

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 Article No. 34

Forewarned is Forearmed. Similarly in combinations at Auction runs in cycles as events are supposed to do in life—or is it that the mind, having grasped a situation, is on the lookout for a similar one and very naturally finds it. It has often been the case that if one hand presents a problem, then shortly more perplexing questions will follow, and the expert player shows his skill by his ability and address in making the most advantageous bid.

A recent hand was the following held by the Dealer:

Spades—A, Q, 9, 7, 5
Hearts—Jack, 9, 5, 4
Diamonds—A, K, 8
Clubs—A, Q

Following the second standard for a No-trump make—Hit No-trump when holding three aces, unless holding four honors in either of the major suits (Spades or Hearts). Dealer bids one No-trump. But Second Hand bids two hearts. Third Hand holds but one trick and no protection in Hearts, and he passes. Therefore, forewarned is forearmed, and Dealer should go to Spades. Should Third Hand have had a trick in Hearts then he should have raised to two No-trumps. In fact, if it is possible to say any one point were more important than any other in Auction, the writer would designate that of assisting partner on bids and thereby combining the strength of the two hands, and building a firm foundation on which to base the play.

Should the Dealer on an original bid say one Diamond or one Club, his partner should be able to count the bidder with at least five in suit with two or more honors, one being Ace or King, (called top honor or quick trick), and at least one trick in another suit. If two is an original bid on a minor suit, the bidder should have at least the above holding with preferably the Ace of trumps, and tricks in two other or outside suits. Then partner, having every confidence in bidder's message, may, and will, act accordingly.

Original bidder holding:
Spades—3, 2
Hearts—Q, 7, 3
Diamonds—K, Q, 9, 7, 5
Clubs—Jack, 8

should bid one Diamond, not two, since he has only one re-entry.

Original bidder holding:
Spades—Q, 7, 5
Hearts—K, 2
Diamonds—K, 9, 4
Clubs—A, K, 10, 8, 7

should say two Clubs, since he has the top honor in trumps, and possible re-entry in three other suits, making his almost a positive game-going hand, even in the minor suit. Should the one Diamond bid, given above, be doubled by Second Hand, Third Hand should be very cautious about a raise, as Second Hand, when doubling a one bid, as a rule shows a very strong holding. For a second bid, the holding does not need to be so strong as for an original make.

The foregoing hands will be fair examples for any makes. One must be not only a partner, but a "Pal" to be a desirable player at the Auction table.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: Will you please give the law governing the call in number of tricks bid or doubled?

A: "Players should be very careful in stating the number of tricks bid and especially so in doubling, so that there shall be no misunderstanding by the players because the doubling does not increase the value of the bid as a bid. Should a player name a number of tricks which is sufficient to overcall the previous bid, he shall be considered as having called a sufficient number, unless one of his adversaries shall except the erroneous bid by passing it, doubling it, or by making a higher bid before calling attention to the error and its insufficiency.

The player in error may correct himself without penalty before the next player speaks, advancing the amount of an insufficient bid, or changing the denomination, but not the size of a bid due to a slip of the tongue.

A pass or a double cannot be changed.

Unless an adversary accepts the bid in error, the partner of the player in error cannot bid again that deal. But if it is corrected and then

outbid or doubled, the partner may bid. If the corrected bid is allowed to stand, the partner of the player in error cannot bid."

Just Thirty Years Ago in the Grande Ronde Valley

June 24, 1892

Ell Risen was shot and instantly killed by James Palmer in the streets of La Grande about one o'clock Sunday morning. Jealousy was undoubtedly the cause of the crime. At the time of the tragedy occurred Rison and Frank Ott were in company with Mrs. James Palmer and Mrs. E. B. Montsberry. The two young men came up from Island City Saturday and on their way home were accosted by the two women in the eastern part of town. The two got out of their vehicle and started for a walk and when out in the "Cognac" addition near the residence of R. H. Murray, they saw a man approaching whom the ladies recognized as Mr. Palmer. Upon arriving he immediately commenced firing at Rison who fell and passed on in a very short time. The coroner's jury gave their verdict as murder at the hands of James Palmer. The deceased was buried in the La Grande cemetery Sunday.

The county convention of the W. C. T. U. will be held at the Presbyterian church in La Grande on June 25th and 26th.

A cement walk is in the course of construction around the Foley hotel.

County Treasurer Bairdard was not among the pioneers at Elgin Friday. The reason was that he was married at Baker City the day before.

Married, at the residence of the bride's parents in La Grande, June 8, 1892, Jay Milled and Miss Eva L. Robinson, Rev. G. C. Richardson officiating.

The third annual meeting of the Union County Pioneers was held at Elgin Friday. The meeting was a success in every sense of the word and bound a record crowd in attendance. About 600 people attended from La Grande and Island City and the proportion for the other towns was about the same. Elaborate exercises were held in the afternoon and following the program Gen. Jasper H. Stevens was elected

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president of the association for the coming year.

Henry Anson, an early settler in this district, passed away Wednesday morning, at the close of a protracted illness, covering a period of about one year. Many friends mourn his demise. The funeral took place from his home yesterday morning at about 11 o'clock.

PULLMAN CARS TRAVELLED FAR

(By Associated Press)

CHICAGO, Ill., June 24.—The Pullman car mileage in 1921 averaged four and a half round trips daily to the moon, which is 238,840 miles from the earth, according to a statistician of the Pullman company. The mileage averaged eight and a half trips to the sun, which is 92,900,000 miles distant, according to the statement.

The mileage reported for the year was 709,572,465 miles, which was declared equivalent to encircling the earth at the equator 88 times each

day, or once every fifteen minutes and 22 seconds. Each car was said to have averaged a yearly run of 118,376 miles, or approximately five trips around the globe.

"Pullman passengers," the company reported, rode 11,284,229,406 miles in 1921, or a car ride of 107 miles for every man, woman and child in the United States. If a new-born babe started this trip and traveled at the rate of 30 miles an hour without stopping he would be 42,977 years old when the porter brushed him off.

"The average daily mileage was 2,190,609 miles, or 275 an hour and 1,529 miles per minute.

"Pullman cars carried 31,204,592 passengers, and average of 85,500 a day. It would take 306 hotels with 500 rooms each to furnish nightly the sleeping accommodations provided."

NEGRO IS WELL ALONG IN YEARS

BIENOS AIRES, June 24.—Antonio Rosas, a negro who is reputed to

have been born 132 years ago in the African Congo, is still eating a living in Buenos Aires as a medicine man and ticket seller. He was not too old to put up a fight when three men held him up and robbed him a few days ago but told a reporter he would have made a better showing if he had not "taken a drop too much."

Antonio does not yet believe in prohibition. Antonio claims to have been captured in the Congo when a child by French slave traders. The French ship on which he and other negroes were placed was pursued and captured by an English vessel and taken to Madeira. He was brought to Argentina at the age of eight.

He saw the birth of the Argentine nation in 1810 and slavery abolished in 1813. In later years he adopted the surname of Rosas after the famous Argentine tyrant, Rosas, of whom he was an admirer. He is one of the few negroes living in Buenos Aires.

For Sale and Trade

We have a rooming house for sale, making good money. Might consider a small amount of trade or something on the order of an apartment.

Dairy proposition right here in town. A small amount of money required, good improvements, just the place to handle a few cows. Owner wants to move, and the price is right.

A fine 160 acres, fairly well improved, near the Minam. Price \$2000.00. Will take a good car and some city property.

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