



By Thornton W. Burgess

AT LONG LAST

Persist, and still persist if you would win success in what you do. —Reddy Fox

That is a sort of rule of life with Reddy Fox. When he starts out to do a thing, he persists. Things may, and often do, interfere, but Reddy doesn't give up. He persists until he succeeds, or he knows that the thing cannot be done. It was very much that way with Too-Smart. He had started out to hunt for his dinner. For two days he had found no trace of another fox. This time he had gone only a little way when he came to another set of tracks in the snow. They were fox tracks. There was no doubt at all about that. Too-Smart growled down deep in his throat.

"I'll find that fellow now," he muttered. "And when I am through with him, he'll wish he had left here long ago." He started to follow the tracks in the snow. The other fox had started out to hunt for dinner before Too-Smart. Those tracks led Too-Smart straight to a place where a mouse had been caught. He knew this by the sign in the snow. A little farther on the snow was trampled down in a certain place, and there were many brownish-gray hairs scattered about.

"A rabbit!" exclaimed Too-Smart. "That was my rabbit!" Of course it wasn't his rabbit. A rabbit not caught is never anybody's rabbit. It is true that some foxes might have caught that rabbit had he found it first. Also, it is true that he might not have found it. He might not have hunted in that direction. He didn't think of this. All he thought of was the fact that another fox had caught a good dinner which he felt he should have had. He was more determined than ever to find and drive that other fox away.

Even with those tracks in the snow, it wasn't so easy to find the other fox as Too-Smart had thought it would be. It seemed that the other fox was sure of being followed, and had taken pains to mix the trail all up every now and then. But Too-Smart, like his father Reddy Fox was persistent. He forgot he had started out to get a dinner. He persisted in following that trail. He was sure that the other fox was smaller than himself. The footprints in the snow were smaller than his own. They were not quite as deep as his own.

Some days he would find no trace of the other fox and would hope that the other had really left. A day or two later he would find certain signs that the other fox was still around. Then a calm day when snow fell all day. It was a light snow, and when the storm was over there was no real difficulty in getting about. But no one could walk anywhere without leaving tracks.

WHEATLEY RIVER W. M. S.

The January meeting of Wheatley River W. M. S. United Church was held at the home of Mrs. Harold Buntain, Jan. 21.

Mrs. Reagh Barrett led the worship service on the theme, "The Church, an Image of the Kingdom." Opening hymn, "The Lord Is King, Lift Up Thy Voice" was sung, followed by prayer and Scripture reading by Mrs. Theo. Sellar. Miss Isobell Woolner read an interesting letter from Dr. Florence Murray, medical missionary in Korea, expressing thanks for prayers, support and relief parcels that made it possible to relieve the suffering of many. Mrs. Harold Buntain brought the message of the new year, "God's Will to know, God's Will to do, God's Will to love."

Eight members and three visitors answered roll call repeating a verse of Scripture containing the word "Master." Used cards are to be taken to the supply secretary and sent to Trinidad. The treasurer reported a successful year, financially and otherwise. The February meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Reagh Barrett with Mrs. Harold Chandler as leader, roll call to be answered with a verse of Scripture with the word "name." "The Church's One Foundation" and prayers for the missionaries by Mrs. Theo. Sellar, and the benediction closed the meeting.

so, of course, that fox must be smaller. He grew more and more impatient as he failed to get even a glimpse of the other fox. But he persisted, and at long last he was rewarded. Fox just an instant he had a glimpse of a handsome young fox disappearing behind a clump of young evergreens.

ST. JOHN'S PARISH GUILD

The annual meeting of St. John's Parish Guild was held Jan. 14 at the home of Mr. Edwin Bernard, St. Eleanor's, with Archdeacon Harrison and 15 members present.

The president, Mrs. Linda Muirhead gave her report and thanked the officers and members for their co-operation during the past year. The treasurer, Mrs. Bernard read her financial report. A considerable sum had been realized from pantry sales, card parties, bazaar goods, and a supper for the laymen. Expenditures included redecorating interior of church, a new carpet, repairs to chimney, oil, etc.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President (re-elected) Mrs. Linda Muirhead; vice-president, Mrs. Mary Ramsay; secretary, Sadie Brown; treasurer, Mrs. Gladys Bernard; directors, Mrs. Mary Warren and Mrs. Helen MacKinnon; lunch convener, Belle Small. Mrs. Joan Small invited members to her home for the February meeting.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

HELP NEEDED

South could have made his game contract in the following hand against the best defense, but when he slipped a little, he needed (and received) help from an opponent. West opened the king of hearts. Dummy's ace was played, and then (for reasons that are obscure to this reporter) South returned the heart seven.

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

Bridge hand diagram showing cards in each hand: East (A885, A7, KJ108, K64), South (KQ10, 984, 532, A83), West (KJ3, J65, 974, J1052), North (Q10742, 32, AQ6, Q97).

Bidding table: East Pass, South Pass, West Pass, North Pass.

This gave East the chance to win the lead with his heart jack, and he was not slow to avail himself of that opportunity. He then shifted to the deuce of clubs — but his good plan was nipped in the bud by his own partner. West went right up with the club ace — South having followed suit with the seven — and returned a club to the hoped-for queen in East's hand. This hope proved barren, and South had clear sailing thereafter. West's play of the club ace was not shrewd! East's deuce-lead testified that South held at least three clubs, and they might well include the queen. If that was the case, West would limit his side to one club trick by putting up the ace; so he should have been delighted at the chance to force dummy's king with the eight. Observe that that very simple manuever, all by itself, would have led to the easy defeat of the contract.

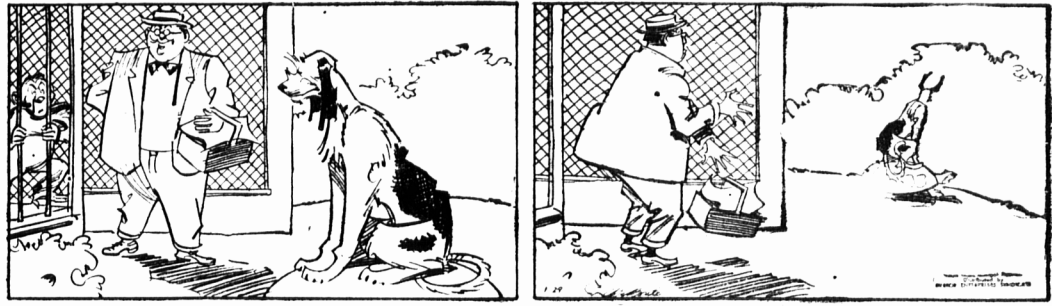
Observe also that East could not afford to lead the club jack instead of a low card. South would duck from his own hand and thus limit the defenders to one club trick, regardless of West's action. Finally, observe that South could have protected himself from the start by conceding the first trick to West — or later, by putting the club nine on East's deuce, but this latter was a guess.

Tilly The Toiler



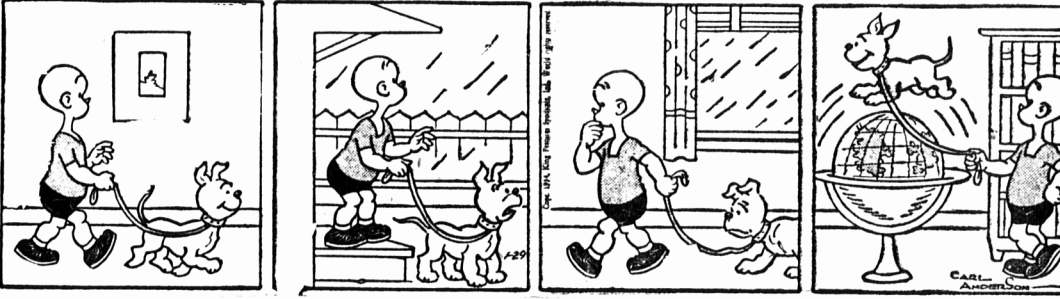
By Bob Gustafson

Napoleon and Uncle Elby



By Clifford McBride

Henry



By Carl Anderson

Logo



By Walt Kelly

SPRING PARK VILLAGE

ANNUAL MEETING OF RATEPAYERS

The annual meeting of the Ratepayers of the Village of Spring Park will be held on Tuesday, February 2nd, at 7:30 p.m. in Spring Park Community Hall.

Signed: J. Edmond Arsenault, Chairman of Commissioners of the Village of Spring Park.



Rip Kirby



By Alex Raymond

King of The Royal Mounted



By Zane Grey

Joe Palooka



By Ham Fisher

Lil Abner



By Al Capp

Dotty Dripple



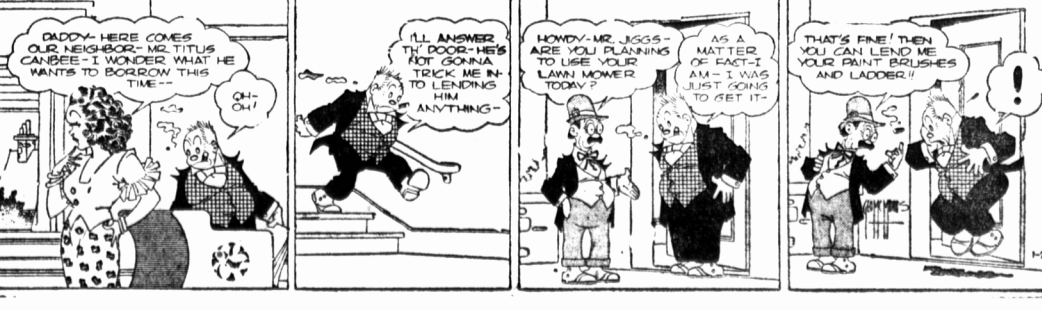
By Buford

Tippy and "Cap" Stubs



By Edwina

Bringing Up Father



By George McManus

PENNY



By Harry McEnigan