



# Chess Life



Vol. IV  
Number 4

Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation

Thursday,  
October 20, 1949

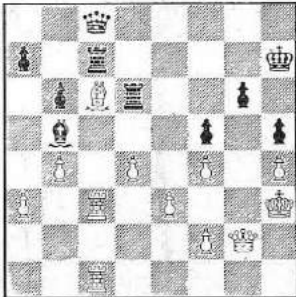
## REVIVE INTERSTATE MATCH

Position No. 19  
A. Fritz vs. X  
Germany, 1885



r1bqkbr ppp2pp s1s2. 70. 2B1P3.  
S. PPP2PP. RSB1K2R  
White to play and win

Position No. 20  
Zagoriansky vs. Trupan  
Moscow, 1949



2p5. p1r4k. 1p2B2p1. 1a3b1p. 1P1P1P.  
1P1P2K. 5PQ1. 2RS  
White to play and win

### Finish It The Clever Way!

Conducted by Edmund Nash

Send all contributions for this column to Edmund Nash, 1530 28th Place, S.E., Washington 20, D. C.

POSITION No. 19 is taken from the extremely fascinating book (published in 1947), "L'Art de Faire Mat" by G. Renaud and Y. Kahn, champions of France in 1923 and 1934. This small but comprehensive book on the art of mating held me enchanted for many a night until I finished it, and the memory of the enchantment lingers on. In the position given, White mates in 7.

In Position No. 20, it appears that White cannot escape the "loss" of the exchange; yet Black resigns after White's fourth move—in fact he could have resigned after White's first move, if he could have seen ahead far enough (White's fourth move).

Please turn to page four for solutions.

### STAHLBERG WINS TEPLICE TOURNEY

Adding greatly to his prestige, Stahlberg won the very strong tournament at Trenchianske Teplice, held in memory of Richard Reti, by a 14-5 score, losing to Kottnauer and drawing with Pachman, Szabo Balbochan, Foltys, Prins, Szily, Golombek and Ujtelky.

Second place was a tie between Pachman and Szabo with 13½-5½ each, while Balbochan and Rossofino tied for fourth with 12-7. Sixth place went to Foltys with 11½-7½, and seventh was another tie between O'Kelly and Prins with 11-8. Ninth was Richter with 10½ and tenth was Kottnauer with 10-9.

### DIETER, SMALE TIE IN SAGINAW

Bruce Dieter of Midland and Steve Smale of Flint tied for first place in the first annual Saginaw Valley (Mich.) Open Chess Tournament sponsored by the Saginaw Valley Chess League at the Saginaw YMCA. Dieter and Smale tied in both game and S-B points to divide 1st and 2nd prizes, while Frank Micklich of Midland placed third.

Dieters and Smale were both undefeated, each drawing with Micklich who was also undefeated in the 4-round Swiss tourney of 14 players. The Saginaw Valley League is comprised of the Midland, Bay City and Flint Chess Clubs, with a new member to be admitted in the recently organized Saginaw Chess Club.

### MAGEE CAPTURES SWENSON TOUR'Y

Lee Magee, youthful Nebraska State Champion of 1948, won the Swenson Memorial Open Tournament at Omaha with a score of 4½-½, drawing against J. Spence and winning from Paynter, Belzer, Ludwig and Ohman. Second place in the 12-man Swiss event was a tie between A. C. Ludwig, Nebraska State Champion, and J. Belzer at 4-1 each. Fourth place went to Jack Spence, editor of the Nebraska Chess Bulletin.

### LOUISVILLE HAS CHESS SCHOOL

Opening on October 17 at the Louisville YMCA is its second annual chess school, sponsored by the Louisville Chess Club. Merrill Dowden, editor of the chess column in the Louisville Courier-Journal, will be the instructor, assisted by Richard W. Shields and Jack Moysie, both former Kentucky State Champions, and other members of the Louisville Chess Club.

### HUGOT BECOMES FRENCH CHAMPION

The young Parisian player, Hugot, became the new Champion of France in a ten-man tournament at Besancon with a 6½-2½ score, defeating Boutteville in the final round. Second place was a tie between Boutteville and Daniel with 6-3 each, and Catozzi placed fourth with 5-4. The victory was a surprise, even in the absence of Rossofino, for Hugot was not rated quite that well.

### VETERANS CHESS AT GREAT LAKES

The September 9 issue of the Great Lakes Bulletin, published at the Naval Training Center, contains a long news story on the work of the "Chess for Veterans" committee at Great Lakes, Ill. In particular it outlines the valuable work of Herbert Holland, USCF director of this program for the middlewest, who began the chess program at the Walter Reed hospital in Washington by training young government employees to play chess with the wounded both at Reed General Hospital and the Bethesda Naval Hospital. As chairman of a War Service committee of an American Legion Post, Mr. Holland was also responsible for the sending of chess sets and materials to war prisoners in Germany.

Transferring to Chicago in 1944 Mr. Holland was primarily responsible for organizing a similar program at Great Lakes and Hines Hospitals. More than 4000 player trips have been made to Hines and Great Lakes since the program was started. Players for the work were trained from 1944-48 in space provided by two Chicago hotels; they are now being trained in schools held in various Chicago Park District buildings and the work will continue as long as the need exists and the patients at these hospitals express a desire to play and learn chess. The Red Cross Motor Service provides the free transportation of these volunteer workers to Hines and Great Lakes.

### SURGIES WINS BALTO PLAYOFF

Armin Surgies won the Baltimore City Championship by a 3-0 score in a four game playoff with Leo Frank. In the regular 6-round Swiss tournament for the title Surgies and Frank tied with 5-1 each.

### Illinois Tops Missouri In Match; Sandrin Bests Ragan On Board One

After a number of years of inactivity, the annual Illinois vs. Missouri team matches were resumed at Decatur (Ill.) in an eleven board match which ended in a 6½-4½ victory for the Illinois. Illinois showed its greatest strength on the top boards, taking four out of five points in the top five boards.

At board one U. S. Open Champion Albert Sandrin defeated Missouri State Champion John Ragan; at board two J. V. Reinhart of Peoria bested R. Pohle; at board four R. Berg downed L. Haller; at board five F. Stoppel topped C. Marvin. It was only at board three that C. P. Adams went down in defeat to C. M. Burton of St. Louis.

On the last six boards, St. Louis rallied to take 3½ points out of the six, but the damage was already done. Missouri played white on the odd numbered boards, and the team captains were: C. M. Burton for Missouri, and Albert Sandrin for Illinois. It is planned to maintain these interstate matches as an annual affair.

### LIBRARY DISPLAY SELLS CHESS

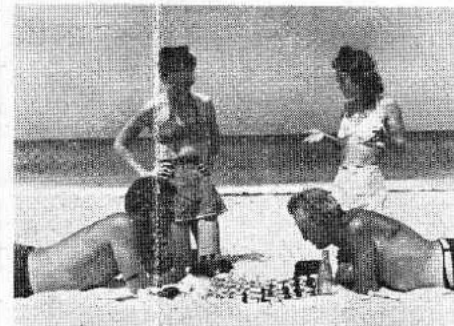
During the New York State Championship Tournament at Rochester, the Rochester Public Library sold chess by an attractive display of chess books and pieces in one of its windows on the street. Among the more fascinating items exhibited (directly under invitation to Chess and the Reshevsky title) were two of the beautifully printed Overbrook Press titles: "To Alain White" and "A Century of Two-Movers". On the chess board, the "Two-Movers" Volume 1, Number 1 of the first American chess magazine and the first printing of Franklin's "Morals of Chess" in the Columbian Magazine of December 1786.

Other attractive items were Liddell's classic "Chessmen", a facsimile of Caxton's illustrated Cessoles' morality on chess of 1483, several Philidor editions, a Morphy portrait, a 15th century Damiano and a 16th century English Greco. The Rochester Public Library reports that the display created considerable interest and resulted in the immediate circulation of a large proportion of the chess books in the regular library shelves. The display by the Rochester Library was made at the suggestion of Dr. A. Buschke who loaned a large number of the rarer items from his own collection.

Boost American Chess!  
JOIN THE USCF

### OTTESON, BARNES TIE IN 10 SECOND

In the annual Minneapolis 10-second Chess tourney held at the Minneapolis Chess & Checker Club, M. Otteson and former State Champion George Barnes tied with the equal scores of 6-1. Otteson lost his game to B. Kronstedt, and Barnes dropped his game to Otteson. Third place went to former State Champion Dr. G. Koelsche with 5-2. 8 contestants played in the round robin event.



BEAT THE HEAT—PLAY CHESS!

Above—Walter Sedivy (left) and Sig Loewe (right), organizers of the potent Cleveland Post Office Athletic Association Chess Club, keep in practice under a benign Florida sun. The names and phone numbers of the two fair observers have not been released for publication.

ROCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY SELLS CHESS  
Right—The attractive display in the street window of the Rochester Public Library during the New York State Championship Tournament, which increased the circulation of chess books according to Florene Kenyon, in charge of the Exhibits for the Library. See story above.



# Chess Life

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Editor and Business Manager  
**MONTGOMERY MAJOR**

Contributing Editors

Dr. A. Buschke Gene Collett Vincent L. Eaton  
Guilherme Groesser Erich W. Marchand Edmund Nash  
Fred Reinfeld William Rojman Dr. Kester Svendsen

Address all communications to the United States Chess Federation  
(except those regarding CHESS LIFE) to USCF Secretary Edward I. Trend, 12869 Strathmoor Avenue, Detroit 27, Michigan.

Vol. IV, Number 4

Thursday, October 20, 1949

### MAURICE S. KUHNS

*He but sleeps*

*The holy sleep; say not the good man dies*  
Callimahous: Epigrammata

WITH PROFOUND sorrow and a sense of personal bereavement (which many chess players will share) we announce the passing of Maurice S. Kuhns, president emeritus of the United States Chess Federation, on Monday, October 10th. For it was but yesterday—April 12th—that the chess world offered Mr. Kuhns its felicitations upon the celebration of his ninetieth birthday.

Outstanding as a business man, Mr. Kuhns was no less outstanding as a man of chess; and the game in these United States owes him a lasting debt of gratitude that in a busy life he yet found time to lend to chess that gift for organization and promotion which had made his own career so successful.

The National Chess Federation (one of the organizations which united with others to form the United States Chess Federation) was one of Mr. Kuhns' contributions to American chess promotion, and under his guidance many of the successful United States Chess teams competed in the international team tournaments for the Hamilton-Russell Cup. His promotional gift was largely responsible for the fine chess exhibition at the Chicago Century of Progress Exhibition at which Alekhine played his astounding blindfold exhibition; Earlier Mr. Kuhns was active in the arranging of the London-Chicago cable match, which remains remembered after some twenty-three years. Always interested in international chess and alive to the necessities of world organizations, Mr. Kuhns participated from the beginning in the organization of F.I.D.E., serving first as vice-president and later as honorary president.

These are but a few brief highlights of a chess career that it would take many pages to detail properly, and serves merely to indicate the lasting debt chess in America owes to his memory.

Words serve but poorly to express our own sense of loss, which is only lessened by the firm conviction that what has been built for chess by Mr. Kuhns was built strong and lasting as an enduring monument to his skill and foresight; and believing this, we offer the sincere sympathy and sorrow of the chess world to his family, trusting that there will be some slight incident of consolation in the knowledge that Maurice S. Kuhns will not be forgotten nor his memory neglected by the many heirs to the heritage of chess that he created.

### REVENONS A NOS MOUTONS

UNHAPPILY, no one has yet invented rubber type which could be compressed to make room for extra items in a busy fortnight. Therefore we have reluctantly in the past two issues discarded several regular features to make space for tournament reports and the supplement upon the Laws of Chess.

For these omissions we apologize to the reader, and hasten in this issue to restore those several popular features, in particular "Chess For the Tired Business Man" by Fred Reinfeld.

Montgomery Major

### THE U. S. CHAMPIONSHIP

By Paul G. Giers

President, United States Chess Federation

CONSIDERABLE progress has been made, since 1945, in broadening and improving the basis of competition for the United States Chess Championship title. While it seems generally agreed that the merits of innovations in the 1946 and 1948 competition have far outweighed the shortcomings, it has become increasingly evident that further modifications of the tournament procedure are in order.

The USCF Board of Directors, therefore, voted at the Omaha Annual Meeting to refer the championship problem to a Special Committee to be appointed by the president. With permission of the Committee so appointed, and knowing the keen interest in this matter on the part of our entire membership, I submit the contents of a letter addressed to each member of the Committee:

Syracuse, N. Y.  
September 19, 1949

Messrs. Herman Helms  
I. A. Horowitz  
Hans Kmoch  
George E. Roosevelt  
Maury Wertheim

Gentlemen:

The Board of Directors of the United States Chess Federation at its Annual Meeting held at Omaha, Nebraska, on July 15, 1949 adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED—That a committee be appointed by the president to consider the method of conducting the 1950 and perhaps future U. S. Championship Tournaments; that the committee render a report of its findings to the president by October 1st, such report to be submitted by the president to the Directors for their approval.

That the next championship, and perhaps a subsequent one be conducted along the lines so determined.

You gentlemen individually have expressed to me your willingness to serve on the committee so authorized and I greatly appreciate your offer to assist our Federation in arriving at a proper solution to our national championship problem.

In urging our Directors to adopt the above resolution, we were motivated by the conclusion that it would not be advisable nor practical to conduct the 1950 Championship Tournament along the lines originally planned. To cite just two defects in our original plan, it met with considerable opposition from some of the masters and the method of selecting regional representatives for the Championship finals, as used in 1948, proved not wholly satisfactory.

Before your Committee sets to work, I wish to submit the following for your guidance and consideration:

- 1) Our Federation has already qualified for play in the 1950 Championship Tournament finals the following three players:  
The present holder of the U. S. Title—Herman Steiner  
The winner of the 1948 U. S. Open Championship—Weaver Adams  
The winner of the 1949 U. S. Open Championship—Albert Sandrin
- 2) Aside from the foregoing commitment which is binding on us, your Committee will be entirely free to act and arrive at an independent conclusion. You are not bound by any restrictions and will be at liberty to disregard all precedent—number of participants, type of preliminaries, if any, tournament place, etc.
- 3) At the Omaha Directors' meeting, several suggestions were made which I agreed to submit to your Committee in the form of recommendations for your serious consideration:  
That your Committee consider the method of conducting not only the 1950, but also the 1952 and perhaps subsequent championship tournaments with a possible conclusion as follows:

That, due to the lack of time for holding sectional preliminaries, the participants in the 1950 Championship be selected from an official rating list, if such a list exists by that time, or else chosen on a straight individual basis, the choice of players to be made by a sub-committee or perhaps your Committee as augmented by additional appointments. That places in the 1952 Championship Tournament be reserved for those players who make a plus score in the 1950 tournament, the balance of participants in 1952 to be chosen on the basis of nation-wide preliminary competition along these lines:

Sectional Tournaments by region or by state in 1950; a Candidates' Tournament in 1951 for the winners of the 1950 Sectional Competition.

It was also suggested that you consider including the winner of the 1949 U. S. Junior Championship among the 1950 participants.

I think you will agree that it should be our aim to provide for a United States Championship Tournament of the highest quality, while at the same time attempting to satisfy the masters and to provide a proper opportunity for the rising younger players.

It is my hope and that of our Board of Directors that you will evolve a plan which is consistent with this objective and which will, on a long-range basis, provide for nationwide competition and stimulate the greater development of chess in the United States.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL G. GIERS,  
President

THE Committee held its first session in New York City on September 21, 1949. Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Wertheim agreed to act as Co-chairmen and Mr. Kmoch, USCF Vice-president in charge of tournaments, was appointed secretary of the Committee. A great deal of interesting and constructive thought was developed at the first meeting and the Committee will continue to meet for further consideration of its task.

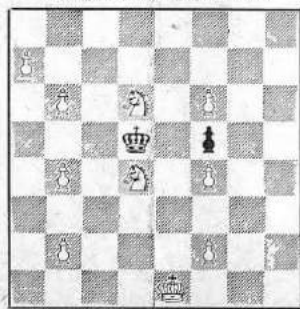
As soon as the Committee has rendered its report, the plan so evolved will be submitted to the USCF Board of Directors. And so we hope to move ever closer toward the best possible solution of that complex problem—the method of competition for the U. S. Championship crown.

### Problem Composers Find Ambiguities In Present "Laws of Chess"

By William Rojman

The ingenuity of Jose Benardete and Edgar Holladay combined to discover and present in problem-form a hitherto unnoticed flaw in the wording of the present "Laws of Chess." The resulting problem composed "The Law's Flaw"

By Jose Benardete and Edgar Holladay  
Charlottesville, Va.  
Composed for Chess Life



White mates in two moves

position is not a "gremlin" problem, for it does not ask the solver to assume an conditions attached to the position beyond those normally accepted in the solving of any normal problem.

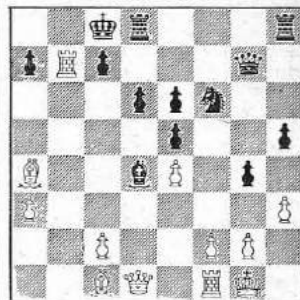
There is no dirty chess trick attached to this position, requiring the solver to reverse the board or take a pawn en passant or make any retrogressive analysis of the position. And the solution CONFORMS to the Laws of Chess. Granting all this, we challenge the reader to solve this problem without referring to the composer's solution published on page 4.

S. P7, 1P5H2, 3K1p2, 1P5H2, 8, 1P5P2, 4K3  
White mates in two moves

White mates in two moves  
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What's The Best Move?  
By Guilherme Groesser

Position No. 33



SrkR, p1Rq1, 8p2, 4p2, B2hP1,  
Pp, 2P2P1, 2BQ1K1  
White to play

Send solutions to Position No. 33 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, by November 5, 1949.

Solution to Position No. 31

This pretty ending to a K-side attack was devised by Rosolino in his game with Luthar Schmid in the International Tournament at Heidelberg in 1909. Black plays 1... Rxf6; 2. KxR, Rxf6; 3. BxR, P-K6; 4. R-Q5; and White resigns, for 4... R-Q5 is answered by QxRch with mate to follow. A slashing finish in Rosolino's best attacking style.

Correct solutions are acknowledged received from: Josiah A. Baker (Mankato), A. L. Bolden (Philadelphia), J. E. Comstock (Duluth), John W. Emery (Elyria), Dr. Joseph M. Erman (Detroit), Dr. H. E. Gaba (Detroit), Eddie Gault (New Brighton), Joseph Huss (Lancaster), Edw. J. Korpanty (Woodside), Wm. B. Wilson (Amherstburg), Russell Chayvenet (W. Hyattsville), R. Kugman (Broux), E. Nash (Washington), Sven Brask (Attleboro), Joe Faucher (New Haven).

### For The Tournament-Minded

November 11-13  
Utah State Championship  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Will be held at Salt Lake City Chess Club; details to be announced; for details see Palmer Chase, tournament director of SLC Chess Club.

### SWENSON MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

Omaha, 1949

L. Muege .....4-3 H. F. Underwood 3-3  
A. C. Ludwig .....4-1 H. E. Ohman .....3-3  
T. Belzer .....4-1 O. C. Peterson .....3-3  
I. Spence .....3-1 J. Isaacson .....2-3

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1903, AND JULY 2, 1946, OF CHESS LIFE, published semi-monthly at Dubuque, Iowa, for October 1, 1949.

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss:

Before me, a notary public in and for the state and county aforesaid, personally appeared Montgomery Major, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor and publisher of the Chess Life, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc. of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the acts of March 3, 1903, and July 2, 1946 (section 1103, Post Office Laws and Regulations), printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Publisher, Montgomery Major, 123 No. Humphrey, Oak Park, Illinois; editor, Montgomery Major, 123 No. Humphrey Oak Park, Illinois; managing editor, Montgomery Major, 123 No. Humphrey, Oak Park, Illinois; business manager, Montgomery Major, 123 No. Humphrey, Oak Park, Illinois.
2. That the owner is: The United States Chess Federation, Inc., a corporation not for profit, incorporated under the laws of the state of Illinois, having no stockholders.
3. That there are no mortgage, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.
4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

MONTGOMERY MAJOR,

(Editor and Publisher),

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of October, 1949. My commission expires April 15, 1953.

AVIS L. RESEK



