

HOW MUTT AND JEFF HAPPENED

Bud Fisher Tells of Their Origin

NOW TIMES DAILY FEATURE

Mutt Was Race Dopester — Jeff Was Sheer Accident — Born in San Francisco in 1907

On November 16, 1907, in the busy little city of San Francisco, a great man was born. Unlike most great men, the fact of his greatness was known and recognized the day of his birth, and from that day to the present his sole object in life has been keeping people laughing. His name is A. Mutt; his "side-kick" is Jeff; his creator is "Bud" Fisher; and the trio are now appearing regularly in each issue of The Times.

Mr. Fisher was drawing for the San Francisco Chronicle at the time, and it was only after long months of coaxing that he succeeded in inducing that paper to let him run his comic strip. At last they gave the desired permission, and one morning A. Mutt appeared, giving "dope" on the races. He was an instantaneous hit.

"How did you happen to pick out the character of Mutt?" the writer asked Mr. Fisher one day.

"Before I started the comic, I used to go to the races pretty regularly, and I would see fellows leaning around among the hustlers, for the races and bookmakers trying to pick up tips which would make them some money. None was a heavy better, but they all looked as if they needed the money to feed their families. They showed more anxiety over their picking bets than the big plunkers did.

"I decided to make one of these race track frequenters the character of my strip, and so I picked out a composite type. He had to be a weak guy, and I made A. Mutt with no chin. He must be a loser to get the feed bag news, which is the low down on the races, so Mr. Mutt had a long nose. Then he was tall and thin and angular so he could hustle."

Following His Betting Tips.

According to Mr. Fisher, the prototypes from which he had drawn the character of Mutt began to read him conscientiously every day to see what Mutt was going to do about betting, and followed suit. Fisher named real horses in real races at real odds in his comic, and he obtained his data from experts of his acquaintance. His tips were good, and Mutt at one time actually rolled up a fortune on paper. Fisher each night would take the entries for the races the next day and select a horse for Mutt to play. His choice soon began to affect the odds at the track and the bookmakers would back down the price if they saw in the morning Chronicle that Mutt was playing Feedbag to win. But the entry always received a big play, no matter what the price, for Fisher made it a point to give the readers as good knowledge as he could obtain.

If the horse had won on the preceding day, Mutt lost prosperity in the paper on the following morning, and he announced on what horse he would stake his fortune that afternoon. If this horse lost, then Mutt was broke, and Fisher showed real genius in devising means for his character to obtain money to begin all over again. The character parlayed fifty cents into thousands of dollars and then lost it all on one smash. This Mutt at the races had, San Francisco by the ears.

Jeff was an Accident.

Jeff's introduction was by accident, and is a good story in itself. At one stage of his meteoric career on the track, Mutt became disgusted with the odds and the prices and the bets which the bookmakers would accept. He decided to change his headquarters to an insane asylum, where he could lay any price he wanted on any horse and bet as much as he pleased, and none of the regular boarders at the asylum would complain. It gave Fisher a wide range for his humor.

The scheme worked out to Mutt's entire satisfaction, although daily he was bothered by "nuts." One morning a man interrupted Mutt while he was studying the dope sheet and told him he was William Shakespeare, the Shakespeare of Stratford-on-Avon. This did not thrill Mutt.

"Go away, Shakespeare," remarked Mutt, "and don't bother me. I've the dope on a winner."

The following day Fisher had Napoleon of the nut factory commit with Mutt. This guest at the asylum where Mr. Nutt was making all his imaginary money was interested in military affairs, and believed he was the Great Emperor in all his glory. He was, however, weak on geography. He approached Mutt in the daily strip and said:

"I have to report I have just taken Vicksburg!"

"Well, put it back and don't bother me," promptly replied Mutt.

First Time Jeff "Got His"

Various strange characters entered the strip day by day. One morning a funny little fellow came along wearing boxing gloves.

"Who are you?" asked Mutt.

"I'm James J. Jeffries," replied the newcomer, "and I want to fight you."

He wanted Mutt to don the boxing gloves, but the tall fellow was too busy with his inevitable racing sheets, so the last picture of the strip showed James J. Jeffries down on the floor with Mutt's foot in his face and the owner of the foot quietly studying the form card. It was the first time Jeff "got his," but he was destined to receive it frequently in the years to come.

"Did Jeff continue in the pictures daily, from the time Mutt found him in the insane asylum," asked the writer.

"No, he didn't get a steady job for some time after that. He obtained his permanent place in the comic during the graft investigation in San Francisco. After I took Mutt out of the asylum, Jeff went back on the shelf with Shakespeare and Napoleon and all the other 'nuts.' When I began to draw cartoons on the graft case, I brought Jeff back into the pictures. The little fellow came out of the asylum in order to sympathize with Rudolph Spreckels because he said Spreckels was crazier than he was. He complained that he should not be kept in the asylum under those circumstances. Jeff has been in the daily pictures regularly ever since except occasionally when Mutt appears alone. Jeff has also starred alone in some strips."

So that is how little Jeff broke into the Big League of cartoon characters.

McAvity's Messenger

All the Guns and Rifles we handle are standard, well-known goods of the latest models and leaders in their class. Our variety is such that you will have no difficulty in selecting a Gun at the price you wish to pay. Every Gun and Rifle we sell is guaranteed as represented, both by the makers and ourselves, and if any part or piece gives out by reason of defective material or workmanship, we will replace or repair such part free of charge, providing such defect is not the result of improper care or handling on the part of the purchaser.

Single Barrel Shot Guns



STEVENS NO. 105
As cut. Top snap, low rebounding hammer, walnut stock with pistol grip, rubber butt plate, case-hardened frame, fore-end attached to barrel and fitted with metal joint. Adapted for any standard make of shell, factory loaded with either black or smokeless powders.

30-inch Special "Electro" Steel Barrel, Choke Bored for Nitro Powder, 12, 16 and 20 gauge \$6.25

HOPKINS & ALLEN, NO. 912

A peculiar feature of this gun is the tension screw for adjusting the strength of the hammer. Case-hardened frame, pistol grip stock, rubber butt plate, snap fore-end with metal joint. Weight 6 lbs.

30-inch Barrel, Full Choked for Nitro Powder, 12, 16 and 20 gauge \$6.00

STEVENS NO. 180, HAMMERLESS

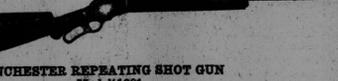
Action hammerless, top snap, automatic ejector, automatic safety, case-hardened frame, walnut stock finely checked, full pistol grip, capped, rubber butt plate, snap fore-end with metal joint. Weight 6 1/2 lbs.

30-inch Compressed Forged "Electro" Steel Barrel, Hollow Tapered, Bored for Nitro Powder, Full Choked, 12, 16 and 20 gauge \$12.00



WINCHESTER REPEATING SHOT GUN Model 1897

As cut. Plain finish. Made in 12 gauge only, 6 shots. Solid frame, pistol grip and action slide of plain wood, not checked. 30-inch Rolled Steel Barrel, Full Choked, 12 gauge \$25.00
Take Down Model, 12 gauge \$7.00



WINCHESTER REPEATING SHOT GUN Model 1901

Plain finish. Lever action. Made in 10 gauge only, 6 shots. Plain pistol grip stock, not checked. Expressly bored to handle either black or smokeless powders.

32-inch Rolled Steel Barrel, 10 gauge \$30.00

Double Barrel Shot Guns



STEVENS NO. 235
As cut. Top snap, with matted extension rib and reinforced breech; double lock, low circular hammers, rebounding locks with steel parts, solid plungers, drop forged parts; varnished walnut stock, finely finished with pistol grip checked and capped; patent snap fore-end, checked; rubber butt plate, drop forged frame. Adapted for any standard make of shell, loaded with either black or smokeless powders.

An excellent gun for all purposes, smooth, easy and positive action.

30-inch Special High Pressure Steel Barrels, Choke Bored for Nitro Powder, 12 gauge \$17.50



STEVENS NO. 255

Top lever, with matted extension rib and reinforced breech; patent cross bolt through extension rib, low circular hammers, rebounding bar locks with steel parts, solid plungers, drop forged parts; varnished walnut stock, finely finished with pistol grip checked and capped; patent snap fore-end, checked; rubber butt plate, drop forged frame. Adapted for any standard make of shell, loaded with either black or smokeless powders.

30-inch Special High Pressure Steel Barrels, Choke Bored for Nitro Powder, 12 gauge \$25.00



STEVENS NO. 285

Same style and finish as No. 255, but with 30-inch Special Twist Steel Barrels, Choke Bored for Nitro Powder, 12 gauge \$34.50

Double Barrel Guns--Continued



STEVENS NO. 335, HAMMERLESS
As cut. The action of this gun is the same in construction as our No. 235 Double Barrel Hammer Gun with the addition of a check hook to take the wear off the joint. Oiled walnut stock and case-hardened frame. Adapted for any standard make of shell, loaded with either black or smokeless powders.

30-inch Special High Pressure Steel Barrels, Choke Bored for Nitro Powder, 12 gauge \$22.75



TOBIN HAMMERLESS GUNS

Tobin Guns are the first shot guns to be manufactured in Canada. They are made of the very best materials for the purpose and enjoy the reputation of having superior points of merit in mechanism, quality and construction. The action is conceded to be the best constructed and smoothest working action in a gun of the hammerless type.

TOBIN NO. 35, UNIVERSAL GRADE

A plain, well finished gun with workmanship that distinguishes it as a fine firearm. Plain dark imported and selected walnut stock, full pistol grip.

30-inch "Trojan" Nitro Steel Barrels, 12 gauge \$31.25

TOBIN NO. 55, BLACK DIAMOND GRADE

A medium price gun of fine appearance with unique Pyro-oxidized black finish, combined with good, sound workmanship.

30-inch "Trojan" Nitro Steel Barrels, 12 gauge \$35.00

STERLINGWORTH HAMMERLESS GUNS

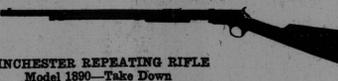
The sterlingworth is not a cheap gun but a good gun cheap. Coil springs are used and guaranteed against breakage. One-piece safety makes accidental discharge impossible. Each gun is tested with an excessive charge of smokeless powder and is warranted not to shoot loose.

STERLINGWORTH STANDARD

Stock of American walnut, with full cap pistol grip, patent snap fore-end; hard rubber butt plate.

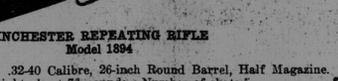
30-inch Sterlingworth Fluid Compressed Steel Barrels, Full Choked, 12 gauge \$38.50

RIFLES



WINCHESTER REPEATING RIFLE Model 1890—Take Down

22 Calibre, 24-inch Octagon Barrel, Plain Trigger, Straight Stock of Plain Wood. Weight about 5 1/2 lbs. \$16.00



WINCHESTER REPEATING RIFLE Model 1894

32-40 Calibre, 26-inch Round Barrel, Half Magazine. Weight about 7 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 5 \$18.00

32-40 Calibre, 26-inch Round Barrel. Full Magazine. Weight about 8 pounds. Number of shots 9 \$18.00

38-55 Calibre, 26-inch Round Barrel. Full Magazine. Weight about 8 pounds. Number of shots 9 \$18.00

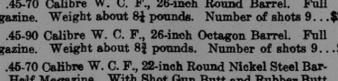
38-55 Calibre, 26-inch Round Barrel. Half Magazine. Weight about 7 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 5 \$18.00

30 Calibre, 26-inch Round Barrel. Full Magazine. Weight about 7 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 9 \$23.00

38-55 Calibre, Carbine, 20-inch Round Barrel. Half Magazine. Weight about 6 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 4 \$17.50

32 Calibre (Special), Carbine, 20-inch Round Barrel. Half Magazine. Weight about 6 pounds. Number of shots 4 \$21.00

32 Calibre (Special), 26-inch Half Octagon Barrel. Half Magazine. Weight about 8 pounds. Number of shots 5 \$24.50



WINCHESTER REPEATING RIFLE Model 1896

45-70 Calibre W. C. F., 26-inch Round Barrel. Full Magazine. Weight about 8 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 9 \$22.50

45-90 Calibre W. C. F., 26-inch Octagon Barrel. Full Magazine. Weight about 8 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 9 \$24.50

45-70 Calibre W. C. F., 22-inch Round Nickel Steel Barrel. Half Magazine. With Shot Gun Butt and Rubber Butt Plate. Weight about 6 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 5 \$28.50

RIFLES--Continued



WINCHESTER SELF-LOADING RIFLE Model 1895

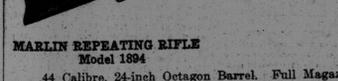
Calibre 40-72, 26-inch Round Barrel. Weight about 8 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 6 \$22.50

Calibre 303 British, 28-inch Round Barrel. Weight about 8 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 6 \$35.00

Calibre 405, 24-inch Round Barrel. Weight about 8 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 6 \$35.00

WINCHESTER SELF-LOADING RIFLE Model 1910—Take Down

The most powerful Recoil Operated Repeater made. "It hits like the Hammer of Thor." 401 Calibre, 20-inch Round Nickel Steel Barrel. Weight about 8 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 5 \$35.00



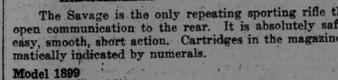
MARLIN REPEATING RIFLE Model 1894

44 Calibre, 24-inch Octagon Barrel. Full Magazine. Weight about 7 pounds. Number of shots 8 \$18.00

MARLIN REPEATING RIFLE Model 1893

32-40 Calibre, 26-inch Octagon Barrel. Full Magazine. Weight about 7 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 10 \$22.00

38-55 Calibre, 26-inch Octagon Barrel. Full Magazine. Weight about 7 1/2 pounds. Number of shots 10 \$22.00



SAVAGE REPEATING RIFLE, HAMMERLESS

The Savage is the only repeating sporting rifle that has no open communication to the rear. It is absolutely safe, and has matically indicated by numerals.

Model 1899

Using 303 Cartridges. Number of shots 6.

22-inch Round Barrel, Shot Gun Butt Plate, Weight 6 pounds 4 ounces \$24.50

26-inch Round Barrel, Rifle Butt Plate. Weight 7 pounds 8 ounces \$24.50

26-inch Full Octagon Barrel, Rifle Butt Plate. Weight 7 pounds \$26.00

26-inch Half Octagon Barrel, Rifle Butt Plate. Weight 7 pounds 12 ounces \$26.00



ROSS RIFLES

Ross Rifles, both Military and Sporting Models are unbeaten in their class, and are unequalled in quality and value.

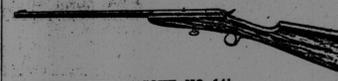
ROSS MODEL "E" SPORTING

Length of Barrel, 22, 24 and 26 inches. Cartridges, 303 British. Capacity of Magazine, 5 cartridges \$22.50

ROSS MODEL 280 SPORTING

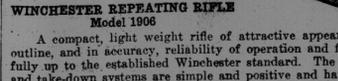
An up to the minute sporting rifle. Weight about 7 pounds 8 ounces. Length of Barrel, 26 inches. Cartridges, Ross 280 expanding bullet. Capacity of Magazine, 4 cartridges \$45.00

Single Shot Rifles



STEVENS LITTLE SCOUT, NO. 14

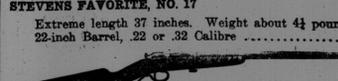
Extreme length 30 inches. Weight about 2 1/2 pounds. 18-inch Round Barrel. 22 Calibre \$3.00



WINCHESTER REPEATING RIFLE Model 1906

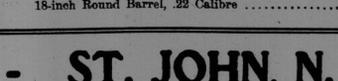
A compact, light weight rifle of attractive appearance and outline, and in accuracy, reliability of operation and finish it is fully up to the established Winchester standard. The repeating and take-down systems are simple and positive and have always given entire satisfaction. Has straight grip stock and composition rubber butt plate. Weight about 5 pounds. Adapted for 22 short, 22 long and 22 long rifle rim fire cartridges.

20-inch Round Barrel, Fitted with Sporting Front Sight and Adjustable Open Rear Sight \$13.85



STEVENS FAVORITE, NO. 17

Extreme length 37 inches. Weight about 4 1/2 pounds. 22-inch Barrel, 22 or 32 Calibre \$6.75



WINCHESTER SINGLE SHOT Model 1902

Extreme length 33 1/2 inches. Weight about 3 pounds. 18-inch Round Barrel, 22 Calibre \$4.85

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