



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—No. 18

"Strike While the Iron is Hot"

Every double except that of an initial bid of one or two becomes a business double, and should mean "Partner, I feel sure that we can defeat the declaration and make the bonus of 100 instead of 50 for each trick that our opponents fail short of their contract. Do not take me out of the double unless your hand be such that you have good reason to feel that you can go game, or that the combination of the two hands would not be sufficient to make the double good."

There are two classes of business doubles: The first, and most frequent business double is, called the free double. It doubles a declaration which would make game for adversary whether doubled or not. Example—Four Spades or Hearts.

The second business double is one made when the bid flat (or undoubled) would not secure for the declarer a game should he merely fulfill his contract, but which if doubled, would make game. Example—Two or three Spades or Hearts.

In the first example, the doubler may lose the number of extra points if he fulfilled his contract; for fulfilling his contract against a double Four Hearts ordinarily would give the declarer 32 trick points if he fulfilled his contract; doubled, they would give him another 32 trick points plus 50 for fulfilling his contract, making a total of 82 extra points. The doubler, on the other hand, in case he succeeded in setting the bidder by one trick, would make only 50 more than he would if he had set the bidder but had not doubled. Therefore the odds against him when he doubles are 82 to 50. Nor is that all. The double gives the bidder or his partner the privilege of re-doubling, which would increase the possible loss to doubler by 114, and the possible gain by 100, making the odds against doubler 196 to 150. When the declaration is Spades or No-trump, the odds against the doubler are slightly increased; with a bid in one of the minor suits, Diamonds or Clubs, they are slightly decreased. In any bid, the odds always are against the contract, and doubling is a contract which either yields profitable returns or very heavy losses. A player, therefore, should at least feel reasonably cer-

tain of success before doubling an opponent's bid.

After an unsuccessfull double, one often hears the excuse "It did not cost anything." The fallacy of this statement is proven by the foregoing paragraph.

A double always is a risk for often an apparent trick does not become a reality. A high card may be trumped or a suit be shut out entirely.

Beware of a doubtful double, for your partner may have a game hand.

Example: Dealer, First Hand, bids three Spades; Second Hand, four Hearts; Third Hand makes a doubtful double. Dealer would hesitate to go four Spades which would mean



Started in Auto

Many a man leaves home in his auto and returns in a trolley car. The auto has vanished! The police cannot find it.

It Was Stolen! So called "theft proof" locks do not prevent an expert crook from stealing, altering, and selling your car if he has "spotted" it.

Stolen autos are seldom found. Your loss will be made good only if your car is insured against theft. Play safe—insure now.

You need automobile insurance against fire, theft, liability, property damage and collision. This agency sells "Two Hartford" policies.

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game. The indiscriminate doubler is a most dangerous partner. On the other hand, a player cannot afford to have the reputation of never doubling, as that permits his adversaries to take undue liberties in bidding. In other words, a player of that caliber is not on his job and his opponents take advantage of his negligence.

Questions and Answers

Q. Is it advantageous always to open or lead from your longest suit against No-trump declaration?

A. It always is wiser to open the long suit, even with the chance of it being stopped twice by the opponent. Any other lead is liable to sacrifice a high card in partner's hand, and thereby give the advantage to the declarer or buyer.

Whereas, if the long suit is opened, and later in the game the partner is able to secure the lead, he can return his partner's suit through opponent's hand, which often enables all the remaining cards

of long suit to be made.

This is presuming your partner has not shown his suit by a bid. In case partner has bid, the first lead should be made to partner's suit by the highest of three or four. Or, with four or more of partner's suit, lead the fourth best, unless the suit is headed by Ace or by cards in sequence, in which cases the top card should be played to unblock and support your partner's suit.

Q. How may a trump holding be counted as to trick value?

A. Hands from which Hearts should be discarded to mean small cards under Ten spot.

Estimated

Tricks

Win Lose

Spades—Ten, o. 0 2

Hearts—A, K, Q, o. 5 0

Diamonds—o, o. 0 2

Clubs—A, Ten, o. 1 3

4 7

On above 2 may be bid
Spades—o. 0 1
Hearts—K, Q, J, 10, o. o 5 1
Diamonds—A, Q, J. 2 1
Clubs—o, o, o. 0 3

An extra trick may be counted for 4 honors in trumps.

Spades—o. 0 1

Hearts—A, K, Q, J, o. o 5 0

Diamonds—o. 0 1

Clubs—A, Q, J, Ten, o. 4 1

10 3

Another trick may be added for four honors in a second suit.

READ THE WANT ADS!

FARMER ARRESTED

SALEM, Feb. 11.—Fred Ackerman, a farmer residing near Marion, was arrested today on a charge of disorderly conduct in connection with the shooting into the rear of a car of Ray. Ray, residing in a small house from the Ackerman home, directed said shooting into the front of a neighbor's car.

DIE TUCKER LECTURES

LENING, Wash., Dec. 11.—The story of a Thousand Years was the title of an illustrated lecture given last night by Dr. Emma Tucker of Baltimore. The lecture was given under the auspices of the schools and was well attended.

Something new in Valentines at Newlin Book & Stationery Co. 1-28-27

Also Observer Want Ads.

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CREDIT SHOP OPEN
The Red Cross Thrift Shop is open daily now in the New Today Building, off the Chestnut street entrance. Thursday will continue to be Thrift Day and on this day all who have donations for the shop are asked to have it ready to be delivered, that being the day collections are made. 12-16-tpf

SHERRY'S

Sunday and Monday

BERNHARDT, DUSE, MODJESKA, CLARA MORRIS,
OLGA NETHERSOLE, ETHEL BARRYMORE

and now

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The Camille of modern France; chic with the charm of the Parisienne who gowns at the Rue de la Paix, dancing with the abandon of a gleesome pagan from the Casino in Montmartre, sparkling with the golden gaiety of champagne, and loving with the intensity of one who gives life for love. The role in which the leading actresses of the world have scored their greatest triumphs on the stage now interpreted in a modernized screen version by the supreme Russian artist, NAZIMOVA.

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THE MANNER OF HANDLING THE BONUS LOANS HAS AT LAST BEEN DEFINITELY DECIDED BY THE COMMISSION IN CHARGE. WE ARE NOW PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE WITH ANY ONE HOLDING THE RIGHT TO SECURE A LOAN FROM THE STATE, AND WHO HAS IN VIEW THE ERECTION OF A NEW HOME.

BUILD TO YOUR OWN TASTE AND PAY OUT ON A RENTAL BASIS.

HAVE THE SATISFACTION OF ENJOYING A NEW HOME, BUILT ON A DESIGN OF YOUR OWN CHOOSING.

WE WILL SECURE TITLE FOR YOU, IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ALL OF THE REQUIRED AMOUNT TO PAY FOR THE LOT, AND WILL FURNISH THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO PROCEED WITH THE ERECTION OF THE BUILDING IN EXCESS OF THE APPROVED LOAN BY THE STATE.

THE FIRST UNIT WILL BE MADE UP OF ONLY TEN BUILDINGS, AND CONSTRUCTION WILL START IN THE ORDER THAT SATISFACTORY APPLICATIONS ARE SIGNED.

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