

Jacoby on Bridge

10-11-57

By OSWALD JACOBY

(Written for NEA Service)

Agnes Gordon of Buffalo can't be called a newcomer in bridge circles. She has been a member of the top 10 women for years. After being first and second in the national mixed teams in 1956 and 1955 she fell off to third this year.

As this article appears I will be playing with Mrs. Gordon for the first time. The event will be the Upper New York regionals in Schenectady where there is always a tough field and I hope that Mrs. Gordon and my other partners will pull me through to some championship or other.

In today's hand Mrs. Gordon found herself in a normal four-spade contract. She won the opening heart lead in dummy and considered briefly the possibility of leading the jack of diamonds and going after an overtrick.

She did not consider it for long. Even though the game was match points and the overtrick was important, Agnes did not want to jeopardize her contract which appeared to be a very good one.

She drew three rounds of trumps and then led a diamond from her own hand. Now there was no defense against four spades. Agnes lost two diamond tricks and one club only; one of dummy's clubs being discarded on her last diamond.

It should be noted that if Agnes had tried the diamond suit before pulling trumps East could have dropped his seven on dummy's jack. West could have taken the queen and laid down the ace, whereupon East would have completed the echo with the three and West would have given him a chance to trump a third diamond. Agnes would still have had to lose a club and would be down one.

NORTH 11

♠ 9762
♥ A65
♦ J62
♣ A62

WEST

♠ 3
♥ KQJ104
♦ AQ84
♣ Q87

EAST

♠ 854
♥ 9832
♦ 73
♣ K953

SOUTH (D)

♠ AKQJ10
♥ 7
♦ K1095
♣ J104

No one vulnerable

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	.	

Opening lead—♥K.