

# WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

NUMBER 44

APRIL, 1946

## KOLTANOWSKI WINS IN HAVANA

George Koltanowski, World Blindfold Chess Champion, won the Havana Tournament, organized by the Cuban Chess Federation and completed early in April, with a score of 7 points, a half point ahead of the Cuban champion, Senor M. Aleman, who had 6½.

Other scores included M. Colon of Puerto Rico, 6; F. Planas, 6; J. Alonso, 4½; Senorita S. Castellon, woman champion of Cuba, 1.

Kolti also won the brilliancy prize for his fourth-round game March 29 against J. Alonso. It is given at the end of this article and shows the blindfold master doing a commendable piece of broken-field running. The event was held in the famous Havana Chess Club and was directed by Dr. Angel de Albear.

An air-mail letter from Kolti (April 6) said he planned to play in another tournament in Puerto Rico and then to return to the U.S. by April 19 "at the latest." He gave two exhibitions in Havana, winning five and drawing one at blindfold, and winning 23, losing one and drawing six at straight simultaneous.

Herewith the tournament brilliancy prize game:

<u>WHITE: KOLTANOWSKI</u>	8 Q-B3	P-B4	19 P-B4	PxQP	
<u>BLACK: J. ALONSO</u>	9 P-B3	Q-B2	20 KPxP	PxP	
<u>Havana, March 29, 1946</u>	10 O-O	B-Q3	21 R-QB2	Q-Q	
	11 R-B2	P-KN3	22 BxP	N-K2	
1 P-Q4	N-KB3	12 P-KN4	P-KR3	23 NxBP!	KxN
2 N-KB3	P-K3	13 P-N5	N-KN	24 BxPch	K-N2
3 P-K3	P-QN3	14 Q-R3	N-B	25 P-B5!	NxP
4 Qx-Q2	B-N2	15 QN-KB3	P-KR4	26 P-Q5ch	K-R2
5 B-Q3	P-Q4	16 P-Q-N3	N-K2	27 BxN	B-B4ch
6 N-K5	P-QR3	17 B-N2	R-KN	28 RxB	PxN
7 P-KB4	QN-Q2	18 R-K	N-B4	29 QxP	mate

### BIG NAMES IN NATIONAL OPEN TOURNAMENT AT PITTSBURGH

Four top-ranking American chess players already have announced their intention of competing in the 47th annual U.S. Open National Championship Tournament July 8-20 at the Hotel Roosevelt in Pittsburgh. Still others may enter, as well as scores of expert players from all parts of the country. The event probably will draw the largest group of celebrities, and probably the biggest lineup of entries, in the seven years the United States Chess Federation has been in charge of the event, or possibly in the whole history of the tournament.

The four stars who have announced they will battle for the Open honors are George Koltanowski, Anthony Santasiere and I.A. Horowitz, all of New York City, and Weaver W. Adams of Dedham, Mass.

By some, George Koltanowski is considered an unknown quantity. He has never played in a major U.S. tournament, mainly because he did not become an American citizen until last winter. He has toured the U.S., however, and is well known to rank and file players all over the country. He is a brilliant performer and his recent victory at Havana

Tony Santasiere was a member of the U.S. team which engaged Russia, not too successfully, in a radio match last Labor Day week-end. Tony won the 1945 Open and in 1944 was second only to Sammy Reshevsky of Boston, who for eight years--1936-44--held the U.S. championship. If the USCF had picked eight masters for seeding in the National Championship, Tony probably would have filled eighth board.

Horowitz, also a Russian radio match player, is one of the seeded seven. Editor of Chess Review, he has many chess honors to his credit, including victory in the 1943 Open. He made his acceptance of an invitation to the Pittsburgh meet dependent on their being no conflict between its date and that of the Russo-American return match, no date for which has been set.

Weaver Adams, chess author and analyst, has achieved third place twice in the Open. He is the current Ventnor City and New England champion and has a reputation for turning in surprising wins at big matches.

Hermann Helms, editor of the American Chess Bulletin and "Dean of American Chess," will direct the event, arrangements for which are being made by William M. Byland, to whom inquiries should be addressed at 3244 Latonia Avenue, Pittsburgh 16, Pa.

West Virginians will be glad to learn that Dr. Siegfried Werthammer of Huntington, state champion in 1943 and 1944, plans to enter the Open. His West Virginia backers will be rooting for all they are worth when he tackles the big boys.

MORGANTOWN-ARTHURDALE DEFEATS CLARKSBURG, 7 1/2-5 1/2

A team of Monongalia and Preston county chessers, whom we will for convenience call Morgantown-Arthurdale, downed a Clarksburg team 7 1/2-5 1/2 in a match Sunday, March 31, at Morgantown. A return engagement is planned, in which the Clarksburg boys declare things will be different. The score:

<u>Morgantown-Arthurdale</u>	<u>Board</u>	<u>Clarksburg</u>
Dr. Victor J. Lemke, Morgantown (1 1/2)	1	Dr. Robert Humphries (1/2)
Milford Mott, Arthurdale (1)	2*	Frank Wisinski (0)
William Schaeffer, Morgantown (2)	3	William Challinor (0)
Dr. C. C. Spiker, Morgantown (2)	4	Sam Allison (0)
Dr. W. P. Kellam, Morgantown (0)	5	Ray Griffin (2)
Dr. J. P. Brawner, Morgantown (1)	6	Lee Rogers (1)

\*Only one game completed at Board No. 2.

Dr. Humphries and Dr. Brawner are recently back in the States, the former after service in the Army Medical Corps, the latter from a session of teaching GI's in Europe.

The Clarksburg club is holding regular weekly meetings, alternating between the homes of Lee Rogers and Bob Humphries. The club is seeking a regular meeting place but hasn't been able to find one yet...The Morgantown is getting 8 or 10 out for its weekly session at Morgantown junior high school but hopes to build attendance up to 18 or 20 soon.

Bill Schaeffer reports a talk with the Rev. Wm. M. Erhard of Wheeling, in which the latter suggested a Wheeling-Morgantown match at Morgantown some Saturday in the near future. This sounds like a natural and should go a long way toward selecting the strongest team of Northern West Virginia. After all, we think we'll try to work up a Charleston-Huntington match, and follow it up with a North-South battle. What'll it be, boys? Want a straight city team match, or would you like to get an all-star North-South combination together?

Some games from the team play at Morgantown will be found on the next page.

TEAM MATCH  
MORGANTOWN  
MARCH 31, 1946

WHITE: LEMKE  
BLACK: HUMPHRIES

- 1 P-K4 P-K4
- 2 N-KB3 N-QB3
- 3 B-N5 P-QR3
- 4 B-R4 N-B3
- 5 O-O B-K2
- 6 R-K P-QN4
- 7 B-N3 O-O
- 8 B-Q5 B-N2
- 9 NXP NxB
- 10 NxN BxN
- 11 PxN BxP
- 12 N-B3 B-N2
- 13 P-Q4 B-N4
- 14 N-K4 BxB
- 15 RxB P-Q3
- 16 P-Q5 P-KB4
- 17 N-B3 Q-B3
- 18 R-N QR-K
- 19 RxB RxB
- 20 Q-Q2 P-N4
- 21 P-QN4 P-R3
- 22 P-QR4 P-B3
- 23 RXP BPxNP
- 24 R-K Q-B2
- 25 RxB QxB
- 26 Q-K3 QxQ
- 27 PxQ K-B2
- 28 P-K4 K-B3
- 29 K-B2 PxP
- 30 NXPch K-K4
- 31 N-B3 P-KR4
- 32 P-N3 BxP
- 33 K-K3 B-N2
- 34 N-K2 P-Q4
- 35 P-B3 B-B
- 36 N-Q4 K-Q3
- 37 N-B3 P-N5
- 38 N-Q4 B-Q2
- 39 N-K2 K-K4
- 40 N-B4 B-K
- 41 N-K2

DRAWN

WHITE: HUMPHRIES  
BLACK: LEMKE

- 1 P-Q4 P-Q4
- 2 N-KB3 N-KB3
- 3 P-QB4 P-K3

- 4 B-N5 QN-Q2
- 5 P-K3 P-B3
- 6 P-QR3 B-K2
- 7 N-B3 P-KR3
- 8 BxN NxB
- 9 B-Q3 PxP
- 10 BxP O-O
- 11 O-O P-R3
- 12 N-K5 N-Q4
- 13 NxN BPxN
- 14 B-Q3 P-B3
- 15 R-N6 R-B2
- 16 QR-B B-Q2
- 17 B-N P-KR4
- 18 Q-Q3 R-B3
- 19 NxB QxN
- 20 R-B7 Q-K
- 21 KR-B B-B3
- 22 Q-N3 Q-Q
- 23 Q-N6 R-B2
- 24 R(1)xB PxR
- 25 RXP QxQ
- 26 RxB R-K2
- 27 B-Q3 P-QR4
- 28 B-N5 R-R2
- 29 P-QR4 QR-B2
- 30 P-KN3 K-B2
- 31 K-N2 R-N2
- 32 R-R6 R-R2
- 33 R-N6 KR-B2
- 34 P-R4 P-N4
- 35 PxP PxP
- 36 K-B3 K-B3
- 37 B-K8 KR-N2
- 38 RxB RxB
- 39 B-N5 P-K4
- 40 PXPch KxP
- 41 P-KN4 R-N3
- 42 PxP KxP
- 43 K-K2 K-K4
- 44 P-B3 R-N
- 45 K-Q2 R-KR
- 46 K-B3 R-R7
- 47 P-B3 R-KB7
- 48 P-B4ch PxP
- 49 PxP RxB
- 50 B-Q3 R-QN5
- 51 B-B2 K-B5
- 52 K-Q3 P-Q5
- 53 B-Q K-K4
- 54 B-B2 K-Q4
- 55 B-Q K-B4
- 56 K-B2 R-N
- 57 B-K2 K-N5
- 58 B-B4 K-B4
- 59 K-Q3 R-KR
- 60 K-K4 R-R6

- 61K-B4 R-K6
- 62 B-N8 K-N5
- 63 B-Q5 RxB
- 64 K-K4 KxP
- 65 KxP K-N5
- 66 BxR KxB
- 67 K-Q3 P-R5
- 68 K-Q2 K-N7
- 69 Resigns

WHITE: WISINSKI  
BLACK: MOTT

- 1 P-K4 P-K4
- 2 N-KB3 N-QB3
- 3 B-B4 B-B4
- 4 P-B3 N-KB3
- 5 P-Q4 PxP
- 6 PxP B-N5ch
- 7 B-Q2 BxBch
- 8 QNxB P-Q3
- 9 O-O O-O
- 10 R-Q3 N-QR4
- 11 B-Q3 B-N5
- 12 Q-B2 N-B3
- 13 P-K5 PxP
- 14 NXP NXP
- 15 QxP B-K7
- 16 QxQ KRxQ
- 17 KR-K BxB
- 18 NxB N-B3
- 19 R-B3 R-Q2
- 20 N-B3 QR-Q
- 21 N-B5 R-B2
- 22 P-KR3 P-KR3
- 23 P-QR3 P-QN3
- 24 N-R6 R(B2)-B
- 25 P-QN4 N-Q5
- 26 RxB NxBch
- 27 PxN RxB
- 28 R-K7 R-B6
- 29 RxBP RxBP
- 30 K-N2 N-Q4
- 31 P-N5 R-R4
- 32 R-N7 RxB
- 33 N-B7 NxN
- 34 RxB R-QB4
- 35 R-N7 P-QN4
- 36 R-N8ch K-R2
- 37 R-N6 P-R4
- 38 P-R4 P-N3
- 39 K-N3 R-B4
- 40 P-B4 K-N2
- 41 P-B3 K-B
- 42 R-N7 K-K
- 43 R-R7 K-Q
- 44 R-N7 K-B

- 45 R-K7 P-N5
- 46 R-K4 R-QN4
- 47 R-K P-N6
- 48 K-B2 P-N7
- 49 R-QN K-Q2
- 50 K-K3 K-Q3
- 51 K-K4 R-N5ch
- 52 K-K3 P-B4
- 53 K-B2 K-Q4
- 54 K-K3 R-N6ch
- 55 K-B2 K-Q5
- 56 K-K2 K-B6
- 57 R-Q P-K8(Q)
- 58 Resigns

WHITE: SCHAEFFER  
BLACK: CHALLINOR

- 1 P-K4 P-K4
- 2 N-KB3 N-QB3
- 3 B-N5 P-QR3
- 4 B-R4 N-B3
- 5 O-O P-QN4
- 6 B-N3 B-B4
- 7 R-K O-O
- 8 P-B3 P-Q3
- 9 P-Q4 PxP
- 10 PxP BxP
- 11 NxB B-N2
- 12 NxN BxN
- 13 N-B3 B-N2
- 14 B-N5 P-B3
- 15 B-KR4 P-B3
- 16 Q-B3 P-N4
- 17 B-N3 P-B4
- 18 Q-Q P-QN5
- 19 N-Q5 BxN
- 20 BxB NxB
- 21 QxN B-K
- 22 QxP QxQ
- 23 BxQ QR-QB
- 24 QR-B P-B5
- 25 P-K5 P-QR4
- 26 R-K2 R-B3
- 27 KR-B2 P-B3
- 28 RxB RxB
- 29 RxB PxP
- 30 P-B3 K-B2
- 31 R-B5 K-K3
- 32 BxP K-B4
- 33 RxB RxB
- 34 RxB KxR
- 35 P-QR3 P-N6
- 36 K-B2 K-Q5
- 37 K-K2 P-R4
- 38 P-N3 P-N5
- 39 P-B4 K-K5
- 40 P-QR4 P-R5
- 41 P-R5 K-Q4
- 42 P-B5 K-B3
- 43 P-B6 PxP
- 44 PxP Resigns

# POETICA REGUM PROBLEMA DEPARTMENT

(Answers to problems in this issue should be submitted by June 10. Address all communications about this department to the Problem Editor--Francis J. C. DeBlasio, 358 Irving Avenue, Brooklyn 27, New York.)

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## A PROBLEM COMPOSING TOURNEY FOR AMERICANS

Enroque, an Argentine chess magazine, is sponsoring a formal 2-move problem composing tourney for composers living in the Americas only. Entries must be in quadruplicate, with full solution and theme or chessic idea on each; but with name and address on one diagram only. Problem Editor Eric M. Hassberg of The Chess Correspondent is one of the judges. There will be seven prizes and many honorable mentions and commendations. No restriction is placed on composers as to the number of entries, which are to be sent to Enroque, Gral Roca 290, Necochea, f.c.s., Argentina, until May 31, 1946.

## THIS MONTH'S PROBLEMS

The present lot of problems shows that the WVCB is conquering still new lands. The originals of Nos. 107 and 108 were cooked.

## SOLUTIONS TO FEBRUARY PROBLEMS

No. 64: Misprint, no solution in two but a self-mate in one,  $\text{ExPd3ch Kx3}$  mate. Correct version: 1 Pc6: (a) threat 2 Sc5ch, (b) 1...Kd random, 2 Qe5ch, (c) 1...Bf4, 2 QxPch, (d) 1...Bf6, 2 Qf5ch (the mates are simple). No. 82: 1 Sd6. No. 83: 1 Se3-d5. No. 84: 1 Qf2. No. 85: 1 Se8. No. 86: 1 Rg6. No. 87: 1 Rg4. No. 88: 1 Qb2 (a) threat 2 QxP mate, (b) 1...Re3, 2 Bc3, (c) 1...Se3, 2 Qe5ch, (d) 1...Qg3, 2 Pxs(S). (Note: Mr. Buchwald, the composer of No. 88, points out that the WR at c8 must be moved back to c7 and a BP must be added at b7--otherwise the thematic play is lost.) No. 89: 1 Pd4 (a) threat 2 Pd5, (b) 1...Rd5 (or Bc8), 2 BxSch, (c) 1...Bd5, 2 Re5ch, (d) 1...KxP, 2 Pd5ch, (e) 1...Rc5, 2 PdxR. No. 90: 1 Rd7 (a) threat 2 Rd3, (b) 1...Bc5 (or Re1), 2 Sa5ch, (c) 1...Rc5, 2 Rd4ch, (d) 1...KxR, 2 Rxs, (e) 1...Pe2, 2 Sd2ch, (f) 1...Rd5, 2 RxR.

## SOLVERS' LADDER (INCLUDING JANUARY SOLUTIONS)

Thomas Sweeney 182, Gene Collett 177, Victor Shortino 134, Robert Crean 115, Otto Oppenheimer 90, Bertrand Mulligan 79, Arthur Brenneman 71, E. J. Eddy 19.

## THE PXP E.P. THEME

The PXP e.p. maneuver, by either White or Black, is the theme of many problems. This move is used as the key of some of the problems in which the theme is incorporated--but, in such cases, the setting must be such that the legality of this capture can be proved; that is, Black's last move (in an imaginary game ending in said setting) could have been only the two-step pawn move which permits White to capture it en passant. Example: 6Bk-8-5SLP-5PpK-6pl-24. Mate in two. Key: 1 Pxp e.p. Pg7-g5 is the only legal move that Black could have just made (as seen easily), thus making the key capture legally possible.

## AN INVITATION TO ALL COMPOSERS

The WVCB Problem Editor is glad at all times to receive original compositions from readers, solvers and composers.

NO. 100 ORIGINAL  
BURY M. MARSHALL  
SHREVEPORT, LA.

			B	B	
		S	P		
B					
			S		
		K		K	
				R	
	S	P	P		
	R				

MATE IN 2 (6+7)

NO. 101 ORIGINAL  
C. S. KIPPING  
WEDNESBURY, ENGLAND

		R	B		
		S	P	S	
		B	K	P	
	Q				
	S		K	S	
			R		
B					

MATE IN 2 (10+4)

NO. 102 ORIGINAL  
I. A. GARAZA  
MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY

	S	K		B	
P	Q				
P				Q	K
		R			
P			P		P

MATE IN 2 (6+6)

NO. 103 ORIGINAL  
R. G. THOMPSON  
ABERDEEN, SCOTLAND

R					R	K
			P		R	
	S		S			
					P	
		R				
B						
			K	S		
						Q

MATE IN 2 (7+6)

NO. 104 ORIGINAL  
J. NIELD  
BLACKPOOL, ENGLAND

					B	B
	K	B		P	Q	
						B
				R		
		K		P		
	P					S
P	P	S	P			
						Q

MATE IN 2 (9+8)

NO. 105 ORIGINAL  
J. J. A. SEILBERGER  
THE HAGUE, HOLLAND

			S	R		
P			S			B
Q						
		S	K	S		
K	R			R		
			B			Q
				P	R	B

MATE IN 2 (8+9)

NO. 106 ORIGINAL  
B. J. C. DE ANDRADE  
WOODFORD GREEN, ENGLAND

B	B					
R		P	R		P	
P	R			P	K	
		K		S		
	P	P	P	S		Q
	S	B			P	
	S					
	Q					

MATE IN 3 (8+14)

NO. 107 (V=REVISED)  
V. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR  
FRANCIS J. C. DE BLASIO

	S					
	R		P		R	
	P		K		P	R
R	P		S		K	
P	P			P		P
B					P	P
			P			
						Q
						B

MATE IN 2 (16+7)

NO. 108 (V=REVISED)  
V. BRITISH CHESS MAGAZINE  
FRANCIS J. C. DE BLASIO

		S			K	R
		S	S			P
		Q				
B						
					K	S
		B				R
B					P	R

MATE IN 3 (8+17)

## LETTERS AND NOTES

Edward M. Foy, Charleston (April 7): "We are getting the Charleston Chess Club re-organized. Last Wednesday we elected John Hurt president and Al DuVall secretary-treasurer. We had a fair turnout last week but there were more new members than old. Now to get the old-timers out! Reid Holt is back again. There will be a chess exhibition at the local public library, starting later in the week, sponsored by the Charleston and South Charleston clubs...In view of Mr. Paull's letter of Feb. 28, let's have the tournament in Wheeling again this year. I know from experience that you cannot beat that Wheeling hospitality! It will be good to see Mr. Paull and Mr. Stover and Mr. Altmeyer and the rest once more. So, let's hold the 1946 'Victory' State Tourney in Wheeling. (Neither Huntington nor Parkersburg has ever held this event but so far as I know they have not bid for the 1946 Tourney) ... I saw where one of the mid-western states held its state tournament, using the Swiss System to produce four finalists who then played a round robin for the title. I like the idea of that final round robin to produce the champion. Question: Should these four finalists carry their former scores with them into the finals? Probably not. But what do you think?...I am glad the USCF finally decided to seed more players to the U.S. Championship Tournament. This tournament should include the best."

(Tourney players will please note Director Foy's stimulating suggestion regarding play for our next state tournament. Let's have some opinions on how such an idea would work out. How many Swiss rounds would we need to produce the four finalists? What would the other players in the meet do while the final round robin was being played? Would such play make too many games? Would it more accurately decide a champion? Eddie probably has nostalgic memories of the old days when tourney entries played in sections, with each group sending one or two players into a final round robin. Those final rounds were tense, sometimes. But final rounds under the Swiss also can become pretty tense, tho the result does not so much hang on a final game, as it used to, but depends more on heads-up, solid play all thru the meet. Let's have your opinions, players.)

The SOUTH CHARLESTON CHESS CLUB opened a tournament, using the Swiss System, early in April. Play is continuing on Mondays at the South Charleston Community Center. THE CHARLESTON CHESS CLUB is experimenting with speed chess--10 seconds to a move--and hopes to get a club tournament (not speed) under way before the end of April.

Dr. R. T. Humphries, Clarksburg (April 1): "We had a nice meeting with the Morgantown-Arthurdale crowd but didn't get such a good score. We all need a little practice and are trying to meet every week. We miss the old gang; that is, you fellows that started us on the chess trail. It seems hard to get many together again."

L. A. Scholpp, Pittsburgh (April 14): "It was a pleasure to note a new (to me) annotator in our West Virginia Chess Bulletin. Dr. Werthammer's notes are new, different, like a breath of fresh air--yes, fresh air wafted down the rugged slopes of the Alps. May we have more of him."

Our reference to Capt. B. W. Devericks' chessic renown in the last issue of the Bulletin seems to have touched off some sort of a spring down at Ft. Knox, Ky., as we have been getting mail and mail about it. Like this:

Lt. Frederick L. Harrison, now of Rochester, N. Y. (April 2): "As a new member, I am greatly hurt that you do not think I beat Capt. Devericks, especially after just having trimmed him in two straight games. I feel that you should also add Col. Percival and W. C. Morgan to the list of those at least slightly ahead of him in games."

Col. Harold C. Percival, Ft. Knox, Ky. (April 15): "Here is one for your records. My youngest son, Robert, aged 18 this October, was down to Fort Knox last week and he

is a student of chess, a senior in high school in Indianapolis. Capt. B. W. Devericks invited him to play a game or two and my son, Bob, beat the pants off of Devericks three straight games. Do you know where Devericks learned to play chess? I can beat Devericks now and then."

Harold Tibbits, Elizabethtown, Ky., another of the new members Capt. Devericks signed up last month, wrote us, saying he was a beginner at the game and would like some lessons in it. We referred him to Bill, of course, who was close at hand and added by way of recommendation, recalling the noble work Bill did in teaching in his hometown: "The present strength of the Clarksburg club is due to Capt. Devericks' personal training." Much to our surprise, we received the following letter by return mail from Member Tibbits (April 11): "Your high praise of Capt. Devericks as a chess instructor caused me to broach the matter to him. He then showed me a portion of a personal letter to him from you in which you report that Clarksburg was defeated  $7\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$ . It is my belief, tho, that I ~~say~~ yet be able to find an instructor from this area."

Hummmmm! Judging from the letters, almost anybody at Ft. Knox, except Bill, would do! ...We have something of a suspicion that we are having our leg pulled by parcel post (surely a novelty) but have decided to wait until all the returns are in before we inform the postal inspectors...Tennyrate, Harold, you may take our word for it that Bill has taught chess to scores of beginners and we have yet to hear of a dissatisfied customer. (This is the place for someone to rise and say: "No wonder! Probably all the beginners are able to beat him after a few games!")

Waldo L. Waters, Melrose, Mass., editor of the Boston Herald chess column (March 7) "Regarding your mention of putting chess books in school libraries, I do not believe this is good promotion: no interest is shown, and besides, it's too expensive. Rather we should work on the competitive angle. Each year we run a school boy tourney with prizes and it works. Massachusetts vice president Al Hardiman is up to his ears getting ready for one in May...It has been suggested that I get another set of vice presidents and work them in relays as the set of four that I have now are just about exhausted. That's good! Whenthey start collapsing, I know we're getting somewhere! ...Try giving each vice president a specific job to do, that's my plan. Let one be responsible the schoolboy tournament, one the "A" state championship tournament, another the "B" tourney. Put them all on a rules committee to draft a fixed set of rules embracing both team and individual play...For big tournaments and exhibitions, draft the officers of all the clubs as one big committee to work out the problems and see that each gets a specific job to be responsible for...It is my opinion that a state association belongs to the chess players in the state, not just the president, or a so-called clique. No one man has the right nor the authority to formulate the policies of the association. This has been the core of trouble in numerous organizations for a long time. The players are the members, the association itself; they and they only have the right to decide the question, 'to be or not to be.' The members also have the grave responsibility of making sure that their little cog in the chess machine of the word does its job by progressing and making better comradeship amongst all they meet in the regal game."

Sam Abrahams of Huntington (April 11) sends us a letter he received from a Huntington boy now serving in the Army. He is not a member of the WVCA (though we'd love to have him) but the letter has such splendid appeal we feel every member should read it. The message, or at least a part of it, follows:

Lt. Kenneth Gallagher, Canal Zone (Feb. 19): "First, let me reintroduce myself, Mr. Abrahams. You perhaps remember a young man named Gallagher who used to take his beatings pretty regularly some five years ago from you, Cobb, Neel, the two Swards, et al. I have been in the Army for the past four years, being assigned at present as a first lieutenant in the Medical Administrative Corps.

"I have just received a clipping from home--your own excellent letter on the subject, 'What is Chess?' A couple of months ago I removed a Herald-Advertiser from around a Christmas package and scanned it for any news of whether the chess club was still functioning, and much to my surprise and delight I read of the approaching visit of the famous Koltanowski. I surely did wish I could have been there playing one of the boards against him.

"Since entering the Army I had played only at infrequent intervals until four or five months ago when I started attending the regular weekly meetings of a club of Canal Zone employes. There are several strong players in the club, one about on a par with Ty Cobb, and a couple about Rudd Neel's equal. Up to a few months ago (when he moved across the isthmus) there was a very strong player named Stenberg in the club who had the memory of an elephant and who enjoyed much success in blindfold games, even against other strong players in consultation.

"I have acquired a book called '200 Miniature Games of Chess,' by J. du Mont, which is a very enjoyable book and which has broadened my knowledge of various openings. Incidentally, this book contains a Koltanowski game, won in eight moves against the Philidor Defense, one of 30 simultaneous blindfold games...

"Goodbye for now, Mr. Abrahams. Whenever I return to Huntington, whether to stay or just to visit, I certainly shall look forward to visiting the chess club. Best wishes to you and the other members."

## WITH OTHER EDITORS

First off this month, let me say, as I have often said before, that every reader of the WVCB should be reading at least one other chess magazine. He will not be too much off of pocket, and certainly will derive profit, if he reads all the American chess magazines available. Here they are, all good, with the addresses and subscription prices:

**CHESS REVIEW**, the Picture Chess Magazine, 35 cents a copy, \$3 a year. Address: 250 W. 57th Street, New York 19, N. Y. Beautifully press printed, 36 pages 8x11 in the current issue, all the news of the chess world, games, annotations, instructions. Ten issues a year.

**AMERICAN CHESS BULLETIN**, edited by the Dean of American Chess, Hermann Helms. 35 cents a copy, \$2 a year. Address: 150 Nassau St., New York 7, N. Y. Also press printed, 24 pages in the current, 6x9 inches in size. The oldest chess magazine in America, a continuing history of the game in this country. Published every two months.

**THE CHESS CORRESPONDENT**, official organ of the Correspondence Chess League of America. \$2 a year, a quarter will bring you a sample copy. Address: 1517 St. John's Place, Brooklyn 13, N. Y. The current issue has 20 pages 8x11, press printed. Good games section and problem department, the latter edited by Eric Hassberg. Ten issues a year.

**CHESS NEWS FROM RUSSIA**, edited by our own WVCA Member Dr. Albrecht Buschke, 80 E. 11th St., New York 3, N. Y. This is a mimeographed and offset-printing job, 8½x5½ page size, 12 pages in the current issue. In awakening Americans to their need to find out what is going on elsewhere in the world, probably is doing a more important job right now than any other chess magazine. Dr. Buschke's fortnightly dash into print is like another ride of Paul Revere, only now the cry is "The Russians are coming!" The doctor thinks we lost the Russian radio match last year because we were too self-confident to bother about what the Russians were doing; for those who want to correct that error and make an honest effort to give America winning chances next year, Dr. Buschke offers "Chess News From Russia." You can get a sample copy for a dime or a whole year of issues (26 of them) for \$2.

And, lest we forget, there's an annual coming out, just any day now, which should be a first on your shopping list, the USCF YEARBOOK. If you haven't reserved your copy do it now. It's only \$1, and it includes a whole year's membership in the United States Chess Federation. If you want the clothbound book, send \$1.50. Address: Paul G. Giers, Secretary, 2304 South Avenue, Syracuse 7, N. Y.

Speaking of Chess News From Russia, we were simply astounded to discover in the Feb. 25 of this magazine, which otherwise religiously sticks to the facts, the following reference: "...our esteemed contemporary, the West Virginia Chess Bulletin, the most ably and attractively edited local chess organ now being published in the U.S.A." Praise from Dr. Buschke is praise indeed! Fortunately, the weather is warming now and going bareheaded won't result in colds--we hope!

The latest CNER reports that a Czech-Russian tourney, with each player of a team meeting each player of the other team, shows a score of only 13-11 in favor of the Russians at the end of the fourth round. The Russians are Bronstein, Kotov, "Myslov," (probably Smyslov, says Dr. Buschke), Lilienthal, Bondarevskij and Simagin. The team from Prague has Katetov, Pachman, Opocensky, Kottnauer, Zita and Satjar. Dr. Buschke asks, "Another Slav chess nation?" We await with great interest the final score of the meet. (The method of play, by the way, sounds good; it gives a team ranking much superior to the usual method of assigning players to boards and playing one or two games against a single opponent.)

Leslie Dunkin tells us that as a result of "the public demand both in and outside Indiana" he has decided to continue publication of Chessfully "as an independent channel for all chess players." We are glad he has made this decision and take back all the mean, nasty things we said about him last month. If you are interested, Chessfully is \$1 a year and Leslie's address is P. O. Box 117, South Bend 24, Indiana.

The Firestone Chess & Checker Club News (Akron, Ohio) reports a 28-board double round match between Akron and Cleveland April 7 in the Cleveland Central Y. Cleveland won by the whopping score of 41½-13½. Notable was the fact, pointed out by the Firestone paper, that Akron held an advantage, 5½-4½, on the first five boards, but was able to get only 8 points out of the other 23 boards. The way the Akron boys felt about it all is reflected in Editor Fickes' reference to the Clevelanders as a "host of master chess experts." Altho come to think of it, Mr. Fickes was out of town and this particular issue of the News was guest-edited by Art Flueddemann, a very pleasant gentleman whom we had the pleasure of meeting at the Tri-State Tournament in Pittsburgh last Armistice Day.

The Cleveland Chess Bulletin announces that the Area 3 committee, to pick two players to enter the 1946 U.S. Championships, is composed of A.R. Phillips, editor of the Cleveland Bulletin; Isaac Ash, chess editor of the Philadelphia inquirer, and Edward I. Trend, editor of En Passant (Detroit). Area 3 includes West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky and Delaware. The three editors are charged with the responsibility of setting up tournaments to qualify the two area entrants...There is talk of a Cleveland-Pittsburgh team match, no date or place fixed yet; it should be a honey as both cities have strong teams, but, just off-hand, we're backing Pittsburgh to win...Play in the Cleveland City Championships got under way April 2.

Austin Chess Bulletin (Chicago): The Austin club is leading in the Chicago City Chess League, with a score of 6-1 and no more games to play. The Chicago Chess & Checker Club, 5-1, has a chance to tie...

En Passant (Detroit) tells about the American Chess and Checker Foundation operated by Newell Banks in the C.A.R. Building in Detroit. Sessions are held every Friday afternoon and evening. The group has 371 members and seeks 1,000. There are no

Lansing (Mich.) Chess Club Bulletin: The Jackson Chess Club, which defeated Lansing twice, recently beat Flint 3-2 and Grand Rapids 4-0... "A British Army officer, says the Detroit News, has patented a variation of chess in which a glass board is placed above the regular board and new pieces representing an air force are used, the rules providing that the player with control of the air wins." (Hasn't that officer ever seen a knight dive-bombing? We already had an air force!)

Pawn Shop (Minneapolis): The Minneapolis Chess & Checker Club is starting a club tournament, the winner of which will have the honor of challenging the state champion to a title match! Now there is a real prize!... Looks like Champion ~~Robert Finkel~~ is going to have a hard time hanging on to the crown; he already has been challenged by Dr. Giles A. Koolsche of Rochester. ~~Koolsche~~ has accepted and a four-game match will be played... Announcement is made of an International Chess Tournament will be held Sept. 15-22 at Yankton, S. D., with champions from Cuba, Venezuela and other Latin American countries invited, as well as those from five or six western states. Sounds interesting... Editor Charles Hardinge offers a good suggestion: Why not interstate matches by amateur radio? Probably because nobody ever thought of it before. Do we have a "ham" in West Virginia who might be persuaded to do the sending and receiving? He'd almost have to be a chess enthusiast to take the proper interest. West Virginia was among the states particularly challenged by Hardinge.

In Passant (Pittsburgh) quotes Wm. M. Byland's report on high school chess in Pittsburgh. Here are excerpts: "Ten teams are now in action and the (Western Pennsylvania Scholastic Chess) League is rounding out its second successful year. Last May we sponsored an individual high school championship tournament, which proved to be eminently successful. This year's high school tournament will begin on April 27--with what now appears to be an entry of more than double that of the 1945 event. Plans are now being made for a bigger and better season next year. As a by-product of this program, our club (the Downtown Y Chess Club) has gained a welcome number of high school students as members. These young players have already made marked progress in our midst--as many a local star can reluctantly testify. They are the Denkers and Fines of tomorrow, and it is the duty of every one of our members to encourage these boys in their chess study and play, and to assist them in every possible way. In their hands rests the future of our club and, indeed, of our game."... Play in the Y Club championships is under way with Byland leading 6-0 at last report.

#### DENKER-STEINER TITLE MATCH

Arnold S. Denker, U.S. champion, and Herman Steiner, champion of California, will play a 10-game match for the U.S. title May 4-18 at Los Angeles, with full blessings of the USCF. The winner holds the title until the Federation's championship play in the fall.

#### HARKNESS HEADS RATING COMMITTEE

The USCF Monthly Letter reports that Kenneth Harkness, coeditor of Chess Review, has been named head of a committee to set up a national rating of chess players. He proposes to use a method now being worked out "based on actual performance in competitive play," and adds: "At first we shall probably limit ratings to the strongest players but the base will be broadened as soon as possible."

#### INVITATION FROM WALDO L. WATERS

Waldo L. Waters, Melrose, Mass., chess editor of the Boston Herald and president of the Massachusetts State Chess Association writes: "Don't forget--if any of the West Virginia members happen to be in this vicinity, they are welcome to look us up and visit a while at the various clubs in Boston."

## BIRTHDAY PROFILES

(All members here listed were subjects of sketches in the Bulletin a year ago and we are, therefore, giving merely brief, up-to-dating paragraphs. Next month's profiles will cover May 15-June 14 birthdays. If yours falls in this period, please send in material at once.)

APRIL 18--ROBERT CREAM. Joined WVCA 1944. Won third place in the 1944 WVCA Problem Solving Contest. Was tied for eighth in the 1945 State Tournament and played in the W.Va. group in the Pittsburgh Tri-State meet last Armistice Day week-end. 1945-46 WVCA director for Kanawha County. (Moved to Chicago; new address not yet available.)

APRIL 26--HARRY BERRY, JR. Joined 1942. Now attending Washington and Lee University. (Address: P.O.Box 83, Lexington, Va.)

MAY 5--EDWARD I. TREEND. Joined 1944. Editor of En Passant, weekly publication of the Edison Chess and Checker Club at Detroit. National promotion director for the United States Chess Federation. (Address: 12869 Strathmoor Ave., Detroit 27, Mich.)

MAY 6--MRS. LUDWIG FRANK. Joined 1942. Still owes your editor a dinner next time he is in Charleston, which we hope won't be too long. (Address: 1570 Kanawha Boulevard E. Charleston 1, W. Va.)

### NEW MEMBERS OF THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS ASSOCIATION

- 100 Dr. R. T. Humphries, 414 West Main Street, Clarksburg, W. Va.
- 101 Lowell Schwab, c/o Wayne Schwab, Kingwood, W. Va.
- 102 Dr. J. C. Arnett, Rowlesburg, W. Va.
- 103 James H. Ankeney, 511 Montrose Drive, South Charleston 3, W. Va.
- 104 Robert Harris, 432 Second Avenue, South Charleston 3, W. Va.
- 105 T. W. Jackson, 706½ Second Avenue, South Charleston 3, W. Va.
- 106 James W. Schilling, 315 Winona Street, South Charleston 3, W. Va.
- 107 K. G. Hughes, 5114 McCorkle Avenue SW., South Charleston 3, W. Va.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Lt. Frederick L. Harrison AGD, 1095 Park Avenue, Rochester 10, New York

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT--MARCH 21, 1946, TO APRIL 20, 1946

	RECD.	PAID	BAL.
Bal. on hand March 20 (see Bull. 43)			40.44
Receipts: Humphries, Schwab and Arnett memberships at \$1 each			
\$3; Ankeney, Harris, Jackson, Schilling and Hughes memberships			
at 75 cents each, \$3.75; Milford Mott, 1946-47 membership, \$1	7.75		48.19
Expenditures: Bull. 43 (165 copies 12 pp.) mimeo 3.73 postage			
3.17; correspondence 1.88; rental typewriter April 7-May 6 \$3		11.78	36.41

### WEAVER ADAMS AT PITTSBURGH DOWNTOWN YMCA

Weaver W. Adams of Dedham, Mass., author of "White to Play and Win" (remember that one, Bill Challinor?), gave an exhibition April 4 at the Pittsburgh Downtown YMCA Chess Club, winning 13, losing 4 and drawing 1 (which Bill Byland comments is "just about par for the course"). The exhibition was quite a success. As one of the players commented, "Mr. Weaver Adams is one swell chap--even if he is a typical New Englander as regards conversation and you just have to drag remarks out of him."

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN is the official organ of the West Virginia Chess Association. It is published monthly by Gene Collett at 125 Meritt Avenue, Pittsburgh 27, Pa., to which address all communications should be addressed. Effective with the May issue, the Bulletin will be mailed to new subscribers until the end of the Association year, September, 1946, for the sum of 50 cents, which includes membership in the West Virginia Chess Association for that period. Single copies 10 cents.

NOTICE! WE STILL HAVE LEFT a very few copies of the 1944 West Virginia Chess Association Yearbook and Charleston Tournament Book which are being offered to members at 50 cents a copy. Also on hand are a few copies of the Bulletin, just released from our current files and dating back as far as June, 1945. These are available, as long as they last, at 10 cents a copy. First come, first served. Make all checks or money orders payable personally to Gene Collett. Stamps in 1, 1½ or 3 cent denominations acceptable.

#### RE THE LATE DR. ALEKHINE

Walter B. Suesman, Cranston, R. I., chess editor of the Providence Journal, says: "The sudden death of World Champion Alekhine throws the world title wide open. His match with Botvinnik would have been very interesting if Alekhine was in top form but as he died of angina, he probably wouldn't have been. So perhaps it was just as well he ended his brilliant career undefeated, rather than continue with failing powers."

Fred Chevalier in The Christian Science Monitor: "He was a doctor of law but chess was his true profession. As a writer he will live as long as chess books are read. His tournament books x x x are among the finest... Now, with the championship vacant, it is probable that the International Chess Federation will sponsor a tournament, possibly to be held in this country, to determine the new title-holder. Dr. Max Euwe, the only surviving former champion, favors this. Among the contestants would be Botvinnik and Keres, Euwe, Fine and Reshevsky, to mention only some outstanding players of prewar competitions... But a tournament, even if each player meets each other player as many as four times, will not necessarily determine the strongest match player. If the International Chess Federation became strong enough to provide financial backing for frequent matches, it would be a step in the right direction, and a step away from the difficulties that have always beset challengers. Rules should be set down giving financial conditions, methods of selecting challengers, and how often the titleholder must defend his title."

Dr. Albrecht Buschke, writing in Chess News From Russia, calls Dr. Alekhine "undoubtedly one of the greatest chess genius of all times." Dr. Buschke suggests "a great tournament of the greatest living masters to determine who is the worthiest to wear the crown which had been, for over a half century, in Steinitz' and Lasker's possession." CNFR pointed out that Dr. Alekhine died at the age of 53, at the same age and just as suddenly as his great opponent and former world champion, Jose Capablanca, whom he defeated in 1927, died in New York in 1942.

#### ODDS AND ENDS

"Did you know that Benjamin Franklin's 'Morals of Chess' was published in a Russian translation (under the somewhat misleading title, 'Rules of the Game of Checkers'!) as early as 1791--this is one of the rarest chess books; a copy is of course in the Cleveland Public Library (John G. White Collection)."--Chess News From Russia.

"You chess players who also enjoy a well written story will like the piece appearing in the April 6 issue of 'Collier's.' It is quite interesting and well worth your attention. It is nicely illustrated, too."--En Passant (Detroit).