
WEST VIRGINIA CHESS BULLETIN

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The interval between issues of our bulletin is longer than either the Editorial Staff or the membership desired. Dearth of interesting chess news is obviously the cause of this delay. Even for the present issue we must depend largely upon a few individual communications as well as information supplied by our exchanges. "Aut Scissors Aut Nullus" as the ill-fated "Literary Digest" used to remark.

OBITUARY NEWS

THOMAS J. SASSER, M.D., a colleague and personal friend of your Editor, died suddenly on February 14, 1952 at the VA Hospital of Huntington.

Though his passing was sudden, his health has been impaired for several years. In 1948, he received extensive surgical attention.

Shortly after this operation he developed an interest in chess and has attended many of our tournaments, and played in several; beginner though he considered himself.

At the age of 53, his death resulted from an acute episode of chronic coronary disease. His two sons also play chess, but neither of them live in Huntington.

NOTES

Dr. Werthammer and Don Burdick have recently given creditable exhibitions of "Sans Voir" chess. Our Games Editor promises publication of some examples.

Recently a school tournament, at the elementary level, was sponsored by the Huntington Y.M.C.A. Chess Club, which awarded a trophy to the winner, Teddy Mayer of Oley School. The unselfish efforts of Don Burdick and Paul Sayre in teaching the "young idea".

how to push"(pawns) is perhaps blossoming, if not actually bearing fruit.

CHESS STORY

Reverend Mr. Erhard of Wheeling submitted the following extract from the "Lutheran." Mr. Erhard's interest in chess is well known, and he has advised his friends that but for the fact that he "works" on the Sabbath, he would be happy to compete in our tournaments.

"Before Aleksandrs Liepnieks arrived in Lincoln, Neb. from a displaced persons camp in Europe, he looked forward to getting a decent job in America in his chosen profession-accounting. After all, he had been a top-flight accountant in his native Latvia before a Han, an Idea, and a War upset his routine.

But white collar workers are not in demand on this side of the Atlantic ... if they're 'foreigners'. Although Aleksandrs spoke English well, he discovered quickly that a janitor's job with Goodyear in Lincoln was the best he could hope for.

But he wasn't bitter. He found the YMCA and its Chess Club a friendly place to spend the leisure time. It wasn't long before he gave a simultaneous exhibition against 26 Lincolnites.

He won all but one of the games, and newspapers carried an account of his performance.

Next morning, a boss at the factory approached Aleksandrs with a newspaper in his hand.

'Are you the guy who did this?'

'Well,' stammered the DP, 'yes! I am!'

'You should be able to do something better than sweeping the yard! After all, playing chess against 26 fellows at once must require some brains!'

The DP didn't offer any comment on his mental capacities, but did remind his boss: 'You remember I once applied for a job in your bookkeeping department!'

Biting his lip, the boss said nothing. Within the hour, Aleksandrs was at a desk in the bookkeeping department. Next day, he got a raise and the comment: 'You handle columns of figures as well as chess queens and knights!'

Dick Gutcliffe

Murray Scott, now of Birmingham, Alabama, sent the association a generous cash contribution shortly after the holidays.

The co-champions of West Virginia should not be content to leave matters in statue-quo without at least an attempt, unofficial though it may be, to reduce this redundancy being made. Here with the Huntington co-champion issues his personal challenge to each and everyone and proposes a double round-robin to be played on three successive Sundays (April 20, 27, and May 4, 1952), one round in Charleston, one round in South Charleston or St. Albans, and a round in Huntington.

GALES SECTION

A good game by Morgan from the Tri-State Junior against one of the victorious Pennsylvanians. DuVall and Hurt play an original French Defense worthy of their ability. A "Sans Voir" win by Purdick against your editor, most creditable because of the excellent defense. Another nice win by Morgan against a dull defense in postal play. Finally, the lively miniature: Hurt versus a newcomer to West Virginia chess, Dr. Hornstein.

White: E. Hickman
Black: G. Morgan

17 Nc3ch QxN
18 Q-N3 K-R

30 Q-B4 N-B3
31 K-R BxP
32 P-N3 B-N3
33 P-N5??

Ruy Lopez

Forced to prevent
loss of the exchange.

1 P-K4 P-K4
2 N-KB3 N-QB3
3 B-N5 P-QB3
4 B-R4 N-B3
5 O-O B-K2
6 P-Q4 PxP
7 P-K5 N-Q4
8 B-N3 N-N3
9 NcP

19 B-R6 P-B3
20 B-N5 Q-K
21 P-KP4

The advance of
this P is easily
blockaded. Black
has strong play on
the K-side due to
White's two weak Ps.

After the text
White expected 33
... Q-N3 (not ...
PxR 34 QxP ch and
mate in one) 34
RxB and 35 Q-P4
mate, but he is
sadly disappointed.
An interesting
but unsuccessful
alternative is 33
QxP?!
PxR 34 RxB QxR!
(not PxR 35 RxB
mate) 35 RxBch
RxB 36 PxQ and
White is a piece
down.

9 R-K saves the
P with a good game.

9 NcP
10 Q-K2 P-Q3
11 P-KP4 N-N3

21 Q-D4
22 Q-P4 N-N5
23 Q-R1 QxPP
24 B-B2 Q-P4
25 B-N3 N-K4
26 R-K2 B-Q2
27 B-K Q-N5
28 Q-B2 Q-Q5
29 R-B3 Q-B4

33 QxR
34 Resigns

Provoking the P
advance in order to
gain control of the
square K4 (Black's)
and have possibilities
of counter attack.

12 P-B5 N-K4
13 N-KB3 NcHch
14 QxN O-O
15 N-B3 N-Q2
16 N-Q5 N-K4

White is gaining
ground on the K-side
so Black has to play
with the utmost care.
The text stops a lat-
er R-sacrifice.

White: A. DuVall
Black: J. Hurt
French Defense

1 P-K4 P-K3
2 P-Q4 P-Q4

3 N-Q2 P-KB4

Something new,
but quite good.

4 P-K5 P-B4
5 P-QB3 P-KP
6 P-KP N-QB3
7 N-K2 Q-N3
8 N-QB3 B-Q2
9 P-N3 R-E
10 B-Q2 N-N5

Threatens mate!

11 B-B3 B-R5
12 N-B4 NXP

Black has a very
good game because of
his pressure on the
Q-wing. But the text
is premature; better
is 12 ... K-E2 and
13 Q-R5ch P-N3 14 NXP
P-KN 15 QXP N-B7ch
wins.

13 Q-R5ch P-N3
14 NXP P-KN
15 QXP K-B2
16 Q-R7ch?

A loss of tempo
which should lose the
game. 16 N-Q2 is the
move to maintain the
advantage, though Black
has plenty of counter-
play.

16 B-N2
17 N-B5

17 N-Q2 is still
preferable.

17 N-K2
18 P-KN B-B7?

18 ... P-KP1 wins
at once.

19 B-N2

The quiet begin-
ning of a pretty
combination, which
not only saves the
Q but wins the game!

19 N-R3

Threatens 20 ...
P-KP1.

20 P-KP1 P-KB
21 P-K5ch K-X

Forced since 21
K-B3 or B allows the
N fork and 21 K-K2
loses the B and P.
The rest is easy.

22 QXP P-B2
23 Q-KN P-KN
24 QXPch K-Q
25 P-K7ch KXP
26 QXP P-K2
27 P-KP P-KP
28 K-Q2 B-K5
29 N-P1 K-Q2

Black resigns.

White: Don Burdick
Black: Dr. Hayward

King's Gambit

1 P-K4 P-K4
2 P-KB4 P-KP
3 N-KB3 B-D4

This provokes a
good move with gain
of tempo for White,
but it seems that
Black plans to annoy
White's strong cen-
ter.

4 P-Q4 B-N3
5 B-B4 P-Q2
6 QBP Q-B3
7 B-KN5 Q-N3
8 N-B3 P-KB3
9 B-B4 N-QB3

Not 9 ... Qx
NP because of 10
P-KN.

10 O-O B-R6
11 B-KN3 B-N5
12 B-D2

White's posi-
tion appears o-
verwhelming, but
Black proceeds to
dent the imposing
center by winning
a P. White direc-
tly regains the
P, but the posi-
tion is greatly
simplified.

13 B-KN
14 BXPch QxB
15 QXPch KxQ
16 P-KNch N-B3
17 BXP RPKB
18 N-Q5 QP-QB

White's ex-
change combina-
tion was pretty,
but Black can
draw by aggres-
sive play. Far
better is 18 ...
B-B4 (if 19 Kx
BP? P-Q2) and
after 19 P-QN4
P-B5.

19 P-B5 KP-K
20 QP-KE P-K3
21 QP-D4 P-QN4
22 P-KP4 P-B3
23 N-KP P-KN
24 BXPch P-KB
25 P-KN4 K-K3

25 ... P-K
followed by P-K4
draws. White's
manuever B-B5-R5
should be pre-
vented.

26 K-B2 K-K4?

The losing move; ... R-KN-KN3 still holds everything. The end is very nicely executed by the blindfold player.

27 K-K3 R-K3
28 R-B5ch K-K3
29 R-R5 R-KR
30 P-N5 EPxP
31 PxP K-B2
32 RxP RKR
33 PxR K-N3
34 K-B4 KxP
35 K-B5 K-N2
36 K-K3 P-Q4
37 PxP PxP
38 KxP K-B2
39 K-B5 Resigns

White: C. Morgan
Huntington, WVa.
Black: Sol Epstein
Bronx, N. Y.

English Opening

1 P-QB4 P-K4
2 N-EB3 N-KB3
3 N-EC N-B3
4 P-Q3 B-N5
5 B-Q2 O-O
6 P-KN3 P-Q3
7 B-N2 B-Q3
8 O-O P-KR2

8 ... Q-B and ... B-R6 is better.

9 P-QR2 BxN
10 BxB R-N
11 P-QN4 P-QR3
12 P-KR3 Q-B
13 K-R2 R-K

Now White fixes the center. Black has to wait until his opponent decides which side to attack on.

14 P-K4 B-K3
15 P-QN P-QN3
16 P-QR4 N-K2
17 P-B5 P-QN4
18 R-QR

Loss of tempo.

18 N-N2
19 N-Q2!

White breaks the center. His QB becomes powerful..

19 N-R2

19 ... N-B and 20 ... B-Q2 is strong.

20 P-B4 KPxP

Preferable is 20 ... B-Q2, but White should still win.

21 NPxP P-B4?

The losing move. 21 ... B-Q2 allows longer resistance.

22 Q-R5 N/3-B
23 PxBP BxP
24 B-Q5ch B-K2

24 ... K-R2 is a little better. Now White breaks through with some nice little combinations.

25 R-KN P-K2
26 QxP P-N3
27 P-B5!

A pseudo-sacrifice of a piece which fatally exposes Black's K.

27 BxB
28 PxB R-K7ch
29 K-N3 Q-Q2
30 PxNch NxP

If 30 ... QxP
31 Q-N5ch and QxB.
31 Q-N6ch K-B
32 QR-KBch B-B2
33 QxN

Black didn't reply, so an adjudication was made. Black has no perpetual check, so the extra piece decides in White's favor.

White: Dr. Hornstein
Black: J. Hurt

French Defense

1 P-K4 P-K3
2 P-Q4 P-Q4
3 N-Q2 P-KB4
4 PxB PxB
5 N-KB3 N-KB3
6 B-Q3 N-B3
7 O-O B-K2
8 R-K O-O
9 P-B4 PxB
10 BxPch K-R
11 N-N5 N-Q4
12 N/2-B3 P-B5
13 N-K6 BxN
14 RxB N-N3
15 B-Q3 NxB

Black hoped to regain the piece with a P-plus and a strong attack, but White is able to extricate himself.

16 HxN QxN
17 RxB QR-Q

Black relied on this.

18 Q-N4 Q-B3
19 Q-R3 P-KR3
20 R-K6??

RxP or R-K wins.
20 RxB
21 RxQ R-Q8mate

En Passant of Pittsburgh has a new editor in the chair-Bill Byland of rating fame-no less. His "CREDO" and subsequent remarks are entertaining and to the point. Again he is to be praised ~~and~~, as well as congratulated for assuming a thankless job.

The cover of the current Chess Review is most timely, and should be an incentive to patriotic and public-spirited players.

Lectures, teaching of rudiments, as well as simultaneous exhibition or over-the-board play, should be welcomed by the management of any hospital.

Notice should be given and taken of the fact that Jack Spence of 208 So. 25 Ave., Omaha 2, Nebraska, in addition to editing the Nebraska Chess Bulletin, has published several tournament books: Omaha, '49; So. Fallsburg, '48; Pan-American, '45; among others. Application to Mr. Spence will bring prompt reply.

Noteworthy is the publication of a Lasker-Stenitz tournament book(world's championship, 1894) by the California Chess Reporter. Dr. H. Ralston, 184 Edgewood Ave., San Francisco, Cal. is Editor.

Chess Life finally did mention our Tri-State tourney and even published a game, Byland vs Hurt,-inadvertently (no doubt) crediting the annotation of same to Kit Crittenden instead of our own Dr. Werthammer.

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