(By Thornton W. Burgess)

WHERE WAS OLD MR. TOAD?

Wise are they, but very few
Always knowing what to do.
—Old Mr. Toad

Bluffer the Hog-nosed snake, often but wrongly called flat-headed Adder, and Puff Adder, was in Farmer Brown's garden. It was his first visit this summer. He had just happened to wander in there. At first he didn't know where he was. You see it was a long time since he had been there.

"There should be some Toads in a place like this," thought Bluffer. "I'm beginning to feel hungry. A Toad, not too big and not too small, would be very much to my liking just now. It is some time since I have dined. I think I'll do a little hunting here.

Now Bluffer is not quick like most members of the snake family. He is rather large for his length. He cannot glide about as some of his cousins do. You know some of them seem to move very fast indeed. As a matter of fact they seem to move much faster than they really do. This is because they are so long and slender and glide so smoothly. This enables them to slip out of sight quickly and so escape their enemies. Bluffer cannot do this. So Old Mother Nature has provided for him in another way. She has made him ugly-looking so that his enemies may hesitate to attack him. Not only has she made him ugly-looking, but she has also taught him to be ugly-acting. He pretends to be very dangerous when all the time he is perfectly

Instead he half coiled, raised his head and hissed.

harmless. This is why he has earned the name of Bluffer.

He had gone only a little way in the garden when Flip the Terrier, the little black and white Dog who lives at Farmer Brown's, discovered him. Right away Flip began to dance around him and bark as if trying to bark his head off. He is very exitable. He gets excited over everything and nothing. He was excited now.

Had Mr. Blacksnake been in Bluffer's place he would have glided away and would have done it so smoothly and quickly that he would have been out of sight under the plants in a jiffy, and Flip would have looked for him in vain. Bluffer was too slow for that. Instead he half coiled, raiser his head, and hissed. My, what a hiss that was! It seemed to say, "Touch me if you dare!"

Flip backed away hurriedly Then he barked harder than ever. He was trying to scare Bluffer, just as Bluffer was trying to scare him. He barked and barked and barked. Bluffer hissed and hissed and hissed. It was very exciting for those of the garden folk who chanced to be near.

Now it happened that just a moment before Flip had appeared, Bluffer had seen Old Mr. Toad disappearing under a board in the corned of the garden. That was Old Mr. Toad's summer home. It was a wide board, and that corner of the garden was shady. Farmer Brown's Boy had put the board there especially for Old Mr. Toad and his friends. He wanted them in the garden, and he knew that they do not like to be in the hot sun. He knew that this is why they do most of their hunting for worms and insects after jolly, bright, round Mr. Sun has gone to

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Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

THE "PERCENTAGE" PLAY

Today's declarer didn't have much to go by in planning his play of the grand-slam contract, but one line did have a distinct "percentage" advantage and therefore should have been chosen.

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 N T	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	7 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South could not be blamed for being extremely optimistic when his partner opened the bidding with one notrump and then raised the jump heart takeout. Unfortunately, however, there was "duplication of values" in the combined hands, and after the dummy appeared—West having led the diamond queen—South saw that success would depend on his guessing ability in respect to the missing queen of trumps. Mentally tossing a coin, he led a low trump and put in dummy's ten. That ended the matter.

It is of course true that there was as much chance of the queen's being with West as with East, but this was not the entire proposition. South did not lack only the queen of trumps—the 9-7-6-5 were also at large. It might be enough merely to guess the location of the queen, but then again it might not. The defender who had the queen might also have three guards for it, and that possibility altered the picture. If West had Q-9-x-x he was bound to make a trick, and so declarer would be helpless if this were the case. South could, however, guard against the possibility that East had the same trump holding, and so he should have selected the line of play which gave him the greatest control. That line, obviously, was to lead low to the trump king and to return the trump ten for a finesse. There was an equal chance that this would trap the queen, and the additional chance that it might trap a combination—something which South's actual play could not encompass.

SWINE BREEDERS

Island swine breeders are planning again to send an exhibit of market hogs to the 1951 Toronto Royal Show. Breeders who have pigs, purebred or grade, not necessarily tattooed, and which will be about 200 lbs. live weight the final week in November, should notify the undersigned immediately with the view of contributing to this exhibit.

We won in 1949 and 1950. With your co-operation we will try to do it again.

H. W. CLAY,
Box 489, Charlottetown.

ANNUAL MEETING

EAST PRINCE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

Will be held at the Imperial Diner just West of Summerside on **Monday, October 1st at 8 P.M.**

All Poll Chairmen will arrange to have five accredited delegates appointed to attend.

A full attendance is requested as there is important business to come before this meeting.

A number of outside speakers will be present including R. R. Bell, Provincial Leader, and Brigadier John H. Price.

In addition to the delegates all interested in the Progressive Conservative Party will be welcome.

P. L. MORRIS, President,
J. A. GALLANT, Secretary.
East Prince Progressive Conservative Association

BINGO

Holy Redeemer Hall
TONIGHT
8.30

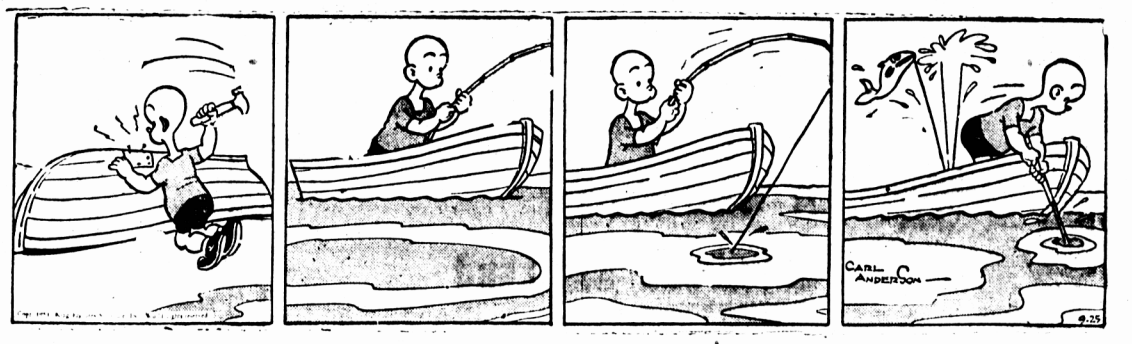
The prizes are the same as those prevailing at other Bingos in the city.

KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

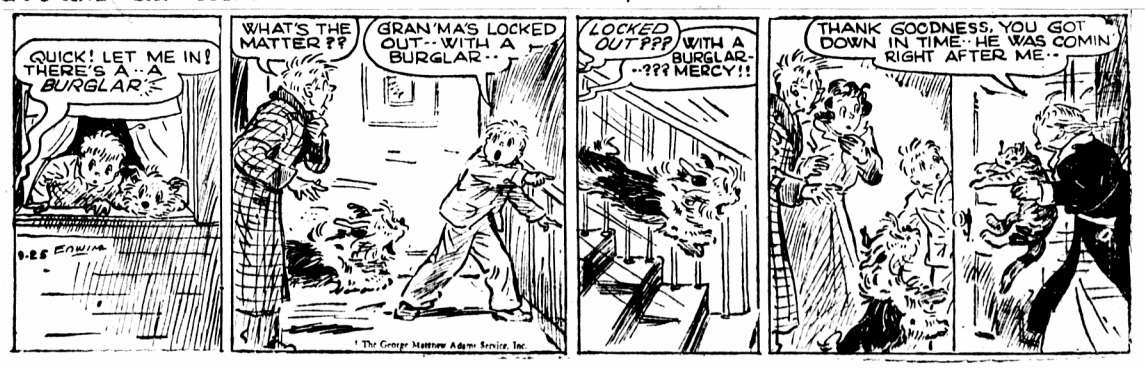
JOE PALOOKA

DOTTY DIPPLE

HENRY

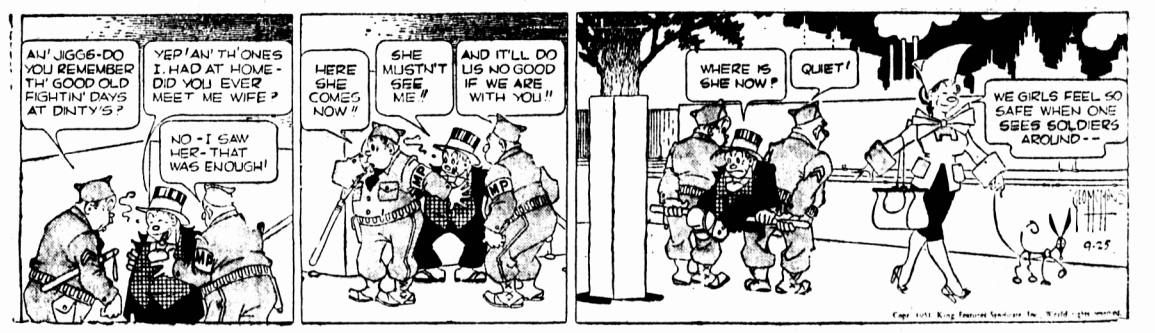


TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS



POGO By WALT KELLY

BRINGING UP FATHER By George McManus



LI'L ABNER By A. Capp

TILLY THE TOILER By Westover

RIP KIRBY By Alex Raymond

PENNY By Harry Haenigsen