BRIDGE by RADIO

Game played week of Nov. 2
Bridge by Radio

Broadcast by

WSAI, every Tuesday, 9-9:30 p.m. (C.T.)
starting October 27

WEAF, WEEI, WFI, WGR, WWJ, WOC, WCCO, alternate Tuesdays, 10-10:30 p.m. (E.T.)
starting October 27

KPRC, WFAA, WMC, WDOD, WSB, alternate Tuesdays, 9-9:30 p.m. (C.T.)
KFOA, every Friday, 8:30-9 p.m. (P.T.)
KGW, every Tuesday, 8:20-8:45 p.m. (P.T.)
KHJ, every Tuesday, 3:30-4 p.m. (P.T.)
WGY, alternate Saturdays, 7:45-8:15 p.m. (E.T.)
KGO, every Tuesday, 9:30-10 p.m. (P.T.)
WGN, every Wednesday, 3-3:30 p.m. (C.T.)
WEAN, every Tuesday, 10-10:30 p.m. (E.T.)
WNAC, alternate Tuesdays, 10-10:30 p.m. (E.T.)
WSOE, alternate Thursdays, 8-8:30 p.m. (C.T.)

Have your cards and four players ready. Make each bid and play exactly as made by the experts, and broadcast over radio. Reprints of each game may be secured by writing to the stations broadcasting the games.

This is a Sample of BICYCLE Playing Cards
ARRANGE a table for four players so that each player can take the name of one of the experts and occupy his place at the table.

Divide the cards into the four suits, so that the cards of each suit may be easily and quickly selected, and handed to the proper player. Spread the four suits out on the table, separately, with each suit arranged in sequence, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, Jack, Queen, King and Ace.

The contestants in this game are:

Ralph J. Leibenderfer, of New York — known as one of the very best players in the country, to whom other experts appeal when in doubt.

Gratz M. Scott, of New York — one of the leading Bridge teachers and authorities of the Metropolis, a member of the Knickerbocker Championship four, and a prominent exponent of the game.

Wilbur C. Whitehead — recognized as an authority throughout the Bridge world, also author of many books on the game, inventor of the Whitehead system, and one of the Editors of the Work-Whitehead Auction Bridge Bulletin.

Milton C. Work — who probably has the largest following of all recognized authorities, whose books are extensively read, and who is one of the Editors of the Work-Whitehead Auction Bridge Bulletin.

Each player at your table should assume the name of one of the experts and seat himself in the position indicated.

In drawing for deal and partners, Mr. Work and Mr. Whitehead are partners, and Mr. Leibenderfer and Mr. Scott are partners.

Mr. Whitehead is the dealer, and we shall call his position “South,” so that the player in your group who is called “Whitehead” will please note this fact. Mr. Leibenderfer is second hand, seated on the left of Mr. Whitehead and we shall call his position “West.” Mr. Work, of course, is opposite Mr. Whitehead, in the “North” position, while Mr. Scott, opposite Mr. Leibenderfer, occupies the “East” position; that is, Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Work opposite each other, Mr. Leibenderfer on Mr. Whitehead’s left and Mr. Scott on Mr. Whitehead’s right.

Mr. Whitehead deals. The complete distribution of each suit separately is as follows: As each card is announced the player designated should pick the card
from the suit on the table. Be careful to select the correct card.

The Spade Suit is as follows:
- Mr. Whitehead in the “South” holds 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4
- Mr. Leibenderfer in the “West” holds K, Q, J, 10
- Mr. Work in the “North” holds 3
- Mr. Scott in the “East” holds A, 2

The Heart Suit is as follows:
- Mr. Whitehead in the “South” holds None
- Mr. Leibenderfer in the “West” holds Q, 10, 7, 2
- Mr. Work in the “North” holds K, 9, 8, 6, 5, 3
- Mr. Scott in the “East” holds A, J, 4

The Diamond Suit is as follows:
- Mr. Whitehead in the “South” holds A, 10, 2
- Mr. Leibenderfer in the “West” holds 8, 7
- Mr. Work in the “North” holds K, Q, J, 6, 3
- Mr. Scott in the “East” holds 9, 5, 4

The Club Suit is as follows:
- Mr. Whitehead in the “South” holds A, K, Q, 3
- Mr. Leibenderfer in the “West” holds 10, 8, 4
- Mr. Work in the “North” holds J
- Mr. Scott in the “East” holds 9, 7, 6, 5, 2

The complete hands held by all players are as follows:
- Mr. Whitehead “South” holds: Spades, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4
  Hearts, None
  Diamonds, A, 10, 2
  Clubs, A, K, Q, 3
- Mr. Leibenderfer “West” holds: Spades, K, Q, J, 10
  Hearts, Q, 10, 7, 2
  Diamonds, 8, 7
  Clubs, 10, 8, 4
- Mr. Work “North” holds: Spades, 3
  Hearts, K, 9, 8, 6, 5, 3
  Diamonds, K, Q, J, 6, 3
  Clubs, J
- Mr. Scott “East” holds: Spades, A, 2
  Hearts, A, J, 4
  Diamonds, 9, 5, 4
  Clubs, 9, 7, 6, 5, 2

The bidding will now begin. Mr. Whitehead, in the South, opens the bidding with one club. You should understand that original bids are purely informative. Unless they are pre-emptive or shut-out bids, they express no desire to play the hand at the declaration named. Their primary purpose is to inform the partner that the bidder holds better than average high cards, aces, kings, etc., in support of a possible bid by partner or in defense of a bid by an opponent. The bidder’s ability to play the hand at the declaration he has named, is of only secondary importance. In bidding, you and your partner are endeavoring to find the best bid for game, or failing game, for contract between your twenty-six cards. This best bid rarely proves to be the declaration originally named. In the great majority of instances, it is overcalled, if not by partner, then by an opponent.

When you are dealer or second hand, your partner has yet to bid. He can well hold a hand of considerable strength, but not strong enough to bid in his position unless previously assured of better than average high card support from you. Any hand that contains two or more sure tricks, contains better than average high card support. Consequently, whenever as dealer or second hand you hold as good or better than two quick tricks, and are able by means of a justifiable original bid to convey that information to partner, it is not only advisable, but as a rule obligatory to do so.

Here Mr. Whitehead holds more than two quick tricks. Thus, the only question is, has he any legitimate means of conveying this information to his partner. His spade suit is too weak to bid originally and his diamond suit too short. To bid no-trump when defenseless in two suits, and particularly when void of one of the two, would not only give his partner an incorrect picture of his hand, but would be dangerous as well. Therefore, his only legitimate original bid is one club.

Mr. Leibenderfer in the “West” bids one spade. While a four-card K, Q, J, 10 suit is a doubtful original bid unless accompanied by more than a side queen, it warrants a defensive bid, if for no other purpose than to indicate the lead desired from his partner in case his opponent on left becomes the declarer.

Now what would you do with Mr. Work’s hand in the “North”? No doubt you would do what he did; bid two hearts, and not two diamonds. Four odd and no more may be possible with either suit as trump; and four odd is game with hearts and not game with diamonds as trumps. Moreover, with two suits, both justifiable bids, the rule is to show the higher ranking suit first, and, subsequently, when necessary, the lower. This method allows partner to show his preference for either suit without increasing the contract. These two considerations prompt Mr. Work in the “North” to bid two
hearts instead of two diamonds, although his diamond suit is much the stronger of the two.

Mr. Scott in the “East” passes, demonstrating the soundness of Mr. Scott’s game. With his holding, most players would assist his partner’s spade bid. Had Mr. Scott three small spades and two side aces he would have done so. But with only normal assistance in spades and one side ace, he holds no more than partner expects him to hold. Normal assistance is three small cards or ace small, king small or queen small in the suit bid by partner. Consequently, an immediate assist would deceive Mr. Leibenderfer by stating that he holds strength he does not possess.

Now Mr. Whitehead in the “South” is in a quandary. He should make some effort to inform partner of the heart situation. But what? His spade suit, such as it is, is not available as a bid because already bid by an opponent. To bid two no-trumps with his holding is out of the question. His partner’s heart bid, however, did not necessarily deny club support. Therefore, he bids three clubs in emphatic denial of hearts.

Mr. Leibenderfer in the “West,” of course, passes, as he has already bid the full strength of his hand.

Mr. Work in the “North” now shows his second suit by bidding three diamonds, because his heart suit is too weak to bid in the face of partner’s emphatic denial of hearts, and because he in turn is called upon to deny his partner’s clubs.

All pass and Mr. Work is the declarer, with three diamonds as his contract.

Each player should now play the card as it is called, placing it immediately in front of him on the table, so that his hand is kept intact.

Please do not place your cards in a book, but place them in front of you. The reason for this will be explained later in the progress of the game.

The partners winning a trick should leave the cards played face up and the losing side turn their cards face down. Thus, each side will be able to see at a glance which tricks they have won and which they have lost. Remember, cards up for winning trick and down for losing trick. Now, each player must play the cards from his hand as announced.

Mr. Scott in the “East” leads the ace of spades. When holding only two cards of the suit bid by partner the proper procedure is to always lead the higher card first.
standing diamonds are probably divided three and two between his opponents. Therefore, he can count the possibility of eleven tricks, that is, one trick already won, two hearts trumped in dummy, four club tricks, and four more diamond tricks in his own hand, so he determines to try for game by this method of play. Therefore, at trick 3, Mr. Work leads the 3 of hearts, Mr. Scott in the “East” plays the 4, dummy ruffs with the 10 of diamonds and Mr. Leibenderfer in the “West” plays the 2 of hearts.

Dummy leads the 3 of clubs, Mr. Leibenderfer plays the 4, Mr. Work wins with the jack and Mr. Scott plays the deuce.

Now Mr. Work in the “North” leads the 5 of hearts, Mr. Scott in the “East” follows with the jack, dummy Trumps with the ace of diamonds and Mr. Leibenderfer plays the 7 of hearts.

Dummy leads the ace of clubs, Mr. Leibenderfer in the “West” plays the 8, Mr. Work discards the 6 of hearts and Mr. Scott in the “East” plays the 5 of clubs.

The king of clubs is then led from dummy, on which Mr. Leibenderfer plays the 10. The play of the 10 of clubs by Mr. Leibenderfer, causes Mr. Work to again take stock of the situation. He realizes that Mr. Leibenderfer has no more clubs, and will, therefore, trump the next lead of the queen of clubs with probably the 8 or 9 of trump, as he had played the 7 on the first trump lead. He sees, therefore, at once, that the line of play that he had mapped out will prevent him from going game, as he would have to overrump Mr. Leibenderfer with one of his remaining honors, which might result in establishing a good trump in the hand of Mr. Scott. Therefore, Mr. Work determines to change his plan of campaign. There remains only one other chance for game. Mr. Scott in the “East” has already played the jack of hearts on the second heart lead. If he holds but one more, and that one the ace, Mr. Work sees that he can go game in spite of the club suit failing him; but in order to do so, he must get into his own hand at once without danger of being overruffed, in order to exhaust the opposing trumps.

Therefore, he trumps his dummy’s king of clubs with the six of diamonds, Mr. Scott following suit with the 6 of clubs.

Mr. Work in the “North” now leads the queen of diamonds, Mr. Scott plays the 5. The 5 of spades is discarded from dummy, and Mr. Leibenderfer plays the 8 of diamonds.

Mr. Work leads the jack of trumps, Mr. Scott plays the 9, dummy plays the 6 of spades and Mr. Leibenderfer discards the jack of spades.

Mr. Leibenderfer’s discard of the jack of spades is made because he wishes to stop declarer’s heart suit, which perhaps he can do by holding the queen and 10.

Opponents’ trumps now being exhausted, Mr. Work in the “North” leads the 8 of hearts, Mr. Scott plays the ace, dummy the 7 of spades and Mr. Leibenderfer in the “West” the 10 of hearts.

Mr. Work in the “North” then spreads his hand, stating that he will trump any lead Mr. Scott makes, exhaust the last opposing heart with his king and his remaining hearts are good.

Mr. Work in the “North” and Mr. Whitehead in the “South,” therefore, make five odd and game.

Please place all the hands as they originally were dealt, face upward on the table, because there are several noteworthy features in the bidding and play of this deal to which your particular attention is called. These important features are as follows:

Mr. Whitehead’s original bid of a four-card suit. Extensive analysis has demonstrated the soundness of four-card suit bids, both as informative bids, that is, conveying information to partner as to strength in the suit bid or in the suit and hand combined, and as bids that can be played with safety when left in. A four-card suit must not be bid, however, unless you know that your partner will take you out when he holds less than normal assistance in the suit. Normal assistance is three small cards of the suit, or two to the queen or the king or the ace.

According to the table of four-card suit bids prepared by the Auction Bridge Bulletin, a four-card suit headed by the ace, king and queen may be bid without any side strength, while to bid a suit of ace and king and two small cards requires at least one sure trick on the side, either an ace or king-queen. Therefore, Mr. Whitehead in the “South” was more than justified in bidding one club originally as he had a side ace in addition to his four-card ace-king-queen suit. He is well prepared for a possible no-trump take-out by his partner, being able to deliver at least four sure tricks at no-trump.

Mr. Leibenderfer’s defensive bid of one spade was sound because of the four honors, as well as being a call
for a lead from his partner in case Mr. Work became declarer.

Both of Mr. Work's bids and Mr. Whitehead's three club bid were explained at the time they were made.

Play this deal over just as it was played by these four experts. Analyze Mr. Scott's lead of the trump at trick two, because most players would have blindly continued with the two of spades, although in this instance, it would have made no difference in the actual outcome.

Also analyze Mr. Work's play of the hand after he had won trick two with the king of trumps. Wouldn't you have led the jack of clubs, then gotten into dummy by leading a trump or trumping a heart and then led the ace, king and queen of clubs in the hope that they would be evenly divided between your opponents? Try it and see where you land. Mr. Leibenderfer would trump the club queen with the eight of diamonds which would compel Mr. Work to overtrump with the jack or queen. Then it is impossible for him to go game. Of course, Mr. Work could have allowed the club king to win and then have trumped a spade lead from dummy; but if Mr. Leibenderfer had originally held five spades, false-carding the ten on the first trick, Mr. Scott only had the lone ace, in which event, Mr. Work would have had to trump with an honor to be sure of winning the trick.

When Mr. Leibenderfer in the "West" played the ten of clubs, Mr. Work in the "North" could count Mr. Leibenderfer's original hand as three clubs, probably but four spades (because of his play of the ten on the ace lead), and either three hearts and three diamonds, or four hearts and two diamonds, most probably the latter combination. Therefore, for declarer to lead a spade from dummy with the idea of trumping with a small trump from the closed hand would have been a fairly safe procedure, but another heart discard would not have been of any value as he was already sure of his contract. In fact, if it had not been for his desire to make certain of his contract first, Mr. Work might just as well have trumped the ace of clubs.

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