WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

Monday, September, 17, 1950



When Mr. Champion double- A number of readers have raised her diamonds, Miss Brash asked why the rule of 11 works. decided to try for the nine-trick Here is the explanation. game at no-trump. Holding strength For the purpose of this "rule" in three suits, no singleton, and a the jack represents th 11 spot five-card length in diamonds, Mr. the queen the 12 spot, the king the Champion was glad to go along 13 spot and the ac the 14 spot. with this idea. Subtract the denomination of

nd that card tell you the number of higher cards in the particular suit. For example, there are four spades higher than the 10 (deducting 10 from 14.) There are six spades higher than the eight. There are 11 spades higher than the 3. And so on. If your partner leads the six of spades you know there are 8 spades higher than that card. But if your partner has made the customary lead of his FOURTH HIGHEST spade, then he has 3 of those 8 cards in his own hand. This leaves five of them for the other three bands. To simplify the calculation one East step was eliminated to formulate Pass the "rule of eleven." Since, when

This second annual Transit

East-West vulnerable North (Mr. Champion) ▲ A 6 5 ♡ Q 9 5 ◇ K Q 7 6 2 East West (Mr. Masters) (Mr. Dale) ▲ K 10 7 4 3 ♡ K 10 7 J 8 6 2 Ó 🌲 Ĵ 10 4 3 62 South (Miss Brash) ▲ Q 8 ♡ 4 3 OA 10953 AKQ9 The bidding: outh West Nort North South

3 NT All Pass Mr. Dale opened the six of hearts, the nine went on from dummy, and Mr. Masters used the rule of 11 to tell him which card to play to defeat the contract to play to defeat the contract.

Dale won with the ace and and ran off two more hearts so that Miss Brash was down on before she got



b play to defeat the contract. He deducted six (the number the card led) from 11 and four Thus when your protection of the sector of the secto of the card led) from 11 and found a fourth best lead of a six spot you

spot, knowing it would win the trick. He then cashed the king of hearts and led another heart. Mr. the first trick in today's deal.



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