



Chess Life



Vol. IV
Number 1

Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation

Monday,
September 5, 1949

FOX TAKES CANADIAN TITLE!

VETERAN MONTREAL CHAMPION OUTPOINTS DAN YANOFSKY

Russian Master Bohatirchuk Second, Anderson Ties Yanofsky For Third

Facing the most distinguished field in his career, the veteran Montreal Champion, Maurice Fox (seven times champion of Canada), won his eighth title, his first since 1940, in brilliant and convincing style. Without losing a game, he defeated Dr. Bohatirchuk and Povilas Vaitonis while drawing with Frank Anderson and Dan Yanofsky for a 7½-1½ score. His other draw went to the ever dangerous Dr. J. Rauch.

Second place in this rather international event went to the former Russian master, now residing at Ottawa, Dr. Fedor P. Bohatirchuk (who spells it this way, although it is usually transliterated as Bogatyrchuk) with a 7-2 score. Dr. Bohatirchuk lost to Fox and drew with Anderson and Brunet.

In third place there was a tie between the rising Toronto star, Frank R. Anderson, Toronto City and Ontario Provincial Champion, and Dan Abe Yanofsky, Canada's recently perennial champion, with scores of 6-3 each. Anderson drew with Bohatirchuk, Fox, Yanofsky and Brunet, while losing to Dr. J. Rauch. Yanofsky lost to Bohatirchuk and drew with Fox, Anderson, Vaitonis and Dr. Rauch. Fifth place went to Povilas Vaitonis with a 5½-3½ score, losing to Fox, Bohatirchuk and Anderson, while drawing with Yanofsky.

The international character of the event came from the presence of Dr. Bohatirchuk and Povilas Vaitonis, now both Canadian residents. Vaitonis is a former Lithuanian champion, and the Russian master has a long and distinguished chess career in the USSR. He finished 11th in the 1925 International Tournament at Moscow, ahead of such players as Rubinstein and Spielmann; and in the 1927 Russian Championship at Moscow he won the title in a tournament in which Mikhail Botvinnik finished fifth!

First brilliancy prize was awarded Frank Anderson for his sparkling victory over Vaitonis; and second brilliancy prize went to Dr. Rauch for his conquest of Anderson. The tournament was held at Arvida, Quebec with ten contestants, representing Quebec Province, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

PTACEK CAPTURES WISCONSIN RAPID

Outpointing R. Kujoth on S-B points, M. Ptacek placed first in the annual Wisconsin State Lightning Chess Tournament, held at Hawthorne Glen Lodge, Milwaukee, by a score of 6-1. In the 7-round Swiss Ptacek lost one game, to defending Lightning Champion H. Blume.

Second place went to R. Kujoth with 6-1. Kujoth lost his only game to Ptacek and defeated Blume. Third place went to H. Blume, victor in 1948, who had the satisfaction of besting Ptacek, but lost to Kujoth and drew with R. Schmidt for a 5½-1½ score.

Fourth place went to A. Powers with 5-2, and fifth place to R. Schmidt with 4½-2½. Twenty-three contestants participated in the event.

SACHS CAPTURES CLEVELAND RAPID

Ranier Sachs, Cleveland City Champion, added the Cleveland Rapid Transit title to his collection by winning two out of three games in a playoff with William Granger. Sachs won his section of the Rapid with a 6-0 score, conceding no points. Granger won the other section with a 5-1 score, losing a game to Somlo. Fourteen players contested in the event.

TOURIST ITEMS LOG CABIN CHESS

Deep in the Southwest, the itinerant Log Cabin Chess Club team continues on its winning ways with Larry Evans added to the team. The Tulsa Chess Club bowed to their might by a 5-1 score, and San Antonio yielded by a 3½-1½ score, but only after Larry Evans had lost in a surprise upset to W. Kendall. For the honor of Texas the Dallas Chess Club routed the invaders with a 3-2 score.

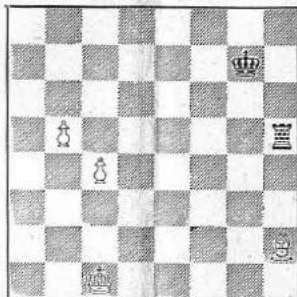
CHESS GREETS NEW STATE PAPER

New Hampshire comes to the fore as being the home of the latest chess publication on a statewide basis. Volume 1, Number one of the "New Hampshire Chess Reporter" is off the press—a fine mimeographed bulletin of news and annotated games, intended to increase interest and activity in chess in New Hampshire. The bulletin is a privately sponsored publication, published and edited by Orlando A. Lester and Robert W. Hux from 152 Profile Avenue, Portsmouth, N. H.

HOWARD TOPS BOSTON COLLEGE

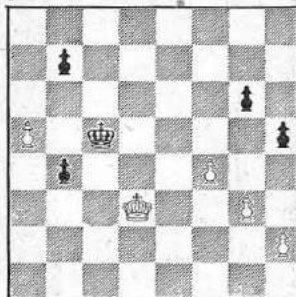
In a match played at Howard (R. I.) the Howard Chess Club scored an effective 6½-3½ victory over the Boston College chess team. Played in two sections, the Boston College quintette lost to the Howard "A" team by a 3½-1½ score and to the Howard "B" team by a 3-2 score.

Position No. 61
By L. Prokes (Czechoslovakia)
Prace, July, 1949



8, 6k1, 8, 1P6, 2P5, 8, 7B, 2K5
White to play and win

Position No. 62
By Dr. A. Torner (France)
L'Echiquier de Paris, 1948



8, 1P6, 6p1, 1k4p, 1p3P2, 3K2P1, 7P8
White to play and win

White To Play And Win!

Conducted by William Rojam

POSITION No. 61 is an excellent example of one of those tricky positions in which Bishop and two Pawns can win against a Rook—not usually possible when the White King is not in immediate support. As it is a situation which may occur frequently in normal play, the position is one that bears careful study.

Position No. 62 is a tantalizing position which illustrates the power of a Pawn majority, when unopposed by the Black King, as well as the necessity of counting accurately King moves in a ticklish ending. This position also reflects a normal one in actual play, which is too frequently muffed by the unalert player.

Please turn to page four for solutions.

Chicago Tribune Discovers Chess On Beaches—After Twenty Years!

By William Rojam

Add to the "Such is Fame!" category the fact that after some twenty years of annual activity, the Chicago Daily Tribune has suddenly discovered the surprising fact that chess is a "ruggedly competitive, healthful outdoor sport."

Reporter Savage, who conducts a daily column "Tower Ticker" in the Tribune, devoted his full space for Wednesday, August 24 to the story of chess, as it has been played on the North Avenue Beach by Lake Michigan for the past twenty years.

The story by Savage, true in its essentials, relates the founding of this beach chess competition by P. A. (Scotty) Burrows of the Chicago Chess and Checker Club some twenty years ago. It tells how Scotty brought his men and chalked out a board on the paving back of the sand. Encouraged by his example, others gathered with boards and men until it became an informal club of many members, some of whom have been playing on the beach now for almost as many years as Scotty.

An amusing footnote to the beginning of beach chess was the original suspicion of the park police, causing the game to float from Oak Street to North Avenue and back again, as the policeman broke up the games. The cops classified it with the clandestine crap games; and it took several years of argument to convince the park police that chess was law abiding and not a gambling game. For almost the last fifteen years, the games have been uninterrupted by police intervention.

Other facets of chess recognized by Savage in his column include the fine work with the wounded veterans, with specific mention of the weekly visits in a Red Cross bus to the hospital at Great Lakes for a round of chess and chatter with the invalids.

As a prophetic note of warning, Savage closes his article with reference to the game of "atomic chess," invented by Nasouhi Bey Tahir, deputy minister of agriculture in Hashemite Jordan. Nasouhi Bey has added, it seems, two ultra-modern pieces in an airplane and a tank; but his most dire contribution is permitting a Pawn on the eighth rank to be promoted into an atomic bomb which, when put into action, destroys all pieces (one's own as well as the opponent's) within a radius of six squares from the object of attack!

B. H. WOOD IS ILL "CHESS" DELAYED

Readers of the British publication "Chess" will regret to learn that B. H. Wood, its founder and editor, is hospitalized with a serious illness. Due to his illness "Chess" will issue a single triple number in August to cover the months of July, August and September.

It is hoped that Mr. Wood will recover shortly, and in the meantime the staff of "Chess" is functioning normally in handling the subsidiary business in chess equipment, books and supplies.

FINE BRILLIANT BUT DEFEATED

Accepting the onus of exceptional odds against a fellow master in the person of Herman Pilnik of Buenos Aires, Dr. Reuben Fine played an exhibition series of blindfold games at a 10-second per move time limit against the South American master who had sight of the board.

For brilliance in performance the moral victory went to Fine although the cold figures of the score show that Pilnik won 63 to Fine's 33. But at least one game was marred by a misunderstanding of the announcement of a move, whereby Fine lost a rook. In another, speaking too hastily Fine resigned, and then promptly caught himself and offered to substitute a move that saved the situation; but Pilnik held to the letter of the law and so was accorded the victory.

At the end of the first five games the score stood even with two wins apiece and one draw. Fine won the fifth in good style, but lost the sixth on an illegal move in a winning position, and thereafter the South American proved almost invincible.

Game	Winner	Opening	Moves
1.	Drawn	Greenfield Defense	74
2.	Pilnik	French Defense	68
3.	Pilnik	Queen's Gambit Declined	71
4.	Fine	French Defense	39
5.	Fine	Queen's Gambit Declined	55
6.	Pilnik	English Opening	45
7.	Pilnik	Queen's Gambit Declined	68
8.	Pilnik	Dutch Defense	47
9.	Fine	Queen's Gambit	37
10.	Pilnik	French Defense	22

Fine played—White in the odd-numbered games.

HOEHN CAPTURES N. SASKATCHEWAN

Victory in Northern Saskatchewan championship tournament held by the Bishop's Knight Chess Club of Saskatoon went to E. Hoehn of Saskatoon with a 4-1 score. Second was H. Kernen of Saskatoon with 3½-1½, while Dr. Macdonald and J. Evans, both of North Battleford, tied for third with 3-2 each. W. Hofer of Langham placed fifth with 1-4 and G. Humphreys of Saskatoon sixth with ½-4½.

SIMMAR FIRST AT PICCADILLY

The victory tournament of the Piccadilly Chess Club (Willerni, Minn.) resulted in the triumph of Clem Simmar with a 7½-1½ score. Second place went to U. S. Smith with a 7-2, while third place was captured by A. L. Johnson with 5½-3½. Fourth place was shared by Harold Bell and Paul Winters with 4½-4½ each.

TRI-STATE PLANS JUNIOR EVENT

Plans for the annual Tri-State Championship event, held between Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, this year includes a separate Junior Tri-State Championship which will be a six-man round robin event with the two ranking junior players from each State. This year's championship will be held at Pittsburgh over the Armistice Day week-

Chess Life

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Vol. IV, Number 1 Monday, September 5, 1949

THIS IS THE THING

WITH THIS issue CHESS LIFE fulfils the beliefs of its supporters and perhaps discourages its critics by entering into its fourth year of existence—a respectable and august age for a chess publication. But while we are well content to see the infant, born at Pittsburgh in hope and expectation, grow sturdy and more mature, we do not yet feel that there is cause for jubilation.

Chess in these United States, despite the heroic efforts of a few, remains as yet but the promise of a glorious future. The program of the USCF to achieve this future has but started on its accomplishment and much yet remains that must be done. To see that program successfully developed to fruition is the joint purpose of the USCF and CHESS LIFE, as it should be the goal of every individual chess player in America.

And only when chess has taken its rightful place in the realm of American activity, on the school-ground, in the hospital, in the recreational center, will CHESS LIFE take pride in repeating the words of Samuel Daniel: "This is the thing that I was born to do."

FILTERED TRUTH

IT WAS Wendell Phillips who expressed the thought that "truth is one forever absolute, but opinion is truth filtered through the moods, the blood, the disposition of the spectator."

And we have as many varying filters of the truth as we have men to express their opinions. At Omaha, it was our good friend Tony Santasiere who took us gently to task upon the quality of the games we published in "Tournament Life." We quote Tony as the protagonist for others who have variously written in the same general vein. It is his (and their complaint) that we do not publish enough master games.

But Santasiere goes a step further and chides us for neglecting the 100 or more games of the Manhattan and Marshall Chess Club Championships. This last is a bit of unconscious New Yorkism, for if he paused to think, Santasiere would be the first to recognize that there are not 100 master games in the two New York Club Championships, and he would acknowledge, if pressed, that under the master level New York has no monopoly upon good chess, that many games produced in many parts of the country would equal those of the lesser lights of the Manhattan and Marshall Clubs. The victory of Albert Sandrin at Omaha should do much to dispel the lingering illusions that chess is played at its best only in New York.

Aside from the question of New Yorkism unconsciously posed by Santasiere, we question gravely his (and others') position that the player should seek and should be given quality at all costs. The very advanced player and the master, of course, learn little from the average game; they rightly seek the masterpieces of play for their study and analysis. But how many readers of CHESS LIFE are very advanced players or masters?

It is a fallacy long preached that the average player learns most from masterplay. Instead he gropes without understanding through the long and delicate passages of subtle counter-play and positional maneuvering. Perhaps he learns parts of it by rote, but when his memory fails him he is left helpless in a won position of subtle character because he has not the background nor understanding of what he has done to grasp the victory already in his hands.

The average player, and most of us are average players, learns the most from those games that illustrate the practice of players only several grades better than his own. Their maneuvers he can comprehend and their errors he can analyze and understand. Only when he has completely mastered such understanding and in mastering it attained a grasp that elevates his play to the level of those formerly just a little better is he ready to profit and learn from players even more expert.

The editor, who is neither the best nor the worst player in Chicago, frankly confesses that, aside from the comprehensive notes of Alekhine's My 100 Best Games, he has learned more about chess play from the games of those only a little more skilled than himself, than he has from all the hundreds of master games that he has studied and played over in some thirty years of chess playing. Said editor will never win any national championships, it is granted; but he will never be a pushover for the master players either. Therefore he feels qualified to express the belief that the studied policy of CHESS LIFE in presenting a varied assortment of games, mixing master play with that of the little better than average or the much better than average, is the policy designed to benefit the average reader and improve his quality of play.

Montgomery Major

BACK TO CLUB LIFE

by Paul G. Giers

President, United States Chess Federation

FALL IS JUST around the corner and chess clubs from coast to coast are once again getting ready for their most active season. Reduced Summer activities or, as in some cases, suspended animation will again give way to the hum and excitement of high-geared club life.

It has always been my conviction that our chess clubs are the backbone of American Chess. Whatever activities our state associations and the USCF may engage in, they can be successful only if backed by strong and progressive chess clubs. For the benefit of our younger clubs and as a reminder to experienced club leaders, here are some thoughts on successful club operation:

Plan your club program ahead for the entire season. Make it interesting to all members and give it added spice by including some new and different events.

Secure the active cooperation of all club members willing to work—as officers, directors or committee members. One-man organization is not consistent with the principles of good management.

Appoint your club's standing committees early, give them specific tasks to perform and, above all, keep them functioning.

Get more and more publicity for your club. Publicity is a powerful stimulant. Like all other civic groups, your club is entitled to its fair share of local news space. If possible, arrange for a weekly chess column in one of your local papers.

Report your club news regularly to Editor Montgomery Major for publication in CHESS LIFE. Also please remember that Mr. Major, like all good newspaper editors, wants his news while they are "hot" and cannot reserve space for "stale" items.

Now is the time for your membership drive. Many players in your locality don't know of your club, others are waiting to be asked. Special junior membership fees may help to bring in the younger element.

A club bulletin, periodically issued, will cement your membership together more closely. Notable examples: Downtown Y Chess Club of Pittsburgh, Firestone Chess & Checker Club of Akron, Edison Chess & Checker Club of Detroit. Find the "journalist" among your members and let him take over.

Arrange for special highlights interspersed in your club program—inter-club matches, simultaneous exhibitions, club banquet, etc.

Has your club ever played host to a state meeting or a national tournament? There is no better opportunity of displaying your club's solidarity and of making your community chess-conscious.

Each month new chess clubs come into being. Practically every new club is sure to be successful during its first year due to the momentum of fresh enthusiasm and membership cooperation. When that enthusiasm levels off—and human nature decrees that it should—it then becomes a matter of careful planning and good management to keep the club forging ahead.

It is a constant source of gratification for me to see so many of our chess clubs maintain a high level of activity year after year. No chess club need fall by the wayside, if we only apply the rules of good management, some of which I have outlined above, and retain that fresh and aggressive spirit which marked our first year of club promotion.



Paul G. Giers

Memorable Chess Dates

Compiled by A. Buschke

- September
- 1941 Karl Treybal, Czech Grandmaster, killed by Nazis
 - 1942 Rudolf Spielmann, Austrian Grandmaster, Co-editor of last ed. of Swedish Larokob by Collin, died
 - 1 1908 Silas W. Howland, President of Marshall Chess Club, New York, chess collector whose collection is now in Harvard College Library (about 3,000 vols.), died
 - 2 1906 K. Kundelik, Czech problemist, died
 - 1909 R. Swiderski, German master, died
 - 1925 M. Christoffel, Swiss master, born
 - 1932 J. A. Isaac, prominent Russian problemist, author, died
 - 3 1882 V. K. Khadilkar, strong Indian player, born
 - 1930 J. Chocholous, Czech problemist, born
 - 5 1806 Albert Becker, Austrian master, author, born
 - 7 1820 A. D. Philidor, French master, author, of greatest influence in the theory of chess for almost a century, born
 - 1857 S. Rosenthal, Franco-Polish master, author, born
 - 1842 J. H. Zukertort, Austrian Grandmaster at one time (1853-1856) contender for world championship honors, born
 - 1877 C. E. C. Tattersall, author of endgame book, born
 - 1881 M. Havel, Czech problemist, author, born
 - 8 1826 H. Pollmaecher, Austrian master, born
 - 9 1856 V. Hrabu, Hungarian master, born
 - 1909 Dr. H. Neustadl, Austrian master, problemist, died
 - 11 1800 William Winter, English master, author, born
 - 1905 A. de Riviere, French master, author, died
 - 1913 J. Peris, Austrian master, died
 - 12 1800 P. C. F. de Saint-Amant, French master, contender for chess supremacy in 1845 (match with Staunton), born
 - 1841 E. Delmar, American master, born
 - 1887 E. Birgfeld, German problemist (old style) Arvid Kubbel, Russian problemist, born
 - 1902 S. Rosenthal, French master, author, died
 - 1909 F. J. Lee, author (Lee and Gossip), died
 - 14 1857 A. Aibin, Rumanian master, author, born
 - 1840 P. R. v. Bilguer, founder of the "Handbuch," died
 - 1865 H. Bahr, German problemist, born
 - 1880 C. Carls German master, born
 - 17 1903 O. Koltanowski, Bolgo-American master, blindfold specialist, born
 - 1904 J. W. Fiska, close friend of Paul Morphy, co-editor with him of "Chess Monthly" (1857-1871), author of First American Chess Congress, 1857, benefactor of Cornell University and Icelandic Public Library, died
 - 19 1873 R. Charounek, Hungarian Grandmaster, born
 - 20 1882 (old style) O. Bernstein, Franco-Russian Grandmaster, born
 - 1896 F. Saemtich, German master, born
 - 1897 Conrad Bayer, German problemist, died
 - 21 1921 G. B. Laws, English problemist, author, Curator of A. C. White's Problem Collection, died
 - 22 1908 J. Rejfir (Reifisch), Czech master, born
 - 24 1876 G. D. Mend, "one of the most illustrious of the early retinue of American chess-players" (Book of the Fifth Am. Chess Congr., 1850, p. 48), author (anonymous) died
 - 26 1929 O. T. Blathy, Hungarian problemist (great problems of hundreds of moves list), author, died
 - 27 1865 S. Herland, Rumanian problemist, born
 - 1876 Heinz Britz, Austrian problemist, born

The Kibitzer Has His Day

From the Editor's Mail-Bag

Dear Editor:

I note with interest the large number of forthcoming chess tournaments listed in the recent CHESS LIFE; particularly is it interesting to note the adoption by many of the "Open" tournament (with the state title to the highest ranking state resident.)

As many players are unable to enter the national events, these various "Open" tournaments offer one of the few opportunities to meet strong out-of-state competition in over-the-board play; yet this is not possible if neighboring states schedule their meets on the same week-end—id est: Labor Day weekend.

While state chess tournaments are, of course, primarily for the benefit, entertainment, etc. of their respective state residents, perhaps some thought or consideration could still be given by the various state chess association officials and association members to this—avoidance of the selection of a tournament date that conflicts with an "Open" tournament date in a neighboring state.

(Here in the central southern states we are rather fortunate in this respect. The Tennessee tournament is held at New Years; the South Carolina event in the early spring; the North Carolina meet the last week-end in August; and the Georgia and Virginia tournaments on Labor Day week-end—now all "Open" tournaments, also. Incidentally, although North Carolina tournaments were held for a period of twenty or so years at New Years, the last two North

Carolina tournaments were played in late August, partly to avoid conflicting dates.)

I believe that some consideration of this factor would bring stronger and better-attended state chess tournaments; heighten local chess interest; and be beneficial to U.S. chess.

Perhaps you might wish to comment editorially upon this thought in some future edition of CHESS LIFE.

WM. C. ADICKES, JR.

President,
North Carolina Chess Ass'n.

Dear Dr. Keeney:

But for limited space you no doubt would have written more about these critics of problems. I have seen such individuals play a game with a superior force in hand, floundering around, grabbing pawns and swapping pieces without any idea of creating a pretty mating net or starting a combination that could result in one. In every case under my observation they belong to the "wood-pusher" class. It is unfortunate that they are in the majority and have succeeded, through constant complaints, in having problems sections or departments eliminated from many of our papers and periodicals. To me it is analogous to taking many fine books from our libraries and burning them in the public square.

EDW. J. KORPANTY
Woodside, New York

JOIN THE USCF

For The Tournament-Minded

September 30-October 2

Swenson Memorial

Open Tournament

Omaha, Nebraska

Played at Omaha Chess Club, YMCA beginning 7 p.m. Friday; no entry fee; open to Nebraskans; 5 round Swiss; trophy for winner.

Mexico City: Herman Plinik of Buenos Aires and New York placed first in a tournament at Mexico City in which Lt. Col Jose Araiza and Juan Medina shared second place. Plinik 1½-1½; Araiza and Medina 1-3 each; Peris, Laska and Camarena 8-5 each; Baez 7½-5½; Mondragon 6½-6½; Eglesias 5½-7½; Parez 4½-8½; Moncada and Garduno 3½-9½ each; Cabrera 3-10; Calderon 1½-11½.

Boston College	J. Howard Chess
A. Deerfield	J. Howarth
J. White	W. Couture
D. Potter	C. Quigley
R. Foley	J. Lupo
M. Lembo	J. Merritt
A. Deerfield	J. McKeon
J. White	D. Massey
D. Potter	F. Burns
R. Foley	J. Carey
M. Lembo	J. Iovino
Boston	Howard

Boost American Chess!

By Fred Reinfeld

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A Valuable Hint

IF YOU are interested in becoming a good attacking player, note how often the success of an attack depends on the circumstance that the defender's Queen is far from the scene of action.

SICILIAN DEFENSE

Brunn, 1905

- White: J. BRACH 1. P-K4 2. Kt-KB3 3. Kt-B3 4. P-Q4 5. KtXP

This old-fashioned move, whose weakness was well-known even in Morphy's day, is the first step to perdition. The subsequent disappearance of this Bishop leaves the vulnerable black squares an easy prey to White's marauding forces.

6. B-K3 Threatening 6. KtXP! 6. Q-B3? This premature development of the Queen is immediately refuted. The more conservative 6. Q-B2 was preferable.



7. KtXP!! A stinging surprise for Black, ably calculated by White. 7. Kt-B7 ch If 8. Kt-Q1; 9. PxB and the Knight is immune from capture (9. KxKt??; 10. Kt-Q5 ch forking the Queen).

8. PxB Threatens 11. KR-B1. 10. KR-B1 Kt-R3 Black would doubtless like to keep the Queen nearer home, but how? If 11. Q-Q1?? the forking check 12. Kt-K6 ch wins the Queen. If 11. Q-K1; 12. Kt-K6 ch! still wins. On 11. Q-K2; 12. Q-Q4 is decisive.

12. P-K13 Might as well. 13. Q-Q6 ch He has no moves. If 14. BPxKt; 15. Q or R-B8 mate. If 14. QPxKt; 15. Q-Q8 mate.

(One of many brilliant games included in RELAX WITH CHESS by Fred Reinfeld, published by the Pitman Publishing Corporation.)

FURTHER ECHOES US-CANADA CLASH

Table with columns for Buffalo Group and Toronto Group, listing players and their scores.

LOG CABIN BESTS CORPUS CHRISTI

Emerging from a plunge into Mexico (results unreported as yet), the wander-crazy Log Cabin Chess Club paused at Corpus Christi, Tex., scene of the 1947 U. S. Open Championship, to overwhelm the local players by a 7 1/2-1 1/2 score.

Table comparing Log Cabin and Corpus Christi players and their scores.

CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Table of Canadian Chess Championship results, Arvida, Quebec, August 13-20, 1949.

WINCONSIN STATE LIGHTNING CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Table of Wisconsin State Lightning Chess Championship results, Milwaukee, 1949.

Mate The Subtle Way!

by Vincent L. Eaton

Until further notice address all communications to this column to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, 123 No. Humphrey Ave., Oak Park, Illinois.

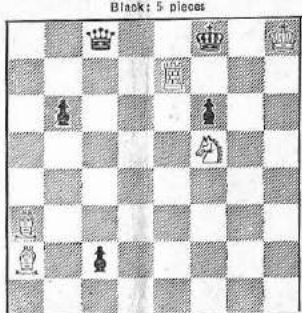
ANY worthy chess players, when shown a problem position, will cast a cold eye on it and exclaim: "Why try to mate Black? White has an easy win!" To a problem fan this is a naive viewpoint, as though one might say: "Why read a good book? It's easier to read the funnies!"

No. 103 was composed to illustrate this point. The forces are almost evenly balanced. White, of course, has an easy "win" by 1. R-QB7 ch. Why, therefore, bother about it? Well, try working out the mate in two, and no more than two moves—and you will find a lot more in the position than appeared at first glance!

No. 105 is a welcome contribution by the youthful Problem Editor of the "American Chess Bulletin."

Solutions to previously published problems on page four.

Problem No. 103 By the Problem Editor Composed for Chess Life



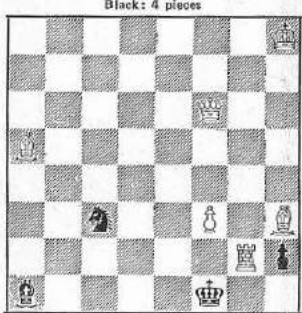
White: 5 pieces 2xKtK, KR3, 1xSp, SS2, 8, B7, B1p5, 8 White mates in two moves

Problem No. 105 By Edgar Holladay Charlottesville, Va. Composed for Chess Life



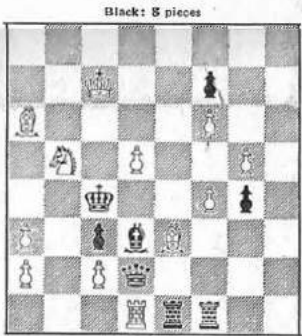
White: 5 pieces k7, Bp6, 1p8, SS9p, KR1p5, 8, B7, 8 White mates in three moves

Problem No. 104 By A. M. Sparke 1918



Black: 4 pieces K 8, SQ2, B7, 8, 2xP1B, 6Rp, b1k2 White mates in two moves

Problem No. 106 By G. F. Anderson 1920



White: 12 pieces 8, 2K2p, B1P2, 1B1P1, 2xP1, P1pB3, P1P4 3Rr2 White mates in three moves

PORTSMOUTH WINS AGAINST CONCORD

The Portsmouth (N.H.) Chess Club recently defeated the Concord (N.H.) Chess Club at Concord by a score of 3-2. This was the third match between these two clubs during the current year.

Table comparing Portsmouth and Concord players and their scores.

What's The Best Move?

By Guilherme Groesser

Position No. 30



11k, 1p2q1, 2R5, 5p, 6a, 8, 6PP, 1QR2K1 Black to move

Send solutions to Position No. 30 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, by September 20, 1949.

Solutions to Position No. 28

A problem-like victory by A. Kubbel (of the brothers Kubbel) over Iljin-Gencusky. Correct solution was 1. B-B7, cutting off both Q and R. Several solvers suggested B-K7 as the move, but the immediate win is defeated by 1. B-K7 ch, RxKt; 2. R-B8 ch, whereupon White can answer R-K1 by R-R or R-R2 by Q-B3, averting the immediate mate.

Chess Life

Monday, September 5, 1949

Chess Life

Abroad

By A. Buschke

SMYSLOV WINS. Smyslov, generally, considered the second best player of the Soviet Union, won 8 straight in the second round of the big Moscow-Budapest match, an achievement not equalled by any of the other participants in either the first or the second round. Smyslov had lost 1 game to Szabo in the first (Budapest) round. The following is a short and convincing game against one of the only two Hungarians who could inflict more than 2 defeats to the Russian team; the other one was Szabo who did not show too much (6 points out of possible 16) but had victories over three grandmasters (Kotov, Smyslov, Ragozin) to his credit; Barcza defeated grandmasters Lilienthal and Ragozin (tail-enders of the Russian team) and master Averbakh and tied with Szabo (6 points).

SICILIAN. V. SMYSLOV-G. BARCZA, 1. P-K4, P-QB4; 2. N-KB3, N-QB3; 3. P-Q4, PxP; 4. Nxf7, N-B3; 5. Q-NB3, P-Q3; 6. B-K2, P-K3; 7. O-O, P-QR3; 8. B-K3, Q-B2; 9. P-B4, B-K2; 10. Q-K, O-O; 11. Q-N3, K-R; 12. R-B2, B-Q2; 13. R-Q, P-QN4; 14. P-QR3, QR-B; 15. B-Q3, P-N3; 16. N-B3, P-N5; 17. Pxf4, Nxf4; 18. N-N5, K-N2; 19. P-B5, KPxP; 20. B-Q4, K-N; 21. Pxf7, Q-R4; 22. Pxf7, N-K; 23. Pxf7, Nxf7; 24. N-N, K-R-N4; 25. N-B, N-R; 26. N-K6 dis. ch., Black resigns.

GERMANY. Two important international tournaments took place in Heidelberg, June 6-13, and Oldenburg, June 19-July 2. The young Munich master Wolfgang Unzicker won in Heidelberg, one point ahead of Rossolimo who since his success in the last Christmas tournament at Hastings seemed to be on the best way to becoming a grandmaster. The next three prizes were divided by O'Kelly, Paul Schmidt and Kieninger. Wade (New Zealand) also participated, but finished 6th-8th in a tie with Niephaus and L. Schmidt. Of greater importance was Oldenburg (18 participants): First and second prizes went to Bogolubov and the 25 year old Latvian D. P. Zengalis who had been invited to play in the Championship of Wurttemberg shortly before... and became Champion. Both ended with 12 points, but Bogolubov lost 3 games, Zengalis drew 10 and won 7 without losses. Closely behind were Heinicke and Rossolimo (again), with 11 1/2, Sarapu (Estonia) 11, Unzicker and Kieninger 10, O'Kelly and Rollstab 9, Wade 8 1/2. An old "routinier" like Saemisch ended in this strong field on 15th-17th place, with only 5 1/2, i.e., just under the "master third."

AUSTRIA. Another Schlechter Memorial Tournament was played in Vienna from June 10-25. The field of 14 participants was headed by Foltys (Czechoslovakia) and Puc, a new Yugoslav star, with 9 points. Half a point behind were Kottbauer, Opocensky (both Czechosl.), Platt (Austria), Rabar (Yugosl.)

SOVIET RUSSIA. The semi-finals for the XVII Soviet Championship were played in 4 groups, Vilna, Tiflis, Moscow and Leningrad. 11 players qualified, among them several new names (Geller, Petrosian, (Please turn to page 4, col. 5.))

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ENGLISH OPENING

U. S. Open Championship Omaha, 1949

Notes by Erich W. Marchand

White Black
A. SANDRIN P. LECORNU
1. P-Q4 Kt-KB3 2. Kt-QB3 P-Q4
Not to be recommended since the Kt on Q4 will be subject to tempo-gaining attacks.

Another way is 4. P-Q4 (with P-K4 in mind), B-B4; 5. Q-K15.
4. P-KK15 S. B-K12 B-K3
Black might as well admit his earlier error and play 5. Kt-K15 and 6. ... P-Q3.

Excellent. Obviously neither RP nor BP can be captured.
13. ... B-QR3 16. PxP Kt-K15
14. Q-K13 P-Q4 17. QR-B1 QR-B1
15. P-K5 P-R 18. R-B5

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING

Rochester Chess Club Championship, Rochester, 1949

Notes by Erich W. Marchand

White Black
W. W. WINANS E. W. MARCHAND
1. P-Q4 P-K3 4. QxP Kt-KB3
2. Kt-B3 P-Q4 5. Q-K1 P-Q4
3. P-Q5 P-K3 6. P-K4 Kt-K1

Solutions: Mate the Subtle Way!
The key to Problem No. 95 is: 1. B-K7 with threat to mate by 2. BxR. Variations are pretty but key is not difficult to find.

Correct solutions to Problems No. 95, 96 and 97 were received from James Bolton (New Haven); correct solutions to Problems No. 96, 97 and 98 from Samuel Treinis (Brooklyn); and correct solutions to Problems No. 95 and 96 from N. Gabor (Cincinnati).

Tournament Life

Conducted by Erich W. Marchand

192 Seville Drive Rochester 13, N. Y.

If 30. ... R-R5; 31. B-B6, R-K3; 32. K-B2 (not 22. Kt-Q5, R-Pch), and White has a good attack.

Chessboard diagram for MARCHAND position. White pieces: P-K4, P-Q4, P-R4, P-B4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-R3, P-B3, P-K2, P-Q2, P-R2, P-B2, P-K1, P-Q1, P-R1, P-B1. Black pieces: P-K4, P-Q4, P-R4, P-B4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-R3, P-B3, P-K2, P-Q2, P-R2, P-B2, P-K1, P-Q1, P-R1, P-B1.

CARO-KANN DEFENSE

Southern Chess Assn. Championship, Richmond, 1949

Notes by Dr. J. Platz

White Black
S. WAGMAN H. BERLINER
1. P-K4 P-Q3 4. KtxP B-B4
2. P-Q4 P-Q4 5. Kt-K13
3. Kt-QB3 PxP

Notes by Billy Addison from the Louisiana Chess Association New Letter
White Black
A. B. WILLS C. K. COLLINS
1. P-K4 P-K4 6. Q-K2 P-QK4
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 7. B-K3 Q-O

RUY LOPEZ

U. S. Open Championship Omaha, 1949

Notes by Erich W. Marchand

White Black
J. PENQUITE K. ANDERSON
1. P-K4 P-K4 5. O-O N-P3
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 6. R-K1 Kt-B4
3. B-K15 P-QR3 7. Kt-B3 Kt-B4
4. B-R4 Kt-K7 8. KtxP1

Chessboard diagram for PENQUITE position. White pieces: P-K4, P-Q4, P-R4, P-B4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-R3, P-B3, P-K2, P-Q2, P-R2, P-B2, P-K1, P-Q1, P-R1, P-B1. Black pieces: P-K4, P-Q4, P-R4, P-B4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-R3, P-B3, P-K2, P-Q2, P-R2, P-B2, P-K1, P-Q1, P-R1, P-B1.

CARO-KANN DEFENSE

U. S. Open Championship Omaha, 1949

Notes by Erich W. Marchand

White Black
DR. A. S. NEAL A. E. SANTASIERE
1. P-K4 P-Q3 4. KtxP B-B4
2. P-Q4 P-Q4 5. P-KB3
3. Kt-QB3 Pxp

White's wholesale exchanges seem designed to gain a draw from the famous Santa. The open R-file will prove his undoing.

CARO-KANN DEFENSE

Southern Chess Assn. Championship, Richmond, 1949

Notes by Dr. J. Platz

White Black
S. WAGMAN H. BERLINER
1. P-K4 P-Q3 4. KtxP B-B4
2. P-Q4 P-Q4 5. Kt-K13
3. Kt-QB3 PxP

RUY LOPEZ

Louisiana State Championship Alexandria, 1949

Notes by Billy Addison from the Louisiana Chess Association New Letter

White Black
A. B. WILLS C. K. COLLINS
1. P-K4 P-K4 6. Q-K2 P-QK4
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 7. B-K3 Q-O

RUY LOPEZ

U. S. Open Championship Omaha, 1949

Notes by Erich W. Marchand

White Black
J. PENQUITE K. ANDERSON
1. P-K4 P-K4 5. O-O N-P3
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 6. R-K1 Kt-B4

Chessboard diagram for PENQUITE position. White pieces: P-K4, P-Q4, P-R4, P-B4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-R3, P-B3, P-K2, P-Q2, P-R2, P-B2, P-K1, P-Q1, P-R1, P-B1. Black pieces: P-K4, P-Q4, P-R4, P-B4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-R3, P-B3, P-K2, P-Q2, P-R2, P-B2, P-K1, P-Q1, P-R1, P-B1.

CARO-KANN DEFENSE

U. S. Open Championship Omaha, 1949

Notes by Erich W. Marchand

White Black
DR. A. S. NEAL A. E. SANTASIERE
1. P-K4 P-Q3 4. KtxP B-B4
2. P-Q4 P-Q4 5. P-KB3

White's wholesale exchanges seem designed to gain a draw from the famous Santa. The open R-file will prove his undoing.

CARO-KANN DEFENSE

Southern Chess Assn. Championship, Richmond, 1949

Notes by Dr. J. Platz

White Black
S. WAGMAN H. BERLINER
1. P-K4 P-Q3 4. KtxP B-B4
2. P-Q4 P-Q4 5. Kt-K13

RUY LOPEZ

Louisiana State Championship Alexandria, 1949

Notes by Billy Addison from the Louisiana Chess Association New Letter

White Black
A. B. WILLS C. K. COLLINS
1. P-K4 P-K4 6. Q-K2 P-QK4
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 7. B-K3 Q-O

RUY LOPEZ

U. S. Open Championship Omaha, 1949

Notes by Erich W. Marchand

White Black
J. PENQUITE K. ANDERSON
1. P-K4 P-K4 5. O-O N-P3
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 6. R-K1 Kt-B4

Chessboard diagram for PENQUITE position. White pieces: P-K4, P-Q4, P-R4, P-B4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-R3, P-B3, P-K2, P-Q2, P-R2, P-B2, P-K1, P-Q1, P-R1, P-B1. Black pieces: P-K4, P-Q4, P-R4, P-B4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-R3, P-B3, P-K2, P-Q2, P-R2, P-B2, P-K1, P-Q1, P-R1, P-B1.

CARO-KANN DEFENSE

U. S. Open Championship Omaha, 1949

Notes by Erich W. Marchand

White Black
DR. A. S. NEAL A. E. SANTASIERE
1. P-K4 P-Q3 4. KtxP B-B4
2. P-Q4 P-Q4 5. P-KB3

Annotations
J. B. Gess Dr. M. Herzberger
A. Y. Hesse Ed. J. Korpany
Dr. J. Platz Dr. J. Platz
Fred Reinold Dr. Bela Rozsa
A. E. Santasiere J. Soukoff
Wayne Wagner

VIENNA GAMBIT

U. S. Junior Championship Ft. Worth, 1949

"No Need For The Queen"

Chessboard diagram for VIENNA GAMBIT position. White pieces: P-K4, P-Q4, P-R4, P-B4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-R3, P-B3, P-K2, P-Q2, P-R2, P-B2, P-K1, P-Q1, P-R1, P-B1. Black pieces: P-K4, P-Q4, P-R4, P-B4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-R3, P-B3, P-K2, P-Q2, P-R2, P-B2, P-K1, P-Q1, P-R1, P-B1.

CHESS LIFE ABROAD

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 5)

Koplylov and some who had already participated in previous Championship Finals (Kholmov, Mikenas, Sokolsky, Furman, Talmanov, Goldberg, Aronin, Lublinsky).

Some well known masters who had played in previous Championships did not make the grade this time, e.g., Chekhover, Simagin, Ratner, Duz-Khotimirski, Kan, Alator-tsov, Novotelnov, Chistiakov, Makogonov, Klamam, Kasparin, Oofim-tsev, Zagoriansky, Koblents, Lisit-syn, Ravinsky, Dubinin. The competition seems to be getting stronger and stronger in Russia.

Botvinnik conducts a chess column in the illustrated magazine Ogonek and has a "World Champion's Page" in Shakhmaty v SSR.

A collection of bulletins published during the Moscow-Budapest match has been issued in bookform and contains all the 128 games, some with very detailed annotations.

SWEDEN. The complete tournament book of the Saltsjobaden tournament of 1947 has just been published.

Solutions: Finish It The Clever Way
Position No. 61: 1. P-K6, B-QB4; 2. B-K5, ch; K moves; 3. P-R7, R-Pch; 4. B-B3, R-Rch; 5. R-K1, ch; 6. R-K1, ch; 7. P-R7, R-Pch; 8. R-K1, ch; 9. P-B6, K moves; 6. P-B7 wins.

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