

Our Chess Corner

(Address All Communications, Solutions, Etc., to CHESS EDITOR, SAN FRANCISCO CALL.)

With this issue of The Sunday Call "Our Chess Corner" is one month old, and editor and column are doing nicely, thank you. Letters of congratulation, containing very flattering references to The Call chess column, have been received from Worcester, Mass.; New York city, N. Y.; Chicago, Ill.; Lincoln, Neb.; Lakewood, N. J.; Pittsburg, Pa.; and North Yakima, Wash.; while we have received recognition from the Chicago Tribune (Harry F. Lee), Western and Daily of Chicago (Otto W. Richter), Pittsburg Gazette-Times (Howard L. Deldie), St. Louis Globe-Democrat (Ben R. Foster), etc., with "many counties still to hear from." Particularly gratifying, however, has been the splendid support of the California chess players. But three weeks have elapsed since the inauguration of the "chess corner," and in this short time The Call chess column is a welcome visitor in many cities and towns in the state. Besides scores of local correspondents and readers, appreciative letters have come from Oakland, Los Angeles, Vallejo, Vacaville, Berkeley, San Diego, Los Gatos, Santa Clara, Alameda, Niles, Veterans Home, Edison and San Jose.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all those who have thus upheld our hands. The delightful acquaintances one makes through this noble game is ample justification for chess, if such a thing were necessary. Because of his position to strike an effective blow for chess, especial thanks are due to the able editor of the Vallejo Evening Chronicle for his well timed leader entitled "Chess," which The Call management reprinted on the first page of last Tuesday's Call.

So, everything seems to spell success. Therefore, it is without the slightest trepidation that we desire to whisper a secret in the ears of California chess enthusiasts—correspondence, problem solvers, those who follow the game department, etc.: "Damocles his sword" hangs over the chess editor's head (in modern parlance, "the hook"). The Call management has given us three months to make good our assurance that a live chess column would be appreciated and supported by a sufficient number of chess lovers to justify its continuation on a business standpoint. With the inauguration of a prize solving contest; a northern California vs. southern California correspondence match; special matter for The Call column from Lasker, Marshall and possibly from Capablanca, I think we shall do our part toward a favorable decision at the expiration of the three months' probation.

"Once a San Franciscan always a San Franciscan"—at least in spirit. The following letter, received today (Wednesday), is of interest even outside of chess circles. Three thousand miles separate the writer of this letter from our beloved city, but it is plain to see where his heart is:

Chess Editor, San Francisco Call, San Francisco, Cal.

My Dear Sir—I was particularly elated to be assured that the "Golden Gate City" would, at last, have a wide awake chess column all its own. From 1877 to 1881 I lived in your city. I was too young, however, at that period to be interested in the noble game. In more recent years my father, Prof. A. B. Arnold of Baltimore, made San Francisco his home in the evening of his life and died there nine years ago, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. My father was an ardent devotee of chess, having acted as president of the Baltimore Chess association for 25 years prior to taking up his home in the west. My brother, Dr. J. Dennis Arnold, is now practicing his profession in your city.

These incidents are mentioned, en passant, for the purpose of establishing my identity, in a measure, and also to explain the reason of the interest I manifest in your creditable enterprise.

I was first made acquainted with the fact that a chess column had been inaugurated in The Call through the medium of an announcement to that effect in the February 9 issue of the Pittsburg Gazette-Times. I procured a copy of The Call (February 2) at a local newsstand.

Incidentally, I am sending you herewith three original problems, composed expressly for your column. I trust they will serve to interest and entertain your coterie of readers.

With felicitations and very best wishes for the success of your efforts in the realms of Calissa, believe me to be,

Fraternally and most cordially,

WILLIAM E. ARNOLD.
New York City, February 12, 1913.

OVERHEARD AT THE CLUB

(To G. H., Who Dislikes Annotations.)

The table was cleared by devoted true—
They were playing a game from the K. C. "Hazon."

"Kish to rook six," "rook to king one"—
The little waxed furious, with Black on the run.

"Pawn to B four"; Black leaves his bishop en prise—
White seizes the gift—plays pawn to knight three.

(Note a): "If rook to B three, Black easily beats."

("Go on with the game! It's near time for the cast!")

"Pawn to rook three," "queen to B eight,"
(Note b): "White threatened to win by P-Bishop's mate."

("Never mind what he threatens!" cries the veteran G.)

"Let's see what DID happen; cut out the maybe!")

"Knight to K four"; Black doubles his rooks;
"K to B six, check" (White a mate overlooks).

(Note c): "In the St. Louis tourney, during the fair."

Dr. Eoren here castled, then king to rook square."

With a snort of disgust G. jumps up angrily:
"Play the game as it really went—
with Bovee!" —By Skipping.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge indebtedness to that Atlas of the American chess world, Hermann Helms of New York city, publisher of the American Chess Bulletin, a monthly magazine devoted to all branches of the game. I first met Mr. Helms in 1897, when I joined the famous Brooklyn Chess club. Before me is a photograph of Helms taken about that time, and certainly he looks like a modern Adonis. But I suppose 16 years' burden of the chess world on his shoulders has slightly corrugated the smooth, un-
wrinkled face, and I think I remarked
crows' feet in his brow in 1907, when I bade farewell to the eastern metropolis. But his readiness to aid a friend,
or to do something to increase the
popularity of our great game, is still
characteristic of the man. While
gathering material for the first Call
chess column of February 2, I thought
it would be a great stunt to print a
couple of games from the pending New
York tournament, to be specially tele-
graphed to The Call. In the relation
of the moment I wrote to the tourna-

ment manager (Helms), told him we were starting a column on the coast, and made a request for a couple of games by telegraph. But in the cold, gray dawn of the morning after I realized that it was "going some," and hoped that the obliging H. H. would put the request down to a pardonable enthusiasm—and mail the games. But this is what happened (I quote from a letter from Helms of January 30, 1913):

"Your letter dated the 24th reached me about noon today. When I got back from Brooklyn I sat down and put in shape a dispatch, which I thought would just about suit you. At 10 o'clock this evening, when I came back from home, I called up the Western Union and the clerk tells me that the story was refused. Naturally I was disappointed, as I had taken time out of a crowded day to get it away for you. The thing just appealed to me, and I was not looking for any return. It just happened, too, that Marshall had beaten Kline in 16 moves the day after Capablanca had taken 59 to do the same. I am sure you would have approved of my selection. Marshall's was quite brief and neat, and Capa's was fine play. * * * You may always count on me for anything of this sort, as I like to encourage new chess columns. Do not fail to send me the first few issues of The Call. If you should want me to file anything for you on February 5, the day the tournament closes, or on the next day if there are important adjourned games, just wire me and I will see to it that it gets off to you.

"As to the tournament in 1915, do not fail to keep me in touch with developments.

"Yours sincerely,

"HERMAN HELMS."

Unfortunately, I failed to make proper arrangements at this end of the wire; and thus U. S. instead of W. U. brought the dispatch to San Francisco.

A recent visitor to the Mechanics' Institute Chess club from Los Angeles was Mr. O. E. Frazier, who is keen on correspondence chess. The possibility of a telegraphic match between San Francisco and Los Angeles being somewhat remote, Frazier, in conversation with a member of the local club, volunteered to take the lead for the south in a northern vs. southern California correspondence match on the order of the 500 board New York vs. Pennsylvania postal card tourney. The plan, as discussed, is to make the match an all comers' proposition, dividing the state, say, at Santa Barbara. Instead of selected teams, representing the two sections, it was thought better to make the tourney a get together proposition, and the more players the merrier. Mr. Frazier's address is 426 North Burlington avenue, Los Angeles. For the northern California players, George Hallwegen, 57 Post street, San Francisco (Mechanics' Institute Chess club), has consented to act as captain in arranging details with Mr. Frazier and also in tabulating the names and addresses of the northern California correspondence players. At this writing Hallwegen has the names of about 25 players, and this without any public announcement. San Diego, Redlands, Riverside, Santa Barbara and the smaller towns of the orange country should yield their quota of players, in addition to those of Los Angeles, anxious to take part in the first northern vs. southern California correspondence chess match ever held. Chess players from either north or south desiring to take part may send their names and addresses either to The Call chess editor or direct to Mr. Frazier or Mr. Hallwegen, as the case may be. Rules governing play to be announced later—if, indeed, sufficient interest is shown by the two sections to make the match feasible. As an incentive, The Call offers a prize of \$5 worth of chess goods from the stock of the American Chess company of New York city for the best game won by a player from either section.

Jaffe downs Capablanca in the following game from the recent New York tourney:

Game No. 8
DOUBLE RUY LOPEZ

Capablanca	Jaffe	Capablanca	Jaffe
White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1 P-K4	P-K4	17 Kt-K3	Kt-K3
2 Kt-KB3	Kt-QB3	18 Q-Q3	P-QB4
3 Kt-R3	Kt-B3	19 P-K4	P-Q2
4 B-K15	B-K15	20 P-K4	PxP
5 Castles	Castles	21 Kt-B4	Kt-K4
6 BxKt	QxP	22 Q-Q3	RxKt
7 P-Q3	Q-K2	23 Kt-R3	P-K2
8 Q-K3	R-K	24 Q-K4	Q-K12
9 P-KR3	P-KK12	25 K-R	Q-R3
10 Q-K3	Kt-B4	26 R-KK1	R-K2
11 Kt-K2	B-QB4	27 P-KB4	PxP
12 Q-R6	P-R3	28 B-K12	R-KK1
13 P-KK14	Kt-K12	29 QxP	Kt-B3
14 K-K12	Q-K2	30 R-R ch	R-R
15 Kt-R2	B-B	31 Q-B	Q-K6
16 Q-K3	P-KK14		Resigns.

Marshall makes short work of Tenenwursel, who loses a piece on his sixteenth move:

Game No. 9
QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING

Tenenwursel	Marshall	Tenenwursel	Marshall
White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1 P-Q4	P-Q4	14 Kt-K5	Kt-K5
2 Kt-KB3	P-Q4	15 BxP	P-KR3
3 P-K3	Kt-B3	16 PxP	B-R ch
4 P-B3	Kt-B3	17 Kt-R	PxP
5 QKt-Q2	P-K2	18 Q-R5	KR-K
6 Kt-K5	PxP	19 Q-R7 ch	K-B
7 Kt-K5	PxKt	20 Q-R7 ch	R-K2
8 Kt-K5	P-Q5	21 QxP	R-KK1
9 B-Q3	Castles	22 R-R ch	K-R
10 Castles	Q-B2	23 R-N ch	R-K4
11 P-KR3	P-R4	24 RxB ch	Q-R
12 R-K	B-K12		Resigns.
13 Kt-B2	Kt-K5		

From that bright and entertaining column in the Staten Islander (New York), conducted by the genial gentleman who masks his identity underneath the device, "Little Black Pawn," we take the appended interesting partie. It was played in 1892 and is the first game Lasker lost in America. The notes are by Steinitz, who witnessed the game. Hodges was at that time United States champion:

Game No. 19
RUY LOPEZ

Lasker	Hodges	Lasker	Hodges
White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1 P-K4	P-K4	22 R-Q2(e)Kt	Kt-R4
2 Kt-KB3	Kt-QB3	23 Q-QB4	Kt-B4(f)
3 B-K5	P-Q5(a)	24 P-B4(g)	P-QK14(b)
4 Kt-B3	B-Q5	25 Q-Q3	Kt-K2
5 Castles	KKt-K12	26 QxP	RxB
6 BxKt	Kt-R3	27 QxP	Q-R
7 B-K3	Castles	28 Kt-B2	Q-K14
8 P-Q4	B-K15(f)	29 R-K4	Kt-B4(f)
9 P-Q5	Kt-K1	30 Q-R4	Kt-K16
10 P-KR3	RxKt	31 B-KB3	Kt-R
11 PxP	P-KB4	32 BxKt	Q-R5(g)
12 RxB	P-R3	33 Q-Q4	KtXP ch(i)
13 O-K14	KtXP	34 R-Q2	R-K8
14 B-O2	Kt-Q2	35 B-Q3	P-K5
15 R-Q3	P-KK12	36 B-B	R-B3
16 Kt-K4	R-R2	37 R-B	RxP
17 O-K	Q-K	38 R-K18	P-K4
18 Kt-B3	P-QB3(d)	39 K-K18	P-K4
19 Kt-O	Q-K12	40 Kt-K18	R-B7
20 B-R3	OR-KB	41 B-Q3	R-KK18
21 P-K14	B-Q	42 Resigns.	

NOTES
(a) Steinitz' defense, quite as good as Kt-B2.

(b) P-Q4 is stronger. (c) K-R, with the object of advancing p4 is superior. This B is too valuable to be exchanged for the adverse knight, and the text move could have hardly any other object. (d) A move of doubtful value, and certainly not called for now. (e) To draw his opponent on for an apparently promising attack, which, however, is foiled by a deep combination. (f) The game on both sides is now extremely critical. (g) A deeply woven plot unfolds itself. Of course, if he had played 25 P-K4 he would have fallen into the trap of 25 Kt-B3; and if 25 PxKt, PxP discovered check and wins, (h) KtXP is not feasible, because of 26 RxBt. Again 25 Kt-K6, no doubt contemplated, was also out of the question on account of 26 PxP, KtXR. 27 PK6, attacking both queen and castle. (i) Threatening Kt-K16. (j) To be followed by KtXP ch, winning queen. (k) QB3 is rather better, to which Black would probably reply B-B3, which would also render White's game untenable. (l) The finish is of surprising beauty.

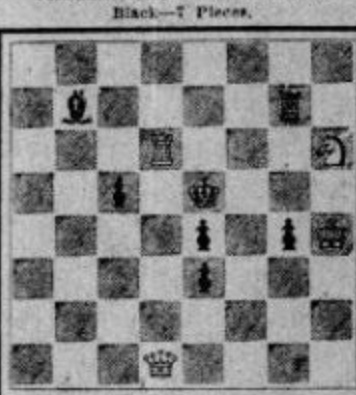
PROBLEMS

PROBLEM NO. 7. BY A. J. FINK.
Black—12 Pieces.



White—6 Pieces.
White to play and mate in two moves.

PROBLEM NO. 8. BY S. GOLD.
Black—7 Pieces.



White—4 Pieces.
White to play and mate in two moves.

Solution to Problem No. 3: B-Kt5.
Solution to Problem No. 4: P-Kt4.

SOLVERS' LIST

Name and residence	No.	No.
F. B. Rodolph, Oakland	3	4
"D. E. F. E." city	3	4
D. H. Higgins, Oakland	3	4
J. P. Ballinger, Los Gatos	0	0
F. W. Huber, city	3	4
W. D. Moore, Alameda	3	4
W. D. Penney, Vallejo	3	4
"E. W. S." Vacaville	3	4
G. I. Mills, city	3	4
J. C. Schroder, Veterans' Home	3	4
J. G. Anley, Edmonds	0	0
G. P. Benke, city	3	0
J. Fajó, Santa Clara	3	4
"O." city	3	4
S. E. Silvius, city	3	4
J. H. O'Leary, Vallejo	3	4

COMMENTS

In the above quoted letter by Mr. Arnold of New York city he also inclosed solutions to Problems Nos. 1 and 2. Of No. 2 (by A. J. F.) he wrote: "No. 2, by the worthy problem editor himself, is a most charming little piece of chess strategy. The main play—P-Q4, P-B6 dis, ch, R-Kt5 mate, is pitifully expressed. * * * I enjoyed it immensely." Again I reiterate The Call problem sends on A. J. F. (K. J. C.)

CALL SOLVING CONTEST

Commencing March 3, The Call will inaugurate a problem solving contest. Through the generosity of Mr. Alain C. White, whose labors in the problem field are known wherever chess is played, we are able to offer four books on the art of problem composition, etc., which, being autographic copies, will be well worth the winning. First prize (two books), "White Rooks" and "More White Rooks." Second prize, "Chess Melodie." Third prize, "The Theory of Pawn Promotion." The following rules as to problems, points, etc., will govern the contest. If there is anything not clearly stated, further explanation will be made upon request between now and March 9:

1. This tourney will consist of 15 original problems.
2. The 15 problems are divided into: Four two-movers; nine three-movers; two four-movers.
3. Two points will be given for the key-move in a two-move problem, and one point for each different mate. Do not send in black's play; just state the number of different mates. Care should be taken with this, for if you send in a greater number of mates, one point will be deducted for each one in excess.
4. Three-movers—All that is required of the three-move problem is the key-move, for which three points will be given.
5. Four-movers—Four points will be given for the key-move and three points for the main line of play.
6. Cooks—Two points will be given for each cook, and one point will be deducted if a solver sends in a cook that is not a cook.
7. Duals—Duals will not be dealt with.
8. If there are no cooks in any of the problems, 75 will be the highest possible score.
9. The two-ers will be published first, then the three-ers, etc.
10. Solvers can not send in corrections to their first solutions.

END GAME DEPARTMENT

We take the following end-game study from "La Strategica" tourney, white to play and win:

White (7 pieces)—K at QK1; B at KK16; Kt at KB and QR1; pawns at KR2, QB3, QR3.

Black (7 pieces)—K at QB5; B at KB5; pawns at KK17, Q2, Q3, Q4, QB4.

Last week's position, Mechanics' Institute vs. San Diego, was simple, but rather pretty, as the advanced Kt's pawn can not be stopped:

1 P-K16, R-Q5; 2 K-R2, R-Q7 ch; 3 K-R2(a), K-K6; 4 RxB(b), R-Q5; 5 K-R2, Kt-K5 ch; 6 K-R2, R-R8 mate.

(a) If 3 P-Kt, R-Q8 ch; 4 K-R2, Kt-K6; 5 P-Kt7, Kt-B3 ch; 6 K-R2, R-Q7 wins.

(b) If 4 P-Kt7, Kt-B3 wins.

Correspondence

C. J. G., Cabrillo Club—Your letter much appreciated. Kindly ask "the boys" to send in solutions to the problems—if they can solve them! Will keep the game you forwarded for future use.

M. M., Worcester, Mass.—You are certainly honored in having you as a solver and a "now-and-then" contributor to problem department.

R. L. V., Stanford University—Can you send me the address of Mr. Cummings, '11, former captain of the chess club at Encina?