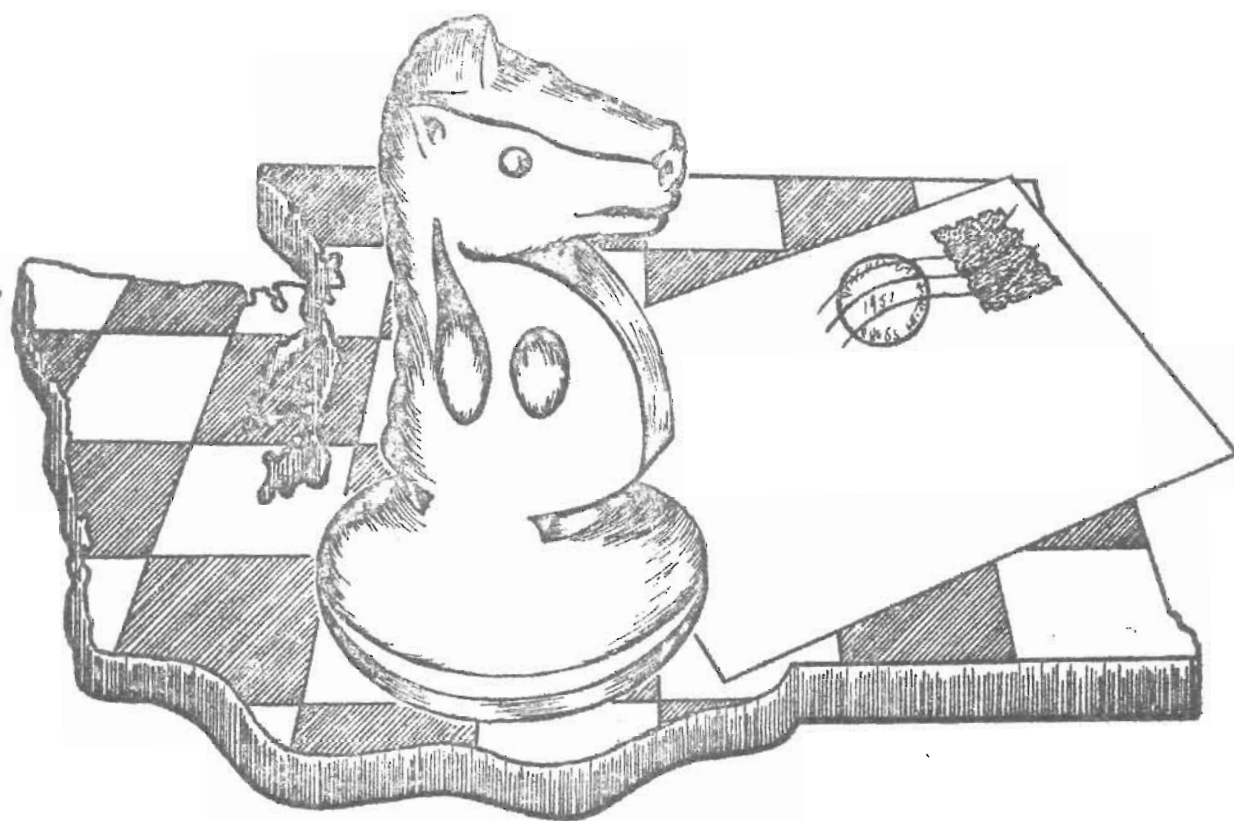


# WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER



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# WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER

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# EDITORIAL

## NOURSE MACHINE SLATE SWEEPS STATE!

Upsetting the two term precedent for the first time in Washington State Chess history in an election by acclamation, "Honest John" Nourse gracefully accepted the office of President for the third time. Reliable sources reported that Nourse offered his resignation in favor of the Vice President or somebody just before the election. Such action was not only considered illegal but unthinkable. Why switch horses in the middle of the stream was the question of the day. Besides there was a very interesting tourney going on in an adjoining smoke-filled-room. Also, Stork was in the hospital.

By the way, chess fans, our capable Editor, Mr. Stork was last reported languishing in the hospital, (alluded to above). A speedy recovery, Bob, and the temporary Editorial Staff strongly advises you to stick to chess and forget the will-o-the-wisp Ping-Pong. She proves to be a fickle mistress.

Chess fans, the deadly Summer season is now practically with us. The game will suffer as a result. Cannot be helped I suppose. A special detective, hired by the President, to suppress any erring chess players from wandering to other things has this to say:

"Last week, I visited the entire first team of the Kitsap County Chess Club. The things I saw them doing on the Club meeting night shouldn't be told. But on Sunday it was worse. Instead of practicing chess they were all lallygagging around in the sun, hoeing their gardens, driving cars, fixing houses, drinking beer, and ignoring the finer things of life. One very active player was observed out with a girl. I took him to task and he claimed she was his wife! Upon searching him, I found no miniature chess set, no pocket chess book and no chess recognition button. There was however a pint sized flask in his right rear pocket, which he claimed was snakebite medicine.

"I sampled the contents and it definitely was not water, milk, tea, or gingerale. The flask contained WHISKEY gentlemen. I think this man should be suspended from contact with other members and quarantined from the Federation."

The Gestapo man made his report to the President at the Bainbridge Island Chess Academy. Mr. Nourse ordered the man's immediate suspension from the Kitsap team for a period of four months...

The convic ted man, with witnesses, called at the Bainbridge Island Chess Academy on the Sunday following the sentence. He drove down the driveway to the gatekeeper postern. The gatekeeper became nervous upon learning the identity of the anguished visitor. He said that the master was OUT, but definitely OUT. "Not IN, No sirree Bob, the marster 'e's not hin this afternoon, Governor!"

"We'll wait then, R---whoops--- said, we'll wait right inside the bloody garden."

The gatekeeper barred the way but was soon overpowered and his bleeding but loyal form tossed over the garden wall. Inside the garden, John Nourse was standing, hoe in hand, gazing fondly at his petunia plants when the hurtling gatekeeper landed at his feet.

The intruders broke down the gate so quickly that the Prexy didn't have time even to drop his hoe, let alone reach for his trusty chess set on a nearby sun-dial. The negotiations that followed resulted in the reinstatement of the erring but aggressive player. The invading party then graciously offered to bind the wounds sufferrred by the sentry in his ill-starred but futile defence. Nourse did not accept this offer and in fact acted with ill-concealed displeasure throughout the whole affair. He was last seen about to toss his best ivory chess set into the goldfish pond.

Informed sources report that a delegation of WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION members called on Charles Joachim later the same day for a comparision of European vs. local chess methods. Mr. Joachim assured them that things were different over there.

P.S. Robert Stork had no part of the composing of this Editorial.

# CLUBHOUSE UNIVERSITY

Jerry Schain has again won the University of Washington Chess Club Championship. Jerry, who has consistently played first board for the University team, placed first with a score of 32½. He lost only one game.

Second with a score of 31½ is James Amidon, former Puget Sound Open Champ.

Third is Kenneth W. Mulford, former University of Washington Chess Champion.

Charles Ballantine, the Washington State Champ took fourth place. In fifth place we find George Stearns.

The University of Washington Games Committee sponsored the first Annual University of Washington Championship Tournament on April 7, 1951 according to reports. (No results at this writing). They plan to hold this annually with the first prize a large trophy and also the title of University of Washington Champion.

Formerly the University Chess Club held a quarterly tournament, the title of University of Washington Champion going to the winner. Now however, winners of Club Tournaments will receive a title of University of Washington CLUB Champion. The word Club being used to distinguish between tournaments sponsored by the Games Committee and the Chess Club.

## YAKIMA

Oliver La Freniere is the new Yakima High School Chess Champion, winning the newly organized High School Chess Tournament. His very excellent score was 14 wins and no losses.

The runner-up was Dick Dexter with a score of 13 to 1. His only loss being a defeat at the hands of the new Champion.

# NEWS REHBERG REPORTS

William Hoge and Eli Triesman were the contestants considered most likely to be battling it out for first place in the Yakima City Championship Tournament that was scheduled to be played from the 2nd of April to May 7.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: We haven't got the mail from East of the mountains lately-----so we don't know the results)

The Yakima Chess Club extends its welcome to all out of town players. The meeting night is every Monday at 7 P.M.

The place: The Yakima YMCA.

## FORKS

The Forks Chess Club has scheduled a match with the Port Angeles Chess Club according to information received from Leonard Hegnes of Forks.

## TACOMA

In the Pierce County Championship held in Tacoma Vernon Holmes emerged the victor. His score being 9 to 0.

Next came Schuyler Ferris, with a score of 7 wins, 1 draw and 2 losses.

Third was the teen age Latvian, D. P., with a score of 6 wins, 1 draw and 2 losses. Ivars Cakarnis has just recently come over from Latvia. The boy proves that they teach them to play at an early age in Europe.

4th spot went to Victor Hultman, 6 to 0 was his score. Hultman failed----to play his last game and so lost his opportunity for a chance at 3rd place.

-----  
Capablanca lost only 35 games, in almost 30 years of tournament and match play.

# REHBERG REPORT

As your Publicity Director, I would like to ask one of you from each Club to write to your local paper announcing the various chess events in your locality. A followup article giving the results of events should also be sent promptly to the papers.

Shortly after being given the job of Publicity Director, I dashed to the library, to read up on the idiosyncrasies of our friends, the EDITORS of NEWSPAPERS.

It seems that they have RULES and REQUIREMENTS which must be followed or else your article doesn't stand too good a chance of being published.

The rules are simple and I pass them along to you for the benefit of the organization:

1. The 5 W's, i.e. What, Who, When, Why and Where. For example: The Blank Chess Club will attempt to defeat Mr. Olaf Ulvestad, Tuesday evening, Sept. 8th at the new YMCA building. Mr. Ulvestad will give a demonstration of his chessboard skill there on that date and the public is cordially invited. The Chessmaster will play a crowd estimated to include at least forty players. He will also play one blindfold game.

The exhibition will be the first of several for Ulvestad, who is preparing for the National Championship Tournament in March, 1952.

2. Always give the correct spelling of proper names and include the first names. But never refer to a player by his nickname unless he is well known by such a name.

3. If writing for a Radio Station, be sure to give the correct pronounciations.

4. In announcing an event give at least one week. If reporting an event send the news in as soon as possible.

They tell me that a finger or some other section of the anatomy was an altogether too frequent ante in Medieval Chess games. Glad that I wasn't around then. My name would have been 'Lefty' or 'Shorty' for sure.

Imagine the mantel decorated with the grisly trophies of the chess chase! I don't think that they ever mounted a brilliant opponent's head over the fireplace, but you never can be too sure what a chessplayer will do.

How long before chess reaches the popularity of canasta? Or marbles?

Tomorrow night there will be stew in the ice box, cut up some potatoes and add to stew. This got in by mistake originally. But it will show you the condition of my mind at press time. Well, I'm in a stew most of the time anyway.

PREDICTION: The Experts are going to get some unexpected competition. When they meet for the Masters and Experts Tourney a strong South wind will blow them down.\*

PREDICTION: The U. of W. will defeat Kitsap County by a score of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$ . This is a new type of prediction. You read it after the contest is played.

\* I see by the papers that the Masters and Experts Tourney is now called the Experts Tournament. I presume that this is because no Masters plan on entering the tourney. This tournament will take place at the Seattle Chess Club on May 26 & 27th. If you are recognized as a Chess Expert by the WCF be sure and enter. 9:00 A.M. starts the first round. It will be a 6 round Swiss and the entry fee is \$2.50 for WCF members. All others pay \$3.00.



# woodchopping

with Jack Nourse

Comes now, our indefatigable Tournament Director, Charles Joachim, with an immortal idea, designed to further endear the game of chess in the affections of the general public, and further widening the field of prospective converts.

Mr. Joachim's idea. . . God bless him. . . is to hold a chess rally in the Rainier Brewing Co.'s reception rooms, the object being the fuller enjoyment of the game under the stimulation of a noggin of bitters. This idea has our full approbation.

Full many a gadget has been sold to an unwary public under the slogan. "It goes good with the beer". . . so while the picture of a barroom teeming with chess-players is difficult to conceive, still the possibilities are decidedly intriguing. There may be a niggling few to object that chess quality will suffer, but they will admittedly be a small minority.

The impressive point is, that with the success of this idea, (and who can doubt it,) further refinements may naturally be expected to appear. In the happy future it may be that chess will be popularized in the night clubs, with cocktails or a magnum of champagne for the solace of the anguished loser.

Well, while we dream, lets not be niggardly with this fascinating idea. My not complete the picture by including a bevy of beautiful chorines. . . they usually are associated with the champagne idea. . . Now this is getting good. . . . Lets go boys. Chess marches on.

To this ravishing prospect, the caviling purist will no doubt raise the agonized wail. . . "What kind of chess do you expect then". . . the answer to this is, of course, by this time - "WHO CARES!"

The chips are down, fellows. Back up your enterprizing director. Lets popularize chess. LETS HAVE FUN.

\* \* \* \* \*

In more serious vein, this suggestion has real merit. We say. Let's try it.

With the player who regards his refreshment purely as such, an evening of chess can attain a very special enjoyment.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bob Stork's numerous friends will be grieved to learn that our popular editor is temporarily in a hospital with a lung hemorrhage. We, of the chess fraternity join in sending him best wishes for a speedy recovery. Bob's condition is such that he requires rest and consequently the Kitsap club has taken on the responsibility of publishing the April issue of the Chess Letter. We hope that our readers will bear with our failings and forgive our mistakes. However, "The show must go on," and we are muddling our way through.

To those of you who have not given much thought to the job, we can assure you that it is a helluva lot of work. By the same token we can also vouch for the fact that it is lots of fun. However it is possible to obtain too much of a good thing, so we are putting out an appeal for all clubs to edit a column of their own news events for publication in this magazine.

The University, Portland, and the Seattle Chess Club have already signified their intention of writing a page of their clubs special activities, and also cutting the stencil for the job. One page is not too much work, and if the boys take turns it will mean one evening only in each six months per person. We are asking for this help because we don't want to wear out any more editors. So far we have seen three fine editors falter, and cough, and finally collapse in a frenzied effort to out-do Hearst. And if you have read this far, you have a suspicion already that good editors are in short supply.

We will furnish full instructions as to how to type and stencil the copy and we can assure you that you will have a lot of fun while you brush up on journalism. Also you will help build up your own club. We all thrive on publicity.

The Chess Federation will be waiting anxiously for your rallying cry.

\*\*\*\*\*

How to win hint from Portland:-  
Bring your cute sister along. She won't disturb you, but she might work havoc among the younger opposition.

\* \* \* \* \*

# PUGET SOUND LEAGUE--JACK NOURSE reports.

CLYMPIA	5	So. Tacoma	4
A. Murray	1	Ferris	1
Stork	2	Moore	0
Corretelli	1	Cakarnis	1
Harneson	1	Dolle	1
C. Yocum	0	Creque	2

## KITSAP 8 EVERETT 2

J. Nourse	2	Power	0
Finnigan	0	S. Nourse	2
Magerkurth	2	Naas	0
A. M. Zollars	2	Husby	0
G. Christey	2	Tweeddale	0

## UNIV. of Wash. 6 EVERETT 4

Shain	1	Power	1
Ballantine	2	S. Nourse	0
Hulford	1	Husby	1
Stearns	2	Tweeddale	0

## CLYMPIA 7 West SEATTLE 3

A. Murray	1	Mage	1
Corretelli	1 1/2	Weischer	1 1/2
D. Murray	2	Howard	0
Harneson	1	Vukonich	1
H. Yocum	1 1/2	Schneider	1 1/2

## TACOMA-YMCA 3 1/2 SEATTLE YMCA 6 1/2

Hewitt	1	Joachim	1
Coubrough	1 1/2	Bader	1 1/2
Hultman	1	Hebert	1
Martin	0	Mads	2
Collins	1	Warner	1

## SEATTLE C.C. 7 W. SEATTLE 3

Patterson	1	Schmoyer	1
Enz	2	Horman	0
Leaver	0	Mage	2
Muller	2	Weischer	0
Weissenborn	2	Howard	0

## KITSAP 6 1/2 TACOMA-YMCA 3 1/2

J. Nourse	1	Hewitt	1
Rehberg	2	Coubrough	0
Magerkurth	2	Hultman	0
Patterson	1 1/2	Martin	1 1/2
Christey	1	Collins	1

While three postponed matches delay completion of the 1950-1951 Puget Sound Chess League the results now show the Seattle Chess Club as a virtual cinch to win top honors. Seattle has a match to play with So. Tacoma and should they lose this, they can still win if the Seattle Y.M.C.A. fails to beat the University.

These two teams will be battering it out for second place honors.

Should Seattle and the University both lose, the Y.M.C.A. will then tie the Seattle Chess Club for first place.

The remaining game between South Tacoma and the fast improving Seattle club affords the latter team their last chance to enter the win column.

\*\* \*\*\*\*\*

### CLUB STANDINGS. MAY 1951

TEAM.	Won	Points for	Pts Agst	Pts.
Seattle	6	47	33	6 1/2
Y.M.C.A.	5 1/2	44 1/2	35 1/2	5 1/2
U. of W.	5	42 1/2	37 1/2	5
Tacoma	4 1/2	43 1/2	36 1/2	4 1/2
Clympia	4	42 1/2	37 1/2	4
Kitsap	4	41 1/2	38 1/2	4
Everett	2	28	52	2
So. Tac.	1 1/2	24	56	1 1/2
W. Seattle	0	13 1/2	66 1/2	0

\* \* \* \* \*

## LATE FLASH

During the absence of the WCL Director, Richard P. Allen will continue as Assistant Editor of the WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER. It is requested by the Board of Directors that all hands lend the maximum assistance. Until further notice, address all editorial material and WCL communications to Mr. Allen, Rt. 6, Box 3223, Bremerton, Washington.

Altho some games remain unplayed, in the current Seattle Chess Club Round-Robin Tournament, all contenders have conceded victory to the rising young Chess Star Carl Enz. Congratulations.

# EN PASSANT

by Dick Allen

The other day I happened to mention chess to my driver, Frank Blakefield. One of our riders said, "Oh, that's the game where you sit around and don't do nothin', ain't it?" (The "Dragon" appears.)

Another one said, "Yeah, that's for old men, somethin' like checkers--- a good way to kill time."

Frank was dragging his feet, but I rode out to do battle with the "Dragon". I don't know who manufactures these horrible things, but I believe they are mostly paper-mache' with seegar smoke and sound effects furnished by our own men. First, I softened it up by asking the innocent question, "Do you think 'working-out' in a gymnasium is a waste of time? How about track meets? Basketball? Football?"

The answer was negative, so I pulled the rug, revealing the trap door, "You see, chess is the 'gymnasium' for the mind, and chess tournaments are the 'track meets'. Chess matches are the 'ball games'."

The Dragon whined, "But there's a lot of brainwork in ball games."

Showing no mercy, I opened the trapdoor in front of the Dragon, "Yes, but on an entirely different level. You see, the physical games require mental activity mainly on the reflex-action level, whereas chess is designed to test the highest functions of the mind."

The Dragon whimpered, "Yes, but it takes too long, life is too short for that."

I then gave the Dragon a nudge, and he fell thru the trap-door leaving only a whisp of smoke to remind us of his existence. I called down after him, "The race is to the swift, but you lose if you get off the track." There came no answer from the "Dragon".

\* \* \* \* \*

Games are like firedrills, they put you thru your paces and test your "survival-potential". The increased mock-danger and its uncertainty as to shape, direction and time of arrival, take chess out of the "fire-drill" class, however, and set it equivalent to a military or political campaign, a business deal, a courtship, or just life in general, complicated as it is.

According to DIANETICS, "A Modern Science of the Mind", by L. Ron Hubbard, all calculations of life forms are based on the prime directive, SURVIVAL. The emotional level of the human being is a direct function of the continuous evaluation by the computer of its survival-potential. Happiness is the contemplation of pleasure, and pleasure is the SENSATION of survival. Pain, on the other hand is the sensation of NON-SURVIVAL, and the sanity of the individual can be measured directly in terms of his survival-activity.

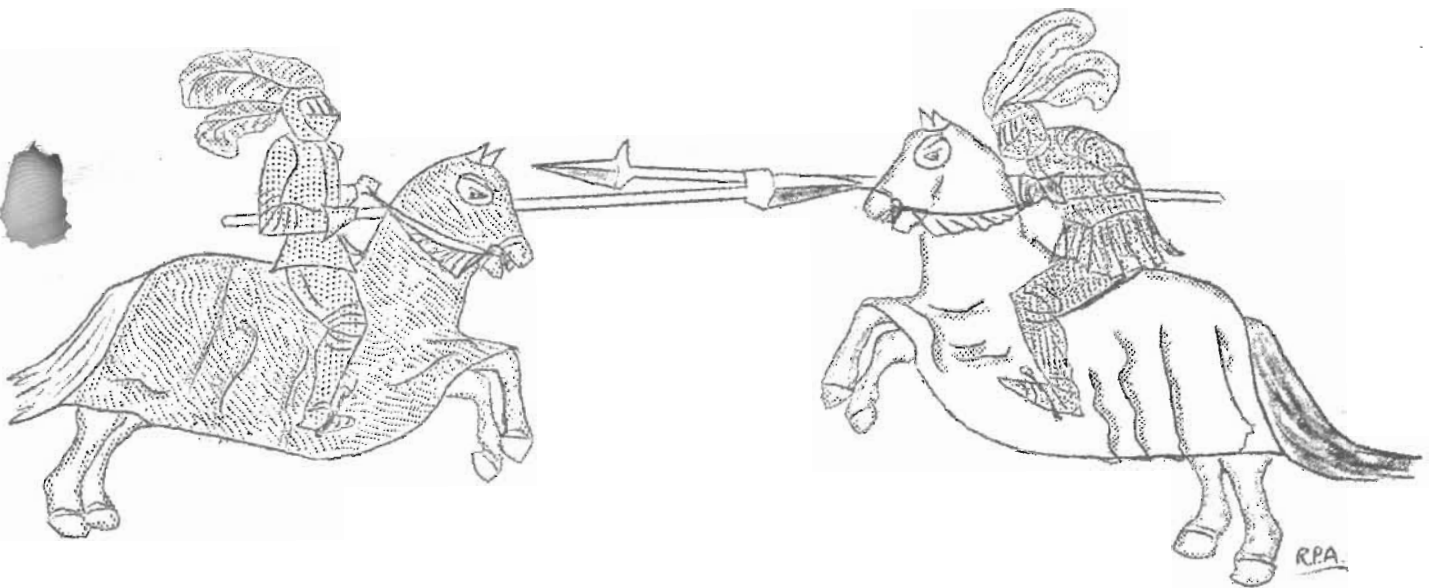
We require our young to go to school to increase their survival-potential. There they memorize enormous amounts of miscellaneous information, but in the intelligence tests, their performance is graded on both speed and accuracy. The one who solves the most problems accurately in a given time is given the greatest praise and the highest grades. Even the another student might solve just as many in twice the time, he is left behind, as the class struggles for survival. We don't expect a thesis on the first question in an examination.

\* \* \* \* \*

The main chess strength of Washington was represented and exercised at the recent State Tournament. However, there are several chess stars who did not shine because they were absent, mentally or physically. Some of the latter are: J.L. Sheets, Vernon Holmes, Carrol Crain, Jack Hourse, George Rehberg, Jack Finnigan, J.A. Haas, Larry Taro, Neil Power, Max Bader, Don Wade, Dr. Murray, Bob Neale, Theodor Davidson, Father Bussy, Gerald Schain, and others also, ready to display their talents under favorable conditions. If the facts were known, I'm sure we would find that the time element was decisive in their failure to compete. (Washington State Open, that is.)



# POSTAL CHESS



Register now for the POSTAL CHESS Tourney. The lists are open to all Washington chess players and then some. Send your name and address and 50¢ to the Treasurer, W.H. Raleigh, 4318 Densmore Ave., Seattle 3, Wash. Mr. Neil Power, Postal Chess Director will assign you six opponents who are FAIR GAME, as it were. You may joust them on any day, anywhere you may come upon them. The following reports have just come in, giving the standing in the lists of the more prominent and popular Knights of the Square Table:

Class A		Class B		Class B	
Ballantine	1569	Allen	1007	Roberts	961
Bever	1327	Amsden	1132	Running	994
Bushnell	1210	Arntzen	1052	Seekamp	1088
Cerretelli	1276	Blakefield	1044	Taylor	1079
Christey	1175	Caincross	1152	Vail	1158
Coubrough	1361	Cutshall	1000		
Dolle	1324	Emerson	1046		
Gordon	1237	Hardinge	1192	Class C	
Greene	1451	Howard	1041		
Miss Grey	1369	Husby	1108		
Harneson	1252	Landenberger	993	Baker	896
Hazen	1288	McCarthy	1148	Connell	772
Hellums	1230	Martin	997	Hiscox	879
Kaffenberger	1236	Merk, R.R.	1009	Karch	746
Magerkurth	1294	Moore	1137	Marshall	720
Naas	1612	Merk, Fred	976	McCownell	850
Plenty	1214	Norman	1167	Mrs. Moss	734
Sams	1182	Orme	998	Neilson	805
Tweedale	1246	Parry	1012	Plume	732
Yocum, H.E.	1166	Raleigh	867	Sanford	920
Yocum, C.L.	1231	Rich	961		

Results of Encounters: Section 50--A--10  
 Bever -1 Yocum, H.E.-0  
 Bever -1 Sams -0

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SEND IN YOUR GAMES FOR PUBLICATION!!!! The games department isn't receiving enough games these days. Send in your game with that pretty combination. Maybe you did make some mistakes but a few games are perfect and everyone is interested in games...good or not.....send all games to Games Editor, WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER % Mr. Glenn Muller 9309 Linden, Seattle, Washington  
POSTAL CHESS: is becoming more and more popular every year. Get started now by sending in your registration fee. 50¢ per section of seven players. Enter as many sections as you wish at a time. No time clocks to make you miss that master combination or end game strategy. Move the pieces back and forth to your hearts content and then mail your startling move to your luckless opponent. Write to NEIL F. POWER, POSTAL CHESS EDITOR, 429 CEDAR, SNOHOMISH, WASHINGTON.

WANTED: Authentic information, facts, legends or fragmentary history of chess activity and personalities in Washington Chess History. J. Nourse, Rt. 1, Box 787 Port Blakely, Washington.

SIMPLE CHESS: by Weaver W. Adams. A new booklet by Mr. Adams to improve your ability. For beginners or experts. \$1.00 postpaid. NeoChess Co. Rt. 6 Box 3223 Bremerton, Washington.

FREE! FREE! A \$2.00 Chess Book entitled "The Russians Play Chess" For more details about this offer write a card to COURIER CHESS CLUB 3206 South 58th St., Tacoma 9, Washington



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FROM

TO

EXPIRE 7/51

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