

THE SANDMAN STORY

LUCY AND THE IMP

ONCE there was a little girl named Lucy who was never ready to go to bed when bedtime came around. She fretted and pouted and grew so disagreeable that one night her mother told her she could go to bed when she liked but she was certain she would wish she had gone at the right time.

Lucy was sitting on a rug in front of the fireplace, so she curled up with her book and began to read, quite sure she would not be sorry she did not go to bed early.

The freight danced on the book she was looking at and Lucy thought once she could almost see some little fire-imps dancing in the snapping wood fire.

Her eyes seemed to feel queer but she rubbed them—she was not a bit sleepy. She was sure of that. It must be the warm fire that made them feel so queer.

The house seemed very still and then suddenly from right out of the

Lucy did not wish to go with this queer little creature, but she did not seem to have anything to do with it. The imp just touched her with his feathery-tipped fingers and away she went right into the fireplace and up the chimney.

Not a way up, but a little way; and then a door opened and in she went with the imp with her into a room all red and black. In a big high chair sat a big red and black imp—a grand mother Imp, Lucy thought, because she wore a ruffled cap of black around her red face.

"Here's another stayup," said the imp who had brought her, and then on the floor around the Grandmother Imp's chair Lucy saw a number of children asleep.

The door closed with a click and Lucy saw that the little imp had gone. "He has gone to find more stayup children," said the Grandmother Imp. "We will get them all in here after awhile."

"What will you do with them?" asked Lucy, who had found her tongue and was getting a bit frightened. She wished she was in her own room in bed and not in this red and black place.

"I can't tell you that until my husband comes home," said the Grandmother Imp. "He has a different punishment for every night, but this is your first night here, so he won't be as hard on you as some of the others who have stayed up before. But you lie down beside the other stayups and go to sleep until he comes."

Lucy could not find a soft spot on the floor. She tried resting her head on her arm, she curled up as she had on the big rug in front of the fireplace. But it was no use. She could not sleep.

"Click, click," Lucy heard. She was sure it was the Grandfather Imp turning the lock in the door. He had come to punish the stayups. Up she jumped and found herself standing on the rug in front of the fireplace.

The room was dark, the house seemed very still, the fire was not burning very brightly and a dying embers mapped. That was what she had heard and it awakened her.

Lucy made her way up to her room, but it was very poky all alone at that hour of the night; nobody to say goodnight and kiss you or tuck you in. And when Lucy crept into bed and pulled the bedclothes around her she made up her mind she would never be a stayup again; and let the red and black imp catch her.

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"Here is Another Stayup," said the Imp.

fireplace there stepped one of the very imp Lucy had thought she caught a glimpse of.

He wore a red and black cape over a tightly fitted suit of black and on his head a black cap with a waving red feather.

At the tips of his shoes were the same sort of wavy feathers and on his fingertips as well.

"So you sat up late tonight, did you?" he said to Lucy. "Well, come along with me. All children should be in bed before this. Don't you know this is the magic hour and the best time to see the imps and other magic folk?"

BILLIONS DUE U. S. FROM 10 NATIONS

Number of Indebted Countries Do Not Even Acknowledge Their Obligations to Uncle Sam.

Washington.—The American debt funding commission met recently and approved the form of its annual report to congress, which contained the significant statement that the commission "hopes to obtain further adjustments with the various debtor governments at the earliest possible date."

While there was no elaboration on the expression from any member of the commission, the statement was regarded in many quarters as the first hint from official circles that another communication may be sent to debtor nations advising that the American government awaits their funding proposals.

The report recites the negotiations and settlements with Great Britain and Finland and the full liquidation of Cuba's debt, but as for the others little progress is reported.

Owe U. S. Over \$7,000,000,000. The commission now has to deal with debts of foreign countries amounting to \$5,970,117,427, on which interest amounting to \$1,088,457,478, has accrued.

The combined total of interest and principal owed by the several governments is given at:

Armenia	14,263,194
Austria	27,054,043
Belgium	418,782,734
Czechoslovakia	109,423,344
Estonia	16,788,728
France	3,917,326,974
Greece	18,128,000
Hungary	1,829,280
Italy	1,978,478,133
Latvia	6,032,478
Lithuania	30,168
Poland	5,977,962
Rumania	181,589,315
Russia	43,218,374
Serbia	237,242,054
Slovenia	69,992,592

Certain Nations "Unheard From." It was disclosed by the report that the commission has not been in touch "in any way" with the governments of Armenia, Austria, Greece, Liberia or Russia. The original loan to Russia was \$192,001,297, made during the war, but nothing has been heard from that government since. As for Austria, Secretary Mellon has granted consent for a twenty-year postponement under authority of a senate resolution and therefore no principal or interest will come from that source for some eighteen years more.

Going into detail of the status of the debts with the other governments, the report says the Belgian ambassador expressed the hope in June, 1922, that he could on his return from Belgium lay before the commission definite proposals for the consolidation of the indebtedness of Belgium. Except for certain informal discussions, the report adds, no proposals or suggestions have been as yet received. The discussions concerned the consolidation and the exact status of the Belgian debt.

No Money From France.

Representatives of the Czechoslovak government, the report continues, "who came to Washington last May, have returned to Prague after bringing about an agreement as to the amount of the debt of their country to the American relief administration and the United States grain corporation, but leaving for further discussion the final settlement with the War department and the United States shipping board. It is understood they will return to the United States this autumn to continue the negotiations."

The government of Estonia is expected to appoint representatives to negotiate with the commission shortly. The government of France sent a representative to negotiate with the commission in the summer of 1922. After a full discussion and the presentation of complete figures, the French representative returned to France to confer with his government.

No further proposals or suggestions have been received since his departure.

This Cat Insists on Sharing Nest With Hen

Middletown, N. Y.—Charles S. Hulze of Cochen has a cat that for a while lived in a chicken house, sharing a nest with a hen. Three kittens came. After a few days Hulze gave cat and kittens to a farmer living two miles away, because of lack of room in the nest. The mother cat weaned the kittens, left them on the farm and returned to share the nest with the hen.

Becomes Grandfather of His Own Children

Pittsburgh.—By virtue of his marriage to his mother-in-law, Charles E. Miller of Westchester, Pa., is grandfather of his own children. His bride is Mrs. Laura Douglas Tyler of Frederick, Md. She is fifty-one and Miller is forty-eight. She is tall. Miller is four feet and eight inches tall. She weighs 170 pounds. Miller weighs 118 pounds. She has been married twice before. Miller has only one previous marriage to his credit, but he has six children and she only four.

"Balamoni," the Greatest Songstress of All India



Above is shown "Balamoni," the light of India. She is recognized as the greatest of South Indian songstresses and in the course of her career has charmed the Indian population as have Melba or Tetrazini. Her salary for a single performance is not monetary, but such fabulous gift as a rare jewel has been frequently her reward.

France to Put Heroes in National Cemetery

Paris.—The French government is beginning the vast undertaking of exhuming its scattered war dead and concentrating the bodies in national cemeteries after the American plan.

It is a far greater task than the one the American graves registration mission has completed. In some sectors, such as the Argonne and around Saint Mihiel salient, a great many were brought together in military cemeteries, but elsewhere, along the whole battle front, from the Swiss frontier to the North sea, bodies of soldiers that were killed in the trenches were buried where they fell.

Scattered German dead are also being gathered into large cemeteries by the French, under an agreement with the German government. The German cemeteries that existed at the end of the war are all being cared for by the French authorities, who issue special permits to German families to visit the graves of their dead in France.

Postmaster General New Will Aid Santa Claus



It may seem a long time until Christmas but there is one man, at least, who realizes that the time is growing very near. That man is Postmaster General Harry S. New. The photographer made this picture just after the general had received a crumpled bundle, wrapped in dirty brown paper and addressed in a childish handwriting. The bundle contained the little dog and the following letter, which Mr. New is shown reading:

"Der mister new, post office washington, my daddy sed you wood see saunty claus for me and I want you please to giv this doggie to saunty for som poor little girl. I am kinda poor but I tho saunty wood like this doggie for a nuther little girl. please mister new tell saunty I needded had a new coat and hat and shues dont tell daddy I told you he nit cry. please tell saunty soon you can so he wil not forgit any little girls and boys. yours truly with love Charlotte."

Red Rag Myth Explodes, Bull Is Color Blind

Berkeley, Cal.—A red rag means nothing to a bull. Dr. G. M. Stratton, head of the department of psychology at the University of California, has just completed a six-month investigation of what happens in the mind of a bull when he sees a red rag. The answer is—nothing much. Scientists say the laugh is on the world at large. All these years the bull has been virtually color blind. He doesn't know the difference between red, green, blue, yellow, white or black.

If you wave a red rag at a bull and he charges it is not because of the color of the rag. He is not interested in it. He just wants to find out what is behind it. He would have been just as curious if it had been a white or black rag—a little more so, according to Doctor Stratton.

INDIANS GAINING ON DEATH RATE

Show Increase of 1,144 in Year—Osage Tribe Richest People on Face of Earth.

Washington.—Like his old friend, the buffalo, the American Indian is making a come-back. Figures recently announced by the bureau of Indian affairs show our American Indian population is now 344,303, a gain of 1,144 over last year.

"Not only last year, but for thirty years, the redmen have steadily been gaining on their death rate," says a bulletin from the Washington (D. C.) headquarters of the National Geographic society.

Today there are six Indians per square mile on reservations which comprise an area not much smaller than that of all New England. According to the best estimates available there was an average of only one Indian for every three square miles when white people first came to American shores. If only two-thirds of the United States were occupied by redskins at the present reservation population rate, there would be 12,300,000 Indians in the United States today.

Thousands Died of Plague.

Massasoit gave the Pilgrim Fathers corn, but the fact is that Massasoit and his kin lived for the most part by product of the chase. Deer, buffalo, bear and rabbit were their pork and beef, and berries and nuts their potatoes. Even verdant America could not support an immense population living in this fashion. The total Indian population at the time Columbus landed at San Salvador is set at about 840,000. If all the tribes, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, and from the Gulf to the Great Lakes, had assembled at one great meeting they would have made up a community not so large as Detroit and only a few thousand greater than Cleveland or Boston.

White men's guns decimated some tribes, disease, dissipation and epidemics which came with the white men spread death more surely. Small-pox epidemics swept through the western tribes three times between 1781 and 1837 with more fatal results than the influenza plague of 1918. A peculiar fever killed 70,000 Indians in California and Oregon in one year. By 1880 the Indian population had been reduced to 236,127, therefore the present population represents an increase of nearly 100,000 in thirty years.

Richest People in World.

One American Indian tribe today is the richest people on the face of the earth. Beneath the lands of the Osage Indian tribe in Oklahoma oil was discovered. Their wells produce \$50,000,000 worth of oil annually, and Uncle Sam, who handles the business for his red brother, distributes to each member of the tribe from \$10,000 to \$12,000 each year. In 1922 more than 20,000,000 barrels of oil were produced on Osage lands.

Partial adaptation to the white man's ways and care by Uncle Sam are responsible for the increase in Indian population. The redman may still be a hunter, but a visitor to a reservation will find the redskin useful as well as noble. He is often a rancher, dairy farmer, gardener, weaver, pottery maker, rug maker, poultry raiser, typist, bookkeeper, miner, guide, and he even clips coupons.

Indians Now in the "Movies."

Out of the ruin of Indian civilization more than 200 tribes have been salvaged. These tribes are lodged on nearly 200 reservations varying from tiny rancherias in California to the great Navajo reservation in Arizona and New Mexico, larger than the state of Maryland. The bureau of Indian affairs is their guardian. It is a government by itself, having a cabinet of six commissioners, and undertaking all-encompassing activities, typical of which are a probate court, trust company, public roads commission, orphan asylum, town building, and operation of a philanthropic association, bank, and employment agency.

English Coin Brings \$1,100 at Auction Sale

London.—One of the most valuable of English coins was sold at auction recently for \$1,100.

The specimen was one of the 15 "Petition" crowns, or 5-shilling pieces, issued in the reign of Charles II. At that time a Dutchman was appointed engraver for a new coinage much to the dismay of Thomas Simon, coin designer of the day. He therefore made an effort to regain his appointment by producing his "Petition" crown, around which he engraved an appeal to the king asking him to compare his work with that of the Dutchman.

Sisters Separated 47 Years Meet Again

Corstmann, Tex.—Mrs. S. E. Huggins, who lives in Kerens, this county, and her sister, Mrs. Maggie DuBose, met here recently for the first time in 47 years. The sisters were reared in South Carolina and Mrs. Huggins came to Texas 47 years ago. The sisters corresponded for some time, but finally a letter or two from each to the other went unanswered, and each sister had thought the other dead for many years. Recently Mrs. DuBose moved from South Carolina to Texas, and soon after reaching there accidentally heard of her sister living here, and the reunion followed.

LOST MINE NOW HELD BY BATS

Rich Ore Deposits in Mexico, Owned by Spanish Friars, Made Impregnable.

Washington.—A sudden interest in buried treasure in Mexico probably is only a variant of the passion for lost mines that continually grips certain optimists of the southern republic, especially on the west coast, according to a bulletin from the headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"Everyone on the coast seems to have at least one lost mine," says Herbert Corey in a communication to the society on which the bulletin is based. "Some rest on tradition only, while others have a sure documentary foundation."

Entrance Concealed by Friars.

"There is the tale of the mine near Arispe, for instance, the entrance to which was concealed by the Spanish friars just before they were wiped out by a reversion of their converts to ancient form."

"A century or so later a searcher in the monastic archives in Madrid found the story. By this time the very existence of the old mine had been forgotten. One can see the opening of the tunnel from the door of the church," the priestly writing ran.

"Scores of prospectors took sights from the doorway without success. Then a bit of plaster fell away from an old wall and revealed a forgotten door, bricked up and covered over."

"The old-timer who remembered the legend brought out his glass and searched the hills. Sure enough, far up on the side of a canyon he saw something which seemed worth investigating. It was the gateway to the lost mine."

A "Sure-Fire" Friars' Mine.

"Not long ago an American got the papers to one of the veritable, sure-fire friars' mines."

"A friar mine is one that was worked by the priest-conquerors in the fine days of old. They could pick and choose in those days, and they were good pickers and choosers. No one has ever heard of a salted mine being worked off on a friar. The very best mines in Mexico today are those that were opened by the sturdy old churchmen."

"So when the American found his mine he looked on himself as a made man."

"I only have to now water it," he said, licking his lips.

"Then the hard luck of the west coast began to operate. Someone must have broken a series of mirrors on the west coast. Things can happen there that could not possibly happen anywhere else."

Bat Guano Found in Caves.

"On the west coast are bats—millions, billions, numerical incredibilities of bats—whose lives in caves. One of the important industries of the coast is the gathering of bat guano from these dark holes. One sees the burro trains come in, day in and day out, the little animals pattering reflectively under the feather-bed-sized sacks of the fertilizer."

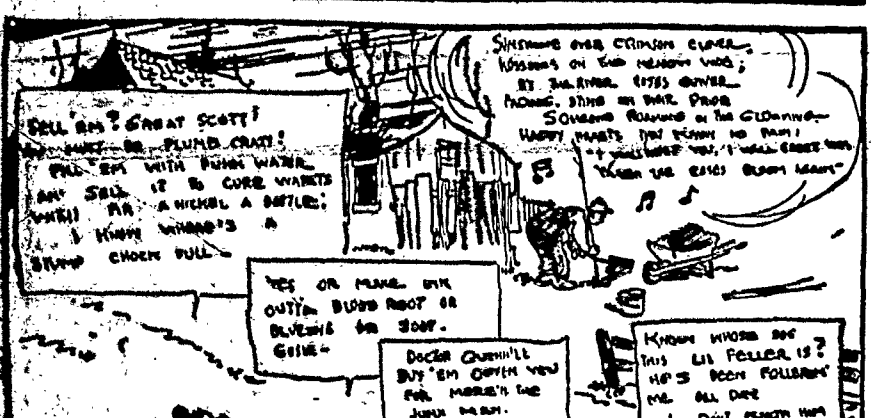
"Some of the caves contain enough guano to load an entire freight train. Such a cave must contain the accumulation of centuries."

"Well—and here is the hard luck—the bats had succeeded to the friar, his heirs and assigns, in the possession of that mine. For almost two centuries they had lived in it, until all the lower reaches were filled with guano."

"Then the water came in and a light odorous quick-silver mud was produced. It was too thick to be pumped and the water ran in too rapidly to permit the unwatering and unguanoing of the mine by buckets."

"So there you are. A perfectly good mine, so far as any one knows, has been made impregnable by the most harmless creature on the footstool."

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