

BEDTIME STORIES

An Old Friend

By Thornton W. Burgess

All friends are good, but those are best whose loyalty the years attest.

Peter Rabbit and Longbill the Woodcock had been friends for a long time. Every spring Peter visits the little swamp through which Laughing Brook runs into the Smiling Pool on its way to the Big River. Like Welcome-Robin and Winsome Bluebird, Longbill is one of the early arrivals, coming up from the Sunny South just as soon as he can be sure of finding enough to eat.

Peter had come over to the little swamp looking for signs of spring. He had found the skunk cabbage. That was a sure sign that Mistress Spring would soon be there. Then he had found several small holes in the soft ground, holes no bigger than a pencil and going straight down into the ground. He had known at once that these had been made by his old friend Longbill, or by Mrs. Longbill. Of course it meant they had arrived and he started out looking for them. He couldn't find them. Then a voice advised him to watch his step and he stopped short. Still, he couldn't see Longbill anywhere. All the time Longbill was squatting down in the brown leaves right at Peter's feet. His brown coat was so like the leaves that Peter didn't see him until at long last he discovered Longbill's eyes. Longbill lifted his head and said "Hello, Peter Rabbit."

"That was a mean trick to play on an old friend," protested Peter. Longbill pretended that he didn't know what Peter meant. "What trick?" he asked. "Hiding from me when you knew I was looking for you," declared Peter.

"Do you call it hiding when I was squatting right out in the open? I wasn't under anything or behind anything. Anyway, how was I to know you were looking for me?" said Longbill. "You make me think of my cousin, Jumper the Hare," said Peter. Longbill looked puzzled. "How in the world do I make you think of



Peter shook his head. "Wonderful," said he.

your cousin, Jumper the Hare?" he demanded.

"The way in which you can hide without hiding. Cousin Jumper, does the same thing when the ground is covered with snow. His coat is all white and when he squats down on the snow you can't look right at him and not see him. It is the same way with you. I looked right at you and didn't see you," said Peter.

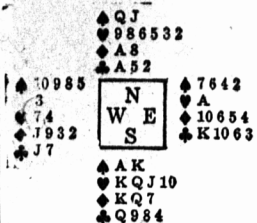
It was quite true. There is a big word that is used when a person or a thing looks so like its surroundings that it is difficult to tell them apart. That big word is camouflage. Old Mother Nature has camouflaged Longbill the Woodcock perfectly and Longbill knows how to make the best use of it.

"Is Mrs. Longbill with you?" asked Peter. "Of course. I'm with him," said Mr. Longbill and lifted her head.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

By Josephine Culbertson

HE MISSED HIS CHANCE In view of North's original pass in the following deal, South should be extremely optimistic to hope for a slam, but as it happened, North supplied exactly the right material and so the highly speculative contract should have been made.



The bidding: North Pass, East Pass, South Pass, West Pass.

One of the overly optimistic features of South's bidding was even when he learned that North had two aces, there was certainly no assurance that one of those aces was in clubs, as it had to be if the opponents were not to win the first two tricks. And aside from that, the missing cards had to lie in an extremely favorable way for South.

She was so near Longbill that she had heard all that was said.

Peter shook his head. "Wonderful!" said he, "Just perfectly wonderful!" "What is wonderful?" asked Longbill. "Being able to hide right out in plain sight, I wish I could," said Peter.

DAILY CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

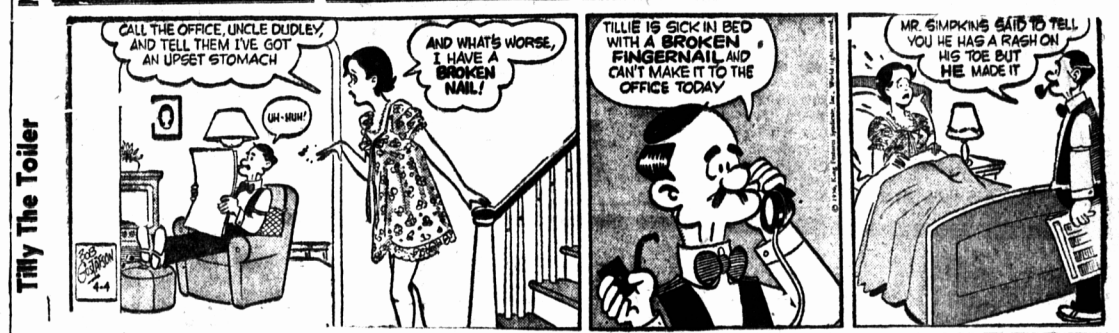
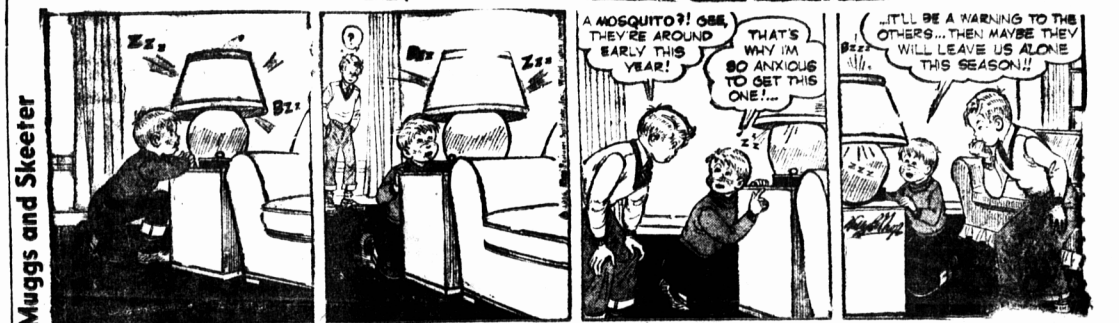
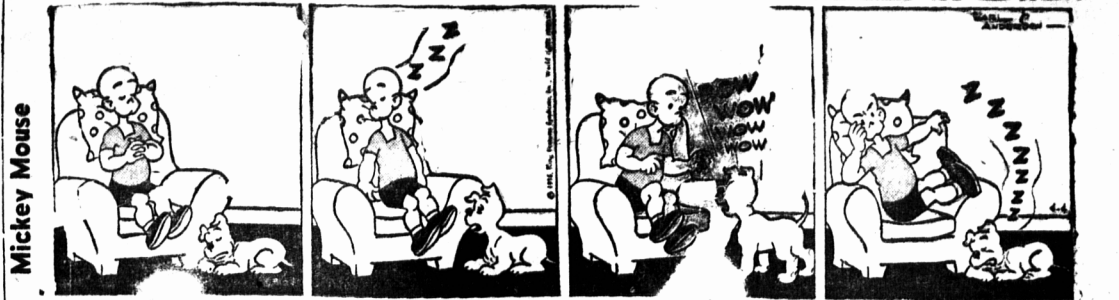
DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE - Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW. Includes a cryptogram quotation.

combined tenace in the North-South hands. That, of course, is what should have happened. Dummy would discard one club on the third diamond, and a heart play then would force East on lead. If he returned a club, declarer could win with the queen; if East returned a spade of a diamond, declarer could ruff, while discarding dummy's last club loser.

Clamp Curfew On Canadian Camps

ISERLOHN, Germany (AP)—Canadian Army authorities Monday ordered a curfew for their military camps in this area after a clash on Good Friday between Canadians and Germans at an inn here.

Police said a German worker was seriously injured by fist-fighting chair-swinging Canadians in a brawl that broke out over the inn-keepers refusal to pour more drinks for the soldiers. The headquarters of the 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade here said it regretted the incident. It said 14 soldiers are under detention.



STOP ODORS advertisement for Wizard Wick Deodorizer.

IS YOUR CHILD Constipated? advertisement for Ex-Lax.

THROAT SORE? advertisement for Minard's Liniment.

TELEVISION CKCW - Moncton advertisement listing programs and times.

Believe It or Not! advertisement for Susan B. Anthony perfume.

Our Boarding House Major Hoople advertisement featuring a cartoon.

Bringing Up Father cartoon strip.

My Budget advertisement showing a list of expenses.

Out Our Way Major Hoople advertisement featuring a cartoon.

Secret Agent X9 cartoon strip.

Not Enough to Feed a Flea? advertisement for flea treatment.

Grandma comic strip.

Mickey Mouse comic strip.

Henry comic strip.

Muggs and Skeeter comic strip.

Tilly the Toiler comic strip.

Erta Kett comic strip.

Joe Palooka comic strip.

The Lone Ranger comic strip.

Secret Agent X9 comic strip.