

# The Tiny Folk

(A real story of real children for very young children)

One bright morning several weeks ago Laurie and his mother had watched Mr. and Mrs. Robin Redbreast hopping about their lawn as if they were looking for something. Mrs. Page had explained to Laurie that the robins were probably looking for a place to build their nest, and were seeing if there would be any sticks, twigs or dry grass to start the home. She had told him how the nest was woven of twigs and grass, horse hair or bits of string that the birds found, then plastered with mud to make a smooth hard lining.

Laurie had thought he's like to help the robins, so his mother gave him bits of colored yarn and a few pieces of string. He had put them on the twigs of the lilac bush and he and his mother decided to keep a close watch to see if they would be taken.

A few days later Laurie was looking idly out the window when he called excitedly, "Oh, Mommy, here's the robin. She's taking my yarn." Sure enough, Mrs. Robin Redbreast had snared the yarn and was off with a long light blue strand of yarn. Laurie and his mother watched closely, and saw her disappear behind the box high on the electric light post.

"That must be the same pair that were here last year," said Mrs. Page, "for that is where they built their nest then."

"Look at her pecking out this side," Laurie laughed, pointing to the robin who was looking out slyly before flying off. Back she came to get another piece of yarn. But this time she chose a long white string and had quite a time tugging and picking at it until she got it loose. Then she flew away trailing the twine from her beak.

"She went in from that side," giggled Laurie. "She has a back door and a front door. She goes in one and comes out the other. Just watch!" But though they waited and waited, Mrs. Robin did not come out.

"I know what's keeping her," said Laurie's mother. "She has a very long piece of string and it will take her some time to get that woven in just the way she wants it. There comes the father robin."

"He'll help her, won't he Mommy?" Laurie asked.

"Not in weaving the nest," was her answer. "He'll help find the material such as straws or twigs or grass, and help carry the mud for the lining but she'll build the nest herself."

"Why does she do that?" Laurie questioned.

"I really don't know," laughed his mother. "I guess she thinks he won't make a good job, so she does it herself."

Laurie thought that over for a while, then said, "But men build our houses. The women don't do that."

"That is quite true," his mother answered. "People have one way of doing things and birds

# BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES



By Thornton W. Burgess

**LUCKY TOUSEHEAD**  
Life is sometimes saved by luck; then again by pure luck.  
—Old Mother Nature.

One of the children of Rattles the Kingfisher was in trouble. He was in dreadful trouble. It was Tousehead. He had been out in the Great World just long enough to think he knew just about all there was to know. Most young people starting out in the Great World for themselves, reach that stage. It is then that they begin really to learn things.

Tousehead had seen a young muskrat opening clams. One had been left opened, but not eaten. Tousehead had tasted it. He liked it. He liked it very much indeed. He liked it so much that he wanted more.

A little later, looking down on the water from a dead limb which overhung it, he saw a clam on the bottom. It was partly opened. It was in very shallow water. He hovered over it, then plunged down to pull that clam out of its shell. Instead of getting the clam, the clam got him. The shells closed fast on the tip of his big bill. He flopped ashore, and there he tried to shake that clam off, and couldn't. A more frightened young kingfisher never lived. He tried to fly, and he couldn't do that because the weight of that clam pulled his head down. All he could do was flop about. And flop he did! He shook his head as hard as he could shake it, but he couldn't shake that clam off. He flopped, and flopped, and shook, and shook, until he just couldn't flop or shake any more. He lay there near the edge of the water, too tired to struggle anymore. There is no worse feeling of hopelessness, Tousehead was hopeless. There was nothing he could do to get rid of that clam.

Presently, who should appear but the young muskrat from whom Tousehead had learned that clams were good eating. At first he didn't see Tousehead, but he did see the clam. He reached to take it in his teeth, then saw the young king-

fisher. Tousehead tried to beat his wings to fly away as the young muskrat grabbed the clam in his teeth. Of course Tousehead couldn't fly away. The young muskrat pulled the clam away, but he only dragged Tousehead with him.

Then, in a flash, so great that it was really terror, gave Tousehead renewed strength in his wings. He beat the air with them desperately. The young muskrat pulled as hard as he could. Fortunately for the young kingfisher the clam had caught him mere by the tip of his bill. It slipped a little. It slipped a little more. Then suddenly Tousehead fell over backward. He was free. Now he could lift himself on his wings, and he flew up to his perch and watched the young muskrat open and eat the clam. He was a lucky bird. It was pure luck that that muskrat had returned just when he did. Tousehead might have been a prisoner until he died.

That dreadful thing has happened more than once to other feathered folk. You see, they have been unlucky, whereas Tousehead was very, very, lucky. He would never again be caught in such a way.

**DARNLEY & SEA VIEW W.M.S.**  
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Theme was "The Gospel According to you" and hymn, "Forth In Thy Name, O Lord," was sung. Scripture passages were read by Mrs. J. Hickey, Mrs. K. MacKay, Mrs. C. Donald, Mrs. R. Cousins.

A letter was read from Mrs. Carol Tait. Roll call was answered by eight members with a verse of scripture beginning with the letter "M".

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Readings on Mother's Day were read and hymn, "Tell Mother I'll

Be There," was sung. Offering was taken and dedicated hymn, "Peace, Perfect Peace," was sung. Special prayer was offered for a sick member.

**30 CHILDREN HURT**  
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BRACKLEY POINT W. I.

The May meeting was held at the home of Mrs. George Shaw on the evening of May 13.

The evening members and one visitor were present, and responded to roll call by paying half the amount of waist measurement, the proceeds from which were \$2.21. There was a discussion concerning an entertainment in the hall in the near future, and the members agreed to clear the hall the following evening.

The committee in charge reported that a carpenter could be procured to erect playground swings for the school, a matter which has been under consideration for some time.

All were pleased to learn that the Calf Club which had been suggested at the previous meeting was already being organized, and much interest is being shown by the boys and girls of the district.

Correspondence included a letter from Mrs. Doyle regarding the new hand-book, an appeal for the Red Shield fund, for which a canvass will be made; a notice of a blood-donor clinic, and a letter from the C.A.C.

Mrs. Willard McCallum reported for the school, having purchased a number of small necessities. Mrs. Clayton Cudmore was to visit the school in May.

Two members acknowledged gifts of flowers, sent during illness in hospital. New sick committee for following three months are Mrs. Fred Hughes and Mrs. Fenton McLeure.

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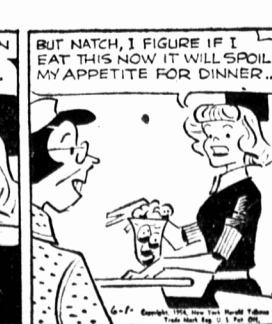
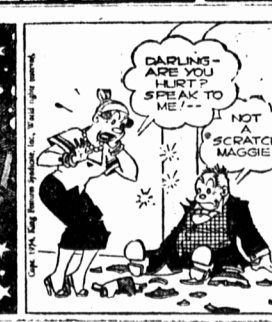
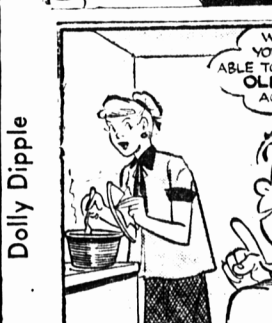
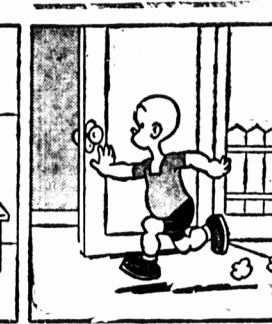
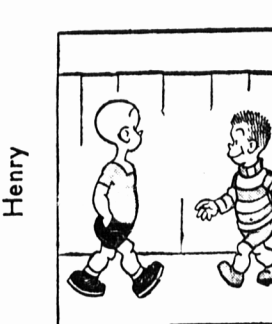
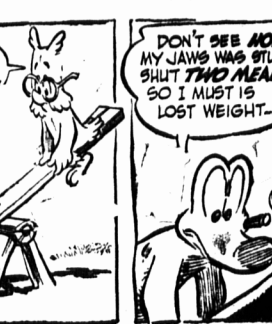
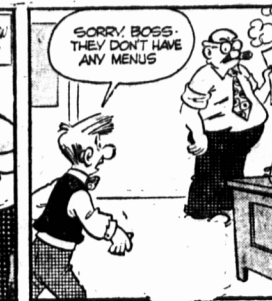
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# The Neighbors

By George Clark



"I can hold him on the wire awhile, Sis. I've memorized all your talk."

# DAILY CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

- Kind of nut
- Measure (Sap)
- Watch out
- Musical instrument
- Goddess of peace
- City in Alaska (poss.)
- From
- To star
- Narrate
- Stage whispers
- One-spot card
- Projecting end of a church
- Rob
- Authoritative proclamation
- Prejudice
- From
- Raised platforms
- Abode of dead (Egypt. Rel.)
- Reference book
- Old English (abbr.)
- Rotatable tuning disks (Radio)
- Unrolls
- A starchy foodstuff
- Three-legged stand
- Variant of "Shem"
- Silent

**DOWN**

- Faultless
- Female sheep
- Artificial, waterway
- God of war
- Neon (symf.)
- Having a history
- Most
- Fat
- Animal and plant life of a region (poss.)
- Questions
- Headlands
- Spigot
- Sheltered side
- Foreigners
- Girl's name
- Small crown
- Most genuine
- Girl's name
- A king of Judah (Bib.)
- Fathers
- Assumed name

**Yesterday's Answer**

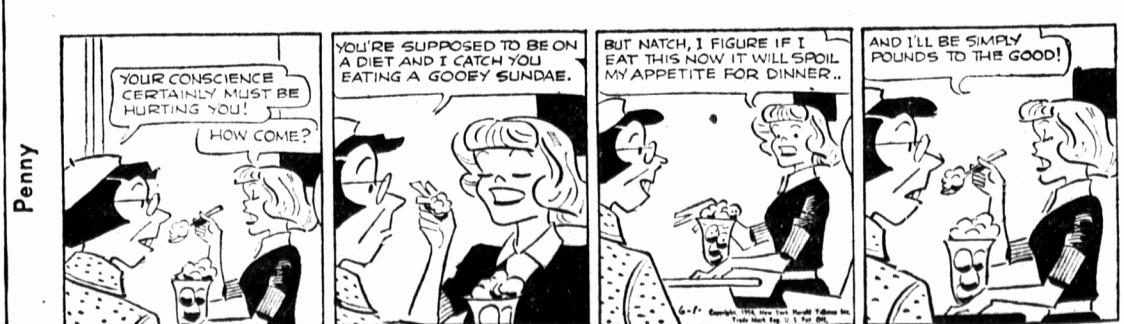
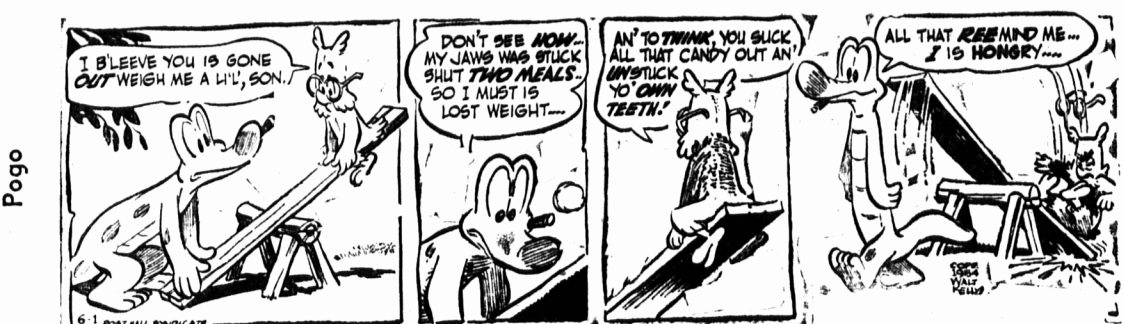
- Semblance
- Jellied meat
- Girl's name
- Biblical name
- Tanganyika Territory (Abbr.)

**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:**  
OZ IGPQ ZXR IUX PUX AZ, CQUC  
AZRO VZCQ UPC UXA WXZF—IULBRT.

**Yesterday's Cryptogram: INSTINCT PRECEDED WISDOM,  
EVEN IN THE WISEST MEN—LILLO.**



By Bob Gustafson  
By Walt Kelly  
By Carl Anderson  
By Edwina Buford  
By George McManus  
By Harry Hoening  
By Al Capp  
By Alex Raymond  
By Ham Fisher