

Beatrice Fairfax
PROBLEMS THAT PERPLEX.

Silent on Betrothal.
Dear Miss Fairfax: I am 20 and

pledged to a young man four years
my senior whom I love dearly and
who, I feel sure, loves me.
Though he is in a position to be
engaged to me, he has never
spoken nor hinted about an engage-
ment, never failing, however, to make
me see that our environments are

very different, and because of this
social difference things cannot be
arranged as easily as might be ex-
pected.
My folks are old-fashioned, but hon-
est and loving people, and cannot see
into secret or verbal love affairs, when
the young man is not obligated at

home. Open communication to him
on this subject seems impossible, for
propriety prevents me from mention-
ing the subject—besides I have al-
ways felt that the announcement of
an engagement should always be sug-
gested by the man.
My parents are very insistent and

make things very uncomfortable for
me at home, claiming he is not se-
rious.
Besides this, he occasionally makes
appointments with friends whom I
have never met, and in which I am
not included, and sometimes accepts
invitations where ladies are present,

circumstances. He feels he is very
broadminded in his behavior, telling
just where he has been on nights
he doesn't see me, and believes that
even I should occasionally do the
same.
Do you think, Miss Fairfax, that

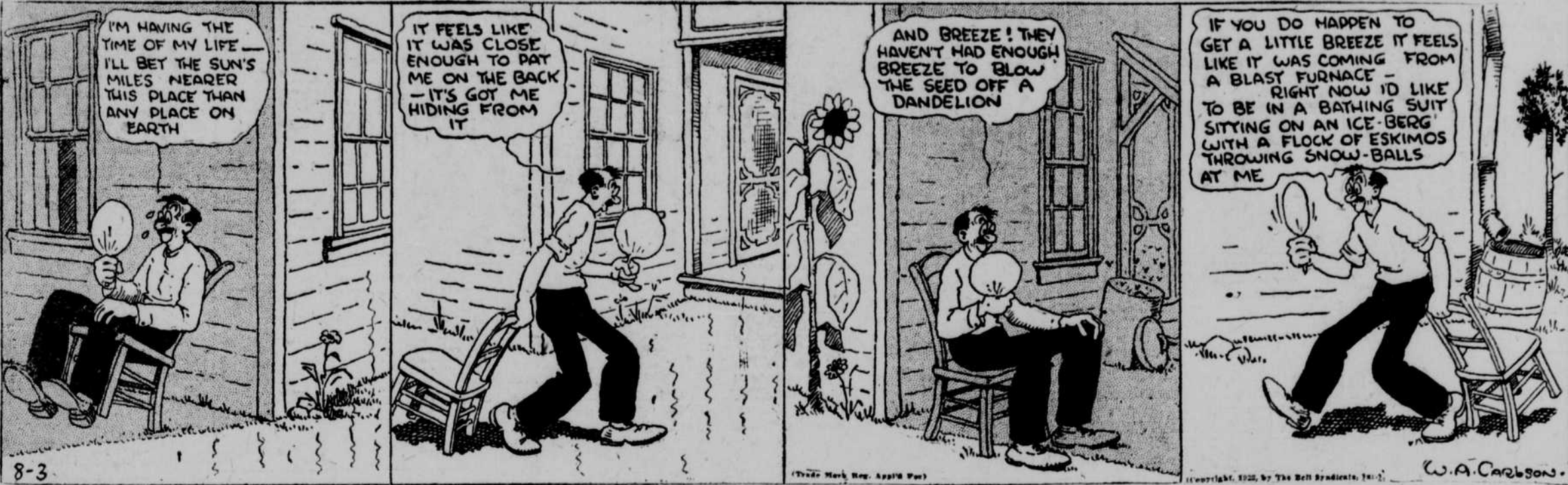
he really loves me—and what would
you advise me to do?
Though he is able to purchase a
ring as a seal to our pledge, he has
made no effort whatsoever.
UNDECIDED.
It isn't so much a matter of pride
as of definite understanding. You say
you are "pledged" to the young man.
What can this mean save that he has
told you he loves you and asked you
to marry him some day. If this is
the case, you are engaged whether or
not the affair has been made public

and regardless of whether you are
wearing an engagement ring. So—
don't hesitate to come to a clear un-
derstanding. The man ought to go
to your father and make his position
clear. If he does not want to do this,
and insists on leaving you in a
nebulous position, make sure first
that there is not some very good rea-
son why he has to go a step at a time
toward happiness, and give him an
understanding that if he is fighting
family objections or some such un-
fortunate thing, you want to know so
you can help him.

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