BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

THE GOOD OLD GROUND

Completely hidden in disguise,
The greatest blessing often lies.
—Old Mother Nature

"I'll never climb a tree again," whimpered a little Gray Fox. Mother Gray looked down her nose at him. "Don't be silly," said she. "You will climb trees many times, and be thankful that you can."

The young Fox was sure mother was wrong. He had just had a dreadful experience. He had climbed high up in a big tree to the nest of Redtail the Hawk, and then found out that he was afraid to climb down. Climbing up he was looking up all the time, and didn't realize how far above the ground he was getting. Even when Redtail and Mrs. Redtail threatened to attack him he was afraid to even start to climb down. It wasn't until mother came to his rescue, that he finally found that he could climb down as well as he could climb up.

He lay down and rolled over

The young Fox did not then repeat to mother that he would never try to climb a tree again, but he said it to himself, and he really meant it. How good the ground felt under his feet. Right then he was sure that he never wanted to get off the good old ground again. Even now he had a scared feeling whenever he thought of how far away the ground had looked from high up in that tree. He was sure that never again would he be tempted to climb a tree. He dug his toes into the soft earth and scratched just to get the feeling of it. He lay down and rolled over. It seemed to him that he never wanted to be where he couldn't do that. Trees were all right for birds and for Squirrels and for some other folk but not for him.

Mother Gray grinned as she watched him. Perhaps she remembered that she had felt just the same way when she was his age, and for the first time had Climbed really high in a tree. "Did you learn anything by climbing that tree?" she asked.

"Yes'm," said the young Fox. "I learned never to do it again. I learned that I belong on the ground."

"If that is what you learned, you learned all wrong," replied mother. "If you live to grow up, and I hope you will, you will find out that one of the surest ways of escaping certain enemies is to climb high up in a tree. The things that you really have to learn, are when to climb, what kind of a tree to climb, and how to hide in it when you are high up."

The young Fox shook his head. "I'm never going to climb a tree again," he repeated. "I can climb up all right, but I can't climb down."

Mother Gray chuckled. "You did climb down, didn't you?" said she.

Of course the young Fox had to admit that he did climb down.

There he was down on the dear safe ground, and he hadn't fallen down. "What one has done once one can do again. So you learned something that you don't think you have learned. You have really learned how to climb down, and when you try it again it will be a lot easier. After two or three times you won't think about it," said mother.

The young Fox was wise enough not to contradict mother, but to himself he said, "That isn't what I learned at all. What I really learned is to stay on the ground. I'll never climb a tree again."

Strange But True

By F H MacArthur

All of us interested in the Boy Scouts but have you ever wondered how they came by their motto: "Be prepared". It goes back to the days when knighthood was in flower. The knights motto was "be always ready". This motto was the slogan of Sir Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, who founded the Boy Scouts, while running the constabulary in South Africa.

Did you know that the word "hundred" originated in England? It was the name of a small division of a county or district. Alfred the great ordered that each hundred should consist of a colony of ten-times-ten families. It was not long before the word hundred came to mean ten-times-ten, or a hundred, of anything at all.

The lace bark tree of India and the West Indies when peeled and laid flat on the ground appears like broad sheets of beautiful white lace. The limbs of this tree resemble finely woven cloth.

How far down into the sea can one see? When the sea water is very transparent, as in the Sargasso sea, 200 feet. In tropical waters, only about 150 feet. And in Arctic waters, only 50 or 60 feet.

Uranium was once thought to be scarce. Not today. In fact the known reserves of this ore over the world are 25 times greater than our fossil fuel supply of oil, coal and gas combined.

The two million square miles of the Antarctic Continent thus far explored rises 5,000 feet above sea level.

Some species of butterflies have been known to fly 2,000 miles. They fly in flocks like birds but at much lower attitudes — so low that they sometimes fly through openings in buildings.

A cow has the most sensitive taste organs of all animals. Bossy has five times as many taste buds on her tongue as a human, and can taste hundreds of different flavors in the food she eats.

The American Indians built nesting places for their favorite song birds.

Out Our Way By J. R. Williams

Our Boarding House Major Hoople

CONTRACT BRIDGE

By Josephine Culbertson

THE RIGHT WAY TO SHOW STRENGTH

SO MUCH is heard these days about the strength-showing quality of "reverse bidding" that the "amateur" player is bound to be misled.

If South (let us say) starts off with one heart and then bids spades, the higher-ranking suit, at his next turn, he is "reversing," and he thereby announces a very good hand. But it does not follow that this is always the *right* way to show strength—in fact, under certain circumstances it may be very wrong indeed. Consider this case:

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable

North: ♠ 7 4 3 ♥ 6 5 2 ♦ 8 ♣ J 9 7 6 4 2

West: ♠ 8 2 ♥ K J 9 8 4 ♦ K J 7 ♣ K 5 3

East: ♠ J 10 9 5 ♥ A Q 10 3 ♦ 10 6 3 2 ♣ Q

South: ♠ A K Q 6 ♥ 7 ♦ A Q 9 5 4 ♣ A 10 8

The bidding:

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

West opened his top trump, and South took only eight tricks.

The one-trick set was not serious, but the fact that North-South missed an easy game at clubs *was*. The very fact that the opponents had done some vigorous heart bidding on their own account should have been turned by North-South to their own advantage. Without that adverse bidding, it would have been virtually impossible to get into a club contract, but under actual circumstances all South had to do was to make the proper bid over East's three hearts. That proper action was not a reverse bid of three spades—it was a *double*, to demand that North name *his* best suit. When South, having started with a diamond, showed spades at three level, it is true that he announced an excellent hand, but North could do nothing with this information. The double, on the contrary, would have brought a club response from North, and then it would not have required any great optimism on South's part to bid game at clubs.

In short, South's actual bidding brought two suits within the partnership's scope, whereas a double of three hearts would have brought in three suits.

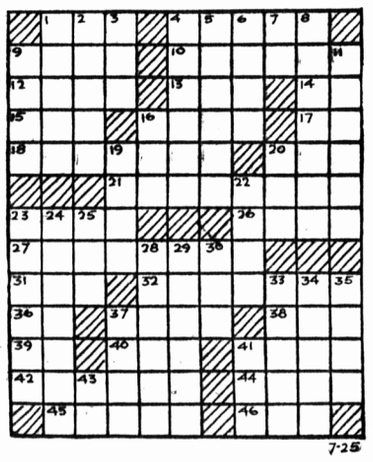
DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1. To crown
4. Asp
9. River flowing into the Mississippi
10. A hospice (Turk.)
12. Fog
13. Enemy scout
14. Behold!
15. Old measure of length
16. Courts
17. Mulberry
18. Short, thick jackets
20. Consumed
21. Revived
23. Minute skin opening
26. Part of pedestal between base and cornice (Arch.)
27. An island group
31. Help
32. Native of Odessa
36. American Indian (Lit.)
37. Cover with pavement
38. Wine receptacle
39. Masurium (sym.)
40. Any fruit drink
41. Precious stone
42. One who shoots from ambush
44. Frozen desserts
45. Begin
46. Through

DOWN
1. Republic (So. Am.)
2. Passageway
3. Kettle
4. Front pieces on caps
5. Tax
6. Puts out money
7. Erbium (sym.)
8. Told
9. Measure (Heb.)
11. City (Ohio)
16. Tiny
19. Worry
20. Macaw (Braz.)
22. Excess of chances
23. Sacred songs
24. Natives of Ohio
25. River (U. S.)
26. A loading device
29. To refer
30. Born
33. A dressing for pudding
34. A shade of brown
35. Negative votes
37. Father
41. Tear
43. Neuter pronoun

ALUM TABS
CLOSE ARETE
HAVEN RATED
OBE BARRED
PA ORE ALA
IMAGINARY
NAMED GEESE
BESTEADED
ANU RED TI
DISMAY ATT
OCHER HELLO
SHEET EMEER
EDDY RUES
7-25

Yesterday's Answer



DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter simply stands for another. In this example A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

A Cryptogram Quotation

M D K W A W T R N O W Z A W R O R Y J L R G W N R Y J D L D O O N D K R O V Q K W U D A F W O C D Y U R H H D Y W F F — W H D P E N E F.

Saturday's Cryptoquote: HOW STRANGE THAT MEN, WHO GUIDE THE PLOUGH, SHOULD FAIL TO GUIDE THE PEN — CRABBE.

CHILDREN BUSY

GRAND FALLS, Nfld. (CP)—This town has turned three flower gardens over to 18 school children who will keep them trimmed during the summer. The new gardens are planned to help educate the children and beautify the town.

Constipated? Try The EX-LAX Way
EASY to Take EASY-Acting EASY on the System
Good for Children and Adults
EX-LAX
The Chocolated Laxative

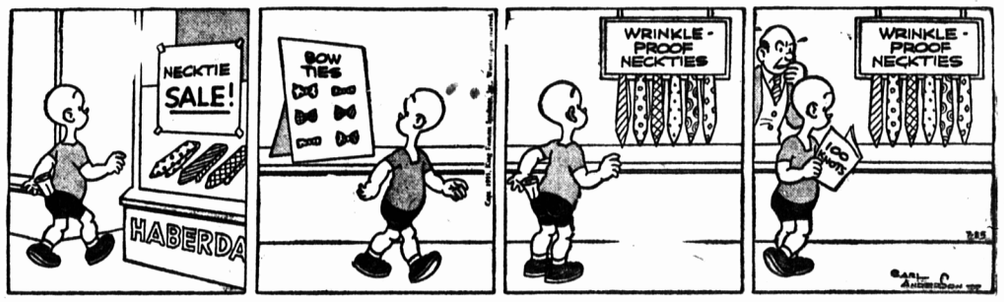
WHY HAVE SORE FEET?
JUST RUB IN MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

Tilly The Toiler — By Bob Gustafson

Etta Kent — By Paul Robinson

Muggs and Skeeter — By Wally Bishop

Henry — By Carl Anderson



Bringing Up Father — By George McManus

Grandma — By Charles Kuhn

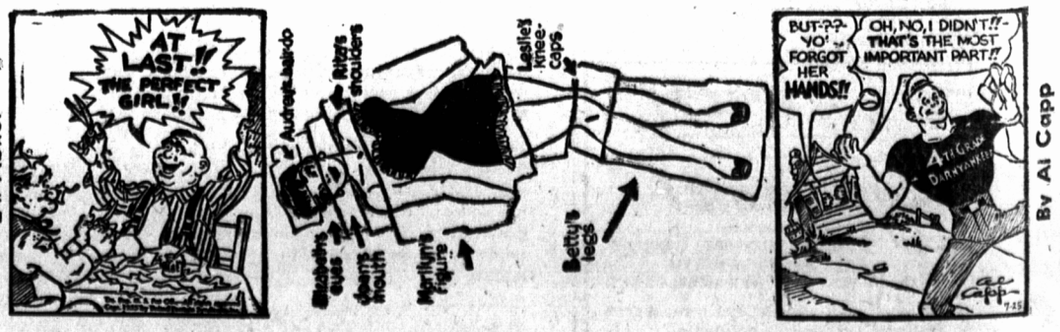
Mickey Mouse — By Walt Disney

Joe Palooka — By Ham Fisher

The Lone Ranger — By Fran Striker

Fearless Fosdick by Al Capp

L'il Abner — By Al Capp



Secret Agent X9 — By Alex Raymond & Dick Calkins