

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

OLD MAN COYOTE LOOKS AND PLANS

He'll best succeed who has a plan. Then does the very best he can. —Old Man Coyote.

Old Man Coyote is crafty. Yes, sir, Old Man Coyote is crafty. He is one of the craftiest of all the folks in the Green Forest. In some ways he is as crafty and sly as Reddy Fox. Old Man Coyote had been visiting the pond

of Paddy the Beaver deep in the Green Forest. Most of the time he had taken care not to be seen by Paddy or any of Paddy's family. They would have been surprised to learn how many times he had watched them from a hiding place.

"I simply must have a Beaver dinner. Yes, sir, I must have a Beaver dinner," Old Man Coyote would say to himself after he visited Paddy's pond. And when he said it his mouth would water. All the time he knew that getting a Beaver dinner wouldn't be easy. Those Beaver folk were wise in this way of all the visitors to their pond. They knew who they had reason to be afraid of, and they were smart enough to always have some one watching while the others worked.

"If I'm going to catch one of them, I've got to plan just how to do it, and to plan, I must know all about them and their ways," thought Old Man Coyote. "Of course I might be lucky, and have an unexpected chance to catch one. But luck is a poor thing to depend on. He lives best who

plans best. I'll just learn everything I can about those Beavers and how they live." So every night Old Man Coyote visited the little pond deep in the Green Forest. He kept where the Black Shadows were blackest. He could get quite near without danger of being seen, for Beaver eyes are not the best of eyes. He would find a good hiding place and from there watch all that was going on around that little pond. All the time he was trying to plan how he could get between one of those Beavers and the water. For only on land could he hope to catch one of them.

For a long time he didn't see an opportunity. It wouldn't do to try and fail. Then Paddy and the others would be more watchful than ever. Only one of these Beavers would go way back from the water he might have a chance. He must get between the water and the one he was trying to catch. More and more he realized this. He knew that at the first hint of possible danger, the busy workers would drop everything and scramble for the water. Once in the water, they would have nothing to fear. The trouble was, they were working quite near the water.

"I guess I'll have to be patient and wait until they have cut all the trees near the water," he told Mrs. Coyote.

"I guess you're just wasting your time," retorted Mrs. Coyote. "If you'll take my advice, you'll forget those Beavers and do your hunting somewhere else." But Old Man Coyote didn't take her advice. Sometimes when he thought how good a Beaver dinner would taste, it drove him almost crazy. But he was too smart to let desire, to let appetite, lead him to act too quickly and unwisely. He just kept on watching and learning and planning. He was sure that with patience his opportunity would come.

One by one, the trees nearest the water were cut down and cut up. Old Man Coyote discovered that only one kind of trees was being cut; only aspen trees were being cut. Some of these trees were among other kinds of trees. It must be that aspen bark was their favorite food. You see Old Man Coyote had long ago found out that it is the bark of the trees they cut that the Beaver folk eat.

Most of the aspen trees near the pond had grown in small groups. Back of these were a few scattered among other small trees. Old Man Coyote lay in wait night after night near one of these. He was sure that when the others nearer the water had been cut, this would be next. It was far enough back from the water for him to have a chance to get between the water and the Beaver at work on that tree.

"I'll get one of those Beavers or my name isn't Old Man Coyote," he muttered.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

REPRIEVED

The "bridge crime" of reaching a slam, off two aces, was given a "pardon" in the following deal by West's opening lead.

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

♠	A K 8 3	♣	A 9 7 5
♥	6 4	♦	8 7 2
♦	K Q J 9 8	♠	10 6 4 3
♣	K 9	♥	10 6 5 4
♠	5 4	♣	3
♥	10 3 2	♦	2
♦	10 6 4 3	♠	A 9 7 5
♣	A Q 8 7	♥	8 7 2
		♦	K Q J 8
		♠	A
		♥	J 2

North-South, who apparently disdain ace-locating conventions, bid as follows:

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	6♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South's one-spade opening was certainly sound, as was his rebid of three spades after North's jump to three diamonds. However, in view of this original jump takeout, and handicapped as he was by the inability to find out how many aces South held, North might have proceeded with greater caution on the next round, bidding only five spades. Even that contract (if South accepted it) might have met defeat if East had held the ace queen of clubs and West the ace of hearts.

All this, however, is academic. The fact was that North-South did very well! West, on opening lead, decided to hold on to his club tenace, and led a trump. Declarer drew trumps, cashed the diamond ace, discovered both clubs on dummy's diamonds, and then could well afford to concede the heart ace!

The very fact that West (presumably) knew the opponents were not using an ace-locating convention and so might have the slam with only two aces, should have influenced him to lead the ace of clubs — or at any rate to open a heart, the other unbid suit. In the latter event, East might have had the inspiration to return a club.

While on the subject, it might be good idea to point out that the question of what to lead against a slam contract depends to a large extent on the quality of one's opponents. It is not always wise to lay down an ace, but if the opponents are optimistic bidders, ace leads are very much in order!

ANCIENT OARSMEN

The Trireme, the sea galley of the Greeks and Romans, carried 174 oarsmen in three banks of oars.

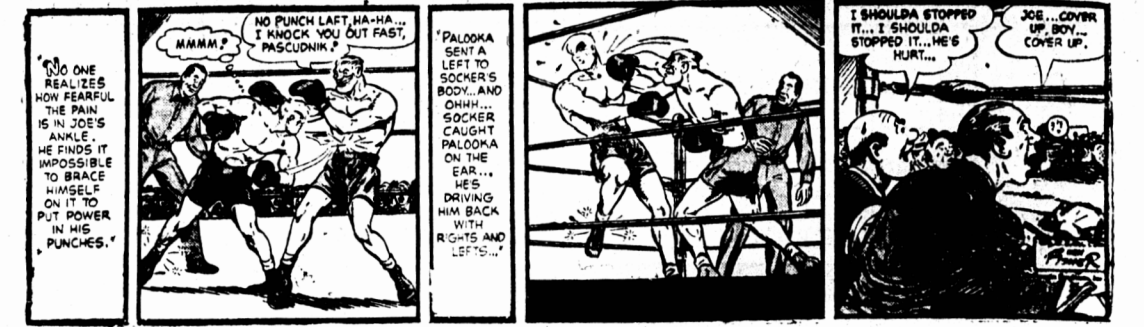
INFANT RULER
Czar "Ivan the Terrible" was three years of age when proclaimed ruler of all Russia in 1740.

KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED



By Ham Fisher

JOE PALOOKA



By Ruford

HENRY



By Carl Anderson

GOTTY DIPPLE



By Edwin

TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBBS



By George McManus

BRINGING UP FATHER



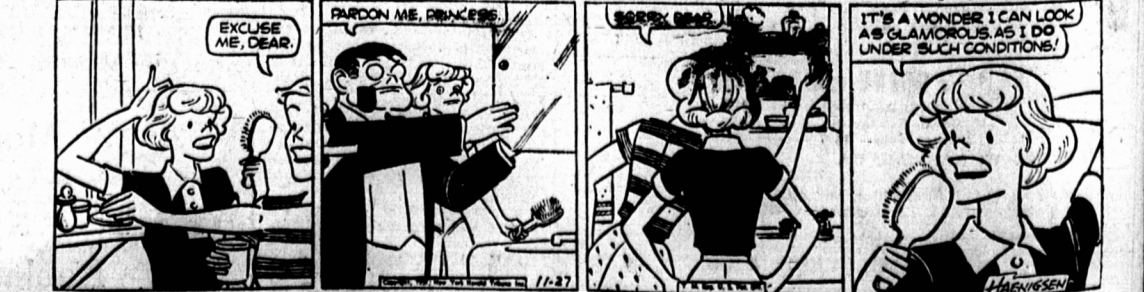
By Westover

TILLY THE TOILER



By Harry Hoerigen

PENNY



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Charles A. Dunning	11 a.m.	3 p.m.	
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Charles A. Dunning	8 a.m.	1 p.m.	
Prince Nova	11 a.m.	3 p.m.	

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