

# BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

## PETER COMPLAINS

No one likes those who complain. Those who do will nothing gain. Mrs. Peter Rabbit. Peter Rabbit was out of sorts. He gets that way sometimes. Most folks do. He was grumbling as he sat in the dear Old Briar-patch. He was talking to himself, but loudly enough so that Mrs. Peter would overhear him. "Old Mother Nature isn't fair," said Peter.

"In what way is she unfair?" asked little Mrs. Peter.

"She makes living easy for some folks and hard for others," grumbled Peter.

Little Mrs. Peter twitched her wobbly little nose. "Explain," said she.

Peter hesitated. He looked out across the Green Meadows, now brown and soon to be white with snow. Johnny Chuck's house was out there, and somewhere down under the ground in that house Johnny Chuck was fast asleep. Anyway, he was supposed to be. Peter hadn't ventured down inside to find out if he really was asleep. "Well," said Peter slowly,



"Old Mother Nature isn't fair," said Peter.

"Just take the case of Johnny Chuck and us Rabbits."

"What about it?" Mrs. Peter spoke a bit sharply.

"He sleeps all winter. He doesn't have to worry about where he is going to get something to eat. He doesn't even know how to get to half starved when everything is covered with ice and snow. Even when there isn't ice and snow, there isn't much bark for us to eat, or grass so dry and dead it has no taste. And you know, my dear, how hard it is for us when rough Brother North Wind roars and howls and drives the snow in our faces," said Peter.

"We can always turn our backs to it," said little Mrs. Peter dryly. "Don't tell me you would want to sleep all winter like Johnny Chuck."

"Why not? I think it must be nice," retorted Peter. "I think Johnny Chuck has it easy, and so do the others who sleep all winter. I just don't see why Old Mother Nature puts some to sleep through all the hard times, when others are cold and hungry. It isn't fair. I think she should treat everybody alike."

Little Mrs. Peter gave Peter a queer look. "Would you really want to sleep all winter if you could?" she asked.

"Of course! Wouldn't you?" replied Peter.

Little Mrs. Peter shook her head. "No," said she flatly. "You wouldn't either," she added.

"Why wouldn't I?" demanded Peter.

"Think of all you would miss,"

he was out of the suit, since West could make no dangerous attack in West realized that if he ruffed the diamond lead toward dummy he would be unable to make any constructive return, so he discarded a club. The diamond king won and declarer ruffed a diamond high in his own hand. He led a trump to dummy and ruffed another diamond high, then drew trumps, ending in dummy, and discarded a spade on the established fifth diamond. That accomplished, he was quite willing to concede two spade tricks!

## BACKACHE

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## Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

### A SIMPLE AND USEFUL SAFETY PLAY

The type of safety play involved in the following hand is perhaps the least appreciated and the most valuable of all types.

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

743  
QJ8  
KJ952  
A2

A105  
762  
4  
KQ10  
983

QJ96  
4  
Q108  
7  
J765

K82  
AK10953  
A63  
4

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♥ 2♣ 2♦ 3♠  
3♥ Pass 4♥  
Pass Pass

When West opened the club king and dummy was spread, declarer did not automatically reach for the ace — as 999 out of every 1000 players in his position probably would do. This expert South thought things over!

The danger point of the hand was obvious: East might have the diamond suit stopped, and upon getting in would shift to spades through the closed hand's king. Then one diamond and three spade tricks might easily be lost.

After a moment's study declarer saw an excellent way to avoid this risk: he let West hold the first trick with his club king!

For want of a better play, West continued the suit, and declarer discarded a diamond on the club ace. After that he had comparatively smooth sailing. He led a low diamond to the ace and returned the diamond six — quite willing that West should ruff if

## Bogus Doctor No Fraud To Men Aboard Cayuga

WINNIPEG, Dec. 1 — (CP) — The navy's bogus doctor, Ferdinand Demara, Jr., alias Joseph Cyr, was no fraud to the men of the ship on which he served, a homecoming Winnipeg sailor said yesterday.

"The officers and men of the Cayuga are 100 per cent behind him," said Able Seaman Jack Deakin.

Demara had been acclaimed in the navy's own press releases for a "brilliant" series of operations while serving aboard the destroyer Cayuga in Korean waters as a surgeon lieutenant. Later, he was discharged for misconduct when it was learned that he was not Dr. Joseph Cyr of Edmundston, N.B., as he claimed, but Ferdinand Demara Jr., formerly of Lawrence, Mass.

"If he isn't a doctor, he should be," said Deakin. "He worked miracles out there. When we first heard the reports, we wouldn't believe them.

"Nobody's opinion of him has changed. There have been no casualties on the Cayuga, but he operated on a lot of South Korean patients and they respected him highly."

## PICTURE PAPERS

The Illustrated London News founded in 1842 is believed to have been the first illustrated newspaper.

## DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1. Pellets of lead
  5. Edge
  10. Billows
  12. Plant used for fiber
  13. Sultan's decree
  14. Insinuate
  15. Form into jelly
  16. Fuel
  18. Southeast by south (abbr.)
  19. A dance
  21. Wine receptacles
  24. Tiny
  28. Shaping implement
  30. Now
  31. Gap
  33. Bare
  34. Forests
  36. Greek letter
  39. Bone
  40. Pike-like fish
  43. Means of communication
  45. Barrier
  47. Crowd
  48. Long hike
  49. Literary composition
  50. God of war
- DOWN
1. Long drink (colloq.)
  2. Long-eared rodent
  3. Elliptical
  4. Spread grass to dry
  6. Male sheep
  7. Mischievous persons
  8. African river
  9. Parts of locks
  11. Tower
  17. Lofly
  19. Exclamation
  20. Particles
  21. Linen vestment (Eccl.)
  22. Disfigure
  23. Consumed
  25. Fish
  26. Sailor
  27. Hole of a needle
  29. Thrift
  32. Garden tool
  35. Skillful
  36. Scottish-Gaelic
  37. Marbles
  38. Girl's name (poss.)
  40. To growl
  41. Highest point
  42. Twilled fabrics
  44. Man's name
  46. Epoch

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

## A Cryptogram Quotation

ZP QWPK UWJ TFXKP YP GZWY  
JZP QXUQBPK TMBKPK—TFXSJSK.

Saturday's Cryptogram: WHEN INDEPENDENCE OF PRINCIPLE CONSISTS IN HAVING NO PRINCIPLE ON WHICH TO DEPEND—COLTON.

## POGO

By WALT KELLY

