

276
W52

WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

NUMBER 31

MARCH 10, 1945

REID HOLT MISSING IN ACTION; ANTHONY FOY WOUNDED, RECOVERING

From Ed Foy SK1/C, Auburn, Ala., comes bad news, which we sincerely hope is not as ominous as it sounds--and that all may turn out well. He writes:

"I suppose you have not heard that Reid Holt has been missing in action since December 16, 1944? Reid was a member of one of those ill-fated divisions so badly mauled in the German break-through of last December. Reid was an infantryman. I hope and pray that he returns to his family and friends.

"My brother, Anthony, was injured recently. In December, he was sent to Camp Livingston, La., and transferred from the anti-aircraft to the infantry. During a battle problem, he was wounded in the chest by shrapnel. Fortunately, he received prompt medical attention and is now getting along nicely but it will be some time before he is fully recovered. We are grateful that his injury was not more serious than it is."

We certainly join Eddie, and know all members of the WVCA do likewise, in his hopes for Reid's safety and for Anthony's complete recovery from his injury. The Germans no doubt took hundreds of prisoners in the break-through and we feel there is a strong chance Reid may be among those. Should this be true, we may hope for his liberation in the near future.

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JOHNNY HURT IN PENNSYLVANIA OPEN

Johnny Hurt RT2/C, Philadelphia, writes (under date of March 1) that he is playing in the Pennsylvania State Open Tournament at Philly.

Here is what Johnny writes in his letter: "It is an elimination affair. Twenty-four started, all of them good except me, and six of us remain. My next opponent will eliminate me as I am in the fast company. The five other remaining players are masters--Levin, Winkleman, Shaffer, Draher, DiCamillo. A draw will put me out now. Of the above five, I have met only Shaffer and Draher in the tourney (I won from Shaffer and lost to Draher), so you can see I had lucky draws. Levin is a three-time winner and DiCamillo won the last two years. Shaffer hasn't lost a game since and still has a chance. Draher still has a perfect score. If you lose $1\frac{1}{2}$ points, you're eliminated. This was my first experience with time clocks. I was afraid of them, used only 20 minutes for 47 moves in my first game--the one with Shaffer. There are three other minor tourneys in progress here and a big exhibition of chess at the Philadelphia Free Library."

Your Editor wishes he could do as well in his current tourney at the Downtown Y. So far he has...

REPORT FROM MORGANTOWN

BY BILL SCHAEFFER

You may pass the word around that the Morgantown Chess Club is now meeting at 8 p. m. each Thursday in the Morgantown Junior High School Building. The latch-string is out--all comers are welcome.

Francis Price, president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, proved of invaluable assistance in locating us a meeting place. The Jaycees have voted endorsement of our club, although this is not actual sponsorship, and are giving us a lot of welcome aid. Price and some of the other members deserve a lot of credit for what they've done to help. They are actually keeping identified with the club. Three or four of the Jaycees are members of the club and we hope to interest more.

MEMBERSHIP REACHES TWENTY-SEVEN

We have a membership of 27 and growing every week. The roster includes some University professors, a U librarian, some soldier-students and a rookie or two, as well as lots of run-of-mine players.

We have formed a temporary organization. The members have asked me to serve temporarily as secretary-chairman. Dr. Victor Lemke will be in charge of instruction, both for beginners and advanced players.

This thing is exceeding any sober expectations I ever had, although I realize the students will be with us only temporarily, and one or two of the others may lose interest. Attendance has ranged from 10 to 19 in the first month; nearly all of our folks have conflicting activities. Some are busy with the Red Cross drive. I think we're doing well; practically all of our members are the type who have a good many irons in the fire. Around 15 or 20 are really enthusiastic about the club. The group has a wonderful spirit.

CLUB HAS SOME STRONG PLAYERS

One of our soldier-students, Pvt. D. V. Morrison, is an awfully good performer. I haven't played the others, though I understand that they are pretty good, too. Morrison played at the Cleveland Y Club and has been at the game for years. He's aggressive and knows how to back up his attack. The University crowd--Lindsay Brawner, Dr. Claude C. Spiker and the rest--are strong players and the club is nicely balanced. Still, I think Prof. Lemke is the best around here.

Some day when the strength of the members becomes apparent, we hope to organize a team, ready, willing and able to meet any other within easy reach.

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JUNIOR HIGH CLUB AT MORGANTOWN

Subsequently, we received from Bill Schaeffer a copy of a clipping from the Morgantown Post, telling of the organization of a chess club among the boys at Morgantown Junior High School, under the direction of Principal Walter Riddle. The youngsters meet each Tuesday and Friday at 3 p. m. Schaeffer helped the students set up their organization and other M.C.C. members plan to visit the junior club at later meetings.

PROBLEM PAGE

EDITED BY YOUR EDITOR

THOSE LONG-DELAYED STANDINGS

Here, at last, are the standings of solvers. The first column shows scores for the first 12 problems (reported in Bull. 28, Dec. 10) while the other columns give credits awarded for the puzzlers published subsequently.

		Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Totals
Sweeney, Thomas	11	4	4	3	22
Brenneman, Arthur	12	2	4	3	21
Crean, Robert	11	2	4	2	19
Collett, Gene	11	2	4	0	17
Hurt, John F., Jr.	3	2	0	3	8

We have also R. Brenneman 8, Dexheimer and Wolff 3 each, Church 1. None of these submitted solutions the last three months.

Sweeney's big score in November came from his being the only solver of Sam Loyd's No. 15 and his discovery of a second solution to Bob Crean's No. 13. The Crean cook also was found by A. Brenneman who got an extra point for it.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS

No. 13--Second solution, QxQ.

No. 17--This one had two solutions. We gave the second incorrectly as 1 QxNP when it was 1 Q-K6 and then after K moves, 2 O-O-O!!! Tom Sweeney protests this one as unfair since the solver hadn't been told the castling move was possible. We have seen similar themes in other problems, however, and believe the solver has the right to assume castling possible unless the position of the men precludes it.

No. 19--K-B2. No. 20--Q-R2. No. 21--Q-R8.
No. 22--Q-K6. No. 23--B-B4. No. 24--K-B6.

NO. 21 WAS A TOUGHIE

Sweeney and A. Brenneman write that No. 21 was a masterpiece. Crean says: "Problem No. 21 threw me for a loop and I still haven't solved it. I'm on the verge of screaming, 'Misprint!' I spent no less than 8 hours on it. No soap! I am sure it's like the Yearbook problem--that I had the right solution and muffed it."

COLLETT WITHDRAWS TEMPORARILY

While he is editing the page, your editor is naturally withdrawing from competition. Return solutions to problems to Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Ave., Pittsburgh 10, Pa. by April 10.

No. 25
BY BOB CREAN

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

MATE IN 2

No. 26
BY BOB CREAN

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

MATE IN 5

No. 27
BY DR. J. J. O'KEEFE

			P		
			N	K	
			P		
R	B	B	K		

MATE IN 3

VOICE OF THE MEMBERS

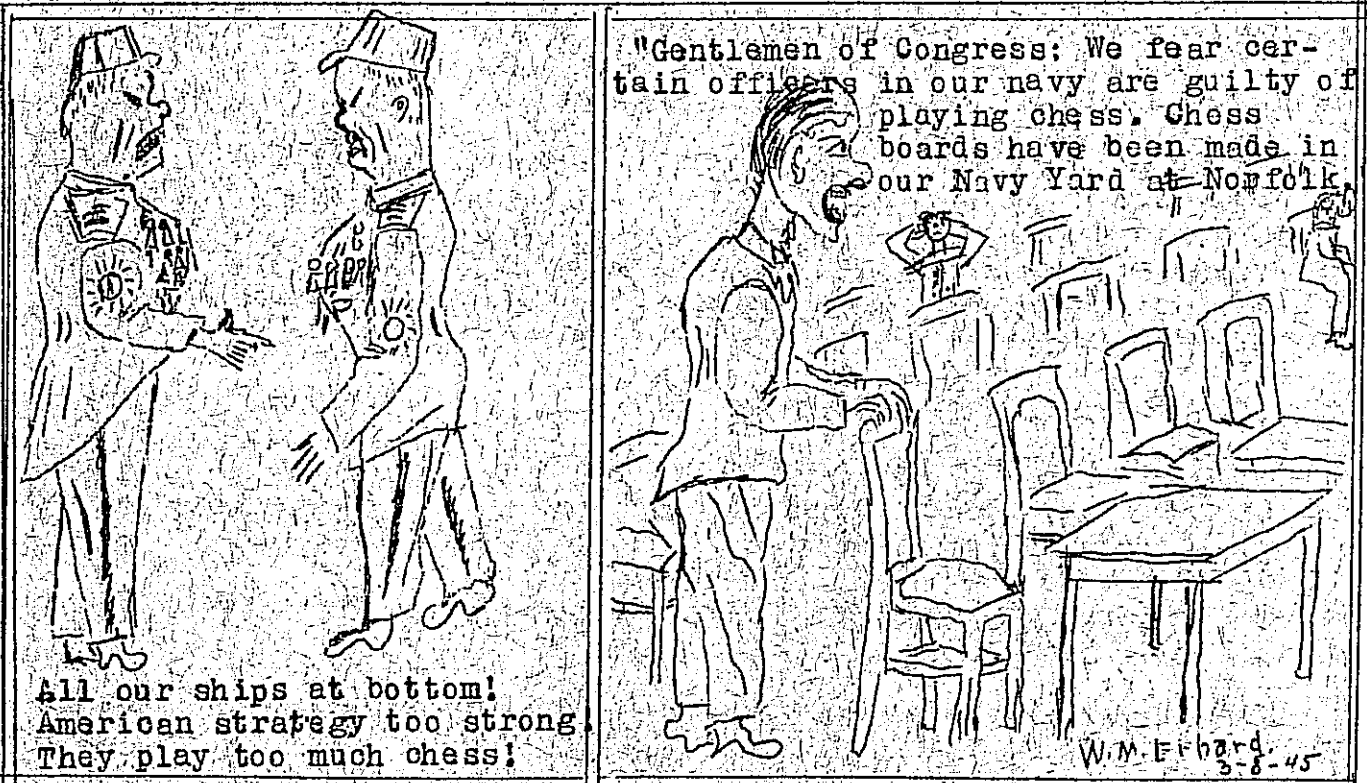
Arthur Brenneman, Charleston (March 1): "I have been working on the 4 p. m. to midnight shift and have not had much chance to get to club meetings, but I did attend two of them last month and found no one there by myself. I don't know what's wrong; maybe the weather."

(Sorry to hear the Charleston club meetings are lapsing. With the new club just getting started in Morgantown and Clarksburg continuing its weekly meetings, as well as Huntington, we began to visualize an active club in every large West Virginia town. Whatsa matta in Charleston--ain't you guys gettin' your vitamins regular?)

Bob Crean, Charleston (Feb. 22): "Notice you evened up the margins in the last issue. Soon you'll be out-trotting Treond. It looks purdy...Managed to get trounced a few times by Hal Liggett who does pretty well if he has his way with an accepted Evans Gambit. He goes to pieces if you decline the gambit, however."

Edward M. Foy SKIC, Auburn, Ala. (March 3): "I don't play much chess any more but I hope to play again when the war is over. I suppose that

TWO VIEWS OF THE SAME THING !



you still play more or less frequently; good luck to you. The Bulletin, which I enjoy, arrives regularly; thank you."

Capt. B. W. Devericks, Ft. Knox, Ky. (Feb. 22): "Going through my desk--queer stuff one saves! On reading WVCB No. 13, June 10, 1943, I see a quote from one of my letters illustrating the absurd way you quote any personal letter sent you. It's under messages from absent members on page 3: 'Capt. B. W. Devericks, Granite City, Ill.: "Will I be at the tournament? Ha! Ha! Remember the little Dutch lad his thumb? That's me!"' but you have no winning the world!"

JOHNNY HURT AT THE PENNSYLVANIA OPEN

On Page One is a news story on Johnny Hurt's participation in the Pennsylvania State Open Tournament at Philadelphia. We asked Johnny for a couple of his games to use this month and a couple more for the April Bulletin. Johnny sent one which he won and another which he lost. The notes are by Johnny, at our request.

TWO KNIGHTS DEFENSE

<u>HURT</u>	<u>SHAFFER</u>
1 P-K4	P-K4
2 N-KB3	N-QB3
3 B-B4	N-B3
4 N-N5	P-Q4
5 PXP	QN-R4
6 P-Q3	P-KR3
7 N-KB3	P-K5
8 Q-K2	NxB
9 PxN	B-QB4
10 N-QB3	O-O
11 KN-Q2	B-KN5
12 Q-B	R-K
13 N-N3	B-N5
14 B-K3	P-QN4
15 P-KR3	B-KR4
16 P-N4	B-N3
17 O-O-O	BxN
18 PxB	PxP
19 QxP	N-Q2
20 P-Q6!	N-K4
21 QxQBP	QxQ
22 PxQ	KR-QB
23 R-Q5	P-KB3
24 BxQRP	RxP
25 B-N6	RxBP
26 K-N2	QR-QB
27 R-B5	

12...P-K6 looks good.

27 B-B5 is best for White.

HURT

27 ...
28 BxR
29 P-KB4
30 P-B5
31 PxB
32 R-K
32...N-R5ch looks like a drawing variation.
33 BPxN
34 PXP
35 P-QR4
36 K-B3
37 K-Q3
38 P-R5
39 P-N4
40 P-R6

QUEEN'S PAWN GAME

DUTCH DEFENSE

DREHER

1 P-Q4
2 P-K4
3 N-QB3
4 P-K5
5 QN-K2
6 P-QB3
7 P-KB4
8 N-N3
9 PXP

9 BxP looks best.

9... Q-N3

SHAFFER

R(6)xR
P-K6
N-Q2
BxP
NxB
NxN
P-N3
R-K
P-B4
P-B5
K-N2
KxP
K-B4
Resigns

DREHER

10 N-B3
11 P-QR3
12 B-K2
13 O-O
14 B-K3
15 BxB
16 N-N5
17 P-B5
18 P-K6
19 NxKP
20 NxP
21 N(5)-N7ch
22 NxBch
23 B-N5
24 R-B7
25 Q-K
26 R-QB
27 RxR
28 RxN
29 BxNch
30 R-N8ch
31 B-B5
32 Q-N4ch
33 Q-N6ch
34 BxQch
35 RxR

HURT

P-QR4
P-N5
P-N6
P-R5
B-R3
QxB
P-N3
17 KPxP
18 PXP
19 R-R2
N-K2
BxN
K-Q
R-N
N-N
Q-Q3
RxN
N-B3
QxR
K-B
K-N2
R-R
K-B2
QxQ
K-N2
Resigns

12...B-R3 looks better at this point.

Either 16...P-R3 or 16...N-R4 looks better.

PAGES SEVEN AND EIGHT of this issue are represented by the printed insert kindly donated by Dr. Albrecht Buschke. It is an article from the June, 1941, Princeton University Library Chronicle, dealing with "Chess Libraries in America," including the John G. White Collection.

Dr. Buschke not only is a collector and an authority on collections, but also deals in new and used chess books. He says, "I can get any old or new book you want." His address is 80 East Eleventh Street, New York 3, N. Y. If you write him concerning books, be sure to mention you are a member of the West Virginia Chess Association.

U. S. C. F. ISSUES CLUB BULLETIN

The United States Chess Federation has just issued the first number of its Club Bulletin, a publication serving the local clubs which become members of the USCF.

It has 20 pages, in addition to a handsome cover drawn by USCF Director Severin Bischoff of Syracuse, who uses the design of the club membership certificates. It contains a list of the 65 member groups and articles about a number of them, an article by George Koltanowski, notices of various chess tournaments, an explanation of the Bulletin's editorial policy, and general chess material.

It costs \$5 a year to enroll your club in the USCF. Send your application to the Bulletin's able editor and USCF secretary, Paul G. Giers, 2304 South Avenue, Syracuse 7, N. Y. (The same address will take care of your individual membership if you haven't sent it in yet--\$1 a year, which includes the USCF Yearbook, due to come out this month.)

One of the things we enjoyed most in the Club Bulletin and one which every player can read with pleasure and, if he will, profit, is called

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF CHESS

1. Thou shalt not willingly move the same piece twice in the opening.
2. Thou shalt not allow thy rook or queen to be pinned.
3. Thou shalt not make premature attacks.
4. Thou shalt not blindly worship the goddess combination, but thou shalt ever keep the end game in mind.
5. Thou shalt avoid useless checks.
6. Thou shalt not move pawns without sufficient reason and shalt ever remember that pawns are the soul of chess.
7. Thou shalt be afraid of no man's skull, for if thou art, thou hast lost before thou hast begun.
8. Thou shalt not ask to take back a move.
9. Thou shalt not whistle, hum, tap or do any other thing that may annoy thy opponent.
10. Thou shalt keep thy temper, lose without excuse, and win without boasting.

The author of the foregoing gem is unknown...The Club Bulletin also, for your guidance, lists these upcoming tournaments:

United States Chess Federation 1945 Open Tournament--July 9-21, Peoria, Illinois.

International Masters' Tournament--July 29-Aug. 12, Hollywood Athletic Club, Hollywood, Calif. Prize money totalling \$2,800, including first prize of \$1,000.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE OFFICERS OF THE U.S.C.F.:

This communication is about your new Club Bulletin. We may as well warn you at the outset that we propose to offer criticism--not of the format (it is beautiful), not of the contents (it is well edited by Secretary Paul G. Giers), nor yet of the purpose for which it is intended (to help local clubs be more successful).

Our criticism, which we trust is constructive, is this:

The United States Chess Federation is not putting first things first.

The Club Bulletin, as the editor notes, is going only to the 65 member clubs, and to some clubs which it is hoped will become members. This is a small circulation for so elaborate a publication. It will still be small after you have beaten the bushes to add all members possible.

2,000 MEMBERS SHOULD GET MORE

Meanwhile, the more than 2,000 individual members of the Federation get no service except a membership card, and a Yearbook. This is not enough. If the USCF is to become the organization we hope it will become, we must give the members MORE.

Soon or late, we must abandon the pleasant fiction that the American Chess Bulletin and the Chess Review are our official organs. No publication can be the official organ of the United States Chess Federation except one published by the USCF and serving its interests only. Until we have such a publication, we will never have a great American chess organization.

We speak of "holding" the 2,000 members signed in 1944, as if that were an achievement in a land crowded with chess addicts. When our good friend, George Koltanowski, says in the Club Bulletin, "We can and must have 5,000 members by the end of 1945," he is not indulging in a mere rhetorical flourish. We have heard him talk on the subject before; he believes the USCF should have a membership not of 2,000 or of 5,000, but one which ranges upward toward 50,000 or 100,000. And we agree with him whole-heartedly--if we are willing to apply ourselves intelligently to an arduous but worthwhile task, there is no reasonable goal which the USCF cannot reach.

WHAT THE USCF NEEDS MOST

What we need in the USCF, more than a club bulletin, more than artistic certificates, or a plan to make local championships official--worthy though these things are in themselves--is a FIRST-CLASS CHESS MAGAZINE GOING TO EVERY MEMBER. And by that we mean a magazine to be published just as often as we can afford to get it out, whether that is bi-monthly, monthly or semi-monthly. And, eventually, if we are to become the organization we should become, a weekly chess magazine going to thousands of chess players in every state in the union.

A fantastic idea? Think it over!

Gene Collier

BIRTHDAY PROFILES

(Next month's Birthday Profiles will cover members whose natal days fall between April 15 and May 14. If your birthday comes in this period, please send material to the editor at once.)

APRIL 5 - RICHARD C. GRIMM

Richard Charles Grimm is the only member to date to report that he learned the game twice--at the age of 10, and again at the age of 21.

"Originally, I just learned the moves from a sheet of rules," writes Dick. "I had no men and nobody to play with until 1941 when the fellows at work taught me the rest of the rules (castling, and so forth). Then I got a book and a set of men--"

Need we go on? Like many another innocent soul caught in the snares of the royal game, he became an addict, a state from which there is no turning back and no release until death do us part.

Dick was born April 5, 1920, at Chalk Hill, Pa. He received his B.S. degree from Otterbein College in 1940. He is married and as yet has no children.

The plant of which he speaks is the Carbide and Carbon Chemical Corporation at Charleston, which may or may not produce chemicals but of a certainty turns out the chess players. Many of WVCA members work there or have worked there.

Dick played in the 1943 tournament at Clarksburg, finishing 7th. He achieved the distinction of trapping and winning the Queen of Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, who became champion that year. The old master had too much experience for the beginner, however, and won the game despite the handicap. Members said of Dick, "He's the man to watch in 1944." With this encouragement, Dick entered the 1943 Pennsylvania tournament, finishing 8th in a field of 31. In the 1944 W. Va. meet at Charleston, he found the competition tougher and wound up 12th in a field of 16. He is not discouraged, though, and doubtless will give a good account of himself in future Mountaineer meets.

Dick was Kanawha County director for the WVCA in 1944-45.

(Address: 5412 Ohio Street, S. W., South Charleston.)

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APRIL 8 - RAY H. GRIFFIN

Many chess players hibernate in the summer. So far as we know, Ray Griffin is the only one who emulates the groundhog and does his hibernating in the winter.

The reason is that Ray, a public accountant, finds his business piling up terrifically around the end of the year and along about income tax time. So on Dec. 1 he announces his retirement from chess and along about April 1 he resumes play.

Ray was born April 8, 1893, at Clarksburg, W. Va., and is unmarried. He says, "I was 20 years old when I began working on chess; I have never learned it yet."

He read about the game in the encyclopedia and in newspaper columns, and it stimulated his imagination. He cut pieces from cardboard, marked the designations of the men on them, and began studying the moves. His first real chance to play was when he entered the U. S. Army at the age of 26. Subsequently, he, along with Capt. B. W. Devericks, was a member of the old Clarksburgh Chess Club which flourished about 1930. Both of them were charter members of the present C.C.C., founded in February, 1940.

Nobody knows how many chess books Ray owns, probably not even Ray. On his WVCA questionnaire, he listed about 25 titles and then said "and so forth." Some are in German, Tarrasch books not available in English, and others are books out of print and relatively rare.

Ray has played in four state tournaments, all except the first two. His best position was sixth in 1943, in which event he was the only one to win from the champion, Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, in what George Koltanowski called "a well-played and cool-headed game."

Griffin was a WVCA director two years, 1942-44.

(Address: 303 Greaney Building, Clarksburg.)

THAT CORONET ARTICLE -- CHESS COLUMNS AND HISTORY

Dr. Albrecht Buschke, New York, N. Y., writes under date of Feb. 28:

"I wouldn't be surprised if your note, 'Dissenting Voice,' on page 12 of the Feb. 10 Bulletin gives chess the boost some folks expect already from the original article in Coronet. I am really anxious to know how many more people read the article in Coronet and whether this will start a discussion which can only be of advantage for the popularization of the game.

"Incidentally, I find that Treend expressed in a somewhat softer tone than I did exactly the same feelings, namely that the article in Coronet was apparently written by someone who probably doesn't even know how to move the pieces, not to say anything about his inability to consult readily available books, e.g., Lurray's 'History of Chess.'

"It might interest you to know that weeks before that story appeared in Coronet, a girl in the editorial office of that magazine called me up on the suggestion of the New York Public Library in order to check one particularly and especially foolish detail of that article. I tried to get hold of the manuscript before publication but, of course, the trouble with popular magazines is that they are not in the least interested in getting correct information as long as their articles are written in a spectacular way for the consumption of the general public. The historical minded among your readers will all the more appreciate that you are furnishing them material not handled by such popular magazines.

(Continued on next page)

NEW MEMBERS OF THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS ASSOCIATION

- 67 Ben L. Evans, 859 Miller Street, Morgantown
 68 John R. Hardesty, 421 Peverly Avenue, Morgantown
 69 E. Grant Cole, 901 Charles Avenue, Morgantown
 70 Dr. Claude C. Spiker, 104 Jackson Avenue, Morgantown

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Dr. Albrecht Buschke, 80 East 11th Street, New York 3, N. Y.

FINANCIAL REPORT--FEB. 6 TO MARCH 10, 1945

	<u>Recd.</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Bal.</u>
Bal. on hand Feb. 5 (see Bull. 30)			\$51.77
Receipts: Memberships, Evans, Hardesty, Cole and Spiker at \$1 each			
Expenditures: Bull. 30 (100 copies 10 pp mimeoed and 2 pp printed insert donated by Dr. Buschke) mimeo \$2.40 postage \$1.78	\$4.00		55.77
Promotion sheet for prospective members (100 copies 1p)		\$4.18	51.59
Postage--correspondence with members		.33	51.26
		.77	50.49

THAT CORONET ARTICLE (continued from preceding page)

"My consistent reading of the few chess columns now published in the United States as well as in England shows me there must be a rather large number of local chess fans who appreciate being informed about historical items, at least so far as they are of local interest. Mr. Holt, who edits 'The Pawn Pusher' in the Minneapolis Star-Journal, employed a guest editor recently to provide articles on former Minnesota chess champions for his chess column. I am sure that under present circumstances there would hardly be any space available in a newspaper if Mr. Holt didn't know there was a definite interest for this type of material among his readers and could make this clear to the editor of the paper. His is one of the few chess columns still published in the country which has about as much space as before the war.

"Similar items can be noticed in English chess columns. As I have told you before, local bulletins take over the role of chess columns canceled because of paper shortages, and since popular chess magazines do not cater to this type of reader, it is good that some space is now available at least in these local bulletins. I shall try to provide you with more material of this type as my time permits."

VISITOR FROM CLEVELAND AREA

We were happy to meet S. S. Keeney, associate editor of the Cleveland Area Chess Bulletin the other night at the Downtown Y Chess Club, Pittsburgh. He is a pleasant, affable gentleman and seemed to be playing an expert brand of chess in a series with Bob Holbrook, Y club president. We sent our regards to Joe Dorsey who had sent his to us by way of Mr. Keeney.

THIS BULLETIN IS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE W. VA. CHESS ASSOCIATION...
 IT IS EDITED BY GENE COLLETT, 125 MERITT AVENUE, PITTSBURGH 10, PENNA.