



# YOUNG FOLKS



Fun of All Kinds  
Puzzles—Stories—  
Things to Do—Pen Pals

## Can You Explain This Strange Tale?

A strange story in which the reader's guess is as good as any occurred in 1920 in England. A young man became apprenticed to a smithy in a small Devonshire village. With a view to starting on his own, he bought several tools from his master. Yet one, an old, trusty hammer, his master would not sell. It had been in his family for generations.

Eventually the young man started on his own, buying a smithy several miles away in another village. Clearing it out to take over, he came across a hammer identical to the one he'd tried to buy. It seemed to have the same appearance, age, making everything. Naturally, he was pleased.

A few weeks later he used the hammer on a job repairing a cart wheel in his yard. He hit his thumb with it and flung it back into the shop in a fit of temper. After he completed the job, he went to pick it up where he had seen

and heard it fall. He never found it again, even though he was sure no one had or could have been in the smithy without his seeing him.

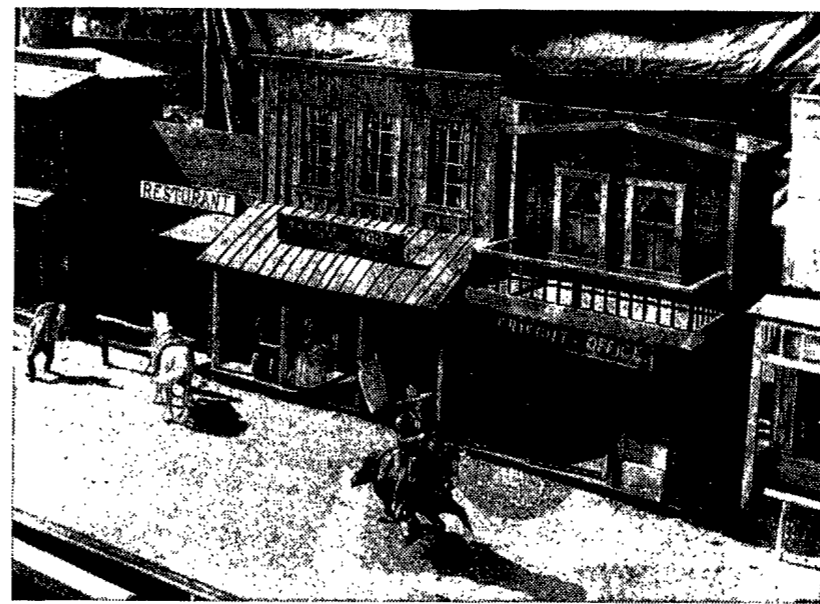
A week later he happened to visit his old master's shop. There was the old fellow still using his old hammer. Again, the young man tried to buy it and once again was refused. "I nearly lost it a while back," the old man told his former apprentice. "Was mending a cart wheel in the yard, hit me thumb and pitched it away and couldn't find it again."

This all happened just a week before the young smithy's adventure a few miles away.

"The hammer was missing just a week and then I found it under this bench here. It wasn't there the day before, I'll swear."

Nobody had been in the smithy or brought it back to the old man. Could it have been the same hammer? Well, no one knows!

—John Austin



Lots of action here! Teachers find model of Cheyenne, Wyo., useful in history classes. Note spelling of Freight Office as "friehgt" and sign over the "restaurant."

## HISTORY CAN BE INTERESTING

"Like going to a movie." That's what one boy said to his classmate as he was leaving his history classroom in a school in Los Angeles.

The teacher had instructed the class in the early-day history of the United States west of the Rocky Mountains. She used a model of a frontier town to make the lesson more real. The pupils saw a miniature reproduction of the things she told them.

The model was that of Cheyenne, Wyoming. It was the work of woodcarver Mary Croutz. She lends this and her other carvings of Old West towns to schools and other groups.

Her miniature of Cheyenne appears as it did during stagecoach days. It includes the old Laramie Courthouse built at the time of the Civil War. The freight office stands out. But it is misspelled "friehgt" and town's eatery was labeled a "restaurant" as the sign painter of that period mistakenly lettered them.

Other structures that enliven the scene include the restaurant, general store, bank, hotel, livery stable, blacksmith shop, Wells-Fargo office and jail.

The settlement vibrates with action. A cowboy dashes away on his horse as an "enemy" bounces out of the restaurant on foot after him. He shakes his fist and hurls

threatening words. A scared matronly woman coming out of the general store witnesses the excitement.

Another section shows a stagecoach with driver and armed guard rounding the corner. Down the street looms a runaway wagon with the newly arrived school m'am in the seat. A dog yelps at the

horses' hoofs as a boy scurries to safety. A man in the balcony of the hotel calmly peers down.

Teachers testify that portraying western history by means of the model town leaves an impression never to be forgotten. This is one way of saying that it is a success.

—Weldon D. Woodson

## Buffalo Is No Longer Vanishing Symbol of U.S.

Want a buffalo? It isn't too difficult these days to obtain one—either alive, or butchered ready for the food locker. The federal government—and private "buff ranchers"—will even tell you how to raise and care for buffalo. Provided you have plenty of space, that is.

It all adds up to a somewhat amazing fact: The buffalo (properly called bison), has made a "come back." While the herds aren't exactly thundering, federal and state wildlife agencies would like to get rid of a few buffalo to relieve overcrowding in refuges and in parks. So, it is annually that the federal government thins out the herds, selling the animals live or dressed.

In some cases, if it's for public use, the buffalo are given to zoos and organizations just for transportation costs. Buffalo are also traded to foreign countries for animals we want for our zoos and parks.

Yet, about 60 years ago, it was feared that the buffalo would become extinct. Fewer

than 1,000 buffaloes remained in the vastness of the West, and poachers were killing these off at a fast clip.

"Save the buffalo!" rang the cries of naturalist and thousands of average Americans.

Once at least 60,000,000 buffalo roamed the United States, but by 1850 this number was reduced to around 20,000,000. Less than 50 years later, fewer than 1,000 buffalo remained in the wilds.

The great herds had been slaughtered for two reasons: (1) For their hides and meat; and (2) to take away the Plains Indians' main means of survival.

By 1905, buffalo were being

protected—and herds built up—in three areas: Yellowstone National Park, the National Bison Range in Montana and at the Wichita Game Preserve in Oklahoma. Most of the breeding stock had to come from private individuals and zoological gardens.

Several other sanctuaries have been established since 1905, and it's estimated that we have over 10,000 buffalo in the U.S. proper and in Alaska. Canada has a larger population—13,000 to 15,000 buffalo.

The buffalo herds will never thunder again, but we are pretty sure the majestic, shaggy beasts will survive.

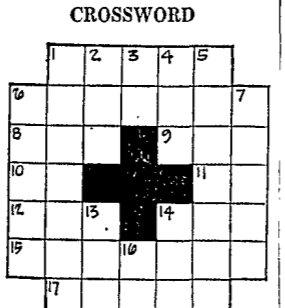
—Ferris Weddle



Little fellows like this are bringing the buffalo back.

## Puzzle Pete's COLUMN

"Spice of life" varieties:



- ACROSS**
- 1 Low sand hills
  - 6 Feared
  - 8 Relative (ab.)
  - 9 Compass point
  - 10 Indian Army (ab.)
  - 11 One
  - 12 Ostrichlike bird
  - 14 Attorney (ab.)
  - 15 Signifies
  - 17 Destroys
- DOWN**
- 1 Visionary
  - 2 Long fish
  - 3 North America (ab.)
  - 4 Dutch city
  - 5 Legislative bodies
  - 6 Wiped, as dishes
  - 7 Depressions
  - 13 Girl's name
  - 14 Dined
  - 16 Wizard's home

- SOUND ALIKES**
- Puzzle Pete's missing words sound alike, but they are spelled differently. Complete his sentence:
- The \_\_\_\_\_ was being followed by a \_\_\_\_\_ little fawn.
- Rearrange the letters in each strange row to form a good word, then rearrange the rows of words so your answer will read the same in two directions:

A	E	L	S	S
A	E	L	P	T
A	E	E	R	S
A	E	O	P	R
O	E	P	R	S

A	E	L	S	S
A	E	L	P	T
A	E	E	R	S
A	E	O	P	R
O	E	P	R	S

**Listening Hour**  
By Kay Cammer

We have a special hour at home

When mom will sit and listen: Sometimes her lips strain with a smile, Perhaps her eyes will glisten.

But each one has a chance to tell

His thoughts to her alone; We're all surprising mother soon With a "gift hour" of her own.

**WORD CHAIN**

A word chain is known as a mutation. Can you change a BOY into a MAN in just three moves? Change only one letter at a time and have a good word on each alteration.

**TRIANGLE**

Puzzle Pete has suspended his word triangle from SPINACH, which is very good for you. The second word is "risks"; third "angry"; fourth "lice eggs"; fifth "a brew" and sixth an abbreviation for "cases." Complete the triangle from the given clues:

**SPINACH**

1  
A  
C  
H

**PUZZLE ANSWERS**

H  
C  
S  
A  
L  
T  
I  
N  
R  
A  
T  
E  
P  
E  
R  
I  
L  
S  
S  
P  
I  
N  
A  
C  
H  
T  
R  
I  
A  
N  
G  
L  
E  
S  
P  
I  
N  
A  
C  
H  
M  
A  
N

**WORD CHAIN: BOY, boy, boy.**

W  
O  
R  
D  
S  
A  
L  
I  
K  
E  
S  
V  
I  
S  
I  
O  
N  
A  
R  
Y  
L  
O  
N  
G  
F  
I  
S  
N  
O  
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H  
A  
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E  
R  
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D  
S  
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O  
M  
E

**WORD SQUARE:**

S	R	A	Z	E
S	O	N	E	S
T	A	V	E	S
N	A	V	E	S
D	E	A	V	E
D	E	N	E	S

**Roller Rust**

When roller roller skating, wipe skates with a soft, dry rag or a cloth slightly moistened with oil.

## ZOO'S WHO

THERE ARE SEVERAL KINDS OF BADGERS, AMONG THEM ARE THE EURASIAN BADGERS FOUND IN MOST PARTS OF EUROPE AND ASIA.

AMERICAN BADGERS ARE FOUND IN CANADA AND THE U.S. HONEY BADGERS ARE FOUND IN AFRICA AND SOUTHERN ASIA.

BADGERS ARE BORN IN LITTERS OF 3 OR 4. AT BIRTH THEY ARE ONLY ABOUT 4 INCHES LONG.

BADGERS ARE ALL NOCTURNAL AND LIVE IN HOLES AND TUNNELS LEADING TO THEIR DENS. THEY HUNT ONLY AT NIGHT FOR LIZARDS, SNAILS, RABBITS, MICE, BERRIES AND ROOTS.

BADGERS WILL FIGHT LARGER ANIMALS, AND WHEN IN DANGER OF BEING OVERCOME, THEY WILL DIG AWAY TO SAFETY UNDERGROUND.

**Facts From Nature---**

## Little Plants Are Stronger Than You Think

There is a little alpine plant that grows in the regions of the Rocky mountains. Its name is Saxifrage, which means rock breaker in Latin. When this little plant finds itself growing among rocks, it produces a curious chemical which softens and breaks up the rocks, converting them into soil from which its roots can draw plant food.

A magazine called "Tim Burr" says of the little Saxifrage, "It has an ability possessed only by great human beings—that of creating its own soil."

The little Saxifrage grows about 12 inches tall, a single stem with a cluster of small white flowers that blossom in spring and summer. The stem shoots up from a group of leaves at its base. It belongs to a large family which are nearly all herbs. Members of this family differ greatly in appearance and are found in

many localities ranging from temperate to alpine zones. The flowers produce seed pods which develop various gadgets for distributing the seeds, like the downy wings on some which sail them away in the wind.

Another strange plant that makes its own soil is the lichen, pronounced like an in like. These are beautiful little flat lacy plants found clinging to rocks. Their colors range from green to pale blue, gray, yellow and orange, depending upon the vegetable and mineral coloring around which they grow.

Oddly, these plants are not one, but two, because if it were not for the common types of microscopic algae in which they grow they would die. The microscopic alga, so small it has to be studied under the microscope, does most of the work of manufacturing the soil and plant food, while

the lacy plant, a fungus, which we can see, mooches its living from the work of the alga. The combination of the two are called lichens.

The origin of lichens is unknown, but their existence dates back millions of years when the giant ferns and bulrushes were growing that later became our coal beds. We know this because we have found fossilized lichens in rock strata that date back to those times.

Some botanists think the algae were the first to grow



Saxifrage plant.

and that the fungi are the descendants of their renegade relations. But the accepted theory today is that the fungi descended from primitive microscopic fish-like animals, the protozoa.

Lichens multiply from small sections of both fungi and algae that are blown away by the wind. Sometimes the fungi produces spores which are blown away, but these will not grow unless they fall in clusters of algae. A spore is a minute grain in a plant which performs the functions of a seed.

Collecting lichens is an interesting hobby. There is only one difficulty. The various species seem to overlap, and it is so difficult to identify them that the lichenologists, those who specialize in their study, are constantly changing their names.

Aside from their need to produce food for themselves, lichens and saxifrage plants are performing important work in erosion, breaking up surface rocks and changing them into much needed soil.

—Jda Smith

## Write a Captain Hal Pen Pal Very Soon

- WANT PEN PALS?** Print your name, address and age send to Captain Hal, care of this newspaper. These readers want letters from you. All you have to do is write them.
- Carol Arens, 1131 Princeton St., Akron, Ohio. Age 11.
- Sandra Harpster, 303 West State St., Barberton, Ohio. Age 10.
- Melody Howman, R.F.D. No. 2, Jeromesville, Ohio. Age 11.
- Jim Bright, 564 Lovers Lane, Akron 11, Ohio. Age 8.
- Dick Boatner, 1692 Hibbard Dr., Stow, Ohio. Age 13.
- Kenneth Lenhart, 7873 Albion Rd., North Royalton 33, Ohio. Age 11.
- Ken Jimson, 9229 Wallings, North Royalton 33, Ohio. Age 11.
- Beth Grumbling, 7565 Wallings Rd., North Royalton 33, Ohio. Age 10.
- Sharon Cartwright, 13134 York Rd., North Royalton 33, Ohio. Age 10.
- Dennis Taras, 11361 W. 130 St., North Royalton 33, Ohio. Age 11.
- Rich Lee, R.D. No. 2, Seville, Ohio. Age 13.
- Terry Wuske, 2910 21 St., Canton 8, Ohio. Age 9.
- Laurea Teater, 2864 Wadsworth Rd., Barberton, Ohio. Age 14.
- Joyce Shriver, R.F.D. No. 1, Shreve, Ohio. Age 10.
- Deborah Moore, 8755 Parkdale Dr., North Royalton 33, Ohio. Age 10.
- Danny Dance, 9989 Albion Rd., North Royalton, Ohio. Age 12.
- Tam Barnes, R.D. No. 1, Box 309, Doylestown, Ohio. Age 15.
- James Grudosky, 3609 State Route-14R1, New Milford, Ohio. Age 13.
- Debby Hamilton, R.D. No. 3, Box 250, Ashland, Ohio. Age 12.
- Becky Cottingham, R.F.D. No. 1, Seville, Ohio. Age 10.
- Dennis Conlam, 9192 Albion Rd., North Royalton 33, Ohio. Age 10.
- Christine Jones, 1731 Byrd Ave., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Age 12.
- Marcia Ladd, 284 Church St., Doylestown, Ohio. Age 9.
- Jim Scrimgeour, 1178 La Croix Ave., Akron, Ohio. Age 11.
- Carol Galford, 215 Fairmont Ave., Barberton, Ohio. Age 10.
- Dave Webb, 8199 York Rd., North Royalton 33, Ohio. Age 11.
- Carmel Charatian, 8237 Albion Rd., North Royalton, Ohio. Age 10.
- Judy Salapa, 10321 Sprague, North Royalton, Ohio. Age 12.
- Patricia Salapa, 10321 Sprague Rd., North Royalton, Ohio. Age 10.
- Janice Peters, 3275 Patty Ann Dr., Stow, Ohio. Age 13.
- Susie Wood, 2770 Ithica Ave., Akron 12, Ohio. Age 14.
- Linda Sheba, 233 Eastern Dr., Lower Burrell, Pa. Age 10.
- Susan Rae Durkee, Box 75, Bannersort, N. Y. Age 10.
- John Hornick, Box 12, Clayton, Wis. Age 13.
- Chuckie Vozel, 224 Maple St., Renton 30, Pa. Age 12.
- Marshall Gore, 305 Winston, Chapel Hill, N.C. Age 12.
- Alice Arispe, 1806 Sherman St., Corpus Christi, Tex. Age 11.

## Number Magic

A magic word with letters four

Take away two—have four once more

Now here's really a surprise

Take away three and you'll have five.

**Answer**

Magic word — FIVE. Take away two—IV—Take away three—V—

## Tongue Twister

If Willard Wood would whistle, what kind of whistles would Willard Wood whistle?

—Dorothy L. Switzer

## Brain Teaser

- See if you can match each of the colorful items below with one of the names in the second column.
1. A BLACK bird
  2. A PURPLE plum
  3. A YELLOW flower
  4. A BLACK and WHITE dog
  5. RED and WHITE cattle
  6. A WHITE spiral shell
  7. An everGREEN tree
  8. A BLACK and RED butterfly
  9. A GREEN stone
  10. A small BLUE flower
  11. A small BLUE flower
  12. A BROWN bread
- a. For-get-me-not
  - b. Pumpnickel
  - c. Wentletrap
  - d. Raven
  - e. Damson
  - f. Jade
  - g. Flamingo
  - h. Dandelion
  - i. Hereford
  - j. Spruce
  - k. Monarch
  - l. Dalmatian

**Answers**

1—d; 2—e; 3—h; 4—i; 5—j; 6—c; 7—j; 8—k; 9—f; 10—g; 11—a; 12—b.

## MOVIE MADNESS---



"If he shoots again, you jump in front of me while I scoot out the back door and get my gun!"

## Once in a Blue Moon

We have all heard the expression "Once in a blue moon," but did you know a blue moon can really be seen at times?

Some years ago in Scotland on a hazy September day, the sun appeared in mid-afternoon as a beautiful blue circle of light. It was a deep azure blue and looked as if someone had cut a hole in a thick grey blanket to expose the blue lining underneath. Clouds completely obscured the sun after an hour or two, but when the moon arose that evening it, too, was blue, shading at times to turquoise or pale green.

This phenomenon was noticed in England and various parts of Europe, the colors varying in intensity from place to place. Some people said it was apparently caused by sand and dust being carried high into the atmosphere by recent strong winds; others claimed it was caused by smoke from the serious forest fires then burning on the American continent.

A few people were really alarmed and felt sure it foreshadowed some dreadful doom—the kind, perhaps, that happens only once in a blue moon.

—Grace A. Wright