Crucial Games in Che

By Dr. H. J. Ralston

At the annual general meeting of the Russian Chess Club, Russian Center, Peter Proko San Francisco, Prokoodin was elected President for his 19th term!

The vote was unanimous, and was a good indication of the esteem in which Prokoodin is held by his fellow club members.

Dr. E. Wrany was elected Vice-President, N. Beloff Treasurer, and P. Andreeff Secretary.

Tomorrow night at 7:30 two crucial games will be played in the 11th round of the Russian Chess Club championship tourna-

M. Rudniansky, who is still undefeated, will meet W. Addison, and R. Smook will be pitted and R. against A. Palmin.

May Decide Champion

The outcome of these games probably will decide the champion of the club.

There will also occur a firstround team match in the "B" division of the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League, between the Russian and Alameda clubs.

Alma Werthauer of San Francisco writes:

"I am still grinning over the esentation of this latest presentation of this (Christmas-Ed.) problem.

"The notion that chess has its edible as well as edifying as-pects is a pleasant one with interesting possibilities.

"Who could resist the temptation of accepting a chocolate Queen sacrifice when it's so hard to reject an unappetizing wooden one?

'Food For Thought'

"And what strong purpose would be required to press an attack when an unstrategic but favorite-flavored pawn lies for the taking in another corner of the board.

"Forgive me for this one, but chess could really become 'food for thought.'"

In the November issue of the Swedish "Schackbladet" appears the following pretty four-move miniature by F. Palatz. Correct solutions received by next Wednesday will be acknowledged in this column

The position is-White: King on King, Rook six, Rooks on King eight and Queen Rook eight. Black: King on King Bishop two, Pawn on Queen Bishop White mates in four moves.

Prize 'Insanity'

Chess and chess players have had more than their share of pseudo-scientific nonsense written about them, but we think the following bit of insanity takes first prize. It apparently ap-peared as a serious item in "Tit-Bits" and was reprinted in the January issue of the English TASK No. 27-By E. J. Bevan



White Mates in Two Moves (Value 5 points) Answer to Task No. 26: B-B8

magazine "Chess." We quote: "Scientists who secured permission to probe the brain of the world-beating chess champion Richard Rockwoode, after his death, found an amazing deformity in it.

"They found that the molecules of one portion of his brain had actually arranged them-selves into a combination of squares resembling chess

board.

"Each of these squares, they solemnly reported, had certain marks upon it supposed to represent the final position of the chessmen in the last 12 games Rockwoode had played and won while he was blindfolded.

"The arrangement of the atoms of the brain into the chessboard squares could only be distinguished by the finest miscroscopes then available, said the scientists, but there was not the slightest doubt about their existence.

Machines Never Seen

The editor of "Chess" asks if the reader has ever seen such nonsense. We would answer yes -many times. During the last couple of years several reputable American magazines and news-papers have carried supposedly scientific articles about playing machines." But some-how or other, nobody seems to have ever seen one!

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