THE CHESS PLAYER By Dr. H. J. Ralston

TASK No. 53-By H. Kuner



WHITE MATES IN TWO MOVES (Value 4 points)

Answer to Task No. 51: 1, Q-Kt8. If 1... R-B2; 2, Q-Kt6ch. If 1... R-Q3; 2, Q-R7ch.

Answer to Task No 53 should be postmarked not later than January 29. It is required only that White's first move be given.

THE game given in today's column, between A. Kotov and G. Barcza, in our opinion deserves to be ranked among the great games of chess history. It will be recalled that the game between G. Stoltz and H. Steiner was awarded the first brilliancy prize in the Interzonal Tournament at Saltsjobaden (see THE ARGO-NAUT for November 28). That was a very fine game indeed, but not, we believe, comparable with the follow-

ing game, which was awarded the second brilliancy prize. It would be no exaggeration to say that this game is worthy of Morphy, Capablanca or Alekhine at their best.

The really extraordinary feature of the game is the leisurely manner in which the final assault on the black King is conducted. Barcza is forced to sit and wait, while watching the approach of the executioner.

The notes to the game are based upon the annotations in the December issue of *Deutsche Schachzeitung*.

KING'S INDIAN White Black G. Barcza A. Kotov Kt-KB3 1. P-O4 2. P-OB4 P-KKt3 3. Kt-QB3 B-Kt2 4. P-K4 P-O3 5. P-KK:3 0.0 6. B-Kt2 7. KKt-K2 P-K4 PxP 8. KtxP Kt-B3! 9. Kt-B2 Najdorf against Bronstein, Budapest 1950, continued 9, Ktx Kt, PxKt; 10, O-O, Kt-Q2! and Black obtained the superior game. B-K3 9. . . . 10. P-Kt3 0.02 B-R6 11. 0.0 12. P-B3 BxB 13. KxB P-OR3 14. B-Kt2 Kt-R2 QR-Ktl was correct. P-OKt4 15. 0.02 P.B3 16. Kt-K3 To keep out the white Knights, but now the QP is weak, **OR-O1** 17. OR-O1 18. Kt-K2 O-B2 Black should have brought his QKt into the game. 19. B-B3 Q-K2 Kt-K1 20. Kt-O4 Trying to meet the threat of Kt-B5. 21. Kt(O4)-B5!! PxKt 22. KtxP Q-B2 If 22 . . . Q-K3; 23. BxB, KtxB; 24. Q-Kt5, Q-K4; 25. Kt-R6ch, K-R1; 26. QxR! and wins. KtxKt 23. KtxB K-R1 24. B-B6!! R-KKt1 25. Q-Kt5 26. P-KR4 OR-K1 R-K4 27. P-R5 PxB 28. BxR 29. Q-B6 Kt-B1 Kt-K2 30. P-R6 Resigns 31. R-Q2! White will double Rooks and then play R-Q8. Black is help-

less, A wonderful game!

Imre König, the well-known master and author, gave a simultaneous exhibition at the Golden Gate Chess Club, Hotel Cecil, San Francisco, on December 30. Meeting 20 players, König won 14 games, lost 2 and drew 4, in a trifle over 3 hours play. Robert Currie and Charles Bagby won their games in pretty style.

Mr. König has established residence in California, and is available for exhibitions, lectures, etc. We shall be happy to hear from chess clubs which would like to see Mr. König in action.

Siegfried Engelhardt Verlag announces publication of what may well be one of the most important books of recent years— *Emanuel Lasker*, by Dr. J. Hannak of Vienna. The book is distinguished by a foreword by Professor Albert Einstein. The book is a complete biographical treatment of the late World Champion, and contains 100 of the great master's games. The German master Rudolf Tescher and other leading players contribute to the purely chess part of the work.

The book contains 330 pages, and is priced at DM 10.80, plus 40 Pfg. postage. The address of the publisher is Remstaler Strasse 21, Berlin-Frohnau, Germany. This looks like a must for all chess-lovers.

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