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Bridge column by Tanna Hirsch

6th May 2911

Dealer : North Vul : N-S	NORTH ♠ A J 2 ♥ A J ♦ J ♣ K J 10 8 5 4 3	
WEST ♠ K 6 5 3 ♥ K 10 9 7 4 ♦ 5 2 ♣ A 9		EAST ♠ 4 ♥ Q 8 6 5 ♦ K Q 10 9 ♣ Q 7 6 2
	SOUTH ♠ Q 10 9 8 7 ♥ 3 2 ♦ A 8 7 6 4 3 ♣ Void	

North	East	South	West
1 Club	Pass	1 Spade	Pass
3 Club	Pass	3 Diamond	Pass
3 Spade	Pass	4 Spade	All Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♥

North's jump rebid of three clubs was a trifle aggressive, but South's one-spade response had improved the holding. As it is, four spades is a fair contract but the bad spade and diamond breaks means that game has virtually no play.

Dummy's ace of hearts won the first trick, declarer led a diamond to the ace, ruffed a diamond in dummy and a club in hand. When declarer now led another diamond, West discarded the ace of clubs! Declarer ruffed in dummy and ruffed a club in hand, but West overruffed and returned a trump, and declarer could collect no more than eight tricks — try it.

Where the defense was less exciting, the crossruff produced nine tricks — careless defense might even allow declarer to get home. The second undertrick gave East-West 37 out of a possible 38 matchpoints.

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