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Puzzle 9 (week of May 29) – again answers are based on opening 1NT of 15-17 and 2/1 Bidding System.

A♥	A♥	3♥	3♥	3♦	3♦
V♥	V♥	3♥	3♥	3♦	3♦

W	N	E	S
2NT	P	3NT	

West and East each dropped a card.  
Can you find the missing cards?

Don't read on to page 2 if you don't know the answer yet!

### Answer to Real Bridge Puzzle 9:

W's choices of dropped cards: ♥A, ♥3, ♦3

2NT opening shows 20 to 21 HCP and a balanced hand, without the dropped card West has 20 HCP. The dropped card cannot be the A as that would give West too many points for the 2NT opening bid. Only the ♥3 makes the hand balanced. Therefore, **it must be the ♥3** that was dropped.

E's choices: ♠K, ♦K, ♦9

In order for East to have enough to raise to game the dropped card must be one of the kings. **The ♦K must have been dropped** as if it had been the ♠K, East would have bid 3♣ Stayman, instead of bidding 3NT directly.