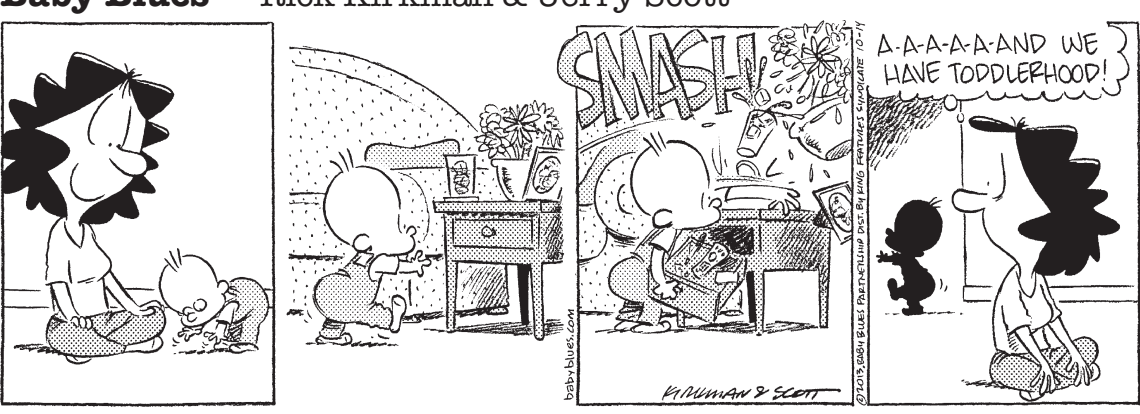


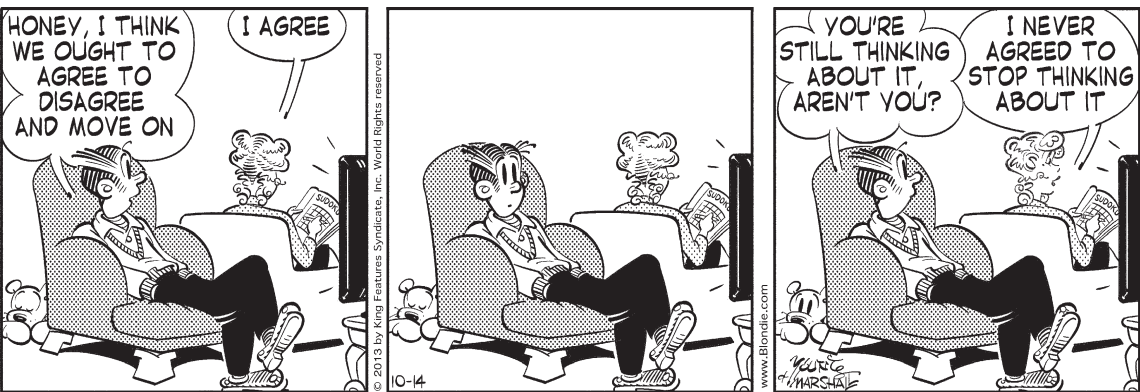
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



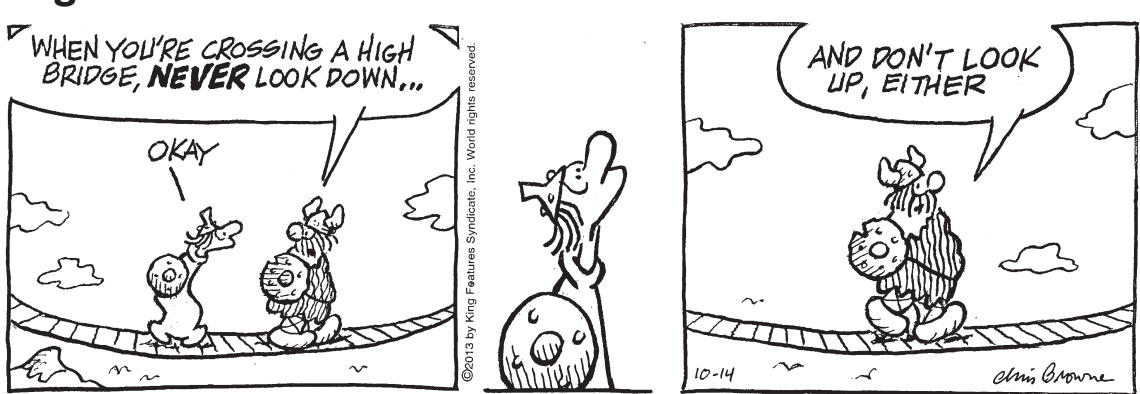
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



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

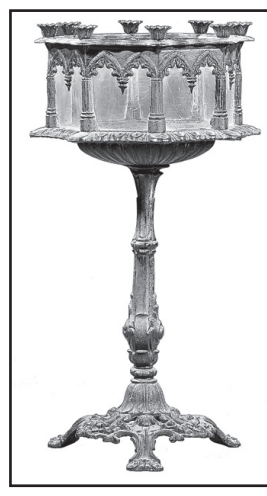


Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting

Wardian case sheltered plants

House plants were popular with our ancestors, but indoor plants took a lot of work. No bug spray, no packaged topsoil or plant food, not even a good selection of pots was available.

In 1829 Dr. Nathaniel Bagshaw Ward of London invented the "Wardian case." His ferns were dying in London's smoke-filled air. Then he noticed some of the sealed test tubes he was using to germinate seeds held other seedlings, so he created a large glassed-in enclosure to grow his ferns.



The Wardian case, named after the doctor, soon became popular not only with botanists, but with the general public. They were featured in many homes. At first, ferns were the most popular plant to grow in the cases, but scientists and explorers also used them to bring plants from other continents.

It is said that tea and rubber plants made the ocean trip to new countries in the cases, were planted and started new agricultural industries. The Wardian cases used in homes were made of glass and iron. Some sat on a matching table or stand, and some were made to look like small houses. It was the first terrarium - a closed space to let plants grow - and the condensed moisture kept them from drying out. Vintage Wardian cases are not easy to find, but they're available. Copies were made, too, and they're still being made.

A case made by the well-known American firm of J.W. Fiske, a Victorian maker of iron furniture and garden fountains, sold last fall for \$5,795 at Neal Auction Co. in New Orleans.

Q: We have an old wooden dining room set that includes a table with one leaf, four chairs and a china cabinet. The only mark I can find is "Jefferson Woodworking Co." on the table's extension rails. History and value?

A: Jefferson Woodworking Co. was in business in Louisville, Ky., in the late 1910s into at least the early 1920s. It did not make your table. It made table extension rails for various furniture manufacturers. Still, your set is close to 100 years old and could sell for more than \$500 if it's in excellent condition.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Mommy, good news! I found the mate to the sock we threw away last week!"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 10/14

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.

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

Cryptoquip

FG BN LJDEEU, TWTYUL

CYCA'G FAFUNMK LKAGKAJK

LGOWJGWOK. Y SWKLL GDKN

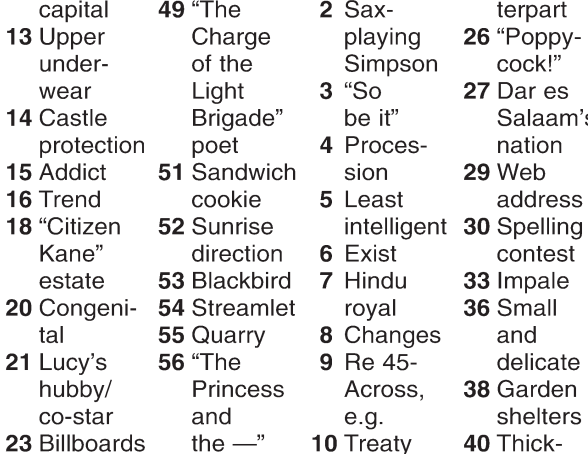
BFCK YG F AE-TFOLYAS MEAK.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A SPECIFIC AFRICAN REPUBLIC HAS PRETTY HOT WEATHER, IT COULD BE A NINETY-DEGREE ANGOLA.

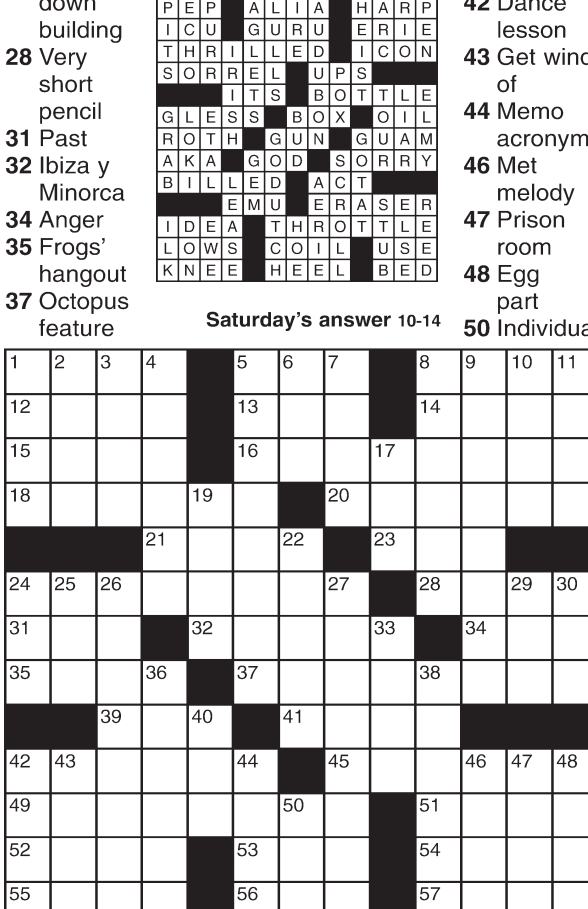
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals D

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wave in the wind
- 5 Rowing tool
- 8 Pumps up the volume
- 12 Peru's capital
- 13 Upper underwear
- 14 Castle protection
- 15 Addict
- 16 Trend
- 18 "Citizen Kane" estate
- 20 Congenital
- 21 Lucy's hubby/co-star
- 23 Billboards
- 24 Run-down building
- 28 Very short pencil
- 31 Past
- 32 lbasta y Minorca
- 34 Anger
- 35 Frogs' hangout
- 37 Octopus feature
- 39 Tree fluid
- 41 Despot (Var.)
- 42 Aussie gal
- 45 Head monk's position
- 49 "The Charge of the Light Brigade" poet
- 51 Sandwich cookie
- 52 Sunrise direction
- 53 Blackbird
- 54 Streamlet
- 55 Quarry
- 56 "The Princess and the —"
- 57 Polio vaccine discoverer
- 58 Streamlet
- 59 Re 45- Across, e.g.
- 60 Treaty
- 61 Eyelid woe
- 17 Genetic matter
- 19 Actress Moore
- 21 Continuous change
- 22 Sax-playing Simpson
- 26 "Poppycock!"
- 27 Dar es Salaam's nation
- 29 Web address
- 30 Spelling contest
- 33 Impale
- 36 Small and delicate
- 38 Garden shelters
- 40 Thickness
- 42 Dance lesson
- 43 Get wind of
- 44 Memo acronym
- 46 Met melody
- 47 Prison room
- 48 Egg part
- 50 Individual



Saturday's answer 10-14



Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 10 9 6
 ♥ 9 8 3
 ♦ K Q 2
 ♣ A 7 6 2

WEST
 ♠ K 8 7 2
 ♥ 5 2
 ♦ J 7
 ♣ Q J 9 5 3

EAST
 ♠ 3
 ♥ K Q J 10
 ♦ 10 9 8 5 4
 ♣ 10 8 4

SOUTH
 ♠ A Q J 5 4
 ♥ A 7 6 4
 ♦ A 6 3
 ♣ K

The bidding:
 North Pass
 East 2 ♠
 South 4 ♠
 West Pass

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

Famous Hand

The United States won the world championship in 1979, but the margin of victory against Italy was so narrow (253 International Match Points to 248) that there were many hands where a slightly different bid or play by either team would have reversed the final outcome.

For example, take this deal where Billy Eisenberg and Eddie Kantar, North-South for the U.S., bid and made four spades after an opening club lead. Declarer won with the king, led a diamond to the queen and finessed the ten of spades. This was taken by West's king, and Kantar later lost two heart tricks to score 620 points.

When an Italian pair held the North-South cards, they also got to four spades, but on this bidding:

North ♠ 10 9 6
 ♥ 9 8 3
 ♦ K Q 2
 ♣ A 7 6 2

East ♠ K 8 7 2
 ♥ 5 2
 ♦ J 7
 ♣ Q J 9 5 3

South ♠ A Q J 5 4
 ♥ A 7 6 4
 ♦ A 6 3
 ♣ K

West ♠ 3
 ♥ K Q J 10
 ♦ 10 9 8 5 4
 ♣ 10 8 4

The opening one-club bid was artificial and promised at least 17 high-card points. The one-spade response, also artificial, indicated either three kings or an ace and a king.

As a result, North, instead of South, became declarer at four spades, and East led the king of hearts. Declarer won with dummy's ace, played a diamond to his king and finessed the ten of spades. This lost to the king, and West returned a heart to his partner's ten. When East next cashed the queen of hearts, West discarded his jack of diamonds, and when East then led a diamond, West ruffed to put the contract down one.

Had the Italian declarer cashed the club king at trick two and then played the ace and a low trump, he would have made four spades, and Italy would have won the world title by 248 IMPs to 241.

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