

THE CHESS PLAYER

By Dr. H. J. Ralston

TASK No. 3

By G. Heathcote



WHITE MATES IN TWO MOVES
(Value 3 points)

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Answer to Task No. 1: B-R6. Answer to Task No. 3 should be post-marked not later than March 6. It is required only that White's first move be given.

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MR. GREGOR PIATIGORSKY of Los Angeles, the wife of the celebrated cellist, is a remarkable person in her own right. According to intimate friends of Mrs. Piatigorsky, she excels in anything she undertakes—and she undertakes practically everything.

Not very long ago, Mrs. Piatigorsky became seriously interested in chess, and proceeded to take lessons from Mr. Herman Steiner of Los Angeles, the well-known international master and former United States champion. After about a year of study, Mrs. Piatigorsky participated in the California Open Championship Tournament last September, and finished in 13th place in a field of 43 players! In this tournament she won two games, drew four, and lost only one—and against men who for the most part were veterans of the game.

Mrs. Piatigorsky was persuaded to take part in the United States Women's Championship last October, where she competed against nine of the strongest women players in the country. She finished in a tie for 8th and 9th, ahead of the experienced Miss A. Raettig of Hoboken.

We feel safe in predicting that within a very short time Mrs. Piatigorsky will be

a serious contender for the women's title. Mr. Steiner, her teacher, says that she plays chess like a man, by which he means that her play shows a vigor and determination characteristic of the masculine type of play. The game below, which any man would be proud to have played, is from the Los Angeles County Championship tournament of this year. Mrs. Piatigorsky's opponent, Mr. Sven Almgren, is a very strong player with an immense amount of tournament experience.

DUTCH DEFENSE

White	Black
<i>S. Almgren</i>	<i>Mrs. Piatigorsky</i>
1. P-Q4	P-KB4
2. Kt-KB3	Kt-KB3
3. P-KKt3	P-K3
4. B-Kt2	B-K2
5. 0-0	0-0
6. P-B4	P-B3
7. Kt-B3	Q-K1
8. P-Q5	P-Q3
9. PxKP	BxP
10. P-Kt3	Kt-R3
11. Kt-KKt5	B-B2
12. Q-B2	B-Kt3
13. Kt-K6	R-B2
14. P-B4	Kt-KKt5
15. P-KR3	B-B3
16. PxKt	QxKt
17. P-Kt5	B-Q5ch
18. K-R2	P-R3
19. PxP	B-R4
20. B-B3	QxRP
21. K-Kt2	BxBch
22. RxB	R-K1
23. P-K3	P-KKt3!

Initiating an overwhelming attack against the White King.

24. B-Kt2

If 24. PxB, R-R2 wins quickly. But White has no satisfactory defense in any case.

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25. Q-Q3	R-R2
26. K-B1	Q-R7ch
	QxB

Resigns.

White cannot meet Black's many threats, not the least of which is R-R8 mate.

An extraordinary game for a player of so little experience!

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It is reported that Mrs. Mary Bain of Miami, present U. S. Women's Champion,