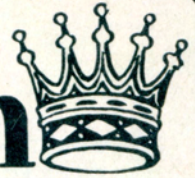




# Chess in Action



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF CHESS FRIENDS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, INC.

ROBERT BURGER - EDITOR

SEPTEMBER - 1954



GEORGE KOLTANOWSKI  
SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITION  
SONOMA - 1954

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## THE COVER PICTURE

Most of our readers need no introduction to George Koltanowski - or to Sonoma either, for that matter. And for those who participated in the Sonoma Valley of the Moon Chess Festival, the picture will bring pleasant memories of an afternoon of chess - spent in the shade of the trees of the historic old plaza. The Editors of Chess Friends are very happy to have George K. on the cover of this, the Anniversary Issue of CHESS IN ACTION, as a small token of appreciation for the work he is doing in promoting Chess in general and interest in Chess Friends in particular. Since the position of Organizing Director is non-salaried, George serves Chess Friends without compensation, but at least we can say, "Many thanks for a job well done!"

## SAN FRANCISCO - LEAGUE WINNERS

### FIRST PLACE

#### Fine Group

Dave Peizer  
Gil Ramirez  
Ted Eisenstadt  
Philip Chang  
Herb Holden  
Stephen Goldstine  
Ben Zeiler  
Alex Christ

### SECOND PLACE

#### Reti Group

B.N. Daniloff  
V.R. Jewett  
Fred Leddy  
Tom Tripodes  
Jim Reynolds  
Dr. Luben Kiroff  
Carroll Ogden  
Arch Forkner

## CHESS FRIENDS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

The San Francisco Chess Friends League starts their new league season in October with nine teams participating. A single round robin will be played, with matches scheduled through the winter and spring. William de la Fuente and William S. Stevens are in charge of league schedules and arrangements.

The two East Bay Chess Friends Leagues also start their match play in October. Teams from Hayward, Alameda, Oakland, Berkeley, Richmond, Walnut Creek and Concord make up one five-team league and one six team. Les Talcott is in charge.

Chess Friends Members wishing to participate in this league play should consult the directory in this issue & the nearest group director.

The next Chess Friends' Open Tournament is scheduled for December 4th and 5th, Saturday and Sunday, in San Francisco, - location yet to be named. The tournament will be a five round Swiss with cash prizes for the A class, trophies and book prizes for the B and C classes. (The Spring Chess Friends Open, played in Oakland last May, featured fifty dollars in cash prizes for the A's, trophies for the B and C winners, and book prizes for each five players participating.) Entry fee in the San Francisco Open will be ONE DOLLAR for Chess Friend's Members, two dollars for all others. Watch George Koltanowski's column in the Chronicle for the exact time and place. Advice from any of our readers as to a suitable place for this tournament to be held will be appreciated. Please contact C. T. McGinley, 2763 Chelsea Dr Oakland 11. (Tel. No. KEllogg 4-8599.)

The Regular Bi-ennial Election of Chess Friends' Officers will be held at this tournament. All paid-up members are eligible to vote, so please plan to be at the election.

## CHESS FRIENDS NEWS

Carroll Ogden and James Reynolds were commended by the San Francisco Chapter of the American Red Cross this summer for spending two nights a week for over a year at Letterman General Hospital, playing and teaching chess to the patients.

The Redwood City Chess Festival was held on July 11, 1954. There were fifteen group winners. In the simultaneous exhibition, George Koltanowski won eighteen games, lost to R. Dinsmore, drew with Ensign R. Cuomo.

The Class B Radio Match between Chess Friends of Northern California and their southern counterpart was held on July 18, 1954 at the San Francisco Chronicle News Rooms. Because of a recent change in FCC regulations, the match was played by telephone with the North winning  $6\frac{1}{2}$  -  $3\frac{1}{2}$ . The A and C matches have been postponed until Chess Friends of Southern California obtain the necessary FCC clearances. The handmade chess board donated by Davis H. Kent was awarded to James Stowe for the best played game of the match.

The Sonoma Valley of the Moon Chess Festival was held August 15, 1954. The trophy winners for perfect scores were Charles Fontan and Dave Peizer, Class A; Don Taggart, Class B; and Arthur Atkins, Class C. The General Dean Trophy for the best club score was won by three clubs with identical scores, the Fine and Reti of San Francisco and the Nimzo-Evans of San Bruno. Mrs. S. Morrison and Mrs. M. Bartholomew tied for the Women's Championship and were awarded the Leah Koltanowski trophies. The Reti Group of San Francisco won the cup for the largest number attending; the Mieses Group won for the largest percent attendance. - Ernest O. Anders and William de la Fuente won the trophies for the best played games. George Koltanowski won 28 games in the simultaneous exhibition, drew with Alan Kahn, lost to Mrs. Bartholomew.

The East Bay Summer League of Chess Friends was formed in June to combat the summer lull and to maintain the inter-group spirit of good fellowship. The idea was a success and the results fully bore out previous expectations. For the problem was this: while the two East Bay Leagues totaled some twelve six-man teams, vacations and absenteeism would deplete the individual teams to the point where the regular league play would provide no fair test of ability. To cancel summer matches altogether would be unfair to the members interested in playing. The solution was simple! Divide the East Bay into four team areas, Alameda-Oakland-Berkeley; Hayward-San Leandro; Walnut Creek - Concord; Richmond-El Cerrito, and set up a round robin schedule for friendly monthly matches during July, August and September. The results were excellent. A full schedule was played and no matches were forfeited. The Walnut Creek-Concord team swept the schedule and won the summer league championship. The Alameda - Oakland-Berkeley team finished second.

Remember - the next Chess Friends Open will be held in San Francisco, December 4th and 5th. Plan to attend!

CHESS FRIENDS' DIRECTORY

President Joshua Torczyner	Secretary Charles T. McGinley
Vice-Presidents Jens L. Lund Wallace Getz	Treasurer Edward R. MacGregor
Organizing Director Geo. Koltanowski	Editorial Staff Robert Burger Valdemars Zemitis Roger Smook Charles T. McGinley
League Directors Leslie Talcott Wm. de la Fuente Wm. S. Stevens	

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>GROUP DIRECTOR</u>	<u>MEETING PLACE - 8PM</u>
Reti	Carroll Ogden 1338 - 28th Ave. S.F.	Marina Jr. Highschool Thursday
Fine	Dave Peizer 1510 Lake, S.F.	1510 Lake St. Sunday
Keres	Dr. R. B. Webb 2489 Mission, S.F.	Moose Hall, O'Farrell St. Tuesday
Lasker	George Carroll 3320 Octavia, S.F.	3320 Octavia St. Friday
Philidor	Rudy Duering 1759 - 37th Ave. S.F.	1759 - 37th Ave. Wednesday
Nimzo-Evans	Louis Tomori 762 Elm St. San Bruno	Northbrae School Thursday
Morphy	M.A. Larson 1271 Dewey St.	Redwood City Thursday
Philidor	C. Van Patton 1907 Eaton Ave.	San Carlos Friday
Euwe	Wallace Getz 19591 Juna Lane	Los Gatos Sunday
Staunton	Dal Ogilvie 3104 Lincoln Ave. Oak.	McKinley Park, Alameda Thursday
Capablanca	J.R. Stowe 2920 Brookway, San Pablo	Nystrom School Richmond Tuesday
Denker-Morphy	Herbert Launer 984 Keeler Ave.	Y.M.C.A., Berkeley Tuesday
Lopez-Marshall	E.R. MacGregor 6701 Outlook, Oakland	Hayward Highschool Monday
Reshevsky- Horowitz	Bob Hampton 130 El Toyanal, Orinda	Walnut Crk. Rec. Center Monday
Fine-Pillsbury	Ray Turner 2834 Hilltop Rd.	Youth Center, Concord Wednesday
Lasker	Dr. H. L. Alder 644 Sunset Ct.	Davis Sunday
Marshall	Capt. K.L. Anderson 224 Utah St.	Travis A.F. B. Sunday

## A Y E A R O F C H E S S I N A C T I O N

In September of 1953 a magazine was presented to the Chess Friends of Northern California. It was a joint product of some half a dozen industrious optimists who dreamed that they could interest some six hundred readers with local news and amateurish game scores. It had a birthday this month, and the Editors have a yen to reminisce.

Financially we are happy about Chess In Action. We consider the three hundred odd dollars of Chess Friends' funds well spent in bringing news alone to our readers, besides instruction and enjoyment. We have been able to popularize the Sonoma Festival and the Chess Friends' Open, as well as scheduled matches and a friendly Summer League. Chess Friends has been able to maintain its high membership largely through such news.

While we haven't been deluged with mail, what correspondence we have received has been favorable, and the word-of mouth reaction has been encouraging. The Editors are quite willing to let the magazine stand on its merits in comparison with any publication of similar resources.

In the midst of reminiscence, however, some serious matters press into view. A great debt of thanks is due to George Koltanowski for sparking the undertaking, but the policies and opinions of the magazine are strictly those of the Editors and full responsibility for the action of the magazine rests with them.

In particular, the Editors refuse to take sides in any controversy, nationally or locally. We do our best to report only what is of interest to Chess Friends as such.

But this is far from a policy of shunning chess activities, national or local, which are not connected with Chess Friends. A limitation of space naturally prevents us from handling all the material we might like to print. To compensate, we recommend that our readers subscribe to other chess publications, both national and local, and participate in other chess activities, both as individuals and as groups. The result will broaden the individual's chess interest and promote the growth of chess in the Bay Area and elsewhere.

For the future, the Editors can only say that whatever will benefit Chess Friends will be sponsored by this magazine. For one thing, the long-awaited library may become a reality before very long. A nucleus of books is on hand, and funds are being - or have been - set aside for new purchases. The one great obstacle which has held up the task for so long, the lack of some centrally located meeting place, may be overcome by keeping the library in a private home in the Bay Area.

Chess Friends will continue to present the leading Masters, whenever they visit this locality, for exhibitions and lectures. (In slack seasons the Editors themselves are willing and occasionally able to give exhibitions!)

It will not hurt to repeat again the motto of George Koltanowski's which has made Chess Friends a success: the stronger players will take care of themselves; let's give the average one more attention.

Here's to another year of Chess In Action!



P QB3 9 ...  
 Although this move has some good points:

- (a) deprives Black of a post for his Knight at Q5;
- (b) opens a diagonal for the Queen; and
- (c) prepares a Pawn onslaught on the Queenside; it nevertheless is a bad move, because the three have no common idea behind them.

Direct and simple was a "beginner's" move, N-B3. The simple moves are rarely bad.

... 9 B K3  
 N R3 10 P QR3  
 This move has the purpose of allowing a retreat for the Queen's side Bishop after:

- 11 BxN BxB
- 12 N-B4 B-R2.

Black rightly watches out for his best-posted piece.

P QN4 11 ...  
 This strange-looking move is prompted by the lack of good ideas. He is "fishing".

... 11 N B5  
 But Black in turn attempts a refutation before he has developed sufficiently. Since White threatens nothing, the best course was Q-K2 and the placing of the Rooks on the center files.

- BxN 12 PxB
- Q-N3 ? 13 ...

White could have justified a day's full of errors with an unexciting but strong P-Q4.

... 13 R K1 ?  
 Black could have won the QP or disrupted his opponent's Pawns with BxB, for QxB can be answered by N-K4, NxB by QxP, and PxB by P-B6.

- QR K1 14 Q R5

BxB was still possible, but Black chooses to head-hunt.

- N B5 15 BxN
- PxB 16 N R4
- Q N1 17 P KN4 ?

It only takes one well-given Pawn to make a sacrifice. It was P-B6 in this case.

- N B2? 18 NxB
- PxN 19 QR N1

The better way to win a Pawn was simply BxP.

- K R1 20 ...

At last taking cognizance of the threat of P-B6.

- ... 20 B Q2

With the idea of seizing the long diagonal; BxP was good.

- RxR 21 RxR
- R Q1 22 B B3
- P B3 23 P B4

Threatening P-N5. Such moves, which weaken one's own King-side, can be justified when a survey of the pieces reveals that the enemy has no attacking lines open.

- N Q4 24 B Q2
- P QR4 25 ...

A trap that is neither a trap nor good bait. There are two ingredients in any trap: it must first of all work, and it must (like the old Wooden Horse of Troy) be big enough to be noticed.

This trap doesn't work - because after BxP; 26. NxP ?, BxR !; 27. NxQ, R-K8 mates.

This trap likewise lacks appeal, since Black is looking for bigger game.

White was wise enough to avoid 25. NxP, because there is a mate on the back rank on BxN; 26. QxB. But he seems a little oblivious to this mate in the above note, for Black decided to take the bait, as unappealing as it was, just to show he saw the end of it. So, even though P-N5 was the logical move...

- ... 25 BxP
- NxP 26 BxR
- NxQ 27 R K8

The King is dead.

An interesting game, but one in which strategic aims, as opposed to tactics, are all but overlooked.

Prescription: when you start in the center, keep at it!

NORTH - SOUTH RADIO MATCH : CLASS B

The first event of its kind in California Chess materialized in the face of discouraging obstacles last summer, leaving nothing but encouragement in its wake. The games were of high quality for the rate and conditions of play, and the participants carried away lasting memories from the pioneer affair.

Curiously, it was not a radio match at all! When the Northern players gathered in a special room at the Chronicle building at the pre-arranged time, they discovered that the Southern contingent had been unable to complete the radio hookup. As a matter of fact, the Class A and C matches are still delayed, awaiting a ruling from the FCC. The resulting telephone bill was charged to the Southland and the resulting match was likewise not in their favor.

The North played with an unusual brand of optimism and aggressiveness. Taking a cue from Jim Stowe, who was speculating fiercely against Mr. Steve Walker on first board, the Northerners cleaned up on the top four boards, won one and drew three of the rest to convince their hosts  $6\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$  of their telephonic capabilities chess-wise.

J. Stowe

S. Walker

Petroff Defense

P K4	1	P K4
N KB3	2	N KB3
NxP	3	P Q3
N KB3	4	NxP
P Q4	5	P Q4
B Q3	6	B Q3
Castles	7	Castles
P B4	8	B K3

Black avoids the speculative, interesting B-KN5, preferring to force matters in the center.

N B3 !	9	NxN
PxN	10	PxP
BxPch	11	...

This sacrifice has some pretty ramifications, as the following shows. Nevertheless a safer line was B-K4, with the possibilities:

(a) 10. ... Q-B1  
 11. N-N5, P-KR3  
 12. NxB, PxN  
 13. Q-K2, recovering a Pawn with advantage. Or

(b) 10. ... P-QB3  
 11. N-N5 P-KR3  
 12. NxB, PxN  
 13. P-QR4 followed by Q-K2, etc.

... 11 KxB

N N5ch 12 K N1

Black falters and gives White the opportunity of unraveling a fine combination. After the other possibility, K-N3, what can White do?

Q B2 13 ...

Perhaps Black had considered, prosaically, the usual Q-R5 and not Q-B2. Indeed, after Q-R5 Black was safe with B-KB4.

... 13 R K1

The alternative P-KN3 was to be considered. After NxP and QxPch, etc., White might have had to accept a perpetual, or gamble on losing.

Q R7ch 14 K B1

R K1 15 ...

Threatening P-Q5 strongly.

... 15 P QB3

Q R8ch 16 K K2

RxB ch ! 17 K Q2

To capture the Rook was to be recipient of a mate.

RxB ch ! 18 ...

Ditto!

... 18 KxR

NxP ch 19 K B2

Best under the circumstances, which were Q-R5ch on K-Q4, or Q-R3ch on K-Q2, or B-N5 ch on K-K2, etc.

B B4 ch 20 K B1

Q R3 ch 21 Q Q2

N Q6 ch 22 K Q1

NxR 23 ...

But White wins material anyway, and cleverly.

... 23 QxQ

PxQ 24 KxN

R K1ch 25 K B2

B Q6 26 N R3

R K7ch 27 K B3

RxQNP 28 K K3

B K5 29 Resigns

White played courageously and was justified when his opponent faltered: an old story.



In the other exciting games of the match, the ability to take advantage of a defensive error was also exemplified strongly.

L. Rotter C. McGinley

English Opening

P QB4	1	P QB4
N KB3	2	N QB3
P KN3	3	P K3
B N2	4	P Q4
PxP	5	PxP
P Q4	6	...

Bringing about a position similar to the Gruenfeld Defense, with colors reversed.

...	6	N B3
N B3	7	PxP
NxP	8	B QN5
Q Q3	9	Castles
NxN	10	...

This exchange simply relieves Black of his one weakness, Q4, and gives Black an edge.

...	10	PxN
Castles	11	R K1

Pressure on White's K2 is the theme of Black's attack.

B Q2	12	P QR4 !
KR K1	13	B R3
Q B3	14	P Q5
N N1	15	P B4 ?

Premature, since QxR wins the exchange for White. Luckily, a mistake follows a mistake, and the game gets back on its normal course.

Q B6 ?	16	R R2
BxB	17	RPxB
Q R4	18	Q N3
Q Q1	19	QR K2
B B3	20	P B5

The Pawn roller is poised.

P QR3	21	P N6
Q Q2	22	N K5
BxN	23	RxB
P K3	24	...

Strangulation in any case...

...	24	PxP
PxP	25	RxP
RxR	26	RxR
Resigns	27	

On seventh board, it was these defensive errors that counted:

A. Kahn E. Taitt

French Defense

P K4	1	P K3
------	---	------

P Q4	2	P Q4
P K5	3	N K2

Unusual at this stage. Black must develop this Knight soon in the French Defense, but he can play P-QB4, Q-N3, P-KB3 - and try to develop the Knight at KB3 - as circumstances indicate.

P QB3	4	N N3
B K3	5	N Q2
N KB3	6	P QB4
B Q3	7	PxP
PxP	8	B K2
N B3	9	N R5

Apparently afraid of P-KR4 if he Castles, Black forces the exchange of Knights. However, White's attack on both sides of the board is only precipitated.

NxN	10	BxN
N N5 !	11	B K2
R QB1	12	Castles
Q R5	13	P KN3
Q R3	14	K R1

This has no defensive value - it only pins the KR Pawn.

Castles	15	...
---------	----	-----

Notice that the sequence that is played on the next moves - very effectively - would here fail because White's K Bishop could be taken with check.

...	15	P QR3
N B7	16	R R2

Black hopes to trap the daring Knight, but overlooks the exposed condition of his Rook at R2 in the following melee.

NxKP !	17	NxKP
--------	----	------

If PxN, BxP wins at least the exchange. Black's clever retort backfires:

RxB	18	...
-----	----	-----

Even NxQ was good enough.

...	18	QxR
PxN	19	R R1
NxR	20	QxN

Now it is mopping-up time and White enjoys it to the full.

R B1	21	Q Q1
B Q4	22	K N1

The uselessness of Black's 14 is again emphasized.

P K6	23	P B3
R B3	24	Resigns

One of Southern California's two wins came on board 5, in the following unusual game. A bad mistake exposes the White King and fails to find cover:

E. Bartholomew                      L. Schiff

Queen's Pawn

P Q4	1	N KB3
P K3	2	P KN3
P KB4	3	...

Apparently White intended to play a Colle Opening, but was induced to take drastic measures when his opponent countered with the best defense.

...	3	P Q3
B Q3	4	B N2
N Q2	5	Castles
KN B3	6	QN Q2
N K4	7	P B3
P KR3	8	NxN
BxN	9	N B3
B Q3	10	P B4

Black correctly hits at the center in the face of White's obvious Kingside intentions.

P B3	11	P N3
P KN4	12	B N2
R KN1	13	QR B1
P B5	14	N K5
P KR4	15	...

White ignores his own King's safety in his eagerness.

...	15	P K4 !
Q B2	16	N B3

The win of a Pawn by NxP, PxN, BxN is not strong after P-N5.

N R2	17	KPxP
------	----	------

Now a Pawn is won safely.

B Q2	18	....
------	----	------

For if P-N5, then N-R4, when P-B6 is answered by NxP, getting at least three Pawns and an attack for the piece.

...	18	PxKP
BxP	19	N Q4
K Q2	20	...

Either B-KN5 or B-B2 was necessary, to guard KR4.

...	20	NxB
KxN	21	R Klch
K Q2	22	QxP

So disorganized are the White forces that the King must go about defending.

K Q1	23	R K6
Q Q2	24	...

Adjudicated a win for Black.

In the following judicious encounter, Black wins a Pawn by a precise combination:

J. Downey                      Dr. L. Rosenstein

French Defense

P K4	1	P K3
P Q4	2	P Q4

P K5	3	P QB4
P QB3	4	N QB3
B QN5	5	N K2
N B3	6	PxP
PxP	7	B Q2
BxN	8	PxB

Since P-QB4 cannot be prevented Black correctly gains a central Pawn advantage.

Castles	9	N N3
QN Q2	10	B K2

However, P-B4 was good here.

N N3	11	Castles
P QR3	12	R B1
N B5	13	BxN
PxB	14	P B3

Because of Black's "bad" Bishop the central Pawns are not overwhelming, but good enough.

R K1	15	Q K2
------	----	------

The following combination could have been played here as well.

P QN4	16	NxP
NxN	17	PxN
RxP	18	RxP !

Winning a Pawn, because if KxR, Q-B3ch; and if RxKP, then RxPch still wins a Pawn.

R K1	19	QR KB1
B K3	20	KR B4
Q Q3	21	P K4
B Q4 !	22	...

Adjudicated a draw, because after P-K5, Q-K3 the Pawns stand blockaded on the same color as their Bishop.

An opening trap was also seen:

A. Thompson                      E. Cuneo

Queen's Pawn

P Q4	1	P Q4
P QB4	2	P K3
N QB3	3	N KB3
B N5	4	QN Q2
P K3	5	P B3
N B3	6	Q R4

The Cambridge Springs Defense, B Q3 7 ...

which White fails to meet properly. N-Q2 is good.

...	7	B N5
Q B2	8	N K5
R QB1	9	NxB
NxN	10	PxP

And now two pieces are en prise and there is nothing to be done.

BxBP	11	QxN
------	----	-----

Here we would be tempted to say "and so forth". But the end of the story was yet to come, for at adjudication time White had improved his position enough to merit a draw! Ups and downs!

GAMES SECTION

Conducted by Valdemars  
Zemitis and Robert Burger

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SONOMA CHESS FESTIVAL, 1954

J. Veguilla C. Fontan

Sicilian Defense

P K4	1	P QB4
N KB3	2	N QB3
P Q4	3	PxP
NxP	4	N B3
N QB3	5	P Q3
B K2	6	...

The Richter Attack has been more popular lately, starting with B-KN5 and Q-Q2.

...	6	P KN3
B K3	7	B N2
P B3	8	...

Solid but without ideas. A good plan in customary use is Castles followed by Q-Q2 and P-B4, with Kingside attacking chances.

...	8	Castles
Castles	9	P Q4

This is now doubly effective when White's Bishop cannot get to KB3 after the liquidation at Q5.

NxN	10	PxN
B B5	11	N Q2

The typical theme of Sicilian defenses recurs here: a slow-but-sure gaining of the center. White's last moves only facilitate the task.

B Q4	12	P K4
B B2	13	N B3

A well-thought-out move. If P-Q5 immediately, White can counter with P-B4 a move or two before he now can, because the pressure on K4 is released. Also, the tempting P-KB4 would only weaken his Queenside chances.

Q Q3	14	P Q5
N R4	15	P QR4

Preventing P-KB4 indirectly and inviting the following:

N B5	16	Q Q3
Q R3	17	...

The Knight cannot be maintained at B5, and Black now gains the decisive Pawn advantage on the Queenside.

...	17	N Q2
N Q3	18	QxQ

PxQ	19	B QR3
-----	----	-------

Again P-KB4 is prevented and with it Black's position becomes overwhelming.

P QR4	20	KR N1
KR N1	21	B B5
N B1	22	BxB
NxB	23	N B4

Now the Knight returns, preventing P-KB4 because of NxP (K5), and threatening NxRP.

B K1	24	NxRP!
------	----	-------

Wisely refraining from RxR - a move most players would be inclined to make, after which Black would win a weak Pawn only, and be at a loss for a reply to R-N7. White is the one who is induced to capture a weak Pawn ...

RxR ch	25	...
--------	----	-----

... giving up the Knight column ...

...	25	RxR
BxP	26	...

... and allowing the White R to enter by ...

...	26	R N7
-----	----	------

... after which it is all over but the shouting.

N B1	27	RxBP
N N3	28	P B4
K B1	29	P B5
N Q2	30	B R3
N N1	31	R B8ch
B K1	32	...

All the pieces return home.

...	32	P B6
Resigns	33	

SUMMER MATCHES: Richmond vs. Alameda, 1954

J. Stowe J. Maier

Petroff Defense

P K4	1	P K4
N KB3	2	N KB3
NxP	3	P Q3
N KB3	4	NxP
P Q4	5	P Q4
B Q3	6	B KN5
Castles	7	B K2

More in keeping with his aggressive sixth move was N-B3 or P-QB4.

P B4	8	N N4
------	---	------

An interesting maneuver which seems premature. P-QB3, however, could be answered with 9.PxP, PxP; 10.Q-N3, BxN; 11. QxNP, N-Q2; 12. QxQP, etc. On the other hand, simply Castling seems good for Black.

BxN 9 BxB  
R Klch 10 B K2  
N B3 ! 11 ...

Better than Q-K2, BxN; 12.QxB when Black can Castle and afford to give up the QP.

... 11 PxP  
B K4 ! 12 ...

The manner in which White is able to disrupt the normal alignment of Black's game is ingenious. He will play Q-K2 at a time when BxN can be answered by BxB, thus delaying, for a time at least, castling by Black.

... 12 P QB3  
Q K2 13 B K3

If Castles, then BxPch, etc.

P Q5 ! 14 PxP  
NxP ? 15 ...

Good enough to win, but BxP, with the threat of BxB and Bx either Pawn was stronger.

... 15 Castles  
QR-Q1 16 ...

The immediate NxBch, followed by B-Q5 was simpler.

... 16 N Q2  
NxBch 17 QxN  
P KR4 ? 18 ...

Unnecessary finesse. BxP and B-Q5 were straightforward.

... 18 N B3  
N N5 19 NxB  
QxN 20 P KN3  
NxB 21 PxN  
QxP(B4) 22 ...

After QxKPch, QxQ; 23.RxQ the ending is even.

... 22 KR K1  
R Q4 23 QR B1  
Q N3 24 R B3  
R KN4 25 R N3  
Q QB3 26 Q N2

Black has defended well.

R K5 27 R B3  
Q K3 28 Q QB2 !  
P R5 29 R B8ch  
K R2 30 R B5

The manner in which Black has combined attack with defense, throughout the game, is noteworthy.

RxR 31 QxR

Drawn.

RICHMOND TOURNAMENT, A, 1954

E. Canfield P. McDonald

Max Lange

P K4 1 P K4  
N KB3 2 N QB3  
B B4 3 B B4  
Castles 4 N B3  
P Q4 5 NxP ? (Q5)

Either BxP or PxP is good enough for Black, but this is only an adventure.

NxP 6 Castles  
Losing at least the exchange in the long run. N-K3 was a sounder idea.

B K3 7 N K3  
BxN 8 BPxB

After BxB comes NxBP!

BxB 9 P Q3  
BxP ? 10 ...

Of course B-R3 wins the exchange for a Pawn, though it does not win immediately.

... 10 FxB  
N B4 11 NxP  
P KB3 12 P Q4

The way in which Black manages to maintain equality of material is typical of this risky defense.

PxN 13 PxN  
N B3 14 ...

Setting a little trap ...

... 14 Q N3 ch  
K R1 15 QxP

... into which Black places all four feet. But the more subtle RxRch; 16.QxR, QxP is answered by R-Q1 !

RxR ch 16 KxR  
Q Q8ch 17 K B2  
R Blch 18 K N3  
P KR4 ! 19 P KR3  
P R5 ch 20 ...

This leads to a King hunt by no means as clear as Q-K8 ch followed by R-B8.

... 20 KxP  
Q K8ch 21 P N3  
P N4ch 22 K N4  
Q Q8ch 23 ...

The critical check, allowing the Queen to enter from his own side of the board.

... 23 KxP  
Q Q1ch 24 K N4  
Q Q2ch 25 K N5  
R B4ch 26 K N4  
R B3ch and mate in

three.

In the East Bay, Hayward has always been a variable quantity. Several times their Chess Friends' teams have an unimpressive record, only to defeat the leading teams at the end of the season. One of their veterans, Mr. Perry of Hayward, demonstrates his resourcefulness in the following game, which, by the way, relegated the Lafayette club to second place in last year's standings.

C. Schroth                      L.E. Perry

Tarrasch Defense

P Q4	1	P Q4
P QB4	2	P K3
N QB3	3	P QB4
BPxP	4	KPxP
N B3	5	N QB3
B B4	6	PxP
KNxP	7	NxN
QxN	8	B K3
P K3	9	P QR3
B K2	10	N B3
Castles	11	B K2
(K)		
KR Q1	12	Castles
Q K5	13	...

After B-B3, R-B1; 14.NxP,NxN Black will get adequate play with B-B3. White intends to win the Pawn at his leisure, building up other threats in the meantime.

...	13	R B1
B B3	14	N Q2
Q Q4	15	B B3
Q N4	16	BxN

This exchange only helps the White attack against Q4. In the event of Q-N3, White can also maintain the pressure a little by Q-R3. Best would seem to be B-K2, taking advantage of the Queen's position in the center of the board. If QxP, N-B4!

PxB	17	Q N3
BxP	18	QxQ
PxQ	19	BxB
RxB	20	N B3
R Q6	21	R B7

Both players choose the most aggressive continuations. If White had played R-Q2 to avoid R-B7, then with R-Q1 he would get the seventh anyway or dominate the files. Also Black could have tried KR-Q1 but this would only have let White centralize his Bishop.

R N6	22	N K5
P B3	23	N B6
P QR4	24	...

But there was no need to start defending now. Black now gets time to pursue his attack. RxP was best, threatening to place both Rooks on the seventh.

....	24	N K7ch
K B1	25	NxB
PxN	26	P KR4 !

The difference of one move allows Black instead of White to double Rooks on the seventh.

RxP	27	R Q1
R K7	28	KR Q7
QR K1	29	R B7ch
K N1	30	RxPch
K R1	31	RxPch
K N1	32	QR N7ch
K B1	33	R B7ch
K N1	34	R R7
R N1	35	R KR6

But here Black could have culminated his attack nicely with the advance of his KR Pawn.

P N5	36	PxP
PxP	37	R N6ch
K R1	38	RxP
R K8ch	39	K R2
P N6	40	KR B7

Black realizes he has squandered his winning chances, and looks for a forced draw, or...

P N7	41	R R7ch
K N1	42	QR N7ch
K B1	43	R B7ch

... possibly a swindle ...

K K1 ?	44	....
--------	----	------

... which comes off. But even now he has a draw ...

...	45	R R7
R R8ch	46	...

... which he overlooks in his eagerness to win. K-Q1 would draw comfortably.

...	46	K N3
-----	----	------

Of course not KxR; 47.P-N8(Q).

R N6ch	47	P B3
P B5ch	48	K N4
R K6	49	R QR8 mate

The Lafayette Champion seldom fails to win such games. Mr. Perry demonstrated well how to defend a lost ending!

CHESS FRIENDS' OPEN, A, 1954

R. Burger                      J. Petriceks

Sicilian Defense

P K4	1	P QB4
N KB3	2	N QB3
P Q4	3	PxP
NxP	4	P Q3

P QB4 5 ...  
 The so-called "Maroczy Bind", in which White prevents P-Q4. It can be avoided by Black, ( N-B3 on the fourth move).

... 5 N B3  
 N QB3 6 B Q2  
 B K2 7 P KN3  
 Castles 8 B N2  
 B K3 9 Castles  
 R B1 10 N K1

Black suffers from a malady for which the only antidote is more freedom of action. It is hard to place his pieces more effectively and boredom sets in.

Q Q2 11 Q B1  
 N Q5 12 Q Q1

What else?

P B4 13 N B2  
 N N5 14 N K3

After NxN (either); 15.PxN, the other Knight wins the exchange, by N-B7. N-K1 would have prevented the following crisis, at the expense of passivity.

P B5 15 N B4  
 P B6 16 ...

At this point, Juris looked up and asked, "Is a Queen worth a Bishop, Knight, and Rook, even with two Pawns thrown in?" After looking at PxB; 17.NxQP, P-N3; 18. B-R6, he decided that a choice was really not offered.

... 16 NxP  
 PxB 17 NxQ  
 PXR(Q)ch 18 QxQ

Making two Queen captures in a row!

BxN 19 P QR3  
 N(N) B3 20 B B4  
 P KN4 21 B Q2  
 N N6 22 R Q1  
 NxB 23 RxN

The exchange has favored White, mainly because his KB takes on hidden power. (See move 27).

N K4 24 Q Q1  
 B QB3 25 Q N3ch  
 P B5! 26 PxB  
 B B4 27 N Q1

Black's pieces are tied up in a novel fashion and await exploitation.

N N5 28 P K3  
 N K4 29 K B1  
 N B6 30 R B2

Possibly R-Q5 was a saving sacrifice, though after BxR, PxB; 32. R-KB2! White still commands winning chances. Passive as it looks, the text move is patient and almost succeeds.

NxPch 31 K K1

QR Q1 32 Q B3  
 N B6ch 33 K K2  
 B K5 34 R B1  
 B Q6ch 35 QxB  
 RxQ 36 KxR

And so the Queen is won back, and White now has a piece for two Pawns, which still calls for careful play. Black apparently thought he had just as much of a chance in this - and he was right - as in the possible variation 30...R-B2.

P KR4 37 N B3  
 P R5 38 R KR1

But this is not accurate. The simple PxB, followed by R-KR1 and N-K2 was not bad at all.

PxB 39 PxB  
 N K4ch 40 K K4  
 N N5 41 N Q1  
 BxKP 42 K Q3

And not NxB; 43.N-B7ch.

R B6 43 R R5  
 K N2 44 NxB  
 RxNch 45 K Q4  
 K N3 46 R R3  
 R N6 47 Resigns

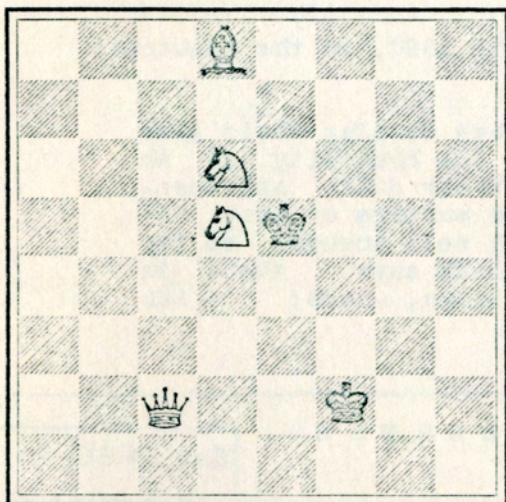
The above game illustrates an often quoted maxim to the effect that young players often beat themselves. White contented himself with taking an opportunity as it came along, without any long-range plans, and Black chose an opening in an obliging spirit. Soon he went adventuring when faced with boredom. Petriceks can be counted on to produce more enterprising play in the future, and we look to finer results from him, even against much better opposition!

The editors of this section would like to avoid publishing their own games when possible, and concentrating a publication on the same names is equally unfair, however an unusual or exemplary set of games they might be. Those games which are not up to the usual standards of play will be published if they bring a few new names before the public and offer possibilities of instructional value.

Readers are also advised of the new section, conducted by V. Zemitis, which is specifically designed for players with "unpublishable" games!

The "budding composer", as he is sometimes derisively called, resents criticism of his problems, especially in print. But when it is realized that there is no final authority on what is good or bad in a problem, but only the temporary authority of experience - then the beginner may have the courage to ask for advice in composing.

One of our readers who dabbles in problems had the following problem, a two-mover, published in the SF Chronicle in 1950. Is it a good problem? This is a silly question to which different people would give equally silly replies. One might say, "It's too easy"; another would venture, "I like more variety"; a third, "No model mates." We see at once it is better to ask, "What did the composer intend to show, and how well has he shown it?"



The composer obviously did not intend to occupy the solvers over the weekend with a tortuous key. But this is not a faulty - or bad - intention. If problems were only to be solved or only a substitute for crossword puzzles in the Sunday supplement, they would have ceased to be popular long ago.

The lack of variety is more serious. It will be seen that there are only three mates, and none of these are either unusual or complex. The key move, N-KB4 takes away two flights from the King and allows only one new escape, which is hardly gallant. In the variation KxN(4), White can mate in two different ways - both of them rather obvious. Our

retort to these charges again is: does the composer intend to show a variety of spectacular defenses and mates? If he did, he did not achieve it in this simple setting, and it is indeed silly to expect, or demand, him to do it.

Finally, the absence of model mates in such a Bohemian setting can be criticized most severely. But there are several ways in which models could be worked in, and, apparently, the composer had no desire to work them in. This wasn't his intention.

Well, then, what was his intention? In my opinion, a problem like this, with five freely-moving White pieces in an open setting, shows in a striking way the power of the "quiet" move. The solver is presented with a maximum number of plausible "tries", and only one delicate thrust does the trick. There are no Pawn moves, which makes the position valid no matter which way the board is turned. In some sense, there is a classic air in such a setting, much as in the simple mating positions - Rook and King against King, or Bishop, Knight, and King against King.

Other readers are asked to submit their problems and opinions about problems which appear in this column. Amateurish or not, problems are the exclusive property of the composers. And whatever its faults, the above problem can claim only one author, to my knowledge, Eugene Canfield of Richmond.

J E S T        B E T W E E N        U S

King Pawn:    Why are you so nervous, dear?

Queen Pawn:    I've been an understudy long enough, and  
                  I'm getting tired of waiting around.

King Pawn:    Just wait 'til we get to the eighth rank.

Queen Pawn:    There you go again! You know as well as  
                  I do that this fool is playing a Reti and  
                  I've been on this square for twenty moves!

\* \* \*

Exasperated wife to husband, who is coming across front  
room floor with shoes in hand as the clock strikes two:

"You've overstepped your time limit, dear!"

\* \* \*

Oliver Wendell Holmes writes in 1892, in the "Autocrat  
At The Breakfast Table",

"Vulgar chess-players have to play their game  
out; nothing short of the brutality of an  
actual mate satisfies their dull apprehen-  
sions. But look at two masters of that no-  
ble game! White stands well enough, so far  
as you can see; but Black says, 'Mate in  
six moves'; - White looks, -nods; - the  
game is over! "

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M A I L I N G        A D D R E S S

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