

Laughing Around the World

With IRVIN S. COBB

Easy for the Trained German Mind

By IRVIN S. COBB

YEARS ago when I was a reporter on the New York Evening World, the body of a young woman, expensively dressed, was found in a thicket in a lonely and remote part of Long Island. She had been murdered—shot through the head. Harry Stowe of our staff, since deceased, was the first reporter to reach the place. The body had not been moved; and in searching about it Stowe happened upon something



the local coroner had overlooked—a scrap of discolored paper, bearing printed and written words in German upon it.

Stowe quietly slipped the paper into his pocket and caught the first train for town. He couldn't read German himself, so he took his find to the office of the German consul. There he met an elderly, spectacled, exceedingly serious-looking under-secretary, who translated the printed and written inscriptions for him.

Then the secretary wanted to know what it was all about. Stowe told him, explaining that the identity of the murdered woman was still a profound mystery—that nobody could guess who or what she was. He described her clothing in some detail.

"Pooh!" snorted the German. "Stupid fools that these American policemen are! To the trained mind the whole thing is simplicity itself. By a process of elimination and deduction it is possible to ascertain beyond question exactly what manner of woman this was."

"Could you do it?" asked Stowe hopefully.

"In one little minute!" said the under secretary impressively.

"Go ahead then, please, and do it," begged Stowe.

"Very well," said the German. "My young friend, please follow me closely. This paper shows that some woman bought at a store in Leipzig certain small articles, kitchen utensils—a breadknife, a potato-masher, a coffee-grinder. No woman in Germany, unless she was a housewife, would buy such things. So!

"On the other hand, this woman, you tell me wore forty dollar corsets. No woman in Germany, unless she was an actress, would wear forty dollar corsets.

"No actress would buy common household utensils. That would make her a housewife! No housewife would wear forty dollar corsets. That would make her an actress! And there you are!"

3-DAY POULTRY SCHOOL PLANNED AT PURDUE

The 3rd annual training school for flock selecting and pullorum testing agents, who expect to cull and test hatchery flocks under the National Poultry Improvement Plan in Indiana, will be held at Purdue University, Aug. 29, 30, and 31, 1939. This announcement was made recently by Wm. Kohlmeier, secretary of the State Poultry Association of Indiana and Purdue Extension Poultryman.

Hatchery participation in this poultry improvement program has grown rapidly. Two years ago there were 39 Indiana hatcheries operating under its provisions and this past season 75 hatcheries took part in this work. Present indications point to a further increase for 1940, according to Kohlmeier.

The first two days of the training school will be used for the study and practice of flock selection and testing for pullorum disease. The final day will be occupied by a review and examinations. Those who have obtained certificates in the past years need only attend the last day. Hatchery operators or employees who have not attended previous schools will need to attend all three days if they wish to qualify for permits to conduct official culling and testing.

At the close of the school appropriate certificates will be issued to those successfully com-

pleting the work, if the hatchery they represent expects to carry out this supervised improvement program. Detailed information may be obtained by writing Wm. Kohlmeier, Purdue poultry department.

Arthur Wagner, charged with killing another Negro, escaped from jail at Macon, Ga., and fled to Atlanta. Then he hopped a freight for Birmingham, he thought, but wound up back in Macon. Police were waiting for him and returned him to jail.

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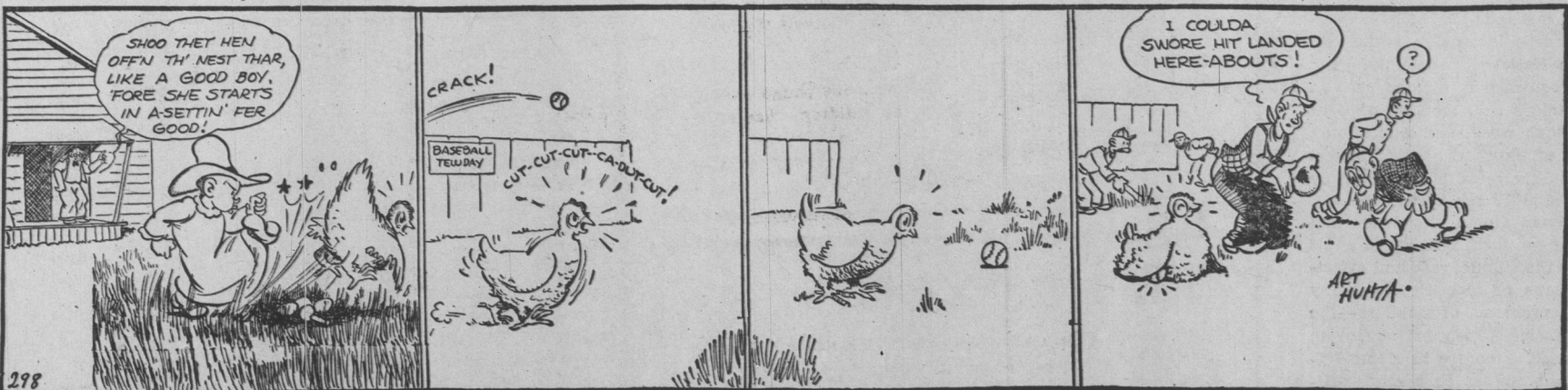
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BIG TOP "Silk," the ringmaster, seeking revenge for the elephant's attack on him, has forbidden "Speed" to give her any water.

By ED WHEELAN

