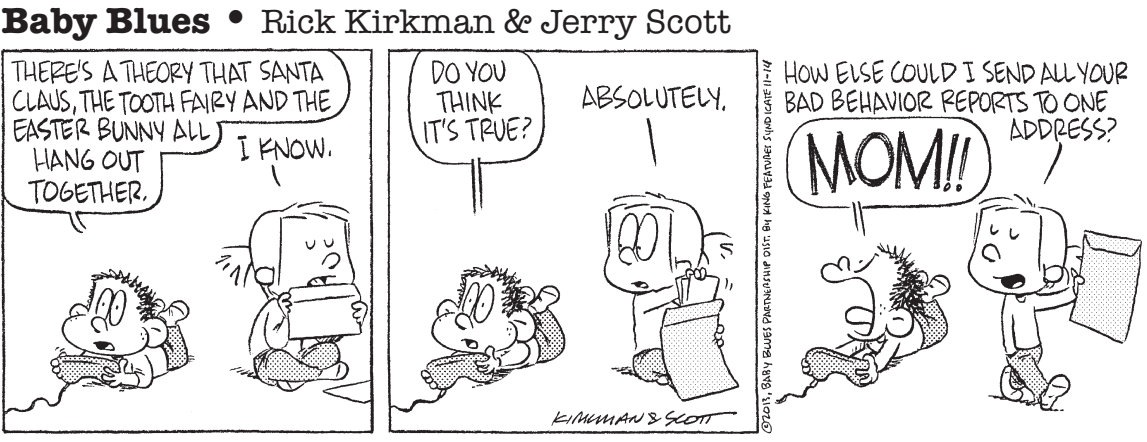
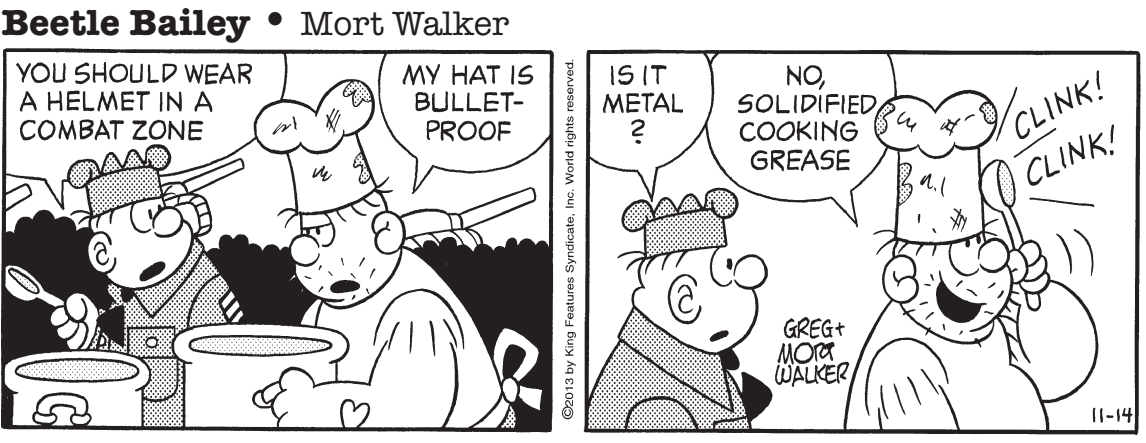
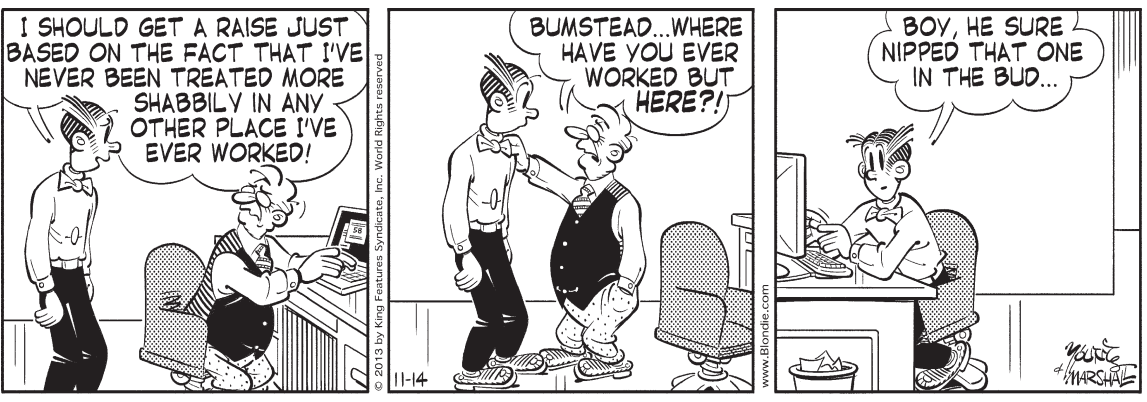
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



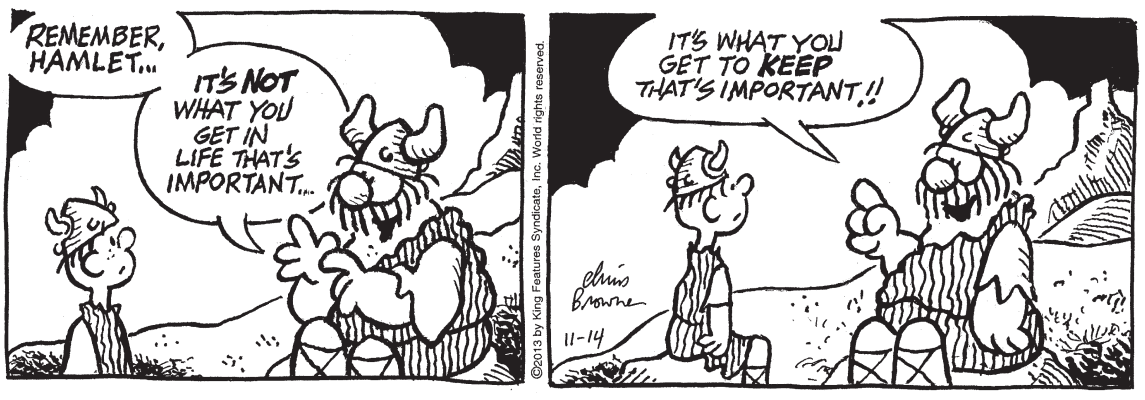
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young

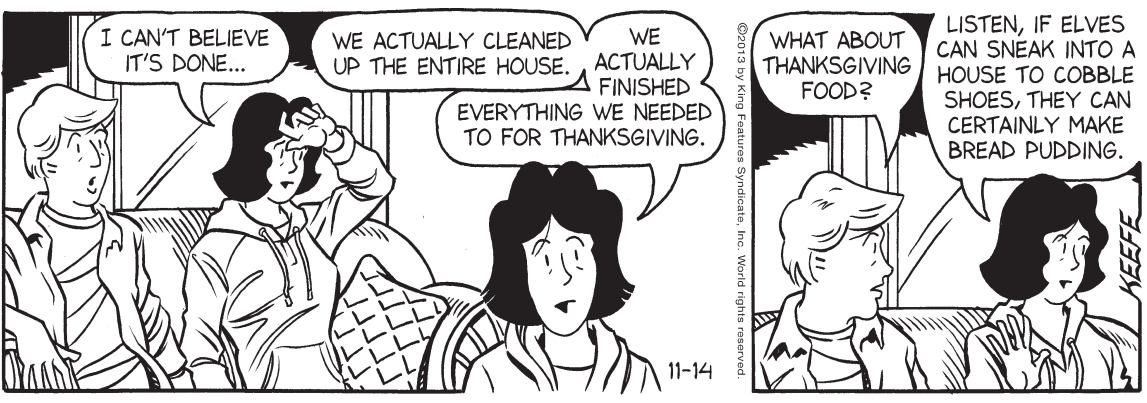


Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



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

Hand painting decorates bowl

Q: My great-aunt gave my mother a pretty porcelain bowl decorated with hand-painted acorns and leaves, marked "Elite L France" on the bottom. I'm now 90 years old, so the bowl must be very old. Does it have any value?

A: The mark "Elite L [for Limoges] France" was used by Bawo & Dotter, an importer established in New York City in the mid 1860s. The company founded a decorating studio in Fischern, Bohemia (presently Rybare, Czech Republic), in 1883 and was manufacturing porcelain in Limoges, France, by 1893. Their "Elite" china was exhibited at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago. The company closed about 1914. Your bowl, probably made to hold nuts, is worth $50 to $100.

Q: We own two paintings left to us by a friend who was a guard at the World War II POW camp set up at Westover Field in Chicopee, Mass. They are signed "K. Skrobeck, 1945 POW." We can't find any information about the artist, but we would like to know if the paintings have any value.

A: Many World War II POWs tried painting while they were prisoners in the U.S. It kept them busy and relieved boredom. Some even discovered they were talented. Biographical information about any one of these "artists" is hard to find. But POW paintings are part of the history of the war, and they can sell for hundreds of dollars if they're in good condition, if the quality of the artwork is decent (no matter what the style) and if you can document their history.

Q: I have a number of chairs once used in the board room of the Bank of Stockton in Stockton, Calif. A paper label on the bottom of the chairs says "Jacob & Josef Kohn, Wien." Can you tell me something about this maker?

A: In 1849 Jacob Kohn and his son, Josef, of Vienna (Wien), Austria, founded a company that made wooden parts for buildings. The company began making furniture about 1867 and eventually established factories in several cities. They made bentwood chairs similar to those made by Thonet. The Kohns' company merged with Mundus in 1914 and the name became Kohn-Mundus, so your chairs were probably made before 1914. Kohn-Mundus merged with Thonet in 1922.

Q: We have a Westmoreland milk glass wedding bowl that was given to us on our wedding day in 1954. I have displayed it in a curio cabinet ever since. I also have a set of Milburn Rose sterling silver flatware made by Westmorland Sterling. Is there a connection between the wedding bowl and my sterling?

A: There is no connection between the companies. Although the names are similar, they are spelled differently. Westmoreland Glass Co. was in business in Grapeville, Pa., from 1889 to 1984. Westmorland Sterling Co. was founded in 1940 to provide jobs for former aluminum workers, since most aluminum was needed for the war effort. The silver was made by Wallace Silversmiths, marketed by Wearever Aluminum, and sold by door-to-door salesmen. Milburn Rose is one of five patterns the company made. In 1966 it became available in retail stores.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 6 2
♥ Q 9 8
♦ K 8
♣ A J 7 5 2

WEST
♠ K 7 4 3
♥ 5
♦ 10 7 6 5 2
♣ 8 4 3

EAST
♠ J 10 9
♥ 6 4
♦ A Q 9 4
♣ K Q 10 6

SOUTH
♠ A Q 5
♥ A K J 10 7 3 2
♦ J 3
♣ 9

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	

Opening lead — five of diamonds.

A Built-In Booby Trap

The instinctive play is not necessarily the correct play, as East discovered to his sorrow on this deal. West led the five of diamonds against four hearts. Declarer played low from dummy, hoping West had the queen, but East won with the queen and cashed the ace.

When West followed suit with the deuce of diamonds, East knew his partner had led from a five-card suit, but without giving the matter further thought, he returned the jack of spades. This seemed a very natural thing to do, but it eventually cost East the contract.

South went up with the ace of spades, led a club to the ace and ruffed a club. After leading a low trump to dummy's eight, South ruffed another club, then played a trump to the nine and ruffed still another club, establishing dummy's jack as a trick. Declarer next led a trump to the queen and discarded a spade on the jack of clubs to make the contract.

Granting that East's spade return at trick three looked very attractive, it was nevertheless the wrong play. Had he returned a trump instead, South would have gone down one.

The advantage of the trump return is that it uses up one of dummy's entries prematurely. South can still establish a club trick if he wants to, but he will be unable to cash it and must eventually go down.

East should reason that any spade losers South might have cannot fly away if he returns a trump, since his club holding assures that declarer will not be able to establish and utilize an extra winner in the club suit. However, a spade return might allow declarer to establish dummy's fifth club, with dummy's third trump providing the critical entry to collect it.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane

"How long will it be before I can make my voice sound as IMPORTANT as Daddy's?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/14

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/13

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Cryptoquip

Q V M R A F X L R T Y L Q Y Y M R C F W C G V K A Y V M G S R C G V K H S H X G W S N L V R G A W R C A V Q V R O F W O S A W: R W T G W S N - N S R C.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN YOU PAINT AN INTERVENING SPACE USING AN IVORY SHADE, I WOULD CALL THAT WHITENING THE GAP.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals I

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Ear-related
5 Curved flight path
8 Waterfront structure
12 Agenda heading
13 "Humbug!"
14 Destroy
15 Turnpike fee
16 "Science Guy" Bill
17 Press
18 Tense
20 A valley
22 Top-caliber
26 Chocolate source
29 Consume
30 Future syrup
31 Rhine tributary
32 Pickle container
33 Angry
34 Greek vowel
35 — de deux
36 Column style
37 Filled with ennui
40 Utah city
41 Money-back offer
45 Hodge-podge
47 Eggs
49 History chapters
50 Nerd-pack contents
51 Beak
52 Broadcasts
53 Wise one
54 Type squares
55 Scruff

DOWN
1 "Beetle Bailey" dog
2 Roger Rabbit, for one
3 Not busy
4 James Bond backdrop
5 Dogpatch lad
6 Shaft of light
7 Cheese choice
8 Quaint pen
9 Madness
10 Commotion
11 Thither
19 Sticky stuff
21 Performance
23 Rental contract
24 Delhi dress
25 Detail, for short
26 Staff
27 Car
28 Entrancing
32 Weapon for Samson
33 Tofu provider
35 Black-Berry, e.g.
36 Anger
38 Not at all snug
39 Speedy steeds
42 Met melody
43 Rainout cover
44 Being, to Brutus
45 Chances, for short
46 Meadow
48 Energy

Solution time: 25 mins.

■	■	■	S	A	W	■	C	A	P	■	■	■
■	T	U	B	A	■	B	O	U	L	E	■	■
U	R	G	E	S	■	O	N	R	U	S	H	■
F	E	A	T	H	E	R	D	U	S	T	E	R
O	E	R	■	I	D	I	O	M	■	E	N	E
■	■	■	E	N	D	S	■	■	P	E	R	M
■	C	A	R	G	O	■	G	E	R	M	Y	■
D	O	P	E	■	■	F	A	M	E	■	■	■
A	C	E	■	P	O	L	L	O	■	F	D	A
H	O	R	S	E	F	E	A	T	H	E	R	S
S	C	A	R	F	S	■	I	O	T	A	S	■
■	■	U	R	I	A	H	■	O	N	I	T	■
■	■	■	I	L	L	■	N	E	D	■	■	■

Yesterday's answer 11-14

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			