

Chess Life



Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation

Thursday,
December 5, 1946

Gonzales New Chess Speed King

CORRESPONDENCE CHESS OLYMPIADE FINDS U. S. READY

In the first such match in the annals of American chess, the Correspondence Chess League of America, correspondence chess chapter of the USCF and U. S. A. member of the International Correspondence Chess Association (ICCA), have sent a six-man team into battle with similar teams from Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay, in Group 5 of the ICCA World Olympiade for correspondence chess.

This ICCA World Olympiade, being directed by Erich Larsson, Traneberg, Sweden, assisted by Edmundo Moreira de Mattos, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, is to determine an Olympic Champion team from the more than thirty countries throughout the World that comprise the ICCA, which is the correspondence branch of the FIDE. Each member-country is allowed to enter up to four six-man teams, which are divided into "Groups" of seven teams each. Group winners from the first round will meet in a final round, with the ultimate winner being crowned World Olympic Correspondence Chess Champion, 1946-49.

U. S. A. participation, under the auspices of the OCLA, is being directed by Carl K. Czernak, West Orange, N. J. One team has already begun play, in a partially completed Group, while a second is awaiting assignment.

All moves are being transmitted via Air-Mail, and it is estimated that from twelve to eighteen months will be required to play a match. The ICCA numerical system of recording moves is being used exclusively. In this system, each of the 64 squares on the chess-board is represented by a number — ranks being numbered one to eight from the White side of the board, while files are also numbered one to eight from the Queen side of the board. Thus, QB7 becomes 37, K5 becomes 55, KR3 becomes 83, etc. Moves are indicated by first writing the square occupied by the piece to be moved, and then writing the square to which it moves. A capture is made by moving the capturing piece onto the square occupied by the piece to be captured. Castling King-side is written 5171 or 5878, while Castling Queen-side is written 5131 or 5338, since those are the only times the King may move two squares at once. This system, eliminating all use of letters, does away with all difficulties resulting from certain letters being written differently by different peoples. Ambiguous moves are impossible.

The line ups of the teams playing in Group 5 follows:

U. S. A.	BRAZIL
1. J. W. Jenkins Newark, N. Y.	1. J. U. Chvalcenti Rio de Janeiro
2. L. C. Hubbard Plainfield, N. J.	2. E. Sjblom Coracabana
3. G. R. Czernak W. Orange, N. J.	3. M. Braga Rio de Janeiro
4. W. M. Byland Pittsburgh, Pa.	4. A. Meltzer Sao Paulo
5. S. Stephanus Montclair, N. J.	5. A. Gandelmann Sao Paulo
6. T. Post Philadelphia	6. K. Hellmann Sao Paulo
Captain: J. W. Jenkins	Captain: E. Mattos



Photo by George Rutherford
JUNIOR CHESS HAS ITS DAY IN TORONTO
Standing (left to right): A. Rubinoff (Chess supervisor at King Edward School); Shirley Davis (first in Junior Tournament Under ten group); Margaret Swan (Secretary of Junior Chess League); T. Gulston (Principal of King Edward School); Bernard Freedman (Member of Advisory board).
Seated (left to right): Ernie Shulman (15), Junior Chess Champion of Toronto; William Davis (13), second in Junior Chess Tournament.

ARGENTINA	URUGUAY
1. F. M. Casas Buenos Aires	1. L. Benza Montevideo
2. P. Velazquez La Plata	2. D. A. Gula Montevideo
3. A. Barros La Plata	3. H. Corbo Montevideo
4. A. Cuadrado Bahia Blanca	4. M. Suarez Montevideo
5. J. F. Sutar Cattamaros esp.	5. E. Marchionti Montevideo
6. A. Houza Peyrano	6. U. Miralles Montevideo
Captain: A. Loeffler	Captain: E. Marchionti

The second U. S. A. team is composed of: 1. L. E. More, University City, Mo.; 2. Robert Wyller, Hillsboro, Calif.; 3. Benjamin Koppin (Captain), Detroit, Mich.; 4. Carl E. Diesen, Cloquet, Minn.; 5. R. M. Thurber, Ann Arbor, Mich.; 6. N. W. Grant, Baton Rouge, La.

BRICE-NASH WINS PANHANDLE OPEN, CZAPSKI SECOND

The first Panhandle Open Tournament at Amarillo, Texas, from October 26 to 27 was a definite success although a Kansan, B. Brice-Nash of Medora, outpointed the Texan, Capt. Edmund Czapski of Amarillo, to win first place. Both had four wins and two draws in the six round Swiss system tournament; but the weighted score of the Kansan was better.

Final standings in what promises to be an annual event sponsored by the Amarillo Chess Club were:

1. B. Brice-Nash.....Medora, Kansas
2. Capt. Ed. Czapski.....Amarillo, Texas
3. A. P. Coles III.....El Paso, Texas
4. Carl Weburg.....Salina, Kansas
5. Dr. R. S. Underwood.....Lubbock, Texas
6. G. L. Marchant.....El Paso, Texas
7. Dr. A. L. Strout.....Lubbock, Texas
8. A. O. Johnson.....Amarillo, Texas
9. J. Douglas Smythe.....Amarillo, Texas
10. R. N. Meister.....Hutchinson, Kansas
11. Hall McCrummon.....Lubbock, Texas
12. Elmer L. Miller.....Amarillo, Texas
13. Ray J. Lyman.....Amarillo, Texas
14. W. R. Reed.....Amarillo, Texas
15. John W. Lynch.....Lubbock, Texas
16. Robert L. Summers.....Hobbs, N. Mex.
17. John R. Brand.....Hobbs, New Mexico
18. H. L. Jordan.....Pampa, Texas

FIRESTONE CLUB HAS HOT WELCOME FOR KOLTANOWSKI

Friday and Saturday, November 15-16, George Koltanowski visited the Firestone Chess and Checker Club (Akron) and received a warm welcome from Akron's players. In the Friday evening simultaneous exhibition Koltanowski played against twenty-seven opponents and lost games to four: Pete Seitz (Firestone), city champion of Akron; Joe Chirich (Firestone); R. A. Harrington, secretary of Goodrich Chess Club; and E. J. Cerny (Goodrich).

On Saturday afternoon Koltanowski gave a blindfold exhibition against eight players, drawn from the Firestone and Goodrich Chess Clubs. Leo Sweet (Firestone), who placed fourth in 1946 Ohio State Championship, won his game; Dr. D. M. Beach, president of the Goodrich Chess Club, and Pete Seitz (Firestone) obtained draws. The blindfold exhibition was held in the Federal House of the M. O'Neil Co. store which sponsored both events on behalf of Akron's chess players.

SPEED TOURNEY, CROWNS NEW KING, DR. J. GONZALES

The Fifth Annual U. S. Lightning Tournament, held at the close of the U. S. Championship Tournament on Sunday, November 17th, resulted in the crowning of a new King of Speed Chess when Reuben Fine failed to compete in defense of the title he has held for four years. The new Champion of Lightning Chess is Dr. Juan Gonzales, participating in his first U. S. Lightning Tournament. Second was A. S. Pinkus; third, G. Shainswith, while fourth was shared by Donald Mugridge and H. Seidman.

As usual in such events several noted players failed to qualify for the championship event and had to be content with entry in the consolation group. Winner of this group was the youthful A. Bisguier who despite his lack of years is a veteran of several Lightning Tournaments. Larry Evans, the fourteen-year-old chess menace from Brooklyn, was second in a tie with the well-known theorist, Olaf Ulvestad. Bad weather reduced the number of contestants from the usual forty or more to twenty-four; but the tourney lost little in strength thereby, as most of the stronger players of previous years competed. In the opinion of N. P. Wigginton of the Washington Chess Divan, an ardent spectator at these annual events, the Fifth Annual Lightning Tournament was the best staged and managed of any of these events. In particular the work of both Kenneth Harness and Richard Wayne as Director and Referee were commended as contributing especially to the success of the event.

Scores of the event were as follows:

CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS	
Gonzales.....9-2	Saltzberg.....52-55
Pinkus.....8-3	Horowitz.....43-55
Shainswit.....72-58	Pantos.....42-55
Mugridge.....6-5	Kramer.....4-7
Seidman.....6-6	Sussman.....39-74
Byrre.....52-53	Weinstein.....2-9

CONSOLATION TOURNEY	
Bisguier.....92-12	Mongarini.....52-59
Evans.....73-51	Soudakoff.....58-55
Ulvestad.....74-54	Flores.....48-55
Gilpin.....7-4	Newman.....42-54
Berliner.....6-6	Gordon.....54-54
DiCamillo.....53-53	Persinger.....1-104

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Photo by George Rutherford
The Junior Chess Committee of Toronto meet in solemn session at the Central Y. M. C. A. Left to right are: Bob Warner, treasurer (Jarvis Collegiate); Margaret Swan, secretary (Eastern Commerce); Walter Prystowski, president (Parkdale Collegiate); David Douglas, tournament director (Parkdale Collegiate); Ralph Berrin, assistant tournament director (Harbord Technical).

CLEVELAND ASS'N NAMES OFFICERS; A. MARTENS, PRES.

The Cleveland Chess Association at the continuation of their Annual Meeting, October 30, named and elected the officers for the ensuing year. A. H. Martens was named the new president unanimously when S. S. Keeney, also nominated for the office, refused to accept the nomination. A. R. Phillips remained first vice-president. Other officers were: J. J. Worz, second vice-president; Ernest Mehwald, third vice-president; and Stanley Prague, fourth vice-president. C. A. Barry, secretary; Milan A. Kontosh, treasurer; and Harald Miller, corresponding secretary.

BEST BUY IN CHESS IS CHESS LIFE.

KENTUCKY HAS SPANISH MENACE IN JOSE PUENTE

At a simultaneous exhibition at the University of Kentucky Chess Club (Lexington) Professor Jose Puente of the Romance Languages Department displayed his fluency in another tongue by winning 14 games, losing one and drawing one. Victor in the lone defeat of Prof. Puente was Eric Ryden of Lexington, while Wendell Kingsolver, a student at the University, held the draw.

Jose Puente is a native of Spain and was a friend of the late Dr. Alexander Alekhine. Honor guest at the University of Kentucky Chess Club upon this occasion was Miss Grace Capablanca, sister of the late Jose Capablanca, former World Champion.

DON'T MISS ANY ISSUES OF YOUR, U. S. CHESS NEWS
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--- BE SEEING YOU.

THE CHESS BUG SEZ: *by Robson*

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MOHOLY-NAGY AND MODERN DESIGN

NOVEMBER 21st saw the passing of Lázló Moholy-Nagy at the Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago, Illinois; and his death deprives the world of one of its foremost exponents of modern design. His "modernism" was particularly significant in the fact that it strove to wed the machine age and mass production to the creation of art.

In the first World War Moholy-Nagy, the Hungarian, was an artillery officer. Later he became associated with Walter Gropius (now professor of architecture at Harvard) in the famous Bauhaus School of Art at Weimar. The rise of Hitler meant the end of free art in Germany, and the Bauhaus faculty fled. Coming to Chicago, Moholy-Nagy in 1937 founded the New Bauhaus School, which later became the Institute of Design.

This has little to do with chess, the reader may say; yet from the Bauhaus of Weimar came the most artistic and yet practical of all modern designs for chess men—a geometrical group of patterns well suited to contest for popularity with the long supreme Staunton design. Unlike the weird creations of most modern designers when their thoughts turn to chess, the Bauhaus pattern has a simple line and enough kinship to the chessmen with which we are familiar that any chess player can use a set of the Bauhaus chessmen without instruction as to which piece represents which piece in the standard Staunton design.

Moholy-Nagy had an imaginative genius which turned to many dissimilar fields of design; chess players should remember him because the Bauhaus, of which he was such an integral part, in its exploration of modern design found time to create a modern chess set and deemed that creation important.

IT'S YOUR MOVE NOW

A GAME of chess is a game for two, although we do not intend by this definition to scorn the solitaire some chess players enjoy in playing over published games. As a game, however, chess reaches its most satisfactory apex of accomplishment in providing entertainment for two players.

Yet such is the engrossing quality of the game, that sometimes the player finds himself lost in a maze of fascinating probabilities as he studies the board, and it takes the gentle remonstrance of his opponent "It's your move" to rouse him from the contemplation of the probable into a participation in the actual.

Strangely enough, publishing a newspaper has many facets in common with a game of chess. It is a game which reaches its most satisfactory apex of accomplishment when it provides entertainment for two players cooperating in mutual friendliness;—the editor and the reader. The paper's best move in this game of chess is to publish all the news it can; the reader's best reply is to respond with his support and that of his chess playing friends. CHESS LIFE has made its first move.

Reader, it's your move now.

Guest Editorial

CHESS IN WORK WITH BOYS AND GIRLS

By Howard Ohman

Chairman, USCF Committee on Junior Chess

CHESS has always impressed most folks as a game primarily for elderly men. Whenever the game has been depicted in newspapers, magazines or other media of expression a chess board has been shown with two old cronies gracing either side of it.

True, chess is a fine game for these folks, many of them retired from regular work with plenty of spare time on their hands. In many cases chess has proved to be a life-saver for them.

But the joys and pleasures and benefits of chess are by no means limited to reversed old gentlemen. On the contrary, my own experience has demonstrated that no class of people takes to the game with more enthusiasm or pleasure than boys and girls in their teens and even before their teens.

In my work in the YMCA both as a layman and as a boys' secretary, dating back twenty-five years, I have had ample opportunity to observe hundreds of boys and girls learning the game—usually with much greater ease than adults—and playing it with ability and fervor.

During a period of two years of teaching the sixth and seventh grades of school chess was the chief extra-curricular activity. Every afternoon following regular dismissal more than a dozen boys and girls could be found playing chess in the class room. When they were finally

shoed out of the building and I would emerge from it fifteen or twenty minutes later I would usually find several games going on right out on the playground, each game surrounded by a group of kids, the whole scene resembling the playground at marble time.

Yes, the place to start youngsters on the road to chess is down in the grade school or at least somewhere among the grade school age group. That is where it will be learned the easiest and where the greatest benefits will be derived, not only in the wholesome recreation afforded but also in the habits of study, analysis and concentration developed.

Then in High School the game should come into full bloom. Seldom will a High School be found where there are no chess players on the faculty. Given a faculty sponsor the rest is easy for the boys will usually go all out for a chess club backed by school authority. School tournaments, inter-school matches, city High School championships and even entrance in the National Junior Championship tournament then come along as a matter of course.

The widespread interest now being shown in chess among children and young people is most gratifying to all of us who highly respect the game for both its pleasures and beneficial influences. This definite advance is due mostly to the leadership of high-minded adults who are willing to give of their time and abilities to further the game among youth.

We know they feel amply repaid for their efforts for surely it is true that the greatest satisfactions of life come from our service to others and especially from our service to those of tender years who are to follow in our footsteps.

¶ The views expressed in this Guest Editorial are not necessarily those of CHESS LIFE.

1946—A YEAR OF INNOVATION

(Monthly Letter No. 36)

by ELBERT A. WAGNER, JR.

President, The United States Chess Federation

THE year 1946 stands out as the most active year in modern American chess history. Many important new ventures have been started in the last twelve months. In the field of tournaments as well as in others.

The first tournament for the Junior Chess Championship of the United States at Chicago in July was an innovation to which there was an instant and enthusiastic response. The 47th Annual Open Championship Tournament at Pittsburgh, which followed immediately after the Junior event, attracted an all time record entry. The qualifications of finalists for the United States Chess Championship Tournament under the Area representation system stimulated play and resulted in renewed interest in chess in many parts of the country. The Championship Tournament just finished resulted in players from every part of the United States being brought together for the first time to compete for the national title. The Fifth Annual Speed Tourney, conducted a day after the championship tournament, added another page of encomium to the record of a tournament which is rapidly attaining the status of a tradition. And before the year is out, we shall see the inter-collegiate team tournament for the Harold W. Phillips trophy. A year of real accomplishment in the tournament realm.



Elbert A. Wagner, Jr.

But our year of activity does not end with an account of the tournaments which have been conducted. The first problem composing contest drew a large number of entries, the winner of which will shortly be announced. The program of Chess for the Wounded is being carried on faithfully notwithstanding difficulties arising out of the transition from Government operation to Veterans' Administration, the shifting of hospital personnel and the wholesale transfer of patients. Our duty to our wounded service men cannot be neglected because of such problems as these.

The publication of CHESS LIFE is another new enterprise which we have undertaken in 1946. Still in its swaddling clothes, CHESS LIFE promises to answer a long felt need to bringing to the chess players of America constant information concerning the life of the Federation and the chess life of the United States.

1946 has been a year of growth as well as a year of accomplishment. Our individual membership has reached a new high mark and a large number of clubs and state chess associations have affiliated themselves with the Federation. Our Executive Committee has been expanded and strengthened by new officers bringing their experience and talents to a bigger and more active Federation.

If these statements were made in an attitude of self-satisfaction, they might better be left unsaid. But we are keenly aware of the work which lies before us. The momentum which we have gathered in 1946 should enable us to begin the tasks of 1947 better equipped and with greater energy and enthusiasm than we have ever had before.

The results of 1946 have not been accomplished without hard work and unwavering loyalty on the part of many people. To name but the half of these would require a special issue of CHESS LIFE. But the gratitude of the Federation reaches out to every person who has contributed his time, his talents or his money to the cause of chess, to which I humbly add my own word of appreciation.

The Kibitzer

From the Editor's Mail-Bag

Dear Sir:

It seems to me that the space devoted to advertisements in CHESS LIFE (to which I have subscribed) could be cut down to one-quarter of the space for each ad, and the saving devoted to more games. Then the sight of such a Chess Newspaper would make it sell itself.

I suggest a pleasing novelty for CHESS LIFE. Have every reader send in his own ideas of the competitors that should be invited to the World Championship Tournament sponsored by the F.I.D.E. next June in Holland, which is to be a four round contest. The competitors not to number more than eight at the very maximum for that

would mean twenty-eight games for each contestant, a properly exhaustive try-out, approximately the thirty game contests for the World Championships we have had in the past. To start the ball rolling, here is my list: Reshevsky, Fine, Keres, Kashdan, Bottvinnik, Smyslov, Euwe, Najdorf.

AMBROSE D. GRING
Brookline, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

Let me congratulate you upon response to the ad. Have had inquiries from all over the country: Texas, Chicago, New York, California, Lexington, Ky., Berlin, Wis., Elgin, Ill., N. J. and Grand Rapids. WESLEY MORGAN
Akron, Ohio

Who's Who In American Chess

Howard E. Ohman

For many of us our professions in life are in part a matter of chance and circumstances; but with Howard E. Ohman his profession is a matter of conviction. This conviction arose from the discovery that in the work with boys and its success lay the future of America. And this conviction called him to the Omaha YMCA to devote his energy to the ever noble cause of training youth to follow the right pathway in life.

Twenty-five years of association with the work among boys, both in the YMCA and in connection with Boytown, have convinced Howard Ohman of the benefits of chess as an educational and mental factor



Howard E. Ohman

in the training of boys. The USCF has profited by this conviction in persuading Howard to accept the task of chairman of the Committee on Junior Chess.

First fruit of this successful maneuver of the USCF was the popular U. S. Junior Chess Tournament in Chicago in July, 1946, in which thirty-two eager youngsters vied with each other for the championship under the persuasive guidance of Howard Ohman who was largely responsible for the success of the tournament.

As a player Howard E. Ohman can keep step in fast company. In the 1940 U. S. Open Tournament at Dallas, he finished in a tie for seventh with Elo in a meet which Fine won and Steiner placed second. Howard is the 1946 Champion of Nebraska, and has held the title on several other occasions.

Delmar Saxton

A gardener by profession, Delmar Saxton believes in pruning his opponents and trimming them down to his size over the chess board. He is an advocate of a balanced program of recreation and plays a vigorous game of tennis as well as an aggressive game of chess.

Delmar Saxton learned his chess in high school and developed it in the Omaha Chess Club. In 1937 he won the Omaha City Championship and has won it three more times since. In 1938 he won the Tri-State Championship



Delmar Saxton

in a tournament at Sioux City, Iowa, open to players from Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota. In 1939 he won the Nebraska State Championship and has won it once since then. His record also includes four second places in Omaha City Championships.

Delmar Saxton has always devoted much time to correspondence chess, and believes in it as an excellent method of improving one's game. It is his practice to play one opening against five or six players simultaneously in his correspondence games and learn the variations and possibilities of the opening by this actual practice. Delmar Saxton has played most of his "mail" chess through the agency of the Correspondence Chess League of America and is currently the CCLA U. S. Correspondence Chess Champion as winner of the Fifth (1937) Grand National Correspondence Chess Tournament.

Under The Chess-Nut Tree

By William Rojam

Dear Sir:
 Since your publication of my squib on "Caissa" in your issue of October 20, I have received a number of requests for "More About Caissa."
 I am glad to comply, especially to our Junior Players, and particularly to the U. S. A. Junior Chess Champion, Larry Friedman, for his fine letter to me.

MORE ABOUT CAISSA

"Me, oft has fortune crown'd with fair success,
 And led to triumph in the field of Chess."

The Fantasy written in poetic form by Sir William Jones in 1763, contains an Episode which was taken from a Latin poem by Vida, entitled "Scacchia Ludus," (translated into Italian by Marino); and his own poem giving the story of Caissa. The characters in both are imaginary, and the invention of Chess is ascribed to Mars, the God of War, "though it is certain that the game was originally brought from India."

The scene in the poem is laid in the wilds of Thrace (ancient Greece); the characters are: Mars; the Goddess Delia; Daphnis, a shepherd, son of Hermes; Dryads, Sirena, Sylvia, Caissa, Traiads and other Nymphs.

The poem is long, and the following lines are Excerpts from the Episode and the poem, pertaining to the game of Chess and Caissa.

A lovely Dryad rang'd the Thracian Wild,
 Her air enchanting and her aspect mild;
 O'er hills and valleys was her beauty fam'd,
 And fair Caissa was the damsel nam'd,
 Mars saw the maid; with deep surprise he gaz'd,
 Admir'd her shape, and every gesture prais'd;
 Soon to the nymph he pour'd his tender strain;
 The haughty Dryad scorn'd his amorous pain;
 He told his woes, where'er the maid he found,
 And still he press'd, yet still Caissa frown'd:
 He left his car, and wander'd near a murmuring stream,
 And fair Caissa was his plaintive theme.
 A Naiad heard him, and mildly spake:
 "Canst thou no play, no soothing game devise
 "To make thee lovely in the damsel's eyes?"
 "Kind Nymph, said Mars, thy counsel I approve,
 "Art, only Art, her ruthless breast can move."

He fram'd a tablet of celestial mold,
 Inlay'd with Squares of silver and of gold:
 Then of two metals form'd the warlike band,
 Of Armies on the chequer'd field array'd,
 And guiltless war in pleasing form display'd:

With radiant feet the wilds he stray'd,
 Till in the woods he saw the Nymphs and
 beautiful maid;
 Then show'd his tablet; pleas'd,
 Caissa ask'd him to explain
 The various movements of the splendid train;
 He taught the rules that guide the pensive game,
 And call'd it CASSA from the Dryad's name:
 (Whence Britain's sons, who most its praise confess,
 (Approv'd the play, and nam'd it thoughtful Chess.)
 O'er the smooth plain two well-wrought hosts he pour'd:
 Who burn'd their rivals to assail
 Twice eight in black, twice eight in milk-white mail:

He ends: TO ARMS, the maid and striplings cry:
 TO ARMS, the groves and sounding vales reply.
 Sirena led to war the swarthy crew,
 And Delia those that bore the lily's hue.
 They gravely move, and shun the dangerous foe;
 If ere they call, the watchful subjects spring,
 And die with rapture if they save their King;
 On him, the glory of the day depends,
 He, once imprison'd, all the conflict ends.

Now swell the embattled troops with hostile rage,
 And clang their shields impatient to engage;
 Now rush both armies o'er the burnish'd board,
 Hurl the swift dart and rend the burning shield:

The invader wav'd his silver lance in air,
 And flew like lightning to the fatal square;
 The cwarthy leaders saw the storm impend,
 And strove in vain their sovereign to defend:
 The invader springs indignant on the dark-robd band,
 And Knights and archers feel his deadly hand.
 Now flies the monarch of the sable shield,
 His legions vanquish'd, o'er the lonely field:
 He hears, where'er he moves, the dreadful sound;
 CHECK, the deep vales, and CHECK, the woods rebound.
 No place remains: he sees the certain fate,
 And yields his throne to ruin, and Checkmate.

Low in their chest the mimic troops were lay'd,
 And peaceful sleeps the sable hero's shade.

Spoke Caissa: "What spell deceiv'd my careless mind?
 You, Mars was fair, and was most unkind."
 The Dryad blush'd; and, as he press'd her, smil'd,
 Whilst all his cares one tender glance beguill'd.

MAURICE S. KUHN
 President Emeritus,
 U. S. A. Chess Federation.

PONZIANI, remembered now only in the name of an opening rarely played, deserves a better fate. Professor of Civil Law at the University of Modena, Vicar General of Modena and Apostolical Prothonotary to him Chess was merely the diversion of a shrewd and busy mind. Yet he was author of the best and soundest of the early books on chess play and theory, *Giuoco Incomparabile degli Scacchi*. The accuracy of his end-game play far exceeded the lax practice of his times, and in his own day he advanced the theory of play by the introduction and development of many new variations. We salute you, Domenico Lorenzo Ponziani.

FIRESTONE BESTS MAHONING CO. (YOUNGSTOWN, O.)

The Mahoning County Chess Club, which meets in the Youngstown YMCA, journeyed to Akron on November 17 to meet the Firestone Chess and Checker Club. The match was played in the Central YMCA at Akron and resulted in a victory for the home team by the score of 10-6.

Firestone	Mahoning Co.
Ernie Slater	McKinley
Pete Seitz	Lozano
Leo Sweet	Baker
Joe Chirich	Sills
Prof. Roberts	Johnson
D. Hockenberry	J. Kosa
R. G. Allen	V. Kosa
Firestone	Mahoning Co.
10	6

U. S. C. F. DIRECTOR O. CLAITOR HAS A SCHOOL—CHESS!

Baton Rouge (Louisiana) has a school for chess. The Y.M.C.A. is the seat of this institute of chess learning; and USCF Director Otto Claitor is principal and teacher. For graduating exercises Director Claitor plans a local tournament for novices and then a local meeting for the seniors. This scaecic activity foretells a strong local background of chess for the 1947 Louisiana State Chess Tournament which will be held at Baton Rouge July 4-6.

GEORGE EASTMAN WINS EN PASSANT AT EDISON CHESS

George Eastman, Co-Champion of Michigan with Dr. B. Schmidt, who has also been Champion of Ohio and held the city titles in Cleveland and Toronto, on Friday, November 15 held a simultaneous exhibition at the Edison Chess and Checker Club (Detroit). O'Keefe, top man in the Class A Ladder Tournament at the Edison Club, was the only victor, for Eastman swept the other nineteen boards of the twenty board exhibition.

MARSHALL CHESS (DETROIT) ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

The Marshall Chess Club of Detroit at its annual meeting has elected a new set of officers for the ensuing year of activity. Charles F. Thomas becomes president; James Roberts, vice-president and treasurer; and Dr. Harold A. Smith, secretary and tournament director.

On November 13 the Marshall Chess Club played a successful match with the Windsor (Canada) Chess Club, winning by the score of 4 to 2.

MONROE CO. TEAM WINS GENESEE CUP BY EYELASH

Adjudication of an unfinished game in the finals of the Genesee (New York) Cup matches left it a draw between Monroe and Queens with two victories for each team. On performance in preliminaries the cup was awarded to Monroe.

ERICH MARCHAND GAMES EDITOR FOR CHESS LIFE

Beginning with this issue, Erich W. Marchand of Rochester, New York, has stepped into the post of Games Editor for CHESS LIFE. Known as a commentator and theorist, Marchand has contributed notes and annotations to games since the second issue of the paper was published. Now, although he will still be assisted by a staff of annotators, he assumes full charge of the department.

A mathematician by profession, Erich W. Marchand has always shown an aptitude for chess and has been in four U. S. Open Tournaments in addition to many state meets. He has been champion of Missouri twice and of St. Louis three times. Currently he is champion of Rochester for the third time.

He is also well known as a correspondence chess player and has been a very active member of the Correspondence Chess League of America.

For a diversion Marchand teaches mathematics at the University of Rochester, although the family tradition preaches a devotion to biology — the study that has engrossed his mother, father, brother and sister. CHESS LIFE feels that both itself and its readers are fortunate in the acquiring of Erich Marchand's services as Games Editor.

PHILLIPS TROPHY FOR COLLEGIATE TEAM TOURNEY

There is much bustle and polishing of the Harold M. Phillips Inter-collegiate Team Trophy in preparation for the Intercollegiate Chess Team Tournament to be held in New York during the Christmas holidays, December 26-30. Teams of four players each will compete from various colleges and junior colleges throughout the country.

Milton Finkelstein, USCF Director of the Collegiate Chess Program will act as Tournament Director for these team matches. While the entry list is almost filled, there is still time for a college, acting promptly, to enter a team in the Tourney by writing at once to Rhys Hays, Secretary of the Committee, 430 West 116th Street, New York City.

N. Y. CENTRAL CLUB (CLEVELAND) ELECTS OFFICERS

At a recent election the New York Central (Cleveland) Chess Club re-elected Rip Lyons president, Reginald B. Fielding as secretary, and Dr. I. E. Halperin as team captain and treasurer.

It's A Question

Advice to the Chess-lover on History, Laws, Personal Ethics

Question: We had an argument the other night about who was the first recognized World Chess Champion. I said it was Paul Morphy and another player insisted that it was Howard Staunton. Who was correct?

E.F.M. (Baltimore)

Answer: You were both wrong in a technical sense, for the first acknowledged World Champion was Wilhelm Steinitz. Paul Morphy is usually conceded an honorary title of World Champion; but the fact remains that he never was matched with Howard Staunton, his only real rival in the chess world of that day, and therefore his claim to the title is slightly clouded. While Morphy defeated all the masters whom Staunton had defeated and won a match from Anderssen to whom Staunton lost a match, there are still those chess enthusiasts who claim that Staunton was the stronger player.

Question: Could you tell me where I can get the latest, most up-to-date, complete and official rules of chess? I want something that will settle any arguments.

Elijah A. Brown (Atlanta, Ga.)

Answer: Alas, experience teaches that no book will settle all arguments in chess, as some player can always think of a new one the books forgot to answer. You need the USCF Club Manual; but unfortunately this valuable handbook on chess will not be published until sometime in the spring. Until that time you may be able to settle your disputes by referring to the Laws of Chess published in the 1939 Yearbook of the USCF. These are the rules officially recognized by the USCF until such times as the Club Manual is off the press. A few copies of the 1939 Yearbook are still available and may be obtained by writing to the USCF Secretary, Edward I. Treend, 12869 Strathmoor Avenue, Detroit 27, Michigan.

CANADIAN CHESS HAS ACTIVE WEEK FOR ALL PLAYERS

At Montreal Max Guze of the En Passant Chess Club won the 1946 Montreal Speed Championship from a field of thirty-six contestants. C. Podlone and S. Betwenik placed second and third among the competitors.

The Maritime Chess Championship went to O. M. McConnell of Halifax who placed first in a fifteen man Swiss tournament held at St. John during the Thanksgiving holidays. O. P. Doucet of Moncton was second.

United States Chess Federation

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SLAV DEFENSE
1946 U. S. Championship Tournament

Notes by A. C. Margolis

White: 1. KASHDAN 2. P-Q4 3. P-QB4 4. Kt-B3 5. P-K3 6. B-Q3

Black: 1. HOROWITZ 2. BxP 3. B-Q3 4. P-QB3 5. P-K3 6. KtxKtP

The text was revived by Keres and other Russian masters in recent years and is often called the Keres Variant of the Morán Defense. The original Morán main line has had an improvement for Black: 11. Kt-KP; 12. KxKt, P-Kt; 13. Q-B3, B-Kt5 ch.; 14. K-K2, Q-Q4; 15. QxQ, Kt-K2; 16. BxP ch.; 17. Kt-B6 ch.; 18. Kt-Q3; 19. K-B4; 19. K-Q1, B-B1. Both lines of play mentioned here give Black a splendid game.

12. P-Kt Q-K3

This is Keres' improvement over the older line 12. P-K4. Horowitz has adopted this variation, may times and unquestionably as well versed in its intricacies.

13. Q-Q

18. P-KtP must be played first. White, no doubt, assumed he would have the better position. Nevertheless the position is in Black's favor because of his powerful center, well posted pieces, and control of the open files for his Rooks.

13. PxP 18. B-K15 P-K4

14. Q-K2 P-K15 19. Kt-QB1 B-F3

15. R-Q1 B-B4 20. Q-K4 Q-R2

16. P-QR4 P-R4 21. B-K15 B-K2

17. B-KB4 K-B1 22. Kt-R4

White hopes to be able to infiltrate Black's cramped King position and so gives up the exchange.

22. Kt-B4 25. RxK1 QxB

23. Q-K2 Kt-K15 28. Kt-B5

24. BxB KtKR

After 25. QxB

Horowitz