

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson
GHASTLY DEFENSE

It is hard to imagine worse defense than that in the following case.

West dealer.
(Neither side vulnerable.)

♠ 865	♥ J4
♦ 7	♣ AKJ9
♠ K10	♥ 86
♦ AK87542	♣ 743
♠ AKQ	♥ J4
♦ 1097	♣ AKJ9
♠ 52	♥ 86
♦ Q109	♣ 743
♠ 32	♥ J4
♦ Q432	♣ AKJ9
♠ AQJ986	♥ 86
♦ 6	♣ 743

The bidding:
West North East South
♠ 4 Pass 4 Pass 5 Pass
♥ 4 Pass 4 Pass 5 Pass
♦ 4 Pass 4 Pass 5 Pass
♣ 4 Pass 4 Pass 5 Pass

First, a few words about the bidding. North might have been a little more enterprising and doubled four spades after South doubled four hearts. Also, South was taking quite a risk when he bid five diamonds.

West opened the king of spades and continued with the ace. Now, of course, a shift to hearts would have taken the setting trick then and there, and a shift to trumps would have been even more costly to the enemy, but for some obscure reason West continued with the queen of spades. East, anxious to keep declarer from cashing two club tricks, discarded the club three and South ruffed.

Prospects must have looked very dark to South but he was certainly not lacking in sheer nerve! He led his singleton club to the king and ruffed a low club while East frantically signalled with the jack of hearts. Now a low diamond was led to the ten and "bail" was offered to East in the form of the club ace.

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

ONE ROBBER ROBS ANOTHER

Be harsh in judgment if you must, but always be sure you are just. —Old Mother Nature.

When snow and ice cover all things most of the little people of the Green Forest and the Green Meadows have a hard time to get enough to eat. This is also true of the bigger folk. Indeed, it is harder for some of these than for the little ones because they must have more food at a time.

Two of these were Reddy Fox and Mrs. Reddy. For two days the snow had been too deep and too soft for them to get around, so they could do no hunting. Then an icy crust had frozen all the surface of the snow. On this they could get about. But the mice on which they depended largely for food were safe under the crust. They were safer than at any other time of year.

Reddy had discovered King Eagle over by the Big River at a place where the water was flowing too swiftly to freeze. He had guessed that King Eagle might be fishing, and had gone over to see. Now, King Eagle can catch fish once in a while, but he prefers to let someone else catch them for him. This time it was Sawbill the Mer-ganser, who is one of the fish-eating ducks. He had caught a fish, and King Eagle had made him drop it. Then King Eagle had snatched it up in his claws, and taken it over to a big stump on

the bank of the Big River. Instead of eating it at once, he had laid it down on the top of that stump, and seemed to be waiting for something or someone. It was Mrs. Eagle. Before she got there, a dead fish floated out from under the ice brought down by the current. King Eagle saw it at once. He flew out to get it. As he did so the fish on the stump slipped off.

This was Reddy Fox's opportunity. He was hiding just a little way from that stump. Now he darted forward, snatched up the fish, and dashed back among the bushes. He hoped to get there before King Eagle should see him, but he was just too late. King Eagle had picked up the floating fish, and turned just in time to see Reddy dart in among the bushes.

With a scream King Eagle started after him. Reddy knew by that scream that he had been seen. There was nothing for him to do



"Drop that fish!" he screamed as he flew after Reddy.

now but run for his life. Mrs. Eagle was near enough now so that King Eagle could drop the fish he was carrying, and be sure that she would get it.

"Drop that fish!" he screamed, as he flew after Reddy. Reddy didn't drop the fish. He had no intention of dropping it. Perhaps if he had been less hungry he might have dropped it in order that he might run faster. As it was he merely shut his teeth on it more tightly, and trusted to his wits and his legs to get away with it.

Now Reddy was too smart to go out in the open. He kept to the

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The monthly meeting of Darn... by W.L. met on Dec. 1 at the home of Mrs. Fulton Simmons. Meeting was opened by the president, followed by singing "Silent Night" and the Creed. Twelve members answered the roll call by donating

bushes along the bank, for there, King Eagle couldn't swoop down on him as he could have done out in the open.

"Robber! Thief! Drop that fish!" screamed King Eagle. With his mouth full Reddy could not even bark a reply. He dodged in and out among the bushes, all the time working his way towards a swamp through which Laughing Brook enters the Big River. So it was that King Eagle, who had robbed Sawbill, was in turn robbed by Reddy Fox. And the strange part of it all is that among the Green Forest and Green Meadow folks this was considered fair, not wrong.

ing for me... were welcomed. Sick committee reported several treats brought for the sick. School committee reported that two black-board bushes were needed for primary room. It was agreed to send \$5 to the T. B. League. It was decided that the children and shut-ins be treated the same at Christmas as in previous years. It was agreed to sell lunches and drinks at the Christmas concert, and each member to make up a loaf of bread.

New entertaining committee for December: Mrs. F. Simmons, Mrs. John Baird, Mrs. J. Hickey, Mrs. C. Hickey, Mrs. W. Pickering, Mrs. Fulton Simmons then acted as Santa Claus, after which all joined in singing carols. Lunch was served by the hostess, assisted by the committee in charge.

CHANGING TREND
HEXHAM, England (CP)—Golfers in this Northumberland town have converted a centuries-old monastery into a clubhouse.

Season's Greetings
TO ALL OUR MANY FRIENDS...
Beaton & MacRae
WINSLOE

Noel
Like the ornaments
On your tree—May
Your holiday be
festooned with many
blessings!
KENNEDY'S
Ladies' Ready-to-Wear
166 Queen Street
Phone 176

A most hearty Christmas wish
As the old year draws to a close, and we balance our books, everything adds up to the fact that it has been a pleasure to do business with you.
FRIENDLY GREETINGS for a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.
GIGGEY'S PHARMACY
BOB GIGGEY, Pharmacist
Charlottetown

NOEL
Long after the candles
burn low; our warmest wish
will hold true, May Christmas
bring all the best to you!
TANTON'S ACCESSORIES
152 Gt. George St.

HI FOLKS
WE WILL BE OPEN
MONDAY BOXING DAY
SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL
STEAD'S PHARMACY
128 KENT ST. PHONE 4131

Season's Greetings
To the best friends a business firm could possibly have — our many loyal customers — we say Thank you for your patronage and our best wishes to all of you For A Happy Holiday Season!
STERNS LTD. LAUNDRY
234 KENT ST.

Joe Palooka
THE HOSPITAL SAID WE COULD HAVE THE PARTY HERE, TOMMY! READY, TEAM—HERE WE COME.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, TOMMY!
M-MERRY CHRISTMAS, TOMMY!
I-THANK YOU... I NEVER BELIEVED I COULD BE SO HAPPY.

Secret Agent X9
NICE WORK, PHIL! I'LL HOP OUT AND TAKE A LOOK AT THE GUY I KNOCKED THROUGH THE WINDOWS!

DON'T BUDGE—EITHER OF YOU!

By Ham Fisher
Lil' Abner
THAT'S NICE, BUT... PLEASE DON'T LET YOUR NEW HUSBIN FIRE ODGWICK. HE'S SO WEAK AN' MIZZUBLE.

HE'D PLAIN STARVE!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ODGWICK, DEAR! IT'S HIM I'M GOING TO MARRY!

THAT'S SO KIND O' YOU! I'M GETTING BORED WITH THIS CONVERSATION!
SOMEONE T' LOOK AFTER HIM—

REMEMBER THIS!—ONCE WE'RE MARRIED, I'LL BE YOUR LEGAL GUARDIAN!
(CAN HE THREE NEW HAIRS?)

By Mel Graff
The Lone Ranger
JACKSON! WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

TWO MEN CAPTURED ME DURING THE NIGHT MR. HIRAM. THEY'D HAVE KILLED ME IF I HADN'T OPENED THE VAULT.

THERE'S MODOC CITY TONTO. I HOPE WE FIND CLIP AND GORMAN THERE.

MEANWHILE

By Al Capp

By Fran Striker