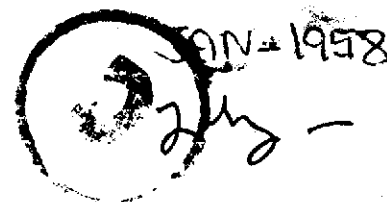


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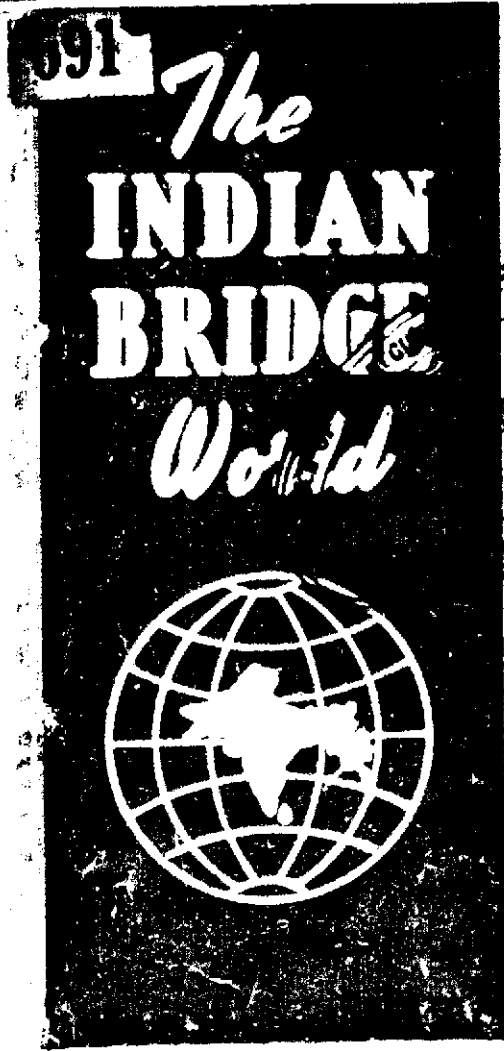
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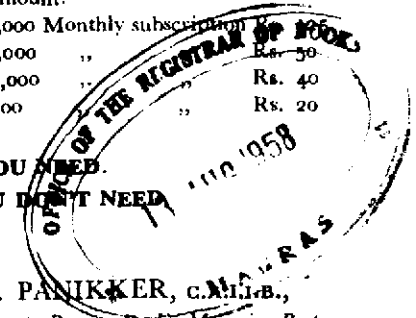
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THE INDIAN BRIDGE WORLD

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH INDIAN
BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

Vol. IX	January, 1958	No. 1
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THE INDIAN BRIDGE WORLD

Vol. IX

January, 1958

No. 1

THE OVERCALL

By N. MUTHUKRISHNA IYER, B.A., B.L., Tanjore.

PART III

Responses.

There is very little theoretical material about overcalls and much less about responses to them. The response to an overcall does not mean the same thing and shall not be treated in the same way as the response to an opening bid ; it is but a meek and mild suggestion to play the hand in a particular suit and level. It must be remembered that an overcall is made in the face of strength declared by the opponent and, shows limited strength and not a strong hand. Unless there is pressure from the overcall, e.g., an immediate overcall in the opponent's suit, his partner should think twice before any response. The response may be a pass, a raise or jump raise in the same suit, simple or jump no-trump take-out, simple or jump take-out in a new suit, or a cue bid in the opponent's suit. But whatever action is taken it must be constructive as there is no need to give the partner a

chance when he has merely overcalled and has not invited any action. The conditions for a response vary according to the level of the bidding, vulnerability, the structure of the hand and intervening bidding by the opponents.

The Raise.

"A free raise is one given when there has been no intervening bid ; but when the intervening opponent has bid, every effort should be made to raise partner's overcall and not let the opponents get an uncontested part-score or game." You will know the number of winners the overcaller has from the quantity of his bid. In cases of minimum defensive overcalls, holding $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 honour-tricks partner raises a trick for each winner over two if vulnerable and for each winner over three if not vulnerable, the reason being that a vulnerable overcall shows at least one full

trick more than a non-vulnerable, thus inviting a lighter response. "In competitive situations the honour trick holding may be shaded *but not the winners*." The raise is made with a fair hand and some trump support (ordinarily a minimum of 3 trumps). The honour trick holding is also shaded if there are ruffing values. Overcalls at two levels can be raised with even three small trumps. "There is no reason to raise unless game is in sight or unless to compete with the opponents for a part score."

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass	?

South holds : K J 7 2 : Q 4 2 : A 8 5 3 2 : 2. South shall bid only 3 hearts : the singleton club prohibits no-trump.

A double raise of an overcall is a strength showing bid but is not forcing. A treble raise of an overcall is not a shut-out bid. For example.

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1 ♣	1 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	?		

South holds : K 7 : A J 8 6 5 : K J 9 4 2 : 3.

North's 4-heart call is not analogous to the same call if South opened the bidding with heart. South shall try for a higher spot.

The jump-overcall does not indicate more than eight winners and therefore a logical raise

suggests the ability to deliver two supporting tricks. The raise is made with some trump support, ruffing value and 1/2 honour trick.

The raise of a no-trump overcall is the same as the response to an opening no-trump bid.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♥	1 N.T.	Pass	?

South holds : A 10 7 4 : K J 10 2 : J 9 2. North's one no-trump overcall shows as good a hand as opening one no-trump with hearts well stopped. South responds normally with high card strength for a single raise. He need not have a stopper in hearts but may prefer to have one.

No-trump Response.

Irrespective of trump support and irrespective of vulnerability a no-trump take-out of a minimum suit overcall shows strength, stoppers in the suit called by the opponents, and about 2 honour tricks.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♥	1 ♣	Pass	?

South holds : 9 4 : K Q 7 2 : K J 8 6 3 : Q 6.

South calls one no-trump.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass	?

South holding, Q J 5 2 : K 10 8 : Q J 6 : K 4 2 calls 2 no-trumps.

In cases of jump overcalls in major suits, the no-trump take-

out is permitted even with 1/2 honour trick on the outside and a sure stopper in the opponents' suit : but minor suit jump-overcalls are taken out in no-trumps with 1 to 1 1/2 honour tricks on the outside and a sure stopper in the adverse suit.

Illustrations from Gold Book :

	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
(1)	1 ♦	2 ♠	Pass	?
(2)	1 ♥	3 ♦	Pass	?

In the first case, West holds : 8 6 : J 7 4 : Q 10 8 5 : Q J 6 3 and calls 2 No-trumps.

In the second case West holds : J 8 5 : Q J 6 : 7 4 : A 8 6 5 2 and calls 3 no-trumps.

Suit take-out.

The Gold Book says: "A suit take-out of an overcall shows that the partner is strong enough to make an overcall on his own responsibility, counting on the first overcaller for no more than 1 1/2 honour tricks". Sidney Silidor says: "If you do bid a new suit in response to your partner's overcall, one of two essentials must be met : (i) you should have a suit which is worth bidding at least twice and at the necessary levels. (ii) The hand should be of such a texture that more than one bid is warranted". He illustrates :—

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♣	2 ♦	Pass	?

South holding, 8 6 5 : A J 9 8 3 : 5 : K 8 4 2 passes, but holding, 8 4 3 : A J 10 9 7 : K 7 4 : 8 2 bids two hearts in an attempt to improve the contract. If the partner returns in his suit you are well established in diamonds. Holding, 3 : 7 5 : A J 10 8 2 : Q 7 5 : K J 8 4, South bids two hearts with confidence since he can stand a rebid of diamonds.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♣	2 ♣	Pass	?

South holding, 8 5 2 : 9 7 5 : A J 9 7 3 2 : 6 passes but holding, 8 2 : K 7 5 : A J 10 9 7 5 3 : 6 bids two diamonds because he is in a position to bid three diamonds if partner rebids clubs.

Easley Blackwood advises a suit take-out only if your try is "to get a larger score than you would get if you let your partner play at his overcall".

Whereas the suit take-out of an opening bid in no sense denies good support for that bid, the suit take-out of an overcall implies dislike of that suit, more especially when the take-out is of a major suit to a minor suit. Simple suit take-out from a major to a minor is not a constructive bid but a caution to partner that he rebids his suit at his own peril : it shall not ordinarily be made when holding trump support for partner's major : but can be made when you hold a 7-card or longer suit (the suit being

of primary importance, irrespective of honour trick) and good distribution.

The suit take-out generally is not a "rescue". The Gold Book says, "There is no reason to rescue if you lack support, for the overcaller has already guaranteed relative safety under the rule of 2 and 3". The "rescue" comes in when the partner's overcall is doubled and when you are willing to play in your own suit at a higher level (because your hand is otherwise worthless) if partner rebids his suit. From the Gold Book:—

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♠	2 ♣	DL.	?

East passes with:

(i) A 10 7 6 3 : 9 5 2 : Q 10 8 4 : 2

(ii) 9 7 : 9 5 2 : Q J 10 8 6 : 8 4 3, but bids two diamonds holding, 9 7 : 9 5 2 : Q J 10 9 6 4 : 7 3 : since his hand is worthless at clubs and will produce four tricks at diamonds. Unless doubled, no occasion arises to "rescue" an overcaller: therefore in the absence of a double, the caller will always read the suit take-out as a real effort by partner to go places and might persist with his own suit.

Is a non-jump suit take-out of an overcall forcing on the partner? In the Culbertson system the non-jump suit take-out by way of a response to an opening bid is forcing for a round, but the force is taken out of the bid

if the responder has already passed or the opponent on the opener's right has intervened after the forcing response; but a non-jump suit take-out of an overcall is not forcing at all. Lisbon players treat the mere change of suits by either partner as forcing. Easley Blackwood proposes that a free (non-competitive) suit take-out of partner's simple overcall urges partner to bid again unless he has overcalled on a garbage, except in the cases of (i) match-point play and (ii) where both partners have previously passed. As an example of the first exception he cites the following from Culbertson:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass	?

East holding, 8 : A J 10 7 6 : J 7 2 : J 8 6 5, bids two hearts; This liberty does not apply to a minor suit take-out. The second exception is illustrated by Goren.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass	?

South holds, x x : x : 10 x x K 10 9 x x x x.

"You should offer up a prayer of thanksgiving that you have not been doubled and you should avoid doing anything that might put such ideas in the mind of the enemy. You should pass". But if the bidding had gone:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
2 ♥	Pass	?	

"Now it is different and we are not so sure you should pass. Here your take-out to three clubs, far from being a suggestion that partner should bid again, is almost a command that he passes."

Edward Kaplan is of the view, basing it mostly on his style of bidding, that a suit take-out of an overcall is not merely invitational but forcing. He reasons that all responses in no-trumps or in the same suit are limited bids, that the take-out in a new suit is unlimited, that the new suit take-out is initiating an auction to determine the proper game (or slam or partial), and that therefore the take-out in a new suit shall not be passed. He also makes an exception in the case of the take-out of minor suit to a major at match-point play.

A jump suit take-out of an overcall is made when the defender's partner makes a jump bid in a new suit holding a strong suit and about three honour tricks: a game is visualised. This bid is forcing for a round only. It is good to remember here that the jump suit take-out of one is forcing to game and raises a fair hope of a slam.

Illustration from Gold Book:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♣	1 ♥	Pass	?

East holds : A Q 10 8 4 : Q J : A J 6 2 : 4 3. He calls

two spades assuring himself of another bid.

The Cue-bid Response.

The most constructive bid forcing further exploration is the cue bid in the opponent's suit. The strength required for this bid must be at least equal to that required for a jump take-out in a new suit. This bid shall not be made without any idea of where the hand should be played:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♥	1 ♠	Pass	?

South holds : Q 4 : 6 5 2 : A K 7 3 : A Q 10 9. A jump bid in a four-card suit is far from ideal: two clubs or two diamonds is as absurd a bid as is two spades. The only spot is 2 hearts.

(ii) From the *American Bridge World*.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♣	1 ♦	Pass	?

South holds : A Q 7 6 : A K J 5 : J 7 : 9 5 3. South calls 2 Clubs. [The Lisbon players, Easley Blackwood, and Edward Kaplan would bid one Spade]. Blackwood says: "Such a take-out must be used as running from something or running towards something. You do not run from a suit in which your partner has indicated his satisfaction: so you must be trying for something better when you take-out to a different suit. Partner should bid again to see what you are trying for".

Some examples of responses to overcalls :—

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♠	1 ♠	Pass	?

South holds :—

- (1) J 10 6 : 7 4 : A Q 5 4 3 2 : 9 4 : Bid 2 Spades.
- (2) J 10 6 : 9 4 : A K 7 5 4 3 : K J : Bid 4 Spades.
- (3) Q 9 6 : K J 9 : A K 6 5 2 : Q 10 : Bid 2 No-trumps.
- (4) J : K 4 3 : K 7 5 : A Q J 9 6 4 : Bid 3 Clubs.
- (5) K J 6 : Nil : K 10 9 6 4 3 : A J 10 6 : Bid 2 Hearts.
- (6) Q 8 : K 10 7 6 : Q J 8 4 : Q J 2 : Bid 1 no-trump.
- (7) Q 8 : K 10 8 4 : K Q 9 8 : A Q 7 : Bid 3 no-trumps.
- (8) 6 4 : J 10 7 4 : A Q 8 6 2 : 10 6 : Pass.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass	?

South holds :—

- (1) K 10 7 4 : Q J 9 4 2 : 7 2 : K 4 : Pass.
- (2) A J 9 : Q 9 8 5 4 3 : 7 : 9 7 2 : Pass.
- (3) Q J 6 3 : K 10 6 : Q J 10 : K 10 8 : Bid 2 No-trumps.
- (4) Q J 10 6 : A J 4 : Q 10 9 : K J 10 : Bid 3 No-trumps.
- (5) 9 8 : K J 4 3 : K 10 9 6 : Q 10 8 : Bid 3 Diamonds.

From the *American Bridge World* :—

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♠	2 ♥	Dbl.	?

South holds :—

- (a) 6 3 : 4 : Q J 8 5 2 : Q 10 6 5 2. Pass. You do not

know which of the two five-carders to hazard : they are anaemic and if you choose the wrong one you have only increased the contract and partner's blood pressure.

(b) K Q 10 4 : 6 : Q 10 8 4 : Q 9 7 3 : Two no-trumps is the unusual but quite logical rescue bid.

(c) Q J 10 8 4 : Q 10 : A J 10 : Q 8 4 : Redouble and have the opponents in the bag : if the opponents get scared and run you have the axe.

(d) Q J 10 9 7 3 : 7 : 8 6 4 : K 5 2 : Two Spades. This is not a cue bid but a genuine one, since with a strong hand and support for hearts South could redouble.

(e) 6 5 : 7 : Q 10 8 7 5 3 2 : Q 6 2 : Bid 3 Diamonds.

(f) J 7 5 2 : J 8 4 3 : A 10 4 2 : 5 : Pass. Do not redouble : the opponents would be alarmed and would take-out in some other suit and you may lose game in hearts.

Responses to strength-showing overcalls.

The response to an immediate overcall in the opponent's suit is the same as the response to a take-out double. The forcing four no-trump overcall is treated in like manner. "An overcall of an opening pre-emptive three bid with three no-trumps is not a take-out bid and partner is expected to pass unless he can see a probable game in a suit of his own".

CHAPTER XI

'SQUEEZE-PLAY' (1)

By TEAKS.

Our friend again with his notebook quietly trudged in. He was all seriousness. He took his seat at the head of the table again. His pen was glittering and looked a mighty sword. He turned some pages and marked certain portions with that pen. A solemn stillness held the air. We were waiting for him to start the talk.

He looked then a man who could be called the epitome of all mankind. In a grand voice he said that he was handling the last subject though it might not be the last discourse. It was not a subject to be trifled with, or handled light-heartedly or listened to indifferently. It was an expert's weapon. If it were well mastered it will be a joy forever and a thing of beauty, so on and so forth. We felt that he could tell us straightaway what it was. Why should he keep us in suspense ? At last he realised our suspense and said that he was dealing with 'Squeeze'. At the outset itself he said that he must do the whole talking and playing and we were to listen, follow and get doubts cleared and do no more than that and that to allow us to play the deals would be to render the whole thing a farce. We felt snubbed but what to do. After all he may be right. So feeling we decided to behave like good schoolboys.

The start of the talk was bombastic. He said that this squeeze was still a mystery to the average player and very often beyond his comprehension. It was the monopoly of experts. Even great players and writers advised the less brilliant among them not to care for it or attempt to master it. For, such hands came up once in a blue moon and if that was not well played it might not matter much. We said that it was bad advice. His reply then was that, though you might theoretically master the mechanics of squeeze, still the only way to play it well was the "hard" way of working it out yourself and practising it times without number. We approvingly said that no one can become an expert player without choosing the hard way. Otherwise he would at best be only an indifferent player. We asked him what squeeze meant and what were its guiding principles. He spread his notes before him on the table and began reading passages therefrom. We asked him to mention them seriatim with his usual lucidity. He warmed up and said that there were 8 principles to be remembered when dealing with squeeze play. They were its mechanics. In substance it meant that the opponents were forced to lose their winners and finally esta-

blish our smaller cards. We asked him why so much fuss was made about it if it meant that simple thing only. He said that the difficulty was to work it out and therein lay the intelligence of the expert and his mastery of its mechanism.

He began by saying that squeeze, throw-in and trump-reduction were all members of the same family. Still squeeze had very many individual excellences and eccentricities. The first principle to be remembered was the "rectification of the count". It meant that even at the first step there should be a count of winners and losers in the combined hands of the declarer and the dummy; and if the number of winners fell short of the required number by all but one, you should lose it purposely and immediately. This will enable the squeeze to come into operation. Next, the opponents should be reduced to busy cards only. These two were intended to nurse to a squeeze end position. The third principle related to position. The opponent to be squeezed should have the vital busy cards. Otherwise squeeze would have no place. That was why some critics had insisted on saying that, even to the best of players there must be the adventitious aid of chance or luck as you might call it. Fourthly, there should be threat cards in at least two suits directed against

the same opponent and keeping him on the horns of a dilemma. Fifthly, there should be a squeeze or master card to play. It must be in the hand opposite to the two-card menace or threat holder. Sixthly, there must be entries in the hand opposite to the two-card menace, to reach the menaces in either partner's hand to cash the promoted menaces. Seventhly, the declarer while discarding should choose a redundant or superfluous card from the opposite hand. And if he was obliged to discard any of the threats, he should discard the threat in the suit which the adversary had not discarded and at once play the suit discarded by the opponent. Eighthly, the technical minimum of a squeeze position was three cards.

Good heavens! We were really puzzled. The subject was really complicated. As if what was stated above was not enough, he added that a squeeze player must have his eyes and ears alert, remember the auction, read the history of each card played, study hand and suit patterns in all the 4 hands, place the cards correctly, have a strong memory and be in a position to surmount obstacles created by adverse distribution. We thought in the beginning that our preceptor by his look was an epitome of mankind. But after this narration of a squeeze player's qualifications we thought that

his statement was either purely an effort of his imagination or that a squeeze player must be so versatile and various that in the course of one revolving moon he must be a lawyer, statesman, scientist, philosopher and everything else in one. Nature herself would then stand up and say 'here is a man'. We were really far behind such a being. But we could not shrink and run away. Hope lies hidden in the human heart. Ambition must be made of stern stuff.

We understood the gist of the talk as meaning that the success of squeeze play depended on stripping entries and position and decided to know its further ramifications from the actual play by our preceptor. We were anxious that play should start. But he would not do it quick. He was in a lecturing mood. Many pages of his notebook on theory still remained unused.

He said that there were many types of squeeze play. We told him that it was unfair to us to dive deeper while the principles of squeeze had not been illustrated even by a single deal. He took pity on us and also felt that if the tempo increased disproportionately the whole thing would burst.

He therefore set the cards as double dummy to illustrate the fundamental principles. The deal was as follows:

♠	K Q 10 7 6		
♥	3 2		
♦	A 10 2		
♣	K 10 9		
♠	A 9 8	♠	J 3 2
♥	A 6 5	♥	K Q J 9 8 7 4
♦	K Q 9 7	♦	Nil
♣	J 8 5	♣	A Q 6
♠	5 4		
♥	10		
♦	J 8 6 5 4 3		
♣	7 4 3 2		

[This deal is from J. Brown.]

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 ♠	4 ♥	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

South opened the 5 of Spades. North was allowed to win it with his Queen. Yes. It was rectifying the count. He led a trump which was won with Ace in West. The 5 of Clubs was led for a finesse and it worked alright. Then the dummy was entered in trump. The Diamond King was led and North covered and East ruffed, played out trumps to reach the following position.

♠ A 9	♠ K 10 7
♥ Nil	♥ Nil
♦ Q 9	♦ 10
♣ J 8	♣ K 10
♠ 5 3	
♥ 9 8	
♦ Nil	
♣ A 6	
♠ Nil	
♥ Nil	
♦ J 8 6	
♣ 7 4 3	

Five out of the six tricks were sure for East and West. The additional trick was secured by a squeeze. The pedant added that if North did not cover the Diamond King of West, a different squeeze position would develop, namely :

♠ A 9	♠ K 10 7
♥ Nil	♥ Nil
♦ 9	♦ A
♣ J 8	♣ K 10
♠ J 3	
♥ J 9 8	
♦ Nil	
♣ A	

Immaterial

The position was now clear. We did not want further demonstration. We were now fairly advanced players especially after the discourses. We promised to do intensive reading of squeeze play from our text-books and be ready for our next meet. The pedant sorrowfully said that the next talk would be the last. We wondered if the parting was to come so soon. Yes, it should come some day or other. We requested our friend to be with us next time for dinner after the talk as that would be a fitting consummation of our joint endeavours. Then 'Good-night' and each went his own way.



Ol' Ed Says:—

The trouble with being a good sport is that you have to lose in order to prove it.

SOONER : C. B. L. BULLETIN.

THE FIRST ALL INDIA INTER-ASSN. MATCH

By "ENMAR."

The morning of 22nd January was like any other day at Calcutta. A pall of smoke hung over the city. A few taxis weaved their way speedily as only taxis in Calcutta are capable of doing. There was not much bustle and activity in the streets. There was, however, bustle and excitement at the attractively decorated Pandal at Nayaratna Lane, the scene of the First Inter-Association Match between W. Bengal, Madras, Andhra and Bombay.

As per the draw, Madras played W. Bengal, and Bombay played against Andhra in their first encounter. The Madras contingent was captained by N. Ramaratnam and consisted of only six players; K. Guru Dutt, K. C. Ramaratnam, P. S. Sadasivam, E. N. Mylappan and Dr. Sahadevan.

The West Bengal, as all the rest of the teams, had their full quota of eight players. Their line-up was:—R. N. Dutt (Captain) S. Sen, N. Sen (Sr.), R. Roy, N. Sen (Jr.), Mitter, Nandi and Bhattacharjee.

The match was played in 6 sessions of 16 deals each, and following the international convention, in open and closed rooms. No one was admitted into the closed rooms.

N. Ramaratnam played with Guru Dutt and K. C. Ramaratnam with Sadasivam in the first session.

The difference in the first 16 deals was not very pleasant to contemplate about. The West Bengal Team led by 2040 points in the aggregate and by 26 IMP. Three of the first 4 deals accounted for the heavy swing. The W. Bengal pair in the open room bid game on all the 4 deals, while in the closed room the Madras pair sitting in the identical position bid only one game on the first deal, and stopped short of game on the fourth deal. The difference in favour of W. Bengal was nearly 10 IMP. on those 4 deals, whereas if the contracts on the second and third deals had been set, the swing would have been 7 IMP in favour of Madras.

On Deal 2 a slip in defence in the open room enabled the declarer to make his contract of 4 Hearts. With the Diamond Ace intact in the Dummy North was able to squeeze West in Diamonds and Spades and make his contract.

DEALER E. VUL. : N-S.

♠ 4 3
 ♥ A K Q 10 9 4
 ♦ J 5
 ♣ K J 6
 ♠ A 10 6 2 ♠ J 8 7
 ♥ 3 2 ♥ x
 ♦ K Q 10 9 ♦ 8 6 4 3 2
 ♣ A 5 2 ♣ Q 10 x x
 ♠ K Q 9 5
 ♥ J 8 7 6
 ♦ A 7
 ♣ 9 7 4

The knave of Spade was led.

In the closed Room West opened a non-vulnerable one No Trump and North South were content to play in 2 Hearts.

On the next deal, while in the closed room the contract was a part score of 2 Hearts, the W. Bengal pair climbed to 4 Hearts via :—

1 ♥ 2 ♥
 3 ♣ 3 ♥
 4 ♥ Pass

on

♠ J 5
 ♥ K 10 5
 ♦ 10 9 3
 ♣ 10 9 6 3 2

and

♠ K 10 3
 ♥ A Q 9 6 2
 ♦ A 2
 ♣ A 8 2

The contract should have been set as even with the Ace of Spades favourably located four tricks have to be lost.

With a feeling that the match was going against them K. C. Ramaratnam attempted to thwart a possible vulnerable slam for the opponents on Deal No. 12. With a near yarborough, except for a solitary Ace, he felt that a slam was in the air and made a bluff overcall of 1 N.T. The bid proved disastrous as he was promptly punished and went 5 down. Unfortunately for him his partner Sadasivam held an Ace and with 2 Aces missing there was no slam for the opponents. At the other table a game in 5 Diamonds was reached and made. This deal cost the Madras Team another 4 IMP.

In the second session Mylappan and Dr. Sahadevan played in the place of Guru Dutt and N. Ramaratnam. They played in the open room and P. S. Sadasivam and K. C. Ramaratnam played in the closed room. In the second Session the deficit increased to 40 IMP., and the aggregate score to 3710.

On Deal 19 while the W. Bengal pair in the closed room played in 3 N. T., the Madras pair played in 5 Diamonds. The contract was impossible to make without the cooperation of the opponents. At the other table the

conventional lead of the King of Hearts proved advantageous to the declarer in 3 N.T., and the contract was easily made.

1 ♥ 2 ♣
 2 ♥ 3 ♦
 3 N.T. 5 ♣
 Pass

DEALER SOUTH. VUL. E-W.

♠ K 9 8 3
 ♥ J 6 5 2
 ♦ J 10
 ♣ 10 9 2
 ♠ A 10 6 2 ♠ 7 5
 ♥ Q 8 4 ♥ 10 3
 ♦ K 8 7 5 3 ♦ A Q 9 4 2
 ♣ A ♣ K 7 6 5
 ♠ Q J 4
 ♥ A K 9 7
 ♦ 6
 ♣ Q J 8 4 3

Deal No. 24 found K. C. Ramaratnam and Sadasivam in deep waters. The final contract of 5 Spades was badly set. The bidding went (opponents remaining silent) :

NORTH	SOUTH
1 ♥	3 ♣
3 ♥	3 ♣
4 ♠	4 N.T.
5 ♦	5 ♣

The opponents played the hand in 5 Clubs which they reached as follows :

DEALER WEST. VUL. NEITHER.

♠ A Q 9
 ♥ K Q 9 6 3 2
 ♦ 2
 ♣ 8 4 3
 ♠ 8 4 ♠ K 10 7 2
 ♥ 8 7 5 4 ♥ J 10
 ♦ K J 9 8 6 ♦ 10 5 4 3
 ♣ A 6 ♣ 10 5 2
 ♠ J 6 5 3
 ♥ A
 ♦ A Q 7
 ♣ K Q J 9 7

Deal No. 30 also proved costly to Madras and the loss should be put down to poor bidding.

DEALER EAST. VUL. E.-W.

ROY.	K.C.R.	SEN.	P.S.S.
1 ♥	Dble.	2 ♥	3 ♣
4 ♥	4 ♠	Dble.	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The contract was set by 4 tricks. Four Hearts was not on. The hand that induced such violent bidding was

♠ A J 10 9 4 2
 ♥ A
 ♦ Q 10 4 8
 ♣ 9 2

The full deal:—

♠ 3	♠ J 8 4
♥ A 3 2	♥ Q 8 7 6 4 3
♦ K Q 8 7 6	♦ 5
♣ 10 9 3	♣ K Q 7 6 5
♦ 6 5 4	♦ K J 7
♣ 10 5	♣ A K J
	♠ A J 10 9 4 2
	♥ A
	♦ Q 10 9 8
	♣ 9 2

In the third Session Ramaratnam and Sadasivam played in the open room and N. Ramaratnam and Guru Dutt played in the closed room.

This session turned out to be good for Madras and they recovered 22 IMP., to reduce the lead to 19 IMP., and the aggregate score to 2610. The W. Bengal players (Nandi and N. Sen, Jr.) in the closed room showed dash in their bidding on the following deal.

The bidding went (opponents remaining silent).

DEALER WEST.	VUL. BOTH.
N. Sen (Jr.)	Nandi.
WEST	EAST
1 ♥	2 ♣
2 ♦	3 ♥
4 ♥	4 ♣
6 ♥	Pass
Nandi.	N. Sen (Jr.)
♠ A 6	♠ K 8
♥ K 10 5	♥ A Q 8 6
♦ Q 10	♦ K 8 7 5 3
♣ A Q 9 5 4	♣ 7 2

The distribution of cards was extremely favourable. Trumps broke even, and the high cards in Diamonds and Clubs were located as if to order. 6 Hearts was bid and made. In the open room owing to some misunderstanding Ramaratnam and Sadasivam failed to reach a game.

The following hand presented a problem in bidding. What would you bid on partners' bid of 1 Heart and rebid of 2 Hearts with

♠ K J 5 4 3
♥ 9 8 3
♦ A 10 9 2
♣ 4

Would it make any difference if the rebid was 2 Clubs by Partner. Partner's hand was

♠ 9 7
♥ K Q J 7 6
♦ K 5
♣ K Q J 7

The tricks that were lost were only the three Aces. Guru Dutt and N. Ramaratnam played in 2 Hearts while the W. Bengal pair, Mitter and Bhattacharjee, adventurously bid game.

The difference of 19 IMP., with 48 deals to go was not formidable and the Madras Team went into the fourth Session with high hopes.

Deal 55 is worthy of a brief notice. It presents a study of style of bidding.

Holding

♠ A K J 7 2
♥ A K
♦ 7 5 3
♣ 9 8 4

with partner's

♠ 10 3
♥ 9 7 2
♦ A K J 8 4
♣ 7 3 2

the Madras pair bid as follows:

N. SEN. (JR.)	P.S.S.	SEN. K.C.R.
Pass	Pass	1 ♥ Dble
Pass	3 ♦	Pass 3 ♣
Pass	4 ♦	Pass 5 ♦
Pass	Pass	Pass —

The contract was set by 4 tricks and fortunately was not doubled. The swing on this deal was 8 IMP.

At the other table Roy who was sitting East in the closed room over-called North's 1 heart bid with 1 N.T. and on East's (N. Sen. Sr.) response of 2 N.T. bid 3 N.T. This was made. The 2 of Diamonds was led. Only a Club lead could set the contract.

DEALER SOUTH. VUL. BOTH.

♠ 9 5 4	♠ A K J 7 2
♥ Q 10 8 7 x x	♥ A K
♦ 6	♦ 7 5 3
♣ A K Q	♣ 9 8 4
♠ 10 3	♠ Q 8 6
♥ 9 7 2	♥ J 5
♦ A K J 8 4	♦ Q 10 9 2
♣ 7 3 2	♣ J 10 6 5

The fourth session concluded with W. Bengal gaining another 10 IMP, to increase their lead to 29 IMP. The scores stood at 29 IMP., and 3,890 on aggregate in their favour.

Fancy and flighty, is what one would think of the bidding by Nandi and Bhattacharjee on the following deal. 6 Diamonds was bid for the first time at the slam level!

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
N.R.	Nandi	K.G.	S.B.
1 ♥	D'ble.	2 ♥	2 ♣
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 N.T.
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	Pass

DEALER EAST. VUL. E. W.

♠ K 7	♠ A 2
♥ 10 9 8 6 4 2	♥ A J 5 3
♦ J 7	♦ A K Q 10 9 4
♣ K Q 9	♣ 5
♠ Q 4 3	♠ J 10 9 8 5
♥ 7	♥ K Q
♦ 6 3	♦ 8 5 2
♣ A J 10 8 7 3	♣ 6 4 2

The opening lead was the King of Hearts and was taken by the Ace by Declarer. A small Heart was played and ruffed in the dummy. The Queen of Hearts fell from South. Declarer then proceeded to play out all the trumps and the following 6-card position was reached.

♠ K 7
 ♥ 10 9
 ♦ —
 ♣ K Q
 ♠ Q 6 4
 ♥ —
 ♦ —
 ♣ A J 10
 ♠ A 2
 ♥ J 3
 ♦ 4
 ♣ 5
 ♠ J 10 9
 ♥ —
 ♦ —
 ♣ 6 4 2

On the play of the last trump North was subject to a triple squeeze, and Nandi made the contract. At the other table K. C. Ramaratnam (sitting East) was content to make 11 tricks as he had not bid a little slam.

On Deal 77 Madras again lost many valuable points when East failed to make the vulnerable game in 3 N.T. that he had bid. In the closed room West was the declarer at 3 N.T. and made the game. The position of the Declarer does not seem to affect the fate of the contract—The lead was the Queen of Spade in the open Room.

♠ J 10 8 5 4
 ♥ J 9 2
 ♦ A 8 4 2
 ♣ —
 ♠ K 9 7
 ♥ K Q 7 6
 ♦ K Q 7 6
 ♣ K 7
 ♠ A 6
 ♥ 10 5 4
 ♦ J 10
 ♣ A J 10 8 4
 ♠ Q 2
 ♥ A 8 4
 ♦ 9 5 3
 ♣ Q 9 5 3 2

If there is a hold up to the first trick it is not necessary to locate the particular Ace with North. If North has both the red Aces the contract is down unless the Clubs break favourably.

Amends were, however, made 3 deals later. The contract was the same 3 N.T. Sadasivam fulfilled the contract while Mr. Bhattacharjee sitting West could not just lay his hands on the ninth trick.

DEALER : WEST. VUL. E. W.

♠ A Q 8 5
 ♥ J 10 9 7 5
 ♦ 10 9
 ♣ J 4
 ♠ K 10 4 2
 ♥ Q 8
 ♦ A J
 ♣ 10 9 6 3
 ♠ 9 7
 ♥ A 6 4
 ♦ K Q 7 4 2
 ♣ A 8 2
 ♠ J 7 5
 ♥ K 2
 ♦ 8 6 7 5
 ♣ K Q 7 5

The Jack of Hearts was led—and when dummy played small South took the trick with the King and played a small Spade. North took the trick with the Queen of Spades and played the Jack of Clubs which was allowed to stand. Another trick in Clubs was lost.

Still the W. Bengal team had a small lead of 6 points in this session and went into the last session with what appeared to be a commanding lead.

In the sixth and last session the W. Bengal Captain R. N. Dutt, who played for the first time, sat as a fine gesture at the table at which the Madras captain played.

Madras gained 18 I.M.P., in this session and could have drawn the match if they had bid boldly in one deal and adopted a better line of play in another deal.

On the 92nd deal the North South hands were :

♠ A 4
 ♥ A Q J 10 4
 ♦ 10 4 3
 ♣ Q 10 3
 ♠ Q 10 7 6 5
 ♥ 9 8 7
 ♦ 9 8 6
 ♣ J
 ♠ 8 9 3
 ♥ 6 3 2
 ♦ K Q 7 5
 ♣ 9 8 4
 ♠ K J 2
 ♥ K 5
 ♦ A J
 ♣ A K 7 5 3 2

In the closed room N. Ramaratnam and Guru Dutt reached a contract of 6 Hearts, and won all the tricks. In the open room a clever bluff double by K. C. Ramaratnam so agitated Mitter ! who would not be tricked out of a slam, and who straight-away bid 6 N.T.—to find out, much to his chagrin, that still he had been duped out of a grand

slam. Guru Dutt and N. Ramaratnam have not given up arguing as to who was really responsible for having missed the grand slam. Their bidding was

N.R.	D.G.
1 ♥	3 ♣
3 ♥	4 N.T.
5 ♥	5 N.T.
6 ♣	6 ♥

It was felt that if North had assumed the captaincy there were greater chances of arriving at a grand slam either in Clubs or in N.T. But South in the excitement of holding such a rock-crusher assumed charge and bid only up to a little slam. With no certainty of the Heart King with his partner, North passed. Considering the situation of the match it was felt that on this hand the Madras pair should have bid up to the hilt. Aggressive bidding should have been the keynote of their strategy. Curiously, if the grand slam had been bid the match would have been a draw.

Yet another opportunity offered itself. On the penultimate deal, in the closed room the contract was a mere 3 Diamonds. In the open room a contract of 5 Diamonds was reached.

The bidding went.

NORTH	SOUTH	EAST	WEST
x	x	Pass	Pass
1 ♥	Double	1 ♠	3 ♦
Pass	4 N.T.	—	5 ♦
al!	Pass		

DEALER SOUTH. VUL. N-S.

♠ 8
 ♥ K Q 10 9 8 4 2
 ♦ 9 2
 ♣ 9 7 4
 ♠ J 9 6 ♠ A K 4
 ♥ A x x ♥ J 6
 ♦ Q J 8 5 4 ♦ A K 7 3
 ♣ Q 3 ♣ K 10 8 5
 ♠ Q 10 7 5 3 2
 ♥ 5
 ♦ 10 6
 ♣ A J 6 2

The spade eight was led and the trick was taken in the Dummy with the Ace. Two rounds of Trumps were played ending in the Dummy. A small club was played and when the Queen of clubs stood the declarer had the contract in hand. Unfortunately P. S. Sadasivam missed the winning line of play. By a proper handling of the club suit five Diamonds can be made. A spade can be discarded on a club which can be set up after the Ace is located with South. Winning the trick with the Queen of Clubs, a Club is played and the 8 or 10 of Clubs is played from Dummy. If it is won by the nine the declarer has to place Ace with South and the Jack with North and play the King to establish the 10. If South

took the trick with the knave the King of Clubs can be immediately established. Even if South held all the 3 vital cards A J 9 of Clubs the position was not hopeless. As the cards stood it will be interesting to note that, after playing one round of Hearts, South finds himself thrown in on the play of the second round of clubs! However, the declarer made no game try at all and went down. Had the contract been made the Madras team would have secured 250 points instead of losing 200 points and this would have secured the six IMP to force a draw.

The standard of bidding and play of the West Bengal players was of a high order. One was impressed by the facility of their bidding and the good understanding between the partners. Most of the players representing West Bengal are not strangers to us. While it is difficult to pick out any as outstanding, as all played well, it can be said that of the West Bengal players one was impressed by N. Sen (Jr.) Santi Sen and N. Sen (Sr.). Robi Roy was adventurous in his bidding.

Madras lost to a better-knit team and a team that played with greater steadiness and better concentration.

The report on the other matches will be published in the next issue of the I. B. W.—Ed.

CITY v. DISTRICT MATCH

By T. S. C.

The City versus District Match which was played at the Coimbatore Cosmopolitan Club on the 26th and 27th October, 1957, proved to be largely one-sided, the City Team winning by a flattering margin of 188 international match points over 224 boards. The match provided little excitement, unearthed no new talent especially from the District's team and was in a sense a wash-out as it brought no solution to the problem of selection of the Association's team for inter-state matches.

Quite a few of the hands were interesting and the following is a kibitzer's account of the highlights of the first day's play.

Madras' No. 1 team and Districts' No. 2 team which met on the first day appeared well-matched and the initial session started on a very sedate note, the City team leading by only 17 I.M.P. at the end of the first 32 boards. The opening deal gave a valuable swing in favour of the City team whose North-South Pair called and made a small slam holding

		NORTH	
		♠ A K 8	
		♥ K 7 6 5	
		♦ K 4 3	
		♣ K J 4	
WEST			EAST.
♠ Q 9 4 3		♠ 10 2	
♥ 9 8 2		♥ Q 10 6 3	
♦ 10 8 5		♦ 9 7	
♣ 10 9 3		♣ A 8 6 5 2	
		SOUTH	
		♠ J 7 6 5	
		♥ A J	
		♦ A Q J 8 2	
		♣ Q 2	

With the Heart Queen favourably placed in the East hand South found no difficulty in making 12 tricks losing only to the Club Ace. The contract was 3 No Trumps at the other table.

Deal No. 12 which provided another big swing in favour of the Madras pair was somewhat freakish. West dealer, opened with a preemptive bid of four spades, North and East passed, South bid 5 diamonds which became the final contract and was set one trick at table No. 2. At the other table, however, East opened with 3 spades only and on South's double North bid 4 diamonds. South called five diamonds but East who felt his hand was useless defensively ventured with a five spade bid, as an attempt at sacrifice. This was

doubled by North but on South's initial lead of the heart knave the contract was a lay down.

Deal No. 19 almost turned the table in favour of the Mofussilites. The mofussil pair playing North South at Table I made the inspired bid of 7 spades as under:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 NT (Grand Slam force)	
7 ♠			

East led his fourth best heart somewhat desperately and North-winning with the king in hand crossed to dummy with a trump, finessed the Queen of Diamonds, played Ace led diamond which he ruffed in the dummy, played his Ace of Spades and then the Queen of Clubs locating the king with West and the Jack with East. When the King of Clubs did not turn up from the East hand he played the Ace and was rather surprised to see East drop the King of clubs. The trumps were then run off to arrive at this end position.

NORTH	SOUTH
—	—
4	A Q 10
6 3	—

South could make the grand slam contract if he could make three tricks in hearts now (East had discarded a heart in the meanwhile) or if he finesses East for the heart knave. Declarer wavered a little at this juncture and finally decided to play for a drop and went down one. Unfortunately the Madras N-S pair played the hand at 3 NT making all thirteen tricks. This mofussil North-South pair never got over the shock of going down on the grand slam and their subsequent play was to a large extent influenced by this bad break.

The next deal saw the Madras Pair bid four hearts and make 12 tricks without difficulty but the mofussil pair reached a five-diamond contract to go down one. Here again the more logical bid reached by the mofussilites floundered on the rocks of distribution.

The four hands were:

NORTH			
♠ J 10 7 6			
♥ A 8 5			
♦ 6			
♣ K J 5 4 3			
WEST			
♠ K 3 2		♠ 5 4	
♥ Q 10		♥ K J 9 6 4 3 2	
♦ K Q 10 5 4		♦ A J 9 2	
♣ A 8 2		♣ —	
EAST			
SOUTH			
♠ A Q 9 8			
♥ 7			
♦ 8 7 3			
♣ Q 10 9 7 6			

Bidding-Table I:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	4 ♥	Pass

Table II

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♦	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
4 ♥(?)	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Deal No 12 in the second session resulted in a big swing in favour of the Madras team who scored game at both tables following some lukewarm bidding by the mofussil pair at Table 1. The full deal bidding and the at both tables were.

West dealer, N—S vulnerable.

Table I

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	1 ♣	1 ♥	Pass
Pass	1 ♠	2 ♦	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♣		3 ♠
4 ♦	Double		

Table II

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	

SOUTH

♠ 9 7 5 3 2
♥ 7
♦ A Q 9 6
♣ J 7 3

WEST

♠ K Q 10 6
♥ 10 8 3
♦ 5 4 2
♣ 9 8 5

EAST

♠ A J 8 4
♥ A K 5 4
♦ —
♣ A K Q 10 4

NORTH

♠ —
♥ Q J 9 6 2
♦ K J 10 8 7 3
♣ 6 2

The defence also slipped and helped South to make his 4 ♦ doubled contract.

The following deal at Room II provided a big swing in favour of the Madras team, the Madras pairs making a game at both tables N—S making 4 spades at one and E—W making 5 clubs at another.

NORTH			
♠ A K 8 7 6 5 4 3 2			
♥ 10 7			
♦ 10			
♣ 8			
WEST			
♠ Q J		♠ 10 9	
♥ A Q J 4		♥ K 8 2	
♦ Q 4 3		♦ A 5	
♣ 7 4 3		♣ A K J 10 5 2	
EAST			
SOUTH			
♠ —			
♥ 9 6 5 3			
♦ K J 9 8 7 6 2			
♣ Q 9 6			

Table I

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	4 ♠	5 ♣	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Table II

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	4 ♠	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East's proper bid at table (ii) appears to be 5 clubs, probably as a sacrifice against North's 4 spades contract. West with

all his glistening honour cards was perhaps justified in passing for penalties his partner's double of 4 spades. The 4 spades contract should have been set one for East-West make one club, 1 Diamond and 2 heart tricks but East apparently got cold feet and instead of switching to hearts when in with the Diamond Ace tamely led back the suit and the contract was easily made by N-S.



'If he says he never argues about bridge, he means that he never listens to people who don't agree with him.'

—SOONER: C. B. L. BULLETIN.



*Pro et
contra*

By E. SOLOMON

Question I.—In a recent duplicate match, bidding in the following deal stopped at 2 Diamonds but there was some discussion over the *Correct* or *Best* bid for the East hand. The East-West hands and the bidding were:—

WEST		EAST	
♠	8 7 6 4	♠	Q
♥	A 10	♥	Q J 8 3
♦	9 2	♦	A K 10 8 3
♣	A J 9 6 3	♣	10 7 2

Dealer: East.

Neither side vulnerable.

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1 ♦	1 ♥	2 ♣	—
2 ♦	—	—	—

Please comment as to how the East-West hands should have been bid. Also if a rebid of 3 Clubs by East was preferable to the 2 Diamonds rebid he made.

Answer.—East's opening bid of one diamond does not have our approval. Since the whole of

the subsequent auction by both pairs was coloured by this incorrect opening, East-West arrived at what, in the light of our contributor's enquiry, must have been an unfavourable contract. The best contract for East-West appears to be a part-score in Clubs. But let us forget this for the moment, bid each hand in turn academically, just as though we had not already taken a peep into partner's cards, and see where the bidding leads us.

We are mildly surprised that there is any reader of the I.B.W. so unsophisticated as to open the East hand with one Diamond. The correct treatment, of course, is to open with one Heart and to bid two Diamonds over one Spade or two Clubs by partner: If East bids 1 Heart, South obviously would be deprived of this bid and presumably would be left to gnash his teeth, while waiting to double a high contract in the same suit. The bidding should thereafter follow this track, South and North keeping silent:—

EAST	WEST
1 ♥	2 ♣
2 ♦	2 ♥

Should West rebid Clubs on the second round instead of showing preference for Hearts, East would still pass.

Two Hearts seems to have a very fair chance of making and on the expected lead of a spade would probably be under-written by Lloyds.

If we have to comply with our correspondent's second request we would say that, supposing, East did make the incorrect opening of one Diamond, we certainly do not think his hand contains sufficient muscle to give his partner a lift in Clubs.

Question II.—Playing in a recent trial match, I passed my partner's 3 Spade bid holding :

♠ J 8 3 2
♥ A K
♦ K x x
♣ K J 8 3

* South was dealer, with both sides vulnerable, I was North holding the above hand. The bidding sequence was :

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
—	—	1 ♣	—
1 ♠	—	2 ♠	3 ♣
3 ♠	—	—	—

South held :

♠ A K x x x x
♥ x x x
♦ Q x
♣ x x

Please discuss if North was to be blamed for not bidding the game.

Answer.—Sorry, we cannot find much to discuss here. Who was to blame for the missed game? We would say both North and South in almost equal manner. South should have jumped to four Spades after partner's rise notwithstanding East's bid of three Clubs which he should not have allowed to distract him. North too might well have taken this last step on his own foot, pardon us, hand.

On second thoughts we are inclined to crime South more heavily. Certainly if that craven coward had bid four Spades there would be no problem left for North.

Question III.—What is North's proper response to Partner's take-out-double on this hand?

North :

♠ 10
♥ 10 8 x
♦ A 9 7 4
♣ 8 7 6 5 4

Bidding :

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1 ♣	Dble.	—	—
..	..	..	..

South held :

♠ A J x
♥ A J 9 x x
♦ K J x x x
♣ —

North chose to pass the double for penalties but North-South make 5 or 6 Diamonds without difficulty. Assuming that North does bid 1 ♦ how do North-South reach the game or slam contract? The East-West hands were :

WEST	EAST
♠ Q 10 x x x	♠ K x x x
♥ K x x	♥ Q x
♦ Q x	♦ 10 x
♣ 10 x x	♣ A K Q J x

Answer.—North's proper response to his partner's take-out-double is a bid of one Diamond. His Clubs are too anaemic for a penalty pass and he is obliged to take out the double even, if necessary, in a three-card suit. This is the sort of hand that given to many expert partnerships would result almost certainly in all cases in game bids either in hearts or diamonds; the final contract depending upon slight differences in treatment according to the particular partnership style. We give some examples :

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1 ♣	Dble.	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	..	..

OR

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1 ♣	Dble.	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	4 ♥	..	..
or 5 ♦			

A partnership employing asking bids might even reach a small slam in Diamonds via the following route :—

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1 ♣	Dble.	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♦	..	..

The crucial bid in all cases is North's second call. At this juncture it would be clear to him that his singleton Spade is of inestimable value and he must make the forward-going bid of three Hearts instead of retreating into three Diamonds or, worse still, passing.



Edited by T. S. CHANDRASEKARAN.

Arrangements in connection with the staging of the first Inter-State contest are now being finalised.* Four States have already offered to send representative teams to take part in the event which is likely to be held at Calcutta in mid-January, 1958, West Bengal, Andhra, Bombay and Madras participating. Teams are also expected from Maharashtra and Rajasthan and the members will have an informal meeting after the matches when the rules and regulations for the proposed All-India Body will be framed. A Gold Rolling Cup for the winning team has already been offered by the Bombay State Contract Bridge Association and the inter-State Matches will therefore be watched with keen interest. More than winning or losing, this attempt on the part of the States to come together and form a joint organising body for promoting the game of Contract Bridge is highly commendable and we hope

the work of the proposed body will meet with success.

We regret to report the death of Mr. C. S. Narayanaswami, at Tiruppur, last month. Mr. Narayanaswami was one of our oldest members and was actively connected with the Deccan Bridge League and later with the S. I. B. A.

As a first step to finding out talent, both latent and potential, the S.I.B.A. arranged for a Madras City v. Districts Match during October. Two teams of four from each side met and played 112 boards each (224 boards in all) and the City Team won by a large margin. While the City players displayed superiority in all departments of the game it is still felt by a section of the members that all available mofussil talent was not played in the match for various reasons and the mofussilites, can, if tried again, rise to the

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occasion and give a better account of themselves. This apart, the match itself was played in an ideal atmosphere at the Coimbatore Cosmopolitan Club premises and was highly interesting and educative. Unlike the Madras-Andhra match there was a fairly good audience and the play of the hands was watched with keen interest throughout. The following were the players :

Madras City :

Team No. I :

N. Ramaratam (Captain).
C. V. Venkatesan.
T. R. Samoo Iyer.
B. Venkataramani.
T. S. Chandrasekaran.

Team No. II :

R. Sankaran.
K. Guru Dutt.
S. K. Subramaniam
K. C. Ramaratnam.
A. S. Giri.

Mofussil :

Team No. I :

G. K. Sundaram (Captain).
Subramaniam.
M. Subbiah.
E. N. Mylappan.
Gani.

Team No. II :

Dr. Sahadevan.
Maniappan.
M.R.S. Manickavelu Chettiar.
V. Srinivasan.
K. R. Sundararajan.
Kuttaiyen Chettiar.

It is hoped that this event will also be a regular annual feature and will become the training ground for selection of representative teams for the inter-State matches in future.

G. K. Sundaram who played the host and B. S. Krishnamurthi who was always with the visitors lending a helping hand even at odd hours deserve our special thanks and all praise for the excellent arrangements made.

The efforts to form an All India Contract Bridge Association to which will be affiliated all State Bridge Associations have now borne fruit and the first meeting which took place on 25th January, 1958, at Calcutta, discussed the various preliminary issues in this connection.

Much spade-work still remains to be done and the efforts of members at these deliberations to evolve a plan for the promotion and development of the game and the formation of a strong All India Body, will, we hope, meet with success. Thanks are due in no small measure to the great services rendered by the outgoing Executive Council for taking up these ideas of inter-State and inter-district matches with great zest and putting them into shape.

* The results of the First Inter-Association Match are published elsewhere.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING.

At the Annual General Body meeting of the South Indian Bridge Association held on 25th December, 1957, several important and far-reaching decisions were taken. Among other things the decision to enhance the rates of subscription, though not quite welcome, was more or less inevitable in the context of the ambitious schemes and commitments which the Association has now undertaken.

The finances of the Association have also improved and there is reason to expect more solid achievements from the new office-bearers to be elected at the end of the year.

The Annual General Body meeting also voted an expenditure of Rs. 750 in connection with sending a representative Madras Team to take part in the Inter-State Matches.

The following office-bearers for 1958-59 were elected at the meeting :—

President—

Mr. Justice P. Rajagopalan.

Vice-Presidents—

M. R. S. Manickavelu Chettiar.

K. R. Sundaram Iyer.

Hon. Secretary—

T. K. N. Panikker.

Hon. Asst. Secretary—

J. S. Balakrishna Naidu.

Hon. Treasurer—

Shri T. N. Krishnamurthy Naidu.

Committee Members.

Shri J. Subbuswamy.

Shri T. R. Samu Iyer.

Shri N. Ramaratnam.

Shri K. Gurudutt.

Dr. S. T. Achar.

Shri G. K. Gopalaswamy.

Shri M. Subbiah, Trichy.

Shri S. Ramalingaswamy, Tanjore.

Shri S. K. N. Meyyappa Chettiar, Devakottai.

Shri B. S. Krishnamurthy, Coimbatore.

Shri V. R. Srinivasachari, Cuddalore.

Shri K. R. Soundararajan, Gobichettipalayam.

The Association's annual championship tournaments which were also played at Ashok Vihar, in the last week of December, 1957, were well contested. Two teams from Andhra took part in the main knock-out event for the Sir T. Sadasiva Iyer's Rolling Trophy. Dr. S.T. Achar's Team who won this event beating the T.Nagar Social Club in the finals deserve to be congratulated on their convincing victory. Among the other events, the par contest played on 23rd December, 1957, was most interesting. Sixteen deals specially prepared by Mr. Ewart Kempson (England) were played at 15 tables simultaneously. The deals were all highly interesting and

illustrative. The complete deals together with comments and the correct line of play appear elsewhere in this issue.

ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT.

Detailed results of the various events are :—

FINAL ROUNDS

Knock-out team of four : (Sir T. Sadasiva Iyer's trophy).

Winners : (Dr. Achar's Team.)

S. T. Achar

P. S. Reddy

B. Hanumantha Rao

A. S. Giri

K. C. Ramaratnam.

Runners-up : (T.Nagar Social club).

S. Palaniswamy

P. S. Sadasivam

K. Ramaswamy

R. Sankaran

T. S. Chandrasekaran.

Progressive Pairs :

North-South : Winners :

G. V. Srikantan

J. Subramaniam.

Runners-up :

G. N. Chary

T. R. Samoo.

East-West : Winners :

N. Venkata Rao

Appa Rao.

Runners-up :

Kuttaiyar Chettiar

A. C. Arunachalam Chettiar.

Master Pairs : Section I.

Winners :

D. N. Reddy

A. Ramamurti.

Runners-up :
Suryanarayanan
Y. Doraiswami.

Section II.

Winners :

Sri J. Balakrishna Rao
Sriramamurti.

Runners-up :

M. Subbiah
V. Subramaniam.

Par Event—

Winners : NORTH-SOUTH.

Radhakrishnamurti
P. R. Sastri.

EAST-WEST :

Kumarappan
Meyyappan.

Runners-up : NORTH-SOUTH :

P. S. Sadasivam
S. Palaniswamy.

EAST-WEST :

T. K. N. Panikker.
N. Sriramulu Naidu.

Individual Championship—

Section I.

Winner : G. Nanjundier.

Runner-up : D. N. Reddy.

Section II.

Winner : Rangarajan.

Runner-up : M. K. Sahadevan.

Progressive Duplicate—

Winners : (Ramaratnam's Team).

N. Ramaratnam

C. V. Venkatesan

B. Venkataramani

K. Guru Dutt.

Runners-up :

T. K. N. Panikker
M. Rangaswamy
J. Subbusamy
K. Sivaramakrishnan.

Zonal rounds—

MADRAS CITY :

Knock-out team of four event :

Winners : (T. Nagar Social Club).

K. Ramaswamy
S. Palaniswamy
R. Sankaran
P. S. Sadasivam
T. S. Chandrasekaran.

Runners-up : (Ramaratnam's team).

K. Guru Dutt
N. Ramaratnam
B. Venkataramani
C. V. Venkatesan
G. N. Chary.

Master Pairs :

Mrs. & Mr. Solomon.

Runners-up :

K. Suryanarayana
Sivaramakrishnan.

*Progressive Pairs :**NORTH-SOUTH :*

Sri K. Guru Dutt
E. Solomon.

Runners-up :

G. Hanumantha Rao
H. Appadurai.

EAST-WEST :

T. K. N. Pannikker
Rangaswamy.

Runners-up :

P. S. Sadasivam
R. Sankaran.

COIMBATORE ZONE :

Master Pairs :

M. K. Lakshmiah
Rangaraj

Runners-up :

S. Krishnaswamy
Ch. Subba Rao.

*Progressive Pairs :**NORTH-SOUTH :*

K. Sundaram
V. Srinivasa Iyer.

Runners-up :

S. Krishnaswamy
Ch. Subba Rao.

EAST-WEST :

B. S. Krishnamurti
A. Shanmugasundaram.

Runners-up :

P. R. Kuppuswamy
S. V. Lakshminarayanan.

Team of four :

Kandaswamy
Jagannathan
Subbiah
Muthu
Duraiswamy Naidu.

TANJORE ZONE :

Master Pairs :

T. K. Srinivasan
Appadurai.

Team of four :

K. Srinivasan
Rajendran
Appadurai
Durai.

TIRUCHIRAPALLI ZONE :

Master Pairs :

S. K. Ramaswamy
Partner.

*Progressive Pairs :**NORTH-SOUTH :*

A. K. Sherfuddin
and Partner.

EAST-WEST :

S. V. Natarajan
and Partner.

Team of four event :

Sri Y. Duraiswamy Iyer
Kanakaraj
Suryanarayana
Sherfuddin
Gopu.

CUDDALORE ZONE :

Master Pairs :

Sri K. Padmanabhan
Nilakantan.

KARAIKUDI ZONE :

Master Pairs :

C. Srinivasan
A. Sundararajan.

*Progressive Pairs :**NORTH SOUTH :*

C. Srinivasan
A. Sundararajan.

EAST-WEST :

T. Sundararajan
Meyyappan.

Team of four event :

S. N. Ar. Kuttaiyan Chettiar
Arunachalam Chettiar
Olagappa Chettiar
S. Kasi
L. Arunachalam.

GOBICHETIPALAYAM ZONE :

Team of four event :

K. R. Sundararajan
Nanjunda Iyer

Srikantan

J. Subramaniam
Rajamani.

Other local bridge activity was centred round the Mylapore Club whose annual tournament has just concluded.

The complete results are :—
Duplicate knock-out (Team of Four)

U. S. RAMASUNDARAM ROLLING TROPHY.

Winners : (Dr. Achar's Team.)

S. T. Achar
P. S. Reddy
A. S. Giri
K. C. Ramarathnam
B. Hanumantha Rao.

Runners-up : (K. R. Sundaram Iyer's Team.)

K. R. Sundaram Iyer
T. R. Samoo
K. L. Narayana Rao
C. Devarajan
P. S. Sundaresa Iyer.

Master Pairs : Winners :

V. R. Veeramani
Sriramulu Naidu.

Runners-up :

Mrs. K. Subramanian
„ A. Srinivasan.

Par Event : North-South :

G. N. Chary and K. Gurudutt.

East-West :

A. S. Giri and B. Hanumantha Rao.

* * *
The Mylapore Ladies Club sponsored an Open Tournament, Knockout Team of Four event only, to mark the Silver Jubilee

celebrations of their club. Almost all the leading teams in the City took part. The results were:—

Winners : Vepery Club :

M/s. Sadhuram Dhawe

Eipe

Mathew

Punnoose

A. R. Ramanathan.

Runners-up : Burmah-Shell Club :

M/s. L. Ramaswamy

R. Rajagopalan

P. K. Janakiram

S. Tharakaraman.

* * *

The Madras City League Tournament which has just concluded provided an interesting and keen contest this year. The final position of teams is :

	Won.	Lost
P. S. Reddy's Team	10	.
M. I. C.	9	2
N. Ramaratnam's Team	9	2
S. V. S.*	8	3
K.R. Sundaram Iyer's Team	6	5
Baliah's Team	5	6
Burmah-Shell 'A'	5	6
Madras Gymkhana 'B'	2	9
Cosmopolitan Club	2	9
Burmah-Shell 'B'	2	9
Gymkhana 'A'	1	10
M. C. O. P.	1	10

P. S. Reddy's team and the Modern Institute of Commerce

who had lost only one match in the series will replay to resolve the tie.**

Guru Dutt's Trophy for the winner in "B" Zone, viz., (for teams who are neither the winners nor the runners up in the previous League Tournaments) was won by the Suguna Vilasa Sabha. Our congratulations to the winners and runners-up.

* * *

The T'Nagar Social Club's Annual Tournaments produced a record number of entries, especially in the Open Pairs event and the one-day events. One hopes that this revival of interest will be sustained. The results are given below :

Progressive Pairs :

North-South : Winners :

G. N. Viswanathan and U. C. Radhakrishnan.

Runners-up :

V. V. Devanathan and V. Ganapathi.

East-West : Winners :

G. Hanumatha Rao and Henry Appadurai.

Runners-up :

A. S. Giri and S. Ram.

Master Pairs :

Winners :

G. N. Chary and C. V. Venkatesan.

* S.V.S. winners of the Guru Dutt Trophy for Group 'B'.

** P. S. Reddy's team and M.I.C. tied for the first place. The tie was resolved by a match in which P. S. Reddy's Team emerged as winners.

Runners-up :

T. K. N. Panikkar and M. Rangaswami.

Open Pairs :

Winners :

S. Muthukrishna Iyer and E. V. Thiruvengadam.

Runners-up :

A. R. Krishnaswami and Venkataraman.

Progressive Duplicate :

Winners :

T. R. Samoo, P. S. Sadasivam, R. Sankaran and T. S. Chandrasekaran.

Runners-up :

Suguna Vilasa Sabha, (A. R. Krishnaswamy, Venkataraman, C. S. Padmanabhan and T. Srinivasan).

Individual Championship :

Winners :

N. P. Sarathy and Dr. N. Vijayaraghavan.

Team of Four D. K. O.

Winners :

P. S. Reddy.

Dr. S. T. Achar.

A. S. Giri.

B. Hanumantha Rao.

K. C. Ramarathnam.

Runners-up :

N. Ramaratnam.

C. V. Venkatesan.

E. Solomon.

B. Venkataramani and G. N. Chary.

* * *

The Cosmopolitan Club, Tanjore, had their annual open tournament during the last week of September. Here again there was a record number of entries as many as 22 teams participating in the knock-out team-of-four event. These matches were all keenly contested, Sundaram Iyer's team from Madras won the event eventually prevailing over N. Ramaratnam's team, also from Madras. The latter tied with a Karaikudi team in the Semi-final rounds and had to play an extra eight deals to decide the issue. The results were :

Team of Four :

Winners :

K. R. Sundaram Iyer.

J. Subbuswami.

K. Guru Dutt.

G. K. Gopalaswami.

T. R. Samoo.

Runners-up :

N. Ramaratnam.

C. V. Venkatesan.

G. N. Chary.

R. Sankaran.

T. S. Chandrasekaran.

Pairs Progressive :

East-West : Winners :

G. K. Gopalaswami.

K. Guru Dutt.

Runners-up :

Y. Duraiswami.
Gopu.

North-South : Winners :

K. R. Sundararajan.
Chandramouli.

Runners-up :

S. K. Meyyappan.
Sundararajan.

*Master Pairs :**Section I : Winners :*

K. R. Sundaram Iyer.
N. Ramaratnam.

Runners-up :

E. N. Mylappan.
Gani.

Section II : Winners :

Rajendran.
Durai.

Runners-up :

Kasi.
Arunachalam.

*Progressive Duplicate :**Section I :*

B. S. Krishnamurthy.
Ramaswami.
Subbaratnam.
G. K. Sundaram.

Section II :

E. N. Mylappan.
Gani.
Gopu.
Y. Duraisami.

Elaborate arrangements had been made by the Cosmopolitan Club for the lodging of the various visiting teams. Mr. Ramalingaswami, Col. C. S. V. Ramanan, Adige, and Mrs. Adige (who distributed the prizes.) T. S. Doraiswamy Iyer (our Chief Tournament Director) and the numerous willing workers who pulled together in attending to the conduct of the matches and also to the comforts of the visitors deserve our grateful thanks. The occasion was also utilised for a meeting of the Executive Council of the Association where after a lengthy discussion, the basis for the City-Mofussil match and the question of selection of players for future representative matches was agreed upon.

* * *

The Tiruchy Union Club Golden Jubilee Contract Bridge Open Tournament concluded on 1-12-57. Three events (1) Team of four, knockout, (2) Pairs progressive and (3) Master pairs were conducted and there was a good response from the mofussil and 26 pairs competed in each pair event and eleven teams competed in the Team of four knockout event. The Master pairs event was conducted in two sessions and the following are the final results :—

*Master Pairs : 1st Session.**Winners :*

Sri M. Subbiah and V. Subramaniam.

Runners-up :

Sri T. R. Narayanachar and arvodaya.

*2nd Session.**Winners :*

Sri E. N. Mylappan and N. M. Ghani.

Runners-up :

Dr. Joseph and M. A. Arunahalam Chettiar.

*Progressive Pairs : North-South.**Winners :*

Sri E. N. Mylappan and S. Suryanarayanan.

Runners-up :

Sri M. Subbiah and V. Subramaniam.

East-West : Winners :

Sri M. R. S. Manickavel and C. Srinivasan.

Runners-up :

S. Parthasarathi and Dr. M.K. Sahadevan.

*Team of four knock-out :—*As the finals could not be played within the time, the finalists agreed to divide the prizes and as such the following are declared the joint holders of Dr. T. V. S. Sastri Memorial Trophy donated for this event by Mrs. Kalyani Ammal and Sri G. Mahadevan.

1. M. Subbiah, V. Subramaniam, S. Parthasarathy, R. Nataraja Iyer, and Dr. M. K. Sahadevan.

2. S. R. V. Thatham, S. T. Chari, N. Gopalakrishna Iyer, S. Ratnam, and S. V. Natarajan.

* * *

The first Inter-State tournament in Contract Bridge was played at Calcutta from 22nd January to 29th January, 1958. Four State Association teams representing the Andhra, Bengal, Bombay and South Indian Bridge Association (Madras) played 96 deals against the other teams on a league basis. The Andhra Association Team which emerged victorious deserve our warm congratulations for becoming the first National Champions in Contract Bridge. From all accounts the Andhra players appear to have played with a tenacity of purpose and fine team spirit. The final position of the teams was :—

Andhra	—	5 points
W. Bengal	—	3 points
Bombay	—	3 points
Madras	—	1 point.

As in the previous years the selection of the Madras (South Indian Bridge Association) team presented a number of difficulties to the selectors. With their seasoned pairs unable to make the trip at the last minute, Madras fielded a somewhat weaker combination and with six players only instead of the eight players allowed for each team. Nevertheless the team played well and were unlucky to lose. These

reverses have set the selectors thinking and a more broadbased selection has now been undertaken. A selection tournament in which all the local and mofussil teams have been invited to take part is now in progress and

the final selection will be made from the winning team. This step augurs well and one hopes that new talent will eventually assert itself and help to shape a strong representative team in future years.



"What's your pair number, please?" he asked of one opponent.

"Ten" was the answer.

A little later absent-mindedly he asked the same question of the other opponent and got the same answer.

"That" observed the first opponent tartly "is the only thing we've agreed on all night".



First Bridge Player : "I can't get into my shoes".

Second player : "What? Feet swelled too?"

N. E. B. C. BULLETIN.

PAR DEALS.

Set By E. KEMPSON.

DEAL 1 :

♠ 9 8	♠ A 6 3
♥ A 10 4	♥ J 8 7 5 2
♦ K 9 5 3 2	♦ A 6 4
♣ 6 4 2	♣ K 3
♠ K J 7 4	♠ Q 10 5 2
♥ 6 3	♥ K Q 9
♦ Q J 10	♦ 8 7
♣ A 8 7 5	♣ Q J 10 9

Official Bidding :

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	1 N.T.	All	Pass

Official Contract :

East to play at 4 Hearts.
South leads ♣ Q.

Declarer's only hope is that the adverse trumps are evenly distributed and he should therefore attack trumps at every stage.

DEAL 2:

♠ 6 5 2	♠ 7 3
♥ 6 4 3	♥ 8 5
♦ 8 5 4 2	♦ A 9 6
♣ 8 4 3	♣ K J 10 9 7 5
♠ A K 8 4	♠ Q J 10 9
♥ A K 7 2	♥ Q J 10 9
♦ Q J 10	♦ K 7 3
♣ 6 2	♣ A Q

Official Bidding :

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
Pass	1 ♠	Dbl.	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 N.T.	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 N.T.	All Pass

South leads ♠ Q. Dummy wins and leads a Club on which East plays the 9.

South should lead the ♦ K when in with the club trick as it is now obvious to him that declarer's entry to cash his club suit when established is ♦ A. If ♦ K is ducked, Dummy should attack ♠ suit again to set the contract.

DEAL 3 :

♠ K 10 9 7 2	♠ J 3
♥ 6	♥ 10 8 7 3 2
♦ 7 6 4 2	♦ K 8 3
♣ 7 5 4	♣ 6 3 2
♠ 6	♠ A Q 8 5 4
♥ A Q J 5 4	♥ K 8
♦ Q J 10 5	♦ A 9
♣ K J 8	♣ A Q 10 9

Official Bidding :

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	2 ♥
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West leads ♦ Q.

Declarer should duck the opening lead and then eliminate

◇ Suit by trump entries in dummy and then lead ♣ Q from hand. The alternative line of playing ♥ K to trick 3 will also work though this is surmised as an inferior line of play by the composer.

DEAL 4:

NORTH		WEST		EAST		SOUTH	
♠ 6 5		♠ K Q J 10 8 2		♠ A 9 4 3		♠ 7	
♥ K Q J 8 3		♥ 2		♥ A 10 7		♥ 9 6 5 4	
♦ 2		♦ A Q J		♦ 8 7 6		♦ K 9 5 3 2	
♣ K J 8 4 2		♣ A Q 5		♣ 8 6 3		♣ 6 4 2	

Official Bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠	Pass
4 N.T.	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

North leads ♥ K.

A perfect elimination play not being available due to lack of entries in dummy, Declarer's best line is to win the opening trick, lead a low diamond for a finesse, enter the dummy by a high trump, ruff a low heart,

enter dummy again by a trump, finesse a ♦ again, cash ♦ A, enter dummy with the low trump (still preserved) to chuck off a low club on the ♥ 10 to end play North.

DEAL 5:

NORTH		WEST		EAST		SOUTH	
♠ 4 2		♠ K		♠ J 10 9 8 5		♠ A Q 7 6 2	
♥ A Q J 2		♥ 8 7 3 2		♥ K 10 3		♥ 9 6 4	
♦ 7 6 4 2		♦ Q 8 5 3		♦ J 10 9		♦ A K	
♣ A 7 6 2		♣ J 10 9 3		♣ 5 4		♣ K Q 3	

Official Bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 N.T.	Pass
3 N.T.	Pass	Pass	Pass

West leads ♣ J.

The club lead is won by the declarer and a low Heart is led to the Queen in dummy. If East returns a Spade, Declarer should not lose his Queen in the first round to provide against singleton King with West. A safety play.

DEAL 6:

♠ Q 10 9 4 3		♠ 8	
♥ 4 3		♥ A K 10 7 2	
♦ 4 3		♦ Q 9 2	
♣ 9 8 2		♣ K J 4 3	

♠ J 6 5		♠ 8	
♥ 9 8		♥ A K 10 7 2	
♦ A K J 7 6		♦ Q 9 2	
♣ A Q 6		♣ K J 4 3	

♠ A K 7 2		♠ 8	
♥ Q J 6 5		♥ A K 10 7 2	
♦ 8 5		♦ Q 9 2	
♣ 10 7 5		♣ K J 4 3	

Official Bidding:

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1 ♥	1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All Pass

South leads King and then the Ace of Spades.

Declarer should trump the Spade return and after playing top trumps run his diamond and club suits. A safety play.

DEAL 7:

♠ 4 2		♠ Q 8 5	
♥ A Q 6 5		♥ 9 8 3 2	
♦ A K Q 4		♦ 9 8 2	
♣ J 10 8		♣ 5 4 3	

♠ 10 7 3		♠ Q 8 5	
♥ J 10 7		♥ 9 8 3 2	
♦ J 10 5		♦ 9 8 2	
♣ A K Q 2		♣ 5 4 3	

♠ A K J 7 6		♠ Q 8 5	
♥ K 4		♥ 9 8 3 2	
♦ 7 6 3		♦ 9 8 2	
♣ 9 7 6		♣ 5 4 3	

Official Bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass

West leads A K and Q of Clubs.

This is an easy defensive Par. W can easily see that even a Knave in trump with E can promote his 10 if the last club is continued.

DEAL 8:

NORTH		WEST		EAST		SOUTH	
♠ —		♠ A Q 9 7 6 5 4		♠ 10 3 2		♠ K J 8	
♥ K 10 6 5		♥ 9 4 2		♥ J 8 7		♥ A Q 3	
♦ A Q 6		♦ 10 9		♦ K J 8 5 3		♦ 7 4 2	
♣ A J 8 7 5 3		♣ 4		♣ 10 2		♣ K Q 9 6	

Official Bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
5 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

East leads ♠ 10.

Spade suit is eliminated and after adverse trumps are drawn three rounds of Heart (A, Q and low) are played. North should insert his 10 on the 3rd round of Heart as a measure of perfect safety.

DEAL 9 :

♠ A	♠ 5 4
♥ Q 9	♥ J 6 4 2
♦ AK 8 7 6 4 2	♦ Q J 5
♣ 7 3 2	♣ K Q J 10 9
	♠ K Q J 10 9 8 7
	♥ A 8
	♦ —
	♣ A 8 6 4
	♠ 6 5 3 2
	♥ K 10 7 5 3
	♦ 10 9 3
	♣ 5

Official Bidding :

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	4 N.T.	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	5 ♠		

South leads ♣ 5.

The best line for the Declarer is to win the opening lead, enter to the Dummy's ♠ A, cash ♦ A & K (discarding Heart A and a club from hand) ruff a third diamond and run all the trumps and end-play South by a low Heart.

DEAL 10 :

♠ 8 3	♠ A Q 6
♥ Q J 7 2	♥ A 10 9
♦ 10 6	♦ A Q 5 2
♣ Q 9 8 7 4	♣ 10 3 2
	♠ 10 9 7 4
	♥ K 8 6 3
	♦ J 9 8
	♣ 6 5
	♠ K J 5 2
	♥ 5 4
	♦ K 7 4 6
	♣ A K J

Official Bidding :

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	Pass

North plays at 6 NT. East leads ♥ 4.

East and West should co-operate in discards so that when the declarer after cashing his Spade and diamond tricks tries to endplay West by playing Heart 10, East should take the lead and break through a club.

DEAL 11 :

♠ —	♠ A K Q J 10 7 4 2
♥ K Q J 7 6 3 2	♥ 8 4
K Q 9 8	♦ 5 3
J 9	♣ 10
	♠ 9 6 5 3
	♥ 9 5
	♦ J 4
	♣ K 8 7 4 2
	♠ 8
	♥ A 10
	♦ A 10 7 6 2
	♣ A Q 6 5 3

Official Bidding :

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♦	1 ♥	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	4 N.T.	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	7 ♠	All Pass

East leads ♠ 3.

A club finesse is necessary for the 12th trick and a Vienna coup (squeezing West between ♥ and ♦) will give the 13th trick.

DEAL 12 :

♠ A K 8 2	♠ J 4
♥ K Q 7 6	♥ 10 5 4 3 2
♦ Q 9 5	♦ J 10 8
♣ J 2	♣ 8 5 3
	♠ Q 7 6 3
	♥ —
	♦ A K 7 6 3 2
	♣ K 9 4
	♠ 10 9 5
	♥ A J 9 8
	♦ 4
	♣ A Q 10 7 6

Official Bidding :

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
4 N.T.	Pass	5 ♦	Pass

6 ♠ by West. North leads ♦ J. The lead is suggestive of a singleton diamond somewhere preferably with South and the Declarer's best line of play is to pull out adverse trumps, cash two more diamond tricks and discard a low club from hand on the fourth diamond and then lead a low club from dummy to his knave. South is endplayed.

DEAL 13 :

♠ K J 8 6	♠ A Q 3
♥ 10 4	♥ Q 7 4
♦ Q 8 5 2	♦ A K
♣ K J 10	♣ A Q 8 5 2
	♠ 10 9 7
	♥ K J 9 8 2
	♦ 6 3
	♣ 9 6 4
	♠ 5 4 2
	♥ A 6 3
	♦ J 10 9 7 4
	♣ 7 3

East leads ♠ 10.

Official Bidding :

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
3 N.T.	Pass	Pass	Pass

The best hope for the contract is to get 4 tricks in clubs and the safest way for this is to play a low one from hand straightway and then enter dummy to finesse the King of Clubs through West.

DEAL 14 :

♠ A Q J 3	♠ K 10 9 2
♥ K Q 4	♥ J 10 7 5 2
♦ 6 4 2	♦ A 3
♣ K 5 2	♣ J 3
	♠ 5 4
	♥ A 8 3
	♦ Q J 9 7 5
	♣ A 9 3
	♠ 8 7 6
	♥ 9 6
	♦ K 10 8
	♣ Q 10 8 7 6

Official Bidding :

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 N.T.	Pass	3 N.T.	All Pass

South leads ♣ 7.

North should repeat Club suit if declarer ducks. When Diamond suit is first played by Declarer from Dummy North should allow South to take the trick with his K. When South plays club North should jettison his ♦ A.

DEAL 15:

♠ Q 4
 ♥ A K Q 10 8
 ♦ A 8 7 3
 ♣ 5 2
 ♠ K J 10 ♠ 9 8 7 6 3 2
 ♥ — ♥ 6 4
 ♦ K 10 9 2 ♦ Q 6 5 4
 ♣ Q J 9 8 7 3 ♣ 6
 ♠ A 5
 ♥ J 9 7 5 3 2
 ♦ J
 ♣ A K 10 4

Official Bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
x	x	1 ♥	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
4 NT.	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
7 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

West leads Club Q.

A dummy reversal and Vienna coup will effect a squeeze on West between ♠ K and Hearts.

DEAL 16:

♠ 9 8 5
 ♥ A K Q 6 4
 ♦ 7
 ♣ Q J 6 5
 ♠ A 6 ♠ K 10 4
 ♥ 5 ♥ 9 2
 ♦ A K Q 10 9 6 ♦ J 5 4 2
 ♣ K 9 8 2 ♣ A 7 4 3
 ♠ Q J 7 3 2
 ♥ J 10 8 7 3
 ♦ 8 3
 ♣ 10

Official Bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♦	1 ♥	2 ♦	2 ♥
4 N.T.	Pass	5 ♦	Pass

Draw adverse trumps, eliminate Spade suit, lead a low club and duck it with 7 from dummy. A safety play for 3 sure club tricks.



At the Summer Nationals, a pair was asked whether they played weak or strong No-Trump and received the reply: "Nothing is weak but our Bridge and our brains. That's why we play this game".

JOTTINGS AND CUTTINGS.

WORLD CHAMPIONS.

The World Championship Match concluded in January 1958 at Como (Italy) and in a three cornered fight the Italian team (the holders) again emerged winners. For the first time a South American Team also took part in the championship. The United States Team was captained by Mr. J. R. Crawford and consisted of S. Sildor, Rapee, Becker, Al Roth and Stone. The line up of the Italian Team was the same as last year; Chiaradia, Forquet, Belladonna, Massimo d'Alelio, Siniscalco, and Avarelli.

The Italian Team won by 37 IMP. over 164 boards the match against the United States. The South American team lost to both the Italian and the United States teams by 73 and 62 IMP. respectively.



PROPRIETIES.

On the subject of proprieties—

There are not many players in the top class who refrain from observing the proprieties, though there are a few who are alleged to be unethical. It is all too easy to throw the tag of immorality and those of us who gossip at the 19th hole are sometimes guilty of expressing uncharitable thoughts. A player who bids after his partner's hesitation is not, *ipso facto* un-

ethical. Indeed a player who refrains from bidding in such circumstances may just be a moral coward. Where, for example, one side is bidding Hearts and the other side Spades the opponent's hesitation before passing a bid of four Spades should not automatically force his partner to pass; furthermore the statement that "Your slow pass, partner, has prevented me from taking any action" is, as often as not, gratuitous nonsense. Suppose you hold ♥ A K x x x and an outside ace and that, with the aid of two raises from your partner, you have bid to four hearts. Your right hand opponent bids four Spades, he and his partner having bid that suit from the start of the auction. If you take a few seconds to ponder whether to bid five hearts or double or pass, and then pass, why should your partner's bid of five hearts be unethical? If he is always going to bid 5 hearts he is fully entitled to do so after your slow pass.

If otherwise, it would be to encourage the directional slow-passing bid—Ewart Kempson, Editor, *Bridge Magazine*.



CONTRIBUTIONS.

The editor once again requests readers of the BRIDGE WORLD and lovers of the game

of Bridge to send in their contributions for publication. The delay in the issue of the magazine is largely due to the insufficiency of matter to make up a sizable issue. If any difficulty is experienced in the submission of full and complete articles as such, we would like to suggest that at least interesting or unusual hands that one may come across may be passed on to us with or without any comments on the bidding or play. The players could remain anonymous. Will readers bear this request in mind and note to jot down any interesting or freak hands and send them on to us?

We would like to draw the attention of our readers once again to the prize offered by Mr. T. K. Srinivasa Iyengar, the veteran bridge player of Tanjore, for the best article published in the pages of this magazine.



A NEW FEATURE.

It is proposed to start a feature similar to that which appeared in the AMERICAN BRIDGE WORLD a few years ago. The feature will be "Their favourite hands". It is proposed to request some of the top players in the State to give one or two hands that they consider the

most interesting or difficult that they played or defended during their Bridge career. The co-operation of Bridge players is necessary to make this feature a success, and we have no doubt that we can look forward to such co-operation from our readers and Bridge players.



A CHRISTMAS WISH.

DEAR SANTA,

What do I want for Christmas?
I'd like a crystal ball
For use in bridge, to answer
My problems one and all.
I'd ask it for assistance
If I should be in trouble,
And it would tell me when to bid,
Or pass, or raise, or double.
When I'm in doubt, I'd ask it:
"Is my opponent bluffing?
Should I rebid? Should I finesse?
Is this the time for ruffing?"
I'd ask it all these questions
And many, many more
And I'd win a lot of master points
With a most impressive score.

Hopefully,
FONDA BRIDGE.

P. S.—It would be nice if you would give one to my partner, too!

(Courtesy—*New Hampshire Bridge News.*)



SELECTION OF TEAMS.

The selection of teams to represent the Association in Inter-Association and Inter-State matches has been a big and vexing problem. The authorities of the S. I. B. A. have made a new departure this time for the selection of the team to represent the Association against the Andhra Association.

It will be interesting to know how such selections are made in the United States, France and Great Britain. None of them have, however, evolved any satisfactory procedure or system of selection. In the United States it has now been settled that the choice will be between the team that wins the Vanderbilt Cup and the team that wins the Master's event at the National championship. In France the selection is made by the playing of over 500 deals by select pairs and the first three pairs that get highest score computed in terms of match points are to be invited to represent the country. In Britain there was some misunderstanding last year over the method of selection, and this year they have invited Reese and Schapiro to the team and the remaining four players are to be selected from a series of

Trial matches to be played between four Teams of Four invited for this purpose. Reese and Schapiro along with the winning team of four players will represent their country.



HOW TO DECIDE PROTESTS.

An old time Duplicate bridge Director who was known for the remarkable speed with which he disposed of protests was asked by a close friend to explain it.

"I always listen to the protestant, and then make a decision."

"Never to the other side?"

"Well, I did at first, but I found that it confused me."

—SOONER: C. B. L. BULLETIN.



ANOTHER WIN FOR CHARLIE GOREN.

Captaining a Regency Club Team, representing the U. S. Charles Goren won the round-robin contest between five Teams. The Match was played at Punta del Este, Uruguay in February. Goren's Team won all the matches. The other contestants were from Chile, Uruguay, Brazil and Argentine. Goren's Team did not include some of the regular members of his troupe.



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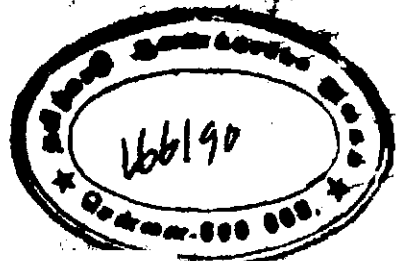
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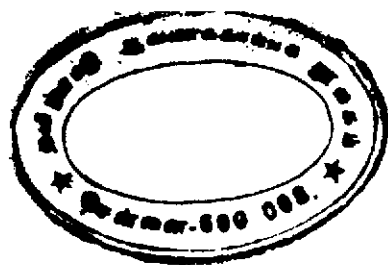
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FORCING BIDS

By N. MUTHUKRISHNA IYER, B.A., B.L., *Tanjore.*

PART I

General.

Culbertson says, "Many years ago in auction bridge I held :

NIL : K Q J 10 : A K 5 4 2 :
A K Q 10.

We were in a rubber game and the opponent on my right, a sound player, bid originally four spades. My partner was a relative stranger but looked intelligent. I bid five spades. Partner bid six clubs, holding 8 6 5 : 9 7 4 : 9 3 : 9 7 6 3 2.

We made six clubs with a little luck, and a large profit. That was the birthday of the Forcing Principle, years before contract bridge." His instructions to his partner, J. Carpenter, in 1930, were: "Never open the bid with more than one : never pass when partner jumps : always jump the bid with a strong hand." This is the genesis of the Approach Method or Rule which means that when opening or responding

prefer a suit bid of one to any other—subject to the rules relating to game and slam forces, etc. Opening one-bid in a suit is the most economical, ideal and strategic bid in contract bridge.

A necessary corollary of the Approach Method and an integral part of the same, and the basis of every system without exception is the Forcing Principle. Ely Culbertson is credited to have originated and developed this principle in 1927-28. Bidding should be opened as low as possible to facilitate exchange of information and to ensure at the same time that the bidding also will never die prematurely. It aims at, without risking a pass, (i) choosing the best bid in the partnership hands—for a game, a contract of one's own or a double of the opponent's contract for penalties (game force) :

(ii) locating the key cards for slam (slam force) :

(iii) finding out the limit of partner's response (one round force).

Forcing bids or demand bids are not mere strength-showing bids : they are much more powerful and no option is given to the responder but to bid according to the nature of the force. It is a fallacy to say that almost every time one partner makes a bid, the other is forced to respond or rebid : it is equally fallacious to say that the opening bidder is obligated to go on bidding if the responder so much as winks an eyelid to show that he is alive. Bids are forcing according to their nature, not merely because they are bids. When a forcing bid is made, the partner is compelled to open his mouth whether he wills it or not and it is his duty to bid again unconditionally—so long as there is no intervening bid by the opponent—irrespective of any or added values and keep the bidding open : the Pass ceases to exist : "Theirs not to reason why but theirs to do or die." Ely says "people have been shot for less". "A true game forcing bid may not be passed even if your previous bid was out and out psyche on a blank hand" or even if you are convinced that your partner—the forcer—is a congenital idiot, the bidding must go on. "The obligation to reach a game after a two-bid, like the

obligation to respond to any forcing bid is a matter of good bidding and not a matter of bridge law. Legally a player cannot be forced to bid at any time. Occasionally a violation of partnership understanding yields a profit but this is short-sighted economy because it risks more in loss of partnership confidence". It is observed that, "Neither the Culbertson systems nor any other system can supersede the official laws of contract bridge and though such and such a bid is played and/or announced as forcing in the system, it is entirely lawful for any player to back out of his own system whenever he chooses and pass instead of making a bid."

Bids—whether natural, artificial or conventional—which by their very nature compel and demand a response from partner are "captain bids" and one who makes these bids is known as the "Captain"; and the responder is known as the "soldier" because he obeys. Bids which are neither of the captain nor of the soldier variety are non-committal bids leaving an option to the partner to proceed as the exigencies of the situation demand. Some bids more or less urge, and some others blast according to the nature and degree of strength. There is a clear dichotomy between forcing and non-forcing bids : there is no such thing as "semi-forcing" or "95

per cent." forcing, or "practically forcing" in the Culbertson System, while some other experts of whom Charles H. Goren is one speak of "semi-forcing" bids, etc. These "semi-forcing" bids of Goren and others are classed in the Culbertson system as encouraging, urging or strength-showing ones of the non-forcing category to which partner may pass if his previous bid was not up to snuff.

Some bids are forcing to game, some are forcing for a round only, and some are urging and strength-showing : the nature of the force should always be kept in mind. A forcing bid may appear at any stage of the auction, (i) at the very beginning by the opener, (ii) after the opening during the earlier stages by any player, (iii) or at about the very near end of the auction. Who and at what time he makes the bid are irrelevant but it is only the nature of the bid that gives it the force. There can be a series of forcing bids. A forcing bid is clear and an inferential force is oblique.

"State where you can and hint only when you must." In spite of any forcing situation a penalty double may always be passed.

The forcing nature of the bids are the same in Rubber or Duplicate Bridge. Because the philosophy of bidding in duplicate competition bridge is a bit varied from that of the Rubber Bridge, a jump-suit forcing take-out is

resorted to whenever possible and more freely, because in duplicate bridge the opening hand, with a shaded bid, is permitted to pass a suit take-out, double raise or 2 no-trump take-out.

Forcing situations current in the Culbertson system are treated herein : yet forcing situations current in other systems are also indicated for the purpose of comparison or contrast.

GAME FORCING BIDS.

"A bid of exactly one more trick than is necessary, whether an opening bid, a raise, or a rebid, and whether in a suit or in no-trump, is, with rare exceptions, forcing to game. After the bidding has been opened, any jump bid, when such a jump is exactly one trick higher than needed to overcall the last bid, is reserved for a game-forcing bid." A bid in a suit first bid by the opponent in some instances and any response to a bid that is strength-showing but not forcing are also listed as game-forcing bids. Bids forcing to game simultaneously obligate both the partners to reach game or double the opponents for penalties. Culbertson classifies these bids as "limited and unlimited." A limited game-forcing bid announces no aim beyond that of reaching game, and so is not forcing once game has been reached. An unlimited forcing bid hints at a slam and is forcing for at least one round even if game has been

reached. An opening two-bid in a suit, or a jump take-out or rebid in a new suit, is forcing for at least one round even if (with a part-score) game has been reached. A two no-trump take-out or double raise of an opening bid is not forcing if it is enough for game.

North-South have 40 on score. The bidding :

S.	W.	N.	E.
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣ or 3 ♦	Forcing
2 NT.	or 3 ♥		Not Forcing.

These are the game-forcing bids :

A. Any opening two bid in any suit is game forcing.

B. A jump response to partner's opening bid of one in a suit or no-trump is normally a game force and raises a fair hope of a slam.

C. A jump rebid of exactly one trick in a new suit by the opener after his partner has responded to the opening bid is forcing to game.

D. A bid in the suit first bid by the opponent is sometimes forcing to game.

E. Any bid in a suit after reaching game level, if that bid is short of a game, is forcing.

F. Any response to a bid that is strength showing but not forcing, is forcing to game.

These are dealt with in detail now.

A. Any opening two-bid in any suit is game forcing.—The Four Aces in their book credit Waldemar Von Zedtwitz (also known as "Waldy" or the "Baron" or the "Del Sorto of the Bridge Table") with being the originator of the forcing two-bid in the suit and the negative two-no-trump response. This is the only opening bid that is forcing to game unconditionally and demands an eventual game contract even when responder has a blank hand (and is forcing for at least a round even if enough for game when there is already a part-score in rubber bridge). If there is no obliging intervening bid by the opponent, partner is bound to respond and keep responding no matter how many times or how empty a hand he may hold : and the Pass is barred till a game is reached or a penalty is assured. An opening two bid in any suit is of the unlimited type and is forcing for at least a round in part-score situations—to which if partner makes a positive response, i.e., a raise, suit take-out, or jump to three no-trumps, the opener must bid again. If the opener (two-bidder) names a new suit, it is again forcing for a round : thereafter when and if a new suit is bid by either partner it is forcing for a round. Only if either partner rebids in no-trumps or in a suit already bid, the force lapses ; but if the player wishes to make a forcing bid in the suit already

named, he must jump one trick in that suit.

Part Score. N.S. 40.

S.	W.	N.	E.
----	----	----	----

(a) 2 ♠ Pass 2 N.T. Not forcing.

(b) 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♣ or ♦ or ♥ or ♠ NT. Forcing.

(c) 2 ♠ Pass 2 NT. or 3 ♣ 3 ♦ Forcing.

Theodore A. Lightner was the first player who advocated in print that a forcing two-bid may be dropped short of a game sometimes. *The Limit-Two Bid of Culbertson* is a special form of the forcing two-bid which has to be announced to the opponents at the outset. The essential difference between this special form of the forcing-bid and the regulation forcing two-bid is that in this instance a rebid by the opener in the same suit at the level of three following the negative two no-trump response only by the partner takes the force away, and the partner shall decide if he shall pass or go further ; and if the partner's original response is anything but two no-trumps the force continues to game. For example.

S.	W.	N.	E.
(a)	2 ♥	Pass	2 N.T. Pass
	3 ♥		Not forcing.
(b)	2 ♥	Pass	2 N.T. Pass
	3 ♣ or ♦ or ♠		Forcing to game.

	S.	W.	N.	E.
(c)	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
	3 ♣		Forcing to game.	
(d)	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT.	Pass
	3 ♣		Forcing to game.	

The Weak-two bid.—A recent development in the Four Aces System and the familiar opening bid of Schenken, Stayman, Crawford and others—is the opening two-bid in any suit except clubs, showing a hand of less high card strength than an opening one-bid, the deficiency in honor-strength being made up by winners, by length, strength and distribution of the trump suit and the hand as a whole. These are mild pre-emptive bids doing things to prevent the opponents getting too high. Opening two in any suit except clubs is not forcing and opening two in clubs is game-forcing. This is not part of the Culbertson system and has to be announced to the opponents at the outset.

In the *Limit Two-bid of Myron Field*, the two-club opening is unconditionally forcing to game except in those cases where after a two diamond response the opener shows a maximum two no-trump hand *a la* Stayman. Two-bids in other suits are forcing for a round only.

In the *Jacoby Two-bid* (designed by Oswald Jacoby) all opening two-bids—excepting one rare exception—are forcing to game : opening bid of two clubs differs

from an opening bid of two in any other suit; a bid of two spades, hearts or diamonds is an ordinary jump bid, opener guaranteeing a singleton or a void suit in his hand but an opening bid of two clubs may be a strong forcing two-bid without a singleton or void or it may be an immensely powerful hand.

In the *Two-club convention*, in the C.A.B. and the British Acoll Methods an opening two-club is the only game-forcing bid: opening two in other suits are not game-forcing but strongly invitational. In the Acoll Method, following the response of two no-trump to an opening bid of two in diamonds, hearts or Spades, the opener must jump to four level if he does not want to be left in.

In the *Vienna System* opening two-bid in any suit is an opening Asking Bid and is a qualified game-force; the opener is the Captain of the bid and he can stop going to game, but not the responder.

In the *Gladiator System* opening two-bid in the club suit only but not in any other, is a game force.

B.—A jump response to partner's opening bid of one in suit or no-trump is normally a game force and raises a fair hope of a slam. The jump response is either a double raise in the major but not the minor suits, or a jump shift

take-out in a new suit or no-trump. "After the bidding has been opened, any jump bid, when such a jump is exactly one trick higher than needed to overcall the last bid, is reserved for a game forcing bid." The opener is obligated to go game regardless of the fact that he may have opened on absolute minima.

	S.	W.	N.	E.
(i)	1 ♣	Pass	3 ♣	Forcing to game.
(ii)	1 ♦	Pass	3 ♦	Not forcing at all.
(iii)	1 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	or ♥ or ♠ Forcing to game.
(iv)	1 ♣	Pass	3 ♦	or ♥ or ♠ or 2 NT Forcing to game.
(v)	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥.	
	1 ♣	Pass	2 NT.	

Not forcing but only strength showing since the jump is on a rebid.

(vi)	1 ♣	Pass	2 NT	Game Force.
(vii)	1 ♥	Pass	3 ♣	Is a double jump, and is a pre-emptive bid: not forcing at all.
(viii)	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♠ 2 NT or 3 ♣ or 3 ♦	Game Force.

In sequence (viii) if west should intervene with an overcall North should jump one trick higher than that last overcall.

For example :—

	S.	W.	N.	E.
(i)	1 ♥	1 ♠	3 ♥ or 2 NT.	Forcing to Game.
(ii)	1 ♥	2 ♣	or 2 ♦	3 ♥
(iii)	1 ♣	1 ♠	or ♥	3 ♦
(iv)	1 ♣	2 ♦	3 ♥	or ♠
(v)	1 ♥	2 ♠	3 ♥	3 ♥ } No game force.
				3 ♦ }
				3 ♣ }
(vi)	1 ♥	2 ♠	4 ♣	Game Force.
			4 ♦	

The double raise in the major but not in the minor suit, or jump take-out in suit or no-trump changes neither in strength nor in its forcing nature regardless of an intervening overcall.

	S.	W.	N.	E.
	1 ♣	1 ♦	2 NT or ♠, ♥	Pass.
	3 ♣	Pass	3 ♠ or ♥	Pass.

South must bid till game is reached.

But a jump take-out in suit over opponent's take-out double is forcing not to game but to one round only; and a jump raise over opponent's take-out double is not forcing at all. For example :

	S.	W.	N.	E.
	1 ♣	Dl.	2 ♦	Pass.
	1 ♥	Dl. or 2 ♠	or 2 NT. or 3 ♣	or 3 ♦.

South must bid again but may drop a game. South must keep the bidding open for North giving him the option to go game or not: and if North should make a bid short of a game, South is not obligated to bid again or reach a game.

	S.	W.	N.	E.
	1 ♥	Dl.	3 ♥	—

North requires four strong or any five trumps, perhaps a singleton, and about one and half honor-tricks in all showing about five winners to raise the hearts to three level after the intervening double by west. This is nothing more than a pre-emptive bid and South ordinarily passes unless it be, he has enough strength to have another bid over non-forcing single raise.

	S.	W.	N.	E.
	1 NT.	Dl.	3 ♣	—

Three clubs is not forcing at all since the double by West is not the take-out variety.

Some players are apt to feel some difficulty in finding the true nature of the force in the following situations :—

	S.	W.	N.	E.
(i)	1 ♥	Dl.	Rc. Dl.	Pass.
	Pass	1 ♠	3 ♥ or ♣	or ♦.
(ii)	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Dl.
	Pass	2 ♣	3 ♥ or 3 ♦.	

In sequence (i) does the redouble by North at the first instance give any force to or take it away from his subsequent bid? What is the nature of the force, if any? I should hold the bid of three hearts, or clubs or diamonds game forcing in spite of the double by West. This sequence is not dealt with directly in any text-book. The redouble by North tells South: "Partner, do not be intimidated by the double. I think we have the best hands. I will tell you more about mine later." North waits without fear "that the bidding will mount too high before his next chance to call." North assumes at least temporarily the captaincy of the team, announces the balance of power to be in favour of North-South, hints partner to pass the next bid around to him and, promises another bid. The Gold Book says, "With strong hands, two or more honour tricks redouble with distributional strength, and make a jump forcing takeout with a freak including $2\frac{1}{2}$ or more honour-tricks." The redouble does not take the force away: only this is a case of "delayed" game force. In sequence (ii) North's bid of hearts after a positive original response of one spade, though it be after East has doubled is sufficiently urging (but not forcing) on South as a strength-showing bid. This is a case of rebid and not a direct first response by North, to be of any force at all.

If a player's opening one no-trump is doubled, holding $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 honour tricks partner shall redouble: holding honour cards with even one honour trick a redouble will not be out of place. A double raise is meaningless. After the double partner takes out in a suit at the minimum level only as a "rescue". The question of the responder making a jump shift in a suit after an intervening overcall is not directly covered in any text-book: in the Chapter on Free Bids, Culbertson speaks of the forcing or non-forcing nature of the various responses to opening *suit-bids*. In the chapter on "Opening No-trump bids" he mentions the one instance of the non-jump suit takeout after an intervening overcall being a weak bid which is not forcing: nor does he mention the case of a jump shift in a new suit after the intervening double, the very obvious reason being that the double of the no-trump is not a takeout but a penalty double. None of the free takeouts whether simple or jump after an intervening double or over-call of an opening one no-trump is a force.

A jump response in no-trump after an intervening overcall is game-forcing. For example

- | | S. | W. | N. | E. |
|------|-----|-----|------|--|
| (i) | 1 ♣ | 1 ♦ | 2 NT | Forcing to game. |
| (ii) | 1 ♠ | 2 ♥ | 2 NT | Not forcing because not a jump response: |

but is a strength-showing bid being almost as strong a hand as though made without the opponents' bid.

Is a jump response in no-trump after an intervening takeout double forcing? If so what is the nature of the force? Where Culbertson speaks of bids over the opponent's take-out double, he makes the statement, "with strong hands, two or more honour tricks, redouble with distributed strength, and make a jump forcing take out with a freak including $2\frac{1}{2}$ or more honour tricks. With strong hand and distributed strength *i.e.*, no-trump hands) the redouble is contemplated and advised: with strong hands and freak distribution (*i.e.* unbalanced suit pattern type) the take-out is not a jump in no-trump but in suit." Therefore Culbertson rules out the sequence, shown below.

- | S. | W. | N. | E. |
|-----|----|------|----|
| 1 ♥ | DL | 2 NT | |

In part-score situations, when the player makes a forcing suit take-out of an opening suit or no-trump bid of one, or makes a forcing rebid over partner's response, such a bid is forcing for a round only ordinarily. If the response to the forcing bid is the naming of a new-suit or jumping one trick in his own suit it is again forcing for a round. "As in the case of the opening two-bid, any bid in a

new suit and any jump in a suit previously bid is forcing for one round thereafter. But if either partner simply rebids his suit or bids no-trump, the other may pass. A double raise in partner's major suit is not forcing when game has already been reached: likewise a two no-trump take-out is not forcing if it is enough for a game: these are limited forcing bids."

A double raise of opening bid of one in any minor suit is pre-emptive and strength-showing but is not forcing even for a round. Mr. Moyse says that the double raise of a minor suit is the least useful and the least necessary bid and that you will come out all right if you never use the double raise of a minor suit. It does not urge the partner to pass but he is permitted to pass rather than get into an unmakeable eleven-trick contract in the minor suit, or three no-trumps. Goren does not distinguish between jump raises in minor or major suits in this instance, but states "when the opener jumps from 1 to 3 in the opener's suit it is a demand for game". The Vienna and Gladiator systems also do not make the distinction regarding jump raises in major and minor suits.

A jump response in suit (raise or take-out) or no-trump by a "passed hand" is not forcing at all but is a strength showing bid

which the opener has the option of passing. For example,

	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
(i)	Pass	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
	3 ♥			
(ii)	Pass	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
	2 NT or 2 ♠			
	or 3 ♣ or 3 ♦.			

"A one-over-one or non-jump two-over-one response shows the same minima as though the responder has not passed: but the maxima are less and the responses are not forcing. Therefore a shaded double raise should be preferred to a suit take-out of partner's major suit-bid. Partner may otherwise pass the suit take-out and never find out about partner's trump support." A jump take-out in a suit or no-trump by a passed hand shows a maximum hand on which he could have passed originally. In sequence (i) North may pass, but in sequence (ii) North is not expected to pass "if his hand is fully up to opening strength." As to the desirability of treating a jump shift, i.e., jump take-out in a new suit or no-trump but not a jump raise, by a player who has previously passed, as forcing, there is a cleavage of opinion among experts. Harry Fishbein sails with Culbertson in not making such a call a force, but Goren holds forth for treating such a bid as an absolute one-round force.

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	Pass	1 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	?	—

Goren insists that North must speak again and cites the following hand he has played. North dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

(HELEN SOBEL)

♠ Q 8 6 4	
♥ A 5	
♦ Q J 3	
♣ A 8 4 2	
♠ 7	♠ 10 3 2
♥ Q 10 8	♥ 7 4 3
♦ A 9 7 6 5	♦ K 10 8 2
♣ Q 9 7 3	♣ J 10 5

(GOREN)

♠ A K J 9 5
♥ K J 9 6 2
♦ 5
♣ K 6

Bidding:—

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♥	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	—	—

Helen Sobel dismissed the three Spade, for such a call after the previous pass is not forcing and four Spades bid does not do complete justice to the holding. The same deal while played at another table was bid thus.

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	—	—

An easy slam was missed, but this does not purport to anything except an interesting case of coincidence. According to the Culbertson system response of 4 Spades by North in the first instance would have paved the way for the slam.

Responder's jump bids, when the opener's second round call is a take-out double, show only a hand of a maximum pass on the first round; one strength-showing but not forcing. For example.

S.	W.	N.	E.
(i)	1 ♦	Pass	Pass
	Dl.	Pass	2 ♠ or 3 ♦
			Not forcing at all.
(ii)	1 ♥	2 ♣	Pass
	Dl.	Pass	3 ♥ or 3 ♦
			Not forcing at all.

In the Vienna System a response of two diamonds to opening conventional bid of one in Clubs is not a Herbert Negative but a genuine bid in diamonds and is not forcing even for a round: it is not in the nature of a jump suit take-out. A response of one no-trump only (not a jump bid) to opening one-bid in club, whether or no intervening overcall, is a qualified game force. The double raise of any suit is forcing to game. A jump raise

to three in a major in response to opening one in club is a game force.

Vienna.

	SOUTH	NORTH
(i)	1 ♣	2 ♦ No Force.
(ii)	1 ♣	1 NT. Qualified Game Force.
(iii)	1 ♣	3 ♣ Game Force.
(iv)	1 ♣	3 ♥ " "

Culbertson.

	SOUTH	NORTH
(i)	1 ♣	2 ♦ Game Force.
(ii)	1 ♣	1 NT. No force.
(iii)	1 ♣	3 ♣ No force
(iv)	1 ♣	3 ♥ " "

In the Gladiator system a response of one no-trump, or jump take-out at three level in any higher ranking suit, to an opening bid of one Club is game force: response of two diamonds to opening one Club is no force: response of two in hearts or Spades to opening one Club is half way between a maximum single suit-take-out and a game force: a suit response except two Clubs to opening one no-trump is game force where there is no intervening bid.

In the Roth-stone system—A jump suit response of three to opening one no-trump and jump response to opening suit bids are all weak bids and the opener must usually pass. But a single raise by the Roth-Stone player is to be treated as a game-force.

(To be continued.)

MADRAS v. ANDHRA MATCH



Sitting : P. Tilak, Venkata Rao, Justice P. Rajagopalan (President), Narasiah, Appa Rao, Tirumal Rao.

Standing : P.S. Reddy, B. Hanumantha Rao, G.S. Reddy, K.C. Ramaratnam, A.S. Giri, (Mr. S.T. Achar not in Photo).

THE MADRAS v. ANDHRA MATCH

By T. S. CHANDRASEKARAN.

The Madras-Andhra match played at Mylapore Club on 15, 16, 17 and 18th of August, 1958, provided an interesting treat for the kibitzers. The honours were even and fluctuating till almost the end of play on the third day and it was only in the last lap that Madras assumed control and forged ahead to win the event after trailing behind by 28 points. Some interesting deals from the match are discussed in the following columns.

Deal 2.

The Andhra pair Venkat Rao and Thirumal Rao playing their peculiar system landed beautifully in a 6♠ contract on this deal.

East Dealer: N-S. Vulnerable :

♠ K 9 5 3
♥ A K 10 7 5 4
♦ —
♣ 6 5 3
♠ A 4
♥ J 3
♦ K 9 7 5 4 2
♣ J 10 9
♠ 10
♥ Q 9 8 2
♦ A Q J 10 8
♣ Q 8 4
♠ Q J 8 7 6 2
♥ 6
♦ 6 3
♣ A K 7 2

Six spades were made at both tables although the Madras team

did not bid the slam but it is interesting to see how declarer will play the hand if a diamond is led initially. North will ruff but should now lead H.A. and ruff a small heart in an endeavour to set up the long hearts but if he starts fooling about with trumps he is in trouble as dummy will be short of entries to bring home the hearts. Madras lost 7 I.M.P. by not bidding the slam but with asking bids out of fashion the slam is perhaps difficult to reach.

Bidding : Room I

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
P.S. Reddy.	Tirumal Rao.	Giri.	Venkat Rao.
x	—	1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♥	—	—	—
4 ♠	—	—	—

Room II

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Appa Rao.	B.H. Rao.	Tilak.	K.C.R.
x	—	2 ♠	—
2 N.T.	—	3 ♠	—
5 ♣	—	6 ♣	—
6 ♠	—	—	—

Deal 14.

A cue bid of 2♠ (a bid in the opponent's suit) by A. S. Giri on 14th deal probably put west off the 4 spades bid as a sacrifice if need be—4♠ is in fact a sitter—on the following deal.

♠ 10 9 7
 ♥ J 7 3
 ♦ K 4 2
 ♣ Q 7 5 3
 ♠ K Q J ♠ A 8 6 5 4 3 2
 ♥ K 6 4 ♥ Q 10
 ♦ 7 6 ♦ 8 5 3
 ♣ A 9 8 6 2 ♣ 4
 ♠ —
 ♥ A 9 8 5 2
 ♦ A Q J 10 9
 ♣ K J 10

Bidding. Room I

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
—	1 ♥	Dble.	—
1 ♠	2 ♦	2 ♠	3 ♥
4 ♠	—	—	—

Room II

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
—	♥	Dble.	—
1 ♠	2 ♦	—	2 ♥
—	2 ♠	—	3 ♥

Deal 23.

An inspired opening bid of 1 ♦ by South on this deal set the stage for a fine sacrifice at 5 ♦ by N. S. E.W. make eleven tricks and West, preferably E should have called 5 ♠ but the failure to bid competitively at a high level cost the Andhra team 5 I.M.P. It was a ticklish situation and South deserves full credit for the sacrifice at 5 ♦ particularly after his initial opening on indifferent strength and with both sides being vulnerable.

It required nerve to make this bid and it came off. East's double also appears somewhat desperate but it was inevitable, if only for prestige's sake after his 4 spades bid.

South dealer: Both sides vulnerable :

♠ J 10 8
 ♥ 7 3
 ♦ K Q 10 9
 ♣ 10 6 5 3
 ♠ K Q 7 4 3 ♠ 9 6 2
 ♥ K Q 5 ♥ A 8 6 2
 ♦ 2 ♦ J
 ♣ Q 9 8 4 ♣ A K J 7 2
 ♠ A 5
 ♥ J 10 9 4
 ♦ A 8 7 6 5 4 3
 ♣ —

Bidding. Room I

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
x	x	—	1 ♠
—	2 ♣	2 ♦	—
—	3 ♦	Dble.	—
—	3 ♠	—	4 ♠

Room II

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
P.S. Reddy.	Tilak.	Giri.	Apparao.
x	x	1 ♦	1 ♠
2 ♦	4 ♠	5 ♦	—
—	Dble.	—	—

The Andhra team gathered 6 points on the next deal following some spirited bidding by all the four players :

Deal 24.

West dealer : (Neither side vulnerable).

Bidding :

Room I

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
—	—	—	1 ♥
1 ♠	2 ♣	4 ♣	5 ♣
—	—	Dble.	—

Room II

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
—	—	—	2 ♥
—	2 NT	Dble.	3 ♦
4 ♠	Dble.	—	—

♠ J 10 7 3 2
 ♥ A Q 10 8 2
 ♦ 10 4
 ♣ 7
 ♠ A K 8
 ♥ 7 4 3
 ♦ 8 7
 ♣ A 8 6 4 2
 ♠ Q 9 6 5 4
 ♥ Nil
 ♦ K Q J 2
 ♣ K 10 8 3

The four spades contract was set by one trick.

The Andhra pair got off with a nice swing on the first deal on the second day's bidding and making a grand slam on this deal. The Madras pair also bid the grand slam but in a wrong suit and were 3 set. The South player ran too great a risk in bidding his

own suit after his partner had bid and rebid Diamonds and showed little interest in anything else. It was obvious that North was not interested in anything else and South must have finished in 7 ♦ not 7 ♣. The full deal was.

Deal No. 33

North dealer : (Neither side vulnerable).

♠ Q 6 5
 ♥ A Q
 ♦ K Q 10 9 5 3 2
 ♣ 6
 ♠ J 10 4 ♠ K 9 7 3 2
 ♥ 8 6 3 2 ♥ J 10 9 7
 ♦ J ♦ 8 7 4
 ♣ J 10 5 3 2 ♣ 7
 ♠ A 8
 ♥ K 5 4
 ♦ A 6
 ♣ A K Q 9 8 4

Bidding :

Room I

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 ♦	—	3 ♣	—
3 ♦	—	4 ♣	—
4 ♦	—	4 NT	—
5 ♦	—	5 NT	—
6 ♦	—	7 ♦	—

Room II

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 ♦	—	3 ♣	—
3 ♦	—	4 ♥ (?)	—
5 ♥	—	5 ♠	—
6 ♦	—	7 ♣	—

The Madras team lost 10 I.M.P. on this deal.

On deals 47 and 48 in this session the Andhra N. S. pair appear to have lost their morale and indulged in wild bidding.

South doubled a 2 spade contract and allowed Madras to make the game. The bidding and the hand were:

Deal No. 47.

South dealer: Neither side vulnerable.

Room I

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
—	—	1 ♠	—
1 NT	2 ♣	—	—

Room II

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
—	—	1 ♠	—
1 ♥	Dbl.	R.D.	1 ♠
—	1 N.T.	Dbl.	2 ♥
—	—	Dbl.	—
—	2 ♣	Dbl.	—

♠ 10 8 4
♥ Q 10 4 2
♦ Q 9 7
♣ Q 8 3

♠ K 7 6 2 ♠ A 5
♥ J 9 7 6 5 ♥ A
♦ 5 4 2 ♦ A 8 6 3
♣ 10 ♣ K 9 7 6 4 9

♠ Q J 9 3
♥ K 8 3
♦ K J 10
♣ A J 5

Dealer could make only 7 tricks even on the actual lead of the club Q by N but N. S. somehow contrived to allow West to make eight tricks and game. Madras made 6 I.M.P. on this deal and followed it with another 5 I.M.P. on the next deal.

Deal No. 48:

West dealer: Neither vulnerable.

♠ —
♥ 7 5 4
♦ Q 9
♣ Q 10 9 8 7 6 4 2

♠ A K J ♠ Q 4 2
♥ Q 10 7 6 3 ♥ J 9 2
♦ J 8 6 ♦ A K 7 6 4 3
♣ A K ♣ 3

♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 3
♥ A K
♦ 10 2
♣ J 5

The hands were freakish but North appears to have had no provocation for a sacrifice on his anaemic holding.

The Madras pair missed a slam on the 49th deal losing 6 IMP. East's diamond bids perhaps shut out thoughts of a slam from West's mind.

Deal No. 49

North dealer: Neither side vulnerable.

Room I

ORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
—	2 ♦	2 ♥	2 NT
—	3 ♠	—	5 ♣
—	5 ♠	—	6 ♣

Room II.

—	1 ♦	1 ♥	2 ♣
—	2 ♦	2 ♥	2 ♠
—	3 ♠	—	4 ♥
—	4 ♠	—	—

♠ 7 3
♥ J 7
♦ 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ 10 9 2

♠ A Q 4 2 ♠ K 10 9 5
♥ K 8 6 2 ♥ 10
♦ — ♦ K Q J 10 9 8
♣ A Q J 8 6 ♣ K 4

♠ J 8 6
♥ A Q 9 5 4 3
♦ A
♣ 7 5 3

♦

SOME IMPRESSIONS OF THE MATCH

By T. K. N. PANIKKER

After 128 deals were over at the end of the third day, the atmosphere at the Mylapore Club, where the Inter-State match was played, was surcharged with tension and excitement. The Andhra team had a lead of 28 I.M.P. They had played grimly when they lost in the first few sessions and their determination had paid. After making little gains at each session the Madras team lost heavily in the penultimate session. With only 32 deals more they were faced with the Herculean task of getting 37 points to score a win or secure a minimum of 21 points to force a draw. Against opponents who had a lot of experience and played a sober and steady game the prospects of a win were not very bright. Persons who had gathered to watch the match started wondering whether history would repeat itself. In the prior two matches Madras lost to the Andhra team after being in the lead till the penultimate session. Excitement ran high and speculation was rife, and in some quarters some bets were made as to the final result.

It is creditable that with a substantial lead against them and against seasoned players, the Madras team fought gamely

and not only averted defeat but scored a victory. More than a word of praise is due to their gallant efforts in the last session. It was a great strain for the players who all pulled as a team. P. S. Reddi, A. S. Giri and Hanumantha Rao were called upon to play the entire 168 deals without respite.

In the last session I was the official scorer and was sitting in the open room for 16 deals and in the closed room next day morning for the last 16 deals where P. S. Reddi and Giri played against Tilak and Appa Rao. I could not help sharing in the excitement and I was having as much strain on my nerves as the players themselves.

I report two interesting deals in the final session in which bold bidding and play gained several valuable points for the victors.

Dealer East: N. S. Vulnerable.

♠ 7 2	♠ K 10 8 6 4
♥ Q J 7 3	♥ A 5
♦ 6 4 3	♦ 10 5
♣ Q 6 4 3	♣ K 10 9 8
♠ 9	♠ A Q J 5 3
♥ K 10 9 8 6 2	♥ 4
♦ K Q 8	♦ A J 9 7 2
♣ J 7 5	♣ A 9

The bidding in the closed room was:

North	East	South	West
x	1 ♠	Dbl.	R.Dbl
—	—	2 ♦	2 ♥
—	2 ♠	Dbl.	3 ♥

In the closed room, West (Madras) made 3 ♥ and got a score of 140. In the open room bidding went:

In the open Room:

North	East	South	West
x	1 ♠	Dbl.	2 ♥
—	—	3 ♦	—
—	—	—	—

In the open room Giri sat North and Reddy sat South. Reddy became the declarer at 3 ♦. The lead was ♥ 9 and the play continued as under.

North	East	South	West
1. ♠ 2	♠ 6	♠ Q	♠ 9
2. ♥ Q	♥ A	♥ 4	♥ 8
3. ♠ 7	♠ K	♠ A	♦ 8
4. ♦ 3	♦ 5	♦ A	♠ K
5. ♦ 4	♠ 4	♠ 7	♥ 6
6. ♥ 3	♥ 5	♦ 2	♥ 2
7. ♦ 6	♠ 8	♠ 5	♥ 9
8. ♥ 7	♠ 8	♦ 7	♥ 10

The last five-card position was reduced to

♠ —	♠ —
♥ J	♥ —
♦ —	♦ 10
♣ Q 6 4 3	♣ K 10 9 8
♠ —	♠ —
♥ K	♥ —
♦ Q	♦ 10
♣ J 7 5	♣ K 10 9 8
♠ J	♠ —
♥ —	♥ —
♦ J 9	♦ —
♣ A 2	♣ —

South played ♠ J and if West ruffed with the ♦ Q., declarer gets C. A. & D. J. 9. If East ruffed with 10, he gets end-played as he has to play from his Club King. Actually West ruffed with ♦ Q and 3 diamonds was made and this deal gave Madras 4 points. At both tables the Madras Team had a favourable score.

Another interesting deal came up soon after.

Deal 4: Both sides vulnerable.

In the closed room the bidding went:

North	East	South	West
x	x	x	—
Pass	1 ♠	1 NT	2 ♠
—	4 ♠	—	—

In the open room the bidding was :

x x x —
 — 2 ♠ Dbl. 3 ♦
 — 4 ♠ 5 ♥ —
 — Dl. — —
 ♠ Q J
 ♥ K 6 5 3
 ♦ J 8 7
 ♣ K 6 4 3
 ♠ K 10 9 8 ♠ A 7 6 5 4 3
 ♥ 8 ♥ 10
 ♦ Q 9 4 3 ♦ A 10 6 5 2
 ♣ J 9 8 7 ♣ 6
 ♠ 2
 ♥ A Q J 9 7 4 2
 ♦ K
 ♣ A Q 10 2

In the closed room Madras players sitting East-West made five spades comfortably and scored 650. In the open room P. S. Reddy sitting South took the decision of bidding 5 Hearts over 4 Spades and this was promptly doubled by West.

The play went as below :

	North	East	South	West
1.	♠ Q	♠ A	♠ 2	♠ 10
2.	♠ J	♠ 4	♥ 2	♠ 9
3.	♥ 3	♥ 10	♥ A	♥ 8
4.	♥ 5	♠ 3	♥ 4	♠ 8
5.	♦ 7	♦ A	♦ K	♦ 3
6.	♣ 3	♣ 6	♣ A	♣ 7

After the sixth trick South played all his trumps but one leaving the following position :

 ♦ J
 ♣ K 5 4
 ♦ Q ♠ 7
 ♣ J 9 8 ♣ 10 6 5
 ♥ Q
 ♣ Q 10 2

Now South played his ♥ Queen; West was squeezed in Diamonds and clubs and the declarer claimed all the tricks by pointing out the impending squeeze. Madras scored 850 in this deal while their partners had also made a game. This was a two-way swing deal.

A DEAL FROM TANJORE

By 'KIBITZER'.

On the very first round in the Tanjore Tournament our team was put out on the side wings and with heaps of time at our disposal we went in search of similar "unemployed" players. We were able to catch hold of three players from the Kothamangalam team who had fared no better in their first encounter. So there we were ensconced in two adjacent rooms of the retiring rooms at Tanjore, playing a friendly match of 16 Boards with somewhat attractive stakes. We do not believe in sweating out for nothing.

The 'great' Chary and A. R. Ramanathan (our mascot) played in one room while their team-mates in the other room were Sundaram Iyer and Ramaratnam. The services of Guru Dutt were lent to the other team.

Iced pineapple-juice was served to the players and with betel and nuts well provisioned the game went on merrily with pleasant jokes and loud laughter. Of course the Kothamangalam players were the pattern of decorum and did not raise their voice to more than a whisper.

'Kibitzer' sat by the side of Ramanathan.

North dealt and opened one spade. Chary quickly doubled. South passed; and just out of malicious pleasure I nudged Ramanathan to pass which he obediently did, much to the consternation of 'Guru' Chari whose eye-brows touched the ceiling. He was void in Spades! However, the bidding did not die out, and the dealer re-doubled. Heaving a sigh of relief Chary called two Hearts. With a little inducement from his partner North bid up to four spades which, on being nudged again, was obediently doubled. Ramanathan held 10, 9, 8, 4, 3 in trumps.

Chary led the King of clubs and the dummy laid down.

♠ J x
 ♥ K 9 8
 ♦ 9 8 5 4 2
 ♣ Q 6 3

He then switched to a low diamond and the Declarer took the trick, his King covering the Knave from Ramanathan. After playing three rounds of trumps he played the King

of Diamonds which Ramanathan ruffed joyfully. Ramanathan then played the 7 of hearts which Chary won, and in his characteristic fashion banged the Queen of Diamonds to set the contract. Ramanathan dropped a heart. Chary banged again the King of Clubs which, however, was ruffed by the Declarer and the rest of the tricks were won by him. Naturally we (Kibitzer and Ramanathan) were at Chari's throat for not playing a Heart, after his discard, for a ruff which the Declarer had made possible. Not to be out-done Chari shouted back that a double of one spade should never have been passed and that the double of four spades was also "ill nudged". Anyway the play proceeded with only occasional bickerings and references to 'Kalyanpur's' play.

After 16 boards were played and a fresh round of pineapple-juice was served the players from the other room surged in with their scores. As usual, pandemonium reigned and each one was talking at the same time, with the exception of the Kothamangalam players. The scores were compared and they were not without surprises, not the least surprising was the result in this deal. Ramaratnam had bid and made the contract of four spades (duly doubled and duly re-doubled)

which went down in our room. Quite naturally it evoked a lot of comment and Ramaratnam true to his temper quickly challenged 'anybody' to defeat the contract. His partner K. R. Sundaram Iyer also rallied round him, exclaimed "poor—was helpless against the squeeze". The play was related with much gusto, and occasional guffaws from the successful Declarer punctuated the narration. The lead and the switch-over on the second trick were identical. Ramaratnam played out four rounds of trumps and threw the lead to West with the trump. Meanwhile East was being given the squeeze therapy and his hand was reduced to the six-card position given below :

♠ —
♥ A Q
♦ Q 10
♣ K x

On the lead of the Heart 7 Ramaratnam played the heart Knave unblocking and preserving entries. The heart knave was thrown on the table with characteristic flourish. All expressed appreciation of the neat unblocking play. Some one suggested offering him one palam of cashewnuts for which Tanjore was famous. East was squeezed and could not make any other trick than the Ace of hearts. Expressing the appreciation over the play

Kibitzer agreed reluctantly that the contract could possibly be made by a squeeze. However, like typical bridge players the deal was attacked as a Double-dummy problem and me set about defeating the contract and breaking the squeeze. Several lines of play were suggested but were found not effective. However, the play in defence was traced and East was asked to retain three hearts, stripping himself the bare King of Clubs and cover the heart Knave with the Queen disrupting communications. This defence it was asserted could defeat the contract. Ramaratnam, however, challen-

ged to make the contract, still. A round of iced pineapple-juice, however, put an end to this heated debate. Chary quietly pocketed the payment from the losers!

The debated deal !

♠ —	♠ J 7
♥ A Q 4 3 2	♥ K 9 8
♦ Q 10 6 5	♦ 9 8 7 4 3
♣ A K 6 4	♣ Q 8 3
	♠ 10 9 8 5 4
	♥ 7 3
	♦ J
	♣ J 10 9 7 5
	♠ A K Q 6 3 2
	♥ J 10 5
	♦ A K 2
	♣ 2

WITH APOLOGIES TO MR. CHARY

By V. R. VEERAMANI.

Playing in the Individual Championship at the M. U. C. I had the pleasure of partnering that gifted adventurer at Bridge, Chary. The hand which he had to play as declarer was just to his taste and temperament. As dealer, Chary, sitting North opened 1 spade

Holding :

NORTH

♠ A 10 8 7 3 2
♥ A J 8
♦ A K 10 6
♣ Nil

I responded with one no-trump holding :

SOUTH

♠ K
♥ Q 10 7
♦ 9 8 5 4
♣ K J 6 5 3

By nature, aggressive, Mr. Chary was not to be deterred by this damper and quite legitimately bid three diamonds. Remembering Culbertson's advice to be equally aggressive with a sunny partner, though I don't remember his other instructions, I bid 3 N. T. to be promptly taken out with 4 S. by Chary. Holding a single-not in spades, though a King,

I preferred to play it in 5 diamonds, and as it might have turned out, quite wisely.

Making this contract would be child's play if the diamonds broke three-two. But here again Guru Dutt sitting East doubled giving the clue to the distribution and led Club 9.

Chary was visibly annoyed, was it with the final contract which should have been left in by me in 4 spades or was it with Dutt for his impudence in doubling? Anyway, my partner is far too gifted a player to be so easily deterred by my poor hand. He ruffed the club with a trump in his hand, entered the dummy with the King of spades, played another club and trumped it with diamond 10. He then played the Ace of spades on which West dropped the J. Undeterred he played another spade and ruffed it with diamond 9 in the dummy, which luckily was not overruffed, though West showed out :

NORTH

♥ 10 8 7
♠ A J 8
♦ A K
♣ Nil

SOUTH

♠ Nil
♥ Q 10 5
♦ 8 5 4
♣ K 6

This was the crucial moment for Chary to decide either to take a finesse in hearts or to devise an alternative method of gaining the contract. Chary paused quite a while and after deep thought decided on the finesse despite the warnings of experts to reserve the finesse to the last. Thus was doomed to failure, a brilliant contract.

Now let us analyse the hand a bit. The double by Dutt places him with at least four diamonds. The drop of S. J. from West on the second round coupled with his incapacity to overruff the third places East with 4 spades. That leaves five cards in clubs and hearts. On the double, E could be placed with H K. though it cannot be a certainty. Even if W. held the H K. what would be the position?

Chary would be in clover if East held two clubs and three hearts even without the king. If that were so, my partner with his flair for achieving the impossible, would normally have entered his hand with a trump at trick six, played another spade and ruffed it in the dummy with a trump and re-entered his hand with another trump leaving the final position thus :

♠ 10 8
♥ A J 8
♦ Nil
♣ Nil

♠ Nil
♥ 8 7 3
♦ Nil
♣ A 10

♠ Nil
♥ K 6 4
♦ Q J
♣ Nil

♠ Nil
♥ Q 10 5
♦ Nil
♣ K 5

It does not require much ingenuity to explain that East hereafter is held just to two tricks in diamonds. For, on leading a spade at the ninth trick E will be on the lead every time and Chary could claim to have both bid and made a brilliant contract. Chary may yet do it, in situations more poignant than this!

Here is the full deal for the delectation of the fans.

♠ A 10 8 7 3 2	♠ Q 9 6 4
♥ A J 8	♥ K 5 4
♦ A K 10 6	♦ Q J 3 2
♣ Nil	♣ 9 4
♠ J 5	♠ K
♥ 9 7 3 2	♥ Q 10 6
♦ 7	♦ 9 8 5 4
♣ A Q 10 8 7 2	♣ K J 6 5 3

PANIKKER'S POINT SYSTEM OF BIDDING

By T. K. N. PANIKKER.

I originally issued a pamphlet of my system of bidding in 1941 and distributed it among my club friends in Bombay. Although they were sceptical in the beginning, they took to this system as it was very simple, and the preciseness gave in most cases satisfactory results. In the same year I published it in the *Bombay Chronicle*, Bombay. It evoked plenty of criticism from the so-called Culbertson system players at that time. Now many players in Bombay follow my system with slight variations. When I revised my edition, in 1950 I sent copies to Culbertson, Reese, Goren and others. I must confess that the replies of the first two were not very encouraging. Culbertson remarked that he had come across two or three point systems but the American public would not touch any points system, even with a barge-pole. I wrote back that honor count was successful only when the players had mastered it well, and that point count because of its simplicity and accuracy was much more easy and would one day be more popular. My predictions have come true. How things have

changed! Now almost nine out of ten players play point count of some denomination or other. Either it is Culbertson point, or Goren Point or Panikker point! Culbertson himself became a votary of the point count and wrote a book of his own on point count!

In this pamphlet I am not professing to teach people how to play contract bridge, but only endeavouring to show a simpler method of bidding than the Culbertson system (or trick-value system as it is called) so that those who play the game will not find bidding a headache. Even a player of auction bridge can become a good player by understanding the following few points.

In each of the four suits the first four honour cards are taken for counting purposes in the Point System. The scale of points is as per the Milton count.

From a detailed study of many hands, it has been found, in most cases, that 25 points in all, in the hands of one set of partners are enough to bid and make

game in No-Trump or in an agreed suit; 30 for a little slam; and 35 for grand slam. Of course on the face of it, it is impossible under certain rare cases (or freakish distributions) as the opponents having 10 points—say 2 Aces and 1 Queen can easily score 3 tricks in a little slam bid, and one King and one Queen or one Ace and one Jack in a grand slam bid could put the bidders down by one trick at least, although the component points in the partners' hand are 35 and they have bid a grand slam. These are rare cases and while the bidding for slams are in progress information about aces are usually given.

OPENING BIDS.

The opening bid of one club shows a holding of 13 points (or 14). Being an artificial bid it does not necessarily indicate a biddable Club suit. Similarly a bid of 1 Diamond shows 15 or 16 points; one heart 17 or 18 points; one Spade 19 or 20 points and one N.T. 21 or more points. If one holds 26 to 30 points one bids 2 N.T. and with 32 and above 3 N.T. These 2 and 3 N.T. bids, however, are very rare.

RESPONSES.

The partner should respond by saying one N.T. if he has 12 or more points to the bid of one Club by the partner. The biddings will be as under:

RESPONSE INVITING.

Bidding. (1) Game.

Points.

13 points	1 Club	12—1 N.T.
15 "	1 Diamond	10— "
17 "	1 Heart	8— "
19 "	1 Spade	6— "
21 "	1 N.T.	4—Bid any suit.

(2) Little Slam. (3) Grand Slam.
Points Points

17—2 N.Ts.	22—3 N.Ts.
15—2 "	20—3 "
13—2 "	18—3 "
11—2 "	16—3 "

After having shown the strength of the hands by the first round of bidding the bidder, when it is his turn next should bid his longest suit. It is preferable to show a five-card suit although there are no honour cards in that suit rather than a four-carder with one or two honours only. If the partner has another five-card suit in his hand he must bid that suit on his next turn in the second round. If neither of the suits agree, the players could bid their four-card suits in the third round as secondary call, and the responding partner should support that suit only in case he has four cards in that suit. Without such support it is advisable to play the game in No-Trumps. The important point which should be borne in mind in responding to the

NOTE :—At the request of the author, we are glad to invite comments on this 'indigenous' Point Count system—ED.

second round trump call is that since you know that your partner holds only 4 cards in that suit the support must only be given if there are other factors such as singletons or doubletons in other suits. The question of singletons, doubletons and voids and its relationship to the agreed suit are discussed hereafter.

While bidding slams also, the same procedure of bidding is followed. By the first response your partner has informed you that he has enough points to go either for little slam or grand slam. Then you must bid your 5-card suit and your partner bids his 5-card suit next round. Supposing you have no five-card suit on a response by your partner of 2 N.Ts. you simply bid 3 N.Ts. unless your hand has a 4-4-4-1 distribution in which case you bid minor 4-card suit first and the major suits afterwards.

```

♠ x
♥ x x x x
♦ x x x x
♣ x x x x

```

On such a distribution as yours, your first bid should be the better of the two minor suits and then on your next turn Hearts. Any two N.T. bid by your partner over your one N.T. response shows that his hand has a distribution of 4-3-3-3. If his distribution is even 4-4-3-2 he should bid the minor 4-card suit first and then

the higher ranking 4-card suit later. As I have already mentioned in the beginning, possession of Aces is very important in slam bidding and it will be impossible to make a little slam with two Aces out unless you are void in at least one of the suits of the missing Aces. To find out the number of Aces the Blackwood Convention is followed. According to this Convention if one of the partners bids 4 N.Ts. his partner has to bid

5 ♣ if he has no Aces or all the four Aces.

5 ♦ " 1 Ace

5 ♥ " 2 Aces

5 ♠ " 3 Aces

Then again for finding out the number of Kings held, one should bid 5 N.T. and the responder bids 6 Clubs if he has no Kings or all the four Kings.

6 Diamonds " 1 King

6 Hearts " 2 Kings

6 Spades " 3 Kings

Of course the 4 N.T. asking bid is usually made only when one of the bid suits has been agreed upon or if the caller *himself* has a *pre-emptive suit* for calling slam. Since the partner who responds to the 4 N.T. asking bid is not in a position to know the number of Aces held by his partner it is advisable to leave the final bidding to the original bidder of

4 N.T. and if he bids only five in a suit, not to stretch it further to six.

Now the question arises, 'what is to be done if the partner has not got the requisite component points?' Since the first bidding has shown only the strength of the hand and not the strength in the suit bid, it is imperative that the opening bid should be kept open even though the responder has no point at all unless the opponent on his right has bid a suit or doubled. If there are no points or say less points to make up the total of 25 between the two, he should simply bid his longest suit once. This gives the opening bidder the chance to bid his longest suit. If he bids game he does so on his own responsibility. This means that the opener must bid in his next round his maximum lest his partner should drop him. Sometimes it may happen that the partner may not have the requisite points for a N.T. response, though he may have values only slightly less, either distributional or in point. In that case he can bid two or three in his suit which means that he can give a double jump. This shows that the responder is telling his partner that if his hand has additional values, he can reach game in that suit but not otherwise.

If the opponents open the bidding and one holds 13 or more points, one should double the opponents' call. By this double the

only information which you pass on to your partner is that you hold 13 or more points, may be even 20. So your partner has to bid his longest suit if his points are less than 12, and if 12 or more bid a No-trump. This double of the opponent's suit is a take-out double and not a penalty double. If the partner doubles later on after a call, it should be considered a business double and should be left in. His responsibility after the take-out double ceases if the opponent on his right has redoubled or given any other call. If after the intervening opponent's call or redouble he calls, it is to be assumed that he holds a hand containing about 7 points with a biddable suit. I have stipulated this 7-point strength for the following reason.

Suppose the take-out double is on a hand with 18 points, a free bid over the redouble or bid of my opponent on my left, showing 7 points I can go for a game. If you have doubled the opponent's first call and if your partner has bid any suit, the inference is that he has less than 12 points and if he does not bid again, he may have very few points.

Now there is another eventuality. When opponent on your left does not double but makes a suit call over your opening bid, he shows less trick values but at the same time shows that

he possesses a biddable suit. It may be an informatory call (asking his partner to lead the suit in case the opponents go in N.T.) or may be a genuine call or in some rare cases may be even a sacrificial call. Now if your opponent on your left after your one Club call bids say 1 Heart, and if your partner has got checks in hearts and also the requisite number of 12 points or more, he has to double; but if he has 12 points or more but no check in hearts he should say one N.T. The opening bidder may pass for penalty if his partner has doubled or bid game in some suit or N.T. according to the lay of the hand of the opener.

When I mean checks in a suit it should be *at least* 4 cards with Q 10 x x. Your partner may allow the double to stand if he has at least two cards of that suit with one honor or if he has no good suit may try for a game in that suit (in this case give a double raise in this suit) or there is no possibility of bidding game in N.T. Of course each bidding situation has to be tackled on its own merit after seeing the vulnerability position, etc., fit in partners' suit or a good suit of one's own. If the hand contained only 13 points and if the free bid had come from one's partner one can safely double the opponents' contract of 3 N.T. or a *game* contract in a suit holding at least 4 cards in that

suit with a minimum of 2 honor cards.

Now if partner opened, say, one diamond and one held the 10 requisite points to support by saying one N.T., and meanwhile the opponent on your right doubled. In this case one can redouble if holding at least 4 cards of the partners suit, *viz.* Diamonds, headed by at least one honour card (in this case diamonds) or say a N.T. in other cases.

All the above biddings, etc., have been based on average distribution of hands and do not cover freakish distributions and unfortunate placing of cards with opponents. It must, however, be remembered that games and slams can be reached and made with less than the requisite points; similarly games and slams can sometimes be defeated even when the requisite points are there in the combined hands.

We now come to the question of *revaluing* the hands after agreement in suits. Suppose, for instance, partner opened 'one club' and you held only 10 points with a biddable suit of 5 cards you have naturally to bid that suit once, say in this case, one heart. In the absence of any better biddable suit in his hand your partner will naturally support you and bid 2 hearts. This shows that he has at least 3 cards of hearts with one honour. Now you must revalue your

hand, adding to your points already held, 4 points for voids, 3 for singleton and 2 for doubletons. If after this revaluation you get 12 or more points you may bid 4 hearts.

REVALUATION.

Voids	..	4 points
Singleton	..	3 points
Doubleton	..	2 points.

Similarly you may add one point extra for your 7th card of the suit bid and two points extra for all the additional suit cards over 7. Here are some examples :

1. Your partner has opened One Club and you hold

♠ A 3 2
♥ K Q 10 7 5
♦ J 7 5 2
♣ 3

Your first response will naturally be one Heart as you hold only 10 points. If your partner responds by bidding two Hearts, you bid straight-away 4 Hearts as by revaluing your hand, *i.e.*, by adding three points for the 'singleton' Club, you have now 13 points in all and with your partner's opening bid of Clubs showing at least 13 points in his hand, you have between you 26 points in all (after revaluation). In this particular case I have suggested closing the auction at 4 Hearts because it serves no purpose in showing the 4-card Diamond suit.

2. (a) Your partner has opened one Club and you hold

♠ K J 9 5
♥ K Q 10 7 2
♦ J 7
♣ 4 3

Your response is one Heart showing to your partner that you do not possess 12 points. If he bids 2 Hearts, you can bid 4 Hearts since by adding 2 points each for your doubletons in Diamonds and Clubs you have got the total of 14 points in all after revaluation.

(b) Suppose your partner bids 2 Clubs on your One Heart response; then you should bid 2 Spades to show that you hold another 4-card suit and this also shows to your partner that although your hand on the face of it did not warrant going game, there are possibilities of revaluation. By your bidding 2 suits you showed that your hand held 9 cards in the two suits, (because you bid hearts first and Spades second time, it may be even 8 but if the bidding was Spades first and hearts second it is evident the Spades suit is 5 and the Hearts may be 5 but at least 4) which means that you have one suit singleton and another suit of 3 cards or 2 suits of doubletons, which gives you a chance for revaluation and ultimately reaching game (if there is support to any of your two bid suits by your partner). One

should bear in mind as I have already explained earlier that the second bid suit should be supported by your partner only if he has 4 trumps in his hand.

(c) Suppose on your response of one Heart, your partner bids One Spade, you should straight-away bid 4 Spades thereby showing to your partner that you have game points as a result of revaluing your hand and also showing that you hold 4 Spades in your hand.

3. If Your partner opens one Heart, you hold

♠ 9
♥ K Q J 9 7 5 2
♦ K 9 2
♣ J 2

Your response naturally is one 'No-Trump'. If he bids any of the suits Diamonds or Clubs, you can straight-away bid 4 'N.T.'. This shows that you have either a pre-emptive suit or that a suit bid by the partner agrees with yours and on your revaluation of the hand there is a chance of going slam provided your partner shows in this case at least 3 Aces by bidding five Spades. That means you can bid 6 Hearts on the hand shown above. If your hand held a pre-emptive suit in Diamonds you should have at least one Ace in your hand to make the asking bid of 4 N.Ts., as otherwise if he bids 5 hearts showing 2 Aces

and as your hand does not hold any Ace, you will be in an awkward position, since you will be forced to bid 6 Diamonds lacking 2 Aces. Obviously you cannot leave the bidding at 5 Hearts which is only a conventional bid. Similarly if your hand held 2 Aces and a pre-emptive suit is Clubs, you can ask for Aces (4 N.T.). If the response is 5 Clubs, you can leave it; if it is either Diamonds or Hearts you can call a 6 or 7 in your suit taking into account the strength of your hand.

4. After a response of 2 N.T., if there is no agreement in the suits it is better to stop short of a 6 call as little slam is seldom possible in N.T. with less than 32 points in the combined hands.

5. If your partner opens one Heart and the opponent on your right bids one 'No-Trump', what is your bid, if you hold 8 points? From the bidding opponent you understand that he holds some points and also some length and honours in Hearts. In this case you double the NT if you held a 3, 3, 3, 4 or 4, 4, 3, 2 distribution. If you have a long suit and if the opponents are not vulnerable, it is better to bid your suit and try to go game rather than look out for a one or two down penalty. After all unless the opponents have a freakish hand, it is impossible for them to make 7 tricks when the points are 25

in your combined hands and the opponents have only 15 points in their hands. But a hand containing, Q J 10 9 8 7 6 4 3 plus 4 rags in the other 3 suits will still net 7 tricks cold in his suit although the combined hands of the opponents contain 37 points in all. When one hand is so freakish it is but natural that the other three hands also contain freakish distributions (See Chapter XXXVII of 'Modern Theory of Distribution' in Culbertson's New Gold Book). With one hand's distribution as above, the opponents also will have freakish distribution and with sufficient points could bid a game in one of their suits or even in 'N.T.', as the hand shown above is the most harmless in a game bid by the opponents in any other suit or even in N.T. provided they could successfully duck the first one or two rounds necessary to make the above hand harmless.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE.

6. I have a few words to say regarding the bidding in duplicate matches. Here it is better to remember the mathematical probabilities of point system also.

If the hands are evenly distributed 20 points in the combined hands of two players should produce 6½ tricks (mathematically) but the declarer with 20 points in the combined hands could usually make out 7 tricks. From actual research conducted by

dealing various hands by the author and friends, it has been observed that it is possible to make one trick extra for every 1½ point over and above the 20. From this it is evident that declarer's with about 23/24 points could bag 9 tricks out of 13. As a corollary to this comes the following principles:

Suppose your partner opens one Diamond, the opponent on your right bids one heart. You hold 5 points and no biddable suit. You naturally pass. The opponent on your left bids 2 Diamonds. Your partner also passes. Right hand opponent bids 2 N.T. What should you do now? Your hand pattern may be 4, 3, 3, 3, or 4, 4, 3, 2 and since your partner did not bid in the second round he has got a hand distribution like yours or his distribution may even be 5, 3, 3, 2, the five-carder being in this case either a minor suit; in this case club or a major suit with only one or two minor honour cards. In such cases with 20 points in the combined hands of yourself and your partner, it is highly improbable that the opponents will make 8 tricks in N.T. Of course, as already explained, it is possible to make 9 or more tricks in a suit bid with 20 or even less points. Since the partner has already shown his points and since he had no means of knowing your strength, only you are in a position to double an opponent's call

taking into consideration the partner's opening bid as well as the strength of your hand. He may be able to double on the strength of his own hand provided he has a long suit and sufficient entries.

7. The player who could assess the full strength of the combined hands is the one who responds and not the one who opened the bidding as the maximum of his hand has been shown by him in his opening bid alone

and the most that may be credited with him is one point extra (as he may bid one Diamond with 15 or 16 points) whereas your hand by responding to a Diamond with one Heart may be with a yarborough hand or a maximum 9 points. This is why I say the responder is the one who should take the decision to double on the strength of the combined hands; a part game or any call of the opponents.

Some specimen hands of South and what you should call.

West	North	East.	Your call as South..
(1) Pass	Pass	Pass	You as South held ♠ x x, ♥ K J 10 x x x x; ♦ A x x; ♣ x. Pass
(2) Pass	1 ♣	Pass	With the above hand bid 2 ♥ because being a major suit you have a chance of making 4 if the partner has even 3 Hearts and the whole 13/14 points in other suits.
(3) 1 ♣	Dble.	1 N.T. (or R.D.)	„ „ 2 ♥
(4) 1 ♣	1 ♦	1 ♠	(In this case you do not know the strength of North. He may have a freakish hand like yours) 2 ♥

West North East.

Your call
as South.

(5) 1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	(Even if you are doubled you won't go many down if the partner is weak. Your partner will also know by this bidding that you have not points for double but only a hand for overcall.) 2 ♥
(6) 1 ♦	Dble.	3 N.T.	(Although you have over 20 points in the com- bined hand <i>do not</i> double as the opponent (East) may have a fit in Diamond suit or have a long minor suit with a check in your suit also. It is better to bid 4 Hearts and look for luck.) 4 ♥
(7) Pass	1 ♥	Pass	One No-trump and later bid 3 ♥ and then 4 ♥.
(8) Pass	1 N.T.	Pass	Say 2 N.T. or straight- away bid 4 No-Trump and find out the posi- tion of Aces and go for slam in Hearts if res- ponse is encouraging. ♠

The Culbertson point count and Goren's point count systems have come out only within the last 3 or 4 years. My system as I mentioned in the beginning was perfected in 1941 and since then remained the same without any change in the fundamental principles. In other systems the adding or subtraction of points

for long suits short suit, etc., are taken into account before opening the bidding; whereas in my system the additions for short suits are taken into account only after there is agreement between the partners.

What is the use of adding extra points for your long suits

and short suits and arriving at 13 or 14 points for the opening bid, if there is no agreement. You may have a long-suit in hearts or be short in spades; your partner *vice versa*. What is the use of a hand inflated with additions in such cases.

Secondly, does any other system, theoretically come to their required 37 points or so for bidding a grand slam in a suit bid if you held all the 13 cards of that suit.

My system tells you that you hold 35 points in all (here I have valued my hand as I don't require support from my partner). Total points in the suit 10-points

Add 4 each for the
missing 3 suits. . 12

Add one extra
for the 7th card. 1

Add two each for
the remaining
6 cards .. 12

—
Total 35 points.
—

In the matter of systems of bidding I will just quote

from Norman Squire writing in *American Bridge World*.

"Any system will get good results in the hands of experts who know its every possibility, play their cards well and are good psychologists. Therefore, that this team beats that team is no test of system. A real test could be by extended comparison, one team using two systems equally well against equal opposition, alternatively two teams, equally matched (if anyone can be found to agree about that) to play a series of matches, and one system demonstrate unmistakable superiority. Try to get either!"

Here I may also mention that psychic bidding could get away against my system only very rarely. If the opponents come in with a psychic bid and if your partner doubles you naturally infer that he holds 4 cards (least) with two honors and if you held at least 4 cards with two honors the inference is that the opponents were psyching. When they run away to their real suit you must now bid the suit psyched by the opponents with the sure hope of partner supporting and reaching game in that suit.



THE FISHBEIN CONVENTION

Pre-emptive bids have great nuisance value and make life very difficult for the enemy. Realizing this, pre-emptive bids are now made quite often on very 'unsound' hands and quite often (if not most often) they get away with it.

To counteract such bids a device was found by Hary Fishbein, an expert Bridge player and this device is appropriately called the Fishbein Convention.

According to Fishbein, the most effective weapon against the dreaded weak three-bid was a penalty double that could be made to stick. On this principle rests this Convention. The Fishbein Convention consists of three basic principles.

1. An immediate double of an opening bid of three in a suit is a *penalty* double.

2. The cheapest possible suit bid, if directly over the shut-out bid, is a *take-out* double.

3. This Convention can be used only by the player who speaks immediately after the shut-out bid.

Accordingly a double over any pre-emptive call of three is a *penalty* double. The

person who doubles accepts to defeat the contract. His partner is not forced to pass. He may bid if he likes, but he bids only on his own responsibility.

If a penalty double, the requirements are the holding of not fewer than 5 defensive tricks, and including at least 3-trump tricks. The reason for requiring three-trump tricks is that otherwise one needs three or more tricks in the side suit. If one possesses so much side strength the need for a penalty double is not so defined.

If one is using the Fishbein language the demand for a take-out double is by bidding the cheapest possible bid in a suit. If the dealer at one's right bids three clubs, three diamonds is the cheapest possible bid and is a take-out asking the partner to bid his best suit. This bid does not denote the possession of a good diamond suit. Following this, a bid of three hearts over three clubs is just an overcall and has no significance. Partner is not compelled to take any action. He may or may not bid depending on the nature of his hand. The jump to four hearts would also mean the same thing.

NOTE:—If you happen to go to the Mylapore Club for Bridge you may come across one player pompously announcing that he plays Fishbein, Roth-Stone Doubles, Texas Convention, etc. Lest you be caught unawares this series of helpful articles on some of these Conventions, latest and less known, is given—Ep.

Over the bid of three spades the demand for the take-out should be four clubs (Not 3 no-trumps).

A bid of three no-trumps immediately over a pre-emptive call of 3 has a special meaning. It is a natural bid and the bidder would like his partner to pass as he would like to play under three no-trump.

The requirements for a take-out bid is a strong hand with 15 points and above with a good support for any suit partner may bid, and no more than a singleton in the enemy's suit. It follows that if one has a doubleton it should be a slightly stronger hand.

Responding to take-out double:

If you respond with a minimum hand partner must reckon with the possibility that your hand may be worthless. A jump bid in response to a double shows a fairly strong hand with 7 to 10 points but with no slam ambitions. A cue bid in the opener's bid suit can also be made and this will inform the partner that game could be reached and that the best suit by the partner may be put out since there is support for any suit.

Any bid made by the fourth hand not immediately after the pre-emptive bid has no significance according to the Fishbein Convention.



Edited by T. S. CHANDRASEKARAN.

We regret to report the death of S. V. Natarajan, Trichy, last month. Natarajan was an active member of the South Indian Bridge Association from the days of its inception and has been the mainstay of the City Club, Tiruchirapalli, from the days of the Deccan Bridge League. An ardent lover of the game and a player of no mean ability he was a popular figure at all important tournaments and his absence will be felt for a long time in bridge circles.



An Extraordinary General Body Meeting of the Association will be held at Madras on 2nd October, 1958, to consider the draft rules of the All India Contract Bridge Federation, and authorise the Executive Council to enrol the Association as a sponsor-member of the Federation.



The third annual Madras v. Andhra Match was played at the Mylapore Club, Madras, on 15, 16, 17 and 18th August, 1958. Madras won the event for the first time since the series began in 1956. One more win for Madras will equalise the score. Our congratulations to the winners. The teams were:

Madras

P. S. Reddy.
G. S. Reddy.
Dr. S. T. Achar.
B. Hanumantha Rao.
A. S. Giri.
K. C. Ramaratnam.

Andhra

P. Tilak.
Venkat Rao.
Tirumal Rao.
Narasiah.
Appa Rao.
Venkat Ratnam.

The result was welcome for another reason as well, as this victory proved the case for selection of players for representative matches on the basis of a team as a whole and not as individual players however brilliant they may be. We hope that this will pave the way for raising more balanced and well-knit teams in future.



City League Tournament.

The Madras City League Tournament has now concluded; N. Ramaratnam's team were the winners of this year's Tournament and had an unbeaten record. Our warm congratulations go to the players of this team on their well-deserved success. P. S. Reddy's Team were the runners-up.

Only ten teams participated this year. It is hoped that there will be a better response next year. The results:

N. Ramaratnam's Team :
Winners.

N. Ramaratnam (*Captain*).
C. V. Venkatesan.
B. Venkataramani
G. N. Chary.
K. Guru Dutt.
K. R. Sundaram Iyer.

P. S. Reddy's Team : *Runners-up.*

P. S. Reddy.
Dr. S. T. Achar.
A. S. Giri.
K. C. Ramaratnam.

B. Hanumantha Rao
G. S. Reddy.

GURU DUTT'S TROPHY FOR NON-WINNERS

There was a tie between the T. N. S. C. Team and S. V. S. Team and on a replay the T. N. S. C. emerged victors.

T. N. S. C. Team.
E. V. Thiruvengadam.
M. Sadhuram Dave.
T. Sundararaja Iyengar.
S. Ranganathan.
R. Nagaraja Rao.
Dr. N. Vijiaraghavan.

	Matches played.	Won.	Lost.
N. Ramaratnam's Team	9	9	—
P. S. Reddy's Team	9	7	2
Sundaram Iyer's Team	9	5	4
S. V. S.	9	5	4
T. Nagar S. Club	9	5	4
Baliah's Team	9	4	5
Burmah Shell 'A'	9	4	5
Catholic Institute	9	3	6
M. I. C.	9	2	7
Burmah Shell 'B'	9	1	8



M. U. C. TOURNAMENT

The following are the winners of the various events in the contract bridge tournament conducted by the Madras United Club :

Duplicate knock-out : Winners :

P. S. Reddy's Team :
P. S. Reddy
Dr. S. T. Achar
K. C. Ramaratnam

B. Hanumantha Rao
A. S. Giri.

Runners-up :

Rangachari's Team :

M. Rangachari
V. N. C. Rao
M. N. Reddy
V. R. Veeramani.

Master Pairs : Winners :

M. Rangaswami
V. R. Veeramani.

Runners-up :

M. Singaperumalayya
S. Ethiraju Chetty.

Individual Championship : Winner :

K. Guru Dutt.

Runner-up :

M. Gokuldoss.

Progressive Pairs :

North-South-Winners :

G. N. Chary
T. R. Samu Iyer.

Runners-up :

P. S. Sundaresa Iyer
Sivaramakrishna Iyer.

East-West-Winners :

K. C. Ramaratnam
N. Ramaratnam.

Runners-up :

T. K. N. Panikkar
M. Rangaswamy.

Progressive Duplicate : Winners :

N. Ramaratnam Team's :

N. Ramaratnam
G. N. Chary
K. Guru Dutt
B. Venkataramani.

Runners-up : M. I. C. Team :

T. K. N. Panikkar
M. Rangachari
M. Singaperumalayya
K. Sivaramakrishnan.

Open Pairs : (For Club Members only)

Winners :

K. L. Narayan Rao
G. K. Gopalswamy.

Runners-up :

C. N. Alwar Chetty
N. Sriramulaiah.



Two mofussil tournaments were staged during the period; one at Karaikudi by the Town Club, Karaikudi and the other at Tanjore by the Union Club, Tanjore. The Karaikudi tournament attracted a record number of entries, three teams of four from Madras besides all mofussil centres participating. Arrangements for the lodging of the visitors and conduct of the tournament in general were in keeping with the high traditions of the Karaikudi Club. M. R. S. Manickavelu Chettiar deserves special thanks for the warmth of reception and his efforts in bringing together a host of bridge players. The Burmah Shell team won the main trophy thanks to a sporting gesture by the home team in agreeing to play a limited number of deals when time was short. The detailed results are :

Team-of-four :

Burmah Shell Club 'B' Madras :
S. Mahalingam
P. K. Janakiraman
S. Tarakaraman
E. S. Natarajan.

Runners-up :

M. R. S. Manickavelu
T. Srinivasan
A. Sundararajan.
T. Sundararajan.
Navaneetha Krishna Naidu.

Progressive Pairs : N. S. Winners.

T. K. Srinivasan and Appadurai.

Runners-up :

S. Kasi and Arunachalam.

E. W. Winners :

Dr. Kuppuswami and partner.

Runners-up :

R. Rajagopal and S. K. Subramanian (Burma Shell)

Master Pairs : Section I-Winners.

G. N. Chary and T. Srinivasan (Madras)

Section II-Winners.

Ch. Arunachalam and R. Natesan.

Runners-up : Section-I.

Ram and Chockalingam.

Section-II.

M. N. S. T. Chidambaram and N. K. Nachiappan.

Par Event : Winners : N. S.

Subbiah Naidu and Jagannathan.

E. W.

S. K. Subramaniam and P. K. Janakiraman.

Runners-up : N. S.

G. N. Viswanathan and C. R. Anantanarayanan.

E. W.

P. C. L. Arunachalam and R. Natesan.

Progressive Duplicate : Winners.

E. L. Joseph, N. A. Arunachalam, Panchapakesan and G. Sundararajan.

Runners-up :

S. Kasi, N. Arunachalam, L. Arunachalam and Muthiah Chettiar.



The Tanjore Union Club's tournament came off during July and was also well attended. Only 3 events were conducted; Knock-out Team of four event, Progressive Pairs and Master Pairs.

The tournament was a personal triumph for Sri T. K. Srinivasa Iyengar who led the home team to victory in the main knock-out event.

*The results.**Winners :*

Union Club, Tanjore.

T. K. Srinivasan.

Appadurai.

Rajendran.

G. Dorairaj.

Team-of-four : Runners-up :

S. R. V. Thatham.
S. V. Natarajan.
Gopu.
S. Ratnam.
S. Ramji.

Progressive Pairs : Winners: N.S.

T. K. Srinivasan and Appadurai.

Runners-up :

S. R. M. and P. S. R. M.

Winners : E. W.

N. Ramaratnam and K. C. Ramaratnam.

Runners-up :

N. Muthukrishnan and A. R. Ramanathan

Master Pairs : Winners.

G. N. Viswanathan and C. R. Ananthanarayanan.

Runners-up :

K. R. Sundaram Iyer and K. Guru Dutt.

*Pro et Contra.*

This feature has been ably conducted by Mr. E. Solomon of no mean fame in bridge circles. Mr. Solomon is now very much in business at Guntur and has conveyed, with acute regrets, his inability to continue this feature. Mr. Sundaresa Iyer has now been persuaded to take up the editing of this difficult feature. Mr. Sundaresa Iyer is very familiar to all bridge players in the South and is appropriately called the "Pandit". We have no doubt he will look after this department very capably.



CUTTINGS AND JOTTINGS

European Championship.

News is to hand that the Italian team, first favourites for the European championship won the Title from 12 other contenders. The result was close and was actually decided by a slightly favourable match point quotient as against the British Team consisting of Reese, Schapiro, Harrison Gray and others.

The finalists in the United States will also be known shortly and Bridge-lovers all over the world will watch the third meeting of the Italian and the American teams with great interest.

On ethics.

We quote from Alvin Landy (Business Manager to the A. C. B. L.) on this subject and we have no doubt that this extract will be read with interest and benefit.

"Bridge experts are, as a class, far and away the most ethical of players. So-called social bridge players have, quite literally, *no concept* of ethics. The majority of tournament players fall between these two extremes.

This is intended as a factual statement, but it probably sounds condemnatory. The average social bridge game is chockful of table talk. The slow pass may be accompanied by the statement 'Well, I think I'll pass this time.' The penalty double is distinguished from the takes double by an explanatory word

or two. Doubtful doubles are clearly labelled as such in the conversation. It's enough to give an expert a severe case of the shakes, but it doesn't bother the participants. They don't realize that anything is amiss; they have no concept of bridge ethics; they're quite happy, and nobody wants to disrupt their Garden of Eden.

The situation is quite different when all of the players are ranking experts, as is sometimes the case in tournament play. There may be conversation between deals but there is none at all from the moment the cards are taken out of the board until the last card is played. All bids are made in an even tone, and practically all are made in an even tempo. The players are almost fanatically careful to avoid any act or mannerism that might be thought to convey information, other than what is deducible from the bids and plays.

Somewhere in the middle are the great majority of tournament players, who do a great many things that *they're not even aware of*. There may not be any conversation, but a doubtful bid is made with a slightly doubtful tone. A player makes a final bid with a tone of finality and looks away from the table if the partner thinks of making a further bid.

How does the expert react to all of these violations of the

code of ethics? He puts up with it if his opponents are what he calls "bad players." He knows that the offender is almost invariably quite unaware of wrongdoing and that the partner is not alert enough or expert enough to interpret correctly the tone of voice or the mannerism.

But the expert screams for the tournament director, if his opponents are *good* players. For in this situation the offender is sometimes aware 'perhaps even *keenly* aware' of what he is doing. His judgment is likely to be sound; and his partner is likely to be alert enough to receive the message."

Sportsmanship.

"Each of us wants to be a champion. But the first thing we must learn is sportsmanship. You play the game according to the rules. You don't lose your temper or cheat. You treat your opponent the way you'd like to be treated yourself. And when the final whistle blows, take this code of good sportsmanship wherever you go."

—Jesse Owens.

Well done.

Helen Sobel and Charles H. Goren have won the Life Masters Pairs at the Summer Nationals, 1958 held at Miami in August. Their success was due according to Goren to their precise Bridge "We played precision bridge—being neither reckless nor timid". It will be interesting to know that Charles Goren has

amassed the largest number of Master Points. Up to June 1958 he has to his credit 5639 M. P. Mrs. Sobel's record is no less impressive. She has 4026 M. P.

World Bridge Federation.

News is to hand that a World Bridge Federation was formed in Oslo, Sweden, where this year's European Championship was played. This will open up a wider arena for international competition. Readers of I. B. W. will be interested to learn that the formation of All-India Bridge Federation is well under way and that the Federation will come into being before the end of the year. On the 2nd of October, 1958, the General Body of the S. I. B. A. will meet to consider and ratify the draft rules and articles of the All-India Bridge Federation.

Bridge in U. S. A.

According to a recent survey the number of bridge players in the United States has risen, within the last 17 years, to 35 millions from 22 millions. Of these 35 millions, about 75,000 players are reported to participate in recognized tournaments. Bridge is becoming the most popular card game in the United States. Almost every paper has a Bridge column.

In India no such statistics can be gathered. Bridge has not become such a popular pastime. In fact its popularity is very much threatened by the game of Rummy which has caught on like a contagion.

On Bridge Manners.

"There is, most regrettably, an increasing tendency for hand-shaking at the card table. In a recent tournament, a player, on making a difficult contract, seized his partner's proffered hand and accepted his warm congratulations with both pleasure and gusto. It was a nauseating sight reminiscent of the kisses showered on a goal-securing centre-forward by their team-mates.

In a moment of triumph during a fast-moving game such as Association Football it may be difficult to check exuberent emotion, but in slow moving

games there is absolutely no excuse for being a jolly winner.

When the scores are checked at the conclusion of a match, it is almost invariably found that there is a losing side. Custom ordains that the members of the losing side congratulate the members of the winning side, and this is invariably done with good grace and at least with some measure of sincerity. The members of the winning team should remember that they too have a code, the important one of refraining from exuberence over the vanquished."

E. Kempson in '*Bridge Magazine*.'

JL
my 31st 2nd, ♥

A switch in time stops nine tricks at no-trump.—*The Bulletin*.

NS 9 2

