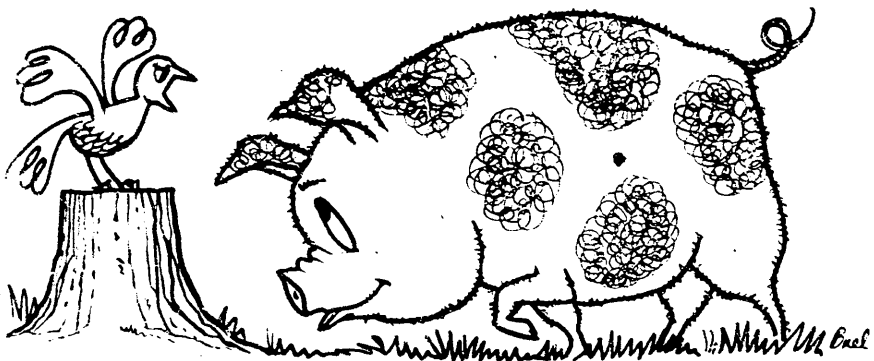


# The Wonderful World of ANIMALS

By Frank Miller, D.V.M.



DEAR DR. MILLER: This fella in the shop where I work is always telling us about the pet pig they used to have back home. He said it was housebroken and they even had it trained to hunt birds. Could this be true, or is his story a lot of hog-wash?

DEAR D. O'B.: I don't know where your partner was from, but it is possible to keep pigs in the house. They can be housebroken, and will be clean if given a chance. With their keen scent they can be trained to become excellent bird "dogs" though I would assume it would be expecting too much to try to make a pointer out of one trying to straighten out his tail for a classic point.

DEAR DR. MILLER: I have a beautiful and healthy common bred cat, orange and white, named Mike. I had him fixed a year and a half ago. We live in a small 3-room apartment, but he has a large picture window that looks out on the garden. I never let Mike out. I used to, but he was always getting scratched up and getting some kind of skin trouble. Since I've kept him in he seems healthier. He is affectionate, plump, and seems very happy. I feed him any kind of food he wants, and he has every comfort, including beds, chairs, TV and other playthings. My friends say Mike will eventually become frustrated because he has no freedom. Do you think I'm cruel in keeping him indoors? —Mrs. D. V. B., San Francisco

neutered, pampered cat like Mike would do with freedom anyway. He's got it made right now—and knows it. The quickest way to frustrate Mike would be to deprive him of this easy life and kick him outside. Freedom's for the birds, eh, Mike?

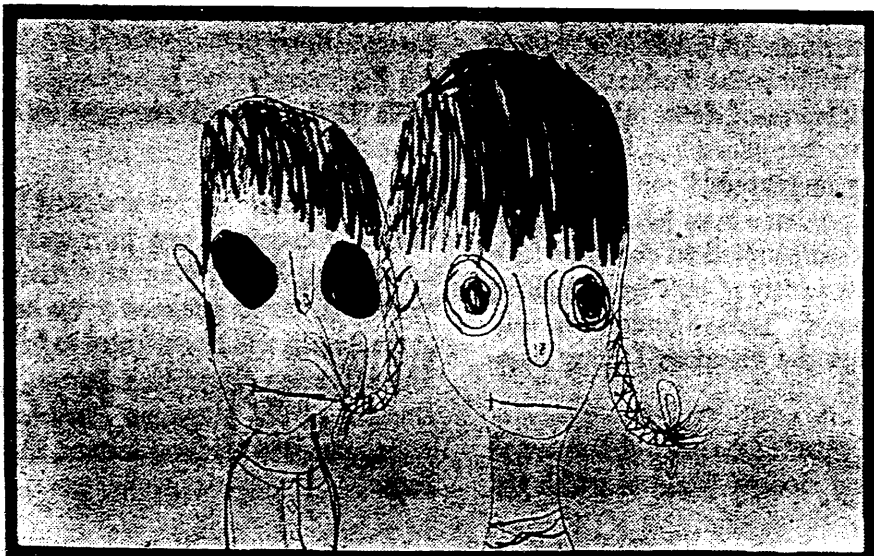
DEAR DR. MILLER: I have two pet female mice, almost two years old. During the summer they both developed tumors behind one front leg. They (the tumors) have become quite large. The mice do not seem to be less energetic, but I am worried that they may be cancerous. I would appreciate any help you could give me. Thank you. —G. G., San Francisco

DEAR G. G.: You may be right in believing these lumps to be cancerous. It would be best to let your vet examine them and decide the proper course of action. If they are related, the chances of this being cancerous are even stronger. A susceptibility toward cancer can be inherited. In fact, strains of white mice have been bred in which all the offspring died of cancer. Now, it may not be anything too serious, but your little mice are getting along in years — for mice — and you should have those lumps checked, soon.

Does your favorite animal have problems, physical or emotional? Dr. Miller will answer any letter mailed to him, care of The Chronicle, provided a stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed.

## THE KIDS' CORNER

### TODAY'S JUNIOR ART CHAMPION



"Boy and Girl," by Laurie Cruikshank, 8, Sausalito

### HONORABLE MENTIONS

- Deborah Dunlap, 10, Lafayette
- Mark Pettinari, 5, San Bruno
- Connie Suzuki, 10, Seaside
- Ralph DeLaubenfels, 9, Redding
- Danny Kiernan, 4, San Rafael
- Nina Liston, 9, Daly City
- Susan Hannum, 5, San Francisco
- Kathy Momii, 6, San Francisco
- Frederic Love, 6, Palo Alto
- Joan Walt, 8, Alamo

Draw a picture of any subject. Mail it, with name, age, address and title of picture, to Junior Championship, The San Francisco Chronicle, San Francisco 19, Calif. No one over 14 years old may enter. Each entry will be judged on the merits of the picture. Age considered. All entries become property of The Chronicle, and no entries can be returned. Each day the Junior Art Champion will get \$2. Honorable mentions receive lifetime talking storybook keys for the San Francisco Zoo.

## ASK ANDY

### What Is a Supernova?

Once in a while, a dim, distant dot in the night sky may burst into sudden glory and rival the brightest of stars. This new star is the nova which flashed into Andy's column last week. Telescope pictures show that a nova at its peak may be 60,000 times brighter than our sun. Then, in a few days or weeks, it fades again to its former self. But this cosmic explosion is a mere match light when compared with a supernova. This monster outburst may be 200 million times brighter than the sun and, in one second, pour forth more energy than the sun does in 60 years.

When a nova explodes, it shoots off one or more shells

of its outer gases. This is no great loss and the star shrinks back to almost what it was before. When a supernova explodes, it is thought that the entire star, or most of it is destroyed. In our Galaxy of perhaps 100 billion stars, we can expect a supernova once in about 400 years. So bright are these cosmic outbursts that many have been recorded by the telescope in other galaxies far across the vast reaches of space.

In the past 1000 years three supernovae have been spotted in our galaxy, all before the invention of the telescope. All of them, like the novae, were near the thickly populated center of the Galaxy, far away from our own thinly settled region of the heavens. In 1572, a new star shone bright as Jupiter in the constellation Ophiuchus. Both soon faded, though astronomers now rate them as supernovae.

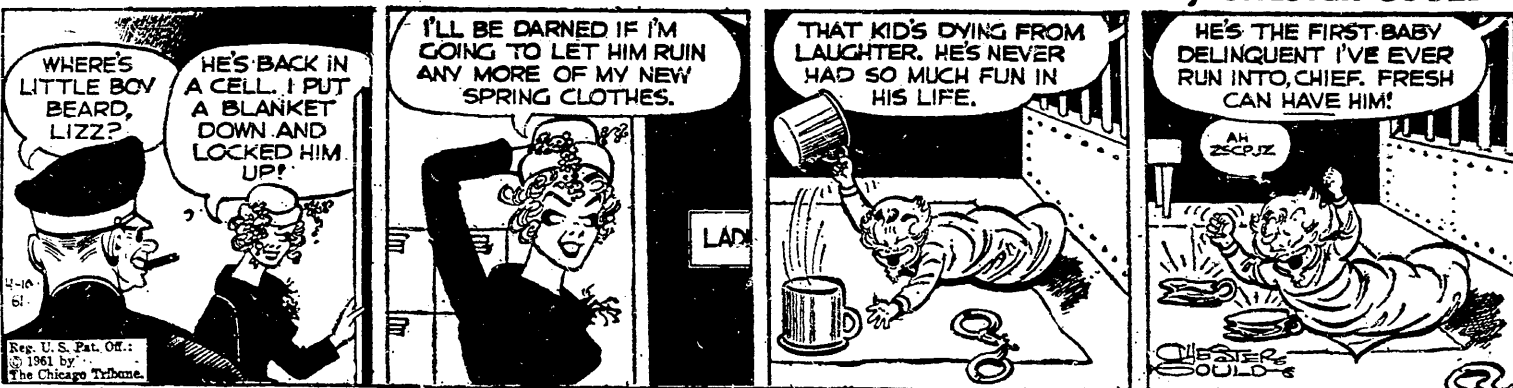
The writings of Chinese and Japanese astronomers record a bright new star in the year 1054 A.D. according to our calendar. It appeared, bright as Jupiter, in Taurus the Bull and, because it stayed bright but a short time, they named it the Guest Star. After 900 years, the remains of this superduper explosion are still sending pictures to our telescopes and sounds to our radiotelescopes.

### Previous Panorama Puzzle

WORSHIP BIABLES  
 ANIMATO ADULTATE  
 REMOVAL LUMINAL  
 DRAKE TELL NELL  
 ENERVIATED  
 PIAIS LIOAI BETSY  
 ASH BIOIN PLESETA  
 SPARRING PARTNER  
 HEREIN FAIST DIAN  
 ANISE SLITIT ASKS  
 PROMINENT  
 NEBO PIACI ATONE  
 AVEWGER INSIDIES  
 DERREY NEAREST  
 ARTEMAS GALILEI

## DICK TRACY

By CHESTER GOULD



## ROMULUS OF ROME

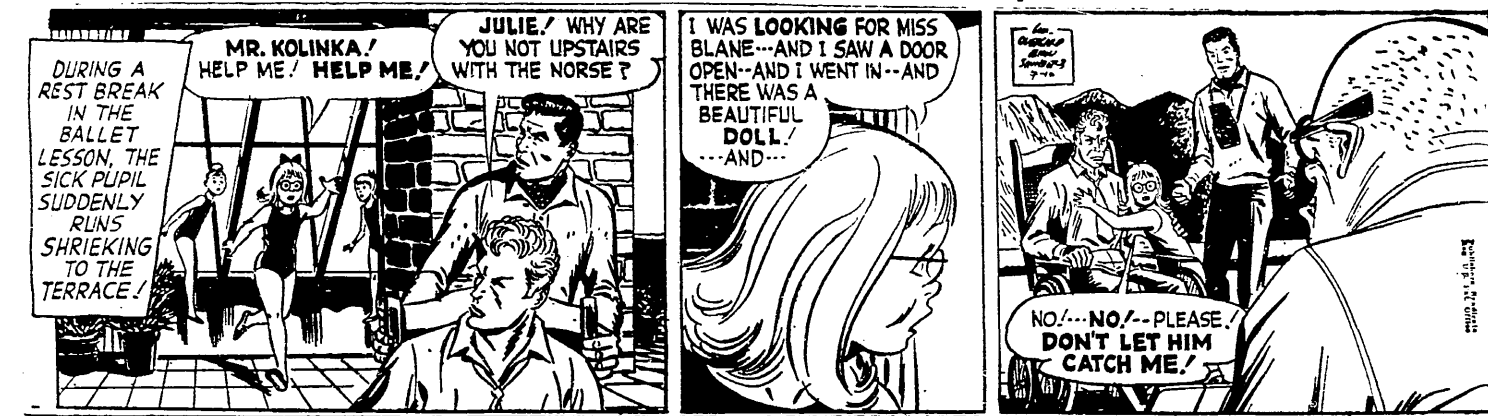
(See Page 13 for start of series)

By WONG & CAHN



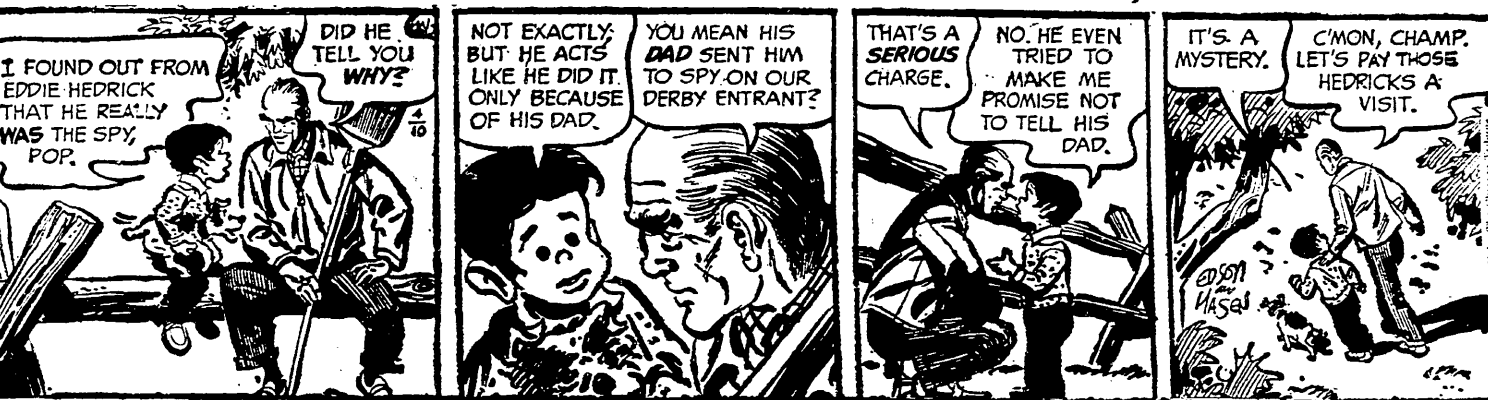
## STEVE ROPER

By SAUNDERS and OVERGARD



## DONDI

By EDSON and HASEN



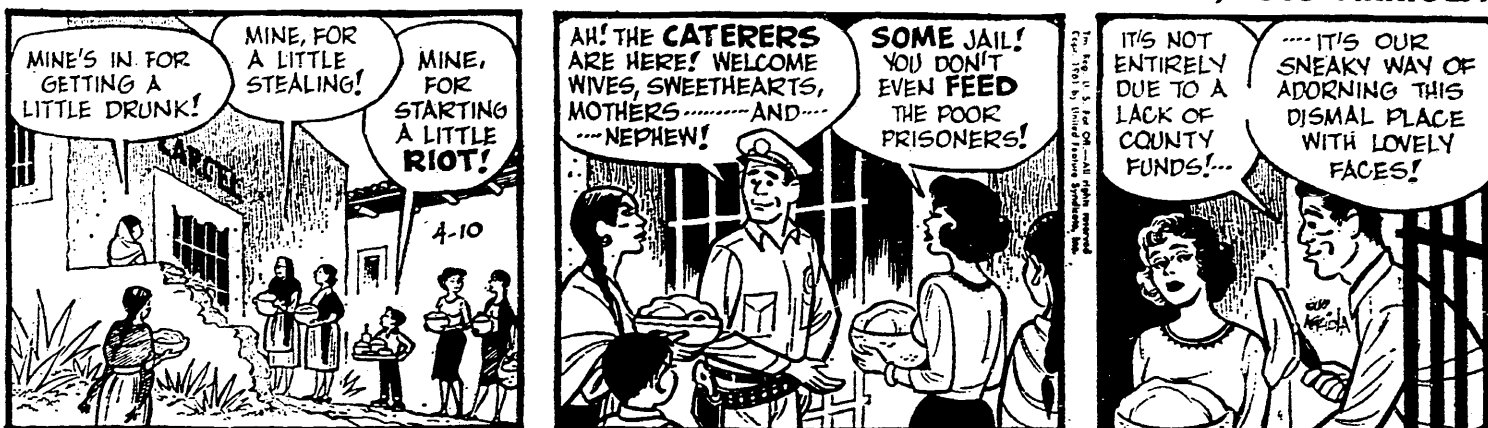
## GASOLINE ALLEY

By KING



## GORDO

By GUS ARRIOLA



## TERRY AND THE PIRATES

By GEORGE WUNDER



## FERD'NAND

By MIK

