

BRIDGE

by W. T. Watson

This was the hand from the last column.

NORTH
 ♠ 6 4 3 2
 ♥ T 8
 ♦ Q J 9 7 4 3
 ♣ K

WEST EAST
 ♠ A K Q 8 ♠ J T 9
 ♥ K 3 2 ♥ A Q J 7
 ♦ T 8 5 ♦ A K 6 2
 ♣ 9 7 5 ♣ 8 2

SOUTH
 ♠ 7 5
 ♥ 9 6 5 4
 ♦
 ♣ A Q J T 6 4 3

The high card points of the above hands are as follows:

West : 12 HCP's
 North: 6 HCP's
 East : 15 HCP's
 South: 7 HCP's.

West is the dealer and with 12 HCP's or more, she could open the bidding with a five card or longer major suit if she had one, but since she doesn't, she opens her better minor. One possible bidding sequence is as follows:

West	North	East	South
1♦	pass	1♥	3♣
pass	pass	dble	pass
3♠	pass	4♠	pass
pass	pass		

The bidding system being taught here is called **Standard American with 5 card major and the better minor opening**. Some people bid ♣'s when the minors are 3-3. However, it may be better to bid the suit with the higher honour in case your partner ends up with the opening lead. The better minor (♣'s or ♦'s) is the longer one or the one with the highest honours, if they are of equal length.

The double by East kept the bidding open and showed that the partnership had enough high card points to play on the three level or higher. It also showed 3 or more card support for the unbid major suit. Doubles below 3♦'s, generally show support for the unbid major suits and shortness in the suit double. Above 3♦'s, a double would be for penalty. This may change depending on what the partnership has agreed upon.

This is a correct contract, and is the same as the last column. The only difference from the last column is the major suit distribution in the North and South hands. Because of this distribution, 4♠'s will be made while an equally acceptable contract of 4♥'s by East will be defeated with good defence. South will lead (or should) lead the Ace of ♣'s and follow it with 3 more rounds of ♣'s. On the third round, east, refusing to short himself of trump in the long trump, hand throws a losing diamond.

On the fourth ♣ played, East roughs in the dummy, South over-ruffs and whether East over-roughs or not, the contract is down one. With a slightly different distribution in North and South's hands, as shown last column, the contract makes. That is just bad luck. Being in game in 4♥'s or 4♠'s is the right place to be with 27 HCP's.

General Opening Rule of Thumb:
 Opening in a suit (♣, ♦, ♥ or ♠) needs 12 or more HCP's while opening 1 Notrump needs 16 to 18 HCP's and a hand with no five card or longer major, at most one doubleton and no singleton or void.

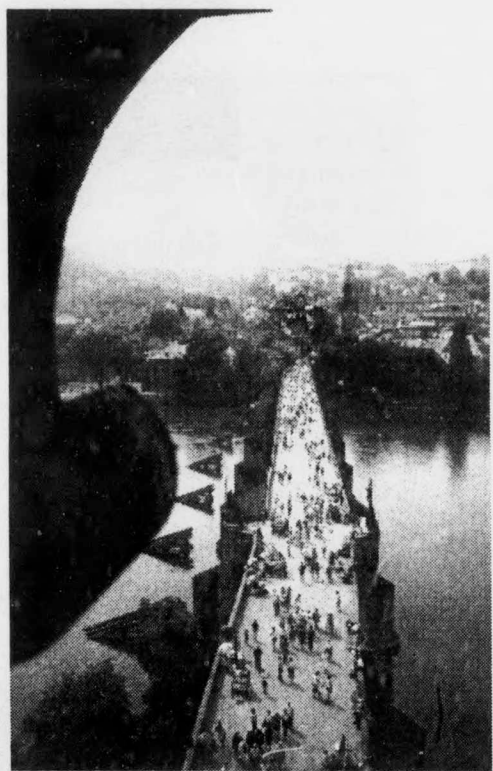
What would you bid with the following hand with West being the dealer?

NORTH
 ♠ 6 4 3 2
 ♥ T 8 7
 ♦ Q J 9 7 4
 ♣ K

WEST EAST
 ♠ A K Q 8 ♠ J T 9
 ♥ K 3 2 ♥ A Q J
 ♦ A T 8 5 ♦ K 6 3 2
 ♣ 9 7 ♣ 8 5 2

SOUTH
 ♠ 7 5
 ♥ 9 6 5 4
 ♦
 ♣ A Q J T 6 4 3

The answer will be discussed next column. If you cannot wait until then, join the **UNB Bridge Club every Thursday night at 7:00 pm in the Blue Lounge** for some informal bridge.



Where in the World #4



Where in the World #5

Poetry Contest

Grand Prize: \$50.00 Gift Certificate from Kingfisher Books and Publication in The Brunswickan.

To enter the contest, bring \$2.00 and your poem or series of related poems shorter than 200 words, to The Brunswickan's Business Manager, Janice McConnell in SUB 33 between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

Please include your name, student number and phone number on your entry.

The contest is open to all amateur poets, but the poems must be submitted by the poets themselves.

The deadline for entries is March 15, 1996 at 3:00 pm and the winner will be announced by Tuesday, March 26, 1996.

All proceeds go directly to support Youth Challenge International (YCI) which is a non-profit organization that sends youths to developing countries such as Costa Rica and Guyana to undertake development projects.

An Unforgettable Sight

It was a clear day out on the crag; so clear that he could see the shine of the gold steeple, and hear the bells from miles away. He knew today was the day he had to go into town to get his monthly supplies. It was a day he would dread. Well, maybe not dread, but the long trip over the channel and right through the crowded, loud city was not an extra bonus.

The highlight of his trip was when he got to the church. It seemed as though when he got to the church, the hustle and bustle of the city disappeared. The elongated steeples reached into the sky as if they were trying to reach out and touch God themselves. When standing at the bottom and looking up, one might have thought that they went on forever.

When he first walked into the church, it took his breath away yet another time. The ornate marble altars and the beautiful carved statues seemed to move with the flickering light from the many burning candles which created shadows and light tones throughout the interior. This mixed with the shooting light of many colors coming from the stain glass windows made a sight that he will never forget.

By Nicole Pannucci

Nicole Pannucci is 14 years old and attends Veterans Memorial Middle School in Brick, New Jersey.

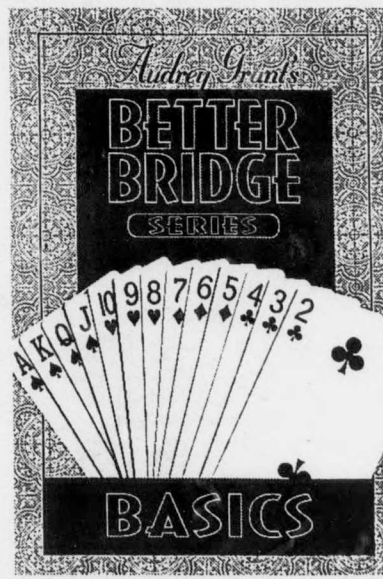
Photograph of Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton by Warren Watson.



Where in the World # 6

Six more pictures ... stayed tuned for entry forms.

photos by Warren Watson



Bridge Books are available from the Distractions Editor to be reviewed.

Wanted: Student Contributions of:

Travel Stories with Pictures	Poetry about things that can be photographed
Poetry	Exciting Recipes
Short Stories	Sketches
Bridge Hands	Artwork
"Where in the World?" and Poetry entries	Other Games or things that may be distracting
Book Reviews around 300 to 500 words long	

Contact: Bruns Distractions Editor