January 4

DID YOU KNOW? *International Falls, Minnesota, is the Icebox of the Nation. It once paid Fraser, Colorado, $2,000 to give up the name.*

HOME OR BACK TO START?

A cross-shaped board with Home in the middle, or a deck of cards telling you how far to move. Which came first, Parcheesi or Sorry!?

ANSWER Parcheesi, by better than fifty years. It was trademarked here in 1874. Sorry! came out of England in 1929, and Parker Brothers brought it here in 1934. Both come down from pachisi, an old game from India.

Who at your table loved sending everybody back to Start?

READ ONE ALOUD, THEN TELL YOURS

THE BLANKET FORT

Every blanket in the house draped over the dining chairs, clothespins holding up the roof, and a sign on the way in saying who was allowed.

THE PAPER FORTUNE TELLER

A square of notebook paper folded into a fortune teller, fingers working it open and shut while a friend picked a color and you spelled it out to lift a flap.

CAT'S CRADLE

On a day too cold to go out, a loop of string passed back and forth between two pairs of hands, every turn making a new shape, until somebody's fingers got tangled.

REMEMBER WHEN

Where was the best hiding place in the house you grew up in?