

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

AFTER PASSING ORIGINALLY

Many players seem to ignore the fact that after they have passed originally there is nothing remotely forcing about a non-jump response to partner's opening bid.

Consider South's not-common procedure in the following hand.

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

♠ AQ43
♥ 86
♦ K53
♣ QJ72

♠ 975
♥ J84
♦ A107
♣ A96

N
W
E
S

♠ 106
♥ A1052
♦ A98
♣ 42

♠ KJ82
♥ QK7
♦ Q6
♣ K1054

The bidding:
South West North East
1 Pass Pass 1 Pass Pass
1 Pass Pass 1 Pass Pass

South made three overtricks with ease, and so the partnership had lost a laydown game. This outcome was not North's fault — he would have been outrageously optimistic to make another bid in view of South's original pass and his minimum response to the club bid. After all, North could not have been criticized if he had failed to open the bidding — it was only his third-hand position that justified such a weak response. It may be argued that he would not have risked very much by raising



BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES



By Thornton W. Burgess

BUSTER BEAR'S CHRISTMAS
Peace and good will, would that they All the world could know this day.

Buster Bear had been feeling out of sorts. Yes, sir, he had been feeling out of sorts. Nothing was right. He couldn't make up his mind what to do. People who cannot make up their minds usually do feel out of sorts. To begin with, Buster was roaming around later in the season than was usual with him. You know, he spends the greater part of the winter asleep. Once Blacky the Crow ventured to ask him why he slept all winter, or for most of the winter.

"What else is there for me to do?" growled Buster Bear. "There is no use in hunting for something to eat because at this season of the year there is nothing to be found that I can eat. It isn't that I'm fussy, either. When it comes to eating, I'm about the least fussy person in all the Green Forest. But when spades to the two-level since he made an excellent fit, but this view would be far from the mark. It was not the danger of reaching two spades that worried North — it was the fact that he would be giving false information to South, and inviting further bidding from South with a hand much weaker than the latter had.

It was South who lacked enterprise. After the club opening, he should have been almost sure that game was in the hand, and should have announced that opinion in no uncertain terms. A jump to two spades, even though his suit was only a four-carder, would have been a far more constructive and logical action than the one he took.

Jack Frost has made the ground so hard I can't dig in it, when everything is covered with snow and ice, there simply isn't anything for me to eat. There isn't the least bit of use in roaming around looking for something I know I cannot find, so what better could I do than go to sleep?"

"I find something to eat, even in the middle of the winter. If I can't see why you can't," retorted Blacky.

Buster grinned. "If I were no bigger than you, and had wings to get about with, I might be able to find enough to eat. But I'm not as small as you, and I haven't wings, so I do the next best thing, I go to sleep and forget my troubles."

This year Jack Frost had been later than usual in coming. This meant that Buster had had more time to hunt for food. Not feeling sleepy of course he hadn't gone to sleep. But now Jack Frost was here to stay, and Buster knew the time had come when a wise Bear would make himself as comfortable as possible, forget his troubles, and sleep. Unfortunately, he wasn't sleepy. Here is was the day before Christmas, and Buster felt as wide awake as ever.

Common sense told him to find the best place he could and lie down. The trouble was he couldn't decide which was the best place. He tried half a dozen places. Each time he changed his mind. Then it began to snow. The dancing little snowflakes fell faster and faster. Pretty soon they were falling so fast that Buster couldn't see more than a few feet ahead. There was no sense in wandering about when he couldn't see where he was going. Presently, Buster came to a place where long ago a big tree had been blown over, making a



"What else is there for me to do?" growled Buster Bear.

big hole where the roots had been torn out. Hastily he raked a few leaves into that hole, then crawled into it. "I don't want to go to sleep," he grumbled. "No, sir, I don't want to go to sleep. I'm not the least bit sleepy."

He may not have felt sleepy, but in almost no time he was asleep. The snow fell steadily and gently. All night it fell. Buster didn't know anything about it. His black fur coat was thick and warm. That falling snow made a blanket that grew thicker and thicker, and strange as it may seem it was a warm blanket. Along toward morning the snow clouds drifted away. By time jolly round bright Mr. Sun began his daily climb up in the blue, blue sky there wasn't a cloud to be seen. He looked down on a lovely world of white. The Green Forest was white. The Great Meadows were white. The Great Mountain was white. The Big River, covered with ice, was white. Billions of quiet little snowflakes caught Mr. Sun's smile and flashed it back at him. Everywhere there was loveliness and peace. Where yesterday there had been a great hole beside the upturned roots of a fallen tree in the Green Forest, this morning there was no hole at all. There was even a little mound where the hole had been, a smooth, white mound. Mr. Sun, looking down, saw it and didn't even guess that it was Buster Bear under his white blanket that made that mound. Buster was at peace with all the world. It was Christmas morning.

KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

By Zane Grey



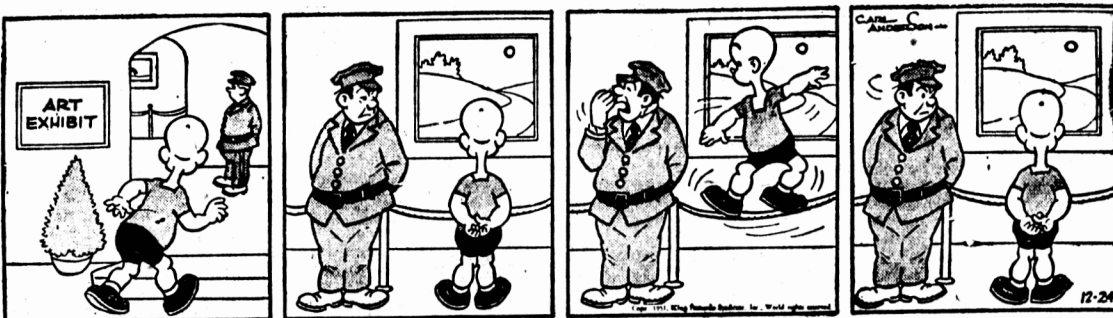
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Tickets should be picked up by December 28

BUS SCHEDULES

For December 24th - 25th - 26th, 1951

DEC. 24th: Trips held over until after store closing.
SUMMERSIDE-TIGNISH: Leaves Charlottetown at 6:15 P.M.
SOURIS-ELMIRA: Leaves Charlottetown at 6:30 P.M.
MONTAGUE-CARDIGAN-GEORGETOWN-MURRAY RIVER: Leaves Charlottetown at 6:30 P.M.
BONSHAW VIA SEARLETOWN CORNER TO SUMMERSIDE: Leaves Charlottetown at 3:00 P.M.
SUMMERSIDE-CHARLOTTETOWN: Leaves Summerside at 5:30 P.M.
SUMMERSIDE-BORDEN: Leaves Summerside at 5:30 P.M.
SUMMERSIDE-TIGNISH: Leaves Summerside at 8:00 P.M.

DEC. 25th-26th:
Sunday schedules will be operated on Summerside-Tignish, Souris-Elmira, Montague-Cardigan-Georgetown-Murray River.
BONSHAW to Leave Charlottetown at 6:10 P.M.
Leaves Borden at 6:10 P.M.
Arrives in Charlottetown at 8:00 P.M.
Charlottetown-Summerville: Leaves Charlottetown 10:10 A.M. & 4:00 P.M.
Summerside-Charlottetown: Leaves Summerside at 9:55 A.M. & 4:30 P.M.

MAINLAND BUS — will operate daily.
Leaves Charlottetown at 10:10 A.M.
Arrives in Charlottetown at 5:45 P.M.
Leaves Summerside at 12:01 P.M.
Arrives in Summerside 4:20 P.M.

ALL SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO ROAD CONDITIONS.

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