

lend itself to being handled on the lines suggested by you and that at the present time it would be impracticable to conduct the Examination in the Middle East.

"The Board intends to arrange, if necessary, for special examinations to be held to permit returned service personnel to sit in New Zealand without having to wait for the ordinary examination and also to arrange special refresher courses which will be necessary in many instances."

10. *Secretaries' and Accountants' Examinations.* Arrangements will also be made for those who wish to sit the examinations of the Institutes of Secretaries and of Cost Accountants.

11. All candidates who have not already done so should immediately notify the School of Education, ERS, 2 NZEF, CME, of their intention to sit examinations. Enrolled candidates will be notified of the dates and location of their examinations.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

OPENING LEADS (3).—A trump lead can be most effective where Declarer has bid two suits strongly, and Dummy has supported only one of them. This indicates trump support in dummy, with a shortage in the other suit, an ideal situation for ruffing. The trump lead upsets this scheme and may just defeat a nicely-calculated contract.

The lead of an Ace from Axx, etc., must be governed by the previous bidding. Many players favour it because it enables them to "have a look at dummy". But it is often a very expensive look, especially if the Ace is the leader's only sure entry. Against an obviously unbalanced distribution it will do little harm, and where the distribution is very odd may be the only certain way of making it. But where Dummy clearly has a strong hand and a balanced distribution, so that the Ace is in little danger of being put to bed, it is better to lead a low card of the suit and keep the Ace as a later entry, when the information about the other hands is available. This may enable the taking of an otherwise impossible cross-ruff.

Leading must always be governed by many factors, including the bidding, the partner's habits and the psychology

of the opponents, but other things being equal, the following table gives a suggested order of preference in choosing an opening lead against a suit declaration, other than a slam. Against slams quite other considerations apply for many leads, and a good lead against a small slam may be bad against a grand slam. These points and the lead against no trump declarations will be covered later.

Table of Suits from which to Lead.

- (1) A K x x x or stronger.
- (2) Trump lead (see above).
- (3) A or AK bare (see Cue 30).
- (4) Strong honour sequence headed by K.
- (5) A x, K or singleton of partner's suit.
- (6) Singleton (see Cue 30).
- (7) Long honour sequence headed by Q or J.
- (8) Highest of partner's suit.
- (9) A short strong honour sequence.
- (10) Singleton with at least 3 trumps (not necessarily a stopper in trump suit).
- (11) A valueless doubleton.
- (12) Any suit supported by partner.