



# THE ROOSEVELT BEARS

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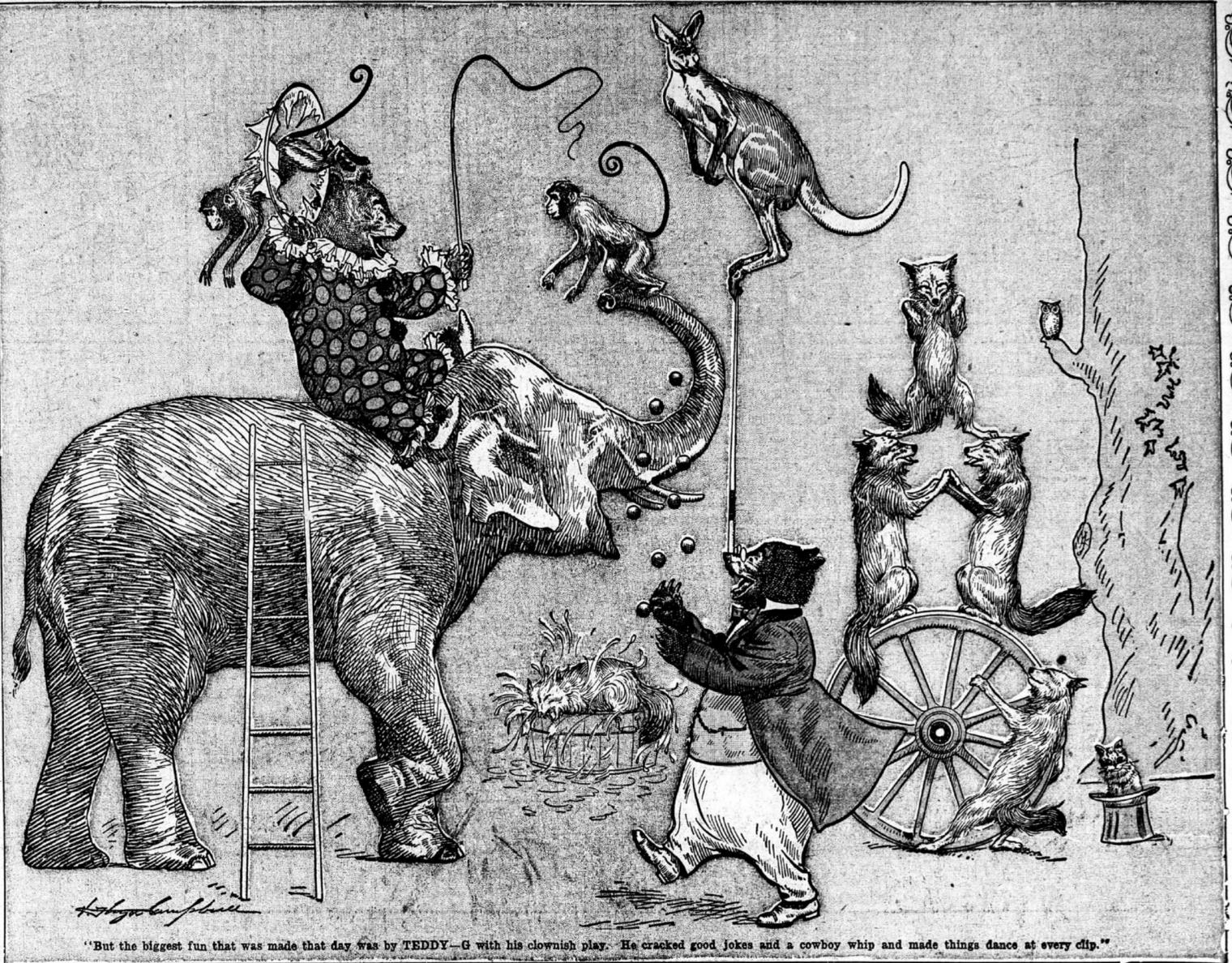
## VIII. THE BEARS MEET CHICAGO CHILDREN

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The air was warm and the night was dark.  
The bears were now in Lincoln Park;  
"We've made good time," said TEDDY-B,  
"We've landed right side up," said he;  
"We're minus clothes and in a pretty mess  
But we beat the Overland Express.  
If the sky were clear I'd just as soon  
Take another turn in the old balloon."  
"Not on your life," said TEDDY-G,  
"One ride like that is enough for me;  
Let us find a place where they'll feed us well;  
A dining car or a good hotel."  
They walked around for an hour or two;  
They talked thru the fence at the Chicago Zoo  
To some friends they found imprisoned there:  
A wolf, a fox and a grizzly bear.  
They asked them why they'd gone to jail;  
Had they stolen goods or robbed the mail?  
And couldn't they get out a week on bail?  
They promised to intercede at court  
And to come back again and make report.



They found a place on a busy street:  
A big hotel where things to eat  
Were carried up to their room in style,  
Above the street, about a mile.  
Reporters called to get the news  
About their trip and to print their views  
On Chicago's length and breadth and height,  
And what they thought of the town at night.  
Two tailors came with cloth and tape  
To fit them out in handsome shape  
With suits on order and ready made  
And vests and ties of every shade.  
A barber came to dress their hair;  
And a manucure, a lady fair,  
To brush a paw or trim a nail;  
And a messenger with evening mail:  
Passes to plays and tickets free  
To everything there was to see.  
Callers came in crowds for hours  
And telegrams and loads of flowers,  
And gifts in boxes and cards to teas,  
And a thousand other things to please.  
The city Mayor brought a bunch of keys  
Which opened every hall and store  
To the Roosevelt Bears for evermore.



"But the biggest fun that was made that day was by TEDDY-G with his clownish play. He cracked good jokes and a cowboy whip and made things dance at every clip."

They rested up for several days  
To answer mail and to learn the ways  
Of Chicago children and how to run  
An afternoon to give them fun.  
They hired the biggest hall in town;  
TEDDY-G said he would act the clown  
If TEDDY-B would run the show  
And explain the tricks and make things go.  
They borrowed helpers from the Zoo,  
An elephant and a kangaroo,  
And six prairie dogs and monkeys two.  
They invited every boy between  
Six years old and seventeen;

And girls as many and of equal size,  
And for every one a handsome prize.  
The performing troupe was hard to beat,  
And the crowd which came filled every seat.  
A speech was made by TEDDY-B,  
Who told the boys and girls that he  
Believed in fun and honest strife,  
And many sport and strenuous life.  
And things which made for stronger will,  
And helped weak boys to climb a hill.  
"The world," he said, "was made for play;  
And boys and girls should be always gay."

The fun that day by TEDDY-clown  
Was the best that was ever seen in town.  
And the juggling tricks by TEDDY-B  
Were the smartest that boys did ever see.  
He put a monkey in a hat  
And shot a pistol and took out a cat.  
He rolled two dogs up in a ball  
Until there wasn't anything there at all.  
He lifted up the kangaroo  
On the very top of a billiard cue  
Which he held on his nose while he walked around  
And tossed ten balls to music sound.  
A tub of water was brought to him;  
He put in the dogs and made them swim;  
He dipped the water out in pails  
Till there was nothing left but pigeons' tails.  
The tails he put where the dogs had been  
And in half a minute they were dogs again.  
He made the elephant eat a meal  
Perched on the rim of a wagon wheel  
While the monkeys turned the wheel about  
And the kangaroo hopped in and out  
Between the spokes for an hour or more  
Making children laugh till their sides were sore.

But the biggest fun that was made that day  
Was by TEDDY-G with his clownish play.  
He cracked good jokes and a cowboy whip  
And made things dance at every clip.  
He rode the elephant around the ring  
And played for monkeys and made them sing  
And held a hoop while both jumped thru  
And turned handsprings over the kangaroo,  
And sang a song with encores nine  
And danced a jig for every line.

When the show was o'er the crowd went wild;  
There were prizes given to every child;  
They clapped their hands and danced with joy  
And cheered the bears, each girl and boy.  
They called aloud for TEDDY-G  
When he stepped out and thus said he:  
"You'd scarce expect one of my age  
To speak in public on the stage.  
Chicago's great; I like the place;  
Its boys and girls; each happy face;  
I'll call around when back we come  
And spend a month at every home."

The bears returned to their hotel;  
Their show was great; they did it well;  
The papers praised their work and said



That the Roosevelt Bears were far ahead  
In many fun and jolly ways  
Of anything they had seen for days.  
A card was found on their door which read:  
"Not in to callers; we've gone  
To see  
Sign Teddy B.  
Teddy G."  
(Continued next Sunday.)



"Two tailors came with cloth and tape to fit them out in handsome shape."

