How to play Bridge

AUCTION and CONTRACT

by Wynne Ferguson

Author of "PRACTICAL AUCTION BRIDGE"

ARTICLE No. 13

The informatory double is still an important factor in Auction and Contract, and presents some interesting and puzzling questions of bidding. For example, suppose the dealer bids one no trump and second hand doubles (informatory), with what type of hand should the dealer's partner make a bid? There is still considerable difference of opinion among the experts as to the proper procedure in this situation, but the writer has very definite ideas in regard to it. There are four distinct types of hands at either Auction or Contract which should be bid by the dealer's partner over an informatory double of one no trump. First: with a hand as good as an original no trump, dealer's partner should redouble. For example, with a hand of this type:

Hearts—A, 4, 2
Clubs—K, 7, 4
Diamonds—J, 10, 3, 2
Spades—K, 10, 9

The redouble is a powerful weapon when properly used and the source of many big penalties. After a redouble, partner should double any bid made and try for penalties.

Second: If the dealer's partner holds as good as an original bid in a suit, he should bid two in the suit over the double. For example, with a hand of this type, bid two clubs:

Hearts—10, 4, 3, 2
Clubs—A, K, J, 4, 2
Diamonds—10, 7
Spades—9, 2

By so doing, you give the exact information to your partner that you have as good as an original bid in that suit. It is the only way you can give this exact information and for that reason the opportunity should not be lost.

Third: If the dealer's partner holds a set-up minor suit, he should bid two no trump over the double. For example, with a hand of this type, bid two no trump:

Hearts—7, 6, 2
Clubs—10, 4, 3
Diamonds—A, K, Q, J, 7
Spades—J, 4

Here again you have the opportunity to give this exact information to partner and you can only do so by bidding the two no trump.

Fourth: If the dealer's partner holds a hand which justifies a major suit take-out of the no trump irrespective of the double, it should also be bid over the double. For example, with this type of hand, bid two spades:

Hearts—10, 7
Clubs—J, 9, 4
Diamonds—Q, 6
Spades—J, 10, 7, 6, 4, 2

When you hold six or more hearts or spades, it is obligatory for you to bid that suit over partner's no trump and the obligation is just as strong when the no trump has been doubled. Such a bid gives partner exact information that you have a justifiable take-out and that information may be very valuable.

Problem

Hearts—Q, J, 9, 8, 7, 5
Clubs—10, 9
Diamonds—9, 2
Spades—7, 6, 4

Y
A B
Z

No score, rubber game. Z dealt and bid one no trump and A doubled. What should Y now bid at either Auction or Contract? In case Y passed, B passed and Z bid two spades, which A doubled, what should Y now bid?

From the foregoing discussion it should be obvious that Y should bid two hearts over the double. He has six hearts and therefore an obligatory take-out of the no trump. After making the mistake of passing, however, the right thing for him to do is not so obvious. When B. also passed the double, it was evident that he did so because he was certain of defeating Z's one no trump bid. In other words, both A and B have indicated strong hands. Z's subsequent bid of two spades merely indicated that he realized his no trump bid would probably be defeated and that he figured he had a better chance to get out of trouble by bidding spades.

A's double of two spades indicated he could defeat that bid; so Y was confronted with a difficult problem. The fact that he had three spades was an argument against bidding three hearts, but his outside hand was so weak that there was little or no chance for Z to make two spades. On the other hand, Y had a strong heart suit and, if his partner had high cards in the other suits, he would have a good chance to make his bid. For these reasons, the writer is of the opinion that Y should bid three hearts over the two spade bid at either Auction or Contract. It is a close question and shows the value of bidding such hands at once over the double. Then you don't get into trouble.

Rudyard Kipling And Others

In the early days of the automobile, Rudyard Kipling, proud possessor of a magnificent new car, motored over from Burwash one morning, with his wife, to call on his old friend Henry James, at Rye. Kipling, enthusiastic over the advent of the automobile, said it was "calculated to make the Englisman—think." He cordially invited James and his nephew, William James, to lunch at Burwash the following day, promising to send the car over to fetch them and take them back. Just then, there came a loud knocking at the door and in rushed Kipling's chauffeur to say that the car had broken down. So the Kiplings—much humiliated—had to return home by train.

• • •

Just as they were leaving the James house Ford Madox Ford—himself going to call on James—bumped into them and noticed they appeared to be perturbed. When ushered into James' presence he soon learned the cause from the Master. Its telling, in James' inimitable style, makes quite the best story in Ford's reminiscences ("Return to Yesterday") and must be read in full—it is too long to give here—to be fully enjoyed.

• • •

But you will get an idea of it from the ending:

"The consequence (of the breakdown) is that its master and mistress will return to Burwash, which should be pronounced Burridge, by train," chuckled James, 'and the magnificent one thousand two hundred guinea motor car will not devotedly return here at noon and will not in time for lunch convey me and my nephew William to Burwash and will not return hre in time for me to give tea to my friend Lady Maud Warrender, who is presence to-morrow beneath my roof honoring that humble meal with her or if the weather is fine in the garden . . ."

"Which," concluded the Master, after subdued ho, ho, hos, of merriment, "is calculated to make Mr. Kipling—think."

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Apropos the sparkling wit for which the late Lord Rosebery was noted, Sir Ian Malcolm recalls (in "Vacant Thrones") that Lord Dufferin, a former Governor-General of Canada, once mentioned to Rosebery that he had lately met an old friend of his, a titled lady who, through some misfortune, had undergone a short term of imprisonment.

"I am now a perfect ruin" she moaned to Dufferin, who confessed himself at a loss for an adequate sympathetic rejoinder.

"I think I should have answered: 'So is the Colosseum'" said Rosebery.

• • •

Some years ago, F. N. Doubleday, the well-known publisher—known to friends as "Effendi," being so named by Rudyard Kipling—was invited by Edward W. Bok to lunch at the Curtis Building, Philadelphia, when it was still new. Mr. Bok was showing off his private office, and "Effendi" noticed a board on the wall by the desk, displaying forty electric buttons.

"What are these for?" he asked.

"Whenever I press one of these buttons," replied Mr. Bok, "a beautiful girl comes to take my instructions."

• • •

Without another word "Effendi" sprang up and, as fast as he could, before his host could stop him, pushed one button after another until he had touched all forty, chuckles Mrs. Alice M. Williamson, the novelist, telling the story in "The Inky Way," she having heard it from Mr. Bok himself, who evidently enjoyed the laugh at his expense.

"Mr. Bok, being a man of infinite and quick resourcefulness, thought fast," adds Mrs. Williamson. "For each maiden was invented on the spur of the moment some task which sent her away unsuspecting."

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Do you doubt it? Then go to your nearest drug store and get a package of Bisurated Magnesia and use as directed. If after the first dose you do not feel it is worth its weight in gold, if the belching, gas and pain are not relieved completely, you may have your money back.

Bisurated Magnesia is sold on this positive guarantee because we know of its value in stomach distress. It is used by thousands of stomach sufferers the world over. The cost is about 3c per dose. You just simply can't afford to suffer longer with stomach distress, acid stomach and indigestion when real relief is so inexpensive.

Try it just once after a heavy meal and see for yourself how magically it works. Twenty-five regular doses in every package.

A Very Nervous Child

Aileen Lee Credits Now Happy Girlhood To Benefits of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

Noise No Longer Bothers Her.

"I am not quite 14 years old," writes Aileen Lee, Dongola, Ont. "This summer I was thin and nervous. I would rave at night; even get up and walk all through the house in my sleep. Mother sent me away for a long holiday, but when I came back my nerves were just as bad. One day mother bought me three boxes of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. They worked like magic. I have gained 9 pounds since September, and it takes a lot of noise now to bother my nerves. And how the roses bloom in my cheeks again! It's a delight to tell other girls what Dr. Williams' Pink Pills did for me."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills effect such transformation as this because their remedial action is to enrich the blood, which restores the exhausted nerve forces and revitalizes the whole system. At your druggist's in the new glass container. 50c a package. 276

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A light topped bodice on this wee maid's dress is so charming and different.

And it's the easiest thing imaginable to make it.

Isn't it darling the way it simulates a front scalloped closing. And note a similar idea is carried out in the sleeve toward the wrist.

It makes up equally attractive in woolen, novelty cottons or in linen.

It will give young daughter a big thrill to have this smart dress for the new school term in thin woolen. It combines navy with vivid red. The nickel buttons have navy blue centres.

Brown linen with yellow is very effective.

Style No. 2702 may be had in sizes 8, 10, 12 and 14 years.

Size 10 requires 1¾ yards 35-inch with ⅞ yard 35-inch contrasting.

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Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

The Future of the Empire

Stephen Gwynn in the Fortnightly Review (London): There is no mistaking the symptoms of a general rally throughout the British Commonwealth to mutual support in the fight for solvency. This year's conference should mark an epoch in the Commonwealth's internal organization. For it must be dawning now on the Dominions that the greatest of all markets open to them is threatened with a loss of buying power. England can no longer count on beating all competitors even against the handicap of a hostile tariff; and this workshop of forty million people packed close in their island has a serious future to face. Its ruin would be hardly less ruinous to Ireland, to Australia, and to New Zealand than to itself. Canada is otherwise situated; but even for Canada the disaster would be little less. In a reorganization, with a fiscal bond, the prosperity of the Mother Country needs to be considered with more anxiety than ever before.

Youth and War

H. M. Tomlinson in the Forum (London): We are often told, usually in despair, occasionally with malicious glee, that youth would march to destruction again, when the bugles call. I dare say youth would, anything for a change, never mind the cost! But youth did not make the last war, though it was the fighting force, nor will it make the next. Youth is vivacious, and not easily attached to peaceful routine. It thinks it is immortal, and enjoys taking risks; so when its elders tell it that war has come, that the moral safeguards are down, and that it may indulge its primitive instincts, hitherto inhibited by the priest and schoolmaster, in an orgy blessed by the church and applauded by fine ladies, youth gladly supposes that it is all right. In Europe, in the last war, that generation did not return.

Baby's Cold

"Baby's Own Tablets relieve baby's colds so easily," writes Mrs. Albert E. Knowles, Granton, Ont., "I wouldn't be without them if they cost twice as much." If Baby has running or clogged nose, give BABY'S OWN TABLETS. Absolutely safe. See certificate in each 25c package. 234

Dr. Williams'

BABY'S OWN TABLETS

Owl Staffs

If you your lips would save from slips,
Five things observe with care.
Of whom you speak, to whom you speak,
And How and When and Where.

If you your ears would save from jeers,
Five things keep meekly hid:
Myself and I and Mine and My,
And what you do and did.

Steno—"I'm going to be married Saturday, and——"

Her Boss—"And so you're going to quit?"

Steno—"Oh, no! I'm just going to tell you that I'll be needing more money."

"I had a dream the other night, Casey, an' it taught me a great lesson."

"Bedad, an' what was the lesson, Pat?"

"'Twas like this: I dreamed I was in Rome, an' I had a audience with the Pope—as great a gintleman as any in the district, an' that's no lie. Would I have a drink, he axed me. Thinks I, would a duck swim, an' seein' the whiskey an' lemons an' sugar on the sideboard, I told him I wouldn't mind if I had a wee drop of punch. 'Cold or hot?' asked Riv'rence. 'Hot, yer Holiness,' says I. Ah, what I mistake I made!"

"I don't see anything wrong."

"Ah, but listen, boy. His Holiness stepped toward the kitchin for the b'ilin' water; an' before he got back, I woke up. Nex' time, I'll say, I'll take it cold, yer holiness, while the water's a-gettin' hot!"

Restaurant Proprietor (belligerently)—"Listen, Mister, when you eat here you don't need to wipe off the plate, see?"

Mild-mannered Gentleman—"I beg your pardon. Force of habit, you know. I'm a baseball umpire."

Yes, When the Others Are Worn Out!

Hush, Christmas necktie,
Don't you cry.
Papa'll wear you
By and by.

The only time it pays to cry over spilled milk is when you can get the restaurant proprietor to pay for a new dress.

Roll on, thou deep and dark blue sea,
Keep rolling on for all of me.
On you I cannot waste a glance
While bathing beauties 'round me prance.

"Miss Curley," said the office manager to his stenographer, "I would suggest that you do not write letters to your young men during office hours. Smith & Jones report that we sent them a shipment of love and kisses instead of the tar and axle grease that they ordered."

Madam (to Chinese man-servant)—"After this, when you enter my bedroom, please knock. I might be dressing."

Chinaman—"Me don't need knock. Me allays lookeee in kleehole first."

Millionaire (addressing meeting)—"I came to this country without a shirt on my back, and now I have accumulated two million."

Awed Voice—"Why, you'll never wear them out."

Some fail to recognize opportunity until they see her back. It is all right to dream, but wake up and give your dreams a chance. You see, by saving all you earn you will have money to share with the fellow thrown out of work by your saving. There is many a good thing lost by not asking for it. Men put off things they ought to do, and women put off things they ought to wear. Attention is attracted by what you do, not by what you think ought to be done.

German Castle Becomes College For Americans

Meissen, Saxony—American girls soon will be going to classes in romantic old Siebeneichen Castle, which is being converted into a college by Baroness Monika von Miltitz, its owner. Classes begin this month.

The curriculum is designed primarily for American women desiring to teach German, but it includes preparatory courses in other professions calling for a knowledge of the German language. Entrance requirements are at least two years of study in an American university or college. The castle school is under the personal direction of the baroness.

Siebeneichen, or Seven Oaks Castle, is picturesquely situated on an eminence in the countryside near Meissen, where famous Dresden china is made. The first historical mention of Siebeneichen was made in 1394. The present castle, incorporating remains of an older Gothic structure, was built in the 1500's by Ernest van Miltitz, marshal of the Saxon court.

An atmosphere of cloistral tranquillity now pervades the old fortress. The grounds where knights once matched their strength in tourneys are a beautiful park of old trees. Ivy creepers cover the walls and the battlements are grass grown.

FREE TRIAL OFFER OF KRUSCHEN

If you have never tried Kruschen—try it now at our expense. We have distributed a great many special "GIANT" packages which make it easy for you to prove our claim for yourself. Ask your druggist for the new "GIANT" 75c. Package.

This consists of our regular 75c. bottle together with a separate trial bottle—sufficient for about one week. Open the trial bottle first, put it to the test, and then, if not entirely convinced that Kruschen does everything we claim it to do, the regular bottle is still as good as new. Take it back. Your druggist is authorised to return your 75c. immediately and without question. You have tried Kruschen free at our expense. What could be fairer? Manufactured by E. Griffiths Hughes, Ltd., Manchester, Eng. (Estab. 1856). Importers: McKesson Bros., Ltd., Toronto.

Money Big Lure In Ancient Times

American Professor Finds It Was an Objective 8,000 Years Ago

If money is the root of all evil, then the civilized peoples of the earth have been subjected to corruption for more than 8,000 years. This fact is indicated in a summary of the use of money for exchange in ancient Babylonia as revealed by excavations of city sites by various scientific expeditions in recent years. The summary has recently been prepared by Professor H. F. Lutz, Egyptologist and Assyriologist at the University of California, in an article written for The Journal of Economic and Business History.

Professor Lutz says in part: "The use of metals as evaluators and equalizers of prices dates back to a time which to us is still prehistoric, that is, to the aeneolithic period of the sixth and fifth milleniums B.C. Simple barter after that time gradually disappeared, and prior to the oldest historical period of Babylonia, about 3600 B.C., the transition from simple barter to a money system had already taken place.

"But the relative scarcity of metallic money which was felt more or less throughout antiquity necessitated the use of a substitute. Thus grain, chiefly barley, as the chief and most stable produce of the country, often took the place of metals as the means of exchange. In fact, it remained such a substitute throughout the history of Babylonia. Theoretically, however, everything was evaluated in terms of metallic money.

"In the oldest historical periods purchases were paid for in most instances at first in copper and later in silver; but the field rentals were usually only partly paid in currency, while wages were never paid thus, but were paid in kind. Yet slowly there prevailed even the partial payment of taxes in silver besides payments in kind, and in the course of time the use of silver became more general and payments in silver for purchases of all kinds became most common. Rentals were fixed according to a silver rate, although they continued to be paid in kind: at that stage, however, there is noticeable a rise in rental rates.

"Even wages came slowly to be paid in silver, side by side with payments in kind. Apart from the fact that silver was not plentiful enough in Babylonia to make cash payments the general practice, there is to be found another reason fo rthe co-existence of the two modes of compensation; for the continuance of payment in kind was due to the large temple organizations in Babylonia.

Theso preserved intact their old rationing system which adhered to payments in kind. In private business transactions only one case is known to be in which the law actually forbade the receipt of silver instead of grain in payment. According to the law codo of Hammurabi, the proprietor of a wine shop had to accept grain as the price for a drink, and a severe penalty was imposed in the case of the acceptance of money."

Professor Lutz throws a little light on how Alexander the Great was enabled to continue his conquests. He computes that this famous leader, during his conquest of Persia, captured some $5,000,000 at the Battle of Issus, some $141,450,000 at Persepolis and some $212,175,000 at Ecbatana. History records this booty in terms of talents.

Daughter—"Did Mr. Sapp call on you to-day, father?"

Her Dad—"Yes, dear."

Daughter—"Well, what followed?"

Her Dad—"Two doctors and an ambulance."

The First Sweet Breath of Spring!

With the jonquills, comes the first sweet breath of spring.

Through the earth their firm straight spears are seen,
Then shy buds all veiled in tender green,
Till the sunbeams brush their veils aside,
And fair blossoms,—starlike,—open wide,
Pouring forth their fragrance with delight,
Each a chalice, filled with radiant light.

With the jonquills, comes the first sweet breath of spring.

—Susan F. Campbell.

Shepherd

Sleep comes upon the village, the rich bee
From honeyed bells of balsams high is gone;
The windows palely shine; the owls whoop on,
But bats have slunk into their hollow tree.
The shepherd, hours before has closed his eyes,
But he unseen will take his staff in hand
And walk to wake the morning through the land
Before the cockerel counts it time to rise.
High on the hill he dares the mist and dew
And sings before a sunbeam ventures through.

Now when the morning ripens and unfolds
Like beds of flowers the glories of the plain,
His heart leaps up at every steeple vane
And barn and kiln and windmill on the wolds;
For boyhood knew them all, and not a brook
But he has bathed and played the miller there;
By every green he's hurried to the fair
And tended sheep in every whitethorn nook.
Thus dreaming does he hurdle up the pen
And thinks how soon comes clipping-time agen.

—Edmund Blunden, in "Collected Poems."

Animal Facts

Frogs absorb water through the skin; never drink it. They do not breathe, but swallow air. When the skin splits as the frog grows old he pulls it off and swallows it.

Dogs did not bark in their wild state. The bark is a development of domestication.

Fur-bearing animals are found in Florida. They include the otter, raccoon, skunk and squirrel

Lions and tigers are too weak in lung power to run more than half a mile at a time.

The harbor seal isn't valued for its fur because it has no fine under-fur.

Unlike most animals, the reindeer prefers to travel against the wind.

Turtles lay eggs enclosed in a tough calcified shell, which are deposited in holes and left to hatch by the heat of the sun.

The average weight of an elephant at birth is from 150 to 175 pounds.

Mysterious killing of ducks on a lake in New Hackensack, N.Y., turned out to be the work of an alligator brought from Florida and which escaped from a nearby farm.

Horsemen of War

From out of a cloud they appear in the east,
The horsemen of the apocalypse,
Their faces are grim, they are dressed for the feast,
The horsemen of war, once again are unleashed,
And licking their blood-redden'd lips.

Oh, I see them, I tell you, they are fretting to go,
And humanity once again fails;
From a smoke to a flame, then a shattering blow,
As the Gods of War, once again make their bow,
To repeat all their bestial tales.

And east which is east; and west which is west,
The two that never should meet,
Will be locked in a conflict, the worst with the best;
And the horsemen of war are enjoying the jest,
For the world lies again at their feet.

—J. Menzies Metcalfe.

Toronto.

Better Speech Campaign Organized in Argentine

Buenos Ayres. — The Argentine Academy of Letters, recently founded by the government to purify Spanish as used in this country has started its campaign by asking journalists, radio announcers and educational authorities to employ the best Castilian usage.

A flood of immigration made the Argentine language what it is. Italian especially affected Castilian, and such terms as "Che," whose nearest United States equivalent is "Bully" and "Chau," a good-by word, offend the ears of descendants of Spanish dons.

March Winds Hurt the Complexion

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BIG MONEY MADE IN LOOKING over your old letters and papers. I am collecting and will pay good prices for any Canadian postage stamps on envelopes dated before 1871. Also will buy loose ones or collection of good old stamps. H. Allan, Box 242, Hamilton.

Wives of English Clergymen Live Longer Than Husbands

London.—The expectation of life still shows an upward trend. Of thirty-two people whose deaths were announced in one day recently, five were over 90 years old, twelve were 80 and eight over 70, with the average age 77 years.

Since the beginning of this century there has been a great advance in the average life of the British people. Forty years ago a baby would have a life expectation of about 45 years. According to the present average, a healthy child to-day may be expected to live until it is 58.

Clergymen, it is stated, are among the longest lived person, and their wives reach an even greater age.

"Did you have the car out last night?" "Yes, Dad; I took some of the boys for a run round." "Well, tell them I've found two of their lipsticks!"—Everybody's.

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PURELY VEGETABLE, a gentle, effective tonic to both liver and bowels, Dr. Carter's Little Liver Pills are without equal for correcting Constipation, Acidity, Biliousness, Headaches and Indigestion. 25c. & 75c. red pkgs., everywhere. Ask for Carter's by NAME.

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As Every Mother Knows

A growing girl has a real need of

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of Norwegian Cod Liver Oil

Rich in Vitamins A and D

When PAIN Comes

WHAT many people call indigestion very often means excess acid in the stomach. The stomach nerves have been over-stimulated, and food sours. The corrective is an alkali, which neutralizes the acids instantly. And the best alkali known to medical science is Phillips' Milk of Magnesia.

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Be sure to get the genuine Phillips' Milk of Magnesia prescribed by physicians for 50 years in correcting excess acids. 50c a bottle—any drug store. (Made in Canada.)