By Thornton W. Burgess

WELCOME ROBIN HAS A BAD NIGHT

The Giver of all gifts can give,
No greater gift than will to live.
—Old Mother Nature.

Among the furred and feathered folk of the Green Forest and the Green Meadows it is the will to live that keeps them alive. These are times in the lives of all of them, big and little, when it takes courage to even try to live. Bold deeds require no courage if the doer has no fear. It is the one who is afraid, yet does a bold deed, who has real courage.

Welcome Robin had been spending the winter in a small grove of cedar trees. In among those trees he had been so sheltered that at no time had he really suffered from the cold. There had been a big crop of berries on the cedar trees, so he had had plenty to eat. Being a bird of the trees he had had nothing to fear from hungry four-footed hunters. Most of the Hawk folk had gone south for the winter, so Welcome Robin had had very little to fear.

All the first half of the winter there had been no visitors whom Welcome Robin had reason to fear. Whenever there were any visitors he had remained hidden under the snow-covered boughs. He didn't want anyone to know he was living there. Then came a day when winter was more than half over that Welcome Robin just had to sing.

Now Welcome Robin's song is not the sweetest of all birds songs. There are other far better singers among the feathered folk, But there are no bird notes that folks are more glad to hear than the cheery songs of Welcome Robin. This day he had felt so good that several times he had flown up to the top of a tree and sent his cheery notes ringing through the Green Forest.

It was a mistake. Not too far away a pair of wonderfully keen ears heard that "cheer up, cheer up, cheer!" They were the ears

"That is Welcome Robin," thought Hooty.

of Hooty the Owl, who was also spending the winter in the Green Forest. Now, Hooty had not been having an easy time getting enough to eat. He seldom does have an easy time in the winter. When he heard those cheery notes he did cheer up. He could tell just where they were coming from. "That is Welcome Robin," thought Hooty. "There is no mistaking his voice. It must be that he has come up early from the land of Always Summer. I'll just have a look around over there tonight."

When he went to bed that night Welcome Robin was on his favorite perch. It was close to the trunk of a tree. He was tucked in under another big bough. He couldn't easily be seen there by even the best of eyes in the daytime. He had been sleeping there all winter, and seldom had he been disturbed at night. Hooty the Owl had never visited those cedar trees. Welcome Robin had almost forgotten that there was such a person as Hooty the Owl.

This night he settled himself as usual on his perch in the dusk of early evening, tucked his head under his wing, and went to sleep. He was awakened by a startling sound. It made him pull his head out from under his wing, but otherwise he didn't move. He held his breath as he waited for that sound to be repeated. In a moment it was. It was sudden and startling, and it came from just above his head. It was the hunting hoot of Hooty the Owl. It was so sudden, so frightening, that the wonder was Welcome Robin didn't fall of his perch. He didn't. He didn't even more. He knew that if he did he might make some tiny sound the wonderful ears of Hooty would hear; then his wonderful eyes, knowing just where to look, would find him. It took courage to sit perfectly still, but he had to do it to live.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

WOULD YOU FIND THE RIGHT DEFENSE?

South used an excellent line of play in the following hand—but it could have been nipped in the bud.

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

North
♠ Q 4 3
♥ K 7 5
♦ 6 2
♣ Q 10 4 3 2

West
♠ K J 6 5
♥ Q J 9
♦ J 9 8 4
♣ 7 5

East
♠ 10 8 7
♥ A 10 8 6 4 2
♦ 10 5 3
♣ 8

South
♠ A 9 2
♥ 3
♦ A K Q 7
♣ A K J 9 6

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 ♣	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

West considered opening a spade but decided that there was less danger and equal attacking value in the queen of hearts. Dummy played low and East played the encouraging eight. West then led the heart jack. Dummy ducked again and South ruffed with the club king.

Now declarer led a trump to the ten, ruffed the heart king and carefully cashed the ace of spades (Vienna Coup). His next move was to cash his own ace of trumps; then he overtook the club jack with the queen and played dummy's two remaining trumps, discarding his deuce and nine of spades.

The lead of dummy's last trump put West to rout. Obviously obliged to hold the spade king against dummy's queen, he had to give up a diamond, and South took the last four, fulfilling tricks in diamonds.

It is interesting to note that if West had analyzed the situation very shrewdly, with particular reference to South's bidding and the precise trumps in dummy, he might have forestalled South's plan of play. It was highly improbable that South (an expert) had bid the slam with two worthless hearts in his hand; thus, the heart continuation was almost certain to be futile. If West had shifted to trumps (or even diamonds) after the first lead, South would not have been able to make the contract—he would have lacked "transportation" from hand to hand.

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HISTORIC SPORTS

Skating, ice-fishing and a type of hockey were all popular in Holland 300 years ago.

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

The Bank of London recently was called on to do a new kind of jig-saw puzzle — piecing together 80 pounds sterling for Mrs. Gladys Lloyd, of Bristol. She hid the money in her washing machine and forgot about it until she'd finished the family wash. When she opened the machine she found the currency a chewed up mass of pulp.

The right to think and speak as you please is unknown in Russia. The same thing could happen in our own country if we failed to put in office the right kind of men. True liberty can be held and enjoyed only as we use them carefully and do not abuse them.

The cranberry is a native to Cape Cod. The early Indians relied on the succulent berries for food and medicine. Cranberries traditionally are linked to Thanksgiving and Christmas, but now are being used every day as cocktail, jams, salads, relishes, pies, cakes and ice cream.

"There are two classes of people working for the government —civil servants, who get such things as sick leaves, vacations, holidays and pensions — and taxpayers, who don't."

An 80-pound chunk of ice tumbled from the sky directly above the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Burghill, of Bristol, England. The unheralded package fell from a plane and crashed through the roof. No one was hurt.

One way to take your mind off your trouble for awhile is to go fishing and become the center of attraction for unlimited insects.

For the entertainment of my young readers I have made up a list of two-syllable Island villages; put them together in their right order and you will have solved the riddle. For example, the words corn and wall taken together would give Cornwall, a village in Queens County. Draw a line from each word in the first column to a word in the second column to complete the place name.

1, Spring	Dale
2. Elms	Park
3. New	Zealand
4. Clyde	Cove
5. New	River
6. Wolfe's	Bank
7. Hunter	Valley
8. Lorne	Perth
9. Meadow	River
10. Free	Town
11. Little	Sands
12. Spring	Park

GLEN VALLEY SCHOOL

Mid term report of Glen Valley School: Grade X — 1. Robert Hickox, 2. Franklin Hickox, 3. Irene MacDowell; Grade VIII —1. Reggie Nicholson, 2. Donald Hickox, 3. Freeman MacLennan; Grade VII— 1. Anna MacDonald; Grade VI — 1. Kirk Hickox, 2. Ruth MacLennan; Grade V (Sr.) — 1. June Nicholson, 2. Edna Martin, 3. Roy MacLennan; Grade V (Jr)—1. Roger Hickox; Grade III — 1. Eleanor Gillis; Grade II (Sr.)—1. Herman Duinkerken; Grade II (Jr.) — 1. Erdeen Martin, 2. Louise Hickox; Grade I (Sr.) — 1. Robert MacLennan; Grade I (Jr.)— Barbara MacLennan and Henkie Duinkerken, no tests.

The highest average in the Senior grades, Robert Hickox; the highest average in the Junior grades, Erdeen Martin; perfect attendance, Irene MacDowell.

GOWAN BRAE SCHOOL

..*Mid Term honour roll for Gowan Brae School: — Grade IX — Absent for tests; Grade VII— 1. Norbert MacDonald, 2. Leo MacDonald; Grade VI — 1. Doreen MacCormack, 2. Howard MacGillivary; Grade V — Absent for tests; Grade IV — 1. Florence Peters, 2. Jean Mallard, 3. David Mullally; Grade III — 1. Mary Longaphie, 2. Gladys Howlett; Grade II — 1. Sterling MacGillivary, 2. Eugene MacDonald; Grade I (a) — 1. Lloyd Mallard; Grade (b) — 1. Maureen MacDonald.

Highest average in the Senior Grades — Norbert MacDonald, 78 per cent; highest average in the Junior Grades — Mary Longaphie; perfect attendance for the month, Howard MacGillivary.

NORTH RIVER SCHOOL

Mid-term exams at North River School results as follows: Grade IX—1. Zelda MacDonald; Grade VII — 1. Willard MacPhail, 2. Wilma MacPhail; Grade VI — 1. Lois MacEwen; Grade V — 1. Lois MacKinley, 2. Donald MacEwen, 3. Billy MacDonald; Grade IV — 1. Linda Dockendorff, 2. Peggy MacDonald; Grade III —1. Mary MacDonald, 2. Patsy MacEwen, 3. Robert Sanderson, 4. Jimmie Robertson; Grade II—1. Ronald MacKinley, 2. Barbara Robertson; Grade I — 1. Irene MacKinley, 2. Bobby MacDonald, 3. Harvey MacEwen, 4. Doreen Robertson.

Perfect attendance for January: Lois MacEwen, Donald MacEwen, Patsy MacEwen, Robert Sanderson, Harvey MacEwen; Highest average in the Junior Grades — Irene MacKinley 91.3 per cent; Highest average in the Senior Grades — Lois MacKinley 94.9 per cent.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL

January Report

Grade X — 1. Carl Sharpe, 2. Lois MacDowell; Grade IX—1, Roma Murray, 2. Fenton McSwain; Grade VIII — 1. Gardiner McKinnon; Grade VI — 1. Carol Ann Gill, 2. Eleanor McKinnon, 3. Irene Stevenson; Grade V — 1. Everett McLellan, 2. Gordon McInnis, 3. Susan Salome.

Grade IV — 1. Joan Smith, 2. Charles Weeks; Grade III — 1. Nadine Weeks, 2. David MacDowell, 3. Juanita Weeks and Charles Milligan; Grade II (a)— 1. Karin Salome. Grade (b)— 1. Karen Weeks, 2. Leonard Weeks, 3. Alden Smith; Grade I — 1. Randolph Stevenson, 2. Barbara Wigmore.

Perfect attendance: Gardiner McKinnon, Susan Salome, Gordon McInnis, Nadine Weeks, Juanita Weeks, Karen Weeks.

Mrs. Lillian Hagan, Teacher.

SEA VIEW SCHOOL

January report of Sea View School: Grade X—1. Joan Duggan, 2. Lois Murphy, 3. Donald Adams; Grade IX — 1. Walter Stewart; Grade VII — 1. Helen Murphy, 2. Fannie Adams; Grade VI — 1. Vivian Duggan, 2. Doreen Adams; Grade V — 1. Sylvia Murphy, 2. Winnifred Brander, 3. Jean Brander; Grade I — 1. Winston Cousins, 2. Buddy Clark; Grade III — 1. Georgia Murphy, 2. William Cousins; Grade II — 1. Judith Woodside, 2. Boyd Donald, 3. Lloyd Murphy; Grade I — 1. Earle Adams, 2. Buddy Brander, 3. Elizabeth Cousins.

Perfect attendance: Lois Murphy, Vivian Duggan, Winnifred Brander, Winston Cousins, William Cousins, Judith Woodside, Boyd Donald, Buddy Brander, Elizabeth Cousins.

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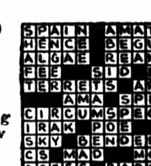
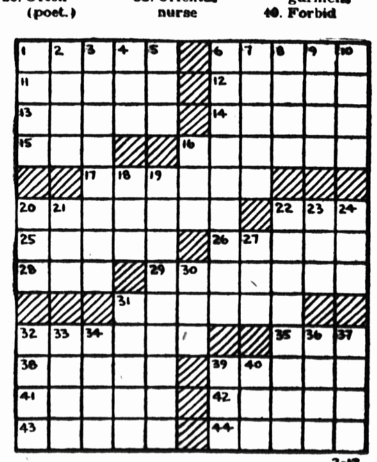
DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1. Agreements
6. Norwegian playwright
11. Pale
12. Ancient Arabian measure
13. Less pleasant
14. Composure
15. Sailor (slang)
16. Made, as tatting
17. Girl's name
20. Devices for opening things
22. Station (abbr.)
25. Crosses a river by wading
26. Particles
28. It is (contracted)
29. Famous Russian ballet dancer
31. City (Ohio)
32. Capital (Cuba)
35. Equal
38. Faultily
39. Stay
41. Squander
42. Trite
43. Light, open carriages (colloq.)
44. Irate

DOWN
1. Elapsed time
2. On the ocean
3. Grants by sovereign powers
4. Evening sun god
5. Upward curving of a ship's planking
6. Apathetic
7. Animal and plant life of a region
8. Cut
9. Otherwise
10. Require
16. Thrice (mus.)
18. Conclude
19. Answers
20. Often (poet.)
21. Hawaiian food
22. Bending
23. Hebrew letter
24. Man's name
27. Ancient
30. A wing
31. Savory
32. Fruits of the Old World hawthorne
33. Oriental nurse
34. Endorsement made on a passport
36. Jewish month
37. Trust
39. Arabian garment
40. Forbid



Yesterday's Answer

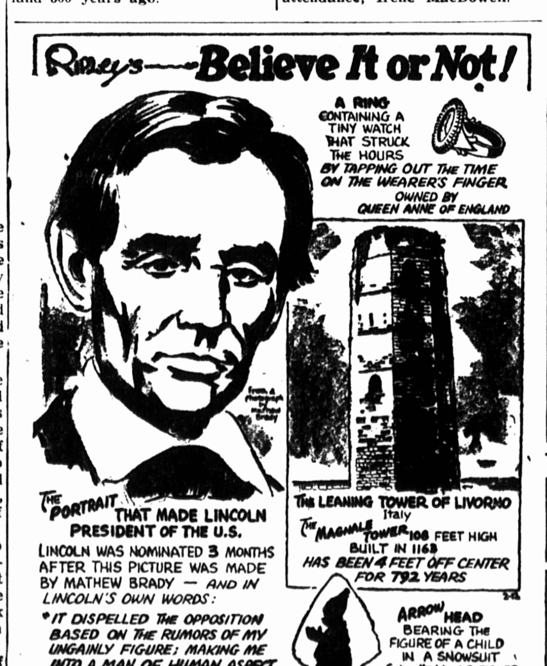
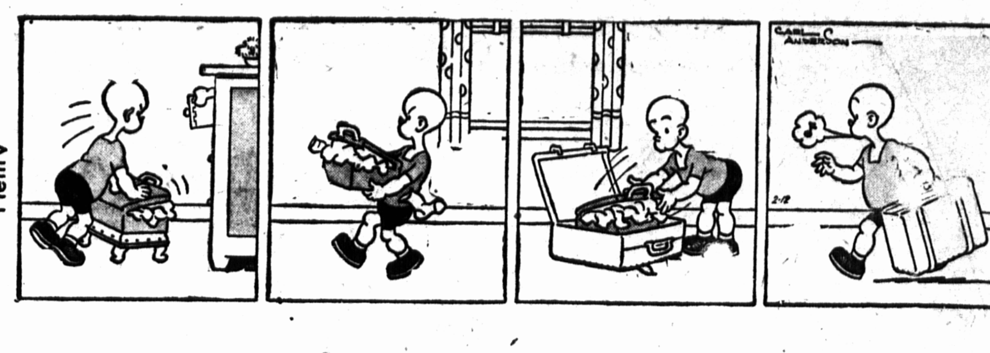
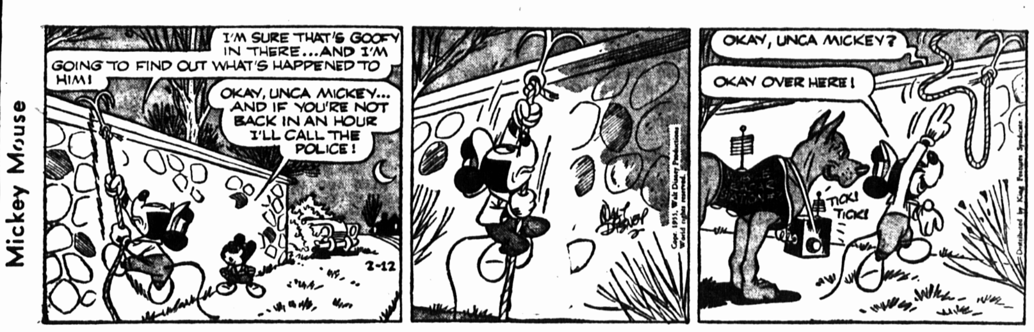


DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:

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

O W G F U J F G A U I K W U Z R X U I K N G C J F V N W K — Y R P V U Z.

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: GIVE ME THE AVOWED, THE ERECT, THE MANLY FOE; BOLD I CAN MEET—PERHAPS MAY TURN HIS BLOW—CANNING.