

WASHINGTON

CHESS

LETTER



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Dear Santa,

All I want in this creation
Is one little castle with a good foundation
One little queen to make me happy
And two little pawns to call me pappy.

The Knight before Christmas.



EDITORIAL

By Dan Wade

More and still more people are taking up the game of chess. In Washington I would guess there are several thousand people familiar with the game. Of this large group only a small fraction are aware that the Washington Chess Letter exists. Via newspaper, television and radio the Christmas shopper is being plied with gift suggestions so let us add our small voice to the tumult!

Many of you chess players must have chess playing friends that do not belong to the Washington Chess Federation and therefore do not receive this magazine. I'll bet some of these people would appreciate a year's subscription to the Washington Chess Letter as a Christmas gift instead of the usual tie or pair of socks.

This will also benefit the giver as well as the receiver as it could possibly add a great number of new members to the Federation and swell the treasury enough so that we could have a bigger and better chess organization.

* * * * *

Mr. Ken Mulford has volunteered to handle the job of Publication Director during the coming year. An example of his work is the job he has done on page one of this issue. For the past seven issues I' have taken care of this job as well as being Editor and Tournament Director. With part of the load shifted to Mulford's shoulders we should soon notice an improvement in this magazine.

* * * * *

The next tournament on the agenda is the Washington State Speed Tourney. President O. W. Manney is the current champion. He will, no doubt, be around to defend his title on Sunday, January 4th. This will be a round-robin event beginning at one o'clock in the afternoon. The location will be the Seattle Chess Club at 616 Madison. I'd like to see a large turnout for this very interesting event. It costs only 50 cents to enter for Federation members and \$1.00 for others.

* * * * *

Mr. Royal Brougham of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer called WCF President O. W. Manney recently. He would like to have a chess show on his Thursday night television show some time in January. This way we could advertise our chess program to many players unaware of WCF. Brougham suggested a living chess game with cub scouts on one side and Rainbow Girls on the other. Costumes or symbols would have to be provided by some volunteer chess players for the playing "pieces" to wear or carry. It is up to you whether we spread the game to a much larger group or continue as we are.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

'53 STATE TOURNEY

<u>BALLANTINE</u> White	<u>MULFORD</u> Black	<u>WADE</u> White	<u>J. NOURSE</u> Black	<u>WADE</u> White	<u>SHEETS</u> Black
1. P-Q4	P-Q4	1. P-Q4	P-Q4	1. P-Q4	P-Q4
2. P-QB4	P-QB3	2. P-K3	N-KB3	2. N-KB3	N-KB3
3. PxP	PxP	3. B-Q3	P-B4	3. P-KN3	P-QB3
4. N-QB3	P-K3	4. P-QB3	P-B5	4. B-N2	B-B4
5. N-B3	N-KB3	5. B-B2	P-QR3	5. O-O	P-K3
6. B-N5	B-K2	6. N-K2	B-N5	6. P-N3?	
7. P-K3	O-O	7. O-O	N-B3	This and some following moves put White into a hole he never gets out of.	
8. B-Q3	K-R1	8. P-B3	B-R4	6.	QN-Q2
9. N-K5	P-KR3	9. N-N3	B-N3	7. B-N2	B-Q3
10 P-KR4	QN-Q2	10 P-K4	P-K4	8. QN-Q2	O-O
11 P-B4	NxN	11 PxKP	B-B4ch	9. N-R4	R-K1
12 QPxN	N-R2	12 K-R1	QNxP	10 P-KB3	P-KN4
13 Q-R5	Q-K1	13 PxP	NxQP?	11 NxB	PxN
14 N-N5	P-B3	With 13...BxB; 14 QxB, & QxP or O-O and Black is saved from the trouble that followed.		12 P-QB4	Q-K2
15 QxQ	RxQ	14 R-K1	Q-B2*	13 Q-B2	P-B5
16 PxP	PxP	At the time of the game it looked like 14..N-K6 might save Black. However 15 BxN, BxB; 16 Qx Qch, RxQ; 17 RxB, BxB; 18 RxNch and White ends one knight ahead.		14 P-KN4	N-B1
17 BxRP	R-KN1	15 B-R4ch	P-N4	15 P-B5	B-B2
18 K-B2	B-Q2	16 QxN	O-O	16 R-B2	N-N3
19 QR-QB1	BxN	17 RxN	B-Q3	17 N-B1	N-Q2
20 BxB	R-N3	18 R-K1	BxN	18 R-K1	Q-B3
21 B-N5	PxB	19 PxB	QxP	19 P-K4?	
22 RPxP	K-N1	20 B-Q2	PxB	This loses a pawn.	
23 B-Q3	R-N2	21 QxP	QR-Q1	19	PxP ep
24 R-R6	P-K4	22 Q-B4	Q-B7	20 RxP	RxR
25 B-B5	R-KB1	23 Q-K3	Q-R5ch	21 NxB	BxPch!
26 B-K6ch	K-R1	24 K-N1	R-Q6	22 KxB	Q-B5ch
27 P-N6	PxP	25 Q-K2	Q-Q1	23 K-R1	QxN
28 R(B)-KR1	PxPdblch	26 B-B4	P-B3	24 R-K2	Q-B5
29 K-K2??	R-B7ch	27 N-R3	R-K1	25 Q-B3	N(2)-B1
30 K-Q3	R-Q7ch	28 Q-KB2	R-B1	26 QB-B1	Q-B3
31 K-B3	B-B3ch	29 QR-B1	B-B2	27 B-B1	N-K3
32 K-N3	R-Q6ch	30 P-B4	P-N4	28 QB-N2	K-N2
33 K-R4	R-Q5ch	31 B-K3	P-B4	29 R-KB2	R-R1
34 P-N4	R-R5	32 B-N6	Q-Q3	30 R-R2	N-R5
35 R(1)xR	BxR	33 P-B5	Q-Q4	31 B-K2	N-B5
36 RxB	P-K7	34 N-B4	Q-R1	32 B-Q1	R-K1
37 R-R1	R-Q2	35 Q-K2	BxN	33 B-B1	Q-K2
38 BxP	P-K8(Q)	36 RxB	R-Q2	34 B-Q2	
39 RxQ	RxR	37 P-B6	R(2)-KB2	If 34: RxN? PxR; 35 BxN, Q-K8ch; 36 QxQ, RxQ ch. and White loses.	
40 PxN	P-N3	38 P-B7	Q-N2	34	N(R5)N3
41 B-N8	R-KN8	39 Q-K6	Resigns	35 B-B2, Q-B3; 36 B-Q	1, N-K3; 37 Q-B1? Loses
		(Notes by Wade)		38 B-B3, R-KR1; 39 P-N	another pawn-N(N3)-B5
				40 PxP, RxP; 41	P-KR4; 40 PxP, RxP; 41
				RxR, NxB; 42 Q-K3,	

Drawn.

An incredible end to a game chock full of so many interesting situations. If you like lots of action then you will like the above game. We are sorely in need of an annotator. Anyone want the job?

WADE
White

SHEETS
Black

42.... N-N6ch;
43 K-N1, N-B4; 44 Q-K5,
N(4)xP!; 45 Q-K3, K-B1;
46 P-QR3, Q-R1; 47 Q-Q3
R5; 48 BxN, QxBch; 49
QxQ, NxQ; 50 K-B2, N-N4
51 P-R4, N-B2; 52 B-K2,
N-R3!; 53 BxN, PxB; 54
K-K3, K-K2; 55 K-Q4, K-
K3; 56 K-K3, P-B4; 57 K
-Q3, P-N5; 58 P-B4, P-N
6; 59 K-K3, P-Q5ch and
White resigns.

** ** ** ** **

WASHINGTON FEDERATION CHESS TOURNAMENTS '53

SPEED....Jan. 4th '53 - 1 P.M. Round--Robin event held at the Seattle Chess Club.

PUGET SOUND OPEN...Feb. 14-15 '53 starts at 10 A.M. Six-round Swiss event held at the Seattle Chess Club, 616 Madison Street.

STATE JUNIOR...March 28-29 '53 starting at 10 A.M. Six-round Swiss event held at the Seattle Chess Club.

ENTRY FEES \$1.00 for both the Speed and Jr. tournaments with a 50 cent reduction for Wn. Federation members. Puget Sound Open \$5(?)

CHESS HISTORY

By Dan Wade

Fifteen years ago back in 1937 chess really flourished in the Seattle High School League. Clubs were active at Broadway, Franklin, Garfield, W. Seattle, Queen Anne, Lincoln and Roosevelt. Only Cleveland and Ballard in the Seattle school system were without teams. These teams were limited to five players with the strongest player on first board etc. just like teams in the Puget Sound League today. The only difference was that just 1 game was played by each player in a match. Thus 5 - 0 represented the most lopsided score possible. First board on the home team took the white pieces & the others alternated. With three matches at home and three away each man would get to play the same number of games with each color. That is if he stayed on the same board all season which rarely happened.

At Franklin Grant Laizure, who taught chemistry there at that time & is at present a member of the Seattle Chess Club, was the chess club advisor. He called on me to make up the schedule for the 1937 season. It just happened that 1937 was Franklin's turn to take care of this matter.

West Seattle played us first. They had no Ulvestads or Ishidas that year so we beat them for the first time. The score was 4 - 1. I couldn't get our number two man to take the trip to Garfield for our next match. So minus a key player we were defeated 2 - 3. We entertained Lincoln next 3½ to 1½ in our favor. Then visited Broadway and won 4 - 1. At home against Queen Anne we again ran up a 4 - 1 score and in our last scheduled match, against Roosevelt, we were behind 0 - 2 and then came back to win 3 - 2.

So we had a match record of 5 won and 1 lost and our game point total added up to 20½. Garfield was upset by West Seattle and won the rest ending the schedule also with a 5 and 1 match record. Strange to relate but their game point total also added up to 20½!

A match between Franklin and Garfield to decide the champion had been the result of this strange tie. The match was played at Franklin and Garfield visited us with the same five that beat us 3 - 2 early in the season. This time, however, we were at full strength. We won easily 4½ - ½.

The schools even gave letters at the end of the season! I have an F in black and green with a crown in the middle as a memento.

NOURSE AD NASEAM

CHESS ORIGINS.

Dr. Van Der Linde's Opus. (cont.)

The Chinese Game.

* * * * *

The Chinese game is sometimes ascribed to a Mandarin of 1120 B.C. named Wu Chang. Another later game came into favor to entertain troops in 174 B.C. and was called "Chong Ke", or Royal Game.

Hai Pien, the Chinese Encyclopedia, however claims that Chong Ke was introduced from India to China in the reign of the Emperor Tonti, B.C. 537.

In corroboration of this claim, later scholars have noted that the Indian and Chinese sets use the same number and kind of pieces, including the elephant. Since the elephant originated in India, and being scarce in China were not used for war, it follows that chess in China was not a separate invention.

"Chong Ke", or Choochong, (literally the play of the science of war,) is played on a board across the middle of which runs a white space, which is called a river, and on each side of the river are 32 squares arranged in rows of eight. The pieces as distinct from the pawns are nine in number and stand upon the lines between the squares forming the back rows of each side. On the middle line is the Chong, or king which moves as at present. On either side stands a prince, next to them the mandarin (tichong), then the knights, (Maa), and on the flanks are the war chariots, (tche.)

In front of these are five pawns, (ping), and two rocket men called Pac. The Pac only commands the next point but one to him and vaults over an intervening piece to take an opponent. The Maa move as our knights and the mandarins resemble our bishops but they cannot cross the river. There were many variations of this game, and though want of a queen plus the limited moves of the men restricted the combinations in the Chinese game more than in the Western, it none-the-less had its own elements of skill.

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Dr. Van Der Linde's Opus. 3rd. Sect.

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The third section, called "Miscellaneous", deals with such subjects as ancient boards and men preserved in various museums; the two latest automata - "Ajeeb and Me-phisto"; chess with living figures; anecdotes of chess players and literary curiosities such as Heinze's chess novel "Anastasia". We learn that Ajeeb means to "wonder" in Arabic. The best anecdote in the book concerns Bishop Wilberforce being asked by the German Prince Consort to play chess on a Sunday evening, the Bishop explaining that it might be alright for a layman, and (sotto voce) a German, but not for him, an English clergyman.

* * * * *

PORTLAND REPLIES

In a letter dated December 14th, Jim Schmitt of the Portland Chess Club writes the following.....

Dear Dan,

Members of the Portland Chess Club have spotted your ideas regarding an interstate match in your Nov. '52 editorial in the W. C. L. and the club is receptive to the idea.

Club prexy Jack Janacek asked me to write you and put it up to the Seattle players, through you.

We could see a Portland-Seattle match on some Sunday in January, say January 18th. How does a double-round match, eight players on a side, with play starting about 1:30, sound to your side? We could play perhaps at Centralia. I do not have any connections there, but maybe we could line up some space.

Anyway, please hash this over with the powers that be and let us have your sentiments. Will be glad to hear from your players and know the match would be a lot of fun for all.

** ** * ** * ** * ** * ** *

In part answer to the above letter I must mention that Puget Sound matches are scheduled for January 18th. All Washington chess players interested in a trip to Centralia to play an Oregon team please let me know. Perhaps some time in mid-March would be a better time to play this match. I represent Washington and not Seattle. The match should be considered a match between the two states although the majority of the players might be from Portland and Seattle.

Dan Wade

** ** * ** * ** * ** * ** *

A letter of interest written to the Tacoma Y. M. C. A. Chess Club. (Mr. Coubrough is writing back suggesting January 4th as a date for a match)

Dear Sir:

Would your chess club be interested in playing a series of games with our Institutional chess club at McNeil Island? We have just recently played the club at Steilacoom and would appreciate having your club come over some Saturday, or Sunday afternoon. Arrangements should be made in advance and we could prepare accordingly.

There are about thirty-five members of our club, among them several very good players and one outstanding player who has played with several of the masters. From a social viewpoint, I believe that a game with our club might prove interesting.

Please let me know your views on this matter. Thanking you for your courtesy, I wish to remain,

Respectfully yours
L. P. Gollaher
Associate Warden.

** ** * ** * ** * ** * ** *

Mr. Laurence Hulin, 1305 34th Ave. South (Cherry 4654), has an ivory chess set for sale. This set's beauty caught Mr. Hulin's eye while visiting in New Delhi, India several years ago. Call for a description of the set or drive out and see it. It sounded good to me. D.W.

CHESS NOTES BY MANNEY

MORE MAX LANG

If you played through the games in last month's article you of course realize they do not represent the best in chess. However, they are interesting as an example of the evolution of the defense to an opening. If you will refer to a modern book on openings you will see where more recent improvements have been made in both the attack and the defense. Doubtless the last word has not been said. Now we continue with my translation of Señor Gutierrez' little book.

White	Black
J. Mortimer	E. J. Brooks
1. P-K4	P-K4
2. N-KB3	N-QB3
3. B-B4	B-B4
4. O-O	N-B3
5. P-Q4	PxP
6. P-K5	P-Q4
7. PxN	PxB
8. R-K1 ch.	B-K3
9. N-N5	Q-Q4
10. QN-B3	Q-B4
11. QN-K4	B-N3
12. PxP	R-KN1
13. P-KN4	Q-N3
14. NxB	PxN
15. B-N5	RxP
16. Q-B3	N-K2
17. N-B6 ch.	K-Q1
18. QxP	R-B1
19. P-KR4	-----

19. ----- P-KR3 ?
 Also bad. He should have played Q-B2 to avoid the mate threatened in three moves.

20. RxP!!	PxB
21. P-R5?	-----
White could mate in two, beginning with R-Q6 ch.!	
21. -----	Q-B2
22. QR-K1	-----
Again he misses the mate in two!	
22. -----	QxR
23. RxQ	B-B4
24. Q-B6	Resigns.

White	Black
I. A. Gutierrez	X

First five move as in previous game.
 6. P-K5 P-Q4
 7. PxN PxB
 8. PxP -----
 Departing from the book line

8. -----	KR-N1
9. R-K1 ch.	B-K3
10. N-N5	Q-Q4
11. RxB ch.	-----
An interesting sacrifice - but unsound!	
11. -----	PxR
12. Q-R5 ch.	K-Q2
13. Q-B7 ch.	N-K2?
Had he interposed the Bishop my attack would have been finished.	
14. NxRP	Q-K4
15. N-B6 ch.	K-Q3
16. N-Q2	Q-K7
17. QN-K4 ch.	K-B3
18. QxP ch.	B-Q3
19. B-B4	RxP
20. BxB	PxB

White mates in four.

White	Black
Wardhaugh	Schumer
Richmond, Va. annual tourney, 1917.	
First eight moves as in preceding game.	
9. R-K1 ch.	B-K3
10. B-N5	Q-Q4
11. N-B3	Q-B4
12. N-K4	B-K2
Not RxP because of N-R4 and N-B6 ch., winning the Queen.	
13. N-R4	Q-Q4
14. BxB	-----
The start of a combination which Black does not see.	
14. -----	KxB
15. Q-B3!!	RxP ?
16. Q-R3 ch.!!!	N-N5
17. QxN ch.	P-B4
18. QxP ch.	Resigns.

FIRST VARIATION

Here Black varies by capturing with the Bishop and although this defense is

not as solid as that which we have just seen, it makes possible brilliant and complicated variations.

Played in "Tourney 229" of the "C. B. M. C. B."

White	Black
H. E. Waters	O. A. Sharpless
1. P-K4	P-K4
2. N-KB3	N-QB3
3. B-B4	B-B4
4. O-O	N-B3
5. P-Q4	BxP
6. NxB	NxN
7. P-B4	P-Q3
8. PxP	PxP
9. B-KB5	Q-K2
10. N-B3!	Q-B4
11. BxP ch.	KxB
12. Q-R5 ch.	K-K3
13. BxN	PxB
14. N-Q5	-----

All of these moves occurred in 1906 in a game by correspondence between Mr. J. Kelly and Mr. G. A. Heron, who played here 14.....R-B1; 15. RxP ch. K-Q2; 16. QxP ch., K-Q1; 17. P-QN4 and Black resigned.

14. -----	NxP ch.
15. K-R1	NxR???
16. Q-B5 ch.	K-Q3
17. QxBP ch.	B-K3
18. Q-K7 ch.	K-B3
19. QxP ch.	K-N4
20. P-R4 ch.	Resigns.

Played in April of 1917 in a simultaneous exhibition given in El Paso by the checker champion of the world, Mr. Newell W. Banks of Detroit, Mich.

White I. A. Gutierrez Black N. W. Banks
First seven moves as in preceding game.

8. N-B3	O-O
9. P-B5	P-B3
10. B-KN5	P-N4
11. B-Q3	B-N2
12. P-QN4	P-QR3
13. P-QR4	K-R1
14. N-N1	P-Q4
15. P-B3	PxKP
16. BxP	Q-N3
17. BxN!	N-N6 ch.?

18. K-R1 NxR ??
19. BxP ch.!! Resigns.

White Black
Max Lange Mr. Heineman.
First six moves as in preceding games.

7. P-B4	N-K3 ?
8. PxP	N-N1
He can not play NxP because of Q-B3.	
9. RxP!	KxR
10. BxN ch.!	KxB
11. Q-Q5 ch.	K-K2
12. B-N5 ch.	N-B3
13. N-B3	R-B1
14. R-KB1	P-Q3
15. PxN ch.	PxP
16. RxP	RxR
17. P-K5	B-K3
18. BxR ch.	K-B2
19. Q-B3	Q-KN1
20. N-K4	PxP
21. B-Q8 ch.!!	Resigns.

Played by correspondence in the fourth annual tourney of the C.B.M.C.B.

White Black
A. T. Davis I. A. Gutierrez
First six moves as in preceding games.

7. P-B4	N-B3 ??
8. BxP ch.!!	-----
This move so surprised me that I was completely disconcerted.	
8. -----	K-K2
KxB would have been better.	
9. B-N3	P-KR3?
10. N-B3	R-B1??
11. N-Q5 ch.	NxN
12. PxN	N-Q5
13. PxP	NxB
14. P-Q6 ch.!	PxP???
15. QxP ch.	K-K1
16. QxR Mate.	-----

Played by correspondence between Mr. O. A. Sharpless of this country and Sr. Alfonzo Martinez of Habana.

White	Black
Sharpless	Martinez
First six moves as in preceding games.	
7. B-KN5	P-Q3
8. P-QB3	N-K3
9. B-R4	Q-K2
10. N-Q2	P-KR3
11. B-KN3	P-KN4
12. Q-N3	N-R4
13. BxN	-----

Mr. Sharpless has lost time sadly.

- 13. ----- QxB
- 14. N-B4 P-N3
- 15. P-QR4 B-R3!

And White resigned after eleven more unimportant moves.

Awarded a prize by the Western Mail of Perth, Australia, as the best contribution to its chess column.

White	Black
Morris	Coleman

First six moves as in preceding games.

- 7. P-QB3 N-K3
- 8. N-Q2 P-Q3
- 9. N-B3 -----

Well plays for if 9.....NxP;

10. BxN, BxB; 11. Q-R4 ch. and wins a piece.

- 9. ----- Q-K2
- 10. P-QN3 N-B4
- 11. B-R3 N(4)-Q2
- 12. N-Q2 N-N3
- 13. P-B4 NxB

The moves of this Knight has given White too much time.

- 14. NxN PxB
- 15. P-K5! N-N5
- 16. PxB N-K6
- 17. PxQ NxQ
- 18. QRxN B-K3
- 19. RxB BxN
- 20. R(4)-Q4 Resigns.

First five moves as before.

White	Black
I. A. Gutierrez	X.....

- 6. NxB PxB?
- 7. P-K5 P-Q4
- 8. PxB PxB
- 9. PxB R-KN1
- 10. R-K1 ch. B-K3
- 11. Q-R5 Q-B3
- 12. B-N5 Q-N3
- 13. PxQ RPxQ
- 14. B-B6 N-N5
- 15. N-R3 N-Q4
- 16. BxB O-O-O
- 17. P-QB3 N-K2
- 18. B-B6 R-Q2
- 19. N-N5 P-B3
- 20. N-Q4 N-Q4
- 21. B-K5 P-B3
- 22. BxB NxB
- 23. RxB N-K1
- 24. RxB Resigns.

SECOND VARIATION

Here the defense varies by taking the pawn with the Q-Knight, a move condemned by all the authorities whom I have consulted.

First five moves as before

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| White | Black |
| Max Lange | Mr. Heineman |
| 5. | QNxP? |
| 6. NxP | N-K3 |
| 7. BxN | BPxN |
| 8. N-Q3 | Q-K2 |

He cannot play NxP because he would loose a piece, and if he plays B-N3 or B-K2, White obtains the better position with P-K5. There remains P-Q3, but then White would play NxB followed by Q-K2 with advantage.

- 9. B-N5 P-K4
- To prevent the advance of the pawn.
- 10. N-B3 P-B3
- 11. BxN PxB
- 12. Q-R5 ch. K-Q1
- 13. NxB QxN
- 14. QR-Q1 K-B2
- 15. K-R1 Q-K2
- 16. P-B4 P-Q3
- 17. PxB QPxP
- 18. R-B2 R-B1
- 19. QR-KB1 B-K3
- 20. Q-R4 R-B2
- 21. RxB QR-KB1
- 22. RxB RxB
- 23. RxB QxR
- 24. P-KR3 Q-B8 ch.
- 25. K-R2 Q-B5 ch.?
- 26. QxQ PxB
- 27. P-K5!

And White eventually won with this passed pawn.

Would you like to see a selection of old "Giucco Piano" games?

Would you like some "Chess" stories?

What would you like?

How do you think we may improve the Chess Letter? Make known your desires.

Better yet - submit something yours.

AND GET A NEW MEMBER!!!

CHESS LIFE REPORTS

F.H.
WEAVER

Sammy Reshevsky is reported to be unwilling to play in the 1953 World Championship Candidates Tournament for which he is seeded along with Dr. Max Euwe of Holland and M. Najdorf of Argentina, because he feels the 9-3 odds held by the Russians is hopelessly inequitable due to the cute tactic adopted by Russian players in the 1952 affair at Saltsjoebaden. All games between themselves, without exception, were 15 to 20 move draws, while the games against "outsiders" were furiously fought. This resulted in Russia taking the top five places that qualified for the 1953 event. Four contenders tied for the fifth and last qualifying place which was awarded to a Russian in preference to the player from Yugoslavia, Sweden, or Hungary.

National chess publications are beginning to copy the games and notes of the Ulvestad-Zengalis match from the August issue of Washington Chess Letter, which were annotated with unusually detailed and revealing comment by Elmars Zengalis. New ideas and concepts are being launched upon the chess world from Seattle!

Owners of PCO, and Basic Chess Endings, may want to come up with another seven-fifty for the MIDDLE GAME IN CHESS, by Dr. Reuben Fine, to complete the trilogy of codified chess by the Grandmaster. In all the years that chess has been played and books written, Fine's book is only the second attempt to survey the whole field of middle game play. There are 14 Chapters, 36 complete games, 378 diagrams. The book demonstrates what its author asserts on the first page: "In the middle game our first concern is with the ideas that are used to understand what goes on". His formula of questions for analyzing a position becomes the framework for this kind of thinking. In a given position we must ask about material, pawn formation, mobility, king safety, and threats or combinations. Underlying the whole book is the truth of the remark that chess is 99% tactics. Dr. Fine then points out that, in distinction to what may be done with theory in the opening, and precise calculation in the ending, the approach to the middle game must be through the analysis of positions as they occur. He describes and illustrates the elements of combinations, the mating attack, the combinative art. The chapters on superior pawn structures and superior mobility offer opportunity for the kind of breakdown learners like to see: the minority attack, the open file, weak squares, the bad bishop, Etc. The book is a systematic treatment of a bewilderingly ramified theme. Study of one aspect at a time begins with The Elements of Combinations, and roles of the various forces. Mating Attacks divide into the attacks against the uncastled King and the castled King. Up to this point 160 diagrams of positions are presented. Combinative Art has 60 diagrams. Analyses of Position is divided into Permanent Advantage, Temporary Advantage. Another 70 pages are devoted to Command of Space. To round out the book Fine adds chapters on The Art of Defense, Equal Positions, Continuing the Opening, and Entering the Endgame. The price is substantial, but the book may well be worth broad hints to wife and relations during the Christmas season.

SOUTH CAROLINA OPEN: 1. Wiener; 2. Eastwood; 3. Edelsburg; 4. Mouzon.

VIRGINIA OPEN: 1. Avram, Wiener; 3. Spencer; 4. Chauvenet; 5. Trabon.

QUEBEC 1. Williams; 2. Joyner; 3. Rauch; 4. Baikovitz; 5. Brunet.

TRI-STATE 1. Archipoff and Werthammer; 3. Hamburger; 4. McClellan.

Since publication of Practical Chess Openings some strong variations have been collected and presented in Chess Life by Marchisotti, of Buenos Aires:

ENGLISH OPENING: (Column 1)

1. P-QB4	P-K4	if 8. PxP	QxP	if 8. NxN	PxN		
2. N-QB3	N-KB3	9. BxN	PxB	9. P-QR3	B-K2	if 9. BxN	QxB
3. N-B3	N-B3			10. P-K3	B-K3	10. PxB	PxB
4. P-Q4	PxP			11. PxB	PxB	11. QxB	B-K3
5. NxP	B-N5			12. B-K2	P-B4		
6. B-N5	O-O			13. O-O	Q-R4		
7. R-B1	(R-K1)			14. Q-R4	QxQ		
	better is P-Q4!			15. NxQ	QR-N1		
				16. B-KB4	R-N6!		

KING'S GAMBIT: (Col. 12f)

1. P-K4	P-K4	8. better is...B-R6!	
2. P-KB4	PxP	if 9. R-K1	PxB or if 9. R-B2 PxB!
3. N-KB3	P-KN4	10. PxB	N-QB3
4. B-B4	B-N2		
5. O-O	P-Q3		
6. P-Q4	P-KR3		
7. P-B3	N-K2		
8. P-KN3	(N-N3 or P-N5)		

QUEEN'S PAWN GAME (Col. 181d)

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	better is 6. P-K5!	Q-Q1	or if.....Q-N3
2. N-KB3	P-K3	7. P-Q5!	PxB	7. B-Q3! QxP
3. B-N5	P-B4	8. QxP	B-K2	8. R-N1 Q-R6
4. P-K4	P-KR3?	9. N-B3	O-O	9. PxB N-R3
5. BxN	QxB	10. O-O-O	N-B3	10. N-B3! NxP
6. (N-B3)		11. B-B4		11. R-N3 Q-R4
				12. N-K2

TARRASCH DEFENSE QGD (Col. 99)

1. P-Q4	P-Q4	8. better is.....	B-K2	
2. P-QB4	P-K3	9. BxP	BxN	
3. N-QB3	P-QB4	10. Q-R5	P-N3	
4. BPxP	KPxP	11. QxB	N-B3	
5. N-B3	N-QB3	12. O-O	Q-O (=)	if 12. P-Q5 N-KB3
6. P-KN3	P-B5			13. Q-K3 N-N5
7. P-K4	PxB			14. B-N5# B-Q2
8. N-KN5 (QxB or NxP)				15. Q-K2 O-O

Jack Collins of Chess Review often posts chess jokes to his letters, from his storehouse of unpublished novelties:

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	1. N-KB3	N-KB3
2. B-N5?	N-K5!	2. P-B4	P-K3
3. B-R4	P-QB4	3. P-Q4	N-B3?!
4. P-KB3?	P-KN4!	4. P-Q5?	PxB
5. PxB	PxB	5. PxB	B-N5ch!
6. P-K3	B-R3		(wins the queen pawn)

WEAVER'S FOLLY

Dear Editor (Games, that is);

If you will get ahold of yourself, and take a good stiff drink, you can then take a look at the bottom of this here game and note that I lost it, which is strictly unheard of, for any chess player to submit a game which was not brilliantly won by himself. It was a very important game to me too, in the finals of a Golden Knight Postal Tournament of GHESS REVIEW. The only critter that done it lives in Texas and I naturally, uh, thought his 26th move was an exaggeration, because you can't trust any Texan. Why, when I drove down there last year, I went thru four States on Highway 87 until I got to Texas, and what do you think they called that road down there? Highway 287. Any good mathematical mind can figure that out. You can only believe 31% of anything they say in Texas! But I should have believed his 19th move, or maybe made a better 18th one for myself.

STAUNTON GAMBIT

Strahan	Weaver
1. P-Q4	P-KB4
2. P-K4	PxP
3. N-QB3	N-KB3
4. B-KN5	N-B3
5. P-Q5	N-K4
6. Q-Q4	N-B2
7. BxN	KPxB
8. NxP	B-K2

This is a switch from the books, but I thought the son-of-a-gun would have sense enough to play 9. B-B4, at which pernt I would murder him with P-B4!? and then (10. PxP e.p.) because of the Queen check. But he didn't.

9. O-O-O	O-O
10. N-K2	P-KB4
11. N/4-N3	P-KN3
12. N-B4	N-Q3

Why this guy is a pushover. His knights block his pawns, that old bishop is stuck. Why, I will now chase his queen all over the board. I chuckle like crazy and say to my wife Clara, "Clara, I will show this bun Strahan a thing or two. I will mow'n down!

13. B-B4	P-QN4
14. B-N3	B-B3
15. Q-Q3	P-QB4
16. P-QR3	B-R3

I keep looking at....N-B5, but somehow I aint ready yet.

17. Q-Q2	?
----------	---

Shucks. Now ...N-B5 is trapped with 18. P-Q6!

17.	B-N4
18. K-N1	R-K1

I was talkin' when I should have been listenin'.

19. P-KR4	BxN
If I play ..BxP he throws the knight away--gets Q to R6,--wins B and checkmates--the low down skonk!	
20. QxB	Q-B3
21. P-KB3	N-B5
22. BxN	PxB
23. P-R5	QR-N
24. Q-Q4	Q-K4

I am nervously trying to double my rooks, rally me forces.

25. PxP	PxP
26. R-R6	QxQ
27. RxQ	R-K8ch
28. K-R2	R-N3
29. R/4-R4	K-B2

Had to. If I let him get in P-B4 my King is trapped. I say to my wife Clara, "Clara, these Texan characters have a certain degree of low cunning. But the forces of Right will triumph, amen."

30. R-R7ch	K-K1
31. R-N7	R-KB3
32. R-R8ch	R-B1
33. RxRch	KxR
34. RxNP	B-N2
35. R-B6ch	K-K2
36. RxP	P-Q3
37. N-K4	R-K7
38. R-N5	RxBP
39. P-KN3	R-K7
40. N-B3	R-K4
41. RxRch	PxR
42. K-N1	Resign

The outside passed pawn wins. I feel like a fellow in a hospital who fell into a stupor. (They should be careful with them things)

NOTES BY O.W.L.

A MEETING OF THE HIGH HIGH SCHOOL CHESS AND CHECKER CLUB -or- Adventures of a Chess Organizer

Perhaps I can give you a view of what goes on at an average high school chess and checker meeting. You might be surprised, horrified, or amazed at the activities. I take the view of an organizer of chess, fairly practiced at the game, and familiar with the antics of students.

High school chess clubs meet in a spare period of the school day--an activity period, a study period, or, if interest is strong enough, after school. The school I have had experience with is the school that uses the activity period for meetings, and we meet about once each week. The activity period is only 32 minutes long, which is not sufficient time for any good chess, but it is enough for the type of chess that is played at these meetings. Often flash games are played, and as many as ten or more games are run up during one meeting. Games of checkers, more popular than chess, are always in session at the meeting.

Upon entering the playing room, which is the school cafeteria, a few early birds can be seen already at it. These two are the girls who learned the rules from a tiny folder of directions accompanying the cheap chess set the club purchased. They have the king and queen on the wrong squares. On conversation with them I learn that the rules state the largest piece is the king, but the king in this set is not the largest piece; the queen is. Argument with them is futile. What if they should see a good set??? Since they don't intend to become professionals it doesn't matter.

The next board shows the most hideous position possible, or impossible. Two boys are busy concentrating over this inconceivable mess. When I ask one what goes on, one replies, "Oh, this isn't chess. There weren't enough checker sets!" My initial shock is over. But what a shock it was!

The next board holds another hideous situation. One king is checkmated, the other is only in check, and play is fast and furious on the other wing of the board. A boy and girl are playing this one, so I decide not to bother them. They can't keep their eyes off each other, and probably don't know the rules either.

The organizer is always bothered by those who think chess is a silly game (a popular notion of youth.) The fooler has piled all the pieces on top of each other and hilariously (he thinks) asks me, "Where does the Knight move from the third square?" The chess players, organizers, and serious minded people have no time for this low-minded type of individual.

Spread all over the cafeteria are the numerous checker players (our club has about 70 members in all). They don't care too much if they win or lose. They have a great deal to say to each other. Or they have to read the school newspaper that just came out. Checkers is the perfect game for the amount of work they want to put into it. Serious checker players are few and far between.

The most heartening section of the club is the one this writer inevitably ends up in--in the section of chess, and fairly good chess, too. The tournament director (to whom I am advisory assistant) is busy collecting results from the games. Though not more than three games are played at one time, there are usually fairly strong games. Speed chess is wonderfully popular due to the limited time, and the boys feel it helps playing habits more than serious chess. If the tournament director presses his players a little bit, he can get them to stick to a fairly good tournament. Here is hope for the world of chess! It needs only to be encouraged a little.

Now, the essence of this article is from some old saying, "Youth is Our Hope." Cpl. Don Roberts wrote in a letter to our editor not long ago that we should help to 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 fuffers playing chess in the future we must teach the kids." I like that statement, and I even think that a teacher can have fun teaching chess because the teaching of our great game is a royal cause.

Here are a few points to keep in mind when you become the teaching disciple:

1. Remember that you are creating competition for yourself and other chess playing people. You will benefit more or less directly from your indulgence.

2. Have a definite system prepared for the teaching. A student will get along much faster if the teacher presents the material well coordinatedly and methodically.

3. Teach slowly and thoroughly. Chess is a hard game to learn, and if a person gets lost early he will not have half the zest to learn he had before.

4. Teach encouragingly. Be very pleased with your student's every tiny bit of progress. Chess is made up of tiny bits of progress; let your student know he must take these little bits slowly and gradually.

5. Be enthused with your student and your project. This ties closely with point 1. Make your student feel your enthusiasm. If you act bored, your student will be bored, too. Boredom is very contagious.

6. Do a lot of teaching to as many people as you can.

Now, where can we put these points to work? Work them on your friends, on your children, on your family, on the boys you know in the neighborhood, and, if you have a chance, at a school. If you are a teacher you should help by all means to organize a chess club in your school, or to help advise the existing one. A person doesn't realize how much it helps his chess playing to teach, to be active in organizing. It gives you a deeper love and determination to win.

I hope my 'notes' for this month will spur some of you to work on the most important cause of chess--its own self-propagation. To work, men!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND OLD MEMBERS RETURNING!!

Dr. G. H. Parker, Spokane
Richard Totusek, Spokane
Carl R. Webb, Seattle
Sven Engstrom, St. Paul
John S. Dewitt

All in all, this was another fair month. We have gained more than we have lost. But on the January report I hope I will have to use the whole page for the new members. Take note of the below, and try to do as it suggests!

GIVE A GIFT OF THE WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER TO YOUR GOOD CHESS PALS!! MAKE AT LEAST ONE CHESS PAL HAPPY AT CHRISTMAS. MAKE THE WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION HAPPY, TOO!! RENEW FOR YOURSELF WHEN YOUR WCL IS DUE!!

A REVIEW OF THE FORSYTH NOTATION

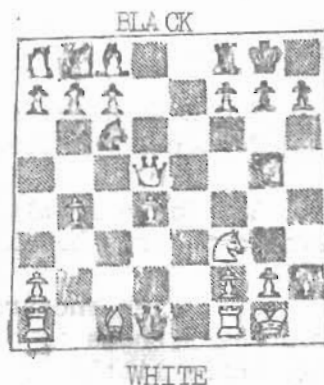
One of the most useful notations invented for chess is the Forsyth. It is not a game notation, but a position notation, of which there are few and those few seem to be inefficient and confusing. The Forsyth is simple, clear, needs no special equipment, and takes little time, room, or effort. It was first used by David Forsyth of Glasgow, Scotland, some number of year ago. It has undergone improvement.

Here is how it works. A player starts always from the black end of the board. From the left side of the board he writes on a piece of paper the proper figure or number as is needed in the method. Each number stands for the number of squares between pieces or between the sides of the board and the pieces. Each piece is given its abbreviated name, with white in Caps and black in the lower case. A row of pieces might appear as follows: 5Q1R, which would mean there were first five empty squares, next a white queen, another empty square, and then a white rook. And that would comprise black's first rank. Each row is given consecutively in that manner, and an easily written record is thus made.

Now look at the diagram and see the example below. A comma separates each row of pieces.

4lb2rkl, ppp2ppp, 2n5, 3q4, 1P1P4, 5N2, P4PPP, R1BQ1RKL.

(By the way, do you happen to know white is to go here?) And it is thus possible to describe a position in a single line.



Since the simplicity and clarity of this method of notation is greatly to be desired, it will be used this month in the check of problems in the Problem Column. Starting January it will replace the hard-to-make and unclear diagrams altogether. So remember the Forsyth as it will often be used in the future and all chess players can make good use of it.

THE PROBLEM ANSWERS for November series

No. 9. I'm terribly sorry, but I seem to have made a horrible error here. By Forsyth Notation this problem is: 8, 8, 1KP5, 3r4, 8, 8, 8, k7. Answer: 1. P-B7, R-Q3ch.; 2. K-N5, R-Q4ch.; 3. K-N4, R-Q5ch.; 4. K-N3, R-Q6ch.; 5. K-E2, R-Q5; 6. --- P-E8(R)!!, R-R5; 7. K-N3! Notice black cannot attack the enemy rook for this piece then threatens to get behind the king and win the white pawn. Nor can white get a Q on his sixth, as black would check at B5, forcing a stalemate! Beautiful!

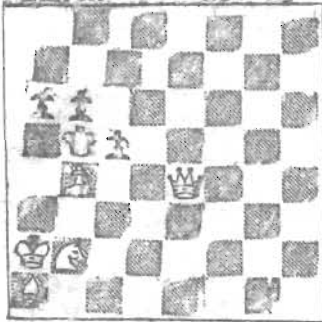
No. 10. This one is very easy. If white's pawn starts off as in a race he will force a stalemate, and if he does not stalemate he will lose! 1. P-R3, and black is given the necessary time to stop himself from stalemating himself or winning.

No. 11. When I started my collection of problems quite some time ago, this was the first entry. I then thought it was an excellent contribution because I hadn't seen much chess, and any chess was something excellent. Nevertheless, this problem must have been hard to compose. Every possible move white makes leads to the same result--mate in one move! Poor black.

No. 12. This is a chapter in the old story of under-graduation. Getting a queen here is not nearly so effective, and certainly not as brilliant as 1. P-K8 (N)!, R moves; 2. Q-N7ch.!!, RxQ; 3. N-B6 mate! Again, poor black.

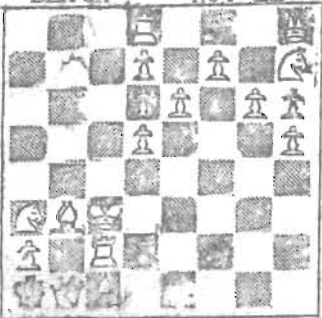
GIVE YOUR FRIEND A PRESENT OF THE WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER FOR CHRISTMAS!!

BLACK NO. 13



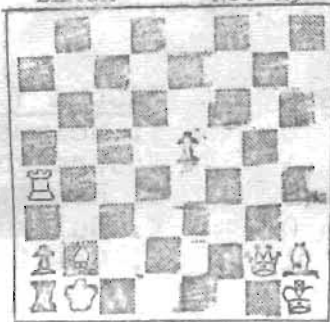
WHITE MATES IN 3

BLACK No. 14



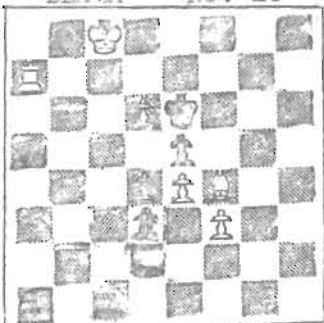
white MATES IN 1

BLACK No. 15



WHITE MATES IN 2

BLACK No. 16



WHITE MATES IN 3

SOLUTIONS

NEXT MONTH

PROBLEM COLUMN

By— O. W. LaFreniere

Problem No. Thirteen
from 1936 Chess Review

This is one of the master problems composed to drive problem solvers insane. The friend who showed it to me had worked for months before he solved it. Surely I couldn't solve it at all. But to tease you, here it is.

By Forsyth: 8, 8, pp6, lkp5, lP2Q3, 8, KN6, B7.

Problem No. Fourteen
from Chess Review

This problem was composed for the famous Otto Wurzburg, a great problemist. His initials are represented by the position of the pieces. Also there is a trick involved. Black cannot have moved last, but white still mates in one.

By Forsyth: 3R3Q, 3P1P1N, 3P1Pp, 3P3P, 8, N8K5, P+R5, kqB5.

Problem No. Fifteen
from Chess Review

One move and black is helpless. This is just another teaser, but an easy one.

By Forsyth: 8, 8, 8, 4p3, \$7, 8, P84Qb, kr5K.

Problem No. Sixteen
by David Mitchell

Here is the Christmas novelty. Sometimes a problem solver has a bad time because he forgets half of what he knows when he begins to solve. This problem requires memory of certain basic rules.

By Forsyth: 2K5, R7, 3Pk3, 4p3, 3PPB2, 3P1P2, 8, 8.

The writer of this column wishes each reader a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a very CHESSY, MERRY NEW YEAR. And be sure to give a subscription of the Washington Chess Letter to your friends for Xmas!

THE PUGET SOUND LEAGUE

☹ BY DAN WADE ☺

The Big Three, Tacoma, the Seattle Y. and the University of Washington, remain unbeaten as the 1952-53 Puget Sound League season nears the half-way point. In third round matches played November 30th, the Seattle Y managed to edge out West Seattle $6\frac{1}{2} - 3\frac{1}{2}$, the University of Washington whitewashed Seattle University 10 - 0 and Tacoma trounced the Seattle Chess Club 8 -

Walker and Vellias scored double wins for the YMCA to make the victory over West Seattle possible. As was the case last season, O. W. Manney was the West side team's biggest trouble maker in attempting to block the Y's quest for their third straight league victory. Tacoma came north loaded for bear but found little to trouble them in posting their triumph. At the University it was just a case of too much talent on the part of the Washington lads. In two matches they have scored $19\frac{1}{2}$ out of a possible 20 points!

On Friday evening, December 12th, the Seattle Chess Club team visited West Seattle to play a postponed match. It was even most of the way but in the end Manney and Mage each picked up their second win of the evening to wrap the match up in West Seattle's favor 6 - 4. It was the Seattle Chess Club team's third straight defeat. Was Puget Sound League history made?

Round Four scraps played Sunday, December 14th, found Tacoma walloping the Everett team 7 - 2. This was Tacoma's third straight triumph and put them into a tie for first place with the Seattle Y. On the same day the Seattle Chess Club team won their first match of the season battering the hapless Seattle University team 9 - 1. The other match scheduled was West Seattle at the University of Washington. Because of tests at the U. of W. this match had to be postponed.

<u>WEST SEATTLE</u> 3½	<u>SEATTLE YMCA</u> 6½	<u>SEATTLE CHESS</u> 2	<u>TACOMA YMCA</u> 8
O. W. Manney 2	Dan Wade 0	D. Lewis 0	V. Holmes 2
Max Mage ½	Max Bader 1½	Cummings 1	Coubrough 1
E. Vukonich 0	Russ Vellias 2	H. Roberts 0	C. Hewitt 2
F. M. Howard 0	E. I. Walker 2	W. H. Raleigh 0	V. Hultman 2
Schrank 1*	Jorgen Bader 1*	Bjerkereth 1	R. Collins 1

* two drawn games.

<u>U. of WASHINGTON</u> 10	<u>SEATTLE U. C</u>	<u>WEST SEATTLE</u> 6	<u>SEATTLE CHESS</u> 4
C. Ballantine 2	L. Orchard 0	O. W. Manney 2	D. Lewis 0
Alan Clark 2	Bob Buck 0	Max Mage 2	McIsaac 0
D. Chipman 2	Alexander 0	E. Vukonich 1	Ed Arnold 1
Doug Gorton 2	Ken Borski 0	F. M. Howard 1	T. Davidsen 1
Dr. Ballantine 2	W. Holbeim 0	S. Woodward 0	H. Roberts 2

<u>SEATTLE CHESS</u> 9	<u>SEATTLE U.</u> 1	<u>TACOMA YMCA</u> 7	<u>EVERETT</u> 2
T. Davidsen 2	R. Hattrup 0	V. Holmes 2	DEFAULTED 0
F. H. Weaver 2	Don Doyle 0	L. Coubrough 1	Jack Nourse 1
D. Lewis 1	Ken Borski 1	R. Collins 1	Sid Nourse 1
H. Roberts 2	T. Koehler 0	V. Hultman 1*	Brandstrom 0
Ed Arnold 2	W. Holbeim 0	R. Leach 2	Peter Husby 0

* 2nd game unplayed. Too late.

LEAGUE STANDINGS AS OF DECEMBER 14th 1952.

TEAM	WON	LOST	TEAM	WON	LOST
Seattle YMCA	3	- 0	West Seattle	1	- 2
Tacoma YMCA	3	- 0	Seattle	1	- 3
U. of Wash.	2	- 0	Seattle U.	0	- 4
Everett	1	- 2			

NEXT MATCHES - JAN. 18, 1953

Seattle YMCA	at Tacoma
U. of Washington	at Everett
Seattle University	vs. West Seattle
Seattle	at the Seattle Chess Club.
Seattle	draws a bye.

POSTAL CHESS

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

A
day
that's
full of
happiness
for you and
yours we pray
and may a gleam
of friendly cheer
melt all your cares
away. With every joy
that heart could wish to
light the Yule log's glow
on faces of the friends you
love, O, may their number grow
Let singing voices fill the air
and Christmas bells ring out, let
everyone with glad accord a joyfull
message shout. Let plenty crown your
festive board with heaps of food and

fun
and
may
you
say

with Tiny Tim

"God Bless Us Every One"



WCF Postal chess tournaments give you an opportunity to test your skill against other players whom you might not otherwise have an opportunity of meeting. Many fine friendships are made in this way.

Entry fee is only 50¢ for a section of five players. Each player to play two games with each of four opponents. One game as white and the other as black. Anyone can enter.

Send entries to Postal Chess Editor, R. R. Merk, 1026 E 71 Seattle 5, Washington.

POSTAL CHESS RATINGS

Class A Players

Ballantine	1595
Greene	1591
Coubrough	1497
Kaffenberger	1482
Mulford	1450
Dolle	1445
Magerkurth	1426
Bever	1417
Cerretelli	1405
Hardinge	1396
Hazen	1288
Sams	1247
Tweedale	1246
Naas	1226
Yocom, H.E.	1218
Hellums	1190
Harmeson	1136
Husby	1108
Yocom, C.L.	1077

Class B. Players

Howard, F. M.	1328
Cairncross	1314
Merk, R.R.	1281
Dickey	1264
Luters	1206
Allen, W. P.	1198
Roberts, Don	1192
McCarthy	1148
Moore	1137
Amsden	1132
Skarsten	1120
Emerson	1106
Winters	1106
Holland	1086
Engstrom	1086
LaFreniere	1054
Merk, Fred	1052
Cox	1050
Parry	1012
Martin	997
Roberts, H.H.	961
Baker	878
Malmgren	860
Cutshall	846
Raleigh	807

FROM
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