

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

BUSTER LEARNS THE REASON WHY

For all that happens you will find some reason always lies behind. —Old Mother Nature.

Buster Bear had discovered the nest of Hooty the Owl high up in a big tree deep in the Green Forest. Young Owls were in that nest. Buster could hear them crying. They were hungry. Young Owls in a nest usually are hungry when they are not asleep. They may keep still while father and mother are away looking for food, but when they know or suspect father or mother is near they often cry for the food they are sure is at hand. Both Hooty and Mrs. Hooty



"You can't do that!" shrieked Hooty.

had been flying over and around the big nest or perched close to it. The young Owls saw them and were crying to be fed.

Buster Bear had been awake from his long winter sleep but a short time. The sound of those young Owls reminded him that he was hungry. Little food for a hungry bear was to be found as yet. Those young Owls would be little more than a mouthful, but they would be something. Buster is not one to despise small things. Many times had he worked hard to put an old stump apart to catch a Mouse and no Mouse could be as big as one of those young Owls if he could judge by their voices. It would be quite a climb to that nest, but Buster is a good climber, big as he is. A dinner of tender young Owls would be worth the work of climbing up there. So Buster stood up at the foot of the tree and looked up.

"You can't do that!" shrieked Hooty, snapping his bill fiercely as he brushed the top of Buster's head with a big wing. What he really meant was that Buster mustn't do that. He knew perfectly well that that tree would be easy climbing

for Buster. "Why can't I?" asked Buster Bear with a most provoking grin. "Because this is our tree and you haven't any right to," cried Hooty. Mrs. Hooty swooped close to Buster's head. "We'll scratch your eyes out," she hissed.

Buster struck at her swiftly with a big paw, but missed her. Clumsy as he looks Buster can move those big paws of his with astonishing quickness. "I'll show you," he growled.

"You can't! You can't!" shrieked the two big Owls and actually struck him, first one then the other as they flew about his head trying to confuse him. Buster paid no attention to them. He pulled himself up on the lowest branch, digging his great claws into the trunk of the tree. Hooty and Mrs. Hooty became more distressed and more excited than ever.

"You can't go up there. You can't go up there. You can't! You can't!" they screamed. Such a snapping of bills! Such hissing! Such threats! "So you think you can stop me. Well, you can't, and that's that," growled Buster. He sounded ugly. The truth is he was beginning to feel ugly. He was losing his temper.

"You better not come up any farther," said another voice, a most unexpected voice, a fretful voice. Buster stopped climbing. He started up over his head. When he had looked up in that tree from the ground he had looked up at the top. He had had eyes for that nest and nothing else. Now that he was in the tree looking up he saw for the first time that there was something else in that tree about half way up. Also for the first time he noticed that several branches were bare of leaves, tender twigs and bark.

"You can't get past me," said the fretful voice. It was a half whine now. "You can't get past me and you better not try."

Close to the trunk of the tree, on a branch a little above him, Buster saw Pricky Porky the Porcupine, called by some of his neighbors, the Untouchable One. Buster drew back his lips to show his big teeth. "Get out of my way," he snarled. "Don't you come any higher," whined Pricky Porky. He didn't make any move to get out of Buster's way.

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

TRUMP-DRAWING DOESN'T ALWAYS COME FIRST

Most players seem to feel that the first thing they must do is "get out the trumps!" Perhaps they proceed on the theory that the side suits will take care of themselves. Actually, of course, there are countless hands in which trump-drawing should be delayed. The following is one illustration.

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

♠ A Q 7 5	♥ J 7 4	♦ 10	♣ J 9 8 4
♠ A Q 4	♥ A Q 4	♦ 10 9 6 3	♣ K J 10
♠ K 10 6	♥ N	♦ 10 9 6 3	♣ K J 10
♠ 8 7	♥ S	♦ 10 9 6 3	♣ K J 10
♠ Q 9 6 3	♥ W	♦ 10 9 6 3	♣ K J 10
♠ 3 2	♥ A K 8 6 2	♦ 10 9 6 3	♣ K J 10
♠ A K 8 6 2	♥ K J 5	♦ 10 9 6 3	♣ K J 10
♠ A 8 7	♥ A 8 7	♦ 10 9 6 3	♣ K J 10

The bidding:

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

West opened the diamond eight, and when South saw the dummy it was obvious that he would have to lose two club tricks, perhaps one spade, and one or two hearts unless the queen lay doubleton.

West took the first trick with the diamond jack and cashed the heart ace. He gave due notice to East's play of the ten, but apparently he concluded that East might have held Q-10 blank, and so South hopefully laid the heart king. Unfortunately, however, East showed out, and now South was exposed to the sure loss of two heart tricks as well as two clubs. The success of the spade finesse was of only minor importance.

South should have done a little exploring to find out how he stood in the spade suit, so that he could handle the trumps to the best advantage. His first move should have been to test the spade finesse! If that finesse lost, South would have to go after trumps in the most hopeful fashion, leading out the ace and king on the chance that the queen would drop; but with the spade finesse winning, South could now afford a safety play in trumps! That is, after cashing only one high card he could lead low toward the J-7, and by so doing hold West to one trick in trumps.

HE'S FED UP

SHREWSBURY, England—(CP)—A headmaster of a boy's school here was critical of "progressive" trends in education. He said at the annual speech day he wonders whether new schools will have built-in dog-racing tracks and electronic machines to help in filling out coupons for football pools.

FROG INVASION

COALVILLE, England—(CP)—After mining subsidence reduced the level of a field in this Leicestershire district, thousands of frogs invaded the area from a nearby forest. Attempts to poison the pests failed but council rejected suggestions to pay children for collecting frogs.

adds zest to lunch

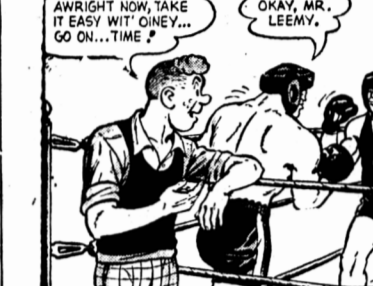
KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

By Zane Grey



JOE PALOOKA

By Ham Fisher



HENRY

By Carl Anderson



DOTTY DRIPPLE

By Ruford



TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

By Edwina



HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT

REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Public Notice is hereby given that midnight, Monday, the 31st of March, 1952, has been fixed as the deadline for the use of 1951 license plates.

ON AND AFTER THE 1ST APRIL, NEXT, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES USING THE HIGHWAYS WILL BE REQUIRED TO CARRY 1952 PLATES

P. S. FIELDING,
Deputy Provincial Secretary.

POGO

By Walt Kelly



Napoleon and Uncle Elby

By Clifford McBride



L'L ABNER

By Al Capp



RIP KIRBY

By Alex Raymond



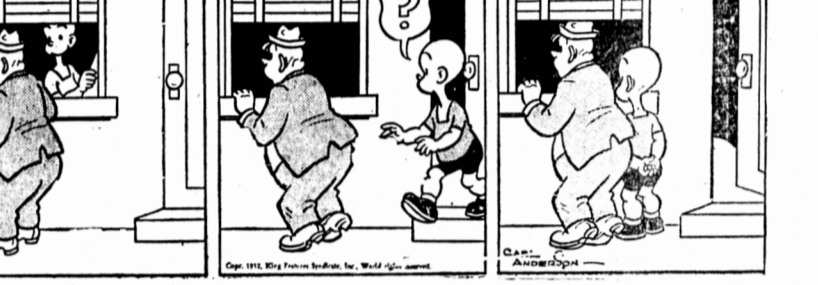
JOE PALOOKA

By Ham Fisher



HENRY

By Carl Anderson



DOTTY DRIPPLE

By Ruford



TIPPY AND "CAP" STUBS

By Edwina



BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManus



TILLY THE TOILER

By Bob Gustafson



PENNY

By Harry Hoehnigen

