

Chess Life



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R. BYRNE WINS LIGHTNING

MICHIGAN ADOPTS NCCP FIRST STATE IN PARADE

National Chess Coordination Program Finds Michigan State Ass'n Ready

At a special meeting at Lansing, Michigan the representatives of the chess clubs that form the Michigan State Chess Association voted enthusiastically to adopt the National Chess Coordination Program of the United States Chess Federation. The plan had been discussed previously at the regular August meeting of the Association.

In adopting the plan, the Michigan State Chess Association made radical changes in its policy and structure to conform with the new program, of which the most drastic was the shifting of the Association from a club membership structure to an individual membership basis. Hereafter USCF members in Michigan will pay dues of \$5.00 per year, of which \$2.00 will be retained by the Michigan State Chess Association and \$3.00 accrue to the USCF for membership and subscription to CHESS LIFE.

Instrumental in arranging for the adoption of the NCCP were the Michigan State Chess Ass'n officials: President Virgil E. Vandenberg (Lansing), Secretary-Treasurer Reuben Buskager (Battle Creek), Vice-President Elias J. Van Sweden (Grand Rapids), and Honorary Vice-Presidents A. H. Palmi (Jackson) and F. A. Holloway (Grand Rapids). The quick and intelligent actions of these officials in studying and presenting the plan gave Michigan the golden opportunity of being the first State to climb upon the NCCP handwagon.

The NCCP was presented to the consideration of the Michigan State Chess Association by USCF Secretary Edward I. Trend to whom also credit is due for making Michigan (his home state) the first one to align itself with the new USCF policy.

The special meeting at Lansing was attended by representatives from Lansing, Battle Creek, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids and Detroit. Other localities and clubs were represented by proxy to make the final vote an unanimous decision.

TAMPA DRAWS IN RADIO MATCH

The Tampa Chess Club in its long-distance match with the Bartlesville (Okla.) Chess Club had to be content with a draw. Playing for Tampa were Nestor Hernandez, Arthur Montano, R. B. Diaz, and James B. Gibson, Jr. For Bartlesville the team was: J. P. Hogan, C. F. Sievers, L. M. Oberlin, and W. R. Whitney.

At the Tampa end, the games were played at the Floridan Hotel with the moves relayed to L. P. Geers who transmuted them to Bartlesville via short-wave. The Tampa radio experts were L. P. Geers of W4DIN, John H. Suhl, Jr. of W4KQS, Pat Patrick of W4GMJ, Ed. Hughes of W4NRT, Fred Hansen of W4LWX and Dick Heuer of W4GEE, all of the Tampa Amateur Radio Club.

Other long-distance chess matches by short-wave are sought by the Tampa Club which is now planning a match with the Hiram Walker Chess Club of Peoria (Ill.) on the tentative date of December 12.

Mates And Stalemates

By Anita Meynig and Walter Froeblich



"It is smaller than the morning paper. Since he reads CHESS LIFE, I can get a glimpse of him sometimes during breakfast."

Hesse Gains Tri-State Championship By Winning Playoff Game With Sachs

Herman Hesse of Bethlehem, Pa., defeated 16-year old Ranier Sacks of Cleveland Heights, Ohio in their play-off game to capture the 1948 Tri-State Championship of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. Hesse and Sacks, both runners-up in their recent state championships, had tied for first place, finishing ahead of the champions of Ohio and Pennsylvania and the co-champions of West Virginia.

This year's Tri-State Congress, held under the auspices of the Wheeling Chess Club at the Hotel McLure, Wheeling, W. Va., found the Ohioans winning the team championship by defeating the West Virginia players by a 1½ to 4½ in a double-round match of six boards. Due to last minute illness of some of their players, the Pennsylvania team failed to appear.

Hesse and the youthful Sachs, who is still in high school, finished their tournament schedule with scores of 4-1 each; Hesse had three wins and two draws (with Dietz and Hurt) while Sachs won four games but lost his second-round contest to Hesse. Another teen-ager, 18-year old Paul Dietz of Pittsburgh, Pa., Pennsylvania State Champion, scored 3½-1½ to finish third; ahead of the West Virginia Co-Champions, Dr. Siegfried Werthammer of Huntington (2-3) and John F. Hurt, Jr. of Charleston (1½-1½), and Ohio Champion, Elliott E. Stearns of Cleveland, who had the ill fortune to lose all five of his tournament games.

Young Sachs had the satisfaction of winning from all the current state champions in the tournament but he could not best Hesse, who tied for fifth place in the 1948 Biennial U.S. Championship Tournament at South Fallsburg, N. Y. Hesse relied on the Nimzovich Defense in the playoff game and scored over Sachs in 39 moves.

The Wheeling Chess Club displayed acumen and skill in the handling of the Tri-State Congress. They provided a fine trophy for the individual champion, as well as silver watch fobs for the members of the champion Ohio team.

In the team matches, 16-year old Myron Frederic of Columbus and Ernest S. Somlo of Cleveland scored 2 and 1½ points respectively to star for Ohio. Edward M. Foy of Charleston with 2 points, William Cuthbert of Wheeling with 1½ points and Reid Holt of Charleston with 1 point accounted for the total West Virginia team's scoring.

CHAMP'S K. O. IS O.K. TO CLUB

The Marshall (Detroit) Chess Club spent a pleasant evening in testing the mettle of the present Michigan State Champion, George Eastman, and found him "chess-worthy" in a simultaneous exhibition at the northeast YMCA. Eastman won 20, lost 1, and drew 2.

L. EVANS SECOND; J. PARTOS THIRD

SPECIAL:— Robert Byrne, U. S. 1947 Intercollegiate Champion, captured the Seventh U. S. Lightning Chess Championship with a score of 8-1 in the tournament held at the Log Cabin Chess Club, West Orange, N.J. Larry Evans was second with 7-2; Julius Partos third with 6½-2½, and Herbert Seidman fourth with 5-4. Richard W. Wayne was tournament director.

(For details, see issue of December 20th, 1948.)

WAYNE RESIGNS AS USCF OFFICER

Richard W. Wayne, Chairman of the U. S. Championship Tournament Committee and recently elected Vice-President of the Federation, has submitted his resignation due to the pressure of personal business. Mr. Wayne is a member of the firm of Burch Bros. Ltd. of Atlantic City, and the enforced absence of one of the partners, which has unexpectedly developed, has increased Mr. Wayne's responsibilities that the USCF Executive Committee felt compelled to accept Mr. Wayne's resignation.

In resigning Mr. Wayne wrote in part:

I would like to say that my entire association with you and with the Federation has been a source of great pleasure and happiness to me and I have enjoyed working along with you. May I be so presumptuous as to ask all of you, most emphatically, to continue on the fight we have been waging to put American chess on a democratic basis; great progress has been made in the past two years, culminating in the resolution passed by the Board of Directors at Baltimore and by the actual conduct of the Championship Tournament at South Fallsburg which proved, to me, conclusively, that our way is the only proper way. Carry this fight to a complete and successful conclusion and do everything possible to avoid any return to the old ways of special privileges for the few and you will receive not only the thanks of American chess players but also a deep sense of self-respect in having done what you believe to be right regardless of the pressure from "big names" and "big money."

STARK AWARDED CCLA GAME PRIZE

M. C. Stark of Washington has been awarded the special prize offered by the Correspondence Chess League of America for the best-played game at the 1948 U.S. Open Championship at Baltimore won by a contestant who did not finish among the leaders. Stark received the prize for his fighting victory over A. S. Pinkus. The award was judged by the editors of the Chess Correspondent, which published the game with notes by Larry Evans in November.

KMOCH BECOMES USCF OFFICIAL

Hans Knoch, the talented Viennese master who now makes his home in New York, has accepted the appointment as USCF Vice-President to fill out the term of Richard W. Wayne, who is resigning because of business complications. Knoch will also serve as chairman of the USCF Tournament Committee in place of Wayne.

Noted as an analyst and writer on chess, Hans Knoch is also recognized as one of the ablest of tournament directors, in which capacity he served at the recent U. S. Open Tournament at Baltimore. He is recognized as well for his skill in simultaneous exhibitions. Since coming to New York Knoch has made a notable contribution to American chess literature by his fine annotations in Chess Review.

MANHATTAN CLUB WILL WELCOME CONTRIBUTIONS

The total cost of the International Tournament, to be held from December 23 to January 2, with a list of players including Dr. Max Euwe of the Netherlands, M. Najdorf of Poland, and Reuben Fine, Isaac Kashdan, Arnold Denker, Herman Steiner, Al Horowitz, George Kramer and Arthur Bisguier, will be met by the Manhattan Chess Club and its friends.

Contributions to the fund will be welcomed from friends and well-wishers, and should be addressed to Sidney Kenton, Chairman, Tournament Committee, 100 Central Park South, New York City.

PITTSBURGH Y CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS

At the Pittsburgh Downtown YMCA Chess Club William R. Hamilton was elected president, Mr. Schuette and Mr. Cheesemen were elected vice-presidents, Mr. Meese treasurer and Mr. E. Coons secretary. Schuette continues as editor of the "En Passant" club publication.

Tournament Life

Conducted by Erich W. Marchand

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

Annotators

- J. B. Gee
Dr. M. Herzberger
A. Y. Hesse
R. K. B. Platt
Fred Reinfield
I. Rivlin
Edw. J. Korpany
G. E. P. Platts
Dr. Bela Rozsa
J. Soudakoff

NIMZOINDIAN DEFENSE

U. S. Open Championship Baltimore, 1948

Notes by A. Y. Hesse

White Black
C. PILNICK Kt-KB3 3. K-K4
1. P-Q4 Kt-KB3 1. K-K4
2. P-QB4 P-K3 4. Q-B2 P-QK3
This move indicates the Q-Indian variation, but actually prepares for P-Q4 for a Black attack upon the center, characteristic of the Nimzo-Indian system of strategy.

After 24..... P-B5 KASHIDAN
The movements of the White B merely help Black's plans, resulting in blocking off the effectiveness of the Be and increasing the operations of the Black Kt. White's 14th move belongs in this observation.



Splendid! Black is turning the apparent weakness of the doubled Ps on the QB file into a source of strength to further his plans and operation of the two powerful Kts. The White B are nearly out of play. Strange for Mr. Kashidan, the champion of B over Kt, relying on the B, which he here handles in wonderful fashion.

RETI OPENING Boston Team Match

Notes by John Curdo
White Black
A. GRING J. CURDO
1. Kt-KB3 P-Q4 4. P-QK4 P-B3!
2. P-B4 P-Q5 5. PxBP P-K4
3. P-K3 P-QB4 6. KtxPK?



This game was played just after Denker proved this line unsound in his match with Kevitz.

6. PxBt K-K2 9. PxBP
7. Q-R5 ch K-K2 9. PxBP
8. B-K1 Kt-K5 ch 24. Kt-B4 BxKt ch
9. Kt-K5 B-K2 25. BxR BxR
10. Kt-K1 B-Q5 ch! 26. RxB RxB ch
11. Kt-K1 BxR Resigns

SICILIAN DEFENSE

Illinois State Championship Fourth Playoff Game Chicago, 1948

Notes by Albert Sandris

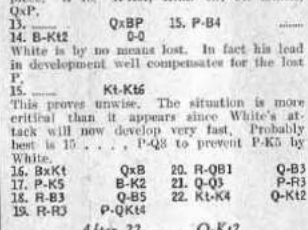
White Black
J. SHAFFER G. ODELL
1. P-K4 P-QB4 9. B-R6 Kt-B3
2. Kt-KB3 P-Q3 10. BxB KxB
3. P-Q4 P-P 11. BxQ Q-K3
4. KxBP Kt-KB3 12. Kt-K1 Kt-QR4
5. Kt-QB3 P-KK3 13. P-KK14 KtKt ch
6. B-K3 B-K12 14. HPxK1 B-K3
7. P-KR3 Q-O 15. P-B4 KR-B1
8. Q-Q2 P-QR3
9. Q-R2 P-P; RXP; 17. PaB, KtXP with three to four P's for the piece, 16. B-K12 Q-K15



SHAFFER
17. P-B5 B-Q2 18. P-K5! Kt-K1
19. P-K6 P-K16
20. PxKt BxP 22. B-Q5 KtxB
21. P-K4 BxP 23. RxB KtxKt
22. KR-K1 Kt-B2 24. P.Kt.
24. Kt-Q5 ch. If K-B1; 25. Q-K15 or if K-Q5; 25. O-R3.
24. QxBP 26. RxKt ch K-B3
25. QxQ ch RxQ

SICILIAN DEFENSE North Jersey Chess League Orange, 1948

Notes by Erich W. Marchand
White Black
E. T. McCORMICK N. COHAN
1. P-K4 P-QB4 2. Kt-KB3 P-K3
The standard line for many years before the Dragon Variation became fashionable.



McCORMICK
23. Kt-B6 ch
Not a brilliancy but the logical way to finish off his helpless opponent. Of course if 23..... PxBt; 24. PxB and 25. Q-R3 ch.
23. BxKt 27. RxP P-B4
24. PxB Q-Q4 28. P-R8 ch K-B2
25. P-Q5 RxQ 29. R-R8 Resigns

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED U. S. Biennial Championship South Fallsburg, 1948

Notes by Erich W. Marchand
White Black
L. EVANS N. WHITAKER
1. Kt-KB3 Kt-KB3 4. Kt-B3 P-K3
2. P-B4 P-B3 5. B-K15 QKt-Q2
3. P-Q4 P-Q4
5. P-P; 6. P.Kt. P-K14; 7. P-K5, P-KR5, etc. is the famous Denker-Boytovskii Radio Match variation. It leads to very complicated situations.



6. P-K3 Q-R4
And here it is the age-old Cambridge Springs Defense.
7. Kt-Q2 B-K15 13. O-O B-Q2
8. Q-B2 PxP 14. P-QK14 KR-Q1
9. BxK1 KtB5 15. KR-B1 B-K1
10. KtQ3 Q-B2 16. P-R3 P-KR3
11. B-B3 Q-O 17. Q-K15 P-QK3
12. P-QR3 B-K2 18. B-K2
A game of slow positional maneuvering. White stands slightly better, being more advanced and having more freedom.



EVANS
39. RxR! Forced but good... White's attack is very strong.
40. B-R7 Kt-B4
Black hopes to stir up some complications by returning the exchange.
42. KtR RxKt 44. Kt-B6 BxKt
43. PxR QxR 45. Q-B5!
Very neatly retaining his P. If now 45... Kt-B; 46. PxB, KtB5 47. B-K5
45. Q-Q3 54. K-B2 K-Q3
46. QxB K-B1 55. K-Q3
47. P-K4 QxO 56. K-Q3 P-K3
48. PxQ Kt-Q3 57. K-B3 P-R4
49. P-B7 K-K2 58. P-K13 K-Q3
50. B-R6 K-Q2 59. K-Q4 P-R5
51. P-B6(Q) KtXQ 60. PxP P-K4 ch
52. BxK ch K-K2 61. PxP ch K-K3
53. P-B4 K-B2 62. P-R5 Resigns



NIMZOVIICH DEFENSE U. S. Biennial Championship South Fallsburg, 1948

Notes by Erich W. Marchand
White Black
G. KRAMER H. HESSE
1. P-Q4 Kt-KB3 3. Kt-QB3 B-K15
2. P-QB4 P-K3 4. Q-K13
A more lively continuation than 4. Q-B2 but no better.

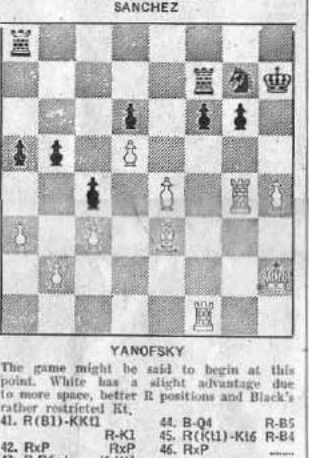


KRAMER
12. Kt-B3 5. Kt-B3
If 5. P-QR3, KtXP!
5. P-BB(Q) Q-K2 6. B-K15 P-QR4
A well conceived plan as the sequel shows.
7. P-K3 P-R5 9. P-QK13
8. B-Q2 B-Q2 12. P-K3
After 9. P-QK13? HESSE
13. K-Q2 KtXP 14. RxKt Kt-K15
Black has an extra P and should win, but how can this be accomplished? Good positional play is part of the answer.
15. QR-R1 P-Q3 19. R-R2 R-R4
16. Kt-K1 P-QB4 20. KR-R1 KR-R1
17. Kt-B2 KtKt 21. K-R3 B-B3
18. B-K1 B-Q2 22. P-K3
This seems unwise... P-B2 would leave no holes and would impede Black's B later.
22. P-QK14 R-R5 27. Kt-K13 B-B6
24. P-K15 B-K12 28. P-R4
It is not clear why White failed to recover his P here or on the next two moves. To be sure, Black's chances in the ending would

be better, but the extra P is always a big factor.
28. P-K4 32. QR-R1 R-Q1
29. P-K4 K-B3 33. KR-Q1 R-Q5
30. R-K1 B-K15 34. RxR KPxR ch
31. K-B3 B-K3 35. K-Q3 P-R7
As Rouben Fine once said: "Passed Pawns must be pushed." White now sadly regrets his failure to remove this P.
36. B-K1 R-R6 37. K-B2 BxP
Good positional play often finds its only reward in the chance to bring about witty combinations. Without this resource the RP would fall. The rest is easy for Black.
38. BxB B-B6 ch 50. R-Q1 R-B7
39. K-Q2 RxB 51. P-B4 K-K1
40. RxP R-K15 52. R-Q5 K-K2
41. K-R3 RxP 53. P-B5 P-B3 ch
42. K-B4 R-K15 ch 54. K-B4 P-B5
43. K-Q3 R-K15 ch 55. P-K14 P-B6
44. K-B4 RxB ch 56. P-K15 PxBP
45. K-Q5 P-Q6 57. PxBP P-B5
46. R-K12 K-K2 58. P-K16 PxB
47. R-R2 P-K13 59. PxB R-B8 ch
48. R-R7 ch B1 60. Kt-K1 P-Q8(Q) ch
49. K-K5 P-Q7 Resigns

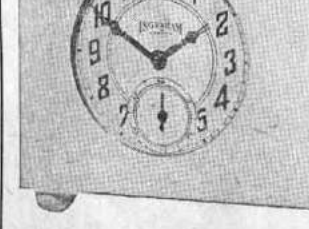
RUY LOPEZ U. S. Open Tournament Corpus Christi, 1947

Notes by Erich W. Marchand
White Black
D. YANOFSKY A. SANCHEZ
1. P-K4 P-K4 21. Q-R2 KR-QK1
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 22. R-K1 P-QR4
3. B-K15 P-QR3 23. Q-Q1 B5
4. B-R4 Kt-B3 24. P-R3 Q-B1
5. O-O B-K2 25. Kt-Kt1 B-Q1
6. R-K1 P-QK14 26. O-B3 R-K2
7. B-K3 P-Q3 27. P-KR4 B-K1
8. P-QB3 Kt-QR4 28. KtQ3 KtK1
9. B-B2 P-B4 29. Q-K3 B-K3
10. P-Q4 Q-B2 30. P-B4 PxBt
11. P-KR3 O-O 31. QxP Kt-K4
12. QKt-Q2 Kt-B3 32. P-KB1 R-KB2
13. Q5 Kt-Q1 33. Q-K13 B-Q2
14. Kt-B1 Kt-K3 34. Kt-B2 P-R4
15. Kt-K3 P-K13 35. B-Q2 BxKt
16. P-KK14 P-B3 36. BxB PxB
17. B-K3 Kt-B2 37. KtXP KtxKt ch
18. P-K11 KtK2 38. BxKt Q-B1
19. R-K12 K-R1 39. QxQ QxQ
20. B-Q2 B-Q2 40. R-R2 K-R2



YANOFSKY

The game might be said to begin at this point. White has a slight advantage due to more space, better R positions and Black's rather restricted Kt.



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