



### BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

#### THE VISITORS DISCOVERED

The independent ask no aid. They face the future unafraid.

Thunder and Mrs. Grouse were getting an early morning breakfast in the Old Orchard. They were up in an apple tree, filling their crops with apple buds. Tommy Tit the Chickadee and Sammy Jay, he of the blue coat with black and white trimmings, were the first of the regular visitors to the Old Orchard that morning. They were the first to discover the two big visitors from the Green Forest. But it wasn't long before others made the same discovery. It occasioned a lot of gossip among the regular Old Orchard folk. Nobody objected to this visit, but everybody was surprised.

"Just look at the way they are eating those buds," said Yank Yank the Nuthatch as he hung, head-down, to the trunk of a tree and watched Mr. and Mrs. Grouse. "It must be that times are extra hard over in the Green Forest."

"I should think they would feel uneasy over here where they can

so easily be seen in these bare trees," said Tommy Tit the Chickadee.

"If you ask me, they are taking a chance," said Sammy Jay. "Over in the Green Forest, they can always dodge behind one of those trees that never lose their leaves. He meant, one of the trees always green, like the pines, and spruces and hemlocks."

"Any way, as long as they eat nothing but buds, they won't interfere with us," said Yank Yank the Nuthatch.

Just then Sammy Jay began to scream "Thief! Thief! Thief!" He screamed at the top of his voice. He suddenly darted down from the tree in which he had been sitting, and screamed again as he pretended he was going to pick the eyes of Black Pussy the Cat, who hitherto noticed had silently stolen from Farmer Brown's henyard. Black Pussy paid no attention to Sammy Jay. He paid no attention to the other birds, all of whom were now screaming at him. He crouched close to the snow over which he was creeping toward the tree in which Thunder and Mrs. Grouse were getting their breakfast. There was a fierce gleam in his yellow eyes. It wasn't exactly a hungry gleam, for Black Pussy was well fed. He never really went hungry. But Black Pussy is a natural hunter. The love of hunting is in him. The tip of his long black tail twitched back and forth, back and forth, as he crept toward that tree. His eyes were fixed on those two big birds in that tree. They were out of his reach, yet not far out of his reach. Perhaps they might come lower. Perhaps he might be able to climb unnoticed near enough to catch one of them. Never had he seen them before.

When he had first caught sight



"If you ask me they are taking a chance," said Sammy Jay.

of them he had thought that a couple of Hens had gotten out of the henyard. He wouldn't have thought of touching those Hens in the henyard. But outside was another matter. Now as he drew near them, he saw that they were not from Farmer Brown's henyard, and he was all the more eager to catch them. He would creep a few steps, then crouch still, glaring up at these strangers. How he did want to catch one of them.

Thunder and Mrs. Grouse were so intent on getting the best breakfast they had had for quite a while that they paid no attention to the screaming of Sammy Jay, and the others. When at long last they did see Black Pussy they were still unafraid.

"He can't get us up here," said Thunder. "We are perfectly safe. I wonder who he is."

"He looks something like Yowler the Bobcat who lives over in the Green Forest. Only Yowler isn't black," said Mrs. Grouse.

"And Yowler hasn't a long tail like that fellow. Yowler's tail is almost as short as Peter Rabbit's," said Thunder.

They paid no more attention to Black Pussy, not even when he crouched at the base of the tree. You see, they trusted to their strong wings to take them out of any possible danger from him. Their only concern was the good breakfast they were eating. When their crops were full they would whirl away back to the Green Forest. My, how good those buds tasted!

All the remainder of that day they would feel better for that good breakfast. It was the right way to start a day; and though they didn't know it they were also starting a new year. For this was New Year's Day. Would that everyone, everywhere could start this New Year as happily.

#### CENTENARY COIN

SALISBURY, South Africa. — (CP) — Silver crown coins are to be issued to mark the Rhodes centenary celebrations and exhibition of 1953. The coin will have the uncrowned effigy of the Queen on the front with the inscription: "Queen Elizabeth the Second." The reverse side will have an effigy of Cecil Rhodes.

### Contract Bridge

By Josephine Clubertson

#### BUCK-PASSING

South's cautious first bid in the deal below was proper, but he showed very little imagination or enterprise at his second turn.

West dealer. North-South vulnerable.

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

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

West opened the club queen — not that his choice mattered — and South made four-odd with the greatest ease. "Why didn't you carry on, partner, after I rebid," South asked plaintively. "Look at all those trumps you had!"

South was a little biased! Let's review the bidding.

It was reasonable enough for South to overcall with a spade on the first round, shying away from a takeout double because a two-diamond response from North would be embarrassing, but after the spade bid received free cooperation from North, there was no longer any need or excuse to temporize. After all, South had substantially more strength than he had announced by an overall, even though vulnerable — and if North had the values for a free raise over West's two-club bid, it was inconceivable that there should not be a sound plan for game at spades.

Presumably, South felt that by merely urging further action from his partner he was doing his full part, but that, most decidedly, was not the case. North had no great reason to be "proud of his hand; with the heart bid over him, it was doubtful that his heart honors would be of any value to South, and there was certainly nothing to be cherished in the minor suits. Thus, while it is not usually a good policy to hang one trick short of game, North would have been extremely optimistic to accept South's invitation. The true point is that South should not have asked his partner to do something — bid four spades — that he was so eminently able to do for himself."

### King Of The Royal Mounted

By Zane Grey



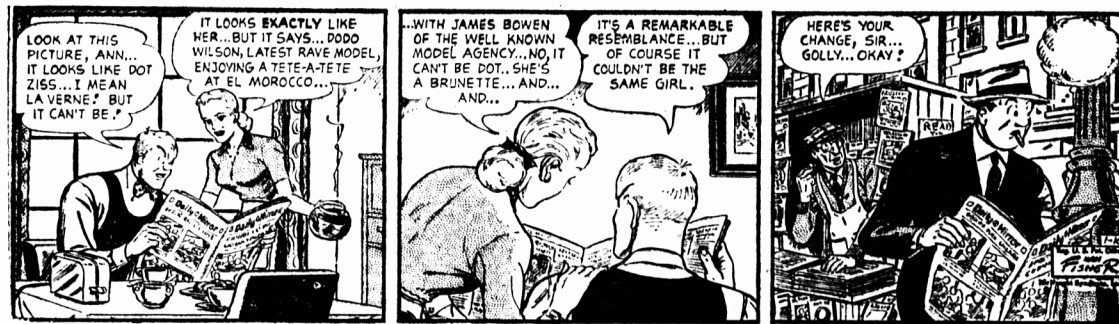
### Rip Kirby

By Alex Raymond



### Joe Palooka

By Ham Fisher



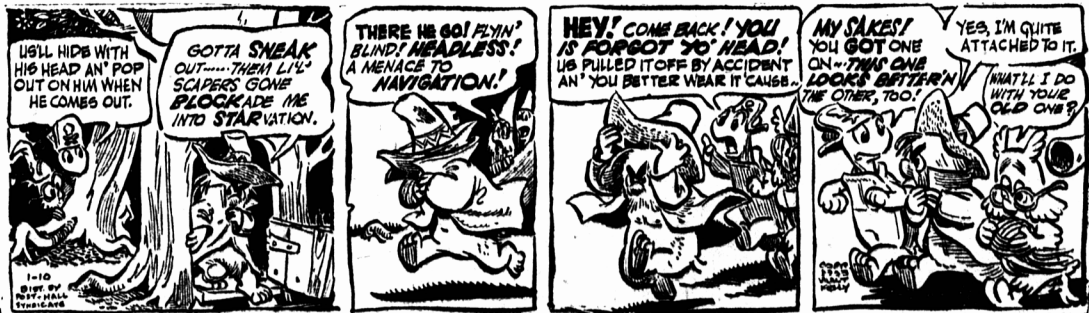
### Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Clifford McBride



### Pogo

By Walt Kelly



### Tippy and "Cap" Stubs

By Edwina



### Bringing Up Father

By George McManus



### PENNY

By Harry Haenigsen



### Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Prince Edward Island Mutual Fire Insurance Company will be held in the Town Hall in the Town of Summerside, on Tuesday the 27th day of January, 1953, at the hour of 10:30 o'clock in the forenoon.

### CLOVER CLUB DANCE

Charlottetown's Finest Dance Hall

EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT!

Dancing 9 - 12

Jackie Doyle and his Clover Club Band Soloist.

Tables for 100 couples.

For Reservations Phone 1222 Saturday between 4-8 p.m. To avoid disappointment phone your Reservations early. No Reservations held after 10:30 p.m. Please phone in cancellations early.

### Li'l Abner

By Al Capp



### Tilly The Toiler

By Bob Gustafson



### Dotty Dripple

By Ruford



### Henry

By Carl Anderson

