

# WEST VIRGINIA



# CHESS BULLETIN

Number 101

OCTOBER, 1952

BECKLEY, OVER THE Labor Day week-end, provided our membership with as enjoyable, exciting, and satisfactory a State Congress as could be desired.

The local Chess Club, co-operating with the local Elks, provided a comfortable playing room, excellent dining-room service, and spared no effort to make all of us personally welcome.

Group pictures were taken during Monday's final round, and anyone wishing a copy (or copies) may obtain same by sending Mr. Harlow Warren of 320 Kanawha St., Beckley, W. Va., two dollars for each print.

Mr. Foy, as usual, co-operated with the local press through Mr. Springer and we received excellent publicity in several issues of the local papers.

Our entry fees, in addition to contributions and subscriptions from our membership injected sufficient financial life into our depleted treasury to make it feasible for us to continue PRINTING the Bulletin.

Modesty and lack of space prevents publishing the many commendatory comments received from a variety of sources.

Disappointingly notable to all who know them, was the absence of those two genial persons, Reid Holt and Allen DuVall.

The post of Tournament Director was capably filled by Mr. William

Hartling, who, without previous notice or warning performed this difficult and thankless task with the utmost efficiency.

Dr. S. Werthammer of Huntington won the West Virginia Chess Championship for the eighth time of ten annual tournaments. First place, however, in this event went to Norman Whitaker of Washington, D. C., a player of note since the "twenties". He was not eligible for the title of state champion.

Rudd Neel, of Huntington, oldest competitor in the congress, won the "Open" tournament with the perfect score of 6-0. Cpl. David Marples, now at Camp Lejeune, N. C. with the Marine Corps, was runner-up and Harold McClung of Huntington placed third.

As usual, Donald Burdick and Charles Morgan, both of Huntington, tied for the junior championship and will represent West Virginia in the "Tri-State". Edward Foy tied with the above named and is eligible, as runner-up to Dr. Werthammer, to play in Tri-State Senior event.

The innovation, seniors and juniors playing in the same event, was accomplished with satisfaction to all concerned.

Besides Mr. Whitaker, we were favored by the entry of two strong non-resident players: Dr. L. C. Young of Madison, Wis. and Mr. J. R. Isbell of Washington, D. C.

(See tournament results on last page of Bulletin.)

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

In the absence of President Liggett, the President Neel called the meeting at 12:30 P. M., Elk's Club, Beckley, W. Va.

Treasurer Holt's annual report was read and approved.

The Chair requested Mr. William Hartling of St. Albans to act as the tournament Director. Mr. Hartling accepted and asked Messrs. Hurt and Daniel to assist him.

It was decided to play two tournaments: Championship—open to all, including juniors, and the Open. As three entrants were non-resident, it was explained that only a resident of West Virginia could obtain Championship title. It was further explained that the two ranking West Virginia Seniors and the two ranking Virginia Juniors would represent their state in the 1952 "Tri-State".

A vote of thanks was extended to Werthammer and his friends in Huntington for the donation of trophies to be awarded at this Congress. Meeting adjourned pro tem at 1:00 P. M.

The Business Meeting was re-opened at Elks' Club, Beckley, 8:45 P. M., September 1, 1952, Mr. Neel presiding.

The following officers for the coming fiscal year were unanimously elected: President—Harlow Warren, Beckley; Vice-President — Edward Foy, Charleston; Secretary-Treasurer—William Hartling, St. Albans; Publicity—Edward Foy; Public Relations—John F. Hurt, Jr., Charleston. It was the sense of the meeting that present Bulletin Staff continue to serve. They are V. S. Hayward, D.; S. Werthammer, M. D.; Charles Morgan, all of Huntington. A vote of thanks was accorded to Holt for his services accompanied by a note of regret that he could no longer remain in office. A vote of appreciation was extended to the Beckley Chess Club, the Beckley Elks' Club, and particularly Mr. Harlow Warren, President.

Mr. Warren responded briefly and suitably.

Charles Morgan reminded the membership that the coming "Tri-State" would be held in Somerset, Pennsylvania and cordially invited all present, who were not committed to the Championship events, to enter the Ohio Valley Open.

Dr. Werthammer took the floor to introduce a most interesting subject viz: WVCA request from U. S. Chess Federation permission to hold the 1953 U. S. Junior Championship in Huntington. This thought was intended to honor Donald Burdick, whose remarkable showing at Omaha should be a source of gratification to all. (Donald placed third and won the prize for those under sixteen.) Donald's father responded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 A. M. Respectfully submitted, V. S. Hayward, Sec., (Acting).

"TRI-STATE"

The annual Tri-State Congress will meet on November 8-9, 1952 at ~~Marion Hotel in Somerset, Penn.~~

With reference to holding the U. S. Junior Championship Tournament in Huntington next year a letter has been sent to Mr. Frank R. Graves. In submitting the appended games Dr. Werthammer remarks:

"Dr. Werthammer slowly wrests the attack from his opponent, Dr. L. C. Young, an aggressive and often brilliant player.

"Armstrong, a welcome addition to West Virginia's top players, holds the famous Whitaker to a draw."

White: N. T. Whitaker  
Black: G. W. Armstrong  
Ruy Lopez

Exchange Variation  
1 P-K4 P-K4  
2 N-KB3 N-QB3  
3 B-N5 P-QR3  
4 BxN QPxB  
5 N-B3

This gives Black an easy game. The usual P-Q4 is preferable.

5 B-KN5  
B-QB4 is more aggressive. Nxp then is bad because of Q-Q5.

6 P-KR3 BxN  
7 QxB N-B3  
8 Q-N3 Q-Q3  
9 P-Q3 O-O-O  
10 P-B4 PxP  
11 BxP Q-Q2  
12 Q-B2  
Black threatened . . . N-R4.  
12 P-QN3  
13 0-0-0 B-N5

After B-B4 Black has rather the better of it, while after the text White gets some play in the center.

14 B-K5 N-K  
15 P-R3 B-Q3  
16 P-Q4 P-B3  
17 Q-K2 K-N2  
18 KR-B Q-K2  
19 BxB NxB  
20 P-K5 PxP  
21 PxP N-B2  
22 QR-K KR-K  
Nothing has come of the center push. The White KP is weak.  
23 Q-R5 NxB  
Black can get at least an easy draw with Q-N4ch.  
24 R-K4 P-N3  
25 Q-K2 Q-N4ch

A sharp try to force the game which only leads to a draw.  
26 K-N R-Q7  
27 Q-K QxP  
28 R-N Q-R7  
29 R-R Q-N7  
30 R-N Q-R7  
31 R-R Drawn.

White: S. Werthammer  
Black: L. C. Young  
Three Knights' Game  
1 P-K4 P-K4  
2 N-KB3 N-KB3  
3 N-B3 B-N5  
4 N-Q5  
Safer than NxF.  
4 NxB

Better is N-B3 or even B-K2, as the P on White's Q5 will prevent speedy development of Black's Q-wing.  
5 PxN 0-0  
6 B-B4 P-Q3  
7 P-KR3!  
Preventing the pin.  
N-Q2

Cumbersome; the strength of the P on Q5 is evident.  
8 0-0 P-K5  
Impatient aggressiveness which only promotes White's game.  
9 N-R2 N-K4  
10 B-N3 B-QB4  
11 K-R Q-R5  
12 P-KB4 PxP e.p.  
13 NxB NxB

Black's premature action on the K-wing results in strong pressure for White on the KB file. His immediate threat is P-B3 and P-Q4. Black has no good place for his QB.  
14 B-Q2  
15 P-Q3 P-KR4?

An unsound plan to post the QB aggressively. Defense is in order—by P-KB3 followed by QR-K.  
16 B-Q2 QR-K  
If B-KN5, as possibly intended after P-KR4, 17 Q-B4 followed by B-K.

To escape to the K-wing from the threat of P-B3 and P-Q4 with imprisonment on the Q-wing. But the KB will be in hot water also on the K-side. Still good is P-KB3, though Black has a difficult game.  
18 RxR BxR  
19 P-B3 B-K4  
20 B-K! Q-B3  
21 Q-K2!

After QxQ, BxQ; 22 R-B5 wins the KRP; but after 23 RxRP, P-N3; 24 R-R6, K-N2; 25 B-Q2 the rook is in difficulties.  
21 Q-N4  
22 P-Q4 B-KB3  
23 B-QB2 QxP?

Loses a piece, but Black's position is hopeless. On most of Black's replies B-Q2 is decisive.  
24 Q-Q3 P-KN3  
25 RxB K-N2  
26 P-B4 Q-KN4  
27 R-B P-Q4  
28 PxP QxP  
29 B-QN3 B-N4  
30 BxQ BxQ  
31 R-B3

White won after 32 more moves.

## CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

PLAYERS	R O U N D S						Score
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
1. Norman Whitaker Washington, D. C.	D 10	W 12	W 3	W 2	W 4	W 8	5½-0½
2. Dr. S. Werthammer Huntington	W 9	W 2	W 6	L 1	W 3	D 4	4½-1½
3. Dr. L. C. Young, Madison, Wis.	W 5	W 4	L 1	W 6	L 2	W 9	4 -2
(4. Donald Burdick, Huntington	W 11	L 3	W 8	W 7	L 1	D 2	3½-2½
Tie (5. Edward Foy, Charleston	L 3	W 11	L 7	W 12	D 6	W 10	3½-2½
(6. Charles Morgan, Huntington	W 7	W 10	L 2	L 3	D 5	W 11	3½-2½
(7. Andy Hoke, Morgantown	L 6	W 9	W 5	L 4	L 8	W 12	3 -3
Tie (8. John Hurt, Jr., Charleston	W 12	L 2	L 4	W 10	W 7	L 1	3 -3
9. Bruce Marples, South Charleston	L 2	L 7	L 10	W 11	W 12	L 3	2 -4
10. G. W. Armstrong, New Martinsville	D 1	L 6	W 9	L 8	L 11	L 6	1½-4½
(11. William Hartling, St. Albans	L 4	L 5	L 12	L 9	W 10	L 6	1 -5
Tie (12. John R. Isbell, Washington, D. C.	L 8	L 1	W 11	L 5	L 9	L 7	1 -5

## OPEN TOURNAMENT

1. Rudd Neel, Huntington	W 10	W 6	W 2	W 7	W 4	W 9	6 -0
2. Cpl. Dave Marples, Camp Lejeune, N. C.	W 5	W 4	L 1	W 2	W 7	W 6	5 -1
3. H. McClung, Huntington	L 8	L 5	W 10	W 8	D 9	W 10	3½-2½
(4. C. McDaniel, Beckley	W 8	L 2	W 6	W 5	L 1	L 3	3 -3
Tie (5. Harlow Warren, Beckley	L 3	W 3	L 9	L 4	W 10	W 7	3 -3
(6. A. Rohrer, Beckley	W 3	L 1	L 4	D 10	W 8	L 2	2½-3½
Tie (7. Dr. B. Silverman, Beckley	D 9	W 10	W 8	L 1	L 2	L 5	2½-3½
(8. H. Burdick, Huntington	L 4	W 9	L 7	L 3	L 6	W 10	2 -4
Tie (9. Dr. V. S. Hayward, Huntington	D 7	L 8	W 5	L 2	D 3	L 1	2 -4
10. Dr. R. Broadus Beckley	L 1	L 7	L 3	D 6	L 5	L 8	0½-5½

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