

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

(By Thornton W. Burgess)

THE MYSTERIOUS TAPPING

Always somewhere the sun is out; The darkest shadows put to rout. —Old Mother Nature.

Drummer the Woodpecker was in a bad way. Truly he was in a dreadful way; he was a prisoner. It was true that he was a prisoner in his own house, but it was also true that this was just as bad as if he had been a prisoner somewhere else. You see, even in his own house he could starve to death as quickly as he could anywhere else, for there was no food there. How did he happen to be a prisoner in his own house? While he slept, Jack Frost and rough Brother North Wind had locked his door. Rough Brother Wind had filled the doorway with wet snow, and Jack Frost had frozen that into the hardest kind of hard ice. Jolly, round, bright Mr. Sun was shining his brightest this morning, but poor Drummer knew nothing about this. There were no windows in his house, and with the doorway closed, it was very dark inside. Drummer had now been a prisoner for two nights and all of one day, this being his second day. He had tried to cut his way out through the ice and failed. Then he tried to cut through the side of his house and had failed again. There wasn't room in that snug little house for him to strike hard enough blows to cut a hole through. He tried himself out trying. But he kept trying all through that long frightful day when he realized that he was a prisoner. Now on the morning of this day he was too weak to strike as hard as he could the day before, or to keep trying as often. But he did keep trying from time to time.

Now it happened that that morning Farmer Brown's Boy visited the Green Forest. There was a crust on the snow, an icy crust, and it was quite thick. It made Farmer Brown's Boy anxious. You see, he knew that some-



Farmer Brown's Boy stood for some moments still listening.

times Thunder the Grouse and Mrs. Grouse buried themselves in the snow when it was deep enough on the ground and spent the night there. You see, they felt quite safe. They would give nothing about this. There were no windows in his house, and with the doorway closed, it was very dark inside. Drummer had now been a prisoner for two nights and all of one day, this being his second day. He had tried to cut his way out through the ice and failed. Then he tried to cut through the side of his house and had failed again. There wasn't room in that snug little house for him to strike hard enough blows to cut a hole through. He tried himself out trying. But he kept trying all through that long frightful day when he realized that he was a prisoner. Now on the morning of this day he was too weak to strike as hard as he could the day before, or to keep trying as often. But he did keep trying from time to time.

Now it happened that that morning Farmer Brown's Boy visited the Green Forest. There was a crust on the snow, an icy crust, and it was quite thick. It made Farmer Brown's Boy anxious. You see, he knew that some-

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

A SLIGHT MISCALCULATION

In the following deal, played at match-point duplicate, a certain South could have earned a "top," simply by going down 300 points. He took a needless risk in the play, however, and ended up with a "zero!"

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable. Match-point duplicate.

♠ J 10 8 2
♥ 6
♦ J 9 8 2
♣ A 3 2

3-A

♠ 6 4
♥ Q J 10 7
♦ 5
♣ 4 3

♠ K
♥ 8 4 3
♦ A K Q 10 6 5
♣ K 6 5

This however, was the auction at one table:

South West North East
1♠ Dble. 1♠ 2♥
2♦ 4♥ Pass Pass
3♦ Dble. (final bid)

West opened the heart king and (East having played the queen) continued with the heart ace. Dummy ruffed and declared lead a spade to his blank king. West won and led still another heart. Again dummy ruffed, and now the spade jack was led. When East played low, South thought about passing the trick to West, discarding a club from the closed hand, but he evidently concluded that he might as well ruff this round and then, if the queen did not drop, pass the next spade.

Unfortunately, however, East took a hand in this procedure. When South ruffed the spade jack, led a trump to the nine and returned the spade ten, East made sure that declarer would not pass the trick to West — he ruffed! This was a fatal blow to the declarer. He could not afford to let East win the trick and return a club, so declarer over-ruffed. But now he had to give up three club tricks anyway and concede a penalty of 500 points!

Most East-West pairs ended up at four or five hearts and scored 480 points for winning 12 tricks.

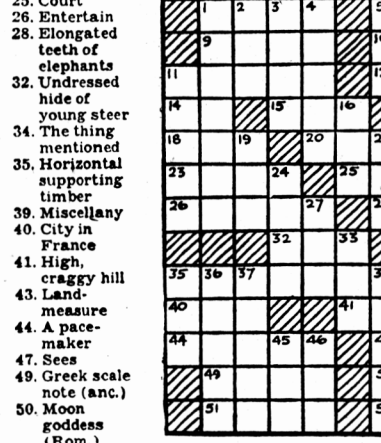
DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
1. A rail
 2. Digging tool
 3. Thin tin plate
 4. A unit of gem weight
 5. King of Bashan (Bib.)
 6. Little girl
 7. Denary
 8. Past
 9. Supporting stones
 10. Claret (Irish)
 11. Court
 12. Entertain
 13. Elongated teeth of elephants
 14. Undressed hide of young steer
 15. The thing mentioned
 16. Horizontal supporting timber
 17. Miscellaneous
 18. City in France
 19. High, craggy hill
 20. Land-measure
 21. A pace-maker
 22. Seas
 23. Greek scale note (anc.)
 24. Moon goddess (Rom.)
- DOWN**
1. Expression of sorrow
 2. Observes
 3. Reel
 4. Rowing implement
 5. Narrow inlets (geol.)
 6. A funny action
 7. Chum
 8. Frozen water
 9. Packing box
 10. A cleat (naut.)
 11. Shoreline
 12. Half ems
 13. Female pig
 14. Open (poet.)
 15. Decay
 16. A set-to
 17. Seize
 18. Apex
 19. Chinese silk
 20. Hawaiians
 21. Asterisks
 22. Carass
 23. Juice of plants
 24. Any climbing vine
 25. A steep (L.)
 26. Revolves
 27. A rake
 28. Outcast class (Jap.)
 29. Property (L.)
 30. Undivided



Yesterday's Answer

42. A rake
45. Outcast class (Jap.)
46. Property (L.)
48. Undivided



DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:

A X Y D L B A A X R
W L 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, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

A Cryptogram Quotation

R G A D T J R F D X Z Y D X F T Y B N H W R
O D S D N T B Q ; R N W D R T R F D U Z O P N D P
A T Z O R Y T J F D B S D O B O P T Q D I - X T N P Y -
X T N R F .

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: HE HAD AN ALMOST INVINCIBLE REPUGNANCE TO PAYING ANYBODY—THACKERAY.

By Wait Kelly

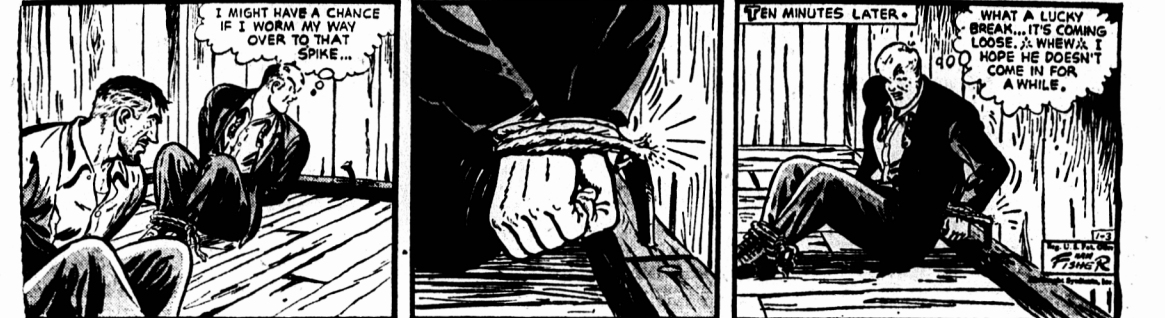
KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

By Zane Grey



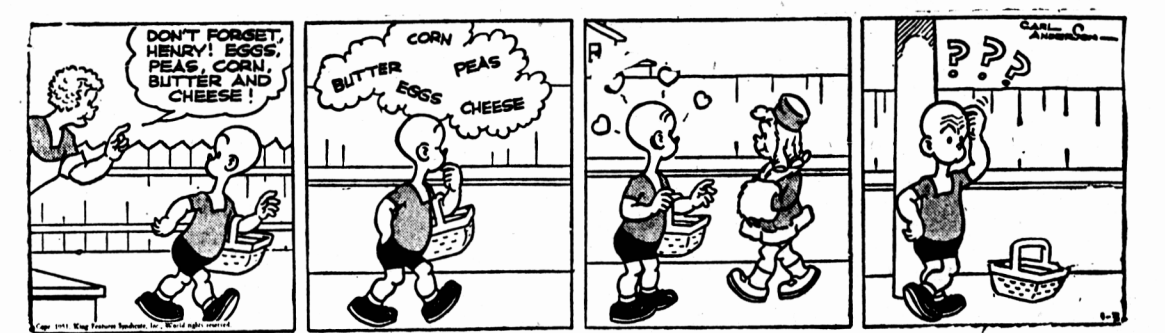
JOE PALOOKA

By Ham Fisher



HENRY

By Carl Anderson



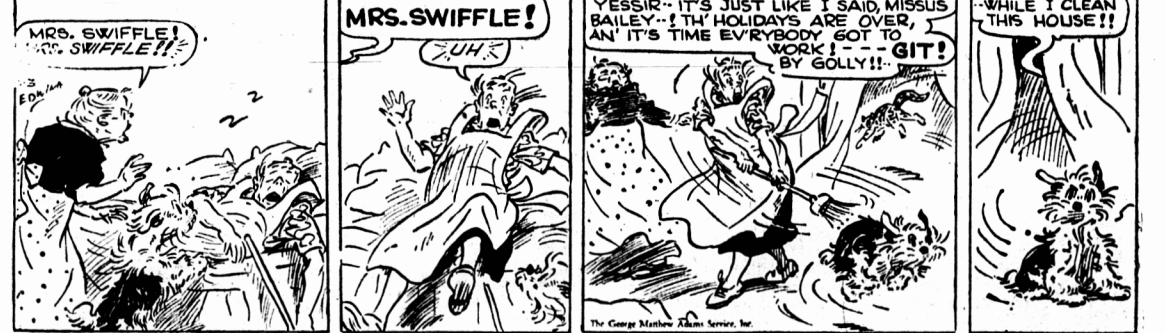
DOTTY DIPPLE

By Ruford



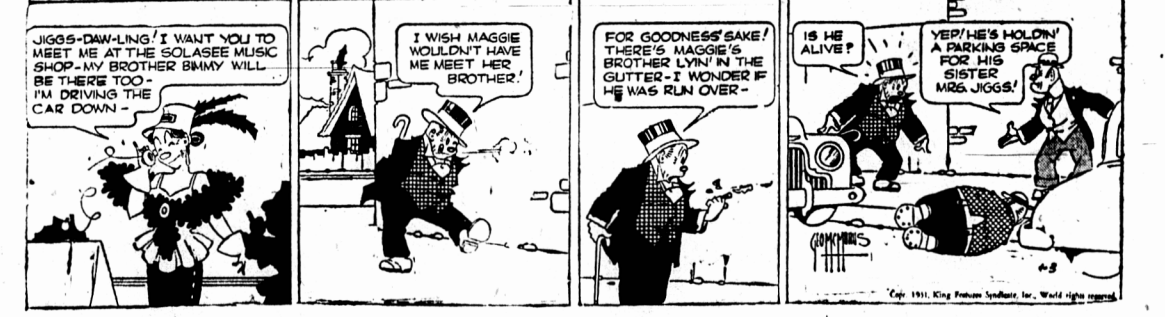
TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

By Edwin



BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManus



TILLY THE TOILER

By Bob Gustafson



PENNY

By Harry Hoegen



POGO



L'L ABNER

By Al Capp



RIP KIRBY

By Alex Raymond

