

bridge digest

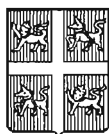
CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION
FEDERATION CANADIENNE DE BRIDGE

Vol 7, No. 2

May/mai, 1977



NOVA SCOTIA
NOUVELLE-ECOSSE



NEWFOUNDLAND
TERRE-NEUVE



YUKON



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
ILE DU PRINCE-EDOUARD



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
TERRITOIRES DU NORD-OUEST



QUEBEC



ALBERTA



ONTARIO



NEW BRUNSWICK
NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK



MANITOBA



BRITISH COLUMBIA
COLOMBIE BRITANNIQUE



SASKATCHEWAN

bridge digest

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Please send contributions
SPECIAL DELIVERY (60¢ extra)
when near deadline.

CBF Officials at Vancouver Meeting



Back row: Eric Kokish, Alvin Baragar, Stuart Oulton, Bob Brooks, Aaron Goodman; Front row: Helen Shields, Alex Kisin, Jack Murphy, Sandra Borg.

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

EXECUTIVE

President	Alex Kisin
Vice President	Helen Shields
Executive Secretary	Dr. Alvin Baragar, 6608-84St., Edmonton, Alberta T6E 2W9
Treasurer	Aaron Goodman, Ste. 4, 1411 MacKay Street, Montreal

ZONE EXPIRES

DIRECTOR

1	79	Judge James Harper, Room 107, Justice Bldg., Queen St., Fredericton N.B. E3B 5C8
2	79	Eric Kokish, #1607-5999 Monkland Ave., Montreal, P.Q., H4A 1H1
3	78	Alex Kisin, 148 Combe Ave., Downsview, Ontario M3H 4K3
4	78	Helen Shields, 1103-405 Waverley St., Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 1B8
5	77	Jack Murphy, 55 Cawder Drive N.W. Calgary, Alta. T2L 0L8
6	77	Sandra Borg, 7622 Sussex Ave., Burnaby B.C. V5J 3V8

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Henri Parent, 12129 Joseph Casavant, Montreal, Quebec

CANADIAN CHARITABLE TRUST FUND

Maurice Gauthier, 7474 Churchill Road, Montreal, P.Q. H3R 3C2



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- Zone 1 Jack King, PEI
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- Zone 5 Pam Liegerot, Calgary
Mike Wiss, Saskatoon
- Zone 6 Bob Bowman, Vancouver
Henry Smilie, Vancouver
Gordon Keel, Vancouver
Bob Brooks, North Vancouver

CBF Meeting

At the CBF Directors meeting in Vancouver, Alex Kisin was elected as President. The past-president Jack Murphy was commended for his contributions over the last three years. Other officers elected are listed in the box opposite.

The newly elected directors, Judge James Harper (Zone 1) and Sandra Borg (Zone 6) were unable to attend but were ably represented by Stuart Oulton (Acadian Unit President) and either Bruce Ferguson or Bob Brooks respectively.

It was announced at the Vancouver Regional that the 1977 Canadian Team Champions will be sent to the World Open Swiss Team event to be held in New Orleans at the 1978 World Olympiad.

The next CBF meeting in Halifax will commence June 29th and there will be a Unit Delegates meeting - probable date July 2nd.

Call For Candidates

Elections will be held for the Directors of Zones 5 and 6 this year. The term of office will be for 3 years (1978 to 1980 inclusive).

Zone 5 is for Units 390 (Calgary), 391 (Northern Alberta), 392 (Lethbridge), 393 (Medicine Hat), 573 (South Saskatchewan), and 575 (North Saskatchewan).

Zone 6 is for Units 429 (Parks-ville), 430 (Vancouver), 431 (Victoria), 456 (Quesnel), 571 (Okanagan), and 574 (Kootenay).

Any member of a unit in Zone 5 or Zone 6 may declare their candidacy in writing to the CBF Executive Secretary. Declarations will be accepted up to Friday, November 18th, 1977. The declaration shall contain the name, address and Unit of said candidate and may contain a photograph and biographical material not to exceed 100 words. In a Zone where only one candidate filed for election, that candidate shall be declared elected.

Ballot papers containing a list of candidates are supplied to all Units in the Zone and the Unit Boards of Directors conduct a secret ballot for the candidates of their choice and record the votes cast for each candidate.

Candidates who file by September 1st may have their candidacy published in the November Digest.

Details concerning the procedures and conditions for election of Zone Directors will be available from Unit presidents and secretaries by October 1st, 1977.

LEADING CANADIAN LIFE MASTERS

[as of January 1, 1977]

Eric Murray, Toronto, Ont. 7,534
Sammy Kehela, Toronto, Ont. 5,167
Bruce Elliott, Weston, Ont. 5,150
Percy Sheardown, Downsview, 4,065
Ont.

Eric Kokish, Montreal, PQ 3,593
Joseph Silver, Montreal, PQ 3,438
Otto Leesment, Victoria, BC 3,050
Jackie Begin, Montreal, PQ 2,905
Adrian Hicks, Vancouver, BC 2,904
Allan Graves, Vancouver, BC 2,892
Adolph Feingold, Ottawa, Ont. 2,871
Jim Donaldson, Burnaby, BC 2,843
Ray Jotcham, Don Mills, Ont. 2,823
Don Cowan, Toronto, Ont. 2,814
Buddy Crapko, Richmond, BC 2,686
Fred Hoffer, Montreal, PQ 2,619
Neil Chambers, Vancouver, BC 2,513
Maurice Paul, Toronto, Ont. 2,473
Ron Borg, Burnaby, BC 2,426
Paul Hagen, Burnaby, BC 2,416
Robert Chow, Toronto, Ont. 2,383
Sam Gold, Montreal, PQ 2,258
Frank Vine, Hamilton, Ont. 2,250
Alan Doane, Waverly, N.S. 2,245
Harry Creed, Toronto, Ont. 2,224
Michael Cummings, Willowdale
Ont.

2,198
Doug Thomson, Winnipeg, Man. 2,147
Dan Da Costa, Downsview, Ont. 2,021
John Carruthers, Scarborough
Ont. 2,020
Madeline McGill, Calgary, Al 2,007
Duncan Phillips, Toronto, 1,977
Ont.

Alan Derby, Cote St. Luc, PQ 1,969
David Lindop, Toronto, Ont. 1,958
Ed O'Reilly, Kingston, Ont. 1,942
Jack Marsch, North Vancouver 1,937
BC

Bob Lagowski, Ottawa, Ont. 1,877
Doug Fraser, Montreal, PQ 1,868
Brian Pauls, Winnipeg, Man. 1,865
Mary Paul, Toronto, Ont. 1,865
Harry Bork, Hamilton, Ont. 1,860
Barbara Saltsman, Montreal, 1,858
PQ

Peter Nagy, Montreal, PQ 1,844
John Stevens, St. Catharines,
Ont. 1,844
Karen Allison, Downsview, 1,831
Ont.

Bruce Gowdy, Willowdale, Ont 1,815
Francois Gauthier, Montreal, 1,815
PQ

Lou Woodcock, Hamilton, Ont. 1,795
Eric Stark, Vancouver, BC 1,778
Leo Steil, Pt. Coquitlam, BC 1,774
Edith Bonnell, Vancouver, BC 1,766
Pat Smolensky, Calgary, Al. 1,766
Sydney Isaacs, London, Ont. 1,763
John Raynault, Montreal, PQ 1,758
C. David Stothart, Ottawa, 1,758
Ont.

R. Wobick, Lethbridge, Al. 1,727
Bruce Ferguson, N. Westminster
BC 1,721

Ted Horning, Thornhill, Ont. 1,703
Fred Sontag, White Rock, BC 1,690
Bert Wings, Ottawa, Ont. 1,689
Don Piafsky, Montreal, PQ 1,678
Helen Roche, Calgary, Al. 1,665
Sheila Forbes, Toronto, Ont. 1,653
Vic Giaccone, Ottawa, Ont. 1,648
Joan Lupovich, Montreal, PQ 1,625
John Guoba, Toronto, Ont. 1,622
Lisa Strebinger, Burnaby, BC 1,590
Mike Philipppas, Montreal, PQ 1,579
James Priebe, Beaconsfield, 1,569
PQ

Franco Bandoni, Toronto, Ont 1,569
Peter Hollander, Dorval, PQ 1,564
Tony Marsh, S. Burnaby, BC 1,564
Robert Kemp, Kingston, Ont. 1,559
Andy Altay, Toronto, Ont. 1,546
Wolf Lebovic, Markham, Ont. 1,538
J. O'Dowd, Sarnia, Ont. 1,536
Sharyn Kokish, Montreal, PQ 1,534
Michael Schoenborn, Toronto, 1,524
Ont.

George Sereny, Toronto, Ont. 1,517
Andre Laliberte, Neufchatel, 1,517
PQ

Bryan Rapson, Dartmouth, NS 1,511
Joe Currie, Halifax, NS 1,507
Jim Dickie, White Rock, BC 1,502
Bruce Dwyer, Toronto, Ont. 1,501
Gail Jotcham, Don Mills, Ont 1,500
Mike Strebinger, Burnaby, 1,498
BC

M.T. King, Toronto, Ont. 1,494
L. H. Bouchard, Kenogami, PQ 1,490
D. Clark, Kingston, Ont. 1,481
Robin Wigdor, Toronto, Ont. 1,477
A. Paul, Mississauga, Ont. 1,465
Bob Crosby, Edmonton, Al. 1,459
E.E. Clarke, Ottawa, Ont. 1,458
J. Barna, Montreal, PQ 1,457
R.H. Edney, Kingston, Ont. 1,454
B.R. Nilsson, Lethbridge, Al 1,444
L.G. Millward, Calgary, Al. 1,441
A.W. De Groot, Winnipeg, Man 1,431
A. Derby, Cote St. Luc, PQ 1,414
J. Sabino, Willowdale, Ont. 1,410

C. Lindsay, Tsawwassen, BC	1,410	P. Godin, Montreal, PQ	1,255
Laurence Betts, Vancouver, BC	1,410	John Pritchard, Edmonton, Al	1,252
M. Rosenbloom, Montreal, PQ	1,407	S. Unger, Toronto, Ont.	1,249
M.M. Miller, Toronto, Ont.	1,389	D. Scott, Saskatoon, Sask.	1,246
Bob Connop, Vancouver, BC	1,382	Art Skeel, Edmonton, Al.	1,245
D.H. Rintoul, Dawson City, YT	1,365	C. Broadbent, St. Thomas, Ont	1,244
Don Dobson, Halifax, NS	1,359	M.J. Martino, Hamilton, Ont.	1,244
J.I. Turnbull, Vancouver, BC	1,358	R.J. Hart, Willowdale, Ont.	1,238
D. Di Felice, Hamilton, Ont.	1,354	S.P. Kandel, Willowdale, Ont.	1,234
A. McDonald, Ottawa, Ont.	1,347	M.C. Glynn, Winnipeg, Man.	1,233
J. Lloyd, Pickering, Ont.	1,340	Alex Kisin, Downsview, Ont.	1,233
M. Edney, Kingston, Ont.	1,336	R. Hanson, Montreal, PQ	1,232
Dick McKinney, Edmonton, Al.	1,318	E. Viires, Montreal, PQ	1,229
Genevieve Skeel, Edmonton, Al.	1,308	G. Sekhar, Winnipeg, Man.	1,223
J. Beasy, Halifax, NS	1,305	H. Levin, Calgary, Al.	1,223
G. Chapman, Oakville, Ont.	1,302	D. Curry, Ottawa, Ont.	1,223
S.P. Kandel, Willowdale, Ont	1,299	H.L. Stewart, Halifax, NS	1,220
E. Hamel, St. Hubert, PQ	1,294	D. Lindhorst, Preston, Ont.	1,218
S.H. Aarons, Willowdale, Ont	1,284	N.M. Turnbull, Vancouver, BC	1,212
D. Oulton, Halifax, NS	1,277	D. Lesage, Ste. Foy, PQ	1,208
Ron Forbes, Delta, BC	1,267	G. Mittelman, Downsview, Ont	1,204
F. Smith, St. Marie, Ont	1,261	V.E. Norquay, Calgary, Al.	1,198
R. Pearce, Simcoe, Ont.	1,260	B.J. Johnston, Ancaster, Ont	1,198
Doug Rankine, Edmonton, Al.	1,255	Jack Murphy, Calgary, Al.	1,197
		Earl Adams, Vancouver, BC	1,183

HIGHLIGHTS FROM TREASURERS REPORT

For the year ending December 31st, 1976, receipts of \$14,409.20 were received on the membership account making 1976 the best year ever. This is partly due to the growth in membership in the previous year and because only two of the 23 active Units forming the Canadian Bridge Federation are late with their 1976 assessment.

The main expense in the year (\$8,790.86) was for the cost of publishing 4 Digests.

The Olympiad Fund collected \$10,764.60 in 1976. The need to support this fund is evident when one looks at the staggering costs of participating in International Fund events. It cost more than \$16,000 to participate in the 1976 World Bridge Olympiad and this did not represent the total cost. The CBF found it was only able to pro-

vide \$25 per day towards the cost of accommodating our players in Monaco, against minimum costs of \$41.50 per day. Fortunately, Ontario and Montreal Units were kind enough to provide the difference, the former contributing \$2,128 and the latter \$792, a voluntary act for which the entire membership of the CBF is grateful.

Zone Directors would be happier if they had the means to underwrite the entire cost of sending Canadian players to International Bridge events. This can be accomplished if attendance is improved at Canada-Wide Olympiad Fund Games held this year on Wednesday, May 4th and Thursday, October 6th and if more clubs would hold a Club Championship rated game in addition. The ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations Chapter 5, page 31 describes the procedure.

DUPLICATE NEOPHYTES

-Colin Ward, Corbiel, Ont.

The best thing that could be said about Mr. D. as a Bridge Club President or as a human being in general was that he was "one of a kind". He ruled the City Bridge Club like a feudal lord -- even close friends did not dare enter without his personal invitation. Into this tight-knit clique stumbled the two inebriated strangers, Leo and Terry. Their admission was only tolerated in order to maintain the pretense of public accessibility of the Club.

To refer to Leo and Terry as "kitchen bridge players" would be an insult to all three terms. The closest approximation to a convention known by either was their tacit agreement that 3 No-Trump was to be passed and 4 No-Trump was an ace-asking bid called...Blackwood(?). When instructed to fill out a strange-looking form called a "convention card" they marked their names at the top and, in the space after "General Approach" wrote "staggering". The remainder they left quite blank.

It clearly galled Mr. D. that he was reduced to accepting such rabble into "his" Club. He intentionally seated himself and his partner at the same table as our heroes in the hope that he might find some excuse to evict them. Fate dealt the foursome three slam hands and the fun began.

Mr. D.'s partner was his fiancée, Ms. L., a delightful lady whose only fault was her somewhat abominable taste in men. Terry sat North and, as dealer, passed. Mr. D. (East) passed also. Leo (South) opened with 1C, showing 13 High Card Points or more with -- believe it or not -- a club suit.

Leo: "A Club."

Ms. L.: "Pass."

Terry: "Coupla clubs."

Mr. D.: "Pardon?"

Terry: "Coupla clubs."

Mr. D. (turning to Leo): "Does that have any special meaning to you?"

Leo: "Yeah; means he's got clubs and ...uh...some points."

Mr. D.: "Oh. Pass."

Leo: "Three."

Ms. L.: "I pass."

Terry: "Four."

Mr. D.: "Do you gentlemen play Gerber?"

Leo: "Nope. Just bridge, poker, horseshoes..."

Mr. D.: "Thank you. I pass."

Leo: (after a long pause) "Aw... make it a fistful."

Ms. L.: (to Terry) "Does that bid have any special significance?"

Terry: (with a deep, drunken, philosophical frown) "Does anything?"

Ms. L.: "Good point. I pass."

Terry: (muttering) "Well, if he's got the nerve to bid a mittful, I'll make it a small."

Mr. D.: "Pardon?"

Terry: "A small."

Mr. D.: (to Leo) "What does that bid mean to you?"

Leo: "Nothin' special."

Mr. D.: "Yes, but what exactly was it?"

Leo: "You wanna review of the biddin'?"

Mr. D.: "Please."

Leo: (pointing alternately at himself and Terry) "A Club, coupla clubs, three, four, fistful, small."

Mr. D.: "Oh, small slam; how stupid of me. I pass."

Leo: (after a long pause) "What the heck; GRAND!"

Ms. L.: "Pass."

Terry: "Pass."

At this point Leo, thinking the auction completed, leaned over and began berating his partner for his 6 Cl. bid -- after all, he'd passed originally. Taking his cue, Mr. D. doubled and was redoubled in mid-sentence by Leo. All passed.

Mr. D. made an irrelevant and irreverent comment about his adversaries slam-bidding technique before being subjected to watching Leo bring home his contract of 7 Clubs, doubled and redoubled.

Unlike Mr. D. the "Duo" had an excuse for their behaviour -- 52 ounces of excuse, to be precise.

Mr. D., as dealer, passed just as Leo was picking up his second hand of the evening. Hand/eye co-ordination reduced to near zero, Leo was incapable of sorting his cards into suits. He did notice, however, at least 13 points in there somewhere, so without further ado bid 1NT and let the chips fall where they may. Ms. L. turned to Terry and, noticing the blank convention card, asked what strong forcing opening the Duo used.

Now, as a rubber bridge player, Terry's luck was even more abysmal than his level of skill. The fact of the matter was that he had as yet never held more than 16 honest High Card Points unless shuffling. Naturally, Terry asked what Ms. L. meant by a "strong forcing opening".

Ms. L.: "You know, what do you do with a big hand?"

Terry: "'Big hand'?"

Ms. L.: "Yes. What would you do with, say, 20-some-odd points?"

Terry: "Call a misdeal."

At this juncture Terry opened his hand and got the distinct impression he'd just entered a party -- faces all over the place! Terry's hand had more aces than WWI, more Kings than a British history text, more Queens than Gay Lib and more Jacks than Midas Muffler.

Terry was, in fact, so shocked by his holding that he asked for a review of the bidding to be certain that his partner had actually had the audacity to open the bidding across from Terry's own holding.

Mr. D.: "A review!? But there's only been one bid!"

Terry: "Yes, but who made it?"

Upon being reassured that his partner was indeed the culprit Terry bid 7NT without further ado. Mr. D. doubled, leaving Leo in a quandary. His partner's 7NT bid was obviously an elevated form of Blackwood, but the Duo hadn't discussed responses. He decided to take a cue from his opponents. He noted that on their cards his adversaries had the word DOPI written under "Slam Conventions". Upon inquiring, he discovered that a double showed zero aces and a pass showed one. Leo passed, as did Ms. L. Terry redoubled, obviously asking for Kings. Mr. D. passed. Leo's two Kings left him in another dilemma. He decided to conceal one of them in order to keep the bidding low -- since he would be declarer -- and finally passed, as did Ms. L.

Otto's Quotes

Otto Leesment at the Vancouver Regional had the following gems to offer:

A lady once asked if he played the weak bids. He replied, "Sure, I use them very often. My weak bid is, Pass."

Terry
S.J32
H.AQ
D.AKJ9
C.KQJ2

Ms. L.
S.984
H.87
D.87652
C.975

Mr. D.
S.1065
H.10965
D.Q3
C.A864

Leo
S.AKQ7
H.KJ432
D.104
C.103

To Ms. L., on lead, Mr. D.'s double was of obvious Lightner extract, asking for an unusual lead. As the 8 of Hearts hit the table Leo proceeded to play off the hearts themselves, pitching his loser Clubs on the board after crossing into his hand in Spades. Playing the AK of Diamonds established the suit and 7NT fluttered home.

Mr. D., enraged for some reason or another, asked suspiciously why, with seven Diamonds out against him, Leo didn't try a finesse.

"A what?" was Leo's innocent reply.

While Ms. L. tried to explain to Leo the intricacies involved in a "finesse" Mr. D. fought back sobs and picked up his third hand. With Ms. L. finished her mini-lecture, Leo scrutinized his hand and felt it worthy of a pass. Ms. L. opened with 1 Club, which Terry (North) passed. Mr. D.'s 23 point hand begged the question: was Ms. L. psyching against these two? No; that would be the bridge equivalent of overkill. Barring this remote possibility, Mr. D. could see a slam in the offing. There was no need to hurry it, though. Mr. D. calmly bid 4NT; after all, he didn't want to do anything incredibly inane like, say bid 7NT missing an Ace, did he?

Mr. D.'s 4NT bid confused Leo (South), who doubled to show zero Aces only after some thought. Ms. L. bid 5 Clubs showing 2 Aces, which

prompted Terry to double showing none. Mr. D. continued with 5NT which Leo (upon discovering by inquiry that the latter bid asked for Kings) doubled (0 Kings). Ms. L. bid 6 Clubs (2 Kings) which Terry doubled (0 Kings).

Having checked for Aces and Kings Mr. D. jumped to 7NT. Leo was lost in contemplation. 4NT had asked for Aces; 5NT asked for Kings. Therefore 6NT would demand Queens. Leo smiled. Mr. D.'s devious 7NT bid didn't fool him for a minute -- he knew a Jack-asking bid when he heard it! Leo doubled, showing no Jacks. Ms. L. passed. Terry, who'd also figured out Mr. D.'s masterful deception, passed holding the only point in the entire partnership. Mr. D. redoubled. Leo and Ms. L. passed. Terry's long pause irritated Mr. D., who stated that "the slowness of genius is unnerving; the slowness of mediocrity is unbearable!" Actually Terry was only musing about what he'd have done if he HADN'T had one ten and WEREN'T able to pass 7NT, doubled and redoubled. Eventually Terry passed.

Leo led the Spade deuce, which Mr. D. ceremoniously covered with his entire hand saying "Claim!" in an overbearing, gloating tone of voice.

Terry, with a very bored expression on his face, said "Play it out, please."

Mr. D. laughed haughtily. "A 39 HCP 7NT grand slam, doubled and redoubled; what do you say to that?"

"Already said it," was Terry's dry response, "play it out, please."

"You can't be serious," mocked Mr. D.

Terry gave Mr. D. a vacant stare until the latter picked up his hand and began declaring. After 4 tricks had gone by Mr. D. once again threw down his cards, saying "Claim!" -- only to be met by that insufferable gaze of Terry's.

"I don't have to waste my time playing it out..."

Terry's calm refusal to concede the hand convinced Mr. D. that, yes, he DID have to waste his time playing it out. Mr. D., exasperated that he would only get one top board out of three against such opponents, finally picked up his hand and recommenced play.

After the 8th trick Mr. D. made another unsuccessful attempt to "end this foolishness" by claiming all thirteen tricks. This is the hand:

	Terry	
	S.865	
	H.J983	
	D.1082	
	C.764	
Ms. L.		Mr. D.
		(Declarer)
S.K103		S.AQJ
H.AK75		H.Q642
D.Q74		D.AKJ
C.A109		C.KQJ
	Leo	
	(Dealer)	
	S.9742	
	H.10	
	D.9653	
	C.8532	

On the eleventh trick Terry realized his partner had held a

singleton Heart, which left Declarer with mirrored distribution. Terry solemnly set his hand onto the table and said disinterestedly, "Claim one trick. 7NT, doubled and redoubled. Oh -- and vulnerable. How many points is that?"

Mr. D. sat dumbfounded. There are levels of despair which go beyond tears. He'd played enough top-flighted bridge to appear on the McKenney List more than once, but never, never in all his day...

At this point Ms. L. turned to Leo and asked what he'd doubled 7NT on. Rather than try to explain the complexities of his DOPI responses in his present state, Leo answered flatly that with his hand he could "hold 'em tight" in 7NT and that he counted on his partner for the setting trick.

"After all," he concluded, "you can't argue with success."

Mr. D. moaned audibly.

Terry's only worry was that Leo and he might not do as well at the other tables. So, quite innocent of malicious intent, he quietly turned to Mr. D. and asked: "Are there any really good bridge players here tonight?"

CBF SELECTED TRAVEL AGENTS

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Travel Agent</u>	<u>Contact</u>
2	Quebec and Eastern Ontario	Always Travel, Suite 403, 1260 University Ave., Montreal, Quebec	Phyllis Labow (514) 861-8295
3	Ontario	Runaway Travel, 1958 Yonge St., London, Ont.	Shirley Neilson
5	Alberta and Saskatchewan	Vacation World Travel, 513 - 8th Ave. S.W., Calgary, Alberta	Linda Thierman

Directors for Zones 1, 4 and 6 would be prepared to consider agents for their zones.

DESTROY THESE HANDS WITH ME

ERIC KOKISH, Montreal

1. Adroitly Sinister:

Playing in the finals of a single-session mixed pairs event of unfathomable importance, I hold in third position:

AJ96 Q104 A86 AQ8

Against my better judgment I have agreed to play a strong no-trump throughout, so after two passes I compromise utterly and open ONE NOTRUMP.

Both sides are vulnerable but the gentleman on my left checks the board to confirm this condition before passing. Partner, a keen player of scientific bent, gives me TWO CLUBS, the conventional request for a major suit. Over my TWO SPADES she removes to THREE DIAMONDS. As we play, this is neither forcing nor highly invitational and suggests a fairly weak hand with four cards in hearts and a longer suit of diamonds. Strictly speaking, I should pass, but one doesn't win these events by languishing in the par spot when there is any hope of an extra match point or two in an inferior contract. Accordingly, I bludgeon onward with the indelicate bid of THREE NOTRUMPS and this is passed out with the inevitable raised eyebrows.

South	West	North	East
		Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2C	Pass
2S	Pass	3D	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West leads the 2 of hearts and I see that partner has given me more than I deserve.

3
K953
K109732
32

H2
led AJ96
Q104
A86
AQ8

East wins the heart lead with the Ace as I unblock with the ten. She shifts smartly to the club Jack, presenting me with a typical match-point problem. If I put in the Queen and see it lose, I may go down in 3NT if I also lose a diamond trick. If I win the Ace of clubs immediately I may not have another opportunity to win a trick with the Queen, but I will go down only if I must lose a diamond trick to East and the clubs are unfavourable. Since I am in a good contract, it seems foolish to take any risk of this magnitude, so I win the club Ace as West expresses his interest with the 7.

I intend to lead a diamond to dummy and if an honour appears on my left to finesse on the way back. If no honour shows up, I shall have to hope to split the suit or to lose to a tripleton honour in West's hand. When I lead the diamond 8, West contributes the 4. Too bad. I was hoping to make all 6 diamond tricks against the 3-1 break rather than against a 2-2 split when all declarers will succeed.

Continuing with my plan, I call for dummy's King and East plays the Jack. I am about to ask for the next card from dummy when West leaps verbally across the net to inform his partner that it is not her lead. Quite dismayed she restores her forthcoming card and starts to reach for her expended diamond Jack. Maintaining his officious posture, West warns the poor woman that her Jack of diamonds is "une carte jouee" and must remain on the table. She mutters something about being sure that I called the ten of diamonds from dummy and not the King to the first diamond trick. I can discern selections from her lament...never would have played Jack under King...not fair to make me play Jack.....

Eventually she subsides and I ask for the diamond ten from dummy in an effort to prove that my diction has been flawless. East plays the 5 and glares at me viciously.

Through no fault of my own I seem to have placed myself in a can't-win situation. If I run the ten and it wins, I will pick up the entire suit in a position where I had a natural loser, East starting with QJ5. My opponents will hate me and call me vile names behind my back and elsewhere. If the ten loses to the Queen I shall have to explain how I set up an "idiot's finesse" for myself and then took it unsuccessfully. The laughter will be deafening. However, if I put on the Ace and West shows out, I will be accused of not recognizing a simple safety play. This would be an uncharitable slight on my abilities, but one can't expect sympathy in such moments. If I play the Ace and pick off the Queen, I will break even but suffer a chorus of "what took you so long?" All these unpleasant options for only \$3. What other pastime allows such pleasure for so low a price?

My discomfort is increased because partner is beginning to giggle and a flock of kibitzers has materialized from nowhere. Bad news travels fast. I wonder if I can resolve my dilemma with some sound reasoning. What clues do I have to act upon?

Well, there is the Theory of Restricted Choice. This could apply in the following way: If East legitimately thought that I had played the diamond ten rather than the King, she might have won the trick with either the Jack or Queen if she owned both honours. With only one of the honours, she would have had no choice. This would point to my playing for the drop, quite the opposite conclusion one usually reaches after applying the Theory.

Being a well known advocate of this Theory, I might just follow through with the play that it suggests, but there is something wrong with all this.... What of East's bitterness? Would she be so upset about having to play the Jack from Jack-five under the King? Hardly, since this couldn't possibly cost

her a trick. This, coupled with the fact that I must make the contract, seems to be the better argument and strongly suggests that I finesse.

I can waste no more time with this, so I back my judgment and run the ten. When it loses to West's Queen, I observe that it would have been far better to stick to theories and better still to have stayed in bed. West cashes the club King, holding me to ten tricks. With murder in my heart, I congratulate East on her marvellous portrayal of a woman in anguish.

I search for an exit, not for the first time or the last.

This was the full hand:

S. 3	H.K953	D.K109732	C.32
S.K104			S.Q8752
H.J862			H.A7
D.Q4			D.J5
C.K764			C.J1095
S.AJ96	H.Q104	D.A86	C.AQ8

Post Mortem

While declarer's play was less than successful, his decision was based upon a reasonable interpretation of the existing circumstances. That he was right to finesse as a safety measure was borne out by his matchpoint score on the board-9 on a 12 top. While it is true that a player draws inferences from an opponent's demeanor at his own risk, such a risk is frequently justified. If East's behaviour was a deliberate attempt to deceive declarer, it was indeed improper. Despite the writer's reflections on East's acting ability, it is doubtful that the latter's concern at the table was other than genuine. Players will often react heatedly when a misunderstanding takes place and it can be a serious error to read too much into a particular scenario at the table.

Although the situation was a strange one, the reverse application of the Theory of Restricted Choice is of certain interest.

Unit 181

by The Manitoba Correspondent

Doug Fisher is reputed to be one of the toughest rubber bridge players in Manitoba (he is open for play against any unbelieving palookas). He showed up for a Club Championship event at one of the local clubs hoping to add another trophy to his collection. At the first table, the man and his partner came up against a mild-looking man who was being partnered with, as it turned out, his wife. This woman weighed well nigh 180 and big.

With utter disregard of friend, foe or husband, she was talking continuously and in between one of her friendly tirades she happened to notice the entry slip. Without even batting an eyelid she wheeled towards Doug and boomed, "Are you The Doug Fisher?"

Fisher simply pointed to his partner, poor Sok.

"That's him."

"I heard you are an extremely good player," she gushed, wheeling around towards Sok (cringe). Then wheeling towards Fisher she announced he must be Sok, presumably also an extremely good player. But, of course, otherwise MR. Fisher would not be playing with him, continued the monologue.

Without pausing for breath she turned towards her partner next and informed him that they were up against an expert pair, at the same time asking 'Mr. Fisher' if he could help her with a bidding problem, then back to her partner that they would be getting two bottoms for sure but that she was sure 'Mr. Fisher' would kindly tell them what they had done wrong.

"And I want you to pay attention when 'Mr. Fisher' tells us how to play the hands better," she commanded.

In the meantime, poor Sok was trying to shuffle the cards - rumour has it that that hand was the best shuffled hand of the event, having had to be made about five times with the cards dropping on the floor, getting upturned, and less than thirteen to each hand.

She then reached across towards her partner and thumped him a few times on the shoulder with this admonition, "And I don't want you, (emphasis and a couple of thumpings) under any circumstances (thumpings) to open against 'Mr. Fisher'. Do you hear me, ...? (more thumpings) Not even when you have a very good hand!"

On the very first board, the meek man held a solid 14 count with four spades and dared not open his mouth in first position. Fisher attempted to play in 2S vulnerable and went down two, when all his avoidance plays went into the strong hand. Minus 200 for the Kiss of Death with nothing on for the opponents.

"I am sure we must have missed game. Did we get a good score, Mr. Fisher? But of course you must have got a top board.... How many points did you have, ...? Let me see your hand. Do you think this is an opening hand, Mr. Fisher? But you have a 14 count. Why didn't you open your hand. Mr. Fisher, maybe you should tell my husband that he should open with 14 points. He's not a very good bridge player but he is learning. I played bridge better but of course you know better, Mr. Fisher. Where did we go wrong?" Ad absurdum ad infinitum.

Sok ran away from the room but Fisher was made of sterner stuff and stoically remained in his seat out of pity for the husband. Actually, it was very easy for Fisher as all he had to do during the monologue was to mention that she should ask 'Mr. Fisher' when he returned! Nobody remembered to play the second board (mercy) until the move was called.

The Winnipeg Bridge Club is to be commended for dishing out a suspension to a bridge player for excessive badgering of the opponents at the bridge table. The two-month suspension from play at the club would be the beginning of harsher punishments in order to protect the bridge public from any untoward gamesmanship, obnoxious or unethical behaviour at the bridge table. This step has the support of all bridge-loving people.

One of the reasons why bridge players do not play duplicate bridge is the hassling they receive from the opponents. Many do not enjoy being told, taught, or loud-mouthed by the opponents when they have made a bone-head play or have missed the inevitable slam.

A poll was made of bridge players, directors, and executive bridge officers and the consensus is that better players are more often the culprits.

Tournament directors claim that it would be easy to curb if the victims would report this behaviour more often.

It is difficult for many players to keep their concentration against such action and some find it better to avoid duplicate bridge. Those who use this behaviour to gain an advantage are at least guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct and would perhaps be surprised if considered unethical and astounded if accused of cheating.

If we unite and report players who volunteer unwelcome or unwanted remarks, these operators will become more visible and subject to disciplinary action. Bridge combat should be fought with skill rather than verbal diarrhoea.

Schlock It To 'Em

by A. David Mowat [Winnipeg]

In less than two years, my resistance broke down and in a moment of weakness, I agreed to play with the Bridge Personality of Manitoba. It is very difficult to describe our one and only and most people would rather not. It is simply amazing that this walking time bomb has still not self-destructed. His bridge has a style of his own.

Both vulnerable, matchpoints.

	AKQ	
	K952	
	AJ82	
	72	
J10865		9432
107		84
K543		Q7
Q5		J8643
	7	
	AQJ63	
	1096	
	AK109	

B. Personality

Our bidding had gone:-

<u>North</u>	<u>South</u>
1NT(16-18)	2D
2NT	4H
6H	

The 2D bid was meant to be a transfer, without telling partner, of course. When I replied 2NT, our bridge personality almost had a fit but we landed in the normal contract of 6H. This was how the play went.

The spade lead was won in dummy and two rounds of trumps cleared and a third round for good measure, ending in dummy. A low diamond(?) was led off the board losing to West's King and a spade continued for a club(?) pitch. The bridge personality took another two

minutes before cashing the top clubs and ruffing a third club in dummy. With nothing better to do, he then played the diamond Ace to drop the Queen. Making 6H. The look of relief on his face was priceless.

Our man could not figure out how everyone had made seven! This little exercise in futility took up so much time that at one stage of the game we were about two-and-a-half boards behind the field.

Perhaps I should not have opened with this next hand for in the eyes of the bridge personality I failed him miserably.

J1032
AQJ2
A10764

1094	A832
A854	Q9
10754	K83
83	KJ92

KQJ765
K76
96
Q5

B. Personality

After I made the unaccountable error of opening the North hand, the bridge personality found himself in 4S doubled. East doubled for his experience was that our man was incapable of handling a contract.

The club lead was finessed and won by East who chose to return the heart nine to the King! and Ace. The club return went to the Queen. East took the trump Ace and cleared the heart Queen before playing a club for West to ruff. The defence still has to make the diamond King (the way he played it) and the trump eight for down four.

Not all our boards went this way for our man even got in a double or two of his own.

A73
A5
AQ72
AJ86

J2	9865
9832	K104
8543	96
943	K1075

B. Personality

KQ104
QJ76
KJ10
Q2

When our opponents crawled to 6NT (South), our bridge personality found a double with the East hand (directions changed for convenience). I led the spade Jack and it did not take the declarer long to determine that East held the outstanding high cards. How to make use of this information? Declarer could see ten top tricks in 4S, 4D, and the two Aces with the finesses in the rounded suits being sure to fail. An eleventh trick would materialize by taking such a losing finesse and establishing the Jack of that suit.

But where would the twelfth trick come from? The declarer found this problem insoluble and went down one.

"I knew I had a good double", confided the bridge personality after we chalked up our only top for the evening. In fact, the double had given away the location of the high cards and pointed out the winning play.

All declarer had to do was to lead away from either of his finessable Aces and then take a finesse in the other if East ducks. If East wins the King, two tricks are established right away to bring the total to twelve. The declarer should not release the Ace first, for then East could duck and cash the established King after the other finesse loses.

Too bad the declarer did not find the right line of play.

Finesses Are Not Really Chinese

Mike (The Shoe) Schoenborn
Toronto, Ontario

Since I am so unlucky, a feeling of horror passed through me when it came down to the last match in the Unit 166 Morehead qualifier and the vaunted Squaddra Hart (of which I am a member) needed only to win by 4 IMPs against Team Thorpe, an aggregation containing not only Thorpe herself but also the well-known internationalists McKenzie, Piglet and Arno Hobart the Chinese. Arno is not really Chinese but is so named for his partiality to the Chinese finesse.

For the uninitiated, the true Chinese finesse occurs when a player negotiates the holding Axxx opposite KJxx by leading the Jack and inducing the person with the offside Queen not to cover. The members of Team Thorpe favoured variations of this play that were really more like backwards finesses because they also included holding the nine in the suit in question.

Thus, for example, from the holding Axxx opposite KJ9x, Captain Thorpe had long been known to favour the lead of the King, followed by the Jack, thus affording her the opportunity to "squash the ten". It is rumoured that Captain Thorpe once performed this feat three times in a single session.

During the intermission before the key match, Arno was expounding the virtues of the Chinese finesse and other psychopathic tactics which they had used to dispatch the third seed in our section. I did not have the courage to say, but thought secretly: "Man with last name Hobart have right to think upside down, for Hobart is capital of Tasmania."

Being blessed with a five man team, I did not have to trouble myself further with such stratagems; it was my turn to sit out. Instead I could spend a profitable hour

dreaming up new chapters for my second definitive bridge text: "The Secret Diary of a Bridge Groupie".

The first sign that something was wrong was that at halftime I couldn't find anybody on my team. Finally, one of them walked by and I asked "How much are we down?" (only kidding, of course) and he kept on walking by. The others were giving the last rites to the Farmer's convention card so that it seemed disrespectful to yell at them simply because we trailed by the slender margin of 36 IMPs after the first nine boards.

The Farmer, who had been the steadying influence on our team both with his play and with his attitude in earlier matches, seemed the most shocked of anyone. I happened upon him pacing back and forth in the washroom and periodically dousing his head under the tap. (Perhaps the water was hot). "Not to worry", I lied, "if we can lose that many, so can they". But it was not to be. In the second half we regained a mere 3 IMPs.

After the game, Arno (the Chinese) came up to me with a playing problem from the first half of our match: you are in six hearts holding:

S.KJ1042
H.J10
D.A932
C.A4

S.A
H.AKQ986
D.KJ86
C.J5

The diamond suit looked vaguely familiar but I was only in six hearts, so I couldn't see any problem. "The two of clubs is led", says Arno, "and there is no adverse bidding." A nice lead by partners to no avail. I indicated I would win, cash a heart, travel to the Ace of spades, go back to dummy's second heart (LHO shows out with a club) and lead the King of spades.

"That's exactly how I played it", says Arno, "and would you believe a member of your team laughed at me as he trumped my King of spades?"

Arno continued, "So I over-ruffed and drew some trumps to this ending":

	S.J	
	H.---	
	D.A932	
	C.4	
S.Q9		S.---
H.---		H.---
D.?		D.?
C.?		C.?
	S.---	
	H.6	
	D.KJ86	
	C.J	

Why was I getting that uneasy feeling about the diamonds? Arno proceeded as if it were a matter of course: "I now led the Jack of clubs, which was won by RHO with the Queen. LHO showed in, so that he had now produced three clubs, counting his discard on the second trump. The club King was continued, I ruffed, and LHO discarded the nine of spades. LHO was now counted out to be exactly 6-1-3-3. As no-one had pitched a diamond, the ending was:"

	S.---	
	H.---	
	D.A932	
	C.---	
S.Q		S.---
H.---		H.---
D.???		D.???
C.---		C.109
	S.---	
	H.6	
	D.KJ86	
	C.J	

Yes, it was really going to happen. Arno reasoned that he could only win if RHO had either a doubleton Queen or a doubleton ten, so it might as well be the doubleton ten. This play worked nicely though Captain Thorpe would have led the King ahead of the Jack to squash the ten, which would also have worked.

My analysis that there are three doubleton tens and four doubleton Queens impressed exactly nobody.

At the other table, it transpired that the Farmer and Mack King had reached the not-totally-insane contract of seven diamonds, which went two down after a club lead and a losing diamond finesse. The net loss converted to 17 IMPs in favour of Team Thorpe. Just to see how unlucky I was, I calculated that had the Queen of diamonds been onside, seven diamonds would have made while six hearts was three down, and the gain of 2440 would have meant 20 IMPs for our side - a swing of 37 IMPs. In this calculation, it is of course necessary to ignore the fact that only the 6-1 spade break put six hearts in danger in the first place.

I awoke the next morning having dreamed there was a better way to play six hearts. There was about a 94.5% chance of making the hand on Arno's line: it lost whenever spades were 7-0 (1.5%) plus all times when spades were 6-1 without the singleton Queen and where the singleton spade has three or more trumps and the diamond suit is playing for a loser (about 4%). The other possibility had seemed to be to draw all the outstanding trumps and then to abandon the diamond safety play in favour of the sure pitch of a club loser on the King of spades. This loses to 30% of the 4-1 diamond splits plus 50% of the 5-0 diamond splits (8% plus 3%) and was therefore worse.

The play that is more difficult to see, assuming the same club lead, is to win in dummy, cash one trump, play the Ace of spades and, given again that LHO discards low-high in clubs on the second heart to dummy, win in dummy and lead the Jack of spades. If RHO shows in small, the club is discarded and declarer is in a position to claim unless LHO wins the Queen and RHO can ruff a diamond return. In any other case, declarer wins in the closed hand, playing low to a spade

return and ruffing if necessary. After trumps are drawn, dummy has two high spades for diamond discards. The play of the Jack of spades is superior whenever RHO has a singleton spade and neglects to ruff and, in addition, as on the given hand, whenever the opponent with long spades shows up with three or more diamonds.

Suppose in fact that RHO did have the presence of mind to ruff the Jack of spades. The overruff followed by the run of all but one of the trumps and the club exit produces this position with RHO on lead:

	S.K10	
	H.---	
	D.A93	
	C.---	
S.Q9		S.---
H.---		H.---
D.Q75		D.104
C.---		C.K109
	S.---	
	H.6	
	D.KJ86	
	C.---	

A club return is ruffed by declarer and simultaneously counts out LHO's hand as 6-1-3-3. LHO must discard a diamond so that suit becomes known to be 2-2, or a spade that gives declarer two high spades and two high diamonds. A diamond return instead of a club by RHO is better but picks up the diamond suit. It would appear that the only chance to set the hand is for RHO to discard a diamond at some stage and never to part with a club, thereby depriving declarer of a count on the hand. That would work against anyone but Arno the Chinese, who would work out that on a hand that obviously depended on the diamonds, why would anyone discard a diamond to keep all those little clubs?

Even Eric the Half-Bee, who is part of another story, failed to poke the obvious hole in this

analysis. I mean, if LHO is really marked with three or more clubs, which seems likely considering that otherwise RHO held, white against red

S.x H.xxxx D.x C.KQ10xxxx

and never came into the auction, then LHO can hold at most three diamonds. That means that the contract can be 100% guaranteed by overruffing RHO's ruff of the Jack of spades, drawing trumps, leading a diamond to the Ace, discarding the club on the King of spades and taking the diamond finesse. Squeezes are nice but sometimes finesses are better even if they lose.

Two more days later, I woke up realizing that a swing of 37 IMPs results in, you guessed it, a win for us by 4 IMPs. Which is when I wrote to tell you how unlucky I am. And also, to congratulate Team Thorpe and the other qualifiers and to wish them all the best on their further stops on the too-long Morehead trail.

ALTERNATE LINE

Gordon Keel of Vancouver disagrees with Keith Aipotu's analysis of the first hand in his February article "Kayoad".

He writes, "Keith berates himself for the discard of the spade nine and his partner agrees to the extent of not speaking to him. In fact, the spade nine has no defensive function. If declarer - reasonably - decides to lead twice toward the KJ of spades playing LHO for AQ, he will succeed. If he - also reasonably - decides to lead the spade 10, LH must play the Q in order to give declarer an apparent option - and the K wins. When declarer now leads toward the J8 he may think he has a problem since RHO may have the A or the 9. In fact he doesn't since either card is right. The nine discard made it easier but declarer was always making."

Lillie Hills Obituary



Lillie Hills, one of Vancouver's leading bridge players for many years, who died recently, had an extraordinary memory for cards. She might forget with whom she was supposed to play, or where she hung her coat, but she never forgot a bridge hand.

I used to drive her to and from the duplicate games at the old Skyline Bridge Club and one night, on the way home, I said, "Lillie, I remember when I was a very junior player and you bid a little slam. I doubled because I held the ace of trumps, another ace, and some other strength, and you made the hand easily".

She replied, "Oh yes, you were holding.....", and then she described my hand.

I said, "You can't possibly remember my hand. That was several years ago and you play bridge nearly every afternoon and night".

She replied, "I remember every bridge hand I've played. They are like files in my memory. I just have to pull out the file and there it is".

Lillie was born in Killarney, Ontario, but lived most of her life in British Columbia. Lifemaster number 2015, she was one of the earliest Vancouverites - the second lady - to earn a gold card.

She was in the winners' circle at least once for most major events in this area. In 1964, playing with her favourite partner, Otto Leesment, Lillie won the Open Pairs at the

Polar Regional in Alaska, thus earning a trip to the Toronto Nationals that year.

A raft of newspaper clippings includes the following:

"Bridge Biz - As you know, bridge players brook no frivolities; and anything other than bridge is frivolous. So the Skyline Bridge Club people are claiming a new record. It seems that when midnight struck and the new year came in, players at the club actually stopped playing to toast '53 and sing "Auld Lang Syne" for 15 minutes."

[Obituary prepared by Bob Bowman and Henry Smilie, Vancouver, B.C.]

At the Vancouver Spring Sectional



"Each of you is given a life sentence as master and each of you is given a life sentence as a member of the A.C.B.L. There is no appeal. You may be relieved to know, however, that the two sentences are concurrent. The significance of life membership is, of course, that henceforth you don't have to pay any dues. So, next time the matter of an increase in dues comes up, you will be expected not to object. Incidentally, the number of life masters has just gone over 25,000. Send these lifers back to whence they came. And thank you, Sheriff Wood".

[The 'judge' (barely visible) wore a gown but forgot his wig.]

MAVIS MYRTLE DAVIDSON 1902-1977

Myrtle Davidson, dear and gracious lady, died on Monday, February 28th, from injuries sustained in an auto accident on the previous Wednesday. She was an immensely popular figure in the Toronto Bridge Community, particularly the Scarborough/Agincourt area, and it is a little surprising to realize that Myrtle only came to our city 8 years ago. She was born in Jamaica, of English parents, and spent her girlhood there. She was sent to England for her education and there she married and had her only child, a daughter, Heather, now Mrs. Ralph Robinson, of St. Catharines, Ontario. When her husband died, she returned to Jamaica and there married a second time. Following Mr. Davidson's death, she came to Toronto to be near her daughter and soon had entered into our local Bridge scene. She began at the Scarborough Centennial Community Centre in a duplicate game offered by Ken Oddy to accommodate his bridge students and others interested. She soon was playing regularly in the local Duplicate clubs and joined the ACBL in 1973. We are happy to report that she achieved her oft-repeated dream of getting more than 100 Master Points, and then some. Such was the affection generated by Myrtle in all who met her that a collection, initiated by the players at the Agincourt and Scarborough Bridge Clubs for flowers, in one short week, resulted in a gift to the Canadian Charitable Foundation in Myrtle's memory of \$200.00!

[Obituary prepared by Dorothy Howley, Secretary of the Scarborough Bridge Studio.]

CANADIAN OPEN TEAMS

Alberta Report - Pam Liegerot, Calgary

What happens when a lot of good players get together? They find out who's best after the braggin' session by playing in the first-ever Canadian Open Team championship.

In Alberta, 268 of our finest turned out for the first qualifying round and the 28 teams who scrambled through meet in late April to determine the Alberta representative for the National play-off in Toronto this summer.

Among the qualifiers are the wild team from Edmonton who wield the "Abominable Club" system. Last year they won their way to the finals of the Grand National Teams in Salt Lake City at the North American Championships.

CANADIAN CHARITABLE FUND

by Maurice Gauthier, Montreal

The report covering the attendance and the receipts of the Canadian Bridge Federation's Canada-wide Charity Game on November 23, 1976 shows that 4,676 players took part and that \$8,380.50 was contributed to the Canadian Charitable Fund of the American Contract Bridge League.

These figures created new records for the semi-annual tournaments, breaking the old record of 4,066 participants and \$7,413.14 in donations established in the November, 1975 game.

Ontario led the six zones of the Canadian Bridge Federation with \$3,164.50 and 438-1/2 tables; Quebec was second with \$1,475.25 and 212 tables, and British Columbia was third with \$1,110.25 and 145 tables.

Totals in the other zones were: the Maritimes, \$1,090.50 and 154 tables; Manitoba-Saskatchewan, \$826 and 117 tables, and Alberta, \$714 and 102-1/2 tables.

The Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society has received a grant of \$25,000 from the fund for the year 1976 and have been selected to benefit again from the fund for the year 1977.

District 1 (CBF Zones 1 and 2) will be having a charity game on Thursday, October 20, 1977.

LESSONS FROM PRINCE ALBERT

A5
982
104
AQ9853

by Gim Ong, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Prologue

My plane made a wrong turning and landed me in Prince Albert, where I actually had some business to attend to. There's nothing impressive about Prince Albert apart from the fact that it's 90 miles from Saskatoon and that god himself lives there. Rumour has it that John D. is going to live forever and in Prince Albert. Things would definitely not be the same without him.

Not having resigned myself to a dull, drab and dreary evening in PA, I made a few phone calls to bridge players. They must have known I was coming for Pete McLaren, Eddie Gaudet, Fred Brown, Ted Johnston and Linda Howard had conveniently left town. President Connie Propych could not be found and Bobbi MacDonald was on her way to her annual Caribbean junket. My bridge fame had preceded me for Bobbi recommended that I play in the Non-Masters. "Perhaps you'll learn a thing or two," she added.

Prince Albert is one of the few clubs left that reserves a night each week for the non-masters in which at least one member of the partnership must have less than ten master points. This is a great idea as it permits the newer members to have a chance to partner someone better and thereby accelerate their bridge learning. Bobbi had thought it would be a good idea for me to play with somebody better! She could talk as she had just recently tied for first place overall at the Nationwide Charity Pairs with a score of 70.8% playing with somebody better, Pete McLaren.

I could only remember one hand from that evening's play.

J982
AQJ74
965
J
Me

10763
65
QJ3
10742
Hot Shot

KQ4
K103
AK872
K6

The opponents crawled all the way up to 3NT played by South. I led a spade after having been admonished by partner on a previous hand never to lead away from my tenace. The declarer moved into high gear as he won with the spade Queen and immediately played another spade to the Ace in dummy. He was a young player who had not heard of my compatriot, Confucius, who once said, "If both sides leading same suit, one side clazy".

Anyway he won two rounds of clubs and did not quite like the situation when partner (he has heard of Confucius) slyly intoned, "Having no crubs, partner?" On the diamond ten, hot-shot split his honours and the Jack was allowed to hold. Hot-shot could not believe his good fortune and, after protracted thought, returned the club ten! which the declarer (he could not believe his good fortune either) ducked! Hot-shot then played the heart six and when the declarer covered with the King, I won with the Ace and swiftly cashed out the hearts for down three. Perhaps there's something to this game after all!

I decided to come back to PA for more lessons at their very successful Sectional held on February 4-6.

Lesson in Organization and Directing

The Sectional, under the capable organization of Pete McLaren and his hardworking committees, left nothing to be desired even down to the trophies presented by Doug Scott. Tournament direction

was handled by Cam Cameron and Don Carson, who even managed a Directors and Club Managers Seminar on Saturday. How Cam could get up at ten for this last chore is still a mystery and a minor miracle.

Lesson in Play or the Len Racette Pairs

The Open Pairs was aptly named after Len Racette, who by his own recognition is the rising star from Saskatoon. Doug Scott did his best and was carried all the way to the Consolation event. Here is an example of Len's dazzling footwork.

None vulnerable.

	A10	
	3	
	Q852	
	AKQ953	
96542		KQ8
654		AJ10972
764		9
J2		1084
	J73	
	KQ8	
	AKJ103	
	76	
	Len	

Playing in 6NT, young Len received the club Jack lead. Doug tabled his hand and figuring Len could handle a cold contract, left to get a bar. When he returned he was not impressed when he looked at the scorecard and saw a minus 50.

"Did clubs break?"

"Yes," quaked Len.

"Did the diamonds split?"

"Yes," quaked Len.

"How many diamonds did you have?"

"Five," quaked Len.

Still incredulous, Doug sneaked a look at the South hand. To this day, he still could not figure how the contract had gone down, for there were twelve tricks in 6C, 5D and SA. Should we tell him? Len

actually won the club Ace, ran a few diamonds, gave West a dirty look, and finessed in clubs. Curtains.

Len Racette did not defend the Consolation trophy which he had won two years in a row. That dubious honour went to Dr. Bill Lukas and Earl 'the Hog' Knipfel. Maybe next year, Len.

Lesson in Psyching

Two cowboys from Regina scored zero matchpoints on this hand when West decided to open his thirteen cards in first seat.

Both vulnerable, West dealer.

	AQ975	
	74	
	Q9	
	KJ96	
6		J3
10863		AQJ952
A10843		6
753		AQ104
	K10842	
	K	
	KJ752	
	82	

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
1D!	1S	2H	2S
Pass	Pass	3C	Pass
3H	Pass	4H	All Pass

4H made 5 when the double finesse in clubs worked.

Rick Boldt from Saskatoon did not have the same intestinal fortitude and passed the West hand. He took the push to 5H when the opponents bid 4S, and received the obvious double. He has now learned how it feels to have a top converted to a bottom when partner failed to take the same double finesse. Story of his life, he moaned sadly, at the bar.

Epilogue

I did not win any trophies this trip but my reputation is still untarnished. Thank you for all the lessons, Prince Albert, for I shall be back next year.

Bridge to PEI

by Jack King, PEI

Got ya, Joe.

We have a rustic gentleman here who would not even think of hurting a fly. He plays bridge once in a while and unless the opponents know his character, they are in for a whale of trouble. Old Joe would be bidding his way along and the record he created was when the partnership took seven rounds of bidding to arrive at a game contract with both partners bidding every suit and notrumps!

To say that Joe is the greatest underbidder alive, would be the greatest understatement of the century. Once, the facetious young man heard this auction, 1H by Joe, 2H by Joe's partner and then 3H by Joe. Sitting with a trump stack and a scattering of points, the facetious young man decided he had a double. Too late did he realize his brash error, for Joe only had twenty points and couldn't believe himself when he made the contract with two doubled overtricks.

The facetious young man has been had, but not really. So he vowed and had this secret ambition to be able to double Joe in a contract and defeat him. So has many a young 'un. Then one day the young 'un held five trumps behind Joe and felt he had a good double when Joe bid once more.

None vulnerable, North dealer:

AKQ532

AJ74

A95

864

74

10983

8764

7

KQJ1093

KQ6

QJ3

Joe

J109

A8652

52

K102

Facetious young man

This was the auction:

West	North	East	South
	1C*	1H	Pass
Pass	1S	2H!	X
Pass	Pass	Pass	

* = Precision

As he made the double, the facetious young man turned to Joe and chuckled, "And this time, you're going to go down! I guarantee it".

The play went slowly for Joe was never known to play fast or hastily. The facetious young man led the spade Jack, which North overtook to lead another round to watch it being ruffed by Joe. The heart nine play was allowed to win and when North failed to follow, Joe switched to the diamond King to North's Ace. Another spade lead was ruffed by Joe, who now had less trumps than South.

Undaunted, Joe played the diamond Queen and continued with another diamond, won by North as South discarded the club deuce. North returned a club to South's King and the ten played next to North's Ace. The third club was trumped by the facetious young man who had yet the heart Ace to defeat Joe two tricks.

"I'm sorry, partner, I bid too much" Joe meekly apologized to his partner, as North scored up plus 300 points.

The facetious young man realized his ambition all right but not without the cost of all the matchpoints on the board. It didn't take him too long to realize that he was cold for slam in spades. Got ya?

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The Life Master Syndrome

Sub-Class 3B

by Mike Wiss, Saskatoon

My partner in a club game was a life master, and a good, though not exceptional player. My LHO could be described in a like manner, though two decades younger and of the fairer sex.

On the first of two boards, I held as dealer:

S	H	D	C
K	Q	x	A
9	J	x	Q
x		x	9
			8
			x

with none vulnerable.

Although hands of this nature often improve in the bidding (i.e.: One Club, Pass, One Heart, Pass), they are just as likely to deflate faster than a schizophrenic's ego (i.e.: One Club, One Heart, One Spade, Two Hearts). Anyone bidding a black suit at this point would have made a good aristocrat during the French Revolution. With the additional reasons that it is easier for an opponent to overcall than to open, and that balancing later, if necessary, will be easier, I passed. LHO also passed and partner ante'd a weak Two Spades; Pass by RHO and also by me (yes, all you Pigs out there, I know; but I also know LHO) and LHO chimed in with Three Clubs! I had but a moment to savour this unforeseen development when partner (unlike some LM's who really don't know any better) piped in a call of Three Spades! In the time it took RHO to twitch I had made my decision.

Partner was a respected player but I've personally believed that respect is a commodity rare enough that it has to be earned, not given, and after earned once, re-earned. Therefore, after RHO's slow pass, I booted the contract to Four Spades and redoubled when the auction again came around to me.

600 in the proverbial ashcan and one egg later LHO looked at me and inquired if we were having a bad game. I raised my eyebrow (to the best of my admittedly meagre ability) and said, "On the contrary, we were three and a half boards over average. Even had it made for a top, the result is irrelevant." And though my partner knew, the puzzled expression on LHO's face showed my reasoning escaped her.

On the following board we scored a clear top and ended the day winning the game. I can hardly wait to become a Life Master so I too can understand less about this wonderful sport than I should.

VANCOUVER CAPTURES ATTENDANCE RECORD

Vancouver, with 2406 tables at the January Regional, captured the Western record from Calgary who have held it for eight years. Calgary's previous best attendance was 2401 tables but now the chips are down.

Calgary's Pam Liegerot claims that the fabulous entertainment planned for their White Hat Regional July 18th through 24th will please even those who don't play bridge. As a warm-up Calgary is putting on their Calgary Stampede the week before the tournament.

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Postage paid on all prepaid orders.

Canadian Champions for 1976

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Unit</u>		<u>Points</u>
<u>Category A - Rookie of the Year</u>			
1	(391)	Dr. D.V. Shapira, Edmonton, Alta.	115.45
2	(575)	Mr. C.G. Puskas, Saskatoon, Sask.	108.5
3	(575)	Mr. B.C. Harper, Saskatoon, Sask.	104.9
4	(192)	Miss J.E. Eaton, Kingston, Ont.	98.64
5	(151)	Mr. V. De Breyne, Montreal, P.Q.	88.89
<u>Category B - Non-Master of the Year</u>			
1	(166)	Mr. D. Markovic, Willowdale, Ont.	113.88
2	(575)	Mrs. A.W. Norman, Saskatoon, Sask.	102.18
3	(430)	Mr. A. Ballantyne, Burnaby, B.C.	100.13
4	(391)	Mr. G.E. Tokarchuk, Edmonton, Alta.	98.62
5	(151)	Mr. V. De Breyne, Montreal, P.Q.	88.89
<u>Category C - Master of the Year</u>			
1	(575)	Mr. A. Laha, Saskatoon, Sask.	150.67
2	(430)	Mr. H. Piercy, Burnaby, B.C.	132.81
3	(194)	Mr. R.T. Mak, Halifax, N.S.	121.61
4	(181)	Mr. M. Rahtjen, Winnipeg, Man.	118.07
5	(181)	Mr. R. Kuz, Selkirk, Man.	116.05
<u>Category D - National Master of the Year</u>			
1	(192)	Mr. V. Pomykalski, St. Laurent, P.Q.	175.22
2	(575)	Mr. J.W. Norman, Saskatoon, Sask.	160.73
3	(181)	Mr. N.D. Kimelman, Winnipeg, Man.	142.01
4	(575)	Mr. D. Schneider, Saskatoon, Sask.	134.79
5	(199)	Mr. J. Maltais, Kenogami, P.Q.	124.27
<u>Category E - Senior Master of the Year</u>			
1	(430)	Mr. D. Dohi, Vancouver, B.C.	250.62
2	(151)	Mr. M.J. Kenny, St. Laurent, P.Q.	207.91
3	(166)	Mr. K.R. Warren, Scarborough, Ont.	202.31
4	(430)	Mr. R. Betts, Vancouver, B.C.	196.16
5	(192)	Mr. M. Lamothe, Ottawa, Ont.	178.99
<u>Category F - Advanced Senior Master of the Year</u>			
1	(181)	Mr. B. Maksymetz, Winnipeg, Man.	396.17
2	(192)	Mr. D.R. McCorkell, Kingston, Ont.	267.36
3	(431)	Mr. R.G. McOrmond, Victoria, B.C.	264.99
4	(391)	Mr. G. Hardy, Edmonton, Alta.	233.03
5	(192)	Mr. N.A. Bedoucha, Ottawa, Ont.	217.78
<u>Category G - Life Master of the Year</u>			
1	(430)	Mr. B. J. Ferguson, New Westminster, B.C.	929.23
2	(192)	Mr. B. Lagowski, Ottawa, Ont.	526.59
3	(430)	Mr. R. J. Donaldson, Burnaby, B.C.	458.25
4	(181)	Mr. A.W. De Groot, Winnipeg, Man.	436.67
5	(166)	Mr. D. Lindop, Toronto, Ont.	432.57