

BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

By Thornton W. Burgess

THE LOST LAUGHTER

Some act of mine, some deed you do. Some other folks may suffer through.

—Paddy the Beaver.

Across the Green Forest, across the Green Meadows, all the way to the Big River, something was missing. Something that had been in Laughing Brook. There was not so much as a murmur to show that there was such a thing as Laughing Brook, or even a brook without laughter. There wasn't even a gurgle of running water. And in place of the happiness made by laughter there was a spirit of sadness and worry.

Without a real Smiling Pool there could be no real Smiling Brook. Jerry Muskrat and Mrs. Jerry, who had long made their home in the Smiling Pool, were two very worried little people in fur. They couldn't understand where the laughter of the brook had gone to. They had known other summers when there had been no rain for a long, long time, but never had Laughing Brook dried up as it had now. Never had it quite lost all its laughter.

Little Joe Otter had come down from the Green Forest and had told them that Paddy the Beaver and Mrs. Paddy had as good a pond as ever way up in the Green Forest. And that Little Joe had dropped a hint. He had told how Paddy's children were learning to build dams, and had built one across Laughing Brook below Paddy's pond. It wasn't a big dam, but it was across Laughing Brook. Suddenly a thought popped into Jerry's head.

"That's it!" cried Jerry. "What is it?" squeaked Mrs. Jerry. "It's those young Beavers," replied Jerry. "They've stolen Laughing Brook. They've stolen our water."

"What are you two talking about?" demanded Little Joe Otter. "Why, you just told us why there isn't any water in Laughing Brook," replied Jerry. "Those young Beavers have built a dam

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Pioneer Days In P.E.I.

By F. H. MacArthur

"Believe it or not," but there was a time when wild life abounded in the forests of this Island. Bears, wildcats, deer, etc., were so numerous that people were at their wit's end to know what treasures should be adopted to keep their livestock intact.

A rather amusing yarn came to my ears not so long ago, that had to do with a pioneer family who had lost their only cow in the woods. Now, the man of the family did not like the idea of hunting for a bear, but his better half, who happened to be of the nagging type, incessantly urged her man to the task.

For three whole days and a part of three nights the harried husband tramped through the forests, keeping his ears open for the sound of a cowbell, and muttering words of complaint against his missus, whom he considered the worst possible choice he could have made in a wife.

Unlike Rip Van Winkle, he had no dog to accompany him on his lonely and dangerous mission. The end of the third day brought no luck and Mr. Pioneer was trudging along stealthily through the woods when he was certain he saw a bear moving among the trees.

Immediately he climbed the nearest tree and, crawling out on a great spreading branch, prepared to spend the night in the safety of its shelter. Several times the snapping of a bear's paw branches came to his ears and he lay there, hardly daring to breathe. Mr. Bruin came up for the supper he missed below.

After what seemed like an eternity, dawn broke across the eastern sky and Mr. Pioneer climbed down from his high perch, staff in a poker. He had scarcely reached the good earth when he heard a limb snap and looking around saw his nearest neighbor sliding down a tree trunk, not twenty feet from where he stood.

When the two compared notes they had quite a laugh, for each man had been treed by the same bear.

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CONTRACT BRIDGE

By Josephine Culbertson

UNSOOUND ANALYSIS

EAST'S defense in the following hand suffered from faulty analysis.

East dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

1096	AKQ
84	QJ762
KQ73	AK85
K864	AKQ

W E S

1096 84 KQ73 K864 AKQ QJ762 AK85 AKQ

West opened the heart ten. South won and immediately led a low diamond to the queen. East took his ace—and then took time out to ponder his next move.

As he explained later, East felt that the only defense would be to lead with a club stopper and a third heart, so that he could put East back on lead. It seemed incredible that West could have the spade ace. So, acting on this analysis, East returned the heart queen to clear his suit.

After that, of course, it was all over. South took the trick and cashed enough diamonds and clubs to round out the contract.

To start with, East was unrealistic in hoping that his partner held three hearts—with that number, headed by the ten, West would have led his lowest card of the suit. Next, East was a little too fast in taking his diamond ace. He should have held that card up as long as possible, and then West would have had the chance to announce, by discarding a low club, that East should not look to him for anything in that suit. This would have left East with only one fair chance—to shift to spades on the hope, however remote, that West had a four-card spade suit headed by the ace.

Our Boarding House Major Hoople

EGAD, COACH! EVERY FALL SINCE MY FOOTBALL MEYDAY, MEMORIES OF SUCH STARS AS HESTON, ECKERSALL AND THORPE ALL MY BOYS—LURE ME BACK TO THE GRIDIRON! I'D DEVELOP THESE ORANGES INTO RED GRANGES—HEH-HEH!

AH-ER, YEAH! HOW ABOUT WATCHING THOSE BOYS KICKING?—AND YOU CAN SHAG A FEW PUNTS IF YOU WANT TO MELT OFF ONE OF THOSE CHINS!

HOW AM I GONNA GET RID OF THIS BENCH-GRABBER?

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Hawaiian dance
- Scrutinize
- Girl's name (poss.)
- Head
- Founder of Christian Science
- Family of nonvenomous snakes
- Matures
- A human life line
- Norse god
- Dench (on which judges of court sit)
- Raise aloft
- British pool
- City in Vermont
- Neuter noun (slang)
- Of a genus of trees of the rue family
- Pierce with a sword
- Neuter noun
- Calm
- Wheaten flour (ind.)
- Tidal floods
- Not hard
- A prying device
- Rascal
- Plants seed
- Spoken DOWN
- Shrubs used to form a hedge

DOWN

- A screw holding two machine parts together
- Blunder
- Proliferate
- Having made and left a valid will
- Egyptian god of pleasure
- Title added to names of certain Brahmins
- Exchange premium
- Top of an apron
- Bounders
- Amphitheatre
- Roman garment
- Vitality
- Man's name

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it!

AXYDLBAKXK 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

PDX BKKME MCA MLN BCKCTY HG MLN DXNHPQX PDX GXC-TLYHYQDCJ.

Yesterday's Cryptogram: THE HEART IS HARDEST IN THE SOFTEST CLIMES; THE PASSIONS FLOURISH, THE AFFECTIONS DIE — LANDOR.

POGO

DON'T KNOW YOU WAS TAKIN' A BATH IN HERE, MOUSE—HEHE LEAVE SCRUB 'Y BACK—THERE WE ARE—

FLAS' UP—MUS' BE MOUSE GOT A PICKUP.

ALL RIGHT—COME ON! COME ON! DON'T PEE-LAY THE UNINITY-STATES MAIL—YOU'RE A AWFUL BIG PICK-UP—YOU'LL GOTTA GO PARSTEL POATS.

I AIN'T GOIN' NOWHERES—PARSTEL POATS OR NO OTHER WAYS ELSE!

PERN TOOTH! YOU AIN'T! NOT WITH NO STAMPS ON.

Joe Palooka

I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT. WE'LL TURN THEM OVER TO THE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES.

YOU CAN STILL MAKE YOUR PLANE TO THE STATES.

HOLD THE PLANE...HERE COMES HUMPHREY NOW!

Secret Agent X9

Phil cuts his motor and drifts in to Stoner Island—

HELLO! ARE YOU WRELSKA MOST?

YES! I'M SO GLAD MY NOTE!

The stage has been set... in the rear-by scrub a lot man crouches with a movie camera pressed against his face!

Mickey Mouse

GIVE HER THAT PARALYZIN' GRIN, LIL DAVY!

DON'T WEAKEN...!

WE GOT SKINNED DOWN BY A FEMALE CATERPILAR!

L'il Abner

MAH BRIDE IS HURTY—SOUTHER DIE THAN SOUTHER MARRY 'O!

WAH, THAT'S THE THET!—AH DONE ALL ANY 154-YAR-OLE BOY COULD DO!!

NO 8-DOLLAR WEDDIN'—NO 6 DOLLARS?

YOU FAILED. MOUTHWASH!!

NEVER FAIL!!

WAIT, EVERYBODY!!

Mel Graff

SO YOU ARE FERRIS!

YES, DEWITT. I OWN THE RANCH YOU WANTED TO BUY.

STACEY AND HIS PARTNERS CAPTURED ME, THEN STACEY POSED AS ME.

WHY?

TO DISCOURAGE YOU!! FROM BUYING THE RANCH! STACEY WANTED IT FOR HIMSELF. HE TRIED TO BREAK ME—

HE KILLED MY CATTLE AND POISONED WATERHOLES SO I'D SELL CHEAP!

WHY DID STACEY WANT THE RANCH?

Tilly The Toilet

YA GOTTA TAKE ME GOING WIT' YA SOME DAY, MAM. I'M GETTIN' TA BE A EXPERT PUTTER!

ATA BOY! KEEP PRACTICING

AM I HOT? I CAN'T MISS!

TEN IN A ROW!

Etta Kent

JUST DROVE UP AND WENT IN ETTA'S HOUSE! THAT'S HIS CAR PARKED OVER THERE!!

GREAT! HERE COME THE GUYS NOW!

OKAY! ALL HERE!

GET THIS! HE'S TRYING TO GO STEADY WITH ETTA. WE'RE OUT TO BREAK IT UP! NEVER LET HIM BE ALONE WITH HER A MINUTE! WE'LL WORK IN SHIFTS! OKAY!

LET'S GO!

LET'S MOVE IN!

Muggs and Skeeter

HI, GERARD!

COME ON IN!

THE WATER'S GREAT!!

I CAN'T SWIM.

...WE'VE GOT TUBELESS TIRES!

Henry

I'M HAVING A LAWN PARTY—HENRY—AND I HOPE YOU CAN BRING A LITTLE SOMETHING!

GENERAL STORE

Bringing Up Father

I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO'S GETTIN' HOME LATE! MAYBE I KIN SNEAK IN BEHIND BIMMY!

NOW IF MAGGIE THROWS ANYTHING BIMMY'LL GET HIT!

I HEAR YOU SNEAKING IN, YOU WORM!

GAH! YOU BIMMY! THANK GOODNESS I MISSED YOU! I THOUGHT IT WAS JEGG! BUT WHEN HE COMES IN I WON'T MISS HIM!

Grandma

W'BE QUIET!!

GRANDMA WON'T CARE THAT WE BORROWED HER SHEET... ESIMY'LL GET IT SHE DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT IT!!

I'LL GO AROUND T' TH' FRONT DOOR AN' KID HER A BIT, AN' YOU TWO PUT TH' SHEET BACK ON TH' LINE!!

H-M!! MY OL' WARCHER ISN'T DOIN' AS GOOD A JOB AS IT USED TO!!

Mickey Mouse

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WHY DID STACEY WANT THE RANCH?

By Bob Gustafson
By Paul Robinson
By Wally Bishop
By Carl Anderson
By George McManus
By Charles Kuhn
By Walt Disney
By Al Capp
By Fran Striker