

WASHINGTON

CHESS

LETTER

1951



JANUARY 1951

WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION

\$1.50 YEARLY

EDITOR

ROBERT C. STORK
P. O. BOX 42
CHEHALIS, WASH.

PUBLICATION DIRECTOR

PETER HUSBY.
3707 SMITH ST.
EVERETT, WASH.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS:

(GAMES EDITOR) DR. A. A. MURRAY APT. # 8 M.R.O.D. FORT LEWIS, WASH.

(ART EDITOR) JACK L. FINNIGAN STAR ROUTE GIG HARBOR, WASH.

(PROBLEMS EDITOR) E. A. ERICKSON 911 LAKEVIEW BLVD. SEATTLE 2, WASH.

(POSTAL CHESS EDITOR) NEIL F. POWER 429 CEDAR SNOHOMISH, WASH.

(FEATURE WRITERS)

RICHARD P. ALLEN RT. 6 BOX 3223 BREMERTON, WASH.

CHARLES K. JOACHIM 2712 E. FIR ST. SEATTLE 22, WASH.

JOHN N. NOURSE RT. 1. BOX 787 PORT BLAKELY, WASH.

GEORGE REHBERG P. O. BOX 1623 BREMERTON, WASH.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION

PRESIDENT	JOHN N. NOURSE
VICE-PRESIDENT	RICHARD P. ALLEN
SECRETARY	PETER HUSBY
TREASURER	W. H. RALEIGH
TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR	CHARLES K. JOACHIM
WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER DIRECTOR	ROBERT C. STORK
PUBLICITY DIRECTOR	GEORGE REHBERG
PUBLICATION DIRECTOR	PETER HUSBY
LIFE DIRECTOR	LAWRENCE W. TARC
LIFE DIRECTOR	EDWARD L. ARNOLD

EDITORIAL

QUANTITY CAN NEVER SUBSTITUTE FOR QUALITY!

TIME is not only one of the most important, but is probably the most controversial factor that concerns the game of Chess.

Each of us have no doubt thought about it at one time or another and have come to some conclusion as to what we consider the ideal time limit for our particular style of play. Yet have we really considered the most important point of all? What time limit is the most beneficial for improving our own Chess ability? Because you know how to play chess and because you undoubtedly, in learning, played many games before you had the satisfaction of triumphing over someone you considered as a worthy opponent, I can safely say that you know results are not obtained unless a determined effort is put forth. Therefore let us analyze the player's preferences of various time limits and try to reach a logical conclusion as to which is best. Some players prefer chess bordering on the rapid transit, Some players prefer an intermediate time limit and the rest desire to penetrate as far as they can into the many intricacies of the game at the cost of a slow time rule.

The players who are supporting a fast time limit have failed to include in their argument one essential point. That, in requiring a fast time limit, they are obligating their opponents to play at a rapid rate of play whereas if the situation were reversed there would be no requirement for them to play slow!! However the obvious fact that their ability would improve with slower playing is always present.

Another argument put forth to favor a fast time rule is that some individuals will not be able to spare the time if chess were slowed down to its proper rate. Now if these players are to obligate the remaining players to spend as little time at Chess as they themselves prefer the result will be a forgone conclusion. Less time will be spent at Chess and with the decline in time consumed will come a decline in interest which could obliterate our game.

Let us now go back into the history of Chess and find out why a time limit was first imposed upon the Royal Game. Long ago when Chess was in its infancy Chess Players would play at any rate they desired with no restrictions on time whatsoever. This left open the unethical path of stalling for players who would take advantage of it when it became expedient to do so. A player would find himself in an undesirable position and rather than move and give the advantage to his opponent he would refrain from moving for hours on end and sometimes even for days. This practice among a few players made it necessary to impose a time limit on games that were a representation of some particular contest. In some cases, however, this has been overdone and the result is that a player can not always complete the finer points of his analysis.

Summarizing we find that it is harmful, either to allow too short a time limit or conversely, too long a time limit. What then is most satisfactory? The answer is very simple. We need a time limit which will eliminate the possibility of a player using the stalling procedure and will also allow any Chess Player to analyze any position to the full of his capacity in over the board play. This more than other one thing will build Chess Players and bring forth the utmost of their latent ability. In building Chess Players we build Chess!!

Adjusting a time rule to allow those players who wish to expend their entire Chess ability will bring no harm to the fast player for he is not required to move slower than he wishes. Slowing the time limit will bring only fairness into our rules and dispense with the unfair advantage the fast player takes in refusing to allow the slower player to complete his analysis. I ask that you consider this matter very carefully before you form an opinion.

JOACHIM WINS STATE OPEN!

WASHINGTON STATE OPEN 1951

NAME	Rd. 1	Rd. 2	Rd. 3	Rd. 4	Rd. 5	Rd. 6	SCORE	S.B.
1. Charles K. Joachim	W31	W7	W16	W10	D2	W4	5½ - ½	23
2. Charles Ballantine	W17	W26	W9	D18	D1	W8	5 - 1	21½
3. Floyd Hebert	W29	L4	W26	W14	W18	W7	5 - 1	19
4. Kenneth Mulford	W14	W3	D18	W12	W6	L1	4½ - 1½	24½
5. Robert C. Stork	W37	L18	W30	W17	D11	W16	4½ - 1½	14
6. Carl Enz	W15	W13	D12	D11	L4	W19	4 - 2	21½
7. H. E. Yocom	W27	L1	W32	W25	W10	L3	4 - 2	21
8. F. H. Weaver	W28	W11	L10	W23	W19	L2	4 - 2	20
9. Glenn Muller	W22	W21	L2	L19	W23	W17	4 - 2	19½
10. Owen Traynor	W36	W33	W8	L1	L7	W22	4 - 2	17½
11. James Amidon	W23	L8	W21	D6	D5	D13	3½ - 2½	21½
12. Ted Warner	W19	W35	D6	L4	L17	W24	3½ - 2½	18
13. Dr. J. A. Shephard	W34	L6	L23	W28	W20	D11	3½ - 2½	16
14. George Stearns	L4	W36	W33	L3	W25	D15	3½ - 2½	16
15. Gerald Schain	L6	W27	L25	W35	W29	D14	3½ - 2½	15½
16. Robert Edberg	D32	W37	L1	W34	W24	L5	3½ - 2½	15
17. G.S.G. Patterson	L2	W22	W35	L5	W12	L9	3 - 3	21
18. Dr. A. A. Murray	W25	W5	D4	D2	L3	L*	3 - 3	21
19. Dan Wade	L12	W 20	W34	W9	L8	L6	3 - 3	19½
20. Ed Tweeddale	L33	L19	W37	W21	L13	W25	3 - 3	12½
21. Ted Davidsen	W24	L9	L11	L20	W34	W29	3 - 3	16
22. George Rehberg	L9	L17	W27	W33	W28	L10	3 - 3	16
23. J. P. Cerretelli	L11	W28	W13	L8	L9	D30	2½ - 3½	19
24. Roy Towne	L31	D30	W36	W32	L16	L12	2½ - 3½	13½
25. Schuyler Ferris	L18	W29	W15	L7	L14	L20	2 - 4	19
26. C. R. Harmeson	W30	L2	L3	L29	W35	L27	2 - 4	17
27. Wm. H. Hoge	L7	L15	L22	W31	W30	W26	2 - 4	16½
28. Peter Husby	L8	L23	W31	L13	L22	W33	2 - 4	16
29. Oliver LaFermiere	L3	L25	Wbye	W26	L15	L21	2 - 4	15½
30. J. J. Butterfield	L26	D24	L5	W36	L27	D23	2 - 4	13½
31. Dean Bollman	L1	L32	L*	L27	W33	Wbye	2 - 4	12
32. R. J. Murray	D16	W31	L7	L*	L*	L*	1½ - 4½	12
33. R. C. Housley	W20	L10	L14	L22	L31	L28	1 - 5	17½
34. Russell Vellias	L13	Wbye	L19	L16	L21	L*	1 - 5	13
35. Steve Miller	Wbye	L12	L17	L15	L26	L*	1 - 5	12
36. Kenneth Borske	L10	L14	L24	L*	L*	L*	0 - 6	12
37. James Honda	L5	L16	L20	L*	L*	L*	0 - 6	11

* forfeit.

Charles K. Joachim has added the fifth trophy to his mantel by winning the 1951 WASHINGTON STATE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP. Winning decisively and drawing only with the runner up Mr. Joachim finished with a score of 5½ to ½ and a S. B. Score of 23. The tournaments he has previously won are the Seattle City Championship in 1946, 1948 and 1950 and the Washington State Championship in 1948. Now he adds the 1951 Washington State Open Title to his list.

Runner-up with a score of 5 to 1 and a S. B. score of 21½ was Charles Ballantine, 1949 Washington State Junior Champion and one of the most promising young players in the State. Third place went to Floyd Hebert, also with a score of 5 to 1 but with a lower S. B. score of 19. Fourth place went to Kenneth Mulford, 1949 and 1950 University of Washington Champion, with a score of 4½ to 1½ and with the highest S. B. score in the field. Fifth place was taken by Robert C. Stork, 1949 Washington State Champion and 1950 Puget Sound Open Champion, also with a score of 4½ to 1½ but

(Continued page 14)

PUGET SOUND LEAGUE RESULTS

SEATTLE LEADING BY 1 PT!

TACOMA YMCA 7 UNIV. of WASH. 3

V. Holmes	2	G. Schain	0
C. Hewitt	1½	C. Ballantine	½
L. Coubrough	1	K. Mulford	1
V. E. Hultman	1	J. Amidon	1
R. M. Collins	1½	G. Swift	½

KITSAP 5 SEATTLE YMCA 5

J. Nourse	1	Charles Joachim	1
J. Finnigan	½	Max Bader	1½
G. Rehberg	½	D. Wade	1½
C. Magekurth	1	F. Hebert	1
R. P. Allen	2	S. Srodzinski	0

SEATTLE 7½ OLYMPIA 2½

G.S.G. Patterson	2	R. C. Stork	0
Glenn Muller	0	Dr. A. A. Murray	2
Carl Enz	2	J. Cerretelli	0
T. Davidsen	2	C. R. Harmeson	0
Dr. Shephard	1½	H. E. Yocom	½

EVERETT-WHIDBY 8 WEST SEATTLE 2

Neil Power	2	F. M. Howard	0
Sid Nourse	2	Sullivan	0
Peter Husby	2	Vukonich	0
E. Tweeddale	1	Schrenk	1
Mc Carthy	1	F. G. Schneider	1

EVERETT-WHIDBEY 6½ SOUTH TACOMA 3½

Neil Power	1	Schuyler Ferris	1
Sid Nourse	1	Traynor	1
J. A. Naas	1½	Thos, J. Dolle	½
Peter Husby	1	Lee	1
	2	Forfeit	0

The SEATTLE CHESS CLUB now has a lead of one match point over their nearest competitors the Tacoma YMCA and the Seattle YMCA who each have a total of 4½ match points and who have not yet played each other. By losing to the Tacoma YMC A team the Univ. of Wash. has fallen back to fourth place.

INDIVIDUAL RATINGS (JAN. 21, 1951)

	W	L	D	Pts
G.S.G. Patterson	11	0	1	57½
R. C. Stork	6	5	1	32½
Dan Wade	8	2	2	31
Charles Joachim	6	4	0	30
Max Bader	5	1	4	29½
John Nourse	7	5	0	29
C. Hewitt	5	3	2	26½
Dr. A. A. Murray	7	4	1	28*
C. Ballantine	6	1	3	24½
R. Collins	7	2	3	24½
G. Schain	3	4	3	22½
L. Coubrough	7	4	1	22
C. C. Crain	3	2	2	20
V. Holmes	3	2	2	20
Lawrence Allyn	5	1	0	18
Charles Magekurth	6	3	1	18
Sid Nourse	4	8	0	17
F. Hebert	8	1	1	17
Glenn Muller	4	5	1	16
J. Cerretelli	4	6	2	15
Neil F. Power	3	1	0	15
Carl Enz	5	1	2	14½
Schuler Ferris	3	7	0	13
Ken Mulford	4	5	1	12½
J. A. Naas	3	0	1	12½
Dr. Shephard	7	1	2	12
G. Rehberg	2	7	1	11½
Traynor	5	4	1	13*
Jack Finnigan	4	3	1	10
Jim Amidon	7	3	0	10
T. Davidsen	6	1	1	9½
H. E. Yocom	6	1	1	9
R. P. Allen	5	3	0	9
Max Bader Jr.	3	4	1	5½
Max Mage	0	4	2	5
D. Tweeddale	1	4	1	4½
Clarence Martin	4	0	0	4
Steve Miller	1	7	2	3
Ted Warner	1	3	1	3
Pennert	1	1	0	3
C. R. Harmeson	3	7	0	3
Anders	0	3	1	2½
R. Neale	0	1	1	2
Killian Seekamp	1	1	0	2
R. Avann	2	0	0	2
Vukonich	2	2	0	2
S. Srodzinski	2	2	0	2
Beldon	2	0	0	2
J. J. Butterfield	0	2	2	1½
Dick Murray	0	1	1	1

CLUBHOUSE NEWS

OLYMPIA

Stork has won a moral victory over Dr. A. A. Murray by winning the last two games in their Ten Game Match to bring the score up from 5 to 3 against him to a tie score of 5 to 5.

The Olympia Chess Club players have been making a monthly trip down to Centralia for an evening session with the players in that area. The meeting has been at the home of Mr. H. E. Yocom.

TACOMA

Is Tacoma always the first in every thing? Now they have held the first City Kriegspiel Championship! Although complete results are not in yet here are the preliminaries recieved, Vernon Holmes lost to Victor Hultman while Schuyler Ferris obtained a victory from Robert Collins and a draw with Victor Hultman.

In the finals of the Tacoma City Blindfould Tournament Hultman won from Holmes while Ferris won from Collins and Hultman thus making Ferris City Blindfould Champion.

SEATTLE C.L.

In the Seattle City Chess League The Seattle Chess Club won another victory this time from the Duwamish Chess Club.

SEATTLE C. C.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	DUWAMISH	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bushnell	2	Horman	0
Schurman	1	Schneider	1
Burgess	$\frac{1}{2}$	Sullivan	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

SEATTLE C. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindstrom visiting here from their new home in Brewster, Washington report that Dr. Gilbert Parker has been elected President of the Spokane Chess Club. They also report that the Spokane Chess Club is open for casual play at any time and that the regular meeting nights are Wednesday. Any players visiting or passing through Spokane are invited to drop in and play a game or two. The location is the Spo-

kane YMCA in uptown Spokane.

The Seattle Chess Club has announced the 1951 Seattle Chess Club Championship has begun. This year it will be played in a double round robin system as it was last year and all players entering may play one or more opponents by January 21st and weekly thereafter. A beautiful bronze trophy will be awarded the winner.

PORTLAND

Newell W. Banks, former world checker champ, gave a simultaneous exhibition at Portland recently and here is an account of the event written by one of the participants, Mr. Deane Moore of the Portland Chess Club.

Along about December of last year there appeared a notice in the Portland Chess Club of the coming of Newell "Whirlwind" Banks. Further indications of his coming were evidenced one day when a tall cadaverous individual wearing a norwester and talking with a Scandinavian accent walked into the club and inquired as to whether anything had been heard from Newell Banks. You guessed it He was a checker player! It seems that Banks not only takes on all hombres in chess but he plays checkers also and plays a fair game too.

The night of the great exhibition arrived and what a queer collection of people were there. You may think chess players are a queer bunch but the checker players have it all over us. To qualify as a checker player you must be at least forty years old, use store bought teeth, be very near sighted and have a delightful, idiotic, smile. Funny they all smile the same way. Banks, himself, is an imposing man with gray hair and was wearing a light suit and continually smoking long black cigars. He must smoke an entire box with each exhibition (Dick Allen please note). He moved with complete confidence and assurance until he reached the chess boards which for some reason or other caused him to slow his pace down a little. As the evening wore on he disposed of the checker games winning all but two and draw-

ing one. Now came the chess. Finally a girl, who had learned the moves only two months ago, resigned on her 27th move. He won another game and then resigned to Don Turner. Suddenly he informed us that all games must be terminated by midnight and that we would have to speed up our moves. At twelve he handed out five draws, three of which he might have lost had the games continued, and fled, leaving behind him the record of five wins, five draws and one loss.

A week later he made his last stand at the Benson Hotel and Bank's scalps dropped in price. In his second appearance he played ten checker games of which he lost one and drew one. This time he had seven chess players waiting for him in ambush and Ruth, the girl player, went 35 moves before the finish.

When he thought his game with D. Turner looked a little shaky he found a Queen sacrifice by which he could force a draw and finally went on to lose to S. Eikrem and Moore.

His final chess score for this day was $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ and for both appearances a total of 13 to 6. Mr. Banks is undoubtedly one of the great names in checkers but his chess ability is very much short of matching his reputation in checkers.

KITSAP

JOHN N. NOURSE has won the Kitsap County Chess Championship! ! ! ! ! After letting Finnigan lead most of the way he pulled in at the finish to wrest the Championship from his grasp. John has very generously donated the first prize of \$12.00 to the fund for the Washington Chess Letter's New Mimiograph Machine. Thanks a lot John we can sure use all the help that we can get. As most of you allready know this is not the first time John has been the Kitsap County Champion and there is no doubt that he deserves the Title.

Second was, of course after leading most of the way, none other than Jack L. Finnigan. Finnigan's Chess has shown a notable improvement in the last six months and I wouldn't be surprised to see him win the Kitsap Championship next year. By the way that is really a clever cartoon this month Jack.

Third was Charles Magerkurth, who always plays a tough game, and fourth was last year winner, and the Publicity

Director for WCF, George Rehberg. What's the trouble George? Too much time in the Publicity Department and not enough on chess I'll bet. Fifth place went to "En Passant" Dick Allen, and 6th and 7th to F. Miller and J. Paterson respectively.

PORTLAND COLLEGES

In Portland The Lewis and Clark College drew a match against the Reed College Team with a score of 7 to 7.

LEWIS AND CLARK	7	REED COLLEGE	7
Don Turner	0	Hugh Noland	2
Whitgrove	0	Kolin	2
Moore	2	Crawson	0
Osvold	2	Downing	0
Van Ammon	1	Mc Barron	1
Morcy	1	Bronne	1
Schellhaus	1	Krause	1

ULVESTAD GIVES SIMUL!

Chessmaster Olaf Ulvestad held a very successful simultaneous exhibition at the Seattle Chess Club's Open House on Saturday January 20, 1951. With a turnout of about seventy persons and twenty-eight of them actually playing against the master he finished with a score of twenty-six wins, one draw and one loss. Of the Chess Players turning out to pit their skill against Mr. Ulvestad it remained for R. M. Vellias of the Seattle University to outplay the Master and chalk up a win. Glenn Muller of the Seattle Chess Club obtained a draw and all of Ulvestad's other opponents went down in defeat. Some of those participating against the master were; James Amidon, Ken Mulford, Father Bussy, J. A. Naas, Carl Enz, Gerald Schain, G. Stearns and C. Swift.

Olaf Ulvestad has just returned from a tour of Europe in which he staged several simultaneous exhibitions and visited many old friends.

At the Seattle Chess Club's Open House a large Buffet Supper which was presided over by Mrs. Theodore Davidsen was presented and all Chess Players and their wives who were present had a grand time!

REHBERG SAYS....

The local Tourney is now history with a new Champion for Kitsap County. One Jack Nourse of whom you may have heard. The Old Maestro did it again on the come back route. My sincere congratulations Jack. Finnigan came in 2nd, Magerkurth was 3rd (That's Haircut Charley the Fighting Barber), Rehberg secured 4th place and Dick Allen anchored down the 5th spot. F. Miller took 6th and J. Paterson 7th.

On my last tournament game Mr. Markson Nels Markson that is gave me the best game that it has ever been my pleasure to be in. Although by not winning it I gave up a tie for 3rd place and probably acquired a couple of grey hairs to boot.

As your Publicity Director I have been a pretty busy boy lately with this little ol' typewriter. My efforts have been directed towards the success of the 1951 Wash. State OPEN Chess Tourney. I consider Tournaments of this nature as being of more importance to us as an organization than the Tournaments for the Experts. These lesser caliber affairs are more apt to draw new talent into the chess fold. The Expert Tourneys such as the State Championship Tourney will of course be interesting and will see better chess. By the way men I'm still on the lookout for those Publicity Volunteers from each club. Just send me your name if you wish to help.

The donations for the Mimiograph's fund have slowed down a little and we still have \$100.46 to go. If there are any of you at all that can help out with this fund please send in what you can.

All of us working on the Washington Chess Letter are very gratefull to every person who has contributed to the funds we have allready recieved, and as WCL Editor I would like to say "Thank you, and do not make another contribution as I fell certain that our other Readers will distribute the remaining load among themselves".

Funds recieved to date are as Follows;

LOANS:

PETER HUSBY	\$100.00
J. CERRETELLI	\$100.00
R. P. ALLEN	\$ 50.00
M. F. PARKMAN	\$ 20.00

DONATIONS

MORRIS GOLD	\$ 2.00
RAY HISCOX	\$ 1.00
CHARLES MAGEKURTH	\$ 5.00
KEN MULFORD	\$ 7.50
LAWRENCE ALLYN	\$ 2.50
R. L. LINKLETTER	\$ 1.00
A. C. SHIVES	\$ 2.00
L. COUBROUGH	\$ 5.00
R. R. MERK	\$ 10.00
R. M. COLLINS	\$ 5.00
HELA CASE	\$ 5.00
DR. H. C. SHEPHARD	\$ 5.00
H. KAFFENBERGER	\$ 2.00
F. G. SCHNEIDER	\$ 5.00
H. H. ROBERTS	\$ 2.00
JOHN N. NOURSE	\$ 12.00
E. J. WALKER	\$ 2.50
MAX BADER	\$ 2.00
N. L. JENNER	\$ 1.00
ANON.	\$ 2.00

(as of January 20, 1951)

*This space reserved
for your name!*

SOLUTIONS To PROBLEMS

PROBLEM NO. 1. -- 1. p-b8(q), bxb 2. q-r5ch., k-k8 3. q-rlch., k-b7 4. q-r2ch k-k8 5. n-b3ch., k-b8 6. q-rlch., k-k7 7. n-q4ch., k-b7 8. q-r2ch., k-k6 9. q-n3ch., k-k5 10. q-b3ch., k-k4 11. n-b6 and wins. if 1. q-r8ch, k-n2.

PROBLEM NO. 2. -- 1. n-q6, p-k8(q) 2. n-n7ch., k-r3 3. n-b5ch., k-r4 4. b-r6! now any move and 5. b-q2 wins. if 1.... k-n5 2. n-k4ch., k-b5 3. n-q2ch., k-q6 4. n-b3, k-k6 5. n-kl, k-b7 6. b-n5etc or if 1.....k-r5 2. n-n7, k-n6 3. n-b5 ch., k-b5 4. n-q3, kxn 5. b-n5 wins.

PROBLEM NO. 3. -- 1. q-n6, kxp 2. q-b2 ch., k-n4 3. b-k2 or if 1.....k-n4 2. q-r6ch., kxqnp 3. b or n mates or if 1.....k-q5 2. q-b2, any move and q or n mates.

PROBLEM NO. 4. -- 1. n-n3, qxb 2. qxrch qxq 3. n-b3 wins or if 2.....bxb 3. k-q7 if 1.....q-r4ch. 2. qxq and any move losses for Black!

⁶EN PASSANT⁹

By DICK ALLEN

In my humble opinion, Weaver W. Adams, is the outstanding chessmaster of our time. Many books have been written by the shining stars of chess, but the greatest contribution since the game was invented lies in the little unassuming booklet titled, SIMPLE CHESS by Weaver W. Adams.

Before Adams gave his system to the chess world, good chess was a function of genius...either you had it or you didn't. The chess masters enjoyed the adulation of the amateurs and paragonized them in their books, lectures, and demonstrations, with-holding, however, the secrets which made them superior. Adams, on the other hand, has generously published his famous system and lines based on that system for the benefit of all players of all time.

Naturally, some of his contemporaries resent his spilling the beans and have not accorded him the distinction and honor usually conferred for such achievement and devotion. In fact, many have attacked him and his system in an attempt to discourage others from using it while secretly using the system and lines against their opponents, even against Adams himself. Lend-Lease in reverse?!

Mr. Adams gives a very unique exhibition on his annual tour of the United States. He plays two of the strongest players in a given city, simultaneously, discussing his system for determining the strongest move at every turn, revealing not only his general plans, strategy and positional insights of the game as a whole, but also threats, combinations, and tactical procedures immediately at hand, to the spectators and to his opponents. Advantages due to secrecy, surprise, oversights, etc., are almost non-existent. There is no record of any other chessmaster attempting this type of exhibition in all chess history.

Why wait until he's gone before giving him his due? I say, "Acclaim him now as a great master and teacher of chess whose manners and characteristics are above reproach. Three cheers for Weaver W. Adams, May success dog his footsteps.

ENTER THE BIG MEMBERSHIP DRIVE CONTEST NOW! Contest closed March 1st and dues go up to \$2.00 per year. During the contest, dues can be paid at the old rate of \$1.50 for as many years as you wish. Renewal for 10 years will get you a free gold plated recognition button plus 120 priceless copies of the WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER plus all the other advantages, etc., etc., but the main thing is to get the money to finish paying for the new mimeographing machine which is printing this "thing". If you like the WCL and want to see it continue, let's see some spirit in this contest. Get ten of your buddies to renew or subscribe thru you and the lapel button is yours. First prize is an imported, tournament size, weighted and felted, hardwood chess set, Staunton pattern, to the individual who turns in the greatest number of new or renewed dues. You get one credit for each \$1.50 whether all in the present or all in the future. It might be a good idea to order a dozen or more copies of the Dec. or Jan. WCL from Mr. Husby at \$1.00 per dozen to give to non member chess players as samples of what to expect. At any rate, give receipts to your customers and turn in the names and addresses and the money to W. H. RALEIGH, WCF TREASURER, 4318 DENSMORE AVE. SEATTLE 3, WASH.

The number of possible first moves in a game of chess is, as probably most players have worked out for themselves at some time in their lives, twenty. At the stage where each player has made one move, there are 400 possible positions. Most of them are rarely seen, but one may venture the opinion that the less usual ones cannot all have been fully analysed and some may yet prove to have unexpected merit. If Black's first move does not limit White's second, the greatest number of White's possible second moves is 30 (after 1. P-K3 or 1. P-K4) and the least 19 (after 1. P-R3, 1. N-R3 or 1. P-KB3). The number of possibilities at the stage where each player has made two moves is something like 200,000 and after three moves, well over 50 millions! This counts transpositions separately.

GAMES DEPARTMENT

DR. A. MURRAY GAMES EDITOR

TACOMA YMCA vs. UNIVERSITY

FRENCH DEFENCE

L. COUBROUGH

White

1. P-K4
2. P-QN3
3. B-N2
4. N-QB3

here book is 4.... N-KB3 which looks safer, not so loose as 4.... P-KB4.

5. P-Q3
6. BxP

White has "spent" a pawn, for development, for Black's one piece developed he has three.

7. Q-K2

breaking the pin of the KP, thus protecting the KBP.

8. O-O-O..... with the immediate threats of B-N5 ch., and BxKBP.

8. B-Q2
9. N-KB3
- 10 B-QB4

the KP was again threatened.

- 11 N-KN5
- 12 N-E7
- 13 NxKP
- 14 QxN

Black has no good move.

- 15 KR-K1
- 16 B-R3

desperation!

- 17 NxN
- 18 RXP
- 19 QxB ch.
- 20 RxQ ch.

A relentless attack by White.

POSTAL CHESS, SECTION 49-B-9

Ruy Lopez

C. W. RICH

White

1. P-K4
2. N-KB3

KEN MULFORD

Black

- P-K3
- P-Q4
- PxP
- P-KB4....

PxP

N-KB3

B-K2.....

B-Q2

N-QB3

Q-B1.....

P-K4

R-B1

NxN

P-B3.....

Q-Q1

N-K5.....

PxN

R-B4

QxQ

RESIGNS.

PETER HUSSEY

Black

- P-K4
- N-QB3

3. B-N5

4. B-R4

5. O-O

6. B-N3

P-QR3

N-KB3

P-QN4

B-QB4....

book, here is 6. B-K2. The Black KB is rather subject to attack here.

7. P-B3..... here NxP looks quite playable.

7. NxP

8. NxP

NxN

9. P-Q4

B-R2.....

here B-K2 is necessary to take the pressure off the K file.

10 B-Q5

NxQBP

11 NxN

N-QB3

12 R-K1 ch.

K-B1

13 Q-B3

P-B3 ? ?

14 Q-R5

RESIGNS.

This is a gem of a Postal Chess game and is most surprising with its brevity.

U. of W. TOURNAMENT, NOV. 17, 1950

SICILIAN DEFENCE

CHARLES BALLANTINE

White

1. P-K4
2. N-KB3
3. P-Q4
4. P-Q5
5. PxP

KEN MULFORD

Black

- P-QB4
- N-QB3
- P-K3
- PxP
- QN-K2....

now White should win with 6. P-Q6 for after 6. N moves, 7. Q-K2 ch and forces a piece to interpose. 6. ... Q-R4 check leads to nothing.

6. P-B4 ?

P-Q3

7. N-B3

N-KB3

8. B-Q3

N-N3

9. Q-B2..... B-N5 looks stronger

9. B-K2

10 Q-C

O-O

11 N-K2 ?... a fundamental error, neglecting development and moving the same piece twice in the opening.

11. B-N5! ! !

12 N-N3

BxN

13 PxB	N-K4
14 B-K4	Q-Q2
15 N-B5	KR-K1
16 K-R1	P-KN3
17 NxB ch.	RxN
18 B-N5	Q-R6 !
19 B-B4	NxBP
20 B-Q3	N-N5
21 R-KN1	NxR
22 KxN	QR-K1
23 Q-Q2	N-K4
24 B-K2	N-B6 ch.
25 BxN	QxB
26 BxP ?	R-K7
27 Q-B4	MATE IN 2.

OLYMPIA vs. U. of W.

DR. A. A. MURRAY

KEN MULFORD

White	Black
1. N-KB3	P-Q4
2. P-QN3	N-QB3

3. P-Q4..... played eagerly...as
White had read somewhere that Black's QN
is in an unfavorable position if a vari-
ation of the Queen's Gambit can be ob-
tained. White isn't quite sure how his
move 2. P-QN3 will fit in with this.

3.	N-B3
4. P-K3	B-B4

5. B-R3..... one has to put the
bishop somewhere and this does prevent..
...P-K3

5.	P-QR3
6. QN-Q2	P-K3.....

how can he do this? can't he see that I
am going to ruin his chances of castling
on his King side. Oh, this is going to
be so easy, I think, taking another drag
on my cigarette. (opium ?)

7. BxB	RxB.....
--------	----------

why he thinks he can castle Queen side!!
Yoiks, I guess he can.

8. P-QR3..... fiddling, while
Rome is burning. Unconscious of impend-
ing disaster.

8.	Q-K2
9. P-QB4	O-O-O-

10 N-R4?..... I had looked at the
position for a long time before making
this move. I felt I was already beaten
because of the enormous positional ad-
vantage. Here N-K5 might have slowed it
(the disaster) down, but the thought
of his Rook bearing down on my Queen did
things to my stomach.

10	B-N4
11. E-K2	BxB
12 QxB	P-K4!

13. PxQP..... I've lost my head...
Black is looking down my throat with the
strongest center power I've ever seen...
His game plays itself -- or seems to. I
should resign and find some aspirin.

13.	NxP
-------------	-----

14 N-B5.....	idle threats
--------------	--------------

14.	Q-N4
-------------	------

15 P-KN4.....praying for miracles.
Perhaps my worthy opponent will drop
dead, or let me win his Queen.

15.	PxP
-------------	-----

16 P-KR4	Q-B3
----------	------

17 O-O	KR-K1
--------	-------

18 Q-B3	PxP
---------	-----

19 PxP..... some people never know
when to resign.

19	P-KN3
--------------	-------

20 N-K4	Q-N7
---------	------

21 N-B5	N-K4!
---------	-------

22 Q-N2	QxQ ch.
---------	---------

23 RESIGNS	
------------	--

ROUND 8 of 10 GAME MATCH

DR. A. A. MURRAY

ROBERT C. STORK

White	Black
-------	-------

1. P-Q4	P-Q4
---------	------

2. P-QB4	P-K3
----------	------

3. N-QB3	N-KB3
----------	-------

4. B-N5	QN-Q2
---------	-------

5. PxP	PxP
--------	-----

6. P-K3	P-QB3
---------	-------

7. N-KB3	Q-R4
----------	------

8. B-Q3	N-K5
---------	------

9. O-O	NxN
--------	-----

10 PxN	QxP?.....
--------	-----------

White has sacrificed a pawn for a strong
attack

11 Q-K2	N-N3
---------	------

12 P-K4	B-K3
---------	------

13 P-QR4	PxP
----------	-----

14 QxP	Q-R4
--------	------

15 KR-N1	B-Q3
----------	------

16 B-Q2	Q-R4
---------	------

17 P-R5	N-Q4
---------	------

18 P-KR3	N-B3
----------	------

19 Q-K1	R-QN1
---------	-------

20 B-N4!	P-QB4
----------	-------

21 PxP	BxB
--------	-----

22 B-N5ch.	K-B1
------------	------

23 N-K5	P-QN3
---------	-------

24 PxP	PxP
--------	-----

25 R-R7	R-Q1
---------	------

26 BxB ch.	PxB
------------	-----

27 NxP! ! !.... this came out of a
completely clear sky as far as Black was
concerned. There is nothing left to do
but resign. So Black resigns.

'CHESS LIFE' REPORTS

NATIONAL RATING SYSTEM !

A player competing in a rated tournament earns a performance rating in accordance with his score in that tournament. At the end of each year, his cumulative average rating is computed; it is this average rating which is published in the rating lists. In computing the average rating, a player's performance ratings plus his previous annual average rating (if any) are added together, and the result divided by the total number of ratings added.

The weighting effect of adding in the previous annual average rating is an important and desirable feature of the system, as it prevents distortion of a player's rating as a result of his unusually good -- or bad performance in one or two tournaments. If a player is advancing (or declining) rapidly, it causes a slight lag in the depiction of the advance or decline in the average rating -- which lag is not disadvantageous.

To justify advancement to a higher class, a player must demonstrate that success in any one year is not a mere flash-in-the-pan. By making higher performance ratings, he must overcome the weighting effect of his previous annual rating. Conversely, a player who seems to be declining is supported for a brief period by the weighting effect of his previous annual rating -- but if he continues to make bad showings in tournaments, his average rating will decline to its true level.

The National Rating System is based on the theory that the quality of a tournament's contestants is the sole basis for determining the quality of the tournament. Therefore, a player's performance rating in any given tournament is dependent upon two factors:

1. The average rating of the tour.
2. The player's score in the tour.

The average rating of a tournament is computed by adding the last performance ratings of all players therein, and dividing the sum obtained by the number of contestants.

In tournaments where a number of players have no prior ratings, an accurate tournament average can still be calculated. The points above or below average scored by the unrated players in the event are added to, or subtracted from, the total to the last performance ratings of the rated players, and this total is divided by the number of rated players. Unrated players making an even (50%) score do not affect the calculation.

COMPUTATION OF PERFORMANCE RATINGS FOR ROUND ROBIN TOURNAMENTS.

1. A player who made 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

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 miniature 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 tour-

nament 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 competed against opponents who are apparently 10% stronger than the average of the entire tournament: therefore, 100 points (rating equivalent 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 points makes a 45% score (5% below average). His opponents made an 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, computed as 1850 points (2000 minus 50 for his 5% below average score, minus 100 for the 10% below average score of his opponents).

SPECIAL PROVISIONS OF RATING SYSTEM:

1. Only Round Robin or Swiss System tournaments, of five or more rounds, which number as contestants at least two U.S.C.F. members, will be rated.

2. The performance rating of a tournament winner is not recorded if it would be impossible for him, even by scoring 100%, to earn a rating at least as high as his last performance rating. This provision is necessary in order to protect the average rating of a player competing below his class.

3. If a player's last performance rating is more than 500 points below the average rating of a tournament, a performance rating is not issued to him if he makes a zero score. This provision makes it impossible for a player to gain unearned rating points by competing above his class.

4. If a player withdraws from any tournament, his unfinished games are entered as losses, and his performance rating computed from the final score thus obtained. If it is clear, however,

that this withdrawal was due to illness, or other good cause, his performance rating is not recorded.

AMSTERDAM

Undefeated, Miguel Najdorf of Buenos Aires won the Amsterdam tournament with 15-4, while Samuel Reshevsky placed a close second 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. Stahlberg placed third, while Gligoric and Pirc shared fourth.

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

Final Standings

Najdorf	15-4	Donner	8½-10½
Reshevsky	14-5	Tartakower	8½-10½
Stahlberg	13½-5½	Foltys	8-11
Gligoric	12-7	Gudmison	7½-11½
Pirc	12-7	Van Scht'a	7½-11½
Euwe	11½-7½	Van D'n Berg	7-12
Pilnick	11½-7½	Kottbauer	6-13
Rossolimo	11-8	Golombek	5½-13½
Trifunovic	10½-8½	Kramer	5½-13½
O'Kelly	9½-9½	Szabados	5½-13½

DECLINED !

The Executive Committee of the United States Chess Federation declined 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 Tournament 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.

Any tournament, except Speed or restricted tourneys, with two or more USCF members entered is eligible for rating by the National Rating System. Future rating lists will contain the names of USCF members only. Join the US Chess Fed.

WASH. CHESS

HISTORY

BY

JOHN N. NOURSE

It is our good fortune that the chess enthusiasts of the early 1900's possessed an indefatigable reporter in Edward Everett, and it is due to his ardor that the P-I ran an article featuring two games played by Mr. Dickey against Mr. Bagley, which I am glad to record below. It is to be noted that Mr. Dickey played White in both games, and they are offered in proof that the opening, while unsound, still requires very careful handling as Mr. Dickey broke even with his opponent, winning one and losing the other.

There is no pretense made that these games are tournament quality, still they have a sprightly style, and despite the fact that both men were guilty of palpable errors the games amply prove that the brand of chess played locally at the turn of the century was high indeed.

WILLIAM DICKEY				CLARENCE BAGLEY	
White				Black	
1. P-K4	P-K4	18 PxP	QxP	15 B-B2	B-N5
2. N-KB3	N-QB3	19 B-Q4	B-N2	16 P-K5	B-QR4
3. B-B4	B-B4	20 BxB	QxB	17 PxF	BxQN
4. P-QN4	BxP	21 R-N1	Q-K2	18 NxB?	PxP
5. P-B3	B-B4	22 B-N2	P-R6	19 N-K4	R-R3
6. O-O	P-Q3	23 B-R1	Q-K7	20 B-Q3	R-N3
7. P-Q4	B-N3	24 KR-K1	Q-Q6	21 R-QN1	K-B2
8. Q-N3	N-R4	25 R-K3	Q-B7	22 RxB	QxR
9. BxPch	K-B1	26 QR-K1	P-N6	23 NxBch	K-B3
10 BxN	NxQ	27 KR-K2	P-N7	24 B-QB5	Q-B3
11 BxN	PxP	Resigns		25 R-N1	R-QN1
12 PxP	P-KR3	The second game copies the first to the 14th move and continues;----		26 R-N6	Q-Q2
13 B-R3	P-QR4			27 N-B4ch	B-K3
14 N-Q2	P-R5			28 N-K5	Q-Q4
15 B-B2	B-R4			29 B-QB4	R-Q1
16 P-K5	P-QN4			30 BxQ	RxB
17 PxP	P-N5			31 N-Q3	Resigns

Will Dickey's versatility, however, is not complete with merely the achievements recorded here. He was also a prominent figure in athletics and is remembered today by many old baseball fans and chess colleagues with great affection as a good sportsman and a fine gentleman. In his collegiate days he was the star pitcher on Princeton's baseball team and later, in the middle of the 80's, he held the mound position for Billy Thornell's first professional players in Seattle history, The Seattle Reds.

Chess has been represented, or shall I say misrepresented, as a game -- that is, a thing which could not well serve a serious purpose, solely created for the enjoyment of an empty hour. If it were a game only, chess would never have survived the serious trials to which it has, during the long time of its existence, been often subjected. By some ardent enthusiast, chess has been elevated into a science or an art. It is neither; but its principal characteristic seems to be --- what human nature mostly delights in --- a fight. Not a fight, indeed, such as would tickle the nerves of a coarser nature, where blood flows and the blows delivered leave their visible traces on the bodies of the combatants, but a fight in which the scientific, the artistic, the purely intellectual element holds sway.

DR. EMANUEL LASKER

Spielmann, a man of short stature, after a simultaneous display at Margate, complained of the massive size of the boards and the height of the tables. "Why", he said "at one board I wanted to sacrifice at KR8 but had to sacrifice at KR6 instead!"

J. DU MONT

Continued from Washington State Open

with the low S. B. score of 14. Sixth place fell to Carl Enz, winner of the 1950 Washington Woodpushers Tournament, with a score of 4 to 2 and a S. B. score of $21\frac{1}{2}$. H. E. Yocom placed seventh with his score also of 4 to 2 but with a lower S.B. score of 21. Mr. Yocom well earned his invitation to the State Tournament with his brilliant win while playing with a Queen down. Players who have places within the first seven places will all receive invitations to participate in the State Tournament. If for some reason one or more of them can not participate invitations will be extended to those next in order of their final standing in the State Open.

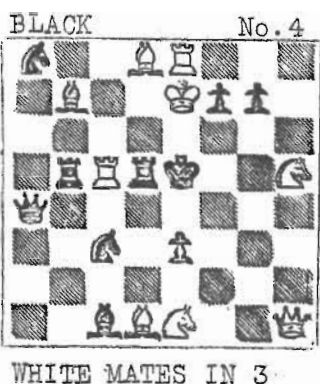
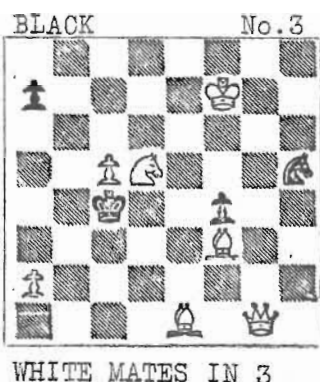
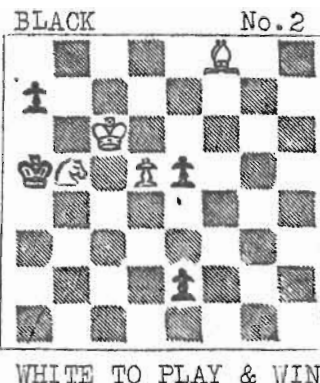
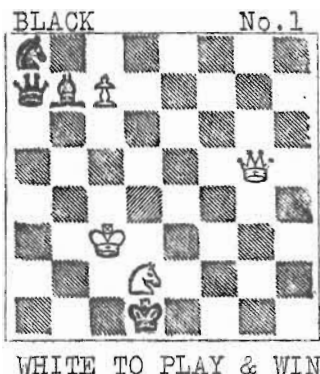
This tournament has set the largest attendance record in the history of Washington Chess and is largely the result of the marvelous efforts of our new Publicity Director, George Rehberg. You have done a wonderful job, George, Keep it up.

Thanks to Mr. C. Bushnell, who was Tournament Director, everything clicked off like clockwork and no tournament has ever been run smoother. We should give both he and Mr. Rehberg a great deal of credit for the grand success of this tournament.

UNITED STATES CHAMPIONS

This is a brief history of the Reigns of United States Champions. The years and places in which they won their victories and the dates they were defeated.

- 1857 - 1871 Paul Morphy, tournament New York 1857.
- 1871 - 1876 Capt. G. H. Mackenzie, won in the 2nd tournament, Cleveland 1871 (Morphy had retired from chess). Mackenzie won the 3rd tournament, Chicago 1874.
- 1876 - 1878 James Mason, won the 4th tournament, Philadelphia 1876 (Mackenzie not competing, on which grounds Mason's claim to the title was disputed). Mason settled in England in 1878, in which year we have taken the title as reverting back to Mackenzie by general recognition
- 1878 - 1891 Mackenzie, won the 5th tournament, New York 1880, retained title unchallenged till death.
- 1892 S. Lipschuetz (claimant) defeated Jackson W. Showalter (challenger) In the same year Lipschuetz retired because of ill health.
- 1892 - 1894 Jackson W. Showalter, defeated Max Judd and A. B. Hodges in 1894.
- 1894 A. B. Hodges, won return match. Retired a few months later for economic reasons.
- 1894 - 1897 Jackson W. Showalter, won matches against Lipschuetz, Kemeny and Barry.
- 1897 - 1906 H. N. Pillsbury, defeated Showalter in 1897 and in 1898. remained unchallenged until death in 1906.
- 1906 - 1936 F. J. Marshall, gained title by universal recognition after Pillsbury died. In 1909 defeated Showalter and in 1923 barely defeated Edward Lasker by a score of $9\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{2}$. Resigned title in 1936.
- 1936 - 1944 S. Reshevsky, 6th tournament (first since the reign of Mackenzie). Retained title in 7th 1938, 8th 1940, 9th 1942, and 10th 1944 tournaments, including playoff match with I. I. Kashdan in 1943.
- 1944 - 1946 Arnold Denker, 11th tournament (Reshevsky not competing). In 1946 Denker beat Herman Steiner (challenger)
- 1946 - 1948 S. Reshevsky, 12th tournament.
- 1948 H. Steiner, 13th tournament (Reshevsky not competing)



SOLUTIONS
PAGE 7

PROBLEM COLUMN

By E. A. ERICKSON

Problem No. One by Chaders

A Pawn very often neutralizes the effect of an extra piece, particularly if the pawn is on the seventh rank.

WHITE has one Pawn on QB7, on Knight on Q2, one Queen on KN5 and his King on QB3.

BLACK has one Bishop on QN2, one Knight on QR1, one Queen on QR2 and his King on Q8.

Problem No. Two by Troitski

The maneuverability of a Knight is often underestimated. Here it more than proves its worth.

WHITE has one Pawn on Q5, one Knight on QN5, one Bishop on KB8 and his King on QB6.

BLACK has three Pawns on K7, K4, and QR2 and his King on QR4.

Problem No. Three by E. A. Erickson

Black is tremendously outnumbered but the beauty of the problem is to win as quickly as possible. Can you find a mate in three?

WHITE has two Pawns on QR2, QB5, two Bishops on KB3, K1, one Knight on Q5, one Queen on KN1 and his King on KB7.

BLACK has two Pawns on KB5, QR2, one Knight on KR4, and his King on QB5.

Problem No. Four by E. A. Erickson

A very complicated position indeed. Nearly every positional motif is exhibited in this problem. WHITE has one Pawn on K3, two Rooks on K8, QB5, two Knights on KR5, K1, two Bishops on Q1, Q8, one Queen on KR1 and King on K7.

BLACK has two Pawns on KB2, KN2, two Rooks on Q4, QN4, two Knights on QR1, QB6, Two Bishops on QN2, QB8, one Queen on QR5 and his King on K4.

POSTAL CHESS

NEIL F. POWER, POSTAL CHESS ED.
429 CEDAR, SNOHOMISH, WN.

Postal Chess Ratings - Big A's

Charles Ballantine _____ 1629
J. A. Naas _____ 1532
L. M. Greene _____ 1433
E. Tweeddale _____ 1375
Miss Alice Grey _____ 1369
Leslie Coubrough _____ 1369

Class A

Ballantine _____ 1629
Bever _____ 1229
Bushnell _____ 1210
Cerretelli _____ 1276
Christey _____ 1175
Coubrough _____ 1361
Dolle _____ 1324
Gordon _____ 1237
Greene _____ 1419
Miss Grey _____ 1369
Harmeson _____ 1252
Hazen _____ 1288
Hellums _____ 1230
Kaffenberger _____ 1236
Magerkurth _____ 1294
Naas _____ 1532
Plenty _____ 1214
Sams _____ 1244
Tweeddale _____ 1246
Yocom H. E. _____ 1234
Yocom C. L. _____ 1231

Class B

Allen _____ 1007
Amsden _____ 1132
Arntzen _____ 1052
Blakefield _____ 1044
Cairncross _____ 1152
Cutshall _____ 1000
Emerson _____ 1046
Hardinge _____ 1192
Howard _____ 1041
Husby _____ 1108
Landenberger _____ 993
McCarthy _____ 1148
McMartin _____ 997
Merk, R. R. _____ 1009
Moore _____ 1137
Merk, Fred _____ 976
Norman _____ 1167
Orme _____ 998
Parry _____ 1012
Raleigh _____ 867
Rich _____ 961

Class B

Roberts _____ 961
Running _____ 994
Seekamp _____ 1088
Taylor _____ 1079
Vail _____ 1158

Class C

Baker _____ 916
Connell _____ 772
Hiscox _____ 879
Karch _____ 746
Marshall _____ 720
McCownell _____ 850
Mrs. Moss _____ 734
Neilson _____ 805
Plume _____ 732
Sanford _____ 920

RESULTS:

49-A-8 Greene _____ 1	Cerretelli _____ 0	49-A-9 Harmeson _____ 1	C. Yocom _____ 0
49-B-8 C. L. Yocom _____ 1	Howard _____ 0	49-B-8 Howard _____ 1	Rich _____ 0
48-B-7 Roberts _____ 1	Christey _____ 0	49-B-9 Sams _____ 1	Backer _____ 0
50-B-10 Sams _____ 1	Merk _____ 0	Neil F. Powers withdraws. _____	

PLAY POSTAL CHESS !!!
SEND ENTRY TO NEIL POWER == SEE ABOVE

THE OLD MASTER'S LAST GAME

BY

KESTER SVENDSEN

The Old Master looked down at the board and chess men again, although he had seen their stiff pattern times out of mind. While the tournament director was speaking he could wait. And as he waited the old questions rose once more in his mind. Could this be it, the perfect game, the thing of beauty, the work of art? Could there come out of this tension of minds, this conflict of wits, anything more than victory and defeat? This unknowing search for secret beauty! What was the perfect game of chess? Was Capablanca right? Was it a draw, with the board exhausted of pieces? Was it a smashing victory? Was it a thing of small advantages multiplied into attrition?

The director's voice seeped into his reverie. "Final round....Rolavsky the Russian champion leading with seven points....draws against Henderson and Zettler... then six straight wins." Thought of a perfect game faded. Win? Could he even draw it?....Could he hold off the faultless Rolavsky, whose countrymen had for years pooled their incredibly patient testing of every defence to the Queen's Gambit and the Ruy Lopez? "....his opponent half a point behind....no one else close enough".

The Old Master looked up at the other playing areas roped off in the center of the ballroom. Epstein and Creech, poised, repeating a tableau older than memory. Batchelor, bushy-haired and nervous, glancing at tiny Zeitlin, prepared to play as if the title were balanced. The others farther away, still figures drawn sharply together over the subtlest challenge in their lives. The huge demonstration boards against the wall, runners and movers waiting to record the play in each game. The crowd, impatient for the director to finish and for this fame to begin.

"Ten years since he won a tournament....his entry invited frankly as a sentimental gesture to the spirit of his long career....now his amazing comeback against eight of the world's best....world's championship vacated by the death of Alekhine.. assured of second place, he has already done better than the old Lasker at Moscow... can this grand old man of chess scatch a full point from his ninth and last opponent the unbeatable Russian?....He needs a win, Rolavsky 'only a draw'".

Could he win? He lingered a moment over what a win would mean. The cash prize Exhibitions, Tours. New editions of a champion's works. Contracts for others. No more the poverty of a chessmaster's life, articles and annotations for short-lived journals, books that barely paid their way, lessons to sharkish amateurs who wanted only to beat each other. How many masters, having given their lives to the game, had died penniless, like Alekhine? "Additional drama....youth and age....the only player in the world with a plus score against Rolavsky....that famous fifteen move surprise win of his at Bitzer Lake ten years ago." Bitzer Lake! The Old Master looked at the board again and wondered how he should open this time. Queens Gambit?

"Like his countryman, Frank Marshall, he has never played to the score, but has always sought to make each game a work of art." A Lopez? Had Rolavsky been saving a defence for that ever since that savage encounter at Bitzer Lake? Could he meet it cold as Capablanca did Marshall's at New York and smash it? What to play? King pawn or queen pawn?

The voice stopped. The director was at his table, starting his clock. Two hours for thirty moves. The photographers near his table poised themselves as he moved his arm. He lifted his eyes to Rolavsky's face and saw etched in it the sharp memory of that defeat at Bitzer Lake. Suddenly he felt tired, remembering the dilemma in which he had spent himself so many times in fifty years. Play for a win or play for perfection? There rose against him the ghosts of a hundred games and a dozen tournaments lost because he could never decide which he wanted. The clock at his elbow ticked insistently. King pawn or queen pawn? And, as ever, in a corner of his mind, the same old question. Could this be it, the work of art? He thought of Count Kieseritzky, remembered only as the loser of that ever famous partie to Anderssen. Rolavsky twisted a little, and somewhere out of the thousands of games and hundred of players in the old man's memory there stirred a spark. The immortal Lasker playing his fourth move at St. Petersburg. Bishop takes knight, most drawish of all the variations in the Lopez and there was Lasker needing a win but playing

bishop takes knight against Capablanca. Psychological chess. Capablanca sweating away at the thought of a new wrinkle. Lasker sitting like a stone. Rolavsky twitched again and suddenly the Old Master wasn't tired any more. Conviction freshened him like wine. He felt again as at every game, before the first move. He smiled at Rolavsky -- and moved his pawn - king four. Photographers' flash bulbs sprang at him. The audience riffled forward as Rolavsky duplicated the move. With no hesitation, the Old Master moved his queen pawn beside his king pawn and listened for the buzz from the spectators. "Centre Game!....is he playing Centre Game?..... Mieses used to try it....but the queen moves to soon....hasn't been played in a tournament since Tartakover tried it at Stockholm against Reshevsky....is he crazy? Rolavsky will smash it to bits."

There was no good way to decline the capture even if Rolavsky had wanted to, but the younger man seemed a little slow as he took the pawn. The old man caught his eye again, smiled again, pushed his queen's bishop's pawn forward a square, then leaned back and waited for the avalanche. It came with a rush, as of collapse at a distance. Rolavsky himself half rose from his chair. "Danish Gambit?....Danish Gambit!....two pawns....who can give Rolavsky two pawns, development or no development?....what does he think this is a skittles game?....Danish....not in a tournament since Marshall drew one with Capa twenty years ago."

Rolavsky stared across the board, tight lipped in contempt. Then he took the second pawn. For a moment the old man's mind drifted back to other ballrooms and hotels, the Crystal Palace, chop houses and concessions, the thousand places where he had paused before a board and moved a pawn or knight. The simultaneous play where he walked forever within a horseshoe of tables - fifteen, fifty, a hundred and sometimes moving a piece or being waved by, ever returing and ever wondering with each move if somewhere, in some single play, even on a greasy board with clumsy pieces, he might pluck the secret. The thick smoke, the bad food, the hours of walking, the stale people behind the tables straining for a win or a draw against the master and playing on even though a queen or a couple of pieces down. He remembered too the glittering tournaments at Margate, Hastings, San Remo, Monte Carlo, with jewelled women and royalty liiking over his shoulder. He lived again that moment at Breslau when Marshall plunged his queen into a nest of Lewitzsky's pawns, the spectators, caught up in the excitement of the most elegant move ever made, showered the table with gold pieces. Slowly he forced these memories from his mind and, as he looked out over the spectators, moved his bishop to queen bishop four.

The crowd stirred uneasily, waiting for Rolavsky to take the third pawn and then hang on through the attack. The Old Master wondered a little too. Rolavsky always took the pawn in the Queen's Gambit, probably because it wasn't a gambit at all. In the Danish he had to take the first and could take the second, according to the books. Schlechter and Burn had always taken the third too. But how lately had Rolavsky played a Danish? He was taking too long, that young wizard. Now it came: knight to king bishop three. Development. Playing safe. The old man advanced his knight to king bishop three and tapped the clock, as after every move. Rolavsky studied the board a long time. Again the spectators shifted about. A few moves more, thought the Old Master, and he would know whether to hope for a draw or a win. With an edge of sudden fear he remembered that Tchigorin had once lost a game in eight moves, Alapin in five. He jerked his mind about and worried the chessmen as they waited for his turn. But Rolavsky was plainly hesitating now, as if trying to recall the best line. Surely the pawn was not poisoned. Yet, one piece out to White's two. Even before Rolavsky's fingers touched the bishop, the Old Master moved it mentally to bishop four. There it rested, and a surge of power flowed into his mind. His reply was obvious, but he lingered over it a while, probing with his imagination the mind of his antagonist, that mind crammed with encyclopedic knowledge of standard openings, hundreds of variations in the Queen's Pawn. Was it shaken a little now, that fine machine? The crowd seemed to think so. A half caught whisper: "Why didn't he take the pawn?.....Why not?." Was Rolavsky thinking of Bitzer Lake and the thrust of rage with which he had swept the pieces to the floor at the fifteenth move? Now the Old Master lifted his knight and removed the Black pawn at bishop three. Rolavsky moved pawn to Queen three and the old man castled as it became obvious that he had ample compensation for the pawn sacrificed.

to be concluded next month.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Charles K. Joachim _____ Tournament Director

Tournament	Date	System	Entry Fee	Location
WASHINGTON STATE CHAMPIONSHIP	Feb. 10, 11 17 & 18th	Round Robin	\$2.00*	Assembly Hotel Seattle
WASHINGTON STATE WOMENS CHAMPIONSHIP	Feb 24 1 PM 1951	3 Round Swiss	\$1.00*	Assembly Hotel Seattle
WASHINGTON STATE SPEED CHAMPIONSHIP	Feb. 25 1 PM 1951	Round Robin	\$1.00*	Assembly Hotel Seattle
WASHINGTON STATE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP	March 31 9 AM 1951	4 Round Swiss	\$1.00*	Assembly Hotel Seattle
PUGET SOUND OPEN	Apr. 28, 29 9 AM 1951	6 Round Swiss	\$2.00*	Assembly Hotel Seattle
"DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS"				
Seattle District	May 12 9 AM 1951	Decided by Districts	\$1.50	Assembly Hotel Seattle
Southwest Washington	"	"	"	Tacoma, Wash.
Northwest Washington	"	"	"	Everett, Wash.
Central Washington	"	"	"	Yakima, Wash.
EXPERTS TOURNAMENT	May 26 27 9 AM 1951	6 Round Swiss	\$3.00*	Assembly Hotel Seattle
N.W.U.S. CITIES TOURNAMENT	June 18 9 AM 1951	4 man team Elimination	\$?	Assembly Hotel Seattle
*Section IX Paragraph 3 of WCF BY-Laws allows a 50¢ reduction to all WCF Members.				

WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER TO
RAISE SUBSCRIPTION RATES
MARCH 1ST, 1951/ RENEW OR
SUBSCRIBE NOW AT THE OLD
RATE. \$1.50 PER YEAR SEND TO
W.H. RALEIGH, 4318 DENSMORE AVE. SEATTLE, WN.

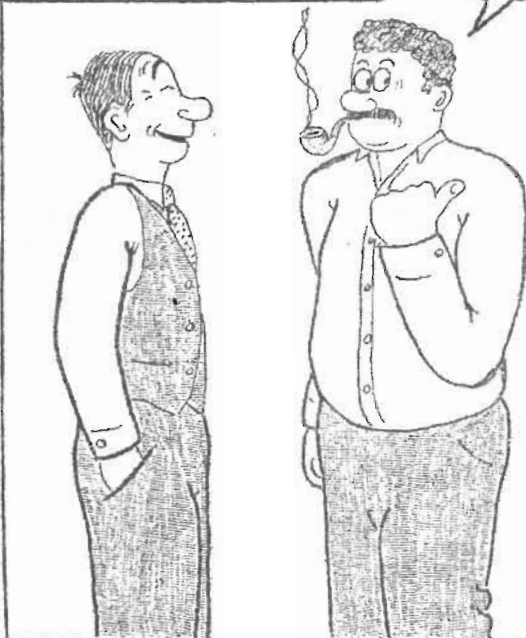
POTZERS ON PARADE

By JACK
FINNIGAN

BLOWHARD LIKES TO
REGALE HIS CLUB-
MATES WITH TALL
TALES OF YORE---

HE SOUNDS OFF
LIKE THIS EVERY
TIME HE WINS
A GAME

YAS--LIKE I SEZ TO LASKER
BACK IN '27-- ED, THAT IS,
NOT E MANUEL. HE LATER
WROTE A BOOK, "THE BLOODY
SIDE OF CHESS"---"EDDIE
OL' BOY, I SEZ, "THIS NEW
VARIATION OF MINE ON THE
RUY WILL REVOLUTIONIZE
CHESS!" ETC, ETC, BLA, BLA



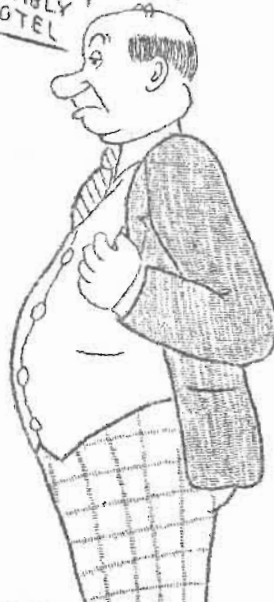
BUT GIVE A
LOOK AT MR. B'S
RATING ON THE
CLUB "WHO'S WHO"

BUSHNELL	890
MULFORD	887
BEVER	880
HUSBY	841
CHRISTEY	763
CERRETELLI	724
HOLMES	691
ALLEN	659
YOCOM	602
MULLER	581
SCHAIN	565
ENZ	540
REHBERG	508
KAFFENBERG	495
STORK	482
TURNER	467
EIKREM	422
CRAIN	409
POWER	392
SCHMITT	376
JOACHIM	340
TARG	316
BOLLMAN	310
AMIDON	291
NOURSE	280
BLOWHARD	210
SCHMOE	206

WASH. OPEN
JAN. 27-28
ASSEMBLY
HOTEL

HM--- DROPPED ANOTHER
TEN POINTS LAST MONTH--
GUESS I'D BETTER BRUSH
UP ON MY OPENINGS--YAS!

MY MOVE?



(Any similarity to actual names, events or characters is purely coincidental--jlf)

ORDER YOUR 1950 WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER YEARBOOK!!! Have all your copies of the 1950 Washington Chess Letter bound into a Yearbook, only \$1.00. If you do not have all your back numbers a limited number can be obtained. Write to Mr. Peter Husby 3707 Smith Street, Everett, Wash.

WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER is now available at "Club Rates" in quantities of a dozen or more. Price; \$1.00 per dozen.

JOIN THE WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION!!! You will receive the WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER with your membership at no extra charge, also 50¢ reduction in tournament fees, etc. Clubs receive the WCF yearbook free plus monthly copies of Washington Chess Letter. Dues \$1.50 per yr. for individuals and \$5.00 per year for clubs. Send dues to W. H. RALIEGH, 4318 DENSMORE AVE., SEATTLE 3, WASHINGTON.

SEND IN YOUR GAMES FOR PUBLICATION!!!! The games department isn't receiving enough games these days. Send in your game with that pretty combination. Maybe you did make some mistakes but very few games are perfect and everyone is interested in games...good or not....send all games to DR. A. A. MURRAY...APT. # 8 M. R. O. D., TACOMA, WASHINGTON.

POSTAL CHESS: is becoming more and more popular every year. Get started now by sending in your registration fee. 50¢ per section of seven players. Enter as many sections as you wish at a time. No time clocks to make you miss that master combination or end game strategy. Move the pieces back and forth to your hearts content and then mail your startling move to your luckless opponent. Write to NEIL F. POWER, POSTAL CHESS EDITOR, 429 CEDAR, SNOHOMISH, WASHINGTON.

WANTED: Authentic information, facts, legends or fragmentary history of chess activity and personalities in Washington Chess History. J. Nourse, Rt. 1, Box 787 Port Blakely, Washington.

SIMPLE CHESS: by Weaver W. Adams. A new booklet by Mr. Adams to improve your ability. For beginners or experts. \$1.00 postpaid. NeoChess Co. Rt. 6 Box 3223 Bremerton, Washington.

FREE! FREE! A \$2.00 Chess Book entitled "The Russians Play Chess" For more details about this offer write a card to COURIER CHESS CLUB 3206 South 58th St., Tacoma 9, Washington



TO:
Mr. John Nourse
Box 787, Rt. 1
Port Blakely, Wn

WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER
POST OFFICE BOX 42
CHEHALIS, WASHINGTON

FROM