

ABOUT A 1944 TOURNAMENT

Ballots will^{**} be prepared within the next 10 days on plans for the 1944 tournament of the West Virginia Chess Association.

Directors will be asked among other things: (1) Shall we hold the tourney this year? (2) Where shall we hold it? (3) When? (4) Under what regulations?

Cities desiring to bid for the 1944 meet should write the secretary at once, in order that this information may be furnished to the directors.

Members will be informed of the directors' action in the next bulletin and, shortly thereafter, a call will be sent out to determine the probable attendance.

Any suggestions for the tournament will be appreciated.

VOICE OF THE MEMBERS

Harold C. Heisey, Springfield, Ohio (Feb. 10): "Enjoyed the Koltanowski article in the last Bulletin. Finally won the match with Stewart L. Tatum for our city title."

(Congratulations, Harold! Are you planning to join us this year for another crack at the West Virginia title?)

Sam Abrahams, Huntington (March 2): "There's very little doing in chess in Huntington. I have not attended the club in many weeks. One of our esteemed patrons, George Anthon, who was a regular attendant at the chess club, has been seriously ill for a long time."

(We sorrow to hear of Mr. Anthon's illness and wish him a speedy recovery. For proof that chess is not entirely departed from Huntington, see an Abrahams letter elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin.)

Mrs. Richard C. (Toni) Grimm, Charleston (March 6): "Dick seems to be too busy to take care of his correspondence so he asked me to write you. He is working a 48-hour week, has 20 correspondence chess games going and this week he is bowling in the city tournament... Irving Lowens won first place in the city chess tournament. Dick Manahan was second and Dick Grimm third (tie). I finished twelfth. I would have finished farther down only that was the bottom--everyone beat me. Dick says he feels that his chess has improved a lot due to the six games of correspondence chess which he has been playing with Koltanowski... Last week Dick Manahan played simultaneous chess against the rest of the members present. This week an East Side-West Side match has been played, all players living east of Elk river playing all those west of it. We expect to start a league March 13... There are a couple of chess stories which we thought would interest you--'The Royal Game' by Stefan Zweigg in the March issue of Woman's Home Companion and 'The Edd Game' in March's Good Housekeeping."

(Continued on Page Four)

HURT AND MOTT WIN IN CONTEST No. 2

BLACK

	R	R		K
P		P		P
	P		P	
				N Q
	P			P
	Q			
			P P	K

WHITE

Two best papers submitted on the questions in Prize Contest No. 2 (Bulletins 16 and 17) came from Johnny Hurt, Charleston, and Milford B. Mott, Arthurdale. As there were two questions and each solver strove most manfully with a different one, it seems both should have prizes. As the association is obligated for only one of them, we're making a \$1 contribution to the association's funds (see next month's treasurer's report) to make up the difference. Arthur asks \$1 credit on "The Golden Treasury of Chess." What would you like for your prize, Johnny?

From the position given, Black has a hands-down win if he makes the moves suggested by Dick Grimm--24...Q-K4ch, 25 P-N3 Q-KB4. Mott in Col.

3 herewith demonstrates that win most conclusively, and Hurt, without going all through it, says, "Black's game looks best." Liggett's suggestion, 24...Q-B7, as he points out, gives White a draw by perpetual check and is, therefore, inferior. It results in some interesting variations, given in Cols. 1 and 2. The first column, stemming off 25 RxNp, is mostly Johnny Hurt. Johnny says it's a draw but we haven't found it, so leave the question open. Col. 2 is by Mott and follows 25 N-B7ch. Aside from the perpetual, White can find nothing but losses.

Following are notes:

(a) Hurt calls 25...KxR "forced." Mott points out that if 25...R-N?, 26 RxPch QxR, 27 QxQ mate and if 25...Q-B4?, 26 RxPch K-N, 27 R-R8ch K-N2, 28 Q-R6mate.

(b) If 26...K-R?, 27 Q-B6ch K-N and White can draw by perpetual check (Mott).

(c) If 27...Q-N3?, 28 N-B7ch K-R4, 29 P-N4ch KxP (if 29...QxP, 30 Q-R6mate), 30 N-K5ch K-R4, 31 NxQ PxN, 32 Q-N5 mate (Mott).

(d) If 28 N-K4 R-KN, 29 Q-B7ch KxP, 30 QxRPch K-N5 and even if 31 N-B6ch and wins the Q, the Black Q-side pawns will win. There a number of other variations after 27...K-R4 but if Black is careful he will escape checkmate and eventually win. (Mott)

- | (1) | (2) | (3) |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 24. <u>Q-R5</u>
<u>Q-B7</u> | | <u>Q-K4ch</u> |
| 25. <u>RxNP</u>
<u>KxR(a)</u> | <u>N-B7ch(h)</u>
<u>K-N</u> | <u>P-N3</u>
<u>Q-KB4</u> |
| 26. <u>Q-B7ch</u>
<u>K-R3(b)</u> | <u>N-Q6(i)(j)</u>
<u>Q-N3</u> | <u>N-B7ch(o)</u>
<u>K-N</u> |
| 27. <u>Q-B6ch</u>
<u>K-R4(c)</u> | <u>Q-B3(k)</u>
<u>P-B6(l)</u> | <u>N-N5(p)</u>
<u>QxPch</u> |
| 28. <u>N-B7(d)</u>
<u>KR-N</u> | <u>NxR</u>
<u>QxN(m)</u> | <u>K-R</u>
<u>Q-B8ch</u> |
| 29. <u>Q-R6ch</u>
<u>K-N5</u> | <u>R-Q</u>
<u>P-B7</u> | <u>K-R2</u>
<u>Q-B7ch(q)</u> |
| 30. <u>QxKPch</u>
<u>K-B5(e)</u> | <u>R-QB</u>
<u>Q-B</u> | <u>K-R</u>
<u>Q-B4</u> |
| 31. <u>P-N3ch</u>
<u>K-B6(f)</u> | <u>Q-K4</u>
<u>Q-Q3ch</u> | <u>R-KB7?</u>
<u>Q-N3(r)</u> |
| 32. <u>Q-K3ch</u>
<u>K-N5</u> | <u>P-N3</u>
<u>Q-Q4</u> | |
| 33. <u>Q-B4ch</u>
<u>K-R4</u> | <u>Q-K2</u>
<u>Q-B5(n)</u> | |
| 34. <u>P-N4ch</u>
<u>K-N3</u> | | |
| 35. <u>P-R5ch</u>
<u>K-N2(g)</u> | | |

HURT AND MOTT WIN IN CONTEST NO. 2 (continued from page 2)

- (e) If 30...Q-B4; 31 N-K5ch wins. If 30...K-R4, 31 K-R3 wins (Hurt).
- (f) If 31...RXP, 32 Q-K5ch K-B6, 33 Q-K3ch K-N5, 34 QxRch K-B4, 35 N-Q6ch wins R and game (Hurt).
- (g) Hurt gives this position as "drawn." We wonder. There are many possible lines and we haven't checked them all but--for instance: 36 P-R6ch K-B (if 36...K-N3, 37 N-K5 mate), 37 N-K5 dis ch K-K2 (if 37...K-K White mates in two), 38 Q-B7ch K-Q3 (forced), 39 Q-B6ch K-B4 or Q-4 (if 39...K-B2, 40 Q-B6ch K-N, 41 N-Q7 mate). After Black's 39th move (K-B4 or Q4) it looks to us as if Black will get his Q to safety and win--but perhaps Johnny sees a different line which insures a draw. How's about it, Johnny? (Collett).
- (h) If 25 Q-B7 Q-N3, 26 QxQ PxQ, 27 N-B7ch K-N, 28 N-Q3 KR-Q and Black wins (Mott).
- (i) 26 N-R6ch K-R and White draws by perpetual check. If, however, 27 Q-B7 Q-N3 wins for Black. If 26...PxN???, 27 Q-B7ch K-R, 28 Q-N7 mate (Liggett).
- (j) If 26 N-K5 Q-B4, 27 Q-K2 (any White move which allows trading of Q's will lose) R-B, 28 R-Q2 P-B7 or R-B4 and Black will begin his P advance and should win (Mott).
- (k) If 27 QxQ^{PxQ} 28 NxKR (slightly better than 28 NxQR as it forces Black to lose a move in backing up the QBP) RxN, 29 RxRP (no use trying to take the BP) R-QB and Black's P will be queened. Or if 27 Q-K5 (or Q-QN5) R-B4 and White loses (Mott).
- (l) Not 27...R-B???, 28 N-R RxQ?, 29 N-K7ch K-B (if 29...K-R, 30 R-Q8ch and White mates in 2), 30 NxQch K-K (if 30...PxN, 31 PxR and the White R can stop the Black QPs, take them and win), 31 N-K5 and White can take the Ps and win (Mott).
- (m) If 28...RxR, 29 QxR (Mott).
- (n) Black should queen a P or two and win (Mott).
- (o) If 26 P-N4 Q-N3 forces exchange of Qs. If 26 Q-K2 R-B, 27 R-Q2 P-B6, 28 R-B2 P-KR3, 29 N-R3 P-QN4 and Black should win. If 26 RxRP KR-Q, 27 R-N7 QxPch (Black dares not exchange Rs), 28 K-R3 Q-B8ch and Black will mate in 2 (Mott).
- (p) If 27 N-R6ch? PxN, 28 QxP Q-N3 and Black should win as White must not exchange Qs and his attack is done (Mott).
- (q) Black has a draw through perpetual check (Mott).
- (r) After which White must retreat and is lost (Mott).

MEMO: Johnny Hurt also offers a suggestion for a forced check by White somewhat earlier in the game but we will leave that for discussion in a later issue of the Bulletin.

RELATED ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Three of our Christmas cards (it's rather late getting around to them) had a chessic flavor. Those from Member George Koltanowski and from P. L. Rohenberg, problem editor of Chess Review, had problems for us to solve. Kolti's was especially clever--the board was set up in reverse and had to be read in a mirror to get at the problem. The third card was from Dick Randolph, a V-mail special of a Dave Breger cartoon. Dick isn't a member but has several Clarksburg friends among the members so we'll give his address in case any of them needs it: Cpl. R. S. Randolph 35376332, Det. "A", 14th P/E, TC, APO 646, New York, N. Y. (And we think we'll send him a copy of this bulletin, too, just for old sake's sake. Howya doin', Dick? Anxious to get back to the States and get across a chess table from some of the Clarksburg gang again?)

VOICE OF THE MEMBERS (continued from Page One)

Frank Wisinski, Clarksburg (march 4): "Chess activities here are confined to our weekly Tuesday night meetings at Bill Challinor's. Rev. Erhard, Sam Allison, Bill and myself usually turn up for the session. Ray Griffin has been pretty well tied up with income taxes so hasn't been around for a while. However, when the tax business is over, he'll probably be back. Bill Shaffer also drops in for a game or two. He's been doing quite well and his game has improved a lot. He's been winning pretty regularly here. I managed to get a win and a draw from him but he has been taking the others over. Met George Clark who said he and Bill have been playing some and thought we might be able to arrange a Sunday afternoon session sometime."

William Challinor, Clarksburg (March 6): "We still play chess at my place every Tuesday night. George Clark suggests that we all have a special get-together on several Sunday afternoons. I will suggest that Sundays would be the ideal time for Clarksburg championship games for those otherwise engaged on week nights." (

(But don't forget to make it possible for Bill Erhard to play his games on week days; as I recall, he is unable to get around to the Sunday sessions.)

ABOUT U.S.C.F. 1941-43 YEARBOOK

Some time ago we wrote Paul G. Giers, secretary of the U.S. Chess Federation, suggesting it would be a pity to discontinue the cloth-bound editions of the organization's Yearbook as that form made it available for use in libraries and many members would feel sad to have their bound files upset through a paper-covered edition.

We received this from Mr. Giers: "I note with interest your suggestion that some of the 1941-43 yearbooks should be cloth-bound, also that a history of the U. S. champions should be made a part of a future yearbook. Mr. Elbert A. Wagner, Jr., of Chicago, is our vice president in charge of publishing the yearbooks and I am turning over to him your letter together with a copy of this reply. I expect you will hear from Mr. Wagner."

This came from Mr. Wagner: "I am happy to advise you that some of the copies of the current yearbook are being ordered with the deluxe binding. These will cost an extra 50¢ which is very near the actual cost to the federation."

Those who desire the cloth-bound yearbook, therefore, should send a \$1.50 membership; those who want the paper-bound book, \$1. If you already are a USCF member and have paid only \$1, you can get the cloth-bound book for an additional 50¢.

Memberships and additional remittances should be sent to Paul G. Giers, 2304 South Avenue, Syracuse 7, N. Y.

"KT" DOWN, "N" UP IN CHESS REVIEW

Chess Review readers who favored "N" rather than "KT" for knight, including our own member Vincent Scofield, Charleston, have triumphed in a poll 124 to 20. The change-over will be made in an early issue.

BILL CHALLINOR DREAMS AGAIN

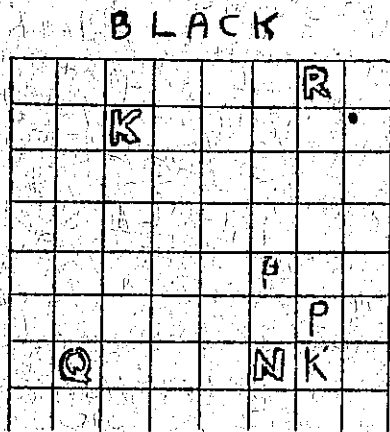
Dear Gene:

Early one evening some months ago, I sat down to solve the Sam Lloyd three-move chess problem which I made into a cover for you for the 1943 West Virginia Chess Yearbook (not yet published).

Well, I failed to solve it. In fact, it put me to sleep. While I was leaning my poor head on my arms, Old Man Morpheus intervened and mercifully enclosed me in his soothing arms.

The result was that in my trancelike slumber I had a dream, delightful in a way, yet weird and vivid. I dreamed I was ganged up with an international bunch of geologists and palentologists searching for rocks and fossil remains in a most god-forsaken part of Siberia at a point on the Arctic coast southeast of Wrangle Island.

Most of the time it was frightfully cold. In fact, some of the savants associated with the party informed me and others that the ground was sometimes frozen to a depth of 300 feet. It transpired that after



WHITE
(WHITE MATES IN THREE.)

days spent in digging through the shore ice, we came on the fossilized remains of a huge animal, probably of the genus Wow. We used burning pine logs to assist in scraping and cutting through the frozen ground. Needless to say, we spent most of the time sitting around (in turns) the log fires. After hours of scraping, we uncovered one side of the monster. It happened I was scraping at a side just below the shoulder, using a big chunk of raw bearskin to smooth away the small ice particles which clung tenaciously to the sides of the fossil, when I noticed marks of a deep cutting on what was once the hide. I worked on and on, deeply interested in what I was doing until I finally disclosed a deep carved square about six feet from side to side. To my amazement, I had uncovered a complete diagram of a chess position! In fact, it was the identical diagram of the Lloyd chess problem that had put me to sleep!

I made a great outcry. The others who happened to be not far away rushed up to see what it was all about. The exposed square engraved as it were on the side of the fossil reminded me very much of the big chess exhibition board Reid Holt introduced to us in our club room in the Hotel Gore at Clarksburg.

The wise men (savants) were simply astounded. However, after listening to quite a lot of theories as to the way and wherefore of the thing, we decided to pick two teams of chess players and contest the matter of which side could solve the problem first. Naturally, there are always to be found among scientific gentlemen quite a lot of good chess-players. Several pocket sets were with the boys, old and young, so we took time off and soon got very busy with the solving job.

I must say that among our supplies were large containers something like huge thermos bottles which held quite a number of gallons of

BILL CHALLINOR DREAMS AGAIN (Continued from preceding page)

vodka and other waters, strange waters to me, but welcome in that land of snow and ice. Many times it seemed to me that I had gazed on the wonderful Aurora Borealis with a piping hot mug of vodka held in my fist, gently sipping the contents with my back to the glowing pine logs.

But to get back to the game. My team had made great headway and once or twice shouted "Checkmate!" only to be baffled by a "fool" the clever variation that brought us down to earth again. Then--all at once --I saw the solution clearly when...

Suddenly I fancied I heard a distant voice calling, "Bill!" This Bill--calling continued, appearing to come closer and closer, finally winding up with a terrific "BILL!!!" such as I had once experienced in Fingal's Cave on the Island of Staffa, Scotland, when the tide of the wild Atlantic rushes in with a bellowing roar.

Then a tremendous wallop--a pounding on the door of my room. I was thus tragically awakened. The big voice at the door yelled--

"Bill! Don't you know this is a blackout!!!"

I staggered up and switched off the light. Damn those OCD wardens, I thought; through their intervention I have ^{been} robbed of my chance of discovering the key move of Lloyd's problem--for, sad to say, the fancied solution was gone. Alas! too for the piping hot honey-sweetened vodka I had been unduly euhred out of.

And, say, 'Gene, did I ever tell you about that nightmare I had? The one about the real ghost? Well...but never mind this time....

{MEMO: WE JUST REDISCOVERED THAT SAM LOYD SPELLED HIS NAME WITH ONE "L" - SORRY!}

--WILLIAM CHALLINOR

CHESS AND WAR BY SAM ABRAHAMS

Sam Abrahams, Huntington, recently had another of his fine chess letters in the Sunday Herald-Advertiser. He says he was indebted to Lt. Col. John J. Outcalt, Department of Military Arts and Engineering at the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., and officer in charge of the academy's chess club, for some of the subject matter. The article:

--o--

Chess is the world's oldest and most intellectual game. It is very imaginative, and preferred by many for its mental gymnastics and recreation. Army officers who have become addicted to chess claim it is helpful to mental discipline, and teaches reasoning, resourcefulness and ability to extricate oneself from difficult situations.

Chess is popular with all classes of cadets at the United States Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., where useful lessons are taught from the principles of the game, such as attack and defense, envelopment, penetration, surprise and mobility. The game is not required to be played there as part of the cadets' academic duties, but it is encouraged within certain limitations for the parallels that are delineated between chess maneuvers and military maneuvers. This system of teaching is very simple. A large chess board, which is in reality a miniature theatre of operations, is hung on the wall and the pieces used in the demonstration are movable.

Contests are frequently held in their chess club and with outside clubs. Weekly meetings are held.

(Continued on next page)

In chess, it depends upon the fighting capacity of our intellect whether we win or lose. It is a science of battle--a war without bloodshed. It is not a difficult game to learn. Many think it is too complicated. If a man were to devote just one-tenth of the time he normally wastes, to chess, he could very quickly learn to play it well, and live to enjoy it.

Should any of your readers need a little diversion from their arduous pursuits of business or profession, and who are not content to play just any game, we suggest and recommend chess. It is a game of pure skill, and the element of chance is wholly lacking. Its playing helps to counteract the growth of that illogical spirit which leads so many to squander their nerves and money, in their desire to become rich, to play games of chance. The YMCA Chess Club will gladly give information about the game.

NEWS FROM THE CHESS MAGAZINES

(CHESS REVIEW, 250 West 57th Street, New York 19, N. Y., \$3 a year, two years \$5.50, three years \$7.50.)

The Review comes out in a new, larger and more attractive format in the current number and now carries the subtitle "the picture chess magazine," which in reality it has been for a long time.

News notes from the Review:

Arnold S. Denker and Robert Willman, both former N.Y. state champions, tied for top in the Manhattan Chess Club, and Denker won the playoff in two straight...

Reuben Fine will play in the U.S. Championships April 1-22 in New York, contesting for the title held by Samuel Reshevsky, who won't play this year. Fine will get plenty of competition from Kashdan, Horowitz, Kupchik, Denker, Steiner, Santasiere and others. (Can you make it this year, Landis? We believe you'd go places! Entries should be mailed to L. Walter Stephens, 279 East 34th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.) Miss N. May Karff is expected to defend her U.S. women's title...

Mikhail Botvinnik retained his USSR title by winning the meet ended Jan. 11 at Moscow...

Pvt. Olaf I. Ulvestad, who was doing a series of chess books current in Clarksburg at the time he went to war, is now serving his country in North Africa...

World Champion Alekhine played in two tourneys at Prague last year, tying with Karl Junge in one and outpointing Paul Keres and 17 others in the second...An enemy broadcast a year ago had Alekhine dying in a Prague hospital and also said he was showing signs of mental disorder...Paul Keres won the Madrid tourney last October; Alekhine did not play...

Dr. Ariel A. A. Mengarini, 24-year-old graduate of the George Washington School of Medicine, became the new U.S. Amateur Champion by winning the meet at N.Y. in November. He has played chess since he was 6, was captain of the Harvard freshman team in 1938, won the D.C. championship in 1940, and was fifth in the Ventnor City tourney in 1941. He is now in the Medical Corps Reserve at San Diego, Calif....

Dr. Max Euwe, former world champion, again won the championship of Holland by defeating Van den Hoek in a Match in September.

NEWS FROM THE MAGAZINES (continued from preceding page)

(CHESS CORRESPONDENT, Walter F. James, 4123 Central St., Sioux City 20, Ia., free with \$3 membership in the Correspondence Chess League of America, or \$2 a year without membership.)

The Correspondent in its [#]Jan.-Feb. issue carries a letter from the U.S. Chess Federation giving its membership to Oct. 31, 1943, and we were disappointed to find that W. Va. has only two active members. We know one of them and suspect Ray Griffin, Clarksburg, is the other. How's about rounding up some of the WVCA members for the USCF, boys? We recall when Clarksburg alone had 7 or 8 and Charleston had more than that. We need only 6 to qualify for a director in the U.S.C.F. Let's qualify. Membership entitles the holder to the 1941-43 ^{YEARBOOK} which in itself is worth the price of admission (\$1 for paper-bound book, \$1.50 for cloth-bound).

The report says the U.S.C.F. membership totaled 299 on Oct. 31 which is too low--it should be thousands. Yet officials are encouraged as the number of members has dohled in the last year. The address for memberships is Paul G. Giers, 2304 South Avenue, Syracuse 7, N. Y.

Do members know that Chess Correspondent has reprinted Walt Crede's exciting chess story, "Game Ended," which appeared in Bull. 15? (How about another of those chess yarns, Walt--or has the fount of inspiration played out temporarily?)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT--November 20, 1943, to March 10, 1944

	Recd	Paid	Bal.
Bal. on hand Nov. 20 (see Bull. 17)			\$32.10
Bull. 17 Nov. 20 (70 copies 6 pp) mimeo	\$1.16		
stamped envelopes \$1.03		\$2.19	29.91
Bull. 18 Jan. 25 (70 copies 2 pp) mimeo	39¢		
stamped envelopes \$1.03		1.42	28.49
Correspondence with members		.42	28.07
Bal. in general fund March 10	\$28.07		
bal. in [#] correspondence tournament fund			\$2.50

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

'Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Avenue, Pittsburgh 10, Pa.

WE'RE ALL SET AND READY TO GO

As some of you know already, we're in our new home after 14 months of separation (except for fortnightly week-ends) from our family. Our typewriter (such as it is) and our mimeograph machine and now here with us. The business of getting settled is still occupying a considerable part of our time (as witnessed by the lateness of this bulletin), but the fact that we mean business now is indicated by its size and (we hope members will say) by its contents.

Also we are working a regular day-turn now (7 to 3:30 Monday to Friday) which gives us long week-ends to apply to the association--and to the Yearbook with which we hope soon to present our patient, long-suffering membership, not one of whom has, I am happy to say, so much as whispered a complaint against the delay.

Will all members who have agreed to prepare manuscripts for the Yearbook send them to us at once?--or at least within the next 10 days?

We're all set and ready to go!

EDITOR: 'GENE COLLETT, 125 MERITT AVENUE, PITTSBURGH 10, PA.