

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES



By Thornton W. Burgess

JERRY MUSKRAT TELLS WHY

Who looks and plans ahead you find, Most likely blest with peace of mind.

—Old Mother Nature—

Peter Rabbit couldn't understand Jerry Muskrat at all. It was winter. The ground was frozen hard. There had been snow, but it was gone now. Peter hadn't liked things when there was snow, but he liked them no better now. The Smiling Pool was covered with ice all but a little opening at one end. Jerry Muskrat had climbed out of the water there and was sitting on the ice. Peter was on the bank just above him. Peter had said that these were hard times and he didn't like them. Jerry had declared just the opposite.



"What do you mean?" demanded Peter.

Green Forest and ask Chatterer the Red Quirel if he thinks there are hard times. He'll probably tell you these are good times. My big cousin, Paddy the Beaver, would tell you the same thing if you should ask him. Any Muskrat would tell you that too.

"Do you mean to tell me, Jerry Muskrat, that you like having the Smiling Pool covered with ice?" asked Peter.

Jerry nodded his brown head. "I do so," said he.

"I don't believe it," retorted Peter. "How can you say such a thing? Supposing this open place had frozen over too, then you'd be a prisoner under the ice."

"A very comfortable and happy one," squeaked Jerry. "You see, Mrs. Jerry and I made ready for cold weather before it came. Now we don't have to work; we don't have to worry; we don't have to watch out for enemies; we can rest all we want to. What more could we ask?"

Peter scratched a long ear with a long hind foot. Then he scratched the other long ear with the other long hind foot. Peter has a way of doing this when he is puzzled. It is for all the world as if he is trying to scratch thoughts out of his head. "How do you get enough to eat?" he asked, at last.

"I just swim out under the ice and dig up a lily root, or a root of the cattails or other rushes, and take it back to the house to eat. Or, if there's an opening anywhere, I may climb out and eat it right there. There are always roots down in the mud," explained Jerry.

"I don't see how you breathe down under water all the time," said Peter.

"I don't breathe under water," retorted Jerry.

Peter blinked. "What do you mean you don't breathe? Everybody has to breathe," said he.

"I said I don't breathe under water," squeaked Jerry.

"But if you are under the ice all the time you must breathe under water," protested Peter.

"You seem to have forgotten something," squeaked Jerry.

"What?" demanded Peter.

"My house over there," said Jerry.

"But that's out in the water," cried Peter.

"But not under water," retorted Jerry.

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

When his car stalled he was driving his expectant wife to a hospital. Edward Martell of Moncton, N. B., ran into a house to summon help by phone. Mrs. Martell had disappeared when he got back to his car. Later he found her in hospital with a baby daughter. A stranger had completed the trip for him.

There are nine boys and six girls in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Felton of Blyth, England. So the government had allocated to them two units of a public housing development.

Mrs. Thelma Haywood, of St. Thomas, Ontario flagged down a train with a diaper when her car straddled a double track railway crossing. Both trains came to a stop when their crews spotted the universal distress signal.

Latest trials of modern mothers are less than teen-age daughters who try to get by with wearing jeans instead of pretty dresses to Sunday school.

By examining the bones of a skeleton Dr. T. D. Stewart identified the body of an ex-marine who had been dead for 15 years!

Girls were taking part in the most dangerous sport in history—bull wrestling. They swung on the animals' horns while the infuriated beasts ran around the arena. That was back in 1400 B.C.

Joan of Arc—greatest woman in all French History, lived to be only 19!

Cancer of the lung and bronchus occurs four and one half times as frequently in men as in women. Laryngeal cancer is 12 times higher in men. Out of every 100 newborn American babies, 32 will develop cancer, sometime during their lives.

The seven civil engineering wonders of the United States: Chicago sewage disposal system; Colorado River Aqueduct; Empire State Building; Grand Coulee Dam and Columbia River Basin project in Arizona-Nevada; Panama Canal and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

A swallow, building a nest in the eave of James Swan's home, Meadow Brook, picked up a live cigarette butt and started a fire that destroyed the farm dwelling.

Plots of planes are not all young men. 20 percent of them are 60 or over.

There are 50,000 motel courts in Canada and the United States. This is twice the number in existence 10 years ago.

Every Canadian city and town sells five foods in common. They are, beans, hamburgers, pop, ice cream and hot dogs.

The freshmen of a quarter of a century ago were better spellers and knew more about form and grammar than freshmen do today.

If you were to go down into a deep well in the daytime you would be able to see the stars in the sky.

Cupie Scott once said: "Women who are not proud about their clothes are often vain about not being vain about their clothes."

The gypsies have been a wandering people since the Middle Ages, having passed through Egypt on their way into Europe, and then on to the New World.

It takes five quarts of milk to make a pound of cheddar cheese. In the days known as Colonial America it was a fairly common practice all over the world to buy and sell slaves as one would live stock.

Nearly all Siamese cats are a cross-eyed and they also have a kinked tails. Both of these characteristics have been bred out of Siamese cats in Western countries.

The man who has handed out so many Nobel prizes made the lion's share of his fortune from dynamite and nitroglycerine. When he died in 1896 he left 9,000,000. The greatest part of this money became the fund from which the Nobel prizes are paid.

The first prize fight to take place in America was in 1816, when Jake Hyer defeated Tom Beasley. The champ declared himself champion of the New World.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

By Josephine Culbertson

MISHANDLED DEFENSE

There are certain types of defensive situations that are rarely handled correctly by average players. One of these types is exemplified in the following deal.

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

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

West leads ♠ 4. Declarer plays ♠ A, ♠ K, ♠ Q, ♠ J, ♠ 10, ♠ 9, ♠ 8, ♠ 7, ♠ 6, ♠ 5, ♠ 4, ♠ 3, ♠ 2, ♠ A. South wins ♠ A, ♠ K, ♠ Q, ♠ J, ♠ 10, ♠ 9, ♠ 8, ♠ 7, ♠ 6, ♠ 5, ♠ 4, ♠ 3, ♠ 2, ♠ A.

West opened the spade queen. Dummy's ace was put up and declarer cashed the two top clubs, hoping of course to drop the queen. This was sound enough play, inasmuch as there were nine clubs in the combined hands, but luck was against the declarer. The latter could not count nine tricks without going ahead and clearing the club suit, so he led a third heart, and now of course East was in the lead.

East saw clearly enough that a heart shift was the only hope of setting the contract. Declarer could obviously make five club tricks and at least two diamonds, and he was also marked with the spade king by West's original lead of the queen. Thus, it would be a case of abject surrender for West to return his partner's original spade lead. Unfortunately, however, the particular heart East led was also tantamount to a giveup play. He led the three-spot, and South simply ducked. West won with the jack, but he then could not make a dangerous attack on South's heart king.

East should have given more thought to the heart situation, once he correctly decided that that suit would never get in again on this deal, hence it behooved him to lead a heart that would trap the king if South had that honor. With dummy holding the doubleton ten, the urgently required lead by East was the queen, on the one chance that West would have the heart spots to turn this lead to account. Obviously, if East had led the heart queen instead of the three, South would have been helpless.

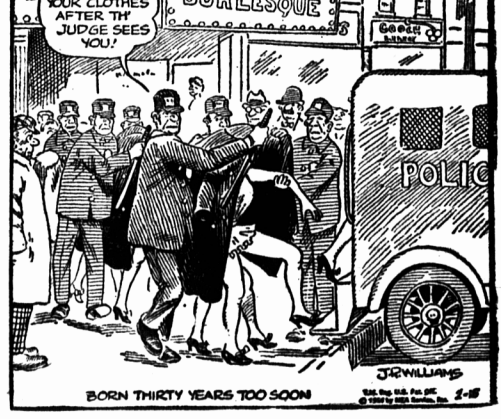
ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

All cattle breeders in Lots 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 48, 49, 50 and 65 are invited to attend a meeting in Prince of Wales College Auditorium at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 15th—Purpose: to organize Artificial Breeding Clubs.

CHARLOTTETOWN and DISTRICT
P. E. I. Department of Agriculture

Out Our Way

By J. R. Williams



Our Boarding House

Major Hoople



Bringing Up Father

By George McManus



POGO

By Walt Kelly



Mickey Mouse

By Walt Disney



Henry

By Carl Anderson



Muggs and Skeeter

By Wally Bishop



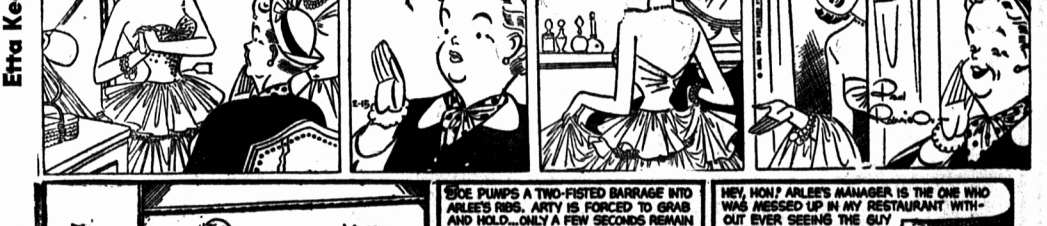
Tilly The Toiler

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



L'il Abner

By Al Capp



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TELEVISION CKCW — Moncton

Television Programme Channel 2

WEDNESDAY

2:00 p.m.—FM Concert Hall
3:00 p.m.—Frankie Laine
3:30 p.m.—At Home with Helen Crocker
4:30 p.m.—Today with Ariens Holder
4:45 p.m.—Uncle Jack at the Piano
5:00 p.m.—Take A Look
5:15 p.m.—Folk Songs
5:30 p.m.—Howdy Doody
6:00 p.m.—Puppet Theatre
6:15 p.m.—Melody Roundup
6:30 p.m.—CKCW-TV News
6:40 p.m.—Weather
6:45 p.m.—Sports
6:50 p.m.—CBC News
7:00 p.m.—Jungle Jim
7:30 p.m.—Bunkhouse Boys
7:50 p.m.—Vic Obeck Show
8:30 p.m.—I Love Lucy
9:00 p.m.—Cross Canada Hit Parade
9:30 p.m.—Jackie Rae Show
10:00 p.m.—Big Town
10:30 p.m.—Press Conference
11:00 p.m.—CKCW-TV News
11:10 p.m.—Weather
11:15 p.m.—Feature Film
12:15 a.m.—Sign Off