

BANKER POET
Samuel Rogers, English banker and poet, declined the Poet Laureateship after the death of Wordsworth in 1850.

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Woman Painter Off To Africa

VANCOUVER — Painter Maisie Robertson is off to the wilds of Africa. A noted painter and sculptor of animals, the dark-haired artist wants to paint lions. "And Africa is the place to go," she says. Miss Robertson, who "used to cut out paper horses when other children were cutting out paper

UNUSUAL TRADE
The town of Rodosto near Istanbul in Turkey is noted for its export of silkworms' eggs. Countess Emilia Pardo-Bazan, who died in 1921, was the first woman counsellor of public instruction in Spain.

dolls," has been painting and carving horses for years. Annual summers spent in British Columbia's Cariboo district have given her plenty of material. Her animals and flower brooches and earrings are popular with tourists. She will stay in Africa about six months. Then, "It's back to the horses."

Blackwood on Bridge

By Easley Blackwood

Before you bid the Blackwood four no trump, let this question flit through your mind. After hearing partner's ace-showing response, will you then know that a slam can be safely bid?

RAY... Reflects and Reminisces

It beats the devil how things will get out. Yet get out they will. But surely no one could have suspected this, Fancy, the profound depth of its secrecy and uncanny ingenuity. It seems, according to hints from Moscow, the United States bought Alaska from Russia in order to conquer Asia. There being nothing like an early start, in deception, the deal was called "Seward's Folly" purely as a blind.

AMBITIOUS OLD BOY

Seward, yo see, was even then called a capitalist warmonger and active in hatching the Alaska purchase as part of a foul conspiracy to make slave states out of Japan and Russia. Logically some years later the proposed Alaska railway was planned to bore a tunnel under Behring Straits into Siberia, thus reducing northeast Russia to economic slavery.

JOHN L. HIMSELF

But that isn't quite all. Not quite all by a damsite. The scheme in its final flourish would push on through the length of Siberia as a sort of secret subway. At secret stations, Russian slave toilers would be collected and shipped to the United States to work in the coal mines of John L. Lewis without pay while American miners and Lewis himself would take over in Siberia.

NOT INTERESTED

Mrs. Ma Kiley, railway telegraph operator, telling of her experiences years ago in the United States says once she was offered a job in the Railway Magazine, "Ma" said she saw the GTP was building through to the coast, so she boarded the steamer up the coast, and took one look. She didn't even report for duty. Ma loathed Texas but Prince Rupert! Listen: "It was the dangedest looking dump I'd even seen. It looked like a hole that had been blasted out of a big rock with steps you had to climb up—up—up and up. No, I didn't even report."

EARLY IN 1951

More than a few Prince Rupert folk are feeling the flu, just now, and if not that, in the strict medical sense, it's a perfect imitation. We woke up the other morning and, after a sneeze and sigh, decided to have nothing to do with the Daily News just then. Next day we craved an egg for breakfast and tried to remember how long it had been before one had been devoured while sitting in the midst of lovely soft sheets and blankets.

THE EGG AND I

Often, there is an attraction in doing, or trying to do, a commonplace thing differently. Caution, this time, was involved, yet sitting there and gazing steadfastly at the object in hand was just a waste of time. Once, but once only, was there almost disaster. An egg can have a way of spilling over the edge of the broken shell and spewing on whatever is below—this time part of a suit of pyjamas and the bedclothes. For a split second, there might have been a new case of heart failure to report. Let it be repeated. There might have been. But, there wasn't.

If the answer is yes, go ahead and bid four no trump. But if the answer is no, try to make some other strong bid which will encourage partner to ask you about aces.

Neither side vulnerable South dealer

North (Mr. Champion)		East (Mr. Masters)	
S-K Q J 8 5	H-A Q 6	S-6 4	H-8 2
D-K Q 4	C-A 10	D-A 9 7 5 2	C-Q J 6 5 4

South (Mr. Muzzy)		East (Mr. Masters)	
S-A 9 3	H-K 5 4	S-6 4	H-8 2
D-A 9 7 5 2	C-A 10	D-A 9 7 5 2	C-Q J 6 5 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1 D Pass 2 S Pass
4 NT Pass 5 D Pass
6 S All pas

In today's deal Mr. Muzzy got extremely excited when he heard his partner's jump take-out of two spades. He barged immediately into four no trump and after he got the information he wanted he was not in a position to know what to do with it.

Mr. Champion's five diamond bid indicated the side had all the aces. But at this point (too late) Mr. Muzzy began to think, "Is the spade suit solid?" "Even if partner has the king of diamonds, what if he has the king and two small ones?" "What about a third round heart loser?" etc.

Mr. Muzzy realized that even if he knew his partner had the balance of the kings he still wouldn't know whether or not to bid a grand slam. So he didn't bother to bid five no trump at all and simply put the hand in six spades.

Mr. Champion spread it for seven and gave Mr. Muzzy a pretty rough lecture. Here is a cleaned-up, condensed version. Good judgment must be used in deciding which partner should bid the four no trump. After all the bid only finds out about first and second round controls. But third round controls are important, too.

When possible, the player who has (or is likely to have) third round controls should be allowed to make the four no trump bid. Third round controls are queens and doubletons.

Suppose Mr. Muzzy had simply raised Mr. Champion's two-spade bid to three. Now Mr. Champion, who had third round controls in all four suits, would have bid four no trump. Learning that his partner had three aces and a king, he could have absolutely counted 13 tricks in the hand.

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The final water between Canada and the States in the Bay of Fundy is not determined.

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