

Open pairs duplicate, contract bridge

by
M. (Peter) Shaw
The Open Pairs Duplicate held on March 3 in the Coldwater Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion was won by George Kingsborough and Dac Harris, with a score of 60 percent. The winners were followed by

Friedel and Peter Shaw (55); Mabel Dolan, Jean McLeod (54.5); Dot Harris, Rea Kingsborough (52); Angela and Sid Gobson (51); Joyce Hall, Stan Frankland (50); Kathy Brimer, Laura

Hamilton (42); Him Huges, John Dowling (35).

The afternoon "Home Style" Contract Bridge game featured some very good scores by the top pairs. Lloyd Attridge and Friedel Shaw won with 94 victory points. Other were Iris Bolyea and Marg Devitt (67); Stan Fankland, Dave Parker (62); Mary Polkinghorne, Marg Smith (60); Mary Verna Williams, Helen Vaughan (59); Mabel Dolan, Laura Hamilton (51); Mary and Les Bell (50); Kathy Brimer, Harold Snow (36); Peter Shaw was the non-playing director.

Prizes, donated by Coldwater Home Hardware, were given to Jean McLeod, Sid Gibson, and Stan Frankland for previous wins.

Registrations are coming in quickly for the ACBL Individual on March 17. There are no trophies, but ACBL Club Championship master points. Judging by the fun everyone had on the last one, and the numbers already signed in, this should be another good event. Pre-registration is desired. If you wish to play call Jim Hughes (526-9190) or Friedel or Peter Shaw (756-8325). But if anyone arrives

without prior arrangement, we will try to fit you into the game. The cost is \$1.50 for non-members, and \$1 for members, including refreshments, coffee, and prizes.

Sybil Robinson

A funeral service for the late Sybil Grace Robinson of Port McNicoll was held March 5, 1986, in Nicholls Funeral Home. The native of the Jersey Islands, England, was 82 years of age when she died on March 3 in Huronia District Hospital. Her illness lasted two years.

Her son Allan and wife Diane of Spanish, Ont., sisters Gladys Dymond of Toronto and Dorothy Carey of Lakefield, Ont., and one grandchild, survive her.

Her husband Thomas Robinson died on Nov. 27, 1985. She married him in 1951 in Newmarket.

Sybil Robinson was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Ecobichon.

A son, Ronald, and her daughter Barbara also predeceased her.

Rev. Al Farthing officiated during the funeral service.

Cremation, with burial of ashes in Springcreek Cemetery, Clarkson, Ont.

A stickler for details

by
MARY HASKILL
Friday was adjudication night for Huronia Players entry in the Association of Community Theatres (ACT) Festival 85-86. Their play, a Doll's House by Hendrik Ibsen, was entered in the Drama Category against 29 other community theatre groups from central Ontario.

Mary Nemis, chairman of the ACT Festival, described the Festival as a learning experience for the various groups who then had a chance to use the knowledge in their next production. She introduced the Adjudicator, Paul Eck, and outlined his extensive background in stage, TV, radio and teaching theatre.

A Doll's House, Eck said, is a play about truth and falsehood in marriage with human emotions in unsparing detail. At the beginning of the theatre of realism, it is a classic feminist play.

There were some "beautiful pieces" in the play, he went on. The cast were vocally clear and used strong physical movements. Costumes showed a good attempt at reality and the properties were suitable to the period. The set made nice use of levels and there were some wonderful pieces of furniture. He liked the use the actors made of the generous stage space.

However, it was soon apparent that in choosing an Ibsen play, the Players had come up against an authority on Ibsen and his times. Ibsen, who was stage manager for his own play, was a stickler for reality and cluttered his stage with detail.

Eck, too, is a stickler for detail.

Raymond Holt, on the other hand, exercised his director's privilege, and chose to have nothing on stage that was not used to further the plot that would distract from what was going on between the actors. It is a legitimate approach to theatre and much in favour. Today, we see Shakespeare done on a bare stage in blue jeans and T-shirts. It is all a matter of opinion.

Eck thought Torvald Helmer, the leading man, would have an impeccable crease in his trouser legs. Why didn't the Players research this?

They did research. There are excellent facilities to do so—Midland Library and the library at the Historical Parks. The consensus was "no creases in trousers in 1880."

One book on costume told an interesting story about Edward VII, who introduced the fashion of razor-sharp creases down the front of men's pant legs. Seems he always had two pairs of pants made, so he had a pair without the crease to wear when he had to be among more conservative elements of society.

If the Players felt a little let-down with such a picky type of criticism, they consoled themselves that it might have been worse. Mariposa Arts Foundation in Orillia were also entered in the Festival. Their leading man literally "broke his leg", no understudy, no time to train another person. The stage manager walked through the role reading from the book.

The various THEA awards and the top three plays of the Festival will be announced at the Awards Gala at the Harbour Hilton Convention Centre in Toronto on Saturday, Apr. 12. There are usually a group from Huronia Players present at the event.

Eck was impressed with the turnout in spite of the foul weather and the fact that an Ibsen drama is not everybody's cup of tea. There were around 100 present. Opening night saw about 70, the next night 100 or so. Saturday, the last night of A Doll's House there was almost 170 on hand. Word of mouth did that. As always the box office had the last word.

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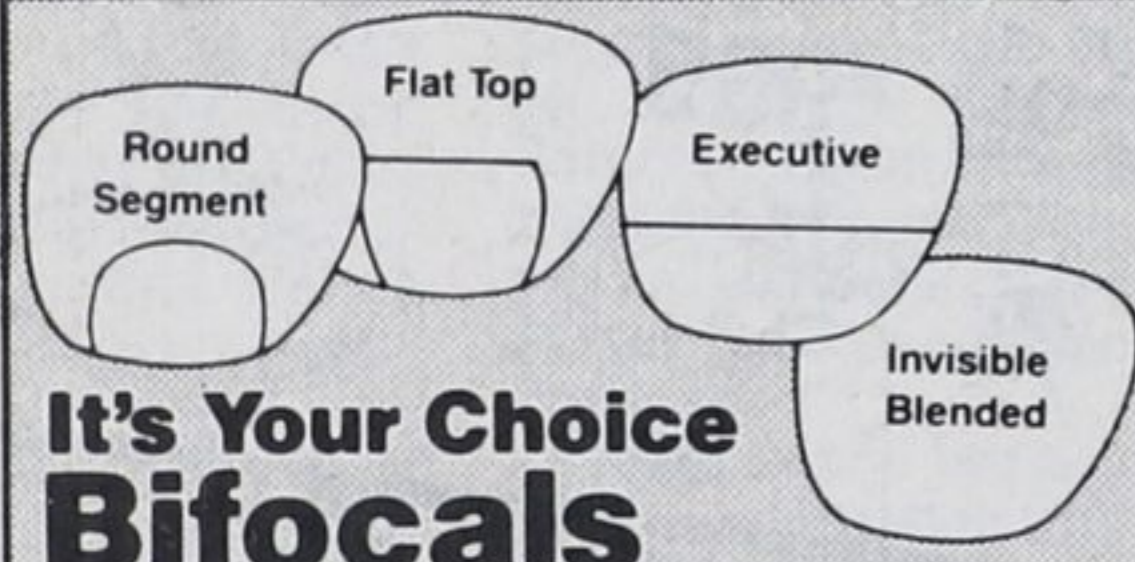
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