



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.

"Keep Your Eye on the Enemy"

The deductions from the different bids are most important at every stage of the game of Auction, and often are very difficult to make correctly. Many times a player is forced to guess the meaning of his partner's bid or double and guesses wrong, with very disastrous results. This is liable to happen when the partner has made an unsound informational double, which really is half informational and half bluff.

The opportunity to make this dubious double occurs only after a No-trump has been bid by partner, and a bid by the adversary to the right of the doubler of a suit in which the doubler has two tricks. The theory is that the double of such a bid tells the No-trump bidder that the adverse suit is not dangerous, and leaves it to him to decide whether to allow the double to stand or bid two No-trumps. This is a most precarious condition and most likely to prove disastrous either way, as it is a guess—just what expert bidders try to avoid.

Suppose a No-trump has been bid with (O means small cards under ten spots):

Spades—A, J, O.
Hearts—O.
Diamonds—K, Q, O, O.
Clubs—K, O, O, O, O.
or
Spades—K, J, O.
Hearts—O.
Diamonds—A, Q, O.
Clubs—J, Ten, O, O.

and a double of two Hearts has been made by No-trump bidder's partner without a side trick, but with one of the following Heart holdings:

A, K, A, Q, O; K, Ten, O; or Q, J, O, O.

Under these conditions a game with Hearts at 16 per trick is quite possible for adversaries.

On the other hand, take the same No-trump holdings, and one of the following Heart holdings for the doubler:

A, Q, O, O—K, Q, O, O—Q, Ten, O, O; plus strength in some side suits.

It would be very bad to have it guessed.

The above examples show most conclusively that the No-trump bidder is skating on thin ice on his make, and a double of any kind is not sound, for original bidder will at once raise his bid.

In the following deal, where a player has doubled an adverse call, and the partner can give no assistance

tance to the double, he should change the declaration if possible, usually to the one which his partner had bid before the double:

Dealer:
Spades—A, Ten, O.
Hearts—Ten, O, O.
Diamonds—
Clubs—J, O, O, O, O, O, O.
Second hand:
Spades—O, O, O, O.
Hearts—O.
Diamonds—A, K, Ten, O, O, O.
Clubs—A, K.
Third hand:
Spades—K.
Hearts—A, Q, J, O, O.
Diamonds—Q, J, O, O, O.
Clubs—Ten, O, O.
Fourth hand:
Spades—Q, J, O, O, O.
Hearts—K, O, O, O.
Diamonds—O, O, O.
Clubs—Q.

BIDDING ON ABOVE HANDS.
First Round: Dealer, "Pass."
Second Round: "One Diamond."
Third Round: "One Heart." Fourth Round: "Two Diamonds."
Second Round: Dealer, "Two Hearts." Second Hand, "Three Diamonds." Third Hand, "Double." Fourth Round: "Pass."

Third Round: Dealer, "Three Hearts." Second Hand, "Pass." Third Hand, "Pass." Fourth Round: "Pass."

This is a very good illustration of the reverting back to partner's original bid. While the finesse of Ten in the trump suit does not hold, the Ace and King of Diamonds may be trumped, and the Queen and Jack made good in declarer's hand.

Questions and Answers.
Q. Dealer having bid "One Club" second hand "Pass" and third hand holding: Spades—Ten, O, O; Hearts—Ten, O, O, O, O, O; Diamonds—C, O, O; Clubs—O;—what should be done?

A. Dealer should hold at least five Clubs with two top honors and a trick in two other suits. Third hand, with a bust, is in a most desperate strait, for to take out partner from a minor to a major makes strength, and a bust hand cannot be counted strength. Therefore, in this case, it would be best to let Clubs stand for, should Hearts be bid by third hand, and fourth hand should bid No-trumps or Spades, then dealer would be justified in counting his partner with strength, and thereby either raise the bid or double, thus incurring a heavy loss.

government as coast guardsmen and the few merchants in the little town, all Ocracoke make their living hunting and fishing.

Every person on Ocracoke Island is a Methodist in religion. They are divided, however, as to the sectional branch to which they belong, about half being members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, while the others attend the Northern church.

Ocracoke is one of the oldest settlements in America. The people are believed by many historians to be descendants of the "Lost Colony" of Sir Walter Raleigh.

APPLICANTS TO BE SCRUTINIZED

In Future All Special Agents Wanting Jobs Must Put Up Gift-edged Recommendations

SALEM, Feb. 4.—Hereafter any application for a commission as special agent in Oregon, whether received from a county official or some other person, must be accompanied by the recommendations of the district attorney, sheriff, county court or county judge, before it will be given consideration by the executive office, according to announcement made here today by Governor Olcott.

Even in cases where the required recommendations are furnished, Governor Olcott announced that his office reserves the right to reject such applications, in event it believes the public may be better served or protected by so doing.

Governor Olcott today prepared a letter which he will send to all persons who have held these commissions together with sheriffs, district attorneys and the county judges of all counties in Oregon.

One And Needy Food.
It is not wasted time to yield to the influences that uplift and ennobles the spirit as we pass through our busy days. The moment's pause to view the beautiful sunset, to catch the strain of music that floats through the open window, to read the inspiring sentence on the printed page—these should be an essential part of the day's program, for the soul needs food as well as the body, and its neglect is never economy.

Rescuing Injured From Theater Ruins



Soldiers and civilians who have just come upon one of the hundreds who were caught when the roof of the Kriegerbocker Theater, Washington, D. C., crumpled in under its burden of snow. One of these victims was dead, the other seriously injured.

GRANGE IS A YEAR OF AGE

(By Associated Press)
WOLF CREEK, Feb. 4.—Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hultings spent Sunday with George Harrison.

Saturday, January 23, was Yogi Gorham's birthday and quite a number of friends and relatives spent the evening with him. After a delightful social hour spent in playing games a luncheon was served. The guests departed at a late hour expressing themselves as having had a fine time and wishing Mr. Gorham many happy birthday returns.

Mrs. James Gilkerson gave a surprise party Wednesday of last week for her husband, the occasion being Mr. Gilkerson's fifty-second birthday. Quite a number were present to help him celebrate and wish him many happy returns. At a late hour a delicious luncheon was served by Mrs. Gilkerson.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Gilkerson visited with Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Gilkerson, one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Windom Carnes were North Powder visitors this week.

Mrs. H. M. Gilkerson received news that her sister in Nebraska was seriously ill, having to undergo a dangerous operation soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Standley entertained the Busy Dozen Club Thursday night. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Ellis MaHarry, Mr. and Mrs. Windom Carnes, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Nice and daughter Virginia, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hastings and son Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gorham and daughter Audrey, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Gilkerson and their two children, Orris and Zelpha; Mrs. Gilbert Gilkerson and William Kester. The evening was spent in playing games and at the close of the social hour a luncheon was served. The club meets this week with Mrs. Homer Carnes.

The Wolf Creek Club met with Leona MaHarry last week. There were quite a number present and a delicious luncheon was served by the hostess.

The basket social that was held at Telocast last week for the benefit of a brother granger, who was seriously injured while helping to move the hall, was a huge success. The social netted over one hundred dollars.

Word was received here this week from the Timney family at Baker that a meeting was to be held for the purpose of organizing a grange.

The Wolf Creek Grange meets today. There is quite a bit of business to come before the grange at this time and it is also the anniversary night, the grange being one year old. The first and second degree work will be put on that night if there is any one wishing to take them. A luncheon, consisting of fruit, cake and coffee, will be served.

HIGHWAY TO BE CLEARED

PORTLAND, Feb. 4.—Related action toward clearing the Columbia river highway of its two-month-old blockade of snow and ice so that traffic may be resumed was taken today by vote of the Multnomah county commissioners.

Deputy County Roadmaster Chapman was directed to proceed at once with the clearing of a 10-foot strip from Mist Falls to the Hood River county line, a distance of some 12 miles. This will be done on force account and by hand labor recruited from the American Legion. It is hoped to have the job finished within 35 days.

The motion that led to the unanimous adoption of the program was made by County Commissioner Holman, who explained that "nature had been given a long enough time to do its work but had failed to do so."

Mrs. Walter Standley received word that her sister, Mrs. B. Brannon of La Grande, is very ill.

OCEAN IS SHAKEN.

(By Associated Press)
SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 4.—Two craft arriving here reported having felt Tuesday morning's earthquake some miles off the northern California coast.

The steam schooner Hartwood was 20 miles off Trinidad Head when Captain Johnson, who was on the bridge, thought the vessel had grounded and the crew rushed on deck expecting trouble. A sounding was taken and was ascertained the vessel was not aground. Captain Willstedt, of the cod fisher Golden State, also reported he believed his vessel was aground when the shock was felt off Point Arena.

They then not be hurt.

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Stove Coal \$13.00 a Ton Delivered
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ONE OF OUR MADE-TO-MEASURE SUITS or OVERCOATS IS THE ANSWER
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10% off on all suits and overcoats
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La Grande Men Have Pictures in Paper

Walter M. Pierce and F. B. Curry were prominently mentioned in an article in the Oregon Journal several days ago in connection with the work of the M. W. A. The article was accompanied by their photographs. The following paragraphs are quoted from the Journal:

"Walter M. Pierce of Union county-state lecturer, is one of the most gifted and eloquent men in the state and his devotion to the M. W. A. is too well known to expatiate upon."

"F. B. Curry, state deputy head consul, is the dynamo for the diffusion of enthusiasm in Oregon and he

has had remarkable success in a revival campaign among the old timers of the society in bringing in new members to take hold of the ax and start to clearing away the windfalls and making an open way for the oncoming hosts in 1925."

Her Chance.
Pete Rushing, who is taking singing lessons, told his wife the other day that some time in the future his old might keep the wolf from their door. She said she was sure of it, if the wolf ever heard it.—Arkansas Thomas Cat.

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Do I want to call a neighbor
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To my trusty telephone.
Does a guest come in for luncheon
And the larder's clean and bare,
A call upon my telephone
Insures the needful fare.
Am I tired, bored and lonely?
And a friend would cheer the hour
My telephone will bring her:
With its wondrous magic power.
If a dinner I am giving,
And for time am sore depressed,
I rely upon my telephone
To summon all the guests.
In the darkest of night's shadows
It fulfills its greatest mission,
When to a suffering one it brings
The family physician.
In short, the things it does for us
Would take much space to mention;
There's not a word of praise too great
For this marvelous invention.
—Suzanne McKelvy.

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At 2:00 and 7:30 p. m.
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CROOKS HAVE LEFT OCRACOKE

Town Once Noted for Being Rendezvous of Criminals Not Yet Hit by Modern Crime.

(By Associated Press)

OCRACOKE, N. C., Feb. 4.—Although this little town about a century and a half ago was the rendezvous of one of the world's most daring and famous gang of crooks—Edward Teach (Bluebeard) and his band—it is today one community which the recent crime wave has not reached. There has not been an arrest here in more than ten years and the crimes robbery, burglary, theft and murder are absolutely unknown to the population, insofar as they refer to Ocracoke.

John Oneal, after holding office as justice of the peace at Ocracoke for eight years, resigned a year or more ago, not having had a criminal case during his administration. A successor has never been elected. Mr. Oneal, who was born at Ocracoke, says the worst crime he can recall to have occurred at Ocracoke in 50 years was one of assault and battery.

There are only one or two homes here that have locks on the doors and the keys to those that are thus equipped are never used. Most of the houses at Ocracoke were wholly or partially constructed with lumber of ships which were wrecked on the treacherous shoals off the North Carolina coast. Every family here owns their home.

Ocracoke is at the extreme southern end of a little island by the same name, located about 30 miles off the mainland of North Carolina, and is unique in respects. Ocracoke Island, which is part of Hyde county North Carolina, is a little strip of land about 11 miles long and ranges in width from one half to one and a half miles. The population of the island numbers about 700, about 50 of whom live at Ocracoke. Those who do not live in the little town are members of the families of coast fishermen, who patrol the coast.

As there are no railroads, automobiles, street cars or theatres at Ocracoke, pleasures are shown, many of the inhabitants at Ocracoke have never seen any of these things. With the exception of men employed by the United States

For Baby's Comfort

—THE BABY GIFT BOX has been prepared for those who prefer that their expression of love for baby shall be in the form of a useful gift. It contains three dainty articles essential to the comfort and happiness of baby—Johnson's Baby Powder, Baby Cream and Baby Soap.

—Johnson & Johnson, who are the world's largest makers of surgical dressings, are giving their attention to the manufacture of these baby necessities at the request of physicians and nurses who strongly feel the need of toilet articles made especially for baby's tender skin.

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