

WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

No. 59

AUGUST, 1947

ALL ABOARD FOR HUNTINGTON!

Players from all parts of West Virginia are preparing to descend upon Huntington the week-end of August 30-September 1, when the ninth annual state championship chess tournament will be held in the commodious, comfortable Sun room of the Frederick hotel, on Fourth Avenue in the center of Downtown Huntington.

It will be Huntington's first state tournament and the local arrangements committee, headed by Everett Shinkle, with Tyson E. Cobb and Dr. Siegfried Werthammer as members, promises everyone a warm welcome and a good time.

The Sun room will accommodate 30 to 40 players with ease so there will be no difficulty in handling the expected large crowd.

Those wishing hotel or other reservations during the tournament should write at once to Everett Shinkle, Box 82, Huntington, W. Va., telling him exactly what they need. Prompt action will be appreciated as Huntington will be host to a convention that week-end and rooms likely will be at a premium.

Registration of players will be held at 12 noon Saturday, Aug. 30, in the tournament room; and play will begin at 1 p. m. Barring an unusually high or low enrollment, which might make some other plan desirable, play will be under a Swiss System of at least five rounds, with two rounds Saturday, two or three rounds Sunday, and one or two rounds Monday.

The entrance fee will be \$5 for all players, regardless of place of residence. Out-of-town players may enter the tournament and play for position and prize money, but under the rules of the WVCA may not win the state championship. Prizes likely will be awarded under last year's system; that is, each player will receive one share of prize money for each plus on his final score.

Of the entrance fee, \$1 goes for WVCA membership, the rest for tourney expenses and prizes. If a player has paid his 1947-48 membership fee prior to the tournament, he will receive a rebate of \$1.

The 1947 tournament is expected to be one of the strongest the WVCA has ever held. Dr. Werthammer, 1943, 1944 and 1946 champion, will be on hand to defend his title. H. Landis Marks is back in Huntington and is expected to play; he was undefeated when he won the state title in 1942. Other state ex-champions who will play include Harold W. Liggett of South Charleston (1945), WVCA President William F. Hartling of St. Albans (1940) and John F. Hurt, Jr., of Charleston (1939).

There is hope also that Walt Crede of Charleston (1941 champion), whose work has kept him away from the last two tournaments, will be able to play in this year's event. Walt has been playing good chess in occasional meets at Charleston where he is highly valued as a team member. Other celebrities expected to make a bid for the title include Dr. Robert T. Humphries, president of the club at Clarksburg, who has just been crowned Harrison county champion; William R. Guthbert, who led organization of the newly-formed Wheeling club; Tom Sweeney of the same city, the 1944 and 1945 problem-solving champion of West Virginia; WVCA Secretary H. Reid Holt of Charleston, who will be appearing at his first one (if he can get away from his tax cases long enough).

These, along with other players from Huntington and delegations from the various cities, should make up the best tournament the Association has ever held. Good luck to everybody!

BOB HUMPHRIES WINS HARRISON COUNTY MEET

Dr. Robert T. Humphries, president of the Clarksburg Chess Club, won the Harrison county championship event, with a score of $13\frac{1}{2}-4\frac{1}{2}$. Frank Wisinski, the club secretary, and Ray Griffin tied for second with scores of $11\frac{1}{2}-6\frac{1}{2}$. Other totals, some of which are not final, were as follows: William Challinor, 7-7; Sam Allison, $7\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$; Kingsley Smith, $6\frac{1}{2}-7\frac{1}{2}$; M. F. (Hap) Allison, 5-7.

Dr. Siegfried of Huntington, state chess champion, has accepted an invitation to give a simultaneous exhibition before the Clarksburg club and will appear before the club sometime within the next 60 days. The club also has asked Blindfold Chess Master George Koltanowski to give an exhibition this fall or winter.

Mrs. Hardin R. Harmer, president of the Clarksburg Women's Chess Club, has announced the addition of Mrs. J. Moses Raad of Salem and her two daughters as members of the club. The women's group meets with the Clarksburg Chess Club.

Curtis Merkel, Roanoke, Va., was a recent visitor at the Clarksburg club.

SUMMER DOLDRUMS IN CHARLESTON

Eddie Foy sends copies of chess stories in the Charleston newspapers with the smiling remark: "You can see that chess is in its regular summer doldrums here." The Charleston club, although it continues its regular weekly meetings, has no tournament program in the summer. During the last month, the members heard lectures on the openings by Former State Champions John Hurt and William Hartling as well as by 1946 State Runner-Up Allen DuVall. The boys are sharpening up their play in hope of copping laurels at the state meet in Huntington.

REPORT FROM WHEELING

Bill Cuthbert writes (July 28): "The Wheeling Chess Club has met every week since its organization in May. We have had as few as three and as many as 10 or 11... Now we have decided to suspend meetings during August and resume play the second Monday in September. This will give everyone a chance to get vacation over, golf played, gardens harvested (if that is what they do to gardens) and to take care of all the various and sundry summer jobs that interfere with chess.

"More or less imitating the Charleston club, we have ready for demonstration teaching and what have you, a peg wall board with five-inch squares. Took quite a bit of making for an amateur wood butcher like myself but it is pretty handy to carry around and use, considering its size, if I do say so. Hope we can use it a lot in teaching youngsters, and in introducing other newcomers to the game."

TOURNAMENT NEWS--AND A WORD ABOUT "CHESS LIFE"

We hope you're reading CHESS LIFE, official publication of the United States Chess Federation. If you're not, you have just missed an extra fine July 20 issue and we suggest you send \$2 to Edward I. Treend, 12869 Strathmoor Ave., Detroit 27, Mich., and tell him to start your sub with the July 20 number. Or if you want to see a sample first, just send 10 cents to the same address. Anyway, this issue tells in detail how--

(1) Seventeen-year-old Larry Friedman of Cleveland won his second national junior championship, scoring $15\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$ in a field of 45 players, 13 more than took part last year. The event was held in Cleveland. Tied for second were Jim Cross, of Glendale, Calif., and Larry Evans, of New York City, each with a score of $13\frac{1}{2}-5\frac{1}{2}$. Larry Evans won the lightning chess championship, $30\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$.

(2) Anthony E. Santasiere of Brooklyn, who was third in the U.S. Championship last year, won the Ventnor City (N.J.) Open Championship, 7-2. He lost his only game to Weaver W. Adams, Deadham, Mass., who finished in a tie for second with a score of $6\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$.

(3) Gilberto Garcia of Santiago won the Havana tournament, $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$. Two American visitors, Donald Byrne of Brooklyn and Dr. Edward Lasker of New York City, one of the youngest and one of the oldest American masters, finished in second and third places, respectively, with scores of 5-2 and 4-3.

This issue of CHESS LIFE really covers the Junior Tournament at Cleveland giving nine pictures, thumbnail sketches of the players, seven of the leading games, all the scoring tables, a life story of two-time winner Friedman, and a four-column story on the meet. You better subscribe, eh?

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS!!!

The West Virginia Chess Association Year ends with the start of the State Tournament at Huntington, August 30, 1947.

This means that all 1946-47 memberships expire on that date. Two members already have paid for 1947-48. All others are asked to send their \$1 remittance at once to Secretary-Treasurer H. Reid Holt, 164 Sunset Drive, Charleston 1, W. Va.

Members are urged to do this immediately, before they forget, in order that they may be assured of not missing the September issue of the Bulletin, which will carry the story of the Huntington State Tournament.

Listing of 1947-48 members will be started in the September issue.

WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN MARKS ANNIVERSARY

The West Virginia Chess Bulletin is six years old with this issue. The first number, a two-page duplicated affair, was mailed out to 12 members and a dozen, perhaps more, prospects in August, 1941. After that no issue appeared until July, 1942, when the first mimeographed number came out and publication began on a more or less regular monthly basis. The fact that No. 59 begins our 7th year will indicate that an occasional month has been missed.

In the first six years of its life, the Bulletin has carried 534 pages of reading matter to WVCA members and other readers; an average of better than nine pages per issue, or if considered on another basis, about 7.5 pages a month. A total of about 5,800 copies have been distributed, or about 100 per issue.

For about three years, Your Editor has been getting help with the work. Walt Crede and Bob Crean helped many months with the stencil-cutting. At present he is happy to have the kind assistance of several members of the Charleston crowd, particularly Dick Grimm and Eddie Foy, who have taken over the job of addressing the envelopes, assembling the completed pages, stapling the bulletins and getting the things into the mail. Beginning with the ~~July~~ ^{June}, 1947, issue, the Bulletin has been mimeographed professionally.

IT'S A BOY AT THE DR. WERTHAMMERS!

A seven-pound, six ounce son, Joseph William, their first child, was born to State Champion and Mrs. Siegfried Werthammer on Monday, July 28, at Huntington. Mrs. Werthammer and the baby are getting along splendidly, and the attending physician holds out hope that Ziggy himself will recover in time to settle down to his usual good play in the State Tournament next Labor Day week-end.

USCF HOLDS ANNUAL OPEN TOURNAMENT

The United States Chess Federation is holding its annual open championship tournament at Corpus Christi, Texas, August 11-23, with WVCA Honorary Member George Koltanowski of Santa Rosa, Calif., acting as director. The Texans, who always do things in a big way, are predicting more than 100 entrants, which would surpass the record 58 in Pittsburgh last year. Herman Steiner, who won last year, was expected to be on hand to defend his title, and a recent letter from Tony Santasiere, '45 winner, said he'd be there, too. Looks like a big meet!

CHESS CLUB BULLETINS--A BIBLIOGRAPHE--PART V

(Previous issues listed 23 club and association bulletins. Here is another.)

No. 24--THE EVERETT CHESS LETTER--founded July 1, 1947, the Everett (Wash.) Chess Club, monthly, page size 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x7 inches, mimeographed. Number of issues to date, one; number pages, 8; copies distributed, 135. Subscription rate, \$1 a yr. Exchanges with other editors; Editor: L.W.Taro, 331 Anderson blvd., Everett, Wash.

Editor Taro also tells us, confirming a tip from CHESS LIFE Editor Montgomery Major, that the Puget Sound Chess League publishes a paper. We are on its trail and will report it, if found.

B. Marcrum, secretary of the Los Feliz Chess Club, Los Angeles, Cal., says the SCORE SHEET, which we listed in the May issue of the WVCB, has been "temporarily discontinued." This again reduces the number of papers to 23.

PUZZLE FROM KINGSLEY SMITH

This from Kingsley Smith of Clarksburg (July 24): "The other evening I sort of dreamed up the zany idea of setting up the board as usual, with the White pawns and pieces in their customary places, but with the Black pieces moved up to White's third rank and the Black pawns on White's fourth rank--so that the two sets of men are right against each other. Here is the question: Given the first move, can White break out? I think so, but I don't know what this proves except that the line between amateur chess and professional lunacy is thinner than an anemic atom."

Kig doesn't say just what he means by "break out" but we assume he means to get through to the Black King and eventually to mate him. Right? We'll be interested in reports from members who try to solve Kig's puzzle.

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS ASSOCIATION

President: Wm. F. Hartling, 1979 Benedict Circle, Belvil Park, St. Albans, W.Va.
Sec.-Treas.: H. Reid Holt, 164 Sunset Drive, Charleston 1, W.Va.

Address all letters on Association business to Secy. Holt. Membership in the Association is \$1 a year, including subscription to--

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

--published monthly by Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Ave., Pittsburgh 27, Pa., to whom should be sent materials for publication and papers for exchange.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: George Koltanowski, Box 682, Santa Rosa, Calif.

WHERE THE WEST VIRGINIA CLUBS MEET

Carbide C.C., every Monday, Recreation Center, South Charleston
Charleston C.C., 8 p.m. each Wednesday, K. of C. rooms, 1117 Quarrier St.
Clarksburg C.C., 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday, Stonewall Jackson hotel
Huntington C.C., 7:30 p.m. each Thursday, Huntington Y.M.C.A.
Wheeling C.C., 8 p.m. each Monday, Wheeling YMCA (no meetings during August)

ARE YOU READING--?

American Chess Bulletin, bimonthly, \$2 a year, 150 Nassau St., New York 7, N.Y.
Chess Review, monthly, \$3.75 a year, 250 W. 57th St., New York 19, N. Y.
Chess Abroad, biweekly, \$2 a year, 80 E. 11th St., New York 3, N. Y.

(Note: CHESS ABROAD is the new name for Dr. Albrecht Buschke's "Chess News From Russia." He announces he is now broadening his field to take in chess news from Europe and South America, but promises Russian chess will not be neglected.)

USCF CLUB MANUAL NOW IN HANDS OF ~~BUSCHKE~~ USCF OFFICIALS

Writing of the USCF Club Manual, on which the editors have been working for 15 months, is now completed and the manuscript in the hands of the printer.

MY BEST GAME OF CHESS-II - BY REID HOLT

The second in our series of Best Games was played by WVCA Secretary-Treasurer H. Reid Holt of Charleston, against Erich W. Marchand at the Missouri Athletic Club in St. Louis sometime in October or November, 1941. Marchand, who was St. Louis and Missouri champion that year is now games editor for the USCF newspaper CHESS LIFE. "It was an off-hand game," comments Holt, who writes the notes. "I was probably on top of my game more then that at any time before or since. We played four that night. I got a win and a draw--this is the win. It was the second game; I had lost the first--maybe Marchand took me too lightly after that."

RUY LOPEZ

WHITE: ERICH W. MARCHAND

BLACK: H. REID HOLT

MISSOURI ATHLETIC CLUB,
ST LOUIS, 1941

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| 1 P-K4 | P-K4 |
| 2 N-KB3 | N-QB3 |
| 3 B-N5 | P-QB3 |
| 4 B-R4 | N-KB3 |
| 5 O-O | NxP |
| 6 P-Q4 | P-QN4 |
| 7 B-N3 | P-Q4 |
| 8 PxP | B-K3 |
| 9 P-B3 | B-K2 |
| 10 R-K | O-O |
| 11 QN-Q2 | N-QB4 |
| 12 B-B2 | P-Q5! |
| 13 N-K4 | |

Here, M.C.O. recommends
13 PxP NxQP, 14 NxN QxN,
15 Q-R5 P-N3, 16 Q-R6
Q-KR5, with an even game.

13 ... P-Q6

I decided that as this was Morphy's fighting line, I might as well let him fight, so I shoved my Pawn.

14 B-N NxN

This trade seems to my advantage as he has to re-take with the Rook, and I post my Bishop at KB4.

15 RxN B-KB4
16 R-K Q-Q4

Looks like a good opportunity to steal a Pawn.

17 B-K3 NxP
18 NxN QxN
19 B-N5!

I had overlooked this one completely. However, it seems I can foul him

up with Pawn at Q6 by swapping Queen for Rook and Bishop.

19 ... QxRch!
20 QxQ BxB

His moves after 20 are about all he can do to get ready for the onslaught of Bishops and Rooks.

21 P-KN3 KR-K
22 Q-KB QR-Q
23 P-KB4 B-K2
24 Q-B3

Not the best move, but a postmortem at the time showed it was hopeless in any event.

24 ... B-B4ch

WHITE RESIGNS

ALBIN COUNTER-GAMBIT

WHITE: DR. SIEGFRIED

WERTHAMMER

BLACK: H. REID HOLT

CHARLESTON-HUNTINGTON

TEAM MATCH, JUNE 26,

1947, HUNTINGTON YMCA

(Notes by both Holt and Dr. Worthammer, as shown by initials)

1 P-Q4 P-Q4
2 P-QB4 P-K4

This opening is fat

from being inferior. Masters avoid it because it is so complicated. White avoids it by 2 N-KB3 before playing P-QB4. I've won some nice correspondence games with it. Klug and I did a lot of research on it years ago. --R.H.

3 PxKP P-Q5
4 N-KB3 N-QB3
5 B-B4?

A petty attempt to by White to keep the gambit P. QN-Q2 is the usual move. The text is such that eventually it makes it impossible for White to develop his B at KN2.--S.W.

A K's fianchetto is the best way to meet the Albin C.G. B-B4 will prevent a fianchetto after Black's N-N3 which I play on my ninth move.--R.H.

WERTHAMMER HOLT

- 5 ... B-K3
- 6 QN-Q2 Q-Q2
- 7 P-QR3 P-QR4
- 8 R-B KN-K2
- 9 N-N3 N-N3
- 10 B-N3 R-Q

White's game is really cramped.--R.H.

- 11 Q-Q2 P-N4

Up to this point Black played well and exerted pressure on White's position. The sacrifice of a second P needlessly leads to exchanges.11... P-R5 would have kept the tension.--S.W.

A brain storm, moving this P two squares, instead of one; it permits White finally to free his game by exchanges. I really believe 11...P-QN3 followed by 12...P-QR5 would have hampered him no end.--R.H.

- 12 PxP BxN
- 13 PxN Q-Q4
- 14 P-K6 B-Q3

After P-K6!, B-Q3 is the only good move left for Black.--S.W.

- 15 QxQP BxB
- 16 PxPch KxP
- 17 QxQch RxB

A strong move! Despite the reduced material, Black engineers a dangerous mating attack, but he is now 3 Ps down, and this should suffice for White if he ever gets his sleeping King's wing pieces awake.--S.W.

- 18 RPxB KR-Q
- 19 P-K4 R-Q8ch
- 20 RxB RxBch
- 21 K-K2 P-R3
- 22 N-Q2

Threatens to win a piece; Black's R and B are now tied to each other, as well as White's K, N and B.--S.W.

- 22 ... B-B7
- 23 R-R5 P-R5
- 24 R-Q5 K-K3
- 25 R-Q7 N-K4
- 26 RxBP K-Q3

- 27 RxP NxB
- 28 K-K3

Black is now four Ps down and White proceeds to free himself. Originally he planned 28 N-B4 ch K-B4, 29 N-K3???, but then N-Q4 mate.--S.W.

- 28 ... R-K8ch
- 29 K-B4 N-K4
- 30 R-KR7 N-N3ch
- 31 K-B5 N-K2ch
- 32 K-B6

The K as an attacking piece!--S.W.

- 32 ... N-B3
- 33 RxP K-B4
- 34 R-R4ch K-Q5

K-Q5??--but Black was lost already.--S.W.

An oversight, but the game was lost unless he blundered!--R.H.

- 35 N-B3ch

This wins the R but why not 35 R-Q5 mate? White KB never did move.--S.W.

- 36 ... Resigns

SCOTCH GAMBIT
 WHITE: JOHN HURT
 BLACK: EDDIE FOY
 CHARLESTON CITY
 TOURNAMENT,
 APRIL 26, 1947

- 1 P-K4 P-K4
- 2 P-Q4 PxP
- 3 N-KB3 N-QB3
- 4 B-QB4 B-N5ch
- 5 P-B3 PxP
- 6 NxB B-B4
- 7 BxPch K-B
- 8 O-O P-Q3
- 9 N-KN5 P-KR3
- 10 BxN PxN
- 11 B-QB4 N-K4
- 12 B-K2 P-N5
- 13 B-KB4 B-K3
- 14 R-B Q-B3

- 15 Q-Q2 Q-N3
- 16 N-R4 N-B6ch
- 17 BxN PxB
- 18 B-N3 PxP
- 19 KR-K P-N3
- 20 P-N4 P-N4
- 21 Q-B4ch Q-B3
- 22 NxB PxN
- 23 QxP P-B5
- 24 R-K3 K-N
- 25 R-Q P-R3
- 26 J-K5 Q-B2
- 27 Q-N6 K-R2
- 28 R-Q6 QR-K
- 29 R-KN3 KR-N
- 30 Q-K3 Q-R4
- 31 KxB B-B
- 32 R-N5 Q-R5
- 33 P-B4 R-Q2
- 34 R(6)-KN6 R-KB3
- 35 Q-KB3 Resigns

ALBIN C.-G.
 WHITE: A. GILLILAND
 BLACK: REID HOLT
 CHARLESTON CITY
 TOURNAMENT,
 MARCH 5, 1947

- 1 P-Q4 P-Q4
- 2 P-QB4 P-K4
- 3 N-QB3 B-QN5
- 4 P-K3 N-QB3
- 5 PxQP QxP
- 6 B-Q2 BxN
- 7 BxB PxP
- 8 PxP N-B3
- 9 N-B3 O-O
- 10 B-K2 N-K5
- 11 O-O NxB
- 12 PxN N-K2
- 13 N-K5 P-QB3
- 14 B-B4 Q-Q3

- 15 R-K N-Q4
- 16 Q-Q2 B-K3
- 17 B-N3 QR-Q
- 18 QR-QB KR-K
- 19 P-QB4 N-B3
- 20 QR-Q P-QN3
- 21 Q-B4 Q-B2
- 22 Q-R4 R-Q3
- 23 R-Q3 Q-Q
- 24 Q-B4 N-R4
- 25 Q-B3 RxB
- 26 RxB QxR
- 27 QxN BxB
- 28 BxB QxB
- 29 Q-Q Q-B6
- 30 N-B3 RxBch
- 31 NxB P-KN3
- 32 P-KR3 P-QB4
- 33 P-QR4 Q-N5
- 34 N-B3 Q-KB5
- 35 Q-Q5 DRAWN