

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson
A MATTER OF TIMING

The vital factor in playing many notrump contracts, particularly, is to make the defenders take their tricks when you want them to—not at their own convenience. Here is a good illustrative case:

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

♠ 106
♥ A97
♦ A54
♣ J983

♠ 8743
♥ 652
♦ KQ10
♣ 62

AKJ
KQJ10
J963
4

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♣ Pass
2NT Pass 3NT Pass
Pass Pass

North's two-club response to the heart opening was a compromise. North didn't want to bid a notrump with 11 high-card points, but neither did he care to raise hearts on his barren distribution.

It was only natural that West, on opening lead, should have felt that North might have "psyched" the club suit, and so West laid down the club king, just as any other good player would be apt to do. When dummy appeared, however, West lost in shifting to diamonds. Dummy ducked and East won with the queen. Then, not wanting to help declarer build a club trick, East shifted to spades. At this juncture South did some counting. In sight were four heart tricks, three spades and one diamond, so he would need only one more trick for his contract. That would be easy to set up by knocking out the other diamond honor, the king, but meanwhile, how many tricks would the defenders be taking? The moment they captured their second diamond trick they could (and presumably would) lay down the ace and queen of clubs, defeating the contract.

A moment's thought, with due consideration of the three top club honors marked in West's hand, gave South the key to his problem. He returned a club. Now West had the choice of taking both the ace and the queen, thus establishing the club suit, or he could cash only the present trick, being cut off from his partner and never regaining the lead of his third club trick. No matter what course the defense took from this stage, South was "home."

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

GLASS-MAKERS
The art of making glass bottles and drinking glasses was known to the ancient Romans.

DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1. Microbe
 5. False
 9. Scope
 10. U. S. inventor of the sewing machine
 11. A failure
 12. Extended instrument
 13. Musical composition (mus.)
 14. Goddess of dawn
 15. One of the periods of play (Polo)
 16. Land-measure
 17. Coagulate
 18. Sea eagle
 19. Say over again
 21. A hand (Rom. Antiq.)
 22. Tree
 23. One-spot card
 24. Corridor
 26. Treeless plain of the Arctic
 29. Sick
 30. Twining stem
 31. Exclamation (slang)
 32. Italian ice cream
 34. Monkey
 35. Largest island in the Mediterranean
 38. Goddess of discord
 37. Girl's name
 38. Great Lake

DAILY CROSSWORD

- DOWN
1. In abundance
 2. God of love (Gr.)
 3. Twilled fabric
 4. Masurian
 5. Call out
 6. Sound, as a horn
 7. Arouse from sleep
 8. Measures of distance
 11. Terror
 12. Small pellets of lead
 13. Wild buffalo (Ind.)
 15. Edible mollusk
 17. Prison compartment
 20. Translucent
 21. A skin disorder (sym.)
 23. Old French measure
 24. Sound, as a goose
 25. Of the Alps
 26. Small
 27. Long narrow, two-edged sword
 28. Filis with solemn wonder
 30. Mountain pass in Baluchistan
 33. Excavator, as coal
 34. Melody
 36. Before
 38. Printer's measure

Saturday's Answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

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, apostrophies, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

A Cryptogram Quotation
NMH TFKWTEBKTH FZ R OHFOXH
BW NMHBC OFQHC—GCEGKH.

Saturday's Cryptogram: GLORIOUS TIME OF GREAT TOO-MUCH—HUNT.

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES



By Thorton W. Burgess

THE BLESSED SPIRIT
The blessed spirit of good will. On this day each heart should fill.
—Old Mother Nature.

It was a lovely winter morning. That is, it was lovely for those who were not hungry or cold. But a lot of people of the Green Forest and the Green Meadows could see no loveliness at all. Jolly, round, bright Mr. Sun, was shining down on a world of white. There was no ugliness to be seen anywhere, for all ugliness had been buried in snow. Jack Frost had covered the snow with an icy crust that sparkled in the sunlight.



"You're getting soft-hearted," said Mrs. Eagle.

hard times for folks like Reddy." "You speak just as if you didn't think it was hard times for folks like us," said Mrs. Eagle. "Well, there is this difference," replied King Eagle. "If times get to be too hard, we can fly away to where they are less hard. Reddy Fox, and others like him, can't do that. They must stay, no matter how hard the times. So, I'm rather glad he got that fish."

"You're getting soft-hearted," said Mrs. Eagle. "Perhaps," replied King Eagle, "and perhaps it is just something in the air today. Listen!"

From far off toward the distant village came the sound of church bells. King Eagle had heard them many times before, but somehow this morning on the still, clear, cold air, they seemed to have a special message. It was one of good will, as if those lovely bells were trying to tell all the world that this was a day of joy and happiness, and peace, and good will for everyone, everywhere. Of course, King Eagle couldn't know it was Christmas Day. But so it was. And who shall say that that was not the message of the bells? And who shall say that the spirit of Christ-

Believe It or Not!

IF 6 MEN SMOKE 6 CIGARETS IN 6 MINUTES—HOW MANY MEN WILL IT TAKE TO SMOKE 60 CIGARETS IN 48 MINUTES?
(Answer tomorrow)



THE TOMBSTONE TREES OF ORDEK

A TREE IS PLANTED EACH TIME A CHILD IS BORN IN THE COMMUNITY—AND WHEN ITS HUMAN TWIN DIES THE TREE IS UPROOTED AND BECOMES A MARKER OVER THE GRAVE.



BOYS in Senegal, Africa RACE WILD OSTRICHES

DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1. Narrow strip of wood
 5. A dull pain
 9. A measuring stick
 40. Eldest son of Noah
 11. Exhaust
 12. Language used by Buddhist scriptures (poss.)
 14. Trumped when unable to follow suit
 16. Burrowing animal
 17. One-spot card
 18. The devil
 20. Pure and simple
 22. A Tartar dynasty (Chin. Hist.)
 23. Incendiarism
 25. A hard drinker
 29. Part of the mouth
 31. Hub of a wheel
 32. One who provokes
 36. Property (L.)
 37. Tidy
 38. A vehicle for small children
 40. Hiding place for provisions
 42. Hop kilns
 43. Scold

- DOWN
1. Neater
 2. Idlers
 3. Arabic letter
 4. Doctrine of human culture
 5. Defender
 7. One of the serfs of ancient Sparta
 8. Man's name
 11. Play
 13. Varying weight (Ind.)
 15. Moisture
 19. Encountered
 21. Of the earliest stage of human culture
 24. Egg of an insect
 26. A sun shade
 27. Turned inside out
 28. Pauses
 30. Wooden pin
 32. Incorporated (abbr.)
 33. Approaches
 34. The source of cocoa buildings
 35. Coverings of buildings
 39. Lit., "black"
 41. Antlered animal

Saturday's Answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

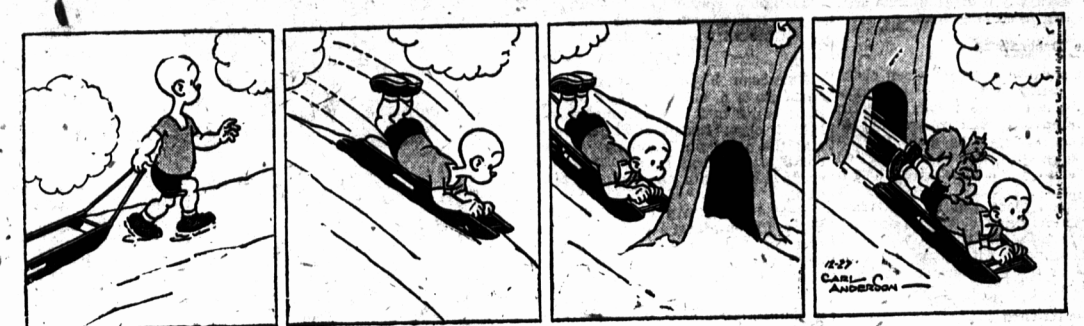
One letter simply stands for another. In this example A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophies, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

A Cryptogram Quotation
WGCEPCVB DPZM CK WEMHD DCC.
TVLT—TVJD.

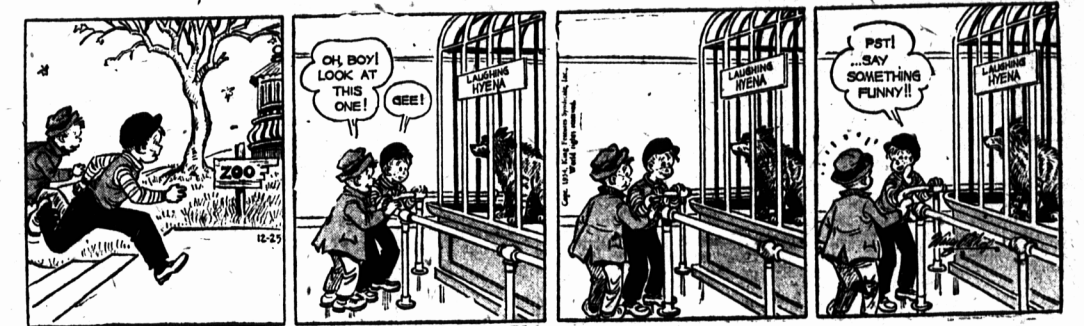
Yesterday's Cryptogram: LET ME NOT KNOW THAT ALL IS LOST, THOUGH LOST IT BE—BROWNING.



Henry



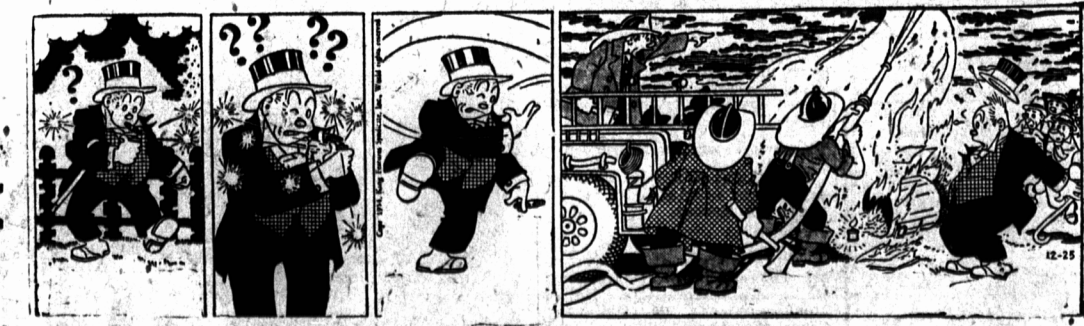
Mugs and Skeeter



Tilly The Toiler



Bringing Up Father



By Ham Fisher



By Al Capp

By Carl Anderson

By Wally Bishop

By Bob Gustafson

By George McManus

By Al Capp