

OZTRONAUTS FLY TO SKY ISLAND!

**FEARLESS FEAT OF
 CAP'N BILL, TINY TROT
 AND BUTTON-BRIGHT**

TRIO'S TRIUMPHAL RETURN

*Royal Historian of Oz
 Records
 Amazing Exploits*

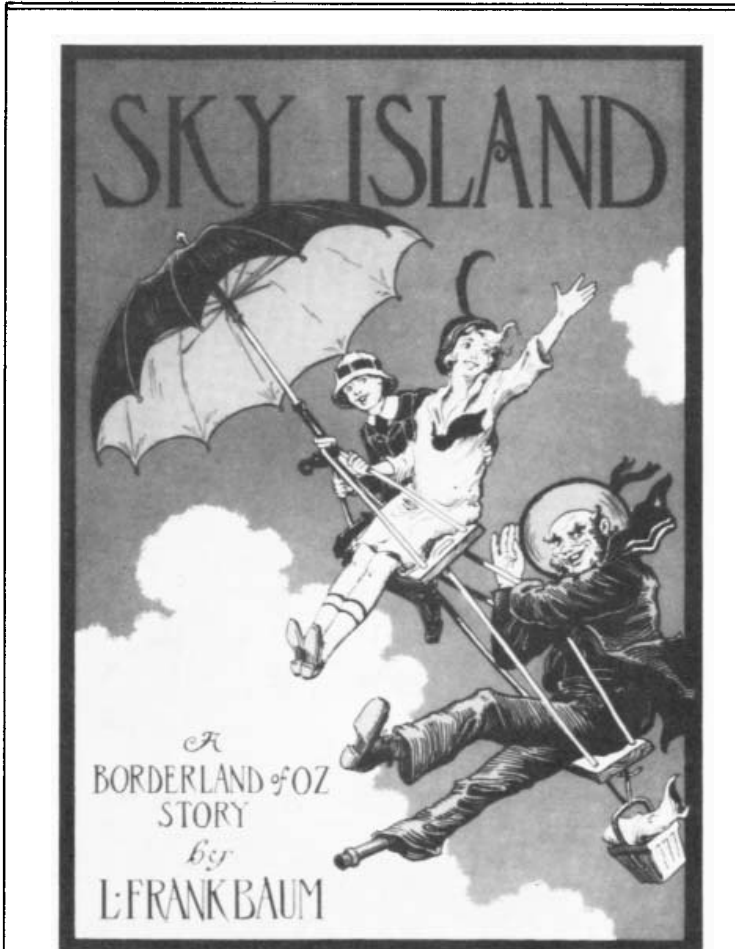
(Ozziordinary News Special)

The Land of Oz has been the scene of some of the world's most astonishing experiences, but today has been proclaimed a National Holiday by our gracious ruler, Princess Ozma, in honor of the most astounding adventure of all — and one that occurred not only *outside* of Oz, but outside of the world as well!

It all began when Button-Bright found an old umbrella, which turned out to be a *magic* umbrella that would carry him anywhere in the world — or out of it. He and his friends, tiny Trot and Cap'n Bill, sailed off for an ordinary afternoon picnic, but by mischance the umbrella carried them to a magical floating island far above the sunset clouds.

Their adventure might have ended grimly in the mysterious twilight-land of the Blues if they hadn't met Polychrome, the Rainbow's Daughter. Their escape, with her aid, to the dawnlit land of the Pinks — and the resulting war between the Blues and the Pinks — makes this story as thrilling as any in the annals of Oz.

Mr. L. Frank Baum, Royal Historian of Oz, has recorded the full details of their adventure in his "Borderland of Oz" book, *Sky Island*. John R. Neill, the Imperial Illustrator of Oz, has illustrated the story in his inimitable style, and the Reilly & Lee Company of Chicago has published the book, by Royal Appointment of Her Majesty, Ozma of Oz.



FLYING HOME FROM A FLOATING ISLAND

Pictured above are Trot, Button-Bright, and Cap'n Bill with the wonderful Magic Umbrella. By gracious invitation of Her Majesty, Princess Ozma, the Oztronauts Ozziordinary will reside at the Royal Palace in the Emerald City.

Celebrating Celebrities

The entire population of the Emerald City turned out to celebrate the return of the Intrepid Trio today. The "Umbrella Explorers" headed a parade through the City streets at noon, and received a ticker-tape ovation as they passed the Ozmagopolitan Building. It was at this point that Glinda the Good and the Tin Woodman arrived from their respective kingdoms to join in the festivities.

This evening there will be a grand Band Concert in the Palace Gardens, with refreshments for all, and fireworks. (Our friends, the Scarecrow, will not be available for the latter part of the entertainment, being of a regrettably inflammable nature.)

After the Royal Banquet tonight, Her Majesty, Princess Ozma will bestow, on Trot, Cap'n Bill and Button-Bright, medals of the Order of Oztronauts Ozziordinary.

UMBRELLA A MYSTERY

*Wizard Wonders
 How It Works*

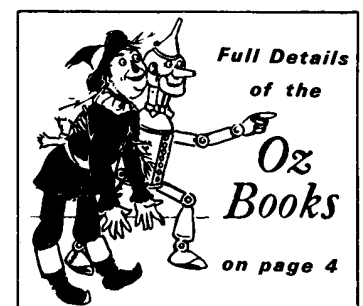
PONDERS PERPLEXING PROBLEM

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, who is certainly the most skillful Wizard in the world, admits he is baffled by the amazing flying power of Button-Bright's Magic Umbrella.

Though a practitioner of all sorts of magic for many years, and a graduate *cum laude* of the Sorcery School of Glinda the Good, he declares the Umbrella is "something else."

"I have examined the article most thoroughly," he said in an interview with our Science Editor this afternoon, "and although it appears to be quite an ordinary umbrella, and rather shabby at that, its magic is of a type entirely unknown to me. Certainly it is not governed by witchcraft, sorcery, nor black, white, or green magic. Nor does it fly by means of necromancy, transmogrification, or jet propulsion. Frankly, I'm stumped.

"The fact that it first belonged to an Arabian Knight suggests an Oriental magic," he continued. "As you can see, the wooden handle is carved to represent an elephant's head, with ivory tusks and ruby eyes—definitely Oriental." At this statement, one of the ruby eyes definitely gave the Wizard a sly wink!



The Ozmapolitan

Established 14th day, 1st period,
in the year XZYIII, O. Z.
Glorious Reign of Ozma.

THE OZMAPOLITAN CO., Publishers,
Ozmapolitan Bldg.,
The Emerald City of Oz

Cable AddressOZ
TelephoneWIZARD 6XX3

Entered at the Emerald City
Post Office for mail transmission
as first-class matter.

The Reilly & Lee Company
(United States Representatives)
114 West Illinois Street
Chicago, Illinois 60610

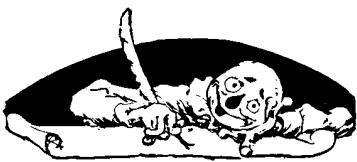
WIZARD OF OZ, Editor

Royal Proclamation

This paper is issued under a special charter granted by Her Royal Highness, Princess Ozma of Oz, and is delivered daily to all homes in the Land of Oz. (Complaints for irregular service should be sent direct to The Ozmapolitan business office.)

POETRY CORNER

We are greatly indebted to the Scarecrow for the following splendid composition:



ODE TO STRAW

What sound is so sweet
As the straw from the wheat
When it crinkles so tender and low?

It is yellow and bright
So it gives me delight
To crinkle wherever I go.

Sweet, fresh, golden Straw!
There is surely no flaw
In a stuffing so clean and compact.

It creaks when I walk,
And it thrills when I talk,
And its fragrance is fine, for a fact.

Content with my lot,
I'm glad that I'm not
Like others I meet day by day;
If my insides get musty,
Or mused-up or dusty,
I get newly stuffed right away!



FANCY FISH-TAILS

Trot and Cap'n Bill wearing the beautiful magic fishtails given them by Queen Aquariene. These tails, created by a special kind of Water Magic known only to mermaids, enable the old sailor and the little girl to swim through the Underwater World in safety and ease. (Ozmapolitan photo)

Life Among the Mermaids

by Trot.

(The editors of *The Ozmapolitan* are pleased to present this exclusive story, penned by Trot shortly before her departure for Sky Island.)

Many strange creatures and magical beings live in the ocean depths — as Cap'n Bill and I found out when we began our wonderful adventure at the bottom of the deep blue sea. The Cap'n used to say that no one ever saw a mermaid and lived to tell the tale — but he was wrong! We were exploring a cave off the California coast one day, when we met three mermaids, and they took us way down underwater to their coral palace. Of course, we couldn't have done it — and lived to tell the tale — if their ruler, Queen Aquariene, hadn't given us magic fish-tails like theirs, to swim with. Mine was a beauty, all glittery, with lovely pink and green scales down it!

We had a wonderful time, exploring ocean forests and sunken cities, and visiting with all sorts of funny fishes. We even met a Sea Serpent — King Anko, the King of all sea serpents! He's thousands of years old, and thousands of feet long, but he's an old dear, really. He certainly

helped Cap'n Bill and me out of some pretty tight spots, too. I don't even like to think about old Zog, the horrible sea-monster that captured us, along with Queen Aquariene — I guess we'd all have been goners, if it hadn't been for King Anko!

(The whole story of Trot's and Cap'n Bill's amazing adventure in the world of the mermaids is told in L. Frank Baum's "Borderland of Oz" book, *The Sea Fairies*.)



Society Notes

**Queen of Sea Fairies
Plans Undersea Fete
For Oz Guests**

Queen Aquariene has invited Princess Ozma Trot and Cap'n Bill, the Wizard of Oz, Princess Dorothy, and several other prominent Ozzites to visit her Mermaid Palace next weekend. To Trot and the Cap'n, the idea of living underwater, with magic fish-tails, is a familiar one; but some of the other Emerald City folk are a little nervous about it — though they wouldn't miss the opportunity for anything.

The Wizard of Oz has been practicing some special water magic for the affairs, and plans to present the Queen and each of her other guests with a clear, sparkling magic water-flower.

The Tin Woodman, the Scarecrow, and Scraps the Patchwork Girl are among the few Ozzites who have regretfully declined the invitation. The Tin Man fears that his fish-tail, which would have tin scales, would be too apt to rust; and the Scarecrow feels a straw-stuffer fish-tail would get waterlogged. Scraps knows that a patchwork fish-tail would be gorgeous; "But," as she said, "the dampness would be sure to make my colors run."

(Read all about this gaudy girl in her book, *The Patchwork Girl of Oz*.)

THE WEATHER

Yesterday's sudden shower was not appreciated by the local farmers, whose bumper crops of macaroons and cream-puffs were just about ready for harvesting. The rain has left them in a somewhat soggy condition (the crops, not the farmers).

Happily, our Weather Prognosticator, the Scarecrow, assures us that the bright and sunny weather we are now enjoying will soon render those comestibles as tasty as ever.

The change from shower to sunshine brought with it the Rainbow; consequently we were favored by a brief visit with Polychrome, the lovely Rainbow's Daughter.

Here & There

Tik-Tok the Machine Man is traveling to Ev tomorrow to obtain some new cog-wheels from the Nome King, who is an expert machinist. He will be accompanied by Princess Dorothy, who in turn will be accompanied by Billina the Yellow Hen.

"Nomes are tricky sometimes," explained Dorothy, "but this is a friendly visit, so it wouldn't be diplomatic to take any eggs along. Eggs are poison to Nomes, the only things they fear and respect — but Billina's presence will make them behave just as well."

(You can learn all about the wily Nome King and his hatred of eggs in *Ozma of Oz*.)

"I never expected to find Button-Bright on Sky Island," Polychrome told our reporter yesterday. "Yet, whenever I wander away from my Rainbow, I always seem to run into some of my Oz friends."

"The strangest experience I've had, though, was the time a wicked Giantess turned me into a canary-bird. She transformed the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman, and Woot the Wanderer, too—they had to wear such undignified shapes as a Straw Bear, a Tin Owl, and a Green Monkey!"

(The strange story of these weird transformations is told in *The Tin Woodman of Oz*.)

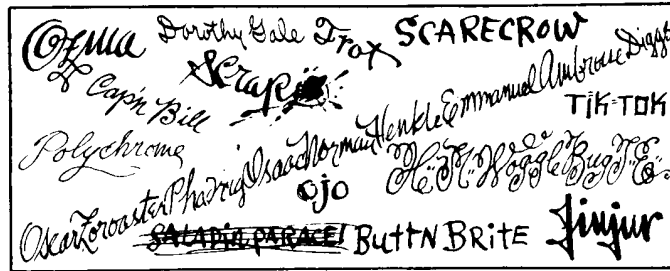
"Of course I am indebted to the Wizard of Oz for my elegant, double-distilled, superfine needles-and-pins brains," the Scarecrow modestly told us. "With them I have been able to manufacture some splendid thoughts and ideas!"

(Indeed, his remarkable brains once saved not only his own straw, but the entire Kingdom of Jinxland as well — as recorded in his thrilling story, *The Scarecrow of Oz*.)

The Cowardly Lion will not attend Queen Aquariene's seaparty. "I'm terribly afraid of water," he explained, "and I don't think I'd make a very good sea-lion. The Hungry Tiger and I will spend the weekend with our friend the Leopard King, in Gugu Forest."

(You will be amazed by their adventures in the Enchanted Forest of Gugu if you read *The Magic of Oz*.)

OZIAN AUTOGRAPHS



A number of prominent citizens attended an Autographing Party at the *Ozmapolitan* office last month, at which time they graciously inscribed their names on parchment scrolls, books, desk-blotters, shirt-cuffs, walls, ceilings, and just about every other surface that could be written upon. The names are reproduced here, with their owners' kind permission.

Handwriting is often indicative of the writer's temperament. General Jinjur's, for instance, is forceful as befits the former leader of the all-girl Army of Revolt; Tik-Tok's is rather mechanical; and the Highly Magnified and Thoroughly Educated Woggle-Bug's is full of graceful flourishes — and very Woggly, indeed.

Trot's real name is Mayre Griffith, but when she was tiny her little legs trotted everywhere, and hence her nick-name. Button-Bright is so dubbed, as someone once said he was "bright as a button" (though it must be admitted that not all buttons are bright) but his real name is Saladin Paracelsus de Lamber-tine Evagne von Smith. As you can see, it is difficult for him to

remember all of it — let alone to spell it.

The Wizard's name is a painful point: Oscar Zoroaster Phadrig Isaac Norman Henkle Emmanuel Ambroise Diggs generally prefers to employ only his first two initials, O.Z. The others, P.I.N.H.E.A.D., he feels are a reflection on his intelligence.

OZ & ENDS

"When I sprinkled my blue bear-skin rug with powder I obtained from a magician, I never thought it would come to life, but it did," said Dyna, a citizen of the Emerald City, in a recent interview. "I am not sure that I like having a live rug though, because it doesn't lie still on the floor and tries to follow me about." It's a great favorite with the neighborhood children, however. Every day they flock to Dyna's house and beg for rug-rides up and down the street!

(More about this remarkable rug, and other wonders of the Emerald City will be found in *The Road to Oz*.)



Six Snubnosed Beauties

SKY ISLAND —

The Six Snubnosed Princesses, daughters of the Booleroo (erstwhile Ruler of the Blues), were the only contestants in this year's Annual Beauty Contest. Still, the awarding of the First Prize cup proved a difficult decision, indeed.

Their Highnesses, Azure, Turquoise, Sapphire, Cerulia, Cobalt, and Indigo, have the snub-

biest of snubnoses, which is considered the highest mark of beauty in this land. (Princess Sapphire is crossed-eyed as well, which perhaps gives her a slight edge over her sisters in the beauty department.) However, as each of the six royal ladies is as lovely as her aristocratic sisters, and as they quarrelled so violently over this point; the Judge (who happened to be their father) awarded them six identical First Prize cups.

SPORTING NEWS

Gump to Race Sand-Boat

Plans are underway for the most unusual contest of the season. Johnny Dooit is priming his remarkable land-sailing Sand Boat for a race across the Deadly Desert to the Land of Ev. The challenger is none other than the famous Gump — that outlandish creature, or flying machine, constructed some years ago of two sofas, a stuffed figure-head, palm-leaf wings, and a broom-tail rudder. The Sand Boat will travel on the Desert, while the Gump will fly over it. Speculation is heavy.

(The story of how the wonderful Gump came to be is told in *The Land of Oz*.)



The Munchkin Mites have Ojo, and Ojo has the ball game. He hit his first major league homer and pitched a three-hitter last night, routing the Winkie Walllopers, 7 to 1. It was the seventh straight triumph for the little Munchkin — no wonder he's called "Ojo the Lucky!"

CLASSIFIED

HELP WANTED — Capable party to keep castle tidy and run affairs of kingdom for me while I take a vacation. Apply to King Rinkitink.

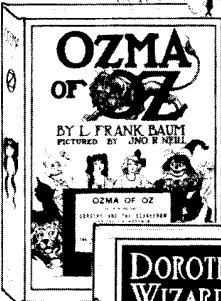
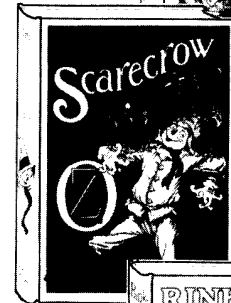
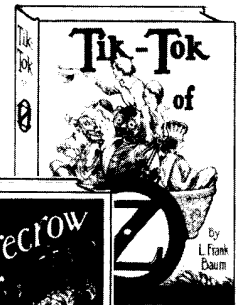
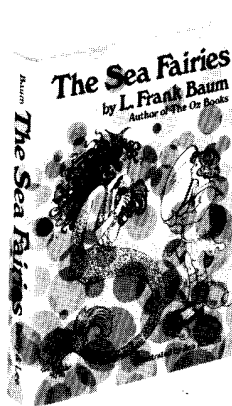
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WITH THE ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS

... and they're half the magic!



THE "BORDERLAND OF OZ" STORIES

by

L. FRANK BAUM

When the Royal Historian of Oz wrote *The Sea Fairies* and its companion volume, *Sky Island*, he called them his "Borderland of Oz" stories—not only because they took place just beyond the boundaries of that wonderland, but because they told of the outside-Oz adventures of some of the Oz characters. The present editions of *The Sea Fairies* and *Sky Island*, which have been out of print for nearly forty years, are facsimilies of the first editions. Both volumes are illustrated by John R. Neill, the "Imperial Illustrator of Oz," and are available at \$4.95 each.

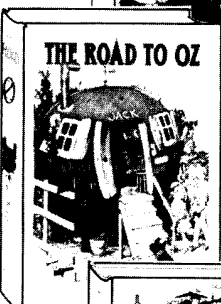
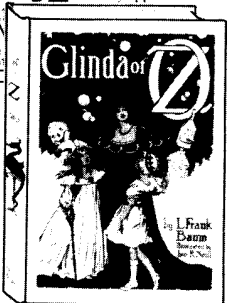
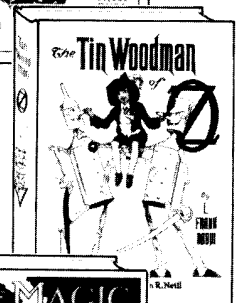
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