

Pair Finish in Tie for First Place in Chess Tournament

MAY 13 1955

PG&E Players Schedule Match

By Dr. H. J. Ralston

Alex Nikitin and Eric Salo finished in a tie for first place in the advanced players' tournament of the Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

The two top men will play a short match to determine the champion. Here are the final standings:

Alex Nikitin	8-1
Eric Salo	8-1
David Lee	7-2
George Mansatis	5½-3½
Dick Moon	5-4
S. Davies	4-5
Leo Orloff	3-6
Clarence Young	3-6
Simon Peters	1-8
George Wlwoł	½-8½

The PG&E team finished second in the team tournament of the Bay Area Industrial Chess League. This was very good, considering that it was the team's maiden attempt.

Win Book Prizes

Karl Bopp Jr. and Richard Neeld, both of San Francisco, win book prizes for the best analyses of the end-game by A. Kazantsev, published in this column two weeks ago. This composition won first prize in an important competition in 1953.

The best play for both sides is: 1 R-Kt7, Q-K4; 2 B-Q1ch, K-R4; 3 P-Kt4ch, K-R3; 4 B-K2ch, QxB; 5 K-Kt8, Q-K4ch; 6 K-B8, Q-K1ch; 7 K-B7, BxP; 8 P-R8-(Q)ch, QxQ; 9 R-Kt6ch, K-R2; 10 P-Kt5, B-Kt2; 11 R-R6ch, BxR; 12 P-Kt6 checkmate.

Bopp and Neeld sent in perfect solutions to this very pretty—and difficult—ending. Congratulations!

A number of our very best solvers were fooled by the near try 4 B-Kt3, which leads to a win in most variations, but not all. Black's best reply is BxP.

We warned our solvers that Task No. 95, the three-mover by Dr. A. Kraemer, was very tricky, but apparently our readers didn't believe us!

Extra Points

Over 50 per cent of our solvers sent in R-B1 or R-R1, or both, as key-moves, and claimed extra points for "cooking" the problem.

However, after R-B1 or R-R1, Black promotes his pawn to a Bishop, and if White now plays B-B2, Black is stale-mated!

As given last week, the correct (and only!) key-move is K-B8, with very pretty play.

Here is another ending, White

Task No. 97—By R. Thompson



White Mates in Two Moves

(Value four points)

Answer to Task No. 96: P-Kt4

to play and draw, which won a prize a couple of years ago. It is by the Russian composer A. P. Gulyaev.

White (six men): King on QB6; Rook on KR5; Bishop on KB8; Pawns on K3, K5, and QR4.

Black (four men): King on KKt1; Rook on QR3; Bishop on QKt3; Pawn on KB7. White to play and draw.

East-West Matches

We offer a copy of a recent chess publication for best analysis. Solutions should be post-marked not later than May 18.

Don't forget the team match between East Bay and West Bay tomorrow night at Mechanics' Institute, 8 p.m. Everybody is welcome.

Deadline for entry in the San Francisco championship tournament is Friday, May 20, midnight. Send your entry to Guthrie McClain, 244 Kearny-st, fourth floor, San Francisco 8.

The following bitter struggle occurred at board 4 in the recent match between Mechanics' Institute and Golden Gate.

QUEEN'S PAWN

White—D. Poliakoff

Black—H. Gross

1 P-Q4	Kt-KB3	27 RxPch	KxR
2 Kt-Q2	P-Q4	28 QxRch	Q-K3
3 KKt-B3	B-B4	29 Q-Q3	K-Kt1
4 P-KKt3	P-B4	30 R-Q1	B-K2
5 PxP	Kt-B3	31 B-Kt6	R-Kt1
6 P-B3	P-K4	32 B-K3	R-Q1
7 Kt-Kt3	P-QR4	33 Q-B2	RxRch
8 P-QR4	P-Q5	34 QxR	Q-Q3
9 B-Q2	PxP	35 Q-Kt3ch	K-R1
10 PxP	Kt-K5	36 P-R4	B-B3
11 B-Kt2	KtxP/4	37 Q-B7	Q-K2
12 O-O	Q-Kt3	38 Q-Q5	Q-QB2
13 KtxKt	BxKt	39 Q-K6	B-K2
14 Kt-R4	B-K3	40 B-Kt5	BxB
15 R-Kt1	Q-R3	41 PxB	Kt-K2
16 R-Kt5	B-K2	42 P-KB4	Q-B4ch
17 B-K3	R-Q1	43 K-B1	PxP
18 Q-Kt1	O-O	44 PxP	Kt-B4
19 Kt-B5	KR-K1	45 Q-K8ch	K-Kt2
20 B-K4	B-B5	46 Q-Q7ch	K-Kt3
21 R-Kt6	Q-R1	47 Q-K8ch	K-Kt2
22 RxP	B-Q4	48 Q-Q7ch	K-Kt1
23 BxB	RxB	49 Q-K6ch	K-B1
24 Q-Kt6	Q-B1	50 Q-B6ch	K-Kt1
25 KtxKtP	B-Q1		Draw agreed
26 Q-Kt3	KxKt		