



# Chess Life



Vol. IV  
Number 6

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Sunday,  
November 20, 1949

## BYLAND TAKES TRI-STATE

### Pennsylvania Repeats 1948 Victory In Annual Tri-State Championship

Repeating the 1948 triumph of Herman Hesse, the 1949 Pennsylvania State Champion William M. Byland captured the 1949 Tri-State title with an impressive score of  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ , conceding his only draw to B. Kaplan, runner-up in the Ohio State Championship. Byland, who is USCF Vice-President in charge of ranking and rating, recently captured the Pennsylvania title in a stiff battle in which defending champion Paul L. Dietz placed second.

Second in the Tri-State Tourney was Walter Mann, champion of Ohio, with a 3-1 score. Third place went to Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, co-champion of West Virginia, with 2-2. Paul L. Dietz, runner-up in Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Junior Champion, finished fourth with 1-3, and B. Kaplan, 2nd in the Ohio Championship, rounded out the match with  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$ .

The Tri-State Junior Championship went to S. Amarnick, who finished fourth in the Pennsylvania championship, with  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ , drawing with C. C. French. French, who placed 3rd in Pennsylvania, was second in the Tri-State Junior with 3-1, drawing with Amarnick and Harkins. Harkins, who tied for 3rd in Ohio, placed third in the Tri-State Junior ahead of M. Frederic of Ohio who holds the Ohio Junior title. Rounding out the list of players was West Virginia Junior Champion C. Morgan.

In the team match, held in connection with the tourney, the Pennsylvania sextet outpointed the Ohio team by an 8-4 score in a double round event, with Glenn E. Hartlieb of Erie as high scorer with two wins.

The fourth Tri-State Tourney was held at the Pittsburgh Downtown Y Chess Club, with E. A. Coons acting as tournament director.

### BALTO ROOKIE WINS CLUB TITLE

The Baltimore Evening Sun proclaims Richard McComas the "chess rookie of the year" in reporting his victory in the Maryland Chess Club Championship in which the 15-year old Polytechnic Institute student captured the title in his first competition in "big league" chess, with a  $6\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  score in a 7-round Swiss.

McComas defeated the 1948 Club Champion Joseph Glatt in an early round, and conceded his only draw to Leo Frank, who recently tied for the Baltimore City Championship with Armin Surgies. Second place in the Maryland Chess Club tournament went to Joseph Glatt with  $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ , and third place to Charles Barasch, a former club champion, with 5-2.

### IT'S YOUTH DAY IN LONDON MEET

Not to be outdone by the accomplishments of American lads, a London youth of 15 rose to the occasion by taking the London Championship with  $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$  in the same year that he won the Junior Championship. The new champion Jonathan Penrose drew with Berger, Wheatcroft and Hammond, while disposing of all other rivals. Berger was second with 5-2 in a tie with Wheatcroft, and B. Reilly, editor of the BCM, finished fourth with 4-3.

### ANNOUNCE LIST FOR HASTINGS

Marshall Chess Club Champion Larry Evans has been invited to represent the U.S. in the annual Hastings Christmas Congress in England. Other participants in the premier tournament will be Dr. Max Eawe (Holland), L. Szabo (Hungary), N. Rossolimo (France), O. Barga (Norway) and the English quintet of J. A. Fuller, D. M. Horne, I. Kavale, W. A. Winsor and R. H. Wood.

### MUELLER WINS PENINSULA OPEN

Victory in the 6-round Swiss championship tourney of the newly organized Peninsula Chess League, held at San Jose (Calif.) went to E. H. Mueller of Campbell with 6-0. Second place went to J. B. Slavich of San Jose with 5-1, and third to W. T. Adams of San Jose with  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ , while E. T. Dana of Palo Alto finished fourth with  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Thirty-six players from 13 towns in the area south of San Francisco participated in the tourney which was directed by George Koltanowski.

### FIDE SETS DATE FOR WOMAN'S TOURNAMENT

The date for the World Championship Women's Tournament, to crown a successor to the late Vera Menchik Stevenson, has been set for December 15, 1949 at Moscow. The list of eligible players consist of three from the United States, four from the USSR, and one each from eleven other nations. The American group consist of U. S. Co-Champions, Miss N. May Karff and Mrs. Gisela K. Gresser, nominated by the USCF, and Mrs. Sonja Stevenson-Graf, nominated by FIDE.

The other eligible players are: Jozsa Langos (Hungary), Ingrid Larson (Denmark), Edith Keller (Germany), Chaudé de Silans (France), Maria Teresa Mora (Cuba), Ingeborg Helmerz-Andersson (Sweden), Slavica Cvenkel (Jugoslavia), Hurskova Belska (Czechoslovakia), F. Heemskork (Holland), Regina Gorlecka (Poland), and Eileen Tranmer (Britain). The four representatives of the USSR will be named later.

Position No. 21  
Smyslov vs. Mikenas  
Moscow, 1949



White to play and draw

Position No. 22  
Keres vs. Levenfish  
Moscow, 1949



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.

THE two positions above are taken from the current—mid-October to mid-November—17th chess championship tournament of the Soviet Union. Of the 20 competitors, eight grandmasters were seeded and 12 players qualified from four regional semi-final tournaments.

In Position No. 21, Smyslov forces a draw by a brilliant problem-like move. A highly desirable consummation, since he was a piece down.

After 10 rounds of play, with some games still unfinished (as of November 2), the following were the leading scores (the number in parentheses indicates the number of games played): Keres  $6\frac{1}{2}$  (9), Kotov  $6\frac{1}{2}$  (10), Syslov, Talmanov and Heller  $5\frac{1}{2}$  (9), Bronstein and Holmov  $5\frac{1}{2}$  (10), Boleslavsky 5 (7), and Flohr 5 (8).

Please turn to page four for solutions.

### Set Stage For Intercollegiate Event, Plans Announced For College Tourney

The annual U. S. Intercollegiate Tournament, conducted by the Intercollegiate Chess League and sponsored by the United States Chess Federation, will be held on the traditional dates of December 26-30, 1949; but as an innovation the site of the tournament, will be Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J.

Since last year's event was a team championship, this year the tournament will determine the Individual Intercollegiate Championship of the United States, and the victor will win for his college the two-year custody of the H. Arthur Nabel Trophy, now held by Robert Byrne of Yale University.

Any chess player from any recognized North American university or college may enter the tournament (except that no more than eight entries will be accepted from any one school) upon payment of the \$5.00 entry fee, provided that the entrant is a member of the United States Chess Federation. Non-members may qualify by adding \$3.00 to their entry fee for membership dues (except in Michigan where the membership fee is \$5.00 and Pennsylvania where it is \$4.00—in both instances covering State Association membership as well). Dues and entry fees may be mailed to Tournament Director Joshua Gross, 104 Bentley Avenue, Jersey City 4, N. J., in advance or paid at the first meeting of the entrants on December 26th; but entry application must be received by Mr. Gross not later than December 23rd. Players from colleges or universities with organized chess clubs should bring credentials from their chess club.

Accommodations at Rutgers University at the approximate cost of \$1.50 per night may be arranged for any player desiring it, but requests for such accommodations must be received by Mr. Gross on or before December 1st.

The tournament will be conducted as a 7-round Swiss system event with Joshua Gross acting as tournament director. In addition to custody of the H. Arthur Nabel Trophy individual prizes will be awarded, and a rapid transit chess tournament for the Intercollegiate Speed Championship will be held during the course of the tourney. The preliminary meeting of the players and officials will be held in the Rutgers University Library Annex at 9:30 a.m. on December 26th.

### JERSEY Y PLANS HUDSON LEAGUE

Once again the Jersey City Y Chess Club is sponsoring the Hudson County Interscholastic Chess League competition for the Paul Helbig Trophy. Play begins at the Jersey City Y Chess Club on November 14 with Sweeney High School, Demarest High School and Memorial High School entering teams. A rapid transit match between Memorial and Sweeney will be an added feature of this year's play.

### PEORIA EXHIBITS AT HOBBY SHOW

The Peoria Chess League is staging a chess exhibit at the Peoria Hobby Show, consisting of a simultaneous exhibition, a booth of chess literature and equipment, and a problem solving contest. At the literature booth interested visitors are requested to register, if interested in learning chess, and directed to the most convenient chess club in the league.

Opening rounds of the league play see the Hiram Walker team leading with two victories and a game score of  $7\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Second is Northern Regional Light with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  matches and  $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$  game score, and third Caterpillar with 1 match and  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$  game score. Much hinges on the meeting between Hiram Walker and Caterpillar in which Fritz Miller will face ex-city champ Clarence Darnell, while ex-city champ Art Hartwig will battle Peoria Open Champ J. V. Reinhardt, while Bill McCraw faces City Champion L. O'Russa.

### SULLIVAN TAKES GEORGIA OPEN

The Georgia Open Championship, held at Athens, went to Jerry Sullivan of Knoxville, Tenn., a student at the University of Tennessee, with a 5-1 score. Two other Tennessee players finished second and third: 16-year old Phillip Robbison with  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ , and USCF Vice-President Martin Southern with  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ . The Georgia State title went to G. N. Coker, Jr. who finished fourth in the event with a 4-2 score.

At Atlanta, the Atlanta Open Championship was won once again by A. C. Davis, with Raymond Wallace as runner-up. 17 players participated in the preliminary event.

### APPOINT SNYDER TO FINANCE POST

Harry D. Snyder of Syracuse, N. Y., has been appointed by USCF President Paul G. Giers, as vice-chairman of the Federation's Finance Committee to assist George E. Roosevelt, USCF Vice-President in charge of Finances.

Mr. Snyder is vice-president of the American Register Company of Boston, vice-president of his chapter of the National Association of Cost Accountants and a director of the National Association of Credit Men.

Mr. Snyder will also act as chairman of the newly established Ways and Means Committee, a finance sub-committee of the United States Chess Federation. In this capacity, he will take charge of the special USCF fund-raising campaign which will soon be announced.



Harry D. Snyder



# Chess Life

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Sunday, November 20, 1949

### CHESS POLITY AND CHESS POLITICS

BY THE VERY dissimilarity of their organism and purpose, chess and politics should be things apart; yet such is the perversity of human nature that sometimes the aggression of the latter absorbs the former, and chess becomes merely the tool of politics. We refer explicitly to the development of chess in the USSR, about which the uninformed may cherish various rosy-hued illusions subtly fostered by ingenious propoganda.

When the government of the Union of Soviet Republics determined that chess was a cultural art to be protected and encouraged, it was very careful to conceal its ulterior motives beneath soft phrases as it proceeded firmly to take the playing of chess under its political wing; and while it dominated the development of chess in the lands of the Soviet Republics, it was careful always to stress this domination as a purely cultural one for the benefit of the Russian people.

But we know—at least, those of us who study the trends of Marxian ideology—that in the USSR music, art and literature flourish under the explicit dogma that art does not exist for art's sake alone, but to express the cause of the proletariat and to proclaim the necessity of the class struggle and the ultimate victory of communism throughout the world. Readers, who are familiar with the trends of literary and art criticism in the USSR, are well aware of the fact that even noted Soviet authors and composers are frequently belabored in the critical (government-controlled) press, not for producing bad art, but for producing bourgeois art or works lacking a true appreciation of the Soviet concept of life—echoes of these criticisms have even found space in our own newspapers. The informed, therefore, are under no illusion as to the place of the creative arts in the Soviet structure, and students of Marx (as interpreted by Lenin and Stalin) who have delved into the basic philosophy of dialectic materialism can understand and evaluate the ulterior motives behind this measured emphasis in the USSR for a proletarian art as distinct from a bourgeois art.

That chess in the USSR rests under the same iron discipline which rules literature and art is a matter of logic, did we need logic to convince us of the truth that is already self-evident. However, there is even a plainer record for those who give little heed to logic and who have been mesmerized by the mass production of chess players in Russia; it is available in a letter published in the July issue of the British magazine "CHESS"—a letter signed by a former Russian Co-Champion, Dr. Feodor Bohatyrychuk, who holds the enviable distinction of three wins and one draw (no losses!) against World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik in their four encounters in major chess tournaments. Dr. Bohatyrychuk, at present residing in Ottawa, Canada, can now safely express the views that it would have been extremely perilous for him to publish while residing in the Soviet Union, where he would undoubtedly have been immediately accused of being a trotskyite, a menshevik and a tool of the capitalistic press—those familiar epithets for any reasoning man who dares to disagree with the stated dogmas of the ruling caste in the USSR.

We quote, because our space is limited, the first three and final two paragraphs of Dr. Bohatyrychuk's letter; and we suggest earnestly that our readers supplement these excerpts by reading in its entirety the text of the letter as it appears in the July issue of "CHESS."

The Soviet chess masters' extraordinary successes in recent tournaments, and especially Michael Botvinnik's brilliant achievements, have attracted the attention of the whole world. Red propoganda attributes all these performances to the enormous development of cultural life in Russia which has been possible only within the Soviet structure of a proletarian State. Red propoganda claims that the U.S.S.R. has no professional chess players, any more than professional footballers, athletes, etc. On paper, most Soviet chess players are engineers, teachers, clerks, etc., etc., for whom chess appears to be only a hobby. For example, Botvinnik is described as an engineering scientist who has done valuable work and even holds a degree "candidate of engineering." If true, this is an exceptional case. I admit that Botvinnik is a man whose ability amounts to genius but he has had opportunities quite denied to the ordinary master.

When the Soviet government in the late twenties began to recognize that chess could be a powerful weapon of propoganda it looked around for a young chess master that it could gamble on. Such a man was soon found in the person of M. Botvinnik. He was given a special trainer who accompanied him in stays at first-class health resorts before each serious tournament. Money matters he could simply forget.

One must admit they chose well. Botvinnik was an ambitious young man and worked hard, soon becoming the leading Soviet master. But he was and of course is a chess professional; all other occupations are only hobbies. Chess has brought him two high Soviet honours, an automobile, and luxury

in accommodation and earnings quite incompatible with those of an engineer of his qualification. His trainer (now perhaps a whole retinue of trainers) works out theoretical novelties for him and tests them in play with other masters; publication of these trial games is forbidden until Botvinnik uses that particular variation. . . .

The declaration of red propagandists about the contribution of chess to the cultural development of the younger generation are only a camouflage, under cover of which, red propoganda pursues other aims. Soviet leaders are guided by a wise thought of a most reactionary Tsarist minister, Kasso. This minister was the first who permitted students to play chess because he said "Chess will divert them from politics." Since these words were spoken, much water has flowed under the bridges—but the government, as before, is interested in controlling the thoughts of the younger generation. All means are justified by the great aim—complete subjugation of young brains to communistic ideas. Chess is used as an occupation which leaves little free time for unwanted thoughts.

Abroad, chess is used as a method of impressing intellectuals. The enormous diffusion of chess in the U.S.S.R. is pictured as one indication of the high intellectual level of the masses which is, of course, "only possible in the Soviet state." Nobody knows what immense sum of money is spent in backing up this dissemination of chess, what an army of chess professionals, organizers, secretaries, journalists, chess players, clerks, etc., is paid and fed to promote chess. Chess in the Soviet Union has ceased to be a game but is planned, directed, ordered by Communist superbrains. Many, no doubt, will appreciate this state support for their favorite game, but I, as a lover of chess, prefer to play when I want to, not when I am ordered by officials. To me, chess is only a beloved hobby and I am not happy to see it become a matter of high policy.

While, therefore, we must applaud the brilliant individual achievements in chess of various Russian masters whose games have done much to enrich the permanent literature of chess, just as we must acknowledge the power and weird beauty of some of the compositions of Shastakovich and Prokofieff, we must never forget in our admiration of the individual and his work that he is, consciously or unconsciously, the blind instrument of a political philosophy alien to our culture and the inevitable protagonist of a political structure inimical to our own.

Chess has no place in politics; and when polity absorbs the game of chess, we must temper our admiration of individual achievements with a thoughtful and sober resolution not to permit this admiration to blind us to the political implications involved. It is for us to respect the individual Russian master for his personal triumphs while implacably resisting the infiltration of the political ideology which uses his triumphs as one more tool for political conquest.

*Montgomery Major*

### THE FINANCIAL SIDE

By Paul G. Giers

President, United States Chess Federation

THE CONTINUED success of an organization, any organization, depends in a large measure upon the soundness of its financial structure. The United States Chess Federation is no exception to that rule. While it is a "not-for-profit" organization, our Federation must of necessity enjoy an income adequate to cover its disbursements and commitments.

In line with its function as the principal chess organization of the United States, our Federation has greatly expanded its activities. It conducts tournaments for the U. S. championship and other national titles, it sponsors a national Chess Youth program, it brings the enjoyment of chess to hospitalized veterans, it assists in the formation and development of chess clubs and state associations, and it provides the basis of cooperation and close relationship among the chess players and chess leaders of the nation. Added impetus was given our program by the establishment of CHESS LIFE, which is now in its fourth year of successful publication.

These activities have made an increasing demand on the USCF finances. Notwithstanding a policy of rigid economy in all departments, the development of our program has been hampered by lack of funds. At their annual meeting in Omaha this Summer, the Board of Directors fully discussed various means of strengthening our Federation's financial position. It was agreed that the need for additional funds should be made known to our membership and that a campaign for the needed funds should be made without delay in order to balance our budget. Also, it was unanimously decided to couple the fund-raising campaign with a determined drive for increased Federation membership.

Our members have always shown a spirit of cooperation and a sincere interest in the welfare of our Federation. I am, therefore, confident that they will give their full support to Mr. George E. Roosevelt, USCF Vice-President in charge of Finances. Along with other chess patrons, Mr. Roosevelt has always generously contributed to the cause of chess. It will now be everyone's turn to prove that ours is a national organization which deserves the financial support, not from a selected few, but from every one of its members.

To assist Mr. Roosevelt, I have appointed Mr. Harry D. Snyder as vice-chairman of the Finance Committee. Part of the Committee's work has been delegated to a new sub-committee, the Ways and Means Committee. Mr. Snyder will act as Chairman of this new Committee for which there has long been a crying need. He will take charge of the drive for additional funds to be made soon and, together with his Committee, will undertake to place our Federation on a sound budgetary basis.

An enthusiastic chess player, Mr. Snyder has been principally interested in our Federation's Youth Program and Chess for Veterans (Please turn to page 3, column 3)



Paul G. Giers

## Chess Life Abroad

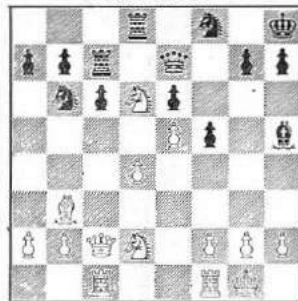
By A. Buschke

### BOTVINNIK'S ONLY DRAW AGAINST BOGATYRCHUK

(Continued from Issue of November 5)

After 20. . . ., B-R4

BOGATYRCHUK



BOTVINNIK

21. KR-K1 K1-K3  
VII: Threatening to transfer the Kt. B5. to Q4. (SG: With the intention to . . .)

22. P-K3  
The breakthrough 22. P-Q5 gives Black the advantage. Not feasible, either, was 22. KtxP, PxKt; 23. QxP, RxQP (23. . . ., Q-R5; 24. R-K4); 24. Kt-K4, Q-R5! (24. . . ., QxP; 25. Kt-B6!), and Black remains with an extra piece.

22. . . . Kt-KB1  
The Kt has no further business on Kt3.

23. Q-B3  
From here the Q can be thrown around both to R5 and K3.

23. . . . QR-Q2

A harmless demonstration, because Black cannot sacrifice the exchange, after all. The best plan for White consisted now in play on the K-side, (SG: Therefore,) He ought to continue Q-K3, P-B4 and after due preparation P-K4. If White realized this plan, then the strong position of the Kt on Q6 would not fail to make itself felt soon. Black could occasionally sacrifice the exchange, but, if White plays accurately (VII: also) such an attempt should be painlessly liquidated. Obviously, at the given point White cannot find the right way and therefore is marking time. (SG: . . . such an attempt is doomed to failure. Woe! White does not find the right way and marks time.)

24. Kt(Q2)-B4 K1-Q4  
25. Q-Q2 P-KR3!

A subtle move. Black has in mind to take advantage of the weaknesses (SG: weakness) of the squares KB6 and KR6, by the maneuver Kt-R2-Kt5. It will be favorable to threaten the exchange of the Kt by Kt-B2.

26. Kt-K3 Kt-QK3  
27. Q-R5 Kt(QK3)-B1?

Surprising! Black politely offers the opponent a P, which he, however, refuses. Incidentally, the continuation 28. KtxKt RxKt; 29. QxR, P(R)-Q; 30. Q-B5!, Q-B2; 31. Kt-B4, R-Q4; 32. Q-R7 and Kt-Q6 gave White clear superiority. The correct move for Black was 27. . . . R-R1.

28. . . . KtxKt  
29. KtxK1 R-R1  
30. Q-B5?

Only with this move, White lets slip his advantage. (Botvinnik added in SG: which now passes over to Black.) The White Q is cut off from the K-side after which Black follows through with the Kt's maneuver to KB (Botvinnik in SG: and this permits Black to follow through with the Kt's maneuver to KB), which he had prepared.—The subtleness of the position consists in the fact that in reply to Kt-R2 White has necessarily (VII: SG: "It is very important") to play P-B4 which prevents Kt-K4. If the Q stands on K3, White can boldly play P-B4 without being afraid of the attack on P-K4. With the Q on B5, however, (VII) Black's attack with P-K4 (in reply to P-B4) looks very dangerous (SG: this attack hitting White's B4 square (Please turn to page 4, col. 5)



By Fred Reinfeld

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Mother Goose On Tactics

MUCH HAS BEEN written about the importance of Black's strategic aims in the Sicilian Defense. What is some times forgotten, however, is that this is an opening in which Black must guard with the greatest care against tactical surprises.

Wise Men of Gotham, who "Went to sea in a bowl; If the bowl had been stronger My song had been longer."

SICILIAN DEFENSE Amsterdam, 1929

White H. WEENINK 1. P-K4 2. Kt-KB3 3. P-Q4 4. KtP 5. Kt-QB3

An aggressive move, but also a dangerous one, as it leaves the King-side open to attack.

6. B-Q3 Playable, although the safest course is 6. P-K4 followed by 7. P-Q4.

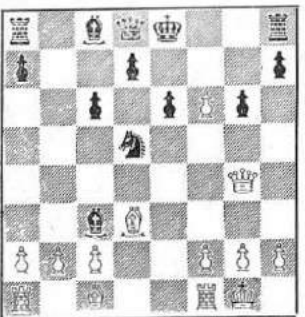
A game Treybal-Reffir, Prague, 1933 continued 6. P-Q4; 7. P-K5; 8. Kt-K4, B-B1; 9. Kt-KP1, Q-R4; 10. KtXP ch, K-Q1; 11. B-Kt5 ch, resigns!

7. Kt-Kt Much better is 7. P-K5, Kt-Q2; 9. Q-Kt4, Q-R4!

8. P-K5 9. Q-Kt4 The pin is worthless to Black, as 9. Kt-Kt? would be very poor play.

10. O-O Black has a difficult choice before him: White threatens to win a piece with 11. Kt-Kt. Neither 10. Kt-Kt (11. QxB!) nor 10. B-Kt (11. PxB followed by B-R3) is satisfactory for Black.

11. PXP e.p. Or 11. QXP; 12. Kt-Kt winning a piece. But the trouble with the text is that White need not play the expected 12. PxB.



12. BXP ch! If 12. PxB; 13. QxKtP ch, K-B1; 14. Q-Kt7 ch, K-K1; 15. P-B7 ch, K-K2; 16. P-B8(Q) mate!

13. B-R6 ch 14. P-B7 mate (One of many brilliant games included in RELAX WITH CHESS by Fred Reinfeld, published by the Pitman Publishing Corporation.)

PENSINULA CHESS TOURNEY

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Leading Scorers include E. H. Mueller (Campbell) 5-0, J. B. Slavich (San Jose) 4-1, W. T. Adams (San Jose) 4-1, E. T. Dana (Palo Alto) 4-1, R. E. Skinner (Hollister) 4-2, Dr. Maling (San Jose) 4-2, Prof. Daugherty (San Jose) 4-2, George Oakes (Salinas) 4-2, Stanley MacCarty (San Jose) 4-2, Andrew Buchheit (San Jose) 4-2, B. Lee (San Mateo) 3-2, F. Dong (San Mateo) 3-2, Mark Gayze (Los Gatos) 3-2, V. W. Pope (Salinas) 3-2.

CROY CAPTURES CALIFORNIA TITLE

George Croy of Los Angeles won the California State Championship by a 5 1/2-1/2 score in the final round robin event of survivors of preliminary groups in North and South California. Second place went to the transplanted New Yorker, Irving Rivise, with 4-2, while Leslie Boyette, Jim Cross and Earl Pruner tied for third at 3-3 each.

Mate The Subtle Way!

by Vincent L. Eaton

Address all communications to this column to Vincent L. Eaton, 3901 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C.

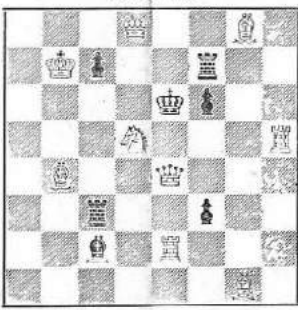
TWO OF America's best-known composers furnish the original offerings diagrammed below. They are an exceptionally good pair of problems and I think you will enjoy solving them.

Born in 1886, Burney M. Marshall has been composing problems for more than fifty years and now has over seven hundred to his credit. He specializes in two-movers, building around a single central theme but usually embellishing them with interesting extra variations. No. 123 well illustrates his practiced style.

Richard Cheney began composing in the early 1930's and quickly established himself as the foremost American specialist in "miniatures" (problems having seven or less pieces), with the possible exception of Otto Wurzburg. He has not been very active in chess, however, since before the War, and so it is a rare treat to print the graceful lightweight, No. 124, his first composition in years—an "exclusive" for CHESS LIFE!

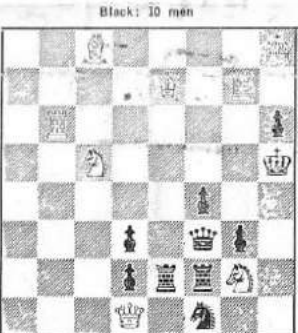
Solutions to previously published problems on page four.

Problem No. 123 By Burney M. Marshall Shreveport, La. Composed for Chess Life Black: 9 men



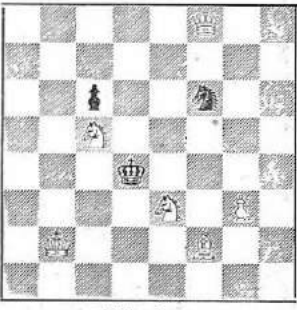
White: 7 men 3Q2B1, 1Kp2r2, 4kp2, 2S3R, 1h2p, 2r2p2, 2b1R3, 6H1 White mates in two moves

Problem No. 125 By M. M. Barulin and others 1932 Black: 10 men



White: 8 men 2B4K, 4B1R1, 1R5p, 2B4c, 5p2, 3p1p1, 3r1S1, 3Q1e2 White mates in two moves

Problem No. 124 By R. Cheney Suitland, Md. Composed for Chess Life Black: 3 men



White: 5 men 5Q2, 8, 2p2e2, 2S5, 3k4, 4S1P1, 1K3E2, 8 White mates in three moves

Problem No. 126 By Dr. M. Niemeijer 1937 Black: 7 men



White: 9 men 5K2, 3p4, 1R2ppp, P1k4R, P7, 3P4, 1B1P2B6, 8 White mates in three moves

PLAY FOR TITLE AT MARSHALL

Competition for the Marshall Chess Club Championship begins with Club Champion Larry Evans facing a strong field of contenders consisting of A. E. Santasiere, Dr. Ariel Mengarini, Elliot Hearst, Nat. Halper, Carl Pimnick, Milton Hanauer, Jack Collins and Kiven Plesset as seeded contestants and the following survivors of a stiff preliminary event: T. Dunst, John T. Westbrook, N. Bakos, Charles Rehberg, Joseph Richman, Richard Vogel, Franklin S. Howard, M. Turiansky, Jerry Donovan and Edgar McCormick.

NEWELL BANKS PLANS NEW TOUR

Newell W. Banks, the noted chess and checker expert, plans an extended tour of simultaneous exhibitions through Oklahoma and Texas during December and January. Clubs interested in an exhibition may write Mr. Banks at his permanent address: 1228 Newport Avenue, Detroit 15, Mich.

SZABO TRIUMPHS AT VENICE MEET

Adding to his laurels, L. Szabo of Hungary won the increasingly strong Venice International Tournament by a full point with a 11 1/2-3 1/2 score, losing a game to Paoli and drawing with Rossolimo, Prins, Barcza, Foltys and Zimmerman. Second place went to Rossolimo of France with 10 1/2-4 1/2 and third to Prins of Holland with 10-5. Fourth place was a fourway tie at 9 1/2-5 1/2 between Barcza (Hungary), Foltys (Czechoslovakia), Gligoric (Yugoslavia) and Golombek (Great Britain).

The Reader's Road To Chess By Kester Svendsen

THE CHESS READER, compiled by Jerome Salzmann; New York: Greenburg (\$5.00).

IN this generous volume Mr Salzmann has collected evidences of the I royal game in world literature. From the "Analects" of Confucius (about 200 B.C.) to the "Cybernetics" of Norbert Wiener (1948), men have found chess interesting to attack and defend, to describe and extol, to puzzle over, and to prefer above all else. From Greece and Persia, from Hebrew literature and from Russian and French, from Chaucer to Shakespeare to T. S. Eliot, the allusions to chess and the uses of it in plays, poems, and stories all testify to its share in the conditions of life in every age and clime.

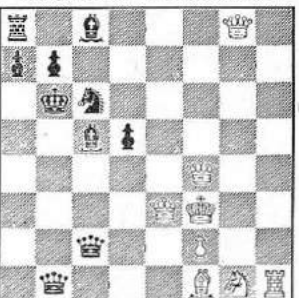
The entries are arranged chronologically and include such diverse authors as Montaigne and Maxim Gorki, H. G. Wells and Poincare. Caxton is here, together with Omar Khayyam, Edgar Allan Poe, and C. E. M. Joad. It is something of a pity that most of the snippets contain nothing of importance or interest except to an antiquary. There are longer pieces of rarity and significance, but much space has been given over to the compilation of a book of chess quotations, regardless of merit, the usefulness of which is further impaired by the lack of an index. The half-sentence of chess relevance at the end of the William Pitt's paragraph, like the definition from Samuel Johnson's dictionary, is scarcely a curiosity; and there are too many of these. More stories or sketches from the hundreds available would have been preferable, even more chess illustrations than the dozen-odd here, though most chess pictures, like most chess poems, are pretty silly.

On the positive side, it must be observed that Mr. Salzmann has reprinted such excellent stories as Ambrose Bierce's terrifying "Moxon's Master," Lord Dunsany's irresistible "Three Sailors' Gambit," and Stefan Zweig's brilliant "The Royal Game." Among the essays and articles are such out-of-print pieces as Ernest Jones' psychoanalysis of Morphy and Capablanca's "How I Learned to Play Chess." Between these and the trivial scraps stand such worthy contributions as Stephen Leacock's "Pawn to King Four" and Robert Benchley's "How to Watch a Chess Match." The compiler has tried to steer a middle course between a chess allusion book and a true chess reader;

Sunday, November 20, 1949

What's The Best Move? By Guilherme Grosser

Position No. 35 "Polygame On The Chessboard"



r1h5Q1, p1p6, 1k4s, 2hpd, 5Q2, 4QK3, 2p2P2, 1q3B5R White to move

Send solutions to Position No. 35 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, by December 5, 1949.

Solution to Position No. 33

This proved to be a very baffling position, and a good many solvers threw up the sponge without suggesting any plausible line of play. The position occurred in a game between Schuppler and Hoening in the Championship of Baden in 1948. Schuppler with White played 1. B-R3, RxB; 2. QxB1, PxB; 3. KR-QK1 and Black resigned, for if 3. ... Kt-Q2; 4. RxBP, Kt-R5; 5. RKT, PR; 6. RxBQ with a winning game. But there is some doubt if Schuppler's 1. B-R3 wins against 1. ... QxB, as several solvers have pointed out. For those brave souls who risked 1. B-R3 even in doubt, we must award points, since the "swindle" seems White's best move.

Correct solutions are acknowledged received from: Sven Brask (Attleboro), Joe Faucher (New Haven), Ed Nash (Washington), Wm. B. Wilson (Amherstburg). By misadventure the correct solution to Position No. 31 by Wm. J. Couture (Howard) was not acknowledged at the time.

AUTHORS SEEK CHESS PICTURES

Wanted: interesting chess and checker photos, prints and engravings for forthcoming book. Any readers who are interested in donating same, please write to Tommie Wiswell, 355 45th Street, Brooklyn 20, N. Y. Especially desired are pictures of celebrities playing chess or checkers and any unusual pictures, picture of Pillsbury. Only pictures which are capable of being reproduced are desired. Wiswell and Kenneth Grover are co-authors of "Chess", published by A. S. Barnes & Co.

and if allowance is made for the limitations noted above, it may be said that the book will make an agreeable addition to anyone's chess library. It should be added, finally, that exhaustiveness was no part of Mr. Salzmann's intention; he picked what he thought would be interesting. As far as one can tell from the list of acknowledgements and from some of the notable omissions, Mr. Salzmann did not consult the extensive John Griswold White chess collection in the Cleveland Public Library, surely one of the greatest resources for the chess scholar in this country if not in the world.

THE FINANCIAL SIDE

(Continued from page 2, column 2) project. However, recognizing the importance of a balanced USCF budget, he has agreed to make his experience in financial management available to our Federation.

In their efforts on behalf of our Federation's finances, Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Snyder will have the support of all our officers and directors and also, I am sure, a full measure of understanding and cheerful cooperation from every USCF member.

TO THE UNITED CHESS FEDERATION:

Please accept our entry to the Tournament for the Intercollegiate Individual Championship of the United States, to be played at Rutgers University, December 26-30, 1949.

NAME (Please Print)

ADDRESS (Street Number) (City) (State)

COLLEGE REPRESENTED

I agree to be bound by the playing rules of the United States Chess Federation and the College Chess Committee, and to comply with the decisions of the Referee, the Tournament Director and the Tournament Committee.

Please reserve accommodations

(Please sign full name)

All entries should be sent to Joshua Gross, 104 Bentley Avenue, Jersey City 4, N. J., together with entrance fee of \$5.00. Players must be USCF members (Non-members may remit \$3.00 dues with entry fee, except players from Michigan who should remit \$5.00 and players from Pennsylvania \$4.00 for combined USCF and State Ass'n dues.) Please do not send currency.



NIMZOINDIAN DEFENSE U. S. Open Championship Omaha, 1949

Notes by Albert Sandrin... White L. EVANS... Black A. SANDRIN... The first of several weak moves. This has no advantage, especially since the KP is gone.

After 37... SANDRIN... Chessboard diagram showing the position after 37 moves.

EVANS... Shaffer, who tied for 2nd in the speed tourney, showed later that Q-Q8 ch, then Q-Q2, which would have gained a tempo...

CARO-KANN DEFENSE Canadian Championship Arvida, 1949 Notes by Edw. J. Korpany... White A. YANOFSKY... Black DR. BOHATIRCHUK

Solutions: Mate The Subtle Way! Problem No. 115 by A. A. Fagan is solved by 1. R-K3, with a three-very sacrifice of the White Rook.

Tournament Life

fully to develop a good game. The move in the text is not attacking but more developing... Q-R4 6. B-Q3 B-K15... This R can't accomplish much here. White from here on becomes vacillating and undecided.

YANOFSKY... A nice sacrifice of the extra piece. If 40. R-K1, P-K3(Q); 41. QxQ, QxP mate. Otherwise there is a threat of 40. Q-K3 ch with a quick win in sight.

ALEKHINE'S DEFENSE Southwestern Open Championship Tulsa, 1949 Notes by Dr. Bela Rozsa... White L. MAGEE... Black J. C. THOMPSON

The reason Black sought the exchange was because of his ruzzed P. However, he should have recaptured the R with his B. As it is he will lose the center P.

Solutions: Mate The Subtle Way! Problem No. 116 (Edgar Holladay) yields to 1. Kt-Q2, threatening 2. R-B1 ch. If 1. BxR; 2. Kt-B1, H. 1. R-K7; 2. BxR. The close try of 1. Kt-R2 is defeated by 1. B-K7; 2. RxB, B-K6!

Conducted by Erich W. Marchand

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED Manhattan Chess Club Championship Preliminaries, 1949 Notes by J. Soudakoff... White N. KAY... Black MRS. G. GRESSER... The final blunder! He could have held his center K-K2.

SICILIAN DEFENSE Canadian Championship Arvida, 1949 Notes by J. Ragan... White F. ANDERSON... Black P. VAITONIS

VAITONIS... In all opening primers the Sicilian Defense is said to be a fighting game where Black's chances lie on the Q-side while White aims for a K-side attack.

GIUOCO PIANO New England Championship Attleboro, 1949 Notes by J. Lapin... White O. LESTER, JR... Black A. H. HOBBSON

HOBBSON... The Bishop's Opening, transposable into some tricky positions of the Giuoco Piano family... 2. ... Kt-K3 challenges White's center at once.

Solutions: Finish It The Clever Way... Position No. 21: 1. B-K3, QxR (if 1. BxT; 2. R-B7 wins); 2. Q-R5 ch, K-K1; 3. Q-B7 ch and draw by perpetual check.

ANDERSON... Not 37... Kt-Q4; 38. Kt-K1, P-K1; 39. B-K4... The beauty of this game lies in the movements of this R.

ANDERSON... Not 37... Kt-Q4; 38. Kt-K1, P-K1; 39. B-K4... The beauty of this game lies in the movements of this R. 32. ... B-B3 If 32. ... Kt-B3; 33. Kt-Q5! wins.

192 Seville Drive Rochester 17, N. Y.

After 20. BxK1? HOBBSON... Chessboard diagram showing the position after 20 moves.

After 15. Kt-K4! GRESSER... Chessboard diagram showing the position after 15 moves.

KAY... Chessboard diagram showing the position after 15 moves.

Solutions: Position No. 21: 1. B-K3, QxR (if 1. BxT; 2. R-B7 wins); 2. Q-R5 ch, K-K1; 3. Q-B7 ch and draw by perpetual check.

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Subscriptions Accepted for THE BRITISH CHESS MAGAZINE Founded in 1881 and now the oldest chess periodical extant. Games Editor: H. Holombek-Problem World: T. R. Dawson - \$2.25 per year (12 issues) - Specimen copy 25c

Chess Life Annotators

Chessboard diagram showing a chess position with various pieces labeled.

Chessboard diagram showing a chess position with various pieces labeled.

CHESS LIFE ABROAD

(Continued from page 2, col. 5) presents a danger.) (VII) White is forced to let the Kt get to K14, after which Black gets superiority (SG: In the following, White selects the lesser of two evils and refrains from P-B4, letting the Black Kt get to K14).

(VII: "... omitted in SG). The only but completely sufficient move... 35. ... Kt-B6, there follows 36. Kt-Q6, KtxPch; 37. K-K2 and B3. SG: In order to answer 35. ... Kt-B6 with 36. Kt-Q6, KtxPch; 37. K-K2 and B3.

December 3-4 Oklahoma State Championship Oklahoma City, Okla. Will be played at Oklahoma City Chess Club; details will be announced later.

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