

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller January 1954

Writers & works in this issue: Editor Dan Wade, Circulation and Postal Chess: R.R. Merk, Publication: K.W. Mulford, Nourse adNausoam: John Nourse, Tournament News: Fred Weaver and 54 Resolutions: Mrs. Dan Wade plus Letters Section: two from E.G. Short of Portland on Ratings.

G.S.G. Patterson won the 1954 Washington Speed Championship with a fine 10-4 score over 7 other players in the double RR event. 2nd place went to O.W. Manney at 9-5. There were only three events listed on the future events calendar. The Seattle YMCA team is leading the 8 team Puget Sound league play after 5 matches. The story on the McNeil Island versus Olympia match says there were 50 spectators watching McNeil lose 6-3. Yes the match took place on McNeil Island as they only played HOME matches.

Short's letter about Short ratings gave ratings for 1949 to 1953 for some of the world's top players, some given were.

Botvinnik 1553, 1548, 1522, 1531, 1533

Bronstein 1495, 1505, 1513, 1505, 1497

Geller 1514, 1518, 1512, 1501, 1495

Reshevsky 1430, 1429, 1442, 1439, 1454

Written in the letter was that USCF ratings are not much good and Short would start doing "a regular Northwestern rating list". (Your writer does not know what formula for rating Short used.)

A bit from the Nourse column says that "On the pro side for chess we note that Voltaire, Bulwer-Lytton, Tennyson, Huxley, Lincoln, Franklin, Clay etc. were all avid for the game." Your writer recently came across games played by Charles C. Fremont, explorer and Republican President Candidate to add to that list.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller February 1954

This issue lists co-editors: Dan Wade and John.S. DeWitt, circulation: R. R. Merk, publication: Ken.W. Mulford. Contributors: John Nourse, Fred Weaver, Stephen Falk, Dr. Griffith Parker. DeWitt will be taking over the editor slot solely in April.

Mention is given of South Tacoma Chess Club meeting on Fridays at 9017 Washington Blvd. SW, Tacoma.

Tacoma YMCA, Seattle YMCA and Kitsap teams now are tied for 1st in Puget Sound league play at 4.5

Some of the players taking part were: Jim McCormick 1st board for Seattle CC, Ted Warner 2nd board for U of W, and Oliver LaFreniere on 5th board for the same team, Dan Wade 2nd bd for Seattle YMCA, Elmars Zemgalis 1st bd for Kitsap, Vernon Holmes and Viktor Pupols 1st and 2nd boards for Tacoma YMCA. Best score among league players at this reporting point in the season was C. Rosburg on 3rd board for U of W team with 10 wins and two draws Zemgalis was next with nine wins one loss. There were 66 players who had taken part to this point.

Ted Davidsen was reelected President of the Seattle CC. Dan Wade won the 30-30 Seattle CC event over 3 others. The annual meeting of Washington Chess Federation was announced for April 11th at the Student Union of U of Wash. The maximum number of votes that could be cast was 29. The eight WCF member clubs have two votes each and 9 WCF officers plus four past presidents.

Under heading TOURNAMENTS the passing of David Creemer editor of a chess column in Vancouver BC Daily Province was noted. Mrs. Mona May Karff reported as winning US Woman's Championship. Charles Alexander and David Bronstein tied for 1st at the annual Hastings International Congress. Albert Weissman won the 36 player US Intercollegiate Championship topping among others, Arthur Bisquier, Hans Berliner and Karl Burger.

Gordon Cornelius won the Spokane CC championship with a perfect 6-0. 18 players took part during the month of January. The club reports 32 members.

A poem was part of Kitsap News:

“A chess playing monk of Siberia
Found life getting drearier and drearier
But he bought the Chess Letter
And learned to play better
Now he beats the Mother Superior”

Mr. Greene is way atop the postal rating chart with 1703. Ken Mulford is next at 1572.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller March 1954

The front cover of this issue announces the "Annual Meeting April 11." Dan Wade was listed as Co-Editor. His helpers on the list were: J.S. DeWitt, Co-Editor; R.R. Merk, Circulation Head; K.W. Mulford, Publisher; Contributors: J.N. Nourse; F.H. Weaver; Victor (sic) Pupols; Stephen Falk; Dr. G.H. Parker; and the Washington Chess Federation Executive Officers: D.E. Wade -President; O.W. Manney - Vice-President; P. Husby-Secretary; W. H. Raleigh - Treasurer.

Charles Magerkurth won the Kitsap Championship in a play-off match win over Jack Nourse, 2-0 when they tied in the regular tournament of 6 entrants.

Final Standings for 1953-1954 Puget Sound League: Three way tie for first at 5.5-1.5 match scores - Seattle YMCA, Kitsap, Tacoma YMCA, followed by U of Washington, Olympia CC, Seattle CC, McNeil Island, West Seattle. Some of the players in the league: James McCormick for Seattle YMCA, Elmars Zemgalis for Kitsap, Viktor Pupols for Tacoma YMCA. Best scores were turned in by Charles Rosburg (U of W) 12 wins and 2 draws, Zemgalis 10 wins 1 lost 1 draw, Dan Wade (Seattle YMCA) 9 wins, 3 lost, 2 draws, Pupols 8 wins 3 lost, 3 draws. Up to this point in Puget Sound League history no player before had played in every match and not lost a game. Rosburg played 2nd and 3rd board during the season.

1954 Puget Sound Open played at the Seattle CC on March 6-7 was won by Viktor Pupols 5.5-.5. Second was Charles Rosburg in the 16 player event. Jim McCormick was among those tied for 3rd.

The FROM CHESS LIFE section of this WCL issue lists the State Champions for 1953. Listed are Oregon-Arthur Dake; Washington - Jim Schmidt, J.L. Sheets; Idaho- O.W. Manney and L. Kimpton; and some others Iowa & South Dakota-John Penquite; New York-Hans Berliner; North Carolina- W.E. Chapman and Norman Whitaker; Texas - John Hudson. CL talked about a possible Soviet-USA match in New York. Mikhail Botvinnik and Vassily Smyslov were to start their 24 game World Title Match in March 1954 in Moscow.

A couple of games of Vik Pupols from 1954 State Championship were printed in this issue, a lost to Charles Rosburg and a win over Charles Joachim. A two page Vox Pupoli by Viktor Pupols column appeared in this issue discussing Hugh Meyers-John Penquite (1-0) game from 1953 Illinois Open plus a game from Puget Sound League play Pupols (Tacoma) vs. Dr. Shephard (1-0).

Two pages of Eastern Washington Chess News were in this issue. The Inland Empire Open announcement was for the event to be held April 24-25, 1954 (same dates as 2004!), in Spokane. The event was to be a 6 round Swiss with rounds at 1pm, 3:15pm, 7pm and 9:15pm with two rounds on Sunday starting at 10am. Two Spokane High Schools played an 11-11 match, North Central and Lewis and Clark. With faculty members added the North Central team beat the Spokane CC "B" Team 15-13. Spokane CC team beat some members of the U.S. Geological Survey team 14-2.

Spokane CC announced a move from the Spokane Hotel to the Desert Hotel.

In more Eastern Washington Match play Pasco downed Milton-Freewater 16.5-5.5. Pasco visited Washington State Pen. and won 16-8. Milton-Freewater lost to State Pen group 16.5-11.5.

In postal chess results I noticed McCormick (rating 1168)-LaFreniere (1012)1-0, I assume this is James and Ollie. (Anyone who see James McCormick please ask him if I am correct!) Top rated postal player is Greene at 1703.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller April 1954

April 1954 Washington Chess Letter cover says "Dr. Baumwell wins at Spokane". J. S. DeWitt is Editor of this issue of WCL. Helpers were: R.R. Merk, Circulation Head and postal chess; K.W. Mulford, Publisher; contributors: J. N. Nourse, F. H. Weaver, Victor Pupols, Dan Wade, Ollie LaFreniere.

26 players appear in the crosstable for the first combined Inland Empire Open and Eastern Washington Championship. Dr. Max Baumwell of Walla-Walla topped the table with 5.5-.5. He formerly lived in Vienna Austria. The event was held in Spokane, April 24-25, 1954 and 50 years later those are the same dates for the 2004 edition of the Inland Empire Open. Victor Pupols was 2nd with Ted Warner 4th, Dan Wade 6th, Jim McCormick 14th. They played four games on Saturday and two on Sunday. Baumwell and Pupols drew in round 4. The time limit was two hours of play and then the adjudication committee of Gordorn Cornelius, Pupols and Dr. Parker took over. There was a banquet held between rounds two and three.

Only 5 players took part in the annual Seattle Chess Club tournament. The round robin was won by Charles Rosburg and Dan Wade, 5.5-2.5.

The minutes of the Washington Chess Federation annual meeting took up two pages of this issue of WCL. Ken Mulford was elected President. John DeWitt was elected Editor of WCL. R.R. Merk was awarded the annual Oscar award. 15 WCF members attended the meeting.

The FROM CHESS LIFE page reported the World Championship match between Botvinnik and Smyslov score stood at 6-6. A match between Russia and Argentina was won by Russia 20.5-11.5. A.S. Denker was reported as winner of New York Manhattan Club Championship, 8.5-2.5 ahead of Bisquier and Pavey and Turner.

Under the title HALL of FAME the winners of past major chess tournaments were listed. This updated the listing giving in January 1952 issue. The events listed were State Champions, Washington Open, Speed Champions, Puget Sound Open, Northwest Masters & Experts, Woodpusher Champions, Junior Champs and a list of active Washington Experts: J.L. Sheets, Charles Joachim, O.W. Manney, Viktor Pupols, Dan Wade and 1 master: Elmars Zemgalis.

Greene is still way ahead on the postal rating list 1703, with the next player at 1572, Mulford.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller May 1954

John.S. DeWitt continues as Editor. R.R. Merk was the circulation head with Ken W. Mulford as Publisher. Contributors: John N. Nourse, Fred H. Weaver, Viktor Pupols, Dan E. Wade, Ollie W. LaFreniere. Page 2 had ½ page ads for Washington Junior to be held July 3-4 and Seafair Open July 21 and August 1. Seafair would be three sections, Open: 6 rounds, Reserve: one day 4 round Swiss open to all, and Woodpusher: one day event that experts and masters can not play in. Entry fee for Open \$2.50, and \$2.00 for the other two events. Pupols VOX PUPOLI column announces Zemgalis-Votkovsky and A. Santasiere-Zemgalis.

The section of material drawn from CHESS LIFE reports on Botvinnik winning the world title match over Smyslov when their 24-game match ended in a draw, with title going to the title holder at the start of the match. 10 games were drawn and the scores of several of the match games were printed in this issue of WCL. June 16, 1954 was to be start of a USA-USSR match over 8 boards: Reshvesky-Botvinnik, Denker-Keres, Pavey-Smyslov, D. Byrne-Boleslovsky, Horowitz-Kotov, R. Byrne-Geller, Bisquier-Taimanov and Evans-Bronstein. Most of the USA players will have been taking part in the USA Championship May 29-June 13.

26 players took part in Idaho Open, winner was Maurice Gedance 6.5-1.5. Top Idaho player was Glen Buckendorf at 5-3. Ben Greewald with 6.5-.5 won a Nevada event of 32 players.

The Washington Chess Federation Constitution and By-Laws were printed in this issue.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller June 1954

John.S. DeWitt continues as Editor. R.R. Merk was the circulation head with Ken W. Mulford as Publisher. Contributors: John N. Nourse, Fred H. Weaver, Viktor Pupols, Stephen Falk, Dan E. Wade, Ollie W. LaFreniere. On the coming events list was a July 9, simul by New US Champion 24 year old, Arthur Bisquier to be held at Seattle Chess Club, 616 Madison St. Article by LaFreniere about USCF rating list for Spring 1954. 1304 players are on the list from 81 tournaments, 3 of which were in Washington State. 22 players on the list from Washington some of whom were: Elmars Zemgalis 2281 and J. L. Sheets 2143. Viktors Pupols 2092, Eugene Warner 2057, James McCormick 1964, Dan Wade 1895, Ollie LaFreniere 1716.

Full page article about upcoming 11th annual International match between BC and Washington to be held in Mount Vernon. A short history of past matches was given.

The page about information from CHESS LIFE noted that the Seattle PI newspaper gave front page coverage to the USA-Soviet Chess Match won by Soviet side. US Championship results were given, Bisquier 1st to Larry Evans 2nd. New Orleans was to be the site of the 1954 US Open. Olaf Ulvestad of Seattle was playing simultaneous blindfold exhibitions in New York plus winning the 62 player Eastern States Open. 62 players played in a Wisconsin event won by Averill Powers. In 5th spot was David Arganian probably the father of David Arganian now in 2004 living in Seattle. Stephen Falk reports in from Yakima that Eli Treisman won the 12 player Championship of Yakima County. William Hoge was 2nd.

3 and ½ pages of this issue were filled with Botvinnik-Smyslov World Championship game scores. A report on the 72-board (a new high number) annual Northern California vs. Southern California match won as usual by the North, 42-30. A list of Chess publications was given: CHESS LIFE, THE COURIER (Connecticut), THE CALIFORNIA CHESS REPORTER, CANADIAN CHESS CHAT, CHESS (Quebec Canada), CHESS REVIEW.

Game from Inland Empire Open between Viktors Pupols and William Hoge is given with comments about adjudications of chess games. Writer LaFreniere says Black had a “pure win, but it was adjudicated a draw!” They allowed two hours for the games in this event before adjudication. Article does not say who made the decision declaring the game a draw.

Membership in Washington Chess Federation was reported to have dropped from a high of 158 to the current 125.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller July 1954

John.S. DeWitt continues as Editor. R.R. Merk was the circulation head with Ken W. Mulford as Publisher. Contributors: John N. Nourse, Fred H. Weaver, Viktor Pupols, Stephen Falk, Dan E. Wade, Ollie W. LaFreniere. Washington Open tournament announcement filled about ½ a page. Event was set for Labor Day Weekend at the Seattle Chess Club, 618 Madison St., Seattle. Event was to be a 7 round Swiss, 2-3-2 per playing day and 100% USCF rated event with entry fee of \$2.50 for USCF members and \$3.00 for non members. Time control was 45/2 then 15/30.

In tournament results report, Ivars Dalbergs of Portland won the 6 round Seafair Open, 4.5 - 1.5. Ted (Eugene) Warner of Seattle had the same score but lost out on tie-break points. Charles Joachin scored 4-2. Ken Mulford of Seattle won the Woodpusher tournament over 7 other players. R.M. Collins of Tacoma was 2nd. More details were to appear in the August issue of WCL.

Dan Wade did an article on history of annual match between Washington and British Columbia.

On the CHESS in 'REVIEW' page of information from CHESS LIFE we find that Arthur Bisguier won the Pan-American Open held in Los Angeles a .5 point ahead of Larry Evans. Bisguier won \$1,000.00 while Evans got \$750.00. Olaf Ulvestad of Seattle won \$50.00 in trying for 10th place. 44 players from 10 states took part in U.S. Junior Championship won by Ross Siemens of Toronto Canada. He played his first US Junior at age 11 in 1947. Jim McCormick of Seattle took part in the event but "he forgot to play good chess". William Addison won a Northern California event 8-1. John Penquite was the top player in South Dakota.

There was a report with game scores (all showing the top player having white) of Arthur Bisguier vs. Seattle over 34 boards. The US Champion 30 - Seattle 4, 27 wins 6 draws and one loss. Ken Day of Bellevue and once the first board player for Roosevelt High School (1934) was the only winner. Those able to draw were Sol Birulin, William Gillette, Fred Howard Weaver, Charles Rosburg, Viktor Pupols and Jim McCormick. "Over half of the players present at the exhibition were players who do not take an active interest in chess." The Seattle P-I newspaper gave the event lots of advanced publicity. There was not enough room in the Seattle CC playing site for all of those who wanted to play.

Pasco and Milton-Freewater Chess Clubs played a match that ended in a 10-10 draw.

A game with notes by Philip Woliston and Dan Wade played in the 1935 Washington Championship between Harry Ishida and Olaf Ulvestad was printed. Pupols Vox Pupoli column covers the Fine vs Okelly played in 1951 Wertheim Memorial in New York. More of Botvinnik vs. Smyslov games are given also. 22 pages in this issue.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller August 1954

John.S. DeWitt continues as Editor. R.R. Merk was the circulation head with Ken W. Mulford as Publisher. Contributors: John N. Nourse (Nourse AdNauseam), Fred H. Weaver (From Chess Life), Viktor Pupols (Vox Pupoli), Stephen Falk (Chess Bits), Dan E. Wade (Feature Writer), Ollie W. LaFreniere (Feature Writer). As announced last month the Washington Open tournament announcement filled about ½ a page. The event was set for Labor Day Weekend at the Seattle Chess Club. 1954 Washington Junior has been rescheduled for Sept 18-19 in Yakima.

Last month in a short tournament results report, Ivars Dalbergs of Portland won the 6 round Seafair Open, 4.5 - 1.5. Ted (Eugene) Warner of Seattle had the same score but lost out on tie-break points. Charles Joachim scored 4-2. This month there was a full story of 3.5 pages including the 20 player crosstable. Only name in the crosstable still around playing chess that I know is James McCormick. Roseburg won the Seattle City Championship that was conducted concurrently with the Seattle Seafari. Charles Joachim was the tournament director and story writer.

As reported in the July issue, Ken Mulford of Seattle won the Woodpusher tournament over 8 other players. R.M. Collins of Tacoma was 2nd. A full crosstable was given this issue.

From the report from CHESS LIFE we learn that Larry Evans and Arturo Pomar tied for 1st place in US Open held in New Orleans, LA at 9.5-2.5. Each won \$700.00 and Evans took the title on tie-break. Mrs. Gisel Gresser won the Woman's title in New Orleans. George Krauss won the 49 player Southern Open. C.C. Bates won a 28 player Alabama event. Gene Shapiro topped 24 others in New Mexico.

Washington won the annual international match with British Columbia 22-8 in the A section and 9-6 in B Section. Elmars Zemgalis lost on board 1 to W. Jursevakis. They use to play each other in Latvia before World War II. Zemgalis usually won those games. Others players who might read this article that took part were James McCormick, Norman Abramson. The playing site was Seven Cedars Pavilion in Mount Vernon. Mt. Vernon Chess Club was the host. All the Yakima players won their games, Nelson, Edberg, Hoge, Falk and LaFreniere. This was Charles Joachim's 8th WA-BC match and he has not lost a game, with a 5 wins and 3 draws score. In total 58 Washington players turned out while 43 came from BC. The smallest BC turnout for several years. This was the 9th event.

The rest of World Title match games between Botvinnik and Smyslov were given. The match ended 12-12, with both winning 7 games but Botvinnik keeps the title. Article says 2,000 spectators watch the final game.

57 names were listed on the Postal Chess Rating List. Tops was Greene. 26 pages in this fine issue of the WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller September 1954

John.S. DeWitt continues as Editor. R.R. Merk was the circulation head with Ken W. Mulford as Publisher. Contributors: John N. Nourse (Nourse AdNauseam), Fred H. Weaver (From Chess Life), Viktor Pupols (Vox Pupoli), Stephen Falk (Chess Bits), Dan E. Wade (Feature Writer), Ollie W. LaFreniere (Feature Writer).

Puget Sound League play for 1954-55 was announced with matches to start in October. 9 teams were to take part: West Seattle, Seattle Y.M.C.A., U of W, Seattle Chess Club, Olympia, Kitsap County, Tacoma, McNeil Island Prison, and The Latvian Sports Club. Dan Wade predicts the Latvians will win the league what with Zemgalis and Pupols on the team. James McCormick is to join the Tacoma team so Wade predicts them to finish 2nd.

October 17th to be the start of the Washington State Championship held at the Seattle Chess Club with a time control of 40/2 and 10 moves every ½ hour after. Event will have preliminary round robins and then a final.

1954 Washington Junior only attracted 7 players and ended in a tie between Viktors Pupols and James McCormick when both ended up with 5-1 scores. They were to have a two game playoff. Pupols won the first game of the playoff.

The Log Cabin Chess Club of West Orange, NJ paid a visit to the Pacific Northwest in September 1954. E. Forry Laucks was the leader of the group that was touring all summer. Spokane beat them 4-3. Seattle CC also won but by 4-2 and City Chess Club of Vancouver BC lost 2.5-1.5. Herman Hesse was the Log Cabin top board.

Vernon Holmes won the Pierce County Championship. Pupols was 2nd.

1954 California Open of 81 players was won by H. Steiner 6.5-.5 with Jim Schmitt (who use to live in Portland) 2nd at 6-1. William Lombardy at age 16 won a New York State event 7-2. Heart of America Open drew 54 players with John Rigan and Eliot Hearst taking 1st place. Northwest Open (held in an unknown part of USA but I am guessing Midwest) drew 41 players for a win by Lee Magee.

Five games played by J.L. Sheets in 1953 Washington Championship were given and he won 4 and drew one.

The Washington Open winner was Ted Warner 6.5-.5 over 11 others.

Olaf Ulvestad announced he would give master annotations to games for a \$1.00 per game fee.

LaFreniere reports WCF has 146 current members.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller October 1954

John.S. DeWitt continues as Editor. R.R. Merk was the circulation head with Ken W. Mulford as Publisher. Contributors: John N. Nourse (Nourse AdNauseam), Fred H. Weaver (From Chess Life), Stephen Falk (Chess Bits), Dan E. Wade (Feature Writer), Ollie W. LaFreniere (Feature Writer).

1954-55 Puget Sound League results are coming in. Olympia beat McNeil Island 7.5-2.5, Latvian Club topped Tacoma 7-3, Seattle YMCA flattened Kitsap 7.5-2.5 and U of W topped Seattle CC 6-3. Jim McCormick was playing third board for Tacoma and Viktors Pupols was 2nd board for Latvian Club.

1955 Washington Championship was won by William A. Bills. The event was 12 players starting out in two 6 player sections with top 3 advancing. 2nd place was Olaf Ulvestad. Bills scored 3-2 in the preliminaries and 4.5-5 in finals. Ulvestad was 5-0 and 3-2 (one loss was a forfeit).

Ollie LaFreniere wrote a long article about hoping to set up an Eastern Washington Chess League with Spokane, Yakima, Tri-Cities and Milton-Freewater.

In information from CHESS LIFE we learn that Soviet Union won the International Team Tournament over Argentina. The playing site was switch from Argentina to Holland and the USA did not take part. 96 players took part in Great Lakes Open won by A. Pomar and R. Steinmeyer. An 8-1 score by L. Dreiberger won the Michigan State event. Massachusetts only attracted 24 players good for tie for first between Harry Lyman and John Curdo at 4.5-.5 Here is that Midwest Open name again, won by Alex Liepnieks at 5-1 over 19 others. Our Washington State Champion William A. Bills tied for first in the 67 player Southwestern Open with Blake Stevens both at 6-1.

An article by Samuel Reshevsky from the New York Times of Sunday June 13, 1954 was reprinted by WCL. Title was Chess is another Soviet gambit. This was on the eve of the USA-USSR match. Interesting article about Russian Chess and Russian chessplayers.

Charles Joachim took a trip to California and took part in the California Open where he scored 4-3. Two of his games are given, a draw with Larry Remlinger and a won over Van Gelder.

The Nourse AdNauseam column is about Benjamin Franklin's writings on chess.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller November 1954

John.S. DeWitt continues as Editor. R.R. Merk was the circulation head with Ken W. Mulford as Publisher. Contributors: John N. Nourse (Nourse AdNauseam), Fred H. Weaver (From Chess Life), Viktors Pupols (Vox Pupoli), Stephen Falk (Chess Bits), Dan E. Wade (Feature Writer), Ollie W. LaFreniere (Feature Writer).

Puget Sound League results: Seattle Club 6 - Kitsap 4, Latvian 9.5 - McNeil Island .5, Seattle YMCA 5 - Olympia 5, Tacoma 5 - West Seattle 5, Seattle YMCA 5 - Latvian 5, Olympia 3 - Seattle 7, West Seattle 3 - McNeil Island 7, Kitsap 4 - U of W 5. Latvian team leads play with 2 matches won and 1 drawn. Olaf Ulvestad was playing for Seattle CC as was Dan Wade. State Champion William Bills held down first board for Seattle YMCA while Vernon Holmes was tops for Tacoma CC. O.W. Manney was first board for West Seattle and Jim Amidon had that duty for Olympia. Ted Warner was playing first board for U of W.

The CHESS LIFE report gives Walter Shipman as winner of New Jersey Open. Golden Gate Championship must have been a big affair for R. Curris won in 16-3 with W. Addison 2nd at 15.5-3.5. Irving Rivise won the 50 player Southern California qualifying event with 10 points.

10 players turned up for the 30-30 tournament in November and chess master Olaf Ulvestad won it 5-0. The Ulvestad simultaneous at the Seattle CC resulted in a 10-6 score for the master. Beating him were: Jim Amidon, John DeWitt, Viktors Pupols, Russell Vellias and William Shemaris, while draws were recorded by Max Bader and George Bishop. The master numbered among his victims Ted Warner and William Bills. There was a 15 seconds per move blindfold game against Amidon won by the master.

It was reported that Pupols won his playoff match with Jim McCormick to win the State Junior Title.

Nourse AdNauseam this issue was about chess set collecting.

A short report is given about the Whidby Island Chess Club.

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller December 1954

John.S. DeWitt continues as Editor. R.R. Merk was the circulation head with Ken W. Mulford as Publisher. Contributors: John N. Nourse (Nourse Ad Nauseam), Fred H. Weaver (From Chess Life), Viktor Pupols (Vox Pupoli), Stephen Falk (Chess Bits), Dan E. Wade (Feature Writer), Ollie W. LaFreniere (Feature Writer).

Puget Sound League play results continue to come in. U of W 5.5 - Olympia 4.5, West Seattle 1 - Seattle YMCA 9, Latvian Club 7 - Seattle CC 3, Tacoma CC 9 - McNeil Island 1, Seattle YMCA 6 - Tacoma 4, U of W 6 - Latvian 4, Olympia 5 - Kitsap 5, Seattle CC 7.5 - West Seattle 2.5. After round 5, U of W is the leading team. In a report on player results Elmars Zemgalis top board for the Latvian Club had won nine games and drawn 1. Viktors Pupols for the same group was 6 wins, 1 loss and 3 draws. Olaf Ulvestad for Seattle CC was 6 wins 2 losses and 2 draws. Robert Edberg for the same team had 5 wins and 1 draw. Alan Clark had the best score for U of W with 5 wins and 2 draws. John DeWitt was doing well for Seattle YMCA with 6 wins 2 losses and 2 draws.

CHESS LIFE section reports North Central Open of 72 players won by Curt Bracket 6-1. Herman Steiner won California Championship in a 10 player round robin 7.5-1.5. Missouri Open only attracted 20 players for R. Steinmeyer to win over at 5-1. Eastern State Open did a little better with 50 players and Arthur Bisquier the winner at 6.5-.5.

Plans are in the works for annual Puget Sound Open for Washington Birthday weekend. Entry fee is \$10.00 which is higher than most events if this era.

Dan Wade wrote an article "Operation Black and Blue". He wants to organize a tournament in which players sign up to play either on Saturday or Sunday two weekends in a row. The winners of the two events then meet for the Seattle CC club championship unless it was the same person who won both events. He hoped to get a larger turnout than usual with this set up.

Only 16 pages this issue. It was reported the O.W. Manney one of main stays of Washington Chess had moved to Alaska. Ted Warner had graduated from U of W and was now working in Tri-Cities.