

MEDI-CALL

12th General Hospital Weekly Newspaper

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NATURAL HISTORY IN FABLES:

THE HOUSE

Story 7

Once upon a time there lived two mouses - I mean meece - no, moose, mices, the heck with it! Once there lived one mouse named Gus who was a male and also another mouse named Miranda who was a female. She was married to Gus and had a Ring and a Paper to prove it, but you wouldn't need them to know it, bless us, for she outweighed him by a ton or more and made him Toe The Mark. Other males might drop in at the Cheddar Cheese for a few rounds and maybe a wink at the girls in the floor show but not Gus. His wife made him come home for dinner every evening, although once she took him to a church social and another time she let him go roller skating. She would often tell him that Good Meals were enough for any man, and it is certain that they were enough for her. She ate like a horse and was beginning to look like one.



One day Miranda decided, because it was Spring, to take a walk in the country. She told Gus he would have to stay behind and put up the screens, and off she waddled. Gus didn't argue. He worked hard and pretty soon he had finished. Then, because there was nothing better to do, he went to sleep on the davenport. He woke up just in time to see his wife's shoes going down the gullet of a cat named Roger. He had surprised her as she was walking up to the porch, and her sprint didn't help any. The screens had narrowed the doorway and she couldn't get through.

MORAL:

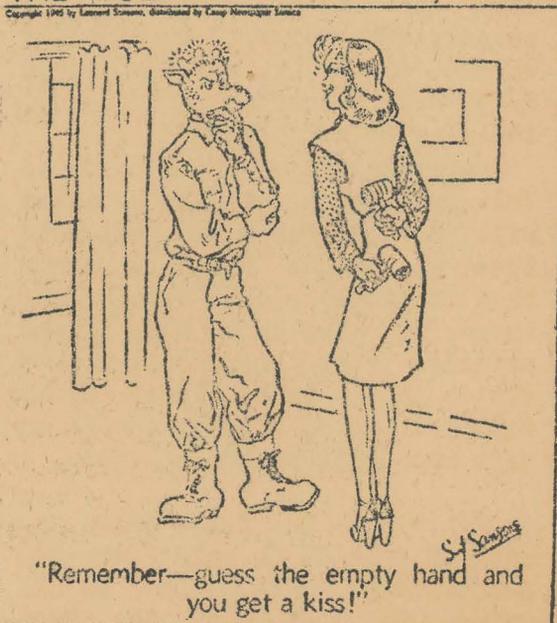
"If you're eating like a Panda,
And your fanny's a veranda,
Just remember poor Miranda."

THE SHOW GOES ON

"Kiss and Tell", A USO show touring MTO will play here 2 April. The company will bring their own settings with them - we hope. In another city, their equipment was misrouted and didn't arrive by curtain time. The cast decided to do the best they could and begged and borrowed what they could - and presented their show.

THE WOLF

by Sansone



TWELFTH MEDICAL CHIEF

RECEIVES LEGION OF MERIT

JAUNDICE RESEARCH BRINGS AWARD

Colonel Marion H. Barker, MC, Chief of Medical Service, received the Legion of Merit recently for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services". Colonel Barker has been working on hepatitis research in MTO and has "discovered valuable new data concerning its diagnosis, progress, treatment and after-effects".

The award, which is the Army's fourth highest, was presented by Major General Stayer, Surgeon General of MTOUSA.

PATIENT PRESENTED SILVER

STAR FOR BRAVERY IN ACTION...

S/Sgt Lewis R. Hamm, 350th Infantry Regiment, now a patient on Ward 34, was awarded the Silver Star by Colonel Sturgeon last Wednesday for gallantry in action in the Italian campaign.

Hamm, a machine gun section leader, manned a gun; while the enemy was advancing he moved the gun to obtain a better field of fire, and immediately opened up on them. Quickly locating his position, the enemy directed heavy fire on him in an effort to pin him down. An enemy flame thrower succeeded in approaching close to Hamm's position and directed spurts of flame at him.

Though severely burned in the face, Hamm remained where he was and turned his gun on the enemy flame thrower, killing the soldier operating it and his assistant. Hamm subsequently suffered a bullet wound in his hand, but still remained at his post and killed three more German soldiers. He refused to be evacuated until the attack was over. His hometown is Olney, Texas.

"UGLY" DUCKLING LIVENS

TENT LIFE; PORCUPINE

DRINKS SELF TO DEATH

Thus far no Easter bunnies - have appeared in the Detachment Area, but we have seen one duckling. His name is "Harry" and he has become quite used to his godfather, Angelo J. Calise, and the other members of Tent #1, Row 5. The yellow duckling is a real Florentine, and takes to Army life as well as it takes to water.

Harry's greatest joy is taking a noon-day walk with his master. The duck talks incessantly but he is also a good listener and loves company. If he believes he is about to be left alone in the tent he will commence to quack as loudly as a duckling his age can.

Speaking of animals, Utilities reports the case of the lonesome porcupine, which wandered into the office one day and immediately found a home. After several days of coaxing, little "Porky" finally led down the social barrier to make friends with the fellows. He was most liked by Amos Hazelwood who was finally able to feed him. Porky's favorite items were pork chops and milk. The latter delicacy proved disastrous to him, however. One evening when he was alone in the shop, he discovered a bucket of white paint and, thinking it was milk, he climbed up on the rim of the bucket to have a nightcap. The next morning a white-coated ball of needles was buried at sunrise.

TWO OFFICERS ASSIGNED ON TD

TO SURGICAL SERVICE OF 12TH

Two Medical Officers, Lt. Huerta C. Neals and Capt. Dale E. Fox, have been assigned to the 12th General on TD for 45 days. Lt. Neals, 27th Q.M. Bn, is assisting Major Martin on Ward 41, and Capt. Fox, 15th Evac Hosp, is working on Ward 34.

DO YOU WANT TO "SAY IT WITH JEWELS" ? -

HERE ARE SOME PERTINENT FACTS ON PRECIOUS STONES

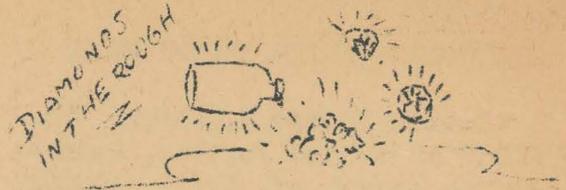
Nearly everyone likes to wear some kind of ornament or jewelry. Whether this ornament be a hand-made aluminum ring or diamonds in a platinum mounting may make no difference in the pleasure given the wearer by it. Gems are the bright features or centers of interest in jewelry. They may be prized also simply as museum pieces in a collection. According to their origin, gems are classifiable as: 1) natural, 2) synthetic and 3) imitation.

Natural gems come from characteristic minerals which owe their attractions to color, to a pattern or design, or to their abilities to reflect and/or refract light. There is, however, a catch to this because many minerals that fulfill requirements of beauty are too soft to be durable as gems. Hence the property of hardness is a necessary one also.

Gem minerals may be opaque, translucent or transparent. Examples of opaque varieties are jasper, lapis lazuli, and malachite. Translucent varieties include opal, chalcedony, star sapphires, and some varieties of carnelian. Transparent stones, such as diamond, ruby, sapphire, aquamarine, amethyst, topaz, and garnet are more familiar to most of us than are the opaque gems.

SYNTHETIC GEMS MADE TO LAST

Synthetic gems are, strictly speaking, exact duplicates in chemical composition and physical properties of the naturally occurring mineral which they imitate. This duplication is true of synthetic rubies and sapphires. The synthetic aquamarine, a common light blue gem used a great deal in rings, is actually better in hardness and color than the natural stone and is not even similar to it in composition. Liberally speaking, a synthetic gem is one which is not glass but a more durable material manufactured to imitate a natural stone.



Imitation gems are made of glass or plastic. They fall into two categories, cut and pressed. The cut varieties are ground and polished and may be very handsome but lack, as a rule, the wearing qualities of natural or synthetic stones. Pressed gems are cast in molds and are the cheapest of the imitations because they can be produced readily in unlimited quantities.

Since it is a practice of many dealers in gem stones to mix all of the above mentioned varieties in trays, the uninitiated buyer is likely to select synthetics and glass because these are often prettier than natural ones. Fortunately some gem minerals are too abundant to be worth imitating. This is particularly true of the so-called "hard stone" types which include jasper (or bloodstone), carnelian, varieties of onyx, chrysoprase (like carnelian, but green), lapis lazuli, and malachite.

SOME GLASS HAS CLASS

Transparent gems are more often imitated because it is rather easy to do so with colored glass. Good synthetic stones may command almost as high a price as natural ones because of the labor of cutting and other costs of production. Natural gems are frequently less brilliantly colored than imitations and are likely also to have flaws in them. These flaws may vary from unobjectionable lines or planes of the natural crystal structure to black or other opaque inclusions and even cracks, spaces, and bubbles.

If there be any moral to this tale, it is that the prettiest gems are not necessarily the most precious.

REGISTRAR • "Mr. Anthony" to • Hospital Patients

UNTANGLES SERVICE RECORDS

Registrar's Office could more patly be named "Headache Alley" or "Information Please". To insure greater efficiency, the Office is broken down (and we do mean broken down!) into two separate entities--Detachment of Patients and Office of the Registrar. The former handles Service Records, pay and various correspondence pertaining to patients' personnel records. The latter deals with vital statistics, general correspondence, evacuations, and daily Morning Reports. Members of the department claim that they consume more aspirin and APC pills in the performance of their duty than does any other department.

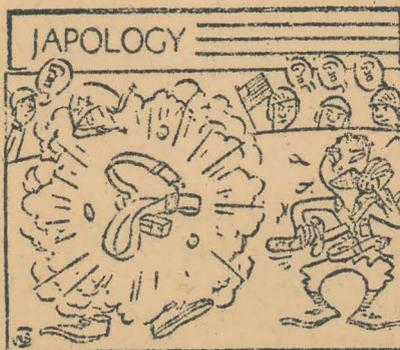
RECORDS, RECORDS!

The office is well equipped to handle any and all discrepancies and problems that arise in connection with records pertaining to any patient who is now or who ever has been hospitalized here. T/5 Howe, assisted by T/5 Grossman, Pfc Rutkey, and Pvt Montgomery, is in charge of filing. Service Records branch is headed by Sgt Roberts and includes S/Sgt Friedman, Cpl. White, T/4 Grieco (TD in USA at present). Finance is managed by Sgt Lange aided by T/5 Quinlan, Cpl. E. R. White, Pvt. Martin and Pvt York.

ADV: The Registrar's Office has an opening for an EM, regardless of rank, who has three hands, doesn't want any time off, and who can sweep the floor while endorsing Service Records. No others need apply!

Evacuations are under the personal care of S/Sgt. Rosnick and T/4 Tabolsky. T/4 Clements handles Morning Reports and correspondence is promptly and efficiently handled by S/Sgt. Berle and T/5 Stewart. Vital Statistics are kept intact & up-to-date by those wizards of figures (both kinds), S/Sgt Griffith, Sgt. Coulston & Pvt Holtz. Newly appointed T/5 McEnderick handles any and all complaints about mail.

Heading this multiplex organization is Capt. R. B. Johnson of Albuquerque, New Mexico, assisted very ably



Another popular fallacy concerning the Japs is that they are stolid and phlegmatic. The truth is that the Japs are very emotional, trained in repression all their lives. When they get into tight spots, they are much more likely to "blow up" than are other persons.

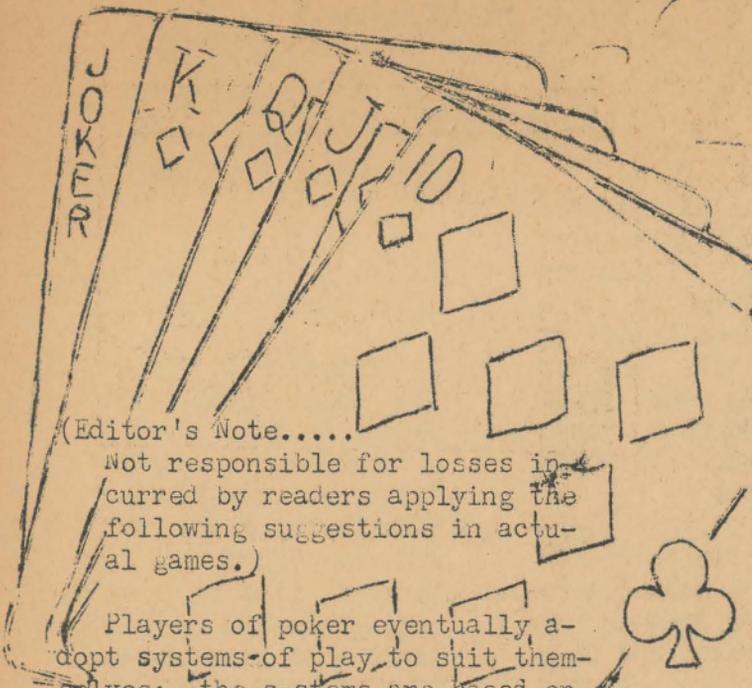
VARIETY OF PROBLEMS

by Lt. E.C. McBride and M/Sgt "Ace" Cowan.

Registrar's Office has some interesting points even as do other departments. Griffith, for example, can whistle any song, modern or otherwise, in the same flat key--and usually does! This keeps his co-worker, Coulston, in a perpetual state of nerves for which he has been taking weekly "Shock" treatments consisting mainly of staring at pin-up-girls. Vital Statistics, known to the trade as the "Beaver Dept", is so overworked that the men in it have learned to tie their ties while type-writing.

PROBLEMS, PROBLEMS!

The Office has straightened out some involved situations into which patients have found themselves, ranging from the one who hadn't been paid for over a year to the one who wanted a divorce from his wife. In all cases, gratifying results have been obtained. Silver Stars, Bronze Stars, promotions, Service Records, pay, dependency allotments, insurance, family trouble, Z.I. trips, "B" boards and various other matters help to keep the personnel of the department slightly askew, but nonetheless in good (?) spirits.



POKER FACE



Another way of illustrating this ratio is the following:

For every straight flush that is dealt in draw or 5-card stud, 16 hands will contain 4 of a kind, 94 hands will be full houses; 128 hands will be flushes; 255 hands will be straights; 1373 hands will be triplets; 3089 hands will have 2 pair; 24,456 hands will have 1 pair; and, 32,564 hands will not even contain one pair!

(Editor's Note.....)

Not responsible for losses incurred by readers applying the following suggestions in actual games.)

Players of poker eventually adopt systems of play to suit themselves; the systems are based on mathematical and psychological aspects of the game, and some depend more on knowledge of odds, while other systems depend largely on hunches. *MEDI-CALL* makes no attempt to represent itself as an authority on poker, but presents the following for your consideration.

(These tables of odds apply only to full decks, well-mixed, and with no wild cards.)

The odds against your being dealt in draw or 5-card stud

a straight flush	are...64,973-1
four of a kind	are....4,164-1
a full house	are.....693-1
a flush	are.....508-1
a straight	are.....254-1
three of a kind	are.....46-1
two pair	are.....20-1
one pair	are.....1 1/2-1
no pair	are.....1-1



Now suppose you have been dealt one pair in draw; you discard three cards and hope for the best—the odds are 359-1 against your getting four of a kind. They are only 97-1 against your getting a full house, 8-1 against your getting triplets, 5-1 against your getting 2 pair, and 2 1/2-1 against your improving the hand in any way. Should you hold a "kicker", however, the odds are 4-1 against any improvement.

You have one chance in 12 on getting a full house when drawing to 2 pair. If you draw one card to a belly straight you similarly have one chance in 12 of completing the straight. Should you be drawing one card to a straight open at either end, you have one chance in 6 of hitting.

(cont'd on page 8)

MALE CALL Milton Caniff

GRILLED CHICKEN ON THREE-DECKER. WELL BROWNED



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REDBIRD

SPORTS



REDBIRDS SWAMP TRAINMEN IN PRACTICE GAME

March 25....The Redbirds hammered out 13 hits for a total of 20 bases and 8 runs to down the Boomers of the 719th Ry Bn 8-1 at Ory Field this evening.

While Krause, Thrasher, and Hunt were touched for 7 safe blows the Bird pitchers kept the hits well scattered and in only one inning were the Boomers able to get over one hit.

Andy Krause started on the mound for the Redbirds and held the Boomers to 3 hits in four innings. The only time the Railroad men threatened to score was in the 3rd inning. Haney, Boomer pitcher, was on 3rd with no men out when Egan lined out to Sparrs in left field and Haney was doubled when he tried to score after the catch.

Thrasher pitched the 5th and 6th innings for the locals. In the two innings, he struck out 4 men and walked 2. But the Boomers put together 3 singles in the 6th for their lone run. Hunt pitched the last inning allowing one hit - a single over second with two men out.

Once again the Redbirds started with a bang. Lavarov and Kelly started the ball rolling with singles over second. After Subjeck struck out, Sparrs lined a double down the left field line, scoring Lavarov and Kelly. Then McClaid doubled to score Sparrs. The Birds then led 3-0.

In the second, Oliphant led off with a single. Krause bunted down third for a hit. Oliphant, seeing third base unprotected, tried to take third but was tagged out. Lazarov hit a double play ball to short but was safe when the 2nd baseman threw past first. Kelly slammed a long double scoring Lavarov with the 4th run of the game.

Observed at Sunday's game between the Redbirds and the Boomers was "Ace" Cowan, who showed that he is not only a good "setter" but is also an excellent "retriever".

BASEBALL TODAY AT ORY FIELD

12th General vs. 7th Station

Time: 1400 hrs.

There will also be exhibition games at Ory Field Tuesday evening at 1600hrs and Wednesday at 1700 hrs.

LATE GAME RESULTS

Redbirds - - - - 11
Colsters - - - - 0

SOFTBALL TEAM LOSES TWO EXHIBITION GAMES

The Little Reds softball team lost two practice games this week. The 81st Station took their measure 6 to 0, and the 883rd edged them out 8 to 7 in a loosekt played game.

Little Red bats were silent against the 81st, Ralph Guy being the only man to get a hit.

Although Wildfong pitched good ball in both games, mixups in the outfield, and failure to call fly balls led to his downfall against the Collectors.

REDBIRDS SWAMP TRAINMEN (Con'd)

O'Buck opened the 4th with a single but was thrown out at second on Oliphant's attempted sacrifice. Oliphant stole second, and scored when the Boomer short-stop booted Lazarov's grounder.

Subjeck led off for the Birds in the 5th and parked the ball out of the lotpin deep rightfield for the first Redbird home run of the season.

With two men out in the 6th, Lazarov doubled to left. Kelly nearly tore off the pitcher's glove when he singled thru the box, Lazarov taking third. Kelly stole second. McGraw singled over second to score Lazarov and Kelly. This ended the scoring.

Kelly led the Redbird hitters with a double and two singles in four trips to the platter.

(cont'd from page 6)

If you are lucky enough to be able to go in on triplets, the odds advise you to discard your two odd cards: when you draw, 2, the odds are $22\frac{1}{2}-1$ against getting 4 of a kind, $14\frac{1}{2}-1$ against getting a full house, and $8\frac{1}{2}-1$ against either improvement. When you keep one card as a "kicker", however, the odds are 46-1 against getting four of a kind, 15-1 against matching the odd card, and 11-1 against either improvement.

The odds on drawing to 4-card flushes are $4\frac{1}{2}-1$ against filling. On drawing to 3-card flushes they are 23-1 against filling, and on drawing to 2-card flushes, they are 96-1 against filling. Altho 4-card flushes are easier to fill out than are straights, it should be remembered that a 4-card straight is much easier to get in the first place: there are 500 ways of getting them in 5 cards, while there are only 112 ways of getting 4-card flushes in 5 cards.

The final draw of interest is the one in which only an Ace and King are kept (either of the same or different suits); the odds against getting one pair out of this hand are 3-1.

Knowledge of odds in poker is but part of the makeup of an expert player. He must constantly be watchful of characteristic traits of his opponents; he will notice one man, for example, who tends to start to bet out of turn when he has a good hand; he sees another player who can often be counted on to have "kept a kicker" when drawing. A third player will usually "bet on the come", whereas a fourth may be ultra-conservative in raising but will many times hold the winning hand. The expert senses the right times for "bluffing" by analyzing the situation as each hand is being played; by bluffing successfully, he can create the impression that he is having a winning streak which will in turn further his success in "buying pots".

Much more can be written on the subject of playing winning poker, but no amount of words and facts

G. I. CHICKEN



Drawing—Mead
Words —Ory

"YOU HAVE HEARD OF RHODE ISLAND RED...THE ABOVE IS A MITCHELL-REDD".

RADIUM ROBBERS LEARN:

"CRIME DOES NOT PAY"

(CNS)....Somewhere in Germany today are at least two soldiers whose skin is seared and whose bones are burning from a cause other than Allied firepower. When the Germans pulled out of Pisa last fall they robbed the city of many valuable articles. One of the places raided was the University of Pisa and one of the items stolen was a vial containing radium. But this radium was not encased in protective lead, and the men who carried it off were not aware of its tremendous power — the Pisans did not enlighten them.

can change the basic principle known and accepted by all gamblers: that is, a man may have a winning or a losing streak despite his skill or lack of skill as a player and in spite of all the mathematics in the world.