

By Thornton W. Burgess

TOO-SMART LISTENS AND LEARNS

For one who starts the day aright,
There seldom is regret at night.
—Reddy Fox.

Young Too-Smart had been saved by his father, Reddy Fox; just in time Reddy had led away the Dog who had been chasing young Too-Smart. The latter had slowly made his way home. All the way there, and long after he had reached his doorstep, he had heard the voice of that Dog. Sometimes it was very faint because of the distance. At other times it was louder, which meant that the chase was nearer. Every now and then the Dog would stop barking. The young Fox didn't know just what that meant. What it did mean was that Reddy Fox had managed to mix his trail up so that the Dog had to take time and patience to work it out. While he was doing this he didn't bark.

Before Reddy had come to his rescue the young Fox had been shot at. He had been hit in one leg. It hurt, but it might have been a great deal worse. Now as he lay on his doorstep he licked the wound. That was just the right thing to do. After awhile he no longer heard that Dog. He wondered what had happened. Had that Dog caught Reddy Fox? He hoped not. Had Reddy been smart enough to get rid of him? He wished he knew. A little later he did know. Reddy suddenly appeared right in front of him. He didn't even look tired.

"Where is that dreadful Dog?" asked the young Fox.

Reddy Fox grinned. "Drying off after a wetting he didn't expect to get, and probably on his way home now," said Reddy. He grinned more broadly than ever.

Then Reddy stopped grinning. "How did that Dog come to chase you?" he asked.



"Where is that dreadful Dog?" asked the young Fox.

"I don't know," replied the young Fox. "I didn't see him, I didn't know he was anywhere around until all of a sudden he was barking behind me. At first I didn't know he was chasing me. I couldn't see him, and he couldn't see me. I didn't see him for a long time, and I'm sure he couldn't see me. How he could follow me I don't know."

"How did you learn to follow your mother or me when you were little?' asked Reddy.

"I just used my nose," said the young Fox. "You always leave scent wherever you go."

Reddy nodded. "That's it," said he. "That is the way that Dog followed you. He didn't need to see you. All he had to do was keep his nose down, and follow your scent."

"Do all Dogs do that?" asked the young Fox.

"No," replied Reddy, "Some Dogs haven't the right kind of noses. The kind of Dog that was chasing you has a wonderful nose for Fox scent; and there is nothing a Dog of that kind likes quite so much as chasing one of us. Were you much hurt?" Reddy looked down at the aching leg the young Fox was still licking. Of course the young Fox thought he was much hurt. The truth is, he was more frightened than hurt.

"It hurts a lot," said he, "and I don't know what did it."

"Then you didn't see that two-legged hunter with the dreadful firestick," said Reddy.

The young Fox shook his head.

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ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SALE
at
Fennell & Chandler's
DECEMBER 4th and 5th

of Woodwork, Leatherwork, Fancy Work, Knitting, etc., made by the patients in the Occupational Therapy Department of Falconwood Hospital.

Buy your Christmas presents here and help this worthy cause. Work will be on display Thursday afternoon.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

NO PROBLEM

The precise hand-pattern revealed by East and West in the following deal should have been South's blueprint in the play.

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 N T	Pass	3 N T	Pass
Pass	Pass		

North, with 10 high-card points and an easily establishable five-card suit, was of course right in jumping to game at notrump.

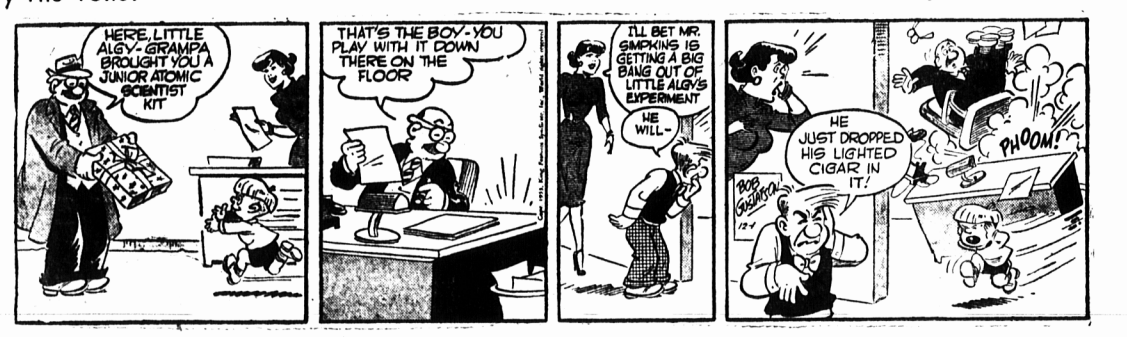
West opened the diamond four; dummy played low, and East went up with the ace. East returned the heart six. South ducked, and West won with the nine. West continued hearts, laying down the queen, which he was permitted to hold, and the next heart lead was taken by South.

Declarer cashed the king, ace and queen of clubs, but West showed out. South knew that if he gave up a club trick to clear the suit, East would be able to cash the setting trick in hearts, so rather than concede defeat South entered his hand with a diamond and tried the spade finesse. When East pounced on this trick with the queen, he cashed the club jack and his high heart, for a two-trick penalty.

One slight change in declarer's technique would have made quite a difference. It was obvious that East had started with four hearts and no more than two diamonds. Thus, after taking the third round

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Tilly The Toiler — By Bob Gustafson



Joe Palooka — By Ham Fisher



Rip Kirby — By Alex Raymond



King of The Royal Mounted — By Zane Grey



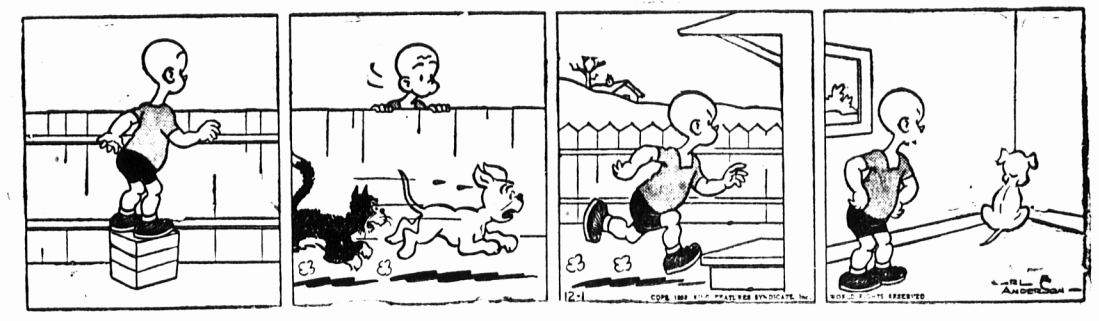
Li'l Abner — By Al Capp



Rudolph—and the Blue Nosed Reindeer — By Robert L. May



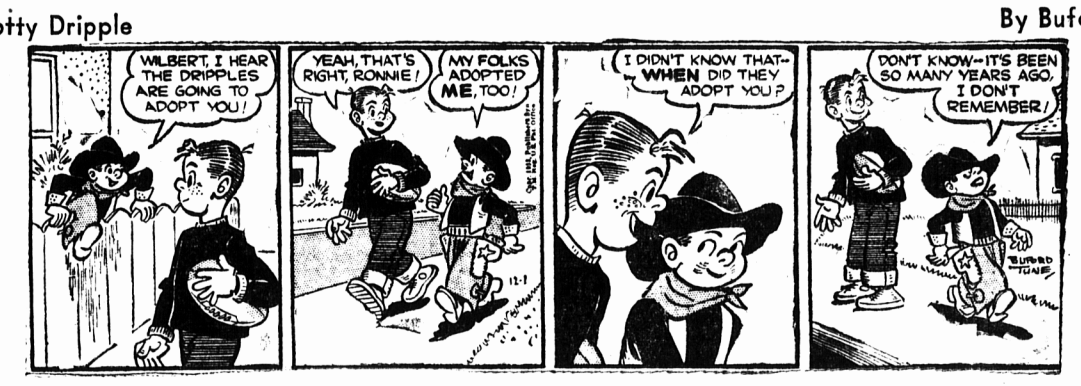
Henry — By Carl Anderson



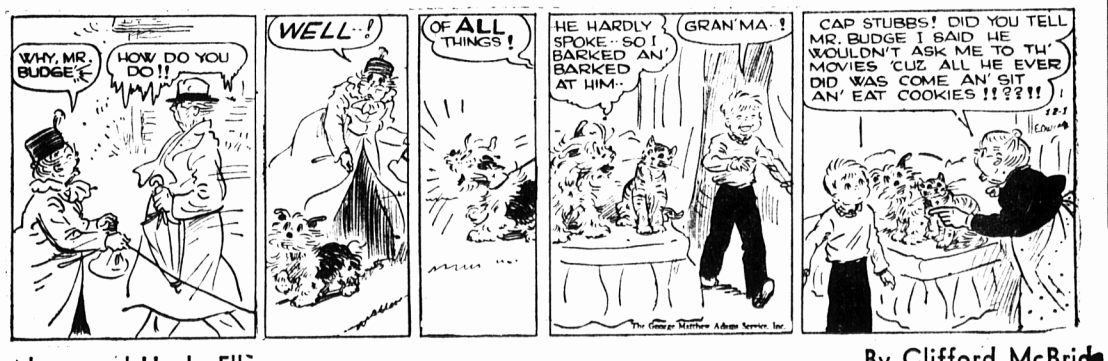
Bringing Up Father — By George McManus



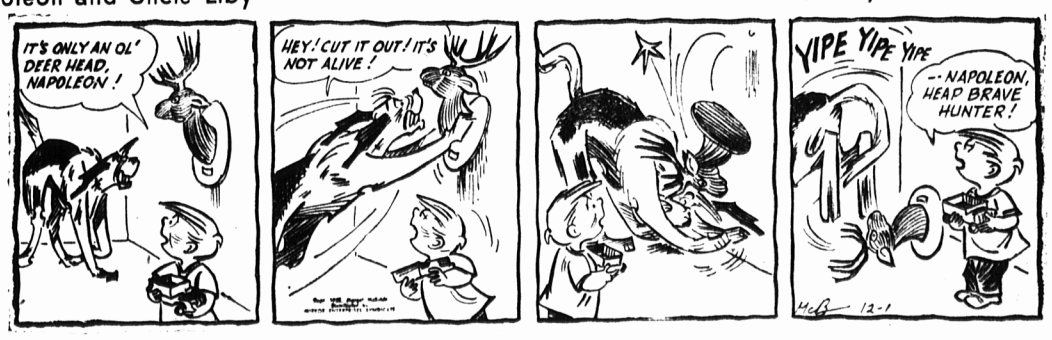
Dotty Dripple — By Buford



Tippy and "Cap" Stubs — By Edwina



Napoleon and Uncle Elby — By Clifford McBride



Pogo — By Walt Kelly



PENNY — By Harry Haenigsen

