

# BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

## MRS. HOOTY CELEBRATES

The storms of life, if bravely met, are harmless, and stronger yet. — Old Mother Nature.

Winter was almost over, but there was still snow and ice everywhere. It was difficult to believe that Sweet Mistress Spring was already on her way up from the Land-of-always-Summer. Winter had been long and hard, and it still was hard for most folks. However, the cold and the snow and the ice didn't prevent Hooty the Great Horned Owl and Mrs. Hooty from planning to set up house-keeping. They are the first of all the feathered folk to begin housekeeping each year, and they do not wait for the arrival of Sweet Mistress Spring to do it.



Hooty turned his head and looked. "So, that's it!" he exclaimed.

Hooty and Mrs. Hooty added a few sticks to the nest, and Mrs. Hooty fixed the inside to suit her better. That was all that was done. Nothing more was necessary. Mrs. Hooty spent all her spare time in the nest, or fussing with it. Hooty wasn't much interested. If Mrs. Hooty was satisfied that it was all that mattered to him. He was more interested in getting something to eat. Getting a dinner was real work these days, and he spent most of the time he was awake in hunting.

This particular night Hooty had had poor luck. He had hunted all night long. It was discouraging. It was a cold night. It was such a cold night that it was hard indeed to believe that Mistress Spring had even started up from the Sunny South. When Hooty came in sight of the nest Mrs. Hooty was still on it. She saw him coming and left the nest. She sat beside it and waited for Hooty to join her. Hooty saw at once that she was excited.

"What are you so excited about?" he asked, as he perched beside her. "Can't you guess?" asked Mrs. Hooty. "It must be that you've been hunting and had good luck," said Hooty, looking around to see if there was anything left for him. "No," replied Mrs. Hooty. "I haven't been hunting at all, but I'm going right away just to celebrate."

Hooty looked puzzled. "What are you going to celebrate?" he asked. "You haven't even looked in the nest," said Mrs. Hooty. "Why should I?" asked Hooty. "Look and see!" retorted Mrs. Hooty.

Hooty turned his head and looked. "So, that's it!" he exclaimed. "That's it!" replied Mrs. Hooty very proudly as she looked down in the nest. In it was an almost round white egg, the first egg of the year for anyone in that neighborhood. It really was something to celebrate. Here it was, still winter, with snow and ice everywhere around, and an egg, the first egg of the year, was in her nest. Do you wonder she wanted to celebrate? The first egg is always something to celebrate.

She didn't know it, but she was really celebrating another day. She was celebrating a real birthday. You see, she had laid that first egg on Washington's Birthday. The baby that would hatch from that egg would be the first

## Contract Bridge

By Josephine Cluvertson

LOOK AHEAD!

It is fatal in most cases for the defenders to play on a trick-by-trick basis, without following a long-ranged plan tacitly agreed on. In fact, the defenders must look as far ahead as the declarer must, and, whenever possible, keep one vital step ahead of him. That is precisely what East did not do in the following deal.

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

♠ J964  
♥ K73  
♦ 653  
♣ Q82

♠ 1072  
♥ J1084  
♦ Q7  
♣ J973

N  
W E S  
♠ A Q 8 8  
♥ 5 2  
♦ A K 9 4 2  
♣ A 6

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

North had to be decidedly optimistic to raise South's spade rebid, even though that rebid was a strength-showing "reverse." In fact, it was a little strange that North chose to raise a suit which he had refused to bid, himself, at the one-level. However, from North's point of view, all was well that ended well.

West opened the heart jack. The king was played from dummy and East won with the ace. East then laid down the heart queen and a third round of the suit.

Declarer, ruffed the third heart and hopefully cashed his top trumps. Needless to say, he was glad to see the queen fall, and he then led his last trump to extract West's ten. Now South led out the ace, king and another diamond, and when that suit broke 3-2, he was home. Two of dummy's clubs went off very comfortably on South's established diamonds.

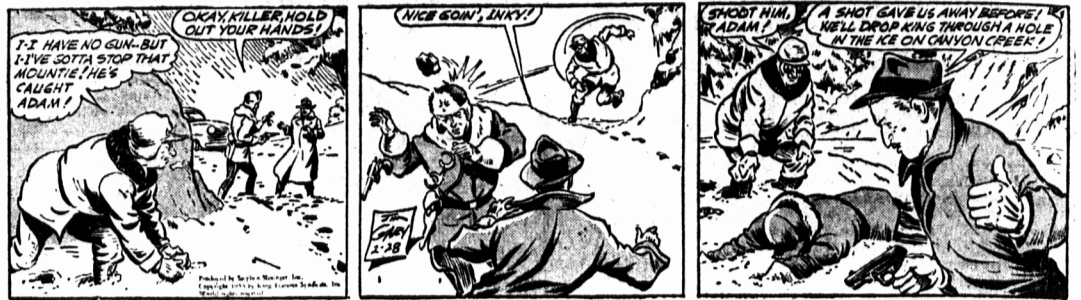
East was rather careless or thoughtless in his handling of the heart suit. Proper timing of the defense would have defeated the contract. To effect that proper timing, East had to return a low heart at the second trick, and West then had to shift to clubs. This would have set up four sure tricks for the defense — two hearts, one diamond and one club.

bird baby of the year. It would be one of the first, but not quite the first, of all the babies of the Green Forest. Mother Bear already had two babies three weeks old, but nobody knew it. Mother Bear hardly knew it herself, for she was still spending most of her time asleep in her den.

"You keep that egg warm!" commanded Mrs. Hooty, "while I go try to find something to eat."

## King Of The Royal Mounted

By Zane Grey



## Rip Kirby

By Alex Raymond



## Joe Palooka

By Ham Fisher



## Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Clifford McBride



## CITY IMMUNIZING CLINICS

Conducted by Department of Health & Welfare To be held as follows:

MONDAY, MARCH 2nd—	1:30 p.m.
Model School	2:30 p.m.
Prince Street	
TUESDAY, MARCH 3rd—	1:30 p.m.
West Kent	2:30 p.m.
Rochford Square	
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4th—	1:30 p.m.
Queen Square	2:30 p.m.
Notre Dame	
THURSDAY, MARCH 5th—	1:30 p.m.
Spring Park	2:30 p.m.
Parkdale	

## SPECIAL VALENTINE DANCE at CLOVER CLUB

Charlottetown's Finest Dance Hall

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Jackle Doyle and his Clover Club Band Soloist.

Tables for 100 couples

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Please phone in cancellations early.

## Li'l Abner

By Al Capp



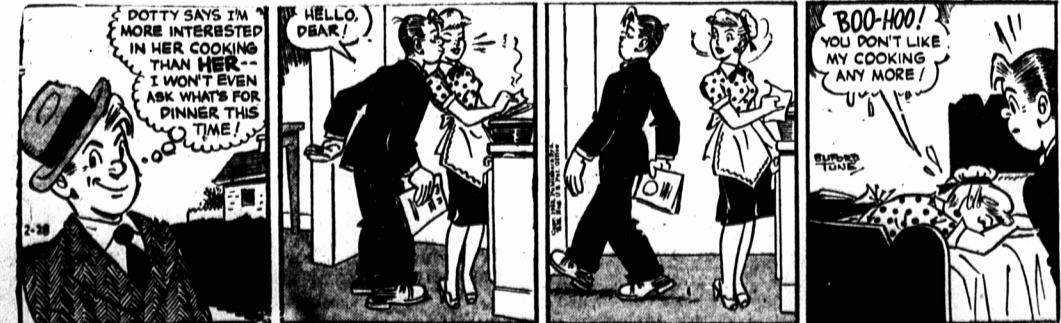
## Tilly The Toiler

By Bob Gustafson



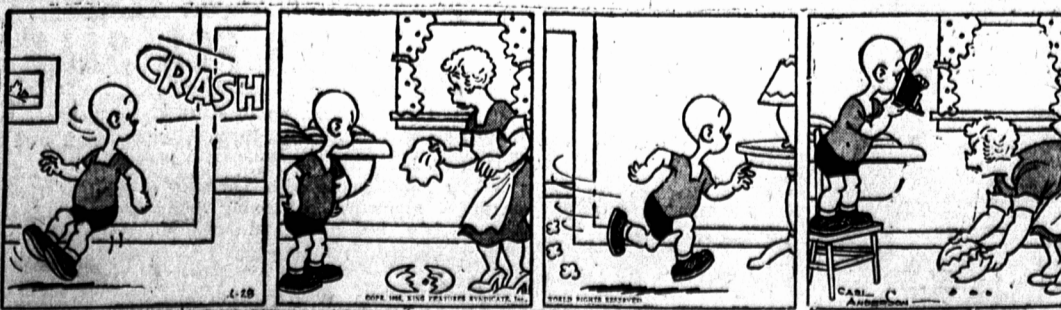
## Dotty Dripple

By Ruford



## Henry

By Carl Anderson



## Pogo

By Walt Kelly



## Tippy and "Cap" Stubs

By Edwina



## Bringing Up Father

By George McManus



## PENNY

By Harry Hoehnigen

