



By Thornton W. Burgess

TWO UNLIKE COUSINS

A sorry thing it is to see When cousins meet and can't agree. — Peter Rabbit

Peter Rabbit saw the meeting. It was just outside the dear Old Briar-patch. It was the meeting of two cousins who were alike, yet very unlike. They were Danny Meadow Mouse and Nimbleheels the Jumping Mouse. They had met by chance. Anyone seeing one of them would know it was a Mouse; there was a general family likeness. Otherwise, they were very different. Danny Meadow Mouse was not what could be called pretty. He was stocky with rather short legs. He was very short tall, and a neck that appeared short. Nimbleheels, on the other hand, was very trim and neat. He had a pretty face, pretty ears and he wore a pretty fawn-colored coat and white waistcoat. He had short arms with dainty little hands and long hind legs and feet. With all this went the longest tail of any of the small meadow folk. His tail was as long as Johnny Chuck's tail was short.

The two cousins met rather unexpectedly. They met in one of Danny's own private little paths. You know Danny Meadow Mouse cuts paths all through the grass around his home. Those little paths are very handy. He makes them by cutting away the grass and eating it, so he really does two things at once. He gets his meals, and at the same time, he gets his handy little paths. Having made the paths, of course he considers them his own, and that no one has any right to use them. So when he came face to face with his pretty cousin, Nimbleheels, Danny wasn't at all polite. No sir, he wasn't at all polite.

"What are you doing in my path?" he squeaked. "I-I am just trying to keep out of sight. I didn't think you would mind my using one of your paths," said Nimbleheels, and his voice was even a higher squeak than was Danny's.

"Well, I do," retorted Danny. "I made this path, and I don't want anybody else using it. If you must have paths to get around in, you can make them yourself." All the time Danny was slowly moving forward, and at the time Nimbleheels was backing slowly. He didn't want to fight. Nimbleheels isn't the fighting kind. On the other hand, his cousin is more, or less of a fighter. Perhaps that



"What are you doing in my path?" he squeaked.

is partly because his legs are short, not the kind of legs for fast running. Again, he is stout and strong for his size. He has sharp teeth and he knows how to use them. "Get out!" he squeaked suddenly and shrilly. He made a sudden rush at his pretty cousin. He meant to tear that pretty fawn-colored coat. Perhaps he was jealous of it. But he didn't tear it. He did not so much as lay a paw on his dainty cousin. Nimbleheels simply wasn't there. Had he taken wings, he couldn't have escaped more easily. Indeed, it seemed both to Danny and to Peter Rabbit, who was looking on, as if Nimbleheels must have suddenly developed wings. He was up in the air and was way sailing over the tall grass, and finally disappearing in it many feet away.

Of course Nimbleheels hadn't suddenly grown wings. He is a Mouse, and no Mouse ever has wings. There is only one family of four-footed flyers, and that is the Bat family. Nimbleheels had simply jumped. He had used those long hind legs of his as Old Mother Nature had meant he should use them when she gave them to him. He had jumped in just the way a Kangaroo jumps, and for his size he had jumped farther than a Kangaroo can jump. Lightfoot the Deer is a wonderful jumper, but to jump in a single jump as far for his size as Little Nimbleheels jumps for his size, Lightfoot would have to jump ten times as far as he can, and perhaps more.

Danny Meadow Mouse looked a little foolish when he saw Peter Rabbit looking on. "Any way, I made him get out of my path," he squeaked.

Peter paid no attention. He was watching to see if Nimbleheels would make another long jump. Nimbleheels didn't.

BULLETINS FROM BIRDLAND

By Winifred E. Wilson



Many birds appear to use some kind of eye make-up. Not by any means all, but the majority of these are lady birds, that naturally need some beautifier because they lack their husbands' bright colouring. Quite a number favour mascara, touching up their eyes with discretion. Among these may be counted several of the Ducks: Mrs. Mallard, Mrs. Baidpate, Mrs. Snowler, and Mrs. Bluewinged Teal. Some of the Hawks also daintily carry the line of the eyelashes well beyond the eyes, taking away that round look. Much the same thing is done by both species of Redpoll, the White-winged Crossbill, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Philadelphia Vireo, several kinds of Sparrows, the Godwit, Curlew, Woodcock, and some of the Sandpipers.

Foster's Tern and the Rock Ptarmigan use mascara only in winter — but then they go about it boldly. The Red-breasted Nuthatch and both types of Shrikes also make the black through the eyes overly plain, but all Waxwings, besides making the line prominent, also lengthen it out. The Cardinal let the brush go out of control, putting on such a supply of mascara that it dripped down his side and even under its bill. Horned Larks allowed the brush to slip. The Blue Jay fixed up its eyes very nicely, and then went ahead, painting a wonderful black pattern around its face and head.

Another way of making their eyes more attractive is followed by another group. Dark shadows are put under them by both Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, the Savannah Sparrow, the Curlew and Black-throated Blue Warblers. Myrtle, Magnolia, and Black and White Warblers all overdo this, painting the shadows really black. The Black-throated Green Warbler and the White-breasted Nuthatch combine the dainty eyelash line with a shadow under the eyes. This is the method used, too, by Mrs. Cape May Warbler, while her husband uses a bright chestnut paint instead of the dull shadowy colour.

To emphasize the eyebrow line is another trick. For this yellow and white are the two favourite colours. Some Wrens, Northern Water-thrush, Water Pipit, Pine and Palm Warblers, and Savannah Sparrow prefer yellow eyebrows. White is the style for several of the Plovers, Red-eyed Vireo, Chipping Sparrow, and Mrs. Rose-breasted Grosbeak. The white eyebrows of the Screech Owl and the Burrowing Owl slant upwards. The Warbling Vireo both makes up with mascara and paints white eyebrows; the Tennessee Warbler uses all three kinds of eye beautifiers. A few touches

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

Mrs. Culbertson continues the presentation of the new Culbertson point-count method.

It will be useful, I think, to restate the basic features of this new point-count method.

In both notrump and suit bidding, the four highest cards in each suit are valued at 4 for the ace, 3 for the king, 2 for the queen, 1 for the jack.

When contemplating an opening notrump bid, you should count only these high-card points.

In the four highest cards in each suit are valued at 4 for the ace, 3 for the king, 2 for the queen, 1 for the jack.

When, however, you are thinking about opening the bidding in a suit, you should add to your high-card points:

1 point for each trump in excess of four trumps, and 1 point for each side-suit card in excess of these cards.

These additions will automatically and mathematically give you the true value of your hand at your best trump suit.

Opening Suit-Bids of Two

An opening suit-bid of two is, always, a forcing-to-game bid and therefore requires a very strong hand. The requirements in terms of point-count are as follows:

- With a 4-card suit — 26 points
With a 5-card suit — 25 points
With a 6-card suit — 23 points
With a 7-card suit — 21 points

The suit in which you make a two-bid should be very strong. A four-card suit should contain three high honors, at least K-Q-J. A five-card suit should be headed by six-card suit should be headed by no less than A-K or K-Q-10. A seven-card suit should be headed by no less than A-J, K-Q or K-J-10.

The following is a second two spade opening, containing 26 points, high-card and distribution:

- AKJ6
AQJ6
KQ107
A

The 25-point count is obtained as follows: 8 high-card points in spades, but no addition for distribution, since this is the trump suit, pro tem, and there is no card over four; 7 H. C. points in hearts, plus 1 H. C. point in diamonds, plus 1 H. C. point in clubs; and 4 points for the club ace.

(To be continued tomorrow)

AMERICA'S BIGGEST

The American liner, S. S. United States, completed in 1952, is 53,280 gross tons compared to 33,673 for the British-built Queen Elizabeth.

In this way give many birds individually. Do birds' territories overlap?

KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED



THOUGH KING HAS SAVED THE PERFECT CHILD FROM THE PLAGUE, THE NARROW-MINDED OFFICIAL SEES IN THIS STRANGER A THREAT TO HIS HIGH-HANDLED RULE OF THE ISOLATED VALLEY.

THEY WOULD BELIEVE IN HIM INSTEAD OF ME? HE SHALL BE DESTROYED!



...AND I WILL THEN HAVE THE MEDICINE THAT CURES THE PLAGUE!



By Al Capp

L'L ABNER



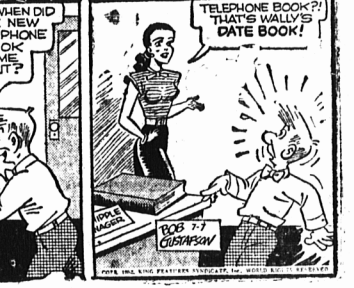
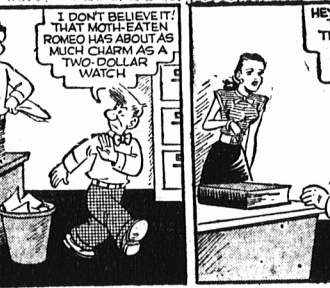
By Ham Fisher

JOE PALOOKA



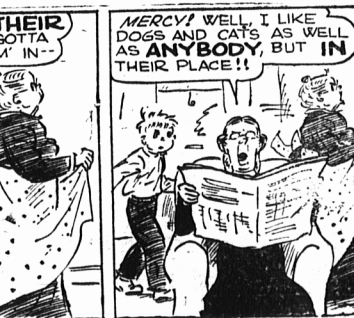
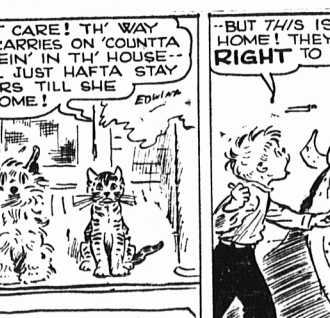
By Bob Gustafson

TILLY THE TOILER



By Edwina

TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS



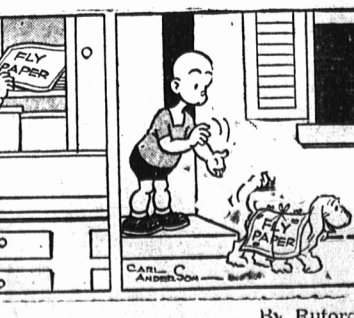
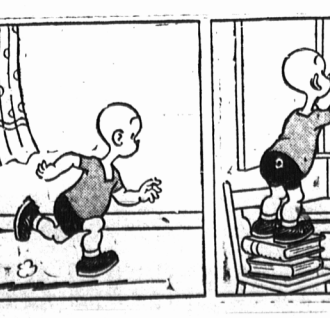
By George McManus

BRINGING UP FATHER



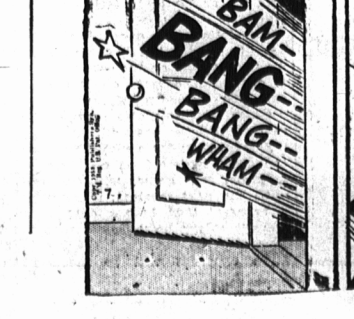
By Carl Anderson

HENRY



By Ruford

DOTTY DRIPPLE

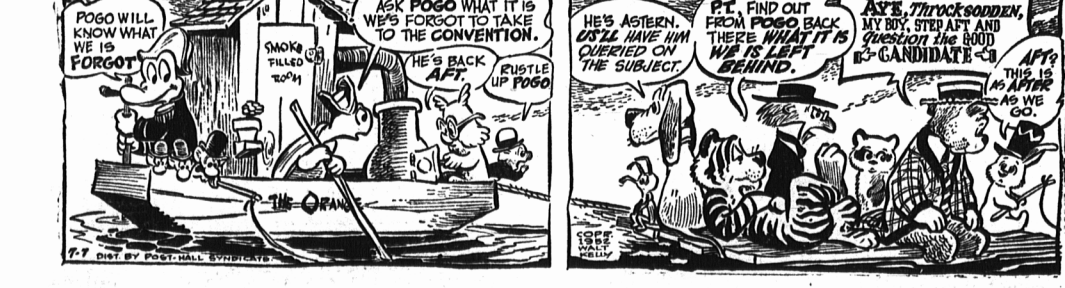


THE ADVENTURES OF WILDROOT CREAM-OIL CHARLIE... CHARLIE STRIKES THE RIGHT NOTE



By Walt Kelly

POGO



RIP KIRBY



PENNY



By Harry Haenigsen