



Chess Life



Vol. V
Number 3

Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation

Thursday,
October 5, 1950

STATE TITLES CHANGE HANDS

SCHROEDER WINS OHIO TITLE

Victory in the 34-man Ohio State Championship went to James Schroeder of Columbus in a very tight combat in a strong field of contenders which included three former State champions and a host of city champions. To the final game it was a battle, for in the last round meeting between Schroeder and Ellison, if Ellison had won he would be champion, if he drew the title would go to A. Nasytis. Ellison lost and dropped to sixth place, while the 22-year old Schroeder gained the title.

Second place went to A. Nasytis of Cleveland, while two ex-Pawn Club players from Cleveland clinched third and fourth—George Miller and William Granger. Defending Champion Walter Mann placed twelfth.

In the concurrent Junior State Championship Myron Frederick of Columbus placed first with Wallace Zimmerman of Akron in second; while in the Woman's Championship Mrs. Catherine Jones of Columbus and Mrs. Mena Schwartz of Cleveland shared the first place honors as co-champions.

A new section of the tournament, called a "Candidates" section was held for the first time this year. It was won by James Algea of Akron, with S. S. Keeney of Cleveland in the second spot.

At the meeting of the Trustees of the Ohio Chess Association the following officers were elected: Arthur Plueddemann (Akron) president, S. S. Keeney (Cleveland) executive vice-president, Stanley Prague (Cleveland) secretary, and Milan Kontosh (Cleveland) treasurer.

HICKMAN TAKES PITTSBURGH MEET

Herbert Hickman, until recently the terror in scholastic chess circles of western Pennsylvania, stepped boldly into adult chess with victory in the annual Metropolitan Pittsburgh Championship with a 6-1 score, losing no games but drawing with David Spiro and Garbuny.

Spiro was second with 5½-1½ in the 14-player 7 round Swiss, drawing with Hickman, Hobbs and Taylor. Garbuny placed third with 5-2, losing to Spiro and drawing with Hickman and Hobbs. Hobbs, Taylor and Mueller placed fourth to sixth with equal 4-3 scores.

ENEQUIST WINS MARYLAND TITLE

Lars N. Enequist with 5½-½ won the Maryland State Championship in a 22-player 6 round Swiss conducted by the new Maryland Chess Federation (an expansion of the Baltimore Chess League into state-wide activity). Second place went to Robert B. Ilderton with 5-1, and third place to David Bentz with 4½-1½. Fourth to sixth were R. McComas, A. Surgies, and L. Frank with equal 4-2 scores. The three leading prize-winners received loving cups in recognition of their achievements.

MARTIN BECOMES CALIF. CHAMPION

Ray Martin, Los Angeles County Champion, added the California State title to his list with 6-1 score in the finals held at San Francisco. V. Pafnutieff of San Francisco and George Croy of Los Angeles finished in a tie for 2nd with 4-3 each, while P. D. Smith of Bakersfield was fourth with 3½-3½. Charles Bagby and Sven Almgren tied for 5th with 3-4, and were followed by William Steckel at 2½-4½ and Leslie Boyette with 2-5.

ACP ANNOUNCES TOURNEY WINNERS

The Chess Problem Association of America announces the results in the informal problem composing tourneys in its publication, *American Chess Problemist*, for the first half of 1950.

In the contest for two-movers with F. Gamage as judge the following awards were made: 1st Prize E. Holladay, 2nd Prize F. DeBlasio, 3rd Prize G. Croes. Further honors were won by Stochi, Eaton, Huse, Mansfield, Eerkes, Elterman, Hassberg, Latzel, Major, Rasmussen, Soennecken.

In the three-mover tourney with E. Holladay as judge the awards were: 1st Prize A. Soennecken, 2nd Prize J. Buchwald. Further honors were won by Larsen, Eaton, Croes, DeBlasio, Rubens.

Tourneys for the second half of 1950 will be judged by G. Mott-Smith and K. S. Howard. The prize winning problems will be published in the October issue of the *American Chess Problemist*.

The Chess Problem Association of America mourns the loss of their most enthusiastic and indefatigable friend, their Vice-President Edgar W. Allen, who succumbed to a sudden heart attack on September 5th.

Problem friends, chess editors, and solvers living in the New York area are cordially invited to a get-together on Sunday, October 26, 1950 at 2 p.m. at Julius Buchwald's home, 25-37 83rd Street, Jackson Heights, N. Y. Anyone who would like to attend is requested to communicate with him, telephone Illinois 7-8853. Refreshments will be served.

NAJDORF SETS SIMUL RECORD

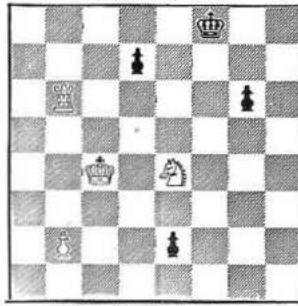
Since the Saracen master Buzeca in 1266 played the first simultaneous blindfold match, records have been made, only to fail. In Sao Paulo, Brazil in 1947 Mendel Najdorf established the present record of 39 wins, 4 draws and only two losses in 45 games played blindfolded.

Now the same Najdorf has placed a new record for ordinary simultaneous play in a most magnificent display of skill and endurance.

Again at Sao Paulo, Najdorf played 250 boards, winning 226 games, drawing 15, and losing only 9 games. This magnificent exhibition lasted 11 hours and drew some 2000 spectators. It was financed by the newspaper *Gazeta Esportiva*.

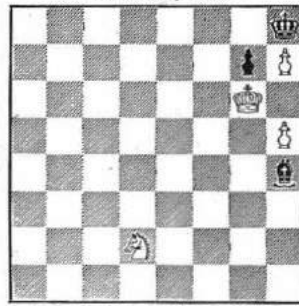
Showing his phenomenal memory, Najdorf noted a wrong set-up at 3 a.m. and proved it by playing over the whole game from memory!

Position No. 85
By Emil Richter
Ceskoslovensky Sach
November, 1949



7k, 6pP, 6K1, 7P, 7b, 8, 8S4, 8
White to play and win

Position No. 86
By Ladislav Prokes
Ceskoslovensky Sach
November, 1949



8k2, 8p4, 8k4p1, 8, 2K1S3, 8, 1P2p3, 8
White to play and win

White to Play And Win!

Conducted by William Rojram

THE TWO positions diagrammed above represent two of the three positions which were bracketed in a triple-tie for first place in the Ceskoslovensky Sach 1949 Endgame Tourney. Position No. 85 by Emil Richter is a fascinating duel between White Knight and Black Bishop in which the prancing horseman finally outsteps the defending prelate.

Position No. 86 by Ladislav Prokes is an artistic study in the Czech composer's best style in which the threatening Black Pawn is at last erased after some careful play by White Knight and Bishop. For solutions please turn to page four.

The Kibitzer Has His Day

From the Editor's Mail Bag

"Grandmaster Draw"—A British Opinion

Dear Mr. Major:

Your article on the lessons of history interested me. Since 1938 the Tournament Rules of British Chess Federation have a provision that 16(d) of Laws of Chess shall not be enforced. 16(d) allowed an agreed draw but only after 30 moves had been made.

At the 1938 B.C.F. Congress I was handed, a few minutes after the beginning of a round, the following score: 1. Kt-KB3, Kt-KB3; 2. Kt-Kt1, Kt-Kt1; 3. Kt-KB3, Kt-KB3; 4. Kt-Kt1, Kt-Kt1; 5. Kt-KB3, Kt-KB3, drawn by recurrence of position. The controller was the late R. H. S. Stevenson who had a wide experience of Congresses. The matter was discussed with various officials and with some regular players. It was commonly recognized that if two competitors had made up their minds to agree to a draw they could not be prevented. It was immaterial whether or not they had to make a specified number of moves before the draw could be recognized. Such "games" whether of 15 or 30 or 40 moves would be worthless as chess studies. The suggestion that found most support was that the "offenders" should be warned that entries from them for a future congress of the Federation might not be entertained.

It was accepted that we should not have a rule that we could not equitably enforce.

16(d) is not a "law" of chess. It is no more than a tournament rule and action under it, I hold, be left to the body or committee promoting the tournament.

We have not eliminated the "grandmaster" draw in England. I do not think we can. The enforcing of play to 30 moves is not a

deterrent.

J. T. BOYD
Southampton, England.

Mr. Boyd, one of the three members of the B. C. F. Committee, which prepared the draft of a revised code for presentation to F.I.D.E., is a recognized authority upon tournament procedure and law. We do not attempt to refute his statement that nothing can prevent two players from agreeing to a draw; but we do insist that the 30 move rule may upon occasion change the mind of one player in the course of the game. We refer, for example, to the Marco-Matoczy game, Vienna, 1899. Reinfeld and Chernev in annotating this game in "Chess Strategy and Tactics" note at White's 22nd move: "At this point both players would have been content with a draw, but unfortunately the tournament regulations did not permit a draw before the thirtieth move." But by White's 26th move, Black is not feeling so drawish, and at move 69 he begins one of the most beautiful of endgame combinations, which won him the brilliancy prize.

It remains our contention that 16(d) must either be enforced or repealed. And the recent U. S. Open Championship did not have the excuse of the B.C.F. ruling not to enforce 16(d), for the U.S.C.F. has always plainly indicated that it was the wish of the Board of Directors to have the Laws of Chess enforced in their entirety.—The Editor.

BY MISADVENTURE

We apologize to our readers, who are also readers of the Cleveland Chess Bulletin, for the appearance in the September 20th issue of the article by Mr. Goodman, which appeared simultaneously in the Cleveland Chess Bulletin for September 15th. Mr. Goodman neglected to inform the editors of his intention of submitting to both publications. We wish to assure the readers that such duplications will not occur again.

Alekhine's Early Chess Career

Additional Data
By A. Buschke

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

ANOTHER ALEKHINE LEGEND SHATTERED

Quite a number of readers of the preceding issue of CHESS LIFE will undoubtedly, in going over the game played between Grigoriev and Alekhine in Moscow 1915 and particularly Alekhine's own notes to moves 9 and 13 on the one hand, and to move 11 on the other hand, have exclaimed in surprise and puzzlement: "How is this possible? Hasn't Alekhine stated himself that 9 Q-Kt4 in this rather aggressive continuation of the McCutcheon variation is an "improvement" over the usual 9 Q-R5 - and here he says (note to move 9) that he is not so sure of the correctness of this move, and in the note to move 13 he even states that he has found a refutation? But above all: doesn't that "fantastic" position with the 5 queens on the board look very familiar? Haven't I seen that position in an actual game, and not even so long ago again in CHESS LIFE—and now, Alekhine's own note to move 11 says that this position did not occur in a game actually played, but was just a position which might have occurred in a hypothetical continuation—a continuation really conditioned by two hypotheses, viz., that white had played 11 KtPp instead of 11 0-0-0, and that black THEN had answered 11. . . . PxpP instead of 11. . . . B-B3, which he, Alekhine, would have chosen, under the circumstances?"

You are perfectly right, dear reader, and I want to congratulate you on your knowledge of chess literature and also thank you, in behalf of the editors of CHESS LIFE, for the attention you pay this ever interesting paper and its special features, such as *Guilherme Groesser's* column "What's the best move?" You HAVE seen the "night-marish" 5 queen position reprinted again in Groesser's column in CHESS LIFE of November 20, 1949, and in the solution given on December 20, 1949 you HAVE found it stated that this position occurred in a game played in Moscow 1915 between Alekhine (white) and Grigorieff (black) — and now, are you not inclined to rub your eyes and to exclaim, again in puzzlement: "Between Alekhine as white and Grigorieff as black, and also in Moscow 1915?" Yes, this writer was just as puzzled as you when he was caught napping by Mr. Montgomery Major and when his attention was called to the fact that the "fantastic" five queen position was printed in CHESS LIFE not so long ago and that it can also be found in Alekhine's book "My Best Games of Chess 1908-1923," in the note to game 26 move 5. How good Mr. Major reads the manuscripts submitted to him so carefully!

Please turn to Page 2, col. 5

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Vol. V, Number 3

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WHO TALK TOO MUCH

I WAS Dryden who lamented that "far more numerous was the herd of such, who think too little, and who talk too much." The poet certainly did not have the chess player in mind as he penned his witty lines, for it must be conceded that a chess player must think. But, thinking or not, chess players often talk too much!

Even editors (the reader may protest) are sometimes prone to yield to "the windy satisfaction of the tongue," as Pope expresses it. But such precedents, although they may well establish a tradition, never justify the use of speech that becomes the abuse of speech.

Therefore, we feel that we must gently chide our U. S. Champion Herman Steiner for his very ill-advised interview with the AP correspondent at Dubrovnik—an interview that was unfortunately quoted without understanding in the columns of the New York Times and elsewhere.

We can readily sympathize with the chagrin felt naturally enough by a team captain whose team failed by a meager five and one-half points in gaining the team championship; but we cannot approve of the statements that were made in this moment of chagrin.

First, in expressing the thought that internal dissension in the U. S. team prevented it from winning first place, Team Captain Steiner spoke in very poor taste. For it is always (and this is without exception) poor sportmanship to alibi failure—even when a most legitimate alibi can be offered. We cannot condone the exhibition of such poor sportmanship, particularly when the expression of such views in a public interview to the press cannot help but reflect discredit upon the reputation of America for good sportmanship.

Second, in saying that the United States made a poor showing in the team matches, Team Captain Steiner was not justified by the facts and was very unjust to members of his team who had in fact without exception distinguished themselves by their play. While we like to win (who doesn't?) and wish to win, a team that places fourth in an international team tournament of sixteen nations (and only 5½ points behind the winner) has not made a poor showing, even if its supporters are disappointed at its failure to win first place. To say that placing fourth is a very poor showing, is to insult gratuitously the teams of other nations who placed lower than fourth by suggesting that they made no showing at all, which would not be correct.

Third, in granting such an interview, Team Captain Steiner was violating the first principle of good publicity. Chess does not gain in dignity nor popularity by having its particular feuds and disagreements presented to the general reading public which neither understands the facts involved nor much cares about them. Nothing is gained by advertizing widely any possible internal dissension, and much in dignity and prestige can easily be lost beyond recovery.

There is a place, of course, for criticism of any existing chess conditions in the hope of ameliorating them in the future; but that place is in bonafide chess publications where the readers have an interest in the subject and an understanding of the various factors involved. Mr. Steiner's views would not have been as inappropriate in the pages of Chess Life or Chess Review or the American Chess Bulletin. But when such ill-advised criticism filters into the general press, some chess player has talked too much, and his talking has done nothing to promote chess or alter conditions—it has merely served to deprive the game of its dignity.

Montgomery Major

NO ROOM FOR INTOLERANCE

By PAUL G. GIERS

President, United States Chess Federation

ACTING on information received through the press, the members of a Los Angeles chess club recently adopted a resolution deploring a case of racial discrimination which occurred at the July tournament of the Southern Chess Association and proposing that the members of that association be barred from participation in USCF tournaments until such discrimination had ceased.

This resolution, published in the club's news bulletin, was circulated by the club's president to chess clubs and individual players throughout the country with the request that an accompanying petition be signed and mailed to my office. A number of these petitions have reached me, but several signers criticized the proposed punitive measure as being unwarranted and "in itself discriminating."

I am informed that the Southern Chess Association, an independent association of Southern chess players, had no official part in the incident. The lack of tolerance displayed at the Durham, N.C. Tournament must apparently be ascribed to some individual players who objected to the participation of a colored player.

Discrimination is an ugly word, reminiscent of former years of selfrighteousness and bias which fortunately have waned to a dim memory in this more enlightened age. It is unthinkable that there

should be intolerance, because of race, color or creed, in connection with chess, the most universal and democratic of all games. Throughout the world, chess stands for equality and good sportsmanship, a common link for people of all lands, all races and all walks of life.

It is only proper that USCF tournaments and activities have always been open to our players regardless of race, color or creed. Our Federation will not sponsor, endorse or recognize for official rating any tournament conducted in violation of this spirit.

We deplore the unfortunate Durham incident. The players guilty of intolerance in this instance should know by now that they have earned the disapproval of their fellow chess players. We leave it to the chivalry and good sense of our Southern chess fraternity to prevent an occurrence of that sort in the future.

Mate The Subtle Way!

by Vincent L. Eaton

Address all communications to this column to Vincent L. Eaton, 612 McNeill Road, Silver Spring, Maryland.

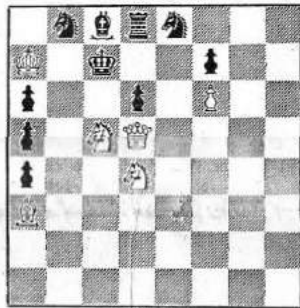
With Problems No. 199 and No. 200 below, two young composers make their first appearance in the columns of CHESS LIFE. Mr. Yarbrough has composed several other problems that have been published in newspapers in his locality, but this is his first composition to appear in a nationally circulated journal (our apologies to all Texan readers!). No. 200, Mr. Myer's first two-mover, was inspired by the announcement of CHESS LIFE's international composing tourney. Its author, twenty years old, is the chess champion of Decatur, Illinois.

We were greatly saddened to hear recently of the death of Edgar W. Allen, of Newtonville, Massachusetts. Mr. Allen for nearly fifty years was a vigorous force in American chess problem circles, corresponding constantly with composers all over the country and stimulating them to productive effort. The tourneys that he sponsored in the columns of the Christian Science Monitor during the last two decades represent only part of the service he performed on behalf of his lifelong hobby; in addition he was co-author of two excellent books, A Sketchbook of American Chess Problemists and To Alain White, published by the Overbrook Press in 1941 and 1945. To my knowledge, he never composed a single problem himself; he was simply an enthusiast about problems who spread his enthusiasm to others. He will be sorely missed.

Problem No. 199

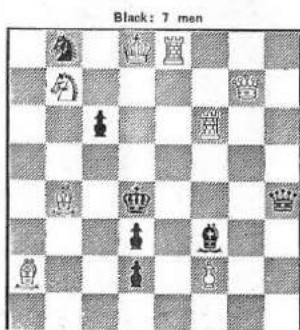
By Lynn Yarbrough
Houston, Texas

Entry in CHESS LIFE composing tourney
Black: 10 men



White: 6 men
1a8r3, K1kP2, p3p1P2, p1sQ4, p2s4, B7, 8, 8, 8, 8R2, 2pp4, 5p1, 2P1K3, 2Q3P, 4Kp1S, 4a2
White mates in two moves

Problem No. 201
By G. H. Drese
Limburgsch Dagblad, 1941

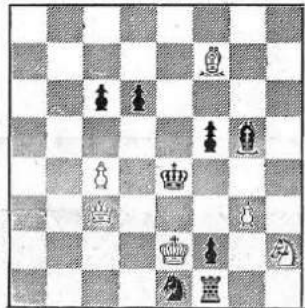


White: 8 men
1a1KR5, 1S4Q1, 2p2R2, 4, 1P1kQ, 3p1b2, 2p1P2, 8
White mates in three moves

Problem No. 200

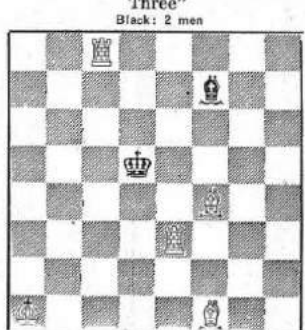
By Hugh E. Myers
Decatur, Illinois

Entry in CHESS LIFE composing tourney
Black: 8 men



White: 6 men
2R5, 5b2, 8, 3k4, 6B2, 4R3, 8, K4B2
White mates in two moves

Problem No. 202
By F. Dubbe
From "777 Chess Miniatures in Three"



White: 5 men
2R5, 5b2, 8, 3k4, 6B2, 4R3, 8, K4B2
White mates in three moves

Solutions to previously published problems on page four.

METROPOLITAN PITTSBURGH CHAMPIONSHIP Pittsburgh, 1950

1. Hiekmap	W14	W4	D9	W6	D2	W6	W7	6-1	22.25
2. R. B. Elderton	W11	W8	D5	W3	D1	D4	W10	53-13	21.50
3. Garbuny	W13	W10	D1	L3	D4	W6	W11	5-2	16.00
4. Hobbs	W7	L1	W9	W6	D3	D2	L5	4-3	16.25
5. Taylor	W12	D9	D2	L1	W8	L3	W4	4-8	13.50
6. Mueller	L8	W13	W7	L4	W10	L1	W12	4-3	9.00
7. Catrell	L4	W12	L6	W10	W9	D8	L1	52-33	9.75
8. Berger	W8	L2	L10	W11	L5	D7	W14	53-33	9.25
9. Mincev	L10	D6	L4	W12	L7	W14	W13	34-35	5.00
10. Reeler 3-4 (5.00); 11. Leiler 3-4 (3.00); 12. Hodgson 13-15 (1.25); 13. Danomo 1-6 (0.50); 14. Borro 1-6 (0.75).									

MARYLAND STATE CHAMPIONSHIP Baltimore, 1950

1. L. N. Enquist	54-4	12. M. Rosenberg	5-3
2. David Benz	43-13	13. D. Anderson	5-3
3. R. McComas	4-2	14. J. Stevenson	5-3
4. A. Surges	4-2	15. E. Rowles	5-3
5. L. Frank	4-2	16. M. Tilles	23-33
6. Lyle	23-23	17. R. Talbot	2-4
7. G. Comber	23-23	18. E. Myers	2-4
8. C. Barasch	9-3	19. M. Hall	2-4
9. P. Kozma	8-8	20. M. Schatz	2-4
10. J. Tilles	8-8	21. T. Steiner	1-5
		22. S. Silver	1-5

Alekhine's Career

(Continued from page 1, col. 5)

fully. Otherwise, I am sure, I would have been caught by several readers of CHESS LIFE, and I would not have been as well (although still not sufficiently well) prepared to answer some of their questions as I believe now to be; in fact, in listing below the results of my own research so far, I hope some of my readers will come to the rescue and supply answers or at least give some clues relating to points which I had to leave unanswered, at least for the time being and as long as not all the replies from people, who I think should be able to enlighten me and who have been approached by me as soon as I started my research, are in.

The established facts, in short, are these:

1.) A game (a French Defense, McCutcheon variation, with the then "new" 9th move 9Q-Kt4) was played in Moscow 1915 between N. D. Grigoriev (White) and Alexander A. Alekhine (Black). This is the game first published, in Russian, in "Shakhmatnyi Vestnik" 1916, No. 3, p. 33, and published outside of Russia—we believe, for the first time—in CHESS LIFE of September 20, 1950, with translation of Alekhine's own notes. In his note to move 11 of this game, Alekhine ponders a variation which could have led to unusual complications, especially to a "fantastic" 5 queens position, which, incidentally, is diagrammed on p. 34 of "Shakhmatnyi Vestnik" 1916, with the following "label": "White (Grigoriev) — Black (Alekhine)" — a fact well worth remembering for some of the deductions (or, if you prefer, rather "guesses") we shall try to make later on.

2.) The game actually played between Grigoriev (White) and Alekhine (Black) in Moscow 1915 (CHESS LIFE, Sept. 20, 1950) is a McCutcheon Variation of the French Defense with the rather stormy Chigorin attack and the "new" move 9 Q - Kt4, instead of the usual 9 Q - R5. Alekhine, in his notes to this game (moves 9, 13), calls this (i.e., Grigoriev's) move new, startling, interesting, but is rather doubtful as to its value and it would seem as though he is rather against it.

(To Be Continued in Next Issue)

For 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.

October 7-28

Factor Memorial Tournament
Chicago, Illinois

B Tournament open to all; Swiss event; entry fee ten dollars; donors invited to contribute to the invitational premier tournament in memory of Samuel Factor; tournament book will be distributed to donors only; for details write A. Kaufman, 5531 South Kimbark, Chicago 37, Ill.

Hyde Park Chess Club (Chicago) has a gala October program with first midwest showing of movie feature "Chess Fever" followed by a blindfold simultaneous by former State Champion Paul Poschel on October 5th. Then October 12th sees a simultaneous exhibition by the noted Lithuanian master Povilas Tautvaisas, while October 19th is the date of the annual Club banquet.

Chess For The Tired Business Man

By Fred Reinfeld

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Achilles Heel

FOR centuries the King's Gambit has been favored by strong players because it concentrates White's attack against Black's KB2. This point, the weakest in Black's position during the early part of the game, is particularly susceptible to combined attack by a White Bishop at QB4, a White Knight at K5 or KK15, White Rooks on the King's Bishop file and White Queen at KR5.

Tchigorin, who was famous for his mastery of all forms of the King's Gambit, produced many a brilliancy by his utilization of this factor. His combination in the following game is not very profound, but it has a neat, crisp and convincing quality which make it very enjoyable.

BISHOP'S GAMBIT London, 1899

White	Black
M. TCHIGORIN	C. SCHLECHTER
1. P-K4	P-K4
2. P-KB4	PxP
3. B-B4	Kt-KB3
4. Kt-QB3	Kt-B3

The moderns prefer ... P-B3 followed by P-Q4, in order to close the attacking Bishop's diagonal.

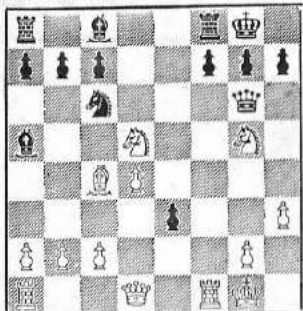
5. Kt-B3 B-K5
6. O-O O-O
... P-Q3 first is safer, helping to maintain Black's Knight at KB3.

7. P-K5 Kt-K15
Steinitz once made a successful defense against Charousek with 7. Kt-K1; 8. Kt-Q5, B-R4; 9. P-Q4, P-Q3; but it must be admitted that Black's position is not inviting.

8. P-Q4 P-Q3
9. BxKt B-R4
10. BxKt B-R4
11. Kt-Q5 QxP
12. PxP

Fatal: he should have played 12. ... Pxp (unattractive as it looks) to prevent White's next move.

13. Kt-K15 Q-K13
If instead 13. B-K3 there follows 14. Q-R5, P-KR3; 15. Kt-K4; Q-Q1; 16. Kt(Q5)-B6ch!, PxKt (if 16. ... K-R1; 17. P-Q5 wins); 17. QxP and White's attack decides quickly.



14. Kt-K5! The classic attack in the King's Gambit!

15. Kt-K7 ch RxKt
16. BxR ch Kt-K7
17. RxQ QxR
For if 17. ... KxR; 18. Q-R5ch picks up Black's Bishop at QR4.

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

EXCUSE THE ERROR

Inadvertently, we omitted the mention of the fact that the notes to the Bisguier-Adams game from the U. S. Open Tournament at Detroit in the issue of September 20th were written by Dr. Bela Rozsa.

CHESS BOOKS

By Fred Reinfeld

- The Unknown Alekhine ... \$4.00
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The Reader's Road To Chess

By Kester Svendsen

A TREASURY OF BRITISH CHESS MASTERPIECES. Selected and annotated by Fred Reinfeld. Drexel, Penna.: Bell Publishing Co., 1950. Pp. xii, 244, with numerous diagrams. \$3.

THESE one hundred games, wonderfully annotated by Reinfeld, stretch from 1798 (Atwood-Wilson) to 1948 (Truscott-Doeshburgh). They include many beauties from the romantic nineteenth century, but more than half of them were played in the past thirty years. Reinfeld has combed over tournaments, matches, and postal chess for the great games of such British masters as Blackburne, Atkins, Burn, Yates, Wahlutuch, Thomas, Alexander, and Golombek, to mention only a few. Every game is a gem: the unbelievable Alexander-Pachman 1947, one of ten brilliancy prize winners in the book. "British" includes the dominions, and so we have some of the best games of the Canadian Yanofsky, the New Zealander Wade, the Australians Crowl, Purdy, and Koshnitsky. Even the "unknown" Englishman Bridle appears for his striking victory over Bogoljubov, Flensburg 1947. Reinfeld has perforce reprinted some familiar games, but most of these are not generally available.

The annotations, literary and artistic in flavor, are equal to the games they grace. The style blends instruction and entertainment in that fashion now recognizable as the hall-mark of Reinfeld's work. Dickens, Thoreau, Gilbert and Sullivan, Virginia Woolf, and even Dali are drawn upon for apt comments and comparisons. Once again Reinfeld shows himself to be one of the two most interesting chess writers of our time (C. J. S. Purdy is the other) as well as the most prolific. The reader will find only one real fault: no first names or initials for the players. If he complains further at the omission of Howard Staunton, he will find the reason in the preface: "it takes too much time to find a game by him which one can enjoy," a comment that echoes Morphy's famous remark about Staunton's authorship of some devilish bad games.

It is not easy to pick a favorite for illustration. Should it be "The English Immortal," Yates' tremendous defeat of Alekhine, Carlsbad 1923, described by Reinfeld as the best in the book and possibly the best ever won from Alekhine? Or Zukertort's fiendish win from Blackburne, London 1883, containing, in the opinion of Steinitz, "one of the most noble combinations conceived over the chessboard"? We settle for MacDonnell-Bird 1894, featuring a queen sacrifice at move 17, two under-promotions to a knight five moves later, and an extraordinary rook-queen-and-pawns ending. Kieseritzky Gambit: White: MacDonnell Black: Bird. 1. P-K4 P-K4, 2. P-KB4 PxP, 3. N-KB3 P-KN4, 4. P-KR4 P-N5, 5. N-K5 P-KR4, 6. B-B4 N-KR3, 7. P-Q4 P-Q3, 8. N-Q3 P-B6, 9. P-KN3? P-KB4?, 10. N-B3 PxP, 11. NxB N-B4, 12. K-B2 B-K2, 13. N-B4 R-R2, 14. N-N6! P-Q4!, 15. NxB PxN, 16. N-Q5 B-K3, 17. B-N5! BxN!, 18. BxQ P-K6ch, 19. K-N1 BxB, 20. B-N5 P-B7ch, 21. K-R2 P-K7, 22. Q-Q2 PB8(N)ch, 23. KRxN PxR(N)ch, 24. RxB BxR, 25. Q-Kch N-K2, 26. QxB QN-B3, 27. P-Q5! R-B2!, 28. Q-QB4 N-K4, 29. QxB N-B6 ch, 30. K-N2 Q-R1, 31. Q-R5 RxPch, 32. K-B1 NxBch ("The rest," says Reinfeld, "is nessehrole pie.") 33. K-K1 N-B6ch, 34. K-Q1 R-Q7ch, 35. K-B1 NxBQ, 36. P-R3 R-B2ch, 37. K-N1 N-B6ch!, 38. PxN R-K2, 39. Resigns. "After 39. QxPch, K-Q1; 40. Q-R8ch, K-B2 White has nothing but a spite check."

Toronto Chess League elected:

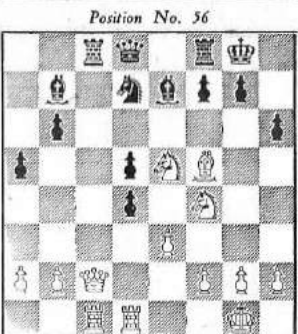
R. Cody president, Dr. P. Hutzulak vice-president, H. Ridout secretary, E. T. Jewitt treasurer, and K. Kerns tournament director. Plans for a city championship early in January are under discussion.

Howard Chess Club (R.I.) saw T. Tanier place first in the B Class tournament with M. Ashe second and R. Iovino third. In the C Class event J. Miranda was first with A. Corey second and L. Page third. K. Knowles won the D Class with T. Corbin second and L. Dyson third. Prizes were awarded through the generosity of Warden William C. Kindelan.

West Virginia Chess Ass'n elected John Hurt (Charleston) president, Edwin M. Foy (Charleston) vice-president, and Harlow Warren (Beckley) secretary-treasurer. An editorial committee for the "Bulletin" was appointed, consisting of Dr. S. Werthammer, Dr. Hayward and Charles T. Morgan.

What's The Best Move?

By Guilherme Groesser



Position No. 56
RrKtKl, Kb1sbp1, 1p5p, p2pSB3, Sp1S2, 4P8, PpQ2PP, 2RR2K1
White to play

Send solutions to Position No. 56 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, by October 20, 1950.

Solution to Position No. 54

This pretty little ending occurred in a game between Schubaric and Dr. Dumic. Dr. Dumic (with Black) played 1. P-K4 and there followed: 2. BxP(R), (naturally not 2. BxK(P, R-K7 ch!); PxB; 3. R-Q1, PxP; 4. B-K5, PxB; 5. Kt-B3 (5. BxR ch, KtB3 is no better for White, P-B8(Q) ch; 6. R-Q1, B-Q1; 7. QxQ1, O-O; 8. BxR, BxR; 9. R-K4, R-K3; 10. Q-B6, K5-B5 ch; 11. R-R3, Kt-K4; 12. O-B2, Kt-K5 ch; 13. K-Q2, R-K5 ch; 14. R-B3, Q-K7 ch; 15. K-B1, QxQ ch; 16. KxQ, Kt-K... ch and wins.)

Most of our solvers found the key-move, although one suggested 1. Kt-B5 under a mistaken impression that the Black Queen could later check at B4. Correct solutions are acknowledged received from: J. A. Baker (Mankato), N. Bernstein (Brooklyn), J. E. Osmestek (Duluth), W. J. Couture (Howard), Dr. J. M. Erman (Detroit), A. A. Fagan (Montreal), J. Faucher (New Haven), B. Gault (New Brighton), A. Kaufman (Chicago), E. J. Korpanty (Woodside), D. Lovadi (Des Plaines), R. A. McCallister (Hickensack), D. C. McDaniels (Los Angeles), M. A. Michaels (Westmont), E. F. Muller (Pitt), R. Nash (Washington), R. L. Smith (Portland), G. Tauscher (Milwaukee), W. B. Wilson (Amherstburg), Dr. J. Melnick (Portland).

SOLVERS LADDER

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------|---|
| Dr. J. M. Erman | 163 | N. Bernstein | 3 |
| J. Faucher | 103 | A. A. Fagan | 3 |
| E. J. Korpanty | 103 | G. G. Gallagher | 3 |
| E. Gault | 16 | M. A. Michaels | 3 |
| J. Hase | 153 | J. E. Osmestek | 3 |
| W. J. Couture | 15 | C. T. Lewis | 2 |
| E. Nash | 15 | R. L. Smith | 2 |
| Dr. J. Melnick | 128 | W. B. Wilson | 2 |
| J. A. Baker | 10 | L. R. Lang | 1 |
| A. Kaufman | 10 | J. E. Barry | 1 |
| L. Gratch | 49 | R. L. Caskel | 1 |
| D. C. McDaniels | 68 | T. Lewis | 1 |
| G. Tauscher | 48 | D. Lovadi | 1 |
| D. Arganian | 4 | D. V. Sullivan | 1 |
| R. A. McCallister | 4 | A. Schmeckler | 1 |
| E. F. Miller | 4 | | |

* Beginning a second ascent of the ladder.

SOVIET CHESS. By Nicolai Grekov. Translated by Theodore Reich. New York: Published by Chess Review, distributed by David McKay. Pp. xiii, 256. Cloth, \$5.

WHEN this book appeared last year, one reviewer pointed out that there were only four duplications between the 105 games in it and the 50 in Chernev's earlier collection, *The Russians Play Chess*. This tribute to the fertility and variety of games available to the anthologist is heavily underscored by the extraordinarily high quality of play here. It is, furthermore, a handsome volume in which such conventions of chess printing as bold-face and varied type-size and frequent diagrams have been employed to marked advantage.

But one should remark first the historical survey of Soviet chess to 1944. Fifty-odd pages are devoted to this feature, including score-boards of important tournaments, biographical data, and general commentary, the whole split up into sections introducing batches of games. This material is interesting. We learn that Ivan the Terrible banned chess in 1551 but played it himself, that Winawer discovered he was a master by coming second (behind Kolisch, ahead of Steinitz) at Paris 1867, that Lenin himself won several minor tournaments, that the national chess education system finally produced players of the class of Bronstein. Tchigorin gets a good deal of space as the father of Russian chess.

Sixty-seven players are included. In addition to natives and naturalized citizens familiar to most readers, like Botvinnik, Keres, Smyslov, and Lifenthal, there are such lesser known masters as Zhidkov, Lisitsyn, and Ryumin. Foreigners defeated or drawn by the Russians include Reshevsky, Yates, Vidmar, Capablanca, and Euwe. Alekhine's AVRO loss to Botvinnik is here, but Lasker is only mentioned. The emphasis is modern; only 13 of these games were played before 1930. Many of the total are well known, but not a few will be new to one-magazine readers. Most of the notes are by the winners; Botvinnik annotated 18 of the 23 of his given.

One of the most interesting players of the older generation was Ilyin-Zhenevsky, whose best known feat was that queen-sacrifice against Capablanca in 1925. As we know from Chernev (naturally!), he lost his memory in the First World War and had to learn the moves all over; he lost his life in the Second. A game not often reprinted is his brilliancy prizewinner from Romanovsky in 1922. The trade here is more like usury than it was in the Capablanca game, for Ilyin-Zhenevsky gets in exchange a rook, a bishop, two pawns, and a strong position. White: Ilyin-Zhenevsky, Black: P. Romanovsky. Ruy Lopez. 1. P-K4 P-K4, 2. N-KB3 N-QB3, 3. B-N5 P-QR3, 4. B-R4 N-B3, 5. P-Q3 P-Q3, 6. O-O B-K2, 7. P-B3 O-O, 8. R-K1 N-Q2, 9. P-Q4 B-B3, 10. B-B2 R-K1, 11. B-K3 N-B1, 12. QN-Q2 P-KN4?, 13. P-Q5! N-N1, 14. N-B1 N-N3, 15. P-KN3 B-N5, 16. B-Q2 B-R6, 17. K-R1 BxN, 18. RxB K-R1, 19. K-N1 R-N1, 20. Q-R5 N-Q2, 21. N-B3 N(3)-B1, 22. QxBP! P-N5, 23. N-N1 N-KN3, 24. Q-K6! N-K2, 25. P-B3! Q-K1, 26. PxB R-N3, 27. N-R3 N-KB1, 28. QxBch RxQ, 29. RxB K-N2, 30. QR-KB1 N(2)-N3, 31. N-N5 Q-N4, 32. P-N3 R-K1, 33. P-B4 Q-N3, 34. P-KR4 Q-Q5 35. R(6)-B2 P-R3, 36. N-B7 N-B5, 37. PxB KxN, 38. PxBch K-N1, 39. PxB PxP, 40. P-K5! PxP, 41. BxP N-R2, 42. B-N6 R-Q1, 43. R-B7 QxNP, 44. BxNch K-R1, 45. B-N7ch KxB, 46. BxBch K-N1, 47. R-N7ch QxR, 48. BxQ KxB, 49. K-R2 Resigns.

This one book, carefully used, could last the ordinary player a year. It is a must for the serious player's shelf.

Chess Life

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Thursday, October 5, 1950

Chess Life In New York

By Eliot Hearst

THE Manhattan Chess Club recently launched its fall program of activities with the club championship preliminaries. Twelve players accepted invitations to compete, and the top two or possibly three will join the yet unnamed seeded players in the finals. Among the preliminary competitors is Reuben Klugman, whose fine showing at the New York State Championship Tournament this year earned him an invitation to play at the Manhattan.

The West Side Y.M.C.A. Chess Club, in scheduling a bi-weekly rapid transit open to all, is, like the Marshall and Manhattan, helping to popularize this type of chess play. The Marshall rapid, every Tuesday night, has recently been turning away would-be contestants because the scoretable will allow for only twenty five competitors! The Manhattan rapid, on Friday nights, does not usually include more than fifteen participants, but has, on the average, a stronger field.

The West Side Club, at its annual meeting, elected John McCarron as president, H. B. Roberts as "veep," and Raul Benedicto as secretary-treasurer. On the club's as yet indefinite program are plans for a championship tourney, a Met League team, and some novel exhibitions. An active West Side member, Maximilian Mopp (whose illustrations decorate Lasker's "Chess for Fun and Blood") was present at the meeting, and after the conclusion of business showed your correspondent some beautiful and difficult problems.

In brief: George Krauss of the Marshall, who earned his chess "wings" by tying for 4th in the 1949 U. S. open and for 3rd in this year's State championship (beating Bisguier brilliantly in the last round), enlisted in the U. S. Air Force. In the Marshall Intra-club match, held to celebrate the return of the N. Y. State Individual Championship Trophy to the Marshall, the "Hearsts" defeated the "Sherwins," 10-6. Macy's, the world's largest department store, will have, as part of its annual hobby show, another continuous simultaneous exhibition with members of the Marshall participating. It will be remembered that at last year's show Larry Evans performed admirably.

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STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1902, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1948 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 582)

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1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Publisher, Montgomery Major, Oak Park, Illinois; Editor, Montgomery Major, Oak Park, Illinois; Managing Editor, Montgomery Major, Oak Park, Illinois; Business manager, Montgomery Major, Oak Park, Illinois.

2. The owner is: The United States Chess Federation, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, a non-profit organization.

3. The known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities are: None.

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MONTGOMERY MAJOR, Editor and Publisher
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of September, 1950.

DORIS V. OLSON

(My commission expires October 15, 1950)

