By Thornton W. Burgess

BETTER THAN NOTHING

Crumbs are better far than naught;
Hope with scraps is sometimes bought.

—Reddy Fox.

No one knows better than does Reddy Fox the value of little things. Many, many times has Reddy gone hungry during the winter when food is scarce, and hard to find. He long ago learned that mere scraps and crumbs are not to be despised or overlooked. More than once, when he has almost been willing to give up, a mere scrap of food has given him new hope.

Reddy grinned as he watched her lick her lips.

Reddy was hungry now. He had been hungry for days. It had been a long time since Reddy had had enough at one meal to satisfy his hunger. It was the same way with Mrs. Reddy. She had had a little more than Reddy because often he had shared with her what little he had found. Reddy is that kind where Mrs. Reddy is concerned.

Reddy was over by Laughing Brook where it flows through the Green Forest. Little Joe Otter was there, too. Reddy is a hunter. Little Joe Otter is a fisherman. At times he turns hunter, but he depends mostly on fish for food. And he is one of the best fishermen in fur. He lives well even in winter, for he does not hesitate to go under the ice to catch his fish.

When Reddy saw Little Joe he stopped at a respectful distance. He has much respect for Little Joe, and always avoids quarreling with him. Reddy watched Little Joe eat two fish for his breakfast. All the time he watched, his mouth watered. It seemed to him that his stomach turned right over with longing. Little Joe didn't eat the heads or tails of those fish. Had he been as hungry as was Reddy, he would have eaten them. He was just moderately hungry. Those two fish were just sort of an everyday breakfast.

"You really ought to have a fish for your breakfast, Reddy," said Little Joe.

That was an unkind thing to say.

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Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

NO NEED TO "HOPE"

There are, of course, many occasions when the declarer must base his line of play on the probable or hoped-for position of a key card — but the following deal was not one of these cases.

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
North-South 40 on score.

	♠ A Q 8 ♥ A 7 5 4 ♦ J 4 2 ♣ K Q 6	
♠ K J 9 7 6 5 3 ♥ 10 8 2 ♦ A 6 3 ♣ —	N W E S	♠ 10 4 2 ♥ Q J 9 ♦ Q 10 9 8 ♣ J 7 3
	♠ — ♥ K 6 3 ♦ K 7 5 ♣ A 10 9 8 5 4 2	

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
3 ♣	3 ♠	4 ♣	Pass
Pass	4 ♠	5 ♣	Pass
Pass	5 ♠	Pass (!)	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl.
Pass	Pass	Redbl.	Pass
Pass	Pass		

To say the very least, the bidding was rather "enthusiastic" by all concerned.

West, after long hesitation, opened his fourth-highest spade. Declarer was pleased at this opportunity for a free finesse, and when the spade queen held the trick, he discarded a diamond from his own hand. He then discarded a heart on the ace of spades, after which he ran off six rounds of trumps. His next move was to go to dummy with a heart and return a diamond toward the king. As he explained later, he felt that East must have the diamond ace for his double of six clubs. Unfortunately, however, that was not the case, and when the diamond king was smothered by West, the redoubled slam contract cost North-South 400 points.

Even if South had been justified

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Private Secretary	Tool Making	Mechanical
Architecture	Business Management	

NAME ..... AGE .....

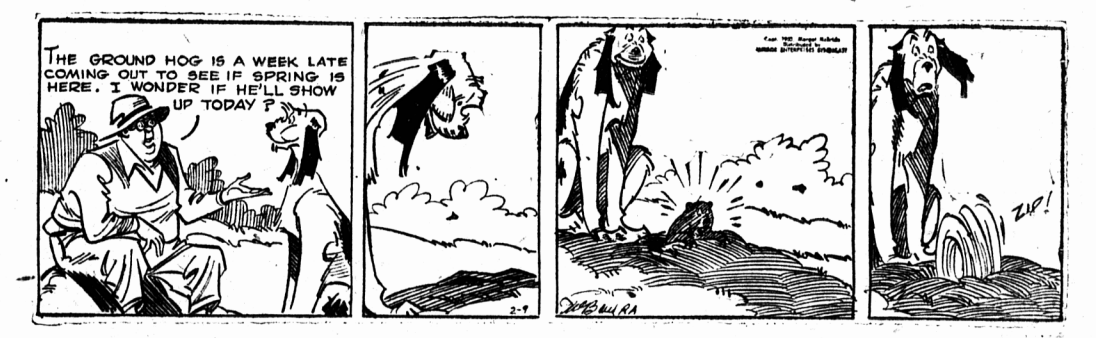
ADDRESS .....

King Of The Royal Mounted — By Zane Grey

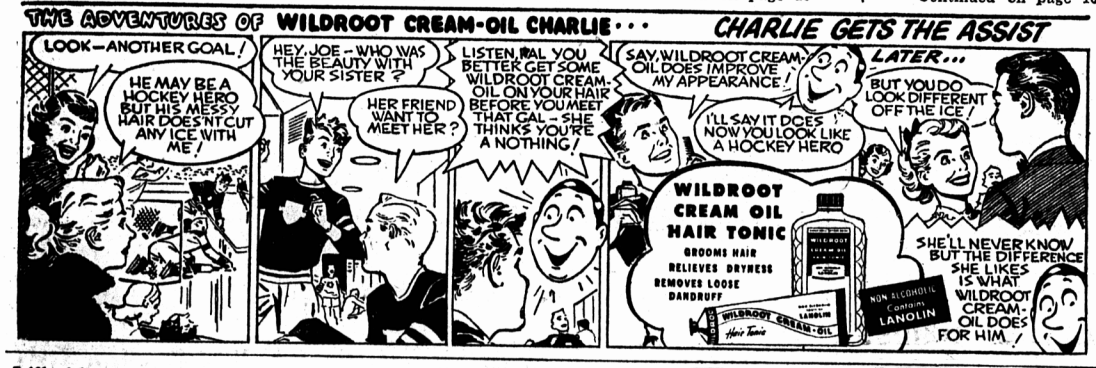
Rip Kirby — By Alex Raymond

Joe Palooka — By Ham Fisher

Napoleon and Uncle Elby — By Clifford McBride

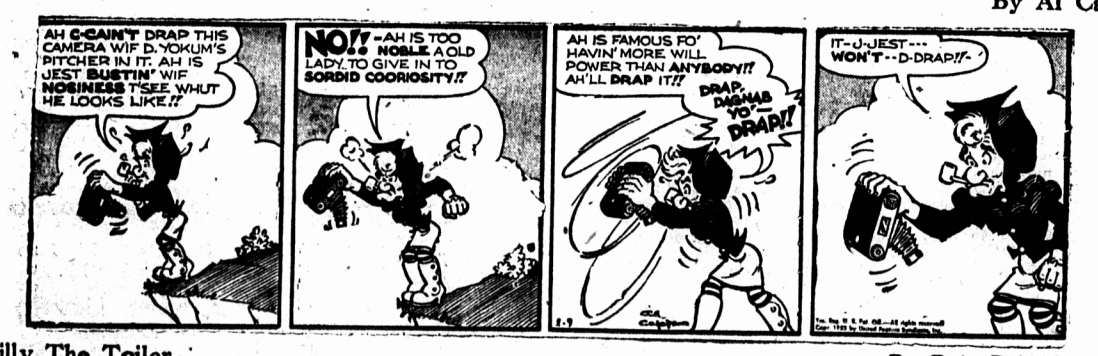


THE ADVENTURES OF WILDROOT CREAM-OIL CHARLIE ... CHARLIE GETS THE ASSIST



Pogo — By Walt Kelly

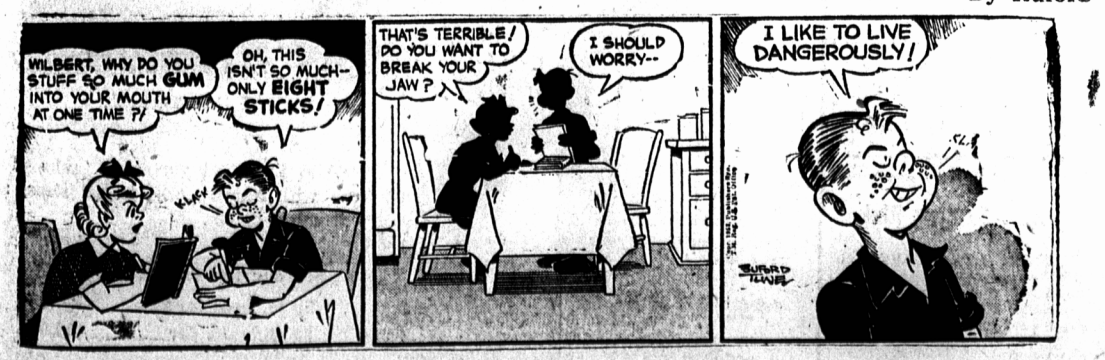
Li'l Abner — By Al Capp



Tilly The Toiler — By Bob Gustafson

Tippy and "Cap" Stubs — By Edwina

Dotty Dripple — By Ruford



Bringing Up Father — By George McManus

Henry — By Carl Anderson

PENNY — By Harry Haenigsen