

By Al Cap...

### Contract Bridge

By Josephine Cluvertson

#### COUNTING OUT THE HAND

It is difficult enough for the declarer to time the play precisely under varying conditions, but it is more difficult for the defenders to do the same.

Above everything else, the defenders must make the keenest effort to visualize, from the bidding, the exact distribution of declarer's hand — which is a matter quite apart from "placing" the missing honors.

Observe how this distribution-counting process works out:

West dealer  
North-South vulnerable.

♠ K J 10 9 3  
♥ 10 6 5 3 2  
♦ 3  
♣ J 7

♠ A Q 6 2  
♥ K Q 9 4  
♦ 7  
♣ A K 8 3

♠ 7 8  
♥ A K Q J 8 5 2  
♦ 8 6 4

This deal came up in a team-of-four contest conducted on a "board-a-match" basis, and this was the auction at one of the tables:

12-3 B

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♠	3♦
Pass	Pass	Dbie.	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West, hoping for a ruff, led the ace and seven of hearts.

East, in with the heart queen, then did some thinking. Of course South was sure to be set on almost any defense, but if East-West didn't collect the maximum penalty, they might easily lose the board.

Let's see what could have happened.

Suppose, for example, that East shifted to trumps, to prevent South from ruffing a club in dummy. This would let South collect his seven trump tricks. Or suppose that East continued with another high heart. South could simply discard his

## BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

### MOUSEVILLE REJOICES

What brings to some relief untold, In woe may other folk enfold.

—Old Mother Nature, certain form of relief to Mouseville, that place on the Green Meadows where many Meadow Mice lived. Until then they had lived in constant fear. Always as they ran about in their little paths cut through the grass, they had to watch for danger. Night and day hungry folk were watching Mouseville in the hope of getting a dinner there. A Mouse couldn't afford to be careless, or heedless, or forgetful. Few people can afford to be, but many are.



But when the snow fell, all was changed. The few older folk for whom this was the second winter knew what it meant when the first snowflakes came floating down. Right away they felt better. To the younger folk, who never had seen snow, it had no special meaning when it first began to fall. They couldn't understand why the older ones seemed to have such a feeling of relief and happiness. Later, when the snow had buried Mouseville until only the tallest weeds stood above it, they began to understand. And when at long last all their little paths had been dug open and made into tunnels, and they could run about without any danger whatever, they understood why their elders had seemed so happy when the first snowflakes fell.

spade, with the same result.

The full measure of defensive success was gained by East's laying down the spade ace at the third trick! When he then played the heart king, South was helpless. If he ruffed low, West would over-ruff and return a trump, and South would still have to lose three clubs; if South ruffed the third heart high, West would eventually get his trump trick. Thus, South was held to six of his seven "solid" trumps.

folk. Of course there were some, like Johnny Chuck, and Nimbleheels the Jumping Mouse, who didn't care a twitch of their tails whether there was snow or not. They were underground, fast asleep. But there were others, like Reddy Fox and Mrs. Reddy, to whom the snow brought hunger, because of the poor hunting that resulted from it. And when the snow was covered with ice life was harder still. Hunting had been hard enough when they could get about in the snow, but now they couldn't get about at all. Anyway, some of the bigger ones couldn't. The ice crust wasn't quite hard enough for them to walk on it without danger of breaking through. When they did break through, it cut their legs. Lightfoot the Deer, Mrs. Lightfoot and the Twins, could get about in the paths they had trodden out while the snow was still soft. But the food they live on in winter, called browse, the tender twigs of several kinds of trees including evergreens, was now locked in ice. It wasn't fit to eat even if they could have eaten it.

Thunder the Grouse and Mrs. Grouse were finding the same trouble with the buds of trees, which largely make up their winter food. There were others too. The Woodpecker folk were not having an easy time. Blacky the Crow and Sammy Jay and Tommy Tit the Chickadee, and Yank Yank the Nuthatch had hard work to get anything to eat, excepting up at Farmer Brown's where a feeding shelf was kept filled for them at all times.

So, that which brought happiness to Mouseville, brought suffering and worry to many Green Forest folk, and folk of the Old Pasture. It is the joy of one is the sorrow of another.

Right away they felt better.

The snow was a blessing to Mouseville. It always is. Never are those who live there so safe as when it is buried in the snow. Most of the Mouse folk, especially the older ones, have food stored away where they can get it easily. They do not have to worry about food. They really do not have to worry about anything. The sharpest eyes above cannot look down through that snow.

For a few days after the snow fell the weather was cold but clear. Then Rough Brother Northwind blew up some storm clouds and for a little while there was rain. Of course it wet all the surface of the snow. Then the clouds were blown away and Jack Frost got busy. He froze all that wet top snow. He made it into ice.

Of course the same thing happened all over the Green Meadows, all through the Green Forest, all over the Old Pasture. Mouseville was happier than ever. It had been possible for Reddy Fox and one or two others to dig down through the snow, but now it wasn't. Reddy and all others were locked out, and the Mouse folk were safer than ever. This made them happier than ever. But it was not so with some other

By Robert L. May

### RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER



I TRIED TO TELL BADDY NOT TO USE THE LUMINOUS PAINT, SANTA! THE CAN DISTINCTLY SAID "KEEP AWAY FROM HANDS AND FACE!"

THAT STILL DOESN'T EXCUSE YOU, RUDOLPH! NOW THE BADDY'S IDEA IS SOLVED, SANTA. IF ONLY YOU'LL FORGIVE ME—ER—AND COVER TOO.

SAY! BADDY'S IDEA WASN'T SO BAD. THAT YOUR PROBLEM IS SOLVED, SANTA. IF ONLY YOU'LL FORGIVE ME—ER—AND COVER TOO.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND, RUDOLPH!



By Walt Kelly

### POGO



SOME LEADER! GITTIN' US LOST! I IS GOT A GOOD MIND TO NEVER FOLLY YOU AGAIN.

NOBODY ASKED YOU TO ... YOU COULD OF STAYED HOME ALONE AN' GOT LOST BY YOURSELF.

GLAD YOU ADMITS IT! FROM NOW ON, I IS GONE BE BOSS.

BE CAREFUL, SON, YOU IS GITTIN INTO DEEP WATER.

DON'T BE A OL' SOUR GRAPE JES' CAUSE YOU LOST THE JOB OF HEADMAN BY POP. ULAE DEMAND ... IT AIN'T EVEN UP TO OUR NECK OUT HERE.

OH, STOP PUTTIN' ON, POBO! IS YOU TRYIN' TO MAKE A LIAR OUTEN 'O' OL' BOBOM COMPANION AN' REVEELED CANTAIN' WHEELY ME?



By Alex Raymond

### RIP KIRBY



I'VE BEEN DRIVING, MOTHER... TRYING TO THINK... I GOT IT ON THE RADIO.

PETER, YOU SAY YOU KNOW ABOUT SIR HARRY'S MURDER? HOW DO YOU KNOW? WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN ALL NIGHT?

BUT THERE'S NO RADIO IN YOUR CAR, IT'S BEING REPAIRED. DON'T YOU REMEMBER?

WHAT DID YOU SAY? OH, YES, THAT'S RIGHT...

I STOPPED AT OUR PLACE UP IN THE COUNTRY, I GUESS I HEARD IT THERE, AND I CAN'T SAY I'M SORRY... SIR HARRY DIDN'T DESERVE TO LIVE!

OH, PETER, I'M FRIGHTENED! I HOPE YOU'RE TELLING ME THE TRUTH!



By Alex Raymond

### KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED



"TAILWIND" IS LEAVING ME!

THE "ENGINEER" MUST HAVE TAKEN OVER! SO WINTERS IS MAKING HER ESCAPE!

OH-OH! SREEDY'S PLANE MUST BE DOWN THERE ON THE LAKE. IT'S FASTER... I CAN OVERTAKE THEM!

FLY STRAIGHT TO BAILHEAD! NO TRICKS! TAILWIND! THIS TIME I CAN CONCENTRATE ON YOU! I OPEN THAT THROTTLE... WIDE!



By Harry Fisher

### JOE PALOOKA



HOW SOON IS TH' MEETIN' I GOTTA HAVE A TRAIN BACK T' WILKES-BARRE?

I'M SORRY, BOYS, THE CHAIRMAN WAS SUDDENLY CALLED TO ALBANY BY THE GOVERNOR.

WHEN'S HE COMIN' BACK, I GOTTA...

WE DON'T KNOW, WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT TO HEAR, YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY IN TOWN.

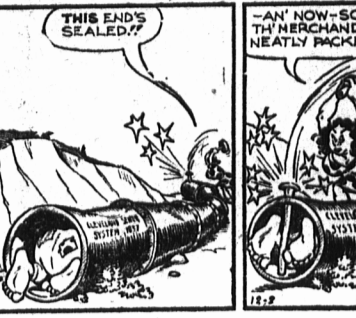
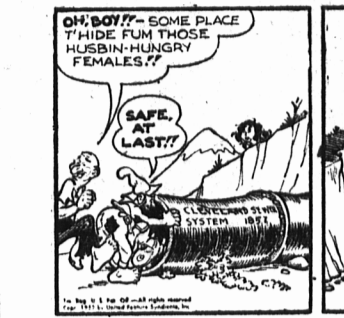
OF ALL TH' STUPID STUFF THINGS I EVER HEARD! I GOTTA WAIT AROUND AN'... 'T'S A!!

EASY! THAT GUSBIN' WON'T DO A BIT OF GOOD! TELL ME MORE ABOUT DOT.



By Harry Fisher

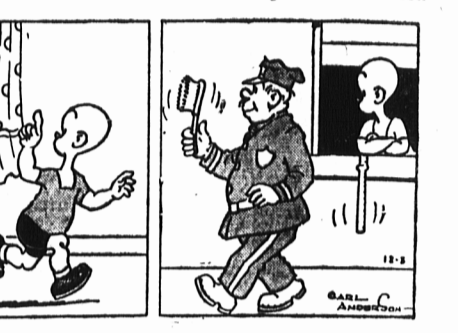
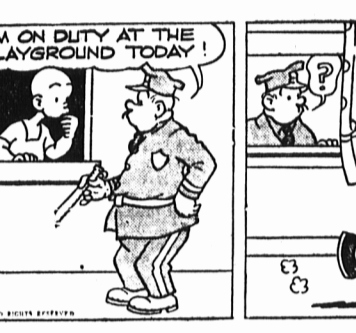
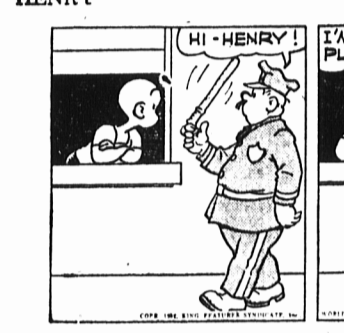
### L'L ABNER



### TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS



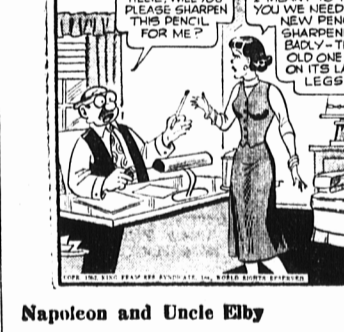
### HENRY



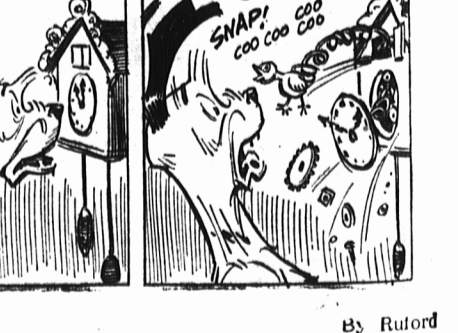
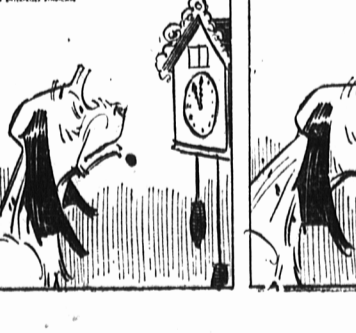
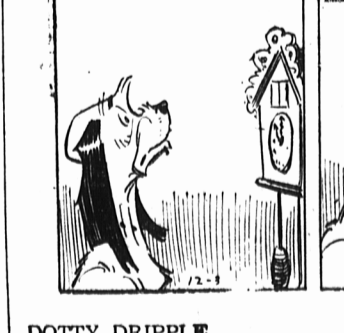
### BRINGING UP FATHER



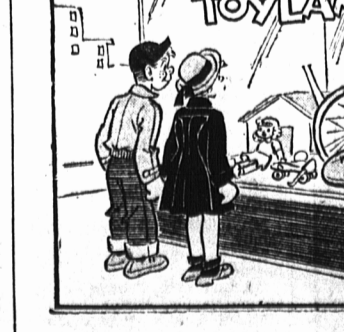
### TILLY THE TOILER



### Napoleon and Uncle Elby



### DOTTY DRIPPLE



### PENNY

