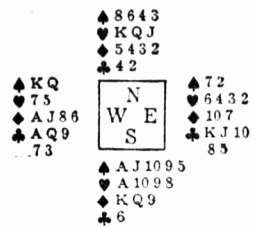


By Josephine Culbertson
DEFENSIVE FAILURE

West's defense in the following deal had a glaring flaw.

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.



The bidding:
South West North East
1 2 2 3
4 4 Dble. Pass Pass
Redbl. Pass Pass Pass
South's redouble should have resulted in making East scurry to five clubs, since there was certainly nothing for East to be "proud of" defensively, and this comment is made in full awareness that the four-spade contract could and should have been beaten. A player who gives a voluntary raise to his partner usually implies that he has some slight values, at least, outside of the suit he is raising, and since East's action had been based exclusively on clubs, he was obviously not prepared to lend substantial help on defense. As a matter of fact, his length in clubs was all the more reason for taking out the double, since it would not be surprising if that length killed whatever number of clubs West might be counting on defensively. West led the ace and another club. South ruffed, cashed the



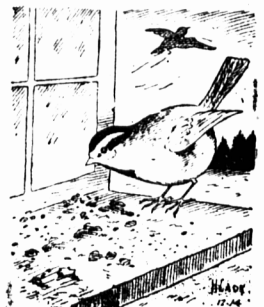
BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

SOMETHING IN THE AIR
A few there are so weather-wise they read what's coming in the skies.

—Old Mother Nature.
Tommy Tit, the Chickadee, was a busy little person. Yes sir, he was so. All afternoon he had been at the feeding shelf that Farmer Brown's Boy had put up at a kitchen window for his feathered friends. It was supplied with sunflower, and other seeds. It was the sunflower seeds that Tommy liked. He took them over to a neighboring tree, opened them and ate them as fast as he could. Back and forth he flew between the shelf and the tree. He was stuffing himself. There were no doubt about that.

Yank Yank, the Nuthatch, was just as busy. He wasn't stopping to open the seeds and eat them as Tommy Tit was. He was wedging them into cracks in the bark of that same tree. "I guess you have the same feeling," said Tommy Tit. "Yank Yank, who was clinging head down to the trunk of the tree, looked up at Tommy Tit. "Do you mean about the weather?" he asked.



"The greedy thing," said Tommy Tit.

"Dee, dee, dee. Of course I do," replied Tommy Tit. "There is going to be a big storm, or my name isn't Chickadee."
Yank Yank nodded in agreement. "You are right about that," said he. "I know it, but I do, I suppose you know it in the same way."
"Dee, dee, dee, dee!" cried Tommy Tit merrily. "Dee, dee, dee, dee!"

Of course we know it in the same way. It is something in the air. We feel it. I have felt it all day, and I'm getting ready for it. I'm stuffing myself. I'm eating all I can hold. I have an idea that some folks are going to go hungry. "Not me," said Yank Yank. "I am making sure that I can get enough to eat when I need it."
Tommy Tit's little black eyes twinkled. "I have hidden away a few seeds myself, and I'm going to hide a few more," said he. All the time he was thinking how easy it would be for him to find the sunflower seeds that Yank Yank was so patiently hiding under loose bark and forcing into cracks in the bark.

Over from the Green Forest came Sammy Jay. Without a word Sammy began to pick up seeds as fast as he could. He didn't fly off with one seed at a time as did Tommy Tit and Yank Yank. He just stayed right there and filled his crop until his throat swelled right out. It took a lot of seeds to fill Sammy's crop. Then he flew back toward the Green Forest, and he flew fast.

"The greedy thing," said Tommy Tit. "I don't hope they will choke him, but I do hope he has got enough!"

In the time it took Tommy Tit to open and eat two sunflower seeds Sammy Jay was back. "There's going to be a storm," said he. "Who says so?" cried Yank Yank. "I do!" retorted Sammy Jay. "How do you know?" asked Tommy Tit. "I feel it in the air," declared Sammy Jay, and started in to fill his crop again.

TWO LANGUAGES
English and maltese are the official languages in the Mediterranean island of Malta.

DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1. A thick long piece of timber
5. A card game
9. Freight of a ship
10. Kind of bear
12. English author
13. Subside
14. Rooms
16. Ireland
17. Printer's measure
18. Turf
20. Encountered
21. One-spot cards
24. Hindu garment
26. Fry
28. Fogs
31. Certainly (archaic)
33. On top
34. Craze
36. European flatfish
38. Sun god
39. Afresh
41. Small drums
44. More private
46. Adorn with gems
47. Money
48. Merits
49. Type of manorial court (Brit.)
50. Let it stand (print.)

Down words list and crossword grid. Down words include: 2. Ireland, 3. Eager, 4. Specks, 6. Seaport, 7. One who exaggerates danger, 8. Potato, 9. A plant yielding edible grain, 11. Lease, 15. Distress signal, 19. Mill, 22. Pond, 23. Stitch, 25. Narrow inlet, 27. Free, 29. Violent down-pour of rain, 30. Abnormal, involuntary muscular contractions, 32. Perched, 34. Decline, 35. Abolish, as a law, 37. Infants, 40. Part of "to be", 42. Throat, 43. Monster, 45. Soak flax.

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it: ANYDLBAAXR LONGFELLOW. Example of a cryptogram and its solution.

ATTENTION CARPENTERS

Local 1338 will meet at the B. I. S. December 15th at 8 P.M. Mr. J. H. Dwyer, regional organizer, will be there. All members are urged to attend.

BRIGHTEN YOUR TREE with colourful glistening packages of WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT CHEWING GUM. Includes image of a gum pack.

Let the attractive red, white and green packages of Wrigley's Spearmint Gum help to brighten your Christmas tree... and besides, most everyone loves chewing Wrigley's Spearmint Gum because it's so healthful, wholesome and inexpensive!

Believe It or Not! PETER HEYN. THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PIRATE HAUL IN HISTORY. THE FIRST AIR-CONDITIONED CASTLE. Includes image of a man's face.

Pieter Pieterzoon Heyn, a Dutch privateer on the Spanish Main, made the biggest pirate haul in history. In 1628, off the Bay of Matanzas, Cuba, he succeeded in trapping a Spanish silver fleet of 31 vessels, loaded with \$100,000,000 worth of treasure. But he was just an employee. His employer, the Dutch East Indies Company, that year declared a 50% dividend.

Joe Palooka comic strip panel 1: "Now, look, Tommy... well, I could lick any one you with one hand... C'mon... COWARD?"

Joe Palooka comic strip panel 2: "MAYBE IF YOU'D TRAINED LIKE WE DID... YOU COULD PUT UP A BETTER FIGHT."

Joe Palooka comic strip panel 3: "I'LL GET HIM WITH ALL OF YOU! YOU'RE ALL SQUARES!"

Secret Agent X9 comic strip panel 1: "TRAGWELL, THE LATE DOCTOR EXHIL HIRED YOU AS GENERAL HANDYMAN WHEN HE BOUGHT THIS PLACE - RIGHT?"

Secret Agent X9 comic strip panel 2: "YES, IN FACT, HE WILLED THE COTTAGE TO ME! BOTH OF US WERE BACHELORS -"

Secret Agent X9 comic strip panel 3: "FBI RECORDS SHOW THAT YOU WERE VISITING RELATIVES IN BOSTON WHEN FOREIGN AGENTS MURDERED DOCTOR EXHIL!"

Ham Fisher comic strip panel 1: "GROAN!!—(THIS IS THE MOST PAINFUL DINNER I'VE EVER LIVED THROUGH! NEITHER CHILD HAS SAID A WORD, EATEN A THING, OR EVEN LOOKED AT THE OTHER!)"

Ham Fisher comic strip panel 2: "ER—WHY DON'T YOU SHOW SABRINA THE GARDEN, DEAR?"

Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer

Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer comic strip panels 1-4.

Henry

Henry comic strip panels 1-4.

Grandma

Grandma comic strip panels 1-4.

Muggs and Skeeter

Muggs and Skeeter comic strip panels 1-4.

Mickey Mouse

Mickey Mouse comic strip panels 1-4.

Tilly The Toiler

Tilly The Toiler comic strip panels 1-4.

Etha Kett

Etha Kett comic strip panels 1-4.

L'il Abner

L'il Abner comic strip panels 1-4.

The Lone Ranger

The Lone Ranger comic strip panels 1-4.

Joe Palooka

Secret Agent X9

By Ham Fisher

By Mel Graff

By Robert L. May

By Carl Anderson

By Charles Kuhn

By Wally Bishop

By Walt Disney

By Bob Gustafson

By Paul Robinson

By Al Capp

By Fran Striker