

Safety Plays —

a review by David Gallant

On some hands where you have no use for the rule of eleven as such, the knowledge that partner has led his fourth highest card from a long suit can still provide you with a complete blueprint of the distribution.

NORTH

S. A 10
H. 10 8 7 3
D A Q J 10 6
C. 8 2

WEST

S. 9 8 6 5 4 2
H. Q 6 4 2
D. 4 3
C. Q

BIDDING

N S
1D 3NT

Chances of establishing your weak major suits are not good so you lead the four of diamonds, regretting it the moment you see dummy. The ten is played from the talbe and partner contributes the two. A heart is led to , declarer's jack an your queen, and you

JOCK TALK CONT.

Mickey Place

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We predict that the biggest crowd, ever to see a girl's game here, will be on hand to watch this one for, attendance wise, interest in this game seems to be intense. Some fans may stay for the Panther-Saint Mary's game which will follow at 3.00!

now try a spade which is won by your partner's king. East returns the three of spades on which South plays the jack under dummy's ace. The ace and king of hearts are cashed, partner throwing the three of clubs and a diamond to dummy's jack is won by partner's king. East returns the four of clubs, declarer plays the ten and you are in with the queen. What do you lead now?

Has partner underled the ace of clubs? In that case a spade would be fatal. If, instead, you put dummy in with the heart, partner will make his ace of clubs at the end. But wait a minute. Partner discarded the three of clubs and then led the four. That must mean he started with only five clubs. You know he ahd two spades and two hearts, so he must have had four diamonds and dummy is now stone cold dead. It is hard to believe declarer, holding only two diamonds, would butcher the hand in this fashion but, if you trust your partner, you must now lead a spade. Missing hands:

EAST

S. K 3
H. 9 5
D. K 9 7 2
C. K J 7 4 3

SOUTH

S. Q J 7
H. A K J
D. 8 5
C. A 10 9 6 5

Blocking and Unblocking Plays

By Terrence Reese & Roger Trezel
Fredrick Fell Publishers, INC
Paperback---2.95
Available from: Bridge Books
P.O. Box 5075
Louisville, Kentucky
40205

Reviewed by: David P. Gallant
Blocking and Unblocking Plays in Bridge is the second title in a series of short books by the same authors in the master Bridge Series dealing with special aspects of play.

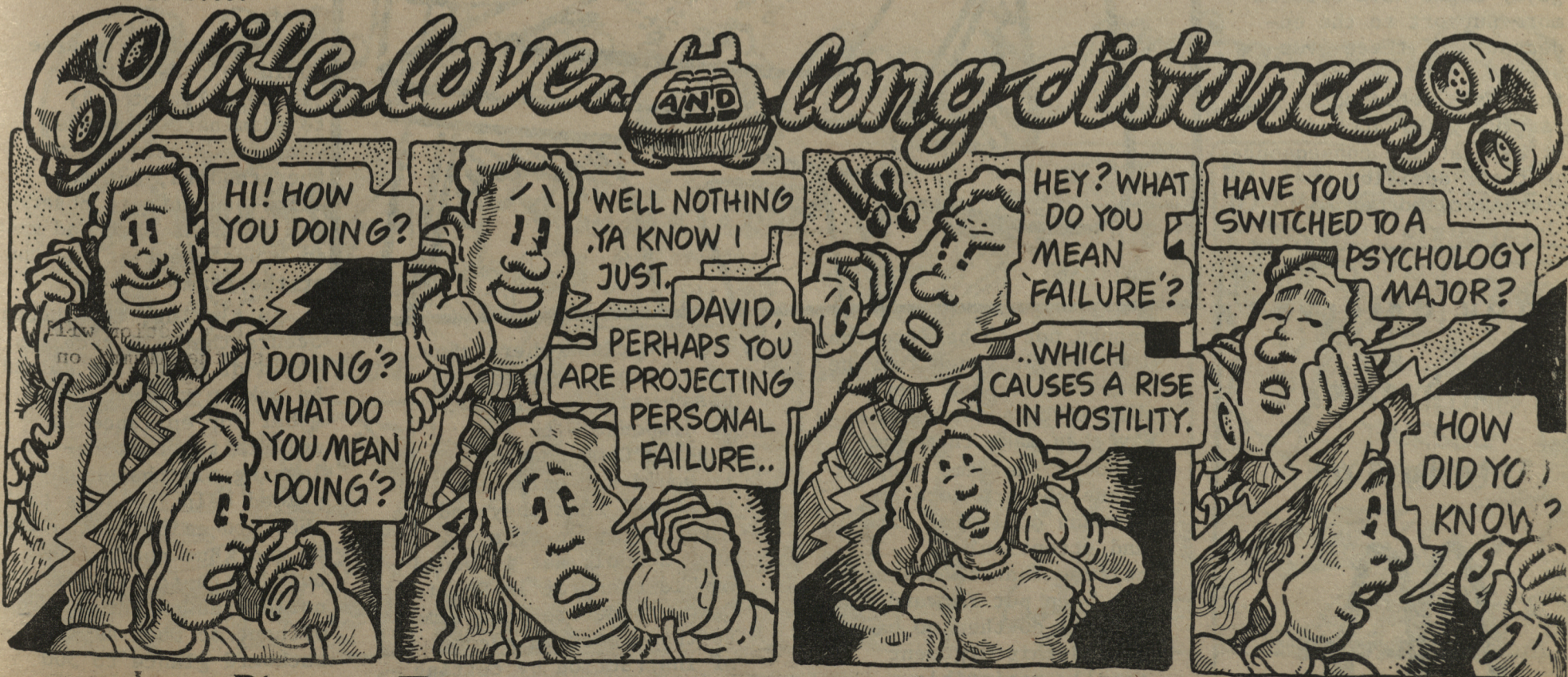
Many times you and I have sat down to play bridge and find ourselves playing a contract that is ice cold. All we have to do is take our tricks. Then a strange thing happens. We find that after having taken most of our tricks we have a few more to take but we are in the wrong hand and have no way to get to the proper hand. The frustration we feel at this moment is mirrored in our faces. This book sets out to relieve this frustration arising from situations of this kind.

In this book the authors show how to block an opponents suit so they will be unable to run a long suit. They show how to create a vital entry to one's hand or dummy by throwing away an unnecessarily high card. They show how to allow the uninterrupted run of a long suit by discarding a winner. They

show how to run a blocked suit by throwing the opponents into the lead and pitching a blocking card. They show how to force the opponents to create a needed entry to dummy in one suit by leading another suit and discarding a winner. They show how to unblock a high trump in order to take a trump finesse and end up in the right hand. Of course, there are many other things the authors show us and many variations on the same themes but I leave these things for the reader to discover for himself.

The authors have included forty-two illustrative hands in the book. In the words of of the authors, "The problem in these blocking and unblocking plays is to perceive in good time how the play is likely to develop. The plays are easy to execute, but to anticipate the need for them is a great deal more tricky." The hands have been included so that the reader... will easily recognize them in advance and bring them off at the table."

Reese and Trezel have done it again. Blocking and Unblocking Plays in Bridge is a very worthy successor to Safety Plays in Bridge. It is a valuable addition to any bridge player's library. I can hardly wait for their next book.



Long Distance. The next best thing to being there.