WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN APRIL, 1948 NO. 67

BOTVINNIK LEADS IN WORLD TITLE PLAY

At the end of 10 rounds of the World Championship, which began last month at the Hague and will be completed this month and next at Moscow, Mikhail Botvinnik of Russia was leading with a score of 6-2. U.S.Champion Samuel Reshevsky was second with $4\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$. Paul Keres and Vasilly Smyslov, both of Russia, were tied for third with 4-4; while Dr.Max Euwe, Holland, was last with $1\frac{1}{2}-6\frac{1}{2}$. Reuben Fine, also of the U.S., had been chosen to play in the tournament but pressure of business kept him at home. Under the rules, no other U.S. player could be substituted.

Adjournment time at the Hague found many U.S. commentators ready to hand the match to Botvinnik, without further play. However, a couple of losses to Reshevsky or one of the other players could change the picture. We predict Botvinnik won't go thru the next 15 rounds, starting April 10 in Moscow, witht cut running into some rough weather.

Dr. Euwe, a former world champion, has been playing far under his normal ability; he should be expected to win many games before the match is over. It should be recalled, too, that Reshevsky starts slow and gets tougher as the meet goes along.

We had considered, with some encouragement from Dr.Siegfried Werthammer, runining all the World Championship games in the Bulletin. As Schiggi says, they have "tremendous news value." However, the games are appearing regularly in CHESS LIME, official USCF paper, which we hope every interested WVCA member is reading. And you'll get them in CHESS LIFE long before we could get them in type.

If you're not a CHESS LIFE read but want all the world title games, send 50 cents to Edw.I.Treend, 12869 Strathmoor Ave., Detroit 27, Mich., and tell him to send you five issues of CHESS LIFE, starting with March 20. That should give you all the games. And by that time you'll like the paper so well you'll be sending Ed a year's subscription. (To save time, why not just send Ed the \$2 for your year's sub in the first place, telling him to start it with the March 20 number? Tell him you saw the paper recommended in the West Virginia Chess Bulletin.)

Here's the box-score on the first 10 rounds. The horizontal lines show how each player fared in each match. For instance, Botvinnik won his first game from Reshevsky, drew his second; won both games from Keres, etc. The totals show the points to date, cut of a possible 8.

	Botvinnik	Reshevsky	Keres	Smyslov	Euwe	Totals
Botvinnik		1-ਰੂ	1-1	\$ -\frac{1}{2}	1-2	6
Reshevsky	0~불	** ** *	1- 1	2 -2	1-2	4 1/2
Keres	0~0	0~출		1-1	1-壹	4
Smyslov	2 -}	불-불	0-0		1-1	4 '
Euwe	0 ~ 2	θ <u>−</u> ½	0 ~ 2	0-0		1 1/2

REID HOLT, JOHN HURT TIED FOR LEAD UN CHARLESTON CITY CHAMPIONSHIP

Reid Holtard John Hurt were tied for first place with scores of $3\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$ at the end of the first four rounds of the 12-man play for the Charleston City Championship. Each player has yielded one draw, Holt to Edward Foy and Hurt to Al DuVall.

Edwin Faust, in third place, also had $3\frac{1}{2}$ points, but he had played one fifthround game which made his score $3\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$. He lost to Hurt and drew with Frank Branner. William F. Hartling was in fourth place with 3-1, having dropped a game to Lynn Cavendish.

Other standings of the players, up to and including games of March 17, follows Branner and DuVall, 3-2; Bill Truslow, $2\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$; Cavendish and Foy, $1\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$; Ray Martin, $\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$; T.A.Snyder, $\frac{1}{2}-4\frac{1}{2}$; Mrs.T.A.Snyder, 0-4.

Leaders in the consolation tournment, as of the same date, are: Anise Cassab, Allan Gilliland and Dan Lowder, tied for first with 3-0; A. Schoenfeld, 2-0; Hugh Allison, 2-1.

Eddie Foy reports he heard a broadcast of the World Championship play over the EBC from London. Says Eddie: "The summary was an on-the-spot report by Prins, including the final position in each game."

DICK GRIMM LEADS IN CARBIDE CLUB FLAY

Dick Grimm, who acts as distributor for the West Virginia Chess Bulletin, is leading in the opening rounds of a 16-man, 5-round Swiss System tournament for the championship of the Carbide Chess Club in South Charleston. Dick has a perfect score of 3-0 to date. Al DuVall and Harold Liggett drew each other and have scores of $2\frac{1}{2}$. James Ankeny, Arthur Maloy, Bruce Marple and Andy Walters have scores of 2-1.

The Carbide club has elected new officers as follows: President, James Schilling; vice president, James Ankeny; secretary-treasurer, Dave Marples; other board members, Andy Walters, Kingsley Hughes, Bob Swarbrick. Harold Liggett is the official tournament director.

WHEELING: Writes Wm.R.Cuthbert (March 22): "There isn't much chess news from Wheeling this month. An invitation has been extended the Clarksburg club to have five of their club visit Wheeling some week-end in April for a team match. So far, this project is in the invitation and acceptance stage, but we'll know more about it soon, we hope."

CLARKSEURG: Letter from Frank Wisinski (March 24): "Chess is down in the doldrums in Clarksburg. Seems we just can't get the players to come cut. Just about a half dozen at each meeting. Just a question of how much longer we can keep meeting at the Stonewall Jackson hotel. Have been busy myself with the result that my own chess has been quite a bit neglected. Bill Challinor hasn't been too well and hasn't been around much. Ray Griffin has been up to his neck in income taxes as usual, so he hasn't been around much either...Dr.Robert Humphries, our prexy, has an invitation from the Wheeling boys for a match some week-end, at Wheeling, so we may take them on if we can manage to round up about five players to go along."

WVCA YEARBOOK FUND GOING UP--NOW AT \$56.50

The 1945-47 Yearbook Fund is going up toward that \$75-\$100 goal which we set at the start--the amount needed to get out the kind of book we think members should have. We don't know if we'll reach that goal but the fund now stands at \$56.50.

In the March Bulletin we acknowledged \$35. New contributions, in order of receipt, are: J.B.Gee, chess editor, Sacramento (Cal.) Union, \$1; Dr.V.S.Hayward, Huntington, \$4 donation, \$1 for 1943 Yearbook; Wm. Challinor, Clarksburg, \$1; Frank Wisinski, Clarksburg, \$2.50; chess book sold, \$5; A.C.Dobbs and Maynard Wallace, Wheeling, \$1 each; Wm.R.Cuthbert, Wheeling, \$2 donation, \$1 for 1944 Yearbook; Gene Collett, \$2; total receipts this month, \$21.50.

We have 16 pages of the new book in MS and will start cutting stencils this month. Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, WVCB games editor, is hard at work, annotating games of our last three tournaments. We hope to have the book in the mail by June.

It's still not too late to get your contribution under the wire. Send it to Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Ave., Pittsburgh 27, Pa. Gifts will be acknowledged in the WVCB.

We have 8 or 9 copies of the 1944 Yearbook which we are offering at \$1 each, the money to go to the Yearbook Fund. Send orders to Collett. No 1943 Yearbooks are left.

GAMES DEPARTMENT

Editor: Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, 2008 North Englewood Road, Huntington, West Virginia

"My Best Game of Chess--IX" features Ed Foy of Charleston. Ed feels he cannot decide on his best gmae but thinks the game selected is interesting and well played not only by him but also by his opponent, Dick Grimm of Charleston. The game certainly exhibits original features and a beautiful finish +--it is like a composed study. It characterizes fairly well Ed's style in chess, which is somewhat on the conservative side plus a great ability to recover from inferior positions.

One of the two selections from the current Charleston Championship Tourney is the victory of Frank Branner over Al DuVall. In the March Bulletin we published a game between the same opponents, from the preliminaries of the same tourney, which Frank lost because he failed to "crash thru" twice in crucial positions. He decided this should not happen again and, in this game, he offered a sacrifice which, the incorrect, took his opponent by surprise and led to a pretty win.

The Cavendish-Faust game is a high-class, extremely difficult affair. The by no Means faultless, it represents a very well contested fight in which the loser deserves as much credit as the winner. There are many fine points in the game illustrating principles of positional maneuvering. Some phases of the end-game are highly original and approach the quality of true master chess.

MYBEST GAME is apparently to maintain pressure as after 7 N-QB3

OF CHESS-IX

QUEEN'S G. D.
CARBIDE C.C. VERSUS
CHARLESTON C.C.,
BOARD NO. 3, SOUTH
CHARLESTON, W. VA.,
JUNE 9, 1947

WHITE: Dick Grimm BLACK: Edw. M. Foy

1 P-Q4 N-KB3
2 P-QB4 P-K3
3 N-QB3 P-Q4
4 B-N5 QN-Q2
5 P-K4

This move gives
Black an easier game
than P-K3.

5 ... PxKP 6 NxP

P-B3, offering a true gambit leads to a sharp game with many chances for White.

6 ... B-N5ch 7 K-K2?

Original, odd and to obtain a strong inviting trouble. The initiative as long

reason for this move is apparently to maintain pressure as after 7 N-QB3 P-B4 Black has an excellent game.

7 ... B-K2 8 NxNch NxN?

BxN is far superior. If then 9 BxB QxB and Black's advantage is evident. If after BxN, 9 B-B4 P-KN4: followed by P-N5, or 9 B-K3, P-K4 and P-K5 and White's K-wing is paralyzed. After the text Black cannot . take advantage of White's K-position. White will be able to develop without difficulty.

9 N-B3 0-0 10 P-KN3 P-QN3 11 B-N2 B-N2 12 R-K P-KR3 13 B-K3 R-B?

Too slow. N-N5 first and then P-QB4 was the last chance to obtain a strong initiative as long as the KN was pinned.

14 K-B P-B4 N-N5 was still better.

15 P-N3

White's game is now preferable. He has open center files and the majority of the Ps on the Q-side (an endgame advantage).

15 ... PxP 16 QxP Q-B2 17 B-B4 Q-B4 18 QR-Q: Q-R6

Q exchange would give White a favorable endgame.

19Q-R KR-Q 20 N-Q4

B-B Q-R4, 21 B-N2 Q-R4, 22 N-R4 is also good.

20 ... BxBch 21 KxB Q-B4 22 R-K5?

This move looks strong but leads to nothing. B-K5! is correct with a dangerous attack; e.g., 22 B-K5 N-N5, 23 BxP! KxB??, 24 NxP dbl ch wins; or 22 B-K5 B-Q3, 23 BxN PxB, 24 NxP!! Q-B3ch, 25 P-B3 PxN, 26 QxP with a winning attack.

22 ... Q-B2:

White's possible discovered Q-checks are harmless.

23 R-K2 Q-N2ch 24 P-B3 N-R4! 25 B-B B-B3! 26 B-N2 P-K4!?

After White's weak 22nd move, Black had equalized the game with great skill. He takes now the initiative with an interesting positional sacrifice of a P. If White plays with great care he should get the better of it.

27 N-B5 P-K51? 28 RxRch RxR 29 PxP BxB 30 QxB N-B3 31 Q-B2?

Inexact. NxRP: ! would have won at least a second P. If CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNEY PxN, 32 QxN; if 31 ...K-B, 32 Q-R3chl; if 31...K-R or K-R2 32 N-B5.

31 ... R-Q2?

P-N3: would have regained the P: 32 NxPch? K-R21; cr 32 N-R4 R-K, 33 K-B3? NxP!, 34 RxN P-B4; or 32 N-K3 NxP.

32 P-KR3 K-R2 33 P-KN4 P-N3 34 N-N3 R-K2 35 K-B 3?

Black threatened NxKP: followed by P-B4, but K-B2 would be better.

N-Q2 L 35 ... 36 P-N4?

All the White pieces are tied to the KP so the attempt to get a passed P must fail. K-B2 was still good. In the final phase, Black plays excellently.

36 ... N-K4ch R-B2: 37 K-K3 38 P-B5 PxP39 PxP Q-N4: 40 K-Q4 Q-N5ch: 41 K-Q5

Permits a beautiful, problem-like mate in 3 moves.

41 ... R-Q2ch!! 42 KxN Q-Nch! 43 K-B6 Q-KRmate!

Do you have a "best game"? Send it to Dr.Werthammer for use in the West Virginia Chess Bulletin. See preceding page for Schiggi's address.

SICILIAN DEFENSE CHARLESTON CITY MARCH 13, 1948 WHITE: Frank Branner BLACK: Al Du Vall

1 P-K4 P-QB4 2 N-KB3 N-QB3 3 P-Q4 PxP4 NxPN-B3 5 N-QB3 P-Q3 6 B-KN5 P-K3 7 Q-Q2 B-K2 P-KR3 8 N-N3 9 B-K3

Preferable is B-R4.

9 ... 0-0

N-KN5 to exchange the White QB can be played; there is no hurry to castle .

10 R-Q P-R3 11 P-QR3?

If White mist move the QRP, why not to R4 to restrain the Black Q-wing Ps? The text does not serve any purpose and loses a tempo for development.

11 ... P-QN4 12 B-K2 B -N2 N-QR4 13 P-B4 14 NxN $Q_{X}N$ 15 B-B3 Q-B2 N-Q216_0-0

Black now has a very good game.

17 P-B5?

Premature; the at tack should be slow ly prepared prepared by N-K2-N3,B-Q4.

17 ... N-K4 18 BxP?!

A pretty but incorrect sacrifice. White is forced to do something drastic as Black's threat N-B5, with de-34 Q-Q6ch K-B cisive advantage can 35 Q-B5ch?

hardly be met.

18 ... PxB??

The immediate acceptance of the sacrifice gives White an irresistable attack. The refutation is 18... N-B5:, 19 Q-B4 (on Q-Q4, P-K4 or B-KB3) Q-B4ch1, 20 K-R PxB, 21 QxRP Q-K6! followed by Q-N4 and Black has broken the attack and remains ahead with a piece for two Ps.

19 QxP $P_{X}P$ 20 PxP NxBch 21 PxN

White deserves great credit for foreseeing that after this exchange the attack still gets thru as he gets the open KN file.

Q-Q

To prevent the lethal P-B6.

22 R-Q2

From now on the attack should play itself.

22 ... B-N4 23 R-N2 P-B3 24 P-KR4?

Missing a quicker win by Q-N6ch K-R, 25 R-N3! and mate by R-R3 or Q-N7 can not be prevented.

24 ... Q-N3ch K-B2 25 K-R2 26 Q-N6ch K-K2 27 PxB R-Rch 28 K-N3 QR-KN 29 QxPch K-Q2 30 Q-K6ch K-B2: Q-Q5 31 P-N6 32 N-K4 P-04 33 R-Q2 Q-K6

R-Q3 wins at once as Black has to give the Q to prevent mate. Of course, after Q exchange the endgeme is still an easy win.

35 ... $Q_{\mathbf{X}}Q$ $36 N_{x}Q$ R-K?

Loses the QP: a trifle better is R-Q. There followed: 37 NxB KxN, 38 RxPR-K7, 39 R-B2 R-K8, 40 R-Q7ch K-B3, 41 R-KR7 R-KN, 42 R(2)-R2 K-Q3, 43 R-Q2oh K-K4?, 44 R+K7ch and Black resigns.

QUEEN'S P. G. CHARLESTON CITY CHAMPIONSHIP TNY. FEB. 25, 1948 WHITE: Lynn Cavendish BLACK: Edwin Faust

1 P-04 P-04 2 N-KB3 N-KE3 3 P-K3 B-B4 4 QN-Q2 P-K3 5 P-B4 P-B4 6 BPxP **KPxP** 7 B-K2 N-B3 8 P-QR3 B-Q39 PxP BxP10 0-0 0-011 P-QN4 B-QN3

The opening has been treated well by both players. The game started out as a Colle System and wound up as a Q.G.A. with colors reversed: The isolated QP is not much of a weakness if Black plays actively for an attack. Therefore, B-Q3 would be much better as on Q-N3, the B is out of play. 12 B-N2 R-B 13 N-N3 R-K 14 QN-Q4 NxN

Forced, as White threatens 15 NxN PxN (RxN??, 16 B-N5), 16 R-B followed by N-Q4, with strong pressure on the Q-B file.

15 NxN B-K5 16 R-B Q-K2 17 Q-N3 P-QR3 18 E-Q3

White tries to exchange pieces. The fewer the Black pieces, the weaker the QP. For this purpose, B-KB3 would be better.

18 ... B-B2?

N-N5 followed by N-K4 would have given Black good attacking chances. If on N-N5, 19 P-B3 Q-N4!! and whether White takes the B or N, Black regains the piece with a winning attack.

19 KR-Q Q-Q3

Better Q-K4 in order to be able to continue the attack with Q-KR4

20 P-N3 Q-Q2 21 P-B3?

This move weakens the White K-wing and gives Black a target. White could get the advantage by liquidation in the center by BxB! If PxB, 22 N-B6!! Q-R6, 23 BxN PxB, 24 N-R7!; if 21... NxB or RxB, 22 N-E3! and Black will have great difficulty in defending his QP.

21 ... BxB 22 QxB Q-R6

A better chance is B-N3 to get the KB off the open file. If then 23 N-B5 RxR, 24 RxR Q-K3.

23 Q-B5! Q-R3 24 R-K Q-R4

Due to the pinned B on B2, Black can hardly move his pieces. The decision to offer Q exchange and to try for an endgame is wise as the weak white KP compensates for his own weak QP. But Q-N3 and after QxQ,RPxQ would be better for this purpose. The outcome, by best play, should then

be a draw.

25 QxQ NxQ 26 R-B5?

This move looks like a crusher as it threatens RxP or R(1)-QB. Still, it is a mistake tho it is difficult to find a response to prove it. Correct was 26 N-B5.

26 ... B-N3!!

An ingenious and beautiful conception.

27 RxP

White accepts the P and the ensuing complications. Any other move would give Elack a draw, at least.

27 ... N-B3 28 R-KN5?

At once R-KB5, saving a move, is much better.

28 ... P-R3 29 R-KB5 QR-Q 30 K4E2 N-Q4 31 P-K4??

In this complicated and difficult position, White blunders. Black's threat to win the R by P-N3 can be met only by R-KR5 with an exciting struggle

ahead. Black's plan could be K-R2, P-N3, P-KB4 with strong pressure.

31 ... NxNP

Regains the P with a won undgame which has to be conducted, however, with the greatest care; otherwise, White may slip out (see Black's move 35). Instead of the text N-B2! would have won elegantly: 33 R-Q P-N3, 34 R-B4 N-N4, 35 K-K3 P-B4 and there is no defense against 36 ...RxN:, 37 BxR NxB, 38 RxN R-Q, 39 P-K5P-N4!! and Black wins a piece.

32 PxN BxNch 33 BxB RxB

34 R-QN R-Q7ch 35 K-N R-QB?

P-QN3 was necessary.

36 R-QR5?

R-B5: would have drawn.

36 ... R(1)-B7

There followed 37 P-N5 RxP, 38 PxP PxP, 39 RxP R(B7)-KN7ch, 40 K-B RxP, 41 R-B3? R-R8ch, 42 White resigns.

MEETING TIMES AND PLACES FOR WEST VIRGINIA CHESS CLUBS

Carbide C. C.--Monday, Recreation Center, South Charleston Charleston C. C.--Wednesday, 8 p. m., K. of C. rooms, 1117 Quarrier Street Clarksburg C. C.--Tuesday, 7:30 p. m., Stonewall Jackson Hotel Huntington C. C.--Thursday, 7:30 p. m., Huntington Y. M. C. A. Wheeling C. C.--Monday, 8 p. m., Wheeling Y. M. C. A.

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS ASSOCIATION: President, Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, 2008

N. Englewood Rd., Huntington, W.Va.; secretary-treasurer, H. Reid Holt, 164 Sunset Drive, Charleston 1, W.Va. Address all letters on WVCA business to Secy. Holt. Membership is \$1 a year, including subscription to THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BUILETIN, published monthly by Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Ave., Pittsburgh 27, Pa., to whom send all news stories and all papers for exchange. Send games for publication to Dr. Werthammer (see address above).

NEW CHESS BOOKS

MANUAL OF THE END-GAME, by J. Mieses, David McKay Co., 70 pp., \$2. This is definitely a beginner's book on the end-game but one which the average player will find highly useful. It provides a basic understanding of the simple end-game positions—the ones which cost games when you don't know them—and avoids complicated and problem—like setups which are of highly infrequent occurrence. Especially delightful are Mieses' selection of 15 end-games from master chess.

CHESS FOR YOU AND ME, by Milton Hanauer, David McKay Co., 150 pp., \$2. This book is written in conversational style--talking to the reader all the time--and has dozens of diagram quizzes on the matter taught. An elementary text for beginners only.

(Either of these books may be had by sending the purchase price to David McKay Co., Washington Square, Philadelphia 6, Pa.)

ARE YOU READING? --

American Chess Bulletin, bimonthly, \$2 a year, 150 Nassau St., New York 7, N. Y. Chess Life, semimonthly, \$2 a year, Edw.I.Treend, 12869 Strathmoor Ave., Detroit 27, Michigan

Chess Review, monthly, \$4.75 a year, 250 West 57th St., New York 19, N. M.

(If you send in a sub for one of these papers, tell the publishers you saw it mentioned in the WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN.)

FOR SALE ! WEST VIRGINIA CHESS ASSOCIATION YEARBOOK FOR 1944

Still available are a few copies of the 1944 WVCA Yearbook, containing 20 pages of games, mostly annotated, from the West Virginia tournament of 1944, plus historical matter, selections from the Bulletin of that year, original articles, chess cartoons, and so forth. The books are offered at \$1 each as long as they last. Funds derived from their sale will be devoted to the publishing of a new WVCA Yearbook, covering the tournaments of 1945, 1946 and 1947 and the association's history of those three years. Send orders to Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Ave., Pittsburgh 27, Pennsylvania.

CHARLEST ON TOURNEY BULLETIN FROM SECY. HOLT!!!

Letter from Reid Holt, Charleston, dated March 28: "Last night Johnny Hurt and I clashed for the lead in the city tourney. Each had $3\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$. I came out of the opening with what I that was the best game-but I lost, anyway, and am I unhappy? Of course, the tourney is still a long way from being over...but this is a real setback. Johnny Hurt is a fine player. I don't know for sure yet but he may have added a new and better line to one of the variations of the Danish Gambit. We tried to analyze it last night but were too groggy for accuracy."

Reid reports also that he has just won first prize in the recently concluded ninth tournament of a correspondence club organized by L.P.Spellman of Kansas City in 1936. "I won the club's first tournament, too," said Reid, "but didn't do so hot in some of the others, and missed several due to the war. We named the club 'the Chatty Correspondence Chess Club.' Always tried to have players in it from coast to coast. Ed Foy was in it at one time, I believe. Once we had three ministers as members."

WE SEE OUR FIRST COPY OF "CHECK"

We have just received a copy of "Check," the bulle tin of the Weatt Chess club at 195 Broadway, New York 7, N. Y., edited by M. S. Gleason. This a very attractive bulletin, reproduced by offset printing from typewritten and pen-and-ink copy. The club gets its name from its members' employers, Western Electric Company, American Telephone & Telegraph Company. Seems like a live group, judging from events listed: noon luncheon games, championship, handicap, ladder and correspondence tournaments, ladder, commercial league, problem comtest, and others.

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