

He Found Gold In "Dogpatch"

By Peter Ronald

He receives an income of some thing around \$250,000 a year—which would nearly be enough to satisfy most of us—yet he is using the money to pay it to him for the almost unbelievable sum of fourteen and a half million dollars, revenue which, he contends, they've prevented him from getting in the past four or five years.

Creating one of the most popular daily and weekly comic strips of all time—the sort of job which keeps most cartoonists continually scratching furiously to keep even with ever-recurring "deadlines"—he still finds time to plot and write the story for another very successful strip, which he owns and takes half the revenue from.

Who is he?

Alfred Gerald Cappel, of course; and if you don't recognize him by that name, you probably will by "Al Capp" who directs the doings of the "Duck Family," Daisy Mae, Moonbeam McBrain and all the rest of the queer but somehow lovable folks who doings come, less than a million dollars in the comic strip LIL' ABNER.

Just which is the most widely read comic feature in the world depends, pretty much, on who you happen to be talking to—BLONDIE—DICK TRACY—JOE PALOOKA and LITTLE ORPHAN ANXIE all have their adherents. But nobody who knows anything regarding such things deems that LIL' ABNER belongs right up in the front ranks—im-



Al Capp

deed, the general feeling is that it tops them all.

It is interesting in eighteenth century—and five different languages—in papers claimed to have a circulation of more than thirty million daily. When a prize of \$500 was offered for the best drawing of "Lena the Hyena"—a creature, according to Capp, too equivocal for human eyes to see—more than a million entries came in. And as you probably know, Sadie Hawkins Day—the occasion when Dogpatch spinsters have the privilege of capturing eligible males too slow to escape—has come to be annually observed on most of the College campuses of the Continent.

Works Against Cruelty

The majority are appalled when first they learn of the cruelty involved in trapping, and the Animal Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals is an organization founded to work against this cruelty. The Association, though not yet as large as it must become to be truly effective, is growing, and has now been in existence for thirteen years. It is a humane society which aims to protect the wild, fur-bearing animals of Canada from a lingering death in a steel trap. The Association is endorsed by the leading Humane Societies across Canada. In addition to "be patient boys in Toronto there is a well established branch of the Association in Vancouver.

We are willing to attack this enormous problem from any and all angles. The American Humane Society offered money prizes for the invention of humane traps. Scores have been tried, but so far, none has been entirely satisfactory. Most of them cost more, and those of the box-type are more difficult to transport, while still others take longer to set up than the old cruel

Illustrator on the Boston Post; and his first experience with humorous art was in connection with a "single-panel"—which means one picture—feature known as "Mr. Gilfeather."

Just who is actually responsible for the invention of LIL' ABNER is a matter of doubt, even controversy. There was a time when Capp worked for Ham Fisher in producing the "JOE PALOOKA" colored Sunday strips; and in these there appeared a character "Big Levittin'", not unlike "Lil' Abner" as well as other hillbilly folk of the Dogpatch type.

Eight is twice as large in area as France, but 97 per cent of it is barren sand and rock.

Three Minutes of Fiction Fun

SHORT STORY

Miss Letty Retires

By JANET M. HINZ

Letty Howard paused hesitantly before the warped oak door. When it closed, it would be for the last time—putting fins to the best years of her life. Yet she hadn't priviled too much. When one was the last of the family, and when one's income had ceased to exist, the inevitable had to be accepted. But it had been miserably hard to say farewell to the old rosewood piano.

The piano had been the last of her things to go. The sale of the piano had removed her sole means of livelihood—her piano. She had been playing it for years, and when one's income had ceased to exist, the inevitable had to be accepted. But it had been miserably hard to say farewell to the old rosewood piano.

Letty relinquished the bag gratefully. "Time was," she answered. "When I could carry that thing. She was a wonderful friend."

"Set great store by that piano, eh, Miss Letty? You've played it every time I went by."

Don't be Trappers

If you are a trapper in your spare time, we suggest that you follow these four DON'TS drawn up specifically for the spare-time trapper. 1. If snaring is still your practice, or by the hand of the trapper who may not visit his traps often. "Grey Owl" writes in "Fighting the Wolf" (page 49) that frequently, birds will pick out the eyes before the animal is dead. In the meantime the trapped animal suffers the terror of a wild creature captured, and the agonizing pressure on the wounded paw. It is a wonder that such animals are sometimes caught by chewing or twisting of their own paw, and that animals have been caught by their own remaining foot.

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And One Thing or Another

FRANK MANN HARRIS

For the past couple of seasons most of the National Hockey League has been loudly keeling back and forth. So the other day a publisher published some action pictures taken during a Leafs game, clearly showing that the New Yorkers were using precisely the same tactics that they, and others, had been complaining about.

Why the paper should have come to this, we really cannot say. Any competent observer of hockey, as it is played today, knows well that if ever the rules had been strictly enforced they'd have made the life of the penalty-shooter illegal, and holding and the like would have been made illegal. What is really getting on their nerves is the fact that the Leafs are considerably smoother in their use of the stick, and don't get caught in the act as often as the clammer.

There may be a reason for this state of affairs; or the "hook check"—which is simply keeping an opponent under the arm and pulling him off his feet—was brought to its first flower of perfection by "Happy" Day, now coach of the Maple Leafs. Playing on the same team with men like Ned Horner, King Clancy, Chuck Conacher and other rough and ready operators, Day had the reputation of being an exceptionally clean player. And while it is undoubtedly true that he never performed any great amount of bodily mayhem on his opponents, what he used to do to their morale is something else again!

Decidingly powerful — he had more strength in his arms than almost any other player we've ever known. Day could hook an enemy out of the play, and keep him under restraint long enough for a Leaf attack to come. He was specifically looking for it, you'd never notice what was being done. You, the innocent observer, would see his face when the maddened "hooker" took a swat at him—and so get him penalized — was especially understanding. He was a real artist at it, make no mistake about that; and while "Happy" was—and is—generally appreciated, "Charlie" was what some of his disgruntled opponents used to call him.

But for all that, there's little doubt that there's far too much of this hooking and holding today, both in professional and amateur hockey, and that it's doing a lot to spoil the game for spectators. Except in very rare instances, there's no occasion for a player to raise his stick higher than his waist, and if the officials were a little more strict, they'd make a lot more hockey, and a lot less of what resembles "acromy" in English.

This is not a book-review column, which is probably just as well, because we generally get round to reading a worthwhile book anywhere from 3 to 5 years after it has gone out of print. Still, to all those fans who remember the great days of Montgomery and Bone, we recommend — if you haven't already done so — reading ROLLING STONE, in which Fred Stone tells the story of his life in a highly interesting manner.

Stone was probably one of the greatest natural athletes who ever lived. As good a judge as James J. Corbett told him he was good enough to be a champion boxer, but advised against it. He played basketball well enough to be a big-league star; and he was a champion roller skater, and could hold his own — the best at trap-shooting, roping, rodeo work — anything, in fact, he had a notion of being up. Now does he get a lot of things in any way of self-praise, simply as happenings along the way.

His skating experience is of interest to Canadians. He first tried that sport while on a visit to Toronto—and didn't do so well at it. Years later he had the notion of going a figure skating act on the road, and set out to master the art; and inside a few weeks had done so to an amazing extent, in fact he was one of the hits of the show.

You see, what nobody had told him was that the skaters he tried to emulate were the long straight blades that even Barbara Ann Scott or any other figure skater would have a hard time living many fancy figures on them!

And plenty "Love makes the world go round." "Yes, but it takes money to make it go."

By Arthur Pointer



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Itch Checked

AGAINST INHUMANITY

WE FOUGHT TWO WARS

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