

The SCORE PAD

By Jim Gray

(Hence and thence) at the bridge table. Other settings.

Come back with me for a moment to the dark ages, pre-"labeled," when the 50 families were only 40 but growing. It was an era of wonderful nonsense and an era of "de-bunkers." A new biog-

raphy of George Washington was published which completely demoralized the cherry tree story and cast grave doubts on the famous river-spanning-deer-haver. Henry junked his planetary transmission and was beginning to look dubious as he sat at his traverse spring. Captain Cook was pooh-poohed. Nothing was safe. Stage comedians even had the temerity to make sport of the sacred game of bridge. Witness the last of that period: The title: "An American's idea of English Home Life." The set-

ting: The drawing room of Sir Egbert Eggleston. The characters: Sir Egbert, Hortense, his wife; Basil, a family friend. They are playing "three-handed bridge" (an insult in itself). SIR EGBERT (dealing): "Chin up, Basil, old boy. Forget this passion for Hortense like a good fellow." BASIL (sitting his hand): "Egbert, this situation is revolting. You must give Hortense her freedom. We are in love." SIR EGBERT: "I pass. You can't mess with old things. It is true, Hortense."

HORTENSE: "One club. It is true, Egbert. I love Basil." BASIL: "One spade. My own, my own." SIR EGBERT: "Two hearts. Basil, Hortense, you cannot do this to me." HORTENSE: "Three diamonds. Cheerio, Egbert, you will find another wife." BASIL: "Double. My love, my love." SIR EGBERT: "I pass. But this is nonsense. We three are so cozy and all that sort of thing." HORTENSE: "Three no-trump. Egbert, don't be vulgar."

BASIL: "I pass. My heart bleeds for you, old bean." SIR EGBERT: "I pass. Pip, pip, let us do nothing hasty." BASIL (leading a card): "We must stay together, Hortense darling." HORTENSE (gathering in the trick and leading): "Egbert, I must have my freedom." SIR EGBERT (continuing the play): "My trick. Have you considered our years together, my dear?" HORTENSE (continuing the play): "Egbert, don't be maudlin."

BASIL (continuing the play): "My sweet." (Suddenly Sir Egbert rises to his feet. He draws a revolver from his pocket. He points it at Basil. He fires. Basil falls to the floor, clutching his breast. Hortense screams.) HORTENSE: "Egbert! what have you done?" SIR EGBERT (carefully ejecting the empty shell): "The blasted fool—he sneezed!" Birmingham-Pontiac Duplicate Bridge results: Birmingham (Community House).

Mrs. Mitchell Buried Here on Saturday

Services for Mrs. Hanna E. Mitchell, widow of George E. Mitchell, a co-founder of the Birmingham Eccentric, were held Saturday afternoon from the Bell Funeral Home with burial in Greenwood cemetery. Mrs. Mitchell, born in Warren, Mich., on Sept. 20, 1855, would have been 94 on her next birthday. She was the daughter of George V. and Narcissa Mitchell Corey. Mrs. Mitchell attended school here in Birmingham and was active in the local Presbyterian women groups. She was married to George Mitchell, who died April 12, 1929, on Sept. 20, 1877. While in Birmingham, the Mitchells built and lived in the house where the American Legion is now located. In 1931, Mrs. Mitchell went to live with a daughter, Mrs. Emeline Hand of Oakland, Calif., and then later moved to Sacramento where she made her home with a niece, Mrs. Nellie Rice in 1933. Surviving her are two daughters, Carrie Mitchell who attended the funeral and Mrs. Hand who was unable to be present because of illness, and her niece, Mrs. Rice, who came here for the final rites.

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- Iona Lima Beans 3 Cans 25c
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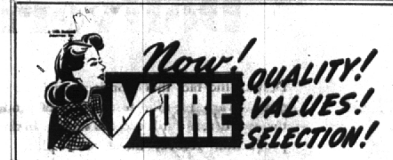
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