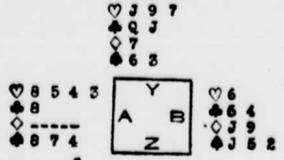


PROBLEMS FOR "SUN" READERS TO SOLVE

Cracks at Checkers Won New Honors in Competition Just Ended.

BRIDGE DISCARDS FORCED

The solution of bridge problem No. 301 depends on unblocking a suit in which the partner is longer than the leader of it. Here is the distribution:



Clubs are trumps and Z is in the lead. Y and Z want eight tricks against any defense.

Z leads a small heart, which Y wins. While Y is exhausting the adversaries' trumps Z gets rid of the king of hearts and a small diamond. On Y's two winning hearts Z sheds two more losing diamonds and then makes his tenace in spades when Y leads through B.

Correct solutions from: L. S. Hart, Jr., Henry Rosenthal, O. H. Boston, W. P. W. Ralph L. Greenberg, John H. Whiting, B. G. Braine, Walter McMartin, M. L. C. Beretval L. Wilde, D. Perry, Conrad V. Fletcher, M. H. H. Charles R. Sawyer, W. D. Smith, A. W. Haddon, George H. Hempel, C. F. Johnson, M. C. C. H. Fairfield, Henry Andrew, Burton D. Blair, Alfred Benjamin, Key-stone, J. W. Wortz, Roscoe C. Harris, W. H. Thadon, M. E. W. James Stein, C. H. O'Connor, H. R. Wright, Frank H. Young, W. P. W. Ralph L. Greenberg.

Bridge problem No. 302, by F. H. Lewis, is another good example of the methods by which the skillful player can force an adversary to discard first, so that the player beyond may take advantage of the situation left by those discards. Here is the distribution:



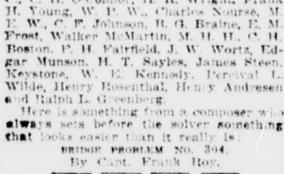
Clubs are trumps and Z is in the lead. Y and Z want all eight tricks against any defense.

The solution is for Z to lead the trump, so that Y may win whatever A plays. Before leading another round of trumps Y may lay down the ace of hearts. Two rounds of trumps follow, on both of which Z discards hearts.

On the second trump lead B can let go the heart, as A will protect that suit. But the third round of trumps puts him in trouble. If he lets go a spade all three of Y's are good. If he discards a diamond three of Z's are good. The ace of hearts might come after the third round of trumps without affecting the result.

Correct solutions from: Roscoe C. Harris, A. W. Haddon, George E. Hempel, D. A. W. L. S. Hart, Jr., Charles H. Sawyer, W. Dean Smith, M. L. C. Beretval, H. R. Wright, Frank H. Young, W. P. W. Ralph L. Greenberg, M. E. W. James Stein, C. H. O'Connor, H. R. Wright, Frank H. Young, W. P. W. Ralph L. Greenberg.

Here is something from a member of The Sun Checker Club who started the last series of problems with one of his own compositions:



PROBLEM NO. 304. BY FRANK ROY. BY FRANK ROY.

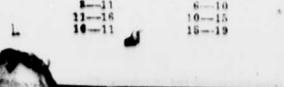
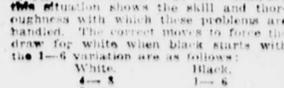
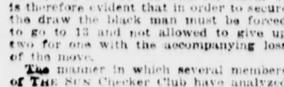
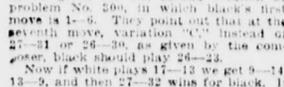
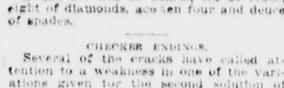
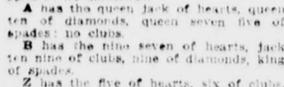
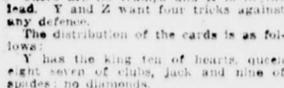
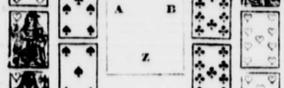
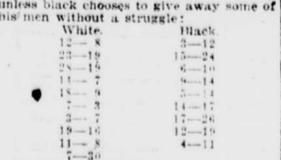


Table with 2 columns and 10 rows of numbers, likely a score sheet or list of names.

This series about the well known Sturges Draw. This is not as pretty as the solution that follows black's initial move of 9-14, and credit for correct answers to the problem could be given only to those who gave both variations, 7-6 and 9-14, as they required entirely different treatment.

The solution of problem No. 302, which it appears, should be credited to John Steele, depends on ingenious series of moves that force black to set the stage for his own destruction.

The distribution of the pieces is as follows: Black men on 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 13 and 15. No kings. White men on 11, 12, 14, 18, 22, 23 and 25. No kings. White to play and win. Here are the moves that solve, there being no variation to the play unless black chooses to give away some of his men without a struggle:



Correct solutions from: P. J. McFarry, William D. Clarke, Albert J. Ford, James Hyland, L. S. Hart, Jr., James A. Green, D. A. W. L. S. Hart, Jr., E. L. Brandow, Conrad Alheid, James G. Huntington, C. M. Bunn, Benjamin Simon, J. P. De Groff, J. W. Miller, E. J. Walker, Robert H. Hixon, F. A. Magennis, A. J. P. Nicholas J. Zunino, William Leung, John Daly, Edward Kay-crow, J. H. Norman, W. P. Kenyon, Joseph Elliott, Robert T. Blair and K. T. Vickers. CHECKER HONOR LIST.

The outcome of the last test shows a marked improvement in the ability of the solvers, the list of successful competitors being the largest to date, so that THE SUN Checker Club finds it necessary to make room for several new members and also to award to less than three stars to the expert class.

Only five succeeded in solving all ten of the problems in the series from 291 to 300 inclusive. Three of those having held white cards before are entitled to one star. They now rank as experts. Their names are:

John Daily, Fall River; Oscar Erickson, Brooklyn; L. S. Hart, Jr., Duncannon, Pa.; Robert H. Hixon (the address), J. H. Noremak, Fall River.

Three problems seem to have been responsible for most of the scoring out of process. These were 294, 299 and 300. Of the eight players who are entitled to red cards for having missed only one problem out of the ten, five missed the set of the series and two missed 294. Their names are:

Christian L. Berge, C. L. B., Red Bank, N. J.; C. M. Bunn, Ralph, Providence; William Leung, Brooklyn; Joseph Elliott, Forestville, Conn.; "Hoboken," Hoboken, N. J. and James Hyland, Forestville.

Members who missed two problems and are entitled to the blue cards are less than six had perfect scores until the last two of the series, 299 and 300. All three of them missed No. 299. Their names are:

Smith N. Allen, Boston; J. I. F. Brock, Brooklyn; J. P. De Groff, Jersey City; C. L. Lynn, Ixorton, Conn.; P. J. McFarry, Eastfield, Conn.; W. M. Mathis, New York City; D. A. W. L. S. Hart, Jr., E. J. Walker, Jamaica, N. Y. and James A. Green, Jamaica, N. Y.

Those who missed three problems and are entitled to green cards are only four. Their names are:

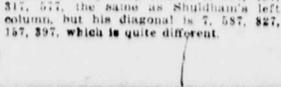
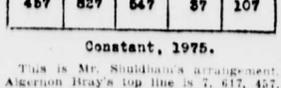
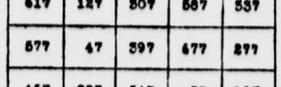
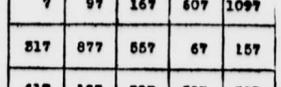
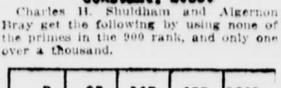
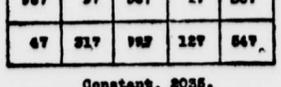
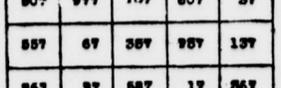
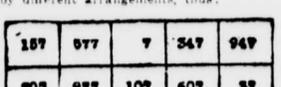
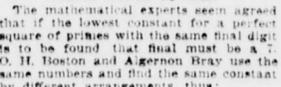
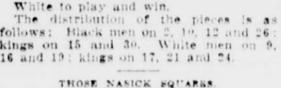
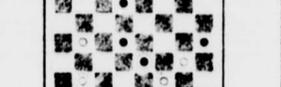
A. L. Driver, Bay Ridge; G. P. Franke, Boston; H. H. Hamilton, Spartanburg, S. C.; Benjamin Simon, (no address), J. G. Pinkerton, Fall River; William D. Clarke, New York City, and Julius Ostelst, Boston.

Members who will be forwarded on receipt of full name and address. The fourth series of tests for candidates for membership in THE SUN Checker Club began with No. 301 and will end with No. 310. All those who solve each of the ten problems will receive white cards, those missing one get red cards, missing two, blue cards; missing three, green cards.

All solutions in order to be credited must reach the office of THE SUN not later than the morning of the second Thursday after the problem appears. Solvers should be careful to sign their names. No less than eight correct solutions should be handed in the last series unsigned and with no address.

Here is something from a member of The Sun Checker Club who started the last series of problems with one of his own compositions:

PROBLEM NO. 304. BY FRANK ROY. BY JOHN WHELAN. Black.



MISLEADING BIDS AT ROYAL AUCTION

Two Elements That Commonly Result in Needless Losses.

THE PARTNER'S VIEWPOINT

There are two elements in the bidding at auction bridge which cannot fail to impress the bystander who has a chance to overlook two of the opposing hands. One of these is the unnecessary fear of a declaration that cannot accomplish anything and the other is the continual exhibition of a curious optimism in estimating the possibilities of a hand.

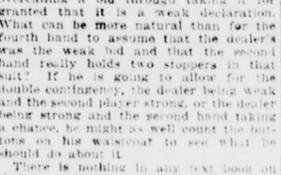
Those who are accustomed to play in the same company almost all the time, as at a club, frequently excuse the extraordinary nature of some of their bids by explaining that they know the players they are bidding against. If their attention is called to the folly of bidding against a player who shows two sure tricks in a certain suit, the answer is: "He does not bid that way," or, "His bid does not show anything about the top."

This is simply an admission that one is taking a chance on the bid being irregular, because no one will maintain that because a player sometimes bids on suits without the top he never has the top when he names a suit.

It is quite true that a player may have the reputation of bidding hearts with six to the queen, but that is no guarantee that he will refuse to bid hearts if he has five honors in one hand. Any one who continually bids against such a player, on the assumption that he is making in his favorite weakness, is liable at any moment to find that he has waked up the wrong passer.

But there is a further consideration that is almost entirely overlooked, and that is the impression made upon the partner by overcalling a bid through taking it for granted that it is a weak declaration. What can be more natural than for the fourth hand to assume that the dealer's was the weak bid and that the second hand really holds two stoppers in that suit? If he is going to allow for the double contingency, the dealer being weak and the second player strong, or the dealer being strong and the second hand taking a chance, he might as well court the bottom on his waistcoat to see what he should do about it.

There is nothing in any text book on the game so far published that gives a hint as to how the partner is to be waked up after he has been started on the wrong track, or how his erroneous conception of the situation is to be corrected after he has formed an opinion apparently perfectly logical conclusions. Take this case:



Z deals and bids a royal. This is a bad bid, according to modern ideas, because he has not a single sure trick in the suit called for anything resembling a sure trick outside. A knows him to be that sort of a bidder and takes a chance on this being a bluff. He calls, overcalling him with one no trump.

Now if we admit that Z is in the habit of making just such bids as this we must also admit that he would bid a royal if he had a queen jack in that suit; but instead of king jack he had the three no honors in diamonds to back it up instead of nothing but a doubtful trick in hearts. Against such a holding, which has no winners in the actual distribution for all A knows, where would A bid with a no trump if Y leads a spade?

That Z can win the game at royals is not at all clear. It is a question of no matter what he bids, unless he can bluff hearts on the first round and obtain on the second. That A can win the game at no trumps against A is immediate and that is why A should not call with the no trump and win the rubber?

Z began to think the rubber was gone and made one more effort to save it until the next deal by bidding three hearts, although he had a no trump and two sure tricks in trumps against him.

The stage is now set for some authority on the game to show us how A is going to lead his partner off and show him that he never has the two aces in the queen. He is banking on and does not want to play the hand at no trumps. Suppose he doubles and finds Z with seven or eight trumps and the whole diamond suit. B having needed the lead spades three times, the way Z bids up his hand looks like it, and a double would make him a present of the game and rubber if he gets three sets.

Nevertheless A thought this was the only chance, so he doubled the three hearts, hoping for the best. Instead of having the desired effect, the double served only to show that Z held the queen and the spades stopped twice. With his three diamond tricks and a helping hand in hearts B was only too glad to bid three no trumps in order to clinch the rubber on the deal.

Now comes the astonishing part of it all. When both Z and A passed Y doubled the three no trumps!

As a view of the situation is undoubtedly gained, the partner for a long spade suit, with at least one sure trumps somewhere. No suit has been named by A or B, but Y has the clubs surely stopped himself, as he has in hearts and the ability to lead spades three times, starting with an honor, which should be free. Why not take advantage of the free double?

Of course A's no trump was set. The spade suit cleared up on the second round, as A could not hold on any longer. A made his four diamonds, winning the last round with the jack, so as to lead a small heart. He figures his partner, hoping the king was with Y and that he had no more spades, which was very likely, as Z had bid so high, and Z had discarded two hearts without cheating.

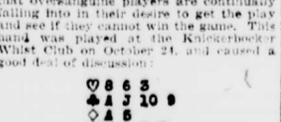
The queen of hearts fell to the king, and Z made his three spades, setting the contract for 100 points and saving the rubber. Looked at from any point of view, A's original no trump declaration is a gamble and he deserved to lose by it. All he had

to do was to let the royals alone and lead his king of clubs to show his rectify. Then he could try out the diamonds while he still had a chance to get the trump lead and make his ace, if he found the diamonds all against him.

If Z ruffed the third diamond and led a small trump, dummy's queen A would hold off, win the return and make his ace of clubs. He could then count Z's hand for three more trumps at the strong and three hearts. In order to keep dummy from stopping the trump lead and make his ace, if he found the diamonds all against him.

It would be interesting to know which of the two elements, dummy's queen A would hold off, win the return and make his ace of clubs. He could then count Z's hand for three more trumps at the strong and three hearts. In order to keep dummy from stopping the trump lead and make his ace, if he found the diamonds all against him.

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Z dealt and bid a spade. Just to illustrate the remarks that will follow, the reader's attention is called to the fact that the spades were clubs, the bid would still be one spade. He is too short in hearts to call that suit.

A and B both passed the spade. B took out with one no trump. If there is anything against which players are continually warned in these articles it is fourth hand taking the dealer out of an original spade when the dealer starts with a spade. This is at the foundation of the modern convention for abandoning the spade suit altogether as a passing bid. When the second hand passes a spade, having nothing to show in his hand, he is in exactly the same position as if he were third hand when the dealer starts with a spade. This is the situation for both Y and B in the deal under consideration.

All that is left in his hand is four sure tricks, two in spades, two in diamonds and a possible trick in hearts. In order to go game at no trumps a partner who has nothing to say to a dealer's spade bid and four hearts and a fourth, to wit, a trick. The third hand would not bid, even if he had a no trump, and for the very reason that should prevent the fourth hand from bidding.

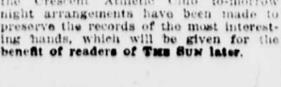
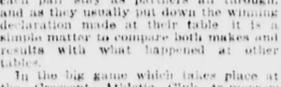
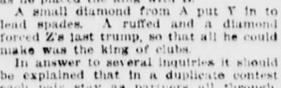
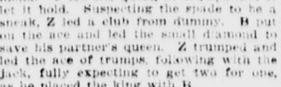
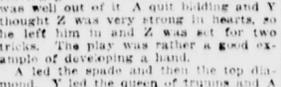
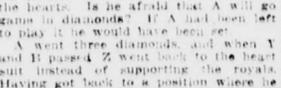
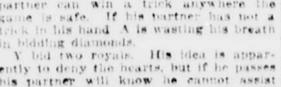
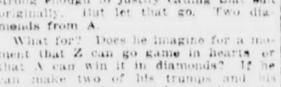
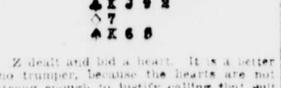
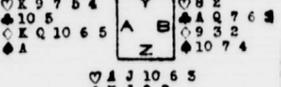
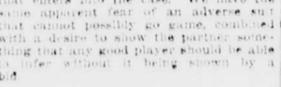
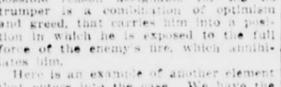
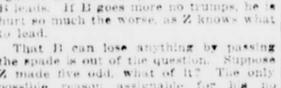
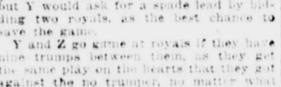
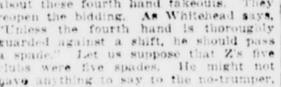
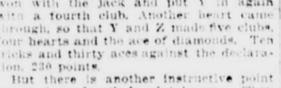
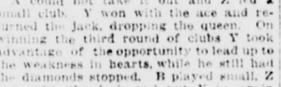
What happened? A could not take it out and Z led a small club. Y won with the ace and returned the jack, dropping the queen. On winning the third round of clubs Y took advantage of the opportunity to lead the ace of hearts, which he still had the diamonds stopped. B played small. Z won with the jack and put Y in a game with a fourth club. Another heart came through, so that Z made five clubs, ten trumps and thirty aces against the declaration, 230 points.

But there is another interesting point about these bidding. As Whitehead says, "Unless the fourth hand is thoroughly guarded against a shift, he should pass a spade." Let us suppose that Z's five hearts were five in hearts, he would not have anything to say to the no-trump, but Y would ask for a spade lead by bidding two royals, as the best chance to save the game.

Y and Z set game at royals if they had nine trumps between them, as they get the same play on the hearts that they get against the no trump, no matter what B leads. If B goes more no trumps, he is hurt, so much the worse, as Z knows what to lead.

That B can lose anything by passing the spade is out of the question. Suppose Z made five odd, what of it? The only possible reason for a change of opinion and a creed, that carries him into a position in which he is exposed to the full force of the enemy's fire, which annihilates him.

Here is an example of another element that enters into the case. We have the same apparent fear of an adverse suit that cannot possibly be game, combined with the desire to get a partner's opinion. If any good player would be able to infer without it being shown by a bid.



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CHESS FOR PLAYER, LOVER AND STUDENT

Brooklyn Club Does Better in Big Team Match Than Expected.

Opinions were very much divided among the members of the Brooklyn Chess Club previous to their encounter with the Manhattan Chess Club on Saturday week.

While quite a number were opposed to a match on sixteen boards, others thought that such a number of boards were most essential in order to make a real test of strength. Experience, however, has shown over and over again that with sixteen boards the Brooklyn club had no chance whatever and hence the policy of playing such a match was not considered right. On the other hand it was stated that the weaker players would not have a chance at all to meet good players and hence the Manhattan won by ten to five games, one game being left adjourned.

Considering that Brooklyn had to play minus two good men, William M. de Visser and G. F. Schweizer, and minus Luck, which is always a great factor in team matches, the defeat was not as big as was really anticipated. It may be that the Brooklyn club will be better fixed on the occasion of the return match next month and that it will be able to play on sixteen boards.

At the Women's Chess Club of New York there were very busy at the annual meeting held at the Hotel Martin Washington on Tuesday afternoon.

The women first elected the following board of directors: Miss E. Campbell, Pres. Miss G. P. Slade, Mrs. William Gordon, Vice-President, Miss May Drake, Miss C. West, Mrs. H. J. Smith, Charles Edward Noyes, Jr., Sec. Mrs. Isabelle H. Harris, Miss Annabel Major Smith and Miss L. S. Holmes. Next they elected the following officers: Miss Post, president, Mrs. Slade, corresponding secretary, Mrs. Marshall, treasurer, Miss Holmes, secretary.

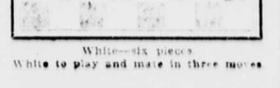
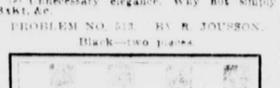
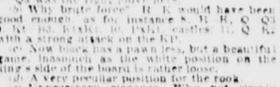
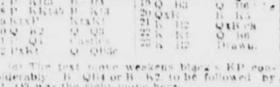
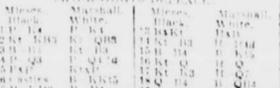
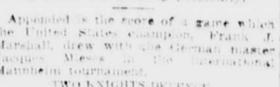
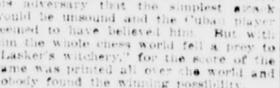
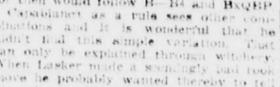
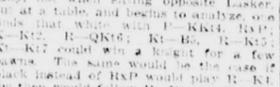
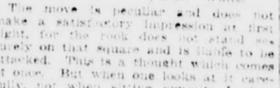
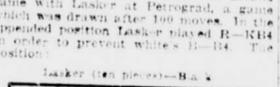
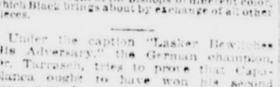
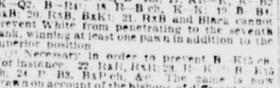
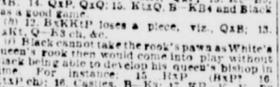
The final business before the meeting was a discussion of the advisability of arranging a national women's congress, to be held on January 11. It was decided to hold such a congress, the principal event to be a championship tournament, while one or two minor congresses also should be arranged according to the number of cities interested. Local positions will be given to the winners. President Post appointed Mrs. C. E. Nixford and Miss Annabel Major Smith as a committee to open all corners, that is to say even members of the local organizations, will be admitted to the tournaments. All communications should be addressed to Mrs. E. Campbell, Post, 29 East 72nd St., New York City.

Julius Pinn opened the season of the Empire City Chess Club, 3 Hamilton place, a week ago with a grand simultaneous exhibition against seventeen members of the club. He would up the whole proceedings in one and a half hours, winning sixteen games and drawing one with H. Apperson. The single draw was that which was mentioned in the first paragraph. Next Saturday J. Pinn will give a lecture and play all corners simultaneously.

Word was given on Thursday that the Empire City Chess Club, Frank Marshall, was carrying everything before him in the cities he had visited on his tour to date. At Kingston, Troy and Schenectady he won a total of local chess players were ready to tackle the master, who, however, did not meet with a single reverse.

The Argentine Chess Club at Buenos Aires arranged a match between the Cuban champion, J. R. Capablanca, and Boris Kostichin, the famous Bohemian expert, and it is furthermore stated that negotiations are pending between the Cuban champion and Dr. Emanuel Lasker for a match for the championship of the world, to be played on neutral ground. It is stated that Lasker is willing to play, and the chances are that the match probably will be played in this country this season.

Games played in the match between the Manhattan and Brooklyn chess clubs on November 11.



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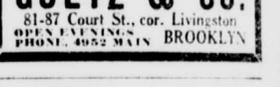
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PROBLEM NO. 304. BY FRANK ROY. BY JOHN WHELAN. Black.

