

# "Little Stories for Bedtime"

by Thornton W. Burgess

## VOICE FROM THE SKY

Hark to the voice from the depths of the sky! There's a message to heed in that clarion cry.

THE Red Terror which had swept over the Old Pasture had become a thing of the past. The little people of the Green Meadows and the Green Forest had gone back to their usual life. That is, most of them had. Old Jed Thumper, the gray old rabbit who had always lived in the Old Pasture, had decided to make his home in a bramble-tangle on the edge of the Green Forest. You see, he couldn't go back to his old home because his bramble castle in the Old Pasture had been burned by the fire. Worse still, there

were scurrying about as if they would run their legs off. They were storing away fat acorns and plump hickory nuts and brown chestnuts and corn. Danny and Nanny Meadow Mouse were hiding away stores of seeds in secret places on the Green Meadows, and their pretty cousin, Willowfoot the Wood Mouse, was doing the same thing in the Green Forest. You see, they knew that almost any day now Jack Frost and Rough Brother North Wind were likely to come to stay, and they meant to be ready.

It seemed to Peter Rabbit that his neighbors, some of them anyway, made a terrible fuss about the coming of winter. Peter didn't worry about cold weather. Not he. So long as he had a new warm coat he cared not how soon Jack Frost arrived. As for the coat, he had it already. Old Mother Nature always looks out for him in the matter of a new coat. So Peter watched the others work, and in his heart he was glad that he didn't have to. You see, Peter never has learned how blessed it is to work. He is happy-go-lucky and lazy. When he was not watching the others work, Peter was busy listening. It is surprising how some people can keep just listening. It is that way with Peter. That is one reason he has such long ears.

But this time Peter wasn't listening to things that were none of his business. He was listening for a certain sound. He was listening for voice of the messenger whom Jack Frost and Rough Brother North Wind always send ahead of them when they are coming down from the frozen North-land to stay for the winter. Peter never really believed that they had started until he heard the voice of that messenger. It was unusually late this year. He had almost begun to think that Jack Frost and Rough Brother North Wind were not coming at all. Then late one afternoon down from the very depths of the sky, there floated the sound Peter had listened for so long.

"Honk, honk, k'honk, honk, k'honk, k'honk, honk!"

Peter looked up in the blue sky, and there he saw Honker the Goose at the head of his flock. So high they were that they seemed mere specks, but clear, and carrying with it a strange thrill, came Honker's voice out of the sky. He was the messenger for whom Peter had been waiting, and Peter knew then that Jack Frost and Rough Brother North Wind were not far behind.

(C by J. G. Lloyd.—WNU Service.)

## 53 White Autos For State Legion Heads

Detroit—Fifty three ivory-white automobiles, all trimmed in red, blue and gold and manned by an army of drivers dressed in uniforms identically alike, will be placed at the disposal of state commanders here attending the national convention of the American Legion.

The cars represent part of many extraordinary provisions made for the comfort and convenience of Legionnaires during their annual convalesce, and are one of several contributions of the Chevrolet Motor Company to further the success of the convention.

The cars—special sedans—carry the Legion seal in gold on the driver's door, and lettering designating the state or territory of the commander to which each car is assigned. Cars will serve the commanders from early morning until midnight every day of the convention, and are available constantly for use anywhere in the county in which Detroit is located. Covers for spare tires, carried in forward fender wells, reveal a motif worked out in red, white and blue, and the drivers, in naval uniforms, also carry the national colors in their dress.

In addition to supplying cars for State commanders, the Chevrolet company in loaning its trail-trailing automobile, which two years ago completed the first land trip ever made from Buenos Aires to the United States, to the "40 & 8" parade, and is supplying every Legionnaire who registers for the convention with a bronze medal commemorative of his visit to the city.

## The Smiths Are Ahead

The Smiths now lead the Cobens in New York City's latest telephone directory by a score of 1,916 to 1,635. But, if all the Cobens were added to the Smiths, and all the Smiths and Smiths were added to the Smiths, the Cobens would then take first place as New York's leading family.

The popular song of the day which ought to be adopted as the theme song in the European mess just now is "Come On Let's Get Friendly."

# Announcing THE Opening

of the

## New Redford Packing House Market

21748 Grand River Ave.  
[North Side, Near Lahser Road]  
Saturday, September 19

## Full Line Of Market Produce

Meats — Vegetables  
Fruit--Dairy--Bakery  
Fish--Delicatessen

## THE WHY of SUPERSTITIONS

By H. IRVING KING

### THE GIVING OF KNIVES

THE popular superstition that it "breaks friendship" to give or accept a knife without something of value—preferably money—passing in return is a survival from the primitive man.

The savage having progressed from a club to a knife or spear as a weapon soon learned the danger of relinquishing it merely for friendship's sake. His friend, having disarmed him, was apt to be his friend no longer. So, for giving up his knife, even so his friend, he demanded a quid pro quo. And he saw that when a friend presented him with a weapon, that friend presently came to regard him—because of regret for the act or because of envy at the added superiority the gift bestowed—with suspicion growing to enmity. Whereas if he gave a consideration for the knife, it was a matter of fair trade and friendship was likely to endure.

All this became so deeply ingrained in the mind of the primitive man that the idea survives today as a popular superstition. Popular superstitions being to be sure, and where they have not a religious derivation are nearly always survivals from ancient civilizations or are inherited from our savage ancestors.

(C by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.) (WNU Service.)



(C by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.) (WNU Service.)

Speedy Swallows  
Swallows can fly at a speed of better than two miles a minute.

## SMILES

GABBY GERTIE



"What you find in the soup is sometimes the cat's whiskers."  
(WNU Service.)

## How It Started

By JEAN NEWTON

"All talk and no cider" is more typically American than this combination of words which can very well be interpreted to mean "a great deal of fuss with very little result." Fairly synonymous with it is the phrase "Much cry and little wood"—in both instances the idea conveyed being the same.

This Americanism is said to have been inspired in Beck's county, Pennsylvania.

It seems that certain politicians invited all the citizens of the county to a so-called "cider party."

To the great disappointment and resentment of the population, the gathering was entertained by long-winded speeches and mutual eulogizing among the speakers while the serving of refreshments was dispensed with.

It was one of those present, who feeling that he had been brought to the meeting under false pretenses, coined the phrase "All talk and no cider."

(C. 1931, Bell Syndicate.)—WNU Service.

# Good News

Advertising is news—style news—bargain news—when, where and what-to-buy-news. It tells a story of new appliances, new materials, new conveniences, and how to use them. It tells of service of financial institutions and service organizations. It is helpful with suggestions. It is thus "good news."

Advertising, properly and accurately prepared, not only serves as a source of information, but enables you, as a member of the public, to fill your needs with the least possible effort. Because of its mutual importance to the public and to business, it must be kept believable.

Reputable advertisers must expend much time and effort to keep advertising truthful and worthy of your confidence and frequently refuse advertising which they believe may deceive or defraud readers. You can help by reporting instances where advertising has proved false, inaccurate or deceptive.