

WELSH BRIDGE UNION BULLETIN

Series. 1.
Number. 8.
February. 1949.

37, Llandennis Avenue,
Cardiff.
Phone: Llanishen 701.

Edited by Harold Gould.

All letters, queries, articles, etc., to the Editor at the address above.

.....

Contents include:-

- The T.B.A. by Terence Reese.
- Northern Notes. by Major W.B. Tatlow.
- "Yes Dear" by Palooka.

=====

Editorial.

The preliminary arrangements for the Congress are now complete and brochures containing the programme, entry form etc., have been distributed. If you have not received one yet please contact me and I shall be glad to send it along without delay.

The success or failure of our venture depends entirely upon you - without your personal attendance all our work will be in vain. I therefore, sincerely request you to come to Porthcawl for the first week-end in March (March 3rd-7th), and please let us know of your intended support by filling up the Entry Form without delay and posting it. For information, it won't be too easy to keep our Trophies in the Principality - Terence Reese, Ralph Simon, Major.Geo. Gray, Bobby Marcado, Mrs Fleming, J Pearlstone and many others also have their eyes on them and they mean to do their best. There are approximately 60 prizes and four major Trophies to be won, but most important there is the Welsh Bridge Union to support. You are a member and you can do your share to help, by being in Porthcawl and playing in the competitions. If you need a partner or a player to complete a team any member of the Committee will be pleased to assist. But no excuses - come along and bring your friends.

The following team has been selected to represent Wales in the Camrose Trophy match versus Scotland at Llandudno February 19th - 20th.

- Non-playing Capt. T.G. Bonnyman Esq. (Cardiff)
- S. Moses and P. Davies (Llandudno)
- Dr. McNair and D.H. Jones (Swansea)
- J. Carter and H. Schneiden (Cardiff)

Major Basil W. Tatlow is in charge of the local arrangements and the match will be played at the Imperial Hotel, Llandudno. A large number of spectators is anticipated and if anyone from South Wales can make the journey Major Tatlow has promised to look after them to the very best of his ability.

The last excursion from S. Wales to N. Wales was undertaken by D. McAllister's Bridgend team. They played Major. Tatlow's team in the 3rd round of the Gold Cup and after a tight game came out winners by approximately 1,600 points. Good Luck, Bridgend; we would all like to see you bring the Gold Cup to Wales.

=====

COMPETITION RESULTS.

WELSH CUP. (TEAMS OF FOUR)

Mr. G. Bowring	beat	Mr. J. Laidlaw Murray.	1950.
Mr. D. H. Jones	beat	Mrs. Cullis.	1200.
Mr. D. McAllister	beat	Mr. I.J. Gaist.	3700.
Mr. W. Jacobs	beat	Mr. H. Thomas.	960.
Mrs. Bonnyman	beat	Mrs. Ben Jones.	3670.
Mr. W. A. Rees	beat	Mr. Needham.	200.
Mr. S. Hoffman	beat	Mrs. Rogers.	2730.

=====

LADIES WELSH CUP.

Mrs. McArthur	beat	Mrs. Ben Jones.	1230.
Mrs. G. Rogers	w.o.	Mrs. Perrie Gould (Ser.)	
Mrs. Addenbrooke	beat	Mrs. Cullis.	510.

=====

Miss McEachran, Ty Newydd, St.Brides-S-Ely, Nr. Cardiff, has kindly consented to run the Cambria and Webber Cup events and all enquiries and match results direct to Miss McEachran please.

=====

WELSH CUP. (TEAMS OF FOUR)

Round 2.

Mr. V. Searle. v Mrs. Bonnyman.

Round 3. (TO BE PLAYED BY MARCH 15TH.)

Mr. D.H. Jones. v Mr. G. Bowring.

WELSH CUP.

Round 3. (TO BE PLAYED BY MARCH 15TH).

Mr. V. Searle			
or	v	Mr. S. Reed.	
Mrs. Bonnyman			
Mr. W.A. Rees.	v	Mr. D. McAllister.	
Mr. J. Carter.	v	Mr. W. Jacobs.	

LADIES WELSH CUP.

Round. 2. (TO BE PLAYED BY MARCH 15th)

Mrs. Addenbrooke	v	Mrs. Rogers.
Mrs. McArthur.	v	Miss McEachran.

=====

THE T. B. A. by: Terence Reese.

I welcome the opportunity to write about the Tournament Bridge Association, because I know that there are many players in the world who hardly know that it exists and others who may wonder why any Tournament body should be wanted apart from the organisations which existed before the war. I will explain how the T.B.A. came into existence, what it has done, and what it is doing now.

Early in 1945, with the support of an Advisory Council which included most of the leading figures in the game, I took the initiative in forming a new and independent Association. The promotion of Tournament Bridge is a difficult and complex business, and I felt that I could do more for the game at the head of an independent Association than as a temporary official in any democratic organisation.

At its first meeting I promised the members of the Advisory Council that I would work to create publicity for bridge. As my partner in the enterprise I took Mr. H.L. Selby, a Merchandising and Advertising Consultant, who had no technical knowledge of bridge.

The first competitions of the T.B.A. were the Richard Lederer Memorial Cup and the T.B.A. £100 Handicap. These two events attracted, even before the war had ended, an entry of 193 teams.

The system of Master Points awarded to the competitors in our contests caught the imagination of players and from the first the quality of the entries for T.B.A. contests has been the highest in the game.

When all the odd competitions organised by the B.B.L. and the E.B.U. were in progress again, it became obvious that the competitive programme was hopelessly overloaded. At the same time hotels became more sympathetic to the idea of Bridge Tournaments, and the T.B.A. at the end of 1946 turned from competitions which take six months to run to week-end Congresses. Events which had already become famous, such as the T.B.A. 2 Stars and the T.B.A. Inter-City Championship, were played off at the Bournemouth in 1947. This, by the way, is how all events are organised in America.

The next big Tournament to be held by the T.B.A. is at Eastbourne from April 1st to 4th. The principal events will be the Richard Lederer Memorial Cup, Open Teams of Four, The T.B.A. Punch Bowl, Mixed Teams of Four, the T.B.A. Ladies' Pairs Championship and the T.B.A. Men's Pairs Championship. At a T.B.A. Tournament there is a real sense of occasion. If you can't come to Eastbourne in the Spring, come to Bournemouth the last week-end in October. Our slogan is "Play with the Masters - and have a grand holiday."

=====

NORTHERN NOTES.

by: Major W.B. Tatlow.

I must apologise for being so late with my notes last month - they did eventually appear in what I might call the Northern Wales edition but were too late for the main Southern distribution!

There is not very much to report this month - the teams playing under my Captaincy in the National Competitions have both ceased to have any further direct interest therein so far as this season is concerned! In the Hubert Phillips Bowl we lost to Jacobs at Birmingham by 60 points over 36 boards. In the 3rd round of the Gold Cup we met the only other Welsh team left in - D. McAllister of Bridgend. We were 350 behind after 32 boards and 110 after 48, but the last 16 cost us 1510 points so we lost by 1620 over 64 boards, no disgrace to a team of the calibre of McAllister, Bloom, Maxwell Hayes and Evans.

The North Wales League progresses towards the end for this season - Llandudno No.1 (Moses) has not yet been beaten and my team - Llandudno No.2, only once - by Moses. We are looking forward to our return match when we hope to reverse the decision.

Arrangements for the first International ever to be held in North Wales are well advanced. We are gratified that Stanley Moses and Percy Davies have been honoured again. We know they will not let the team down. Percy goes into hospital on January 25th for a minor operation. We all wish him a speedy recovery. He expects to be out in plenty of time for the International.

Mr.M. Harrison-Gray has promised to come to Llandudno to act as commentator at the match and he will sum up before and after each session and should be a great attraction. All information and tickets for all sessions and/or the official dinners on the Friday and Sunday nights can be obtained from me on application. Major. W.B. Tatlow, 48, Mostyn Street, Llandudno. I hope there will be a bumper attendance of North Wallians at this event.

=====

HARROGATE CONGRESS.

At the E.B.U. Congress at Harrogate, Trevor Williams and the Editor did well to qualify for the finals of all events even if they were beaten at the post by Terence Rees, Boris Shapiro, Lee & Booker.

Trevor Williams however, did not come away empty handed:- he was invited to play as a Master and with a "alleged" Palooka from Leeds won the event in a canter. Congratulations to our Yorkshire friends on organising this Congress so well. We made no secret of the fact that we ourselves were up as spies from a foreign land and believe me we picked up a lot of useful tips which we shall be using.

=====

FIRST WELSH OPEN

BRIDGE CONGRESS.

SEABANK HOTEL & ESPLANADE HOTEL. PORTHCRAWL.

THURSDAY 3rd MARCH.

TO

MONDAY 7th MARCH.

1949.

Enquiries to Mrs. H.J. Gould. 37, Llandennis Avenue, Cardiff.

"YES DEAR".

by: "Palooka".

It happened at a local pairs contest in which Seven tables took part with "Mitchell" scoring. I was sitting North with my wife South as partner. We did fairly well thanks to her excellent play and the last round started. I played a contract of two clubs which I made.

"Why did you not finesse your ten of clubs? You could have made an overtrick which might well have decided the outcome of the competition. You are hopeless!"

"But Darling, how could I know that four clubs with the knave were with West and a doubleton with East? They could just as well have been divided 3 - 3. There was no indication to make the finesse."

"Leave me alone with your indications," was her reply. "You take the game too scientifically and lack common-sense. It was East who made the bid of one spade, West passed and after your two clubs all passed. With a little sense you could easily assume that West was short of spades but had a long suit. You could finesse the ten of clubs without endangering your contract".

"Yes dear".

She looked at the score card, entered our result, put the card back into the envelope and took the next board.

"Excuse me darling, how goes it?" I asked humbly.

"Five pairs defended two spades, one down. Another pair also played the club contract making two, so we lost four points thanks to your "lack of indication".

"But sweetheart, we share the top, so our chances are very good."

"Don't sweetheart me, please. It's not our honeymoon. If we are in a good position, it is certainly not because of your merit. Luckily our opponents were not vulnerable, otherwise we would share a bottom. But three clubs made would have secured us an unquestionable top".

"Yes dear", was all I could add. What's the good of arguing? She was right. When we enjoyed our honeymoon twenty-six years ago we never thought of Bridge. The queen of all card games entered into our lives when contract became popular, and since then I have become used to the "whys" and "why not's", and all other similar questions.

There was not much in the next hand. A four spade contract by opponents, made at all tables, produced an average score. It was the very last hand which proved the brilliancy of my beloved and respected wife and partner. She bid and made a contract of six diamonds, while all other pairs stopped at three no trumps to make their contract, some of them with an overtrick. We, or had I better say, she, won the contest on our line. But let me tell you the story. Here is the hand:

Palooka.

S. x.x.
H. K.9.x.x.
D. Q.10.x.x.
C. K.x.x.

West.

S. x.
H. J.10.x.x.x.
D. A.x.x.
C. J.10.x.x.

East.

S. K.J.10.x.x.x.
H. Q.x.x.
D. x.
C. Q.x.x.

Master.

S. A.Q.x.x.
H. A.
D. K.J.x.x.x.
C. A.x.x.

The bidding:

<u>S.</u>	<u>W.</u>	<u>N.</u>	<u>E.</u>
1 Diamond	pass	1 Heart	1 Spade.
2 Clubs	pass	2 Diamonds	pass.
2 Spades	pass	3 Clubs	pass.
6 Diamonds	dbler	pass	pass.

West led his singleton eight of spades and I produced my thirteen cards without looking up. I felt her eyes resting on me and she murmured something like "Why these rabbits substitute courage for knowledge?" Now I remembered my bids. I knew I had been "optimistic" again. As she did not play any card, I looked up and found her in a trance. Then she asked for a small spade, East put down the King which she took with her Ace. Then she played her knave of diamonds, taken by West with the Ace who continued with the jack of hearts. This she took with her Ace and all three of us could notice a superior smile on her lips. Next played was the King of diamonds, East discarding a spade. Then she crossed to dummy with a small diamond, East discarding

another spade. A heart from dummy was ruffed, and on the Queen of spades West discarded a heart. The ruff of a spade brought her back to dummy and she called for the King of hearts on which East's queen fell, whereas she ditched a small club. Returning to her hand with the Ace of clubs she laid down her last trump and said: "Double squeeze".

"Carry on", exclaimed East and West simultaneously. This was the position:

<u>North.</u>	S. -		<u>East.</u>	S. J.	
	H. 9.			H. -	
	D. -			D. -	
	C. K.x.			C. Q.x.	
	<u>South.</u>	S. x.		<u>West.</u>	S. -
		H. -			H. 10.
		D. x.			D. -
		C. x.			C. J.10.

"No", she said, bowing to West, "it is up to you to carry on. I play a trump and you are squeezed, and your partner just the same." West parted with his ten of clubs, she called for the nine of hearts and East gave in.

"Darling", I exclaimed, "you belong to the aces. Terence Reese could not have done better! This must be a top. How did you do it? I mean what led you to this way of play?"

"What bidding!" was her reply. "With your shabby eight points you gave first a positive response, and when I made my forcing overcall you dared to raise me in clubs instead of signing off by repeating your diamonds. Of course, after West showed up with the ace of diamonds it was obvious...he wanted to put East into the lead to ruff a spade. The rest was simple. I soon knew that East started with six spades and a singleton diamond. Holding as menace cards, the spade in my hand and the nine of hearts in dummy, they could not keep their club honours guarded without throwing away their master cards".

"Excellent darling, but you admit that it was my bidding which enabled us to earn the top!"

"Better not talk about it, because you just do not understand it. What's the use of arguing with you? Of course I jumped to six diamonds after your promising bids. But do not forget that the contract could be beaten by breaking the squeeze through the lead of a club and after taking the ace of diamonds by leading another club. Therefore the sound contract was three no trumps".

"Yes dear".



Letter to the Editor.

"TWO CLUBS AND BURNT FIVERS".

Dear Sir,

In Capt. Ricardo's hard-luck of last month's issue, we are bound to agree that his hard earned wealth was somewhat casually, or may we say, ignorantly, given away. However that may be, the blame can hardly be laid on the system Capt. Ricardo was forced to play, no doubt with a smile on his lips and CULBERTSON in his heart.

If his partner gave, as was stated, a positive response to his initial Two Clubs, the opener's response was seven Diamonds without more ado. Why didn't he? Was it the aroma of a better cigar than his own that disturbed him? Or dare we suggest that we wonder if Capt. Ricardo remembered he was playing the Official Two Clubs, or did he think it was an inhibiting bid?

Alas, no one will ever know. But to blame a system when the player of the system is at fault, isn't logical.

Lastly, if maximum points was the main consideration surely the grand slam should have been called in Diamonds to score the honours, or have we fallen into the trap of a void on the first lead?

Signed "WHY ELI".
(Swansea).

WELSH OPEN BRIDGE CONGRESS.

PORTHCAWL. MARCH 3rd - 7th.

Enquiries to:- Mrs. H.J. Gould, 37, Llandennis Avenue, Cardiff.

If you require a partner for Pairs events or a player to complete a Team of Four, please notify any member of the Congress Committee, who will be only too pleased to assist.

PLEASE ENTER EARLY.

=====

"THE BEST EVER".

by: W.H. Ricardo.

I have often been asked what is the best hand that I have ever played and I have no hesitation in giving you the one that I have selected, (No.2). I think the whole set up is so bizarre that I will give all the circumstances leading up to it.

I happened to be spending a night in a well-known sea-side resort on the South Coast, and after dinner, while strolling past the Town Hall, I was accosted by a frantic gentleman in a dinner jacket who buttonholed me, and asked "Do you play Bridge"? Having pleaded guilty, he fell on my neck and asked me to help him out of a hole. Said I, cautiously, "How big is the hole?" as there were holes and holes in the Bridge game. Well, it turned out that a duplicate pairs movement was about to start, and one more player was urgently needed to substitute for a doctor who had telephoned to say that he would be late by a quarter of an hour, and could the tournament director find a substitute for the first Round, which was only two boards. Always willing to oblige I was led upstairs to a table at which three people were sitting. Judge my surprise to see the North South pair consisted of my old C.O.Group Captain Twistyer Properly, of whom you have heard before, and his wife, still meek and timid, as befits the mate of a Station Commander. The third member of the party was a young lady in the early twenties who seemed somehow like an early Christian martyr awaiting the entrance of the lions. She was to be my partner and I sat down hastily, to the unconcealed impatience of the C.C. There was not time to enquire as to the mysteries of her conventions, if any, so I said to her, "What sort of a no trump do you play?" "Oh", said she, "I bid no trumps when I feel like it". A very satisfactory answer, I thought, and hoped that we might have some fun. It was my deal and I took my hand out of the Tray.

S. x.
H. x.
D. J.
C. Q.J.10.x.x.x.x.x.x.

Well, thought I, if we are playing "go as you please" no trumps here's a good one to start with. So: One No Trump from me, East, No bid; South, Seven No Trumps, double from the G.C. who looked like Judgement Day in the orderly room.

These were the hands:

S. K.9.x.x.
 H. K.Q.x.x.
 D. A.x.x.x.
 C. K.
 (N)

S. A.8.x.x,
 H. A.x.x.x. (W)
 D. K.Q.x.
 C. A.x,

(E)

S. x.
 H. x.
 D. J.
 C. Q.J.10.x.x.x.x.x.x.x.

(S)

S. Q.J.10.x.x.
 H. J.10.x.x.
 D. 10.x.x.x.
 C. --

The Captain's lady looked for a directing lead from the Mount of Olympus, but got none, as he really could not care less. I could see him looking at me pityingly and still wondering where he had seen me before (Pilot Officers do not register a great deal with Group Captains). She then lead the eminently correct lead of the Queen of Spades, up went Dummys Ace, a small one from the G.C. (he did not believe in encouraging his wife, not even at the Bridge table) and there we were. After I had played off 9 Clubs, throwing the King, Queen of Diamonds in dummy, the last three cards were:

S. -
 H. K.Q.
 D. A.
 C. -

S. 8.
 H. A.x.
 D. -
 C. -

S. -
 H. x.
 D. J.
 C. x.

S. Q.J.
 H. J.
 D. -
 C. --

The last Club completed the squeeze and, a top of the board was inevitable, a grand slam with 21 points. You point merchants, bite on that one.....

The next hand came on the table. In a daze the old man pulled out his cards and bid One Spade. I took mine up and here was my setup.

S. K.Q.10.4.3.2.
H. 4.3.2.
D. 4.
C. K.6.5.

Gone psychic has he?, I said to myself, or maybe the last hand has gone to his head, so I passed.

"Six No Trumps", from his lady wife, and never let it be said that he would allow her to play any slam hand while he had breath in his body. A majestic "Seven Spades" from him left me gasping, but still I passed followed by Mrs. Properly. I could not think of anything better to lead than the 4 of Diamonds and dummy went down

S. A.6.5.
H. A.K.Q.4.6.
D. K.Q.J.
C. A.J.10.

A frown passed over his brow. It dawned on him that the Contract was off. But when my partner did not put up the Ace and he hurriedly dropped the 4 of Diamonds from his own hand and picked the trick up quickly, I could see what had happened, "Somebody had slipped up in the duplicating and both my hand and his were identical in every particular. He probably felt astonished that the Ace was not even attempted, but great relief made further investigation as to the cause unnecessary. Now for a bit of fun. He led the Ace of Spades my partner played the nine, he put up the deuce and I carefully played the three. This passed by quite unnoticed and he continued trumps. Glory be, the Jack came from my partner the three from his own hand and the four from me, and now all the trumps were out, what was he going to do next. Would he try a Club finesse or go for the Heart drop? He chose the Hearts, and played them out, I was careful to play the 4 then the 2 and the 3 to his 2.3.4. and my partner to my delight played the 9.10. and Jack so the 4th.Heart was good for the discard of the losing Club 5, and I was able to throw the six.

He then spread his hand and claimed the rest of the tricks to which I cheerfully agreed slipping my hand quickly into the East slot. "Good work Sir", said I, and he almost smiled, saying "You should have led the Ace of Diamonds and I would have been one down." "Not against you, Sir," said I, "as I was sure that you would have no diamonds on your bid." With that I saw to my relief the tournament director approaching with the Doctor whose place I had taken, and I felt that it was no place for me to linger as the Post Mortem on that board would be altogether too interesting, But did I play the hand well? Or did I?

Most extra-ordinary. I do hope no one will be so unkind as to suggest that this was evidently a qualifying round of the "PORT AND "JUG" CUP. Ed.

We are advised that the Cambria Club has drawn up the following programme and, feeling that a number of players will be interested we are pleased to bring it to your attention.

	<u>AFTERNOONS.</u>	<u>EVENINGS.</u>
MONDAY.....	DUPLICATE.....	RUBBER BRIDGE.
TUESDAY.....	RUBBER BRIDGE.....	PARTNERSHIP.
WEDNESDAY.....	PARTNERSHIP.....	RUBBER BRIDGE.
THURSDAY.....	RUBBER BRIDGE.....	RUBBER BRIDGE.
FRIDAY.....	PARTNERSHIP.....	RUBBER BRIDGE.
SATURDAY.....	CLOSED	RUBBER BRIDGE.

-----o-----oo-----o-----

AFTERNOON AND EVENING SESSIONS OF CONTRACT BRIDGE WILL BE 1d, 3d and 6d. ROOMS.

BILLIARDS MAY BE PLAYED EVERY NIGHT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SUNDAYS.

FRIENDLY OR CUP MATCHES MAY BE PLAYED AND PRIVATE BRIDGE PARTIES CAN ALSO BE CATERED FOR ON APPLICATION TO THE MANAGEMENT.

DUPLICATE PAIRS THE LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

THEIR TELEPHONE NUMBER IS CARDIFF..4486. AND QUERIES DIRECT TO THE CAMBRIA CLUB PLEASE.

The Editor regrets the poorish quality of some of the paper and expresses a hope that very shortly we shall be able to afford to have our Bulletin printed.

The Jewish Institute and Social Club Bridge Section have had a very successful month, and Mr. H. Harris notifies me of the following results : ---

Jan. 3rd. Mixed Pairs Handicap Contest :

N. S. Winners Messrs. Harris & Gaist (Scr.)
E. W. " " H. Schneiden & Dr. Myerson (800)

Jan. 10th. Club v Mackintosh Institute. (Eight a side)

Mackintosh Institute won by 4000 points.

Jan. 17th.

Mr. J. Carters Team beat Mr. S. Reeds team by 6,500 points. (Eight aside contest)

Jan. 24th. Club v Mr. Broach's Barry team (Eight a side)

Club won by 2,800 points.

Jan. 31st. Calcutta Handicap.

1st. Messrs. Harris & Gaist 130½ points
2nd. " S. Reed & E. Abrahams 127½ points
3rd. " J. Carter & S. Hoffman 118 points.

The Club also sent a team to Newport to play Mr. Ernest's team, and won by 2, 800 points.

Would anyone who wishes to challenge this Bridge Section please communicate with Mr. H. Harris, 60 Caerphilly Road, Cardiff?