



BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

WHAT SHOULD MRS. GROUSE DO?

Would that we could always know just what to do, or where to go. —Mrs. Grouse.

Thunderer the Grouse was not altogether happy. There are folks who seem to be happiest when they are being admired. Thunderer is one of those folks. This is especially true in the spring. He nearly loves to strut and show off to as to be admired. Most of all, he wants to be admired by Mrs. Grouse. Showing off that way is his way of making love. Of course he is vain.

For some time now Thunderer had had no one to admire him. He seldom saw Mrs. Grouse. He knew that somewhere she had a

nest and was sitting on eggs. It took all her time. She had no time for him. Once in a while she joined him to hunt for food, but always she disappeared when he least expected it. So far he had not been able to find that nest although he had looked and looked. Mrs. Grouse was keeping it a secret. She was doing this for safety's sake. If Thunderer knew where that nest was he would be likely to stay in the neighborhood, and without meaning to, give the secret away.

This morning Thunderer had by chance come over in the neighborhood of the hidden nest. He had flown there. Mrs. Grouse had seen him coming between the trees. He lighted on the ground just a short way from where she was sitting on her ten eggs. For a



Presently, Thunderer began to wander about this way and that, looking for something to eat.

moment or two, Thunderer stood still with his head held high, and looked and listened for possible danger. How handsome he was! "He's the handsomest bird in all the Great World," thought Mrs. Grouse. "The poor dear is lonesome. I have half a mind to slip out and join him just to make him feel better."

But she did nothing of the kind. She continued to sit on those precious eggs, keeping them well covered and warm. That nest was at the foot of a pine tree, and low-growing boughs kept her well hidden. Not once did Thunderer think of looking beneath those boughs. It wasn't the sort of a place that he would have chosen for a nest, so of course, he didn't think that Mrs. Grouse would choose such a place.

Presently, Thunderer began to wander about this way and that, looking for something to eat. All the time Mrs. Grouse could see him. It was nice having him where she could watch him. Seeing him there so near made her realize that she had been a little lonesome herself. Once he came over within a few feet of her. For a moment she thought he was going to come in under the boughs of the tree, and she held her breath. But he turned away, and Mrs. Grouse breathed a little more freely.

All this time she had forgotten the family up above. You know, Redtail and Mrs. Redtail had a nest high up in that same tree. She knew about them, but they didn't know about her. If they had, she couldn't have remained there, for they would have done their best to catch her. In their nest were three young birds. Father and mother were both away hunt-

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Clubertson

GOOD LUCK — NOT GOOD BIDDING

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable. North-South 20 on score

♠ 732	♠ 84
♥ 82	♥ K107
♦ QJ874	♦ 63
♣ AJ10	♣ 52
♠ 85	♠ 63
♥ A94	♥ 52
♦ 103	♦ 7532
♣ K98	♣ AJ6
	♣ QJ5
	♣ AK96
	♣ Q64

The bidding:
South West North East
1♦ Dbl. 4♦ Pass
Pass Pass

One notrump was South's correct bid at any score and the effect of his unwise diamond opening was to frighten North into giving a shutout raise. If South had opened properly, North would not have taken such a pessimistic view of his side's defensive capabilities, and South could have landed at the three-notrump contract which would have been so extremely easy to make. The actual four-diamond contract could have been defeated, and would have been if East had been sufficiently alert.

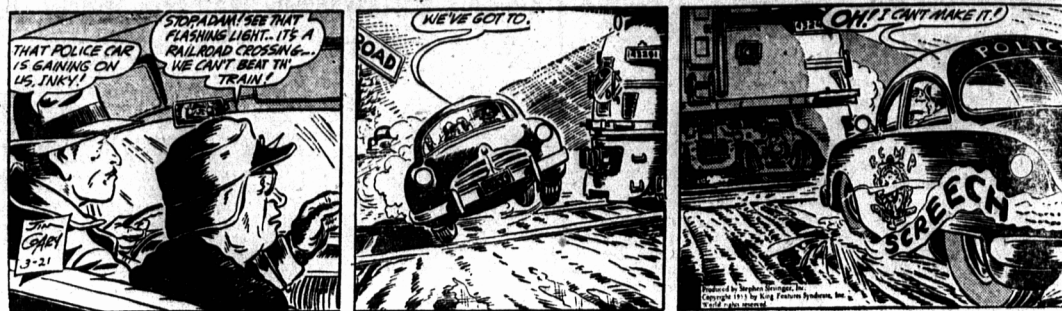
West opened the spade king, but even with East starting an echo with the nine, West sensed that a spade continuation might go up to the A-J in the closed hand, so he shifted to a club. (If South had the club queen, West's king would be worthless anyway.) The club ten held and South drew trumps in two rounds, then led a heart from dummy. East played low, and when West took the trick, he was helpless. He could not prevent South from setting up a heart trick upon which to discard one of dummy's spades.

It would have been a different story if East had given his partner a little protection! On the lead from dummy, East should have put up the king, and with that card holding, he could have led a spade through South. West's shift at the second trick clearly revealed the spade situation, and it was vital for East to get in quickly for the spade return.

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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 Hoening



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Dotty Dripple

By Ruford



Henry

By Carl Anderson

