WEST VIRGINDO CHISIS BUBLETINI

JULY, 1949

NO 85

HUNTINGTON PICKED FOR 1949 TOURNEY, BOBJAMISON NAMED BULLETIN EDITOR

Two big events highlighted WVCA chess news this month: (1) Huntington was chosen for the 1949 State Tournament over the Labor Day week-end, and (2) Bob Jamison of Charleston accepted the editorship of the West Virginia Chess Bulletin, effective with the August issue.

The Tournament at Huntington, second for that city, will be sponsored by the Huntington Junior Chamber of Commerce. Sessions will be held from Saturday noon, Sept. 3, till Monday noon, Sept. 5, in the ballroom of the Gov. Cabell Hotel.

The Jaycee sponsorship will include prizes for winners in the various events, refreshments for members at the tournament hall, and other features still in the making—all plus the grand welcome and generous hospitality which members found when they played in Huntington in 1947.

FIVE TOURNAMENT EVENTS?

Tentative plans call for five tournament events—two more than last year. They would be: (1) Championship event, (2) Open Tournament for strong players who do not care to contest the state title, (3) Players' Tournament for all other senior entrants, (4) the first tournament for the Women's Championship of West Virginia, and (5) the second junior tournament, for all players under 21. The schedule, of course, depends on the number of entrants for the various events. If the number of players is sufficient, a Swiss System will be played; otherwise, the events will be round robins. Entry fees have not been announced but probably will be comparable with those of last year.

President Raymond Hage of the Huntington Jaycees will name a committee of five persons to work with the WVCA committee named by Executive Secretary-Treasurer Reid Holt: Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, Edward M. Foy, Dr. V. S. Hayward, M. C. Scott and G. Everett Shinkle.

Members need no introduction to the Junior Chamber of Commerce as a tournament sponsor. Most recall the fine event put on by the Morgantown group in 1945 when we played in the Hotel Morgan and were guests at the turtle races and everybody had his picture took, both in "stills" and movies, and the local newspapers ran lots of stories, along with pictures of the event.

It was then that the WVCA's first challenge cup--the Morgantown Junior Chamber of Commerce Trophy--was put into play, with the stipulation it must be won three times for permanent possession. Hal Liggett of Charleston won the first leg on it. Dr. Werthammer has won the title twice since then, and Landis Marks of Huntington and John Hurt of Charleston each have aleg on it.

JAMISON TO TAKE OVER BULLETIN NEXT MONTH

Robert L. Jamison, 1207 Virginia Street East, Charleston, W.Va., has been chosen by the directors as the new editor of the West Virginia Chess Bulketin, effective nent month.

Bob is a former experienced newspaperman at Charleston and is now with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture. He began playing chess around 1938 when he worked at the Charleston Gazette. On the night shift from 1 to 2 a.m., the

Church, a linotyper, was the ringleader. When the novies felt they were good enough, they would slip up the street a few doors and challenge Bob Apgar, who was operating the Recreation Club. Rymors coming down from those ancient days say Apgar would pin their ears back regular like.

Bob, a long-time member of the WVCA, will not be alone in his labors. Allen DuVall has promised to take care of art work. Several other leading Charlestonians have offered assistance in all ways. Reid Holt will continue supervising the mailing list, seeing that the Bulle time get to the right people. Dick Grimm, assisted capably by his wife, Toni, will assemble the Bulletine and take care of the actual mailing, as they have been doing for many months past.

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE MEXT MONTH

This issue of the Bulletin (No.82--July, 1949) completes its eighth year of life. Bob will take over next month with our Eighth Anniversary issue. Actually, the Bulletin, as a more--or-less regular monthly paper, is only a little more than seven years old. From the time of our first two-page hektographed issue in August, 1941, almost a year elapsed before our second, somewhat larger, mimeographed issue came out and the WVCA had funds to support a monthly paper. Since then, with occasional lapses--never more than a month--the Bulletin has gone out regularly each month to members and exchanges.

Our 62 issues have contained more than 700 pages, $8\frac{1}{2}$ xll inches in size, all mimeographed except No.1. This averages better than 8.5 pages per issue.

In addition, during that period, the WVCA has issued four Yearbooks, totalling 223 pages, 8 x11, mimeographed.

As our pages run about 500 words, on the average, a simple calculation shows that during the 8-year period, members have received, in the Bulletins and Year-books, nearly a half million words of text.

ANDY HOKE WINS BECKLEY TITLE

Andy Hoke, not yet out of high school, won the Beckley Chess Club championship by finishing first in a field of 12 in a double round-robin event. It was the first tournament held by the newly-organized group.

Andy had a score of 19-3, just one point better than his father, Dr. R. L. Hoke, who had 18-4. Other scores were as follows:

C. A. McDaniel 17-5, Harlow Warren 15-7, Jackson 12-10, Dr. D. M. Hoke $10\frac{1}{2}$, Freddy Holliday $9\frac{1}{3}$ - $12\frac{1}{3}$, Jack Slygh 9-13, H. G. Houtz 8-14, Dr. R. G. Broaddus 6-16, R. D. Kemp 5-17, Roger Crawford 2-20. These scores include a number of forfeits, as not all the double-round sets were completed.

Officers write the Beckley club is taking it easy this summer but expects to have a new burst of activity with fall and cooler weather. A match the Charleston Chess club will be a leading feature of the fall program.

Beckley also has named Johnny Hurt of Charleston as an honorary member in appreciation of his help in organizing the club.

CHARLESTON PLAYS AT WHEELING

The Charleston and Wheeling Chess clubs tangled in another of those catch-as-catch-can, rough-and-tumble sessions the week-end of June 25 and 26 at the Ft. Henry club, where they were guests of A. W. Paull, dean of Wheeling chess players and for many years president of the WVCA.

The Charleston players emerged winners by a score of 27-5, not surprising when you consider they had a practically all-state-and-city-championship team. Will-iam R.Cuthbert, WVCA president, was the only Wheeling player to emerge with a

better-than-average score, winning from Reid Holt and Ed Foy, drawing with Al DuVall and losing to Co-State Champion Johnhy Hurt, for a score of $2\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$.

For Charleston, Hurt and Bill Hartling turned in perfect 5-0 scores.

Nine players took part for Wheeling, six for Charleston. Only the first game between opposing players was counted. T. T. Mills of Wheeling scored a win over Holt. Fox of Wheeling drew with Ed Maloy. A. W. Paull drew with Holt, and A. C. Dobbs drew with DuVall.

The Charleston delegation was loud in its praise of the hospitality extended by the Wheeling group and expressed hope the series between the teams will be a long one and as enjoyable in the future as in the past. The box score follows (Wheeling players appear in the vertical column at the left, Charleston players in the horizontal listing/the top):

	DuVal	l Holt	Foy	Hurt	Maloy	Hartling	Tokal s
Cuthbert Bottome	<u>1</u>	1	1	O O		0	$2\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$ 0 - 3
Mills	0	ì	0	Ō	0		1 - 4
Wallace				0		0	0 - 5
Fox					<u>1</u>		늹 - 눞
Erhard	0		0			0	O - 3
Paull	0	<u>1</u>		0	0	0	麦 - 4분
Sweency	0	Õ	0		0		0 - 4
Dobbs	고	0	0		0	0	麦 - 4분
Charlesto Totals	n 5-1	3 ¹ / ₂ -2 ¹ / ₂	4-1	5-0	4 <u>1</u> -1	5-0	•

HUNTINGTON EDGES CARBIDE

The Huntington Chess club scored a $4\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$ victory over the Carbide Chess club of South Charleston on June 25, playing at the So.Charleston Recreation Center.

There were six Huntington players, as against eight for Carbide, so it was decided the first two Huntington players to finish would play the remaining two Carbide team members. The score on the first six boards was three-all but the Cabell countains crashed thru with $1\frac{1}{2}$ points on the two extra boards to win by a single point. The box-score:

Board	Huntington Chess Club42	Carbide Chess Club3½			
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Charles Morgan 1 Rudd T. Neel 1 Sayre 0 Dr. V. S. Hayward 0 M. C. Scott 1 Dr. Thomas J. Sasser 0 Dr. V.S. Hayward (2nd game) \frac{1}{2} M.S. Scott (2nd game) 1	David Marples			
(Huntington had white men on the odd-numbered boards.)					

If you aren't one of the WVCA members who are reading CHESS LIFE, the twice-a-month newspaper of the United States Chess Federation, could we suggest you add your name to the list? CHESS LIFE, at the astonishly low price of \$2 a year, brings you all the news of the U.S. chess world as soon as it happens, in story and picture. Send your check or money order to the USCF in care of Edward I. Treend, 12869 Strathmoor, Detroit 27, Mich. You can make it \$3 and

OUR OWN CHESS WORLD

LOG CABINEERS TO VISIT CHARLESTON

Those famed cross-country chess players, the Log Cabin Club of West Orange, N.J., will arrive in Charleston for a session with the West Virginia boys on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 26 and 27.

The affair probably will be held in the Knights of Columbus club rooms where the Charleston club usually holds forth on Wednesday nights.

At present writing, it looks as if the Log Cabineers will meet the Charleston club Friday night, the Carbide club Saturday night and another team, probably Huntington, Saturday afternoon.

JUNIOR PLAY IDEA FROM CHUCK MORGAN

Charles Morgan of Huntington writes (July 1): "At the close of the State Tournament next Labor Day week-end, why not pick a team of three to five boys from the junior meet to go as a team to the Tri-State meeting? This would, of course, be our state junior team. We could communicate with Ohio and Pennsylvania and see if they would do likewise....This would increase interest among the youngsters, whose tourney this fall will be plenty tough. Besides, when you have a junior championship, why not a state junior team? It would cost each boy some money but the experience gained and the places seen would compensate for it."

HERE AND THERE WITH ED FAUST

Ed Faust, a professor at Institute, W. Va., continues (as of June 28) to hold first place in the Charleston Chess Club's informal summer tournament to date, with 12 points. Edward Foy is runner-up with 8 points. Other leaders include Harry Sweeney 6, Phil Rubin $5\frac{1}{2}$, Jack Young $4\frac{1}{2}$, Johnny Hurt 4.

Faust, the co-Charleston champion, is now attending summer school at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. He said he hoped to play July 3 in the giant U.S.-Canada pawns-across-the-border match, but we don't know yet if he was able to do so. This big match is really something. The idea, of course, wasn't for an unbroken line of chess boards all along the 3,000 miles, but it was expected hundreds of players would take part--at as many different border towns as possible. All the points were to be added together to give one over-all score: U.S. vs. Canada. J. A. Jenking of Huntington Woods, Mich., is captain of the American team.

Further re Ed Faust, he took part in a recent Pittsburgh-Allentown (Pa.) team match, getting a draw at fourth board for Allentown.

THAT "MYSTERIOUS" EXHIBITION

We learn that Johny Hurt, co-champion of the state, substituted as "master" in the May 18 simultaneous exhibition about which we inquired in our last issue (June, 1949, Bulletin, top page 3). Eddie Foy, state publicity man, says he sent us a story on it but it apparently got kicked around till it was lost. Anyway, Dr. Werthammer, the other co-champion, wasn't able to play that night and Johnny Hurt filled in for him. We don't have the score but Johnny, say our reports, turned in a satisfactory performance.

DU VALL IN SOUTH CAROLINA OPEN

Al DuVall of South Charleston played the week-end of June 18 in the South Caroline Championship and Open Tournament at Spartansburg. Thirty players took part in a five-round Swiss System Tourney.

Al scored three wins and a draw against one defeat, to finish well up among

THE POSTALLIFE OF DR. SELETZ

(Adapted from Ed Foy's "Speaking of Chess" column in the Charleston Gazette.)

To most people, chess means over-the-board play, and that is the real chess. However, chess is also widely played by mail. Thousands of persons in the U.S. alone play correspondence chess--not only those who are more or less isolated from other players but also many in the "chess centers," large and small. Various local players go in for this type of game--correspondence chess--but it is doubtful if any player in the Kanawha Valley carries on so many games, via Uncle Sam's postoffice department, as does Dr.A.A.Seletz, local (Charleston) eye, ear and throat specialist.

Dr. Seletz and his wife belonged to the Charleston Chess Club in the '30's and up to the beginning of the '40's. They were active members, too; even club officers. Several years, the doctor played in the city championship tourney, finishing, on occasions, as high as second or third. In 1944, he tied with others for second place, behind Dr. Werthammer, in the state chess event. So you see, Dr. Seletz was a prominent West Virginia over-the-board player before he took up correspondence play in such a big way. In fact, it was not so much that he deliberately dropped the ordinary games as it was that the press of his work, during the war, and the decline in organized chess in Charleston more or less forced him away from over-the-board chess.

WINS SEVEN MEDALS IN MAIL-BAG PLAY

Dr. Seletz turned more and more to correspondence chess. During the past six or seven years, he has won seven medals in this branch of the Royal Game, prizes for winning that many sections or tournaments. Two tournaments he won were the Iowa Centennial, conducted by the CCLA (Correspondence Chess League of America), and, more recently, the Southern Tournament, sponsored by the Southern Chess Association. It was necessary to defeat the strong Tonnesseean, Martin Southern, to win this last tourney. (Rather a coincidence: Martin Southern is a strong Southern chess player.)

In the Iowa Centennial, Dr. Seletz had a heart-breaking experience with his most dangerous rival: losing a piece due to recording his move incorrectly on the card he sent to the player. The doctor had been somewhat ahead in this game but, after the error, it was a case of, apparently, "there goes the ball game." However, the doctor did not give up. On the Sunday following the discovery of this mistake, he spent a half day analyzing the position and, believe it or not, he came up with a combination which won back his piece. He eventually won the game and the tournament! Correspondence chess has its thrills, too.

HAS 72 GAMES GOING AT PRESENT

Right now, Dr. Seletz is playing in nine different sections or tournaments, with an average of eight games in each. He was once close to 100 games--all going at once--being played by correspondence.

Most of his games are in CCIA events (the CCIA is an affiliate of the United States Chess Federation) but he also is playing in, at least, one CHESS REVIEW section. His most important section at present is in the finals of the North American CCIA Tournament for 1947. One of his opponents in this event is Dr. Bela Rosza, one of the strongest players in the Southwest. Dr. Seletz is also in a semi-final section of another North American tourney. It should be remembered that one must qualify for these semi-final and final sections by previous superior play in lower sections.

Dr. Seletz says one of his strongest opponents, at present, is Prof. James R. McClure. Other opponents include Maj. J. B. Holt of San Francisco (a former Washington State champion), Jack Moyse of Louisville, and many more players.

Incidentally, Dr. Seletz recently defeated the chess champion of Florida in a correspondence game.

Of course, there is nothing like over-the-board chess but correspondence chess can supply plenty of thrills. Besides, it presents a wonderful opportunity to study the game.

So far as Dr. Seletz is concerned, he has not forgotten how to play the game in the usual way. He came out of "retirement" to play for the Charleston club in its Carbide match and turned in a win. We would like to see Dr. Seletz back in the active swing of local chess activities, of course, but we, and the rest of local chess, can feel justifiably proud of his prowess in the correspondence chess field. He is giving Charleston chess a good reputation in the eyes of players in other parts of the United States.

FINANCES OF THE 1945-47 YEARBOOK

A few months ago, we said that as soon as all the reports were in, we'd give members a financial report on the 1945-47 WVCA Yearbook. Since then, we hadn't been able to find space to work it in. In this, however, the present editor's final issue, Secy. Holt told us to roam around and type out as many stencils as we wanted, so here is the report.

A total of about 200 copies were mimeographed, with 87 pages, $8\frac{1}{2}$ xll inches in size, on good quality paper, with end-papers and with stiff paper covers in colors. Here is the break-down on income and outgo:

RECEIPTS: Contributions (alphabetically) -- Robt. Bruce, New York, \$1; Lynn Cavendish \$1, Wm. Challinor \$1, Gene Collett \$7, Wm.R. Cuthbert \$2, A.C. Dobbs \$1, Allen DuVall \$1, Edw. M. Foy \$5; Walter Froelich, Syracuse, N.Y., \$1; J.B. Gee, Sacramento, Cal., \$1; Ray Griffin \$10, Wm.F. Hartling \$1, Dr. V.S. Hayward \$6, Reid Holt \$5, Kingsley Hughes \$1, Chas. Morgan \$1.75, Landis Marks \$10, Rudd T. Neel \$1; A.R. Phillips, Cleveland, \$5; Art Plueddemann, Akron, O., \$2; Wm. Schaeffer \$1, Jas. Schilling \$1, Fred H. Stoppel, Chicago, \$2; Maynard Wallace \$1, Dr. Siegfried Werthammer \$15, Frank Wisinski \$2.50, Paul Wisniewski \$2; total contributions, \$88.25. Books sold—Old WVCA Yearbooks at \$1 each to H.D. Burke, Cleveland Public Library, Wm.R. Cuthbert, Tem Eckenrode and Dr. V.S. Hayward \$6, total books sold, \$27, GRAND TOTAL RECEIPTS, \$115,25.

EXPENDITURES: Editing--typewriter rental, 3 mos. at \$3 a mo., \$9; postage, \$2.46; total editorial, \$11.46. Printing--95 stencils \$10.83, postage mailing completed stencils \$2.24, misc.mimeographing supplies \$1.85, mimeographing \$83.71, cover paper \$5.56, binding completed books, \$0.50; trimming books, \$3; total printing, \$107.69. Eistributing--Envelopes for mailing books \$4.08, postage (first mailing only) \$8.26; total distributing, \$12.34. GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES, \$131.49.

It will be noted receipts fell \$16.24 short of meeting expenses. This doesn't mean the Yearbook project went into the red. The WVCA still has on hand two or three dozen copies of the book which, after the end of the Association year (Sept.1), will be offered for sale, \$1 each. As with other editions of the Yearbook, all these copies eventually will be sold. There is still a little postage chargeable on later mailings of the Yearbook to new members. All in all, however, due to the generosity of members and non-members, the Association stands to make an eventual profit of anyway \$5 or \$10 on the book. As stated at the outset of the job, any money left over after all expises are paid will go into a fund for the publication of future Yearbooks.

To all who gave their support to this project, either financially or editori-

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS ASSOCIATION: President, William R. Cuthbert, 1104 Washington Avenue, Wheeling, W. Va. Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Reid Holt, 620 Churchill Drive, Charleston 4, W. Va.. to whom should be addressed all mail on Association business. Membership in the WVCA is \$1 a year, which includes subscription to--

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN, of which this is the final issue to be edited by Gene Collett. As of the next issue, the editor will be Robert L. Jamison, 1207 Virginia Street East, Charleston, W. Va., to whom should be addressed all news items for publication and all papers for exchange. Games for publication should be sent to the Games Editor, Dr. Siegfried Werthammer, 2008 North Englewood Road, Huntington, W. Va. The WVCA Publicity Director is Edward M. Foy, No. 4 Arlington Court, Charleston 1, W. Va., to whom should be sent within 24 hours data on all tournaments, team matches, elections and other newsworthy happenings for distribution nationally and through his Charleston newspaper columns.

NEW MEMBER

106 S. J. Young, Jr., 902 Sixth Street, Charleston, West Virginia

KOLTI AND STEINER TIE

Eddie Foy reports that Southern California won its annual chess match from Northern California, $26\frac{1}{2}$ - $24\frac{1}{2}$ (couldn't have been much closer). Honorary WVCA Member George Koltanowski tied with Herman Steiner of Los Angeles, U.S. Champion, at first board. Steiner won the state rapid transit championship.

ABOUT THE "LITTLE PAPERS"

Montgomery Major, editor of CHESS LIFE, the official publication of the United States Chess Federation, has asked us for an article on the various state and local chess papers, to be published sometime after the summer chess tournaments are over.

To date, our list or more or less active papers includes the following:

- (1) Bell Telephone Postal Chess Notes.
- (2) Bulletin of the Chess Club of the Oranges, New Jersey.
- (3) Bulletin of the Finger Lakes Chess Society, Newark, NEW YORK.
- (4) California Chess News.
- (5) Check, Weatt Chess Club, New York City.
- (6) Cleveland Chess Bulletin.
- (7) En Passant, Detroit,
- (8) En Passant, Pittsburgh.
- (9) Firestone Chess and Checker Club Bulletin, Akron, O.
- (10) Franklin Lightning, Ridley Park, Pa.
- (11) Goodrich Chess and Checker Club Bulletin, Akron, O.
- (12) Jamestown, N. Y.; YMCA Chess Club News.
- (13) Kansas State Chess News Letter.
- 14) Louisiana Chess News Letter.
- (15) Nebraska Chess Bulletin.
- (16) North Platte, Neb., Chess Club Bulletin.
- (17) Ohio State Chess Bulletin.
- (18) Pawn Roller, Bartlesville, Okla.
- (19) Pawnshop, Minneapolis.
- (20) Pennsylvania Chess Bulletin.
- (21) Washington (State) Chess Letter.
- (22) West Virginia Chess Bulletin.
- (43) Win, Lose or Draw, Willernie, Minn.

In addition of these 24, we have reports of two papers--one state, one local--in Michigan, but have seen no copies of them.

Will any editors, or others, having knowledge of these two papers or any other local, state or regional chess papers not listed here, please send information, including copy of the paper, if possible? Address: Gene Collett, 125 Meritt Avenue, Pittsburgh 27, Penna.

A FEW PARAGRAPHY BY WAY OF HAIL AND FAREWELL

It is 2 a.m. on the morning of July 11, 1949, and we are down to the business of finishing out the last page on our last Bulletin for the West Virginia Chess Association. We have been delayed by various things in finishing it up. Usually we knocked out the finals pages by the 3rd or the 4th of the month.Part of the delay is not chargeable to your retiring editor. For instance, we had to hold up, on orders of no less than authority than our Executive Secretary-Treasurer H. Reid Holt, until the Huntington Jaycess put their final okeh on the tourney plan and until the directors approved Bob Jamison's appointment as editor. But part of the delay was ours--we can't deny it.

We had thought we would feel quite happy cutting our last stencil for the WVCB. After all, it has been something of a job, grinding out the stencils, month after month, over the last eight years. We had fretted about it, more or less, ever since we moved out of West Virginia, had felt that really the Bulletin, a product as essentially West Virginian as Blackwater Falls or the New River Canyon, ought to be manufactured on West Virginia soil.

But now that the time had come to say goodbye to that unremitting task, we felt a curious reluctance to knock out the final pages, to write finish to so many years of what, after all, had been real fun.

We got our file of the Bulletins. Here is No. 1, dated August, 1941. We don't even have one of the hektographed originals—just a typewritten copy we knocked off. We glance at its lead article, "State Organization is Set Up," which starts out, "The West Virginia Chess Association was organized June 22 in Clarksburg..."

And that brings back memories of that first state tournament we attended ... The midnight meeting at Hammont and Harper's restaurant between the Clarksburg and Charleston players when the tournament plans were set up...the discovery that we had no tournament director...the unanimous decision of all present to name Collett as director, though he had never been to a tournament, much less directed one...his innocent acceptance of the appointment, unaware of the implications...his rushing home and spending the rest of the night setting up schedules to fit all contingencies (and arriving at one which kept him in hot water for years afterward because all the Clarksburg players got knocked out in the first round of play)...his sallying forth, sans sleep, to the tourney hall next morning...the drawing for positions... Ernie Johnson's timidity in his early-game advantage which suddenly vanished when Eddie Foy sacrificed a knight ... Bill Devericks' rough-and-tumble King's Gambit which came to grief when he made one bad move and Walt Crede, who subsequently won the meet, didn't give him a second chance... Bob Humphries' inspired defeat of John Hurt w hich went the other way when a three-way tie forced a replay The final round with four Charleston players -- Foy, Crede, Hurt and Bill Hartling slashing away at one another...the crucial game between Crede, with the black men, and Johnny Hurt, the 1939 champion...the horrified hush that ran over the tournament hall when Crede, with a mate in one, failed to see it -- and then almost lost!...

Yes, all this, in just one line from our very first Bulletin, eight years ago. It has been a grand eight years! May the next eight be as good!

Jene Oclow