

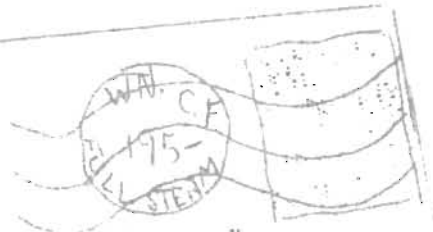
# WASHINGTON

# CHESS

# LETTER



OCT 1952



# WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER

\$2.00 YEARLY

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# YE OLDE EDITORIAL

— BY DAN WADE —

Now there has not been enough interest shown in Federation activities so far this year. The turnout for the International was a disappointment with so many of our experts missing. In the Washington Open the expert players were present but attendance of the others was very poor. I believe there are several reasons for this. In the past few years chess promoters have really poured it on with tournaments and more tournaments! So many that any player that tried to play in them all and also play in Puget Sound League matches would really take a beating. I know because I have tried to play in them all! So the player naturally will play in some events and skip others. By having so many events the player is always assured of being able to play in at least one event each year even though he does skip several. So there is a good side and a bad side to the large number of events. By cutting down on the number of tournaments we do not necessarily assure a larger attendance at each tournament. The recent California Open drew 40 players. The lure might have been the number and large size of the prizes. First prize was a trophy and \$60.00 second prize was \$35.00, third \$25.00, fourth \$20.00, fifth \$15.00, sixth \$10.00 and seventh \$10.00. Total that and you get \$175.00 in prizes plus a trophy. In our tournaments you get a trophy if you finish first. If you finish second you get congratulations!

Washington chess has no guardian angel ready and willing to donate \$175 for tournament prizes that I have ever heard of. (Forgive me if I fail to use the editorial 'we') The money would have to come from the pockets of the contestants. Twenty players each planking down \$5.00 would raise \$100.00 in prize money. Say first prize was a \$15.00 trophy and \$25.00 spending money. The other 60 bucks could be divided as follows: Second prize \$20.00, third \$15.00, fourth \$10.00 and the Washington Chess Federation treasury could use the remaining \$15.00. This could be standing procedure with the treasury taking in any other money in case there was more than \$100.00 taken in. If less the treasury would take the loss, if still less fourth prize would take a beating, if still less fourth prize would be out and third prize would take the beating etc etc. I know that there are twenty players in the state with a good chance to pick up prize money under such a system and they might play a bit more careful with \$25.00 or \$20.00 riding on their moves! And think how pleased the 'Dearly Beloved' would be when you came home with MONEY in your pocket. No longer would chess merely be an amusement with no material profit. Study of chess books would increase, play would improve and excellent play would be rewarded for the \$100.00 conditions mentioned above could be increased.

But what about the duffer that likes to play in chess tournaments but who never has a chance to win? Well, the big money tournament would only be once a year. The other tournaments would retain their present entry fees and there would be enough chess tournaments for all.

Think the Puget Sound Open, February 14-15, a good time to try out this plan. How about it Washington Chess Federation Directors? With the poor turnouts we have had what can we lose?

# PUGET SOUND LEAGUE

Mr. Coubrough of the Tacoma YMCA Chess Club sent in the following report regarding the scheduled Tacoma vs. Kitsap chess match for October 5th.

TACOMA Y.M.C.A.	vs.	KITSAP	
1. V. Holmes	2		
2. R. Collins	2		
3. L. Coubrough	2	DEFAULT	
4. R. Leach	2		
5. T. Dolle	2		
	<u>10</u>		<u>0</u>

Dear Wade

I wrote to Allen (Allen is the Kitsap Chess Club president) ten days ago asking him to confirm date set by the Chess Letter but received no reply nor phone call.

The above note reached your poor gray-haired editor two days after match was supposed to be played. On October 7th to be exact.

Since the last Board of Director's meeting nary a peep has been heard from the Kitsap Chess Club. Not one of their players was at Mount Vernon for the International, none of the Kitsap players played in the Woodpusher Tournament or Washington Open. Now they fail to show for their first match in the Puget Sound League. This shows a definite lack of organization in the Bremerton area. I understand that there are quite a large number of players over there and surely there are some that can take the initiative and form a good team.

## EVERETT CHESS CLUB SPLITS DOUBLE HEADER!

Everett was scheduled to play Olympia but no Olympia team showed up. If the Olympia chess group (I number them as among the most staunch supporters of Washington chess) are unable to get a team together they should let us know. Anyway, as the Everett team had traveled all the way to Seattle apparently for nothing, I felt a certain responsibility as the Tournament Director and gave West Seattle to them as a substitute opponent. West Seattle, weakened by the absence of Mr. O.W. Manney away on a business trip, fell before the Everett team to the tune of 9 to 1.

Now I owed it to my own Seattle YMCA team that they should also play. I had given our scheduled opponent away to these Everett wolves. So it was agreed on after the Everett-West Seattle match that the Seattle YMCA was to play Everett and meet West Seattle later when they had all of their big guns ready. To make a long story short the result was Seattle YMCA 8 and Everett 2. Summary of the two matches below:

EVERETT 9.		WEST SEATTLE 1.		SEATTLE Y.M.C.A. 8.		EVERETT 2	
1. Neil Power	2	Max Mage	0	Max Bader	1½	Neil Power	½
2. Jack Nourse	2	Vuconich	0	Dan Wade	2	Jack Nourse	0
3. Sid Nourse	2	F.M. Howard	0	Russ Vellias	2	Sid Nourse	0
4. Bert Brandstrom	2	Ward Kemp	0	Max Bader Jr.	½	John Ring	1½
5. Peter Husby	1	Stuart Woodward	1	Jorgen Bader	2	Peter Husby	0

The University of Washington and Seattle Chess Club match was postponed. Ken Mulford points out that the University had to postpone their first match last year too as the University had just opened and the club hasn't had time to really get organized. The situation at the Seattle Club is sort of up in the air also. Glenn Muller had taken charge for several years and wants to take a rest. In a club the size of Seattle's surely there is someone with the "get up and go" to organize a team!

# LEAGUE SCHEDULE REVISED

With the apparent withdrawal of Olympia and Kitsap from this season's Puget Sound League play and the entry of a new club, Seattle University, ye olde tournament director must make a couple of small changes in the schedule for the 1952-53 season. By substituting Seattle U. for Olympia and giving out bye for former Kitsap dates we get a new schedule without departing radically from the old one.

ROUND ONE - Sunday, October 5th 1952 - 1 P.M.

Everett 9 West Seattle 1, Seattle YMCA 9 Seattle U. 1, U. of Washington vs. Seattle Chess Club at Seattle Chess Club postponed and Tacoma YMCA-bye.

ROUND TWO - Sunday, November 9th 1952 - 1 P.M.

Seattle YMCA 8 Everett 2 (Oct. 5), Seattle U. at Tacoma YMCA, Seattle Chess Club vs. West Seattle at the Seattle Chess Club and U. of Wash.-bye.

ROUND THREE - Sunday, November 30th 1952 - 1 P.M.

West Seattle vs. Seattle YMCA at Seattle Chess Club, Seattle U. at U. of Washington, Tacoma YMCA vs. Seattle Chess Club at Seattle Chess Club and Everett-bye.

ROUND FOUR - Sunday, December 14th 1952 - 1 P.M.

Tacoma YMCA vs. Everett at Seattle Chess Club, Seattle U. vs. Seattle Chess Club at Seattle Chess Club, West Seattle at U. of Washington, and Seattle YMCA-bye.

ROUND FIVE - Sunday, January 18th 1953 - 1 P.M.

Seattle YMCA at Tacoma YMCA, U. of Washington at Everett, Seattle U. at West Seattle and Seattle Chess Club-bye.

ROUND SIX - Sunday, February 1st 1953 - 1 P.M.

Seattle U. at Everett, Tacoma YMCA at U. of Washington, Seattle YMCA vs. Seattle Chess Club at Seattle Chess Club and West Seattle-bye.

ROUND SEVEN - Sunday, March 1st 1953 - 1 P.M.

Seattle YMCA at U. of Washington, Seattle Chess Club at Everett, Tacoma YMCA at West Seattle and Seattle University-bye.

CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYOFF (If necessary) Sunday, March 8th 1953 - 1 P.M.

Held at Tacoma YMCA if that club is involved otherwise at Seattle Chess Club.

MATCH RESULTS-REGARDLESS OF THE SCORE-ALONE COUNT TOWARD THE CHAMPIONSHIP.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Seattle Y.M.C.A. chess team gave the new Seattle University team its baptism of fire in the Puget Sound League trouncing the new member 9 to 1.

SEATTLE Y.M.C.A. 9.	SEATTLE UNIVERSITY 1.
1. Dan Wade 2	Erneste Wise 0
2. Max Bader 2	Don Doyle 0
3. Floyd Hebert 2	Ken Borski 0
4. E. I. Walker 1	Bob Buck 1
5. Jorgen Bader 2	Jack Logan 0

LEAGUE STANDINGS	OCT. 19th
Team	Won Lost
Seattle Y.M.C.A.	2 - 0
Everett	1 - 1
Tacoma Y.M.C.A.	0 - 0
U. of Washington	0 - 0
Seattle Chess Club	0 - 0
Seattle University	0 - 1
West Seattle	0 - 1

CLUBS MUST PAY A LEAGUE ENTRY FEE OF \$5.00.  
Send money to Mr. Raleigh, 4312 Woodland Pk  
Ave. Apt. 3, Seattle, Washington

H E L P P R O M O T E W . C . F .

What happened at the 1953 State Open is an excellent example of what can be expected of an organization that is in the throes of 'low membership.' Why did we have only 16 entrants?--It was impossible for our magazine to reach many people because not many people subscribe to it. I sent out 200 circulars on the Open, many to non-members, but yet our attendance was low. Why is this? It is probably because of the fact that tension in this nation is reaching a peak sometime this year, and when that terrific tension falls off, we can expect a return of interest in chess. Perhaps also our Open was scheduled too early in the tournament season. In any case, I look more optimistically toward the future. I feel that interest will go up and our organization will grow strong.

I also noticed at the Open that the quality of chess has fallen somewhat. Our better experts were undermined by upsetting near-novices. We used less time on the clocks, and there was more thud and blunder than usual. This, too, is a part of the tension that exists across the nation, which, as I say, is coming to a head.

There is still our job to do, however, and we must do it or expect to let this slump continue. How many of you have turned in one subscription for our Chess Letter within the last month? Not very many have by the looks of my new member list. I can be sure that there are those among you who think WCL is too small, poorly done or have some other complaint about it. I'll tell you why these conditions exist-- We have few members, a small treasury, and paper, ink, and stencils cost money. Too few people are working on the production of the WCL, and three persons cannot do the whole load and do it well. Five people are a minimum to do the exacting stenciling job and the messy publication work. We are lucky to have such virtuous and capacious people such as Dan Wade, Bob Merk, and O. W. Manney working for us. Without them WCF would go bang!

PLEASE DO YOUR PART----GET AT LEAST ONE PERSON TO JOIN WCF, AND DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR WCL WHEN IT COMES DUE!!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND OLD MEMBERS RETURNING!!

Craig McPhee, Seattle  
Cpl. Don O. Roberts, Seattle

The list is not very long----HELP US!!

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THE PROBLEM ANSWERS  
for September series

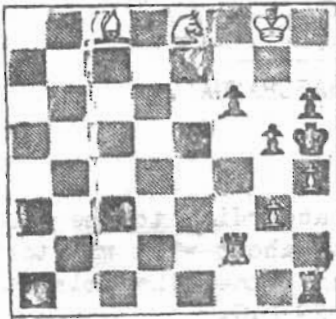
No. 1. 1. N-R3, R-KN5 (forced); 2. R-N5ch. RxR (forced); 3. N-E4 mate. As always, it had its hidden answer. When I try to solve a problem I look first for the most illogical move on the board. That is usually the answer.

No. 2. In this clever little jewel it is necessary to lose a move in order to displace the enemy Rook. So 1. R-N5, R-R8; 2. R-N2, and you can see the rest. Isn't that clever?!!

No. 3. Here again it is necessary to lose two moves in order to force black in the needed position. 1. B-R2, P-K5; 2. R-N3, K-K4; 3. R-N5 mate by double check.

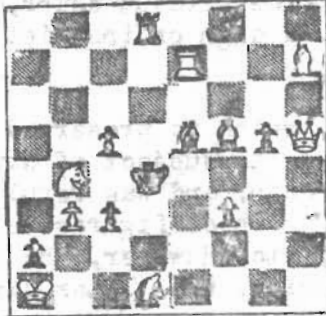
No. 4. Now that I look this thing over carefully I can't find any way of mating in three moves. I have lost my key and can't figure out the answer myself, so if someone finds the answer please send it to me. Otherwise consider it 'cooked.'

BLACK No. 5



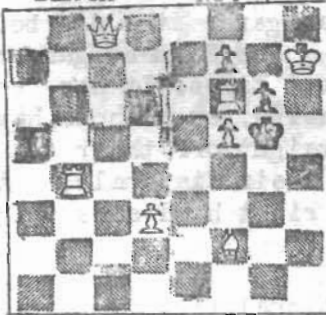
WHITE MATES IN 5

BLACK No. 6



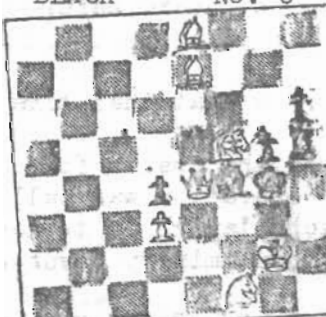
WHITE MATES IN 2

BLACK No. 7



WHITE MATES IN 2

BLACK No. 8



WHITE MATES IN 2

SOLUTIONS  
NEXT MONTH

# PROBLEM COLUMN

By — O. W. LaFreniere

Problem No. Five  
Author Unknown

Our up and coming young problem master of our own state, Bill 'Ham' Martin showed this one to me. It is certainly a magnificent gem of the sacrificial type.

WHITE has his King at KN7, Knight at K7, Bishop at QB7, and Pawns at KN3 and KR4.

BLACK has his King at KR4, Rooks at KR8 and KB7, and Pawns at KR3, KN4, and KB3.

Problem No. Six  
by Bill Martin

Bill didn't think his problem was hard to solve, but I did and thought it was worth publication. So here it is!

WHITE has his King at QR1, Queen at KR5, Rook at K7, Bishop at KB5, Knight at QN4, Pawn at QN3.

BLACK has his King at Q5, Rook at Q1, Bishop at KR2 and K4, Knight at Q8, Pawns at KN4, KB6, QB4, QB6, and QR7.

Problem No. Seven  
by David Mitchell

I don't think this is a hard problem because I looked up the key. Actually it is quite difficult. White has a Rook en prise.

WHITE has his King at KR7, Queen at QB7, Rook at KB7 and QN4, Bishop at KB2, and Pawns at Q3 and KB5.

BLACK has his King at KN4 and Pawns at KB2 and KN3.

Problem No. Eight  
Author Unknown

Like most problems this looks easily done, but it is hard merely because it is a problem.

WHITE has his King at KN2, Queen at K4, Bishops at K7 and K8, Knights at KB1 and KB5, and a Pawn at Q3.

BLACK has his King at KN5, Rook at KR4, Bishop at KB5, and Pawns at KR3, KN4, and Q5.

# NOURSE 'AD NAUSEAM'

THE ANCIENT HINDOO OR SANSKRIT GAME - "CHATURANGA".

\* \* \* \* \*

The Sanskrit or ancient Hindoo game, "Chaturanga", according to the ancient authorities of the Brahmins, the Purans, originated in about what was termed in their chronology, the 2nd. age of the world. Sir William Jones, the eminent Sanskrit scholar traced it back, (too optimistically), to 2029 B.C.

The word "Chaturanga" is translated to mean "four kings or four members of an army defined to be elephants, horses, chariots and foot-soldiers.

It appears to have been a very imperfect work of invention, as many eminent writers claim that the board was simply divided into squares without color, and the pieces were alike in form and size, but distinguished by a sign or inscription on each.

According to the design of the rudimental inventor, which is preserved in the oldest lawbooks of the Brahmins, among the "Ordinances on the subject of amusement" this game was played with four players having eight men each, and was regulated by the casting of a die upon which figures were engraved. These figures regulated which piece had to move, as :- 1-the king; 2- the horse; etc. However, the casting of a die, being contrary to the strict precepts of Hindocism, was later dispensed with.

Chaturanga is still played in India today with four pieces and five pawns, the natives in the more remote sections playing with pieces cut from the backbone of the plantain leaf, on boards marked on the floor with charcoal or chalk.

The first dawn of perfection appeared in the Burmah game, the die being eliminated and good sound judgement coming to the fore. The Burmese game reached a height of excellence that was not surpassed until recent times. It has several innovations not in our modern game. For instance, the Cheins, or bishops, have the power of defending each other. To do so they move straight off their own colour like the rook, not to take a piece but merely to change their diagonals. Also it is only those Peins or foot-soldiers which are on the right hand side which are allowed to queen.

In the Sanskrit game, the Padati or pawn has no optional rank on queening, but on arriving at the eighth rank must assume the rank of the piece whose file it is on.

In the whole north of Europe, as well as among the Italians, Ponziani having been accustomed to the ruling, the pawn could not take the rank of any piece that already had its full quota on the board. It could only take the place of a piece which had been taken, and if a pawn reached the eighth square before a major piece was captured it must remain inactive until some major piece is taken when it assumes the rank of that piece.

I remember when I first learned the moves, that there was at that time some discussion about this rule.

In the Hindoo, Persian and Bengalee games it was once the custom for players to begin the game by making 10 to 15 moves at once. This operation was called in Arabic, "ta bivat" or the drawing up in battle array. Each player had to keep his pieces within his half of the board. Later the number of preliminary moves was reduced to only two pawn moves.

A stalemate was not regarded as a draw, but as an inferior form of checkmate.

The highest victory was achieved by reducing the king to such a position that by a series of checks he could be made to go round in a series of squares as on a perpetual treadmill. This was regarded as an elegant finish to a game.



# MAIL BAG

Dear Mr. Wade,

In the Editorial of WCL you made a statement to the effect that organized chess is stagnating and like the old soldier, is fading away. Rather, not a statement, but a question. I have often pondered this subject myself and have seen concrete evidence that if chess as a popular game or hobby is not stagnating, then it just never did have a good start in the beginning. There will always be 2 or 3 old duffers around who play a little chess, but as far as any chess tournament is concerned players are either few and far between, too busy, too cautious, or just learning and not getting very much practice. I will concede that in large cities a few old faithfuls can get together a club and attract some young blood and manage to keep the club in existence although not up to the standards they wish for. I feel that most players accept this condition as normal.

Editor's note...Corporal Roberts wrote more than we have space for here. He goes on to mention three conditions necessary in order to promote the game with any hope of success.

1. Chess must reproduce or die. Teach the beginners and the kids. It takes a lot of time and patience and isn't much fun for the teacher but in order to have enough old duffers playing chess in the future we must teach the kids. 2. Advertising pays. News items might help create an interest in the game that would last awhile. 3. Any good player in any community should be a promoter of chess. Cpl. Roberts concludes his letter by writing..."If we are short of experts today it is because we didn't do enough recruiting five years ago."

Cpl. Don Roberts  
US 50200430  
CO. K 4th Inf.  
APO 731, Seattle

Dick Allen writes in answer to an invitation to play in the State Championship Chess Tournament. "I'm very busy with some high priority projects and I won't be very active in chess for awhile. I will try to contribute from time to time, but if I do, be surprised not expectant." My cards to Dr. Murray, G. Patterson and Joachim were not answered but Charles Joachim did not know until the last moment whether or not he would be able to play in the tournament. Post script...he did play.

Dear Dan,

I have just received your Woodpusher's trophy. It is really lovely and I appreciate all the effort you went through to get the trophy to me. It certainly was a fine gesture. It was unfortunate that you missed me in Seattle. Perhaps I did not state my address correctly on the phone.

I would like to express my thanks for the wonderful hospitality shown by the Seattle chess players. It was a pleasure meeting all of them. Perhaps if any of the players are traveling East they will stop at our chess club and visit us. The Minnesota State Tournament will be a three day event, Feb. 20-21-22. You and the Seattle chess players are all invited to tussle with our boys.

I have not as yet received your Washington newsletter, but I will be looking forward to reading an account of the games.

Yours truly,  
Sheldon Rein

Mr. Kaffenberger writes Bob Merk that a Gig Harbor chess club has been formed. He thinks he may be able to get us a few subscribers.

# DAHLBERG WINS OREGON OPEN

Ivars Dahlberg won the Oregon Open Chess Tournament held Oct. 18-19 in Portland. In the 14 player six round Swiss Dahlberg won five and drew with Washington Open Champion Don Turner. Turner didn't do so well in this tourney finishing sixth with a  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$  score. The state of Washington was represented by Seattle's Ted Warner. Warner did very well finishing third with a nice 4-2 score.

Player	Score	S-B	Player	Score	S-B
1. Dahlberg	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$	$21\frac{1}{4}$	8. Durie	3 - 3	3
2. Meador	$4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$	$13\frac{1}{4}$	9. Nelson	$2\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{4}$
3. Warner	4 - 2	13	10 Massinger	2 - 4	5
4. Eikrem	4 - 2	10	11 Bloomquist	2 - 4	$4\frac{1}{2}$
5. Moore	4 - 2	8	12 Whitman	2 - 4	2
6. Turner	$3\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$	13 Carlton	1 - 5	2
7. Burke	3 - 3	$6\frac{1}{2}$	14 Horning	0 - 6	0

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Cairncross writes from Oregon:

I read in the W.C.L. that you wanted news of other chess clubs so I thought you would be interested in the University of Oregon Chess Club. We met for the first time Thursday night, Sept. 25th, and got off to a flying start. There were about 20 present including 4 members of the fairer sex. And this part should be news as Miss Kay Maloney of Portland is club president. So I think we have something different in having a woman president of a chess club. Vice President is Dick Radl of South Dakota and Secretary-Treasurer is Carl Weber of Coos Bay, Ore.

Most of those that were there were new. So if we can get the old members to turn out we should do pretty well. We meet every Thursday night at 7:30 P.M. in the Erbb Memorial Building on the campus and all visitors are welcome.

Dear Dan,

I have made inquiries around Kitsap and apparently there will be no team this year. Rehberg and Finnigan are working nights. Allen I hear is going to resign and call an election.

I hope to be at the State tourney next week but am not quite sure. I am building a water system on week-ends but will feel no regrets on entering if it rains next week. At this time all I can say is I expect and hope to be there. Among the also rans, that is.

Best wishes to you and the talented half of the family.

Jack Nourse

## 1953 TOURNAMENTS

Tournament	Date	System	Entry	Location
Washington State Speed Championship	Sunday, Jan. 4th starts at 1 P.M.	Round-Robin	\$1.00*	Seattle C. Club
Puget Sound Open Championship	February 14 - 15 starts at 10 A.M.	6 Round Swiss	?	Seattle C. Club
Washington State Junior Championship	March 28-29 starts at 10 A.M.	6 Round Swiss	\$1.00*	Seattle C. Club

\* Fifty cents reduction to Federation members. The Seattle Chess Club is located at 616 Madison Street in the Knickerbocker Hotel basement.

# CHESS LIFE REPORT

## F.H. WEAVER

As key man of the U. S. team at Helsinki, Samuel Reshevsky scored  $9\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$ , and Robert Byrne at third board scored  $10\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$ , to aid the United States in placing fifth among the eighteen countries represented. Proposals have been made for a match between Reshevsky and one of the top-ranking Soviet masters at Paris or the Hague in March 1953, to be followed in June 1953 by a USSR-USA 8-player team contest in New York City under FIDE sponsorship. Time Newsmagazine, Oct. 20, 1952 devotes an entire page, (47) to a personality sketch of Sammy Reshevsky.

The internationally distributed "The Pocket Chess Almanac, in which material is presented in French, English and German, rates Elmars Zengalis, now a resident of Seattle, in third place among U. S. players, after Fine and Reshevsky, but ahead of Evans, Kashdan, Horowitz, Etc. This recognition led a New York book reviewer to comment that the book contained a surprising misprint. The editor of Chess Life took him to task however, and stated that Zengalis definitely belongs in that category of players.

Chess Life has published individual ratings for 1842 players who have entered into 121 contests of national significance through July 31, 1952. Nine Wash. State members are listed: Joachim, 1964; Manney 1988; Sheets, 1959; Allen, 1789; Martin 1700; Weaver, 1808; LaFreniere, 1623, and McGunnigle, 1666.

State Championship results during the summer months include:

New York	
Jack Collins	$7\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
Max Pavey	$6\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$
A. Santasiere	$6\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$
A. Kaufman	6 -3
James Sherwin	6 -3
Pennsylvania	
Don McClellan	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
D. Hamburger	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
Saul Wachs	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
Fred Sorensen	5 -2
Robert Sobel	5 -2
Illinois	
K. Nedved	6 -1
A. Sandrin	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
D. Fischheimer	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
P. Poschel	5 -2

Michigan	
George Eastman	7 -1
Dr. W. Henkin	$6\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
L. Dreiberger	6 -2
Leon Stolzenberg	6 -2
Robert Uhlmann	6 -2

California	
Henry Gross	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
Irving Rivise (tied)	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
Eugene Levin	$4\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$
Neil Falconer	$3\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$
Raymond Martin	$3\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$

Ohio	
Tony Archipoff	6 -1
Robert McGready	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
Harold Miller	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
D. Stauners	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$

Southwestern Open Dallas	
H. Steiner	$6\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$
R. Steinmeyer	6 -1
J. Payne	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
Hugh Myers	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
W. Bills	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$

New England	
Walter Suesman	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$
J. Keilson	$4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
J. Pamiljens	$4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
O. Lester	$4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$

Colorado	
Dr. Bela Rozsa	$5\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$
Blake Stevens	5 -1
P.D. Smith	$4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
John Ragan	$4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
Eugene Shapiro	$4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$

District of Columbia	
Martin Stark	$7\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$
Florencio Campomanes	7 -2

# NOTES BY O.W.L.

They say draws make chess stale. But the game below is no stale game! Complications flow easily, silly kings chase passed pawns, and a great effort is put up by both sides. But I think both Warner and I are pleased with the result.

## 1953 State Open - Third Round Queens Gambit Accepted

O. W. LaFreniere  
White

Ted Warner  
Black

- |    |       |         |
|----|-------|---------|
| 1. | P-Q4  | P-Q4    |
| 2. | P-QB4 | N-KB3   |
| 3. | N-QB3 | P-B3    |
| 4. | N-B3  | P-K3    |
| 5. | B-N5  | - - - - |

Zemgalis suggests here that perhaps 5. P-K3 is better, avoiding the complications that ensue in the text.

- |    |         |      |
|----|---------|------|
| 5. | - - - - | PxP  |
| 6. | P-K3    | P-N4 |
| 7. | P-QB4   | P-N5 |

Were I black I would never have taken the Pawn. He is bound to lose one or more of his advanced Pawns, he has no center, and pressure is being applied to his Knight.

- |    |      |      |
|----|------|------|
| 8. | N-K4 | B-R3 |
| 9. | R-B1 | Q-Q4 |

Is giving up this Pawn advisable? Perhaps it is, in view of the fact that one of the advanced Pawns will fall if this drastic move is not made.

- |     |        |         |
|-----|--------|---------|
| 10. | NxNch. | PxN     |
| 11. | BxP    | R-N1    |
| 12. | Q-B2   | R-N3    |
| 13. | B-R4   | P-N6    |
| 14. | Q-B3   | N-Q2    |
| 15. | B-N3?  | - - - - |

This is purely wasteful. Why not RxB, BxB; 16. QxB, QxQ; 17. RxQ, RxP 18. B-N3! And white wins the exchange plus a Pawn. But I didn't see the variation.

- |     |         |      |
|-----|---------|------|
| 15. | - - - - | N-N3 |
| 16. | N-K5    | NxP  |
| 17. | Q-Q2    | P-B6 |
| 18. | PxP     | P-N7 |
| 19. | R-QN1   | Q-R7 |

All white's answers since 16. and up to 22. are forced. I came out of the struggle okay, due to black's selecting the second best pattern.

- |     |      |        |
|-----|------|--------|
| 20. | Q-B2 | NxP    |
| 21. | BxB  | QxRch. |

- |     |      |       |
|-----|------|-------|
| 22. | QxQ  | NxQ   |
| 23. | NxR  | RPxN  |
| 24. | B-Q3 | N-B6  |
| 25. | K-Q2 | N-Q4? |

White's 25th is forced, but black doesn't grab his advantage. B-N5 is the obvious move. Then all moves by white are to no avail.

- |     |       |         |
|-----|-------|---------|
| 26. | R-QN1 | B-R6    |
| 27. | K-B2  | P-R4    |
| 28. | K-N3  | B-K2    |
| 29. | RxP   | P-R5ch. |
| 30. | K-B1  | P-R6    |
| 31. | R-R2  | R-R5ch. |

I have just gotten rid of one advanced, passed Pawn, and now there is another sticking me in the side.

- |     |      |         |
|-----|------|---------|
| 32. | K-N3 | R-N5ch. |
|-----|------|---------|

Now, of course, white can't take the Pawn, for RxPch. wins quickly.

- |     |      |         |
|-----|------|---------|
| 33. | K-B2 | R-N3    |
| 34. | K-Q2 | - - - - |

Forks (N-N5ch.) now become dangerous, and white must constantly be on the watch for them.

- |     |         |      |
|-----|---------|------|
| 34. | - - - - | K-Q2 |
| 35. | B-QB4   | N-B2 |

Black realizes that if I can catch his Knight I will win the advanced Pawn.

- |     |      |      |
|-----|------|------|
| 36. | K-B2 | N-N4 |
|-----|------|------|

Now, however, if I take the Knight, he will retake with the Pawn, making them connected.

- |     |      |      |
|-----|------|------|
| 37. | P-B3 | K-B1 |
| 38. | B-K1 | K-N2 |
| 39. | B-Q2 | R-R3 |
| 40. | B-B1 | K-N3 |
| 41. | K-N3 | R-R4 |

Drawn

I cannot win the advanced Pawn for on taking the Knight, his Rook keeps checking my King and protecting the Pawn. He can't push the Pawn further, and the action on the other parts of the board is impossible, so the game could not be practically continued.

In this game both players had their chances to win but both didn't see them. They call that chess blindness, a disease everyone has to some extent.

# CHESS NOTES BY MANNEY

## HARRY NELSON PILLSBURY

Harry Nelson Pillsbury was truly one of America's greatest chess masters. Born at Somerville, Mass., on December 5, 1872, he did not learn the moves until the age of 16 years. Then during the next sixteen years he built up his extraordinarily brilliant reputation as a chessplayer. Between 1890 and 1893 he won a number of short matches and competed in the international tournament arranged to introduce Dr. Emanuel Lasker to the United States. Dr. Lasker won all 14 of his games, while the young Pillsbury scored but seven points - just in the first half of the list. In another tournament in New York City in 1894, won by the great William Steinitz, Pillsbury finished only fifth. However, during that period he won other tournaments in which the immortal Lasker and Steinitz did not play.

After captaining the Brooklyn Chess Club to victory in the Metropolitan Chess League in the winter of 1894-5, Pillsbury's admirers raised a purse and sent him as America's representative to the great Hastings Tournament of August-September, 1895. There he scored probably his greatest victory - winning first prize from a field which included the world's champion, the ex-champion, and the champions of England, Germany, France, Russia, Austria, and Italy.

While he never did as well in subsequent European tournaments, he fully upheld his so-suddenly-acquired reputation as one of the finest chess players in the whole world. In the St. Petersburg Quadrangular tournament in December, 1895 and January, 1896, he beat both Lasker and Tchigorin, but fared so badly against Steinitz that his score only put him third upon the list. There he also contracted an illness which seriously impaired his health and ultimately led to his untimely death at Frankfort, Pa., June 17, 1906.

In 1897 Pillsbury won a non-title match from the United States champion, Jackson W. Showalter, and the following year won from him the title in a return match. Pillsbury made several more trips to Europe. At Vienna in 1898 he tied for first with Dr. Tarrasch, in a double-round tournament which lasted two months, scoring  $27\frac{1}{2}$  out of 36 games. Dr. Tarrasch won the play-off,  $2\frac{1}{2} - 1\frac{1}{2}$ . At London in 1899 he tied for second with Janowski and Maroczy, behind Lasker. Again at Paris the following year he finished second to Lasker, but at Munich, where Lasker did not compete, Pillsbury tied with Schlechter and Maroczy for first place.

Thereafter, he did not do as well in tournament play, doubtless due to his declining health. In his last great tournament, at Cambridge Springs, he finished outside the prize list, six points below Frank Marshall, who upheld the credit of the United States by taking first place.

During all this time, however, Pillsbury was building up an impressive record as a simultaneous blindfold player. As the American Chess Bulletin said:

"Pillsbury was one of the mental marvels of the age, his memory being simply prodigious, as may be appreciated

from the fact that he accomplished a world's record never before approached . . . . . of playing, without the sight of boards or pieces, as many as 22 games simultaneously against so many different foes of strong calibre. His specialty was to combine checkers, at which he became very expert, and was classed as one of the best twenty draught players in this country, with chess, playing say twelve chess, six checkers, taking at the same time a hand in a game of duplicate whist."

In an article in the Illinois Medical Journal, October, 1914, on "Mental States in Famous Chessplayers," Dr. Louis Maguire wrote that, in blindfold play, "some visualise almost entirely; others are said to have verbal symbols or auditors (sic); while with Pillsbury it was accomplished by calculation, a mere record." Dr. Maguire records that in Philadelphia, Pillsbury, before starting on a blindfold exhibition, was given 30 words to remember, which at the evening's end he duly repeated in order, and then backwards.

An interesting pen picture of him appeared in the Pester Lloyd (1898), written by Armin Fieldman:

"Pillsbury is a beardless young man, whose Anglo-American origin is easily read in his face. His profile is, cameo-like, nobly cut, every movement is dignified and gentle elegance. For such a youth to acquire so much self-restraint, deliberation and coolness, is wonderful, and could only have been obtained by occupation at the chessboard. When Pillsbury sits at the board he has an absolute stony calmness in his face; not a single muscle moves, only now and then will he wink a bit faster, when he feels himself slowly and satisfactorily nearing the goal, so finely calculated and elaborated. He is a disciple of Grand Master Steinitz. The idiosyncracies and stubbornness of the veteran he has not acquired, but he plays in grand style always the simplest moves which conform to his purpose.

The following games are good examples of the Pillsbury style:

VIENNA, 1898

White - Pillsbury	Black - Tarrasch	mentioned in the note to Black's
1. P-K4	P-K4	13th move.
2. N-KB3	N-QB3	10. . . . . N-B4
3. B-N5	N-B3	11. N-Q4 N-K3
4. O-O	NxP	12. B-K3 NxN
5. P-Q4	B-K2	13. BxN P-Q4
6. Q-K2	N-Q3	A decisive mistake. Black must
7. BxN	NPxB	try the Rio de Janeiro variation
8. PxP	N-N2	(discovered several years later):
9. N-B3	O-O	13. . . . . P-QB4; 14. B-K3, P-Q4;
10. R-K	. . . . .	15. PxP (e.p.), BxP. As compensa-
To prevent the advance of Black's		tion for his weak Q-side Black
QP, which would now be answered		has a free, open game with two
by 11. PxP (e.p.) BxP; 12. B-N5,		powerful bishops, and if he can
and Black's position is difficult.		exchange his KB for White's Kt he
However, even stronger would be		is almost sure of a draw because
Schlechter's 10. N-Q4!, which		of the Bishops of opposite color.
does not allow the simplifying line		After 10. N-Q4!, however, Black

would not have this continuation at his disposal. Despite the fact that Pillsbury did not choose the objectively best method, the present game is nevertheless very significant, because it supplied the whole underlying idea of White's strategy: the method might be improved upon subsequently, but the plan could not be superseded!

14. N-R4! .....  
Beginning the blockade of Black's Queen-Side. Sooner or later White will play B-B5, exchange the Bishop, and plant his N at B5.

14. .... B-QN5!  
Masterly reply to White's threat. Tarrasch will bring the Bishop to QN3, so that if White plays BxB Black can retake with a Pawn, guarding his QB4 and preventing the inroad of White's N.

15. P-QB3 B-R4

16. Q-R5! .....  
This move has the appearance of being an aimless demonstration. In reality it is the first step of a profound plan whose object is to force Black to exchange his KB. The idea is as follows:

Up to this point Black has been able to frustrate his opponent's designs on the Q-side. In order to do this however, he has had to remove his most important defensive piece from the K-wing. Hence Pillsbury plans to take advantage of the Bishop's absence by instituting a powerful K-side attack. This attack, it is true, can be parried, but only at the expense of exchanging Bishops. In this profound manner does White achieve his goal.

16. .... B-N3

17. R-K3 B-K3

18. R-N3 K-R

Else White can force an acute weakening of the B-squares by Q-R6.

19. QR-Q Q-K2

Now Tarrasch (who seems to have worked himself nicely out of his difficulties) intends.....P-QB4.

20. P-N4! BxB

The exchange is hardly to be avoided, as White threatens P-KB4, etc.

21. RxB .....  
The Rook comes powerfully into play. White has an undeniable advantage, both for the middle-game, or for the endgame. The immediate dangers induce Tarrasch to lead for the ending with his next move.

21. .... P-B3  
One critic for example recommends ".....P-KR3, and if 22. R-R4, then 22.....B-B4." In that event White wins immediately by 23.RxP! QxR (forced); 24. QxQ, KxR; 25.. Q-B6 ch.!!

The great analyst Marce succeeded, however, in demonstrating a very ingenious drawing line: 21.....P-R4!; 22. R-R4, B-B4; 23. R(N3)-R3, P-N4! and White must take a perpetual check by 24. QxP ch. - an indication of the inexhaustible richness and variety of chess.

22. N-B5! .....

The famous Pillsbury bind.

22. .... PxB

23. QxP Q-B3

24. QxQ .....

Of course QxB would be a gross blunder

24. .... RxB

25. R-K3 B-N

26. P-B3 P-N3

Somewhat better was.....QR-KB. The text-move costs a Pawn.

27. R-K7 R-B2

On.....R-QB, White could play N-R6, followed by the march of the K to QB5.

28. R-K6 P-QR4

Desperation.

29. P-QR4! .....

In addition to his other advantages, White now obtains a formidable passed Pawn.

29. .... K-N2

30. RxBP R-K2

31. K-B2 PxB

32. PxB B-B2

The student should compare the aimless wanderings of this Bishop with the powerfully placed N, who without making a move, completely paralyzes Black's game.

33. P-N5 R-N

Temporarily impeding the advance of the RP, but the all-powerful N soon frustrates this design.

34. N-R6 R-N2

- 35. N-N4 R-R2
- 36. R-R6 R-R
- 37. N-R K-B3
- 38. R-Q2 P-B3

Else R-QB2 follows.

39. P-N6 .....  
Another nail in Black's coffin.

- 39. .... B-K3
- 40. N-B5 B-B
- 41. P-R5 Resigns.

Pillsbury has played the ending with faultless precision.

\*\*\*\*\*

The most notable characteristics of Pillsbury's attacking style were his elegant simplicity, his inexhaustible ingenuity, and the seemingly effortless ease with which he achieved his purpose.

HANOVER, 1902

White - Pillsbury Black - Swiderski

- 1. P-Q4 P-Q4
- 2. P-QB4 P-K3
- 3. N-QB3 P-QN3
- 4. N-B3 B-N2

The purpose of Black's unusual defense is evidently to avoid the pin on his KN.

- 5. P-R5 P-R5
- 6. P-K4! .....

The first surprise for Black.

- 6. .... P-R5
- 7. N-K5 B-Q3

If . . . N-KB3 (in order to stop Q-N4) White plays 8. B-QB4.

- 8. Q-N4! .....

Very powerful, as the sequel shows.

- 8. .... K-B

The alternative 8.....P-N3; 9. B-QB4, B-R5; 10. P-R5 followed by B-N5 is even more unfavorable for Black.

- 9. B-QB4! .....

This seemingly obvious move had to be carefully calculated.

- 9. .... B-R5

It is clear that Black has nothing better

- 10. P-R5 Q-Q5
- 11. B-Q5!! .....

A most unexpected reply. Black realizes now that 11.....B-R5; 12. Q-B8ch, K-K2; 13. B-N5 ch., and 14. R-Q would be ruinous for him. Hence he plays.

- 11. .... P-QB3
- 12. B-R5 Q-R5
- 13. B-B4 N-B3
- 14. Q-R4 Q-K2
- 15. Q-Q-Q N-K

15.....N-R5?; 16. R-Q8 ch.

16. Q-N3 N-R3  
The occupation of the K-file (opened by White's 11th move) must now decide the issue.

- 17. KR-K R-Q

A trap. If now 18. B-RP?, R-R ch.;

- 19. K-R, Q-Q ch.
- 18. B-Q5! .....

Again this ominous move!

- 18. .... Q-B4
- 19. R-R ch! K-R

Forced.

- 20. Q-R5 P-R5

There is nothing better: If 20.... R-KB; 21. R-Kch, K-Q2; 22. B-K6ch, K-K; 23. B-B5 dis. ch., Q-K2; 24. R-Q ch., K-R; 25. Q-K5 mate,

- 21. Q-R ch. K-Q2
- 22. Q-R5 K-B
- 23. Q-R5! .....

a final touch; the manner in which Pillsbury rescues the N is amusing.

- 23. .... P-Q5
- 24. Q-K6 ch. R-Q2
- 25. Q-N8 ch. R-Q
- 26. Q-N4 ch. R-Q2
- 27. B-K3! .....

The point.

- 27. .... B-R5

Desperation.

- 28. R-R5 .....

This settles matters.

- 28. .... Resigns.

\*\*\*\*\*

BEST SEATTLE CHESS CLUB.

The fall-winter chess season is in full swing at the Best Seattle Chess Club. Meetings are held on the second and third Friday evenings of each month. Attendance generally is larger than I have noticed at any other local club. There are no dues and consequently no visitors. Just come and you are a member! You are almost sure to find a player of your strength. If not - come anyway - and we will arrange for you to give a simultaneous exhibition! The club championship tourney, which was started early last summer, is still going strong, with fifteen players competing. This is a grueling double-round tournament. Leading scorers include Clyde Schroyer, 8 - 0; O. Manney, 13½ - ½; Wukonich, 11-6; Page, 12½ - 7½; Howard 9½ - 8. The club meets at the High Point Recreation Center, 3000 S. Graham.



# POSTAL CHESS

R. R. MERK  
POSTAL CHESS EDITOR  
1026 E. 71 ST. SEATTLE, WN.

Results of games completed to Oct. 25, 1952

51A-13A				49-B-9			
Kaffenberger	1	H.E. Yocom	0	This tie breaker finished			
				Sams	1	Husby	0
51A-14A				51-B-12			
Kaffenberger	1	C.L. Yocom	0	Hardinge	1	W.P. Allen	0
				Hardinge	1	Emerson	0
52A-2B				51-B-13B			
Coubrough	1	Cairncross	0	F.M. Howard	$\frac{1}{2}$	Skarsten	$\frac{1}{2}$

By reason of having won the tie breaker between Sams and Husby, Sams wins the 49-B-9 section and a 6 month subscription to the Washington Chess Letter. As he is already a subscriber, his present subscription is extended 6 months. Congratulations. Hope he shows the chess players at the University of Illinois, where he is now attending, how it is done in the Far West.

Correspondence Chess is on the increase all over the country according to reports that we receive from other publications that conduct correspondence chess tournaments. This is undoubtedly due to the increasing popularity of the game and to the fact that correspondence chess is a good way to improve your game and this is recognized by the Masters of the game. Dr. Lasker has this to say about it, "the correspondence game provides one with an opportunity to test the various openings and thereby brings out the weak or strong points of the game. He who plays the game by mail, develops himself to reap the advantages of consultations with others on the game". Correspondence chess gives the person who is located in a locality where there are not many players, the opportunity of playing with good players in other localities and in that way broadens his experience with other players with whom he otherwise would not have the opportunity of playing. It also gives the player time to study the various combinations in the openings that is not afforded in play across the board, as well as the opportunity of reviewing his game thoroughly and locating the error of any certain line of play.

No experience is needed to play Postal Chess. There is nothing difficult about it. You are not hurried to make that move in a difficult position and have plenty of time to study it out. It is played the same as over-the-board chess, except that the moves are sent via post card and one at a time.

Send for information or entries to Postal Chess Editor

R.R. Merk, 1026 E 71  
Seattle 5, Washington

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Magerkurth	1426
Bever	1417
Cerretelli	1400
Hardinge	1396
Hazen	1288
Sams	1247
Tweedale	1246
Naas	1226
Yocom, H.E.	1218
Yocom, C.L.	1205
Hellums	1190
Harmeson	1136
Husby	1076

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### Class B Players

Howard, F.M.	1328
Merk, R.R.	1281
Dickey	1220
Skarsten	1212
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Cairncross	1174
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