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Eastern Rhythm Boys
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BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

(By Thornton W. Burgess)

How To Be Comfortable In Winter

Comfort is your own affair.
Look ahead and then prepare.
—Striped Chipmunk.

"I suppose I won't see you around much longer," said Peter Rabbit to Striped Chipmunk.
"Not much longer. It is getting rather cool," replied Striped Chipmunk.
"You don't like cold weather, do you?" said Peter.
"I like to be comfortable," said Striped Chipmunk.
"Who doesn't?" retorted Peter.
"Are you comfortable when everything is frozen? When rough Brother North Wind is blowing snow over and into everything, and trees and bushes are covered with ice and it is hard to get about and still harder to find anything to eat?" asked Striped Chipmunk.
"No-o admitted Peter reluctantly. "No. I'm not exactly comfortable then."
"I am. I'm perfectly comfortable," declared the small Squirrel in the striped coat.
"I wouldn't want to sleep all the time the way you and Johnny Chuck do," declared Peter. He really meant it.
"Johnny Chuck may sleep all the time. I wouldn't know about that. But I don't," retorted Striped Chipmunk.
Peter stared at him as if in doubt.



"Then you do wake up some times in winter," said Peter.
"I've always heard you do," said he.
"Do you believe every thing you hear?" snapped Striped Chipmunk a bit impatiently.
"Not everything. Of course not. But I never see you around in the winter," replied Peter.
"That is because you never have been around when I have. I look out once in a while on pleasant days when the weather isn't too cold, and sometimes come out to run about for a little exercise. But most of the time I stay inside where I can be and am comfortable," explained the lively small person on the old stone wall, looking down at Peter sitting just below among the bushes.
"You really don't sleep all the time?" questioned Peter.
"Listen, Peter! What do you think I worked so hard for to gather and put away all those nuts and seeds if they are not going to be used? And of what use would they be to me asleep?" demanded Striped Chipmunk.
"I hadn't thought of that," Peter admitted.
"You are like a lot of other people. You believe what you hear and don't think. I do sleep a lot, and for quite a while at a time, especially in bad and very cold weather. It is the sensible thing to do. I've worked hard and sometimes I sleep hard, so hard that I couldn't be wakened easily. But I don't sleep like that all winter. Goodness, I should say not! If I did I never would know how comfortable I am when some folks I could name are cold and hungry," said the lively little Squirrel whose home is deep in the ground where Jack Frost cannot reach him.
"This you do wake up sometimes in winter," said Peter.
"Of course I wake up," declared Striped Chipmunk. "How could I eat if I didn't wake up every now and then. And I do have to eat. Some folks, like Johnny Chuck, get so fat before cold weather that they don't have to eat for a long time all winter perhaps. But did you ever see me fat? Of course not. If I wake up hungry, but still feel sleepy and too lazy to get up, I just reach under the bed and get what I want. But often I get up and go peek out the door to see what the weather is. If anyone sends winter more comfortable than I do I don't know who it is. A nice warm room in the ground so far that Jack Frost can't reach me, plenty of things I like best to eat, and when I say plenty I mean plenty, nothing to do but sleep as long as a time as I please, nothing to worry about—that's what I call being comfortable."
"You sound like Jerry Muskrat and Paddy the Beaver," said Peter.

Contract Bridge
By Josephine Culbertson

MISSING A SLAM
A correspondent's question regarding the proper bidding of the hand below rings out an interesting general point.

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable and 60 on score.

♠ 10 7 6 5	♠ Q 9 4 3
♥ 2	♥ J 8 2
♦ 7 8 4 3	♦ K 10 2
♣ J 10 9	♣ 8 6 5

W E S

♠ A
♥ K Q 10 8 5 3
♦ 9 7
♣ K 7 4 2

This was the actual bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 3♦ Pass
3♥ Pass Pass Pass

Obviously, there was nothing to the play. South could take 12 tricks against any defense.

"My partner," South writes, "passed because he said my three-heart bid was discouraging. Actually, I was interested in a slam, but felt there was no other bid available, at least until I knew whether we could agree on a suit. Who was wrong in this case for missing the cold slam?"

North was wrong, because he did not make a great enough effort to "sound out" the South holding. His jump to three diamonds, though showing a big hand, was not specific enough to bring the needed cooperation from South. North should have done one of two things, particularly at his 60 score: he either should have jumped directly to four notrump, announcing an extremely powerful hand and (if the partnership was using Blackwood) starting the inquiry for aces and kings; or, having made his three-diamond bid, he should have carried South's response of three hearts to at least the level of four hearts. Surely, with South rebidding the suit, there was little or no danger that a four-heart contract could meet defeat, and if South chose to pass at that point, at least North would have fulfilled his duty. It would have been far more logical for North to leap straight to six hearts over three than for him to have passed at such a low level, part-score or no part-score.

King of The Royal Mounted



JOE PALOOKA



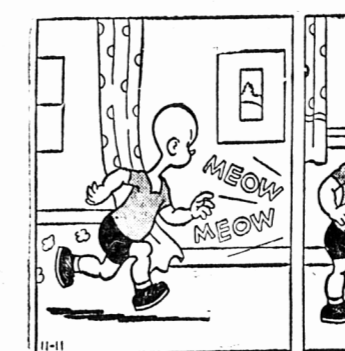
HENRY



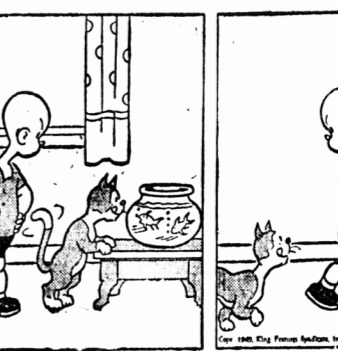
WOTTA HOUSE!



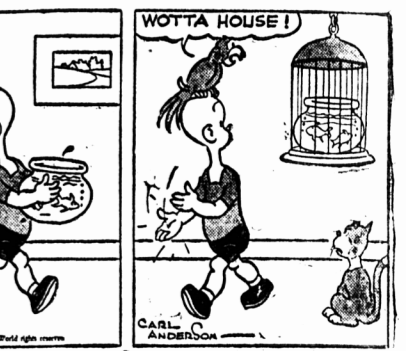
DOTTY DRIPPLE



TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBB



BRINGING UP FAHER



TILLIE THE TOILET



PENNY

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NOV. 1st to NOV. 30th

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Prince Nova	11 a.m.	8 p.m.
Charles A. Dunning	8 a.m.	1 p.m.
Leave Caribou—	11 a.m.	8 p.m.
Charles A. Dunning	8 a.m.	1 p.m.
Prince Nova	11 a.m.	8 p.m.

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LIL' ABNER
By AL CAPP

By Alex Raymond

BACKACHE May be Warning

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RIP KIRBY

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BACKACHE May be Warning

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