

# BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

(By Thornton W. Burgess)

Knowledge will be best retained when by observation gained. —Farmer Brown's Boy.

Farmer Brown's boy and his cousin, who were sleeping nights in the sugar house among the maple trees during the sugar season, had discovered that one of their Green Forest neighbors was Trader the Wood Rat. They had not seen him, but they had found his home and in it a couple of spoons and other things that were missing from camp. While they slept Trader had paid the camp a visit and traded for these things, leaving some cones, pebbles and a rusty nail. The hole through which he had entered had been found and blocked. Before going to bed this night the boys had put a number of useless odds and ends, a brass button and other bright, shiny things, in a small box and placed it outside to find out if their small neighbor would trade for these things. The first thing in the morning Farmer Brown's boy went out to see.

"Hi, Ned! He's a trader all right!" he called, and Cousin Ned went out to look.

Sure enough, everything they had put in that box had been taken. But the box wasn't empty. No, sir, nothing like that. It was half full of small sticks, pebbles, bits of bark and other small objects including a couple of small bleached bones.

"That's what I call an even trade, Tommy," said Cousin Ned. "He traded a lot of stuff he doesn't want for a lot of stuff we don't want."

"That may be so, but just the same he got the best of the trade," chuckled Tommy.

"How do you make that out?" asked Ned.

"He got something he wanted, but we didn't get anything we wanted," replied Tommy. "Sometimes I wonder if there is anything at all that is worthless. That which is trash to one is treasure to some one else. Queer, isn't it?"

"It is what makes trade," replied Ned.

During the day they visited Trader's home and laughed to see how he had carefully placed here and there on the roof of his house all the things he had traded for.

"I would like to have a good look at the rascal. You know I've never seen a Wood Rat," said Tommy.

"Have you a box trap or some other that will catch an animal without hurting anything but its feelings?" asked his cousin.

"I've got a wire cage trap at home," said Tommy.

"We'll get it and set it tonight. Trader will be around again, and in the morning you'll have a chance to look him over and become acquainted," replied Cousin Ned.

So during the day Tommy got the trap and before dark it was set in the place where the treasure box had been the night before. "What will we bait it with?" asked Tommy.

Cousin Ned chuckled. "A spoon," said he.

The trap was set and in it was placed a tin spoon that gleamed in the moonlight. Trader returned during the night, as Cousin Ned had known he would. His eyes had sparkled as he caught the glint of the spoon. Here was more treasure to trade for. But this time there was no trade. It had been easy to enter where that spoon lay, but he couldn't get out. He was a prisoner.

So it was that in the morning Farmer Brown's boy saw Trader the Wood Rat for the first time. In size and shape he was much like Robber the Brown Rat, whom everybody knows and dislikes, but there the likeness ended. His ears were larger. His tail, instead of being unpleasantly bare and scaly like Robber's, was covered with short hair. Robber's coat looks rough and the fur is short. The fur of Trader's coat was long and soft, nice to look at. His coat was mixed buff and gray, while underneath



His eyes had sparkled as he caught the glint of the spoon

he was pure white. His feet were white. That as one of the first things Tommy noticed.

"He looks as if he might be Whitefoot the Wood Mouse grown to be a giant," declared Tommy. Cousin Ned laughed. "He does look something like that," he agreed. "I believe they call him the Allegheny Wood Rat. Out West he has a number of cousins, some with bushy tails. But in one thing all are alike: they are born traders and collectors. What are you going to do with it?"

"Let him go," replied Tommy promptly, and opened the trap.

## Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

It is an ironic fact that occasionally a declarer may know too much for his own good! In today's deal the master declarer lost a slam which most average players would probably make!

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable. North-South 60 on score.

♠	A K 5 2	♠	10 9
♥	A J 10 4	♥	K 7 4
♦	K Q 8	♦	9 4 3
♣	Q J	♣	K 9 5

The bidding went:  
 North East South West  
 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass  
 4 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass  
 5 NT Pass 6 ♣ Pass  
 Pass Pass

North gave the jump raise in diamonds because he felt that would be the most encouraging action he could take at the 60 score. West opened the heart nine. This was ducked in dummy, and East won with the king. East promptly returned a low club—and right there South had to make the crucial decision!

There was a 50% chance that he could successfully finesse East's club return, but there was a greater chance that he could make the contract by putting up the club ace! This latter play would depend on a combination of circumstances. If the spade suit broke 3-3 (an approximate 30% chance), South would later be able to discard one club on dummy's spades and the other on the heart suit. Combined with this chance was the fair possibility that if spades did not break 3-3, the defender who had the spade length would also have the club king, and this holding would automatically put him into a squeeze. South would hold on to the club ten, cash diamonds and hearts, and finally force that defender to discard either the club king or his spade stopper. Declarer took the better "per-

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BRANCHES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

## DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Upright
  - Cyprinoid fish
  - Like a wing
  - River (Eng.)
  - Dried plum
  - Pineapples (So. Am.)
  - King of Bashan (Bib.)
  - Period of time
  - Former Russian council
  - Large marine crustacean
  - Medieval boat
  - Biblical character
  - Sewing implement
  - Perch
  - Slang (slang)
  - Sharp to the taste
  - United States of America (abbr.)
  - Past
  - Recommenced
  - Large fish
  - Fastener
  - Advertisement
  - Subjects of canvas
  - Lettered telephone plates
  - Entitle

- DOWN**
- Secure
  - Longing
  - Native of Boston
  - Soak fax
  - Water god (Baby.)
  - Care for medically
  - Neuter pronoun
  - Thrice
  - Clubs
  - Large, tropical lizard
  - Twilled fabric
  - Fastened with wax
  - Sums up
  - Move sideways
  - Coalition
  - Dancing (Egypt)
  - Stitch
  - Cuckoo



## DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it

One letter simply stands for another. In this example A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

**A Cryptogram Quotation**

W N B X X B K N M E C B V M N M R K A  
 T R C E V H K N X H O R T H N F W B  
 X H K T H H K U B F D W N F K V D H W  
 W M R I H W O H R C H .

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I SEE A HAND YOU CANNOT SEE. WHICH BECKONS ME AWAY—TICKELL.

"centage" and played the club ace! It was an unfortunate decision in this case.

A declarer who knew nothing about squeezes would be fortunate in this deal! He would take the club finesse and score the slam.

## WOLVES GROW BOLDER

EDSON, Alta.—(CP)—Wolves are becoming a menace to wild life in this Alberta district. Loggers report a considerable number of the animals in the area and say they are becoming bolder. Moose and other animals have been found destroyed by the wolves.

**DANCE**

Sunnyside Ballroom  
 Every Mon., Wed., Sat.  
 Eastern Rhythm Boys  
 Admission 35c  
 Meet your friends there tonight

