

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

THE NEW HOME

Sleest is he who finds a home, and feels no more the urge to roam. —Ragged-Ear.

Ragged-Ear, who when he was very small, had been called Wee Bunny, was one of Peter Rabbit's children. He was called Ragged-Ear now because one ear had been torn by the sharp teeth of "Thumper" the Red Squirrel when, because he was in a bad temper, he had attacked Wee Bunny. Since then Ragged-Ear had grown fast and

had learned fast how to take care of himself. He had wandered here and had wandered there, and there never was a day that did not bring him adventure. More times than he could remember he had ran, or dodged, or hidden to save his life. But each time he had to do this he learned something, and that knowledge he stored away in his funny little head to use later. In his wandering about he had found several places in any one of which he would have liked to make his home. But each time he

was too late; someone else was living there, and he early found out that he wasn't welcome in the home of some one else.



"What are you doing here?" demanded Old Jed Thumper.

Now, at long last, he had come to a place in the Old Pasture which suited him better than any other place he had found. There was a big tangle of brambles and vines there. It would not be too much work to cut little paths through these, and in their midst he would feel quite safe. There were bushes all around the bramble-tangle and just a little way out on one side was the edge of the Old Pasture. Beyond that was a field in which were many patches of sweet clover, and plenty of rich juicy grass, and some other plants such as he loved.

So he had lingered day after day, not intending to stay any length of time, not thinking of it as a possible home but, without knowing it, making it a home by making himself so comfortable there that he didn't want to leave. So there came a day when he no longer even thought of leaving. He was sure he couldn't find another place where he could live so comfortably.

Every day Ragged-Ear did a little exploring. He found an old tumbled down stone wall; it was just a short way from that bramble-tangle. It was just the kind of old wall that Rabbits and some other folks dearly love. It was fun to poke about that old wall, to look in to all the openings between the big stones and sometimes find underneath snug safe places in which to hide. In one of these places he found the entrance to a hole dug long ago by one of Johnny Chuck's family. No one was using it now. He went down in it, and at the end of a quite long tunnel he found a snug room. It was a wonderful place. Anyway, it was wonderful to Ragged-Ear. He even

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Contract Bridge

By Josephine Cluvertson

THEY DISAGREED

North and South in the following deal, both experts of national standing, had very different views about penalty doubles.

West dealer. East-West vulnerable.

♠ Q 10 9 4
♥ K 7
♦ K 10 9 6 3
♣ A 8 6

♠ J 5 2
♥ 6 3 2
♦ Q 7
♣ J 7 5

♠ A 7 3
♥ J 10 8 5 4
♦ A 8 6 3 2

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

South was lucky that West opened the ace of clubs — immediate leads of the ace and nine of trumps would have been even more difficult to cope with. As it was, South won seven tricks and so incurred a penalty of 300 points. This was not very serious in itself, but the "swing" was actually 800 points, since East could easily have been defeated two tricks at his doubled, vulnerable three-club contract. The argument then started between North and South.

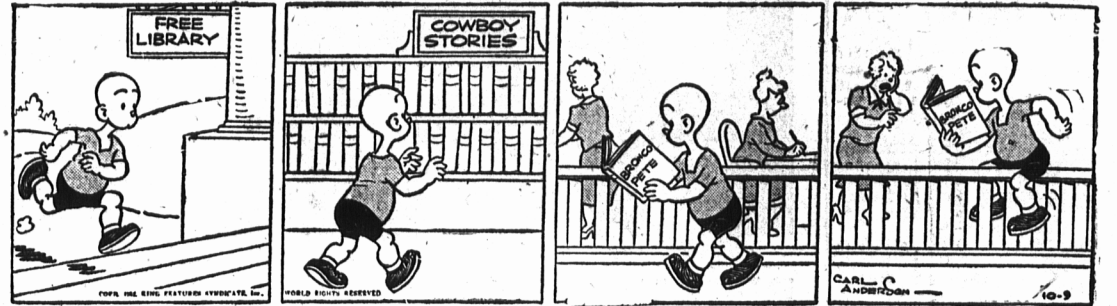
South strongly criticized North for doubling three clubs, saying that North should have realized that this double would put great pressure on South, who probably would be void of the suit. "Why double when you were so satisfied with the contract?" South said. "Why not accept a couple of hundred points instead of trying for a little more? Why make me worry about the opponents grabbing the rubber if they made three clubs doubled?"

North was not impressed. He said that when he was almost sure about beating a contract, he doubled it. He also pointed out that South, by failing to double the one trump, had limited his own holding and so had incurred no real responsibility. Thus, North observed, South had been far out of line in talking out North's double.

In simple logic, it would appear that North had much the better of this dispute.

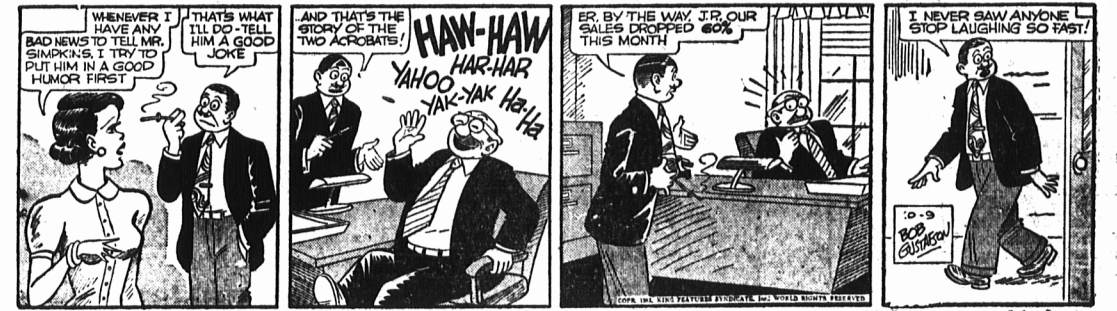
HENRY

By Carl Anderson



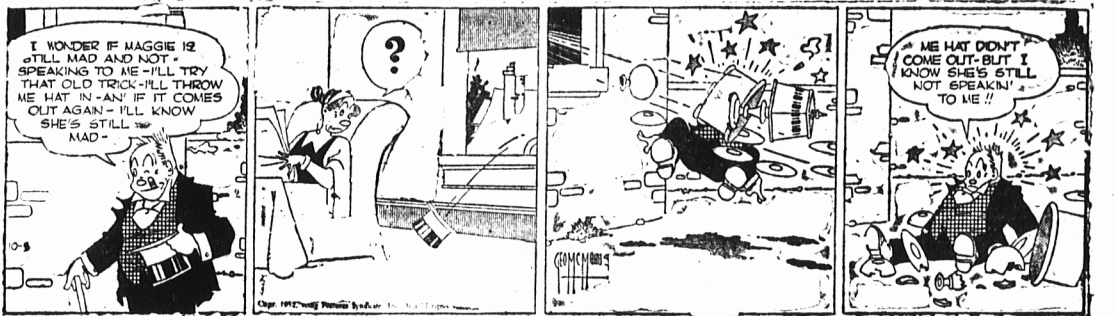
TILLY THE TOILER

By Bob Gustafson



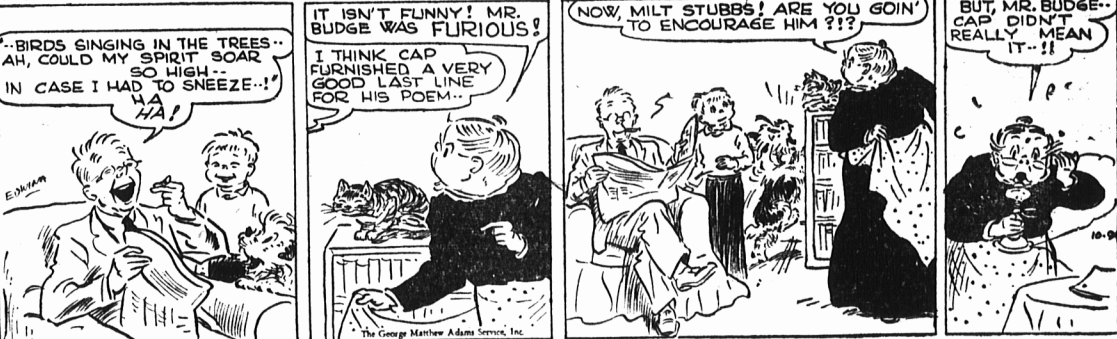
BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManus



TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

By Edwin



DOTTY DRIPPLE

By Rudolf



POGO

By Walt Kelly



Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Clifford McBride



PENNY

By Harry Hoegen



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