

CHESS

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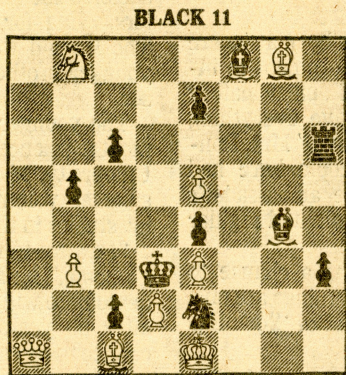
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Times Problem 4495
By C. J. Sammelius

White Mates in Three

To defeat the threat, Black must move something to K3, and the interferences are just what White needs.

Solution to Problem 4494: R-KR5



LOS ANGELES VS. BERKELEY IN FINAL MATCH

A Los Angeles six man team will play against Berkeley starting at 1 p.m. Saturday in the final round for the championship of the National Telephone Chess League.

The two teams had tied at the conclusion of the regular season in the Pillsbury Division of the League, covering the western states. Each had 4½ match points out of six played, and were also even in total games scored, 21.

Washington, D. C. took first place in the Marshall Division, with six teams in the east. The winners had five match points against four for the second place Bos-

ton group. Washington also led in game points, 21½ to 21.

In the first playoff session last Sunday, Los Angeles was paired with Boston, winning by the decisive score of 4-1, with one game not completed. This cannot affect the outcome. Berkeley downed Washington at the same time by 4-2.

This set the stage for the final playoff between Los Angeles and Berkeley. Washington and Boston will fight it out for third and fourth places. If either match is drawn, the record of the teams to date will decide their positions.

LASKER AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES

Dr. Emanuel Lasker held the world chess championship from 1894 to 1921. That is considerably longer than anyone else in history. To put the span into more current dates, suppose that Bobby Fischer, after defeating Boris Spassky in 1972, had continued to play and win. To rival Lasker, he would have had to remain champion until 1999!

Lasker was born in Germany in 1868 and died in New York City in 1941. Throughout his long career he was a mathematician, philosopher and teacher as well as chess player. He wrote numerous treatises in all his fields of interest.

New and old material on Lasker is now being presented in "Lasker and his Contemporaries," magazines irregularly published by The Thinkers' Press, 423 Brady, Davenport, Iowa 52803. Two issues are available, at \$12 for the two.

The opening article in Issue No. 1 is "Capablanca vs. Lasker: Negotiating a Match." This takes 15 pages. It is written by Bob Dudley of Pittsburgh, with copious quotations from letters between the two rivals and their backers, and much material from contemporary periodicals.

Those who remember Fischer's battles with chess organizations may feel that not much progress has been made in the virulence of the language involved.

One major difference is that in Lasker's day the champion had an absolute right to the title, and could play when, where and under any conditions that suited him. Capablanca, as the challenger, could only invoke the opinions of the clubs, writers and major personalities in chess.

If public opinion could be moved to the side of one of the contestants, he would have a better prospect of raising match financing, always a potent factor.

Capablanca's official challenge was made in October, 1911. There was much discussion and talk, which went on until the world war in 1914 ended all thoughts of chess championships. It was not until 1921 that the match took place, with Capablanca the winner.

A number of other articles in the issue are of interest. There is also a sampling of Lasker's games, including some never before published, and others well annotated.

The main article in the second issue is "The Great Steinitz Hoax," by C. J. S. Purdy of Australia. The "hoax" was Lasker's effort to attribute to Steinitz a number of fundamental principles which Lasker himself had first propounded.

Purdy states that in Lasker's writings, particularly in his "Manual of Chess," first issued in German in 1926 and in English in 1932, he continually refers to the Steinitz principles or the Steinitz theory.

"The truth is," says Purdy, "that these principles were indeed formulated, but solely by Emanuel Lasker. It may seem to many quite incredible that a man should give the chess world the vital principles of position play and at the same time go out of his way to ascribe them to a predecessor."

Lasker had a reason for this, as Purdy attempts to demonstrate after much research. Lasker had defeated Steinitz in two matches, and believed he had contributed to the breakdown of Steinitz's health which followed in a few years. Lasker felt the need to make up in some way for the harm he had caused to Steinitz.

This issue has even more articles, games and rare photos, with varied sidelights of Lasker as player and man. Much more material is being assembled for future issues.

The following games are annotated in the first issue:

ST. PETERSBURG, 1895 EVANS GAMBIT

Chigorin	Lasker	9-B-QN5	P-QR3	19-QR-B1	P-KB3
White	Black	10-BxNch	PxB	20-PxP	PxP
1-P-K4	P-K4	11-P-R5	B-R2	21-B-B4	R-KN1
2-N-KB3	N-QB3	12-PxP	NxP	22-Q-B3	O-O-O
3-B-B4	B-B4	13-Q-K2	P-Q4	23-KR-K1	P-B5
4-P-QN4	BxNP	14-N-Q4	NxQBP	24-Q-K2	B-KB4
5-P-B3	B-B4	15-NxN	BxN	25-Q-R2	RxPch
6-O-O	P-Q3	16-Q-Q3	P-QB4	26-K-R1	RxBP
7-P-Q4	B-N3	17-Q-N3	B-K3	27-Resigns	
8-P-QR4	N-B3	18-B-N5	Q-Q2		

CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS, 1904 PETROV'S DEFENSE

Lasker	Teichmann	13-BxB	NxB	27-R-K2	B-B8
White	Black	14-B-N5	BxB	28-NxQP	BxR
1-P-K4	P-K4	15-RxN	B-R3	29-NxR	NxP
2-N-KB3	N-KB3	16-RxQBP	NxBP	30-P-R3	N-Q4
3-NxP	P-Q3	17-R-K1	KR-K1	31-N-Q6	P-B3
4-N-KB3	NxP	18-R(1)-K7	RxR	32-N-K6	B-B8
5-Q-K2	Q-K2	19-RxR	R-Q1	33-P-R4	B-R6
6-P-Q3	N-KB3	20-N-KN5	N-N5	34-N-KB4	NxN
7-B-N5	QxQch	21-P-KR3	N-B3	35-PxN	K-K2
8-BxQ	B-K2	22-P-QN4	B-B8	36-K-Q2	K-B1
9-N-B3	B-Q2	23-RxNP	R-R1	37-N-K4	K-K3
10-O-O-O	N-B3	24-P-N3	B-N7	38-P-B4	Resigns
11-KR-K1	O-O	25-R-K7	R-QB1		
12-P-Q4	N-KN5	26-N-N5	N-Q4		