

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel • Antiques and Collecting

Old bottles took variety of shapes

Q: My husband and I have an old bottle and I was wondering what it's worth. A picture of the White House is embossed on the bottle. It says "White House Brand" above the picture and "Vinegar" below it. On the bottom of the bottle, it reads "Bottle patented March 6, 1909." The bottle has a pouring spout and a little handle. It's in good condition. Is it valuable?

A: White House vinegar has been made for more than 100 years. In 1908 Frank Armstrong and B. Fleet Board bought a cider vinegar business in Alexandria, Va., and renamed the business Board, Armstrong and Co. In 1913, after Board died, Armstrong organized National Fruit Product Co. White House Foods is part of that company.

National Fruit Product Co. is still in business and makes apple juice, apple sauce, specialty apple products and vinegar. White House vinegar is still available, but it's sold in modern bottles with paper labels. In earlier years, it was sold in bottles, jugs, jars, cruets and pitchers in several sizes, shapes and colors and with different embossed designs or lettering.

Bottles shaped like an apple, lighthouse or the Unisphere at the 1964 New York World's Fair were made. Some were embossed with ballerinas and cabbage roses. Bottles or jugs embossed with the White House design like yours were made in the 1920s and usually sell for \$10 to \$50.

Q: I own a small wringer-style clothes washer that I think is a salesman's sample. It's seven inches wide, eight inches tall and about four inches deep. It has a 10-inch-long metal handle with a wooden grip. The words "American Wringer Company, N.Y." are stamped on the wood. It's also marked with a horseshoe and the initials "AWC." I bought it in a thrift store for \$20. Can you tell me if it's a salesman's sample and what it might be worth?

A: The first mechanical clothes wringer was invented by Selden A. Bailey in 1859. Bailey began producing wringers in 1860 and founded the Bailey Wringer Co. in Woonsocket, R.I., a short time later. The company became the American Wringer Co. in 1899. It remained in business until the 1950s. Your wringer probably is not a salesman's sample. It may have been made to launder lingerie or other small items. Small wringers like yours sell for about \$100 to \$200.

Tip: Natural, unpainted wicker is more valuable than painted wicker, so do not paint a natural piece. It will lower the value.

Sign up for our weekly email, "Kovels Comments." It includes the latest news, tips and questions. Kovels.com has lists of publications, clubs, appraisers, auction houses, people who sell parts or repair antiques and more. Kovels.com adds to the information in this column and helps you find useful sources needed by collectors.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH	
♦ Q 10	
♥ K J 10 7 4 2	
♦ 9 5 3	
♠ 8 3	
WEST	
♦ K 8 7 4	
♥ 3	
♠ A K J 8 2	
♣ A 10 5	
SOUTH	
♦ A J 5	
♥ A Q 9 6 5	
♦ 6	
♣ Q J 4 2	

The bidding:  
East 1♥ South 1♥ West Dble North 4♥  
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

The Philosophy of Good Defense

Good defense is not really difficult if you keep the ultimate objective — defeat of the contract — firmly in mind. Most defensive errors are usually due to a failure to view the play of the hand as a whole.

Assume you're East, defending against four hearts, and partner leads the king of diamonds. When dummy appears, you should feel there's a reasonable chance to defeat the contract. This is because the dummy, aside from its trumps, does not pose much of a threat.

You signal with the seven of diamonds, asking West to continue the suit in hopes of snatching three quick diamond tricks. But declarer ruffs the next diamond lead, and you must now reconsider how your side is going to collect the four tricks needed to set the contract.

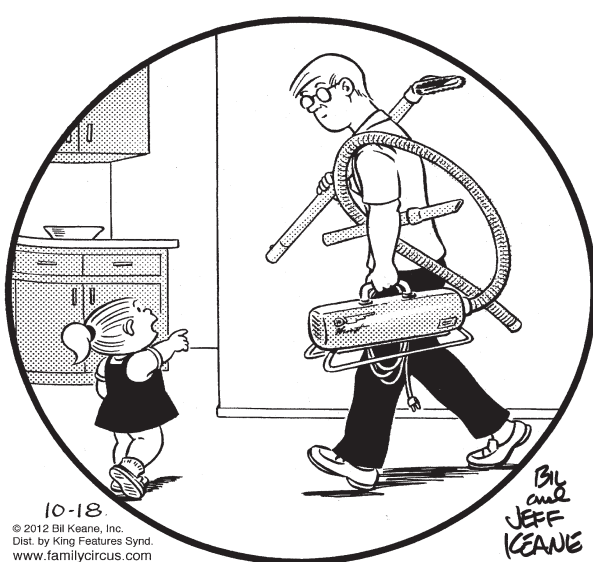
At trick three, South leads a trump to the ten and returns a club from dummy. If you follow the general rule of second-hand low, you will later regret it. South plays the queen of clubs and West the ace, but the battle is just about over. Declarer soon leads another club from dummy. You win with the king and return a spade, but South rises with the ace and then discards dummy's queen of spades on the jack of clubs to make the contract.

Note, however, that if you go up with the king on the first club lead from dummy and return a spade, South goes down one. Moreover, that's the play you'd make if you had been thinking along the proper lines when the first club was led.

After declarer trumps the diamond at trick two, it is clear that your side must win three tricks in the black suits to stop the contract. If South has the A-Q of clubs, your king is dead no matter what you do, so rising with the king can do you no harm. But if West has specifically the club ace and spade king, going up with the king and returning a spade is the only way to defeat the contract.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"HEY! Wait a minute! Did Mommy say it's okay for you to play with her toys?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

	2	9		7	5			
	3	1		8		7	4	
2								5
	6					2		
3								1
9	4		6		3	1		
	7	5		8	9			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/18

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral.

The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

6	9	4	5	7	8	2	1	3
1	3	5	4	6	2	8	9	7
7	2	8	1	3	9	5	6	4
8	4	6	9	2	1	3	7	5
2	5	7	3	8	6	1	4	9
3	1	9	7	5	4	6	2	8
4	8	1	6	9	5	7	3	2
5	6	3	2	4	7	9	8	1
9	7	2	8	1	3	4	5	6

Cryptoquip

OV MBUOCR KBEW CD CMBEWY

RDZWPKWMW UN AYBTW, O

OZBFOTW CKWN POYY KDA

VYOFKCR BC KBMW-ADMCR.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BEING THAT MY POOCH DESERVES A VERY SPECIAL MEATY TREAT, I THINK I'LL GIVE HIM A DOG BRISKET.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals Y

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	40 Hearts, for one	3 Emphatic assent in Acapulco	23 "Mary Tyler Moore Show" spinoff
1 Final meas.	41 Phone function	4 It gets a load from a lode	24 Genealogy chart
8 Foolproof	45 "Simpsons" creator	5 Scout group	25 Old card game
12 Eastern potenate (Var.)	47 Yoko of music	6 Bro or sis	26 Look for a website
13 Carnival city	49 Nervous of	7 "Lilies of the Field" actor	27 Despot
14 Slaughter of baseball	50 Help a hood	8 Brown tone	28 Digitize an old LP, e.g.
15 Parks at a bus stop?	51 Debtor's letters	9 Norma Rae, for one	32 Bit of trivia
16 Japanese sash	52 Early period	10 Paul of politics	33 College life
17 Gallon fraction	53 Indiana city	11 Superlative ending	35 Tackle moguls
18 Hands-on-hips	54 CD successor	19 Chesapeake, e.g.	36 4-Down contents
20 Small combo	55 Verve	21 Spinning stat	38 Eccentric
22 Women's wear	DOWN	22 Out of control	39 Pleased with oneself
26 Wander off	1 Zhivago's love		42 "American"
29 Height of fashion?	2 Out of control		43 City in India
30 Bother			44 Loretta of country music
31 Addict			45 Periodical, for short
32 Supporting			46 Lawyers' org.
33 Cruising			48 Thanks-giving mo.
34 Aries			
35 Despondent			
36 Square dance group			
37 "It's a Wonderful Life" director			

Yesterday's answer 10-18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19			20	21		
			22			23			24	25
26	27	28				29			30	
31				32			33			
34				35			36			
37			38				39			
		40				41		42	43	44
45	46			47	48		49			
50				51			52			
53				54			55			