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BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

HARD TO BELIEVE
When pride and wisdom disagree
Put pride aside; heed wisdom's plea.

—Mother Bear.
It was hard to believe. Yes, sir, it was hard to believe. Taddy Bear, watching from high in a tree, rubbed his eyes to make sure there was nothing the matter with them. Down below Flathorns the Moose was pawing the ground and snorting threateningly. Mother Bear was winking away. Yes, sir, Mother Bear was winking away.

Now of course Taddy Bear was a very small Bear, just a little cub. With his sister, Totty Bear, he had been following Mother Bear out in the Great World just a very little while. Like all children they had known nothing to start with and had everything to learn. One of the things they had learned, thought they had learned of no one they just couldn't imagine her being afraid of any one. When they

were with her they felt perfectly safe. Now here was Mother Bear walking away from this big homely stranger. Could it be that she was really afraid? It looked that way. As a matter of fact, Mother Bear wasn't afraid and she was afraid. That is, if she had had to fight she wouldn't have hesitated to fight. If Flathorns had been attacking one of the cubs, she wouldn't have been afraid to interfere. But without any real reason for fighting she was afraid. She was smart enough to know that Flathorns, biggest of all the Green Forest folk, might prove more than a match for her. She was heeding the promptings of wisdom. It is probable that she didn't like having the cubs see her refusing to fight, and walking away. She had her share of pride.

What Taddy Bear saw his twin sister also saw, but from a greater distance. Totty Bear was up in a tree on the other side of a wide deep pool. It was on her side of the pool that Flathorns the Moose had first appeared, and she had scrambled up that tree in a hurry. Mother Bear had not been around at the time. She had been of doing roots of which she was fond. Totty Bear was having as hard work to believe what she saw as was Taddy Bear. She watched Mother Bear walk away and disappear among the trees. She had a sort of sinking feeling. Could it be that Mother Bear was deserting them? Taddy Bear on his side of the pool had the same feeling. If Mother Bear was afraid of this great ugly stranger pawing the ground, and blowing and snorting, what chance had two little cubs

if they should meet this fellow on the ground? Would Mother Bear come back? Or was she going off to leave them?
Flathorns continued to linger there by the big pool for some time. It was as if he were waiting for mother to come back. Of course, to the two little black lumps up in the trees the time seemed much longer than it really was. But all things, good or bad, come to an end, and at long last Flathorns disappeared among the trees. The twins waited and waited and waited. There was no sign of Mother Bear. First Totty Bear on the other side of the pool began to whimper. Then Taddy Bear, still up in his tree, began to whimper. Soon both of them were bawling. Yes, sir, both of those little Bears were bawling. They were two very frightened little Bears. They were sure Mother Bear had gone away and wouldn't come back. They didn't dare climb down to the ground to go look for her, because they didn't know where that great stranger was. So Taddy Bear, way up in the tall tree on one side of the big pool, was bawling. And Totty Bear was up in a tall tree on the other side of the big pool, was bawling.

They were so busy crying that they didn't see Mother Bear coming back. They didn't see her until she growled in a deep rumble grumbly voice. "Stop that noise!" They stopped. She was right under the tree in which was Taddy Bear. He didn't wait for her to tell him to come down; he scrambled down that tree so fast that it was a wonder he didn't fall. At the same time, Totty Bear started to back down her tree. She was still whimpering when she reached the ground, and ran down to the edge of the water. She was whimpering because she was afraid to try to swim across that deep pool. What would Mother Bear do now? Would she and Taddy Bear go off and leave her? Mother Bear looked across "Come over here," she commanded. Totty Bear merely whimpered a little more.

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SQUARE DANCE

By popular request another Y.M.C.A. square dance will be held Wednesday, May 20th, dancing 9:30 until 12. Admission 75c each or \$1.25 per couple. George Andrew, caller. Proceeds for Holland Cove Camp.

LEAVES FAST

OWEN SOUND, Ont. (CP)—Fire chief A. McArthur reported to board of education that nearly 500 children can be removed from city schools in one minute, in case of fire. Tests at seven schools showed the largest group, 490, evacuated in 80 seconds. The smallest, 175, were evacuated from another school in 35 seconds.

HANDS TIED?



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Send me your free 44 page High School Book.
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ANY TIME — it's time for **KING COLE TEA**

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

A BAD PERFORMANCE

West could not be praised for his defense in the following hand! South's opening bid was in itself so light that he should have been very content to pass over East's three hearts. Then, since North had already indicated club length, he might well have decided to double three hearts, and North-South could have set that contract at least 500, possibly 700, points.

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.
A 7 5 4
K Q
K 6
A 9 7 4 3
K 10 8 6
N
4 2
J 8 7 4
J 5 2
S
Q 8 2
K 7 3
A 9 5 2
K 10 8
J 3
A J 10
9 8 5
Q 10 3
Q 6
The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ 3 ♥
3 NT Pass Pass Pass

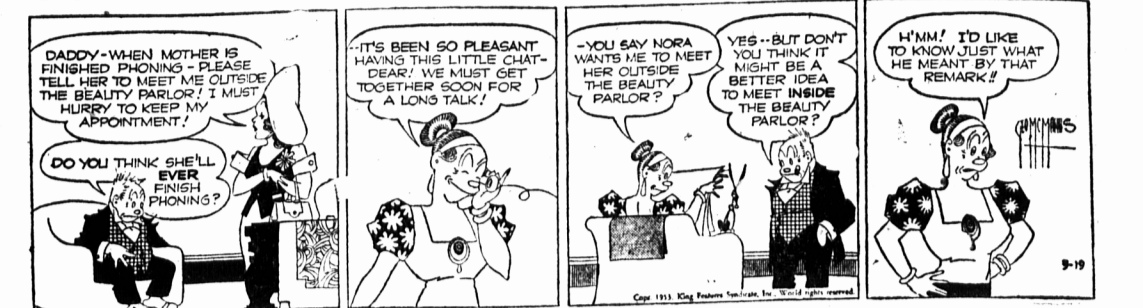
Defending against the actual three-notrump contract, West opened the four of hearts. Dummy's queen was played, and East won with the ace and continued with the heart jack. South was sure that East had at least a six-card suit, so he took the second heart trick, then led a diamond to the king and played a low club from the table with the intention of passing the trick to West. When East followed suit with the low club, South put in his own ten, and West won with the jack.

West could have struck a valiant defensive blow by leading back a diamond, but for reasons of his own he preferred the "safer" exit of a club. South promptly ran the club suit, discarding a low spade and the low heart from his own hand, and West made a very bad decision. Apparently, he was impressed by the fact that declarer had discarded a spade and held onto diamonds, or perhaps he had some other mysterious reason, but in any event West held tightly to his diamonds and in so doing he had to relinquish two spades.

That was all South needed. It was possible, of course, that East had the spade king, but West's reluctance to shift to spades (after getting in with the club jack) signified possession of the king, and anyway, South couldn't make the hand except by stealing an extra spade trick. So he now led a low spade from the board. The outcome was that South made a trick over contract — after West's king was knocked out, dummy's three remaining spades were good.

Bringing Up Father

By George McManus



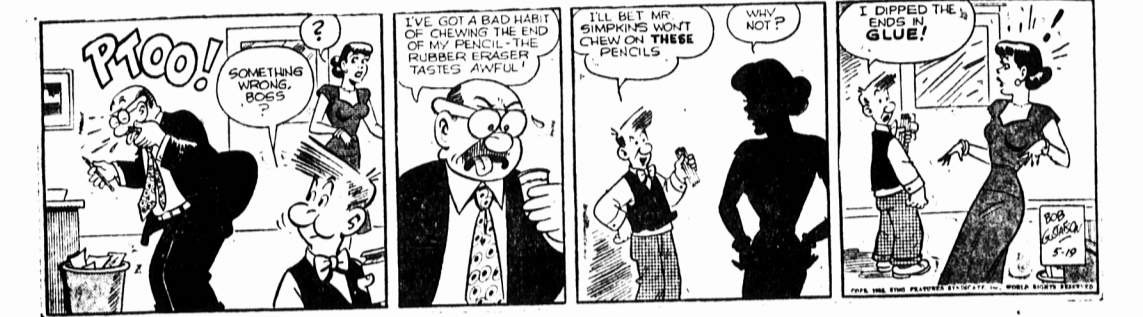
Dotty Dripple

By Ruford



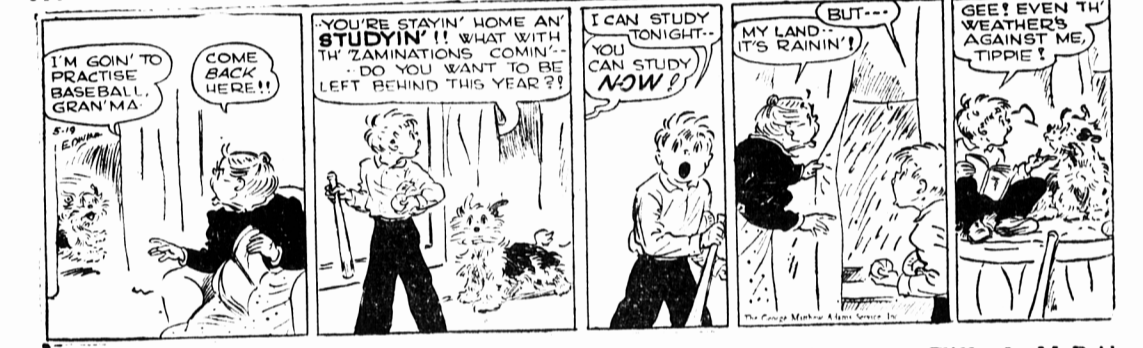
Tilly The Toiler

By Bob Gustafson



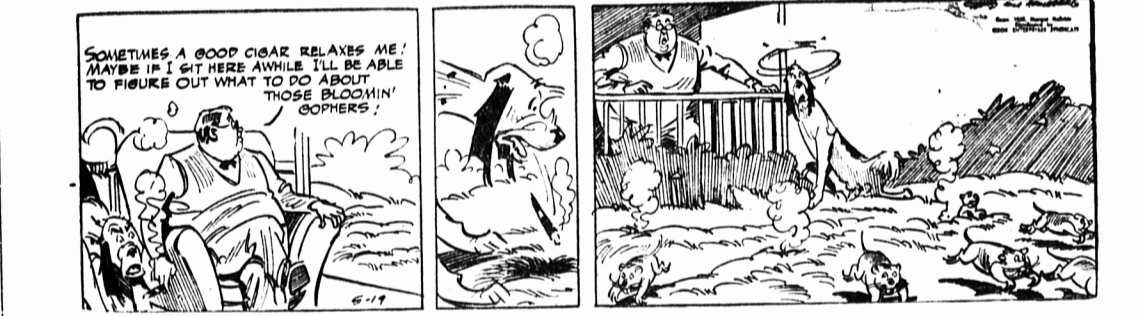
Tippy and "Cap" Stubs

By Edwin



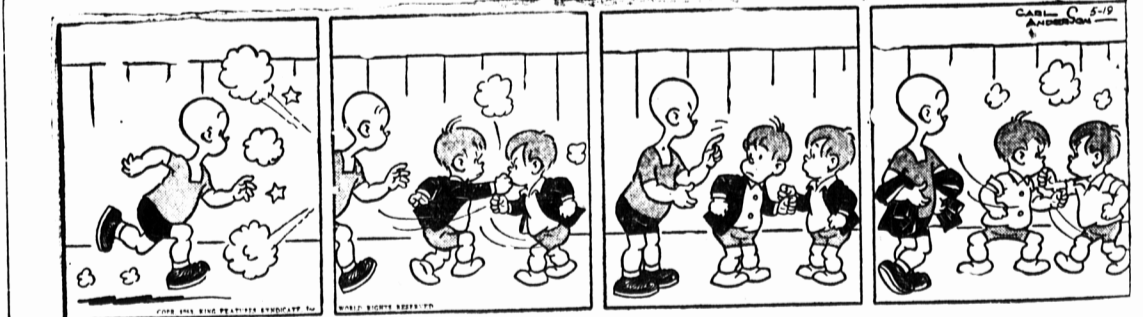
Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Clifford McBride



Henry

By Carl Anderson



Pogo

By Walt Kelly



PENNY

By Harry Haenigsen



Lil Abner

By Al Capp



Rip Kirby

By Alex Raymond



King Of The Royal Mounted

By Zane Grey

