

A Column for Card Players and Question Box—

Conducted by Hoyle, Jr.

Address questions about any game to Hoyle, Jr., The Observer. Answers will be mailed promptly. No questions answered unless signed with name and address.

AUCTION BRIDGE.
Know the leads and when to make them.
Know the tricks and when to take them.
Know the rules and when to break them.
Know the laws and never forsake them.

Ace is high and deuce low in the play of the cards.
You must follow suit, but holding no card of the suit led you may either trump or discard.

A no-trump declaration makes each card worth its face value, and the highest card of the suit led wins the trick.

There are two scores to be played for, trick and honor, (penalties and bonus in addition).

The trick score is credited to the side that wins more than six tricks. The honor score to the side that holds the majority of the honors.

The object of the game is to score more points than your adversaries, tricks and honors combined, by taking as many tricks as possible.

This is done by winning the Rubber. There are three ways in which tricks are taken:

1. By high cards—that is, by playing the highest card of the suit led.
2. By "ruffing" or "trumping"—that is, by playing a trump on a plain suit, when no card of the suit led is in the hand.

3. By "establishing" and "bringing in" a long suit. A suit is "established" when the highest unplayed cards of that suit are held in the hand, and these cards will take all the remaining unplayed cards of that suit.

An established suit may be received on the deal, (for instance, Ace, King, Queen and Jack, with or without other cards), or it may be necessary to force one or more high cards out before the suit is established.

(For instance, if Queen, Jack, Ten and one or more smaller cards are held, the Ace and King must be played before the suit is established.)

A suit is "brought in" by taking a trick with each remaining card held of that suit, (the adversaries' trumps having been exhausted).

A suit cannot be "brought in" unless it has been "established," but a suit is frequently "established" which is not "brought in." To bring in an established suit, the holder of it must have the lead, and the trumps against him must be exhausted.

Dummy.
As soon as the player to the left of the declarant has led, the next

player to the left, the declarant's partner, shall place his cards face up on the table. The declarant then plays the hand.

Before placing his cards upon the table, the declarant's partner has the rights of a player, but after doing so he takes no part whatever in the play, except that he has the right to:

1. Ask the declarant whether he holds any of a suit renounced.
2. Call the declarant's attention to the fact that too many or too few cards have been played to a trick.

3. Correct the claim of either adversary to a penalty to which the contestant is not entitled.
4. Call attention to the fact that a trick has been erroneously taken by either side.

5. Participate in the discussion of any disputed question of fact after it has arisen.
6. Correct an erroneous score.

These Laws for Dummy are strictly enforced.

Etiquette.
Etiquette plays a most important part at the card table. To offend against etiquette is far more serious than to offend against a law. In the latter case the offender is subject to the prescribed penalties. In the former his adversaries have no redress.

In bidding, the declarations should be made in a simple manner, for example, "One spade," "One no-trump," "Pass," "No," "Double," they should be made orally, and not by gesture.

Aside from his legitimate declaration, a player should in no way indicate the nature of his hand, or his pleasure or displeasure at a play, a bid, or a double. A player should not play a card with such emphasis as to draw attention to it.

There are many conventions and many localisms that creep into the game, but the author finds the experts rare but few, and therefore none are given in these articles.

The foregoing article is somewhat in the nature of repetition, but many players, even those who have been playing Auction Bridge for a long time, do not seem to understand these most important phases of the game.

Questions and Answers.
Q. In bidding, does the number of tricks or the value of tricks count? For instance, if one person bid two spades, would another have to bid three or four clubs to make a higher bid?

A. Numerically higher. Three clubs three diamonds, or three hearts beat two spades, or even two no-trump.

Q. With the following hand, should an original bid be made by the dealer? Hearts—Queen, 10, 8, 6, 3, 2. Clubs—King, 9, 5, 4. Diamonds—Queen, 10. Spades—King.

A. No bid should be made originally, because the long suit does not hold top honors nor quick tricks. On the second round, however, dealer might be justified in showing the Heart Suit.

Chief Thing in Life.
There are days in this life worth life and worth death. As oh, what a bright old song it is the ace, "Tis love, 'tis love, 'tis love that makes the world go round!"—Dickens.

More Work.
The unemployment situation is gradually becoming less severe with wage reductions and greater mill operations. The milk drivers strike in New York City ended on November 15th, but on the first of the week 60,000 garment workers went on a strike which may prove long and tedious.

In spite of President Harding's recommendations the house has accepted the Senate 50 percent surtax revision of the pending revenue bill. This compromise does not readjust our tax burdens and revive business. A greater revision in taxes cannot now occur for some time. The enactment of the tariff measure is being keenly opposed by business men as the American valuation plan which it includes is considered highly objectionable.

Wholesale distribution in the mercantile trades is slightly less but spring orders are satisfactory. Cottons are lower but active. Woolen goods mills are reported running 90 percent capacity. The weather has curtailed retail trade in the south and east. During the week raw silk has gained 60 cents a pound to the high for the year, \$1.50 over the low point of last year.

Exports Increase.
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BUSINESS IS IMPROVING IN MANY LINES

(Continued from page one.)

Industries first affected in a depression are the first to recover. This seems true of copper which was held very firm and is now up to 13 and five-eighths cents per pound.

Tire Prices Cut.
Many more tire companies have made cuts in their prices but the business continues lively with prices increasing. The railroad equipment business appears most promising.

The Southern Pacific has ordered 59 freight and passenger engines from Baldwin which company now has \$12,000,000 of orders on its books.

Another constructive act of the past week has been the new railroad rate cuts. An experimental cut of 10 percent for six months has been made on farm products throughout the entire country save New England. This rate cut is effective before the pending wage cuts are acted upon.

The roads are not in a financial position to make this sacrifice but in a last effort are endeavoring to revive business and increase their traffic to a profitable point. It is to the interest of every individual citizen, whether consumer or producer, that excessive costs of operation be eliminated. As soon as these burdens can be removed cheaper service will be offered. A further reduction would soon be reflected in the price of manufactured articles.

Large Gold Reserve.
The banking system of the country reports the largest amount of gold ever and a reduction in notes outstanding of 30 percent since December 23, 1920. Money is rapidly becoming more plentiful with funds being liquidated and surplus inventories are being worked off. A \$50,000,000 bond issue of New York Telephone company was nearly 10 times oversubscribed. Call rates are down to 4 and one-half percent.

To summarize, many more fundamental conditions are tending toward revival but some commodities such as grains and cotton are still very weak; railroads will not be benefited until pending wage cuts materialize, but they have at least given a good opening for business by their attitude of cutting rates first; the Arms conference is progressing favorably; the stock market is very strong at this time, and bonds are rising in value steadily.

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month, but it compares poorly with \$751,211,370 in October of 1920. Imports have fallen correspondingly so our favorable balance of trade remains exorbitant.

The foreign exchanges were strengthened by the optimistic reports emanating from Washington. The pound sterling touched \$4.00, the highest since April, 1920. Internal conditions of Germany are rapidly becoming more precarious. The reparations payments are dubious and the mark has touched a low of 32 cents, and it can never possibly return to the normal of 23.7 cents.

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PORCHES AND PORCH PARTIES
CHARACTER SKETCHES BY A. RUSSELL

MRS. SHARP: "IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME ONE BIT IF ALL OUR GIRLS WERE ENGAGED BY FALL, NOW THAT I'VE INVESTED IN THIS PORCH SWING."

BUT ALL THAT MRS. SHARP'S INVESTMENT RESULTED IN WAS THE LOSS OF A PERFECTLY GOOD COOK

THE OLD STYLE BLACK CHAIR HAS COME INTO FASHION AGAIN.

MABEL KEEPS THIS CHAIR ON THE PORCH FOR A CERTAIN TYPE OF CALLER.

"I'M SORRY, MISS MABEL, BUT I MUST BE GOING. I FORGOT THAT I WAS TO ADDRESS THE LADIES OF THE SELF-CULTURE CLUB THIS EVENING."

ANY OLD PORCH WILL DO WHEN YOU'RE IN LOVE

THE PORCH IS IDEAL FOR BRIDGE ESPECIALLY WHEN YOUR PARTNER HAS A ROTTEN HAND

ON DAZZLING, ISN'T THIS ROMANTIC?

YES! AND SO CHEAP

ALL THE OTHER GIRLS IN TOWN ARE AWAY FOR THE SUMMER, LEAVING TO RUTH, WHO STAYS AT HOME, THE PICK OF THE MASCULINE POPULATION. AND RUTH'S PORCH IS A REGULAR MAIN TRAP.

REQUIESCAT IN PLACE YOU DID YOUR WORK LAST SUMMER.

WE'VE LEFT OUR LOVELY, COOL APARTMENT FOR THIS!

THE SOCIETY EDITOR AND HER FRIENDS ARE ENJOYING THEIR HOLIDAYS IN EUROPE. WELL, MISS EUROPE LOOKS LIKE THIS.