

By Ham Fisher

### Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

#### WINNING TECHNIQUE

There was nothing very complicated about the play of today's deal. It was simply a case of selecting the "combination chance" instead of trying to guess a finesse.

South dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.

♠ K 5 4	♥ 7 3 2	♦ A 9 5 3	♣ 8
♠ A K J 10 4	♥ 6 2	♦ Q 10 6	♣ 7 4
♠ N	♥ E	♦ Q 6 5 2	♣ 8
♠ S	♥ W	♦ A Q J 9 8 3	♣ K 5 4
♠ K Q	♥ A K 5 4	♦ A Q	♣ 8

♠	♥	♦	♣
West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	Pass	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass
4NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

South bid two hearts on the second round because he was positive that North, having made a two-over-one response to the opening spade bid, would not drop the bidding.

West laid down the diamond ace and, seeing no porphitious shift, continued with a second round. South won, and had to decide on a long-range plan of play. Obviously, South could "handle" the club suit in several different ways. He could finesse through West. He could cash the ace and then finesse through East, letting the club jack ride; or he could try to drive out the club queen by ruffing. This latter plan, however, was also subject to variation.

Not too confidently, South finally laid down the ace and queen of trumps, then led to the club ace, discarded a heart on the club king, and led the club jack through East. That defender, not being a traitor to his own side, impertubly played low — and South

### BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

(By Thornton W. Burgess)

For worry, though of little use. At times there may be good excuse. —Old Mother Nature.

In an old house dug long ago by the grandfather of Johnny Chuck in the middle of the dear old Briar-patch Peter Rabbit and Mrs. Peter were snug, warm and comfortable while outside hard, icy rains of snow hissed through the bare bushes and the brambles. When that house was dug it just had been outside the Old Briar-patch. The latter had grown around it until now it was in the middle. Peter and Mrs. Peter seldom had use for it, but when they did have it was right there. Just now they were glad of it, very glad indeed.

Now and then Peter poked his wabby nose out the doorway to see how things were outside. For a while he had grumbled, but he had stopped when Mrs. Peter had declared that he was just as happy as she was to be in that old house, snug and warm, and was grumbling just for the fun of grumbling, when really there is nothing to grumble about.

"I wish," said Peter, "this was guessed wrong. Afraid that West had the queen, declarer ruffed, hoping to drop the vital card, but when West played the nine, all hope vanished.

The best plan was to combine two chances, in this way: South leads only the trump ace, cashes the club king, and ruffs a club. The queen may drop — but when at last South still has the chance for a 2-2 trump break. He over-plays for a 2-2 trump break with dummy's king and ruffs away East's club queen. Then leads the trump three to the five and can cash dummy's fifth club.

### NORTH AMERICAN LIFE L. S. STEVENSON BRANCH MANAGER

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the very worst kind. He was freezing that fine rain as fast as it touched the bushes and trees and surface of the snow. He was coating them with ice. Yes, sir, he was making a crust of ice on top of the snow, and coating every bush and bramble and tree, from the highest trunk to the tiniest twig, with a smooth, hard, slippery coat of ice. It was then that Peter began to worry, really worry.

"I thought the snow was bad, but this is worse," said he. "Can we get all right in here, so why worry?" said Mrs. Peter. "We haven't anything to eat in here," said Peter, then added, "I'm hungry right now." "There is plenty, such as it is, outside. A little rain won't hurt us. We can get what we need when we have to have it," replied Mrs. Peter.

"I hope so," Peter asked, then added, "Do you know any reason why we can't retorted Mrs. Peter a bit sharply. "We are all right in here, so why worry?" said Mrs. Peter. "We haven't anything to eat in here," said Peter, then added, "I'm hungry right now." "There is plenty, such as it is, outside. A little rain won't hurt us. We can get what we need when we have to have it," replied Mrs. Peter.

"It is not just ourselves I am thinking of. It is bad, very bad, for a lot of people who can't help themselves. I wish it would stop raining. Jack Frost would go away," replied Peter.

### KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED



JOE PALOOKA



JOE PALOOKA



JOE PALOOKA



By Zone Gray

### DOTTY DRIPPLE



DOTTY DRIPPLE



DOTTY DRIPPLE



By Buford

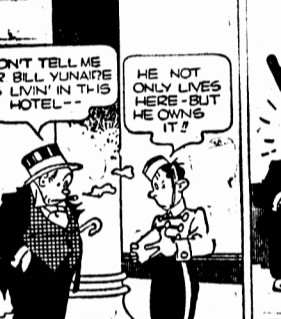
### BRINGING UP FATHER



BRINGING UP FATHER



BRINGING UP FATHER

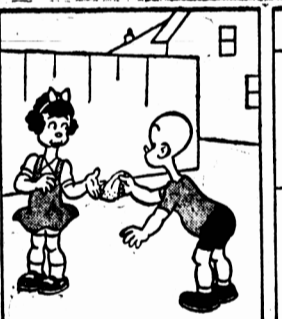


By George McManus

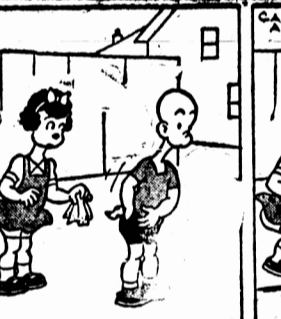
### HENRY



HENRY



HENRY



By Carl Anderson

### TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBB



TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBB



TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBB



By Edwin

### TILLIE THE TOILET



TILLIE THE TOILET



TILLIE THE TOILET



By Weston

### PENNY



PENNY

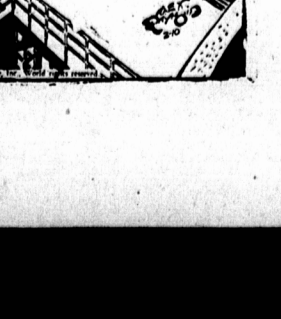
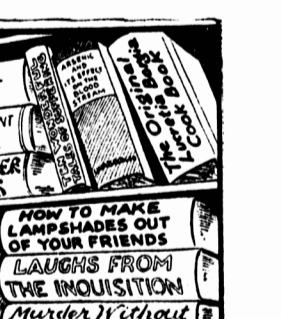
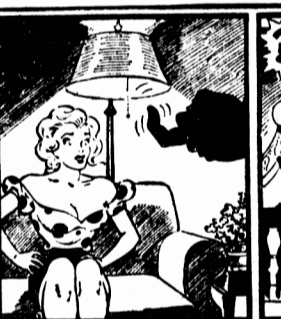
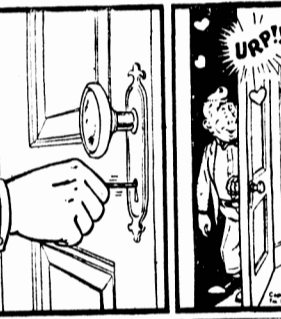


PENNY



By Harry Houghton

### LIL' ABNER



### THE MINISTER WON'T BE HERE FOR A HALF HOUR DUMPINGTON. DEAR, AMUSE YOURSELF SOMEHOW UNTIL THEN.

### HE HAINT TAKIN' ME DOWN 'S AIRS TO TH' WEDDIN'.

### REMEMBER WHEN OUR OLD BARGE GOT STUCK IN TH' MUD ON TH' RIVER, BANK.

### WHY DON'T YOU WEAR THOSE LOVELY WARM WOOLEN SLACKS WE GAVE YOU FOR CHRISTMAS?