

# Finalists Will Play for State Chess Title Over Weekend

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By Dr. E. J. Raiston

We present today the eighth problem in our "Ritz Special" contest.

For full credit on Task No. 72, you should give, in addition to the key-move, three distinct variations leading to mate.

All of the 11 perfect scorers in our contest gained full credit on Task No. 70, albeit with no little difficulty. We hope that No. 72 knocks off a few!

The finals for the 1954-55 California State Championship will be played at the Mechanics' Institute, 57 Post-st, and Golden Gate Chess Club, 555 Post-st, over the Thanksgiving Day weekend.

Present plans call for afternoon games to be played at Mechanics', and evening games at Golden Gate. Play will be on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 26-28, with a possibility that games will also be played on Nov. 25 and 29, if necessary.

## Finalists Named

The finalists are: Herman Steiner, Eugene Levin, Irving Rivise, Ray Martin, Robert Cross

## Task No. 72—"Ritz Special"



White Mates in Three Moves  
(Value seven points)

Answer to Task No. 71: The key move is R-KB7, with numerous variations.

and Sven Almgren, all from the Los Angeles area; M. O. Meyer, Sacramento; William Addison, Dmitry Poliakov and James Schmitt, all of the San Francisco area.

Herman Steiner, the present state champion, and Eugene Lev-

in, 1953 open champion, are seeded. The rest have earned their right to play in the finals by their scores in qualifying tournaments.

Visitors will be welcome at both clubs during the championship finals.

The Dutch master Lodewijk Prins gave two exhibitions at the Golden Gate Club last week. The first was against 11 players, with clocks. Guthrie McClain of San Francisco and Robert Burger of Oakland defeated the master, V. Zemitis of Berkeley, and Dr. Alan Abrams, Dr. Kenneth Colby and Henry Gross, all of San Francisco, gained draws.

## Second Exhibition

In the second exhibition, against 17 players, the master's only loss was to Nicholas Quirarte of San Francisco. Draws were obtained by Charles Bagby, William Addison, Carl Huneke, John Hammerbach, all of San Francisco, and by Willard Sprague and Eugene Lien of Berkeley.

The intended solution to the 113-year-old problem by the Rev. Mr. Bolton, published in this column two weeks ago, is 1 R-B7, K-Q4; 2 R-B6, K-Q5; 3 Kt-B7, etc. But several of our solvers showed that 1 Kt-B7 was also an adequate key-move. So, it appears that this old problem is cooked!

Correct solutions were received from Vasili Bassalaeff, Karl Bopp Jr., Henry M. Newcomb, John F. Yale, all of San Francisco; Harry Hokensen, Santa Rosa.

### 3-Move Miniature

Here, probably, is the most famous three-move miniature ever composed. It is by Sam Loyd, and was first-prize winner in the "Chess Monthly," 1857.

White (four men): King on QB7; Queen on QKt2; Rook on KKt8; Knight on KB2. Black (three men): King on KKt7; Pawns on KKt6 and KB5. White to move and mate in three. If you have never seen it, we envy you.

The following games were played in the recent international team tournament in Amsterdam:

#### DUTCH DEFENSE

White-Szabo (Hungary)

Black-Alexander (England)

1	P-Q4	P-KB4	20	P-B3	O-O
2	P-K4	PxP	21	Q-K3	R-Q1
3	Kt-QB3	Kt-KB3	22	Q-Kt3	Kt-R3
4	P-KKt4?	P-KR3	23	K-R1	R-R2
5	P-B4?	P-Q4	24	Kt-R4	Kt-B2
6	B-K2	P-KKt3	25	BxP	PxB
7	B-K3	P-KR4!	26	P-Kt6	B-K1
8	P-Kt5	Kt-Kt1	27	B-Kt5	Kt-K3
9	Q-Q2	P-K3	28	KtxBP?	KtxKt
10	P-B5	KPxP	29	RxKt	BxKtP
11	Kt-R3	P-B3	30	R-B6	KtxB
12	Kt-B4	Q-Q3!	31	RxB	Kt-B6
13	Kt-R4	Kt-K2	32	R-B2	P-KR5
14	O-O	B-Kt2	33	Q-B4	R-KB1
15	Kt-B5	P-Kt3!	34	Q-R6	P-R6!
16	Kt-Kt3	B-K3	35	R-B2	R-B3!
17	QR-B1	B-B2	36	Kt-Q2	Q-K1!
18	Kt-Kt2	P-QR4	White resigns		
19	B-KB4	Q-Q2			

#### SICILIAN DEFENSE

White-Keres (Russia)

Black-Sajtar (Czech.)

1	P-K4	P-QB4	11	Kt-Q5	K-B2
2	Kt-KB3	P-Q3	12	BxKt	KxKt
3	P-Q4	PxP	13	B-B3	Kt-B3
4	KtxP	Kt-KB3	14	BxKt	PxB
5	Kt-QB3	P-QR3	15	Kt-Kt6	Q-B3
6	B-KKt5	QKt-Q2	16	KtxR	B-K2
7	B-QB4	P-K3	17	P-QR4	P-Kt3
8	O-O	Q-B2?	18	Q-Q5ch	K-Q2
9	BxKP!	PxB	19	R-R3	B-Q1
10	KtxP	Q-B5	20	KtxPch!	Resigns

During the course of the international team tournament, Keres played 14 games, winning 13 and drawing one! His 96.4 per cent average is, we think, unparalleled in the history of chess.