



# Chess Life



Vol. V  
Number 2

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## TEXAS CHESS ADOPTS NCCP!

### BECOMES THIRD STATE UNIT IN USCF COORDINATION PLAN

#### Texas Joins Michigan and Pennsylvania In Uniting Membership With the USCF

Members of the Texas Chess Association made an important decision at the annual meeting at Waco, Texas when after discussion they adopted a new constitution and by-laws, bringing them into direct affiliation with the United States Chess Federation as its State Chapter for Texas under the National Chess Coordination Plan.

Adoption of the new constitution was a matter of unanimous consent after discussion had cleared away a few doubts upon the part of several members regarding the operation of the plan; and the process of complete affiliation will be effective January 1, 1951. Thereafter all members of the TCA will become automatically members of the USCF and all USCF members in Texas will automatically become members of the TCA, with the combined dues for both memberships set at \$4.00 per year. The first practical evidence that TCA members will receive regarding the advantages of this affiliation will be, of course, the copies of CHESS LIFE which will come to them regularly as USCF members. The less tangible advantages will not be realized as quickly, but will become evident in time.

The meeting was very representative of the Texas Chess Association, as the entry in the concurrent Southwestern Open Championship at Waco numbered 63 players, most of whom attended the meeting. Passage of the new constitution and by-laws without opposition resulted largely from the pre-meeting educational work of USCF Vice-President Frank R. Graves who was ably assisted by W. J. Janes, then President of the TCA, Col. D. F. Walker, TCA Vice-President, and TCA Director Homer H. Hyde.

Following the adoption of the new by-laws, the meeting elected a new slate of officers for 1951, conforming in duties and numbers to the national set-up of the USCF. Sid Karchmer of Denison was elected president. The six Vice-Presidents, with their assigned functions, were Leon Poliakoff of San Antonio (College), Wm. H. Janes of Leroy (Finance), Frank R. Graves of Fort Worth (Membership), Kenneth R. Smith of Dallas (Youth), M. M. Williams of Houston (Tournaments and Matches), Wm. Kendall of San Antonio (Veterans and Institutions), Dr. R. S. Underwood of Lubbock was chosen secretary-treasurer.

### MAGEE RETAINS NEBRASKA TITLE

Young Lee Magee of Omaha, while awaiting induction in the army, took time out to defend his Nebraska Open Championship successfully in a 14-player 6-round Swiss at the YMCA at Hastings, Neb. with 5½-½ score, drawing with Jerry Belzer in the final round. Second place went to Carl Weberg of Salina, Kans. with 5-1. Weberg lost a game to Magee. Third place on S-B points went to Jerry Belzer of Omaha with 4-2, losing to Weberg and drawing with Magee and Ludwig. Jack Spence, also of Omaha, placed fourth with 4-2, losing games to Weberg and Belzer, while Alfred Ludwig of Omaha placed fifth with 3½-2½, losing to Magee and drawing with Belzer, Ellsworth and Gilbertson.

Plans are now under way for the Swenson Memorial Tournament.

### MOTT CAPTURES SOUTHWESTERN

Charles D. Mott of Mobile, Ala. took first place in the 63-player 7-round Swiss system Southwestern Open Championship by virtue of an S-B score of 26.75 with a game score of 6-1. Second place and the Texas Championship went to C. F. Tears of Dallas, Tex. with an S-B of 19.00 and a game score of 6-1. Ranking 3rd to 5th on S-B points with equal game scores of 5½-1½ were Mevis R. Smith of Houston, W. H. Janes of Leroy, and Kenneth Smith of Dallas. On S-B points Bob Brieger of Houston was 6th, J. C. Thompson of Grand Prairie 7th, and James Cook of St. Louis, Mo. 8th with equal scores of 5-2.

Players from Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon, Illinois, Tennessee, Alabama, Kansas and New York competed in this unusually large and successful Southwestern event, which was so hotly fought that noted players like Bob Steinmeyer of St. Louis (10th) and Dr. Bela Rozsa (38th) were crowded out of the prize-winning circle.

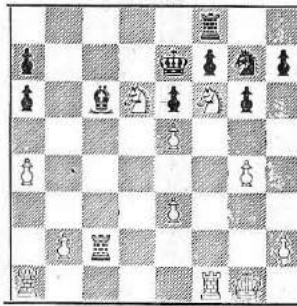
The Southwestern Woman's Open Championship went once again to Miss Maxine Cutlip of Wewoka, Okla. who placed 45th in the Open event with a 2½-4½ score, ten places ahead of Mr. C. L. Water of Waco who finished second among the women players with a 2-5 score.

Plans for the 1951 Southwestern Open Championship place the site at Denison, Texas.

### DuVALL, HURT TIE IN KANAWHA EVEN

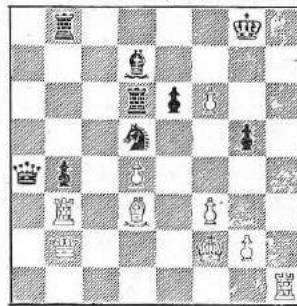
The 8-player round-robin Championship of the Kanawha Valley, conducted jointly by the Charleston Chess Club and the Carbide Chess Club of South Charleston, resulted in a tie for first between Allen H. DuVall and John F. Hurt with 6-1 each. DuVall lost to Hurt, and Hurt lost to Hartling. Third place went to Edward M. Foy with 4½-2½, while W. F. Hartling placed fourth with 3½-3½ and Edwin Faust fifth with 3-4.

Position No. 41  
Boleslavsky vs. Smyslov  
Budapest, 1950



Se2, N5Ksp, P1B5Sp1, P3  
P4P1, P2, P4P, R4K1  
White to play and win

Position No. 42  
Levadi vs. Zaman  
Des Plaines, Ill., 1950



P4K1, B4, R2P2, R2P1  
N1P4, T1R1P2, T3K1P1, 7R  
White to play and win

### Finish It The Clever Way!

Conducted by Edmund Nash

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

IN BOTH positions above, one move decides the game. In Position No. 41, which occurred in the tournament to determine the challenger for the world title, Smyslov resigned immediately after Boleslavsky's problem-like first move. The co-winners of the Budapest tournament, I. Boleslavsky and David Bronstein, concluded their play-off match on August 27. Bronstein won with a score of 7½-6½ (3 wins, 2 losses, 8 draws), and is scheduled to play Botvinnik for the world title early in 1951.

In Position No. 42, David Levadi of Desplaines, Illinois, though a piece down, brilliantly offers the sacrifice of another piece and leaves Black's position hopeless.

Please turn to page four for solutions.

### GUTEKUNST WINS PENNA. TITLE

Chess hit the front page unexpectedly in the Philadelphia Enquirer and Philadelphia Evening Bulletin when a dispute over pairings in the 6th round threatened to disrupt the Pennsylvania State Championship at the Adelphia Hotel in Philadelphia. Matters were finally settled amicably after several votes by the membership, but during the contention the newspapers had fun and devoted more space to chess than they have done in many a day, suggesting that perhaps a few more violent arguments in tournaments might give chess more publicity, if less dignity than in the past.

When the atmosphere cleared the tournament continued smoothly and resulted in a victory for Thomas C. Gutekunst of Allentown with a 6-1 score and an S-B of 32.25 points. Second place went to Attilio DiCamillo of Philadelphia with 6-1 and an S-B of 31.75 points. Paul L. Dietz of Pittsburgh finished third with 5½-1½ and an S-B of 28.50, retaining his Penn. Junior Championship title. Fourth place went to John A. Hudson of Grampian with 5½-1½ and an S-B of 28.25.

Mrs. Mary Selensky of Philadelphia, scoring 3½-3½, retained the Woman's Championship. The Tournament was directed by Anthony E. Santasiere and 74 entrants, ranging from 13-year old Ross Nickel of Philadelphia to 76-year old Z. B. Hoover of Montoursville.

The Pennsylvania State Speed Championship went to Robert Sobel, 17, of Philadelphia, with DiCamillo placing as runner-up in this event also.

### BOLTON TOPS ALL IN NEW ENGLAND

In a surprise upset James Bolton of New Haven, Conn. ousted the perennial New England Champion Weaver W. Adams by winning the New England Open Championship at Providence, R.I. by 5½-½ in a 27-player 6-round Swiss, conceding a draw to Kazys Skema. Skema, one of our recent Lithuanian arrivals in Boston, placed second with 5-1, drawing with Bolton and Martin. Rhode Island Champion Albert Martin placed third with 4½-1½, losing to Bolton and drawing with Skema.

Placing fourth to ninth on S-B points with equal scores of 4-2 were Harlow Daly of Mass. (who bested Weaver Adams in the opening round), Weaver W. Adams of Mass., Walter Suesman of Rhode Island, Sven Brask of Mass., Anthony Suraci of Conn., and Underwood of Mass. Tenth to twelfth on S-B points with equal 3½-2½ scores were Orlando Lester, Jr. of N. H., Grossguth of R. I., and Kazys Merkis of Mass.

### HOWARD TOPS IN NEW JERSEY

Franklin Howard placed first in the New Jersey State Championship at the Orange YMCA with a 5-1 score in the 10-player 6-round Swiss. Second place went to H. Jones, also with a 5-1 score. Howard lost his game to R. Haefner, and Jones his game to Howard.

Third place went to R. Hurltlen with 4-2, and fourth to S. Yarmak, also with 4-2. Fifth to seventh went respectively to R. Haefner, A. Holbrook, J. Mager and B. Thompson, all with 3-3 scores.

### HEARST WINS NEW YORK TITLE

Victory in the New York State Championship went to CHESS LIFE columnist Eliot Hearst of the Marshall Chess Club of New York with 7½-1½ in the 32-player 9-round Swiss tourney at Binghamton, directed by Malcolm Sim, chess editor of the Toronto Telegram. Hearst drew with U. S. Open Champion Bisguier in the 3rd round and lost to Keuben Klugman in the 7th. But he bested defending Champion Max Pavey in the 6th round.

Second place went to Pavey with 7-2, drawing with M. Fleischer and Bisguier in addition to his loss to Hearst. Bisguier, Klugman and George Krauss tied for third with 6½-2½ each. Bisguier lost to Krauss and drew with Hearst, Pavey and Dr. Mengarini. Klugman lost to Pavey and Bisguier and drew with C. R. Heising. Krauss lost to Fleischer and R. C. Hayes, and drew with John T. Westbrook.

Dr. Ariel Mengarini was sixth with 6-3. Tied at 5½-3½ were Jack W. Collins, Eric W. Marchand and John T. Westbrook.

CHESS LIFE Games Editor Marchand gained the new Paul Morgan Memorial Trophy and the title of Upstate Champion.

Officers elected for the New York State Chess Ass'n were: H. C. Evans president, Binghamton; W. Hull secretary, Binghamton; N. Rickless assistant secretary, Rochester; H. M. Phillips treasurer, New York City. Vice-presidents elected were: J. C. Cummings, Syracuse; Norman C. Wilder, Jr., Buffalo; B. M. Smith, Schenectady; Dr. M. Herzberger, Rochester; E. W. Marchand, Rochester; and Dr. S. Finkelstein, Endicott.

### YUGOSLAVS WIN TEAM TOURNEY

Yugoslavia won the International Team Tournament at Dubrovnik with 45½-14½ game score. Second place went to Argentina with 43-16, while West Germany placed third with 40½-19½.

In fourth place by ½ point the United States team had the distinction of being the only team that lost no matches and on a match score (rather than games won) would have placed first, with 11 wins, no losses and 4 drawn matches for .866 while Yugoslavia, the winner, won 11, lost 1, and drew 3 for .833.

With exception of U. S. Champion Herman Steiner all teams members ended with plus scores, 8 wins and 2 draws (no losses) on board four.

### BISGUIER WINS NYS CA SPEED

Arthur Bisguier won the New York Lightning event with 5½-1½. Matthew Green was second with 5-2; Krauss, Hearst and Mengarini tied for third with 4-3; Pavey was sixth with 3-4; followed by Collins 2½-4½ and Partos 0-7. The preliminaries drew 26 players, from the New York State Championship.



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Vol. V, Number 2

Wednesday, September 20, 1950

### THE USCF WELCOMES TEXAS

NOT the least of many fine feats achieved at the recent Southwestern Open Championship Tournament at Waco, Texas was the decision of the Texas Chess Association to join with the Michigan State Chess Association and the Pennsylvania Chess Federation in a closer affiliation with the United States Chess Federation by adopting the National Chess Coordination Program. Beginning with January 1, 1951 all members of the Texas Chess Association will automatically become members of the United States Chess Federation, while all USCF members, residing in Texas, will just as automatically become members of the TCA.

While Michigan and Pennsylvania were the first to adopt NCCP, we particularly welcome Texas to the family because it was a choice made after full investigation of a competent committee over the period of a year, whereas both Michigan and Pennsylvania did the Federation the honor of accepting the program largely upon faith. We feel honored that these two great State organizations did have that faith, but we also welcome a full investigation of the program, such as Texas has made.

Now that the Lone Star State has acted upon deliberate consideration of the advantages to chess which may be derived from uniting in the National Chess Coordination Plan, we trust that the example of Texas will move other State Associations to a like consideration of these advantages.

Montgomery Major

### The Reader's Road To Chess

By Kester Svendsen

A POCKET GUIDE TO THE CHESS OPENINGS. By R. C. Griffith and H. Golombek. Drexel Hill, Penna.: Bell Publishing Co., \$1.50. Pp. xxii, 105.

A POCKET guide to the openings has the same advantages and limitations as a pocket encyclopedia. This little book is intended to offer a selection of lines to "the younger players, who have now sufficient knowledge and aptitude to have earned a place in their club team." In the generous two-part introduction, Griffith discusses the K-side openings, Golombek the Q-side. These give sound, if conventional advice. Then follow some 420 columns on the major variations, with the running addition of footnote alternatives and continuations that double the amount of analysis presented. All notes, praise be, are on their own proper pages.

The book is not intended to compare or compete with MCO or PCO, but then it does not cost so much, either. The player with no guide will escape bewilderment by beginning with this. He will never master all of it. But if his game is reduced to a battle of the books, as in most correspondence play, the adage about the good little man and the good big man will be found to have its chessic equivalent. The lines of play analyzed are pretty much standard; there are 48 columns in proportion. At the price and for the purpose, a good buy.

CHAMPIONSHIP CHESS. By M. M. Botvinnik. Translated by Stephen Garry. Drexel Hill, Penna.: Bell Publishing Co. Pp. ix, 186. \$3.50.

CHAMPIONSHIP Chess is one of three recent American releases of G. Bell & Sons, famous English publishers of chess books. It is the first book by Botvinnik to appear in English. The sixty games of the 1941 six-man Match Tournament for the Absolute Championship of Russia are all here, scrupulously annotated by the winner and garnished with openings analysis, running scores, tables, and an introduction full of human interest particulars. Botvinnik's analysis of the styles and talents of his opponents is especially interesting; he recognizes by implication the beginnings of the psychological advantage he seems to have since developed over Keres. His advantage over Smyslov, Boleslavsky, Lillenthal, and Bondarevsky (who finished in that order) is more tangible and may be seen from the score table.

Botvinnik's comments are sometimes barbed. Of Game 39, Bondarevsky-Smyslov, a 27-move draw: "One of those games which do not excite the players, the onlookers, or the commentators." Of Game 57, Keres-Lillenthal: "Black's play in this game makes a strange impression," a masterpiece of understatement since Lillenthal apparently played with his head under his arm. A sidelight on Game 30, Botvinnik-Smyslov, reveals a curious situation with respect to the sealed move. "White sealed his move and offered Black a draw. Black accepted, but with the strict proviso that the sealed move was 43 P-KK5." As Botvinnik goes on to say, the proviso violates to some extent the secrecy of the sealed move. He confesses that he made the same mistake in a game with Lasker, offering him a draw provided Lasker had sealed the move Botvinnik considered best. (Both games, it should be added, were played out and drawn.) The notes generally are not so detailed as those of some of Botvinnik's predecessors in the world

### Mate The Subtle Way!

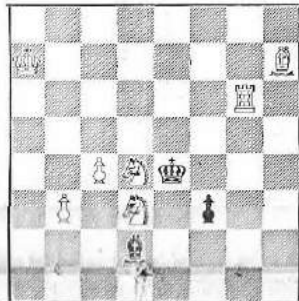
by Vincent L. Eaton

Address all communications to this column to Vincent L. Eaton, 512 McNeill Road, Silver Spring, Maryland.

GATHER around, all you problem fans, and enter the Solvers' Ladder Tourney, which starts with the positions diagrammed below. Everyone is eligible to compete; there is no entrance fee; and you are not required to compose a statement in twenty-five words or less telling why you like our product. Simply send in your solutions to the problems we publish, and keep sending them regularly. The key-movers only are required for two-movers; for three-movers, please give the key and the two or three principal variations (if any). For each correct key to a two-mover you will be credited with two points on the Ladder; for the right solution to a three-mover you will receive four points; and points will also be awarded for correct claims of "no solution" or additional solutions. All of the problems we publish will be legitimate mates in two or three moves, and there will be no trick positions to delude the unwary. The solver having the largest point score at the end of this year will receive a cash prize, and prizes will be given periodically after that to those on the top of the Ladder.

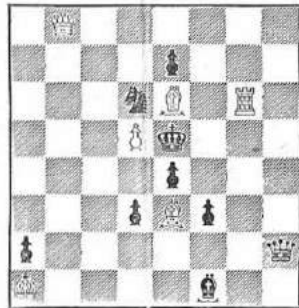
The Reverend Gilbert Dobbs, of Carrollton, Georgia, who died on February 14, 1941, was one of the most vigorous and best-loved figures in the field of problem composing. Over a period of forty years, from 1900 to 1940, he produced no less than 3,000 compositions, a total that few men have matched. Alain Wehit, Richard Cheney, Otto Wurzburg, and the writer prepared a memorial book after Dr. Dobbs's death which was published in 1942 under the title *A Chess Silhouette*. In the course of this work I acquired five of Dr. Dobbs's manuscript notebooks, in which he had carefully copied down positions he had composed. Some of these do not seem to have ever appeared in print, but they deserve to be seen, solved, and appreciated. And so, beginning with No. 195, we propose to give you some of these hitherto unpublished games—the posthumous works of one of America's best composers.

Problem No. 195  
By the late Rev. G. Dobbs  
Hitherto Unpublished  
Black: 3 men



White: 7 men  
8, Kf6, gR1, S, 2P5k1,  
1P1St2, 2b4, 8  
White mates in two moves

Problem No. 197  
By P. Klett  
Schache Probleme, 1878  
Black: 9 men



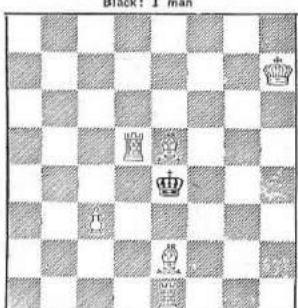
White: 6 men  
1Q6, 4p5, 3R1L1, 3P5k, 4b5,  
3P1p5, 4p4, K4b2  
White mates in two moves

Problem No. 196  
By Edgar Holladay  
Charlottesville, Va.  
Entry in CHESS LIFE Composing  
Tourney  
Black: 12 men



White: 10 men  
5Sb1, 2P4P2, 3a1L1, 3P1p,  
1Sb1K, 3P1R2, 4R2, 1b6  
White mates in two moves

Problem No. 198  
By Sam Loyd  
American Chess-Nuts, 1868  
Black: 1 man



White: 6 men  
8, 7K, S, 3R1R, 4k3, 2P5,  
4b3, 4R2  
White mates in three moves

championship, but they contain a great deal of Russian analysis. Game 47, for example, includes two columns of the end-game two knights against a pawn, with a review and extension of Troitsky's findings in the matter.

Twenty-nine of the games were drawn, but some of the others are full of striking chess. The wins by Boleslavsky and Keres (he with a King's Gambit!) over Lillenthal are noteworthy in a tournament which showed a good deal of cautious grandmaster chess. Game 47, referred to above, was a 125-move draw. And now for the caviar. White: Boleslavsky—Black: Lillenthal (QP Counter Gambit) 1. P-K4 P-K4, 2. N-KB3 P-Q4, 3. NXP Q-K2, 4. P-Q4 P-KB3, 5. N-Q3! PXP, 6. N-B4 Q-B2, 7. N-Q2! B-KB4, 8. P-KN4 B-N3, 9. B-B4 Q-Q2, 10. Q-K2 QXP, 11. N-K6 Q-N3, 12. NXP N-Q2, 13. B-B4 N-K4, 14. O-O-O, 15. N(4)-N5 PXP, 16. BxN BxN, 17. BXP!! Resigns. And here's how Keres clinched second place. White: Keres—Black: Lillenthal (Falkbeer Counter Gambit) 1. P-K4 P-K4, 2. P-KB4 P-Q4, 3. KPXP P-K5, 4. P-Q3 PXP, 5. BXP N-KB3, 6. N-QB3 B-K2, 7. N-B3 O-O, 8. O-O QN-Q2, 9. B-B4 N-N3, 10. B-N3 P-QR4, 11. P-QR4 B-B4ch, 12. K-R1 B-B4, 13. N-K5 B-QN5, 14. P-N4B-B1, 15. B-K3 N(1)-Q2, 16. P-N5 ExN, 17. PxB N-K5, 18. P-Q6 NXP!! "Incredible," says Botvinnik. "Now the Knight at K5 remains in the trap." 19. PXP Resigns.

In the middle game the King is a timid soul, shuts himself up in his fortress, and only when he feels himself in contact with his Rook, with his own Knights and Bishops attentively grouped around him, does the old fellow feel himself passing well.

Nimzowitsch in "My System"

### Alekhine's Early Chess Career

Additional Data  
By A. Buschke

### IV. THE "MOSCOW CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT 1916" (Continued)

#### FRENCH DEFENSE

Moscow Chess Club Tournament 1915, Round 6, November 13(26), 1915

Notes by A. A. Alekhine (Shakel. Vestnik 1916, p. 33)

Note: Alekhine's opponent in this game, Nikolai Dmitrievich Grigoriev, born 1895, died October 10, 1938, was probably one of Russia's most prominent endgame connoisseurs; his studies, analyses and profound articles in the field of the endgame have been published during his lifetime and posthumously in the Russian chess magazines. For years he conducted a chess column in the official Soviet "gazette," the "Izvestia." In 1921 and 1924 he became Champion of Moscow.

White N. D. GRIGORIEV Black A. A. ALEKHINE  
1. P-K4 P-K3 6. P-K4 P-K3  
2. P-K4 P-Q4 7. P-P P-K3  
3. K1-QB3 K1-KB3 8. P-KR4 R-K1  
4. B-KK5 B-K15 9. Q-K4! P-K4  
5. P-K5 P-KR3

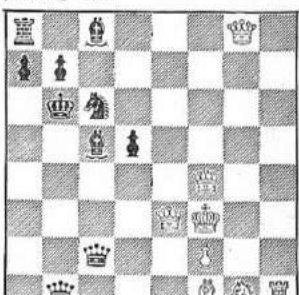
A new move. Usually the following is played here: 9. Q-R5, Q-B3; 10. R5P, Q-R4!; 11. K-R3 (the best answer to 11. Q-O-O is 11. B-K2 with following exchange of queens on K5), etc. The text move has for its purpose to hold on, as long as possible, to the KP, which undoubtedly exerts pressure on Black's game. However, from this game can be learned that a consistent execution of this plan entails a retardation of the development which compensates Black fully for the temporarily cramped situation on the king's side.

9. B-K2  
The only correct answer. Both after 9. P-K4!; 10. Q-R5, P-P; 11. Q-R7, K-QP; 12. P-R3, B-B4; 13. O-O-O and after 9. Q-B3; 10. R5P, Q-KR4!; 11. QxQ, RxQ; 12. R-R5 ch, K-Q2; 13. K1-B3, White would get the better game.

10. P-KK5  
Threatening to crown a second passed pawn, because 10. P-KK5! is obviously had on account of 11. R-R8.

10. P-QB4 11. Q-O-O  
I was determined to reply to 11. PXP with 11. P-B3 because 11. PXP would have led to complications which were very difficult to figure out and which would hardly have been of advantage for Black. The following is an example of the fantastic variations which were possible after this continuation: 11. PXP; 12. P-R5! P-KR1; 13. P-R6, P-P; 14. R-K4, Q-R4 ch; 15. K-K2, Q-P; 16. P-R2, Q-R3; 17. P-R3(Q) ch, K-Q2; 18. Q-RP, QxP ch; 19. K-R3, R-B3; 20. Q(B7)XP, K-B2; 21. Q-KB4 ch, K-R3; 22. Q(K6)-R3 ch, B-B4; 23. P-K5(Q), P-K5(Q).

Possible position after Black's 23rd move in the "fantastic" variation outlined in the preceding note.



In this position the win for White is, in spite of the extra queen for a bishop, not easy to find, thanks to the particularly tangled situation, and still the win can obviously be attained by 24. K-R5! because Black cannot take the bishop in this case (if 24. B-Q7, then 25. Q-Q8 ch, K-B4; 26. Q-Q4-Q6 ch, K-Q5; 27. Q-Q8) B5 ch and mate in the next move) on account of 25. Q-K1 ch, K-R2 (if 25. Q-R4, then 26. Q-Q8 ch, K-R2; 27. Q-R3-B5 ch, and mate in 2 moves); 26. Q-K1 ch and mate in a few moves.

11. K1-B5 12. OXP P-Q4!  
Among others, this is order to avoid the possibility of R-K4.

13. K-K1 P-K4?  
Up to this moment, Black has abstained, with very good reason, from making this move which weakens his position in the center; but here, according to all positional considerations, Black is being led astray by a combination, or rather a trap, which, if the opponent finds the correct answer, might have extremely unpleasant consequences for him. The correct move was 13. P-B3, 14. K1-K5, K-R2! with following RXP, after which the strong pawn position in the center, the two bishops and chances for an attack on the King's side, ought, in my opinion, unambiguously to lead to Black's victory. This continuation illustrates sufficiently the unsoundness of the interesting novelty 9. Q-K4.

14. Q-R5 B-K3 15. KxQP?  
This is the move Black had played for, and he gets a decisive attack. White ought to have played 15. B-R1 (a move I had not considered when I played 13. P-K4) with the possible continuation 15. B-R1 (or 15. Q-O-O); 16. Q-RP; 17. KxR, P-Q5; 17. K1-Q5 with overwhelming positional advantage for White.

(Please turn to Page 5, col. 5)



# Chess For The Tired Business Man

By Fred Reinfeld

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## Fixed Ideas

THE story goes that a practical joker, taking advantage of Akiba Rubinstein's predilection for 1 P-Q4, once nailed down the grandmaster's Queen's Pawn. What appears as a harmless foible in a great player may however be magnified to dangerous intensity in his weaker brethren.

It is this quality which spoils so many of Morphy's games for us. His opponents always "attacked"; always defended badly, if at all; always underestimated the problem of defense—insofar as they were aware of it.

### TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENSE

(Remove White's Queen's Rook)  
New Orleans, 1858

White  
1. P-K4  
2. Kt-K3  
3. B-B4  
4. Kt-K5  
5. PXP  
Black  
1. P-K4  
2. Kt-Q3  
3. Kt-B3  
4. P-Q4  
5. KtXP

Objectively this is not a blunder, since White's sacrificial reply (the "Fried Liver") is unsound against the best defense. But since Black is patently incapable of playing the best defense, he should content himself with the more prudent 5. .... Kt-Q4.

6. Kt-BP7!  
7. Q-B3ch  
8. Kt-Q3  
KxKt  
K-K3  
Kt-Q5?

Although his King is menaced, he neglects defense and prefers "attack." Best was 8. .... Kt-K2 (inferior when White has his Queen's Rook) can be played here.

9. BxKtch  
10. Q-B7  
11. BxB  
12. Kt-K4ch  
13. P-B4ch  
K-Q3?  
K-Q4  
KxKt  
K-K4  
KxKt

A much better reply to the threatened 11. Kt-K4 mate is 10. .... Q-K2! forcing White to retreat without adequate compensation for the Rook minus.

14. QxKt  
15. Q-B3;  
16. P-Q3ch!  
17. Q-K2ch  
18. Q-K2ch  
19. Q-B2!  
20. Q-K2ch  
K-Q5?  
K-Q6

He feels obliged to bite into the sour apple, for after 13. .... K-B3; 14. QxKtch White is only the exchange down with a winning game (14. .... B-Q3; 15. Q-Q5ch, K-Q2; 16. .... P-B5 etc.).

21. BxB  
22. Kt-K4ch  
23. P-B4ch  
KtxB  
K-Q4  
KxKt

The contrast between Morphy's elegant economy and his opponent's incompetent bumbling is quite vivid; the Black monarch is forced into a fantastic mating position.

24. QxKt  
25. P-Q3ch!  
26. He makes chess seem very simple!

27. To decline the piece would never have occurred to a contemporary of Morphy. However, even the refusal would have been unavailing: 17. .... K-Kt8; 18. O-O, KxP; 19. Q-B2! and Black is helpless against the coming discovered check with the QKtP.

28. O-O mate!  
Morphy resolutely refused to allow his opponent's weak play to cheat him of a fine finish.

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

## LOG CABIN CLUB CRUISES ONWARD

Continuing their historic chess cruise on the motor yacht Carlene, the Log Cabiners docked at the Middleton Yacht Club on the Connecticut River to play a match aboard with the New Briton Chess Club; but an unexpected aerial attack of mesquitos compelled a retreat to the screened porch of the Yatch Club where the Log Cabiners recovered their aplomb in time to best New Briton by 3½-1½. Partos drawing E. Norman on first board while G. Partos bested F. Kozakiewicz on board two.

Thence the Carlene cruised onward to the Essex Steamboat Dock where they encountered the Deep River Chess Club for a final match aboard the Carlene and were held to a 3-3 draw with J. Partos besting H. Johnson while G. Partos lost to S. Wysowski.

Disembarking thereafter and continuing by auto, the Log Cabiners next invaded the Greater Providence YMCA where they won by the narrow margin of 3½-2½ with J. Partos drawing with R.L. Champion A. Martin, while G. Partos defeated W. Suesman.

From Providence the Log Cabiners continued on their way to Cranston and encountered the Howard Chess Club where they scored a 7-5 victory in a double round event, with J. and G. Partos scoring two victories each over Howard aces W.J. Couture and J.E. Howarth to give the margin of victory.

## MERKIS WINS IN MASS. SPEED

At the annual outing of the Mass. State Chess Ass'n at Newburyport Kazys Merkis, chess columnist in the Lithuanian-language newspaper of Boston, won the finals of the Rapid Transit Tourney with 2½-½, while Harlow Daly was second with 2-1. Section winners of the preliminary events were Kazys Merkis (6-2), Harlow Daly (8-0), Benner (6-2) and Waterman (7-1).

## VAITONIS WINS ONTARIO TITLE

Povilas Vaitonis of Hamilton was victor in the Ontario Prov. Championship at Toronto with a 6-1 score, drawing with defending champion F. R. Anderson in 4th round and H. Anto in final round.

F. R. Anderson of Toronto was second with 5-2, losing to I. Suk in the 6th, and drawing with Anto and Vaitonis. Anto, Lidacis, Oaker and Suk had 4-3 each in the 10-man tournament which was directed by Redpath Drummond.

A Rapid Transit tourney at the CNE saw the following section winners: A. Lidacis 3½-1½, J. Shebaylo 5-0, V. Meikle and T. D. Richardson 4-1 each, R. L. Orlando 4-1. There was no playoff.

A novelty game reconstruction contest, arranged by G. Coyne, saw Anderson, Oaker and Slemms sharing first prize; Meikle was second and Richardson third.

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## SANDRIN REGAINS ILLINOIS TITLE

Former U. S. Open Champion Albert Sandrin regained the Illinois State Championship in a 44-player 7-round Swiss event at Rockford, Ill. with a score of 6½-½, conceding his only draw to defending State Champion Paul Poschel. Second on S-B points was K. Wiegmann with 5½-1½, while Paul Poschel placed third, also with 5½-1½. Wiegmann lost to Sandrin and drew with Walter Grombacher, while Poschel lost to Grombacher and drew with Sandrin. Fourth to seventh on S-B points with equal game scores of 5-2 went respectively to K. Nedved, Povilas Tautvaisas, A. Kaufmann, and R. L. Fletcher.

The 1950 tournament was among the stronger of such events in recent years, and such well-known players as D. Scheffer, S. Cohen, J. V. Reinhart, L. J. Isaacs, L. Dina and Angelo Sandrin failed to gain the select circle of prize winners in the hard-fought contest.

## SIMUL PRECEDES NO. CAR. OPEN

Kit Crittenden, young North Carolina expert, gave a 20-board simultaneous exhibition, preceding the opening of the North Carolina Open Championship, winning 17 games handily. His only loss was to a combination of Jack Wardlaw and Ephraim Solkoff, while he drew two games, one against C.J. Curry and the other against a partnership of Ervin Thompson and Solkoff.

## BAGBY, BOYETTE TIE IN NO. CALIF.

The Northern California Championship ended in a tie between C. Bagby and L. Boyette with 5 pts. each. G. McClain and W. Pafnutieff tied for third with 4 pts. each. W. Hendricks was fifth with 3; B. Popoff sixth with 2½; and Dr. H. J. Raiston seventh with 1½. As three players qualify from this event at San Francisco, a playoff between McClain and Pafnutieff will be necessary to determine the third player.

## BANKS PLANS SIMUL TOUR

Newell W. Banks, the chess and checker expert, is planning another tour of simultaneous exhibitions toward the Pacific Coast after a short jaunt eastward. Leaving Detroit in November, he will travel through Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona to California. Thence north to Washington. Clubs, particularly in California, Oklahoma and Washington, and along the line of his tour are invited to contact him at Detroit if interested in arranging for exhibitions. Address Newell W. Banks, 1223 Newport Avenue, Detroit 15, Mich.

## UNBEATEN TEAM PLACES FOURTH

Although unbeaten in 15 matches, the U. S. team placed fourth on games won, the method of scoring for the international team matches. On a match point system the leaders would have been reversed:

Match Record	Won	Lost	Draw	%
United States	11	0	4	.891
Yugoslavia	11	1	3	.823
Argentina	11	2	3	.823
West Germany	11	2	2	.800

Individual Scores	Won	Lost	Drawn
Reshevsky	6	0	5
Horowitz	2	1	5
Steiner	3	3	1
Shulman	5	1	6
Kramer	5	2	6
Evans	8	0	2

In all, it was a brilliant performance by the U. S. Team.

## WERTHAMMER WINS W. VA. TITLE

Dr. Siegfried Werthammer of Huntington won the annual West Virginia Championship at Beckley in an 8-player 6-round Swiss sponsored by the Beckley Junior Chamber of Commerce with a 5-1 score, drawing with DuVall and Morgan. Second place went to Allen H. DuVall of St. Albans with 4½-1½, drawing with Werthammer and losing to Dr. Blagg. Youthful Charles Morgan of Huntington with 4-2, losing to DuVall and drawing with Werthammer and Hurt. Edward C. Foy and John F. Hurt, both of Charleston, tied for fourth with equal 3-3 scores.

The Open Tournament, a 5-player 5-round Swiss, was won by Ray Martin of South Charleston with 5-0. Second place went to Andy Hoke of Beckley with 4-1. The Players Tournament, an 11-man, 6-round Swiss, resulted in a tie for first place between Thomas Berquist of Huntington and George B. Hendricks of Charleston with 5½-½ each. Berquist and Hendricks scored a draw in their personal encounter.

Victory in the Junior Championship, a 4-player double round-robin, went to Donald Burdick of Huntington with 5-1. Burdick lost no games but drew one apiece with Marples and Sweeney. Second place went to Ray McNamee of Charleston with 3-3, who lost two games to Burdick and one game to Bruce Marples.

## SPILLER WINS CALIFORNIA OPEN

Arthur R. Spiller of Santa Monica won the California Open Championship in a 23-player 6-round Swiss at Santa Barbara with a score of 5-1 in an exciting finish by besting C. M. Capps, who held a half-point lead, in the final round while his other two rivals, Steven and Veliotes eliminated each other by drawing. As result of his victory Spiller will be seeded in the 1951 California State Championship at Los Angeles.

Second to fifth on S-B points with equal 4½-1½ scores were C. M. Capps, Geo. A. Steven, George Hunnex and Pete Veliotes. Dan Fidlow placed sixth and C. Hyde seventh on S-B points with 4-2 each. The tournament was directed by LeRoy Johnson.

## OWENS TAKES CONN. TITLE

The Connecticut State Championship ended in a 7-1 victory for young Yale student, Brian Owens, in an 8-round Swiss event. The young collegian drew two games but lost none. Second place went to Joseph Faucher, also a Yale student, who was 1949 New Jersey Champion, finishing with a 6-2 score. Dr. Hamid Dilevurgun, a visitor from Turkey, was third with 5½-2½ and an S-B of 22.50.

## For The Tournament-Minded

October 15  
1st CCLA U.S. Junior Correspondence Championship

Open to all players whose age does not exceed 21 years on date tournament starts; round, one qualifies top winners for round two which qualifies its section winners into finals; one entry fee of \$1.00 per section (7 to 9 player sections); prizes to winners in each round. For details or entry, write: Dick Rees, CCLA Sec'y, 2826 Correctionville Road, Sioux City 19, Iowa. In making entry, list date of birth.

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## Chess Life

Wednesday, September 20, 1950

## Chess Life In New York

By Eliot Hearst

SOMETHING new—a blindfold championship tournament—has been arranged by the Log Cabin Chess Club of West Orange, New Jersey, an annual contender for New York's Metropolitan Chess League title. Many well-known players hereabouts are expected to compete in this unusual event, in which the contestants will play without sight of the board, while a referee checks on the legality of the moves; clocks and score sheets will, of course, be used. As E. Forry Laucks, the affable sponsor of the Log Cabin Chess Club, said, "This is the first major tournament of its kind in the world and another first for the Log Cabin!" Not surprising—the club's motto being what it is—"First Most Everywhere!!!"

Though the Marshall preliminaries still have several rounds to go, five players have practically clinched a place in the finals for the club championship. George Krauss, James Sherwin, Jack Collins, Carl Pilnick and Walter Goldwater now seem sure to qualify. The remaining five places in the finals will be decided within the next few weeks.

If postcards tell anything, surely the card recently received from Larry Evans in Yugoslavia is a public declaration of the great enthusiasm the royal game excites in that Balkan country. The postcard, its front decorated with chessboard and chess pieces, is government issued, and the special stamp, with a chessboard as the center of interest, celebrates the international team tournament now at Dubrovnik. Has chess ever created such excitement in our country? (Could it?) Imagine Washington sponsoring chess or the Post Office Department approving a chess stamp!

In Brief: The Manhattan Chess Club sent out invitations for its championship prelims scheduled to start very shortly. It is rumored that the Manhattan and Marshall clubs are each trying to organize an international tournament to be held at Christmas time; more about this later, if plans materialize. Erling Tholfsen, one of America's strongest masters in the thirties, is returning to chess as evinced by his participation in several Marshall rapid recently. Alexander Bisno is the new president of the Manhattan Chess Club.

## BROOME, BUFFALO TOP TEAM MATCH

In the annual team matches at the New York State Championship, Broome won the Genesee Cup event with 7-1 in the team of four matches. Queen City of Buffalo took the Susquehanna Valley Cup in the team of five with 5½-4½.

## CHESS BOOKS

By Fred Reinfeld

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  - Fireside Book of Chess ..... 3.50
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Labor Day Tournament Round-Up

INTERNATIONAL TEAM TOURNAMENT

Table with columns: Teams, Games, W, L, D, M. Includes Dubrovnik, 1950 FINAL STANDINGS.

U. S. TEAM RECORD

Table with columns: United States, Round Four, Denmark.

Table with columns: United States, Round Five, Belgium.

Table with columns: United States, Round Six, Finland.

Table with columns: United States, Round Seven, West Germany.

Table with columns: United States, Round Eight, Norway.

Table with columns: United States, Round Nine, Yugoslavia.

Table with columns: United States, Round Ten, Sweden.

Table with columns: United States, Round Eleven, Greece.

Table with columns: United States, Round Twelve, France.

Table with columns: United States, Round Thirteen, Peru.

Table with columns: United States, Round Fourteen, Austria.

Table with columns: United States, Round Fifteen, Chile.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, France.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Chile.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Peru.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Austria.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Chile.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Peru.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Austria.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Chile.

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Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Peru.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Austria.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Chile.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Peru.

Table with columns: U. S. A., Round, Austria.

SOUTHWESTERN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Waco, 1950. Lists players and scores.

NEW YORK STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Binghamton, 1950. Lists players and scores.

NEBRASKA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Hastings, 1950. Lists players and scores.

ILLINOIS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Rockford, 1950. Lists players and scores.

WEST VIRGINIA CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Beckley, 1950. Lists players and scores.

WEST VIRGINIA PLAYERS TOURNAMENT

Table with columns: Beckley, 1950. Lists players and scores.

KANOWHA VALLEY CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Charleston and South Charleston, 1950. Lists players and scores.

NORTH CAROLINA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Raleigh, 1950. Lists players and scores.

NEW JERSEY STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Orange, 1950. Lists players and scores.

NEW ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Providence, 1950. Lists players and scores.

CALIFORNIA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Santa Barbara, 1950. Lists players and scores.

With The Chess Clubs

Portland (Ore.) Chess Club saw Alex Suchobek win the club championship with 4 1/2-3 1/2...

Vancouver (B.C.) Chess Club needs a double round playoff to decide the winner of its training tournament...

Howard Chess Club (R.I.) is holding three class tournaments for "B", "C" and "D" class players...

Decatur (Ill.) Chess Club traveled to Turkey Run State Park in Indiana where they contested a five-board double round match...

Toronto Chess League elected G. Coyne hon. president, R. Cody president, Dr. P. Hutzlak vice-president...

Howard Chess Club (R.I.) was the host of the vagabond Log Cabin Chess Club and lost a double round match...

Position No. 41: 1-R(7)-Q(1) Black resigned. If 1-R(7)-Q(1) Black resigned...

Solutions: MATE THE SUBTLE WAY! As we go to press copy has not been received from Mr. Eaton on the solutions for problems published previously...



By JULIUS GOODMAN

**C**HESS FANS, brace yourselves: a new era is dawning the chess robot is coming; and it will not be just an automaton like one over a century ago, making moves, which were directed by a strong player, hidden inside. It will be the electronic brain. It will revolutionize the whole mode of chess life. No worry to find an opponent, if you are vacationing in the lonely mountains; you brought your opponent along right with your luggage, you invite this machine to a game and this Frankenstein monster is most probably going to beat you, because "The electronic chess player would be superior to the average player because it would never make a mistake." (sic).

Burning midnight oil over an adjourned game? Ridiculous! This thinking beast will show you all best moves of your opponent and/or your best answers, and this in a matter of minutes.

Calling a panel of experts for adjudication of games? Nonsense! We pit two of these electronic brains against each other and find thus the best outcome.

These are some of the aspects, if you agree with Professor Norbert Wiener of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the foremost authority on electronic brains and author of the new theory of communications, named cybernetics, and with the renowned science editor D. Dietz, whose comments (partly used here in quotes) are, with some reservations for the near future, optimistic.

The word cybernetics is derived from the Greek: kybernetes, e.g.: steersman (hence through etymological corruption, governor).

Now, at the risk of being ridiculed by posterity or even sooner (as were others who scoffed at new inventions), I claim that the scientists who fancy to construct a machine playing even an "average chess" are on a wrong track. While I hear from another part of the country (California) that the robot genius S W A C can, in the time it takes to say the word "multiplication," perform 2,604 multiplications or 15,625 additions, that it can be used to do literal translations from one language into another, these robots are really slaves in that they carry out instructions to the letter and no more. But, and this is a big but; chess is not only a matter of calculation, but requires amongst other functions fantasy, psychology.

This theory of cybernetics is based on, as Professor Wiener terms it, "feedbacks," "to describe this sort of situation in which information, perceived by the machine or its operator is fed back into the machine to control its operation. This same sort of control can be obtained in a purely mechanical circuit. Most electronic brains today have circuits built into them that serve the function of memory. It is possible to arrange a machine so that it draws upon these memory circuits, to speed up its performance, when it is asked to do some task which it has previously performed. In a similar fashion, the electronic chess player would possess memory circuits. Confronted with a given configuration on the board, it would call upon one of these circuits to tell it what it did under similar circumstances on previous occasions. Such a machine, Dr. Wiener points out, would, in a very real sense, learn to play better chess with the passage of time." So far Mr. Dietz.

Now, why is our game called inexhaustible? It's demonstrated by following a discourse by the late German expert Scheve.

You have heard about the legend, where the inventor of chess, urged by the King, to ask a reward for his invention, requested that he be paid off in wheat: one piece on the first square of the board, two on the second, four on the third, and doubling so forth on all the squares. The amount arrived at on the 64th square would be the number 16 with 76 zeros to follow. The Arab scientist Albiruni (11th century) speaks of it as a number, "which the earth cannot grasp, Allah is wise and almighty."

Well, this is the numeric conception the chess player has to reckon with: Both White and Black have at the start each 20 possible moves, there are therefore after the first move of Black 400 different possibilities of position. If we agree on this number 20 for the first five moves (which is not quite correct), we get after the second move of Black 400 times 400, e.g. 160,000; after the third move 400 times 160,000, e.g. 64 millions; after the fifth move: 10 billions, 240,000 millions possible moves. The numbers increase rapidly. (Actually the numbers are "a little" smaller in proper play), Scheve arrives in a game of 35 moves to a number of possible moves or positions consisting of 91 letters, that is 1 with 90 zeros to follow.

Now, if we disregard not customary moves, like 1. P-QR3, and losing and nonsensical moves in the cause of the game, we would (to express it in a layman's language) still have to feed into the machine a number of memories, for which the terms billions and trillions are not sufficient.

Fortunately, we humans don't work with cathode ray tubes, digets and all in our skulls, but with real brains that defy imitation just the same as the human eye.

When the late Yates — to pay tribute to a nearly forgotten master — in his game with Alekhine, Karlsbad, 1923, conceived his magnificent combination of nearly 20 moves, did he use these kind of figures? Certainly not.

When Tartakower in a famous game sacrificed a rook against a pawn, not for a winning combination, but just to disentangle a position which otherwise didn't permit any move, did he toss infinite figures through his brains?

But here I already touch the subject of chess calculations — quite different from mechanical calculation — and chess psychology, which has to be dealt with at some other time.

## Innovation in the S-B Scoring

By WILLIAM ROJAM

To Ephraim Solkoff of Raleigh, N. C. goes the credit for the adoption of an unusual and apparently effective method of calculating the Sonneborn-Berger scores of players tied for position in a Swiss Tournament. The method proved so effective at the 1950 North Carolina Open Championship, where the players accepted it with reluctance when proposed, that the North Carolina Chess Association has since voted its adoption for the 1951 tournament.

Usual S-B methods of calculation consist in adding to a player's own plus game score the plus game scores of all players he defeated and one-half of the plus game scores of those with whom he drew. If this method does not dissolve the ties (and frequently it does not), some directors then consider the minus scores for a further attempt at tie-breaking. The great objection to this system is the fact that in the first instance no account is taken of the losses, for it is obvious that a loss to the winner of the tournament should give greater credit to a player than a loss to an opponent who finished at the tail-end.

Considering these things, Mr. Solkoff asked: Why not use the total scores of all opponents, whether they won, drew or lost to the player?

What did not seem any good answer to this question; so that is exactly what Mr. Solkoff did in figuring the S-B points in the North Carolina Open, which he directed.

What this innovation means is best illustrated by a table of the players who were tied at 3-2 and at 2-3 in game scores, showing their final ranking under Mr. Solkoff's system and also under the normal S-B system. In figuring normal S-B points, we have omitted the adding in of the player's own plus score as Mr. Solkoff did not use it in his own computations (and its use is in any case optional).

Final Rank	Name of Player	Game Score	Solkoff S-B Pts.	Normal S-B Pts.	Normal Rank
6.	Edward Lipitsky	3-2	16.50	9.00	6
7.	Thomas Van Zandt	3-2	12.50	5.50	8
8.	Henry J. Woods, Jr.	3-2	11.50	6.00	7
9.	H. C. Beeman	3-2	11.00	4.00	9
11.	Ephraim Solkoff	2-3	14.00	3.50	11-13
12.	David S. Evans	2-3	13.00	2.00	13
13.	Arthur G. Ashbrook	2-3	11.50	3.50	11-12
14.	Jack Wardlaw	2-3	8.00	0.00	15
15.	G. J. Curry	2-3	8.00	1.00	14

It will be noted at once that under normal S-B scoring Woods would replace Van Zandt in 7th place. Woods won from numbers 11, 12 and 13 and lost to numbers 6 and 10. Van Zandt won from numbers 13, 15, and 17 but lost to numbers 3 and 6. His credit for being opposed to tougher opposition in the games he lost, under Mr. Solkoff's system enables him to slide into 7th place. In the same manner, under normal S-B points Ashbrook would tie Solkoff for 11th place instead of being placed 13th. But while Solkoff had his losses against number 1, 8 and 9, and Evans his losses against numbers 1, 4 and 8, Ashbrook lost his games to the weaker opposition of numbers 7, 8 and 11. As Solkoff scored his victories over numbers 13 and 16, while Ashbrook defeated numbers 14 and 16, it becomes clear that in this instance at least Mr. Solkoff's new system worked justice. In the case of Evans and Ashbrook, it is a hairline judgment, for Evans in defeating numbers 16 and 18 won from slightly weaker opposition, but lost his games to stronger opposition.

In any case, the system devised by Mr. Solkoff deserves a much more thorough testing, for the efficiency of such an innovation cannot be properly determined by one or two tournaments. CHESS LIFE will be interested in learning of the results of applying Mr. Solkoff's S-B modification in other tournaments, while recommending that other tournament directors give it a test. For it has long been recognized that the present S-B system is deficient in the very fact that it ignores in its calculations the results of losses by a player.

## The Kibitzer Has His Day

From the Editor's Mail Bag

Dear Mr. Major:

I wished to write to you earlier about some of the comments that you made on the 1949 FIDE congress in CHESS LIFE and possibly also to anticipate some arguments about the 1950 FIDE congress.

The 1949 FIDE congress was perfectly justified in choosing Budapest as the location of the 1950 Candidates' Tourney. Dr. Alexander Rueb wrote into the report of the FIDE bureau, the whole of the negotiations with Buenos Aires, and in view of the unclear nature of the financial guarantee was justified in putting the question of venue on the agenda for the General Assembly. After listening to the discussion, I personally was convinced that Argentina's guarantee was good enough, especially as I recalled the success-Mar del Plata tourneys. Apparently all delegates were not convinced as some remembered, rather than mentioned, that there had been financial trouble with the organization of the 1939 chess olympiad in Buenos Aires.

Then we started to get to the inner part of the problem. The Soviet Union delegation was clearly not wishing to go to Argentina for the 1950 Candidates' tourney.

The real reason was never spoken. It was quite clear from Botvinnik that the Soviet Union wanted the strongest possible candidates' tourney — their success in such would have a greater propaganda value is one point, Botvinnik's sincerity is another — and were prepared to play wherever possible. However in answer to our request that the Soviet Union give a definite assurance that their players could travel to Buenos Aires, there was and could be no satisfactory answer. It is certain that such permission would be forthcoming only from a very high foreign ministry official of the Soviet Union and would be dependent on relations between the affected countries at the time necessary for the Soviet Union team to travel. That is why Budapest was chosen. There could be no reason why the Soviet players should visit that country. At that time there was no valid reason why Reshevsky and Fine could not play in Budapest.

The next aspect is, what should have been done when the knowledge of the U. S. State Dept's ban, on U. S. citizens visiting Hungary, was available to FIDE.

It is difficult to judge whether the president of FIDE, Folke Rogard, knew in time to cancel or postpone the holding of the Candidates' tourney in Budapest, but he had the necessary power to act if he considered necessary. I do not know the full facts, but I know that he corresponded through the U. S. Ambassador in Stockholm with the U. S. State Dept. in order to obtain special permission for Reshevsky to play in Budapest. You must realize that chess in USA obtains very little official support, whereas such a request to a number of countries, communist and otherwise, would be seriously considered.

What compensation must Reshevsky receive for losing his right to play in the Candidates' tourney? Personally I thought it possible for Reshevsky to participate in a three-cornered tourney with Boleaslavsky and Bronstein, the winner to play Botvinnik next year. Then probably Smyslov, Keres and other players in the Budapest tourney could have a grievance. It all had to be thought out. I even went as far as discussing it with Kotov at the 1950 FIDE general assembly in July in Copenhagen. It is possible that it would have been sympathetically considered, but where was the USA delegate to press the issue? There is still one chance for Reshevsky. He has been unanimously granted the right to play in the 1953 candidates' tourney. It is this enough? After all Reshevsky becomes older. There is no reason why Reshevsky should not play a match against the world champion in the fall of 1952, as there is no reason why the world champion cannot accept challenges in years in which he does not have to officially defend his title. We cannot force Botvinnik or his successor to accept a challenge, but FIDE can make it a recommendation, at next year's General Assembly in Venice, to the holder that he consider a challenge from Reshevsky, and as such I think that the champion would lose face by avoiding it.

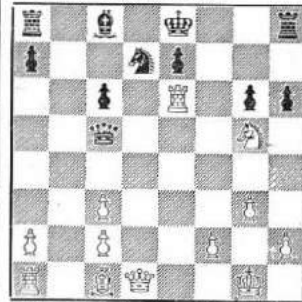
I have, I hope, carefully examined your criticism of the method of choosing the initial international grandmasters. I also was worried by the possibility of weakening the whole idea by choosing wrongly. You write "it was obviously necessary to set some criterion for an initial group." We have some idea of the strength (Please turn to Page 6, col. 5)

Wednesday, September 20, 1950

## What's The Best Move?

By Guilherme Groesser

Position No. 55



White to play

Send solutions to Position No. 55 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, by October 5, 1950.

Solutions to Position No. 53

This unexpected ending came in a correspondence game between A. Ginski and M. Matricio in Italy. Black (Matricio) played 1... Q-R8! and there followed: 2. P-Q3, K-R7 ch; 3. K-K1, R-R4 mate. Not too difficult, apparently, as most of our solvers found the correct move and indicated the principal line of play. Correct solutions are acknowledged received from: D. Arzuman (Racine), J. A. Baker (Mankato), J. E. Comstock (Duluth), W. J. Conure (Howard), J. M. Erman (Detroit), J. Faucher (New Haven), E. Gault (New Brighton), I. Grubich (Flint), A. Kaufman (Chicago), E. J. Kornantny (Waukegan), T. Lewis (Chicago), R. A. McCallister (Hickensville), D. C. Melbanco (Los Angeles), E. P. Muller (Flint), E. Nash (Washington), G. Taneher (Milwaukee), Wm. B. Wilson (Amherstburg), A. A. Fagan (Montreal), J. Hiss (Lanester). We also wish to acknowledge solutions to Position No. 52 which were omitted in last listing from: J. E. Barry (?), Robert L. Smith (Portland), and D. V. Sullivan (Rochester).

## Alekhine's Career

(Continued from page 2, col. 5)

After 17... Alekhine, Kt-K5!



GRIGORIEV

Not better and not worse than everything else. White cannot play 17. B-B4, the move he had evidently counted on when he played 16. Kt-Q3, on account of the mate on K5 which is threatened after 17... P-R4 would be answered by Black not with 17... Kt-R4; 18. B-K5 ch, K-Q1; 19. Q-Q1, K-R2; 20. Q-R2, Q-K5 ch; 21. K-R2, Q-R1; 22. Q-R1 and White wins, but simply with 17... Q-R4, and if 18. Q-R2, then 18... R-R1; 19. Q-R5 ch, B-R1; 20. R-P ch, K-Q2; 21. B-R3 ch, R-B2 with winning attack. Of course not 18... Q-R5 ch 19. K-Q2, Q-R1 on account of 20. R-B3 ch, R-R2; 21. Q-R5 ch, K-Q1 (or Q2); 22. Q-Q6 ch, K-R1. Q-R5 ch and perpetual check. 19. B-Q3 Q-R5 ch 21. K-K3 B-B3! 20. K-Q2 Q-P Still another little "trick." 22. Q-B5 ch K-K1 23. R-K4 Q-R2, Q-R1, K-Q4 ch, 24. P-Kt1 B-Q5 ch 25. K-B4 Q-P ch 26. P-Kt1 B-Q5 ch Resigns

Translator's note: We would not be surprised if Alekhine had "seen" all the consequences outlined in his note to White's 17th move; but even if he figured them out later in his study, the richness of imagination of this great genius would still be amazing.

But there is more to be said in connection with this "fantastic" variation, and we will elaborate further on this matter in our next article.

## BCM BECOMES AIR-MINDED

The august and ancient British Chess Magazine (60 years old) has become air-minded, and with its September issue is publishing a special overseas edition on india paper for airmail delivery. First copy received is an attractive job, half the thickness of normal edition.



Wednesday, September 20, 1950

Tournament Life

Conducted by Erich W. Marchand

192 Seville Drive Rochester 17, N. Y.

Annotators

J. B. Gee, A. Y. Hesse, J. Lapin, Dr. J. Platz, Fred Reinfield, A. E. Santastani, Wayne Wagner, Dr. M. Herzberger, Edw. J. Korpany, I. Rivise, J. Fraum, Dr. Bela Rozsa, J. Soudakoff

The Kibitzer (Continued from page 5)

of the Soviet masters and we knew the Soviet Union set a high standard in choosing its grandmasters and we accepted their eleven players. Kashdan's record is, in my opinion, more impressive than about half the Soviet group of grandmasters, and the sooner the USA nominates him, the better.

Your criticism of the criterion for making Soviet masters "international masters" was a just one. In the future Soviet masters, to become "international masters" must compete in international tournaments. By this means, we hope to obtain more Soviet masters participating internationally and so making FIDE one plank of a bridge for international cooperation.

Mr. Wade's long letter without comment. No one questions Mr. Wade's own sincerity and disinterested wish to be helpful. Whether one agrees with his arguments is a matter of personal conviction—Ed.

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DETROIT ELECTS NEW USCF BOARD

At the annual meeting of the members of the United States Chess Federation at Detroit, the annual election of members of the Board of Directors for the ensuing year saw the addition of a number of new faces. The following is the list of the USCF Board of Directors, as elected at Detroit, with a few vacancies open from States in which representation in person or by proxy was lacking at the meeting:

- Alabama: W. O. Winston; Arizona: W. W. Manney; Arkansas: Rev. George G. Walker; California: Alex Bisno, A. J. Fink, Paul T. Hoffman, Dr. Edward Kupka, H. J. Ralston, Nicholas Russ; Connecticut: Edmund E. Hand; Delaware: Samuel A. Collins; District of Columbia: Vincent L. Eaton, Edmund Nash; Florida: James B. Gibson, Jr.; Georgia: M. H. Davis; Illinois: Edwin M. Asmann, Lucius A. Fritze, Dr. Ralph Kuhns, J. V. Reinhart, F. H. Stoppel, Jr.; Indiana: D. E. Rhead; Iowa: Dr. Julius S. Weingart; Kentucky: Merrill Dowden; Louisiana: A. Wyatt Jones; Maine: Dr. J. Melnick; Maryland: I. S. Turover; Massachusetts: Weaver W. Adams, Harlow B. Daily, Robert W. Reddy; Michigan: Reuben Buskager, Thomas A. Jenkins, John Lapin, Glen W. Palon, Virgil E. Vandenburg, James R. Watson; Minnesota: George S. Barnes; Montana: G. H. M. Brandt; Nebraska: Alfred C. Ludwig; New Hampshire; Edward P. Lebzelter; New Jersey: E. Forry Laucks, Edgar T. McCormick, Richard W. Wayne; New York: Severin Bischof, Roy C. Black, Jeremiah Donovan, Rhys W. Hays, I. A. Horowitz, Erich W. Marchand, Harold M. Phillips, Albert S. Pinkus, Harry D. Snyder; North Carolina: Samuel A. Agnelo; North Dakota: D. C. Macdonald; Ohio: Nicholas Gabor, Arthur E. Plueddemann, Selden L. Trumbull, Paul J. Wortman; Oklahoma: E. N. Anderson, Dr. Bela Rozsa; Oregon: Rev. George H. Swift; Pennsylvania: Thomas B. Eckenrode, John D. French, Walter Hall, Glenn E. Hartleb, C. H. L. Schuette III; Rhode Island: Theodore Peasach; South Dakota: M. F. Anderson; Tennessee: Jerry Sullivan; Texas: James A. Creighton, John B. Payne; Utah: H. A. Dittmann; Vermont: A. H. Hobson; Virginia: Nelson Bond; West Virginia: Dr. Vincent S. Hayward; Wisconsin: Arpad E. Elo, Ernest Olife; Puerto Rico: Rafael Cintron.

BUDAPEST DEFENSE U. S. Open Championship Detroit, 1950

"One Slip Is Enough!"



White: 1. P-Q4, 2. P-QB4, 3. PxP, 4. K-K3, 5. P-QR3. Black: 1. B-K3, 2. P-K4, 3. P-K5, 4. K-Q4, 5. P-Q3. After 9. Kt-Q4?

FIANCHETTO DEFENSE U. S. Open Championship Detroit, 1950

"The Pawn Is The Soul of Chess"



White: 1. P-K4, 2. P-Q4, 3. Kt-QB3, 4. B-O3. Black: 1. P-K4, 2. P-QB3, 3. B-K2, 4. P-B3. After 11. PxP!

COLLE OPENING Michigan State Championship Jackson, 1950



White: 1. P-Q4, 2. Kt-KB3, 3. P-K3, 4. B-Q3, 5. Q-K1, 6. P-B3, 7. O-O. Black: 1. P-QR3, 2. P-K3, 3. P-Q4, 4. Kt-K3, 5. P-K3, 6. P-K4, 7. O-O. After 14... Kt-Q2

SICILIAN DEFENSE International Team Matches Dubrovnik, 1950



White: 1. P-K4, 2. Kt-KB3, 3. P-Q4, 4. Kt-QB3, 5. P-K3, 6. P-K3, 7. O-O. Black: 1. P-Q4, 2. P-QB3, 3. P-K3, 4. P-K3, 5. P-Q4, 6. P-K3, 7. O-O. After 14... Kt-Q2

STOLZENBERG



White: 15. Kt-P1, 16. Kt-K5 ch, 17. PxP ch. Black: 15. QxP ch, 16. BxP ch, 17. R-K1. Resigns.

THE BRITISH CHESS MAGAZINE

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CHESS LIFE, 123 No. Humphrey Ave., Oak Park, Ill.

position with a chance of complete development. BxR. During play, it shows that taking the R means the loss of a piece, but he keeps the White Q busy, taking her off the K1-R4 diagonal. R-K4 R-K5 QxR. Now White must be very careful. But we doubt that it will do him any good. If 17. P-Q4, R-K5 ch; 18. R-K2, BxR; 19. QxR, R-K2 is followed by 20. R-K1 giving Black a powerful battery against the White R. In addition the White QR and Kl are still tied up. 17. Kt-R5 R-K5 ch 21. K-K3 QxR. 18. Kt-B3 R-K2 21. Kt-B2 R-K1 QxP. 19. R-B3 RxB 21. P-KR3 QxP. 20. RxR QxP ch. This is simply to decimate the Q-side P's. 21. Kt-R5 Q-B5 27. Q-R4 Q-K4 Kt-Q. 22. Kt-B3 R-K2 28. QxQ. 23. Q-B2 Kt-K5. After the exchange of Qs it is simply a question of careful play. 29. Kt-K4 P-QR 32. BxP R-K5. 30. Kt-Q5 R-K3 33. B-K15 P-R5. 31. P-QR4 PxP Resigns.

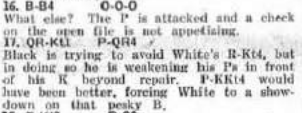
PONZIANI'S OPENING U. S. Open Championship Detroit, 1950

A rarely played opening but sometimes it is wise to spring unexpectedly a "secret weapon" against a master. P-Q4. Leonhardt's Defense, Aggressive but a dangerous looking move. Kt-B3 looks enter in to play. 4. Q-R4 P-B3. The Steinitz Defense which is not good. It is not in line with the former attacking move. Kt-B3 is the better move. This will offer White a P for a very strong attack. Bernese-Paris, correspondence 1921 game went: 1. P-K4, 2. Kt-B3, 3. Kt-P, 4. B-Q1; 6. Kt-K4, P-K1; 7. P-Q3, 0-0; 8. B-K3, P-K3; 9. BxK1, Qx1; 10. B-R2, Q-K14; 11. Kt-Q2, QxP; 12. B-B3, B-K2; 13. 0-0-0, B-B5 with an excellent game for Black. 5. B-K15 Kt-K5 7. P-Q4 0-0 6. Pxp QxP. The tempting move of P-K5 is not good because of 8. P-B3, Q-Q1; 9. Kt-Q2, QxP; 10. Kt-R4, Q-Q3; 11. B-K3 giving White an overwhelming game. B-K4 6. B-K3 Pxp 9. Pxp Kt-B4. A "struggling for development" move. Kt-K4 has been tried, 10. Kt-B3, BxKt ch; 11. P-K1, Q-K14; 12. 0-0-0, P-QR3; 13. P-Q5; with no better result for Black. 10. Kt-B3 B-K4 12. P-B3 Kt-K4 11. O-Q1 BxK1 13. BxB ch QxQ. Naturally Black would welcome the exchange of Qs. It would give him a much needed tempo. 14. Q-Q1 Kt-B5 15. O-Q3 Q-Q4. This move looks innocently good but in the light of what followed it was positionally bad. Kt-B5 certainly would have avoided the consequences. 16. B-B4 O-O-O. What else? The P is attacked and a check on the open file is not appealing. 17. Q-R4 P-QR4. Black is trying to avoid White's R-K4, but in doing so he is weakening his P's in front of his K beyond repair. P-KK4 would have been better, forcing White to a show-down on that pesky B. 18. R-K13 R-Q2. Still P-KK4 could be played. 19. Kt-K1 Kt-Q3. No matter how we look at this move, can it be any good? At least P-QR3 must be played. Now he allows White to play a pretty little combination. 20. Kt-Q2 Kt-Q3. Perhaps Black does not see the play to come. He should not take that Kt. Kt-Q3 would have stopped the combination. 21. Q-R6!

RUY LOPEZ U. S. Open Championship Detroit, 1950

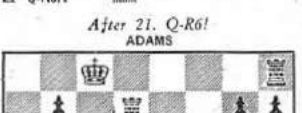
Notes by Edw. J. Korpany. Black: 1. P-K4, 2. P-QB3, 3. P-K3, 4. B-K2, 5. P-Q4, 6. P-K3, 7. O-O. White: 1. P-K4, 2. P-Q4, 3. Kt-QB3, 4. B-K2, 5. P-Q4, 6. P-K3, 7. O-O. After 21. Q-R6!

After 21. Q-R6! ADAMS



White: 21. Q-R6. Black: 21. Q-R6. ADAMS.

BISGUIER



White: 27. Q-R6. Black: 27. Q-R6. BISGUIER.

After 14. R-K5 SHIPMAN



White: 14. R-K5. Black: 14. R-K5. SHIPMAN.

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White: 37. R-K2. Black: 37. R-K2. STOLZENBERG.

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ENGLISH OPENING New York State Championship Binghamton, 1950 Notes by Erich W. Marchand. White: 1. P-Q4, 2. Kt-QB3, 3. P-Q4, 4. Kt-QB3, 5. Kt-P, 6. B-K5, 7. P-Q4, 8. Kt-B5, 9. QxQ ch, 10. Kt-Q, 11. B-K5, 12. P-Q4, 13. P-Q4, 14. P-K4, 15. P-Q4, 16. P-K4, 17. P-K4, 18. R-K1 ch, 19. P-K4, 20. P-Q4, 21. P-Q4, 22. P-Q4. Black: 1. P-K4, 2. P-Q4, 3. P-Q4, 4. Kt-B3, 5. Kt-P, 6. B-K5, 7. P-Q4, 8. Kt-B5, 9. QxQ ch, 10. Kt-Q, 11. B-K5, 12. P-Q4, 13. P-Q4, 14. P-K4, 15. P-Q4, 16. P-K4, 17. P-K4, 18. R-K1 ch, 19. P-K4, 20. P-Q4, 21. P-Q4, 22. P-Q4.

After 26... B-K6 PAVEY



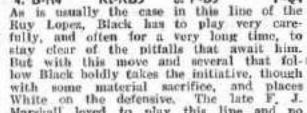
HEARST

White: 27. Kt-K6 ch, 28. Pxp, 29. P-Q6. Black: 27. Kt-K6 ch, 28. Pxp, 29. P-Q6. HEARST.

RUY LOPEZ U. S. Open Championship Detroit, 1950

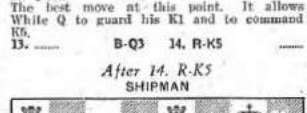
Notes by Edw. J. Korpany. White: 1. P-K4, 2. P-Q4, 3. Kt-QB3, 4. B-K2, 5. P-Q4, 6. P-K3, 7. O-O. Black: 1. P-K4, 2. P-QB3, 3. P-K3, 4. B-K2, 5. P-Q4, 6. P-K3, 7. O-O.

After 14. R-K5 SHIPMAN



White: 14. R-K5. Black: 14. R-K5. SHIPMAN.

STOLZENBERG



White: 37. R-K2. Black: 37. R-K2. STOLZENBERG.

This and his 18th move is a must for White. By giving up the R for the dangerous B White hopes to continue with P-Q4 after which he would have a strong central P