

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

PETER HEARS STRANGE SOUNDS

Time is precious put to use. Idleness has no excuse. —Old Mother Nature.

Peter Rabbit had watched Busy Bee and some of her sister Bees fly into the Green Forest. He had seen them do it several times after visiting a few late flowers just outside the Green Forest. Each time they had flown in the same direction. It had set Peter to wondering. He knew that over in Farmer Brown's dooryard at the edge of the Old Orchard there were several

beehives. Why hadn't these Bees flown over there instead of into the Green Forest? At last curiosity got the better of him. He knew that Bees taking sweets back home fly in straight lines. He would go into the Green Forest and follow the straight line of these Bees. That should take him straight to Busy Bee's new home if she had one there.

So Peter entered the Green Forest hopping rather slowly, every hop or so looking up for a glimpse of the Bees passing to and fro overhead. He did get glimpses of them once or twice just after he started in, so he knew he was going in the right



Up near the top of that tall dead stub, was someone in a black coat.

direction. What Peter didn't think of was that those very small persons flying so fast would be difficult to see through the treetops even if the latter were bare. He had gone only a few hops before he saw the last of the Bees.

"I'll just keep on anyway. All I have to do is travel in a straight line," thought Peter.

But traveling in a straight line with nothing to go by is anything but easy. And in no time at all Peter was far off to one side of that straight line. By and by he began to suspect this. Then he began to wander about. All the time he kept hoping to find where those Bees were living. It didn't occur to him that he didn't know what sort of a place to look for.

So Peter wandered this way and that way until he became tired and discouraged. He lost interest. "I really don't care where those Bees live," said Peter to himself. "I'll just look around for my cousin, Jumper the Hare. I haven't seen him in a long time."

Peter forgot the Bees and went hunting for his cousin, Jumper the Hare. He visited several of Jumper's favorite resting places, but didn't find him. He was taking a rest himself when his long ears suddenly flew straight up. Then he sat straight up. What was that noise? Where did it come from? Who was making it? For a moment or two he heard nothing more. Then there was a sound very like a squeal, as if someone had been hurt. It was followed by a louder squeal, then a snarl, as if someone had lost his temper. Slowly, cautiously, sitting up every hop or two to look and listen, Peter went in the direction those sounds were coming from. Then he heard another sound. It was a loud humming. It had an

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Contract Bridge

By Josephine Cluerton

A MATTER OF PREFERENCE

North's "preference-bidding" in the following hand was very badly calculated.

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

♠ A J 5
♥ 10
♦ K 10 7 6 4 2
♣ 10 6 5

♠ K 10 8 3
♥ 7 5 4
♦ Q J 7
♣ 3 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass
3♥ Pass 3NT Pass
4♠ Pass 5♣ Pass

West opened the fourth-highest spade and this soon resulted in declarer's being shortened in trumps. (West continued spades at all future opportunities.) So, even though South ruffed out the heart queen and thus solidified his long suit, he could not control the hand, and the outcome was a three-trick penalty.

This was the result of extremely poor cooperation on North's part. True, North had three times as many clubs as hearts, but it nevertheless should have been quite clear to him that a game contract would be safer and easier in the major suit. South had not announced a true two-suit — it was inconceivable that he could have as good clubs as hearts. By jumping to three hearts over two diamonds, South had shown at least a six-card heart suit and thus North's singleton ten figured to be quite adequate in support. At any rate, it figured to be more adequate in support of a ten-trick major-suit contract than North's hand as a whole. Including his 10-x of clubs, would be in support of an eleven-trick minor-suit contract. On top of everything else there was the strong implication that South himself had a decided preference for hearts.

South could have made four hearts without extending himself. This working principle can be laid down: When one must choose between two suits bid by partner, singleton support for an obviously good six-card major is better than three-card support for an obvious four-card minor.

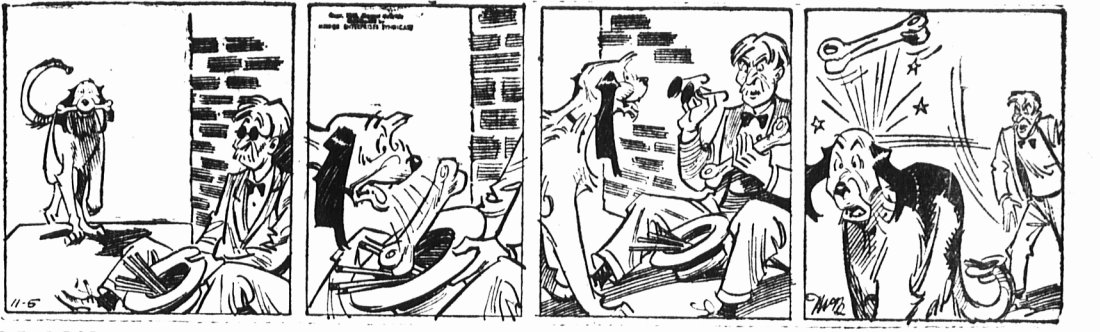
RIP KIRBY

By Alex Raymond



Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Clifford McBride



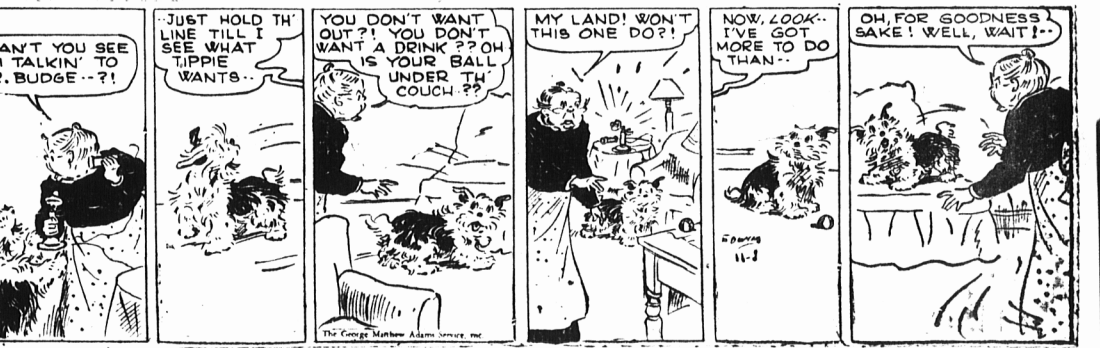
JOE PALOOKA

By Ham Fisher



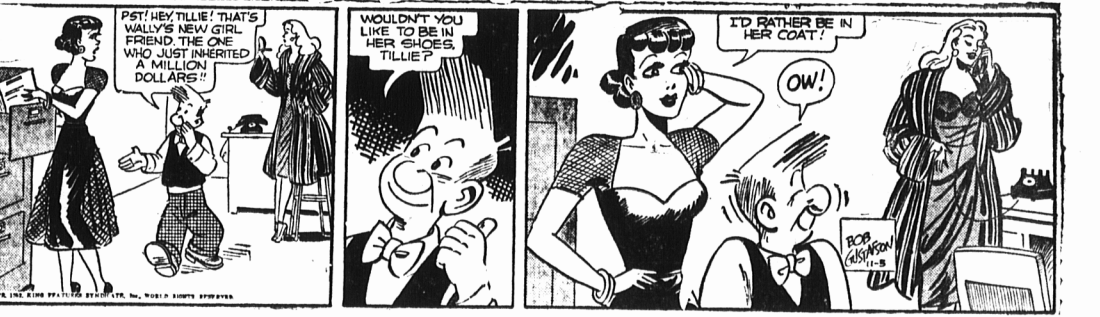
TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

By Edwina



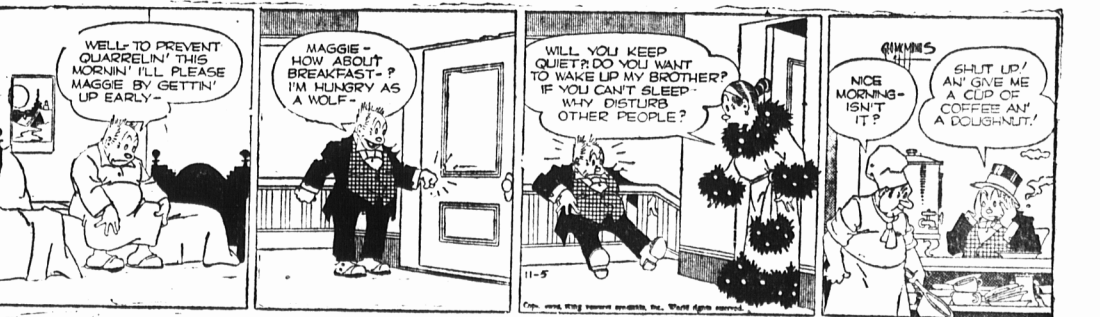
TILLY THE TOILER

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