

Chess Life



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15 Cents

What's The Best Move?

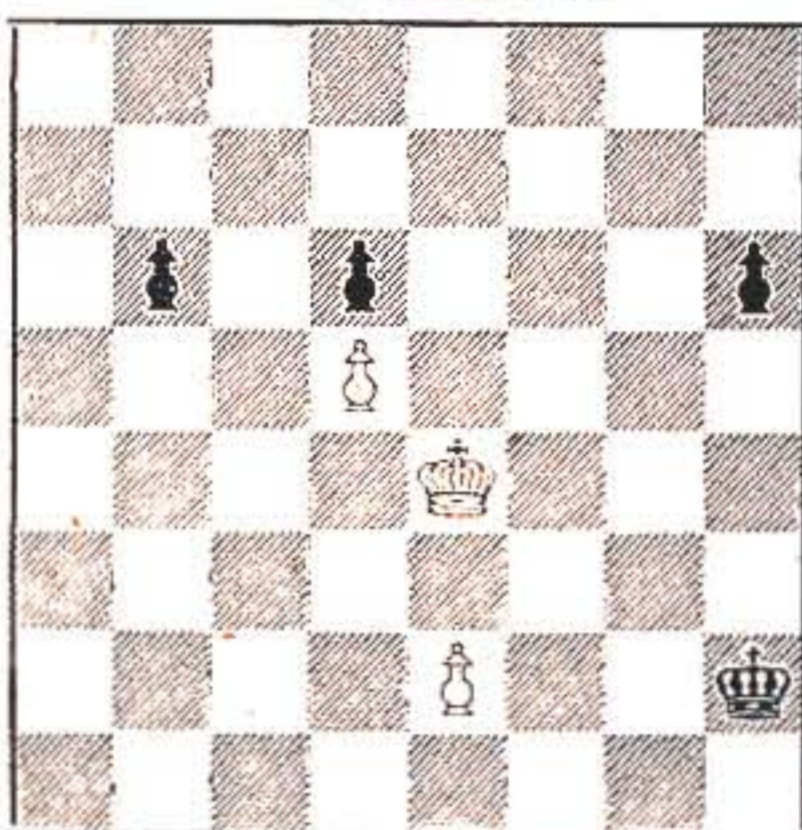
Conducted by
IRWIN SIGMOND

Send solutions to Position No. 246 to reach Irwin Sigmond, 5200 Williamsburg Blvd., Arlington 7, Va., by January 15, 1959. With your solution, please send analysis or reasons supporting your choice of "Best Move" or moves.

Solution to Position No. 246 will appear in the February 5, 1959 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. 246



White to Play

BAGBY WINS CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Charles Bagby of San Francisco won the California State Championship, held in San Francisco over the Thanksgiving week end, by a 5½-1½ score. Bagby, a lawyer who has been a prominent figure in San Francisco chess for more than 30 years, did not lose a game. William G. Addison of San Francisco placed second, 5-2. Addison only lost one game to Berkeley high-school-student Arthur Wang. Irving Rivise of Los Angeles, State Open Champion, pushed third ahead of three players who tied with even scores.

The finalists were survivors of a preliminary qualifying series of tournaments.

The tournament was held at the Mechanics' Institute and was directed by A. B. Stamer.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| 1. Charles Bagby, San Francisco | x | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5½-1½ |
| 2. William Addison, San Francisco | ½ | x | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ½ | 0 | 5-2 |
| 3. Irving Rivise, Los Angeles | ½ | 0 | x | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ½ | 4-3 |
| 4. Joe Mego, Los Angeles | 0 | 0 | 1 | x | ½ | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3½-3½ |
| 5. Phil D. Smith, Fresno | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | x | ½ | 1 | 1 | 3½-3½ |
| 6. Saul Yarmak, Los Angeles | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | ½ | x | 1 | 1 | 3½-3½ |
| 7. Gordon Palmer, Venice | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | x | 1 | 1½-5½ |
| 8. Art Wang, Berkeley | 0 | 1 | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | x | 1½-5½ |



and a HAPPY NEW YEAR

Operation. **M** = 1000 NEW MEMBERS

Southern States Show Membership Gain

USCF membership is moving upwards in the 13 southeastern states, where an efficient organization is blossoming out for OPERATION M. The comparative membership figures as of June 5 and September 5, plus the target set for next June 5, are as follows:

| State | Population | 6-5 | 9-5 | Target | Membership | Chairman |
|-------------|------------|-----|-----|--------|----------------------|----------|
| Florida | 3,562,000 | 58 | 84 | 100 | Frank Rose | |
| Maryland | 2,638,000 | 44 | 45 | 60 | Boris Garfinkel | |
| N. Carolina | 4,300,000 | 42 | 36 | 50 | Mrs. Gilliam McMahan | |
| Virginia | 3,647,000 | 34 | 36 | 50 | Col. John Matheson | |
| Mississippi | 2,200,000 | 10 | 28 | 30 | W. Troy Miller | |
| D. of C. | 871,000 | 22 | 26 | 30 | George O'Rourke Sr. | |
| Kentucky | 3,021,000 | 22 | 21 | 30 | William Seay, Ph.D. | |
| Alabama | 3,144,000 | 14 | 17 | 25 | F. W. Kemp | |
| Tennessee | 3,372,000 | 14 | 15 | 25 | Peter P. Lahde | |
| W. Virginia | 1,963,000 | 14 | 14 | 20 | Charles Morgan | |
| Georgia | 3,646,000 | 14 | 14 | 20 | | |
| S. Carolina | 2,248,000 | 9 | 10 | 15 | Lanneau Foster | |
| Delaware | 366,000 | 5 | 5 | 10 | Boris Garfinkel | |
| Totals | | 302 | 351 | 465 | | |

The task facing OPERATION M in these states has been described as follows by Dr. Norman M. Hornstein, USCF Vice-President and Area-Aide for this part of the country:

"Excepting in our few metropolitan centers, USCF members are spread pretty thin, comparatively, in this area. And that places a heavier responsibility on each player, for recruiting. Where a member is alone in his city, or one of only a very few members, it is particularly incumbent upon him to know the values of his organization and to present them to all the other players and friends of chess in his area. If these few "beachhead" members we have don't undertake this, then we die out in these places, in time. But I don't think that will happen. The response, to the appeal for help with OPERATION M, has been very heartening. Fine, competent people have come forward, generously offering their time and effort, to advance USCF membership to where it belongs in these states. (Continued on Page 2)

PAL BENKO TAKES NORTH CENTRAL OPEN

By
Special Correspondence from Milwaukee

Scoring six and one half out of seven possible points, International Grand Master, Pal Benko, formerly of Cleveland, but now of New York City, won the Fifth Annual North Central Open as the three day event drew to a conclusion over the Thanksgiving Day weekend in Milwaukee. Ivan Theodorovitch, Toronto, and the Chicago Master, Povilas Tautvaisas, tied for second and third place, a half point in arrears. Defending North Central Champion, Stephan Popel, Detroit, finished fourth with 5½-1½. The tournament, sponsored annually by the Wisconsin Chess Association, drew a field of 88 players.

Benko, who had tied for 3rd and 4th place with Petrosian, at Portoroz, Yugoslavia, this summer, successively defeated Ainis Mengalis, Chicago; Vasa Kostic, Gary, Indiana; Raymond Dietrichs, Iowa City, Iowa; Miroslav Turiansky and Albert Sandrin, Chicago; and Curt Brasket, Minneapolis. He drew with Theodorovitch in the final round. Brasket and Sandrin, along with Popel, had previously held the North Central title.

To tie for second position with Tautvaisas, Theodorovitch, a perennial competitor in Milwaukee, won his first three games, drew with Joseph Virovatz, Milwaukee; and won from Popel and Albert Sandrin in addition to the draw with Benko. It was by all odds, the Canadian master's best showing in a Milwaukee regional event. Tautvaisas after winning from Hugh Wheeler, Chicago, and losing to Svend Oleson, Chicago, posted five successive wins. His victims included K. M. Mott-Smith, Evanston, Illinois; Charles Weldon, Milwaukee; Dietrichs, Micholajs Kampars, Milwaukee; and Kostic. Ten of the 88-player-field finished with scores of 5-2 to share in the prize fund. Heading this group was Robion Kirby, University of Chicago. Seeded in 19th position on the basis of his USCF rating at the start of the tournament, Kirby lost to Albert Sandrin and drew with Popel and Turiansky to attain his best Milwaukee record to date. The most amazing showing, however, was turned in by unrated Charles Adams, Chicago, who also finished in the five point group to share in the prize fund. Standings of the leaders:

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------------|------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| 1. Pal Benko | 6.5300 | New York, N. Y. | 9. Charles Adams | 5.0185 | Chicago |
| 2. Ivan Theodorovitch | 6.0262 | Toronto | 10. Nikolajs Kampars | 5.0182 | Milwaukee |
| 3. Povilas Tautvaisas | 6.0235 | Chicago | 11. Miroslav Turiansky | 5.0181 | Chicago |
| 4. Stephan Popel | 5.5260 | Detroit | 12. Kazimieras Jakstas | 5.8180 | Champaign, Ill. |
| 5. Robion Kirby | 5.0212 | Chicago | 13. Curt Brasket | 5.0175 | Minneapolis |
| 6. Albert Sandrin | 5.0210 | Chicago | 14. Vasta Kostic | 5.0170 | Gary, Ind. |
| 7. John Tums | 5.0197 | Chicago | 15. Donald Hallman | 5.0140 | New York, N. Y. |
| 8. Charles Hentn | 5.0187 | Chicago | | | |

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

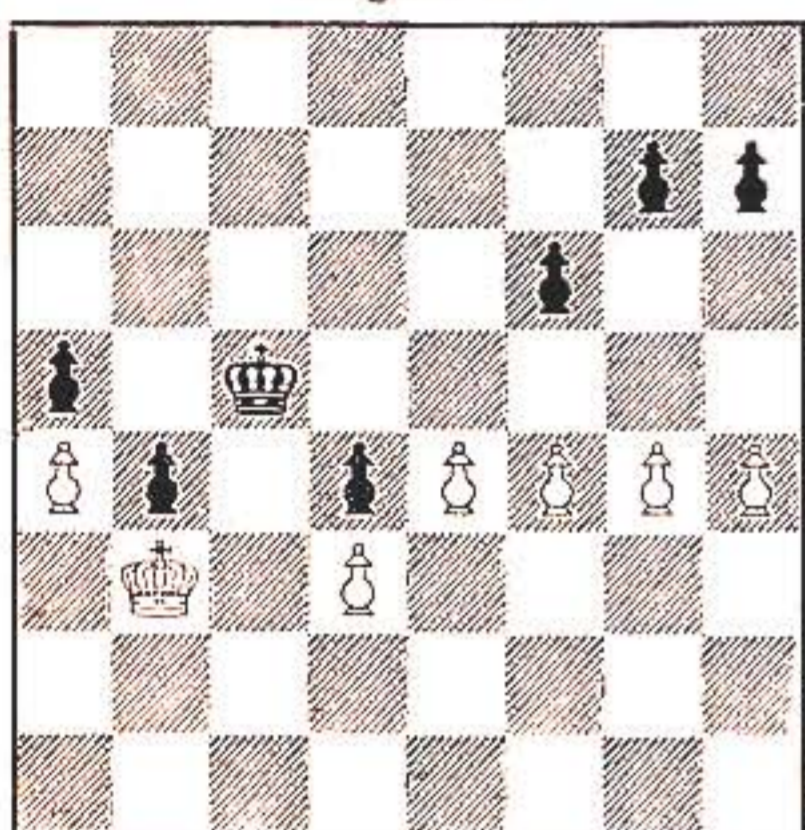
Mastering the End Game

By **WALTER KORN, Editor of MCO**

The Suspense of Adjournment

There is a position to which some tournament players are hopefully looking forward, and some dread it, and it is called the "adjourned position." It is most disappointing to have "sealed a move" with the prospect of leisurely studying it at home, merely to discover that the sealed move has not only thrown away the game but also offered the opponent the chance of taking advantage in home analysis of pressing home a win he might not have been able to discover over the board. The most useful device in facing an adjournment move is to look for a move which does not "compromise" the position in any way but maintains the "status quo." Sometimes this is not easy to determine—moreover, often we have just at adjournment time to face a "now or never" possibility which might easily slip away if it is not utilized at once. In diagram 62 we are faced with such a position from actual experience and it contains a knotty problem.

Diagram 62



White to move

It is White's move. At first glance it appears that if Black can be starved of pawn moves and his King forced to move, White might be able to force an entry via QB4 and win Black's Queen Pawn while remaining sufficiently near to Black's passed pawn to stop it from running away. There is of course the other possibility of trying to maintain equilibrium by the shuttle K-B2-N2-N3, with Black repeating the maneuver for non-compromising balance! Now, let's analyze the

tempting 1. P-R5 which looks like a tempo-devouring stranglehold which many of us may not like to miss and play instinctively if confronted with such adjournment possibility.

The reply however is 1., P-N4, forcing White to abandon control of the square Q5 and thus losing him the game: 2. PxpP., PxpP; 3. P-N5, PxpP; 4. PxpP, K-Q3; 5. K-B4, K-K4; 6. K-N3, K-B5; 7. K-B4, KxpP; 8. KxpP, K-B3; and Black wins; or 2. PxpP, PxpP; 3. P-R6, K-K3; 4. K-B4, K-K4; 5. K-N3, K-B5; 6. K-B4, KxNP, K-B5! 8. P-Q5, K-B4! and wins.

No better is 1. P-N5, PxpP; 2. BPxpP(2RPxpP?P-R4), P-N3; 3. K-B2, K-Q3; 4. K-N3, K-K3! 5. K-B4, K-K4; 6. K-N3, K-B5; 7. K-B4, K-K4 with repetition of moves.

1. P-B5 or 1. P-Q5 obviously lose. Therefore we must try if the balance is maintained by 1. K-B2. There might follow 1., P-KN4; 2. RPxpP, PxpP; 3. P-B5! K-Q3; 4. K-N3, K-K4; 5. K-B4, P-R3! 6. K-N3, P-R4; 7. PxpP, P-N5; 8. P-R6, K-B3; 9. P-K5ch with resulting draw; or 1., P-N3; 2. P-N5, PxpP; 3. RPxpP, etc.

secret of the explosive growth shown by his state between June 5 and September 5. How was it done, Troy? Can you do it again?

William Seay, Kentucky Membership Chairman, is doubling as acting dean and director of the College of Agriculture and U of Kentucky, but volunteered for OPERATION M as well. F. W. Kemp, Alabama, is Secretary of the Birmingham Chess Club. Professor Lanneau Foster, South Carolina, is President of the Southern Chess Association. Peter Lahde, Tennessee, is President of the Tennessee Chess Association.

There's talent and energy in the OPERATION M organization in the South. There's bound to be good results, come June 5 next!

1901 Match

In the preceding issue we gave you a game in which USCF Master Emeritus C. S. Jacobs defeated Pillsbury in a simultaneous exhibition.

The following game, taken from Mr. Jacobs' scrapbook, is probably more exciting and a better example of his over-the-board strength some 56 years ago.

Mr. McLeod, who held the Championship of Canada before playing in the great International Tournament in New York in 1889, had just won the "Western Championship" played in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Jacobs, although Iowa State Champion at the time, was disappointed at his showing in the big tournament, and promptly challenged McLeod to a match, which was, in effect, for the championship of the whole country. McLeod accepted the challenge and won a close 6 game match (3 wins, 2 losses, and 1 draw). The following game, the fifth of the match, was the game which enabled Jacobs to enter the sixth and deciding game with an equal score of 2½-2½.

JACOBS

White

1. P-K4
2. P-Q4
3. N-QB3
4. B-Q3
5. P-KB4
6. N-B3
7. NxP
8. NxN
9. P-B3
10. O-O
11. Q-K2

McLEOD

Black

12. B-R6
13. BxBch
14. P-QR4
15. P-QB4
16. PxpP
17. BxpP
18. BxB
19. P-R5
20. PxpP
21. Q-K4ch

White announced mate in 3.
If 1. RxpPch, K-N1; 2. Q-R8ch, K-B2; 3. R-R7 mate.
If 1., KxR; 2. R-R1 mate.

Dr. Norman Hornstein recently led a team of six men and 1 woman, representing the North Carolina Chess Association, on a chessic invasion of the D. C. area. The invasion was repelled by the Washington Chess Divan on November 29th and by the Arlington Chess Club on November 30th. The scores were as follows: (Both competitors at board 7 in the Divan match were female; Arlington, however, used an all-male team)

| Divan 4½ | | Arlington 5½ | |
|------------------|--------|------------------|--------|
| H. Berliner |1 | I. Sigmund |1 |
| R. Cantwell |½ | J. Matheson |1 |
| C. Hesse |½ | J. Stowe |* |
| G. Thomas |1 | J. Murray |1 |
| J. Mayer |1 | R. Terravechla |0 |
| R. Grande |* | H. Nagin |1 |
| P. Grande |0 | W. Plampin |1 |
| NCCA 2½ | | NCCA 1½ | |
| Dr. N. Hornstein | 0 | Dr. N. Hornstein | 0 |
| J. Hall |½ | J. Hall |0 |
| D. Steele |½ | D. Steele |½ |
| J. Hagenbuckle |0 | J. Hagenbuckle |0 |
| Dr. S. Noblin |0 | D. Gallik |1 |
| Dan Gallik |½ | Dr. S. Noblin |0 |
| G. McMahon |1 | G. McMahon |0 |

COVEYOU WINS TENNESSEE OPEN

Robert Coveyou of Oak Ridge won 5, and yielded a single draw to second-place Jerry Sullivan, to score 5½-½ in the six round Tennessee Open played in Nashville November 28-30, 1958. The event attracted 29 entrants from four states and was directed by Peter P. Lahde of Nashville.

Jerry Sullivan was also undefeated winning three and drawing three, while 3rd-place Charles B. Stallings of Huntsville, Alabama won 4, drew 1 with Sullivan, and lost 1 to Coveyou, for a score of 4½-1½. An equal score in game points was achieved by Pat Forsee of Louisville, Kentucky, but since his loss was to 10th place Aydelotte, and his draw with 11th place Scrivener, his Solkoff total relegated him to 4th place, a full 3 points behind Stallings. Worthy of note is the fact that the first three place winners are all Mathematicians. It is also heartening to report that Mr. Lahde, the membership chairman from Tennessee, was able to add 16 new members to the USCF lists, through the entrants registering for this event.

WHITAKER WINS BAY REGION 30-30

Norman T. Whitaker, of Shady-side, Maryland, scored a clean sweep in a 30-30 Chess event, sponsored by the Bay Region Chess Club, Dundalk, Maryland, and held on the weekend of November 15th and 16th, and won with a 13-0 score.

Bill Koenig, Tournament Director, decided because of the small entry field of 14 players to make the affair a 13 Round Robin event—real cozy competition. Mr. Whitaker, who at the age of 73, must be one of the world's oldest active chess masters, won all of his games. Estas Skibourinkos, a recent arrival from Lithuania, took 2nd with a score of 11-2. In 3rd place was Malcolm Pivar of Baltimore—score 10½-2½, and 4th with a score of 9-4 was Michael Tischtchenko, also from Baltimore.

THEY ARE PLAYING NOW!

The Fifth Rosenwald Trophy Tournament (and Eleyenth U. S. Closed Championship) will be played at the Manhattan and Marshall Chess Clubs, from December 18, 1958 to January 4, 1959. Hans Knoch will act as Tournament Director.

Reshevsky, Fischer, Lombardy, Benko, Bisguier, Evans, R. Byrne, D. Byrne, Sherwin, Kalme, Weinstein and Mednis have been invited to play in the event.

Authorities consider this to be one of the strongest entry lists in U. S. chess tournament history. (See col. 4, page 5 for later news)

Operation

M

1000
NEW
MEMBERS

(Continued from Page 1)

"The enthusiasm and ubiquitous nature of this response is very significant. It means plainly that our members think well of USCF, and that they are undertaking the responsibility to expand its membership, to introduce to more chess players the values, needs, and responsibilities of organized chess. I sincerely hope that each USCF member in the entire South will get one new member every month during this drive!"

Frank Rose, State Membership Chairman for Florida, is very well-known throughout the state as the fine chess columnist in the Fort Lauderdale News. His columns have carried strong words in support of organized chess. ". . . When you join USCF," he wrote on Nov. 23, "you become a member of a fine organization, . . . receive Chess Life . . . increase your playing strength and enjoyment of the royal game. . . . A real bargain. I urge everyone . . . to help support organized chess in America . . ." And on Nov. 26 Frank sent in four new memberships . . . typewriter magic!

Boris Garfinkel, Maryland State Membership Chairman, is the distinguished expert on the mathematics of satellite orbits. "The course of USCF membership in Maryland," he states, "will be an ascending parabola with indefinite deviations, but wholly without regression." (If Maryland is off to a slow start, that's typical of Boris, who had only 1 point after 5 rounds at Rochester—but ended with 7!)

Mrs. Gilliam McMahan, North Carolina State Chairman, writes that "tightfisted chess players . . . will be persuaded with a small baseball bat applied to the head. In the future we can sign up more!" (We note happily that NCCA is well staffed with M.D.'s)

W Troy Miller, Mississippi State Chairman, has not written us the

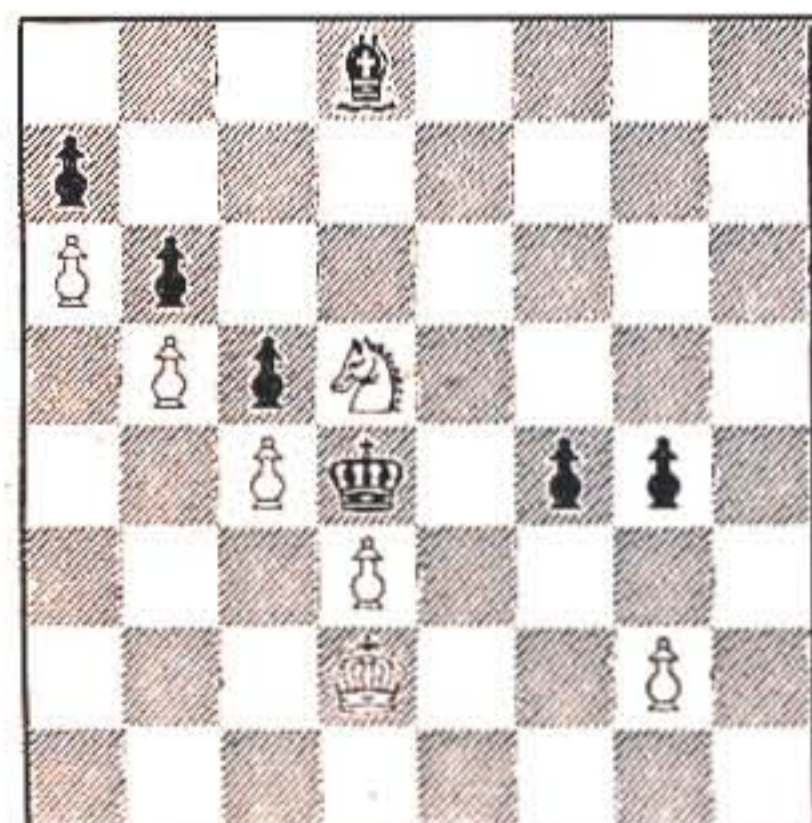


LARRY EVANS ON CHESS

By International Grandmaster LARRY EVANS

Problem Study from a Tournament Game

The following diagram, from Fischheimer - Macskasy, Canadian Open, 1958, was analyzed in the September 20 issue of Chess Life. Since then Ben Greenwald of Salt Lake City has pointed out many nuances which neither this annotator nor the players were aware existed in the position.



White to Play

Black won the game, which continued: 1. NxBP, B-N4; 2. P-N3, K-K4; 3. K-K3—wait a minute! writes Mr. Greenwald—give White's last move a double questionmark. Instead he wins with 3. K-K2!!



Position after 3. K-K2

To prove his point, Mr. Greenwald submits the following variations: 3., BxN; 4. PxBch, KxP; 5. P-Q4, and now—

I. 5., K-N6; 6. PxP, K-R7; 7. PxP, P-N6; 8. P-N7, P-N7; 9. P-N8=Qch and wins.

II. 5., K-N6; 6. PxP, K-R6; 7. P-B6, P-N6; 8. P-B7, P-N7; 9. P-B8=Qch wins.

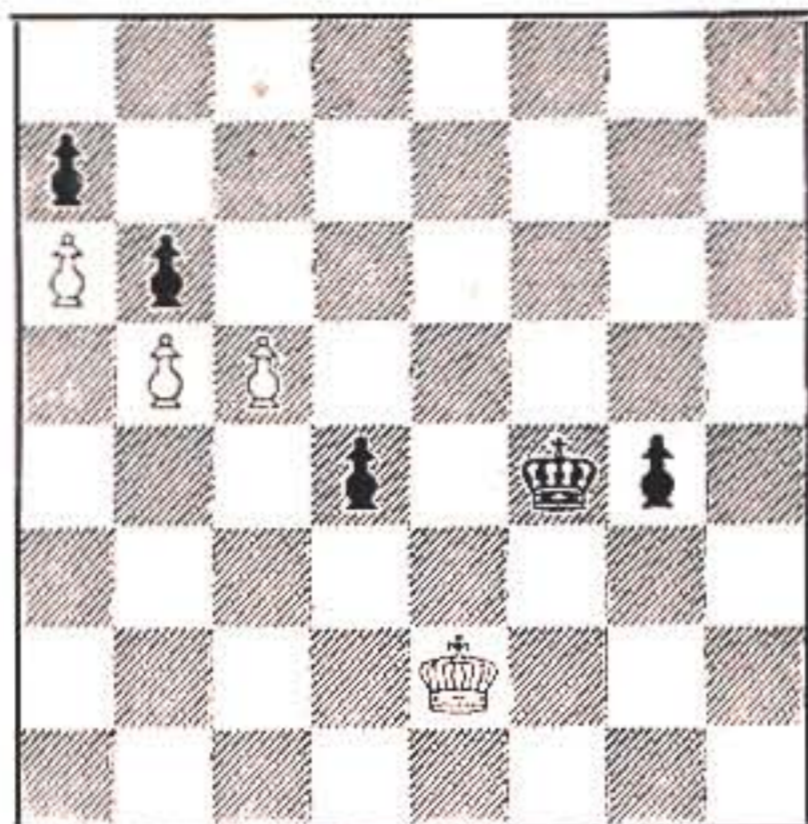
III. 5., PxP; 6. P-B5, etc. winning easily by the advance of the pawns.

In my reply, I pointed out that Mr. Greenwald should beware of etceteras.

(See diagram top next column)

Suppose Black plays 6., P-N6; 7. PxP, P-Q6ch; 8. KxP, P-N7; 9. P-N7 (ro PxP, P-N8=Q; 10. P-R8=Q, Q-B8ch followed by QxP), P-N8=Q; 10. P-N8=Qch, K-B4 and Black should draw despite being a Pawn behind. So ran the gist of my reply.

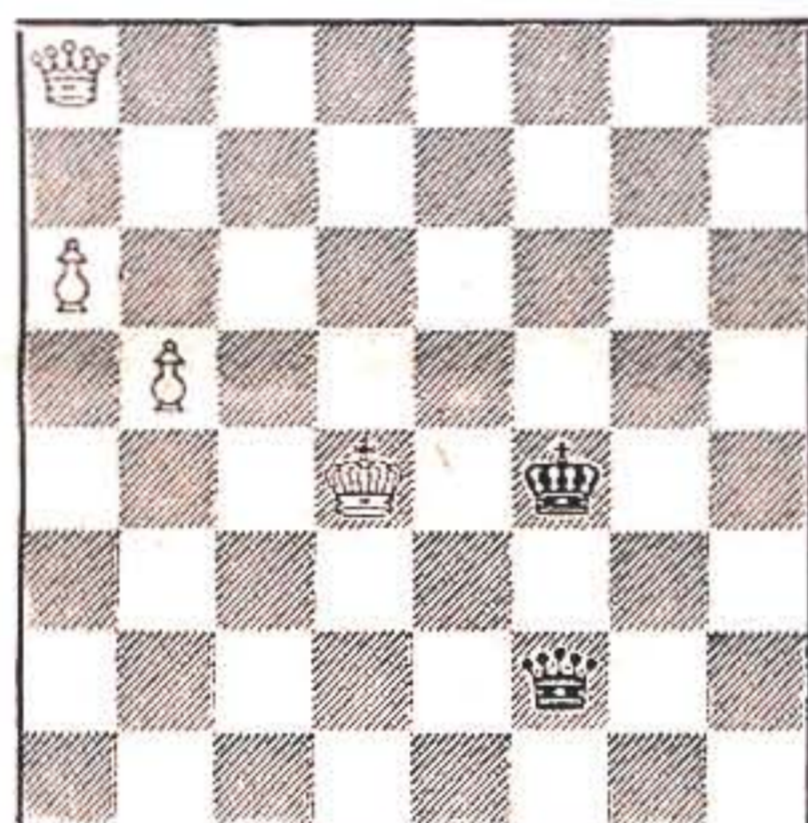
To which Mr. Greenwald parried, beware of what you put in parenthesis! He evidently agrees that the main variation I gave is a draw, but he shows that after 6., P-N6; 7. PxP, P-Q6ch; 8. KxP, P-N7; 9. PxP, P-N8=Q; 10. P-R8=Q, Q-B8ch; 11. K-Q4, QxNP&; 12. Q-K4ch, K-N4 (or N6); 13. Q-K5ch, forcing an exchange of Queens with a won endgame.



Position after 6. P-B5—Variation III

"If Black does not play 11., QxNP the resulting Queen and Pawn ending is still an easy win for White, as I'm sure you'll agree," continues Mr. Greenwald.

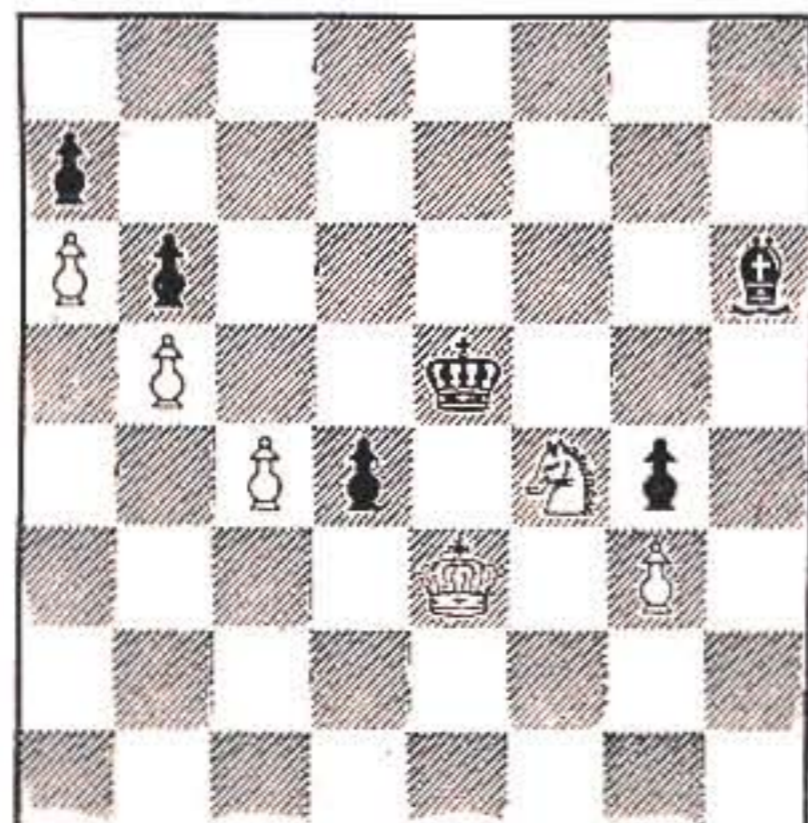
No, I don't agree. After 11. K-Q4, Q-B7ch Black should still draw by perpetual check, as White's King cannot cross to the Q-side (12. K-Q5?!, Q-B6ch winning the Queen).



Position after 11., Q-B7 ch

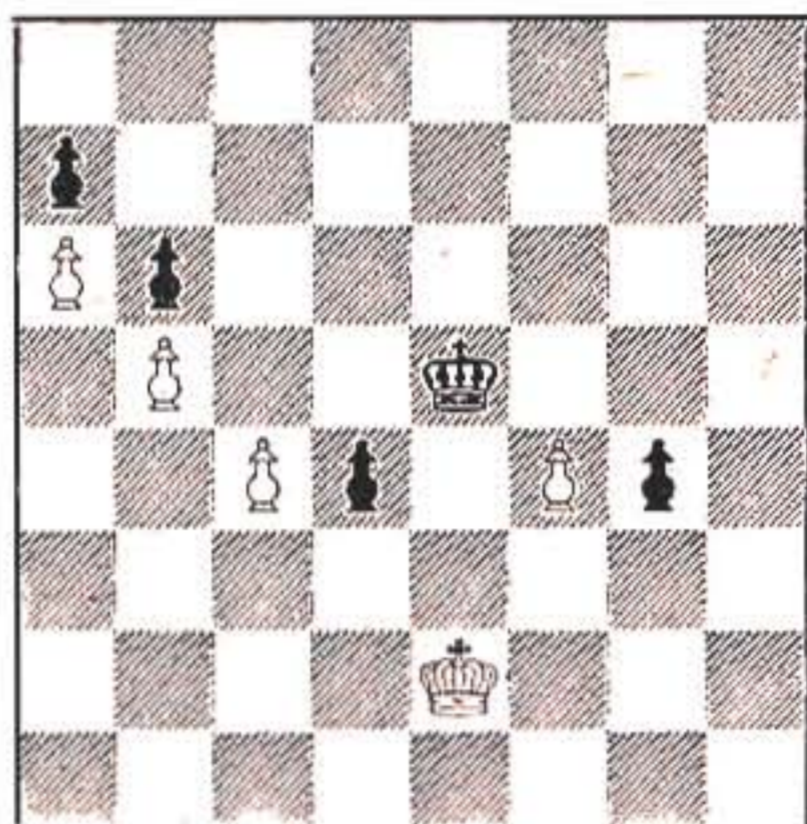
If 12. K-B4, Q-B7ch; 13. K-N4, Q-Q7ch forces a draw. Quite a study! It illustrates something of the complexity of chess.

For those of you who are exhausted by these extensive side-variations (they are the meat of chess!), let us return to diagram 1 and follow the actual game. It continued: 3. K-K3, B-R3; (Originally I gave this a questionmark, claiming that Black could have won with 3., K-B4; 4. P-Q4, PxPch; 5. KxP, BxN; 6. PxP, P-N6!; 7. K-K3, K-N5!; 8. P-KB5, K-R6; 9. P-B6, P-N7 and wins. In view of Mr. Greenwald's comments, however, White could still meet 3., K-B4 with 4. K-K2!, saving the game by transposing into his analysis.) 4. P-Q4ch (4. K-K2 here also transposes), PxPch.



Position after 4., PxP ch in the actual game

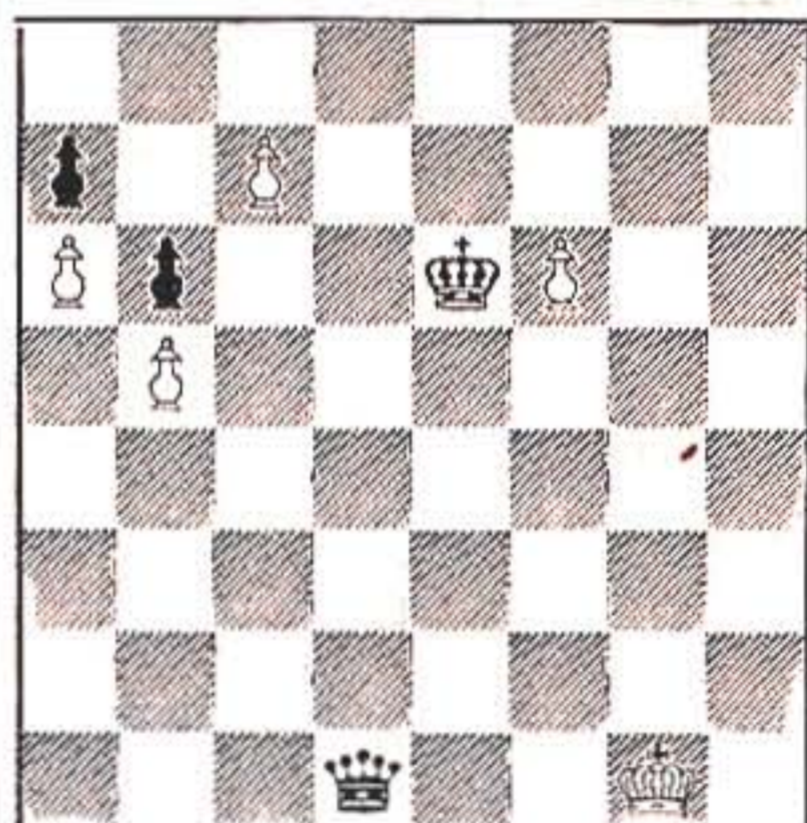
5. K-K2? (The losing move. Correct is 5. K-Q3, BxN; 6. PxPch, KxP; 7. P-B5! Black's relatively best continuation is 6., K-B4; 7. P-B5, P-N6; 8. PxP, P-N7; 9. P-N7, P-N8=Q; 10. P-N8=Q—and a probable draw by perpetual check), BxN; 6. PxPch.



Black to play and win

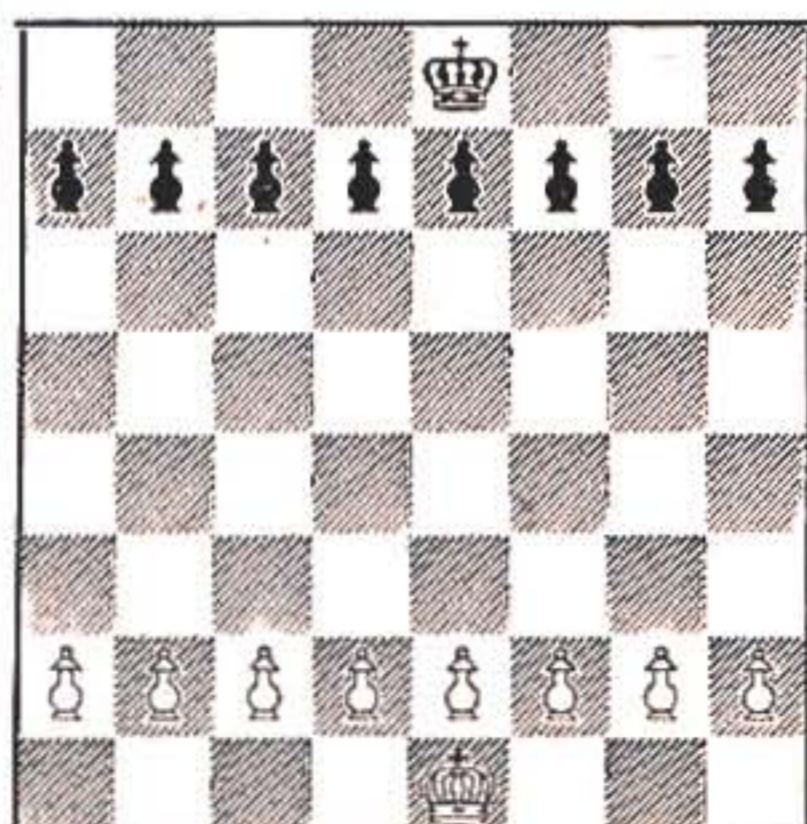
6., K-Q3!!—the move White had overlooked in his calculations. 6., KxP; 7. P-B5 transposes into diagram 3, which is in White's favor.

White is now lost. The remaining moves were: 7. P-B5, P-N6; 8. P-B6, P-N7; 9. P-B5ch, K-K3; 10. K-B2, P-Q6; 11. P-B6, P-Q7; 12. P-B7, P-N8 Qch; 13. KxQ, P-Q8 Qch and wins.



Final position—White resigns

Like so many endgames, this hinges on one solitary tempo. Despite its apparent simplicity, the ending is the most exact and in many ways the most beautiful part of chess. The best way to improve your game is to study Rook & Pawn, then Queen & Pawn finales. If you want to have a lot of fun, and learn King & Pawn endings in the process, play a few games with a friend and remove all the pieces thusly.



SWAP SHOP

Howard Billian, 25 Oak St., Middletown, Conn., offers: "Leaves of Chess," first year, No. 1 through second year, No. 7; "American Chess Bulletin" Jan.-Feb. 1957 through July-Aug. 1958; "Elms Checker Board" Jan. 1957 to July 1958; He will swap the above for any tournament book with Alekhin as a participant. Mr. Billian also offers a copy of XXVth USSR Chess Championship (In Russian). Set of 20 printed bulletins, with photos, tables, diagrams, theoretical articles—120 pages. All the games of the match, plus many others played by leading Soviet masters. Well over a hundred games. He will swap this for AVRO Tournament, Holland 1938. Mr. Billian also offers the following books, Reinfeld's "How To Be A Winner At Chess," "Chess for Amateurs," "The Treasury of Chess Lore," "How to Fight Back," "King Pawn Openings," "How to Win When You're Ahead," "How to Play the White Pieces," and "The Complete Chess Player." Lasker's "How to Play Chess," Moscow-Prague Chess Match, 1946. He will swap one, two or all for "what have you?"

WELDON MIDWEST OPEN CHAMP

In the Midwest Open, played at the Louisville, Ky. YMCA, Charles Weldon of Milwaukee topped a small but strong field to score 4½-½ in a five round Swiss. Pat Forsee of Louisville scored 3½-1½ to take second place, losing only to Weldon. Bill Batchelder of Bloomington, Ind. was third with 3-2. Louis Stephens of E. Alton Ill., John Ragan of E. St. Louis, Mo., and Walter Hasken of Louisville, Ky. tied for 4th to 6th places after each had scored 2½-2½.

I CANNOT BELIEVE IN DEATH

(By A. E. Santasiere, Dec., 1958.)

I cannot believe in death.
I cannot plan for death.
I cannot imagine death.
But I can love,
I can love with a great strength,
A great pity.
Not knowing how or why
I can cry
With the joy
Of being tender and warm,
So radiant for every wanderer.
I cannot believe in death.
I can only live and love.

I cannot believe in death.
Let the mountains vanish into the sea.
Let kings and queens be dust.
Let Thunders roll,
Let Winds explode—
All Anarchy A-fire!
Yet shall I live and love.
And wherever that may be,
I shall find my dear ones
New and old,
For all are one.
And life for me
Means life for all.
I cannot believe in death.

CHECKMATE

By Merrill Joan Gerber

We sat beneath an elm tree
In its pleasing, cooling shade,
And there upon the velvet grass
A game of chess we played.

His eyes were on the chessboard,
On the players black and red,
Mine were on his smiling face
As "I give you check!" he said.

I raised my eyes to his then,
I seemed to read my fate,
And said, quite without thinking:
"You check, but will you mate?"

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Editor: FRED M. WREN

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Ratings Coming Up

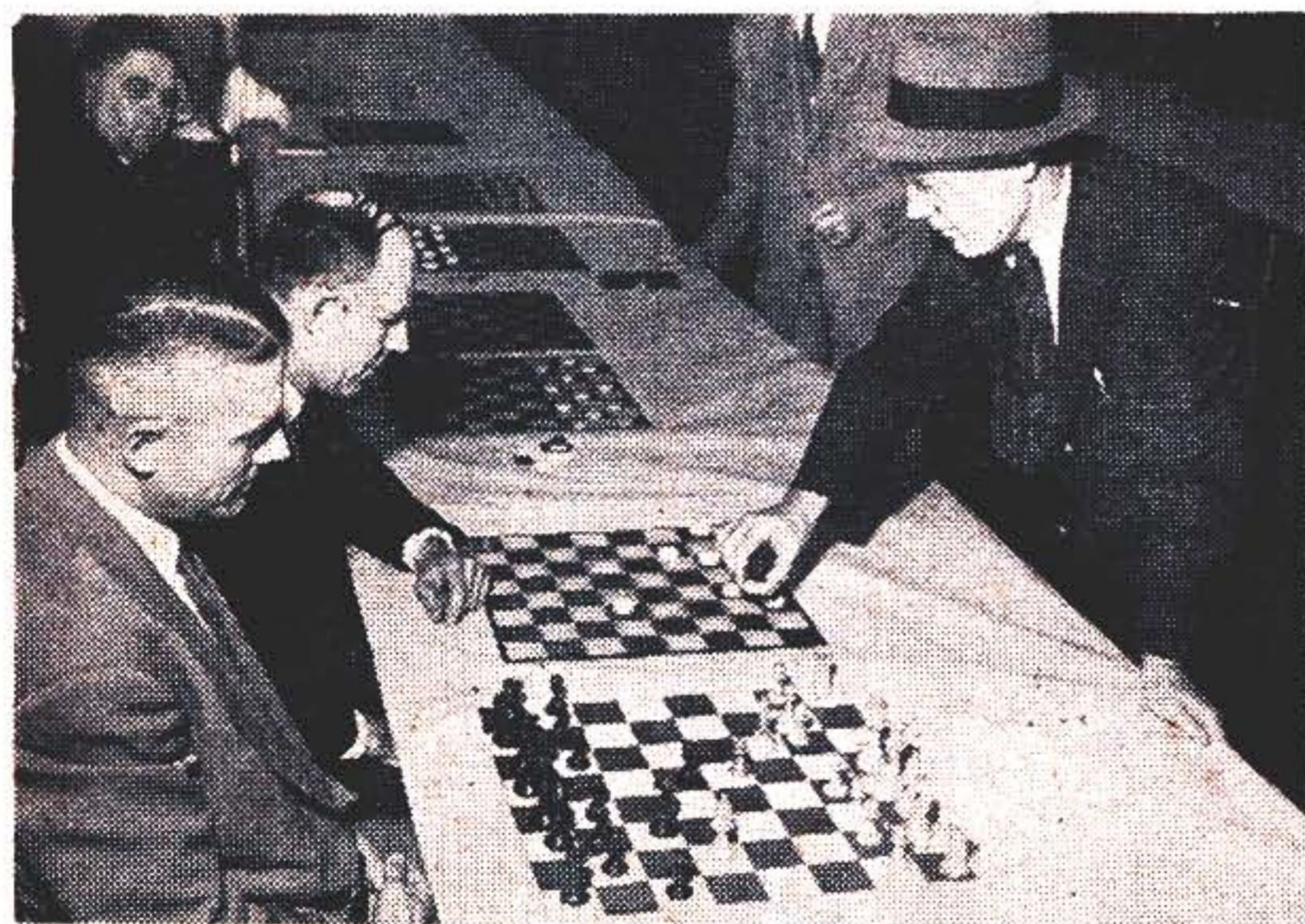
During the year which we have served as editor of CHESS LIFE the most frequent, the most justified, and the most unanswerable complaint which has been received from our readers has dealt with the delay in the publication of USCF ratings.

Here are two paragraphs culled at random from the past month's mail. They both came from persons whose devotion to the best interests to chess has been proven beyond a doubt, the first from Iowa, and the second from the state of Washington.

(1) "How do they expect to sell Operation M when the publication of National Chess Ratings is so far behind that players have difficulty in figuring out what their's would be if their latest, instead of last year's, tournament was included. Unless ratings are published at least twice a year the contestants in annual tournaments may be paired on the basis of a rating that is two years old. I know that you have no connection with the ratings, except the publication of them, but the situation is so ridiculous that it seems to be that it is about time to get it straightened out or quit bragging about it." With this gripe we have no argument—only a bit of a shock to realize that we must have given the impression of "bragging" over a situation which is so shameful that we certainly did not consciously brag about it.

(2) "As you know, the Northwest now has its own rating system, and that is probably the principal reason USCF is weak out here. It has absolutely nothing to offer us that we do not already have, cheaper and better." With this we could build up more of an argument on the basis of the chess publications only. We hold no brief for the USCF mandatory-rating system, and we fail to see any unique merits in that system when compared with the Northwest system. We would however, be interested to learn of any publication or publications which the players of the Northwest receive, and "cheaper and better" than CHESS LIFE. It is our own personal opinion that CHESS LIFE, even before the issue of January 5, 1958, gave—and continues to give—the chess devotee more for his money than any other English-language publication on the subject.

Before dodging the verbal brickbats which we shall undoubtedly receive from Mr. Harkness and President Spann for the foregoing lines, let us hasten to assure you that a mammoth rating issue has been promised for January. Mr. Harkness informs us the new list will contain more than 6000 names (as compared to 3000-plus in the issue of March 5, 1958). So, whether you like the system or not, if you are in any way interested in the developments of American chess during the past 18 months, you can't afford to miss the January, 1959, rating-issue. If we get the material in time, it will appear in the January 5 issue. If it's delayed, you will get it in the next issue after we receive it.



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Tom Wiswell, Brooklyn, N. Y., World's Free Style Checker Champion, and co-author with Larry Evans of "Championship Chess and Checkers For All" at left, giving a mixed simultaneous exhibition at Bethlehem, Pa. on a recent tour. At Salem, Mass. he won fifteen chess and fifteen checkers, without a loss or draw. In the New England tour he lost only one chess and one checker game out of over 500 played, including several blindfold games.

He is a leading member of the Chess and Checker Club of New York, and captain of their checker team which holds the U. S. and international team championships. He will make a national tour in February (Eastern and Southern States). If you would like one of his remaining open dates, write to him at 355 45th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. for details.

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CHESS TACTICS FOR BEGINNERS

By U. S. Expert DR. ERICH W. MARCHAND
(1958 U.S. Amateur Champion)

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. Pierson, Indianapolis, Indiana, calls attention to the following variation of the Evans Gambit: 1. P-K4, P-K4; 2. N-KB3, N-QB3; 3. B-B4, B-B4; 4. P-QN4, BxP; 5. P-B3, B-R4; 6. P-Q4, P-Q3; 7. Q-N3, Q-Q2; 8. Pxp, Pxp; 9. O-O, N-R3; 10. B-R3, B-N3; 11. R-Q1, Q-N5; 12. B-N5, P-B3; 13. P-R3, QxKP; 14. B-Q3, Q-KB5; 15. Q-Q5, BxP; 16. PxB, N-Q1. MCO(9) describes this as an "unclear position." But what about 17. B-N6ch followed by 18. Q-Q7 Mate?

Answer: This is another place where the book is wrong (obviously). It appears to be humanly impossible to produce an opening book without a few gross blunders such as this. This does not destroy the overall usefulness of opening books but means that one must use them with caution. A plausible continuation for Black (instead of 16., N-Q1) would be 16., Q-N6ch (note that White's KBP is pinned); 17. K-R1, QxPch; 18. N-R2, N-Q1 since now Black's Q protects his Q2 square thus preventing the mating variation which is possible in the book line.

D. Taylor, Decatur, Illinois, asks about the following line of the Giuoco Piano Opening given in MOC9, col. 1, p. 8: 1. P-K4, 6. Pxp, B-N5ch; 7. N-B3, NxKP; 8. O-O, BxN; 9. P-Q5, B-B3; 10. R-K1, N-K2; 11. RxN, O-O; 12. P-Q6, Pxp; 13. Qxp, N-B4; 14. Q-Q5, P-Q3; 15. N-N5, N-R3. The question is why not 15., BxN?

Answer: 16. BxB, QxB?; 17. QxPch!, RxQ; 18. R-K8 Mate.

Mr. Taylor also asked about the Danish Gambit Variation: 1. P-K4, P-K4; 2. P-Q4, Pxp; 3. P-QB3, Pxp; 4. NxP, B-N5. He asks if 5. Q-Q4 refutes Black's last move. **Answer:** MCO9 does not give 4., B-N5 either to conserve space or because it is considered inferior. Certainly 5. Q-Q4 is a strong reply as the following variations show: (A) 5. Q-Q4, BxNch; 6. QxB, N-KB3 (6., P-KB3 is probably wiser); 7. P-K5, N-Q4; 8. Q-KN3, O-O; 9. B-KR6 or (B) 5. Q-Q4, B-B1; 6. B-QB4, N-QB3; 7. Q-Q5, Q-K2; 8. B-KN5, P-B3. The second line and the first (with 6., P-KB3) seem to indicate that chances are about even, White getting an advantage in development in return for a Pawn.

2. How About a Trap?

Some traps are possible only if the opponent plays foolishly while others require the player who sets the trap to sacrifice some material which cannot be recovered if the opponent fails to fall into the trap. Other traps occur in such rare settings that it is hardly worth learning them since they rarely can be used.

The following trap suffers from none of these defects. Black plays rather plausible moves, in fact ones which are rather commonly played. And, what is more, the sacrifice involved is not only sound but very surprising. It runs 1. P-K4, P-K4; 2. N-KB3, N1QB3; 3. B-B4, P-Q3; 4. N-B3, B-N5; 5. O-O, N-Q5; 6. NxP, BxQ, 7. BxPch, K-K2; 8. N-Q5 Mate.

Black's 5., N-Q5 does break

an opening rule since it moves a piece twice in the opening. However, it appears to have enough of a threat to justify it. For instance: 6. P-Q3, NxNch; 7. Pxn opening White's King's position. However, the only real error on Black's part is that he simply does not see White's brilliant sacrificial reply. As to the soundness of the sacrifice, it is clear that 6. NxP, Pxn (instead of 6., BxQ); 7. QxB, NxP; 8. R-N1 leaves the material even. A good feature of this trap is that the chance to use it arises fairly often either in the above form or in slightly different positions.

3. An Opening Trap in Action

RUY LOPEZ

Rochester City Championship
Rochester, N.Y., 1958

E. MARCHAND P. EBERLEIN
(Age, 14)

White Black

1. P-K4 P-K4 3. B-N5
2. N-KB3 N-QB3

The Ruy Lopez. Beginners often wonder what the point of White's last move is. On the surface it appears to threaten 4. BxN, QPxP; 6. NxP. But this would be adequately answered by 6., Q-Q5 or 6., Q-N4.

One of the fundamental points, however, is that 3. B-B4 allows 3., B-B4 making it difficult for White to enforce P-Q4. However, 3. B-N5, B-B4; 4. O-O, Kt-B3 (4., P-Q3; 5. P-Q4), 5. NxP!, NxN; 6. P-Q4, and, if 6., B-Q3?; then 7. P-KB4!

3., P-QR3
Better than 3., N-B3 since Black will now be ready for P-QN4 at the right moment.

4. B-R4 N-B3 5. Q-K2
The Wormald Attack, somewhat similar to the Worrall Attack 5. O-O, B-K2; 6. Q-K2. The line chosen is no better but contains several subtle traps.

5., P-QN4
Black avoids the first trap 5., B-B4?; 6. BxN, QPxP; 7. NxP, Q-K2 (7., Q-Q5; 8. N-Q3, NxP?; 9. NxP, QxB; 10. QxNch); 8. N-Q3, NxP (8., QxP; 9. NxP); 9. P-KB3, N-B3; 10. NxP. 6. B-N3 B-K2
Better is 6., B-B4 with equality.

7. P-QR4 P-N5 8. O-O P-Q3
Falling into the second trap. 8., O-O was indicated.

9. Q-B4
Or 9. BxPch, KxB; 10. Q-B4 ch, P-Q4; 11. QxN, B-Q2; 12. NxPch and 13. NxP. 9., K-Q2

Or 9., P-Q4; 10. QxNch, B-Q2; 11. Q-N7, B-QB4; 12. NxP, R-R2; 13. N-B6! 10. QxBP Q-B1 13. BxB RxB
11. B-K6ch K-Q1 14. P-Q3 P-R3
12. QxQch RxQ

White has emerged from the opening with an extra Pawn and no problems except to find a way to turn the extra Pawn into a won game. The first step is to get the pieces into action.

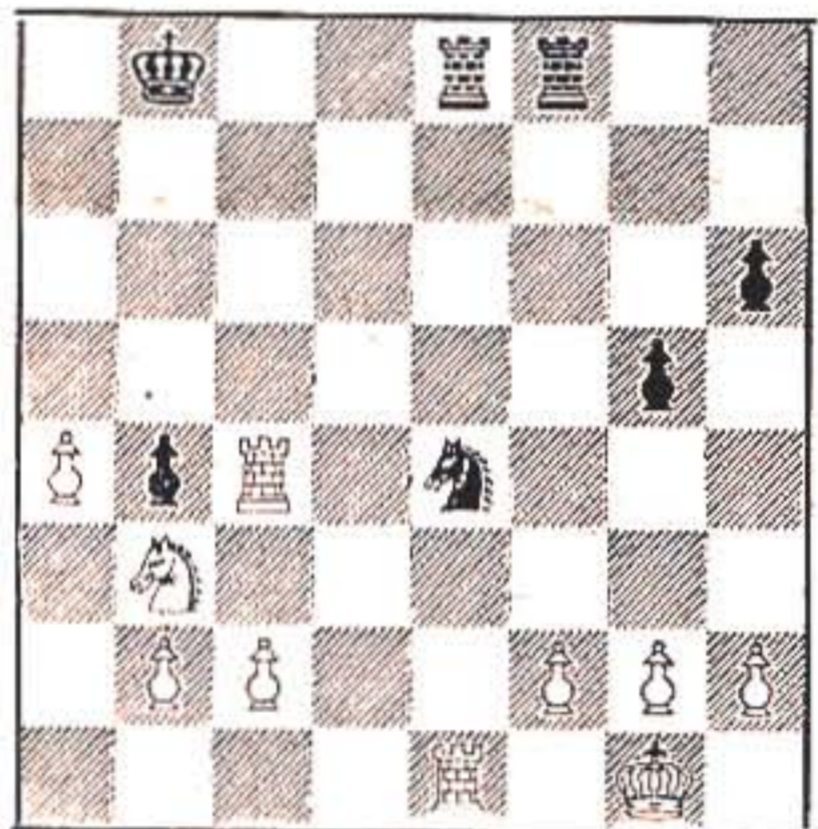
15. QN-Q2 P-N4 17. B-K3 B-B3
16. N-N3 N-KR4 18. P-Q4
The intention here is to open the center to take advantage of the exposed position of Black's King.

18., Pxp 20. BxN
19. KNxQP NxN
Better than capturing with the Knight. Black's strong Bishop will now be neutralized.

20., K-Q2 22. BxB NxB
21. QR-Q1 QR-K1 23. KR-K1 K-B1
Not 23., NxP; 24. RxN, RxR; 25. N-B5ch, K-B3; 26. NxR. The pressure on Black's exposed King is being realized. Black's last move must be considered a mistake since it overlooks White's next move winning a Pawn. Correct is 23., K-B3; 24. R-Q4, R-QN1. Less good is 23., R-QN1; 24. P-K5 (not 24. N-B5ch, K-B1; 25. NxP, R-N3).

24. R-Q4
Attack combined with defense. The R defends the KP.

24., P-B4 27. R-B6ch K-N1
25. RxQP NxP 28. RxBP
26. RxQRP P-B5 28., Resigns



Position after 28. RxBP

There was a cute twist here which might nearly have turned the tide. For instance, if now 28., N-Q3; 29. RxRch, RxR. Black would be threatening mate as well as NxR. How would White stop both of these threats? **Answer:** By 30. RxPch (the check is of great importance!) One might ask whether Black couldn't have avoided this check earlier by 27., K-Q2 (instead of 27., K-N1). But then would follow 28. RxBP, N-Q3; 29. R-Q1! pinning the Knight and saving the game.

Participants:

(numbers chosen by lot for pairing purposes)

1. William Lombardy—International Master, World's Junior Champion
2. James Sherwin—International Master
3. Pal Benko—International Grand Master
4. Donald Byrne—U. S. Senior Master
5. Edmar Mednis—U. S. Senior Master
6. Robert Byrne—International Master
7. Charles Kalme—U. S. Master, Intercollegiate Chess Champion
8. Raymond Weinstein—U. S. Junior Champion
9. Samuel Reshevsky—International Grand Master, Champion of the Western Hemisphere
10. Larry Evans—International Grand Master
11. Arthur Bisguier—International Grand Master
12. Robert Fischer—International Grand Master, U. S. Champion

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SPECIAL REPORT TO CHESS LIFE
By FRANK R. BRADY

Round 1: After short introductory speeches by Mr. Morris Freed and Mr. Jerry Spann, Presidents of the respective co-sponsoring bodies, play began at the Manhattan Chess Club at 6:30 p.m. December 18th. It is reported that Lombardy spotted Fischer twenty minutes in their first-round encounter, by arriving a bit late, but this loss of time on his clock did not prevent the World Junior Champion from completing his quota of moves before the time control was passed, and the game, with Fischer playing a Sicilian Defense, was adjourned.

About 100 spectators were present, at the opening of play. Most of the noise and confusion, which seemed to bother only Fischer and Sherwin, seemed to originate with exuberant players, rather than with the spectators, as is so often the case in cramped club surroundings. No unpleasant incidents took place, with all twelve players exhibiting sportsmanlike cooperation with Referee Hans Kmoch.

Results of the evening's play: Lombardy-Fischer, adjourned; Sherwin-Bisguier, adjourned; Benko-0, Evans-1; D. Byrne-Reshevsky, 1/2-1/2, 16 moves; Mednis-Weinstein, 1/2-1/2, 26 moves; R. Byrne-Kalme, 1/2-1/2, 30 moves.

Rounds 1 to 5 and 9 to 11 will be played at the Manhattan C. C., with rounds 6, 7 and 8 to be played at the Marshall C. C. The winner will be declared after adjournment playoffs are finished on January 5.



GAMES BY USCF MEMBERS

Annotated by Chess Master JOHN W. COLLINS

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

A. C. A. CHAMPION

Richard C. Moran of Jamaica, N. Y. is the new Atlantic Coast Amateur champion. He is a member of the Jamaica Chess Club and the Manhattan Chess Club and is in the current championship preliminaries of the latter.

This game is characterized by a double sacrifice of a piece. The first time it is recovered and the second it is not, however White still managed to maintain a winning position.—JWC.

KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE

MCO 9: page 307

Atlantic Coast

Amateur Championship
Asbury Park, 1958

Notes by Richard C. Moran

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| White | Black |
| R. C. MORAN | A. LONG |
| 1. P-Q4 | N-KB3 |
| 2. N-KB3 | P-KN3 |
| 3. B-B4 | ..... |

This inaugurates the London System, rarely seen today, yet last seen in the game D. Byrne-Benko at the New Western Open.

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 3. | P-Q3 |
| 4. P-K3 | N-R4? |

This is a waste of time, the open K file will be of advantage to White.

| | |
|---------|------|
| 5. B-B4 | NxB |
| 6. PxN | P-K3 |

6., P-Q4 was best immediately. The Bishop's present diagonal is its strongest.

| | |
|----------|--------|
| 7. P-KR4 | B-N2 |
| 8. P-B3 | P-KR4 |
| 9. QN-Q2 | P-QB3? |

It would seem that 9., P-Q4 was in order once more, and 9., P-QB4 is an improvement over the text.

| | |
|----------|------|
| 10. N-N5 | P-Q4 |
| 11. B-Q3 | P-N3 |

Black is three tempi behind in development. This is due to his exchange on move five.

| | |
|-----------|------|
| 12. QN-B3 | N-Q2 |
|-----------|------|

I thought that 12., B-QR3 was an improvement.

| | | | |
|----------|------|-----------|--------|
| 13. Q-B2 | N-B1 | 15. KR-K1 | P-B3!? |
| 14. O-O | R-R3 | 16. NXP | ..... |

This sacrifice is almost automatic. It is not immediately clear, however, that White can recover the piece. An interesting line is 16., BxN; 17. P-B5, Pxp; 18. Bxp, K-B2; 19. R-K3, BxB; 20. QxB, K-B1 and it is interesting to see what resources abound after 21. QR-K1.

| | | | |
|-----------|------|------------|-------|
| 16. | BxN | 18. Bxp | K-B2 |
| 17. P-B5 | Pxp | 19. R-K3 | Q-K3? |
| 20. BxB | NxB | 23. N-K5ch | K-N1 |
| 21. Q-B5! | Q-Q3 | 24. Nxp | Q-Q2 |
| 22. RxN | Q-Q1 | 25. QxQP! | ..... |

As it turns out, White "sacrifices" again, his four Pawns advantage is stronger than the piece.

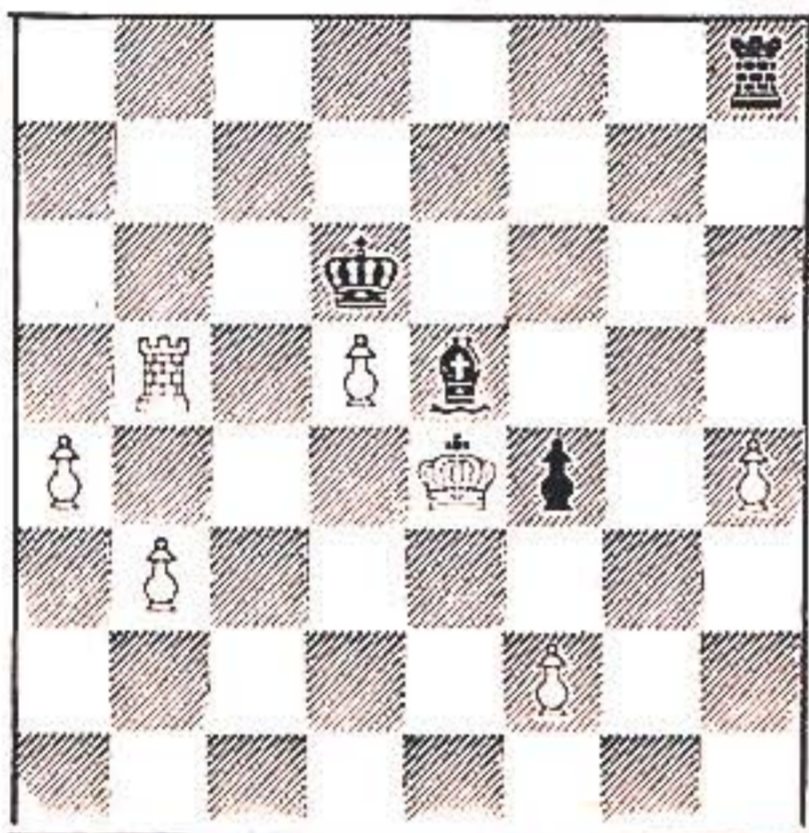
| | | | |
|------------|------|-----------|-------|
| 25. | QxQ | 32. P-R3 | B-R3 |
| 26. N-K7ch | K-B2 | 33. P-KN3 | B-Q7 |
| 27. NxQ | KxR | 34. R-K2 | B-B8 |
| 28. N-B7ch | K-Q3 | 35. R-B2 | B-R3 |
| 29. NxR | R-R1 | 36. R-K2 | B-B8 |
| 30. NxP | PxN | 37. R-B2 | B-R3 |
| 31. R-K1 | R-R1 | 38. K-N2 | ..... |

White decides rightly that Black has no future in grabbing the K file.

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 38. | R-K1 |
| 39. K-B3 | P-B4 |
| 40. P-B4 | R-KN1 |

The Rook has no target. Neither does the Bishop.

| | | | |
|------------|-------|----------|-------|
| 41. P-B5ch | Pxp | 46. Kxp | R-QR1 |
| 42. RxP | R-KB1 | 47. P-N3 | B-N7 |
| 43. R-N5 | B-B8 | 48. P-Q5 | B-K4 |
| 44. P-R4 | P-B5 | 49. K-B3 | R-R1 |
| 45. P-KN4 | Pxpch | 50. K-K4 | ..... |



Final Position

Now 50., RxP loses a piece. There is not sufficient play for Black, hence the game was adjudicated as a win for White.

CLIMBING

Living up to the expectations expressed in this column prior to the event, Raymond A. Weinstein of Brooklyn, N. Y., won the U. S. Junior Championship in July. Ray's winning tally was 8-1—seven wins and two draws. His play, as in the following game, was logical and forthright. And this latest success affords him the opportunity to play in the U. S. Championship in December. Watch him climb!

HROMADKA SYSTEM

MCO 9: p. 230, col. 23 (h)

U. S. Junior Championship
Homestead, 1958

Notes by John W. Collins

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| White | Black |
| R. WEINSTEIN | T. HELDT |
| 1. P-Q4 | N-KB3 |
| 2. P-QB4 | P-B4 |

This is the Hromadka System, sometimes called the Modern Ben-Oni, Black's strategy is to attack on the KR1-QR8 diagonal and the QN-file.

| | |
|---------|------|
| 3. P-Q5 | P-Q3 |
|---------|------|

The usual sequence is 3., P-K3; 4. N-QB3, Pxp; 5. Pxp, P-Q3; 6. P-K4, (or 6. N-B3) P-KN3. Then White can secure an advantage with 7. N-B3, B-N2; 8. B-K2, O-O-O; 9. O-O, B-N5; 10. P-KR3, BxN; 11. BxB, P-QR3; 12. B-B4! or 7. P-B4, B-N2; 8. B-QN5 ch!, KN-Q2; 9. B-Q3! (or 9. P-QR4).

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 4. N-QB3 | P-KN3 |
| 5. P-K4 | B-N2 |
| 6. N-B3 | O-O |

By omitting, P-K3 and, KPxp, Black has avoided the second variation in the previous note. On the other hand, he has obtained less play and given White a freer choice.

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 7. B-K2 | N-R3 |
| 8. B-N5 | ..... |

This pressures the KR4-Q8 slant and induces Black to weaken his king-position with P-KR3.

| | |
|---------|------|
| 8. | N-B2 |
| 9. N-Q2 | P-K3 |

Better is 9., P-K4, after which White has problems breaking with P-B4. If 10. Pxp e.p., Pxp frees Black's position.

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 10. P-B4 | |
|----------|-------|

White adopts the aggressive Four Pawns Attack. There is a threat to win a piece with 11. P-K5.

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 10. | P-KR3 |
| 11. B-R4 | Q-Q2 |
| 12. P-R4 | ..... |

Directed against, P-QN4.

| | |
|----------|------|
| 12. | Pxp |
| 13. BPxp | R-K1 |

Not 13., N-N5? 14. BxN, QxB; 15. QxQ, BxQ; 16. B-K7, and the QP goes.

| | |
|----------|------|
| 14. P-R3 | R-N1 |
| 15. O-O | P-R3 |

Black works to enforce, P-QN4 (a must in the Hromadka and this type of King's Indian).

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 16. P-K5? | |
|-----------|-------|

Urged on by the positional threat of 16., P-QN4, White strikes without due preparation. Probably best is 16. B-B3, P-QN4; 17. Bxp, Pxp; 18. R-R7. But 16. P-R5 is met with 16., N-N4! (not 16., P-QN4? 17. Pxp e.p., RxNP; 18. N-B4!).

| | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 16. | KNxp |
| Or 16. | Pxp; 17. Pxp, KNxp. |
| 17. B-N4 | Q-B3 |

If 17., N-K6; 18. BxQ, NxQ; 19. BxR, NxN; 20. Bxp ch, KxB; 21. Pxn, and White wins.

| | |
|---------|-----|
| 18. Pxp | BxB |
|---------|-----|

Possible is an involved sacrifice of the exchange with 18., NxN; 19. QPxN, NxQ; 20. Pxr=Q, BxB; 21. Q-R7, N-K6; 22. R-B2, B-QB1.

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 19. QxB | QxQP |
| 20. N-B4 | Q-K3? |

This gives White a good shot—the chance to open the KB file. Correct is 20., Q-QB3 and if 21. N-R5, Q-N3 with the possibility of a draw by repetition.

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 21. P-B5! | Q-Q2? |
|-----------|-------|

After this second mistake White obtains a decisive material advantage. Again, 21., Q-QB3 (protecting the KNP) is correct.

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| 22. Pxp | QxQ |
| 23. Pxp ch! | ..... |



Position after 23. Pxp ch!

White wins the exchange.

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| 23. | K-R2 |
| 24. Pxr=Q | Q-Q5 ch |
| 25. B-B2 | ..... |

"The point of the combination."

| | |
|----------|-----|
| 25. | RxQ |
|----------|-----|

If 25., QxB ch; 26. RxQ, RxQ; 27. NxN, NxN; 28. R-B7 wins.

| | |
|---------|-----|
| 26. BxQ | PxB |
|---------|-----|

In order to get some counter-chances with a passed-pawn. If 26., BxB ch; 27. K-R1, NxN; 28. R-B7 ch, K-N3; 29. RxN wins.

| | |
|-----------|------|
| 27. NxN | NxN |
| 28. QR-Q1 | N-K6 |

If 28., P-N4; 29. Pxp, Pxp 30. N-Q6, R-K3; 31. N-B5 and White wins.

| | |
|---------|-----|
| 29. NxN | RxN |
|---------|-----|

Or 29., Pxn; 30. R-Q7 and wins,

| | | | |
|-------------|------------------|----------|-------|
| 30. R-B7 | K-N3 | 32. R-N3 | B-Q5! |
| 31. RxNP | P-Q6 | 33. K-B1 | ..... |
| 33. R/3xp?? | loses two Rooks! | | |
| 33. | P-Q7 | | |
| 34. RxR | BxR | | |
| 35. K-K2 | Resigns | | |

Koltanowski Combines

George Koltanowski gives an old combination an original twist in a simultaneous exhibition held at the Jewish Community Center in Omaha, Nebraska during a test facing 22 opponents. His victim is the 1945 Nebraska State and Omaha City Champion, George Halsey. Curiously, Halsey was the only player to defeat Koltanowski during a similar exhibition held in Omaha in 1947.

GIUOCO PIANO

MCO 9: Page 9, column 10
Simultaneous Exhibition

Omaha, 1958

Notes by Koltanowski

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| White | Black |
| Koltanowski | Halsey |
| 1. P-K4 | P-K4 |
| 2. N-KB3 | N-QB3 |
| 3. B-B4 | B-B4 |
| 4. O-O | N-B3 |
| 5. P-Q4 | ..... |

Although this variation is not absolutely correct, it is well suited to simultaneous exhibition play since it creates problems for both sides which are difficult to solve in a short time, thus giving the master a decided advantage.

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 5. | Bxp |
| 6. NxB | NxN |
| 7. P-B4 | P-Q3 |
| 8. P-B3 | ..... |

The "book" line is 8 Pxp Pxp 9 B-N5 which is drawish. The text is a favorite of mine and lends originality to the position.

| | |
|---------|------|
| 8. | N-B3 |
| 9. P-B5 | O-O? |

The text is an inaccuracy as shown by subsequent play. The only move is 9 P-KR3 to prevent 10 B-N5 as the pin soon becomes annoying.

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 10. B-KN5 | N-QR4 |
| 11. B-Q3 | P-B4 |
| 12. K-R1 | ..... |

A useful move to avoid the threats incumbent with 12. P-B5 and 13. Q-N3ch after which White will lose his Queen Knight's Pawn.

| | |
|----------|------|
| 12. | P-B5 |
| 13. B-B2 | P-N4 |
| 14. Q-B3 | N-B3 |

A bid to force Queen-side matters with P-QR4, etc.

| | |
|------------|-------|
| 15. P-QR4! | Pxp |
| 16. N-Q2 | N-QR4 |
| 17. RxP | B-Q2 |
| 18. BxN! | ..... |

Launching a combination which ends in original fashion. The text is based on a well-known theme exercising pressure against Black's King Bishop Three.

| | |
|----------|-----|
| 18. | PxB |
|----------|-----|

Forced, otherwise Black loses the Knight.

| | |
|----------|------|
| 19. RxN! | QxR |
| 20. NxP | Q-B4 |
| 20. NxP | Q-B4 |
| 21. N-K3 | Q-B2 |

If, for example 21. B-B3 22. N-N4 with a similar attack as transpires in the game.

| | |
|------------|-------|
| 22. N-Q5 | Q-Q1 |
| 23. Q-N4ch | K-R1 |
| 24. Q-R4 | R-KN1 |

What else? If 24. K-N2 25. R-B3! R-R1 (..... R-KN1 loses quickly) 26. R-N3ch K-B1 27. Q-R6ch K-K1 28. Q-N7 R-B1 29. NxPch K-K2 30. NxP etc.

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 25. NxP | R-N2 |
| 26. R-B3 | ..... |

(Continued on page 7, col. 1)

PERSONAL SERVICE

The Editor of this Department, a former Marshall Chess Club, New York State, and U. S. Correspondence Champion, and Co-Reviewer of "Modern Chess Openings," 9th Edition, will play you a correspondence game and give critical comments on every move for a \$10 fee. The Editor will also analyze any subscriber's game, or part thereof, postal or over-the-board, for a \$5 fee.

(Continued from page 6)

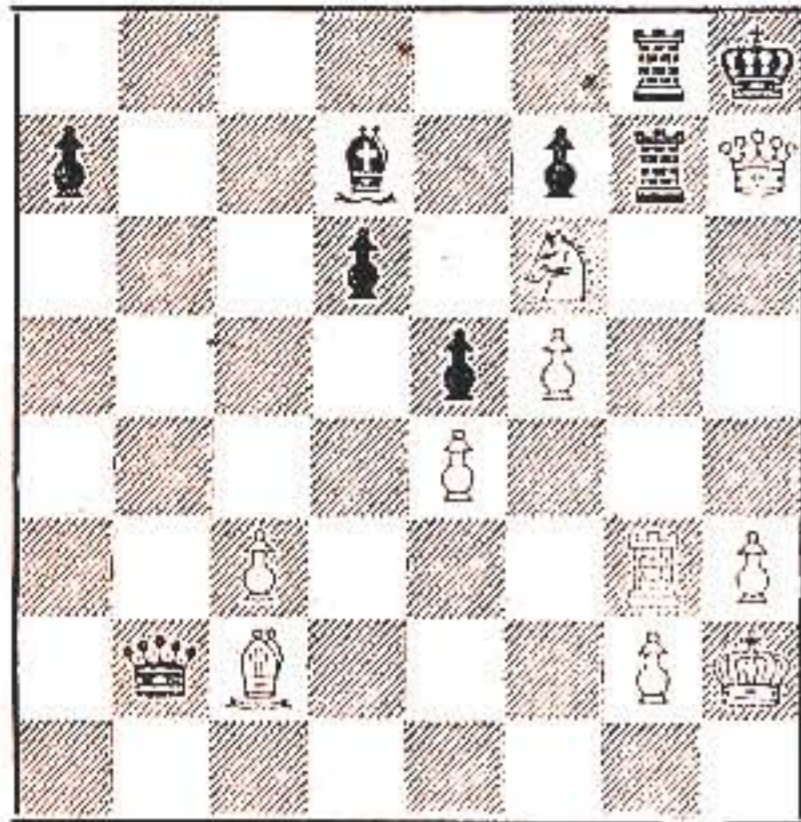
With the dire threat of 27. R-R3 etc.
26. Q-R4
27. P-R3

A momentary diversion—Basically it blocks White's intended R-R3; but, on the other hand 27. Q-R8ch 28. K-N2 QxP and White must defend his Bishop while the attack grinds to a halt!

27. Q-R8ch
28. K-R2 QxP
29. R-N3 QR-KN1

Now on 29. QxB 30. Q-R6 brings about the same position as Black must counter with QR-KN1.

30. QxPch! RxQ
31. RxR mate



Position after 30. QxPch!

WITH THE CLUBS

The Independent Chess Club of E. Orange, N.J., sponsored a "Summer Tournament" which drew fourteen entries, and which has just been completed. The winner, Herb Hickman, scored 12½-½ in the 13-game round-robin, drawing with Edgar McCormick, and winning all the other games, a terrific accomplishment in view of the strong competition. Leroy Dubeck lost only to Hickman, drew three, and won nine, to score 10½-2½ for second place. Edgar McCormick lost two (Dubeck and Leslie Ault), drew two, and won nine for a 10-3 score, and third place. Robin Ault and Robert Durkin tied for 4th-5th with 9-4. Leslie Ault was 6th with 8½-4½, while Clinton Parmalee, former U.S. Amateur Champion, the only other player with a plus score, lost only to Hickman, won four, and drew eight for 8-5, and 7th place.

The Penn State University Chess Club, recently elected new officers: Pres.—Fred M. Shaffer Jr., Sec.—Robert W. Haas.

On October 19, 1958 the club played an 11 board match against the Altoona City Chess Club winning 7½-3½.

One of the strongest Club Championships in the country—aside from the master-loaded Marshall and Manhattan Clubs in New York—is the keenly contested Washington Chess Divan tournament. USCF Master Herbert Avram took the 1958 event with a 6-1 score, losing one game to Jack Mayer. Further details are promised for a later issue.

From the Divan comes news of a visit to Washington by Miguel Cuellar, who played Board 1 for the Columbia Olympic Team at Munich, and who tied Lombardy for 2nd place in the Tournament of the Americas at Bogota last February. On November 8 he gave a 48 board simultaneous exhibition at the Pan American Union in Washington, winning 33, drawing 12, and losing 4. This chore kept him busy from 3 PM to 9. He then rushed out to the Divan and played skittles until 1 AM. The week before this chess marathon, he had engaged in a novelty tournament at the Divan, playing in a five-player double round robin of 8-minute clock games. He won this with a 6½-1½ score, losing one game to Hearst, and drawing one with Gonzalez. Hearst was second, with 5½ points, breaking even with Cuellar and Gonzalez, and drawing one game with Whitaker, who finished third with 3½ points, after winning two from Gonzalez, one from Berliner, and drawing one with Hearst. Berliner had a bad night, losing two to Cuellar, two to

Are You a Member? Is Your Friend a Member?

Hearst, and one to Whitaker, winning twice from Gonzalez for a 3-5 score. Gonzalez scored one point against Hearst and a half-point against Cuellar, for 1½ points.

The Divan also reports that the veteran Whitaker has been monopolizing the weekly Rapids. On Sept. 29, it was Whitaker 8-0, runner-up Gonzalez with 7-1. On Oct. 6 it was Whitaker 7-1, Gonzalez 6-2. On Oct. 13 it was Whitaker 8½-½; Gonzalez 8-1. On Oct. 20 Whitaker and Gonzalez tied at 8-1, after each had defeated third-place Berliner, who scored 6½-2½.

The Elkhart, Ind. YMCA Chess Club 1958 championship started with a 12-entry 7-round Swiss preliminary, in which Bozidar Pehneć scored 6½, conceding a single draw to Harold E. Smith who was a close runner-up with 6-1. Qualifying for the championship finals behind Pehneć and Smith were Charles Stewart, 5-2; Dr. J. B. Hartigan, 4½-2½; Robert Smeltzer, 4-3; Lyle E. Smith, 3½-3½; and Perry Eash, 3½-3½.

With Pehneć unable to play in the finals, the six-player round-robin was won by Harold Smith, with a score of five straight wins. Dr. Hartigan posted the only other plus score with 4-1.

In the consolation final H. Hammon, P. Streeter, and W. Ihrig each scored 2-1 in a four player round-robin.

The Dayton (Ohio) Chess Club won two inter-club chess matches on the afternoon of Sunday, November 2nd, 1958. In a 13 board match against the Columbus "Y" Chess Club, Dayton scored 8W, 3D, 2L to win 9½ to 3½. At the same time, Dayton Chess Club's second team won a seven board match against the Chessnuts Club of Dayton with a score of 6 wins and 1 loss.

As usual, Dick Ling suffered time troubles in his game with Mr. Mutshall on Board 1, but was in a losing position anyway. On the second board, James Schroeder and Jerry Fink, Ohio Jr. Champ '58, ended with a drawn game after 1½ hours of play. (One of the most interesting games occurred between J. Crider and A. Zurichenko, with a fascinating knight and pawn ending in which Crider queened a pawn.)

According to Jim Schroeder, Dayton has always been a nemesis to Columbus, Ohio teams, who do very well against everyone else.

| Columbus "Y" | | Dayton C.C. | |
|---------------|---|----------------|---|
| Mutshall | 1 | Ling | 0 |
| Schroeder, J. | ½ | Fink | ½ |
| Snyder | 0 | Taylor | 1 |
| Loening | 0 | Zukaitis | 1 |
| McCraeken | ½ | Dewitte | ½ |
| Fronczak | 0 | Wolford | 1 |
| Haban | 1 | Blackburn | 0 |
| Goreff | 0 | Bauer | 1 |
| Cox | 0 | Argabright, C. | 1 |
| Joffe | ½ | Blossom | ½ |
| Zurichenko | 0 | Crider | 1 |
| Schroeder, L. | 0 | Helm | 1 |
| Stought | 0 | Petran | 1 |

(Note: James and Lucy Schroeder—a husband-wife team)

| Chessnuts | | Dayton C.C. | |
|----------------|----|-------------|---|
| Argabright, R. | 0 | Barnhiser | 1 |
| Bramble | 0 | Kasishke | 1 |
| Schwartz | 1 | King | 0 |
| Trangenstein | 0* | Bellinger | 1 |
| Stegmeier | 0 | Taulbee | 1 |
| Worth | 0 | Redman | 1 |
| Argabright, R. | 0 | Norris | 1 |

HUTAFF TAKES 30-30

Oliver Hutaff of Wilmington, N. C., won the fifth annual 30-30 Tournament held in Raleigh, N. C., by the margin of one Solkoff point over Pete Henderson of Lynchburg, Va. Drawing their individual encounter, these two both scored 4½-½ and split equally a cash prize of \$35. George G. Trefzer of Newport News, Va., took third with a 4-1 score. Bracketed at 3-2 were, in order of finish, Dr. George Harwell of Durham and Edwin Blanchard, Dr. A. M. Jenkins, and David Steele, all of Raleigh. Dr. Jenkins directed the event, which was sponsored by the North Carolina Chess Association. David Steele was awarded the junior prize.

Mate The Subtle Way!

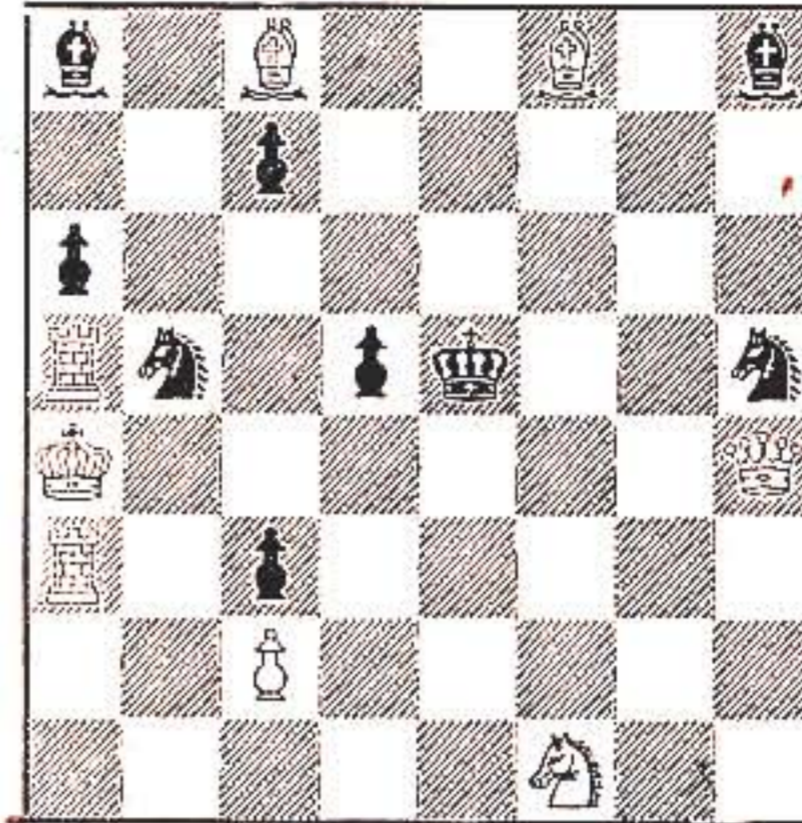
by Nicholas Gabor

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. 965

By A. Taliani
Pisa, Italy

Original for Chess Life



Mate in two moves

Problem No. 967

By J. C. Morra
Cordoba, Argentina
Correction of No. 956
Original for Chess Life



Mate in three moves

Both No. 965 and 966 have some merits worthy of our solvers' passing attention. No. 967 takes the place of No. 956, the subtle play of which was missed by all solvers due to the crude cook caused by the omission of the black bishop. Try it now! With No. 968 we complete our fourth year as problem-editor. The Judges' Reports on the "Gamage Memorial" Composing Contest will appear soon.

Solutions to "Mate the Subtle Way!"

No. 953 Hermanson: before the key, if B1 moves 1., N-Q5, 2. NxBP; 1., N-Q3; 2. Q-B6. (Set play.) After the key: 1. N-B6 threatening 2. Q-B5. Now the 2 set mates given above change place: 1., N-Q5; 2. Q-B6 and 1., N-Q3; 2. NxBP. Four other mates, all obvious. No. 954 Georgiev: keymove 1. Q-N5 threat 2. QxN. The good try 1. Q-K6 is defeated by 1., R-Q4. No. 955 Driver: 1. PxP threatening Pawn promotion. Four good variations. No. 956 Morra: See No. 967 above.

IDAHO ACTIVITY

The first chess tournament for the Eastern Idaho region was held in Idaho Falls, Oct. 25-26th. The winner was Swen Gridseth of Idaho Falls, with a score of 4½-½, followed by Alois Cziep with 4-1, who drew with both Gridseth and 3rd place Niggel Robinson, whose score was 3½-1½.

Fourth place (3-2) in the twelve-player event went to Carlos Lauritzen of Victor, Idaho. Tournament Director was Eugene Cowan of Driggs, Ida., who tied for 5th and 6th with Richard Brown, with 2½-2½ each. Brown defeated Robinson.

The Idaho Falls players are trying to organize a club—or reorganize their club of several years back which faded out. This tournament will be repeated annually, and may be held in Pocatello next year.

CROWDER WINS JACKSON INVITATIONAL

L. Peyton (Pete) Crowder of Greenville, Mississippi won 4 and drew 1 for a 4½-½ score, to win the Jackson Invitational City Tournament, sponsored by the Capital City Chess Club of Jackson, Miss.

Dale Jones of Clarksdale lost only to Crowder, and won four to take second place with 4-1. Claude Jackson's Solkoff points gave him third place over four others who also scored 3½-1½. The others in the order of finish were: John Poole, Fenner Parham, Jack Rushing, and David Harris.

The 20-entry event was directed by winner Crowder, and added five new members to USCF lists.

Are You a Member?
Is Your Friend a Member?

*Solution To
What's The Best Move?*

Solution to What's the Best Move?
Position No. 243

Larsen-Fairhurst, Moscow 1956
Fairhurst, Captain of the Scottish team, played 1., B-Q2!!, and Larsen resigned. The main variation is 2. QxB, QxBP; 3. P-KR4, N-K6; 4. Q-KR3, Q-N8 mate. The young Danish grandmaster, however, did not let this crushing defeat early in the tournament demoralize him. He went on to score a remarkable 14 points out of 18 games, winning the prize for the best individual score at first board. Other players at first board in this tournament, the Twelfth Olympiad, included such well-known grandmasters as Botvinnik, Gligorich, Szabo, Najdorf, Unzicker, Olafsson, and Stahlberg.

The attempt to carry out Fairhurst's idea by 1., BxP attracted many of our solvers but is not convincing. White can replay, for example, 2. RxB, QxBP; 3. KxB, and if 3., R-N8; 4. Q-Q4ch, or 3., P-KN4; 4. Q-QB4, or, finally, 3., P-QN4; 4. R-KB4. Neither is 1., P-QN4; 2. ...xP, BxP convincing because of 3. Q-B5. The tries by 1., QxNP; 2. N-Q4, R-Q7; 3. Q-N3 and by 1., P-K6; 2. N-Q4 are clearly inferior.

Correct solutions are acknowledged from: Harold Arneson, George W. Baylor, Howard Billian, M. D. Blumenthal, Abel Bomberault, Bob Cohen, Ramon Cook, Curtin, K. A. Czerniecki, Jesse Davis, Carl Dover, Richard Gibian, R. D. Gilliam*, O. E. Goddard, Lowell M. Greenbaum, Clark R. Harmon, Rea Hayes, Donald C. Hills, Viktors Ikauniks, John E. Ishkan, Donald W. Johnson, Andy Kaffo, C. C. Keffer, Paul Klebe, David Kornreich, E. J. Korpanty, Gary Labowitz, Alan Levinson, Bob Lincoln, F. D. Lynch, M. Milstein, Vincent D. Noga, O. Perry, Edmund Roman, George Ross, Frank Ruys, R. M. S., Max Schlosser, I. Schwartz, David Silver, Bob Steinmeyer, F. Trask, Walter Unterberg, Merle Walters, Al Welsh, Leslie Whitman, William B. Wilson, Neil P. Witting, and R. G. Wright. The solvers score by 49-21.

*Welcome to new solver.

Tournament Life

Tournament organizers wishing announcements of their forthcoming USCF rated events to appear in this column should make application at least seven weeks in advance, on special forms which may be obtained from USCF Business Manager, Kenneth Harkness, 80 East 11th St., New York 3, N. Y. or from Editor CHESSE LIFE, 19 Dutch Village Road, Halifax, N.S., Canada.

Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 1959

1959 Glass City Open Chess Tournament

To be held at the Central Toledo YMCA, 1110 Jefferson Ave., Toledo, Ohio. A five round Swiss, open to all, with a time limit of 45 moves in 1½ hours. Entry fee is \$5.00. Non-members of the USCF and the OCA must pay an additional fee of \$9.00. Prizes include: 50%, 25%, 15% and 10% of prize fund, which will consist of 60% of entry fees, plus trophy and cash award for Champion. Address entries and inquiries to Earl T. Mowery, 2426 Vermont Ave., Toledo 10, Ohio.

February 15 to February 22, 1959

35th Annual Western Mass. and Conn. Valley Chess Tournament

To be held at the Springfield YMCA, 122 Chestnut St., Springfield, Mass. 6 round Swiss, restricted to residents of the Connecticut Valley (USCF members only). Play begins at 9:00 A.M., with a time limit of 50 moves in two hours. Entry fee to USCF members is \$4.00. Non-members must pay additional USCF dues. Trophies will be awarded. Address entries and inquiries to Herb Waldman, Box 211, Southampton, Massachusetts.

THE USCF MONTHLY RATING-IMPROVEMENT TOURNAMENTS

TO BE HELD AT

THE CHESS & CHECKER CLUB OF NEW YORK
212 West 42nd St., New York, N. Y.

ON THE SECOND WEEKEND OF EVERY MONTH

starting with

January 10th and 11th, 1959

This series of tournaments is specifically designed to enable players to improve their ratings (and their games) prior to competing in the large regional and national tournaments conducted by USCF throughout the year. Each tournament will be officially rated by USCF.

Prizes: GIFT certificates, which can be cashed in for all types of chess books and equipment at USCF Headquarters, will be awarded in the following denominations:

1st PLACE.....\$15.00 TOP A PLAYER.....\$8.00
2nd PLACE.....\$10.00 TOP B PLAYER.....\$5.00
TOP UNRATED PLAYER.....\$5.00

WHO CAN PLAY: Open to all chess players regardless of ratings. (Unrated players also acceptable).
All players must be or become USCF members.

TYPE OF TOURNEY: Five-round Swiss under USCF tournament rules. Harkness pairing system.

Type limit: 50 moves in two hours. Unfinished games adjudicated after four hours. Ties broken by Median System. Director: Frank Brady.

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

HOW TO ENTER: Entries will be accepted by mail or at tournament site on January 10th, before 9:30 a.m. Play starts at 10 a.m. sharp.

THE UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION
80 EAST 11TH STREET NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

Just A Year Ago

In the issue of CHESSE LIFE dated December 20, 1957 our editorial predecessor wrote 30. This means that, counting this issue, your amateur editor has produced 24 issues of CHESSE LIFE for your benefit and approval. Most of it has been fun, and we hope that you, the readers, have had some fun too. As this is written we don't know whether the printer can comply with our request for a page-wide Christmas greeting in this issue. If the page-wide banner appears either on page 1 or page 4 of this issue, please understand that it represents the sincere greetings of your editor, and of every regular contributor to the columns of CHESSE LIFE, to every reader of the publication. If the heading proves to be technically impossible at this time, please understand that we tried, and that the same age-old wish—A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year—goes out to you all from all of us connected with the publication of your paper.

Jan. 10, 17 and 24, 1959

PITTSBURGH METROPOLITAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Downtown YMCA, 304 Woods St., Pittsburgh 22, Pa. 6 rd Swiss 2 rds on each of above dates. Open to USCF members. EF: \$3. for USCF members plus \$5. membership fee to nonmembers. John Hobbs Trophy to winner, with cash prizes depending on number of entries. For details write J. Glenn Waltz, 11299 High Point Drive, Pittsburgh 35, Pa.

Feb. 7 and Feb 8, 1959

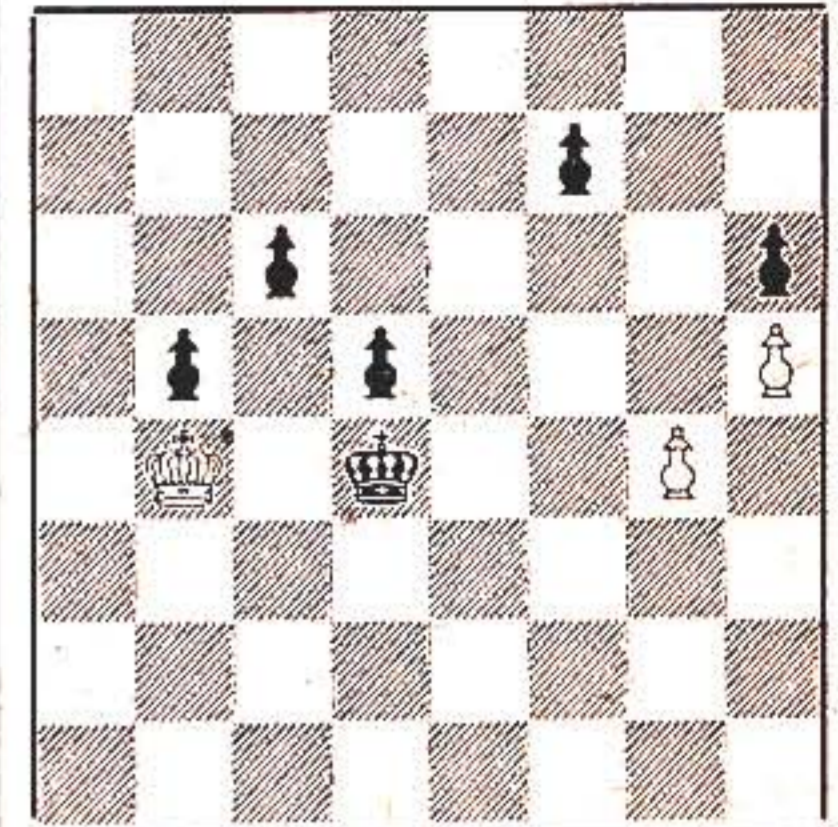
LOUISIANA-MISSISSIPPI OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Eola Hotel, Natchez, Miss. 5 rd Swiss. EF: \$3.50 to USCF members; \$8. to nonmembers. Four trophies in each of three divisions. CHAMPIONSHIP: for Class A and higher. SENIOR: for Class B. RESERVE for Class C and below. LOUISIANA CHAMPIONSHIP to high scoring La. player. MISSISSIPPI CHAMPIONSHIP to high scoring Miss. player. TD: Al McAuley and/or L. Pete Crowder. For details write Emanuel A. Dumling, 2992 Woodside Drive, Jackson 4, Miss.

50 YEARS OF PROBLEMS

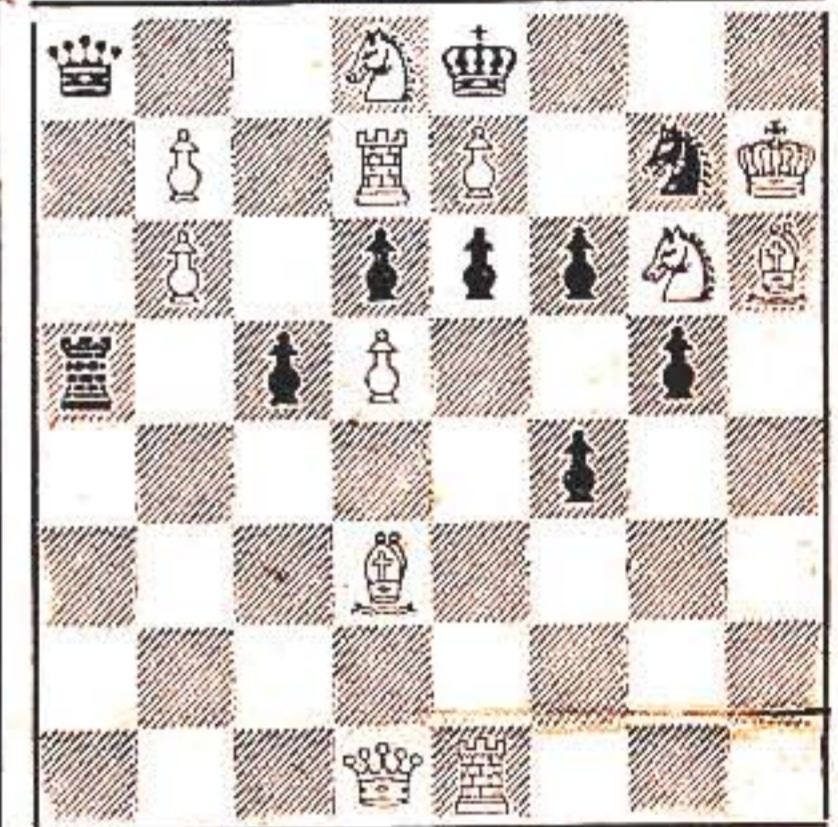
From the Jacobs scrapbook mentioned on page 2, come the following as holiday treats for problem fans. We picked No. 1 because it was the only one we could solve; No. 2 because it bore the composer's note, "This is, I think, the best problem I have ever composed." Tell Mr. Jacobs at 22 Fletcher St., Winchester, Mass. if you enjoy them.

King and pawn endgame puzzle
by C. S. Jacobs (1901)



White to play and win

Special composition for
The Christian Science Monitor
by C. S. Jacobs (1950)



White to play and mate in three

Waterloo, Iowa Y.M.C.A. Cedar Valley Chess Club 30-30 Open Chess Tournament, 29-30 November 1958

The first 30-30 Open Tournament to be held in the state of Iowa was declared a success by the 14 entrants. Robert Bradley of Cedar Rapids won all six of his games to take first place. James Gorman, also of Cedar Rapids, was second with five wins and one loss, losing only to Bradley. Dan Reynolds, 1958 Iowa State Champion, took third place in the tournament with four wins, losing only to Bradley and Gorman. Reynolds lost his game to Gorman when he completed only 29 moves in the first 30 minutes.

The Cedar Valley Chess Club plans to make this 30-30 tournament an annual affair during the Thanksgiving week-end.

ON TO OMAHA IN 1959

The following self-explanatory letter shows that the appropriate authorities are already planning the details of the 1959 National Open and the 1959 National Junior Championship.

December 5, 1958

Mr. Jacob Feldman, President
Omaha Chess Club
1815 No. 50th Street
Omaha, Nebraska

Dear Jacob:

I don't think I have to tell you how gratified I am that the Executive Committee and Directors of the United States Chess Federation accepted the proposal of the Omaha Chess Club to sponsor the USCF National Open and the USCF National Jr. Championship for 1959.

This is the first time in the 59 year history of our Federation that a city has been selected as the site for both events! This is a great honor for Omaha and a credit to you and your excellent chess organization. As you know, this event will draw participants from all over the world, and will be covered by Radio, Television and a world-wide coverage by all news services datelined Omaha.

A prestige event of this caliber is, of course, a community project which will draw on the support of all progressive citizenry . . . and in Omaha there are many! It also takes good organization which you and the Omaha Chess Club can certainly furnish. The Officers and Directors of the Federation are vitally interested and anxious to assist in any way possible, so don't hesitate to call on us for this assistance.

Warmest personal regards,
Jerry G. Spann, President
UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION