By Thornton W. Burgess

THE PRIZE

Not always goes the prize to skill;
Chance plays a part for good or ill.
—Old Mother Nature

To be discreet is the foundation of wisdom. Billy Mink had been discreet. He had visited the Smiling Pool intending to get a Muskrat dinner. He has a liking for that kind of a dinner once in awhile. He had discovered Jerry Muskrat, Mrs. Jerry, and two full-grown young Muskrats living in the same house. He suddenly lost his appetite for Muskrat. He could fight one, perhaps two, but certainly not four. Now he had gone on his way down to the Big River.

Although the four Muskrats were living in the same house they were not living together. You see it was a two-apartment house. Jerry and Mrs. Jerry lived in one side, and the other two in the other side. Each had private entrances. So, though they were close neighbors and friends, the two families were quite independent.

Now Jerry and Mrs. Jerry had lived in the Smiling Pool a long time, so long that they felt as if they owned it. Of course they didn't own it. It was just a feeling. The other two were strangers who had lost their home up the Big River, and had come down to the Smiling Pool looking for a place to make a new home. They liked it there. They liked it so much that they decided to stay if Jerry and Mrs. Jerry would agree that they might.

"Where did you get that?" squeaked Jerry Muskrat.

Now that the house was practically finished and quite ready for winter the two young Muskrats did a little exploring. Jerry and Mrs. Jerry were quite satisfied to go no farther than was necessary to get food, and this was not far at all. Cattails and rushes grew in a marshy place at the head of the Smiling Pool. In the latter grew water-lilies. They loved these things. They were favorite foods. They ate the roots and the stems. Once in awhile they caught a Crayfish, for they liked a bit of meat of some kind as a change. But mostly they lived on vegetables; and this was so near at hand that they never bothered to go any farther than necessary.

It was different with the other two. They were young. They were eager to learn things. They wanted to know all about the surroundings along Laughing Brook, and out on the Green Meadows around the Smiling Pool. So when there was no need of working on the new house they went exploring. The time they liked best for this was just after the Black Shadows started creeping out from the Purple Hills. They felt safer then.

It happened that one evening they were gone a long time from the Smiling Pool. They were gone so long that Jerry and Mrs. Jerry missed them and wondered if something had happened to them. But at long last, they came swimming out toward the house. One of them had something in his mouth. When he climbed out on the roof with it, Jerry's eyes opened very wide. That young Muskrat had a prize. He had something that Jerry was very fond of, but had not tasted for a long, long time. It was part of an ear of corn.

"Where did you get that?" squeaked Jerry Muskrat. And Jerry really sounded excited.

"Oh, I found it," replied the young Muskrat, as he began to eat the corn. And that was all the reply that Jerry could get from him. His own mouth watered as he watched the young Musk

## Disease Threatens Tampico, Mexico

MEXICO CITY, (AP) — A disease epidemic menaced flood-stricken Tampico Thursday as the gulf port battled the ravages of the rampaging Panuco river in the wake of hurricane Hilda.

The unofficial death toll in northeast Mexico is 205, with more expected when isolated sections report.

Dysentery, which generally stalks the victims of a major flood, has broken out among Tampico's 30,000 homeless—almost a third of the 110,000 population. Two children have died and 100 more are reported critically ill.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

# Pioneer Days In P.E.I.

By F. H. MacArthur

In those days the pioneer's chief concern was how to get a bit of cleared land ready for seeding in the least possible time. Some farmers cut down all the trees on a given lot, piled them in a mighty heap and burned them all together. Others dug out the small trees and piled these beside the giants to dry out for the "day of burning."

June and July were the months usually set aside for firing the great masses of brush and logs because then the leaves and branches were quite dry and ready for the torch.

A good axeman could clear about one acre in eight or nine days. After the trees were sawed into ten-foot lengths they were rolled together and piled on top of the brush. What a wanton destruction of fuel that was! No conservation measures were in force then. The folly of the axeman is much in evidence in our day when our forests are all but depleted. A little thought of future needs might have made such a difference.

It was slow, heavy work for one pair of hands, and we are amazed how many farmers cleared every foot of their own land by this crude process. Even when the axe had done its job, it still took weeks and weeks to burn the green logs. They had to be fired time and again before they finally were reduced to ashes.

Once a patch of land was cleared the farmer ploughed among the stumps with a short-handled plough, the share and coulter being locked together. But the soil was so mellow that a mere scratching of the surface was sufficient to prepare the land for seeding. When sown, a light wooden-tooth harrow was used to cover the seeds.

Of course, potatoes were the first crop. The spuds were planted in hills about two feet apart. The children of the family covered the sets and hoed them during the summer. When they were ready to be harvested the whole family joined in the task. Everybody earned his board in pioneer days.

Yes, we owe a great debt of gratitude to our forefathers whose incessant toil made life easier fro incessant toil made life easier for

ELMWOOD W. I.

The regular monthly meeting of Elmwood Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Waldren MacPhee on September 13th. The meeting opened by singing the Institute Ode, followed by repeating the Mary Stewart Collect in unison.

Roll call was answered by ten members with a cent for the size of your shoe which amounted to 63 cents. Two new members joined at this meeting. There were seven visitors present. Minutes were read.

Sick committee reported taking a treat to one, and a bill of 48 cents was presented and paid. The school committee reported some things needed for school, books and science kit. The committees were appointed. School, Miss Rosaleen Callaghan; Program, Mrs. Joe Tierney and Miss Rosaleen Callaghan.

The correspondence was read and discussed. The cancer campaign, and the dental clinic bill were paid and receipt for same received. The school children are to collect one end of the district for the Cancer campaign, Mrs. Wilfred Campbell and Miss Hilda Gallant the other part. It was decided to get new science kit and some books for the school.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Joe Tierney, when roll call will be answered with a dollar towards new science kit. Collection was taken up and amounted to $1.45 cents. Members fees 70 cents. The program consisted of two contests, which were won by Mrs. Eugene McQuillan, Miss Rosaleen Callaghan, and Mrs. Neil Campbell. The meeting was adjourned and brought to a close by singing 'God Save the Queen" A lunch was served by the hostess.

MOHAMMED RESIGNS

KARACHI (Reuters) — Ghulam Mohammed, governor-general of Pakistan resigned Monday night because of ill health. He announced his resignation in a farewell broadcast to the nation two hours after being moved from his official residence to his daughter's house in Karachi. Friends said he is seriously ill.

MT. HERBERT W. I.

The Mount Herbert Women's Institute held their August meeting at the home of Mrs. Ralph Raynor. Minutes of last meeting were read and signed. Nine members and one former member answered roll call with a sing, say or pay penalty.

Orders were taken for cans from the J. W. Windsor Co. Ltd. It was moved by Mrs. Kenneth Jenkins and seconded by Mrs. Errol Lund that our Institute buy a spring for the school door. Mrs. Kenneth Jenkins, Mrs. Ralph Raynor and Mrs. Winston Wood were appointed to meet and work with school trustees. Mrs. Errol Lund agreed to be responsible for ordering school supplies. Mrs. Ralph Raynor and Mrs. David Mutch are to work on music committee.

Next meeting to be held at the home of Mrs. Arnold Burhoe on September 20. Roll call—article for evening auction. Meeting adjourned. Members brought eatables and a variety lunch was enjoyed by all.

VENEZUELAN PEAK

Highest mountain in Venezuela, Pico Bolivar in Merida state, reaches 16,411 feet.

# CONTRACT BRIDGE

## By Josephine Culbertson

DEBATABLE HANDS

LONG after a tournament is over, certain hands will be discussed ad infinitum by experts who participated and—even more spiritedly—by other experts who merely heard about the outstanding deals That was the case with the following hand, played in a national team-of-four event.

South, dealer
North-South vulnerable.

North: ♠9 6 5 3 ♥10 7 4 ♦A 6 5 3 2 ♣A

West: ♠10 8 7 4 ♥J 6 3 2 ♦Q 10 9 ♣7 2

East: ♠Q 2 ♥9 5 ♦K J 8 7 4 ♣8 6 5 4

South: ♠A K J ♥A K Q 8 ♦— ♣K Q J 10 9 3

This was the bidding at a table where East-West were members of a famous foursome, and North-South were virtually upstarts:

| South | West | North | East |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 ♣ | Pass | 2 ♦ | Pass |
| 3 ♣ | Pass | 4 ♣ | Pass |
| 4 NT | Pass | 5 ♥ | Pass |
| 7 ♣ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

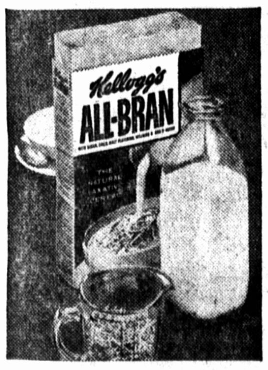
West opened the ten of diamonds—and the declarer took fully three minutes to make a play. (If he had found the *right* play, the famous opponents would have ... themselves out of the tournament then and there!)

Finally reaching a decision, South called for the ace of diamonds and discarded his own jack of spades. As he explained later, he would win out if either of two breaks came off: if the heart jack dropped in two leads, or if the heart suit broke 3-3. This combination chance, he felt, was substantially better than playing for a finesse or drop in the spade suit—and as far as that went, South was right. But he ended up in defeat.

We, of course, can see that South could have captured the queen of spades with the greatest ease, but of course South was not in our advantageous position. With full allowance for that fact, however, it is nevertheless true that South made the wrong "percentage play." The best line was to duck the opening lead in dummy and ruff in the closed hand, then to *test* the spades and hearts by cashing the A-K of both suits. If the heart jack dropped, good; or if the spade queen dropped, equally good; and if neither card fell, South could go to dummy with a trump, discard his spade jack on the diamond ace, and play for a heart break as the final chance.

OFF SCHEDULE?

*Here's news for people who suffer needlessly from constipation*




You owe it to yourself to try Kellogg's All-Bran and milk as an aid to health and regularity. All-Bran and milk is a wholesome, good-tasting dish—a safe, natural way to improve your "intestinal tone", so essential to comfortable elimination. Also an excellent source of niacin (necessary for normal body functioning). All-Bran, made from the outer layers of whole wheat grain, contains natural food bulk. Milled for maximum effectiveness, All-Bran corrects the *cause* of irregularity due to insufficient bulk. Be sure you get the one and only All-Bran, Kellogg's. Famous for nearly 40 years as the *original* natural laxative cereal. Let us prove to you that All-Bran with milk will have you back on schedule within 10 days or double your money back. Kellogg's, London, Ontario.

TIRED FEET

Soothe them with

MINARD'S LINIMENT


Our Boarding House Major Hoople

Joe Palooka

By Ham Fisher

Secret Agent X9

By Mel Graff

Tilly The Toiler

By Bob Gustafson

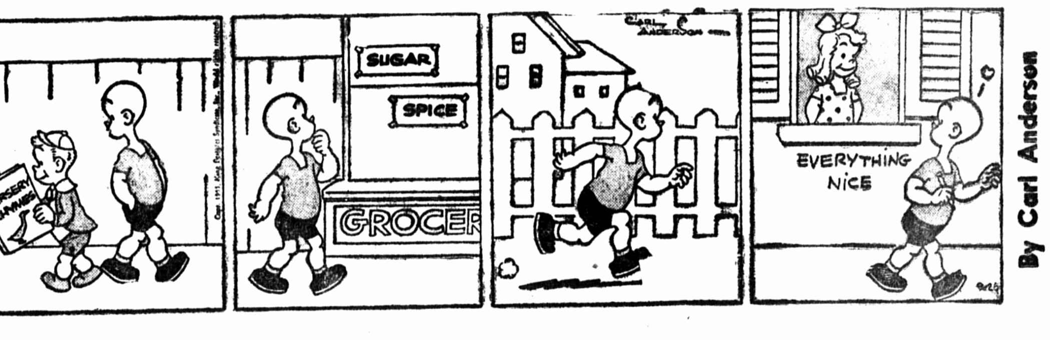
POGO

By Walt Kelly

Muggs and Skeeter

By Wally Bishop

Henry




By Carl Anderson

Etta Kent

By Paul Robinson

Grandma

By Charles Kuhn

Mickey Mouse

By Walt Disney

L'il Abner

By Al Capp

The Lone Ranger

By Fran Striker