

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

A FUTILE PLAY

The great defect in South's play of the following hand was that it couldn't gain anything but could (and did) lose!

South dealer
North-South vulnerable.

♠ J 8 7 2
♥ Q J 3 2
♦ 6 5 4
♣ K J

♠ 10 9 7 6
♥ 8 5
♦ 3 2
♣ 10 2

♠ 10 5 3
♥ K
♦ 10 7
♣ A Q 9 8

♠ A K Q 9
♥ A 8 5 4
♦ A K Q
♣ 5 3

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass

South's bidding was also rather peculiar, in that he started off with the heart suit and then showed his equal-length spades. Perhaps he deliberately chose this course so as to "reverse" and thereby show a strong hand, but this tactic is not to be commended.

West opened the club suit. East collected two tricks in the suit and shifted to the diamond ten. Declarer won and drew trumps, taking the third round with dummy's jack. Then, convinced that East must have the heart king for his overall, declarer led the queen through for a finesse. East had the king, all right, but after South captured that card he found himself in the embarrassing position of having to give up two heart tricks to West. The contract was "gone."

Nothing could be gained by South's selection of the heart queen for his first lead of that suit. If East had the king he would certainly cover, and declarer would still have to lose at least one heart trick. This was not the real danger, however. East was marked with a great many clubs and three spades, hence he was obviously short in hearts. Since, at best, declarer would have to lose one heart trick and could well afford that loss, the proper play was the ace from the closed hand—not because the king was blank, but because West's heart length meant that the finesse would be dangerous.

EASTBOURNE, England (CP)—Plans have been prepared here to build a landing base for helicopters on the roof of the railway station in this Sussex County town.

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

WOOLLY BEAR GOES ON

His destiny he'll best fulfill
Who knows the time for keeping still.

—Old Mother Nature

Peter Rabbit sat staring down at a little black and brown furry ball in the middle of the little path. It was Woolly Bear, the only Caterpillar anywhere around at this time of year. He didn't look like a Caterpillar. He looked like nothing but a little black and brown furry ball, for he was rolled up very tightly. A moment before, Sammy Jay had poked him with his long, sharp bill and had rolled him over two or three times. Woolly Bear had kept rolled up. He had made no sign that he was alive. Now Sammy Jay had flown away, but Woolly Bear still remained just a little furry ball.

Peter actually began to wonder if it could be that Woolly Bear had been frightened to death. It must have been rather dreadful to be poked about and rolled over and over by someone who at any moment might pick him up and swallow him. Peter had a feeling that Sammy Jay would have done just that had Woolly Bear shown he was alive. Peter knew that unlike most birds, Sammy Jay often eats Caterpillars with hairy coats.

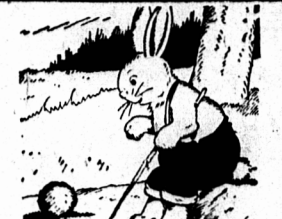
Peter waited. He waited and waited. He was just about to give up, believing that Woolly Bear had been frightened to death, when the furry Caterpillar unrolled. "Has he gone?" he whispered.

Peter didn't have to answer that question, for just then Sammy Jay's harsh voice came to them so faintly that they knew he must be far away. He was. He was over in the Old Pasture. Without another word, Woolly Bear started on his way.

"That was a smart trick," said Peter Rabbit.

Woolly Bear said nothing. He kept right on going. He seemed to be hurrying more than ever. Peter followed. Of course it was slow going for Peter. He chuckled to himself. "I suppose he thinks he's going fast," thought Peter. Yes, sir, I suppose he thinks he's going fast.

Far in the distance Blacky the Crow began to caw. Woolly Bear stooped for an instant. Peter wondered if it was because he heard Blacky. He suspected that Woolly Bear might not fare so well should Blacky see him. But Blacky's



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wasn't afraid of Welcome Robin. Welcome Robin eyed him a bit hungrily, then shook his head. "He's too furry for me," said Welcome Robin. "I just couldn't swallow him. No, sir, I just couldn't swallow him. That fur coat of his would make him stick in my throat." Welcome Robin took to his wings again and flew over to the Old Orchard. Woolly Bear hurried on. Peter followed. He had become so curious about Woolly Bear and where he was going that he quite forgot he was right out in the open where anybody who should come along would see him.

"I've just got to know where Woolly Bear is going. I've got to!" said Peter to himself. Then he sat up for a quick look around to make sure that no one was watching him.

KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

By Zane Grey



I'LL TAKE BLACK KNIGHT BACK TO THE RANCH, KING!

I'LL GET ROCKY TATE AND GLORIOUS DAVE WHEN THEY PICK UP THE RANSOM MONEY, LOLA!

WHEN GREEN'S PUTTING THE RANSOM FOR HIS PRIZE STALLION IN THE TIN CAN, GLORIOUS!

YEAH, ROCKY! AN' \$5,000 WILL GET US BOTH OUT OF THE COUNTRY!

NO, GLORIOUS! YOU'RE GOING BACK TO PRISON INSTEAD!

JOE PALOOKA

By Ham Fisher



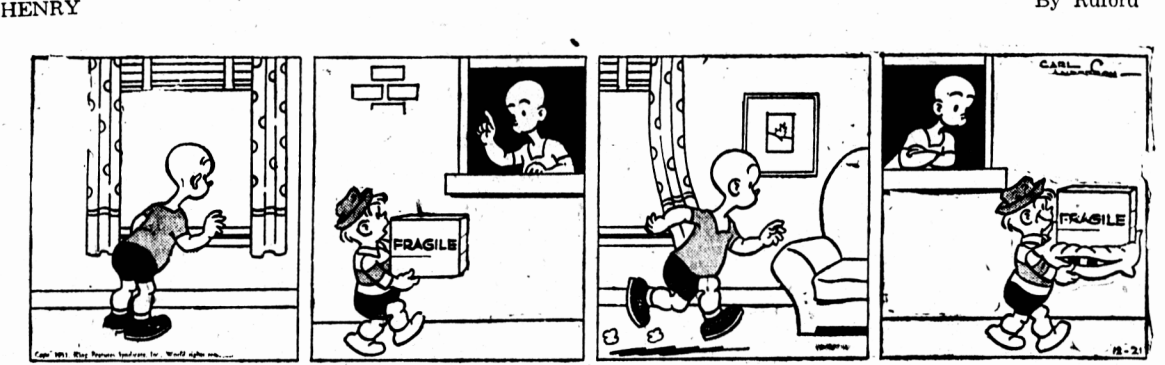
A VICIOUS FIGHT ENIGUES... THE REED, TRAINY AT THIS TYPE OF COMBAT, TAKES TERRIBLE PUNISHMENT FROM JOE... BUT GIVE PLenty IN RETURN...

ONE OF THE ASSASSINS CRASHES A STOOL AGAINST JOE'S HEAD...

AS JOE FALLS UNCONSCIOUS, TWO OF THE MEN GRAB FOR GUNS TO FINISH HIM...

HENRY

By Ruford



FRAGILE

FRAGILE

DOTTY DIPPLE

By Carl Anderson



HELLO DEAR!

HOW MUCH DID YOU SPEND?

TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

By Edwina



WELL, TODAY I'M GOIN' SHOPPIN' 'FORE ANYBODY COMES...

LOOK - TIPPY'S STILL MAD AT HIS RABBIT!

OH, MY LAND! TH' DOOR - YOU GO, AN' I'LL...

IT'S ALL RIGHT, GRAN MA - I TOLD HER YOU'D GONE OUT TH' BACK DOOR, AN' WASN'T AT HOME!!

NOTICE

NO MILK DELIVERIES CHRISTMAS OR NEW YEAR'S DAY

Customers are requested to put out extra milk bottles on Monday, December 24 and the following December 31, in order that we may leave sufficient to last over the holidays, and enable our Delivery Men to enjoy the days with their families.

Our Best Wishes for a Very Happy Yuletide

Pure Milk Co., Ltd.

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Flock
- Narrated
- Melody
- Ostrich-like bird
- Foreign
- Accumulate
- A skin tumor
- Daily
- Chinese silk
- Northeast (abbr.)
- Scatter
- Half an er
- Short sleep
- Stocking
- Man's nickname
- Thrice
- Vitality
- Language of Arabia
- Ahead
- To lease again
- Calcium (sym.)
- Often (post.)
- Duct (anat.)
- Little sister
- Pocketbook
- Instruct
- Observed
- Sprawl
- Sprouting spots in potatoes
- Favor (obs.)

DOWN

- Whalebone
- Ireland
- Content for
- Chinese river
- Barter
- Unit of resistance (Elec.)
- Marshy meadows
- Rushes
- Beards of rye
- Rational office
- Coin (Swed.)
- Serious
- Source of flour
- Spherule
- Spherical body
- Braced framework
- Fold in thread
- Imbue
- A wing
- Pendant
- Ready money
- Levels
- Three-spot card
- A seasoning
- Diocesan center
- Goddess of dawn

Yesterday's Answer

1. Whaling 2. Whaling 3. Whaling 4. Whaling 5. Whaling 6. Whaling 7. Whaling 8. Whaling 9. Whaling 10. Whaling 11. Whaling 12. Whaling 13. Whaling 14. Whaling 15. Whaling 16. Whaling 17. Whaling 18. Whaling 19. Whaling 20. Whaling 21. Whaling 22. Whaling 23. Whaling 24. Whaling 25. Whaling 26. Whaling 27. Whaling 28. Whaling 29. Whaling 30. Whaling 31. Whaling 32. Whaling 33. Whaling 34. Whaling 35. Whaling 36. Whaling 37. Whaling 38. Whaling 39. Whaling 40. Whaling 41. Whaling 42. Whaling 43. Whaling 44. Whaling 45. Whaling 46. Whaling 47. Whaling 48. Whaling

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE

Here's how to work it:

A X Y D L B A X R
I S O N G F E L L O W

One letter simply stands for another. In this example A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophies, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

A Cryptogram Quotation

F H W W, R Y A X G K K E A D W G X T, A T W
T W P J T A A T G A S P W H N E D W U W D P K
A T W S P J T A - S E K J N W S S E C.

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THAT AIR AND HARMONY OF SHAPE EXPRESS, FINE BY DEGREES, AND BEAUTIFULLY LESS—PRIOR.

POGO

By Walt Kelly



SPECIAL DELIVERY!

WHO FER?

ME FER... THAT'S WHO FER... A CHRISTMAS PRESENT.

FOOP! DON'T OPEN IT! WHOEVER SENT IT WILL OWN IT!

THAT'S TOOK CARE OF, GO TO SPEAK.

WHO SENT IT?

ME! AN' IT'S JES' WHAT I WANTED.

BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManus



OH-ME!! THIS WEATHER HAS ME GOUT ON A RAUSAGE!

THE LITTLE BOY DOWN THE STREET IS GOING TO CALL - YOU MADE A BIG HIT WITH HIM!

I'D LIKE TO HIT HIM!

MR. JIGGS - I'M HERE!!

WELL - COME IN AN' GIT IT OVER WITH - I'M READY TO SEE YOU!

L'L ABNER

By Al Capp



I DON'T IF THEM DON'T NA I CAN OUTE THE LOT OF...

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TILLY THE TOILER

By Westover



HE STRODE AWAY, A WAY, A WAY, INDIGNATION VIBRATING IN EVERY MUSCLE!

OH, I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU!

WANT MY SCOOTER, MISS TILLY?

WHY, YES, OLIVER!

BOY, CAN I DESCRIBE HOW A NOVELIST FLEES FROM A WOMAN!

RIP KIRBY

By Alex Raymond



WE WILL PROCEED ACCORDING TO PLAN, MR. KIRBY. WERE ARE YOUR WEAPONS AND NOW FOR YOUR DISGUISES...

DES, YOU'RE MARVELOUS! THE REMARKABLE OF THAT KHAWA HINSELE!

MEANWHILE, AT THE PALACE OF THE SHEIK EL KAZAR:

THE SHEIK EL KAZAR COMMANDS YOUR PRESENCE, MADEMOISELLE BENSON!

TELL THE 'COMMANDER' I'LL REPORT WHEN I'M READY! KIRZA, POUR ME ANOTHER CUP OF JAVIER!

FENNY

By Harry Haenigsen



I'M SORRY I CAN'T SIT FOR YOU TONIGHT, MRS. GRAHAM... BYE, NOW.

ARE YOU BUSY TONIGHT, DEAR?

NO MOTHER, IT'S JUST THAT HER CHILDREN ARE SUCH FRIENDS TO SIT WITH!

REALLY? I THOUGHT YOUR LITTLE ELVIRA WAS AWFULLY SWEET.

SHE IS, BUT THE OTHER THREE ARE SIMPLY AWFL...

MRS. GRAHAM JUST USES ELVIRA AS SORT OF A DECOY FOR BABY SITTERS.

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