

Merry  
Christmas

# WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

Happy  
New Year

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## TWELFTH ANNUAL TRI-STATE CONGRESS

The Tri-State was held at Huntington, W. Va., on Nov. 9-10 at the Governor Cabell Hotel. George Koltanowski directed.

Donald Burdick, West Virginia co-champion, won the championship tournament with a score of 4-1. He tripped on one game of 14 moves, won by Richard Noel, Jr., Ohio Junior Champion. Second was Young Ross Sprague of Cleveland with 3-2. Sprague, the runner-up in the Ohio State Championship, was declared the Tri-State Junior Champion. Two leading players from Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia competed in the round robin.

Held concurrently was the 19 player Ohio Valley Open, a 5-round Swiss won by Jerry Hanken of Covington, Ky., with  $4\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$ . Second place was a triple tie with Edward Foy and John Hurt, Jr., both of Charleston, and Tom Bergquist of Huntington, ranking in that order after the tie-break.

Huntington merchants donating prizes were M. D. Angel, Collins and Childers, Dunhill's, and Scandia Glass. The Hobby Shop was helpful, and Rogers and Co. engraved a trophy gratis, assisting greatly our none-too-robust treasury.

A word of praise for the Hotel's courteous treatment of their player guests is in order. The local newspapers and radio gave good coverage.

Of the twenty-five players, nine live in Huntington. Others often attending these events were unable to play because of illness and other good and sufficient reasons.

Correcting an error given to our

local press, Burdick is not the first Tri-State champion from this state. He was preceded years ago by Landis Marks and Dr. Werthammer.

## KOLTANOWSKI AT THE TRI-STATE

On Friday, Nov. 8, George Koltanowski gave his celebrated Knight's Tour, which must be seen to be appreciated. Afterward he played a 12-board simultaneous, and was held to draws by Morgan and Sayre. His two feats were all the more remarkable, considering that he also competed "simultaneously" with a noisy football pep rally, a banquet of jolly good fellows, and a demonstration of electric organs.

His tournament direction the next two days was a model of quiet efficiency. He forestalled trouble. He did not have to be informed who was in time pressure. He knew it without being told. He also spotted faulty clocks and cautioned their owners. Loud talkers he quietly waved outside.

A kind-hearted person, his disappointment over the small "house" was as keen as anyone else's.

## A REMINDER

Your president and former Editor at this moment is particularly pleased to address the WVCA and emphasize that the workers in this chosen field need every helping hand that can be offered.

Payment of annual dues is but part of what may be called a duty and a privilege of membership.

## TOUR BY HOROWITZ

Mr. I. A. Horowitz, Editor of Chess Review, and well known personally to many readers, will make an exhibition tour after the first of the year. If you are interested in meeting him one night in Charleston, please let Dr. Hayward know.



to have wriggled out of a desperate opening mess.

### IRREGULAR OPENING

(Note by P.S.: I inject a few comments on the mid-game — for intermediate players.)

1 P-K4, N-QB3; 2 P-Q4, P-Q3;  
31 P-KB4, P-K3; 4 N-QB3, P-KN3;  
5 N-B3, N-R3; 6 B-Q3, P-B4;  
7 B-K3, B-Q2; 8 Q-Q2, Q-K2;  
Q O-O-O, B-N2; 10 K-N, PxP;  
11 NxP, O-O-O; 12 P-B3, K-N;  
13 KR-K, QR-K; 14 B-KB2, KR-B;  
15 P-KR4.

W: After an unorthodox defense by Black, the game is about even. White is free, but Black has latent strength — which erupts later. White would have done better to play here B-R4, P-K3 and then N-N5. After the text his K-wing Ps becomes weak.

15 . . . Q-B2; 16 N/4-N5, Q-N;  
17 P-R5, N-B4; 18 PxP, PxP;  
19 P-KN4; N-K2; 20 R-R, P-K4!

W: With this sudden stroke Black takes the initiative.

21 QPxP, BxNP; 22 PxP, PxP

(S: Now, if 23 BxP, NxB; 24 QxPch, K-R; 25 QxKN, B-B4ch.

I remember seeing Black's refutation with relief at this point. A good player would have seen it before committing himself with P-K4)

23 QR-N, BxN.

W: An excellent exchange, removing White's most aggressive piece.

24 NxB, Q-Q4.

W: With the threat, RxP! 25 QxR,

QxBch; 26 K-R, R-KB.

25 R-R3, N-K4!!?

W: Beautiful, but Black overreaches himself.

(S: Curiosity costs me a pawn.)

26 PxN, RxN; 27 RxR, QxR; 28 PxP, N-B4

(S: Here 29 RxP, B-R3; 30 P-Q7, R-Q; 31 Q-K2 seems good. It's an interesting game to fool around with. Suppose 31.. KxQ; 32 BxQ, RxP; 33 B-N4, R-Q4; 34 BxN, R-Q8ch regains the piece — by 35 K-B2, R-Q7ch and 36... RxB — but White remains a P ahead. Hindsight, of course.

29 BxN allows R-K7.)

29P-B4??

W: 29 P-Q7, R-Q; 30 BxN, QxBch would have at least drawn.

29... B-R3!

W: This is the key move of the combination.

(S: Actually, this was played only to permit 30... NxP without incurring 31 B-N3 — after which ...B-B5 would stop the pin.

The other threat dawned on me later.)

30 Q-B2, NxP.

(S: Here 31 BxP, N-K5 looks interesting. Perhaps the pawn is immune.)

31 RxP.

W: This permits an elegant finish. It is extremely doubtful whether White could have saved the game, at any rate.

32... Q-R8ch; 33 R-N, QxRch; 34 Resigns.

President W. Va. Chess Association: Dr. V. S. Hayward, 1128 Ninth Avenue, Huntington, W. Va.

Vice President: Dr. Dominique Mastel, Harpertown Road, Elkins, W. Va.  
Send News and Dues (\$2.00 per year) to Secretary-Treasurer, Charles T. Morgan, Philippi, W. Va.

Editor W. Va. Chess Bulletin: Paul A. Sayre, Phone JA 2-7917, 1033 14th St., Huntington, W. Va.