

MAJOR POWERS RIDE ROUGHSHOD OVER LEAGUE

Small Nations Disciplined, Big Ones Defy Rulings From Geneva.

This is the last of three stories on the League of Nations, now faced with the gravest test in its history—Japan's defiance in invading Manchuria—as its thirteenth birthday approaches on Jan. 16.

BY MILTON BRONNER

European Manager, NEA Service

LONDON, Jan. 6.—In the thirteen years since its first meeting was held on Jan. 16, 1920, the history of the League of Nations has been one of moderate successes and gigantic failures. On the credit side of its ledger are these achievements:

Stopping a Threatened War Between Britain and Greece—Outside of settling up the World court, this act in 1923 was the biggest job the league has done.

Settlement of Greek Refugees From Asia Minor—By means of a commission and raising of a \$50,000,000 loan for Greece, 1,500,000 Greek refugees driven from Asia Minor by the Turks in the war of 1922 were settled in their homeland, given lands, supplies and made self-sustaining.

Ends Swedish-Finnish Dispute

Ending the Dispute Between Sweden and Finland over the Aaland Islands—Finland claimed sovereignty and held on, though the majority of the people in the islands wanted union with Sweden.

The league recognized Finland's sovereignty, but arranged new safeguards for preservation of the Swedish character of the population. Both nations accepted.

Settling Differences Between Italy and Greece—Following the murder of an Italian general by unidentified persons in Greece in 1923, Italy seized the Greek island of Corfu after a short bombardment.

Greece appealed to the league; in a settlement effected through the council of ambassadors Italy was granted reparations, Greece paid, and Corfu was evacuated by the Italians.

On the Debit Side

On the debit side of the league's ledger has been:

Failure to Bring About Disarmament—In the thirteen years of its existence the league has failed to effect any real measure of disarmament as was promised in its covenant.

Lack of Courage in Manchurian Situation—Japan waged virtual war on China in violation of three separate treaties, practically defying the league to do its worst—and the league did little beyond sending the Lytton commission to investigate.

The league's hits have been, mainly, where little nations were concerned. Its misses have been where the dominating big powers were concerned. The big powers are outnumbered in the executive council by 9 to 5, and in the assembly by 52 to 5, but mere numbers do not count.

Japan Carries Point

Japan and Finland offer an interesting comparison. The Japanese practically said their actions in Manchuria were none of the league's business, just as Finland had first said regarding its dispute with Sweden over the Aaland islands.

The league "sat on" Finland—a little power. It did not attempt to "sit on" Japan—a big power.

Today the Japanese problem is giving the league perhaps the greatest worry in its career. If the league's diplomats can not avoid a showdown, two courses present themselves: (1) Yielding to Japan and letting her go scot-free with her Manchurian loot; (2) Defying Japan and thereby risking the resignation of a majority of one of the five great world powers.

A notable example of cowardice on the part of the league came in the dispute regarding possession of the important Polish city of Vilna which, whatever its population, was historically a Lithuanian city.

Yielded to Poland

In the years just after the war, Vilna changed hands several times, during the process of which Poland signed an agreement with the league that formally recognized Lithuanian occupation of Vilna. In October, 1920, so-called irregular troops under Zeligowski took Vilna, disregarding this agreement entirely.

The League of Nations did exactly nothing about it. Poland—ally of France—had a powerful advocate at court, and Vilna remains in Polish possession.

With Japan grinning defiance at the league as its birthday nears on Jan. 16, thirteen years of the league's history seems to have demonstrated one fact beyond question: It is one thing for the league to deal with a small power, and quite another thing for it to deal with a big power.

The first successful experiments with an artificial textile fiber were made in 1884.

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CONTRACT BRIDGE

BY W. E. MCKENNEY
Secretary American Bridge League

We often hear a player remark about the "bad breaks" he gets at the bridge table. There is no denying that some hands do break badly, but quite often "bad breaks" are due to bad playing or not planning a hand out far enough in advance.

The following hand, that well exemplifies this particular point, came up in the national contract team championship match recently held in New York City.

**▲ Q-8-7-2
▼ A-9-7-4
◆ J-2
◆ 10-9-5**

**▲ 9-5-4-3
3
◆ Q-10-9-5
◆ K-8-6-4
◆ 8-4-3
2**

**◆ A-K-6
2**

The Bidding

South, the dealer, opened the contracting with one spade. West passed and North bid two spades. East passed and South bid three hearts. This showing of a second suit is a highly constructive bid and practically is forcing.

North showed that he could support either major, and that he perhaps was equally strong in both by bidding four hearts, which South passed.

The Play

West has the opening lead—the natural suit to open, the diamonds. Here is a point to which I wish to call your attention—the opening lead of a ten spot by the better players today is not made from the top of a sequence such as 10-9-8, but is made to show a higher honor (for example Q-10-9) as the leader in this case holds.

You will see that this information proves very valuable in a later play.

West's ten spot was covered by dummy's Jack. East played the king and South won the trick with the ace. He then led the jack of hearts, West covered, and dummy won the trick with the ace.

A small spade was returned from dummy, which East won with the ace. This play of the ace by East clearly marks him with a singleton—as South had bid spades there was no hurry for East to play other than second hand low.

At his partner had opened the ten of diamonds. East now knew that he held the queen, so he led a small diamond, which West won with the queen, and then led a spade which East ruffed. In this manner, the declarer's contract of four odd was defeated.

""

You now will hear the declarer complain that this certainly was bad luck—but was it? Where did the declarer make his mistake? He made the mistake right at the beginning of the hand.

He could see that, with even distribution, he would have no trouble in making his contract. All that he would have to do was to guess the heart finesse.

But supposing he finds four hearts in one hand and four spades in the other? He knows by West's

play of the ten spot that West has an entry card with the queen of diamonds, so to make sure of his contract, he either must refuse to win the first diamond trick with the ace or, if he does win the first diamond trick, he immediately must return a diamond, killing West's possibility of getting in to give his partner a ruff.

You might say that this is pretty advanced playing for the declarer to play the hand that far ahead, but it is such plays as these that produce champions.

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CORN BORER IS CENTER OF HOT ECONOMY WAR

U. S. Has Spent 18 Millions on Control of Moth Since War.

Following is another in the series of articles reporting where the taxpayers' money goes.

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER

United Press Staff Correspondent

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—One of the economy battles in Washington is raging around a little moth which has cost the federal government \$18,000,000 since the World war.

It is known as the European corn borer because in its worm stage it feeds on corn.

Members of congress, who have begun to gun for excessive expenditures on research, have just forced a sharp cut in the money which has been lavished on this pest.

Some members, who are trying to plug up the many small leaks which in the aggregate are throwing the government behind its income probably several million dollars a day, have started a campaign against what they call the "research racket."

Research Achieves Ends

There is no disposition to eliminate necessary scientific work. Congress is only trying to cut down on research which long ago achieved its ends.

C. J. Kennedy, assistant secretary of agriculture in Iowa, the leading corn state, said he saw little advantage in the corn borer expenditure to farmers in his section because the borer had not even reached Iowa.

Kennedy declared emphatically he believed no further expense on borer research was justified at this time.

Testimony generally was to the effect that mechanical plowing and low cutting was the best control method.

Favor Foreign Study

Yet the department of agriculture sought \$125,000 this year for gathering European parasites and introducing them into this country so they could eat the corn borers, although this method has not been a success abroad.

Government scientists are partial to foreign study and a good deal is appropriated for this in the various scientific services of the government.

Last year the department of agriculture spent \$140,000 on the corn borer, three times the highest official estimate of the damage it had caused in any year. This year it is being cut to less than \$250,000.

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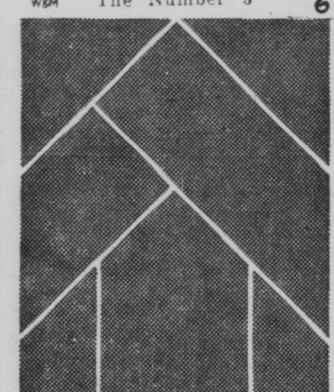
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HI-HO

Trade Mark Reg. U. S. Pat. Of.

NOW for some arithmetic! Seven will equal three if you cut out the seven puzzle pieces below and rearrange them properly. Try forming the silhouette of the number 3. Darken the backs of the pieces; you may have to turn them over.

3
The Number 3



A pretty smart lad, you probably found, after wrestling with the wily kid. Here's the way his HI-HO silhouette can be formed.



Gone, but Not Forgotten

Automobiles reported to police as stolen belong to:

Gretchen Stark, 3207 Broadway, Plymouth, 101-102, from Pennsylvania

Ralph Elvin, 3733 North Meridian street, Dodge sedan, 3-733 (33), from garage in rear of 3733 North Meridian street.

Donald Schenck, 2239 Parkay avenue, Oldsmobile coach, from garage, in rear of 2239 Parkay avenue.

John Grul, 159 Bright street, Chevrolet coupe, 50-617, from 4270 North Meridian street.

Oliver H. Collins, 62½ Brookville road, Buick coach, 58-787, from Georgia and Illinois streets.

Donald Jameson, 4644 Central avenue, Buick sedan, 50-617, from 4270 North Meridian street.

John Birt, 240 North Tacoma avenue, De Soto sedan, 50-617, from 4270 North Meridian street.

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