

SLEEPY-TIME TALES THE TALE OF BENNY BADGER BY ARTHUR SCOTT BAILEY

CHAPTER I A Great Digger.

Of course, Benny Badger had the best of reasons for living on the high, dry plains. There he had for neighbors plenty of ground squirrels and prairie dogs. And it is likely that he enjoyed their company much more than they did his.

If any one had asked them, those little wild people would no doubt have confessed that they wished Benny Badger was somewhere else. But their wishes meant nothing to Benny.



Usually no one saw Benny Badger except at night.

so far as anybody could find out. And if he had only left other folk's holes alone some of his neighbors would not have objected to his favorite sport. For more than one fox and coyote had been known to make his home in a hole dug by Benny Badger.

If they really thought that they made a great mistake, to be sure, at anything except digging he was slow and awkward. And even when he was too heavy and squat to be spry on his feet to chase and catch his more nimble neighbors.

Let alone Benny Badger—when he wasn't too hungry—was a peaceable person. But if a dog ever tried to worry him Benny had a most unpleasant way of seizing his antagonist with his powerful jaws and holding the poor creature as if he never intended to let him go.

Curled up asleep, with his long fur on end, he looked too comfortable to disturb. At least that was what the ground squirrel thought. And if one of those busy little fellows ever passed to stare curiously at Benny when he was having a nap in the warm sunshine Benny Badger had only to awake and turn his head toward the onlooker to make him scamper for home as fast as he could go.

It was not Benny's face, either, that frightened the ground squirrels away, though everybody had to admit that he had a queer one. A black patch spread over his eyes and ran like the point of a V down his nose. For the most part, however, he was of a grayish color, with still more black running in streaks across his back. Underneath he was a—yes! a dirty white color.

But then, one must remember that he was forever digging in the dirt, and there was very little water where he lived. Anyhow, he was particular enough about one thing—his long hair was always carefully parted in the middle from his head to his tail.

And certainly that ought to show that he tried to keep himself looking neat.

Pockets. Originally every man was provided with a bag, carried at his belt, in which he put his valuables. These bags, swinging loosely, were inconvenient and offered a great opportunity to thieves, who could simply cut the string and flee with the booty.

To prevent the tearing up of soft country roads in the spring, main highways are closed to heavy motor trucks at certain times of the year in Maine.

THE GUMPS---



WELL—THERE GOES THE KING OF AUSTRALIA—THERE GOES OUR FUTURE PROSPECTS—JUST AS SOON AS THAT WIDOW GRABS HIM SHE'LL STICK HER FOOT ON THE SAND LEVER AND WE'LL BE JUST POOR RELATIONS—THAT'S ALL WE'LL BE—



PUT THAT LITTLE HANGER IN THE GOWN—LAY IT AWAY—SOME TIME IN THE DIM FUTURE YOU MAY HAVE USE FOR IT—COUSIN AMY IS ENGAGED—MAYBE WE'LL GET AN INVITATION TO THE WEDDING—



OH WELL—SWEETHEART—MONEY DOESN'T MAKE HAPPINESS—WE LOVED EACH OTHER BEFORE WE HAD A DIME—WE'LL JUST DIG DANDELIONS, PICK MUSH ROOMS—WE'LL STAY ON THE GROUND—WE'LL NOT PICK STARS OUT OF THE SKY—JUST BE HAPPY OLD DEAR—

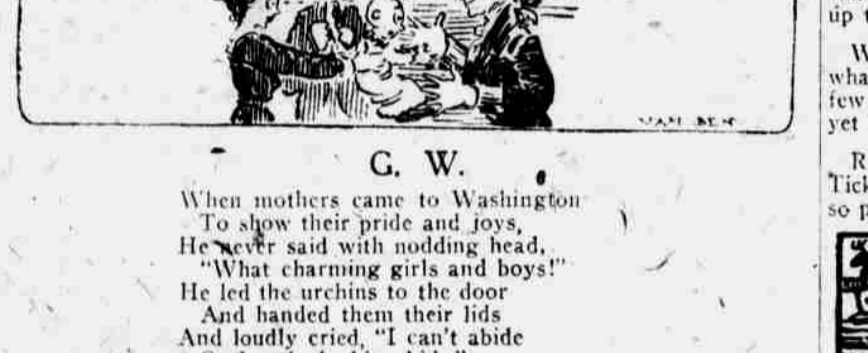


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THE KING PASSES

More Truth Than Poetry

By JAMES J. MONTAGUE



When mothers came to Washington To show their pride and joys He never said with nodding head, "What charming girls and boys!"

When statesmen came to Washington Their winged words to read, He did not sigh and say "My! My! That's very fine, indeed!"

When Washington went out to dine His knife and fork he'd ply, But never said, "What lovely bread," Or, "What delightful pie!"

Exceptions prove the rule. For example, wages are the first thing to go down, but not in the case of servant girls.

Germany's one claim to being a progressive nation is based on the fact that she was the first to disarm.

Common Sense

Be Interested in Your Work. "When a worker, be it son, daughter or a hired laborer, makes the remark, 'What do I have to do now?'"

Do You Know the Bible?

PM THE GUY

Where It Started

Pockets

Dog Hill Paragraphs

By Georgeingham

Cricket Hicks says the Bank of Tickville is getting so conservative they didn't even want to give him change for a five until they had cajoled up the town marshal.



Washington Hicks says from what he can gather there are still a few deaf merchants who have not yet heard the prices falling.

Raz Barlow took dinner at the Tickville hotel last Monday and got so puzzled over what the dessert was

Romance in Origin Of Superstitions

Ouja Board.

With Hilarius the ring spelled out "Theodorus" whereupon one of those present cried out "Theodorus."

ANSWERS.

Jewel, Flower, Color Symbols for Today

By MILDRED MARSHALL.

Pygmy elephants have been discovered in the Kongo by British scientists, full grown adults being only a little more than five feet tall.

WHY—

Do We Speak of "Sowing Wild Oats?"

This expression, most frequently used in connection with the faults of young men, comes down to us from the Danes who settled in England and brought with them many of their strange beliefs.

Parents' Problems

How can an imaginative child be taught to distinguish between fact and fiction?

WHEN MEALS DON'T FIT

"Pape's Diapepsin" is the quickest Indigestion and Stomach Relief

Makes a Family Supply of Cough Remedy

Pinex

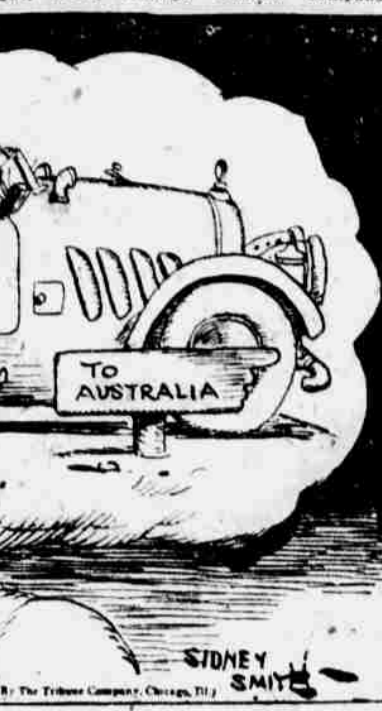
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BILLY "PHILIP" WATSON

EMPRESS Rustic Garden

DEATTY'S Co-Operative Cafeteria

Drawn for The Bee by Sidney Smith.



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Oklahoma Producers' Will

Suspend Drilling Oil Wells

Okmulgee, Okl., Feb. 21.—Twenty-two leading oil producers of this city today voted unanimously to suspend, insofar as possible, all drilling until pipe-line companies again take all the production and the oil market revives.

RIALTO

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Louise DeGlaum

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EMPRESS Rustic Garden

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A clever and astonishing story full of laughs, thrills and delightful surprises.

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MOON Now Presents "The SAGE HEN"

Who Sins Most—The Woman who errs; or those who stone her?

LAST TIMES TODAY ALICE BRADY "in Sinners"

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COMING TOMORROW "MAROONED HEARTS"

WHOSE HAND IS THIS? Watch Out for Her She is OUTSIDE THE LAW

Supply Your Needs by Using Bee Want Ads—Best Results