

CHESS

By E. J. CLARKE

Address Communications to Chess Editor, Chronicle

A possible successor to the chess crown of World's Champion Capablanca has appeared. According to the New York Evening Post, Mrs. J. R. Capablanca presented the champion with a son on January 2. But you never can tell. United States Chess Champion Frank S. Marshall's son, Frank Rice Marshall, a high school boy of New York city, cannot be induced even to look at a game of chess, let alone play the game. It is probably the same phenomenon observable in the sons of clergymen. They rarely follow in their fathers' steps.

As a preliminary to administering the annual chastising to the Los Angeles Chess Club on Washington's birthday, the date of the twelve-board telegraphic match, the members of the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club assembled at a local photographer's Saturday afternoon and faced the camera for a group picture. The idea originated with Team Captain Bernardo Smith, who plans to send a copy to the Los Angeles club. It is thought that when they behold such a fine-looking body of northern chess players they will despair of a possible victory. However, the southerners, it is reported, intend to leave no stone unturned in an effort to win. Team Captain E. W. Grabill has sent the following list of eligibles for the match: H. Borochoy, S. Mlotkowski, R. F. Lyon, E. F. Shrader, Dr. R. B. Griffith, E. R. Perry, D. Mugridge, Dr. W. T. Scott, G. D. Gowdy, J. O. Drouillard, G. Patterson, A. N. Pray, S. Weinbaum, H. E. Garner, E. W. Grabill, C. J. Gibbs, M. A. Woodward, C. Short, J. W. Porter, M. A. Lewis, J. Weinstein, P. E. Greer, C. H. Whipple Jr. and G. Anderson. Quite an aggregation of chess talent. The M. I. C. team: A. J. Fink, E. W. Gruer, Dr. W. R. Lovegrove, E. J. Clarke, A. B. Stamer, S. Simon, Dr. H. Epstein, C. Bergman, J. F. Smyth, Professor A. W. Ryder, Professor G. E. K. Branch and Bernardo Smith, captain. Alternates: C. Woskoff, F. L. de Long, J. Powell and W. Sullivan.

A new and amusing game recently introduced at the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club is known as Rifle Chess. Pieces and pawns move as in regular chess. The novelty consists in capturing any piece attacked without, however, moving the capturing piece. Example is better than explanation: 1P-K4, P-K4; 2Q-R5. Now White threatens QxBPch and also QxKP (but captures without occupying the square of the captured pawn, as in chess). Therefore the White queen at R5 can be attacked with the Black knight at KB3. So White moves to KB5. Now supposing 3½P-Q4, as in chess? White simply lifts off the attacking bishop, remaining at KB5. It is obvious that, when either king is put in check, it avails nothing to interpose, as such pieces are removed at long range.

Hence the name, Rifle Chess. Inasmuch as the king must be mated at long range (for if, for example, a mate such as the Scholar's mate is attempted the attacking queen is captured by the king in spite of the supporting bishop!), no little skill is required to bring about a mate. A feature of Rifle Chess is that several games may be played in the time usually taken for ordinary chess. It is planned to hold a tournament at Rifle at the Institute in the near future.

GAME NO. 143

The following game is taken from "Charousek's Games of Chess," edited by Philip W. Sargent. This volume contains a twenty-two-page biography of this great master, who has been compared to Paul Morphy in regard to the dashing attacking style of both players. Charousek was born in Bohemia in 1873, learned the game at the age of 16 years. It is said that as "his circumstances would not allow him to buy the German Handbuch, he borrowed it from a schoolfellow and copied it out by hand." Charousek made the acquaintance of Maroczy about 1895 and secured his first practice against a master of first rank. Charousek about this time entered a correspondence tourney organized by a Hungarian newspaper, and divided first and second prizes with Maroczy. In 1896 Charousek was a competitor in the great Nuremberg tournament. As the committees received thirty-nine entries, including practically every master of first rank then living, Charousek, then unknown in international chess circles, was originally turned down by the committee. However, owing to the illness of Amos Burn, his entry was finally accepted. Although not finishing in the prize list, Charousek made a most favorable impression. He defeated Emanuel Lasker, then the world's champion, in a gambit, and all but defeated Pillsbury, the game resulting in a draw after fifty moves.

BISHOP		GAMBIT	
Charousek	Lasker	Charousek	Lasker
	Black		Black
1—P-K4	P-K4	15—P-B3	S-K4
2—P-KB4	PxP	16—Q-R4	SxB
3—B-B4	P-Q4	17—QxS	S-B3
4—BxP	Q-R5ch	18—BxP	S-Q2
5—K-B3	P-KB4(a)	19—Q-R4	P-QR3
6—S-KR3(b)	Q-R4	20—Q-R5	S-B
7—P-KR4	P-S2(c)	21—S-E3	S-K3
8—S-B3	P-QB3(d)	22—S-B5	Q-B(i)
9—B-B4	P-S5(e)	23—B-S3	R-Q2
10—P-Q4	S-Q2(f)	24—SxB	QxS
11—K-B2!	BxS	25—Q-K5	QxQ
12—PxB	Castles	26—BxP	P-B3(j)
13—PxP(g)	PxP(h)	27—White	
14—S-K2	Q-K2		wins

NOTES

- (a) 5½, B-Q3 leads to a very interesting game and may be best.
 (b) Among the various possible moves (such as S-QB3, P-Q4, Q-B3, P-KS3, etc.), this looks the most natural.
 (c) 7½, P-KR3 leads to a well-known trap—S, BxPch, QxR; 9, S-K5, Q-B5 (or S2); 10, Q-R5ch.
 (d) But now P-KR3 is correct.
 (e) Again, P-KR3 is right.
 (f) This turns out ill. But if 10½, BxR; 11, QxB, QxQ; 12, PxB, BxP; 13, PxB, with advantage. Of the Bishop's Gambit Lasker, in his "Common Sense in Chess," remarks: "What right has White to sacrifice a pawn, open up his king side, and allow a check from the Black queen?" Something, there-

fore, is amiss with Black's conduct of the present game, namely, the omission to play P-KR3. It still seems the best move.
 (g) 13, S-K2 is also very strong.
 (h) If 13½, BxPch; 14, QxB, QxR; 15, BxP, and Black is lost.
 (i) If 22½, Q-B3; 23, B-K5 wins the queen.
 (j) By giving up this pawn, Black holds the KR3; but he merely prolongs a lost game. White won after ten more moves.—Score and notes from "Charousek's Games of Chess."

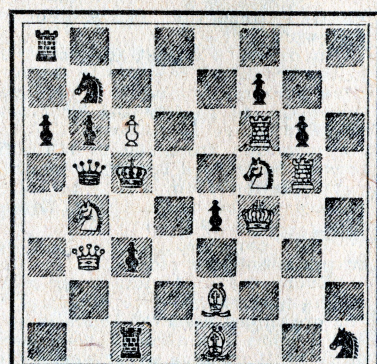
Problems

A. J. F.

PROBLEM NO. 162

By T. K. Heyden

Our problems, along task lines, have proved so interesting, according to comments received, that we select further examples for today's column. This one is from the Good Companion folder, 1921, and no doubt a record for the task it represents:

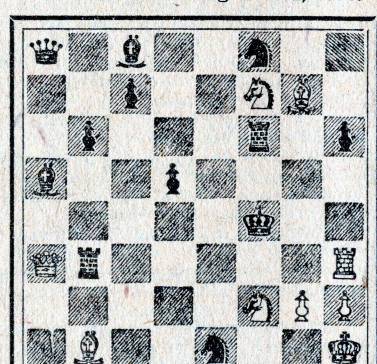


Mate in Two Moves

PROBLEM NO. 163

By B. Harley

From the Pittsburg Times, 1917.



Mate in Two Moves

- No. 160 solved by rook to queen 7. Task variations follow KxR, K-B, S-K3, R-B, KxB, SxR by PxB(S), FxS(Q), P-B3(Q), PxB(S), P-B8(S), PxB(Q), respectively.
 No. 161 solved by R(S5)-Q5. Three interferences on black's king bishop third.
 H. B. Beetz, city: K-K7 defeated by BxP.
 Q-Kt4 in No. 159 defeated by K-Q4.
 J. E. Ellis, correct solution to No. 159.
 A. J. H., Palo Alto, correct solution to No. 158.
 Several solvers slipped up on 158 and 159.
 H. Helms, N. Y.: "A Matter of Credit" received. Thanks.