



# Chess Life



Volume II  
Number 5

Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation

Wednesday,  
November 5, 1947

## Illinois Wins Four-State Match

### FOUR STATE TEAM MATCH SEES STRONG ARRAY OF PLAYERS

Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin Compete For Chess Team Honors

First of a series of annual team tournaments was held at the Hotel Roosevelt in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on October 18-19 with the Iowa State Chess Association acting as host to four five-man teams from Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska and Wisconsin. W. Vanderburg of Cedar Rapids acted as representative of the Iowa Chess Association in arranging all details of the team tournament.

Illinois won the match by scoring three victories with a team headed by State Champion Albert Sandrin and former State Champion Lewis J. Isaacs. Nebraska was second with two victories and one defeat and her team was led by State Champion Alfred Ludwig and Omaha City Champion Delmar Saxton (CCLA 1937 Grand National Champion). Wisconsin with a team led by former State Champion Arpad Elo and runner-up in the last State Championship L. Ayers placed third with one victory and two defeats, while the Iowa team acted as perfect hosts in conceding victories to all three visitors.

ROUND ONE	
Illinois	Wisconsin
Al. Sandrin 1	L. Ayers 0
L. J. Isaacs 1	A. Powers 0
E. Davidson 1	A. Elo 0
F. Stoppel 1	R. Liebig 0
F. Adams 1	K. Schmidt 0
Illinois 3 1/2	Wisconsin 1 1/2
Iowa	Nebraska
P. Gilbertsen 1	G. Halsey 1
E. Lenz 0	D. Saxton 1
U. Vanderburg 0	A. Ludwig 1
A. Louie 1	L. Magee 1
W. Sedal 0	H. Underwood 1
Iowa 0	Nebraska 5

ROUND TWO	
Illinois	Iowa
Al. Sandrin 1	J. McFarland 0
L. J. Isaacs 1	P. Gilbertsen 0
E. Davidson 1	E. Lenz 0
F. Stoppel 1	W. Vanderburg 0
A. Tueller 1	A. Louie 0
Illinois 4 1/2	Iowa 1/2
Wisconsin	Nebraska
A. Elo 1	A. Ludwig 1
L. Ayers 1	D. Saxton 1
A. Powers 1	G. Halsey 0
R. Schmidt 0	L. Magee 0
P. Liebig 0	H. Underwood 1
Wisconsin 2	Nebraska 3

ROUND THREE	
Illinois	Nebraska
Al. Sandrin 1	D. Saxton 0
L. J. Isaacs 1	A. Ludwig 0
E. Davidson 1	G. Halsey 0
F. Stoppel 0	L. Magee 1
A. Tueller 1	H. Underwood 0
Illinois 3 1/2	Nebraska 1 1/2
Iowa	Wisconsin
P. Gilbertsen 1	A. Powers 1
E. Lenz 0	A. Elo 1
H. Vanderburg 0	L. Ayers 1
J. McFarland 1	P. Liebig 1
A. Louie 1	R. Schmidt 0
Iowa 1 1/2	Wisconsin 3 1/2

Highlights of the match was the last round meeting between Illinois and Nebraska, both undefeated, to decide the title in the four-state meeting. But each round had its thrills and upsets. Many contests were very close, and the meetings between such well known players as Isaacs and Powers, Elo and Ludwig, Ayers and Saxton, Davidson and Elo, Sandrin and Saxton all resulted in hard fought draws.

Among the top board players the decisive wins were Sandrin over Ayers and Isaacs over Ludwig, while P. Gilbertsen after a disappointing start finished the last round with a well-earned draw with Powers.

Top scorer was Lee Magee (Omaha) who had three victories; and second place was shared by A. Sandrin, L. J. Isaacs and Earl Davidson of Illinois with two wins and a draw apiece. F. Stoppel (Illinois) and H. Underwood (Ne-

braska) scored two victories each, and Powers and Elo (Wisconsin) and Saxton (Nebraska) each had one win and two draws.

Chicagoan Arnold Tucker missed the train for the match in attending his Saturday University classes, and in the first round his place was ably filled by ISCA Secretary Paul Adams who drew (with R. Schmidt).

### LEGGETT WINS MARITIME CHAMPIONSHIP

On Thanksgiving week-end (Canadian) fifteen players from three Maritime provinces met at Moncton (N.B.) in a seven round Swiss tournament to decide the Maritime Championship of Eastern Canada. Maynard Leggett (Moncton) won the title and the coveted Colpitts Trophy by virtue of victory in his personal encounter with Morris Elman (Saint John), as the two were tied in points with 5 1/2 each.

Third place went to Robert LeBel (Plaster Rock), former New Brunswick Champion with 5-2. Fourth place went to O. M. MacConnell (Halifax), former Maritime Champion, with 4 1/2-2 1/2; while J. Davidson (Dieppe) placed fifth with 4 1/2-2 1/2. The tournament was directed by George Doyle (Saint John), secretary of the Canadian Chess Federation.

Maritime Championship	
M. Leggett (Moncton)	5 1/2-1 1/2
M. Elman (Saint John)	5-2
R. LeBel (Plaster Rock)	5-2
O. M. MacConnell (Halifax)	4 1/2-2 1/2
J. Davidson (Dieppe)	4-2 1/2
H. McAlary (Saint John)	3 1/2-2 1/2
M. Dickson (Saint John)	3-3
W. Hughes (Saint John)	2 1/2-3 1/2
C. Webber (Halifax)	2 1/2-3 1/2
V. Witmars (Moncton)	2-4
O. Doucett (Moncton)	2-4
C. Sherwood (Moncton)	2-4
A. Doucett (Dieppe)	2-4
G. Coombs (Charlottetown)	2-4
W. L. Lowther (Moncton)	2-5

The victory of Maynard Leggett in the Maritime Championship was something of an upset, since several weeks previously Murray Dickson (Saint John) won the New Brunswick Provincial Title in a tournament in which Leggett also played.

Problems of Chess Life  
Page Two  
How To Make Chess Clocks  
Page Four



PLAYERS DISPLAY "HOME-MADE" CHESS CLOCKS  
Members of the Charleston (W.Va.) Chess Club with their home-made chess clocks. Left to right are: Allen DuVall, Esther Snyder, Edward Foy, Mrs. Edwin Faust, William Hartling and John Hurt, Jr. The clocks (left to right) were made by Reid Holt; the next two shown together by Hurt and DuVall on a design worked out by Hurt; and the remaining two by Foy and Hartling.

### "TIME" AND CHESS AND ARTIST MEET

Featured in the background of a portrait of Vishinsky on the cover of Time magazine for September 20 was a chess board with men in position, white and red. The artist, Ernest Hamlin Baker, knows his chess, for he conveys his opinion that Vishinsky's tactics are obsolete by reproducing a position in the game, Marshall-Tschigorin, Monte Carlo, 1902, in which modern theorists consider that Tschigorin's tactics were inadequate and obsolete. Perhaps the pun was also conscious, for Marshall played the White pieces in the game.

### DR. MILLER WINS 2ND TOLEDO CITY CHAMPIONSHIP

In a six round Swiss tournament, played on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the Toledo Chess Club from September 30 to October 16, Dr. Louis A. Miller emerged as victor in the second annual Toledo City Championship with a score of 4 1/2-1 1/2.

The finish of the tournament was exciting with Francis Ashley, Robert Henry and Roy Hoff finishing in a tie for second place, only one-half point behind Miller, with scores of 4-2 each. On a weighing of scores, Ashley was awarded second place, Henry third, and Hoff fourth. Lawrence C. Jackson, Jr., acted as Tournament Director.

### MARSHALL CHESS ELECTIONS HELD

At the annual meeting of the Marshall Chess Club of Detroit, USCF Chapter 96, the election of officers resulted in Frank Pilawski as president, Frank Witkowski as vice-president and treasurer, and Charles F. Thomas as secretary and tournament director.

### U. S. LIGHTNING SET NOV. 30th IN NEW YORK

Tentative arrangements for the Sixth Annual U. S. Lightning Chess Tournament have been announced by Dr. Edward Lasker, chairman of the tournament committee. The date has been set as November 30, 1947, at the auditorium of the Brooklyn Academy of Music. The fee has been set at \$2.00 and an admission charge of \$1.00 has been established for spectators. Dr. Lasker will direct the tournament, assisted by Philip Gold of the Brooklyn Chess Club and Correspondence Chess League of America. For details, communicate with Dr. Edward Lasker, 153 East 37th St., New York, N. Y.

### GRAND CROSSING YIELDS TO GARY IN RETURN MATCH

In a return match played in the Grand Crossing Park Field House (Chicago) on October 17, the home team failed to avenge their 6-4 defeat of September 12 at Gary (Ind.) and lost the match by the score of 8-4.

The Grand Crossing Chess Club is in its third year, and was started by Harry Noble who gained for it strong support from the Chicago Park District in whose Grand Crossing Field House the club meets on Mondays and Fridays at 76th and Ingleside Avenue. President is C. A. Holmes, secretary, Frederick J. Abbott, 7424 Colfax Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Gary Chess		Grand Crossing	
D. Rhoad 0	G. Larson 0	M. Cox 0	S. Spira 0
H. Salisbury 0	E. Burg 1	W. Kosba 0	C. A. Holmes 1
K. Reasick 1	R. Youngquist 0	F. Bolton 1	W. Palmer 0
D. Shearer 1	W. Nicholson 0	H. Gertych 1	J. N. Jones 0
W. Trinks 0	F. J. Abbott 1	W. Backemeyer 1	W. Selig 0
H. Merila 1	W. Lloyd 0	K. Hybanger 1	F. H. Neely 0
Gary 5	Grand Crossing 4		

### THERIEN TAKES QUEBEC PROVINCE CHAMPIONSHIP

In a six round Swiss tournament played over Thanksgiving weekend (Canadian) in which twenty-two players participated, Jules Therien of Quebec captured the Quebec Provincial Championship and custody of the Courtemanche Trophy and the Robillard Cup. The tournament was held in the Montreal East City Hall and was under the direction of D. M. LeDain.

Therien in a well-earned victory over Max Guze (Montreal) in the final round edged out the leading Montreal contenders, P. Brunet and J. Gersho, by half a point, finishing with 5-1. P. Brunet and J. Gersho finished with 4 1/2-1 1/2, with second place awarded to Brunet on a Sonneborn-Berger system. The leading scorers were:

Quebec Provincial Championship	
J. Therien	5-1
P. Brunet	4 1/2-1 1/2
J. Gersho	4 1/2-1 1/2
M. Guze	4-2
L. L'Heureux	4-2
A. Tanguy	4-2
I. Zimmerman	4-2
E. Phancuf	3 1/2-2 1/2
N. Cohen	3 1/2-2 1/2
W. Johnstone	3 1/2-2 1/2

### CCLA ANNOUNCES CORRESPONDENCE MEMBER DRIVE

Recognizing the ever widening interest in chess throughout the U. S. A., the Correspondence Chess League of America is launching an all-out drive to bring organized chess into the homes of all, by the wide circulation of a special offer whereby new members joining the CCLA between now and January 1, 1948, will receive as a bonus, "free" dues and remaining issues of the CLCA's own "CHESS CORRESPONDENT" for the balance of 1947, plus their choice of a copy of the "Reshevsky-vs-Kashdan 1942 Match" by Rueben Fine or a section in the CCLA Social Quarterly tournaments, upon payment of the regular dues for the year of 1948, according to a late report from CCLA Secretary Dick Reas, 2326 Correctionville Road, Sioux City 19, Iowa, who invites further inquiries.

### FALL SEASON SET CHICAGO LEAGUE HOLDS MEETING

In the annual meeting held on October 17 the Greater Chicago Chess League organized for the winter season of play by electing V. Aronson president, H. Newell vice-president, and Paul Adams secretary-treasurer.

Preliminary plans envision the League divided into a West Suburban and Downtown section to accommodate the twelve teams expected to participate in the season's play. First round will begin on November 7. The By-Laws of the League were amended to provide that all participating clubs must be members of the United States Chess Federation so that the League Championship will have official recognition.

# Chess Life

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MONTGOMERY MAJOR

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### BUT SILENCE WILL NOT SPEAK

**GAIUS PETRONIUS**, that erstwhile evony of Emperor Nero, is best remembered as a cynical but not ignoble character in "Quo Vadis" by Sienkiewicz (that stirring novel of early Christian martyrdom), or as the brilliant if immoral author of the "Satyricon" (that most revealing and licentious novel of Roman life in Nero's times). A few, perhaps, remember him as the poet whose "De Pantomimo" in four graphic lines describes the whole rhythmic art of pantomime. For truly the pantomimic artist "with silent lips, speaks."

Ore silente, loqui is the phrase of Petronius; but, alas, not all silent lips can speak; and in these days of many diverse clamorings, it is the loudest voice rather than the most eloquent of silent gestures that gains the world's distracted attention.

Chess Players are a silent race as compared with the organized bellowings of many other groups. They speak with silent lips, and the graceful pantomime is lost in the din that clamors for the world's attention.

This is no rash appeal for din to add another stentorian voice to the sounds of bedlam; and yet the voice of the chess player must be heard above the bewildering racket of competing groups; if chess is to gain its due. The voice need not be loud, but it must be clear and persistent.

Newspapers shun no news item that will bring a following to read the columns of their daily issues; but they must be convinced that the news item is demanded by their readers. Heroin the loud voice has the better of it in a duel for space, for the newspaper heeds ever what it believes to be the wishes of larger group of readers. The chess player in his silence may be eloquent, but it is an eloquence that falls on deaf ears. The only way to a newspaper's hearing is to shout loudly and persistently in its ear.

Some time ago the tireless Gene Collett of the West Virginia Chess Bulletin issued a list of twenty-one newspapers with regular chess columns. The number could be as easily two hundred and ten, if the chess players in each city would make their wants known, not now and then in isolated letters, but persistently month after month with letters, postcards and phone calls to the editors. No newspaper will (or could) neglect to answer a steady and persistent appeal from any large number of its readers. But no newspaper will heed a very slithful and sporadic appeal for a chess column. The voice of the reader must be forceful, repeated and persistent.

Chess news, alas, does not travel regularly on the Associated Press or United Press wire service. For this also, the chess player must blame his own indifference. Wire services supply the news that their member newspapers request; newspapers request the news that they believe their readers desire.

Let the readers of a newspaper clamor for daily press reports of national and international chess events. Let that clamor be persistent and from many voices. Soon the newspapers will request those daily reports of chess events from the various wire services to which it subscribes. When enough newspapers enter their request for wire service on chess news, the Associated Press and kindred services will place such news on their regular schedule and its passage over the press wires will become automatic.

There is no royal road to publicity, even for the royal game of Chess. If the chess player wishes chess news in the newspapers, he can have it. But he must wish for it hard enough to make his desire felt and respected by the newspaper editor. It can be done; and when it isn't, the chess player confesses that he really doesn't care about chess in the newspapers. For if the chess player really wants it, he can get it. Chess news is his for the asking; but he must ask in the right way with the right determination and the right persistence like the successful salesman who will not take "no" for an answer.

Montgomery Major

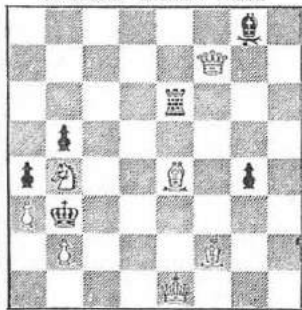
### Under The Chess-Nut Tree

By William Rojahn

**ERE** this column gracefully resigns all vested interest in chess problems to our gifted confrere, Dr. P. G. Keeney, this recliner beneath the Chess-Nut Tree feels it right and proper to present the final fruit of many hours of research in the hidden records of Gremliniana. In a rare document was discovered this single existing example of the Latent Gremlin Theme. With its publication, the history of Gremlin Problems is complete, and with a sigh of relief we close the book forever.

(Please turn to Page 4, Col. 5 for Solution)

#### CONCEALED GREMLIN THEME



White to move and mate in two moves.

### CHESS LIFE ADDS "THE POETRY OF CHESS" TO ITS PROSE

(Monthly Letter No. 47)

By Elbert A. Wagner, Jr.

President, United States Chess Federation

**T**HE acceptance of the post of Problem Editor of CHESS LIFE by Dr. P. G. Keeney produces a threefold result. For CHESS LIFE, it adds a new and interesting feature under the hand of a brilliant and capable writer. For the unnumbered problem lovers of America, it restores a chess column which had attained national pre-eminence in the Cincinnati Enquirer in years past. And for the United States Chess Federation, it makes more manifest an important part of its program which was charted at the 46th Annual Congress in Peoria two years ago and has been in a stage of development since that time.

It would be difficult to weigh one of these benefits against another. Fortunately, no contradictions are needed. And as this writing is a letter to the members of the Federation, it is proper that I direct my comments to the last of the three. The Federation's Problem Section has functioned under a Committee headed by Mr. Kenneth S. Howard, one of America's foremost problematists and rounded out by Messrs. Edgar W. Allen, Eric M. Hiesberg, Edgar Holladay, Frank A. Hollway, Dr. Keeney (see Who's Who column CHESS LIFE, October 20), Geoffrey Mott-Smith, P. L. Rothenberg, Walter B. Suesman, Raymond Tump, and Carl Weberg, each of whom is acknowledged as an outstanding problematist in his own right.



Elbert A. Wagner, Jr.

One of the first tasks of the Committee was an international problem composing contest, announcement of which was made in the Federation's 1945 Yearbook. The prize winning problems have been selected by the judges (Mr. Howard and Mr. Mott-Smith) and the awards will shortly be announced. To this Committee are due our thanks for the arduous and painstaking piece of work.

But the function of the Problem Section is not limited to problem composing tourneys, however important and valuable as those events may be. As previously announced, the objects of the Problem Section are:

- First: To provide a central organization to which all who are interested in problems may turn, whatever the nature of their interest;
- Second: To increase problem appreciation.
- Third: To encourage problem composition.

The publication of Dr. Keeney's column as a regular feature of CHESS LIFE should be of material assistance in the accomplishment of these objectives.

The composing of chess problems has been called appropriately the poetry of chess. It is but natural that the intense concentration upon a particular phase of chess should develop a vocabulary of its own, some of which is unintelligible to a player uninitiated in problem lore. Nowotry interference, for instance, does not refer to a maneuver of a Notre Dame halfback. And nomenclature which includes such terms as half-pin; mixed battery; mutate; dual avoidance; mirror mate; royal battery check; anticipatory valve; bi-valve; pawn switch; fringe variation; chameleon echo; pericritical play; and countless themes individually designated by name (Inverted Hume Theme!) might well tempt a neophyte to throw up his hands in despair of ever learning what chess problems are all about. Fortunately, Mr. Howard in his book, The Enjoyment of Chess Problems, published in 1943, gives lucid explanation of such apparently hopeless jargon, and there is now no reason why every chess player, from beginner to master, cannot add to his enjoyment of chess playing the enjoyment of chess problems.

It is one of the aims of the Federation that through its Problem Section this desirable condition may be attained.

### BYLAND HEADS N. C. Y. DIVISION CHESS PROGRAM

The USCF announces that the Junior Chess program of the Federation has been expanded to meet the growing needs of an increasing number of young people playing chess at home, in the clubs and through the school and playground activities throughout the country. In its expanded form the program will be handled by the National Chess Youth Division of the USCF with William M. Byland of Pittsburgh as chairman, Edwin Asmann of Chicago as vice-chairman and Leo McCauley of Detroit as secretary.

Byland, the new chairman, is well known in chess circles as USCF Vice-President, President of



William M. Byland

the Pennsylvania State Chess Federation, Vice-President of the Correspondence Chess League of America and a very active member of the Downtown YMCA Chess Club of Pittsburgh. In his official capacity of President of the PSCF he has already done much to encourage junior chess in Pennsylvania and brings a practical experience to the national program.



Edwin N. Asmann

Asmann, USCF Director for Illinois, was prominent in handling the financial arrangements of the first successful National Junior Chess Tournament at Chicago in 1946, and has been a very active member of Chicago chess circles.

McCauley brings to the committee the viewpoint of youth on the program they desire as a senior in the St. Theresa High School in Detroit. He is President of the Paul Morphy Chess Club of Detroit, composed entirely of high school students, and is editor of the Paul Morphy Chess Club Bulletin.

Reorganization of the Junior Chess Committee into the National Chess Youth Division was necessitated by the resignation of Howard Ohman as chairman of the committee. After two years of arduous service in establishing the successful junior program with its national tournaments at Chicago and Cleveland, Mr. Ohman has found his duties at the Omaha YMCA so restrictive and demanding that it necessitated his abandoning leadership in the new National Chess Youth program. His resignation was regretfully accepted by the USCF upon the understanding that he would continue to lend his advice and experience to the new committee.

### Problems of Chess Life

Edited by Dr. P. G. Keeney

Address all communications for this column to Dr. P. G. Keeney, 123 East 7th St., Newport, Ky., enclosing self-addressed, stamped envelope if reply is requested.

**T**HE Chess Problem Editor introduces himself to the readers of CHESS LIFE and devotees of the Chess Problem World of all lands and nations: I was born March 25, 1877, in Newport, Ky. My father, the late E. W. Keeney (deceased 1918), was a well known and skilled medical practitioner in and about Newport, Ky. He solved many of Life's problems for those who consulted him regarding their ailments and their family difficulties. Although a busy man with his life devoted to the alleviation of afflicted humanity, he found recreation in the composing and solving of chess problems.



Dr. P. G. Keeney

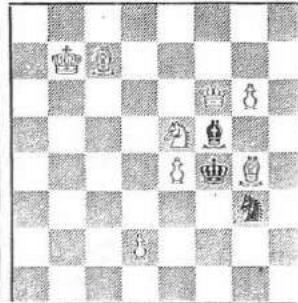
It might be said that I inherited his love and talent for the Game of Chess, for I knew the moves at the age of 11 and composed my first problem at the age of 13. Like father like son! I graduated as a full fledged M.D. from the University of Cincinnati in 1899. My recreation, as that of my father's, was a continuous and passionate fondness for Chess in all its branches. As the years passed my fondness for chess increased and I became a good player, an expert solver and a prolific if not a master composer of chess problems.

I finally became world famous in the Chess World, acting as Chess Editor of the Cincinnati Enquirer (1929-1937). Since 1937 I have not been active as a Chess Editor, though continuing my interest in problems. Now, however, that I have been called upon by Mr. Major to act as Problem Editor of CHESS LIFE, I shall try and conduct a column that will entertain, puzzle and instruct you to the extent that you will comment: "Where's that guy been all my Chess Life?"

All levity aside—I extend greetings and best wishes to all readers of this column for a semi-monthly enjoyment of all the features offered by CHESS LIFE. If you are not a subscriber of CHESS LIFE, I advise you to become one now. You cannot afford to miss any of the Problems of Chess Life!

(Dr. Keeney wrote these initial remarks without being aware of the copy prepared for Who's Who in the October 20th issue, in which certain biographical items were duplicated. Ed.)

Problem No. 1  
By Rev. Gilbert Dobbs  
(deceased)  
Black: 3 men



White: 8 men  
S. KING, 4525 S. 4th St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
White mates in two moves.

In my submission of the first two Problems of Chess Life, is an apparent paradox, for while they are Life problems they are the (Continued on Page 3, Col. 1)

# Problems Of Chess Life

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 5)

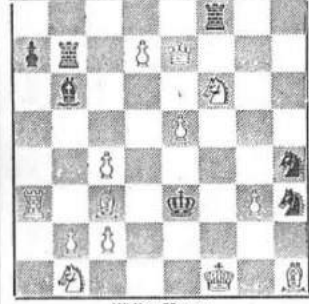
creations of two renowned (deceased) problem builders, a minister of the Gospel and a doctor of medicine.

Can you name any professions that accomplish more than these in creating and solving Life's problems? Both composers, during their lives, were eminent in their respective professions.

The composer of the above problem was born in Richmond, Ky., December 6, 1867, and died in Atlanta, Ga., February 14, 1941. His first problem was composed in 1900, his last in March, 1940. In his active composing career he composed some 3,300 problems.

The above problem appears as No. 63 in "A Chess Silhouette," a book featuring 100 of Dr. Dobbs' problems. The composition has a fairly good key and some pleasing surprise mates.

**Problem No. 2**  
By Dr. Henry Wald Bettmann  
(deceased)  
Black: 7 men



White: 13 men  
Black: 15 men  
White mates in two moves.

The composer of Problem No. 2 was Dr. Henry Wald Bettmann of Cincinnati, Ohio. Dr. Bettmann was born January 14, 1868, and expired December 5, 1935. During his lifetime he was a brilliant figure in problem composition.

The above problem, regarded by many excellent solvers as difficult of solution, gained a First Prize Award in a "Good Companion" Composing Contest in 1918.

## W. VA. PLAYERS MAKE OCTOBER A CHESS MONTH

Five members of the Charleston Chess Club, including two West Virginia state champions, were guests of A. W. Paull of Wheeling, Oct. 11-12, at the Fort Henry Club in Wheeling.

In a free-for-all session, in which play was more or less informal and no holds were barred, the Charleston players ran up a score of 363-183 against nine members of the Wheeling Chess Club.

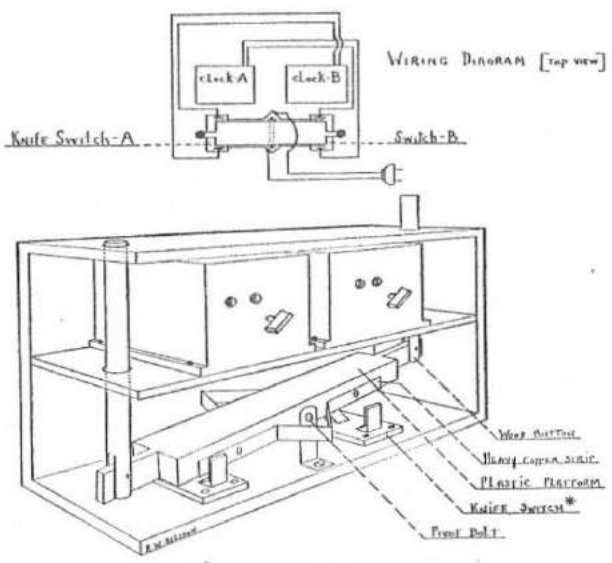
Emerging as the outstanding players of the two-day hard-slugging meet were John Hurt, Jr., of Charleston, 1939 West Virginia champion, who had a score of 12-1 and William R. Cuthbert of Wheeling, whose final tally was 6 1/2-1 1/2. Hurt and Cuthbert tied 1-1 in their individual encounter, and Cuthbert also yielded a draw to Reid Holt of Charleston who scored 8 1/2-5 1/2.

Charleston: Hurt, 12-1; Allen DuVall, 7 1/2-3 1/2; Holt, 8 1/2-5 1/2; William F. Hartling, of St. Albans, 5-5; Edward M. Foy, 3 1/2-3 1/2.

Wheeling: Cuthbert, 6 1/2-1 1/2; B. E. Stover, 4 1/2-4 1/2; E. C. Bottome of Moundsville, 2-4; Maynard Wallace, 1-2; A. W. Paull, 3-10; Judge H. M. Russell, 1 1/2-7 1/2; James P. Altmeier, 0-1; the Rev. William M. Erhard, 0-2; A. C. Dobbs, Sr., 0-4.

William Cuthbert of Wheeling and Edwin Faust, a teacher at West Virginia Tech at Montgomery, tied with John Hurt, Jr., and Edward Foy, both of Charleston, in an 18-man, five-round Swiss rapid transit session Oct. 2 at the Charleston (W. V.) Chess Club.

Each of the top players had a score of 4-1.



HERMAN ALLISON'S CHESS CLOCK

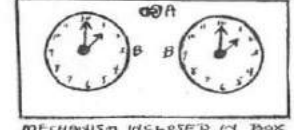
## Solve Your Chess Clock Problems The West Virginia Way--Make Them!

By Gene Collett

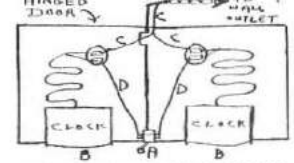
CHESS clocks are expensive and hard to get but players with a little mechanical knack can make their own and save themselves and their clubs a considerable amount of money.

This was demonstrated in West Virginia last winter when six players made perfectly serviceable clocks which they used to advantage in their annual state tournament last Labor Day week-end. The most expensive of the clocks, which looks like a professional job, cost \$11.75, which includes the price of two \$4.95 self-starting electric timepieces. The least expensive represented an actual outlay of only a few cents.

Though he may have had unannounced forerunners in other parts of the country, the originator of the idea in West Virginia was former state champion John Hurt of Charleston. Hurt was annoyed by the necessity, under the Swiss system, of having adjourned games and adjudications. But when he came to investigate the purchase of clocks for the state chess association, he found the manufacture of these articles had been abandoned during the war and that they could not—in the fall of 1946—be had at any price.



MECHANISM INCLUDED IN BOX



JOHN HURT'S CHESS CLOCK (Al DuVall's is similar)

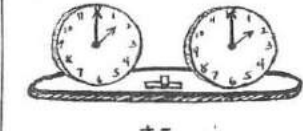
Legend: A—one DPST toggle switch. B—two self-starting electric clocks. C—wires which are connected alternately depending on which way switch is thrown. Clocks removable for other use.

Johnny already had been experimenting on a single-clock setup, using a switch on a self-starting electric timepiece. This rebored the time for White, and Black's time could be determined by subtracting the figure for White from total elapsed time, kept with an ordinary pocket watch. He found this method a bit awkward, however, particularly when one player got into time pressure.

Hurt, therefore, conceived the idea of mounting two such clocks in a single case, operating both from a toggle switch, used by both players. A pull to the left started Clock A, a pull to the right started Clock A and started Clock B. Allen DuVall, a fellow Charlestonian, inspired by Hurt, also built a clock, adding a switch between the time-

pieces and the outlet, making it possible to stop both clocks without pulling the wall plug.

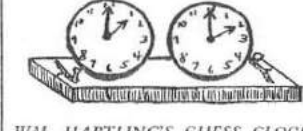
Reid Holt, also of Charleston and secretary of the West Virginia chess group, continued the improvement process by using a sliding switch, which not only operated both clocks but also had a neutral midpoint on which both clocks were stopped.



REID HOLT'S CHESS CLOCK

Clocks are secured to the base; all wiring is in the base with switch in center, both clocks are stopped. Diagram of wiring in base: A and B, clocks; C, switch. A single-pole double-throw switch is used. The outlet wire is hooked to both contact points and the wires to the clocks (one each) are hooked to the side opposite. The diagram shows the circuit closed to clock A. Wire contact joints should be soldered.

William Hartling of St. Albans then came up with a clock employing a knife-switch, operating laterally, with a horizontal lever for each player. This lessened, although it did not entirely eliminate, the danger of the lever getting



WM. HARTLING'S CHESS CLOCK

The switches at either end of the wooden base move a long bar, mounted on a pivot in the center of the base. In the position shown, the clock at right is running, throwing the other switch starts the left-hand clock.

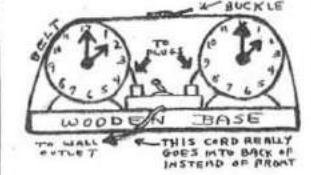
If the switches are moved only halfway, neither clock runs. The switches slide in a circular groove, 3" or 4" long

In the wrong direction and opponents playing on each other's time, since either clock would start or stop on either lever.

Herman Allison of Huntington, working without a model, solved the remaining problem by building a knife-switch-type clock with a vertical lever, or push-button, at either end, just as in standard commercial chess clocks. The resultant product looks very much like the better type of clock on the market before the war; it has an entirely professional appearance.

Allison's completed work cost him \$11.75, including the price of the two electric movements. He used a few cents worth of plywood and a piece of molding to make the case, gluing it together and cutting out the door at the back with a jig-saw. The main parts of the switch were made from the back of a plastic comb (an insulator), with holes bored in it, and a knife switch at either end. The clock on the right is wired to the left switch, and vice versa.

The cost of a homemade clock depends on how much the player wants to spend and on what materials he has available. Hart used electric clocks from his home and connects them up only for chess sessions. At other times, they do regular duty about the house.



ED FOY'S CHESS CLOCK

This clock employs a two-way switch throwing current into one clock or the other; when clocks are plugged into wall, one or the other always runs.

A clock made by Edward M. Foy of Charleston is likely the most economical of all. He simply mounted a two-way switch on a flat wooden board, set the clocks beside it, one on either side, hooked them up, and strapped the whole thing together with an old buckle-type belt. Since he already had clocks, one of which he uses regularly as his alarm, the chess chronometer cost him only the price of a toggle switch and a few feet of wiring.

## ORANGE CLUB STARTS SEASON

The Chess Club of the Oranges (N. J.) began its fall season successfully with a victory over the Irvington (N. J.) Chess Club by a score of 5 1/2-2 1/2. Officers for the club are: H. H. Wheaton (Verona) president, A. Scott (Summit) vice-president, C. Cornish (W. Orange) secretary, C. S. Pennington (Westfield) treasurer, E. F. Laucks (W. Orange) league representative, H. Oster (Livingston) tournament director, and E. T. McCormick (E. Orange) team captain.

Oranges	Irvington
F. Howard	Bohrer
Penibel	Duellberg
McCormick	Shahn
Plank	Niemann
Stanfield	Hornung
Kelsey	Leuz
Pennington	Spielman
Calvo	Roy
Oranges	Irvington
5 1/2	2 1/2

## AUSTIN CHESS OPENS SEASON

The Austin Chess and Checker Club (Chicago) begins its fall season with a varied program for the members, including an intra-club team match, a simultaneous by Einar Michelsen, in addition to team representation in the Greater Chicago Chess League.

Recently elected at the annual meeting were: John A. Nowak president, Roy Gilbert vice-president, C. H. Bounds secretary, and L. H. Condy treasurer.

## Chess Life In New York

By Milton Finkelstein

THE Manhattan Chess Club has accepted the challenge of the Jockey Club of La Plata, Argentina, to play a 10-board match by radio-telephone on November 2. The Jockey Club, it is understood, will utilize the cream of Argentinian chess talent, and their lineup will feature such international stars as Najdorf, Stahlberg, Pinski and Guimard. Among those opposing them will be U. S. Champion Samuel Reshevsky, Open Champion Isaac I. Kasdan, Manhattan Club Champion Arnold S. Denker, Max Pavoy, former champion of Scotland, Alexander Kevitz (1 1/2 points out of 2 against the Russians!), I. A. Horowitz and New York State Champion Albert S. Pinkus. Sidney F. Kenton will captain this listing of titans, and hopes to have to arrange a victory celebration!

Meanwhile, the other clubs are quite busy. In the Commercial Chess League, the powerful Central Hanover Bank team has established an early lead. The Queens Chess Club celebrated the capture of the Susquehanna Trophy by its 5-man team at a dinner attended by a large number of local chess dignitaries. At the Marshall Chess Club, the "senior" team won a spirited intra-club match from the "junior" team by the score of 8 1/2 to 4 1/2. The London Terrace Chess Club, probably the only one in the world which meets in the penthouse of a skyscraper, has begun its annual series of tournaments. Yes, the chess world is buzzing with activity!

"IT'S NEWS TO ME" Department: An old-timer at the Manhattan Chess Club reports that at one time young Reuben Fine received book odds from some of the players—and used to lose regularly!

## For The Tournament-Minded

November 30  
Sixth Annual Lightning Chess Championship  
Brooklyn Academy of Music  
Brooklyn, New York  
Entrance fee \$2.00 to USCF members (Non-members must add \$1.00 dues for membership in the Federation). Admission charge to spectators \$1.00. Address inquiries to Dr. Edward Lasker, 153 East 37th Street, New York, N. Y.

## REELECT OFFICERS AT FIRESTONE

The annual meeting of the Firestone Chess and Checker Club (Akron) saw the re-election of all officers with Art Plueddemann president, W. H. Toneray and Earl Freeman vice-president, Dick Hockenberry secretary, and R. D. Mackay treasurer. A winter tournament committee was chosen, headed by Marion Antunavich with R. G. Allen and Dennis Griffin.

## HARRISBURG CLUB HAS MOVING DAY

The Harrisburg Chess Club (Pa.) has celebrated its rapid growth by moving from the restricted quarters it occupied as guest of the YMCA to more spacious rooms in the Boyd Memorial Bldg., 234 South Street, a community center established by the late John Y. Boyd, Harrisburg philanthropist. The club celebrated the move by inaugurating a monthly club publication "J'Adoube" under the editorship of Major Danford P. Miller.

