# Chess Life Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation December 20, 1950 Vol. V Number 8 LLIPS SUCCEEDS

NAJDORF WINS **RESHEVSKY NEXT** 

Undefeated, Miguel Najdorf of Buenos Aires won the Amsterdam tournament with 15-4, while Samtournament with 13-4, while Sam-uel Reshevsky placed a close sec-ond with 14-5. Aside from his early round draw with Reshevsky the critical game for Najdorf was his 100 move victory over Stahlberg in a meet which saw several such endurance contests.

Dr. Euwe by losing his 18th round game to Pilnik finished in a tie for sixth after holding fourth through most of the tourney. Stahl-berg placed third, while Gligoric and Pire shared fourth.

Prizes were awarded at a formal banquet at which USCF Vice-Presi-dent Hans Kmoch was numbered among the speakers.

	r mar	Signituilias	
Naidorf .	15 -4	Donner	81-101
Reshevsky	14 -5	Tartakower	81-101
Stahlberg	131-51	Foltys	8 -11
Gligoric	12 .7	Gudm'son	73-115
Pire	12 .7	Van Scht'a	73-113
Euwe	113-73	Van d'n Berg	7 -12
Pilnick	113-75	Kottnauer	6 -13
Rossolimo	11 -8	Golombek	53-133
Trifunovic	105-85	Kramer	53-131
O'Kelly	94-94	Szabados	52-136

### TAMPA VISITS BAY PINES VETS

A group from the Tampa Chess Club has begun the program of entertainment and instrucchess tion with the hospitalized veter-ans at Bay Pines Hospital, near St. Petersburg, Fla. The first visit of club members W. A. Reynolds, J. Pijuan, R. Robaldo, Eli Solomon, J. Flytan, R. Robato, E. Sofono, Jr., J. M. Palmer, James B. Gibson, Jr., Ernest W. Werber and C. L. Ter-zopolous found a large group of veterans eagerly availing their ad-veterans during the borgon it was vent. And when play began, it was found that the number eager for round that the number cager for instruction was as large as those who already knew the game. Future visits upon a regular sched-ule are planned by James B, Gibson, Jr., in charge of the affair, as local USCF committeeman on the "Chess for Veterans" program.

### ELO CAPTURES WISCONSIN SPEED

Arpad Elo of Milwaukee won the Wisconsin Speed title in a 7round Swiss event at Milwaukee with a 6-1 score, nosing out Richard Kujoth on S-B points. Kujoth, also with 6-1, was second. Third place was shared by Surgies, Rohland, Kraszewski, and Weidner with equal 5-2 scores. 31 players were entered in the contest.

## SMALL FRY MEET AT SALT LAKE

Sponsored by the Salt Lake YM-CA Chess Club, a "Small Fry" lea-gue has been organized, to consist of teams of chess players under 13 years of age. Two teams have already been organized, "Wood-pushers" and "Splinters", and other teams are in the process of organization. The Salt Lake Club is also providing courses for members of this "Small Fry League" to improve their playing, while parents of the budding champions are also invited to attend and learn the fundamentals of the game.

## McCORMICK TAKES NEW JERSEY SPEED

In a 12-player round robin at the Jersey City YMCA Chess Club, Edgar McCormick took the New Jersey State Speed title with a perfect 11-0 score. Second was Franklin Howard with 9-2, losing games to McCormick and M. Hurttlen. Third place was a tie be-tween W. Walbrecht and R. Hurtt-r len with equal 7.4 scores. Wal-brecht lost games to McCormick, Howard, R. Hurttlen and E. Forry Laucks; Hurttlen lost games to Drake, McCornick, Howard and Laucks. Fifth place went to D. Strolin with 6-5.

### POSCHEL WINS **ILLINOIS SPEED**

Victory in the 6-player finals of the Illinois State Speed Champion-ship went to Paul Poschel with 4-1 in the round robin event, losing one game to Einar Michelsen. Michelsen placed second with 3½-1½, losing a game to Rupeiks and drawing with Paul Adams. A. Feldman, E. Purcell, and R. Rupeiks tied for third with 2-3 each.

In-the proliminaries-Peachel wan A Bedde prominances recent won the A Section with 6-0, while Pur-cell and W. Grombacher tied for second with 4-2, but Purcell won the play-off. In B Section Michel-son placed first with 5-1, while A. Deldance way the played from Feldman won the play-off from Angelo Sandrin who tied him for second with 4-2. In C Section Paul Adams placed first with 5-0 and Rubieks was second with 31/2-11/2. The tournament was held at the Austin Chess and Checker Club in Chicago.

### JACKSON WINS TOLEDO TITLE

For the second year running, Lwrence C. Jackson, Jr., president of the Toledo Chess Club, won the Toledo City Championship in a 6-player double-round robin event with a 7-3 score, drawing 4 and losing 1 game. Richard Manahan and Sidney X. Sussman tied for second with 6-4 each, and Manahan won the play-off for second prize. Fred R. Mueller and Robert J. Henry tied for fourth with 5-5 each.

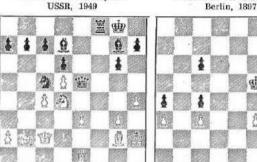
### STEINMEYER WINS MISSOURI OPEN

In a 15-player 6-round Swiss tournament at St. Louis Robert Steinmeyer regained the Missouri championship with a 5-1 score, losing a game to defending champion John Ragan. C. F. Tears of Dallas, Tex. also scored 5-1 but placed second on S-B points. Tears lost his game to Steinmeyer.

Third place went to John Ragan with a 4½-1½ score, losing a game to William A. Scott, negro editor from Atlanta, Ga., and drawing with H. Georgi of Lawrence, Kans. James Cook placed fourth on S-B points with 4.2, and Harry Lew was fifth, also with 4.2.

from Illinois, Texas, Players Minnesota, Iowa, and Georgia made the 1950 Missouri tournament a truly open event.

### Position No. 47 Novotelnov vs. Chistyakov USSR, 1949



8, 8, 2p5, 5kpp, p1p5, P1P2PP1, 5K1, 8 Black to play and win 5rk1, pppb2bp, 3p2p1, 2sPq3, 2PS3P, 4P1P1, PBQ3BK, 4R3 Black to play and win

Position No. 48 Teichmann vs. Blackburne

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N POSITION No. 47, White resigned after Black's first move. Position No 48 is a quite complex ending, which Black can win without the move. In the Soviet monthly Shakhmaty (January, ), two analysts—M. Bonch-Osmolovsky and N. Ter-Pogosov—critialso 1950), cize Reuben Fine for a superficial demonstration of a simple win in this position (see No. 72 in Basic Chess Endings), and show that the this position (see No. 72 in Basic Chess Endings), and show that the win is an arduous one with a promoted queen on both sides. They point out that Fine's continuation: 1. ...., K-B3; 2. K-R3, K-Kt3 (?) has no sense after 3. K-Kt2 (!) For if 3. ...., P-R5, 4. P-BB4 (!) draws. To win, they demonstrate, Black moves his rook pawn when the Black King is on B3 and the White King on B2 or R2; also when the Black King is analysts also inlared their way in recommending 1, ..., K-B3; 2. X-R2,K-K3; 3. K-Kt2, K-K5; 4. K-B2, K-B6 (?), for this leads nowhere after 5. K-K12 (!), as Black does not have one of the three winning positions described by them. This would indicate a drawn position, except that the Souic analysts aveclooked what I cancider to be two other winning the Soviet analysts overlooked what I consider to be two other winning king positions when the Black King is on K4. I am grateful to Donald Mugridge for historical details concerning this game. He informs me that while Fine says that this position was adjudicated a draw, a win is given in the collection of Blackburne's games, as well as in Edward Lasker's Chess Strategy. (Perhaps Dr. Bushke can explain!) By the way, the Soviet analysts also criticize Lasker for not recognizing in his book the true nature of this ending.

Please turn to Page four for solutions.

# National Rating System

BY WILLIAM M. BYLAND USCF Vice President in Charge of Rating Statistics

Computation of Performance Ratings for Round-Robin Tournaments

1) A player who makes a 50% score receives the tournament average as his performance rating.

2) A player who makes a score of more than 50% receives the tournament average plus 10 rating points for each percentage point of his score above average. Example: a player scores 75% in a tournament with an average rating of 2000; his performance rating is 2250 (2000 plus 25% above average, or 250). Note that rating points correspond to percentage scores, magnified 10 times to eliminate decimal points, thereby making for easier reading and comparison.

3) A player who makes a score of less than 50% receives the tournament average minus 10 rating points for each percentage point of his score below average. Example: a player scores 30% in a tournament with an average rating of 2000; his performance rating is 1800 (2000 minus 20% below average, or 200).

Computation of Performance Ratings for Swiss System Tournaments Computation of Performance Ratings for Swiss System Tournaments Performance ratings are here calculated in exactly the same way as in round-robin tournaments, with the addition of a weighting feature to compensate for the apparent strength of each player's opponents. A player in a Swiss System tournament is, in effect, competing in a minia-ture contest of his own against a particular group of opponents—and no player has the same set of opponents as any other player. For this reason, the tournament average alone cannot be used as the central point of the performance rating yardstick. The weighting method can best be explained by several simple examples:

1) A player in a tournament with an average rating of 2000 points makes an 80% score. In a round-robin tournament, his performance rating would be 2300 points (2000 plus 30% above average, or 300). However, it is a Swiss tournament, so the average score made by this player's opponents is calculated, and found to be 60%. In effect, then, he has (Please turn to Page 2, column 2)

# GI EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTS N.Y. MAN

The USCF Executive Committee selected the prominent New York attorney and chess player, Harold M. Phillips, to fill the unexpired portion of the term of Paul G. Giers as USCF President. Mr. Mr. Giers retired regretfully under the pressure of personal business and ill health.

Mr. Phillips will take up the duties of USCF President on Jan-uary 1, 1951.

Following is text of the official statement of the Executive Committee:

By vote of the Executive Committee Mr. Harold M. Phillips of New York has been elected as President of the United States Chess Federa-tion effective January 1, 1951 to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Mr. Paul G. Giers.

Mr. Phillips will serve as President pro tempore until the next general election of officers. At that time he will be eligible for a full three year term of office.

ELBERT A. WAGNER, JR. Past President, USCF

## USCF REJECTS TITLE MATCH

The Executive Committee of the United States Chess Federation de-clined to authorize a match for the title of U. S. Champion between titleholder Herman Steiner of Los Angeles and Norman T. Whitaker of Shadyside, Md. Refusal to sanction the proposed title match was based exclusively upon Mr. Whitaker's performance in the 1948 U. S. Championship Tourna-ment at South Fallsburg in which Mr. Whitaker finished 16th in a field of 20 contenders. Nothing in this decision prevents a non-title match between the two players.

## PORTSMOUTH TOPS NO. SHORE LEAGUE

The Portsmouth (N.H.) Chess Club captured the North Shore League title for the fifth straight season, beginning with a 6-0 win over Newburyport and never losing the lead thereafter. Newburyport (Mass.) Chess Club barely edged out the Manchester Chess Club for second place. Highest individual scorer in the league was Alex Sadowsky of the Portsmouth Club with 5-0.

## ARSEN TAKES HAWAII OPEN

Alva A. Larsen, former Yale player, scored 5½-1½ to win the first Oahu Open at Honolulu in a 14-player 7-round Swiss. Larsen lost a game to runner-up Lee and drew with K. L. Kum.

Second place went to Harry B. Lee with 5-2 on S-B points. Lee lost games to Mitchell and Naid-itch, who also scored 5-2 each. On S-B points James Mitchell was placed third and Sam Naidtich in fourth. John L. Nelson won the Class B tournament with 6-1.

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Vol. V. Number 8 Wednesday, December 20, 1950 -mas (Blues and the I

### THERE SHALL BE NO NIGHT

In the darkness who would answer, in the darkness who would care, If the odor of the roses and the better things were there. The Blind Girl-Nathalia Crane

The Blind Girl-Nathalia Crane W E NOTED with interest announcement in the chess column of the Montreel Garatic edited by Description W Montreal Gazette, edited by D. M. Le Dain, that the Montreal Club Chess Club played a unique match with Le Club du Mat—unique in the sense that all the members of Le Club du Mat are blind.

It set us to wondering if in the United States we have been alive to the possibilities of chess for the blind. For here is a game that is admirably fitted to the requirements of those without sight, since it requires no special developed skills of a physical nature, nor does it even demand the phenominal memory that is expected of the master of blindfold play, for the blind player has his own special type of chess set and board in which the developed sensitiveness of his finger-tive replace with tips replaces sight.

Already a few blind players like Don Crawford of Boise, Idaho compete regularly in state and regional events-these are the pioneers. But should not chess players everywhere encourage more blind people to learn and enjoy the beauties and relaxation of chess?

According to Mr. Le Dain the Braille Institute in England publishes a chess magazine. So the tools exist for opening the gate of chess ad-venture to the blind. It is a project worthy of encouragement; and we hope that that yof our readers will seek and find ways of encouraging more of the sightless to enter into the royal enjoyment of a game of

Montgomery Major



THE WORLD'S A CHESSBOARD. By Reuben Fine. New York: David McKay, \$3. Pp. 323, numerous diags.

 $F^{\rm IFTY}$  great games from the period 1943-1948, annotated by Reuben Fine in his "Game of the Month" style—these particulars are enough to recommend a superior volume to readers who may have missed it upon its initial appearance. The price reduction from five to three dol-lars puts it within reach of those who build their libraries slowly. The serious player as well as the general reader will wish to own this book. Among the grandmasters, Fine and Euwe will surely in aftertimes be ranked on the basis of their books as the great chess teachers of this generation.

The six sections here offer a tremendous variety of games and styles, beginning with ten decisive combinations featuring such notstyles, beginning with ten decisive combinators teaching such not-ables as Keres, Smyslov, Medina, and Kottnauer. Section Two, "Chess in the United States," contains games by Fine, Reshevsky, Denker, Horowitz, Kramer, and Steiner. Highlights here are the Fine-Reshevsky draw, Hollywood 1945, and Reshevsky's wild slaughter of Vasconcellos, Boston 1944. "Chess in the U.S.S.R." includes both Tolush's first bril-linear met Kotou and Ratherich's general prizer against Tolush liancy prize against Kotov and Botvinnik's second prizer against Tolush in the same national championship in 1945, not to speak of Ragosin's successful Evans Gambit against Bronstein and Keres' defeat of Kasparyan in 1947.

"The European Scene presents Pomar's draw at age thirteen with "The European Scene presents Pomar's draw at age thriteen with Alekhine, games by Tartakower, Christoffel, Szabo, and others, and Botvinnik's losses to Yanofsky and Najdorf. The major source here is the Groningen 1946 tournament, strongest since the AVRO 1938. "The Latin American Way" shows Stahlberg, Najdorf, and Rossetto. "International Matches" draws chiefly upon the British and American meets with the U.S.S.R. The last section, "Down under in Australia" reprints Lajos Steiner's win from C. J. S. Purdy, editor of Chess World and American Way" shows in from C. J. S. Purdy, editor of Chess World and Australian champion.

Reinfeld and others have several times commented upon the high merit of Fine's annotations, and especially upon the handsome way in which he guides the reader through games with his perennial rival, Reshevsky. His insights into the moves of other modern masters, many of whom he has played, make these games too come alive. His writing is professional but not dry; flashes of wit occur in the notes to every game, and he reprints a couple of humorous pieces from the British magazine, Chess.

The specimen game give here, without the notes, has been chosen because too little is known in America of Australian chess, though sev-eral years ago southwesterners got a taste of it in R. G. Wade's winning char years ago southwesterners got a taste of it in R. G. Wade's winning their annual tournament. As Fine points out, Australian chess has im-proved amazingly in the past twenty years because of the organizational, editorial, and crossboard work of Purdy and the competition furnished by Lajos Steiner. Australian Championship 1947. French Defense. White: L. Steiner-Black: C. S. Purdy, 1. P-K4, P-K3; Z. P-Q4, P-Q4; J. Kt-QB3, Kt-KB3; 4. B-K45, B-K2; S. K5, KK+G2; 6. Bx5, Qx6; 7. P-A9, O-Q; 8. Kt-B3, P-GB4; 9. Q-Q2, Kt-QB3; 10. Q-Q, P-B31?; 11. P-B51, R-K11; 12. Q-K151, Qx0; 13. KtxQ, Kt-K13; 14. PxP, PxP; 5. B-K2, P-KR3; 16. Kt-R31, B-Q2; 17. B-K44, P-K13; 18. Kt-K2; P-K44; 19. B-B3, F-B1; 20. Kt-K15, Kt[B1]-K2; 21. P-KK13, Kt-B4; 22. P-B3, K-K12; 23. Kt-B4, QR-152, QR-K14, Kt-B4; 22. P-B3, K-K12; 23. Kt-B4, QR-152, P-G4, Kt-K11, K-B3; 25. P-KR4, Kt-K12; 24. QR-K11, K-R3; 25. P-KR4, Kt-K12; 24. R-K12; 27. B-K44, R-154; 22. P-B3, K-K12; 23. Kt-B4, QR-152, P-G4, Kt-K2; 25. P-KR4, Kt-K12; 20. Kt-K12; 23. Kt-B4, QR-152, P-K2; 27. B-K44, R-154; 27. P-B3, K-K12; 23. Kt-B4, QR-152, P-G4, Kt-K2; 29. Kt-K151, Kt-B1?; 30. Kt-B7 ch, K-R2; 31. Kt-R7, Kt-K5; 32. R-K17 afe.

Mate The Subtle Way! by Vincent L. Eaton

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

THE AWARDS in the Olympic Composing Tourney of 1948, strongest event of its kind to be hold in the bard burger of 1948, strongest T HE AWARDS in the Olympic Composing Tourney of 1948, strongest event of its kind to be held in the last decade, have at last been announced, in an attractive folder issued by the British Chess Problem Society. A total of 450 problems, the work of 184 composers in 26 dif-ferent countries, were entered in the three sections of the tournament. In the two-move section, which attracted 240 of the entries, the United States and Great Britain took all of the prizes. Eric M. Hassberg is to be congratulated for topping the field with the two-mover which is reproduced as No. 217 below. Second prize went to W. Byas of Great Britain with the following: KIB40, pIR5, 48rpl. pSikSter, 354, 482, 78, ppt 145, 54, 55

K184b, p1R5, 4Rrp1, p51k51sr, 3s4, 4P3, 7B, qQ6. Mate in two by 1. K1-Q7.

K1-97.
K1-97.
The other prize-winners were: Third; V. L. Eston: 1b5s, q7, 2P1sR2, 1R Skr1r, 75, B1PP4, 5p2, 2Q2K1B.
Mate in two by 1. Q.R6.
Fourth; A. R. Gooderson, Great Britain: bQ4RK, 4Sp1p, 5k2, r1Bs1Pp1, 7r, 8, 3S1Rsb, 7q. Mate in two by 1. R-KB.

7r, 8, 35185, 74. Mate in two by 1. R-KS. The second section, open to three-movers containing at least two model mates, was won by V. Pachman of Czechoslovakia, with second prize going to his fellow-countryman, F. Matousek. J. Buchwald of New York was the only American to finish among the leaders, scoring eighth honorable mention. In the "open" three-mover section, won by G. Goethart of the Netherlands, America also fared poorly, winning no prizes, honorable mentions, or commendations; entries by Buchwald and fater mere here the section of the Netherlands. Eaton were, however, considered to rank among the top twenty of the 127 problems in the section. The British Chess Problem Society deserves high praise for its able handling of the tournament. \*

A very Merry Christmas and happy New Year to all our readers!

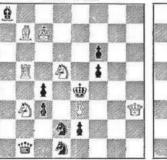
Problem No. 215 By Dr. E. W. Keeney (died 1918) Completed by his son Dr. P. G. Keeney Entry in CHESS LIFE



White: 8 men 8, r3p1R, q2p4, 2b3p1, 5k2, 2B2PS1, 2pPp1K1, Q3S3 White mates in two moves

Problem No. 217 By Eric M. Hassberg Jackson Heights, N. Y.

First Prize, Olympic Tourney, 1948 Black: 10 men



Problem No. 216 By Julius Buchwald Jackson Heights, N. Y. Entry in CHESS LIFE Composing Tourney Black: 10 men



White: 10 men K2B4, 8, 6pl, bS2p2B, 1B1sp3, 2s3R1, 1ppPP3, 2rkS1Q1 White mates in two moves

Problem No. 218 By Godfrey Heathcote

British Chess Federation, 1908 Black: 4 men



White: 7 men b7,1BK5, 5p2, 1R1S1p2, 2p1K3, 1Sp1P2Q, 3sp3, 1q1s4 White mates in two moves White: 10 men 1K6, 3p4, 5P2, 2S1P1p1, 1P1k2P1, 1b2S3, 1P5Q, 6B1 White mates in three moves Solutions to previously published problems on Page four.

### NATIONAL RATING SYSTEM (Continued from Page 1, column 3)

competed against opponents who are apparently 10% stronger than the average of the entire tournament; therefore, 100 points (rating equiva-lent of 10%) are added to his performance rating, making it 2400 points for the tournament.

2) A player in a Swiss tournament with an average rating of 2000 average score of 40% (10% below average). This player has competed against opponents who are apparently 10% weaker than the average of the entire tournament, and his performance rating is, therefore, com-puted as 1850 points (2000 minus 50 for his 5% below average score, minus 100 for the 10% below average score of his opponents). (To Be Continued)

Chess is a sea in which a gnat may drink and an elephant may bathe.



Alekhine's Early

# ANOTHER ALEKHINE LEGEND SHATTERED

### (Continued)

T IS NOT very likely that Grigor-iev, when he wrote these notes to his game with Verlinsky (played on January 26, 1930 in Moscow) and referred in these notes expressly to Alekhine's an-notations in "Shakhmaatnyi Vest-nik, of 1916 (English translation: CHESS LIFE, Sept. 20, 1950), had overlooked the fact that since then Alekhine himself had become a strong backer of the "improve-ment" 9. Q-Kt4 (instead of the usual 9. Q-R5) in the sharp Chigorin variation of the McCutcheon. A master and an author of Grigoriev's master and an autor or Grigoriev s thoroughness — his much too little known research papers on endgames are classics —, and at that a contributor to the very same number of "Shakhmatnyi Lis-"game" against "NN" was first published in Russia (1927 no. 17, p. 264), would certainly remember p. 204), would certainly remember that "Alekhine considers 9. Q-Kt4 as stronger than Chigorin's move 9. Q-R5", either from the publica-tion in "Shakhmatnyi Listok" or form the publica-tion in "Shakhmatnyi Listok" or from the English or Russian edi-tion of Alekhine's "My Best Games of Chess" (both published in 1927)

But since he could, with justifi-able pride, claim that he had used this move already in 1915 against Alekhine, he did not have to stress the fact that since then also Alek-hine had come to like this move if, however, Alekhine had claimed in any of these publications that he had used the move against Grigoriev in Moscow in 1915, we could expect a man of Grigoriev's attainments to contradict such a statement strongly. Under the circumstances, Grigor-

iev (and following him, Belavenets and Yudovich) could dismiss Alekhine's endorsement of the move 9. Q-Kt4 lightly — neither in "Shakhmatnyi Listok" of 1927 No. 17 nor in "My Best Games" had this opening discussion been the this opening discussion been the primary purpose for the publica-tion of the "game" which Alekhine claimed to have "played" in Mos-cow in 1915; it was rather the curious five queens' position, which made this "game" so famous that, even to the day (and with the only even to this day (and with the only exception, it seems, of LeLionnais) whenever this "game" is quoted, reprinted, included in collections reprinted, included in collections of important or curious games, it is on account of the curious five queens' position, the "polygamy" (Richter: Kurzgeschichten um Sch-achfiguren, p. 202, and copying from him the chess column of "New Statesman and Nation", July 29, 1950, and the uncorrected but 29, 1950) and the unexpected but decisive quiet move 24, R-R6.

A good and early example, which was called to our attention by M. E. Goldstein of Sydney, Australia, is Tartakower's publication of the position after the 23rd move, alone and without the preceding moves, in his book, "Schachmethodik," Ber-lin, 1928. Here, Tartakower, a grandmaster and author of thorough treatises on openings, but at the same time one of the most entertaining chess "causeurs", pays entertaining chess 'causeurs', pays no attention whatever to the open-ing aspect of the "game" and brings the five queens' position clearly as a "curiosum", including it in a special chapter headed "Curiosa" and introducing it as "Dance machine you funof Damen" "Danse macabre von fuenf Damen" (p. 64, no. 72). He, like the trans lator of "Shakhmatnyi Listok" 19-27, seems to have culled the position from "My Best Games of Chess" (or taken it from the Russian magazine), for even to him, (Please turn to page 3, col. 2)

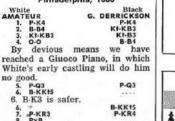


# Whom The Gods Love

THE death of Gordon Crown at the age of 18 robbed British chess I of its most brilliant newcomer in many years. His name must be added to the tragic list of such players as Pillsbury, Charousek and Breyer, who died before they had had an opportunity to develop to the full extent of their capacities for the game.

When we think of such players, it seems appropriate to pay a tri-bute to the memory of a master who died young and has been com-pletely forgotten—despite the fact that he staked a convincing claim to immortality with the following masterpiece.

**GIUOCO PIANO** Philadelphia, 1860



A PKR3 P-KR4 8, Px8 P-KR4 B. T. Lasker, the great master of defense, recommends 8. QKt-Q2, Q-Q2; 9. K-R2, O-O-O; 10. P-B3 with good chances.

8, K1-R2 9, K1-R3 10, K1-K63 11 10, K1-K63 11 10, K1-K14, K-Q2!; 11, P-B3, Q-KK11; 12, P-Q4, Q-R2; 13, BPAP, KtxKP; 14, B-R4, PxP; 15, Kt-B2, KtxKIP with a wild game in which Plack bas the unnar hand.

Black has the upper hand.



10. K1-KK151? This masterly Queen sacrifice is the real point of the attack! 11, Bx0? But White's play is not on the

Now the	combination	clicks.	
12. RxB		PxR ch	
13. K-B1		R-R8 ch	
14.K-K2		RXQ	
15. KKt-0	32		

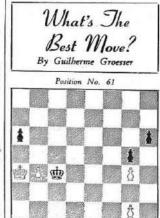
If 15. QKt-Q2, RxR and Black wins easily with two exchanges ahead.

15. Kt-Q5 ch!! This enchanting move leads to a forced mate!

Kt-K6 ch Kt-K7 mate 16, KxR 17, K-B1 (One of many brilliant games in-

cluded in RELAX WITH CHESS by Fred Reinfeld, published by the Pitman Publishing Corporation.)

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8, 8, p6p, 6p1, KPk3P1, 8, 6P1, 8 Black to play Send solutions to Position No. 61 to the Editor, CHESS LIFE, by January 20, 1951.

### Solution to Position No. 58

Solution to Position No. 58 We regret to say that in this position for the White Knight should have been at the white should have been at the the the should have been at the white should have been at the white should have been at the white should have been the the the should have been the the the should have been the the should have been at the should be been at the should be been at the should have been the should be been at the should be been at the should have been the should be been at the should be been at the should have a should be been at the should be been the should difficulty and we acknow the owner (Bronx), J. & Comstock (Duluth), W. J. Couture (Howard), Dr. J. M. Er-the the the should have been at the should be been the should be been the should be been to be been the substitute of the should be been the be been the substitute of the should be been the be been the substitute of the best be been the substitute of the should be been the be been the substitute of the should be been the substitute of the best be been the be been the substitute of the best be been at the best best be been the substitute of the best be been the substitute of the best be been the substitute of the best be been at the best best be been at the

### Alekhine's Career

(Continued from page 2, col. 5)

one of the best-read chess authors. Alekhine's opponent in the "game played in Moscow in 1915" is still the anonymous)"N" (not Grigoriev). Of course, just a man like Tarta-kower might have known the earlier publication of the "game" as a mere hypothetical variation in "Shakhmatnyi Vestnik" of 1916, if he ever got hold of this publica-tion during or after World War I — although familiar with the Russian language, Tartakower was then (1916) living in Austria and for a while even a member of the Austro-Hungarian forces. But even if he knew it "once upon a time", it might have slipped from his memory under the impact of the publication of the "game" in Alekhine's book.

### (To be continued)

WISCONSIN SPEED CHAMPIONSHIP

45-21

# Milwaukee, 1950 Leading Scorers





(From my "Journals" for December 4, ] 1950-)

Who can measure the loveliness of a rose? The first official rating list of

the U.S.C.F., publicized today, has the fatal defect of resting on a material foundation, of ignoring, for chess, the spiritual life. For one obvious example, it pen-alizes failure. Yet failure can be a

glorious success when it shines with the loveliness of heart-warmth of courage. For another obvious example, it

rewards the cowardice that in so-called "security" can undertake nothing architectual for fear of loss, but can wait for the opponent's error to appear, and thus gather in the point.

The games of most "high scor-ers" are like themselves -- cheap,

cold and dry as dust. The games of some "low scorers" are like themselves—alive, human, creative, warm-hearted, a delight to the lover. One can only laugh at a rating

system! Who can measure the loveliness

of a rose?

# ANTHONY E. SANTASIERE New York, N. Y.

Not being metaphysicians, we are not attempting increappynears, we are not attempting to measure loveliners but merely to establish basic standards of per-formance in tournament play. It is not pretended that the rating system meas-ures ability-merely that it gauges actual performance—The Editor.

### Dear Mr. Major:

In your CHESS LIFE of Sept. 20 you print an article by William Rojam on an innovation in the Sonneborn-Berger System of Scor-Sonneborn-Berger System of Scot-ing. The system is not unknown here. It is in use as a secondary method of breaking ties when, as sometimes happens, the generally adopted system of counting still leaves a tie. (Incidentally, it is recognized that the system — let us call it Solkoff — would be of no value in an all round tournano value in an all round tourna-

ment as a means of breaking ties.) It is a matter of opinion which system should be no. 1 and which no. 2. At present the B.C.F. tour-ney rules put Solkoff in 2nd place.

Another year it may be No. 1. Some are strongly opposed to allowing that games lost by a com-petitor should affect his placing. Others hold that there is less dis-credit in losing to a very strong larger than to a "rabbit and that player than to a rabbit and that there should be some way of recognizing that. As described in the Chess Month-

ly of February 1886 by the inven-tor, W. Sonneborn, the score of tor, W. Sonneborn, the score of a competitor for the purpose of dividing prizes was regarded as the square of his own game score increased by the game scores of those he had beaten and the game scores of those with whom he had drawn Whon it is used as in the drawn. When it is used as in the Swiss tourney to break a tie in case of two with the same game score, then that part (due to own score) in the total can be ignored. In the Chess Monthly of April 1891 the inventor produced an improved scheme which evaluated losing points as well as others but it in-volved calculations too troublesome for the average chess player to appreciate.

I am opposed to the practice that now seems common of calling S.B. counts the sum of the game scores of competitors beaten and half those of competitors drawn with, but I am up against a stone wall here. I consider that the "usual" S.B. count should be called the Berger count. It is a misleading practice

quote against a competitor who does not tie with another any of these tie-breaking counts. In your North Carolina Peters (No. 1) has a Solkoff of 14.50 and Rudich (No. 10) one of 17.00. What are these anything that Rudich has been harshly treated. In the Illinois you, rightly, gave no count against San-

Southhampton, England

### MISSOURI OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP St. Louis, 1950

1. Robert Steinmeyer (St. Louis)	W11	W2	W4	W10	W9	L3	5.1	16.50
2. C. F. Tears (Dallas, Tex.)	W5	LI	W13	W9	W4	W7	5 -1 5 -1	14.50
3. John Ragan (St. Louis)	D11	W12	L9	W13	WIO	W1	43-14	11.75
4. James Cook (St. Louis)	31114							
5. Harry Lew (St. Louis)		W6	Ll	W5	L2	W12	4 -2	10.00
o, Hally Lew (St. Louis)	L2	W15	W7	L4	W12	W10	4 -2	7.50
6. H. M. Wesenberg (Kan. City)	W8	L4 ·	L10	D14	W13	W9	31-24	6.00
7. C. M. Burton (St. Louis)	L9	W8	LS	W11	W14	L2	3 .3	6.00
8. W. H. Newberry (Alton, Ill.) .	L6	1.7	W14	L12	WII	W13	3 -3	4.00
9. Wm. A. Scott (Atlanta, Ga.)	W7	D10	W3	L2	LI	L6	21-34	8.75
10. J. H. Young (Duluth, Minn.)	W15	D9	W6	LI	L3	Lo	21-34	3.00
11. H. Georgi (Lawrence, Kans.)	11.40							
12 Part (Lawrence, Kans.)	L1	D3	W12	L7	L8	W14	23-35	4.75
12. Ray Vollmer (St. Louis) 2-4	(4.00)	; 13,	M. Lu	lebber	t (Tri	plett,	Mo.) 1-5	(0.50);
14. David Edwards (St. Louis) 5-	51 (1.	75): 15	5. K. 1	F. Sch	uman	n (Day	venport. 1	a.) 0.6
(0.00).	-					20. au		

Schumann withdrew at end of second round.

OAHU OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

#### Honolulu, 1950 Class A Tournament

I. Alva A. Larsen D7	W3	W10	W4	L2	W5	W6	53-14	25.50
2. Harry B. Lee W6	W5	L4	W8	W1	L3	W7	5 -2	23.00
, James O. Mitchell W11	L1	L6	W9	W7	W2	W4	5 -2	21.00
. Sam NaiditchW8	W13	W2	LI	W5	W6	L3	5 -2 5 -2 5 -2	19.50
. Cesario Noble	L2	W11	D7	L4	LI	W8	31-35	9.00
. Charles L. Powell L2	L7	W3	W10	W8	LA	L1	3 .4	13.00
. K. L. Kum D1	W6	LS	D5	L3	W10	1.2	3 -4	12.50
Benjamin Y. Ching L4	W10	W7	1.2	L6	W12	1.5	3 4	9.00
Lorengo Mendoza 2-5 (4.00); 10	Rayr	nond	S. Tag	Wort	2.5 /3 0	01. 11	Anthony	Oron
dein 1-6 (1.00); 12. John L. T. W John Hanna 9-7 (0.00).	augh	1-6 (1	.00); 1	3. Jan	nes Ki	hara (	-7 (0.00);	14. E.
Kihara and Hanna withdre fter third round.	w aft	er two	o roun	ids; M	tendoza	a and	Waugh e	ntered

			Hass B	100	rname	nT				
i	John L. Nelson	W4	W3	W2	LG	W7	W5	W10	6 -1	25.50
ł	John Paresa	Bye	W11	L1	W9	W3	D4	W7	51-14	21.75
ŝ	Tomiya Sato	.W8	L1	W9	W11	L2	We	W4	51-11 5 -2	20.50
é	Paul Schneller	L1	W8	Bye W7	W5	W6	D2	L3	41-21	17.25
	Dr. Gilbert Halm		W10	W7	L4	W11	LI	Bye	4 -3	12.00
,	Oscar Keller 3-4 (15.00);	7. Ge	orge (	. Cro	ss 3-4	(9.00);	8. 1	talph Ma	aeda 3-4	(9.00);
ŕ	Shawpina Zia 3-4 (9.00); 1	10. Ed	ward (	Ching	3-4 (8	.00); 11	. Gle	nn Sim	nons 2-5	(8.00).

### WICHITA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP Wichita, 1950

Weberg (Salina) 2-4 (4.00); 21. John Burnett (Wichita) 2-4 (4.00); 22. D. L. Convis (Wichita) 2-4 (4.00); 23. J. H. Popp (Haven) 2-4 (3.50); 24. Mrs. F. E. Condon (Borger, Tex.) 1-5 (0.50); 25. J. Van S. Longeneeker (Wichita) 1-5 (0.50); 26. Kenneth Bell (Wichita) 5-5 (1.00).

Wednesday, December 20, 1950 Chess Life In New York By Eliot Hearst

Page 3

**Chess** Life

N EW YORK'S chess fans were favored with an unusual exhi-bition recently when Mrs. Mary Bain, Southern lady champion, ex-celled in a unique memory feat at the Marshell Cheer Club Eint Mrs. the Marshall Chess Club. First Mrs. Bain performed the "knight's tour" blindfolded without error, and then really astounded her audience by memorizing, in just a few moments, sixty four different numbers, each arbitrarily placed on a chessboard square. Spurred on by the promise of a substantial prize to anyone who could stump her, the spectators called out the var-ious squares for Mrs. Bain to supply the number thereon and they were still unable to catch her in a were suit analytic to catch her in a mistake, in fact, even failed to make her as much as hesitate or waver in answering. Not in the least fatigued by this strenuous mental exertion, the lady cham-pion immediately afterwards team-pion immediately afterwards teamed with Dr. Lasker to play simul-taneously against ten and fifteen players respectively. Mrs. Bain won eight of the ten games she played, drew one, and lost one, while Dr. Lasker scored nine wins, 3 draws and 3 losses out of his fifteen simultaneous games. The Marshall Club's directors comment-ed on the more than capacity attendance at this unique chess eve-ning; not since Dr. Euwe's exhibition in 1947 were the club rooms so crowded!

The London Terrace Chess Club which can boast of being the only which can boast of being the only penthouse chess club in the world, recently welcomed a five-man in-tercollegiate team to its quarters for a match, in which the visitors won out 3-2. Burger and Scher (both of Columbia) and Bender (Rutgers) won for the Intercollegiates, while Maruchess and Mottur of London Terrace scored over their rivals from Fordham. In the penthouse club's annual championship Dr. R. C. Slater, well known as a leading correspondence chess player, is setting the pace with a 3-0 score.

In Brief: Weaver Adams is scheduled for simultaneous exhibitions at three major metropolitan chess clubs in order to raise money for his trip to England to compete as U. S. representative in the Hastings Christmas tourney ... N. Y. will send a team of eight players, com-posed of an equal number of Mar-shall and Manhattan members, to Cuba immediately after New Year's Day to engage the Cubans in a re-turn match; it will be remembered that only a few weeks ago the Cubans came to New York and the Cubans came to New York and lost a close struggle to the Man-hattan Chess Club ... Art Bisguier has accepted an invitation to com-pete in the May 1951 Centenary Tourney in England ... An all Brooklyn championship will be in-itiated in January ... Marshall championship leaders are Hanauer 6½-½ and Hill 5-1.

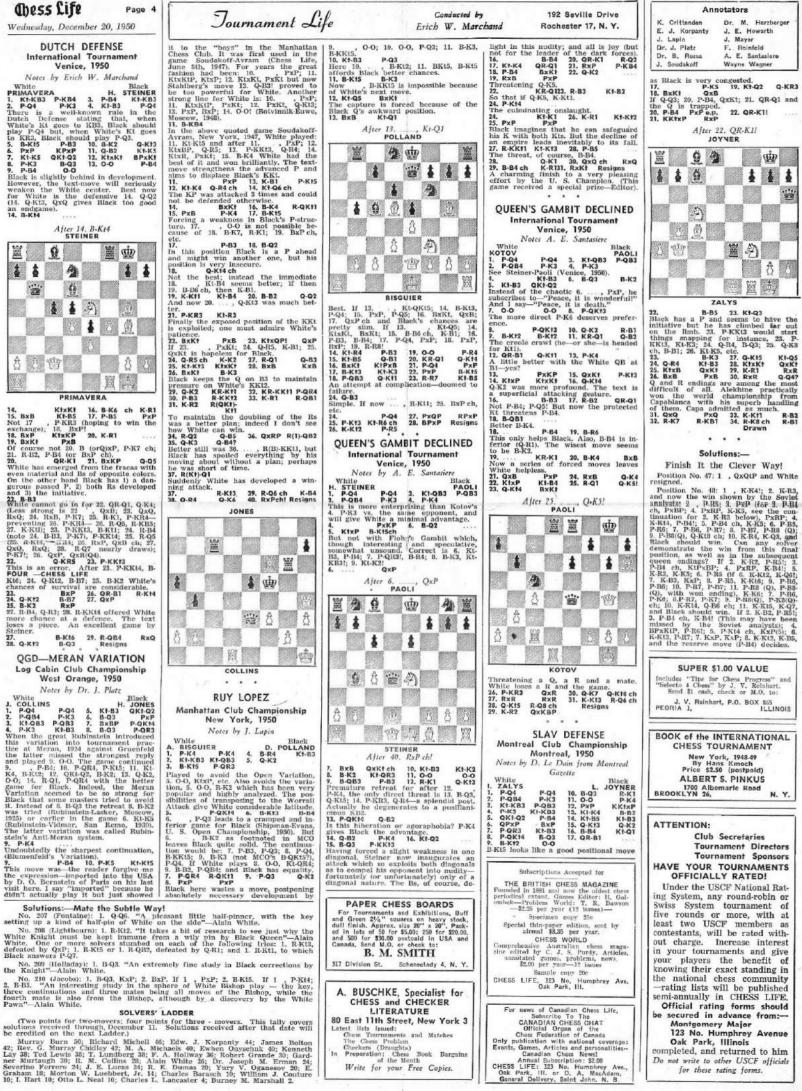
### HOEHN TOPS ALL IN SASKATCHEWAN

Eric Hoehn, strong contender in last Canadian Championship event, took the Saskatchewan Provincial Championship at the Bishop's Knight Chess Club at Saskatoon with a 4½-1½ score, besting R. B. Hayes in the crucial game of the tourney. R. B. Hayes was second with  $3\frac{1}{2}\cdot2\frac{1}{2}$ .

NORTH SHORE LEAGUE

### Final Standings Portsmouth Chess ..... 4 0 2 25à Newburyport Chess ..... 3 2 1 Manchester Chess ..... 2 3 1 Haverhill ..... 0 4 2 18

drin as there was no need. J. T. BOYD



QGD-MERAN VARIATION

Log Cabin Club Championship West Orange, 1950

\$ \$

-

Notes by Dr. J. Platz White Ellack J. COLLINS H. JONES 1. PQ4 P.Q4 S. KI-83 QKI-Q2 2. PQ64 P.K3 6. B-Q3 PxP 3. KI-083 P.Q83 7. BxDP P.QK4 4. P.K3 KI-83 8. B-Q3 PxP 3. KI-083 P.Q83 7. BxDP P.QK4 4. P.K3 KI-83 8. B-Q3 P.QR3 When the great Rubinstein introduced this variation into tournament prac-tice at Meran, 1924 against Gruenfeld the latter missed the strongest reply and played 9. O.O. The game continued 9. P.B3; 10. PQR4, PK15; 11. KI-K4, P.K2; 12. QK1-Q2, PK2; 13. Q-K2, Oracidor Baned Interest, B-K2; 14. KI-Black that Some masters tried to avoid t. Instead of 8. B-Q3 the retreat 8. B-K2 was tried (Rubinstein-Lasker, Moscow, 1925) or carlier in the game 6. KI-K55 (Rubinstein-Vidmar, Sun Remo, 1930). The latter variation was called Rubin-stein's Anti-Meran system. 9. P.K4

No. 207 etting up a No. 206 (Lightbourn): 1. RKL2 "It takes a bit of research to see just why the White Knight must be kept immune from a wily pin by Black Queer"-Alain White. One or more solvers stumbed on each of the following tries: 1. RKL3, defeated by QxP; 1. RKL5 or 1. R-QB2, defeated by Q-RI; and 1. R-Kt1, to which Black answers P-Q7.

(Two points for two-movers: fr ations received through, Decem credited on the next Ladder.)

be crediked on the next Ladder.)
Murray Burn 30; Richard Michell 46; Edw. J. Korpaniy 44; James Bolton 42; Rev. G. Murray Childley 42; M. A. Michaels 40; Ewhen Onyschuk 40; Kenneth Lay 38; Ted Lewis 38; T. Lundberg 33; F. A. Hollway 36; Robert Grande 30; Gard-ner Murtaugh 30; R. M. Collins 28; Alain White 26; Dr. Joseph M. Erman 24; Severino Ferrero 24; J. E. Lucas 24; R. E. Durnas 20; Yury V. Oganesov 20; E. Graham 18; Morton W. Luebbert, Jr. 14; Charles Barsch 10; William J. Coulture 10; I. Hart 10; Otto L. Neal 10; Charles I. Lancaster 4; Burney M. Marshall 2.