

WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

NUMBER 29

JAN. 10, 1945

DEATH COMES TO GEORGE STURGIS, U.S.C.F. PRESIDENT FOR SEVEN YEARS

We had planned to publish a very pleasant article about George Sturgis in this issue of the Bulletin. He was married Oct. 17 and the word arrived a little too late for the Dec. 10 issue. So, in this number, we had anticipated publishing a little piece, congratulating him on his new-found happiness and reviewing some of his accomplishments in the seven years he had served as president of the United States Chess Federation.

Instead, it becomes our heavy-hearted obligation to tell you that George Sturgis is no longer with us. The almost unbelievable word arrived in a special mail delivery on Christmas day. It was in the form of a letter from Paul G. Giers, USCF secretary, dated Dec. 23, which said:

"It is my sad duty to inform you that the president of our Federation died Wednesday evening of an heart attack. George Sturgis had been at his desk all day Wednesday, spent the evening with friends and retired in apparently good health. His death was not discovered until the following morning. Burial will take place today from the Story Chapel, Mount Auburn, Cambridge, Mass.

"The sudden death of our president comes as a deep shock to us who have worked with him and were among his friends. To American chess, likewise, it is a severe blow. We shall carry on, however, as though George Sturgis were still with us and do our best to uphold the traditions established under his leadership during the past seven years.

"My heart is too heavy at this time to say what should be said about one of the finest men I have known. These words will be expressed later.

"Our sincere and heartfelt sympathy goes out to the lady who became Mrs. Sturgis little more than a month ago."

Often we forget to give flowers to our friends who are living. It must be very consoling to Mr. Giers to know that one of the last things Mr. Sturgis read was the USCF Monthly Letter No. 13. This was published by Mr. Giers while Mr. Sturgis was on his honeymoon. We quote two paragraphs from the letter, dated Dec. 1:

"Since no censorship has been imposed on me and our president has his back turned, I think we should pause for a moment to realize how fortunate we are to have George Sturgis at the helm of our Federation. It was largely due to George's efforts and diplomacy that the amalgamation of the American and National Chess Federations was accomplished in 1938. Ever since, he has worked hard and faithfully to maintain and strengthen our national chess unity. He has given freely of his life, abilities and

funds in a job which has not always been easy and which none but a sincere lover of chess would care to undertake.

"I first met George about eighteen months ago. Soon after knowing him, I was sorry I had not met him many years ago, and found it easy to understand why he has such a multitude of friends. It's a real pleasure to work with him and I am constantly impressed by his rare patience, his absolute fairness and, most of all, by his enthusiastic devotion to the Federation's cause. No one appreciates more than he the loyalty and cooperation of his co-workers. We owe it to George Sturgis and his fine example to give him what support we can and to join him in building up the kind of national organization of which we can all be proud."

Did you say you would speak later the words which should be spoken, Mr. Giers? We say the words already have been uttered, and we rejoice that you said them while Mr. Sturgis was alive to hear.

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TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS ASSOCIATION:

All of you read in our November issue the report that the United States Chess Federation had grown to a membership of 1,708, that a new, enlarged program had been adopted for 1945.

That membership and program were made possible by the enthusiasm and hard work of the late George Sturgis.

In Sturgis' mind was the ideal of a day when chess, the greatest game in the world, should become the favorite game of all Americans, when the United States should become the chess capital of the universe.

Sturgis' untimely death doubtless will delay the realization of that goal. A man of his energy and ability is not replaceable overnight.

Each of us can do a small share toward helping bring about the chess-conscious America of which Sturgis dreamed. He can do it by the not too difficult act of becoming a member and remaining a member of the USCF.

The dollar which you pay for your membership not only entitles you to a membership card and a USCF Yearbook. It entitles you to a full share in the most forward-looking chess program ever adopted in America.

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The USCF is now accepting memberships covering the calendar year 1945. Send your remittance to Paul G. Giers, Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, 2304 South Avenue, Syracuse, New York.

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WID YOU KNOW THAT--?

The first historical document known connected with chess is an inscription on a table in a pyramid at Gizeh, dating back to 3,000 years before Christ?

The first book dealing with chess was published in 1472, under the title of "Das Goldin Spil," in the city of Augsburg?

--From Ed. Treend's
Detroit "Communication"

PROBLEM PAGE

EDITED BY
WALT CREDE

AND AGAIN -- ADDRESS CHANGE

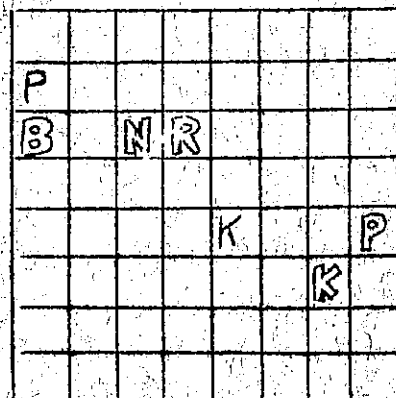
(Address all communications concerning the Problem Page to Walt Crede, Problem Editor, % Crede's Book Store, 118 1/2 Washington Street, W., Charleston 2, West Virginia.)

No. 19
BY J.A. ERSKINE

DIPPIN' INTO THE DOWN UNDER

The selections this month are among a dozen chosen by F. T. Hawes, problem editor of the Australian Chess Review, as his favorites from some 10 years of publication.

No. 19 is a charming miniature in complete-block mould. The ante-key play is echoed in the post-key mate.



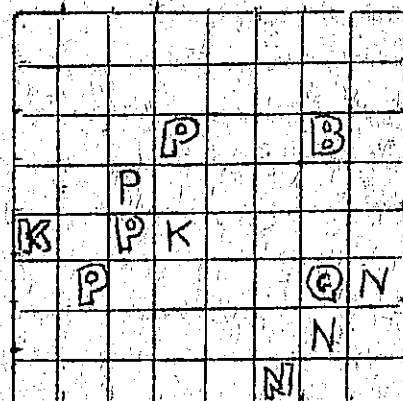
MATE IN THREE

No. 20 is a dainty effort from which all will derive much enjoyment.

No. 20
BY J.K. HEYDON

No. 21 has an excellent key and a splendid model mate.

If any of these terms are unfamiliar, you can get definitions from Mr. Hawes.



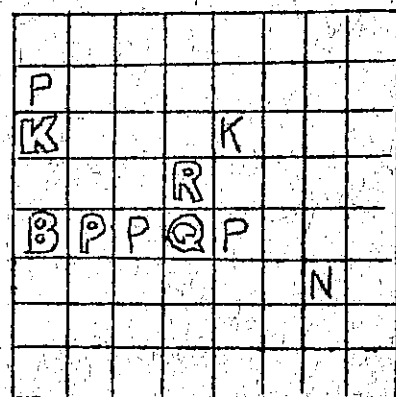
MATE IN TWO

(Would you be interested in occasional articles in this department, telling of some of the technical terms used by problem makers, solvers and editors? If so, we'll obligate.)

No. 21
BY P.D. PEDLER

YOU MAY HAVE TO HURRY A LITTLE

This issue is likely to be a little late in reaching you but we trust all solvers will be able to get their solutions in before the deadline. All answers postmarked before midnight Feb. 10 will be accepted.



MATE IN THREE

A LITTLE TOO MUCH YULE

Readers will forgive, we trust, absence of the Solvers' Ladder Standings this time. This has been a large holiday season, what with one thing and another. Therefore, we pray all to be content this month, and we promise you a double dose in the next issue. Hokay?

LAST MONTH'S SOLUTIONS: No. 16 --- 1 Q-N4 (the "cook" to 1 N-B6 is 1...R-B5). No. 17 --- 1 K-B2 or 1 QxNP (two solutions to this one). No. 18 --- 1 R-R6.

ARTISTS WITH A YEN FOR CHESS MAKE KINGS BOW TO QUEENS

(Editor's Note: Under the above heading, The Associated Press Feature Service this month carries an article by its arts editor, W. G. Rogers, which we are taking the liberty of presenting herewith.)

NEW YORK--Combining business and pleasure, Julien Levy, who runs an art gallery by day and plays chess by night, got some artist friends to do paintings, sculpture and new chessmen designs for an art show...and for use.

Levy was first interested in the game by Marcel Duchamp, whose "Nude Descending The Stairs" has stood for three decades in the popular mind as representative of modernist painting. Duchamp, a French artist who has lived in New York for years, abruptly quit art in 1923 and gave his time to chess. He finds in the chessboard's mathematical design and the game's moves the same order of problem, he says, that he found in abstract painting and gets more personal satisfaction from the game.

THE FAMOUS STAUNTON SET

Levy calls these the first important changes in chessmen design since Howard Staunton, English chessplayer, artist and architect, produced the one most commonly used in this country.

The Staunton set consists of men with some representational values: the king and queen identified by crowns, the bishop by a mitre and the knight by a horse's head. It replaced in England the French set, which is still used by some players; this French set is characterized by a more abstract design, the king and queen tallest, all of them more or elaborate wood-turning jobs. There were 20 or 30 other sets in use in pre-Staunton days.

The war has made chess sets hard to get, Levy says. What used to sell in peacetime for \$12 now costs four times that. The newly designed sets are hand made; they range in price from \$90 to \$1,000, average \$135; there have been several sales. Whether they will interest many players, Levy does not know. He is interested in commercial production, has had one inquiry already from a manufacturer and expects others.

ARTISTIC CHESS DESIGNERS

Among artists who have contributed to the show are Eugene Berman, Peter Blume, Alexander Calder, Max Ernst, Jean Helion, Man Ray, Yves Tanguy, Noguchi and Zadkine.

Of those who designed chess sets, Dr. Gregory Zilboorg is not an artist but a psychiatrist; he has a workshop and lathe...as well as the game of chess...for a hobby; Man Ray is best known for his pioneer work in photography, and many museums own his prints; Max Ernst, German-born, helped form an early group of Dadaist (zany, to you) painters.

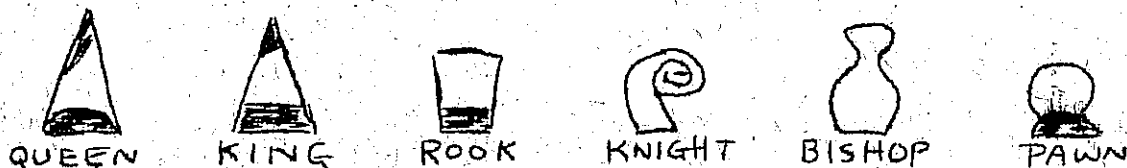
A characteristic of the new sets is that, contrary to tradition, Levy says, the queen is taller than the king...it has something to do with psychoanalysis and the dominant female.

--o--

UNFORTUNATELY, we are unable to reproduce in the Bulletin the excellent photographs which The Associated Press supplied to illustrate Mr.

Rogers' story. They lend color to the yarn as they show highly novel designs for the various chess pieces--so novel, in fact, that the average chess player would have difficulty in recognizing them as chessmen.

One photograph shows a set made of silver. It was designed by Man Ray. The following rough sketches will give some idea of the appearance of the pieces:



Another picture shows a set produced by Painter Max Ernst. The knight seems to us more like a seal, perhaps to justify the German use of the letter "S" to designate that piece. Whereas in Ray's set the queen and king are of almost equal height, in the Ernst set, the queens are 5 inches tall, the kings only $4\frac{1}{2}$. From the picture, which shows a board in play, we cannot identify all of the pieces, but they look something like this:



You can't tell enough about them from our alleged art? Oh, well, maybe that's good!

THAT "CHESS TOURNAMENT"

Last month we printed a little problem called "A Chess Tournament." For those who had trouble with it, we are happy to report that Mr. R. J. Brown was winner. Mr. Sterns runner-up, Mr. Gregory third and Mr. W. C. Brown fourth... You will recall we ran the problem under the heading, "Here's a Problem--Will Crede Sizzle!!!" Walt writes he didn't sizzle at all but suggests, "If you're gonna have problems in the WVCB, start using the kind that tease the brain a wee bit. That one took only a minute to solve. Too danged easy!" Well, it took us longer 'n that!

Continues Walt: "If you want to use brain-teasers, here's one that might tickle your fancy. Nothing to do with chess, but like the game du royale, it requires concentration, so they're sort of kinfolk. Time limit is 10 minutes. And no fair using pencil or paper. Mental labor, or nothing! You might call it--

THE CANNIBALS AND THE MISSIONARIES

"There's a river. On one side stand 3 missionaries and 3 cannibals. There's only one boat and it'll hold no more than 2 persons at a time. The 3 missionaries can row but only one cannibal can man the oars--call him 'X.' There can never be a majority of cannibals over missionaries on either side of the river at any time as the former'd overpower the latter. Result: Feast. The problem is to get 'em all safely across the river."

Ok, there's the problem. Answer next time--if we don't forget!

MORE ABOUT FRANK MARSHALL

Chess magazines this month are paying fullsome tribute to Frank James Marshall, who died suddenly Nov. 9 at the age of 67.

Here are some extracts from articles appearing in Chess Review:

FIFTY YEARS OF CHESS

"There have been greater chess players than Frank Marshall, but none that loved the game more than he did. He gave to it a lifetime of devotion; not grudgingly, but with his whole heart, never regretting the choice. And his energies were not shared with any other occupation; all went to chess. For 50 years he was a living example of the truth of the saying of Tarrasch, that 'chess has the power to make men happy.'

"Of American masters of his own or earlier generations, only two, Morphy and Pillsbury, are ever ranked above him. For 27 years, 1909 until 1936, he held the national title. In 1904, at Cambridge Springs, Pa., he finished first, without losing a single game, in a field that contained the world's greatest, including Lasker, Pillsbury, Schlechter and Tchigorin. That was his greatest triumph, but there were many others, most of them in Europe....

"As the founder of the Marshall Chess Club and its leading spirit for 30 years, Frank Marshall showed himself a man of social gifts, which included an unfailing modesty, decidedly rare among chess masters. He made every type of player feel at home in his club, sat down with a duffer as willingly as with a Class A champion. And no matter how late the hour, he would examine the duffer's position and find, or seem to find, something of rare interest in it. Such graciousness involved no sacrifice for the veteran. There was a chess board in front of him, White and Black weaving those magical patterns, asking those questions which no master has completely answered. To Marshall that was enough."

MARSHALL ANECDOTES (related by Reuben Fine)

"One of Marshall's favorite stories was about a game with Marco. 'The day before we were supposed to play,' Frank told us, 'Marco came to me and said: "Frank, I don't feel well." So I told him: "Have a drink, Marco, it will fix you up." He replied: "Well, one drink." So we went up to my room, and had a drink. Marco still wasn't feeling well, though, so we had a few more. The next day he beat me like a child'....

"Sometimes he would come to watch us play over some old game. Inevitably his first comment was: 'Who ever made such a silly move as that?' And when we answered, 'You did, Frank,' he would laugh and say: 'I did! How could I ever make such a move?' And we would start to analyze his 'silliness,' which usually turned out to be a stroke of genius.

"Every game he won he thought of as a swindle. And the same applied to others. Once when I felt I had turned in quite a creditable performance, he said to me: 'So you swindled him, after all, did you, young fellow?' 'That was no swindle,' I protested, 'I had a win all along.' His only reply was to smile. Frank knew chess."

The entire December number of Chess Review is dedicated to Marshall, anecdotes, editorial, games, pictures. If you are not a reader, this is

a good chance to become one. You can tell the editor to start you off with the December number. The price is \$3 a year, two years for \$5.50, and you send your subscription to Chess Review, 250 West 57th St., New York 19, N. Y. (Oh, by the way, we just noticed, there's a special Christmas subscription rate--you can get the magazine for \$2.75 a year, starting with the December number. It's better than we thought!) If you want only the Marshall number, C.R. will send it for 35 cents.

Naturally, we can't quote all the good things about Marshall given in this issue, but we do think this poem by Dr. E. C. McCulloch especially good:

He spent his life over a checkered board
 In moving chessmen o'er the adverse field,
 And meditating traps yet unexplored,
 To force the stubborn enemy to yield.
 "A futile life," say some, "spent on a game!"
 And yet he gave to many priceless joy,
 And gained withal his meed of deathless fame
 In bloodless battle, sport without alloy.
 The compass of his travels ranged afar,
 On trains and ships, to Europe and return;
 Then at his famous Club, with his cigar,
 The perfect host, genial but taciturn,
 Who at the last with gay insouciance
 Checkmated Death's grim terror with a glance.

FROM CHESS CORRESPONDENT

In Walt James' magazine, "The Chess Correspondent," one finds another fine tribute to Frank Marshall. We shall quote a couple of paragraphs:

"Mr. Marshall looked the part of a champion, and he was always ready for a game of chess--having played at least one game each day for 57 years. It is said that he took a chessboard to bed with him in case of night-time inspiration.

"He was fond of telling stories, one being about the time when he played a game in an insane asylum and the defeated opponent handed him a check for \$1,000,000!

"We have always thought it strange that Mr. Marshall did not publish a chess magazine, for certainly 'The Marshall Chess Magazine' would have been internationally famous. His last book, 'My Fifty Years of Chess,' gives the thrilling, brilliant record of this grand old man of American chess--another of the chess greats to join the immortals of the royal game who have gone on before."

(The Chess Correspondent, which becomes a finer magazine with each issue, is the official publication of the Correspondence Chess League of America. It is published by Walter F. James, Secretary, 4057 Adams St., Sioux City 20, Iowa. The subscription rate is \$3 a year, \$1 of which goes for membership in the CCLA.)

Ed Treend tells us Marshall, playing Black, once had this position: 5rkl/pp4pp/4p3/2R3q1/3n4/2q4r/P1P2PPP/5RKL. Here Marshall made "the most elegant move I have ever played." Can you find it?

THIS, THAT AND THE OTHER

You might like this eerie item from the "Lyons Den," a syndicated column, relayed by Ed Treend:

In the home of Gerard Swope is a chessboard. The pieces are nailed to the board. This was the interrupted game once played between Swope and the late, great scientist Charles Steinmetz. The game was interrupted by Steinmetz' death and Swope hasn't permitted the chessmen to be moved. He had them nailed down to the board, preserved in memory of his brilliant opponent.

"If there's anything in this spook business," says Swope, "some day Steinmetz and I will return and finish the game."

While we're on the subject of Treend, we want to mention again the item we reprinted from his "Communication" saying the first chess magazine, "La Palmede," was started in Paris in 1836 under the editorship of La Bourdonnais and Mery. Here's why we speak of it: we omitted the most interesting part, the fact that Member Treend has a bound volume of the first year of that magazine in his collection!

DR. BUSCHKE TAKES US TO TASK

We have a long and interesting letter from Dr. Albrecht Buschke, one of the leading collectors of chess books in the country, perhaps in the world. He takes us to task for something we didn't do--but we'll let you read his letter and then explain afterward:

"In recent bulletins, you reprinted articles from the Cleveland Area Chess Bulletin dealing with the White Chess Collection in the Cleveland Public Library. I am very much in favor of anything that leads to making the few chess collections in public institutions in the United States better known to the chess public. On the other hand, I believe that it does not make a very good impression to mention very usual books as though they were the greatest rarities only available in the Cleveland Public Library. This, for instance, happened last time with the book on the First American Chess Congress by D. W. Fiske. This is really one of the books that can hardly be called rare or scarce, and I almost always have a copy around at the rather moderate price of about \$3.50, which means that it cannot be a very hard-to-get book."

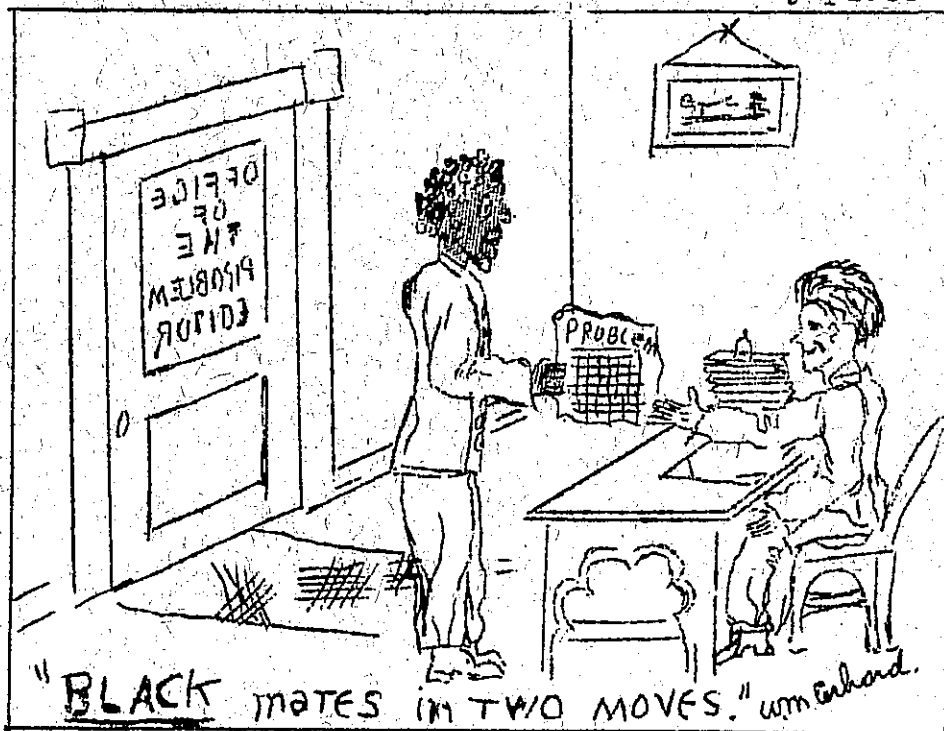
At this point, we interrupt the good doctor to assure him we have reread carefully the article (by Mrs. M. L. Warren of Cleveland) and that nowhere in it do we find that the book is represented as being rare. When we reprinted the article, we assumed Mrs. Warren was not a collector and therefore not particularly interested in rarities, but was merely reporting on the things she found of interest in the collection, as would any other chess player. If any reader gathered from Mrs. White's story that the book was a great rarity and obtainable only in the White collection, will he promptly disabuse himself of the idea? Personally, we found the item of interest as it succinctly reported a little chess history we had not heard previously, particularly the point about picking a site for the first congress.

We will now return to Dr. Buschke's letter, wherein he makes an offer which we are promptly accepting:

"I believe it would be interesting to make the general chess public acquainted with the unusual items in the public institutions of America, as I have tried to do in the Princeton University Library Chronicle several years ago. I inclose a copy of that article, as well as that of an article I wrote some time ago for the magazine Hobbies. Of the latter article I could send you enough copies to add one to every one of your next issue, if you think your readers would be interested.

"Furthermore, I would be glad to let you have, from time to time, notes and articles about chess items that cannot be found in the Cleveland Library, but either in one of the other institutional collections or my own collection of more than 3,000 chess books, and at least as many chess autographs. Incidentally, it might even interest some of your readers to learn more about my own collection."

Offer accepted, in toto. We are writing Dr. Buschke, asking him to send along the reprints of the Hobbies article which we find highly interesting; which, we are sure, will prove engrossing to our readers. If they arrive in time, we'll include them in the Feb. 10 Bulletin. The Princeton Chronicle article is a masterly piece of work and we regret



Dr. Buschke does not have enough copies of it for all the members. We shall use this article, or at least a portion of it, in subsequent issues. And we want Dr. Buschke to give us also a story on his own collection (in fact, we invited him to do so on page 7 of our Aug. 10 number, tho perhaps he missed it), as well as such other newsy material he may run across.

We hope, too, tho it may, we fear, make our good friend, Dr. Buschke, unhappy, to

have the opportunity to reprint additional articles by Mrs. Warren on her discoveries as she browses through the White Collection. And next time, we trust, Mrs. Warren will be so good as to mark her discoveries "Rare" or "Unrare" so that no one will be misled.

WE GET OFF THE BOTTOM OF THE LADDER

In response to our public castigation of last month, Mr. Schuette, editor of En Passant, official organ of the Downtown YMCA Chess Club in Pittsburgh, has informed your editor that the chap named "Collett" has been moved from the bottom of Column 3 to somewhere near the top of Column 2 in the club's Ladder. We consider this a great victory for the free press, and we shall immediately campaign for a move to Column 1.

WHAT! NO BIRTHDAY PROFILES!

This, the page on which the Birthday Profiles usually are printed, is to serve a different purpose this month.

So far as we know, Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, our two-time state champion, is the only one of our members born between Jan. 15 and Feb. 14. We don't know the exact date but he told us he was and would send us his curricula vita, as he calls it, in time for this issue. Apparently, some fell fate has intervened. Thus, instead of the doctor's profile, we are presenting another of his games at the National Amateur Tournament in Oct. and Nov. at New York City. And, if the doctor can get the facts to us in time, we'll give you his B.P. next month, along with those of members born between Feb. 15 and March 14.

This game was reported in Chess Review, which is responsible for the notes. Ziggi's opponent was I. Stein who finished third, with a score of $9\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$.

NIMZOVITCH DEFENSE

12 ...
13 NxN

QNXP!

26 QR-K Q-KB2
27 Q-N3 R-KB

WERTHAMMER STEIN

1 P-K4 N-QB3
2 P-Q4 P-Q4
3 P-K5 P-B3
4 P-KB4 B-B4
5 N-KB3 P-K3
6 P-B3 N-R3
7 B-Q3 B-K2
8 BxB NxB
9 PxF BxF
10 Q-K2 Q-K2
11 O-O O-O
12 P-QN3?

White must concede
the P; if 13 PxN?
NxP, 14 Q any NxNch!

13 ... NxN
14 Q-Q3 N-B4
15 P-KN4 Q-B4ch
16 K-R N-Q3
17 P-N5 B-K2
18 N-Q2

18 B-K3 first seems
preferable.

27...P-K4 is indi-
cated; but Black has
turned his extra P to
good account, has no
difficulties ahead.

28 R-B3 P-K4

Black still has
this push. The object
is not to win another
P but to bulldoze the
center.

White needs a long
range plan here. E.g.,
R-K and N-Q2 and N-B.
The text only weakens
the long diagonal on
which the Black Bish-
op is already posted.

18 ... QR-K
19 P-QR4 Q-B3
20 N-B3 N-K5
21 N-Q4 Q-Q2
22 B-K3 P-B4
23 N-B3 B-Q3
24 N-Q2 NxN
25 BxN R-B4

29 R(1)-KB P-K5
30 R(3)-B2 P-Q5
31 PxF PxF
32 P-R4 P-K6
33 BxF PxB

And White resigns.

VOICE OF THE MEMBERS

More about that business of typed margins coming out even. From Ed Treend, Detroit (Dec. 25 -- of all days!): "One of these times I'll send you the makeup sheets for one of my weekly bulletins. That will explain the mechanics of my marginal habits. The varatype machine that Mr. Dorsey mentions is another matter. That provides for multiple type fonts in one machine. I have access to one with fourteen sets of type in one machine. The push button arrangement that he mentions is an auxiliary arrangement to permit of making half-spaces. It is used in the work of justification.... Your December issue was excellent, as usual. Best wishes for the New Year."

We're not one to criticize, Ed, without a full knowledge of the fax. We'll be glad to hear everything you have to say in justification of your marginal habits. Dunno why but that expression "marginal habits" sure has an ominous ring. Tell us more!

Jesse Church, Charleston (Dec.18): "I am always glad to read the Bulletin; it is a wonderful job. Every member should appreciate it, and I am sure, does...Good Luck to you!"

We wish to thank Bill Schaeffer, Morgantown, for his kind tho not-for publication letter, inclosing names of some chessers who might be interested in WVCA membership. We'll send them copies of this issue, Bill, and follow up with letters inviting them to make one with us. Oke?

WAGNER ELEVATED TO USCF PRESIDENCY

A news bulletin from Publicity Director Helms informs us that Egbert A. Wagner, Jr., 208 South La Salle St., Chicago, Ill., has been elevated to the presidency of the United States Chess Federation, succeeding the late George Sturgis. Wagner had been second vice president and counselor...The annual "open" tournament of the USCF will be held July 9-21 at the Hotel Pere Marquette, Peoria, Ill...Los Angeles is planning a Pan-American masters' tournament for this fall...Akiba Rubinstein, famous Polish master, has survived the rigors of war in Brussels but is in straitened circumstances. A fund for his benefit has been started by a Washington committee of which I. S. Turover, 4725 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, Md., is chairman...After recovering from scarlet fever in Prague and taking a rest cure in San Sebastian, Dr. Alexander Alekhine, Franco-Russian chess master, is living in Madrid. Mrs. Alekhine, American born, whom he has not seen for six months, is still in Paris. Dr. Alekhine declared recently that his skill at chess has not been impaired and that, upon the restoration of peace, he would welcome a match with Mikhail Botvinnik, the Soviet champion, for the world title.

At its first session after Christmas, the Minneapolis Chess and Checker Club required members to bring a Yule Tie or some other Xmas gift they were willing to be rid of. Play was by individual games with the winner having the privilege of trading his gift for the loser's.

CHESS PLAYER RETURNS FROM THE WARS

Chess players will feel a tug at their heart-strings, perhaps have to wipe away a tear as they read this letter from Sgt. Don Hallman, U.S. Marine Corps Combat Correspondent and prominent member of New York's Marshall Chess Club, published in Chess Review. Hallman, wounded by shrapnel in the fighting at Peleiu in September, lost his left leg below the knee. He wrote:

"The war is over for me and you can dust off my chair at the club. You'll be seeing me before long and don't think I've tamed down any! When I get fixed up with an artificial limb, I expect to be able to walk without a limp--but I may not 'put my foot in it' quite as much as I used to do."

En Passant, official organ of the Pittsburgh Downtown YMCA Chess Club, announces the organization's annual tournament will get under way Jan. 11. Enrollment was still under way at this writing so you'll have

ADDRESS CHANGE

Walt Crede, c/o Crede's Book Store, 118 $\frac{1}{2}$ Washington St.W., Charleston 2

FINANCIAL REPORT

	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Bal.</u>
Bal. on hand Dec.6 (see Bull.28)		\$56.18
Expenditures: Bull.28 (85 copies 12 pp) mimeo 2.60,		
envelopes 1.34 total	\$3.94	52.24
Correspondence	.16	52.08

Financial note: Mailing costs for the Bulletin will be slightly higher hereafter as the postoffice has increased the price of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ envelopes from \$1.86 to \$2.00 per hundred.

CHess Among The MATHEMATICIANS

We are now studying an interesting text, Prof. Maurice Kraitchik's "Mathematical Recreations," which contains a number of problems dealing with chess, chessmen and chess boards. Such as:

How many queens are required to dominate the board, i.e., to cover the board in such a way that every unoccupied square is under attack from some queen?

What is the maximum number of queens that can be placed upon the board so that no queen attacks another queen?

How many different knight tours are possible? (In a knight tour, the knight visits each square on the board in succession.)

How many different chess games can there be?

A little girl who saw her father lose a chess game to each of two opponents offered to play them both and do better than her father did. "I'll play them both at the same time," she said, "and I don't want any advantage -- I'll play black in one game and white in the other." She made good on her boast. How did she do it?

Under the heading "Fairy Chess," the author makes a number of interesting observations. We quote a portion of the section:

"Many variations of chess have been suggested involving changes in the form of the board, the rules of play, or the pieces used. All these we subsume under the name of 'fairy chess.'

"Former champion Capablanca introduced a board of 12x16 cells, using 32 pieces on each side. Baskerville designed a modified chess game to be played on a rectangular array of 83 hexagonal cells. (Editor's note: This likely explains why the hounds were set on Baskerville, a point Sherlock never cleared up to our satisfaction.) Cylindrical chess results from the ordinary game by allowing play to pass from one edge to the opposite edge, as though the board were inscribed on a cylinder...

"The commonest changes in the rules are those providing a handicap for the stronger player. He may give his opponent the advantage of a move, or a pawn and a move, or a pawn and two moves, or a knight, bishop, rook, queen or the like. This upsets the initial balance of forces so that the later course of the game is usually different from that of a game begun with balanced forces...."

In a later issue, we will give some more of Kraitchik's observations on chess, and perhaps go into some of the problems listed above.