

Bridge *24/10/87*

Six-club slam wins the best-bid hand

by

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THE Lederer Memorial Trophy, played earlier this month at the Young Chelsea Club in London, included players from North America, Sweden and Holland as well as the British Isles and locals. There were prizes for best-bid, best-played and best-defended hands.

Game all, south opens one spade, passed to east looking at S: void, H: AQJ4, D: QJ107, C: AQJ93. A double first is standard, but if south decides to bid two spades and it's again passed to east, what then?

A second double must be for t.o again, though some suggest three spades (a dangerous step, methinks) or three clubs arguing that after a double then a bid east must be strong.

After a second double west passed (after some thought) holding S: Q1094, H: 1092, D: A8, C: K108 — would you?

If south doesn't bid again, it is perhaps a little easier to get the hand over.

In the event, Sweden found the excellent six-club slam which deservedly won the best-bid hand.

Sweden ended the winners with 287, England second with 239.

The most humorous incident was when Sandra Landy asked an opponent about their discards. On being told odds and evens and wanting more information, she cut short the tedious details saying, "It doesn't matter — I can't remember what he played anyway!"