Contract Bridge

By Josephine Clubertson

PART-SCORE TACTICS

The one great superiority of rubber bridge over match-point scoring is that only at rubber bridge can a player display his skill in perhaps the most fertile of all bidding fields — part-score situations.

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
East-West 60 on score.

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

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Pass	2 N T	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Let's look at one of these situations:

East had no difficulty in winning 11 tricks, and the superficial view would be that his contract, and method of reaching it, were excellent.

Closer analysis, however reveals that East's jump to two notrump was a highly questionable tactic. Certainly, he had the values for that call, but that is not the only criterion. The point was that West needed an excellent hand for there to be a slam, and if he had the required strength he would presumably bid again over a mere one-notrump response. Meanwhile, that same one-notrump response might trap South into suicidal competition. The point is that with an advanced part-score, one notrump becomes an excellent trap for the opponent to follow, even if he is quite aware that the bid may be a trap. If he has a hand of fair strength he is forced to guess about the notrump — was it a trap bid, or was it merely what it purported to be: a hold-open action? And remember this: the more guessing the opponents have to do, the better for your side!

Of course this becomes pure speculation, but who can say that South would not have ventured to overcall one notrump with two hearts? Worse risks are taken time and again, especially when the opponents have a part-score. And if South did bid two hearts, East would get a very fine chance to double, with 1100 points as a reward — far better than going game, himself.

GUESTS WELCOME
Coca-Cola
TRADE MARK REG.

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

WHICH SHOULD THEY DO?

There comes a time to every one
When he must choose what shall be done.
—Old Mother Nature.

It was a bad storm. Everybody said so, and everybody was right. Rough Brother North Wind howled and shrieked through the Green Forest, driving fine, hard snow in great clouds before him, bending the trees until they snapped and broke, piling the snow over them in great drifts. No one was astir. Nowhere in all the Green Forest did anyone in fur or feathers venture out. It was the same way in the Old Pasture, and in the dear Old Briar-patch.

Reddy Fox and Mrs. Reddy were down in their underground home in the Old Pasture. It isn't often that they go down in there to stay. But it was a good place to be in such a storm as this. Bobby Coon was curled up in a hollow tree over in the Green Forest. He was trying to sleep, but the old tree was being rocked back and forth by Rough Brother North Wind, and Bobby was worrying a little. What should he do if that tree should be blown over?

Lightfoot the Deer, Mrs. Lightfoot, and the well grown twins, were lying down under the spreading branches of some hemlock trees in their yard. Their yard, as it was called, was simply a lot of paths crossing and re-crossing which they had trodden in the snow, and which they kept open by use every day or night. The snow outside the yard already was deep; too deep for them to wade about in it comfortably. Now, if this storm lasted long, it would be so deep they couldn't leave their yard at all. They would be prisoners in their own yard.

Over in the thickest part of the dear Old Briar-patch squatted Peter Rabbit and Mrs. Peter. They didn't mind the snow too much. They wouldn't mind if it buried them, if it remained a dry snow. But if it should become wet, and Jack Frost should turn it to ice, then they would be in trouble. They shivered at the sound of Rough Brother North Wind's shrieks. Oh, how they wished they were snug and warm in an underground house! To make things harder, so hard that it seemed to them too much to bear, was the fact that only a few feet away from where they were squatted was an old underground house in which in the past they had dozed comfortably through just such storms as this one. There it was, and they didn't dare go in. You see, Jimmy Skunk had taken possession of it. He was sleeping down in there, warm and dry and comfortable probably not even knowing that there was such a storm.

At first the snow was dry. It grew deeper and deeper around them. They became just a couple of white mounds, they didn't look like Rabbits at all. For a long time they didn't move to shake the snow off. They just snuggled close together and made the best of things.

Then there was a chance. Rough Brother North Wind was not blowing so hard now, but the fine grains of snow were turning from dry snow to wet flakes. Peter noticed it at once. Now he became really worried. He had seen this sort of thing happen before. He had seen Jack Frost turn wet snow into a crust of hard ice. He knew what that meant in the way of hard times. He wished more than ever that they were safely in that old underground house that Jimmy Skunk had taken possession of.

Jack Frost was busy now. He was making ice all about him. He was covering every bush and tree, even to the tiniest twig, with ice, and that ice was growing thicker and thicker all the time. Peter knew just what that was going to mean. It was going to mean hard work to get anything to eat. You see, there wasn't much but bark of bushes and young trees that they could eat while the snow was so deep. And now this bark would be hard to get.

The wet snow on their coats was beginning to turn to ice. Peter thought more and more about that den where Jimmy Skunk was sleeping so comfortably. He even ventured over to it. The entrance was already clogged with snow, but this could easily be dug away. What would happen if he and Mrs. Peter should go just a little way inside, just far enough to be out of the storm? What would Jimmy Skunk do? Would he drive them out? Should they venture in, and find out? Or should they stay out, and perhaps become coated with ice. Which should they do? Peter was afraid to do either.

What should he do if that tree should be blown over?

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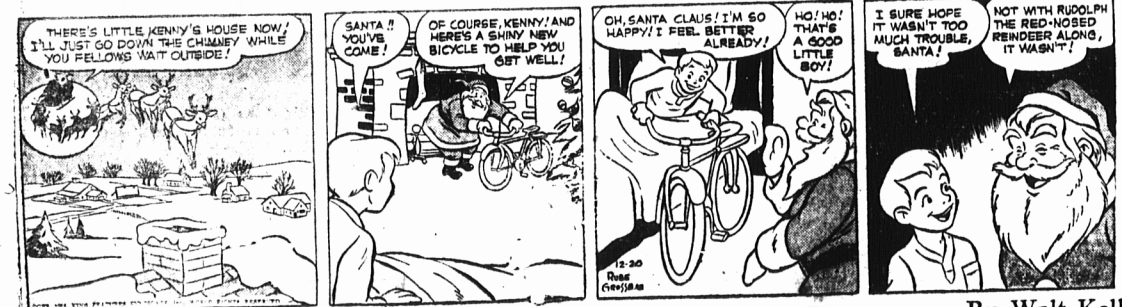
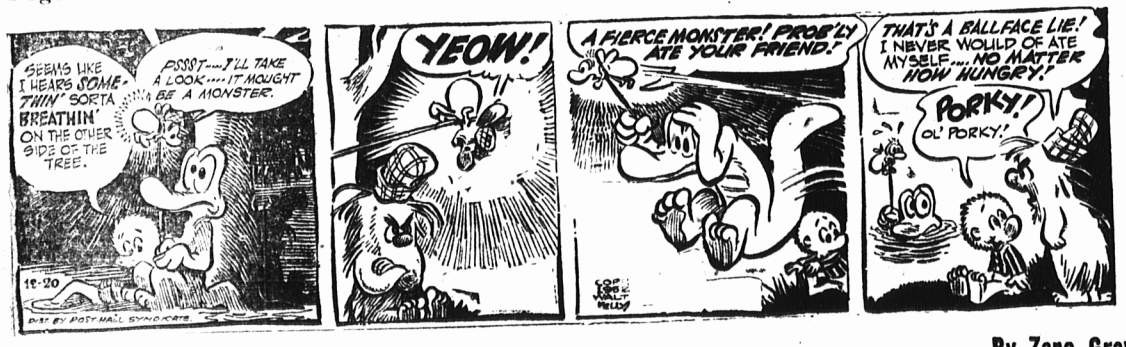
By Robert L. May

RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER



By Walt Kelly

Pogo



By Zane Grey

King Of The Royal Mounted

By Al Capp

Li'l Abner

By Alex Raymond

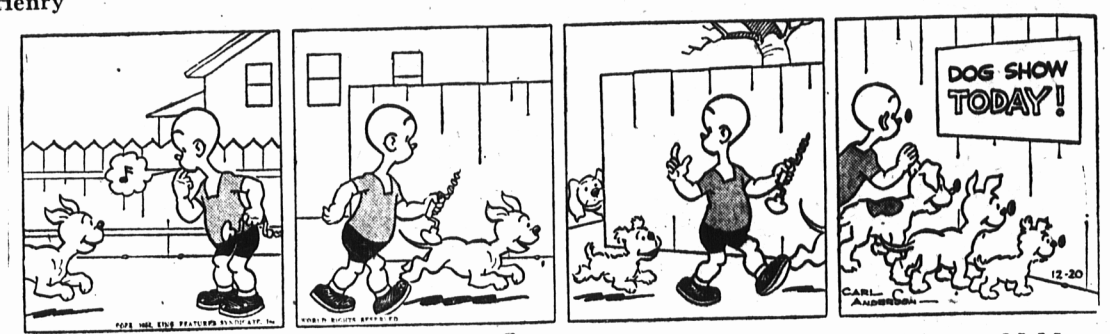
Rip Kirby

Joe Palooka

By Ham Fisher

Henry

By Carl Anderson

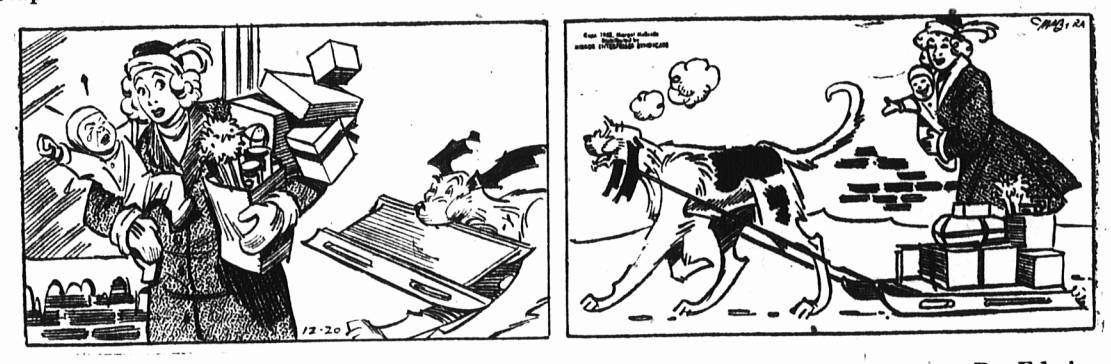


Bringing Up Father

By George McManus

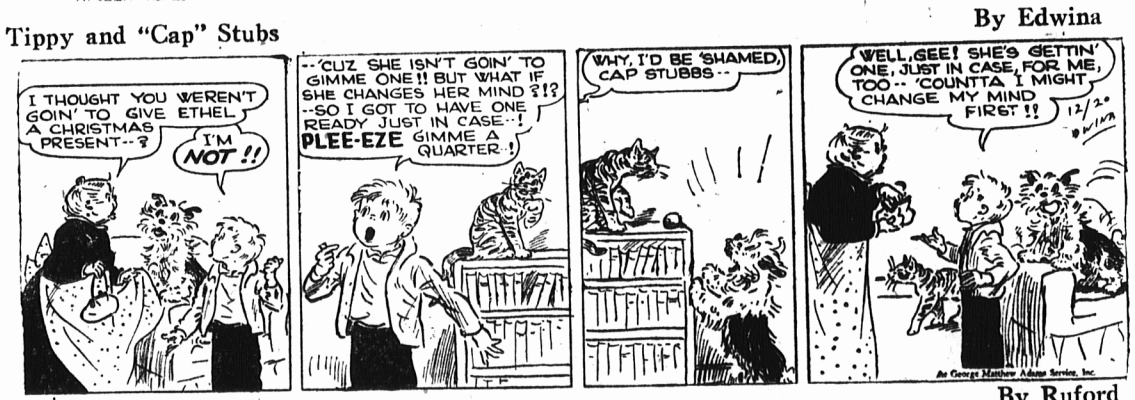
Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Clifford McBride



By Edwina

Tippy and "Cap" Stubs



By Ruford

Dotty Dripple

Tilly The Toiler

By Bob Gustafson

PENNY

By Harry Haenigsen