

ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION
QUARTERLY

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CANNES

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April 17-23 1967

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The next issue of this review will give full details of the **Fourth Annual Deauville Festival of Bridge.**

Bridge-Golf Tournament, July 7th to July 12th.

4th Annual Festival of Bridge, July 21st to July 30th.

For advance information write to Mme N. ANSAY (address as above).

DEAUVILLE

The Aristocrat of
Bridge Festivals



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION

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Edited by HAROLD FRANKLIN



We would like this publication to reflect the activities of the English Bridge Union, of the County Associations, of international bridge. We would like to cater for the many who are more interested in technique than in news and we recognise that no bridge publication is complete without a competition. Only a larger publication would permit all these ends to be met and a larger magazine might mean a levy of half-a-crown a head on the members, annually. In the absence of such a solution we must accept the fact that there is not room for everything and make a choice.

Ideally the choice should be with the members, to whom the Quarterly, no less than the E.B.U. itself, belongs. The opinions which have been volunteered suggest that to date the accent has been too heavily on the technical. This has been such a "newsy" quarter that in this issue it has been necessary to redress the balance somewhat drastically.

We hope that you, the members, will exercise your choice by expressing it. Clearly it can never be possible to meet the wishes of every individual ; however, the larger the number of members who write to express their views, the more accurately will we be able to judge the general feeling.

The Inquiry into the Buenos Aires Affair, instituted by the British Bridge League, was financed largely by the E.B.U. It is proper therefore that the Tribunal's Report should be published to the members at the first possible opportunity. Although the Report was submitted to the British Bridge League on August 4th, 1966, this is the first opportunity to do so since any earlier publication would have been contrary to counsel's opinion, which has been sought at various stages.

STATEMENT FROM THE BRITISH BRIDGE LEAGUE

The Council of the British Bridge League are concerned about the publication in the English and North American Press of extracts from Sir John Foster's Report to the Council and comment thereon. In order to correct any misconception which may have arisen as a result they have decided to ask the Editors of the *Bridge Magazine* and the *English Bridge Union Quarterly* to publish the Report in full.

REPORT

We were asked by the British Bridge League to enquire into allegations that Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro had cheated by giving finger signals at the World Bridge Championship in Buenos Aires in May, 1965.

We agreed to conduct this enquiry in an honorary capacity and have held some thirty sittings which have been spread over approximately some ten months during which fourteen witnesses have been called. The reason for this length of time is very largely (except for the period of the General Election) due to the fact that Counsel for the two persons accused was unable to agree to more frequent hearings owing to pressure of other cases in which he was engaged. We were assisted most expertly and most patiently by the two assessors, Messrs. Priday and Hiron, who commented on and explained the analysis of over fifty hands put forward by both sides.

The reference to us arose out of a report by the World Bridge Federation drawn up at the end of the World Bridge Championship, in which the Federation announced its findings on the allegations of cheating brought by certain members of the American team and Mr. Truscott, the "New York Times" Bridge correspondent. The report recorded the fact that the Federation had found the allegations proved. The allegations were that Messrs. Reese and Schapiro had signalled with their fingers the number of Hearts in their hands. One finger on the outside of the cards when they were held in the right or left hand denoted One Heart, 2 fingers Two Hearts and so on to 4 fingers. 2 fingers splayed indicated Five Hearts and 3 fingers splayed represented Six Hearts.

The report was referred to the British Bridge League who decided that an independent enquiry should be held. It was agreed with the legal representatives of the two players accused (they were represented by Counsel and solicitors) and with the British Bridge League who were similarly represented, that the case against Messrs. Reese and Schapiro should be presented by the British Bridge League. Accordingly this report is being communicated privately by us to the League, to whom we leave the decision of whether to publish all, or some, or none of the report.

The evidence before us can be divided into two classes; the evidence of witnesses who say they saw finger signals exchanged and the technical evidence as to the bidding and sometimes (but much less often) as to the play of the hands.

The conduct of the proceedings by the World Bridge Federation in Buenos Aires was most unsatisfactory. The allegations were first investigated before the Appeals Committee, then by the Executive Committee. Mr. Butler, who is Chairman of the British Bridge League, was Chairman of the Appeals Committee at which Mr. Swimer, the non-playing Captain of the English team, also attended.

The evidence before the Appeals Committee was mainly concerned with the direct evidence of signals being exchanged. Mr. Swimer and Mr. Butler read from their notes as to the number of fingers shown by Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro in front of their cards. Mr. Swimer gave evidence that he had watched the pair and that there was an exact correspondence between the number of fingers shown and the holding of Hearts in 19 hands, while Mr. Butler's evidence, confined to watching 9 of the hands which Mr. Swimer had observed, was that there was correspondence in some 5 or 6 hands. Similar evidence was given by these gentlemen to us.

Mr. Truscott was reported by Mr. Butler (to the Appeals Committee) as having observed signals and came to the conclusion that they represented Heart holdings. Mr. Truscott had told Mr. Butler that in a number of cases the bidding had suggested that the pair knew the distribution of the Heart suit. Mr. Truscott had shown Mr. Butler and Mr. Swimer a number of hands which, according to Mr. Truscott, "indicated that this pair had never played a Heart contract if it was unsuitable." Mr. Butler and Mr. Swimer had agreed that in some cases the bidding looked suspicious. Mr. Truscott also gave evidence to us on the same lines but was on this occasion much less positive about his "indirect" evidence, i.e. his analysis of the bidding.

Mr. Becker of the American team told the Appeals Committee that he had noticed finger signals during the play and that his partner, Mrs. Hayden, had also noticed signals. Both these players gave evidence at the hearings before us in great detail to the same effect.

Mr. Reese was called in before the Appeals Committee and denied the charge. He asked to see the evidence and Mr. Truscott was called in with his analysis of the hands he had previously shown to Mr. Butler and Mr. Swimer. Mr. Reese did not agree that the bidding had been unnatural or had suggested knowledge of the Heart suit.

Mr. Schapiro when summoned before the Committee denied the charge and said it was absurd.

In the afternoon of the same day, Sunday, May 25, 1965, there was a meeting of the World Bridge Federation Executive Committee at which Mr. Butler and Mr. Swimer repeated the evidence they had given before the Appeals Committee. Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro were called in and told of the detailed check of the hands observed, both by Mr. Butler and Mr. Swimer. After they withdrew the charges were held proved.

We say that the proceedings at the Appeals Committee, and at the review by the Executive Committee, were unsatisfactory for the following reasons:—

Mr. Butler was Chairman of the Appeals Committee yet his evidence was of the greatest importance. Mr. Swimer, who was also a witness, was nevertheless present throughout the sitting of the Appeals Committee.

The Appeals Committee did not seek all the available evidence, some of which was disclosed in Mr. Butler's testimony. Neither Mrs. Hayden or Mr. Kehala, the American Deputy-Captain, were called in to give evidence. Mrs. Hayden's evidence in particular was of great importance as she had taken notes and had played against Messrs. Reese and Schapiro, both in the sessions where observation had taken place, and before.

The two players accused were not, in our opinion, given sufficient opportunity of defending themselves. The main defence against the direct evidence was a denial but it was very important that this direct evidence should be tested as soon as possible to examine whether any errors or self-persuasion

had occurred and the opportunities and positions for observations should have been closely examined as near the time the observation occurred as possible. This was not done. Nor was the technical evidence examined, except very perfunctorily.

The evidence at our hearings of the experts who came from various countries, was that if there is any cheating it is always revealed in the bidding and play. Mr. de Heredia (a professional Tournament Director), Mr. Ortis Patino, Mr. Flint and Mr. Konstam were quite categorical that if a pair cheated, then this could be detected in the record of their bidding and playing the cards.

The evidence about the bidding and play did not support the allegations of cheating. There were hands where Messrs. Reese and Schapiro had cards which, using conventional methods, would have justified a bid in Hearts yet they either failed to find the suit at all or failed to bid high enough.

In U.S. 74, Mr. Reese left his partner in a One Heart contract when Mr. Schapiro had Four Hearts to the Ten and Mr. Reese had Jack and another, instead of calling One No Trump, which would have been a better contract in any case, and certainly better with the knowledge of the Heart holding.

In Italy 56, Mr. Reese, playing against Three Diamonds, failed to make the Ace of Hearts after winning with the King when his partner had a singleton in Hearts.

In Argentine 141, they had Ten Hearts between them yet never found the suit.

Obviously categorical evidence from several prominent players in International Bridge to the effect that they saw Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro signal by changing fingers on the back of their cards raises a strong suspicion that the allegations are well-founded. Against that must be set a number of considerations; the crudity of the signals, especially when one finger was shown, or when the fingers were splayed, with two or three fingers to show Five or Six Hearts; the concoction of a code to communicate information which is not as valuable as other information which could have been communicated less crudely and more economically in the number of signals. Six different positions of the hands were required for the code. At some of the sessions in which they were alleged to be cheating, there was no point in their doing so since Great Britain could not win the Tournament and in the last session at which observation took place, Great Britain was defeating the Argentinians anyway.

There is the further fact that Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro were on bad terms before the Tournament at Buenos Aires; that Mr. Reese had written a letter to the British Bridge League asking not to play with Mr. Schapiro and that the two players had had a row at Buenos Aires.

As indicated above, the play and bidding of the hands did not disclose any cheating. It was argued that players of the calibre of Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro would be so skilful as not to use the information so as to excite suspicion, but this would not account for the negative part of this matter, namely, that Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro played worse than their usual form at Buenos Aires and often failed to achieve a contract which they should have established if they had been playing non-cheating conventional methods and which they could not have failed to have reached if they had fore-knowledge of the Hearts. In other words, when there was a legitimate choice, if these two had been cheating, they would have called a contract which they would have been justified in calling on their style of play and which a knowledge of Hearts holding in partner's hand indicated clearly.

It is with reference to the "direct" evidence of observation that we have most reason to regret the procedure adopted at Buenos Aires and by the British Captain. What should have happened, in our view, when the Captain was informed of the suspicions, is that the players should have been watched either by the Tournament Director or by neutral persons (in this case neither United States, British, Italian or Argentine nationals) appointed by the Federation for this task, which would probably have been delegated to the Tournament Director or his subordinates. Obviously the object should have been to obtain independent corroboration of the accusation. Allegations of cheating are made fairly frequently and, as we were told, without real basis, in International Bridge. The corroboration sought and obtained was that of Mr. Butler and the English Captain. Mr. Butler's evidence is, we think, not clear corroboration and Mr. Swimer was a witness whose power of observation and recollection were marred by difficult relations with the two players. At the end of his evidence he gave entirely fresh evidence that Mr. Schapiro had confessed to him and that he, Mr. Swimer, had told Mr. Schapiro to deny the allegations. Mr. Schapiro had, according to Mr. Swimer, said that "that evil man Reese" had forced him to cheat because Mr. Schapiro would not play the Little Major. We do not believe that Mr. Schapiro would consent to cheat because he was unwilling to play the Little Major, or that Mr. Schapiro would have chosen the English Captain to whom to confess as their relationship was distant and to an extent antagonistic. We cannot understand why, if this confession took place, Mr. Swimer never reported it at Buenos Aires or told solicitor or Counsel for the British Bridge League, who called him as a witness.

As we said, the direct evidence is bound to raise suspicion. If accepted the odds against the observed fingers corresponding in so many cases to the number of Hearts held were so astronomical (running into million-to-one) that the only conclusion would have been that the two players were cheating.

Mrs. Hayden gave evidence before us, as did Mr. Becker and Mr. Truscott, that she had observed the players and noticed that Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro were making finger signals simultaneously. Later she, Mr. Becker and Mr. Truscott had "discovered", on checking with the hand records available, that the fingers corresponded with the Heart holding. The notes which she produced to us were not before the Appeals Committee, since Mrs. Hayden was not called by them.

Mr. Truscott, who went to watch after being told of their suspicions by Mr. Becker and Mrs. Hayden, also gave evidence to the same effect. In his case he told us he took no notes because he thought it might excite suspicion.

Mr. Kehala, the Vice-Captain and Coach of the United States team, stated that he had come to the conclusion that the two players accused were not cheating. Mr. Kehala told us that he had watched some 9 or 10 hands; that while he was watching he was convinced that the pair were cheating; that this conviction was not due to what he saw but because he had believed what he was told. Later, after looking at the record of the hands, he had come to the conclusion that Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro had not been cheating since the hands showed no evidence of such cheating. He decided that the correspondence in fingers and Hearts holdings which he had observed was coincidental, i.e. not due to cheating. The other hands which he watched, the number of fingers shown and the number of Hearts held did not tally. At the time he had watched the play he was not concerned to see if the pair were cheating since he had believed what he had been told, namely, that Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro were exchanging signals and he was at that time only interested in seeing how they were cheating, a fact about which he was already convinced. It was only afterwards, he told us, that he realised from the bidding and play that there had been no cheating.

The effect of a finding of cheating is just as serious for those accused as a finding of guilt of a crime. The standard of proof required in a criminal court to return a verdict of guilty is that the jury or court should be satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt. We think that the same standard should be applied here and that the indirect or technical evidence raises such a doubt. There was no sign of cheating in the bidding or play of the cards. In fact the bidding and play were in instances such that it would appear that the pair could not be cheating. They failed to find contracts or failed to make bids which a fore-knowledge of the Heart holding would have enabled them to achieve without raising suspicion. Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro played badly at Buenos Aires, below their form and certainly no better than the other British pair against whom there were no allegations of cheating.

The indirect evidence is of importance in considering the findings of guilt before the Appeals Committee and the Executive Committee. When Mr. Reese "asked to see the evidence . . . Mr. Truscott was called in with his analysis which he had previously shown to Mr. Butler and Mr. Swimer."

Clearly the Appeals Committee attached importance to this "indirect" evidence, but unfortunately the "analysis" of Mr. Truscott was superficial having regard to all the hands played by Mr. Reese and Mr. Schapiro. Mr. Butler had reported that Mr. Truscott had told him that "a number of hands" had "indicated that this pair had never played a Heart contract without a fit and had avoided a Heart contract if the fit was unsuitable." This is not true. The 8 hands produced to Mr. Butler by Mr. Truscott were ITALY 22, 23, 25, 26, 34 & 117 and USA 30 & 36. Mr. Truscott told us "I did not find at that time any hands which the players had failed to locate a good fit in the Heart suit or in which they had arrived at an unsatisfactory contract in the Heart suit." Later he said "it seemed to me they were locating the Heart suit with great consistency." It was wrong of the Appeals Committee to rely on the small sample of 8 hands produced by Mr. Truscott without considering the overall picture. We had a very full analysis, lasting over 22 days, of all the hands that might have a bearing on these allegations and we had clear evidence that neither the bidding nor the play of the hands revealed any fore-knowledge of the Hearts. If evidence of this sort had been before the Appeals Committee they might well have come to a different conclusion.

The other matter which raises a reasonable doubt in our minds is the evidence of Mr. Kehela referred to in detail above. Mr. Kehela both observed the play and after studying the bidding he came to the conclusion that the pair were not cheating. We therefore think that the direct evidence as to the exchange of finger signals, strong as it is, cannot be accepted by us because of the reasonable doubt which we feel on these two grounds.

We find that Messrs. Reese and Schapiro were not guilty of cheating at the Tournament in question.
4 August, 1966.

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EVENT CHARITY CHALLENGE CUP
DATE Thursday, 16th March, 1967
CHARITY THE LEPROSY MISSION
INFORMATION MRS. GATTI, 33 Palliser Road, London W.14

ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION NEWS

E.B.U. Brighton Summer Congress. We break new ground this year with the introduction of a summer holiday Congress. The setting will be a luxury hotel capable of accommodating larger numbers than have ever played in an English Congress. A substantial reduction in rates is offered for Congress visitors.

The form of the Congress caters both for the week-end visitor and for those who are able to take a longer bridge holiday. Although the programme has not yet been announced in detail the Congress will open on Friday evening, August 4th. The main event of the week-end will be a Pairs Championship played over three sessions and the second major event will be a Teams event which will be played on a Hubert Phillips movement, with members of the team partnering each other in turn. The main event of the second week-end will be a Teams event played over three sessions and a Mixed Pairs Championship will be the second major event. It is anticipated that during the middle period, Monday to Thursday inclusive, competitions will be played in the evenings only, but facilities will be provided for afternoon tournaments if the demand exists. Any suggestions from members for events in this middle period will be welcomed, and will be considered by the Congress Committee when they draw up the programme.

RULES AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

Responsibility re Conventions Played. The E.B.U. states that it is the responsibility of all players to write the conventions which they are playing on their convention cards. Equally it is the responsibility of all opponents to inspect the convention card. It is recommended nonetheless that attention should be drawn to unusual conventions at the beginning of the round.

No Trump Opening Bids. The following rules have been laid down :

- (1) The minimum range for a No Trump opening bid is 10-12 points.
- (2) So far as a partnership understanding is concerned, the bid must not contain a singleton or a void. (This last does not apply to the Vienna system, which is licensed.)
- (3) It is improper to declare a range of, say, 12-14 if there exists a partnership understanding that at favourable vulnerability only the minimum, and at unfavourable only the maximum, will be used, unless such an understanding is announced.

Schools Cup. The efforts of the E.B.U. at the *Daily Mail* Schoolboys Exhibition are the subject of a full report by Mrs. A. L. Fleming. Part of their effect is a substantial increase in the entry for this year's

Schools Cup which will, it is hoped, exceed one hundred. Area heats are being played on March 11th at the following centres:

Forest School, Walthamstow; Eton College; Deacon's School, Peterborough; Hindlip Hall, Worcester; and Southport.

Twelve schools will qualify for an April final in London when they will be the guests of the E.B.U. Entries are not yet closed and enquiries should be addressed to Mrs. Fleming.

COMPETITION REPORT

Whitelaw Cup

Winners: Mrs. P. M. Williams, Mrs. M. Whitaker, Mrs. F. Della Porta, Mrs. B. Harris.

Runners-up: Mrs. R. Oldroyd, Miss S. Ogilvie, Mrs. A. Alder, Mrs. L. Laszlo.

Ladies' Plate

Winners: Mrs. A. L. Fleming, Mrs. H. Flint, Mrs. M. Moss, Mrs. N. Gardener, Miss N. Gardener

John Hirst Trophy

Winners: Mrs. J. Durran and Mrs. J. Priday.

Runners-up: Mrs. B. F. Krauth and Mrs. R. F. R. Phillips.

Young Players Competition

This event, restricted to players under the age of 35, was played in three centres—London, the Midlands and the North—and produced a record entry of 179 pairs. Leading scores were:

(1)	P. A. Harvey and J. Williamson (M)	...	...	5105
(2)	I. Franses and R. P. Jackson (L)	...	...	4955
(3)	P. A. Read and G. W. Jepson (N)	...	...	4938
(4)	Miss C. Waldron and Mrs. D. Clarke (N)	...	...	4775
(5)	R. M. Green and J. G. Faulkner (L)	...	...	4730
(6)	R. A. Hardman and S. P. Waterman (M)	...	...	4682

A recommendation to reduce the age limit for this event to 30 will be considered at the next meeting of the E.B.U. Council.

THE "SUNDAY TIMES" CUP

This event, an Invitation Pairs Championship organised by the British Bridge League, attracted a thousand spectators to the five sessions. Seven British pairs and eight foreign pairs included the reigning World Pairs champions, Open and Ladies, and the European champions. L. Tarlo and C. Rodrigue played consistently well over a gruelling 150 boards and won twelve of their fourteen matches. No other pair managed more than eight wins.

(1)	L. Tarlo and C. Rodrigue (England)	...	...	81
(2)	C. Slavenburg and J. Kreyns (Holland)	...	...	76
(3)	L. Tintner and L. Yallouze (France)	...	...	68
(4)	K. Konstam and J. D. R. Collings (England)	...	...	62
(5)	J. Besse and P. Bernasconi (Switzerland)	...	...	61
	G. Theron and G. Desrousseaux (France)	...	...	61
	J. T. Reese and J. Cansino (England)	...	...	61
	N. Gardener and A. Rose (England)	...	...	61
	S. Leckie and V. Goldberg (Scotland)	...	...	61
(10)	J. M. Boulenger and H. Svarc (France)	...	...	59
(11)	Mrs. J. Durran and Mrs. J. Priday (England)	...	...	58
(12)	E. von Dewitz and F. Chodzeisner (Germany)	...	...	57
(13)	J. Flint and P. Pender (England and U.S.A.)	...	...	51
	Mrs. R. Markus and Mrs. F. Gordon (England)	...	...	51
(15)	Omar Sharif and J. Gresh (Egypt)	...	...	47

GOLD CUP—Round II Completed, South

I. G. Smith (SC)	beat	E. C. Halcro (SC)	...	by	11	I.M.P.
A. T. M. Jones (Sm)	beat	G. Sudbury (SC)	...	by	101	I.M.P.
M. J. Dale (K)	beat	J. F. Lodge (E)	...	by	5	I.M.P.
I. N. Rose (L)	beat	H. J. Lawson (L)	...	by	99	I.M.P.
M. J. Morris (L)	beat	A. R. Hodges (K)	...	by	17	I.M.P.
Mrs. M. Edwards (S)	beat	D. K. Beever (S)	...	by	30	I.M.P.
J. S. Sindell (S)	beat	M. Sadek (L)	...	by	60	I.M.P.
A. E. Wardman (BB)	beat	B. V. Byron (H)	...	by	70	I.M.P.
N. L. J. Davies (S)	beat	D. H. Seddon (K)	...	by	84	I.M.P.
D. E. Fry (S)	beat	G. C. H. Fox (L)	...	by	11	I.M.P.
Miss S. Ogilvie (L)	beat	R. Davey (E)	...	by	8	I.M.P.
J. Amsbury (L)	beat	E. Schön (L)	...	by	76	I.M.P.
R. P. Jackson (L)	beat	J. P. Szekely (L)	...	by	21	I.M.P.
D. Rex Taylor (M)	beat	B. S. Bottomley (S)	...	by	54	I.M.P.
W. W. Brown (BB)	beat	R. G. Speedman (BB)	...	by	24	I.M.P.
J. Sarjeant (K)	beat	K. W. Konstam (L)	...	by	4	I.M.P.
M. Harrison Gray (M)	beat	M. Brett (L)	...	by	14	I.M.P.
Mrs. P. M. Williams (L)	beat	E. Senk (L)	...	by	69	I.M.P.
B. Posner (M)	beat	C. G. Ainger (S)	...	by	21	I.M.P.
D. Grew (L)	beat	T. Medcalf (M)	...	by	20	I.M.P.
R. Preston (L)	beat	J. D. Phethean (H)	...	by	64	I.M.P.
M. Harris (M)	beat	A. J. Wilkinson	...	by	149	I.M.P.
A. W. Tuffill (Sx)	beat	S. W. Thomas (Sm)	...	by	35	I.M.P.
Dr. W. Spirer (L)	beat	J. A. Sopp (E)	...	by	68	I.M.P.

GOLD CUP—Round II Completed, North-West

A. R. Carnegie (O)	W.O. Mrs. H. Morgan (Wales) Scr.					
P. J. Parr (G)	beat	D. V. Booker (O)	...	by	33	I.M.P.
E. S. Staveley (O)	beat	J. N. Collett (G)	...	by	20	I.M.P.
M. E. Dilks (O)	beat	S. E. Read (Wales)	...	by	9	I.M.P.
L. Morrell (Y)	beat	H. H. Sargent (Ln)	...	by	68	I.M.P.
J. Brown (Ln)	beat	R. Garthwaite (Y)	...	by	34	I.M.P.
Mrs. R. Oldroyd (Y)	beat	W. Murday (D)	...	by	85	I.M.P.
I. P. Gordon (Y)	beat	A. H. Bloxham (Le)	...	by	3	I.M.P.
A. J. Brentnall (M)	beat	M. McLeod (Y)	...	by	17	I.M.P.
R. Dorsey (Y)	beat	F. D. Bell (NW)	...	by	110	I.M.P.
K. M. Threadgold (Ln)	W.O. Mrs. H. Myers (Y) Scr.					
Mrs. A. E. Hirst (Y)	beat	P. Pencharz (NW)	...	by	3	I.M.P.
Miss O. Ramus (NW)	beat	P. A. Read (Y)	...	by	40	I.M.P.
H. Jackson (NW)	beat	K. J. Yates (Y)	...	by	19	I.M.P.
Mrs. C. B. Campbell (Y)	beat	G. P. Littler (NW)	...	by	19	I.M.P.
H. Davidson (Y)	beat	M. Ash (NW)	...	by	9	I.M.P.
E. H. Pudsey (Y)	beat	R. D. Davies (NW)	...	by	63	I.M.P.
W. S. Andrews (Wo)	beat	K. C. Slyde (St)	...	by	10	I.M.P.
H. W. Corden (NW)	beat	J. Kennedy (W)	...	by	56	I.M.P.
S. Moffat (W)	beat	R. C. Paton (NW)	...	by	70	I.M.P.
H. A. Superfine (W)	beat	J. F. D. Ashworth (NW)	...	by	71	I.M.P.
G. S. K. Rednall (NW)	beat	R. A. Hardman (NW)	...	by	21	I.M.P.
J. Buck (NW)	beat	A. S. Monckton (St)	...	by	92	I.M.P.
R. Myers (NW)	beat	J. Newton (Y)	...	by	76	I.M.P.

THE DRAW—GOLD CUP ROUND III

SOUTH

W. W. Brown v. R. P. Jackson
J. S. Sindell v. A. E. Wardman
Mrs. P. M. Williams v. Dr. W. Spirer
Mrs. M. Edwards v. J. Sarjeant
M. J. Morris v. N. L. J. Davies
D. E. Fry v. M. Harrison Gray

D. Grew v. D. Rex Taylor
I. G. Smith v. B. Posner
R. Preston v. Miss S. Ogilvie
A. T. M. Jones v. J. Amsbury
M. Harris v. A. W. Tuffill
M. J. Dale v. I. N. Rose

NORTH-WEST

L. Morrell v. J. Brown
J. Buck v. Mrs. R. Oldroyd
E. H. Pudsey v. H. Jackson
A. W. Corden v. Mrs. A. E. Hirst
Mrs. C. B. Campbell v. K. M. Threadgold
G. S. K. Rednall v. H. Davidson

I. P. Gordon v. Miss O. Ramus
R. Myers v. R. Dorsey
A. J. Brentnall v. S. Moffat
H. A. Superfine v. A. R. Carnegie
E. S. Staveley v. W. S. Andrews
P. J. Parr v. M. E. Dilks

CROCKFORDS CUP

E. H. Potter (S)	W.O. P. E. Grainger (Jersey) Scr.		
L. Tarlo (L)	beat E. Senk (L) ...	by	27 I.M.P.
K. E. Stanley (M)	beat Mrs. M. Edwards (S) ...	by	27 I.M.P.
M. Carlile (NW)	W.O. P. J. C. Coleman (Jersey) Scr.		
Mrs. P. M. Williams (L)	beat B. V. Byron (H) ...	by	34 I.M.P.
Dr. W. Spier (L)	beat A. J. Walkden (K) ...	by	89 I.M.P.
R. Preston (L)	beat M. Harris (M) ...	by	38 I.M.P.
Mrs. S. W. Thomas (Sm)	beat E. J. Armstrong (W) ...	by	59 I.M.P.
Mrs. A. E. Hirst (Y)	beat R. T. Higson (NW) ...	by	1 I.M.P.
R. Myers (NW)	W.O. Mrs. J. Hadfield (Y) Scr.		
L. Morrell (Y)	beat K. C. Slyde (St) ...	by	56 I.M.P.
Mrs. R. Oldroyd (Y)	beat N. Alton (Le) ...	by	13 I.M.P.
R. D. F. Bland (N)	beat Dr. B. J. Switalski (Y) ...	by	28 I.M.P.
D. Valley (W)	beat J. R. Atkin (Sm) ...	by	49 I.M.P.
J. H. Greenhalgh (St)	beat R. C. Gyles (G) ...	by	86 I.M.P.

THE DRAW FOR PLAY-OFF ROUND II IS

R. D. F. Bland v. L. Tarlo	Mrs. R. Oldroyd v. Mrs. S. W. Thomas
E. H. Potter v. K. E. Stanley	Dr. W. Spier v. M. Carlile
Mrs. A. E. Hirst v. Mrs. P. M. Williams	L. Morrell v. D. Valley
J. H. Greenhalgh v. A. H. Bloxham or R. Dorsey	R. Preston v. R. Myers

HUBERT PHILLIPS BOWL—Round II Completed

	SOUTH	Points
{ Mrs. G. Ali Khan (DC)	beat J. R. Atkin (Sm) ...	1050
{ Mrs. C. J. Cahalan (SC)	beat Mrs. R. C. Williams (Sm) ...	5510
{ K. M. H. Neale (E)	beat E. C. Fox (Nk) ...	350
{ D. J. Smerdon (M)	beat E. F. Schön (L) ...	3250
{ Mrs. P. M. Williams (L)	beat Mrs. J. Gatti (L) ...	3920
{ E. W. Crowhurst (BB)	beat R. A. Priday (L) ...	4010
{ Mrs. K. Garfield (L)	beat M. J. Lawson (L) ...	300
{ Miss S. Ogilvie (Sx)	beat W. W. Brown (BB) ...	1830
{ A. H. Dalton (S)	beat Dr. W. Spier (L) ...	630
{ Miss D. Shanahan (M)	beat G. C. H. Fox (L) ...	2430
{ A. J. Walkden (K)	beat P. D. Hackett (BB) ...	920
{ Mrs. M. G. D. Williams (K)	beat Mrs. M. Whitaker (M) ...	2180
{ V. Cavendish (L)	beat J. S. Sindell (S) ...	420
{ Mrs. M. Edwards (S)	beat J. Amsbury (S) ...	2900
{ L. E. Handley (L)	beat J. P. Szekely (M) ...	870
{ D. H. Seddon (L)	beat J. O. Parkinson (M) ...	1610

NORTH

{ J. Newton (Y)	beat Mrs. H. Myers (Y) ...	3040
{ Mrs. I. Golding (NE)	beat Mrs. A. E. Hirst (Y) ...	80
{ R. M. Howey (NE)	beat P. Purcell ...	130
{ Mrs. R. Campfield (Y)	beat M. McLeod (Y) ...	2880
{ A. S. Monckton (St)	beat G. Wilson (NW) ...	780
{ C. M. Oborski (St)	beat E. F. Briscoe (W) ...	1640
{ G. G. Endicott (NW)	beat W. E. D. Hall (W) ...	650
{ Mrs. R. Oldroyd (Y)	beat J. Pilkington (NW) ...	2720
{ H. Castle (Y)	beat H. H. Sargent (Ln) ...	1680
{ L. Morrell (Y)	beat Mrs. S. G. Blundell (Y) ...	3050
{ Miss O. Ramus (NW)	beat Miss J. M. Akers (N) ...	3350
{ Mrs. J. Buck (NW)	beat G. C. Wakefield (Y) ...	1080
{ P. Pencharz (NW)	beat H. Jackson (NW) ...	1830
{ W. S. Andrews (Wo)	beat E. S. Staveley (O) ...	760
{ Miss E. J. Lee (W)	beat Mrs. E. Dixon Green ...	2510
{ P. Broke (Nh)	beat Dr. D. B. Miller (Nh) ...	4190

(Round III is played as bracketed)

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PORTLAND CUP — APRIL 22-23

Members are reminded that a third heat has been added to this event which will now be played simultaneously in **London, Droitwich and Ilkley**. The closing date for entries is March 24th. Entries should be submitted to the Tournament Secretary, Major G. Fell, "The Hob Hill", Steeton, Keighley, Yorks., and should indicate at which of the three centres you propose to play. They should include the entry fee of £4 per pair.

It's not too late

to send your entry in and have a good time at

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E.B.U. STAND AT "DAILY MAIL" SCHOOLBOYS EXHIBITION by Mrs. A. L. Fleming

The offer of a stand was a challenge to the widening activities of the E.B.U. It was accepted by the Executive Committee and handed over, not without some misgivings I should imagine, to a sub-committee consisting of Philip Broke, Harold Franklin, Peter Donovan, Tony Priday and myself, with a limited budget upon which to work.

Many months of planning, hours of hard work and above all the outstanding co-operation of Mr. Ken George of the *Daily Mail*, saw us ready to face the unknown on the 27th December. The phrase most frequently heard at our meetings had been "We shall just have to play it by ear." Just how true and how exhausting this proved to be, we found out long before the fifteen day span was over.

In conjunction with the Schools Cup, which this year it is helping us to sponsor, the *Daily Mail* hoped that we should attract the higher age groups to the stand. We ourselves had planned to initiate young bridge players in to the skills of duplicate. In the event not more than 5% of our visitors came into this category.

It was difficult to resist the "Can you teach me to play, miss" approach. Extra helpers were recruited and from having one volunteer in charge of "Beginners' Corner" as planned, pretty well the whole stand developed into it. For much of time we had as many as ten tables in play. The large boards on which our daily quizzes had been painted were roped into service. Covered by the back of two pairs charts, I wrote in block capitals the basic scoring and bidding requirements as a help for the table instructors.

It was found impracticable to accept the children, whose only card playing experience was snap or brag. Those already able to play whist, or other games with tricks and a trump suit, proved ready learners. Among the pre-planned activities which worked were:

"The History of Playing Cards." This fascinating exhibit had been kindly loaned to us by John Waddington Ltd. and had been shown on television some months earlier. It was always well attended. Being irreplaceable, it was insured for £10,000 and this alone guaranteed the frequent attention of members of the special Security Department, whom we found most helpful.

Honours Board. The achievements of British teams since the war were painted on a white board. Six open and seven women's European Championships, with one world and four Olympiad titles thrown in made an impressive showing. Some visitors expressed surprise that so little publicity should have been given to the game in the national press and were unaware that it could be played as a team game.

Trophies. The Women's Olympiad Teams and Pairs Trophies and the Women's European Championship Cup, all currently held by Great Britain, were on display in a specially made cabinet.

Schools Challenge. I had written round to all participants in the 1966 Schools Cup and invited them to submit a pair to take part. Twenty-six pairs duly accepted and were put through their paces by the following quiz masters, to whom we are grateful for giving up two days of their time:—H. Franklin, G. C. H. Fox, R. A. Priday, J. C. H. Marx, K. W. Konstam, G. F. Mathieson, J. F. Lodge.

Exhibition Matches. After Schools Challenge, the two opposing pairs were made into a team to play in a short match against whatever internationals and helpers were available. This was followed by a discussion on the hands and judging from the reactions of the participants seems to have been a helpful feature.

Daily Quizzes. One corner of the stand was devoted to this. The hands were put up with Jumbo cards. The problem was painted on a large board. Harold Franklin supplied the problems and I duplicated the answers to hand out the following day. "Bridge Magazine" very kindly gave the double packs

of cards for the winners. Misgivings expressed at the difficulty of these problems proved groundless. Only on one day was there not a completely correct solution. On one occasion when over half the helpers got the answer wrong, no less than five boys had correct solutions, the tie having to be split on the suggested bidding sequence. However, their spelling frequently fell short of their bridge prowess. Some of them attended "grammer" schools and did not want to "loose" tricks to a "finness." Winners came from the following schools: Orange Hill Grammar; Eton (2); Catford; St. Joseph's College; Forest School; St. Marylebone Grammar; Lowestoft County Grammar; Roan's School; St. Paul's; Taunton's School, Southampton; Gable Hall School; Trinity School of St. John Whitgift; Bishop's Stortford College.

Information Desk. Mrs. Cartwright (honorary secretary of the Yorkshire C.B.A.) and I manned this. A separate article could be written to the enormous range of questions we attempted to answer. Our policy was not to sell anything. We recommended books for beginners, handed out *Daily Mail* Schools Cup entry forms and the new booklet recently produced by the E.B.U. called "Introduction to Duplicate Bridge" (available to members and clubs at 9d. each including postage).

Helpers. More than forty helpers rallied round. From those who could only spare one day to Tony Lederer (chairman of the London C.B.A.), who came every morning of the whole fortnight before going straight on to his job. I would like to emphasise that the success of the Stand was *entirely* a team effort. Everyone gave their services. I am writing about the project largely so that the E.B.U. can express its gratitude to all these honorary helpers, who are listed alphabetically below:

Mrs. R. C. Barrow, Mrs. D. Beamish, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Broke, P. R. G. Charters, J. D. R. Collings, P. H. Donovan, W. H. Eastwell, G. C. H. Fox, H. Franklin, Mrs. J. Gatti, Mrs. M. Gray, D. Grew, M. J. Hodges, J. Joy, K. W. Konstam, A. R. Lederer, J. F. Lodge, J. C. H. Marx, G. F. Mathieson, Mrs. H. de Mistral, Ned Paul, A. Philpott, Mrs. Grace Priday, R. A. Priday, J. T. Reese, Mr. and Mrs. D. Rimington, E. Schon, H. Scully, C. M. Summers, E. M. Summers, Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Thompson, The Hon. Pamela Walpole, M. Weissberger, R. E. Williams, G. Yemm.

General Impressions. We were so busy that what went on on the ground and first floors remained a closed book. On our own second floor, there was sometimes time in the early morning to fraternise. We have established friendly relations with the Chess Education Society and in view of the overlap in their and our prizewinners, it has been suggested that a combined chess-bridge competition might be run. I know a lot more than I did about Judo, Archery, Norfolk Wild Life, High Jumping, Guard Dogs, Basketball and where Ken Barrington thinks a bowler's shoulders should face after delivering the ball.

Conclusions. The *Daily Mail* has expressed itself as well satisfied with our "tireless efforts." The visitors to the stand quite clearly appreciated it. Whether or not the E.B.U. has reaped benefits commensurate with the work involved, time alone will show.

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MASTER POINTS COMMITTEE NEWS

- 1. REGIONAL MASTER.** The E.B.U. Council has approved the Committee's decision to introduce a new rank between that of Five Star and National Master. The qualification is a minimum of 100 Master Points, of which at least 25 must be National Master Points.
- 2. Validity of certificates.** As from April 1st, 1967, Local Points will not be accepted if more than 3 years old.
- 3. Charity Challenge.** For 1967, the top award will be 400 L.P.'s reducing constantly over the first quarter of the field.
- 4. District Associations.** As from April 1st, 1967, a District Association will be recognised officially only if application has been made to the M.P. Committee by the County authority concerned.
- 5. E.B.U. Prizes.** Attention is drawn to the Reminder on page 2 of the E.B.U. Brochure (included in Quarterly Number 2), where full details were given. These details will be repeated in the May issue.

ANNE STAVELEY

E.B.U. PROMOTIONS

All ranks from 13.10.66 to 31.12.66

Abbreviations:

B—Bedfordshire, BB—Berkshire, C—Cumberland, CH—Cambridge and Hunts., Cy—Cyprus, D—Derbyshire, DC—Devon and Cornwall, Dir—Direct, E—Essex, G—Gloucestershire, H—Hertfordshire, K—Kent, L—London, Le—Leicestershire, Ln—Lincolnshire, M—Middlesex, N—Nottinghamshire, Nh—Northamptonshire, Nk—Norfolk, NE—North Eastern, NW—North Western, O—Oxfordshire, S—Surrey, SC—Southern Counties, Sm—Somerset, St—Staffordshire, Sx—Sussex, W—Warwickshire, Wm—Westmorland, Wo—Worcestershire, Y—Yorkshire, O/S—Overseas. Apologies to Mrs. A. M. Hiron, who in the last number ought to have been included under Life Masters, and to Mrs. E. Davis, Four Star Master, who appeared as E. M. Davis.

LIFE MASTERS:

L—G. H. H. Fox, Mrs. B. Harris; M—C. Hille.

NATIONAL MASTERS:

L—C. Beach; N—R. D. F. Bland; E—K. E. Stanley.

FOUR STAR MASTERS:

E—A. M. Grant; G—R. C. C. Gyles, Mrs. Russell Jessop; O—Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Staveley; Sx—Mrs. E. Harrison; Y—Mrs. F. H. Addison.

THREE STAR MASTERS:

BB—J. H. Biltcliffe, Mrs. B. Gilbert; D—E. Burston; DC—Mrs. G. Ali Khan; G—Mrs. P. J. Parr; O—P. M. Hayes; Sm—A. G. Bonner.

TWO STAR MASTERS:

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ONE STAR MASTERS:

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REPORT ON E.B.U. QUARTERLY COMPETITION No. 3

The winners of the February Competition were :

- 1st. I. G. Smith, Hill Croft, Twyford, Hants. (850 points), wins £5.
- 2nd. A. D. Clark, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge (760 points), wins a Free Congress Ticket to E.B.U. Spring or Autumn Congress, Eastbourne.
- 3rd. A. A. Prescott-Day, 29 Poplar Grove, New Malden, Surrey (750 points), wins a Free Congress Ticket to E.B.U. Spring or Autumn Congress, Eastbourne.

The panel of judges for the bidding problems was composed as under: G. C. H. Fox, H. Franklin, N. Gardener, M. Harrison Gray, K. Konstam, Mrs. R. Markus, F. North, C. Rodrigue, R. Rowlands, R. Sharples.

Problem No. 1. North-South game. Dealer South.

♠ 5 2	♥ A K J 8 6	♦ A Q 8	♣ J 9 4
S.	W.	N.	E.
1H	1S	3C	4S
?			

Pass 100 (5 votes), 5D 80 (Fox, Rowlands), 6C 70 (Harrison Gray, Rowlands' second preference), 4NT 50 (Rodrigue), 5C 20 (Mrs. Markus).

All but two of the panel are quite confident of being able to make at least a small slam, but most of them feel they need guidance from partner as to the denomination to be chosen. They do not believe there can be two losing spades after North has taken control of the auction by forcing to game and the subsequent bouncing antics by East. Franklin elaborates by saying that he would not allow a double by partner of Four Spades to stand and would invite him to select the slam spot by bidding Five Spades. Of the less confident, Rodrigue is prepared to brazen it out and eventually bid six, though in the expectation that his proposed Blackwood bid will persuade the opponents to make a sacrifice, whether phantom or genuine. Only Mrs. Markus, quite uncharacteristically, seems nervous of bidding a small slam on her own. But it does expect a lot of partner to do so on the strength of a singleton spade, when he can have no particular reason to suppose that South has this very robust opening bid.

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Problem No. 2. North-South game. Dealer North.

♠ A 5 3	♥ 4	♦ A 10 8 6	♣ Q J 7 6 5
N.	E.	S.	W.
1H	1S	2C	P.
2S	P.	?	

3S (7 votes) 100, 3D 70 (Fox, Franklin, Konstam), 3C or 2NT 20.

It is agreed by all, including the minority Three Diamond bidders, that South is not the partner to be declarer at no-trumps, if that should be the final contract. It may well be that North has a partial guard in spades, such as Qx or Jxx, when a no-trump contract will be far more secure if played by him than by South. If, on the other hand, North has higher objectives in view, Three Spades by South will encourage him to pursue them. The Three Diamond bidders maintain that their choice will facilitate the auction in these cases, since it is distributionally descriptive. That may be so, but it does tend to obstruct the attainment of the more modest goal, which should be South's higher priority for the moment.

Problem No. 3. North-South game. Dealer South.

♠ A Q J	♥ K Q 10 6	♦ K J 9	♣ 10 3 2
S.	W.	N.	E.
1H	P.	3C	P.
3NT	P.	4H	
?			

4S 100 (5 votes), Pass 80 (H. Gray, Rowlands, Sharples), 4NT 50 (Gardener, Rodrigue).

Although there is a clear majority in favour of further action, some of its advocates have certain reservations about its wisdom. "A strong opening bid opposite a force should always produce a slam when there is a fit", writes Franklin, and he accordingly considers Four Hearts in this situation to be a force. But he admits this principle can work out badly on occasion, since a fit in suit may not be sufficient. F. North, who also has misgivings about the poor shape and the unattractive club holding, feels that he will not be endangering a plus score by contracting for eleven tricks. The opposing view is expressed by Harrison Gray : "South has said his piece if Three No-trumps implied the same point count (15 or 16) as Two No-trumps would have done after a response of Two Clubs." It is doubtful if the Blackwood bidders are on firm ground here. Are they really prepared to make a firm unilateral decision about a slam on hearing partner's affirmation of two Aces ?

Problem No. 4. Game all. Dealer West.

♠ A Q 4 ♥ K 3 ♦ Q 9 4 ♣ A 10 5 4 3

W.	N.	E.	S.
1S	P.	P.	?

DBL 100 (5 votes), 1NT 80 (Franklin, Gardener, Rowlands, Sharples), 2NT 30 (Mrs. Markus).

There is widespread agreement that this re-opening situation is one of the least well-catered for in the whole range of bidding theory. The values prescribed for a protective One No-trump bid have been so down-graded in recent years that most players use it on hands on which they would never contemplate opening the bidding. Accordingly, they are very loath to use it on a hand like this, which is a highly respectable opening bid in its own right. Yet the majority choice of the Double seems at least equally unsatisfactory, very possibly ending in "an elegant 4-2 fit—or rather mis-fit", as Gardener puts it. Of course we may wriggle out of Two Hearts into Two No-trumps but, with due respect to Mrs. Markus, are we really happy about our resources to support such an enterprise? There does seem a good case for allowing the protective One No-trump a much wider range than is usual with no-trump bids as a class. Coupled with a simple Stayman-type convention, this wide-ranging no-trump does in practice work quite well.

Problem No. 5. North-South game. Dealer North.

♠ K 6 4 ♥ Q ♦ A K 10 6 4 3 ♣ J 5 3

N.	E.	S.	W.
1C	P.	1D	P.
1S	P.	?	

2H 100 (6 votes), 3D 70 (Gardener, Konstam), 3S 60 (Franklin, Mrs. Markus), 3C 30 (sundry second preferences).

The poll is not divided simply along the lines of those in favour versus those opposed to the "fourth-suit forcing" convention. Two of the minority use this convention, but with reservations that prevent them from applying it here (Franklin, Gardener). The attitude of the majority group cannot be better expressed than by F. North: "When you cannot make a limit bid, when you cannot even begin to define what the final contract should be, when your values are good and you badly need time and space on your side—that is the moment to trot out the fourth suit." Of the more natural alternatives, Five Diamonds seems to have an edge on Three Spades or Clubs. At least South can see that his own diamonds are a good and all but self-sufficient suit, but the quality of partner's black suits is at the moment quite obscure.

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Problem No. 6. East-West game. Dealer North.

♠ 9 7 6	♥ A K Q 9 6 4	♦ 7 4 2	♣ Q
N.	E.	S.	W.
1S	P.	2H	P.
2S	P.	?	

4S 100 (4 votes), 3H 90 (H. Gray, Rowlands, Sharples), 4H (Gardener) 50, 3S 40 (Mrs. Markus), Pass 40 (Konstam).

The strength of the vote in favour of proceeding with spades is rather surprising, in view of the paltry support for the suit and the top-heavy nature of the hand, whose merit lies almost exclusively in the fine quality of the hearts. It is true that the indiscriminate rebidding of five-card suits, at one time a widespread failing, is now much out of favour, but the harsh fact remains that a not too robust spade suit has often to be rebid because another denomination could only be introduced at a level not justified by the total values held. So, if North's spades are not necessarily anything exceptional, there seems much to be said for pursuing a suit known to be good, in fact quite self-supporting even opposite a singleton and not fully available as tricks at any other contract. There were some second preferences expressed for Four Hearts, which seems rather too aggressive. But many players may not agree with Sharples' comment, that Three Hearts has "encouraging overtones."

Problem No. 7. North-South game. Dealer West.

♠ A 10 6 5 3 2	♥ 6	♦ A 8 5 4 3 2	♣ Void
W.	N.	E.	S.
P.	1C	P.	1S
Double	Re-double	P.	P.
2H	Double	P.	?

Pass 100 (6 votes), 3D 50 (Franklin), 4S 40 (Mrs. Markus), 2S 40 (Rowlands), 4D 30 (Fox).

Majorities are not always right, but this is a case where they are. With the hand as it actually occurred many years ago, to pass is the only way to a plus score. As West's double implied, he had a lot of diamonds as well as hearts, and at a spade contract above a modest level, South's long tail of small diamonds would be a serious liability. South's is an unusual hand to be willing to play in defence, but it is not unattractive as such, once it is concluded that game is unlikely. With two Aces and a void in partner's suit, it is a good deal better than it might be for a mere one-level response. There are some apologies from the minority who take out the double. Franklin says he is too unimaginative to pass it. Rowlands feels too nervous about the whole situation to take any resolute action, even anything as positive as the nominally negative act of passing.

Problem No. 8.

(a) S8 S6 CK. (b) No. (a) 100, plus a further 50 if (b) also correct.

Given that there are exactly three fatal cards for West to play, a reconstruction is quite feasible. West ruffed low and was over-ruffed by North. Declarer now eliminated diamonds and flung West into the lead with the second round of trumps. The hapless West could now only lead away from his Club King to declarer's doubleton Queen or offer a ruff and discard. West had an obsession about the need to prevent dummy's Diamond Queen being discarded, partly induced by East's play of Heart nine, read as a suit preference signal. East intended it as such, but in a negative sense, as a warning to West against leading clubs. There seems no reason for West to attribute a pre-empting partner with an outside king when he has already shown up with the Ace King of his own suit, or to suppose that declarer did not hold it when he could not have more than a straggling spade suit without it. And would East, holding, of all cards, the Diamond King, have overtaken the Heart Queen at trick one?



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- (5) Markings will be decided by a panel of leading players and writers.
- (6) Ties will be decided by a public draw.
- (7) In all matters relating to the conduct of the competition the Competition Editor's decision will be final.

N.B.—In all problems, the occasion is assumed to be a straight team-of-four match with I.M.P. scoring.

Problem No. 1.

North-South game. Dealer—South.
 ♠KQ84 ♥K976 ♦Void ♣AQ1085
 S. W. N. E.
 1C P 1H P
 ?

Problem No. 2.

North-South game. Dealer—South.
 ♠AJ98 ♥Void ♦AQ108653 ♣52
 S. W. N. E.
 1D 2C 3D 3H
 ?

Problem No. 3.

Game all. Dealer—North.
 ♠KJ8643 ♥A8 ♦108 ♣Q96
 N. E. S. W.
 1D P 1S P
 2D P ?

Problem No. 4.

Game all. Dealer—North.
 ♠4 ♥KJ1082 ♦KJ3 ♣J954
 North opens 1C. East-West pass throughout. South responds 1H. What should South say next when North rebids (a) 1S (b) 1NT?

Problem No. 5.

East-West game. Dealer—North.
 ♠J ♥A103 ♦865 ♣AJ9654
 N. E. S. W.
 1D P 2C P
 2H P ?

Problem No. 6.

Game all. Dealer—South.
 ♠A104 ♥AQ94 ♦AK642 ♣J
 S. W. N. E.
 1D P 1NT 2C
 ?

Problem No. 7.

North-South game. Dealer—West.
 ♠K1075 ♥KQ3 ♦43 ♣AJ94
 W. N. E. S.
 1S 2C Double ?

N.B.—East-West are not using "Sputnik" doubles.

Problem No. 8.

Love all. Dealer South.
 ♠A102 ♥AKJ103 ♦Void ♣KQ976
 S. W. N. E.
 1H P 1S 2D
 ?

Problem No. 9.

North-South game. Dealer—North.
 South's hand:
 ♠K864 ♥J ♦K84 ♣KQ1076

The bidding:

N.	E.	S.	W.
3D	6H	P	7H
Double	P	P	P

What should South lead?

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