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### Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

**THE VALUE OF A TEN-SPOT**

In every textbook on bridge worthy of the name, stress is laid on the importance of a hand's "intermediate" cards, such as tens and nines. It will never be known how many millions of contracts have been fulfilled because a ten-spot was held by the declaring side or how many millions of other contracts were lost for the lack of that ten.

Today's deal is a typical case in point.

North dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

A Q 10 9  
6  
A Q J 8 4  
K 5 3

7 2  
A Q J 5  
3 6 3  
2  
10 8 4

K 10 8 7  
3 2  
9 5  
A Q J 6

K J 8 6 5 3  
9 4  
K 7  
A 9 7 2

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1 1 1 1  
4 4 Pass Pass Pass

The bidding was normal throughout. The only theoretical flaw was in the failure of the East-West pair to sacrifice at five hearts—so far as they could tell in the bidding, there was not a great hope of defeating four spades.

As it happened, the East-West conservatism was rewarded—but only because West had the ten of clubs! On lead against four spades, West laid down the heart ace, but when the dummy appeared it required no large amount of imagination to see that defensive club tricks were an urgent necessity. So, in the realization that he would never regret the lead, West properly shifted to the ten of clubs—and that was the ruination of the contract. Declarer could not avoid the loss of three clubs.

It will be observed that North-South were a little unlucky in this case! First, a ten-spot is a non-biddable unit, and so the club ten might well have been held by North, South or East—it was in no sense a compensating value of West's two-heart bid. North-South were also unlucky in the fact that East's club holding was not A-Q-J, but instead of A-Q-J-8. In the former case, East would have to win the first club lead (since declarer would not cover the ten with the king) and that would limit East-West to three tricks.

### BURGESS BEDTIME STORIES

(By Thornton W. Burgess)

**TALKING IT OVER**

Talking over things you'll find Tends to clarify the mind.  
—Reddy Fox.

That is one of Reddy's wise sayings. He has learned the truth of it from long experience. He and Mrs. Reddy, she who was Miss Swiftfoot, have lived together a long time. Together they have been through good times and hard times, happy times and sad times, hunger and feasting, adventures and dangers—all the things that go to make up the life of Foxes, and between them was perfect understanding.

Mrs. Reddy sat on the doorstep of their home in the Old Pasture looking off across the Green Meadows toward the Green Forest. On her sharp face was a look that Reddy understood. It was an anxious look.

"You are worried," said Reddy.

"I do," retorted Mrs. Reddy. "I am sure he will come back. Yes, sir, I am sure he will come back. If we had babies down in there now I would know what to do," said she.

"What would you do?" demanded Reddy.

"Get them out of there in a hurry. Find a new home for them and move," declared Mrs. Reddy. By the way in which she said it Reddy knew she meant exactly what she said.

"Where?" he asked slyly.

"How should I know? Somewhere. Anywhere away from here. I would find a place," retorted Mrs. Reddy.

"Perhaps that is what we better do now before there are any babies," said Reddy thoughtfully.

"Where?" asked Mrs. Reddy mournfully. Then she grinned at the foolishness of her own question.

"Perhaps we won't have to move. Anyway, we will look around just in case," said Reddy. He looked over toward Farmer Brown's house. If only Farmer Brown's boy was back they wouldn't need to worry.

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- Judicial writ
- Price
- Division of a play

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**DAILY CROSSWORD**

ACROSS

- Kind of nail
- Genus of lily
- Adorn
- Pocketbook
- Print
- Evening (poet.)
- Spex
- Plural suffix
- Neon (sym.)
- Close, as a hawk's eyes
- Miscellany
- Flex
- Girl's name
- Lands
- Infants
- Cleaning-agent
- Glacial ridge
- Lever
- Measure of distance
- Verso (abbr.)
- American moth
- Back of the foot
- Marshy meadow
- Having acute perception
- Cast
- Large convex molding
- Poker stake
- Soapy water

DOWN

- Makes deeper
- Terrify
- Lie
- Unnoticed
- Coin (Swed.)
- Perfume
- Secluded valley
- Literary compositions of love
- Bamboo-like
- Close, as a hawk's eyes
- Ooze
- River (Fr.)
- Cry of an ass
- Cripple
- Meat jellies
- Petals, collectively
- Voting tickets
- City (Ukraine)
- Immerse
- Goddess
- Compositions of love
- Cereal grains
- Rendered fat of swine
- River (Fr.)
- Personal pronoun

Yesterday's Answer

33. Rendered fat of swine  
35. River (Fr.)  
36. Personal pronoun

**DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE**—Here's how to work it:

A X Y D B B A A X  
I S L O N G F E L L O W

One letter simply stands for another. In this example A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

A Cryptogram Quotation

H J: G H H V H A Q N A V N B — P D A B K E H E I  
S F P K D Z — N A M H U D A ' I K F K G J K E A  
D A I M K Z D O S K G K Z I — O F Z H A.

Yesterday's Cryptogram: HE PERHAPS READS OF SHIP-WRECK ON THE COAST OF BOHEMIA—BURKE.

**KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED**

By Zano Grey

JOE PALOOKA

By Ham Fisher

**BRINGING UP FATHER**

By George McManus

**L'L ARNER**

By Al Capp

**K... WIKES**