

# CHESS

By E. J. CLARKE

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## A Dramatic Chess Battle

(As related by the winner to Frank Sternberg)

George Hallweger greeted me in the chessroom of the Mechanics' Institute on Tuesday afternoon of the week of his death, which occurred on Thursday, and wished me a happy new year, but said as for him it was his last one. I told him he was good for many more years. He shook his head, and the conversation led up to his telling me of a wonderful game of chess which he had with the devil during his long siege with inflammatory rheumatism. He said that he had lain for seven weeks flat on his back in the hospital, absolutely unable to move with the exception of his right hand and arm, and that the doctor had given up the case as hopeless, and he was simply waiting for the end to come, when one night, in his dreaming, semi-conscious state, the devil challenged him to play a game of chess, the stakes to be his own life. If he won, he was to have it, and if he lost, he was to forfeit it to the adversary. He said the game lasted for three hours, and was as real to him as any game of chess he had ever played; but he could not remember all the moves of the game. After great exertion and study, George won a checkmate, and then he awoke, and was in such a perspiration that the blankets of the bed were soaking wet as well as his own nightclothes. But he commenced to mend from that hour, and after a period was able to leave the hospital.

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Dr. Milan Vidmar, one of the masters entered in the coming New York tourney, is not quite so well known as the other five contestants. His outstanding successes since his first international tournament at Nuremberg in 1906 have been: First at Goteborg, 1909; tied for second and third with Rubinstein at Sar Sebastian, 1911 (won by Capablanca); second to Alekhine at Mannheim, 1914, when the outbreak of the World war stopped the battle of wits; first at Vienna and at Berlin, 1918; third at London, 1922 (Capablanca first; Alekhine, second). Vidmar was third at Semmering, 1926 (Spielman, first; Alekhine, second).

The following game was played in the Nuremberg tourney of 1906 against Dr. Tarrasch, when that great tournament player was in his prime. Notes are by Dr. Vidmar.

### GAME NO. 6

#### QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED

(White) Vidmar	(Black) Tarrasch	(White) Vidmar	(Black) Tarrasch
1 P-Q4	P-Q4	20 P-KS5	RPxP
2 P-QB4	P-K3	21 RPxP	B-K2
3 S-QB3	P-QB4	22 S-K5 (i)	P-B3 (j)
4 P-K3	S-KB3	23 S-S6ch.	K-B2
5 S-B3	S-B3	24 S-R8ch.	K-K
6 P-QR3	BPxP	25 S-B5	P-B4
7 KPxP	B-K2	26 Q-K2	P-KS3(k)
8 B-B4	Castles	27 SxKSP	P-S4
9 R-B	PxP (a)	28 BxS	PxB
10 BxP	Q-S3 (b)	29 Q-R5	BxS
11 Castles	P-QR3 (c)	30 S-K5ch.	K-B
12 P-Q84	Q-R2	31 RxB	Q-KS2
13 Q-Q3	R-Q	32 S-S6ch.	K-B2
14 KR-Q	S-Q4 (d)	33 R-B7ch.	B-Q2
15 B-KS5(e)	P-R3	34 S-K5ch.	K-K3
16 B-K3	B-KB3 (f)	35 S-B6	KR-QB
17 S-K4	QS-K2	36 B-B4!	S-B3
18 P-S4!!(g)	K-B (h)	37 R-Kch.	S-K5
19 P-KR4	S-S	38 RxSch!	Resigns(i)

#### NOTES

(a) This is not good. Black has now no center and the White pieces are well developed.

(b) The beginning of Black's attack on White QP.

(c) If QxSP, there is no escape for the Q after 12S-QS5.

(d) 14½B-Q2 was better.

(e) This is a very strong move.

(f) All this is in continuation of his attack on the QP.

(g) The beginning of the end. Now follows a very strong attack played with much energy.

(h) There is no better move.

(i) Threatening Q-K2 and B3.

(j) If 22½ B-Q2; 23 Q-K2, B-K; 24 Q-B3 and S-S6 to follow.

(k) Black is lost.

(l) If 38½ BPxR; 39 Q-S4ch. If 38½ QPxR; 39 P-Q5ch, KxP; 40 Q-Qch, K-K3; 41 Q-S3 mate; or 40½ K-B5; 41 S-R5 mate.

A very beautiful game.

Note—The fraction ½ signifies Black's move. "S" instead of Kt for Knight.

## PROBLEMS

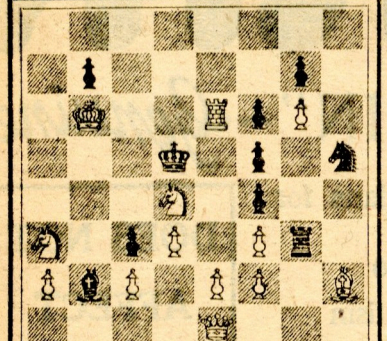
A. J. FINK

### PROBLEM NO. 5

By R. B. Green, Council Bluffs, Iowa

(Composed for the S. F. Chronicle)

(Black—10 pieces)



(White—13 pieces, Mate in 3 moves)

Solution to No. 4—Q-KR6.

Variations—KxKS then Q-R7, KxQS then Q-QB6, BxS, then S-Q6.

Solutions received from J. S., San Mateo; P. G., City; H. M., City; N. M., City.