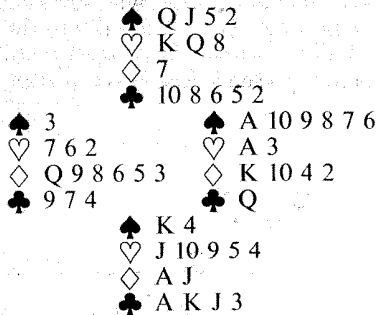


When defending you should endeavour to take stock of the situation in the same way as when you are playing the hand. As soon as dummy goes down, see what tricks you are likely to win and, if these are not sufficient you should try to work out where the others can be made. Planning on these lines makes it easier to spot the correct defence on this hand from the 1951 Lederer Memorial Cup.

Dealer East. North-South vulnerable.



Bidding:—

<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>
1♠	2♥	NB	3♥
NB	4♥	NB	NB
NB			

West's lead of the ♠3 was taken by East. South might attempt to false card with the king but that would be unintelligent with the ♠2 in dummy. In the East position many players might be tempted to hurl back a spade for partner to ruff, but a study of the diagram will show that the defence by this play can never capture more than three tricks. Before giving partner his ruff you should prepare the way for the fourth trick by leading the ♣Q. When in with the ♥A you return a spade and a club back provides