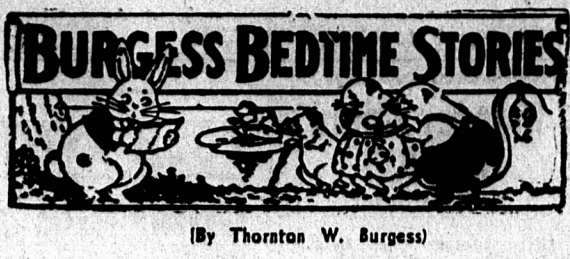


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BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES
 (By Thornton W. Burgess)
JOHNNY GETS ABOUT
 The Hylas peep, the Robins sing,
 And Johnny Chuck goes wander-
 ing.
 —Spring Notes.

For most of the year Johnny Chuck is a stay-at-home person. He seldom goes far from his own doorstep. But in the spring Johnny gets about. Yes, sir, he gets about. You may meet him in the most unexpected places. "Johnny Chuck has left home," announced Peter Rabbit to Mrs. Peter. "How do you know?" asked Mrs. Peter. "I met him over at the edge of the Green Forest," replied Peter. "Where you had no business to be," snapped Mrs. Peter. Peter paid no attention to that. He pretended he didn't hear it. "I asked him what he was doing over there and he said he was just looking about," said he. "That doesn't mean he has left home, but you haven't left home," said Mrs. Peter tartly. "But he isn't going back declared Peter. "How do you know he isn't? Did he say he isn't?" asked Mrs. Peter. "He said he might not, that he might dig a home somewhere else," replied Peter.



"Who are you talking about?" asked Sammy Jay. Mrs. Peter twitched her wobbly little nose. "That doesn't mean a thing except that he doesn't know his own mind," she declared. "What one might do and what one will do can be very different matters. You've lived long enough to have found that out." "Who are you talking about?" asked Sammy Jay. He had arrived just in time to overhear Mrs. Peter. "Johnny Chuck," said Mrs. Peter. "Peter says he has left home, but he is only guessing. He doesn't really know anything about it." "Peter may be right. I saw Johnny this morning and he was a long way from home," said Sammy. "Was he over at the edge of the Green Forest?" asked Peter eagerly. "No," said Sammy Jay, shaking his head. "He was over near the Big River." "I wonder if he will dig a new home over there," said Peter. "Not if he has the good sense that I think he has. Anyway, he said he might go over to the Old Pasture," said Sammy. "He lived there once. Perhaps he is going back there to live. He is foolish if he does," said Peter. "Why foolish?" asked Sammy. "Because Reddy Fox and Mrs. Reddy are living there. You know that as well as I do. No Chuck wants them for near neighbors," declared Peter. "He has been over to the Old Orchard," said Sammy. "I saw him over there yesterday afternoon. He was poking about along the old stonewall. When I asked him what he was doing over there he said he was just looking around." "He certainly is getting about for such a fatty," said Mrs. Peter. "But he isn't fat!" exclaimed Peter and Sammy together. "He is so thin his coat looks to be too big for him," added Sammy. "He isn't getting much to eat yet," said Peter. "I guess that is the reason he is running about so much. I guess he has to, or starve." "And I guess food isn't all he is looking for," said Sammy. "Meaning what?" asked Peter. "I think he doesn't know where Polly Chuck spent the winter and he is looking for her," replied Sammy. "Huh!" said Peter Rabbit.

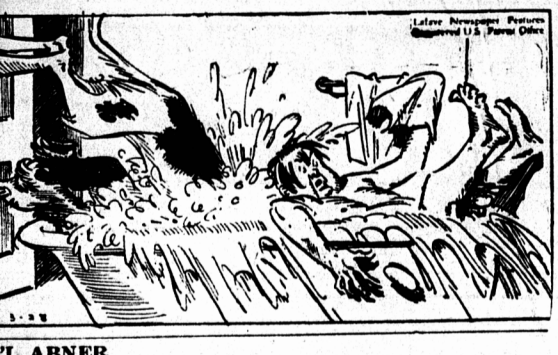
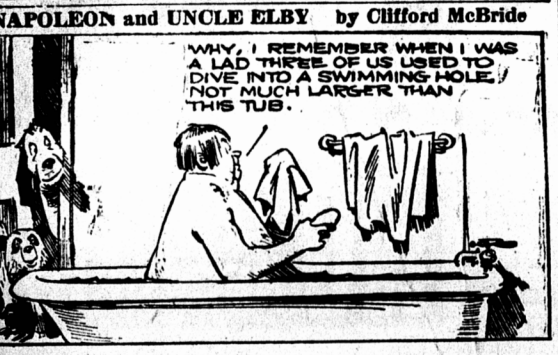
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Contract Bridge
 By Josephine Culbertson

THE BIDDING WAS GOOD
 It is never very "exciting" to stop one trick short of game—at two notrump, or three spades, etc.—but circumstances often dictate this course. In today's deal, South showed good judgement in that respect, but he could have managed his play somewhat more shrewdly.
 South dealer.
 Both sides vulnerable.
 ♠ 4 4
 ♥ A J 5 3
 ♦ Q 10 8 2
 ♣ K J 9
 ♠ Q 9 7 5
 ♥ 3
 ♦ Q 10 8 4
 ♣ 7
 ♠ A 6 2
 ♥ N
 ♦ W
 ♣ S
 ♠ J 10 8 2
 ♥ K 9 7
 ♦ 10 7 3
 ♣ A K
 ♥ 6 2
 ♦ A 9 5 4 3
 ♣ Q 8 4 2
 The bidding:
 South West North East
 1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass
 1NT Pass 2NT Pass
 Pass Pass
 South has a rather difficult decision even as early as the second round—over North's one heart. His choice of one notrump was the least of evils, and then, when North could not leap all the way to a notrump game, South felt, with admirable restraint and logic, that he had done enough, and that the play for game would be, at best, "sketchy." For one thing, a blank ace-king holding, as South had in spades, is often a sort of automatic danger signal against notrump. West opened the spade five. South took East's ten with the ace, and with the oblique intention of establishing his longest suit, laid down the ace of diamonds, then led low toward dummy. East captured the ten and led back the spade deuce (showing an original holding of four spades). South's second spade stopper was thus removed before diamonds were established, and he had no chance for the contract. In this situation, South should not have "attacked" diamonds immediately, but should first have tried to "steal" a club trick! West would scarcely go right in with the ace, and now with one club trick lost, South could turn to diamonds. Moreover, with the lead now in dummy, he could use the best "percentage play" of the diamond ten through East for a first finesse.



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