

Chess Life



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PROMOTIONAL PLAN BEGINS

USCF Expands Membership Value With Added Benefits for 1953

According to the announcement of USCF Business Manager Kenneth Harkness, the first fruits of the Promotional Plan adopted at Tampa will be increased privileges and advantages to USCF Members. In addition to the expansion of CHESS LIFE, to which new features will be added in the early months of 1953, Business Manager Harkness lists a number of other special advantages and privileges which will accrue to USCF members in 1953.

Among these are the rating of team matches and tournaments in addition to the Swis and round-robin tournaments already rated, with the publication (free of charge to USCF members) twice a year of the average ratings and classifications of all members.

USCF dues also now include membership in the State Chess Association (provided it is affiliated with the USCF). Membership in the local organization is automatic if its dues are \$1.00 per year. (Where the local dues are \$2.00, you need only to pay the \$1.00 difference for local membership).

Chess books and equipment are now made available to USCF members at substantial discounts. Buyers of chess books save money by belonging to the USCF, and those who buy chess books regularly will soon find that their savings amount to more than the USCF dues.

Members are now also enabled to save money by renewing membership in advance of expiration. A three year renewal in advance costs \$12.75 whereas a three-year renewal after expiration is \$13.50 and three separate one-year renewals \$15.00. A two year renewal in advance is \$9.00 as against \$9.50 for a two-year membership after expiration.

Other advantages and benefits accruing from USCF Membership will be announced later in the year as the five-year Promotional Plan is placed into full motion.

MAGEE CAPTURES WICHITA, OPEN

Lee Magee of Omaha scored another triumph in the 3rd Wichita Open Championship at the YMCA, tallying 5½-½ in the 28 player Swiss, and conceding one draw to youthful Jim Callis of Wichita. Second to fourth on S-B with equal 5-1 scores were Henry Georgi of Lawrence, Alfred Ludwig of Omaha, and Jim Callas of Wichita, a trio which lost no games but conceded two draws apiece. Georgi drew with Ludwig and Oscar Maring; Ludwig with Georgi and Henry Amsden; and Callis with Carl Weber and Oscar Maring. Fifth to seventh with 4-2 each were Kirke Mechem, Hugo Teufel, Jr., and Bert Brice-Nash of Rogers, Ark.

NEWBERRY TOPS MISSOURI OPEN

With 4½-½ W. H. C. Newberry of Alton, Ill. won the Missouri Open at St. Louis, drawing with runner-up Hugh Myers of Decatur, Ill., who scored 4-1, drawing also with Harold Branch. Branch of St. Louis was third with 3½-1½, gaining the State title as the ranking Missouri player. Branch lost one game to Newberry and drew with Myers. Third to seventh on S-B with equal 3-2 scores were 1951 champion Harry A. Lew and C. M. Burton of St. Louis, and J. Edward Cain and Jerry T. O'Neil of Columbia. 14 players contested in the event which presented a strong field despite the absence of 1950 champion Robert Steinmeyer and several other ranking Missouri players.

ROZMAN TAKES MARITIME EVENT

D. I. D. Rozman won the Maritime Championship at Dieppe (N. B.) with 4½-½, drawing with O. M. MacConnel who finished second on S-B with 3½-1½. Third place went to O. P. Doucet with 3½-½, while Geo. Beals placed fourth with 3-2 in the 10 player event at the Brunswick Hotel, directed by D. A. MacAdam, editor of Canadian Chess Chat.

Rozman, a native of Yugoslavia and a resident of Charlestown, won the Colpitts Trophy for the second time, having won the title also in 1950. The Haligonians won the team championship, repeating their victory of last year when the team tournament was inaugurated.

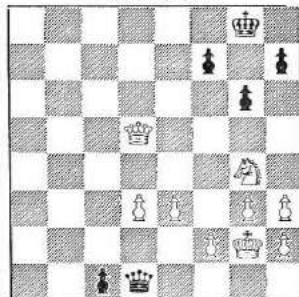
CAIN, GOULD TOP AT NEWBURYPORT

Clifford Cain won the Teen-Age Championship event sponsored by the Newburyport (Mass.) Chess Club in a field of six, with second place going to John O'Keefe and third place to Charles Pike. In the Junior Championship (under 12) the title went to Thomas Gould, 7-year old, with 3½-½, while Albert Pariseau placed second and Nancy Pike third in the five player event.

BROADCAST GAME IN LEAGUE MATCH

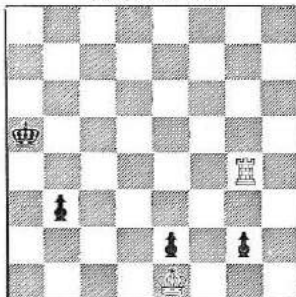
Station KPFA-FM of Berkeley (Calif.) broadcast a game from match play between Paul Morphy Chess Club of Berkeley and Staunton Group of Oakland on December 13th. Publicity to the broadcast was given in George Koltanowski's chess column in the San Francisco Chronicle. The broadcast served as publicity for the newly organized Chess Friends of Northern California, Inc.

Position No. 95
N. Bond vs. L. G. Beckham
Virginia, 1947



White to play and win

Position No. 96
P. Romanovsky vs. R. Platz
Petersburg, 1916



White to play and draw

Finish It The Clever Way!

Conducted by Edmund Nash

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

THE positions above are interesting because in the actual games White in each case failed to find the right continuation. In Position No. 95, which occurred in the Virginia Championship tournament, White took a draw by perpetual check: 1. Q-K8 ch, K-K12; 2. Q-B6 ch, K-B1; 3. Q-Q6 ch, K-K12; 4. Q-B6 ch. Five years later, he discovered a forced mate or win of the Queen in 6 moves.

In Position No. 96, White actually resigned the game after 1. KxP?, P-K17; 2. R-Kt6, K-R3!; 3. R-QR8 ch, K-K12. The next day, thinking to make an endgame study of the position, he discovered an amazingly simple and instructive drawing continuation.

For solutions, please turn to page four.

Last Round

By DR. KESTER SVENDSEN
University of Oklahoma

(Continued from December 5th Issue)

A moment's hesitation, and then he placed the knight at knight five. There. Now would Rolavsky move the pawn? The precisionist wouldn't. The arrogant refuter of gambits would. Did there linger still a trace of something from the third move? Would this Russian weaken? Rook and pawn, did he think, for bishop and knight?

Rolavsky studied the position almost interminably. Then he pushed his pawn to king rook three — then dropped his hand as if burnt, as if too late he had seen beneath the surface of the board a steady fire. And now the crowd was quiet, waiting, and there began to break into the Old Master's brain a long shaft of light. A combination, the moves tumbling over one another with sweet promise. A game of equilibrium, a perfect tension of pieces, everything held in suspense by a perpetual check from Black, a fantasy of eternal motion caught in the flowing lines of a knight's pendulum move. He could force Rolavsky to play for a draw. Eagerly the Old Master took the bishop's pawn with his knight and waited for Rolavsky to retake with the rook. The combination was irresistible. But would Rolavsky see the knight check he himself would have to give, five moves later, to hold the draw? Would he take the draw that would give him the championship of the world?

Rolavsky retook the rook, and the old man moved the king pawn down. The crowd, sensing something in the quick replies after so long a series of waits rippled with comment.

"Why didn't he retake with the bishop?"

(Please turn to page 3, col. 1)

... if pawn takes pawn, the queen is lost ... what's the old man after? ... no, the rook is pinned ... it won't run away."

At last Rolavsky switched the threatened knight to knight five. The Old Master moved the pawn to king six and found himself praying that Rolavsky would not take it with the bishop. The continuation darkened his mind: he takes with his bishop, I'll take with mine; he threatens mate, queen to rook five; I take the rook and check; he takes the bishop with the king; I check at bishop three with the queen; he goes to the knight square, then pawn to king rook three and he's lost. But lost in a brutal way after a blunt struggle. No charm there, no beauty, only a win. For a moment the Old Master cursed this insane desire to win that had cost him so many a tournament; and he hoped that Rolavsky would take with the bishop. The pull of the title spun the chess board before him as he thought of the fifty years he had divided his heart between fortune and perfection. He searched Rolavsky's face as the clock ticked off minutes. Two hours for thirty moves. Only a third of them made, and Rolavsky still looking at the board. Too long.

But now Rolavsky was moving his queen, and the old man saw it glide to rook five. The dreaded and then hoped-for combination vanished from his mind and in its place came a sense of lightness and power. The pattern was forming. The tensions, threat and counter threat, were moving toward that poetry of perpetual motion he had anticipated. He took the rook with his

FINLAND ADDS CHESS STAMP

By PAULINE NEARING
Decatur Chess Club

A commemorative stamp honoring the 10th Olympic Chess Team Championship held in Helsinki, Finland, was issued August 10, 1952. This 25 markka stamp, in gray black, features the design of a chess board in the background, with a black knight and a white rook. Certainly, this is a most appropriate selection, the board which is the most ancient and enduring implement of chess, and the two chess pieces, the knight and the rook, whose moves have never changed since the origin of the game.

Finland's foremost designer, Mrs. Signe Hammarstein-Jansson, designed the stamp, and B. Ekholm was the engraver.

The first day of sale was August 10th, in a special post office set up in the Commercial High School in Helsinki, for one day only. After that date, the stamp was sold in other post offices in Finland. One million stamps were printed in the issue. In comparison to 110 million U. S. commemorative stamps in each issue, this might be considered a small printing. (Nov. 21, 1952, first day of sale of the U. S. commemorative bi-colored International Red Cross stamp held in New York City, totaled three million.)



It is a custom in Europe to honor important chess events with a special cancellation. For the Finnish stamp, the cancel carried the motif of the stamp, a knight and rook, and printed within the circle of the cancel is: "Helsinki, Helsingfors, X Schackolimpiadi, Schackolympiaden 1952. 10-8-52."

U. S. stamp dealers purchase new issues and First Day Covers from European sources, and shortly after their issuance, these may be purchased from them, for a small fee above the cost of the stamp.

RATING FEES

Effective January 1, 1953, the charge for publication of the semi-annual rating of players who are not members of the USCF will be \$1.00 for each semi-annual listing.

Plan Your Vacation
for 1953 NOW!
Attend the U.S.C.F.
OPEN
TOURNAMENT
Milwaukee, Wis.
July 27-Aug. 8, 1953

Chess Life

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USCF Membership Dues, including subscription to CHESS LIFE, enrollment in State Chess Association (if State of member's residence has an Association affiliated with the USCF), semi-annual publication of national chess rating, and all other privileges of membership:

ONE YEAR: \$5.00 TWO YEARS: \$9.50 THREE YEARS: \$13.50

A new membership starts with the date of the first CHESS LIFE issue mailed after application is received, a renewal with the date of the first issue published after old membership expires. Subscription rate of CHESS LIFE to non-members is \$3 per year. Single copies 15c each. Fee for publication of non-member's national chess rating: \$1 for each semi-annual listing. Two or more members of one family living at same address may join the USCF at flat annual rate of \$5.00 for one USCF Membership plus \$2.50 for each additional USCF Membership. Such additional family memberships will receive all privileges of Membership except a subscription to CHESS LIFE.

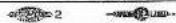
Send membership dues (or subscriptions) and changes of address to KENNETH HARKNESS, Business Manager, 93 Barr ow Street, New York 14, N.Y.

Send tournament rating reports (with fees, if any) and all communications regarding CHESS LIFE editorial matters to MONTGOMERY MAJOR, Editor, 123 North Humphrey Avenue, Oak Park, Ill.

Make all checks payable to: THE UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION

Vol. VII, Number 8

Saturday, December 20, 1952



Chess Life Decks The Tree

"Presents," I often say, "dear Absents."

CHARLES LAMB—A Dissertation upon Roast Pig.

NOT to be backward in the mellow spirit of Christmas giving, CHESS LIFE plans to deck its own Christmas Tree with numerous presents for the coming year. But as the readers on Christmas Day and for many days thereafter will have their own more personal gifts to enjoy, CHESS LIFE has shrewdly decided to spread her gifts over the ensuing months, so that the readers will not be surfeited with one huge banquet of chess goodies and then consigned to "left-overs" like the Christmas turkey on Friday or Saturday.

For that reason, it will be in the early months of 1953 that CHESS LIFE will begin to unroll her presents to the reader in the form of new and entertaining features in what we trust all readers will proclaim an improved CHESS LIFE.

It is probable that CHESS LIFE will change its format slightly in the early months of Spring, bringing a smaller and more convenient page for reading and handling, but also more pages to increase the amount of reading material in each issue.

In the added space of each issue will be presented CHESS LIFE's gifts to its faithful readers in the form of numerous new semi-monthly and monthly features. Among these will be:

WINNING CHESS by International Master Larry Evans in which the brilliant young U. S. Champion will discuss interesting game positions, explaining the winning moves and the winning technique.

YOUNG MASTERS' FORUM by International Master Robert Byrne and U. S. Masters Donald Byrne, Eliot Hearst, Carl Pilnick, James Sherwin, and Walter Shipman in which six of America's leading players will discuss chess from the viewpoint of the young master.

NEW IDEAS IN THE OPENING by Chess Master Herman Steiner, in which the former U. S. Champion will discuss new developments in opening theory and practice.

GAMES BY USCF MEMBERS by Chess Master John W. Collins, in which the New York State Champion, assisted by guest annotators, will analyse the games that you and other USCF members play in clubs and tournaments.

These special features in addition to the usual popular features already published in CHESS LIFE will be our way of wishing all our readers

A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
throughout the twenty-four issues of CHESS LIFE in 1953.
Montgomery Major

The Reader's Road To Chess

By Kester Svendsen

DAS HOHE SCHULE DER SCHACH-TAKTIK. By Kurt Richter. Berlin-Frohnau, Germany: Siegfried Engelhardt, 21 Remstaler Strasse. 220 pp., 665 diags.

THE indefatigable Berlin master, whose attacking play was well-known before World War II, has produced what his publishers proudly call "das grosses Werk": a collection of 623 games of 20 moves or less, illustrative of every feature of chess tactics, especially in the opening. These are drawn from all sources imaginable, chiefly modern Continental tournaments, matches, correspondence games, and simultaneous exhibitions. The book combines the best features of DuMont's 200 Miniature Games of Chess and Chernev's Chess Traps. Most of the games are brand new to this reviewer, though some favorites appear from Alekhine (15 of these) Tarrasch (11), Morphy (10), Marshall (7), and others. One of the Alekhine entries is his disputed win from Tenner, Cologne 1911, which promises to be as durable an error as the famous "five queens" game exposed by Dr. Buschke in Chess Life.

Richter's great advantage for the American reader has been his reliance upon German and other Continental examples. His criteria here were brevity, beauty, and instructiveness. In the interest of this last, he has grouped the games into five sections by motifs and set up typical positions for each section. The German master Rudolph Teschner shared in this work, testing every combination himself. Number 373, a charming specimen, is Leussen-Duras, Scheveningen 1905.

1. e4, e5; 2. Sf3, Sc3; 3. Sc3, Sf6; 4. Lb5, Lb4; 5. O-O, O-O; 6. d3, d6; 7. Se2, Lg4; 8. c3, Lb5; 9. Sg3, Lb6; 10. h3, Ld7; 11. Lg5, Se7; 12. Sf6: (colon: means

takes), Lb5; 13. Sh5, Dd7; 14. Sg7; h6; 15. Sg5f, Sg6; 16. Dh5, Tf8; 17. Dh6; Kf8; 18. Sf6ch, Ke8; 19. Df8ch, Sf8; 20. Sg7 mate.

WERTHEIM MEMORIAL CHESS CONGRESS NEW YORK 1951. American Tournament Series, Vol. V. Published by the Nebraska Chess Association. Edited by Jack Spence, 208 So. 25th Ave., Omaha, Neb. Mimeographed; pp. vi, 31, \$2.

EDITOR SPENCE has followed the businesslike method employed in the preceding issues of this series, which is to present the games with special articles (by Eliot Hearst and Hans Knoch), round-by-round commentary, and annotations collected from the periodicals, including Chess Life, American Chess Bulletin, Chess Review, and British Chess Magazine, written by Euwe, Knoch, Golombek, Santasiere, Platz, and others. Scoretables and indexes are included.

Reshevsky won, of course, followed by Euwe, Najdorf, Fine, Evans, Byrne, Horowitz, Guimard, O'Kelly, Bisguier, Kramer, and Shainswit. The presence of four grandmasters, not to speak of the other fine players, made the tourney a strong and distinguished memorial to a great chess patron. Jack Spence and the Nebraska Chess Association have once more put us all in their debt. It is to be hoped, however, that subsequent volumes in the series will be reproduced by a different process. Despite the editor's carefully inked corrections, the mimeographing is simply not so satisfactory a method as photo-offset from sharply typed copy.

Mate The Subtle Way!

by Vincent L. Eaton

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

Contemporary American Composers—4

ERIC M. HASSBERG

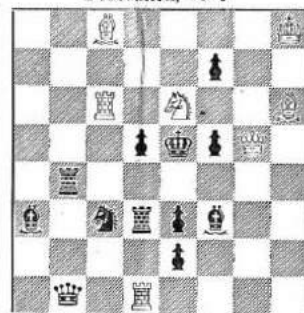
THE diagrams below present some of the best work of one of America's top present-day composers, Eric M. Hassberg. An Austrian by birth, he came to this country from Vienna before World War II, and makes his home in Jackson Heights, New York.

His problems are marked by complexity of theme and originality of treatment. Effervescent with ideas, he seeks in both his two-movers and his three-movers to achieve new blends of Black and White strategy, and his success in keeping abreast of modern trends in composition is witnessed by his having won many prizes in international tourneys.

Hassberg has served as problem editor of the Chess Correspondent and, as Vice-President of the Chess Problem Association of America, he was one of the principal founders and the chief editor of its organ, the American Chess Problemist. With Edgar W. Allen, he edited To Alain White (Stamford, Connecticut, 1945), and his other publications include a collection of The Best American Chess Problems of 1946 (Omaha, 1946).

Problem No. 387

By Eric M. Hassberg
1st Prize, British Chess Federation, 1940



White mates in two moves

Problem No. 388

By Eric M. Hassberg
1st Prize, "Xadrez Brasileiro," 1947



White mates in two moves

Problem No. 389

By Eric M. Hassberg
1st Prize, Alain White 70th Birthday Tourney, 1951



White mates in two moves

Problem No. 390

By Eric M. Hassberg
1st Prize, "Chess Correspondent," 1948



White mates in three moves

WICHITA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Wichita, 1952

1. Lee Magee (Omaha, Neb.)	W25	W21	W6	W5	D4	W9	5-3	17.00																
2. H. Georgi (Lawrence, Kans.)	W14	D9	D3	W13	W6	W8	5-1	17.75																
3. A. Ludwig (Omaha, Neb.)	D11	W15	D2	W22	W9	W13	5-1	15.75																
4. Jim Callis (Wichita, Kans.)	W28	W12	D8	W10	D9	W5	5-1	15.00																
5. K. Mechen (Linsburg, Kans.)	W22	W17	W13	L1	W7	L4	4-2	11.50																
6. H. Teufel, Jr. (Wichita)	W24	W16	L1	W12	L2	W14	4-2	10.50																
7. B. Brice-Nash (Rogers, Ark.)	W26	L5	W15	W16	L5	W12	4-2	9.50																
8. Carl Weberg (Salina, Kans.)	W20	W7	D4	L9	W11	L2	3-2	12.50																
9. G. H. Copeland (Jefferson, Okla.)	W18	D2	W11	W8	L3	L1	3-2	12.00																
10. G. H. Copeland (Jefferson, Okla.)	L16	W23	W14	L4	D20	W17	3-2	8.75																
11. H. Amsten (Wichita, Kans.)	D3	W24	L9	W25	L8	W16	3-2	8.00																
12. Meister (Hutchinson, Kans.)	W23	L4	W18	L6	W22	L7	3-3	6.50																
13. E. Bishop (Omaha, Neb.)	W17	W25	L5	L2	W19	L3	3-3	6.50																
14. G. E. Prewitt (Coffeeville)	L2	W20	L10	W27	L21	L6	3-3	5.50																
15. J. H. Popp (Haven, Kans.)	W19	L3	L7	L17	D26	W21	3-3	5.50																
16. Gordon Springbett (Hutchinson, Kans.)	2-3	3-1 (6.75);	17. John Burnett (Wichita, Kans.)	2-3 (4.25);	19. Kenny Weberg (Salina, Kans.)	2-3 (4.25);	20. K. R. MacDonald (Wichita, Kans.)	2-3 (2.75);	21. Mimi Robertson (Wichita, Kans.)	2-4 (3.50);	22. Dale Nicholson (Wichita, Kans.)	2-4 (3.50);	23. Mark Clutier (Wichita, Kans.)	2-4 (3.00);	24. Booth Myers (Wichita, Kans.)	2-4 (3.00);	25. H. W. Brauer (Haven, Kans.)	1-5 (2.50);	26. D. L. Convis (Wichita, Kans.)	1-5 (0.00);	27. Pers Kirkpatrick (Wichita, Kans.)	1-5 (0.00);	28. Vincent Serrioz (Wichita, Kans.)	0-6 (0.00).

Chess Life In New York

By Eliot Hearst

AFTER completing the last lap of her trip back from the World's Women Championship in Moscow, Mrs. Mary Bain, U.S. Women's Titlist, arrived in New York early Sunday morning, Nov. 30. One might think that, having just terminated over a week of constant travelling, the popular champion would settle down, unpack, and take a welcome rest. But not so for Mrs. Bain! A few hours after depositing her baggage at her hotel, she was down at the Marshall C. C., distributing the gifts she had brought back from Moscow for many of her female friends and enlightening quite a number of club members on conditions behind the Iron Curtain, particularly in the sphere of the Royal Game. We have not had ample opportunity to discuss with Mrs. Bain many interesting aspects of her trip and we hope to do so in a future column. Let it be said now that she has returned with a great respect for the prowess of the Russian contestants in the tourney (such respect is not confined to women's chess either, as the world's top male players will attest!) and with a vivid remembrance of the Russian's "magnificent hospitality." Besides meeting such top masters as Smyslov, Kotov, Lillienthal, and Ragsin, she learned much about the personality traits of the Soviet female stars, most of whom are professional women-engineers, lawyers, and teachers. Incidentally she mentioned the fact that Ignatievna, one of the most promising Russian combatants is the ex-wife of David Bronstein. There's no doubt as to where she learned her chess!

The Manhattan C. C. Championship is now underway with fifteen competitors battling it out for the coveted club title. Quite a few of the top competitors in last year's tourney were unable to complete this season—George Kramer, Donald Byrne, Arnold Denker, Sidney Bernstein, and Jack Moscovitz to mention several—but the entries of Max Pavey, Alex Kevitz, Herb Seidman, and A. S. Pinkus assure the contest a high rating. Early results include Seidman, Boysan, Kaminsky, and Vine as first round victors with Abe Turner holding the advantage over Karl Burger in an important adjourned game.

The Marshall C. C. tournament is much farther advanced and already indications are that the competition will be centered among five top contestants from last year's struggle. Carl Pilnick, 5-0, is in the lead, while J. Collins, F. Howard, A. Santasiere and J. Sherwin all have scores of 4½-1½; Edmar Mednis is close behind with 4-2. The next few rounds should find a definite pacesetter emerging. IN BRIEF: Scores of recent college matches: Columbia 5½, NYU ½; Columbia 7, Cooper Union 1; Columbia 6, Brooklyn 2; Cooper Union 3½, Bklyn poly 3½. . . . Edmar Mednis 5-0 leads N. Y. Intercollegiate Indiv. Championship. Brent Shapiro has 3½-1½.

Tampa Chess Club saw Florida Champion Nestor Hernandez take the club Diaz Memorial event 2-1 in a 12 player double-round event, drawing one game each with Arthur Montano and R. Robaldo. Montano was second with 17-5, while S. Stein, R. Robaldo, and P. Alonso shared third with 14½-7½ each.

West Seattle Chess Club saw O. W. Manney take the club title 12½-½, with Schmoeyer second with 10-0, and newcomer Gene Vukonich third with 13-6.

Tacoma Y Chess Club elected R. B. Beach president, Tom Dolle treasurer, L. Coubrough secretary, and R. M. Collins tournament director.

pawn. The Black king moved under it. He played his bishop to bishop four, covering the mate at rook two. The clock ticked as he listened for the beating of Rolavsky's heart and in a minute or two they seemed to focus, rising in tempo until at thunder pitch the Russian pulled away the bishop's pawn and dropped his knight on the square. The old man moved his queen to king two. A perfect game. He ran through the moves. Black knight to knight five, check. White king to the rook square. Black checking again with the knight. How tense the pieces looked! What a balance between White's accumulated force and the gyrations of the Black knight!

Rolavsky was sweating now, and the crowd was quiet. Twice the Russian's hand strayed to the board and twice he withdrew it. The old man went through the moves again. Then he looked up again from his dream to see in Rolavsky's eyes something that wrenched him. Bitter Lake! The eagerness for revenge across the board shook him. Something in the game crumpled, and with it something in the old man's mind.

Rolavsky was bending over the board, demanding a win of his pieces. He didn't want a draw. The crowd jabbered, unmindful of frowns from the director, piecing out the perpetual check.

"Sure it's a perpetual... knight just moves back and forth... old man must be crazy... giving the championship away... why doesn't Rolavsky move?"

At last Rolavsky did, knight to knight five, discovering check. The Old Master pushed his king aside and with it the illusion of fifty years. Rolavsky could check once more, demonstrate the perpetual to the referee, and then sweep the pieces into confusion as he rose. The Old Master waited.



But Rolavsky did not check. Slowly the old man's eyes moved from Rolavsky's face to the silent chessmen. They blurred; then the Russian moved — bishop to queen two.

As he stared at the move, the Old Master recognized a new defeat. There was no perpetual check. There never had been. Blindness! As if seeing the position for the first time, he painfully picked over the moves, resisting each pull into the combination that deluded him. Hlad Rolavsky checked with the knight. Black would have lost. Knight checks, rook takes knight, and if Black retakes, White mates at king eight. The Black bishop had to move to queen two to protect the mating square. The old man looked up again; and as he stretched his hand to the board, he sensed rather than saw something else at the edge of Rolavsky's eyes. He stopped his hand, and the gesture released the breath of the crowd in a quiet sigh.

Once more he searched the position, wondering why he continued, deaf to the reawakened swell of flurry beyond the ropes. Suddenly he saw it and everything else faded except the patterns of force formed by the pieces as they moved into their predestined places. Again the testing of each move, racked by the error of the first delusion, soothed by what he saw unfolding on the board. Finally he pulled his queen rook to king square. Rolavsky hurried his other knight to queen bishop three. And

now it was as if some inevitable force suddenly set in motion were lifting the game away from both players. Or perhaps the old man had realized that Rolavsky was but a chess piece too, to be moved and used. Whatever the reason, only the moves remained. The Old Master traced the final position in his mind. The rooks, side by side, one checking, the other covering an escape square. The bishops, one checking, the other covering an escape square. The rook on white and the bishop on black, checking together, one from afar, the other only a diamond from the Black king.

Here... here, this was it. There could be no mistake now. Out of defeat, victory. Out of death, life. Out of the tangled emotions of this fleeting game a beauty to endure forever. Those fifty tortured years of his had not been in vain after all. This was perfection, a work of art, an abstraction of force into an eternal tension utterly withdrawn from its creators, from the moment, from the unmoved chessboard itself. A superb sequence of power begun by the most daring stroke of all chessdom, the sacrifice of the most powerful piece, the queen. No... no, not the queen but two! One queen, combiner of rook and bishop in its motion, to die; from its sacrifice to come a new queen, itself to die stillborn, then the mate to be delivered by its divided functions, by bishop and rook. Surely, the old man told himself, there was no greater beauty than this. The victory was his. He had put to take it. With trembling fingers he lifted his queen, moved it steadily down the file to king eight.

Someone in the crowd gabbled in astonishment.

"His queen? ... he's crazy... that square's twice covered... I can't see... no, Rolavsky's time is almost gone... it's a trick... Bitter Lake... remember Bitter Lake?"

Rolavsky, with a wild look at the clock, swept the queen from the board with his rook. The old man took the rook, queening the pawn with the check. Rolavsky's hand faltered, moved again, and the bishop captured the second queen. Then with a loving movement, a long caressing gesture, itself somehow a part of the final position, the Old Master drew his bishop up to the queen pawn, removed it, left the bishop, and whispered, smiling gently above the file of the unmasked rook, a single word.

"Mate."

This story is based on the game Chousook-Wollner, Kaschau 1893: 1. P-K4, P-Q4, P-K3, P-Q3, P-K4, P-Q3; 2. N-K3, N-B3, B-Q4, N-K4, P-Q3; 3. Castles, Castles, N-K5, P-KR3; 4. N-XP1, R-XN; 5. N-N5, N-N5; 6. P-K6, Q-B4; 7. P-Rch, K-B1; 8. B-B4, N-N5; 9. Q-K2, N-N5; 10. K-R1, B-Q2; 11. Q-R1, N-B3; 12. Q-Kch1, R-XQ; 13. P-R1(Q) ch, R-XQ; 14. R-P mate.

Racine (Wis.) Chess Club scored a 7-1 victory over Waukegan. Rudy Kunz, R. E. Rigg, John Aroks, Dan Andersen, Erwin Poetschke, David Arganian, and Ed Erdman scored for Racine while Art Sinclair salvaged the lone Waukegan point.

Germantown Y (Philadelphia) Chess Club lost a tough one to Franklin Chess Club 2-3, facing three former State Champions in the Franklin line-up. Mrs. Mary Selensky scored the only Germantown win, while Schrader and Ash of Germantown drew with Sharpe and Mordell of Franklin. DiCamillo and Ruth score the Franklin victories.

Owen Sound (Ontario) Chess Club according to chess editor Malcolm Sim of the Toronto Telegram boasts 34 players although only organized in September. Kenneth Brown is the president.

Cosmo (Los Angeles) Chess Club saw Leonard Zeitlin score a 7-0 victory in the B section of the Club Championship, while Robert W. Taylor was second with 5-2, and Nelson Bryant third with 4-3. In the A section Eugene Rubin seems assured of victory with 7-0, closely pursued by Romanski and Sagorski with 6-2 in the incomplete standings.

With The Chess Leagues

PUGET SOUND LEAGUE: Seattle YMCA Chess Club leads 2-0 with Everett second with 1-1 in the start of a season marred by a number of postponements. Seattle YMCA bested Everett 8-2 and downed Seattle University 9-1; while Everett overpowered West Seattle 9-1 in the only matches played so far. Olympia and Kitsap clubs have apparently dropped from league competition.

DISTRICT (of Columbia) CHESS LEAGUE: Second round results were: National Section: Divan B topped FSA 9 1/2-5 1/2; Navcom A outpointed APL 3 1/2-2 1/2; Maryland won from Bald Eagle 6-0 by forfeit. American Section: Library topped ORO 6-0; Paragon bested Georgetown 8-0; Divan A overwhelmed Federal B 7-0; Navcom B drew with Agriculture 3-3.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN CHESS LEAGUE: Lansing Chess Club drew with Kalamazoo Valley Chess Club 5-5 and bested Grand Rapids Chess Club 6-4 in first encounters of this newly organized league. The first match saw Edgar Snedders of Lansing draw with H. Kalnins of Kalamazoo — a novel encounter by two former Latvian players in a new home.

CLEVELAND INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE opened the season with Atlantic Tool trouncing Allied Tool 4-0, Cleveland rdinance besting NACA 3-1, Post Office downing Horizon, Inc. 2 1/2-1 1/2, Cleveland Twist Drill outpointing Tools & Gauges 3-2, and Jack & Heintz winning from Lincoln Electric 4-0.

CLEVELAND CHESS LEAGUE opens the season with ten teams, Queen's Chess Club, Brooklyn Chessists, Checkmate Club, Cleveland Chess Club, East Cleveland Chess Club, King's Men Chess Club, Pawns Chess Club, Shaker Chess Club Nationals.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CHESS LEAGUE: Opening round saw Pittsburg down Oakdale 4-2; Stockton best Modesto 6-4; San Jose swamp Visalia 7-0; and Sacramento tie Fresno 3-3. Incomplete second round results: Sacramento topped Stockton 7 1/2-3 1/2; San Jose outpointed Pittsburg 5 1/2-4 1/2.

NORTH JERSEY CHESS LEAGUE: Orange and Irvington-Polish lead with 2-0 each after two rounds. Second round results saw Plainfield top Philidor 6-2; Orange down Elizabeth 5-3; Montclair best Northern Valley 5 1/2-2 1/2; Irvington-Polish beat Union 5-3; and Marcozy outpoint Jersey City 6-2.

MARITIME CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes Dieppe, 1952 results for D. I. D. Rozman, O. M. MacConnel, etc.

VIRGINIA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes Portsmouth, Va. results for I. H. Avram, M. Weiner, etc.

NEW JERSEY STATE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes Orange, 1952 results for Dr. F. S. Baker, Franklin Howard, etc.

MISSOURI STATE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes St. Louis, 1952 results for W. H. C. Newberry, Hugh Myers, etc.

WASHINGTON STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

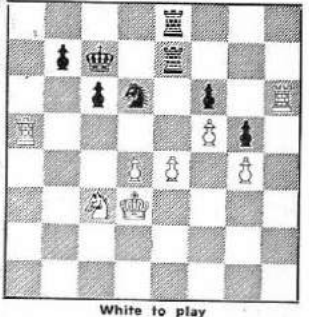
Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes Seattle, 1952 results for Elmars Zemgais, Leonard Sheets, etc.

RACINE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes Racine, 1952 results for R. Kunz, A. Domsy, etc.

Saturday, December 20, 1952

What's The Best Move? By Guilherme Grosser



Send solutions to Position No. 107 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, by January 20, 1953.

Solution to Position No. 104. This rather celebrated victory of Rubinstein over Salwe at Lodz 1907 was evidently unfamiliar to our solvers. The actual game continued 1... P-Q7; 2. R-Q1 (not 2. Q-Q1); R-KR3; 3. K-K1; Q-K16 ch; 4. K-B1; Q-XP1 etc.; 5. Q-K7; R-QB1; 6. R-N3P; Q-K8 ch; 7. R-N3; P-B7 ch; 8. Q-B2. P-R1(Q) ch and White resigned.

Only two solvers saw L... P-Q7 move as effective, but many thought they had a win by the direct 1... Q-K16. There is a win, but it was overlooked in all solutions except three. The sequence that wins is 1... Q-K16; 2. Q-K7; R1-KB1; 3. R-B7 (a defense most solvers overlooked); Q-K7ch; 4. R-N3; P-R7 ch; 5. R-K1; R-B8 ch; 6. KtXR, P-R1(Q) ch and wins.

The suggested 1... R-KR3 fails because 2. K-K1 is not forced (as solvers state). White plays instead 2. Q-K7; R-K1 (on 2... Q-K16, which show the 2. Q-K7; R-K1); 3. R-B7 continuation. On other solutions of 1. Q-K16 I award 1/2 point, since the actual winning variation stemming from the first move was not demonstrated.

Correct solutions are acknowledged received from: J. Faucher (New Haven), Dr. J. Melnick (Portland), E. Nash (Washington), I. Schwartz (Durand), H. C. Underwood (Washington). Solutions of 1... Q-K16 (without White's best defense) awarded 1/2 point are acknowledged received from: F. Athey, Jr. (Coral Gables), J. E. Comstock (Duluth), E. K. Dille (Norfolk), D. Hamburger (Pittsburgh), C. Joachim (Seattle), E. J. Korpany (Woodside), H. Kurrek (Des Plaines), D. C. McDaniel (Los Angeles), F. J. Valo (Guilford Center), W. B. Wilson (Amherstburg).

Greater Miami (Fla.) Chess Club saw the club title fall to Major N. B. Church with 5-1 score in a 19 player Swiss. Church lost one game to Dave Shubow. Second was Martin Donon with 5-1, losing to Peter Magri. Third and fourth with 4 1/2-1 1/2 on S-B points were Constantine Rax and Ernest Scheuplin.

Ottawa (Ill.) Chess Club has been organized with William B. Arrowood as president, 1239 Ottawa Ave. The club meets in the Ottawa Recreation Hall and is anxious to contact other Illinois clubs for matches. Plans are being laid for a city championship in March.

BARGAIN OFFER!

On January 1st, 1953, the fee for becoming a Life Member of the USCF will be raised to \$100. Until that time you can take out a Life Membership for only \$50! As a Life Member you will be put on the mailing list to receive CHESS LIFE and will be entitled to the privileges of USCF membership for your entire lifetime. (However, until the fee is raised to \$100, it will not include free enrollment in State Association). Take advantage of this bargain offer now. Mail your check for \$50 to: KENNETH HARKNESS USCF Business Manager 937 Barrow Street, New York 14, N. Y. Letters postmarked December 31, 1952 will be accepted at the \$50.00 rate.

CARO-KANN DEFENSE

CCLA Special Tourney Correspondence, 1951

Notes by Dr. M. G. Sturm

White DR. M. G. STURM Black W. O. WINSTON
1. P-K4 P-Q3 3. P-K3 P-B4
2. P-Q4 P-Q4 4. P-KR4

White DR. M. G. STURM Black C. C. C. HARDING
1. P-K4 P-K4 6. QxP Q-B3
2. P-KB4 PxP 7. P-K5 QxP
3. K1-KB3 P-KK4 8. P-Q3 B-R3
4. B-B4 P-K5 9. K1-B3 P-QB3?!

Returning to Cohn's analysis: C) 4-Q5, P-B4; 5. K1-QB3, K1-QB3; 6. B-Q4; 7. QxP, P-K3; 8. P-K1K5 with advantage.

Very good, if not mentioned by Cohn. 6. P-KB4 K1-R3 11. K1-K15 PxP
7. BxP Q-R4ch 12. P-R5 BxP
8. K1-QB3 QxR 13. Q-R5 BxP
9. P-B5 B-Q2 14. P-K6? P-KK3
10. K1-R3 P-R4 15. Q-B3 P-B3

After 30. Kt-Q2 WINSTON



30. STURM P-K4?
1. P-K4 P-Q4 7. Pxp
2. P-K5 Kt-Q2 8. Pxp

Solutions: Mate the Subtle Way!
No. 375 (Myzel): 1. Q-K3, extracting a wealth of variety from a lightweight setting. The try 1. Q-K18 (defeated) by 1. Kt-K6 deceived many solvers.

SOLVERS' LADDER

Table with 3 columns: Name, Score, Name, Score. Includes Nicholas Yoe 368, Steve Myzel 172, etc.

A number of solvers who have been inactive recently have been dropped from the Ladder, but they may resume at any time with their scores restored.

Tournament Life

Conducted by Erich W. Marchand

192 Seville Drive Rochester 17, N. Y.

Stronger than the suggested 34. P-Q4, R4. B-K7 35. RXP BxP?
Better is 35. RXP, securing two united passed Pa.
36. K1-B3!
Threatening Kt-K5 ch-B7 ch, and also 37. K-Q4, which in turn threatens both KxB and Kt-K5 mate!

MUZIO GAMBIT CCLA Gambit Tourney Correspondence, 1952

Notes by Dr. M. G. Sturm

White DR. M. G. STURM Black C. C. C. HARDING
1. P-K4 P-K4 6. QxP Q-B3
2. P-KB4 PxP 7. P-K5 QxP
3. K1-KB3 P-KK4 8. P-Q3 B-R3
4. B-B4 P-K5 9. K1-B3 P-QB3?!



Usual is 9. STURM B-K3, but the text is not an oversight, and tempts, or rather commands, White to sacrifice a second piece and then a third.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT Team Match, 1952

Notes by Erich W. Marchand

White H. GEORGI Black A. HINKLE
1. K1-KB3 K1-KB3
An elastic move. It allows Black to wait until White has declared his intentions. However, there is no reason for Black to avoid 1. P-Q4; 2. P-B4. P-Q5 with an early P-K4 to follow.

White STURM
1. P-K4 P-Q4 7. Pxp
2. P-K5 Kt-Q2 8. Pxp

simplifying the center White is able to attack on the K-side almost unmolested.
7. B-Q3 P-QK3 9. Q-K2
This prevents 9. B-R3.
9. P-QR2 10. P-QR4
And this stops 10. P-QK14. It has the drawback, however, of weakening White's QK14 square.

GEORGI

Notes by Dr. Max Herzberger

White V. GABLE Black M. HERZBERGER
1. P-Q4 P-Q4 6. Kt-B3 Kt-K5
2. P-QB4 P-K3 8. Kt-B3 Kt-K5
3. Kt-QB3 Kt-KB3 9. BxB QxB
4. B-KK5 QKt-Q2 10. O-O O-O
5. P-K3 P-B3 11. Q-B2 P-KB4
6. Pxp P-K3 12. Kt-K1 P-KK3



22. Kt-B3 Pch K-K2 27. KtP ch K-K1
23. Q-R5ch K-K2 28. K7ch K-Q1
24. Q-R7ch K-K1 29. KtB Resigns
26. K1-B7ch K-Q1

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED Lake Erie Open Championship Buffalo, 1952

Notes by Dr. Max Herzberger

White V. GABLE Black M. HERZBERGER
1. P-Q4 P-Q4 6. Kt-B3 Kt-K5
2. P-QB4 P-K3 8. Kt-B3 Kt-K5
3. Kt-QB3 Kt-KB3 9. BxB QxB
4. B-KK5 QKt-Q2 10. O-O O-O
5. P-K3 P-B3 11. Q-B2 P-KB4
6. Pxp P-K3 12. Kt-K1 P-KK3

White STURM
1. P-K4 P-Q4 7. Pxp
2. P-K5 Kt-Q2 8. Pxp

Better first, however, is Kt(K1)-K5, threatening Kt-K6 and also Kt-Q6. After missing this chance, White has no real chance to save the game.

HERZBERBER



RUY LOPEZ Team Match Charleston, 1952

Notes by W. J. Couture

White T. TOOMEY Black W. J. COUTURE
1. P-K4 P-K4 4. B-R4 Kt-B3
2. K1-KB3 Kt-QB3 5. O-O B-K2
3. B-K5 P-QR3
Black chooses the Lasker Defense. More popular is 5. KtP, considered best by Max Euwe, former World Champion, who uses it with success.

22. KtB Pch K-K2 27. KtP ch K-K1
23. Q-R5ch K-K2 28. K7ch K-Q1
24. Q-R7ch K-K1 29. KtB Resigns
26. K1-B7ch K-Q1

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For The Tournament-Minded

January 4 Chicago City Championship Chicago, Ill.

At University of Illinois (Navy Pier), Grand Ave. and the lake; open to all, CCCL membership necessary; seven consecutive Sundays beginning at 2 p.m. January 4; entry fee \$5.00 plus \$5.00 deposit; conducted by Chicago City Chess League; write for details: A. Kaufman, 5531 S. Kimbark Ave., Chicago 37.

January 4 Washington State Speed Championship Seattle, Wash.

At Seattle Chess Club; begins at 1 p.m.; round robin; entry fee \$1.00 (50c to WCF members); 616 Madison St., in Knickerbocker Hotel basement.

Ohio State gained a 4 1/2-3 1/2 victory over Columbus YMCA with Pusecker tallying two wins for Ohio and Mann the Columbus victory. Remaining games were drawn in this tight match.

DISTRICT (of Columbia) CHESS LEAGUE in the third round saw in the American League Paragon best ORO 6-0, Navoch B lose to Library 1 1/2-6 1/2, Divan A top Georgetown 5-1, Federal B top Agriculture 4 1/2-1 1/2. In the National League Maryland lost to APL 1-5, Divan B topped Federal A 4 1/2-2 1/2, Navcom A bested Bald Eagle 6-0, and National downed FSA 7-0.

NORTH JERSEY CHESS LEAGUE in third round results saw Orange and Irvington-Polish tied for the lead with 3-0. Irvington-Polish topped Jersey City 7-1 and Orange swamped Maroczy 7 1/2-1 1/2, while Plainfield bested Irvington 6-2, Elizabeth downed Philidor 5-3, and Union outpointed Montclair 4 1/2-3 1/2.

Solutions: Finish It the Clever Way!
Position No. 95: 1. Kt-R6 ch, K-K12; 2. QxP ch, KxKt; 3. Q-B8 ch, K-R4 (if K-K1; 4. Q-B4 ch and 5. Q-R4 mate); 4. P-K14 ch, K-K1; 5. Q-B4 ch and 6. Q16 mate. On 4. QxKtP; 5. PxQ ch wins.

Position No. 96: White draws by perpetual check, for the Black King will lose if he moves to K-file by 1. R-K1P; 2. R-K1 ch and 3. R-K1P. If Black King moves to R7, then RXP, R-KP and R-KP draws.

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