

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Claberton

THE SMOTHER PLAY

A "regular reader" writes: "I have heard of squeeze plays, grand coups and even Vienna Coups, but a bridge friend mentioned something brand new to me — a smother play. Was he pulling my leg, or is there really a play by that name? If so, won't you give an illustration."

There certainly is such a play, though it comes up most infrequently. Here is a situation that can only be solved by means of a smother play.

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

♠ A 7
♥ A 6 4
♦ K 10 8 2
♣ K 7 3 2

♠ K Q J 10 9 6 4
♥ A 7 6
♦ Q J 9
♣ 10 6 5

♠ 5 2
♥ Q J 10 9 5 3
♦ A 7 4
♣ A 4

Assume that South is pushed to a contract of five hearts by determined spade bidding on East's part. West doubles the five-heart con-

tract and opens the eight of spades. There is no reason to duck at the first trick, so South puts up dummy's ace, then leads a club to his ace in order to take the trump finesse. This latter succeeds, but of course West is not so obliging as to cover South's heart queen, and when East shows out, it appears that West must eventually win a trump trick by force, since he still has three trumps against dummy's two.

Barring the not-to-be-expected drop of the queen and jack of diamonds, South can see that he must lose three tricks in the normal course of play — a spade, a diamond and a trump. Is there any way to salvage one of these losers? Possibly South tries the following:

South leads the heart jack for another finesse. He then cashes the king of clubs and ruffs a club, and next cashes the ace and king of diamonds and ruffs dummy's last club. Now South simply exits with his last diamond. East wins and can cash a spade trick, but on his following forced lead of a spade, South ruffs — and West is "smothered." If he over-ruffs with the king, dummy's ace in turn wins the trick; whereas if West (down to 4 trumps) under-ruffs South, dummy discards the diamond and takes the last trick with the trump ace.

SWIFT WATERS

The Ogoki River in Northwest-ern Ontario was named after an Indian word meaning "Swift River."



BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

MITE BECOMES THRIFTY

For waste there never is excuse. There's little that is not of use. —Old Mother Nature.

There was nothing stupid about Mite. The young Mouse was looking for a place for himself out in the Great World. He was smart. He learned fast. He learned by using his eyes, his ears, and his nose as Mother Nature intended. When he was a baby, he was so very small that he was called Wee Mite. He wasn't Wee any longer. That is, he wasn't Wee as Mice go. He was a small person, but not a small Mouse. In fact, he was almost grown up, and he was just a little over four weeks old. In just that little time, he had had to learn a great deal. He had had to learn what things were good to eat, where they could be found, and what enemies he must watch out for, and how to escape them, what places were safe for a Mouse, and the ones that were not.

One of the things Mite found out very soon was that he must have a lot of food every day. The fact is he needed more than his own weight in food every day. Yet Mite wasn't fat. That is, he wasn't too fat. He was just right. Although he needed all that food to give him energy, energy, you know, is what gives you the ability to do things; to work hard; to play hard; to get the things you want; to do the



He discovered that tall grasses often had a lot of seeds at their top.

things you want to do. Folks without energy never amount to much. The young Mouse needed a lot of energy because he had to keep so busy, had to run about so much, had to hunt for all that food. And some of it he had to cut because it was grass and other green things growing.

Now Mite had never been taught anything. He had started out from home into the Great World before he was quite three weeks old. Of course the little Mouse had not been taught thrift. These days it would seem that a lot of people have not been taught thrift, and haven't found out for themselves the need of it. They lack the good sense of Mite the Meadow Mouse. He found out for himself the wisdom of thrift.

At the very first, the Wee Mouse had thought of nothing but keeping his stomach filled, and keeping safe. At first he had lived altogether on tender green things. As he grew he kept finding new things to eat. Some seeds were good, very good indeed. He discovered that tall

BACKACHE

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By Robert L. May

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THE SECOND AUDUBON SCREEN TOUR
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25
AT PRINCE OF WALES COLLEGE
AT 8 P.M.
Sponsored by
The Prince Edward Island Women's Institute
A beautiful film of wild life entitled "Below The Big Bend" will be presented by Mr. Allan Cruickshank, distinguished naturalist and lecturer.
Admission 50c

RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER



By Walt Kelly

POGO



By Alex Raymond

RIP KIRBY



KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED



JOE PALOOKA



By Ham Fisher

LIL' ABNER



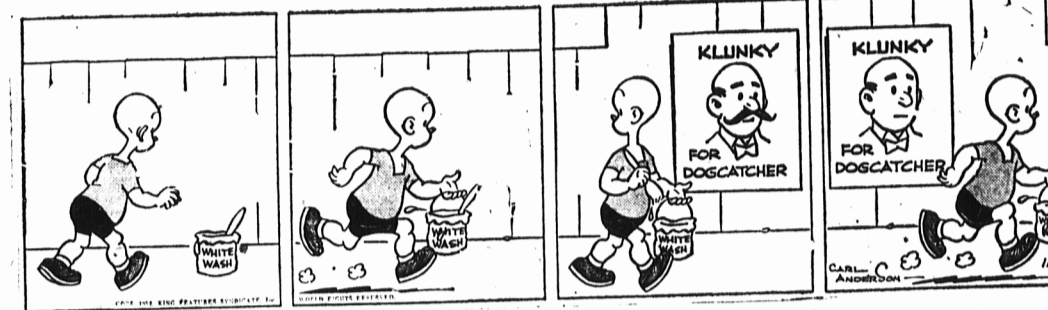
By Edwina

TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS



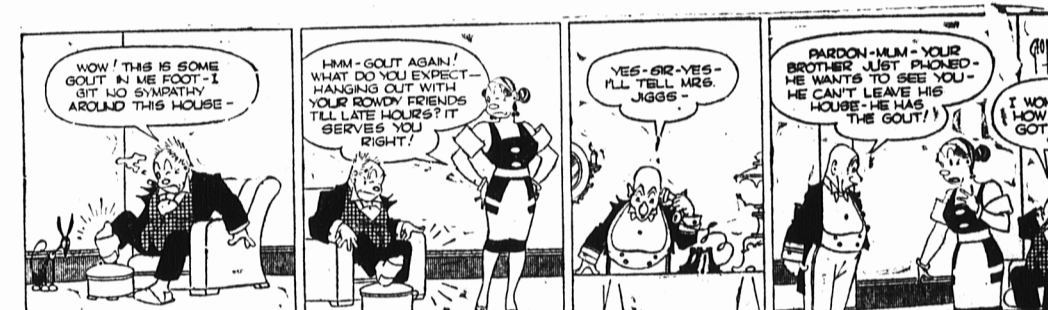
By Carl Anderson

HENRY



By George McManu

BRINGING UP FATHER



By Bob Gupton

TILLY THE TOILER



By Cliff McBride

Napoleon and Uncle Ebby



By Rudolf

DOTTY DRIPPLE



By Harry Haenigsen

PENNY

