

BILLY WHISKERS

By FRANCES MONTGOMERY

Mr. Noland was driving along on a deserted road when he had a puncture.

"He took off his hat, scratched his head and thought a minute," Stub continued. "Then he climbed the fence at the side of the road and waved to a farmer he saw plowing in a field half a mile away. After many attempts he succeeded in attracting the farmer's attention, and he left his horses and came toward us. When he was within speaking distance Mr. Noland called out: 'Mornin', Hiram! I am sorry to bother you, but I am in trouble. I have a blow-out and I can't fix it myself. Could you come and help me? The two of us can do it in a short time, but it is an everlasting job for one to tackle. If you will help me I'll give you a peck of that Golden Bantam seed corn you like so much, the next time you are in town.'

"This corn was something Hiram had long coveted, as Mr. Noland's Golden Bantam was the envy of all the farmers. So Hiram jumped over the fence in a jiffy and the two set to work with a will. In twenty minutes the wheel was fixed and we were on our way.

"That delay will make us reach our destination about dinner time, so we will have to ask them to keep us. I am right glad, as Farmer Greenbush's wife is noted for her guinea pot pies, and perhaps if I hint around and flatter her she might make one for our dinner. I'll just speed up a little until we get to the big Mollie hill. After which we can't make much time, as the road is bad," said Mr. Noland.

"For the next fifteen minutes we drove as fast as the little Ford would take us. Soon we were at the foot of the celebrated Mollie hill. It is known far and wide as being the steepest and the most difficult hill for autos to climb for miles around.

Car Turns Over

"I'll just take it on a run," said Mr. Noland to himself, and he put on full speed and we mounted to within a few feet of the top, when his engine stopped short, and before he could put on his brakes we were running backward down that hill at a terrific speed. When he did put on the brakes we were going so fast they did no good. Instead of him paying attention to

my neck. When it was all right I took a drink of water and started up the hill, while he called after me: 'Good luck, little dog; good luck!'

"In less than half an hour I was at the store, as it was easy to find. As I ran into the store I found five or six big farmers loafing about or buying groceries or getting their mail. It was not hard to distinguish the storekeeper, as he was the only man without a hat, and besides he stood behind the counter.

"'Ge! It did smell good behind the counter, for I was hungry and there were boxes of ginger-snaps, crackers, Bologna sausage, and all sorts of good things there. But I paid no attention to them, as I wished to deliver my message. The storekeeper was a big, good-natured man, and he nearly stepped on me. In fact, he did nip my toe and I barked with pain. This made him first look down and notice me.

"'Heigho! Here is a strange dog. I am sorry I stepped on you, but don't you know that customers are not allowed behind the counter?'

"Right here I rolled over on my back and began pulling the end of the handkerchief."

"'What a fishy business! I'm going to have a fit!' cried the grocer. 'That handkerchief must be tied too tight. I'll just untie it. I wonder to whom he belongs? I thought I knew every dog for miles around.'

"I stooped down, and then: 'Bless my soul, there is something tied up in this handkerchief! I wonder what it can be?'

"When he found the note and had read it he called to the men in the store and read it to them.

"'Who brought the note?' asked one man.

Hurry to Rescue

"No person brought it. This little dog carried it folded up in this handkerchief that was tied around his neck. And he lifted me to the counter so all could see me.

"'Who but Noland would have thought of sending word in that way?' laughed another of the men.

"'Let's get a movie on and all go not enough to stay the hunger of a tiny mouse. I licked up every crumb and wished as I did so that I had a pocket in my side so I could take Mr. Noland something to eat.'

"'Say, little dog, do you suppose you could carry a sandwich or two back if I tied them on your back instead of around your neck? They would be too heavy to tie around your neck,' said the storekeeper.

"I barked and shook my head yes.

"'Well, I declare, I believe this dog can almost talk, as well as

understand all that is said to him!'

"Then he made two big sandwiches, one of Swiss cheese and the other of Bologna sausage, wrapped them in paper, and tied them on my back with string and the handkerchief in which I had brought the note. Then he set a pan of nice cool water on the counter for me to drink. After this he put me on the floor by the door, where he stood watching me until I was out of sight.

[Next time the three chums plan to run away.]

NOTICE OF FILING OF THE ASSESSMENT FOR THE WORK OF THE IMPROVEMENT OF PORTIONS OF EL PRADO AND WESTERN AVENUE AS CONTAINED UNDER RESOLUTION OF INTENTION No. 161, PASSED JANUARY 15TH, 1924, AND OF THE TIME OF HEARING AS TO SAID WORK AND ASSESSMENT.

The undersigned the City Clerk of the City of Torrance, State of California, hereby gives notice, that on August 15th, 1924, the Street Superintendent of said City, having made an assessment pursuant to direction and order of the Board of Trustees of the said City to cover the sum due for the work performed and specified in the contract made under proceedings for the improvement of portions of El Prado and Western Avenue in said City, initiated by Resolution of Intention No. 161, passed January 15th, 1924, filed the same with me, City Clerk, on the 2nd day of September, 1924, at the hour of 8:00 o'clock P.M., as the time, and the Council Chamber of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance in the City Hall of said City, as the place, where and when all persons interested in the work done thereunder or in the said assessment will be heard by the said Board of Trustees.

This Notice will also be published twice by the undersigned, in The Torrance Herald, a newspaper published in said City. The owners, the contractor, or his assigns, and all other persons interested in the said work or in the said assessment feeling aggrieved by any act or determination of the Superintendent of Streets or the City Engineer in relation thereto, or who claim that the work has not been performed according to the Contract in a good and substantial manner, or who claim that any portion of the work for any reason was omitted or illegally included in the contract for the same, or having or making any objection to the correctness of the assessment or diagram or other act, determination or proceedings of the Superintendent of Streets or City Engineer shall prior to the day fixed for the hearing upon the assessment, appeal to the Board of Trustees by briefly stating in writing the grounds of appeal.

For a description of the said work reference is hereby made to the above mentioned Resolution of Intention No. 161, passed by the Board of Trustees of said City of Torrance January 15th, 1924.

ALBERT H. BARTLETT,
City Clerk of the City of Torrance, Calif.

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AFTER GOOD ONES

The publisher called in his secretary.

"Tell the janitor to put up notices that no book agents are to be admitted to the building," he said.

"But you have just advertised for agents to sell our new work," protested the secretary.

"Of course. I want to try the applicants out. If a man could be stopped by a little thing like that, what good would he be to us?"

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