

# THE BOOK OF THE WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH 1963

**BOTVININNIK - PETROSYAN**

ANNOTATED AND DESCRIBED IN DETAIL BY  
LEADING INTERNATIONAL GRAND-MASTERS

GENERAL EDITOR : ZYGMUNT FRANKEL  
TECHNICAL EDITOR : STAN ELMER



Published as November-December 1963 Issue, Vol. I, Nos. 12-13  
of  
THE NEW ZEALAND CHESS MAGAZINE  
REGISTERED AS A MAGAZINE AT THE G.P.O. WELLINGTON.

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**THE NEW ZEALAND CHESS MAGAZINE.** Vol 1, Nos. 12 - 13, Nov-Dec. 1963.  
 Published monthly. Registered as a magazine at the G.P.O. Wellington.  
**Managing Editor:** Zygmunt Frankel, 291a Willis Street, Wellington.  
**Auckland Representative:** R.J. Phillips, 7 Bannerman Road, Grey  
 Grey Lynn, Auckland.  
**Christchurch Representative:** G.M. Cleary, 48 Hereford Street,  
 Christchurch.  
**Problems Editor:** K.M. Steele, Braeburn Guest House, 260 The  
 Terrace, Wellington.  
**Subscription Rates:** N.Z. and U.K. \$1.5.0d per annum. Australia  
 \$1.10.0d. (Aust) per annum. U.S.A. and Canada 3 dollars (U.S.) p.a.

**COVER PHOTO:** Petrosyan congratulated by his wife Rona after  
 the great victory.

EDITORIAL - After One Year

The match Botvinnik-Petrosyan is now history. To our knowledge this is the first full publication on this match in the English language.

Its appearance coincides with our first "birthday." To mark this occasion we supply this almost triple issue as a "double" one to our subscribers although truth to tell we can barely afford it. On this occasion, we do not wish to speak again too much about our difficulties. We wish however to point out the good response of about 90 per cent of our present subscribers (about 200) to our appeals concerning timely renewal of subscriptions. The remainder have not followed suit....

However anyone with some knowledge of costs of production of this sort of a publication will realise that the present number of subs makes it hardly a profitable venture from the material point of view, let alone Stan Elmer's work, our own, as well as those who help us occasionally with various "odd" jobs.

We would therefore appreciate it if each of our subscribers would get us at least another one. This would make possible "letter-press" production and possibly a further extension of material; although we believe that for the average number of games per issue we established a record in comparison with magazines previously published in this country. May we also remind our readers about the shortly arriving season of exchanging presents with their friends and relatives. Perhaps in some cases a subscription to our publication would make a suitable gift.

The sources of material in this issue have been indicated in the text. All articles and annotation from "Ogonyok" and "Shakmat" as well as the biographical sketch on Botvinnik are "free" translations from the Russian language by the undersigned. In connection with translations we would like to point out that although they are not verbatim translations an attempt was made to stick to the original as far as possible. For instance, we occasionally use the word "pretender" when "challenger" would probably be the better one because "pretender" is exactly the word used in the Russian language. The critical reader will also note that Grandmaster Kotov writing in English mentions the place of the match as the "Moscow Variety Theatre." We preferred the original Russian "Estrada" Theatre. Kotov's is a descriptive name and not an actual rendering of the Russian name.

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Where we have been faced with a choice between a quaint English sentence and smoother running style at the cost of inaccurate rendering of the spirit of the original, we preferred the former course.

A note on transliteration of names should also be made. Russian names ending with "ski" such as Romanovski are pronounced in Russian as Romanovkey. We also preferred the spelling Petrosyan instead of Petrosian. The former is nearer to the actual Russian pronunciation although it does not strictly follow international transliteration standards.

Our thanks go firstly to Stan Elmer the technical editor of this issue (lay-out, some reading, etc.) who also typed it. Roger Court, Bill Poole and Roger Chapman (our local news editor from January onwards), have checked most of the games. Last and not least I must mention my wife who not only had to suffer from a husband working late nights but also gave considerable assistance in proof-reading.

Finally we wish to say that if our year of publication has contributed in any way to the development of our game in this country, we will consider our modest task as partly fulfilled.

We extend to all our supporters compliments of the season.

EDITOR

### "CHESS WORLD"

333 George Street, Sydney, N.S.W. Famous International Magazine.

Edited by C.J.S. PURDY, First World Correspondence Chess Champion, International Master of F.I.D.E., Grandmaster of I.C.C.F., former Champion of Australia, New Zealand, etc.

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NEW ZEALAND CHESS ASSOCIATION

Bulletin No. 90.

November 1963.

Zone 10 Tourney at Djakarta. A letter and a tape recording were received from Mr. O. Sarapu reporting on the Tournament and conditions in Djakarta.

Sarapu Fund

Total receipts as acknowledged in the NZ Chess Magazine	196. 1. 6
Plus Donation - Mr. Wyndham-Jones (Auckland)	<u>3.10. 0</u>
	199.11. 6
Less fares and expenses	<u>247.16. 0</u>
Balance Paid from N.Z.C.A. Funds	<u><u>£ 48. 4. 6</u></u>

Postmortem on proposed Kotov visit. Council resolved that a letter should be sent to the Soviet expressing disappointment that Alexander Kotov did not visit New Zealand. Also Council wished to know whether a Soviet player would be available to tour our country, in conjunction with Australia, in the near future.

Bledisloe Cup. Auckland C.L. beat Wellington C.L.

Blackburn Cup Final. Palmerston North C.C. beat Wanganui C.C.

The Napier Chess Club is assembling information on its history and require confirmation that their club was founded in 1863. If any person is able to help them please contact **Mr. L.P. Jones**, 38 Wycliffe Street, Onehawa, Napier.

N.Z. Championship 1963-64. The following entries were received:- R.E. Bayertz (Auckland), C.P. Belton (Auckland), N.H. Cooper (Canterbury), R.A. Court (Wellington), Z. Frankel (Wellington), G.G. Haase (Otago), B.J. Halpin (Wellington), B. Phillips (A'land)

O. Sarapu (Auckland), K.M. Steele (Wellington), R.J. Sutton (A'land), R.C. Tan Cardoza (Phillipines) has been invited to play and the Auckland Tournament Committee have been instructed to select a reserve in case he is not able to participate. Please note the closing date for the Championship Reserve entries is now the 20th December.

Association Constitution and Annual Meeting. Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the New Zealand Chess Association will be held during the course of the 1963-64 Congress. The date has not been finalised.

- Business:
- (a) Adoption of the Constitution.
  - (b) Adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts.
  - (c) Election of Officers.
  - (d) Appointment of Auditor.
  - (e) Fix honoraria.
  - (f) Fix members' subscriptions.
  - (g) Fix the venue for the Annual Congress for the next two years.
  - (h) General.

- Remits and Comments regarding (a).
1. From Council. "That the Rules as circulated be adopted."
  2. From Council. Add to Clause 4 a further section "(K) The headquarters of the Association shall change every fifth year between the four main centres."
  3. From Council. Delete Clause 5 (e) (4) re N.Z. Correspondence

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**Chess Association.**

4. From Canterbury. Clause 2(c). It should be mandatory for the N.Z.C.A. to belong to the F.I.D.E.
5. From Canterbury. Clause 4(a). Provision should be made for a Patron who would be such a person as to be of value to New Zealand chess.
6. From Canterbury: Clause 4(g). It should be mandatory to appoint a grading committee but Council could retain the right to appoint the other committee.
7. From Canterbury. Clause 5(c) (1). It is not clear concerning the passing by a two-third majority of votes as to whether it means the votes of those present or the votes of all affiliates.
8. (i) From Canterbury and Otago. Clause 5(c) 2. Delete "shall be nominated in writing by two members," and substitute "shall be nominated in writing by an affiliate." (ii) From Otago. Clause 5.c.(2) Delete "nominated jointly by any two members."
9. From Canterbury. Clause 5.d.(2) Delete. "and if there is any direction as to how the members representative shall vote on any motion this shall be stated in the notice."
10. From Canterbury. Clause 8(b) Delete Clause completely. In tournaments the entry fee should be varied depending on whether the entrant is a member of an affiliated Club or not.
11. From Takapau and Gisborne. Clause 7 (e). "That in the event of a League being disaffiliated from the N.Z. Chess Association its remaining funds remain the property of the said League, to keep in trust, or dispose of as the said League thinks fit." Canterbury also questioned the wisdom of this Clause.
12. From Council. Clause 7(e). Delete "Disaffiliated" and substitute "liquidated."
13. From Otago. Clause 4(f) Delete "two members" and substitute "affiliate."
14. From Otago. Clause 8(b) Insert "otherwise" after "Unless Council decides."
15. From Otago. Add a further section to Clause 8 "(c) The Council may at its discretion impose penalties for breaches of the rules for which no penalty is provided."
16. Takapau question the advisability of Clause 4 giving absolute power to the Council.

Voting. Each Club delegate at the meeting (or proxy) will have 1 vote for every £4 or part thereof levy paid for the year ended 31st May 1963. This is based upon the present Constitution. In future under the proposed Rules subscriptions for the year to 31st August will have to be paid before the Annual Meeting held during that year in order to have the power to vote.

R.J. Glass,  
Secretary-Treasurer.

c/o Radiation N.Z. Ltd.  
P.O. Box 144, DUNEDIN.

## CANTERBURY CHESS CLUB

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## THE CONTESTANTS

### Mikhail Botvinnik

We will diverge from the usual pattern of books on World Championship matches, which start from a detailed chess career of the players.

We will concentrate more on the personal characteristics of Botvinnik which are not less interesting than dry records of tournament results.

The following translated extracts are from a cyclostyled Russian booklet by Madam Evgenia Stoyanovskaya entitled "Mikhail Botvinnik." The booklet is a bibliophile rarity. It was published by the "All Union (U.S.S.R. Editor) Association for Cultural Relations With Abroad," in 1946 in not more than 50 copies. The editor bought it in 1947 in Poland.

"In November 1925 Jose Raoul Capablanca the famous Cuban chess master came to Leningrad and gave a simultaneous display against 30 players. In the hall of the Leningrad 'Philharmony' (concert chamber, Editor) where this entertaining function took place, reigned excitement appropriate to the occasion. Onlookers, and there were many of them this evening, crowded the hall awaiting the beginning of the 'war.'

In one of the porches stood a fourteen year old lad. Pressing to his chest a chess board, he attentively observed the famous Cuban.

"Misha" called suddenly one of the organisers. The lad got scared by this unexpected call.

"Do you wish to play Capablanca. Take the 30th table." The boy looked sadly on the speaker thinking: "how can one be so sarcastic."

"What are you looking for. One of the participants has not arrived. Come on, quickly."

In a minute Misha seemed entirely calm and methodically put the pieces on the board.

In spite of intentions to finish up with a clean score against Soviet players, the then World Champion, Capablanca, had been beaten in several games. One of the winners was the schoolboy Botvinnik.

"Who is this lad" asked Capablanca after the signal. They told him: "A son of a physician, a schoolboy. He played chess since he was 13 years of age and in one and a half years he became a third category player."

"His third category is more than any higher one," excitedly replied Capablanca.

This was Mikhail Botvinnik's first meeting with a player from abroad.

After one year he reached first category and the Leningrad Chess Section entered him in the City championship where the 15 year old lad finished 2-3 equal above many well known players. In the same - i.e. 1926 - year he went with the Soviet team to Stockholm for the match against Sweden.

With fear his mother let him go to a foreign country. He was not however scared. He 'smashed' (and very cleverly too) the Scandinavian master Stoltz and this decided the match. The Soviet team won by one point.

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After one more year he becomes Master of the U.S.S.R. In the same year he finishes secondary school and enters the Polytechnic Institute.

In all eight tournaments which took place in the U.S.S.R. from 1930 to 1939 Botvinnik came first. (We presume Stoyanovskaya means championships of the U.S.S.R. - Editor).

In 1935 he wins, with Flohr, the second Moscow International Tournament above such famous names as Lasker, Capablanca, etc. In 1936 at the international tournament of "giants" in Nottingham, he leaves behind the then World Champion Euwe as well as former world champions Alekhine and Lasker. For this he is decorated by the Government with the medal 'Sign of Distinction.'

In 1937 the 26 year old engineer presents a thesis for "candidate of technical sciences" on one of the complex problems of modern electrical engineering.

Articles by the young scholar started to appear in scientific journals."

Madam Stoyanovskaya goes on about the characteristics of Botvinnik's play based on her discussion with the well known author of books on the theory and history of chess, Jacob Rokhlin. We will omit this technical part of the booklet and proceed again to the portions dealing with the personal characteristics of Botvinnik only.

"Botvinnik devotes much attention to physical training. He regularly occupies himself with gymnastics and sport. During a tournament he fully gives up daily routine and it is not possible to make him retreat from the decided regimen. He likes very much music and theatre, but before a tournament nothing will make him listen to or see any artist. I remember how one New Year's Eve we succeeded with great difficulty to get him to touch a 'glass', because a week later a tournament in which he was to participate commenced.

He distinguishes himself by a demanding attitude, first of all, towards himself but also towards others. I remember how he forced himself not to react on noise in the tournament hall which used to annoy him. He systematically switched on the radio at full strength during training matches with friends. And he taught himself!

As regards any other special features of his character one must note his unusual modesty, restraint, sense of duty. Some take this restraint as a sign of a 'dry' personality, but this is not so. Botvinnik is a very sensitive man, hospitable and a wonderful family man.

"His wife is a prima-ballerina in the Bolshoi Theatre. His daughter, Olechka, is in her fifth year. She of course is the love of her father.

I would also like to mention his characteristics as a citizen and social worker. Being elected to the Leningrad City Council, Mikhail Botvinnik, in spite of being an extremely busy man (he then worked as an assistant in the Leningrad Polytechnic Institute) voluntarily investigated communal institutions, personally supervised improvement in the work of laundries and clubs and reported on his work to the electors.

When the war against Germany started Botvinnik and his brother, also an engineer, volunteered for the Red Army. His brother was killed in action and he was called by the Government to Ural where for two years he did engineering work only and gave up chess for the time being. For outstanding achievements in work on electrical engineering the Government decorated him with a second medal 'Sign of Distinction.'

Now (i.e. 1946 - Editor) he works in the Technical Section of the Ministry of Electric Stations. Since 1943 the Government has given him two days a week - Wednesday and Saturday - to study chess.

This is all I can tell you about Mikhail Botvinnik. He is a young man, full of energy. He will still achieve a lot in his life....."

Well, "this is all" that Madam Stoyanovskaya can tell us and frankly it is a lot. Some time has elapsed since 1946 and therefore we will add a few lines.

He won the World Championship in 1948 in a tournament organised by the F.I.D.E. when the title was vacated after the death of Alekhine. Has lost his title twice since and regained it twice, as readers will come across further on in these pages. He is the author of books (available in English) which apart from being models of clarity and modesty are landmarks in the history of chess literature.

He is probably the greatest player in chess history. None of the former world champions had such a multitude of tough opponents. He was the real "primus inter pares."

To Western players, with whom he came into frequent contact, he is known as a gentleman in the full sense of the word.

### Tigran Petrosian

First of all the name Tigran. The following letter from Graeme Sumner of Christchurch will tell us all about it.

"An irrelevant note on the new World Champion, which you might like to use. His first name is presumably derived from that borne by several kings of Armenia in the first centuries B.C. and A.D., namely Tigranes. The first and most important of them, Tigranes I, built a new capital, Tigranocerta, in the hills overlooking the upper Tigris. However, he was brought down to size in 66 B.C. by the Roman Armies under Pompey the Great."

The following extract is from the book by Kotov and Yudovich "The Soviet School of Chess" (English edition, Moscow, 1958).

"Hard work often leads to amazing progress in a short space of time. That was the case with Tigran Petrosyan. In 1951 and 1952, that is, in a little more than a year, this gifted player succeeded, by dint of persistent effort, in advancing from a rank and file Master to a leading International Grandmaster."

Tigran Petrosyan was born in a working class family in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, in 1929. He learned chess as a youth and quickly moved up the classification ladder. He confirmed his rank of candidate-master in 1945 in the Tbilisi Championship and later in the championship of the Georgian Republic.

The following year he won first prize in the U.S.S.R. Junior Championship (chalking up 14 points out of a possible 15) and in the championship of Armenia. In 1947 he took first place in the Tbilisi group of a U.S.S.R. tournament of candidates, qualifying for the semi-final of the U.S.S.R. Championship. He was placed fifth in the semi-final ahead of many masters, and fulfilled the requirements for the title of Master.

After this, Tigran Petrosyan devoted more time than ever to his studies of theory. At first the results were only fair. He made good performances in semi-finals of the U.S.S.R. championships but only a mediocre showing in finals. He attentively analysed his games to discover his shortcomings and strove to eliminate them in the following competitions.

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Already then his style of play was original. He did not seek combinational involvements, but neither did he avoid them. We find comparatively few sacrifices, overwhelming attacks or beautiful combinations in his games. On the other hand, we always see far-reaching plans carried out by precise manoeuvres.

He achieved great skill in the art of positional battle, and learned to calculate variations with exceptional speed and accuracy. Gross blunders and oversights disappeared from his playing. He became one of the world's best masters in playing 'easy' games; in particular, on more than one occasion he won first place in rapid transit Moscow championships and other tournaments.

The years 1951 and 1952 brought Tigran Petrosyan many major successes. In 1951 he took first place in the Sverdlovsk semi-final of the U.S.S.R. Championship and won the Moscow Championship. Then he scored an outstanding result in the final of the U.S.S.R. Championship, where he tied for second with Yefim Geller, leaving behind many of the Soviet Union's best known masters and grandmasters. This gave Petrosyan his first point for the title of Grandmaster.

The second point was not long in coming. At the 1952 Interzonal Tournament in Sweden, where top-notch players from 13 countries competed, Tigran Petrosyan and his colleagues, the young Soviet players Taimanov, Geller and Averbakh, finished among the first five. Petrosyan and Taimanov tied for second place. For this achievement Petrosyan was awarded the titles of International Grandmaster and Grandmaster of the Soviet Union. He came through that important tournament without a single defeat."

The further story we know. Since 1958 he has managed to become once champion of U.S.S.R. and after winning the event in Curacao..... you will see as you go along.

But before you do this we would like you to read the following article published on 10 May, 1959, in the Russian weekly "OGONYOK". You will enjoy it.

#### ON THE STYLE OF A CHESS PLAYER

by Mikhail Botvinnik - World Chess Champion

Four years ago at one "high level" meeting the results of a then recently finished U.S.S.R. championship had been discussed. The speaker (by the way he was only a "second category" player) was favourably disposed to all participants except Tigran Petrosyan. The young grandmaster was reproached for a rather large number of draws and if I recollect even the danger of creative decline was predicted for him....

For the sake of justice it is worthy of notice that one of the participants of the meeting and of the championship spoke out in defence of the silently modest colleague. He said that in his opinion the progressing player should not have been categorically criticised. Has not a grandmaster the right to choose for himself a creative style if it brings him success? Some like cavalry attacks, another one tries to overwhelm the opponent by a sudden sacrifice, a third one again might lay a cunning trap and catch his head when in time trouble "in desperation." There are however players who do not go after a chance victory but try to penetrate into the essence of the position, i.e. they play "positionally" and if the position seems to predict a peaceful outcome they do not decline it.



To be sure this latter style is not very popular. The attitude associated with this style seems to some rather extremely careful, if not cowardice. Hazard however is a different matter. Here there will always be people who will admire it. It is possible that the present writer is mistaken, but it seems to me that modest, careful, although fighting style of play has the same right of existence as the one based upon combinative vision and tactical calculations. The practical convenience of Petrosyan's style, based upon a specific and subtle understanding of position, is justified by the fact that by accumulation of experience he is more and more dangerous for his opponents. His preponderance in understanding of the position is constantly developing and is not a chance factor. Some day he was bound to reveal himself. This really happened at the tournament in Tbilisi. (U.S.S.R. championship 1959 - Editor).

By the way: which is the better? Two draws or one loss and one win? One can approach this from two angles - from the sporting point of view and from the artistic one. Obviously from the point of view of tournament result  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$  and  $1 + 0$  is always equivalent. Again from the creative point of view a result is not significant. It is important what kind of game was played, what sort those draws, wins and losses were.

If draws are colourless and if a player avoids (without good reason) struggle - this of course is bad, and first of all bad for himself. If however those draws are a result of subtle - although possibly even short lasting - struggle, then in my opinion, from the creative point of view these games stand higher than a point gained if this "fighting" result was achieved by a blunder on the part of the opponent. And how frequently our chess specialists frown when a tournament onlooker loudly applauds an accidental success of a master when the latter's opponent makes a crude mistake in time trouble and so throws a way a meritorious victory.

Petrosyan's style, to some extent, reminds of the style of Capablanca, Flohr, and possibly Smyslov. What has the style of these players in common? The answer is that players of this type use their main strong point, i.e. preponderance in understanding of the position. For this reason they try to obtain positions where the timing and tactical factors are of no decisive significance, where one can make plans on a steady basis and which lead to victory by their iron logic. However, with chess players of the Alekhine - Tal type "everything" depends on the dynamics of the position and the decisive factors are timing and combinative vision.

"Everything" appears in quotation marks not accidentally, because players of the second type cannot succeed not having a good positional sense and technique, as well as, the players of the first type must unavoidably be subtle and strong tacticians.

In this connection very characteristic is the game Tal-Petrosyan in the XXV Championship of the U.S.S.R. (Riga 1958). It looked as if Tal at first achieved obvious positional advantage and Black's situation was critical. However in this difficult moment, by a clever sacrifice of the exchange, Petrosyan showed the shady side of White's position and Tal, already getting slightly lost in the situation, was forced to try to defend.... It is of course understood that should Petrosyan only have been a specialist in positional play and not in addition a cunning tactician, he would not be able to achieve such a convincing victory in Tbilisi!

Petrosyan's success of course can not overshadow the great achievements of Mikhail Tal during recent years. How should one

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against Tal he t

explain that Tal's performance in Tbilisi was not so brilliant as in Moscow and Riga? (Two previous U.S.S.R. championships - Editor).

It seems to me that this is partly explained by his creative style. He is rather principally inclined towards exceptions rather than to planned play based on positional elements. True, finding himself sometimes on the brink of defeat or in a "hopelessly" drawn position, Tal by most clever and effective tricks achieved victory. Some even think that Tal hypnotises his opponents and the present champion of the U.S.S.R. asserted during the last

nations' tournament in Munich that when "Misha stretches out his neck and moves his chin from side to side no one can stand up against this." Has the young man from Riga made use of this "most strong" method at the Tournament in Tbilisi? I am aware of the fact that even if he made use of it, it apparently does not always work!

In any case the interest in the forthcoming Candidates' Tournament in September in Yugoslavia is growing. (Won by Tal and not Petrosyan! - Editor). Of special interest is the participation of the twice champion of the U.S.A., young Robert Fisher, although many are sorry that Boris Spasky will not be there. After his unsuccessful performance in Riga he will have to wait another three years. However Soviet players may rest assured that the four chess musketeers - Vasily Smyslov, Paul Keres, Mikhail Tal and Tigran Petrosyan will be at the tournament in Yugoslavia, worthy representatives of the Soviet Chess school.



#### WHO?

By International Grandmaster Salo Flohr  
(Published in "Ogonyok")

We walked with Botvinnik on the banks of the river. "Do you know what a match for the World Championship is?" he asked.

"Unfortunately I never had an opportunity to play one but I could reasonably well imagine," I replied.

"And I know not reasonably well but exactly. A match for the world championship is a terribly tense affair. It takes away a year of one's life," he said.

A serious statement. But readers may ask: "Would not any grandmaster agree to sacrifice one year of his life for such an honour?" Yes, but consider that Mikhail Botvinnik plays for the world championship already for the eighth time!

It is therefore not surprising that after the return match against Tal he thought for a while and asked himself: "Maybe this



is enough."

When the world champion, after consulting his doctors, established that he is in excellent condition he gave the answer to the chess world: "I will fight against Tigran Petrosyan."

The contestants prepared thoroughly for the battle. The grandmasters occupied themselves with winter sports. Creative preparation was also going on in the quiet atmosphere in the study at home. It is not difficult to guess that the contestants have worked out exactly their plans of offense.

Petrosyan knows that he plays against the world's most experienced chess player. He does not imagine that he is playing the Botvinnik of the matches against David Bronstein (1951) and Vasily Smyslov (1954). He rather thinks that he is playing the Botvinnik of 1957 and 1960 when the latter beat Smyslov and Tal. Tigran Petrosyan speaks with great respect about his opponent. "Mikhail Botvinnik plays now so well as never before," he stated after his brilliant victory in the Candidates' Tournament at Curacao.

Botvinnik in his turn, studying the "Petrosyan case" remembers very well that the pretender for the chess crown is the most experienced tournament practitioner nowadays, that he is a grandmaster with a "well loaded" chess hand. Petrosyan has excellent command of all the secrets of chess strategy and tactics. The world champion knows that it is very difficult to extract from Petrosyan the words "I resign." It is not an accident that many think that to play against Petrosyan is very difficult because he loses only once a year.

The match Botvinnik-Petrosyan is a struggle between two chess rocks, two strong fortresses. What a task is in front of both grandmasters!

How could the forthcoming contest finish? Unfortunately, as sometimes on previous occasions, it is difficult to predict the result. I tried to get some "information" from our grandmasters for the benefit of the readers of "Ogonyok". However, very few gave a definite answer, naming the victor. Mark Taimanov for instance, replied that Botvinnik will play better but Petrosyan will make less mistakes. Mark Taimanov, of course, understands that a player could make 39 good moves, but the fortieth, a bad one, will spoil everything. (This seems to be an allusion to one of Taimanov's games with which we are not familiar - Editor).

No, dear readers, I was unable to find out from Grandmasters how the forthcoming match will end. As a rule most of them shrug and gave an evasive answer - "who knows?"

Not a single match for the World championship was easy life for the title holder as well as for the pretender. They are not to be envied. "Hard earned bread" awaits Botvinnik and Petrosyan during the next two months. At the moment, when the reader will see this short note, he will already be able to know how the first game finished. This is very important! Mikhail Botvinnik and Tigran Petrosyan have the word.

#### FIRST BLOOD TO BOTVINNIK!

By Grandmaster Kotov in "Soviet Weekly"

The veteran world champion Mikhail Botvinnik drew first blood in the world title fight which opened in Moscow last week-end. Though playing Black he was able to defeat his challenger, Tigran Petrosyan, in 40 moves.

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Botvinnik attacked  
with enviable accuracy  
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FIRST GAME : M  
Botvinnik - Black

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18. KRK1, BB4: 19.  
19..., GRK1: 20. B

The second game, on Monday, was drawn in 35 moves.

More than 2,000 fans filled the Moscow Variety Theatre long before the first game began, and hundreds more stood in the freezing streets to watch it on a demonstration board.

Botvinnik played the Nimzovich defence. He looked calm and confident, while his younger opponent, after making a move, strode up and down the stage.

At first the challenger wanted to limit himself to a quiet struggle, and then for some reason or other picked a peculiar plan of development.

Botvinnik attacked the weak spots that arose in White's camp with enviable assurance. Petrosyan was compelled to go over to the defence.

The admirers of the young challenger were not worried about this, for he is a renowned master of defence. And, indeed, everything was going comparatively well until time-trouble intervened.

Usually Petrosyan plays confidently when short of time, but on this occasion his nerves betrayed him. He made a decisive mistake, and Black captured very important positions.

White's affairs became hopeless, and Botvinnik brought home his advantage with excellent restraint and skill.

The 52 year old champion played the entire game with enviable tenacity and consistency. This excellent start promises a keen and tense struggle.

Those of you who have forecast a quick victory for Petrosyan had better beware!

Let us take a closer look at this substantial first game.

FIRST GAME : MARCH 23. NIMZOVICH DEFENCE. Petrosyan - White:  
Botvinnik - Black:

1. PQ4, NKB3: 2. PQB4, PK3: 3. NQB3, BN5: 4. QB2, PQ4: 5. PxP, PxP:  
6. BN5, PKR3: 7. BxN, QxB: 8. PQR3, BxNch: QxB... (Petrosyan is avoiding a sharp struggle, otherwise he would have made the "programme" fourth move, PK3, leading to extreme complications! At this point in the game the grandmasters were assuring the journalists: "We'll soon be going home! In this variation a draw is almost inevitable.") 9... PB3: 10. PK3, O-O: 11. NK2,... (The beginning of an odd plan of development. The normal 11. NB3, leaves White a slight advantage, though its realisation is very difficult.)  
11... RK1: 12. NN3, PKN3! (An excellent strategic idea! This and the next pawn move throw White's Knight back to an unhappy position and provides Black with the initiative on the King's side.)  
13. PB3?... (An obvious mistake! Soon White's King will be compelled to defend the weak King's Pawn and get stranded in the centre. The correct 13. BQ3, still gives White a chance to preserve even play.) 13... PKR4! 14. BK2, NQ2: 15. KB2,... (A dangerous position for the King, but what else can he do? If Petrosyan castled, Botvinnik would have again attacked the King's Pawn with the Queen, and the King would have been compelled just the same to go on to the KB2 square.) 15... PR5: 16. NB1, NB1: 17. NQ2, RK2:  
(At this stage of the game, Petrosyan's clock showed an hour, while Botvinnik's recorded only thirty minutes. A significant fact!)  
18. KRK1, BB4: 19. PR3,... (A serious weakening of the position.)  
19... QRK1: 20. NB1, NK3: 21. QQ2, NN2: "See Diagram".



(A terrible mistake! As Petrosyan explained later, he didn't see the Black Knight's thrust on his KB4 square. A passive defence held out for White some hope of saving the game.) 30...., PxP e.p.: 31.NxP, NB5! (White loses at least a pawn, which does not improve his position. His situation is a very difficult one, so that Botvinnik energetically breaks down his opponent's entire resistance.) 32.QR2, PQB4! (Also possible is 32...., NQ6, but Botvinnik's continuation is stronger.) 33. QQ2, PB5: 34. BR4, PN4! 35. BB2,... (Still worse would be 35. BxP, RN1: 36. PQR4, NQ6: and then 37...PR3.) 35...., NxPch: 36. KB1, QB3: 37. KN2, NB5ch: 38. PxN, RxR: 39. PxP, QK3: 40. PB4, RK7ch. White resigns.

### YES, THIS IS A SENSATION

Extracts from an article by International Grandmaster S. Flohr in "Ogonyok."

"...The chief umpire of the match Botvinnik - Petrosyan, the Swedish Grandmaster, Stahlberg arrived by plane...

In 1925 when Petrosyan was not yet born, in the hotel "Metropol" (Moscow - Editor) a great international tournament had been played. Now here the draw of the World Championship match was being made, as a result of which in the first game Petrosyan had White. Who thought this evening that the White colour will turn into a "Black Saturday" as some friends of Petrosyan called the 23 March....

Two minutes are permitted for photo-reporters to sound with their cameras and then they have to obey the short notice "Silence please." Stahlberg punched the clock and the chess "first show" began. It was about a hundred times more of a "first show" for Petrosyan than for the world champion, because Botvinnik has played already 134 games for the world championship while Petrosyan began his first game for the distinguished title. A colossal difference and understandably the young grandmaster was more excited than his dangerous rival.

There are games which will always occupy a place in history. Who for instance among chess players does not remember the sensational first game of the dramatic match, Capablanca - Alekhine in Buenos Aires, 1927? Alekhine, playing Black, achieved a sensational victory and yet such an expert as Spielman predicted that the former would not win a single game against the invincible Cuban. Now there is one more game for the collection of sensational games.

Yes, the match started with a surprise. "I beg your pardon," will say the reader, "can you call this a sensation if the world

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loss was a surprise  
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SECOND GAME:  
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Queen's Gambit Ac  
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14. BxQP, then 14.  
13. NK5, BQ2: 14. B  
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NKN3: 20. BxKN, P  
After this 22. NQ7  
PQN3: 24. NXP, RR

champion wins?" "Certainly not," is my reply, but Petrosyan's loss was a surprise. Is this not a sensation when in the first game we saw Tigran Petrosyan, a player with a terrific positional sense, already outplayed after the 18th move, in accordance with all the rules of chess strategy? Is it not surprising when the best "lightning" player in the world got into most acute time trouble and on his clock the red bulb signal appeared (indicating that he had 60 seconds left to time control.) Petrosyan had to use the words: "I resign." Words that nobody had heard from him for the last two years.

With youthful vigour and tremendous willpower for victory, Mikhail Botvinnik attacked as if asking threateningly "Who thinks that I am an old man?!"

It is difficult to describe in words what went on in the hall when Petrosyan stopped his clock.... This was some ovation. Hundreds of thousands of chess lovers in all countries of the world joined in....

We received many questions concerning "seconds" of the grandmasters. Petrosyan's second is grandmaster T. Boleslavsky. M. Botvinnik has not yet announced his second. According to the rules this can be done two weeks before the second assumes his "duties"...

After the unpleasant beginning of the match for Petrosyan, he was bound to show special vigilance and in fact he managed in the second game to escape the "pressure" of the world champion after which a draw was inevitable.

SECOND GAME: Botvinnik - White: Petrosyan - Black: Notes by International Grandmaster Averbakh in "Shakhmat"

1. P04, P04: 2. P0B4, PXP: (I do not agree with Euwe's view that in Queen's Gambit Accepted Black can, without special difficulty, draw at normal play. Many interesting possibilities have recently been found in this opening which lead to great complications. It seems to me that Petrosyan wishes to "check" whether Botvinnik is prepared to play "modern" and sharp variations.) 3. NKB3, NKB3: 4. PK3, PB4: 5. BXP, PK3: 6. O-O, PQR3: 7. PQR4, (Here is the reply to the challenger's question. The world champion avoids "the last word of theory" in favour of a continuation which he tried more than once. He prevents Black's P0N4 but now the latter's Knight has the possibility of occupying his QN5 square.) 7... NB3: 8. QK2, PXP: (Fachman puts an exclamation mark after this move and recommends the following 9. RQ1, PQ6! 10. BxQP, QB2: 11. PK4, NKN5 with equality.) 9. RQ1, BK2: 10. PXP, O-O: 11. BKN5, NQ4: (On the surface it looks as if Black had no problems, but this is not really so. If for instance NQN5 then 12. NK5, P0N3: 13. RR3 with god attacking perspectives. Black simplifies, but possibly more promising was the apparently dangerous 11... P0N3. If 12. BxN, BxB: 13. PQ5, PXP: 14. BxQP, then 14... QB2 with equal chances.) 12. BxB, NB3xB: 13. NK5, BQ2: 14. NQ2, ... (More accurate than 14. NQB3 after which Black exchanging Knights would have not a bad game.) 14... BB3: 15. NK4, NB5: 16. QB3, BxN: 17. QxB, N(B5)Q4: 18. RR3!, (Here you are. This is when the merit of 8. PQR4 shows up. White bringing quickly the Rook into action creates threats.) 18... RB1: 19. RR3, NKN3: 20. BxKN, PxB: (20... QxB: 21. QxQ, PxQ: was also possible. After this 22. NQ7 is not dangerous because of 22... KRQ1!: 23. NQB5, P0N3: 24. NXP, RR1.) 21. QB5, QQ3: (QXB5, winning a pawn was

threatened. Defending, Petrosyan lays a small trap, if NxBP, QKB5! It was however possible to ignore the threat continuing 21...QQR4! After 22. QKR5, PR3: 23. NxN, PxN: 24. QxNP, QQ7! Now 25. RKB1 loses because of 25. QxBPch., but also the better move 25. QK6ch, KR2: 26. QK1, QxNP, gives Black equality.) 22. RQN3!... (There is nothing for the Rook now on the King side. It is now wanted on the other wing.) 22... RB2: 23. PN3, PN3: (Careless. Defending against 24. PR5, Black gives himself a weak pawn. Equality was maintained after 23...NxN: 24. QPxN, QK3: 25. QKB4, RQB5: 26. RQ4, QQB3.) 24. RK1, NK2: 25. QB4,... (If 25. QQ3 then...PKB3: 26. NKB3, RQB5 was possible.) 25... RB7: 26. NQ3, QQ1: (Exchange of Queens leads to loss of a Pawn). 27. QN5, NB1: (Black's moves are forced. Bad was 27...NQB3 because 28. QxQ, RxQ: 29. RxNP, NxQP: 30. RK7...)

28. QxQ... (Simplifies Black's defence. After 29. QK5, RQB2: 30. RK3, Black would still have to overcome no few difficulties. White's position remains better, but Petrosyan succeeds in proving that this advantage is small and gives no grounds to count on victory.) 28... RxQ: 29. PR5, (A harmless attempt to complicate play.) 29... PxP: 30. RN8, RB1: 31. RR1, (RK5 would be answered by 31... RQ7!). 31... NK2: 32. RxBch, KxR: 33. RxP, RQ7: 34. RxBP, RxN: 35. RB8ch, NB1: DRAWN.

### THIRD GAME - MARCH 27 - 28

#### PETROSYAN SHOWS HIS CLAWS!

Report and Notes by Kotov in "Soviet Weekly"

"Things look bad for Petrosyan!" certain experts asserted sadly after Botvinnik had won the opening round. Even the toughest player can be upset by such a blow at the outset of a battle. We need only recall the Botvinnik - Smyslov return match in 1958, where Smyslov went on to lose two more games, after failing to recover from the shock of his rival's opening victory.

Nevertheless, the first few rounds of the current title tilt shows that Botvinnik is not going to have things all his own way.

True, Petrosyan isn't hurling himself headlong into the attack like Mikhail Tal did but his manoeuvres are both profound and precise, and his tactical schemes are sound and dangerous.

In the second game, playing Black, Petrosyan beat off Botvinnik's offensive and forced him to call it a draw.

The third game confirmed that Botvinnik's throne is in danger! The title-holder is up against his equal, who is ready for the long drawn out engagement, and able to withstand setbacks steadfastly and to restrain his fervour.

This game offered a fine example of Petrosyan's high standards of technique. Though the result was a draw, the challenger made a deep impression on everyone by his subtle manoeuvring skill.

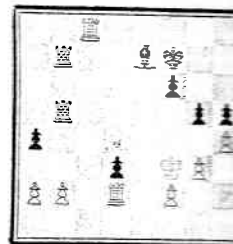
This game was a two day affair. A big crowd stood five hours in front of Moscow's Central Chess Club, where the game was completed after the adjournment.

Play was tense throughout, with the world champion's brilliant resourcefulness seeing him through safely to the haven of a draw.

The exciting moments of this titanic struggle I believe, are well seen in the analysis opposite.

#### QUEEN'S INDIAN D

1. PQ4, NKB3: 2. BK2: 6. O-O, O-O continuation has position shaping a different cont 11. QQR4!... (T square the White blocks the advan QQR2: (This see considerably for 12... QBPxP. 13. KPxP: 15. NB4, N actually compell now weak and the PQR4: 19. NQ3, N into the attack 22. KRQ1, PQR5: QRN1: 27. NQ3, N lengthy manoeuvre in difficult pos helpful! So far but his position moves.) 30. PR PxN: 34. RB8ch, I this trying posi several vigorous wing, giving him

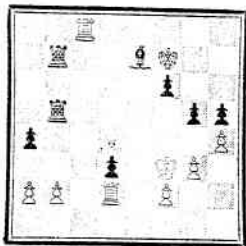


and exchanging th Pawn.) 57. KB3, 61. KQ2, KB2: 62. RR7: 66. PN4, PXP the Queen's Rook Botvinnik a chance RK7: (This is an 69... QQB2. In White would be 70 awkwardly placed.) 73. KK5, PN5: 74. could have follow 78. RB3ch, KN3: 7 RKGch: 83. KB7, R Drawn.



QUEEN'S INDIAN DEFENCE. Petrosyan - White: Botvinnik - Black.

1. P04, NKB3: 2. NKB3, PK3: 3. PKN3, PQN3: 4. BN2, BN2: 5. PQB4, BK2: 6. 0-0, 0-0: 7. NB3, NK5: 8. NxN..., (Hitherto the accepted continuation has been 8. QQB2, NxN. 9. QxN with a fair enough position shaping up for Black. In this game Petrosyan chooses a different continuation.) 8...., BxN: 9. NK1, BxB: 10. NxB, PQ4: 11. QQR4!,... (This is the idea of Petrosyan's novelty. From this square the White Queen exerts pressure on the Queen's wing and blocks the advance of the Black Knight to QB3.) 11...., PQB4: 12. BK3, QQ2: (This seemingly unnoticeable mistake complicates affairs considerably for Black. A balanced game would emerge from 12...., QBPxP. 13. BxP, Pxp. 14. QxP, QQB1) 13. QxQ, NxQ: 14. PxpP, KPxp: 15. NB4, NB3: 16. Pxp, Pxp: 17. QRB1, PQ5: (Black is actually compelled to make this move. His pawns in the middle are now weak and the target of Petrosyan's lengthy siege.) 18. BQ2, PQR4: 19. NQ3, NQ2: 20. PK3!,... (This is to throw the Bishop into the attack on the Pawn on QB5). 20...., Pxp: 21. BxKP, KRN1: 22. KRQ1, PQR5: 23. KN2, PKR3: 24. RQ2, RN4: 25. NB4, NB3: 26. KB3, QRN1: 27. NQ3, NQ2: 28. BB4, R(N1)N2: 29. BK3, PB3: (So far these lengthy manoeuvres have earned Petrosyan nothing but, remember, in difficult positions one's opponent's mistakes can prove very helpful! So far Botvinnik has been putting up an accurate defence, but his position deteriorated somewhat as a result of his next moves.) 30. PR4, PR4: 31. RB4, NN3: 32. R(B4)B2, PB5: 33. BxN, PxN: 34. RB8ch, KB2: 35. BQ4, PN4: (Black loses a pawn, but in this trying position Botvinnik shows his sterling qualities. With several vigorous moves he builds up an active position on the King's wing, giving him good chances of avoiding defeat. "See Diagram".



36. RB4, RN5: 37. RxxR, RxxR: 38. BB3, RB5: 39. PxpP, Pxp: 40. Rxp, BB3: 41. PR3, PR5: (This was Botvinnik's sealed move as the game adjourned. The contest was resumed the next day with fresh force.) 42. Pxp, BxB: 43. RxB, Rxp: 44. RB5, KB3: 45. RN5, RB5ch: 46. KK3, RR5: 47. RN4, KK4: 48. KQ3, KK3: 49. RN5, KB3: 50. KK2, RK5ch: 51. KB1, RR5: 52. KN1, RN5ch: 53. KR2, RR5ch: 54. KN2, RN5ch: 55. KR3, RR5ch: 56. KN3, RQ5: (Both players scramble out of time trouble by repeating moves. Petrosyan now tries out a new plan, shifting his King to the Queen's wing

and exchanging the Queen's Knight Pawn for Black's Queen's Rook Pawn.) 57. KB3, RB5ch: 58. KK3, RR5: 59. RN8, KK3: 60. RK8ch, KB3: 61. KQ2, KB2: 62. RK3, RKB5: 63. PB3, RR5: 64. KB3, RR6: 65. KQ4, RR7: 66. PN4, Pxp e.p.: 67. Rxp, KK3: (White has a passed pawn on the Queen's Rook file, but the few pieces left on the board give Botvinnik a chance to fight for a draw.) 68. KB5, KQ2: 69. KQ5, RK7: (This is an inaccurate move. A better reply would have been 69.... KQB2. In the given position a strong continuation for White would be 70. RQN7ch, QQB1: 71. RKB7, finding the Black King awkwardly placed.) 70. PR4, KB2: 71. PR5, RQR7: 72. RN5, RR5: 73. KK5, PN5: 74. PB4, PN6: 75. RN3, Rxpch. (Agreement to a draw could have followed at this moment.) 76. KK6, RR3ch: 77. KK7, RKN3: 78. RB3ch, KN3: 79. RB1, PN7: 80. RKN1, KB2: 81. PB5, RN6: 82. PB6, RK6ch: 83. KB7, RKN6: 84. KB6, RK6ch: 85. KB5, RKN6: 86. PB7, RB6ch. Drawn.

FOURTH GAME: MARCH 30: ENGLISH OPENING: Botvinnik - White:  
Petrosyan - Black: Notes by Y. Averbakh in "Shakhmati".

1. PQB4, PQB4: 2. NQB3, NQB3: 3. NB3, PKN3: 4. PK3, ... (Practice has shown that 4. PKN3, BN2: 5. BN2, is of little advantage to White. Little promising is also PQ4 because of 4..., PXP: 5. NXP, BN2 and after 6. NB2. 6..., BxN: 7. PxB. The text move seems strongest.) 4..., NB3: (In the game Filip-Averbakh, Vienna 1961, 4..., PQ3: 5. PQ4, BKN5 was played. White replied 6. BK2 with 7. PQ5 to follow and obtain a position with prospects.) 5. PQ4, PXP; 6. PXP, PQ4: (An interesting metamorphosis! This position could also arise in the Caro-Kann after 1. PK4, PQB3: 2. PQ4, PQ4: 3. PXP, PXP: 4. PQB4, NKB3: 5. NQB3, NQB3: 6. NKB3, PKN3. Black's last move was considered uncomfortable because 7. BKN5, but the world champion plays differently.) 7. PXP, KNXP: 8. QN3, NxN: 9. BQB4, (Thanks to this White succeeds in taking the initiative.) 9..., PK3: (It was possible: - ..., NQ4: 10. BxN, PK3: 11. BxNch, PxB: 12. O-O, KBN2: and to follow with 13. QR4, QQ4: 14. BKB4, O-O: 15. QRQB1, BN2: 16. KRK1, with a small advantage to White. Petrosyan likes to create weak pawns, but if they are the opponent's pawns.) 10. PxN, BN2: 11. BR3, BB1: (A sad necessity.) 12. BQB1, (The world champion took 22 minutes on this and found nothing better than to return with the Bishop. White is short - literally - one tempo to strike the decisive blow. If 12. O-O, then not 12..., BxB: 13. QxB, QK2: 14. QB1, O-O: 15. BQR6, with good possibilities for White, but 12..., NR4! 13. BN5ch, BQ2: 14. QR4, BxB: 15. BxBch, QxB, and White has no advantage. There is no danger for Black in 12. PQ5, PXP! - if instead NR4: 13. PXP! - 13. BXP, BxB: 14. BxNch, PxB: 15. QxB, QK2ch.) 12..., BN2: 13. BQN5, (After 13. BR3, BB1 White could exchange Bishops; 14. BxB, KxB, and continue as in the game 15. O-O, KN2: 16. BK2, but then Black could fianchetto the Q-Bishop: 16..., PCN3 and 17..., BN2) 13..., BQ2: (13..., O-O is worse because of 14. BxN, PxB: 15. BR3!, RK1 : 16. O-O) 14. BR3, BKB1: 15. BxB, ("Hitting the air" would be 15. PQ5, PXP: 16. O-O because of 16..., BxB: 17. QxB, QK2: 18. KRK1, BK3.) 15..., KxB: 16. O-O, KN2: 17. BK2, PN3: 18. PB4, QB3: 19. QX3, KRK1: (Petrosyan's first active move in this game. 20..., PK4: 21. PQ5, NQ5 is threatened) 20. NK5!, (It is not very comfortable to exchange on Black's K4, e.g. 20..., NxN: 21. PxN, QK2: 22. QRQ1, QRQ1 and White could prepare an attack on the King wing) 20..., QRQ1: 21. QRQ1, (White had two prospective plans. The first one: to play 21. PQR4 with PR5 to follow, as pointed out by Smyslov, or to transfer the QR, via R3, to the K-wing; the second one: to start aggressive action on the K-wing by 21. PKB4. Botvinnik has still not decided about the direction of the main blow.) 21..., QK2: 22. PB5, (Leads to a draw. Fighting for the initiative is only possible by 22. PKB4. e.g. 22..., PKB3: 23. NKB3, QQ3: with complicated play. It seems however that Botvinnik was not in a risking mood.) 22..., NxN: 23. QxNch, QB3: 24. PXP, PXP: Drawn.

THE FIFTH GAME: APRIL 1 - 2: GRUENFELD DEFENCE. Petrosian - White:  
Botvinnik - Black: Notes by Kotov in "Soviet Weekly."

#### BATTLE OF EQUALS!

The fifth game of the championship will be remembered for a long time - and especially down south in the Caucasus, where Petrosyan was born and brought up.

Traffic came  
capital of Soviet  
They stood there  
game, move by m  
Petrosyan f  
chary of praise

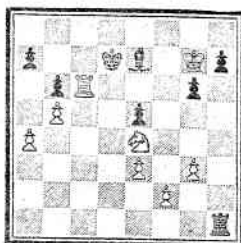
1. PQB4, PKN3: ...  
is a complicated  
understanding of  
sure that it wi  
5. PK3, ... (The  
help White to r  
be carried out  
ions and choose  
later see, there  
simple and calm  
6. PQ5, PK3: (I  
questionable ex  
the position, b  
the end game.)  
weak spot is hi  
eventual victory  
12. KK2, NQB3: ...  
the object of Pe  
K4 square and le  
16. NK4, NxN: 17  
out to occupy Q  
square for White  
(Black cannot gi  
onent's Knight w  
would also be be  
Rook move to QR  
blocked on the b  
to overlook an i  
BK2? (This is a  
where, or else p  
pawns now inevit  
would have been  
leads to its own  
PQR6: 26. RQB2,  
but there is not  
QB pawn being tr  
KK2: 29. NQ2!...  
voyage following  
doomed.) 29...,  
RQ8: 33. NXP, RK  
too, but prefers  
control over the  
space in the ene  
prevent the Whit  
36. PKN3, BQN5:  
(The King has ce  
40. RQB6! RKR8:



Traffic came to a halt in several of the main roads of Erevan, capital of Soviet Armenia, which were packed with chess fans. They stood there for five hours, following the progress of the game, move by move, shown on big demonstration boards.

Petrosyan fully deserved this win. Even Mikhail Tal, usually chary of praise, paid tribute with a single word: "Swell!"

1. P<sub>Q</sub>B4, P<sub>K</sub>N3: 2. P<sub>Q</sub>4, N<sub>K</sub>B3: 3. N<sub>Q</sub>B3, B<sub>Q</sub>4: (The Gruenfeld Defence is a complicated opening, calling for great strategic skill and understanding of the position on the part of both players. I'm sure that it will be used quite often in the match.) 4. N<sub>K</sub>B3, B<sub>K</sub>N2: 5. P<sub>K</sub>3,... (Theory points out several ways which, it is claimed, help White to refute this defence system, but this cannot always be carried out in practice. Petrosyan rejects popular continuations and chooses a peaceful way instead. But, as the reader will later see, there is a great deal of poison hidden in this outwardly simple and calm continuation.) 5...., O-O: 6. B<sub>K</sub>2, P<sub>x</sub>P: 7. B<sub>x</sub>P, P<sub>Q</sub>B4: 8. P<sub>Q</sub>5, P<sub>K</sub>3: (I doubt whether Botvinnik will ever repeat this questionable experiment. Black has the possibility of simplifying the position, but many unpleasant moments lie in store for him in the end game.) 9. P<sub>x</sub>P, Q<sub>x</sub>Qch, 10. K<sub>x</sub>Q, B<sub>x</sub>P: 11. B<sub>x</sub>B, P<sub>x</sub>B: (Black's weak spot is his isolated pawn, which is sufficient for Petrosyan's eventual victory, true, achieved by his brilliant technique.) 12. K<sub>K</sub>2, N<sub>Q</sub>B3: 13. R<sub>Q</sub>1, Q<sub>R</sub>Q1: 14. R<sub>x</sub>R, R<sub>x</sub>R: 15. N<sub>K</sub>N5!..., (This is the object of Petrosyan's scheme. The Knight aims at occupying the K4 square and leading the attack from that vantage point.) 15...RK1: 16. N<sub>K</sub>4, N<sub>x</sub>N: 17. N<sub>x</sub>N, P<sub>Q</sub>N3: 18. R<sub>Q</sub>N1, N<sub>Q</sub>N5: (This Knight is also out to occupy Q4, but this is not the same vantage point as the K4 square for White - as the reader will soon see.) 19. B<sub>Q</sub>2, N<sub>Q</sub>4: (Black cannot give away his Knight for a Bishop, because his opponent's Knight will be much stronger than his own Bishop. It would also be bad to capture the White pawn on Q<sub>R</sub>2 because of the Rook move to Q<sub>R</sub>1.) 20. P<sub>Q</sub>R4, R<sub>Q</sub>B1: 21. P<sub>Q</sub>N3..., (Black's pawns are blocked on the black squares, which calms Botvinnik, who is soon to overlook an important tactical thrust.) 21...B<sub>K</sub>B1: 22. R<sub>Q</sub>B1, B<sub>K</sub>2? (This is a mistake. The Rook should have been removed somewhere, or else protected by 22...R<sub>Q</sub>B2.) 23. P<sub>Q</sub>N4!..., (Black's pawns now inevitably become weak. The best reply in defence here would have been 23...K<sub>K</sub>B2. The advance of the Black's QB pawn leads to its swift capture.) 23...P<sub>Q</sub>B5?: 24. P<sub>Q</sub>N5, K<sub>K</sub>B2: 25. B<sub>Q</sub>B3, R<sub>Q</sub>R6: 26. R<sub>Q</sub>B2, N<sub>x</sub>Bch: (Black is reluctant to give up his Knight, but there is nothing else he can do about it in view of the rash QB pawn being trapped by N<sub>Q</sub>2 and B<sub>Q</sub>R1.) 27. R<sub>x</sub>N, B<sub>Q</sub>N5: 28. R<sub>Q</sub>B2, K<sub>K</sub>2: 29. N<sub>Q</sub>2!..., (This is an offer to set out on a purely Rook voyage following 29...B<sub>x</sub>N: 30. K<sub>x</sub>B. Here, too, the QB pawn is doomed.) 29...P<sub>Q</sub>B6: 30. N<sub>K</sub>4, B<sub>Q</sub>R4: 31. K<sub>Q</sub>3, R<sub>Q</sub>ch: 32. K<sub>Q</sub>B4, R<sub>Q</sub>8: 33. N<sub>x</sub>P, R<sub>K</sub>R8: 34. N<sub>K</sub>4!... (Petrosyan could play 34. P<sub>K</sub>R3 too, but prefers to attack. With limited means he soon gains control over the whole middle of the board and a good deal of space in the enemy camp.) 34...R<sub>x</sub>P: 35. K<sub>Q</sub>4, K<sub>Q</sub>2: (This is to prevent the White Rook from advancing to the seventh rank.) 36. P<sub>K</sub>N3, B<sub>Q</sub>N5: 37. K<sub>K</sub>5, R<sub>K</sub>R4ch: 38. K<sub>K</sub>B6, B<sub>K</sub>2ch: 39. K<sub>K</sub>N7,... (The King has certainly gone deep into enemy territory!) 39...P<sub>K</sub>4: 40. R<sub>Q</sub>B6!, R<sub>K</sub>R8: "See Diagram"



(The game was adjourned at this point. Petrosyan's sealed move turned out to be the stronger.) 41. KKB7! (The King takes charge of his advancing forces.) 41...RQR8: 42. RKB6, BQ1: 43. RQ6ch, KQB1: 44. KK8, BQB2: 45. RQB6, RQ8. (It would be altogether bad for Black after 45...RXP. 46. NQB5 and 47. NQ5. But even now Black cannot resist much longer.) 46. NKN5, RQ1ch: 47. KKB7, RQ2ch: 48. KKN8! Black resigns. (The decisive reply to 48...KQN2 is 49. RKB6!)

### "TIME DOES NOT SMILE"

by S. Flohr in "Ogonyok"

In the chess off days, the "Estrada" Theatre is running a play, "Time Smiles." In the match Botvinnik-Petrosyan time does not smile. Time is the enemy of the chess player. There are no smiles at the chess match. Botvinnik's victory is a sad thing for Petrosyan's supporters and vice versa. Draws on the other hand bring general dissatisfaction. Very often one could hear at the match: "Yes, this is clearly not the same." It is not very difficult to decipher this phrase. The spectators remember Botvinnik's previous opponent, Mikhail Tal, who willingly sacrificed Pawns, Bishops, Knights and what not. In this match, in the meantime, no one is sacrificing anything (a brilliant possibility was missed by Botvinnik in the first game) and the fight centres around pawns, more often around one weak pawn.

Indeed so was the approximately ten hour struggle in the third game. At first Botvinnik's pawns were "hanging". Then an isolated one appeared and about adjournment time perished. True, the journalists reported that "a draw is the most probable outcome." However, to report is a different matter altogether from actually drawing the game, especially if one plays against such a grand technician as Petrosyan.

In Botvinnik's practices there were no few Rook and Pawn endings which he saved in a virtuoso-like manner. Chess players would remember the ending against Euwe at Groningen in 1946. About 2,000 Dutch people eagerly awaited Botvinnik's capitulation in the decisive game of the tournament. The Soviet Grandmaster found, however, a problem-like draw and so the ovation prepared for Euwe did not take place. A similar thing occurred in the game with Unzicker at the Olympics in Amsterdam in 1954. Finally it is still fresh in our memory the "incident" at the Varna Olympics when Robert Fisher stated without any doubts that Botvinnik was lost, and soon cried when Botvinnik after all succeeded in drawing.

One can of course disagree and say that in the third game of the match Botvinnik's position was not as critical as in the above mentioned cases. But this time his opponent was a technical virtuoso like Petrosyan! Botvinnik held out. The crowd of chess lovers waiting for the world champion to come out of the "Chess Club" also held out.

When all Muscovites stop work, on Saturday, Botvinnik and Petrosyan start their chess "working week." The world champion obtained a very promising position in the fourth game. The impression was that "a goal is hanging in the air." But no! How

surprisingly easy already, everybody draw," they have visitors at the

Monday - ad something will indeed, have the bare eye th

When Queens to criticise on April Fools Botvinnik in th

No, Petrosya of smelling", no 20th move the vinnik simplifie the draw.

Most grandma is not "a penny White's insignia without a microc with electronic a visible mistake, material balance salvation.

Reporting on Petrosyan's first sensational from what a high level players stands. as to outplay hi the "Botvinnik i

Yes, not wit lanca's double." extremely delicat game! Tough!

So the world It was proved at Petrosyan and wi match started as "Who is going to

THE SIXTH GAME:  
Botvinnik: Black

1. PQ4, PQ4: 2.  
6. O-O, PQR3: 7.  
game.) 7...NB3:  
chooses another  
8...BK2: (The  
QB2: 10. NB3, O-  
accuracy, 12...  
the world champi  
9. PXP, BXP: 10.  
2. PQB4, PXP: 3.  
played 7. PXP

surprisingly easy Petrosyan equalised the chances! At 8 p.m. already, everybody has gone home. "Until the next....the next draw," they have been jokingly bidding goodbye to each other, the visitors at the press bureau.

Monday - a difficult day. In addition it is the 1st of April! Something will happen today! Exclusively interesting events, indeed, have occurred. Chess amateurs could not even notice with the bare eye their birth.

When Queens and some more pieces disappeared, someone started to criticise and even to reproach Petrosyan. "He must be joking on April Fools Day. Does he really think that one can win against Botvinnik in this way?"

No, Petrosyan wasn't joking. Smyslov has a good chess "sense of smelling", not a worse one than Petrosyan, and already after the 20th move the former world champion justly pointed out that Botvinnik simplified unnecessarily. It is still necessary to obtain the draw.

Most grandmasters said: "It is nothing," Petrosyan's position is not "a penny" better. "Chemist's scales are necessary to detect White's insignificant advantage." In the meantime Petrosyan, without a microscope and without chemist scales, worked like a bee, and with electronic machine-like precision. The world champion made no visible mistake, but fell into a critical position. Although material balance was maintained, at the adjournment there was no salvation.

Reporting on the first game we wrote: "Yes, this was a sensation". Petrosyan's first victory was also sensational in some sense, sensational from the creative point of view. The game shows on what a high level the mastership of the present generation of chess players stands. There was no such case in Botvinnik's practice, as to outplay him in an endgame with such simple means; to take the "Botvinnik fortress" with "bare hands", so to speak.

Yes, not without reason do they think of Petrosyan as "Capablanca's double." Even the Cuban phenomenon would envy the extremely delicate technique demonstrated by Petrosyan in the fifth game! Tough!

So the world champion and the pretender have exchanged "presents". It was proved at the start of the match that Botvinnik could beat Petrosyan and vice versa. At a score  $2\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$  it is as if the match started again. Guesses and predictions remain the same. "Who is going to win the next game?"

THE SIXTH GAME: APRIL 3: QUEEN'S GAMBIT ACCEPTED: White - Botvinnik: Black - Petrosyan: Notes by Y. Averbakh in "Shakhmati".

1. P<sub>Q</sub>4, P<sub>Q</sub>4: 2. P<sub>Q</sub>B4, P<sub>x</sub>P: 3. N<sub>K</sub>B3, N<sub>K</sub>B3: 4. P<sub>K</sub>3, P<sub>K</sub>3: 5. B<sub>x</sub>P, P<sub>B</sub>4: 6. O-O, P<sub>Q</sub>R3: 7. P<sub>Q</sub>R4, (Botvinnik prevents P<sub>Q</sub>N4 as in the first game.) 7...N<sub>B</sub>3: 8. Q<sub>K</sub>2, (As in the second game, but now Petrosyan chooses another way which, incidentally, Botvinnik also knows well.) 8...B<sub>K</sub>2: (The game Botvinnik-Euwe, Groningen, 1946 went 9. R<sub>Q</sub>1, Q<sub>B</sub>2: 10. N<sub>B</sub>3, O-O: 11. P<sub>Q</sub>N3, B<sub>Q</sub>2: 12. B<sub>N</sub>2, and after Black's inaccuracy, 12...Q<sub>R</sub>B1, Botvinnik siezed the initiative. In this game the world champion prefers to liquidate the tension in the centre.) 9. P<sub>x</sub>P, B<sub>x</sub>P: 10. P<sub>K</sub>4, (Several years ago Furman after 1. P<sub>Q</sub>4, P<sub>Q</sub>4: 2. P<sub>Q</sub>B4, P<sub>x</sub>P: 3. N<sub>K</sub>B3, N<sub>K</sub>B3: 4. P<sub>K</sub>3, P<sub>K</sub>3: 5. B<sub>x</sub>P, P<sub>Q</sub>R3: 6. Q<sub>K</sub>2, P<sub>B</sub>4: played 7. P<sub>x</sub>P , B<sub>x</sub>P: 8. P<sub>K</sub>4. It is not difficult to see that

after 8...NQB3: 9. O-O, we reach the position of the present game with the difference that White, in addition, played PQR4. This is important because Black is prevented from playing PQN4. Now White threatens PK5 in order to use his K4 square for transfer of pieces to the K-side. How could one prevent 11. PK5? 10...PK4 is unsatisfactory because of 11. BxPch, KxB: 12. QB4ch, 10...NKN5: (Black tries to parry the threats in a tactical manner. After 11. PK5, NQ5: 12. NxB, QxN: White can not defend the pawn on K5. Here Botvinnik "took Petrosyan's word" for it, but after home analysis he changed his mind and in the 8th game played 11. PK5!) 11. BB4, QB3: 12. BN3, KNK4: 13. NxB, NxB: 14. NQ2, (Tal thinks that White shouldn't have allowed exchange of Bishops and played 14. BR2 instead, then after 14...O-O develop the Knight on QB3 and prepare the movement of the KBP. Botvinnik chose a different plan. He does not mind exchange of Bishops, because his Knight will occupy an excellent position on QB4, but Black does not have to exchange as yet.) 14...O-O: 15. QRQ1, (It will later become evident that this square should have been occupied by the KR, but White apparently thought the KR could support the movement of the KBP in the future.) 15...PQN3!: (The Bishop can be developed not only on N2 but after PQR4 also on QR3.) 16. QR5, NxB: (Black loses control over his K4, after which he will have to think only about equality. Correct was 16...BQ5:) 17. NxB, PR4: 18. NK5, (The natural continuation was 18. BK5. However after 18...QN3: 19. QxQ, RPxQ: 20. BQ4, BxB: 21. RxB, BR3: 22. NxB, BxR: 23. NxB, BxNP: 24. KxB, RxN: White has only a minimum advantage.) 18...QK2! (With this subtle move Petrosyan gets counterplay. After 19...PKB3: the Knight will have to return.) 19. RQ2, (An attempt to bring the Bishop into play by 19. BKB4 would not succeed. After 19...PKB3: 20. NQ3, PK4: 21. NxB, QxN: 22. BK3, QN5: White would inevitably lose a Pawn.) 19...PKB3: 20. NQ3, PK4: 21. NxB!, (Had Black preserved the Bishop his advantage would be dangerous, but White has the move and of course liquidates the dangerous Bishop.) 21...QxN: (Little promising was also 21...PxN: 22. QR1, ER3: 23. RK1, KRQ1: 24. PB3, PB5: 25. BB2. Although Black's position is slightly the better one, it is not possible to make use of this minimum advantage.) 22. QR1, BK3: 23. RK1, (Defending in time against 23...QN5 with threats 24...QxKP: and 24...BN6.) 23...QRB1: 24. PR3, (Again a precise move. Since the place of the Rook is on K3 it is useful to "open a hole" for the King in order to avoid threats on the back rank.) 24...QN5: 25. RK3, RB5: (A last attempt. 26. PKB3, QB4: 27. KB2, RB8: 28. QK2, BB5: loses for White.) 26. PN3, RB3: 27. KR2, (Here Petrosyan convinced himself that White by 28. PKB4 frees the Bishop and could without fear look forward to the future. He therefore proposed a draw. The world champion asked him to make a move, and after 27...PQN4 accepted the peace proposal.)

THE SEVENTH GAME: ENGLISH OPENING: White - Petrosyan: Black - Botvinnik: Notes by Kotov in "Soviet Weekly."

PETROSYAN IN THE LEAD

Petrosyan's one point lead secured in the seventh game, was more than merely a help towards success in the match. It was equally important as a moral victory, giving the challenger back his full confidence, shaken by that surprising setback in the opening game.

Petrosyan, for Botvinnik. In the failed to convert

In the seventh the opening stage help of vigorous material advantage

Though he comes the best players

What about Bot eighth game shows the first fifteen concede defeat.

strate his outst after a few more

Botvinnik's i ninth game, also than three days

Here is an an

1. PQR4, PKN3: 2. ition. of the 3 Now, to 3...NKB3 to switch over to NK2: 5. BKN2, O-O subsequent diffic the King's Indian utmost effort to exchange on that advantage.) 7. N now capture all t PQ3: 10. BQ2, BKN tination 10...B plant his Bishop BK3: 12. PQN3, Q (The Knight occup the positions of (Though a slight his pieces at the the other wing is 18. KRQ1, NK3: 19 Petrosyan seeks a Following the exc iately becomes mo RK2: 22. BKB3, BK



Petrosyan, you recall, won the fifth game, so drawing level with Botvinnik. In the drawn sixth game, he won a small advantage, but failed to convert it into a full point for himself.

In the seventh game we saw him executing subtle manoeuvres in the opening stage which gave him a noticeable advantage. With the help of vigorous tactical thrusts, he was able to turn this into a material advantage.

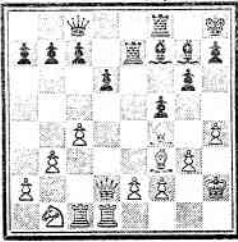
Though he committed an error in one place - it happens among the best players too! - he well showed his prowess in the end game.

What about Botvinnik? His brilliant efforts in the drawn eighth game shows that his setback hasn't upset him. Indeed, after the first fifteen moves it looked as though Petrosyan would have to concede defeat. The challenger was, however, again able to demonstrate his outstanding defensive ability, and the worst had passed after a few more precise moves, countered uncertainly by Botvinnik.

Botvinnik's indisposition resulted in a postponement before the ninth game, also drawn. The rules permit a player to miss no more than three days of the competition through illness.

Here is an analysis of the seventh game.

1. P QB4, P KN3: 2. N KB3, B KN2: 3. N QB3,... (Petrosyan prevents a repetition of the Grunfeld Defence encountered in the fifth game. Now, to 3...NKB3 White will reply with PK4, forcing his opponent to switch over to a King's Indian Defence.) 3....,PK4: 4. P KN3, NK2: 5. B KN2, O-0: 6. P Q4, P xP: (This is the first cause of Black's subsequent difficult position. The pattern on the board resembles the King's Indian Defence, where Black is obliged to exert the utmost effort to hold on to the K4 square. Botvinnik makes the exchange on that square, which gives White considerable territorial advantage.) 7. N xP, Q NB3: 8. N xN, N xN: (Petrosyan's pieces will now capture all the key command posts without hindrance.) 9. O-0, P Q3: 10. B Q2, B KN5: (This is another unfortunate move. The continuation 10...BK3. 11. P QN3, Q Q2: would give Black a chance to plant his Bishop on KR6 and not cramp the position.) 11. P KR3, BK3: 12. P QN3, Q Q2: 13. K KR2, Q RK1: 14. R QB1, P KB4: 15. N Q5,... (The Knight occupies a strong position. Soon Petrosyan will improve the positions of other pieces too.) 15...KKR1: 16. BK3,... (Though a slight move, this is highly dangerous. White is aiming his pieces at the Queen's side, whereas the Black counter-attack on the other wing is obviously failing.) 16....,BKN1: 17. Q Q2, N Q1: 18. KR Q1, NK3: 19. N KB4,...(There is a subtle scheme behind this move. Petrosyan seeks an exchange with his adversary's last active piece. Following the exchange, Black's defence on the Queen's side immediately becomes more difficult.) 19...N xN: 20. B xN, Q QB1: 21. P KR4, RK2: 22. B KB3, B KB2: "See Diagram".



23. Q QR5,... (This is the decisive blow. Black cannot protect all his weak pawns on the Queen's side.) 23...BK1: 24. P QB5,... (Another winning continuation could have been 24. Q xP(QR), P QB3: 25. B xB, P xB: 26. B xP, but Petrosyan is looking for the most reliable and quickest way of winning.) 24...P Q4: 25. B Q6,... (A simple but very unpleasant combinational blow. Of course, the Bishop capture is bad, but in all other replies white comes out with sizeable material advantage.) 25....,Q Q2: 26. B xR, Q xB: 27. R xP,

(Having gained great material advantage, Petrosyan suddenly begins to get confused. A reliable 27. PK3 would lead to a swift victory. Following the move actually made, however, Botvinnik is able to recover the sacrifice of the exchange.) 27...PKB5: 28. QQ2, BQB3: 29. RQ3, BQN4: 30. RQ4,... (Petrosyan soars to the heights once again. The end game begins, in which the challenger has little trouble in cashing in on his material advantage of an extra pawn.) 30...PxPch: 31. PxP, BxR: 32. QxBch, QN2: 33. QxQch, KxQ: 34. RQB2, (This is a most precise move. White protects his pawn on K2, to permit time to transfer his King to the centre.) 34....,RK1: 35. KKN2, KKB3: 36. KKB2, BQB3: (There is no other way of defending the Black pawns. The situation is a Rook ending with an easy win for White.) 37. BxB, PxB: 38. RQB4, (All the forces are mustered to attack Black's weak spots on the Queen's side.) 38....,KK4: 39. RQR4, RQR1: 40. RQR6, KQ4: (The game was adjourned at this point. Out of all the possible ways of chalking up a victory, Petrosyan chooses the most reliable one.) 41. PQN4, KQB5: 42. PQR3, KQN4: 43. RQR5ch, KQB5: 44. KK3, PQR3: 45. KKB4, KQ4: 46. KKN5, RK1: 47. RxP, RxP: 48. RQR7,... (This forces the Black Rook back into a passive position.) 48....,RK4ch: 49. KKB4, RK2: 50. PQN7, KK3: 51. PQR4, KQ2: 52. RQN8, Black resigns. (The White Rook moves to QR8 and the QR pawn advances to the next to last rank. This is the cause of Black's immediate surrender.)

THE EIGHTH GAME: APRIL 8 - 9: Botvinnik - White: Petrosyan - Black: QUEEN'S GAMBIT ACCEPTED: Notes by Y. Averbakh in "Shakhmati."

1. PQ4, PQ4: 2. PQB4, PxP: (Judging by the fact that Petrosyan played this opening very rarely on previous occasions, one is inclined to conclude that he prepared it specially for this match.) 3. NKB3, NKB3: 4. PK3, PK3: 5. BxP, PB4: 6. O-O, PQR3: 7. PQR4, NB3: 8. QK2, BK2: 9. PxP, BxP: 10. PK4, NKN5: (Up to this move the opponents did not use any time for thinking, repeating merely the 6th game.) 11. PK5!, NQ5: 12. NxB, QxN: 13. NR3!, (This strong move, putting in front of Black difficulties, was apparently found by the world champion when analysing the sixth game. White not only defends the Bishop but threatens also 14. NB2. Black must accept the pawn sacrifice. After the direct 13....NxB: White does not play 14. RQ1, because of 14....,QKN5! but, 14. BK3, QQ3: 15. KRQ1, QK2: 16. BxB, QxB: 17. QRB4, and all White's pieces are mobilised for the decisive attack. Because of this Petrosyan first exchanges Bishop for Knight.) 13....,BxN: 14. RxB, NxB: 15. PQN3, (There are no two points of view about the fact that White's initiative and development is worth the pawn sacrificed. The problem is only in finding the strongest continuation of the attack. The move made by Botvinnik is disputable. Not so good is also 15. RQ1, because of 15....,QKN5, but after 15. BR2, all White's forces would be ready to move on the enemy's King.) 15....,QB4: (Of course, 15....,NxB is dangerous because after 16. NPxN. White's QR joins the attack through his third rank. An interesting variation was found in the press office of the match, which illustrates the dangers facing Black:- 16....,O-O: 17. RKN3, PKB3: 18. BR6, RKB2: 19. RQ1, QN3: 20. QN2,! QB2: 21. RxFch, RxB: 22. QxBP.) 16. RR2, (Slow. Stronger is 16. BN2) 16....,NxB: 17. PxN, BQ2: 18. BR3, (White, apparently, invested great hopes in this move which deprives Black of castling. However, as further events show, Petrosyan succeeds in evacuating his King to KB2.) 18....,QB4:

19. RQ2, (Loses still have to s (Black's plan o 21. PKN4.) 21. Petrosyan grefe fact that in th itional advanta KB2: 24. RK7ch, 28. PB3, RK8ch: succeeded in ca into the oppono RB6: 33. RQ4, at this moment. Rook entered th will manage to KB1.) 34. KN3, 38. PN4, RB6: but Black attac BB3: 40. RK3, R immediate attem 41....,PxP: 42. to continue KR2 - after which R the game was ad BQ2: 44. BB4, K 45. RK7 with th 45. RN3, BB1: 4 but in the resu 48. BK3, KN3: 4 51. RxBP, RR6: 53. BxR, KxNP: and sacrificing situation where 52. RB5ch, KN3: 54. KB4, RR5ch:

In the Cent photos of eight Lasker and Capab Smyslov. On the and Botvinnik. space the pictur in the Estrada T The victory confidence, and vinnik has no we double energy. sixth game. Th opening, but aft threats and the Only the sp the fact that th



19. RQ2, (Loses the initiative. After 19. QN2 or QQ2, Black would still have to solve no few problems.) 19...BB3: 20. RK1, PKR4: (Black's plan consists of playing PKB3, but if played at once then 21. PKN4.) 21. QK3, PB3: (Here Botvinnik proposed a draw, but Petrosyan preferred to play on. His decision is justified by the fact that in the ensuing ending, with material equality, the positional advantage is on Black's side.) 22. QxPch, QxQ: 23. RxQch, KB2: 24. RK7ch, KN3: 25. PR5, QRQ1: 26. BQ6, KRK1: 27. RxR, RxR: 28. PB3, RK8ch: 29. KB2, RQR8: (Black's first achievement. He succeeded in capturing the open file to penetrate with the Rook into the opponent's camp.) 30. BN4, RQN8: 31. BR3, RN6: 32. BQ6, RB6: 33. RQ4, (Better was 33. PQB5, but White was short of time at this moment.) 33...RB7ch: (Another achievement. Black's Rook entered the seventh rank. Now the question is whether White will manage to defend against Black's Bishop reaching White's KB1.) 34. KN3, BQ2: 35. PR4, BK3: 36. PB5, BB5: 37. KB4, BN4: 38. PN4, RB6: (White has managed to bring into safety the KNP but Black attacks now the next link in the pawn chain.) 39. RK4, BB3: 40. RK3, RB5ch: 41. KN3, RR5: (The KNP is in danger. An immediate attempt to win it does not, however, succeed. After 41...PxP: 42. PxP, BQ2: 43. BKB4, RxP: 44. PR5ch, it is necessary to continue KR2 - of course, not 44...KB2, because of 45. BQ6! - after which RK7 restores material equality.) 42. BB7, (Here the game was adjourned and Petrosyan sealed.) 42...PxP: 43. PxP, BQ2: 44. BB4, KB2: (On capture of the pawn, unpleasant would be 45. RK7 with the threat of 46. PR5ch, and with 47 PR6 to follow.) 45. RN3, BB1: 46. PN5, PxP: 47. PxP, RxP: (Black has won a pawn but in the resulting position, this is insufficient for victory.) 48. BK3, KN3: 49. RN6ch, KB4: 50. PB6, (Forces a draw.) 50...PxP: 51. RxBP, RR6: (A last attempt. If 51...BK3: 52. RB5ch, RxR: 53. BxR, KKNP: 54. KB2, and White draws by moving the King to QR1 and sacrificing the Bishop for Black's KNP. Here you are. A situation where the factor of opposite colour Bishops tells.) 52. RB5ch, KN3: (Or 52...KK5: 53. RxB, RxBch.) 53. RB6ch, KR4: 54. KB4, RR5ch: 55. KN3, Drawn.

#### MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

By S. Flohr in "Ogonyok."

In the Central Chess Club there is a roll of honour with photos of eight world champions. In the top row we see Steinitz, Lasker and Capablanca. In the second row, Alekhine, Euwe, and Smyslov. On the ground floor there is vacant space between Tal and Botvinnik. Petrosyan's supporters sleep and see in this vacant space the picture of the pretender. For this vacancy the fight in the Estrada Theatre takes place.

The victory in the fifth game gave Petrosyan a lot: calmness, confidence, and first of all an equal score. As is known, Botvinnik has no weak nerves and usually after a defeat plays with double energy. However, this quality was not noticeable in the sixth game. The world champion obtained an advantage in the opening, but after some inaccuracies Petrosyan liquidated all threats and the former had to satisfy himself with a draw.

Only the spectators of the seventh game can give evidence to the fact that this game was played by Petrosyan and Botvinnik.



However, those who got to know the game from the papers could, not without grounds, ask the question: "Has this game really been played by Botvinnik, the deep and subtle strategist? And where was Botvinnik the subtle psychologist?" Twice in this match he allowed an unexplained psychological mistake. To give Petrosyan a simple position with at least a draw in the pocket, where he could without risk increase the smallest advantage, and in addition Botvinnik had no show of counterplay, is the same as putting a pistol into the hands of an opponent during a duel. Of course, there is no point in reproaching Petrosyan. He fired from the pistol calmly and accurately, achieved the second victory and a score 4: 3. For the first time in the match the pretender captured the lead, Botvinnik's advantage-consisting of the known fact that after all a score of 12 - 12 was sufficient for him - was liquidated. The roles of the grandmasters changed. Now the world champion had to play for a win.

A half a point from the last three games is not a cheerful result at all for Botvinnik.

The supporters of the champion are prepared to forgive him the sins committed in the last encounters, provided that at the end he will strike good form. Among the optimists there are some who think that everything is for the better. Botvinnik was left behind and this is "good." Now he will start to play the "return match" and as is known, he plays better in return matches.

In the beginning of the eighth game it really looked as if Botvinnik got annoyed and will play at full steam. The fourth time in this match Petrosyan did not manage to castle. Had Botvinnik made two or three attacking moves, Petrosyan's King wouldn't like it. Botvinnik, however, missed a good chance and on the 21st move Petrosyan was so satisfied with his position that he refused the proposed draw. It looks that even in the endgame Petrosyan lost confidence in Botvinnik's skill. In the adjourned position difficulties for Botvinnik appeared, but experts thought that he would overcome them. He did. One more draw was registered.

THE NINTH GAME: APRIL 13 - 14: CATALAN SYSTEM - DUTCH DEFENCE IN EFFECT: Petrosyan - White: Botvinnik - Black: Notes by International Grandmaster I. Bondarevski in "Shakhmati."

1. P<sub>Q</sub>B4, P<sub>K</sub>3: 2. P<sub>K</sub>N3, P<sub>Q</sub>4: Why didn't Black play 2...P<sub>K</sub>B4? The reason is that the Dutch Defence - Stonewall Variation - with the structure P<sub>K</sub>B4, P<sub>K</sub>3, P<sub>Q</sub>4 and P<sub>Q</sub>B3 is played only when the White's Q<sub>P</sub> is already on the latter's Q4. Should this not be the case, White has an active plan as to how to demolish the "stonewall" by completing the development of the minor pieces, playing P<sub>Q</sub>3 and P<sub>K</sub>4 to follow.) 3. B<sub>N</sub>2, N<sub>K</sub>B3: 4. N<sub>K</sub>B3, B<sub>K</sub>2: 5. O-O, O-O: 6. P<sub>Q</sub>4, (Only now when Black's Knight is on K<sub>B</sub>3 White plays P<sub>Q</sub>4. If Black attempts a "Dutch" structure, at all costs he has to move the K<sub>N</sub> to K5.) 6...Q<sub>N</sub>Q2: 7. Q<sub>B</sub>2, P<sub>B</sub>3: (After 7...N<sub>K</sub>5: 8. N<sub>B</sub>3, Black would be forced to exchange Knights because 8...P<sub>K</sub>B4, can not be played in view of 9. P<sub>X</sub>P, N<sub>X</sub>N: 10. P<sub>X</sub>P. Now a position from the Catalan has been reached. Usually White continues here Q<sub>N</sub>Q2 preparing P<sub>K</sub>4.) 8. B<sub>B</sub>4, N<sub>K</sub>5: 9. N<sub>B</sub>3, P<sub>K</sub>N4: (An energetic move which throws back Black's Bishop to its original square. If 10. B<sub>Q</sub>2, then 10...N<sub>X</sub>B: 11. N<sub>X</sub>N, P<sub>K</sub>B4 is possible and Black's two Bishops could provide good service in the future. If 10. B<sub>K</sub>3, 10...P<sub>K</sub>B4 and White must be on guard against the threat of P<sub>K</sub>B5. Apart from this, the

position of the White's aim is 10. B<sub>B</sub>4, P<sub>K</sub>B4: encountered in White lost two present position us now have a

By comparison two moves "out is that both moves P<sub>K</sub>N4 weakened Knight at K5 has with tempo. Of in obtaining three moves Black to tell for what as before. 11. this move consists to exchange the thirdly, White if 11...N<sub>Q</sub>3: 12 active play in 12...P<sub>Q</sub>N4, the N<sub>X</sub>N: 14. P<sub>X</sub>N, (White would cannot take the RB2: 14. N<sub>X</sub>N, White opens up in development difficult to develop would be 15...N 18. N<sub>K</sub>5, R<sub>X</sub>Rch: osite coloured KP<sub>X</sub>P: 17. B<sub>X</sub>P, one, but in this later on P<sub>K</sub>4 White 17...B<sub>Q</sub>2: 18. B with P<sub>K</sub>4 to follow 19. N<sub>K</sub>5, R<sub>X</sub>Rch: Black's K-side 17...B<sub>Q</sub>2: 18. B<sub>B</sub>1 would bring was 19. N<sub>K</sub>5, R<sub>B</sub> squares in Botvinnik

deserves serious R<sub>X</sub>Rch: 23. R<sub>X</sub>R, follow after 24. N<sub>K</sub>N3 to follow) in "Soviet Sport" 26...Q<sub>P</sub>X<sub>P</sub>: 27. P refutation.) 27. enemy centre by P position.) 27... P<sub>K</sub>4 proves unsucc consideration, e.g. 30. P<sub>K</sub>3, B<sub>K</sub>N2: 31 Q<sub>K</sub>2, etc.) 28. P White chooses the After 30...B<sub>X</sub>B: 31. B<sub>X</sub>B, K<sub>X</sub>B: 32.

position of the Bishop at K3 cannot be considered good because White's aim is to destroy Black's centre by PKB3 and PK4 to follow.) 10. BB1, PKB4: (The "stone-wall" is up. Similar positions were encountered in Botvinnik's games in past years. This time however White lost two tempi, i.e. the QB moved to KB4 and returned. The present position differs somewhat from the theoretical one. Let us now have a look at the position shown in opening guides.

By comparison with the theoretical position Botvinnik made two moves "out of turn." Is this an achievement? The answer is that both moves have not helped Black's development. Moreover, PKN4 weakened Black's position on the K-side. The position of the Knight at K5 has also its shady points. White can now play PKB3 with tempo. Of course this will prove advantageous if he succeeds in obtaining superior development.) 11. PN3, BB3: (In the next three moves Black regroup his forces. It is however difficult to tell for what purpose. In any case, his Q-wing remains "frozen" as before. 11....NQ3 was worthy of consideration. The merits of this move consist firstly in the fact that White would not be able to exchange the Knight and secondly that Black prepares PQN4 and thirdly, White would have to watch the QBP. On the other hand, if 11....NQ3: 12. BN2, PXP: White sacrificing a pawn, could start active play in the centre by 13. PK4. If instead of 12....PXP: 12....PQN4, then unpleasant is 13. NK5, but 12....,PKN5: 13. NK5, NxB: 14. PxB, NB2: is possible, or 13. NQ2, PQN4.) 12. BN2, BN2: (White would answer 12....PN5 with 13. NxB, and 14. NK5. Black cannot take the Knight on KB3 because of 14. NxBch.) 13. QRQ1, RB2: 14. NxB, (Having completed the mobilisation of his forces, White opens up the game in the centre after which his superiority in development will show up.) 14....BPxB: 15. NK1, NB1: (It is difficult to develop the Q-side under the enemy fire. No success would be 15....NKB3: 16. PKB3, KPxBP: 17. NxBP, NK5 because of 18. NK5, RxRch: 19. RxR, BxB: 20. BxB, PxB: 21. PxB, and the opposite coloured Bishops only strengthen White's attack.) 16. PKB3, KPxBP: 17. BxB, (The obvious move is by no means always the good one, but in this case the natural 17. NxBP was better. Playing later on PK4 White would open the game to his advantage, e.g. 17....BQ2: 18. BB1, PKR3: 19. NK5, RxRch: 20. RxR, BK1: 21. BR3 and with PK4 to follow. If in the latter variation 18....,PKN5 then 19. NK5, RxRch: 20. RxR, PKR4: 21. PK4 or 20....,BxB: 21. PxB, and Black's K-side is weakened.) 17....,BQ2: 18. NQ3,... (Pawn exchanges in the centre by 18. PKB4, BB1 would bring no success to White) 18....,BK1: 19. QB1,... (Better was 19. NK5, RB3: 20. PK4,... After 19....,BxB: 20. PxB the Black squares in Botvinnik's camp would be weakened.)

19....,RB1: 20. QK3, (Again NK5 deserves serious consideration.) 20....,QRB2: 21. NK5, RB4: 22. BN2, RxRch: 23. RxR, QK2: 24. BKR3, (Preventing 24....,NKN3 which would follow after 24. BQB1) 24....,PKR4, (Black wants to play PKN5 with NKN3 to follow) 25. BN2, NN3: 26. NQ3, BB2: (Tal has pointed out in "Soviet Sport" the possibility of creating complications by 26....,QPXP: 27. PXP, PQB4: and recommended 28. BK4 as the best refutation.) 27. QB2, (At last White decides to undermine the enemy centre by PK4, but now Black has already consolidated the position.) 27....,PN3: (As we shall see the Black's reaction to PK4 proves unsuccessful. 27....,QPXP: 28. PXP, PQB4: deserved consideration, e.g. 29. NxBP, RxN: 30. BQR3, RKB4 or 29. BQR3, BxQP: 30. PK3, BKN2: 31. NxBP, QK3: 32. BxNP, NK4: 33. NR6, QxB: 34. NxB, QK2, etc.) 28. PK4, PxBP: 29. PXP, PB4: 30. PXP, (In time trouble, White chooses the most simple and objectively best continuation. After 30....,BxB: 31. PxBP follows, winning a pawn.) 30....,PXP: 31. BxB, KxB: 32. PK5, (This is the story:- White brings the Bishop

into play and fixes the weakness on Black's KB3.) 32...NB1: 33. QB6ch, (This simplifying attempt brings White's positional advantage almost to nothing. After 33. BK4 Black would find it very difficult to defend, because his Queen as well as Rook are tied to the defence of QB4, e.g. 33...BN3: 34. BxB, NxB: 35. QK3, with the threat of 36. RB6.) 33...QxQ: 34. PxB, KN1: 35. NK5, NQ2: 36. NB3, NxB: 37. NxB, KN2: 38. RK1, RQ2: (Upon the passive 38...RK2: 39. RK5 or BQ5 would, of course, follow. Sacrificing a pawn Black activates his forces.) 39. NxB, BxN: 40. RxB, RQ8ch: 41. BB1, (In this position Black sealed.) 41...PR4: (NKN5 was also possible with the same idea as the one carried out by Botvinnik in the game.) 42. RK3, (If 42. PKR3, then 42...RR8; 43. RK2, PQR5: 44. KB2, PQR6: 45. BN2, RB8etc. The excellent position of the Rook saves Black from trouble.) 42...NN5: 43. RQR3, PQR5: (After 43...NxB: 44. KxN, RxB: 45. RxB, White would be only a pawn up but his Rook would become active. Botvinnik prefers to sacrifice two pawns in order to force the enemy Rook to occupy an inconvenient position. A characteristic device in Rook and Pawn endings.) 44. PR3, NR7: 45. KxN, RxB: 46. RxB, (Or 46. KN2, RB8: 47. RxB, RB6:) 46...RB7ch: 47. KN1, RB7: 48. RR3, RxBP: 49. RKB3, RB7: 50. PQR4, (If 50. RB2, then 50...RB8ch: 51. RB1, RB7: 52. RR1, PQR5 etc.) 50...RQR7: 51. RB4, RR6: 52. KB2, RR7ch: 53. KK1, RR6: 54. RB5: 55. PxB, RxQRP: Drawn.

THE TENTH GAME: APRIL 15 - 16: QUEEN'S GAMBIT ACCEPTED: Botvinnik - White: Petrosyan - Black: Notes by Kotov in "Soviet Weekly."

#### QUIET BUT NOT PEACEFUL

The past week of play in the Botvinnik-Petrosyan match has been quiet, because all three games were drawn. But, as the analysis below shows, play was sharp and fierce tactical exchanges took place.

It wasn't the fault of the players that their engagements ended quietly. Both men are equally tenacious in defence and equally superb in other departments of the game. They are truly living up to their reputations as top-ranking grandmasters of the world.

Botvinnik won the opening game, but failed to repeat in the next ten. Losing two games and drawing the other eight is something which has never before happened to the world champion.

Botvinnik has been trying his very best in the past few days at least to level this score.

The titleholder has been having most trouble in the endings. He lost the fifth game, where Petrosyan displayed unusual skill in cashing in on his slight positional advantage. It was the ending in the seventh game that brought about his second setback.

"I've had enough of simple positions and endings!" Botvinnik said to himself, and sought complicated play in subsequent games. He will undoubtedly continue to strive for complicated situations on the board. We can look forward to very exciting games.

As for the tenth game it will be studied by chess theorists throughout the world. Its opening contains a highly interesting idea as does its ending with major pieces in action.

1. PQR4, PQR4: 2. PQR4, PxB: 3. NKB3, NKB3: 4. PK3, PK3: 5. BxB, PQR4: 6. O-O, PQR3: 7. PQR4, NQB3: 8. QK2, (This position has been checked and re-checked, studied and re-studied in this match. Petrosyan has

twice played 9. PxB. He no this time he a 9. RQ1, BK2: a played 11. BK Knight. The White shortly 11...NN5: 12 ition textbook which leads to a breakthrough elopments.) 1 careful, beca would be bad t dynamite-packe 17. NxB, (This he continue? or 18. QQ3 as over his reply 18. QQ2, PxB: up a pawn but on the board.) move. A stron 22. QQN4, KRQ the advantage swiftly lead t because there 23...RON3.) (This is setti

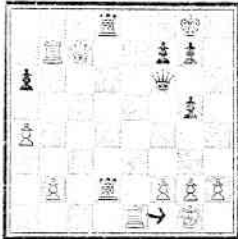


PKN4: 40. KKN (The game was following day

THE ELEVENTH G DEFENCE: Petro Bondarevski in

1. PQR4, PQR4: NB3: 6. BPxB, opportunity to

twice played 8... ,BK2, only to land in a worse position after 9. PXP. He now returns to the move made in game number 2. True, this time he also fails to recover full equality!) 8... ,PxP: 9. RQ1, BK2: 10. PXP, O-O: 11. NQB3, (In game number 2 Botvinnik played 11. BKN5, holding back with the advance of his Queen's Knight. The immediate advance of the Knight now to QB3 enables White shortly to make a vital breakthrough in the middle.) 11... ,NQN5: 12. BKN5, BQ2: (In this well known theoretical position textbooks recommend the player to continue with 13. NK5, BQB3, which leads to a complicated battle. Botvinnik goes through with a breakthrough manoeuvre in the centre which leads to lively developments.) 13. PQ5!, PXP: 14. NXP, NxN: (Black should be extra careful, because one wrong move will spell immediate disaster. It would be bad to continue 14... ,N(KB)xN: 15. BxB, NxB: 16. NK, giving dynamite-packed initiative to White.) 15. QBxN, NxB: 16. RxN, BxB: 17. NxB, (This is a most dangerous position for Black. How should he continue? There are threats both in the simple moves of 18. QQ2 or 18. QQ3 as in 18. QKR5. Petrosyan spent a long time pondering over his reply and found the only correct solution.) 17... ,PKR3!: 18. QQ2, PxN: 19. RxB, QKB3! (An excellent choice! Black gives up a pawn but gains control over the central line and key positions on the board.) 20. RxP(QN), QRQ1: 21. QQR5, (This is a faulty move. A stronger move would be an immediate 21. QQN4.) 21... ,RQ3: 22. QQN4, KRQ1: 23. RKB1, (Botvinnik is trying hard to press home the advantage of his extra pawn. An immediate 23. RQN8 would swiftly lead to a drawn game after 23... ,RxR. 24. QxRch, KR2: because there is no defence against the threats of 23... ,RQ7, or 23... ,RON3.) 23... ,RQ5: 24. QQN3, RQ6: 25. QQB2, RQ7: 26. QQB7, (This is setting a cunning trap.) "See Diagram."



26... ,QKB5! (A reply invited here is a combinational 26... ,RxP(KB), and in the event of 27. RxR, the reply would be RQ8ch and checkmate. But to this Botvinnik could make a stronger reply with 27. QxRch, QxQ: 28. RxR. In such a position of course, two Rooks would be stronger than the Black Queen.) 27. QxQ, PxQ: 28. PKR4!, RQB1!: (Petrosyan injects the utmost vigour into his Bishops, which gives him a chance of swiftly achieving a draw, in spite of the loss of a second pawn.) 29. RQN4, PKB6!: 30. PXP, R(QB1)QB7: 31. PQN3, RQN7: 32. KN2, RQ6: 33. RQN8ch, KR2: 34. RN7, PB3: (White now gains nothing at all from the extra pawn, and Petrosyan goes on to achieve a draw.) 35. RK1, R(Q6)xNP: 36. RxR, RxR: 37. RK6, RQN5: 38. RxP(QR), RxP(KR): 39. KKN3, PKN4: 40. KKN2, KKN3: 41. RQR8, RKB5: 42. PQR5, RQR5: 43. PQR6, (The game was adjourned at this point and declared a draw the following day without resumption of play.)

THE ELEVENTH GAME: APRIL 17 - 18: QUEEN'S GAMBIT - TARRASCH  
 DEFENCE: Petrosyan - White: Botvinnik - Black: Notes by I. Bondarevski in "Shakmaty."

1. PQB4, PQB4: 2. NKB3, NKB3: 3. NB3, PK3: 4. PK3, PQ4: 5. PQ4, NB3: 6. BPXP, (In the notes to ten games we have already had an opportunity to give a general characteristic of a position with an

isolated central pawn. The differences of opinions on such positions - practical and theoretical - continue already several score of years. Tarrasch considered the isolated pawn in the centre advantageous to Black because he thought that the positive factors, i.e. more free play and excellent development, outweigh the negative ones. However not all grandmasters have thought so. For instance, Rubinstein held the opposite point of view and gladly fought against the isolated pawn. Also in the match Botvinnik - Petrosyan we notice different approaches to similar positions.)

6...KPxP: (Black could have recaptured with the Knight, but he shows clearly that the isolated pawn suits him well. By the way, 6...NxQP appears in textbooks on openings as a move in the "improved" Tarrasch Defence. This name - in my opinion - arose through a misunderstanding because the capture with the Knight does not improve but liquidates the principal idea of Tarrasch's Defence)

7. BN5, (White wants to capture the QBP only after Black will move the KB in order to win a tempo in this way. Petrosyan apparently thought that the Bishop at QN5 gives more chances than BK2. If for instance Black attempts to obtain the two Bishops by 7...PQR3, White could meet the opponent's aim by 8. BxNch, PxB: 9. O-O, and obtain superior development. However the world champion continues with planned mobilisation of forces. As we will see, White extracts nothing from the position of the Bishop at QN5 and finally brings it back to K2. The question arises whether it was not better to play it immediately to K2? If then 7...BQ3 then 8.QPxRP and in comparison with what actually happened White could have gained an additional tempo. One should not worry about 7...PB5 because of 8. NK5 with an excellent game.) 7...BQ3: 8. PXP, BxBP: 9. O-O, O-O: 10. PQN3, (White must bring into play the "mute" on QB1. One can try PQR3 with PQN4 to follow, but this weakens QB4. Apart from this the pawn on QN4 could become the object of an attack e.g., 10. PQR3, BN3: 11. PQN4, PQR4 etc.) 10...BK3: (After 10...BKN5; 11. BK2, Black would have difficulties in finding a good square for the Queen because his pawn at Q4 would require protection.) 11. BN2, QK2: 12. NK2, (As is known, a serious disadvantage of the isolated pawn is not so much its own weakness as the weakness of the square in front of it. Here Black's Q5 can not be controlled by his pawn. For this reason White attempts to occupy it by a N. Now 12...BKN5 is bad because of 13. BxKN and 14. QxP). 12...QRB1: 13. PQR3, (It was possible to play N(K2)Q4 because 13...BQR6 was harmless.) 13...KRQ1: 14. N(K2)Q4, BKN5: 15. BK2, NK5: (Both sides chances are approximately even. Black has good play for his pieces and the weakness of the QP is not yet felt. In addition White is behind in development of the major pieces. He controls however, permanently his Q4 and in case of simplification can count upon a comfortable end game.) 16. QQ3, (Since exchanges are to White's advantage it would seem that 16. NxN, PxB: 17. NQ4, was worth considering. If after 16. NxN, Black plays RxN, then 17. NQ4 and it is not possible to play 17...BxB because of 18.NxR, and if 17...BxN then 18. QxB threatening mate, and the Bishop on Black KN5 is also under attack. It would therefore look as if the backward pawn, instead of the isolated, coming about after 16. NxN, PxB: 17. NQ4, should be satisfying here from White's point of view. This is however only the first impression:- Black continues 17...BxB and if 18. NxB, then 18...PQR4. On 18. QxB good is 18...BxN: 19. BxB, PQB4: 20. BN2, PQR4: and on 19. PxB,

White has the " " does not hurry to 16...BQ3 (It was side playing 16. are well defended be 18...RN3 bec White replies PN ition his Rooks 17. KRB1 as neit threatening mate 18. NxN, QxN: and wing. If instead and 19. PxB is b 19...BxN: 20. B scope of Black's Petrosyan likes 18. QQ2. After 20. QB3, N(3)Q5. 19...NK5: 20. Q of the major pie e.g. 19. BxN, QK 23. QxNP, PKR4: if 19. NxN, then was 19...NxN: 20. 20. NxN, BxB: 21. position is the b to say why White good is 21. NR4. must recapture wi unpleasant threat tries to destroy about 22...BxN( and the weakness 22...BxN(Q5): 23 BxB: 24. QxB, QNxN should not think before but tries 22...PxB: 23. P gave Black a good positional threat and finally it f in his turn finda prepares QR4 in 25. QRQ1, PB3: 26 26...BxB: 27. R could follow) 28. 28...QR4: 29. P 26...QR4: (26... 28. NxN!: QxKPch: 32. RK2,) 27. Because Black cou BxB: 30. R(1)xB, probably continue position would be NK5: 30. RxR, BxB 31. NQ4, or 28...



White has the "bad Bishop." Taking all this into account, White does not hurry to force events but intends to play 17. KRB1.) 16...BQ3 (It was possible to try to transfer the Rook to the King side playing 16...RQ3, however, White's pawns on the K. side are well defended. After 17. PQN4, BN3: 18. QRB1, no good would be 18...RN3 because of 19. NxN, PxN: 20. NK5, and if 18...RR3 White replies PN3, and Black having no real threats, and in addition his Rooks are disjointed.) 17. PN3, (Interesting is 17. KRB1 as neither 17...BxKN: 18. NxB, nor 17...NxN: 18. QxN, threatening mate, is favourable for Black. However, 17...NK4: 18. NxN, QxN: and White is forced to weaken the pawns on the King wing. If instead of 18. NxN, White plays 18. QQ1, then 18...NxNch, and 19. PxN is bad because of 19...QR5 and if 19. NxN, then, 19...BxN: 20. BxB, BxPch follows. Petrosyan decides to limit the scope of Black's KB.) 17...NB4: 18. QN1, (This move shows that Petrosyan likes his position. Otherwise he would have played 18. QQ2. After 18...BxN bad would be 19. NxB because of 19...NxNP: 20. QB3, N(3)Q5. However, White can also play 19. BxB but then 19...NK5: 20. QQ1, RK1 and White has difficulties in mobilisation of the major pieces.) 18...NK5: (18...NxN deserved consideration. e.g. 19. BxN, QK5: 20. QQ1, NxNP: 21. QxN, BxN: 22. BxB, QxB: 23. QxNP, PKR4: with an entirely satisfactory position for Black. if 19. NxN, then 19...BxB: 20. NxB, NxNP.) 19. QQ3, (The threat was 19...NxN: 20. BxN, BxN: and 21...NQ7. After 19. RQ1, NxN: 20. NxN, BxB: 21. NxB, BK4: and then after 22...QB3 Black's position is the better one.) 19...NB4: 20. QQ1, (It is difficult to say why White has not played 20. QN1.) 20...NK3: (On 20...NK5 good is 21. NR4. If however now 21. NR4, then 21...BxB, White must recapture with the Knight after which 22...NKN4 with the unpleasant threat of 23...QK5 follows.) 21. RK1, BQB4: (Black tries to destroy White's support in the centre. He must worry about 22...BxN(Q5): 23. NxB, BxB: 24. RxB, QNxN: 25. BxN, NKN4: and the weakness of White's KB3 and KR3 makes itself felt. Or 22...BxN(Q5): 23. BxB, BxN: 24. BxB, NxB: Or 22...BxN(Q5): 23. NxB, BxB: 24. QxB, QNxN: and Black stands better.) 22. NxN(B), (One should not think that White gives up his Q4. He controls it as before but tries after due preparation to occupy it with a piece.) 22...PxN: 23. PN4, BN3: 24. QR4, (24. NQ4, BxB: 25. QxB, PQR4, gave Black a good game. The text move prevents PQR4, creates the positional threat of 25. PQN5, BxN(B6): 26. BxB, PQB4: 27. QRQ1, and finally it frees the square Q1 for the QR.) 24...QK1: (Black in his turn finds an excellent possibility. He prevents PQN5 and prepares QR4 in order to "press" upon the weak squares KR6 and KB6.) 25. QRQ1, PB3: 26. RQ2, /If 26. NQ4, Black gets an attack, e.g. 26...BxB: 27. RxB, NKN4: (if 27...QR4: then 28. NxN, QxR: 29. NxR could follow) 28. QB2 (28...BxNQ5: 29. BxB, QK5 was threatened) 28...QR4: 29. PKR4, BxN(Q5): 30. BxB, NB6ch.: and 31...QKN5 26...QR4: (26...BxKP wouldn't work in view of 27. PxB, NKN4: 28. NxN!, QxKPch: 29. KB1!, PxN: 30. BxB, RBich: 31. KN2, QxRch: 32. RK2,) 27. QQ1, PQB4: 28. NQ4, /He should continue 28. PxBP, because Black couldn't win the exchange by 28...BR4: e.g. 29. NQ4!, BxB: 30. R(1)xB, BxR: 31. NxN, RK1: 32. NB4. Botvinnik would probably continue 28...NxBP or 28...BxBP. However White's position would be preferable in both cases e.g. 28...NxBP: 29. RB2, NK5: 30. RxB, BxR: (if 30...RxB then 31. NK5!, BxB: 32. QxQPch.) 31. NQ4, or 28...BxBP: 29. NQ4, BxB: 30. QxB, QxQ: 31. RxQ, NxN:

32. BxN 28... BxB: 29. QxB, QxQ: 30. NxQ, NN4: (If 30... PXP: 31. PXP, PQR4. Then 32. BR3.) 31. KN2, NK5: 32. R(2)Q1, /If 32. RB2, then 32... PXP: 33. RxB, RxB: 34. PXP, RB7: 35. BR1, (BQ4 loses a pawn after 35... BxB: 36. PxB, RN7) 35... PQR4 32... PXP: 33. PXP. RB7: (If 33... RB5: 34. BR3, RB7: 35. RQB1, R(1)QB1 and White would be completely cramped. It was, therefore, better to give the pawn immediately obtaining counterplay by 34. NKB4, RKNP: 35. RK2, e.g. 35... RN4: 36. PB3, NN4: 37. BQ4. In this case a drawing outcome would be most probable.) 34. BQ4, BxB: 35. RxB, RN7: 36. PR4, RQB1: 37. RXP, RB7: 38. KB3, /On 38. RQ4 Black would play 38... PKB4. When one has only counted seconds left on his clock he chooses a continuation not requiring calculation. Interesting would be 38. RQ8ch, KB2: 39. RQ7 ch, KN3: (or 39... KK3: 40. RXP, RKN: 41. RxB, RxB: 42. KB3, NB6: 43. RB7, NQ4: 44. RKNP, 40. RXP, RKN: 41. RxB, RxB: 42. KB3, NB6: 43. RB7, NQ4 (If 43... RB7 then 44. PQN5) 44. RQ7, NB6: 45. RB7, drawn / NQ7ch, 39. KN2, (39. KB4 was also possible) 39... NK5, 40. KB3, NQ7ch: 41. KN2, NB5. The sealed move. A draw was agreed without resuming play. After 42. RB5, PQR4: (If 42... RKNP then 43. RB8ch, KB2: 44. RB7ch, and the Black King has no good square to go to. 43. KR3 and there is no sense in PXP because of 44. NQ4)

THE TWELFTH GAME: APRIL 20-21: QUEEN'S GAMBIT - SLAV DEFENCE: Botvinnik - White: Petrosyan - Black: Notes by International Master P. Romanovski in "Shakhmati."

1. PQ4, PQ4: 2. PQB4, PK3: 3. NQB3, BK2: 4. PXP, PXP: 5. BKB4, (This opening variation is analysed in the 14th game. Now 5. QN3 was worthy of consideration because it would not be possible any longer to refrain from 5... NKB3 as 5... PQB3 would be answered by 6. PK4, PXP: 7. BQB4!, and if 5... NKB3: 6. BKN5, PB3: 7. PK3, and difficulties arise for Black in developing of the Q-wing e.g. 7... QN3: 8. QB2) 5... PQB3: 6. PK3, BKB4: 7. PKN4, (Exchange of Bishops after 7. BQ3, BxB: 8. QxB, NB3: does not satisfy Botvinnik and he decides to resort to sharp methods, but now White's K-side is weakened.) 7... BK3: (No good is 7... BN3 because of 8. NKB3 with the threat of PKR4. This position occurred also in the 14th game where White played PKR3 apparently considering to reply to 8... NQ2 with 9. NKB3, and if 9... PKR4 then 10. PN5) 8. BQ3, NQ2: 9. PKR3, PKR4: 10. PXP, QNB3: 11. PR6, NXP: 12. QB2, NR4: 13. BK5, (13. KNK2 was also possible.) 13... PB3: 14. BR2, BQ3: 15. BN6ch, (As it will soon become clear, White's initiative brings no real gains. As Black's Knights are in the meantime "outside the line" White should have thought of 15. BxB, QxB: 16. 0-0-0, and KN1 and NQR4 to follow. The KN could have been transferred to the Q-wing via N1, -K2, -B1, -N3) 15... BB2: 16. NB3, BxB: 17. QxBch, NB2: 18. NKR4, (And also now he should have continued 0-0-0 with play on the Q-side to follow.) 18... BxB: 19. RxB, QB2: 20. NB3, (Necessary on account of the threat 20... NKB5 which could have been played after, for instance, 20. RR1,) 20... 0-0-0: 21. QN4ch, KN1: 22. PKR4 NQ3: 23. 0-0-0, PKB4: (In order to bring the Knight into play and free the Rook from the protection of it, Black agrees to a weakening of his K4. It seems to me that more prospects were in 23... QRK1 threatening 24... NQB5 and if 25. PN3, then 25... QR4: 26. KB2, RXP) 24. QN1, PKB5: 25. NK5, NKB2: 26. NN6, KRK1: 27. RR3, PXP: 28. PXP,

NB3: (At last the in obtaining dan 29. RB1, PR3! (E clear that the B tures the initiat RKN: 32. KN1, NQB 36. RB1, (Instea time a more const 37. RKN8, KRN8 a probable draw.) not want to risk. 36... R/2xN: 37. P to hold the pawn attacking positio PKN: 38. RB5, (c RN5 to follow, Wh by PQN3, but Blac 39. R(B5)B3, (It 39... QK1 then 40 is over. After ition.) 39... PB 41. KR1, PB6: 42. After 40... PXP B 41. PXP, QXP: (A to fear. Now a d continued the att White would reply 45. QKN3, pointed and the chances a 43. RKN2, QQ6ch: QxQ: 43. R(Q1)xQ, 46. KN1, KN3: 47. now on the board. 49. KB2, RR6: 50. Drawn.

THE THIRTEENTH GAM Petrosyan - White in "Shakhmati."

1. PQ4, NKB3: 2. E the first game Pet 4. PKN3, BN2: 5. E the sharp 5... PQ who won with it ag after 6. PQ5, PXP: complicated play, bu 7... PQ4: 8. NK5, BxN: 9. PQ5, (In 10. NK1, BxB: 11. further simplifica the QB4 square, w 15. RQ1, QK1: 16. QxB: 20. NB4, PN3: 21. RxB, RxB: 22. 23. RxBch, QxR: 24



NB3: (At last the Knight entered the game. However White succeeds in obtaining dangerous pressure on the open KB and KN files.)  
 29. RB1, PR3! (Played calmly and subtly. It will soon become clear that the Black King needs "a hole") 30. PR5!, (White captures the initiative. PP6 is threatened.) 30...NK5: 31. NxN, RxN: 32. KN1, NQ3: 33. NK5, RK1: 34. RN3, RK2: 35. RB8ch, KR2: 36. RB1, (Instead of this waiting move explained by shortage of time a more consistent continuation was possible e.g. 36. PR6, PXP: 37. RKN8, KRN8 : 38. PXR, NQB5: 39. QK1, QR4: 40. QxQ, NxQ: with R/2xN a probable draw.) 36...NB5 (Also Black being short of time does not want to risk. He should have sacrificed the exchange:- 36..R/2xN: 37. PXR, NB5: 38. RKN2, QxKP: as White would not be able to hold the pawn at K3, material equality plus a threatening and attacking position gave Black all chances for victory.) 37. NxN, Pxn: 38. RB5, (continuing 38. RQB1, PQN4: 39. RQB3! and PQR4 or RN5 to follow, White could have prepared the undermining measure by PQN3, but Black had a good refutation by 38...QR4.) 38...QQ2: 39. R(B5)B3, (It was possible to defend by 39. QKB2 and if 39...QK1 then 40.R/5N5, RxKP: 41. RxR, RxR: 42. RK5! and the worst is over. After the text move White gets into a difficult position.) 39...FB4! (Hopeless is now 40. PxBP because of 40...QQ6ch: 41. KR1, PB6: 42. FN3, PB7: 43. KN2, QQ8: and the struggle ends. After 40...PXP Black creates dangerous threats.) 40. RB1, PXP: 41. PXP, QxP: (After 41...RxQP: 42. RQ1 or RKB4 White has nothing to fear. Now a drawn ending is brought about. Black could have continued the attack by 41...RK7 or 41...QN4. In the first case White would reply 42. PQ5ch, PN3: 43. RKN2!, PB6: 44. RxR, RxR: 45. QKN3, pointed out by Flohr, and if 45...RxQNPch then 46. KB1 and the chances are already White's. If 41...QN4: 42. RxKNP, PB6: 43.RKN2 , QQ6ch: 44. PF2, and White defends successfully.) 42.RQ1, QxQ: 43. R(Q1)xQ, R(K2)K4: 44. RN5, RK8ch: 45. KB2, R(K8)K7ch: 46. KN1, KN3: 47. RxR, RxR: 48. RxP, RxP: (A theoretical draw is now on the board. A peace treaty followed after the next few moves.) 49. KB2, RR6: 50. PN3, RR7ch: 51. KB3, RxP: 52. KxP, RB7ch: 53. KN4, Drawn.

THE THIRTEENTH GAME: APRIL 22 - 23: QUEEN'S INDIAN DEFENCE:  
 Petrosyan - White: Botvinnik - Black: Notes by P. Romanovski  
 in "Shakmatl."

1. PQ4, NKB3: 2. PQB4, PK3: 3. NKB3, (After the sad experience in the first game Petrosyan avoids the Nimzo-Indian.) 3...PQN3:  
 4. PKN3, BN2: 5. BN2, BK2: (The most quiet move. Thirty years ago the sharp 5...PQB4 was in fashion, a move played by Capablanca, who won with it against Alekhine in the New York 1927 tournament after 6. PQ5, PXP: 7. NR4, PKN3!) 6. O-O, O-O: 7. NB3, NK5: Leads to complicated play, but in the outcome comfortable for White.  
 7...PQ4: 8. NK5, PB3: (Nimzovitch) or 8...QB1 (Saemisch) 7 8. NxN, BxN: 9. PQ5, (In the third game Petrosyan played 9. NK1) 9...BB3:  
 10. NK1, BxB: 11. NxB, PXP: 12. PXP, PB4: 13. PXP e.p. (Leads to further simplification. 13. NK3, in order to occupy with the Knight the QB4 square, was worth consideration.) 13...PXP: 14. QB2, PB4:  
 15. RQ1, QK1: 16. BB4, NB3: 17. BQ6, BK2: 18. PK3, RQ1: 19. BxB, QxB: 20. NB4, PN3: 21. QR4, (More natural was the exchange operation: 21. RxR, RxR: 22. RQ1, NK4: 23. RxRch, QxR: 24. QK4, or 22...NQN5: 23. RxRch, QxR: 24. QN3 with PQR3 to follow.) 21...NK4: 22. RxR,

RxR: 23. RQ1, PB5: 24. PK4, (White decides not to accept the Pawn sacrifice:- 24. RxRch, QxR: 25. QxRP. Incidentally Black has hardly more than a draw after this:- QQ8ch etc.) 24...PQN4: (Now the pawn sacrifice is forced.) 25. RxRch, QxR: 26. QxNP, QQ8ch: 27. KN2, QB6ch: 28. KN1, QQ8ch: 29. KN2, QB6ch: 30. KN1, QxP: 31. QQ5, QxQ: This leads to a peaceful outcome. Apparently shortage of time did not permit Black a more detailed analysis of the position. It is possible that had the score been level at the time - it was  $6\frac{1}{2}$ :  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in Petrosyan's favour - Black would have checked by QQN8. In this case White's threats could be easily parried and Black's passed QBP would be dangerous for White. The following could have occurred, 31...QQN8ch: 32. KN2, QxNP: 33. QR8ch (The counterattack 33. QQ8ch, KN2: 34. QK7, threatening mate, would be repelled by 34...PKR3.) 33...KN2: 34. QxRP, PKR3! (It was pointed out that 34...QN4 should be played, but after 35. QB7, threatening PQR4 it can not be seen how Black could strengthen the position.) 35. QB5, NQ6: 36. NxN, (Of course not 36. QxBP because 36...QxBPch and Black wins.) 36...PxN: 37. QQ6, PQ7: 38. PQR4, Can Black win this? White's method of defence is as follows:- In the moment when Black plays QB7 or QB8, in order to Queen the pawn, White replies QQ4ch and after Black's KR2 plays QQ7. This manoeuvre is also possible when the Black pawn is at KR4. At the same time, at every opportunity White will push the QRP. We will point out that there was no possibility to see all these variations over the board. (Time trouble - Editor) 32. NxQ, NQ6: 33. PQN4, PxP e.p.: 34. PxP, PB4: 35. PQN4, KB2: 36. PN5, NK4: (Only so. 36...NB4: 37. NQN4, would lead to exchange of pawns in view of the threat 38. NB6.) 37. PN6, PQR4: 38. KB1, KK3: 39. PN7, NB3: 40. NB7ch, (Simpler was 40. NN6, KQ3: 41. PN8queen, NxQ: 42. NB4ch, KQ4: 43. NxRP, with an obvious draw.) 40...KQ3: 41. NR6, PR5: 42. KK2, (42. PN8queen ch, NxQ: 43. NxN, PR5 led to a loss for White.) 42...PR6: 43. NN4, (The saving manoeuvre) 43...NN1: 44. KQ3, KB2: 45. KB2, KxP: 46. KN3, KN3: 47. KxP, KB4: 48. KN3, KQ5: 49. KB2, KK5: 50. KQ2, KB6: 51. EK1, KN7: 52. PR4, KB6: 53. NQ3, NQ2: 54. KB1, Drawn.

THE FOURTEENTH GAME: APRIL 24 - 25: QUEEN'S GAMBIT: White - Botvinnik: Black - Petrosyan: Notes by Kotov in "Soviet Weekly."

#### WORLD CHAMPION LEVELS SCORE

"It'll be another draw!" correspondents told one another in the press bureau of the world chess title match after the first 20 moves had been made in the 14th game.

They had grown tired of reporting draw after draw. It looked as if the 14th game was going to be the seventh draw in a row - but the chess reporters were wrong.

Petrosyan, the challenger, had a point lead, and theoretically, he only needed to achieve draws in the remaining matches to take the world crown. But how could he do it in practice?

Seventeen drawn games in succession is something unheard of in world chess history. Still, after half a dozen consecutive drawn games, some people began talking seriously about the possibility.

In any event, Petrosyan adopted temporising tactics. Taking no risks, and simplifying play whenever possible. That, perhaps, was what proved his undoing.

In the previous few games, Botvinnik had usually gained a small

advantage, and manage to escape. And so at the opening again surrender. Botvinnik didn't take an offensive operation. This time Petro Botvinnik's hand. The game was seeking salvation. verge of escape. The challenger levelled at seven. The question was decided in the traditionally keen grandmasters of

1. PQ4, PQ4: 2. 6. PK3, BK4: 7. in game twelve, thrust and find champion repeat different trail. Petrosyan's reply is also unfortunate advantage. is a highly interesting quite comfortable. 13. KNxP, NxN: Botvinnik drops of drawn-out man neutralise his 16. PKB3, RQB1: game, otherwise prospects of an BxB: 19. RxB, P 23. BxN, RxB: 28 grown convinced soon become clear erations by his er than the ene PQN3: 28. NQN2, 32. QK3, BB2: 33 weakening the B Black Bishop's m occupy squares c for the latter t side.) 33...BB 37. QxN5, QxQ: Black would pres Bishop back to B 39. PxP, RQB5: 4 at this point.

advantage, and the question was actually whether Petrosyan could manage to escape defeat.

And so at last he paid the penalty for his wait and see tactics.

The opening moves in game fourteen showed that Petrosyan was again surrendering the initiative to his opponent. True, Botvinnik didn't try anything risky and didn't hurry with his offensive operations, yet he managed to maintain a better position. This time Petrosyan's efforts to simplify the game only played into Botvinnik's hands.

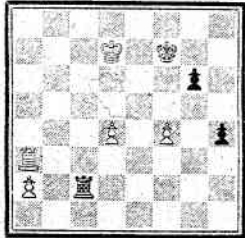
The game was adjourned. The next day Petrosyan spent two hours seeking salvation from a most difficult position. He was on the verge of escape when a very bad mistake led to his downfall.

The challenger resigned a move later, and the match score was levelled at seven all.

The question as to who will wear the world chess crown will now be decided in the last ten games. We can look forward to exceptionally keen competition between two of the most outstanding grandmasters of our time....

1. PQ4, PQ4: 2. PQB4, PK3: 3. NQB3, BK2: 4. PxP, PxP: 5. BKB4, PQB3: 6. PK3, BKB4: 7. PKN4,... (Botvinnik employed this original move in game twelve, with Petrosyan soon responding to this with a PKR4 thrust and finding himself in an unenviable position. The world champion repeats this move gladly, but the aspirant follows a different trail.) 7...BK3: 8. PKR3, NKB3: (In the 12th game Petrosyan's reply here was 8...PKR4. The move he has just made is also unfortunate, because Botvinnik shortly acquires a noticeable advantage.) 9. BQ3, PQB4: 10. NKB3, NQB3: 11. KKB1,... (This is a highly interesting decision. The White King moves over to quite comfortable quarters on KN2.) 11...0-0: 12. KKN2, PxP: 13. KNxP, NxN: 14. PxN, NQ2: 15. QQB2,... (By this principled move Botvinnik drops the idea of attacking on the King's side in favour of drawn-out manoeuvres. This gives Petrosyan a chance to neutralise his opponent's onslaught to some extent.) 15...NKB3: 16. PKB3, RQB1: 17. BK5,... (Petrosyan continues to play a cautious game, otherwise Botvinnik's reply here could be 17. PKR4 with good prospects of an offensive on the King's side.) 17....BQ3: 18. QRK1, BxB: 19. RxB, PKN3: 20. QKB2, NQ2: 21. RK2, NQN3: 22. KKK1, NQB5: 23. BxN, RxB: 24. RQ2, RK1: 25. RK3,... (The observer has already grown convinced that Botvinnik is taking his time. His intentions soon become clear. He wants to take advantage of vigorous operations by his Knight, which in this static position is far stronger than the enemy Bishop.) 25...PQR3: 26. PQN3, RQB3: 27. NQR4, PQN3: 28. NQN2, PQR4: 29. NQ3, PKB3: 30. PKR4, BB2: 31. RxRch, BxR: 32. QK3, BB2: 33. PKN5,... (Botvinnik follows the same plan of weakening the Black squares in enemy territory and cramping the Black Bishop's movements. It is commonly known that when pawns occupy squares of the colour of this Bishop, they make it difficult for the latter to contribute energetically to the effort of his side.) 33...BK3: 34. NKB4, BKB2: 35. NQ3, BK3: 36. PxP, QxP: 37. QKN5, QxQ: (The Queen exchange has come a bit too early. Black would preserve better chances for defence by bringing his Bishop back to KB2 or replying with 37...KKN2.) 38. PxQ, PQR5: 39. PxP, RQB5: 40. PQR5, PxP: 41. NQB5,... (The game was adjourned at this point. The grandmasters in Moscow argued for a long time

as to how it would end. Botvinnik's advantage was unquestionable, but Black had many possibilities of defending himself.) 41...BKB4: 42. KKN3,... (The King sets out on a long expedition. How can he be prevented from advancing to K5? Petrosyan has reviewed many ways, but none of them satisfy him. For instance, there is this continuation: 42...PKR3: 43. PXP, PKN4: 44. RK2, RXP: 45. RK5, BQNB: 46. NK6, with a strong attack for White. And another continuation could be 42...KKN2: 43. KKB4, PKR3: 44. PXPch, KKB3: 45. RQN2, the White again attacking and making things unpleasant for Black. Petrosyan finally makes up his mind to go over to a Rook ending calling for the surrender of one of his pawns.) 42...PQR5: 43. KKB4, PQR6: 44. KK5, RQN5: 45. NQ3,... (There was the threat of 45...RQN7. It would be bad to play 45. NQN3 because of 45...RXP: 46. PXR, BQN8!) 45...RQN4: 46. KQ6, KKB2: 47. KQB6, BxN: 48. RxB, RQN7: 49. RXP, RKN7! (The Black Rook's vigorous moves lends hope to Petrosyan in extricating himself from a ticklish situation.) 50. KXP, RXPch: 51. KQB6, PKR4: 52. PQ5, RKN7: 53. PQ6, RQB7ch: 54. KQ7, PKR5: 55. PKB4, "See Diagram".



55...RKB7? (This mistake costs Petrosyan the game, and, possibly the world crown. Following 55...PKN4: 56. PXP, KKN3, Black would have every reason to count on a drawn game. But the move he has just made leads to his swift surrender.) 56. KQB8!, RXP: 57. RQR7ch! Black resigns. (In the event of 57...KK3, the decisive continuation would be: 58. PQ5, RQB5ch: 59. RQB7.)

THE FIFTEENTH GAME: APRIL 29 - 30: GRUENFELD DEFENCE: White - Petrosyan: Black - Botvinnik: Notes by Kotov in "Soviet Weekly."

#### PETROSYAN REGAINS THE LEAD

The two-months' long world chess title match certainly calls for titanic effort and endurance and the ability to distribute properly one's strength throughout the entire period of the competition.

Tigran Petrosyan, the challenger, suffered a setback in the very first game, but found the strength and determination to deliver a retaliatory blow. Mikhail Botvinnik, defending his title, stayed in front for the first four rounds, only to see his lead wiped out in the fifth, and his rival forge ahead in the seventh.

Then came half-a-dozen drawn games, followed by a victory by Botvinnik which levelled the score again at the end of 14 rounds.

This gave Botvinnik's supporters a chance to rejoice. If the remaining games ended in draw, Botvinnik would retain his title.

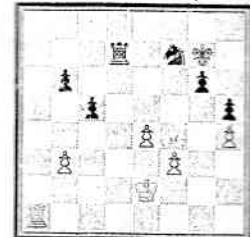
This joy, however, was short-lived; Petrosyan turned in a brilliant performance in the 15th round, to regain the lead.

After the 17th round, two thirds of the way through, the score stands as follows: Petrosyan 9 points, Botvinnik 8.

Even a slight error on the remaining seven games may cost Botvinnik his crown. Who will win? Even at this stage it remained

very hard to answer. Many hoped Botvinnik would win safely. He is, a deciding games. difficult contest. Meanwhile let

1. PQ4, NKB3: 2. BK2: 6. PK4, O-O: system of develop Skyslov, where BK prospects.) 8. N 12. QR3,... (Petr in the opening st operations linked NQ5: 14. O-O-O!.. Knight is exchange pawn offensive al 15. PxN, NN3: 16. (Having started o suddenly changes quite promising t A more vigorous m at once creating 17...PXP could b cracking at all t KR2: 22. NN5, RB2 (Petrosyan has ac whole board: he advantage now bec awake here to avo BKN1: 28. KB2, PN 32. PR4, NB2: 33. defence, Botvinni replying with 34. fully against ene vigorous action.) move is that with exchange of the f because his Bisho 36...RXPch: 37. is displaying gre the circumstances his Rook will soo PXP: 41. RQR1, KN

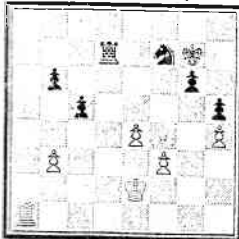


very hard to answer that question.

Many hoped Botvinnik's great experience would see him through safely. He is, after all, famous for his tenacity and skill in deciding games. He has indeed, withstood the strain of exceedingly difficult contests, but his age, 52, may tell.

Meanwhile let us analyse game No. 15.

1. P<sub>Q4</sub>, N<sub>KB3</sub>: 2. P<sub>QB4</sub>, P<sub>KN3</sub>: 3. N<sub>QB3</sub>, P<sub>Q4</sub>: 4. Q<sub>Q3</sub>, P<sub>xP</sub>: 5. Q<sub>xBP</sub>, B<sub>N2</sub>: 6. P<sub>K4</sub>, O-O: 7. B<sub>K2</sub>, N<sub>B3</sub>: (The world champion selects a system of development elaborated by Moscow Grandmaster Vasily Smyslov, where Black's position isn't easy but holds out good prospects.) 8. N<sub>B3</sub>, N<sub>Q2</sub>: 9. B<sub>K3</sub>, N<sub>N3</sub>: 10. Q<sub>B5</sub>, B<sub>N5</sub>: 11. P<sub>Q5</sub>, N<sub>Q2</sub>: 12. Q<sub>R3</sub>,... (Petrosyan has gained a noticeable positional advantage in the opening stage. Botvinnik's job now is to conduct undermining operations linked with moves of P<sub>K3</sub> or P<sub>QB3</sub>.) 12... B<sub>xKN</sub>: 13. B<sub>xB</sub>, N<sub>Q5</sub>: 14. O-O-O!,... (This is a bold decision. After the Black Knight is exchanged on Q<sub>4</sub>, White will have the chance to launch a pawn offensive along the open files on the King's side.) 14... N<sub>xB</sub>: 15. P<sub>xN</sub>, N<sub>N3</sub>: 16. Q<sub>N3</sub>, Q<sub>Q2</sub>: 17. P<sub>KR4</sub>, P<sub>KR4</sub>: 18. P<sub>B4</sub>, P<sub>K3</sub>: 19. P<sub>xP</sub>,... (Having started offensive operations on the King's side, Petrosyan suddenly changes his mind. He is attracted by an ending looking quite promising to him; Botvinnik manages to put up good resistance. A more vigorous move for White, therefore, would have been 12. K<sub>RN1</sub>! at once creating sharp play on the King's side. The reply to 17... P<sub>xP</sub> could be 18. P<sub>KB5</sub>! with Black's position on the King side cracking at all the seams.) 19... Q<sub>xP</sub>: 20. Q<sub>xQ</sub>, P<sub>xQ</sub>: 21. K<sub>RN1</sub>, K<sub>R2</sub>: 22. N<sub>N5</sub>, R<sub>B2</sub>: 23. N<sub>Q4</sub>, R<sub>K1</sub>: 24. N<sub>B3</sub>, B<sub>R3</sub>: 25. N<sub>N5ch</sub>!,.... (Petrosyan has achieved his aim, on moving his Knight across the whole board: he exchanges it for Black's vital Bishop. White's advantage now becomes more noticeable. Botvinnik has to keep wide awake here to avoid defeat.) 25... B<sub>xN</sub>: 26. R<sub>xB</sub>, N<sub>B5</sub>: 27. Q<sub>RN1</sub>, R<sub>KN1</sub>: 28. K<sub>B2</sub>, P<sub>N3</sub>: 29. P<sub>N3</sub>, N<sub>Q3</sub>: 30. P<sub>B3</sub>, R<sub>Q2</sub>: 31. R<sub>(N5)N2</sub>, R<sub>(Q2)Q1</sub>: 32. P<sub>PR4</sub>, N<sub>B2</sub>: 33. B<sub>B1</sub>, P<sub>K4</sub>: 34. B<sub>K3</sub>, P<sub>xP</sub>? (Having built up a sound defence, Botvinnik unexpectedly commits a gross blunder. By replying with 34... Q<sub>RKB1</sub>! he could have defended himself successfully against enemy thrusts, but now the White pieces swing into vigorous action.) 35. B<sub>xP</sub>, R<sub>Q2</sub>: 36. R<sub>Q2</sub>!... (The idea behind this move is that with the continuation of 36... K<sub>RQ1</sub>. 37. K<sub>RQ1</sub>, the exchange of the four Rooks leaves White with a much better ending, because his Bishop is more active than the opposing Knight.) 36... R<sub>xRch</sub>: 37. K<sub>xR</sub>, R<sub>Q1ch</sub>: 38. K<sub>K2</sub>, P<sub>B4</sub>: 39. P<sub>R5</sub>!,... (Petrosyan is displaying great subtlety in the end game. Taking advantage of the circumstances, he bares a file on the Queen's wing, along which his Rook will soon break into enemy territory.) 39... R<sub>Q2</sub>: 40. P<sub>xP</sub>, P<sub>xP</sub>: 41. R<sub>QR1</sub>, K<sub>N2</sub>: "See Diagram".



(The game was adjourned in this position. When it resumed the next day, Petrosyan cashed in on his advantage.) 42. R<sub>RR6</sub>!, R<sub>N2</sub>: 43. R<sub>RR8</sub>, K<sub>B3</sub>: 44. R<sub>QB8</sub>!, N<sub>K4</sub>: 45. K<sub>K3</sub>!... (Black cannot defend all his weak spots and soon loses a pawn.) 45... N<sub>Q2</sub>: 46. R<sub>B6ch</sub>, K<sub>B2</sub>: 47. P<sub>K5</sub>, N<sub>B1</sub>: 48. R<sub>B6ch</sub>, (White strikes with a mailed fist through the middle. In the event of the exchange of the Knight for the Bishop, the Rook ending is absolutely hopeless for Black, because of the extreme inertia of his forces.) 48... K<sub>N2</sub>: 49. K<sub>K4</sub>, P<sub>QN4</sub>:



50. RB6, KB2: (Botvinnik's last hope is on this pawn sacrifice making his remaining pieces more active. Petrosyan however, is all attention and clips even this chance.) 51. RxP, NK3: 52. RQ5, KK2: 53. BK3!... (This is done to clear the way for the decisive advance of the KB pawn.) 53...RN1: 54. RQ6, PN5: 55. RR6, RN4: 56. RR7ch, KK1: 57. PB4, KB1: 58. PB5!, Black resigns.

THE SIXTEENTH GAME: MAY 1 - 2: QUEEN'S GAMBIT ACCEPTED: White - Botvinnik: Black - Petrosyan: Foreword by Kotov and notes to the game by former world champion Tal in "Soviet Weekly."

#### PETROSYAN FORGES AHEAD

After the neck and neck struggle that went on for so much of the match, the challenger Tigran Petrosyan now seems to be almost beyond defeat.

As we go to press, nineteen games have been completed and Petrosyan is three points in the lead. With a score of eleven points to Botvinnik's eight, he needs only one win and one draw, or three draws in the remaining maximum of five games.

To retain his title, however, Botvinnik must score at least four more points out of a possible five - a virtually impossible task.

Next week we will examine more closely the game in which Petrosyan made his sensational break-through - a game which will long be remembered in chess history. This week, however, we would like to deal with an interesting drawn game in the match, which might otherwise be overlooked.

Here then is an analysis of the sixteenth game. It has been prepared by an ex-world champion, International Grandmaster Mikhail Tal.

1. PQ4, PQ4: 2. PQB4, PxP: (The Queen's Gambit again, after an interval! In previous games White has usually been able to gain some advantage from this opening. Let us see how Petrosyan intends to strengthen his defence.) 3. NKB3, NKB3: 4. PK3, PK3: 5. BxP, PB4: 6. O-O, PQR3: 7. PQR4, NB3: 8. QK2, PxP: (Nothing new so far. This situation has been encountered on many occasions.) 9. RQ1, BK2: 10. PxP, O-O: 11. NB3, NQ4: (It will be remembered that in the tenth game Black adopted a different defence: 11...NQ3. 12. BKN5, BQ2. Then, however, an unexpected 13. PQ5! faced Black with difficult problems. Now the main attention is being devoted to hemming in the Queen's Pawn. However, this pawn has quite a few merits. It is often of help in creating an attack on the Black King, ensuring control of the important K5 square. And it is precisely this plan that the world champion chooses. Now the attack on the King's side gains still more in strength because, with the departure of the Knight from KB3, this section in the Black camp had been weakened.) 12. BQ3, N(QB)Q5: 13. BN1, BQ2: 14. QK4,... (This of course weakens the pawns on the King's side. If Black were now to play 14...NKB3, then after 15. QN4 /Of course not 16. QxNP?, BQB3? with a subsequent BKN4 the move PKN3 will be unavoidable, but in a worse situation. After all, in the event of Black's PKR3, an orthodox, but very advantageous pawn sacrifice (BxP) is possible, and 14...PB4 becomes unnecessary, because of the creation of the hopelessly backward pawn on K3.) 14...PKN3:

15. NKB3, BKB3: (Intensifies the plan to support the pawn. The pawn is freed for the active plan was all. QK5: 20. BR4, Th... waste. Botvinnik... actually carries... Black's King side... Black is trying to... harmless. White... How it is impossi... material gains... can continue 20. B... BR4: 22. PR5!, QK... BR2: 25. BxB, KxB... Intends after the... convenient KN5 at... decides on a very... King's safety com... has noticeably com... reaction to the pr... played its part... would be bad to tr... (Botvinnik is cond... is once more a for



the K2 square, wh... it - but pays fai... directly at the K... counter-play is b... pieces.) 29. BB4... weak Q4 pawn for... agreed to this.) 30....,QK3, after... ing the pawn on Q... pawn make it hard... (He doesn't want... After 33...RxBch... deprived of count... 33...RR7: (For... some help will co... threat.) 34.BN5... Black to get going... 34....,PQ5: 35. BB

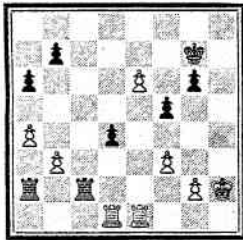
15. NK5, BKB3: (The Bishop moves to N2, to cover weakness. White intensifies the pressure.) 16. QB3!, (The Queen hastens to KN3 to support the pawn's offensive on the KR line. At the same time B4 is freed for the Knight.) 16...BN2: 17. QN3,... (An alternative plan was also possible. 17. NK4, RQB1: 18. BN5, PB3: 19. NxN, QxN: 20. BR4, The choice between these continuations is a matter of taste. Botvinnik, with no deviation to auxiliary versions, systematically carries out his plan, striving still further to weaken Black's King side.) 17...BK1: 18. PR4, NQB3: (With QB7 in mind, Black is trying to give rise to an exchange and render the attack harmless. White, naturally, has other intentions.) 19. NB3,... (Now it is impossible to have 19...QB2: 20. QxQ, NxQ: 21. BB4 with material gains Threat of 22. BQ6. Replying to 19...QN3, White can continue 20. PR5 without fear of 20...NxQP because of 21. NxN, BxN: 22. PR5!, QQR2. 22...QB4. 23. NK4. 23. NQ5, and 24. BR6, BN2: 25. BxB, KxB: 26. RxN, with tremendous superiority. Botvinnik intends after the exchange of KR pawns to shift his Knight to the convenient KN5 attacking position. Obstructing this, Petrosyan decides on a very serious move.) 19...PE3. (Played because the King's safety comes above all. Having prevented the attack, Black has noticeably weakened its position.) 20. NxN!,... (The natural reaction to the previous move. The isolated pawn has already played its part. The Black reply is forced.) 20...PxN. (It would be bad to try 20...QxP: 21. BR2, and 22. PQ5.) 21. PKR5,... (Botvinnik is conducting the fight most consistently. Black's reply is once more a forced one.) 21...NK2. "See Diagram".



22. PxP,... (It seems to me that by this exchange White has somewhat simplified his rival's task. Probably he should have played 22. PR6, BR1: 23. BB4, and Black's men are pushed, and the advance PB4 is very dangerous. Of course, even now White's position is a much pleasanter one, but every exchange helps the defending side. Incidentally, this is a purely personal opinion.) 22...BxP: 23. NR4, BxB: 24. RxB, QQ2: 25. PN3, RB2: 26. QKB3!,... (The commencement of a subtle manoeuvre, giving rise to a further weakening of Black's position. Since his Knight cannot leave

the K2 square, where it defends the KB4 square, Black releases it - but pays fairly high for it.) 26...PB4: 27. QN3!,... (Aiming directly at the K5 square!) 27...NB3: 28. NB3, RK2: (Black's counter-play is based on the maximum activation of the heavy pieces.) 29. BB4, RK5: 30. NK5,... (In an attempt to create a weak Q4 pawn for Black. The challenger should not, it seems, have agreed to this.) 30...NxN. (Preference should have been for 30...Qx3, after which White would have had his worries in defending the pawn on Q4. The strong King's pawn and the weak Queen's pawn make it hard for Black.) 31. PxN, RK1: 32. PB3, RK7: 33. RK1, (He doesn't want to tolerate the presence of the "uninvited guest". After 33...RxxR: 34. RxxR, QB3: 35. QB2, Black would have been deprived of counter-play. Petrosyan takes a justified risk.) 33...RR7: (For the present the Rook is out of play, but perhaps some help will come to it, and then the KN2 square will be under threat.) 34. BN5,... (The threats of 35. BB6 and 36. PK6 compel Black to get going with his counter-attack as quickly as possible.) 34...PQ5: 35. BB6,... (35. PK6, RxxP: 36. RxxR, QxxR: 37. RK1, RK7:

38. RxB, QxR: 39. BKB6, QK6ch.. didn't come off! However, even stronger would have been the immediate move 35. QRQ1 which still prevents the transfer of the Queen to N6. Now it is "merely" a question of an advantageous Rook ending for White.) 35... QKB2: 36. QRQ1, QN3: 37. QxQ, PxQ: 38. BxB, KxB: 39. PK6? (This is a blunder, due to time trouble. After 39. RxB, RQB1: 40. RQ7ch, KR3: 41. KR2, White could defend the KN2 square and, with his extra pawn, could have anticipated success. But what we have now is a draw.) 39... RQB1!, 40. KR2, R(B1)B7: "See Diagram."



(Here the game was adjourned.) 41. RKN1,... (The world champion tries to continue the battle with the sealed move, but is very soon himself compelled to play for a draw. Now Black has some superiority. But a draw is more or less inevitable.) 41... RQ7: 42. R(Q1)K1, KB1: 43. PK7ch, KK1: 44. KN3, PQ6: 45. RK3,... (An unpleasant 45... RK7 is threatened.) 45... R(R7)N7: 46. KB4,... (White wants to release the Rook on N1 at any price.) 46... RxKNP: 47. RQ1, R(QN7)Q7: 48. RxB, RxB: 49. KN5, RQ8: (The game could still be lost! 49... RN2ch: 50. KB6, PK3: 51. RQ3,) 50. KB6,... (It is impossible of course to play 50. KxNP, RN1ch: 51. KB6, PQ7: 52. RQB3, RN6ch, and Black wins.) 50... PB5: 51. RK4, RQB8: 52. RQ4, RB3ch: 53. KN5, RB6: 54. KB6, Drawn.

50. KB6, PK3: 51. RQ3,) 50. KB6,... (It is impossible of course to play 50. KxNP, RN1ch: 51. KB6, PQ7: 52. RQB3, RN6ch, and Black wins.) 50... PB5: 51. RK4, RQB8: 52. RQ4, RB3ch: 53. KN5, RB6: 54. KB6, Drawn.

THE SEVENTEENTH GAME: MAY 6: QUEEN'S INDIAN DEFENCE: White - Petrosyan: Black - Botvinnik: Notes by International Grandmaster, Champion of U.S.S.R. 1962, V. Korchnoi, in "Shakhmat1."

1. PQ4, NKB3: 2. PQB4, PK3: 3. NKB3, PQN3: 4. PK3, BN2: 5. PQR3, (This uncomplicated move more than once brought success to Petrosyan. Neither Smyslov at the 13th U.S.S.R. Championship, nor Keres at the tournament in Zurich, 1961, succeeded in avoiding opening difficulties.) 5... PQ4: (If PB4, 6. NB3 and the threat PQ5, is unpleasant.) 6. PQN4, (A new idea. In the game against Smyslov Petrosyan exchanged pawns. By the text move White tries as quickly as possible to capture space on the Queen-side. In other openings this plan obtained "citizenship" long ago - to mention only the Gruenfeld and Nimzo-Indian defences.) 6... PxB: (Botvinnik hurries to exchange, apparently overestimating the threat PB5 while after 6... QN2: 7. PB5, PQR4 White would hardly succeed in maintaining even a minimum advantage.) 7. BxB, BK2: (7... BQ3 should have been played, freeing K2 for the Queen and preparing PB4 as well as PK4.) 8. QN2, O-O: 9. RQ1,... (Petrosyan tries to prevent the simplifying PB4. Some advantage remaining with White after 9. BN2, PB4: 10. QPxB, PxB: 11. PN5, PQR3: does not satisfy him.) 9... QN2: 10. O-O, RN1: 11. PN5,... (In this way White secures a small positional advantage because of pawn superiority in the centre and the not very well placed Black Knight on Q2. More complicated would be the struggle after 11. BN2 or 11. BK2 with the intention to place the Knight on QB4.) 11... PB4: 12. PxB e.p., BxBP: 13. PQR4, QB2: (The slow plan chosen by Black will in the end lead him to the brink of defeat. Correct was to exchange one of the Knights in order to secure a comfortable position for the other one: e.g. 13... NK5: 14. BN2,

RxB: 15. NxB, QN2: 15. RB1, of creating a in the centre 17. PxB, PxB: the Bishops e. the advantage. KRB1: (Loss of after 19. PK4, This reply cou NR5: 21. BR1, which would gi 24. BxB, RxB: with clear pos (As rightly po NxQP: 25. QK5, KB1:) 24... NK with a very st. QN3: (Simagin 26... RQ1:- 2 and White shou 27. PK5: is un because of 28. by energetic p 28. PK5, BN5: 30. QK2 remind of the board.) /On 32. PxB Bl (The pin of the 34. RxB, PN4: 37. RB7ch: 39. KN1

Not wishing still prior to the struggle s After the d resisted the ps he waited for a captured the le It was inte this frightening overcome the sh observe restra champion though not everything the beginning of the account aft do so. Only a score was 7: 7. By the way, with the duel A comparison is i either to the c

NxN: 15. NxN, NB3: 16. NB3, BQ3: with about even chances.) 14. BN2, QN2: 15. RB1, PQR3: (Botvinnik carries out consequently the plan of creating a passed pawn on the Q-side, but White's superiority in the centre shows itself a more important factor.) 16. RK1, PQN4: 17. PxP, PxP: (Continuing 17...BxNP Black could exchange one of the Bishops e.g. 18. BR2, BK7: Even then however White maintains the advantage. For instance, 19. RxB, QxB: 20. NB4,) 18. BQ3, KRB1: (Loss of an important tempo. Better was 18...NN3. Then after 19. PK4, Black could exchange one of the Knights by 19...NB5. This reply could also follow after 19. NN3) 19. PK4, NN3: 20. QK2, NR5: 21. BR1, BK1: 22. RxB, RxB: 23. PQ5!, NR4?! /There is no way which would give Black a secure defence. For instance 23...NB6: 24. BxN, RxB: 25. PQ6, BQ: 26. PK5, NQ4: 27. QK4, PN3: 28. NQ4, with clear positional advantage for White. Or 23...KPxP: 24. PK5, (As rightly pointed out by Simagin, unconvincing is 24. KPxQP, NxQP: 25. QK5, because of 25...PB3: 26. QK6ch, BB2: 27. BxPch, KB1:) 24...NK5: 25. NxN, PxN: 26. BxKP, QBB3: 27. BB5, RQ1: 28. PK6, with a very strong attack. 24. PN3, NB4: 25. NQ4, NxB: 26. QxN(Q3), QN3: (Simagin shows the following variation if Black plays 26...RQ1:- 27. QKB3, NKB3: 28. QPxKP, PxP: 29. PK5, QxQ: 30. N(2)xQ, and White should win.) 27. PxP?, (Loses almost all his advantage. 27. PK5: is undoubtedly stronger. As Black cannot take on his Q4 because of 28. QKB5, White would on the next move play PQ6. Now by energetic play Botvinnik succeeds in saving the game.) 27...PxP: 28. PK5, BN5: 29. RN1, (Better was RQ1 and if 29...BN3 then 30. QK2 reminding the opponent about the Knight stuck on the edge of the board.) 29...BN3: 30. NK4, QN2: 31. PB3, BxN: 32. QxB, /On 32. PxB Black would probably achieve a draw by 32...BQB4: (The pin of the Knight looks dangerous) 32...QxQ: 33. PxQ, BB4: 34. RxB, PN4: 35. KB1, BxN: 36. BxB, RB8ch: 37. KN2, PN5: 38. BK3, RB7ch: 39. KN1, RB5: Drawn.

THE TIGER OR THE LION  
by S. Flohr, published in "Ogonyok"

Not wishing to tell fortunes on coffee dregs, grandmasters still prior to the match evaded predictions. As the progress of the struggle shows, they were right.

After the defeat in the first game Tigran Petrosyan evidently resisted the psychological shock. Not hurrying and not panicking, he waited for a chance, equalised the score in the 5th game and captured the lead in the seventh.

It was interesting to watch how the world champion reacted on this frightening turn of events. How much time will he need to overcome the shock? From the 8th to the 14th game one could observe restraint in Botvinnik's action. Apparently the world champion thought:- "As long as the difference is one point only not everything is lost, but a difference of two points can spell the beginning of the end." While Petrosyan succeeded in squaring the account after three games, Botvinnik needed twice as much to do so. Only after six draws in a row Botvinnik did it. The score was 7: 7.

By the way, a few words about draws. Many compare this match with the duel Alekhine-Capablanca, Buenos Ayres, 1927. This comparison is incorrect because in that match a draw gave nothing either to the chess world or to the opponents. The struggle was

to be decided by six victories of either player. As known, Alekhine was 6: 3, but now every little half point is an important part in the foundations of victory.

Botvinnik and Petrosyan do not require advocates, but it is worthy of mention that those who like a definite result are unnecessarily ironical about a drawing outcome of many games. In this match there has not yet been a single boring and empty draw. More often a draw was as a result of exceptionally high technique of defence of both players, as a result of their unbelievably stubborn resistance.

As the finish is approaching, the emotions of the supporters of either player heat up more and more. In particular the level of these emotions is high in Erevan. This time the chess fever seems to have caught the whole of Armenia! And how many telegrams from Armenia run to Petrosyan's address! "The first defeat multiplies wisdom and the second one courage," asserts a folk saying. Such is the text of one of the telegrams, after Petrosyan's defeat in the 14th game. "If you think of losing this match I will burn my chess set," cables Botvinnik one of his supporters.

It seems that such a threat seriously scared the world champion. After the loss in the 15th game his victory in the 16th seemed very near, but in the last minutes Botvinnik missed his chance. Again a draw.

Extreme surprise caused the unforgivable Botvinnik blunder on the 39th move of this game. How happy Petrosyan became when he saw that Botvinnik pushed his pawn to K6. The world champion explained this by the fact that he was very tired on the fifth hour of play. Considering the fact that the match lasts already more than six weeks, that Botvinnik and Petrosyan have spent already more than 100 hours at the chess board, this fatigue is easily understood. We will add to the 100 hours, as a minimum, the same time for preparations, for "urgent repairs," for unavoidable analysis of adjourned games. We will also add sleepless nights caused by misfortune in a game, by tiring reflection on a complicated position. It will, therefore, become quite clear why Botvinnik might suffer from a headache!

Mikhail Botvinnik missing a win in the 16th game took again "time off." Tigran Petrosyan has again one point more. But such an advantage had also Bronstein in 1951 with two games to go before the end of the match, and yet in the second last game Botvinnik prevented the birth of a new world champion.

Seven games to go is still a lot! What tactics will Petrosyan adopt in the final stages? Having a point in the pocket he can chose two ways:- either to go into sharp play and try to "hook on" once more, or in all seven games to build a "wall." It is difficult to see how the final stages will go. It is possible that the old lion will play like a tiger and possibly vice-versa the tiger will play like a lion?

THE EIGHTEENTH GAME: May 8 - 9: QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED:  
White - Botvinnik: Black - Petrosyan: Notes by Kotov in "Soviet Weekly."

#### PETROSYAN WORLD CHAMPION

Tigran Petrosyan is the new world chess champion. He won the title on the 22nd game, with 12½ points to Botvinnik's 9½.

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KN2: 37. KB2, PXP  
"See Diagram.



The eighteenth game was the decisive one.

Many forecast that Botvinnik would be worn out in the closing stage of the match, that he would crack under the strain of the marathon fixture - and, indeed, it happened that way.

The titleholder made many mistakes when play was resumed in the adjourned eighteenth game. He lost in a position which bore all the signs of ending in a draw.

Petrosyan with his lead increased to two full points, was encouraged to try offensive tactics.

He showed great confidence and enthusiasm in the next round, emerging successfully from the opening stage, conducting clever manoeuvres in the middle stage, and brilliantly striding through the end game, to stretch his winning margin to three points.

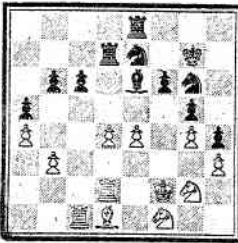
Botvinnik then faced an almost impossible task. Better than any one else, he realised the hopelessness of such an outcome.

That explains his rejection of all efforts to achieve a win in the 20th game, even though he was playing White.

I believe that the draw agreed after 21 moves, was the sign that he was relinquishing the title. The final games confirmed that opinion.

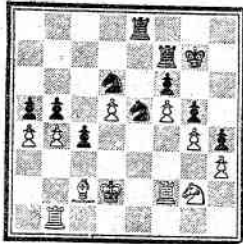
But now let us look back to the eighteenth game - in my opinion the most interesting game of the match.

1. P<sub>Q</sub>4, P<sub>Q</sub>4: 2. P<sub>Q</sub>B4, P<sub>K</sub>3: 3. N<sub>Q</sub>B3, B<sub>K</sub>2: 4. P<sub>x</sub>P, P<sub>x</sub>P: 5. B<sub>B</sub>4, P<sub>Q</sub>B3: 6. P<sub>K</sub>3, B<sub>K</sub>B4: 7. P<sub>K</sub>N4, B<sub>K</sub>3: 8. P<sub>K</sub>R3, N<sub>B</sub>3: 9. N<sub>B</sub>3... (All this had already happened twice before in the match - in games 12 and 14. The reply Petrosyan made to this unusual variation in game 14 was 9...P<sub>Q</sub>B4. This time, however, he prefers to limit himself to waiting tactics. He has not made up his mind definitely yet about his pawn pattern in the middle.) 9... Q<sub>N</sub>Q2: 10. B<sub>Q</sub>3, N<sub>N</sub>3: 11. Q<sub>B</sub>2, N<sub>B</sub>5: 12. K<sub>B</sub>1... (The vigorous move 12. N<sub>K</sub>N5 suggested itself so strongly that I even had a bet with Salo Flohr that Botvinnik would make it. But evidently Flohr knew the moods of the players better than I did! I lost my bet.) 12... N<sub>Q</sub>3: 13. N<sub>Q</sub>2, Q<sub>B</sub>1: 14. K<sub>N</sub>2, N<sub>Q</sub>2: 15. P<sub>B</sub>3, P<sub>K</sub>N3: (Reciprocal waiting tactics have led to this position. Neither White nor Black crosses the demarcation line. Instead they confine themselves to operations within their own territories.) 16. Q<sub>R</sub>Q<sub>B</sub>1, N<sub>N</sub>3: 17. P<sub>N</sub>3, Q<sub>Q</sub>2: 18. N<sub>K</sub>2, N(Q3)B1: 19. P<sub>Q</sub>R4, P<sub>Q</sub>R4: 20. B<sub>N</sub>3, B<sub>Q</sub>3: 21. N<sub>K</sub>B4, N<sub>K</sub>2: 22. N<sub>B</sub>1, P<sub>R</sub>4! (Petrosyan decides to crowd the enemy pieces on the King's side and simultaneously to set up strong points for a possible offensive) 23. B<sub>K</sub>2, P<sub>R</sub>5: 24. B<sub>R</sub>2, P<sub>N</sub>4: 25. N<sub>Q</sub>3, Q<sub>B</sub>2: 26. Q<sub>Q</sub>2, N<sub>Q</sub>2: 27. B<sub>N</sub>1, N<sub>K</sub>N3: 28. B<sub>R</sub>2, N<sub>K</sub>2: (There are substantial grounds for such manoeuvres. One reason is to scramble out of time trouble, another is to win time to collect one's thoughts. But now, at last, Botvinnik makes the move which has long suggested itself.) 29. B<sub>Q</sub>1, P<sub>N</sub>3: 30. K<sub>N</sub>1, P<sub>B</sub>3: 31. P<sub>K</sub>4!... (This is the long-awaited breakthrough! Play immediately grows complicated.) 31... B<sub>x</sub>B<sub>oh</sub>: 32. Q<sub>x</sub>B... (This is an indecisive move. By keeping his Queen after 32. R<sub>x</sub>B! Botvinnik could expect to hold the initiative in the middle, but now Petrosyan manages himself to take over the leading role.) 32... Q<sub>X</sub>Q<sub>oh</sub>: 33. R<sub>x</sub>Q, R<sub>Q</sub>1: 34. K<sub>B</sub>2, K<sub>B</sub>2: 35. K<sub>K</sub>3, K<sub>R</sub>K1: 36. R<sub>Q</sub>2, K<sub>N</sub>2: 37. K<sub>B</sub>2, P<sub>x</sub>P: 38. P<sub>x</sub>P, N<sub>K</sub>B1: 39. N<sub>K</sub>1, N(B1)N3: 40. N<sub>N</sub>2, R<sub>Q</sub>2: "See Diagram."



(The game was adjourned here. Petrosyan seemed in a slightly more favourable position, but there were sharp differences of opinion about the way forward. Botvinnik's supporters believed that he stood better chances, whereas Petrosyan's supporters predicted victory. Petrosyan and his trainer, Isaac Boleslavsky, spent the whole day analysing the position. They realised that there was only a slight chance of forcing a win. For a second, Petrosyan wondered whether he should suggest to Botvinnik that they halve the point. "Nothing of the kind! Go out

and play for a win," Boleslavsky insisted. Botvinnik, he said, was very fatigued by the match already and was likely to commit an error at any moment. The adjourned game was resumed and watched with mounting excitement in the packed tournament hall - and also by crowds in the squares of the Armenian capital, Erevan, where the progress of the game was followed on giant-size demonstration boards.) 41. BB2, BB2: 42. N(B1)K3,.. (This is the first mistake. It would be better once again to protect the pawn on Q4 by playing 42. R(QB1)Q1.) 42... PQB4!: 43. PQ5, NK4: 44. RB1,.. (This is the opening of a series of poor moves. I don't know of any other case of Botvinnik playing so badly after a home analysis. I wonder if it was a case of fatigue? A stronger reply would be 44. NQB4.) 44... BN3: 45. KK1,.. (The King finds himself in an awkward place. A retreat to KN1 would have been better for him.) 45... NB1: 46. R(Q2)B2, RKB2: 47. KQ2, NQ3: 48. NB5ch, BxN: 49. KPxB, PB5! (This is a superb understanding of the position. Petrosyan opens a file for his pieces and attacks the enemy King.) 50. RQN1, PN4!: 51. PN4, "See Diagram."



51... PB6ch! (Another brilliant move in this decisive onslaught. The pawn sacrifice clears the way into enemy territory for all Black's pieces.) 52. KxP, RB2ch: 53. KQ2, N(K4)B5ch: 54. KQ1, NR6: 55. RN2, N(Q3)B5: 56. RR2, RPXP: (This is the end, even though Botvinnik continues to make a few more moves in resistance! Even the world champion is helpless in the face of these devastating operations.) 57. PXP, NXP: 58. RR6, NB6ch: 59. KB1, NXP: 60. BR4, R(K1)QB1: 61. NK1, NB5. White Resigns.

THE NINETEENTH GAME: MAY 11 - 12: QUEEN'S PAWN - QUEEN'S INDIAN DEFENCE: White - Petrosyan: Black - Botvinnik: Notes by Kotov in "Soviet Weekly."

#### VICTORY IN RETROSPECT

Spotting Tigran Petrosyan on his return home after being crowned world champion, neighbours shook their heads: "My, my, look at him! he's only skin and bones!"

A great effort had indeed been required to prepare for the world clash and to emerge victorious. But it was a convincing victory.

What distinguishing features does the new world chess champion have? He has the fastest thinking chess brain, being able to calculate variations of play with lightning speed and faultlessly.

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He is without equal in blitz tournaments.

This highly important quality is blended with exceptional technique. Just study the endings of the fifth and fifteenth games, and you will realise what a virtuoso Petrosyan is.

He has been compared with one of his predecessors as world champion, the Cuban wizard, Capablanca, who in his lifetime amazed his contemporaries with his sparkling skill in cashing in on advantages, and in the end game.

I am convinced that Petrosyan has excelled the Cuban maestro in technique. In any case, he has introduced into his technique the results of many researches and analyses made by the theorists.

Petrosyan's technical mastery makes him invincible. He has gone through many tournaments in recent times undefeated.

Personally, I would like to see a little more life in his game, with sacrifices, tactical blows, and surprising combinations. This would make Tigran an even more dangerous opponent.

Although the 34 year old Petrosyan now holds the world title, he remains the same modest and responsive man he has always been.

While devoting a good deal of his time to chess, he has also succeeded in finishing a course at a teachers' college in Everan, and is now taking a post-graduate course in philosophy there.

The subject of his thesis is chess logic.

As for other interests, his favourite is football. He never misses a league or cup game if he can help it.

Tigran plays a lot of table tennis, too, while a game of billiards puts him in tune before he sets off for the tournament hall.

"In the present chess world the champion is only the first among equals," Petrosyan replied to a question at the press conference on the chances of other grandmasters taking the crown away from him.

This modest appraisal best of all shows that Petrosyan will continue to demonstrate his extraordinary prowess before an admiring and highly appreciative public.

And now, to complete the picture, let us turn back to the last significant game of the match, the nineteenth.

1. PQB4, NKB3: 2. NQB3, PK3: 3. NB3, PQN3; 4. PKN3, BN2: 5. BN2, BK2: 6. O-O, O-O: 7. PQ4, NK5: 8. QQB2,... (In the 3rd and 13th games, Petrosyan replied with 8. NxN, but failed to gain any worthwhile advantage. He now turns to a variant well known in theory and frequently tested in tournament practice.) 8...NxN: 9. QxN, PKB4: 10. PN3, BKB3: 11. BN2, PQ3: 12. QRQ1, NQ2: (Exactly the same position was achieved in the 21st game of the 1960 Botvinnik - Tal match. On that occasion Botvinnik continued with 12...QK2. The move now made hardly makes any difference to the course of the struggle.) 13. NK1, BxB: 14. NxB, BN4: (The Bishop's position on the edge of the board will be most unfortunate as Petrosyan is shortly to prove most convincingly.) 15. QB2, BR3: 16. PK4, PB5: 17. NK1,... (White has to block the further advance of this dangerous enemy pawn.) 17...QK2: 18. PK5!... (This vigorous move enabled White to seize the initiative in the centre of the board.) 18...QPxP: 19. QPxP, QRQ1: 20. QK2, QN4: 21. KN2, PQR4: 22. NB3, QR4: 23. BR3!... (This is a strong move, to which Botvinnik's best reply would have been 23...NQB4.) 23...K RK1: 24. RQ4!, NN1: 25. KRQ1, RxB: 26. RxB, PxB: 27. RPxP, QKB2: (Botvinnik is bringing all his pieces back into the defence.) 28. QK4!, PN3: 29. QQN7,...



NN3: 17. QQ3, PN3: (The opening stage resulted in Petrosyan's favour. Black established control over his Q4 square and the QB is ideally posted. The storm on the K-side brings no success to White.) 18. BR6, RK1: 19. QR3,.. (The thematic sacrifice on KB7 brought, not once, success to Botvinnik. However, in this game time is necessary for its preparation - the White Rook still being on Q1. We note that an attempt to attack Black's KN3 by 19. QN3 would be countered by 19...NKR4 after which White would be forced to repeat moves:- 20. QN4, NB3) 19...NB5: (After 20. RK1 Black can, without retribution, take the pawn on White's Q4 because 21. NxBP is refuted by the clever reply 21...QKN5!) 20. NxN,.. (Now the chances are on Black's side, and the attack is liquidated and the QP is isolated as before.) 20...RxN: 21. NK2, QN3: (Here Petrosyan proposed a draw. Every half a point got him nearer to the chess "crown." Black having now the initiative, Botvinnik accepted the offer.)

The following two short games have obviously been played to make up the final score. In reality Botvinnik had already relinquished the title and draws might have been tacitly agreed upon by both sides. We therefore give them without notes. These can be found in most opening guides.

In fact they are not annotated in "Shakhmati" either - Editor

THE TWENTY-FIRST GAME: MAY 18: GRUENFELD DEFENCE: White - Petrosyan: Black - Botvinnik:

1. PQB4, NKB3: 2. NKB3, PKN3: 3. NB3, PQ4: 4. PxP, NxP: 5. PK4, NxN: 6. QPxN, QxQch: 7. KxQ, BN5: 8. BK2, NQ2: 9. BK3, PK4: 10. NQ2, Drawn.

THE TWENTY-SECOND GAME: MAY 20: QUEEN'S GAMBIT ACCEPTED: White - Botvinnik: Black - Petrosyan:

1. PQ4, PQ4: 2. PQB4, PxP: 3. NKB3, NKB3: 4. QR4ch, NB3: 5. NB3, NQ4: 6. PK4, NN3: 7. QQ1, BN5: 8. PQ5, NK4: 9. BB4, NN3: 10. BK3, PK3: Drawn.

HURRAH! FOR THE NEW CHAMPION  
by S. Flohr, published in "Ogonyok"

In my last report I asked the question, "Tiger or the Lion?" Now the answer is clear:- The Tiger. Yes the chess marathon is finished, and the last moves are made. At the moment, when these lines will reach the reader, Tigran Petrosyan will be garlanded.

How fast events developed. Still at the seventeenth game Botvinnik was only one point down and then in the next two games a catastrophe occurred. And what a catastrophe! What happened to such an experienced tournament fighter as Botvinnik?

The history of world championship matches knows many cases of surprising "chess blindness". Is there a chess player who does not know the tragedy of Chigorin who in one of the decisive games with Steinitz in Havana "condoned" a mate in two!? Botvinnik in the 15th game of the match with Smyslov in 1958 forgot completely about the clock. He was "woken up" by Mr. Stahlberg's



(The umpire - Editor) unpleasant announcement: "Pardon me, your time is out."

The outcome of the match Botvinnik - Petrosyan was in fact decided in the 18th game. Frankly speaking there was nothing dramatic in the game itself. Unexpected was only the end. At the resumption of the adjourned game, Botvinnik, who analysed the position to the utmost detail, already at the first move muddled up the order of moves in the variation to follow. The game could still be saved but Botvinnik was so upset that he quickly allowed more inaccuracies and soon emerged with a hopeless position.

Interesting is Petrosyan's admission. Achieving an unexpected victory in the game he told the story. He said that he was prepared to offer Botvinnik a draw before resumption of the game. However, his second, grandmaster I. Boleslavski, persuaded him not to do so. Petrosyan evaluated the position purely from the chess point of view and considered that chances were equal, but Boleslavsky viewed the adjourned game more broadly. "But this is the 18th game," he said, "and Botvinnik is very tired. It is necessary to fight. He might make a mistake." Boleslavsky proved such a good adviser that willy-nilly a question arises: who won this game Petrosyan or his second?

After this really tragic misfortune, another defeat of Botvinnik followed in the 19th game. In addition, he lost without resistance and this third loss gave Tigran Petrosyan the "green light" to the chess throne. The concluding games gave the impression of surrender.

Now, after the match, all experts and many chess amateurs started more courageous and more "clever" talk. They would like to prove that they "knew all about it." Now one can hear such words:- "What did Botvinnik need this match for? He should have stepped down as invincible. This would be a nice gesture towards Keres who would then be able to try out his strength in a struggle for the chess crown against Petrosyan." (As is known, Keres was runner-up in the last Candidates' Tournament.) The point is, however, that chess is not for "gestures" but for struggle! There is nothing in the regulations governing World Championship matches to the effect, that one is to retire at 52 years of age. If Botvinnik at 50 years of age beat Tal, then why shouldn't he have hoped to beat Petrosyan at 52? Is it easy for an artist to leave the stage even if he feels that the time for "curtains" has arrived? No! He thinks: "I will try once more." It is possible also that Botvinnik thought so when he decided to meet the young and vigorous Petrosyan. Should he be reproached for the attempt? This of course would be unjust. To retreat without struggle - is not in his character. It seems to me that first of all, his victor Tigran Petrosyan should treat him with great respect.

Much is talked and written about the creative side of this match. One should admit, that in this respect the crop this time is not very rich. Bronstein promised to those who appreciate chess art a Botvinnik who will play 'a la Alekhine' and or Petrosyan "masked" as Tal. No, dear David Bronstein, unfortunately such "masks" could not be seen in the Estrada Theatre. Botvinnik and Petrosyan played without any masks. Their intentions were quite obvious. Botvinnik wanted to retain his title and Petrosyan tried to capture it from him. For this purpose both worked out their tactics and in the first place stood a purely sporting task.

The one who was Botvinnik would play the grandmasters. It is self-understanding but analysing the moves have been the a serious single e

There is nothing play is very boring players in the world participants of the and now also Botvinnik This means that his

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By Yu

The new world c is full of vigour a end of the year, he Last June he vi This month he heads People's Games.

"Aren't you goi

The one who was right is grandmaster Taimanov. He said that Botvinnik would play better but Petrosyan would make less mistakes. The grandmasters played in this match about one thousand moves. It is self-understood that not all deserve exclamation marks, but analysing the games we can see that although not all Petrosyan's moves have been the best ones, the new world champion has not made a serious single error.

There is nothing to hide. Very often they say that Petrosyan's play is very boring. But why could not the strongest chess players in the world penalise Petrosyan for this boredom? The participants of the Candidates' Tournament were unable to do so and now also Botvinnik had to announce Petrosyan's great victory. This means that his play is not so "boring" after all.

Tigran Petrosyan fought out the world championship. In comparison with Vasily Smyslov and Mikhail Tal he has one advantage. Smyslov and Tal were obliged, after one year, to confirm their title but Petrosyan can "sleep undisturbed," for three years. (An allusion to the recent change of FIDE rules concerning frequency of World Championship matches - Editor.) However, knowing the new world champion's great love of chess, we can assume that he will not rest on the laurels of his first garland. On the contrary, he will play enterprising, courageous and beautiful chess.

The emotions around the match have calmed down. One more page in chess history has been written. Until now there were eight world champions in this history: W. Steinitz, E.M. Lasker, J. Capablanca, A. Alekhine, M. Euwe, M. Botvinnik, V. Smyslov, and M. Tal. Now a ninth champion appears. The fourth Soviet Grandmaster achieving this honourable title.

And what about Botvinnik? In his 52 years he was unable to counter the pressure of the young Petrosyan. Does this mean that Botvinnik suffered a heavy defeat? No, in our eyes and in the eyes of the whole chess world, Botvinnik remains Botvinnik. We have already established a tradition to speak after every championship match. "There is a victor but there is no conquered one." Long live, therefore, our two giants, Mikhail Botvinnik and Tigran Petrosyan! Let them have a rest after the tiring two-monthly contest. They will make us again enjoy their mastership.

The ascent to the throne of a new champion is always a holiday for the whole chess world.

Hurrah! for the new Champion!

#### PETROSYAN TALKS ABOUT CHESS AND HIMSELF

By Yury Averbakh on 15 August 1963 in

"Soviet Weekly."

The new world chess champion, Soviet Grandmaster Tigran Petrosyan, is full of vigour as he prepares for new chess battles. Before the end of the year, he wants to play in two or three major tournaments.

Last June he visited Los Angeles for a grandmasters' tournament. This month he heads the Moscow team in the competition of the People's Games.

"Aren't you going to play too much?" I asked Petrosyan. "Won't

the strain be too great?"

#### "Practice Pays"

"It would be a good thing to relax after the match with Botvinnik," the world champion agreed. "But serious summit meetings of grandmasters are not held too often, and I don't want to miss an opportunity of meeting strong players, both at home and abroad."

"I like chess and strive to play more of it."

"There are many extra-class chess players today, and one has to train all the time and be in peak form to achieve important successes."

"And this means playing more, meeting players of different styles."

"You can study the games played by your opponents as long as you like, but you'll get a proper idea of them only when you meet them across the chess board."

"Of course, a world champion is hard put to it when he plays often, for he is always obliged to be up to the mark. Some people even consider that frequent participation in tournaments endangers the champion's reputation."

"There is no denying that nobody is safe against accidental mishaps, and no title is a guarantee against them. But I believe in the saying, 'nothing risked, nothing gained.'"

#### "Ideal Type"

We talked about some purely chess problems, such as the methodology of a player's thinking, the influence of temper and character on the choice of moves, the ideal type of player.

"I think the ideal player is one of the most versatile style, relying chiefly on position," said Petrosyan. He gave me an example.

"In 1957 Tal achieved his first major success, winning the U.S.S.R. title. In that tournament he acted as a highly versatile player, his moves depending on his appraisal of the position."

"If the position demanded an attack he attacked, if it called for an end game, he went over to an end game."

But later on, I think, he departed from this road and began to turn into a one-sided player proceeding, in his own choice of moves, from his own taste rather than from the demands of the position. Hence the excessive amount of risk, the desire to aggravate the situation, to turn the game into a hand-to-hand combat.

"Such a game demands colossal nervous output, excellent health and even a certain amount of luck."

"What chess books are among your favourites?"

"When a boy I was enthusiastic over 'My System In Practice' by Nimzowich and 'Theory Of Sacrifice' by Spielmann. I like very much Alekhine's books about the New York international tournaments of 1924 and 1927."

"Generally speaking, I like to read tournament books with many analysed games and diagrams."

"Among recent publications, I frequently use books of games of USSR championships, and Bronstein's book about the 1953 challengers' tournament."

"In your many tournaments you have played at least a thousand games against strong opponents. Which of these games are particularly vivid in your memory?"

"Ironically, I met Bronstein in the 1953 USSR championship against Gligoric."

"In both I succeeded in strategic plans, but I lost to the Queen when it was my turn to move."

For my part I succeeded against such a strong player perhaps the only chess player in the world."

Speaking of his victory over Tal as a result of a powerful attack."

As regards his match with Bronstein he played it again for fifteen moves."

At the end of the match he said, 'I looked in the chess board with the magnifying glass in my eyes,' he said."

I looked in the chess board with the magnifying glass in my eyes."

The position was very interesting. This unique chess match was the admirer of Petrosyan."

MASTE

1. The risk of defeat. "Every world average player can be mobilised quickly. Moscow demonstrated playing for a draw if readers wish to would they go back which Petrosyan lost two. It was also because of indecision won had he attacked."

2. Pawn advantage. "The championship has shown that a player can be mobilised quickly. An excellent opening by Petrosyan a chance for a rigid position. A rigid position in favour who had been manoeuvres were usually become fluid."

## "Two Slips"

"Ironically, I lost both games which I find the most interesting: against Gligoric in the USSR-Yugoslavia match in 1956 and Bronstein in the 1956 challengers' tournament.

"In both I succeeded in realising a comprehensive and consistent strategic plan, but made unpardonable slips with the loss of the Queen when it only remained to reap the fruits."

For my part I can add that no chess player can be fully guaranteed against such misfortunes, but these two gross slips are perhaps the only ones in Petrosyan's entire chess career.

Speaking of his best games, Petrosyan recalled with pleasure his victory over Taimanov in the 1955 championship, which came as a result of a powerful attack.

As regards his best combination, the world champion thinks that he played it against Argentine's Guimardín 1955, when he planned for fifteen moves ahead.

At the end of our talk Petrosyan showed me an onyx chess Knight with which he had been presented in Erevan. "Look into its eyes," he said.

I looked in the Knight's tiny eye and saw, with surprise, a chess board with the final position from the fifth game of Petrosyan's match against Botvinnik.

The position was engraved on a grain of rice, and there was a magnifying glass in the Knight's eye.

This unique thing was made, not by a professional, but by a member of the Erevan Symphony Orchestra, Kazaryan, an enthusiastic admirer of Petrosyan's skill.

### MASTERS' REFLECTIONS AFTER THE MATCH.

#### BARDEN'S AND PURDY'S VIEWS.

By The Editor.

1. The risk of defensive play. Leonard Barden writes in "The Field", "Every world title match shows strategy from which the average player can benefit, and the contest just finished in Moscow demonstrated some principles. One is that consciously playing for a draw is a sure method for landing in a bad position." If readers wish to see what the excellent English analyst means, would they go back a few pages and look at games 1, 2, and 13 of which Petrosyan lost one and barely escaped defeat in the other two. It was also seen above that Botvinnik lost valuable points because of indecision in positions which he could have perhaps won had he attacked.

2. Pawn advantage in the centre. Barden also says that the championship has shown that a pawn advantage in the centre should be mobilised quickly before the opponent can blockade the position. An example is the 18th game where Botvinnik secured an excellent opening but failed to break open the centre, giving Petrosyan a chance to regroup his minor pieces on the back rank.

A rigid position resulted and this was rather in Petrosyan's favour who had been aiming for it for a long time while Botvinnik's manoeuvres were on the assumption that the position would eventually become fluid.

3. End game play - objective and psychological factors. Barden mentions Petrosyan's superiority in the end game as an important factor in his success. He further says, "A slight material or other advantage can be more quickly and surely exploited when there are few pieces left and the opponent is deprived of the chances of counter-attack which are usually available in the middle game."

It seems to us that Barden should have also considered the situation from the defending side's point of view. Is it easier to defend in the end game when the opponent has less forces to employ in carrying out his plan, or is it easier to do so in the middle game when the defender has more chances for counter-attack? This is material for interesting studies on practical examples. Theorising without proof seems somewhat unsatisfactory in this case.

Barden's further remarks about the psychological aspects of the problem are extremely interesting. He says, "In recent years, masters have become steadily more prepared to carry on and to try to win endings which would formerly have been agreed drawn without a real fight. This is as much a psychological as an analytical verdict: it is recognised that the strain of defending, hour after hour and move after move, a position where the most you can hope for is a draw and where the slightest slip can be fatal, is a task which will eventually cause flagging concentration and a mistake by even the most experienced master."

4. Opening play. There was no rich crop in opening novelties in this match but as it can be seen in the notes to the games, experience in principles of opening play has been gained and this is more important than a multiplicity of variations.

Two points are worthy of notice.

- (1) No King's pawn opening was played in the match. Botvinnik usually opened with the QP while Petrosyan preferred the non-committal English (1. PQB4)
- (2) The frequent occurrence of the Queen's Gambit in this match. The return to this opening which was recently considered by many as inferior to other defences from Black's point of view has brought about somewhat conflicting opinions on its value.

While Barden is probably right when he says that the Queen's Gambit is likely to be revived in Club play as a result of this match, his opinion on the value of this opening as proved by the match is by no means agreed to by everyone.

Barden mentions that Petrosyan defended against Botvinnik 1. PQ4, either by the Queen's Gambit Declined or Queen's Gambit Accepted, "either way achieved playable positions." "His success with the Gambit Accepted," Barden continues, "was such as to move one commentator to suggest that this opening is too drawish and that it should be forbidden as some openings are in draughts!"

Barden continues that "The viewpoint is as extreme as the opinion that the Gambit Accepted is good for White."

Another authority and excellent analyst, the former world champion in correspondence chess, C.J.S. Purdy, expresses a

different opinion entitled "The Q. only opines betw ing games for op G.G.A. has been 7. PQB4 and prev in difficulties. games is accordi theorists. For o chance whether s afterwards won -

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different opinion. His article in "Chess World" May 1963, is entitled "The Q. G. Accepted upset by Botvinnik." Purdy not only opines but gives his reasons. He says that the most interesting games for opening theory were 2, 6, 8, 10 and 16 where the Q.G.A. has been played. Purdy states that Botvinnik by playing 7. FQR4 and preventing Black's PQR4 had "nearly always Petrosyan in difficulties." The fact that Petrosyan managed to draw these games is according to Purdy, "not of much concern to opening theorists. For opening theory," Purdy says, "a chance is the same chance whether so-and-so seized it or missed it or seized it and afterwards won - or didn't win."

Incidentally several games of this match have been lucidly annotated in the "Chess World," by Purdy.

Returning to the question of the Q.G.A. one would add that Purdy's view seems extremely sound. The fact that Botvinnik did not score wins against this opening is rather to be explained by extraneous (psychological attitude of Botvinnik during the match, stamina, etc.) than objective factors.

Many other aspects on openings in this match are discussed in the notes to them on the pages of this issue to which we refer the readers should they have skipped them.

#### "HOW TO BECOME A WORLD CHAMPION"

By S. Flohr in "Soviet Weekly."

(To round off our world championship issue we give an article by international grandmaster S. Flohr, written in lighter vein from the previous material - Editor.)

When the first big international chess tournament was held in Moscow - that was back in 1925 - the pick of the world's players took part in it. And this provided Soviet medical scientists with an interesting opportunity to discover whether there was something physically and mentally peculiar about the players of this world-loved game.

At long last, we learned their decision. After due thought they issued their diagnosis. They reported the surprising news: chess players were - normal.

So far as I know, no further experiments of this nature have been conducted!

I am neither scientist nor doctor, but I can say with absolute certainty that not a single player can keep perfectly cool at the chessboard.

It is true that every player is an actor to a certain degree and skilfully hides his feelings. You may believe that Petrosyan, Botvinnik, Tahl and others play with Olympian calmness if you like, but that would be wrong. Of course they have a better grip on their nerves than others, but when success begins to slip from their grasp, you will notice that their ears grow red.

The beating of a chess player's heart depends greatly on what is happening on the board!

I am sure that many, if not all, my readers would like to become a world champion. I can tell you what to do to achieve that ambition, though I have never been world champion - much as I have wanted to be.

I shall also take this opportunity to answer some questions often fired at me.

When is the best time to begin playing chess? Chess, like love, is infectious at any age. Alekhine, the greatest player of all time, first took up chess at the age of 7 and was already a master when he reached 16. Reshevsky, the American grandmaster, gave performances of simultaneous play in many European capitals

at the age of seven to nine. (It's true that some malicious tongues claim Reshevsky played better as a child than he does today!)

Capablanca first fingered a pawn when he was six years old. As for our youth, they are doing their best. Tahl became champion of the USSR at the age of 20.

It seems to me, though, that the best time to take up chess is at about the age of ten. One should, however, bear in mind the fact that a child may become too engrossed - as in any other game.

It is up to the parents to see that the passion does no harm. Abroad we are often asked about the secret of our success and how the USSR finds its fresh talent.

Of course our only "secret" is that the USSR attaches a great deal of importance to the education of the younger generation, giving everyone the opportunity of developing his ability in any field.

Spasskys and Tahls do not drop from heaven: we have to educate them.

But let us presume you are already a first class chess player and are on your way up the ladder to the world championship. What should your regimen be like?

The world's leading players, the grandmasters of the USSR, look after their health and playing form very carefully.

Of our 19 grandmasters, only five are smokers. Smyslov and Botvinnik are arch-enemies of tobacco.

I remember an incident involving Grandmaster Nimzowitsch. This eminent theorist couldn't bear tobacco smoke, and in one tournament he set as a condition that his opponent should not smoke. (There are many variations of this story - Editor.)

His rivals agreed. When Bogolyubov put a full box of cigars on the table before sitting down to play against Nimzowitsch, the latter hurried to the chief umpire in great excitement.

The umpire checked up and said: "But Bogolyubov doesn't smoke!"

"I know he doesn't," Nimzowitsch fumed, "but he threatens to do so, and the threat is worse than the deed!"

Botvinnik forgoes all the conveniences and inconveniences of tournaments. His training is so thoroughly planned that before a tournament he makes his coach puff clouds of smoke at him continuously to get himself accustomed to games with smoking adversaries!

Botvinnik has been doing his daily dozen since childhood. He takes a two hour walk every day. He ponders long over the board during a game and rarely leaves the table.

He eats a piece of chocolate at a specified time and sits down to a cup of tea with lemon after two and a half hours of play.

Speaking of lemons, in 1954, during the USSR - USA match, the "New York Times" told its readers about D. Bronstein's thirst during play at the Roosevelt Hotel.

He asked for a glass of lemon juice and an American onlooker tried to correct him: "You mean lemonade?"

But Bronstein insisted on juice and nine big lemons were squeezed to fill up his glass. The man from Moscow put that drink down, to the last drop!

This incident, which caused something of a sensation in the United States, is easily explained. As a rule, our chess players are accompanied by a doctor. The doctor, noticing that Bronstein

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Our grandmaster

was getting tired, advised him to drink some lemon juice as a tonic.

Bronstein took such a dose that he won all four of his games in the USSR-USA match.

Drink lemon juice and play like Bronstein, and then you need not fear a single opponent. But I would not advise you to try stronger "refreshments."

In many western countries, I know, doctors claim that coffee is good for the health, that it is a good stimulant. I also was a coffee drinker at one time, but lately I've come to the conclusion that a large quantity of coffee - particularly at night - is harmful. It leads to troubled sleep.

Need I say that neither Lasker, Capablanca, Euwe, Botvinnik nor Smyslov ever touch vodka?

Every person has his own habits, but if one takes hold of himself, he can shake off any "passion."

Among our grandmasters there are quite a few who in the past smoked a great deal, but then realised it was harmful and dropped it.

After a temporary loss of the title of world champion, Alekhine quit smoking and drinking coffee and wine.

Instead he began drinking so much milk that one press report said he was travelling from place to place with his own cow.

Results? The Alekhine who arrived in Holland in 1937 for the world title return match was an entirely different man - confident and bursting with health. He easily beat Euwe to regain the world crown.

When a chess player is faring well in a tournament, people sometimes wonder what his diet is like. I remember asking Smyslov's wife at the time he defeated Botvinnik in 1957:

"What are you feeding Vasya with that he is playing so well and beating Botvinnik?"

The answer came only towards the end of the match. "Most of all I give him cod."

So there you are, dear readers, try out Smyslov's recipe and eat cod. It is a cheap fish, but very nutritious and it will help you to become a champion.

Chess players try not to eat late at night, not to over-eat, and indeed, they frequently prefer fish to meat.

Whatever your successes, always remain unbiased and modest - even if it doesn't sometimes fit in with your nature!

I believe it is very bad when senior colleagues try to ignore the appearance of younger talent. This is so in any field, not only in chess.

I recall that Bogolyubov in his time didn't recognise young chess geniuses. His usual remark was: "Yes, those young men are doing all right, but I claim that the world has only two real chess players, and the second man I have in mind is Alekhine."

Well, my recommendation to the readers is to avoid such "modesty."

I believe I've given the readers the main recipes for becoming a world champion in chess. Forgive me, please, I've overlooked one more detail: take up sport for sure.

All the leading Soviet chess players take up sport. Botvinnik and Smyslov go in for gymnastics and ski-ing, Spassky track athletics, Keres tennis (he is a first class player in that game), and Geller basketball.

Our grandmasters believe that motor racing is a good pastime

to escape from mental strain. We often find Botvinnik, Smyslov, Keres, Kotov, Geller, Taimanov, Lilienthal and Averbakh driving their cars. Oh, yes, they also occasionally encounter "time trouble" while at the wheel. I remember a few years ago when Mark Taimanov, then an inexperienced driver, wanted to show Smyslov the sights of Leningrad from his car.

They drove off but were soon stopped by a traffic militiaman for some violation.

"I have a distinguished guest from Moscow with me here," Taimanov pleaded with the officer. "He's the world champion, Smyslov."

The militiaman showed no signs of surprise. "If you're driving the world champion around, you ought to be even more careful not to break the laws! You'll have to pay a fine, anyway."

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