

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson
TOO CAUTIOUS

It is all very fine at match-point duplicate to use only "sound" over-calls, particularly when vulnerable, but the fact remains that failure to enter the bidding at the one-level may create an insoluble problem for a later round. Consider this duplicate hand:

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

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

Quite a few North-South pairs got into game contracts at hearts and did very well, but one North-South became embroiled in this auction:

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1NT	2♣
3♦	Pass	3♣	Pass

West opened the heart jack. Dummy's queen covered and East wisely played low—putting up the king would have done nothing but simplify South's problems.

Declarer called for dummy's singleton diamond, won with the ace, and led the club seven. West ducked and the king held. Now on the club return, East won and shifted to the five of spades. South put up the queen. West covered and the ace won. South ruffed a club, ruffed a diamond in dummy, then ruffed another club and cashed his high trumps. The heart ace was his tenth trick.

The North-South failure to reach game was attributable to North's pass over one diamond. His hand clearly justified a one-heart overcall. South could not be blamed for feeling that he had done his full part when he came in, vulnerable, at the two-level; from his point of view, North's raise to three spades might be nothing but a competitive action. Moreover, even if South had stretched and bid four spades, he would not have earned a good match-point score, because his side could have made at least five hearts.

It may be argued that North could have put things right by bidding three hearts instead of three spades, but that would have been a sheer stab, announcing far better hearts than North held.

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BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

LEARNING THROUGH SMELLING

What eyes may miss and ears not hear. A nose will often make quite clear. —Mrs. Lightfoot the Deer.

Mrs. Lightfoot the Deer had just given her fawns their first real lesson in smelling. She had led them to a place where the Merry Little Breezes brought to their dainty noses a most unpleasant smell. Then she had warned them that whenever they smelled that scent they should get away from wherever they happened to be as fast as their slender legs could take them for that was the scent of one of their most dangerous enemies, Yowler the Bobcat. This was their first lesson in the use of their noses.

The young deer had a strange feeling of fright as they followed mother away from the place where they had found that unpleasant smell. She led them a long way from where they had smelled Yowler. There in a thicket where they were well hidden, she had the fawns lie down to rest. "Did that smell give you a queer feeling?" she asked.

"I didn't like it. It was a bad smell," said one.

"It scared me," said the other. "I don't know why it scared me, but it did."

Mother nodded. "I hoped it would," said she. "Whenever you smell anything that gives you that scary feeling, it is a warning to be careful. Then use your eyes and your ears, and get away from that place in a hurry. There is one thing for you to remember if you would like to grow up. Do you know what it is?"

"Two pretty little heads were shaken. "There are so many things to remember I don't know which one you mean," said one of the fawns.

"Some things are more important than other things, and this is one of the most important of all. It is to always trust your nose. Your eyes may be mistaken. So may your ears. But your nose will never fail you if you use it as it should be used. That is something that every deer has to learn. Everybody has a smell all his own. You can

tell who is who, if you can get their scent, even though you cannot see them.

Whenever a smell gives you a queer feeling, take it as a warning that danger is near. Never let a Merry Little Breeze blow past you without finding out what smells it may be carrying. The Merry Little Breezes are your best friends if you make use of them. Your noses will tell you what is good to eat, and what isn't. They will tell you when other folks are near, even though they are unseen. They will help you to find your way through the Green Forest. Never forget to use them. If you hear a strange sound near by, or if you see leaves moving but cannot see what moves them, and the Merry Little Breezes are not blowing in your faces, carefully circle around until they are blowing in your faces. Then they will bring the smell of whatever you heard or saw," mother explained.

The twins tried to remember all

that mother said. From that time on they went about smelling of this, and smelling of that. In fact, they were smelling all the time. And it wasn't long before they learned to tell the difference between the smell of harmless things, and the smell of things that left them in doubt, and so might be dangerous.

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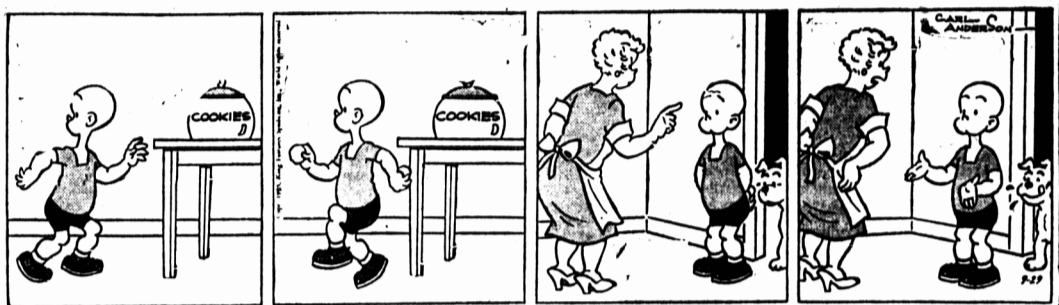
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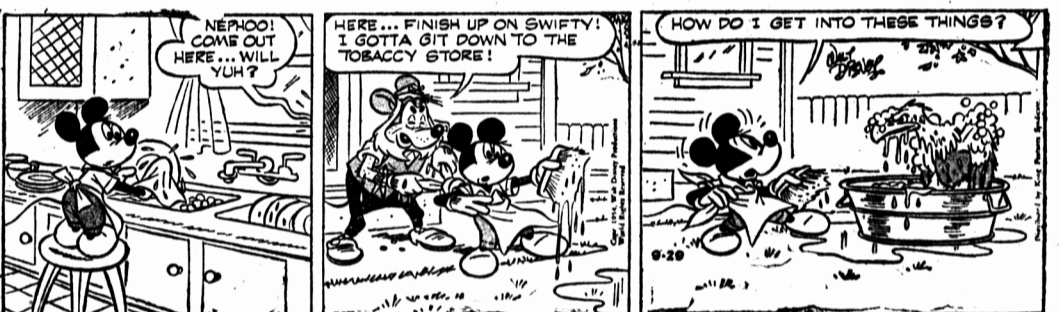
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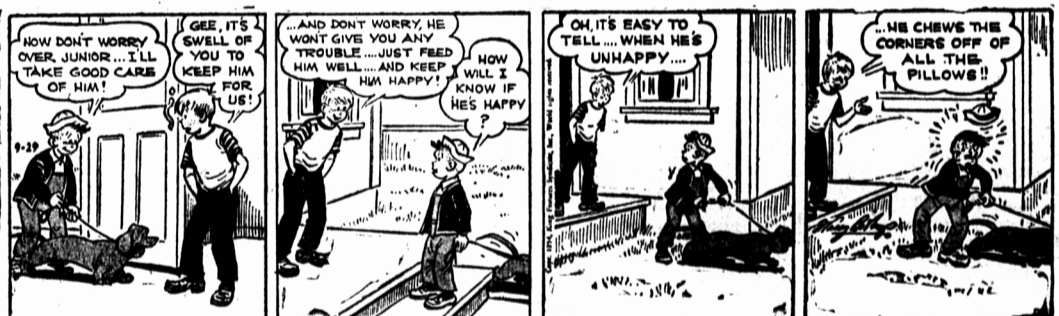
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Tilly The Toiler



By Ham Fisher
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