

bridge digest

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

Vol. 3, No. 2

NOVEMBER, 1973



LOUD IS THE CRY

Competitive nature of duplicate bridge brings out the beast in players.

Despite unending campaigns, from the ACBL headquarters down to local clubs, on laws and ethics of bridge and educational programmes to clean up some of the "bad taste" at bridge tables, it may end up in a hazard that one may have to live with.

The problem is something one doesn't want to live with. Many have made their choice. They quit playing duplicate bridge.

The hazard is continent-wide and Canadian players are no exception. The rap on their rep has given many bridge centres high rating as boors of bridge.

Club and unit officials have been struggling to overcome this unnecessary bridge table hazard. New members come and go after a few games against the spoilers. Their social bridge training failed to get them ready for the onslaught of bad manners.

Education must go on, but if this doesn't help, officials must take action by barring bridge obscurity from their games. If these players want to play duplicate bridge hard enough, they'll change their tactics.

For every loss of "bad actors," there'll be an addition of numerous new players who'll come and stay.

Tournament attendance has suffered from bad publicity inflicted by bad manners of the few. Amazing how many members keep away from sectional and regional meets and stick to playing at club events, thus diminishing the hazards of duplicate.

There's so much good in duplicate bridge that no one has a right to spoil it. Just reading the articles on the following pages gives you an idea of the fun and activity it offers to so many who need both.

The respect we should offer to the many veterans who devote so much of their time to teach and help young players, comes from the way we behave at the bridge table.

This is not meant as a lecture or card waving, but we do get the flack at C.B.F. meetings, tournaments and wherever players get together. The general feeling is frustration. Everyone would like to have some social atmosphere at duplicate events. Tournament organizers work hard towards that social goal. They need help from the players.

BRIDGE DIGEST

PART II OF THE CONTRACT BRIDGE BULLETIN

Editor, Sam Maltin

A Canadian Bridge Federation publication distributed free of charge to Canadian members of the ACBL.

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CANADA'S ACHIEVEMENT IN WORLD BRIDGE

The World Bridge Federation, founded in August 1958, in Oslo, Norway, conducts a world championship every year, other than the year that a Team Olympiad contest is played, which occurs on Olympic years.

From the time that these championships have occurred, Canada has been well represented.

In 1962 Eric R. Murray, Q.C., played for North America, and in 1966 and 1967, he and Sammy Kehela played on the North American team.

The first World Team Olympiad was held in Turin, Italy, in 1960, and Canada was there with its own team, with 24 countries competing. The teams were separated into three divisions, Canada finishing third in its 10-team division, just missing qualifying.

In the 1964 Olympiad in New York, Canada finished fourth, with 29 other countries in the tournament. They improved in the standing at the end of the 1968 Olympiad in Deauville, France, winning the Bronze Medal, placing third in a field of 33 countries. It was another third-place finish and a Bronze Medal in 1972 in Miami, with 39 countries competing.

In World Pairs Olympiads, which are held every fourth year, started in 1962, Canada has sent players to compete in each of these. In this case, though there were no medals, Canadian bridge players, from the average to the most expert, had an opportunity to represent their country, through unit and zone trials. Again there'll be eight pairs making up Canada's entry in the 1974 Pairs Games at Las Palmas, Canary Islands.

In all cases, the cost of sending players to World Championship events has been borne by either the players and/or the Canadian Bridge Federation through Olympiad Fund games held by clubs and units in this country.

1980 WORLD OLYMPIAD

The World Bridge Federation has encouraged the Canadian Bridge Federation to submit its application to host the World Olympiad in 1980. The American Contract Bridge League has indicated that it will support the Canadian Bridge Federation if we choose to apply.

It is anticipated that there will be approximately 50 countries represented in this competition, with each country sending a minimum of 7 contestants, and also a women's team competition with approximately 30 countries, with again a minimum of 7 people, representing each country.

If Canada is host to this event, it is imperative that a strong organization be ready to carry out considerable duties in running this event. The cost of running such an event will be \$75,000.00 — \$100,000.00, a relatively small cost, considering the great influx of people from other countries to Canada.

The major financial support will have to come from the government or from private industry.

Before Canada applies, it will be necessary to have a commitment from the government or private industry to give financial aid to such an endeavour.

It should be noted that Spain has made a grant of \$30,000.00 to the Spanish Bridge Federation to support the Olympiad Pairs in 1974 in the Canary Islands.

FUND GAMES MEAN POINTS

There's a big pay-off in holding Olympiad Fund games. It's a partnership combination.

Units and clubs can help members gain extra master points by scheduling these special events and at the same time help Canadian players in world bridge championships.

Whatever the motive, master points or backing this important fund, the results bring dividends to both.

For further information on the Fund Games, contact your zone representative of the C.B.F. or write to the executive secretary, Doug Drew.

Vancouver Night School Bridge

By Jean Turnbull

Teaching of bridge at Vancouver night schools has been an accepted fact for many years, but it wasn't until 1960 that duplicate bridge was introduced. It proved to be an instant success.

Mrs. Alice Hammett, one of the city's leading bridge teachers, suggested to the school board, that duplicate bridge should be added to contract bridge, which was then taught in night schools. The school board went along with the idea.

Duplicate boards were supplied to several schools and students were introduced to this fascinating form of the game. It was also decided to hold a duplicate tournament at the end of the term. That proved to be the icing on the bridge cake.

The school board again went along with the scheme of things. The first tournament was held in 1961 and it proved to be a great success. Students from all Vancouver night schools participated.

It was a combined effort of schools and the Vancouver Unit of the ACBL, with added help from a school cooking class who supplied refreshments (jolly good they were too).

The unit provided supplies, and donated a perpetual trophy for overall winners each year and keeper trophies for overall and section winners. A representative of the unit gave a short talk on the game and organizational work, including a "commercial" on the advantages of joining the ACBL.

The tournament has become an annual event and many fine duplicate players have emerged from this group.

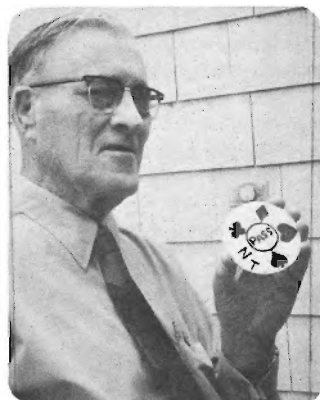
Bridge is a family affair for Jean and Norman Turnbull. Two of Vancouver's earliest Life Masters, the Turnbells direct the annual night school tournaments.

BUSINESS LOSS

Eavesdropping at a Commercial Pairs event:

"This is worse than playing in the Mixed Pairs. There I only lose my wife — here I lose my business partner."

LOU'S DING



Lou shows off his ding-a-ling.

By Anita Carpenter

There's more to duplicate bridge than the gathering of master points. It's the gathering of people that counts and the realization of the amazing versatility and adaptability of some of the players.

In the city of Lethbridge, Alberta, there is just one of these versatile players, 86-year-old Louis Wylie.

Lou was on hand at the first meeting of the Friday Duplicate Club in Lethbridge in 1956 and is one of the city's veterans of bridge wars. But because of his deafness he could never get full enjoyment of the game. His repeated requests to have the bidding encored failed to secret the auction from other tables.

The handicap reached a point where Lou was seriously considering that it would be best to forego the pleasure of duplicate bridge.

BRIDGE BLISS

There's the story about the husband-wife bickering, in the normal procedure of Mixed Pairs events, when an opponent interrupted her tirade and asked: "Madame, is this gentleman your husband?"

"Of course," sneered the lady, "you don't think I'd live in sin with a guy who plays such awful bridge as he does."

- A - LING

However, Cliff Black, a dental technician and close friend of Lou's asked if he would be allowed to go ahead with a plan he had in mind. In a very short time, Cliff presented Lou with a disc, 3½ inches in diameter and 1/8 of an inch thick, made of dental plastic.

Lou now uses this disc at local and tournament events, without anyone being disturbed by raised voices. When he sits down to play, Lou places his bidding disc on the centre of the table. His wife, Marie, then explains how to bid, using the disc and fingers. To bid four hearts, the bidder points to hearts on the disc and raises four fingers. Double and redouble are on the reverse side of the disc.

A friend of the Wylie couple, June Carpenter, named the disc, "Lou's Ding-a-ling" and this monicker has held.

Because of a little ingenuity, bridge continues to be one of the few games that Lou Wylie can actively participate in.

Besides doing a great job as unit secretary, Anita Carpenter and her husband, Brian, busy themselves with handling the work of publishing a daily bulletin at the Calgary Regionals.



Playing with Lou's ding-a-ling

consultation

At the annual meeting of District 1, delegates were strong in their recommendation that both Canadian districts of the ACBL should have closer consultation.

District 1 has written to District 2, offering full co-operation in seeking a joint approach to the ACBL National Board on all matters affecting bridge in Canada.

SCRAMBLED CONVENTIONS

By CAMERON CAMERON

We have developed a new science by being able to analyze a player's habits at the bridge table by the length of time it will take you to unscramble the following systems. You might find the anagrams under the space for "General Approach" on the Official ACBL Convention card.

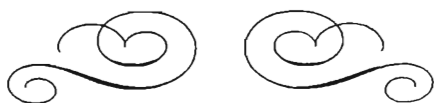
ANAGRAM

1. Honor test
2. Chosen mink-defied
3. Liar met jolt
4. Line blips occur
5. Neat cap messy
6. Canasta - dim errand
7. Doll bug
8. "O" job and mercy
9. Bull meat cube
10. Elk won plain dash
11. A phone sells kites
12. Chill on sage

CLUE

1. On the rocks
2. Big Club agrees
3. Corporal punishment
4. The latest show
5. Covered with Hors'd'
6. Try it - you'll like it
7. Is it licensed
8. My son and aces
9. First price - Steer
10. 5 weeks to win
11. Canadian stars style?
12. No cowboys here

Analysis and answers are on page 14.



VERSE BRIDGE

By Phillipa Tanton

"In love and war all's fair," they say,
But if for master points you play
The game of bridge, here's but a few
Of the things you must not do.

When jack is led toward dummy's ace
Just follow suit at normal pace.
For if you have no cards to cover
Why then must you sit and hover?

To those of you who think it's fun
To huddle with a singleton —
We say to you what bears repeating
This is outright blatant cheating!

To bid on partner's hesitation
Presents an awkward situation.
For if the opponents now protest
A penalty may be assessed.

Should you, perchance, give information
Through gesture, look or intonation,
Your partner may not now take action
Without committing an infraction.

Against you on an action bold
They reach a slam that is ice-cold.
Now you, who cannot stand a "fix."
Shout loud and clear — "you can't
beat six!"

Maintain your calm and keep your cool
When your partner plays the fool,
And don't give lessons at the table
Just to show that you are able.

Don't roar and rant and shout abuse
At your opponent, if you choose,
Call the director — he'll decide
Which is the offending side.

MONEY TALKS

By Aaron Goodman

Figures, feminine excepted, are uninteresting. Downright dull. But as treasurer of the Canadian Bridge Federation, there's no choice but talk about figures, so that the membership can have an idea of what's going on in the treasury.

As of Sept. 1, 1973 our membership account showed \$7,750.80 and the Olympiad Fund \$3,829.51. At the same date in 1972 we had \$7,250.00 in the membership account and the Olympiad Fund had \$4,000.00

To date C.B.F. has received the following fees from Zones:

Zone 1	\$ 35.00
2	1,777.60
3	4,487.00
4	NIL
5	NIL
6	1,451.20

Olympiad Fund money came in as follows:

Zone 1	\$ 311.10
2	297.50
3	2,090.15
4	401.50
5	216.75
6	376.10

C.B.F. received \$136.41 as their share of the Summer Nationals Olympiad Fund game.

There was some money spent from the membership account, covering expenses for; Executive Secretary \$1,600.00; Bridge Digest, \$1,370.00; Annual membership and Directors' meeting in Halifax, \$2,400.00; Photostats and miscellaneous \$100.00.

While we are not really lagging behind the 1972 Olympiad Fund, with a total sum of \$7,000.00, much more is needed if we are to finance adequately Canadian participation in international bridge events.

To function, the Canadian Bridge Federation needs the support of every unit.

financial footnote

A rush call from C.B.F. Treasurer, Aaron Goodman, just made the deadline for this footnote.

Aaron wanted to make sure that a cheque for \$409, as dues payment from Zone 4, Manitoba, is added to his financial report. It arrived after he completed his statement.

BRIDGE GOES WEST

There are 24 Units of the ACBL in Canada. More than half are west of Saskatchewan.

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

— a review —

By William A. Robinson

In view of past articles in the CANADIAN BRIDGE DIGEST, outlining the purpose in organizing the Canadian Bridge Federation a repetition at this time seems redundant.

Nevertheless questions are continually being asked;

"Isn't the C.B.F. simply duplicating the work of the American Contract Bridge League?"

"Why should our unit support the C.B.F., when all it does is send a few top players to the Olympiad in which none of us are interested?"

"What does the C.B.F. do for us to justify the dollar-per-member it asks our unit to contribute?"

Some repetition and clarification and a few new thoughts seem to be in order.

Canadians were already members of the ACBL, which also included Mexico and Bermuda, when the Canadian Bridge Federation was formed in 1967. The ACBL provides the organization to conduct bridge activities within this group of countries, but only represents the United States in the World Bridge Federation and Olympiad participation.

In world bridge affairs this country had no voice until 1967. The C.B.F. became the National Contract Bridge Organization of Canada.

C.B.F. represents Canada in the W.B.F. and it is responsible for the organization and financing of Canadian participation in international events.

To those who feel that membership in the W.B.F. and participation in international events is of no importance, it can only be pointed out that an organization has a responsibility to all of its members and to the full range of their interests.

Here are some other "somes" that have come to the attention of the C.B.F. Some are not interested in the Olympiad. Others in weekly club games. Some in tournament play. Some can't see why there should be a charity program. And why increase membership and promote duplicate bridge. Those who want to join, will, is their opinion.

But all these parts are essential to a complete organization.

It is true that the C.B.F. devotes con-

siderable effort to organizing trials for Olympiads. This is not solely for the benefit of expert players. But it is because all players are given an opportunity to participate in trials, beginning at the unit level all across the country and continuing through zone and national play-off, that requires so much effort and high costs.

There'll be no national play-off for the 1974 Open Pairs, as each zone will be sending one or more pairs to the Olympiad.

There is no master point requirement for entry in the trials. This is done to give everyone the opportunity to take part in an excellent competition, even though many would not class themselves as experts.

All costs of trials and assistance to Olympiad participants are paid from the Olympiad Fund. Trials themselves provide a large portion of this money. The remainder comes from Olympiad Fund Games. None of the dollar-per-year per member contribution from units is used for Olympiad purposes. This money goes towards financing organizational work, the largest of which is for publication of the CANADIAN BRIDGE DIGEST.

There are various matters of national scope that occupy the C.B.F., including charity, promotion of bridge, representations to provincial and federal governments for recognition and support, promoting the game in educational and recreational programs and all other areas in which a national organization is needed.

One must consider membership fees of most recreational clubs, whether it be skiing, golfing, boating, tennis, curling or any other sport, to appreciate the small cost of being a member of a bridge organization.

To those who feel that the C.B.F. or the ACBL are not doing all that they might, there's a public forum for constructive suggestions reserved for you in the Digest. Letters and/or articles are welcomed.

In the long run an organization is what its members make of it.

Bill Robinson is one of those bridge executives who is too busy with organizational work to take time out to play the game. Besides being president of the C.B.F., Bill is among the top activists in Zone 2 and is chairman of the Trials Committee.

CROSS COUNTRY

Here's an idea that worked well in Montreal and might prove helpful to other units.

A Montreal newspaper and Sam Gold's Linton Bridge Club got together to offer special evenings to non-duplicate bridge players to participate in the popular pastime free of charge.

All those interested in such evenings were asked to write to the newspaper, giving their names, addresses and phone numbers. Each was sent an "Easy Guide to Duplicate Bridge," and were called to be given a choice of evenings.

At "An Introduction to Duplicate Bridge," newcomers were given a brief talk of what duplicate was all about: how it differs from rubber bridge, how the scoring is done and other facts of use.

Three such evenings were held with maximum attendance at each. Everyone of the over 100 who attended wanted more of the same and were told how they could join the A.C.B.L., what they get for their membership fee and where they can play duplicate.

The enthusiasm shown by these newcomers was worth the effort.



The Can-At in Halifax was a happy sort of a tournament. And master points had nothing to do with it. It was a fun atmosphere all the way and WELCOME went beyond just mere hospitality at bridge headquarters at the Nova Scotian Hotel.

Henry Smilie of Vancouver can back this up. Henry's eating habits and Halifax restaurant hours failed to jell, so Don and Pat Pearson took him home and fed him. Fed him? Smilie ended up being the "man who came for dinner and stayed for breakfast!"

He stayed overnight at the Pearsons, had breakfast and was driven back to the tournament site.

When yours truly wanted to take a trip to Peggy's Cove and there wasn't a rental car available, Mary Jane MacKay came up with a solution. She offered the family car. The offer was accepted.

Mary Jane and husband Tom were co-chairmen of the tournament and deserve the high tribute given them for a job well done.



What card is missing?

Bridge players do have other interests.

Out on the West Coast, Margaret Stafford is Canadian Women's shuffleboard champion. She and Jim Donaldson recently won the Vancouver Mixed and Don Brander captured the Men's Singles.

Proud Westerner Henry Smilie reminds us that Sandra Borg was the Canadian water ski champion and has been on the Canadian (snow) Skiing Olympic team. Sandra was on the B.C. team in the Ladies Team bridge trials in St. Agathe.

Montreal's John Huniis is a very active executive with the Canadian Sports Federation and last summer headed a basketball group that played exhibitions in China.



Herman Filarski reports in the World Bridge News that: "In Holland we have an organization, 'Nederlandse Sports Federatie' (NSF), supported by a levy on the Football Tote. All sports, including 'brain sports' like chess and bridge covered by NSF receive a yearly contribution towards the costs of training, international representation and so on. The Nederlandse Bridge Bond was thus able to help pay for the Junior Championship. Of course, the NBB has to tell NSF, how the money has been spent.

"Now, please do not think it was easy for us to become a member of the NSF. We succeeded because we could show a strong organization, working already for about 40 years in the interest of all classes of our population."

Countries with swinging prime ministers please take note.

SHUFFLING

— with sam maltin

A memo to the night manager and his staff at a hotel where a bridge tournament was to be held came into our hands. As there was no "confidential" stamp on it, it's being passed on to you.

And we quote;

The Group will be playing bridge in our hotel and the purpose of this note to you is to let you know that the only problem with these people is that they talk late in their rooms.

I want to tell you that they are extremely well educated and well mannered and although they may take a drink, they do not raise their voices.

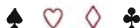
After they are through playing each night, they very often engage in long conversations and group discussions in their own suites or bedrooms and visit their friends to congratulate the winners.

In order to make it easy for everybody, although no trouble is anticipated, we are trying to assign them all, if possible, to the same floor.

Unquote.



Two items from the Digest were reprinted in the Bridge Writers' Bulletin recently, keeping the rest of the bridge world informed on us.



A few years ago the Montreal Bridge League celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Province of Quebec Championship Bridge Tournament, and bridge players in that city are still talking about it.

To celebrate this Silver Anniversary, the league went back into their history. They charged only \$1.25, the same as 25 years ago, for entry fees.

All past league presidents were invited to play as guests of the M.B.L. Winners of the tournament's first championships were also guests of the league.

Instead of sending regular tournament announcements, formal-type invitations were mailed out to members.

It was a sentimental atmosphere throughout the tournament and was topped by the Open Pairs victory for Emile Beausoloeil and Georges Lesperance. The two won the same event a quarter of a century before.

Former Montrealer and now Torontonians, Maurice Paul, must have been the first to introduce the "Unmixed Pairs" event.

It happened in January, 1968 when only 11 pairs of each gender turned up for the Ladies and Men's Pairs. Paul had the women play the men.

He had all the men playing East-West, while the ladies were stationary North-South. But his unmixed had a difference. He had winners declared for the ladies and the men.



The Vancouver Unit believes that members of their Board of Directors should do their duties. A report on attendance at board meetings is published in the MATCHMAKER.

Bob Brooks, the unit president, has a very busy bridge life. Besides being prexy of the unit, he edits its fine bulletin and finds time to take some pictures for our Digest.

Wonder if he finds time to play bridge?



Norma Chapple is heading a busy committee, readying Vancouver for the ACBL Spring Nationals, March 22-31, 1974.

The tournament will be held at the Vancouver Inn and the Hyatt House and some 4000 players are expected to be on hand.

Try and make it from wherever you are. It should be fun.



Should I, or shouldn't I



Adrian Hicks



Mrs. Sol Bonnell

Western Canada's First

By Cameron Cameron

The first Canadian Life Master, west of Toronto, Adrian Hicks, holds the distinction of receiving Gold Card 1277 in 1957.

This is a real accomplishment when you consider that in the Vancouver area, where he resides, there was only one duplicate game a week in the early fifties.

Adrian was the co-holder of the most regional championships in the Pacific Northwest, according to the 1964 edition of the Bridge Encyclopedia, and he is not sleeping on his laurels. Adrian recently won the Swiss team event at a regional.

There have been many tournaments that saw Hicks win over 100 points during the week's competition.

Bridge is a full time occupation for Adrian Hicks. He is manager of the Vancouver Bridge Club, that operates seven days a week. This has been keeping him away from many tournaments.

One of the monthly features of his club is "Beat the Experts." This is when he and one of his favorite partners take on all comers in a duplicate session and anyone beating their score, receives a free game. There are a lot of challengers, but Adrian seldom gives anything away at the bridge table, as his 2,250 master points attest.

Standard American and everything strong is what Hicks teaches and being a man of strong convictions, that is the system he plays. You can't argue against the proof of continued success.

Western Canada's first woman life master, Mrs. Sol (Edie) Bonnell, is life member 1,523 of the American Contract Bridge League.

This successful achievement came by only playing in tournaments in the Pacific Northwest. She has never played further afield than the Portland, OR regionals. Edie's big bridge thrill came in Seattle, with the winning of the open pairs in the regional there.

At one time the Women's Pairs events were all Edie Bonnell's. It was strictly her area in the Northwest. All other lady pairs had to play for second place. Edie and her partner, whoever it was, were always conceded first place.

She has the envious record of winning the Bellingham Women's Pairs SEVEN times in a row . . . with different partners.

Bridge was a family affair, Edie's husband, Dr. Sol Bonnell, passed away this year at over 100 years of age. His birthday was Boxing Day and the local club always had a "Ball and Chain" party, where you played with your partner in marriage. The highlight of the evening was when the good doctor was introduced to the players and added his wit and wisdom to the gathering.

Edie has amassed over 1,600 master points and keeps adding to this total.

She's well liked and respected and the best compliment you get at the bridge table is to have her say, "you played that well."



Our double Cameron has been a regular contributor to the Digest, taking time out from his duties as tournament director, among the many tasks he undertakes.

COURTESY LACK HARMS BRIDGE

By JUDGE M.J. GARMAISE

Bridge players are noted, and consequently frequently criticized, for a seeming lack of courtesy in the course of our tournaments. Generally we tend to be mindily apologetic about it and try to explain that in the main, most players attend for the purpose of participating in a contest. They become pre-occupied with the battle, as in other sports and with no malice intended, pay little attention to social amenities. Veteran duplicate players neither seek, nor expect ordinary courtesy at tournaments.

As a citizen of Noranda, Quebec, I have been accustomed to the pleasant atmosphere that exists at our own tournaments and those conducted elsewhere in the North, such as Val D'Or, Kirkland Lake, North Bay and Sudbury. People here seem to feel that they are attending a social event as well as a contest. As a result I have always been somewhat appalled by the brusqueness I have encountered in Montreal, Toronto and tournaments in the United States.

Very few players say "How do you do?", when meeting new opponents and ignore them completely until finished with their analysis of the previous hand. Most of these people appear to be jaded sophisticates whose exclusive aim it is to garner more master points, everything else being immaterial. Their opponents are made to feel that they are not looked upon as people but merely necessary adjuncts of the game.

The main beef concerns two categories of players. One of these is "The Grouch"—

the fellow who apparently developed a grievance at some point earlier in the game and nurtures it right to the bitter end. He is grouchy not only to his partner (who may conceivably have originally deserved it, but whose punishment surely ought not to be made to last forever), but also towards his opponents. If you address a polite remark to him, "The Grouch" either refuses to respond or simply snarls at you. With these fellows, one should confine conversation to bidding language.

Worst of all, however, is the type of player whom I have termed "The Pouncer." This type watches his partner like a hawk, and if partner should perpetrate what, in his expert opinion, constitutes an error in bidding or in play, the moment the last card is played he pounces! He doesn't give forth with a mild reproach, no gentle rebuke or soft-spoken reproof. He commences with a bellow that can be heard half-way across the room and which builds up as he goes along, usually with vituperation and invective that is positively eloquent.

It is high time something be done about this state of affairs for the good of the game. To augment membership and attendance at tournaments can be accomplished only by making tournaments pleasant and agreeable events, not the ordeal into which it seems to be developing. It is really quite a pity that these few should inject such a disagreeable note into tournaments and thus spoil the enjoyment of such functions.

Apart from emphasizing strongly the desirability of extending more courtesy to their opponents at the table, I would suggest that the "grouches," "pouncers" and others with uncontrollable tempers be eliminated by means of appropriate expulsions. Let the spoil-sports be barred!

This, hopefully, will achieve a more pleasant atmosphere at tournaments and a larger enrollment of members.

THE ACBL REQUESTS...

Charity donations from Canadian Units, clubs or individuals should be made payable to the ACBL Canadian Charitable Fund but sent to ACBL Headquarters in Memphis TN. Please do not convert Canadian donations into U.S. Currency. All Canadian donations are deposited to the account of the ACBL Canadian Charitable Fund, Guaranty Trust Company of Canada, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

FRIENDSHIP, FRIENDSHIP

After a bridge session, the following was overheard: "Well, anyway, we're still friends, I hope."

"Yes, and I intend to keep it that way. I'm never going to play with you again."

BRIDGERS

BREAD

BREAK

It all started as an idea to bring some social life to dead serious duplicate bridge tournaments. And it worked.

The Montreal Bridge League's Laurentian Mountains sectionals have grown in popularity each year, without losing sight of the original idea of offering duplicators an opportunity to break bread together. It also offered the possibility of seeing another side of a turned-on bridge player.

Bridge players who are all for a bit of socializing at the table quit the game of duplicate because of lack of friendliness at some tables during tournaments. Many of these players made a comeback in the Laurentians.

The whole atmosphere of the game is different. Maybe it's the fresh mountain air. Then again it may be the coffee and homemade cakes and cookies served during the games, giving the event a note of "bridge tea" and thus the social aspect.

The Laurentian Mountain tournaments may grow into one of those international festivals. Players from many parts of the United States have made the journey, including New York City and Detroit, which isn't exactly a short trip for a weekend of bridge.

A key to successful resort-type of tournaments is to make the price right. It has to be off season so that hotels appreciate the business and come up with an attractive package.

In St. Agathe-des-Monts, where the Laurentian sectionals are held, two hotels co-operated with a \$25 price tag for the whole weekend. It included seven meals, snacks and room.

MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION

UNIT	Total Members
Montreal - 151	1,696
Quebec - 152	190
Ontario - 166	3,981
Manitoba - 181	474
E. Ontario - 192	1,027
Can. Maritime - 194	690
Saguenay - 199	339
Soo - 212	211
N.W. Ontario - 228	215
Acadian - 230	528
Quonta - 238	406
Calgary - 390	522
Edmonton - 391	457
Lethbridge - 392	126
Medicine Hat - 393	44
Parksville - 429	187
Vancouver - 430	1,141
Victoria - 431	269
Quesnel - 456	125
Okanagan - 571	287
Regina - 573	350
Kimberly - 574	111
Saskatoon - 575	326

that's nice

Zone 6 Olympiad Pairs trials, Nov. 17-18, gets recognition treatment from the British Columbia Government and in a very nice way. The government is picking up the tab for a dinner for all participants.

Okanagan, Parksville, Quesnel, Victoria and Vancouver units will be represented.

french guides

There are French editions of the EASY GUIDE TO DUPLICATE BRIDGE available for the asking, by individuals or clubs. These were published by the ACBL at the request of the Montreal Bridge League to help recruit new members. To date, about 2000 have been distributed. There are plenty more where that came from.

If they can be of help, please drop a line to the CANADIAN BRIDGE DIGEST.

UTION ANALYSIS UNIT AND RANK-7/10/73

One Household	Unranked	Jr. Master	Master	Nat'l. Master	Sr. Master	Adv. Sr. Master	Life Master
1,483	335	526	293	182	174	73	113
171	50	57	38	11	15	5	14
3,481	658	1,225	681	483	480	156	298
419	81	127	75	63	57	28	43
899	177	336	162	120	116	42	74
609	104	173	145	85	108	35	40
285	51	107	65	48	52	8	8
178	26	50	44	24	45	9	13
185	28	51	42	36	37	5	16
468	95	160	89	75	82	21	6
358	73	135	77	56	43	12	10
457	91	193	74	59	51	16	38
385	72	128	78	69	63	15	32
102	12	18	14	22	41	5	14
42	4	15	8	9	4	0	4
160	42	55	30	19	31	3	7
981	211	361	190	122	119	37	101
220	39	66	41	41	37	22	23
117	15	42	24	19	18	5	2
239	51	70	53	49	39	9	16
305	45	129	70	43	30	10	23
93	16	29	23	20	21	1	1
271	54	75	66	36	49	17	29

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NOVICE PLAYERS GET HELP

The Stetson is off to the good people of Calgary. They did a great job with their Regional during the heat of the summer.

The 2,401 tables was the highest ever for District 18 and it was rated as the best and most successful tournament in this district's history.

To quote Dr. Stanley Abrams, district president; "A Calgary Regional is synonymous in our minds with wonderful arrangements, top notch bridge, terrific facilities and people of a host city that spare no effort to make all of their visitors heartily welcome, entertained and sorry to leave."

While the Regional is the high point of bridge competition in Calgary, their regular club tournaments have a note of originality. Clubs there serve lunch, even if it is midnight, free and including coffee.

Much concentration goes into Novice Games. There are two very active clubs in Calgary offering interesting newcomer programmes.

Master's Bridge Studio has a panel of experts on hand at the end of the evening's play and they analyze two or three pre-dealt hands, answer questions and lead discussions on the game.

First-time players are given a free play and overall winners also get free plays.

The Martinique Bridge Studio holds a very interesting event every Thursday evening.

It's restricted to players who have over 200 masterpoints. But there's a catch. Only one member of the pair must be so rich. This enables high master point holders to introduce their bridge playing friends to duplicate as their partners.

There's also a Novice Pairs event on the same evening.

improving

Now that the Olympiad Fund and the C.B.F. membership accounts are separate, the North Saskatchewan Unit feels that things are improving, but would like to see more results.

The fact that Canada now has two districts of her own in the ACBL didn't cut much ice with them, according to Ken McGuirl.

"Perhaps, someday we will, in Saskatchewan, also be in a Canadian district, but we are not too excited about that thought either.

"Anyway, the Digest as inserted in the Bulletin, did finally indicate we were getting something in return for our money and so we voted to go along with C.B.F."

The unit also decided to support the Canadian team and for its first time held an Olympiad Fund game.

Answers to Scrambled Systems: (Quiz on page 5)

1. Roth Stone
2. Modified Schenken
3. Little Major
4. Precision Club
5. Canape System
6. Standard American
7. Bull Dog
8. Jacoby Modern
9. Blue Team Club
10. Kaplan Sheinwold
11. Kehela Pointless
12. English Acol

First prize for 13 correct answers is an autographed copy of Eric Murray.

- 5 minutes – you are a peeker at the table
- 10 minutes – you know Sam Kehela
- 15 minutes – steady team player
- 20 minutes – you should read opponent's convention card
- 25 minutes – you don't know Sam Kehela
- 30 minutes – buy a new bridge book

GAME FOR ALL AGES

For duplicate bridge players, the "turn on" generation is plural. They even trust those who are under 30. Their's has no age minimum or maximum.

And that's what makes the game a very popular indoor sport.

Bridge has become an important activity in community centre programs all over Canada. Montreal's Y.M. - Y.W.H.A. is a leading example of what bridge can do for an adult program.

The "Y" has an extended program of teaching and playing, fulfilling an interest by its members to learn the game and to forward their knowledge by participating in regular competition.

Only a few short years ago the same group was isolated by the meagre competition of rubber bridge. Soon things changed, came duplicate and tougher competition. More members joined the bridge group.

During the early stages "visiting experts" would partake in those weekly events on occasion and come away sneering about the bridge talents of their hosts.

The same sneerers still smirk, but they never miss an open event sponsored by the club.

How things have changed!

Now it's the "Y" members who make a success of every tournament in Montreal and in many other parts of the bridge playing district.

Where at one time they were afraid to step out of their own bridge environment, they now not only help privately owned clubs show a profit by their attendance, but have taken to the road and play in out-of-town tournaments.

The "Y" is probably the biggest such club on the continent. Its Tuesday evening attendance, weekly, runs to 50 tables. On Thursday afternoons the table attendance runs to about 40, with an average weekly total attendance of 400 players.

The club is very active in holding charity and fund games that always attract the

biggest crowds. Their annual Cancer Research game bursts the auditorium walls and overflows to other rooms for 75-80 tables.

It's a self-supporting club with members paying an annual fee to join the bridge club and that's the only cost, except for a 15 cents donation towards the refreshments kitty. The latter offers a cake-loaded table and coffee deal.

The success of such community efforts not only brings in new members, but bridge is used as a pastime and a way of getting an organization's members to come together on a social basis.

No matter the size of a community, bridge can be a great factor to get to know the people around you. The above report can be of help. It works.

NATIONAL CHAMPS

The ACBL Board of Directors turned down a proposal for national rating of national championship events in Canada conducted by the C.B.F.

President Robinson presented a proposal for Canadian National Championship events which would start at the local, then regional, then national level, similar to our present methods of selecting international representatives.

ACBL master points are not a necessity in attracting participants as the C.B.F. could offer:

1. Recognition of winners as national champions;
2. Awards toward W.B.F. International Master Ranking;
3. Possibility of representing Canada internationally.

The principal problem in holding this type of contest is finances.

National championships offer an excellent opportunity for publicity and would be attractive to potential sponsors.

Quebec Teaches How!

Shades of old school days, when caught playing cards meant a quick trip to the principal's office and instant punishment.

Today schools supply cards, playing facilities, instructions and academic credits for participating in the game of bridge.

The first for the Province of Quebec, possibly the first anywhere in Canada, (if not, let's hear from you) is the introduction of bridge instruction as one of the courses offered at the Pierre Dupuis Polyvalent High School in Longueuil, near Montreal. The course, fully backed by the local school board, is optional for first and second year students and they'll be given full scholastic credits at the end of the school term.

Jean Pierre Amyot has been appointed as bridge teacher and has planned weekly sessions of one hour technical teaching, followed by two or more hours of playing the game. There'll be 23 lessons in all during the semester.

The Montreal Bridge League is planning to honour the graduates at the end of the school year.

❖❖❖ *Feed Back* ❖❖❖

Following is a column that will be devoted to letters received from readers. If you have something to say, don't. Write it and send it to us.

Dear Sir!

What a rotten break for the world of bridge, the day Robert Fischer discovered chess. Why couldn't it have been bridge!

One guy, playing a game that has fewer than 1/10th the adherents as our beloved card game, generates 100 times the publicity throughout the world, without even playing.

What bridge needs is a good public relations department.

Or better still, maybe somebody will teach Bobby Fischer how to play our game.

Irene Cohen

Gentlemen:

I never cease to be fascinated whenever I read that such-and-such an organization has received a government grant. The list is endless and stops only at bridge.

Canada has proved itself through three consecutive World Bridge Olympiads, that it is truly one of the great bridge powers. Isn't it time for our government to recognize that bridge players representing Canada are creating more goodwill, world-wide, than many other sports which receive Ottawa's financial backing.

Isn't there something we ourselves can do to awaken the federal body. Must we go as far as creating our own pressure group?

Joan Marsh

Welcome Wagon

A good way to get members and at the same time show your good neighbourness is to co-operate with the Welcome Wagon people in your community.

New residents can be given the fine booklet, "Easy Guide to Duplicate Bridge" and an invitation to play bridge at the local club.

The "Easy Guide" is free for the asking from the ACBL.

KEEP US POSTED

Reading about your successes or noble failures would be of interest to others, so keep us posted.

Send along your reports, bulletins, news letters and clippings from local newspapers. Any bridge happenings would be of interest.