

THINKING BRIDGE -- By Eddie Kantar

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|--|---|--|------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Dir: East Vul: Both | NORTH ♠ K ♥ J54 ♦ AJ107 ♣ AKQ74 | | West | North | East | South |
| | | | -- | -- | 3 Spade | 4 Heart |
| | | | Pass | 4 NT | Pass | 5 Club |
| | | | {ass | 6 Heart | X | All Pass |
| WEST ♠ 9 ♥ 9 ♦ 9865432 ♣ J1098 | | EAST ♠ AQJ10763 ♥ 632 ♦ Void ♣ 532 | Opening Lead = ? | | | |
| | SOUTH ♠ 8542 ♥ AKQ1087 ♦ KQ ♣ 8 | | | | | |

Bidding commentary: After South overcalls 4♥, North is surely worth a Roman Key Card Blackwood effort. Partner's response of 5♠ shows two key cards plus the ♥Q. Given the bidding, it looks like all you are missing is the ♠A.

Lead commentary: When a preemptive bidder doubles a slam contract with partner on lead, he tells partner, "Don't lead my suit, don't lead a trump. I almost certainly have a void. Lead it!"

Defensive commentary: West can look at his hand and figure out that partner's void must be in diamonds, so he should lead one! On the diamond lead, East ruffs and cashes the ♠A for down one, plus 200. Any other lead results in minus 1660. This double of a voluntarily bid slam is called a Lightner Slam Double after its originator,

Teddy Lightner. The conventional double asks for an unusual lead (not the doubler's suit and not a trump, both common leads against slams)

Further commentary: Against a notrump contract, the double asks partner to lead dummy's first-bid suit. When the double is made against a suit contract - especially by a player who has bid preemptively - it almost always means the doubler is void in a suit and is hoping the opening leader can work out which one.