

C H E S S

By E. J. CLARKE

Address all communications to Chess Editor S. F. Chronicle.

Washington's birthday was duly celebrated by the Mechanics' Institute Chess club of San Francisco and the Chicago Chess club with a record breaking telegraphic match on twelve boards. While San Francisco enjoyed beautiful holiday weather, blizzards were raging in several western states, which were responsible for considerable wire trouble and consequent delay. Therefore, when time was called (6 p. m. San Francisco time), only one of the twelve games had been finished—that on board 4, where the San Francisco player, R. F. Lyon, defeated B. Gelman of Chicago in 23 moves. The official result of the match cannot be announced at present, but after a careful examination of the unfinished games by local experts, the result will be very nearly as follows. (Actual adjudication of the unfinished games will be made by Edward Lasker, Western champion, who acted as Chicago captain, but did not take part): Won by San Francisco 2, won by Chicago 1; drawn 9, of which 5 seem to be even, with no advantage either way. Of the other four games, San Francisco appears to have a slight pull in three, while Chicago has the best of it in one game. According to the practice of adjudicating unfinished games, it is necessary to demonstrate a clear win, otherwise a game goes for a draw. Therefore, it is very probable that the official verdict will be very nearly as above, giving San Francisco the victory in this history-making match, 6½ to 5½.

The following table shows pairings and probable results:

SAN FRANCISCO		CHICAGO	
1—Gruer	1/2 vs. Isaacs	1/2	1/2
2—Chilton	1/2 vs. Phillips	1/2	1/2
3—Fink	0 vs. Gessner	1	1
4—Lyon	1 vs. Gelman	0	0
5—Ryder	1/2 vs. Swarz	1/2	1/2
6—Branch	1 vs. Denis	0	0
7—B. Smith	1/2 vs. Rogers	1/2	1/2
8—Hallwegen	1/2 vs. Klaase	1/2	1/2
9—Smyth	1/2 vs. Ringer	1/2	1/2
10—Stamer	1/2 vs. Bull	1/2	1/2
11—Woskoff	1/2 vs. Gordon	1/2	1/2
12—W. Smith	1/2 vs. Goldwater	1/2	1/2
Total	6½	5½	

Chicago played white on odd-numbered boards.

At board No. 1 a four knights, neither player had a marked advantage at closing time. Gruer, despite warnings of his M. D., left a sick bed in order to take part in the match. His plays lack the "kick" he usually injects in them. Chilton and Phillips, at board No. 2, discussed a Center Counter Gambit. Chilton gave up a pawn for an attack. At 6 o'clock he still had his attack, and Phillips had the pawn, which is 50-50. Gessner of Chicago offered A. J. Fink a queen's gambit, which the latter declined. When time was called the local player's pieces were badly hampered, while Gessner was free to maneuver at will. While material was even, it was found that, owing to his cramped position Fink would be unable to meet his opponent's threats. This game in all probability will fall into Chicago's basket.

R. F. Lyon, recently arrived from Boston, where he held the championship of that city, scored very decisively against Gelman of Chicago at board 4 in a bishop's opening.

the opinion the game should be chalked up for San Francisco.

At board No. 11, Woskoff of San Francisco opposed Gordon of Chicago. Although Woskoff plays rapidly, for some reason the game had gone but eighteen moves at adjournment. However, Gordon had annexed a pawn, and here Chicago may press a claim for a win.

At board No. 12, W. Smith vs. Goldwater of Chicago, the latter also has a pawn advantage, but Smith's position should compensate.

Here is a selection of three of the games from the telegraphic match. A further selection next week:

BOARD NO. 4

White—R. F. Lyon. Black—B. Gelman.
BISHOPS.

White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1 P-K4	P-K4	13 O-O	O-Q8
2 B-B4	B-B4	14 B-Q5	B-S2
3 P-Q3	S-KB3	15 P-KR4	P-KB3
4 S-QB3	P-KR3	16 PxKSP	BPxP
5 P-KB4	P-Q3	17 P-K5	PxKP
6 S-KB3	S-QB3	18 Q-Q3	Q-KB3
7 P-KR3	P-QR3	19 PxKP	Q-S2
8 P-QR4	S-KR4	20 Q-K4	O-O
9 P-KS4	SxBP	21 BxS	BxB
10 BxS	PxB	22 QxQB	K-S
11 P-Q4	B-S5	23 PxSP	Resigns
12 Q-Q2	P-KS4		

BOARD NO. 5

White—Swarz. Black—Ryder.
ENGLISH.

White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1 P-QB4	P-K3	15 P-B5	R-K
2 S-SB3	S-KB3	16 B-B	B-Q2
3 P-K4	P-Q4	17 S-S3	QR-Q
4 P-K5	S-K5	18 S-R5	B-B
5 PxP	SxS	19 P-KS4	S-B5
6 QPxS	QxP	20 P-S5	B-K2
7 QxQ	PxQ	21 K-R	R-B
8 B-K3	B-K2	22 P-B6	PxP
9 R-Q	P-QB3	23 PxP	B-QB4
10 B-Q3	P-B3	24 B-R6	SxP
11 PxP	BxP	25 R-St	BxR
12 S-K2	S-Q2	26 RxRt	K-B2
13 P-KB4	O-O	27 BxR	
14 O-O	S-S3		

To be adjudicated.

BOARD NO. 6

White—Branch. Black—Denis.
SICILIAN.

White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1 P-K4	P-QB4	16 S-S5	R-B
2 P-Q4	PxP	17 QxP	QxQ
3 S-KB3	S-QB3	18 SxQ	P-S3
4 P-QB3	PxP	19 OR-B	B-R3
5 SxP	P-KS3	20 KR-K	QR-Q
6 B-QB4	B-S2	21 R-B7 ch	K-S
7 Castles	S-B3	22 RxKP	R-B5
8 P-K5	S-KS5	23 P-KR3	R-Q5
9 B-B4	KxP	24 S-K4	R(Q)-Q2
10 BxS	BxB	25 RxB	RxB
11 BxP ch	KxB	26 S-B6 ch	K-B2
12 Q-Q5 ch	P-K3	27 SxR	KxR
13 SxB ch	SxS	28 S-B8 ch	K-B4
14 QxS	P-Q3	29 P-S4 ch	K-K5
15 Q-B4 ch	K-S2	30 SxP and wins	

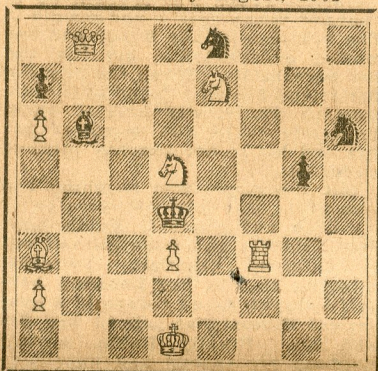
Problems

A. J. F.

PROBLEM NO. 70

By J. COLPA

From Literary Digest, 1902



At board No. 5, Swarz vs. Ryder, the Chicago player moved 1 P-QB4, known as the English opening. Ryder emerged from the opening on even terms, but Swarz, by advancing pawns against the black king, worked up a strong attack. With apparent defeat staring him in the face, Ryder boldly counter attacked to such good purpose that at adjournment he was a pawn to the good, with at least an even position.

Board No. 6, Professor Branch vs. Denis, the latter defended with the Sicilian. Branch, who is known as "Old Reliable" because of his habit of bringing home the bacon in telegraphic matches, industriously annexed two pawns and finished the day's play with an easily won game, having three pawns to his opponent's lone pawn on the king side. Very good, professor.

At board No. 7 Bernardo Smith, captain of the Mechanics' Institute team, defended a Scotch against Colonel Rogers of Chicago. B. was pressing an attack at the close of play that should win a pawn for him, but in the summary it was reckoned a draw. Bernardo had King Solomon's ant backed off the map as an example of industry. It is safe to say that about seven-eighths of his time was spent away from his chessboard. As team captain it was his duty to keep a supervision over the games, straighten out such errors as are bound to arise, and, as a good general, encourage his team on to victory. When it was all over Bernardo was nearly all in. However, after fortifying the inner man with several cups of coffee—at least it came out of a coffee pot—"Richard was himself again."

At board No. 8 the veteran Hallweger opened with a Gufoco piano against Klaase of Chicago. There was no advantage either way at the call of time, so a draw was the probable verdict.

At board 9, J. F. Smyth, through whose initial efforts the use of McDonnell & Co's leased wire was secured for the match, defended with his favorite Caro-Kahn against Ringer of Chicago. At adjournment, after 26 moves, Smyth had a slight advantage in position, but probably a draw is the best San Francisco will get by adjudication.

At board No. 10, A. B. Stamer of San Francisco, who held Sammy Rzeschewski to a draw when the boy wonder visited this city recently, was matched against Bull of Chicago. Stamer took advantage of his opponent's error in development and won a pawn after fifteen moves. At the call of time Stamer was still a pawn ahead and is of

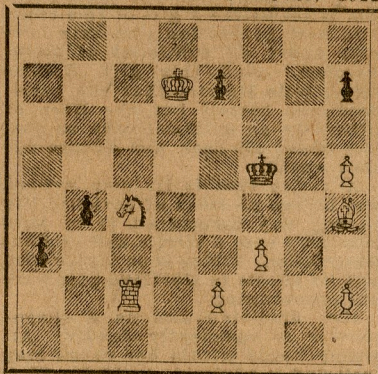
Mate in two.

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PROBLEM NO. 71

By E. R. BARTON

From the London Observer, 1922.



Mate in three.

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Solutions: No. 68, S-Q5, No. 69, P(B) followed by B-R3 and S-B3 mate. Solver's list held over.

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The complete block (continued from last week):

- (4) The subtracted mate block, where the number of variations is less. This is the reverse of type (3).
- (5) The block-threat, where no waiting move will do.
- (6) The checking key, although inartistic, is always difficult to compose.