

# AND HER NAME WAS MAUD!

Deb Kidwell  
Lake Nowhere Mule and Donkey Farm



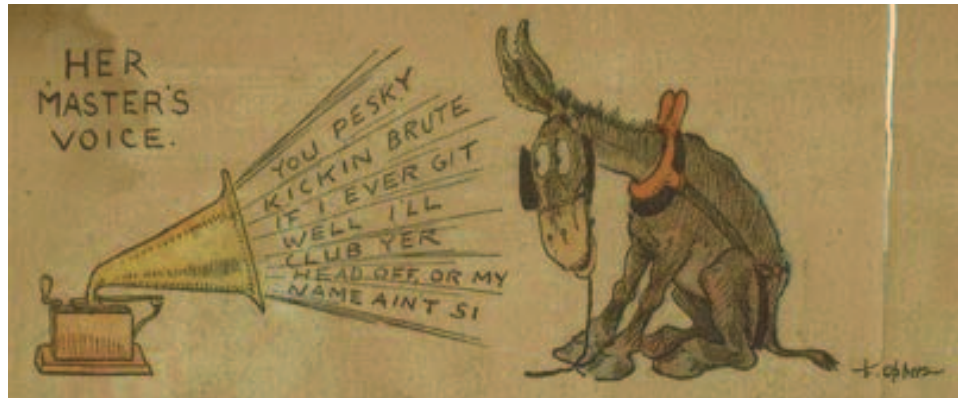
## AND HER NAME WAS MAUD!



(To be Continued Next Sunday)

I have found that folks who like mules gravitate towards each other. I do not know why this is and figure that it is some scientific phenomena that we don't know about with a name like "Muleitis". One example is Frederick Burr Opper. Mr. Opper was born in 1857 in Madison, Ohio, to Austrian-American immigrants. He dropped out of school at age fourteen to work as a printer's apprentice at the *Madison Gazette*. At sixteen, he moved to New York City. His first cartoon was published in *Wild Oats* in 1876 and his career took off. He illustrated for *Puck* for eighteen years and drew everything from spot illustrations to the covers. In 1899, Opper joined William Randolph Heart's *New York Journal*. His *Happy Hooligan* strip first appeared in 1900 and ran until 1932. Some of you may remember Opper's *Alphonse and Gaston* ("After you Alphonse." "No, my dear Gaston, after you") comic strip as well, but it was a later strip that caught this longear lover's eye.

In 1904 Opper drew *And Her Name Was Maud*. Maud is a mule who is owned by a farmer named "Si". Now, this is one of those situations that we as mule owners run into quite often; Maud is smarter than Si. This is proven time and time again. Every time Maud beats Si at his own game, he comes up with yet another scheme to rid himself of Maud, and like clockwork Si ends up on the business end of Maud which



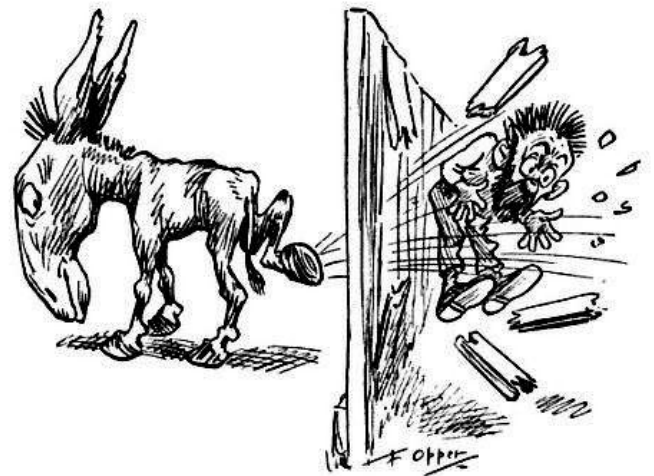
is the punch line, of course. Si purchases armor to protect himself from Maud, he ties her to the railroad tracks, he ties her in the middle of the highway, but each time Maud comes out the winner and usually the strip ends with Maud somewhere in the background saying "Hee Haw". And, Si is not the only one who learns that Maud is a mule with a mind of her own. Somehow, everyone that comes into contact with Maud bonks her with a stick or their fist and they too are introduced to the wrath of Maud. I love Maud!

I am sure that Opper knew a mule or two in his time since he illustrated

books for two other mule aficionados, Edgar Bill Nye and Mark Twain. These men had affection and appreciation for the mule and I am thankful that we have their work to appreciate today.

Deb Kidwell is a mule and American Mammoth Jackstock breeder in Martin, Tennessee. To contact Deb regarding this article or previous articles, email her at [mulelady@frontier.net](mailto:mulelady@frontier.net) or her website at [www.elitemulesandjackstock.com](http://www.elitemulesandjackstock.com).

*More cartoons on next page*

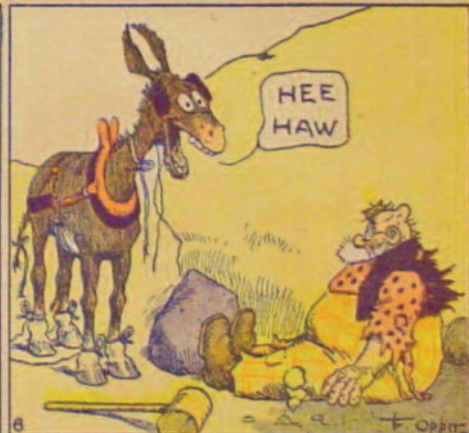
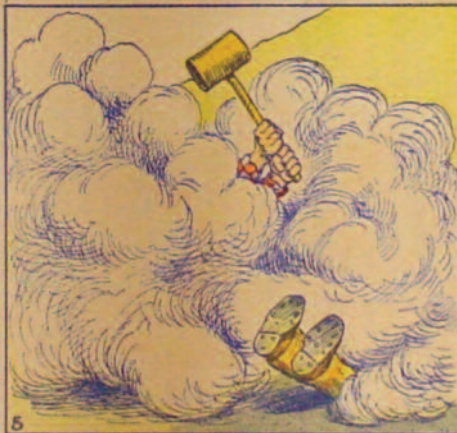
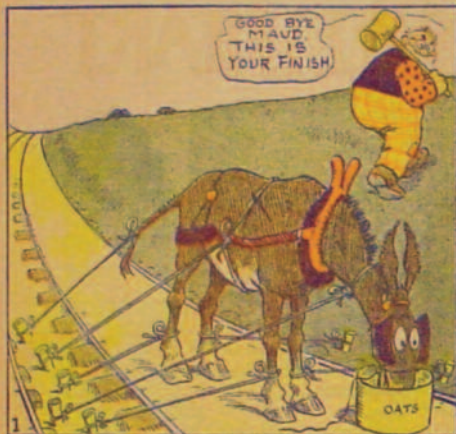


### THE MULE

**I**S this not a mule? Tickle his Heel and See. You had better send for a Doctor and a Minister. If it had been a Piano instead of a Mule you would not Have to Wear yourself in a Sling for the next Six Months. Do you not wish it had been a Piano!

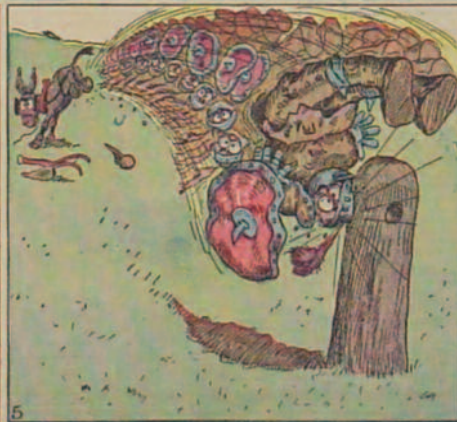
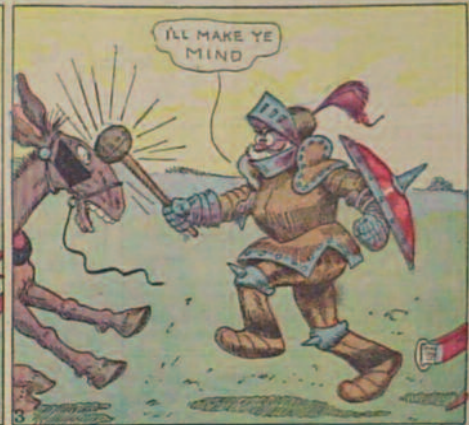
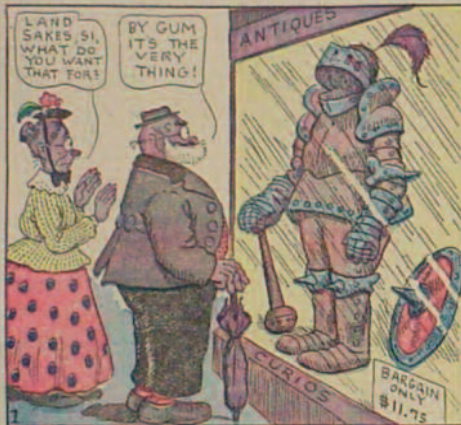
# AND HER NAME WAS MAUD!

Copyright, 1962, by the American-Jordanian Syndicate. All Rights Reserved.



# AND HER NAME WAS MAUD!

Copyright, 1962, by the American-Jordanian Syndicate. All Rights Reserved.



(to be Continued Next Sunday)

# Seen Maud?



## THREE BELLS MULES TIMBERLINE "ALL AROUND MULE SADDLE"

Made With The Mule In Mind

Options available for  
sizing for the smaller mules.

Base price  
\$2,375.  
**READY TO RIDE!**



photo shown includes some optional items / Base price includes padded seat, choice of horn, choice of stirrups and many other options

[www.threebellsmules.com](http://www.threebellsmules.com)

Check out our website for other available tack.

### THREE BELLS MULES

P.O. Box 747/550 South Picnic Creek Road  
Springerville, Arizona 85938

Phone 928-333-3506 / Cell 928-245-7013

email: [threebellsmules@yahoo.com](mailto:threebellsmules@yahoo.com)



Terry & Sandy Wagner