

By George McManis



By Thornton W. Burgess

THE CUBS ARE ENVOIS

Happy as no place or use; Hateful, and without excuse. Old Mother Nature.

On one fairly high bank of a big, long pool were Mother Bear and her two small cubs. In the water, near the foot of the opposite bank, was Mother Otter. In her mouth was a fish. On the shore at the foot of the bank, were two small Otters, her kits, as little Otters are called. She seemed to be coaxing them to come into the water and get that fish. Anyway, that is the way it looked and the way it sounded.

very hungry, but they wouldn't go in the water. Would mother take that fish back to them, or would she selfishly eat it herself? That is what the watching little Bears wondered.

After a while Mother Otter swam in close to shore. She swam along to a place where the bank was not quite so steep. There was a very small beach there. As she swam the two little Otters followed along the shore. At that place, that is the way it looked and the way it sounded.

"They've never been in the water," decided Mother Bear as she watched. "They've never been in the water, and they are afraid. If I were in Mrs. Otter's place, I'd just push them right in. The very idea of the children of two such wonderful swimmers as Mrs. Otter and Little Joe Otter being afraid of the water!"

Those kits simply refused to move when wet their trunks. They whined and they cried, for they were very nervous. "Why don't you take us for a ride on the water?" asked Teddy Bear of Mother Bear. Mother Bear pretended not to hear.

Just what happened next the cubs couldn't be sure. It seemed to them as if Mother Otter had sunk lower



Frantically the two little Otters paddled after her.

and lower in the water until those kits of hers were in the water, and being towed along as they clung to her. Then, when they were near shore, mother went completely under water. Her small passengers were pulled under, too, but they promptly let go and bobbed up again.

Mother came up again to just a little way from them. You should have seen them paddle as they tried to get to her to climb out on her back again.

Mother turned toward the shore where it was low. Frantically the two little Otters paddled after her. They were so near that they could almost touch her, but not quite. She didn't let them get any nearer. Quite suddenly they stopped crying and begging her to wait. They had discovered they could swim. It was a wonderful discovery.

Mother went ashore. The kits followed her. They shook themselves and began to run about. Presently one of them was back in the water. Then the other watched and slipped into the water too. Swimming was fun; it was great fun. They didn't quite dare to dive and swim under water the way mother did. They were content to paddle about with their heads out of water.

Looking on from the opposite bank, Mother Bear's two little black imps of mischief were filled with envy. They wished they could swim like those little Otters.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

THE WRONG BID

North felt that he was showing great strength in the following hand by making a jump bid but his selection was wrong on two counts: first, his partner did not understand his bid; and second, a far better, completely clear bid was available.

North dealer. East-West vulnerable.

Hand diagram showing cards: North (Q 8 5 2, 7, A J 7 5 4 3, 9, N, W, E, S, 7, K 6 2, 9 4 3, K 9 8, Q 6, Q 10, K 8 5, A J 6 4 3, 10 8 5, 10 2, A J 4) and South (A K 10, A Q J, 9 4 3, Q 6, K 8 5, 7, K 6 2, K 9 8, Q 10, 6 3 2).

The bidding: North East South West Pass Pass 1 Pass 2 Pass 4 Pass Pass Pass

North went down a trick at the absurd four-diamond contract — and then the argument started between him and his partner. North said that his jump bid had strongly indicated a fit for South's spades and that South, with a five-card suit, should not have hesitated about rebidding. South said that that was ridiculous — he had made a very light, third-hand opening, and he wasn't going to tell a whopping lie about his strength by rebidding such a weak suit and hand. Why hadn't North jumped to four spades?

And so on, and so forth. Actually, neither the diamond jump used by North nor South's suggestion of a four-spade bid came even close to an adequate description of North's support for a spade contract, considering that North had passed originally. True, with the South holding what it was, a four-spade bid would have worked out perfectly — but that is not the test of a bid. South might well have held something like this.

Hand diagram showing cards: North (A K x x x, x x x, K x, A J x) and South (A K x x x, x x x, K x, A J x).

He would have only one course over four spades — to pass — and a laydown slam would be missed. No, four spades would not have been a tremendously better bid than four diamonds, although it would have worked out much better. The only right call for North was a cue bid of three hearts. This would imply so much that South, with the strong hand just set down as a possibility, would bid four clubs; then North should bid four diamonds, then four spades by South; five spades by North; and a clear-cut six spades by South.

DIESEL AUTOS

OSLO, Norway (CP)—Because of the high gasoline tax in Norway, new motor-cars powered with diesel engines attracted attention at the spring auto show here. Experts said the oil-using diesels would save large amounts for tax-drivers and others traveling many miles each year.

ANY TIME—it's time for KING COLE TEA

BAPTIST MEN'S ASSOCIATION presents combined VARIETY CONCERT and One-Act Play "HILLBILLY HI-JINKS" (Produced by B.Y.P.U.) Baptist Church Hall THURSDAY MAY 14th 8:15 p.m. Adm. 50c

BLUE PETER STEAMSHIP LTD. M-V BLUE PRINCE Sailing from Charlottetown direct to St. John's, Newfoundland, on May 12th. Freight will be accepted up to noon on Tuesday, May 12th. For space reservation and rates apply to:— NEWFOUNDLAND SHIPPING SERVICE Phone 1605 P. O. Box 65

Bringing Up Father



By Ruford

Dotty Dripple



By Bob Gustafson

Tilly The Toiler

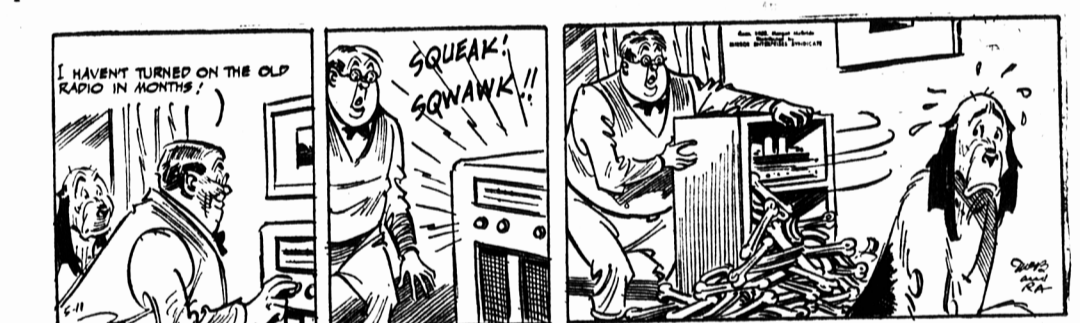


By Edwina

Tippy and "Cap" Stubs

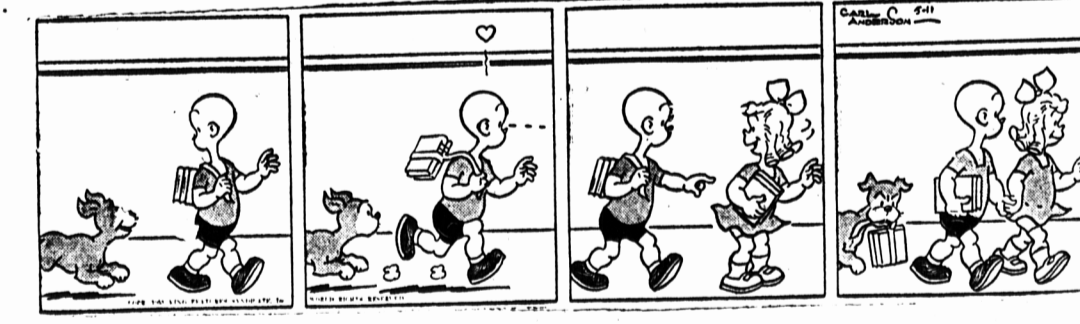


Napoleon and Uncle Elby



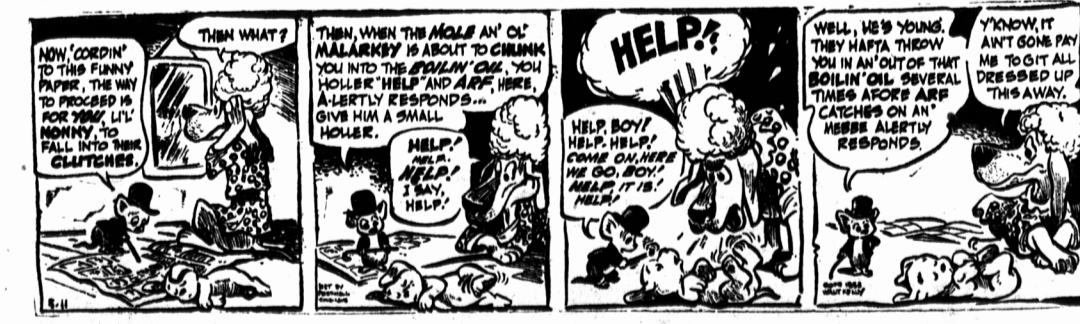
By Carl Anderson

Henry



By Walt Kelly

Pogo



By Harry Hoegen

PENNY



Joe Palooka



By Ham Fisher

Lil Abner



By Al Capp

Rip Kirby



By Alex Raymond

King Of The Royal Mounted



By Zane Grey