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## SMILES

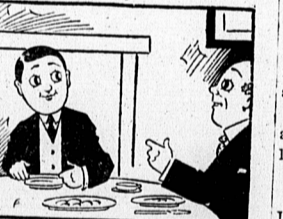
GABBIE GERTIE



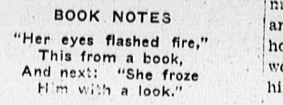
"There's one hard and fast rule that a kid always remembers."



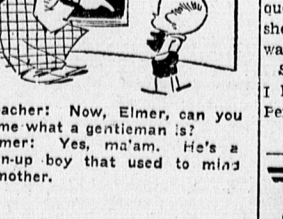
"You seem pretty cheerful for a sick man."



"I can't teach that Jones girl how to skate. It's no use trying."



"Her eyes flashed fire."



Teacher: Now, Elmer, can you tell me what a gentleman is? Elmer: Yes, ma'am. He's a grown-up boy that used to mind his mother.

# SELWOOD of SLEEPY CAT

By **FRANK H. SPEARMAN**

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(Continued)

With these words he skated as rapidly as possible from that part of the pond.

"I'm driving to Point of Rocks and Medicine Bend today," he went on.

"I'll be gone two or three days, it may be. You say Starbuck promised to clear those fellows out of the store for you?"

He's coming back this morning," replied Christie, with great confidence, "to talk with father about it. So I'm sure that will be all right."

"Your father is going to get well," predicted Selwood, without comment. "You needn't worry about that, anyway."

But he was not gone two or three days. That night at dusk, with the moon rising, Christie heard a man's voice outside her tent. "Is Doctor Carpy there?" She was alone with her father and made no answer.

The question was repeated. Christie peeped through the fly. Selwood stood at the tent door. She opened the fly farther and answered him.

"I thought he might—or might not—be here," he said in the same slow, even tone, "but I wanted to ask a question, anyway. Yes, I expected to be gone until Wednesday. I found a teamster hurt at Point of Rocks, so I drove him back this afternoon and I'm looking for Carpy."

He did not add much that he might have added, namely, that no real emergency had made this return necessary, and that he was inquiring for Carpy where he was quite certain he should not find him.

Christie stepped silently just outside the tent. "Father is asleep," she said guardedly. "The doctor hasn't been here this evening."

"Sorry I troubled you—father any better?"

"Oh, I hope so. He slept a lot today."

"He'll be pretty sore tomorrow morning. But that won't mean anything. Did Starbuck get those fellows out of the store for you?"

Little escaped Selwood. She turned her face quickly to one side. "No," she said, looking down, "he did not."

"What's the matter?"

"I—he—"

"Well?"

"I'm afraid I can't explain. I only wish—she spoke from the heart—"I might never see him again!"

"Well," exclaimed Selwood, "if that's the situation I won't ask any more questions. So he wouldn't do anything?"

"No," blurted out Christie, now angry at the recollection, "not unless—"

"Unless what?"

She clasped her hands. Unless I'd do something I refused to do—"

An expletive, like a pistol-shot, escaped the listener. "I promised to ask no more questions," said Selwood, "but I've got to ask just one. Is he fit to live—or isn't he?"

Can your father hear us here?"

"He's asleep."

"But he has ears. There's nothing he might not hear, only I don't like listeners. I don't believe you're afraid of me. Step over this way a minute."

Selwood spoke when they stood together, away from possible eavesdroppers. "Your father isn't hurt so much," he said quickly, that he might not startle her. "But can't you very well do this, so you must. The minute day breaks tomorrow morning be dressed, leave this tent, and walk straight to the store. You needn't be afraid. You won't see anybody, but you will be watched, and safe, from the minute you leave the tent till you're back in it. When you get to the store, if you see an Indian sitting on the front steps, walk right up to him and ask for the key to the store. He'll give it to you. Ask him to watch the store till you come back after breakfast. He will. Then get Carpy, early, at the hotel, and have your father carried up to the store on the cot. He'd better stay here day and night—and you, too till he's up!"

As Christie listened, a wave of contrition swept over her. She felt rebuked. To have slighted such a man as these words and this darkness revealed Selwood to her, in favor of a man such as she now realized Starbuck must be, was quite enough to humble her.

She looked at him without answering. Where he stood the big moon lighted his face, for he had surrendered the shadow to her own.

"What," she asked, "are you going to do? I hope you won't go into any danger on my father's account."

He surprised a laugh. "Not as much as I'm in now." It was a foolish thing to say. He tried to hedge, but, alarmed, she cut him off. "What do you mean? You've been far too kind to us to get into any trouble for our sakes. I only wish we were away from here."

"I'm willing to get into trouble if you'll stay. I'd rather hunt for a little than see you leave."

Christie tossed off a sense of embarrassment. "My leaving couldn't possibly mean anything to any one in Sleepy Cat."

"If I could tell you what it would mean to me you might change your mind on that point." She regarded him in the moonlight rather bravely till he had said that much. After he spoke she was silent—almost receptive; but he added desperately, "There's just one miserable blamed reason why I can't."

Christie changed the subject instantly. "Wherever we go we couldn't find a kinder friend—father said this morning. It's when trouble comes that real friends count. And your influence would be good on father." Selwood started a little. "I'm so afraid now of his running with these awful gamblers, down in River street." Selwood looked away. Christie spoke on very seriously: "Oh! all men in the world I think gamblers are meanest—don't you?"

(To be Continued)

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## Information Re Pensions To Ex-Service Men

The following information regarding pensions to ex-service men, tabled in the House of Commons in reply to a question on the order paper, is of general interest:

- MR. BLAIR:**
1. What was the total amount disbursed in pensions to ex-service men from October 1, 1930, to date?
  2. What was the total cost of administration of the pension board tribunals, courts and bureaus dealing with ex-service men from the first of October, 1930, to date?
  3. What was the number of applications for pensions heard from October 1, 1930, to date?
  4. How many such applications have been disposed of?
  5. In how many cases have pensions been granted?
  6. In how many cases have pensions been refused?
  7. How many applications are now pending before the pensions tribunal?
  8. In the opinion of the Department of Pensions and National Health, approximately what length of time must elapse before the cases now pending are disposed of?
- Hon. Mr. MacLAREN:**
1. \$27,963,832.23.
  - \$229,076.39.
  - By the Board of Pension Commissioners for Canada, 22,383; by the pension tribunal, 1,735, by the pension appeal court, 343.
  - By the Board of Pension Commissioners for Canada. The board have disposed, as far as their jurisdiction is concerned, of all claims. The number of claims which are held for reference to the pension tribunal, pending a decision as to their jurisdiction, is 777; by the pension tribunal, 1,536; by the pension appeal court, 343.
  - By the Board of Pension Commissioners, 4,762; by the pension tribunal (subject to appeal), 707; by the pension appeal court, 69.
  - By the Board of Pension Commissioners for Canada, none; by the pension tribunal, 829; by the pension appeal court, 220.
  - 1,200.
  - No answer.
- NOTE.**—The figures quoted in answer to question No. 2 are to March 31, 1931, all others are to April 30, 1931.

## MALPEQUE

The following were recent guests registered at the "MacDougall House" Premier Lea, Victoria. Horace Wright, Bedouque. Wm. H. MacDougall, Elmer Dunning, Charlottetown. J. Doyle, Charlottetown.

## TAKE TWO—MALPEQUE

The Rev. Russel and Mrs. Woodside, of Harcourt N. B. were welcome guests during the week at Mr. Woodside's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Woodside, Darnley.

Mrs. James K. MacGougan, arrived home on Tuesday evening after having spent a very pleasant winter in Ottawa where she was the guest of her son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon MacGougan. Mrs. MacGougan will spend several weeks with her daughter Mrs. John Simpson, Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Gamble, and three children of Tryon were guests at the "Manse" on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bearsto, and little son Jack, Mrs. Dan Bearsto, Mrs. G. W. Ramsay and Mrs. Sinclair MacGougan motored to Summerside on Monday and were in attendance at the Movies.

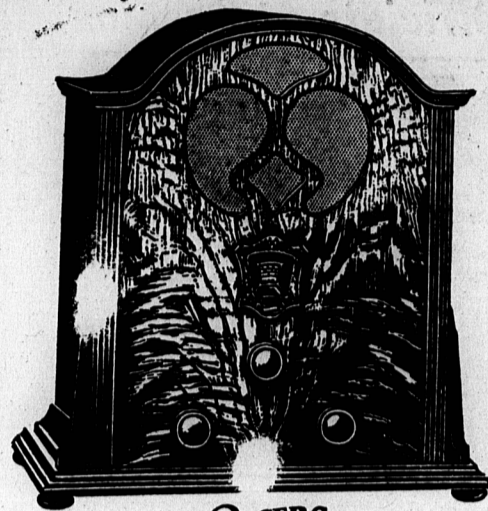
At the Malpeque and Baltic Auxiliary on Tuesday the members listened to an interesting account of the "Home Mission" work in the fields centered around Sydney, C. B., given by Mrs. E. M. Aitken who was in attendance at the Conference Branch in Sydney.

The Rev. E. M. Aitken spent the week in Charlottetown in attendance at the "School of Theology" which convened there this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Agnew of Wilmet Valley who about ten days ago moved into their new home, were pleasantly waited on by their friends on neighbors on Friday evening the 15th May. About one hundred assembled at their home on this occasion. Among them being a few intimate friends from Malpeque, Mr. Darrel Picketts presided, while Mr. Austin Jardine read the address. Mr.

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Charlottetown

Summerside

Ira Huestis on behalf of the company made a presentation of money. The evening passed very pleasantly the ladies of Wilmet Valley serving a dainty repast. Mrs. Agnew's friends here who were not able to be present to wish her happiness in her new home join in thought, with her friends in Wilmet in the hope that days of sunshine may attend her and Mr. Agnew in the coming years. Among those present from Malpeque were the following:—Mrs. Sinclair MacGougan, Mr. Owen MacRobert Crofter, John Hickey, Leslie Duncan MacGougan, Mr. Owen Mac-

Gougan, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lockhart, Misses Marjorie MacRae, Constance MacNutt, Thelma Woodside, Matilda Owen, Alena Woodside Messrs Frank Bearsto, Fred Donald, Aulden Donald and Harold Woodside.

Among those from here in attendance at the Conservative Convention held in Summerside on Saturday were, Messrs Thomas MacNutt, Robert Crofter, John Hickey, Leslie Champion, Percy Hickey, Ralph

Brynton, John Keir, Owen MacGougan, Frank Simpson, Neil Simpson, Lee Owen, Wilfred Gillis, Rodrick MacLellan, Gus MacLellan and Frank Shea.—M

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the shareholders of the Charlottetown Forum Ltd. will be held in Board of Trade Rooms, Wednesday, May 27th, at 8 P. M. 4675-5-21-31.

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