

# BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

## NANNY MEADOWMOUSE MAKES A NEW HOME

Who does his best, no more can do, where'er you go, you'll find this true.

—Old Mother Nature

One's best may not be too good, but it really is the best one can do, no more can be asked. The trouble in this world is that all too many do not do their best. It is a wonderful world as is, but, if all the folks in it did their best, it would be vastly more wonderful. Just take the matter of homes. Mrs. Goldie the Oriole weaves a wonderful hanging nest. With only bill and claws to work with she weaves a nest that neither you nor I could weave no matter how hard we tried. On the other hand, poor the Dove builds such a poor nest of sticks that often you can look right up through the bottom of it and see the eggs. Yet, Mrs. Mourner would tell you that she does her very best.

It is the same way with the folks in fur. Paddy the Beaver builds a wonderful home out in the water. Jerry Muskrat also builds a house in the water. It isn't as good a house as Paddy's, but it is a very good house. Then there is little Harvey the Harvester Mouse. He, or Mrs. Harvey, weaves a wonderful little home. It is round, about the size of a baseball. With a neat little doorway, and only one. It often is up in a bush a few feet above the ground. No other members of the big Mouse family have such lovely well-comfortable homes. But some other members do the best they can. Take the case of Nanny Meadowmouse. She always tries to give as good a home as she knows how to make.

In her time, Nanny Meadowmouse had had many homes. Sometimes they have been underground. Sometimes they are in the middle of a clump of tall grass. In either case, Nanny does her best to weave a comfortable nest. She is very fussy about it. It isn't as good a nest as Mrs. Harvey makes, but it is so very well woven that usually it is quite dry even in wet weather.

All summer, Nanny's home had been underground. The summer had been very hot. Nanny knows that in hot weather it is cooler underground than on the ground. And that is why she had been living in a snug bedroom which she had dug at the end of a little tunnel just big enough for a Mouse to run along comfortably. She had dug that tunnel too. Perhaps because it was underground and thus protected by the earth all around it, the



It was a perfect place in which to hide such a home as Nanny would have.

nest itself was not quite as well woven as it would have been had it been above ground.

Now is was autumn, and the nights were cold and the days cool. Already the brown and red and golden leaves had dropped from the trees. Rough Brother North Wind had taken the place of Gentle Sister South Wind. Nanny had decided that she wanted a new home and she wanted it above ground. She looked around. Nanny has a mind of her own, which is more than we can say for some folks. She knew what she wanted and she found it. It was a thick clump of grass. It was no longer green, but brown. It had been tall and some of it still was, but much of it was bent over or partly broken down. It was a perfect place in which to hide such a home as Nanny would have.

Nanny wasted no time. She has no time to waste. Most of the time she has a number of babies to

Continued on page 8

## Contract Bridge

By Josephine Cluerton

A SOUND PLAN, WELL EXECUTED

North dealer North-South vulnerable.

AK	AK	AK	AK
A7542	A7542	A7542	A7542
AKQ	AKQ	AKQ	AKQ
A86	A86	A86	A86
AKQJ108	AKQJ108	AKQJ108	AKQJ108
5	5	5	5
10963	10963	10963	10963
AKQJ109	AKQJ109	AKQJ109	AKQJ109
73	73	73	73

7643	7643	7643	7643
986532	986532	986532	986532
K42	K42	K42	K42

The bidding:			
North	East	South	West
3NT	4♣	4♣	4♥
4♣	4♣	4♣	5♥
6♣	Pass	Pass	6♥
7♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

It is apparent that both East and West engaged in some rather desperate "saving." Also, that North's bidding was rather inconsistent in that he doubled four hearts and then declined to double either five or six hearts, electing instead to end up at the grand slam. However, as matters turned out, this inconsistency was well rewarded! West's lead against seven diamonds

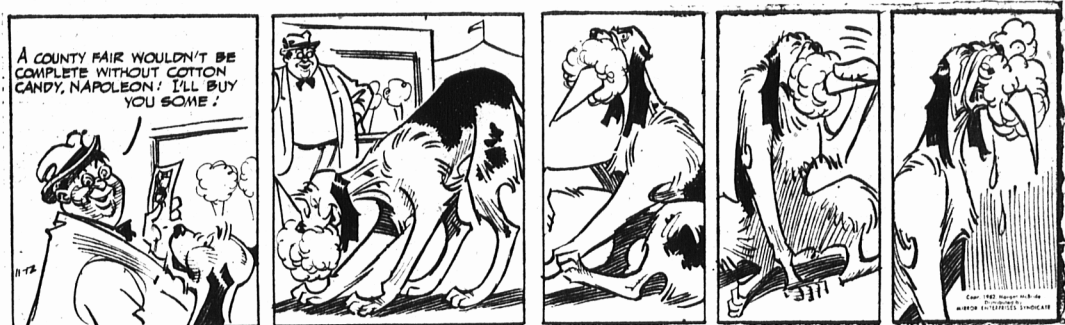
Continued on page 8

## RIP KIRBY



By Alex Raymond

## Napoleon and Uncle Elby



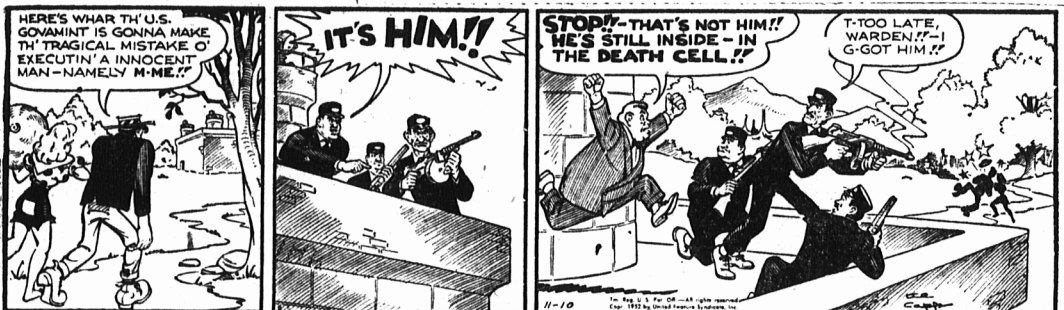
By Clifton McBride

## JOE PALOOKA



By Ham Fisher

## L'L ABNEF

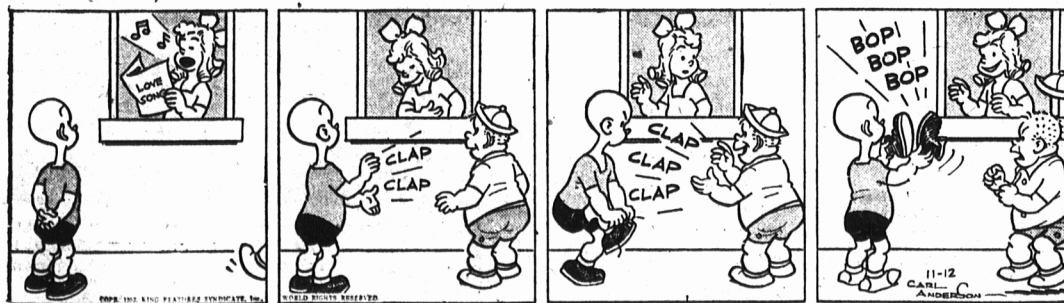


By Al Capp



## HENRY

By Carl Anderson



## KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

By Harry Hoeningen



## PENNY



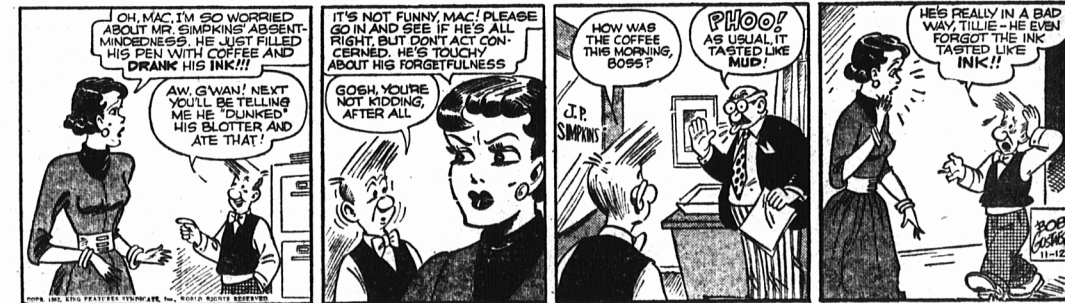
## TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

By Edwina



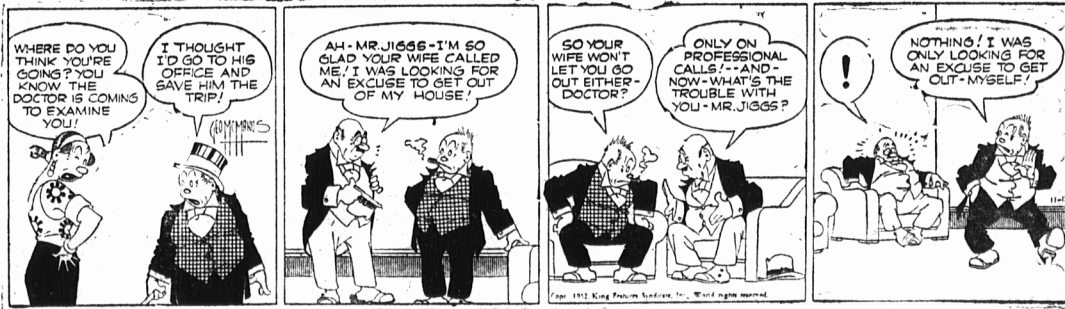
## TILLY THE TOILER

By Bob Gustafson



## BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManus



## POGO

By Walt Kelly



## DOTTY DRIPPLE

By Ruford

