

# Chess Life



America's Chess Newspaper

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Vol. XI, No. 10

Sunday, January 20, 1957

15 Cents

## What's The Best Move?

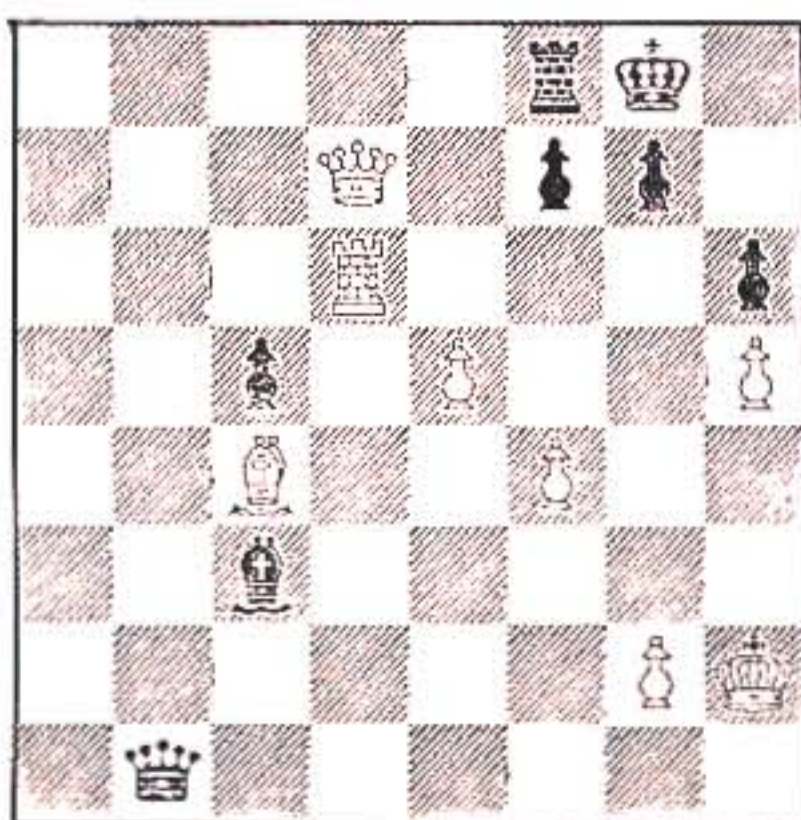
Conducted by  
IRWIN SIGMOND

SEND solution to Position No. 200 to reach Irwin Sigmond, 5200 Williamsburg Blvd., Arlington 7, Va., by February 20, 1957. With your solution, please send analysis or reasons supporting your choice or "Best Move" or moves.

Solution to Position No. 200 will appear in the March 5, 1957 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. 200



White to play

## BCF RELEASES RATING LIST

The British Chess Federation has published the 1956 National Grading (rating) List, covering performances in the past two years to August 31, 1956. While the British Federation uses the same rating system as Canada and the USA (the Harkness System), it does not publish numerical values, but groups its players in categories without making any distinction in rank between players in the same category. The following are the listing of the four top categories:

### GRADE 1a

C. H. O'D. Alexander (IM)  
C. Kottbauer (IM)

### GRADE 1b

H. Golombek (IM)  
J. Penrose (BM)

### GRADE 2a

J. A. Fuller  
P. S. Milner-Barry (BM)  
R. J. A. Persitz  
A. Phillips  
R. G. Wade (IM)

### GRADE 2b

J. M. Aitken  
L. W. Barden  
R. J. Broadbent (BM)  
P. H. Clarke  
H. E. G. Courtney  
M. J. Franklin  
O. Friedman  
A. Y. Green  
M. J. Haygarth  
W. Heidenfeld  
F. Parr  
W. Tabakiernik  
W. Veitch  
P. N. Wallis  
B. H. Wood

(The designation BM is for British Master, a title recently created by the BCF, while IM represents an International Master.)

The complete Grading List contains 322 names (an increase of 41 names over last year). According to the report in the British Chess Magazine for January, 1957 this list represents the following changes: 41 players have been promoted, 52 have gone down, 136 are unchanged, 52 have dropped out, and there are 93 newcomers on the list.

## GLIGORIC, LARSEN TIE AT HASTINGS

Svetozar Gligoric of Yugoslavia defeated Fridrik Olafsson of Iceland in the final round while Bent Larsen of Denmark was drawing with Alberic O'Kelly de Galway of Belgium to tie for first place with Larsen in the annual Christmas Tourney at Hastings. Gligoric was the only undefeated contestant in the tourney with five draws, while Larsen lost a second round encounter with Olafsson. Both scored 6½-2½ to tie for first.

In third place there was a tie between O'Kelly de Galway and Olafsson at 6-3 each, while Peter Clarke of England and Laszo Szabo of Hungary tied for fifth with 4½-4½. The Major Section of the Premier Reserves was won by A. Kluger of Hungary with 7-2.

### FINAL STANDINGS

Gligoric	6½-2½	Szabo	4½-4½
Larsen	6½-2½	Toran	3½-5½
O'Kelly	6-3	Horseman	3-6
Olafsson	6-3	Penrose	2½-6½
Clarke	4½-4½	Alexander	2-7

## CHESS FESTIVAL GETS ORGANIZED

The National Chess Festival is gaining rapidly in local organization throughout the country. New York City is already divided into five active districts with the program well under way in all five. More recently both the California State Chess Federation and the South Texas Chess Association have signified that they would as organizations cooperate to the fullest in planning the activity in their respective areas. Details will follow at a later date. Those wishing to organize locally a part of the National Chess Festival Program may gain details by writing the Committee Publicity Agent, Jose M. Calderon, National Chess Festival, 1 Washington Mews, New York 3, N. Y.

## The Sayre (Oklahoma) Story

By BAKER BONNELL

WELL! The wandering chess minstrel, George Koltanowski, was with us a full day just the 29th last: and many who warmed their hands at the fire he brings still shake their heads in wonder. They wonder, first, that so outstanding a celebrity would give a day of his time to our small community of but 3,000 population, and, second, that this small community, in turn, could provide such gratifying audience for him though our few chessiacs are notoriously hard to bring together at any one time. The minstrel, in short, put on his minstrelsy to 458 people.

What did happen here on November, the 29th? Kolty and I got together at our little hotel at about 9:30 in the morning. At 10:40 we were in the high school auditorium where he made his preparations. At eleven the auditorium was filling with 350 junior and senior high school and junior college students. Forty minutes later, the program finished, Kolty had received such a rousing cheer and standing ovation from the kids that even I, an old timer familiar with them, was amazed. Stepping on the gas for 17 miles we got to Elk City in time for lunch with 43 Rotarians. Again Kolty put on one of his public programs, and not one Rotarian did tiptoe out till after he had finished. Though obviously few did know much about chess, every man was enthralled! Back again in Sayre, Kolty and I got together once more at 6:30 for the main event, planned as a Chess Dinner, Dutch-Style. Twenty-five sat at that dinner. Kolty gave his talk, two of us engaged him in his blindfold demonstration, and twelve played him in his regular exhibition of simultaneous play. Sayre provided only three of the twelve players: the remaining nine came from seven other plaaces, one being 93 miles away and another being 82 miles. In the course of the evening, however, we had drop-in visitors who could not make either the dinner or the chess-play, but still wanted to see and hear some of what was going on. The main event thus drew a total of 65 people. With the odds against it, how could we offer the minstrel the ears and eyes of 458 people?

Two things about the day were automatic and routine: the high school assembly and the civic club program. We used the civic club in the nearby town because on the day that Kolty could be here there were no Sayre civic clubs meeting. The point of the day that entailed the most thought and study was the final decision to let Kolty meet the chessiacs in the setting of a Chess-Dinner, and to draw in outsiders as well as chess-players. That turned out to be perhaps the most heart-warming event of the day. Consider! You can find few people anywhere who have not wondered and wished to know more about

this "swanky" game that has come down through all the years with so much storied and legendary aura. Too, the best people of any community like to honor outstanding celebrities if the way is provided for that. Such people, the non-chessiacs, will pay for the dinner where they will not pay to play (Please turn to page 7, col. 1)

## NATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

### WHAT IS THE NATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

It is a continuous match play, across the nation of Veterans vs. Teenagers and Seniors vs. Juniors.

A Teenager is any boy or girl who on Jan. 1st 1957 has not yet reached the age of 20.

A Junior is a man or woman who on January 1st, 1957 is at least 20 but under 35 years of age.

A Senior is a man or woman who on January 1st, 1957 is at least 35 but under 50 years of age.

A Veteran—any person 50 years or more.

### WHO MAY PLAY?

Any resident of the United States may play one game.

### WHAT ARE THE RULES OF PLAY?

U.S.C.F. tournament rules will apply.

Color is to be decided by lot or draw, at the option of the Local Tournament Director.

The use of clocks is optional at the discretion of the Local Tournament Director, but where clocks are used, the rate of play is 40 moves in the first two hours and 20 moves an hour thereafter.

### HOW ARE DISPUTES SETTLED?

The Local Tournament Director's decisions are final. If a contestant wishes to appeal from a decision affecting the result, he must submit his appeal to the District Authority, under rules which will be promulgated by it. There is no higher tribunal.

### WHEN DOES MATCH PLAY BEGIN?

The two match plays should, wherever possible, start concurrently any day after January 1st, 1957. Match play can continue until all persons wishing to participate had a chance to play. A dead-line will be announced when it is practical to do so.

OTHER CONDITIONS: No player shall be required to pay an entrance fee. Club, or other affiliation, as a requirement for participation is not necessary.

FOR DETAILS: Write:

### NATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

Jose M. Calderon,  
Publicity Agent  
1 Washington Mews  
New York 3, N. Y.



# ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

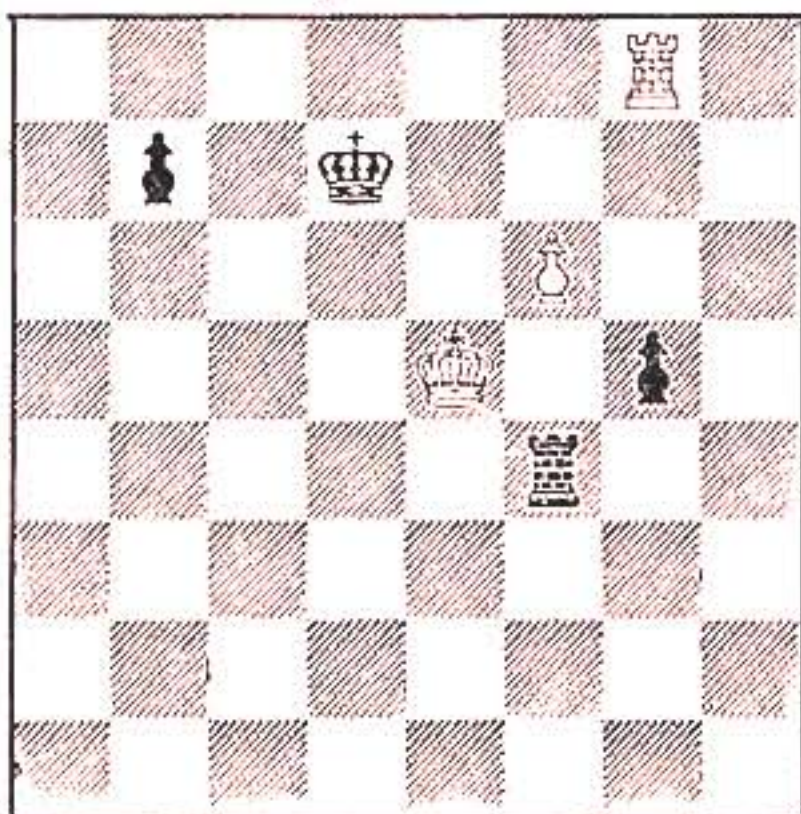
## Mastering the End Game

By **WALTER KORN, Editor of MCO**

### Drowning in One's Own Abundance

THE announced pendant to Diagram 36 is found in the final phases of the game Kotov-Eliskases, Helsinki 1952, which after Black's 45th move arrived at the setting depicted in Diagram No. 37.

Diagram No. 37



Instead of falling for the wrong pawn 46. RXP?, R-B8!, White played 46. R-N7 ch!, K-K1; 47. RxQNP, R-B7; 48. K-K6, R-K7 ch; 49. K-B5, P-N5; 50. K-N6! Now it becomes clear that Black's pawn has changed from an asset into an obstruction to drawing the game!, as the equalizer ..... R-N7 ch is gone with the wind. 50. .... R-KB7; 51. P-B7 ch, K-B1; 52. R-N8 ch, K-K2; 53. R-K8 ch, Black resigns.



Growing interest in chess at high school level in New Mexico is reported by Paul H. Johnson, Chemistry Instructor in the Espanola Municipal Schools. Through the New Mexico High School Activities Association a sectional High School Tournament has been organized, divided into four sections with the winner of each section competing for the state title in a finals at Albuquerque. The first event was won by Santa Fe, with Las Cruces second, Espanola third, and Tularose fourth. The second annual event was held at the Socorro



School of Mining and Technology in connection with the State Science Fair and was won by Las Cruces, which also won the third annual event. The principal promoters of this high school chess activity have been Paul H. Johnson and H. E. Alexander of Las Cruces. Present plans look toward a few out-of-state matches with high school teams of neighboring states, and those interested in such an event may write Paul H. Johnson, Box 513, Espanola, N. M.



"Chess For Fun"—the chess program on WOSU-TV, the Ohio State University educational TV station—in November featured a double-blindfold game between James Schroeder and Daniel Fidlow (both players performing without sight of the board). Tim Anderson refereed the match and commented to the spectators on the moves shown on a demonstration board. This was probably the first double-blindfold chess performance on TV. In the past International Master George Koltanowski has several times appeared on TV as a blindfold player in a simultaneous exhibition against seeing opponents.



The Montreal Premier Reserves Championship was won by K. Kristensen 4-1, with K. McEachern second with 3-2, and S. Dubuc third with 2½-2½. In the preliminaries Kristensen won Section 1 with 8-0, S. Dubuc was second with 7-1, and E. Dolan third with 5½-2½; while McEachern won Section 2 with 6½-1½, with R. Teene second with 6-2, and P. H. Fudge and R. Vitins tied for third with 5½-2½.



The annual Inglewood (Calif.) tournament was won by Gerald Schain with a perfect 8-0 score. Second was LeRoy Johnson with 6½-1½, losing to Schain and drawing with Norman Goldberg. Goldberg was third with 6-2.

# CALIF. WOMEN'S TITLE TO GRAF

Sonja Graf-Stevenson, International Women Master, won the California Women's Championship at the Herman Steiner Chess Club, Los Angeles with a 6½ - ½ score, drawing with runner-up Lena Grumette. Mrs. Grumette tallied 6-1, drawing also with Jacqueline Piatigorsky who placed third with 5-2. Olga Higgins was fourth in the 8-player round robin with 4-3 score. The event was sponsored by the California State Chess Federation.

## KERR ELECTED ICLA PREXY

Frederick H. Kerr was elected president of the Intercollegiate Chess League of America to succeed Dr. Eliot Hearst. Kerr is known to readers of CHESS LIFE as its college editor. He is a former president of the Pennsylvania State University Chess Club. Anthony Saidy, a USCF master, was chosen vice-president to succeed Albert Weissman. Saidy is secretary of the Fordham University Chess Club. Last year he acted as captain of the U. S. team in the World Student Tournament at Uppsala.

## KOOYMAN SYSTEM NEWLY REVISED

The Kooyman System for indexing games for ready reference, first described in CHESS LIFE November 20, 1953, and again reported in CHESS LIFE July 20, 1955 when some important revisions were made in the index card, to which a "needle-selection" feature was added, has undergone a few further refinements.

After more than a year's research, Ray Kooyman has simplified the coding of the cards until all games indexed can be broken into six categories or groups and it can be determined in which category to search for the desired continuation or game before any reference is made to the card file.

The new "File Chess Cards" according to Kooyman are so designed that you can "make a card so you can file it . . . forget it . . . and find it." The system is admirably designed for those who wish to keep an up-to-date index on openings by which they can locate any given continuation in any book in their library without the cumbersome process of pasting clippings into notebooks. Those interested may obtain details regarding this filing system by writing to Ray Kooyman, Box 103, Salt Lake City, Utah.



Red Rose (Lancaster, Pa.) Chess Club avenged a 6½-4½ defeat recently by winning the return match at Lancaster 4½-3½ from the York YMCA Chess Club. Victors for the Red Roses were M. Sauder, R. Youngquist, R. Shurig, and R. Hafer. For Lancaster J. Schultz, D. Schatanoff, and D. Grenda scored the points. W. Freund of the Red Roses drew with J. Lambert.

Sublette Woodpushers (Pinedale, Wyo.) is a newly organized chess club of twelve members, but growing rapidly. The first club championship, a round robin, is under way and other plans of activity are in progress of planning. Karlann Coughlin, Box 154, Pinedale, Wyo. is secretary-treasurer.

# College Chess Life

Conducted by  
**Frederick H. Kerr**

All college clubs and players are urged to send news items to Frederick H. Kerr, Nittany 32-13, Box 277, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

THE first place finish of the University of Chicago in the 1956 United States Intercollegiate Team Championship was a surprise to many. It was not until the sixth round that the possibility of Chicago winning by a close margin was seen. As it turned out, City College of New York finished just one game point behind the new champions. Perhaps the winning of this national title by a midwestern college will stimulate greater collegiate chess activity in that area.

I would like to thank the teams in attendance at Philadelphia for their expression of confidence. As president of the Intercollegiate Chess League of America, I will do my best to serve intercollegiate chess and college chess players. The new vice-president of the ICLA, Anthony Saidy, is well known to you as captain of the 1956 United States Student Team, captain of the Fordham University team, and as a USCF master. He was a wise choice and will prove to be a great help to the ICLA.

The ICLA congratulates the Philadelphia committee for a splendid job of making the 1956 tournament a success. They brought order from chaos.

As you know, the 1957 Intercollegiate will be an individual tournament. The city for this event has not as yet been named. Any city or college may submit a bid consisting of a list of reasons why their location would be a good one. These offers should be sent as soon as possible to me at the address given above, for several cities have already cast their municipal derbies into the race. Here is your chance to host a national championship tournament with the probability of participation by such stars as Arthur Feuerstein, Charles Kalme, William Lombardy, Edmar Mednis, and Anthony Saidy.

Arrangements have been made to supply news on a regular basis to the two other national chess publications, **American Chess Bulletin**, and **Chess Review**, as well as to several newspaper chess columns. College clubs are now able to send news items to this column and receive publicity in other publications as well as in **Chess Life**, America's Chess Newspaper. This is the latest addition to the growing list of services by your ICLA.



The Chicago Daily News for Saturday, January 12, 1957 devoted two pages of its rotogravure section to pictures of chess activity in the Chicago Chess & Checker Club, including shots of women members at play and the nearly blind master Albert Sandrin in a tune-up game before his six board simultaneous blindfold exhibit at the club.

## HAVE YOUR TOURNAMENTS OFFICIALLY RATED

### New Regulations Effective March 1, 1955

Tournaments, matches (individual or team; round robin or Swiss) are rateable when sponsored by USCF affiliated organizations, if played under FIDE Laws, directed by a competent official, and played at time limit of not more than 30 moves per hour.

The annual championship tournament of an USCF Club Chapter and the annual championship tournament of any USCF affiliate whose By-Laws provide that all its members must be USCF members also are rated without charge.

All other eligible events are rated only if official report of event is accompanied by a remittance covering a rating fee of 10c per game for all games actually played in the contest. (In a Swiss one-half the number of players times the number of rounds represents total games played if no byes or forfeits.)

Note that 10c Rating fee per game is collected from all players, whether USCF members or not.

Semi-annually ratings will be published of all participants in all USCF-Rated events.

Official rating forms should be secured in advance from:—

Montgomery Major  
123 No. Humphrev Avenue  
Oak Park, Illinois

Do not write to other USCF officials for these rating forms.





# LARRY EVANS ON CHESS

By International Master LARRY EVANS

THERE is a vast gap between amateur and master chess. In no sport, perhaps, is this disparity so evident. The average player reaches a plateau and stays there. Not everyone has the potential to be a master, but everyone has it within his ability to improve steadily and surely. The best way to go about this is practice and more practice—with better players. The next step is to strengthen your theoretical grasp of the opening, middle, and endgame. This can be done by studying books devoted to these areas of the game. More important is the study of master chess—annotated by masters themselves. Game collections of one player are excellent but tend to be one-sided. After reading Capablanca, for example, you will probably be tempted to give up attacking chess. The way to achieve a balance is to play over tournament books which contain games of all players with all styles. The clash of temperament and personality is generally as interesting (and instructive) as the chess drama which unfolds over-the-board. It has always baffled me that tournament books are not more popular.

The notes to the following game are from my book, *TROPHY CHESS*, an account of the Rosenwald Tournament, N. Y., 1954/55, which was won by Reshevsky, followed by Evans, Bisguier, D. Byrne, Sherwin, and Kramer—the cream of America's masters.

## Bisguier-Byrne Gruenfeld Defense

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 1. P-Q4  | N-KB3 |
| 2. P-QB4 | P-KN3 |
| 3. N-QB3 | P-Q4  |
| 4. P-K3  | ..... |

Bisguier has no adequate line against the Gruenfeld. He plays 4. P-K3 invariably. Kevitz likes 4. N-B3, B-N2; 5. B-N? Kevitz-Horowitz, U. S. Open, 1953, continued: 5. ...., N-K5; 6. PxB, NxB; 7. NxB, P-K3; 8. Q-Q2, P-KR3; 9. N-R3, PxB; 10. Q-K3 ch, K-B1; 11. N-B4, P-QB3 with a good game for Black, contrary to Kevitz's opinion.

- |         |       |
|---------|-------|
| 4. .... | B-N2  |
| 5. N-B3 | O-O   |
| 6. Q-N3 | ..... |

Bisguier-Evans, U. C. Chmp., 1954, continued: 6. PxB, NxB; 7. B-B4, N-N3; 8. B-N3, N-B3=.

- |         |       |
|---------|-------|
| 6. .... | P-K3  |
| 7. B-Q2 | N-B3! |

A new move. The "book" gives only P-N3; 8. B-K2, B-N2; 9. O-O, QN-Q2. The text menaces N-QR4.

- |        |     |
|--------|-----|
| 8. PxB | PxB |
|--------|-----|

And Black has solved the problem of his QB. He has control of the semi-open K-file and good squares for his pieces. It is now White who must fight for equality!

- |             |       |
|-------------|-------|
| 9. B-K2 (?) | ..... |
|-------------|-------|

Too passive. Why not B-Q3?

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 9. ....  | N-K2  |
| 10. O-O  | P-B3  |
| 11. N-K5 | ..... |

This invasion is meaningless and gets White into trouble. He might try 11. QR-Q1 following by KR-K1, though his position still has no life since he can never break with P-K4.

- |            |       |
|------------|-------|
| 11. ....   | N-B4  |
| 12. N-QR4? | ..... |

But this move yields K4 and take a piece out of the game. It is obvious that White can achieve nothing on the Q-side. The fight will take place in the center. 12. Q-B2! followed by P-QN4, when possible, and a minority attack, was indicated. Rather than admit that the Queen is badly placed on QN3, White tries to base his Q-side attack on it. This is doomed to failure.

- |           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| 12. ....  | N-K5  |
| 13. B-K1  | R-K1  |
| 14. P-B3? | ..... |

This creates more weaknesses than it is worth. Simply 14. N-KB3 was called for.

- |          |         |
|----------|---------|
| 14. .... | N(5)-Q3 |
| 15. P-N4 | .....   |

Forced, as a consequence of P-B3.

- |          |      |
|----------|------|
| 15. .... | P-B3 |
|----------|------|

15. ...., N-R3 is also very strong. It wins a Pawn, but Black did not want to give up his KB to do so. E.g., 16. B-Q2 (the threat was P-B3 and RxB), BxB; 17. PxB, RxB; 18. P-K4.

- |         |       |
|---------|-------|
| 16. PxB | PxB   |
| 17. PxB | BxB   |
| 18. PxB | B-R6! |

A sharp interpolation. 18. ...., PxB; 19. K-R1 is not too clear.

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 19. R-B2 | R-K3! |
|----------|-------|

Not 19. ...., Q-N4 ch; 20. K-R1, QxNP; 21. B-B1, BxB; 22. RxB, K-R1; 23. B-B3.



Position after 21. B-Q3 ch

21. .... N-K5!!

A magnificent conception. This clearance maneuver gains the KN3 square for the Rook. On 21. ...., K-R1; 22. B-B3 Black still has a good game, but White can put up a long resistance. The text wins by force.

22. BxN ch

Not 22. PxB, R-N3 ch; 23. K-R1, Q-N4 and mate cannot be averted.

- |           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| 22. ....  | PxB     |
| 23. P-B4  | R-N3 ch |
| 24. K-R1  | Q-KN1!  |
| 25. B-N4! | .....   |

Bisguier is putting up the very best defense. 25. QxQ ch, QRxQ; is won easily for Black. 25. B-B3, BxB; 26. NxB, B-N7 ch; 27. RxB, RxB wins the exchange.

25. .... B-B3

If 25. ...., B-N7 ch; 26. RxB, RxB; 27. QxQ ch, QRxQ; 28. PxB, White has won two pieces for a Rook.

26. Q-B2

Guarding against B-N7 ch.

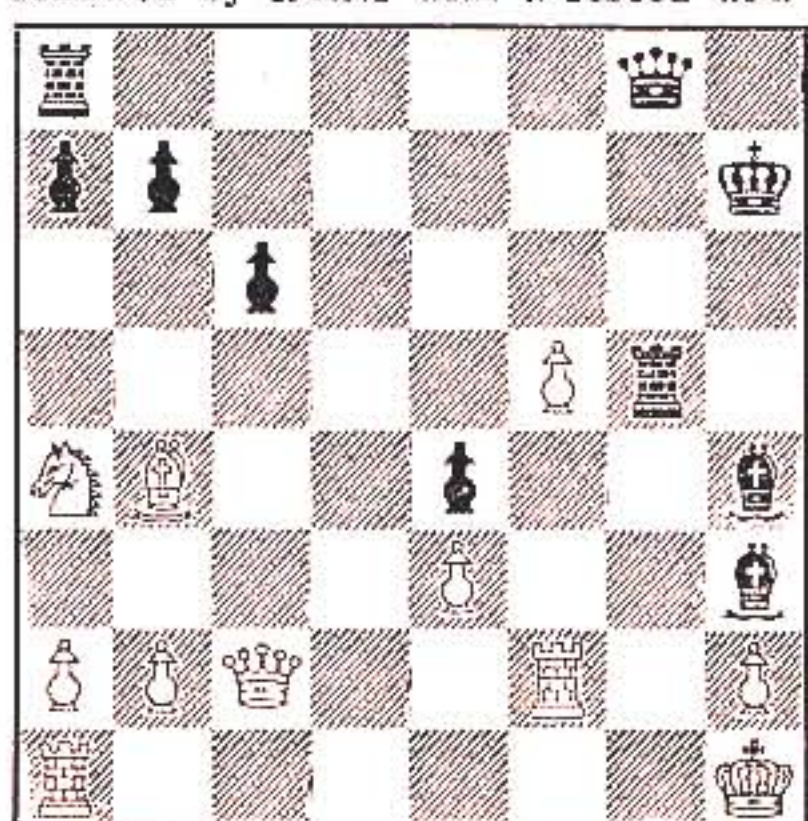
26. .... B-R5

27. P-B5!

White is still defending with a lion-heart. 27. R-Q2, B-N5 spells his finish.

27. .... R-N4?

The wrong square. Correct is 27. ...., R-N5! and if 28. R-B4, RxB; 29. PxB, Q-N5 winning. Or if 28. R-Q2, Q-N4 followed by R-KN1 with a forced win.



Position after 27. ...., R-N4?

28. R-B4!  
The saving clause.  
28. .... R-N5  
Forced. If 28. ...., B-N7 ch; 29. QxB, RxB; 30. RxB ch, K-N2; 31. KxR. Or 28. ...., B-N5; 29. P-B6, B-B6 ch; 30. RxB wins.

29. P-B6 RxB  
29. ...., BxB; 30. QxP ch (if RxB, B-N7 ch), K-R1 still held out drawing chances for Black.

30. PxB R-K1?  
Black is still chasing the chimera of the win he missed. He should content himself with 30. ...., BxB; 31. QxP ch, Q-N3 and, although a Pawn, his 2 Bishops and open lines compensate sufficiently to draw.

31. B-K7!  
Now Black is lost.  
31. .... Q-N3  
32. P-B7!  
33. BxB QxP  
34. Q-B2 Q-R4

Or if 33. ...., QxPB; 34. Q-B2.  
34. B-N3 Q-B6 ch  
35. K-N1 R-Q1  
36. N-B3

Finally, after 24 moves, this Knight returns to the game with decisive effect!

36. .... B-B4  
37. R-K1 R-Q6  
38. Q-K2 K-N3  
39. NxB BxN  
40. QxB ch QxQ  
41. RxB

Byrne, dazed, stared at this position several minutes now that the time-pressure was over. Then—

**Black Resigns**  
A real "swindle" by Bisguier, in the finest sense of the word. Byrne conducted a flawless game, marred by one error at the critical stage. This may not be the best game in the tournament, but it is certainly the most interesting.

The Montreal Major Reserve Championship went to G. Van Dompelaar by a play-off victory over M. Coviensky with both scoring 4½-½ in the finals. E. Hume was third with 3-2 and S. Nason fourth with 1½-3½. In the preliminaries in Section 1, S. Nason scored 5½-½, I. Petroff 5-1, and M. Coviensky 4½-1½; while in Section 2, G. Van Dompelaar tallied 5-1, E. Hume 4½-1½, and L. Jacobovits 4-2.

The December 15th issue of the Cleveland Chess Bulletin devotes two pages to pictures of the very successful chess booth at the annual Home Fair in the Cleveland Auditorium. Among the 19 players who performed simultaneously during the fair were USCF Vice-President Willa Owens and International Master George Koltanowski. The Queens' Chess Club contributed heavily to the 18 lady assistants.

Following the modern Marxian line of considering chess an important intellectual factor in the social progress of mankind, the Daily Worker in the issue of January 3, 1957 published an accurate list of the ten important chess events of the U.S.A. compiled by Ralph Crane, who frequently reports chess for this publication.

## Chess Life In New York By Allen Kaufman

IN BRIEF: Nine have qualified for the Manhattan Championship as a result of finishing high in the preliminaries. They are Brandts, Vano, Benedicto, McCormick, Myers, Tamargo, Baron, Greene, Siegel. This list includes some newcomers, some veterans, some youngsters and some oldsters. Hugh Myers recently came to New York, from Decatur, Ill., and now lives and works here. Ed. Vano is also from the middle west, now living here.

These will be joined by fifteen seeded players in a semi-final tournament. Those who go directly into the semi-finals are mostly well-known masters, or others who have distinguished themselves at chess. They are: Bisguier, Burger, Denker, Feuerstein, Fischer, Gresser, Kevitz, Kramer (!), Lombardy, Pavey, Schwartz, Shainswit, Shipman, Turner, Vine. Notice the return of several inactive masters.

Raymond Weinstein has clinched the Junior Championship of the Marshall C. C. with an overpowering 8-0 score. Raymond is the nephew of New Jersey expert Stanley Winters, and the cousin of U. S. Champ Arthur Bisguier. Gross and Bean follow at 6-2 each.

Hermann Helms celebrated his eighty-seventh birthday at the Marshall Chess Club. He remains an active, newspaperman and a strong chess player. Many of his friends gathered to congratulate him and express their respect for the man who has done so much for chess, the Dean of American Chess, the Editor of the American Chess Bulletin, and the most beloved man in chess today.

En passant—the following combination is noted: Chuck Witte moved wisely in capturing a Queen, Marlys Hearst, and mated her.

## ENGLISH OPENING

MCO: page 36

## Washington Chess Divan Championship, Washington, 1956

White	Black
H. BERLINER	E. NASH
1. P-QB4	15. P-K4 P-KR4
2. P-KKt3 P-KKt3	16. P-B4 Kt/4-Kt5
3. B-Kt2 B-Kt2	17. P-KR3 Kt-R3
4. P-Q4 O-O	18. P-B5 Kt-R2
5. Kt-QB3 P-Q3	19. Kt-Q5 P-KKt4
6. Kt-B3 QKt-Q2?	20. Kt-QB6 QR-K1
7. O-O P-B4	21. Kt/6xPch
8. P-Kt3 R-Kt1	RxKt
9. B-Kt2 P-Kt3	KxB
10. Q-Q3 B-Kt2	22. BxB K-R1
11. QR-Q1 PxB	24. PxB R-K1
12. KtXP Kt-K4?	25. Q-Q4ch K-KtK1
13. Q-Q2 BxB	26. R-B6 Resigns
14. KxB Q-Q2	

The game that decided the club title in the semi-final round.

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Published twice a month on the 5th and 20th by THE UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION. Entered as second class matter September 5, 1946, at the post office at Dubuque, Iowa, under the act of March 9, 1879.

Editor: MONTGOMERY MAJOR

POSTMASTER: Please return undeliverable copies with Form 3579 to Kenneth Harkness, USCF Business Manager, 80 East 11th Street, New York 3, N. Y.

## Major Topics

By  
Montgomery Major

### MALCOLM SIM

IN the last days of December Canada lost one of its outstanding pioneers in the promotion and publicizing of chess when Malcolm Sim passed away at the age of 76. Much of the history of Canadian Chess since 1900 is interlaced with the life of Sim, who also was present and active in some notable moments for chess in the U.S.A.

Sim was born in Hampstead, London on November 6, 1881. At the age of 14 he learned the rudiments of chess from a youth of German descent, Walter Degerden, who later became noted as an expert in legerdemain. Entered in the architectural profession, Sim's health broke down at 19 and in his idle hours of convalescence he began to take a serious interest in chess. In 1902 an unsuccessful attempt to solve a beautiful mutate two-mover by W. A. Shinkman (8-6p1-sQ2p2-K7-5B2-S1k5-1R2P3-1rr1b3—Key: 1. B-R6) started a lasting interest in problems. Sim composed over 400 problems, some of the very beautiful, and had a theme (the Sim theme) named after him.

In 1903 he came to Ontario to visit relatives on a farm but soon returned to London where he played in a postal tournament, placing second, and composed problems for the Illustrated London News and Daily News. In 1906 his father accepted a position in Montreal and the whole family sailed for Canada; in the following year they settled in Toronto, which is hereafter identified with Sim's career in chess.

In his first visit to a chess club (the Toronto C. C. then in the Yonge Street Arcade) he saw Jacques Mieses give a simultaneous. In 1910 he participated in the Toronto Championship for the first time, not placing high but defeating J. S. Morrison, then considered Toronto's rising young player. In 1914 he won the Toronto C. C. Handicap Tournament; in 1915 the Toronto City Championship. In the following ten years he participated in the local league and intercity matches, losing only one game in the period. In 1922 he placed fourth in the Canadian Championship at Montreal, although he took sick during the tournament. In 1918 he won the Canadian Postal Championship.

But it was not as a player, but as a publicist and promoter of chess that Malcolm Sim will long be remembered. In 1910 he started on his real chess career by editing a chess column for the Toronto Globe; in 1915 he shifted the chess column to the Canadian Courier, a weekly which folded up in 1920. He then edited a column in the Toronto World for a short time until it was terminated by purchase of the paper. In 1922 he became chess editor of the Toronto Evening Telegram—a post which was only terminated by his death in December, 1956 and from which he exerted a great and healthy influence upon the trend of chess in Canada. The column grew to two full columns, until it was curtailed in 1937 by 50% due to the economic pressures of the day.

Beginning with the 1924 Canadian Championship at Hamilton, Sim served as tournament director for many Canadian Championships. He also served as director for the 1934 U. S. Open Championship in Chicago which was notable as being the first valid "open" tournament, as contrasted to previous events largely filled by invitations. In 1953 at Milwaukee he again was director of the U. S. Open and acted in collaboration with Hermann Helms at most of the U. S. Championship tournaments which Mr. Helms directed in New York. From 1942 to 1956 (with only one exception) he served annually as director of the New York State Championship. His ability as a director and as a promoter of chess was early recognized by FIDE which nominated him as an International Judge, the only Canadian so distinguished.

Canadian Chess will miss his presence and the New York State Championship will never quite seem the same. We have turned one more page in the history of Canadian Chess, to which we cannot again turn back, although we will always remember that it was a brilliant page, sparkling with achievements.

To Chess Editor W. Frank Fillery recently Sim wrote that he hoped to go to a land of "beautiful two-movers"—may we hope that his wish was fulfilled, and that in days to come his friends will be privileged to join him there. For with his passing an era in Canadian Chess also passed into memory.

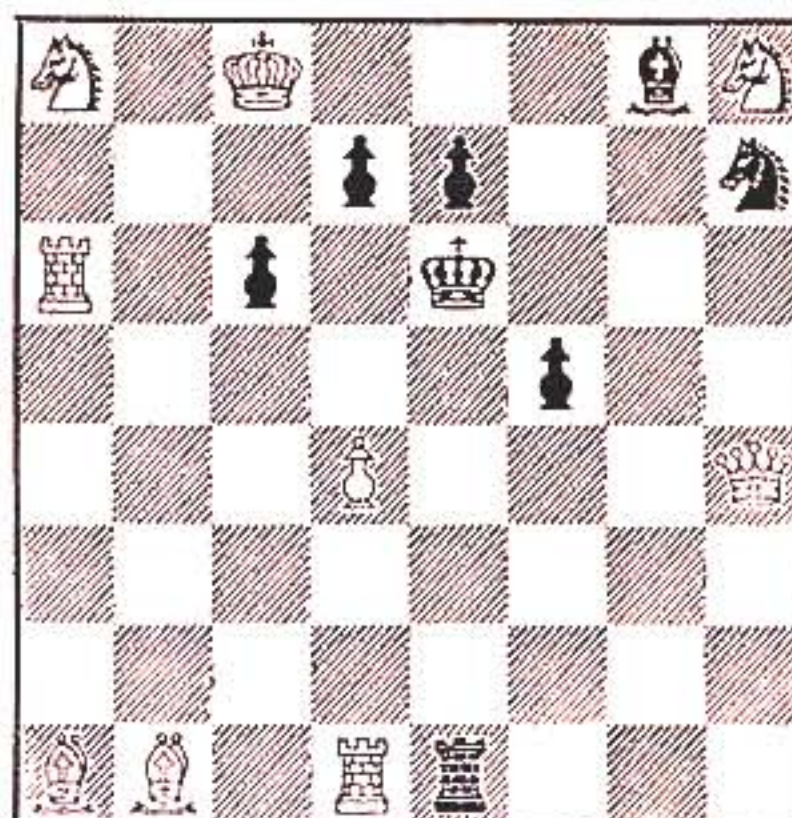


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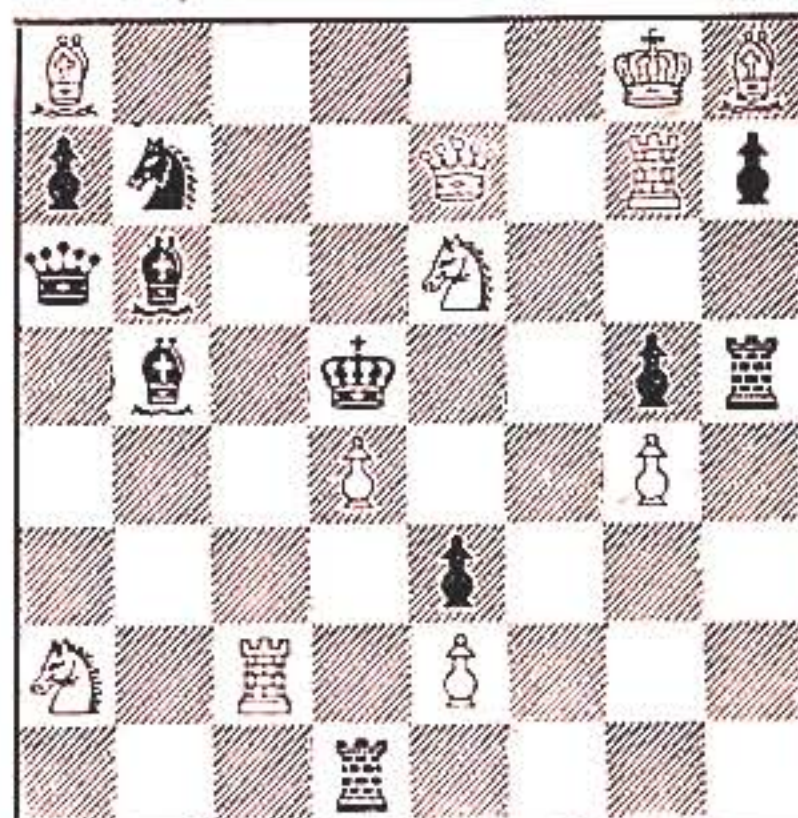
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### PROBLEM By the late Malcolm Sim



White mates in two moves  
(Solution on page eight)

### PROBLEM By the late A. J. Fink



White mates in two moves  
(Solution on page eight)

## The Kibitzer Has His Day

### Tie-Breaking Systems Still In Debate

Dear Mr. Major:

In a letter which was published in the December 5th issue of Chess Life, I pointed out that a tie-breaking system which I proposed differed from the Solkoff system in that it was a measure of the strength of the player rather than an index of the opponents' strength.

After writing that letter, I developed a player rating system based upon a comparison of the actual with the potential tie-breaking points. Besides being quite accurate, it is also quite simple to compute, especially if the ties in the match have been broken by either the system I proposed or by the Solkoff system, and to a lesser degree by the Sonneborn system.

The following ratings were computed solely upon the performance of the players in the 1956 U. S. Open Championship. Only the top 33 players are listed and some of the players who finished below the 33rd place might have a higher rating than the lowest rating in this brief list:

#### Masters (1301 to 1500)

Arthur B. Bisguier	1477
Attilio DiCamillo	1341
Edmar Mednis	1356
S. Popel	1329
Anthony F. Saidy	1386
A. E. Santasiere	1303
James T. Sherwin	1466
H. H. Steinmeyer	1455
I. Theodorevych	1333

#### Experts (1101 to 1300)

Jose J. Araiza	1125
Herbert K. Avram	1163
Paul Brantz	1231
Robert Brieger	1163
C. C. Crittenden	1258
J. F. Donovan	1159
Bobby Fischer	1284
D. E. Fischeimer	1239

#### Experts (continued)

Carl R. Freeman	1102
Denza Fuster	1163
Henry Gross	1261
G. E. Hartleb	1110
John A. Hudson	1152
Derwin Kerr	1288
F. T. McCormick	1205
Ray J. Martin	1277
Joaquin Medina	1216
Brian E. Owens	1197
Jack O'Keefe	1269
Orest Popovych	1258
I. Romanenko	1155
Kenneth R. Smith	1220
Class A (901 to 1100)	
Brian Garfinkel	1083
Russell K. Kouts	1000

Anyone wishing to compare the performance of any other participant in that tournament with the above list can easily do so by using the following formula, taking a k factor of 1000.

$$\frac{1000 Q}{r(r-1)} \text{ plus } k \text{ equals } R$$

where Q represents tie-breaking points computed by adding the sum of the wins of the losers and deducting the sum of the losses of the victors, using one half of the wins and losses in case of draws; r is the number of rounds in the tournament; k is a constant for a particular tournament based upon the rating of the middle group who can participate; and R is the rating which results.

This method would be particularly useful in computing provisional ratings, particularly when the number of participants are large compared with the number of players previously rated. It would, of course, be necessary to increase the k factor for comparison with some other rating system.

If this method were used, it would be unnecessary to match the top half of the list with the bottom half for the first round. Instead, players of approximately equal strength could be matched from the outset.

Since many players enter the same tournaments year after year, this is an excellent method of comparing a player's progress.

LELAND A. QUINDRY

Philadelphia, Pa.

### To Index Or Not To Index—Question?

Dear Mr. Major:

In the editorial column of the December 5 issue of Chess Life, you published a letter from Robert A. Karch suggesting that the pages of Chess Life be re-numbered to facilitate indexing openings. I do not think Mr. Karch's suggestion has much merit, but I would be very much in favor of an annual index of openings being published. I wonder if there would be enough interest in such an index so that the Federation could publish one either as a special issue of Chess Life or separately at a nominal cost without the project running at a loss. Perhaps volunteers could be secured to do the actual indexing. If such a project were undertaken, I would be willing to undertake one or two of the major openings. It would certainly add immensely to the value of back issues for reference purposes.

IRWIN SIGMOND

Arlington, Va.

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# 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

C. J. Cucullu, Jr., New Orleans, La., asks about Tchigorin's Indian variation: 1. P-Q4, Kt-KB3; 2. P-QB4, P-Q3; 3. Kt-QB3, QKt-Q2; 4. P-K4, P-B3. The question is whether the last move, which the opening books ignore, is satisfactory. **Answer:** 4. ...., P-B3 looks to me not much better or worse than the usual 4. ...., P-K4. Modern Chess Openings (7th Edition) indicates 4. ...., P-K4; 5. P-Q5 as leading to advantage for White but only after a dubious 11th move by Black (MCO, p. 245, col. 156). The move 4. ...., P-B3 allows 5. P-B4 which may lead to some variations otherwise not possible for White. Furthermore 4. ...., P-B3 will probably have to be followed by P-K4 in the near future by Black, and this may easily transpose into the regular lines.

Robert Karch, Fort Benning, Ga., asks about the King's Indian Four Pawns Attack: 1. P-Q4, Kt-KB3; 2. P-QB4, P-KKt3; 3. Kt-QB3, B-Kt2; 4. P-K4, P-Q3; 5. P-B4. He asks for an opinion on 5. ...., P-B4 (MCO, gives only 5. ...., O-O); 6. PXP, Q-R4; 7. B-Q3, QxBP; 8. Kt-B3, Kt-Kt5; 9. Q-K2, Kt-QB3. **Answer:** It seems to me that 10. P-KR3 would give White a good game. What is more, 6. P-Q5 instead of 6. PXP would seem to give White a definite edge.

## 2. Opening Principles

This column, as indicated by the title, is intended primarily for beginners. Actually it appears to enjoy a much wider circle of readers, as our mail indicates, some of the questions sent in being on a definitely expert level. However, we shall attempt to concentrate on the basic questions and fundamentals which beginners must first try to master.

With this in mind let us review the cardinal principles of opening play. These have been stated before in this column but should probably be restated at least once a year. After all, the players who were beginners a year ago are presumably now graduated from that class. What is more, some very experienced players could profit from a few reminders on these principles. They sometimes get so engrossed in subtle ideas that they forget the elementary facts of life.

One most important idea in the opening is **rapid development**. The first would require, strictly speaking, that one should make one and only one move with each piece in order to develop it and that not more than two Pawn moves should be made in the opening, this being the number needed to permit both Bishops to come out. Actually it is almost never possible to achieve an ideal opening in this way since a number of other principles must be worked in with this one.

A second very important principle is the rather obvious one of **material considerations**. If one loses a Pawn or a piece in the opening, this will seldom be compensated sufficiently by a gain in development or an increase in center control. However, there are a number of rather clear exceptions. The so-called "gambits" are openings in which material is purposely sacrificed in order to gain other types of advantage. The main point we wish to make here for beginners is to keep a sharp lookout in the opening for tricks and traps whereby you may win or lose material without any compensation. This

self-evident principle applies equally to the middle-game and end-game.

A second very important principle in the opening (as in the entire game) is **control of the center**. This is usually done by advancing one or both of the center Pawns. However, control of the center is also achieved by developing the pieces so that they bear on the central squares. We shall not discuss at present the various reasons why central control is so important (not only in the opening but also in the middle-game and the end-game).

A third important principle is the rather obvious one of **material considerations**. If one loses a Pawn or a piece in the opening, this will seldom be compensated sufficiently by a gain in development or an increase in center control. However, there are a number of rather clear exceptions. The so-called "gambits" are openings in which material is purposely sacrificed in order to gain other types of advantages. The main point we wish to make here for beginners is to keep a sharp lookout in the opening for tricks and traps whereby you may win or lose material without any compensation. This self-evident principle applies equally to the middle-game and end-game.

A fourth important opening principle is that of **King safety**. This one too applies in the middle-game and the end-game. However, in many types of end-games this is not quite so much the case since the King must frequently play an active role and chances of his being checkmated are often decreased if many pieces (especially Queens) have been exchanged. For King safety in the opening one should usually castle rather early (usually on the K-side) and leave an adequate number of pieces near the castled K for proper defense. Also one should beware of allowing open lines which might allow the opponent's pieces to enter the King's area.

In most normal openings one

thinks first of moving the center Pawns (KP and QP), then of developing the Kts (and these normally go to QB3 and KB3). After the Kts one usually develops the Bishops, the ideal squares for these being QB4 and KB4. Since the ideal squares can often not be reached safely one must compromise for a Kt5 square or K3 or Q3 or K2 or Q2. In more modern (but more difficult) openings one plays P-Kt3 and B-Kt2 on one side or the other or both—the so-called fianchetto of the Bishop. The Q- should normally not be advanced far in the opening but should go out one or two squares, more or less supporting the array of center P's and minor pieces. The Rooks should tend to go behind any open files or files which might later become open. When in doubt they should usually files. Since both sides try to push forward in the center, this is often the most likely place for open files to occur. One of the important reasons for developing the other pieces rapidly and for castling early is so that the R's protect each other on the first rank and are also both available for use on any open file which may appear.

A beginner is sometimes shown a book of openings containing thousands of variations. It is immediately seen to be impossible to memorize all of these. Fortunately a careful study of opening principles, however, can do much to avoid the necessity of doing so. A player can go far on his own merely by applying the principles stated above and mixing in some logic and common sense of his own. Why then do the books list so many openings? The fact is that there are quite a few opening principles to be considered. Sometimes several must be applied at once and they may conflict with each other in the actual carrying out, so that a compromise must be made. Furthermore, the opponent usually makes it impossible for you to achieve all your ideal objectives.

Now what about memorizing openings? A book of openings merely gives a collection of openings which masters and experts have tried where each side has applied a reasonable mixing of the various principles and where analysis seems to indicate sound play by both sides. However, the opening books do not contain by any means all sound or playable variations.

It is my opinion that every player, especially the beginner, should memorize some standard openings. Then when he tries them he will automatically make some good moves. Besides he will automatically avoid some opening pitfalls. Furthermore he may develop some good habits. If he does not at first understand why some of the moves are made, he may discover in actual play what some of these reasons are. When memory fails or when

the opponent plays out of the prepared line, then one can always fall back on opening principles and simple logic.

## 3. Opening Principles Illustrated

### SICILIAN DEFENSE

Lake Erie Open Tournament  
Buffalo, 1956

White H. BERGQUIST Black E. MARCHAND

1. P-K4 P-QB4  
Already a compromise with principle. Black strikes at the center but will have to make at least two more moves in order of develop his B's.

2. Kt-KB3  
If 2. P-Q4 at once, then 2. ...., PXP; 3. QxP, Kt-QB3 gaining a tempo (time) for Black who develops and drives the Q back at the same time.

2. .... P-K3 3. P-Q4 PXP  
The exchange is important so that White cannot play P-Q5 and get a superior center.

4. KtXP Kt-KB3  
This attacks the KP (besides developing a piece). Black plays this Kt first in order to induce Kt-QB3 by White blocking his QBP. If White could play P-QB4 and follow with Kt-QB3, his center would become very strong.

5. Kt-QB3  
If White tries 5. P-KB3 he is losing time compared to the text-move, which develops a piece. What is more, White intends to castle K-side and so 5. P-KB3 opens a dangerous diagonal aimed at his future K's position. Incidentally, 5. P-K5, Q-R4 ch; 6. Kt-B3 QxP gives Black a P (see the remarks on material in Section 2).

5. .... B-Kt5 6. B-KKt5  
Both sides have been developing rapidly. White's last move stops Black's threat of KtXP and also develops a piece. But there seems to be a flaw. Safer was 6. B-Q3.

6. .... BxKtch 8. BxKt  
7. PxB Q-R4  
There was no way to save the loss of a P since three things were attacked.

8. .... QxPch 10. Kt-Kt5 Q-K4  
9. K-K2 PxB 11. K-K3  
Of no value is 11. Kt-Q6 ch, K-K2; 12. KtXB ch, RxKt.

11. .... P-QR3 14. KtXQ Kt-B3  
12. P-KB4 Q-B4ch 15. P-B3 Kt-R4  
13. Q-Q4 QxQch

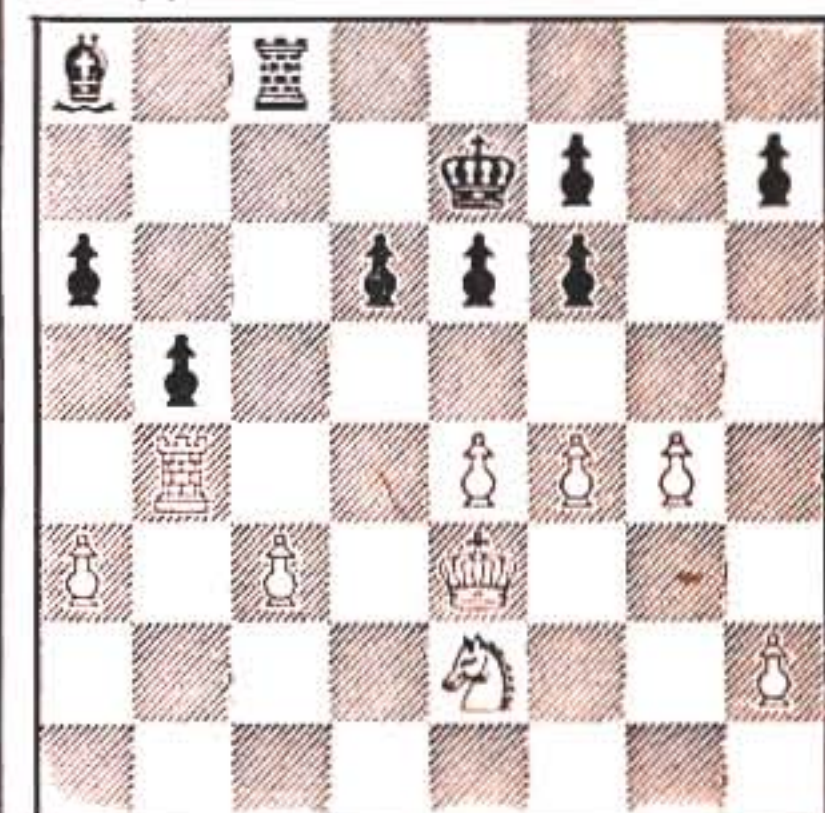
Not 15. ...., KtXKt; 16. PxKt joining White's isolated P up with his other Pawns and opening the QB file. The text-move protects Black's KtP so that his Bishop may come out soon via Q2. Development with all speed is still important.

16. B-K2 P-Q3 17. QR-Kt1 K-K2  
In this game it is not important to castle since the Q's are off and there is not much danger to the K in the center. Besides he may help protect things there.

18. R-Kt6 B-Q2 19. KR-QKt1 QR-QB1

Each side seizes the open files (or half-open files) as fast as possible (see Section 2).

20. K-Q2 R-B2 25. K-K3 B-R1  
21. B-Q3 KR-QB1 26. P-QR3 Kt-B5ch  
22. Kt-K2 R-B4 27. BxKt RxB  
23. P-Kt4 B-B3 28. RxR RxR  
24. R(6)-Kt4 P-Kt4 29. R-Kt4 R-B1



White's last move was the only way to avoid losing a second P. Now Black avoids exchanging R's since White could connect his weak P's. Also Black's R can swing over to the KKt file for further action.

(Please turn to page 8, col. 1)





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Annotated by Chess Master JOHN W. COLLINS

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## A LIVELY COMBINATIVE GAME BIRD'S OPENING

MCO: page 128, column 1, c(B)

New Jersey Open Championship  
Asbury Park, 1956

Notes by U. S. Master Eliot Hearst

White Black  
N. HURTLEN E. HEARST  
1. P-KB4 Kt-KB3 5. B-K2 B-QKt2  
2. Kt-KB3 P-KKt3 6. O-O B-Kt2  
3. P-Q3 P-Q4 7. QKt-Q2 O-O  
4. P-K3 P-Kt3 8. P-Q4  
Costing a tempo. More in line with White's previous strategy is 8. Q-K1.  
8. P-B4 9. P-B3 Q-B2  
Forcing White to worry about the possibility of 10. Pxp; 11. KPxp, QxKBP, even though this queen capture would at present expose Black to unnecessary dangers (12. Kt-K5!).  
10. Kt-K5 Kt-K1  
To enforce P-B3 and P-K4, common strategy against Stonewall formations.  
11. QKt-B3 P-B3 12. Kt-Q3 Kt-Q3  
Black feared 13. P-B5! in answer to Kt-Q2 (aiming for an immediate P-K4), and so plays this preparatory move.  
13. B-Q2 Kt-Q2 14. P-KKt4  
Hoping to play P-Kt5, preventing P-K4 by Black.  
14. P-K4! 16. Pxp  
15. BPxp Pxp  
On 16. Kt(Q3)xKP, KtxKt; 17. KtxKt, BxKt; 18. PxB, Kt-K5, Black regains his pawn in a clearly favorable position.  
16. Kt-K5  
Threatening an immediate recapture of the KP.  
17. Kt-B4  
On 17. P-K6, QKt-B3 gives Black strong play.  
17. KtxKt!  
The more obvious 17. Q-R1 involves Black in some difficulties after 18. B-K1!, hitting at the QP. The text move permits White to "win" the exchange.  
18. Kt-K6?  
Far better was 18. KtxKt, but after either Q or BxKt Black retains a positional advantage.  
18. Q-Q2 19. KtxR  
On 19. KtxKt, QxKt(K3) is the correct answer.  
19. QxPch 20. K-R1 P-Q5!



The key to the Rook sacrifice. White must now cope with numerous possibilities, among them P-Q6, Kt-Kt6 ch, KtxB, or even the simple RxKt. The "obvious" 21. KtxKt fails in the face of Kt-B7 doublecheck and mate.  
21. Q-Kt3ch  
Other variations are also interesting:

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A) 21. B-K1 (to prevent Kt-Kt6 ch or KtxB), P-Q6 (RxKt also seems to win); 22. R-KKt1, PxB!; 23. Q-Kt3 ch, P-B5; 24. RxQ, P-Q6; 25. KtxKt, Kt-B7 ch; 26. K-Kt1, Kt-R6 mate. In this variation 22. Bxp loses to KtxKt; 23. RxKt, Kt-B7 ch. B) 21. KPxp, Kt-Kt6 ch; 22. Pxp, Q-R6 ch; 23. K-Kt1, QxP ch; 24. K-R1, Kt-Kt5 (menacing Q-R7 mate!); 25. Q-Kt3 ch, K-R1; 26. P-Q5, RxKt; 27. B-K1 (forced, in view of the threat RxKt), Q-R6 ch; 28. K-Kt1, RxKt!; 29. RxR, Q-R7 ch; 30. K-B1, Q-R8 mate.  
21. P-B5  
To prevent 22. Q-K6 after K-R1. Black could even afford to permit the Q-exchange, since he wins by 21. K-R1; 22. Q-K6, KtxB; 23. QxQ, KtxQ. The text move seems more in keeping with the tactics of the position, though, and was impossible to resist.  
22. Bxpch K-R1 23. B-Q5  
The main line was 23. B-K6, Kt-B7 ch; 24. RxKt, BxKt ch; 25. RxR, QxR ch; 26. K-Kt1, RxKt and the threat of Q-B7 ch is deadly (followed if necessary by Kt-B6).  
23. KtxKt 24. BxB  
What else?  
24. Kt-Kt6ch  
For if 25. Pxp, Q-R6 is mate. Another way to win is 24. Q-R6; 25. RxKt, QxR ch; 26. Kt-Kt1, Q-B7; 27. K-R1, B-K4.  
25. K-Kt2 KtxRch  
A prosaic finish.  
26. KxKt KtxBch  
Resigns

After 27. KtxQ White is, as annotators always comment, hopelessly behind in material.

## A NEW OPENING

And Blockade in 16 moves makes this game sparkle for the reader; but so benumbs the loser that he misses the one brief chance at equality. This game is an interesting lesson in the Nimzowitch strategy of restriction. Black's information on the 10th move looks pallid but is not.

## SICILIAN DEFENSE (Morra Gambit)

MCO: page 292, column 140 (q)

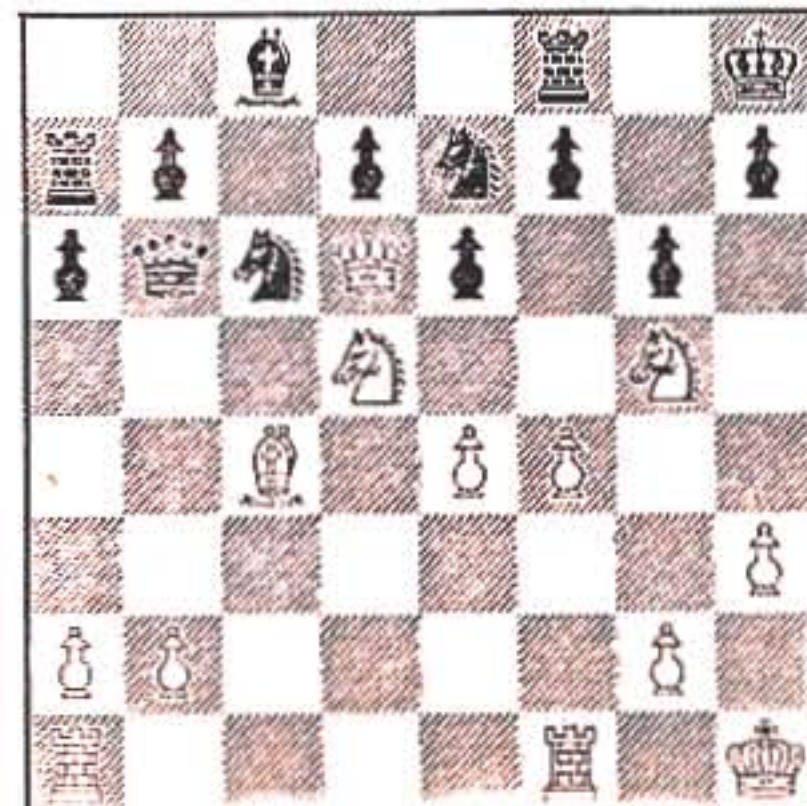
Univ. of California vs. Golden Gate  
San Francisco, 1956

Notes by Norman M. Hornstein, M.D.

White Black  
E. SIMANIS G. RAMIREZ  
1. P-K4 P-QB4 2. P-Q4  
The Gambit as preached by Morra requires 2. Kt-KB3—but why argue?  
2. Pxp 3. P-QB3  
This reaches the Morra Gambit, in effect. It is much more dangerous than the Danish Gambit and has caused nightmares among Sicilian addicts.  
3. Pxp  
The one sure way to get on the nerves of a gambitman is to refuse the gambit. Probably Euwe's suggestion is best, e.g.: 3. Kt-KB3!; 4. P-K5, Kt-Q4; 5. Pxp, P-Q3! Or 3. P-Q4; 4. KPxp, QxP; 5. Pxp, Kt-QB3 which gives White a slight edge according to Euwe. Finally, 3. P-Q5 is recommended for chess players who like simplicity at the expense of a very slight space disadvantage. Declining by 3. P-Q3 or P-Q3 appears to weaken the Black center.  
4. KtxP Kt-QB3 5. Kt-B3 P-KKt3  
Heading into a variation that must have some merit but which gives White a powerful attack. The only purpose I can see in the Russians backing this plan is to encourage Americans to try it against them. 5. P-Q3; 6. B-QB4, P-K3; 7. O-O, Kt-B3; 8. Q-K2, B-K2! is better.  
6. B-QB4 B-Kt2 10. Q-Q2 Kt-KKt1  
7. O-O Kt-R3! 11. Kt-KKt5! P-K3  
8. B-B4 O-O 12. B-Q6!  
9. P-KR3! K-R1  
An excellent move—but 12. Kt-Kt5 is also good.  
12. KKt-K2 13. Kt-Kt5

White is calling all the shots, 13. Q-B4 also is effective.  
13. B-K4  
A very weakening move, but so is any other.  
14. P-B4 Q-Kt3ch 16. QxB  
15. K-R1 BxB  
After having attained a blockade that would have caused the venerable Nimzowitch's mouth to water, White abandons strategy for the tactical advantages of pinning both Knights. While his position looks terrific, there is a slight flaw.  
16. KtxB, K-Kt1; 17. QR-Q1 and Black can do nothing while White builds up a mating attack.  
16. P-QR3 18. Kt-Q5  
17. Kt-B7 R-R2

White is calling all the shots, 13. Q-B4 also is effective.  
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This pseudo-sacrifice is not as powerful as the old-fashioned remedy of 18. P-B5, Q-Q5; 19. QxQ, KtxQ; 20. PxpKP, QPxp; 21. QKtxP, BxKt; 22. BxB, KtxB; 23. KtxKt, KR any; 24. RxBP with endgame advantages. The zugzwang advantage has disappeared anyway.  
18. Pxp P-Kt5! 21. Pxp KtxB  
19. Pxp Q-Kt5! 22. PxpP Kt-B4  
20. Q-B6ch K-Kt1  
A blunder. With 22. Bxp, Black is suffering from a very slight endgame disadvantage but can probably draw. White now has an easy win.  
23. P-Q8(Q) 28. Kt-K4 QxKt  
Kt-Kt6ch 29. QxB P-QKt4  
24. K-Kt1 RxQ 30. Q-B5 R-K2  
25. QxRch K-Kt2 31. R-Q1 P-KR4  
26. R-B3 Kt-K7ch 32. Q-KB2  
27. K-R1 P-R3 Time forfeit  
The clock rings just in time to save Black from puzzling out an effective reply to the threat 33. P-B5!

## THE FOUR PAWNS ATTACK

The Four Pawns Attack of the King's Indian appears occasionally in Master Events. It has the virtue of opening the game quickly but places heavy demands on White. An early error by the 1954 Alabama champion gives the advantage to the Sergeant from Fort Benning.

## KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE

MCO: page 90, column 54

Alabama Open Championship  
Birmingham, 1956

Notes by Norman M. Hornstein, M.D.

White Black  
G. C. BATES S/fc R. A. KARCH  
1. P-Q4 Kt-KB3 4. P-K4 P-Q3  
2. P-QB4 P-KKt3 5. P-B4  
3. Kt-QB3 B-Kt2  
According to Dr. Euwe, White does better to play 5. B-K2 first.  
5. P-B4  
While the PCO and MCO variations all give 5. O-O as the only move for Black here, current opinion considers the text move more attractive.  
6. Pxp  
6. P-Q5 or Kt-B3 are probably better for White.  
6. Q-R4! 7. B-Q2  
White should play 7. B-Q3 with equality. The text gives Black a plus.  
7. QxBP 8. Q-B2  
8. Q-K2 is better, but it also has marked disadvantages.  
8. B-Q2 10. B-B1 Kt-K6  
9. Kt-B3 Kt-Kt5!



Here the lean and hungry look on Cassius' face doth show too plain. This move could have been delayed with 9. Kt-QB3, increasing the threat to Black's better advantage. White is forced to play 10. P-QR3, Kt-Q5; 11. KtxKt (forced), BxKt with a nice game, or show the force of a restraining hand beautifully by 10. P-QR3, O-O, since White cannot play 11. P-QKt4, BxKt ch!  
11. Q-B2 BxKtch 13. QxQ PxQ  
12. PxB KtxB 14. RxKt Kt-B3  
Black has come out of the opening with a distinct endgame plus due to the disarray of White's Q-side pawns.  
15. B-K3 P-Kt3 16. P-KR3 Kt-R4  
Since the double pawn is doomed anyway, plain development by O-O seems preferable.  
17. Kt-K5 B-K3 19. PxB KtxKt  
18. P-B5! KtxP 20. B-R6  
This too obvious attempt to fork the Knight and Rook ruins White's chances. Although a pawn down, the Bishop is worth more than the Knight in this type of endgame. Better was 20. Pxp ch, KtxP; 21. R-Q1 with fine chances of a draw.  
20. R-KKt1 23. K-K2 P-KKt4  
21. Pxpch KtxP 24. B-R2? P-Kt5  
22. B-B4 R-Q1 25. B-B4  
This Bishop has St. Vitus dance, and incurably so. 25. R-Q1 is the last hope.  
25. P-K4! 30. K-Q3 RxR  
26. B-R2? Pxp! 31. K-B4 RxP/6  
27. Pxp R-Kt7ch 32. P-R4 K-Q2  
28. R-B2 R-Q7ch 33. R-KKt1 K-B3  
29. KxR RxRch Resigns

## CHECKLESS ROOK SACRIFICE

C. J. S. Purdy in CHESS WORLD points out that there are few Rook sacrifices that succeed which are not immediately followed by a series of checks. "Any exceptions to this rule tend to become classics." An example of such a classic is Tartakower's win over Maroczy (also with the Black pieces) at Tepletz Schaeman, 1922 where the positional sacrifice of a Rook on the 17th move, although it provides no visible immediate gain, proves eventually decisive. John N. Hanks in winning the Victorian (Australia) Champ-

## Chess Life

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To erase the deficit accumulated from 1946 to 1952 in publishing CHESS LIFE, prior to the adoption of the Harkness Plan, which is paying current obligations.

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## Solution To What's The Best Move?

### Position No. 197

Lowcki-Tartakower, Jurata 1937  
Tartakower played 1. ...., Q-N4; 2. K-Nsq, Q-B4 ch; 3. K-Rsq, Q-B5; 4. K-Nsq, Q-Q5 ch; 5. K-Rsq, Q-K5!; 6. Q-QB1, Q-Q6!; 7. K-Nsq, Q-Q5 ch; 8. K-Rsq, Q-Q7; and White resigned since his Rook is lost. The key move in the solution is 5. ...., Q-K5! which compels the White Queen to leave its favorable defensive post. Thus, 1. ...., Q-K6; 2. QxQ, R-B8 ch; 3. Q-Nsq and 1. ...., Q-KB3; 2. P-KR4 both fail because of the White Queen's position, and the same is true at the fifth move of the main variation if Black tries 5. ...., Q-Q7; 6. RxKP or 5. ...., Q-KB5; 6. P-KR4, R-Bsq; 7. RxKP. After 5. ...., Q-K5!; White's 6. Q-QB5! is the only way in which Black's threats of Q-KB5 and Q-K7 can both be met. If Black now tries 6. ...., Q-K7; White saves himself by 7. R-B5! Black can secure an endgame advantage with 6. ...., P-KR3; but after 7. R-N3, Q-K7; 8. R-KB3 it is not clear that this advantage is sufficient to force a win.

We are allowing full credit for solutions which include 6. ...., Q-Q6! and half credit for all other solutions which included 5. ...., Q-K5! Correct solutions are acknowledged from: A. Bomberault, K. A. Czerniecki, Jessie Davis, Ivan Frank, Bill Koenig, Edmund Nash, Robert E. Seiden, William B. Wilson, and Neil P. Witting. The following receive ½ point: Robin Ault, George W. Baylor, Robert Cohen, J. B. Germain, Owen W. Johnson, Russell H. Kime, E. J. Korpanty, S. C. Marshall, M. Milstein, George W. Payne, Katherine R. Stintz, W. A. Thomason, and Alexis Valueff. To our surprise, the solvers were defeated by a score of 15½-43½.

## Solutions

### The Sim Problem

Key: 1. Q-KB4. If 1. ...., P-Q3; 2. QxP. If 1. ...., P-Q4; 2. RxP. If 1. ...., Kt-B3; 2. Kt-QB7. If 1. ...., K-B3; 2. Q-R6. If 1. ...., K-Q4; 2. B-R2. If 1. ...., RxR; 2. Q-K5. The threat is 2. P-Q5.

An example of the variety of expression that Sim could create from a basically simple position and theme.

### The Fink Problem

Key: 1. KtxP. If 1. ...., RxKt; 2. RxR. If 1. ...., RxP; 2. Q-K6. If 1. ...., B-B5; 2. Q-Q7. If 1. ...., BxQP; 2. Kt-Kt4. If 1. ...., B-B4; 2. QxP. If 1. ...., KxP; 2. Q-K4. The threat is 2. Q-K5.

An interesting maze of mates.

## CHESS TACTICS

(Continued from page 5, col. 4)

30. R-Kt1 P-Q4 33. Pxpch KxP  
31. P-K5 Pxp 34. P-KR4 P-K4  
32. Pxp P-B3

Black's last few moves were designed at dissolving the central region so that his B can get into play. The last move is important in controlling the black squares in the center. Furthermore P-Q5 at the right moment is in the air.

35. P-Kt5ch K-K2  
Since 35. ...., K-K3; 36. R-KB1 would threaten R-B6 with check.

36. R-Kt4 R-B1 37. Kt-Kt3  
White's last two moves were both very dubious. 36. R-KB1 should have been played.

37. .... P-Q5ch 38. Pxp  
Giving up a piece. If 38. K-Q2, Pxp ch; 39. KxP, R-B6 ch wins the piece too. However, 38. K-K2, R-B6; 39. Kt-R5, RxP offered little hope either. As played there remains little more than a mopping up operation.

38. .... R-B6ch 45. P-R5 R-KR5  
39. K-Q2 RxKt 46. P-Kt6 Pxp  
40. P-R4 R-Kt5 47. Pxp R-KKt5  
41. RpxP RpxP 48. R-Kt8 B-Q4  
42. RxP RxPch 49. R-Q8ch K-K3  
43. K-K3 K-Q3 50. R-K8ch K-B3  
44. R-Kt8 B-B3 51. R-Q8 B-K3

Curiously enough, if Black did not have a P left, the ending would be a book draw.

52. Resigns

Say you saw it in CHESS LIFE.

## 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.

January 23-April 17

### South Jersey Championship Hammonton, N.J.

Restricted to members of South Jersey Chess Ass'n clubs; at Midway Diner, Hammonton; begins 8 p.m. Wed., Jan. 23; rd 2 Wed. Feb. 13, rd 3 Wed. Feb. 27, rd 4 Wed. Mar. 6, rd 5 Wed. Mar. 20, rd 6 Wed. Apr. 3, rd 7 Wed. Apr. 17; trophies for ranking Class A and runner-up, Class B and Junior, and cash prizes; entry fee \$2 plus \$2 returnable on completing schedule, Junior fee \$1 plus \$1 returnable; for details, write: Leonard Streifeld, O.D., 125-A Bellevue Ave., Hammonton, N.J. 100% USCF rated event.

February 3

### North Carolina 30-30 Open Championship Raleigh, No. Car.

Open; at Pullen Park Recreation Center, Raleigh; 6 rd Swiss, 30 moves in 30 minutes; entry fee: \$2 and NCCA \$2 dues; 1st prize \$25 and other cash prizes; register 9-10 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 3; for details, write: Dr. Stuart Noblin, Route 1, Garner, N.C.

Not USCF rated—speed event.

February 9-10

### Chess Friends of Northern California Championship Oakland, Calif.

Open, but membership in CFNC required; at Central Y, 2101 Telegraph Ave., Oakland; 5 rd or more Swiss in Expert-A, Class B and Class C divisions; 1st rd starts 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9th; entry fee: \$2 to CFNC members, \$4 to non-members including CFNC membership and year's subscription to Chess In Action; trophies awarded winners of each division, book prizes to runners-up; send entries to CFNC Treasurer William Pattullo, 2286 46th Ave., San Francisco, Calif.

100% USCF rated event.

February 16, 17 & 23, 24

### Chicago City Championship Chicago, Ill.

Restricted to residents of Chicago and suburbs; at International House, 1414 East 59th St., Chicago; 8 rd Swiss, 50 moves in 2 hrs 15 mins; entry fee: \$7; guaranteed 1st prize \$75 and trophy, cash prizes thru 5th place and for 1st and 2nd Class A, Class B, and Junior players; TD John A. Nowak; bring boards, sets, and clocks; for details, write: R. C. Kirby, 5639 S. University, Chicago 37, Ill. Phone: Bu 8-9870.

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February 22-24

### Log Cabin Independent Open Tournament, West Orange, N. J.

Open to all USCF members (non-members may enter by paying \$5 USCF dues), membership cards must be presented; at Log Cabin C. C., 30 Collamore Terrace, W. Orange; entry fee: \$10 with \$3 refunded on completion of schedule; entry fee for Juniors born after Feb. 22, 1938 \$7 with \$3 refunded; 6 rd Swiss, registration closes 11 a.m. Feb. 22nd.; 1st prize \$150, 2nd \$125, 3rd \$100, 4th \$50, 5th \$25, 6th \$15, 7th \$10, 8th \$5 with Token Prizes: Juniors \$20 and \$10, Class A \$15 and \$10, Class B \$10; TD Edgar T. McCormick; bring clocks if possible; limited free accommodations for sleeping at club house to first applicants writing E. Forry Laucks, 30 Collamore Terr., West Orange, N. J. 100% USCF rated event.

March 7-28

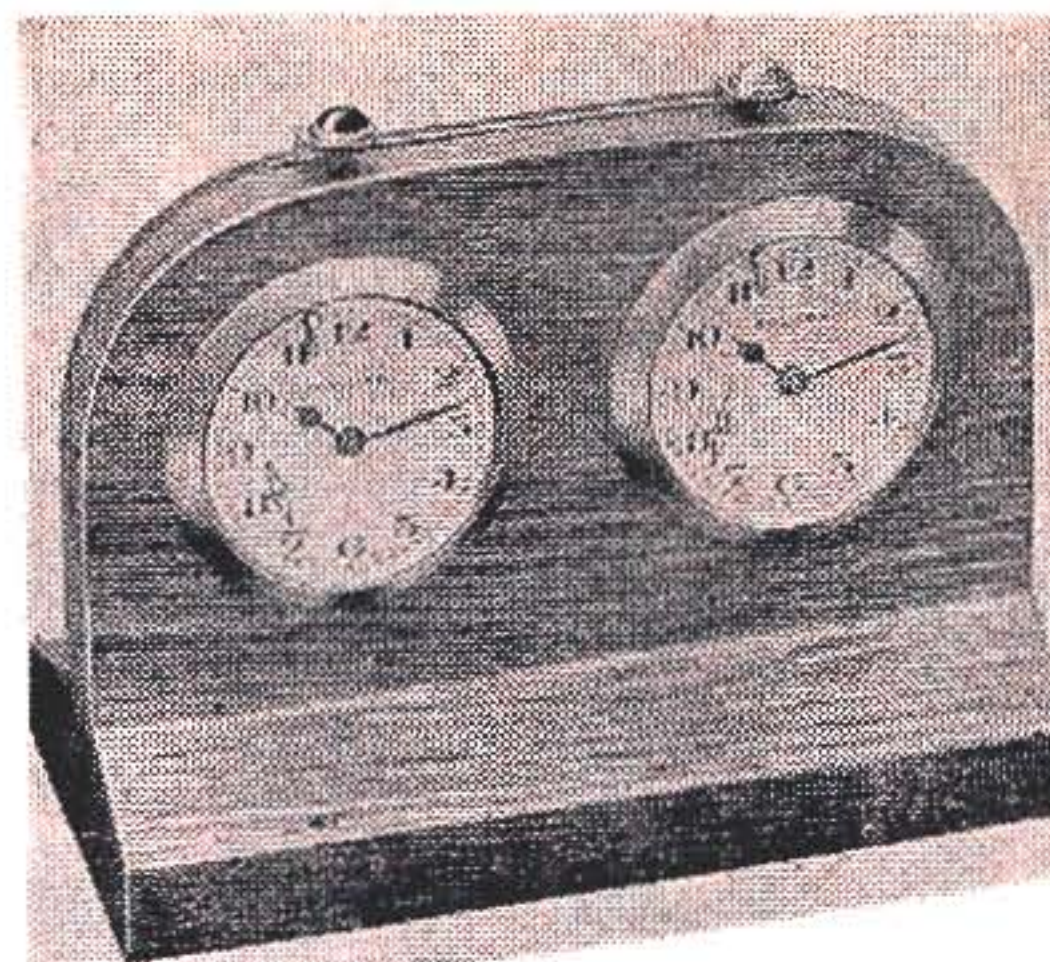
### Annual Toledo Silver Knights Tournament Toledo, Ohio

Open to all; at Toledo YMCA; 7 rd Swiss, 50 moves in 2 hrs.; ties broken by Solkoff; entry fee: \$2 for students, \$4 for adults, advance entries welcomed; registration 7 to 8 p.m., Thurs. March 7th; one round to be played each Thurs. evening and Sun. afternoon on following 3 Thurs. and Suns. at 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. respectively; trophies and cash prizes depending on no. of entries; TD Steve Markowski; for details, write: Dr. Mark E. Pence, 109 E. Maumee St., Adrian, Mich.

100% USCF rated event.

The Maplewood (So. Orange, N. J.) Adult School will have an Intermediate Course on "How to Play Better Chess," beginning Tuesday, February 5th at 8 p.m. The instructor will be U. S. Expert Stanley B. Winters who conducted a very successful course in basic chess last fall.

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