



Chess Life



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Wednesday,
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NEW YORKERS WIN MATCH

EVANS REPEATS AT MARSHALL

For the third consecutive year Larry Evans captured the Marshall Chess Club Championship, this time with a 16-2 score in an event that was interrupted for a brief space of time while Evans journeyed to compete in the Hastings Christmas Tournament. Second place went to Miroslav Turlansky with 12½-5½, while Nat Halper placed third with 12-6.

In fourth place Jerry Donovan and Dr. Ariel Mengarini tied at 11½-6½ each; while Elliot Hearst and A. E. Santasiere tied for sixth with 10½-7½ each. Carl Pilnick received a special prize for best score against the prize winners.

Outside this charmed circle of prize-winners were many well-known names such as Jack Collins, Carl Pilnick, Milton Hanauer and Franklin Howard, including a number of the younger collegiate players.

In the Consolation Tournament Harry Fajans placed first, while second place was a three-way tie between Fred Turim, David Eisen and James Sherwin.

The awarding of the prizes was made an occasion for honoring the 80th birthday of Hermann Helms (January 5th), and the members present were divided into two teams: the Reds captained by Mr. Helms and the Blues by Louis J. Wolff. The Blue team won by a close margin.

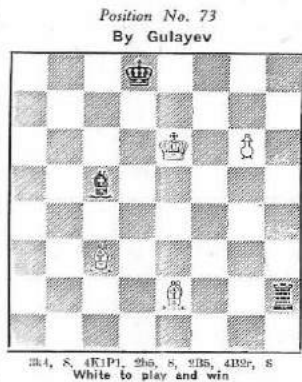
HENKIN WINS IOWA TITLE

Victory in the Iowa State Chess Association Championship Tournament, held at the Hotel Sheldon-Munn in Ames, and directed by Alfred Ludwig of Omaha, went to Dr. William Henkin of Des Moines with a 4½-½ score in a 21-man Swiss of five rounds. Dr. Henkin drew with John Penquite.

Sensation of the tournament was the second-place winner, 15-year old John Penquite of Des Moines, who drew with Dr. Henkin and J. Donath for a 4-1 score. Third place on S-B points went to Willis Vandenberg of Shellrock with a 4-1 score. Vandenberg lost his first round game to Henkin and was thereafter unconquered. Prof. A. W. Davis placed fourth with 3½-1½, losing to Penquite and drawing with Lyle Kenyon.

BUFFALO ADDS CHESS COLUMN

Newest arrival among chess columns in daily newspapers is a column in the Buffalo Courier-Express, edited by James J. Barrett of the Queen City Chess Club of Buffalo. This newsy column is exclusively for chess and not a chess and checker combination, and is unusual among chess columns for the fact that it does not include a problem position in each issue. The column combines local chess news with items of national chess activity.



Position No. 73
By Gulayev
White to play and win



Position No. 74
By Horwitz and Kling
White to play and win

White To Play And Win!

Conducted by William Rojan

WITHOUT apology to the reader, we lift these two positions from that admirable collection of chess entertainment, The Fireside Book of Chess by Irving Chernev and Fred Reinfeld. These two classic positions rank among the most brilliant conceptions of the great endgame composers who created them.

Position No. 73 by Gulayev is a beautiful conception, featuring in the brief space of five moves the offer of three pieces and the underpromotion of a pawn. Its beauty lies in the fact that Black also finds some pretty play in his defense and is only defeated by very exact play.

Position No. 74 is a classic conception of the early composers, Horwitz and Kling; and is characterized by a very surprising initial strategy by White who seems eager in his first moves to avoid rather than seek battle. But appearances are deceptive!

Please turn to page four for solutions.

MARSHALL DOWNS MERCANTILE TEAM

In a hard-fought 25-board match the Marshall Chess Club of New York gained a 14-11 victory over the invading Mercantile Library Chess Association of Philadelphia in one of the strongest inter-city matches of the year. Holding their own on the first five boards, the Philadelphians lost the second five and with them the match.

On board one DiCamillo defeated Larry Evans while teammate J. Levin was drawing with Dr. Lasker. On board three Herman Hesse bested Nat Halper while on boards four and five Sol Rubinov and William Ruth were drawing with Jerry Donovan and Dr. Mengarini. But thereafter it was a rout for the Pennsylvanians, with U.S. Co-Champion Gisela Kahn Gresser besting Pennsylvania Woman's Champion Mary Selenka on board twenty-five.

CAMBRIDGE WINS BOSTON B TITLE

Victory in the "B" Division of the Metropolitan Chess League of Boston went to the Cambridge "Y" Chess Club with a 10½-1½ match score. Second place in the 12-team contest went to Arlington Chess Club with 9½-2½, while third place was a tie between Harvard University and Boston College team No. 1 with 8-4 each.

PRINT DIRECTORY IN CLEVELAND

The Cleveland Chess Association, long noted for the excellence of its Cleveland Chess Bulletin, has filled a long-felt want by issuing a Cleveland Chess Directory, complete with names, addresses and telephone numbers of all Cleveland chess players associated in any way with the activities of the league. The Directory is an excellent example of the clear and distinctive typography that can be inexpensively planned by use of a variety-type machine and photo-offset printing. And it is a rich mine of information about Cleveland Chess Players. The Directory is not for sale, but may be acquired without cost by subscribing to the Cleveland Chess Bulletin, \$1.00 per year. Subscriptions may be sent to A. H. Martens, 1374 W. 117th St., Lakewood 7, Ohio.

SCHOENFELD TOPS AT FINAL ROUNDS

In the Massachusetts State Championship, being played on consecutive week-ends in Boston, Schoenfeld leads with 5-1, while Tautvaisha, Boston City Champ, is second with 4½-1½. In third place is Merkis, editor of the chess column in Darbininkas, with 4-2. Tied for fourth are Daly, Kagan and Ketrakis with 3½-2½.

SAVE THESE DATES!

July 10 - July 22
FOR THE
51st Annual U. S.
Open Tournament
AT DETROIT, MICH.

DIETER REPEATS AT SAGINAW OPEN

The second Annual Saginaw Valley Open Championship saw 1949 Co-champion Bruce Dieter successfully defend his title with a 4-0 score in a 4-round Swiss sponsored by the Saginaw Valley Chess League and directed by Robert Broad, president of Midland Chess Club.

Second place went to Joe Frank, also of the Midland Club, with a 3-1 score, while Al Brauer of Midland placed third and John Lapin of Bay City fourth with equal 2½-1½ scores on S-B points. Twelve players contested for the title from the Midland, Bay City, Saginaw and Freeland chess clubs.

In the team matches of the Saginaw Valley League for the "Little Brown Jug" trophy, the present standings show Flint leading with 3-1, Midland second with 2-1, Bay City third with 1-2, and Saginaw fourth with 0-3, as the season reaches the half-way mark.

LEAGUE WINNERS IN CLEVELAND

In the club competition of the Cleveland Chess Association, victory in the Eastern Division went to the Cleveland Chess Club with a 5-0 match score, while in the Western Division the title went to the Lakewood Tigers with 4-0 in match score. These two champions will meet to decide the final winner of the Club team championship of Cleveland.

Runner-up in the Western Division was the Checkmate Club with 2½-1½, while the Cubs placed third with 2-2. In the Eastern Division second place went to Amalgamation, Inc. with 3-2, while third place was held by the Cavaliers with 2-2.

3 TEAMS SHARE MILWAUKEE TITLE

Three team winners were declared at the conclusion of the Milwaukee Municipal Chess Association's 19th annual league season. Three-man teams led by State Champion Richard Kujoth, Marquette University student, William Oneby, and Dr. Samuel Morell, led the field in their respective divisions.

Discarding traditional round robin play, 18 teams submitted to three rounds of Swiss play to determine divisional placements. Three additional rounds were contested within each group at the termination of which a three-way twelve point tie ensued involving the Kujoth, Elo, and Rohland teams. This tie was broken by invoking the Sonneborn-Berger count, on the basis of total points scored by each team throughout the six rounds of play, a method which proved most satisfactory.

Of the sixty-odd players participating, only two, Donald Schwarten a newcomer to competitive chess in Milwaukee, and former state champion Arpad Elo, emerged with perfect scores in the individual standings.

USCF WILL HOLD WOMEN'S OPEN

Plans are being made for U. S. Women's Open Championship Tournament, to be held in connection with the annual U. S. Open Championship at Detroit this July. The event will probably begin on Tuesday, July 11 and last for one week. Custody of the Helen Cobb Trophy, now held by Miss May N. Karff, will go to the winner of the Women's Open—and the event will be open to Canadian women players.



Samuel Reshevsky demonstrates on the beautiful wall-board of the Salt Lake Y Chess Club, made by wood artist Hermann Dittmann.



Chess at the Chicago Hobby Show at Navy Pier. The women players are a group of those who play regularly in the "Chess for Veterans" program at Great Lakes and Vaughan Hospitals under the direction of Herbert Holland. Standing, poised for action is Paul Adams, who arranged the Hobby Show chess display.

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THE FEMINE TOUCH

NOW that the place of woman in the world of sports has been so firmly established with its golf, tennis and aquatic champions, its softball teams and even its lady wrestlers we grow daily more certain that chess also needs the feminine touch to fulfill all its possibilities.

There are, of course, those pioneer all-woman chess clubs like the Queen's Chess Club of Cleveland and the Woman's Chess Club of New York; there are clubs like the St. Petersburg Chess Club where the membership is divided rather equally between the sexes. But, alas, the majority of clubs are strictly male in outlook with only an occasional single woman player included. And in many clubs the policy remains to exclude all women players, whatever their attainments as chess players.

This state of affairs is not healthy for chess. It is reflected in the fact that our own Woman Co-Champions placed rather low in the battle for the Woman's Championship of the World—they lacked sufficient opportunity for playing to develop their own native ability into the polished finish necessary for international competition.

We need more women chess players in the USA; we need more chess clubs prepared to welcome them and develop them in first-class players. We need more tournaments for women where they can gain the poise and confidence that only comes after experience in competitive play.

In answer to the last of these needs, the U. S. Open Championship Tournament at Detroit this year will have a Woman's Open Championship event for possession of the Helen Cobb Trophy, now held by Miss N. May Karff. It is hoped that Miss Karff will defend her title, won in Baltimore, and that a host of women players will challenge it.

But the opportunity of tournament play is only one part of the answer; the development of women chess players, qualified to hold their own in international competition, is a problem for the clubs.

Montgomery Major

THE NEW U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT SYSTEM

by PAUL G. GIERS

President, United States Chess Federation

BY A DECISIVE vote and with only a sprinkling of dissenting voices, the USCF Board of Directors has adopted the report of the special Championship Committee and thereby given official sanction to a new system of competition for the United States Championship title.

The committee of five whose recommendations have now won nationwide endorsement was appointed last Fall in accordance with the wishes of our Board of Directors and charged with the task of considering the method of conducting the 1950 and perhaps future U. S. Championship tournaments. From its report it is quite evident that the Committee has taken a comprehensive and long-range view of the problems involved, also that it has paid special heed to a series of recommendations advanced by the Directors at their last Annual Meeting.

The principal provision of the new tournament procedure is that we will, starting in 1951, have a three-year cycle of national title competition culminating each third year in the Championship finals. This system will operate as follows:

1951—State or Regional Competition

In accordance with rules to be formulated later this year, there will be state or regional competition, and every state or regional champion emerging from such tournaments will qualify for participation in the 1952 Candidates' Tournament.

1952—Candidates' Tournament

This tournament, organized by the USCF, will be open for the following three groups of qualified players:

1. The second (middle) one-third of those who participated in the 1950 Championship, as referred to below. (Seven to be considered as one-third of twenty.)
2. All 1951 State or Regional Champions.
3. Five players to be selected by the Championship Committee, to take care of prominent players who for any reason did not participate in the 1950 and/or 1951 contests.

1953—U. S. Championship

These four groups of qualified players will have the right to participate in the championship finals:

1. The top one-third of the 1950 Championship participants. (Seven to be considered as one-third of twenty.)
2. The current Open Champion and the winners of the two preceding U. S. Open Championship Tournaments, if not already entitled to participate under other provisions.
3. Two players to be selected by the Championship Committee.
4. As many of the top group of the 1952 Candidates' Tourney as there will be additional places available to bring the total number of finalists up to twenty players.

The 1950 U. S. Championship Tournament

Because of the lack of time for holding proper preliminary competition, the 1950 U. S. Championship will be held as an invitation tournament. Three places will be reserved for the current U. S. champion and the winners of the 1948 and 1949 U. S. Open Championships. Other participants have not yet been determined, but will be selected at a later date by the Championship Committee or a special subcommittee thereof. The results of this tournament will determine the top seven players to be seeded into the 1953 championship finals and the middle seven entitled to places in the 1952 Candidates' Tournament.

The Question of Ties

As a necessary adjunct of the above tournament schedule, one official tie-breaking system will be applied in all contests connected with the U. S. Championship competition. Because of its popularity and advantages, the Sonneborn Berger System has been selected for this purpose, without however precluding any tie-breaking contest upon which all those concerned, players as well as organizers, may voluntarily agree.

The new three-year cycle of championship competition offers definite advantages. With the full cooperation of the nation's chess leaders and players, it will result in a vastly increased amount of title competition from coast to coast.

It is only as a necessary and one-time expedient that the 1950 U. S. Championship will be held on an invitational basis. What is more important is that we will now have a new long-range system of national tournament competition which takes into account the interests of the masters, the younger talent, and the chess players of the nation at large.

Our sincere thanks to the members of the Championship Committee: Hermann Helms, I. A. Horowitz, Hans Knoch, George E. Roosevelt and Maurice Wertheim. They have freely given of their time, talent and efforts to find a good solution to a complex problem.

The Reader's Road To Chess

By Kester Svendsen

WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 1948. By H. Golombek, Philadelphia: David McKay, 229 pp. \$3.

THIS is the first book of the championship that the present reviewer has seen, though he followed the games in Chess, Chess Review, and Chess World. It is a volume quite up to the high standard in chess books published by the McKay company. The author, a long-time chess journalist and British chess champion in 1947, is personally acquainted with the players and has contested games with most of them. He witnessed the game of the tournament and adds many touches of on-the-spot reporting to his colorful presentation. The two major sections of the book, games at The Hague and games at Moscow, are supplemented by a history of the proceedings up to the event, biographies of the players, and a ten-page analysis of the theoretical value of the openings. Results and games tables and an index of openings round off the volume.

Each game is closely annotated, with diagrams at crucial stages and with occasional notes from post-mortems by the players and others. Each round is introduced by a progressive score-table and a prefatory discussion of each game. The notes and the opening analysis are thorough but lively. The bare figures from the section on analysis are interesting: the Ray Lopez was played thirteen times, QG eleven, and QP fourteen. Golombek speaks of "the destruction of the open variation of the Morphy Defense . . . by 9. Q-K2 instead of the hitherto normal 9. P-B3," and this does seem to be a major improvement when followed, as he shows from games 31 and 33, by 11. P-B4 or 12. P-B4. Smyslov's handling of the Gruenfeld is the other major theoretical offering.

Only a master can evaluate the extensive annotations here. To the average player, particularly one who follows the commendable practice of playing over games on two boards simultaneously (one for the game itself, one for variations), they should be richly illuminating and instructive.

The Kibitzer Has His Day

From the Editor's Mail Bag

Dear Editor:

Something I have been wondering about for a long time has finally appeared in CHESS LIFE in the form of a letter from the New Haven Champion. Now that the topic has been mentioned publicly it is only fair that the public get a clear explanation of what has been going on. I prefer to the way in which the United States Chess Team is, or is not, selected.

Who selects the players? How are they judged as to their strength, or ranking? In other words what must one have to do to get on the team which I wonder if it is rightly called United States Team?

I wish to suggest that the readers of CHESS LIFE send in their versions of the top ten in the USA. It may give "authorities" something to go by.

Until I can let fly directly at those who have, in my opinion, mismanaged the team bearing the American name, I must sum up by saying that I hold the other half of the United States Titles, and have not been given an invitation at all. This fact, and it cannot be denied, proves that caliber was not the object of the ones who chose the team. One or two can be fine players, but they, being good, cannot make the rest as good.

Give the public a list, and let them vote on ten places; they cer-

tainly cannot do as poor a job as has been done.

ALBERT SANDRIN, JR.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Major:

James Bolton, the New Haven Champion, evidently wrote his letter of protest about the Herman Steiner affair (Chess Life, March 5) in haste before all the news about the matter had reached him. I am told that Steiner had been given the name of his opponent before leaving Los Angeles. He accepted expense money and came to New York before he raised his objection.

His placement below first board seems justified on tournament results. He won the title of U. S. Champion in 1948, a year when the tournament was an experiment to encourage regional chess rather than to bring out the strongest field. Most recognized American masters stayed out of the preliminaries, refusing to repeat a qualifying process they felt they had completed years ago and had renewed steadily by tournament performance. Consequently, they were ineligible to play for the championship.

In a more recent tournament with some of these masters participating, (New York, December 23, 1948 to January 2, 1949) Steiner (Please turn to page 3, col. 2)

Alekhine's Early Chess Career

Additional Data
By A. Buschke

III THE MATCH WITH LEVITSKY (Continued)

VIENNA GAME

Sixth Match Game, St. Petersburg, February 22, 25 (March 7, 10), 1913.

Notes by A. A. Alekhine in "Novee Vremia" of March 16(29), 1913, and "Shakmatnyi Viesnik," 1913, p. 87.

White
A. A. ALEKHINE
1. P-K4
2. Kt-QB3
3. P-Q4
4. P-K3
5. B-K2
6. BxB
7. Kt-QB3
8. P-K3
9. B-K3
10. BxKt
11. P-B3
12. KxB
13. Q-K3
14. Q-B4
15. B-N
16. B-Q7
17. P-K1
18. O-O
19. Kt-QB3
20. B-K3
21. B-F3
22. Q-Q1
23. P-KKt
24. B-K1
25. P-Q4
26. Q-K1
27. PxP
28. P-Q3
29. K-R3
30. R-K3
31. Q-K1
32. P-K1
33. Q-K2
34. K-R1
35. P-B3
36. P-P
37. P-P
38. P-K2
39. P-K2
40. B-Q2
41. Kt-K2
42. R(1)-K1
43. R(1)-K1
44. R(1)-K1
45. Q-K3
46. R(1)-K1
47. B-Kt2
48. Q-K1
49. Q-K1
50. Q-R6
51. K-R2
52. Q-K16
53. R(1)-B2
54. K-R2
55. B-R3
56. R-B1
57. PxP
58. Q-R6
59. R-K2
60. R-K2
61. R-K2
62. R-K2
63. R-K2
64. R-K2
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66. R-K2
67. R-K2
68. R-K2
69. R-K2
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71. R-K2
72. R-K2
73. R-K2
74. R-K2
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76. R-K2
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83. R-K2
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86. R-K2
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91. R-K2
92. R-K2
93. R-K2
94. R-K2
95. R-K2
96. R-K2
97. R-K2
98. R-K2
99. R-K2
100. R-K2

Black
S. M. LEVITSKY
1. Kt-QB3
2. B-B4
3. Kt-QB4
4. P-Q4
5. KtP
6. B-K3
7. P-Q3
8. P-Q3
9. B-K3
10. Kt-QB3
11. P-B3
12. B-K1
13. O-O
14. Q-B4
15. B-N
16. B-Q7
17. P-K1
18. O-O
19. Kt-QB3
20. B-K3
21. B-F3
22. Q-Q1
23. P-KKt
24. B-K1
25. P-Q4
26. Q-K1
27. PxP
28. P-Q3
29. K-R3
30. R-K3
31. Q-K1
32. P-K1
33. Q-K2
34. K-R1
35. P-B3
36. P-P
37. P-P
38. P-K2
39. P-K2
40. B-Q2
41. Kt-K2
42. R(1)-K1
43. R(1)-K1
44. R(1)-K1
45. Q-K3
46. R(1)-K1
47. B-Kt2
48. Q-K1
49. Q-K1
50. Q-R6
51. K-R2
52. Q-K16
53. R(1)-B2
54. K-R2
55. B-R3
56. R-B1
57. PxP
58. Q-R6
59. R-K2
60. R-K2
61. R-K2
62. R-K2
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93. R-K2
94. R-K2
95. R-K2
96. R-K2
97. R-K2
98. R-K2
99. R-K2
100. R-K2

Solely with the intention to have, later on, more time for deliberation. If Black cannot persist on repetition of moves, White could conceivably avoid the draw by playing in this position, P-KKt.

At this moment, it is not possible to take back with the pawn, on account of 28. RxB, 29. Q-N7, etc.

Black makes with the move, afraid of the transfer the bishop over to K2 which was impossible before on account of . . . R-K5; Q-K3, Kt-B4 winning a pawn, but this transfer, after all, was less dangerous for Black than the giving of the bishop's file which becomes inevitable after 31. . . P-KKt.

Here there presented itself to White a combination which was interesting, but not quite clear in its consequences and therefore discarded: 34. R-Q5, PxB; 35. PxP, Q-B3; 36. PxB, PxB; 37. B-N3, P-R4; 38. P-Kt1, R-B1; 39. P-R1, BxP; 40. RxB, R-K1, etc. Evidently, this combination does not lead to a win.

Having fallen into a poor position, Black cleverly defended himself—it is not very easy for White to arrange a decisive attack on Black's weak points. After having chosen the right way, White strays from it at the decisive moment (42nd move) and same position after moves 41 and 46 and loses a considerable part of his superiority.

After 41. . . R-K1

LEVITSKY



ALEKHINE

42. R-B5, Kt-B (nothing better); 43. RxB, Q-K3; 44. RxB won a pawn in good position.

42. . . R(1)-K1 43. Q-K3 R-K1
43. Q-K3 R-K1 45. Q-R6 R(1)-K1
44. Q-R6 R(1)-K1 47. B-Kt2
47. Q-K3 would have led to a draw (three times repetition of move), but certainly better than the removal of the bishop from the diagonal R5-B5, which is so important in this position, was 47. Q-Q2.

47. . . Q-Kt2 48. Q-R7 K-Q1
Bolton was 48. . . P-Kt4; 49. P-Kt4 (28. PxB, PxB; 29. RxB, Q-R1, etc.); 30. Q-R6, BxP; 31. RxB, BxP; 32. RxB, BxP; 33. Q-Q1, B-B4; 34. Q-B7 and 35. R-B1 with probable draw ahead. Both players were here under the influence of heavy time pressure (in view of the approaching control at the 52nd move).

Black should have remained passive and made noncommittal moves with the king; his hopes for an attack, in combination with the pawn sacrifices, proved unfounded.

54. R-B4 K-K3 55. B-R3
This is also sufficient, but still stronger was the preparatory move 56. R-B1, after which all Black pieces would have been tied up and White, without being exposed to an attack, would have captured the BP.
55. . . Kt-K3!
Possibly only thanks to White's preceding rush, White can now net play 56. RxB on account of 56. . . R-Kt1; 57. RxB, RxB, etc. with win of the exchange.
56. R(4)-B3 Kt-B1 58. Q-R6
57. PxB R-Kt2
Of course not 58. Q-R6, R-Kt5; 59. R-Kt2, R(1)-R2 and wins.
(Please turn to page 4, col. 5)

Chess For The Tired Business Man

By Fred Reinfeld

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"What's He Up To?"

THERE is one respect in which chess differs from the other arts: the player who wants to create a masterpiece is both hindered and helped by his opponent. It is the presence of this living, refractory material that makes chess as difficult as it is fascinating.

At all times we must take thought about our adversary: "What's he up to?" We may use variation analysis, scholastic reasoning, psychology, telepathy, divination, crystal-gazing, fortune-telling, augury, "swindling," or just plain, ordinary guessing. But we must never forget that he has a mind and will of his own: we must never confuse him with the chess pieces.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED

World Correspondence
Championship, 1947

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| White | Black |
| B. WIKSTROM | B. H. WOOD |
| 1. P-Q4 | P-Q4 |
| 2. P-QB4 | P-K3 |
| 3. Kt-QB3 | Kt-KB3 |
| 4. B-K5 | QKt-Q2 |
| 5. Kt-B3 | P-B3 |
| 6. PXP | |

A modish method of avoiding the Cambridge Springs Variation (6. P-K3, Q-R4).

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 7. P-K3 | KPXP |
| 8. B-Q3 | B-K2 |
| 9. Q-O | O-O |
| 10. Q-B2 | P-K1 |
| 11. BxKt | P-KF3 |

An unusual but by no means pointless deviation from the customary B-K4 or B-R4.

11. BxB gives a more comfortable game.

He naturally seeks exchanges in order to neutralize any attacking possibilities, and also to make his two Bishops tell.

"What's he up to!?" The move loses the exchange and a Pawn, so it "must" be a blunder. Perhaps not...



13. Kt-KP? Black's diagnosis: his opponent's last move was a blunder.

14. B-R7 ch K-B1 And not 14. K-R1?; 15. KtXP mate.

15. Q-K2 Kt-B4? There was still a fighting chance with 15. Kt-Kt5!; 16. Kt-Kt1, B-QB4—for example 17. Q-B3, BxP ch; 18. K-R1, P-KKt3; but then 19. P-B5! is decisive.

Of course, if 15. Kt-R7; 16. Q-R5, B-K3 (if 16. P-KKt3?; 17. QxP mate); 17. P-B5, B-Q3; 18. PxB and Black can resign.

16. Q-R5 Kt-Q3 This allows an exquisite finish; but 16. P-KKt3; 17. BxP held out no hope for Black.

17. QxP sh! Kt-Q

A game which is as enjoyable as it is instructive. White's victory is all the more creditable in that it was achieved against one of Europe's best correspondence players.

(One of many brilliant games included in RELAX WITH CHESS by Fred Reinfeld, published by the Pitman Publishing Corporation.)

The Kibitzer

(Continued from page 2)

finished last with a score of no wins, six losses and three draws. He finished below Fine, Horowitz, Bisguter, Kashtan and Denker of the players named for the American team against Yugoslavia. He has done nothing since to redeem that showing.

Mr. Bolton's remarks about "a certain regional group" obviously refer to the New York players. Results of a couple of decades of U.S. Open tournaments, under their various auspices, demonstrate New Yorkers' right to dominate any American chess team. Since 1932, a New York player has won first prize with only four exceptions.

Naturally, there is no innate superiority about the New York player. He just enjoys advantages available in no other American city. At the Marshall and Manhattan

Chess Clubs, to mention just the two leaders, the fledgling player can compete with many masters of international tournament strength and experience.

Almost all of the current American masters either are New Yorkers or achieved chess recognition after polishing their game and bringing it to maturity in the New York clubs. The latter group of players includes Steiner himself, a New York club player for a decade or so before moving to Los Angeles; Sam Reshevsky, who was born in Poland, grew up in Detroit and moved to New York about the time he resumed serious chess; Arthur Dake, Olaf Ulvestad.

The advantage of sharpening one's game against a large circle of master players is obvious. Players who have reached chess eminence in America without such help are entitled to extra cheers. Special hails to Weaver Adams and Albert Sandrin, the only open winners without benefit of New York's rich training opportunities.

I agree with Mr. Bolton that we need tournaments open to a wider group of the newer players. But it hardly seems wise to scrap the prestige of the American championship, one of the great titles of worldwide chess.

Perhaps USCF should conduct a third tournament, in addition to the two national events it now sponsors. This new tournament could be limited to about a dozen players, including the recognized masters: Dake, Fine, Denker, Horowitz, Kashtan, Reshevsky, etc.; and the most recent winners of the other two USCF tournaments.

A plan along these lines could fulfill several needs: wide open competition, raising new blood to master class as it appears, and keeping our older masters active in strong competition. It might be the solution for Mr. Bolton, who, judging from the zest of his letter and the championship he already has won, is due to make his presence felt in American chess.

ALTON COOK
Jackson Heights, New York.

Under The Chess-Nut Tree

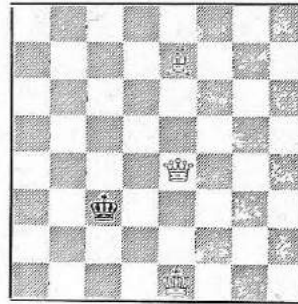
By William Rojahn

GENIAL DR. Julius Weingart, discoverer of that incurable disease Xylothism, is responsible for the example of Gremilina which we publish in this issue. He modestly claims that the position and the anecdote which accompanies it were originally published in "Bulletin Ouvrier des Echecs".

"A group were gathered around the board, studying a chess problem. A new-comer came up, and, after looking at the position for a while, asked: 'What way do the pawns move?' 'What a question!' replied one, 'Don't you see that there are no pawns on the board?'"

"Well, maybe you think it does not matter," replied the other, 'but I'll give you a problem with no pawns on the board, and yet in which it is most important to know how they move.'"

"After they had broken their heads to no avail over his two-mover, he told them: 'Now you see that if you knew what way the pawns move, you would also know that the White king stands on his original square. You might also have guessed then that White has given his queen's rook as a handicap. So White's move is O-O-O.'"



White mates in two moves

With The Chess Clubs

Fitchburg (Mass.) Chess Club recently drew a team match with Greenfield Chess Club by a 2½-2½ score. Charles Barry is club president and treasurer, and Charles Paris club secretary. On a later date Fitchburg defeated the Haverhill Chess Club by a 3½-1½ score in a match played at the Lowell YMCA.

Newton (Mass.) YMCA Chess Club bested the combined forces of Arlington and Everett Chess Clubs by the score of 13½-7½. For this event Newton mustered 24 boards but loaned three players to the combined clubs to make an even 21 board match.

The Fool's Mate Chess Club of Newark journeyed to Passaic but met defeat at the hands of the Passaic Y Chess Club by a 6½-4½ score. Dr. A. Jackson scored on board one for Passaic while W. Thompson won on board two for Fool's Mate. This was the first team match played by the recently organized Passaic YMCA Chess Club. New Jersey State Chess Federation at its annual meeting elected Paul Helbig president; J. Gross vice-president for North New Jersey; W. Wootton secretary-treasurer; E. McCormick, J. Gross and F. Laucks tournament directors; and C. Escoffery editor of the Bulletin. Vice-presidents from Central and South New Jersey will be elected by the areas they represent.

Oscar Chess Club (Elizabeth, N. J.) celebrated its new name and new headquarters by defeating Log Cabin in Chess Club "B" team 5½-4½ with H. Goldstein besting M. Buczkowski of Log Cabin on board one. South Jersey Chess League sees the Gloucester County Chess Association in the lead with 4 wins and 2 draws, while the Reds are second with 3 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss. Elmer Wimet is president of the league; and officers of the Gloucester County Chess Ass'n are: R. H. Davis president, Frank Seger vice-president, Thomas M. Fuhs secretary, J. W. Hildebrand, Jr. team captain, and B. M. Snellbaker treasurer.

Youngstown (Ohio) Chess Club downed the Alliance Chess Club by a 4½-3½ score in a recent encounter.

Saginaw Valley Chess League (Mich.) joined with the Rush Willard Chess Club of Bay City in sponsoring a 28-board simultaneous exhibition by Samuel Reshevsky, J. Lapin, CHESS LIFE annotator, of the Bay City Club nicked Reshevsky for a draw. At the annual meeting of the league J. J. Reddy of Flint was elected vice-president to succeed Walter Unterberg who has moved to the West Coast. Other officers are John Lapin president, Bruce Dieter secretary, and Don Urquhart treasurer.

North City (Philadelphia) Chess Club reserve team won a match from Leeds and Northrup by a 5-2 score. North City, which has two active teams, would like to schedule matches with clubs within a 50 mile radius of Philadelphia. Interested clubs may contact A. P. Nickel, secretary, 5726 N. Marshall St., Philadelphia 20, Pa.

Edison Chess & Checker Club (Detroit) sees Kovatch leading in the noon-day round robin tournament with 8 wins, 2 draws and 0 losses. Second is Wheeler with 7 wins, 2 draws and 1 loss; while Watson, Frankenfield, Trend and Mahon have 7 wins each.

Capital City Chess Club (Sacramento, Calif.) on February 25th issued No. 1 of the Sacramento Chess News, latest club chess bulletin to be published. The News is edited by USCF Vice-President J. B. Gee and covers chess events in the Sacramento area. Officials of the Capital City Chess Club are: J. T. Marianos, president; Sam Johnson, vice-president; J. B. Gee, secretary-treasurer; M. O. Meyer, team captain; and Neil Austin, tournament chairman.

Louisville (Ky.) Chess Club has moved into new and more spacious quarters on the second floor of the Y.M.C.A. at Third and Broadway, where for several years members of the chess club have conducted classes in chess for beginners as a part of the regular Y program.

Durham (N.C.) Chess Club travelled to South Hill, Va. to capture a 7½-3½ victory from the Richmond (Va.) Chess Club. Dr. Gunter and Walter Rudin of Durham drew against Ross Owens and Lee Ribble of Richmond on the two top boards while team-mates W. J. Peters and Kit Crittenden were winning from James York and F. M. Dubois on boards three and four. But the victory was assured by wins on the bottom three boards, showing Durham to have greater strength in depth.

Lithuanian Chess Club (Boston) was the host to Boston City Champion and compatriot Povilas Tautvaisha who played an 18-board simultaneous, winning 16 and losing 2.

Hart House Chess Club (Toronto University) was visited by former Lithuanian champion Povilas Vaitonis, who played a 13-board simultaneous, scoring 12 wins against the collegians and conceding one loss.

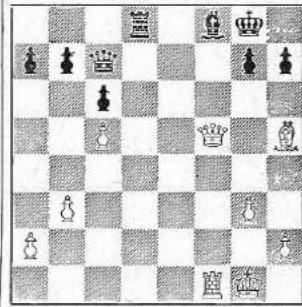
North Jersey Chess League: Recent results in league play show Oranges 5½, Belleville ½; Irvington-Polish 4½, Jersey City 1½; W. Essex 1, Plainfield 7; Kearny-Progressive ½, Elizabeth 5½.

Wednesday, April 3, 1950

What's The Best Move?

By Guilherme Groesser

Position No. 44



White to move

Send solution to Position No. 44 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, by April 20, 1950.

Solution to Position No. 42

We regret that an error in the diagram (and also in the Forsythe notation beneath) gained a very neat position. Black should have a Bishop on his King two, in the position (as corrected here), Dr. Alekhine with White played 1. Kt-B7! against Foldi, threatening QxP and a smothered mate. Play continued: 1. Kt-K5; 2. QxP ch, K-K3 (if KxQ; 3. Kt-K5 mate); 3. P-RK4, B-K5; 4. Kt-R4 mate. This was an extremely pretty ending for a blindfold game.

We apologize to our various readers who have submitted notes to the effect that the position is obviously a misprint, and we wish in particular to commend Mr. J. E. Comstock of Duluth and Mr. Edmund Nash of Washington for suggesting that the error was the omission of a Black B at K2, giving the correct combination that would follow if the piece were so placed. But as the position was at fault, it cannot count upon the ladder.

For The Tournament-Minded

April 22

Massachusetts State Championship for High School Players
Boston, Massachusetts

Will be held at Boylston Chess Club, 48 Boylston Street, Boston on April 22; no entry fee; players must bring own set and score sheet winner obtains permanent possession of the Dr. Godfrey Lowell Cabot Silver Cup; for further information, write Robert W. Reddy, 228 Pleasant Street, Brookline 46, Mass.

April 29

Massachusetts State Championship for Grammar School Players
Boston, Massachusetts

Will be held at Boylston Chess Club, 48 Boylston Street, Boston on April 29; no entry fee; players must bring own set and score sheet; winner obtains permanent possession of the Dr. Godfrey Lowell Cabot Silver Cup; for further information, write Robert W. Reddy, 228 Pleasant Street, Brookline 46, Mass.

May 5-7

Kansas State Championship
Topeka, Kansas

Will be held at YMCA as a 7-round Swiss; cash prizes; Entry fee \$2.00 for Kansas State Ass'n members; first round Friday, May 5 at 1 p.m.

Howard (R.I.) Chess Club played a 6-6 draw against the visiting Boston College Chess Club with Charles Quigley, Douglas Massey, Lupo, Harold Lamphere and Felix Paul scoring victories for Howard, while John Howarth and Elmer Leduc drew.

Ohio University Chess Club has been organized with Phil Peterson president, J. E. Biddle vice-president, Dorothy Johnson secretary and treasurer. Considerable credit for organizing the club goes to Tommy Evans of nearby Athens.

CHESS BOOKS

By Fred Reinfeld

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