

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

THE MIGHTY LITTLE ONE

Size is not the test of might. But the fearless sense of right. —Old Mother Nature.

In all the Green Forest are no more fearless folk than Shadow the Weasel and Mrs. Shadow. This does not mean that they have no enemies and so are free from danger. They have just as many enemies to watch out for as have any of the folks of their own size. They are themselves hunters, but also they are hunted. However, they do not let this worry them. They are at all times ready to meet danger without fear. So it happens that some much bigger and stronger hunters avoid the Weasel folk whenever possible.

Under a pile of stones at the edge of the Green Forest, Shadow and Mrs. Shadow had taken possession of a Chipmunk home.



Shadow just hung on to that lip.

What became of the Chipmunk who had lived there, no one really knows. That is, no one but Shadow and Mrs. Shadow know. Perhaps he moved out when they moved in. Anyway, he never was seen again after they did move in.

It wasn't long after they moved in that Shadow and Mrs. Shadow had a deep and precious secret. Perhaps I should say they had six deep and precious secrets. Anyway, there were six lively, squirming babies in the comfortable bed of feathers and of Mouse fur in the snug bedroom in the ground under that pile of stones.

Until then, Shadow had spent much of his time roaming about, hunting and having a good time. Now he was a watchful papa, leaving that home only long enough to get needed food. He was keeping guard over Mrs. Shadow and those precious babies.

Now Ruddy Fox had discovered that Shadow was spending much of his time around that stone pile and had shrewdly guessed what that meant. He guessed that there was a home down under that pile of stones and he guessed that there were babies in it. He wasn't especially interested in trying to catch Shadow and Mrs. Shadow. He had tried that, and failed so many times that he no longer wasted time that way.

But young Weasels were a very different matter. They had everything to learn. So Ruddy spent considerable time in the neighborhood of that pile of stones and in time his patience and watchfulness were rewarded. He saw six little Weasels popping in and out between the stones, chasing each other and having a grand time.

At first, Ruddy thought they were alone. He decided that Shadow must be off hunting. But where was mother? Would she go off and leave these babies alone? He doubted it very much. A Weasel mother is a very good mother. He was sure that she must be somewhere in the neighborhood, and finally he discovered her.

She was in an opening among the stones with only her snake-like head showing. You know a Weasel's head is flattened, and much the shape of a snake head. She was peering where she could keep a watchful eye on these six

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

TOO HONEST

"Honest discarding" may be harmless under some circumstances, but it is not recommended against skillful opponents. Observe East's naivete in this deal:

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

♠ K74	♠ J109
♥ K53	♥ 52
♦ A62	♦ 4
♣ AQ54	♣ Q94
♠ Q83	♠ 1083
♥ 1083	♥ 108
♦ 108	♦ 108
♣ 108	♣ 108

The bidding:
North East South West
1NT Pass 3♦ Pass
3NT Pass 4♥ Pass
Pass Pass

South, having made a jump take-out of the one-notrump opening, might well have accepted North's three-notrump rebid. A slam was virtually out of the question, and surely North could not fail to make three notrump.

Defending against the actual heart contract, West led the jack of diamonds. Dummy ducked, and East played the encouraging nine. South won with the king, and feeling that it might be a good idea to keep West off lead, finessed the trump jack to cover the ten, and of course the jack held. When however, a low heart was led to the king and East showed out, declarer saw that he would have to lose a trump trick.

On the second round of trumps East had carefully discarded the club nine, and South, knowing his right-hand opponent to be an "honest" player, was in little doubt that the club finesse, if taken, would fail. So South did some maneuvering. He cashed the diamond ace and was pleased to see East play the four-spot. He then led to the spade ace, back to the king, and ruffed dummy's last spade, stripping that suit from both hands.

Now a low diamond was led from the closed hand — and East was "in." (Perhaps, about this time, he was beginning to regret that he had not unblocked the diamond queen, to let his partner win with his marked ten!) East's forced return, whether a snare or a club, let South get rid of a club, and the contract was safe.

Thus, East really made two errors: failing to unblock in diamonds, and signalling too truthfully in clubs.

CLOVER CLUB

THURSDAY, JULY 30th—8 p.m.

Showing films "Best Years of Our Lives" and "St. Laurent the Man and His Country". Cecil A. Millar and Neil Matheson present. Public invited. Refreshments to be served.

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Tilly The Toiler

By Bob Gustafson

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Pogo

By Walt Kelly

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By Edwina

PENNY

By Harry Hoehnigse