



# Chess Life



Volume I  
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Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation

Thursday,  
March 20, 1947

## U. S. C. F. Invites Suggestions

### U. S. CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT CONCERNS EVERY U. S. PLAYER

#### Pres. Wagner Invites Suggestions From All Chess Players On Procedure

In a letter to USC Directors, USCF Club Chapters, Chess Publications, and Chess Editors (text published in this issue of CHESS LIFE), President Elbert A. Wagner has invited the chess playing public of the United States to lend their council and assistance in formulating a perfected procedure for the conducting of the next U. S. Championship Tournament.

As CHESS LIFE indicated in an editorial on January 5th, and as others have commented as well, the 1946 U. S. Championship in its break with tradition justified that break in principle, but experimentally failed to overcome all the minor obstacles that such a break occasioned.

Recognizing that this would be the result of any first experiment, President Wagner feels that wisdom and justice alike commend the course of asking the chess players of the United States to lend their brains and judgement to the task of correcting these minor flaws.

Elements of time and space, questions of qualification, factors of proper zoning of the country into representative districts all enter into the general problem. The practical solution and the absolute just solution may always remain two separate and irreconcilable conditions; but a blending between the practical and the just must be sought.

The time of year again is an open question: whether the tournament should be held in spring, summer or fall. Many factors enter into a decision for any particular season. Whether it is wise to hold the qualifying tournaments in regional areas in one year, and the final U. S. Championship in the year following is another pertinent thought that must be considered.

On these and many other points President Wagner indicates that the USCF would welcome the suggestions of all chess players. See Column 3 and 4 for Text of President Wagner's Letter.

Address all letters to:  
Elbert A. Wagner, Jr.  
208 South LaSalle Street  
Chicago 4, Illinois

### DISTANCE MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO CHESS FANS

Traveling nearly 300 miles, a team from Twin Falls (Idaho) sailed into Salt Lake City (Utah) to match chess skill with players of the new-born YMCA Chess Club—Salt Lake City. Salt Lake was represented by L. N. Page (former city champion), Irwin W. Taylor (newly crowned city titleholder) and H. A. Dittman. Twin Falls relied on Mel Schubert, Donald M. Murphy and Lloyd Kimpton. The final score in the double round event was 5½-½ in favor of Salt Lake City. Schubert salvaged the half-point by drawing one of his games against Page. About thirty spectators were present at the match which received full publicity in the Salt Lake papers.

### OKLAHOMA UNIV. STUDENT CHESS CLUB TAKES LIFE

The University of Oklahoma Student Chess Club was re-activated on February 21 with eighteen members. James Moody was elected president and Wilmer Miller secretary. Plans were drawn for club tournaments and intercollegiate matches.

After the organization of the club and election of officers, the members participated in a simultaneous exhibition given by Dr. Kester Svendsen, associate professor of English, the faculty sponsor. Playing against two or three in consultation at each board, Svendsen won six, lost one and drew one. Prior to the games, Svendsen demonstrated the Knight's Tour blind-folded.

### HOROWITZ MEETS JUNIOR TALENT AT TORONTO (CAN)

Facing forty boards of eager junior chess players in Toronto on February 21, I. A. Horowitz, found that juniors were not easy pickings even for an experienced campaigner. Horowitz lost no games, but he was forced to concede seven draws to his youthful opponents.

Barbara Nixon (Deer Park School), Walter Preston (Parkdale Collegiate), and Counte Duggan (Danforth Tech.) were three who held triumphantly to draws. In consultation games D. Rothenberg, B. Gair, and R. Clee (all of U.T.S.) drew not one, but two games in concert. Ernest Baldwin and David Douglas (both of Parkdale Collegiate) paired for a draw, as did Bob Taylor and Gerald Helleiner (both of Brown Public School).

The simultaneous exhibition was followed by a lecture on the principles of chess, which was eagerly heeded by spectators as well as players, including school principals and teachers and pupils from approximately twenty-three schools.



Photo: Courtesy Harrisburg (Pa.) Telegraph  
Henri Temianka, right, concert violinist, takes a short rest during rehearsals for an appearance with the Harrisburg (Pa.) Symphony Orchestra by testing the chess skill of local conductor, George King Raudenbush, left, of the Pennsylvania Capital Club, while John D. French, USCF Director and President of the Harrisburg Chess Club acts as kibitzer.

### TEXT OF PRESIDENT WAGNER'S LETTER

THE Tournament for the Chess Championship of the United States is a subject to which much earnest thought has been given by many people who desire that America's highest chess classic be conducted in the manner which is most likely to insure complete success. So much has been said and written since the close of the sixth Championship Tournament last November that a statement to the chess players of the United States concerning the conduct of future tournaments should be made.

The first five tournaments included among the contestants the top players of the country and maintained a high level of playing strength. Notwithstanding these tournaments had much in their favor, there were two major respects in which they were deficient. As a practical matter, they were limited to chess players who lived in or near to New York City and, except for a relatively few master players whose past records indicated that they were of championship calibre, there was no reasonable opportunity for others to make the select group who took part in the finals for the national championship. It was to remedy these defects that the change in the sixth Championship Tournament was effected in 1946.

In a clean break with tradition, the Championship Tournament of 1946 was thrown open to every player in the country. This resulted in the appearance of players in the finals who, under the old system, would never have had the opportunity of vying for national honors. That this method was an experiment was freely conceded from the outset, and the resolution which authorized it was specially directed toward the sixth Championship Tournament. Hence, although the principle of truly nation-wide participation in the championship play has been established and is here to stay, we are not committed to any particular method by which it shall be accomplished. That question remains for decision and it is one for determination by the Directors of the U. S. Chess Federation.

The aspect of the problem which calls for the exercise of the greatest ingenuity is that which relates to the preliminary, or qualifying, play. Distance may in some respects lend enchantment, but in making plans for chess competition it adds immeasurably to the headache of those who endeavor to promote and manage tournaments. To be truly national in character, the way should be kept open for every player in any State to take part in the preliminary trials. In general, however, the strongest chess players are found in the large centers, and any practical treatment of the question makes it necessary to hold the qualifying rounds near to these places. A recognition of this fact is a step, but only a short one, toward the ultimate goal. Questionnaires have been submitted to those who were active in the conduct of the 1946 tournament and a number of suggestions for improvement, many of them meritorious, have been put forward. None has yet been received which can be regarded as a complete solution.

Many have suggested that the Championship Tournament be played in the summer time when the players can more easily arrange their affairs in order to take part, rather than in the spring of the year when the first five tournaments were played, or in the fall when the 1946 championship event was held. This suggestion contains much merit, and serious thought should be given as to whether or not it should be adopted.

(Please turn to page 3, column 1)

### ACCOMPANIST TO CONCERT ARTIST MUST PLAY CHESS!

Henri Temianka, concert violinist of San Francisco, Calif., carries sets of both pocket-size and full-scale chessmen with him on all his tours. His first question on hiring an accompanist is: "Do you play chess?" The violinist likes to kill the long hours on his constant train trips in chess. He feels he has played more "chess miles" than any other traveler.

The concert performer learned the game as a child. He has played in many tournaments and exhibitions when not too deeply occupied with his "Strad" violin, and played against George Koitanowski and E. Bogoljubov. The latter he played a match in Scandinavia during a tour by both. Bogoljubov was to play in a tournament and was badly in need of practice. He asked Temianka to play with him to improve his game. "It was nice to have a chess master almost begging you to play him a game of chess. The results were not so pleasant, however," Temianka added.

A great lover of chess, it is necessary for the violinist to set an alarm clock beside him while playing chess so that he will not forget that he has to play a concert. At least once he rode right past his train station, so deeply engrossed were he and his accompanist.

In Russia on his last concert tour Temianka was pleased to discover that the main function of train porters there was not to provide cards as in America, but to see that chess sets were available to the passengers. "It was quite nice, although as I would start a game, the passengers would all crowd around to see how good this visiting violinist was."

During his visit to Harrisburg, Penna., where he appeared with the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra, Temianka found time between rehearsals to test the chess skill of the Orchestra Conductor, George King Raudenbush and USCF Director John D. French, president of the Harrisburg Chess Club.

### J. LEVIN SIMUL AT GERMANTOWN 2 DRAWS, 11 WINS

On February 12, Jacob Levin, Philadelphia lawyer and exponent of forceful chess, gave a convincing demonstration of why he placed fourth in the 1946 U. S. Championship finals, by winning eleven and drawing two in a thirteen board simultaneous against the strongest players of the Germantown YMCA Club. Saul Wachs, Pennsylvania Junior Champion, and Ben Ash were the stubborn holders of the draws.

Letters containing best suggestions on the U. S. Championship Tournament will be published in

Chess Life

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## SPECULATION LIMITED

AMONG the letters that reach this editor's desk are many that intrigue him with their theories and speculations—but time, alas, is always short, and so they slip from his reluctant grasp without the opportunity for exploration. Most recently comes a communication from Ambrose Gring, New England Problemist, with an ingenious and novel suggestion which is forwarded with the thought of equalizing the position for Black. Space permitting in the near future, we will publish Mr. Gring's ideas.

But—muses the editor—must we accept the initial thesis that Black rests under such a definite initial inferiority as Mr. Gring assumes? Must we concede the abstract truth of Weaver Adams' belief that the opening position is, in problem, White to play and win? What does the verdict of statistics reveal?

In an article "Is the First Move An Advantage" by W. F. Streeter (which was published in the May 1946 issue of *Chess Review*) the author reveals some interesting figures which were compiled originally at the request of USCF President Wagner and USCF Executive Vice-President Giers. In the period 1881-1932 (figures covering 5598 games studied) Mr. Streeter found that White won 38%, Black won 31%, and 31% were drawn. In the final period of 1919-1932 White held 37% in wins, Black 26% and draws increased to 37%.

We cannot deny these figures as asserting that White does hold an edge in play. However, it does not seem so definite an edge that any drastic changes are in immediate order. In tournament play, the victor plays with Black as frequently as with White. The advantage automatically levels off. And this modest pusher-of-wood is willing to concede that even if he were offered White in every round of a National Tournament, he would not expect that minute advantage to counterbalance the skill and talent of more experienced players.

Chess has its moments of stagnation, to be sure, when every opening seems thoroughly analysed and no new lines of play seem possible. But history has shown these periods merely the reflection of the weary chess players of that day, for in every instance new blood has shattered the old formulas and found new, aggressive ideas which were present all the time, merely waiting for exploitation.

Let us not yet for a while buy burial wreaths for chess as we know it—those who tried it before, merely wasted their sorrow and their money.

## Guest Editorial

By Dr. Kester Svendsen,

Secretary-Treasurer, Oklahoma State Chess Association

THE revival of organized chess in Oklahoma should encourage average players in small communities to discover how easy it is to promote a local club, to stage inter-city matches, and even to form a state association. When the writer took up the game in 1943, he played with a colleague or two at first and later suggested to a few more that regular meetings be held in one another's homes. Soon some students on the campus became interested and got up a club of their own which was instrumental in bringing George Koltanowski to the University for an exhibition. Visitors to that event from nearby Oklahoma City met the Norman group, and last year a couple of matches were played between the Oklahoma City chess club and the student-faculty group. Shortly after Koltanowski's second exhibition in Tulsa, Norman, and Oklahoma City, several of us corresponded about a state tournament, with the result that players from all over the state met during the Christmas holidays on the invitation of the Oklahoma City chess club and formed the Oklahoma Chess Association, the first business of which was to conduct the first annual two-day tournament. Now the three major groups in the state are going stronger than ever, and the University of Oklahoma Student Chess Club plans to field a team and challenge other schools. Officers, a constitution, official letterhead, and affiliation with the USCF will give the state organization prestige and permanence.

The chief point of interest in this is that two of the five people most active in promoting the revival are duffers. Even a player as green as the writer can memorize the Knight's Tour and play simultaneous exhibitions against beginners; the interest aroused by such displays results in more and better chess players. Duffers who are timid about appearing against a master have jumped at the chance to try their wits for free against a local player, and the games lost or drawn by the

exhibitor are the best investment he makes. A letter to the sports page of the local newspaper will bring calls from other players who are unaffiliated. A lecture or a demonstration or two at the YMCA or before other groups will work wonders. If enough players request, libraries will subscribe to chess periodicals and add chess books to the shelves. Sporting goods stores can be persuaded to dress a window or part of one with chess sets and books and add a card with the address of the club or a player. The possibilities are endless.

And perhaps the best part about the whole affair for the duffer who does all this promotion is that his own play improves in spite of itself.

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

## CHESS PUBLICITY

A Regular Message by

Paul G. Giers

Executive Vice-President, United States Chess Federation

IT may be paradoxical to devote newspaper space to a discussion of publicity, but there seems ample justification in the fact that dissemination of chess news in most localities has been, and still is, suffering from a bad case of neglect. Giving full credit to the publishers of our national chess magazines, the editors of chess columns published regularly in some twenty newspapers, and to those who are doing a notable job of publicizing local activities and major tournaments, we might as well admit that chess publicity, by and large, is quite inadequate in view of the tremendous chess interest from coast to coast.

That chess is entitled to its full share of publicity can hardly be disputed. If many hundreds of papers carry daily articles on the fine points of a certain card game, the strategy of the royal game should likewise be featured for the enjoyment of countless readers interested in chess. As to news of chess activities, local, state and national, these, of course, properly belong to a newspaper as do other news.



Paul G. Giers

Let us not make the mistake, however, of blaming the newspapers for the lack of publicity. City editors are generally glad to get news and to publish them. In most cases, if assured of sufficient reader interest, they will give liberal space also to special chess features.

No, the fault usually lies with the chess players who neglect to furnish the papers with proper news material in clear and presentable form, and who have not brought to the editor's attention the constantly growing popularity of chess. Successful chess organizers know the value of publicity. In many cases, effective use of publicity has been the chief reason for the success of their efforts.

A good example may be found in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania's state capital. Chess players in that city had been little heard of and there was no organized chess activity until USCF Director John D. French took matters in hand last July. Harrisburg now has a booming chess club of about fifty members. Four clubs have been organized in nearby communities, with two more in the process of formation. Junior chess promotion has received particular attention. There are clubs in eight high schools, banded together into a league, and this number is expected to reach more than twelve before the end of the school term. The Harrisburg city fathers will soon be asked to include chess in the summer playground schedule and there is strong likelihood that a plan similar to the Milwaukee system will be adopted.

As a newspaperman connected with the Harrisburg Telegraph, Mr. French has waged a militant campaign for chess in the Harrisburg press which, no doubt, has been a prime factor in making his city chess-conscious. To quote from one of his recent letters:

"In the publicity line it has been amazingly simple. I, of course, am a member of this paper. There are two other papers in the city, but both of them have cooperated to such an extent that I have had more than one item a week on chess in each of the three for a number of months past. The papers are willing to go along as I write a separate weekly story for each of them, thus they need not worry about printing the same thing, word for word, that the other papers have."

"Pictures have also been exclusive with either one paper or the other. The enclosed is the fourth picture that I have had taken of chess in action. It has worked out nicely and brought in many members."

One of the strongest advocates of greater chess publicity is Gene Collett of the West Virginia Chess Association, Editor of the USCF Club Manual now nearing completion. The Manual will set forth, in some detail, the proper use of publicity and, without having seen the manuscript, I am sure that many of Mr. Collett's suggestions will prove of great value to our clubs.

However, let's not wait until the Club Manual is published before we set the wheels in motion for more adequate chess publicity. It will be to the advantage of every club to cooperate closely with local newspapers and to obtain its fair share of publicity. Coming articles in this series will deal with other aspects of chess publicity.

## According To A. Sid. Test

A friend of mine has a hand-carved chess set which he proudly brings to the club; but it doesn't help him win any more games. It is the hand that moves them, and not the pieces that win the game.

\* \* \* \* \*

Many a blusterer has met his match in a quiet sort of a fellow who didn't brag—remember that every pawn in the game is a potential queen.

\* \* \* \* \*

In life and chess it is not what your title is, but what you do; a pawn can be more dangerous than a rook in the right situation.

\* \* \* \* \*

A friend of mine calls a forced mate, the "shotgun wedding" in chess—the King is bashful but helpless. But if he had the right environment, he wouldn't get into trouble; chess pieces are like people, they are victims of their surroundings.

## Who's Who In American Chess

Kester Svendsen

The chess activities of Dr. Kester Svendsen, associate professor of English at the University of Oklahoma, illustrate what the average player with many demands on his time can accomplish for the royal game in his community. When he began to play in 1943, there was no organized chess at the University and very little in the state.

Upon the formation of the Oklahoma Chess Association, he was elected secretary-treasurer and was instructed to draft the constitution. He reported the first annual tournament for the newspapers and obtained excellent publicity for the event and for chess.



Kester Svendsen

During all of this promotion, he has carried on his regular duties as a faculty member, acted as moderator for a weekly radio round-table on literature, written weekly book reviews for the Sunday paper, contributed to the United States Quarterly Book List of the Library of Congress and to other learned journals.

Dr. Svendsen's interest in chess extends beyond play and promotion. For the past two years he has been collecting materials for a bibliography of chess fiction in English and an anthology of the best chess stories, and with the result that the bibliography has grown beyond five hundred items. In another year, he thinks, he will have them all, from Horatio Alger's story of the chessplayer who made good to Stefan Zweig's about the one who failed.

Bela Rozsa

Born in Kecskemet, Hungary in 1905, Bela Rozsa grew up surrounded by great music and musicians. His father was the leading baritone of the Vienna and Budapest Operas and later was a member of the Metropolitan Opera Company in New York.

Coming to America at the age of sixteen, Dr. Rozsa finished his undergraduate studies at the Juillard School of Music in New York City.



Bela Rozsa

While a student at this school he was awarded on two consecutive years prizes for Chamber Music Composition. He graduated with high honors in 1928 and then did graduate work in Paris, France, and with the famous German composer, Arnold Schoenberg. He received his Ph.D. in Composition at the State University of Iowa.

Dr. Rozsa has had concert tours throughout Central Europe, Canada and the United States. He was a member of the Musical Staff of the National Broadcasting Company and Mutual Broadcasting Company, New York, for eight years, and at present is Head of the Music Theory, professor of piano and organ, and Chairman of Graduate School of Music at Tulsa University.

Dr. Rozsa started to play serious chess in 1939. By 1940 he won the North Texas Championship, in 1942 the Southwestern Championship, and in 1945 played in the Master Class of the U. S. Open Tournament at Peoria, Illinois. In 1946 he became the first recognized Oklahoma State Champion.

# Under The Chess-Nut Tree

By William Rojiam

Dear Sir:

### Symbolism in Chess

The question is often asked regarding the game: "What comparison in this war game does each piece have to the branches of a real army?" I have come to what may be a precise answer and one which is an answer in the most general sense.

In general, the King may be likened to the General of an army; with conservative actions and destructive intent he stands in his headquarters and fires commands to the Queen, representative of the Air Force because she possesses the greatest quantitative and qualitative mobility. And the Rooks, representative of the Sea Force which "sails down the field" so to speak and which backs up many a landing; and the Land Forces composed of the Bishop who symbolizes the psychological destructiveness of a direct, indirect and slanted assault; and the Knight who seems like Cavalry in the modern sense of the word—combining tanks, engineering and paratroop tactics; and the Pawn or Infantry. Thus in chess all branches of the service are symbolized in general. Of course, Chess is a game fit for Thor, the War God.

ROBERT T. DURKIN,  
Ventnor City, New Jersey.

## PRESIDENT WAGNER'S LETTER

(Continued from page 1)

To give fuller opportunity for effective preparation it may be advisable to conduct the preliminaries for the next championship in 1948 and to hold the seventh United States Chess Championship Tournament in 1949. This question, too, will be a matter for the Directors to decide.

The Federation Directors will have to consider many factors and should take action with respect to the matter in full session. The annual meeting at Corpus Christi will provide a favorable opportunity. Meantime, the question will not be allowed to remain dormant.

The opinions of the committee members have been solicited and are gratefully acknowledged. The subject is not limited however to a few, even though their competency be conceded. It is one which concerns every player in the United States, whether he is a possible championship contestant or one who confines his activities to club tournaments. The views of all are desired so that the Directors may have the benefit of every possible suggestion.

To that end, I invite all chess players, whosoever in the United States they may live or play their chess, to write to me and express their views on this basic subject. Every reasonable suggestion will be carefully considered and submitted to the Directors at their annual meeting.

Elbert A. Wagner, Jr.  
President, U. S. Chess Federation

## MARSHALL CHESS (DETROIT) DRAWS WINDSOR (ONT.)

On February 27 the Marshall Chess Club (Detroit) sallied across the waters to meet the Windsor (Ontario) Chess Club on their home ground. The final results of the hard-fought battle was a draw.

Marshall Chess	Windsor Chess
Pilawski .....	Gale .....
Wright .....	Blake .....
Roberts .....	Greenhalf .....
Black .....	Schaljo .....
Phelps .....	Smilkins .....
Fruit .....	Mills .....
Boehm .....	Ezra .....
Witkowski .....	Roche .....
George .....	Seiden .....
Marshall Chess .....	Windsor Chess .....

## LEAGUE SEASON NEARS END IN CLEVELAND, OHIO

Play nears the end in both the Cleveland Chess Association team matches and the two divisions of the Cleveland Industrial Chess League. The Pawns Club have the title in a firm grip in the Chess Ass'n group and the Post Office team holds the Industrial First Division Title just as firmly. National Carbide Co. team leads the Second Division of the Industrial League.

Cleveland Chess Association		
Games	Matches	
Pawns Club .....	481-131	6-0
Checkmate Club .....	56-31	5-2
Lakewood Chess .....	423-333	4-2
South Euclid Chess .....	31-37	3-2
N.Y.C. "Y" Chess .....	261-191	2-3
Kings of Chess .....	15-23	11-21
Brooklyn Chessnuts .....	22-54	1-6
Queens Women's Chess .....	61-365	1-41

Industrial Chess League		
First Division		
Games	Matches	
Post Office .....	393-61	6-0
Parker Appliance .....	171-81	31-1
Telephone Co. ....	33-19	5-2
Murray-Ohio .....	24-14	3-2
Atlantic Tool .....	251-223	31-21
Strong-Cobb .....	113-251	11-4
New York Central .....	12-28	1-4
Graphite Bronze .....	163-371	2-5
Quality Tool .....	51-263	0-5

Industrial Chess League		
Second Division		
Games	Matches	
National Carbon .....	12-3	2-0
Lubri-Zol .....	61-81	1-1
Sears-Robuck .....	41-111	0-2

## JACOB LEVIN IN DOUBLE SIMUL. AT CLEVELAND

Jacob Levin, Philadelphia lawyer and one of the ranking players of the East, paid Cleveland a visit on February 15 and 16 with a simultaneous exhibition on each date. On the first occasion only seventeen boards mustered to face him and this was not adequate competition, for Levin swept through the games without hesitation, scoring a clean slate of victories.

On the 16th the opposition was more determined on twenty-five boards and Levin was forced to concede eight losses and five draws to a very strong group of players.

Those who outlasted Levin in the contest were H. Weise, P. Stephan, J. Niemira, W. Granger, H. Miller, G. Miller, J. Harkins and H. Vanderwerp. Draws went to A. R. Phillips, T. Ellison, R. Sachs, F. Battell, and Mr. Levy.

## PAWNS CLUB MAKE THEIR CITY TITLE DECISIVE BY WIN

The Pawns Chess Club (Cleveland) with a firm grip upon first place in the Cleveland Chess Association team matches made their claim to first place in Cleveland chess decisive on February 23 by a victory over the Cleveland Chess Club. This and other exploits of the Pawns (a junior group of players) brings the useful suggestions from E. F. Johnson, editor of the informative *Cleveland Chess Bulletin*, that "If we could only disqualify those Pawns for some reason—like maybe, being under age, then we might have a real race for the championship."

Pawns Club	Cleveland Chess
L. Friedman .....	J. Hoy .....
G. Miller .....	W. Streeter .....
D. Zaas .....	M. Leysens .....
H. Miller .....	Salom .....
W. Granger .....	E. Stearns .....
V. Pollak .....	Charvayta .....
J. Harkins .....	E. Wyman .....
M. Levitin .....	E. Somlo .....
Pawns .....	Cleveland .....

## The Correspondence Chess League of America Elects New Set of Officers



Erich W. Marchand

H. G. Tyer (Mass.) became 2nd vice-president; W. J. Prewitt (Calif.) secretary; W. F. Gladney (La.) treasurer; J. W. Jenkins (N. Y.) tournament director.

Board of Directors (elected for three years): C. W. Hardinge (Minn.); A. Y. Hesse (Md.); and A. Powers (Colo.). Alternate directors are: L. C. Hibbard (N. J.) and M. O. Meyer (Calif.).

Annual election for the CCLA spelled several changes in the state of officers. There are several new faces, and new jobs for old faces in the newest set-up of one of America's oldest chess organizations—an affiliate of the USCF.

Erich W. Marchand (Games Editor for CHESS LIFE) became the new president, while USCF Vice-President Wm. Byland became 1st vice-president of the CCLA.



William M. Byland

## MINN. CHESS CLUB HAS SCHOOL FOR SCHOOL PLAYERS

Beginning with a session on Thursday evening, February 20, the Minneapolis Chess and Checker Club acted as hosts to forty high school players who assembled under the sponsorship of Robert Gueydan, Melvin Janowitz and Sheldon Rein for the purpose of organizing the high schools into a chess league. After the organizational proceedings, a lecture on the KP openings was given by Caleb Anderson. And this series of lectures on openings and other phases of chess play will be continued every Thursday afternoon while the Minneapolis club continues to act as host to the high school players. Lectures are scheduled by George Barnes, Charles Hardinge and Caleb Anderson, while junior players Melvin Janowitz and Sheldon Rein deserve the credit for the promotion of the idea and the organizing of the various school groups.

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

U. S. C. F.  
Wednesday, August 13, 1947  
At Corpus Christi, Texas

DIRECTORS' MEETING  
Thursday and Friday,  
August 14-15, 1947

## ALBERT MARTIN RHODE ISLAND STATE CHAMPION

Even a roaring blizzard failed to halt the annual Washington's Birthday weekend tournament which decides the annual Rhode Island State Chess Championship, although the weather limited the number of entries. Albert Martin became the new State Champion in this traditional event which has been held annually ever since the Rhode Island Chess Association was founded in 1887.

The Greater Providence YMCA Chess Club celebrated National Chess Month with a stirring victory over the Attleboro (Mass.) Chess Club at their home quarters in the Providence YMCA. The score was 11-4 in favor of Providence.

## EXHIBITION TOUR

A FEW OPEN DATES FOR CITIES WEST OF PITTSBURGH

MAY 1 to JUNE 15  
Write:  
Weaver, W. Adams  
258 Highland Street  
Dedham - Massachusetts  
Endorsed by the U. S. Chess Federation

## FORD (DETROIT) PERFECT HOST TO EDISON CHESS

The Ford Chess Club of Detroit entertained the Edison Chess and Checker Club in a return match on February 3, and acted as perfect hosts for the occasion, serving the visitors an excellent dinner as a starter and then accepting defeat philosophically with the score of 11-4 in favor of their guests.

Edward I. Treend, acting jointly as secretary of the Edison Club and secretary of the USCF, made a brief talk on behalf of the USCF and its work for chess before the match began. As a result of his eloquence the Ford Chess Club applied immediately for a charter as a chapter, and fifteen individual players took out memberships.

Results of the match were:

Edison Chess	Ford Chess
O'Keefe .....	O'Keefe .....
Roberts .....	Blatt .....
Watson .....	Pelle .....
Blaichford .....	Kockrich .....
Heiden .....	Ogren .....
Treend .....	Hausewirth .....
Baer .....	March .....
Mason .....	Teichman .....
Gunnis .....	Lichtenheld .....
Streed .....	Ford .....
Farrich .....	Lindberg .....
Shaw .....	Khabach .....
Scabo .....	Scholz .....
Frankenfeld .....	Grunheid .....
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## MORAL VICTORY GOES TO WHITES IN DRAWING REDS

In the Germantown YMCA Chess Club (Philadelphia) the moral victory went to the Germantown Whites (or Gremlins) in drawing their match in the Philadelphia Chess League with the senior Germantown Reds. The Whites (composed of players under eighteen) also topped the Reds in the final standings of the Philadelphia League. Results of the epic civil war engagement at Germantown:

Germantown Reds	Germantown Whites
A. Saxon .....	S. Waels .....
W. Hall .....	M. Stiefel .....
J. Seibert .....	C. French .....
W. Arkless .....	W. Generous .....
D. Bortman .....	T. Horner .....
Mrs. M. Selensky .....	A. Neff .....
Germantown Reds .....	Germantown Whites .....

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## Chess Life

Thursday, March 20, 1947

## NEW CHESS CLUB SALT LAKE CITY FOR CHESS MONTH

To celebrate National Chess Month, H. A. Dittman, donor of the set of Trophies for the U.S. National Chess Championship Tournament, set the goal of a wide-awake chess club in a city that was without chess club facilities. Finding an ally in Roger Freund, executive secretary of the YMCA, Dittman planned and executed a whirlwind campaign which resulted in the formation of the YMCA Chess Club—Salt Lake City with twenty-five initial members and a rapidly growing roll as additional members flocked in.

On February 28 the new YMCA Club forwarded its application for charter as a Chapter of the USCF to end a very busy and hearty first month of existence. *The Salt Lake Tribune* and *The Desert News* cooperated liberally throughout the whole organizing campaign with news stories and general publicity.

Officers of the new club are: H. A. Dittman president, Jackson Beyer vice-president, Kenneth Jones secretary, Irwin W. Taylor treasurer, and Roger Freund (representing the YMCA) board member.

First city-wide activity of the new club was the organizing of the City Championship Tournament, which was held on February 21-23 under the Swiss System with twenty entrants. Irwin W. Taylor won the title, and custody of the H. A. Dittman Trophy (which started on its rounds in 1936) with a score of 6½-½; second place went to Glib Kashin. In a non-championship class tournament, held at the same time, Bob Harris placed first and Jim Gatehouse second.

## VINCENT EATON NEW CHAMPION OF CHESS DIVAN

By virtue of his victory in a playoff match with Martin Stark, Vincent L. Eaton becomes the new champion of the Washington (D.C.) Chess Divan and holder of the Reuben Fine Trophy. Eaton, known internationally as a problemist, was the D.C. Champion in 1942 before he left Washington for service abroad in the army. In the regular rounds of the club tournament Eaton and Stark finished in a tie, ahead of Hans Berliner.

On February 22, Albert S. Pinkus played a twenty-three board exhibition at the Divan, winning twenty games, drawing with R. S. Cantwell and losing to Stuart Wagman and Don Muiridge in a session that lasted four hours and thirty minutes.

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KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE
1946 Ohio State Tournament

Notes by Dr. J. Platz

White Black
L. FRIEDMAN C. DRISCOLL
1. P-Q4 K1-KB3 3. P-KB3
2. P-QB4 P-KK1

This move is a matter of taste. The fact that Alekhine and Euwe have played it occasionally does not necessarily mean that it represents sound opening play.

An unusual looking move, which however is not exploited by Black. Euwe played here S. P-B4, but after S. Kt-B3; 9. P-Q5, Kt-K1; 10. Kt-B3, P-QB3 his opponent (Reshevsky) is hitting hard at the White center (Avro, 1928).

Here was the moment to strike the knockout blow at the White game, and that at the 8th move! The correct move was S. Kt-B5 and after 9. Q-B1 (what else?), Kt-B3; 10. P-Q5 or 10. P-K5, then Kt-B5 wins for Black. This proves White's faulty development.

As we shall see later, 14. Pxp?; 15. KtP, Q-K2 was better, because it would have saved a tempo for Black. Compare note to move 14.



It seems that with 29. QxQ ch.; 30. KxQ BxP Black has in his two Bishops enough compensation for the Pawn to give him a draw. Here the game was adjourned and later adjudicated after 29 moves in a State Championship Tournament! a draw. Let's look at just a few of the many possibilities in this position:

1. 30. Q-Q4, Kt-R6; 31. P-K15, Kt-B7; 32. Q-R4 ch, K-R1; 33. B-B4, Kt-B4 ch; 34. K-K12, Kt-K3 ch; 35. Kt-B3 (K-R7), QxR ch; 36. K-K4, Kt-Q; 37. P-B7, Q-R7, Q-B5 and wins. If however White plays K-R3, he will be mated, i.e. 35. K-R3, QxR ch; 36. K-R4, Kt-Q; 37. P-B7, Kt-B3 ch; 38. P-B6, QxR ch; 39. KxKt, P-R4 ch; 40. KxP, Q-R6 mate.

Tournament Life

Conducted by
Erich W. Marchand

Dept. of Mathematics
University of Rochester,
Rochester 3, New York

BUDAPEST DEFENSE
U. S. Championship Preliminaries
Area 6 Tournament

Notes by R. J. Crittenden

White Black
M. SURGIES F. STOPPEL
1. P-Q4 K1-KB3 8. Q-B2 Kt-KQ4
2. P-QB4 P-K4 9. KtKt(Q2) 0-0
3. PxP Kt-K5 10. 0-0 P-Q3
4. Kt-Q2 B-K5 11. P-QR3 B-QB4
5. Kt-B3 Kt-QB3 12. P-QK14 B-Q5
6. P-KK1 Q-K2 13. R-K11 Kt-K15
7. B-K12 KtKP 14. Kt-K13 BxP ch.

This sacrifice is unsound, for Black hasn't the slightest chance of an attack. The Bishop obtains a good diagonal and at the same time drives the Queen away.

Practically forced, for Black can't save the Pawn anyway and White would have too strong an attack.

This gains no end and seriously hampers the movement of Black's King. R-K15 mate was White's threat.

Black can't avoid immediate disaster in the form of 46. B-Q6 ch. A well played game by Surgies.

GRECO COUNTER-GAMBIT
Played in Correspondence, 1947

Notes by R. W. Bruner

White Black
J. F. TONAR R. W. BRUNER
1. P-K4 P-K4 3. KtP Kt-QB3
2. Kt-KB3 P-KB4 4. Q-R5 ch.

Now Black has won a Knight with the giving up of three K-side pawns. This strengthens Black's Q-side pawn formation, with a diagonal attack on White's KR as well.

This is what Black wants. While his own KR on the Black diagonal is temporarily out of play, White's move does not allow a double pawn defense of the KP that would have been given by 14. P-KB3. Black is still thinking of an attack on the KR.

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14. P-Q4 Pursuing the attack on the KP.
15. QxRP Now Black has the attack on the KR.
16. Q-K12 To avoid the loss of the KR.
17. P-K13 KtP
18. Kt-B3 KtP would remove an active piece of Black's and allow the development of a then active R for an inactive B of White's. With the move Black made, he now gives back the KR advantage for the capture of two White K-side pawns for his own loss of three and starts a terrific attack on White's King.
19. PxKt R-P ch. 20. K-K1 R-K1 ch.
21. K-B2 Q-R5 21. B-K3
22. K-K2 Q-K15 ch. R(K16)xB ch.

FRENCH DEFENSE
1946 Intercollegiate Team Tournament

Notes by Albert Margolis

White Black
D. NELSON D. MORRO
1. P-K4 P-K3 3. Kt-QB3
2. P-Q4 P-Q4 4. B-Q2
3. P-K5 is considered best here. The text is very tricky.
4. Kt-K2 seems safer.

The idea of the text is too slow and will lose a Pawn without compensation. The correct move is 5. Q-Kt1 with the possible continuation 5. B-B1; 6. QxP, Kt-KB3; 7. Q-R4, B-K7; 8. 0-0 with a strong game.

This cannot be correct and actually forces White to improve his game.
22. R-R1 R-R1 26. Kt-K3 RxR ch.
23. R-R1 P-KK1 27. QxR Q-KB2
24. Kt-R5 Q-K2 28. Q-Q5 ch. K-R2
25. Kt-QB4 P-B4



29. Kt-B6 ch. Here White misses his way. 29. KtKBP looks like a winning line.
30. K-K13 30. Q-K15 ch. KxKt Resigns

RUY LOPEZ
U. S. Championship Preliminaries
Area 6 Tournament

Notes by R. J. Crittenden

White Black
A. SANDRIN L. J. ISAACS
1. P-K4 P-K4 4. B-R4 Kt-B3
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 5. 0-0 B-K2
3. B-K15 P-QR3 6. Q-K2

The Worrall Attack. Some masters believe this is to be at least as good as 6. R-K1.
6. P-QK14 8. P-QR4 B-K15
7. B-K13 P-Q3 9. P-B3 Kt-QR4
9. P-Q4 0-0! was preferable.
10. B-B2 P-B3 13. P-KR3 B-R4
11. P-Q4 Q-B2 14. P-K14 B-K13
12. Kt-Q2 0-0 15. Kt-R4 PxP(Q5)
Black is preparing the Queen's entrance into the fight.
16. P-KB4? This move seriously weakens White's King-side and allows Black to execute an overpowering attack, but White is intent on trapping Black's Bishop. 16. PxP was better. If then, 16. P-Q4; 17. KtB, BxKt; 18. P-R5.
16. PxB 17. PxP P-Q4!
The Queen suddenly comes to life!
18. P-B5? A blunder. White seems to have overlooked Black's simple winning maneuver 18. KtB followed by 19. P-K5 should have been played, although White would still have a bad game.
18. Q-K16 ch. Of course!
19. Q-K12
19. Kt-K12, B-B4 ch, decides.
19. QxB Black can do pretty much as he pleases.
20. R-R2 KtKBP
Of course. Now the Knight at R4 is attacked by the Bishop.
21. KtKt P-Kt 23. PxR ch, K-R1
22. PxB BxKt
Not 23. KxP?; 24. QxP ch, P-K12; 25. KxP ch! Rxk; 26. QxP ch, K-R1; 27. B-K12, winning.
24. BxP QR-K1 27. R-QB5 B-Q1!
25. K-R1 P-K15 28. P-R4?
26. R-QB2 Q-K16

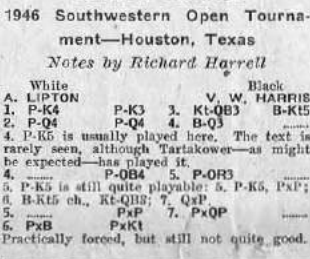
Again overlooking a rather simple combination which this time puts the game on ice.
25. RxB1
Of course, White did not see that protecting the Knights was not the only purpose of 27. B-Q1.
29. QxR Q-R6 ch. 30. K-K11 B-K13
The point!
31. B-K3 Q-K16 ch. 32. K-B1 Kt-K16
A swindle, and White falls!
33. R-QB3??
If 33. R-K5, B-B2! wins easily. However, this move was better than the text which ends in all.
33. P-R R 34. BxB Kt-Q7 Resigns

FRENCH DEFENSE
1946 Southwestern Open Tournament—Houston, Texas

Notes by Richard Harrell

White Black
A. LIPTON V. W. HARRIS
1. P-K4 P-K3 3. Kt-QB3
2. P-Q4 P-Q4 4. B-Q3
3. P-K5 is usually played here. The text is rarely seen, although Tartakover—as might be expected—has played it.
4. P-QB4 5. P-OR3
5. P-K5 is still quite playable; 5. P-K5, Pxp?; 6. B-R5 ch., Rt-QB3; 7. QxP
6. PxB PxKt 7. PxQP
Practically forced, but still not quite good.

Black has no good move against the threat of KtKBP dis. ch. Viz: 16. Q-K4, Q-Q6; 17. B-B4, Q-B3; 18. KtBxP ch., K-R12; 19. KtR. Of course, Black could choose to lose passively by declining the B and thereby accepting a Pawn minus with an inferior position. Lipton said after the game that he saw the possibility of the attack, but that he could not see it clear (small wonder) and therefore preferred the text, feeling sure that he would win because of his superior development. Such is tournament chess—play it SAPE.
14. Kt-K3 17. P-R5 Kt-B5
15. P-KR4 P-B3 18. P-R6 P-K4
16. R-K3 Q-OB2 19. KtP KtB
If 19. PxB; 20. BxP followed by BxKt
20. KtKt B-B4 24. KtB
21. PxP Kt-Q2 25. BxP KtB
22. Q-B3 B-K13 26. QxKt QxB
23. KtB4 QxP 27. R-KR3 Resigns.



29. Kt-B6 ch. Here White misses his way. 29. KtKBP looks like a winning line.
30. K-K13 30. Q-K15 ch. KxKt Resigns

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