Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

INCREDIBLE BUT TRUE

It is hard to credit that the bidding and play in the deal below actually took place, but this is a strictly factual report.

1-15 A

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

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

This hand came up in an important team-of-four contest. At one table North-South modestly stopped at three diamonds and made that contract, scoring 110 points, but at the other table South was the highly aggressive type and this was the auction:

1-15 B

North	East	South	West
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 N T	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Obviously, South felt that a little thing like a club stopper — to mention only one of many points — was inconsequential.

West opened the four of spades. Dummy won, and declarer then led the diamond ten, covering East's jack with the queen and losing to the king.

West continued spades, hoping to find his partner with the queen. South however, took the trick with that card, cashed the diamond ace, and then knocked out West's second diamond stopper.

At this point it was clear to West that nothing but heroic measures could save his side. He could count declarer for five sure diamond tricks and three spades, and he could also see that South could not conceivably have made his jump bid in notrump without the heart ace. Thus, it was hopeless for West to go on with spades, because by the time he established a trick in the suit, declarer would have at least nine tricks.

There was only one chance, and slim as it was, West acted on it. He led the club ten.

Exactly how declarer hoped to avoid the loss of three club tricks by ducking in dummy is hard to fathom, but perhaps he did not even consider the possibility that both the ace and king might lie in front of the queen. In any case, he did play low, and there-upon West cashed the top clubs, defeating the contract.

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By Thornton W. Burgess

FARMER BROWN'S BOY DOES SOME GUESSING

The little things in life you'll find,
Important things to keep in mind.
—Farmer Brown's Boy.

On his snowshoes Farmer Brown's Boy stood looking down at Mrs. Grouse over in the Green Forest. He chuckled as he watched her flop about on the crusted snow almost at his feet. She acted as if she were too badly hurt to either run or fly.

"Keep it up, old lady; you're doing a fine job," said Farmer Brown's Boy.

"Keep it up, old lady; you're doing a fine job," said Farmer Brown's Boy, and chuckled again. He wasn't being fooled in the least. He knew that Mrs. Grouse hadn't a thing in the world the matter with her. He knew she was pretending, and that she was doing it to try to lead him away from that place. He guessed why she wanted to lead him away from there.

Long ago Farmer Brown's Boy learned how to use his eyes. He learned to see and understand the little things in the Green Forest and on the Green Meadows; the things that most other folks would not notice at all. When he had come to the place where he now stood he had seen almost at once a slight hollow in the surface of the crusted snow. Then he had seen three others. He looked carefully for more, but could see none. He looked down at Mrs. Grouse, and his freckled face broke into a smile. "Don't worry," said he, "Just leave things to me, and don't worry." Then he moved about, looking closely at each slight hollow in the crust. He looked up at a certain tree.

"Unless I'm greatly mistaken," thought he, "those four Grouse made their plunge from up in that tree. These hollows in the surface is where they went into the snow before the ice formed. They went way down to the ground, but not right under where they entered. They dug their way along a little way through the snow. They would do this so that should Reddy Fox, or Old Man Coyote, or Yowler the Bobcat come along and see where they had gone into the snow and try to dig them out, they would be fooled."

He tested the strength of the crust by jumping up and down on his snowshoes. It cracked. In this way, he cracked the crust in a circle around each one of those hollow places. In some places he broke out big pieces of the crust, and tossed them to one side. It was while he was doing this that there was an explosion in his very face. Snow flew all over him, and a pair of stout wings actually brushed against him. One of those trapped young Grouse whirred up into the nearest tree.

Farmer Brown's Boy wiped the snow and ice from his face. He was grinning broadly. He looked over at Mrs. Grouse. She had stopped tumbling about. Now, with a sudden whirr, she flew up to join the young Grouse. She knew now that she had nothing to fear from Farmer Brown's Boy. He was still the same understanding friend he had been in the past.

Another Grouse was released in the same way, but it didn't happen at the other two hollow places. Farmer Brown's Boy went off and sat down on an old log from which he could watch.

Former President Of N.S. Tech Dies

WOLFVILLE, N. S., (CP) —Dr. Frederick Henry Sexton, 75, president of the Nova Scotia Technical College at Halifax from 1907-47 and a past district governor of Rotary International died at his home here Wednesday. He had been ill for two months.

Born in New Boston, N. H., he was a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and worked for the General Electric Company at Schenectady, N. Y., as an adviser in engineering and research in metals before becoming the first president of Nova Scotia Tech in 1907.

Survivors include his widow the former Annie Grant of Wolfville, and one son, Whitney, of Dallas, Tex.

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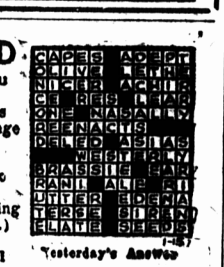
DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

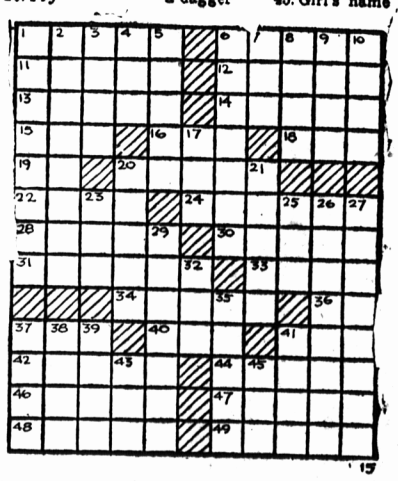
1. Boxes
6. A fact
11. Greek letter
12. Lariat
13. Citrus fruit
14. Musical instrument
15. Metallic rock
16. One and one
18. Timid
19. Nickel (sym.)
20. Extents of canvas (naut.)
22. Sacred picture (Russ. Ch.)
24. Plagues
28. Priest at Jerusalem during David's reign (Bib.)
30. Flock
31. Furnishes a permanent fund
33. Single detail
34. Buckets
36. Neon (sym.)
37. Feminine pronoun
40. Resort
41. It is (contracted)
42. Foot bones (anat.)
44. Deserve
46. Foreign
47. Shun
48. Removed bones
49. More rational

DOWN

1. Settle
2. Of the United States of America
3. Sown (Her.)
4. Self
5. Short for "Santa Claus"
6. Driveled
7. Breeze
8. Labels
9. Salt Lake City is its capital
10. Numerous
17. Humor
20. Pry
21. Hindu garments
23. Strange
25. Habitual drunkard
26. Evening (poet.)
27. A school term
29. Friend of Hiawatha
32. A slight taste
35. Cripples
37. Pierce with a dagger
38. Circle of light
39. The Emerald Isle
41. Persia
43. Observe
45. Girl's name



Yesterday's Answer



DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

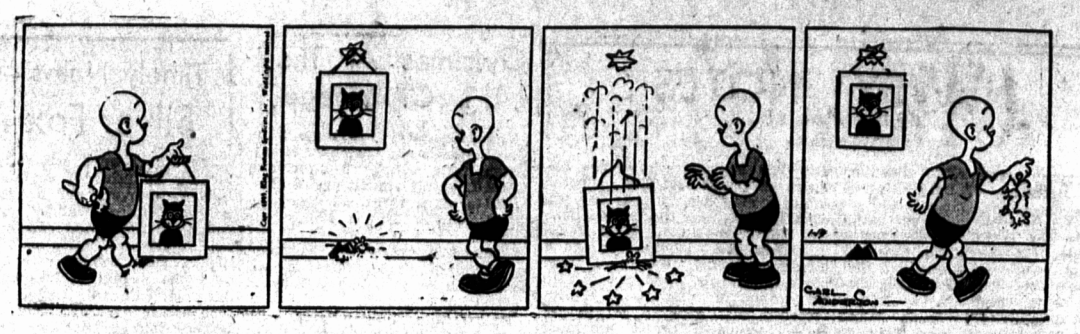
One letter simply stands for another. In this example A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophies, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

A Cryptogram Quotation

Q W Z - V U C S U J O R Q I A , Q W K Q B V R A I
Q W I I Z I R G J K Z — F U V Q R O .

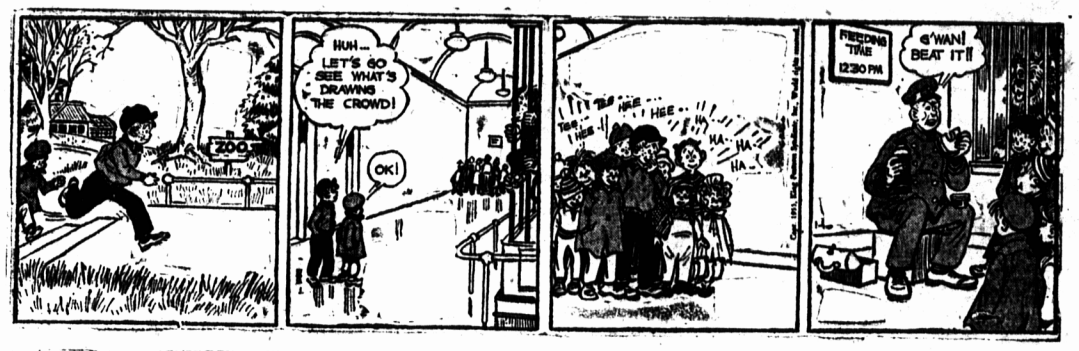
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: AND SPRING WOULD BE BUT GLOOMY WEATHER, IF WE HAD NOTHING ELSE BUT SPRING — MOORE.

Henry — By Carl Anderson



Grandma — By Charles Kuhn

Muggs and Skeeter — By Wally Bishop



Etta Kett — By Paul Robinson

Tilly The Toiler — By Bob Gustafson

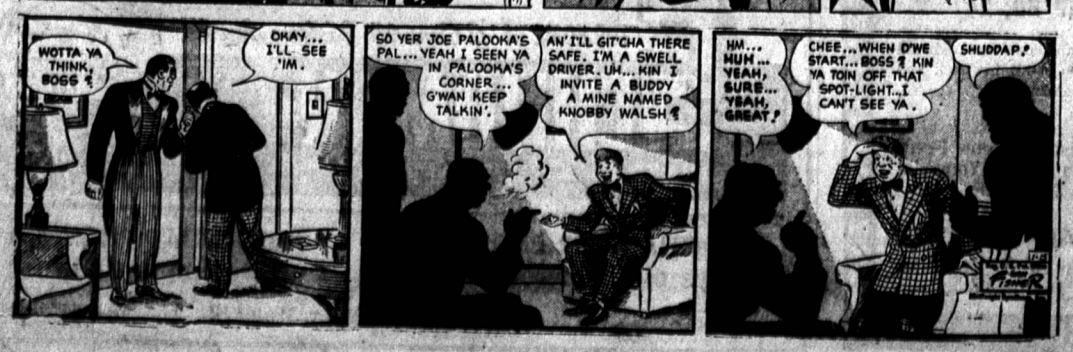
Mickey Mouse — By Walt Disney

Bringing Up Father — By George McManus

The Lone Ranger — By Fran Striker

Secret Agent X9 — By Mel Graff

Joe Palooka — By Ham Fisher



Li'l Abner — By Al Capp