

Chess Life



Vol. IV

Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation

Tuesday, December 20, 1949

STAGES 271 GAME SIMUL!

Koltanowski Proves Spectacular In Titanic Simultaneous Event

On Sunday morning, December 5, George Koltanowski, blindfold chess wizard, began a gigantic continuous simultaneous exhibition at the Marines' Memorial Club Ballroom in San Francisco. For a total elapsed time of 13½ hours, and with a one 20 minute rest period, Koltanowski blitzed opponents, one after another, for a phenominal perforamnce. Final score for the 271 games played was: 251 victories for Koltanowski, 17 draws, and only 3 losses.

The "Chess Festival" was held under the sponsorship of the San Francisco Chronicle, which carries as a regular feature a chess column by Koltanowski, and was well advertised. Hundreds of people jammed the room and hallway of the ballroom to watch the unusual exhibition and to participate in it. Throughout the whole period of play the ballroom was always crowded.

In order to entertain chess players before and after they had pitted their wits and skill against Koltanowski, several strong bay area players gave small simultaneous exhibitions in various parts of the ballroom. During the greater part of the afternoon and evening four exhibitions were in progress at the same time. Players who the their time and effect to these exhibitions were H. J. Raiston and Leslie Boyette of San Francisco, Guthrie McClain of Berkeley, P. W. Barlow of Piedmont, Carol Capps of Oakland, J. C. Myers of Kentfield, and USCF Vice-President J. B. Gee of Sacramento, Players from all over the State of California made their appearance at this festival, and it is believed that the titanic simultaneous event set a new world record.

HAYES VICTOR IN SASKATCHEWAN

Rea B. Hayes, a former Toronto player, made a clean sweep of the Southern Saskatchewan Championship held at Regina. He defeated the runner-up in the final round to decide the issue. Hayes 9-0; L. McK. Robinson 8-1; H. Wilkerson 6-3.

In Toronto at a simultaneous exhibition at McGill University, Canadian Champion Maurice Fox scored 23 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss. The draw went to D. Carr; and the loss to his son, Gordon Fox, who is now defending his title in the carrent McGill University championship tournament against 31 competitors.

Read details of USSR Championship in CHESS LIFE ABROAD.



LESTER TAKES NEWBYYPORT OPEN

The Newburyport (Mass.) annual Open Tournament saw the honors go to O. A. Lester, Jr., 1948 New Hampshire Champion. He did not have an easy victory, losing his game to Bob Hux of Dover who tied him on game score but lost the title on S-B points. Lester and flux, curiously enough, are co-publishers of the new "New Hampshire Chess Reporter," a lively bimonthly publication.

Third place went to Alex Sadowsky and fourth place to G. D. Hernden. There were seven prizes and the Portsmouth (N.H.) Chess Club captured four of these with Lester, Hux, Sadowsky and Ralph Gerthub squeezed sto 7th theed of Mrs. Follanshee. Charles Waterman acted as tournament director for the 8-round Swiss which attracted competitors from West Newbury, Amesbury and Ipswich in Mass, and from Portsmouth, Dover and Kingston in New Hamp.

AUSTRALIA HUMS IN CHESS EVENTS

New South Wales, Australia scored a 6½-3½ victory over Victoria in the 66th telegraphic match of a historic series, begun in 1870. In the current event L. Steiner drew with K. Ozols at top board, while C. G. Watson (aged 70) drew with the youngest player on either team, S. Kruger. Watson was celebrating his "silver" anniversary in the match by playing for the 25th time; his first appearance in the series was in 1899—50 years ago!

An extraordinary incident occured on Board 10 when C. Shoenfeld (NSW) resigned his game to J. Shaw (Vic.) at a point where he was faced with mate on the move. After his resignation was telegraphed, he was notified in reply that his opponent has exceeded the time limit—so he resigned a game, yet won it!

The Championship of Victoria was won by K. Ozols, a former Latvian master; the South Australian Championship by Romanas Arlauskas, also a Latvian master; the New South Wales Championship by S. Kruger (aged 23) who migrated to Australia from Vienna at the age of 13. In this last event, the State's best five did not participate this year, but Kruger did exceptionally well to finish above M. E. Goldstein who was runner-up.

With the recent additions of Ozols and Arlauskas, Australian chess has benefited greatly from the unsettled condition of Europe, for it already shelters Lajos Steiner and G. Koshnitsky whose advent gave native Australian chess players the advantage of added strong competition so necessary in the development of strong local talent.

Position No. 23 Sokolsky vs. Kotov Moscow, 1949



R3b2, 3r3k, 2p2p1p, r1q1p8pQ, 2PpP21 6B1, P4P11, 1R4K1 Position No. 24 Stahlberg vs. Alekhine Hamburg, 1930



5rkl, 1b4p1, 1p1p3p, 4p1q1, 1PPs1ri 4QP2, 5RPP, 3RSBIK Black to play and win

Finish If 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. 23 is taken from the eighth round of the Soviet chess championship tournament concluded last month. White starts off by sacrificing two pieces on the first two moves, and Black resigned after White's fifth move. Last year's co-champion Kotov did not do so well this year. The final scores as well as the box-score of this year's tournament appear elsewhere in this issue of CHESS LIFE.

I found Position No. 24 very tantalizing. Can you find the one move which brought about White's resignation?

Please turn to page four for solutions.

Bronstein Ties Smyslov For Title In 17th Annual Soviet Championship

Important for the fact that seven of the qualified entrants for the World Champonship Candidates Tournament were entered, the XVII Soviet Champonship resulted in a victory for David Bronstein (Cochampion of 148) and Vassily Smyslov, with 13-6 each. Third place was also a tie between the two rising Soviet stars, the 24-year-old E. Heller of Odessa University and the 23-year-old M. Taimanov at 12½-6½ each. Fifth place was shared three ways by 1948 co-champion Alexander Kotov, Isaac Boleslavsky and Furman at 11½-7½ each.

Nine Grandmasters participated in the twenty-man event and their final rankings were: Bronstein and Smyslov tied for first, Kotov and Boleslavsky tied for fifth, Keres 8th, Flohr 11th, Lilienthal tied for 13th, Ragozin 17th, and Levenfish tied for 18th. World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik and Grandmaster Igor Bondarevsky were the only ranking Soviet player: who did not participate.

A six-game playoff match for the championship title between Smyslov and Bronstein is scheduled to begin on December 15th. Last year's scheduled playoff between Bronstein and Kotov was postponed several times until it was at last cancelled just before the commencement of the XVIIth Tournament.

(Box score on Page 3)

GUZE CAPTURES QUEBEC SPEED

Not content with the Quebec Provincial Championship, Max Guze of Montreal added the Quebec Provincial Speed Championship to his trophies in a tournament of 24 contestants held at Sherbrooke. I. Zalys tied Guie on points but lost out on S-B points. C. Podlone, also of Montreal, blaced third.

GRESSER, KARFF OFF FOR MOSCOW

U. S. Woman Co-Champions, Mrs. Gisela K. Gresser and Miss N. May Karft, by the time this reaches print should be in Moscow to take part in the Woman's World Championship Tournament, scheduled for December 19 to January 18. Other expected contestants will include English Woman's Champion Elieen Tranmer and France's Woman Champion Chaude de Silans. Eighteen players will compete for the Woman's World's Title, left vacant by the death in an air-raid over London of Mrs. Vera Menchik Stevenson.

REINHART WINS PEORIA Y TITLE

The Hiram Walker Silver Knight trophy went to J. V. Reinhardt who won the Peoria (III.) YMCA Chess Club championship with four straight victories in a 4-round Swiss. Lybarger finished second, and Lyon third,

POWERS WINS

Averill Powers, onetime Wisconsin State Champion, was winner of the 17th annual Milwaukee Championship, which is a part of the comprehensive chess program sponsored by Milwaukee's Department of Municipal Recreation. Twentynine contestants, largest field to compete for the title in recent years, were entered in the event, in which however 1948 champion Arpad E. Elo failed to compete.

In winning the title Powers edged out youthful Richard Kujoth, 1949 Wisconsin State Champion, After playing to a draw in
their individual encounter, both
players finished the 8-round Swiss
with identical scores but Powers
had 37% S-B points to Kujoth's 34.
George Hurley finished third, closety followed by Ralph Abrams, Orville Francisco and S. A. Morell.

Sensation of the tournament was Francisco. Invited to participate by virtue of winning the 16-year-old age group division title of the all city junior championship (which drew close to 3000 entries), Francisco lost close encounters with Powers and Kujoth, which he might have won with more experience, and then chalked up a clean slate in his remaining games.

PHILA DOWNS D. C. CHESS DIVAN

The Philadelphia Mercantile Library Choss Ass'n swept down upon the Capital with a strong team of twenty players and routed the Washington Chess Divan by a 13%-6% score in a hard fought match. A. DiCamillo bested Hans Berliner on board one, Sol Rubinow defeated M. C. Starke on board three while J. Levin and W. A. Ruth drew with O. Shapiro and C. A. Hesse on boards two and four.

QUICK TOURNEY NEW ROUNDUP

Spain: Medina, perenniel national champion, has again won the Spanish title in a double-round event of 7 players. In the first half he only scored 2 points, but rallied to win his last 6 games and the tournament by a 8-4 score. Perez was second with 7-5 and Saborido third with 6½-5½.

Sabordo third with 6½-5½.

Holland: The Baarn tournament
this year was almost entirely a
Dutch event. Only two Swiss players, Tordion and P. Mueller, came
from ontside. Dr. Euwe won Section A with 6½-1½ with Henneberke second with 6-2, and Kramer
and Barendregt tied for third with
4-3. Van Oosterwijk Bruyn won
the B group with 6-1, Kramer retained the Friesland championship
by drawing a title match 3-3 with
challenger van der Tol.

Germany: The Bavarian Championship went to Schindler with 7½; second were Gilg and Steger with 7 each, and fourth Kieninger and L. Schmitt with 6½ each. It was a nine-round Swiss event with 56 competitors. The German Woman's Championship went to Friedl Rinder with a 9-1 score. Edith Keller, who will play for the Woman's World Title at Moscow, placed second with 8½-1½.

Chess. Life

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Dr. A. Buschke

Tuesday, December 20, 1949



GREAT IS TRUTH AND IT PREVAILS!

THERE is no malice in our hearts as we reiterate that triumphant phrase: Magna est veritas et praevalet! But faced with the gross inequities of the recent FIDE decisions, we would be more than human (and God forbid that lonely fate!) if we ignored the resounding verdiet of the battle upon those solemn injustices perpetrated at the Paris meeting of FIDE, which we have already loudly protested.

In CHESS LIFE upon November 5th, we wrote in sober and restrained disapproval concerning the most ill-advised and flippant awarding of the title of Grandmaster to Ragozin and Lowenfisch (Levenfish):

strained disapproval concerning the most ill-advised and flippant awarding of the title of Grandmaster to Ragozin and Lowenfisch (Levenfish); indeed, we protested vehemently these awards while the much more valid claims of several other international masters of renown, including our own Isaac Kashdan, were scornfully ignored because they failed to play their chess within the scacchic paradise of the USSR.

Our complaint was based upon the well-recorded facts that neither of the Russian masters, although notable players, had so distinguished himself that he deserved such program and expertition at this

or the Russian masters, although notable players, had so distinguished himself that he deserved such special and exceptional recogniting at this time when men of more valid authority were coldly ignored. That our protest was more than valid, the results of the recent XVIIth Championship of the USSR testify even more eloquently than we had anticipated at the time when we voiced our sober objections. Ragozin (Grandmaster Ragozin!) finished 17th in a field of twenty players. ers; and Leventish finished in a three-way tie for last place with Gold-berg and Lublinski. Of such conquering prowess our Grandmaster are made, since FIDE has the wise selection!

Ahead of these alleged and pseudo grandmasters were players like

Ahead of these alleged and pseudo grandmasters were players have raimanov, Heller, Furman, Aronin, Sokolski, Kopylov, Mikenas and Petrosan—none of whom have earned such exalted rank. And of these, on recent tournament records, Taimanov comes nearer to deserving the grandmaster crown than any, if we must indeed insist on creating Russian grandmasters by fiat on a wholesale scale.

Grandmaster Ragozin won his games from Furman, Petrosan, Goldberg and Lublingti, (who placed respectively in a tie for 5th 18th and

berg and Lublinski (who placed respectively in a tie for 5th, 16th and in a ties for 18th); he drew with Sokolski, Flohr, Aronin, Levenfish and Holmov. To his fellow grandmasters: Kotov, Smyslov, Keres, Lilienthal, Bronstein, Boleslavsky, he was a pushover. He salvaged a half-point against Grandmaster Flohr and another half-point against synthetic Grandmaster Levenfish. Non-grandmasters like Heller, Taimanov, Kopylov and Mikenas found him an easy mark. Is this the expected record of a

numaster Levenfish fared better in exalted company, although placed one-half point behind Ragozin. He scored a victory (greatly Grandmaster Levenish lared better in exalted company, although the placed one-half point behind Ragozin. He scored a victory (greatly to his credit) over Smyslov; he drew with Boleslavsky, Lilienthal, Talmanov, Mikenas and Kopylov. But he showed a fatal weakness with the weaker players, losing to the Holmovs, Petrosans and Goldbergs. Scarcely the record one would anticipate from a newly crowned Grand-

Since the title of Grandmaster has already been made ridiculous by the inclusion of pretenders, why not abolish it altogether? Any honor becomes cheap when it ceases to be selective, and the prestige of a grandmaster has been irrepairably damaged by the complacent indifference of the last FIDE Assembly. For the sham has been revealed to all before it had a chance to dupe the chess world with its imitation tinsel. Magna est veritas et praevalet!

mortgomeny major

A TIME FOR RESOLUTION

By Paul G. Giers

President, United States Chess Federation

NEW YEAR'S DAY has traditionally become a day dedicated to the making of resolutions for the future. Myself, I am not of the zealous clan who proclaim January 1st as the proper time for such futile declarations as the swearing off smoking or the vowing to reduce the golf handicap by several strokes—both worthy resolutions, perhaps, but ones that are much too easy to make and much too difficult to keep.

Instead I have always professed the given and direct decision.

Instead, I have always preferred the simple and direct decision which requires no great feat of will-power nor any plaintive appeals to the miraculous for success—resolutions which can instead be fulfilled so easily that in time the fulfillment can become a pleasant habit.

Such resolutions for the chess player, be he expert or woodpusher, becomes a simple matter of selection from many worthy possibilities; and if he be wise, their fulfillment will require neither stubborn determination nor excessive effort on his part. Yet he can gain a greater satisfaction in fulfilling them from the knowledge that the pledges that he keeps will make his own segment of the chess world in which he lives a better and a heavier place for his enveryment. lives a better and a happier place for his enjoyment.

- So, humbly, I suggest the following resolutions:

 1) I will encourage the playing of chess wherever I can, in the home, in the playground, in the recreation center, and in the school;
- 2) I will aid the development of chess by teaching the game to all who are interested, being particularly careful and patient with the young players who have their chess careers before them;
- 3) When possible, I will devote what time I can spare to the noble cause of "Chess for the Veterans," playing in the hospitals and teaching chess to the bed-ridden to widen their limited horizon of interest;
- 4) I will support the USCF by my personal membership and by my personal approval of its aims, encouraging all chess players whom I know to lend their own support to its many worthy objectives;
- And finally. I will be a good loser and a modest winner, so that no one will ever gain the opportunity of criticising chess as a game becase of my example as an individual player.

Of course, no one of us can understand the burden of all five of these resolutions—some demand opportunity; others demand a leisure that many of us do not command. And most of us do not need the prompting of the final resolve, for it words an attitude that most of us have always possessed instinctively.

But I am sure that if each one of us will select but one or two of these as their objectives for 1950, chess cannot fail but profit, and in its profit we will find chess a better and a happier game for all.

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 veteran American composers parade their skills for this holiday issue of our problem section. Otto Oppenheimer has been composing for as long as your editor can remember, while Charles Sumner Jacobs, who contributes the puzzling No. 132, had his first problem published in 1890, nearly sixty years ago!

Do not be alarmed at the multi-move conditions set for Nos. 133 and 134. At Christmas time it is the custom for problem sections to let down the bars and, for once in the year, to feature the bizarre and the unusual. Instead of trying the subtlest line visible, try the most obvious

usual. Instead of trying the subtlest line visible, try the most obvious—and you will find yourself doing what at first glance seems impossible.

Last of all, we offer a "Synthetic" in answer to several requests from their devotees. White has a King, Queen, Rook, two Knights, and a Bisohp. Black has a King, two Bishops, a Knight, and three Pawns. White is to play and mate in two moves. Before the key, a mate is set for every possible Black move, to wit, if 1...., P-B4; 2. QxB mate or if 1..., Kt moves; 2. Kt.Q5 mate or if 1..., B-K4; 2. Q-B3 mate. The key is 1. B-K4, threatening 2. QxB mate. If 1..., KxB; 2. Q-Kt4 mate. If 1..., P-B4 or 1..., P-Kt7; 2. QxB mate. If 1..., Kt-B4; 2. QxKt mate. If 1..., Kt-Kt3; 2. Q-KB5 mate. If 1..., B-Kt4; 2. Q-B3 mate. If 1..., B-K5; 2. B-Q5 mate. If 1..., B-K7; 2. B-Q3 mate. There is only one possible arrangement of the pieces to fulfill all these conditions. Can you find it?

A very merry Christmas and joyful New Year to you all! Solutions to previously published problems in next issue.

8

White: 9 men 3B2s1, 8, p2kPp3, 3P1p1R, 1RP1pK2, 1P2S3, 8, 8 White mates in three moves

Problem No. 134
By W. A. Shinkman
American Chess Bulletin, 1910

Black: 11 men

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Problem No. 131

By Otto Oppenheimer

New York, N. Y.

Composed for Chess Life

Black: 9 men

Problem No. 132

By Charles Sumner Jacobs
Winchester, Mass. Composed for Chess Life Black: 6 men



White: S men (APP. 6194, 4pP2, KIpSrl, p3SIrl, B7 White mates in two moves

Problem No. 133 By Alain White Pittsburgh Gazette-Times, 1916



White: 4 men 2q5, 2pp4, 3pr3, 4pb2, KID2ps1, 2bs1kp1, 3pr11, 6BB White mates in 12 moves

Oklahoma Chess League is in full swing with Norman leading by a 3-1 match score. Second is Tulsa with 3½-2½, and third Stillwater with 11/4-11/4.

Tulsa Chess Club (Okla.) elected

T. J. Bevan president, B. C. Con-ner vice-president, T. P. Moote vice-president, R. Virgin secretary and A. G. Miller treasurer.

Alekhine's Early Chess Career

Additional Data By A. Buschke

I. MANNHEIN, 1914 UE to the outbreak of World War I, the 19th Congress of the German Chess Association was abruptly finished after 11 rounds had been played in the Master Tournament, in which 18 masters participated. Although the remain-ing 6 rounds might have changed a lot, Alekhine, then in front with 9 wins, 1 loss and 1 draw, ahead of Vidmar, 8½; Spielman, 8; Reti, Marshall, Breyer, 7 each, etc., re-ceived first prize. Among the op-ponents Alekhine then had not met yet were Vidmar, Reti, Tartakower, W. John, Spielmann and Marshall, i.e., just the last 6 rounds would have been the hardest test for the young master while all his chief op-ponents had already played with each other. However, his remarkeach other. However, his remark-nable plus score included victories over such redoutable masters as Duras, Breyer, Tarrasch, Mieses and the ascending star, Bogolyu-bov. The only defeat he had suf-fered was inflicted on him by David Janowski and the only draw oc-curred in his game with the German master Paul Krueger, No tournament book of the Mann-

heim Tournament has been published, but, with the exception of 2 or 3 games which were lost during the confusion following the outbreak of World War I, all the games played in the 11 rounds were preserved in the official magazine of the German Chess Association, of the German Chess Association, the "Deutsche Schachblaetter." Five of Alekhine's games are in-cluded in his own first collection of "Best Games 1908-1923," 4 more games of his were published re-cently by Reinfeld in his "Unknown Alekhine." To complete the record of Alekhine's achievements at Mannheim 1914, the remaining two games played by him in that tournament are reproduced herewith.

ENGLISH OPENING

(Called at that time "Bremen Game" in the German press, because it was the favorite of the Bremen master, C. Carls, who conducts the White pieces also in this game.)

Mannheim, 1914

Sth Round, July 24, 1914 (Source: Deutsche Schachblaetter, vol. VI, no. 20, 1915, p. 233.)

	White			Black
	C. CARLS		A. AL	EKHINE
	1. P-Q84	P-K3	17. PxKt	0-K2
11	2. P-KK+3	P-04	18. B-0B3	Kt-Kt4
	3. B-KI2	PxP	19. KtxKt	PxKt
н	4. Q-R4 ch	B-02	20. O-K2	B-Kt5
āΪ	3. B-Kl2 4. Q-R4 ch 5. QxP	B-B3	21. O-B4	BxB
	6. KI-KB3	Kt-05	22. OxB	P-KtS
	7. 0.0	KKt-B3	23, P-Kt3	R-03
	8. Q-B2	P-K4	24. O-B2	R-R3
	9. P-Q3	B-03	25. O-B5	0-Kt4
	10. Kt-B3	0.0	26, R-02	0-R4
	11. B-Kt5	P-KR3	27. OR-01	P-OKt3
Ш	12. B-O2	Kt-B4	28. Q-B4	QxP oh
	13. OR-81	Kt-K3	29. K-B1	R-B3
	14. P-K3	0-02	30. P-OKt4	B-RS
	15. KR-01	08-01	31. R-B1	P-083
	16. Kt-K4	KtxKt	Resigns	1-603
		* :	3 3	

FRENCH DEFENSE

Mannheim, 1914 2nd Round, July 21, 1914

Downtown Y Chess Club of Pitts burgh continues its varied activities, sponsoring an Industrial Chess League of six teams in which Westinghouse is currently leading. At a simultaneous given by U. S. Junior Champion Arthur Bisguier, Dietz and Cameron won their games while Spiro and Hobbs drew. Bisguier won the other 12 games. Big the won the other 12 games.

Bob McCready won the Open Rapid Transit with the almost perfect score of 10½-½. Dave Spiro placed second with 8½-2½.

By Fred Reinfeld

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Something New Under The Sun

A quite ordinary game is transformed into a work of art by Black's stunning combination. Even more pleasing than the brilliant sacrifice is the extraordinarily subtle move which ushers it in.

GIUOCO PIANO Rio de Janeiro, 1942

White		Black
O. GOMES		C. NET
1. P-K4		P-K4
2. Kt-KB3		Kt-QB3
3. Kt-B3		B-B4
4. B-B4	Education visite	*******

This turns the game into a genuine Giuoco Piano; instead, 4. Ktx gives White an advantage.

4. P.Q3
5. P.Q3 B.KKi5
6. B.K3 Kt-Q5!
Black has seized the initiative. 7. BxKt 8. P-KR3 9. Kt-QKt5? The decentralization BxB B-R4

The Knight should (and does) turn out badly. 9. P-KKt4 was preferable, or, better yet, 9. Q-K2 followed by Kt-Q1-K3.

vent this maneuver by driving Black's Queen's Bishop back with P-KKt4, as this would weaken the

P-KKt4, as this would weaken the White Pawn structure.

11. 0-0 P-QR3
12. Kt-R3
Apparently in the hope of later advancing in the center by P-B3, Kt-B2 and P-Q4.

This does not lose a piece, for 13. P-KKt4, Kt-B5!

13. P-KKt3
White's anxiety to keep out the Knight is understandable, but now the pin becomes really deadly.

13. K-Kt2 Q-B3! KR-Kt1!!!



15. P-B3

There was no satisfactory fense. Thus if 15. Kt-QKt1 (intending QKt-Q2), Kt-R5 ch!!; 16. Px Kt, P-Kt4!! (now Black's plan is revealed); 17. QKt-Q2, P-Kt51; 18. PxP, RxP ch; 19. K-R3, RxP ch; 20. K-Kt3, Q-Kt3 ch; 21. KxR, Q-Kt5 mate.

15. PRKt P-Kt411
17. R-KKt1 Bakt ch
Black's plan is now revealed.

Another winning line is 17., PxP ch; 18. K-R2, Q-B5 ch or 18. K-B1; RxR ch; 19. KxR, RxKt etc. 18. OxB PxP ch

White resigns, for if 19. K-R2, QxQ; 26, RxR ch, K-K2; 21, RxR, QxBP ch; 22, K-R1, Q-B6 ch; 23, K-R2, Q-Kt6 ch; 24, K-R1, QxP

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

PEORIA Y CHAMPIONISHIP

Reinhart 74-0	11.50	Cramer2-2	5.0
Lybarger3-1	6.50	Bell13-23	d.56
Lyon8-1	6,00	Sha'han 14-25	2.7
Lair21-11	3.75	Davis 3-35	1.2
O'Russa2-2	6.50	McHugh0-4	0.0

With The Chess Clubs

Cleveland (Ohio) Scholastic League organizes with 6 teams in Eastern and 5 team in Western divisions. Champions of each di-vision will fight for Cleveland title. Eastern teams are: John Adams, Cathedral Latin, Cleveland Heights, Collinwood, East Tech and Glenville. Western teams are: West High, Lincoln, St. Ignatius, Rhodes, and West Tech. The league is spensored jointly by Recreation Board of Cleveland and Cleveland Board of Education, with James L. Harkins directing the league.

Lancaster (Pa.) Red Rose Chess Club went on a touring spree, play-ing Penn State, Altoona Chess Club and Rockview Chess Club in a twoday span. They lost to Penn State by 1½-3½; but won the other two matches by equal scores of 3-2.

Howard (R. I.) Chess Club championship went to club president, Wm. J. Couture, whose problem compositions have appeared in CHESS LIFE from time to time, with the score of 15 wins, two draws and four losses.

Akron (Ohio) League shows Firestone Knights in the lead 5-1 with 21½ game points. Firestone Rocks are second with 3-2 and 13½ game points. B. F. Goodrich third with 3-3 and 17 game points.

Howard (R.I.) Chess Club gained its revenge over Haverhill (Mass.) Chess Club by a 12-3 victory. The 'big four" of Howard led the way to victory with 5 wins and 3 losses —two wins for Couture and Massey, a win and a loss for Merritt, and two losses for Quigley. Against the Worcester (Mass.) Chess Club, Howard again went down in defeat but by a much closer score of 51/2-91/2. Couture on first board salvaged two wins, Quigley had one draw. Other Howard points were gained by McKenna, Iovino and Paul, who each scored one victory. Wm. Couture is president of the Howard Chess Club, C. Quigley team captain, Lepper tourney director, Starr tourney secretary, and E. Leduc club secretary.

Central California Chess League sees Sacramento in the lead with 2 match points and 13-5 in game points, Second comes Modesto with 2 match but 10½-6½ in games, Fresno is third with 1-1 in match and 14½-3½ in games.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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XVII CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE USSR

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Chess Life Abroad

XVII USSR CHAMPIONSHIP Moscow, Oct. 16-Nov. 20, 1949

N ONE of the most exciting championship tournaments ever played for the title of Champion of the Soviet Union, so often held by the present World Champion M. Botvinnik, top honors fell this year to V. Smyslov, 28, and D. Bronstein, 25, in a tie for first and sec-ond; while last year's winners, A. Kotov and D. Bronstein, were con-Rotov and D. Bronstein, were con-sidered co-champions and never played a tie-breaking match, the rules of the XVII Championship provided for this eventuality that a tie should be broken in a match of six games at a later date. Whether this most interesting match will be played before or after the Buda-pest tournament, which is to de-cide who will be entitled to challenge Botvinnik for the World

Championship, will have to be seen.
In spite of (or possibly just thanks to) the absence of Botvinnik, this Championship tournament, a most worthy celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first "All-Russian Tournament" organ-ized by Tschigorin, the father of Russian Chess, in 1899, proved to be one of the most hard-fought championship events and the out-come was decided in a very close finish and in the very last round. The final score, showing between the first prize winner and the 10th ranking player a difference of only ranking player a difference of only 3 points is eloquent enough. In the beaten field (less than 50%), we find four grandmasters: Flohr, Lilienthal, Ragozin and Levenfish. But these final figures do not at all tell the whole story: the Odessa "newcomer" E. Geller (Helper) a student of groupming at the

ler), a student of economics at the Odessa University, and the only one of the 20 participants who en-tered the fluals without even being a "master" (he had "made the norm," as the Russian expression goes, but had not yet been rewarded the title of master) was leading by half a point when the final (19th) round started. After a permonent changing in the leadership. which was first held by Smyslov and Kotov, then for a while by Boleslavsky, then by Kotov, then rounds 16 and 17 with Geller, Geller had emerged at the end of the by Smyslov again, but in a tie for 18th round with a score of 121/2 against Smyslov's and Bronstein's 12. Kotov's, Boleslavsky's and Tai-manov's 111/2; so there were really six candidates for top honors, but while Smyslov won his game against Lilienthal and Bronstein his against Kopylov, Geller lost his game against Kholmov, Kotov game against Kholmov, Kotov against Aronin, Boleslavsky against Furman. In the meantime, Taimanov had won his game against Goldov had won his game against Gold-berg and thus reached a tie with Geller, Geller, who had almost re-peated Kotov's experience of a decade ago (XI Soviet Championship, 1939), distinguished himself by scoring the greatest number of victories (10, including wins against such experienced grand-masters as Boleslavsky, Kotov—the crucial game of the tournament in the 16th round-Flohr, Ragozin, Levenfish) and only 5 draws (including draws against grandmasters Smyslov and Bronstein), losing only four (including grand-masters Keres and Lilienthal).

Bronstein started the tournament very cautiously and after 10 rounds had scored only 5 points, but then he pulled nimself together and achieved the splendid score of 8 points out of the last nine

As Botvinnik points out in his chess column in OGONEK of Nov. 13, four generations of Soviet Chess masters were represented in the tournament; the oldest participant was Levenfish who turned 60 this year and gained his master title in the pre-Soviet period 38 years ago, the youngest player was Petrosian (20); as representative for the two middle generations he mentions Ragozin (41) and Smyslov (28), and in fact his resume

of the tournament results in PRAV-DA of Nov. 21, he calls attention to the fact that among the first 10 only two (Kotov, 36, and Keres, 33) belong to the "older" generation and all the other prize winners are under 30. Incidentally, one of the participants of the very first "All-Russian Championship" tourn-ament, 1899, is still alive: V. I. Nenarokov, born 1880. As the latest Soviet Chess Championship shows, there obviously is no lack of "re-generative" forces in the field of chess in Russia.

While we do not have the com-

plete scores of some of the im-portant games of the tournament, we are pleased to present the fol-lowing samples from the just finished XVII USSR Chess Champion-Tournament, Moscow, Oct.-Nov., 1949.

An Exciting Draw ALEKHINE'S DEFENSE Round 3, October 19, 1949

(Published with notes by Botvinnik in Ogenck, 1949 No. 46)

White	Black
V. SMYSLOV	MIKENAS
1. P-K4 Kt-KB3	miritanio
(Potriouit does not	mind telling his read-
(Dotvinnia does not	mind teining his read-
ers here that "this	original defense was
	tournament practice by
A. Alekhine in a g	ame against A. Steiner
in the tournament a	at Budapest 1921.")
2 P.K5 KI-04	16 KI-B3 O-K2
3 P.O. P.O.	17 O. K+3 P. P.3
I BUBY KINS	16. Kt-B3 Q-K2 17. Q-Kt3 P-B3 18. QR-K1 Q-QB2
4. F-VD4 KEND	10. QH-KI Q-Q02
5. PXP KPXP	19. B-Q3 B-Q2
6. B-K2 P-Q4	20. Q-B2 P-KKD
7. P-85 Kt(3)-Q2	19. B-Q3 B-Q2 20. Q-B2 P-KKD 21. B-KR6 KtxQP
8. Kt-KB3 B-K2	
9. 0-0 Kt-B1	23. K-R1 RxR ch
10. Kt-K5	24. RxR Q-K4
Kt(Kt1)-02	25. BXP PXB
II. P-B4 KtxKt	26. 0xP ch K-R1
19 BD-W1 W1-W1	Consider took 00 min
12 DEXEL MIND	Smyslov took 20 min- utes for his next
D. B-K3 U-U	utes for his next
14. Kt-Q2 P-B4	
15. PxPe.p. BxP (B3)	
Botvinnik, whose no	otes to the game are
too extensive to b	e reproduced here in
full, remarke now:	Killing two birds with
one stone; white h	oth protects his first
horizontal (97	Deb. 98 P D7 O VE.

one: white tal (27, ..., BxB; 28, R-B7, Q-Na; tal (27, ..., BxB; 28, R-B7, Q-Na; R7 ch1) and assures perpetual check medit (27, ..., QxB; 28, Q-B7 ch, K-22, Q-B7 cn). The whole cultrate combination consists in the fact that ack queen is tied up in the defense bishop, and as a consequence does ucceed in coming to the king's help, his reason—Draw." horizontal (**)

9. R.-R. ch.]) and for himself (27.

Ott.); 28. (9-10 cm.)

of the combination of the black queen is

of the black queen is

of the blshop, and

not succeed in comi

For this reason—Di

Last Round Thrill The Leader Loses the Decisive Game RUY LOPEZ

		per contract per per	
Round	19, No	vember 20, 1	949
White GELLER 1. P-K4 2. Kt-KB3 3. B-Kt5 4. Kt-Kt	P-K4 Kt-QB3 Kt-QS PxKt	1.00000 10000 100 00000 100	Black HOLMOV Q-Q4 PxP B-K2 P-K84
5. 0-0 6. 8-84 7. Q-K2	P-QB3 Kt-B3 P-Q3	27. P-B4 28. K-R1 29. QR-Kt1	Q-Q5 ch P-Kt3 P-R4
8. P-K5 9. QxP ch 10. R-K1 11, B-KB	PxP B-K2 P-QKt4 P-OR4	30. R-Kt8 ch 31. Q-Kt3 32. P-KB5 33. R-KB8	PxKt R-B3 OxP
12. P-QR4 13. PxP 14. P-Kt6	0-0 QxP	34. PxP ch 35. R-R7 ch 36. QxQ	K-Kt2 K-Kt1 P×0
15. P-03 16. R-B1 17. B-Kt5 18. O-Kt3	KB-Kt5 Q-Q1 R-K1 B-K3	37. R×R 38. R×R 39. R-KB7 40. R-B1	B-R B-Q5 P-Q7 B-K17
19. BxB 20. Kt-Q2 21. BxKt 22. Kt-K4	RxB P-R3 RxB R-K3	41. K-Kt1 42. K-B2 Resigns	P-RS P-R6

Turning Point of the Tournament Loses the Leadership Position KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE Round 16, November 12, 1949

RING'S INDIAN DEFENSE
Round 16, November 12, 1949

White

ROTOV

White

GLLER
(The first 14 moves of the game are not yet known to us, but the opening of the game is described as follows in "Soviet Sport" (Russian) 1946, no. 123: "Up to a certain point this game amost completely duplicated the game Finance amost completely duplicated the game Finance amost one consumer with white cuted in a victory for concounter with Kotov this same in the system. The grandmaster complete with his opponent's wishes, obviously figuring that white in this position retains the better chances. And really, in the beginning it seemed that the white pieces, very harmoniously distributed, had to rash to the weak spots in the black position. At this juneture Geller made the correct decision, rix, not to turn to a cautious defense but, sacrificing a piece, to take the initiative, For the sacrificed piece, Gulter got two advanced pawns on the Q-side. Supposed by the two bishops, they represented a real strength, However, all this was not sufficient compensation for Black's losses in material. Only a tactical and fundamental mistake by Kotov when he played Kt-Kit and turned to a passive defense, gare Geller he possibility of fully taking over-the initiative and of proceeding to decisive actions. Soon one of the Geller's rooks burst

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Chess Life

Tuesday, December 20, 1949

What's The Best Move? By Guilherme Groesser

Position No. 37



ribqirki, 1pp2ppp, pispis2, 2b2SB1, BIP5, 2S5, PP3PPP, R2Q1RK1 White to move

Send solutions to Position No. 37 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, by January 5, 1950.

Solution to Position No. 35

Solution to Position No. 35

This nightmare position was not, as in might seem, the compesition of an immate of Bedlam, but occurred in a tournament game phayed in 1915 and developed from that most reserved and modest opening, the Prench Defense, White was played by Alexander Alokhine (none other!) and Black by Gregorieff. The game continued: 1, R. Roll threatening mate on the move, Qxlt: 2, Qxlti ch, Qxlti; 3, Qxles, h, R. Ri, 4 Qxls). RS ch, Resigns.

Many of our solvers evidently flinched before the massed power on both sides, and light the farmer who saw the samel for the light the farmer who saw the samel for the light the farmer who saw the samel for the light the farmer who saw the samel for the light the farmer who saw the samel for the light the farmer who saw the samel for the light the farmer who have the continuate." Correct solutions are acknowledged received from: Sven Brask (Attleboro), J. E. Comstock (Duluth), William J. Couture (Howard), Jose Faucher (New Haven),

The suggestion of 1, Kt-K2 eventually wins, but not as quickly or as neatly, 1, Q-Kt/is answered by Qxl (not laxQ) and the win is not impuribilize thereafter as Rlack's Kt is not limited.

CHESS PLAYERS ARE CHALLENGED

Sven Brask, editor of the chess column in the Attleboro Sun, issues the following challenge:

"I will offer a new book to the first five (5) who submit correct solutions to the eng-game position given below. The book is "Kings of the Chess Board" by Lajos Steiner, his first Australian book. Solutions must be submitted by January 5th, 1950, and the first five re-ceived, with the earliest postmarks, that are correct will receive the prizes. Send solutions to Sven Brask, 114 Lindsey Street, Attle-boro, Mass."



5lilk, 7p. 6P1, 4SeP1, 8, 8, K4p2, 8 White to play and draw

into the second horizontal. Not having the least bit of counter play, Kotov could not undertake anything against the threatening attack on his king. Losing the queen, he resigned in the 40th move.")

The position after White's 15th more

(Please turn to page 4, col. 5)

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Tuesday, December 20, 1949

RUY LOPEZ Canada vs. U. S. A. Team Match Buffalo, 1949

Notes by Irving Rivise

White MILLER USA) P-K4 Kt-KB3 B-Kt5 P-K4 Kt-QB3 P-QR3 ove, the fave days gone 4. B-R4 5. P-Q3 by. Today 5, 0-0 is

move for this B can also be exfor a Kt as later occurs and too,
can still remove White's KB. White
least three aircrustives, each better
the text, i.e.: 1) BxKt ch, 2) P.B3.
P.B4.

ed, QKt-Q2 Kt-KKt5 last removing one ald have been pre ae of White's Ba but it seerable to exchange the P-QKt4 and Kt-me after P-QB4, a 10. PxKt P-B4 ract White's play on the

have been 11,, P-Q4 and, P-15. B-Kt3 eh K-R1 16. Kt-Kt3 B-Kt5 Kt-QR4 was still 21. QxQ PxQ 22. Kt-K4 QR-K1 23. Kt(3)-Kt5 little combination ining advantage. This Kt-Qi, Black

23. _____, E e danger. 25. RxKt 27. BxP PxK of the same color, 7th the better , chelming advi h 29. P-Q5

P-B4; move is a serious error, For puts the P on a White square to future attacks by Black's after 29, PxP, PxP; 30, R-K5

ny, after

is up another P,

R-B1 ch 31. R-K8

B-B4 and B-K6 offered better play. From
move onward, White has suffered
lark of censtructive ideas and his
lark of censtructive ideas and his
lark of censtructive ideas and his
lark of centractive ideas and his
lark of centractive ideas and his
lark 33. B-B6

over 33. B-B6

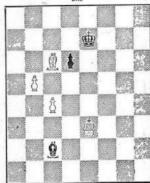
over 35. B-B6

B-K5
ademning the B to obsecurity, Certainly,
lite still had the better game after S3
R7, K-K42; 34, B-K6, K-B3; 35, P-KR4,
K4; 38, P-KR4, P-R; 37, P-R, BxP; 38,
B, KxB; 39, K-B2 and while Black must
teh the passed RP White makes headway
the K-side.

K-Kt2 35, P-KKt3 K-K4
K-B3 36, K-K3 B-Kt7
see why the White B is mis3, It bas no active part in the
6, is not going to play BxQ!'
6 it would have a voice in af-

would have a by after P-KR4.
B-K5 40. B-Kt7
PXP 41. B-R8
B-Kt7 P-QR3 P-QKt4 RPxP 41, P-R4 would pose Black 45. K-Q2 46. BxP 47. P-R5

After 52. P-Kt5



MILLER

Adjudicated a draw and rightly so, although it requires perfect defense by Black as follows: 52,, K-Q1; 53, P-Ktő, K-B1; (forced see 54, B-Kt? wins) and now if White brings his K up the QR file Black plays K-QK1 and White is stymied, hence his best try is 54, K-Q4, B-Q8; 55, K-Q5, B-Ktő; 56, K-Q4, (58, KAP only draws) B-Q8; 57, B-Q5, B-Ktő and White can make no progress for at the appropriate time Black plays, BxBP and K-Kt2 drawing.

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Tournament Life

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QUEEN PAWN COUNTER GAMBIT

New Hampshire State Championship Portsmouth, 1949

Notes by Dr. J. Platz

White SADOWSKY P.K4 2. Kt-KB3 P-Q4 is opening is usually called "Queen's wn Counter Gambit" but what does the me mean anyway? Among masters it is toppular. not popular, 3. PxP popular, PxP P-K5 4, Q-K2 Kt-KB3 ther possibility is 4, ____, Q-K2; 5, Rt-Kt-KB3; 6, Kt-QB3 with advantages for

here is 5. P-Q2, Q-B4 or 5. P-Q2, advantage for White. B-K2 7. P-Q3

R-Kl 8. K-Ql k that White's g that a K-move w KtxP Kt-QB3 P-B3

moves ahead of Winse 11. Kt(3)-Q2 B-Kt5 ch

Kt(4)-Kt5! Kt-Kt41 16. B-K2 17. P-B3 After 17. P-B3

9 4 4 4 8 2 9 1 8 # 8 8 8 8 鱼 8

SADOWSKY

finishes with a series of heavy Ktakt BxP! Q-B4 19. 0xB? 17. 18. PxKt 21. K-B1 19. 20. B-Q2 . .

SLAV DEFENSE

New York State Championship Rochester, 1949

Notes by M. Rosenthal

White DSENTHAL Kt-KB3 P-Q84 P-Q4 Kt-B3 P-K3 B-Q3 7. 0-0 8. Q-B2 9. P-QR3 10. P-R3 11. PxQP 12. P-K4 R-KI B-03 P-K4 PxFP; 13. KtxP, KtxKt; 14; 15. BxP or 12. QPxQP; PxP; 14. KtxKt ch, QxKt; 15 BxKt, KrxP, 15. B-KKt5

BxKt P-KB4 followed by P-K5 and PxKt, etc. 16. BxKt losing the Kt was

17. Kt-B7 BXRP QR-B1 pinni BxP h QxKt R Q-Kt4 ch; KtxKR KtxB ch 20. KxB, any othe 21. K-B3, Q-B4 ch; 22. R-B1 P-KR4 23. P-K5 wo by Q-B8 ch, RxQ;

23. _____ 24. P-Kt4 26. B-B4 25. Q-KKt2 Q-Kt6 26. Q-K4 ing QxKtP ch, then White R and Black Q-K6 ch R-081 26. 27. R-B4

previous note. Q-Kt6 ch P-RS 29. 30. K-B1 If 31. 31. P-K6 P.R6 If 31. , PxP; 3 If 31. , PsB4; P-K8(Q) ch and win 32. P-K7 P-R7

After 32, P-R7



ROSENTHAL

33. P-K8(Q) ch 34. QxR ch 35. QxP ch 36. Q-B8 ch 37. B-K2 ch 38. Q-R8 mate QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED Air Force Championship El Paso, 1949

Notes by W. Taylo

4. P-Q4 5. B-KKt5 6. P-K3 10. B-R4 11. 0-0 R-K1 Q-K2 0-B1 13. P-QR3 Kt-K5 I to be done to stop

After 17. P-KB3 TAYLOR



24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. RxP 31. Q-B7 ch

BUDAPEST DEFENSE

U. S. Open Championship Omaha, 1949 Notes by John Ragan

O. MAIN
1. P.04 Kt-KB3 4. P.K4
2. P.084 P.K4 5. P.KR3
3. PAP Kt-Kt5
The variation given in MOO and POO:
Kt-Qt8, B-Bt; 6, Et-R8, Kt-Qt8; 7. Kt
and White supposedly has a noelthis not constitute of the constitution of the cons J. RAGAN P-KR41

has a positional plu me, The move actual ould give Black little

7. KtxKt

ick now gets the two Bs, removes his akness at Qt and will eventually take or the Q-file. er the Q-rise.

BxKt

11. Q-Q2, Kt-Kt5; wins.
PxB 12. Kt-Q2?

After 12. Kt-Q2?



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rlooking the threat on the RP, 12, Q-would have saved material loss for the

Time pressure1

16. BR.R 20. P-Kt5

17. BP.R 0-B5 21. P-06

18. 0-B4 B-Kt3 22. P-07 ch K-01

19. P-Kt4 P-R5 Resigns

Mate in three is unavoidable, Bain is undoubtedly the stronger player but in this game he burdened himself with an inferior openies:

FRENCH DEFENSE S. Open Champ Omaha, 1949

Notes by J. B. Gee

ANTASIERE P-K3 P-Q4 G, ROITSTEII
3. Kt-QB3 Kt-KB
4. P-KS KKt-Q
eresting game if Blac P-QB4 7. Q-Kt4 face of trouble. Why not e 0-0-0 as an option? Kt-QB3 rentens B-B7 ch and gives ble at his QKt2 as well. P-QR3 his B can go to K3 later d 10, 0-0 0 is safe, II 9. ly so 10, 0.000 (23 and 10, 0.000).

Kt-K4, P.B4 or allows Kt-K45 and ties up Black's 10. Q-R3 A poor move now in order to stop Rt-KKts.
Why not P-KB37
11. B-K3 P-QR3 15. Ktrkt QxK1
12. O-O-O P-QrKts 16. Kt-Q4 Q-B2
13. Kt-K2 Kt-Kt3 17. P-KKt4
14. Kt(2)-Q4 Q-B2 P-Kt3, Q-Kt3; 20.
B-K1 would give Black chances of defense.
B-PAP KPaP 19. Q-Kt3 Kt-85
A bad error. B-B4 to get that strong Kt at Q1 cut of the game would be better Kt22. E-KR4 QB 10. Kt-81 P-Kt3, R-Kt1
22. P-KR4 QB 10. Kt-81 P-Kt3, R-Kt1
23. P-KT4 QB 10. Kt-81 P-Kt3, R-Kt1
24. P-Kt4 QB 10. Kt-81 P-Kt3, R-Kt1
25. P-KR4 QB 10. Kt-81 P-Kt3, R-Kt1
27. P-KR4 QB 10. Kt-81 P-Kt3, R-Kt1
28. P-KT4 QB 10. Kt-81 P-Kt4
29. P-KR4 QB 10. Kt-81 P-Kt4
29. P-KT4 P-KT4
29. P-K is no answer for Black P-Kt4 26. P-QKt3 P-Kt5 27. P-KKt69 R-KKt2 24. PxP 25. P-R4

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SANTASIERE

Black could well resign here. The end is in 27. B-Q2 28. B-R6
As mate must follow in a few move

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CHESS LIFE ABROAD

(Continued from page 3, col. 5) GELLER



Old Age Defeats Youth Levenfish Beats Smyslo

GRUENFELD DEFENSE

Round 6, October 24, 1949 White LEVENFISH Black

After Black's 20th move SMYSLOV



gly study position for nd the following be 21. R-B3 k 22. RxKtP 23. R-R3 ch 24. PxP dis. ch 25. PxP 26. PxR (Q) ch 27. BxB 28. Q-K3 29. Kt-Q4 30. K-K2 If 84. ..., Q: KtxKP 31. KtxP ch 32. R-R8 ch taken on account of 33. Q-R6 ch and 34. Q-Kt7 mate, 32. K-B2 33. Kt-Kt5 ch K-Kt2 34. RxR Resigns

Solutions:

Finish It the Clever Way!

Position No. 23: 1, KtxRP, BxKt; 2, R-R8 ch!, KxR; 3, QxB ch, R-R3 (if 3,, K-Kt]; 4, R-Kt8 ch!); 4, QxBP ch, R-Kt2; 5, R-Kt7, Resigns.

Position No. 24: 1., RxBP1 and White seigned, If the White R or Kt or P take he Black R; 2. QxQ wins, If 2. QxQ, RxR will leave Black a piece down, as both mate and the Q are threatened.

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