



BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

PETER HAS A BAD TIME

You find when trouble is about, it's easy getting it out of your mind. Peter Rabbit was in trouble. Peter has often been in trouble, but he couldn't remember having been in any worse trouble than he was in now. People who go to places where they have no business to go, usually get in trouble. It is part of the price they pay for not minding their own business. Trouble is always waiting around for folks of that kind.

Peter was up in Farmer Brown's barnyard. Of course that was no place for Peter or any other Rabbit to be. Curiosity had taken him there. When he got there, curiosity led him to try to see what was in a box that was tilted. He put his paws on the edge of that box, and stretched to look in. It upset the box. There was Peter, prisoner under it. Now if that place had been soft ground it wouldn't have mattered too much; Peter would have dug his way out. He would have dug down under the edge of the box. But it happened that that part of the barnyard was covered with cement. Peter did his best to dig, but all he accomplished was to make his toes sore, and he soon gave up. Was he frightened? Of course he was frightened. Would not you be frightened if you suddenly found yourself in a dark prison? It wasn't the darkness that made him afraid. Peter never is afraid in the dark. It was finding himself a prisoner with no way of getting out that frightened him. There was nothing to do but crouch down and hope that something would happen to set him free. Of course no one knew he was there.

In one way that was a good thing. In another way, it was a dreadful thing. It was a good thing that no enemy knew he was there, and it was, or would be, a dreadful thing if no friend found him there. Peter didn't even know when jolly, round bright Mr. Sun began his daily climb up in the blue, blue sky. That was because it was so dark in that box. All the long night nothing happened, but early in the morning something did happen. It was a sound that made Peter shiver all over with fright. To him it was a terrible sound. To you, or to me, it would have been nothing terrible at all. It was a loud sniff, and it came from right close to the very edge of the box at one end. There was another sniff, and another sniff, and with every sniff it seemed to Peter that his heart stopped beating. The sniffing went on all the way around the box. Then there was a sharp bark, and more sniffing. Flip the Terrier had smelled Peter under that box, and Flip was excited. He barked away from the box and danced from side to side barking as if he were trying to bark his head off. He rushed up to the box again, sniffing and sniffing. Presently, around the corner of the barn came Bowser the Hound, to see what Flip was so excited about. He went over to the box and sniffed. Right away he smelled Rabbit. Poor Peter heard that second sniff and knew then that there were two Dogs outside who knew where he was. It was a dreadful thing. Yes, sir, it was a dreadful feeling. He knew those Dogs were just waiting for him to come out. Now he didn't want to get out. When you think of it that was a queer situation. He was in a place that he wanted to get out of, yet didn't want to get out of. The Dogs stopped barking and stopped sniffing. All was still again. Peter listened and listened, but could hear nothing. West opened his top spade. The ace was played, and declarer hopefully cashed the ace and king of trumps. A 2-2 trump break would have let South spread the hand, but when East showed up with the J-10-2 of trumps, South had something to think about. It was futile to draw East's last trump, and South made no such error. He had to risk cashing dummy's three top diamonds so that he could discard a spade; then he ruffed a spade. Next, he led a low heart to dummy's king and ruffed a second spade. Then he cashed the heart ace, discarding dummy's diamond, and ruffed a heart with dummy's low trump. There was of course the acute danger that East would be out of hearts and able to over-ruff dummy, but the risk had to be run. When East actually followed suit in hearts, South was home, since he could ruff dummy's last spade and win the fulfilling trick with the club queen.

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NOTICE TO TEACHERS

Teachers who have contracted to teach for the present school year and who have not forwarded Notice of Engagement to the Department of Education, are urged to do so immediately. Salary payments cannot be made promptly at the end of this month unless these forms are received by September 15th. I. W. SHAW, Deputy Minister and Director of Education.

CHANGE OF TURNIP MEETING

The meeting called for Friday evening, Sept. 5th, has been changed to meet Thursday, Sept. 4th at 1:30 p.m. at Prince of Wales College.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

SKILLFUL PLAY REWARDED

South had some luck in the following hand, played at an ambitious grand-slam contract, but his excellent technique deserved a reward.

Bridge hand diagram showing South dealer, North-South vulnerable, and card layouts for both sides.

The bidding: South West North East Pass Pass 1 4 Pass 2 Pass 4 N T Pass 5 Pass 7 4 Pass Pass

When South made a club overall of East's (rather desperate) spade bid, North naturally became extremely slam-minded, even though South had passed originally. North realized that at a club contract an opening spade would go through his own holding, but a great many different South hands would make it possible to avoid the loss of a spade trick. When North's Blackwood four notrump found South with the missing ace, North could not restrain himself from going all out. (Observe that South's two-club call could have been stronger than that.)

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WANDERING GOPHER

GRANDE PRAIRIE, Alta. — (CP) — Moore Perry walked into the county office with a gopher he caught in a trap. Agricultural officials said gophers had hitherto been unknown in the Peace River country.

DOTTY DRIPPLE

By Ruffore



TILLY THE TOILER

By Bob Gas'afson



BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManis



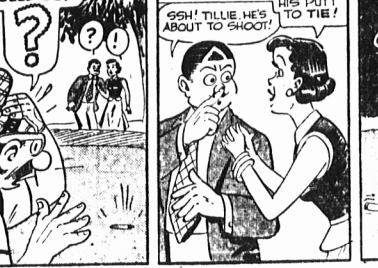
TIPPY AND 'CAP' STUBS

By Edwina



HENRY

By Carl Anderson



POGO

By Walt Kelly



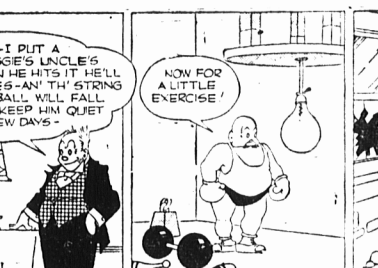
LIL' ABNER

By Al Capp



RIK KIRBY

By Alex Raymond



NAPOLEON AND UNCLE ELBY

By Clifton McBride



KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

By Harry Moenigen



PENNY

By Harry Moenigen



WANDERING GOPHER

By Carl Anderson

