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pork or veal or mutton, poultry or game—no matter what your purchase of meat from us may be, you are never disappointed. It is always of the best quality. That means it will always cook well and taste delicious when served. Kept fresh and tender, it will taste so.

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2723 Weston Street LOMITA CALIF.  
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**BILLY WHISKERS**

By FRANCES MONTGOMERY

The dog had said that he was going along with Billy.

"But before we start, I think you should have something good to eat. If you will follow me I will take you to a garden filled with delicious vegetables, where you may eat your fill and no one will care for the owner is dead and the caretaker gone to war."

Now the garden the dog spoke of belonged to the castle, and to get into it one had to pass by the caretaker's house. No one lived in it but the old deaf and half blind mother of the gardener. They were about the pass the cottage and enter the garden when Billy, chancing to look up, saw the beautiful face of the Duke's daughter, Lady Rose, in the window.

"Look! Look at the face in the window!" said Billy.

"Why is the Duke's daughter! And see, there are bars at the window! She must be a prisoner, for there never were any bars there before. I saw the Germans carry her off, and they must have imprisoned her here and made the caretaker's old mother look after her, for there's the old woman in the garden now!"

"That is just it," agreed Billy. "Do you suppose if I butted down the door she would try to escape?"

"I think she would. Anyway, try it. The old woman is so deaf she won't hear you, even if it makes a horrible noise."

Sandy helped Billy and the dog went around under the window, which was on the ground floor, so that the young woman could see them. As soon as they came in sight she called out "Sandy! Good old dog, come here!" and she reached her hand through the bars and began patting his head as he stretched up to receive her caresses.

Sandy barked with delight, and while she was petting him Billy ran around and butted down the outside door, which led into a little square hall with rooms opening into it from all sides. Billy knew which must be the room where Lady Rose was, having noted it carefully from outside, and then, besides, it had an extra iron bolt on it, while none of the other doors had. But what were locks and bolts to Billy when he wished to enter a room?

Two big butts, and the door fell in, crushed like an eggshell.

On seeing the door fall and a way of escape offered, Lady Rose picked up her hooded cloak and, throwing it around her as she went, she ran from the room and house, down a closely shaded lane to the stable, where she quickly led out her favorite riding horse. Taking time to saddle and bridle him, she mounted and rode out of the stable yard, putting her steed to a dead run, with Billy and the dog following.

Straight for the river she headed, and, never stopping at the brink, she urged her horse into the water and he gallantly swam for the opposite shore. All she thought or cared about was to get to the French Headquarters and put herself under the protection of the French army. Billy and the dog swam on either side of her, the horse being a good swimmer, it was not long before they were all across and galloping at full speed toward the French encampment.

Arriving at the entrance, the sentinel, after hearing her story, allowed her to pass, handing her over to another soldier to lead her to the General's Headquarters. Billy and Sandy still stayed close by her, and so it was together that the three of them appeared at the General's door and were admitted.

Imagine the General's surprise when the door opened to admit a beautiful young lady, wet and wind-blown, followed by a soldier, a dog and a goat.

The General was so surprised that he simply stared for a moment. But Captain Strongheart—now Major Strongheart—had had a promotion and been decorated with all kinds of medals for his bravery in securing the maps, dispatches and plans he had brought in from the enemy's camp—offered the young lady a chair.

There the three of them stood, staring at each other in blank amazement, for the General and the Major quickly recognized the young woman as the daughter of the Duke. After she had told her story she told the General she wished to become a Red Cross nurse.

"But, my dear young lady, you can't be a trained nurse on the medical staff just because you think you would like being a nurse. You don't know anything about nursing!"

Strongheart spoke "Don't be so sure of that, General! I have done practical work in a large hospital for a year, just to get the experience. Nursing is a hobby of mine, and I teased my father to let me become a nurse, if only for a short time."

"Well, you certainly are fortunate to have taken the course. And under these circumstances the Red Cross will be delighted to take you in and make you a member of the order."

"General," spoke up Major Strongheart, "I would suggest that I take Lady Rose to the young lady I am engaged to marry, and let her look after her, give her dry clothing and some refreshment, for I see that the bottom of her dress is soaking wet."

"Thank you so much for your thoughtful kindness," Lady Rose returned. "I had my horse swim the river, and my skirt slipped from my arm and railed in the water, for the river was both deep and swift where we crossed."

"But weren't you afraid?" asked the General.

"Oh, I have often made my horse swim it just for the fun of it. Besides, I had two guardians with me—that wonderful goat and my own dog."

Praise for Billy "You do right to call that goat wonderful. He is more than wonderful. We have no adjective to express what we think of him. And you will agree with us when some day we tell you his history. But now you must follow out Major Strongheart's suggestion and get on some dry things and have a cup of hot tea."

When Lady Rose had passed out of the room the General turned to Billy and said: "For your part in all this I shall have the most expensive and beautiful collar made for you that was ever worn by any goat, dog or pet. It shall be made of pure gold, set with precious stones, and from it shall hang a gold pendant, with the number and date of your daring deeds, and then besides, hanging down on either side shall be two pendants in the shape of flags. One shall be enameled to represent the American flag, and the other the French flag. And when made, I shall clasp this collar around your neck before the whole Regiment, and they shall give three cheers for luck and a long life to our Billy."

And saying these words, the General patted Billy on the head and left the room.

Billy was too overcome by all this honor to even baa. And for the thousandth time in his life he wished he could talk so that he might thank the General, and not only him, but his master as well, whom he saw returning from taking Lady Rose to his ladylove.

"Billy, old fellow," said Major Strongheart on entering the office, "again I owe you my life, and also my promotion to the rank of Major. What can I do to repay you? Nothing I know of, but to save your life as you have saved mine if you get in a tight place and need help. Heigho! Who is your new friend? A mighty spruce-looking dog, I think. And as he is your friend, I shall see that he is given the best of care. Both of you must be tired and hungry, as well as wet, for Lady Rose told me all about how you rescued her. Both of you come with me to my quarters, and I shall see that you are made comfortable and given the freedom of the camp."

THE END.

[A new series on Billy Whiskers' adventures will start Friday.]

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**THE WINCHESTER STORE**

1319 Sartori Phone 32 Torrance

NO. OF BANK—665

**REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE  
OF THE**

**STATE BANK OF LOMITA**

AT LOMITA, CALIFORNIA

AS OF THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE, 1924

**RESOURCES**

	Commercial	Savings	Combined
Loans and discounts (including rediscounts).....	\$205,628.86	\$79,483.96	\$285,112.82
Overdrafts.....	167.09		167.09
All other bonds, warrants and securities (including premium thereon, less all offsetting bond adjustment accounts).....	58,346.24		58,346.24
Bank premises, furniture and fixtures and safe deposit vaults.....	18,126.26		18,126.26
Due from other banks.....	30,520.65		30,520.65
Actual cash on hand.....	19,893.72	5,803.87	25,697.59
Checks and other cash items.....	276.55		276.55
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$332,958.37</b>	<b>\$85,287.83</b>	<b>\$418,246.20</b>

**LIABILITIES**

Capital paid in.....	\$40,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$50,000.00
Surplus.....	6,000.00		6,000.00
All undivided profits (less expenses, interest and taxes paid).....	5,709.47		5,709.47
Individual deposits subject to check.....	208,711.98		208,711.98
Savings deposits.....		75,287.83	75,287.83
Time certificates of deposit.....	17,427.50		17,427.50
Cashiers' checks.....	3,462.83		3,462.83
State, county and municipal deposits.....	60,000.00		60,000.00
Other liabilities, escrow.....	1,646.59		1,646.59
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$332,958.37</b>	<b>\$85,287.83</b>	<b>\$418,246.20</b>

State of California, County of Los Angeles.—ss.

F. E. Stewart, President, and Anna G. Baldrick, Assistant Cashier, of State Bank of Lomita, being duly sworn, each for himself, says he has a personal knowledge of the matters contained in the foregoing report of condition and that every allegation, statement, matter and thing therein contained, is true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

F. E. STEWART, President.  
ANNA G. BALDRICK, Assistant Cashier.

Severally subscribed and sworn to before me by both deponents, the 7th day of July, 1924.

(Seal)  
EDITH S. SMITH,  
Notary Public in and for said County of Los Angeles, State of California.  
My Commission Expires Nov. 17, 1924.

CHARTER NO. 10396

Reserve District No. 12

**REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE  
FIRST NATIONAL BANK**

AT TORRANCE, IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.  
AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON JUNE 30, 1924

**RESOURCES**

Loans and discounts, including rediscounts, acceptances of other banks, and foreign bills of exchange on drafts sold with indorsement of this bank.....	\$617,240.57
Overdrafts.....	282.38
Deposited to secure circulation (U. S. bonds par value).....	\$50,000.00
All other United States Government securities (including premiums, if any).....	71,365.60
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>121,365.60</b>
Other bonds, stocks, securities, etc.....	164,118.86
Banking house, furniture and fixtures.....	63,181.65
Lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank.....	62,107.88
Cash in vault and amount due from national banks.....	196,919.93
Checks on other banks in the same city or town as reporting bank.....	3,121.84
Total of Items 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13.....	\$200,041.77
Miscellaneous cash items.....	356.76
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer.....	2,500.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,231,192.37</b>

**LIABILITIES**

Capital stock paid in.....	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus fund.....	60,000.00
Undivided profits.....	2,810.25
Circulating notes outstanding.....	49,000.00
Cashiers' checks outstanding.....	13,156.49
Total of Items 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25.....	\$13,156.49
Demand deposits (other than bank deposits) subject to Reserve (deposits payable within 30 days):	
Individual deposits subject to check.....	727,918.04
State, county, or other municipal deposits secured by pledge of assets of this bank or surety bond.....	35,486.54
Total of demand deposits (other than bank deposits) subject to Reserve, Items 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31.....	\$763,404.58
Time deposits subject to Reserve (payable after 30 days, or subject to 30 days or more notice, and postal savings):	
Certificates of deposit (other than for money borrowed).....	19,498.16
State, county, or other municipal deposits secured by pledge of assets of this bank or surety bond.....	33,000.00
Other time deposits.....	240,322.89
Total of time deposits subject to Reserve, Items 32, 33, 34, and 35.....	\$292,821.05
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,231,192.37</b>

State of California, County of Los Angeles.—ss.

I, L. V. Babcock, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

L. V. BABCOCK, Cashier.  
Correct—Attest:  
BRIAN K. WELCH  
WILFRED TEAL  
JAMES W. POST, Director.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of July, 1924.  
(Seal) JAMES L. KING, Notary Public.

NO. OF BANK, 733

**COMBINED REPORT OF CONDITION**

**STATE EXCHANGE BANK**

AT TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA.

AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE, 1924

**RESOURCES**

	Commercial	Savings	Combined
Loans and discounts (including rediscounts).....	\$120,306.42	\$37,290.62	\$157,597.04
Overdrafts.....	244.37		244.37
United States securities owned.....	65,352.40	19,928.13	85,280.53
All other bonds, warrants and securities (including premium thereon, less all offsetting bond adjustment accounts).....	23,553.35	3,000.00	26,553.35
Bank premises, furniture and fixtures and safe deposit vaults.....	27,250.00		27,250.00
Due from other banks.....	\$1,999.59	11,161.73	93,161.32
Actual cash on hand.....	8,745.14	2,563.10	11,308.24
Exchanges for clearing house.....	805.56		805.56
Other resources.....	111.40		111.40
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$328,368.23</b>	<b>\$73,953.58</b>	<b>\$402,321.81</b>

**LIABILITIES**

Capital paid in.....	\$ 40,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
All undivided profits (less expenses, interest and taxes paid).....	4,791.27	2,967.55	7,758.82
Individual deposits subject to check.....	197,961.96		197,961.96
Savings deposits.....		60,986.03	60,986.03
Time certificates of deposit.....	2,000.00		2,000.00
Cashiers' checks.....	25,332.59		25,332.59
State, county and municipal deposits.....	58,258.07		58,258.07
Other liabilities.....	54.34		54.34
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$328,368.23</b>	<b>\$73,953.58</b>	<b>\$402,321.81</b>

State of California, County of Los Angeles.—ss.

J. B. Hines, President, and R. A. Huber, Cashier, of State Exchange Bank, being duly sworn, each for himself, says he has a personal knowledge of the matters contained in the foregoing report of condition, and that every allegation, statement, matter and thing therein contained, is true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

J. B. HINES, President.  
R. A. HUBER, Cashier.

Severally subscribed and sworn to before me by both deponents, the 7th day of July, 1924.

(Seal) A. H. BARTLETT,  
Notary Public in and for said County of Los Angeles, State of California.