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Spassky at the Plaza, New Zealand, tournament said he would play hard in future contests. A man of his word, as he was up with the leaders at the World Cup in Belfort. In the foreground Larry Christiansen.

Kasparov wins the Amsterdam Elite Tournament

Gerald Abrahams Recalled

33 Games — Delightful Play

see full list of contents inside

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Vol. 108 No. 7

CONTENTS

- 273 Optiebeurs Tournament
- 281 Watson, Farley & Williams International
- 282 Viewpoint
- 284 GM Zoltan Ribli Annotates
- 286 Haninge Tournament
- 287 News from Overseas
- 292 Gerald Abrahams recalled
- 301 Reviews and New Books in Brief
- 302 News from the British Isles
- 304 Correspondence
- 305 Obituary
- 306 Who is Out There?
- 308 Odds and Ends
- 311 Quotes & Queries
- 313 Correspondence Chess
- 316 Studies
- 318 Problem World

European Options Exchange Tournament

12-29 v

The Optiebeurs tournament in Amsterdam attracted the top three rated players in the world to celebrate the tenth anniversary of its founding. It is rare indeed to find the world title holder and his nearest challenger soon crossing swords after a championship match, but the financial sector in Holland has a fine record of investing big sums in chess tournaments.

Of course, as a contest for four players, meeting four times, it is more accurately described as a match-tournament along the lines of those great predecessors St Petersburg 1895-6, New York 1927 and the Hague-Moscow 1948. In these three earlier events there were no rank outsiders. Here, in the Dutch chess capital, a second Dutchman was playing and it was only to be expected that the top three would be aiming for near-maximum scores against John van der Wiel. How well they achieved the aim may be seen from the final table.

	Kasparov				Karpov				Timman				van der Wiel				
1 Kasparov	●	●	●	●	½	1	½	1	½	½	1	½	1	½	1	1	9
2 Karpov	½	0	½	0	●	●	●	●	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	1	6½
3 Timman	½	½	0	½	½	½	½	½	●	●	●	●	1	0	½	½	5½
4 van der Wiel	0	½	0	0	0	0	½	0	0	1	½	½	●	●	●	●	3

Theoretically Category 17!

Kasparov began by beating the predestined bottom man in the first round and carried on in much the same vein. To ensure a reasonable alternation of colours, the normal pairing table had to be modified so that K-K encounters came in rounds 3, 5, 9 and 11. In round 3 Kasparov adopted a different line at move four compared to the match in Seville, and had to fight hard to overcome a slight disadvantage. In their second game Kasparov undertook a sacrifice that was good enough for a draw, but later went wrong and should have lost. Their third encounter was also a Grünfeld, and, again, a draw resulted after a fluctuating struggle.

In the 11th round, when Kasparov, 2750 currently, was already well ahead of the field he went hard for the win seeking not so much first prize which was already in his grasp, but extra rating points, to bring him closer to the maximum ever achieved: Fischer's 2785 in 1972. After a long manoeuvring battle White pulled off the win and a last round-draw against Timman, again Black in a Grünfeld enabled Kasparov to raise his rating to 2770, as well as go home richer by about £10,000. Hence, for the Champion, the better historical parallel seems to be Bled and San Remo of Alekhine's day rather than the three events mentioned above.

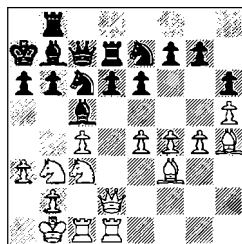
The contest between the two Dutchmen proved much closer. Would the organisers have given Timman a better chance if they had brought in a third foreign player?

□ Kasparov *Round 1*
 ■ van der Wiel *Queen's Indian*
 1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 ♗a6

5 ♖c2 ♗b7 6 ♘c3 c5 7 e4 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♗c5 9 ♘b3 ♘c6 10 ♗g5 a6 11 0-0-0 ♖c7 12 ♗b1 0-0-0

12 ... ♗e7 is far less risky.

13 ♖d2 d6 14 f3 h6 15 f4 ♘e5 16 h4 ♗b8 17 h5 ♗d7 18 ♗c1 ♗c8 19 ♗e2 ♗a7 20 ♗hd1 ♗dd8 21 g4 ♘g8 22 ♗g3 ♘e7 23 f4 ♘5c6 24 ♗f3 ♗b8 25 ♗h4 ♗d7



26 ♘b5+ axb5 27 cxb5 ♘a5

Kasparov commented to the bulletin team "What a pity he didn't play the 'main line': 27 ... ♘d8 28 ♘xc5 bxc5 29 ♗xc5 dxc5 30 ♖xd7 ♖xf4 31 ♗d6 ♗a8 32 ♖c7 ♗xe4+ 33 ♗xe4+ ♖xe4+ 34 ♗a1 winning."

28 ♘xa5 bxa5 29 ♗xc5! dxc5 30 ♖xd7 ♖xf4 31 ♗d6 1-0 (1.44-1.56).

31 ... ♗a8 32 ♖c7 wins.

□ van der Wiel *Round 2*

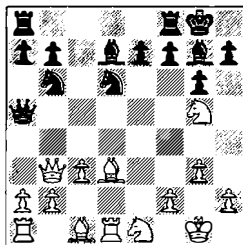
■ Karpov *Caro-Kann*

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♘g5 ♘b6

No sacrifices on e6 or f7, please!

6 ♘f3 g6 7 c3 ♗g7 8 ♖b3 ♘h6 9 ♗e2 0-0 10 0-0 ♘f5 11 ♗d1 ♖c7 12 g3? ♘d6 13 ♘e5 c5 14 dxc5 ♖xc5 15 ♘d3 ♖f5 16 ♘e1 ♗d7 17 ♗d3 ♖a5

The threat is 18 ... ♗a4. White's pieces are unco-ordinated (see diagram, next column).

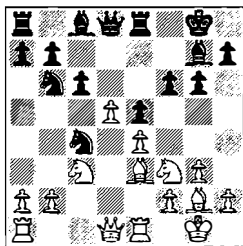


18 ♖b4? ♖xb4 19 cxb4 ♖fd8 20 ♖b1
 ♗a4 21 ♖d2 ♗b5 22 ♗g3 ♗c4 23
 ♗xc4 ♗xc4 24 b3 ♗c3 25 ♖bb2

A horrible congestion!

♗d5 26 ♖bc2 ♗e4 27 ♖xd8+ ♖xd8
 28 ♖d2 ♖xd2 29 ♗xd2 ♗xa2 30 b5
 ♗c3-31 ♗xc3 ♗xc3 32 ♗f1 ♗d5 33
 ♗e2 ♗xb3 34 ♗d3 ♗a5 35 ♗d4
 ♗xe1 36 ♗xb3 ♗xf2 37 ♗a5 ♗b6 38
 ♗xb7 ♗f8 39 ♗c4 ♗e8 40 ♗b4 ♗d7
 0-1 (1.59-1.57).

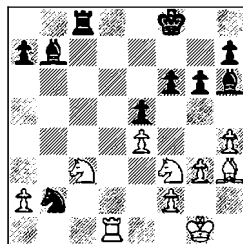
□ Karpov Round 3
 ■ Kasparov Neo-Grünfeld
 1 d4 ♗f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♗f3 ♗g7 4 g3 d5
 5 cxd5 ♗xd5 6 ♗g2 ♗b6 7 ♗c3 ♗c6
 8 e3 0-0 9 0-0 ♖e8 10 ♖e1 e5 11 d5 ♗a5
 12 e4 c6 13 ♗g5 f6 14 ♗e3 ♗ac4



Typical Kasparov, surrendering a pawn for the initiative.

15 dxc6 ♗xe3 16 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 17 cxb7
 ♗xb7 18 ♖xe3 ♗h6 19 ♖ee1 ♗c4 20
 ♖ad1 ♗f8 21 h4 ♖ac8 22 ♗h3 ♖xd1
 23 ♖xd1 ♗xb2 (see diagram) 24 ♖d7
 ♖xc3 25 ♖xb7 ♗c4 26 ♗h2 ♗d6 27
 ♖xh7 ♗g7 28 h5 g×h5 29 ♖xh5
 ♖c1+ 30 ♗g2 ♖c2 31 ♗e6 ♗xe4 32
 ♗g4 ♗d2 33 ♗b3 a5 34 ♖f5 ♗d6 35

♖h5 ♗e4 36 ♖f5 ♗d6 37 ♖h5 ♗e4
 1/2-1/2 (1.58-1.55)



□ Kasparov Round 5
 ■ Karpov Caro-Kann

Notes by John Littlewood

1 e4 c6

Understandably, Karpov reverts to the defence which gave Kasparov such problems in Seville, rather than allowing the Ruy Lopez which occasioned traumatic moments apt to scar a player for life. Little does he know that the typical Kasparov-Karpov scenario is to be reenacted in this game too: a brilliant defence to an over-sharp attack, followed by the inevitable time-scramble in a complex position, with the defender finally not only throwing away the win but even losing. A couple of more games such as this and Karpov will probably never recover psychologically ...

2 d4 d5 3 ♗d2 d×e4 4 ♗xe4 ♗d7

This move has almost superseded the standard 4 ... ♗f5 within the last few years, although the aggressive 4 ... ♗f6 still pops up from time to time. With regard to the latter, it is worth mentioning that the reply 5 ♗g3 is rightly viewed with some suspicion, mainly because Black is not compelled to shut in his QB by 5 ... e6 and can instead reply 5 ... c5! after which his QN reaches the more active square. The alternative 5 ... e5?! is perhaps too optimistic and gives White the better game after 6 ♗f3! e×d4 7 ♗xd4 ♗e7 8 ♗df5!

5 ♗f3

We have recently seen a number of attacking ideas here, all based on attempts to exploit the temporary weakness of e6 and f7, ranging from 5 ♖c4, with which Tal brilliantly beat Speelman at Subotica, via 5 ♖d3, with which Nunn has had some success, to arrive finally at the strange-looking 5 ♔g5 which waits for Black's reaction before committing the KB to c4 or d3. The fact that Kasparov chooses none of these clearly indicates that, against best defence, the move 4... ♔d7 is not to be refuted out of hand, which should by no means deter players from trying!

5... ♔g6 6 ♔g3!

I give this an exclamation mark because it is surely the correct psychological choice in the present game, presuming of course that Kasparov has no intention of accepting a quick draw. In Seville, he had failed to make any impression on Karpov with the latter's preferred continuation 6 ♔xf6+ after 6... ♔xf6 7 c3 ♔g4 8 h3 ♔xf3 9 ♗xf3 ♗d5! with a rapid draw (14th game) and so adopts a move which I associate with Tal, in view of a number of fine victories he has achieved with it.

There is a certain logic behind the move if we consider the Rubinstein variation of the French Defence after 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♔c3 dxe4 4 ♔xe4 ♔d7 5 ♔f3 ♔g6 when 6 ♔g3? c5! immediately gives Black a good game. By comparison, in this Caro-Kann line, since Black is now practically forced to play 6... e6 shutting in his QB (enterprising players could try 6... g6!? 7 h4 ♔g7 8 h5 0-0!?, if only to spite all the critics...), White has gained a useful tempo whilst following the precept of avoiding exchanges when you have more space. Admittedly, from g3 the knight cannot join in the central struggle as effectively as the enemy knight he has just refused to exchange, but it is well situated for the

coming attack on the K-side.

6... e6 7 ♖d3 ♔e7

Theorists consider 7... c5 at once to be preferable, but we would reach the same position by transposition, since Karpov does not intend to take on d4 until later and presumably plans to capture on c5 with the knight, if White takes the pawn. The famous game Tal-Vasyukov (Kiev, 1964-5) went 7... c5 8 0-0 cxd4 9 ♔xd4 ♔c5 10 ♔f3 0-0 11 ♗e2 with some initiative to White. If here 10 c3 Black plays 10... ♔xd4 with play against the isolated QP, as in the interesting game Tal-Flesch (L'vov, 1981) 8 0-0 c5 9 ♗e2 0-0 10 ♖d1

Note that, after 10 c3, Black does best to play 10... b6 avoiding the exchange of pawns, since 10... cxd4 11 ♔xd4! ♔c5 12 ♔c2 is good for White and 11... ♔c5 would lose a tempo on the Flesch game. Kasparov would of course prefer to play his QR to d1, the other rook being useful on f1 or e1, but he has little choice, as 10 c4 or 10 b3 allow 10... cxd4 11 ♔xd4 ♔c5 forcing the exchange of the bishop. It is instructive to see how this awkward positioning of the rooks will plague him throughout the subsequent tactics.

10... ♗c7 11 c4 cxd4 12 ♔xd4 a6 13 b3 ♖e8

Although 14 ♔df5 exf5 15 ♗xe7 is not a serious threat at the moment because of 15... ♖e8 with good play for Black, it will sooner or later be important to guard the bishop and prepare additional protection for the e6 pawn by providing a retreat on f8 for the knight or bishop.

However, since this placing of the rook and, in particular, the loss of time involved, soon gives Black cause for anxiety, the immediate 13... b6 is well worth consideration.

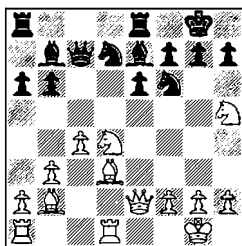
14 ♖b2 b6

And now, to be consistent, he should play 14... ♔f8. Karpov's unusual

indecision here and on his next move allows White to launch a highly dangerous attack. If, in fact, the ex-World Champion deliberately engineered all this with a view to refuting Kasparov's "unsound" play, he has my profound admiration and profuse apologies, but few top players would enter the coming complications of their own free will against an opponent of Kasparov's stature.

There is, of course, another possible explanation: subconsciously, Karpov must harbour a burning desire to beat Kasparov at his own game and, to be fair, he comes within a whisker of doing so during the next fascinating stage of the game ...

15 $\text{d} \times \text{h}5$ $\text{b}7$



If instead 15 ... $\text{d} \times \text{h}5$ we would have the first intimation of the fireworks to come, with 16 $\text{d} \times \text{e}6!$ $\text{f} \times \text{e}6$ (16 ... $\text{d} \text{f}4$ 17 $\text{c} \times \text{e}4!$) 17 $\text{c} \times \text{h}5$ $\text{c} \text{f}8$ (if 17 ... $\text{g}6$ 18 $\text{d} \times \text{g}6$ $\text{d} \text{f}6$ 19 $\text{d} \times \text{h}7+$! wins) 18 $\text{d} \times \text{g}7+$ $\text{c} \times \text{g}7$ 19 $\text{c} \times \text{h}7+$ $\text{c} \text{f}6$ (19 ... $\text{c} \text{f}8$ 20 $\text{d} \text{g}6$ mates) 20 $\text{c} \text{g}6+$ $\text{c} \text{e}5$ 21 $\text{c} \text{g}3+$ winning the unguarded queen, a recurring theme, as we shall see. However, White's next sacrifice could still be prevented by 15 ... $\text{d} \text{f}8$, safer than 15 ... $\text{d} \text{f}8$ when there are possible combinations involving the loose rook on a8.

16 $\text{d} \times \text{e}6!$?

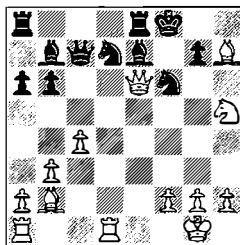
Presumably, if Kasparov had foreseen all the ramifications of this sacrifice, he might have decided against it, but the

move is not easy to resist, especially when it is a case of now or never. There are, in fact, so many opportunities for Black to go wrong that Karpov deserves great credit for the way in which he manages to steer a course successfully through all the complications. Nevertheless, the relentless time-factor cannot be ignored and eventually takes its toll.

16 ... $\text{f} \times \text{e}6$ 17 $\text{c} \times \text{e}6+$ $\text{c} \text{f}8!$

Forced, since 17 ... $\text{c} \text{h}8$ loses at once to 18 $\text{c} \text{f}7$ $\text{d} \times \text{h}5$ (18 ... $\text{d} \text{f}8$ to 19 $\text{d} \times \text{f}6$) 19 $\text{c} \times \text{h}5$ $\text{d} \text{f}8$ 20 $\text{c} \text{f}7!$ $\text{d} \text{e}6$ 21 $\text{c} \times \text{e}6$ $\text{d} \text{f}6$ 22 $\text{c} \text{f}5$ or here 18 ... $\text{c} \text{g}8$ 19 $\text{d} \times \text{f}6!$ $\text{d} \times \text{f}6$ 20 $\text{d} \times \text{f}6$ $\text{c} \text{c}6$ 21 $\text{d} \text{d}5$ etc. Note the significance of Black's unguarded queen once again and also the need for correct timing, with 19 $\text{d} \times \text{f}6?$ losing to 19 ... $\text{d} \times \text{f}6$ 20 $\text{d} \times \text{f}6$ $\text{c} \text{c}6!$, yet another recurring tactical idea.

18 $\text{d} \times \text{h}7!$



It is too late to turn back now, even though this move leads to the forced loss of another piece. Clearly, if Black captures either piece, it is mate in one, so he has three main defences.

18 ... $\text{d} \text{c}5!$

Undoubtedly the correct choice, but I wonder how long Karpov spent analysing the alternatives of 18 ... $\text{c} \text{c}6$ and 18 ... $\text{d} \text{c}5$ before opting for the superior knight move? In the first case, he can exchange queens but could not have been too happy with the position arising after 18 ... $\text{c} \text{c}6$ 19 $\text{d} \text{f}4!$ $\text{c} \times \text{e}6$ (19 ... $\text{d} \times \text{h}7??$ 20 $\text{d} \text{g}6$ mate) 20 $\text{d} \times \text{e}6+$ $\text{c} \text{f}7$ 21 $\text{d} \text{g}5+$! $\text{c} \text{f}8$ when White can either

take the draw or continue 22 ♖g6 ♜ec8 23 ♜e6+ ♜g8 24 ♜xg7 ♜xg7 25 ♜xd7 26 ♜xg6 ♜xe7 followed by 27 ♜e6; or here 24 ... ♜f8 25 ♜f5! ♜xg6 26 ♜xe7+ ♜xe7 27 ♜xf6 with 4 pawns or the piece.

In the second case, the tempting pressure on f2 is offset by the fact that White can play (18 ... ♜c5) 19 ♜f5! (19 ♜xg7!? is interesting too) ♜e4 20 ♜g5 ♜xh5 21 ♜xh5 when 21 ... ♜f6 fails to 22 ♜xf6 gxf6 23 ♜xe4 ♜xe4 24 ♜h8+ winning the rook on a8, and 21 ... ♜xh7 22 ♜xh7 ♜e5 allows 23 b4! ♜xf2+ (23 ... ♜xb4 24 f4!) 24 ♜xf2 ♜g4+ 25 ♜g1 winning. After the text-move, it is suddenly the attacker who is under pressure, mainly because 19 ♜f5 now loses to 19 ... ♜c4 20 ♜g5 ♜e6!, a vitally important difference.

All this means that Kasparov is compelled to retreat his queen to h3, which entails the "sacrifice" of a second piece. However, Karpov is already getting short of time; Malcolm Pein tells us that by move 23 he had only two minutes for 17 moves?! This gives us some indication of the taxing problems he had to solve within the space of eight or nine moves. 19 ♜h3 ♜xh7!?

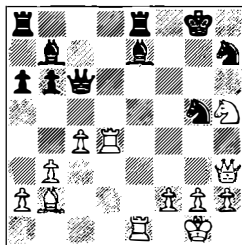
Theoretically the best move, as the further course of the game shows, but from a practical viewpoint it may have been more sensible for Black to be satisfied with a piece for three pawns whilst retaining his useful protective pawn on g7. Let us quickly consider a few possibilities: if 19 ... ♜c8 20 ♜f5 ♜xh5 21 ♜xh5 ♜xf5 22 ♜xf5+ (22 ♜h8+ ♜f7 23 ♜xg7+ ♜e6 24 ♜d5! may be even better) ♜g8, White has 23 b4 ♜a4 24 ♜e6+ ♜f8 (24 ... ♜h7 25 ♜d5!) 25 ♜e5! ♜c8 26 ♜g6 ♜f6 27 ♜xf6 gxf6 28 ♜xf6+ ♜g8 29 ♜d3 winning; or 19 ... ♜ce4? 20 ♜g6 ♜ed8 21 ♜xg7! ♜xg7 22 ♜h7+ followed by mate; or 19 ... ♜e4? 20 ♜xf6 ♜xf6 21 ♜xf6 gxf6

22 ♜xe4 ♜xe4 23 ♜d7 winning; or 19 ... ♜xh5 20 ♜xh5 ♜f4 (20 ... ♜c6 21 ♜d5!) 21 b4! 21 b4!? ♜a4 22 ♜g6 ♜h6 23 ♜f5+ ♜g8 24 ♜c1! ♜h4 25 ♜e6+ ♜h8 26 g3! winning, although Black has better here with 21 ... ♜e4 22 ♜xe4 ♜xe4 23 ♜h8+ ♜f7 24 ♜xg7+ ♜e6 when 25 ♜d5!? seems to be White's sole chance of maintaining complication; or, last but not least, the line Karpov would have found the easiest to control, 19 ... ♜c6! 20 ♜f4 ♜xh7 21 ♜xh7 ♜h6! with even chances.

20 ♜xg7+* ♜g8 21 ♜b2! ♜c6!

Again the best move, since 21 ... ♜g5 allows 22 ♜c3! ♜ce6 23 h4 ♜c6 24 ♜d5 winning, and 21 ... ♜e4?? 22 ♜e6 mate is even worse. Now that Black's queen controls the e6 square whilst maintaining the threat of mate on g2, it leaves his knights free to join in the action. In addition, Karpov can now counter the obvious 22 ♜g4+ with 22 ... ♜g5 23 h4 ♜e4! (but not 23 ... ♜e6? 24 ♜d4!) 24 ♜g3 ♜xh4! 25 ♜xh4 ♜f3+ 26 gxf3 ♜xh4 giving back material under favourable circumstances; or here 25 ♜e5 (25 ♜c3 ♜xf2+!) ♜f3+ 26 gxf3 ♜g5+ 27 ♜g3 ♜xf3 with similar results. It is good psychology on Kasparov's part to play a different, albeit somewhat dubious, move, since it was apparently here that Karpov used eight of his last ten minutes trying to work out a refutation of White's idea.

22 ♜d4?! ♜e4! 23 ♜e1?? ♜eg5!!



Exploiting the weakness of White's

back rank, but Karpov now has less than ten seconds for each of his moves

24 ♖g4 ♖a3! 25 ♖c3 ♖xe1+?

What a pity! Miles points out that 25 ... ♖b2! wins at once and I'm sure he's right. However, Black is still winning, as we shall see.

26 ♖xe1 ♖e8?

Elimination of material is the right idea but the simplest method is to take immediate advantage of the placing of White's queen and bishop by playing 26 ... ♖e6! 27 ♖d1 (27 ♖d2 ♖xg4 28 ♖xg4 ♖d8! wins) ♖e8 28 ♖d8 (28 ♖d2 ♖e2!) ♖x d8 29 ♖x d8 29 ♖x d8+ ♖f8! 30 ♖d2 ♖g4! 31 ♖g3 ♖d1+ 32 ♖f1 ♖h3+! 33 g×h3 ♖f3 forcing mate; or here 30 ♖b4 ♖g6! (not 30 ... ♖g4 31 ♖f6+!) 31 ♖g3 (31 h4 ♖e6) ♖b1+ 32 ♖f1 ♖h3+ 33 g×h3 ♖e4 34 f3 ♖x f3 35 ♖d2 ♖x b4 winning. However, not even a Karpov can be expected to find all this in a time-scramble.

27 ♖d2 ♖c1

Now 27 ... ♖e6 28 h4! produces a totally different situation and 27 ... ♖e4 allows 28 ♖d8+.

28 h4! ♖x d2 20 ♖x d2 ♖e1+ 30 ♖h2 ♖e4 31 f4 ♖e6 32 ♖d8+ ♖f7 33 ♖d7+ ♖f8 34 ♖x e6 35 ♖x e6 35 h×g5

It seems even better to eliminate the bishop, as 35 ♖x b7 ♖f7 36 f5! ♖d6 37 g4 ♖f6 38 ♖x f6+ ♖x f6 39 ♖g3 surely gives Black more problems than the game continuation. Of course, this may be another example of Kasparov deliberately choosing the less obvious move in his opponent's time-trouble. Presumably, all will be revealed when we see his own notes to the game!

35 ... ♖e7 36 ♖x e7 ♖x e7 37 g4 ♖e4 38 ♖g3 ♖b1 39 a3 1-0.

* Zaitsev calls this an error, whereas 20 ♖x g7 should force an early draw. Karpov thought 20 b4 stronger.

Here Black lost on time, just as he was about to equalize with 39 ... ♖a2 40 b4 ♖x c4 when it would probably be too risky to try for a win by bringing his knight over to the Q-side. A draw would have been a fair result for both players, so one cannot help feeling sorry for the ex-World Champion.

Despite, or perhaps because of, the indicated errors, this game can be added to the list of dramatic clashes between top players which have a special charm of their own.

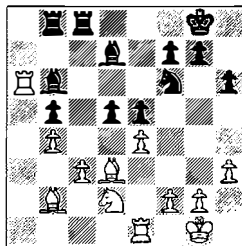
□ van der Wiel

■ Timman

Round 5

Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♖f3 ♖c6 3 ♖b5 a6 4 ♖a4 ♖f6 5 0-0 ♖e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♖b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 d4 ♖g4 10 d5 ♖a5 11 ♖c2 c6 12 h3 ♖c8 13 d×c6 ♖c7 14 a4 ♖x c6 15 ♖a3 ♖e6 16 ♖g5 ♖d7 17 b4 ♖c4 18 ♖e2 h6 19 ♖f3 ♖f8 20 ♖x c4 ♖x c4 21 ♖x c4 ♖x c4 22 ♖b2 ♖c8 23 ♖d2 ♖d8 24 a×b5 a×b5 25 ♖d3 ♖ab8 26 ♖a6 ♖c7 27 ♖b3 ♖b6 28 ♖d2 ♖c7 29 ♖b3 ♖b6 30 ♖d2 d5?



30 ... ♖f8 is better if Black wishes to avoid the draw by repetition. The text leads to a plausible sequence in which Black loses a piece due to a hidden threat to the back rank.

31 e×d5 ♖x d5 32 ♖x e5 ♖x c3 33 ♖e7 ♖e6 34 ♖x c3 ♖x c3 35 ♖x b6 ♖d8 36 ♖e4 g5 37 ♖f3 ♖c4 38 ♖c6 ♖x b4 39 ♖x b5 ♖c4 40 ♖e5 ♖c1+ 41 ♖h2 1-0 (1.59-2.05)

The Dutch press bulletin records the final times for every game — the rate was

forty moves in two hours, then twenty in one for a six-hour session.

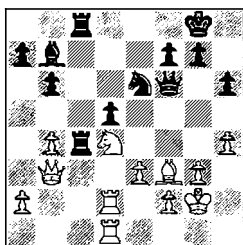
□ Karpov *Round 6*

■ van der Wiel *Queen's Indian*

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♘b7
5 ♘g2 ♘e7 6 ♘c3 ♘e4 7 ♘d2 ♘f6
8 0-0-0 ♘c1 d5 10 cxd5 exd5 11 ♘e3
♘a6 12 ♘a4 c5 13 ♘fd1 ♘e8 14 ♘a3
♘xc3 15 ♘xc3 ♘e7 16 ♘d2 ♘fe8 17
b3 ♘ad8 18 ♘e1 cxd4

The further waiting move 18 ... h6 comes into consideration rather than submit to the totally passive position with a blocked d-pawn.

19 ♘xd4 ♘c5 20 ♘b2 ♘xd4 21 ♘xd4
♘f6 22 ♘ed1 ♘e6 23 ♘c2 ♘c8 24
♘cd2 ♘ed8 25 ♘h3 ♘h6 26 ♘g4
♘c5 27 h4 ♘e8 28 ♘f3 ♘f6 29 b4 ♘c4
30 ♘g2 h6 31 e3 ♘ec8 32 ♘b3



♘e7? 33 ♘f5 ♘xb4 34 ♘xb4 ♘xb4
35 ♘e7+ ♘f8 36 ♘xc8 ♘xc8 37
♘xd5 ♘c5 38 a3 ♘a4 39 ♘c6 1-0
(1.57-1.59)

□ Kasparov *Round 11*

■ Karpov *Caro-Kann*

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 dxe4 4 ♘xe4
♘d7 5 ♘g5 ♘gf6 6 ♘d3 e6 7 ♘1f3
♘d6 8 0-0 h6 9 ♘e4 ♘xe4 10 ♘xe4
0-0 11 c3 e5 12 ♘c2 ♘e8 13 ♘e1 exd4
14 ♘xe8+ ♘xe8 15 ♘xd4 ♘e7 16
♘f4 ♘xf4 17 ♘xf4 ♘f8 18 ♘e1 ♘e6
19 ♘d4 ♘d8 20 h4 ♘c5 21 ♘e3 ♘d6
22 ♘xe6 fxex6

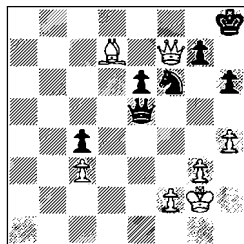
Black seems to have equalised after the exchanges and 22 ... ♘xe6 looks the natural recapture.

23 ♘g4 ♘d2 24 ♘b3 ♘h8 25 ♘e2

♘d6 26 g3 (♘xe6+ is premature) a6 27
♘g2 ♘e8 28 ♘e3 ♘e7 29 ♘f3 ♘d7
30 ♘h5 ♘e7 31 ♘e5 ♘d8 32 a4 b5 33
♘e4 ♘c7 34 ♘f4 c5 35 ♘f3 ♘d6 36
axb5 axb5 37 ♘f7 ♘b8 38 ♘a7 b4 39
♘c2 bxc3 40 bxc3 ♘e5 41 ♘f7 ♘h7 42
♘g4 ♘g8 43 ♘e7 ♘f8 44 ♘f3 c4

The ending is ominously like the 24th game of the Seville match: White has Q and B versus Q and N. Black dare not exchange queens due to the pawns on white squares which would fall to the bishop.

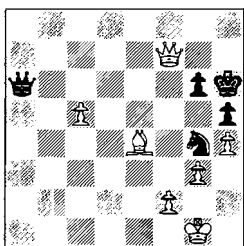
45 ♘e4 ♘h8 46 ♘c6 ♘h7 47 ♘f7 ♘f8
48 ♘e8 ♘xe8 49 ♘xe8 ♘h7 50 ♘d7
♘f6



51 ♘xe6 h5 52 ♘xc4 ♘e4+ 53 ♘h2
♘h7?

53 ... ♘f3! would have been a better fight, according to Zaitsev, hoping to transpose to a minor piece ending in which the extra material would be difficult to realise.

54 ♘e6 ♘f3 55 ♘e1 ♘g4+ 56 ♘g1
♘c6 57 ♘d3+ g6 58 ♘e7+ ♘h6 59
♘e4 ♘b6 60 ♘f8+ ♘h7 61 ♘f7+
♘h6 62 c4 ♘a6 63 c5 1-0 (3.06-3.37)



Watson, Farley and Williams International Challenge

The London tournament of this name took place at the City offices of the firm of solicitors who provided the sponsorship. We had a welcome Scottish victory at this time when the SCA is under such pressure, and also a remarkable performance by Matthew Sadler who celebrated his 14th birthday on May 15, some twelve days before the tournament began.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1 Motwani (SCO)	●	½	½	0	½	1	1	1	0	1	½	1	7
2 Arkell K.	½	●	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	1	6½
Levitt	½	½	●	½	½	0	½	1	1	1	1	0	6½
Sadler	1	½	½	●	½	0	½	½	½	1	1	½	6½
5 Fedorowicz (USA)	½	½	½	½	●	½	½	1	1	½	0	½	6
Hodgson	0	½	1	1	½	●	0	½	½	½	1	½	6
King	0	½	½	½	½	1	●	0	0	1	1	1	6
8 Norwood	0	½	0	½	0	½	1	●	1	0	1	1	5½
9 Westerinen (SF)	1	0	0	½	0	½	1	0	●	½	1	½	5
10 Evans (USA)	0	½	0	0	½	½	0	1	½	●	0	1	4
Hebden	½	½	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	●	1	4
12 Arkell S.	0	0	1	½	½	½	0	0	½	0	0	●	3

A fuller account with games, by Keith Arkell, follows next month.

The prestigious Phillips & Drew and GLC events in even numbered years starting 1980 have thus been continued, somewhat fortuitously, and at a rather lower level, providing what was hoped to be a realistic GM norm for the many IM aspirants. Not so realistic, after all, as there were too many "young bulls" (to use Hort's term) slaying each other. It was a Category 9 event, GM norm 8.

Sponsorship was attained by Ray Keene in a slightly strange way. During the Hastings tournament he saw an advertisement in *The Times* that a firm of solicitors was moving into new offices in The Minories. The advert had a chess motif, so the *Times* correspondent approached them, and after some weeks they finally agreed to sponsor a tournament, and have it in the hospitality suite on the fifth floor of the new building!

After six rounds the leading scores were Hodgson 4½, Fedorowicz 4, K. Arkell, Motwani, Sadler and Westerinen

3½; Susan Arkell on 2½ points needed 3(5) to make the WGM norm.

The first two had weak finishes, whereas Paul Motwani won a key game in round 9 against Julian Hodgson. After a fluctuating battle the Scotsman forced a won rook and pawn ending and mated the Londoner — on his 67th move. Jonathan Levitt won his last two games against the two oldest players in the event, Westerinen, 44, and Larry Evans, 56, who last played in an international tournament some five years ago. He scored his game in descriptive notation!

Matthew Sadler put up a dream performance. He only gained a place after IMs Kosten and Watson decided to play at Gijon. The Kent youngster could even have tied for first place had he beaten the Finn from a favourable middle game in the last round.

All in all, yet another demonstration of the strength in depth of British chess. After this it would be a real tragedy if Motwani could not get to the Olympiad because of SCA financial difficulties.

VIEWPOINT — London and New York

by **Stewart Reuben**, 11 Haversham Close, Cambridge Park, Twickenham TW1 2JP

I lived in New York from 1963-5 and during that period wrote a regular series 'Letter from America' for the other magazine. I have made occasional fleeting visits there since and it is interesting to compare chess opportunities in London and New York and how they have changed over the years.

When I left London in '63, England was a minor chessplaying country. We hadn't had an international tournament in the capital since 1946 (and none was to take place here until I organised the Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Masters at the Evening Standard Congress in 1973). There were weekend Swisses only at Easter and Whitsun and there was nowhere you could play chess every day. Thus London chess was solely inter-club and county league play.

By contrast New York had many venues open every day. The Manhattan and Marshall clubs were always open noon to midnight. There was the "Flea-House" on Times Square and another chess dive there as well — "Fisher's" (please Mr Editor, don't "correct" that to Fischer. It had nothing to do with the great man). Rossolimo and Lisa Lane * had studios in Greenwich Village. It was possible to play chess in the open air in Washington Square in the summer and similarly in Central Park throughout the year. They had a few weekend Swisses organised by the United States Chess Federation. There was very little inter-club chess and the New York League was diminished by the dominance of the Manhattan and Marshall clubs. The only major tournament was the US Championship which was always held in New York. On the other hand, the Manhattan Championship was held over a long period of time. I qualified for the final all-

play-all and it is probably the strongest event in which I have ever competed. Similar events in London such as the Middlesex Championships were quite strong but lacked status.

I introduced weekend Swisses to London and then England via the Islington Open on my return. The result has been a whole frame-work of events which probably reached their peak in numbers in the late '70s. Quickplay events are a more recent innovation and there is about one of these a fortnight in London these days. Open entry Swisses have been devastated by the rise in cost of hire of venues. This in schools has far outstripped inflation due to Unions requiring very high manning levels by the school-keepers. Also local authorities are encouraged to charge economic rents even for the most worthwhile activities. The problem is virtually identical in New York and very few tournaments are held there, except at the Manhattan and Marshall clubs. Thus the World Open was moved to Philadelphia because the organisers were able to obtain a better room hire rate. Most New Yorkers seem to be unperturbed by the extra cost of travel and accommodation.

High rent has also put most of the chess salons out of business. Yet the membership fee for Manhattan Club remains extraordinarily low at \$200. That is about £110 for a club that meets every day, has a professional organiser and is situated in the centre of the theatre district; this seems to me to be tremendous value for money. London has a few cafes and pubs which allow chess to be played there, but really little has improved in the last 25 years.

Of course England, and thus London, is transformed internationally. June to

September should see 3 international all-play-alls in London, the Lloyds Bank Masters and also the Short v Spelman match. This mirrors precisely the English chess explosion at the top. Whether engendering sponsorship created the growth or vice versa is unclear. New York also went through a similar expansion in international activity in the late '70s. Since Bill Goichberg virtually retired from the scene, it has fallen away dramatically and they are left only with Cuchi's New York Open and events put on by the two great clubs — most only nominally international.

Harsh Words

The acrimonious relationships at the top have finally spilled out into the Soviet chess press. Botvinnik wrote an article "Restraint is Essential" which appeared in No. 5 of *64 Chess Review* in March.

He commented that the Seville match was a great disappointment and had warned Kasparov in advance of the likely dangers arising from a champion thinking in his subconscious that the title was a form of private possession. Moreover the prize fund was so big as to add to the stress.

The tensions between the players were unprecedented, though Botvinnik admitted that relations between him and his challengers over the years had not been good. With some of them he had subsequently been reconciled, but not with all . . .

These poor relations between the Seville protagonists had received such publicity and had such a colouring that they were doing harm not just to Kasparov and Karpov, but to the whole world of chess.

"As for the other participants in this polemic (*Baturinsky? Ed.*) then they should certainly not go on stirring matters up. Let us remember what the lashing of our great composers Prokofyev, Shostakovich and Khachaturyan led to. Or what about the condemnation of the great chess player Alekhine? Or the persecution carried out against the great bard of the deprived, V. Vysotsky?"

Again we see the importance of the organiser. For example, junior coaching in both New York State and England is flourishing as never before in certain areas. In others activity is minimal.

I have no crystal balls for the future. But the underlying truth of London chess in the last century is the stability lent by the great strength of club chess.

** A US player who created much media publicity by withdrawing from a Hastings tournament on the grounds of being "love-sick." Ed.*

So, the time had come to show restraint. Karpov, who is the chief editor of *64* responded in No. 9 of May: his contribution was headed "Who is the One to be Restrained?"

The former champion says he agrees with Botvinnik's call for restraint but cannot agree with his treatment of the facts: he is simply disinforming. Botvinnik spoke of Kasparov's first cause for complaint which Botvinnik described as his disqualification in the Candidates semi-final match of summer 1983, but he wasn't disqualified but rather defaulted by the FIDE President, as was Smyslov in his match against Ribli. "I considered this decision unfair to the players and to chess, and did all I could to ensure the matches took place." Smyslov would be able to confirm that how to proceed further was discussed by the three of them, Smyslov, Kasparov and Karpov at the last named's home. Botvinnik would not know of this meeting.

As for the 1985 suspension (*prekrascheniye*) of the limitless match, Mamedov, head of Kasparov's delegation, had declared on 25 February 1985 that Kasparov did not wish to continue that match, agreed with the FIDE President's decision that the match was ended and was ready to play a fresh match in September.

Finally, Karpov writes that it is only in Kasparov's lexicon that expressions such as "intellectual Fascist", "Mafia godfather" and "product and symbol of the rotting of the system" had appeared, and with him, it was to be hoped, would "go away" (*uidut*).

GM Zoltan Ribli Annotates

□ Hertneck

München, 1988

■ Ribli

Queen's Indian

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♘a6

This relatively curious-looking bishop move has become very popular recently. Some 30-40 years ago, theory experts did not consider it a healthy developing move, so of course, they did not advise players to play it. Now, however it is regarded as a variation, in which White has a very slight or unprovable advantage in the majority of variations.

5 b3

5 ♖a4 or 5 ♘bd2 also comes into consideration.

5 ... ♘b4+ 6 ♘d2 ♘e7 7 ♘g2

7 ♘c3 d5 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♘g2 transposes.

7 ... d5

In the 1984/85 Kasparov – Karpov match Black preferred the continuation with 7 ... c6 8 ♘c3 d5 9 ♘bd2 ♘bd7, leading to a little bit passive but versatile set-up for Black.

8 cxd5 ♘xd5

8 ... exd5 does not give Black active piece play. In my opinion, exchanging the f6 knight for his 'colleague' from the b1 square significantly eases Black's problems and the pawn on d5 becomes more defensible.

9 ♘c3 ♘d7 10 ♘xd5 exd5 11 ♖c2!?

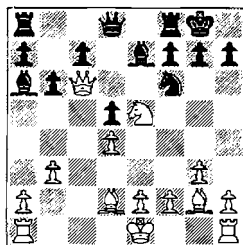
A theoretical novelty (TN), whose actual value can be very disputable after this game. In a game Karpov-Sokolov (match, 1987) after the natural 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♖c1 ♖e8 13 ♖e1 White had a slight advantage.

11 ... 0-0 12 ♖c6

The logical continuation to the previous move.

12 ... ♘f6 13 ♘e5 (see diagram) 13 ... ♖c8! 14 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 15 ♖xd5 ♘d6!?

15 ... c5 also deserves consideration. The text includes concrete threats in the



shape of ♘xe5 since in case of recapturing with queen Black plays ♖e8, while after dxe5 the second player plays ♘b7 and in both cases White's situation becomes hopeless.

16 ♘c6

Defending Black's direct threats, but after this move Black can take the offensive on the half-opened e-file.

16 ... ♖e8 17 ♘e3

White did not like 17 e3 since after this move the bishop on a6 would curtail his options. By the way, to 17 e3 I planned 17 ... ♖h3 threatening 18 ... ♘d3 with more than sufficient compensation for the sacrificed pawn for Black.

17 ... ♖g4 18 f3?

A bad mistake, leading to Black's serious advantage. 18 ♖f3 was the only possibility, when after 18 ... ♖xf3 19 exf3 ♘a3! 20 d5 ♘b7 21 ♖e2 ♘xc6 22 dxc6 ♖e6 followed by ♖xc6 Black's position is more preferable, though White would have maintained his chances to survive.

18 ... ♖e6!

I think this possibility was not noticed by White. Now after trading off the queens White finds himself facing inextricable difficulties on the e-file.

19 ♖xe6 ♖xe6 20 ♘d2

After 20 ♘d2 ♖ae8 is even worse for White than the actual continuation.

20 ... ♖xe2+ 21 ♖d1 ♖f2

The immediate ... ♖g2 comes also

into consideration.

23 ♖e3 ♜g2!

For the moment, taking the f3 pawn seems to be superfluous. The text is stronger since it contains further threats and the rook on the second rank paralyses White's forces.

23 ♖e1 ♜b5 24 ♜c1

After 24 d5 ♜xc6 25 dxc6 ♜d8! White might well have resigned.

24 ... ♜xh2 25 ♜f4

Trying to create some counterplay against the c7 pawn, but so, however Black's h-pawn becomes a passed one and it decides the issue in few moves.

25 ... ♜xf4 26 gxf4 ♜xa2 27 ♜e7 h5!

28 ♜b4 ♜g2!

Defending the g7 square while supporting the march forward of the h-pawn. 29 ♜xc7 h4 30 ♜e5 h3 31 ♜c2 h2 32 ♜e1 ♜e8 0-1

A typical example of punishment for striving to obtain material advantage instead of completing one's development.

Overwhelmed!

Thank you to our direct home subscribers who have responded in such numbers to the questionnaire. We have been overwhelmed by the response: 16 on June 1; 118 the next day; 65 the day after that; 543 by mid-month.

It will take time to assimilate the responses, especially in the case of those who wrote at length in answer to the last question. We hope to carry a fuller account next month.

Some of the ideas and lists of likes/dislikes are opposed to each other: more annotated games, fewer games with really deep notes; some fairy chess; absolutely NO fairy chess!

A regular theme has been a request to publish club players' games, preferably with notes by a strong player (what if no-one is willing to take on the task?). Some say that there is room for a really bad

game now and again for encouragement.

A computer column, some games in column style, more attention to county and club events, player profiles, more reports by actual attenders or participants of tournaments also figure prominently. One suggestion was that the magazine should be loose-leaf so that the games could be filed under openings. Openings articles on a formal basis rather than within complete games was one request.

Several thoughtful readers wrote not only of their own preferences, but also about general trends. We are warned not to go down market or become too trendy, especially if changes involve too much expense. "Please, no change just for the sake of change."

Preferences were expressed about photographs. "Could we have humorous articles or stories" was one plea, but another reader sternly contends that he has never read genuinely funny material or a good short story in *any* chess magazine.

A couple of readers ticked us off for still dealing with the topic of descriptive notation. However, the agenda is not necessarily chosen by us. People still write to us about it. Are we to ignore them entirely, or fail to state what we believe to be true?

There was a strong consensus in favour of sheering off chess politics. The names of the FIDE President and other disputatious parties figured strongly here. Some feel we are too generous in book reviews, as there have been a lot of tatty productions recently.

Some impressions seem based on outdated facts. "BCM is sometimes too stuffy, especially when X writes ..." but the author in question has not contributed to BCM since about 1982!

A special word of thanks to those who suggested potential subscribers or said they would lobby friends.

Haninge, Sweden 9-21 v

There are several similarities between New Zealand and Sweden, such as a small population, beautiful countryside, and a notable lack of top class tournaments. I had not played a serious New Zealand event for a decade until the Plaza International last March, but Ulf Andersson decimates that record. Until Haninge in May, the Swedish number one had not played a Swedish player anywhere for 17 years, let alone participated in a tournament on home soil.

Hopefully these dubious records will never be improved on in either of the two countries. Organiser Grant Kerr hopes the Plaza International in Wellington might be staged at least bi-annually, while Haninge is assured as an annual for several years. Haninge is a modest town on the outskirts on Stockholm, full of lakes and fir trees, and not far from where the celebrated Russian submarine became embarrassingly marooned in 1981. Diplomatic relations still appear a little strained. During the tournament the Russian GM Lev Polugayevsky was trying to buy a small Toshiba personal computer to run his ChessBase program on. Unfortunately the Toshiba management flatly refused to sell him anything, saying it was prohibited to export such high technology to the USSR! *

Still, there were compensations for "Mr Toshiba", as the 53-year-old many-time Soviet champion quickly became known. He exported a considerable quantity of international ELO rating points back to Moscow and won the

** Botvinnik has had similar problems in West Germany, we learn from a reliable source there. Further delay in his computer chess research?*

by Murray Chandler

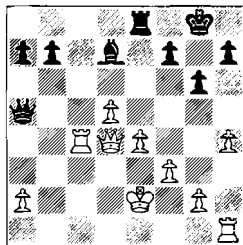
tournament by a full point. The critical victory came in round 10 against Soviet defector Viktor Korchnoi, and must have been especially satisfying. Of the three times that "Polu-Toshiba" has made it through to the World Championship Candidates Matches, he has twice been knocked out by Korchnoi and has a poor record otherwise against his former colleague. Here is the game.

□ L. Polugayevsky Grünfeld
■ V. Korchnoi
1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 c×d5 ♘×d5
5 e4 ♘×c3 6 b×c3 c5 7 ♘c4 ♘g7 8 ♘e2
0-0 9 ♘e3 ♘c6 10 ♖c1!?

An interesting idea; against 10 0-0 Black usually continues 10 ... c×d4 11 c×d4 ♘g4 12 f3 ♘a5! but now this would lose a piece. Korchnoi's queen check, preventing castling, is the critical test,

10 ... c×d4 11 c×d4 ♖a5+ 12 ♖f1 ♘d7
13 h4 e5

More accurate was 13 ... h5 14 ♘h7, to inhibit White's K-side advance before seeking counterplay with ... e5.
14 d5 ♘d4 15 ♘×d4 e×d4 16 ♘×d4
♘×d4 17 ♖×d4 ♘ac8 18 ♖e2! ♖fe8
19 f3 ♖×c4 20 ♖×c4



White's surprising 18th move shows the problem with Black's pawn sacrifice; the centre is still closed and Polugayevsky's king is not that unsafe. Now 20 ... ♘b5 21 ♖e3 ♘×c4 22 ♖×c4 favours White, so Korchnoi gives

up the exchange to try for real counter-chances.

20 ... ♖xa2+ 21 ♙e3 ♖xg2 22 ♖hc1 f5 23 e5 g5 24 h×g5 ♗h2

Or 24 ... ♗xg5+ 25 ♙d3! and suddenly the deadly threat of 26 ♖g1 looms.

25 e6! b5

After 25 ... ♗×e6 26 d×e6 ♖×e6 27 ♙d3 ♗e2+ 28 ♙c3 ♖e3+ 29 ♙b4 a5+ 30 ♙a5! White's king comfortably escapes.

26 ♖c7 1-0

Black lost on time, but the position is hopeless; 26 ... ♗d6 27 ♖1c6! ♗a3+ 28 ♙f4 and the bishop is lost, as 28 ... ♗×c6 29 ♗g7 is mate.

Final results of Haninge were: 1 Polugayevsky 8(11); 2 Andersson 7; 3 Agdestein (NOR) 6½; 4-5 Korchnoi (CH), Sosonko (NDL) 6; 6-8 Chandler, Chiburdanize (USSR), Schüssler 5½; 9 Karlsson 5; 10 Wedberg 4; 11-12 Barlov (Y) and Pinter (H) 3½.

NEWS FROM OVERSEAS

FIDE—The FIDE Congress in Greece in November has been recommended to adopt the Schultz plan to conduct only one Interzonal in the next cycle. There would be 100 players for a 13-round Swiss. 36 would qualify from zonals, 4 from the previous cycle, 14 from the rating list and a few other seeds and special places such as the World Junior Champion.

An alternative plan, submitted by GM Polugayevsky, also envisages a large single tournament, but would have to be reviewed with the GMA as it was linked with the World Cup.

Dr Lim Kok An, 68, has retired as General Secretary. He had retired from his medical and academic work in Singapore and then took over the FIDE work in 1982, intending, it seems, only four years of office but carried on to cover the Seville Congress. He is replaced temporarily as Assistant General Secretary by the Rating Administrator Casto Abundo.

A report in *Sovietsky Sport* says that Campomanes visited Moscow in late May, but refused to tell the press what the subjects for discussion would be. At the conclusion of the discussions he said that

for the moment FIDE would not be creating a world title for the winner of the current 'Active Chess' 30-minutes-per-game contest.

The CACDEC trust fund, which has been the subject of controversy, is to be amalgamated with the general FIDE accounts, a procedure about which an accountant has expressed reservations.

A code of ethics is being drawn up which will provide penalties for people bringing the game into dispute, a controversial measure that some journalists fear is connected with the Calvo affair.

Representations have been made to the Hungarian chess authorities to allow the Polgar sisters to play in the boys section of the World Junior in Australia.

FRANCE—Olivier Renet scored his first GM norm at the Lyon, 2-10 iv, Festival, where the top section, a Category 10 event, ended thus: 1-2 S. Agdestein (NOR), E. Lobron (WG) 6½(10); 3 Renet 6; 4-5 van der Wiel (NDL), Murey (ISR) 5; 6 Ftačnik (CZ) 4½; 7 Kouatly 4; 8 Sharif 3; 9 Mirallès 2½; 10 Santo Roman 2.

A junior event was won by J. R. Koch from Alsace 7½(9) ahead of J. M.

Degraeve 7; J. Lautier 6½; Apicella 5½ ...

Mark Hebden did well to tie for first place in the Lejaby Open, scoring 7(9) in the company of Yugoslav Todorcevic and World Junior Champion V. Anand (IND); 4-11 Velikov (BUL), Sznepik (POL), Polaczek (BEL), Klarić (Y), Giffard, Plachetka (CZ) ... a strong field indeed.

Europe Echecs points out that there are four other Frenchmen who have a GM norm: Haik, Mirallès, Kouatly and Vaisman.

Kasparov attended at the end of the festival on 30 April and played a clock simul. His presence then was to compensate for his absence on 2 April, which the bulletin attributed to "political reasons concerning his county of origin Armenia." (sic)

E GERMANY — Berlin was the venue for the Ernst Thälmann Memorial in April, attracting five Soviet visitors to meet the five home representatives. 1 Smagin 6½(9); 2 Chekhov 6; 3-4 Knaak, Zaichik 5½; 5 Balashov 5; 6 Espig 4½; 7 Uhlmann 4; 8 Bönsch 3; 9-10 Gipslis, Vogt 2½.

Readers may wonder if there is some German player called Thälmann that they have not heard of. In fact he was a German Communist, imprisoned throughout the Nazi period till his execution in 1944.

W GERMANY — The Mephisto tournament at Munich was a triumph for the Iclander who has to face up to Karpov in the Candidates next January: 1 Johann Hjartarson 8(11); 2 Hübner 7; 3 Ribli (H) 6½; 4-6 Yusupov (USSR), Hickl, Smejkal (CZ) 6; 7 Bischoff 5½; 8-9 Lau, Hecht 5; 10 Kindermann 4½ 11 van der Sterren 4; 12 Hertneck 2½, in a Category 12 event, GM norm 7 points.

The other participant in the Candidates, Artur Yusupov, did not

make such a good impression in the part of the world where he is to be a Bundesliga competitor next season, losing to Hjartarson and winning only two games. The only other decisive game between the top five was Hübner's win over Hickl.

□ **Hertneck**

■ **Hjartarson**

Dutch

1 d4 f5 2 ♖c3 d5 3 e4?! dxe4 4 ♗g5 g6 5 ♗c4 ♗g7 6 d5 ♗d7 7 d6 (7 h4 looks thematic, or 7 ♗h3) 7 ... cxd6 8 ♖d5 ♗e5 9 ♗b5+ ♗d7 10 ♗ge2 a6 11 ♗xd7+ ♖xd7 12 ♗d4 ♗f6 13 ♖b3 ♗f7 14 h4 ♗g4 15 ♗e6 ♗xc3+ 16 bxc3 d5 17 ♖xd5 ♖xd5 18 ♗c7+ ♗f8 19 ♗xd5 ♗xg5 20 hxg5 ♗d8 21 ♗b6 ♗g7 22 ♗b1 ♗e5 23 c4 ♗d4 24 ♗h3 ♗hd8 25 ♗d5 ♗xc4 26 ♗f4 ♗d7 0-1.

Here are some scores of interest in the recently concluded 1987-8 Bundesliga season — see page 249 last month for background.

Murray Chandler scored 10½ from 12 games! Next season he will be top board for Hamburg, replacing John Nunn who made 7½(11). Nigel Short made 9½(12) on top board for Solingen. The pacific Spassky had three wins and seven draws in his 10 games for Solingen on board 3. Tony Miles had 3(6) on top board for Porz, whereas Hort had 8½(11) on next board.

Stewart Conquest had 10(15) for lowly Kreuzberg of Berlin on board 3.

GMA — The first AGM of the Grandmasters Association was held at the Brussels Sheraton Hotel on April 26. From the press release dated May 15, received 6 June, we see that much of the time was spent on the thorny question of "Active Chess" and the status of its proposed titles and ratings.

"The meeting decided that the awarding of titles in non-professional chess events would lead to the

devaluation of existing GM and IM titles ... and would therefore cause confusion in the public, the media and among sponsors. They went further and agreed to issue a statement urging GMA members and other international chessplayers to publicly refuse to accept any so-called ... titles ...

The GMA is not opposed to "fun chess events" as long as they do not damage professional events — and the GMA has defined a professional chess event as one in which only one game per day is played with an average time limit of at least three minutes a move."

A contract should be finalised in June between the GMA and CSS (a major British sponsor) to set up a world wide speed chess circuit starting early 1989.

A major professional GM event is planned for Yugoslavia, probably April 1989 with a prize fund of \$100,000 for GMs who are not taking part in the World Cup.

The three-year ban on GM Quinteros for playing in South Africa, imposed at the Seville 1987 FIDE Congress was not supported, apparently because the penalty was thought too severe. However the principle of no sanctions at all was not supported.

HUNGARY — A spring chess festival at Budapest 19-27 iii, had a massive entry of 407 for the 9-round Swiss: 12 GMs, 47 IMs. There were 15 prizes at stake.

1 Bareyev (USST) 8-9; 2-5 Dokhoyan, Vaiser (both USSR), Malich (EG), Röpert (WG) 7½, the last-named beating Sveshnikov who was amongst 17 players scoring 6½. Amongst other well-known players were van der Sterren (NDL) Kupreichik (USSR) and Knaak (EG).

□ **Sveshnikov**

■ **Röpert** Caro-Kann

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 ♟f6
5 ♟c3 ♟c6 6 ♟g5 dxc4 7 d5 ♟a5!?

8 b4 cxb3 9 axb3 ♟d7 10 b4 ♟c8 11
♟b5 ♟c4 12 ♟xa7 e6! 13 ♟b3 ♟b6
14 ♟xc8 ♟xb4+ 15 ♟e2 ♟c5 16 ♟b1
♟xd5 17 ♟f3 ♟e5+ 18 ♟g3 ♟xc8 19
f4 ♟c6 20 ♟f3 h6 21 ♟h4 ♟b8 22 ♟c4
g5 23 ♟xg5 hxg5 24 ♟xg5 ♟xf4 25
♟f2 ♟a7+ 26 ♟g3 ♟e3+ 27 ♟f3
♟g8+ 0-1.

INDIA — Ian Rogers from Australia won the second "Tata Steel Alekhine" tournament in Calcutta scoring 9½ (13) to come half a point ahead of Lev Psakhis 9. third place was shared between Muscovite Kaidanov and Murshed (Ban) 8½. 5-7 Barua, Arencibia (CUB), William Watson 7½; 8 Ermenkov (BUL) 6½; 9 Hernández (CUB) 6; ...

IRAQ — The first international Saddam chess tournament began at Baghdad on 2 April reports O. Yousif Danoon, President of the Iraqi Chess Federation. There were 16 players, including two from the USSR, for the 6-round Swiss. Yevgeny Vladimirov won all six games to come well ahead of compatriot Aleksey Suetin 3½! Second place was taken by the home representative M. A. Abdul Razaak 4½. There were also players from Jordan and Palestine.

GREECE — The home duo Skembris and Kotronias scored 7(9) in the 12th Akropolis tournament in Athens to lead veteran Geller by a point. 4 Bellon 5½; 5-6 Inkyov, Makropoulos 4½; 7-8 Grivas, Ghinda 4; 9 Skalkotas 2½; 10 Maris 0.

LUXEMBOURG — The 27th Luxembourg Open, 20-29 v, attracted 133 players for the 9-round Swiss. Sponsorship came from the Banque du Gothard. Eckhard Schmittiel, Dortmund, rated joint 11th at 2240, took first place by beating Rinie Kuijff in the last round to score 8(9). Glenn Flear was awarded

second place having met the strongest opposition though he scored 7 points in the company of S. Maus, Hamburg, and the Swiss IM A. Huss. 5-12 Kuij, Horvath, Stuart Conquest, Garcia Palermo (ARG), Hickl (WG), Brunner, F. Portisch (H) ... 6½; Israeli GM Lev Gutman headed the 12 players scoring 6 points. This group also included Vernon Small, the New Zealander who is spending the summer in England.

NORWAY — The "Arnold Cup" Swiss at the traditional venue of Gausdal produced a Czech success. Jansa, aged 46, scored 7(9) to finish half a point ahead of Mokry. 3-4 Meduna (CZ), Mednis (USA) 6; 5-9 Tisdall, W. Watson, Berg (DK), Haugli, Gausel 5½; ... Robert Bellin was the highest English player, scoring 4½ to finish 15th.

William Watson lost to both Jansa and Mokry.

□ Jansa

■ Watson

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♕f6
5 ♕c3 g6 6 ♘c4 ♗g7 7 h3 0-0 8 0-0
9 ♕c6 9 ♗e3 ♗d7 10 ♗b3 ♖c8 11 ♖e1
12 ♗e8 12 ♗d2 ♗a5 13 ♕f3 a6 14 ♗ad1
15 ♖b5 15 ♗h6 ♗h8 16 ♕g5! ♕e5 17 ♖f4
18 ♕c4 18 e5! ♕h5 19 ♗f2 ♕g7 20 g4 b4
21 ♕d5 ♕e6 22 ♖f5 ♕xg5 23 ♗xg5
24 ♕xe5 24 ♕xe7+ ♖xe7 25 ♗xe7
26 ♗c6 26 ♖e3 ♗h6 27 ♗xd6 ♕f3 28
29 ♗xe5 ♗xd1 29 ♗xh8 ♗xh8 30
31 ♖e8+ 1-0.

SPAIN — Julian Hodgson tied with Pia Cramling, Oltra of Spain and Reyes (PER) on 7(9) at the 12th Benidorm Open in May, but the Swedish player took first place. David Norwood on 6½ points was equal 5th with five other players.

Anatoly Karpov won the first European "Active Chess" contest in a field of 110 at Gijon on the North coast of Spain. He was in the joint lead for much of the

time over the 13 rounds of the four-day event finishing 4 June, but fell back slightly when beaten by Austrian Josef Klinger. A late spurt brought the former world title holder to a score of 10(13) along with compatriot Tukmakov, but with superior tie-break. Third place fell to another Soviet player, Gavrikov. 4-7 Ehlvest, Ree, Novikov, Krasenkov 9; ... Klinger was amongst those scoring 8 points, as was Tony Kosten who came 21st. Other English scores: 32 W. Watson 7½; 49 G. Flear 7; 63 Gallagher 6½; 84 N. Davies 5½; S. Le Blancq 4½.

The 12th round game between Karpov and Yudasin was replayed after an incident in which Karpov who had been winning had relaxed his grip and played a queen move which allowed mate in one. His opponent either played the mating move, or merely announced it. One version is that Karpov's clock was still going at this time and his move was not therefore completed. Karpov "in shock" shook hands and signed the score sheet, but a later discussion of the facts raised the possibility that Yudasin should have lost the game because of his irregularity. It was decided to replay it and Karpov won.

The top 45 qualify for the "inter-Continental" stage.

USSR — The Flohr Memorial at Lvov was held to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the birth of Salo Flohr, both a Czech and a Soviet GM, and to mark the 50th anniversary of the signing of a contract for a Flohr-Alekhine world title match. The tragic events of the 1938-9 period put paid to this undertaking, though Flohr was by then no longer the most logical candidate for such a match.

The Memorial was of Category 10 strength for 15 players and ended 1 Kaidanov 9½(14); 2-4 Ivanchuk, Moskalenko, Malanyuk 9; 5-6 Khuzman,

Dorfman 8; 7-9 Kupreichik, Novikov, J. Piket (NDL) 7; 10 Mikhalechishin 6½; 11 Kotronias (GRE) 6; 12 Lalev (Y) 5½; 13-14 Karolyi (H), A. Petrosyan 5; 15 Sapis (POL) 3½.

The first "Active Chess" tournament was held at Tallinn in early May despite the opposition to some details of the FIDE competition voiced by twenty Soviet GMs, including Kasparov, in a letter to the *profsoyuz* (trade union) newspaper *Trud*. The contest in Estonia attracted 40 qualifiers from regional events and included 18 GMs and 9 IMs.

The top eight were to qualify for Gijon at this 30 minutes per player per game event. First place was taken by the 28-year-old IM Leonid Yudasin from Leningrad.

YUGOSLAVIA — A recent trend has been the arrival of a large group of Soviet participants in opens in E. Europe. After a good turnout in the Budapest spring festival, there was also a goodly band at the 6th "Arenatourist" Pula Open — 35 in all! First place was tied between Vaizer and Razuvayev (USSR) and home player Cvitan 9(11). Amongst those scoring 8½ was the winner at Budapest Bareyev, as well as Timoschenko and Kochiyev. The same score was also made by Ivan Sokolov, Yugoslav title holder.

From the Baghdad tournament iv 1988:

□ **Jumah**

■ **Suetin**

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘c6 5 ♘c3 ♘c7 6 ♘e3 a6 7 ♘e2 ♘f6 8 0-0 ♘b4 9 ♘a4 0-0 10 ♘xc6 bxc6 11 ♘d4 ♘d6 12 h3 ♘b8 13 c3 ♘e5 14 ♘d3 d5 15 exd5 cxd5 16 ♘d4 ♘d6 17 ♘xf6? gxf6 18 ♘f3 f5 19 b3 ♘h8 20 c4 dxc4 21 ♘ac1 ♘b7 22 ♘c3 ♘e5 23 ♘xc4 ♘g8! 24 f3 ♘e7 25 ♘c5? ♘xg2+! 0-1

The bulletin congratulates the veteran

on the nice finish and says the game "cost" him nine cigarettes, consumed during play.

□ **M. Ali**

■ **S. Abidulla**

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘b5 a6 4 ♘a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♘e7 6 ♘e1 b5 7 ♘b3 0-0 8 h3 d6 9 c3 ♘b7 10 d4 ♘e8 11 ♘bd2 ♘f8 12 a4 ♘b8? 13 dxe5 dxe5 14 axb5 axb5 15 ♘xa8 ♘xa8 16 ♘xf7+! ♘xf7 17 ♘b3+ ♘e7

Or 17 ... ♘g6 18 ♘h4+ ♘h5 19 ♘df3 and 20 g4+.

18 ♘a3+ ♘d6 19 ♘xa8 ♘a6 20 ♘a7 ♘c5 21 ♘xe5+ ♘xe5 22 ♘f3 ♘h5 23 ♘xc7+ ♘fd7 24 ♘d1 ♘b8 25 b4 ♘b7 26 ♘xd7+ ♘xd7 27 ♘xb7 h6 28 ♘e3 ♘e8 29 e5 1-0.

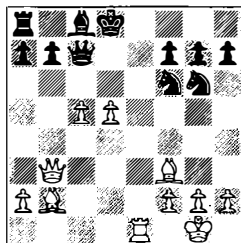
□ **Le Blancq**

Scunthorpe v 1988

■ **Hambly**

Sicilian

1 e4 c5 2 c3 d5 3 exd5 ♘xd5 4 d4 ♘c6 5 ♘f3 cxd4 6 cxd4 e5 7 ♘c3 ♘b4 8 ♘e2 e4 9 0-0 ♘xc3 10 bxc3 exf3 11 ♘xf3 ♘d7 (11 ... ♘d6 12 ♘e1+ ♘ge7 13 a4 ♘a3; 12 ... ♘d8 13 ♘b3) 12 ♘e1+ ♘d8 13 d5 ♘ce7 14 c4 (14 ♘a3!?) 14 ... ♘f6 15 ♘b2 ♘e8 16 ♘b3 ♘g6 17 c5 ♘xe1+ 18 ♘xe1 ♘c7? (18 ... ♘h4)



19 ♘a4? (19 d6! wins) 19 ... ♘d7 20 c6 bxc6 21 dxc6 ♘e6 22 ♘c3 a5 23 ♘b1 ♘b8 24 ♘xb8+ ♘xb8 25 ♘xa5+ ♘e8 26 ♘b4 ♘c4 1-0.

Time loss. Notes, abbreviated, by the winner.

Gerald Abrahams — “Talent without Discipline”

by Steve Cunliffe

When Teichmann was once asked what he thought of Bird's chess, his reply was “Same as his health, always alternating between dangerously ill and dangerously well.” Gerald Abrahams (1907-1980) fits into the same category. With his venturesome style, he was capable of beating the top players in a tournament, yet losing to the lesser lights. And this, very often was the case. Here is what some of his contemporaries had to say about him.

The following pearl by Bob Wade says it all. “Abrahams playing his best or worst chess is equally inimitable. He is a talent without discipline. I wish he would rule his chess ideas on more orthodox lines and yet I equally look forward to that natural gem he is wont to come out with”.

Harry Golombek: “A brilliant British amateur who in the 1930's was playing master chess. In that period he was the most dangerous attacking player in England”.

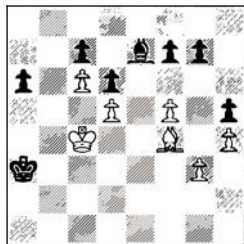
Ritson-Morley “In his heyday he loved life, enjoyed chess and stimulated those who came in contact with him.”



I am sure you'll agree there is plenty of stimulating play in the games that follow.

□ Abrahams

■ Booth



Abrahams was only 16 when he won this ending (1923) in dashing style.

1 f6! gxf6 (If 1... Qxf6 then 2 Qxd6+) 2 g4 hxg4 3 h5 Qf8 4 h6 Qxh6 5 Qxd6+ cxd6 6 c7 and wins.

Abrahams called the following game a good skittle, being played at high speed in a league match in 1929. It is reminiscent of a few famous brilliancies.

□ E Fish

■ G. Abrahams

QGD

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 Qf3 Qf6 4 Qg5 h6 5 Qxf6

Not so good was 5 Qh4 on account of g5, 6 Qg3 Qe4 7 e3 h5 8 h3 Qxg3 with advantage to Black.

5... Qxf6 6 Qc3 Qb4 7 Qb3 Qc6 8 a3 Qa5 9 e3 0-0 10 Qd3 e5!? 11 cxd5 exd4 12 exd4 Qe8+



13 ♖f1

No better was 13 ♖e2 ♖x2+!, 14 ♖x2 ♖xf3+ followed by ♗xd4+ and ♗xb3 with 2 pieces for a rook. Now for the fireworks.

13 ... ♖xf3!! 14 gxf3 ♗h3+ 15 ♖g1 ♗xd4 16 ♖d1 ♖e1+ 17 ♖xe1 ♗xf3 mate. Eureka!

Abrahams made something like 22 appearances in the British Championship, his first being in 1929, scoring 5/11. The following game from that event is an interesting example of his own variation in the Slav.

□ W. A. Fairhurst

■ G. Abrahams Semi-Slav
1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♗c3 c6 4 ♗f3 dxc4 5 a4 ♗b4 6 e3 b5 7 ♗d2 a5!?

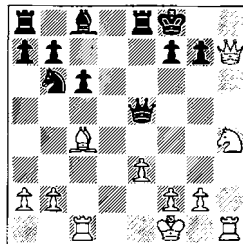
Although usually called the Noteboom Variation after a promising young Dutch player, Abrahams played this as early as 1925.

8 axb5 ♗xc3 9 ♗xc3 cxb5 10 b3 ♗b7 11 bxc4 b4 12 ♗b2 ♗f6 13 ♗d3 ♗e4 14 0-0 0-0 15 ♖c2 f5 16 ♖a2 ♗d7 17 ♗d2? (♖fa1) ♖h4 18 f3 (If 18 g3 ♗g5!) ♗g5 19 ♖fa1 ♖f6 20 ♖d1 ♖h6 21 ♗f1 ♗xf3! 22 ♖d2 (forced) ♗xg2 23 ♖xg2 ♖g4+ 24 ♖h1 ♗h3 25 ♖g2 ♖f8 26 ♖xa5? (♗c1) ♖h4 27 ♗g3 f4 28 ♖f1 (♗f5 looks better) f×g3 29 ♖xg3+ ♗xf8 30 h×g3 ♖g4 31 ♖f1 ♗f4+ 0-1

Abrahams certainly couldn't be accused of undue modesty, labelling the following game "An Immortal". However, it is difficult to argue.

□ G. Abrahams Liverpool 1930

■ R. S. Thynne QGD
1 d4 ♗f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♗c3 d5 4 ♗g5 ♗e7 5 e3 ♗bd7 6 ♗f3 0-0 7 ♖c1 c6 8 ♖c2 ♖e8 9 ♗d3 dxc4 10 ♗xc4 ♗d5 11 ♗e4 ♗xg5 12 ♗(e)×g5 ♗(7)f6 13 ♖f1 (In order to make possible ♗e5) 13 ... h6 14 h4 h×g5 15 h×g5 e5 16 g×f6 ♖xf6 17 ♖h7+ ♖f8 18 ♗h4 ♗b6 19 d×e5 ♖xe5? (Overlooking White's next spectacular move)



20 ♖g8+! ♖e7 (If 20 ... ♖xg8, ♗g6 forces mate.) 21 ♖xf7+ ♗d8 22 ♖d1+ ♗d7 23 ♗g6 ♖f6 24 ♖xe8+ 1-0

And now for a few more interesting games.

□ G. Abrahams Hastings 1932

■ E. G. Sergeant QGD
(Cambridge Springs Def)

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♗c3 ♗f6 4 ♗g5 ♗bd7 5 e3 c6 6 ♗f3 ♖a5 7 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 8 ♗d3 ♗b4 9 0-0!? ♗xc3 10 bxc3 ♖xc3 11 c5 ♗d7 12 ♖c1 ♖a5 13 ♗g5 ♗f6 14 f4 h6 15 ♗f3 ♗d7 16 ♗e5 ♖f8 17 g4 0-0-0 18 g5 h×g5 10 f×g5 ♗e4 20 ♗xe4 d×e4 21 ♗c4 ♖xa2 22 ♖f2 ♖a6 23 ♖b3 ♖b8 24 ♖a2 ♖b5 25 ♖a3 ♖a6 26 ♖b3 ♖b5 27 ♖c2 (The black queen is on its way to the happy hunting ground.) e5 28 ♖b1 ♗e6 29 ♖xb5 c×b5 30 ♗xe5 ♗xa2 31 ♖xa2 f6 32 ♗f7 ♖d7 33 g6 1-0

□ W. Winter

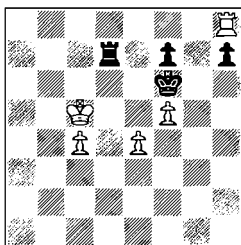
Match 1932

■ G. Abrahams QGD

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♗c3 c6 4 e3 ♗d7 5 ♗bd2 f5 6 ♗d3 ♗d6 7 cxd5 cxd5 8 0-0 ♗h6 9 b3 0-0 10 ♗b2 ♖f6 11 ♗e5 ♗g4! 12 ♗xg4 f×g4 13 ♖xg4 e5! 14 ♖h4 e4 15 e2 ♖a5 16 b4 ♖xb4 17 ♗b3 ♗f8 18 f4 e×f3 19 ♗xf3 ♖h6 20 ♗xd5+ ♗e6 21 ♖e4 ♗xh2+ 22 ♖f2 ♖d6 23 ♗xe6+ ♖xe6 24 ♖g4 ♖f6+ 24 ♖e2 ♖a6+ 0-1 A bright and breezy game.

The way in which Black saves this ending (Golombek v Abrahams, Chester 1934) must have been humorous to

everyone but Golombek! Play continued



1 ♖xh7 ♜e5 2 ♜h4 ♜c7+ 3 ♜b5 f6 4 c5 (At this point White must have been counting his chickens, but ...) ♜xc5+! and draws by stalemate.

The following super game is Abrahams' best known effort. In his "Treasury of British Chess Masterpieces", Fred Reinfeld pays the following compliment. "Abrahams has the faults of the player who is gifted with a wonderful imagination: he overreaches himself easily and he disdains technical routine at times when it is called for. But there are occasions, as in the following game, when an imaginative approach is richly rewarding. One such success compensates for many a failure!"

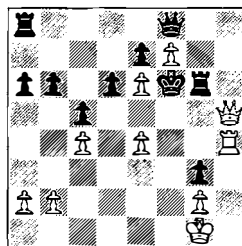
□ **Abrahams** Nottingham 1936 — *Minor*

■ **J. Cukierman (Zuckerman)** Q Indian 1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 b6 3 ♘c3 ♙b7 4 f3 c5 (d5) 5 d5 d6 6 ♙g5 ♘bd7 7 e3 g6 8 ♘ge2 ♙g7 9 h4 a6 10 ♘g3 h5 11 ♙e2 ♘h7 12 f4! (Offering a piece for a dangerous attack) f6 13 ♘c2 ♘h8 (♜f7? allows 14 ♜xg6+) 14 ♘d3 ♜f7 15 0-0 ♜e8 16 f5 f×g5 17 f×g6+ ♜g8 18 ♜f7! ♘e5 19 ♜af1 ♙c8 20 ♙f5 g×h4 (If ♘×f7 Abrahams gives 21 g×f7+ ♜x7 22 ♘×c8 with the following possibilities

(1) 22 ... ♜x7+ 23 ♜x7 ♜×c8 24 ♜f5 with good chances.

(2) 22 ... ♜e8 23 ♜x7+ ♜x7 24 ♙e6 g×h4 25 ♜f5+ ♙f6 26 ♘ge4 ♜h6 27 ♘×f6 ♜x7 (e×f6 28 ♜f4!) 28 ♜h7!) 21 ♙x8 h×g3 22 ♙e6 ♘×e6 23 d×e6 ♜b6 24 ♘d5 ♜a7 (If ♘×g6 25 ♜f5

followed by ♜g5 and ♘f4 if necessary) 25 ♘f4 ♜h8 26 ♜f5 ♜c8 (If 26 ... ♘×f7 27 g×f7 ♜f8 28 ♘g6+ ♜×g6 29 ♜×g6 with ♜f5 to follow) 27 ♘×h5 ♘×f7 28 g×f7 ♜f8 (White was threatening ♘×g7. If 28 ... ♜×e6 29 ♜h3!) 29 ♘g7 ♜xg7 30 ♜f4 ♜g6 (♜h8 is refuted by 31 ♜g4 ♜a8 32 ♜×g3 followed by ♜g8+) 31 ♜h4 ♜a8 32 ♜h5 ♜f6 (Forced, as ♜h7+ was the threat, leading to mate) 33 e4!



White threatens 34 ♜f5+ ♜g7 35 ♜h3 with decisive effect. Black's best defence was 33 ... ♜c8 34 ♜f3+ ♜g7 35 ♜c3+ ♜f6 36 ♜g3+ ♜g6 37 ♜c3+ ♜f6 38 ♜h3 ♜h8 (forced) 39 e5! giving Black 4 choices (1) 39 ... ♜g6 40 ♜xh8 wins; (2) 39 ... ♜h6 40 ♜xh6 ♜xh6 41 ♜xh6+ ♜xh6 42 e×d6 wins; (3) 39 ... d×e5 40 ♜g3+ ♜g6 41 ♜×e5+ ♜f6 42 ♜g4+ ♜f8 43 ♜g5 and wins; (4) ♜xh4 40 ♜xh4 ♜×e6 41 ♜g5+ ♜x7 42 ♜f5+

However, play continued, 33 ... ♜g7 34 ♜h7+ ♜f6 35 ♜f4+ ♜×e6 36 ♜h3+ and mates in 5.

Alekhine's concluding remark "All in all, a brilliant struggle."

Abrahams started off poorly at London 1946 with only 1/2 from 4, but a score of 6/7 enabled him to finish in fourth place. His last round win over the U.S. champion is a good illustration of the system that he liked to use.

□ **A. Denker** London 1946

■ **G. Abrahams** Slav (Stonewall)

1 d4 d5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 c6 4 e3 ♙d6 5 ♘c3

f5 6 ♠d3 ♠h6 7 0-0 0-0 8 b3 ♠d7
9 ♠b2 ♠f6 10 ♠e2 ♠g4 11 h3 ♠h6 12
h×g4 f×g4 13 ♠e5 ♠xe5 14 d×e5 ♠h4
15 f4 g3 16 ♠xg3 ♠xg3 17 ♠f3 ♠h2+
18 ♠f2 ♠c5 19 ♠c2 ♠d7 20 ♠g3 ♠e8
21 ♠d4 ♠e4+ 22 ♠xe4 d×e4 23 ♠g4
♠g6 24 ♠h3 ♠xg3+ 25 ♠xg3 ♠xg3
26 ♠xg3 b6 27 c5 b5 28 ♠h4 a5 29 a4
♠b8 30 a×b5 ♠x5 31 g4 ♠d7 32 ♠f1
♠x3 33 f5 a4 34 ♠g5 a3 35 ♠a1 ♠f7
36 ♠f4 ♠c8 37 ♠xe4 ♠a6 38 ♠d1
♠e2 39 ♠g1 a2 40 ♠g2 ♠b4! 41 ♠g1
♠xg4 42 ♠a1 ♠x5+ 43 ♠f4 ♠b1 0-1

One of the chess highlights of 1946 was the Anglo-Soviet radio match, won 14-6 by the USSR. That might sound pretty bad by today's standard, but there is little doubt that it was expected to be much worse. After all, the previous year the USA had been defeated by 15½-4½. To Abrahams belongs the honour of making the best British score — 1½ from 2 against Ragozin.

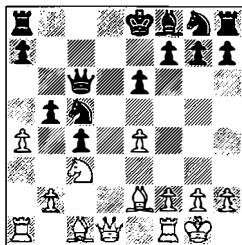
Abrahams calls it "my most important bad game." Notes by E. Klein.

□ V. Ragozin

■ G. Abrahams

Semi-Slav

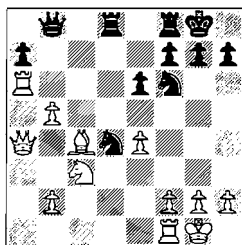
1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♠c3 c6 4 ♠f3 d×c4 5 e4
b5 6 ♠e2 ♠d7? (Better ♠f6 and ♠b4)
7 0-0 ♠b7 8 d5 ♠c5 9 d×c6 ♠x6 10
♠d4 ♠d7 11 ♠x6 6 ♠x6 12 a4



12 ... ♠d8? (Here the otherwise bold Abrahams is unusually meek. 12 ... b4! would have refuted White's 8th move and won the e pawn. 13 ♠x4 a6 14 ♠a2 ♠xe4 or 14 ♠d5? e×d5 and White has no compensation for his material loss. In

this line, if 14 ... ♠xe4? 15 ♠b5! wins neatly) 13 a×b5 ♠b7 (Abrahams comments here "At this stage I felt like the photographer's daughter — under-developed and over-exposed.") 14 ♠c2 ♠b3 15 ♠a6 ♠f6 16 ♠e3? (Ragozin, no doubt fatigued by the unexpected opening problems, misses a comparatively simple conclusion — 125 minutes over first 15 moves — 16 ♠x4, when if ♠d4 17 ♠a4 or ♠c5, 17 ♠e3 ♠x6 18 b×a6 ♠b8 19 ♠b5+ etc) 16 ... ♠c5 17 ♠xc5 ♠xc5 18 ♠c6 ♠b3 19 ♠xc4 ♠d4 20 ♠a4 0-0! 21 ♠a6 ♠b8!

With the sudden threat of a K-side attack Abrahams casts aside his erstwhile meekness and leaps into the fray.



22 f4 (22 f3 was a wiser course on account of time pressure. If 22 ♠x7 ♠g4 23 g3 ♠f3+ 24 ♠g2 ♠d7 when if White saves the exchange by 25 ♠a1 then ♠b6 26 ♠d1 ♠xc4 27 ♠xc4 ♠xd1 and Black wins a whole piece) 22 ... g5! 23 e5 (Abrahams suggests 23 ♠d5!) ♠h5 24 g3 ♠h8 25 ♠d1 ♠g7 26 ♠g4 g×f4 27 ♠xf4 ♠df5 28 ♠e2 ♠h5 29 ♠e4 ♠g8 30 ♠d3 ♠g5! (In order to meet 31 g4 with ♠dg8) 31 ♠c6 (If 32 ♠h1 with g4 in mind, then ♠xg3!) ♠d5 32 ♠fc1 (The tempting 32 ♠x5 ♠x5 33 g4 does not work because of ♠g8) ♠g7! (Much better than 32 ... ♠xe5 33 ♠xe5+ ♠xe5 34 ♠c7 with advantage to White) 33 b6? (A miscalculation. White hopes to keep the queen out, but misses Black's 35th move. 33 ♠(1)c5 ♠xc5 34 ♠xc5 ♠b6 35 b4 would have

consolidated Whites position and given him good winning chances. The text move completely reverses the result as the ingenious Abrahams proves within a few moves) 33 ... **a**x**b**6 34 **c**7 **b**5 35 **f**1**c**6 **c**d8! 36 **c**8 (If 36 **c**3 **b**4 wins a piece while 36 **a**c2 **c**a8! allows the queen to penetrate) **a**5 37 **f**4 **x**f4 38 **x**f4 **e**1+ 39 **f**1 **e**3+ 40 **x**e3 **e**3 41 **d**6 **e**1(g)**x**e5 42 **x**d5 **x**d5 43 **c**3 **x**f1 44 **x**f1 **d**1+ (Abrahams finishes the last lap with skill and dispatch) 45 **e**2 **h**1 46 **e**3 **x**h2 47 **b**3 **h**5 48 **c**7 **g**5 49 **f**4 **d**5 50 **e**4 **h**5 51 **b**4 **g**5 52 **d**4 **g**4+! 0-1

The international tournament at Bad Gastein 1948 was won by L undin ahead of Rossolimo and Benko. Abrahams, though scoring only 8/19, played some very attractive games including the brilliancy prize winner.

□ G. Abrahams *Bad Gastein 1948*

■ E. Canal *Slav*

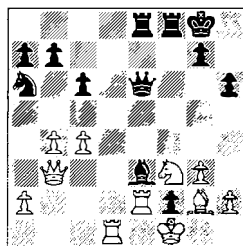
1 **d**3 **d**5 2 **c**4 **c**6 3 **d**4 **f**6 4 **e**c3 **d**x**c**4 5 **a**4 **f**5 6 **e**h4 **d**7 7 **g**3 **a**5? 8 **d**d2 **e**6 9 **e**4 **b**b6 10 **d**3 **b**4 11 **e**5 **e**d5 12 **x**c4 0-0 13 **a**5! (An excellent move strategically and tactically. It cripples Black's queen side pawns, for if 13 ... **x**a5 14 **x**a5 **x**a5 15 **e**d5 winning 2 pieces for a rook) **c**7 14 0-0 **x**c3 15 **b**x**c**3 **x**a5 (Better **e**7) 16 **g**5 **e**8 (If **h**6 17 **e**4 followed by **g**4) 17 **h**5 **h**6 18 **e**4! **f**5 (Wins a piece, but at a cost) 19 **x**e6+ **h**8 20 **h**4 **f**x**e**4 21 **x**h6 **f**7 22 **f**5 **h**5 23 **x**g7+ **x**g7 24 **g**5+ **f**7 25 **e**6+ **e**8 26 **x**h5+ **e**7 27 **h**4+ **f**6 (If **d**6 28 **e**7 **x**e7 29 **f**4+ 28 **g**5 0-1)

□ Danielson *Bad Gastein 1948*

■ G. Abrahams *Dutch*

1 **d**3 **f**5 2 **g**3 **f**6 3 **g**2 **c**6 4 0-0 **d**6 5 **d**4 **c**7 6 **c**4 **e**5 7 **e**c3 **e**7 8 **d**x**e**5 **d**x**e**5 9 **e**4 0-0 10 **e**x**f**5 **x**f5 11 **e**2 **e**b7 12 **e**1 (Perhaps better was **g**5 followed by **e**d2-e4) **a**e8 13 **g**5 **h**6 14 **x**f6

xf6 15 **e**4 **x**e4 16 **x**e4 **e**c5 17 **c**2 **e**4 18 **e**d2 **d**4 19 **e**2 (**f**1) **e**3! 20 **f**3 (20 **f**x**e**3 loses to **x**e3 21 **x**e3 **x**e3+ 22 **h**1 **f**2 23 **d**1 **d**7) **e**x**f**2+ 21 **f**1 **e**3 22 **b**4 **e**a6 23 **h**3 **e**7 24 **d**1 **e**6!



25 **a**3 (The logical 25 **d**3 is met by a remarkable continuation **x**f3 26 **x**f3 **h**3+ 27 **g**2 **x**h2 28 (2) **x**e3 **g**1+ 29 **e**2 **x**g2! and wins) **c**5 26 **b**5 **e**c7 27 **g**4?! (**d**3) **e**4 28 **d**3 **x**f3 29 **x**f3 **x**f3 30 **f**2 **x**e3 **h**1+ 31 **x**f2 **e**6 32 **d**1 **x**h2+ 33 **e**1 **f**8! 34 **f**3 **f**4 35 **x**f4 **e**8+! 36 **f**1 **x**f4+ 37 **g**1 **e**4 38 **d**8+ **h**7 39 **d**3 **x**g4+ 40 **h**1 **h**5+ 41 **g**2 **g**6+ 42 **f**3 **f**5+ 43 **g**3 **g**4+ 44 **h**3 **x**d3+ 45 **x**d3 **x**c4 46 **d**7 **c**3+ 47 **h**4 **x**a3 48 **x**b7 **c**4 49 **h**5 **c**3 50 **c**7 **a**4 (A little joke. If 51 **x**c3 **g**6 mate!) 51 **b**6 (White's turn for a joke 51 ... **a**x**b**6 52 **x**g7+ **x**g7 stalemate) **c**2 52 **b**7 **c**1=**q** 0-1. A humorous finish to a fascinating game.

□ G. Abrahams *Bad Gastein 1948*

■ E. Gereben *Grünfeld*

1 **d**4 **f**6 2 **c**4 **g**6 3 **e**c3 **d**5 4 **f**4 **g**7 5 **e**3 0-0 6 **e**5! **e**b7 7 **c**x**d**5 **x**e5 8 **d**x**e**5 **d**7 9 **f**4 **c**6 10 **d**x**c**6 **b**x**c**6 11 **a**c4 **b**b6 12 **e**2 **e**c5 13 **d**3 **b**8 14 0-0-0!? **a**5 15 **d**d2 **a**4 16 **e**d4 **d**7 17 **h**4 **a**5 18 **h**5 **a**3 19 **h**x**g**6 **a**x**b**2+ 20 **b**1 **h**x**g**6 (If **x**c3 21 **g**f7+ wins) 21 **c**2 **e**6 (To stop **e**6 in some lines) 22 **g**4 **b**4 23 **h**2 **a**8 24 **f**5 **e**x**f**5 25 **g**x**f**5 **e**4 26 **f**6 (**h**7+ first was stronger)

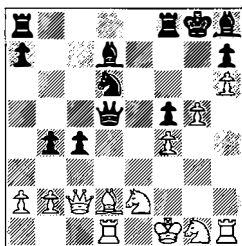
♙g5 27 ♜xg7 ♜h3 28 ♜f4 ♜xc4 29 ♜xh3 ♜xh3 30 ♜h6 f6 31 ♜h8+ (Not 31 e6? ♜h5) ♜f7 32 ♜h7 ♜g8 33 e6+ ♜e7 34 ♜xg8 1-0 What a scrap!

The following game from the 1951 British Championship at Swansea shows Abrahams in his element — "A natural gem" — Wade.

□ G. Abrahams

■ M. Blaine King's Indian

1 d4 ♙f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♙c3 ♙g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♙e2 0-0 6 h4 c5 7 d5 e6 8 dxe6 ♙xe6 9 ♙f4 ♜a5 10 ♜f1 ♙c6 11 g4 ♙e8 (♙d4) 12 ♙d2 ♙d4 13 ♙d3 ♜d8 14 f4 f5 15 exf5 gxf5 16 g5 d5 17 ♜a4 ♙d6 18 cxd5 ♙d7 19 ♜d1 c4 20 ♙c2 b5 21 h5 ♙xc2 22 ♜xc2 b4 23 ♙ce2 ♜a5 24 h6 ♙h8 25 ♙d1 ♜xd5



26 ♙xb4! ♜xh1 27 ♜xd6 ♙b5 28 a4 ♙e8 29 ♙c3! ♜xc3 30 ♜xc3 ♜f7 31 g6 hxg6 32 ♜xg6+ ♜h7 33 ♜g7+ ♜xh6 34 ♜g3 1-0

Abrahams finished third in the British Championship on three occasions, but in 1954 he came very close. Going into the last round equal first with Barden, he lost a long hard ending with Phillips, which he should have held, allowing Barden and Phillips to finish half a point ahead. He did, however, have the satisfaction of the following fine win v. Barden.

□ G. Abrahams Nottingham 1954

□ L. W. Barden King's Indian

1 ♙f3 ♙f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♙c3 ♙g7 4 e4 d6 5 d4 0-0 6 h3 c5 7 d5 e6 8 dxe6 ♙xe6 9 ♙g5 ♙c6 10 e5 (A sacrifice for space) dxe5 11 ♙d3 ♜b6 12 0-0 e4 13 ♙xe4

♙xe4 14 ♙xe4 ♜xb2 15 ♜b1 ♜xa2 16 ♜d3 ♜a5 17 ♜d6 ♜e8 18 ♙xc6 ♜a6 19 ♙e5 bxc6 20 f4 ♜a3 21 ♜c7 ♙a6 22 ♜f7+ ♜h8 23 ♙f6 ♙xf6 (If ♜g8 24 ♜xe6 threatening you know what!) 24 ♜xf6+ ♜g8 25 ♙g4 h6 26 ♜xg6+ 1-0.

And now, another British Champion gets some rough treatment.

□ G. Abrahams

Bognor 1962

■ P. N. Lee

QGD

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♙c3 ♙f6 4 ♙g5 ♙bd7 5 e3 ♙e7 6 ♙f3 0-0 7 ♜c1 c6 8 ♙d3 dxc4 (All fairly orthodox so far, so Abrahams decides on a change) 9 ♙b1!? ♙d5 10 h4 f5 11 e4 ♙xc3 12 ♜xc3 b5 13 ♜e3 f4 (If ♙f6, Abrahams suggests 14 ♙xf6 ♙xf6 15 e5 ♙e7 16 g4) 14 ♙e2 ♜e8 15 e5 ♙b4+ 16 ♜f1 ♜h5 17 ♜c1 ♙b7 18 a3 ♙a5 19 ♙e4 ♙b6 20 ♙xf4 ♙d5 21 ♙g3 h6 22 ♜c2 (Preventing g5) ♙f4 23 ♙xf4 ♜xf4 24 ♙g6 ♜g4 25 h5 ♜xf3 (forced) 26 gxf3 ♜xf3 27 ♙e4 ♜f7 28 ♜e3 ♙f8 29 ♙f3 ♙d7? (A mistake in a bad position) 30 ♙h7+ 1-0.

Finally, the following game from the English Counties Championship, 1966, is like one long combination.

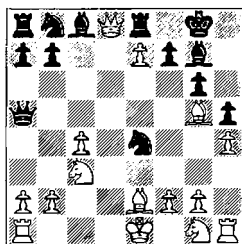
□ G. Abrahams

■ P. Williams

King's Indian

1 d4 ♙f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♙c3 ♙g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♙e2 0-0 6 h4 h5 7 ♙g5 c5 8 dxc5 ♜a5 9 c5xd6 ♙xe4 10 dxe7 ♜e8 11 ♜d8

This position is worth a diagram.



11 ... ♙xc3+ 12 ♜f1 ♙d2+ 13 ♙xd2 ♜xd8 14 ♙xc3 ♜c7 15 exd8(♜)+

♖xd8 16 ♖d1 ♗e7 17 ♘h3 ♙e6 18
 ♘f4 ♘d7 19 ♘e6 ♙e6 20 g4 h×g4 21
 h5 g5 22 h6 ♘f6 23 ♙×g4 ♖f8 24 ♖e1
 ♘×g4 25 h7+ ♗×h7 26 ♖×h7 ♗×h7
 27 ♙d4 ♘h2+ 28 ♖e2 ♘f3 29 ♖d1 b6
 30 ♙a3 ♖f7 31 ♖d3 g4 32 ♖e3 ♘g1+
 33 ♗f1 ♘h3 34 ♙e1 ♖f6 35 ♖e4
 ♘×f2? (A blunder in a difficult position.
 However, if ♖g6, 36 ♗g2 ♗h6 37 ♗g3
 ♗h5 38 f3) 36 ♙×f2 1-0 For if 36... g3
 37 ♖h4+ ♗g7 38 ♖g4+ picks up the
 pawn.

An article on Gerald Abrahams just
 wouldn't be complete without saying
 something about his ability in other
 fields. In a nutshell, he was a barrister,
 author and occasional lecturer. He
 graduated from Oxford with first class
 honours in 1928, was called to the bar in
 1931, was temporary acting Prof. of Law—
 Belfast 1934, lectured to HM Forces 1940-
 44, stood as parliamentary candidate
 1945, occasional broadcasts on law, chess
 etc. His books on law include: "Law
 Relating to Hire Purchase" 1939, "Law for
 Writers and Journalists" 1958, "Trade
 Unions and the Law" 1968, "Morality and
 the Law" 1971. He also wrote books on
 political thought, philosophy, travel,
 bridge and fiction. His first novel "Ugly
 Angel" 1940 was apparently magnifi-
 cently reviewed in papers as good as the
 Times Literary Supplement. In a letter to
 "Chess", Dec 1945, Abrahams says the
 following. "Of my books on politics only
 one was a pamphlet (about 40,000 of that
 was sold); it was called "Day of
 Reckoning". My other books
 "Retribution" and "World Turns Left,"
 sold well, were brilliantly reviewed, and
 only stopped selling because the
 publisher ran out of paper."

Not surprisingly he also wrote several
 books on chess, his best being "The
 Chess Mind." One keen chess player said
 that it did for Chess what Freud did for
 Psychology. Take the following excerpts

"In chess, one realizes that all education
 is essentially self education." — "If you try
 and learn chess by heart, you will at best
 be doing what some players saw and did
 for themselves."

Other chess books include, "Teach
 Yourself Chess", "Technique in Chess",
 "Test Your Chess", "Brilliance in Chess"
 and "Not Only Chess — A Collection of
 Chessays".

Reminiscences of Gerald Abrahams

Alan Phillips joint holder of the British
 Championship 1954-5 writes: I suppose I
 first met Gerald at Hastings 1946-7, my
 first appearance there, but then I met him
 regularly from 1948 as a member of
 Manchester C. C. It was about that time
 he had acquired fame/notoriety as a
 victor over Ragozin, well before he began
 to play 1 Orange-K4!

I acquired some local fame myself by



beating him — with a rook sacrifice — in the Manchester C. C. Championship, probably of 1948-9, and continued to be his *bête-noire* over the chessboard till our last blood bath at Aberystwyth 1955, after which he said: "What I need is a British Championship in which Fazekas is playing and Phillips isn't!"

The point was that he always beat Fazekas, whereas I had a career score of something like $6\frac{1}{2}(7)$ against Gerald. I don't remember whether I tried to comfort him by pointing out that Faz. had something of a plus score against me.

Three occasions I particularly remember. The first was the prizegiving ceremony at Felixstowe, 1949, our first Swiss British Championship in which Gerald finished bottom (he was certainly an extremist) but nobly offered to make the usual speech thanking the Press; the content of the speech was so unusual that I remember it to this day.

Hate The Press

Gerald said that usually he hated the Press for telling lies, but that this time he was going to hate them for telling the truth. He could explain why he hadn't come first: he had been suffering, at his hotel, from the same sort of baths that ruined the Roman Empire. He said we wouldn't understand the allusion, but that when he was sixteen, the great Emanuel Lasker had come to Gerald's native Liverpool and played a simul'. Gerald had beaten him comprehensively, so that next day the local newspaper hailed "the young hero Gerald Abrahams". Unfortunately a misprint — unusual in those days — had crept in, which is how he got his classical sobriquet 'Nero' in the Liverpool club, and he claimed to have been fiddling ever since, while Golombek and others burned up the British Championship.

As a matter of, I suppose, fact, his debacle was no doubt due to his most

conspicuous chess vice of over-optimism, a most amusing example of which had occurred a few days before. Gerald had played his usual pseudo-Caro-Kann $1...c6$ and $2...d6??$ against Johnny Penrose, who had managed to become all of nineteen years old by then after having been stuck on sixteen for the previous five years. Having very properly lost, Gerald was conducting, as usual, the post-mortem with Jonathan sitting there, saying no more than usual. Sir George Thomas was looking on.

After demonstrating a few more moves of this unrecognised and unrecognisable opening, to all and sundry, Gerald looked up at Sir George and said: "What can I do now, Sir George?" The reply was quite succinct: "I don't think you can do anything; I think you have the worse position."

The highlight, though, was the last round of Nottingham 1954 where Gerald would have become champion outright if he had beaten me. It was a slow Ruy Lopez; I had played $d3$ and the inaccurate $...Bg4$ lost time to a subsequent $2e3$. At the adjournment I sealed the beginning of a combination, but even after that the win needed careful checking over the board later, and it is possible that I made the odd non-committal move in the second session while working it out. Towards the end of the session Gerald offered a draw, which I refused. Two or three moves later Gerald shook hands, muttered something like "Thank you", got up from the board and walked towards a small group of people standing a few yards away.

Draw Confusion —

Collapse of Stout Party!

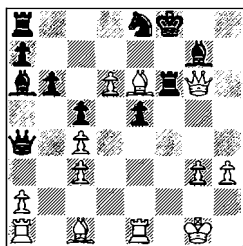
I heard Gerald say to them "It was a draw." You could have knocked me over with a pawn! I called Gerald back to the board, pointed out that I had agreed nothing of the sort and won a few moves

later, whereupon Gerald, who had looked pale throughout, perhaps through eating too much dinner, collapsed. They sent for his bitterest enemy, Dr Fazekas, who quite unmaliciously sent for an ambulance. I looked up at the clock in the university hall, saw it was 10pm and said "My God, closing time." So it was, and the nearest pub was two miles from Florence Boot Hall. They carried Gerald away on a stretcher, with Faz. looking on with perhaps only professional concern!

My last meeting with G rald came a couple of years before his death, when he was just visiting at Hastings. I believe even he had had difficulty in being accepted for the Challengers.

"Let me see," he said, "what was your name?", I told him, and we talked about bridge, and perhaps misplayed a hand or two. About that time I bumped into  enek Kottnauer at an Islington tournament. "Do you know what they call Gerald Abrahams?" he asked. "No", I said. "The English Nimzowitsch." was the reply. Certainly the only *bridge* book by Gerald that I have ever read *is* rather mysterious!

Here are some examples of his lack of discipline. In the 1947 match against the Czechs, G. A. was on board six for Britain and lost both encounters against F. Zita. Yet he could well have won both. Here is the clearer missed chance, from a Queen's Indian where the Liverpoolian



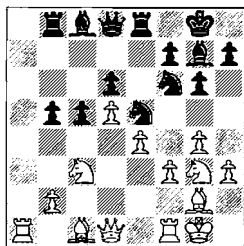
had met ...  e4 by  d3,  xc3; bxc3 and then stormed through with a breakthrough by e5 and f5.

White chose 26  h7  xe6 27  f1+  f6 28  h6! but, amazingly, failed to force home the win after 28 ...  xh6 29  xh6+  g8 30  xf6  g7 31  g6  d7 when 32  f1 is probably strongest, but even his choice of 22  g4 still did not ruin things ... till later.

What he had missed was the queen offer 26  g5  xg6? 27  e7 mate. The game would probably have gone 26  g5  xc4 27  xf6  xe6 28  e7+  g8 29  xe6+ with an easy win

At the 1957 British Championship at Plymouth Abrahams overlooked mate in one in the last round against Bernard Cafferty. There could be no question of time pressure — quite the reverse, as White had taken less than an hour on the clock by the end of the game.

The start of the complications:



This position was featured in the 1963 book *Test Your Chess* and Abrahams felt he should have gone 17 g5, as the way chosen to drive back the knights allowed a promising sacrifice that ensured Black at least a draw.

17 f4  e4g4 18 h4g4  e4g4 19  ce2  h4 20  f3  h2+ 21  f1  h4 and now the over-ambitious 22  b3 f5 23 e4f5  xf5??  f2 mate.

Although there was plenty of white space on the page (*Test Your Chess*), the author could not bring himself to give the last few moves!

Reviews and New Books in Brief

(Prices, one UK, two overseas, include packing and postage — by surface mail — to any address in the world)

Play the Catalan Volume 2 Closed Variation by Y. Neishtadt, Pergamon Press iii 1988, Limp 177pp. £9.53 O. £9.76 US\$18.50

The second part of a translation from the original Russian book, done by Ken Neat. An appendix covers recent developments bringing coverage up to the Dubai Olympiad of 1986.

The main line considered is 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 d5 4 Bg2 Be7 5 Nf3 0-0 6 0-0 Nbd7 and then various white 7th moves. Subsidiary lines include 4... Bb4+, 4... c5/5... cxd4 6 Nxd4 e5 and 4... dxc4 5 Qa4+. The book contains 181 diagrams. The diagonal lines to mark out the black squares seem an inferior style.

Najdorf for the Tournament Player by John Nunn, Batsford 26 v 1988. Limp, 298pp. £13.67 overseas £14.00 US \$26.60

A massive monograph, probably the longest such work in recent times. The move 5... a6 flourished in the decades after the war, and still lives despite some hard blows struck against it both by 6 ♖g5 and 6 ♖c4. Michael Stean brought out a fine book on the subject in 1976 early in his international career and a more detailed version was produced by Stean and John Nunn in 1982. Now we have the expansion from 18 to 23 chapters to take account of the widespread use of it in the chess explosion of the last six years.

Most opening works are strictly selective, which is why one needs to be constantly cross checking. The present work has rejected no lines as "out of fashion" or "totally" superseded, partly because of intrinsic interest, partly because an improvement in one line will cause adherents to move back to previous preferences perhaps based on the cynical view that what is new is often what has been totally forgotten. BCM readers will need no reminder of the author's thoroughness and diligence in other contexts, so this is a possibly timeless work, and certainly a vital reference tool for the CC player and keen competition player.

Tactical Chess Endings by John Nunn, Batsford 26 v 1988. Limp, ix + 208pp. £9.55 O. £9.83 US\$18.65

Some of the remarks above apply here too. First published in 1981 by Allen & Unwin, this book now appears in a revised edition with the Batsford imprint. Much of it is the same as before, but observations by the German translator and various readers have been used to correct and amplify. There are over 130 diagrams in a large size to accommodate the single-column layout, and the emphasis is on cut-and-dried conclusions. Some wonderful examples are to be found. For example the Belkadi-Pachman, 1958 Munich Olympiad position (W. Kg4, Ps a2, c2, c4; B. Kd4, Ps a5, c5) in which Black chose 1... Kc3? 2 Kf4 Kb2 and White wrongly resigned, and a correct analysis in depth (at last) of the classic K + P ending won by Rubinstein against Cohn at St Petersburg 1909.

Recommended for both instruction and entertainment. The only negative thoughts arising from the book are connected with the fact that several prominent British publishing houses, for example Pitman, OUP and now Allen & Unwin, have given up producing chess books in the last decade. How does this square with claims of continuing chess development in the UK?

News from the British Isles

Bury St. Edmunds — The 5th East Anglican Chess Union Congress, at the Corn Exchange April 30-May 2, incorporated the EACU individual title and a qualifier for the 1988 Kleinwort Grieveson British Championship at Blackpool. First place was a massive tie, the first two named gaining the coveted places. S. Gregory is the EACU nominee. 1-7 F. Kwiatkowski, P. Townsend, A. P. Kinsman, S. Gregory (Ipswich) R. C. Freeman (Leighton Buzzard), G. Reid (Norwich), P. B. Singh (Peterborough) 4½(6). The U-180 grading prize was also shared: P. L. Roe, Bedford, I. R. Dutton, Warrington, N. Amor, Bury 3½.

R. Lamont, Thetford, 5½(6) won the Major and H. Tobias, the same score, the Minor.

Chester — The Chester QP on 2 May attracted 143 players to three sections, of whom 22 were in the top group: 1-3 N. R. Davies, A. Dunnington, P. Macklin 5(6); 4 M. Eke; 5 D. J. Tebb 4; ...

S. J. Connor, Moreton, scored 5½(6) in the field of 50 players for the U-165 Major. In the Minor, graded under 125, 1-2 D. K. Mealar, P. Shand 5½(6).

City — Peter Large 6(6) won the £100 first prize at the Highbury Fields, north London QP on May 15. 2 A. Bryce, Milton Keynes, 5½; 3-6 W. Watson, N. Foster, A. Summerscale, T. Fatin 5. J. Obregon, Kings Cross made 5 points to take the prize for first round losers. 138 entered.

Cleveland — David Wise, a former holder of the individual title, took it again by scoring 6(7) in the county title contest. 2 Sean Marsh 5½; 3-4 Richard Hall, Norman Stephenson 5.

Guisborough A (+9 =1) won Div. 1 of the Cleveland League on tie-break, as Middlesbrough had the same total of match points. Guisborough B won Division 2, two matches lost, ahead of St Peter's.

Cumbria — Carlisle A retained Division One of the Cumbria Chess League, conceding only one drawn match in nine. Windermere I were second, ahead of the two Barrow clubs. Grange took the Second Division ahead of North Copeland.

The county title was played over the weekend 5-6 March and was won by Andy Barber, Sasra, 4½(5) thanks to his first-round

win over the much higher-graded Simon Small who scored 4 in the Swiss for 9 players. George Horne, Barrow, scored 4½(5) in the Minor section.

The Pennine Shield for U-130 teams was won by Cheshire & N. Wales, 6 match points, ahead of Lancashire and Cumbria with Merseyside in bottom place.

English Counties Championship — The quarter-final results: Gloucestershire 8½ Northumberland 7½; Lancashire 10½ Leicestershire 5½ (John Littlewood beat Geoff Lawton on top board); Warwickshire 6½ Kent 9½, played at Maidstone, we believe; Essex 14 Devon 1 + one adj. — one of the most one-sided results known in the competition.

Lancs. v Kent in the Final!

Minor Counties: Prelim. Sussex 13½ Nottinghamshire 2½; Somerset 8 winning on board count against Merseyside 8.

Quarter-final: Bedfordshire 8½ Dorset 7½; Cambridgeshire (fielding IM Hartston) 12 Somerset 4; Cumbria 1½ Sussex 12½ + 2 adj. Shropshire 13 Hunts. Peterborough 4;

Second Teams: Yorkshire 7 Middlesex 9; Kent 11 Derbyshire 5; Kent Warwickshire 12½ Gloucestershire 3½; Devon 4 Lancashire 11 + 1 adj.

Third Teams: Kent 9 Nottinghamshire 7; Warwickshire 9½ Suffolk II (sic) 6½; Somerset 4½ Lancashire 11½; Cheshire & N. Wales 8½ Middlesex 7½.

Halifax — Prize money of more than £6,000 attracted a record entry of 451 to the five sections of the Halifax event over the May Day Bank Holiday weekend.

The Remploi Open, 82 players, first prize £700, had no fewer than 24 players graded over 200, including two GMs and several IMs. Gary Lane, ranked 18th in the field, had the toughest draw, meeting four of the top six and scoring wins against McNab and Norwood. He drew with Martin and, in the last round, Chandler. Chris Ward had 4(4), but then lost to Chandler and Arkell.

1 M. Chandler 5½(6); 2-5 J. Plaskett (losing to Ward), D. R. Norwood, K. Arkell. G. Lane 5; 6-10 C. A. McNab, A. D. Martin, D. M. Bryson, G. Quillan, B. Lund 4½. The last two in this list took grading prizes.

Amongst those scoring 4 points were such well-known names as S. Arkell, S. Berry, S. Mannion, J. E. Littlewood, O. A. Jackson.

The Major, under 160 grade, had 102 entrants and P. A. Quinn, Cardiff, score $5\frac{1}{2}(6)$ to win £460. In the Intermediate, U-135, sponsored by Countrywide Computers, J. P. Seetharamdoo, Lancaster, won all six games to go home £380 better off. In the Minor R. Pearson, Macclesfield, T. Smith, Prescott, $5\frac{1}{2}(6)$ winning £255 each. The Junior attracted only 23 entrants and P. Brown, Oldham, scored $5(6)$ to win £100.

Huddersfield — An NCCU jamboree at Huddersfield Polytechnic on 21 May was won by Bradford $5\frac{1}{2}(8)$ ahead of Carlisle $4\frac{1}{2}$; Killingworth $4\frac{1}{2}$; Prescott & Knotty Ash 3; Guisborough $2\frac{1}{2}$.

Lloyds Bank Squad — Michael Adams, 16, won the Lloyds Bank/BCF England under-21 squad championship for the third successive year. In second place, Michael Hennigan who took the SCCU title. More than 350 boys and girls competed at the American School, near Lords cricket ground, on 8-10 April.

U-21 Adams, Cornwall, $5\frac{1}{2}(6)$; M. T. Hennigan, Middlesex 5; A. Mortazavi, J. P. Sharp $4\frac{1}{2}$; D. Djurović (Y), *hors concours*, and C. G. Ward 4; J. Cavendish, R. F. Wilmoth, P. Dargan, I Galloway, A. J. Ledger, P. J. Morris, P. Mukherjee, G. Quillan $3\frac{1}{2}$... in the field of 35.

E. L. Godber, Hampshire won the U-18 ahead of G. Buckley and L. Webb, U-16 G. J. Haslinger $5\frac{1}{2}(6)$; U-14 Selim, J. Merriman $5(6)$; U-12/U-11 M. Houska $6\frac{1}{2}(7)$.

Girls U-18/U-16 N. Regan $4\frac{1}{2}(5)$; J. Harwar 4; N. Hon. C. Haslinger, J. Eastwood, F. Elder (SCO), A. K. Ranson 3 in a field of 15.

U-14 S. A. Joy, J. Myers, E. M. Holland $4(5)$, 20 played. U12/U11 F. Webster, R. A. Harvey $6(7)$; A. Nathoo, H. M. Burns, K. A. Horsfield, S. J. Little 5 — 37 took part.

London — "Garden chess" that stretches the muscles as well as the mind is available at Broadgate Arena by Liverpool Street Station. Clip-together, tecnotile boards will be rolled out between noon and 3.00 pm. Quite light and waterproof according to Bill Hartston. Details from 3 Broadgate, London EC2M 7DB (01-588 6565). The opening was at the end of May.

Scunthorpe — The George Simmons

Memorial Congress at the Scunthorpe Leisure Centre, 13-15 May: 82 entered in three sections. Premier: 1 M. P. Littlewood, Sheffield, $5(6)$ 2 R. D. Westra $4\frac{1}{2}$; 3-4 D. M. Denison, D. Hambly 4.

The Major fell to P. J. Mercs, Oxclose, Notts. $5\frac{1}{2}$. The Minor was tied between J. Abd-Mariam, Hull, and J. Beacock, Stainforth, $5(6)$.

Stockport — The Greater Manchester CA organised a British Championship qualifier at Romiley Forum, May 13-15. David Knox, son of GMCA President Vic Knox will compete alongside his father at Blackpool as a result of coming first in the 5-round Swiss.

Leading scores: D. A. Knox, Stockport, $4\frac{1}{2}$; P. L. Macklin, G. Lilly, O. A. Jackson 4. Paul Macklin takes the second place in the Championship by virtue of his opponents scoring just half a point more than those of the blind player G. Lilly, Prescott, when their sum of progressive scores was the same! The grading prize was shared between D. R. James and I. R. Dutton.

J. A. Jenkins, Marple, scored $4\frac{1}{2}(5)$ in the Major and G. Seeds, Lincoln, made the same score to take the Minor. The entries numbered 28 + 22 + 35.

Aberdeen — The Aberdeen Open, 6-8 May, had a prize fund of £540, of which £200 was in the top section. Paul Motwani won all five games! 2-4 C. McNab, Dundee, D. F. Bain, S. E. Sloan, Aberdeen University 4.

SCA — The Scottish Chess Association has declined an invitation to send a Scottish representative to a youth international chess tournament in Finland. This decision follows on the withdrawal by the Scottish Education Department last year of the grant previously given to help with the travel costs of Scottish chess internationalists taking part in tournaments abroad.

The Association offered the place to several of its leading youth internationals but none of them felt able to accept the higher than average travelling costs to Finland. This is the first time in over a decade that Scotland has had to decline such an invitation and marks what can only be the beginning of a series of refusals as Scotland is forced to take a back seat on the international chess scene following the Scottish Education Department's cost cutting grant withdrawal.

The decision was particularly difficult for 17 year old Ian Mackay from Cumbernauld who had to decide with his parents whether to enter the Finnish or other European youth tournament and abandon any attempt of representing Scotland in the World Junior Championships in Australia, or take the risk of committing himself to the World Junior without them being able to raise the necessary funds.

Background

The Scottish Education Department withdrew in 1987 a grant given for many years to assist Scottish players to travel to international tournaments abroad. They have refused to respond to the fact that English and Welsh players continue to receive central Government funding for such expenses.

Correspondence

Pity the Juniors — and Teachers!

Mike Conroy, Burnley, who ran a school club for decades, is concerned that the collapse of schools chess and local junior leagues could have a serious long-term effect on the future of British chess. Those few games that are played within schools seem of poor standard compared with the 1960s.

Much of the blame for this lies with the reorganisation within schools and increased demands on teachers with regard to staff meetings, retraining, "in-service" courses which reduce holidays that were given to junior organisation. "... a version of Parkinson's Law, as applied to staff meetings — the amount of hot air expands to fill the directed time available!"

Paul Buswell, St. Leonards-on-Sea, writes:

The articles in the May issue, pages 181-2 by Stewart Reuben (Why the BCF?) and 191-2 (Chess in Suffolk) by Tony Rubin, provide some interesting observations. I feel able to offer some comment as I spent nine years as a chess organiser at grassroots level in Suffolk's neighbouring county of Norfolk, a period which overlapped with 11½ years as salaried General Secretary of the British Chess Federation.

Stewart Reuben has set out several cogent reasons for the BCF's worth, but he does not

touch upon a fundamental problem; that the BCF has grown too fast, and its lines of communication and organisation are collapsing.

One reason that the BCF is in some difficulties at the moment is the false perception that world-class tournament and prominent international success will translate themselves automatically into grass-roots progress and enthusiasm in places like Suffolk — they won't, not without a lot of help which the BCF is not providing.

Leaving aside the fact that only a small proportion of chess players will read the quality dailies where chess is sometimes reported, the BCF has not grasped the need to actually do something for the grass-roots organisers to help them in turn tap any extra interest generated by big events. It doesn't happen: the connection isn't made. Has anyone seen recently a BCF press release, or a glossy "Play Chess" leaflet, or a basic guide to starting up a new club? I don't think such things exist: The publicity war is lost by default.

There is no point in the BCF appealing for grass-roots support unless the BCF gets its hands dirty in the grass-roots. Until then Suffolk organisers such as Tony Rubin will be going it alone. I do not see this situation changing until the BCF gets a properly staffed central administration with a powerful leader. Government by weekend committee or evening volunteer with players paying a paltry £2.42 per annum is no longer sufficient for an organisation with the BCF's ambitions. The Federation should have taken the golden opportunity of my resignation in 1986 to seek a forceful managing director type, someone with the role of a political leader or union general secretary — responsible to a committee or board, but leading from the front. Admittedly, such a person would have to be a real enthusiast to work for what the BCF could pay. Yet, instead, the BCF stepped backwards ten years and made its only salaried professional report to an honorary officer even on the most mundane matters. Now, following Graham Lee's resignation, the BCF's hardworking permanent staff, to take the organisation into the next century, comprise one full-timer and four part-timers, none of whom has ever played competitive chess (!)

and who are overworked, underpaid and working at full stretch to stand still: where is the leadership to come from? Finally, even if the BCF does get its act together, it can't help the grass-roots unless they help themselves. Most chess clubs I know meet in cheerless premises and don't go out of their way to welcome prospective members, or teach them the game. If I were a beginner looking for a sociable, comfortable new pastime, would it be chess? Somehow I doubt it. Let's *all* get our act together.

Lee Gaskill comments that he had just finished reading the 1919 *BCM* (yes, from 69 years ago) and found a wonderful letter regarding issues that are still quite relevant today. See below. Our US correspondent from Houston, Texas, wishes us well for the next 42 years, and hopes he is of such an age as to celebrate our 150th anniversary, but will probably not make the 200th!

The 1919 letter, of about 750 words, from a W. J. Clarke, 98 Great Tower Street, London EC3, dealt with a number of topics, including possible rule changes (allow stalemate only in pure pawn endings, allow the king to be captured, allow castling only when the king is in check) and other matters.

Dealing with notation, Mr Clarke wrote "The German is better (the war being over, it is probably safe to admit this) but the principle of the notation in draughts is better still."

Other extracts: "An illegal move should mean a lost game. This would do away with the absurd King-move penalty, and it is not asking very much to expect a player to remember the moves of the pieces."

"... the reform that above all is wanted in chess is that every hundred years a slight alteration should be made in the initial position, just enough to throw the established openings out of gear. The deadly work of the analyst has gone on long enough to fill a book equal to Bradshaw (*the UK railway timetable* Ed.), and unless you learn it all by heart, you may lose a game before actual play begins at all against an inferior player who has a better memory ... the same thing has already happened to draughts, which has been analysed to death ..."

"There are other desirable things: the Padded Room for players who are noisily

facetious, the Lethal Chamber for irritable players, and the Torture Chamber for players who move the pieces with a crash ..."

Obituary

Two old supporters of the magazine have passed away and once again we only learn of the news from the return of the June issue marked "deceased".

J. T. Pascoe of Ilford was a keen Essex organiser and player, who was at his most active in the 1950s and 1960s.

T. V. Parrott of Harrow was a schoolmaster who attended regularly at BCF Congresses in the 1960s. He must have been in his eighties when he died.

The death of **Erno Gereben** is announced by the Swiss *Schachwoche*. Born in Hungary 18 vi 1907 as Ernst Grünfeld and so known until 1934, he had very strong practice as a regular participant in post-war Hungarian championships and in such events as the Maroczy Memorial of 1951. As a result of the Hungarian uprising of 1956 he emigrated to Switzerland and then played extensively in the West including Hastings 1958-9 and Bognor Regis 1959. His best result in this period was shared first place at Reggio Emilia 1963-4.

He remained active in Swiss chess even in his 70s and your editor recalls him as a delightfully friendly personality, rather different from many of the Continental masters of that time. Chess was fun for him, not just a way of making a living!

Correction Corner

Readers have pointed out these slips:

Page 92: Add 30 ... ♖f3 31 ♜c7 ♜b8. Page 197: Cambridge beat Birmingham 4½-1½; Page 217: S. D. Singh was White against J. Way, not the other way round!

Alas, our worst slip was on page 244 of the June issue, where we "awarded" Danny King the GM title, basing this on a normally reliable Continental source. Danny tells us he has only 22 games that count for the norms, instead of the required 25.

On page 251, the bishop at g3 in diagram 4 is white — it was material equality not two pieces up for Black!

Our apologies for rechristening Matthew Sadler as Michael in the last couple of issues.

WHO IS OUT THERE?

by Arthur E. Hills

Three young chess masters were celebrating the astonishing success of the British contingent in the great tournament held to mark fifty years of peace in Europe. The barman, knowledgeable in chess, had spoken of old Steinitz, friendless, driven mad by poverty, who allegedly believed himself to be in electrical communication with God and offered his Maker odds of pawn and move! The three found the very notion of Wilhelm the Whiskers hugely funny. The barman, who was philosopher and poet, said that Age is the clock, Infirmary the flag, and Death an imperturbable Grandmaster. They said in their hearts: one, "I will defeat Death!" and another, "I will cheat Death!" and the third, "I shall meet Death halfway and have the better of him still!" None of them saw Death's grin in the smiling faces of the others.

The three were far from friendless and not at all poor. In those days young ladies of fashion commonly sought the company of chess masters. Since the late 1980's it had been known that a chess champion could be articulate, virile, and interested in fast cars, while pop stars had become disgusting and athletes merely musclebound. Men about town, enamoured of the young ladies mentioned, subscribed to chess magazines and even learnt to play the game. The Daddies of these charming people gained esteem at the tables of Society from sponsoring chess events. Chess was news and it was clean, at a time when some forms of sponsorship had become dubious. Enormous amounts of money and credit were flowing between financial centres, mere dribbles from which were enough to greatly increase the number of tournaments and their prize funds. The strongest players found patrons among the new princes of money.

The genius of the island race was expressing itself in chess, commanding the world's admiration with an exciting new style of play. Sheiks dismissed football managers, seeking instead coaches for chess teams. The government of China made a hundred places available for British Experts in a bid to tap the chess potential of their huge population. The young British masters restored "sun chess", there was a sparkle in their play which state-controlled chess could neither engender nor copy.

He who meant to meet Death halfway became the leading theoretician of the new wave. He played fewer tournament games than his contemporaries but a handful of matches established him among the greatest masters. He lived modestly as a university professor and devoted himself to his great work "Principles & Practice". This ran to several thick volumes and a computer database. The labour was prodigious but his students helped. A new comprehensive classification of middle game ideas was given as much space as the openings.

When the last stone was in place he turned his face away and died, for he was quite worn out. He gave the copyright to the university in consideration of a generous pension for his widow. In his will, he wrote "I leave my book for chess-players everywhere. My heart and soul are buried in it. Death can have my poor husk."

The two who had toasted success with him years ago were the most eloquent voices at his funeral. Within a month both had played against the tenets of the great book and won by their own ability. They put it about that the book was not gospel, then went on to suggest it was seriously flawed. There were few to defend the dead man's work. The

answers were all there but the sheer size of it made reference a daunting task. The computer database was freely available but telephone access was difficult and costly. Loyal and indefatigable, his widow found help to compile a directory but this in itself was no slim volume. His students devised a home-computer program to simplify going "on line." It was to no avail. A year sufficed to rubbish the great work completely and the enduring monument became an embarrassment.

He who meant to cheat Death held to an old idea, again current, that if one could embrace Death indifferently only when sated of Life then truly Death had no sting. He pursued every pleasure, lusing after all sensation. He explored every nostrum which promised long life, yet health slipped away. A day came when a serious condition was diagnosed requiring surgery. His credit was exhausted, his patron weary. Despairing, he went to him who meant to defeat Death and asked to be given their game on the morrow, for friendship's sake, to win the tournament and have money for the operation, perhaps find a new patron.

"Friendship!" was the scornful reply. "Go to the Social Chess on Steinitz Street for that. We masters all hate each other of course but when did you have any chessplayer for a friend? The game delights him but his life of obligation is another country with different customs and language. He may be married, give dinner parties, but how can you be invited? He does not know you. Strangers, you sit for hours together but all he needs you for is a grade or norm." The careless words were Death to the other.

Famine and disease then darkened the globe. As a matter of survival, it was decided to attempt to extend the useful life of the finest minds. Chess was honoured among the disciplines selected for these programmes and its greatest living exponent, he who meant to defeat Death, was enrolled. Almost any limb or

organ could now be replaced. Tissue renewal was possible. First, a respite was needed between cardiac arrest and brain damage, a period eventually extended to nine minutes. During this time the brain would remain lucid and able to take measures. Sensors of bodily state were linked to the brain, under the individual's will, since none could be made to live unwillingly. The great master played chess worldwide on his hundredth birthday, his skill undiminished, from his specially equipped room at the Life Institute.

For years space "noise" had been sifted for anything intelligible. Now came a strong repeated signal which was soon recognised as the binary code for 'd4'. A tentative reply 'd4f6' produced 'c4'. Somebody out there wanted to play chess! Public excitement was tremendous. A schoolboy group stated that there was nothing, no planet or space-vehicle, in the area from which the signal was calculated to emanate. The scientific establishment admitted difficulties and called for more funding.

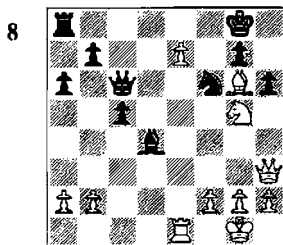
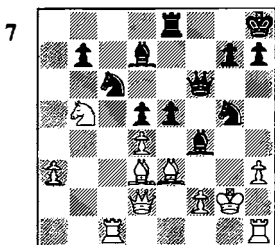
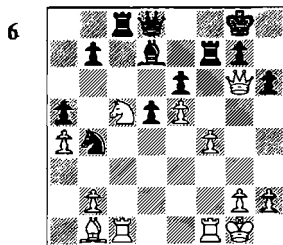
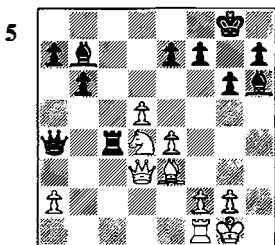
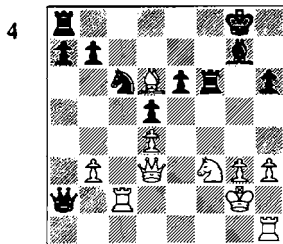
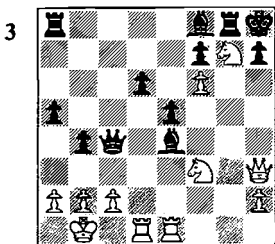
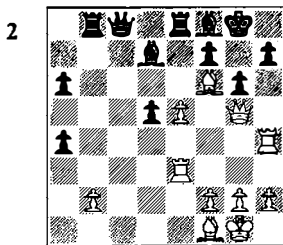
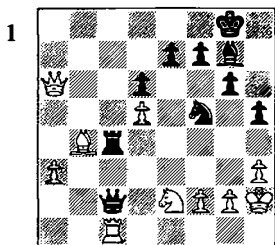
The signal ignored interrogation, simply repeating its last move. It defeated all opposition and at last the great master consented to play it.

The game began routinely. He was recording his thinking, for research. "I've played this a thousand times." A variation seemed to anger him. He demanded that the signal answer a question "Who is there?" Unanswered, he recorded "No man or ghost does more than draw from that." He won a pawn and saw he could safely take another. The unknown adversary sacrificed to clear a rank. Suddenly a closed position looked horribly open.

Recorded: "What have I done? Who has fooled me? Check the position! Was I blind? Damn these screens! Behind the door! Who? O God! who? . . ." In the public hall, his flag fell. Medical staff returned, to find Death had met no resistance. Someone stopped the tape.

Odds and Ends

Find the Continuation





A. Suetin, left, meets A. S. Sersem of Iraq in the Baghdad tournament of April 1988

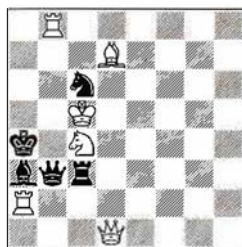
Who Slays First?

From time to time we receive correspondence from readers who wonder about the convention (or is it a rule?) that a pinned piece can still give check. There was correspondence about this in the *BCM* of 1955, in *Chess Amateur* in its early days (we cannot now find the reference) and even in the old *Westminster Papers* of the 1870's! The topic has probably been dealt with elsewhere too, since the same line of thought seems to occur to ever new generations.

The example may be give of such a position: White ♖e1, ♕e2 ♗g4; Black; ♖h6 ♙g7 and ♜e8 pinning the enemy bishop. White plays 1 ♗h5 giving mate, but Black tries to object that the queen is only guarded by the pinned bishop, which cannot move, therefore the queen is not guarded and Black can legally reply 1... ♙xh5.

We once tried to find the point dealt with in a score or more of beginners' books but found only one that dealt with

the issue. Euwe's German version of his Dutch primer (the 1966 edition of *Schach von A bis Z* is the one we consulted) addressed the issue merely in the context of a mate in one:



1 ♖x a3, but also the more elegant 1 ♜b4, exploiting the fact that the ♗c4, though pinned, makes a5 inaccessible for the enemy king.

The problem for writers of beginners' books seems to have been twofold: whether to deal with the feature under 'king move', 'check' or 'pin'; and a desire to get on to castling and more complex matters. Ken Whyld comments that

writers of computer manuals show the same sort of haste!

C. J. S. Purdy dealt with the matter on page 360 of the 1955 *BCM* with a dismissal of considerations of "the sacred 'logic'". He quoted the FIDE Code of 1931 which gave: "The King is in check if the square he occupies is commanded by an opposing man, whether pinned or not." The Australian editor felt that this wording was preferable to the one then current.

The 1924 revision by the BCF of its earlier 1911 Laws of Chess had this: The King may not be captured. It is said to be "in check" if it be in such a position that, but for this Law, it would be liable to capture if it were the Opponent's turn to play. The Player may neither place, nor leave, his King in check, whether the attacking pieces be pinned or not.

The FIDE Laws of 1952, 1955 and 1974 all made clear in Article 10 (3) that a pinned piece checks if the enemy king is in its line of fire. In the 1984 new version, check is dealt with under Article 9 and the vital stipulation has been taken out.

Find the Continuation — Solutions

1 1 ... ♖e5+ 0-1 (2 f4 ♖xf4+ 3 ♖xf4 ♖xc1, or 2 g3 ♖xe2 3 ♖xc4 ♖xf2+ mates in Baumgartner v Zs. Polgar, San Bernardino 1988).

2 1 g4 ♖b3 2 ♖xh7 ♖xh7 3 ♖h4+ ♖h6 4 g5 1-0 (Westerinen v Savon, Dortmund 1975).

3 1 ♖xe4 ♖xe4 2 ♖g5 ♖g6 3 ♖xh7+ ♖xh7 4 ♖xf7 mate (Saunina v Chekhova, Sochi 1980).

4 1 ... ♖f3 2 ♖g6 (2 ♖xf3 ♖xc2 3 ♖xc2 ♖xd4+) 2 ... ♖xb3 3 ♖xe6+ ♖h8 4 ♖xc6 bxc6 5 ♖e5 ♖h7 6 ♖xg7 ♖xg3+ 0-1 (Ruxton v S. Arkell, Save & Prosper Edinburgh International 1988).

5 1 ♖xh6 ♖xd4 2 ♖g3 1-0 (2 ... ♖e8 3 ♖e5 picks up the rook. Lputyan v Lau, Dortmund 1988).

6 1 ♖h7+ ♖f8 2 ♖xd7+ ♖e7 (2 ... ♖xd7 3 ♖h8+) 3 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 4 ♖g6 ♖d7 5 ♖xf7 ♖xf7 6 f5 1-0 (Howell v Navrotescu, Oakham 1988).

7 1 ... ♖f3! 2 dxe5 (2 ♖xf3 ♖xe3+ 3 ♖xe3? exd4 mate!) 2 ... ♖xe5 3 ♖e2? ♖g5+ 4 ♖f1 ♖xh3+ 0-1 (3 ♖c2 prolongs it. Popović v Kindermann, Dortmund 1988).

8 1 ♖f5 hxe5 2 e8=♖+ 1-0 (Conquest v Garcia Palermo, Oakham 1988: 2 ... ♖xe8 3 ♖xe8+ ♖xe8? 4 ♖f7+ and 5 ♖f8 mate).

□ C. Ward *Calderdale Congress*

■ M. Chandler *Nimzoindian*

1 d4 ♖f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♖c3 ♖b4 4 g3 d5 5 ♖g2 0-0 6 ♖f3 dxc4 7 0-0 ♖bd7 8 ♖c2 c6 9 e4 e5! 10 dxe5 ♖g4 11 ♖f4 ♖e7 12 e6; White seems to have little compensation for the gambit.

12 ... ♖xe6 13 ♖h3 h5 14 e5 ♖c5 15 ♖e2 ♖d3 16 ♖ad1 b5 17 ♖g2 ♖d7 18 ♖g5 ♖g6 19 e6 ♖xe6 20 ♖e4 ♖f5 21 ♖xf5 ♖xf5 22 h3 ♖f6 23 ♖d4 ♖d5 24 ♖xc6 ♖d6 (24 ... ♖xc6? 25 ♖xd3) 25 ♖e3 ♖e8 (Which rook is not stated on the score sheet!) 26 h4 ♖g4! 27 ♖fe1 ♖xe3 28 ♖xe3 ♖xe3 29 fxe3 ♖e8 30 e4 ♖xc6 31 ♖xd3 ♖c5+ 1-1.

The tactical trick no longer works as this breaks the pin.

□ J. Ady *Calderdale Congress*

■ B. Lund *French*

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♖c3 ♖b4 4 e5 ♖d7 5 ♖g4 ♖f8 6 ♖h3 b6 7 a4 ♖c6 8 ♖b5 a6 9 ♖xc6 ♖xc6 10 0-0 a5 11 ♖f4 ♖a6 12 ♖d3 ♖e7 13 ♖g5 ♖f5 14 ♖fd1 h6 15 ♖e3 0-0 16 ♖f3 h5 17 ♖g5 ♖d7 18 ♖f4 h4 19 ♖g4 ♖b4 20 ♖a2 ♖f8

Black's system demands patience, but ultimately provokes White into forceful line opening ... and a blunder!

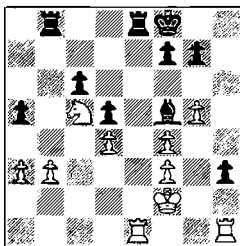
21 c3 ♖c4 22 ♖cl ♖e7 23 ♖xe7 ♖xe7 24 b3 ♖a6 25 c4 dxc4 26 d5 ♖c5 27 dxe6 ♖xe5 28 exf7? 0-1.

Too late he sees 29 ... ♖el+.

QUOTES & QUERIES

by **Ken Whyld**, Moorland House, Caistor, Lincoln LN7 6SF

No. 4720 — A D Perkins would be intrigued to see the “totally drawn ending” won by Botvinnik from Kottnauer in the Groningen 1946 tournament, as Botvinnik’s final score was only a ½ point more than Euwe’s! Here it is, played in the 16th round, after which Euwe was still in the lead.



Botvinnik had just played 36 ♖ce1 and there followed 36... ♜f6 37 ♖g6! ♜xe1 38 ♜xe1 ♜c8 39 ♖g3 ♜xg6? 40 ♜xh3 ♜f5+ 41 ♖g3 ♜b8 42 ♜e2 ♜f7 43 ♜f2 ♜c8 44 ♜e1 ♜a8 45 ♜d2 ♜a7 46 ♜e1 ♜e7 47 ♜b1 ♜a7 48 a4! ♜e7 49 ♜h1 ♜d6 50 ♜h8 ♜f5 51 ♜e8 ♜c7 52 ♜c3 ♜b6 53 b4 axb4+ 54 ♜xb4 ♜f7 55 ♜a8 1-0

The threat is 56 ♜a6+ and 57 ♜a7+. If 55... ♜g6 56 f5 ♜h5 57 a5+ ♜c7 58 ♜a7+ ♜b8 59 ♜xf7 ♜xf7 60 ♜e6 g5 61 ♜c5 ♜e8 62 ♜b6 ♜d7 63 a6 etc. (Source: tournament book, game 155).

No 4721 — Set collectors had a field day at Ludlow on 6 May. McCartneys, cattle auctioneers in the last century, but with a fine arts department for the last twenty years, achieved prices that, according to one London dealer, exceeded those that might have been reached in the capital. Thirty sets, assembled between the 1860s and 1914, sold for more than £60,000. The top lot was an Indian ivory set with polychrome decorations, bought by a

European collector for £11,500. A more ornate Indian set had the highest estimate but was withdrawn at only £6,500. Third highest, an ivory set depicting Christians and Turks, went to Victor Keats, whose book, *Chessmen for Collectors*, perhaps the standard work on the subject, discusses such a set on page 156. Four lots from other vendors were included in the sale, among them a pleasing English bone set which went for £35, the bargain of the day. Among the bidders were a number from USA and elsewhere overseas, as well as Asprey of Bond Street who, in 1986 had a fine exhibition, the catalogue of which, by Michael Mark, is the best basic guide available today on the subject of collectable sets.

No. 4722 — Jonathan Manley’s entertaining *Kingpin* has appeared in its 13th incarnation. One of its articles is an analysis by Jane Garvie of the handwriting of a number of well-known players. To avoid offending the living I remark only that her analyses of the personalities of Capablanca and Lasker based on their handwriting seems substantially correct. The *Private Eye* of chess, *Kingpin* is £1.40 post free, or £6 per year (4 issues). I cannot explain the logic of the price structure, but I can tell you that if you send a large envelope and a 20p stamp to 6 St George’s Rd, Ilford, Essex IG1 3PQ the publisher promises to send a free copy to you.

No. 4723 — Rob Verhoeven has sent the text from *Shakhmatnoe Obozreniye* nos. 64-66 1903 dealing with the scandals of the 3rd All-Russian tournament at Kiev. With translation help from our editor and material from other sources I have pieced together this account.

The central figure was Vladimir Nikolayevich Yurevich (1869-1907), now largely forgotten. In the last round he beat Chigorin in a good game and beat Levitsky, Schiffers, Breyev and Znosko-Borovsky, drew with Salwe and lost tough games against Bernstein and Rubinstein (in the first of which he missed a win), up to the 8th round. Clearly a strong player, he then, as Black against A. I. Rabinovich, opened his 9th round game **1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 e3 b5 4 a4 c6 5 axb5 cxb5 6 ♖f3** and lost, of course.

Yurevich then sent a written statement to the committee accusing Rabinovich of cheating. His story, similar to the notorious Grundy-Ware episode at New York 1880, was that he approached Rabinovich before the game and said that he had not slept and would prefer not to play that day. He suggested going through the motions to adjournment, then playing the game properly privately "when we can see to whom the point would bring more benefit". Rabinovich replied that this meant circumventing the committee, and he was a beginner in such matters. "I'll think about it, let's see".

Yurevich took this as assent, and after the game complained to someone, not sworn to secrecy, that even if the deal was shady it should have been fulfilled. Rabinovich did not deny the proposal but said that he had to win after Yurevich played such a rotten opening. "Good play might have concealed a deal . . . but not the childish play of Yurevich." If the game were not replayed Yurevich said he would withdraw.

The incident was reported in the press and Bobrov, secretary of the Moscow club, complained to the Kiev committee about the continued participation of Yurevich. The committee was furious and said that the press had "thrown a shadow on the tournament". They could

have persuaded Yurevich to withdraw his statement and then issued a refutation of the report, saying that they had no official cognisance of the events. Meanwhile another storm was brewing. Bostanzhoglo, a rich Muscovite, offered a substantial prize for the most brilliant Spanish Opening won by White and rumour was circulating that Yurevich and Lebedev had concocted a game for their 17th round encounter, although in seven of his other games as White Yurevich played Bird's Opening. The "game" duly won the prize, and Chigorin annotated it in *Novoye Vremya*. Here is the essence.

□ Yurevich ■ Lebedev
1 e4 e5 2 ♖f3 ♗c6 3 ♜b5 f5 4 d4 exd4 5 e5 ♜b4+ 6 c3 dxc3 7 bxc3 ♜e7 (Shown to me some days before it was "played") **8 ♜d5 ♜h6 9 ♜xh6 gxh6 10 g4** (Who would dream up such an absurd sacrifice of P & N?) **fxg4 11 ♜bd2 gx f3 12 ♜e4 d6** (To make possible the "brilliant" combination mutually planned) **13 ♜g1 ♜g5 14 ♜xg5** (14 h4 wins, but loses all hope of the prize) **hxg5 15 0-0-0 a6** (Not 15 . . . ♜f5, which would win) **16 exd6 ♜xd6** (16 . . . axb5, 16 . . . cxd6 or 16 . . . ♜f6 are better) **17 ♜gel+ ♜f8 18 ♜xg5 ♜a3+ 19 ♜b1 ♜xc3 20 ♜d8+** (The quicker mate in 4, 20 ♜f4+, is less "brilliant") **♜f7 21 ♜f4+ ♜f6 22 ♜c4+ ♜g6 23 ♜g1+ ♜h5 24 ♜f7+ 1-0** (Finished by unskilful hands).

Yurevich wrote to the editor that Chigorin's "libel had been concocted by a most incapable head", and a court of law would decide the facts of the case. He attributed Chigorin's claim to the fact that he "flatly rejected a certain arrangement" proposed by Chigorin during the course of their game. As to Chigorin's claim that Lebedev confirmed the story, then he (Yurevich) envied Lebedev's "frolicsome disposition", adding that the same Lebedev constantly

asserted in Kiev that he had "sold very profitably" his game against Chigorin, "a statement that seems to gain credibility from the fact that he has beaten Chigorin in every tournament game they have

played up to now." The case appears never to have reached the law courts. Yurevich ended third, after Chigorin and Bernstein, and two points in front of the young Rubinstein.

CORRESPONDENCE CHESS

by Reg Gillman and John Hawkes

It is not always recognised by the players themselves that in correspondence chess one must live one's life while the games are in progress. This doesn't always mean that the games are interrupted. It is normally possible to order one's activities to allow for various kinds of relaxation but, of course, there must be occasions when other things take priority. So we have a kind of flexi-time in the rules. It is designed so that the players can build up a reserve of time by playing more quickly when circumstances permit or by sending conditional continuation moves ("if" moves). That's our insurance against the bad times when one is busy, ill or just plain fed up.

It isn't a lot of insurance though and, in my opinion, one of the major reasons why players give up correspondence chess is because they try to play too many games and then when things go wrong in their private lives, there simply isn't enough time for them. International CC has another kind of insurance to cover this; the time limit can be exceeded once without losing the game. For some strange reason, we didn't include this when we adopted the international rules for British play and I think we need it.

Often, we know so little about our opponents. Some will write a few words with their first move, giving their age and occupation, others will just write "Pleased to meet you, hope we have a good game." Occasionally, the opponent will simply disappear in the middle of the game. Who knows what tragedy may

have overtaken him?

Early this year, a dreadful tragedy struck two of Australia's stronger CC players. John Kellner and his wife Narelle were both very keen chess players. John, a correspondence IM who reached 6th place in the 6th World CC Championship Final, a taxi-driver aged 56, was suffering from an incurable illness, and had been involved in an accident in which two people were killed. He was suspended from work awaiting trial for this when his wife shot him. She was a school teacher and continued at school for a few days then came home and set fire to the house and shot herself.

As a tribute to John Kellner, we have selected three games which demonstrate his original style of play.

□ **R. Sevecek (CZ)**

■ **J. V. Kellner (AUS)** French Defence
(6th World CC Championship Final)

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♖c3 ♗e7

Kellner played this in a number of games in this event, years before Romanishin got onto it.

4 ♗d3

Aarseth v Kellner went, 4 e5 b6 5 ♖g4 g6 6 h4 h5 7 ♖g3 c5; Karker v Kellner, 4 e5 b6 5 h4 h5 6 ♗ce2 c5; Nyman v Kellner, 4 ♗f3 ♗f6 5 ♗d3 b6 6 e5 ♗fd7 7 ♗e2 c5.

4 ... ♗c6!? 5 ♗f3 ♗b4 6 ♗b5+

Zagorovsky v Kellner played 6 ♗e2 and after ♗f6 7 e5 ♗e4 8 a3 ♗c6 9 ♗d3 ♗xc3 10 bxc3 ♗a5 11 h4 h6 12 h5 ♗d7 13 0-0 c5 14 ♖d2 c4 15 ♗e2 ♗a4 soon agreed a draw.

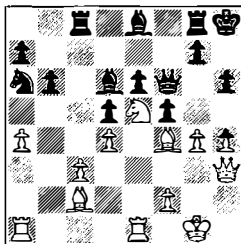
6 ... c6 7 ♖a4 ♜f6 8 ♜e2 ♜xe4
9 ♜e5 ♜xc3 10 bxc3 ♜a5 11 ♖b3
♜a6 12 ♜d2 ♜d8 13 0-0 0-0 14 c4 ♜c7
15 c3 f6 16 ♜d3 ♜h8 17 ♖fe1 ♖a3 18
♜c2 b6.

With the threat ... ♖a6 we can now see some reason in the mysterious 17 ... ♖a3.

19 ♜f4 f5 20 cxd5 cxd5 21 ♜f3 ♖d6

White's gambit idea seems dubious with Black so cohesive.

22 ♜h3 ♜f6 23 ♜d3 ♖d7 24 ♜e5
♜e8 25 ♜f4 ♖ad8 26 ♜g3 ♖c8 27 a4
h6 28 h4 ♖g8 29 ♜h3 ♜a6 30 g4



With an example of the profundity of his CC play, Kellner demonstrates why 30 g4 is not really an attacking move but a self-destruction.

30 ... ♜b4 31 ♖b1 ♜g4! 32 ♜g3 ♖f8
33 ♜g6+

Trying to resolve things but unaware that Black is about to sacrifice a rook.

33 ... ♖xg6 34 ♖xd6 ♖xc3! 35 ♜xc3
♜xf2+ 36 ♜h1 ♜d3! 37 ♖xd3
♜xh4+ 38 ♖h2 ♜h3!

Also very hard to find – another rook is about to be sacrificed.

39 ♜b2 ♖xd3 40 ♜g2 ♖f1+!! 0-1.

The final variation runs, 41 ♖xf1 ♜e4 42 ♖a2 g3! Fabulous chess.

□ J. V. Kellner (AUS)

■ J. Ljungdahl (S) French Defence
(6th World CC Championship Final)

1 e4 e6 2 b3

Inspired this time by Reti.

2 ... d5

In the same tournament, Thiele re-

sponded with the outrageous 2 ... ♜f6?!

3 ♖b2!? dxe4 4 ♜c3 ♜f6

4 ... f5 5 d3!

5 ♜e2 ♖b4

The best theoretically. 5 ... ♖e7

6 0-0-0 ♜c6 7 d3 is unclear.

6 0-0-0 ♜e7

Or 6 ... ♖xc3 7 dxc3 ♜e7 8 g4 ♜c5

9 h4 e3 10 ♖g2 exf2 11 ♜h3 with a White initiative in Karasev v Akopyan USSR 1970.

7 ♜b1

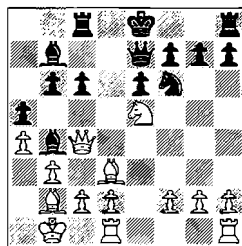
The famous quote here is Spielmann v Grau 1930 which went 7 ♜xe4 ♖a3 8 ♜f3 ♖xb2+ 9 ♜xb2 b6 10 d4 ♖b7 = 7 ... a5 8 a4

Putting a severe brake on Black's Q-side counterplay.

8 ... ♜bd7 9 ♜xe4 c6 10 ♜f3 b6

Now White quickly establishes a dominant position.

11 ♜xf6+ ♜xf6 12 ♜e5 ♖b7 13 ♜c4
♖c8 14 ♖d3



White's eccentric approach has netted a fine attacking position with everything coordinated and aimed in the right direction. Black will have to castle short and try to counter against an impressively fortified king on the other flank.

14 ... ♖a3 15 ♖xa3!

An analysis-wrecker!

15 ... ♜xa3 16 ♜d4 b5 17 axb5 0-0 18

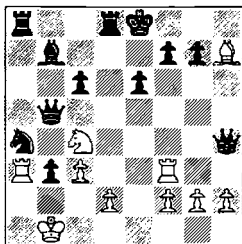
♜c4 ♜b4 19 ♜d6 ♜xb5 20 ♖he1

♖fd8 21 ♜g3 ♜b4 22 ♜b2 a4 23 ♖a1

♖a8 24 ♖a3

Defence in depth before starting his assault on the black king.

24 ... ♖d7 25 ♗h4 ♘c5 26 ♙xh7+
 ♜f8 27 ♚e3 axb3 28 c3 ♗b5 29 ♚f3
 ♘a4+ 30 ♗b1 ♗e8



31 ♗g6! 1-0.

A beautiful finishing touch to a wonderfully original game. If 31 ... f×g6 32 ♗h8+ ♘d7 33 ♚f7+ ♗c8 34 ♘d6+ ♗b8 35 ♗×d8+.

□ V.-M. Huuskonen (SF)

■ J. V. Kellner Dutch Defence
 (Finnish Jubilee CC Tournament 1971-74)
 1 d4 e6 2 c4 f5 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 c6 5 ♘f3
 ♘d7

One can find the source of this concept (K-side options; Q-side development under way) in some old games of Breyer and Tarrasch. Kellner was clearly a well-read player.

6 0-0 g6

Now he extrapolates on the idea by adding a modern "Leningrad" touch.

7 ♘g5

In his 6th World Championship game against the Czech Hybl, the continuation was 7 ♗f4 ♘h6 8 b4 ♘f7 9 b5 g5 and White couldn't work it all out (0-1, 39).
 7 ... ♗f6 8 ♘c3 h6 9 ♘xe6!

Black is on the rack for six moves.

9 ... ♗xe6 10 c×d5 c×d5 11 ♗×d5
 ♗b6 12 e4 f×e4 13 ♗×e4 ♘e7 14 d5
 ♘f6 15 d6

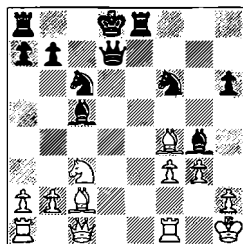
Going through with momentum but Black starts a counter action.

15 ... ♗g4! 16 ♗e1 ♗×d6 17 ♗×g6+
 ♘d8 18 ♗f4 ♗d7 19 ♗c2 ♘c6 20 f3?

A mistake! 20 ♗e3 or 20 a3 was correct. Now all Hell breaks loose and

one can imagine that in between moves the players were studying and rechecking their analyses impatiently.

20 ... ♗c5+ 21 ♗h1 ♚e8 22 ♗c1



We now get a series of moves only a CC game can throw up.

22 ... ♘d4!! 23 ♗a4 b5!!

Black's attack is pushed through despite further compromising his king's position.

24 ♘xb5 ♚c8! 25 ♘c7 ♚e2! 26 ♗×c5
 ♗×f3+ 27 ♚×f3 ♘×f3 28 ♘e6+?

It all started on move 9 with the same move but this time it is not correct.

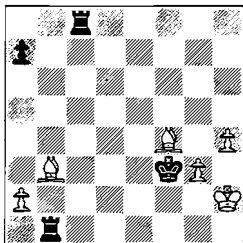
28 ... ♗×e6 29 ♚d1+ ♘d2

Black plugs the file effectively. The natural 29 ... ♘d7 sees Black mated after 30 ♗f8+.

30 ♗d4+ ♗e7 31 ♗×d2 ♗e4+! 32
 ♗×e4 ♘×e4 33 ♗b4+ ♗f6 34 ♚f1+
 ♗e5 35 ♗f8?

Final gaffe, but it's far from evident why an ending 2B v 2R should be lost.

35 ... ♘f2+ 36 ♚×f2 ♚×f2 37 ♗×h6
 ♗e4 38 h4 ♘xb2 39 ♗b3 ♗f3 40 ♗f4
 ♚b1+ 41 ♗h2



41 ... ♚e8! 42 ♗d5+ ♗g4 0-1

A game and a half!

STUDIES — S. M. KAMINER — 1

by Timothy Whitworth 8 Sedley Taylor Road, Cambridge CB2 2PW

Sergey Mikhailovich Kaminer was born on 26 August 1908. Even before he was 20 years old he was demonstrating his outstanding talent in the field of study composition. Between 1924 and 1929 he published 52 studies, mostly in Soviet journals. By the time he disappeared in 1938 the total had risen to a little over 65. R. M. Kofman's book *Izbrannye etudy S. Kaminera i M. Liburkina* contains 61 studies by Kaminer (not counting those in the notes). Of these, 16 won prizes in various tourneys, and 11 more gained honourable mentions / commendations. This remarkable record testifies to the quality of Kaminer's work. To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the composer's disappearance, and the eightieth anniversary of his birth, we are presenting, this month and next, a selection of his studies.

I 1 ♖c5+ ♔c6 2 d7/i ♜x d7 3 ♜d3 ♜g5/ii 4 ♜e5+ ♔d6 5 ♜f7+ ♔e6 6 ♜xg5+ ♔f6/iii 7 ♜h7+/iv ♔xg6 8 ♜f8+ ♔f5 9 ♜x d7 wins.

(i) A move to force the black bishop from c8 to d7, where it will eventually be caught.

(ii) Otherwise Black quickly loses a bishop without obtaining any compensation: 3 ... ♜a3(d2, e3) 4 ♜e5+ ♔d6 5 ♜c4+ etc., or 3 ... ♜h6 4 ♜e5+ ♔d6 5 ♜f7+ etc.

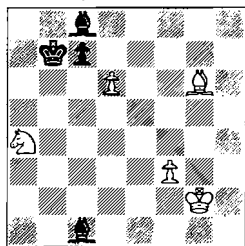
(iii) Now the point of black's third move becomes clear: Black has both of White's pieces under attack.

(iv) 7 ♜f7! ♜e8 draws.

A beautifully constructed study in the forking power of a knight.

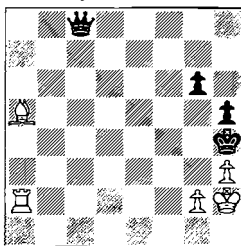
II 1 ♖c2!/i ♔xc2 2 ♜d8+ g5 3 ♜a5/ii ♔e2/iii 4 ♜c7 ♔f2 5 ♜d6!/iv

3rd Prize
Shakhmaty 1925/I



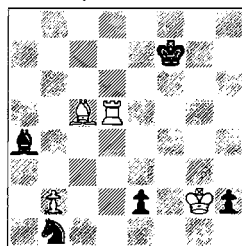
Win I 5 + 4

2nd Hon. Mention
Shakhmaty 1925/II



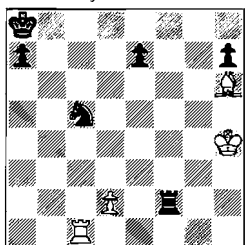
Win II 5 + 4

2nd Prize
Shakhmaty 1926/II



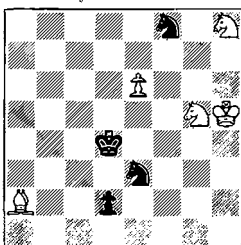
Win III 4 + 5

6th-7th Prize
Shakhmatny listok 1925-1926



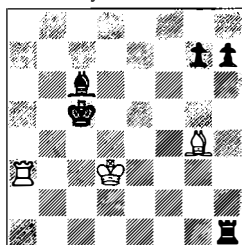
Win IV 4 + 6

1st Prize
Shakhmaty 1927/I



Win V 5 + 4

2nd Prize
Shakhmatny listok 1927/II



Draw VI 3 + 5

♙f4+ 6 g3+ ♜xg3+ 7 ♜xg3 mate.

(i) A sacrifice to lift the queen's guard on d8. If Black declines the offer in order to maintain the guard, his position quickly falls apart: for example, 1 ... ♙d7 2 ♜d2 and 3 ♜d8+ wins; or 1 ... ♙e8 2 ♜c5 (threatening 3 g3 mate) 2 ... ♙b8+ 3 ♜c7 wins; or 1 ... ♙f8 2 ♜c4+ ♜g5 3 ♜d2+ ♜f6 4 ♜f4+ wins.

(ii) White threatens 4 ♜e1+, and would meet 3 ... g4 with 4 ♜d8 mate.

(iii) Black must keep the pawn on g2 pinned.

(iv) Now Black is in a squeeze. If White had to move in this position he could maintain the pressure by playing ♜c7, but for Black any move is ruinous.

The mating finale had been used before, by Amelung and by Cordes, but there is no denying the originality of Kaminer's introduction.

III 1 ♜e5/i ♜d2/ii 2 ♜xe2 h1=♙+ 3 ♜xh1 ♜e4/iii 4 ♜d2 ♜d1 5 ♜e1/iv ♜xf2+ 6 ♜g2 ♜d3 7 ♜xd1 ♜xb2 8 ♜d4 wins/v.

(i) Countering both of Black's threats, namely 1 ... e1=♙ and 1 ... ♜c6.

(ii) Renewing the threat to promote the e-pawn, seeing that 2 ... e1=♙ 3 ♜xe1 ♜c6+ 4 ♜xh2 ♜f3+ draws.

(iii) Threatening both 4 ... ♜xc5 and 4 ... ♜g3+. Of course, White cannot take the knight on account of the ensuing pin.

(iv) The only reasonable move. But now a liquidation produces the kind of material balance that often leads to a draw.

(v) Black misses the draw by a single tempo: 8 ... ♜e6 9 ♜f2 ♜e5 10 ♜e3 etc.

Black's excellent counter-play gives White a hard time in this tactical mêlée.

IV 1 ♜e3/i ♜h2+/ii 2 ♜g3 ♜xd2 3 ♜xd2 ♜e4+ 4 ♜f4/iii ♜xd2/iv 5 ♜e3/v ♜b3 6 ♜c3 ♜a5/vi 7 ♜c5 ♜b7/vii 8 ♜c8 mate.

(i) 1 ♜xc5? ♜h2+ 2 ♜g5 ♜xd2 draws.

(ii) To bring the white king within range of the knight. If 1 ... ♜b3, then 2 ♜c8+ (2 ♜c3? ♜xd2 draws) 2 ... ♜b7 3 ♜c3 ♜xd2 4 ♜xb3+ wins.

(iii) 4 ♜f3 is an insignificant dual.

(iv) As a result of the exchanges Black has the material to draw, but has he the position?

(v) The attempt to win the knight by 5 ♜c8+? ♜b7 6 ♜c2 comes to nothing: 6 ... e5+ 7 ♜e3 ♜f1+ 8 ♜f3 e4+ etc.

(vi) 6 ... ♜a1 7 ♜d2 and 8 ♜a3 wins.

(vii) 7 ... ♜b3 8 ♜b5 ♜c1 9 ♜d2 wins.

The finale of this study recalls a mating manoeuvre shown by Weenink in 1918. V 1 ♜f3+ ♜c3/i 2 e7 ♜d7/ii 3 ♜xd2 ♜f5/iii 4 ♜e4+/iv ♜d4 5 e8=♜ ♜xe4 6 ♜b1+ ♜e5/v 7 ♜g6+ ♜e6 8 ♜a2 mate.

(i) 1 ... ♜d3 2 e7 ♜d7 3 ♜xd2 ♜f5 4 ♜b1+ wins.

(ii) 2 ... d1=♙ 3 exf8=♙ wins, for White remains two pieces up.

After the text White cannot queen his pawn, in view of the impending fork.

(iii) 3 ... ♜xd2 4 ♜g5 wins.

(iv) 4 e8=♜? ♜xd2 5 ♜e6 ♜f6+ 6 ♜xf6 ♜g7+ 7 ♜~ ♜xe6(+) draws.

(v) 6 ... ♜f4 7 ♜g6+ ♜~ 8 ♜xf5 wins.

Resourceful play by both sides yields a memorable model mate.

VI 1 ♜c3+ ♜b5 2 ♜xc6 ♜g1/i 3 ♜f3/ii ♜g3 4 ♜e2 ♜xf3/iii 5 ♜h6! gxb6/iv 6 ♜xf3 draws.

(i) 2 ... ♜xc6 3 ♜f3+ draws.

(ii) 3 ♜d7? ♜d1+ wins, and 3 ♜b4? ♜g3+ wins.

(iii) Another untouchable rook. White will remain two pawns down — but still has to draw.

(iv) Or 5 ... ♜f7 6 ♜xh7 draws.

An intriguing idea presented with perfectly matched play and counter-play.

PROBLEM WORLD

Edited by Colin Vaughan 7/88

THIS MONTH'S PROBLEMS

Newcomers to chess problems should be wary indeed of Richard Hancock's and Cornelius Groeneveld's problems. Once puzzled out, the key-moves can cast a spell which turns perfectly sensible over-the-board players into problem addicts for life. Dare you attempt these problems? Certainly, such key-moves make the heart sing for a moment.

Black is in Zugzwang in Arthur Willmott's contribution — every black move is provided with a mate — but it is White to play. How does White create a new Zugzwang position? The problem paradox is again evident in Mr. Hunter's problem: why should White make a first move so seemingly disadvantageous?

In the main, problems should have strong central ideas — themes. Of the remaining contributions, one has three pairs of changed mates after two black defensive moves which recur in set, try and post-key play. Another shows Black unpinning Black a notable number of times as the means of defeating a threatened white mate. Solvers will warm to changed mating replies after Black's checking assaults on the white King in another. It is disaster for Black on the top rank in another. Even the black pawns fight back strongly in one contribution, but — as in all this month's two-movers — White mates on the second move whatever.

BPB

Welcome to our new contributors from the USSR and from Scotland. They have one thing in common. They both live in the North, Mark from the far North of Scotland and V. V. from Archangelsk, one of the most Northerly ports in the world. No doubt composing chess problems is a fine way to while

away those long nights. **12436** is a sparkling miniature which is dedicated to Sam Loyd, who, I am sure, would have enjoyed it. Any kudos for **12437** belongs to Mark who had the idea. Lovers of the helpmate have a feast in store this month. Toma, Claude and György are well known to *BCM* readers as masters of the form. The joint composition from Greece is in an interesting style — when the solver finds the first solution he still has to work hard for the other two. We welcome another fine problem from the genial host of Andernach, and welcome back Ian and his remarkable "home base" problem, which he dedicates to Nigel Nettheim. And yet another welcome to our new contributor from Vienna who displays a neat medley of different Circe effects. *Circe*: any man (not a K) on being captured in reborn on its game array square if vacant; R, N and B to the square of the same colour, P to the square on the same file as capture.

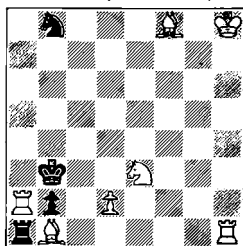
NAM

Solutions, and comments please, to David Friedgood, 1 Waverley Place, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8AS by 10th August. Book prize for best set of solutions (see p.125 March).

Original Problems: 2-movers to B. P. Barnes, Marsh House, Marsh Road, Halling, Rochester, Kent ME2 1DB; **other types** to N. A. Macleod, Mount Pleasant, Lea Bailey, Ross on Wye, Herefordshire HR9 5TY.

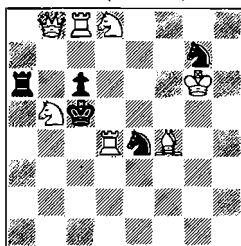
BCM THEME TOURNEY No. 5 AWARD (Nov 1987) — The 2nd prize winner (McDowell) is anticipated by E. Delalieu, *Europe-Echecs* 1962 (♙h5 ♖c2 ♗h6 ♜e4 — ♜f3 ♗h2 — Helpmate in 2*).

12427

R. Hancock (Maidenhead)

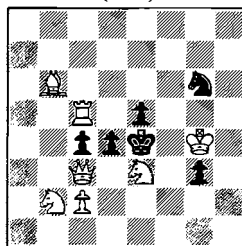
Mate in 2

12428

A. Willmott (Australia)

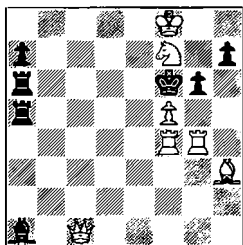
Mate in 2

12429

A. Jawahar (India)

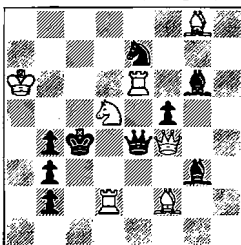
Mate in 2

12430

C. Groeneveld (Netherlands)

Mate in 2

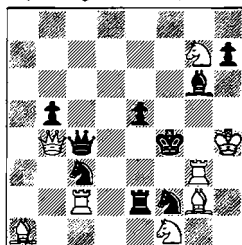
12431

D. B. A. Hunter (Glasgow)

Mate in 2

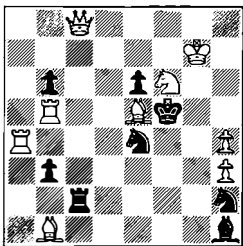
12432 **G. C. Quack**

(Budleigh Salterton) & BPB



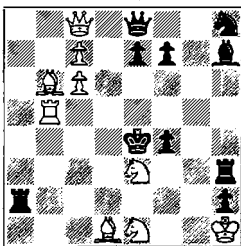
Mate in 2

12433

D. A. Smedley (East Leake)

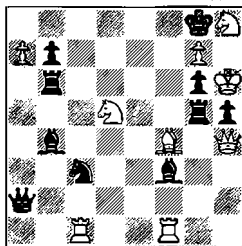
Mate in 2 (set play)

12434

R. Lincoln (USA)

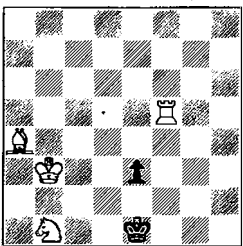
Mate in 2 (try)

12435

Erich Bartel (W. Germany)

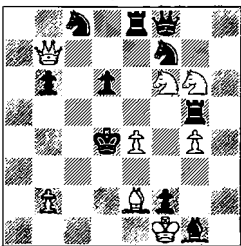
Mate in 2

12436

V. V. Kuzmitsev (USSR)

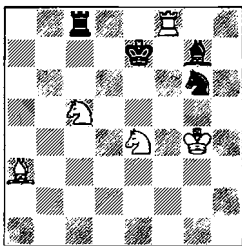
Mate in 3

12437

Mark Ritchings (Glenlivet) & NAM

Mate in 3

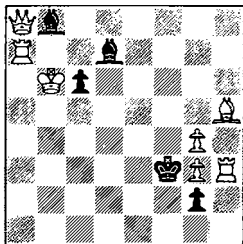
12438

Toma Garai (USA)

Helpmate in 2 2 solutions

12439

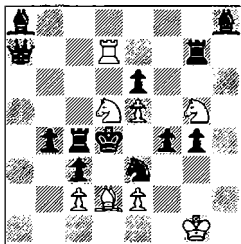
Claude Goumondy (France)



Helpmate in 2 2 solutions

12440

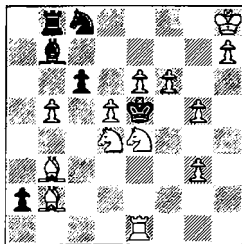
B. Zappas & P. Martoudis (Greece)



Helpmate in 2 3 solutions

12441

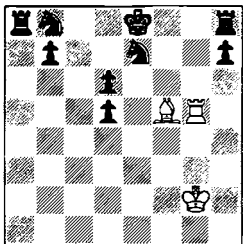
György Bakcsi (Hungary)



Helpmate in 2 4 solutions

12442

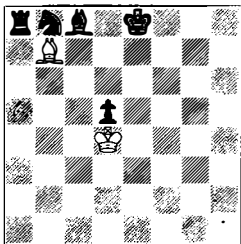
Zdravko Maslar (W. Germany)



Helpmate in 3 2 solutions

12443

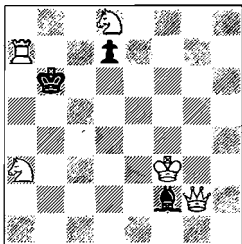
Ian Shanahan (Australia)



Helpmate in 4 2 solutions

12444

Heinrich Bernleitner (Austria)



Mate in 2 Circe

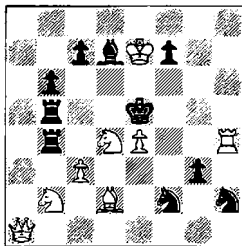
REVIEW:

Meine besten Schachprobleme by Herbert Ahues

This is a splendid collection of 600 two-movers (and three-movers) by Germany's greatest living two-move composer, arguably the greatest Germany has produced, and is a book that no lover of the two-mover will want

Herbert Ahues

2 Prize eq. A. D. S. 1949



Mate in 2

to be without. The diagrams are clearly presented, four or six to a page, with solutions and comments on the facing page. Comments are fuller than usual in collections of this type and a good feature is that all named themes are clearly defined. Ahues pioneered many two-move themes, particularly in the field of white lines. The quoted problem is one of his most famous "pioneers". The book may be ordered from The British Chess Problem Society (R. C. McWilliam, "Amizome", Moor Lane, Brighstone, Isle of Wight, PO30 4DL) NAM

Solution: 1 ♖a8? ♜g4! (2 ♜c6?)
1 ♜b1? ♜fg4! (2 ♜d3?)
1 ♜h1? ♜hg4! (2 ♜f3?) 1 ♜e1! thr
2 ♜f4m.
1... ♜g4/♜fg4/♜hg4 2 ♜c6/♜d3/
♜f3m.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

July 8-10 — 10th Cleveland Congress, Teesside Polytechnic, Southfield Road, Middlesbrough. 5 rounds, 5 sections. Cleveland Leisure Services, P.O. Box 41, Cleveland Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS3 0YZ. (0642 327 583 ext. 217).

July 11-20 — Marseilles Open, 9-round Swiss alongside GM event. Non-smoking, limited places. M. Battaglia G. Les Eaux Vives Bt. D, 248 Bd. Paul Claudel, 13010 Marseille, (91-42-63-56).

July 15-17 — Hereford 20th Congress, Royal National College for the Blind, College Road. Three sections. Limited to 180 players. 5 rounds. P. Johnston, 6 Dormington Drive, Tupsley, Hereford HR1 1SA (0422 57527). Close 10 July.

July 16-17 — E. J. Arnold/Greater Manchester Junior Championships, North Chadderton School, open to non-GMCCA players. Under-9 on 16th, U-11 17th, U-14 and U-18 on both days. P. Adams, (04577 70024).

July 17-30 — 21 Biel Festival, many different events. Free entry for GM/IM. Hans Suri, Postfach 1105, CH-2501 Biel/Bienne, Switzerland.

July 23-August 12th — Knutsford QP, High School (Upper School) Bexton Road, Knutsford, 6 rounds, 4 sections. D. Smith, 10 Churchfields, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 8DP (0565 4859).

July 23-August 7 — Festival of London, open-

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air chess on giant sets. Simul displays and speed events from noon on Saturday 30 July.

August 1-13 — Kleinwort Benson BCF Congress, Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool, see advert.

August 20-29 — Lloyds Bank Masters, Ramada Inn West, Lillie road, London SW6 (venue of Tony Miles's first GM norm!). 10-round Swiss, title norms open to all. Sliding scale of entry fees. Tony Gaffney, 59 Reighton Road, London E5 8SQ (01-806 6518).

August 15-21 — Tampere 9-round Swiss, 40 in two, entry fee 250 Finnish marks. Venue: Vellamonkatu 2. Edvi Kvist, Valkama, SF-33840 Tampere, Finland. Info: Esko Nuutilainen (358-0-2919319).

August 27-29 — 25th Berks & Bucks Congress, Amersham Community Centre, Chiltern Ave. Amersham, close to LT/BR Station. 5 rounds, lightning tournament after prize giving. 4 sections. R. J. Pidgeon, 12 Birch Grove, Windsor, Berks. SL4 5RT (0753 863 503).

September 9-11 — Hull Congress, Humberstone College of Higher Education, Cottingham Road, Hull. 4 sections, 5 rounds. J. P. Lawson, 52 Rokeby Avenue, Hull HU4 7NA (0482 53494).

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LATE NEWS

Belfort — Scores after 7 rounds of the French event in the World Cup, 14 vi - 3 vii: Ehlvest (beat Timman, Speelman and Hjartarson) and Kasparov (beat Yusupov, Nogueiras, Timman) 5; Karpov, Hübner, Spassky, Sokolov 4; Andersson, Belyavsky, Ljubojević, Ribli, 3½; Short (lost to Hjartarson in round 7), Speelman 3; Yusupov 2½(1); Hjartarson, Nogueiras 2½; Timman 1½(1).

Canada — The Keres Memorial, May 20-23, in its 14th year attracted 173 players. 1-2 K. Spraggett, A. Kuznecov 5½(7); 3-6 J. Donaldson, J. Silman, L. Piasetski, R. South 5.

Candidates Match — The 6-game match between Nigel Short and Jonathan Speelman begins on 17 August at the Barbican Centre in the City of London. Playing times are 2pm-8pm on 17, 18, 20, 21, 23 and 25 August, in Cinema 1.

If unresolved at 3-3 then further play on 27 and 29. If a score of 4-4 ensues then all will be resolved on 30 and 31. Details BCF (0424 442 500).

English Counties Championship — Lancashire 10 Essex 6; Gloucs. 5½ Kent 10½. As will be seen from the other sections the finalists are the two success stories of the season just ending.

Minor — Sussex 11½ Bedfordshire 4½; Cambridgeshire 8½; Shropshire 6½ (1 adj.); Second Teams Kent 7 Lancs. 9; Middlesex 9 Warwickshire 7; Third Teams Warwickshire 14 Cheshire & N. Wales 6; Lancs. 5½ Kent 13½ (1).

There is a proposal from Merseyside to cut the minimum boards required to 12 — increasing difficulty in raising teams?

Kings Head — The 3rd Open by the strong London club attracted 259 players to three sections. In the top group: John Nunn 4½(5); 2-8 Fedorowicz (USA), Hebden, Martin, Large, Bass, Forster, Ward 4. The top grading prize, 204-190, fell to D. Kumaran 3½.

Leeds — The British Quick Play title (30 minutes per player per game) was tied between five players after a fluctuating struggle: Chandler, Flear (winning the trophy), Hebden, Hodgson, Nunn 8½(11); 6-7 McNab, Norwood; ... in a field of 108 that lacked former winners Short and Davies.

London — The Association of British Chess Masters is arranging a closed event 21-29 July: two teams of 9 each, each playing all members of the other team. An idea of Willi Icllicki, sponsored by him with a limited budget. Venue: Muswell Hill Sports Centre, Durnsford Road, N22. Play: 2pm daily with coaching/analysis for spectators from 4pm. contact Malcolm Pein, or phone 01-881-3610 during the event. Visitors include GMs Lukacs (H) Abramović (Y), Murey (ISR).

Luxembourg — The open sponsored by the Gothard Bank was won by the German Schmittziel 8(9). Glenn Flear scored 7 to finish second. Stuart Conquest scored 6½ to finish seventh.

Norwich — The Norfolk individual championship at the end of April was tied between Owen Hindle and D. Twitchell 4(5). New rules for a play-off applied and O. M. Hindle won 2-1 to retain the county title which he first won in 1958 and has held 13 times.

Paris — The Paris Open had 29 players for its 9 rounds. 1 Gutman 7; 2 Murey; 3-4 Cebalo, Sello 6; 5-6 Kosten, Lautier 5½; 7-10 Flear, Birmingham, Hebden, ... 5.

M. Sadler — There are hopes that a £20,000 sponsorship will be arranged for Matthew Sadler by a firm involved in Anglo-Soviet trade.

Santa Monica — Software Toolworks, publishers of "Chessmaster 2000" home computer program, will sponsor a \$130,000 tournament at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach November 24-27. John Hillerty 835 N. Wilton Place, Los Angeles CA 90038.