

Brothers and Sisters

By W. E. Hill

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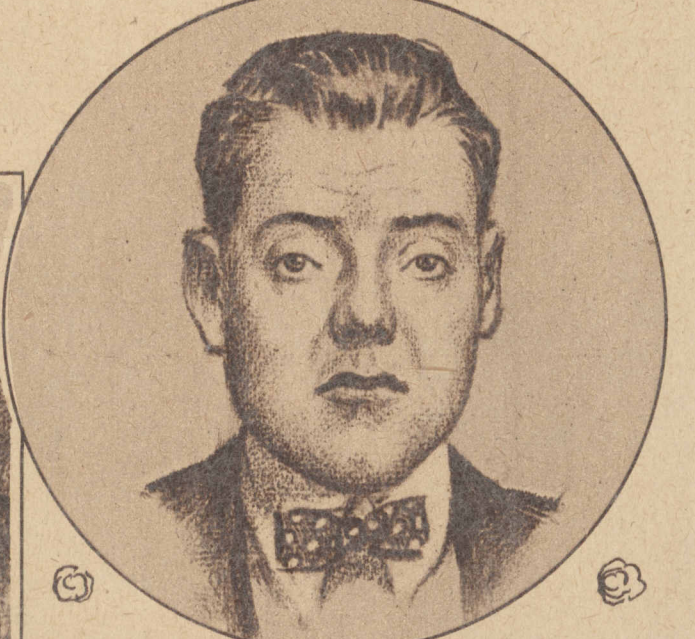
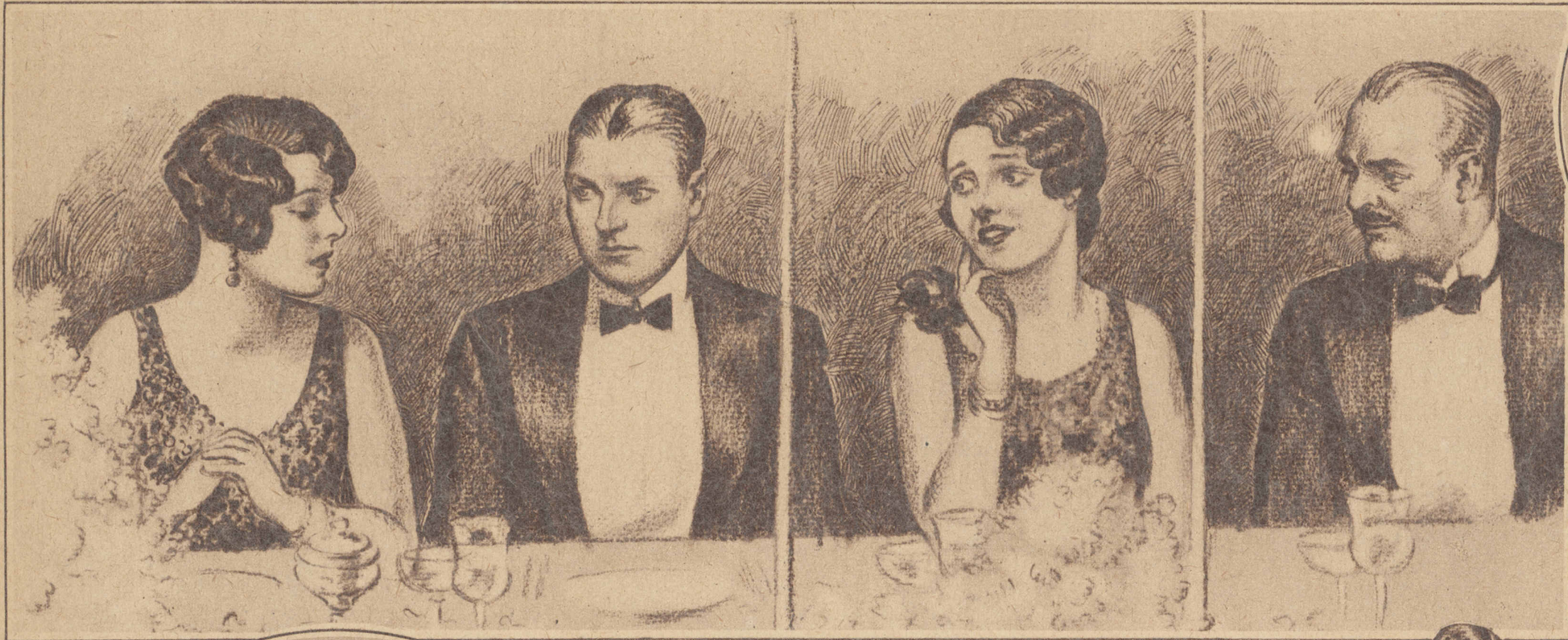
Little brother Howell is always spoken of in the family circle as "my baby brother," he being the proud possessor of four elder sisters, who see to it that Howell gets away with nothing.



In-laws. Frank and Sophie have been visiting Bert and Rita. Frank is Rita's brother: that makes Sophie, Frank's spouse de luxe, none other than Bert's sister-in-law, and so on down the line. Bert and Rita have been showing Frank and Sophie everything there is to show, from night clubs to municipal buildings, and naturally are a little bit tired after a full week. "I wouldn't mind," Rita complains, "if they were only a little more enthusiastic. They don't seem a bit impressed by anything!" And Sophie confides to her husband in private, "I wouldn't mind their carting us all over and showing us all the old things we don't want to see if Rita wasn't so high hat about it. You'd think she didn't even give us credit for open plumbing back home in Marquette!" However, the good-byes are very affectionate, and there's a lot of "Give my best to Pearl and Bob!" and all that.



Twin sisters. When Dorothy and Delight were seven their dear mamma saw the famous Dolly sisters in a revue and realized at once the value of mass formation. So then and there she began dressing the twins, Dorothy and Delight, alike. It is very hard for friend or foe to tell the twins apart. Unless, of course, you get right up close in a strong light, and that makes the sisters just a wee bit nervous.



Portrait of a girl's younger brother watching from a safe distance while she feeds her fiancé a chocolate almond. Even the cutest tricks are a dead loss with a younger brother looking on.



"All right, you tell the story yourself, Marie!" Two sisters, even though they love each other dearly, never seem able to co-ordinate in public. If Ethel starts an anecdote, Marie wants to jump in and add something Ethel has forgotten, and so it goes.



The capable sister. Maud is usually referred to by friends and near relations as being a capable girl, which is a terrible attribute for anybody's sister to cultivate. "Let Maud do it, she does it so well," is the slogan of Maud's brothers and sisters. It would seem that Maud's sister Gracie had the right idea when she said, "If I never learn to cook, then I never will have to!"



Sister-in-law. Pity the pitiful plight of the sister by marriage to an only boy in a large family of devoted sisters. Four days after the wedding their new sister-in-law said, "Of course, I think you all baby Edward too much," which was the wrong thing to say, of course. Now the sisters accuse her of being cold, mercenary, and a poor housekeeper.



The comic sister. "Good heavens, Arthur, where did you learn to kiss a girl! I saw you, and my, didn't I wish I had my old Brownie camera! Is that the best you can do?"

Twin brothers are not nearly as friendly to each other as are twin sisters. Twin sisters will eat out of each other's hands, so to speak, while twin brothers when not actually murdering each other are decidedly aloof in spirit.