

# Chess Life



America's Chess Newspaper  
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Vol. XII, No. 6

Wednesday, November 20, 1957

15 Cents

## What's The Best Move?

Conducted by  
IRWIN SIGMOND

SEND solutions to Position No. 220 to reach Irwin Sigmond, 2500 Williamsburg Blvd., Arlington 7, Va., by December 20, 1957. With your solution, please send analysis or reasons supporting your choice of "Best Move" or moves.

Solution to Position No. 220 will appear in the January 5, 1958 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. 220



White to play

## WOMEN'S TOURNEY REPRESENTS BEST

The U.S. Women's Championship Tournament began November 3 with USCF Jerry Spann as principal speaker at the opening banquet. The event has an entry list that represents the best in women's chess in the USA. Only one or two key names, like Irene Vines, Mary Bain, Jacqueline Piatigorsky and Willa Owens are missing from the impressive entry list.

The contenders are U.S. Women's Champion Gisela K. Gresser, former U.S. Women's Champion Mona M. Karff, U.S. Women's Open Champion Sonja Graf-Stevenson, Kathryn Slater and Mildred Morrell of New York, Olga Higgins of Santa Barbara, Lenore Simon of Los Angeles, Mary Selensky of Philadelphia, Mrs. McLeod of San Francisco, Eva Aronson of Chicago, Lucille Kellner of Detroit, and Lena Grumette of Los Angeles.

## FIDE HONORS FOUR COMPOSERS

Later reports from the recent FIDE General Assembly reveal that FIDE has honored four American problem composers with the title of International Judge of Chess Compositions. The four are Robert E. Burger, R. Chenney, Kenneth S. Howard, and W. Jacobs.

## GOLDEN KINGS LONG ISLAND AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

Nov. 29-30, Dec. 1, 1957

Brooklyn, N.Y.

## KY MIDWEST OPEN TO BATCHELDER

The Midwest Open Championship at Louisville (not to be confused with tournament of the same name held at Omaha) was won by William Batchelder of Bloomington, Ind. with a 4½-½ score—a draw to Pat Forsee in the final round. Richard W. Shields of Louisville was second with 4-1, losing a game to Batchelder. Third and fourth in 11-man Swiss with 3½-1½ each were Pat Forsee of Louisville and Valdar Oinas of Bloomington. J.A. Roark of Lexington was fifth with 2½-2½.

## McKINNEY TAKES MAHONING VALLEY

Morton F. McKinney scored 5-0 to win the Mahoning Valley Open at Youngstown. Second with 4-1 was Paul McBride who lost one game to McKinney. Third to fifth in the 14-player event with 3-2 each were Joe Kraja, Scott Andrews, and Bill Bowman. Spread of the flu in the area caused a number of defaults and forced the repairing of several players who had met previously.

## POPEL VICTOR IN MICHIGAN

Stephen Popel of Detroit scored 6½-½, drawing with Paul Poschel, to win the Labor Day Michigan State Championship at Ann Arbor. Second to sixth with 5½-1½ each were Phil LeCornu of Highland Park, Paul Poschel of Royal Oak, Leonids Dreierbergs of Saginaw, George Eastman of Detroit, and Kazys Skema of Detroit. Seventh to tenth in the 60-player Swiss with 5-2 each were Marvin Rogan of Harvey, Ill., David Kerman of Detroit, John Penquite of Ann Arbor, and Wendell Lutes of Indianapolis, Ind.

## Gresser Gains Lead In Los Angeles In U. S. Women's Championship

U. S. Women's Champion Gisela Kahn Gresser retains a firm grip on first place with 7-1 score after eight rounds of play. She defeated former U.S. Women's Champion Mona M. Karff in the second round, drew with Eva Aronson of Chicago, former U.S. Women Open Champion, in the third, and drew with U.S. Women's Open Champion Sonja Graf Stevenson in the fifth. Mrs. Stevenson holds second place with 6½-½, after leading with four consecutive victories in the early rounds. In third place with 5½-1½ is Mrs. Aronson who climbed into the third spot with an eighth round victory over Miss Karff. Miss Karff dropped to fourth place with 5-3.

Mrs. Kathryn Slater holds fifth place with 4½-2½, while sharing sixth place in the 12-player round robin event with 4½-3½ each are Miss Lucille Kellner of Detroit and Mrs. Nancy McLeod of San Francisco. Mrs. Lena Grumette of Los Angeles holds eighth place with a 3-5 score. Mrs. Mary Selensky of Philadelphia has 2½-4½ for ninth while Mrs. Olga Higgins of Santa Barbara is tenth with 2½-5½. Mrs. Lenore Simon of Los Angeles, with a fifth round draw with Mrs. McLeod, has ½-7½, and Mrs. Mildred Morrell of Haddonfield has 0-7.

## SZEDLACSEK TOPS FT. WAYNE OPEN

Lajos Szedlacsek of Cleveland tallied 4½-½, drawing with George Kellner, to win the 4th Fort Wayne Open. B. Pehne of Elkhart was second on S-B with 4-1, losing one game to Kellner. Third to sixth, also with 4-1, were George Kellner of Lima, William Granger of Cleveland, and Ray Hayes of Greenhills. Seventh and eighth in the 39-player Swiss with equal 3½-1½ scores were Richard Krause and Richard Ling of Dayton.

## ROSBURG WINS ALL-ARKANSAS

Charles R. Rosburg of Jacksonville scored 5-0 to win the All-Arkansas tourney at Malvern. W. C. Springfield of Osceola placed second with 4-1, losing one game to Rosburg. Leonard Scott, Jr. of Little Rock was third with 3½-1½. Fourth to seventh in the 20-player Swiss with 3-2 each were Phillip Duke of Harrison, Eugene Mapes of Little Rock, Orval Allbritton of Little Rock, and F. W. Pratt of Hot Springs.

## SELVAGGI WINS SO JERSEY MEET

Phil Selvaggi of Palmyra tallied 4½-½ to win the South Jersey Amateur Championship, drawing one game with runner-up J. E. Warren of Chicago, who scored 4-1. Geo. F. Cake of Haddonfield, also with 4-1, was third, drawing with Warren and W. O'Donnell, Jr. Fourth to sixth in the 24-player Swiss with 3½-1½ each were L. Streifeld, Robt. T. Durkin, and A. H. Hobson. John Yehl of Hammononton, with 3-2, won the Junior title. Mildred Morrell was ranking B Class player, and Jack Worrall ranking C Class player. Lewis E. Wood directed the event.

### 8th Rd STANDINGS

Gresser	.....7-1	McLeod	.....4½-3½
Stevenson	.....6½-½	Grumette	.....3-5
Aronson	.....5½-2½	Selensky	.....2½-4½
Karff	.....5-3	Higgins	.....2½-5½
Slater	.....4½-2½	Simon	.....½-7½
Kellner	.....4½-3½	Morrell	.....0-7

## RELEASE LIST FOR U.S. CHAMP

The selected list of 14 players declared eligible to compete in the 1957 U.S. Championship Tournament for the Lessing J. Rosenwald Trophy this December has been released by Maurice J. Kasper, chairman of the joint tournament committee of the co-sponsoring U. S. Chess Federation and American Chess Foundation. The players named are: Hans Berliner, Arthur B. Bisguier, defending champion, Robert Byrne, Arnold S. Denker, Larry Evans, Arthur Feuerstein, Robert Fischer, George Kramer, William Lombardy, Edmar Mednis, Samuel Reshevsky, Herbert Seidman, James T. Sherwin, and Abe Turner. This list includes the three living former U.S. Champions in Reshevsky, Denker and Evans. Hans Knoch will be tournament director. The tournament will be held at the Manhattan Chess Club in New York City from December 17, 1957 through January 8, 1958. On week days play will be from 6 to 11 p.m., on Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 7 p.m., on Fridays only adjourned games will be played. There will be no play on December 24, 25 and 31. The time limit will be 40 moves in 2½ hours.

## U.S. INTERCOLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIP

December 26-30, 1957  
Erie, Pennsylvania

# ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

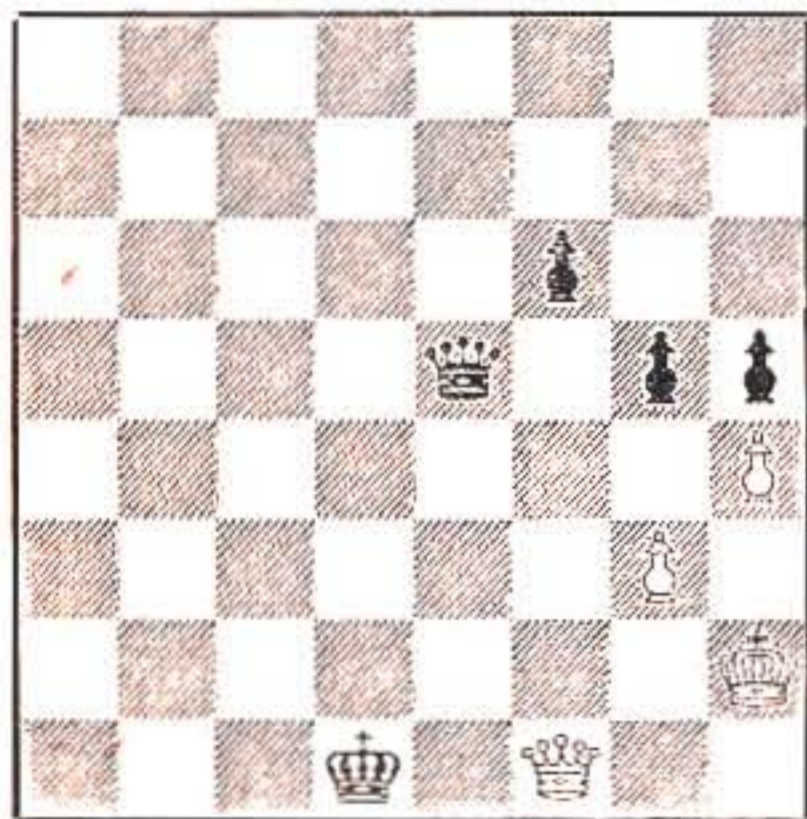
## Mastering the End Game

By **WALTER KORN**, Editor of MCO

Shall we know what to do?

**S**HALL we know what to do in an "easy, drawish" endgame of Queen and two pawns versus Queen and three pawns, all on one and the same side of the board. It is a squeeze that can very easily occur in actual play and yet is insufficiently covered in theoretical treatises. I am therefore happy to present two samples from tournament practice.

Diagram No. 46



Starting with the Tail-light of the whole train of moves: Diagram No. 46 shows the final act, the King having penetrated right behind the enemy lines, and administering the lethal blow.

Diagram No. 47 will show the final phase of another, principally identical, endgame and Diagram No. 48 will then be devoted to explaining the technique employed

in winning this type of ending.

Diagram No. 46 is from a game Schmid-Adam, Germany 1956—and there is a peculiar quirk in it! Black played 1. ...., Q-K8, reckoning that White has no more checks, as Black interposes the Queen with a simultaneous check, upon either 2. Q-Q3 ch, Q-Q7 ch; or 2. Q-B3 ch, Q-K7 ch, forcing the exchange of Queens and an ending of 3 versus 2 pawns. White promptly fell in line with this thinking—but for different reasons!—and played 2. QxQ ch, KxQ; 3. P-N4!?! which drew him the game after 3. ...., PxNP; 4. PxP, K-B7; 5. PxP, P-N6 ch; 6. K-R3, P-N7; 7. P-B7 and White promoted a queen with check, thus saving the day.

But now come the contradictions, overlooked by the players; Black could have won by 3. ...., K-B7!; 4. PxNP, BPxP; 5. PxP, P-N5; 6. P-R6, P-N6 ch; 7. K-R3, P-N7; 8. P-R7, P-N8(Q); 9. P-R8 (Q), Q-N6 mate.

Ironically with the key-move in mind, White could have easily drawn in a straightforward manner with 1. ...., Q-K8; 2. Q-Q3 ch?!, Q-Q7 ch?; 3. QxQ ch, KxQ; 4. P-N4!!

Finally Black, does however win in the manner prescribed by this type of ending, if he plays 2. ...., K-B8!; 3. Q-B4 ch, K-Q7; 4. Q-Q4 ch, K-K7; 5. QxP, P-N5 and White cannot escape mate or losing exchange of Queens, as will be shown in Diagrams No. 47 and 48.



You in college?  
Say you want fun?  
Got chess knowledge?  
Better to Erie run!

F. H. KERR



Milwaukee with a 13-2 score tallied an impressive victory in a four-city 30-30 team match at Racine, Wis. Milwaukee bested Sheboygan 5-0 in rd one, Racine 4½-½ in rd two, Madison 3½-1½ in round three. Madison, second with 10½-4½, tallied a 4-1 victory over Racine and a 5-0 win over Sheboygan; Sheboygan bested Racine 4-1. Sheboygan was third with 4-11, and Racine fourth with 2½-12½. The winning team from Milwaukee was composed of T. Weinberger, H. Querner, M. Rohland, H. Meifert, C. Weldon, and F. Cramer.



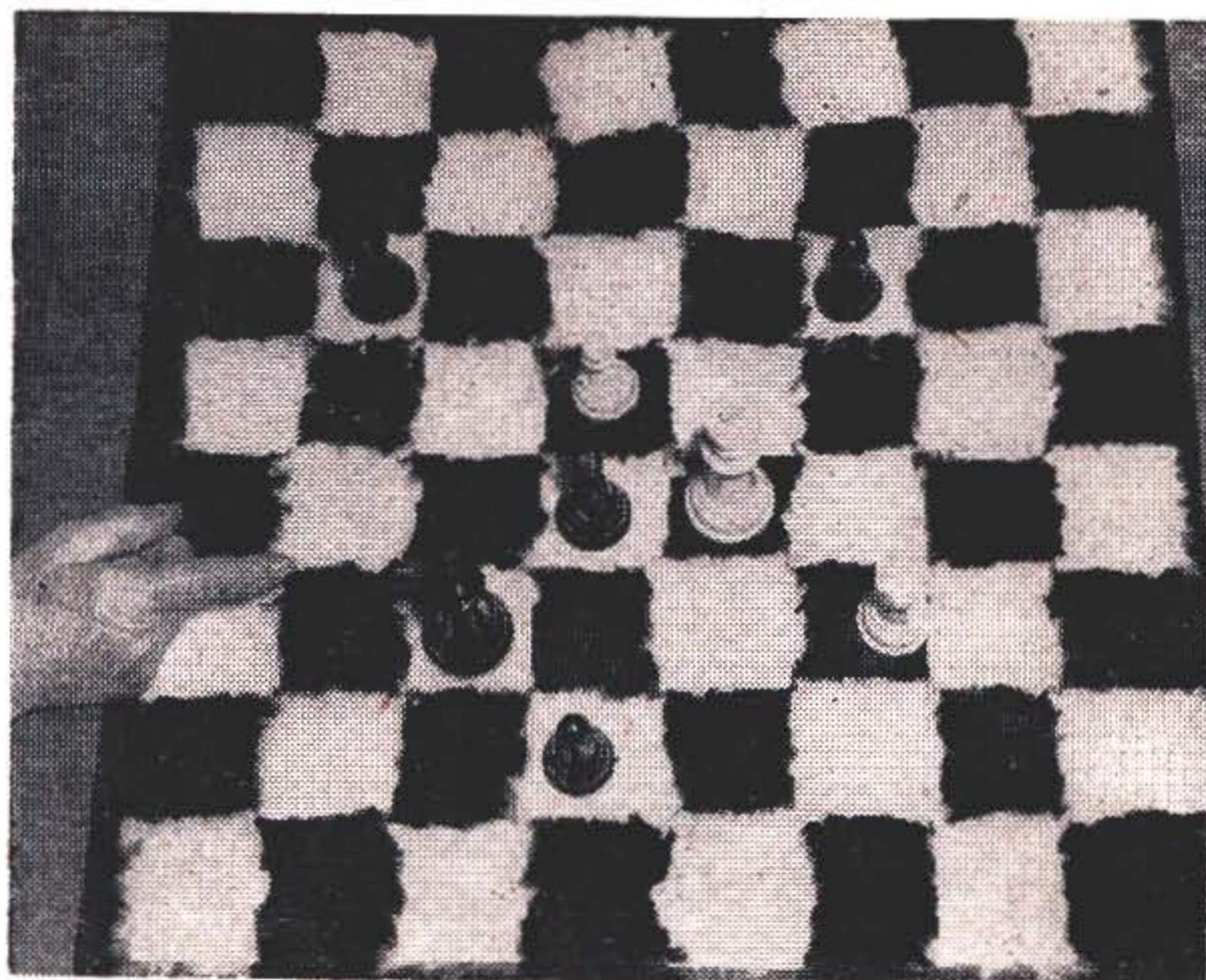
## FUR FOR NERVES CHESSBOARD IDEA

Latest in chess is a chessboard made of fur—Australian sheared Lapin with felt backing. It can be rolled, folded, cleaned. And it ensures quiet even if the pieces are banged upon the board. Here is the genesis of the board as related by its inventor, Furrier Alfred H. Berger of Marion, Ia.:

Some months ago, I played in the Iowa chess tournament. As you know, the tension at such a meeting is terrific. Some of the players, including myself, put some of our pieces down rather hard, especially when we have a good move. I heard quite a few remarks at that time, that the noise is disturbing to some players.

Well, I thought about it, and it came to me to make this chessboard. The squares are 2¼". Many of my chess friends have played upon this board and like it very much. As there hasn't been any changes in chess for generations, I thought it might be interesting to you and to the readers of CHESS LIFE.

In these days it is difficult to be novel; Mr. Berger has achieved much in being both novel and practical in his idea.



GOOD FUR CHESS!

Hollywood set the style with mink TV covers and mink bathing suits (not for swimming!). This chessboard isn't mink, but it is made of fur—to bring rich quietude to the game of chess.

Photo: Alfred H. Berger

## College Chess Life

Conducted by  
Frederick H. Kerr

College clubs and players are urged to send news items to Frederick H. Kerr, Nittany 32-11, Box 275, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

**B**EFORE this column reaches most readers, college players will have decided to play or not to play at Erie over the Christmas vacation. All indications point to the fact that a great many have decided to play. Now there is little doubt that this will turn out to be the largest and most representative United States Intercollegiate Championship ever held.

Checker master Newell Banks has done a tremendous job trying to make this tournament a success. With no thought of reward, he began in St. Petersburg last spring and worked his way north along the Atlantic Coast then west through Pennsylvania and Ohio to Detroit. Instead of following his usual schedule of chess and checker exhibitions and lectures, he went out of his way to talk up the Intercollegiate and ask for donations. He has raised well over \$100 in small donations for the prize fund. With this added to the other money raised, the committee has been able to guarantee a minimum first prize of a \$300 scholarship. Second prize and third prize will be scholarships of \$200 and \$100 respectively. We will attempt to award scholarships to the next two places also. Donations are still being accepted, and readers are invited to send them to the new ICLA treasurer, Mr. Stephen S. Jennings, Nittany Box 294, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, or to this reporter.

I am glad to be able to report that the air strike of last spring which dazed Perry Square has been followed up with a barrage of local publicity and literary guided missiles by Mordecai S. Rubin of the Gannon faculty. All Erie knows you are coming, Mr. Collegiate Chesser. The entire city is ready to help make your trip an enjoyable one.

In order to help assure that the games are played with the best equipment possible, I would like to make the following request: Please bring your own tournament-size sets and your own clocks. Such equipment will be supplied locally, but we cannot guarantee that there will be enough to go around. You can guarantee that all your games will be played under the proper conditions by bringing sets and clocks yourself. A weak player will not be asked to give up a clock he has brought in order for it to be used in a game between strong players.

Perhaps what follows is so obvious that it does not need to be said, but here goes. Players from the South and the Southwest should remember that it can get quite cold in Erie during December. A lack of winter clothing could ruin your vacation and send (Please turn to page 3, col. 1)

### COLLEGE STUDENTS!

Plan now to attend the  
**United States Intercollegiate  
Individual Chess  
Championship  
to be held at  
Gannon College, Erie, Pa.  
December 26-30, 1957**

Sponsored by the USCF and the Intercollegiate Chess League of America in cooperation with the Penna. State Chess Federation, the American Chess Foundation and Gannon College.

**WHO CAN PLAY:** Open to all full-time under-graduate students at accredited higher institutions of the U.S. who are members (or become members) of the U.S. Chess Federation. Entrants must show valid matriculation cards or other identification indicating college status.

**Awards:** Winner recognized as U.S. Intercollegiate Individual Chess Champion, is given 2-year custody of N. Arthur Nobel Trophy, and receives a \$300.00 scholarship. 2nd and 3rd place winners receive scholarships in amounts determined by number of entries. Special prizes to other high-scorers.

**TYPE OF TOURNEY:** 7-round Swiss under USCF tournament rules. Harkness pairings. Time limit: 50 moves in 2½ hours. Director: Frederick H. Kerr.

**RATED BY USCF:** You can obtain a national rating or improve your present rank by playing in this event.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Free rooms at Gannon College (men) and Villa Maria College (women) to first 200 entrants. Write Mr. M. S. Rubin, Gannon College, Erie, Pa. Requests must be received by December 1, 1957.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$5.00 to USCF members. Non-members must pay additional \$5.00 USCF dues.

**HOW TO ENTER:** Mail entry before December 10 to Frederick H. Kerr, Nittany 32-11, Box 275, PSU, University Park, Pa. Entries will also be accepted at the Gannon Auditorium, Gannon College, Erie, Pa., on Dec. 26th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Play begins promptly at 2 p.m.

**PLEASE BRING SETS AND CLOCKS!**



# CHESS AS WE SEE IT

Contributions from the Pens  
Of Outstanding Chess Analysts and Writers

## A Revolutionary Suggestion For Tournament Scoring

By International Master A. E. SANTASIÈRE

NOW that we are fairly confined that the aim in Chess is a) not to score the point, but as an artist to create beauty; b) not to hate the opponent, but to respect him as a partner in a labor of love, we may ask—How can we proceed from there to organize a tournament in the light of a new standard?

*Listen! I will be honest with you,*

*I do not offer the old smooth prizes, but offer new prizes.*

WALT WHITMAN—Song of the Open Road

We must not be afraid to break a new path. Beethoven, Nimzovitch, Einstein, Freud, Alekhine, Jesus and many others did so, and opened new worlds of loveliness.

Now we have had enough philosophy, enough flag-waving. Let us get down to brass tacks.

Here is a committee organizing a great chess tourney. They are brave enough to wish to put the spotlight only on the **quality of the chess played**. What decisions shall they make? Shall they have money prizes? Of course! By experience the inducement of money prizes will attract the best of genius in quantity.

To whom shall these prizes be awarded? To the ones who play the most beautiful chess.

Here is the sharp break with tradition. We will **not** reward the point; we will reward the **creation**.

Now we may quote from a typical tournament announcement of the future (after conditions, entries, etc.):

There will be a prize fund of \$4,000. The winner on points will be recognized as champion, but prizes will be given only to individual games in order of merit, as judged by the distinguished committee of Messrs. A, B, and C.

Here is the prize list:

Meritorious game No. 1—\$500.  
Meritorious game No. 2—\$400.  
Meritorious game No. 3—\$300.  
Meritorious games 4 & 5—\$200.  
Meritorious games 6 to 20—\$100.  
Meritorious games 21 to 40—\$50.

Please note that, in the judgment of the committee, the loser of a game may be awarded some part of the prize for that game—also that a worthy drawn game may receive a prize. Any one contestant may well be judged the winner of several prizes.

If a few hundred games are submitted for judgment, a local committee of experts will cut them down to fifty. The final judging committee (3 members) will rate these. (Each member will rate with possible recommendation as to loser—then an "average" computed).

(Checks will be in the mail one month after the tourney ends.)

A revolution!? Of course, and why not? Must we be slaves to Dogma?

## COLLEGE CHESS

(Continued from page 2, col. 4)

you back home with a bad case of the flu. The accommodations and playing rooms are located close enough so that long walks in the snow will not be required. If we are at all lucky we could have fine sunny weather with no ice or snow. Cross your fingers and head north. I'll see you all there!

It is suggested that readers refer to Mr. Santasiere's article upon Chess in CHESS LIFE, July 5, 1957 upon the thesis that Chess is an Art rather than a Contest For as an "Art" Mr. Santasiere's recommendations of a revolutionary form of tournament are not inappropriate, however ill adapted to Chess considered as purely a "Contest".—The Editor.

Presidio (Monterey) Chess Club: Club champion Oettingen tallied 15 wins, 7 draws and no losses in a recent simultaneous. Planned is a tandem simultaneous by SFC Robert A. Karch and PFC John H. Gridley. Karch recently won a match against M/Sgt. Don O. Halgren by 4-1 and the match will be USCF rated. A USCF Club Affiliate.

## The Significance of the Initiative in Chess

By ERNEST RUBIN

U. S. Department of Commerce and American University

(Slightly condensed from the June issue of THE AMERICAN STATISTICIAN, publication of the American Statistical Association.)

BROADLY speaking, there are three possible ways of characterizing the importance of the initiative. These are the two extremes indicating that the initiative is clearly favorable or unfavorable, and the third possibility, which locates the initiative between these extremes. My purpose is to evaluate the role of the initiative in the game of chess utilizing certain statistical evidence and tests.

Let us assume that two opponents, A and B, are equal players. If the first move (white) is of no consequence regarding the outcome of a game (and similarly for black, the second move), then if a sufficient number of games are played, A and B will win the same number of games. (Games ending in draws are not taken into consideration at the moment). An important problem is to satisfy the condition of players of equal strength.

I will first consider the results of master and grandmaster play in tournaments. There are two important advantages to be noted regarding this approach. The usual procedure of chess tournament play (other than elimination tournaments) is that each player meets his opponents twice, alternating the first move. This practice is equivalent to setting up an experimental control for eliminating the effect of the initiative. (Results whereby player A with white defeats player B, and draws against B when the colors are alternated, suggests the possibility that the first move is significant). The second advantage is that tournaments at this level presuppose a selection of players who have satisfied criteria for obtaining master rank.

W. Streeter in the CHESS REVIEW of May 1946 gave the results of chess games, by color played, in tournaments that took place in the period 1919-1932 (1). Streeter's data consist of 1,370 games: white won 507, black 356, and 507 were drawn. Omitting the drawn games, the proportion of wins for white is 507/863 or .587. On the assumption that the probability of a win is equally likely for either white or black the standard error of the proportion for this sample is .017. The normal distribution test for the difference between the universe and sample proportion yields an extremely significant result.

In 1953 the Grandmasters Challengers Tournament was held in Switzerland. The purpose of this tournament was to obtain a challenger to play against the world champion. Fifteen grandmasters participated in this tournament. Of the 210 games played, white won 49, black 43, and 118 games were drawn. Using the test described above to these data, no significant difference resulted between the observed and theoretical expectation. This tournament, consisting exclusively of grandmasters, satisfies more exactly the equivalence condition referred to earlier. To judge by the final scores of the players, however, there appears to be greater variation of strength among the players than the difference between the first and second moves.

In the recent world championship match concluded in April 1957, the challenger Smyslov defeated the world champion Botvinnik by a score of 6 to 3 wins, with 13 draws. Of interest is the point that the white forces won 6 and the black 3 games. The result is not statistically significant. In the challenge match of 1927 when Alekhine defeated Capablanca the score in wins was also 6 to 3, with 25 draws. In this match, white also won 6 and black 3 games. This result was likewise not significant. In both matches the defeated world champions were able to win mainly with the white forces! (Only Botvinnik won 1 game with the black pieces—Ed.)

To shed further light on the problem of the initiative in chess requires extensive analysis of data by type of openings, length of games in moves, etc. This remains to be done. In lieu of this I obtained a num-

(Please turn to page 7, col 1)

## Chess Life In New York

By Aben Rudy

AS a chess organizer in this country, Maurice J. Kaspar, president of the Manhattan Chess Club, has few—if any—equals. Journalistic caution alone prevents this reporter from stating unequivocally that he is our leading organizer.

His latest marvel of engineering is the Lessing J. Rosenwald Tournament for the United States Championship. It is easy to invite players; far more difficult to convince them to play. Maurice Kaspar's wizardry is in the convincing. For the coming championship, co-sponsored by the USCF and ACF, he has succeeded in convincing all the top players in the United States with the exceptions of Donald Byrne, Horowitz and Kashdan. Oh, yes! Fine is missing, but Fine is always missing.

Mr. Kaspar moulded this event in his own hands and baked it firm in a fire kindled of personal enthusiasm. His contribution cannot be exaggerated.

Words of commendation must also be heaped on Jerry Spann and his magnificent Harmony Program, as well as the Selection Committee itself: Walter Fried, Al Horowitz, Bill Lombardy, Edgar T. McCormick, and Walter Shipman.

December 17 will mark the opening round of this, the strongest United States Championship in decades. It will have among its participants one world titleholder in Bill Lombardy, and three (!) International Grandmasters in Arthur Bisguier, Larry Evans, and Sammy Reshevsky. If no unforeseen developments arise, the remaining ten competitors will be: Hans Berliner (what sort of championship would this be, without the Champion of Champions?), Robert Byrne, Arnold Denker, Arthur Feuerstein, Bobby Fischer, George Kramer, Edmar Mednis, Herbert Seidman, James T. Sherwin, and Abe Turner.

In choosing these players the Selection Committee was guided chiefly by the USCF Rating List. In fact, the original fourteen invitations were sent strictly according to rating. Only for substitutions did the committee use its own discretion. Had the tournament not been limited to fourteen, it is certain that such deserving players as Sydney Bernstein, Jack Collins, Atilio DiCamillo, and Anthony Saidy would have been placed on the tournament roster. As it is, these players must sit on the sidelines, perhaps considering that injustice has been done them. However, it must be said that the Selection Committee, faced with a weighty and difficult problem, called its shots as it honestly saw them.

En passant, it should be noted that the site of this U.S. Championship will be the Manhattan Chess Club, traditional home of chess battles both on and off the boards—At the sound of the gong come out fighting!

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## Major Topics

By  
Montgomery Major

### A Word About Exact Definitions

*Is not a patron, my lord, one who looks with unconcern on a man struggling for life in the water, and when he has reached ground encumbers him with help?*

SAMUEL JOHNSON—Boswell's Life of Johnson

A Little wearily we protest once again against the habit of loose definition whereby the average American labels a project by a name that does not describe its purpose and then proceeds to attack the proposal by attacking those aims which the name implies.

There have been several letters of objection to the proposal, now under discussion, of limiting USCF Ratings to tournaments which require USCF membership of all participants. All of these, in common with the letter of Mr. Osness, printed in "The Kibitzer", speak of the project as dictatorship and infer that it is an attempt to bar non-members from all tournaments. It is time to clarify our thinking on the subject of USCF Rating.

First, it is definitely not dictatorship for the USCF to decide to limit the use of the USCF Rating System to USCF members who are supporting the costs of such a system by their membership dues. In limiting USCF Ratings to USCF membership, the USCF is merely doing what almost all other national organizations have always done—restricted the benefits of its services to the members that pay for these services. There is no reason why chess should provide free service when it is not expected in any other form of sport or recreation. Since there is no national requirement that chess players must be rated, there is no dictatorship in prescribing under what terms a player may be rated. The player retains free option to be rated or not rated as he chooses.

Second, the proposed limitations placed on USCF Ratings does not necessarily prevent non-members from playing in tournaments—but only in rated tournaments. There will always be non-rated tournaments, and their number will increase if enough players decide that they do not desire a USCF rating on terms of becoming USCF members.

But if the USCF is to do the job for chess in the USA that it is meant to do, it must have more members supporting its policies and greater revenue than it now has. So long as it permits the benefits of its special services to be available at nominal fees to non-members, it offers no strong inducement to these non-members to become members. Rating fees and suggested \$1 dues for limited memberships do not and cannot provide sufficient funds. And when sufficient funds are lacking, chess becomes dependent upon patrons. We have cited Dr. Johnson's sage comments upon the value of patrons.

## The Reader's Road To Chess

By Kester Svendsen

### THREE FROM ABROAD

THREE recent paperbacks from the great German publisher of chess books, Walter De Gruyter (Genthiner Strasse 13, Berlin 35) should appeal to the American club player. The first to hand, E. Snosko-Borowsky's *Eroffnungs-Fallen am Schachbrett* (3rd ed., 123 pp., DM 6.80) is Rudolf Teschner's revision of an old and successful favorite. The traps are organized into four chapters as they occur in open games, half-open, closed, and "modern" (the Indian defences, the Sicilian, etc.). Though not so comprehensive as Chernev's book nor so ingeniously organized as Horowitz's, this guide offers the same kind of training. One studies traps to learn openings and to learn what to avoid, not merely to catch an opponent out. Forty-seven key questions are sprinkled through the games and answered in an appendix. The second paperback is the attractive translation by Dr. H. Lehman, M. Botwinnik: *Der Schachwettkampf Botwinnik/Smyslov 1954* (100 pp., DM 6.80). The twenty-four games are heavily annotated by the now ex-world champion, with numerous sidelights on master practice, an introduction to the match, and commentary upon the openings. Soviet grandmaster Averbach provides the preface which the author could not himself supply, a comment upon Botwinnik's stature. The third book is A. Kraemer-E. Zepler's *Problemkunst im 20. Jahrhundert* (125 pp., DM 8.60), a collection of more than

USCF Membership Dues, including subscription to Chess Life, periodical publication of national chess rating, and all other privileges:

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NOTE: Not handled by the USCF Business Dept.

## The Kibitzer Has His Day

### New Affiliation Program Protested

Dear Sir:

I do not agree with the proposal "that the USCF rate only those tournaments in which all contestants are USCF members," unless there is a drastic reduction in the fee for membership. The thing that seems wrong with the present approach is that a player would be forced to pay for a subscription to Chess Life and other membership privileges, just to play in a tournament. If you want more members, and more money, it seems to me that you should encourage each non-member rated player to become a "USCF Tournament Member" for a fee of \$1.00 per year. This limited membership should entitle him to play in all rated tournaments, and receive a copy of rating lists whenever they are published. The published minutes of The First Directors Meeting quote Mr. Harkness regarding the rating of 3700 players of whom two-thirds are non-members. This indicates that it might be possible to have 2500 new members next year if you sell the tournament players what they want. It will take real leadership, not dictatorship, to convert the non-members into members, and it should be obvious that a new and moderate approach is needed.

JOHN M. OSNESS  
Waterloo, Iowa

### What about a Southeast Amateur?

Dear Mr. Major:

I would like to propose that a Southeast Amateur Chess Tournament be held over the Memorial Day week-end next year in Orlando, Fla. This event should be sponsored by the U.S. Chess Federation, with the requirement that all the participants be members of the USCF.

Of course, suitable alternate sites could be (1) Atlanta, Ga., (2) Jacksonville, Fla., or (3) Tampa, Fla., providing that sufficient local interest and support were available. Also worth considering are Charleston, S.C., Savannah, Ga., and Tallahassee, Fla.

All interested people are invited to write to the undersigned. If there is sufficient interest, a tournament will be organized.

The writer feels that the prizes in the tourney should be nominal and that the proceeds of the tourney should be used to promote Southeastern Chess by sending the best qualified and available young southeastern player to the U.S. Open in St. Paul in 1958.

DONALD W. HANEY  
620 Sheridan Blvd.  
Orlando, Fla.

### "National College Chess Fund"

Dear Mr. Major:

The coming Intercollegiate Chess Tourney at Gannon College, Erie, Pa., beginning Dec. 26th, will probably be the finest national college chess tourney ever held in America. These tourneys have been held for many years, however the prize fund was so small no one entered except players within 250 miles of New York City. College chess needs the support of all along with all school chess and Recreation Dept. chess. We must get our youth in the game if we ever hope to get 10,000 members to the U.S. Chess Federation.

Several months ago I made an appeal to raise \$2500 each year for College Chess and agreed to be one of 100 to raise \$25 or more toward this tourney at Erie, Pa. In Dec. To date I have raised \$93 toward the prize fund and expect to pass the \$100 mark in the next few weeks. It is an easy matter to raise \$25 among your friends even if they do not play chess. In the past 40 years 60% of all the money I ever raised for chess or checkers was among non-players.

I trust there are at least 100 live wires in American Chess who will get busy and endeavor to raise \$25 toward this coming event. If you cannot raise \$25, send any amount you can to Mr. Frederick H. Kerr, Nittany 32-11, Box 275, Penn State Univ., University Park, Pa.

NEWELL W. BANKS  
Detroit, Mich.

## New USCF Affiliates Renewed

Arkansas Chess Association. Conducts state tournaments. Address Raymond E. Lawrence, 250 Berger St., Malvern, Ark.

District of Columbia Chess League. Conducts team tournaments and D.C. individual championship. Address District Chess League, 2445-15th St. N.W., Washington 9, D.C.

St. Paul Chess Club. Wed. evgs. at clubrooms, 9th and Wabasha, St. Paul, Minn. Conducts St. Paul Open and state junior championships. Write Robert C. Gove, Rt. 2, Wayzata, Minn.

Greater Wildwood Chess Club. Mon. evgs. at Recreation Center, 243 E. Rio Grande Ave., Wildwood, N.J. Address T. A. Jorgensen, 136 W. Lavender Rd., Wildwood Crest, N.J.

Haddonfield Chess Club. Mon. evgs. at Lutheran Church, 208 Wayne Ave., Haddonfield, N.J. Address Mrs. Philip Morell, 307-B Princeton Rd., Haddonfield, N.J.

Hammonton Chess Club. For details write John Yehl, 442 Bellevue Ave., Hammonton, N.J.

Independent Chess Club. Meets daily at 102 No. Maple Ave., East Orange, N.J. Many tournaments and other activities. Write Edgar T. McCormick at meeting place.

R.C.A. Moorestown Chess Club. Tues. evgs. at Community House, Moorestown, N.J. Address Philip Selvaggi, 411 Hubbs Drive, Palmyra, N.J.

South Jersey Chess Association. Team and individual championships. Affiliated clubs must be USCF Chapters. Address L. E. Wood, 1425 Sycamore St., Haddon Heights, N.J.

Jamaica Chess & Checker Club Inc. Evgs. and weekends at 149-01 Jamaica Ave., Jamaica 35, N.Y. Address club at meeting place.

(Please turn to page 8, col. 4)

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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

J. F. Hurt, Jr., Charleston, West Virginia, asks about the French Defense variation which goes 1. P-K4, P-K3; 2. P-Q4, P-Q4; 3. Kt-QB3, Kt-KB3; 4. B-KKt5, B-K2; 5. P-K5, Kt-Q2; 6. P-KR4, P-KB3; 7. Q-R5ch, K-B1. He asks why 7. ...., P-Kt3 cannot be played. Answer: After 7. ...., P-Kt3; 8. PxP, PxQ; 9. PxP, etc. White regains the Q, and Black's Pawn position is ruined. Not much better for Black would be 8. ...., KtxP; 9. Q-K2.

L. M. Shupp, Jacksonville, Florida, comments on the following Reti variation discussed in this column in the August 20 issue: 1. Kt-KB3, P-Q4; 2. P-B4, P-K3; 3. P-KKt3, Kt-KB3; 4. B-Kt2, PxP; 5. Q-R4ch, B-Q2; 6. QxBP, B-B3; 7. O-O, B-Q4; 8. Q-B2, Kt-B3; 9. Kt-B3, Kt-QKt5. Shupp suggests 9. P-QR3, after which Black's Bishop on Q4 seems to be misplaced. Answer: After the suggested move Black can apparently get a satisfactory game by 9. ...., BxKt!; 10. BxB, Kt-Q5; 11. Q-Q3 (not 11. Q-R4ch, P-B3, and KtxB cannot be prevented), KtxBch.

## 2. The Modern Treatment of the Queen's Gambit

The most common opening in tournament play used to be the Queen's Gambit: 1. P-Q4, P-Q4; 2. P-QB4, P-K3; 3. Kt-QB3, Kt-KB3; 4. B-Kt5. The fact that Black's QB was shut in usually gave White a slight but definite advantage.

As time passed it became clear that Black always had available a slow but sure system for releasing his QB and obtaining theoretical equality. This system is based on the variation 4. ...., QKt-Q2; 5. P-K3, P-B3; 6. Kt-B3, B-K2; 7. R-B1, O-O; 8. B-Q3, PxP; 9. BxBP, Kt-Q4; 10. BxB, QxB; 11. O-O, Ktx Kt; 12. RxKt, P-K4. While Black's chances of winning after this variation are not great, White, too, cannot make any real headway now that Black's QB cannot be held in.

In recent years attempts to strengthen White's chances have centered around the Exchange Variation based on PxP by White at a rather early stage. Here White foregoes the idea of keeping the Black QB shut in in favor of either one of two strategic plans (1) the so-called **minority attack**, in which White pushes his Q-side pawns (after due preparation) so as to create weaknesses and open lines for attack on the Q-side or (2) P-B3 and P-K4 (both after due preparation) with the intention of a K-side attack.

The effectiveness of both of these procedures in master play has encouraged a search for new methods of defense for Black. These have been found in ample measure in two forms (1) the Nimzoindian Defense 1. ...., Kt-KB3; 2. P-QB4, P-K3; 3. Kt-QB3, B-Kt5 and (2) the King's Indian Defense 1. ...., Kt-KB3; 2. P-QB4, P-KKt3; 3. Kt-QB3, B-Kt2. A third playable procedure for Black is the Slav Defense: 1. ...., P-Q4; 2. P-QB4, P-QB3, in which Black leaves himself the option of an early development of his QB at the expense of a slight weakness of his P(QKt2).

The following illustrative game is an example of the Exchange Variation of the Queen's Gambit

(reached by a transposition of moves) in which White tries the plan P-KB3 and P-K4 as mentioned above.

## 3. Illustrative Game QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED Lake Erie Open Tournament Buffalo, 1957

White J. TOMARGO Black E. MARCHAND  
1. P-Q4 P-Q4 3. Kt-QB3 P-B3  
2. P-QB4 P-K3

This order of moves is sometimes referred to as the Semislaw Variation. Black threatens 4. ...., PxP since Black's P(B3) prevents the customary Q-R4ch recovering the P. By delaying Kt-KB3 Black temporarily prevents B-Kt5 by White. Also he invites 4. P-K4, PxP; 5. KtxP, B-Kt5ch; 6. B-Q2, QxP.

4. PxP  
Converting the opening into the Exchange Variation.

4. ...., KPXP  
Whereas one normally would capture with the BP to strengthen the center, Black here rightly prefers to release his QB.

5. Q-B2  
Preventing the powerful placement of Black's B on his KB4.

5. ...., B-Q3 6. P-K3  
The shutting in of White's QB is not too important since he plans to release it with an eventual P-K4. However, if he were to try the minority attack (advance of the Q-side Pawns) instead, then the poor position of his QB would tell against him. It might be noted that the changed order of moves (3. ...., P-QB3 instead of 3. ...., Kt-KB3) has thereby limited White's choice of strategic plans.

6. ...., Kt-B3  
Black waited with this until White's KB had been shut in.

7. B-Q3 O-O 8. KKt-K2  
In line with the intention of P-B3 and P-K4.

8. ...., B-KKt5 9. Kt-Kt3  
9. P-B3 at once would allow 9. ...., B-R4 and 10. ...., B-Kt3.

9. ...., P-KKt3

A good positional move putting a real damper on the action of White's B and Q battery as well as his KKt. The weakness created on the Black squares near Black's King cannot easily be exploited.

10. P-B3 B-K3 12. B-Q2  
11. O-O R-K1

Premature would be 12. P-K4, BxKt; 13. PxP, PxP; 14. PxP, QxPch.

12. ...., Q-B2

Developing and threatening to win a P by 13. ...., BxKt. Not promising would be 12. ...., QKt-Q2; 13. P-K4.

13. P-B4  
Very strong since P-K4 cannot be prevented anyway. White's game is superior (note that Black's QKt is still undeveloped), and Black must grasp at every straw in the way of defensive tactics. Here he finds a square to use at KKt5.

13. ...., Kt-Kt5 14. P-KR3

Not 14. P-B5, BxKt; 15. PxP, QxP threatening mate.

14. ...., Kt-KR3 16. QKtxP B-K2  
15. P-K4 PxP 17. Kt-Kt5

Here the sacrificial line 17. P-B5, KtxP; 18. KtxKt, BxKt; 19. RxB, PxR is probably sound since Black's King will be subjected to a severe attack and his QKt and QR are still out of the game. White cannot play the game too quietly because his QP is isolated giving Black the strong pivot square Q4, and P-KB4, stalling White's attack, is threatened.

17. ...., B-Q4  
Perhaps White had hoped for 17. ...., BxKt; 18. PxP, QxKt; 19. B-KB4, Q-R5 with great advantage to White.

18. Kt(3)-K4  
Not 18. P-B5, QxKt; 19. B-B4, QxPch!; 20. QxQ, BxQ; 21. KxB, KtxP.

18. ...., P-B4 20. KtxB PxKt  
19. Kt-QB3 Q-Kt3

Of course not 20. ...., QxPch; 21. Kt-K3.

21. QR-K1  
A good idea but not good enough. After 21. ...., QxPch; 22. K-R1 White will have a strong attack. But after Black's next move the Pawn can hardly be saved, and Black seems to be able to withstand the attack.

21. ...., Kt-B3 22. Kt-K6  
An interesting line here is 22. B-K3, KtxP; 23. Q-B2, B-B4; 24. P-QKt4, Kt-K7ch, etc.

22. ...., KtxP 25. P-R3 Q-Q3  
23. KtxKt QxKtch 26. B-Q4 B-B3  
24. B-K3 Q-Kt5 27. Q-R4

This allows Black to force the exchange of Q's and so go into the ending a P ahead. Curiously enough the ending seems to be only a draw with proper play.

27. ...., BxBch 33. R(1)-B1 Kt-Kt1  
28. QxB Q-Kt3 34. RxB KtxR  
29. QxQ PxQ 35. R-B7 R-Kt1  
30. B-Kt5 R-K5 36. R-Q7 K-B2  
31. R-B1 K-B1 37. R-Q6 P-R4  
32. R-B7 R-K2

Black saw that 38. RxQKtP, Kt-B1! would win him a piece. But the strength of White's actual move was entirely unexpected.

38. B-Q7!

Now one Pawn must go and maybe two. Bad would be 38. ...., R-Q1; 39. B-K6ch, K-K1; 40. B-B7ch! winning the Exchange.

38. ...., Kt-B1 39. BxKt  
Or 39. RxQP, K-K2.

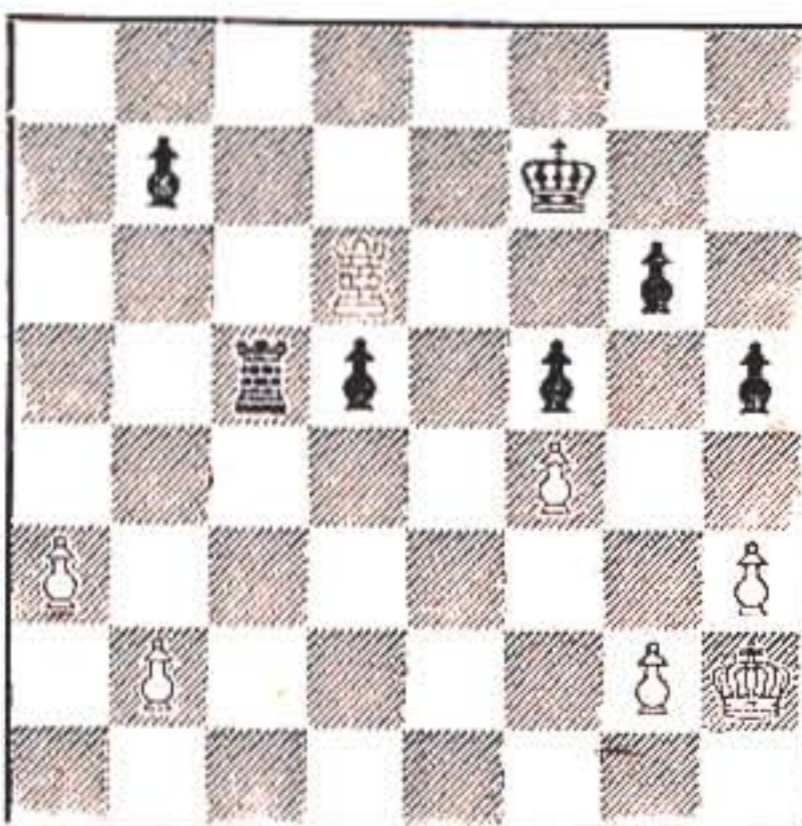
39. ...., RxB 41. R-Q6  
40. RxKtP R-B2

Very plausible, since it wins a Pawn, but not best since his K will be put out of play. Correct is 41. K-B2 with White retaining distinctly better chances.

41. ...., R-B8ch 42. K-R2

After 42. K-B2, R-B7ch Black can draw without too much trouble.

42. ...., R-B4



Here White probably misses his last chance to draw (by 43. K-Kt3) doubtless feeling that he is going to win with two connected passed Pawns. This game illustrates how important the King's position can be in an ending.

43. R-Q7ch K-K3 48. K-Kt1 P-Q6  
44. RxKtP P-Q5 49. P-QKt4 R-B6  
45. R-Kt3 K-Q4 50. R-K1ch K-Q7  
46. R-Q3 K-K5 51. Resigns  
47. R-Q1 K-K6

## The Chess Morgue

Conducted by

Ray Kooyman

Questions on game scores, chess history and chess miscellanea will be answered in this column by Mr. Kooyman in so far as he can find the answers. Informal discussion on chess is also invited. Address your communications to: Ray Kooyman, 775 Ninth Ave., Salt Lake City 3, Utah.

C. M. Burton's inquiry on Gossip's career started something. Now we get some facts from none other than C. J. S. Purdy, editor, analyst, and World Correspondence Champ. I quote from his letter:

Gossip arrived in Australia in 1885, the year after the greater English player John Wisker died there of tuberculosis. Gossip settled in Melbourne, and not long after his arrival, formally claimed the title of Champion of Australia, and invited challenges. F. K. Esling challenged him. A lawyer drew up a special contract, expressly stipulating that a default would involve forfeiture, the opponent gaining the title; Gossip was known to have defaulted in a match in 1874 against the Rev. John Owen (one of Morphy's opponents) with the score 3-2 in Owen's favor.

Against Esling, Gossip defaulted after losing the first game, and standing to lose the second. He pleaded indisposition but provided no evidence. In advance the match had been recognized far and wide as an official contest for the Championship of Australia, but Esling modestly refrained from styling himself champion. His rivals followed his example. But 65 years later, on Esling's 90th birthday, the Australian Chess Federation formally ratified his claim to the title.

Gossip took part in some intercolonial matches. He was chiefly famous in Australia as the hero of the following anecdote. Gossip had a haw-haw voice and an impressive manner, and used both to get him out of financial difficulties. After raising several small loans

(Please turn to page 7, col. 2)

You are invited to compete in the  
**GOLDEN KINGS**  
**LONG ISLAND AMATEUR**  
**CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP**  
at the Central YMCA,  
Hanson Place,  
Brooklyn, N.Y. on

Nov. 29-30, Dec. 1st, 1957

WHO CAN PLAY: Open to all chess-players except rated masters. No residence restrictions. Unrated players are welcomed.

AWARDS: Winner awarded engraved USCF GOLDEN KINGS Trophy for Long Island Amateur Championship.

Engraved USCF GOLDEN KINGS medals awarded to 2nd and 3rd place winners, 1st and 2nd Class B players, 1st and 2nd Class C players.

All trophy and medal winners, plus top two unrated players, awarded chess books as prizes.

TYPE OF TOURNEY: Six-round Swiss under USCF tournament rules. Harkness pairings. Time limit: 50 moves in 2 hours. Unfinished games adjudicated after 4 hours. Director: Kenneth Harkness.

RATED EVENT: Performances of all contestants rated by the USCF. Unrated players given national rankings. Rated players can improve their standings.

ENTRY FEE: \$3.00 to USCF members. Non-members must pay additional \$5.00 USCF dues.

HOW TO ENTER: Mail your entry to address below before Nov. 23rd. Entries will also be accepted at Central YMCA, Brooklyn, on Friday Nov. 29th from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Play starts at 8 p.m.

United States Chess Federation  
80 E. 11th St., New York 3, N.Y.



This makes White's task easier than K-K13; 26. PXP, PXP; 27. R-R3 followed by P-K4. Of course White could not play P-K4 without this preparation because of RxKt.

26. R-K14 Kt-B5 27. R-K4! R-B2? KtxKtP was the best chance.  
28. P-QK13 Kt-Q7 30. R-K14ch K-R4?  
29. RxP K-K13  
Suicidal.

31. R-K18 R-K2 32. Kt-K14! .....  
The only chance to win in a very interesting position. On 32. Kt-R3, K-R5!; 33. Kt-B4, RxP; 34. K-B2, R-B6; 35. P-K13 ch, RxP; 36. RxR, Kt-K5 ch. Or 32. P-K13, Kt-B6 ch and Kt-K14.  
32. .... Kt-K5 34. P-K14ch  
33. Kt-K5 Kt-B3 Resigns  
On K-R5; 35. R-Kt6, Kt-K5; 36. K-Kt2 and mate next.



## PETROFF DEFENSE

MCO: page 145, column 7 (c)  
CFNC Autumn Championship  
San Francisco, 1957

"Fireworks at the Spheron-Palace"

White	Black
B. ZEILER	R. SEAMAN
1. P-K4	14. KtxKt Q-R5
2. Kt-KB3	15. BxKt BPxB
3. KtxP	16. Kt-Q1 B-KKt5
4. Kt-KB3	17. Kt-K2 QxRP
5. P-Q4	18. Kt-Kt1 Q-R8
6. B-Q3	19. Kt-K3 RxPch!
7. O-O	20. KxR R-B1ch
8. P-B4	21. Kt-B3 RxKtch
9. Kt-B3	22. PxR Q-R5ch
10. PXP	23. K-B1 Q-R6ch
11. Q-Kt3	24. Kt-K12 BxP
12. R-K1	25. K-B2 B-B4ch
13. K-B1	KtxQP Resigns



## INITIATIVE IN CHESS

(Continued from page 3, col. 3)

ber of chess compilations, based on selection criteria that appear to be independent of the variable under examination. Irving Chernev's *The Russians Play Chess*, contains 50 master games, covering the period 1925-1945; white wins 30, black 20 games. Reuben Fine in *Chess Marches On* selected 50 illustrative master games; white won 28, black 19 and 3 games drawn. In neither case were the results statistically unusual.

A slight change of emphasis in the matter of game selection for various compilations throws further light on the complexity of the initiative problem. H. Golombek's *Capablanca's Hundred Best Games of Chess*, gives 69 wins for white, 29 for black and 2 drawn. These results are very highly significant in favor of white. I am certain that Golombek's criteria for selection of games was not a preference for white. The division between white and black victories suggests a positive value to the initiative in chess because the best results were obtained more frequently with the white pieces. I believe that an analysis of Capablanca's tournament record would reveal another facet to this problem. He played a total of 480 tournament games between 1910 and 1939. He won 277 games, lost 26 and drew 177, certainly an incredible record in the history of chess (2). I suspect that an analysis of the games drawn and lost would reveal that Capablanca was playing the black pieces in most of these games.

In *My Best Games of Chess, 1924-37* by Alexander Alekhine, the late world champion selected 104 games; 71 wins are with white and 33 with black. As in the case of Capablanca, the result is highly significant in favor of white. And to conclude the "best" games selections, I examined *The World's Great Chess Games*, edited by Reuben Fine, which covers a century of chess, circa 1851-1951. Of 188 games, there are 128 wins by white and 60 by black. The result is again significant in favor of white.

The statistical evidence and the tests thereof are more suggestive than conclusive in resolving the question posed here. The initiative in chess appears to lie between the extreme possibilities, tending in the direction that considers the initiative clearly favorable. If considerations regarding the initiative are extended (3), e.g., the rapidity of achieving victory or the brilliance in obtaining the decision, then analysis of additional data will be required. It is my impression that the initiative in chess leads to quicker and more elegant wins.

(1) I wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Edmund Nash, nationally recognized chess expert, contributor to the semi-monthly newspaper *CHESS LIFE*, and member of the Washington Chess Divan. Mr. Nash kindly furnished some of the data and discussed various features of the analysis relating to chess.

(2) Capablanca's *Hundred Best Games*, Harcourt Brace, New York, 1939—page 21.

(3) Mr. Nash believes that if white has an advantage over black then as the chess master ages he will win or draw more frequently with white and win less frequently with the black pieces than in the earlier period of his career. This idea ties in with R. Fine's thesis that master chess is a young man's game.

(Readers of *CHESS LIFE*, interested in the statistical approach, who have time and the facilities, might find it entertaining to seek the answers to some of the questions Mr. Rubin poses. Were the majority of Capablanca's losses and draws with the black pieces? Does a study, of the career of a grandmaster such as Lasker show by periods that the number of his losses and draws in proportion to games played increased with his age? *CHESS LIFE* will be interested in hearing of any such findings—The Editor.)

## GUEST ANNOTATORS

R. C. Morgan, Jr.  
Hans Berliner

## CHESS MORGUE

(Continued from page 5, col. 4)

from a Sydney player, A. F. Chamier, he approached him once too often.

Chamier (diffidently):—"Well, Mr. Gossip, what about the other loans?"

Gossip (haughtily):—"Do I understand that you refuse, sir?"

Chamier (timidly):—"Well, —er, yes, if you won't answer my question."

Gossip (scathingly):—"This rude refusal, sir, cancels all my obligations to you."

In "A Century of British Chess" P. W. Sergeant's only comment on Gossip is, "His play was never quite up to his own estimate of it."

I am sorry to appear unkind, but, for one thing, I am merely saying all I know about Gossip; for another, chess writers have a positive duty to be unkind about players who retire from tournaments or matches without the excuse of death or serious illness. Let every player realize that his retirements will be remembered long after his defeats are forgotten, and there will be few retirements.

## BOOST AMERICAN CHESS

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

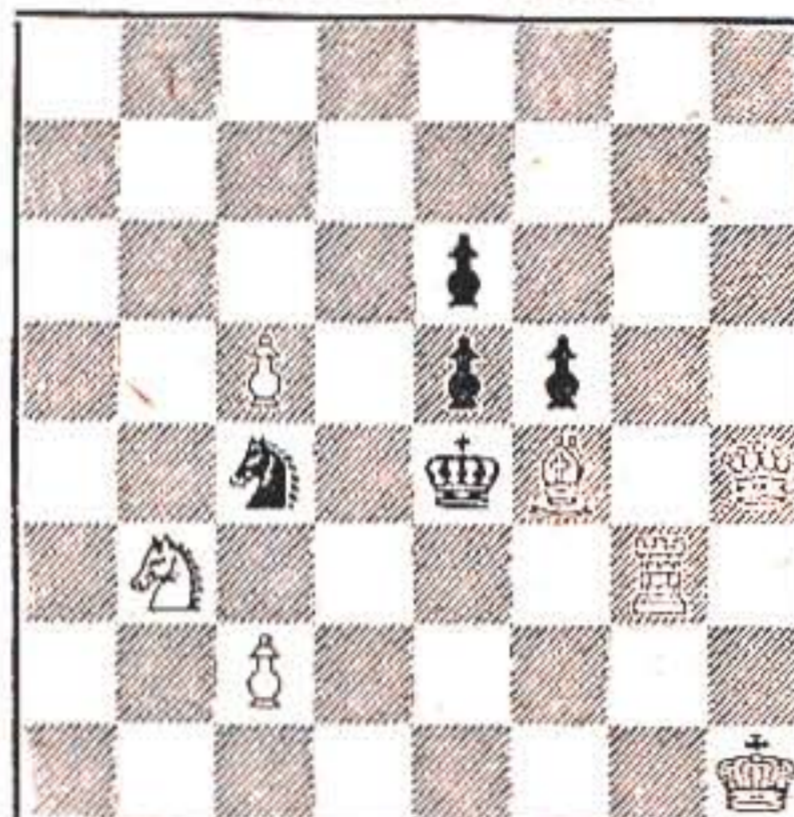
## Mate The Subtle Way!

by Nicholas Gabor

All communications concerning this problem-column, including solutions as well as original compositions for publication (two- and three-mover direct mates), from composers anywhere should be sent to Nicholas Gabor, Hotel Kemper Lane, Cincinnati 6, Ohio.

Problem No. 837

By Trygve Ramton  
Oslo, Norway  
"Gamage Memorial"  
International Contest



Mate in two

Problem No. 839

By P. ten Cate  
Rotterdam, Holland  
"Gamage Memorial"  
International Contest



Mate in two

Problem No. 841

By Byron Zappas  
Greece  
"Gamage Memorial"  
International Contest



Mate in three

Problem No. 838

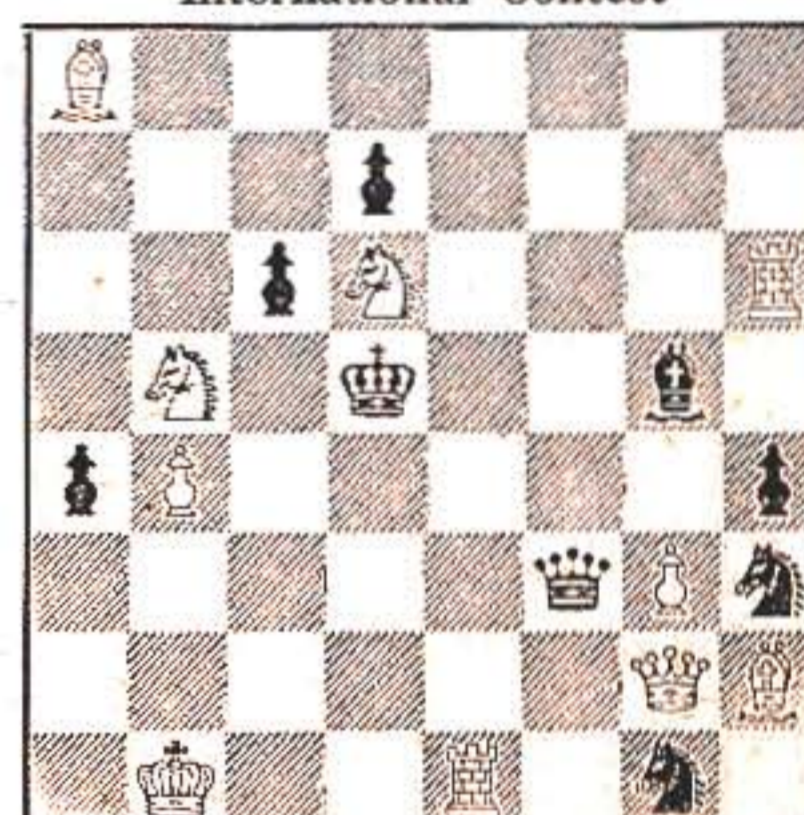
By R. Ravenscroft and  
F. A. Hawes, Australia  
"Gamage Memorial"  
International Contest



Mate in two

Problem No. 840

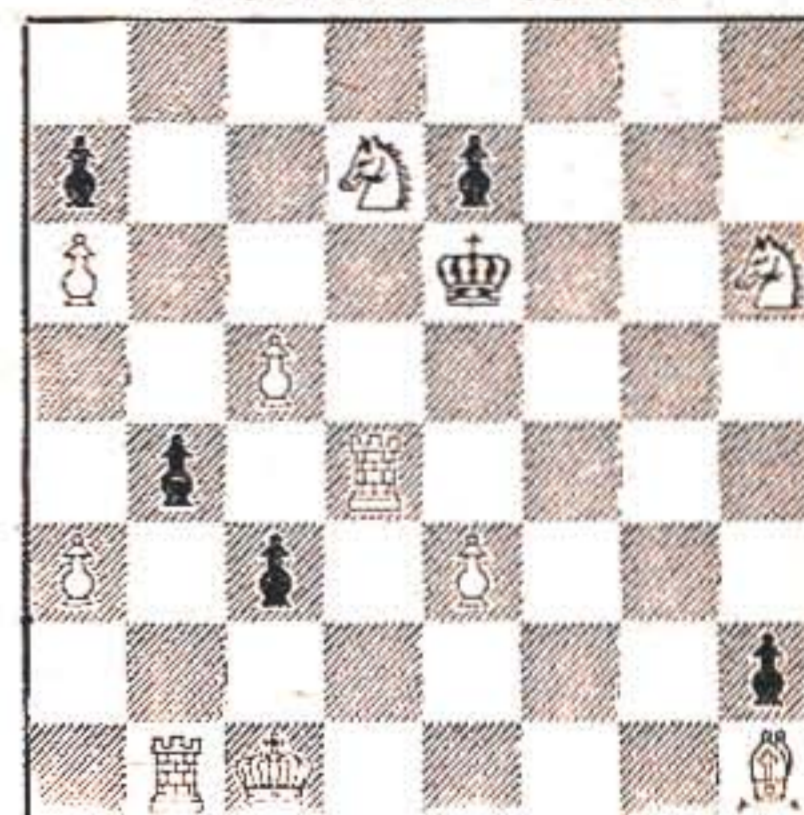
By K. Hayrabedian  
Bulgaria  
"Gamage Memorial"  
International Contest



Mate in two

Problem No. 842

By F. W. Nanning, Holland  
Z. Heilbut, Israel  
"Gamage Memorial"  
International Contest



Mate in three

## Solutions-Mate the Subtle Way!

No. 819 Taffs: set: 1. .... K-K4, 2. Q-R3; 1. .... K-Q6, 2. R-Q2. Key 1. N-B3 adding 2 more flights with 5 checks. No. 820 Costikyan: key 1. N-B3, threat 2. N-N5. The 2 thematic defenses 1. .... N-B4 and 1. .... N-K5 unpin the b1 R or b1 Q and simultaneously unpin the Wh NK3. COOKED, due to absence of b1 P on KB2 by 1. P-B7. No. 821 Barclay: Key 1. Q-K7 threat 2. Q-B5. Moves of the b1 P interfere with the b1Q. No. 822 Brill: key 1. Q-R5 waiting. 6 variations in this Meredith. No. 823 Rubens: key 1. K-B7, threat 2. Q-Q3ch! 1. .... K-K4, 2. Q-K4ch. et No. 824 Strazdins: intention 1. R-R3 waiting. 1. .... K-B3, 2. P-K4; 1. .... K-K5, 2. B-K6; 1. .... P-B7, 2. R-K3. Cooked by 1. NxP followed by 2. P-K4.

The best combinations are ruined by careful analysis.

To shatter the peace in our chess club, just announce that a wife is calling . . . on the phone.

