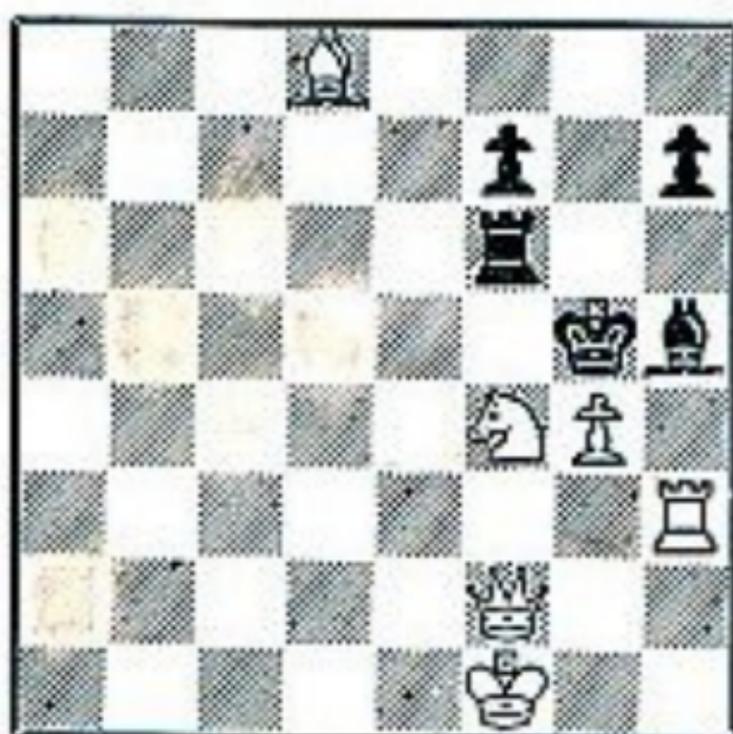


THE CHESS PLAYER

By Dr. H. J. Ralston

TASK No. 7

By V. L. Eaton, Silver Spring, Md.
(Composed for THE ARGONAUT)



WHITE MATES IN TWO MOVES
(Value 3 points)

Answer to Task No. 5: P-R6. Answer to Task No. 7 should be post-marked not later than April 3. It is required only that White's first move be given.

MR. NEIL T. AUSTIN of Sacramento has been a leading figure in California chess circles for many years. He is a charter member of the Capital City Chess Club, and has twice held the presidency of that active organization. Mr. Austin is also president of the Central California Chess League. He is a chemical testing engineer by profession, employed by the California Division of Highways.

Mr. Austin is notable both for his ability as a chess player and for his devotion to the advancement of California chess. His chess style is well illustrated in the game below, which is a model for taking full advantage of an opponent's mistakes. Mr. Austin's victim is the well-known Mrs. Nancy Roos of Los Angeles, who is a leading player of her sex. The game was played in the annual North-South Match several years ago.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED

White

Black

N. T. Austin Mrs. Nancy Roos

1. P-Q4 Kt-KB3

2. P-QB4 P-Q4

A playable, but not entirely satisfactory system.

3. P x P KtxP

4. Kt-KB3 ———

Better than the immediate P-K4, which allows Black to equalize.

————— P-KKt3

5. P-K4 Kt-KB3

6. Kt-B3 B-Kt2

7. B-QB4 O-O

8. O-O P-K3

Not advisable, in conjunction with the fianchetto of the KB, as it weakens the Black squares.

9. B-KKt5 Q-K1

The threat was 10. P-K5.

10. R-K1 P-B3

11. QR-B1 P-Kt4

12. B-Kt3 P-QR3

Too timid. 12 . . . P-QR4 to get some counterplay on the Q-side was better.

13. P-QR3 B-Kt2

14. Q-Q2 QKt-Q2

15. B-R6 R-B1

16. P-K5 Kt-Q4

17. Kt-K4 R-B2

Black is lost. The holes at Q3 and KB3 will prove fatal.

18. BxKt	KPxB
19. Kt-B6ch	BxKt
19 . . . KtxKt loses a piece. Black should have exchanged bishops earlier.	
20. PxB	Q-Q1
21. BxR	QxB
22. R-K7	Q-Q1
23. Q-B4	R-B1
24. RxKt!	QxR
25. Q-R6	Resigns

* * *

News From Abroad—

The British Chess Federation is planning to re-establish a National Chess Center in London. The original center was demolished in the blitz of World War II. Fleming's Restaurant in Oxford Street has offered spacious accommodations, where meetings and matches of all sorts could be held. At a recent meeting 50 persons signed provisional membership forms. It is planned to charge 2 guineas for Full Members, and lower rates for Country Members and Juniors. London continues to be the chess center of the English-speaking world, as it has been through the centuries.

An extensive program is planned for Southsea, England, during the period April 16-26. In addition to the fourth Stevenson Memorial Tournament, there will be a number of subsidiary tournaments. Foreign players expected to participate include Fuderer of Yugoslavia, Toran of Spain, Mme. Chaude de Silans of France, and several others.

The tournament for the championship of Finland ended in a tie between Kaila and Ojanen with 10 points out of 12.

Dr. Tartakower and Belkadi tied for highest honors in the Christmas Tournament of the Cercle Caissa in Paris.

A tournament in memory of Dr. Erwin Voellmy, well known for his efforts in the promotion of international chess, was played at Basle, Switzerland, late in January. Grandmaster Dr. M. Vidmar won with a score of 5½ out of 7, followed by former World Champion Dr. Max Euwe with 5 points.

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SOLVERS' LADDER

As soon as one solver forges into the lead, there will be a sur-prize! That solver will then drop to the bottom rung, to climb again. The present list includes Tasks 1-3.

Ten points—Luc Huang, Oakland; Mark Eudey, Berkeley; Guthrie McClain, Berkeley.

Seven points—Henry Gross, San Francisco.

Five points—Hubert G. Webb, Pasadena.

Four points—Neil T. Austin, Sacramento; Ed Brand, Phoenix, Ariz.; Kenton Chambers, Stanford; Peter Dahl, San Francisco; Lawrence Davis, Merced; Dr. Sherwin Maeser, Logan, Utah; Donald C. McDaniel, Los Angeles; Mission High School Chess Club, San Francisco; George B. Oakes, Salinas; Jerald Slavich, San Jose; Fred Stoppel, Cicero, Ill.; Edward Yaeger, Berkeley.

One point—Alan Chappell, Gilroy; Guy L. Conklin, Weiser, Idaho; W. de Jung, San Francisco.