

Woman's Interests

Household Children Cooking Fashion

ADVENTURES OF THE TWINS

by Olive Roberts Barton

"Wee, wee, wee!" cried Mrs. Woodchuck's children, and Tingaling and the twins (who were about to rush outside to capture Wally Woodchuck) stopped in amazement.

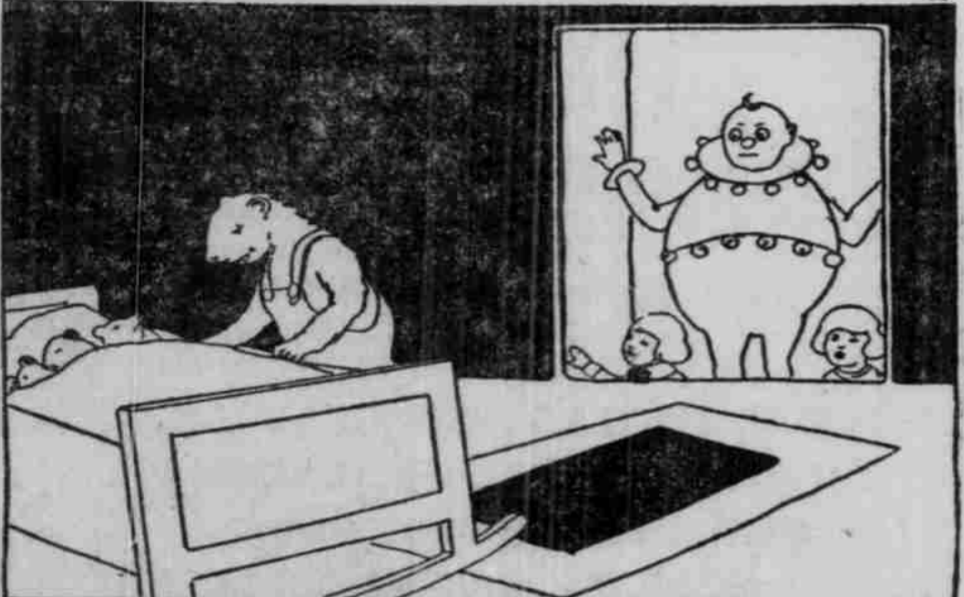
"Are your sure those are your children?" asked Tingaling.

"Sure!" answered Mrs. Woodchuck indignantly. "Do you think I'd go to the trouble of bringing up my neighbors? We have enough to do to feed ourselves."

"No doubt that's true," said Tingaling quickly, "in fact, I may as well tell you, Mrs. Woodchuck, that my little friends and I heard only today that your husband Wally had put out the children to shift for themselves, as he wished all the food for himself!"

"You can go upstairs, and see then," answered Mrs. Woodchuck tartly. "If all four children aren't safe and sound in bed, I'll stew my new spring hat for dinner, and I like it pretty well, being the most becoming one I ever owned."

So up they trooped, all of them, and peered into the bedroom. But they



So up trooped the twins and Tingaling, and peered into the bedroom.

were to have the surprise of their lives, for not only were the little chucks all in bed, but who should be rocking them and singing (in a voice about as soft and sweet as the electric cleaner when it's going), but Wally Woodchuck himself, and looking like pie. He was singing—

"Hush-a-bye, my little ground diggers,
With woolken fur and such fat little figgers;
Daddy will watch by the button-tree high,
And chase Mister Fox should be chance to come nigh."

He pretended not to see the people crowding into the room, and seemed awfully surprised when the fairman landlord shook his bells and said "Ahem" quite loudly.

"Why, I declare!" yawned Wally. "Did you get tired waiting for the sassfras for your tea, folks? I heard the children fussing, so I came upstairs, I was nearly asleep myself."

Tingaling looked stern. He knew Wally was not telling the truth.

Ives at all! You recall his romantic history, as related by Ann lately? Some nonsense about his being the son of a French sculptor, and an American singer, born in London. Meace brought up in Greece? Say, my dear! Claude Ives is straight Jacob Smart. He was born in Ashton, Arkansas, and his father was a sausage mixer. So the "Greece" part is straight Jacob Smart.

"Can I tell Ann?" I asked eagerly.

"She's so dramatic—she'll hate it, so she'll be cured for good, I guess! I could have collapsed in tears of joy, thinking I was released from my job as chief rescuer of Ann.

"Wait!" said daddy in my ear, as if he were imparting a secret. "Wait! I'm going to make this town too warm for that guy! Don't scare the bird, my dear."

"Very well, daddy," I agreed as I dropped out of the car at my own side door. I hated the whole affair. I had let Chrys persuade me too easily.

What would Bob say?
I picked up the receiver of the phone and called Bob's office. His secretary reported that he had gone out to try a new roadster, that he would be gone about an hour.

I hung up the receiver feeling very wretched indeed and put on my chic riding apparel knowing that I would much prefer to put on a kitchen apron and make the soup for my husband's supper.

(To Be Continued)

THREE OF HIS WIVES PUT IN GOOD WORD
LONDON—All George H. Meace's "wives" spoke well of him in court here on a charge of bigamy. Meace had three living and one dead. Meace has several war decorations. He is held for trial.

WIFE CLAIMS HER HUSBAND SOLD HER
LONDON—Mary Pearman says her husband sold her to a man named Jones at a tea shop. Albert Pearman, she told the court, took her to the tea shop and threatened to "do her in" if she didn't sign a document to leave Pearman's house and board for Jones'.

KING ALBERT MAY TAKE TO THE AIR
BRUSSELS—"It is obvious people must fly," said Albert, King of the Belgians, and accepted a Bristol airplane as a gift from the Handley-Page company. He said he wanted bigger fuel tanks and dual ignition but no royal decorations.

TAR NOTE PUZZLES WOMAN AND POLICE
TOLEDO—Mrs. L. W. Davis can't understand why a note smeared with tar and reading "Mrs. Davis behave or you'll get this," should have been pinned to her door here. The police are trying to find out.

GOLFERS CHASE BALLS IN AUTOS
SAN DIEGO—Golfers at the Country club here are chasing the ball around the links in automobiles.



A BURST OF PRECOCITY

By Frederic J. Haskin

NEW YORK, June 22.—With children nine to twelve years of age writing books and contributing to the magazines, boys just out of college and boarding school writing realistic novels which cause sensations in literary circles, and a dramatist in his twenties setting a new standard for the American stage, the English speaking world is witnessing a remarkable display of precocious talent.

The first and best known of these young wonders is the now famous Daisy Ashford, whose book, attested by James Barry to have been written at the age of nine, has sold in enormous numbers. But Daisy Ashford does not really belong to this group of precocities, for her book was written long ago and she is now a grown woman. Furthermore, it sounds like the work of a child of nine, and is interesting chiefly as a curiosity. The same is true of several child authors who have sought to emulate her success, one of whom is publishing in a leading American highbrow magazine. Their work is undoubtedly remarkable for children, but it is not of any considerable literary value.

A great deal more interesting is the group of what might be called "boy novelists" from seventeen to twenty-three years of age, who have recently published works of realistic fiction that win the praise of the most conservative critics. This group is especially appealing. For a long time the gray-beards have held the limelight in literature—or if not the graybeards at least the mature. As the study of any biographical dictionary will show, few writers produce anything that attracts attention before the age of thirty, and few make much of a reputation or get a wide hearing until they are near forty. This means that a man generally does not succeed in impressing the old, against whom youth struggles for its ideals and its desires largely in vain. It has been pointed out many times that old men make the wars and young men fight them. It might be said with almost equal truth that old men make the laws and young people have to obey them, the old generally being strong enough to get around them. It is likewise the old and the mature who fix social custom and convention, and it is the young upon whom these restrictions press most heavily. Every father is bent on saving his sons from the vices

which he most enjoys, and every mother seeks carefully to guard her daughter from the indications which made her own youth romantic and interesting. All of us have a powerful penchant for saving the other fellow's soul, and the old indulge this penchant constantly upon the young.

This burst of youthful genius therefore means nothing less than a revolt of youth, and a successful one, against the inhibitions which age has sought to lay upon it. These young men have demanded a hearing, and they have gotten it. They have told all the world how the world looks to a human insect who has just emerged from the cocoon of a formal education and is about to try his wings in the more or less free air of civilized society. All of them have a great deal to say about the kind of education which the elders have provided for them, and all of them have something to say about love and marriage. Education and age are about the only things which they have any experience, but on these subjects their opinions are emphatic and passionate.

Boy Geniuses Here and Abroad
The youngest of the boy novelists is an English lad named Alec Waugh, who has written a novel setting forth his experiences in the British schools. His book is commended by critics as a really brilliant performance, and he finds good to school on the whole a barbarous and futile business. He was only seventeen years old when his book was written.

His fellow genius on this side is F. Scott Fitzgerald who at the age of 23 has written a novel of life in a high class American "prep" school, and at Princeton, which has run through several editions and attracted the widest attention. Fitzgerald's hero found his school and college life amusing, but he does not record that he learned anything of importance there. He describes Princeton as a delightful country club where everything possible was done to make a correct snob of him. He also tried to get married but failed because he had not enough money. The girl with whom he fell in love was the typical American debutante, and he needed for nothing except the career of a very pampered and extravagantly kept woman. This realist hero also goes to war and he does not like war any better than he did love or education. He finds everything all wrong and ends by becoming a socialist on the ground that he has everything to gain and nothing to lose by a radical change in the existing order of things.

A very similar book is that of

Robert Nathan, who takes life at Harvard as his theme, and whose hero also dabbles in marriage and radicalism. He also finds human society to be badly arranged and conducted.

All of this youthful literature sounds the same note. Formal education, it says, is hollow fog and love is a mercenary fizzle. The same idea in a slightly different form runs through Eugene O'Neill's famous play, "Horse-Shoe." Always a few years older than the novelists, O'Neill cannot have been more than 23 or 24 when he wrote his play, for he was a long time getting it produced. It is the story of an aspiring young man isolated on a typical American farm. His hopes are crushed and he is finally killed by the routine of labor and the restrictions of marriage. O'Neill joins Nathan and Fitzgerald in saying that organized society meets the youth of imagination and ideals with a club.

Does Early Budding Bear Fruit?
It is a widely held popular idea that the precocious young person is a weed of rank and brief growth—that he is apt to run his course quickly. But no scientific support can be found for this notion. Francis Galton in his study of hereditary genius records that a large number of the world's great creative minds showed their ability at an early age. Donaldson in his "Growth of the Brain" says that an early development of mental power usually indicates also a capacity for prolonged growth. These young men have a very best of opportunities for high and long-continued achievement. The greatest danger to which they are exposed, so far as genuine achievement is concerned, is that the commercial publishing interests will thwart their development by inducing them to do cheap and hasty work. This is the process which has ruined more writers in America than any other.

What scientific literature we can find on precocity and mental development also knocks a hole in another popular idea—that hard work will accomplish almost anything in the way of development. The authorities are agreed that the quality of a man's achievement depends far more on the innate character of his brain cells than on his education, training or effort toward self-improvement. It has long been the custom to point out to young

Confessions of a Bride

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THE BOOK OF ANN

Chrys Advises Me to Take Ives Away from Ann

"I mean just this," Chrys said. "Ann will keep right on flirting with Ives—she will never heed what we tell her—and all too soon we'll get the disagreeable results. The only way out is for you to take her conquest away from her. Goodness! How hurt her pride will be! And thus will end Mr. Ives' cause forever!"

"Of all distressing schemes, Chrys! Why, if Bob should miscast me, it should misunderstand what a future I would face! Bob wouldn't divorce me! Oh, no! He'd keep me tied—like a convict, the rest of my days!"

"Nonsense! As Bob's twin, I guess I know him. He has his moods, but they always pass!"

"I couldn't risk this, Chrys. Go to a detective agency. Hire a substitute. It's simply can't be done. Ives takes particular pride in the social status of the girls he fascinates. He claims to have temperament. Maybe he has. I feel sure, my dear, that you'll have an easy job. Ives will worry mighty litigious."

At the gate, I met Daddy Lorimer coming from town in his car.

"Daughter!" he called, then he motioned me to a seat beside himself and ordered the chauffeur to drive to my house.

"Daughter!" he repeated as he pulled a letter from his pocket. The sight of it made him chuckle as if it were some splendid joke. "I'm after that decorator chap strong. See what I've got first thing. His name isn't Claude

Uncle Joe Exhibits His Galluses



UNCLE JOE CANNON

CHICAGO—"Just like a circus," said "Uncle Joe" Cannon, vet congressman, as he watched the goings on of the Republican national convention. And when the sessions began to get warm he removed his coat and sat with his galluses right out in public view. Cannon is only 84 years old and says the youngsters are entitled to front seats. He had one.

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folk that Abraham Lincoln spent long hours lying on his stomach studying heavy books, and that Benjamin Franklin led a toilsome youth. The young aspirant is taught to believe that he too may become a Lincoln or a Franklin if he will only work hard enough. There is nothing in it. If he is endowed by nature with a great brain he has but to follow his inclination in order to develop it, and if he is not so endowed, no amount of work can make him anything but a mediocrity. Indeed, hard grinding, effort is rather worse than useless. It is only when you are really interested and therefore working without sense of effort that you are developing your brain, for only then does the blood feed it properly. The thing to do is to find what interests you and then do it for the joy of doing it. If you fail to achieve greatness it will not be because you did not work hard enough. The world is full of fools who are working their heads off and making neither fame nor wealth.

SEEN TWO TROUSER LEGS WALKIN' 'ROUND?
SEATTLE—The police are looking for A. Zolla's trousers' legs. Zolla left the legs on the end of the pants over the end of his bed. In the dead of night somebody fished 'em. There was \$154 tucked under the tucks of the right hand foot, of the trousers.

BANS WOMEN SPIES THEY FALL IN LOVE
LONDON—The next time there is a war Captain Ferdinand Tuckey thinks there should be no women spies employed. "They fall in love too easily," he says in his book called "The Secret Corps," just published here.

GERMANS SEIZE TWO MILLION IN SILVER
COPENHAGEN—Two million dollars in silver bars was seized here by German authorities, according to newspaper reports. The money was being smuggled from Germany in cattle cars by Frenchmen, it is said.

Wedding Bells For Helen Taft



Helen Taft and F. J. Manning

Helen Taft, daughter of the president, is to be married in July to Frederick Johnson Manning, instructor of history at Yale. Their engagement has just been announced. Manning served as a captain of the artillery during the war. Miss Taft is acting president of Bryn Mawr college.