

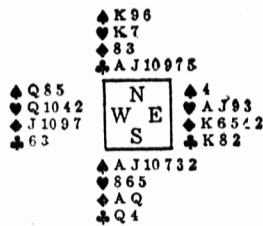
Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

NOT A QUESTION OF "RULE"

The old question of whether a finesse is in order when declarer has nine cards of a suit, lacking the queen, or whether the play for the drop is better, is a purely academic question. Usually, there are other considerations that deeply affect the issue—as, for example, in this case:

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.



The bidding: South West North East 1 Pass 2 Pass 3 Pass 4 Pass Pass Pass

West could have given South a genuine problem by leading a heart, but it was not at least should have been West's bad luck that the diamond jack lead looked much better. South took the trick with the diamond queen and then, applying the "rule" which rightly points out the slight advantage of playing for a drop rather than finessing when holding nine cards of a suit, South led a spade to the king and returned a spade. East signalled with the nine of hearts. Now, having put up the spade ace, South tried the club finesse. East won and returned a diamond. South took this trick, all right, but when he tried for discards on the long club suit, he did not get far. He could discard only one heart before West ruffed in with the high trump, and West's shift to hearts wrote finis to the contract.

Rule or no rule, South should have finessed against West in trumps as a safety measure, to guard against West's winning the lead for a heart shift that could easily be fatal. It would not matter if East had the spade queen and took a trick with it, but every consideration of logic dictated that whatever measures could be taken to keep West off lead, should be taken.

GET YOUR FREE DIGEST of the Culbertson Point-Count Method. Simply send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the J. C. Winston Co., 1010 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

NEWSPAPER MAN DIES

LITCHFIELD, Conn. — (AP)—Clem J. Randau, 59, former vice-president of United Press and business manager of the old Chicago Sun, died Tuesday in his sleep. He had suffered a mild stroke some weeks ago. He entered the weekly newspaper field in 1946 as co-publisher of the New Milford, Conn. Times and more recently bought a weekly paper here.

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BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

TO STAY OR NOT TO STAY?

Decisions are most hard to make. When doubtful of how much at stake.

Mrs. Lightfoot was standing in a little pool deep in the Green Forest. Water lilies and other water-loving plants grew in that little pool; plants of which she is very fond. The pool was really a wide part of Laughing Brook. While her head was lifted a Merry Little Breeze had danced over and tickled her nose with the faintest of faint scents. Then the Merry Little Breeze had danced away. It left her uncertain whether she really had smelled what she thought she smelled.

Two young fawns stood at the edge of the water watching their mother. It was the first time they had seen her getting something to eat from water. Always before they had seen her eating green things on land. Now as she stood with her slender nose held high, and an uneasy look in her soft gray eyes, they wondered what was the cause. They had seen nothing and had heard nothing to cause alarm. They had not yet learned to use their noses as mother uses hers.

The Merry Little Breezes had danced off in another direction, and had not returned. Try as she would, Mrs. Lightfoot could not again get that faint scent. Now she was trying to decide what to do. Should they, or should they not stay there? She wanted to stay, and she knew that the fawns would like to stay. Had she been alone, she would have known just what to do. She would have stayed. But those pretty fawns, so helpless without her, made all the difference in the world. There might not be any danger there. She was sure there would be no danger for her. But that faint scent she thought she had smelled might mean very great danger for the twins.

She walked ashore. She began to eat some of the green things growing near the water. She acted quite as if she had not thought of anything else. Gradually she disappeared among the young trees. When she was sure that she couldn't be seen from the other side of the brook, she began to move quickly, but so quietly that not a leaf rustled, not a twig snapped under her dainty feet. Now and then she stopped and lifted her slender nose to test the air. She was moving in a circle. She was trying to find the Merry Little Breezes where they would be blowing to her, and not



Mrs. Lightfoot could not again get that faint scent.

Little Breezes filled her nose with it. She knew that scent only too well. It was the scent of Yowler the Bobcat. She wanted to snort with anger and stamp her feet, but

she did nothing of the kind. Instead, she stole back as softly as she had come, but more quickly. She was sure that the twins were safe, but she wanted to get back to them just the same.

When she came in sight of them, both fawns were in the water. They had waded out until they were standing knee deep. They were staring in surprise and wonder at a frog sitting on a big green lily-pod. It was the first frog they ever had seen, and they didn't know what to make of it.

NUDE IN CRATE

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Police Tuesday picked up a 19-year-old girl, dressed only in a pair of stockings, from a shipping crate in a hedge between two traffic lanes in the centre of Stockholm. She said she had been living with her fiancé in the six-by-three-by-three foot crate for three months "because of the housing shortage."

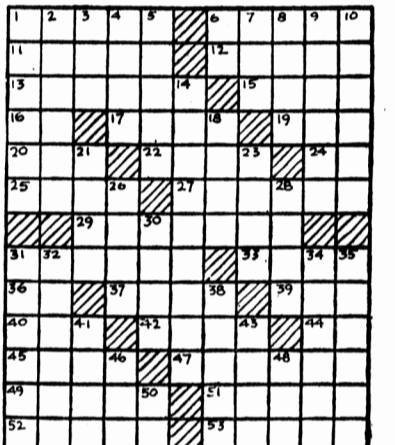


Solution To Last Saturday's Crossword

DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS 1. German river 6. Timber sidepiece (naut.) 11. Anxious 12. Former English coin 13. More courageous 15. German river 16. Mulberry (Ind.) 17. Frozen dessert 19. A wing 20. Egyptian god 22. Membrane (anat.) 24. Part of "to be" 27. No one 29. Idlers 31. Animal deficient in pigment 33. Troubles 36. Foreign office (abbr.) 37. Nobleman 39. Kind of cereal 40. Present 42. Tart 44. Exclamation 45. Heathen image 47. Newspaper man 49. An ever-green tree 51. Run along the edge of 52. Take as one's own

- DOWN 1. Reestablish. 2. River (N. E. Manhattan Is.) 3. Old Japanese province 4. Birthmarks 5. Build 6. Brigadier Genera. (abbr.) 7. Man's name 8. Missile weapon (So. Am.) 9. A simple song 10. Vapory 14. Support 18. Astrigent fruit 21. Detachable incandescent lamp 23. Hillside 26. Earth 28. Capital (Nor.) 30. Celebes 31. A continent 32. Packed tree 34. Capitol West 48. Sesame 50. Right (abbr.) 38. Form of "do" 41. Fuas 43. Kind of condiment from oba tree 46. Fold over 48. Sesame 50. Right (abbr.)



DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:

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

H DWXA ENAA, SWTJFVDD, VJL FHDD AXAT, VJL NWMA EW KAA. ENAA WJSA VCVHJ—RTAAUVJ.

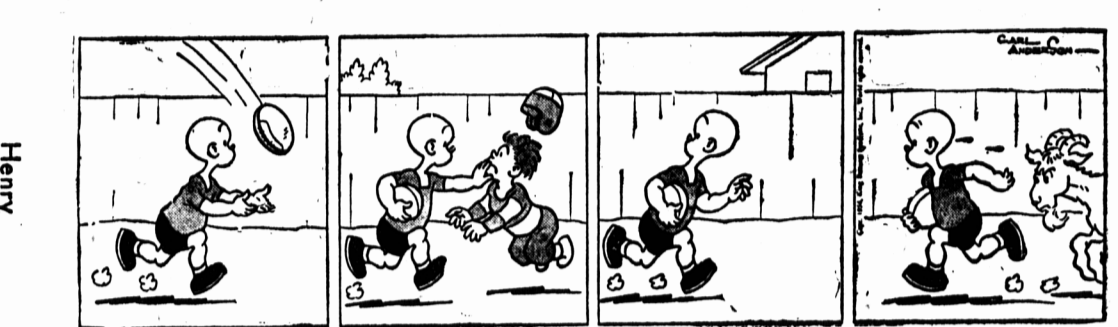
Yesterday's Cryptogram: YE CANNOT UNLOCK YOUR HEART, THE KEY IS GONE WITH THEM — EMERSON.



By Roy Crane



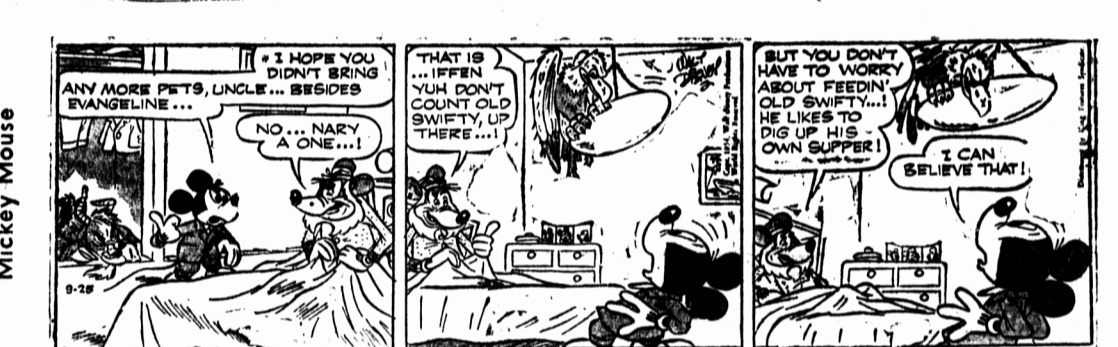
By Paul Robinson



By Carl Anderson



By Charles Kuhn



By Walt Disney



By Wally Bishop



By Mel Graff



By Ham Fisher



By Al Capp

Secret Agent Xy

Joe Ralooka

The Lone Ranger

