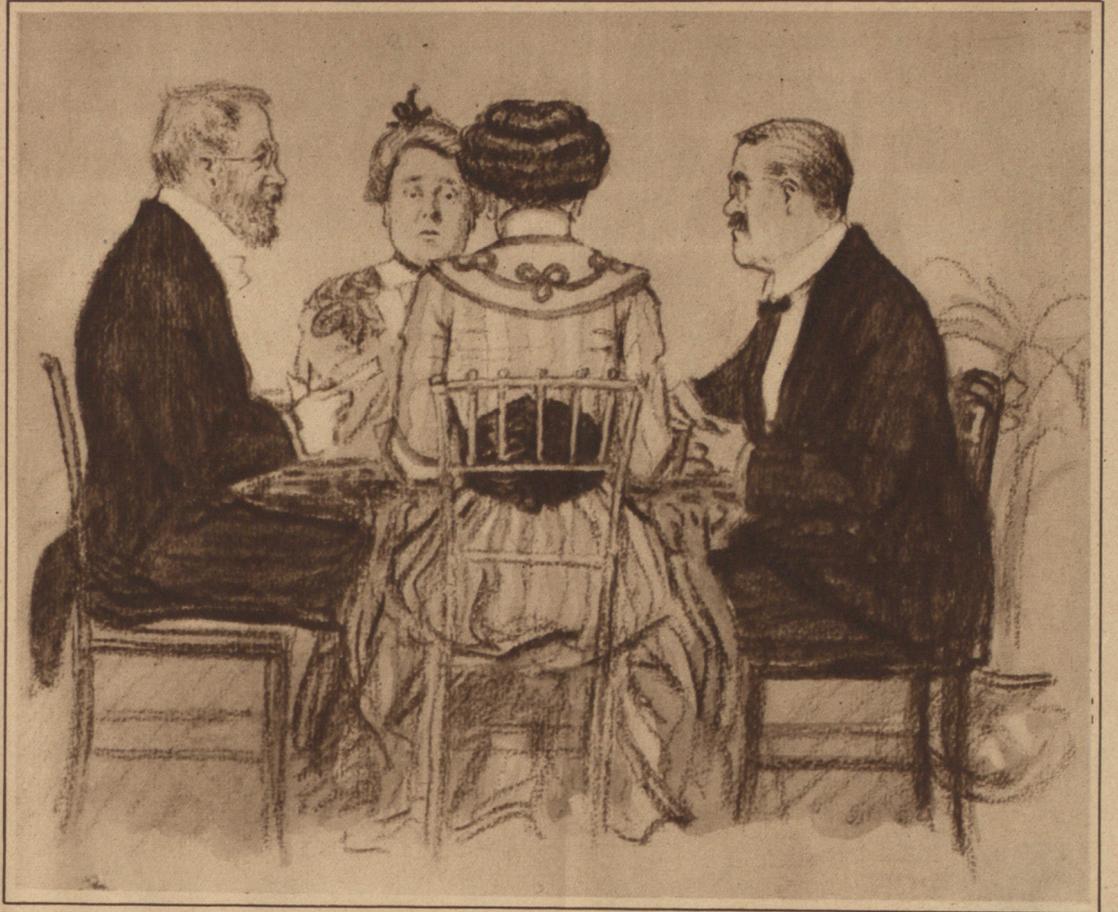




AMONG US MORTALS

THE BRIDGE PARTY

BY W. E. HILL



The hearts table, at which one meets the scum of the earth (in the bridge world).

May, whose partner had arranged a complicated series of signals for use during the game, has completely forgotten which is which.



Mrs. Hadley, eating chicken salad on the side lines, recognizes in the first prize her Christmas gift to the hostess.



Mrs. Nichols, who has won a globe of goldfish, trying to say just the right thing in the way of thanks and not think of the long and bumpy ride home by trolley.



The post-mortem—Now, if you had covered with your king he could not have finessed the jack and my nine would have made.

The host, who is one too many for the numbers at the tables, would like very much to go to bed. His bed, however, is buried under a pile of hats and coats.



Mrs. Long insisted she couldn't play bridge—but every one said, "Oh, come on, now, we know you're just fooling. You know you can play just as well as any of us!" After half an hour at it people are willing to take her word for it.



The bell announcing the early arrivals finds Maggie not quite buttoned up the back yet.



Miss Hosie who doesn't play, spends most of her time yelling for whoever is dummy to come and sit beside her.