

# BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

## WASTED PITY

This strange but very often true, that those you pity, pity you.

—Old Mother Nature.

There had been a great storm, and bitter cold. But that was over and past. It had kept Peter Rabbit in the dear old Briar-patch for several days. But now he had a chance to get out, and he was making the most of it. As soon as the Black Shadows had made it safe for him to do so Peter left the dear old Briar-patch, kicked up his long heels,

and started straight for the Smiling Pool. He really didn't expect to find anybody there, for he knew that it was frozen over. So he wasn't really disappointed when he reached the bank of the Smiling Pool and saw no one.

Of course the Smiling Pool was not smiling. It didn't look like a pool at all. Jack Frost had covered it with ice, and then covered the ice with snow. Over near the farther shore was a white mound. It was a low mound, rising just a little above the surface of the Smiling Pool. Peter knew what it was. It was the roof of Jerry Muskrat's house. Jerry had built that house out in the water in the fall. Peter had often seen Jerry sitting on that roof. Now he could sit on that roof himself, and he did.

"I wonder where Jerry and Mrs. Muskrat are now. I wonder if they are down right under me," thought Peter. "It doesn't seem as if they can be. They must be prisoners down inside. I pity them. Yes, sir, I pity them. It must be dreadful to be prisoners anywhere, but especially down in the water. Somehow it seems hard to believe they are down inside this house. What a dreadful way of living! I certainly pity them."

Then Peter thumped with his hind feet. It was his way of letting his friends know that he was about. Down inside that snow-covered house Jerry Muskrat and Mrs. Jerry were curled up asleep.



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They were not down in the water as Peter thought. They had a nice dry bed above the water in a little bedroom made of rushes. They heard Peter thump. He thumped twice. The first thump awakened them. Perhaps it startled them a little. But when Peter thumped the second time they knew what the sound was.

"Peter Rabbit is up on our roof," said Jerry sleepily. Mrs. Jerry yawned. "I'm glad I'm not a Rabbit," said she. "I pity Peter this time of year." "So, do I," agreed Jerry. "It must be dreadful to be out in all kinds of weather. Jack Frost can pinch all he pleases, and Rough Brother Northwind can blow his hardest and we don't even know it. But, it must be hard for Peter."

"Just think of trying to get enough to eat when everything is buried in snow," said Mrs. Jerry. "All we have to do is swim out and get a catfish, bring it back here, and eat it in comfort. We are just as comfortable as in summer."

"In some ways we are more comfortable," said Jerry. "We really don't have a thing in the world to worry about. No enemy can get us here."

"Have you forgotten Billy Mink?" asked Mrs. Jerry, softly. "I don't think he is anywhere around. Even if he is, he will know better than to try to come in her with both of us here. So, I don't worry about him. But Peter has got to be watching for a lot of hungry folk. I certainly pity Peter Rabbit," said Jerry.

## MORE PLUMBERS

Canada had 29,531 plumbers in 1951, compared with 17,469 in the census of 1941.

## Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

The Ganges is the only river in the world which is used for bathing, drinking, and the disposal of human and animal bodies.

The nearby city of Benares is a breeding ground for diseases that are always prevalent and frequently grow to epidemic proportions. It is to millions of Indians the only river. Near this sacred and historic river lived Buddha, founder of a religion that even in our day boasts millions of followers.

A study of the great rivers of the world is both entertaining and educational in that each has left its influence on mankind. Passing from the sacred Ganges we now come to the Tigris and Euphrates where we are told our first parents dwelt in a paradise garden.

Many nations rose and fell in the Tigris and Euphrates valley, or the valley of Humiliation as it is sometimes called. Wheat was extensively cultivated in this valley of blood and tears since earliest times. Here too you may see the ruins of the wonderful engineering skill developed by the ancients. Because of their historic and biblical significance, the Tigris and Euphrates must ever remain among the important rivers of the world.

Have you ever wondered why that spool of thread you bought from your corner store bore a certain number? Remember that thread is numbered according to its degree of fineness, the higher the number the finer the thread. Every skein and every ball being of the same length, its weight increased as the thread gets coarser. We pick up a particular thread and find that it bears the number 200, which is a very fine thread indeed.

Pins are made of brass by means of a draw plate, a steel plaque pierced with tiny holes, each smaller than the preceding.

A tiny brass rod is forced through the largest hole to make it slimmer then through smaller holes until the wire acquires the desired fineness. The brass wires then into small bundles and with thin shears, cuts them into pin length pieces. The next step in the process is to sharpen the pieces at both ends. These are then out in two in the middle.

## Finds Another Cruel Sea Drama

LONDON (CP)—Novelist Nicholas Monsarrat, on leave from his post as United Kingdom information officer in Ottawa, Tuesday described another drama of the cruel sea.

The 44-year-old author recounted a sea rescue he witnessed as a passenger aboard the liner Queen Mary from New York. Monsarrat, in Britain on 10 weeks' leave, said he stayed up all night to watch the transfer of two injured sailors from the Greek merchant ship Liberty.

A motor lifeboat from the liner made two trips to the smaller craft, first to put a surgeon aboard the freighter and later to bring back the two seamen. "It was magnificent seamanship," he said. Later Monsarrat and fellow passenger Jack Buchanan, a British stage star, collected \$212 from passengers for the lifeboat crew.

Monsarrat is the author of three best-selling novels: "The Cruel Sea," "HMS Marlborough," "The Story of Esther Costello," and several short stories.

and are all ready to receive their heads. As a finishing touch the pins are coated with tin, washed with a liquid, and finally shaken up with bran in a leather container in order to give them a high polish.

## JURY SYSTEM

All criminal cases except minor offences are tried by judge and jury of 12 in the Republic of Ireland.

### Faster DRY CLEANING SERVICE

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## DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS: 1. Found in jungles; 2. Macaws (Bras.); 3. Thin part of chin; 4. Guide; 19. Cut on a slant; 20. River (60. Am.); 21. A pointed arch; 22. Paris of romance; 23. On the ocean; 24. Underside of dog's foot; 25. Ministers; 26. God of war (Gr.); 27. Child; 28. Exclamation indicating "what?"; 29. Alcoholic beverage; 30. Scotch; 31. Senior (abbr.); 32. Apple seed; 33. Member of a Slavic tribe; 34. Houses of worship; 35. Also; 36. Across; 40. Gas (Eng.); 41. Chief of the Apostles; 42. Ascend; 43. Ruck out; 44. Stunted animals; 47. Otherwise; 48. Observes.

SCAD SALES  
ZESTO ALIVE  
AVISO BAKING  
JAMES BEARS  
JAM Toppers  
MONDAY NATIVE  
HONEY BEANS  
TOP EES POP  
TIMED KOALA  
TANGS SPILL  
SLAGS TRILL

Yesterday's answer  
94. Trunks of trees  
95. Iron, for example  
37. Withers  
41. Real  
43. Female raft

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DOWN: 1. Become visible; 2. Despoil (abbr.); 3. Auditory organs; 4. Guide; 5. Finish report; 6. Baiting recess; 7. Dispatch boat; 8. Serious; 9. Genus of tentacles; 10. A dog's walking line; 11. A dog's walking line; 12. Place; 19. Heart; 21. Subdue; 25. Military (abbr.); 27. Of the Peter; 28. Under-ground excavation (Min.); 29. To venerate; 30. Vitality; 31. Porebos.

### DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:

One letter simply stands for another. In this example for the three L's, X for the two A'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  
KYS UDFEX, MX WERSJ SW YMX  
KERLY, YMX LMPF, YMX RMVZELI,  
YMX YEDRLY—TSLLSJ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THEY DO ABUSE THE KING, THAT FLATTER HIM; FOR FLATTERY IS THE BELLOWS BLOWS UP SIN—SHAKESPEARE.

## Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson  
TOO MUCH BIDDING

South had some slight responsibility for the bad result in the deal below, but it was North who was about 95% to blame.

North dealer.  
Match-point duplicate.  
Both sides vulnerable.

AKJ832	Q1096
1073	K84
9	5
K107	QJ65
AKJ65	AKJ304
QJ6	A85

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1♠ Pass 2♥ Pass  
2♠ Pass 4♥ Pass  
4♥ Pass 5♥ Pass  
5♠ Pass 5NT Pass  
6♠ Dble. 6NT Pass  
Pass Dble. Pass Pass

South didn't have to jump on the second round — three diamonds over North's two spades would have been forcing, and would have saved a round of bidding. However, the North-South partnership did not get into any real trouble until North, having previously lured his partner into a false sense of security by giving a preference for hearts instead of rebidding his spades, suddenly veered back into the high-ranking spade suit at the levels of five and six. South's five-heart bid was certainly a reasonable probe for a slam, and since North was none too strong in high cards and had no real fit for either of South's suits, he should have been glad to accept five hearts as the final contract.

But even North's five-spade bid would not have been fatal if it had not been followed up by the atrocious bid of six spades. South's five notrump over five spades was, of course, nothing but the announcement of his inability to stand spades as a trump suit, and of his doubt whether six hearts could be made. Thus, in plain logic, it was a compromise and waiting bid, asking North either to pass or go to six hearts. As a matter of fact, with the cards lying as they did, either action on North's part probably would have had a good result. Six hearts could be made if declarer guessed the location of the king of diamonds and the ace of clubs; and five notrump was also makable. The six-notrump contract, however, was just too much, even on the excellent breaks South found.

GET YOUR FREE DIGEST of the Culbertson Point-Count Method. Simply send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the J. C. Winston Co., 1010 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

### Feeling weary?

WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT CHEWING GUM

The lively flavour refreshes you and the pleasant chewing gives you a happy little lift. Refreshing delicious Wrigley's Spearmint Gum is good to chew—and good for you. Enjoy it every day!

### Raise—Believe It or Not!

NEEDLES WERE USED AS LEGAL TENDER IN NIGERIA

JOHN HOLLAND  
half brother to King Richard II  
FOUND GUILTY OF MURDERING RALPH STAFFORD IN 1385  
WAS ORDERED TO PAY FOR SERVICES FOR HIS VICTIMS SOUL "UNTIL THE WORLD ENDS"

### COUGH RELIEF WITHOUT STOMACH UPSET!

Here is a new, pleasant cough medicine that does not upset stomach or appetite! Vicks Medi-Trating Cough Syrup. A combination of a new penetrating ingredient with a medicating formula. The penetrating ingredient carries the medicine to irritated crevices of the throat, where the medicating ingredient can go right to work. That's why it's named Vicks Medi-Trating Cough Syrup. It medicates as it penetrates.

VICKS MEDI-TRATING COUGH SYRUP  
It Medicates as it Penetrates

### Drive out ACHES

As Joe Otterfoot sets out to track down Injun Tom, all the cunning of his Mohawk ancestors surges through his veins....

ONE OF MY DISTANT COUSINS WAS SAID TO BE ABLE TO STAND IN AN OPEN MEADOW AND POSE AS A TREE!

TOO BAD ABOUT COUSIN HUSTAIL A WEARYED PALEFACE FINALLY CHIPPED HIM UP FOR FIREWOOD!

Then, suddenly, Joe freezes in his tracks—he knows that another person is near!

### MINARD'S LINIMENT

Secret Agent X9

### Henry

MODERN ART EXHIBIT

### Grandma

GRANDMA, I WAS PLAYIN' AN' HAD AN ACCIDENT! WOULD YOU...  
SURE, I'LL FETCH MY FIRST-AID KIT RIGHT AWAY!  
BUT, GEE, I DON'T NEED MEDICINE...  
THANKS, GRANDMA!

### Mickey Mouse

THAT'S NOT FAIR FOR THEM TO THROW A SMOKE SCREEN AT US, UNCA MICKEY...!  
TRY AND KEEP AN EYE ON THEM...!  
NO USE! WE'LL HAVE TO STOP! I CAN'T...KOFF! KOFF!... SEE A THING!  
GOSH! IT'S DISAPPEARED!  
I'M SURE IT WAS GOOFY WE SAW IN THAT BACK SEAT!

### She

SAY, MAGGIE—DID YOU TELL YOUR BROTHER BIMMY WHERE I HAD THAT BOX OF CIGARS?  
YEE—I DID!  
AND I THINK YOU'RE VERY BELIEFABLE TO BEGRUDGE BIMMY JUST ONE MEASURABLE CIGAR!

### Mugs and Skooter

WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THAT GETUP, SKOOTER?  
I'M GOING TO THE COSTUME PARTY—SAME AS YOU!  
BUT IT'S A CIRCUS PARTY!  
OK! SO I'M A CIRCUS KNIGHT!  
YOU LOOK LIKE AN UNREASONABLE FACSIMILE OF KING ARTHUR!  
I CAN'T HELP IT! I'M GOING TO THE PARTY WITH A GIRL IN THE EIGHTH GRADE...  
...AND I WANT A COSTUME THAT WILL MAKE ME LOOK OLDER!!

### Etta Kett

YOWEE! AND AM I HUNGRY?  
HOPE THERE'S FRIED CHICKEN LEFT!  
THE MORE I THINK OF IT, THE BETTER I LIKE THOSE NEW MODERN HOUSES—WITH THE KITCHEN IN FRONT!  
AND WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS HOUSE?  
TOO OLD-FASHIONED!  
THE FRONT DOOR IS TOO FAR FROM THE ICEBOX DOOR!

### Tilly The Toiler

WELL, ANYTHING IMPORTANT I HAVE TO DO TODAY?  
OH YES, GIRL! I'VE MADE A NOTE OF IT ON YOUR CALENDAR PAD.  
J.P. SIMPKIN  
BUY TILLIE A BIRTHDAY PRESENT!  
BY THE WAY I HAVE PLENTY OF STOCKINGS!

### Fran Striker

YOU?—WHERE'S THE BEST HOTEL IN SLOBOVIA?  
IS—SLOV—NO BEST HOTEL!! IN SLOBOVIA IS NO BEST ANY-THING!!  
IS ONLY A WORST HOTEL AND YOU MUST AS WELL STAY THERE—  
IS—SLOV...  
I CONRAD PILTDOWN YOUR HOST AND THIS IS MY FAMILY!!  
I THE BELLHOP, LITTLE GOODNICK! MY WICK LITTLE HARMS IS READY TO CARRY YOU BAGS. (?YOU LAZY BOWNS?)  
I OZZIE, THE DAY MAID!  
I HARRIET, THE NIGHT MAID!  
SNORT!—THIS ONE'S A BEAUTY!! WHY DOESN'T THE OTHER SHOW HERSELF!

### Mel Graff

WAIT A FEW MINUTES...I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.  
S'WHOW? W-WONDER WHAT HE'S GONNA DO...KNOBBY MUSTA BEEN RIGHT?  
FIVE MINUTES PASS  
I BETTER GET OUTA HERE...I'M INACCENT...I'LL MAKE 'EM COME IN AN' FACE IT!  
JUST A MINUTE, MISTER...THAT TELLER WANTS YOU...

By Carl Andersen  
By Charles Kuhn  
By Walt Disney  
By George McManus  
By Wally Bishop  
By Paul Robinson  
By Bob Gustafson  
By Al Capp  
By Mel Graff