

LET'S PLAY BRIDGE

By BILL COATS

Generally when the opponents bid a close game in no-trump, I play a passive defense. Let declarer go hunting for his nine tricks, don't hand them to him. If I don't have a safe lead, I will usually lead top of nothing. Here is just such a hand from the boards at the Acton Bridge Club.

East dealt with neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
S-10
H-K Q 10 2
D-9 6 4 2
C-A 8 7 3

EAST
S-9 8 5 2
H-9 8 3
D-A 8 5
C-K 6 5

WEST
S-A J 6 4
H-J 7 6 4
D-J 10 8
C-10 9

SOUTH
S-K Q 7 3
H-A 5
D-K Q 7
C-Q J 4 2

The bidding:
EAST WEST NORTH SOUTH
Pass Pass 2C 1N.T.
Pass Pass 2N.Y. 2S
PASS All pass 3N.T.

What would you lead?
The bidding will be clear to anyone who uses Stayman. North's two club asks south to bid a four card major if he has one. South shows his bid by bidding two spades. North says "sorry not my suit" by bidding two no trump. He also denies the values to bid three no trump directly. South, with a little extra, goes to game.

West has a lead problem. He does not want to lead spades into south's suit. He does not want to lead hearts which is north's suit by inference (he did bid Stayman). It's unwise to lead a short suit headed by an honour. All that is left is clubs, so west led the club ten - top of nothing. He hopes that this is his partner's suit.

Declarer looked over the combined hands. He has three heart tricks and can take three club tricks on the club lead. He has one trick for sure in each of the other suits, spades and diamonds. Where should his ninth trick come from? One possibility is in hearts. The jack might fall in three rounds but this is a remote chance.

It would be better to look to spades or diamonds, and hope that east has the ace. Since spades can only be led up to once and diamonds can be led up to several times, declarer should tackle diamonds.

At trick one, declarer should play low for dummy. East will even and now it's up to the defense. If east switches to a spade, declarer can be defeated. On any other lead declarer makes three no-trump at least.

Without a spade switch, declarer will take three clubs, three hearts, one spade and three diamonds, since the ace is with east, and diamonds split three-three. If east leads a club, declarer will play low and

Silverwood

See Son Receive Engineering Degree

Mr. and Mrs. John Glynn attended the convocation of their son, Peter when he received his Ph.D. degree in Chemical Engineering at Waterloo college on October 20. Peter received his high school education at Georgetown high school. He is now employed with the Ontario Government.

—Mrs. George Burt Dickson.

Gardening Tips

November Rose Plantings Can Be Successful

Planting roses in early November can be successful in many parts of southern Ontario, says D. B. McNeill, horticultural specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Planting procedures are the same as in the spring.

When the bushes are received, unpack and stand in water. Choose a well-protected location in the garden and dig a hole deep enough to allow the roots to spread out naturally. The swollen area on the stem should be set about one inch below the soil surface. Pack soil firmly around the roots and soak thoroughly. The plants should also be mounded with soil to allow for settling.

In the colder parts of Ontario, it may be best to plant in the spring. But if you want to buy the bushes now, they can be overwintered successfully by "heeling-in." To heel-in, soak the roots in water and dig a trench in a well-drained location. Set the bushes close together in the trench and cover the plants completely with soil, or at least half way up the stems. This technique will keep the plants in good condition until planting time in the spring.

WINTER CARE FOR CHRYSANTHEMUMS
In fall gardens, nothing is quite as successful as the hardy chrysanthemum. They provide a brilliant final display when only a few flowering plants remain in bloom in the garden. As well, they'll withstand light frosts and continue blooming right up to the winter freezeup. But although they are hardy, not many "mums" will survive our severe winter weather year after year, says R. A. Fleming, horticultural specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

In southern Ontario, a loose straw mulch or covering of evergreen branches should provide sufficient protection most years. If only a few plants are to be protected, invert bush hampers over them. If soil drainage is good, these methods are usually satisfactory.

The safest way to overwinter chrysanthemums is to bring them indoors after the leaves and flowers have been killed by frost. Dig up the best of the plants with a loose ball of soil around the roots and place them in a shallow box or flat. Store the plants in an unheated garage, toolroom or cool basement. The temperature should not be any higher than 40 degrees. Water them occasionally to keep the plants in good condition.

In the spring when growth starts, cuttings or off-shoots can be taken from the overwintered plants and rooted in coarse damp sand. Plant the cuttings in the garden for a good start on your next fall chrysanthemum display.

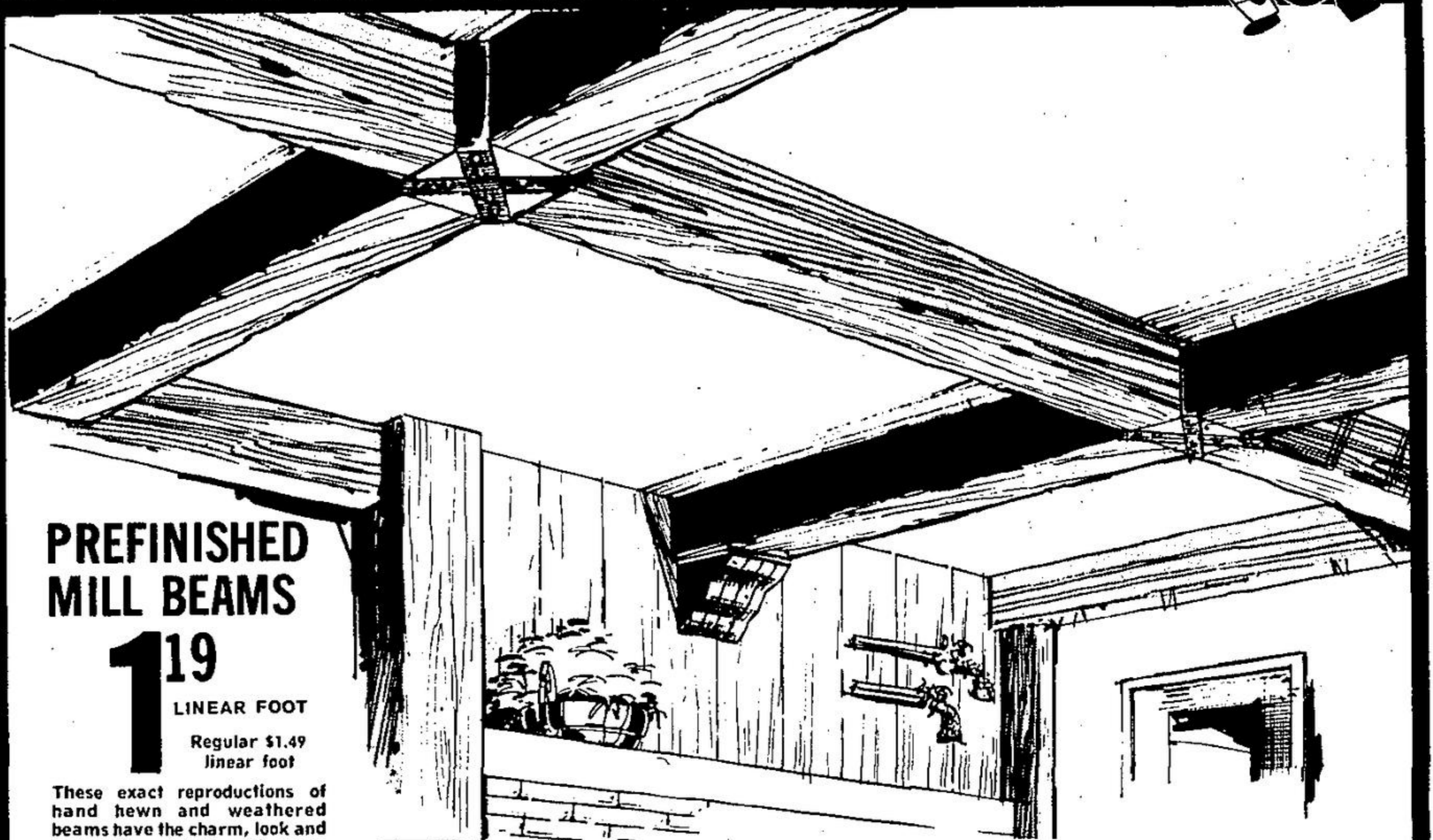
MOSS AND TOADSTOOLS IN YOUR LAWN
Moss and toadstools can return to haunt the homeowner year after year when they emerge in lawn areas, says R. F. Gomme, horticultural specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

The appearance of toadstools indicates decaying tree roots in the soil. Usually the toadstools will disappear when the roots have completely rotted. The use of a turf fungicide in the area is sometimes successful in eliminating them. But if they are still a problem, the tree roots can be dug out.

Moss sometimes appears on lawns, especially in shaded areas. This often indicates poor drainage and low fertility. Dig out and remove the heavy moss soil and replace it with a mixture of loam, peat moss soil and replace it with a mixture of loam, peat moss and leaf mold.

Moss indicates an acid soil. Oak, hemlock and pine trees growing in the same area are also an indication of acid soil. The acid balance can be altered by adding light layers of agricultural lime to the soil.

BEAVER



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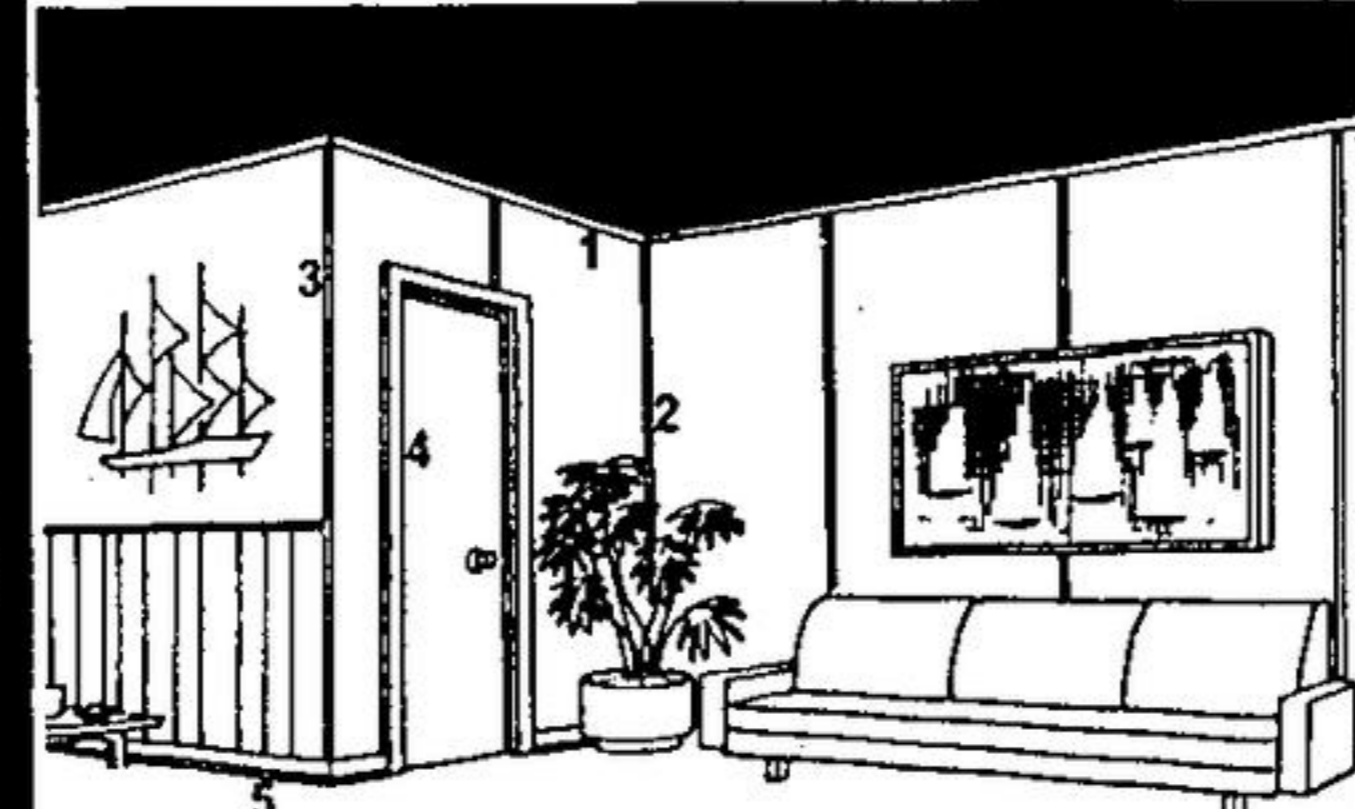
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Plaque, Stone Will Commemorate Park

On Tuesday evening, October 24, three members of the Lions Club of Georgetown, Ernie Sykes, Clare Francis and Ron Lacey, met with town foreman Frank Morette, and contractor Gerry Ingils.

They discussed placing of a stone with a plaque at the base or near the flag pole in Joseph Gibbons park. The stone and plaque will be on a concrete foundation, four cubic feet. The east end park is a gift to the town from the club.

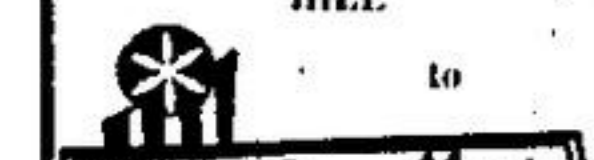
BINGO AGAIN
For bingo fans, all systems are 'go' for TV bingo again.

This year it will be three nights a week. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday on the local cable station. First night to look in will be November 14. Air time is not yet known, and can be checked in an upcoming Herald advertisement.

—Clare Francis.

Nearly 1.4 billion soft drinks in steel cans were purchased from more than 193,000 vending machines in the U.S. in 1968. If stacked end to end, the cans would reach almost halfway to the moon.

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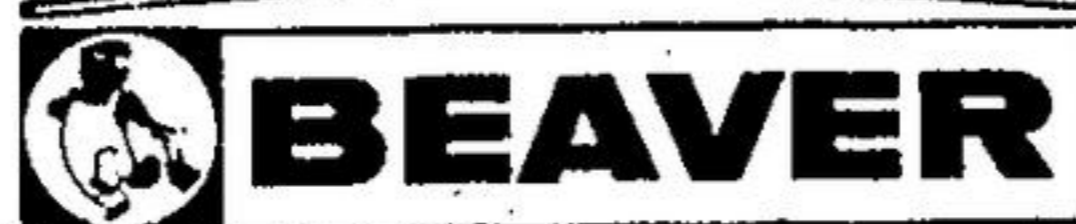
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