

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

A SILLY "PREFERENCE"

In a purely academic sense, North was in no way to blame for what happened in the following deal. But in a purely practical sense, North had to share the responsibility, along with the loss.

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

♠ 8 6 5			
♥ 9 8 2			
♦ 10 7 4 3			
♣ 9 5 2			
♠ Q 10 4			
♥ 3 2			
♦ A K 6			
♣ J 9 8			
♠ A K 9 7			
♥ A K J 6 4			
♦ Q			
♣ K J 3			

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	2 ♠	3 ♠	Pass
2 ♥	3 ♠	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Dble.	Pass	Pass
Pass			

South did as well as he could in the play, but the defense was also skillful and the outcome was an 800-point set.

Since North's only bid was a mere preference for South's first bid and consequently longer heart suit, it may seem unfair to put any responsibility on his shoulders, but even in preference bidding there is

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BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES



By Thornton W. Burgess

COUSIN GRAY TAKES A LOOK

Never boast unless you know, What you say is truly so. —Old Mother Nature.

Of course it is best not to boast at all. Probably Old Mother Nature means that, it is best not to make positive statements about anything unless we know. And who does know?

Gray Fox had declared that he could climb trees, and his cousin, Young Too-Smart, who belonged to the red branch of the fox family, doubted very much that Cousin Gray could climb. He didn't believe it, and he said so. Now, Cousin Gray was running toward a tree with branches growing near the ground. Far in the distance, a dog was baying, and Cousin Gray had said he would go up and take

such a thing as common sense and self-protection. True, North's bid of three hearts over South's two spades was not an announcement of strength — not even of moderate strength — but consider the matter from South's point of view. It was one thing to expect a weak dummy, and quite another thing to allow for a complete Yarborough. As little as two queens in the North hand would give South an excellent play for game, and North's possible possession of those two queens would certainly not have inspired a real bid on his part.

With a hand as hopeless as North's, the wise course is to accept a second best contract, insofar as the trump suit is concerned, in order to hold the bidding down to the lowest possible level. South had not started with a two-bid; hence North's only important consideration was to avoid a double. East scarcely could have doubled, two spades.



He didn't go very high, because there wasn't need to.

sounded a little anxious.

"No," replied the other. "Who is he chasing?" the young fox wanted to know.

"I don't know," replied Cousin Gray. "Whoever it is, is keeping out of sight."

Young Too-Smart jumped down to the ground. How good the ground felt. He wished he could climb as his cousin did, but he knew he couldn't. He knew he didn't dare to. He had new respect for this newly found cousin of his in the gray coat. What he didn't know was, was that the Gray Fox is sometimes called the Tree Fox.

PISQUID WEST W. I.

The December meeting of Pisquid West Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Clarence Coffin with 10 members and two visitors present.

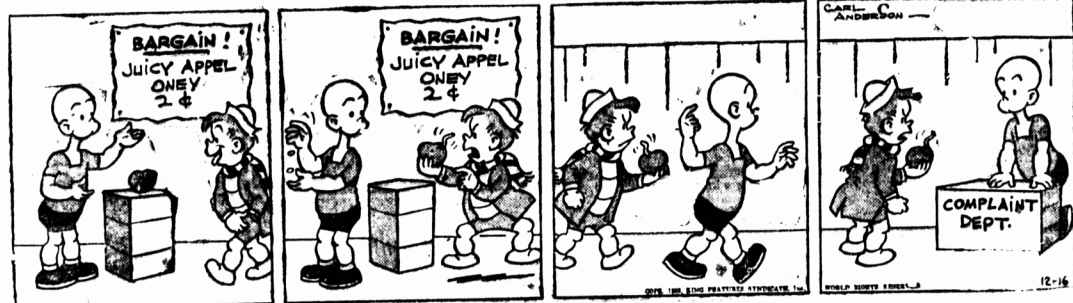
Roll call was answered with an exchange of Christmas gifts. Plans were made to pack a box for the orphanages and to buy one cuddly toy. It was decided to give the teacher \$8 to help buy Christmas gifts for pupils, and each member bring two pounds of fudge. Roll call for next meeting is to be a riddle. A contest was put on by Mrs. John Ostridge and resulted in a draw by three members.

Mrs. George Hendriksen invited members to her home for next meeting.

NAPLES, Maine, (AP)—Charles W. Proctor, 81, a former director of the Trotting Horse Breeders of New England, died Saturday.

By Carl Anderson

Henry



Li'l Abner



Joe Palooka



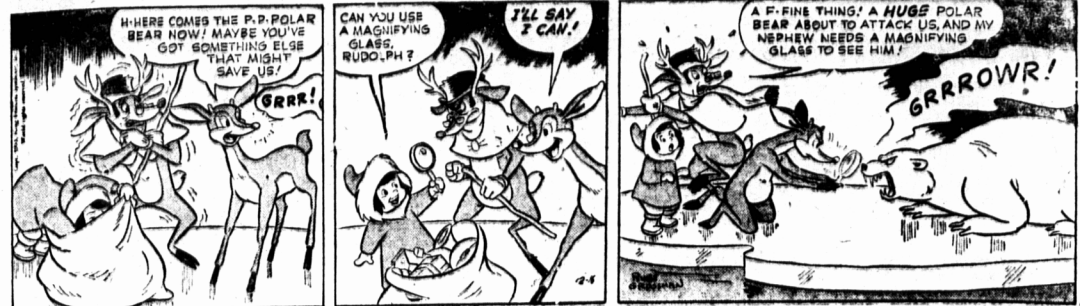
Rip Kirby



King of The Royal Mounted

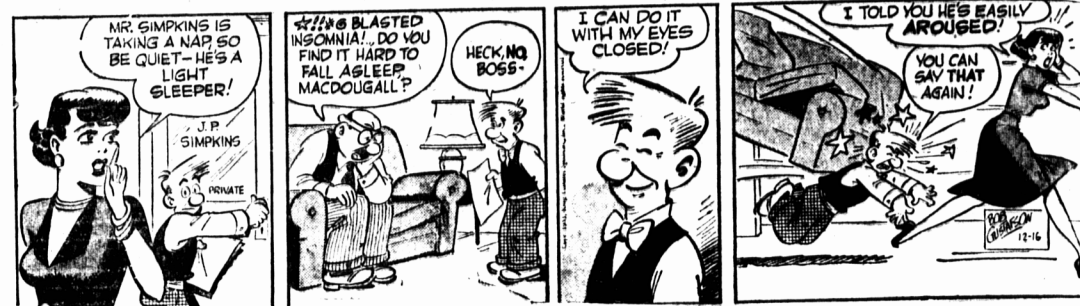


Rudolph—and the Blue Nosed Reindeer



By Bob Gustafson

Tilly The Toiler



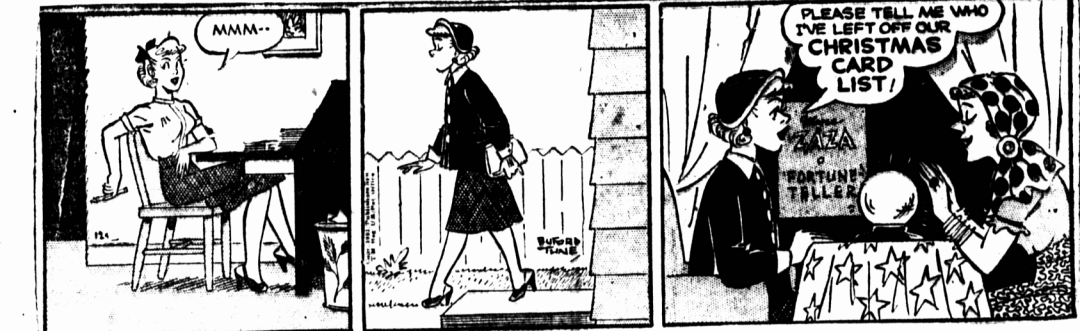
By George McManus

Bringing Up Father



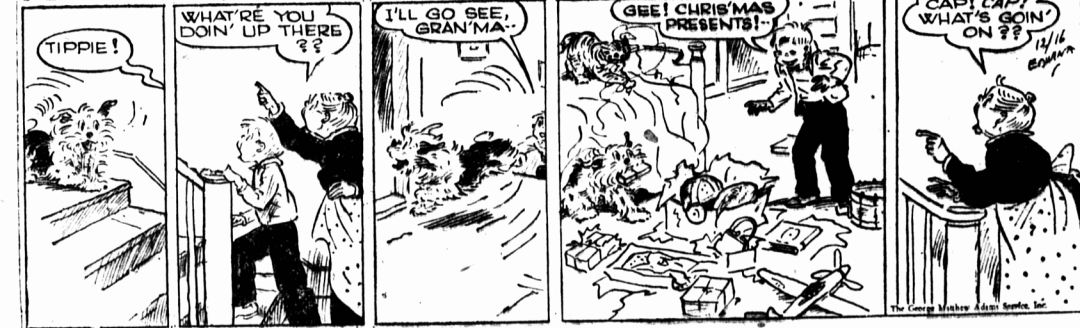
By Buford

Dotty Dripple



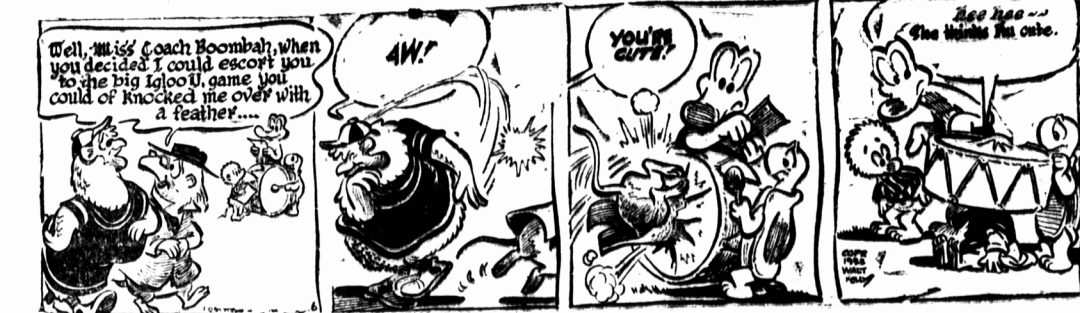
By Edwin

Tippy and "Cap" Stubs



By Walt Kelly

Pogo



By Clifford McBride

Napoleon and Uncle Elby



By Harry Hoeningan

PENNY

