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BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

(By Thornton W. Burgess)

PETER RABBIT'S WISH

Hide your feelings when you're sad. Let the world know when you're glad. —Peter Rabbit.

Peter Rabbit was kicking up his long heels in the most foolish manner. That is it would have seemed foolish to many folks not understanding Peter and his ways. It wasn't foolish to Mrs. Peter. She understood Peter, as of course she should. The fact is she kicks up her own heels now and then in a most unladylike manner. "What makes you feel so good this morning?" she asked. Peter kicked up his long heels again. "Listen!" he cried.



Dee, dee dee, Chickadee!

Mrs. Peter pricked up her long ears. "I'm listening. What am I supposed to hear?" she asked. "Don't you hear that?" cried Peter and again kicked up his long heels. "Don't I hear what?" asked Mrs. Peter a bit impatiently. "Listen!" cried Peter again. Then Mrs. Peter did hear it. Some one was calling some one. It

was a soft call and oh so sweet! "Phoe-be! Phoe-be!" "Is that it?" said she. "That's only Tommy Tit the Chickadee," said she. She sounded disappointed. He's been around all winter. I thought perhaps you heard Winsome Bluebird or Welcome Robin telling us that Mistress Spring is on the way. "Phoe-be! See me! See me!" called Tommy Tit.

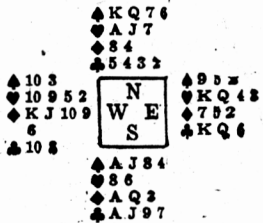
Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

"SPOTTY" DEFENSE

It is curious how often a player makes a good play and a very bad play in the same deal! Observe East's "spotty" defense in this case:

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.



The bidding:

South West North East
1♠ Pass 3♠ Pass
3NT Pass Pass Pass

North did not have the best possible double-raise of one spade, but, by the same token, no other response would have been substantially better. South's three-notrump rebid, after this raise, was extremely questionable (to put it kindly) but, as it happened, the more logical bid of four spades would not have given him a lay-down contract—he would have had to guess well in handling the club suit.

Leading against the actual three-notrump contract, West selected the diamond jack. South won with the queen, led a low spade to the queen, and returned a club. East acted shrewdly in quickly playing the club six. Naturally, South could not guess that East had both the king and queen, and he therefore made the technically correct play of his own club nine.

West won with the club ten and, feeling sure that South would hold off on the next diamond lead, laid down the diamond king. South did indeed hold up his ace, and now West shifted to the ten of hearts. The jack covered and East won with the queen. A heart return was decidedly called for at this point, but East slipped—he led his last diamond! South won, cashed the spades, ending in dummy, then cashed the club ace and led another club. He thus established a second club trick for himself while retaining his heart stopper, and the contract was home.

It was, clearly futile for East to lead the third diamond. The situation in that suit was marked, and the defense obviously depended on getting at least one more heart trick.

It was a lovely morning and very still. Over in the Green Forest there were still banks of snow, but it was gone from the Green Meadows. There was softness in the air and somehow it seemed as if that same softness was in Tommy Tit's voice. Mrs. Peter sat up the better to listen and at the same time to look at Tommy Tit. Of course he must be somewhere in the dear Old Briar-patch, but his voice didn't tell just where. It didn't sound as if it came from any place in particular but just was floating about in the air. Sounds sometimes do seem, like that you know, seeming close by when they are far away and far away when they are close by. "Dee, dee, dee! Phoe-be! Phoe-be!"

Suddenly Mrs. Peter kicked up her long heels in the same funny manner Peter had been kicking up his. Peter chuckled. "Why did you do that?" he asked.

"Because I feel the same way you do—happy," replied Mrs. Peter. "Tommy Tit sounds so happy that just hearing him makes me feel happy. I don't know why."

"I do," said Peter. "It is because Tommy Tit is so happy himself. Happiness is catching, you know. Once more he kicked up his heels. Mrs. Peter nodded. "I wasn't feeling especially happy until I listened to that little scamp calling his Phoebe. All of a sudden it came to me what it means. Then how could I help but feel happy?"

"What does it mean?" asked Peter.

Just as if you don't know, it means that Mistress Spring isn't far away. You don't hear Tommy Tit calling his beloved Phoebe until he knows they will soon be house hunting and that they won't do until Mistress Spring really gets here," declared Mrs. Peter.

"Dee, dee, dee! See me! See me!" cried a merry voice, and there was little Tommy Tit hanging head down from a twig above them and snapping his little black eyes at them merrily. "Dee, dee, dee, Chickadee!" Then before they could ask why he was so happy he left for the Old Orchard.

"I wish—" said Peter, and stopped.

"What do you wish?" asked Mrs. Peter.

"I wish I could make other folks as happy as that little scamp does," said Peter. "There is no surer way of finding happiness than in making other folks happy." Peter kicked up his long heels. Mrs. Peter kicked up her long heels. And over in the Old Orchard Tommy Tit called. "Phoe-be! See me! See me!"

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE
L. S. STEVENSON
BRANCH MANAGER
140 RICHMOND ST.
A MUTUAL COMPANY

KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

by Zane Grey



JOE PALOOKA

by Ham Fisher



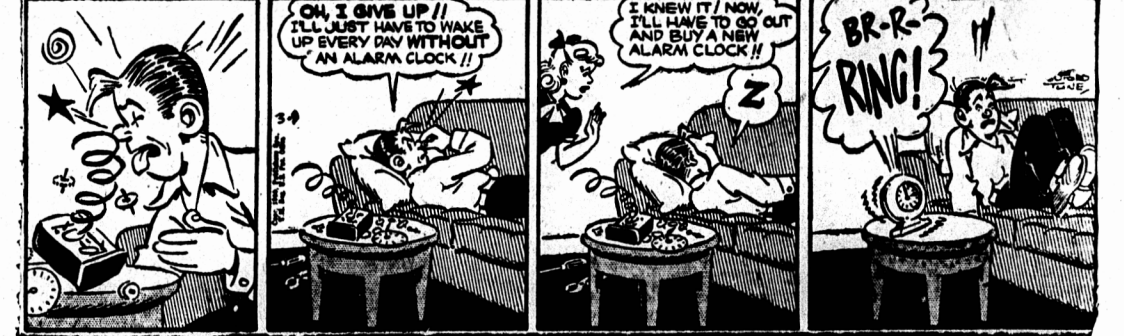
HENRY

by Carl Anderson



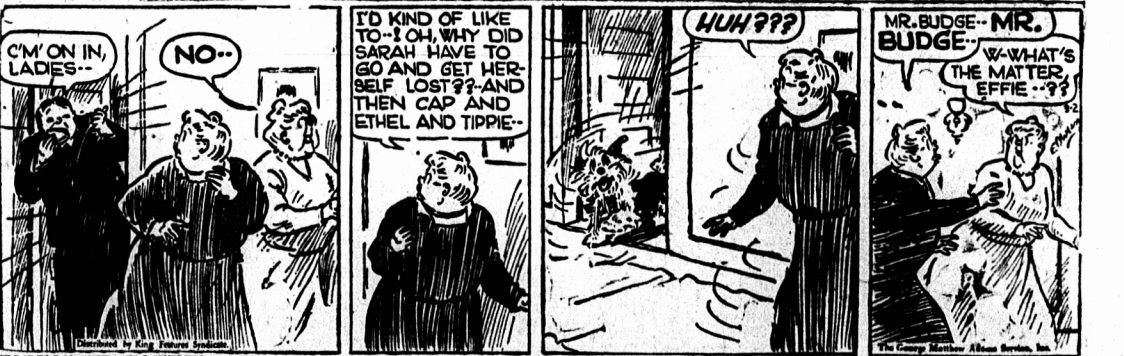
DOTTY DIPPLE

by Buford



TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

by Edwin



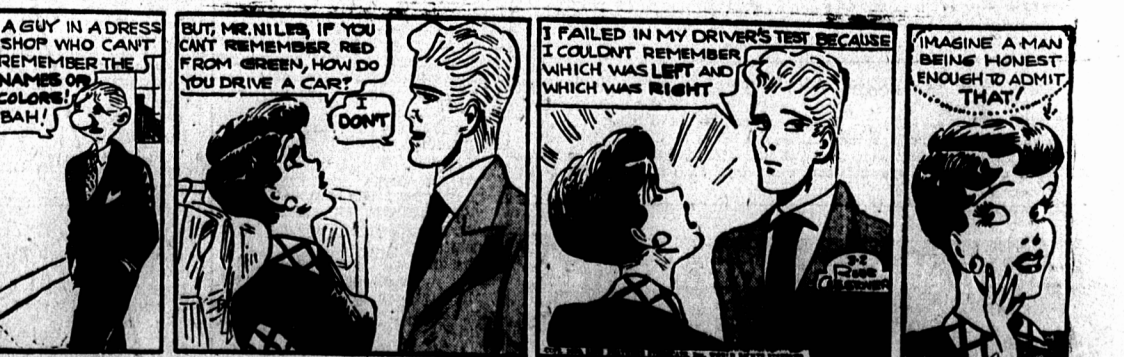
BRINGING UP FATHER

by George McManus



TILLIE THE TOILER

by Westover



PENNY

by Harry Moonigan



DAILY CROSSWORD

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | 15. Public vehicle |
| 1. Pithy | 1. Flavor premium | 19. Small mass |
| 6. Young cow | 2. Exchange | 20. Breezy |
| 10. Harmonize | 3. Opened with | 21. Let it stand |
| 21. S-shaped molding | Foot-like part | Introductory (Print.) |
| 12. Enemy scouts | 22. Manner of speaking | 23. Cuts up |
| 13. Desire greatly | 24. Part to Spanish peninsula | 25. Chum title |
| 14. Horse's foot | 26. Perish | 27. Obtained |
| 15. Food fish | 28. Former | 29. Perish |
| 16. Any power | 29. Former | 30. Former |
| 17. Land-measure | 30. Former | 31. Cereal grain |
| 18. Absent | 31. Cereal grain | |
| 20. Part of "to be" | | |
| 21. Contagious disease of sheep | | |
| 22. Mole | | |
| 23. Quoted | | |
| 25. Fractions | | |
| 26. In bed | | |
| 27. City (Ind.) | | |
| 28. A veterinary surgeon (slang) | | |
| 29. Puppet plaything | | |
| 30. River (It.) | | |
| 32. Gold (Heraldry) | | |
| 33. Morsel | | |
| 34. Wild ox (Asia) | | |
| 35. Firearm | | |
| 36. Blow air noisily through nose | | |
| 39. Biblical weed | | |
| 40. Silent | | |
| 41. Minute crystals of ice | | |
| 42. To anoint (archaic) | | |



Yesterday's Answer

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:
A X Y D L B A A X E
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
I B G J S J A I S J N I C J P J A I S W G. K N
W S K Q C V G A S I C W G J L I S W G? — C Y
N Y Q M Y P.
Yesterday's Cryptogram: WHAT IS PRUDERY? TIS A
BELDAM, SEEN WITH WIT AND BEAUTY SELDOM—POP.

LIL ABNER



by Al Capp



by Alex Raymond

by Alex Raymond

by Alex Raymond