



# Chess Life



America's Chess Newspaper

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15 Cents

## What's The Best Move?

Conducted by

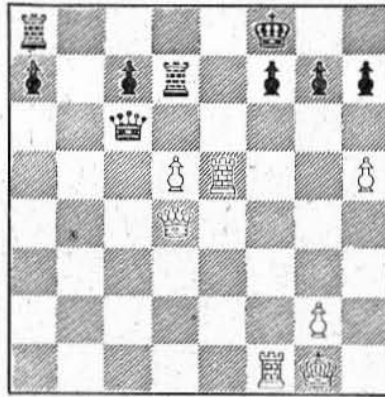
RUSSELL CHAUVENET

SEND solutions to Position No. 159 to Russell Chauvenet, 721 Gist Ave., Silver Spring, Md., by May 20, 1955. With your solution please send analysis or reasons supporting your choice as "Best Move" or moves.

Solution to Position No. 159 will appear in the June 5, 1955 issue.

NOTE: Do not place solutions to two positions on one card; be sure to indicate correct number of position being solved, and give the full name and address of the solver to assist in proper crediting of solution.

Position No. 159



White to play

## ZEMGALIS TOPS IN PUGET SOUND

With a 6½-½ score Elmars Zemgalis won the Puget Sound Open ahead of Olaf Ulvestad and Viktors Pupols, drawing his game with Noland. Hugh Noland scored 5-2, losing no games but drawing with Zemgalis, John DeWitt, Oliver LaFreniere, and Daniel Wade. Third and fourth with 4½-2½ each on Solkoff points were Ulvestad and Viktors Pupols, while John DeWitt and Russell Vellias were fifth and sixth with 4-2 each. Ulvestad lost games to Zemgalis and Noland, while drawing with William Bills. Pupols lost to Ulvestad and LaFreniere, while drawing with George Bishop.

The excellent showing of Zemgalis in this event was a great improvement over his disappointing 7-6 showing in the 1953 U. S. Open at Milwaukee.

## TABER TRIUMPHS IN IDAHO EVENT

William F. Taber of Reno, Nev. won the Idaho Open Championship at Boise with 6½-1½ in a 20-player Swiss; he has previously held the Nevada and Utah titles. Second place went to Kenneth Jones of Reno with 5½-2½. Third place and title of Idaho State Champion was won by Richard Vandenberg of Boise, also with 5½-1½, while Lloyd Kimpton was fourth on S-B, also with 5½-1½ score. Fifth place with 5½-1½ went to Mrs. Gregor Piatigorsky of Hollywood, California, while Stewart of Idaho placed sixth with 5-3.

## USSR TEAM MATCH AROUSES PROTEST

The designation of an American team of Reshevsky, Bisguier, Evans D. Byrne, R. Byrne, Horowitz, Denker, and Pavey with the alternate posts filled possibly by Kevitiz and Sherwin as winners of a quadrangular event in New York has aroused controversy and criticism among other U. S. Masters and ranking chess players. It is the claim of these players that the team selection was arbitrary and without due consideration of the relative rankings of a number of masters omitted from the list, while the quadrangular event for qualifying alternates is under attack as being a display of gross favoritism in the selection of the participants.

The American team has been selected by a committee headed by Mr. Alexander Bisno, who will serve as team captain, and the selections were made without the cooperation or approval of the USCF Committee on International Affairs.

Date set for the match is June 29th at Moscow, and plans call for four rounds of play on eight boards. The American delegation will consist of fifteen persons, including a team of eight and two alternates.

## PLATZ TRIUMPHS IN CONN VALLEY

Dr. Joseph Platz, former N. Y. Expert, won the 34th annual Western Massachusetts and Connecticut Valley Championship 4½-½, drawing with Julian Leavitt in the final round. Eli Bourdon was second with 4-1, losing to Platz. Third and fourth on S-B with 3½-1½ each were Leavitt and Stanley Wysowski. Fifth to seventh in the 16 player Swiss with 3-2 each were Robert Lane, Karl Allured, and Joseph Hickey.

## Second Call for U.S. Amateur; Don't Be Too Late, and Sorry!

When the caravan sets out for Mohegan Country Club and the U. S. Amateur Championship on May 20-21-22, no wise amateur will be missing from this vacation week-end of chess and fun. But the really wise amateurs haven't waited to slip their entries into the mail—Uncle Sam has already delivered their \$5.00 entry fees plus reservations for lodgings in the beautiful Mohegan Country Club at \$3.00 per night per person for chess players and their families (with youngsters under 12 at half-price). They know the clock is ticking to the time-limit and that procrastination is the thief of time—and time means a lot in a chess game.

Bored victims of many a chess vacation (the long suffering non-playing members of a chess player's family) are greeting this event with unwonted enthusiasm. For this time the patient wife doesn't have to sit and knit while husband is winning or losing his game. She can go swimming, play tennis, ping-pong, bridge or go boating and leave poor husband unconsolated when he loses that tough one by an oversight. And Junior can get lost on the ball-field, instead of moping in the tournament room, wondering when Daddy is going to stop and why he is so elated or so grouchy.

Do you believe in inspiration? Then, chess players, if you have that great game in your system that you have never played but know you can, if it doesn't come to life at the Amateur Championship this year it never will. For the Amateur Championship has never been held in such peaceful, beautiful, inspiring surroundings under such inspiring conditions.

Register early by mail! Don't let this great opportunity slip by! And if you are not already a USCF member, remember to add \$5.00 to your remittance for USCF annual dues and a year's subscription to CHESS LIFE.

## NEDVED ENJOYS MEXICAN CHESS

Former Illinois Champion Kimball Nedved in Mexico City enjoyed real Mexican hospitality when Sr. Mondragon staged a special invitational tourney at the club Ateneo Espanol so that Nedved could compete against some of Mexico's best players. Mondragon, fittingly enough, won the event 5-1, and Nedved and Ventosa shared second with 4-2 each, ahead of Soto Larrea, Araiza, Camarena, and Ferrez.

Sr. Mondragon, a symphony violinist, is regarded by many as the strongest player in Mexico City but seldom participates in tournaments. Major Araiza is many-times Champion of Mexico and played in the U. S. Open in Chicago in 1935. Camarena was Champion of Mexico in 1949—the only time the title did not go to either Torre or Araiza.

## RANKING U. S. MASTERS

### on Spring Rating List

1. Samuel Reshevsky	2766
2. Larry Evans	2629
3. Robert Byrne	2621
4-5. Arthur Bisguier	2587
4-5. Donald Byrne	2587
6. Herman Steiner	2507
7. Max Pavey	2476
8. Nicholas Rossolimo	2462
9. Isaac Kashdan	2439
10. Herbert Seidman	2434
11. Arnold Denker	2432
12-13. George Kramer	2404
12-13. James T. Sherwin	2404
14. Arthur Dake	2400
15. Israel A. Horowitz	2394
16. Alexander Kevitz	2391

Full Spring Rating List will be published in May 5th issue.

## LIEPNIKS WINS LINCOLN CITY

For the fifth year in succession Alexander Liepnieks has won the Lincoln, Neb. city title, this time with 8-1, losing no games but drawing with John Danenfelds and Andris Staklis. Thus Liepnieks retains custody of the permanent trophy donated by McGee Clothing Store. Danenfelds and Staklis tied for second with 6-3 each. Danenfelds drew with Liepnieks, Barton Lewis, Anton Freibergs and Kenwood Opp, while losing a game to Peter Tumeck; Staklis drew with Liepnieks, Opp, Lewis, and Tumeck, while losing to Danenfelds. Kenwood Opp was fourth with 5½-3½.

Norman Strand won the Class B Tournament 7½-1½, losing a game to runner-up James Weber and drawing with Rev. Max DeWitt. Weber scored 7-2, and Richard Cutts was third with 6½-2½. In the Class C Tournament Allan Axelrod tallied 6½-1½ for first, and Richard Dahl, Valdis Muceniaks, and John Winkelman were second to fourth with 6-2 each.

## U. S. JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

July 15-24, 1955  
Lincoln, Nebraska

## U. S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

August 8-20, 1955  
Long Beach, California



# ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

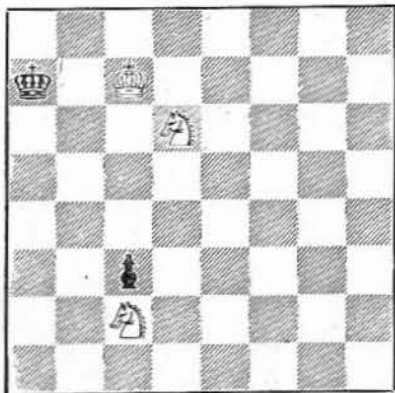
## Mastering the End Game

By **WALTER KORN**, Editor of MCO

### THE EXTENSION OF THE 50-MOVE LIMIT

**T**ODAY'S subject connects some observation made in our previous two columns concerning diagram No. 16, which showed a position Two Knights vs. Pawn from a game Barcza-Rethy, when White was about to make his 88th move. Having given the further course of the game in the previous column, we just remind ourselves of the configuration that arose after Black's 135th move, with White ready to make his 136th move:

Diagram No. 17



The actual moves in the game now were 136. N-N4!, K-R1; 137. N-B8, P-B7; 138. N-B6, P-B8(Q); 139. N-N6 mate.

The first observation we make is as to the general rule that applies to the time (and move) limit in End-Game, namely, that a game is drawn when 50 moves have been completed without a pawn having moved, or a piece having been taken. In the game Barcza-Rethy, the initial position from which on this rule would apply starts with White's 88th move and no pawn was moved and no piece lost up to and inclusive White's 137th move—a fact which would have compelled a draw if Black had been able to maintain the status quo with his 137th move! As it happened, that was a pawn-move which lifted the rule just at the last moment.

Undoubtedly the players had been counting the moves, as they are too experienced to miss such chance. A possible pointer to Rethy's awareness of it is the finesse in playing 136. ...., K-R1 instead of 136. ...., P-B7 which leads to same end after 137. N-B8 ch, K-R1; 138. N-B6, P-B8(Q); 139. N-N½ mate. But there is a slight difference in what merely looks like a transposition. After 136. ...., P-B7 Black would have broken the 50-move limit a move earlier than became necessary and therefore Black intuitively chose 136. ...., K-R1, which leaves the pawn structure unaltered. It did not help, but one never knows,

especially under time pressure when one doesn't follow the score too closely and a small detail like this might clinch or forfeit the draw.

Therefore, Barcza just scraped home in the last minute, although he actually could have saved himself two moves on the game score if he had played 97. K-N2 at once instead of interpolating the check. He might have gained two moves on the clock then, but he nearly lost them out on the 50-move limit!

The next question is whether this game in point would have merited an extension of the 50-move limit, had the game gone beyond the 137th move without alteration in pawn-position?

We personally say no, as without Black's kind help, the game should have been a draw (1) because the Pawn, being a BP, was too advanced AND obstructive on the square it stands and, therefore, (2) Black's King should have gone to his far Queen Rook's corner, to QR7 (a2). But even if the experts should have been uncertain on this score when the game was in progress, and had looked for an applicable rule, they might have run into a mystery.

The good old Laws of Chess (FIDE 1931) stipulated: "If checkmate is not given in 50 moves, the game shall be declared drawn. Nevertheless, the count of 50 moves shall begin again after each capture of any man and after each movement of a pawn. Exception shall be made for certain positions where theoretically more than 50 moves are necessary to force a check-mate and in this case a number of moves double the number established by theory as being necessary for this object shall be allowed in lieu of the 50." Admittedly, the sentence as from "double the number established . . ." etc. is also ambiguous in certain cases, although the exception is recognized.

So the revised Laws of Chess (FIDE 1953) now stipulate: "The game is drawn when a player having the move demonstrates that at least fifty moves have been made by each side without the capture of any man, or the movement of any Pawns. This number of fifty moves may be increased for certain specific positions, provided that this increase in number and these positions have been clearly established prior to commencement of the game."

Tableau!—the lawyers at work! Does one establish by clairvoyance what positions, requiring an extension and permitting prior announcement, are likely to occur? Does "prior to commencement of the game" also apply to commencement after adjournment, when a possible pattern of such extended end-game is more likely to emerge? I might have understood the meaning of the rule if it had stipulated "that . . . these positions have been clearly established BY PRECEDENT," that means by theory, as in the case of the two Ns versus P. This, however, would have excluded new discoveries in over-the-board-play.

So we turned to a book devoted to the interpretation of such rules, i.e., A. Brinckmann's and L. Reilstab's "Turnieraschenbuch" (Tournament Guide Book) published in Berlin 1954, and there it goes by way of explanation:

"The meaning of the 50-move rule is clear. But extending the limit beyond 50 moves has never been of practical use. We are not aware of a single case where such extension would have been required. Lately it has been stipulated, for safety sake, that before the start of a game or a tournament, such positions and also the necessary number of additional moves should be strictly determined, possibly on a notice-board. This has so far never been carried out in practice—not even at World Championship matches. Therefore this rule merely is designed to keep a door open in case of future new discoveries in End Game theory."

# IVKOV TAKES MAR DEL PLATA

Former World Junior Champion Boris Ivkov of Yugoslavia tallied 11½-3½ to win the strong Mar del Plata tournament in Argentina ahead of such stars as Najdorf, Gligoric, Pachman, Szabo and present World Junior Champion Oscar Panno. Najdorf placed second with 11-4, Gligoric was third with 10-5, and Pachman and Szabo tied for fourth with 9½-5½ each. Panno's 9-6 was good for sixth place.

### MAR DEL PLATA

#### Final Standings

1. Ivkov	11½-3½	9. Wexler	7½-7½
2. Najdorf	11-4	10. Rossetto	7-8
3. Gligoric	10-5	11. Flores	6-9
4. Pachman	9½-5½	12. Letelier	5-10
5. Szabo	9½-5½	13. Bauza	4½-10½
6. Panno	9-6	14. Doderio	4½-10½
7. Pilnik	8½-6½	15. Idigoras	4½-10½
8. Toran	8-7	16. DeGreff	4-11

The following brevity from the tourney is illustrative of the novel and dashing style possessed by Ivkov:

### SICILIAN DEFENSE

White	Black
1. P-K4	P-QB4
2. P-Q4	PxP
3. P-QB3	PxP
4. KtXP	P-Q3
5. Kt-B3	Kt-Q2
6. B-QB4	P-K3
7. B-B4	P-K4
8. Q-Kt3	P-Q4
9. BxQP	Kt-B4
10. BxPch	K-K2
	11. B-Kt5ch
	12. Kt-Q5ch
	13. KtXPch
	14. KtXPch
	15. Q-Kt5ch
	16. KtXB
	17. QxKt
	18. KtXB
	19. O-O
	Resigns

In an article "Queens of Chess" by Eleanor Clarage with photos by William Ashbolt, the Cleveland Plain Dealer Pictorial Magazine for Sunday, March 27, featured an interview on chess with Willa White Owens, USCF Vice-President and Secretary of the Ohio Chess Association. Mrs. Owens emphasized the point that contrary to popular conception, chess was an easy game to learn as well as being a fascinating one; and that this fact was demonstrated by the facility with which young children learned the moves, often from other youngsters their own age.

**Racine (Wis.) Chess Club:** For the fourth time the Racine Club took the measure of the Waukegan Chess Club, this time 7½-3½. Scoring for Racine were R. E. Rigg, W. Teubner, A. Domsy, J. Byrd, R. Kime, F. Buttenhoff, and J. Wernter, while J. Weidner drew. For Waukegan A. Sinclair, C. Henderson, and M. Gore salvaged points while F. Votruba drew. Waukeganites who finished early tallied a 4-4 draw with other Racine members in an informal match. A USCF Club Affiliate.

We think this interpretation is fallacious in as much as it shifts the emphasis to new discoveries. In an intricate case, the over-the-board play would rarely discover such deep novelty and probably a novel position arrived at in practical play would be executed in a faulty way. Passing up on theoretical win in OTB-play is a bit of bad luck, but no tragedy. If, however, subsequent analysis shows a difficult yet definite way of winning or drawing by extending the 50-move rule, this would form an important theoretical precedent for future use, and such, and the already known extensions, are the positions, to which the new rule applies.

We know by now a good (though still limited) number of positions justifying an extension. They consist of various two Ns versus P positions, many positions Rook and Bishop versus Rook, and some positions of R and P versus B and P. How relatively unknown these positions are may be gauged from an off-hand game in a leading New York club where in such position of R and B versus R two masters started counting and drew after 50 moves, although it was a configuration justifying the extension of the limit.

# Chess Life In New York

By **Allen Kaufman**

**T**HE Qualifying Tournament for the American Team had only four participants; it was a small tournament, but it raised many perplexing questions.

Originally there were ten places to be filled on the U. S. Team—eight regulars and two alternates. Reshevsky, Evans, Bisguier, the Byrnes, Horowitz, Pavey and Denker were placed on the team directly, leaving two places to be filled. Steiner and Kashdan were asked to play a match for one place, and the Sherwin-Lasker-Lombardy-Kevitz tournament was held for the other.

The final standings of the tournament (Sherwin and Kevitz 4-2; Lombardy 3½-2½; Lasker ½-5½) led to one question: is it fair for one game to decide whether or not a player goes to Russia? The three leaders all scored 1-1 with each other, but Lombardy drew with Lasker. Consequently, Lombardy's failure to score an extra half-point from Lasker was the difference between his going and his not going.

Presumably, the U. S. Team to Moscow represents the cream of American chessplayers, which leads to another troubling question: Who chose these four to play this double round robin? Without doubt, all four are very strong players. But are there not some even stronger who were not invited to play? And consider those automatically placed on the team. Was it because of their strength or reputation or ratings that they did not have to compete in a qualifying tournament? In fact, the fifteenth rated player in the country was one of those put on the team at once, while the tenth rated player was not even asked to enter the Qualifying Tournament!

As it later turned out, Denker probably could not go, leaving an extra berth vacant. Therefore, there are three places now open, to be filled by (1) the winner of a Sherwin-Kevitz match, (2) the winner of a Steiner-Kashdan match, (3) the winner of another Qualifying Tournament which supposedly includes most of those who were left out of earlier plans.

And, since the ratings are not being used, one must also ask if those chosen by these methods are really the ten best of this country, or merely the favorites of some committee. And, if they are not the best, how can a program for fair selection be instituted?

All this strikes your reporter (and many other New York players with whom he has spoken) as a hap-hazard method of choosing the men to represent the chessplayers of America in an international contest of transcending importance.

**Robert Byrne (Sugarland, Tex.) Chess Club:** Leon Anhaizer won the 2nd annual Rapid Transit with 4-0 score; Leonard Anhaizer was second with 3-1, and Wilson Dane third with 2-2.

### Book-Ends For Sale

Bookends made from hardwood with cast Chess & Bridge ornaments. Ask for Folder. E & M Mfg. Co., P.O., Tillson, N.Y.

### NOMINATIONS OF USCF OFFICERS

The USCF Nominating Committee, duly appointed by the USCF Executive Committee, is to nominate three Vice-Presidents, each for a period of three years, and one Secretary for a term of one year; and cordially invites the membership to submit names of qualified candidates for consideration. Before submitting the name of a person for any of the above mentioned offices, he should be contacted to determine that he is both available and willing to serve, and that he is a USCF member at time of submission of name. Names may be sent to any member of the committee.

- R. B. POTTER 5224 Milam St., Dallas, Texas
- DR. N. HORNSTEIN Southport, No. Car.
- DR. ERICH MARCHAND 192 Seville Dr., Rochester, N.Y.
- WM. PLAMPIN 41 E. Rosemont Ave. Alexandria, Va.
- CARL WEBERG Box 165 Salina, Kans.





# BEHIND THE SCENES

## THE STORIES BEHIND THE GAMES

By International Master **ARTHUR B. BISGUIER**

U. S. CHAMPION, 1954

### No. 4: The Next-to-the-Last-Round

**C**HESSPLAYERS are notoriously superstitious. Many a player who wins a brilliant victory on a day he wears a new tie believes the tie to be endowed with mysterious qualities. Not unaccountably this very piece of apparel continues to make its appearance for all important succeeding games until a game is lost and the spell broken. I have known certain (let them remain nameless) individuals to adopt a similar modus operandi with more personal items of dress, much to the discomfort of friends and opponents alike. The height of something-or-other was reached when several of our better known young chess-players all happened to win their games on a day when they hadn't bothered to shave. Evidently they believed themselves descended from Samson; for some time thereafter the local chess clubs resembled a clan meeting of the tribe of David.

Lest the reader feel that I, personally, am above all this, I must unfortunately assure him this is most definitely and emphatically not the case. My own private bete noire is the early part of any chess tournament. I am rather fatalistic about this and I feel that no matter how I play or what I do I will fare badly in the first few rounds. However, as if to justly compensate for this debility, I believe my star begins to shine in the latter half of any tournament. The next to the last round, in particular, is my time to howl. I can think of no important tournament, where I finished at all well, that I failed to win in this critical round. For this one encounter I feel that I can do no wrong, and many of my best games were played in the next to last round.

One of the early tournaments that served to reinforce my superstitious beliefs was the 1950 U. S. National Open Tourney. I began badly, as usual, dropping a couple of points in the early rounds to unknown, unheralded players, while my perennial rival, Evans, was amassing an enviable six points for the first six rounds. Larry weakened a bit after his heroic start while I began to win steadily and the next-to-last-round found us tied for the lead with Swiss System forced pairing of Evans versus Bisguier. Winning this game gave me a point lead on my closest competitor and virtually clinched the title. That's the story—here's the game.

#### QUEEN'S GAMBIT ACCEPTED Detroit, 1950

<p>White <b>L. EVANS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Q4</li> <li>N-KB3</li> <li>P-B4</li> <li>P-K3</li> <li>BxP</li> <li>O-O</li> <li>Q-K2</li> <li>R-Q1</li> </ol> <p>Here 8. N-B3, preventing the exchange of the White KB is to be preferred.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>.....</li> <li>B-N3</li> </ol> <p>9. PxP, Q-B2 is no improvement for White since Black recaptures his pawn with an easy game.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>.....</li> <li>B-B2</li> </ol>	<p>Black <b>A. BISGUIER</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N-KB3</li> <li>P-Q4</li> <li>PxP</li> <li>P-K3</li> <li>P-B4</li> <li>P-QR3</li> <li>N-B3</li> <li>.....</li> <li>P-QN4</li> <li>.....</li> <li>P-B5</li> <li>N-QN5</li> </ol>
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Readers of this column will recognize the game Mengarini-Bisguier (U.S. Open at Baltimore, 1948) in which the same position occurred.

11. P-K4 .....  
The aforementioned game against Men-

garini continued 11. P-QR4, NxN; 12. QxN, B-N2; 13. P-QN3, BPxP; 14. QxN, B-Q4 with advantage to Black.

11. ....	NxB
12. QxN	B-N2
13. P-Q5	Q-B2

Best since 13. .... PxP is met by 14. N-B3, B-K2; 15. P-K5 and White stands very well.

14. B-N5	N-Q2
15. PxP	.....

15. N-B3, P-K4 would transpose into the game, Reshevsky-Flohr, Nottingham 1936, which ended in an early draw, though I believe Black has an edge with his Bishop pair and Q-side pawn majority. Evans' move attempts to weaken and exploit the White pawn structure.

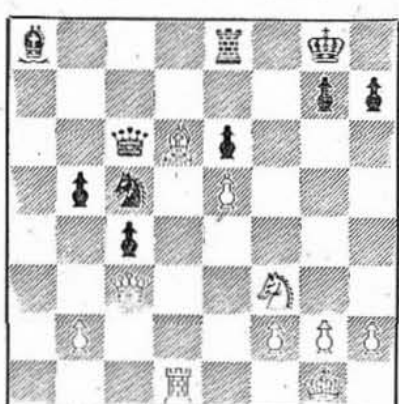
15. ....	PxP
16. P-QR4	B-N5
17. PxP	PxP
18. RxR ch	BxR
19. N-B3	BxN

White's plan has met with partial success since Black is forced to exchange one of his coveted Bishops. The position is still in Black's favor, however, because of the Q-side majority of pawns and the pressure on the White KP. Notice any attempt by Black to avoid 19. ...., BxN by Q-N2 or Q-N3 is met by the embarrassing move N-Q4.

20. QxB	.....
20. PxP	would seem to give White better chances of stemming the onrush of the Black Q-side pawns.
20. ....	O-O
21. B-K7	R-K1

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22. B-Q6 ..... Q-B3  
23. P-K5 .....  
White has succeeded in securing his KP but the long range power of Black's Bishop is deadly.



It is no secret that the N is heading for Q6. However, 24. BxN, QxB leaves White with a technically lost position because of the superiority of the Black against the White Knight and because of the two pawns to one on the Q-side. For instance: 24. Q-Q4, QxQ; 25. NxQ, R-Q1. 26. K-B1, P-N5; 27. K-K2, BxP; 28. NxP, B-B6 ch. Or instead, 24. Q-Q4, QxQ; 25. RxQ, B-Q4; 26. K-B1, R-R1; 28. R-Q2, P-N5 with an easy win.

24. Q-K3	N-Q6
25. P-QN3	Q-K5

The Bishops of opposite color will not help White in this end game.

26. QxQ	BxQ
27. N-Q4	P-B6
28. P-B3	.....

Obviously he couldn't take the QNP in view of P-B7.

28. ....	B-N3
29. R-R1	.....

If 29. N-B2, N-B5 wins a piece, as Knight moves are answered by ...., P-B7, with ...., N-K7 ch menacing in the background.

29. ....	R-QB1
30. K-B1	P-R4!

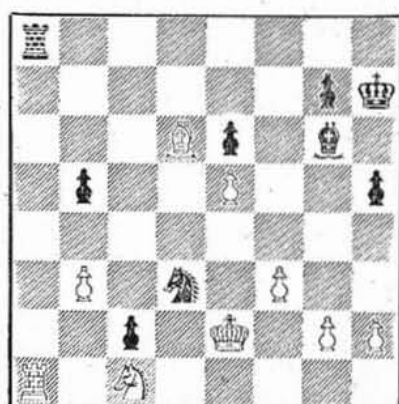
A two-purpose move. First, it provides air for the King and avoids the trap 30. ...., P-B7?; 31. NxBP and Black's advantage disappears simultaneously with his pawn. The second point will become apparent on move 33.

31. N-K2	.....
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If 31. N-B2, N-B5; 32. R-B1, B-Q6 ch; 33. K-K1, N-K7; 34. R-R1, BxN; 35. KxN, BxP and Black wins easily.

31. ....	P-B7
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32. N-B1 ..... K-R2  
This move leaves White without resource. If now 33. NxN, BxN ch wins a Rook. If 33. B-R3, P-N5; 34. NxN, BxN ch wins a piece. If 33. P-QN4, R-QR1 is devastating.



The second point of 30. ...., P-R4 rears its ugly head.

34. RxR	NxN ch
35. K-K3	N-Q6!
36. B-R3	P-N5
37. B-N2	.....

37. K-Q2 is met by 37. ...., N-B4!  
37. .... NxB  
38. K-Q2

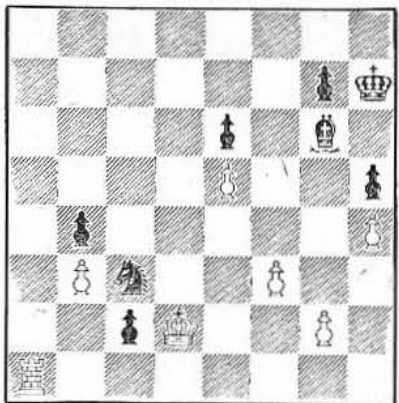
Otherwise Black wins a full Rook with N-Q6.

38. ....	N-Q8
39. R-R4	N-B6

In order to answer 40. RxP with 40. RxP with 40. ...., P-B8(Q) ch, followed by N-R7 ch.

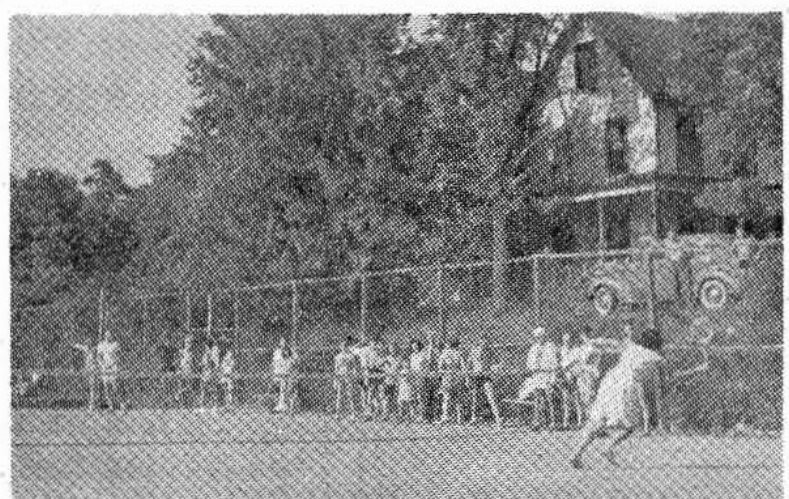
40. R-R1	K-R3
41. P-R4	K-R2

Resigns



The word is Zugzwang. If the Rook moves on the first rank, then ...., N-R7 wins. If it moves on the file, then ...., N-K7 wins. If White plays K-B1, then ...., N-K7 wins. Finally, if White plays K-K1 or K-K3, White has the

(Please turn to page 7, col. 1)



**LOVE ALL!**  
Relax between games with a fast bout of tennis on the courts at Mohegan Country Club.



Published twice a month on the 5th and 20th by  
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Editor: MONTGOMERY MAJOR

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## U.S. Masters Protest

### Arbitrary Team Selections

The following letter has been circulated to various USCF officials  
and other prominent chess players in regard to the selection of a team  
to play in Moscow in June. We might underline the fact that the USCF  
International Affairs Committee, Max Pavay chairman, did not select  
this team, and that it had no part in arranging for the quadrangular  
tourney under criticism.—The Editor.

March 24, 1955

Mr. Max Pavay  
Chairman, International Affairs Committee, U.S.C.F.

Dear Mr. Pavay:

We, the undersigned, are sure you will agree that it is desirable that the  
United States be represented by its strongest possible team not only in the forth-  
coming match against Russia but in other international team events as well.

To this end we wish to enter strenuous objections to a specific current situa-  
tion in selecting team personnel. In addition we wish to offer a constructive plan  
for choosing (and training) team personnel in the future.

The personnel arbitrarily selected for the present team, for the most part,  
clearly merit their places. The selection of one or two of the players is certainly  
debatable though not wholly unreasonable. However, the so-called quadrangular  
"qualifying" tournament, now in progress, presumably to determine an alternate  
for the team, raises questions we find unanswerable.

It is evident that this tournament was hastily organized to the exclusion of  
several masters ranking higher by U. S. Chess Federation standards than all of  
the participants in the quadrangular tournament. For example, not included were  
George Kramer, a Senior Master and Herbert Seidman, a high prize winner in the  
two most recent U. S. championship tournaments, both of whom, in our opinion,  
are worthy of serious consideration for the regular team. In addition, more than  
another twenty masters rank higher than one of the participants.

It is thus clear that the quadrangular tournament is at its basis illogical and  
unrepresentative. We find it impossible to believe that you as the responsible U. S.  
Chess Federation agent have officially sanctioned this tournament and it is con-  
sequently we believe without status.

We therefore request that the quadrangular tournament be declared invalid  
and a genuine qualifying tournament be conducted to fill the post of alternate  
and also any vacancies that may subsequently arise. There is surely time to  
organize such a tournament if prompt measures are taken.

It may be noted that the place of alternate on the team is not inconsequential.  
One has only to recall the 1946 match with Russia when the "alternate" played  
both games of the match.

This situation again points up the necessity for an objective system for select-  
ing team personnel. We believe consideration should be given to the following plan.

Any player ranking as Senior Master or Grand Master in the most recent rat-  
ing list has clearly demonstrated outstanding current ability and is therefore en-  
titled, ipso facto, to a place on the team. Usually five or six players would be  
selected in this manner.

The next ten or fifteen ranking players are most likely of such nearly equal  
ability that the rating system cannot accurately measure their relative current  
strength. Their right to a place on the team should be demonstrated in a qualify-  
ing tournament. To this tournament, the players already assured of a place on  
the team, could be invited for training purposes. Thus the qualifying tournament  
would be not only useful for selecting some of the team members but would also  
afford an opportunity for much needed practice for the whole team.

We trust you will take forthright action to repudiate the unfortunate quad-  
rangular tournament and replace it by a representative qualifying tournament. In  
addition we hope you will take vigorous measures to establish an objective system  
for selecting future teams.

We would appreciate a prompt reply to our representative, Eliot Hearst,  
Director, U.S.C.F., 300 West 108th Street, New York, New York.

Signed// SIDNEY E. BERNSTEIN  
JEREMIAH F. DONOVAN, Director, U.S.C.F.  
ELIOT HEARST, Director, U.S.C.F.  
CARL PILNICK  
ANTHONY E. SANTASIERE, Life Director, U.S.C.F.  
HERBERT SEIDMAN  
GEORGE SHAINSWIT  
DR. HAROLD SUSSMAN

CURRENT ASSETS		ASSETS	
Cash in Manufacturers Trust Co. ....	\$ 267.80		
Petty Cash Fund—New York Office .....	50.00		
Petty Cash Fund—Chicago .....	50.00	367.80	
Merchandise Inventory .....		2,121.82	
(Submitted by Management)			
Inventory—Supplies—Direct Mail Order .....		925.00	
(Submitted by Management)			
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b> .....			<b>\$3,414.62</b>

CURRENT LIABILITIES		LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable .....	\$1,191.21		
Accounts Payable—Telegraph-Herald .....	4,162.98		
Reserve for Chapter Commissions .....	63.70		
Social Security Taxes Payable .....	26.58		
Withholding Taxes Payable .....	70.70		
Federal Excise Tax Payable .....	60.38		
Loans Payable—Kenneth Harkness .....	580.00		
Loans Payable—Frank R. Graves .....	125.00		
Loans Payable—A. Wyatt Jones .....	125.00		
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b> .....			<b>\$6,405.55</b>

DEFICIT—July 1, 1954		NET-WORTH	
Less: Net Income for the interim period July 1, 1954 to December 31, 1954 .....	\$3,077.44		
	86.51		
<b>DEFICIT—December 31, 1954</b> .....			<b>\$2,990.93</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH</b> .....			<b>\$3,414.62</b>

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

For the Six Months Period Ended December 31st, 1954

INCOME	
Sales of Merchandise .....	\$6,332.89
Less: Cost of Sales:	
Inventory—Beginning .....	\$2,186.14
Purchases .....	3,965.72
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$6,151.86</b>
Less: Inventory—Closing .....	2,121.82
<b>Cost of Sales</b> .....	<b>4,030.04</b>
<b>Gross Profit on Sales</b> .....	<b>\$2,302.85</b>
Donations .....	20.25
Membership Dues .....	4,676.50
Affiliation and Club Dues .....	472.00
Subscriptions to Chess Life (Non-member) .....	364.65
Rating Fees .....	481.25
Income from Tournament Fees .....	800.00
Magazines .....	34.53
Miscellaneous Income .....	82.67
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b> .....	<b>\$9,234.70</b>
EXPENSES:	
Direct Mail Advertising .....	\$ 898.93
Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies .....	136.29
Shipping Supplies .....	197.67
Rent .....	330.00
Commissions (Business Manager) .....	1,218.95
Postage and Express .....	554.25
Accounting .....	25.00
Wages (William Slater) .....	120.00
Travel Expense .....	437.58
Freight Charges .....	85.53
Magazine and Newspaper Advertising .....	440.64
Printing and Mailing Chess Life (Current Expense) .....	3,140.78
Editorial Expenses .....	641.10
Tournament Expenses .....	188.93
Miscellaneous Expenses .....	585.96
Social Security Taxes .....	27.26
Telephone .....	119.32
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b> .....	<b>9,148.19</b>
<b>NET INCOME FOR THE PERIOD</b> .....	<b>\$ 86.51</b>

RALPH ROSENBLATT,  
Certified Public Accountant  
New York, N.Y.

## The Reader's Road To Chess

By Kester Svendsen

**EIGHTH BIENNIAL UNITED STATES CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP, NEW YORK 1951. EVANS-STEINER CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH 1922.** Spence Limited Editions. Vol. XI. American Tournament Series. Edited by Jack Spence, 208 South 25th Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska. vii, 33 pp., mimeo., \$2.

ONCE more Jack Spence obligates the chess world with a recovery of tournament games that otherwise might well have passed into the oblivion of private collections. Albert Pinkus supplied the 66 games from the finals, the USCF sponsored the project, and Spence added the Evans-Steiner match. When he can issue the 1954 tournament, Spence will have completed the recording of all post-war championships from 1946 forward. The 1951 event was sensational not only because Evans finished ahead of Reshevsky but also because Reshevsky lost his first game in United States championships since 1936. Dr. Ariel Mengarini turned the trick.

The mimeographing is good, the games are lightly annotated, and the spiral binding makes playing over the scores quite convenient. The edition is limited to 115 copies; so collectors had better order early.





# CHESS TACTICS FOR BEGINNERS

By U. S. Expert DR. ERICH W. MARCHAND

Dr. Marchand will answer beginners' questions on this page, if of sufficient general interest. Those wishing a personal reply should enclose stamped, self-addressed envelope. Address: Dr. Erich W. Marchand, 192 Seville Drive, Rochester 17, N.Y.

## 1. Answers to Readers' Questions

Mr. Leon Anhauser, Sugar Land, Texas asks: When I am asked to recommend three chess books for a beginner to buy, what should I choose? **Answer:** It is next to impossible to say which beginner's books are the very best. Three good ones are the **First Book of Chess** by Horowitz and Reinfeld, the **Second Book of Chess** and the **Third Book of Chess**, the latter two by Reinfeld. These are short, lucid and sufficiently elementary to be truly designed for beginners. Also good is the **Invitation to Chess** by Harkness and Chernev.

## 2. Positional Chess

In some respects the subject of positional chess is not fitting material for a beginners' column. What is the use of considering the fine points of pawn structure (doubled pawns, isolated pawns, backward pawns, and such) if one is going to lose pawns or pieces on simple combinations or get one's King mated in the middle game?

The real value of positional play is seen when a player has progressed to a point where he has learned not to make elementary blunders, when he can foresee and deal with ordinary combinations and, most important, when he has learned to keep his King in reasonable safety.

However, every beginner should at least be aware that positional chess exists. At the very start of his chess career he should try to begin to accumulate some of its underlying ideas and not get into too many bad habits which will have to be unlearned later. A beginner who plays over some of the games of the masters should understand that what may appear to be a dull super-cautious contest is often teeming with delicate finesses and long range strategical ideas. The master, for instance, must always keep in the back of his mind what the game will look like if and when the end-game stage arrives.

## 3. A Positional Game

### FRENCH DEFENSE

#### Ladder Game

Rochester, N.Y., 1955

White: V. WEIG  
Black: E. MARCHAND  
1. P-K4 P-K3 3. Kt-KB3 Kt-KB3  
2. P-Q4 P-Q4

The classical move. In recent years the Winawer variation 3. ...., B-Kt5 has become popular partly because of its frequent adoption by the present World Champion, M. Botvinnik.

4. B-Kt5 B-K2 5. P-K5 Kt-K5  
The best move is 5. ...., KKt-Q2. But Black wished to get away from the beaten path. White should now play 6. BxB, Kt-Kt (not 6. ...., QxB; 7. Kt-Kt, PxB since the KP would be hard to defend); 7. BxQ, Kt-Q; 8. BxP, Kt-KtP. 6. Kt-Kt BxB 7. Kt-B5

Here White should play 7. Kt-B for two reasons. Firstly he gains time. Black is compelled to play 7. ...., QxB and then, with 8. Kt-KB3, White can develop a piece and drive back the Black Q at the same time. Secondly, two Bishops are somewhat better than a Kt and B especially when nearing the end-game when wide open spaces are usually present.

7. ...., P-QKt3 8. Kt-Q3 P-QB4  
This move is the normal key to Black's strategical plan in the French Defense. It attacks the base of the pawn chain in the center. Black has two possible logical plans to try (1) A general attack with pieces on the K-side and (2) the advance P-KB4, P-B5 (with proper preparation).

9. P-KB4 B-K2  
Black considered a positional finesse here. If 9. ...., B-R5 ch, White must either give up the chance to castle or weaken his K-side pawns with P-KKt3. However, White has only one Bishop and it operates on white squares. Its mobility will be increased if the pawns are placed on black squares (Capablanca's rule, about which more will be said in a later article).

10. Kt-B3 PxP  
Black takes advantage of a slight positional inaccuracy on the part of his opponent. White should have played 10. P-QB3 so as to answer 10. ...., PxP with 11. PxP maintaining his strength in the center.

11. Kt-P B-Q2 13. P-B3 P-QR3  
12. B-K2 Kt-B3

A positional move as well as a preparatory one. The White Kt is kept out of his Kt5 square. In general it is good policy for Black to keep his Pawns on the same color as White's Bishop. What is more the text-move gets ready for P-QKt4 and a Q-side advance.

14. O-O P-QKt4 15. K-R1  
To prevent his Kt from being pinned by 15. ...., Q-Kt3.

15. ...., Kt-Kt 16. PxKt Q-Kt3  
With this maneuver Black has given up the slight weakness he created in the center at move 10 but hopes to cause, White some very slight embarrassment in return. It is characteristic of positional play that small advantages cannot be maintained unless they are nursed along by a process of transforming them into other forms. White's Kt must move to an unfavorable square.

17. Kt-K1 QR-B1  
Another part of Black's strategy appears. He wishes to use the open B-file.

18. Kt-B3 O-O 19. B-Q3 P-Kt3  
A plausible way to slow down White's

intended K-side attack would be 19. ...., P-KR3. Here the text-move was chosen instead because again of Capablanca's rule. White's Bishop "bites on granite" as the saying goes.

20. Q-Q2 R-B3  
Zeus nods. Slightly better would be 20. ...., R-B2 as appears later.

21. QR-B1 KR-B1 22. RxR QxR  
It was important to capture with the Q instead of the R so as to prevent White's R-B1. It is almost always essential to get and keep control of open files when they are present. If Black had played 20. ...., R-B2, his Q would now stand on B2 and he would be ready for P-QR4 at once.

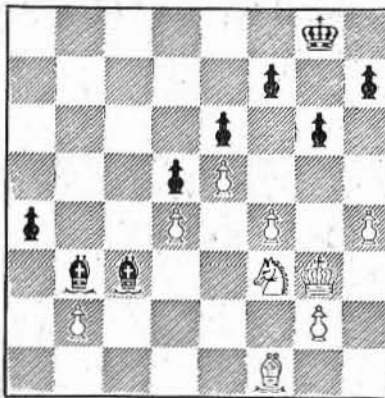
23. P-QR3 Q-B2 25. P-R3  
24. Q-K2 Q-Kt3  
White swims a bit unable to find a convincing plan. He makes an air-hole for his K. Not good would be 25. QKt4 permitting R-B6. But 25. Q-Q2 preparing R-B1 was a good idea.

25. ...., P-QR4 27. R-B2 P-Kt5  
26. Q-Q2 Q-B2 28. PxP BxP  
Black's two Bishops begin to have a little scope. Black has control of an open file. With a slight but clear positional advantage how can he hope to turn this into a won game?

29. Q-Q1 Q-B8 31. K-R2 B-R5  
30. QxQ RxQch 32. P-R4 B-Kt6  
Black has a cute plan in mind. It probably can be stopped if one sees it coming.

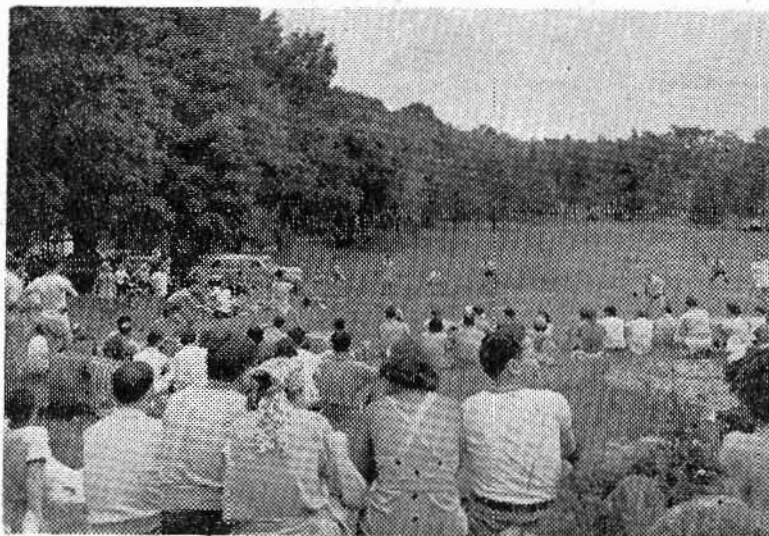
33. K-Kt3 P-R5 34. R-B1  
Black now has a forced win.

34. ...., RxR 35. BxR B-B6!



Black's RP is bound to go through.

36. PxB P-R6 38. Kt-K4 P-R7  
37. Kt-Q2 B-R5



### PLAY BALL!

Take a healthy swing at the bat, between rounds at the U. S. Amateur Championship, in wooded Mohegan Country Club grounds.

Not 38. ...., PxB; 39. B-B4, B-B7 (intending B-Kt8); 40. B-R2. Black should resign.  
39. Kt-B6ch K-Kt2 42. P-Kt3 Q-R8ch  
40. P-R5 P-R8=Q 43. K-Kt5 P-R3ch  
41. K-R4 QxB 44. K-Kt4  
B-Q8 mate

Mechanics Institute (San Francisco)  
Chess Club: William Addison, former Louisiana Champion, won the club title 7-0; Earl Pruner was second with 5½-1½; C. Brussel third with 4½-2½; and K. Bendit and H. Bullwinkel shared fourth with 4-3 each.

## UNITED STATES AMATEUR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

to be held at the famous  
Mohegan Country Club  
Lake Mohegan, N. Y.  
May 20-21-22, 1955

Play for the U. S. Amateur title and enjoy a weekend of chess at beautiful Lake Mohegan. Swimming, boating, tennis, handball, basketball, ping-pong, bridge and other activities for players, their families, and visitors.

### DETAILS IN A NUT-SHELL

Who Can Play: Open to all chess-players except rated Masters.

Six Round Swiss: First round starts 8 p.m. sharp on Friday, May 20th. Last round ends about 3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 22nd.

Awards: Winner recognized as United States Amateur Chess Champion and gets trophy. Woman with highest score wins title of Woman Amateur Chess Champion of the U. S. and gets trophy. Also trophies for Class A and Class B players with highest scores. No cash prizes. Strictly amateur event.

100% Rated Tournament: Performances of all players will be rated by the USCF. You can obtain a national rating or improve your present ranking by playing in this event.

Time Limit, etc.: 50 moves in 2 hours. Unfinished games adjudicated after 4 hours. Adjudicator: U. S. Master Max Pavey. Ties broken by Median System. Pairings by Harkness System. Director: Kenneth Harkness. Chess Clocks: Only a limited number of clocks will be available. Please bring your own if possible. Sets and boards will be provided.

Special Low Rates for Lodgings: Players and visitors pay only \$3 per night for lodgings at Mohegan Country Club. Half-price for children under 12. Private room for one person: \$4 per night. Meals at reasonable rates can be obtained at restaurants and lunch-rooms nearby.

How to Get There from New York: By train from Grand Central or 125th St. to Peekskill. Buses and taxis meet all express trains, take you directly to Country Club. Allow one hour and ten minutes on express train plus 20 minutes on bus. By auto: West Side Highway to Saw Mill River—Taconic Parkway from Hawthorne Circle, left turn at Route 202; one mile to Lexington Ave. and right turn to Country Club.

Entry Fee: \$5.00 to USCF members. Non-members must also pay \$5.00 USCF dues.

Entries and Reservations for Lodgings: Entries will be accepted at the Mohegan Country Club up to 7 p.m. (but no later) on Friday, May 20th. However, to enable the management to make arrangements for your comfort, please mail your entry and reservation in advance. The sooner the better. Mail your entry fee and reservation (with or without payment for lodgings) to the United States Chess Federation at the address below. DO IT NOW!

UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION

81 Bedford Street  
New York 14, New York





# GAMES BY USCF MEMBERS

Annotated by Chess Master JOHN W. COLLINS, Marshall Chess Club Champion, 1954

USCF MEMBERS: Submit your best games for this department to JOHN W. COLLINS, 91 Lenox Road, Brooklyn 26, N.Y. Space being limited, Mr. Collins will select the most interesting and instructive for publication. Unless otherwise stated notes to games are by Mr. Collins.

## CALIFORNIA CHAMPIONSHIP BEAUTY

The following win by Eugene Levin has been described as probably the most beautiful game in the tournament.

### PETROFF DEFENSE

MCO: page 145, column 7  
California Championship  
San Francisco, 1954

White: W. ADDISON  
Black: E. LEVIN

1. P-K4 P-K4  
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-KB3  
3. Kt-P3 P-Q3  
4. Kt-KB3 Kt-P3  
5. Q-K2 and 5. Kt-B3 also run to equality.

5. .... P-Q4  
6. B-Q3 B-Q3  
This threatens most, fastest, but it is 6. .... B-K2 for long term soundness.

7. O-O O-O  
8. P-B4! R-K1 and 8. Kt-B3.

8. .... B-KKt5  
9. PxP P-KB4  
10. P-KR3

Better is 10. Kt-B3.  
10. .... B-R4  
11. Kt-B3 Q-K2

On 11. .... Kt-Q2; 12. KtxKt, PxKt; 13. BxP, Kt-B3; 14. B-B5, Black has no compensation for his Pawns.

12. R-K1? .....  
A careless move. 12. Q-K2 maintains the advantage.

12. .... KtxKt!  
13. PxKt  
If 13. RxQ, KtxQ; 14. R-K1, KtxKtP; 15. BxKt, BxKt; 16. PxP, and White cannot point to one healthy Pawn.

13. .... BxKt!  
14. PxP  
If 14. RxQ, BxQ; 15. R-K1, B-R4; and Black has an extra piece.

14. .... Q-R5  
The direct attack against the disorganized White king-side begins.

15. B-B1 .....  
If 15. K-Kt2, R-B3; wins.  
15. .... Kt-Q2  
16. P-QB4 P-QKt3  
17. P-R4

White's intention is 18. B-R3, in order to exchange Black's menacing Bishop.

17. .... P-B5  
Bind!  
18. B-R3 R-B4

This not only brings the KR into the attack, it vacates KB1 for the Knight and QR so that they may join in the fun too.

19. Q-Q2? .....  
Not 19. BxB, R-Kt4 ch; 20. K-R2, QxRP ch; and Black mates in one. But 19. Q-K2 is better.

19. .... R-Kt4 ch  
20. K-R2 Kt-B1  
21. B-KKt2

The best defense is 21. BxB, PxP; 22. R-R2.

21. .... Kt-Kt3  
22. R-KKt1  
Again, 22. BxB.

22. .... Q-R3!  
Now it is the Queen's turn to make room for the Knight—at R5.

## PERSONAL SERVICE

The Editor of this Department will play you a game by mail, comment on every move, and give you a thorough post-game analysis. Fee \$10.

Mr. Collins will also annotate any one of your games for a fee of \$5.

23. P-R5 .....  
Again, 23. BxB.  
23. .... Kt-R5  
Threatening 24. .... RxR, RxR, KtxP ch; and 26. .... KtxQ.  
24. B-R1 .....  
If 24. Q-K2, KtxB; 25. RxKt, R-R4; wins.  
24. .... R-Kt6!



### Resigns.

The unanswerable threat is 25. .... KtxP ch; 26. BxKt, QxP mate. If 25. PxP, PxP ch; wins the Queen. A clever finish!

## HOWARD AND LOMBARDY, CO-CHAMPIONS

Franklin S. Howard of East Orange, N. J., former New Jersey Champion, and seventeen year old William Lombardy, New York State Champion, each scoring 11 1/2-2 1/2, tied for first place in the annual Marshall Club Championship. The following Lombardy best is reminiscent of Capablanca's "simple" method.

### KEVITZ DEFENSE

MCO: page 131, column 3  
Marshall C.C. Championship  
New York, 1955

White: W. LOMBARDY  
Black: A. KAUFMAN

1. P-K4 Kt-QB3 4. Kt-KB3  
2. P-Q4 P-K4 KtxKt?!

3. PxP KtxP  
This move results in a badly cramped game for Black. He might have done better with 4. .... Q-B3; 5. B-K2, B-Kt5 ch; 6. QKt-Q2, KtxKt ch; 7. BxKt, Kt-K2; 8. O-O, O-O; 9. Kt-Kt3, Kt-B3; 10. P-KKt3, R-K1; 11. B-Kt2, B-B1; 12. P-QB3, P-Q3; 13. P-KB4, as played in the game, Keres-Kevitz, USA vs. USSR match, New York 1954.

5. QxKt Q-B3  
There is nothing better. If ..... P-Q3; 6. B-QB4, B-K3; 7. BxB, PxP; 8. Q-QKt3, Q-QB1 gives White considerable pressure.

6. Q-KKt3!  
Of course not 6. QxQ, KtxQ; 7. B-Q3, B-B4; with slight advantage to Black.

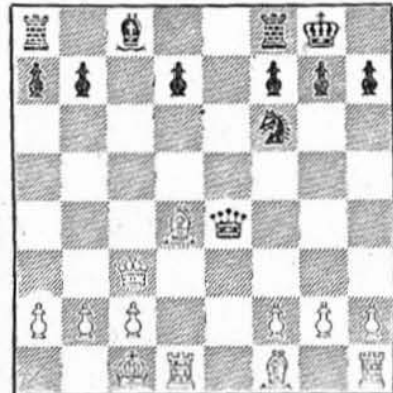
6. .... Q-KKt3!  
Black should try 6. .... P-Q3; 7. Kt-B3, B-K3 (or 7. .... Q-Kt3) with a good chance of developing his pieces. With 6. .... Q-KKt3 Black allows White to capture his QBP with the result that he loses his Q3 square. The QP also becomes isolated.

7. QxP .....  
Again not QxQ with a probable equality for Black.

7. .... QxPch 9. Kt-B3! B-Kt5  
8. B-K3 Kt-B3  
If 9. .... QxBP; 10. Q-K5 ch, B-K2; 11. B-B5 or 10. .... K-Q1; 11. B-QB4 followed by O-O should give Black a difficult game.

10. O-O O-BxKt 11. QxB O-O  
White now has a positionally won game. He has three advantages which should

make his task fairly easy: 1) Better development, 2) A more favorable pawn structure, 3) The two Bishops.  
12. B-Q4! .....



Oddly enough this seems to be the only winning continuation.

12. .... Q-B5ch 14. RxQ Kt-K5  
13. Q-Q2! QxQch 15. R-K2 R-K1  
P-Q4 is imperative even though White penetrates to the 7th rank after 16. P-KB3.

16. P-KB3 Kt-Q3 18. B-B4 Kt-B2  
17. RxRch KtxR  
He should at least play P-Q3!

19. B-K5 Kt-K3 20. R-Q1 .....  
In order to permanently restrict Black's development. The rest of the game needs no further comment.

20. .... Kt-Q1 25. R-K1 K-R2  
21. B-B7 Kt-K3 26. R-K8 P-QKt4  
22. B-Q6 P-KR3 27. B-Q5 Kt-B3  
23. P-B4 P-QR4 28. BxP P-R4  
24. P-B5 Kt-Q1 29. B-Kt6ch

Resigns

## NIMZOINDIAN DEFENSE

MCO: page 106, column 30

U.S. Junior Championship  
Long Beach, 1954

Notes by U.S. Expert William Lombardy  
White: P. MEYER  
Black: A. ALTSCHULER

1. P-Q4 Kt-KB3 3. Kt-QB3 B-Kt5  
2. P-QB4 P-K3 4. P-B3

The object of this move is to build up a strong center without losing the tempo by 4. P-QR3, BxKt ch; 5. PxP, O-O; 6. P-B3 as is played in the Saemisch variation. Black has in my opinion one really effective reply to 4. P-B3 and that is 4. .... P-B4.

4. .... P-B4  
5. Q-R4ch Kt-B3 6. P-QR3 .....  
White now plays P-QR3 because he no longer fears this supposed loss of tempo as Black after 5. Q-R4 ch, Kt-B3 can not easily attack the White center with P-B4.

6. .... BxKtch  
6. .... B-K2 followed by O-O and P-K4 might have been an improvement over the text. After 6. .... BxKt ch White gets his desired center.

7. PxP B-Q2  
Again O-O followed by P-K4 was indicated.

8. Q-B2!  
The point! Although White lags in development his position in the center will soon tell. Black may or may not accept the sacrificed BP. In either case he gets the worst of it as his pieces, although out, are not properly placed for any decisive action.

8. .... P-KR3  
Preventing B-Kt5 but also giving White a target for attack.

9. P-K4 O-O 11. P-KR4 .....  
10. P-K5 Kt-K1  
11. PxP, PxP; 12. B-Q3, P-B3; P-KB4, Kt-R4; 14. Kt-B3, P-QB4; 15. O-O with sound attacking possibilities might be better.

11. .... P-B3 12. P-B4 BxP? Better is P-B4 locking the position somewhat although White still has a considerable advantage in space plus the two Bishops.

13. KBPxP Q-K2

Black must try to free his game with Kt-K2 and P-B4.

14. B-Q3 PxP 15. B-Kt6 .....  
KBxP is also good.  
15. .... Kt-R4  
Now he plays it!?

16. B-R7ch K-R1 17. R-QR2 .....  
With the idea of using this piece for attack along either the KR or KB file in the near future,  
17. .... B-B3 18. B-Kt5! .....



18. .... PxP?  
This is suicide, but Black might try Q-Q4 with the possibility of wresting the initiative from White.

19. PxP QxKtP 23. BxRch QxB  
20. B-B5ch K-Kt1 24. R-R8ch KxR  
21. BxPch R-B2 25. QxQ R-Q1  
22. Q-B2 Q-K2 26. P-Kt4 Resigns  
Mate cannot be avoided.

## STRONG CHESS

Even though Jimmy Sherwin was originally only a substitute, his fine play clearly proved that his presence was not accidental. One of his best games from this tournament is the following.

### QUEEN'S PAWN GAME

(Torre Attack)

MCO: page 209, column 42  
Rosenwald Trophy Tournament  
New York, 1954

Notes by U.S. Expert Edmar Mednis  
White: A. BISGUIER  
Black: J. SHERWIN

1. P-Q4 Kt-KB3 3. B-Kt5 .....  
2. Kt-KB3 P-K3

Known as the Torre Attack, this continuation is usually essayed to avoid well known book lines.  
3. .... P-B4 4. P-K3 Q-Kt3  
Even though this is dismissed by MCO in favor of PxP or Kt-B3, this game clearly demonstrates the playability of the text move.

5. Kt-B3?! .....  
As a result of this game White should be advised to play 5. Q-B1.

5. .... QxP!  
If Black should delay this capture, White would be able to protect the QKtP with R-QKt1 and then could try

## NEW LAWS OF CHESS

Official American translation of the new laws of Chess, copyright 1954 by the United States Chess Federation, now available in mimeographed form. Contains all the latest changes in the Laws, as amended by the FIDE Congress at Schaffhausen, 1953. Clarifies many ambiguous laws in the old code. Send 50 cents for one copy, or \$1 for three copies, to the United States Chess Federation, 81 Bedford, New York 14, N.Y.

## GUEST ANNOTATORS

William Lombardy  
Edmar Mednis

to exploit the early development of Black's Queen.

6. K1-K15 Q-K15ch 8. K1-Q2! .....

7. P-B3 Q-R4  
Looks strong (threat: K1-B4), but in reality leads only to the capture of Black's Queen for three minor pieces and a pawn.

8. .... P-QR3!!  
The point of Black's excellent opening play. White has nothing better than to "win" the Queen.

9. K1-B4 QxK1 11. BxQ PxB  
10. K1-Q6ch BxK1



12. BxK1? .....

White's idea, the storming of the K-side, has little chance of succeeding, because of the solidity of the latter. Better would have been 12. Q-B3, retaining the Bishop as long as possible.

12. .... PxB 17. P-K5 QPxP  
13. O-O B-K2 18. BPxP P-B4  
14. P-K4 P-Q3 19. P-Q6 B-Q1  
15. P-KB4 P-K15 20. Q-B3 R-R6  
16. P-Q5 PxBP 21. Q-K3 Kt-B3!  
To prevent Kt-Q5 White is forced to adopt an active course.

22. QxP(5) R-R4 25. Q-Q2 BxR  
23. QxP B-K13ch 26. RxB RxKP  
24. K-R1 B-Q5

The air has cleared and Black is left with a materially won position. Jimmy solves the problem of consolidating his position and bringing his material advantage home in impeccable style.

27. Q-K15 R-Q4 31. R-K1 P-K4  
28. Q-K17 R-B1 32. P-KR4 R-K13  
29. QxRP RxP 33. RxPch?! .....

30. Q-K17 K-K2  
Nothing much better was in sight, but now the win is only a matter of time. No further comment is necessary.

33. .... K1xR 46. P-R6 R-R1  
34. QxKtch R-K3 47. P-R7 R-R1  
35. Q-B5ch R-Q3 48. P-K14 PxP  
36. P-R5 P-K13 49. Q-Q3ch P-B4  
37. Q-K5ch B-K3 50. Q-R6ch K-K14  
38. P-R6 P-B3 51. Q-QK16 R(R)xP  
39. Q-K13 R/4-Q1 52. Q-K3ch K-K13  
40. Q-B7ch R-Q2 53. K-B2 R-K2  
41. QxP R-KR1 54. Q-Q4 R-R7ch  
42. Q-K3 K-B2 55. K-B1 P-K16  
43. P-R4 B-Q4 56. Q-B3 P-B5  
44. K-K11 K-K13 57. Q-Q3ch R-K5  
45. P-R5 RxP 58. K-K11 P-B6  
Resigns

**Port Arthur (Tex.) Chess Club** defeated Beaumont Chess Club 15½-8½ in a USCF rated team match. Double victories for Port Arthur were scored by John De Vine, J. L. Meadows, Tom Winger, J. D. Lewis, and Gilbert Morvant, while Carroll Lewis, Jim F. West, Ben Fort, R. F. Trow, and L. D. Carrier scored a win apiece and W. P. White a draw. For Beaumont R. H. Peebles tallied a double victory, while J. O. Banks, C. A. Murray, Herbert Lass, M. A. Orłowski and T. D. Edgar scored single wins. Bobby Thompson won and drew for Beaumont. USCF Club Affiliates.

## BEHIND SCENES

(Continued from page 3, col. 4)  
pleasant problem of deciding whether he prefers ..... N-N8 to ..... N-R7. Pawn moves are soon exhausted while Black amuses himself tempoing with his King on a shuttle from R3 to R2 or with his Bishop as the occasion demands.

The game is of some theoretical interest as a demonstration of the exploitation of the Q-side Pawn Majority in this variation of the Queen's Gambit Accepted.

## Women's Chess Life

By Willa White Owens

THE 1955 U. S. Women's Chess Championship will be played in New York City, August 23 to September 6. Miss Mona May Karfi, present U. S. Women's Champion, is expected to defend her title in a 12 player round robin.

The Qualifying Committee for the Women's Tournament (Mr. Kenneth Harkness, Mr. George Koltanowski, and Willa Owens) is studying the list of twenty-six top ranking women players, and invitations will be sent to the top twelve women as soon as the list has been thoroughly checked for any changes which should be made due to recent tournament performance.

Mrs. Giesela Gresser, present U. S. Women's Open Champion, has protested against the intended method of holding the U. S. Women's Open Championship Tournament as part of the USCF Open at Long Beach, giving the title to the woman who finishes highest in the mixed tournament. Mrs. Gresser writes:

"How can women play for the Open title by trying to show how they would make out against masculine opponents of unrelated strength and widely differing chess ratings in a Swiss system with all its hazards and inconsistencies? The women players may never even meet over the board; the weaker may finish with a better score than the stronger. This sort of thing is an abuse of the idea of a women's championship; calling it a women's championship is a deceptive misnomer."

She is so right—the random scores in the mid-section of a large Swiss are not sufficiently definitive for a serious title.

In a burst of enthusiasm in the May 5 column, I called this title "the second most important women's title in the country." I should have said merely that it was a second title. Competition for this title has never been very keen, with the exception of last year, when it was combined with the Zonal Tournament—resulting in the strongest women's tournament ever held in this country.

The question seems to be whether it would be more valuable for women's chess to try to build up the Women's Open as a serious title (played concurrently with the annual USCF Open, but in a separate section of women) or keep the Open as a mixed tournament, giving women an annual opportunity to try their strength against the strongest men or women players their ability will allow them to meet.

The New York women are in the midst of the greatest concentration of the nation's chess talent. They have many opportunities in their famous clubs to play masters under tournament conditions. Women in the rest of the country are not so blessed. (Cries from the audience: "She's just jealous." I sure am.)

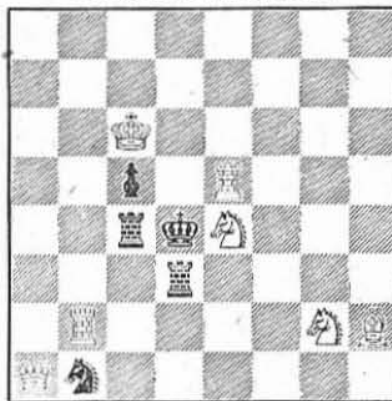
Without the USCF Open, most of the women throughout the country would never have the opportu-

## Mate The Subtle Way!

by Nicholas Gabor

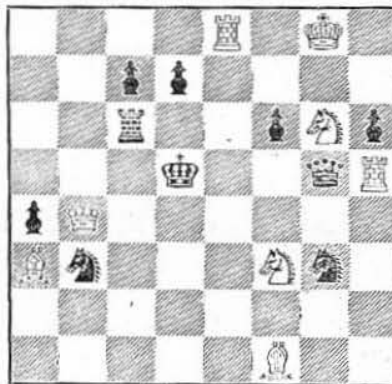
Solutions, remarks, suggestions, etc., as well as compositions by any and all composers are welcome. Address all communications to Nicholas Gabor, Hotel Kemper Lane, Cincinnati 6, Ohio.

Problem No. 551  
By L. C. Lacorda and  
Dr. F. Mendes de Moraes  
Pocos de Caldas, Brazil



White mates in two moves

Problem No. 553  
By Edgar Holladay  
Charlottesville, Va.  
First Publication



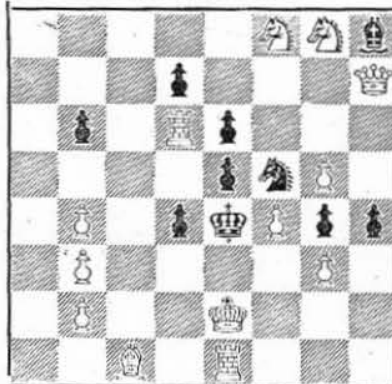
White mates in two moves

Problem No. 552  
By Eric M. Hassberg  
1st Prize, Olympic Tournament  
1948



White mates in two moves

Problem No. 554  
By H. C. Mowry  
Malden, Massachusetts  
First Publication



White mates in three moves

TODAY'S selection: No. 551 is a beautiful Meredith. No. 552 is by one of the leading American composers, with a highly modern and intricate feature. No. 553 is the third sample of its composer's skill since we became problem editor. No. 554 is by an old timer whose works we find in many American problem books.

We recommend our solvers to keep each and every issue until the solutions are published (6 weeks after publication of the works) and compare them with their own solutions.

## Solutions: - Mate the Subtle Way!

No. 539 (Wilson): 1. B-B4, threat 2. QxKt. Moves of the Black Knights produce good square-blocking combined with White self-interference.

No. 540 (Couture): 1. Q-Q6, threat 2. Q-Q5. In some ways similar mechanism, with the Black Knights causing trouble wherever they move to prevent the threat.

No. 541 (Burger): The main point of this problem is the try: 1. Q-B1, threatening 2. BxP dbl.ch. mate. This try invites the thematic defenses 1. .... R-B4 and 1. .... B-B4, with 2. Kt-K8 and 2. KtxP mates respectively. This try is defeated only by 1. .... R-K14. Intended solution: 1. B-K4 with threat 2. Kt-Q5 dbl.ch. mate. Defenses 1. .... R-K3 and 1. .... B-K3 instead, followed by mates as above. It is regrettable that this fine scheme is ruined by the cook: 1. Kt-Q7 dbl. ch., followed by 2. Q-KB6 mate. Solvers who sent cooks as solution were given 2 points. Cook and intended key gave then 5 extra points (7 points together).

No. 542 (Eaton): 1. R-B7. If 1. .... K-R5; 2. R-R7 ch, K-K16; 3. R-Q3 mate. If 1. .... PxKt; 2. R-K16 and 3. R-R7 mate. If 1. .... P-K16; 2. R-R6 ch!!, etc. Several solvers consider this problem as a prospective first-prize winner.

ity of meeting the masters across the board in serious chess. To have all the national tournaments in which women may play, strictly segregated for women players, would, in my opinion, tend to hold women's chess at its present level. And Mrs. Gresser and I share a great desire to see this level raised.

This is too important a question for the Women's Committee to try

to decide without the advice of all interested persons, men or women. Many men have written me that they feel that the promotion of women's chess in this country is vital to American chess and should be given the combined efforts of  
(Please turn to page 8, col. 1)



# Tournament Life

Send to **CHESS LIFE**, 123 No. Humphrey Ave., Oak Park, Ill. for application form for announcing tournament in this column.

Unless otherwise specified, all tournaments announced in this column are 100% USCF rated. Rating fees, if any, are included in specified entry fee; no additional rating fee for non-members USCF.

## Solution To What's The Best Move?

### Position No. 156

J. Panke-G. Kranenberg, Schmollenhagen, 1947—The game continued 1. NxQP, PxN; 2. Q-K2 ch, K-B1; 3. RxP ch, KxR; 4. B-B4 ch, K-B1; 5. QB-N5, N-B3; 6. R-KB1, QN-Q2; 7. Q-K6, Q-K1; 8. RxN ch, NxR; 9. QxN ch, PxQ; 10. B-R6 mate (and the most charming one we have seen in many a year). Three solvers discovered this actual line of play; four others correctly selected the "Best Move" and proceeded to prove a win after 4. Q-R5 ch. According to custom, less than 10 correct solutions calls for double credit, so 2 points each are awarded to Rea B. Hayes, Dr. Ray Pinson, Irwin Sigmond, Andris Staklis, T. J. Sullivan, William B. Wilson, and N. P. Witting. A single point goes to M. A. Sanders for the correct move with less complete analysis. In addition, we must credit Donald C. Hills with 2 points for a fine demonstration that 1. B-KN5! also wins. Here is his analysis in the crucial variation: 1. B-KN5, N-KB3; 2. NxKP, QxP; 3. NxP!! (an original idea) Q-B3; 4. B-N5!, QxB; 5. N-Q6 ch and wins; if here 3. ...., KxN; 4. Q-R5 ch, K-B; 5. BxN, PxB; 6. B-B4, Q-K2; 7. QR-K1 wins. In the latter line 4. ...., P-N3 loses to 5. BxP ch; and 4. ...., K-N to 5. BxN, Q-B3; 6. B-QB4 ch, QxB; 7. Q-K8 mate.

Since 1. B-KN5 is thus proved a winning line, we will award 1/2 pt. to the following solvers who showed wins against the 1. ...., P-B3 and 1. ...., Q-B defenses, but did not discover Hills' answer o 1. ...., N-KB3: J. E. Coachman, W. J. Couture, Wallace F. Getz, Heino Kurruk, Paul Smith, and J. Weininger.

A number of solvers tried 1. N-N5, N-KB3; 2. NxP, KxN; 3. Q-R5 ch, overlocking the escape of the Black King by K-K3, and if 4. Q-B5 ch, then KxP.

Discounting the bonus points, the solvers were beaten by 15-12.

The published solution to No. 153 proved a little shaky. In particular, the columnist was unduly impressed by the line 1. RxP, N-R3. Though we floundered badly in attempting to refute this, both Irwin Sigmond and William B. Wilson correctly point out that White plays 2. Q-N3 and ends this dream in a most emphatic manner (e.g., 2. ...., PxB, 3. RxR; or 2. ...., RxR; 3. BxKP). In view of our previous award of 1/2 point for this unsound line, it seems only fair to award the same to Messrs. Sigmond and Wilson for deflating it. We are also indebted to Mr. Sigmond for forwarding some analysis after 1. RxRP, R-N1; 2. RxNP, R-R1; 3. R-R7, R-N1, where the published 4. Q-N5 allows QxQ; 5. BxQ, P-B3 leaving the "win" somewhat dubious. But 4. BxKP! is a valuable improvement which appears to win outright. The spring weather is so nice these days that we refuse to take our analytical errors too seriously; thanks for the corrections all the same!

\*Welcome to new solver.

## WOMEN'S CHESS

(Continued from page 7, col. 2)

all men and women who wish to advance American chess.

The question is—which would most effectively promote women's chess:

a. Hold the USCF Open as an annual mixed tournament, awarding a title to the woman finishing highest.

b. Hold the USCF Open as an annual mixed tournament, but abandon the title "U. S. Women's Open Champion."

c. Hold an annual U. S. Women's Open Championship, played concurrently with the USCF Open, but in a separate women's section.

What thinkest thou?

Join the USCF! It is always a sound opening move.

### May 7-8 and 14-15 Maryland State Championship Baltimore, Md.

Open to Maryland state residents and members of Maryland chess clubs; at Arion Chess Club, 11 No. Cary St., Baltimore; 7 rd Swiss, 50 moves in 2 hrs 15 mins., adjudication after 4 1/2 hrs play; prizes: 60%, 30%, and 10% of net; entry fee \$3.00 (plus \$3.00 deposit for completion of schedule); bring sets and clocks if available; for details, write: Kenneth M. Benjes, 1312 Third Rd., Baltimore 20, Md.  
100% USCF rated event.

### May 6-8 Wisconsin State Championship Beloit, Wisc.

At Wright Arts Hall of Beloit College; restricted to residents of Wisconsin; 7 Rd Swiss, beginning Friday May 6 at 8:00 p.m.; trophies to winner and high ranking players; entry fee: \$4.00 for USCF members (less \$1.00 for those who joined the WCA between June 1, 1954 and March 1, 1955), \$5.00 for non-members (rating fees included); for details, write: Walter W. Lehwalt, 1309 Emerson Street, Beloit, Wis.  
100% USCF rated event.

### May 14-15 Minnesota State Junior Championship St. Paul, Minn.

Restricted to Minnesota residents 21 yrs and under; at Downtown YMCA, 9th and Cedar; 5 rd Swiss, starts 8:30 a.m. Saturday; entry fee: \$2.50; trophy and cash prize for 1st plus other prizes; TD: Harry D. Field; for details, write: Harry D. Field, % Downtown YMCA, 9th & Cedar St., St. Paul, Minn.  
100% USCF rated event.

### May 14-15 Indiana State Championship Logansport, Ind.

Restricted to Indiana residents including students attending school and non-state residents who are members of Indiana clubs; at Barnes Hotel; annual election precedes tournament; play starts 7:00 p.m. Saturday, May 14th; 5 rd Swiss; entry fee \$3 to \$5 to be decided at meeting; prizes: 50% of prize money to 1st place, 30% to 2nd, 20% to 3rd; playoff of tie for 1st, S-B points used otherwise; bring sets, boards, and clocks; for details, write: D. E. Rhead, 2715 Green St., Gary, Ind.  
100% USCF rated event.

### May 14-15 South Texas Open Championship Corpus Christi, Tex.

Open to all players; held in connection with the annual Buccaneer Days celebration; at Nueces Hotel; 5 rd Swiss, 3 games May 14, 2 games May 15; entry fee \$4.25 including USCF rating fees; plenty of prizes and trophies; George Koltanowski tournament director; for details, write: Henry Youngman, P.O. Box 844, Corpus Christi, Tex.  
100% USCF rated event.

### May 28-30 Texas State Championship Dallas, Tex.

Open to Texas residents and military personnel stationed in Texas; 6 rd Swiss, two games per day; guaranteed 1st prize of \$75.00 plus permanent trophy; additional cash prizes and trophies; entry fee \$10 plus USCF membership; entries received in Parlor "C" of Adolphus Hotel between 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Saturday, May 28th; for details write: C. F. Tears, 2849 Fondren Drive, Dallas 5, Tex.  
100% USCF rated event.

**NOTE**  
By order of the USCF Executive Committee, after this date no tournament will be eligible for USCF Rating which includes Mr. Norman T. Whitaker, of Shady Side, Md., among its participants.

### May 27-30 Third Eastern States Open Championship Philadelphia, Penna.

Open; at Franklin Chess Club, 1614 Locust St., Philadelphia & Mercantile Library Chess Ass'n., 1421 Walnut St., Philadelphia; 7-rd Swiss; entry fee: \$10.00 (\$7.00 to Juniors born after May 30, 1936) with \$5.00 refund on completion of schedule, USCF membership required (\$5.00); cash prizes: \$150 for 1st, \$115 for 2nd, \$85 for 3rd; \$60 for 4th; \$40 for 5th, etc., totalling \$500.00; for advance registration or details, write: William A. Ruth, 15 Gorman Ave., Collingswood, N. J.  
100% USCF rated event.

### May 28-30 Arizona State Championship Phoenix, Ariz.

Open to residents of Arizona; 7 rd Swiss; play begins 9:30 a.m. May 28; entry fee: \$5.00; bring sets and boards; registration by mail or by 9:00 a.m. May 28; for details concerning location, etc., write: James Christman, 1700 West Whitton Ave., Phoenix, Ariz.  
100% USCF rated event.

### May 28-30 Massachusetts Open Championship Westfield, Mass.

Open; at Westfield YMCA; 5 rd Swiss in Class "A" and "B"; entry fees \$5 and \$3 respectively; play starts 7:00 p.m. May 28; for details, write: Erich Nitzsche, Mountain Road, Burlington, Mass.  
100% USCF Rated Event.

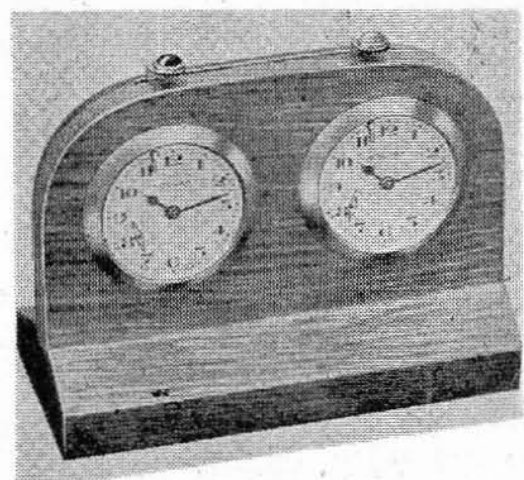
May 28-30  
**31st Annual Trans-Mississippi  
Davenport, Iowa**  
Open; at Chamber of Commerce, Davenport; 7 rd Swiss beginning 1:00 p.m. May 28 to 4:00 p.m. May 30; entry fee \$7.00 including rating fees; guaranteed \$100 1st prize, total \$350 cash prizes plus merchandise, prizes for Class A, B, and C ranking players; for details, write: John Warren, % Moline Dispatch, Moline, Ill.  
100% USCF rated event.

July 2-4  
**2nd Annual Great Lakes Open  
Championship  
Chicago, Ill.**  
Open; 7 rd Swiss; \$175.00 1st prize with additional class A and B prizes; for details, write: AUSTIN CHESS AND CHECKER CLUB, Austin Town Hall, Central and Lake, Chicago 44, Ill.  
100% USCF rated event.

July 8-10  
**Carolinas' Open Championship  
Asheville, No. Car.**  
Open to all; at Battery Park Hotel; 6 rd Swiss; cash prizes and Trophy, with \$50 minimum 1st Prize; Junior Prizes; Southern hospitality and cool mountain dew; entry fee: \$3.50 and \$2 membership in NCCA or SCCA; register 9:00 a.m., July 8th; for details, write: Wm. C. Adickes, Jr. 66 Linden Ave., Asheville, N. C.  
100% USCF Rated Event.

San Francisco Bay Area Chess League: Golden Gate continues to maintain the lead with 3-0 in matches and 16-5 in games, while Mechanics Institute is second with 2-0 and 9-5. In the "B" Division, Mechanics leads with 2 1/2-1/2 in matches and 13-8 in games, closely followed by Alameda with 2-1 and 12-9, and Kings with 2-1 and 10 1/2-10 1/2.

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