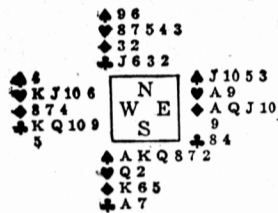


Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

The declarer's play in the following deal was too transparent to be called a stratagem — but it was still good enough to delude West!

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable.



The bidding: West North East South. Pass Pass 1♦ 2♦. Redbl. 1♥ 2♥. 3♣ Pass 3♦. Pass Pass Dbie. Pass Pass Pass.

West opened his top card in his partner's diamond suit, and East, after winning with the ace, shifted to his top club. South put up the ace and then made a very peculiar play from dummy on the club Jack! He then led the club seven, and West, who apparently had never heard about "looking left" horses in the mouth, did exactly as South had hoped. With the menacing club Jack gone from dummy, West saw no reason why he shouldn't take the present trick cheaply and continue to lead the suit.

Declarer ruffed West's following lead of clubs and exited with the heart queen. West in with the king and doggedly returned still another high club. Again South ruffed — and now he was in the position at which he had been aiming. He cashed his diamond king, ruffed his last diamond in dummy, and returned the nine of trumps.

East realized that his double had marked him with the trumps and that South would probably let the nine ride, so East covered with the

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

HOOTY HAS A BAD TIME

There are some things we ought to know. But have to learn through pain and woe.

Hooty the Owl was having a bad time. He was having a very bad time. He had a very sore foot. Now a sore foot is bad for anyone, but it is especially bad for one like Hooty who must use his feet to perch his food. You see, Hooty has to strike and clutch with both feet the one he hunts.

It was still winter, the tail end of winter, and winter always is the hard time for most of the Green Forest and Green Meadow folk, especially the meat eaters who have to hunt and catch their food. Some of those hunters in fur and feathers are hungry much of the time. He just wasn't getting enough food. Time and again he had opportunity to catch a dinner and missed it because of that sore foot. Trying with one foot to catch a Squirrel or a Rabbit was just about useless. When he had the chance he could catch a Mouse, or any other equally small person. One foot was sufficient then. But he didn't have a chance often enough to ever really fill his stomach.

ten, but in vain. South won and simply made another exit play with his last heart. When East won the trick he had to return a trump from the J-5-3, and declarer took the marked finesse with his own eight-spot. Three spades doubled bid and made.

Declarer's "unblocking play" of the club Jack, making it easy for West to continue clubs, was all the warning West should have needed, not to continue!



It had grown more and more sore day by day.

It just now, when at best food was scarce. Then, too, there would soon be babies in the big nest where Mrs. Hooty had been sitting on eggs for more than two weeks. If he couldn't help her, however, would she be able to catch food enough for growing children and herself? She couldn't. If he couldn't catch enough for himself he certainly couldn't catch enough to help Mrs. Hooty.

Now some of Hooty's neighbors had discovered that there was something wrong with him. I'm sorry to say that few, if any, were really sorry for him. This was because at one time or another he

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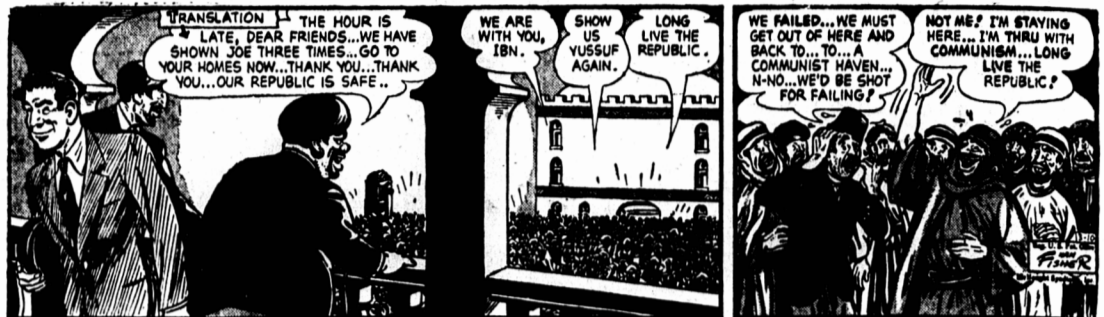
KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

By Z. C. Coy



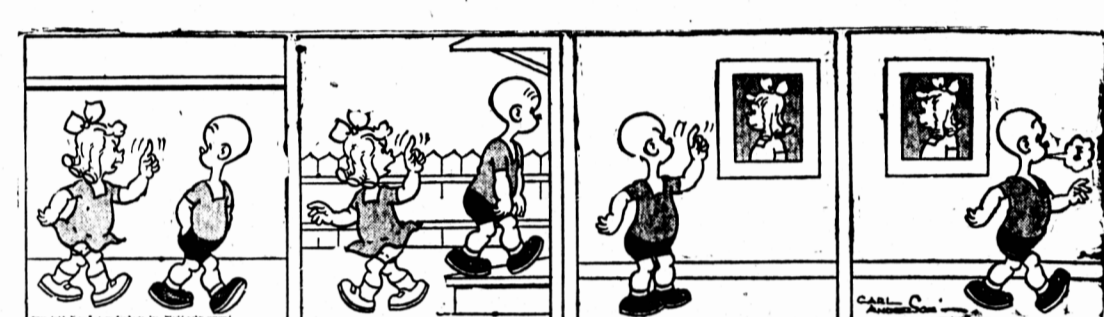
By Ham Fisher

JOE PALOOKA



By Carl Anderson

HENRY



By Ruford

DOTTY DIPPLE



By Edwina

TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS



By George McManus

BRINGING UP FATHER



TILLY THE TOILER



By Harry Hoenigsen

PENNY



SQUEEKIE!



POPULARITY - AS WELL AS PROMOTION



By Walt Kelly

POGO



By Clifford McBride

Napoleon and Uncle Elby



By Al Capp

IL ABNER



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KIP KIRBY

