, fell down a flight of stairs and spent two years in bed as a result.

Still others. The cursing, roaring, impatient type of man who backed his car out of the garage and over the body of his small son. The mother who left a sick child to a new maid who administered a spoonful of ammonia instead of medicine. The gun accidents; always the result of a careless attitude toward other persons' lives and rights. The drinking mother who in a cheerful after dinner carouse with friends didn't manage to save the three babies asleep upstairs.

No Evading Natural Law.

Cause and effect. It is the natural law. You can't evade it.

"My daughter is a fine woman of 27," writes an anxious mother from Texas. "She is planning to be married in August; church wedding, veil, everything. Her future husband is a dental surgeon; a splendid man.

"My problem is this. Elise had an affair eight years ago with a college boy. They were both much in love for awhile, then the boy graduated and went away, and the matter ended. She seemed to droop over it for a few months, afterward recovering completely and going on into her work as a psychopath with success. She has a good position which she will keep for a few months after marriage at least, but they both speak already of a home and children and seem to be ideally suited to each other.

"Elise has not told Will—as I will call him, of her early mistake. But many of her friends know of it, for the little crowd she was going with in college days was quite free in its attitude toward sex relationships and it was a recognized thing. I need hardly say that I would have stopped it had I been with her, but she had gone to a western college and it was only in summer vacation that she took me into her confidence.

Must Confess Misstep.

"The boy has married and is living in a distant city. She knows nothing of him now. But he has, or had, letters of hers that cannot be mistaken, and I feel strongly that she should make a clean breast of the whole affair to Will. She thinks it would hurt and annoy him without altering his determination to marry her. I must admit that he worships her, making her his ideal of womanhood, and that it would be hard for her to tell him anything that would lessen his admiration, but it seems to me unsafe to go into marriage without clearing all this up."

It IS unsafe. For these things seem unimportant if immediately admitted, but more sinister with every hour of married life. If Elise had told her Will of this early weakness almost as soon as she knew that he was in earnest about marrying her, it would probably have made small impression. The first flush of falling in love with her would have carried it away. But now, with the wedding date set, it is a little more awkward. Still, even now, her own only safety lies in telling him everything.

I say this not because I believe this particular sin is any more serious for a girl than for a boy. Like any other sin, regret for it, and a determination to weed out that particular weakness, atones for it. But it is the one sin for which women pay dear, and Elise may be committing herself to years of nervous fear and expectation if she doesn't own up and go on from there.

Safest Way.

If Will loves her enough to forget the whole thing, as he probably does, then she can console herself in the years to come with the knowledge that he married her anyway. Then if the early lover appears some day, or a blackmailing letter comes from the early lover's wife, Elise is on safe ground. Her husband knows all about it, and nobody can frighten her.

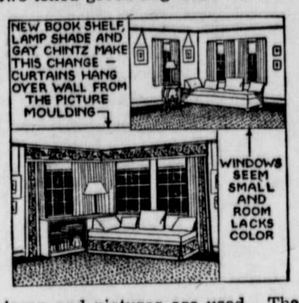
If Will is shocked and reproachful upon discovering that his goddess has feet of clay, then he is something of a prig, and perhaps Elise will be more fortunate if she waits for a more generous mate.

"Well, then he ought to tell her everything HE'S ever done!" the girls write me angrily when I say this. Certainly, if Elise wants to hear the story. But she will find that what is shame and suffering to her sex is a matter of placid boasting to the other, and she will get so angry, just listening, that the effect will be to make him more pleased in his secret heart than ever with his gallantries.

NEW IDEAS for Home-makers

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS

HOUSES of glass are realities today and, if you want to give any house a modern air, try to make the windows seem important. One way is to frame them in a group by covering the wall and leaving the glass exposed. A comparison of these two sketches shows that this may be done even though the windows are unevenly spaced. The cream colored walls, glass curtains and window shades are the same in both and the same two-toned green rug and the same



lamp and pictures are used. The couch and cushions are also the same but the covers are new.

An inexpensive chintz with gray-green ground and a flower pattern is used for draperies and to trim the couch cover of heavier gray-green cotton material which is also used for the cushions. The glass curtains are hung on rods suspended from the picture moulding with picture wire and hooks. The side drapes are unlined but the valance is made over buckram. Both are tacked to pine strips and are hung with picture hooks. One end of the book shelves is closed in to make a head for the couch. The outside is painted gray-green and the inside dark green. The parchment lamp shade has green bindings.

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NOTE: All types of curtains and draperies are clearly explained with cutting and making directions in Mrs. Spears' SEWING Book 1—draw curtains, lined draperies, pinch pleated curtains, cornice boards, valance boards, as well as standard and period type curtains. Directions for modernizing a couch, various types of chairs, and a fascinating assortment of other useful homemaking projects are contained in Book 5. Copies are 10 cents each. Send order to:

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Man's Power

It is impossible to imagine the height to which may be carried in a thousand years, the power of man over matter . . . O that moral science were in a fair way of improvement, that men would cease to be wolves to one another, and that human knowledge would at length learn what they now improperly call humanity!—Benjamin Franklin.

DON'T BE BOSSED

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Worry is interest paid on trouble before it is due.—Dean Inge.

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