

# WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

OCTOBER, 1947

NO. 61

## TRI-STATE STARS TO TANGLE IN CLEVELAND

The second Tri-state Chess Championship Tournament, matching the top players from Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, will be held November 8-10 at Cleveland, under the joint sponsorship of the chess associations of the three states, and with the Ohio and Cleveland organizations as hosts.

Each state sends two players, who are supposed to be the state champion and the runnerup from the 1947 tournaments, all of them held over the Labor Day week-end. If any of the eligible players is unable to attend, the next man in line in the state gets the call. Rules have not been announced, but if they follow the procedure of the first Tri-state, held in Pittsburgh in 1945, the two players from the same state will meet each other in the opening round, and thereafter will meet the other contestants in round robin play.

West Virginia's entrants are H. Landis Marks and Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, both of Huntington. Marks won an 18-man meet at Huntington by a score of  $5\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$  while Dr. Werthammer was second with  $4\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$ . Neither lost a game. Marks has won the W.Va. twice, Dr. Werthammer three times, and both may be expected to give a good account of themselves at Cleveland.

Pennsylvania will send Attilio DiCamillo of Philadelphia who won his second consecutive state title in a 57-player Swiss meet at Allentown with a score of  $6\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$ ; and Mike Yatron of Reading, who had an undisputed second with 6-1.

The Ohio contestants will be Tommy Ellison, the Cleveland city champ, who was best of the 27 playing in the Swiss meet at Columbus, and Lawrence Jackson, Jr., of Toledo, who was second.

There will be state team matches, also, as there were at Pittsburgh. West Virginia wants to send as large a delegation as possible. If you can play, drop a letter or card immediately to Secretary H. Reid Holt, 164 Sunset drive, Charleston, W.Va.

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WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PLANS: Play for the world title left vacant by the death of Dr. Alekhine will be held March 1-May 31, 1948, the first half in Holland, the rest in Russia. There will be 20 rounds, four games against each adversary. The International Chess Federation (F.I.D.E.) has named these players as the best in the world and eligible to play for the championship: Reshevsky and Fine of the United States, Botvinnik, Smyslov and Keres of Russia, and Dr. Euwe of Holland.

THE OHIO JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP, held the Labor Day week-end at Columbus, in connection with the senior state meet, was won by James L. Harkins of Cleveland.

CANADIAN PLAYERS have won two international meets. A team headed by Abe Yanofsky, the Canadian champion, and R.G. Wade, New Zealand champion, defeated Minnesotans,  $15\frac{1}{2}-14\frac{1}{2}$ , at Detroit Lakes Sept. 7. Yanofsky, at top board, won from George S. Barnes, Minnesota champion, but Wade lost to Dr. G. A. Koelsche... Another Canadian team defeated Washingtonians at Blaine,  $16\frac{1}{2}-11\frac{1}{2}$ .

STANDINGS IN THE 1947 WVCA PROBLEM SOLVING MEET (now being conducted by mail), up to and including July solutions, are reported by Francis J.C. DeBlasio, WVCA problem director, as follows: Gene Collett, 43; Otto Oppenheimer, 43; Bertrand Mulligan, 40.

THE NEBRASKA STATE TOURNEY, held over the Labor Day week-end, an 8-man round robin, was won by A. C. Ludwig of Omaha, with a score of  $5\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$ . He drew three games and lost none. This is Ludwig's second state title in a row.

THE BULLETIN APOLOGIZES for placing Kingsley Smith at the State Tournament in Huntington where he was not. We learn now that it was Kingsley Hughes, instead!!

( WHEELING )  
 The Wheeling Chess Club was formally organized Sept. 8. A constitution was adopted and these officers named: A. W. Paull, president; the Rev. William M. Erhard, vice president; William R. Cuthbert, secretary-treasurer. They hold office until next June 1, with elections hereafter to be held in May. The club's constitution provides that \$1 from each member's dues shall go each year for WVCA membership...The Wheeling Club has arranged a five-man match against the Charleston club, to be held in Wheeling Oct. 11 and 12...World Blindfold Champion George Koltanowski will give a 30-board simultaneous exhibition at Wheeling, probably in the YMCA, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13. Two blindfold boards also will be played, and Koltanowski gives a noon luncheon club talk at Wheeling the same day.

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( CHARLESTON )  
 Mrs. Myrl C. Snyder was elected president of the Charleston Chess Club at the group's annual balloting Sept. 10. Frank Branner was chosen as secretary-treasurer. Lynn Cavendish, Arthur Breneman and Edward Foy were named to serve on the executive committee, along with Branner and Mrs. Snyder. A number of new members showed up and officers report that a highly successful year is anticipated. Classes of instruction, primarily for beginners, are being held...The club extended an invitation to State Champion H. Landis Marks to give a simultaneous exhibition; the season's program also will include league play, a city tournament, rapid transit play and other features.

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WEST VIRGINIA CHESS ASSOCIATION. President: Wm. F. Hartling, 1979 Benedict Circle, Belvil Park, St. Albans, W. Va. Secy.-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, which includes subscription to--

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN, published monthly by Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Ave., Pittsburgh 27, Pa., to whom should be sent all news for publication and all papers for exchange. Games Editor is Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, 2008 No. Englewood Road, Huntington, W. Va., to whom should be sent all games for use in the Bulletin.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT: Secy-Treas Holt submits the following financial report for the WVCA year ended Aug. 31, 1947: Balance, Sept. 1, 1946, \$6.71...Receipts: Membership dues 1946-47, \$95.70; balance from 1946 tournament fund, \$0.13; donations, \$47.19; total of balance plus receipts, \$149.73...Disbursements: Publishing Bulletin, \$84.88; typewriter rental, \$36.00; correspondence, \$17.34; election expenses, \$3.47; total disbursements, \$141.69...Balance on hand, Aug. 31, \$8.04... Secy. Holt notes that the above statement correctly portrays the financial picture for 1946-47, but that the Association also had on hand on that date \$14.40 in 1947-48 dues, \$10 in 1947-48 sustaining memberships, and that \$12.63 of the disbursements shown above were unpaid, giving the Association an actual bank balance on Aug. 31 of \$45.07.

#### NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS

- 28 Edward Holt, Pine Hall, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho (NEW)
- 29 Prof. Victor J. Lemke, 903 Rawley Ave., Morgantown, W. Va.
- 30 A. W. Paull, Wheeling Stamping Co., Wheeling, W. Va.
- 31 William Schaeffer, 4828 Seventh St., NW., Washington 11, D.C.
- 32 Edward I. Treend, 12869 Strathmoor Ave., Detroit 27, Mich.

Secy. Holt notes that six members, Ray H. Griffin, H. Reid Holt, H. Landis Marks, Kingsley R. Smith, Dr. Siegfried Werthammer and Gene Collett, have become sustaining members by paying a membership fee of \$5 instead of the regular \$1 fee. Others who desire to become sustaining members may do so by sending the fee to Secy. Holt.

NEW ADDRESSES: Capt. B. W. Devericks, O-196644, 65th Engrs., Combat Bn., APO 25, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Cal... M. C. Scott, 1034 Tenth Ave., Huntington, W. Va... Allen DuVall, 402 Elm St., Charleston 2, W. Va.

# GAMES DEPARTMENT EDITED BY DR. SIEGFRIED WERTHAMMER

(We introduce our new Games Editor, Dr. Siegfried Werthammer of Huntington, three times West Virginia champion and runner-up in two other state meets. He is a skilled annotator and his previous contributions to the Bulletin have drawn letters of praise from readers. We feel sure our Games Department, under his expert management, will be hailed as one of the best in the country.—Ed.)

## MY BEST GAME OF CHESS-III

Tho this game was not submitted for this series, it deserves to be published under this heading. Young Edward Holt, Reid's boy, can hardly have played another game with such a brilliant finish. A forcing Q's sacrifice takes place in a dangerous position where it looks as if Black would have the best of it.

CHARLESTON 1947  
CITY TOURNAMENT  
CONSOLATION FLIGHT  
APRIL 30, 1947  
TWO KTS. DEFENSE  
WHITE: EDWARD HOLT  
BLACK: TED BINGAMON

- |         |       |
|---------|-------|
| 1 P-K4  | P-K4  |
| 2 N-KB3 | N-QB3 |
| 3 B-B4  | N-B3  |
| 4 P-Q4  | PxP   |
| 5 O-O   | NxP   |
| 6 R-K   | P-Q4  |
| 7 NxP   |       |

Better is BxP.

- 7 ... Q-R5

Black could get a good game by simply playing PxP but he embarks on an attack which appears very promising.

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 8 P-N3   | Q-B3  |
| 9 N-KB3  | B-KN5 |
| 10 QN-Q2 | N-Q5  |

O-O-O would keep up Black's pressure. The text move looks irresistible; Black could hardly have foreseen the reply.

- |           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| 11 QNxN!! | NxNch |
| 12 QxN!!  | QxQ   |

If 12...PxN, 13 QxB wins a piece.

- |              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| 13 N-B6 ch   | K-Q |
| 14 R-K8 mate |     |

---O---

Reid Holt points out the similarity of this game to the following miniature, played in Vienna in 1910 and won by Roti, who was then 21. Altho the end-position is different, the idea of the mating attack is the same: sacrifice of the Q in order to mate by R and piece after a discovered double check.

WHITE: RETI  
BLACK: TARTAKOWER

- |              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| 1 P-K4       | P-QB3  |
| 2 P-Q4       | P-Q4   |
| 3 N-QB3      | PxP    |
| 4 NxP        | N-KB3  |
| 5 Q-Q3       | P-K4   |
| 6 PxP        | Q-R4ch |
| 7 B-Q2       | QxP    |
| 8 O-O-O      | NxN?   |
| 9 Q-Q8ch!!   | KxQ    |
| 10 B-N5ch    | K-B2   |
| 11 B-Q8 mate |        |

W.VA. CHAMPIONSHIP 1947

HUNTINGTON AUGUST 31

THIRD ROUND  
SICILIAN DEFENSE

This game appeared without notes in the last issue of the WVCE; we reprint it with annotations. The winner, Rudd T. Neel, oldest player in the meet, is a true lover of chess. It is admirable how inexorably he leads his game to victory over

a strong opponent, never relaxing an iron grip on the position.

WHITE: RUDD T. NEEL  
BLACK: ALLEN DUVAL

- |         |       |
|---------|-------|
| 1 P-K4  | P-QB4 |
| 2 P-QB4 |       |

A good and logical move tho unusual. Surprisingly, it is not listed in Korn's M.C.O.

- 2 ... P-K3?

Wrong development; much better the system with KB on N2 to exert pressure on the "hole" at White's P-Q4.

- |         |       |
|---------|-------|
| 3 N-QB3 | N-QB3 |
| 4 N-B3  | P-Q3  |
| 5 P-Q4  | PxP   |
| 6 NxP   | N-B3  |
| 7 B-K2  | Q-N3  |

Pointless excursion of the Q.

- 8 N(4)-N5 Q-Q

She goes back because she must.

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 9 O-O    | P-QR3 |
| 10 N-Q4  | B-K2  |
| 11 B-K3  | O-O   |
| 12 P-B4  | B-Q2  |
| 13 P-QR3 | NxN   |

This exchange is unnecessary and does not accomplish anything.

- |         |      |
|---------|------|
| 14 BxN  | B-B3 |
| 15 P-K5 | N-K5 |

N-K would be more modest and on the other hand protect some weak points.

- |            |      |
|------------|------|
| 16 Q-B2    | P-B4 |
| 17 PxPe.p. | NxP  |

Black has now two weak hanging center Ps.

18 Q-N3

Another pointless excursion of the Q, this time the white one.

18 ... QR-B  
19 QR-Q Q-K  
20 Q-B2

No false shame; she goes back because there is no future at N3.

20 ... N-R4

Black is too active on the flank to do his weak center any good.

21 B-N4 B-KR5?

An outright blunder, losing the center Ps. After 21...Nxf, 22 P-KN3 White would regain the P with a good game but this would have been better than the text.

22 P-KN3 B-B3  
23 Q-K2! BxBch  
24 RxB R-B4

Black offers the exchange hoping to make out better in an endgame with his strong QB.

25 Rxf!

Much stronger than to take the trade at once.

25 ... B-Q2  
26 BxR PxB  
27 RxB

This is the point of White's 25th move. He wins a wholepiece instead of the exchange.

27 ... QxR  
28 QxN Q-Q5ch  
29 R-B2 P-KN3  
30 Q-B3 R-Q  
31 P-N3 K-B  
32 N-Q5 R-K  
33 Q-QB3!

White cunningly foils all attempts of Black. The

text threatens to win all of Black's K-wing Ps.

33 ... Q-Q8ch  
34 K-N2 R-K3

Forced.

35 Q-R8ch K-B2  
36 QxPch K-B  
37 Q-R8ch K-B2

The repetition of moves is to gain time on the clock.

38 Q-B3 K-N  
39 N-K3 Q-QN8  
40 Q-B2!

Merciless.

40 ... Q-K8  
41 R-K2 Q-QR8  
42 Q-Q2!

The beginning of the pretty final maneuver.

42 ... QxP  
43 Q-Q5 Q-Q3  
44 QxNP RxN

A last try; maybe White will stumble and permit a perpetual check.

45 RxR Q-Q7ch  
46 K-B3 Q-Q8ch  
47 K-B2 Q-Q7ch  
48 R-K2 Q-Q5ch  
49 K-N2 Resigns

1947 W. VA. CHAMPIONSHIP  
HUNTINGTON AUGUST 30  
SECOND ROUND  
FRENCH DEFENSE

John Hurt demonstrates how to play his favorite opening. This game is one of the best of the meet.

WHITE: JOHN HURT  
BLACK: WM. CUTHBERT

1 P-K4 P-K3  
2 P-Q4 P-Q4  
3 N-QB3 B-N5  
4 P-K5 P-QB4  
5 P-QR3

White sacrifices a P for an attack. In this variation, Black has to

play very carefully.

5 ... PxF  
6 PxB PxN  
7 Q-N4 P-KN3  
8 N-B3 Q-B2  
9 B-Q3 PxF?

A grave error; N-QB3 was essential.

10 BxQNP N-QB3

And now N-K2 would have been better.

11 P-N5

White proceeds to bottle up Black's pieces.

11 ... QN-K2  
12 O-O P-KR4  
13 Q-QN4!

Paralyzes the Black squares of the opponent and threatens P-N6.

13 ... P-N3  
14 KR-QB

Preparing the opening of the QB file.

14 ... N-R3  
15 B-QR3 N(K2)-B4

Better is N(R3)-B4.

16 P-QB4 Q-Q2  
17 PxF PxF  
18 P-K6!!

Decisive.

18 ... PxF  
19 N-K5

The "blockader" is replaced by a strongly acting centralized piece.

19 ... Q-R2  
20 R-B6 KR-N  
21 QR-B K-Q  
22 Q-B3 Q-QN2

Loses the Q but any move would have lost.

23 R-B7 Q-N  
24 N-B6ch KxR  
25 NxQch Resigns

=====  
If you have a friend who should belong to the WVCA, sign him up today. We need him; he needs us.

U. S. C. F. OPEN 1947  
CORPUS CHRISTI  
2ND ROUND--AUG. 12  
ALBETHINE'S DEFENSE

Larry Evans, 15-year-old New Yorker, defeats the champion of Canada, Dan Abe Yanofsky. At Groningen, in 1946, Yanofsky won a famous game from the great Botvinnik.

WHITE: ABE YANOFSKY  
BLACK: LARRY EVANS

- 1 P-K4 N-KB3
- 2 P-K5 N-Q4
- 3 P-Q4 P-Q3
- 4 N-KB3 B-N5
- 5 P-KR3

More usual is B-K2.

- 5 ... BxN
- 6 QxB PxP
- 7 PxP P-K3
- 8 P-QR3

Loss of time; a simple developing move, such as B-K2, would be better.

- 8 ... N-QB3
- 9 B-QN5 Q-Q2
- 10 P-QB4 N(Q4)-K2
- 11 O-O Q-Q5
- 12 B-N5

White has some pressure thru the pinning Bs but he is not well enough developed to follow up. Besides, White's pawn position is weak. Black proceeds by a well calculated exchange maneuver to get rid of White's Bs.

- 12 ... P-QR3!
- 13 BxN(K2) PxB
- 14 BxB

Forced.

- 14 ... RxB
- 15 PxP NxP!
- 16 Q-K2

If 16 QxQNP??? R-R2! and White's Q is lost.

- 16 ... O-O-O
- 17 N-B3 N-N3
- 18 QR-Q Q-K4

19 Q-B2

Exchange of Qs would lead to an endgame in favor of Black. He threatens White's weak Q-wing Ps with his N and would gain control of the Q-file for his Rs.

- 19 ... RxB
- 20 RxB R-Q
- 21 R-QB7

After this move, Black gets a strong attack which he splendidly executes. 21 RxB would probably have resulted in a draw. White, overestimating his position, wants to utilize the QB file for an attack on Black's K.

- 21 ... N-B5
- 22 K-R

White couldn't move his N as intended because of N-K7ch.

- 22 ... Q-N4
- 23 R-KN

P-KB3 wouldn't be any better because of NxNP!, 24 N-K4 Q-B5, 25 KxN P-KB4! and Black regains the piece with a winning advantage.

- 23 ... Q-R4

With the threat NxRP.

- 24 K-R2 R-Q6!

With the rough intention of mating in two, starting with RxKRPch.

- 25 P-B3

There is nothing better.

- 25 ... RxP
- 26 R-Q NxRP!!

Beautiful.

- 27 PxR N-B7ch
- 28 K-N3

If 28 K-N2 Q-R6ch, 29 K-N Q-R8ch, 30 KxN Q-R7ch wins the Q.

- 28 ... Q-R6ch
- 29 K-B4 Q-R7ch
- 30 K-K3 N-N5ch
- 31 Resigns

STAUNTON TOURNAMENT  
GRONINGEN, HOLLAND  
SEPTEMBER 4, 1946  
SICILIAN DEFENSE

This game won the first brilliancy prize at Groningen. Many games of this greatest postwar meet have been published in the U.S. but I haven't seen this one. The notes are based on those by Euwe and Knoch in the Dutch tournament book.

WHITE: L. SZABO OF  
HUNGARY  
BLACK: E. LUNDIN OF  
SWEDEN

- 1 P-K4 P-QB4
- 2 N-KB3 N-QB3
- 3 P-Q4 PxP
- 4 NxP N-B3
- 5 N-QB3 P-Q3
- 6 B-KN5 P-K3
- 7 Q-Q2 P-QR3
- 8 O-O-O

The Richter attack. In this variation, White has more freedom of movement, but no real attacking chances so long as Black does not castle. Therefore, Lundin postpones castling.

- 8 ... B-Q2
- 9 P-KB4 P-R3
- 10 B-R4 B-K2
- 11 B-K2 Q-B2
- 12 B-B2

White moves this B because he fears that the threat NxKP may become actual, altho at this time Black could not play it: 12...NxKP, 13 NxKN BxB, 14 NxN BxN, 15 NxPch.

(Turn to next page)

12 ... R-QB  
 13 N-QN3 P-QN4  
 14 B-B3 N-QR4  
 15 NxN QxN  
 16 K-N P-QN5

It is remarkable how comfortably Black's development proceeds while White is unable to undertake anything in the way of an attack.

17 N-K2 P-K4!

Before Black castles, he prevents White from playing P-K5. The weakness of Black's Q4 is negligible as White's N is no longer at QB3.

18 N-B O-O  
 19 N-Q3

Since White's pieces are not well placed for an attack on the Black K, he plays to win the Black P on QN5. This plan, however, brings his own K in danger.

19 ... R-B5  
 20 R-QR3

White will regret this weakening of his K's position.

20 ... Q-B2!

But not NxKP because of 21 BxN RxB, 22 NxQN with the strong threat N-Q5.

21 NxQN P-QR4!

This move regains the P with advantage: e.g., 22 N-Q5 NxN, 23 PxN RxB, or 22 N-Q3 KR-QB1, 23 P-B3 (23 R-QB NxP) NxP, 24 BxN RxB and White cannot play NxKP because of 25 ... B-QR5!

22 P-QN3?

This attempt to keep the material finds a beautiful refutation.

22 ... PxN!!

A brilliant reply; for the sacrificed exchange, Black gets an irresistible attack.

23 PxR KR-QN

In order to answer PxQN with 24...QxP, 25 P-B3 NxP.

24 Q-Q3 B-K3  
 25 B-K2 Q-N2

Threatens PxRPch as well as NxP.

26 PxQN NxP

Not QxQNch because of Q-N3.

27 B-K F-Q4!

Mobilization of the last reserves for the final drive.

28 P-B3

If 28 PxQP BxQN wins! e.g., 29 BxB QxBch, 30 Q-N3 Q-Q3, capturing the Queen; or if 29 Q-N3 BxB, 30 QxQ RxBch, 31 K-B B-QN5!, and Black wins a piece.

28 ... PxQB  
 29 Q-B2 B-KB4  
 30 K-B N-N6  
 31 BxN BxQ  
 32 KxB PxKB

QxKNP would have been good, too.

33 B-B3 Q-B

The Pawn on Black's KB5 is indirectly protected.

34 B-B2 Q-KB4ch  
 35 K-N2 BxR!!

A pretty concluding sacrifice.

36 PxB RxPch  
 37 K-B3 R-QN6ch  
 38 K-Q2 Q-K4!

AND WHITE RESIGNS

Mate in several moves cannot be prevented.

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, S tonewall 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 Y.M.C.A.

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 Chess Review, monthly, \$3.75 a year, 250 W. 57th St., New York 19, N. Y.

THIS ISSUE OF THE WVCB goes only to members whose dues are paid for 1947-48. If some friend's Bulletin fails to come, tell him to send in his renewal at once to H. Reid Holt, 164 Sunset Drive, Charleston 1, W. Va.