



By Thornton W. Burgess

RAGGED-EAR SEES RED.

Credulity is wetness, so, act only when you're sure you know.

Question anything, anybody tells you. Long ago Peter Rabbit learned how very, very foolish this is. In fact, it nearly cost him his life more than once. Now his young son, Ragged-Ear, was learning how foolish and dangerous credulity is, and in place of it he had become distrustful.

It was a long time since he had seen anything of Reddy Fox. If Reddy had been anywhere in the neighborhood, he had managed to keep out of sight. "I guess he's given up trying to catch me," Ragged-Ear thought. "I'm too smart for him."

What a dinner that fellow will make when I catch him," thought Reddy, licking his lips. "He's big, old, he's young and tender." You see, Reddy wouldn't admit, even to himself, that he couldn't catch Ragged-Ear.

Not far from the bramble-tangle under which Ragged-Ear was living, was a tumbled down stone wall, and just beyond this, on the Green Meadows, grew sweet clover. Ragged-Ear always felt quite safe when he went out for a dinner of that clover. There were many pla-

ces in that old wall, openings between the big stones, where he felt quite safe. He knew that no one as big as Reddy Fox could possibly get at him there.

So, when he went to feast on clover, he wouldn't have to run way back to the bramble-tangle in order to be safe. It wasn't much more than a hop, skip and a jump from the sweet clover to the old wall.

However, this feeling of safety didn't make him careless as such a feeling so often makes some folks. He never failed to first look and listen and make sure that the way was clear before leaving the bramble-tangle.

On the way back, he always stopped at the old wall and made sure that the way was open before starting for home. Every day Ragged-Ear was learning how to take care of himself.

So, although he saw nothing of Reddy Fox for a long time, he did not forget Reddy. Nor did Reddy Fox forget Ragged-Ear. "I'll catch him one of these days as sure as the tip of my tail is white," declared Reddy more than once.

Now Reddy has always made his business to know all that can be found out about his neighbors and their habits. He knows when and where they work and rest and what they eat and play. In course of time, he found out all these things about Ragged-Ear. But there was one thing he didn't find out, because he couldn't find it. That was that a certain place under that old wall was a hole in the ground leading down to a snug chamber. One of Johnny Chuck's family had dug that long ago. Ragged-Ear knew all about that hole.

Reddy found out that Ragged-Ear visited the clover every night, usually very late at night, returning home just about the time jolly round Mr. Sun began his daily climb up in the blue, blue sky. After he had made sure that this was a regular habit, he stole around through the Old Pasture to a hiding place close to the little path the young Rabbit used going to and from the clover patch. He got there a little before it would be time for Ragged-Ear to return home. He felt very, very sure of that Rabbit dinner this time.

Now it just happened that Ragged-Ear stayed in that clover patch a little longer than usual. Perhaps



From a distance Reddy had seen him often.

he was a little hungrier than usual. Anyway, before he started for home jolly, round, bright Mr. Sun had climbed high enough for a ray of sunlight to get in among the bushes. Stopping as usual at the old wall to make sure that the way was clear, Ragged-Ear saw that ray of sunlight touch something red in the bushes. That was enough. Quietly he slipped back behind the old wall, and made for that old underground Chuck home. He had guessed what that spot of red meant.

STERLING W. I.

Mrs. Alban Bolger entertained the members of Sterling Women's Institute for the October meeting, with Mrs. Elmer Fyfe, president, in the chair and 12 members present. The meeting opened by singing the Institute Ode and reciting the Creed.

Minutes were read and approved. The visiting committee reported no calls made, but flowers sent to a member in hospital. The school committee reported visiting school and finding everything in good order. They suggested having an honour roll of teachers taken up to date, which was agreed upon.

Appointment of committees was as follows: Visiting, Mrs. C. A. Woolner, Mrs. W. D. MacKay; school, Mrs. Lorne MacEwen, Mrs. Bolger; lunch, Mrs. Elmer Fyfe, Mrs. Crawford MacKay, Mrs. Ray Douglas, Mrs. Malone, Mrs. Green; program, Mrs. Lorne MacEwen, Mrs. H. S. MacEwen. Correspondence read included a card of thanks.

Mrs. Lorne MacEwen invited members for the November meeting, roll call to be answered by paying membership fee. A contest put on by Mrs. Elmer Fyfe and one by Mrs. John MacKay were enjoyed, first prize for both going to Mrs. MacGuigan and Mrs. F. S. Bell. The meeting closed with "The Queen". Lunch and a social hour followed.

WOODSTOCK, Ont. — (CP) — Gordon Hammond, 11, and Richard Sims, 10, captured a five-legged frog in the pond at the golf course here. Just what value the freak would have remained a question.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

HELP FROM THE CULBERTSON

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable. ♠ Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 A 6 3 2 ♣ K 5 2 ♢ 8 4 ♠ Q 10 7 2 ♠ Q J 10 ♠ A 8 3 ♠ A Q 10 9 5 ♠ A 9 6 ♠ K 4

The bidding: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 N ♠ Pass 2 N ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

The declarer had a difficult problem in the following deal, but an opponent solved it for him. North's secondary heart raise was rather odd, on his 4-3-3-3 distribution — three notrump would be preferred by almost every expert — but the final heart contract turned out to be quite all right.

West made his natural opening lead, the club queen, and, when the dummy was spread, South saw that he would have to make the right guess for 10 tricks. He was sure to lose two diamond tricks; he might also lose to the spade king and the heart king. Should he take the spade finesse or the heart finesse? There was no way of knowing which king, if either, was on side.

After some reflection, South put up dummy's club ace and led the spade queen. West jumped on the trick with his king — and after that, South had no problem. Using the spade entry in dummy, he naturally led the heart jack through East, and the latter's king was trapped.

It might have been a different story if West had unhesitatingly let the spade queen win the trick. It is true that South might have sensed the true situation — and shifted to hearts, but how could he tell? Certainly, it would be tempting to go ahead with the second spade finesse, and if he chose that course he would immediately come to grief. It was not too difficult for West to visualize South's dilemma and to lure him into a false sense of security in the spade suit.

VALUABLE DOGS

WATROUS, Sask. — (CP) — A registered St. Bernard pup from kennels here has been shipped to a mountain ski resort in Chile, to be trained for rescue of lost sportsmen. Many dogs have been shipped from here to United States points, but this is the first to South America.

Quickies

By Ken Reynolds



"...well, what'd you expect—the Guardian Want Ad said it included accessories!"

By Walt Kelly

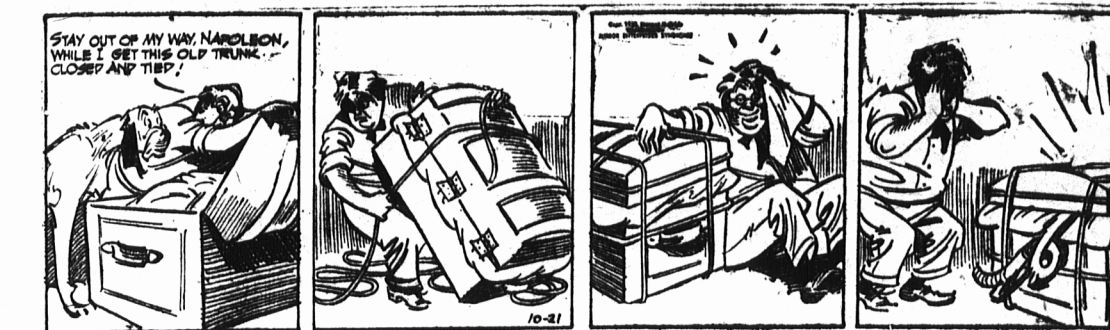
RIP KIRBY

By Alex Raymond



Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Clifford McBride



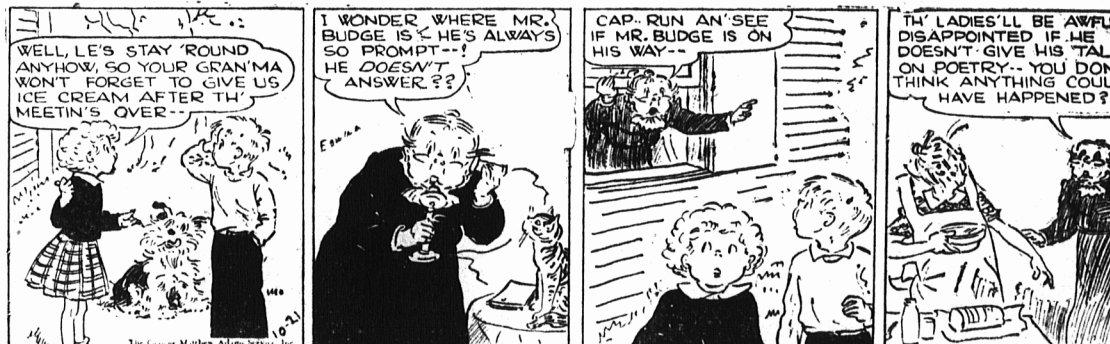
JOE PALOOKA

By Ham Fisher



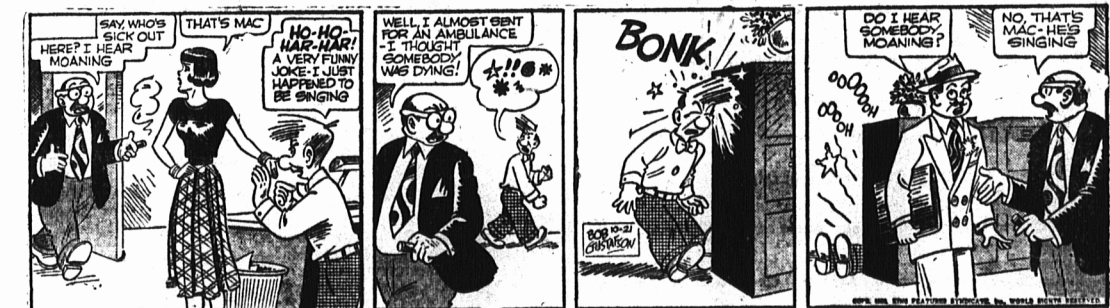
TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

By Edwin



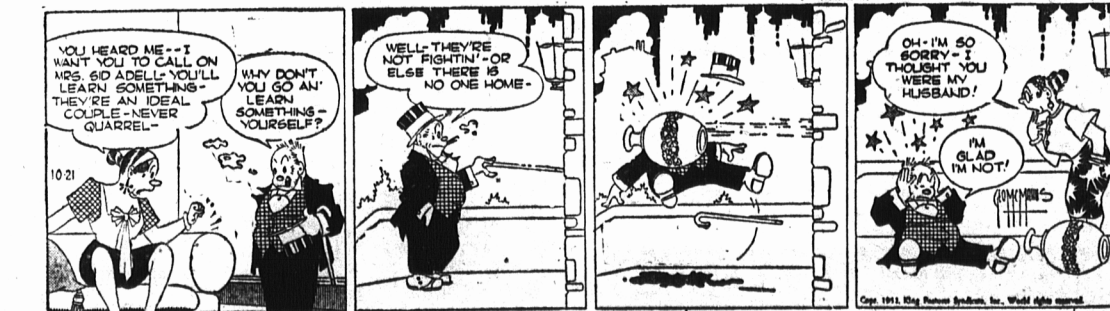
TILLY THE TOILER

By Bob Gustafson



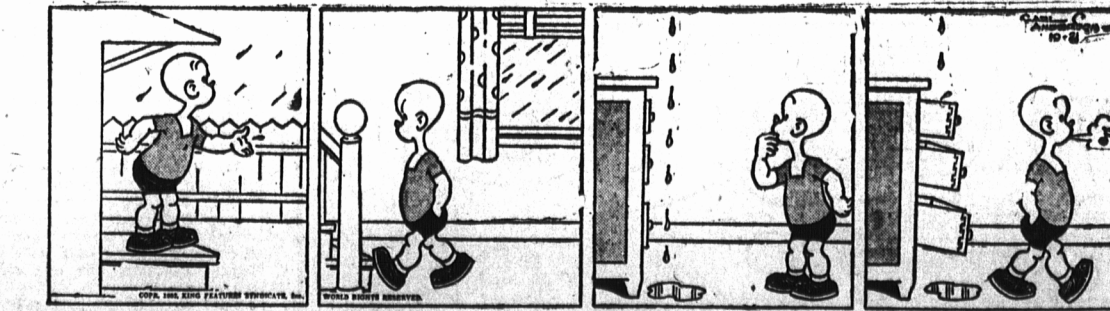
BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManus



HENRY

By Carl Anderson



DOTTY DRIPPLE

By Kurlord



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By Harry Haenigsen

