

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Cluvertson

WRONG CONTRACT

Offhand, it doesn't seem that North or South made any error in the bidding of the deal below, but the error was there, nonetheless.

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

♠ Q J 10
♥ K 9 7 3
♦ Q 8 4 2
♣ 7 5

♠ 7 4 3
♥ Q 6 2
♦ J 8 5
♣ A K J 4

N
W
E
S

♠ A K 9 8 6
♥ A 10 8 5
♦ K 9 3
♣ 10

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	4 ♣	Pass

The defence was everything it should have been, and the consequence was that South had no real play for the contract. He had to concede a club, a heart and two diamonds.

Contrast this outcome with the perfectly normal result of a four heart contract. There, South would have made three natural trump tricks (in dummy), a club ruff in his own hand, one diamond and five spades, for the healthy total of 10 tricks.

This contrast was not merely a whim of fate; the partnership

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES



By Thornton W. Burgess

MITE IS FUSSY

Some fussiness has real excuse. When cleanliness puts it to use. —Old Mother Nature.

Mite, the young Mouse who was finding a place for himself in the Great World, was fussy. That is, some folks would say he was fussy. Actually, he was no more fussy than all his neighbors, Mouseville, the little Mouse town under the snow on the Green Meadows, was a fussy place, if cleanliness can be called fussiness.

Ever since he left home, when he was a very young Mouse less than three weeks old, Mite had been fussy about his person. When he wasn't hunting for food, and eating it, he spent a lot of time washing himself. Nobody had taught him to do this. In fact, nobody had taught him anything. Mother hadn't had time to teach him anything before

he should have reached four hearts instead of four spades. The "key" was South's second action, after getting the spade raise. Obviously, South felt that his hand was worth another bid — so why not do a little exploring? South should have realized that North might have four hearts and yet not be able to show the suit over spades because he lacked the top-card strength. It could cost South nothing to bid three hearts instead of three spades; if North preferred the first bid suit, he would of course return to it, whereas if he preferred hearts, he would either pass or raise, depending on his supporting strength. Needless to say, in this case North would like hearts better than spades, and would have the values for a raise to four hearts.

This deal is a perfect illustration of the fact that a fitting 4-4 suit is usually a better trump selection than another suit of equal scoring rank which is divided 5-3 between the partners.

he left home, and father wasn't around to teach him anything. He just had to find out things for himself.

Some folks seem not to mind dirt at all. In fact, some folks seem to enjoy dirt. But the Mouse folk are not like this. They are neat. They keep their hands and faces clean. They keep their coats clean. Indeed, they keep themselves clean all over from the tips of their noses to the tips of their little short tails. So it was that Mouseville kept its homes and its streets clean. Its streets were tiny paths cut through the grass, and when the snow was deep these tiny paths became tiny tunnels. Those tunnels were kept as clean as the snow itself. Here and there there were short tunnels led to dumps. To these all the dirt was taken.

Mite was a great deal more fussy than a lot of boys and girls are. He not only kept himself spic and span, but he kept his home just as spic and span, and he kept his little private path just as spic and span. He was naturally so neat that, if by some magic he had suddenly been transformed into a boy, it never would have entered his head to throw gum wrappings, ice cream cans, popsicle sticks, peanut bags, candy wrappings, and apple cores out of a car along the roadside when riding in the country, or along the sidewalk of a city street, or in a park, or on a picnic ground. Goodness! Nothing like that! He would no more have thought of doing such things than he would of not washing his face and hands many times a day.

Mite was fussy about neatness because he was born that way. He naturally loved to be clean. Keeping so was a habit, one of the very best habits. There are good habits just as there are bad habits and cleanliness is one of the very best, because it leads to good health. Neatness is a good second best and leads to true comfort. Together the



He carried them off to the nearest dump.

two lead to good living. Mite was living in what had been the home of some other Meadow Mouse some time before. It was tumble-down when he found it. Tumble-down houses are never neat. As soon as he had decided he was going to stay there in this tumble-down home, he went to work to put it in order. Of course, he had to spend much time hunting for food, and he had to spend some time sleeping. In between times he tried to fix up that nest. First, he cleaned it all out inside. He pulled out old straws that were more or less dirty, and he didn't leave them around the doorstep either. He carried them off to the nearest dump.

Then he went to work on the tumble-down roof. Of course, it was made mostly of grass, and some fine roots, all woven together. Whoever made that home in the first place had done a very good job. But, any house not used soon goes to pieces. How did Mite know what to do? Old Mother Nature must have whispered in one of his small ears and told him how to do it, and what not to do. It didn't take him very long either. That old roof looked almost like a new roof, and he had it all finished before that first snow storm. It was a good thing he did. The weight of that snow would have pressed the roof right in if it hadn't been repaired.

Mite had been lucky to find that old home with no one living in it. He was still more lucky to find a little store of seeds close by. You see, he hadn't had time before the coming of that snow to store away many seeds himself. Altogether Mite was doing very well for one who was only six weeks old. Yes, indeed, for a young Mouse starting with nothing, Mite was doing very well indeed!

LIL' ABNER



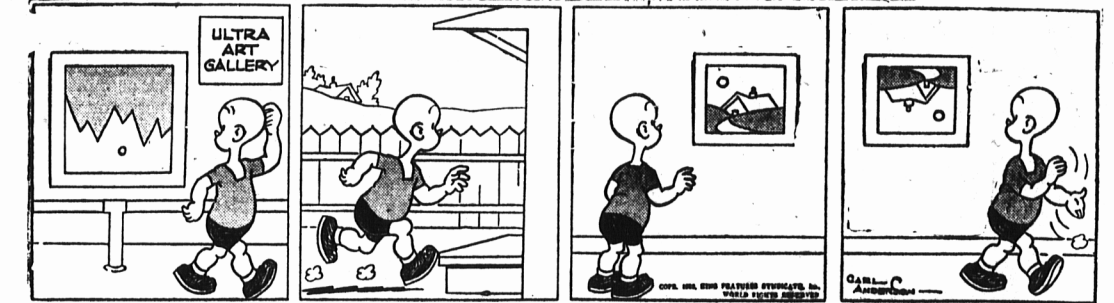
By Al Capp

TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS



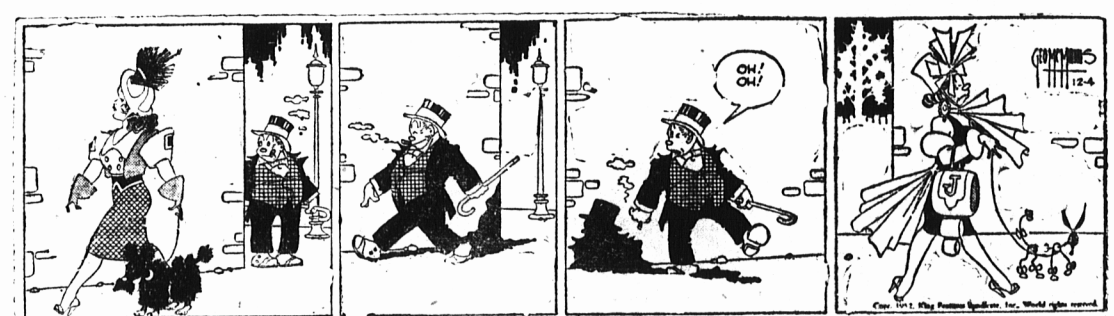
By Edwina

HENRY



By Carl Anderson

BRINGING UP FATHER



By George McManus

TILLY THE TOILER



By Bob Gustafson

Napoleon and Uncle Elby



By Clifton McBride

DOTTY DRIPPLE



By Ruford

PENNY



By Harry Rosenfeld

CLUB TAXI PHONE 2631

RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER

By Robert L. May



POGO

By Walt Kelly



KIP KIRBY

By Alex Raymond



KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED



JOE PALOOKA

By Ham Fisher

