

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

PETER LOOKS FOR AN OLD FRIEND

Time alone applies the test. To prove old friends or new are best.

—Old Mother Nature

It was really spring. Wherever he went Peter Rabbit was reminded of it. He dearly loves the spring in this he is no different from other folks. It is the season of daily wonders, though many people seem not to know

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

SEIZING AN OPPORTUNITY

In the deal below a defensive jip gave South a chance that was based on a good guess, and South proved that he was an excellent guesser.

East dealer. North-South vulnerable.

♠ A J 9 8 3	♥ A Q 7 4	♦ K 8 6	♣ 4
♠ K 10 6 2	♥ K J 9	♦ Q 10 5	♣ 7 3 2
♠ Q 5 4	♥ 10 8 3 2	♦ A J 7 2	♣ K 10
♠ 3	♥ Pass	♦ 3 NT	♣ Pass
♠ West	♥ Pass	♦ Dbl.	♣ Pass
♠ North	♥ Dbl.	♦ Pass	♣ Pass

The bidding:

♠ East	♥ South	♦ West	♣ North
♠ 3	♥ Pass	♦ Pass	♣ Dbl.
♠ Pass	♥ 3 NT	♦ Dbl.	♣ Pass
♠ Pass	♥ Pass	♦ Pass	♣ Pass

North's double of three clubs was correct but, as it happened, it gave South quite a problem. Should he pass and play for a penalty which was pretty sure and possibly might be substantial, or should he go out for his own vulnerable game? His decision to bid three notrump was questionable, but it turned out well.

West opened his top club, and East, with no sign of an outside entry, made the correct play of the jack. South won and led the spade queen. West covered, and after winning in dummy, South led a diamond to the ace and returned another spade. When West played the deuce, South went into a long huddle.

As he explained later, South realized that if both defenders had played correctly, East now had either the spade ten or the spade six, blank. But, South said, he had a strong hunch that this was not the case, he felt that East's seven-spot had been a singleton and that West had neglected a vital precaution: covering South's second lead of the spade four with the six.

In any case, and however sound or unsound South's reasoning was, he let the spade four ride, playing dummy's three-spot, and that settled the matter. Now South could finesse again (through West's remaining 10-6), run the entire suit, and cash the heart ace and diamond king to round out the contract.

Needless to say, West should have covered the spade four with the six, and South could not have returned to his own hand for the vital third finesse.

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this. Peter simply couldn't stay at home in the dear Old Briar-patch. Every day there were new and lovely flowers to look for. And, of course, every day Peter looked for new patches of sweet clover. That was his excuse to Mrs. Peter for leaving the dear Old Briar-patch.

Many of the old friends in feather had returned from the Land-of-Always-Summer, and more were returning every day. Long since, Johnny Chuck had kicked off his winter blankets and come out to see what happened in the Great World while he had been sleeping. Over in the Old Orchard were Winsome Bluebird and Skim-

mer the Swallow, quarreling. Mrs. Winsome and Mrs. Skimmer were doing their part. Each couple wanted a certain house Farmer Brown's Boy had put up. That happened every spring. It was while Peter was over there watching them that he was reminded of an old friend whom he had not seen since late in the fall before. It was Old Mr. Toad.

"I wonder where Old Mr. Toad is? If he is still sleeping he is sleeping late," thought Peter.

He asked Winsome Bluebird if he had seen Old Mr. Toad. Winsome was too busy to bother with Peter. He was bound he would have that house. He had managed to get into it, and now he was in the doorway keeping Skimmer and Mrs. Skimmer out.

There was no sign of Old Mr. Toad.

Peter decided he would run over to Farmer Brown's garden which was close by. It was there that he had last seen Old Mr. Toad. He had been doing a funny thing when Peter had last seen him. He had been digging a hole, and backing into it as he dug it. He had told Peter that he was going

to bed for the winter, and Peter had watched him gradually settle down into the ground until the earth fell in over him and covered him up. The next day when Peter was over there, he couldn't find the exact place where Old Mr. Toad had started to bury himself. He wondered if Old Mr. Toad had really meant what he had said, and if he had really buried himself, and Mistress Spring had not been able to waken him?

"I hope that isn't true," thought Peter, and a feeling of sadness drove out the feeling of gladness with which he had started to look for his old friend.

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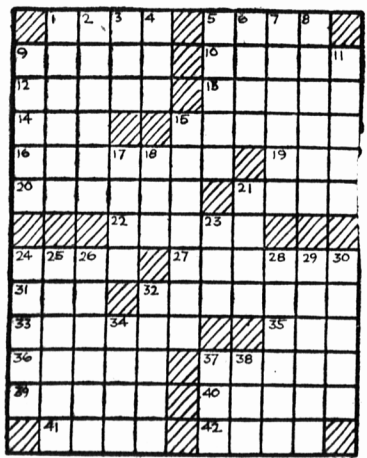
DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1. A month of the Egyptian vague year
 2. Downy part of dandelions
 3. Constellation
 4. Chum
 5. One of a flight of steps
 6. Merit constellation (var.)
 7. Wore away
 8. In solo whist, the loss of every trick
 9. Enclosed in a box
 10. Mountain pools
 11. Before
 12. Shattered
 13. Fruit drinks
 14. Finished
 15. Land under cultivation
 16. Climbing plants
 17. Metallic rock
 18. White ant
 19. Edible seaweeds
 20. Greek letter
 21. Force
 22. Gloss
 23. Keeps
 24. Light-weight velvet
 25. A number (pl.)
 26. Affirmative votes

SEAMS ARE ACTION PLAN CRUISE BERGIA MAT ARTS DI AR YRRE BR TAPE PRENS ALPHONS PILLAR ASKS AGE ITEM BE UT ANSA ONE SCARE GRIND LAM NEUSE RMB GRIEEL

Yesterday's Answer

32. A lock of hair
34. Level
37. Mineral spring
38. Grass cured for fodder



DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:

One letter simply stands for another. In this example A used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophies, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

A Cryptogram Quotation

G J N I N I G J K M H Z P I K Q K Z F H A K N U D E N A K I J N U I K S C G H O K D O H Q K J N I A K N E J O H E Z — S K I D B K.

Yesterday's Cryptogram: YOU POSSESS ALSO THE ART OF HOLDING YOUR TONGUE—VOLTAIRE.

Secret Agent X9



L'il Abner



By Al Capp

Tilly The Toller

By Mel Graff

Etha Kent

By Paul Robinson

By Bob Greenleaf

By Wally Bishop

By George McManus

By Walt Disney

By Charles Keefe

By Carl Anderson

By Ham Fisher

By Fran Striker

By Joe Palooka

By The Lone Ranger

By Henry

By Grandma

By Mickey Mouse

By Bringing Up Father

By Muggs and Skeeter

By Etha Kent

By Tilly The Toller

By Al Capp

By Mel Graff

Etha Kent

By Paul Robinson

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