By PAUL H. SEYMOUR Author of "Highlights on Auction Bridge" (Copyright, by Hoyle, Jr.)

Article One.

Introductory

A LTHOUGH the game of Auction Bridge and its predecessors, Bridge and Whist, have been played for many years, a wonderful increase in its popularity is just at the present time sweeping over the country. Thousands of people who a few years ago refused to learn the game because it was too much like work are today giving up the simpler games of Euchre and Five Hundred and seeking instruc-

tion in Auction. Its devotees are fascinated by it principally because there is something solid and substantial about it and because it does require sound and careful thought. A recreation is something which diverts a person's mind and activity from its customary channels, and it has been found that this does not mean inactivity, and that it need not be a frivolous, worthless activity.

Even those whose daily work is largely mental find that they gain rest and refreshment in a totally different kind of mental exercise such as they find in Auction. While some card games are agreeable for a social hour and serve satisfactorily as time killers, anyone who spends leisure hours in playing and studying Auction has the added feeling that he has been doing something well worth while. He has exercised and thus strengthened his observation, memory and reasoning faculties. As most people need to use these faculties in their daily work, they find that their study of Auction fits them better for their duties in office, factory or drawing room.

There is also a steadily increasing demand among the players for a better understanding of the game. Many who have played it in a haphazard way simply as a time killer are coming to appreciate its worth and are devoting some time to its real study.

No matter how well a person plays, there always is room for improvement because the possibilities of the game are such that they can never be fully mastered. Among the many thousands of players in the world, only about 2 per cent play well enough to be called experts, and for the other 98 per cent and for those who have never played at all, these articles have been prepared. There will be 36 articles in the series, and while the first two deal with fundamentals of the game with which all players are familiar and while the aim has been to use such simple language that all may understand them, still the treatm of the subject will be so systematic and thorough that following them should greatly improve the game of

every player. Their value will depend not upon how many rules are given or how many isolated cases are explained, but upon the clearness and simplicity of the statements and the comprehensiveness with which the system will cover the countless possibilities arising in the bidding and playing of the game.

In order to become proficient in any game, two things are needed-learning the rules so thoroughly that they may be instantly put into practice, and then learning when to break these rules. In teaching Auction one should not use the words "always" or "never" because there is no rule which should not be broken at times. Any person who always plays according to rule will be a "wooden" player and never can hope to rise to the level of the expert.

To break rules wisely, however, one must know them thoroughly, and to do this will require study and real work upon the part of the student. If anything is worth doing at all it is worth doing well. Therefore it is urged that all who wish to profit by these articles should make up their minds to do their share of the work.

In order to learn rules of a game thoroughly, studying them is not sufficient. One must actually play at the same time and, therefore, it is recommended that students studying these articles do so in groups of four. In this way the illustrations can be placed on the table and actually played. This not only will make them easier to understand, but will help materially in remembering them.

After studying each article it would be well to play a regular game and discuss the points which come up to illustrate the teaching.

As the series progress, more and more points will be covered, and the only way to master such teaching is to review the previous articles frequently. Each article may possibly make it easier to understand a preceding one, so that every time an article is reviewed some statement in it is sure to shine with a new light and give the student a meaning which he had formerly missed.

Therefore, those who wish to get the most out of these articles would do well to save them and reread frequently from the beginning.

Precautionary

Herself-John, I really think you ought to go see the doctor. Himself-All right; dig out one of

my old suits. Herself-But you don't want to present a shaddy appearance at the doctor's office.

Himself-I do unless you expect me to go broke paying him.

Martha Martin

F IRST," said Harry Herring Gull to Billie Brownie, who had come to call on him and who was sitting by the edge of a great river, "I was a little olive-gray egg. I was spotted

"I mean, of course, as doubtless you understand, that the egg which later became me, was spotted with black That is not the way, perhaps, I should talk, but it's Harry Herring Gull's

"And if I'm not smart in book knowledge and in schooling and in talking and in all such ways, I'm smart as a gull, and gulls are smart. "Oh, yes," Harry Herring Gull con-



"Indeed I Do," Billie Brownie Answered, "But Do Tell Me More."

tinued, "for years and years there have been gulls.

"Some of my ancestors were here when the Indians owned the country. "Oh, yes, we have always been about, making our ways tit in with the ways of others, which is always

"I am here now for the winter, 1 was born in an ugly little home. "But that didn't make any differ-

ence. We fly about rather than stay much in our homes.

"For those who care for their beautiful, but not for us.

How It Started

By JEAN NEWTON

"CAT O' NINE TAILS"

THE whole idea of corporal punish-

I nent is fast going into the discard.

Yet we still hear children threatened,

on occasions, with the "cat o' nine

tails." for centuries the accepted

medium of punishment wherever

whipping was the order of the day.

As late as the first half of the Nine-

teenth century, we are told, in our

own navy, delinquent sailors were

lashed to a gun and whipped with the

cat o' nine tails. In the parlance of

the sea, this form of chastisement was

jocularly known as "Marrying the

gunner's daughter," It was only in

1850, when congress abolished cor-

poral punishment, that this practice

For the origin of the form of the

'cat o' nine tails" itself, we must go

back further to the days of the In-

quisition, that prolific progenitor of

methods of torture and abuse. In

those days it was the conventional

weapon of the jailer and the execu-

tioner, its strands numbering nine,

because the number nine was credited

with having supernatural powers in bringing about confessions and re-

(Copyright.)

Did Without Music

The choir at the Swedish mission at

Muskegon, Mich., did not sing during

a revival campaign. Because the mem-

bers were dressed in fashion, with

short skirts, rouge and bobbed hair,

they were forbidden by the evangelist

to take part in his services. Indian-

pentence of offenders!

apolis News.

"We are quite satisfied with a shab-

LIFE OF HERRING GULLS | by nest of weeds and any kind of nest-building trash.

"Our homes are in hollows in the ground. I had one sister and one brother who came out of their eggs. at the same time I did.

"We were covered with down and we could swim and run and were considered pretty smart little herring "Of course all herring gulls in that

way are alike. They're all smart, but the mothers say the same thing over and over as each new group of downy guils begins to swim and run; "'Aren't they smart little gulis?"

"I am here for the winter, as I said. You will notice that my head and neck are grayish brown in color. In the summer I wear a white suit with a gray cloak and I have touches of black and white for style.

"My summer costume is gayer and brighter than my winter costume, which I think is right.

"It is nice to see creatures put on their light clothes in the summer. Don't you think so, Billie Brownie?" "Indeed I do," Billie Brownie answered. "But do tell me more about yourself."

"As you can see, I have a yellow beak with a red spot for a beauty

mark. "And my eyes are yellow. My feet

are a pretty pink color. "When I was a little fellow I had a pink beak, too, with a black spot. "But of course the colors I now

have show that I am a grown-up herring gull. "For we do not get these colors at first. The older ones dress different-

ly from the younger ones. "When summer comes I go further north. Of course a few members of my family stay around here-but they are the ones who do not care about summer homes or fittle homes

of any sort. "They're not the home lovers among the herring gulls. For we love to build our nests and have our homes even though we don't care to make them beautiful. We don't care to make them beautiful because we like to fly away from them a great deal

"But we like to have them just the same. Yes, we like to build our nests and have summer homes.

and have adventures.

"Cack, cack, cack, that is the truth." And Harry Herring Gulf flew off

now for Billie Brownie had thanked good afternoon!

(Copyright.)

THE WHY of

SUPERSTITIONS By H. IRVING KING

DIVINING BY BOOKS

A RATHER common practice with those who "seek for a sign" is to open the Bible at random and find their answer in the passage upon which their thumb rests as they part the leaves. In pagan times this divination was accomplished by placing the finger at random on a passage of Homer, Virgil or some other great author. Virgil was an especial favorite in this connection and the practice of consulting him continued down to modern times, though the Bible is the book generally used.

During the Middle ages the historic Virgil became so enveloped in a mist of tradition and superstition that he was alluded to by the uneducated as "Virgil the Wizard"; and in the unpopular estimation the chief value of the Aeneid was as an oracle. As late as the time of Charles I the Bible had not entirely supplanted the Aeneid for purposes of divination, as is evidenced by the well-known story of how that monarch learned his fates by the

"Sortes Virgilianae," as it was called. This practice of divination by books is said to have "originated in the respect and veneration of certain books arising from their wisdom and reputation"; and it is easy to comprehend the psychology which induced the people of the Middle ages to consult "Virgil the Wizard" and leads men of a superstitious trend of mind today to turn the Bible into an oracle. But the incipiency of the idea dates back to the first introduction of letters when, to the common mind, there was something supernatural in the power of a few marks made in a certain way to convey from one person to another not merely ideas but whole speeches, word for word; a feeling which is displayed today by remote tribes of savages when they see, for the first time, the use of the printed or written word in communications.

(by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

Court Backs Satan

Protection to Satan is now legally. given in Poland. A priest was tried in a Bromberg court for preaching an irreligious sermon, in which he "denied the existence of the devil." He was sent to prison for 80 days. It is believed to be the first occasion for many centuries on which the devil has been recognized by a European law court and protected against scoffers.

Bob Steele



Bob Steele, the "movie" star, has been trained since childhood in outdoor activities which go to make a star worthy of the name. Both his father and mother were well known on the legitimate stage when he was a youngster. Now, just twenty-one years of age, Bob will play his first starring role in "The Mojave Kid."

For Meditation

By LEONARD A. BARRETT

NOT BREAD ALONE

TOHN RUSKIN, in the fifth volume J of his "Modern Painters," in the chapter on Peace, writes: "No amount of pay ever made a good soldier, a good artist or a good workman. Examine your writers and artists; for ten pounds you shall have a 'Paradise Lost,' and for a plate of figs, a Durer drawing. For love of country, or their duty, men will fight steadily; but for massacre and plunder, feebly."

Three motives may control one's actions in life. Pleasure, power and service. "Let us eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die," is the spirit of the first. The testimony of many of those who have made this their life's motive is that there is nothing in it. The peril of the second motive, self-preservation first, is that it inevitably ends in failure, Success in life cannot be inspired by a motive which subjects higher spiritual ends to material needs. The deepest homes it is well to make the homes him and had bidden him a most polite satisfactions and most enduring successes are realized only as we give ourselves in sacrificial and altruistic service to others.

Altruism, however, alone will fail. A person cannot give of his poverty. He must first possess before he can give away. The motive of service presupposes that we possess something that will be of help to others. Service

requires possession. Bread acquired for the purpose of "Being merry today for tomorrow we die," is an epicurean philosophy of life, which, it has been demonstrated many times, brings only tragedy and failure. Bread acquired for the mere sake of solitary possession, which is nower also ends in failure. John Holland in his little volume, "Katherina," writes: "Of all dead, dull weights man ever bore, sure none can haunt the soul with discontent like the consciousness of power unused." Service means that we acquire that we may give-succeed that we may help others to succeed-make such an investment of character that the world shall be enriched by the contribution

which we shall have made. (©. 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

Too Bad

Restaurant Owner-Doesn't it seem too bad that this little lamb had to Customer-Yeah; mighty tough!

THE YOUNG LADY ACROSS THE WAY



The young lady across the way says eugenic marriages are undoubtedly the wisest, though some young people get married without a cent and get along

(by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

ommunutu Building

Repairs Program Needs Most Careful Attention

Close inspection will disclose whatever is necessary to put a building in good shape. In the first place, there are the plaster walls and ceilings to repair before doing any decorating. Unsightly cracks should be carefully cut deeper with a putty knife so as to provide grooves for receiving the plaster of paris filler, which should then be applied.

Inside woodwork will of course need to be gone over with enamel, paint or varnish, or wax, as the case may be. For touching up old varnish, whatever the color of the original wood, one may now purchase colored varnish of any desired tone to match the original color. Enamel is excellent for going over old painted woodwork. It can be applied directly to the old material, but a better finish is obtained by applying an undercoat of flat paint of the desired color. Such treatment of woodwork will prove an efficient and economical aid in the up keeping of the building.

Hardwood floors should never be permitted to wear out. The varnish or wax with which they were originally covered should be kept in condition with floor oil made for this purpose. and as soon as floors need it varnish. wax or other floor finish should be used liberally. Should the floors be in bad condition, however, it is often better to have the old finish entirely removed, using one of the compounds sold for this purpose, and then refinish the surface as good as new.

Home Owner Eliminates

Loss From Moving

Those of you who complain about your rent, about having to move every two or three years because the landlord "won't fix up the place" or sells it "out from under you" consider this to her. fact: The rent the home owner pays never goes up! Whether you own your home free of debt or are acquiring it under contract payments the charges you must pay per month are definitely fixed through the period of your possession. No one can compel you to pay more, nor can you be compelled to move elsewhere to seek lower rents.

It seems as if those who rent oftentimes fail to take into consideration this important fact. It is one of the reasons why the family commit ted to a program of home ownership begins to make headway from the moment it commits itself to such a program. Then the losses through continual moving are eliminated. The old adage that "three moves are as good as a fire" is certainly close to literal truth, as every renting family

Making Energy Pay

Men too frequently regard as a mere threat the Biblical statement. "Such as ye sow ye shall also reap." In reality it is much better than a threat, it is a promise. Two Mississippl towns in the past ten days had cheese plants added to their list of industries. These towns a little while ago were working methodically and industriously for milk condenseries They organized their business men surveyed their situation and went after some outside capital. Although they failed to attain their specific goal, they gained something else as good or better. No well-directed energy is ultimately wasted. It will bear good fruit in one form or another.-Neshoba Democrat.

Kickers

Frequently one hears some fellow kicking on the firm he works for and wonders why he did not quit and get a job more to his liking. If he has a better job than he could get elsewhere then he has no cause to kick. More frequently one hears a man kicking on the town he lives in. If that town furnishes him a better living than any other town he should feel friendly to it and say so .- Newcastle Times.

Mushroom Growth

A word of caution for cities engaging in the scramble for industries is sounded by the organization service of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. It draws the line between enlargement by substantial growth and enlargement by inflation and reiterates the warning that there is no virtue in mere bigness.

Color for Roof

Don't forget that the roof must be protected with paint or stain, as well as the siding. In selecting a color for the roof of your house, consider the surroundings. A red roof looks well against high, dark trees. A buff roof sults the house surrounded by little follage.

Restore Home Life

Many writers have deployed what they call the passing of the American home, and the old-fashioned home life. Certainly any well-devised movement to check it and restore it full measure the old home influence is of bene At to the community.

Well Worth It

It costs money to build up your tocal pride-and it's worth it.

Praises Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Because It Gave Her Health and Strength



In a sunny pasture in Oklahoma, a made a pretty pic-ture. But the thin woman in the blue checked apron sighed as she looked at them. She was tired of cows, tired of her tedious work in the dairy. She was tired of cooking for a houseful boarders, sides caring for her

own family. The burdens of life seemed too heavy for her failing health. She had lost confidence in herself One day she began taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and her general health began to improve.

She took it faithfully. Now she can do her work without any trouble, sleeps well and is no longer blue and timid. This woman, Mrs. Cora Short, R. R. 9, Box 387, Oklahoma City, Okla., "Everybody now says: 'Mrs. Short, what are you doing to yourseif? I weigh 135 and my weight before I took it was 115. I have taken seven bottles of the Vegetable Compound."

Other women who have to work hard and keep things going may find the road to better health as Mrs. Short did, through the faithful use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Ask your neighbor.

America Wins Again

The title of most beautiful horsewoman of Paris was awarded to Olivier Barclay, an American, in a recent contest in the Bois de Boulogne. Miss Barclay rode the oldfashloned side saddle, and wore a dark blue shirt, gray coat, black bowler, black boots and white pique

A Real Surprise

Thomas-How can that little birthday gift for your wife be a surprise If she told you what she wanted? Terence-I'm not going to give it

All the Way Back

"The Williamses come of very old stock." "Yes. Their family tree goes back to the time when they lived in It."-Kansas City Times.

Look at the foundation of the ladder of fame before attempting to climb It.



Slowing Up? You Can't Feel Well When Kidneys Act Sluggishly.

OVERWORK, worry and lack of rest, all put extra burdens on the kidneys. When the kidneys slow up, waste poisons remain in the blood and are apt to make one languid, tired and achy, with dull headaches, dizziness and often a nagging backache.

A common warning of imperfect kidney action is scanty or burning secretions. Doan's Pills assist the kidneys in their eliminative work. Are endorsed by users everywhere. Ask your neighbor!

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