



By Thornton W. Burgess

THE LAGGARD

All other attributes above, 's loyalty to those you love. —Old Mother Nature.

A dreadful thing had happened over in the Green Forest. Blacky the Crow had lost five of the members of the flock of which he was the leader, the black gang, as some folks call it. They had been shot. Two hunters had fastened a stuffed Owl up in a tree, and then had hidden down below. Those hunters knew that the Crow folk fear and hate the Owl folk, because the biggest members of the Owl family often hunt Crow folk. This is especially true in winter, when food is scarce. So, whenever a Crow discovers an Owl in day time, which is the time when Owls are usually sleeping, because they hunt at night, he calls the gang together, and they take delight in making life miserable for the Owl. From their hiding place, one of the hunters had imitated the rallying call of the Crows. That had brought the Crows hurrying to see what the cause was. The first one to see the stuffed Owl began calling, and soon the gang was gathered there. Of course, they all thought the Owl was alive. Only Blacky, the wise old leader, was suspicious. Blacky kept away, and he kept

to keep up with the others. That is the reason he was lagging so, dropping farther and farther behind. And that is the reason that he was not only suffering from pain, but from greater fright than any of the others. He didn't understand what had happened to him, and that is the reason that he was suffering from greater fright than any of the others. More and more slowly he flew. He could no longer keep high in the air as some of his friends were doing. One wing ached dreadfully. It ached more and more. He didn't feel as if he could use it, and yet he had to. Already, he was quite alone. He felt himself flying lower and lower, although he was trying his best to fly higher. Soon not another Crow was in sight. Presently he couldn't go any farther. He just couldn't. He saw just ahead of him a lone cedar tree, its evergreen branches spreading from top to bottom. He headed for this, and had just strength enough to reach it. He crept in among the branches half way up, there he was quite out of sight from anyone who might happen along. That hurt wing was drooping now. He couldn't hold it up as he held the other close to his body. There, in that cedar tree, he huddled as close to the trunk as he could get, suffering pain, and suffering even more from dreadful fright, the more dreadful because he didn't understand what had happened. There was a young Crow, and this was the first time he had had any experience with dreadful guns.

A bad thing not understood always seems worse than if it were understood. All the young Crows knew that there had been a frightful noise, a dreadful pain and now this helplessness. For a while, he felt really sick, too sick to even wonder what had happened, and there was no one there to comfort him. He was in utter misery, was that young Crow. Back where the dreadful guns had banged, a hunter had climbed up and taken down the stuffed Owl. "That was good sport, wasn't it?" said he to the other hunter, as they started for home. Would you call it sport?

CITY IMMUNIZING CLINICS

Conducted by Department of Health & Welfare

To be held as follows:

THURSDAY, MARCH 5th—

Spring Park 1:30 p.m.
Parkdale 2:30 p.m.

NOTICE

I have been advised by the Chairman of the Appeal Board from Civic Rates and Assessments that the Board will meet on FRIDAY, MARCH 6th, but that the appeals will not commence until FRIDAY, MARCH 13th, AT 10:00 A.M.

J. A. FULLERTON, City Clerk.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Cluerton

MANY GRADES OF ERRORS

Bridge errors range from the slightest indiscretions up to the most horrifying "busts," and, considering the number of points involved, South's performance in the following hand was in the second-named category.

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable.
AK5, K864, AK975, 5, 9763, QJ72, 82, KJ4, 4, A10953, QJ, A10862

The bidding: North East South West
1 Pass 1 Pass
4 Pass 5 Pass
6 Pass 6 Pass

Actually, North-South should have been able to congratulate each other for not bidding a grand slam, since a 2-2 trump break would have made 13 tricks iron-clad. But, as matters turned out, they might almost as well have had the thrill of bidding the limit. West opened the spade queen, and when South saw the dummy he announced that it was "just a question of six or seven." He then proceeded to give the lie to his own statement. Having taken the first trick in dummy, he led a low trump and, when East played the deuce, tossed his own ace on the table. West's refusal brought a howl of anguish from declarer, but this did nothing to salvage the slam — East had to get two trump tricks.

It is shameful to lose an important contract in this fashion. The situation fairly shouts for a safety play. The lead of a low trump from either hand is mandatory, but when the next player follows suit, declarer must not put up the ace or king, as the case may be. When the lead is from dummy and East follows suit, the play of the nine or ten provides complete safety against the chance that East holds all four missing trumps — West cannot have them, once his partner has followed suit — and the same thing applies if South's first trump lead is a low card from his own hand toward dummy, in which case, with West following, the eight is the proper play.

CONFIDENT DEER

FORT ERIE, Ont. (CP)—A tourist from Rochester, N. Y., James Wilkinson, had to bring his car to a halt on the Niagara Parkway while a herd of five deer trotted sedately toward the Niagara river for a drink. Deer have become more plentiful than ever in this area.

Beautiful KEM-GLO the most economical enamel NEEDS NO PRIMER OR UNDERCOATER. Asbestos exports totalled 902,000 tons in 1952, equal to 97 per cent of all shipments of Canadian minerals.

King Of The Royal Mounted

By Zane Grey



Rip Kirby

By Alex Raymond



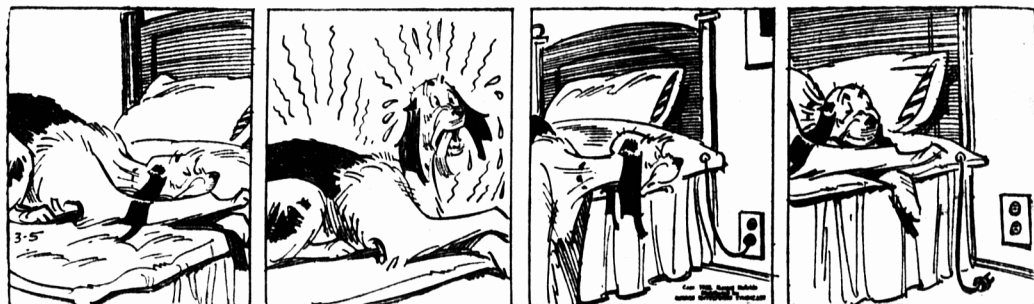
Joe Palooka

By Ham Fisher



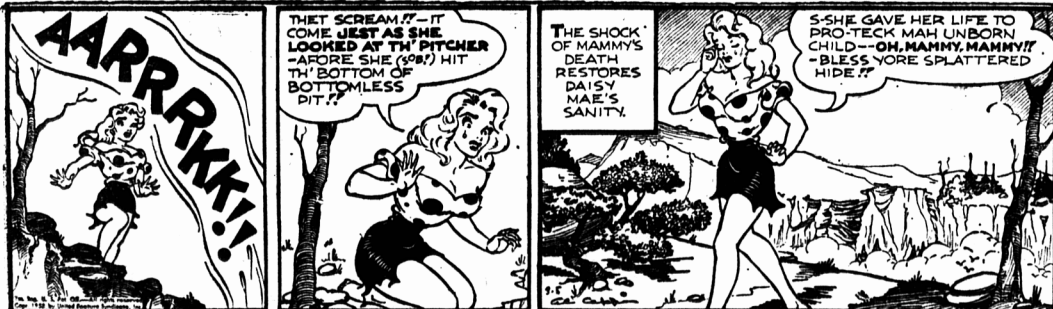
Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Clifford McBride



Li'l Abner

By Al Capp



Tilly The Toiler

By Bob Gustafson



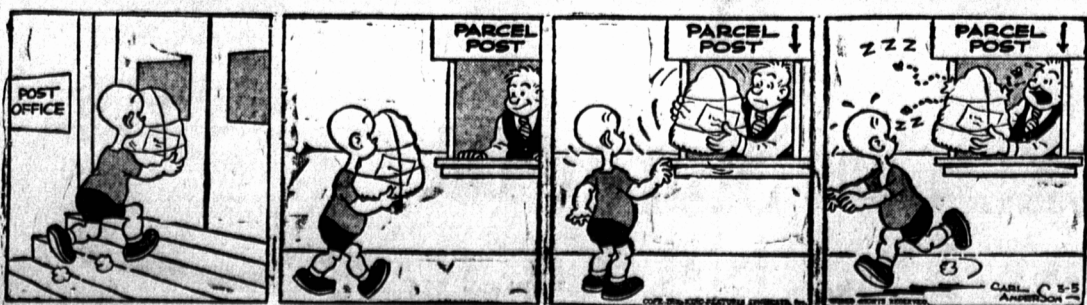
Dotty Dripple

By Ruford



Henry

By Carl Anderson



Pogo

By Walt Kelly



Tippy and "Cap" Stubs

By Edwin



Bringing Up Father

By George McManus



PENNY

By Harry Hoegen

