

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson
NOT THE TIME FOR A STRETCH

There are occasions when a player should go in for pure "distributional bidding," meaning bidding long suits irrespective of high-card value, but he should not do so under such circumstances as South faced below.

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

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

The bidding:
 North East South West
 1♣ Pass 1♠ 1♠
 2♣ Pass 3♣ (1) Pass
 3♣ Pass 6♣ 6♣
 6♣ Pass Pass Pass

West wasn't sure enough about his heart ace to double seven diamonds, but he naturally led that ace — and North-South had to be satisfied with a fierce argument instead of a 500-point profit against the six-spade sacrifice contract.

On the surface it appears that North was inconsistent in first bidding only six diamonds and then letting himself be "pushed" into the grand slam, but North's post-mortem explanation had considerable logic. He had not been pushed, he said; he had felt that a grand slam was in the cards from the moment he heard South bid four diamonds freely, and he (North) had adopted his method of bidding only because it seemed likely that the opponents would not permit a seven-diamond contract to stand unless North acted as though he were being pushed. For that matter (North explained later), it had seemed inconceivable that the non-vulnerable opponents would fall to sacrifice against either six or seven diamonds; hence, there was no point in North's doubling six spades when, by every sign, it appeared that he would have as good an opportunity to double seven spades.

All this, of course, was based on the not unreasonable assumption that South, who lacked the three top honors in his own suit, could not have found a free bid over three spades without, at least the ace (possibly both ace and king) of hearts. Thus, the only risk North thought he was running in bidding seven diamonds was the unlikely possibility that South had three low clubs.

The plain fact is that South, despite his seven-card suit, had nothing like a free bid over three spades.

GET YOUR FREE DIGEST OF the Culbertson Point-Count Method. Simply send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the J. C. Winston Co., 1010 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

THIN COVER.
Arctic plant life consists mainly of arctic willows, mosses and grasses.

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

TWO OF A KIND

Unselfish love when times are worst,
Will always think of others first.
—Old Mother Nature.

Reddy Fox and King Eagle are two of a kind. They don't look it, but they are. Although one wears a fur coat and runs on four legs, and the other wears a coat of feathers and flies, they are alike in that they both are wonderfully loyal to their mates, and both are unselfish where they are concerned.



"Look, my dear, what I have brought you," said Reddy.

It was the Christmas season, and to some it was a very lovely season. You see, it seemed as if the whole Great West was... pure and beautiful by the snow. But to some there was no beauty. That snow meant to some folks hunger that was almost starvation. It did two things to make living for them very hard: it made it difficult, if not impossible, for them to get around, and it hid completely much of their food.

Reddy Fox and Mrs. Reddy were two of these for whom the snow and ice made living hard. When finally there was an icy crust strong enough to bear their weight, and they could run about on this, they were not much better off than before because the ones they hunted were hidden under the crust.

King Eagle and his mate had not gone to the Sunny South. They didn't like going so far away from their home, and that was in the Green Forest where they had used the same nest for many years. As long as they managed to get food enough not to starve they would stay. If things got too bad they could leave and go where there was better living. That was one advantage they had over Reddy Fox and Mrs. Reddy.

There was a place where the Big River was not frozen over because the river ran too fast to freeze. There Sawbill the Merganser, one of the duck tribe, had caught a fish. King Eagle had made him drop that fish, had snatched it up, and had carried it over to a big stump on the bank.

There, instead of eating it, and he was hungry enough to eat it, he had kept it for Mrs. Eagle. Before she got there, he had seen another dead fish floating in the water and had gone to get it. The one on the stump had slipped off. Reddy Fox, always an opportunist, had snatched up the fish and made good his escape. He headed for home in the Old Pasture. It seemed to him that he simply must stop on the way and eat that fish, but he didn't. When he got home he found Mrs. Reddy had returned, and he knew at a glance that she had had no success in hunting.

"Look, my dear, what I have brought you," said Reddy, as he laid the fish at the feet of Mrs. Reddy. Then he backed away a little and watched her as she greedily ate every bit of it. She didn't know he hadn't had anything but one small mouse.

Over by the Big River, King Eagle watched Mrs. Eagle eat that second fish, and made no move to get any of it himself. Now do you see how Reddy Fox and King Eagle are alike, and two of a kind? Both have unselfish love for their mates. Both think of their mates first. Not all of the Green Forest and Green Meadow people are like this. No indeed. Some of them are wholly selfish.

Mrs. Alfred Moore entertained the Avonlea W.I., on Tuesday evening, Dec. 27th. Meeting opened by singing "Silent Night," and repeating the Creed in unison. Minutes of last meeting were read, and approved. Roll call answered by 16 members. The President announced that in future all minutes should have the word "Attest" in front of secretary's name and the President should sign minutes of each meeting.

A bill of 87 cents was handed in for Rustico School for cups. New committees are: Sick, Mrs. John MacNeill and Mrs. Ralph Burdette; school, Mrs. Lowell Wyand and Mrs. Sterling Stewart; Rustico and Mrs. Earle Simpson; and Mrs. Robert Woolner; Rustico School, Irma Toombs and Mrs. R. G. Fleming. It was moved and seconded that Miss Kathryn Buchanan be secretary and Mrs. Lowell Wyand be Treasurer. Moved and seconded that a new book be bought for Treasurer.

Mrs. Fleming and Mrs. Sterling Stewart were asked to take care of Red Cross knitting. A letter was read from Alder Dickenson re a doctor locating in New Glasgow. It was moved and seconded to canvas the district for this purpose. Moved and seconded to spend \$5.00 for treats for each school. The President then gave a report of Leadership Course held in Parkdale Hall. It was moved and seconded the expenses of delegates amounting to \$4.50 be paid. At this time each member received a gift from the Christmas tree. Mrs. Olaf Steverson invited the members for the January meeting. Lunch was served and meeting closed by singing the National Anthem.

last Saturday.
Mr. Dave Griffin and sons, William and Bernard of Locke Road, were in O'Leary on December 18.
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Gallant of Forest View were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Gallant of O'Leary on December 12.

Mr. George Meggison of Knutsford was in O'Leary on December 16.
Mr. Anthony Finnan and daughter Pauline of Howland were in Forest View on December 18.
Mr. John Wedge of Forest View was in O'Leary on December 17.
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Gallant of Forest View were in O'Leary on December 12.

BETTER VIEW
CHELMSFORD, England (CP)—So convalescing patients can watch games at the nearby county cricket grounds, window sills at the hospital in this Essex town will be lowered six inches.

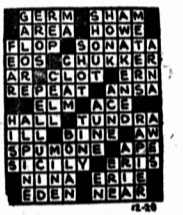
LOCKE ROAD

—Mrs. Auden McLean of the Locke Road was in O'Leary on December 16.
Mr. Jerry Arsenault of Forest View was in O'Leary on December 18.
Mr. George Meggison of Knutsford was in O'Leary on December 16.

Mr. Anthony Finnan and daughter Pauline of Howland were in Forest View on December 18.
Mr. John Wedge of Forest View was in O'Leary on December 17.
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Gallant of Forest View were in O'Leary on December 12.

DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
1. Irritating
 6. Metal tag at end of a race
 11. Support
 12. Artless
 13. Commenced
 14. Senior
 15. Like
 16. Large cave
 17. Street (abbr.)
 18. Girl's name
 20. German leader of Protestant Reformation
 22. Close to
 26. Palm cockatoo
 27. Funeral song
 28. Persian fairy
 29. Magician
 30. Figs
 32. East by south (abbr.)
 33. Braslike alloy
 36. Masculine pronoun
 37. Once more
 38. Shun
 41. Shabby by friction
 42. Light-weight velvet
 43. Auctions
 44. A mournful poem
- DOWN**
1. Warp-yarn
 2. An animate being
 3. Tatters
 4. River (So. Am.)
 5. Cozy room
 6. Near (post.)
 7. Startle into sudden activity
 8. March (dial.)
 9. Always
 10. Gull-like bird
 11. Elevator
 17. Strike
 18. Girl's name
 19. Marshy meadow
 21. A sailor (slang)
 23. Epoch
 24. Con-sent-ing (to)
 25. Shades of a primary color
 27. Clamor
 29. Gain
 31. Furrows (as one's way)
 33. Lotions
 34. Location of the Taj Mahal
 35. Appendix
 36. Sharpen a razor
 38. Monkey
 39. Kind of lace
 40. Title of governor of Algiers before 1830



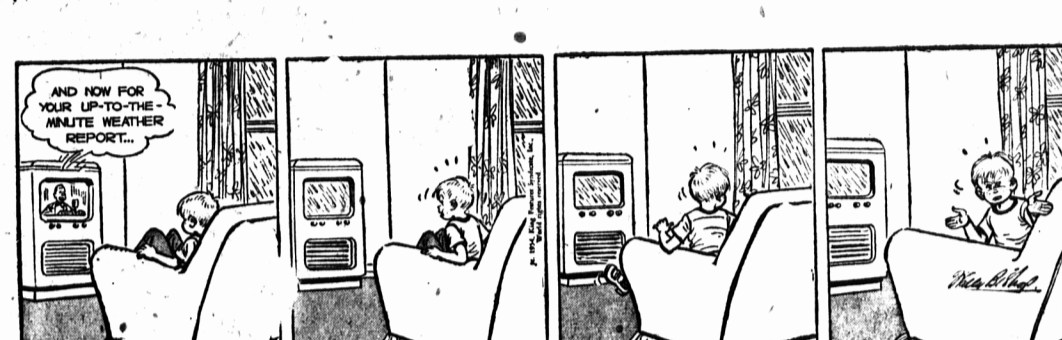
Yesterday's Answer
 36. Sharpen a razor
 38. Monkey
 39. Kind of lace
 40. Title of governor of Algiers before 1830

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:
 AXYDLBAAXE
 is
 LONGFELLOW

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

A Cryptogram Quotation
 DN JDLFIE RIVA RIJKIRBRQSIQM
 SIU SI NSLPUAG-QDNJVNLBRNPU

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE CONSCIENCE OF A PEOPLE IS THEIR POWER—DRYDEN.



By Carl Anderson

by Charles Kuha

By Wally Bishop

By Paul Robinson

By Bob Gustafson

By Walt Disney

By George McManus

By Mel Graff

By Al Capp

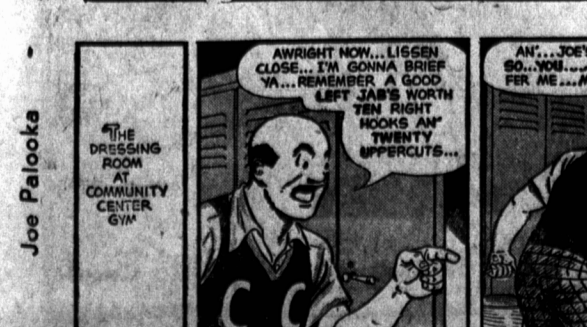
Believe It or Not!

IF 6 MEN SMOKE 6 CIGARETS IN 6 MINUTES—HOW MANY MEN WILL IT TAKE TO SMOKE 60 CIGARETS IN 48 MINUTES?

ANSWER: 10 MEN

JEAN de VIVONNE
 a famous French warrior
 DRANK NO LIQUID
 OF ANY SORT
 FOR A PERIOD OF
 11 YEARS
 (1588-1599)

Mugs
 A boxer puppy
 LOCKED IN STORE OVERNIGHT
 TELEPHONED FOR HELP
 IT KNOCKED OVER THE PHONE
 AND ITS CRIES BROUGHT POLICE
 Submitted by MARGARET DEITCH—Welland, Ontario



By Fran Striker
Secret Agent X-7



By Ham Fisher
Li'l Abner



By Mel Graff

By Al Capp