

The Tiny Folk

(A real story of real children for very young children)

The green meadow grass waved in the gentle breeze that whispered across the fields. In the pasture beyond, the cows were busy eating up the juicy blades. Busy little song sparrows flew about, while swallows dipped and swooped as they crossed from the brook to the barn with its clay nests beneath the eaves.

Laurie was visiting his cousin, Lynne, and they lay lazily beneath the shade of the rowan tree, watching the cat, the birds, and the cars passing on the highway. They talked of their plans when Lynne would spend her holidays on Playtime Lane. But soon they got bored with just being still and wondered what they could do.

"I have an idea. Let's go picking buttercups," suggested Lynne. "Oh yes, let's," Laurie gaily agreed. "Where shall we go?" "See that field over there," answered Lynne, pointing to the meadow sloping down to the brook. They took their hats and away they went stepping lightly through the very high thick grass by the fence.

"Here are some," shouted Lynne dashing over to her left. "And I've found some too," cried Laurie, running ahead to where golden buttercups lifted their heads on long swaying stems. In their eagerness to gather the blossoms they forgot to talk, but picked and picked.

"I have a big bunch. Let's go show Mommy," called Laurie. Back they went the way they had come, and into the house where Laurie's mother was chatting with Aunt Belle.

"Look at my buttercups," exclaimed Lynne. "Look at my big bunch," echoed Laurie. "Aren't they just beautiful, Mommy?"

"Yes, they are lovely, dear. Where did you get them?" his mother asked. "Oh, just over in the field. Lynne showed me where to go," he replied. "Do these flowers make butter?"

"His mother smiled. "No dear, they don't. They are just the color of butter, but we need cream for that, not flowers." "Let's put them in water so

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

NOT FUSSY

Being fussy doesn't pay. Just do things the easy way. —O! Mr. Buzzard.

O! Mistah Buzzard isn't fussy. He isn't fussy at all. He isn't fussy over how he looks, or what he eats or where he makes his home. Perhaps he is just lazy. It is the same way with Mrs. Buzzard. They are alike in every way, even looks. It is not easy to tell them apart, as Bob White had found out. He had mistaken Mrs. Buzzard for O! Mistah Buzzard.

Some of the feathered folk who spend each winter in the Sunny South hurry back with the coming of Mistah Spring. They make long hard flights to get to their nesting grounds. Sometimes at the end of a long flight, they are so tired they can hardly lift their wings. What they really do is make work of the long journey up from the Sunny South.

O! Mistah Buzzard, whose proper name is Vulture, doesn't believe in making work of flying. He and Mrs. Buzzard take things easy. They enjoy flying, and know how to fly with the least work. Their wings are never tired. Whatever they do, they do in the easiest way.

It is a good thing for them that they are not fussy, and that they never make work of flying. They are not killers like the members of the hawk family and the owl family. They are meat eaters like those others, but they do not kill to get it. They hunt for that killed by others, and perhaps left in the woods and fields. You know some of those hunters sometimes kill more than they can eat at one time. The buzzard folk are what

they won't die," suggested Lynne. She went for a small glass jar to put them in. Laurie helped too, but they had quite a bit of trouble getting them in. Some of the stems were very short and the flowers fell right out again. At last they had them all in.

"I'll put them up on the buffet," said Lynne. "There, now, Mommy, come and see our pretty bouquet." "They look so bright and gay against the dark wood," replied her mother, giving her a loving pat. "I'm prouder of the flowers; my little girl brings me than I would be if the best bouquet from the florist."

are called scavengers, living almost wholly on what other people leave.

Of course this means that they must look over a very large part of the Green Forest and the Green Meadows and the pastures in order to find enough to eat. So it is well that they can fly so tirelessly, and that they have such wonderful eyes.

When they had come up from the Sunny South this year, they had not returned to that part of the Green Forest where they had lived the year before. They had chosen to stop at a place a long distance from

their former place. You see distance means very little to such easy flyers. They had intended to return to the familiar part of the Green Forest, but it had happened that they had found a place where food seemed easier to find. So, they had stopped there.

They were not too far away to visit the old home in the Green Forest, but they were quite satisfied just to visit there. At first they gave no thought to house-keeping or homemaking. They were quite satisfied to sail over the Green Forest and the Big River and ponds and countryside day after day, just looking for something to eat. Then, one day, Mrs. Buzzard reminded O! Mistah Buzzard that it was time for them to decide where they would make this year's home.

Continued on page 14

DAILY CROSSWORD

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| ACROSS | 1. Determined by the sua | 6. Calling of brooding when | 11. Maxim | 12. Greek mathematician | 13. Vicia | 14. Shun | 15. Remnant | 16. Nocturnal bird | 18. Sheltered side | 19. Metal piece on shoe | 21. A wall recess | 22. Pale purple | 29. Helmet-shaped part (Bot.) | 30. Measure of land | 31. Little child | 32. Periods of time | 34. Viceroy | 37. Excavated | 38. Resort | 41. Gain | 43. Type of bay window | 45. Girl's name | 46. Scandinavian | 47. Tapestry | 48. Marks to let stand (print.) | | | | | | |
| DOWN | 1. Secure | 2. God of war (Norse) | 3. Disembark | 4. Grow old | 5. Determina | 6. Pincerlike organ | 7. Monetary unit (Bulg.) | 8. River (Russ.) | 9. Signal system | 10. Leg joint | 17. Tiny | 19. Small flock of partridge | 20. Snares | 21. Wine receptacle | 22. Substance in shellac | 23. Mongrel dog | 24. Grate | 28. Pale purple | 29. Helmet-shaped part (Bot.) | 30. Measure of land | 31. Little child | 32. Periods of time | 34. Viceroy | 37. Excavated | 38. Resort | 41. Gain | 43. Type of bay window | 45. Girl's name | 46. Scandinavian | 47. Tapestry | 48. Marks to let stand (print.) |

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