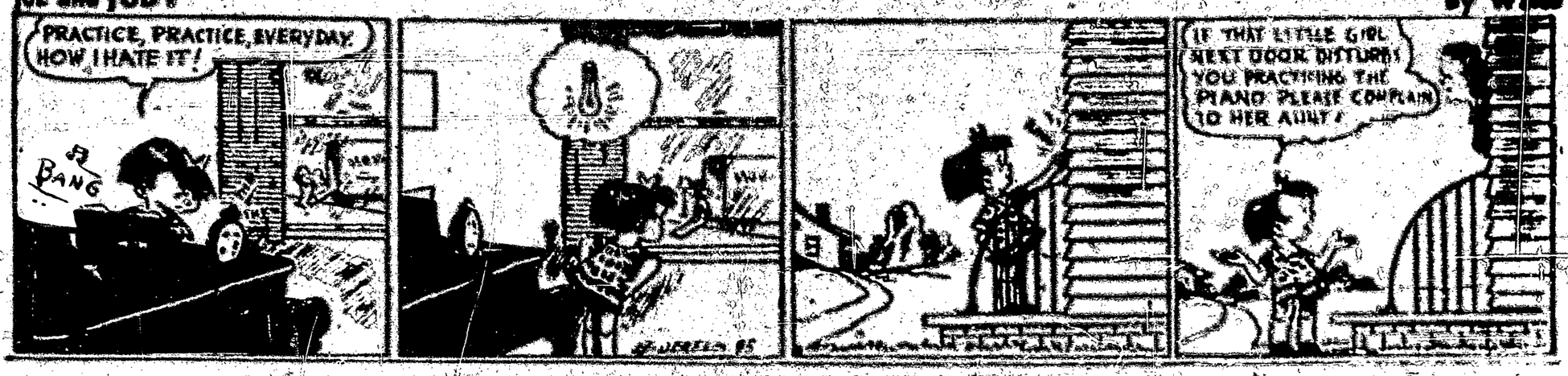
The Courier Journal Youth Section

JOE and JUDY By Webb



A Toy for a King's Son

By Sister M. Mercelline, O. S. U.

"MY grandfather is the best woodcarver in the valley," thought Jean, as he perched on a corner of the workbench and watched the old man's strong and skillful fingers carve out a wooden bowl.

It was many years ago in a country across the sea, but in every age and in every land, small boys love and imitate their grandfathers.

In the valley where Jean lived, most of the men supported their families by woodcarving. On this special day everyone was talking about a message which had been brought to their quiet village by a messenger of the king.

"THE KING—wants a very fine toy as a present for the Prince, his son. Let every man produce his finest work. All the toys will be bought by the wealthy people in the city where the toys will be judged. The finest toy of all will be chosen for His Highness, the Prince. A large sum of money will be given to the carver of the prize-winning toy. Great honor will be his."

"What will you make for the Prince, Grandfather?" asked Jean.

"It will be our secret, my son. You must help me by telling me what a boy would like. I greatly wish to win this prize, for you, Jean, must have an education, and unless God shows us the way, it does not seem possible."

FOR WEEKS after the contest was announced, Jean helped Grandfather every free moment after school hours. It was a large rocking-horse grandfather was making. What a beauty it was! Big and lifelike and spirited! So fine was the workmanship that the horse was almost real. You could almost see muscles rippling under his smooth skin.

"His name is Rogue, Grandfather," said Jean, the day the saddle was put on the rocking-horse." How splendid he looks with his mane flying, and ribbons for his tail! You will surely win the prize, Grandfather. But we'll miss Rogue when he is gone, won't we?"

One thing puzzled Jean about Rogue, but when he asked Grandfather, the old man just smiled and did not explain.

THE PUZZLE WAS THIS. Jean would be sure he had seen grandfather carve the horse's pointed ears, yet when he came home from school, there was grandfather doing them over again. Jean would watch the flowing tail being brushed and fastened on, then when he rushed in from school hours later, there was Grandfather just putting a tail on Rogue. Everything seemed to have to be done twice, but Jean could get no explanation of the mystery.

When all the toys had been finished and sent to the city to be judged, everyone in the valley settled down to wonder and wait. Many days went by. Then one afternoon a magnificent carriage drawn by fine horses entered the village, escorted by mounted soldiers in gay uniforms. The carriage stopped in the village square.

"THE KING! The King!" shouted the people.

The schoolmaster heard the excitement and dismissed the children. Jean pushed through the crowd and stood by his grandfather, watching their beloved ruler, who stood on the carriage step to speak to them.

"My good people," said the King, "I have come in person to tell you how fine is the work you have done. Our country is proud of its wood carvers, and in this valley live the finest craftsmen. It was difficult to choose the prize-winner, but one piece was judged outstanding. The honor and reward go to—

The King said the name.

"Grandfather! You have won! Yours was the best!" shouted Jean. He stayed by the old man's side as he moved forward. Together they stood before the King.

"ONE THING I ask of you, my good man," said the King. "It is my wish that no other toy like the prize-winning rocking-horse should ever be made. The Prince is to have the only one of its kind."

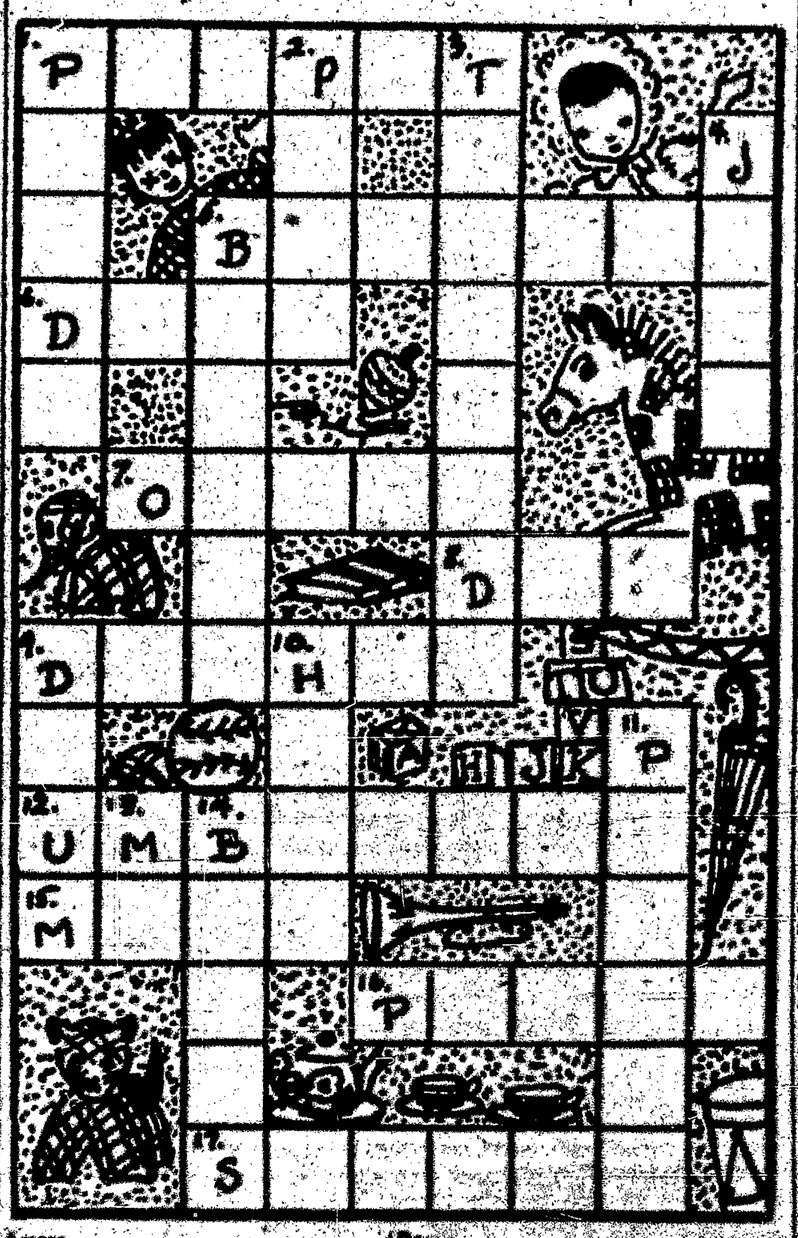
Grandfather looked at the King, then down at Jean.

"Then, alas, Your Majesty" said Grandfather, "I must refuse the reward. There is already another horse like Rogue waiting for a small boy's pleasure. This is my grandson, Sire. He watched Rogue grow and loved him. For Jean I have made a twin of Rogue. The money I would have used for Jean's education, yet I cannot deprive him of the joy and rapture which is part of the kingdom of childhood."

THE KING looked at the old man, and at the sturdy boy beside him. He beckoned to Jean to come closer.

"Jean," he said. "My son, the Prince, belongs to a noble family. His heritage is great and he must be true to its ideals. But there is another nobility, a greatness of heart and mind and soul. This is your heritage. Be true to it, boy. Now, give this reward to your grandfather. It is rightfully his. And I hope you have as much fun with Rogue's twin brother as the Prince has with Rogue himself."

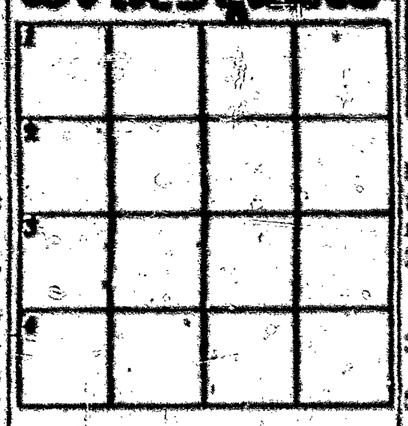
TOYS CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across
1 Doll moved by strings in a play on the stage.
5 A big boy likes this.
6 Every little girl wants this toy.
7 Rubber water-toys are fun if you live near the .....
8 A plaything that is alive.
9 Used by girls to serve dolls' meals.
12 Use a fancy one for sun, a real one for rain.
15 If you don't share your toys, your playmates will think you are .....
16 Special toy for a future aviator.
17 Used to cook dolls' meals.

Down
1 Stuffed animal toy.
2 Used with a shovel to dig in sand.
3 Places in big stores where Santa's supplies are kept.
4 Model of a conveyance used by the Army.
5 For baby brother or sister.
9 March in a parade and beat time on this.
10 Toy noise-maker.
11 Supplies for young artists.
13 Pronoun naming one who likes toys.
14 Round objects, all sizes and colors.

Word Square



1 Dispatched
2 One of the Great Lakes
3 Number one less than 10
4 Used in golf game

BRAINY-BETSY ??????

If you unscramble the following lines, you will find they are from well-known nursery rhymes.

1 Such sport the dish laughed to see the dog with the little spoon and away ran.
2 A carving who cut off with their knife tails.
3 Her and he very well kept there.
4 The very air on a gander would ride through fire.
5 Bread shall eat white mutton and be what?
6 The hanging maid was the garden out in the clothes.
7 The bough when breaks the fall will cradle.
8 He and his fiddlers called for three.

WORD LADDER

PART and TIME are two words which go together. Can you climb down the word ladder, changing only one letter at each step, from one to the other?

PART
_____
_____
_____
_____
TIME

Word Scramble

James Watt was a little CHTEOC boy. He liked to sit before the fireplace and watch the white MEMAT as it pulled from the FUTOS of the kettle and moved the DIL. By thinking and observing, James discovered the power of MEMAT, and was able to invent an INEGNE which has been of great benefit to the world. PIEHS and NIRATS move by the power which James Watt discovered. Can you tell what else this power does?

Answers

Word Square
TEES
ENIN
EMIN
EMIT

Word Scramble
SCOTCH STEAM
STEAM ENGINE
SHOUT SHIPS
LID TRAINS

Brainy-Betsy
1—"The little dog laughed to see such sport and the dish ran away with the spoon." From "Hey, Diddle, Diddle."
2—"Who cut off their tails with a carving knife." From "Three Blind Mice."
3—"And there he kept her very well." From "Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater."
4—"Would ride through the air on a very fine gander." From "Little Tommy Tucker."
5—"What shall he eat? White bread and butter." From "Little Jack Horner."
6—"The maid was in the garden hanging out the clothes." From "Sing a Song of Sixpence."
7—"When the bough breaks, the cradle will fall." From "Rock-a-bye Baby."
8—"And he called for his fiddlers three." From "Old King Cole."

Crossword Puzzle
Across: 1 Marionette 5 Boy 6 Doll 7 Ocean 8 Dog 9 Dishes 12 Umbrella 15 Toy 16 Plane 17 Stove
Down: 1 Teddy 2 Spade 3 Stores 4 Tank 5 Baby 9 Parade 10 Horn 11 Paints 13 Me 14 Balls

Little Stories

The Genuine

Emperor Ferdinand I (1835-1844) once received a foreign diplomatic delegation whose leader loudly praised the power, fame and wealth of his sovereign and asked for an alliance. After the noisy ambassador had left, the Emperor said:

"How importunate this lecturer was! I have never [illegible] flower in the garden of [illegible] which made a noise when [illegible] blossomed. What is genuine [illegible] least manifest—as [illegible] pointed out—without [illegible]

The alliance [illegible]