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LIFE, LOVE & MEMORIES



MEMORY LANE

PUBLISHED BY AGE UK OLDHAM

Welcome to our September newsletter. September is the month when we celebrate Harvest Festival, Roald Dahl Story Day and Tolkien fans can celebrate Hobbit Day.

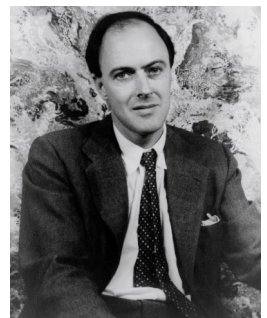
Harvest Festival:

The Harvest Festival of Thanksgiving is a celebration of the harvest and food grown on the land in the United Kingdom. It is about giving thanks for a successful crop yield over the year as winter starts to approach. The festival is also about giving thanks for all the good and positive things in people's lives, such as family and friendships. Harvest Festivals have traditionally been held in churches but also in schools and sometimes in pubs. Some estates and farms used to hold the harvest festival in a barn. In some towns and villages the harvest festivals are set so that the different churches do not have it on the same day. People bring in produce from their garden, allotment or farm, and even tinned and packaged food. Often there is a Harvest Supper at which some of the produce may be eaten. Typically surplus produce is given away to a local charity, hospital or children's home, or auctioned for charity.



Roald Dahl Story Day:

Roald Dahl (13 September 1916 – 23 November 1990) was a British popular author of children's literature and short stories, a poet, and wartime fighter ace. His books have sold more than 300 million copies worldwide. Dahl has been called "one of the greatest storytellers for children of the 20th century".



Hobbit Day:

Hobbit Day is a name used for September 22 in reference to its being the birthday of the hobbits Bilbo and Frodo Baggins, two fictional characters in J. R. R. Tolkien's popular set of books *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*.



Dame Eva Turner

Eva Turner, an internationally renowned soprano, was born in Werneth on 10th March 1892 and attended Werneth School. Her father was an amateur musician who introduced Eva to the piano and singing. He worked at the Manor Mill as an engineer and was transferred to a mill in Bristol when Eva was 10.



It was at a performance of the opera, *Il Trovatore*, in Bristol, by the Carl Rosa Company, which confirmed Eva's desire to become an opera singer. She formed an international reputation with her strong, steady and well trained voice.

Her first formal singing lessons were with Dan Rootham, teacher of the famous Clara Butt, and she studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London from 1911 to 1914. She was made a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music in 1974 and a Fellow of the Royal Northern College of Music in 1978.

She began her career in 1915 in the chorus of the Carl Rosa Opera Company. After a year she made her solo debut as a page in Wagner's "*Tannhauser*".



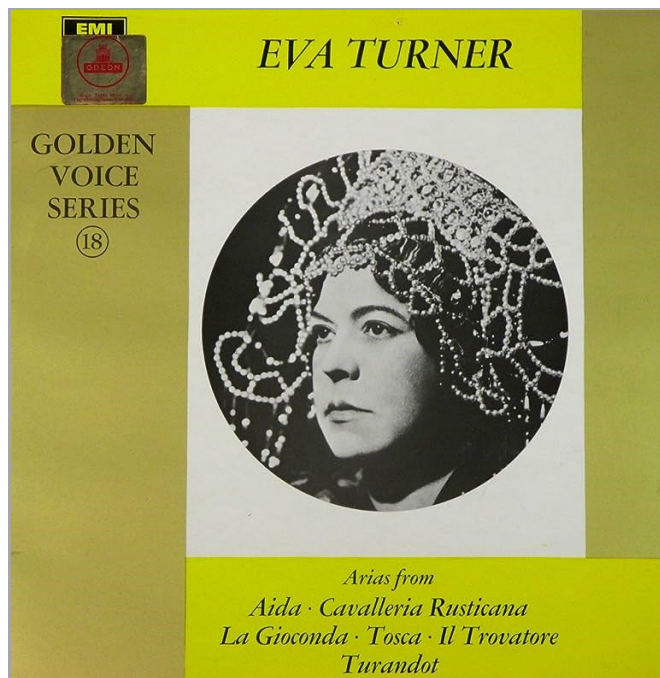
She quickly took on larger roles in the productions of *Madam Butterfly*, *Carmen*, *La Bohème*, *Aida* and *Tosca*. She remained with the company until 1924.



Ettore Panizza, assistant to the great Toscanini, heard her in a 1924 production of “Madam Butterfly” and arranged an audition, so later that year she travelled to Italy to audition for Toscanini at La Scala, Milan. Although she had only sung in English up to that point and knew only one aria in Italian, she nevertheless gave a strong performance.

Receiving a contract for the following season, she spent 4 months being coached in 2 roles, Freia in “Das Rheingold” and Sieglinde in “Brunnhilde”, both operas composed by Richard Wagner. She enjoyed great success in both roles, leading to numerous offers from other Italian opera houses and many in Germany.

In 1928 she played the title role in “Turandot” at the Covent Garden Opera House and in 1929 she took the part to La Scala. Also in 1928 she recorded her astonishing “In Questa Reggia”, still the standard by which all other Turandot’s are judged. Consequently she is heralded by many as the definitive Turandot of Giacomo Puccini’s final opera.



Her unfaltering stamina, innate warmth and a voice that ranged from G to top D made her memorable as “Tosca”, Aïda” and “Butterfly”. She appeared throughout Europe, the U.S.A. and South America with the Chicago Opera Company, and performed often at London’s Covent Garden. She performed in leading roles at many of the world’s great opera houses.

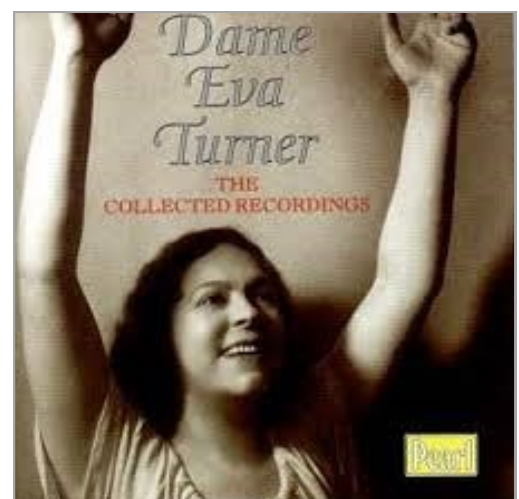
In 1936 she was chosen to sing the national anthem at the coronation of King George VI.

She retired from the stage in 1948 after entertaining troops during the 2nd World War, and was offered the position of visiting Professor of Voice at the University of Oklahoma a year later.

She was there for 10 years, returning to London in 1959 where she was appointed Professor of Singing at the Royal Academy of Music, a position she held until well into her 80’s.

In retirement she was closely involved with the International Association of Wagner Societies in the UK and elsewhere.

She was a frequent visitor to musical productions at Covent Garden right up until her death, and celebrated her 90th birthday with a Gala Concert at the renowned venue.



Eva Turner received many honours during her life time.

She was appointed a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) in 1962, and was made a Freeman of the borough of Oldham in 1982.

Also in 1982 she was made an Honorary Citizen of the State of Oklahoma. Dame Eva Turner was one of our country's first international opera stars.

Twice she was the subject of "This Is Your Life", firstly in September 1959 and secondly in February 1983, each time being presented with the famous red book by Eamonn Andrews.



She held honorary Doctorate of Music degrees from Manchester and Oxford Universities.

The Dame Eva Turner Award, established in her honour in 1968, is given at Oklahoma University to the voice student displaying the most professional promise.

Eva Turner never married but she lived a very long, full life. She died in Devonshire Hospital, London on 16th June 1990, 3 months after breaking her hip in a fall. She was 98 years old.

Something to make you laugh provided by Sue Livesey

FUNNY ANSWERS GIVEN TO QUIZ SHOW QUESTIONS ON RADIO AND TV

1. What was Gandhi's first name?
Answer: Goosey.
2. On what day is Christmas Day traditionally celebrated in the UK?
Answer: Wednesday.
3. Name of bird with a long neck?
Answer: Naomi Campbell.
4. Name the naturalist the Attenborosaurus is named after?
Answer: Erm.....pass
5. Who was assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas?
Answer: JR.
6. Which Duke resides at Woburn Abbey?
Answer: Hazzard.
7. Name a vocalist with only one name?
Answer: Michael Jackson.
8. Name something that follows the word 'pork'?
Answer: Cupine.
9. Name something you might buy that turns out to be a phony?
Answer: Horse.
10. What is the 2nd month of the year to only have 30 days?
Answer: September.
11. The road called Watling Street, now part of the A5, was built by which civilization?
Answer: Apes.
12. In 2009 Sunderland scored against Liverpool when the ball deflected off what object?
Answer: Ice cream van (it was actually a beach ball).
13. A £2 coin issued in 2005 was criticised for a 'schoolboy error' because it showed King John holding what?
Answer: A mobile phone (it was a quill).
14. How long did the six day war last between Egypt and Israel?
Answer: 14 days?
15. Johnny Weissmuller died on this day. Which jungle swinging character in a loin cloth did he play?
Answer: Jesus.

REMEMBER WHEN — 1960's in the UK

The 1960's were a time of cultural revolution in the United Kingdom. Music changed forever with the popularity of Jimi Hendrix, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, the Yardbirds, and more, while cinema and literature introduced some of pop culture's most iconic characters. Rights expanded, technology advanced, and football came home. There's a saying if you remember the 1960's you weren't there! It's debatable who said this but it's probably referring to 'substance abuse' and its effect on the memory. **All the**

Comprehensive Education



In January 1965 the State funeral of Winston Churchill was broadcast on TV.



The Profumo Affair 1963 involving Mandy Rice Davies and Christine Keeler



Concorde's Maiden Flight



Beatlemania - Girls went crazy over four lads from Liverpool, John, George, Paul & Ringo



For women tights replaced stockings when the mini skirt arrived



1967 was the year of Hippies and flower power and everything went psychedelic.



1966 England won the world cup and no one had heard the saying 'Football coming home'



In July 1969 the world watched as the first man landed on the moon.

following happened in the decade that in

In the 1960's the media was reporting on the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War and the assassination of President JF Kennedy. At home in 1966 there was the terrible tragedy of the Aberfan disaster in Wales. Medical breakthroughs came with the first heart transplant and the contraceptive pill, but the thalidomide drug was withdrawn in 1961 because of the harm it had done to many babies. The weather also played its part in the decade when in 1963 it was one of the worst winters on record, known as the 'big freeze'.

DON'T KISS ME

I want to ask a favour of the friends that I might meet
To all of my acquaintances who pass me in the street
Give me a cheery wave - "Hello! How are you? Bye! So long!
But don't kiss me, please don't kiss me for I always get it wrong.

I do not want to do it, I would rather pass you by
If I miss you get a smacker on the ear or in the eye
I'm standing on the pavement thinking "Blast! Damnation! Heck!
He went the other way and I have kissed on the neck.

I find it so embarrassing, it makes my knuckles clench
It's very dodgy habit we've imported from the French
What's wrong with "Oh good morning" or a handshake if you must
A lovely smile of welcome or, all right, a smile of lust

But I do not want to kiss you, I'm sure you're very nice
But I find it so confusing - is it once or is it twice?
I'm filled with apprehension and a feeling close to fright
Who leans forward first? Is it the left cheek or the right?

And I feel a strange awareness as we stand around and speak
That there's a disconcerting trace of your saliva on my cheek
So don't kiss me, no don't kiss me, say "Enchanté, Ciao, Good health"
But I'm telling you don't kiss me keep your choppers to yourself!

Oh don't kiss me I implore you for I cannot stand the strain
I seldom kiss my husband and you don't hear him complain
So "Au revoir! Auf Wiedersehen!, just tell me that you'll miss me
But please, if we should meet again, don't pucker up DON'T KISS ME!

PLACES OF OLDHAM — GLOWWICK LOWS

Glodwick Lows is a local nature reserve in Oldham. It is about 2 km from Oldham town centre. (approx. 1½ miles)

You can access The Lows from Abbeyhills Road, Roundthorn Road, Manor Road or Lowside Drive.

In the past 200 years the Lows has changed considerably from a windswept moorland hideaway to quarries, coal mines, brickworks and, finally, a Local Nature Reserve surrounded by houses. It is now a perfect place to observe wildlife, study local history and geology, to walk the dog and for children to play imaginative games and hunt for fossils.



If you would like to learn more about the history of The Lows see next. page..

I make my way through Glodwick, one of Oldham's many built up areas. Amidst the vast row of houses and council estates, I turn my back on the hurried traffic as it darts back and forth, up and down Abbey Hills Road. Buried deep within the void of terraced houses, sits a piece of forgotten history. A history so rich and vivid, that only a single word is required to summon it's imagery. **Vikings.**

As I stand at a foot a dirt path, I see that it leads it's way up a small hill. A hill over 300 million years old that has witnessed Romans and Vikings. So often, the name of a place can be one filled with confusion, or in this case irony. I walk up the hill, named "Glodwick Lows", however, once you reach the summit of this hill, you have a sweeping panorama of the entire town, and it is in fact, the highest point in the area. The term "Low", is derived from the Old English "hlaw", meaning a hill or mound.

This hidden gem, should be seen as a regional treasure. One of cultural and historical significance. The name "Glodwick" for example, finds its roots firmly planted in Celtic, Anglo-Saxon and Nordic language. The name alone is symbolic to its microcosm of history. The fact that such small an area covers so much of our collective history, is not only impressive, but a real rarity in such an area.

Iron Age flints have been found along the site, dating back to a time when the Romans used the field as a quarry. They would mine the hill for coal, its road used by many as a connection from Chester through to Castleshaw and York.

However, what truly fascinates me is the wide belief that this place was later used as a settlement for Viking invaders. There is no denying the influence which Vikings held in shaping the history of this country. Locally, they are perhaps most famed for their stronghold in York, however it is now believed that settlers made their way across the Pennines and into Oldham. Lucky dog walkers have over the years uncovered artefacts which point to Viking presence. The place is said to be filled with Viking treasures and trinkets. At the top of the Lows, you can overlook the countryside to see Hartshead Pike. A place with its own fascinating history which could provide further proof that Vikings did indeed settle here.

Legend has it that the first ever stone tower upon Hartshead Pike was built during the reign of King Canute (1016–35) who passed through the district. It is said that whilst walking over the hill, that he was delighted with the views, which overlook what is now the four counties of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire and Derbyshire. The legend says that he stopped his horse and his men, and spent most of the afternoon sat down admiring the views. The first tower was built on the exact spot he sat to commemorate his passing.

If this legend is true, then perhaps Viking Settlers also stood atop of Glodwick Lows, looking out to Hartshead Pike as King Canute made his way through the region.

This article is from 'On your Doorstep, Manchester'

Quiz provided by Viv White

QUIZ QUESTIONS

1. Where would you find the 'Mathematical Bridge' so named because it is allegedly constructed without using nails, based solely on geometrical principles?
2. Which sport is played for the Corbillon Cup?
3. In which country was the then Princess Elizabeth when she learned that her father had died and that she was Queen?
4. Which Swede invented dynamite in 1866?
5. Agatha Christie died, aged 85, the Queen opened the 310 acre National Exhibition Centre at Bickenhill, Birmingham and James Callaghan became Prime Minister. What year was this?
6. By what name is the 'New Palace of Westminster' more commonly known?
7. Which author wrote *Clayhanger* (1925)?
8. Who had 10,000 men in the children's nursery rhyme?
9. Who is the patron saint of toothache?
10. On which day is the action of 'first-footing' carried out?
11. What is the jargon word used in billiards which describes the action of potting one's opponents ball?
12. What do the following men have in common: J.R. MacDonald, A. Henderson and G Lansbury?
13. How many chains are there in a mile?
14. Which of Queen Elizabeth II's four children was the first Royal baby to be born in Buckingham Palace for over 62 years?
15. Where in Britain would you find an imitation of the Eiffel Tower?
16. What do the initials N.A.T.O. mean?
17. Who wrote 'A Testament of Youth'?
18. How many players are there in a cricket team:?
19. What was the name of the train designed and driven by George Stephenson, which made its first journey in the public passenger service on the 27th September 1825?
20. Which football league club plays its home matches at Old Trafford??

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

1. Cambridge
2. Table Tennis
3. Kenya
4. Alfred Nobel
5. 1976
6. The Houses of Parliament
7. Arnold Bennett
8. The Grand Old Duke of York
9. Saint Apolline (Apollonia)
10. New Year's Eve
11. Shopping
12. They were all leaders of the Labour Party
13. 80
14. Prince Charles
15. Blackpool
16. North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
17. Vera Brittain
18. 11
19. Locomotion No. 1
20. Manchester United

A Wartime Romance

In February 1940 Eileen Stone received a court summons for riding her bike without lights in Littlehampton, West Sussex. The summons was written by solicitor's clerk, Leslie Speller, who admired Eileen and, after recognising her name, included a note in the summons asking her to go to the cinema. Their 'date' was finalised when he sent her a letter notifying her of her fine. They went out together many times before Leslie joined the RAF in May 1940 and left for his training. Eileen joined the Land Army and they started to write to each other. They wouldn't see each other again for four years.

After his training Leslie was posted to the Middle East, where he was shot down over Libya in May 1942. Wounded, Leslie was taken as a POW to Stalag Luft III, near Sagan, on the border between Germany and Poland. During his time as a prisoner Leslie was involved in a number of escape activities including writing coded letters. He was able to continue writing to Eileen, and her letters supported him during his three years imprisonment. Leslie was liberated by US troops on 29 April 1945. He returned home on 9 May 1945 and was reunited with Eileen.

They were engaged immediately, and Leslie chose a blue sapphire ring to give to Eileen because it reminded him of the Mediterranean Sea he'd seen for the first time in 1941.

Eileen made her own wedding dress from one of Leslie's parachutes. After the wedding she cut up the dress, dyed it brown and used it to line a coat. She kept a piece of the un-dyed silk to make an embroidered handkerchief. She also dyed a piece of the parachute cord and used it to bind a wedding album she'd made. The other pieces of cord were kept and used regularly for family camping trips.

Leslie and Eileen were happily married for 52 years.



It makes you think knowing what a wedding dress costs today and how lovely this bride looks with a dress made from a parachute and not only that it was utilised afterwards to make the lining for a coat that probably saw a few years service. Also the bride was able to make an handkerchief as a keepsake to remind her of the special day. It just goes to prove:

'Money can't buy happiness'

This month's recipe is quick and easy, using only a few ingredients:

EGG FLAN

Ingredients:

4 small eggs or 3 medium

2 small peppers, Red and Yellow

Cottage Cheese with chives

Packet of Pasta and Sauce mix (e.g. Batchelors)

Method:

Pre heat oven to 220°c/200° Fan Oven /Gas Mark 7.

Cut peppers into chunks and place on a baking sheet, cook until starting to blister and beginning to turn brown. Remove from oven.

Cook the pasta according to instructions on packet.

Beat the eggs. Stir in the cottage cheese and pasta mix. Season well.

Cut the peppers into small pieces and add to the mixture.

To Bake: Use a loose bottom cake tin approx. 8½ ins (21 cms). Grease well.

Cook for about 20/25 mins **DO NOT OVER COOK.**

This is an article from Facebook. Apologies if you have already seen it but enjoy reading it again.

EATING IN THE FIFTIES

Pasta had not been invented. It was macaroni or spaghetti.

Curry was a surname.

A take-away was a mathematical problem.

Pizza? Sounds like a leaning tower somewhere.

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.

All chips were plain.

Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking.

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Chickens didn't have fingers in those days.

None of us had ever heard of yogurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognized food.

'Kebab' was not even a word, never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly muesli was readily available. It was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

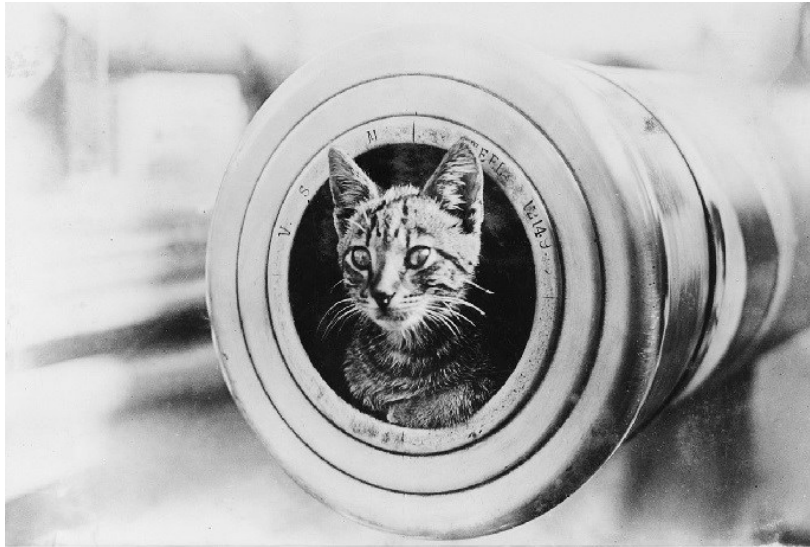
Water came out of the tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than gasoline for it, they would have become a laughing stock.

The one thing that we never ever had on/at our table in the fifties ... was *elbows, hats and cell phones*.

SHARE if you remember!

ANIMAL CORNER

The Mystery Of Jenny The Titanic Cat



You may have heard about the two Pomeranians and Pekingese that survived the *Titanic*. You may have even read a tale or two of the remaining nine canines running up and down the slanting deck as the ship sank into the sea. But were these doomed dogs the only animals on the *Titanic*?

Actually, it's quite possible that there were multiple cats aboard the ship too. Many large ships like the *Titanic* used them to monitor the rodent and pest problem that plagued the lower decks in exchange for food and shelter. The *Titanic's* mascot and well-known ship cat, Jenny, was one such cat.

One stoker, Jim Mulholland, volunteered to look after Jenny when she transferred from *Titanic's* sister ship *Olympia*. It was rumoured that the cat had a litter of kittens a week before the ship left from Southampton (U.K) but what happened to Jenny on the night of 14 April 1912?

Reports vary. Some say she and her kittens died along with most of the passengers, however, others report Jim Mulholland observed Jenny unloading her kittens from the *Titanic* one by one before it left port in Southampton. He took this as a bad omen, picked up his things, and also evacuated the vessel. He credited the cat with saving his life.

What really happened to Jenny the *Titanic* cat is a mystery. But this team of kitty lovers likes to think she saved her skin, her kittens, and Jim Mulholland too.

An article from the Belfast Telegraph.

SPORTING GREATS

CHARLES ATLAS



Charles Atlas (born **Angelo (Angelino) Siciliano**)

D.O.B: 30 October, 1892 in [Acri](#), Cosenza, Italy.

He was an Italian-American bodybuilder

Died: 24 December, 1972 from a heart attack in Long Beach, New York. Aged 80

Son: Charles Jr., Daughter: Diana.

Wife: Margaret, had died seven years before him.

Nunziato Siciliano, Atlas's father, who had returned to Italy shortly after arriving in the US in 1903, lived into his 90s.

Atlas is best remembered as the developer of a bodybuilding method and its associated exercise program which spawned a landmark advertising campaign featuring his name and likeness; it has been described as one of the longest-lasting and most memorable ad campaigns of all time. He took the name "Charles Atlas" after a friend told him that he resembled the statue of Atlas on top of a hotel in Coney Island and legally changed his name, aged 30, in 1922.

After moving to Brooklyn, New York in 1904 he eventually became a leather worker. A bully kicked sand into Siciliano's face at a beach when he was a youth, according to the story that he always told. At this time in his life, also according to the story, he weighed only 97 pounds (44 kg).

He tried many forms of exercise initially, using weights, pulley-style resistance, and gymnastic-style calisthenics. Atlas claimed that they did not build his body. He was inspired by other fitness and health advocates who preceded him. He was too poor to join the local YMCA, so he watched how exercises were performed, then performed them at home. He attended the strongman shows at Coney Island, and would question the strongmen about their diets and exercise regimens after the show and read *Physical Culture* magazine for further information on health, strength, and physical development. Finally developed his own system of exercises that was later called "Dynamic Tension".

Besides photographs, Atlas posed for many statues throughout his life. These included Alexander Stirling Calder's *Washington at Peace* (1917–18) on the Washington Square Arch, Manhattan; Pietro Montana's *Dawn of Glory* (1924) in Highland Park, Brooklyn (sometimes misreported as Prospect Park. *(Picture on right)* and James Earle Frazer's *Alexander Hamilton* (1923) at the U.S. Treasury Building in Washington, D.C.



See comic strip advert on next page...



I Can Make YOU a New Man, Too, In Only 15 Minutes a Day!



CHARLES ATLAS
Holder of title, "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

PEOPLE used to laugh at my skinny 97-pound body. I was ashamed to strip for sports or for a swim. Girls made fun of me behind my back. THEN I discovered my body - building system, "Dynamic Tension." It made me such a complete specimen of manhood that I hold the title, "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

What's My Secret?

When you look in the mirror and see a healthy, nusky, fellow smiling back at you — then you'll be astonished at how fast "Dynamic Tension" GETS RESULTS! It is the easy, NATURAL method and you can practice in the privacy of your own room — JUST 15 MINUTES EACH DAY. Just watch your scrawny chest and shoulder muscles begin to swell . . . those spindly arms and legs of yours bulge . . . and your whole body starts to feel "alive," full of zip and go!

Thousands are becoming husky — my way. I give you no gadgets to fool with. With "Dynamic Tension" you simply utilize the dormant muscle-power in your own body — watch it grow and multiply into real, solid LIVE MUSCLE.

FREE My 32-Page Illustrated Book is Yours — Not for \$1.00 or 10c — But FREE

Send for my book, *Everlasting Health and Strength* — 32 pages of photos, valuable advice. Shows what *Dynamic Tension* can do, answers vital questions. A real prize for any fellow who wants a better build. I'll send you a copy FREE. It may change your whole life. Rush coupon to me personally: **Charles Atlas, Dept. 29 115 E. 23rd Street, New York 10, N. Y.**



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Send me — absolutely FREE — a copy of your famous book, *Everlasting Health and Strength* — 32 pages, crammed with photographs, answers to vital questions, and valuable advice. This book is mine to keep, and sending for it does not obligate me in any way.

Name..... Age.....
(Please print or write plainly)

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City..... State.....
 If under 14 years of age check here for Booklet A.

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Life Story

Every life has a story...

