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# BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

(By Thornton W. Burgess)

### THE HATEFULEST SOUND

Alas that those whom we hold dear So often live in constant fear. —Old Mother Nature.

Lovely Lady Autumn had painted the Green Forest and all the roadside trees and some of the bushes in lovely colors. In many ways it was the most beautiful season of all the year. There were red in many shades and yellows and browns, so that all the landscape was shorn of all ugliness and was beautiful as at no other time in all the year. The sumacs were crimson, the maples red and gold. The birch trees wore golden robes, and the distant hills were wrapped in purple haze.

Peter Rabbit had been out all night. It is Peter's way. Somehow he just cannot stay home in the dear Old Briar-patch when the dusk of evening softly falls. He just has to slip away, for the

like most of the Green Forest and Green Meadow folk, Peter is a light sleeper. He had been asleep but a little while when he suddenly sat up, his eyes wide open and his long ears standing straight up. At first he wasn't sure what had awakened him. Then he heard a sound that made jump a little. It was the hatefulest sound. Yes, sir, it was the hatefulest sound in those long ears of his ever heard. Not only was it the hatefulest sound to Peter, but it was the hatefulest sound to all the Green Forest and the Green Meadow folk. It was the hatefulest sound to the Duck folk on the big river. It was the hatefulest sound to Reddy Fox and Mrs. Reddy over in the Old Pasture. It was the sound of a gun, a terrible gun.

No other sound carries such fear to the furred and feathered folk, large and small. Peter crept to the edge of the dear Old Briar-patch and peeped out. It was still very early in the morning, jolly, round Mr. Sun began his daily climb up in the blue, blue sky. He was tired, for he had been roaming about all night. He was tired and he was sleepy. In two minutes after getting home he was asleep. Now,

## Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

### REGARDING THE OPENING LEAD

Ordinarily, an opening lead which does not cost a trick or destroy the defensive timing is a sound lead. However, there is still another test to be applied: Does the lead give declarer information which will be valuable in his play of the hand? Observe this case:

South dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.

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

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

The bidding:  
South    West    North    East  
1♠    Pass    2NT    Pass  
3♣    Pass    4♣    Pass  
3♠    Pass    Pass    Pass

South's bidding was rather strange in that he went back to clubs after having raised in spades, but the North-South spade bidding, as it happened, had a fortunate repercussion.

West, wanting to protect his spade strength, opened a trump. East took his ace and shifted to hearts. After winning with the

jack and ruffed a heart, then returned with a diamond and ruffed dummy's last heart. Now he cashed the king and ace of diamonds and led a low spade from the board. East put in the five-spot — it would have done him no good to put up the ten — and declarer simply covered the five with the seven, passing the trick to West. That defender, after winning with the spade jack, had the unpleasant alternative of returning a spade from his king to the combined tenace in the North-South hands, or, by leading another heart, giving the enemy an easy ruff and discard.

It is obvious that South read West's opening lead perfectly, or, to be more exact, read the reason for the trump lead. If West had opened a red card, South would have had a sheer guess as to how to play the spades, but with the implication that West was trying to protect spade honors, South's line of attack was very shrewd.

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## KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED



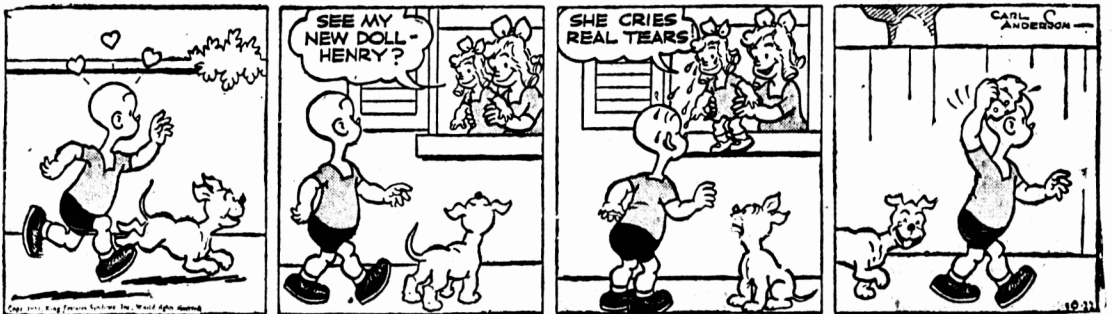
By Tim Fisher

## IOE PALOOKA



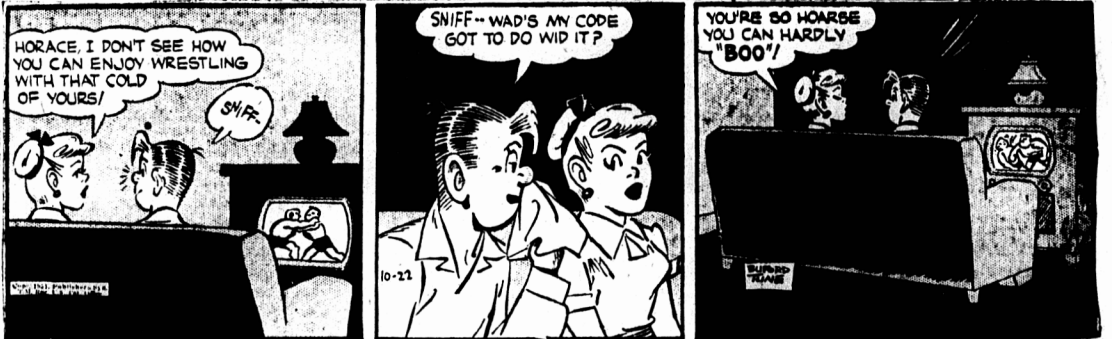
By Ruford

## HENRY



By Carl Anderson

## DOTTY DIPPLE



By Edwin

## TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS



By George McManus

## BRINGING UP FATHER



By Westover

## TILLY THE TOILER



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By Harry Hoerigen

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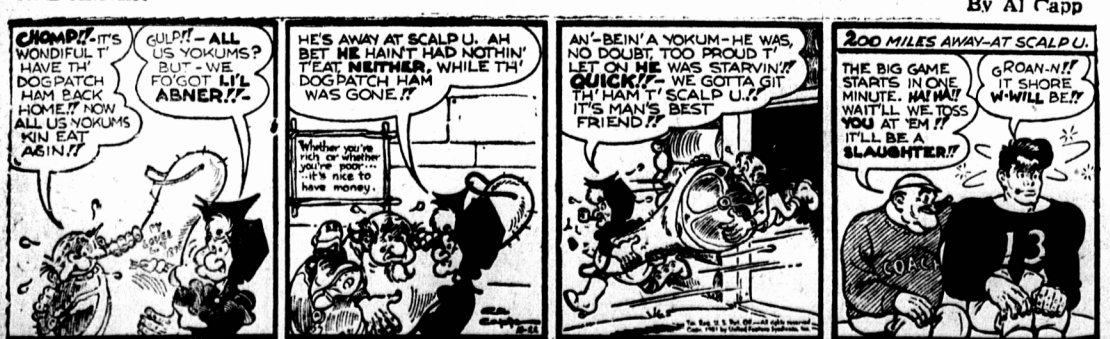
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By Alex Raymond