

WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

WVCA SETS NEW MEMBERSHIP MARK CAN WE REACH GOAL OF 100 THIS YEAR?

The 1944-45 membership campaign of the West Virginia Chess Association has been an unqualified success, and now a new membership record has been attained. During September, six newcomers joined the organization, bringing the total at the time of this writing to 61, or 5 more than the 1942-43 record of 56.

The six chessers who rallied to the cause last month were Robert Apgar, Robert Dexheimer, Allan Gilliland, Dan Lowder--all of Charleston--Cliff Mosier of Dunbar, and J. C. Thompson, secretary of the Texas Chess Association, Dallas. (If we keep adding out-of-state members, we will soon be expanding into a national organization--we're happy to have them, of course, but the thing we want is more and more West Virginia members: that above all.)

The records show West Virginia supports well over 200 chess-players, scattered throughout the state (this number is probably greater, due to a possible large percentage of fans of which we have no knowledge, we feel). Recently, for example, the Charleston Chess Club mailed out close to 100 printed postcards announcing the opening of the 1944-45 season. That number from Charleston alone. And mountain-earred cities like Clarksburg, Huntington, Wheeling, Montgomery, Parkersburg, Elkins, etc., have many Game du Royale-ers.

Is there any reason, then, why the WVCA should not set a membership goal of at least 100 for the 1944-45 year--and reach it? As far as we are able to discern, there is no reason why this could not be accomplished.

Therefore, let's set aside the time between October 10 and November 10 for a WVCA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE. If each member will make an effort to get at least one NEW member, we will have gone a long way toward reaching our newly-set 100-member goal. Perhaps we may even surpass it. So let's do our best! . . .

A LOOK AT THE RECORD

Of the 19 members who whirled in on the 1941-42 bandwagon (our first season), 15 renewed for the next year, or 79%. In 1942-43, there were 56 members; 41 renewed, or only 73% (we attribute this to our failure to get out a Yearbook and the scarcity of Bulletins throughout the year). Our maximum membership in 1943-44 was 50, of whom 44 have renewed, for 88%. . . . This, then, is our best RENEWAL year. Too, we have 17 NEW members to date--with the end by no means in sight!

We think this is pretty good for any organization of this kind, particularly under wartime conditions. But IS IT GOOD ENOUGH? We think not! It must be remembered West Virginia today has ONE OF THE BEST chess organizations in the nation. There should be no reason why we shouldn't have THE BEST!

DO YOUR BIT! Get at least ONE NEW MEMBER this month!

READING THE CHESS MAGAZINES

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

Sensation of the USCF Open Championship Tourney, won by Samuel Reshevsky, was 17-year-old Bob Steinmeyer, champion of St. Louis, who tied for 3rd. "Steinmeyer is the most promising youngster to appear on the U. S. chess horizon in recent times. His games demonstrate that he is a full-fledged master."

The U. S. Amateur Championship, another USCF event, starts Oct. 12 in New York. It is restricted to those who have never played in the finals of the U. S. Championship.

Dr. Ossip Bernstein, Franco-Russian master, has escaped from a Nazi concentration camp and is on his way to Barcelona.

Ray J. Lyman, Washington, D.C., has built an electric demonstration chessboard with 736 contact points, 1,500 feet of wire, 1,800 bolts.

Lajos Steiner and M. E. Goldstein tied for first in the New South Wales Championship tilt.

Leon Stolcenberg, Detroit, won the Michigan State title...The Indiana crown went to 'teen-age John Van Benton, who not only won, but got $13\frac{1}{2}$ points out of a possible 14.

Herman Pilnik, 1942 champion of Argentina, and Miguel Najdorf of Poland tied for first in the 7th international tourney at Mar del Plata, Brazil. It was Najdorf who reputedly broke the world's blindfold record by playing 40 games simultaneously, winning 36, drawing 1.

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(CHESS CORRESPONDENT, Walter F. James, 4057 Adams St., Sioux City 20, Iowa, \$2 a year, \$3 with CCLA membership.)

The Correspondence Chess League of America is watching with interest a match between its youngest member, James Meredith, 14, Annapolis, Md., and its oldest woman member, Mrs. Maude King, 78, Arlington, Tex.

To pep up its appeal to the public, The Australian Chess Review is changing its name to Check. The magazine reports chess replacing cards as the favorite game of the Australian army in New Guinea.

R. G. Wade won the championship of New Zealand by a 2-0 score in a match playoff tie with E. H. Severne.

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(CLEVELAND AREA CHESS BULLETIN, Joseph R. Dorsey, 1920 W. 48th St., Cleveland 2, Ohio, \$1 a year.)

The Northern Ohio Chess Tournament held Sept. 2-4 at Cleveland was won by M. E. Weiszmann of that city who scored $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ in the final round. The runner-up was Lee Sweet of Akron, 3-2; while J. Cohn, Cuyahoga County champion, was third, 2-3. Twenty took part. A rapid-transit event was won by Carl Driscoll, Dayton, $11\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$; second was Maurice Leysens, Lakewood, $10\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$. Weiszmann finished in a tie for 7th in the rapid-transit, while in the championship, Driscoll did not qualify.

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NEWS ITEM:

(By Walt Crede)

Rene and Gene Collett (Mr. and Mrs. of the Bulletin staff) have a new baby girl. The li'l feller was born Sept. 28, weighed 5 lb. $7\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Her name? peena Irene Collett...Congratulations. pere et mere!

PROBLEM PAGE --- EDITED BY WALT CREDE

(Address all communications concerning the Problem Page to Walt Crede, Problem Editor, Route 1, Box 651, Charleston, West Virginia.)

PRAISE TO A COMPOSER

WVCA'er Bob Crean last month saw his first published problem (No. 7 of this present group of selections), and according to reports from the solvers it is the toughest puzzle yet appearing here. I think Bob deserves much credit for his feat--it was the first problem he ever composed! He promises others for use here. I rather hope more originals will be forthcoming from WVCA members. Remember--a point on the Solvers' Ladder will be granted all composers who create for this Page: 1 point per problem.

AS TIME GOES BY . . .

There have been suggestions from the reader that an effort be made to put in more involved compositions--those of past performance having been considered a wee bit too easy. I warn you, as time goes by the Problem Page will use only the most knotty themes--like those of the Oct. genre. There isn't an easy one in the lot.... Correct solutions postmarked not later than 10 Nov. will win points on the Solvers' Ladder.

HOW IT WORKS

For each problem solved, the solutionist'll receive one point on the Solvers' Ladder. And upon reaching 25 points, a cash award of fifty cents will be sent to the Climber--whose name will be automatically dropped to the bottom of the Ladder; prepared to start all over again. It's as simple as all that!

SOLVERS' LADDER (INCLUDING AUGUST SELECTIONS)

	Pts.		Pts.
Arthur Brenneman	..6	Tom Sweeney6
Dick Brenneman6	Dr. Ernest Wolff	..3
'Gene Collett6	Jesse Church1
Bob Crean6		

LAST MONTH'S SOLUTIONS: No. 7 - 1 P-Q7! B-Q4ch, 2 QxB mate. If 1.... any other, 2 P-Q8(N) mate. No. 8 - 1 Q-R (key). No. 9 - 1 KxR P-R4, 2 K-N7 P-R5, 3 K-B6, P-R6, 4 K-K6 P-R7, 5 P-B7 K-N2, 6 K-Q7 etc. If 3 ...K-N3, K-K5 KxP, 5 K-B4 etc. If 3 ...K-N3, 4 K-K5 P-R6, 5 K-Q6 P-R7 6 P-B7 etc.

NO. 10

					Q
			P		
			K		Q
K	P	P	N		
			P		
					B

WHITE MATE IN TWO

NO. 11

	K				
	R		P		
P	R		P		
K	N		N		
P	B	B	B		
N					

WHITE MATES IN TWO

NO. 12

					K
			K	N	B
				B	N
			R		

WHITE MATES IN THREE

ARCHIE A CHESS FANTASY

BY WALT CREDE

Ches Moovyr is a tall, gaunt, bewhiskered man who tills a small farm on the wilds of Coopers Creek. I got to know him when he started hanging around the chess club a few years back. He developed a remarkable ability--predicting the outcome of club matches big and small--"I dunno how come," he says; "I jist do it, tha's all"--so I added him to my chess column staff: doing a once-a-week bit, "Ches-Dope."

I felt sorry for Ches when the war eliminated the column, costing him his job. It wasn't so much the money; he missed seeing his name in print. But when he stopped showing up at the club, it worried me--I was genuinely fond of the old cuss. And when he failed to come into town for the state meet--the one Doc Werthammer carried away--or even to send in his predictions, I became definitely alarmed.

LIFT UP THE LATCH, THE DOOR WILL OPEN

To reach Ches' hilly farm, it was necessary to abandon all conveniences of modern travel and trudge laboriously for two miles along a narrow, uneven path, through thickets alive with man-eating insects. It was growing dark when I arrived. The crickets were fiddling merrily but by this time I was allergic to all bug-life. I pounded on the door.

A voice roared out: "Unlatch an' come in!"

Ches was seated at the room's lone table, on which stood a smoking oil lamp, casting a feeble, dancing glow on the chess position before him. He did not look up, only waved a hand in my direction. I moved closer for a better view of the chess position. I saw a bright smile suddenly wrinkle his grizzled features. His right hand shot out, grabbed a White R, slammed it to the opposite side of the board.

"Now, Archie," he exclaimed, "reckon that'll hold yuh!"

I hastily looked around. As far as I could see, Ches and I were alone. I wondered. Ches was chuckling with glee, but suddenly the lines of merriment faded. Slowly, he reached for a Black B and moved it, giving an unexpected check. It was a clever move. Won the White R Ches had shoved across the board.

HORRORS, HE'S STARK RAVIN' MAD!

"Shucks, Archie, that ain't fair," growled Ches. He studied the board. "Yup, tha's it. Yuh win agin, Archie m' boy. I give up."

He began setting up the pieces.

I don't mind admitting it. I paled. Was Ches utterly mad? I braced myself to meet the situation as best I could, and when Ches turned toward me finally, I instinctively drew back and started edging in the direction of the door.

(See next page)

ARCHIE (continued from preceding page)

"Thought mebbe yuh'd be a-droppin' in on me afore long, Walt," said Ches, with a homely smile. "Glad t' see yuh. An' I want yuh t' meet one a th' best wee chessers in th' world. Archie, this-here's Walt Crede, th' one I bin a-tellin' yuh 'bout."

That just about did it. I glanced hurriedly about--but could see no one! "The old man's nuts!" I thought. A fly buzzed close to my ear. Remembering the thickets, I brushed at it roughly. Ches caught my arm.

"Here now," he cried. "Don't do that. Yuh might harm Archie!"

"Archie?"

"Shore, Walt...Archie...th' fly yuh breshed at!"

NOW WHO'S NUTS? NOT CHES!

Ches rapidly disclosed to me the mystery and relieved my fears concerning his sanity. Some weeks before, he related, he had noted a fly buzzing angrily over his chessboard while he had been endeavoring to solve a mate-in-two problem. To his astonishment, he discovered the fly was trying to show him the key-move by flitting back and forth between two squares.

Ches had immediately set up the board for a game to see what else the fly understood about chess. At once, the fly settled on the King's P, then flew to K4. It was simple--P-K4! The game was on.

"I used t' beat 'im once in a while 't first, but here a late I ain't bin winnin' but very few games offin 'im. I dubbed 'm Archie, an' we bin playin' like this ever' night. No club fer me--I git all th' chess I want right here 't home."

I nodded, too overcome to speak.

"He's a great'n on sacrifices," Ches went on, wagging his head sagely. "Thinks he's a Morphy. He's picked up some tricks, too. Why, iffen yuh give 'im seven tempi, he'n remove all seven a his major pieces'n still wallop yuh."

NO COMMON HOUSEFLY CAN DO THAT TO WALT CREDE!...(MEBBE!)

I sat down at the board, very puzzled.

Archie flew happily over the White pieces, showing us the moves he wanted. Ches did the chores: 1 P-K4, 2 P-KN4, 3 P-K5, 4 P-N5, 5 P-K6 6 P-N6, 7 either PxP mate!

"An' that ain't all," said Ches, as pleased as a kid with an all-day lollypop. "Iffen yuh leave 'im a piece, he'n do 'er in six moves."

(See next page)

ARCHIE (continued from preceding page)

That was too much. I looked at the pieces. The B seemed the least dangerous. I leaned forward to get it but Ches shook his head warningly. I picked the N instead, placing it on White's KN square.

Archie at once began winging his way back and forth: 1 N-B3, 2 P-K4, 3 P-K5, 4 P-K6, 5 N-N5, 6 PxBP mate!

I whirled on Ches, a fine rage swelling my bosom. "A fine friend!" I choked. "My pal! You saw me start to give this--this insect a B! But no! you couldn't permit fair play, couldn't see your six-footed fly be defeated, could you? You had to push a N off on me. You...you..."

Spluttering to silence, I snatched up a B and slammed it on the KB square. "Okeh"--a sneer coating my tone, "let's see your precious bug wriggle out of that one!"

...AND HE DOOD IT!

Archie buzzed insolently, almost as if he were yawning in my face. Then he dived: 1 P-K4, 2 P-K5, 3 P-K6, 4 B-B4, 5 PxBP mate!

As if from a long way off, I heard Ches, his voice apologetic, "I tried t' warn yuh offen that-'ere B, Walt. I knowed Archie does that'n in five moves..."

Madder by the minute, I set up the board, giving Archie the White pieces. I'd show him, by golly, I would! The game went like this:

CENTER COUNTER GAMBIT

1 P-K4	P-Q4	5 PxN	P-K3	9 R-K	O-O
2 PxP	N-KB3	6 N-B3	N-B3	10 R-N	N-K2
3 P-Q4	NxP	7 B-QN5	B-Q2		
4 N-QB3	NxN	8 O-O	B-Q3		

I could see Archie was making no foolish blunders. But I argued to myself: A mere housefly doesn't--nay, cannot!--possess a brain capable of chess-logic. So I started setting a simple trap.

11 B-Q3	N-Q4	12 P-B4
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Just as I had thought! No reasoning! No brain-power! Only automatic moves, maybe sheer luck. I eased myself more comfortably into my chair and grinned. I had a beautiful forking move coming up--no stopping it now. I winked at Ches. And...

12 ...	N-B6	15 N-N5	B-K2	18 Q-R7ch	K-B3
13 BxPch	K-R	16 B-NB!!	P-N3	19 N-K4ch	K-B4
14 Q-Q3	NxR	17 Q-R3ch	K-N2	20 Q-R3 mate	

I just sat there staring, not believing. I shot a puzzled glance toward Ches. He simply shook his head.

"I know how yuh feel," he said quietly.

VOICE OF THE MEMBERS

J. C. Thompson, Dallas, Tex. (secretary Texas Chess Association--Sept. 19): "Your amazingly excellent West Virginia Chess Bulletin deserves a much longer letter than I have time to write at the moment. I sincerely appreciate your sending it to me...I enclose my check for \$2 which apparently will about cover membership (I see you accept us fur-riners as members) and copies of your yearbooks. I am particularly anxious to get your yearbooks since we are planning on getting up one ourselves right away, and judging from your bulletin, you boys have ideas worth copying."

Bob Crean, Charleston (Sept. 17): "The finest compliment I have ever received in the chess sphere of my life came from you in the letter you wrote Crede saying you were having trouble with the chess problem I had submitted. Problem No. 7 was my first attempt at composing and needless to say I am flattered that it gave someone a bit of trouble...I am inclosing notes as per your request on my two games you selected for the 1944 Yearbook. Playing them over again to see what was what, I experienced a return of quite painful memory. That was my first tournament and all I can recall now is the wish that I had had two or three more Queens in each game...Re the Yearbook cover problem, I wuz robbed! I had N-N4 dis ch as the key, but somehow talked myself out of it--as did we all."

George Koltanowski, New York (Sept. 18): "Have been sick for some time, but feel better now. Inclosed are the notes on the first three games for the 1944 Yearbook; the rest must follow. Will write you a long letter soon; excuse the rush."

Cliff B. Mosier, Dunbar (who parted company with the Charleston Gazette last October and is now really editor and publisher of the Times-Advance at Dunbar--Sept. 18): "I have shamefully abandoned chess because the w.k. manpower shortage compels me to such versatility in running this print-shop and weekly paper as to leave no time for anything requiring over a few minutes' deliberation...Even if I didn't write you, let me say how much I appreciate the fact that you are a rock and a rallying point for the Association, and I hope you set a new age record going on for years and years...I don't know how much chess I can play, but I don't want to lose touch...Harold Liggett and I were talking about running a little chess feature in the Times-Advance and Walt Crede is considering writing it. Later when I can devote more space to a better-balanced general paper, I'll get some diagram cuts and do a better job than has been done in this valley for the fans."

Walt Crede, Charleston (Sept. 20): "Bob Crean reports an error in 'That Yearbook Problem.' The key should be 1 N-N4, dis ch. Better mention this in the October number. Like M. Snerd of Edgar Bergan fame, I DUNNO HOW I CAN BE SO STUPID...I like Joe Dorsey's idea of getting the three states together for a chess meet, but there is far more work to a task like that than meets the eye. But it could be done! Tell you wot--be a good fella and have friend Joe contact me for a discussion of the matter, and after I find out the details of his pet idea, I'll see what can be turned up from this end of the line. The very perception of the thing even gives me workable plans in embryonic stages. Lord knows what could be accomplished, but I'm betting my bottom dollar it'd be interesting, to say the least."

(Continued on next page)

VOICE OF THE MEMBERS (from preceding page)

Allan B. Gilliland, Charleston (Sept. 25): "Have enjoyed the Bulletin and Yearbook. Have been playing very little chess this year but it is my hope to play some this winter. Inclosed find check for \$2 for my dues."

Arthur Brenneman, Charleston (Sept. 19): "In one of the Bulletins, someone said, 'All we know about Brenneman is he's Richard's uncle,' so perhaps I had better introduce myself...A few weeks before the State Tournament here (May 27 and 28), the Charleston Chess Club invited all players, whether club members or not, to come over and play, so Richard and I availed ourselves of this opportunity and came over to play. We were invited to join and did so. I am glad I did, for while Richard and I had been playing together for a few months, such terms as Passed Pawns, PxPe.p., open file, and so forth, were phrases we did not thoroughly understand. All the club members have been particularly nice in explaining these terms and also some of the more intricate moves and positions. I find the club members to be very fine ladies and gentlemen--and that goes also for all those who attended the Tournament."

(Arthur's "introduction" of himself is omitted from the letter above and will be used in next month's Birthday Profiles department. Comments from letters from Charleston members indicate they reciprocate Arthur's feelings about them.)

Ray H. Griffin, Clarksburg (sending in annotations on State Tourney games--Sept. 27): "I told Bill Challinor he was lucky; he didn't play in the Tournament and wasn't expected to annotate any games...I see in the Charleston papers the meeting there are being held in the Canton Restaurant again instead of the Eagles Hall, and they are talking of abandoning meeting if attendance isn't better...I hear Bill Schaeffer has left Clarksburg and gone to work for a paper at Kingwood--so Kingwood must have a paper. Lee Rogers has attended the meetings last week and this... You remember we were talking when you were here about Koltanowski's offer to play six correspondence games. I am playing the six games with him. They have gone five moves and I have not been mated yet."

(Here's hoping the Charleston crowd keep the sessions going. We recall it was something of a battle last year, but they licked the problem at last. Even meetings in the homes of players--as we found at Clarksburg--are better than NO meetings!)

Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, Huntington (Sept. 26): "I have not yet answered your request for a 'curriculum vitae chessicalis.' My birthday will be in January and I will try to get the material for your story next month or in November."

Joseph Dorsey, Cleveland, Ohio (Sept. 28): "Wonder old Mother Earth could stand it to have had both Heisey and Dorsey erupt same day, same state! Has no West Virginian charged you with having too much Ohio in your Bulletin as I've been accused of 'going Cuyahoga' or 'going South Euclid'?...Really nothing to add on the tri-state meet idea. You and Treend have carried the thought further than I, already! Stan Prague, in charge of general activities for our association, has mentioned such a plan several times. Wouldn't it be nice, after the USCF gets its program clicking, if every state could meet its border-states in sectional meets, same season, staggered dates?...Glad to report I now have Yearbook fever, with editorial help in the offing...Weiszmann called last eve to remark about give-away chess (also called French chess): 'In French chess the K IS subject to capture.' Where did Cr d 's opponent, Cr an, get his rules?"

(Walt and Bob invented the game for themselves, making up the rules

A VISIT TO THE WHITE COLLECTION --- II

(Note: In our Sept 10 issue we reprinted from Joe Dorsey's Cleveland Art Chess Bulletin the first part of an article by Mrs. M.L. Warren, telling of a visit to the White Collection of 10,000 chess books in the Cleveland Public Library. In the concluding section, herewith, she tells of some of the things she found while browsing thru the books.)

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Benjamin Franklin was an ardent chess player, altho he wasn't too good at it. In his book, "Morals of Chess," he wrote:

"Those, therefore, who have leisure for such diversions cannot find one that is more innocent; and the following piece, written with a view to correct (among a few young friends) some little improprieties in the practice of it, shows at the same time that it may, in its effect on the mind be not merely innocent, but advantageous to the vanquished as well as to the victor."

NAPOLÉON'S CHESS SET

Napoleon had one of the best specimens of chess carving known to be in existence. Exquisitely chisled from the finest ivory, the White King is figure of Napoleon; the Queen is Josephine. Busts of his famous Grenadiers were pawns; jesters were Bishops. Instead of Black, the opposing pieces were Green--Egyptian potentates are the Green King and Queen. The set is in this country and is valued at \$7,500.

An article written by A. Piper said Tamerlane played on a board of 110 squares. Four people played on this board, and the Knights and Rooks move as they do today. The Hindoos had 64 squares as we do. Princes in India sacrificed their domains at the chess board. One of the greatest players of the Middle Ages was Ruy Lopez, Bishop of Toledo (Spain). Chess was forbidden by the followers of Allah because chess men were made as images.

COMPARING CHESS WITH LIFE

An article by James Abbott, "Chess Compared With the Game of Life," appealed to me:

"What does the lowly pawn typify in human affairs? Nothing but a drudge. It cannot do much, or anything very well. His range is limited; is exposed to danger from all sides; still, he is useful, and he has his good points, and never turns back. The King is the monied aristocrat. He believes in protection. He likes to get things in the right position and then keep them so around his fortified corner. The Rook stands for honest action. He is direct and nothing can induce him to step out of the straight line of duty. It is hard to love a Bishop. He is on the bias. He never faces friend or foe squarely. The Knight is agile and hops about with promise of accomplishment. He puts up a good front. He has shifty ways but at least is not monotonous.

"The Queen is powerful and without scruples, proud and domineering. Her downfall connotes disaster. All her retinue must be sacrificed, if necessary, to save the hussy. Sometimes she is heroic and sacrifices herself. ... Harmony is the mainspring of human endeavor."

Then I saw a cartoon in one of the chess books--the cheer leader at a chess tournament says in a stage whisper:

"The champion has just made a clever move. Now, then, fellows, all together. EVERYONE ASSUME A PLEASED EXPRESSION!"

BIRTHDAY PROFILES

(Next month's Profiles will cover members whose birthdays fall between Nov. 15 and Dec. 14. If your birthday falls in this period, send in your material at once.)

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NOVEMBER 3 --- LAYTON O. WHITMAN

Back in the days when he was a civilian instead of a warrior, Layton Otto Whitman was one of the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Corporation crew at Charleston. That's a lot of alliteration but then there were a lot of chess players at the Carbide and Carbon--before the war took the majority of them away.

Layton says he was 23 when he learned to play the game and that he "started playing by watching the game a few weeks." It is easy to guess that he did his watching at the Carbide and Carbon, where he was a laboratory clerk, and that he, like other members there, got in a hefty hunk of pawn-pushing during each lunch period.

Born November 3, 1918 (just eight days too early to arrive with the Armistice), at Alvon, West Virginia, Layton is married and has one daughter. He is a Chess Review reader. His first state tournament was the 1944 meet at Charleston.

(Address: Layton O. Whitman Sl/C, Company 1538, U. S. N. T. S., Great Lakes, Illinois.)

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NOVEMBER 18 --- THOMAS B. SWEENEY, JR.

Thomas Ball Sweeney, Jr., one of the outstanding boosters for the WVCA, was born Nov. 18, 1903, at Wheeling, W. Va. Before he got into naval flying he was "a life insurance agent with an avocational interest in governmental economy and social economics, which simply means I was referred to as a politician." Let him tell you himself about his chessic career:

"My father taught me chess when I was about 8. I became very keen about it because it seemed about the only thing in which I could beat any of my brutal playmates. And so at about 15 I did win a school tournament at St. Paul's school, New Hampshire, the only thing I can remember winning before or since, except that seat in the West Virginia Senate--which was also a direct result of my weakness for chess.

"Bishop Paull, his Democratic pretensions notwithstanding, prefers only titled personages among his inner circle of Saturday afternoon friends. After I had taken a couple of ruthless beatings at his hands, it became evident I was the sort of victim that could afford a certain sadistic pleasure to that exclusive backroom clique. Thus, I was admitted, but only after being whitewashed with the fictitious title of 'Senator.'

"Again and again, I would have to explain this introduction to strangers and some of the Charleston players may remember my awkward apologies at the time of their first visit to Wheeling. It was either give up chess or else become a Senator in self-defense. And so, with the Bishop's blessings, I hit the hard road for Charleston.

(See next page)