

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

HOOTY'S LOST APPETITE

Look well, than look and look again. An extra look may save you pain. —Hooty the Owl.

Hooty knows. Yes, sir. Hooty knows. He has learned by experience, and there is no surer way of learning than by experience. It may be painful. It often is. But the lesson learned is never forgotten. Hooty had chased Peter Rabbit into a hole in the ground over in the Green Forest. A hole in the ground is almost always somebody's home, or has been. It was somebody's home this time, but Hooty didn't know it and Peter didn't know it. It was the home of

Prickly Porky the Porcupine the Green Forest person who carries a thousand little spears in his coat. It wouldn't have mattered had Prickly Porky not been at home, but he was at home. That made it bad for Peter. It put Peter in a fix. Yes, sir, it did so. There was Hooty the Owl waiting for him outside, and inside down below him in his bedroom, was Prickly Porky who might at any moment take a notion to come out. There is a saying that what one doesn't know won't hurt one but this isn't altogether true. Hooty found this out the hard way. He lived there, and that was just too bad. You see, Hooty was hun-



Without a second look to make sure, he swooped and struck.

gry. He wanted a dinner, any kind of a dinner, but especially a Rabbit dinner. That is one of Hooty's favorite dinners. So having chased Peter into Prickly Porky's house, he made up his mind to wait outside until Peter should come out. It was when Prickly Porky began to grunt and whine and stir about that Peter understood what a fix he was in. It set his wits to working. He remembered that most houses in the ground, such as this one, have back doors, and he went looking for one. He found a partly closed entrance to a back hall, dug it open, and got into it just in time, for Prickly Porky had finally taken it into his head to go outside. Hooty had perched on a tree back of the front door to Prickly Porky's house. He had done this so that he couldn't be seen by any one coming out. Of course he thought that no one would come out but Peter. It didn't enter his head that any one else would. So he perched in a tree back of that doorway, and sat there perfectly still except that once or twice he turned his head for a quick look around. No one's head can turn more quickly than can that of Hooty the Owl. All members of the Owl family can turn their heads so far around that they can look straight behind them and seem to have their heads on backwards. And they can turn their head so quickly for a look behind them and back again, that to one watching them it seems as if they turn their heads completely around. Patiently Hooty sat and sat, and grew hungrier and hungrier and hungrier. At long last, a nose, than

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

A MISLEADING RETURN

There are times when one defender must tell his partner exactly how many cards he held in a certain suit, and the following deal was one of those cases.

North dealer. East-West vulnerable

♠ J 7 4
♥ A 10 6
♦ A Q J 8 5 5
♣ K Q 7 5

♠ K 8 5
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ 7 4

W N E S
♠ J 10 2
♥ A 9 6
♦ K 7 4 3
♣ K 10 2

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Although North-South committed the indiscretion of landing at three notrump without a stopper in spades, there is this to be said for their bidding: they were right in assuming that no other game contract could be made.

West opened the spade four and East won with the queen. East returned his lowest spade, the three, and West captured declarer's ten with the ace.

Very obviously, West could have continued with the nine of spades and thus permitted East to run the rest of the suit, defeating the contract on the spot. Unfortunately, however, this fact could not be "obvious" to West! In fact, with the information he had been given by his own partner, West could not afford to lead another spade. East's return of the spade three, under the standard convention for this situation, announced an original spade holding of four, not five cards, and therefore the play marked South with an original holding of J-10-x-x in spades. If West led a third round, he would presumably establish South's jack, and that might be a fatal move.

So West decided to look for heart tricks and shifted to that suit. South permitted himself a grin as he ran off nine tricks.

Under the laying convention referred to the partner of the opening leader should return his own original fourth-highest card in the led suit. Thus, East's proper return at the second trick was the five, not the three of spades. If East had made the correct return, West at least could have hoped that his partner had started with five spades, and, considering the cards in sight, West probably would have made the killing continuation.

KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

By Zane Grey



JOE PALOOKA

By Ham Fisher



HENRY

By Carl Anderson



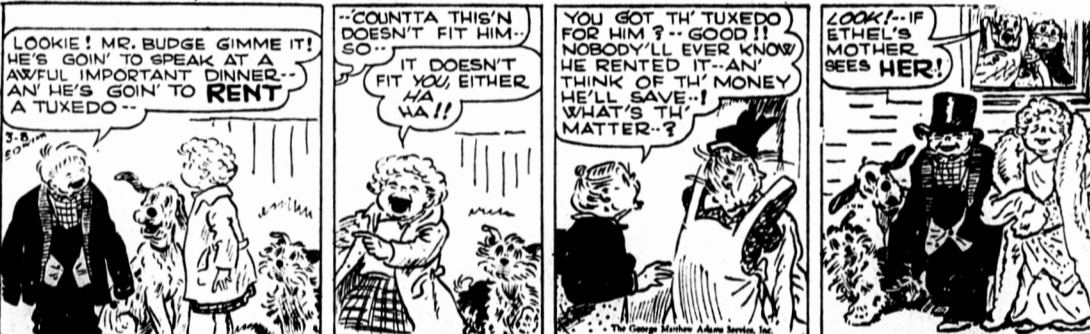
DOTTY DIPPLE

By Rufus



TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

By Edwin



BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManus



TILLY THE TOILER

By Bob Gustafson



PENNY

By Harry Meenigen



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