



(By Thornton W. Burgess)

SEALED IN
How very different life would be could we the plan of things reverse.—Drummer the Woodpecker.

Drummer the Woodpecker had gone to bed with a full crop, contented and happy. No one with an empty stomach can be truly happy.

Drummer had worked hard for that full crop. Drummer the Woodpecker isn't afraid of work. Some people seem to get all they need with very little work. Other folks have to work hard for everything they get. Drummer the Woodpecker is one of these latter species in winter. So all that day he had been busy going from tree to tree in the Green Forest, looking and listening for Borer at work in the wood of the trees. Sometimes he found the entrance to the Borer's hole; sometimes he heard the Borer at work even before he found the little round doorway he had cut in entering. In either case he had to chop his way in to where Bait



Drummer the Woodpecker isn't afraid of work.

Borer was at work deep in the wood. It meant cutting a hole chip by chip until the Borer was reached. This is what he had done nearly all that day. When he entered the snug little winter home Continued on page 16

Contract Bridge

By Josephine Culbertson

WEAK DEFENSE

Weak defense was the keynote of the following deal

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
Both sides 60 on score.

♠ A 5 4
♥ Q 7
♦ A Q 5 3
♣ A 10 7 6

♠ K Q 10
♥ 9 7 3
♦ 3 2
♣ 6 2

♠ 6 2
♥ A K 5
♦ K 10 9 8
♣ K J 8

♠ J 8
♥ J 10 9 8 6 4
♦ J 7
♣ Q 3 2

The bidding:
North East South West
1 NT 2 ♣ 2 ♠ 2 ♠
Pass Pass 3 ♠ Pass
Pass Dble. Pass Pass
Pass

West led the spade king — a questionable choice inasmuch as his partner had bid diamonds and West had only a doubleton in that suit. Dummy's ace was put up and declarer, after long thought, made the excellent play of a low diamond toward his own jack. East had to go up with the king — or lose it — and then was



faced with the problem of what to return.

Actually, a diamond return (with subsequent proper defense on East's part) would have been effective, but East decided to let West cash a spade trick and hoped he would then shift to clubs. So east led his spade.

West captured South's spade jack — but he continued with the spade ten! South ruffed and led a trump to the queen. East won and returned a diamond. South's jack won, and now another trump lead knocked out East's second trick in that suit. On East's diamond return, declarer simply had to assume that East held the missing trump; declarer discarded a club as the only chance for his contract, and when West couldn't ruff, the contract was home. South's remaining club went on dummy's fourth diamond.

West's error was in failing to shift to either clubs or diamonds when he won his spade trick. A club shift would have established East's king; a diamond shift would have let West kill an opposing diamond trick by ruffing before he lost both of his trumps.

JOE PALOOKA



By Ham Fisher



By Carl Anderson

FOGO



By Walt Kelly



L'L ABNER

By Al Capp



RIP KIRBY

By Alex Raymond



KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

By Zane Grey



HENRY

By Carl Anderson



DOTTY DIPPLE

By Rufon



BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McMarus



TILLY THE TOILER

By Bob Gustafson



PENNY

By Harry Hoanigen