

The Bold Moves of Arthur Dake

A Dozen Grandmaster Games

Interview by Casey E. Bush

Arthur Dake is the hometown host of the 1987 U.S. Open. He was born in Portland, Oregon in 1910 and today, at 77, is the oldest Grandmaster in the Western Hemisphere, five weeks the senior of Najdorf, two years older than Reshevsky. Arthur's chess career is unique in that he accomplished so much in his youth, played only a handful of tournament games during his adult life, and then, as a senior citizen, came back into his own, making bold moves at Louis D. Statham's Lone Pine in the 1970s and becoming US Senior Co-Champion in June 1987.

THE RECORD

During the 1930's Arthur Dake was a professional chessplayer, and his results are impressive: equal first with Rubinstein and Yates at Antwerp, Belgium (1931); equal second with Reshevsky and Steiner, behind Alekhine at Pasadena (1932); he placed 3rd behind Fine and Reshevsky at the US Open in Detroit (1933); equal third with Fine, behind Kashdan and Reshevsky at the 1934 Syracuse, NY International; third behind Reshevsky and Fine at the 1934 US Open in Chicago; equal first with Fine and Steiner in Mexico City (1935); second behind Fine in the 1935 US Open in Milwaukee; and equal second with Denker behind Horowitz at the 1936 US Open at Philadelphia. More impressive perhaps are his contributions to three victorious American Olympic teams, at Prague (1931), Folkestone (1933) and Warsaw (1935), with a cumulative score of 27 wins, only 4 losses and 14 draws.

THE LEGEND

The formative years, that preceded his professional career, were best outlined by Phillip H. Parrish in his column 'The Big Parade', featured in Portland's OREGONIAN on February 28, 1931:

Arthur Dake, 20, the Portland boy who played 43 games of chess simultaneously the other night at the Multnomah Hotel, and who is considered as a possible future American and World Champion, tells me that when he sits down at a board and analyzes, he can see 15 or 16 moves ahead.

"Four years ago this Spring," said Dake, "I sat down to my first chess game. It was in the Portland YMCA and I had been watching a game and it interested me. I asked a bystander to instruct me."

"After a week of play I could see three or four moves ahead. I kept at the game

continuously from then on, studying all the books of instruction I could find in the public library and playing with everybody that would play me. In the fall of that year, 1927, I joined the Portland Chess and Checker club, within 12 months had moved up from 12th place among the handicap men to number one, with the highest record of anyone who ever belonged to the club."

Dake has the reputation of being the fastest mover of any of the leading chessplayers in America today. It is probably this rapidity which resulted in his losing to four of his 43 opponents. The winners included Mr. Van Zante, and Mr. Pelouse, whom Dake can defeat without great difficulty when playing individually. Dake is young and impetuous, and to get the best results he will have to slow down considerably.

JOSE R. CAPABLANCA New York City (1931)

A few months after Mr. Parrish made his observations, the impetuous youth faced the ex-world champion, Jose Raul Capablanca over-the-board in the 4th round of the New York Masters Tournament. In that game Arthur Dake untied an opening knot with the finesse of Houdini.

CAPABLANCA-DAKE

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 c4 c6 3 d4 d5 4 Nc3 dc4 5 a4 Bf5 6 Ne5 Nbd7 7 Nxc4 Qc7 8 g3 e5 9 de5 Nxe5 10 Bf4 Nfd7 11 Bg2 f6 12 Oo Be6 13 Nxe5 fe5 14 Be3 Bc5 15 Ne4 Bxe3 16 fe3 Oo0 17 Ng5 Nf6 18 Qc2 Bg8 19 Rad1 Rxd1 20 Rxd1 h6 21 Nf3 e4 22 Nd2 Bh7 23 Nc4 Rd8 24 Rd4 c5 25 Rxd8+ Kxd8 26 Bh3 g5 27 Qc3 Ke7 28 Qe5+ Qxe5

The position obtained after 28 moves inspired A.J. Fink of San Francisco to write in the September issue of the AMERICAN CHESS BULLETIN (ACB): In playing over the Capablanca-Dake game recently played in New York, the B.C.M. makes a note at a critical stage for Capablanca: 'Virtually forced' referring to 28 Qe5+. What 28 Qe5+ really does is hand the game over to Black and Black plays correctly with 28...Bg8." A few moves later Arthur had the Chess Machine on the ropes, but then tragically erred.

29 Nxe5 Bg8 30 a5 Kd6 31 Ng4 Nxc4 32 Bxc4 Be6 33 Bh5 c4 34 Bg6 Bd5 35 Kf2 Kc5 36 Ke1 Kb4 37 Kd2 c3+?

Arthur remembers that mistake vividly: "I was a young cocky kid, who wanted to show the great Capablanca that I could move just as fast as he could. I even did

not adjourn the game at move forty but played on. Capablanca told me that he would have resigned if I had played 37... Kb3 My fast play ruined the tournament for me. Of course my last error was 55...Bc6 instead of 55...b4, which would have drawn as I could set up a King blockade."

38 bc3+ Kxa5 39 c4 Bc6 40 Kc3 Ka4 41 Bf7 Ka3 42 c5 Ka4 43 Kc4 b5+ 44 cb6 ab6 45 Bg6 Ka3 46 Kd4 Kb3 47 h4 Kc2 48 hg5 hg5 49 Bf5 Kd2 50 g4 Kxe2 51 Bxe4 Be8 52 Bf5 Kf3 53 e4 Kf4 54 e5 b5 55 e6 Bc6? 56 Bg6 b4 57 Kc5 Ba4 58 Kxb4 Bc6 59 Kc5 Ba4 60 Bh5 Ke5 61 e7 1-0

ALEXANDER ALEKHINE Pasadena (1932)

The November 1931 issue of ACB recounts the earliest meeting between Arthur Dake and Alexander Alekhine: "When Alexander Alekhine was touring the United States in 1928 after his triumph at Buenos Aires, it became known at the Mechanics Institute Chess Club of San Francisco that a boy from Portland was to travel the 1,500 miles to Los Angeles to play the World's Champion in the latter's simultaneous there. Alekhine was scheduled to play at the Institute two days later, and just before play started a young man approached the secretary, announced his name as Arthur Dake of Portland, stated he had held Alekhine (or Alekhine had held him!) to a 54-move draw, and could he take a board? It developed that the Railroad Octopus had taken about all his money. However, he was given a board. Shortly after play had started (on Alekhine's second round) all eyes were focused on Dake's board, where the two were moving the pieces at less than one second per move! Dake lasted thirteen seconds, when he blew a piece and the game. That was our introduction to the young man who, by supreme confidence in his own ability (a quality that made him seem quite conceited at that first meeting), has become a recognized world's chess master."

A few years later Arthur first socialized with Dr. Alekhine while in Czechoslovakia. He tells it this way: "After the victory banquet at Prague, I was invited by the World Champion to join him with several other chess masters at the local night-club for small talk and to enjoy some drinks after the Chess Olympics. Dr. Alekhine always carried a pocket chess set and enjoyed analyzing chess openings and end games. Dr. Alekhine enjoyed the company of young, talented chessplayers."

They met again the next year in Pasadena,

California and engaged in some horseplay before the tournament that was reported in the October issue of THE CHESS WORLD. "As for games played up in the air, probably this was the first between master players. During the international tournament at Pasadena, August 1932, some of the players were taken up for a joy ride in a 'blimp'. Kashdan and Dake decided to play a game for the 'championship of the air'. Alekhine, it seems, considered that his title covered land, sea and air, at least within the 3-mile limit, and refused to take part. However, he acted as referee, and in spite of air sickness (or because of?), the game was drawn." Back on the ground Arthur defeated Alekhine in their match game in a contest that has become well known, and contains a number of bold moves by Dake.

DAKE-ALEKHINE

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ed5 cd5 4 c4 Nf6 5 Nc3 Nc6 6 Nf3 Be6 7 c5 g6 8 Bb5 Bg7 9 Ne5 Qc8 10 Qa4 Bd7 11 00 00 12 Bf4 a6 13 Bxc6 bc6 14 Rfe1 Nh5 15 Bd2 Ra7 16 Re2 Be8 17 Rae1 f5 18 Nf3 Nf6 19 Rxe7 Rxe7 20 Rxe7 f4 21 Bxf4 Ne4 22 Be5 Bh6 23 Nxe4 de4 24 Ng5! Qf5 25 Qb3+ Bf7 26 Nxf7 Rxf7 27 Rxf7 Qxf7 28 Qb8+ Qf8 29 d5! e3 30 f4 Qxb8 31 Bxb8 Kf7 32 dc6 Ke8 33 b4 g5 34 g3 gf4 35 gf4 Kd8 36 a4 Kc8 37 Bd6 Bg7 38 Kf1 1-0

Arthur gives us the inside story: "What is not known is the psychological strategy that I, by chance, used to defeat Dr. Alekhine. Several days before our chess game he and I had discussed the Panov Attack against the Caro-Kann Defense. Dr. Alekhine had adjourned his chess game against Reshevsky, who was my roommate at the old Maryland Hotel. I was very interested in the outcome of their game and so decided to ask Dr. Alekhine what the result might be. At the time the Doctor was playing a foursome of bridge in the bungalow of his quarters. He spoke up and said he probably would win his game against Reshevsky. I, in turn, with the brashness of youth, said that I hoped Sammy would draw his chess game. The World Champion turned to me and said "For that, I will defeat you in our chess game." Of course, I was crestfallen that Alekhine was going to make special efforts to defeat me. I decided that I would have a better opportunity playing an open game and so began the contest with 1 e4.

Dr. Alekhine decided to play the Caro-Kann which we had previously analyzed together. When he saw that I had the willingness to play this variation he varied from the analysis and played the inferior 6...Be6. I won the chess game and Dr. Alekhine was a good sport and

toasted me with champagne after my victory. Subsequently, Alekhine did win his adjourned game from Reshevsky." At 22 years of age, the impetuous youth from Portland, Oregon thus trimmed the sails of the World Chess Champion, Dr. Alexander A. Alekhine.

RUEBEN FINE Chicago (1934)

Over the years Reuben Fine was one of Arthur's most significant rivals, and the two men produced a number of beautiful games. The following contest is remarkable for the fact that it was the only loss sustained by the tournament winner. In this battle, Mr. Dake punishes every subtle misstep that Fine makes, pursuing him doggedly into a complex endgame. Notes are by the victor as featured in the September issue of ACB.

DAKE-FINE

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Bxc6 dc6 5 d4 ed4 6 Qxd4 Qxd4 7 Nxd4 Bd7 8 Nc3 OOO 9 Be3 Bd6 10 OOO b6 11 Nde2 c5 12 Bf4 Bc6 13 f3 f6 14 Rd2 Bxf4 15 Nxf4 Ne7 16 Rad1 Rxd2 17 Kxd2 f5 18 Ke3 Re8 19 g4 fg4 20 fg4 Bd7 21 h3 Rf8

"A good move, the threat being 22...Nc6, followed by 23...Ne5 and 24...g5. White's next move is the only way to prevent the loss of a Pawn."

22 Rd2 Nc6 23 Rf2 Ne5 24 Nd3 Nc4+ 25 Ke2 Re8 26 Rf7 Rg8 27 e5 Be8 28 Rf4 Na5 29 Nd5 Nc6 30 e6 Kb7

"Black has played well up to this point. He should play 30...Kd8 with a good game. Black thought that after 31 e7, he could play 31...Bg6 and win the pawn, but after 31...Bg6 32 Ne5! and Black is lost."

31 e7 Nd4+ 32 Ke3 Ne6 33 Re4 Ng5 34 Re5 Nf7 35 Rf5 c6 36 Nc3 Kc7 37 Ne5 Nh6 38 Rf4 g6 39 Rf8 Kd6 40 Nc4+ Kxe7 41 Rxc8 Nxc8 42 Nxb6 Nf6 43 Ne4 Nxe4 44 Kxe4 Bf7 45 Ke5 Bxa2 46 g5 Bb1 47 c3 Bc2 48 Nc4 Kd7 49 Ne3

"After Black's last move, I took more than half an hour to analyze, for he threatened to march his King over to White's Queen's side Pawns, and it was a question as to who would Queen first."

49...Bd3 50 Ng4 Kc7 51 Nf6 Kb6 52 Nxh7 Kb5 53 Nf8 Kc4 54 Kf6 Kb3 55 Nxg6 Kxb2 56 Ne5 Be4 57 h4 Kxc3 58 h5 a5 59 h6 a4 60 Ng6

"The winning move, as Black cannot Queen his Pawn without losing. A hard game."

60...a3 61 h7 a2 62 h8Q Kc2 63 Qh2+ Kb1 64 Qb8+ Kc2 65 Qe5 Bxc6 66 Qa1 1-0

HERMAN STEINER Santa Barbara (1935)

The year 1935 was the most successful for Arthur Dake and began in January with a 3-way tie for first in Mexico City with Fine defeating Steiner, Steiner beating Dake and Dake topping Fine. Arthur later settled that account with Mr. Steiner as reported in the ACB:

A natural rivalry in relation to supremacy at chess on the far Western Coast of this continent brought about an interesting meeting in early June between Arthur W. Dake of Portland, Oregon and Herman Steiner of Los Angeles, members of the United States teams which won international team championships at Prague and Folkestone. The match of six games was held under the auspices of the Chess and Checker Club of Los Angeles, with the last game scheduled at the Santa Barbara Chess Club. After six games, Dake established himself as the winner 4.5-1.5 and has a fairly clear title to the new crown now atop his manly brow. The dapper Oregonian drew the first game, lost the second, and then scored three in a row in whirlwind fashion. He also won the sixth.

Mr. Dake's accomplishments prompted poetic musings by an anonymous writer in the OREGONIAN of July of that year, in a short piece entitled "The Chess Wizard":

Reading the dispatches that young Arthur Dake of Portland described by reporters as the 'wizard of the Pacific Coast', we are reminded of the casual and inauspicious manner in which Mr. Dake took up the game in which he is now so proficient.

A youth in his teens, and with no particular leanings, he had been exercising that day with other boys in the Portland YMCA. We do not recall the exact circumstances, whether he had been playing handball, or basketball or possibly swimming. Anyhow, he afterwards found himself standing behind one of the players in a chess game, and presently he was asked to take a side himself. He never before had noticed the game - never had been conscious of it. And certainly no one present, least of all young Mr. Dake himself, could have had the slightest intimation that in that moment chess history was being made.

One wonders how many men and women there are who never have looked down upon the right game at the right moment? Arthur Dake was a born chess master, but he might easily never have discovered chess. There may be Caesars in the hill country of

of Oregon, and Newtons in the wilds of Siberia. The poet Gray pondered that problem in a churchyard, and the observer of life is constantly reminded of the truth of his ponderings.

STEINER-DAKE

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Bc5 4 c3 Qe7 5 00
Nf6 6 d4 Bb6 7 a4 a6 8 h3 d6 9 Re1 00 10
Bg5 h6 11 Bh4 Kh7 12 d5 Nb8 13 g4 g5 14
Bg3 Rh8 15 Nbd2 Nbd7 16 Bd3 Nf8 17 Nc4
Ba7 18 Kg2 Ng6 19 Ne3 Nf4+ 20 Bxf4 gf4 21
Nf5 Bxf5 22 ef5 Kg7 23 Be4 Qd7 24 Qb3 h5 25
Re2 hg4 26 hg4 Nhg4 27 Rg1 Kf6 28 Kf1 Rg8
29 Qxb7 Qxa4! 30 Rg2 Rh1+ 31 Ng1 Qd1+ 0-1

Later that year Arthur participated in this third and most successful Chess Olympics, this time scoring 86% (13-0-5) at Warsaw. In that event Dake's game with Lazo Szabo of Hungary is representative of those brilliant games. Szabo writes in his book MY BEST GAMES OF CHESS: "My Warsaw debut did not bring me the highest success ...yet I carried off some laurels in one aspect: according to many contestants - Alekhine among them - I played the wildest game of the Olympiad against the American Dake."

SZABO-DAKE

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3
Bb4 6 Nb5 d5 7 ed5

Szabo writes: "This is yet more proof of the ad hoc way I handled openings. Unfortunately, nobody criticized me for this, the most they did was to declare the bad move 'not well considered'. But precisely those complications that develop from this make the game even more enjoyable for the public."

7...a6

He continues: "Had Black wanted to avoid the complications, he would simply have played 7...Nxd5. But who wants to simplify the game against an unknown young blade? On the other hand, Black forces his opponent to begin his 'intellectual tight rope' with this move."

8 Qd4!? Be7 9 d6 ab5 10 Nxb5 Nc6 11 Qd1
Bf8 12 Be3 Nd5 13 Bc5 b6 14 c4 bc5 15 cd5
Qa5+ 16 Qd2 Nd4? 17 b4! Qa4 18 Nc7+ Kd8
19 Rc1 Rb8? 20 bc5 ed5 21 Nxd5 Bf5 22 Bd3
Bxd3 23 Qxd3 Qa5+ 24 Qd2 Ra8 25 Nb4! Rb8 26
Nd3 Qxd2 27 Kxd2 g6 28 Ne5!? Bh6+ 29 Kd3 Bxc1
30 Rxc1 Nf5 31 Nxf7?

Szabo sheds some light on this frantic scene: "The sight of the two young Titans was rather reminiscent of some break-neck

acrobatics show rather than a mature competition game," commented Dr. Veeseey on this game, in which we had but seconds left. Were I more mature, and had had more time available, surely I would have played 31 g4! to ensure the advance of the pawns by chasing the Knight away, which was the key to an uncomplicated victory."

31...Kd7 32 Nxb8 Rxb8 33 g4 Nh6? 34 Re1?
Kc6 35 Kd4 Ra8 36 Re7 Ra4+ 37 Kc3 Kxc5 38
d7 Rc4+ 39 Kb3 Rd4 40 h3 Ng8! 41 Re8 Rxd7
42 Rxb8 Rd3+ 43 Kb2 Rxh3 44 Rf8 Rh4 45 f3
Rh1 46 Kc3 h5 47 Rf6 hg4 48 fg4 Rh3 49
Kb2 g5 50 Rf5+ Kb4 51 Kc2 Kc4! 52 Kd2 Kd4
53 Ke2 Ra3 54 Rxb5 Ke4! DRAWN

ARTHUR DAKE'S BOLDEST MOVE

It was on the cruise back to American that Arthur met the love of his life, Helen Gerwatowski (Girard), to whom he has been married for over 50 years. Arthur and Helen shared a six week, trans-Atlantic courtship, the result of which was reported in one periodical as 'Dake Finally Mated'. A more telling review appeared in the November '35 ACB entitled 'Simultaneous Play at Chess Clubs': A brilliant exhibition of simultaneous play was given by Arthur W. Dake, November 14, at the Commonwealth Club of Upper Montclair, N.J., where he opposed by twenty-eight players under the auspices of the Montclair Chess Club. In the course of two hours Dake won all the games. The exhibition followed by a few hours the marriage of Dake at the Municipal Building in New York to Miss Helen Girard of Garden City. The romance began on board the S.S. Pilsudski, which brought back the United States Chess Team from Warsaw. Mrs. Frank J. Marshall and I.A. Horowitz witnessed the marriage ceremony."

With the birth of their daughter, Marjorie, Arthur and Helen decided that the unreliable income generated from simultaneous exhibitions and the such had to be forsaken in favor of a more stable lifestyle. After living for a short time in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the family moved to Arthur's home town, Portland, Oregon. As Arthur's responsibilities grew, his participation in tournament chess diminished. Despite the many changes in his life, Arthur continued to play at a high level. His boundless energy and artful sense of determination, the essence of his character, are communicated through this manipulation of the pieces, everytime Mr. Dake sits down to the chess board.

TO BE CONTINUED
NEXT ISSUE!

THE BOLD MOVES OF ARTHUR DAKE

Interview by Casey E. Bush
(Continued from page 126, August issue)

Weaver Adams (1936) NY

DAKE-Adams

1 e4 e5 2 f4 d5 3 e4 e4 4 d4 f5 5 c4
Nf6 6 Nc3 a6 7 Nh3 b5 8 Be3 bc4 9 Bxc4 Bd6
10 Ng5 Qe7 11 00 00 12 Ne6 Re8 13 h6 Nbd7
14 Nxc7 Nb6 15 Nxe8 Nxe8 16 Bb3 Nf6 17 Bf2
Qb7 18 Bh4 Qf7 19 Bxf6 Qxf6 20 a4 a5 21 Nb5
Bb7 22 Rc1 Nxd5 23 Nxd6 Qxd6 24 Rc5 Kh8 25
Bxd5 Bxd5 26 Qd2 1-0

Santasiere (1938) New York

Santasiere-DAKE

1 c4 e5 2 Nc3 Nc6 3 Nf3 f5 4 e3 Nf6 5 d4
e4 6 Nd2 Bb4 7 Qb3 d6 8 Be2 00 9 00 a5

Santasiere snidely notes in ACB: "Black already is reduced to an artificial move like this; however ...Kh8 at once was the better, for if Bxc3 instead, then c5 dis. ch. before the recapture give White the better game."

10 f3 Bxc3 11 bc3 Kh8 12 Qc2 e3 13 Bxf3
Bd7 14 e4 fe4 15 Nxe4 Nxe4 16 Bxe4 Rxf1+ 17
Kxf1 Qh4 18 g3 Rf8+ 19 Kg1 Bh3 20 Be3 Qg4
21 Bg2 Bxg2 22 Qxg2 Qe6 23 Qe2 Re8 24 Re1
Qg8 25 Qd3 h6 26 Bf2 Rxe1+ 27 Bxe1 a4 28
Qe2 Qf7 29 Bf2 Qf5 30 Qb2 b6 31 Qb5

Santasiere continued: "Forcing the exchange of Queens and eliminating his pawn weakness; in the ensuing endgame, I considered my chances very good since Black's queenside pawns are on the same colored squares as my bishop. But what Dake does with his Knight is sheer magic, surely one of the finest played end games in the literature of chess."

31...Qxb5 32 cb5 Na5 33 Be3 Nc4 34 Bc1 Kh7
35 Kf2? g5 36 h4 Kg6 37 hg5 hg5 38 Kf3 d5
39 Kg4 Nd6 40 Bxg5 Ne4! 41 Bf4 Nxc3 42 Bxc7
Nxa2 43 Bxb6 Nc3 44 Bd8 Nxb5 45 Bg5 Nxd4 46
Bd2 a3 47 Bc1 Nc2 48 Kf4 Kf6 49 g4 a2 50
Bb2+ Ke6 51 g5 a1Q 52 Bxa1 Nxa1 53 Gc6 Nc2
54 g7 Kf7 Ke5 Nb4 56 g8Q+ Kxg8 57 Kd4 Kf7
0-1

Lilienthal (1946) Moscow

Eight years later, after the Second World War, Arthur Dake made another bold move when he joined the American Chess Team that had been invited to the Soviet Union. The October 2, 1946 OREGON JOURNAL ran an account of the adventure by Jack Spalding entitled 'Chess Ace Home; Moscow Fine Host': To Moscow for a game of chess and back to the old home town all in a month's time is the experience just hung up by Arthur W. Dake, internationally renowned Portland chessplayer, who held his own with the best chessplayers Russia could furnish. The trip of the American players had the blessing of the State Department as an expression of good will and was financed by Maurice Wortheim, millionaire, New York City stock broker, who captained

the team. Wortheim planned to finance the stay in Russia, but the minute the team landed on Russian soil the Soviet government took over the role of host and insisted upon paying the bill. And they played host in a most generous and warm hearted manner, Dake said. We saw everything in Moscow, including the Kremlin, that we wanted to see and were lodged at the Hotel Metropole for 10 days, according to Dake.

The Russians, he said, gave them the best of everything they had and when the chess tournament didn't prevent, entertained them with sightseeing trips, banquets, the opera and the ballet. No one that he talked to mentioned any possibility of war with the United States, Dake said.

At the close of the matches, the Russians presented the Americans gifts and the Americans reciprocated ... Wortheim gave the Russian team captain an ornate pie, the stem of which was engraved with a picture of President Roosevelt and Stalin playing chess. This made a big hit with the Russians, Dake said...

Mrs. Dake had relatives in Poland whom she desired to see. When the Russians learned of this they put her aboard a Soviet plane and flew her to Warsaw and back to Moscow. She was unable to find her relatives, who lived in the country but left money and clothing for them and was informed later they received the items left there...

The first of Dake's two draws against Lilienthal was prefaced in the November issue of CHESS REVIEW by this explanation: "This game is a tempest in a teacup. Lilienthal has the initiative all the way, but his lack-luster moves gradually permit his chances of aggression to fade away. Lacking capacity for a fight, he shies away from the crucial plan to advance f3 and e4, which is White's indicated plan. Lilienthal's failure to make anything of the two bishops and the indicated push in the center is all the more incomprehensible, as he is the greatest authority on this variation. Dake defends carefully and well, which is all that one can expect of Black's handling of this difficult variation. Only dynamic tactics could succeed in smashing such solid play.

Lilienthal-Dake

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 00 5 a3
Bxc3+ 6 bc3 d5 7 cd5 ed5 8 Bd3 c5 9 Ne2
Nbd7 10 a4 Re8 11 00 b6 12 a5 Bb7 13 Ng3
Qc7 14 a6 Bc6 15 Ba3 Rad8 16 Qb1 e4 17
Bc2 Ne4 18 Bxe4 de4 19 Qb4 Bd5 20 Qd6 Qxd6
21 Bxd6 g6 22 Ne2 f5 23 Rfb1 Bf7 24 Bf4
Rc8 25 f3 Nf6 26 Be5 Nd5 27 Kf2 Be6 28
Ra3 Rf8 29 h4 h5 30 Bf4 Bd7 31 Bg5 Rf7 32
Ke1 Re8 33 Kf2 Bc6 34 Rb2 Kh7 35 Bf4 Rff8
36 Be5 Rf7 37 Rb1 Rff7 38 Re1 Rf7 39 Rb1
Rff8 40 Rd1 Rf7 41 Re1 DRAWN.

A Working Man's Hero

Arthur Dake remained on the periphery of the chess world for over two decades while he worked for the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles. In 1973 he retired

from a supervisory position, where previously he had served 18 years as a driver examiner. By his own calculations Mr. Dake estimates that he administered over 70,000 such tests. Then, in the mid-70's, like a long distance runner catching a second (perhaps third) wind, Arthur boldly participated in Louis B. Statham's Lone Pine Tournaments.

Jerry Hanken (1973) Lone Pine

Hanken-DAKE

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 g3 d5 3 Bg2 c6 4 d3 Bf5 5 00
h6 6 c4 e6 7 Nc3 Nbd7 8 Nd4 Bh7 9 e4 Bc5
10 Nc2 de4 11 de4 Ne5 12 Be3 Qe7 13 Qe2
Nfg4 14 Bxc5 Qxc5 15 h3 Nf6 16 Ne3 000 17
a3 Rd3 18 b4 Qd4 19 Na4 Bxe4 20 Nc2 Rxc3
21 Nxd4 Rxc2+ 22 Kh1 Rxf2+ 23 Qxe4 Nxe4 24
Rxf2 Nxf2+ 25 Kg2 Nfd3 0-1.

Viktors Pupols (1974) Lone Pine

Pupols-DAKE

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 Qb3 c5 5 dc5
Nc6 6 Nf3 Ne4 7 Bd2 Nxd2 8 Nxd2 00 9 g3 f5
10 Bg2 Bxc5 11 00 b6 12 Qd1 a6 13 Nb3 Be7
14 Qd2 Ra7 15 e4 Ne5 16 ef5 Rxf5 17 Qe2
Qc7 18 Nd4 Rf7 19 Ndb5 ab5 20 Nxb5 Qxc4 21
Qxc4 Nxc4 22 Nxa7 Ba6 23 b3 Ne5 24 Rfe1 Nd3
25 Re4 Bc5 26 Ra4 Rxf2 27 b4 Nxb4 28 h4
b5 29 Nxb5 Bxb5 30 Ra5 Rf1+ 31 Kh2 Rxa1
32 Rxb5 d6 0-1.

The Hanken and Pupols games speak for themselves. Arthur Dake, in his mid-60's, overran those popular masters with a zestful appetite. Uncle Vik was not the only chessplayer to be dazzled by the Dake technique that year, when Arthur administered the full treatment to Grandmaster Lengyel.

L. Lengyel (1974) Lone Pine

DAKE-Lengyel

1 Nf3 g6 2 e4 Bg7 3 d4 d6 4 Be2 Nf6 5 Nc3
00 6 00 c6 7 Bg5 Qc7 8 Re1 e5 9 Qd2 Bg4
10 Rad1 Nbd7 11 h3 Bxf3 12 Bxf3 Rfe8 13 d5
cd5 14 Nxd5 Nxd5 15 Qxd5 Qxc2 16 Qxd6

John Donaldson noted in the August 1984 issue of NORTHWEST CHESS: "The two bishops, complete control of the d-file, and the exposed position of the Black Queen give White a decisive positional advantage." That concise assessment does not explain the magic of this game.

16...Nf8 17 Qa3 Qc4 18 Be2 Qe6 19 Rd6 Qc8
20 Bb5 Ne6 21 Bd7 Qb8 22 Bxe8 Qxe8 23 Qg3
Qb5 24 Rd2 h6 25 Be3 Qa4 26 Qf3 Qxa2 27 Rd7
Nd4 28 Bxd4 ed4 29 Rxb7 Qe6 30 Rc1 Be5 31
Rc6 Qa2 32 g3 Qb1+ 33 Kg2 Rf8 34 Rc8 1-0.

Mr. Dake's 1975 Lone Pine performance included a much heralded first round draw with the tournament's eventual winner, Israeli (nee Russian) Grandmaster V. Liberzon. Isaac Kashdan, who wrote the tournament book, prefaced that game, "... the example of attempted 'lean-technique' play in which the tournament winner attempts to win this game by playing quietly and hoping that his opponent will not play simply, correctly, forty consecutive moves!

Liberzon (1975) Lone Pine

Liberzon-Dake

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4

Kashdan interjects: "The moment of crisis, Liberzon, in my opinion one of the top thirty players in the entire world, refuses to present theoretical problems at this and other points. Here 4 Bc6 would test the homework done by Mr. Dake in Portland, Oregon. He would have to know the variations exactly to survive unless, of course, Mr. Dake's phenomenal gift for chess competition (repeatedly referred to by Fine) would invent an adequate defense without homework... Liberzon has never played the retired Dake and wishes to test his strength. He will adopt 'lean-technique' play, doing not very much, and hope that Dake's recent inactivity, possibly his 'nerves' will shatter during the game. Of course, Mister Dake who has defeated Alekhine, Fine, Reshevsky and many other famous names in the chess world is nobody's weak sister at the chessboard. In Round one Mr. Dake's advancing age means absolutely nothing - at it was proven repeatedly by Botvinnik and Emanuel Lasker, in their sixties, that age has nothing to do with one's ability to at least draw with any grandmaster in the world."

4...Nf6 5 O0 Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 O0 8 a4?! Bb7 9 d3 d6 10 c3 Na5! 11 Bc2 c5 12 Nbd2 Nc6 13 Nf1 Qc7 14 Ng3 Rae8! 15 Nf5! Bd8 16 ab5 ab5 17 Bb3 Ne7 18 Nxe7+ Bxe7 19 Bg5 Ra8 20 Qe2 h6 21 Bd2 Nh7 22 h3 Rxa1 23 Rxa1 Ra8 24 Rxa8 Bxa8 25 Nh2 Bg5 26 Bxg5 Nxe5 27 Ng4 Bc6 28 Ne3 Bd7 29 h4 Ne6 30 g3! Nd8 31 f4 e4 32 g4 Be6 33 Bd5 Qe7 34 Qh2 Bxd5 35 Nxd5 Qa7 36 Qf2 Nc6 37 Kg2 Ne7 38 Ne3 f6! 39 Qc2 Qa2 40 d4 Kf7 41 b4! Qa3! 42 dc5 dc5 43 bc5 Qxc5 44 Qd3 Qc6 45 Kg3 Ke8 46 Nd5 Kf7 47 h5 Qc5 48 Kf3 Qc6 49 Qd4 Nc8 50 Nb4 Qd6 51 Qxd6 Nxd6 52 f5 Ke8 53 Nc6 Kd7 54 Nd4 Kc8 55 Ne6 Ne8 56 Ke3 Kd7 57 Kd3 Kc6 58 Ke3 Kd7 59 Kd4 Kd6 60 Nf4 Nc7 61 Nd5 Na6 62 Nb4 Nc5 63 Nd5 Na6 DRAW.

The final game in this series was featured in Larry Parr's wonderful portrait of Arthur Dake, which was published in the December 1984 issue of CHESS LIFE. The game is presented here with annotations by Mr. Dake, himself. Another grandmaster bites the dust.

Ken Rogoff (1976) Lone Pine

DAKE-Rogoff

1 e4 Nf6 2 Nc3 c5 3 g3 d5 4 cd5 Nxd5 5 Bg2 Nc7 6 Nf3 Nc6 7 d3 e5 8 Be3 Be7 9 Rc1 O0 10 Nd2

"White is playing a Sicilian Defense with an extra move. 10 Nd2 is necessary to increase the activity of the fianchettoed bishop."

10...Bd7 11 O0 Ne6 12 Nd5 Ned4 13 Ne4 b6 14 Ncc3 Rc8 15 Bd2 Nb4 16 Nxe7+

"16 Nxb4 would be an error as Black soon would have play on the Queen's Bishop file."

16...Qxe7 17 a3 Nbc6 18 e3 Ne6 19 f4 e4 20 g4 Nc7 21 Qe2 Kh8 22 Ne4 f6 23 Ng3 a5 24 Rfd1 a4

"With 24...a4, Black does not realize that

White now opens lines for his pieces with 25...d4. It is true White could play d4 one move earlier, now it is more effective."

25...d4 Nf8 26 dc5 bc5 27 Rxc5!

"With 27 Rxc5! a temporary rook sacrifice, White gains a pawn, because of Black's undefended King at his King's Bishop square."

27...Qc5 28 Bb4 Qa7

"If 28...Bb5, then White plays 29 Qf2, followed by 30 Bxf8, with threats on Black's undefended K-side."

29 Bxf8 Ncc6 30 Bd6

"This move is necessary as Black threatens 30...Nxf4."

30...Nf7 31 f5

"With this move White saves his f-pawn: if 31...Nxf6 32 fe6 winning a piece."

31...Nc5 32 Bf4 Re8 33 Qc4

"White's Queen comes to action, soon with decisive results."

33...Nc5 34 Rxc5 Rxc5 35 Qf7

"Black must lose more material, or be checkmated!"

35...Qd6 36 Nf5 Qg8 37 Rxd7 Nxd7 38 Qxd7 Rxe3 39 Qxd4 Re2 40 Qb5 Re1+ 41 Kf2 Rd1 42 Qb7 Qf8 43 Be4 43 Rd2+ 44 Kg3 Rd8 45 Qc7 Rc8 46 Qd7 Bb8 47 Qc7

"White repeats moves to gain time on the clock."

47...Re8 48 Qa7 Qd6+ 49 Kh3 Rg8 50 b4 g6 51 Ng3 Qd2 52 Qb6 Qb2 53 Qd6

"With the White Queen in this central position, it is only a matter of time until Black resigns."

53...g5

"Black is trying to create counterplay with the h6."

54 Re5 Qa3

"Desperation, allowing 55 Qxf6+, however, Black really has no good continuation."

55 Qxf6+ Rg7 56 Qd8+ Rg8 57 Qd4+ Rg7 58 Qd8+ Rg8 59 Qf6+

"White repeats moves to gain time on his clock."

59...Rg7 60 b5 Qb3 61 b6

"In time pressure, White misses 61 Be6 which would call for instant resignation. Now Black plays for another six moves before he resigns."

61...Qf3 62 Qb2 Kg8 63 Be6+ Kf8 64 Qe5 Qb7 65 Qf6+ Ke8 66 Bg4 Rf7 67 Bh5 1-0

Ken finished the tournament in a tie with eight other players for 2nd place with a score of 5-2, only 1/2 point behind the winner, Petrosian.

This sampling of Grandmaster Arthur Dake's

games span a lifetime of bold moves. He has enjoyed the glamor and adventure of world travel as well as the comforts and joys of family life. Above all, Arthur Dake's chess career speaks positively for the assertion that chess is a sport that lasts a lifetime. Arthur says it all: "No large sums of money to be earned during the Depression 30's, the rewards were meeting wonderful people. Chess was, and is 'Art for Art's Sake'; I've had a great life playing the Royal Game."

BOOK REVIEW

HOW TO MEASURE YOUR CHESS by Jeremy Silman, 162 pages 106 diagrams, Thinker's Press, Paperback, \$14.95. Reviewed by Robert A. Karch.

The author has aimed this book at the player who has gotten so far, but cannot seem to improve. Silman believes that the root cause is "rotten foundations" and that the solution is to "rebuild the foundation" - hence the title of the book.

Quote in the book: "Most players have developed a certain proficiency with their styles. They are skilled in their needle craft."

The basic approach to chessplay urged by the author is to create an imbalance, and then to exploit the aspects which are favorable to your side. Much of the book follows up on this theme.

Guided by the terms "good" and "bad" squares, Silman adds one more term, "active" Bishop. Thus, for example, "bad Bishop" might yet be "active", if control important squares in the center.

What to do when you can't find a useful plan? Strengthen your position in some way, advises the author.

With respect to priority of calculation, planning, Silman says "Plan first, calculate!" How many of us often do the opposite?

One of the attractive features of the book is the way he introduces apparent innocuous positions - such as you are frequently reach in our own games - and proceeds to methodically analyze favorable and unfavorable features, and leads logically to a plan of action.

A most interesting chapter concerns "Attacking Plans" to show "the typical attacking processes of the top players, rated from 1000 to 2000. However, only reach to the level of and even at that point, are representative of the alleged real world. The author apparently has substantial experience in tutoring students, but not much in the teaching of chess, moves which would include a wide range of playing strengths.

As a chess coach and sometimes teacher, I heartily endorse the principles recommended for players reaching the level of and not much above that. The book is a reading points better than most. HOW TO BECOME A CANDIDATE MASTER