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Blackwood on Bridge

By Easley Blackwood

In today's hand Miss Brash didn't have much justification for her third bid—the raise from three to four spades. She had a good club suit but, over all, her hand was a minimum.

None vulnerable.
North dealer.

North
(Miss Brash)
S-K 7 5
H-10 6 4
D-9 4
C-A K Q J 8

West
(Mr. Dale)
S-9 8 6 3
H-A K 9 2
D-Q J 6
C-7 2

East
(Mr. Meek)
S-4 2
H-Q J 8 3
D-K 10 8 5
C-9 4 3

South
(Mr. Muzzy)
S-A Q J 10
H-7 5
D-A 7 3 2
C-10 6 5

The bidding:
N E S W
1 C Pass 1 S Pass
2 S Pass 3 S Pass
4 S All pass

She knew Mr. Muzzy was going to play the hand and when he didn't barge directly into game himself, she should have



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taken rather a dim view of the chances of making four spades.

The reason Mr. Muzzy failed to jump to game in spades was his four card spade suit. He is leary of four card trump holdings—but give him a six card suit with only one or two high honors and he will bid it all over the lot.

Mr. Dale opened the king of hearts and continued with the ace and a small heart. Mr. Muzzy ruffed the third round and after some thought led three rounds of trumps. When the suit refused to break 3-3, the hand really fell apart.

Mr. Muzzy's only hope now was that the hand with the remaining trump also had five clubs—a fairly unlikely chance. He led to dummy's ace of clubs and continued the suit but Mr. Dale trumped the third round, won another heart trick and then played the queen of diamonds. Mr. Muzzy won his ace but that was his last trick. He had to lose two more diamonds for down three.

A kibitzer made the true, if irritating, statement that three no trump was cold on the hand. He was right although it was difficult to bid and depended on the opposing hearts being divided 4-4.

Another pointed out the fact that four spades was also makeable. He suggested that Mr. Muzzy should have discarded a small diamond on the third trick instead of trumping. This one was right, too.

If a heart were led to the fourth trick it could be ruffed in dummy, with the short trump holding—preserving all four of Mr. Muzzy's trumps for extracting the opponents' spades. If any other suit were led at trick four, Mr. Muzzy could win and take 10 tricks—four spades, one diamond and five clubs.

For Action, Advertisement

Elucidates Regulations

A. B. Brown,
Local Barrister,
Speaks to Credit Grantors

New Consumer Credit Regulations Act, "designed to curb inflation by making it a little more difficult for people to purchase consumer goods, thus lessening the demand with the effect of keeping prices in line," were clarified for members of the Prince Rupert Credit Grantors' Association at their monthly meeting Monday night by A. B. Brown, local barrister, who was the guest speaker.

Mr. Brown reviewed the clauses of the Act, making explanations and pertinent observations as he went along.

The new regulations, the speaker pointed out, had mainly to do with conditional sales including instalment buying, providing for minimum down payments, minimum instalments and maximum period for payment completion.

Motor vehicles were the only articles in which trade-ins could be included as part of the minimum down payment. In all other articles trade-in proceeds must be deducted from the cash price of the article and the down payments and instalments started from there.

Charge accounts were not affected by the new regulations, the assumption being that the sellers would judge the credit risks and not permit undue buying by persons who would be unable to pay.

The matter of loans also came in for discussion, the speaker describing provisions designed to prevent people from circumventing the credit regulations by simply borrowing money and paying cash. There were penalties for sellers who sold goods knowing that there had been circumvention.

The credit regulations did not apply to individuals making private sale of such articles as household goods or motor cars which they had owned over six months. Any financial arrangements could be made in these cases.

The speaker also pointed out articles exempted from the credit regulations such as Bibles, aids to overcome physical infirmities, fuels of all kinds, coffins and tombstones, military uniforms, uniforms for hospital and professional workers, building materials, house trailers.

Having been introduced by P. H. Linzey, Mr. Brown was thanked for his address by President R. H. Parker.

Maurice Brydges, representing Albert & McCaffery, Percy Welter and Tommy Boulter were welcomed as new members of the Association.

DRAMATIC NARRATIVE

(Continued from page 1)

noses of the captors, formed part of the speaker's remarkable story. His own diary was kept in a water bottle, his ring concealed in a cake of soap, his cigarette case buried underground.

Incredible stories published in the Singapore newspaper in the days of the occupation were recounted—how the elephants had saluted the Japanese general, how the Nipponese fliers, by shaking of fists and firing of pistols, had terrified the British bombers into landing their planes and surrendering, how a Japanese flier had swooped down and decapitated the captain of an Allied ship on the bridge with his sword.

Continued the story of the removal to Thailand where, under the terrible circumstances of forced labor with extreme cruelty and privation, the prisoners were forced to build a 413 kilometre railway—the long hours in the fierce sun with resultant death, disease or complete breakdown—the merciless beatings, the complete lack of medical and surgical equipment. Mad with disease, the Allied prisoners heard the shots that riddled the bodies of their comrades.

Those Japanese demonstrated that there is no consideration of humanity in their souls bluntly declared the speaker, going on to describe incidents of "nauseating hypocrisy."

Culmination of the experience with disease came the ravage of the Middle Age disease of cholera from the effects of which hundreds perished, corpses being thrown into pits and burned in mass.

Then came the bombings with the prisoners of war deliberately placed in close proximity to the military objectives—the desperate feeling of helplessness and futility in being bombed by one's own planes.

Those days of 1943 were very dark indeed but yet there were touches of comedy and the relieving of feelings by ingenious entertainment—the reminiscence on the past, the intense hopes for the future which kept men from going completely mad.

Amputations with butcher's saws, operations with bayonets and bits of tin, extraction of teeth with automobile pliers and the crudest of anaesthetics, and antiseptics, were part of the grim story.

"It was a grizzly business but somehow we stuck it out. And

our best weapon was human physiology."

As the bombings increased, gradually came the realization that the Nipponese Empire was crumbling and then the great day of August 12, 1945, when the camp commander gruffly announced: "Gentlemen, the war is over. The Japanese have signed a peace treaty with the Allies." Followed the amazing incident of the appearance on bamboo poles of the Union Jacks, the Stars and Stripes and the Dutch flag—where they had been concealed during those long years of war was a mystery. Fervent and sincere, indeed, was the singing of the National anthems.

"But to the last the Japanese were as contemptible as ever," insisted the speaker.

NEW CLUB FORMED

Dr. Black's address was the

Prince Rupert Daily News
Wednesday, March 14, 1951

feature of the organizational meeting of the Presbyterian Men's Club. Robert Eby was elected president; J. R. Hobman, vice-president; secretary-treasurer; monthly meetings Mondays.

For the MEAL that REFRESHES

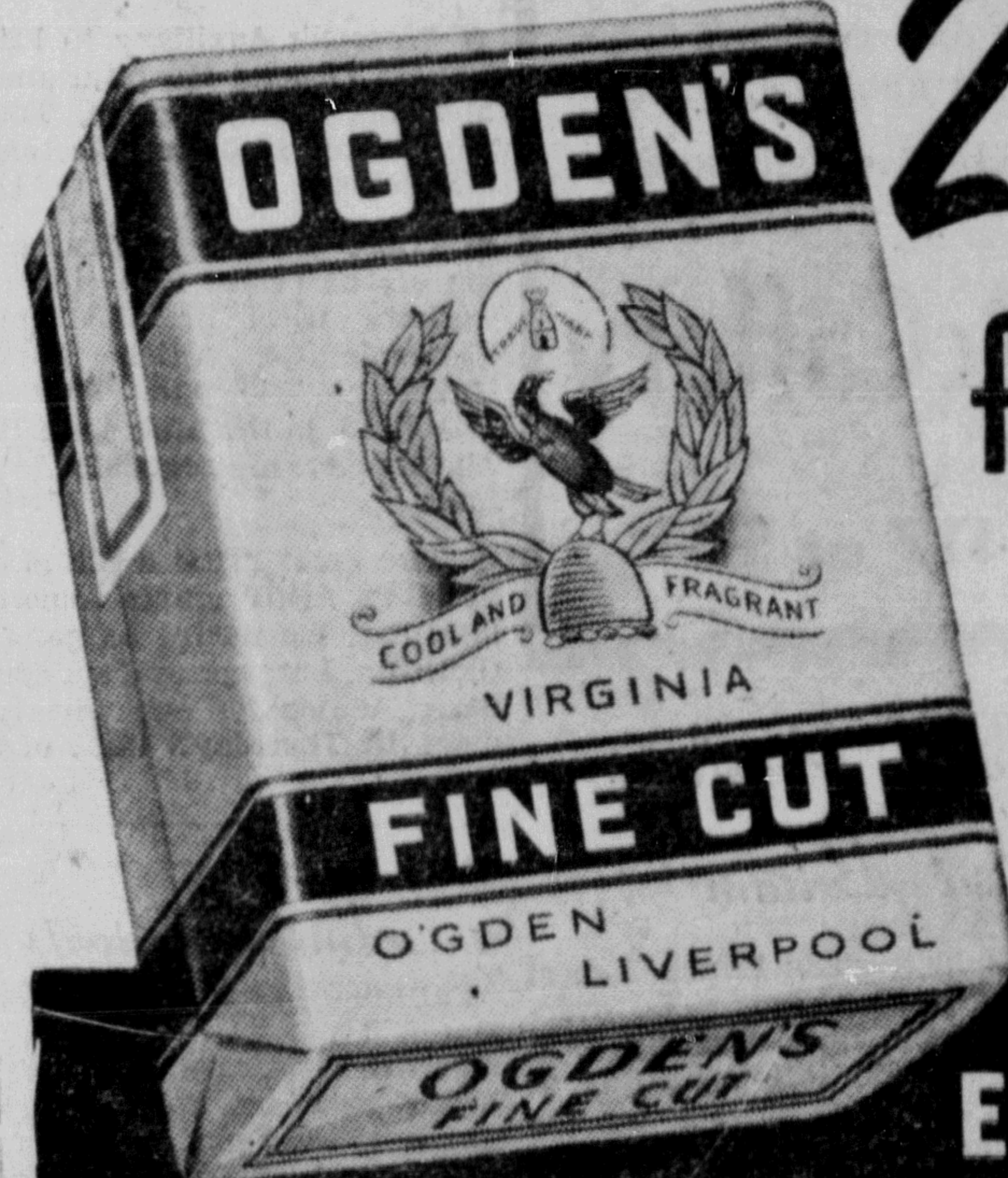
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