

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

HIGH-LEVEL DEFENSE

The intensive reasoning that goes into an expert's defensive play is well exemplified in the following hand. The original analysis of the hand was by the British authority, Terence Reese, in The Bridge World magazine.

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

Bridge hand table with suits and cards: ♠ Q 9 7 2, ♥ J 8 6, ♦ 7 5 3, ♣ Q 10 4, ♠ A 10 5 3, ♥ A 10 4 2, ♦ J 10, ♣ 7 6 3, ♠ K 8, ♥ Q 9 5, ♦ A K 9, ♣ K J 9 5 4

The bidding was brief: one no-trump by South-pass, pass pass. West opened the four of diamonds. South won — he didn't want to permit a shift to hearts — and naturally led a club to the board. West held up his ace but had to win the club continuation. The fate of the contract now hung on West's next play — and West was in a peculiar position. He knew, almost positively, that East had the diamond jack, because if

ATTENTION CREAM PATRONS

Receiving cream on Thursday, Dec. 24th; also Thursday, Dec. 31st. Creamery will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day.

NEW GLASGOW DAIRYING COMPANY Elaine Bulman, Secretary.

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

A RESERVED SEAT

By watching, learn what others do. Perchance 'twill prove of use to you. —Reddy Fox.

Gray Fox had just played a mean trick on his young cousin, Young Too-Smart, who was the son of Reddy Fox. Cousin Gray had stolen a hen from the barnyard of a farm and had been clever enough to make it seem that his young cousin was to blame. The dog who lived at the farm had

South had held that card he would have used it to win the first trick. By the same token West knew that East did not have the diamond nine; he would have played it instead of the ten. Thus the diamond situation all around was quite apparent that by leading another low card in the suit, West would not jeopardize his own queen. At the same time, however, the expert West realized that it would be good to continue the suit, because South would certainly allow East to hold the trick with his jack, and East would then be unable to return the suit and knock out the king.

There was only one chance, and that was to put East on lead so that the diamond jack could be played through South. So West risked the underlead of his heart king — with excellent result! East won and returned the diamond jack, and now it did not matter what South did. If he won the trick, West would later get in with a heart and run the rest of his diamonds; if South ducked East's jack, West could safely overtake with the queen and lead a third round, knocking out South's king.

found cousin Gray's trail. The latter had run where he had thought he might find Young Too-Smart. The latter, hearing the baying of the dog on the trail of Cousin Gray, had started to run. Cousin Gray had followed in his footsteps. Then, when the chance came, he had leaped up among the low-growing branches of a hemlock tree. The dog, following the scent with his nose, had kept right on after Young Too-Smart.

Cousin Gray climbed high up in the tree. He climbed high enough to look out over the surrounding country. It was a sort of reserved seat. He hadn't a thing in the world to worry about. If the dog's master should come with a dreadful gun, he never in the world would think of looking up in a tree for a fox.

"I hope that dog will drive that young cousin of mine right out of this neighborhood," thought Gray Fox.

For a while it looked as if this was just what was happening. The chase was so far away that the deep voice of that baying dog could hardly be heard. Gray Fox grinned happily. He was sure that the young fox would keep right on going if the dog didn't catch him. Presently that voice grew louder and it continued to grow louder. "I do believe that silly young fox is coming back this way," thought Cousin Gray, and he was no longer grinning.

Presently he saw a spot of red moving across a distant field and knew that it must be his young cousin. Then, just after the latter disappeared in some brush, the dog appeared. He kept putting his nose to the ground and baying joyously. He was enjoying the chase. There was no doubt about that. Any one listening to him would have known it. Sometimes the chase led into the



He climbed high enough to look over the surrounding country.

woods; again, it was right on in the open where Cousin Gray could see the dog. He was still hopeful that his young cousin with the red coat had chased out of the neighborhood and never come back. Presently he saw the young fox cross a field to a stone wall, run along the stone wall almost to the end of it, then jump off on the other side, and start to run.

"That's an old trick, and it won't work with that dog, he knows it too well, thought Cousin Gray.

Just then the young fox stopped, turned back, leaped up on the stone wall, ran back past the point where he had jumped up on it in the first place, and leaped off on the same side from which he had first approached it. He leaped off behind some bushes and there he sat down where he could peep through the brush and watch the dog. The dog reached the stone wall and lost the trail there. He ran along beside the old wall to the end. Then climbed over and came back on the other side. Of course, he found the trail where the young fox had first jumped. He bayed joyously, but only for a moment or two. The trail had ended.

NOVEL WEATHER BUREAU

DOVER, England, (CP) — Edward Branson has set up a miniature weather bureau complete with forecasts and charts to help members of tug crews and channel fishermen who frequent his pub in this Kent town.

Rudolph—and the Blue Nosed Reindeer

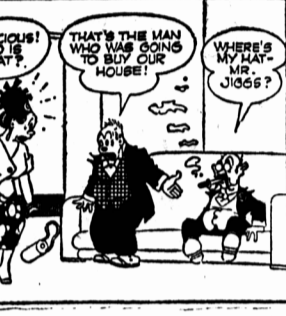


Tilly The Toiler



By Bob Gustafson

Bringing Up Father



By George McManus

Pogo



By Walt Kelly

Napoleon and Uncle Elby



By Clifford McBride

Tippy and "Cap" Stubbs



By Edwin

Henry



By Carl Anderson

PENNY



By Harry Haenigsen

Dotty Dripple



By Buford

Li'l Abner



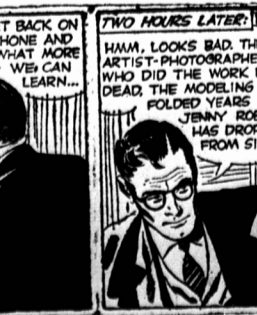
By Al Capp

Joe Palooka



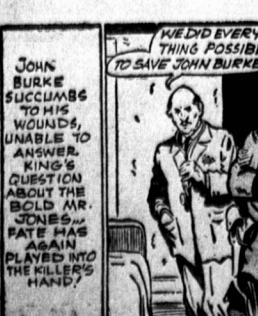
By Ham Fisher

Rip Kirby



By Alex Raymond

King of The Royal Mounted



By Zane Grey