

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

BUSTER MAKES HIMSELF AT HOME

A home is what you choose to make it. The fault is yours if you forsake it.

Old Mother Nature

Young Buster Chuck sat on a big rock. From it he could see all around for quite a distance. All about him were many big rocks and many little ones. He was on a rocky ridge in the Green Forest that ridge was a jumble of big and little rocks. Around it grew the trees of the Green Forest.

Buster Chuck was in high spirits. He had had a good night in a snug little room he had found among the rocks. He had felt wonderful safe down there. He had had a good breakfast. He had found that there were places on and around the foot of that ridge where there was plenty of tender grass and other green things. Now he was wondering what had become of his prickly friend of the night before. It was Prickly Porky the Prickly Porky that had led him to that rocky retreat.

"Well, do you like it?" said a voice.

The young chuck turned quickly. There was his prickly friend looking his head out from between some rocks only a short distance away.

"I love it!" cried the young chuck. "Do you like it here?" asked Prickly Porky.

"I don't know," said the young chuck. "I've never been here before. I don't know what you mean." Prickly Porky said, "Then where do you sleep when you are not here?" asked Buster Chuck.

"In whatever tree I happen to be when I feel sleepy," explained the prickly one.

He came out and shook himself, and two or three of the little spears called quills, fell from his coat. They had been very loose and so had shaken out. Then Prickly Porky without another word waddled away. He disappeared among the trees.

The young chuck watched him out of sight, then began to explore that great pile of rocks. He

went first to where Prickly Porky had come out. He didn't venture in inside, but merely peeked in. He found that there were many places where he could dodge in and find safety if an enemy should suddenly appear. He found one big flat rock on which he could take lovely sun-baths. He found another passage down in among the



"Do you live here all the time?" the young chuck wanted to know.

rocks that ended in a bigger space than where he had spent the night. He decided that he would take that for his home. He would bring in some grass and some leaves to make himself a good bed.

The more he explored the better he liked his surroundings. He was not even overcome. In fact, he was very pleased to be alone. He spent most of that day exploring and gathering dry leaves and dry grass and taking them down in to his bedroom. He found that by pulling away a few small stones he could open another passage to his home that made him feel still better. A home with one doorway was good, but a home with two was better.

STANHOPE W. I.

The Stanhope W. I. held their monthly meeting on August 3, at the Main Kitchen Shelter, Stanhope Beach. The vice-president opened the meeting with the Ode followed by the Collect. Roll call was answered by 13 members and two visitors.

New committees were appointed as follows: School, Mrs. Bruce Ellis; sick, Mrs. James MacLaughlin; and Mrs. Thomas MacCabe; lunch, all members; program, Mrs. Bruce Ellis and Mrs. Patrick Horgan.

Mrs. Malcolm MacLaughlin thanked the members for the card she received while in hospital. It was decided to hold the September meeting on Thursday, Sept. 2, at the Kitchen Shelter. Roll call is to be answered with "Sing, Say or Pay." Collection amounted to \$1.85. The singing of the National Anthem brought this part of the meeting to a close.

An egg race and the slides, swings and tills were enjoyed by everyone. A lunch was served by the lunch committee and a social hour enjoyed.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

THE GREATER FAULT

Both North and South erred in the bidding of the hand below, but the far greater share of blame must be laid to North.

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

♠ 10 9 8 3	♥ K 6 5 2
♦ A Q 7 4 2	♣ K J 7
♠ 10 6 3	♥ 10 3
♦ 4	♣ A K 9 5
♥ Q 10 9	♠ A Q J 7
♦ J 8	♥ A 3
♣ J 7 2	♦ K 9 6 5
	♣ Q 8 4

The bidding:
North East South West
Pass 1♣ 1♠ Pass
2♣ 2♠ 2NT Pass
Pass Pass 3♠ Pass

West opened the deuce of clubs; East won and laid down the heart king — not that the defense mattered. South took the heart trick, ruffed a heart, and then sent the spade ten through East. Trumps were easily extracted without loss and South ended up with two tricks over contract.

Most experts would double one club with the South hand instead of merely overcalling with one spade, and this writer agrees that the double is preferable. However, South's reasoning was not wholly illogical — he felt that there could not be a game unless North had the material for voluntary action over one spade.

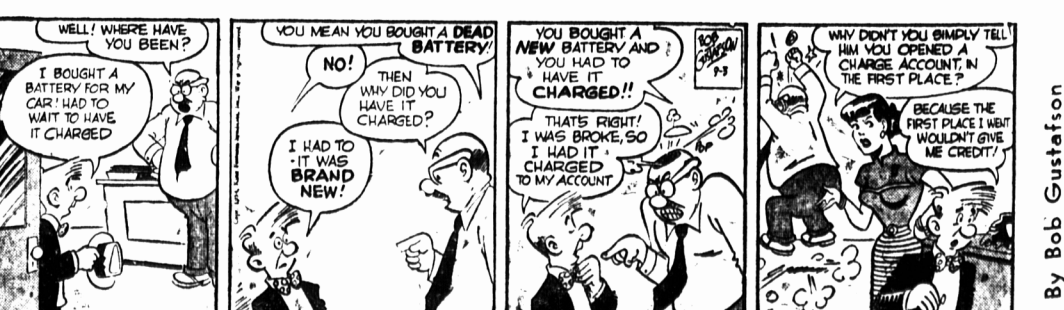
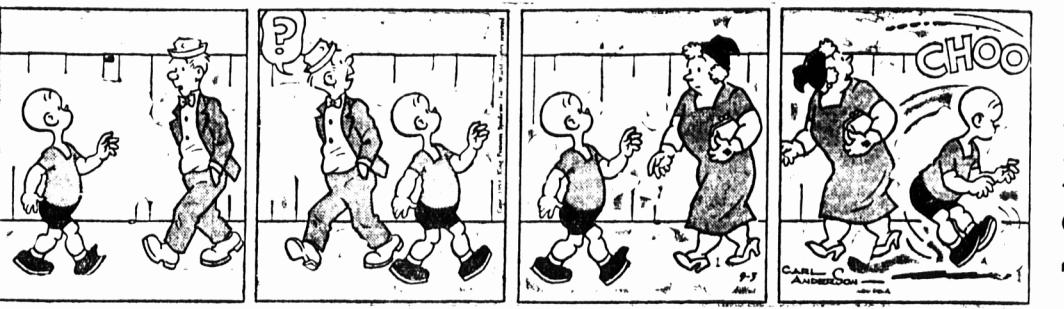
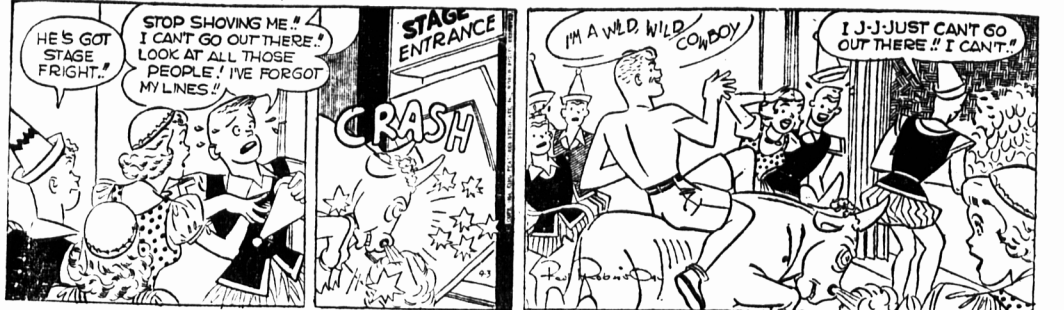
True, North did make a voluntary response to the overall, but the point is that his single raise was not sufficiently encouraging for South to leap into game. South showed his great interest in game by bidding two trump, but when North, over West's delayed heart bid, could not apparently dig up the values for a three-spade bid, South felt that a spade rebid to the three-level was all he himself could afford.

A vulnerable overall, even at the one-level, should command considerable respect, and North would not have been far out of line in raising to three spades immediately. Certainly, he should have made that bid after South's strength-showing two trump.

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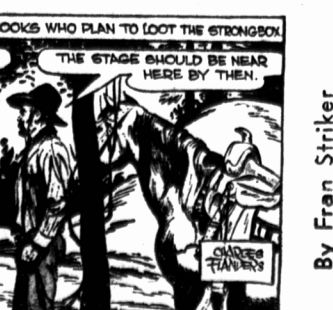
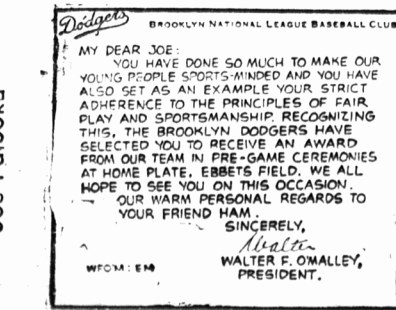
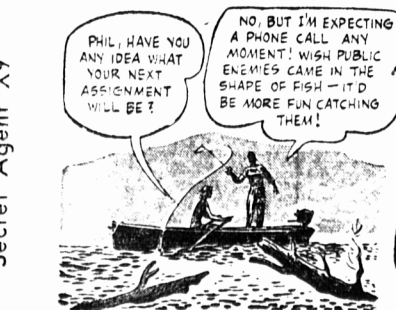
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