



The annual southern Oregon open pairs duplicate bridge tournament held Saturday and Sunday at the Jackson hotel attracted players from a number of Oregon cities. Pictured as they prepared to register for the tournament are (left to right) Henry Walker of Redmond, Mrs. Walker, Fred A. Brainerd of Coos Bay and Jack Barr, formerly of Medford and now of Grants Pass. Mrs. Richard Milestone, member of the sponsoring club, Medford Duplicate Bridge club, served as tournament registrar. The tournament was played in two sections for two sessions.



Mrs. Al Gilhausen of the Medford Duplicate club arranged an enormous tray of beautiful J. H. Hale peaches and the colorful new red Bartlett pears as a centerpiece for the table from which a buffet supper was served following Saturday night's tournament session. She edged the tray with reddish Japanese plum leaves, and topped the mound with clusters of small purple plums and leaves. Guests were invited to select from the tray when supper was served and it was soon reduced to nothing. Doyle Pressnall, Roseburg, admires the beautiful fruit, some of which came from the Gilhausen's orchard.



Mrs. Frank R. Baker, tournament director for Medford Duplicate Bridge club, arrived at the hotel early to arrange tables and chairs and duplicate boards and cards. Mrs. Baker, who has played bridge for many years, didn't allow her tournament duties to interfere with her fine bridge, for she and her partner, George Rode, ended with the top score. Here Mrs. Baker discusses a problem with Roy Pruitt, another Medford club member who plays a lot of bridge. Mr. Pruitt and his partner, Mrs. S. W. Alcorn of Ashland, came in second with but three points less than the winning pair.



The four players shown here were on the last hand Sunday afternoon when the photographer returned, but didn't relax until the last card was played. Dr. J. H. Harris (at left) had Mrs. Harris as a partner, and their opponents were Mr. and Mrs. L. E. McClintock. All four belong to Roseburg Duplicate Bridge club. Other Roseburg players who entered the tournament were Mr. and Mrs. James Bevans, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Bruffy, Grace Hildebrand and Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Patterson. Guest players were entertained at a breakfast at Rogue Valley Country club Sunday morning before play resumed at 1 o'clock.

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Three No Trump

By Olive Starcher

The annual southern Oregon open pairs duplicate bridge tournament, which Medford Duplicate Bridge club sponsored last week end, turned out to be the largest such event ever held in Medford. Seventeen tables of players competed, with bridge fans from several cities in addition to Medford and Ashland entered.

Duplicate bridge occupies the interest of many valley residents, with two clubs operating in Medford and one at Camp White. Camp White Veterans' Bridge club was organized to provide recreation for bridge players among the domiciliary members at the camp. Valley residents also attend the camp sessions.

Local clubs are affiliated with the American Contract Bridge league, and forward their play results to the western division in Los Angeles from where rating points are issued. Local clubs may issue rating points to winners, and 100 of these entitles the player to one master point; 20 master points are rated as a full master player, 50 as a national master and 300 as a life master. This rating is held by but one local player, Mrs. S. W. Alcorn of Ashland.



As each table completed the games Sunday afternoon, players began to check their score cards. Pictured here are Mrs. W. W. Stevenson (at left) who is chairman of Medford Duplicate Bridge club, and Mrs. R. J. Conroy. Mrs. Conroy, who spends part of her time here and the remainder in San Francisco, has played duplicate for a number of years and is well advanced in points toward her life master rating. She often participates in sectional and regional tournaments; these larger tournaments are held in the big coast cities and attract hundreds of players.



Scoring a duplicate tournament is a complicated matter, and these three men were hard at work as soon as the games ended. Berg L. Marten (at left) makes entries on the master score sheet while Jack Barr, Grants Pass, and William Kennedy assist. Although many of the players had long distances of driving ahead of them, few left until the scoring was completed and winners announced. Tally sheets have been sent to the western regional office of the American Contract Bridge league, and there master points will be entered on the records of the winners. Confirmed bridge fans carry their national club directory with them while traveling, and play as guests of clubs in the various towns and cities they visit on trips.



Two women and four men were among the three pairs with top scores for the two tournament sessions. George Rode and Mrs. Frank R. Baker (at back) topped all other pairs with a total score of 214½ points. Roy Pruitt (seated at far left) and Mrs. S. W. Alcorn, Ashland, came in second with 211½ points and third place was taken by Al Gilhausen (center) and William Kennedy, whose total score was 198½ points. Fourth went to Mrs. Phyllis Davenport and Mrs. Kay Walker, a pair of Grants Pass players, and two pairs tied for fifth and sixth places. These were Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Boyd and Mrs. R. J. Conroy and Mrs. W. W. Stevenson, all Medford. Members of the various southern Oregon and northern California clubs travel back and forth to attend tournaments.