

# BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

## TIME TO CHANGE

Judge no one by his coat alone. Let us be so judged by your own.

—Old Mother Nature.

Prickles was a young porcupine with pink eyes and wearing a white coat. Mother Porky had a black coat. So did his father, Prickly Porky. So did all other porcupines in that part of the Green Forest. They all had black shoe-button eyes. Prickles was what is called an albino. Old Mother Nature had simply forgotten to put any coloring matter in his coat.



"I'm Jumper the Hare," replied his visitor.

Prickles hadn't been out in the Great World very long before he knew there was something odd about him. He was constantly being stared at. All sorts of furred and feathered folk came to look at him and stare at him. He didn't like it, but there was nothing he could do about it. He didn't know why they did it, but after awhile he began to wonder why he didn't see any one else in a white coat. Then one day while he was down on the ground he had a visitor who was also dressed wholly in white. It gave Prickles a good feeling. He didn't know a thing about this visitor, but the fact that he was wearing a white coat made Prickles feel that he must be a friend.

"Who are you?" asked Prickles bluntly.

"I'm Jumper the Hare," replied his visitor. "Where did you get that white coat?"

"I've had it ever since I was

born," grunted the young porcupine.

"I suppose that now the weather is getting warmer you will change it," said Jumper.

"What do you mean? Why should I change it?" asked Prickles. He was puzzled, and he looked it.

"Warm weather is coming. You won't want to wear a white coat all summer," said Jumper.

"Why won't I?" asked Prickles. "Nobody does around here. Those who wear white coats in winter change them for brown ones in summer," said Jumper.

"Will you change yours?" the young porcupine wanted to know.

"Of course I'll change it," said Jumper.

"Why?" asked Prickles.

"Because I would be scared to death not to," replied Jumper. "In a white coat in summer, I couldn't keep out of sight of hungry hunters looking for me."

"Can you in winter?" asked Prickles.

"Of course I can. It's easy then. With everything white with snow all around me. I don't really have to hide. I just sit still and folks don't see me," explained Jumper.

"Who else around here wears a white coat?" Prickles asked. "I haven't seen any one in white until now."

"And you're not likely to unless Shadow the Weasel has failed to change his yet, and should happen around. He wears a white coat all winter. He and I are the only ones who do around here. But he won't be white in summer. You'd better change your coat," said Jumper.

"I don't know how, so I can't," replied the young porcupine.

## WHEAT IN PAKISTAN

KARACHI. (CP) — First forecast of the area under wheat crop in Pakistan for the 1953-54 season shows an increase of 12 per cent over the previous year. The current estimate is 3,869,000 acres.

## Out Our Way



By J. R. Williams

## The Tiny Folk

(A real story of real children for very young children)

Page 10 The Guardian Thursday, April 8, 1954

And she had made a little white shirt to go with it. Laurie could scarcely believe his eyes, for there under Ginger's chin was a wee bow tie just the exact match for his overalls. Laurie looked and looked, a big grin on his face and a pleased sparkle in his eyes. "What do you say, dear?" asked his mother.

"Oh, thank you, Grandma, thank you," he said. "And I must pay you too." He ran over and gave her three big kisses on her cheek. Then he gave her a tight hug. "There now," he laughed, "I paid you, I filled you full of kisses and packed them in. I am so happy with my teddy. He has lovely clothes. Just wait till I show Daddy this."

"You won't have long to wait then," added his mother. "It is about time for him to come now, so get your snow suit white I get baby Linda ready."

Just as they finished, Daddy arrived. Laurie ran out to meet him, then turned to wave to his grandmother in the doorway. "Good-bye, Grandma," he called. "Thank you so much for my new clothes. Thank you for my dinner. Good bye. Good bye."

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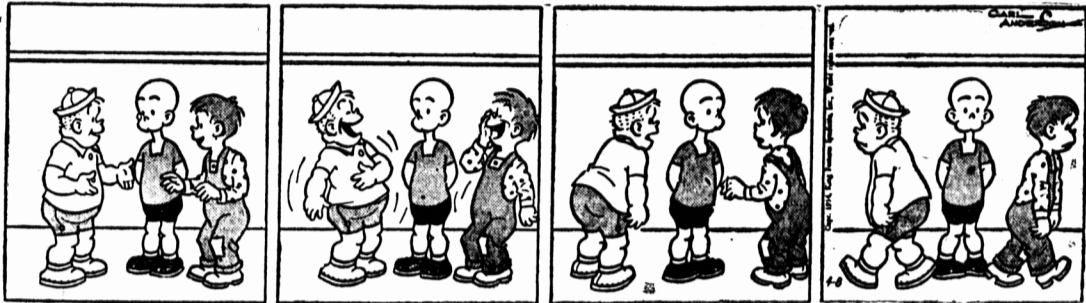
Tilly the Toiler

By Bob Gustafson



Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Clifford McBride



Henry

By Carl Anderson



Pogo

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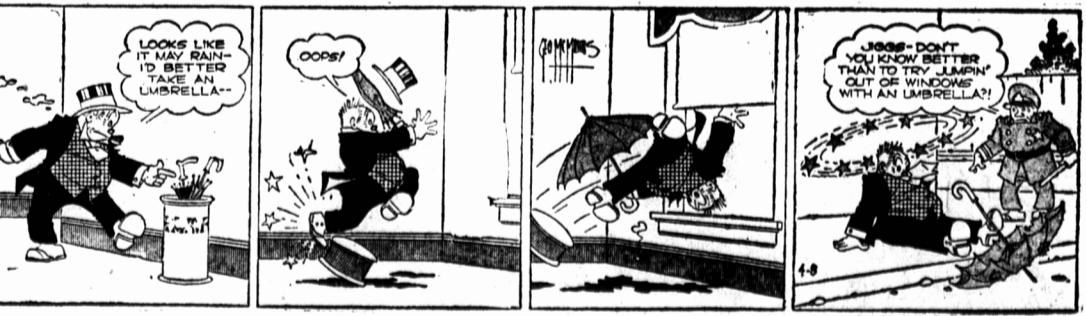
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By Burford



Tippy and "Cap" Stubs

By Edwina



By Alex Raymond

By George McManus



By Fran Striker

By Harry Hoenigsen



By Ham Fisher

By Al Capp



Rip Kirby



The Lone Ranger



Joe Palooka