

BEDTIME STORIES

The Difference

By Thornton W. Burgess

Where one is safe another may, To fear of danger be the prey, —Old Mother Nature.

It was so with Peter Rabbit and Whitefoot the Wood Mouse. They were together in the little sugar house of Farmer Brown over in the maple grove in the Green Forest. Of course, neither of them had any business to be there. They didn't belong there. Peter was there because it was the only place for him to go to escape the dazed Reddy Fox. Reddy hadn't dared follow him in there. Whitefoot was in there because he wanted to be in fact he was making his home in there.

This was the season when the maple sap was running up in the trees from down in the roots. It was a busy season for Farmer Brown and Farmer Brown's boy. Maple trees have very much sap, much more than they really need. In the late fall it all goes down from out of the branches and the little twigs and the trunk down into the roots in the ground where it is stored all winter.

In the short season between the going of winter and the coming of spring, when the days are warm and the nights are cold, the sap is drawn up into the trees during the day and goes down back into the roots at night. That is the maple syrup season. There is so much more sap than is really needed

that it doesn't harm the trees at all for man to draw off some of the sap, and he does make the delicious maple syrup and sugar. This is what Farmer Brown and Farmer Brown's boy were doing these days.

Peter was afraid they would come back and he was afraid they wouldn't. He was afraid to have them come back lest they find him and do him some harm. He really should have known better than that. They really were Peter's best friends. The trouble was that Peter wasn't sure of it.

He was afraid not to have them come back because if they didn't, who would open the door if the door wasn't opened, how was he to get out? If he did get out, would Reddy Fox be waiting for him?

Peter was squatting down in a corner under the low bunk, he was making himself as small as he could. If no one would be there, he hoped he would be all right. But he was a worried Rabbit. It was all very well for Whitefoot to tell him not to be afraid; to tell him there was nothing to be afraid of; to tell him that he, Whitefoot, was not afraid even though he was so much smaller. But there was a big difference between Whitefoot and Peter. Yes, sir, there was a big difference. It was a difference in size.

Usually it is true that big folks have less to fear than little folks. The bigger they are the less reason they have to be afraid. But there are times when it is just the other way. Peter was many times bigger than Little Whitefoot and it was just because of this that he had reason to be more afraid. Whitefoot really wasn't afraid at all. He was so small that without the least danger of being seen. Moreover, he didn't have to stay there unless he wanted to. There was a certain small hole under the eaves through which Whitefoot could go outside whenever he wanted to. So Whitefoot wasn't afraid. The truth is, he would be very glad to have Farmer Brown and Farmer Brown's boy come back. They often brought good things to eat.

Big Search For Missing U.S. Soldier

VERDUN, France (Reuters)—American army engineers worked in a glare of floodlights Tuesday night to clear a rubble-filled shaft leading to an underground fortress where an American soldier had been missing since Saturday.

Three days of frantic digging cleared one shaft into which Pte. Gerald Dunnigan, 22, was first believed to have fallen but there was no sign of him. Workers then switched to a second shaft which leads into the first.

Hopes rose Tuesday night that he may be still alive, lost in one of the maze of subterranean passages. While squads of soldiers dug on the surface, the search was intensified 80 feet underground.

The missing man's wife, Mrs. Barbara Lou Dunnigan, sleepless and distraught, has kept an almost constant vigil at the site.

Last Saturday, the Dumignons and their two small children, Valerie Robin, 15 months, and Barbara, four months, visited the ancient Tannes forest outside Verdun.

Saying he would look around and be back in a few minutes, Dunnigan left his wife and the children sitting on a bench. It was half an hour before his wife realized something had happened to him.

The task of the underground searchers is colossal. The galleries branch off in all directions in the darkness. Part are deep under water. The fortress was built about 1745 and added to in each succeeding year.

MAJOR TRADE PARTNER... TOKYO (AP)—George Melvor, chief commissioner of the Canadian wheat board, referred to Japan Saturday as "one of Canada's most important trading partners" and said Canada is anxious to fill Japan's purchasing needs. The said Japan during the last three years has tripled exports to Canada and narrowed the trade gap between the two countries from 2 to 1 in favor of Canada.

Refrigeration, Appliances, Motors, Electrical, Palmer Electric

Business Failures Continue Climb

OTTAWA (CP)—Business failures continued their post-war climb in 1955, the bureau of statistics reported Tuesday.

Number of failures recorded under provisions of the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts rose to 2,446 from 2,278 in 1954 and their defaulted liabilities to \$58,597,000 from \$53,142,000. Average liability per failure was about three per cent higher in 1955 than in the preceding year.

As in previous years, the greatest number of failures occurred in the trade sector but bankruptcies in this group fell to 878 last year from 973 in 1954. Bankruptcies of service establishments increased to 452 from 408. Insolencies of manufacturing establishments dropped substantially to 306 from 416. But failures rose in the construction and transportation fields.

During last year, 1,786 of the 2,446 insolencies occurred in Quebec compared with 1,945 in 1954. Bankruptcies in Ontario rose to 338 from 414, in Saskatchewan to 49 from 30, in British Columbia to 75 from 73, in Newfoundland to nine from four and in Prince Edward Island to three from two. Figures were unchanged for 44 in Alberta and 27 in Manitoba. There were decreases to nine from 19 in Nova Scotia and to 16 from 20 in New Brunswick.

OVERDOSE OF PILLS LOS ANGELES (AP)—Edward G. Robinson Jr., 23, son of the movie actor, took an overdose of sleeping pills early Tuesday, police reported. Officers found Robinson lying on the living room floor with a bottle on a table and 14 pills scattered on the floor. An ambulance took Robinson to hospital, where Dr. Joseph Weil pumped his stomach and pronounced his condition fair. He said Robinson was in a coma when brought in.

ONE TO COME MONTREAL (CP)—Trans-Canada Air Lines accepted delivery Monday of its eighth Super-Constellation plane which arrived after a non-stop flight from Burbank, Calif. It will be used on trans-continental and trans-Atlantic routes. The ninth Super-Constellation—and the last in the current TCA order—will be delivered next month.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

By B. Jay Becker (Top Record-Holder in Masters' Individual Championship Play)

Partner bids one spade, next player passes, neither vulnerable. What do you bid with each of the following hands?

- 1. ♠K 9 5 ♠K J 7 ♠K Q 9 2 ♠A J 8
2. ♠K ♠Q 10 6 3 2 ♠AK J 6 4 ♠J 5
3. ♠9 8 ♠5 4 3 ♠8 7 5 ♠A K 6 2
4. ♠A 9 8 ♠5 ♠K 10 9 8 7 ♠5 6 5 2

Q1. Three notrump. This response states to partner: "I have the values for an opening bid of one notrump (16 to 18 points); my distribution is 4-3-3-3 or 4-4-3-2. I guarantee strength or stoppers in the remaining three suits. If you have anything substantial above a minimum opening bid, by all means let's go on to a slam. If you have a minimum opening bid which is playable in notrump, this is as good a spot as any to be playing, but if your hand is a minimum and it looks to you like we ought to be in a suit contract, then go ahead and name it and I'll bow to your wishes."

Q2. Two hearts. Some players have a tendency to bid according to the strength of a suit rather than its length. The principle that should govern is generally to bid the higher ranking of two suits of equal length, despite the disparity in high card strength. If you were to respond with two diamonds, intending to bid the

hearts next time around, your partner would be justified in visualizing only a four card heart suit, which could easily lead to the wrong contract. In most suit contracts the goal is for the partnership to play in the suit where the combined trump holding is longest, not necessarily the strongest.

Q3. One notrump. The impulse to bid two clubs should be resisted. The chief objection to the latter bid is that, being a new suit by the responding hand, it compels the opening bidder to speak again, but the fact is our hand does not warrant such action. A one notrump response, however, carries no such compulsion, and simply states we have between 6 to 9 points and probably a balanced hand. The high cards are not as well scattered as we would like them to be, but we'll just have to suffer with what fate deals us.

Q4. Two spades. It is best to avoid the problem of being faced with a two spade rebid by partner, which might come up if a two diamond response were chosen. The immediate raise to the two level in partner's suit denotes 6 to 9 points, including adequate trump support. By bidding two spades directly, the destiny of the hand is put in the opening bidder's lap, which is right where it belongs. It is true that there usually are four trumps for the direct raise, but it is better to accept this flaw than to subject ourselves to a subsequent bidding problem.

MCGILL FOUNDER HONORED GLASGOW (CP)—Dr. Cyril James, principal of McGill University in Montreal, Tuesday unveiled a memorial plaque in honor of James McGill, founder of the building near the birthplace of McGill. Later, Dr. James opened a new school near here.

EXPAND RADAR TRAPS TORONTO (CP)—Attorney-General Roberts of Ontario said Monday that more radar units to measure the speed of highway traffic will be put into operation in southern Ontario soon. Stretches of highway where radar had been used for the last eight months, have shown a reduced accident rate.

Believe It or Not! NOVA CAIN HELPS THE PUBLIC TO COPE WITH INCOME TAX PROBLEMS... A BRIDE AND GROOM among the Afghans of Zhob, Pakistan, are considered legally married when they exchange sashes.

TIRED FEET Soothe them with MINARD'S LINIMENT The smooth chewing wakes up your smile while it helps to keep your mouth fresh and clean! WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT CHEWING GUM

Out Our Way By J. R. Williams SEE IF YOU CAN GET THAT HALF OF A BUTTON ON AN CUFF THROUGH THE STARCHED BUTT HOLE WHILE I PUNCH SOME NEW STARCHED SHIRT HOLES IN THE REST OF MY SHIRT!

Major Hoopie I'M SO GLAD YOU FEEL LIKE SPLITTING IT—POP SAID GOODY BY BREAKFAST AND TOLD ME HE'D LEAVE THAT LITTLE PRESENT FOR US!

Bringing Up Father I'D LOVE TO DEAR BUT NORA AND I ARE GOING SHOPPING I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE BEFORE THEY ASK ME FOR MONEY!

It was sweet of you to drive us, daddy. You wait here till we come out! Aw, please, Maggie!

Abner I HAVE DEvised A ROOMPROOF TRAP YOUR HONOR! I WILL COAT YOUR NECK WITH ELEPHANT GLUE!

THE INSTANT THE FRIEND'S FINGER FASTEN ON IT—HE WILL BE IMMEDIATELY STUCK! I WILL THEN HANDCUFF HIM—AND THE CASE WILL BE CLOSED! WITH YOU BY THE WAY.

Grandma, Mickey Mouse, Henry, Muggs and Skeeter, Tilly The Toilet, Etha Kett, Joe Patoka, The Lone Ranger, Secret Agent X9, POGO