

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Claberton

THE BEST TEST: REBIDS

If you want to appraise the bidding skill of a stranger — possibly a prospective partner — don't ask him what opening bid he would choose on a given hand. Opening bids are comparatively easy! Give him a hand with about one ace or the equivalent over average, and have him make a rebid over this or that response by partner. In short, pose some such bidding problem as South's below.

North dealer Neither side vulnerable

Bridge hand diagram showing cards for North and South. North: ♠K6, ♥A83, ♦KQJ1072, ♣K5. South: ♠94, ♥K972, ♦A853, ♣Q64.

This was the actual rubber-bridge bidding: North East South West 1 Pass 1 Pass 2 Pass 3 Pass 4 Pass

West opened the club jack, and though South was able to discard one heart on dummy's diamonds and ruff a club in dummy, he still lost five tricks.

It may be argued that North, even after jumping to three diamonds on the second round, did not have to support South's spades

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

MITE IS LUCKY

Lives through ignorance are lost. That is far too high a cost. —Old Mother Nature.

Danny and Nanny Meadow Mouse had a son who had gone out into the Great World when he was not quite three weeks old. His name was Mite. Now he was almost five weeks old and felt a little grown up. In size he was almost grown up. He was no longer small enough to be called Mite, but that was his name.

Not only had he grown fast in body, but he had grown fast in knowledge. If he hadn't, he wouldn't have been alive for there are no little folk in fur with more enemies than the Mouse folk. His short life had been filled with more excitement and adventure than some folks have in a long lifetime. From all these adventures he had learned who some of his enemies were, and how to watch out for

— that he could have continued to four diamonds — but that is one of the points of this matter: the three-diamond bid itself created a problem for North. What happened here is what happens in countless cases: South naturally tried to cooperate by rebidding his five-card major suit over North's urge, and then North could not know just how good partner's suit was, or whether the K-6 would be ample support.

The crux of this situation is that North is not quite strong enough for a jump rebid, and that he should content himself with a bid of two diamonds, on the theory that game anywhere is unlikely if South then chooses to pass. Moreover, if North plays a less-than-game diamond contract when his side actually could have made game at spades or notrump, the loss is not great in view of the 100 honors in diamonds.

them. He knew that he must always be watching overhead for certain feathered folk with a fondness for Mouse dinners.

So when he was running about he never forgot to keep watch up above. He had found out that Shodow the Weasel was the one to be most feared, for he kills just for the sake of killing, and can go wherever a Mouse can go. He had learned that Reddy Fox, or one of his family, is sure to be Mouse hunting a part of every day. He had learned that Black Pussy the Cat does some hunting once in a while. He thought by this time that he knew all the enemies a Mouse should watch out for. Thinking this was a mistake. It always is a mistake to think you know all there is to know about anything.

Mite had been awakened by a rustling on dry leaves close to the place where he had been taking a nap. He kept perfectly still. That was the thing to do. It is always the thing to do when one does not know just what a sound may mean. As he sat there perfectly still a leaf on the ground a little way from him turned over. It was as if a Merry Little Breeze had picked it up and turned it over. But no Merry Little Breeze was around. Then out from beneath another leaf a sharp little nose appeared. It was the sharpest little nose Mite had ever seen. A Beetle started to run past that sharp little nose. He didn't seem as if he could have eaten that Beetle so quickly, but he had.

"That must be a young Mouse that is just starting out in the Great World, but what a sharp nose! I didn't suppose any Mouse had such a sharp nose as that. He must belong to a branch of the



He darted at him just as he had darted at that Beetle.

family I never have heard of," said the young Meadow Mouse, talking to himself.

He moved out from his own hiding place with no thought of fear whatever. He would get acquainted with this little stranger who was hardly half his size. The instant he moved, this very, very small stranger moved too. He moved much quicker than did Mite. Not only that, but he darted straight at Mite. He darted at him just as he had darted at that Beetle. It took the young Mouse so by surprise that he hardly realized what was happening. It wasn't until he felt the sharp teeth, tiny but very, very sharp, that he realized that he had got to fight.

He did fight! He fought his very best, but it wasn't long before he found out that this little stranger so much smaller than himself was more than his equal in fighting. He fought so hard, so savagely, that almost at once Mite couldn't think of anything but getting away from him. But that wasn't easy. No, sir, that wasn't easy. He couldn't move as fast as the little stranger could. It was just by good luck that he shook the savage little fighter off, and had a chance to take to his own heels. He did, too. He ran until he was out of breath.

The little stranger didn't follow him far. He disappeared under the leaves in the ground, and began hunting for insects, grubs, or worms that might be there. He was Teeny Weeny the Shrew, the smallest of all the folks in fur on the Green Meadows, in the Green Forest or anywhere else.

By Robert L. May

L'L ABNER

By Al Capp



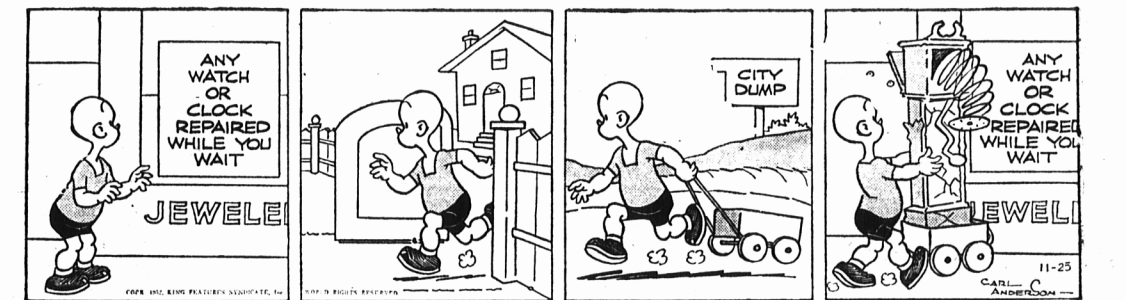
TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

By Edwin



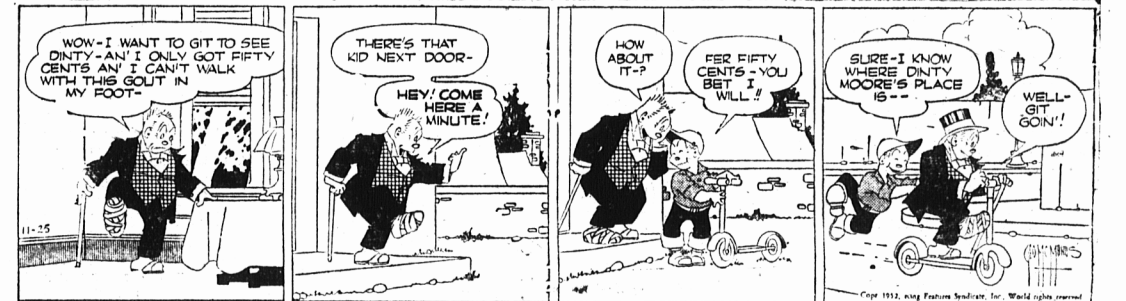
HENRY

By Carl Anderson



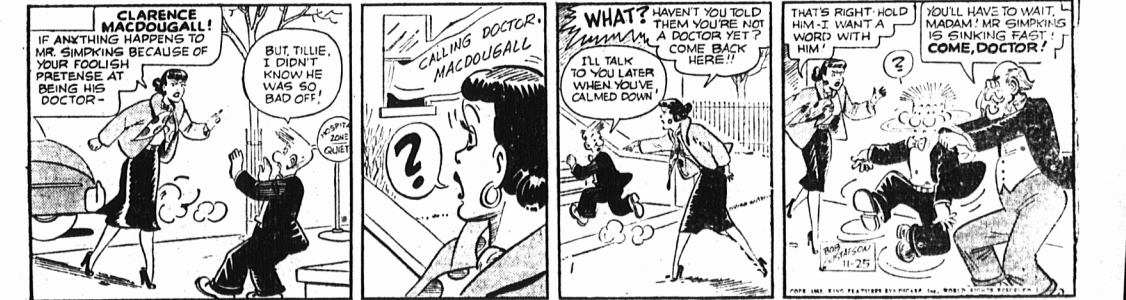
BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManus



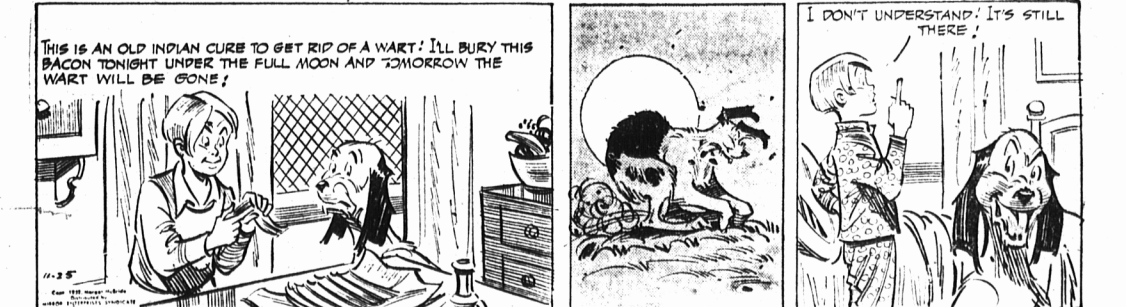
TILLY THE TOILER

By Bob Guelfson



Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Cliff McBride



DOTTY DRIPPLE

By Rufus



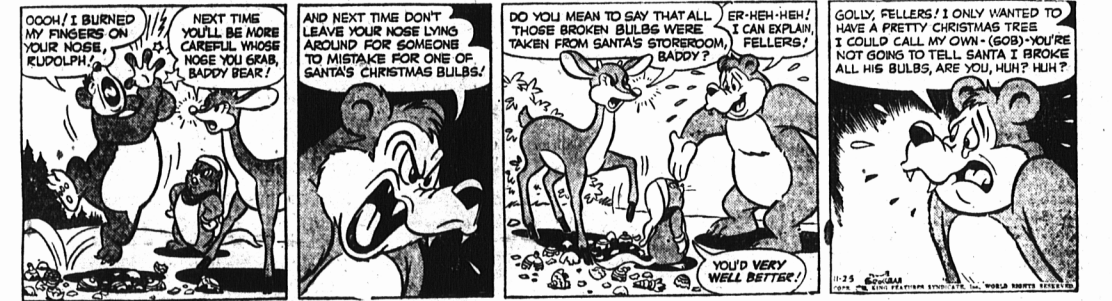
PENNY

By Harry Hoernissen



KING COLE TEA Stimulating and delicious!

RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER



POGO

By Walt Kelly



RIP KIRBY

By Alex Raymond



KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED



JOE PALGORA

By Har. Fisher

