

Let's Talk Things Over



It's funny how a lot of people take a chance when they build a home. They go to all kinds of trouble with the plans. They want everything including a streamlined kitchen, the last word in bathrooms, picture windows, and a landscaped garden. The money arrangements are perfect. In ten, fifteen or twenty years, the home will be really theirs. Just regular payments, somewhat like rent, only better, because they get something more for their money than just the privilege of living in a house.

But what is this chance they take? It's this: If death comes to the money-earner, the home may no longer be a place of refuge for the family, but a source of debt and despair. —

And yet, by a perfectly simple Sun Life Mortgage Protection plan—only a slight addition to the monthly cost of paying for the house—the total balance of the mortgage would be wiped out in the event of death. Here's my advice, Mr. Homeowner: "Don't take a chance."

Let's talk things over—today!



HAL BOHAKER
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BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES



(By Thornton W. Burgess)

Precociousness in those you see in fact may merely seem to be. —Old Mother Nature.

Precocious looks and sounds like a big word for small tongues. It isn't really. Just try it—precocious. Doesn't that roll off your tongue easily? And its meaning is so easy to remember. It means to be extra smart, or able to do things others of the same age cannot yet do.

Way up on a High Mountain, so high that no trees could grow there and little else, just a few plants among the jumbled rocks so high that there was still snow in patches here and there, and not far above the top was covered with snow, there was a new baby. Yes, sir, a baby had been born here, hidden place among those bare rocks. He was Little Kid Surefoot. His mother was Nanny Surefoot and his father was Big Goat Surefoot. They were Mountain Goats, sometimes called just White Goats. This is because they are dressed wholly in white. Curiously enough while the Goats and look like Goats, they are not Goats at all, but belong to the Antelope branch of the Bovidae family to

which Cattle, Sheep true Goats and true Antelopes belong, but to which Pronghorn does not belong although called Antelope. Does this get you all mixed up? Names do when they are missed.

Little Kid Surefoot was a precocious baby, but as a Mountain Goat kid he wasn't precocious. Newly born babies are supposed to be helpless, unable to do little more than lift their little heads, if they could do even that. But there are exceptions and Mountain Goat kids are among these. The babies of Paddy the Beaver can walk and swim the day they are born. Little Kid Surefoot was that kind of a baby. He was up and jumping about in his rocky nursery before he was a day old. As a baby that certainly was being precocious, but as a Mountain Goat kid it was no more than all Goat kids do. So he was and he wasn't precocious. Most babies are wobbly on their feet when they first walk. Little Kid wasn't. He bounced around as if there was rubber in his stiff little legs.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

MORE DEFEATISM

In yesterday's column the statement was made that the average declarer gives up too easily when the situation seems hopeless. This fault is not confined to declarers, by any means! Observe East's not uncommon defeatism in today's deal.

West dealer

Both sides vulnerable

♠	A 9 4	♥	A 8 7
♦	A 9 3	♣	5 2
♠	A K Q 8 7	♥	6 2
♦	10 3	♣	3 1
♠	—	♥	—
♦	—	♣	—
♠	—	♥	—
♦	—	♣	—

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass 4♥ Pass Pass
Pass

West opened the spade four, the three was played from dummy, and East won with the ace.

There was no possible doubt about the fact that West's four-spot had been a singleton, and, after staring at the dummy disconsolately, East returned the ace to give his partner a ruff. West was glad to be obliging in that respect, but after ruffing, he was helpless! He did the best he could, laying down the club he could, to see if East would signal high in that suit, and after East played the lowest card missing, the seven, West shifted to a diamond in the remote hope that East could ruff, but successful defense was out of the question.

The defensive problem in a deal like this is so simple that it can scarcely be dignified by the term "problem". East's immediate return of a spade is a give-up play! Where are the other tricks to come from? Surely not in diamonds, and it can scarcely be hoped that West has either two club tricks, two heart tricks, or one club and one heart. The only reasonable hope is that West has the club ace! Acting on that chance, East obviously must return the club queen at the second trick, and with the situation as shown, the defeat of the contract must follow. If South covers, East gets back on lead with the club jack for the spade return and ruff; if declarer does not cover the club queen, East gives West the ruff immediately, and then West can lay down the club ace.

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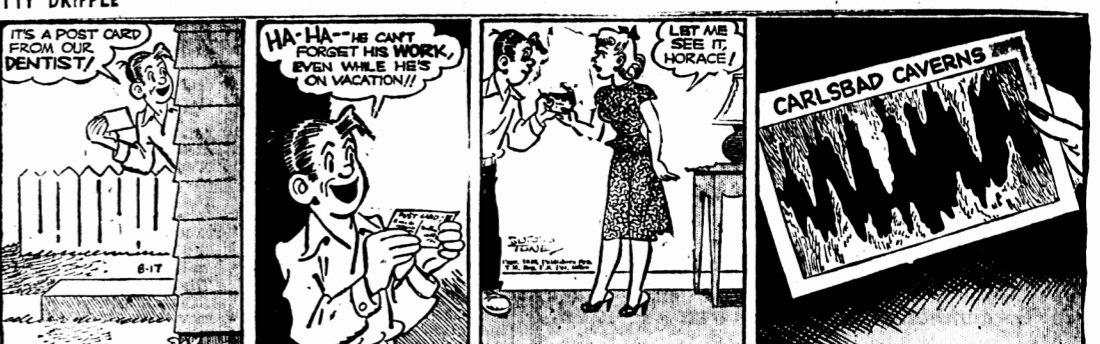
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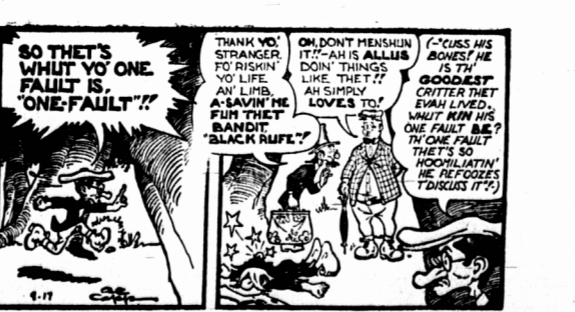
FENNY



L'L ABNER



BY KIRBY



By Alex Raymond



By Harry Hoeligen

