



Chess Life



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Monday,
February 5, 1951

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS GROW!

Players Responding With Enthusiasm To USCF Life Membership Campaign

By WILLIAM ROJAM

When the Board of Directors of the United States Chess Federation at their annual meeting in Detroit, July 13-14, 1950 determined that Life Membership in the Federation should remain at \$50.00 until a quota of 250 Life Members had been reached, they confidently expected that the announcement of this decision would serve to advise many of the members of an investment in chess and for chess that had never previously been widely advertised. Once advertised, they were certain that many players would avail themselves of the opportunity to become members for life and by one moderate investment thereby assure themselves of all benefits of membership (including CHESS LIFE) for many years to come.

This policy was given publicity in the November 5th issue of CHESS LIFE, both in the published minutes of the Directors' Meeting and in an editorial entitled "An Investment in Chess."

Coming as it did, directly before the Christmas season, the immediate response of chess players was somewhat limited by the distractions of Christmas shopping. But since the Christmas bills are paid, applications for Life Membership are beginning to flood the mails to USCF Membership Secretary Glenn E. Hartleb, 3219 Washington Avenue, Erie, Penna., and the current indications seem to guarantee that the quota of 250 Life Members will be filled before the end of 1951. Thereafter the dues for Life Membership will become \$25.00.

But there is still time, as Membership Secretary Hartleb points out, for alert chess players to squeeze in under the mark if they do not hesitate too long in making their decision. Life Membership is in the words of Montgomery Major, editor of CHESS LIFE: "An investment in chess and an investment to the chess playing world that the Life Member was willing to back his own judgement in declaring that chess was worthy of support and fulfilled a definite and creative function in this troubled world in which we live."

PENNA. LEADING IN LIFE MEMBERS

In the early submission of applications for Life Memberships in the United States Chess Federation, Pennsylvania leads with six, while Texas and Michigan are tied with three each. New York has four, and California and Illinois have two each. Other states represented by single Life Memberships are Florida, Minnesota, New Jersey and Ohio. One Life Member lives in Barry, Glamorgan, South Wales in the British Isles.

NEW PUBLICATION BY DULUTH CLUB

Latest in chess publications is the new "Chess Between Friends" of the Duluth (Minn.) Chess and Checker Club which had an auspicious beginning with its first issue dated January, 1951. Beginning modestly with two pages, it contains news, a game score and the interesting story of the development of plans (reported in CHESS LIFE several issues ago) to bring chess to Nopeming Sanatorium, where a questionnaire is now being circulated among the patients by the staff to determine how many would be interested in chess activities.

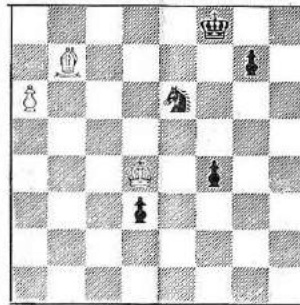
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PLAN US JUNIOR AT PHILADELPHIA

The U.S. Junior Championship Tournament will be held in Philadelphia at Franklin Hall, Franklin Institute, and the tentative date has been set as the week of July 23rd, 1951. Details will be announced later, but the plans call for low-cost housing, historical trips, a ball game and other recreational features. Franklin Hall is air-conditioned and an ideal spot for a tournament. There will be no entry fee under present plans, but all players must be or become USCF members. Entries will be invited from other lands, particularly from Canada which in the past has always sent a strong contingent and on several occasions almost captured the title.

Position No. 91
By F. E. Condon
Berger, Texas
Composed for CHESS LIFE



sk2, 1B4p1, P3s3, 8, 3K1p2, 3p4, 8, 8
White to play and win

White To Play And Win!

Conducted by William Rojam

POSITION NO. 91 represents an original composition of the hard-working secretary of the Oklahoma State Chess Association, F. E. Condon. White, in check, has six legal moves with his King; but only one of them will serve to win.

Position No. 92 is a reprint of the Emil Richter position on which there has been so much dispute. Neil Bernstein has written very convincingly that after: 1. Kt-K4, B-K2; 2. Kt-B2, BQ3; 3. KtQ3, B-Kt6; 4. Kt-Kt4 that 4. B-R5 draws. I appealed to Mr. Richard Guy, who edits the Endgame Section of British Chess Magazine, for suggestions on this difficult situation, and he has responded generously with the following ideas: 5. Kt-Q5, B-B3 (Bernstein suggests 5. B-K2 which is met by 6. Kt-B7); 6. Kt-K3! Now, if 6. B-K2; 7. Kt-Kt4, B-Q3; 8. P-R6! If 6. B any other; 7. Kt-B5! (e.g. 6. B-K4; 7. Kt-B5!, B-B5; 8. KtXp, etc.) If 6. B-Q5; 7. Kt-B5, B-K4; 8. P-R6!, etc. Mr. Edmund Hand of West Haven, Conn. has also submitted a similar analysis, showing that 4. B-R5 does not draw for Black.

It is really remarkable that a study in such miniature form should display such a wealth of variation. As Mr. Guy suggests: "When the White Knight is on e6, he threatens Sd8, Sb5 and the Black Pawn, so the Black Bishop must then play to f6—the only square to guard all these threats. Similarly Sf5 must be met by Bf8 because of the threats Sd6 and the Black Pawn, and if Sf5 is answered by Be5 (the only other square answering both threats) then h6 wins. Proceeding in this way many 'conjugate' squares can be found, although it becomes increasingly difficult as time goes on, as alternatives creep in after a while."

Position No. 89 and 90 by Milos Marysko have met claims that their solutions as given are not sound. The validity of No. 89 is challenged by readers Russell Chauvenet, Neil Bernstein and Eddie Gault, while both Edmund Hand and Russell Chauvenet challenge No. 90. We will discuss these positions in our next column.

Please turn to page four for solutions.

Chess In Stamps

By MRS. TURNER NEARING

THE American Hobby Federation believes that Stamp Collecting is America's most popular hobby. By estimating 12 to 15 million stamp collectors, all other hobbies put together, are outnumbered two to one. In stamps, one may find a subject in which he is interested, whether a country or something which is topical, whereby possibilities of exploration are almost unlimited.

In the history of sports, we do not see a revival of the Ancient Olympic Games of Greece until 1896, when the first modern Olympiad was held in Athens. Since that time, numerous Olympics have been held, and stamps issued to honor the Olympic Ideal of Sport, and to publicize the games.

Though chess is considered one of the oldest games in history, originating in India around 500 A.D., it seems strange that it has not been so honored upon a commemorative postage stamp until 1947. At this time, Bulgaria issued a set of five stamps, in denominations of 2, 4, 9, 20 and 60 Leva. Here chess is depicted for the first time, along with bicycle races, basket ball, soccer, and flags of the participating nations.

9 Leva, depicts the Knight, or a horse's head, in white upon a background of orange brown. The horse's head mounted upon a small pedestal is probably a pattern of a knight used in chess sets around 1500 to 1800. The horse has always been universal in chess, and moved in the beginning of the game precisely as the knight does in modern chess. The move is supposed to mimic the jump of the horse. It presumably represents two qualities of the horse's leap: the prancing oblique move, and the ability to jump over an obstacle.

(Please turn to page 3, column 3)

ANDERSON WINS AT RAPID CITY

The championship of Rapid City (S.D.) went to USCF Director M. F. Anderson with the perfect score of 7-0 in an 8-player round robin event held by the Rapid City Chess Club. Second place went to Richard B. Denu with 5½-1½, losing to Anderson and drawing with Clifton Stearns. In third place was Sgt. Lee Platt with 5-2, while E. M. Welling placed fourth with 4-3.

SWEENEY HIGH WINS TOURNEY

Upsetting the records for the past four seasons, Sweeney High School won the Hudson County Interscholastic Team Championship with 4-0 in matches and 15½-4½ in games to gain possession of the Paul Helbig Trophy. Demarest High was second with 1½-2½ and 9-11 in games, while Memorial High was third with ½-3½ and 5½-14½ in games.

The tourney was conducted by the Jersey City YMCA Chess Club. Both Demarest and Memorial have won the trophy twice, and each expected its permanent possession this year, but Sweeney High upset their aspirations.

FORT WORTH LAYS PLANS FOR OPEN

The Fort Worth Chess Club at a recent meeting elected its new director and charged them with the important task of laying plans for the management and conduct of the U.S. Open Championship, which will be held at Fort Worth this summer from July 9-21. Announcement of details will follow in the near future.

Following the organizational schedule of the USCF, the Fort Worth Club elected the following officials: Clarence Cleere president; Frank R. Graves secretary-treasurer; and Eddie Watson assistant secretary; while the nine vice-presidents were assigned the following tasks: James E. Rawson, youth; Richard Wells, collegiate; E. A. Bolliger, membership; Owen Burnett, instruction; A. G. Miller, tournaments; Col. D. F. Walker, rating; C. A. Renton, finance; Cecil Parkin, veterans; Keith Oliver, publicity.

PENN. U. SWEEPS PHILA. LEAGUE

The University of Pennsylvania chess team, defending champions of the Philadelphia City Chess League, took their 7th straight victory in the fall rounds of the league matches to win the first half of the 1951 title contest. Final standings of the first half show Pennsylvania 7-0, North City 6-1 in second, and Franklin Chess 5-2 in third place. The crucial match with North City ended in a 4-2 victory for Penn in which details were (with Penn player named first): Rubinow 1, Morris 0; Hudson 0, Hickman 1; Schwalberg 1, Siebert 0; Stiefel 1, Koppany 0; Cotter 1, R. Nickel 0; Finkelstein 0, Huth 1.

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Vol. V, Number 11

Monday, February 5, 1951

CHESS AND MORALE

MAN is a stubborn and reluctant creature whose progress through the centuries is often marked with longing backward glances toward the past and an undefeatable inner conviction that yesterday was better than today. His motto is *festina lente*, and he places the accent on the *lente* portion of the motto.

Despite this ineradicable misgiving when viewing progress, man has nevertheless progressed—and nowhere are the terms of his progression better defined than in comparing modern penological theory and practice with that of the past. It is easy enough to make the comparison in the USA without resorting to research in musty tomes, for the USA possesses not only those institutions which endeavor to represent the practical application of modern theories of penology, but also, alas, less laudable examples of prison institutions which would not be considered out of place two hundred years ago.

Among the modern-minded institutions, in which there is full recognition of the fact that punishment itself is less important than rehabilitation, that no institution serves the state well which does not prepare its inmates for the responsibilities of freedom in such a manner that they will not return, it has become increasingly important to consider the moral and mental well-being of the inmates as being of equal importance with their physical health.

But as yet, too few of these institutions have recognized the fact that Chess presents the greatest possibilities for the creation of morale.

We therefore particularly wish to call attention to the fact that the Rhode Island State Prison at Howard under the enlightened encouragement of Warden William C. Kindelan presents a shining example of what can be done for morale by the development of chess playing among the inmates.

Under the guidance of Warden Kindelan, the Howard Institution has developed a very active chess club. This club, by the enlightened policy of the institution, receives further encouragement by the visits of a number of outside chess clubs from Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, and occasional visits by such leading stars as Weaver W. Adams who gave a simultaneous exhibition and lecture at the Howard Club shortly before going to England for the Hastings Tournament.

Inmates at Howard are not only encouraged to learn chess and join in the club's activities but are encouraged to develop their game and outside contacts through the medium of correspondence chess. The game is also encouraged by a regular column in the prison publication, *Howard Times*, which gives news, game scores, analysis and problems.

As a result in building morale, Howard is also developing chess players, opening to them a future field of social activity which will serve to bridge over the rather strained months of adjustment into civil life.

We asked Warden William C. Kindelan if he had any specific reasons for this promotion of chess at Howard, and Warden Kindelan replied by letter:

My views about the utility and benefit of chess in recreational programs in prisons is that it has equal importance to the morale of prisoners as other sports such as baseball, football, basketball, volleyball, etc. In prisons, considerable attention is paid to the promotion of these other mentioned sports to the extent that uniforms are purchased for them for inmates and here and in other prisons, we have an athletic director and everything is done within reason to promote competition. Up to recently here, no attention was paid to the furtherance of such activities among the inmates not athletically inclined but who could and would be interested in such games as chess. I believe it was worthwhile to devote a little attention to the promotion of chess and I might say for the benefit of those who would be interested, that it has been worthwhile both for the inmates interested in the game, for the institution and for myself.

It seems to us that the example of the Rhode Island State Prison at Howard is one that might well be followed by similar institutions throughout the land. While we cannot expect all the various heads of these institutions to take the personal interest evinced by Warden Kindelan, whose own contributions to its encouragement have included numerous prizes for various chess club tournaments beside the very impressive championship trophy shown on another page in this issue, we feel sure that they would find the project beneficial to the morale, particularly of those inmates not inclined to the more physical forms of sport. And the local chess club can supply the necessary initial instruction and advice where a prison staff boasts no chess player to undertake the task.

Montgomery Major

Education in Chess has to be an education in independent thinking and judging. Chess must not be memorized, simply because it is not important enough. If you load your memory, you should know why. Memory is too valuable to be stocked with trifles.

—Emanuel Lasker

Mate The Subtle Way!

by Vincent L. Eaton

Address all communications to this column to Vincent L. Eaton, 612 McNeill Road, Silver Spring, Maryland.

OUR sincerest congratulations go to James Bolton of New Haven, Connecticut, and Reverend G. Murray Chidley of Toronto, Canada, who have tied for first place at the end of the first Ladder competition. Both of them made perfect scores on all of the problems published since the contest began as a regular feature in the September 20 issue. They will receive suitable prizes, their scores will be cancelled, and they will begin again at the foot of the Ladder. Hereafter, so long as sufficient interest in the competition continues, prizes will be awarded every two months to the solver (or solvers) having the highest number of points.

Problem No. 227

By Francis J. C. DeBlasio
Bronklyn, N. Y.
Entry in CHESS LIFE
Composing Tourney
Black: 8 men



White: 8 men
K1b5, 57, 2p54, B4R4, 2S1Q3, 8, 2R1s3,
b2R3
White mates in two moves

Problem No. 229

By C. W. Sheppard
Norristown, Pa.
Entry in CHESS LIFE
Composing Tourney
Black: 11 men



White: 9 men
2Q2B2, 2Sp4, 1pk1p5, 1S4K1, 1rR2p1,
1p3R2, 1sbP4, q6B
White mates in two moves

Problem No. 228

By A. J. Fink
San Francisco, Calif.
Entry in CHESS LIFE
Composing Tourney
Black: 11 men



White: 11 men
B5K6, ps2Q1Rp, qb2S3, 1b1k2p, 3P2P1,
4p3, S1R1P3, 3r4
Whites mates in two moves

Problem No. 230

By Elliott E. Stearns
Cleveland, Ohio
Unpublished
Black: 6 men



White: 10 men
Q2B4, 3pS3, 5k2, b2p2S1, 4p1P1, 2P2P1K,
1B31P1, 3
White mates in three moves

Solutions to previously published problems on page four.

The Reader's Road To Chess

By Kester Svendsen

THE BOOK OF CHESSMEN. By Alex Hammond. New York: William Morrow, \$5. 160 pp., 62 plates.

ALEX HAMMOND has long been known as one of the world's foremost collectors of chess sets. This handsomely printed book is the fruit of a lifetime of study and pursuit of unusual or important sets. The history and romance of the game are nowhere more strikingly shown than in the chessmen of different eras and civilizations. Some of the most beautiful in the world were made in India centuries ago; and for more than a thousand years pieces have been carved from wood, ivory, amber, and semi-precious stones. For hundreds of years, a Sumatran tribe has improvised and thrown away after each game sets made of bamboo and pebbles. Chinese sets, imposed on the famous "Cantonese balls-within-balls" of ivory, used Napoleon's features for the king. Good Moslems must play with non-representational cylinders and squat based cones. The set presented Paul Morphy in 1859 was made of gold and silver. These particulars could be multiplied extensively, for the author of this fine book has seen chessmen of more than four hundred designs. His own collection includes many more than the two hundred known and recognized varieties.

Alex Hammond's purpose is to describe and illustrate as many outstanding sets as possible, but his book is something more, a special history of chess. The chapters on Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Spanish, Indian, and even American sets are complemented by chapters on the origins, on English and foreign nomenclature, on famous rulers, prejudices, and other forces influencing the game and the design of the pieces. Mr. Hammond's adventures as a collector, his personal reminiscence, and odd bits of chess lore make this volume much more than a mere collector's guide or illustrated history. He repeats in a new setting Alekhine's witticism that two bishops ("fou" in French also means "fool") always win, but three never; and expands Morphy's famous remark about the Steinitz gambit.

But it is the sixty-two plates that are the center of the book. These show more than sixty-nine sets or pieces in gorgeous detail. From the frontispiece king in a howdah on an elephant to the Francis Joseph set with carved board at the end, the illustrations hold the eye. The rich ornamentation of Oriental sets, the delicately carved (Please turn to page 4, column 1)

Alekhine's Early Chess Career

Additional Data
By A. Buschke

IV. THE "MOSCOW CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT 1916" ANOTHER ALEKHINE LEGEND SHATTERED

(Continued)

The short introduction DeMont gives the "game" in "Elements of Chess", game no. VIII, p. 121, reads:

"By the courtesy of the winner I am able to give the following extraordinary game; to have five queens, all in active play, can only be termed unique in master play."

The "winner", of course, is Alekhine as leader of the white pieces, and Grigorieff's name is given as his opponent. Mr. J. DeMont was kind enough to give us some additional information, but we do not think that it clears up the mystery. According to his information, he "believes" that "Dr. Alekhine gave me the game... at Margate in 1923" and he adds "I believe the game to be quite genuine, Dr. Alekhine was very particular in these matters, and the reason why he did not give the name of the opponent in his book was because it was just an offhand game. To the best of my recollection the game was played as an offhand game in 1915 when Dr. Alekhine was convalescing, but I would not like to put this forward as an historical fact, but of course, "It is a little difficult to remember what happened some twenty six years ago." (Mr. DeMont's letter to the author, Oct. 2, 1950).

We have now hardly any doubt that many of the readers of Alekhine's book, "My Best Games of Chess (1908-1923)", when they found the "game" without Grigorieff's name in 1927 in a note to game 26, remembered DuMont's "Elements of Chess", and that also many of the compilers who later published the "game" with full names again, combined more or less knowingly the two sources.

This, however, leaves still unanswered the mystery of Chernen's statement to have found the game with full names quoted in "My Best Games" as well as the other mystery why Alekhine, when he forgot to mention Grigorieff's name in 1927 in his own book, should have given his opponent's name to DuMont in Margate 1923 for publication of the "game" in "Elements of Chess", not to speak of the even more mysterious fact that the "game" was published with full names as early as August 1924 in a Western Australian newspaper.

We would be grateful to any reader who could contribute anything to a solution of these problems. We ourselves can offer a possible explanation only to the discrepancy that Alekhine should have given the "game" to DuMont in 1923 with his opponent's name, while he omitted Grigorieff's name in his own book: no doubt a man with such imagination as Alekhine retains "fantastic" situations (and sequences of moves leading to them) for longer in his memory than uninteresting games and after a while he can no longer distinguish clearly between actually played games and "fantastic" variations which he figured out while he was playing an otherwise not too exciting game. — in fact, the memory of the "fantastic" variation will soon supersede the course of the uninteresting actual game in his memory.

Now, when Alekhine was asked by DuMont to contribute an interesting game of his career, it might well be that Alekhine rattled off the sequence of moves leading to the "fantastic" five queens' position as something he really believed to have played at one time, and when asked to say (Please turn to page 4, col. 5)

Chess For The Tired Business Man

By Fred Reinfeld

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N.N. Et Al

WE ALL OWE a vote of thanks for many hours of enjoyment of beautiful chess to our humble friends N. N., Amateur and their quaintly named colleague A. N. Other. Bearing out Milton's "They also serve who only stand and wait," allow themselves to be used as the raw material for many a beautiful game.

VIENNA GAME

Vienna, 1905

White
AMATEUR
1. P-K4
2. K1-QB3
3. P-B4
4. BXP
5. K1-B3
6. B-Q3?

Black
L. LOEWY
P-K4
K1-KB3
P-Q4
K1XP
K1-QB3

In openings of a predominantly tactical character, such tampering with the rules of common-sense development are often lethal in their consequences. In this case, White blocks the development of his Queen's Bishop, which remains at home throughout the game, which in turn causes White's downfall!

6. PXP e.p.
7. O-O
8. O-O

P-KB4
K1XB
B-B3 ch

This aggressive development is made possible by the fact that White's Queen's Pawn, being blocked, cannot interpose.

9. K-R1
10. B-QK15

O-O

Graciously acknowledging his blunder: he hopes to play P-Q4.

11. P-Q4
12. P-Q4

K1-KK15!

A sly rejoinder: he means to answer 11. P-Q4 with 11. Ktx QP. Meanwhile he threatens 11. Kt-B7 ch.

13. BxK1
14. PxB

One thing leads to another: in order to force P-Q4, he opens up a magnificent diagonal for Black's Queen's Bishop.

15. P-KR3
16. P-KR3

At last he has attained his heart's desire, only to drive the Bishop to an equally good diagonal. Although no chess player, Epictetus put it perfectly: "You will find it true that the things that are eagerly followed and admired are of no use to them that have gained them; while they that have not gained them imagine that, if they are acquired, everything will come along with them."

17. B-Q3
18. B-R3

Threatening 13. B-R3 very strongly.

19. P-KR3
20. P-KR3

21. P-KR3
22. P-KR3

23. P-KR3
24. P-KR3

25. P-KR3
26. P-KR3

27. P-KR3
28. P-KR3

29. P-KR3
30. P-KR3

31. P-KR3
32. P-KR3

33. P-KR3
34. P-KR3

35. P-KR3
36. P-KR3

37. P-KR3
38. P-KR3

39. P-KR3
40. P-KR3

41. P-KR3
42. P-KR3

43. P-KR3
44. P-KR3

Far more effective than 15. Q-R5 ch (but let's keep that move in reserve!).

16. Q-K1
If 16. QxR (or 16. PxR, Q-R5 ch and 17., Q-R5 ch); 17. K-Kt1 (if 17. Q-R3, Q-K8 mate. Alas, that undeveloped Queen's Bishop!); Q-K8 ch; 18. Q-B1, B-R7 ch wins.

16. Q-R5 ch!!
A worthy windup.

17. QxQ R-B8 mate
(One of many brilliant games included in RELAX WITH CHESS by Fred Reinfeld, published by the Pitman Publishing Corporation.)

What's The Best Move?

By Guilherme Groesser



1b2rkl, pp4p, 2p3l, 3p2sl, 2P2P2, 3B1KP1, PPSg, R1BQRS1
Black to play

Send solutions to Position No. 64 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, by March 5, 1951.

Solution to Position No. 61

This simple (?) King and Pawn ending occurred in a game between Arthur Duke and Harold Morton in the 1936 American Chess Federation Open Championship at Philadelphia. Morton (Black) played 1. K-B6 and the game was abandoned as a draw. Post-mortem analysis demonstrated a win for Black by 1. ... K-Q5; 2. K-R5 (if 2. K1K3, K-Q6; 3. P-K3, K-Q5 winning the opposition as in the main theme); K-B6; K-R4; K-K7; P-K3, K-B6; 5. K-R3, K-Q5; 6. K-R4 (or 6. K-K3, K-Q6! which leads to same result); K-B7; 7. K-R3, K-B6; 8. K-R4, K-K7; 9. P-K5, PxP ch; 10. KxP, K-B6 and wins.

We acknowledge correct solutions as received from: Samuel Baron (Brooklyn), J. E. Constock (Duluth), Carl Diesen (Oregon), Joe Faucher (New Haven), Eddie Gault (New Brighton), Robert E. Knight (Danville), A. Kaufman (Chicago), Dr. J. Mehnke (Portland), Wm. B. Wilson (Amherstburg), Neil P. Witting (Salem).

It happens that 1. ... K-B6 can also be made to win by 1. ... K-B6; 2. K-R5, K-B7; 3. K-R3, K-Q6; 4. K-K3, K-Q5, etc., as has been demonstrated by Charles Joachim (Seattle) and Edw. J. Korpany (Woodside). We accept their answers as also correct. But we cannot accept the solutions based upon 1. ... K-B6; 2. K-R5, which do not demonstrate the whole principle of triangulation upon which the win against best defense is based. A number of best solvers failed to crack this nut merely by giving White the move K-R5 at a time when it was not forced but permitted Black to gain a win. One of these, alas, began with the right idea up to move seven when his logic slipped by permitting 7. K-R5 when K-R3 would have held the draw. An interesting and instructive position.

SOLVERS' LADDER

Write Gault 23; Joseph Huss 20; William Couture 20; Dr. J. Mehnke 20; Edmund Niles 20; Dr. Joseph Ertan 19; A. Kaufman 16; E. A. Baker 15; L. F. Gratsch 10; J. E. Constock 9; Wm. B. Wilson 9; Neil Bernstein 8; A. C. Pagan 8; R. A. MacCallister 7; D. A. McDaniel 7; E. F. Miller 7; George Faucher 7; David Arganiam 6; M. A. Michaels 6; Charles Joachim 5; Samuel Baron 5; James E. Barry 5; Robert L. Smith 5; Robert Grande 4; Murray Burn 4; G. G. Gallagher 4; David Levadi 4; Max F. Mueller 4; Yun V. Oganessov 4; N. P. Witting 4; L. R. Lang 3; C. Morgan 2; Richard Mitchell 2; R. L. Caskey 1; R. R. Coveyou 1; P. L. Dietz 1; *Joe Faucher 1; Carl Diesen 1; J. B. Gee 1; R. E. Knight 1; *Edw. J. Korpany 1; Red Lewis 1; Hugh Meyers 1; H. R. Meifert 1; D. V. Sullivan 1; A. Schmuclker 1; U. S. Smith 1; Hugh Underwood 1.
*Indicates beginning of a third ascent of the ladder.



The William C. Kindelan Championship Trophy of the Howard Chess Club

CHESS IN STAMPS

(Continued from page 1, column 3)

When World Champion Dr. Alexander Alekhine died suddenly, March 24, 1946, the chess world was left without a champion. The World Chess Federation (FIDE) decided that an International Match Tournament should be held, and the date was set for the second half of the tournament at Moscow, April 10-18, 1948. Since this was the first tournament ever to be held to determine the Chess Championship of the World, this was a memorable event. Participating in this tournament were: Mikhail Botvinnik, who became the winner; Vassily Smyslov; Samuel Reshevsky; Paul Keres; and Dr. Max Euwe, former World Champion, 1935-37. To commemorate this 16th Chess Championship of the World, Russia issued a set of three stamps, in denomination of 30, 40 and 50 Kopeck.

30 Kopeck, greenish blue; 40 Kopeck, violet; both depict "The Hall of Columns" building, in which the tournament was held. In the right hand corner is shown the plaque which was won by Botvinnik.

50 Kopeck, orange brown, shows the plaque, upon which is the chess board, and a large Rook.

Throughout all chess history, there has always been a piece placed in the corner square, with the power of moving along straight lines, vertically or horizontally, in any direction. Until the Queen's power was increased in the 16th century, the Rook was the most powerful piece on the board.

The World Championship Candidates' Tournament was held at Budapest, Hungary, April 9 to May 16, 1950, to determine which contender would meet Mikhail Botvinnik next year for world honors. United States' strong contenders, Samuel Reshevsky and Reuben Fine, were absent, due to the U.S. Government not granting visas to Hungary at this time. Regrettable as it was that America's grand masters could not participate, the event brought together many of the world's best chess masters, and provided a severe test for the winners. A set of three stamps, 60 Filler in red violet, 1 Forint in blue, and 1/60 Forint in dark brown were issued.

60 Filler depicts two chess players engaged in their game. In the top center is a wreath-encircled chess board, upon which is placed a large Rook.

1 Forint shows the large building in which the tournament was held, and a larger design of the victory wreath, chess board, and Rook.

1/60 Forint carries the same design in the left corner, but the main theme is a ribbon of flags of the various countries participating, encircling the globe of the earth, with an airplane flying toward Budapest.

The first day cover carries a most attractive cancellation, a replica of the rook and chess board, encircled by the wreath—in words, which is the commemorative event and date. (A first day cover is an envelope with the stamp or stamps of the issue upon it, cancelled on the date of their emission, and they usually have some appropriate design printed on the left half of the envelope which is called a cachet. It is customary on the first day of issue of the stamp or stamps.)

Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia was host to the Chess Olympiad, August 20 to September 10, 1950. This was the 9th International Chess Team Championship Tournament, and the first post-war. There is always great interest in International Team Tournaments, which have been prolific sources for new talented masters. The United States team players were: Samuel Reshevsky, Larry Evans, George Kramer, I. A. Horowitz, George Shainswit and U. S. Champion Herman Steiner. Dubrovnik is one of the most famous International resorts, located on the Adriatic Sea. This tournament was beautifully organized by the Yugoslav Chess Federation, with all the resources of the government behind it. It is rumored the cost of the tournament was \$100,000. All transportation inside Yugoslavia was by air. All travelling expenses of teams outside Europe were paid by the organizers. Handsome accommodations were provided all the visiting teams. Yugoslavia provided special issue of stamps, and broadcasted the play to all leading chess centers in Yugoslavia, and bulletins abroad. Five beautiful vari-colored stamps in commemoration were issued.

2 Dinar, brown purple and light brown, depicts a large Bishop (in early chess referred to as "counselor" or "advisor"), resembling an airplane beacon giving four directions, which is superimposed upon a chess board, that is centered upon the map of Yugoslavia.

3 Dinar, in colors of brown, black, olive and yellow, depicts a Rook, encircled by flags of the 16 nations participating.

5 Dinar, dark green, blue and yellow, displays chessmen upon chess board, behind which is the globe of the earth.

10 Dinar, plum, blue, dark brown and orange colors, shows two chess players engrossed in their game, even time clocks clearly shown, but, the main theme is the map of Yugoslavia, in the center of which is a globe-shaped chess board with chessmen upon it.

20 Dinar, in dark blue, light blue, and deep yellow, depicts the Knight encircled by the flags of the 16 nations participating, with Dubrovnik on the Adriatic Sea, in the background.

| GREATER CHICAGO CHESS LEAGUE | | PHILADELPHIA CITY LEAGUE | |
|------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-----|
| LEAGUE | | First Half Standings | |
| First Half | | | |
| Electro-Motive Chess | 4-4 | University of Pennsylvania | 7-0 |
| Irving Park Y Chess | 4-1 | North City Bishops | 6-1 |
| Austin Chess and Checker | 23-23 | Franklin Chess | 5-2 |
| West Towns Chess | 2-3 | Temple University | 4-3 |
| West Suburban Chess | 1-3 | Central YMCA Chess | 3-4 |
| Hawthorne Chess | 1-4 | North City Knights | 2-5 |
| | | Germantown Y Chess | 1-6 |
| | | Stetson Hat Co. | 0-7 |

Chess Life In New York

By Eliot Hearst

THE Manhattan Chess Club, powerhouse of New York's Metropolitan Chess League, began its annual championship recently with the largest and undoubtedly the strongest field of contenders in quite a few years. Included among the favorites for the eagerly-sought club title are, of course, the 1950 co-champions, Denker and Shainswit, while Arthur Bisguier, George Kramer, Max Pavey, and Albert Pinkus particularly are expected to place high in the final standing. Robert Willman and Sidney Bernstein, long inactive, are also competing this year as are Edward Schwartz and Jack Sodakoff, both well-known New York experts.

At the end of two rounds Boris Siff, who was one of the four contestants qualifying from the preliminary section, leads with 2-0. Features of the opening rounds were Denker's win over Shainswit and Pavey's masterful victory over Bisguier in a stubbornly contested Roy Lopez.

The Marshall Chess Club Junior Championship resulted in a close victory for Karl Burger with a score of 6-2; Phillip Schwartz, 5 1/2-2 1/2, was second. Both Burger and Schwartz are freshmen at Columbia University, and from their showing in this tourney they certainly should be voted the "Collegiate Rookies of the Year".

The Brooklyn Public Library now features a chess exhibit arranged by members of the Brooklyn Chess Club. Included in this display are some unusual objects—a beautiful set of chessmen after Tennial's famous illustrations in "Alice in Wonderland" (one can almost imagine the white queen chasing her shawl over the 64 squares!), a straw set made in a DP camp—said to have consumed 500 hours of work in the process and a Guatemala Indian set, strangely reminiscent of the architecture employed in Pre-Spanish new world culture. Also on display is a representative collection of chess books. No doubt many citizens of the borough across the river will be encouraged to use the library's adequate chess section!

In Brief: Marshall Chess Club recently had an intra-club match at which a portrait of Grandmaster Marshall by S. Jacoby was unveiled. The genial founder of the club is loved and remembered by all who knew him. . . G. Kramer, A. Bisguier, and R. Einhorn, all finalists in Manhattan Chess Club championship, are awaiting final news from their draft boards.

For The Tournament-Minded

March 1

U. S. Women's Championship Correspondence Chess
Conducted by the Correspondence Chess League of America, women's correspondence championship, open to non-members of the CCLA as well as members; players as evenly matched as possible in round one; 7 to 9 players in section; section winners receive bronze medal or cash prize at option and advance free to final round; players winning 4 1/2 points in 7-player section, 5 1/2 points in 8-player section, 6 1/2 points in 9-player section qualify for finals; Entry fee \$1.00 per section (no limit to number of section player may enter); for entry or details write: Dick Rees, CCLA Secretary, 2826 Correctionville Road, Sioux City 19, Iowa.

SEND ORDERS TO:
FRED REINFELD
3310 Rochambeau Avenue
New York 67, N. Y.

- K. Crittenden Dr. M. Herzberger
E. J. Korpany J. E. Howarth
J. Lapin J. Mayer
Dr. J. Platz F. Reinhold
Dr. B. Rozsa A. E. Santalera
J. Soudakoff Wayne Wagner

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED

U. S. Open Championship Detroit, 1950

Notes by Dr. J. Platz

White J. SOUDAKOFF Black J. DONOVAN
1. P-Q4 P-Q4 5. Pxp Pxp
2. P-QB4 P-K3 6. P-K3 B-K2
3. K-QB3 K-KB3 7. B-Q2 P-B3
4. B-K5 Q-K2 8. Kt-B3

Occasionally it happens even to the best player, especially those who know theory well, that they play the opening of a game rather indifferently. Apparently White felt that a little transposition of moves did not matter, but is severely punished by Black's energetic answer. The correct move which would have prevented Black's 8th would have been B-Q5.

11. O-O White follows the standard procedure against the orthodox defense of the Queen's Gambit Declined which consists of castling K-side and the minority attack on the Q-side.

12. P-K14! Strong and logical! With his strong outpost in the center Black is entitled to his K-side attack.

13. P-Q14 P-K15 15. KR-K1? 14. Kt-Q2 R-B3

16. BXP After 16. BXP DONOVAN



16. Supplementing Black's previous move. If White accepts the Kt he will be mated by QxP ch; 18. K-B1, B-R3.

17. Kt-B1 By giving up a P White hopes to stem the Black onslaught, but a policy of appeasement has never worked too well, not even in chess. A possible defense was 17. R-K1 although after Kt-K5 Black still stands far superior and who wants to admit that his previous strategy was wrong anyway?

18. R-K1 QxP ch 22. R-KB1 BxR 19. R-K1 QxP 23. R-B3 Kt-K5! 20. RxB

21. BxR In spite of some exchanges Black's attack continued unabated; the Kt cannot be taken because of Q-B3 ch.

22. R-B3 There is no defense for White. Le. 24. Kt-K2, Kt-B7 ch; 25. K-K1, Q-K5 and the ending is hopeless; or if 24. Kt-Q1, R-K1; 25. RxB ch; 26. Kt-K2, Kt-B7 ch; 27. K-K1, Kt-Q8 ch, winning a piece.

24. R-KB1! 27. K-R1 RxB 25. Kt-K2 Kt-B7 ch 28. PxB Q-B7! 26. K-K1 Kt-R6 ch Resigns

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No. 219 (Rasmussen): 1. R-R5. No. 220 (Kassner): 1. Kt-B2. No. 221 (Lassberg): 1. Kt-B5. No. 222 (Lundberg): 1. B-B2, threat: 2. Kt-B7 ch and 3. Q-K3 mate. If 1. ... K-Q5; 2. KtxP ch. If 1. ... P-B5; 2. Q-K7 ch. If 1. ... K-B5; 2. Kt-B7 ch.

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