



SMILING THROUGH the hole left when somebody walked off with a 200-pound cornerstone are Frances Blank of Elizabeth, N.J., Nancy Pampanin of Phillipsburg, N.J., and Myrtle Frey of East Rutherford, N.J., students at Trenton St. Teachers College. The stone, cemented into the wall of a new women's dormitory, was carried off the day after the building was dedicated. Police have begun a search for the missing cornerstone, valued at about \$200.

BLACKWOOD on BRIDGE

By EASLEY BLACKWOOD



I am fully aware of the fact that the bidding of today's hand might well have gone: one heart by North, one spade by South, two spades by North and six spades by South. That would have been a much more direct method of reaching the slam.

However, the way the hand was actually bid by Mr. Abel and Mr. Meek offers a good example of a succession of forcing bids of the nonjump type.

After spades were set as the trump suit, the next four bids were absolutely forcing. Mr. Meek's bid of three diamonds promised first-round control of that suit. Mr. Abel could not pass it. Even if he had stretched a bit to bid two spades he was expected to go back to that suit at the three level.

Actually, Mr. Abel was glad to have the opportunity to bid again. He slipped in a three-heart bid to show good high-card strength in that suit. Mr. Meek could not logically pass here. Both he and his partner had now made strong, forward going bids and certainly there was no sense in either of them stopping under game.

The four-club bid was a slam suggestion, showing first-round control of that suit. The following four-diamond call showed second round control of diamonds (the king or a singleton). Cautious as usual and still fearful of two spade losers, Mr. Meek now felt he had given his all and he went to four spades. However, the good spade support promised by Mr. Abel's five spade bid prodded him into the slam.

The jack of clubs was led and won with the ace. Mr. Meek then made the good play of leading a heart and finessing the jack. When that held, he could afford to make a safety play in trumps. If the heart finesse had lost, he would have had to try for no spade losers, cashing the king and then finessing the jack. As you see, that play of the spade suit would have lost.

Actually Mr. Meek cashed the ace of spades at trick three. He came to his hand with the ace of clubs and led a small spade. When Mrs. Keen showed out on the second spade, dummy's jack was played and lost to the queen. However, Mr. Meek now had king-nine over Mr. Dale's ten-five.

North dealer			
Both sides vulnerable			
North (Mr. Abel)			
S-A J 4			
H-A Q J 4 2			
D-K J 2			
C-3 2			
East			
(Mr. Dale)			
S-Q 10 5 3			
H-6 5			
D-10 9 7			
C-Q 8 6 4			
South (Mr. Meek)			
S-K 9 8 7 6			
H-A 3			
D-A Q 3			
C-A K 7			
The bidding:			
North	East	South	West
1 S	Pass	1 S	Pass
2 S	Pass	3 D	Pass
3 H	Pass	4 C	Pass
4 D	Pass	4 S	Pass
5 S	Pass	6 S	All Pass

ALSO ASK BAN

OSLO, Norway (AP)—India's Red Cross has joined the national societies of Japan and Sweden in demanding that the Red Cross League ask for an immediate ban on nuclear weapons, including the hydrogen bomb.

A draft resolution asked the session of the league board of governors here to plead with all nations "to undertake to prohibit complete recourse to all such means," as asphyxiating and poison gases and germ warfare.

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Canadian Army Discards 5.5 For U.S. Gun

OTTAWA (AP)—The army has discarded the British 5.5-inch gun in favor of the United States 155-millimeter howitzer as its standard medium artillery piece.

But the army refuses to give any particulars of the U.S. howitzer on the grounds of "security."

However, it can be stated authoritatively that the howitzer has a maximum range of 16,000 yards, a weight of 3,325 pounds, an over-all length of 150 inches, a rate of fire of two rounds per minute, a maximum powder pressure of 32,000 pounds per square inch; that the volume of the chambers is 725 cubic inches; that the weight of the projectile is 95 pounds and that the gun carriage alone weighs 8,975 pounds.

These are some of the specifications given in a book entitled "Weapons of World War II," published in 1947 by the U.S. Army Ordnance Association and the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania and available in almost any library or book store.

The 155-millimeter gun was designed in 1939 and was used extensively during the Second World War. The Germans captured a lot of them. The Allies shipped some to Russia under lend-lease.

The Canadian Army began using the U.S. howitzer about three years ago. Pictures of it have appeared in army publications.

The howitzer also has been on public display in several places in Canada at various times—recently outside the University armories in Toronto and at Peterborough, Ont., when the reserve army there took delivery of a couple. Canadian newspapers from time to time have carried pictures of the gun and given at least some of its specifications.

The 155-millimeter gun is considered more accurate than the British 5.5-inch gun though the maximum effective range is about the same. It weighs 1,300 pounds less than the 5.5.

The 5.5 was used by all Commonwealth troops during the Second World War. It fired a shell of 80 or 100 pounds.

Cowichan Commandos Keeping Reserve Army Units on Alert

DUNCAN, B.C. (AP)—The "Cowichan Commandos," a self-styled military outfit, have the dedicated purpose of showing up Canadian Army reserve units.

Comprising 32 former officers of the German, Polish, British and Canadian armed forces, the civilian organization achieves its aim by using a 19th century military manual and going contrary to it when the situation requires.

James Flynn, a former lieutenant-commander in the Royal Canadian Navy, organized the Commandos last year, he said, because reserve forces are in "dreadful" shape. He attributes part of the cause to lack of realism.

EFFICIENT FORCE

The Commandos boast an efficient military organization which includes an air force of two planes, both privately owned by members. Their wives have also been pressed into service, operating radios and maintaining the headquarters.

So effective have the Commandos been that their honorary colonel, Maj.-Gen. G. R. Parkes, V.C., member of Parliament for Esquimalt-Saanich, has dubbed them "Her Majesty's Loyal Communist Army."

Working by night, the Commandos have carried out "raids" without defeat. Their strategy is to blacken their faces and slip through "enemy" lines.

On one occasion they crept into a reserve army camp, stole the food supply and let the air out of the tires of a truck before being discovered.

"We also got into headquarters and swiped a case of beer," Mr. Flynn adds. "After all, the Commandos need some incentive too."

Personal Test

LONDON (AP)—Thirteen hundred whisky drinkers volunteered to see the nine-day run of a color film about the manufacture and blending of scotch whisky. After each showing the audience tasted raw whiskies of various grains and malts—reasonably watered down.

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