



# Chess Life



Vol. V  
Number 15

Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation

Thursday,  
April 5, 1951

## SULLIVAN REGAINS TITLE



NO LONG COUNTS HERE!

The Illinois Bell Telephone "Ten Second Timing Clock" which is one of the feature attractions of the Illinois State Chess Association display at the World Hobby Show in Chicago. Leaning over the clock is USCF Director Edwin Asmann, surrounded by members of the Illinois Bell Telephone Chess Club, while the chess set is the 5" King Size Tournament Chessmen of the Gallant Knight Company—the set used at the boards for simultaneous play in the World Hobby Show exhibition.

### BELL CLOCK IS HOBBY SHOW STAR

Most fascinating attraction at the World Hobby Show at the Coliseum at Chicago is the "Ten Second Timing Clock" of the Illinois Bell Telephone Chess Club. Constructed at the Bell Lab., the clock flashes lights on each number consecutively to mark the time accurately, being synchronized with the Bell time system. Each player has a button, as on a regular chess clock, to start the clock for his opponent, and at the end of ten seconds the clock automatically indicates that the limit has been overstepped.

During the Hobby Show at the chess booth of the Illinois State Chess Association at all times 10 boards are open for simultaneous play for the public attending. Simultaneous players for this continuous exhibition come from the co-operation of the Austin Chess & Checker Club, The Hyde Park Chess Club, the Irving Park Y Chess Club, the Chicago Chess and Checker Club, and the Illinois Bell Telephone Chess Club. 5" King Size Tournament sets for the simultaneous are furnished by the Gallant Knight Company of Chicago.

### BRASK CAPTURES ATTLEBORO OPEN

By virtue of victory in a tie-breaking game, Sven Brask won the Attleboro (Mass.) Open City Championship from Frank Gustafson who tied with him 13½-½ in the regular 15 player round robin event. In the regular rounds Gustafson and Brask drew their contest. Third place went to Mathew Grzyb of Providence, R. I., with 11-3, losing games to Brask, Gustafson and Hy Fine. David Hudnut, also of Providence, was fourth with 10-4, while Audley Child and Hy Fine tied for fifth with equal 8½-5½ scores.

### BIG ENTRY MARKS CHGO CITY EVENT

The Chicago City Championship being conducted by the Chicago City Chess League and the Chicago Chess & Checker Club has drawn an unusually strong entry for the round-robin event, which will be played at the rate of one round a week. Among the players are defending champion Paul Poschel, Einar Michelsen, Herman Hähtböhn, Burton Dahlstrom, Paul Tautvaisas, K. Nedved, Leighton, Pizzi and Turiansky, in addition to Angelo Sandrin, Sam Cohen and other strong Chicago players. Dahlstrom will direct the event, which has a 20 player entry list.

### MIAMI U REPEATS IN MAGIC LEAGUE

For the second season the University of Miami chess team has won the championship of the Magic City Chess League of Miami, Fla. This was the same team that placed fourth in the recent Intercollegiate Team Tournament in New York, sparked by Florida State Champion Clarence Kalenian, who scored the highest points of any contestant. University of Miami scored five wins and one draw, while second place in the League went to Greater Miami Chess Club

### SULLIVAN TAKES TENNESSEE OPEN

At the annual Tennessee Open Championship at Oak Ridge, Jerry Sullivan, Jr., of Knoxville captured the Tennessee title with 5½-½, drawing with runner-up Robert Coveyou of Oak Ridge. Coveyou placed second with 5-1, drawing with the winner and Martin Leibowitz. Third place went to Lawrence Noderer of Oak Ridge with 4-2, losing games to Sullivan and Coveyou in the 14 player 6 round Swiss event.

Out of state player Edwin M. Faust of Montgomery, W. Va., with 3½-2½ placed fourth, while the strength of the tournament was evinced by the fact that Kit Crittenden of Raleigh only placed in a tie for fifth. Martin Leibowitz of Oak Ridge, in a tie for fifth, with 3-3 won the Tennessee Junior title. Also in the tie for fifth were USCF Vice-President Martin Southern, Mark Pence, and W. A. Scott of Atlanta, Ga. It was the exclusion of the last from the Southern Open Tournament of 1950 that caused so much unfavorable comment, and it is a pleasure to see his name among the competitors at Oak Ridge.

### MAHER CAPTURES TRI-CITY TITLE

With a score of 5 1-2-1-2, Lawrence Maher of Moline (Ill.) won the Tri-City Open Championship, held by the Tri-City Chess Club at Davenport, Ia., Maher drew with Joe Matherly and won his other games in the 16 player 6 round Swiss event. Second place went to club president John Warren with 5-1, conceding one loss to Maher. Third place with 4-2 went to P. D. Burkhalter of Moline.

As winner of the Tri-City title, Maher will contest a match with Karl Wiegmann of Rock Island for the Quad-City title (Davenport, Ia., Rock Island, Moline, East Moline, Ill., and Bettendorf, Ia.), which Wiegmann has held for several years. Maher is a former holder. As we go to press, Maher has scored two victories in the match and needs only one more to gain the Quad-City title.

### COLLEGE CHESS IS RADIO-MINDED

The College Chess Committee of the United States Chess Federation has announced the appointment of Charles Gersch, 895 West End Avenue, New York City, as Director of College Radio Chess. Mr. Gersch, a member of the New York University chess squad, will coordinate radio chess activities among the nation's colleges. Any college team that has access to a ham radio station (and most of the colleges have such stations on the campus) can make contact with others by writing to the Director of College Radio Chess. It is hoped that a national radio chess league will be developed among the college teams.

During the recent intercollegiate Team Tournament in New York, a number of college squads indicated their willingness to enter into such radio play. Yale, Miami, and R.P.I. are expected to begin radio play soon.

Position No. 95  
By Richard K. Guy  
London, England  
British Chess Magazine, 1951



8, 1Pk5, P2p3p, 3, 8, 5K2, 8, 8  
White to play and win

Position No. 96  
By Milor Marysko  
Czechoslovakia  
Composed for CHESS LIFE



2rs4, 1Rp1k3, 1pPp4, BP1P4, 3P1K1, 8, 8, 8  
White to play and win

### White To Play And Win!

Conducted by William Rojам

POSITION NO. 95 represents the first original composition in some years from the gifted English composer, Richard K. Guy. When published in British Chess Magazine recently, spoilsport L. Malpas of Liege indicated that it was somewhat anticipated by a study by Kling and Horowitz in 1951. However in the H-K position the White Pawns are one square to the South-East, and the solution at move four becomes quite independent because of this fact. In our opinion, this justifies the considering of Mr. Guy's composition as an independent study. Mr. Guy modestly calls his work an elementary study in King and Pawn; we do not think the solver will find it elementary.

Position No. 96 is another original composition of the modern Czech composer, Milor Marysko, whose work has appeared in this section before.

In regard to the much-disputed Richter position, Mr. Guy writes that in reply to the Neil Bernstein line of 4. ...., B-R5, White should play 5. Kt-Q5, B-B7; 6. Kt-K7 with threats of 7. Kt-B6 and 7. Kt-B5 should win. Also 4. ...., B-R5; 5. Kt-Q5, B-B7; 6. Kt-K3 with threats of 7. Kt-K4 and 7. Kt-B5 seem to win. We do not intend to discuss this position further, being convinced that patience can find a winning line against any defense in this very difficult position.

For solutions please turn to Page four.

### DATES TO REMEMBER!

- U. S. Open Championship Tournament  
Fort Worth, Texas, July 9-21, 1951
- U. S. Junior Championship Tournament  
Philadelphia, Penna., July 23-28, 1951

### The Kibitzer Has His Day

From the Editor's Mail Bag

### DR. BOHATIRCHUK DRAWS FIRE

Dear Mr. Major:  
As one of the thousands of American admirers of the skill and artistry of the Soviet chess masters, I was both shocked and angered by the display of poor sportsmanship and unproven slanders made by Master Bohatirchuk in his recent letter to CHESS LIFE.

The chief tenet of the Communists and of Soviet propaganda is that the Soviet Union can do no wrong. This view is, of course, absurd—but it is no less absurd than the view of the ex-Communist (or, in this case, of the ex-Nazi) that the Soviet Union can do no right. If the world is to have peace in our generation, both views must be decisively rejected by all those who value fair play, an open mind and a just evaluation of evidence.

In his letter, Dr. Bohatirchuk makes the following mutually contradictory statements:

- 1) The reason Botvinnik
- 2) The Soviet players are really not as good as they are reputed to be. (This statement is made after just having stated that Keres and Smyslov did not play their best).
- 3) There are too many Soviet international masters.
- 4) The reason for the supremacy of the Soviet masters is that they are subsidized by the State, and if any other country did the same for its players, masters of equal strength would be developed.
- 5) All chess masters who

won the championship in 1948 was not that he was the best of the five players who competed for the title, but that Smyslov and Keres participated in "team work" to see that neither of the foreigners, Reshevsky or Euwe, won the title; in other words, they "threw" some of their games.

The Soviet players are really not as good as they are reputed to be. (This statement is made after just having stated that Keres and Smyslov did not play their best).

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4) The reason for the supremacy of the Soviet masters is that they are subsidized by the State, and if any other country did the same for its players, masters of equal strength would be developed.

5) All chess masters who

(Please turn to Page 2, Column 2)

# Chess Life

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Thursday, April 5, 1951

### NON CAUSA PRO CAUSA

IN THIS issue we publish an answer to the recent Open Letter of Dr. Fedor Bohatirchuk regarding Soviet Chess. We do not intend to enter into the controversy, but feel that it is only just to indicate that our correspondent in this instance has made two errors in his statement. These errors do not necessarily invalidate his arguments, but should be considered in judging them.

First, the appeal of personal prejudice in paragraph two of Mr. Siller's argument is, of course, not logic but merely an appeal to intolerant sentiment. That Dr. Fedor Bohatirchuk is an exile by choice from the Soviet Union does not necessarily invalidate his opinions; but the fact that he is an exile does give him some authority to speak of conditions in the Soviet Union—a better right in fact than that of those who have gleaned their impressions of the Soviet Union from magazine articles. The attempt of Mr. Siller to prejudice his readers against Dr. Bohatirchuk on personal grounds is hardly one that will appeal to "those who value fair play, an open mind and a just evaluation of evidence" to quote Mr. Siller's own words.

We will not comment upon Mr. Siller's five points (although all the conditions regarding the playing of the World Championship Match were not quite as equitable as Mr. Siller chooses to believe). The inequity in arrangements, we must confess, hardly justifies a cold charge of a Soviet plot and there is little evidence to sustain this point of view in regard to this particular event.

But, we feel we must point out that Mr. Siller (undoubtedly without deliberate intention) has distorted Dr. Bohatirchuk's statements in his fifth point. Dr. Bohatirchuk proposed exclusion of all chess professionals who received direct salaries from the state—not those chess professionals who supported themselves variously in the role of professional by their own activities. There is more than a slight distinction.

Whether Dr. Bohatirchuk has "done a great disservice to the proud tradition of chess by implying that our greatest masters subvert their life-work for dishonest motives" is a matter of opinion for the reader to determine for himself. Those who are familiar with the basic principles of Dialectic Materialism may find the charge easier to credit than Mr. Siller has. But there is, of course, no definite proof that the Soviet masters are skilled exponents of Dialectic Materialism, however skillful they may be in chess.

Montgomery Major

### The Reader's Road To Chess

By Kester Svendsen

DAVID BRONSTEIN'S BEST GAMES OF CHESS 1944-1949. By Larry Evans. Limited Edition No. 2. Order from Larry Evans, 109 W. 68 St., New York City, Pp. ix, 70 mimeographed. \$3.

THE appearance of this mimeographed volume, the second in Larry Evans' series, is admirably timed. Whatever the outcome of Bronstein's current world championship match with Botvinnik, the challenger's games are sure to enjoy a vogue. The 41 games given here, ranging from Kiev 1944 to Budapest-Moscow 1949, represent Bronstein at his best. Most of the examples are, perforce, from all-Russian events, but the USA, England, Prague, and Budapest matches are included. The annotations are full, with Evans supplementing by his own analysis the contributions of a dozen and a half writers, among them Fine, Flohr, Romanovsky, Kmoch, Keres, and, for twelve of the games, Bronstein himself. The usual indexes and a six-page chess biography of Bronstein (translated from the Russian by Dr. N. M. Gassen) complete the book.

The whole performance is as extraordinary in its own way as the rise of Evans himself as a master. The style is ungraceful and immature but, as one who has worked through many an annotation can testify, the kind of chess thinking offered in the notes is most emphatically not. The disadvantages of the mimeographed form are all too obvious; but if Master Evans receives enough encouragement for his efforts in this form, his subsequent work will soon enjoy conventional publication. The game given below as a sample of Bronstein's style, which Flohr compares with that of Reshevsky, concludes with what Evans calls "one of the most amazing winning moves on record."

Bronstein-Goldenov, Kiev, 1944, French Defense, 1. P-K4, P-K3; 2. P-Q4, P-Q4; 3. N-Q3, N-K3; 4. B-N5, B-N5; 5. P-K5, P-KR3; 6. B-Q2, BxN; 7. P-B3, N-K5; 8. Q-N4, P-KN3; 9. B-B1?!, P-QB4; 10. B-Q3, PxP?; 11. N-K2, N-B4; 12. PxP, NxB ch; 13. PxN, P-QN3; 14. P-KR4, P-KR4; 15. Q-B3, N-B3; 16. B-N5, N-B3; 17. O-O, B-R3; 18. Q-R1, Q-Q2; 19. Q-B6, KR-N1; 20. R-B3, N-B4; 21. N-N3, NxOP; 22. KR-B1, N-N4; 23. R3-Q2, Q-Q1; 24. R-B1!! Black Resigns. \*Mate cannot be averted! If 24. .... BxR 25. QxQ mate! If 24. .... RxR 25. RxR and mate.

### Mate The Subtle Way!

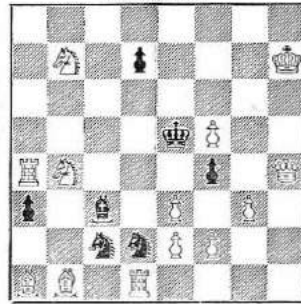
by Vincent L. Eaton

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

MESSRS. M. A. Michaels and Ewen Onyschuk are the co-winners of the bi-monthly Ladder solving contest with scores of 110 points each. Our hearty congratulations to both of these expert solvers, who will receive suitable awards for their skill and perseverance.

Problem No. 243

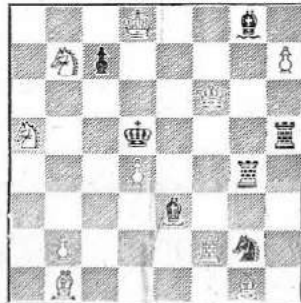
By Julius Buchwald  
Jackson Heights, N. Y.  
Entry in CHESS LIFE  
Composing Tourney  
Black: 7 men



White: 13 men  
8. 1S1p2K, 8, 4kP2, R3Sp1Q, pblfP1P1,  
2asPP2, BB1R4  
White mates in two moves

Problem No. 245

By C. W. Sheppard  
Norristown, Pa.  
Entry in CHESS LIFE  
Composing Tourney  
Black: 7 men



White: 10 men  
3K2b1, 1Sp4P, 5Q2, S2k3r, 3P2r1, 4b3,  
1P3ts1, 1P4B1  
White mates in two moves

Solutions to previous published problems on Page four.

Problem No. 244

By Comins Mansfield  
Carshalton Beaches, England  
Entry in CHESS LIFE  
Composing Tourney  
Black: 13 men



White: 9 men  
8. qpp3Q5, 6b1, 2r2p2, RB2Ek1,  
2r2PpK, 2p2Psl, b3S3  
White mates in two moves

Problem No. 246

By G. H. Goethart  
First Prize, Olympic Tourney, 1948  
Black: 12 men



White: 8 men  
4K3, 3slsB1, 3p1ppS, 6k1, 3QE3, 1b2P1p1,  
2p4R, b2r2S  
White mates in two moves

### The Kibitzer Has His Day

(Continued from page 1)

are professionals, i.e., who succeed in making a living from chess alone, should be thrown out of the FIDE.

I would like to take up these points in order:

1) The charge that the World Championship Tournament of 1948 was "fixed" is not only outrageous, but patently absurd. Dr. Bohatirchuk is an important master, as anyone acquainted with world chess knows. But I venture to say that Euwe and Reshevsky can compare with him in expertness at chess. Yet they, the victims of the alleged "Soviet plot," could not detect the foul play which Bohatirchuk charges in the public press. There is also sufficient objective evidence to show that there is no sense to these accusations. For example, I quote the following from Kmoch and Horowitz in the Tournament Book: "A surprise of the tourney was the series of titanic struggles between Botvinnik and Smyslov. Abandoning his past role of Botvinnik's 'cousin,' Smyslov threatened to become at least a 'Dutch uncle.' In the eighth round, for example, Botvinnik strained every nerve to win only to meet at each turn with and iron-clad defense. When Smyslov finally forced a subtle draw, Botvinnik looked chagrined, as though he had al-

ready mentally pocketed a point which wasn't there." And concerning the draw between Botvinnik and Smyslov in the 18th round these masters say: "The defensive resources that Smyslov can find in a difficult position testify both to his genius and to the inhaustibility of chess itself. The game is a notable contribution to the theme of the heroic defense." Yet Dr. Bohatirchuk would have us believe first, that Smyslov was trying to "help" his "teammate" and second, that he was not up to his usual strength! One would do well, too, to glance at the relative scores which Botvinnik made against Smyslov and against Euwe and Reshevsky: against Smyslov 3-2, against Euwe 3½-1½, against Reshevsky 3½-1½. A comparison of these scores would indicate that Reshevsky and Euwe also pitched Botvinnik a point here and there! (This follows from the fact that the Russians are, according to Dr. Bohatirchuk, not as good as they are cracked up to be.)

2) The contradiction between this and (4) is so obvious as to require no comment. I cannot refrain, however, from quoting the following from Dr. Brohatirchuk's letter: "The Soviet masters have demonstrated, as though he had al-

### Alekhine's Early Chess Career

Additional Data  
By A. Buschke

#### V. ALEKHINE IN SOVIET-LAND

THE 12 games published in "Das Schachleben in Sowjet-Russland" included the aforementioned game against Feldt (here called "von Feldt"), which, as we know, was played in 1916 and therefore does not belong into Alekhine's Soviet period at all (\*). We can disregard it here also for another reason: it has been published by Alekhine himself again in his "Best Games (1908-1923)," as no. 48. In his book, we find also, as "Game 49," the "conclusion of an Odds Game, played at Petrograd, December, 1917" against M. Gofmeister. The manuscript of what Alekhine here calls a "diabolic" (teuflich) position and his notes to the concluding moves is in our collection; it also gives as the date of the game "Petrograd, December 1917"—we can therefore infer that Alekhine was in Petrograd in December 1917 and had opportunities to play chess.

Unfortunately, this, as far as we could establish, is all we seem to know about Alekhine's whereabouts in 1917 and his chess activities; in fact, it is almost all we know about Russian chess life in 1917—the only other games of that period we can recall having seen is one played between Romanovsky and Talvik, a Ruy Lopez published by Romanovsky in his book, "Ways of Chess Creation" (in Russian, 1933), p. 154, and a Caro-Kann defense played on Feb. 3, 1917 between L. Borkhov and A. F. Ilyn-Zhenevsky in the latter's booklet "Memoirs of a Soviet Master" (in Russian, 1929), p. 17. Neither "Shakhmaty" 1922, p. 17, in its report on Russian Chess since 1916, nor Alekhine in "Das Schachleben in Sowjet-Russland," nor Kogan in his "History of Chess in Russia" (in Russian, 1927) or his "Sketches on the History of Chess in the USSR" (in Russian, 1938) report anything on chess life in Russia during 1917.

In 1918, Russian chess life, at least in the big centers of Moscow and Petrograd, becomes more active: Ilyn-Zhenevsky reports of a tournament in which not less than 16 first-category players participated (Petrograd, Summer 1918). Alekhine in "Das Schachleben in Sowjet-Russland," p. VII, gives the score table of a triangular tournament between the "three masters then still residing in Moscow," April 1918, viz: Alekhine (4½), Nemanov (3½), A. Rabinovich (1), and mentions also a match between Nemanov and A. Rabinovich "played soon after this triangular contest" (4-4, 3 draws).

In the game section of "Das Schachleben in Sowjet-Russland," we find two games between Alekhine and A. Rabinovich from the triangular "match-tournament," but in both instances the date is given as "May" 1918 (not April, as in the text part of "Schachleben in Sowjet-Russland"). One of these

\* The dating (1920) of this "famous blindfold game" in BCM, 1935, p. 370 is far off the mark.

(Please turn to page 4, col. 5)

#### EXCUSE IT, PLEASE!

Shrieking from the just wrath of both Marshall and Manhattan Chess Club players, the Editor apologizes for headlining the March 5th issue with the startling information that "Hanauer Wins Manhattan." As the story itself indicates, Mr. Hanauer won the Marshall Club Championship and psychologists are requested to determine why the Editor wrote the word "Manhattan" in its place—as he hasn't been to New York in some twenty-five years and cannot therefore be accused of personal bias.



