

# WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

OCTOBER, 1948

NO. 73

## TRI-STATE MEET NOV. 12-14 AT WHEELING

The third Tri-State Chess Tournament will be held November 12 to 14 at the McLure hotel in Wheeling, W. Va., with West Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania represented.

The object of the meet is to bring together the two top players from each state, as shown by their current state tournaments, to play for the championship of the three states. The first tournament was won in 1945 by Milton Q. Ellenby of Dayton, O., the second in 1947 by H. Landis Marks of Huntington, W. Va., with the events being held in Pittsburgh and Cleveland respectively.

West Virginia's representatives this year will be its co-champions, John Hurt of Charleston and Dr. Siegfried Werthammer of Huntington. They are getting together in a pair of practice sessions, Oct. 17 at Charleston and Oct. 24 at Huntington, so that they may be in trim for the Wheeling bouts. Both players say they are looking forward keenly to these games and will report them in the Bulletin ("if they are good enough," Dr. Werthammer says).

Definite word has not been received as to who will be present from the other two states but it is assumed they will send their best. Pennsylvania's new champion is 18-year-old Paul L. Dietz, a University of Pittsburgh student, who is Pennsylvania senior and junior champion and Pittsburgh city champion. No doubt he is casting longing eyes toward the Tri-State title, also. Readers may recall that Ellenby was only 22 and had been Ohio junior champion a year before when he romped off with the Tri-State title in 1945. Second in Pennsylvania was Herman Hesse, who recently tied for fifth in the U.S. Championships. Dietz and Hesse got the same score in the Pennsy meet but Hesse lost out under the Whatyoumay-call-it-Berger tie-breaking count. These two looks like tough competition.

In Ohio, Elliott Stearns of Cleveland won the championship, repeating for the first time since 1916, a period of 32 years. He is now 57 years old. We haven't seen a full report of the Ohio meet yet so don't know who was second. Pete Seitz of Akron tied for second but got counted out in the tie-breaking, so some unknown individual is ahead of him. At any rate, we hope to see them both at Wheeling.

### THREE-WAY TEAM MATCHES

Some sort of team matches will be held, also, but we do not know if they will be played in such form as to provide a Tri-State Team Championship. West Virginia proposed that each state send an official six-man team but the last we heard Pennsylvania and Ohio had not formally approved this. The Wheeling Chess Club is donating a trophy cup for the individual Tri-State champion and says it will give one for the team play, also, if there is genuine championship play.

West Virginia planned to pick its team as follows: The players finishing third to eighth place in the state meet would be eligible, with the proviso that any strong player not taking part in our state meet also would be eligible if he desired to play, subject to approval of WVCA officials. If any of those eligible could not make it, others would become eligible in the order in which they finished in the South Charleston tournament.

This would make the West Virginia team: Gene Collett, Allan DuVall, Edward Foy, William Hartling, Reid Holt and one of the following: Frank Branner, Bill Guthbert and Hal Liggett (these three finished in a three-way tie for eighth). ...With, of course, the possibility that strong players like Landis Marks and Walt Crede might accept boards in the team play.

THE W.VA. CHESS ASSOCIATION President: Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, 2008 North Englewood Road, Huntington, W. Va.  
 Secretary-Treasurer--H.Reid Holt, 620 Churchill Drive, Charleston 4, W. Va., to whom send all letters on WVCA business. Membership is \$1 a year including subscription for the WVCB.  
 Publicity Director--Edward M.Foy, 4 Arlington Court, Charleston 1, W.Va. Report all tourneys, exhibitions and elections to Director Foy within 24 hours.  
 Games Editor--Dr. Werthammer, to whom send all games for publication.  
 Bulletin Editor--Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Avenue, Pittsburgh 27, Pa., to whom send all items for use in the Bulletin and all papers for exchange.

NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS--1948-49 YEAR

(Here begins our annual membership listing, as reported by Secy. Holt. Please note that several of the members have new addresses.)

- George Koltanowski, PO Box 682, Santa Rosa, Cal. (HONORARY MEMBER)  
 1 Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Ave., Pittsburgh 27, Pa. (LIFE & SUSTAINING MEMBER)\*  
 2 Rev. Wm. M. Erhard, 52 Maple Ave., Wheeling, W. Va.  
 3 E. M. Bottome, 1307 Seventh St., Moundsville, W. Va.  
 4 Charles Morgan, 1208 Tenth Ave., Huntington, W. Va. (JUNIOR MEMBER)\*\*  
 5 B. W. Devericks, P.O.Box 2183, Clarksburg, W. Va.  
 6 Walter Hall, 2451 No. Hancock St., Philadelphia 33, Pa.  
 7 William Schaeffer, 4828 Seventh St., N.W., Washington 11, D. C.  
 8 Cleveland Public Library, Serials Dept., 325 Superior Ave., Cleveland 14, Ohio  
 9 William Adkins, 1751 Crestmont Drive, Huntington, W. Va. (JUNIOR)  
 10 Hugh Allison, 1448 $\frac{1}{2}$  Fourth Ave., Charleston 2, W. Va.  
 11 Jack Allison, 127 No. Queens Court, Huntington, W. Va. (JUNIOR)  
 12 James P. Altmeyer, 1400 Eoff St., Wheeling, W. Va.  
 13 James Ankeney, 511 Montrose Drive, So. Charleston 3, W. Va.  
 14 Frank Branner, 27 Pinehurst Drive, Charleston, W. Va.  
 15 James Cappellari, 221 Tenth Ave., Huntington, W. Va. (JUNIOR)  
 16 Lynn Cavendish, 1595 Quarrier St., Charleston, W. Va.  
 17 Wm. R.Cuthbert, 1104 W. Washington Ave., Wheeling, W. Va.  
 18 A. C. Dobbs, Sr., 113 Paxton Ave., Elm Grove, W. Va.  
 19 Robert Dudley, 2021 Donald Avenue, Huntington, W. Va.  
 20 Allan DuVall, 630 Central Ave., Charleston, W. Va.  
 21 Edwin Faust, West Virginia Institute of Technology, Montgomery, W. Va.  
 22 Edward M. Foy, 4 Arlington Court, Charleston, W. Va.  
 23 Allan Gilliland, 1233 Park Ave., Charleston 2, W. Va.  
 24 Ray Griffin, 303 Greaney Bldg., Clarksburg, W. Va. (SUSTAINING)  
 25 Richard Grimm, 5412 Ohio Ave., SW., South Charleston, W. Va.  
 26 Mrs. Toni Grimm, 5412 Ohio Ave., SW., South Charleston, W. Va.  
 27 Wm. F. Hartling, 131 Park St., St. Albans, W. Va.  
 28 Dr. V. S. Hayward, 1128 Ninth Ave., Huntington, W. Va.  
 29 Edward Holt, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho (JUNIOR)  
 30 Reid Holt, 620 Churchill Drive, Charleston 4, W. Va. (SUSTAINING)  
 31 John F. Hurt, Jr., 903 Sixth St., Charleston, W. Va.  
 32 Kingsley Hughes, 5114 McCorkle Ave., SW., So. Charleston, W. Va.  
 33 Harold Liggett, 915 Montrose Drive, So. Charleston, W. Va.  
 34 H. Landis Marks, 1904 Steadman Drive, Huntington, W. Va. (SUSTAINING)  
 35 David Marples, 308 Shepherd Ave., So. Charleston, W. Va. (JUNIOR)  
 36 Ray Martin, 329 Kenna Drive, So. Charleston, W. Va.  
 37 A. W. Paull, Wheeling Stamping Co., Wheeling, W. Va.  
 38 David Rodger, 1102 Eleventh St., Huntington, W. Va. (JUNIOR)  
 39 G.Vincent Scofield, 1112 Highland Road, Charleston 2, W. Va.  
 40 James Schilling, 315 Winona St., So. Charleston, W. Va.  
 41 M. C. Scott, 1034 Tenth Ave., Huntington, W.Va.  
 42 Mrs. Elizabeth H. Smith, Elmwood, Wheeling, W. Va.  
 43 B. E. Stover, 22 Forest Road, Wheeling, W. Va. (Continued on Page Five)

# GAMES DEPARTMENT

Edited by Dr. Siegfried Werthammer  
2008 North Englewood Road  
Huntington, West Virginia

First let us apologize for some errors in the notes to the Cuthbert-Werthammer game in the September Bulletin. It was annotated by your Games Editor one night at his home in Huntington, when he was suffering considerable pain from some newly-cracked ribs, and dictated by him to Bulletin Editor Collett who, even then, had the beginnings of an ear infection which was to keep him bedfast for three weeks after his return to Pittsburgh. Consequently, neither of them was up to par that night nor at the time the notes were subsequently made into pages for the Bulletin.

If you wish to keep the record straight, turn to pages 8 and 9 of your September Bulletin and make these corrections: (1) In the note to Black's 5...N-K2, eliminate the words "P on," making that part of the note read "to keep the square K4 under observation," etc. (2) In the note to Black's 44...Q-N5ch, make the last sentence read "If then 45 BxP Q-N5ch, 46 K-B2 Q-R5ch, 47 K-B Q-R7 and Black wins after B-Q6." (3) In the note to Black's 48...Q-KB8ch? make the 49th move read "49 B-R2 Q-B6ch." And this, to the best of our knowledge, cleans up the errors.

We wish to say also that there are no more games for the "My Best Game of Chess" feature on file. The series will be continued from time to time when suitable games are received. About the games we are using this month:

The choice from the Kanawha Valley Tournament shows Reid Holt at his Morprian best. It is always pleasing to see sacrifices which are rather speculative or positional than forcing...The French Defense game, Martin-Hurt, from the 1948 State Championship illustrates again the new state co-champion's skill in this opening. The first half of the game is very instructive as Black succeeds in building up a strategically won position...The French Defense, Collett-Werthammer, from the same event shows an interesting opening trap...The short draw between Foy and Holt is very lively and well played...The game Foy-Eckenrode from the 1948 U.S. Open shows Ed exhibiting once again his great talent for recovering from an inferior or lost position.

**1948 KANAWHA VALLEY TOURNAMENT**  
**WHITE: REID HOLT**  
**BLACK: HAL LIGGETT**

- 1 P-Q4 N-KB3
- 2 N-KB3 P-K3
- 3 P-QB4 P-Q4
- 4 N-B3 P-B3
- 5 B-N5 QN-Q2
- 6 P-K3 Q-R4
- 7 B-Q3

Unusual.

- 7 ... PxP
- 8 BxP?

Should lose at least a P. Better BxN.

- 8 ... N-K5
- 9 P-KR4 B-N5

Black could win

here a healthy P by NxN, 10 PxN QxBPch, 11 N-Q2 B-N5. With his next three moves, Black converts a very good game into a lost one.

- 10 O-O BxN?

Better NxN to keep the B.

- 11 PxB NxB?

As a consequence of having exchanged his black-squared B, he had to remove his opponent's; otherwise, his black squares will get too weak. But Black exchanges all

his developed pieces.

- 12 NxN QxP?

Now she should make some developing move instead of the text.

- 13 QR-QB Q-N5
- 14 BxP!!

A nice sacrifice which tears open the Black K-wing. The follow end-attack is very pretty and gets through because of the undeveloped state of Black's position.

- 14 ... PxB
- 15 NxKP Q-Q3

- 16 NxPch K-B2
  - 17 N-B5 Q-B3
  - 18 Q-N3ch K-N3
  - 19 P-K4 N-B
  - 20 Q-N3ch K-B2
  - 21 Q-B7ch N-Q2
  - 22 R-B3 R-KN
  - 23 R-B3 K-B?
  - 24 N-R6 Resigns
- oooooooooooooooooooo

**FRENCH DEFENSE**  
**1948 WEST VIRGINIA CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**WHITE: RAY MARTIN**  
**BLACK: JOHN HURT**

- 1 P-K4 P-K3
- 2 P-Q4 P-Q4
- 3 N-QB3 B-N5
- 4 B-Q3 PxP
- 5 BxP N-KB3
- 6 B-Q3

B-N5 here wins a tempo.

6 ... P-B3  
 7 N-B3 QN-Q2  
 8 B-Q2 P-QN3  
 9 N-K4

As followed up, this leads only to exchanges welcome to Black. Better O-O or Q-K2.

9 ... B-K2  
 10 P-B3

N-N3 with a somewhat freer game and attacking possibilities.

10 ... B-N2  
 11 Q-B2 NxN  
 12 BxN P-KB4!

Very vigorous, daring and strong. It is surprising that White will be unable to do anything to the weak and backward P on his K6.

13 B-Q3 P-B4  
 14 N-K5?

Much better O-O.

14 ... NxN  
 15 PxN Q-Q4!

White is completely hemmed in.

16 B-N5ch K-B2  
 17 B-KB4?

This should lose in short order. P-B3 would hold the game though with a very difficult defense.

17 ... QxNP

This also wins eventually but P-B5! wins a piece outright: 17... P-B5!, 18 B-R4

P-QN4 or 18 P-QR4  
 P-QR3, or 18 Q-R4  
 Q-K5ch, 19 B-K3  
 P-B5.

18 O-O-O KR-Q  
 19 KR-N RxBch  
 20 QxR Q-B6!

Otherwise 21 Q-R5ch and White is on top.

21 QxQ BxQ  
 22 R-N3 B-K5  
 23 B-K2 B-R5  
 24 R-R3 BxP  
 25 RxB R-Q  
 26 B-R6?

Better B-R5ch K-N, 27 B-N6 followed by P-KR4, though Black should win by good play.

26 ... K-N3!  
 27 RxBch KxB  
 28 RxB- B-K6mate

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FRENCH DEFENSE  
 WHITE: GENE COLLETT  
 BLACK: DR. SIEG-FRIED WERTHAMMER  
 1948 WEST VIRGINIA TOURNAMENT

1 P-K4 P-K3  
 2 P-Q4 P-Q4  
 3 N-QB3 PxP  
 4 NxP N-KB3  
 5 B-KN5 B-K2  
 6 B-Q3

This move permits an elegant exchange combination whereby White loses a P par force. A similar combination may occur in certain positions of the Q.G.D.

6 ... NxN  
 7 BxB NxP  
 8 BxQ

White gets better chances with KxN-QxB, 9 N-B3 and there is still a lively middle game ahead before Black can utilize his plus-P. White would have the open KB-file and the better development and attacking chances.

8 ... NxQ  
 9 BxBP?

Much better is RxN KxB, 10 N-B3 and White has the initiative with strong pressure threatening N-N5. Black has to play very carefully not to get overrun.

9 ... NxP  
 10 B-N5ch

Better B-K5. The text helps Black to develop with exchanges which are advantageous to him.

10 ... B-Q2  
 11 BxBch NxB  
 12 R-N R-QD  
 13 RxN RxB  
 14 N-K2 K-K2  
 15 K-Q2 KR-QB  
 16 R-K N-N3  
 17 R-QB?

An oversight but White is already lost.

17 ... N-B5  
 18 Resigns

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There's another game on the next page but before you turn, we want to remind you that the success of this department depends as much on you as on Dr. Werthammer. He can't print your games unless you send them to him. He especially needs nominations for the "My Best Game" section. Can you help out?

1948 WEST VIRGINIA CHAMPIONSHIP  
 RUY LOPEZ  
 WHITE: EDW.M.FOY  
 BLACK: REID HOLT

1 P-K4 P-K4  
 2 N-KB3 N-QB3  
 3 B-N5 P-QR3  
 4 B-R4 N-B3  
 5 O-O NxP  
 6 P-Q4 P-QN4  
 7 B-N3 P-Q4  
 8 PxP B-K3  
 9 P-B3 D-K2  
 10 QN-Q2 N-B4  
 11 B-B2

Interesting here is the P sacrifice N-Q4.

11 ... P-Q5  
 12 N-K4 P-Q6

Dissolves the game by exchanging to a peaceful draw.

13 NxN PxB  
 14 QxQch NxQ  
 15 NxB NxN  
 16 N-K N-B4  
 17 NxP N-Q6!

Regains the P.

18 N-Q4

Nothing comes out of P-KB4 because of B-B4ch; if 19 K-R N-B7ch draws; if B or N-K3, B takes with check and Black wins the QNP.

18 ... NxKP  
 19 N-B5 B-B3  
 20 B-B4 O-O-O

DRAWN

1948 U. S. C. F.  
NATIONAL OPEN,  
BALTIMORE, MD.  
WHITE: EDW. M. FOY  
BLACK: TOM ECKEN-  
RODE, LANCASTER, PA.  
QUEEN'S G. A.

1 P-Q4 P-Q4  
2 P-QB4 PxB  
3 N-KB3 P-QB4  
4 P-Q5 P-K3  
5 P-K4 N-KB3  
6 N-B3 PxB  
7 PxB B-Q3  
8 BxB O-O  
9 O-O R-K  
10 B-KN5 P-KR3  
11 B-R4 B-B4  
12 Q-N3 P-QN3  
13 QR-Q P-KN4  
14 NxP?

The opening was original and was played in a lively manner. The position is tense and there are possibilities for each side. The sacrifice, tho incorrect and refuted by Black, is interesting.

14 ... PxN  
15 BxB QN-Q2  
16 N-N5 Q-QN  
17 Q-KB3?

This loses a whole R.

17 ... B-N5  
18 Q-B3 BxPch

19 K-R B-K4  
20 Q-Q3 BxR  
21 RxB N-N5?

K-N2 followed by R-Rch and Q-KN would have won easily. The text endangers Black's K.

22 Q-B5!!

With this move, White succeeds in saving the game, despite the great material inferiority.

22 ... N/2-B3  
23 P-Q6!

This is the point of the move  
22 Q-B5!!

23 ... BxNP?

This move loses for Black. He could have drawn with N-K5.

24 N-B7 R-K4  
25 Q-N6ch K-R  
26 BxNch NxB  
27 QxNch K-R2  
28 QxPch K-R3  
29 Q-B6ch K-R2  
30 B-Q3ch K-N  
31 Q-N6ch K-B  
32 Q-R6ch K-B2  
33 B-B4ch Resigns

NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS (1948-49 YEAR) -- (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

- 44 Robert Swarbrick, 415 Kenna Drive, So. Charleston, W. Va. (JUNIOR)  
45 Thos. B. Sweeney, Jr., Hawley Bldg., Wheeling, W. Va.  
46 Maynard Wallace, 137 Stone Church Road, Elm Grove, Wheeling, W. Va.  
47 Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, 2008 No. Englewood Road, Huntington, W. Va. (SUSTAINING)  
48 Paul Wisnicki, 19 First St., Benwood, W. Va.  
49 Sister M. Hedwig, St. Marys Hospital, Huntington, W. Va.

\*Sustaining members are those who pay an annual fee of \$4 in addition to their regular dues (this usually makes a total of \$5). Persons who already have joined and who wish to become sustaining members--that is, contribute \$4 or more to the Association treasury, may do so by mailing the amount to Secy. Holt.

\*\*Junior members are those under 21 years of age. They are required to pay a fee of only 50 cents annually though some pay the regular \$1 membership fee.

NEWS NOTES FROM THE CHESS WORLD

H.G. Rhawn, editor of the Clarksburg (W.Va.) News and a good chess player, sent us this postcard early in August but it got crowded out of our jam-packed September (tournament) issue: "I have a copy of the Chess Page from the Literary Digest of Nov. 26, 1898. In the problem dept., solutions were sent in by C.R. Oldham, Moundsville, W.Va., and F.A.M., Hinton, W.Va. Maybe your bulletin would find this item of interest. I also have Vol. I, No. 1, of the American Chess Bulletin (June, 1904) which I will find pleasure in showing you next time you're in town."

Dr. V. S. Hayward, whose fine job of helping organize and instruct junior chess players was rewarded by a fine turnout at the South Charleston tournament, gives us this interesting report on activities of the young players there: "The Huntington Junior Chess Club, sponsored by the Huntington YMCA, was organized during the early part of the summer with Dr. V.S. Hayward as senior advisor. ... Charles Morgan was elected president and Jim Cappallari was elected vice president and treasurer. A tournament was soon organized which was won by Jim Cappallari, with a score of 6-2. Wild Bill Adkins finished second with 5-3, and other contestants in this order: David Rodger 4-4, Bob Vanderzolz 3-5 and Charles Morgan 2-6. Dr. Hayward presented chess wallets to each of the participants. Charles Morgan gave a party in honor of Jim Cappallari, the club champion... The

club is greatly indebted to Gene Thomas of the YMCA. His work was instrumental in the organizing of this group."

Our good friend, J. C. Thompson, Grand Prairie, Tex., was winner of the South-western Open, a seven-round Swiss event with 66 players held over the Labor Day weekend at San Antonio, Tex. In addition to a large number of Texans, the meet included three players from Kansas, two from Oklahoma, and one each from Alabama, Louisiana and Missouri. J.C. had a score of 6-1 which was equalled by two other players but he edged both by a large margin in the Sonneborn-Berger count. The 15-year-old tournament goes to Tulsa, Okla., next year, the first time it has ever been held outside Texas.

John Hurt, Jr., of Charleston, co-champion of West Virginia, scored 7-2 in a simultaneous exhibition Sept. 29 at the Charleston Chess Club. Hurt played the Danish Gambit in seven games; his game against Reid Holt was a King's Gambit, while Bill Truslow set up the French Defense. Hurt lost to Holt and to William Cuthbert (of Wheeling), losing his Queen on a blunder in the latter game. He won single games from Edwin Faust, Fred White and Truslow and two games each from Hugh Allison and A. Schoenfeld.

Reid Holt was elected president of the Charleston Chess club Sept. 15. Other new officers are Jesse Church, secretary-treasurer; and William Hartling, Edwin Faust and Lynn Cavendish, executive committee members.

Ed Foy, Charleston chess publicist par excellence, reports that the B'Nai B'Rith organization is talking of setting up a chess club, which would make three for Charleston. Also, says Ed, the Kanawha Valley Chess League likely will be revived for its third consecutive winter of team play.

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THE WORLD'S A CHESSBOARD, by Reuben Fine. (Published by David McKay Co., 604 S. Washington Square, Philadelphia 6, Pa., 323 pp., \$5. May be obtained from your bookstore or by remitting the purchase price to the publisher.)

This is the latest and, to our way of thinking, the most entertaining of all the splendid chess books which Reuben Fine has written. To the player who most values utility in a chess book, he may not find as much in this volume as he would in Fine's "Practical Chess Openings" or his equally encyclopedic "Basic Chess Endings." But to the player who, like myself, enjoys sprightly anecdote, intimate glimpses of the chess great and near-great, whimsy, and games which are a joy to play and replay, this is the book for his money. Fine doesn't even confine himself to the output of his own pen--when he finds something particularly delightful by another writer, he moves it into his book (always with due credit, of course).

Perhaps a listing of some of Fine's enchanting chapter titles will tell you more clearly than we can do with words of our own just what sort of a book this is. These, for example: "Reshevsky's Secret," "Blindfold Rapid Transit," "Explosion," "Good Players Are Lucky," "Let's Be Romantic," "Operation Mirage," "I Am Going to Be World Champion," "A Game That Plays Itself," "The Shifting Sands of Theory," "The Prophets Were Wrong," "How to Win Every Game"...do we need to go on, or have we demonstrated our point? If not, we might add "Xylothism--a New Description of an Old Disease." (If you don't know what "xylothism" is, maybe the dictionary will give you a hint.)

As for statistics, the book has, in addition to a wealth of good-humored and intelligent writing, 50 recent games from master chess, each with several diagrams and notes such as only Fine can write. For instance, when A. Vasconcellos playing black against Reshevsky in the U.S. Open of 1944, plays 11...QxQNP, Fine comments with the story "a family of woodpushers." "The grandfather was dying," says Fine, "and called all his children and grandchildren to his bedside. 'My children,' he said, 'allow me to give you one piece of advice, the fruit of 40 years of experience. Never take the Queen Knight Pawn with the