BEDTIME STORIES

The Truth Is Just As Bad

By Thornton W. Burgess

"What which you fear may not prove so,
But even worse than you may know.
—Old Mother Nature.

Danny and Nanny Meadow Mouse had fooled themselves by not really seeing what they thought they saw. So they had had a dreadful fright. They thought they had seen Mr. Blacksnake, and they were very much afraid of Mr. Blacksnake.

It was over in Farmer Brown's yard not far from the house. They had found out that Farmer Brown's boy was putting out sunflower seeds for the birds. Some of these he was putting on a big flat rock, the top of which was just even with the ground. They wanted some of those seeds.

Now of all the Green Meadow folk and Green Forest folk, none have more hungry enemies than Danny and Nanny Meadow Mouse. So they must be on the watch every minute when they are abroad. Sometimes they run before they really know if there is need of running. That is better than not running when there is need. Both were sure, absolutely sure, that they had seen Mr. Blacksnake in the grass over near that big rock. Each in turn had been too frightened to move for a moment or two.

Now Danny was back again where he had received the first fright, and again he was too frightened to move. Then he made an astonishing discovery. What he had seen and what Nanny had seen wasn't Mr. Blacksnake at all. It was the long tail of Black Pussy the Cat. He had been crouching in the grass watching the birds at that flat rock and twitching his tail. The tail was all that the two little Mice had seen, and they had mistaken it for Mr. Blacksnake whom they so greatly feared.

But finding out the truth didn't make Danny any happier. Black

He sprang to catch Danny.

Pussy was as much to be feared as Mr. Blacksnake and perhaps a little more. So it was that Danny didn't care to move. After what seemed to him a long, long time, Black Pussy moved. He turned his head and Danny was sure that Black Pussy was looking straight at him. First he had been so frightened that he couldn't move. Now he was so frightened that he had to move. He turned to dart back into the tunnel made by Miner the Mole. It was through that tunnel that he had come over here.

Now Black Pussy hadn't seen Danny until Danny moved. Black Pussy can be very quick, very quick indeed. He was now. He sprang to catch Danny. His black paws with their cruel claws out pounced down, but all they touched was Danny's tail. Danny was lucky. Yes, sir, Danny was a lucky Mouse. He has such a short tail that it is a joke. One of Black Pussy's paws landed on that tail, but couldn't hold onto it. It slipped right from under. Before Black Pussy could pounce again, Danny was safely in the little tunnel.

Now the tail of a Meadow Mouse is shorter than the tails of any other members of the Mouse family. Danny had been filled with envy time and time again when he had seen some of the tails of his cousins. The cousin with the longest tail was Nimbleheels the Jumping Mouse. Danny had often admired that long tail and wished that he had such a lovely long tail. He couldn't see what good a short tail was. Now he suddenly discovered what good a short tail was. It had saved his life. A long tail Black Pussy would have been able to hold onto.

Says Marriages On Ambassador Bridge Illegal

WINDSOR, Ont. (CP)—Couples who wed in marriage ceremonies in the middle of Ambassador Bridge, which joins Canada and the United States across the Detroit river here, now have another bridge to cross, city hall said Wednesday.

They're not married!

Mrs. Violet Stephenson, superintendent of marriage-licence issue and vital statistics at city hall, laid bare the matrimonial misunderstanding.

The bridge weddings have been conducted for many years with bride and groom straddling the international boundary in the belief that immigration complications were avoided.

DODGE RED TAPE

A man in Michigan wanting to marry a girl in Canada runs into red tape if the girl is not a Canadian citizen and thereby not permitted to enter the U. S.

By "marrying" from opposite sides of the dividing line it was thought to circumvent the regulation.

"I've known all along those marriages are illegal," said Mrs. Stephenson. "It's high time they did something about it—it's just not right."

Such marriages were invalid on both marital and immigration counts.

The reason, said Mrs. Stephenson, is that licences are valid only in home territories and thus either the bride or the groom is not legally married at such a wedding.

OTTAWA (CP)—Dr. E. A. Watkinson of the federal health department will represent Canada on the UN's scientific committee on atomic radiation, the external affairs department announced Wednesday. Dr. Watkinson, chief of the department's ocupational health division, replaces Dr. A. J. Cipriani, an atomic expert at the Chalk River, Ont., project, who died recetly.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

By Josephine Culbertson

MISLEADING PARTNER

It is not dangerous — usually — to make a psychic bid, assuming that you have an understanding partner, but it is dangerous to start off in this fashion and then follow up as West did in the following case.

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
North-South 40 on score.

North: ♠ K 5 ♥ J 7 4 3 2 ♦ 8 3 ♣ A 9 8 4

West: ♠ 9 4 3 ♥ K 10 9 6 ♦ 9 5 2 ♣ Q 10 2

East: ♠ A 7 2 ♥ A Q 8 5 ♦ A J 10 7 ♣ 6 5

South: ♠ Q J 10 8 6 ♥ — ♦ K Q 6 4 ♣ K J 7 3

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1 ♥	Dble.
1 ♠	1 NT	Pass	2 ♠
3 ♥	Dble.	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	Pass	4 ♦	Dble.
4 ♥	Dble.	(final bid)	

The outcome of all this bidding was that East went down 800 points at four hearts, whereas South would have been down at least 200 points at three spades. Thus, a minimum "swing" of 1000 points was involved.

The fact that East was out of line in bidding four diamonds is only incidental. That call was not the result of East's failing to "catch" his partner's psychic spade bid—the trouble was that East was sure it had been a psychic, but he was then misled by West's subsequent actions.

When North overcalled one spade with one notrump — a questionable but very lucky move on his part — and South then bid and rebid spades, East could not keep getting the fixed idea that West was very short in the suit — that he had had strong fears about the enemy's bidding it. On top of this was the fact that West then bid three hearts. Actually, this latter bid was more dangerous, and even more misleading, than the psychic spade bid. Added to the other "evidence," it convinced East of two false facts: that his own defense against three spades was not adequate; and that West must have distributional values, since he so obviously lacked high cards. Certainly, East could not imagine that West would turn up with the horribile 4-3-3-3 distribution.

WINS 3RD CONFIDENCE VOTE

ROME (AP)—Premier Antonio Segni won his third recent vote of confidence Wednesday night when the chamber approved his plans for a new electoral law. The vote was 280 to 47 with one abstension.

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

POWNAL and DISTRICT

Applications for the position of Inseminator will be received until Wednesday, March 21st. Write in care of the Director of Veterinary Services, Box 404 Charlottetown.

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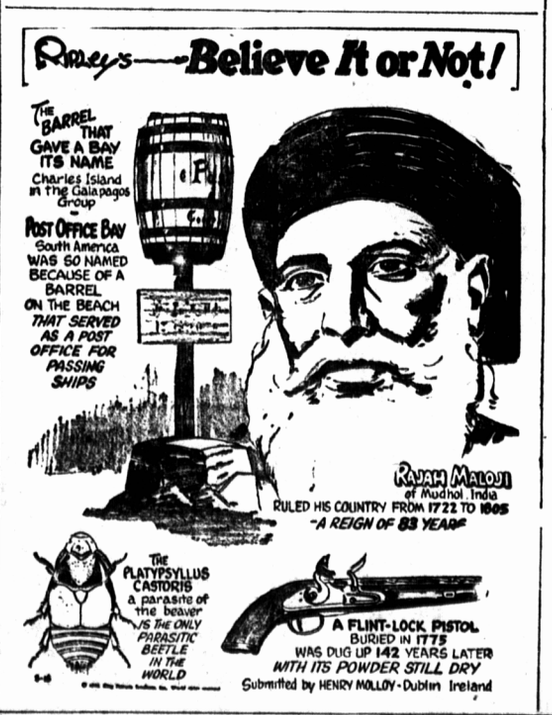


Out Our Way — By J. R. Williams

Our Boarding House — Major Hoople

TELEVISION
CKCW — Moncton

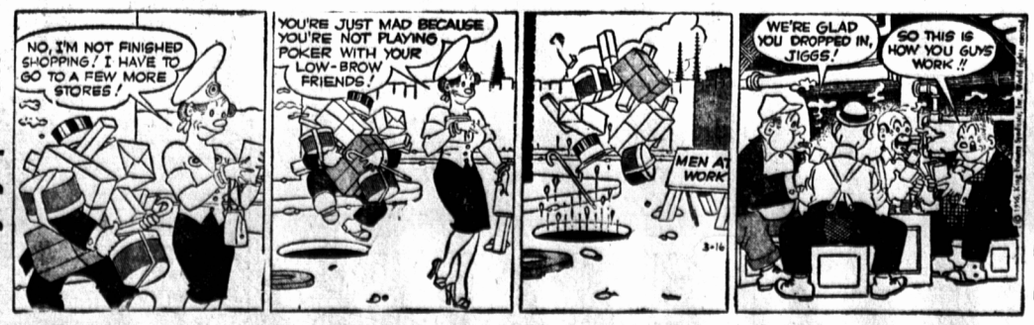
Television Programme

Channel 2

FRIDAY

:00 p.m.—FM Concert Hall
:00 p.m.—Florian Zabach
:30 p.m.—At Home with Helen Crocker
:30 p.m.—Uncle Jack and Barbie
:00 p.m.—Roy Rogers
:30 p.m.—Howdy Doody
:00 p.m.—Puppet Theatre
:15 p.m.—Playtime with Panda
:30 p.m.—CKCW-TV News
:40 p.m.—Weather
:45 p.m.—Sports
:50 p.m.—CBC News
:00 p.m.—This Week in Sports
:15 p.m.—Mr. Fixit
:30 p.m.—All Star Theatre
:00 p.m.—Date Line
:30 p.m.—The Plouffe Family
:00 p.m.—Graphic
:30 p.m.—Star Stage
:00 p.m.—Celebrity Playhouse
:30 p.m.—This Is Your Life
:00 p.m.—CKCW-TV News
:10 p.m.—Weather
:15 p.m.—Wrestling
:15 a.m.—Sign Off

Bringing Up Father — By George McManus

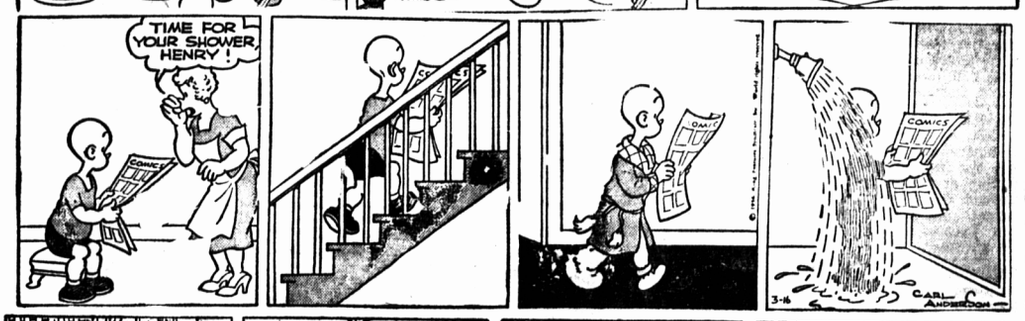


Li'l Abner — By Al Capp

Grandma — By Charles Kuhn

Mickey Mouse — By Walt Disney

Henry — By Carl Anderson



Muggs and Skeeter — By Mort Walker

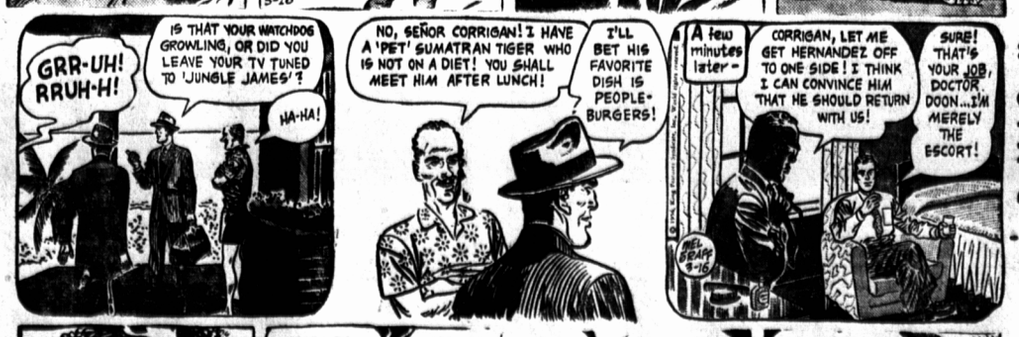
Tillie The Toiler — By Bob Gustafson

Etta Kent — By Paul Robinson

Joe Palooka — By Ham Fisher

The Lone Ranger — By Fran Striker

Secret Agent X9 — By Mel Graff



POGO — By Walt Kelly