



BLACKWOOD on Bridge

By EASLEY BLACKWOOD

Mr. Dale Opens Away From a King;
He's Crazy Like a Fox—As Usual

"That's something I never do," whispered Mr. Muzzy sagely to another kibitzer, as he saw Mr. Dale open away from the king of clubs in today's deal.

South dealer
Neither side vulnerable

North (Miss Brash)
S-10 7 6
H-K 4 3
D-A 10 9
C-6 5 4 2

West (Mr. Dale)
S-8 2
H-10 9 8 7
D-6 5 3
C-K J 9 7

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

South (Mrs. Keen)
S-A K 5
H-A Q J 6 3
D-Q J 8 4
C-Q

The bidding:
South 1 H
West 4 H
North 2 H
East Pass

BIRTHPLACE OF CRICKET
Hampshire, England, where cricket was played as early as 1750, is known as the cradle of modern cricket.

He saw no reason to comment on Miss Brash's raise to two hearts. Surely, with such a flat distribution, she would have done better to bid one no trump. But that's not too important here as Mrs. Keen had a big hand and might well have reached a heart game anyway.

Here was Mr. Dale's reasoning in choosing the seven of clubs as his opening lead. First, his hand was woefully weak in high cards. He had two principal assets—his club honors and his four-card trump holding.

DEVASTATING
He figured his best bet was to play the forcing game; that is, to try and force declarer to ruff until his trump holding was shorter than Mr. Dale's. With this idea in mind, he led from his strongest suit. The result was devastating.

Mr. Abel won with the ace of

clubs and returned the suit. Sensing danger, Mrs. Keen made a nice play by dropping her small spade instead of ruffing. Her hope was that Mr. Abel had started with only three clubs so that if he got in later with the king of diamonds he could not force her again.

A club was continued at trick three and this time Mrs. Keen trumped. She led to dummy's king of hearts, and back to her ace. On the second trump, Mr. Abel showed out, discarding a spade.

The situation was grave. Everything now depended on the diamond finesse. Mrs. Keen took two more rounds of trumps, then led the queen of diamonds and let it ride. Mr. Abel won with the king and the following club trick set the contract.

"Mighty lucky opening," remarked Mr. Muzzy.
"Yes, I just shut my eyes and pulled one out at random," Mr. Dale replied. "I make all my opening leads that way."

ANCIENT DANCE
The ritual dances performed by the temple dancers of Kandy in Ceylon are at least 2000 years old.

WRATHALL'S

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Truck Through Francois Ice

FRANCOIS LAKE—There was quite a lot of excitement on both sides of the lake on Wednesday morning when Pete Heibert's truck, loaded with lumber, broke through the ice as it was coming across. The front of the truck stayed up but the back end settled down into the water. With the help of willing neighbors with cables and poles they managed to keep the truck from settling into the deep water as it was half a mile from shore. The next morning it was unloaded and the truck hauled onto the ice. It looked none the worse for the experience.

If you want to sell it, advertise it. News classified.

Francois Lake

Mrs. Merrill is in the Burns Lake hospital with a throat condition. She has been ill since before Christmas.

After the cold spell there was a heavy fall of snow and on Sunday evening it rained.

Fred Knowles has improved so that he is out of hospital and is staying with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eaton.

Peter Mathews, Joe Perrier, Paul Piche and Peter Neave are practicing with the Burns Lake hockey team.

The ice is being cut round the wharf by the Public Works women so that it does not move and shift the wharf.

Francois Lake Seed Growers

FRANCOIS LAKE—The Central B.C. Seed Growers held its annual meeting on Saturday afternoon. Election of officers for the coming year resulted as follows:

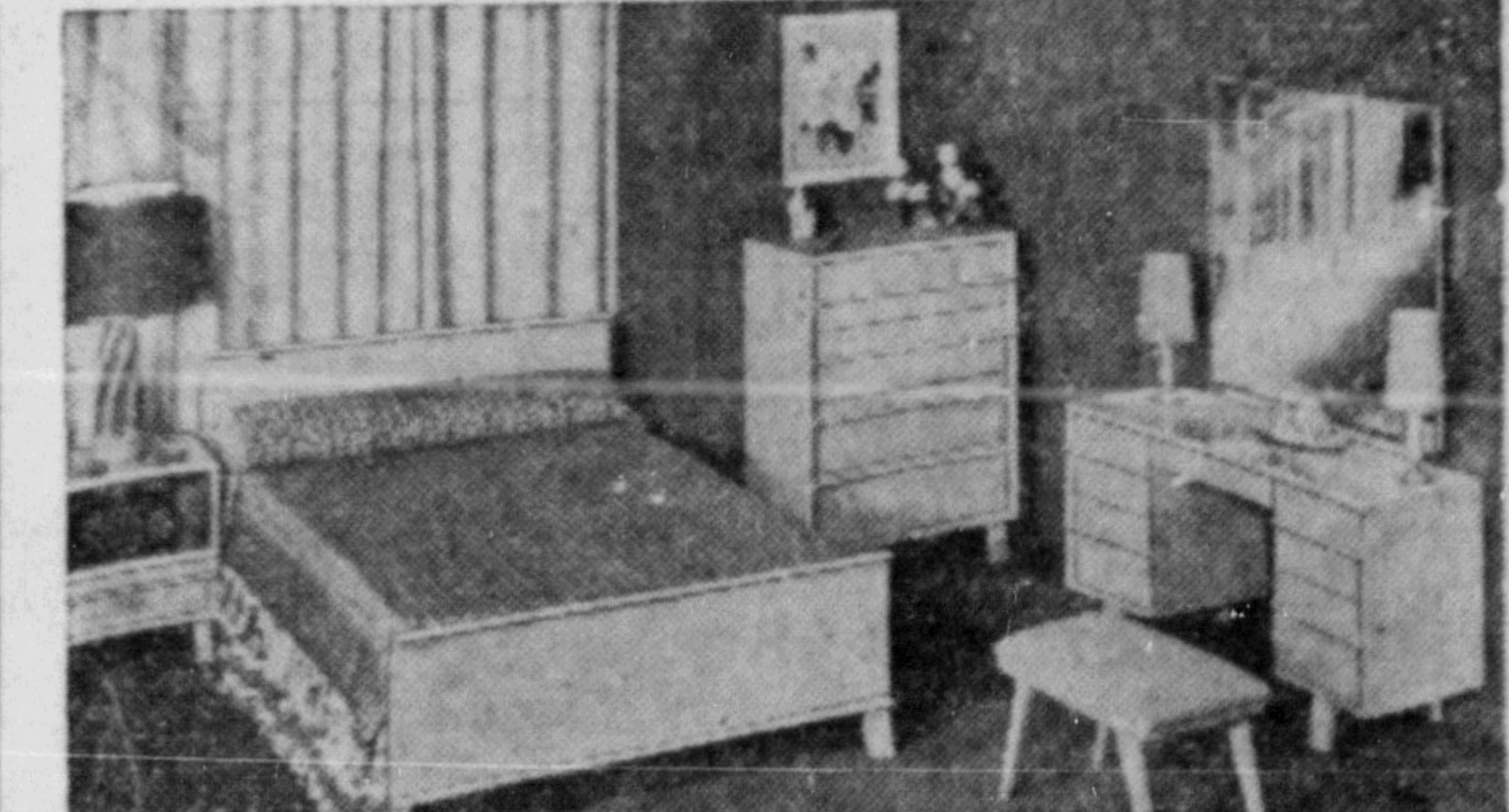
President—Lee Cooper
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Secretary—J. Stretch
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For best results, advertise!

Pension Checks Reach Rupert

Forty dollars a month checks, under the new universal seventy years old pension plan, commenced to arrive in Prince Rupert yesterday. How many living here are entitled to it is not definitely known but the impression appears to be there will be at least some hundreds.

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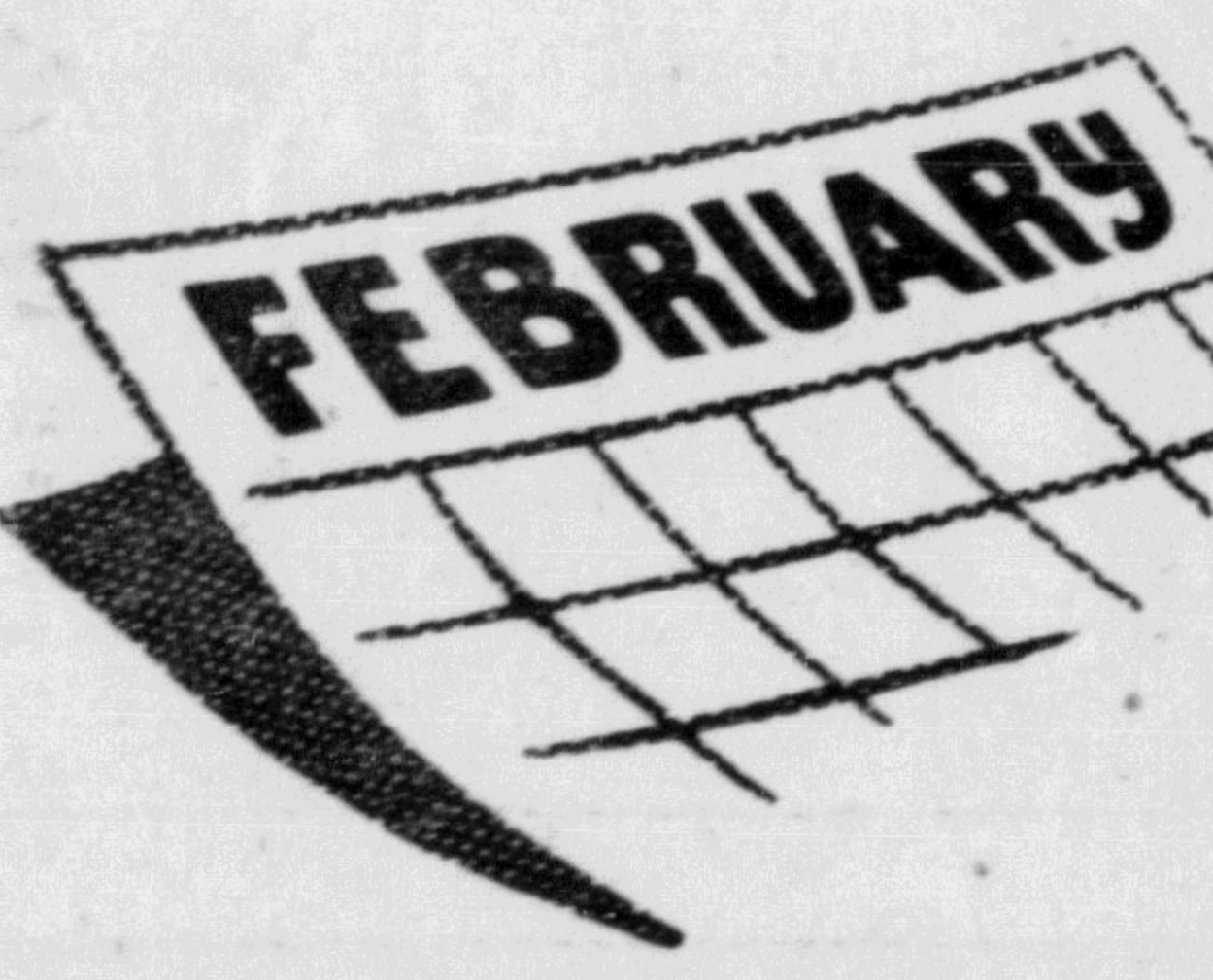
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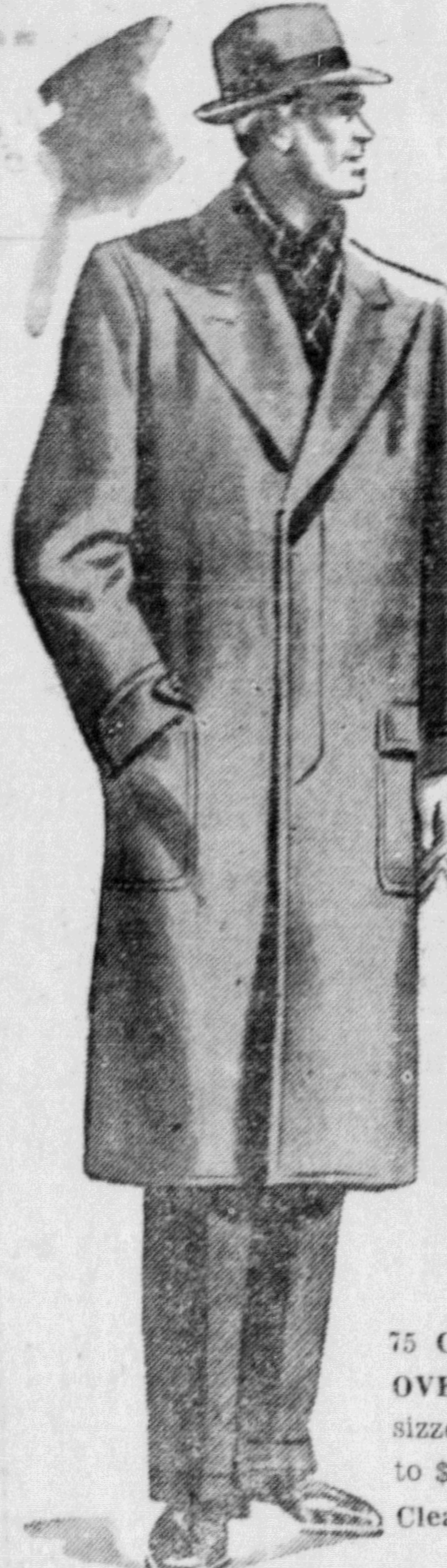


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