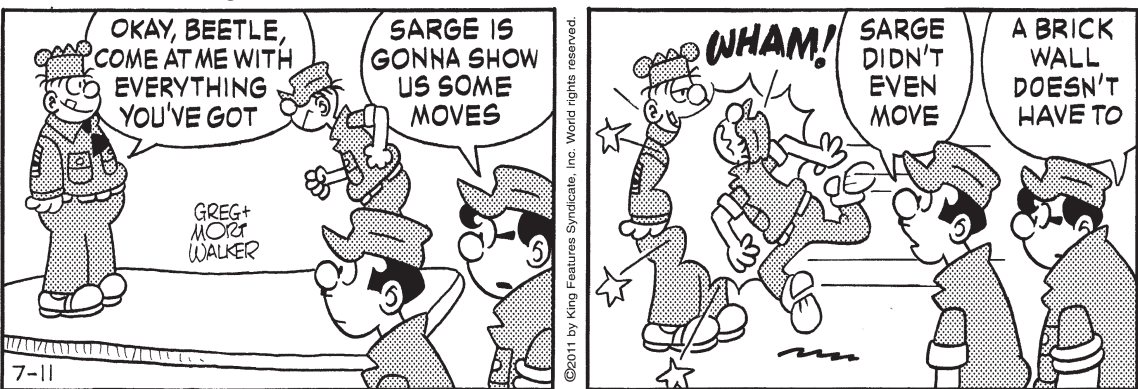


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



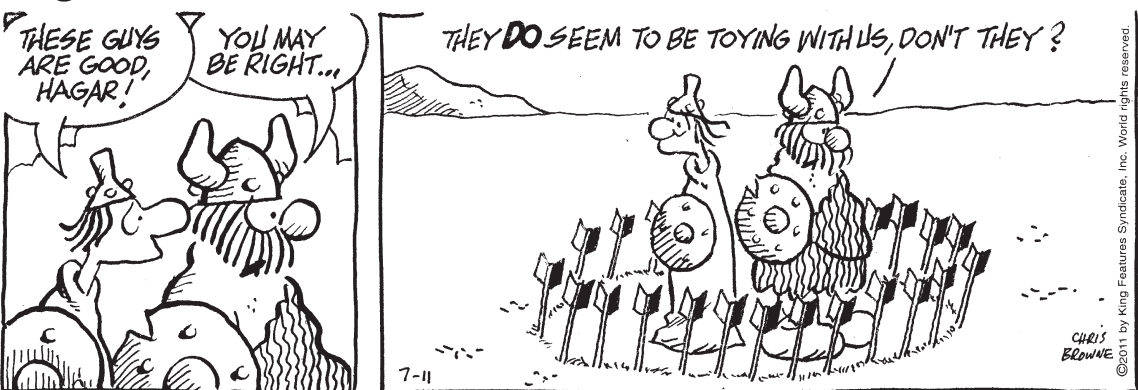
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



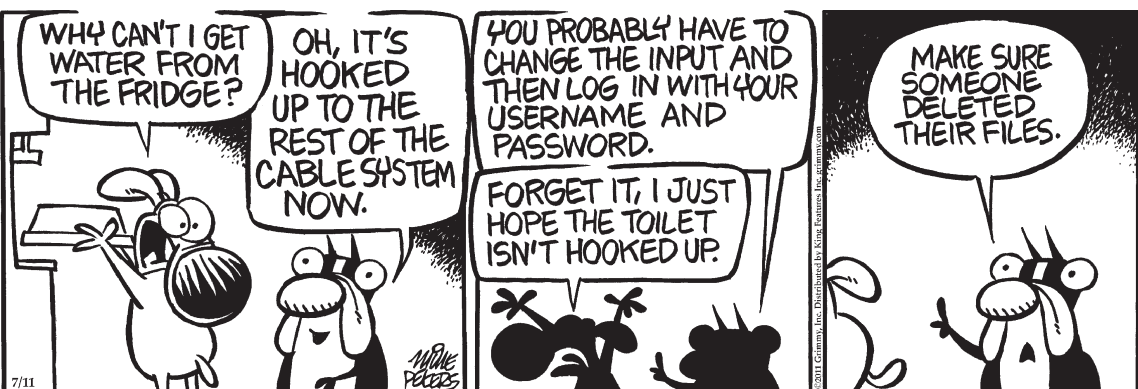
Blondie • Chic Young



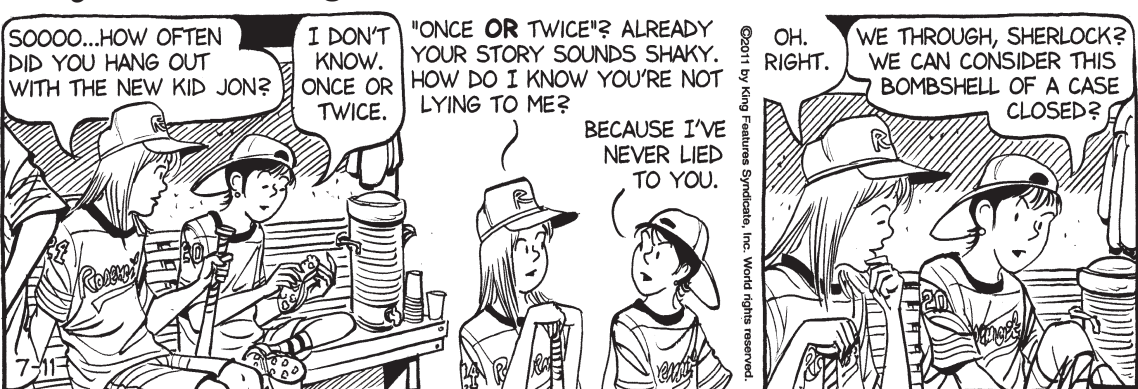
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



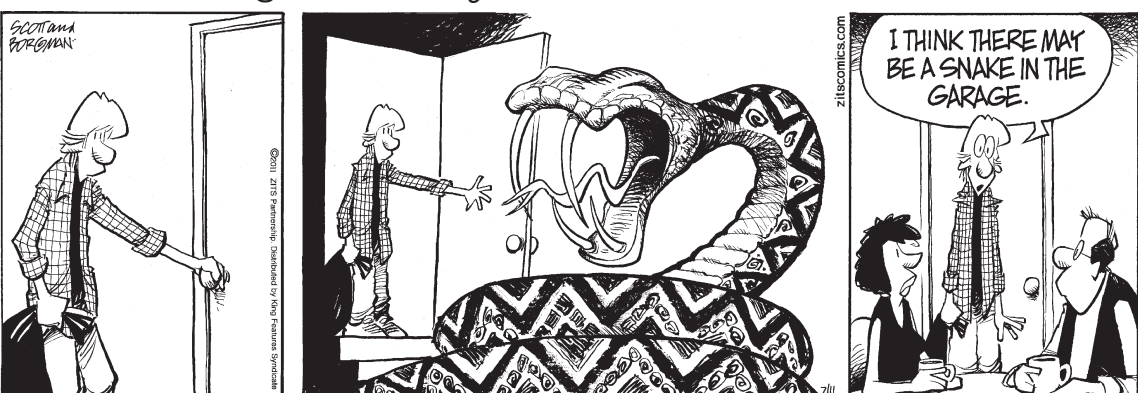
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers  
• Ask Dr. Brothers  
Coworker's view really upsetting

Dear Dr. Brothers: I have been getting more and more fed up with this guy at work. He does a decent job, but around the watercooler, he is the worst – the stuff he spews out is incredible. He has every conspiracy theory on the Internet in his repertoire. I am dying to tell him all about himself. But it is the workplace – I don't want to risk hurting my standing in the office. What would you think of me telling him off privately? – S.W.

Dear S.W.: Unless you are this person's supervisor and he is causing disruption in the office, you don't have any business reason to interfere. There probably are people who agree with him, or he would have stopped spewing long ago. When you start taking politics and cultural problems into the workplace, it can have a disruptive effect. Your straightening him out could muck up relationships that are always a delicate part of the corporate culture, and once that happens, work tends to suffer. And as you said, you can't afford to mess with your own standing in the office.

So, what to do? This guy gets under your skin. Perhaps you can find a like-minded colleague and vent to each other over lunch or at happy hour. There is no point in trying to educate or change someone like him, and to do so would only add to your frustration and might provoke a confrontation. So, the obvious course of action would be to skip the water-cooler sessions and try to separate from this individual at break time. Out of sight, out of mind – you can hope.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I have been a member of the middle class my whole life. I grew up with two brothers and a mom and dad who were fairly well off. I never had to do without, and some might say I was spoiled. Anyway, I am dating a guy who hates the wealthy, rich or any kind of person better off than he is. Well, that describes my family. I never know what to say when he rails against people with money. He's had a good ride with us, so what gives? – M.K.

Dear M.K.: To those who have never suffered deprivation and have grown up in the typical suburban scenario, it must be hard to imagine what all the fuss is about. Class warfare is a strange idea when you are fortunate. But obviously your friend comes from another place. They say opposites attract, but in the end often differences in experience drive people apart. That seems to be what is happening in your relationship. Neither can put yourself in the same class with the other.

When your boyfriend rails against the rich, I'm sure he isn't including your family. He may not even think of you as being in that category. But if you are flaunting your wealth or careless with money, he may have a view of the way you live that doesn't jibe with his experience. On the other hand, he could simply be envious and frustrated. So if you want to continue a relationship, try to find out more about where he is coming from. An honest discussion should clear the air.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| NORTH      |  |
| ♠ 8 5      |  |
| ♥ 10 7 4 2 |  |
| ♦ A 9 6 3  |  |
| ♣ K 5 4    |  |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| WEST       |  |
| ♠ 10 9 4 2 |  |
| ♥ 3        |  |
| ♦ Q 8 5 4  |  |
| ♣ 10 8 7 2 |  |

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| EAST        |  |
| ♠ A K       |  |
| ♥ K J 9 8 6 |  |
| ♦ 10 2      |  |
| ♣ J 9 6 3   |  |

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

The bidding:  
East 1♥ South Dblc West Pass North 2♦  
Pass 2 NT Pass 3 NT  
Opening lead — two of clubs.

Famous Hand

In my opinion, this is one of the most remarkable deals ever played.

The declarer was Helen Sobel, considered by many to be the greatest woman player of all time. She won the club lead in her hand with the ace and then proceeded to deduce that East had been dealt the doubleton A-K of spades! Accordingly, she led a low spade from her hand at trick two and eventually finished with 11 tricks.

The question is how Mrs. Sobel could tell at trick one that East's A-K of spades could be driven out without wasting her high spades or using up valuable entries to dummy for spade leads toward the Q-J.

When the logic of her low spade play at trick two is examined, it is found to be eminently sound. Since only 14 high-card points were missing, East had to have the A-K of spades and king of hearts for his opening bid.

Next, it was also reasonable to suppose that West did not have two hearts, or he surely would have led his partner's suit in preference to his own, which was at best 10-x-x-x. Therefore, West had either a singleton heart or a void!

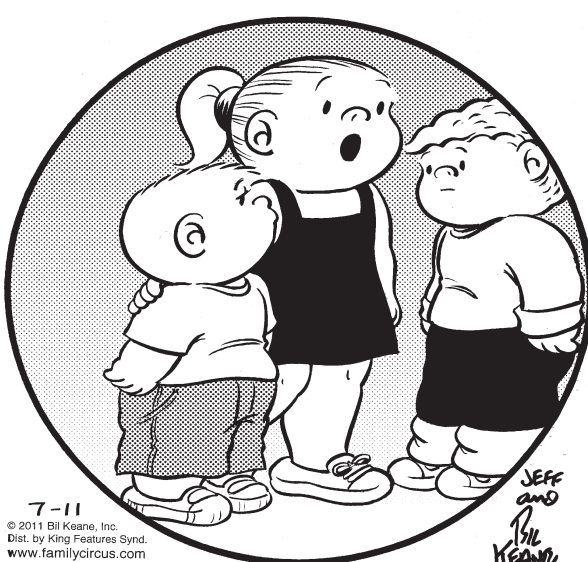
But West could not be void. If he were, he would have a five-card suit, in which case he presumably would have led that suit in preference to a four-card suit (as indicated by West's deuce lead). Hence, West had precisely one heart. The inevitable consequence of this conclusion was that West's distribution was 4-4-4-1.

Since West was thus marked with four spades, it followed that East had exactly two. This in turn meant that East had the doubleton A-K if his opening bid was to be believed.

To cross to dummy with a club or a diamond – which would either cost a trick or use up dummy's last entry – was therefore pointless. So Mrs. Sobel led a low spade at trick two and wound up making more tricks on the deal than anyone else.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



“Is PJ wearing short pants that are too long, or long pants that are too short?”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★

7/11

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Cryptoquip

MNPWCBI SECS'Y LCPNQY LNV

UDXFZDVI NL UDBSQVDY

SN ENPDY CBU NLLFMDY:

QBFSDU WCVSFCX YDVZFMD.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: COMEDY FLICK IN WHICH SOMEBODY SLOWLY COOKS HORSE RIDERS' SEATS IN FAT: "BRAISING SADDLES."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS
- 1 Letter-man's network
  - 4 Agreed
  - 9 Make up your mind
  - 12 Luau
  - 13 Reserved
  - 14 Actress Myrna
  - 15 Prankster's shout
  - 17 Bankbook abbr.
  - 18 "Speech-en — Deutsch?"
  - 19 Isn't honest with
  - 21 Zero
  - 24 Apple computer
  - 25 Fuss
  - 26 Explosive letters
  - 28 Set of moral rules
  - 31 Kittenish calls
  - 33 Rowing need
  - 35 Slugger Sammy
  - 36 Hammer-head parts
- 38 Society new-comer
- 40 "— the fields
- 41 Some reddish deer- 43 Chopped down
- 45 Islamic decree (Var.)
- 47 Swiss canton
- 48 Past
- 49 Foul play
- 54 Twosome
- 55 Bay window
- 56 Genetic stuff
- 57 Moray, for one

58 Lipstick alternative

59 Morning moisture

- DOWN
- 1 Tax pro, for short
  - 2 Jazz style
  - 3 Knight's address
  - 4 Illinois city
  - 5 Raging fire
  - 6 Life story
  - 7 Food-poisoning bacteria
  - 8 Remove calcium from
  - 9 Tradition-al
  - 10 Versifier

Solution time: 27 mins.

|           |       |        |
|-----------|-------|--------|
| VIM       | OPS   | BELLE  |
| EDO       | ORT   | EASEL  |
| NAT       | HOVER | DERAM  |
| OH        | STRIP |        |
| MORN      | EYE   | EASE   |
| SCENE     | ISM   | WEBCAM |
| LOGJAM    | SUE   | ABETS  |
| YOGA      | EEEE  | DINE   |
|           | ASTRO | NIM    |
| POLISHHAM | DEB   |        |
| EDITH     | EPI   | ICE    |
| REEDY     | LET   | AER    |

Saturday's answer 7-11

