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THE FOOLER

J. P. WILLIAMS 2-12

Serial Story—

Kings Row

By Henry Bellaman

CHAPTER ONE

SPRING CAME late in the year 1890, so it came more violently, and the fullness of its burgeoning heightened the seasonal disturbance that made unquiet in the blood.

On this particular day, the 28th of April, the vast sky seemed vaster than ever—wider, bluer, higher.

The roads were like the strands of a gigantic web, weaving and knitting closer and closer until they reached a center—Kings Row, the county seat. "A good town," everyone said. "A good town to live in, and a good place to raise your children."

In the sagging center of this web of roads Kings Row presented an attractive picture. Elms, oaks, and maples arose in billows of early summer green. The white steeple of the Methodist Church, the gilt weather vane of the Baptist, and the slender slate-covered spire of the Presbyterian thrust high. In the center arose the glistening dome of the court house. A few mansard roofs and an occasional turret broke through the leaves. Outside the comfortable shade a straggle of unconsidered Negro shacks and tumbling down houses of poor whites lay like back-yard debris.

In the first glimpse of the town, if one happened to approach it from the west, one saw the public school building—Kings Row's special pride. It stood on a rise of ground and looked down on Town Creek. On an adjoining rise stood Aberdeen College, the Presbyterian school for boys.

The old brick sidewalks, uneven after many years, were mossy and cool under the shade trees. The houses stood back from the street, and the lawns were dotted with flower beds.

To the east of town the State Asylum for the Insane expanded like many wings through ample grounds.

Kings Row was no frontier town. It had successfully simulated the mellow and established ways of older towns east and south—towns remembered in the affections of the early builders.

A LUMBER wagon had reached the hill where the road sloped down to the bridge across Town Creek. The driver awoke from pleasant meditations as the heavy load gained unwanted speed on the descent. He jerked the lines. "Whoa, where you think you're goin'?"

His voice carried easily through the open windows of the schoolroom where Miss Sally Venable held sway over some 60 children ranging in age from 10 to 14. Several boys giggled.

Miss Sally passed a hand over her face and smoothed away the nervous smile that lurked in her deeply seamed features.

Her prominent brown eyes roved the room, resting for brief instants on first one face and then another.

Sally liked her children and she had been teaching long enough to see a generation grow up. She knew practically everybody.

She studied Cassandra Tower, the prettiest girl in town. Boys were beginning to be interested in Cassandra. Only yesterday Miss Venable had noticed a legend chalked on the walk: "Drake McHugh loves Cassandra Tower."

Miss Venable grinned.

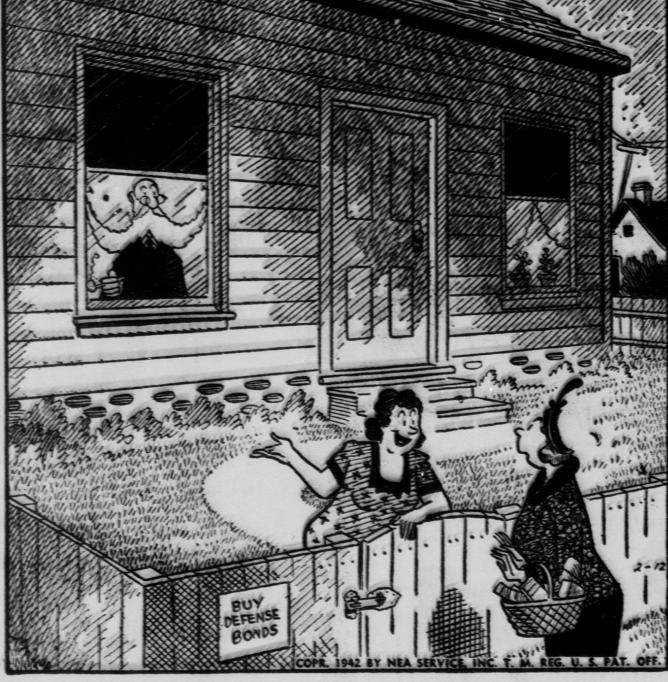
Drake was watching Cassandra now. Drake, robust, deep-chested, hair always falling into his eyes. "A regular boy," most people said, but Sally Venable was not so sure of that. He was open and frank, but his mouth was a trifle loose for so young a boy. It was likely to go slack and sensual in a few years, unless...

Drake McHugh leaned forward and whispered something to Paris Mitchell who occupied the desk in front of him. Paris glanced quickly at Cassandra.

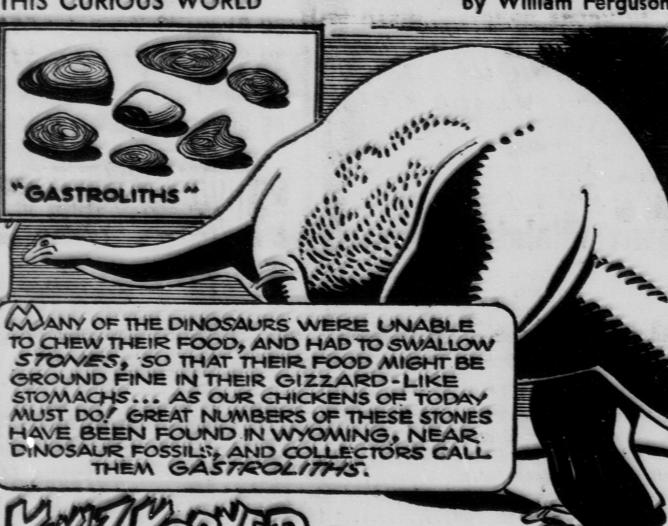
Miss Venable made a slight sound but no one heard her.

PARRIS MITCHELL was her pet. The boy was different in every way. Perhaps it was because he lived with that curious foreign grandmother, Madame von Ein. Dr. Alex

FUNNY BUSINESS



THIS CURIOUS WORLD



MANY OF THE DINOSAURS WERE UNABLE TO CHW THEIR FOOD, AND HAD TO SWALLOW STONES, SO THAT THEIR FOOD MIGHT BE GROUND FINE IN THEIR GIZZARD-LIKE STOMACHS... AS OUR CHICKENS OF TODAY MUST DO! GREAT NUMBERS OF THESE STONES HAVE BEEN FOUND IN WYOMING, NEAR DINOSAUR FOSSILS, AND COLLECTORS CALL THEM GASTROLITHS.



THE CAPITAL OF JAPANESE SPONSORED GOVERNMENT IN CHINA IS PEKING, NANKING, CHUNGKING, CANTON.

ANSWER—Nanking.

LILLABEE

NANCY

RED RYDERS

WASH TUBBS

FRECKLES

BOTTES

ALLEY OOP

ON THE SET OF "THE SLAVE GIRL" STARRING CHERRY BLOSSOM

CLEAR THE SET! EVERYBODY OFF EXCEPT THOSE WORKING IN THE SCENE!" CHERRY BLOSSOM IS COMING!!

AH-H CHERRY BLOSSOM! OH-H SOB! AHM SO HAPPY!

CHERRY BLOSSOM! OH-H SOB! AHM SO HAPPY!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, MISS CHERRY BLOSSOM! HE'S A NEW ACTOR, HE PLAYS THE EXECUTIONER!

HE WARN'T HYAR YESTERDAY!

THET VOICE THET GOLDEN HARRI-THE CHOKEY FEELIN' IN MAM THROAT WHEN AN SEEN HER!

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