

## Let's Play Bridge

by Bill Coats

Just because one side is doing all the bidding, there is no reason for the opponents to sit back and take it easy.

The object of bidding at contract bridge is to exchange information. Fortunately for the defenders, this means that the other pair must also give away information. All you have to do is take advantage of it.

Let's take the following hand from the weekly duplicate game at the Acton Bridge Club.

North dealt with East-West vulnerable.

NORTH  
S-K 10 6  
H-A Q 8  
D-10 4  
C-Q 10 3 2

WEST  
S-A 10 7 5  
H-7 6 5  
D-8  
C-A 7 6 5

EAST  
S-10 9 2  
H-Q 9 7 6 5 2  
D-Q 9 7 6 5 2  
C-K 8 4

SOUTH  
S-Q 9 3 2  
H-K J 4 3  
D-A K J 3  
C-10

The bidding:  
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST  
Pass 1S Pass  
2C Pass 2M Pass  
2S Pass 3D Pass  
4H All Pass

Opening lead eight of diamonds or ace of spades.

North should have bid three no trump over South's bid of three diamonds. North knows that the club suit is well stopped while South does not. North-South were using the DRURY two club convention.

Since hands in third and fourth bidding position often open a point or two light problems can arise if partner has passed with a near opener.

North's two club asked South if he had a good opening bid or has he shaded the usual requirements. If the opening bid was slight, South would have rebid two diamonds. As it was South had a good opening bid and showed it by bidding two hearts.

What should West lead? There is not much doubt what to lead if he was tuned into the bidding.

South should have at least four spades when he opened the suit. North supported spades showing at least three cards in that suit. The minimum number of spades in the North-South hands is seven. Combined with five spades in his own hand, West can account for 12. Hence East has at the most, one spade.

West should lead the ace of Spades and continue to give his partner a ruff. He should lead his lowest spade for the ruff to indicate the return of the lower side suit for a re-entry.

If East obeys and returns a club, then West can lead another spade and set the contract. Some Wests unwisely lead their singleton diamond and declarer wrapped up four hearts by setting up the club suit.

Last week's winners at the Acton Bridge Club were: first, Mike Lorusso and Tom Warnes; second, Betty Askley and Katherine Coats; third, Duke Wilson and Bill Coats; fourth, Lloyd Kier and Dick Prust.



IT TOOK THREE YEARS OF LOVING CARE to produce this indoor light garden of African violets, gardenias, cacti, geraniums, azaleas and bromeliads. (Staff Photo)

## Shedding light on an indoor garden

By Mrs. M. Merrin

The long, icy fingers of Winter have reached out to pluck the last of Autumn's blossoms from our gardens. We gardening enthusiasts retreat indoors to await the return of Spring. Impatient yes, frustrated no, for indoors we have created a garden both beautiful and satisfying.

A light garden where the soft, varied greens of foliage plants form a backdrop for the white and purple flowers of African violets. Bright geraniums in the display vie with the breathtaking blue of bromeliads. Newly formed buds on an azalea give a promise of beauty to come.

Our light garden consists of a 4-foot fluorescent light fixture with two 40-watt tubes and

reflector. This is suspended about 20 inches above a table holding the plants. When these tubes are burned for 12 to 14 hours a day, foliage plants respond with lush, green leaves and unsuspected depths of color, while flowering plants which drooped on chilly windowsills, bloom with new vigor.

Special plant growth tubes are available on the market. These give an exotic look to flowering plants and growth is rapid, but we prefer the natural look given to our garden by standard, cool white and daylight tubes.

Flora carts offered by stores appear to be expensive, but the cost of a light garden need not be high. A handyman could convert an old cabinet or bookcase into a display unit, in which case the approximate

outlay would be about \$20 for a 4-foot fixture with reflector and two 40-watt tubes. Most fixtures on sale are rapid start types, which only require plugging into a standard electrical outlet. The average weekly running cost should be no more than 30 cents in most regions.

Possibilities for using fluorescent lights in plant culture and for display are almost endless. Fixtures are available in numerous sizes, both straight and circular, with or without reflectors, although when constructing a light garden it is advisable to have a hood or reflector around the tubes. This prevents eyeglare and concentrates the light on the plants.

A daytime temperature of about 70 degrees, with a drop of 5 to 10 degrees at night seems to suit most houseplants. Lack of humidity is overcome by misting the foliage once a day with tepid water. The plants are fed every two weeks with a water soluble houseplant fertilizer. A light spraying once a month with an all purpose houseplant aerosol keeps them free from pests.

Most flowering plants can be summered outdoors, where they will benefit from the sunlight and fresh air, making strong, new growth resulting in the formation of flower buds.

Anyone can now enjoy year-round gardening with flowers and greenery, as when the plants are placed back under the lights in the fall, they will bloom profusely, to once again brighten those dreary days of winter.

Fluorescent light gardening is an ideal pastime for the handicapped, or elderly garden lover with a still active green thumb.

The time between fall and spring will never again seem so long and cheerless to the gardener who embarks on this fascinating hobby.



A FLOWERING AZALEA highlights Mrs. Merrin's present indoor garden. The plants flourish under a cool white light combined with a peach colored glow. (Staff Photo)

**-NOTICE-**  
**ACTON IGA STORE**  
**WILL BE CLOSED**  
**WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY**  
**JANUARY 1 AND 2**

## Snow named to committee

James W. Snow, M.P.P. for Halton East, has been elected Vice-Chairman of the House Standing Committee on Public Accounts. J. R. Brethaupt, Kitchener, is Chairman of the Committee.

Other Progressive Conservative members of the Committee include James N. Allan, Syl Apps, A. B. R. Lawrence, Donald H. Morrow, Dr. R. T. Potter and Gordon F. Smith. Members of other parties serving on the Committee include D. M. Deacon, Murray Gaunt, Hugh Peacock and James Renwick.

## Announce winners weekly euchre

Winners at last Saturday's euchre at the L.O.L. hall, Crewe's Corners: Ladies' high May Swackhamer; ladies' low Mrs. C. Storey; Men's high Gerry Dewar; men's low Clarence Richardson. Lone hands, Murray Stamp; door prize Dave Swackhamer. Ladies' travelling Augusta Stickland; men's travelling David Dewar.

## County council hassles over long term leases

(Intended for last week)

Concern over long-term leases by the county in "this transitional period" was expressed by Deputy Reeve W. Hoey to County Council as members noted plans to sign three five year leases for office accommodation.

After considerable discussion councillors voted to empower the property committee to re-negotiate the five year leases to two years, and have them signed.

Deputy Reeve Hoey told members the Children's Aid Society was avoiding five year leases because of the uncertainty of county government. He also noted the subject of family counselling service, for which the properties were being leased, should be clarified. He observed that the Children's Aid Society was offering family counselling in Burlington, Oakville had a separate service, and there was evidently some duplication.

Reeve A. Ledwith, president of the Children's Aid Society, suggested the Burlington office for family counselling was a pilot project financed by Burlington and United Appeal funds. "It seems foolish to have two agencies operating in the same field," he observed.

Reeve H. Hinton stressed the Act says the CAS can offer family counselling where the children may come under care. "The CAS has no jurisdiction to interfere unless the welfare of the child is affected," he emphasized. He stressed that Halton started its separate family counselling service with a definite purpose so it could deal with pre-marital counselling and childless couples as well as families.

To Reeve A. Day's suggestion the county convene a meeting of all those involved in counselling. Reeve Hinton said this kind of study had already been carried out "in depth". "The critics should study the history and progress of the

county service. I'd hate to see a monkey wrench thrown into family counselling service in Halton by the lack of knowledge of a few members", he challenged.

"There is no argument about family counselling, it's about the five year leases", Deputy Reeve William Gillies reminded members.

Reeve Hinton suggested, in an amendment, the leases be re-negotiated to a two year term and signed.

After a procedural wrangle and amendments to the amendments it was agreed the two year leases would be negotiated and signed.

## Carol, communion services at Trinity Christmas Eve

An innovation this year at Trinity United church was the Christmas eve communion service at 11 p.m. About 70 joined in the dialogue and communion service led by the Rev. Gordon Turner and elder Bob Hart.

Earlier in the evening the annual service of lessons and carols arranged by Dr. George Elliott and the church choirs filled the church.

The church was lit by red, green and white candles with two decorated trees, and nine readers came to the front to read the lessons between banks of small flickering flames.

The lessons were read by representatives of the various church organizations, young John Kirkwood for the Tyro boys; Julie Smith for the C.G.T.; Colin Gordon for the H-ers; Nigel Scott for the H-C; Mrs. Don Van Fleet for the choir; Mrs. G.W. McKenzie for the U.C.W.; Ralph-Denny for the stewards and Orwell Johnston for the elders, concluding with the Rev. Turner.

The senior choir, junior choir, ladies' choir and men's choir sang a variety of selections with the congregation joining in favorite carols.

## New lighting fixtures installed at St. Alban's

Just in time for the Christmas services, new lighting fixtures were installed in St. Alban's church. The lanterns have been given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. H.W. Hinton, and will be formally dedicated by the bishop when he comes for the confirmation service in March.

The lights were used for the first time during the candlelight service.

The church was filled to overflowing Christmas Eve for the 11 p.m. service of Holy Eucharist. Some were seated on chairs.

On Christmas Day there was a service of Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m. and a Family Eucharist at 10:30 a.m.

The church was beautifully decorated with flowers and plants.

## Women at half pay

Women in Canada earn about half as much as men, on the average.

Reporting a special study made by Dominion Bureau of Statistics, a business publication lists some of the reasons given for pay differences: Women have more part-time employment than men; age and education are a factor more than 80 per cent of the time; the female work force is often unfavorably distributed; and finally discrimination.

The DBS survey found disproportionately more women than men at lower-salary jobs in the managerial and professional levels.

The caravan made its way slowly over the burning sands of the desert. Two camels trudged side by side. One of them looked around furtively and spoke to the other.

"I don't care what anybody says," he whispered. "I'm thirsty!"

**A New Year is Beginning**

Father Time greets a New Year waiting to present you with health, happiness. May our friendship endure!

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**PEACE in the NEW YEAR**

Hopefully, the New Year will enable peace to prevail, help people co-exist harmoniously, and let every man live in freedom... for these ideals surely make for a happy year!

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**BEST OF LUCK** Good Wishes  
Health  
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Success JOY  
Peace

We'd like to express our thanks and appreciation!

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**DOLLAR DADDY**

**OUR READERS WRITE:**  
THANK YOU  
Dear Mr. Dills:  
Our President, Mr. Austan Ledwith, and I would like to thank you for the recent article you published in The Canadian Champion and The Acton Free Press on our Society. We greatly appreciate having the work of the Society given an accurate and favorable presentation.  
Yours sincerely,  
G. K. Askwith  
Executive Director.  
To meet the needs of Canadian hospitals, the Red Cross must collect more than 970,000 donations of blood in 1968.

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