

# Chess Life

America's Chess Newspaper

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Vol. X, No. 9

Thursday, January 5, 1956

15 Cents



## What's The Best Move?

Conducted by

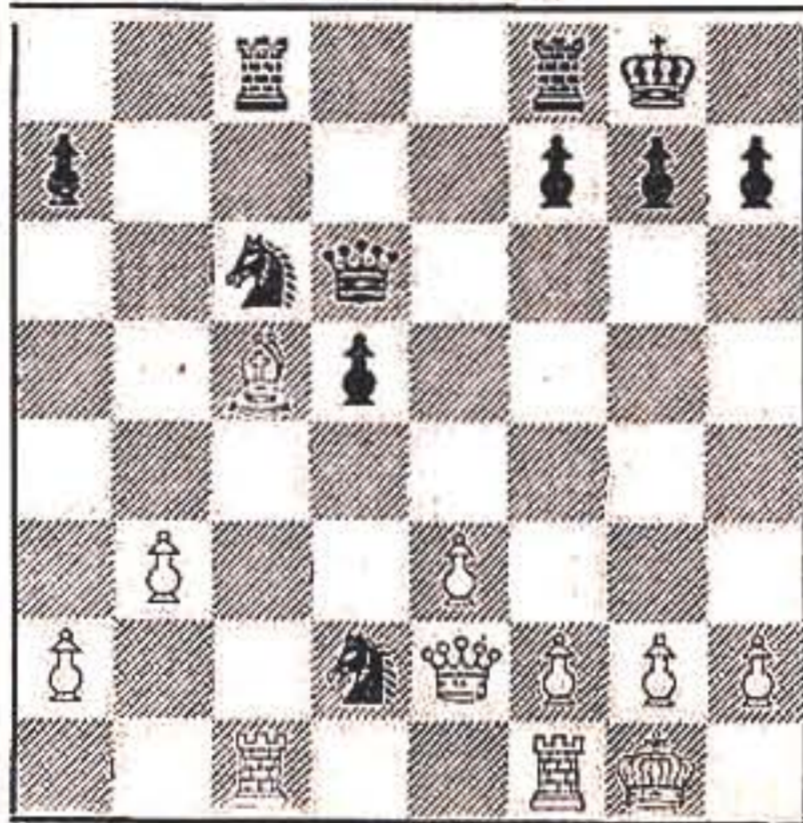
RUSSELL CHAUVENET

SEND solutions to Position No. 176 to Russell Chauvenet, 721 Gist Ave., Silver Spring, Md., by February 5, 1956. With your solution, please send analysis or reasons supporting your choice of "Best Move" or moves.

Solution to Position No. 176 will appear in the February 20th, 1956 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. 176



Black to play

## MEDNIS TAKES COLLEGIATE

Saidy Second on Median Points, Witte Third, and Mauer Fourth

By FREDERICK H. KERR

College Chess Life Editor

NEW YORK, December 30 (Special): Edmar Mednis, New York University freshman, took first place in the 1955 United States Intercollegiate Individual Championship Tournament on Median points. Both he and Anthony Saidy of Fordham University scored 5½-1½ in the seven-round Swiss System. However, Mednis led in the tie-breaking points by 22.5 to 22.0 for the Fordham sophomore. Charles Witte of Columbia University and George Mauer of the University of Buffalo were next with 5-2 scores.

This was just another in a growing list of titles for the young NYU master. He also holds the New York State Championship, and he finished second in the World Junior Championship last year. He is a sophomore in chemical engineering at the Bronx campus of New York University.

"The general strength of the tournament was about the same as that of the past four years," said Rhys W. Hays, USCF vice-president in charge of college chess. The fact that the competition was keen can be seen from the fact that, after six rounds of play, five players were tied for the lead with 4¼ points. At that point three others chalked up 4 points each. The final result was not clear until after all games were finished in the last round.

Eliot Hearst, president of the Intercollegiate Chess League, was the director of the tournament. He was assisted by Mr. Hays. During the entire tournament, only one game was won by forfeit. There were no disputes, and the tournament ran like clockwork.

Held in John Jay Hall at Columbia University, the tourney was sponsored by the Intercollegiate Chess League, the United States Chess Federation, and Columbia University.

### Representative Meet

Twenty-six students from seventeen colleges and universities participated. They were as follows: Arthur Freeman and Shelby Lyman of Harvard; Edmar Mednis of NYU; Anthony Saidy and George Kawas of Fordham; Tim Anderson of Ohio State; Charles Witte of Columbia; Scott Lilly of the University of Toledo; Richard Friedenthal, Rowland Benjamin, and Harold Wallach of the University of Bridgeport; George Mauer and Frank Fink of Buffalo; Howard Sirota and Joseph Sloboda of Pace College; Sanford Greene of CUNY; Marvin Sills of Miami; Leonid Charzenko, Bruce Barnett, and William Brennan of Stevens Tech; Robert Cantor

(Please turn to page 2, col. 3)

## Members of the Free World Conspire Against the Reds

By E. M.

THREE chess players from Argentina conspired against the Russians with a Prepared variation. The conspirators met the Reds at Gothenburg, Sweden, in the Inter-Zonal Tournament. Najdorf, Panno and Pilnik (alphabetically) essayed with Black the Sicilian Defense. The game, Geller-Panno, will expose the conspiracy.

### SICILIAN DEFENSE

MCO: page 286, column 107

Interzonal Tournament

Gothenburg, 1955

White		Black	
E. GELLER		O. PANNO	
1. P-K4	P-QB4	6. B-KK15	P-K3
2. Kt-KB3	P-Q3	7. P-KB4	B-K2
3. P-Q4	PxP	8. Q-B3	P-KR3
4. KtxP	Kt-KB3	9. B-R4	P-Kt4
5. Kt-QB3	P-QR3		

The plot thickens.  
10. PxP Kt-Q2

The conspirators' coup.  
11. KtxP/K6 PxKt 13. B-QK15 .....  
12. Q-R5ch K-B1



The Russian coup, placing the problem Bishop where it will hurt, and threatening—maybe—mate. Up to this point the conspiring Argentinians and clairvoyant Russians (all three games) are running identical.

13. ....	Kt-K4	17. K-R1	QPxB
14. B-Kt3	BxP	18. Q-B7ch	K-Q3
15. O-Och	K-K2	19. R-Q1ch	Q-Q5
16. BxKt	Q-Kt3ch		

With all the material Black has, the loss of the Queen offers a glimmer of hope.  
20. RxQch PxR 22. Q-B7ch Kt-B3  
21. P-K5ch K-B4 23. BxKt Resigns

The game, Spassky-Pilnik, was identical for the first twenty-two moves. Eventually, Pilnik resigned on the thirty-first move.

Of some interest is the third game, Kere-Najdorf:

### SICILIAN DEFENSE

Interzonal Tournament

Gothenburg, 1955

White		Black
P. KERES		M. NAJDORF

(Position as in diagram in the Geller-Panno game.)

13. ....	K-Kt2	20. QxKtch	K-Q2
14. O-O	Kt-K4	21. R-B7	Kt-B3
15. B-Kt3	Kt-Kt3	22. Kt-Q5	RxP
16. PxPch	RxP	23. P-R4	Q-KR1
17. R-B7ch	KxR	24. KtxB	KtxKt
18. QxR	PxB	25. Q-Kt5	Resigns
19. R-B1ch	K-K1		

The Russian commentator, M. Udovich, barely noticed the fact that the Sicilian-Argentinian debacle occurred on the same day. Copiously and redundantly, he emphasizes the success of the Russians in all variations.

There are Russian spies in the Argentine. The Russians were fully prepared against the 'prepared variation.' Better luck next time ...

## BISGUIER, EVANS TOP ROSENWALD

Arthur B. Bisguier and Larry Evans drew their final round games to tie at 6-4 for first place in the Rosenwald Trophy Tourney. Samuel Reshevsky, who lost games to Horowitz and Shipman, can share first place by winning an adjourned game with William Lombardy.

## GREATER NEW YORK OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

New York City,  
January 20-22, 1956

Conducted by the

United States Chess Federation

Place: At the Churchill Chess and Bridge Club, 252 W. 76th St., New York 23, N.Y.

Dates: January 20-22, 1956. First round starts 8 p.m. sharp on the 20th. Last round ends Midnight on the 22nd.

Eligibility: Open to all chessplayers who are or become members of the USCF.

Cash Prizes: First: \$50.00. Second: \$30.00. Third: \$20.00. If there are ties, cash prizes will be divided equally.

Titles and Trophies: Winner becomes Open Chess Champion of Greater New York, receives trophy. Woman with highest score wins Women's title and trophy. Also trophies for Class A and Class B players with highest scores. Ties for titles and trophies broken under USCF rules.

Type of Tournament: Seven-round Swiss conducted under USCF Tournament rules. Harkness Pairing System. Time limit: 50 moves in 2 hours. Games adjudicated after 4 hours. Tournament Director: Kenneth Harkness. Assistant Director: Allen Kaufman.

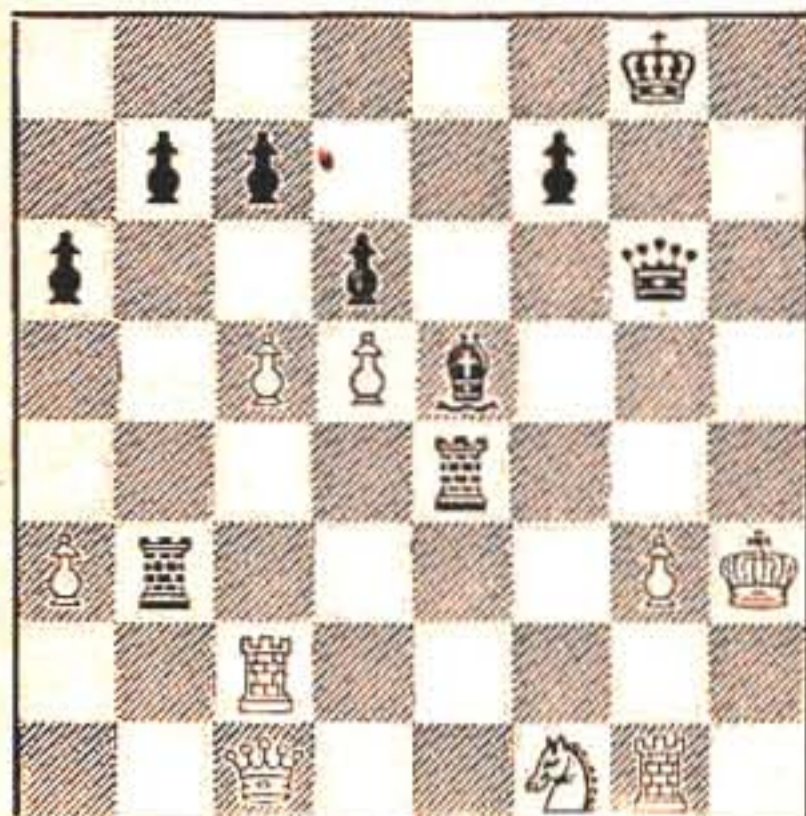
Equipment: Only a limited number of Chess sets and clocks will be available. Bring your own if possible. Entry Fee: \$5.00 to USCF members. Non-members must pay additional \$5.00 USCF dues.

How to enter: Entries will be accepted at the Churchill Chess Club, 252 W. 76th St. on Friday, Jan. 20th only, from 5 to 7 p.m. Or mail your entry in advance to U. S. Chess Federation, 81 Bedford St., New York 14, N. Y. Phone: WA 9-3656.

# Finish It The Clever Way! by Edmund Nash

Position No. 167

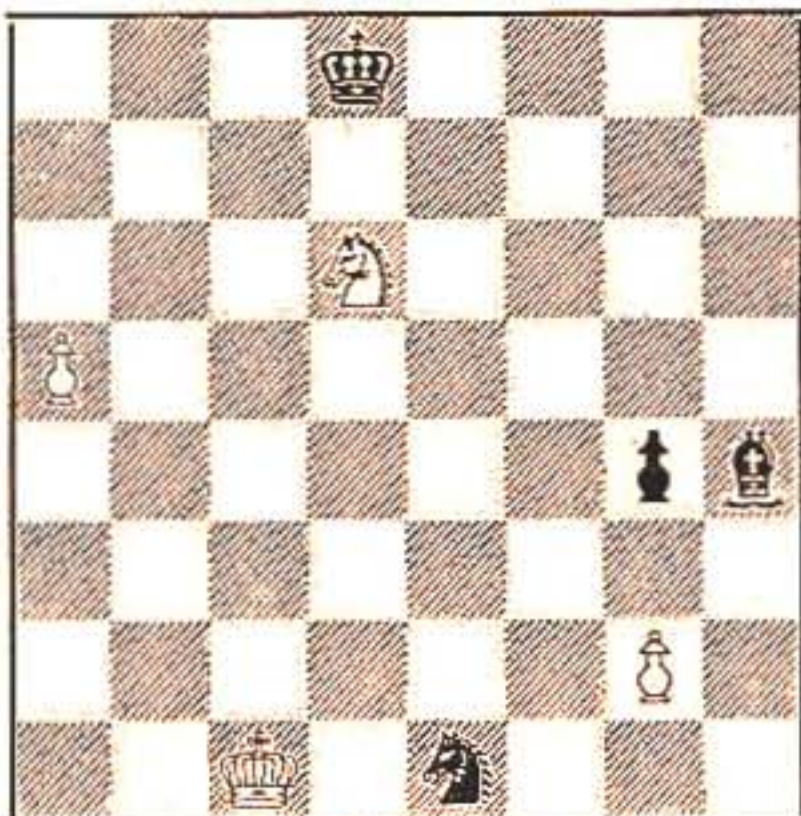
S. Somers vs. B. Spassky  
Antwerp, 1955



Black to play and win

Position No. 168

By G. Kasparian  
Shakhmaty, 1954



White to play and draw

**I**N Position No. 167, the new Junior World Champion Boris Spassky forced a mate in seven moves (eight, if White wants to give up his Queen). According to the Russian chess monthly Shakhmaty, the junior world championship title was the only one not won hitherto by Soviet chess players.

"Endgame of the Year in the Soviet Union" might be the title given to the study by G. Kasparian. It was recently awarded first prize for endgame compositions appearing in Shakhmaty during 1954.

For solutions, please turn to Page seven.

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



The Hastings Christmas Tournament in England began December 28 with the 22-year-old Spanish Champion Jesus Diez del Coral replacing U.S. Champion Arthur Bisguier who elected to play in the Rosenwald Trophy event rather than travel. Other entries at Hastings will include the Russians, Mark Taimanov and Georges Kor-



chnoi, champion of Leningrad, former World Junior Champion Boris Ivkov of Yugoslavia, Klaus Darga of West Germany, Fridrik Olafsson of Iceland, Raaphy Persitz of Israel, British Champion Harry Golombek, J. A. Fuller, and Jonathan Penrose.



## INTERCOLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Final Standings

1. Mednis	5½-1½	22.5
2. Saigy	5½-1½	22.0
3. Witte	5-2	23.0
4. Mauer	5-2	18.5
5. Friedenthal	4½-2½	22.5
6. Anderson	4½-2½	22.0
7. Lyman	4½-2½	21.5
8. Freeman	4½-2½	19.5
9. Sills	4-3	19.0
10. Greene	4-3	19.0
11. Lilly	4-3	19.0
12. Cantor	3½-3½	18.5
13. Gottesman	3½-3½	18.0
14. Benjamin	3½-3½	17.5
15. Sirota	3½-3½	17.5
16. Kawas	3½-3½	15.5
17. Barnett	3-4	17.0
18. Butler	3-4	15.0
19. Spellman	3-4	14.5
20. Charczenko	2½-4½	17.5
21. Dinnerstein	2½-4½	13.5
22. Sloboda	2½-4½	13.0
23. Brennan	2½-4½	11.0
24. Wallach	1½-5½	16.0
25. Fink	1½-5½	15.0
26. Kerr	½-6½	12.0



Henry Meifert tallied 7-0 to win the Racine County Championship, staged by the USCF Affiliated Racine Chess Club. Tied for second with 5-2 each were Rudy Kunz and H. C. Zierke, while Walter Teubner was fourth with 4½-2½, and Hillar Pilli fifth with 4-3. Kunz lost a game to Meifert and drew with Zierke and Frank Buttenhoff; Zierke lost to Meifert and drew with Teubner and Kunz. Teubner lost games to Meifert and Pilli, while drawing with Zierke.

# INTERCOLLEGIATE

(Continued from page 1, col. 3)

and Larry Dinnerstein of Pennsylvania; Julius Spellman of Yale; Michael Gottesman of Chicago; George Butler of Iona College; and Frederick Kerr of Penn State.

There were no upsets in the first two sessions. However, it soon became apparent that it was anybody's battle. In the third round Mednis had Black against Lyman. In answer to a King's Pawn Opening, he played the French Defense. Late in the opening the Harvard man gained a slight positional advantage, and started to attack. Mednis resigned after about five hours of play. Both players had been under time pressure for some time when the game ended. Lyman then lost to Friedenthal and Freeman in the next two rounds. Meanwhile, Saigy had lost to Witte; but when Mednis defeated Witte in the fifth round, Saigy was back in the competition.

In the last round Mednis beat Freeman while Saigy was winning against Anderson's Nimzo-Indian. After about five and one-half hours of play, Lyman and Witte agreed to a draw in an even position. The title then went to Mednis on a half Median point. The standing of several players had to be calculated by using three tie-breaking systems.

## Rapid Transit

Anthony Saigy won first prize in the Rapid Transit tourney held in conjunction with the main intercollegiate event. His score of 11-0 was rewarded with a \$12.50 gift certificate. The \$7.50 second prize went to Witte with 10-1, and third of \$5.00 to Greene. This speed championship was a 10-second event. The major portion of the prizes for the Rapid Transit was donated by Mr. and Mrs. A. Nabel in memory of H. Arthur Nabel.

Mr. Hermann Helms visited the tournament room every day to obtain the results for the *New York Times*. Mr. Robert Cantwell represented *Sports Illustrated* as a reporter.

## Prize Awards

The presentation of awards was made a few hours after the last game ended. Albert Weissman, the former champion, told the players some of the history of the H. Arthur Nabel Trophy. The USCF Business Manager, Kenneth Harkness, presented the first prize to Edmar Mednis. Harkness told of his personal interest in Mednis as proof that the USCF rating system means something. Part of the first prize, a set of Windsor Castle chessmen in Deluxe case, was donated by Mr. Leo Gladstone. Other prizes were presented by Rhys Hays.

There were prizes for every player; a complete list will appear in the next issue, and a full cross-table will also appear in an early issue.

Are You a Member?  
Is Your Friend a Member?

# Chess Life In New York

By Allen Kaufman

**A**T this moment New York City is the scene of no less than five major tournaments! In addition to the Marshall and Manhattan Club Championships, the Rosenwald Tourney is under way, the Intercollegiate Tourney is concluding, and the New York Open is about to begin.

In order to allow the Rosenwald competition to take place at the two major clubs, both have temporarily discontinued play in their championships, as they did last year. As reported in this column several weeks ago (we scooped the *N. Y. Times*!), Reshevsky, Bisguier, Horowitz, Shipman and Lombardy are entered. And, in the course of their struggles for honors, there have been several amusing incidents. Reshevsky overlooked a checkmate in one move against Evans, but went on to win the game anyway. In the second round the first thirteen moves of the games, Reshevsky-Bisguier and Horowitz-Shipman, were identical. The games were being played simultaneously, only a few feet apart. Reshevsky then made his fourteenth move, 14. Q-QB3. In the identical position, Horowitz then played 14. Q-KB4. Sammy got up, walked over to Horowitz, and asked, "What's the matter, you don't like my move?"

Late flash: Reshevsky, 4-1; Evans, 4-2; Bisguier 3½-2½; Lombardy, 2-4; Horowitz, 1½-3½. But the adjournment between Reshevsky and Horowitz looks like a win for the latter.

Two of the big guns, Mednis of N.Y.U. and Saigy of Fordham U. are competing in the Intercollegiate. This year it is an individual (not a team) tourney. Saigy was captain of last year's victorious Fordham team. The individual champion of two years ago, Albert Weissman, has since graduated from college and is ineligible to play and defend his title. The individual tournament alternates with the team tournament each year.

The New York Open will begin on January 20 at 8:00 p.m., at the Churchill Chess Club. Advance interest indicates a large turnout.



International Master Imre Konig will take over the editorial duties of the chess column in the *San Francisco News*, which has been ably edited since its inception by USCF Vice-President Dr. H. J. Ralston, creator of the *California Chess Reporter*. Dr. Konig, who can proudly claim to be a pupil of Richard Reti, has participated in numerous international tournaments, and is in addition a well-known contributor of articles on chess to such publications as the *British Chess Magazine*.

# UNDER THE CHESS-NUT TREE

By Irrepressable Woodpusher WILLIAM ROJAM

## A Sextet of Queen Sacrifices

IT was Rudolf Spielmann who proclaimed in the *Art of Sacrifice* that "The beauty of a game of chess is usually assessed, and not without good reason, according to the sacrifices it contains. . . . We honor Capablanca, but our hearts beat higher at the mention of the name of Morphy." Although the top practitioners of chess may decry this statement, it remains true that Mr. Average Player finds more thrill in a startling sacrifice, even if unsound, than in the most profound display of positional judgment and skill. Perhaps, that is why he remains an average player! But his number is a legion.

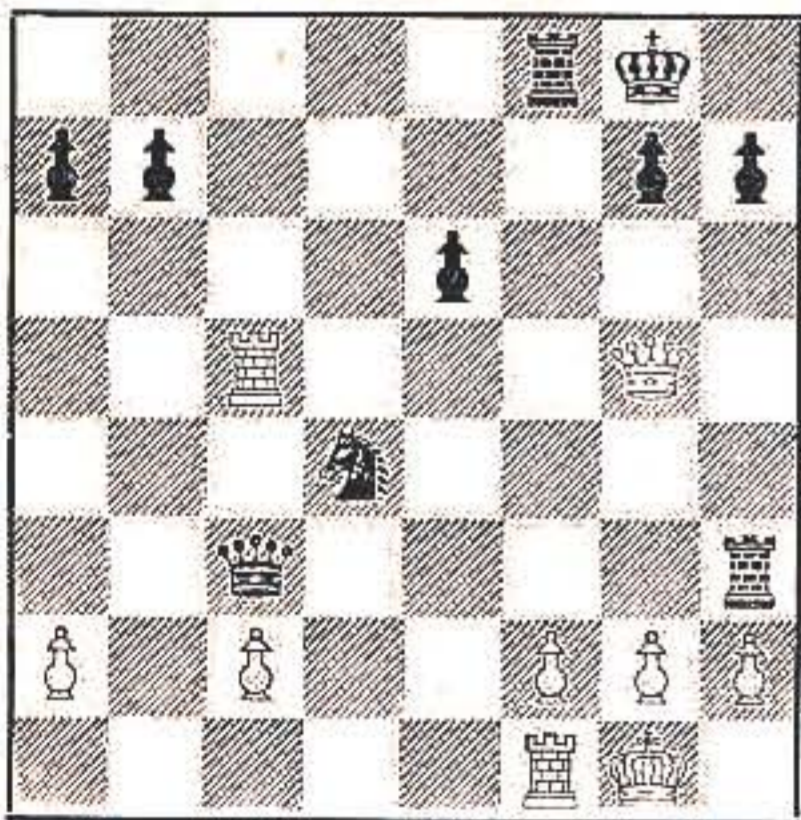
Most spectacular of sacrifices is that of the Queen. It occurs more often than the average player may realize possibly, but remains the sacrifice of sacrifices. Unfortunately, it is a sacrifice that the average player overlooks too frequently in his own games when the possibility arises because he cherishes his Queen too much to speculate upon the possibility of a sacrifice. Mr. Average Player should indeed take to heart the advice of C.J.S. Purdy: "If the student forces himself to examine all moves that smite, however absurd they may look at first glance, he is on the way to becoming a master of tactics."

Here are a sextet of Queen sacrifices. Each position is one that could have arisen in a game played by Mr. Average Player—and no doubt similar positions have arisen upon hundreds of occasions and the opportunity for breath-taking brilliance been missed because Mr. Average Player never even considered momentarily the possibility of sacrificing his Queen, deeming such a thought a sacrilege.

### NEST OF THORNS

We begin, appropriately enough, with Frank Marshall's spectacular geste at Breslau. Marshall (Black) has played 22. . . ., RxB and White could not respond with 23. PxB because of 23. . . ., Kt-B6 ch and 24. . . ., KtxQ. Therefore, White has played 23. R-B5, hoping by the double attack upon Black Queen and Black Rook to regain his piece with profit.

Breslau, 1912  
F. J. MARSHALL



S. LEWITZKY  
Black to play

What can Black do? The answer is so simple that it comes as a stunning blow. Black plays 23. . . ., Q-KKt6!! and when White recovers from the shock, he resigns. Why? Because if 24. RPxQ, Kt-K7 is mate; if 24. BPxQ, Kt-K7 ch; 25. K-R1, RxR mate; and if 24. QxQ, Kt-K7 ch; 25. K-R1, KtxQ ch; 26. K-Kt1 (not 26. BPxKt, RxR mate), KtxR; 27. PxB, Kt-Q7 and Black emerges a piece ahead with a won endgame. One of the most exciting moves ever made in tournament play.

### THE QUIET WAY

Zukertort began this game by giving odds of the QKt; he has in addition sacrificed Kt and B for R. He stands three pieces down when Black plays 19. . . ., Kt-K2, attacking his Queen.

(See diagram top next column)



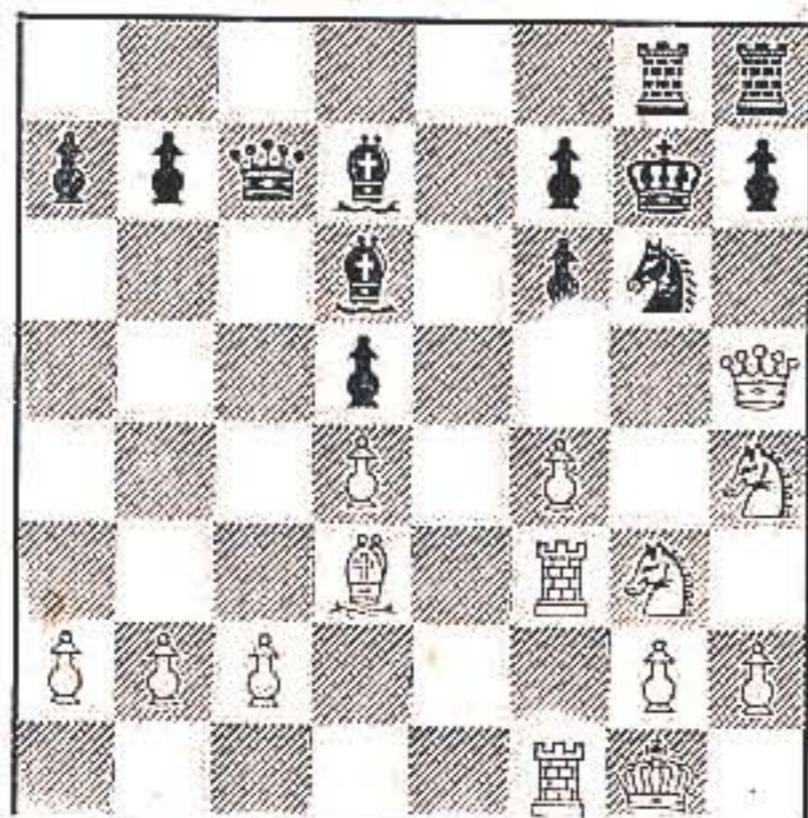
J. H. ZUKERTORT  
White to play

What shall White do? Retreat the Queen to Q3? No! Very quietly Zukertort plays 20. PxB!! Now Black is in a quandry. If 20. . . ., PxB; 21. Q-R6 mate; and if 20. . . ., KtxP; 21. QxP mate. So Black plays 20. . . ., KtxQ. There follows: 21. PxB ch, K-Kt1; 22. R-R8 ch (the Black King must not be permitted to escape via B1-K2), KxR; 23. P-B7, and Black resigned. There is no defence against the twin threats of R-R1 mate and P-B8(Q) mate.

### THERE'S NO DENYING

Mason, no novice at combinational brilliance, in a moment of chess-blindness created the opportunity for Black by playing 16. . . ., QR-KK1?

Paris, 1878  
JAMES MASON



G. H. MACKENZIE  
White to play

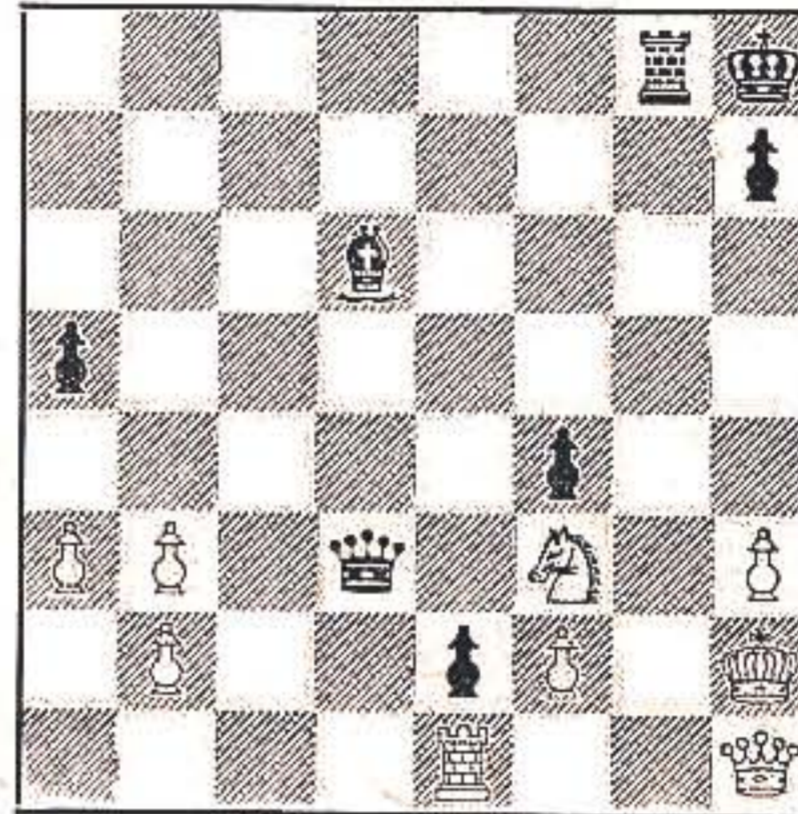
There is now a mate in six moves for White if White can see it. Mackenzie does! With 17. Q-R6 ch (a sacrifice that cannot be denied), KxQ; 18. Kt(4)-B5 ch, BxKt; 19. KtxB ch,

K-R4; 20. P-Kt4 ch, KxP; 21. R-Kt3 ch, K-R4; 22. B-K2 mate.

### MATE IS A PROBLEM

White has just played 37. R-K1 to blockade Black's passed pawn. But how is Black to capitalize on White's cramped position remains the problem.

Kiev, 1903  
LEWIN



THE ALLIES  
Black to play

Lewin solves it with simplicity by playing 37. . . ., Q-K6!! and Black after an unbelieving gasp of dismay resigns. For if 38. PxB, PxB ch; 39. Kt-K5, BxKt mate; and no other move will serve adequately to prevent 38. . . ., QxP ch, with mate to follow, except by fatal loss of material.

### SIMPLICITY

Simplicity was the trademark of Capablanca's style—a deadly simplicity. Therefore, even in a Queen sacrifice, we expect to find simplicity the keynote. The preceding play has been: 27. KtxQBP, KtxKt; 28. RxKt, RxR; 29. RxR and White has won what proves to be a very expensive pawn.

Moscow, 1914  
J. R. CAPABLANCA



DR. O. BERNSTEIN  
Black to play

White is not, therefore, prepared for the offer of the Queen, when Black continues with 29. . . ., Q-Kt7!! and after due meditation resigns. For if 30. QxQ, R-Q8 mate; if 30. R-B2, Q-Kt8 ch; 31. Q-B1, QxR with 32. . . ., R-Q8 not to be avoided; and if 30. Q-K1, QxR; 31. QxQ, R-Q8 ch and mates next move.

### THE EYE IS QUICKER THAN THE CLOCK

White has just played 17. KtxKP, being estopped from playing 17. BxKt because of 17. . . ., QxP mate; or 17. PxB because of 17. . . ., Q-R6; 18. BxKt (forced), PxB and mate on the following move.

(See diagram top next column)

Black, with two pieces en prise, makes the remarkable discovery that victory lies in placing a third piece—the Queen—en prise. So he plays 17. . . ., Q-R6! and White resigns. If 18. PxB, KtxRP mate. This startling con-

## College Chess Life

Conducted by  
Frederick H. Kerr

All college clubs and players are urged to send news items to: Frederick H. Kerr, Hamilton Hall, Box 448, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

WILLIAM Lombardy of CCNY has been seeded into the Lessing J. Rosenwald Tournament. The young master is a former New York State champion. His opponents are Samuel Reshevsky, Arthur Bisguier, Larry Evans, I. A. Horowitz, and Walter Shipman.

At the Marshall Chess Club NYU freshman, Edmar Mednis, leads in the championship tournament with three straight victories.

The University of Virginia defeated the University of Richmond on December 3rd at Charlottesville. However, Richmond played without Dan Fidlow, the Richmond City Champion.

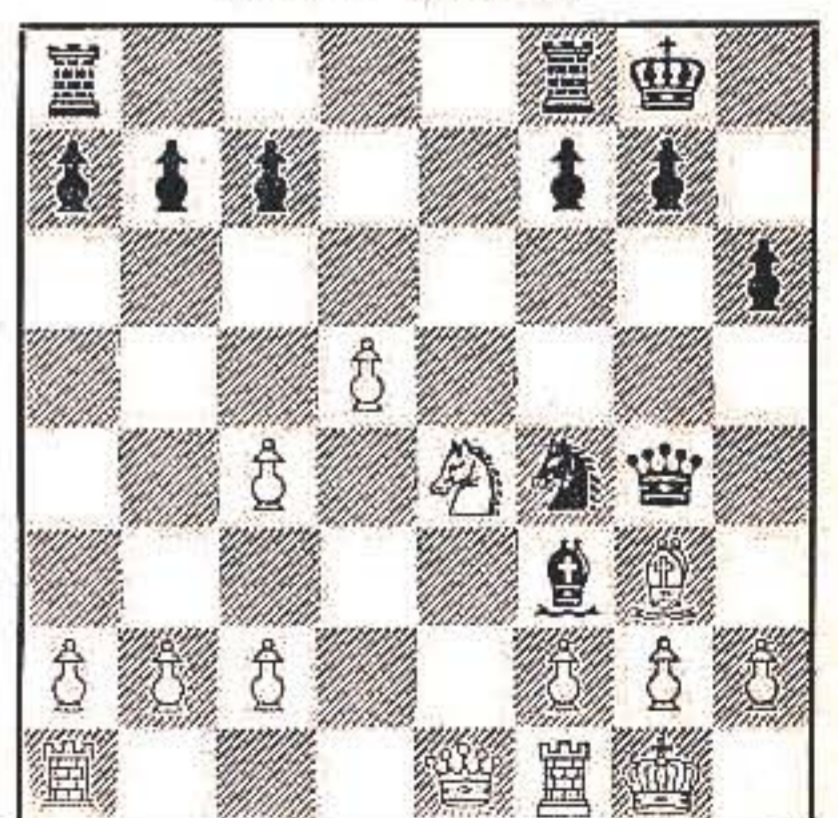
U. of Virginia	U. of Richmond
P. Kolvoord 0	J. Farrar 1
L. Ribble 1	E. Mayo 0
R. Callaghan 1	E. Brown 0
C. Robinson 1	C. Sloan 0
K. Nisbet 1	R. Winckler 0

Leigh Ribble reports that 40 players have entered the club championship tourney at the University of Virginia.

A chess club has been formed at the University of Pittsburgh. Not since the days of Paul Dietz has Pitt had an active club. The leader of the new organization is Gerald Orner, who played for the University of Pennsylvania last year. He is now a graduate student at Pitt and can be contacted at: 1102 Vickroy Street, Pittsburgh 19, Pennsylvania.

The "B" team of the Downtown Y Chess Club of Pittsburgh defeated the Penn State undergraduate (Please turn to page 8, col. 3)

New York, 1923  
OSCAR TENNER



OTIS FIELD  
Black to play

cept was the more remarkable for the fact that it was conceived in a game played in a rapid transit tournament at 10 seconds per move!

There you are, Mr. Average Player, a sextet of Queen sacrifices. Almost any of these positions might have occurred in a game you were playing. Next time, keep them in mind as you make your moves. Someday, you may find the opportunity of enjoying a similar thrill with a spectacular Queen sacrifice.

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Editor: MONTGOMERY MAJOR

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## Major Topics

By  
Montgomery Major

### An Affirmation of Policy

*A genuine statesman should be on his guard,  
If he must bev beliefs, not to b'lieve 'em tu hard.*

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL—Biglow Papers

IT does no harm to pause occasionally and reaffirm basic principles. Particularly, since in the past year, it has been the amusement of various and sundry individuals to define their opinions of what the policy of CHESS LIFE should be; the only individual who has not participated in this amusement was the Editor, who possibly should now dispel the confusion by stating lucidly precisely what CHESS LIFE policy is and has been since the day of its founding.

First, CHESS LIFE was established by the Federation as a vehicle of information whereby its members could be regularly advised regarding the activities and plans of the Federation in addition to receiving news reports concerning all interesting chess activity in these United States. No one has taken exception to this objective.

Second, CHESS LIFE was established primarily as the voice of the Federation. This has been interpreted by various self-seeking cliques as meaning that CHESS LIFE should be the voice of one particular group or clique. Such interpretation is erroneous. CHESS LIFE represents the membership quite as emphatically as it represents any management group. CHESS LIFE has not hesitated in the past to criticize acts of management that seemed inimical to the best interests of the membership as a whole; it will not hesitate in the future to criticize management when such course seems advisable in the interests of the membership. For CHESS LIFE is the voice of the Federation as a whole and is not (and was never intended to be) limited to the expression of the viewpoint of any particular group, such as Ways & Means Committee, Executive Board, or Board of Directors.

There have been attempts to stifle the independent voice of CHESS LIFE, and it is no secret that prior to the USCF annual meeting at Long Beach the USCF Ways and Means Committee made a futile and clandestine attempt to replace the Editor with someone more subservient to their mandates. This conspiracy to gag CHESS LIFE failed; and other like attempts will fail just so long as the membership at large combines in insisting upon an independent voice, representing them equally with management.

Third, CHESS LIFE has protested (and will continue to protest) against any vicious misrepresentation of USCF policy. As it has in the past exposed the libelous slanders circulated by various self-seeking (or sometimes merely stupidly misinformed) critics, CHESS LIFE will continue to expose falsehood and misrepresentation.

This does not mean (and should not be interpreted to mean) that CHESS LIFE is inimical to criticism of USCF policies and activities. Honest criticism will always be welcomed, if founded upon a basis of facts rather than a catalogue of falsehoods and misrepresentations. The fault of most critics has been that they neither knew the facts nor cared to inform themselves concerning them before launching their outrageous slanders.

Fourth, CHESS LIFE will continue to comment upon the curious phenomena apparent in the chess world, fighting as in the past always for as close an approach to perfection in the playing of our Royal Game as is possible for humanity to attain. CHESS LIFE will continue to excoriate the "grandmaster draw" as "chess cheating," no matter how many masters grant it their approval by their own practice.

In other words, the policy of CHESS LIFE remains what it has always been since the day of its founding (except for the interregnum that prevailed between New Orleans, 1954, and Long Beach, 1955).

When this policy is unacceptable to the majority of the membership, the Editor will be quite happy to retire; but he has no intention of resigning to please a few disgruntled USCF officials who think he is guilty of lese majeste because he does not always agree with their views on policy, or to satisfy the egotism of a few bedraggled critics who resent having their malicious misrepresentations exposed to the light of candid fact.

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## The Reader's Road To Chess

By Kester Svendsen

THREE recent arrivals from abroad are sections six and seven of Max Euwe's *Theorie der Schach-Eroffnungen* (Berlin: Siegfried Engelhardt Verlag, paper, 156 pp, about \$1.05), volume one of Andre Cheron's monumental *Lehr-und Handbuch der Endspiele* (also Engelhardt, 341 pp., 641 diags., about \$2), and the equally tremendous *Bibliotheca Van der Linde-Niemeijeriana: a Catalogue of the Chess Collection in the Royal Library, the Hague* (Koninklijke Bibliotheek, 1955, price not given). Dr. Euwe's concern is with the Budapest and the Blumenfeld, the Holland and the Catalan; and with such specializations of the Indian as the Reti, the Zukertort, and other flank developments. Cheron deals exhaustively with Rook-Endings, with and without pawns and pieces. L. Brummel points out in the foreword to the 6,493 items listed in the Hague bibliography that it has been brought down to December 1, 1954, for periodicals and to October 1, 1954, for other publications. The thirty-three sections list the Royal Library holdings in such areas as the bibliography of chess, its history, general works, books on openings, middle game, and endings, game collections, tournaments, and congresses, even humor, living chess, and moralizations. Continental chessbooks, inexpensive to us by reason of the favorable rate of exchange, are also uniformly high in quality; and with very little outlay of cash the American player can build up an excellent library.

## The Kibitzer Has His Day

(Since interest in tie-breaking systems seems at a peak with numerous methods competing for popular favor, we will publish discussions by readers on various systems, their merits or their faults, without endorsing the comments of any contributor. For example, we do not endorse the opinion that the Sonneberg system is the best, but do endorse Mr. Brieger's right to champion that opinion—The Editor)

### SOLKOFF REDUCTIO AD ABSURDAM Canbe Fair Tournament (a 5 round Swiss)

	Round 1	2	3	4	5	Game Score	Solkoff Points
1. Brown	W-9	W-6	W-3	W-4	L-2	4	14
2. Albright	L-5	W-4	W-9	W-6	W-1	4	13
3. Clark	W-10	W-5	L-1	W-7	W-8	4	11
4. Jones	W-7	L-2	W-5	L-1	W-6	3	15
5. Myers	W-2	L-3	L-4	W-10	W-9	3	12
6. Smith	W-8	L-1	W-7	L-2	L-4	2	15
7. Robinson	L-4	W-8	L-6	L-3	W-10	2	11
8. Taylor	L-6	L-7	W-10	W-9	L-3	2	9
9. Williams	L-1	W-10	L-2	L-8	L-5	1	13
10. Zweig	L-3	L-9	L-8	L-5	L-7	0	12

Using the Solkoff tie breaking system, Brown won the tournament by a margin of 1 Solkoff point. Yet Albright is obviously the better player evidenced by the fact that he defeated Brown in the last round. This example clearly shows the unfairness of the Solkoff system. That the tournament is hypothetical is irrelevant. The point is that it could happen! Using the Solkoff system, one can cause an injustice.

Let us examine the situation more closely. Brown and Albright both defeated the same opponents, Jones, Smith, and Williams. Now Albright defeated Brown which is balanced by the fact that Brown beat Clark. Albright had no opportunity to prove that he could beat Clark. So Brown and Albright are tied on Sonneberg points.

However Albright lost to Myers for which he garnered 3 points while Brown lost to a stronger opponent (Albright) and received 4 points. The extra point decided the tournament. In other words, Brown finished first ahead of Albright because he lost to Albright! Ridiculous, isn't it?

The Solkoff system is recommended by those who prefer the new for the sake of newness. They don't stop to evaluate it to see if it is really an improvement. Admittedly the Sonneberg system is not perfect, but under normal tournament conditions, it is the best we have available.

Under ideal conditions (a round robin tournament) the Solkoff score will never break a tie because the strength of each player's schedule is the same. The Solkoff fails! However the Sonneberg score will break a tie in every case except when two players have beaten the same opponents and drawn each other. In this case they certainly deserve to share first place.

In the game Pomar-Brieger, New Orleans 1954, the following endgame position was reached—White: King on KR2, Pawns on KN2, QN2, QR3, Rooks on KN5 and QN7. Black: King on KR1, Rooks on KB7 and Q8. Black almost got a draw by playing 1. ...., RxP ch; 2. KxR! R-N8 ch; 3. K-B3, R-N6 ch; 4. K-K4, R-N5 ch; 5. K-Q5, R-Q5 ch; 6. K-B6, R-Q3 ch; but not quite because 7. K-N5!, Resigns.

No one would suggest that Black receive 1/4 of a point because he almost had a stalemate. A miss is as near as a mile!

Yet in effect, this is exactly what the Solkoff system does! It gives unearned tie breaking points as compensation for losing to strong opponents, which increases a player's final standing just as surely as an addition to the game score would. The loser should have no compensation, only remorse. That is the way of the world. If a player's schedule is too tough, the adjustment should be made in the pairing system. The final standing should be reflective of a player's ability. The Sonneberg score measures ability because the winner earned it by defeating his opponents. Only by false negative thinking can it be assumed that the Solkoff score measures ability. Does it take ability to lose a game to a strong player?

Sincerely written in the interest of fairness,

ROBERT BRIEGER  
Houston, Texas

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# LARRY EVANS ON OPENINGS

By International Master LARRY EVANS

U. S. OPEN CHAMPION, 1954

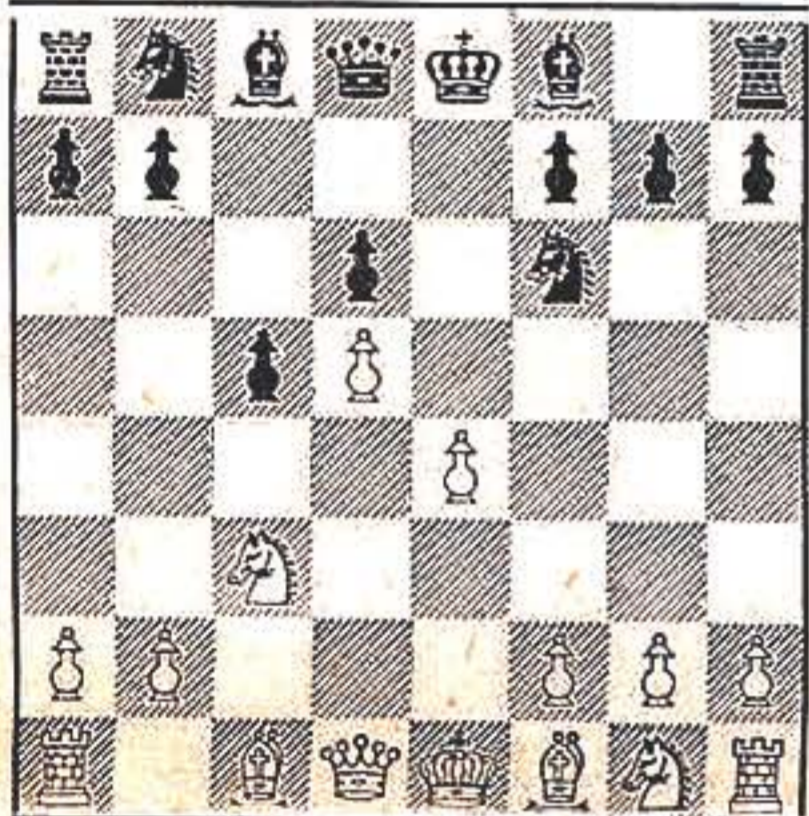
## Late Flash!!

### Theoretical Contributions of the Rosenwald Tournament, New York, 1955-6

#### BENONI COUNTER GAMBIT

(Hrmodka System)

Evans-Lombardy: 1. P-Q4, N-KB3; 2. P-QB4, P-B4; 3. P-Q5 (Best. Inferior is 3. N-KB3, PxP; 4. NxP, P-K3; 4. N-QB3, PxP; 5. PxP, P-Q3; 6. P-K4.



Position after 6. P-K4

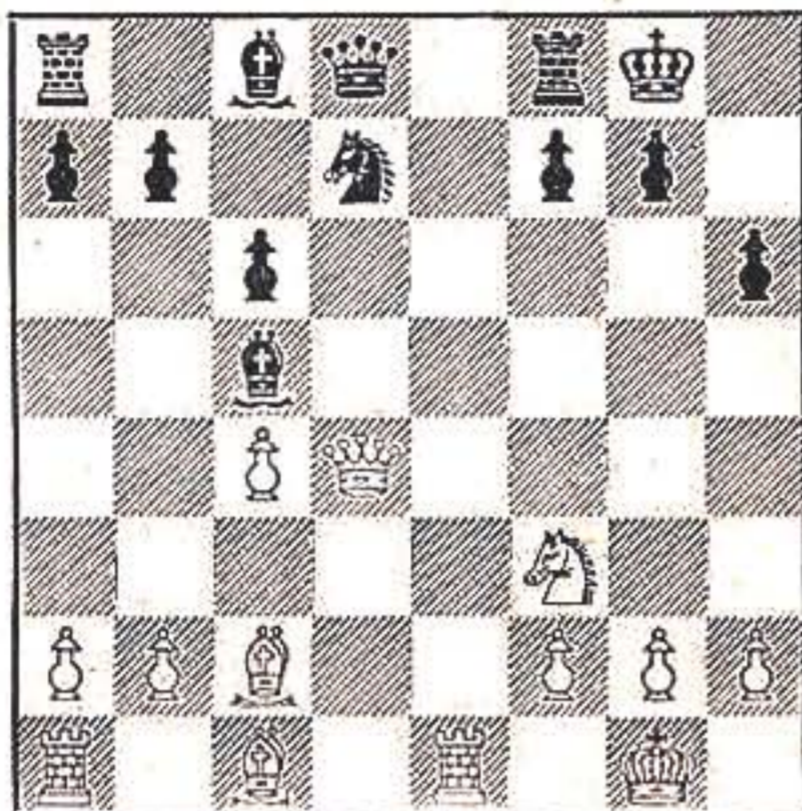
This concept represents an improvement, in my opinion, over the "modern" 6. P-KN3, followed by placing the Bishop on N2 where it "bites on granite." White's theme is to counteract Black's expansion (P-QR3-QN4), and at the same time strike in the center. Since White's KB exerts additional pressure on Black's QN4, it is quite well placed on its present diagonal. 6. ...., P-QR3; 7. P-QR4, P-KN3; 8. N-B3 (Sharper is 8. P-KR3! Inferior is 8. P-B4, B-N2; 9. N-B3, O-O; 10. B-Q3, P-B5; 11. BxP, NxKP; 12. NxN, R-K1; with equality), B-N2 (Too automatic. Better is B-N5); 9. B-Q3 (Better is P-KR3!), O-O (Black misses his last chance to play 9. ...., B-N5; 10. P-KR3, BxN, 11. QxB, QN-Q2. Now his game remains permanently cramped; 10. P-KR3, QN-Q2; 11. O-O, Q-B2; 12. R-K1, and White has an advantage in space throughout the difficult struggle that shapes up.

#### MERAN DEFENSE

Reshevsky-Bisguier and Harowitz-Shipman were identical up to the diagram: 1. P-Q4, P-Q4, 2. P-QB4, P-K3; 3. N-QB3, P-QB3; 4. N-B3, N-B3; 5. P-K3, QN-Q2; 6. B-Q3, B-Q3; 7. O-O, O-O; 8. P-K4, PxKP; 9. NxP, NxN; 10. BxN, P-KR3; 11. R-K1; P-K4; 12. B-B2, PxP; 13. QxP, B-B4;

(See diagram top next column)

Reshevsky played 14 Q-B3, and the game continued: ...., P-QR4; 15. P-QR3, N-B3; 16. B-K3, BxB; 17. RxB, R-K1; 18. R-Q1, B-Q2; and Black had to defend very skillfully to achieve a draw.



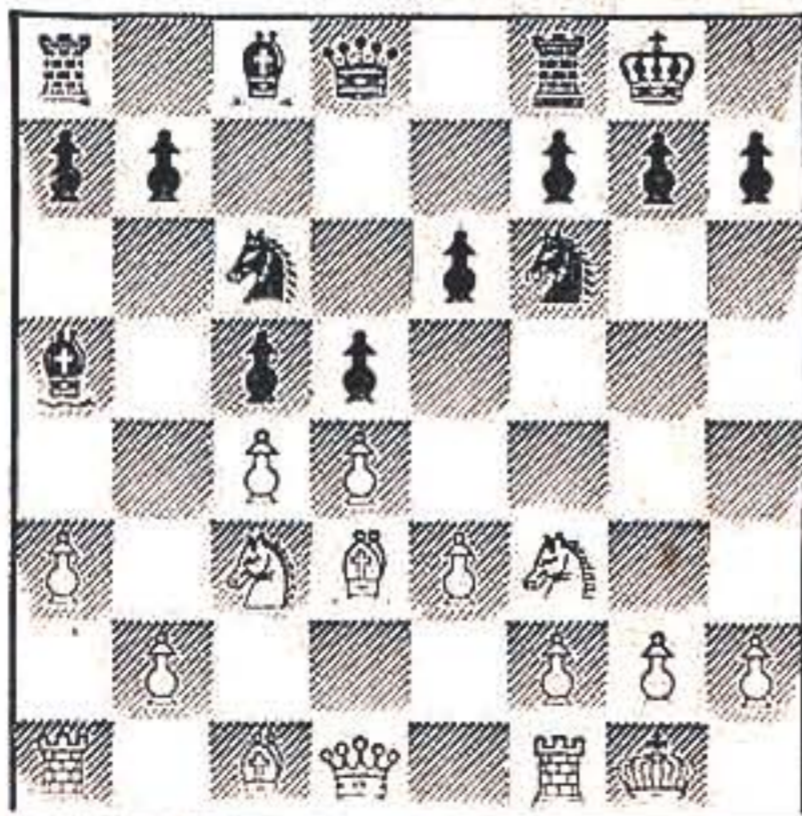
Position after 13. ...., B-B4

Horowitz glanced at the previous game, thought a half hour, and essayed 15. Q-B4, which seems more forceful. The point is Black cannot reply 5. ...., Q-B3; because of 16. Q-K4, winning a Pawn.

In either event the variation leads at best to a difficult equality for Black, and was abandoned for the rest of the tournament.

#### NIMZO-INDIAN DEFENSE

Bisguier-Evans: 1. P-Q4, N-KB3; 2. P-QB4, P-K3; 3. N-QB3, B-N5; 4. P-K3, O-O; 5. B-Q3, P-Q4; 6. N-B3, P-B4; 7. O-O, N-B3; 8. P-QR3, B-R4; (Black's last move appears to be a satisfactory deviation from the famous Zurich Variation, which is also thought to be good for him. Another alternative is 8. ...., PxBP; 9. BxP, B-R4; which Bisguier played successfully at Zagreb against strong master opposition.)



Position after 8. ...., B-R4

The American prototype is Reshevsky-Sandrin, Long Beach, 1955, which was diagrammed in a previous column. Hoping to force Black to commit himself, Reshevsky played the temporizing 9. P-KR3, which is quite a profound move despite all appearances.

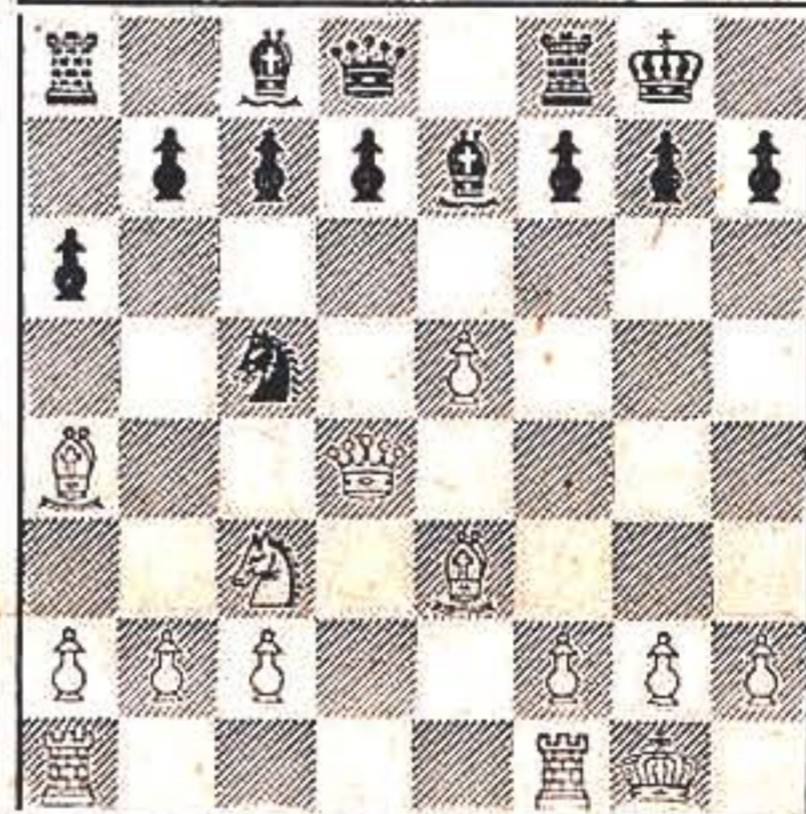
Bisguier tries a more forceful continuation, which only yields the initiative to Black: 9. PxQP, KPxP;

10. N-K2(?), P-B5; 11. B-B2, R-K1; and Black has the Queen-side majority plus a bind in the center.

It has become increasingly obvious that White gets very little out of this variation. It is possible that 8. P-QR3 is suspect. Perhaps 8. PxQP, KPxP; 9. N-K2 yields an advantage, the point being that on 9. ...., P-B5; 10. B-B2, R-K1 (to prevent N-K5); 11. P-QN3, P-QN4; 12. P-QR4, White gets a minimal edge.

#### RUY LOPEZ

Lombardy-Horowitz: 1. P-K4, P-K4, 2. N-KB3, N-QB3; 3. B-N5, P-QR3; 4. B-R4, N-B3; 5. P-Q4, PxP; 6. O-O, B-K2; 7. P-K5, N-K5; 8. NxP, NxN; 9. QxN, N-B4; 10. N-B3, O-O; 11. B-K3.



Position after 11. B-K3

This is a particularly knotty position, where several moves have been tried for Black without any notable success (....., P-KB3 as in Romanenko-Shipman, Eastern States Open, 1955, or 11. ...., P-Q3, as in Romanenko-Turner, Long Beach, 1955).

At the cost of the two Bishops White has control of the Q-file and free development, while Black still has the problem of developing his QB. Moreover, White can play for a draw at any time by N-Q5 and NxBch, leaving opposite colored Bishops.

11. ...., NxB (If 11. ...., P-Q3; 12. QR-Q1); 12. QxN, P-Q4; 13. PxPep, BxP; 14. QR-Q1, and Black has no good way of getting his Queen out of the annoying pin.

The question is: Where can Black improve?

#### SICILIAN DEFENSE

Shipman-Evans: 1. P-K4, P-QB4; 2. N-KB3, N-QB3; 3. P-Q4, PxP; 4. NxP, P-K4!?

(See diagram top next column)

This is the experiment: Black plays this before 4. ...., N-KB3, forcing 5. N-QB3. Now 5. N-N3, N-KB3; 6. N-QB3 transposes. But Shipman's move puts the variation to its critical test. 5. N-N5, P-Q3; 6. P-QB4, P-QR3; 7. N(5)-B3 (Also 7. N-R3 followed by B2-K3 had to be considered), N-B3; 8. B-K2, B-K2 (This leads to a bad game. Correct is 8. ...., N-Q5; 9. B-K3, NxP; 10. QxN, B-K2); 9. B-K3, O-O; 10.

## Women's Chess Life

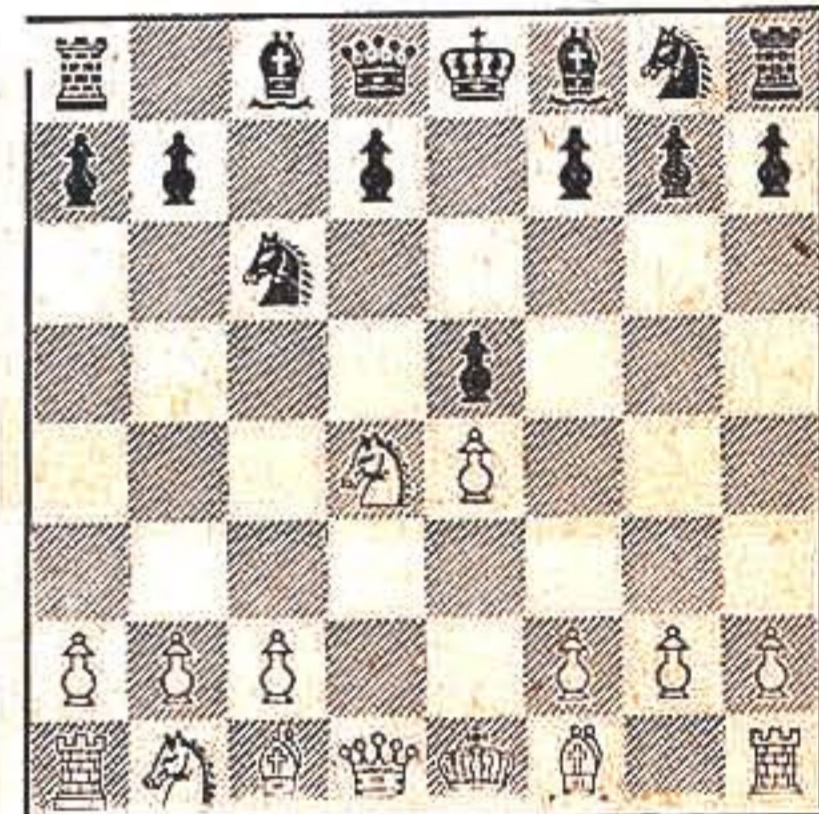
By Willa White Owens

Address news items and inquiries on Women's Chess to Mrs. Willa White Owens, 124 South Point Drive, Avon Lake, Ohio.

MRS. Sonja Graf Stevenson won the title of United States Women's Open Champion with a score of 6-7 in the USCF Open at Long Beach last August. Mrs. Kathryn Slater, present holder of the Women's Amateur Chess Championship title, tied with Mrs. Stevenson in match points but was second in tie-breaking points.

Though this tournament result was published some months ago in the news section of CHESS LIFE, I have not reported it in this column because I was awaiting the decision of the Tournament Committee regarding the mistake in awarding the prize money.

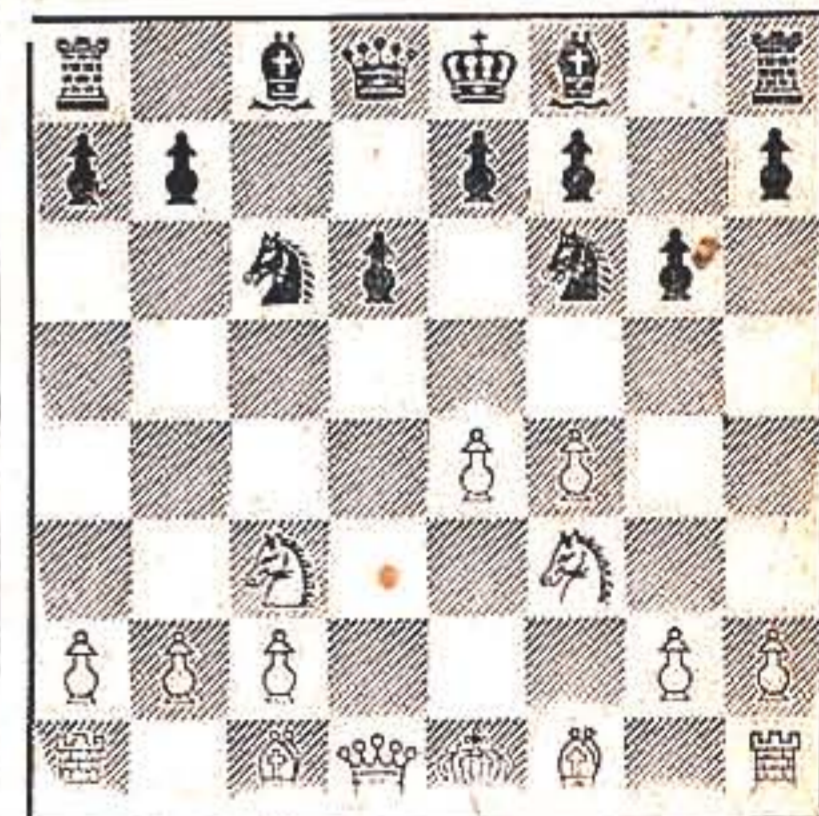
It has been stated definitely and frequently that tie-breaking sys- (Please turn to page 8, col. 2)



Position after 4. ...., P-K4!?

O-O, B-K3; 11. N-Q5, with a big advantage to White.

Shipman-Reshevsky: 1. P-K4, P-QB4; 2. N-KB3, P-Q3; 3. P-Q4, PxP; 4. NxP, N-KB3; 5. N-QB3, P-KN3; 6. P-B4, N-B3; 7. N-B3.



Position after 7. N-B3

White's last is an attempt to improve on 7. NxN, PxN; 8. P-K5, N-Q2; which leads to nought.

The present move was tried in Evans-Reshevsky, New York, 1954-55, which contained: 7. ...., B-N5; 8. B-K3, B-N2; 9. P-KR3, BxN; 10. QxB, O-O; with a good game for Black, although White should not play 9. P-KR3, but rather Q-Q2 instead.

7. ...., B-N2; 8. Q-Q2, O-O; 9. O-O-O, with a wild game full of attacking chances for both sides.



# 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.

## SICILIAN DEFENSE

MCO: page 276, column 56  
Marshall C.C. vs. Capablanca C.C.  
New York, 1955

Notes by U. S. Master William Lombardy

White Black  
F. S. HOWARD DR. J. GONZALES  
(Marshall) (Capablanca)

1. P-K4 P-QB4 4. KtXP Kt-B3  
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 5. Kt-QB3 P-Q3  
3. P-Q4 PxP 6. B-KKt5 P-K3

We have now reached a standard position in the Rauzer Attack.  
7. KtXPk1?!

An over-aggressive continuation which should lead to a slightly better position for Black.  
7. PxKt 8. P-K5 Q-R4  
Also good is 8. PxP; 9. Q-B3 (White cannot exchange Queens because he would be a pawn down), B-K2; 10. QxP ch, B-Q2; 11. Q-B3, R-QKt1 and Black is slightly better because his development is better, he is active on the QKt-file, and he controls necessary central squares.

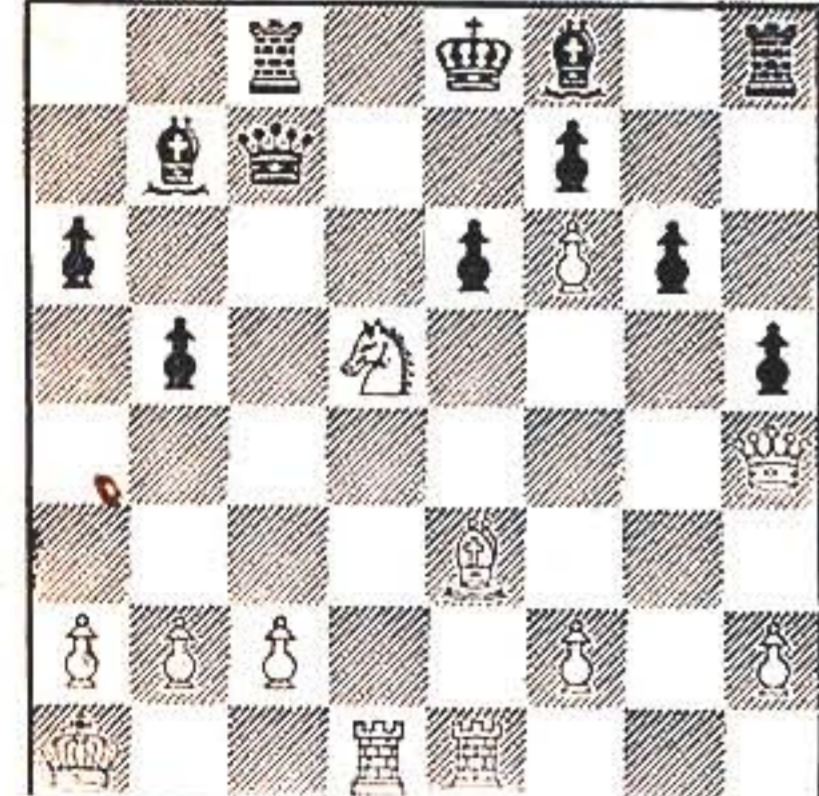
9. B-Kt5 PxB  
Forced!

10. PxKt P-KR3??

This move practically loses by force. Best is 10. PxP, P-Kt5 and if 11. Kt-K4, Q-K4!; 12. Q-K2, B-Kt2; 13. PxP, BxP; 14. Kt-B6 ch!, BxKt; 15. BxB, QxB (or 15. QxQ ch; 16. KxQ, R-KKt1); 16. Q-Kt5 ch, K-B1; 17. QxB, Q-K4 ch; 18. K-Q2, Q-Q5 ch; 19. K-B1, K-Kt2 and Black has the upper hand.

11. Q-B3! R-QKt1 13. O-O-O!  
12. B-Q2! Q-B2  
Black, as will presently be seen, is completely lost.  
He is vulnerable on both open center files and on his KB3 and K2 squares. He is also sorrowfully lagging in his development.

13. B-Kt2 14. Q-R5!  
Threatening both KR-K1 and QxKtP ch.  
14. P-R3 18. Q-KR4 BxP  
15. KR-K1 P-Kt3 19. K-Kt1 QB-Kt2  
16. Q-Kt4 R-B1 20. K-R1 P-Q4  
17. B-K3 P-KR4 21. KtXP!!



A deadly stroke which brings the game to a neat and swift conclusion. There is no defense.

21. BxKt 25. QxQ PxQ  
22. RxB QxBP 26. RxP B-Kt5  
23. R/5-Q1 Q-KB4 27. B-Q2 ch Resigns  
24. Q-Q4 Q-Q4



## 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.

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## PLAYING FOR A WIN

As customary, the Rochester Championship, 1955 was decided by the Marchand-Herzberger game. The leader of White had to play for a win, being a point down. Black gets an overwhelming game in the opening, but White breaks and makes chances at the expense of a pawn.

## ENGLISH OPENING

MCO: page 31, column 1 (b)  
Rochester City Championship  
Rochester, 1955

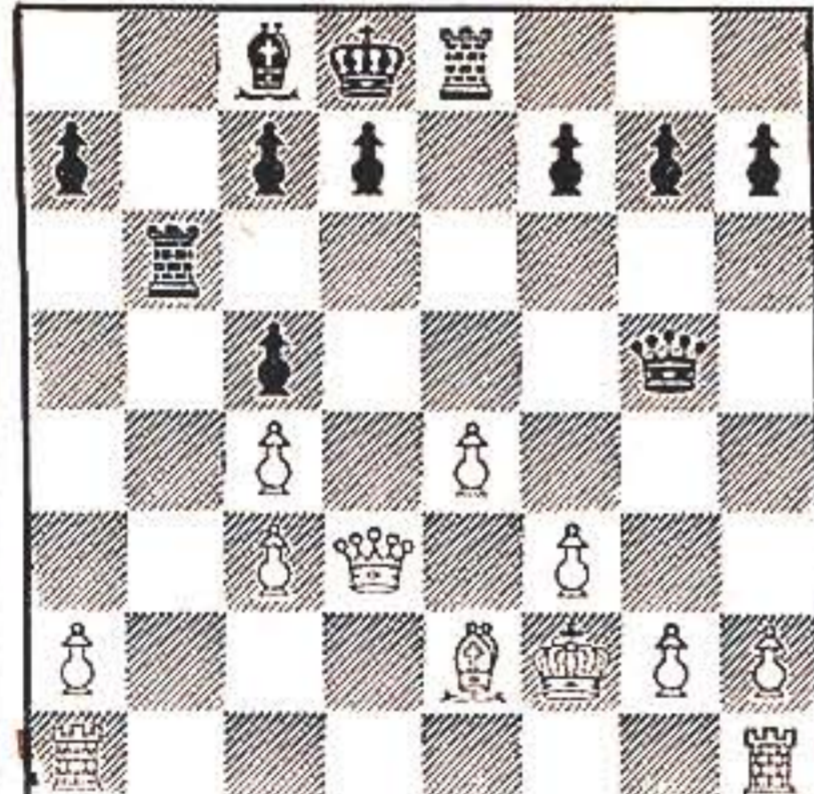
Notes by U. S. Expert  
Dr. Max Herzberger

White Black  
DR. MARCHAND DR. HERZBERGER  
1. P-QB4 P-K4 5. KtXP B-Kt5  
2. Kt-QB3 Kt-QB3 6. KtXP BxKt ch  
3. Kt-B3 Kt-B3 7. PxB KtPxKt  
4. P-Q4 PxP

The books recommend QPxKt with equality, but I did not relish the sequence: 7. QPxKt; 8. QxQ ch, KxQ; 9. B-R3 with 10. O-O-O ch to follow. On the other hand, the text continuation, if followed by 8. B-R3, P-Q3; 9. P-B5, P-Q4 gives Black as recompense for the pawn structure good squares for all his pieces, and, as I thought a playable game after 10. Q-K2, etc. White discarded the book maneuver too, because he felt the B had little scope on the Q-side.

8. Q-Q4 Q-K2 10. BxKt QxB  
9. B-Kt5 P-B4 11. Q-K4 ch? Too rash! 11. QxQ would have led to an even game; now Black gets the advantage.

11. K-Q1 14. P-B3 R-Kt3  
12. Q-Q3 R-QKt1 15. B-K2 Q-Kt4  
13. P-K4 R-K1 16. K-B2



16. P-B4?  
Wins a pawn, but gives White great counter-play which he uses very cleverly. Correct was 16. R-Q3; for instance: 17. Q-K3 (best), QxQ ch; 18. KxQ, P-B4 winning the pawn with overwhelming play. If now 19. QR-QKt1, PxP; 20. R-Kt8, PxP ch; 21. KxP, R-B3 ch, etc.

17. Q-Q5 R-Kt3 20. P-B4 R-B4  
18. P-Kt3 PxP 21. K-K3

19. QxQch RxQ  
The picture has changed. The threat to the KP gives White more territory and powerful counter-play which Black has to meet with great care.

21. R-B3 25. P-R5 RxR  
22. QR-QKt1 26. RxR K-B2  
R-QKt3 27. R-QR1 P-QR3  
23. KR-Q1 B-Kt2 28. R-QKt1

24. P-QR4! P-B3  
White created a weakness on Black's QKt3, but Black has an iron in the fire, by preparing the victorious advance of the center pawns.

28. P-Q4 30. B-Kt4  
29. R-Kt6 R-Q1

If instead 30. PxP, PxP; 31. BxRP, P-Q5 ch!, but after the text move Black gets more of the White squares.

30. P-Kt3 33. R-Q1 P-R4  
31. B-K2 R-Q3 34. R-Q2 B-K3  
32. R-Kt1 B-B1 35. B-B1  
So far, so good; but how shall Black proceed?

35. R-Q1!  
The only move, threatening R-QKt1 and winning in all variations.

36. PxP PxP 38. B-Kt5 RxP  
37. BxP R-QR1 39. B-K8  
A good try, but the center pawns now carry the day. There is no saving move. 39. P-B4 is answered by 39. R-R6 ch, 39. R-R6

40. BxP RxBch 42. K-K1 P-Q5  
41. B-Kt5ch 42. K-K1 P-Q5  
The KP cannot be taken, because of R-K6 ch.

43. R-R2 P-K6  
Threatens mate.

44. R-B2 RxR 47. KxB P-Q6  
45. BxR P-B5 48. P-R3 P-B6  
46. B-K1 BxB Resigns

The continuation could be: 49. P-B5, P-K7 ch; 48. K-K1, P-B7; 49. K-Q2, P-K8(Q) ch; 50. KxQ, P-B8(Q) ch, etc.



## TWO KNIGHTS DEFENSE

MCO: page 299, column 6  
Postal Game, 1954

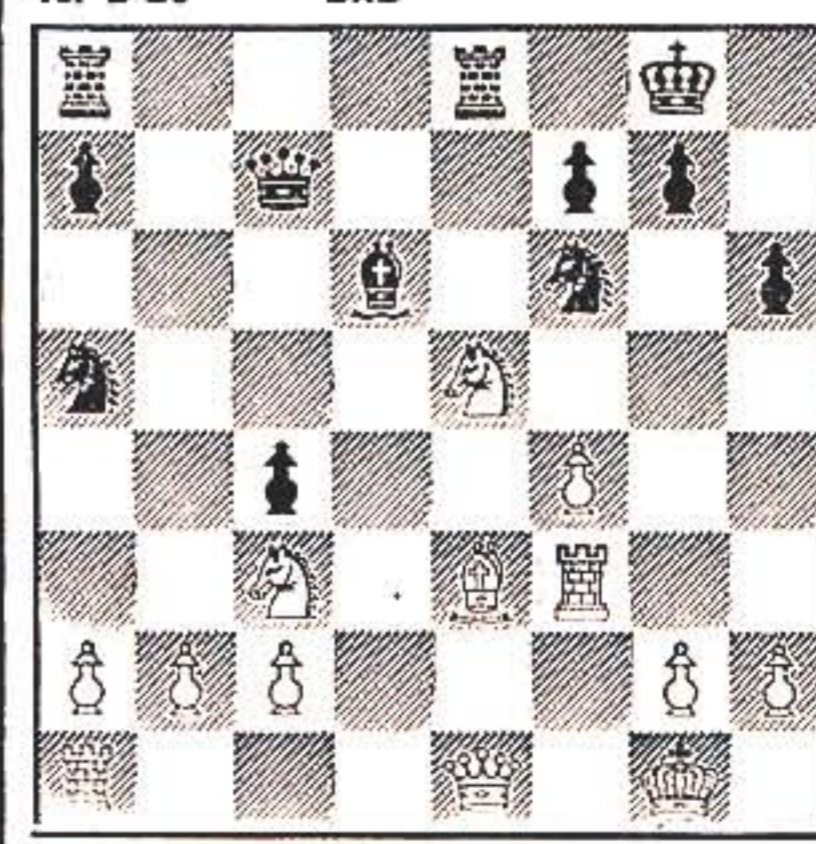
Notes by Alex Suchobeck

White Black  
A. SUCHOBECK O. OBERON  
1. P-K4 P-K4 8. B-K2 P-KR3  
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 9. Kt-KB3 P-K5  
3. B-B4 Kt-B3 10. Kt-K5 B-Q3  
4. Kt-Kt5 P-Q4 11. P-Q4 PxP e.p.  
5. PxP Kt-QR4 12. KtXP/3 Q-B2  
6. B-Kt5ch P-B3 13. P-KB4! 7. PxP PxP

Until now the game was developing along well-known book lines. For a pawn Black has better development and good prospects for attack. The book gives the 13. Kt-Q2, O-O; 14. P-QKt4!, Kt-Q4!; 15. B-Kt2, KtXP; 16. KtXk1, BxKt; 17. O-O, R-Q1; 18. B-Q3, Q-B5 continuation as better for Black (Spielmann-Cohn, 1903). The text move has several ideas worthy of consideration: a) to make possible immediate castling, b) to take control of K5 square, c) to sacrifice the BP if necessary for better development while opening the KB-file for the Rook. On 13. Q-Kt3 White intended to play 14. Kt-B3, P-QR3; 15. Kt-R4, Q-R2 (if 15. Q-Q5; 16. P-B3); 16. P-R4.

13. O-O 15. Kt-B3 P-B5  
14. O-O P-B4 16. Kt-K5!  
The preceding 13. P-KB4 made this move possible. If Black tries to win his pawn back right now, he permits White far better development after 16. BxB; 17. PxP, QxP; 18. B-B4 in addition to two Bs on an open board.

16. R-Q1 19. RxB R-K1  
17. Q-K1 B-Kt2 20. B-K3!  
18. B-B3 BxB



The strongest continuation and the most difficult move to find! It creates a very unpleasant threat (21. Kt-R5) for Black. To meet this threat Black should try 20. QR-Kt1; 21. B-Q4, B-B4; 22. BxB, QxB ch; 23. K-R1, Kt-B3 with a pawn down but more active play than in the game.

20. BxKt 21. PxP QxP  
21. RxR! RxR 22. RxR 23. QxR, PxR; 24. QxKRP, Q-Kt3 ch; 25. K-B1, QxP; 26. R-K1, QxR; 27. R-K3; 23. Q-Kt3 ch, K-R1 (or 2); 24. Q-B4!  
22. Q-R4 Kt-R2 23. R-Kt3 Kt-Kt4  
To avoid the worst Black has to give

away a pawn. Playing instead 23. QR-Q1; 24. R-KB1 he would prolong this loss for only a move—the QRP would be unprotected then too!

24. BxKt PxB 27. RxR QxR  
25. RxP Q-K6ch 28. R-K1 Q-KB4  
26. K-R1 R-K4 29. Q-Q4 Q-B3  
20. QxP costs a piece after 30. Q-Q5. It's Knight-observer which causes all the trouble for Black! Instead of doing a job he just looks for his own protection.

30. Q-Q5 Q-Q1 33. Kt-K7ch K-R1  
31. Q-K4 R-Kt1 34. Q-B5 P-B6  
32. Kt-Q5 Q-Q3

The poor tax payer! After watching all the fight decided to cast his vote. Accepting the piece sacrifice would also win for White. For example: 35. QxKt, PxP (35. QxKt; 36. RxQ, PxP; 37. Q-R5 ch, mating); 36. Q-R5 ch, Q-R3; 37. QxQ ch, PxQ; 38. R-QR1, R-K1; 39. R-Q5 and so on. White chose a safer way.

35. Q-R3ch Q-R3 36. QxP Resigns



## RUY LOPEZ

MCO: page 251, column 109  
Canadian Championship  
Ottawa, 1955

Notes by U. S. Master William Lombardy

White Black  
F. R. ANDERSON M. FOX  
1. P-K4 P-K4 4. B-R4 Kt-B3  
2. Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 5. P-Q4  
3. B-Kt5 P-QR3

Keres questions this move because it opens up the game prematurely, but since it is a rare sidelight of the main line of the Ruy, it may be used as an effective surprise against an unwary adversary, besides which there is no disadvantage incurred by White for playing 5. P-Q4.

5. PxP  
Relatively best. 5. KtXP is also quite playable though, but 5. KtXP leads to trouble after 6. Q-K2, P-B4; 7. P-Q5, Kt-Kt1; 8. KtXP, Q-B3; 9. Kt-Q3, B-K2; 10. B-B4, P-QKt4; 11. B-QKt3, P-Q3.

6. O-O B-K2  
6. KtXP; 7. R-K1, P-Q4; 8. KtXP, B-Q2; 29. BxKt, PxP; 10. P-KB3, etc.

7. P-K5 Kt-K5 9. Kt-B5 P-Q3?!  
8. KtXP O-O

P-Q4 should be played without loss of time since this move is forced by White eventually.

10. BxKt PxP  
10. BxB; 11. BxKtP.  
11. KtXBch QxKt 13. P-KB3  
12. R-K1 P-Q4

White quickly seizes the initiative by driving out Black's advanced Knight.

13. Kt-B4  
13. Kt-Kt4 might be better because after 14. P-QKt3, R-Q1; 15. B-R3, P-QB4 Black's QP is defended.

14. P-QKt3 Kt-K3  
Now Black loses a pawn but he could not allow the devastating pin on the Kt with B-R3.

15. B-R3 P-QB4 17. Kt-B3 B-Kt2  
16. QxP R-Kt1



White is a pawn ahead and has fully completed his development. There should be no problem in winning and White proves this by his remarkable technique which masters the position.

18. Q-Q2 KR-Q1 19. Q-K3



*Solution To  
What's The Best Move?*

**Position No. 173**

Yates—Marshall, Carlsbad, 1929.  
The simplest win is 1. Q-B2, P-R6; 2. K-B4, K-R8; 3. Q-B3, K-N8; 4. K-N3 and the curtain falls. It is also possible to yield the Q for both pawns and win with the KBP, but it must be done carefully. Many solvers, including some very high on the ladder, tried 1. K-B3? (or K-B4?), P-N8(Q) 2. QxQch, KxQ 3. K-N4 "and wins", but the reply is 3. .... K-N7! forcing 4. KxP, after which K-B6 gives Black his draw. Another kind of error occurred in such solutions as 1. Q-B4ch, K-R6 2. K-B3?, since 2. .... P-N8(Q) yields stalemate on 3. QxQ.

Correct solutions are acknowledged from: David Ames, Leon Anhaizer, Francis H. Ashley, F. Athey Jr., A. Axelrod\*, Donald E. Benge\*, Milton D. Blumenthal, J. E. Byrd, Gaston Chapuis, George F. Chase, Francis Crofut, Curtin, Lt. B. G. Dudley, Vincent Eaton\*, Joseph Evans\*, James B. Germain, Edmund Godbold, Fletcher Gross, Gus Gunderson\*, Thomas G. Harris, Rea B. Hayes, John W. Horning, Russell H. Kime, F. S. Klein, Edward J. Korpanty, Heino Kurrak, Joseph P. Lee, Richard Lee, Ed Luksus, Col. F. D. Lynch, Max Millstein, Max F. Mueller, Joe H. Murray, Charles Musgrove, Peter Muto, Edmund Nash, W. H. Newberry, Mike O'Quin\*, George W. Payne, Herbert J. Roberts, Edmund Roman, Dr. Frank C. Ruys, Dr. Max Schlosser, Dr. I. Schwartz, Robert Seiden\*, Irwin Sigmond, Francis Trask, David A. Walsdorf Jr., L. A. Ware, and J. L. Weininger, 1/2 to W. J. Couture.

In answer to some criticism of the presence of the White pawn, we must say that we consider it was an asset, for its presence caused many skillful solvers to go wrong in a most instructive way. The standards of problem composition do not apply to the positions we publish, which are taken from actual games.

One solver, by wasting a move with a surplus check, arrived at the position White: K on QN3, Q on QB3; Black: K on QN3, Pawns on QR7 and QN8; Black to play. His solution followed with .... P-R8(Q); Q-B2 mate. But we cannot resist the thought of 1. .... P-R8(N)ch.; 2. K-B4, N-B7; 3. Q-KB3!, K-B8; 4. Q-Bch., K-Q7; 5. Q-Q3 ch., (not Q-QN in view of N-R6ch.), K-B8; 6. K-B3, P-N8(N)ch.; and now how White is to win we do not know.

The solvers conquered by a comfortable 54-21 margin.  
\*Welcome to New Solvers.

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*Tournament Life*

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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.

February 25-26  
**59th Minnesota State Championship**  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Open; at Coffman Memorial Union on University of Minnesota campus; 6 rd. Swiss (3 Sat. and 3 Sun.); Major tmt open to all with \$7 entry fee (\$2 refund on completion of all games), Minor tmt restricted to Class C USCF rated players and unrated players with \$2 entry fee (\$1 refunded); for details, write: Eugene Hoeflin, 1057 Selby, St. Paul 4, Minn.  
100% USCF rated event.

**WOMEN'S CHESS**

(Continued from page 5, col. 4)

tems in a swiss tournament are to be used only to award titles (and non-divisible prizes), but that cash prizes should be equally divided between or among the tying players. Cash prizes in the 1955 Open were divided all down the line to the point where recipients of a wholesale division of some of the lower prizes were rattling quite small bits of silver in their pockets. Yet the only woman's prize was off-handedly awarded the title winner, and the second player with an equal score was ignored.

The prize money has all been distributed, and the Tournament Committee could find no way to rectify this injustice. Mrs. Slater has accepted the decision of the Tournament Committee with her usual good grace and fine sportsmanship.

Long Beach did a fabulous job of collecting funds for the 1955 USCF Open and had more than their fair share of problems in connection with this tournament. I greatly dislike having to say anything critical about this tournament after the splendid effort the Long Beach Committee put into organizing it, but I would be neglecting my job if I did not go on record as strongly protesting this oversight. An oversight is just what it was—another indication of the casual manner in which women's chess is often treated.

A much happier announcement—delayed because of lack of space—is that Ohio has a new women's champion. Mrs. Alina Markowski of Toledo won that title in the Labor Day Tournament at Columbus, scoring 4-3 in a very strong field. She has been playing chess only two years, but has developed a style of play that combines imaginative aggression with caution. Here is a game in which she gently clobbered one of Ohio's stronger players.

**IRREGULAR OPENING**  
1955 Ohio Open

White		Black
JOHN BIDDLE	ALINA MARKOWSKI	
1. N-KB3	P-Q4	8. B-N5 NxBP
2. P-Q3	N-KB3	9. Q-N3 NxR
3. QN-Q2	N-B3	10. NxP Q-R5 ch
4. P-B3	P-K4	11. P-N3 B-B7 ch
5. P-K4	PxP	12. K-Q Q-R4 ch
6. PxP	B-QB4	13. QN-B3 B-K3
7. P-QR4	N-KN5	Resigns

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

April 7-8  
**Capital City Open Tournament**  
Columbus, Ohio

Open to all; at Gold Room of Seneca Hotel, 361 E. Broad St., Columbus; 5 rd Swiss at 44 moves in 1 hr., 45 min., adjudication after 3 1/2 hrs. play; entry fee: \$2.50, advance entries welcomed; registration: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 7, 1st rd. begins 10:00 a.m.; trophies and cash prizes depending on number of entries; TD: James Schroeder; for details, write: J. R. Schroeder, 439 Deshler Ave., Columbus, Ohio.  
100% USCF rated event.

**COLLEGE CHESS**

(Continued from page 3, col. 4)

team by a score of 4-3. The usual, congenial atmosphere of the Pittsburgh club prevailed throughout the match.

Pittsburgh Y		Penn State	
D. Spiro	1	W. Friedman	0
D. Miscevic	1	E. Herr	0
A. Hobbs	1	A. Stein	0
A. Bert	1	C. Deitrich	0
G. Orner	3	F. Kerr	3

The score of last year was repeated as Bethany College scored 3-2 over Penn State. We Nittany Lions found West Virginia hospitality to be quite generous. As many of you know, Bethany College has never been defeated in a chess match.

Bethany		Penn State	
H. Stein	1	W. Friedman	0
D. Kuby	0	E. Herr	1
J. Wachtel	1	A. Stein	0
K. Tabari	0	C. Deitrich	1
T. Linden	1	F. Kerr	0

A trip to New York by a team from the United States Military Academy ended in defeat at the hands of the Marshall Chess Club.

West Point		Marshall C.C.	
J. Hesse	0	C. Eastman	1
J. Goldberg	0	R. Vogel	1
J. Toole	0	M. Peckar	1
M. Higgins	3	R. Schultz	3

P. Retchey	0	J. Petras	1
P. Greisen	1	L. Persinger	0
W. Marshall	0	A. Schlein	1
W. Dunning	0	D. Hollyer	1

The results of the 1955 United States Intercollegiate Championship Tournament appear on the first page of this issue. My impressions of the event will be given in the next issue.

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