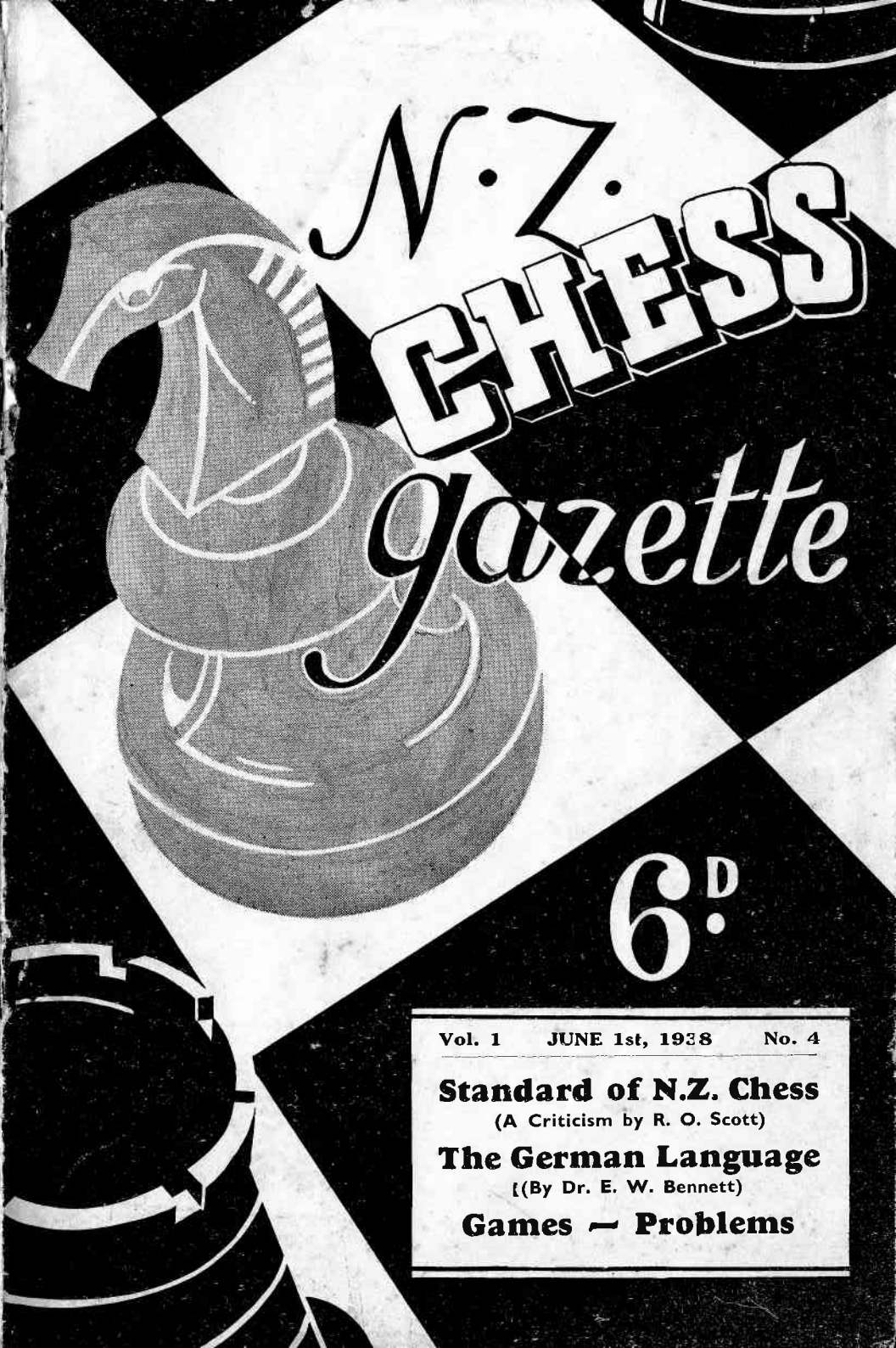


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Vol. 1 JUNE 1st, 1938 No. 4

Standard of N.Z. Chess
(A Criticism by R. O. Scott)

The German Language
(By Dr. E. W. Bennett)

Games — Problems

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Vol. 1

JUNE 1st, 1938

No. 4

To Our Readers

We regret the omission of the promised "Knight's Tour" by Dr. E. W. Bennett and the absence of "Ruy Lopez" from this number. The annual reports from the various Clubs have exerted heavy pressure upon our space. Our next issue shall contain the promised articles and other items of interest.

We notice that the Editor of "Chess" says "F. H. Grant of Canterbury, New Zealand, proposes to start a chess magazine and may have brought out his first number by the time these words appear. There is, proportionally, much more keenness for the game in N.Z., than in Australia, but we doubt whether there is enough to support a separate magazine, and in our opinion a drive to get more publicity in the newspapers would have been far more promising an undertaking."

The Editor of "Chess" will be pleased to know that we are going strong, and looking forward to our fifth issue. The Editor of the Gazette is confident that New Zealand Chess CAN carry our magazine, at the same time, we recognise that it is only by receiving the assistance of every chess player that ultimate success can be assured. We regard it as an opportune moment to suggest to enthusiastic Chess players that a drive for new subscribers is very necessary. The Editor of the N.Z. Chess Gazette has no hesitation in saying that only 100 more subscribers are required to make our magazine a permanent feature of N.Z. Chess.

THE EDITOR.

A FEW CHESS RULES.

NOT Published by the F.I.D.E.

1. Always offer your opponent odds; it may give him an inferiority complex.
2. Keep to one opening even if you don't know it. One day you will find somebody who knows it less.
3. Touch every piece before you move; it tends to confuse your opponent. Touch and move is a mean system adopted by some players when they fear they may lose.
4. Always intimidate your opponent by banging your pieces down hard.
5. Keep up a running commentary on the strength of your moves. It gives you confidence, and upsets your opponent.
6. Put several pieces "en prise" at once. It may confuse your opponent.
7. Check loudly wherever possible. It may be mate, and at least it will make your opponent jump.
8. Never resign; a game is never lost until it is won. Your opponent may drop dead before you are mated.
9. When in trouble lay a heavy smoke screen over the board. You may be able to re-arrange your pieces.
10. A similar smoke screen is very useful for jumping pawns with a bishop or rook.
11. If you fluke through a combination declare loudly that you had it all worked out. If you fail you can always blame a miscalculation, caused by your opponent blowing smoke in your eyes.
12. Always "announce" a mate if you think there is one on. Your opponent may resign immediately.

TALUS.

THE GERMAN LANGUAGE

(By Dr. E. W. BENNETT)

A knowledge of German opens up a new world to the chess player. Other foreign languages are of minor importance to him, except Russian, which is too difficult for most. It should also be made clear that German is not a simple language, but a knowledge of the notation, symbols, and chess vocabulary gives a good working basis, sufficient for playing through games and variations; even if the text is difficult.

In particular, a study of German makes accessible all of the writings of the greatest of chess teachers, and one can begin to understand why it has often been said that Tarrasch taught Europe to play chess. There are few who have been at once good players and good teachers, and no one has combined the two as Tarrasch has done. A remark that went the rounds of the chess press in an early stage of his career, that he had absorbed all the best that was in Steinitz with none of his eccentricities (a back-hander which left Steinitz uncertain whether to feel complimented or not) proved to be true not only of his play but also of his writings. Unfortunately his books, every one a veritable Textbook, are copyright and have not been translated. His English book gives no idea of his German writings.

Among the journals, reference may be made to the Wiener Schachzeitung (Vienna chess journal), and Kagan's Neueste Schachnachrichten (Kagan's latest chess news). The latter, for example, has opening lore and other matter amusingly presented in a palatable form, by way of games between the mythical heroes Agressewitsch, Offensivin, Defendarow, and the rest, who wage eternal wars within the walls of Caissenburg. It was Defendarow who achieved immortality by solving Dr. Tartakower's conundrum, What is truth? "Truth," said Defendarow, "is a weak move by the other fellow."

Space may be found later for some ruipts by the humorist Marco. Meanwhile—this murderous business of pronunciation. Zugzwang is not pronounced like water going out of a bath, but Tsooch-tsvahnk, the ch being

as in the Scottish loch. The other letters are each to be distinctly sounded, save the second h, which is to lengthen the vowel, the a being as in father, not as in fat. Also poor Winawer—three syllables, the w's become v's in Sam Weller style; the last syllable is like English air. If asphalt could be described as tar-ish, the word would not be unlike the name of Tarrasch. But Euwe is Dutch and sounds like Erver. Accent of first syllable in both cases. Charousek is Hungarian and sounds like car-oo-shek.

In the following game, Budapest, 1921, the winner parodies various styles of annotating (Kagan's N. Sch., ii, 1922, p.8).

White:	Black:
Tartakower	Euwe
1. P—Q4	P—Q4

Here Breyer would note in his neoromantic chess rubric: "A complete misunderstanding of the position. The move indicated was 1 . . . N—KB3, in order to brand the impetuous advance of the opponent (1. P—Q4) as a mistake."

2. P—QB4	P—QB3
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At this move I can imagine Alapin calling out, "Aha! There you are, Herr Defendarow!"

3. N—QB3	N—B3
4. P—K3	P—K3

Here Marco, in the course of a three-page analysis with six main variations and 21 sub-variations, would comment: "A line of play too difficult to see through, and too complicated for practical use with time limitations, would be 4 . . . B—KN5, e.g., A, I, a" etc.

5. B—Q3	QN—Q2
6. N—B3	B—Q3
7. P—K4.	

Here Dr. Vidmar, in case it ever came his way again to annotate a tournament book, would carefully say nothing at all. All the same 7.O—O is more solid.

7. . . .	P x KP
8. N x P	N x N
9. B x N	P—K4
10. O—O	P x P
11. Q x P	Q—B3
12. B—N5	Q x Q

At this point Dr. Tarrasch, the famous Instructor of Germany, would comment (announcing at the same time the publication of a work on the "Interplay of the Minor Pieces"): "All very finely conceived; yet the gods have put the middle game before the ending!"

13. N x Q	N—B4
14. B—B5	O—O
15. B x B	QR x B

Franz Gutmayer, the Instructor of the Heathen, would here ask, "Where on earth are black's eyes?" (His meaning would be that black could have saved himself by 15 . . . KR x B, and if 16. N—B5, B—B1). Franz Gutmayer would also burst into poetry: A painful episode can white arrange; Poor black must lose at least th' exchange.

16. N—B5	N—K5
17. B—K7.	

More precise than 17. N x B, N x N; 18. B—K7, N x P. Black resigns, for he cannot avoid decisive material loss. Here Dr. Lasker, the in-and-out world champion, would comment: "The handling of the white pieces by the winner creates a very favourable impression."

Waikare Chess Club Notes

(By H. H. Stayte)

All members are busy training for the championship and handicap tourneys which commence this month, and hope to remove all cob-webs by the time that George Koschnitsky is here. An innovation is that on each club night one senior player plays simultaneously the juniors and beginners, the seniors taking it in turn. This is resulting in an all-round improvement in play.

Our trophies last year were turned wooden rooks, 4 ins. high, with an inscribed silver plate attached. "Simple, yet artistic and dignified," was the comment of one visiting player. They were the result of a community effort. One member donated a piece of heart timber, seasoned for many years; a second sawed it up and roughed out the pieces; a third turned them on a lathe; a fourth polished them and attached the silver plates; and lastly our president signed a

piece of paper which covered any expense.

Speaking of expense—always a sore point in a small club—the member seen toddling around with a notebook with numbers in it was not conducting a raffle to augment our financial resources; it is more probable that it had something to do with the presentation of a clock to our club captain, inscribed "Tempus Fugit—the Club opens at 7.30 p.m. Sharp."

Waerenga rustics state that for the greater part of the week our "Wilf." is a moving picture of true bucolic calm—"Admiring of the atmosphere and a taking in the view." ("Moving," by the way, is to be read with a strictly emotional meaning.) But on one afternoon in each week his cows get milked so fast that they don't always realise what has taken place. This happened last Thursday to Strawberry and Pansy, and they went round to the front door of the cowshed and mooed to be milked again. They had forgotten it was chess night.

"There is prosperity in the air," as Mr. H. Thomas (Nationalist member for Te Kauwhata in the Waikare C.C.) would say, but it was considered rather bad taste for one member from the waybacks to come down the street at 90 m.p.h., gybe, pirouette, change into reverse, and make a perfect three-point landing in front of the club with a brand new, plush, purring monster, and then get out as if it were an everyday occurrence. Not to be outdone, our two "Johns" from 'Untley arrived next week in a 200 h.p. low-hung rakish model of sanguinary hue. "What is it?" members cried. The answer wasn't a lemon. It was a Citroen.

Chessmen have been made of wood, ivory, bone, metal, rubber, bakelite, and even emeralds and rubies, and now there is a still further addition. Mr. L. Gordon has recently been confined to his bed with a bad back, the "every picture tells a story" kind. These two statements may seem disconnected. "No so, Bolivar, not so!" While in a very hot bath, Mr. Gordon was pondering on a problem in the April number of the "N.Z. Chess Gazette" and absent-mindedly leant over the bath and set up the position on the bath-room lino with the shaving brush, soap, etc. The bath water turned from hot to icy cold.

CORRESPONDENCE CHESS.

The following B.C.C.A. results are to hand:

Trophies Tourney.

Class II.—N. Cromarty $\frac{1}{2}$, J. B. Cumming $\frac{1}{2}$.

Class IVB.—C. D. Lash 1, W. O. Jensen 0.

E. Jackson 1, L. R. Anthony 0.

Handicap Tourney.

K. S. Allen (2) 1, Dr. L. L. Burton (2) 0; J. B. Cumming (2) 1, D. Robertson (4B) 0; C. B. Easther (1B) 1, E. F. Tibbitts (1A) 0; H. C. King (1B) 2, A. T. Scott (3) 0; A. W. Anderson (4B) 1, W. O. Jensen (4B) 0; Dr. L. L. Burton (2) 2, A. Howe (1B) 0; G. M. Wagstaff (3) 1, W. O. Jensen (4B) 0; R. W. Park (1A) 1, C. B. Easter (1B) 0; E. J. Haigh (2) 2, Mrs. F. M. Burton (3) 0; K. W. Campbell (1B) $\frac{1}{2}$, C. H. Speck (2) $\frac{1}{2}$.

B.C.C.A. PLAYERS IN ACTION.

This game won the First Prize (Silver Medal) in the B.C.C.A. 1937-38 Handicap Tourney.

Dutch Defence.

W. T. H. Symons (Waikato)	M. Rogers (New Plymouth)
1. P—Q4	P—KB4
2. P—KN3	N—KB3
3. B—N2	P—K3
4. P—QB4	P—Q4
5. N—KB3	P—B3
6. P x P	KP x P
7. N—B3	B—Q3
8. B—B4?	N—K5
9. O—O	

Bishop takes Bishop is best.

9.	B x B
10. P x B	O—O
11. N—K5	N—Q2
12. P—K3	N(Q2)—B3
13. N—K2	B—K3
14. Q—B2	N—N5
15. P—KR3	N x N
16. BP x N	Q—N4
17. K—R2	Q—R5
18. N—N1	P—B5
19. N—B3	Q—R3
20. Q—K2	B—N5!

Black now has a tight hold on the game.

21. R—R1	P x P
22. P x P	

Queen takes pawn loses a piece.

22.	R—B4
23. QR—KB1	QR—KB1

24. P—QR4 N—N4!

25. K—N3

White is hopelessly placed. A piece must go.

25.	B x N
26. B x B	N x B
27. R x N	R x R ch
28. Q x R	Q—N4 ch
29. K—B2	Q—R5 ch
30. Resigns.	

New Plymouth Chess Club

Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Chess Club was held in the Y.W.-Y.M.C.A. on April 20th. Mr. R. A. Bent presided.

Before commencing business, members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the late Mr. A. V. Cooper, who was a staunch member of the Club during his lifetime. In the past year the Club had the misfortune to lose three of its members through death, Mr. J. Bruce, Mr. J. S. S. Medley, and Mr. A. V. Cooper.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Patron, Mr. G. Davies; President, Mr. J. A. Barnes; Vice-President, Mr. W. J. Bethel; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. H. S. Crompton-Smith.

During the year the usual championship games were played, J. A. Barnes winning the cup for the senior, and W. Hayward, the cup for the junior championship. Difficulty was experienced in obtaining a suitable room, and consequently the Club lost several of its members, and on the whole had a very hard time to keep going. However, this year the Club has been offered a room in the Y.W.-Y.M.C.A. building at a rental far below that which was paid last year, thus allowing the subscription to be greatly reduced. Needless to say the offer made by the Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. was accepted, and as a mark of appreciation he was made an honorary member of the Club.

The official opening of the Club is to be held on April 30th.

Standard of Chess in New Zealand

A Criticism by R. O. SCOTT

We cannot compare the New Zealand Chess standard favourably with that of other countries. There has been in the past, and still is, no constructed plan of improving the standard of play.

Outstanding events in the history of chess in the Dominion have been summed up as having a beneficial effect on the game, though the results have not actually been in the direction of improving the average standard of our players. It is recognised there has been a marked improvement during the last few years, but it is overlooked that the improvement is mainly confined to players in major clubs. In the past N.Z.'s isolated position would have a bearing on the standard of play, but now we are brought into closer touch with chess events in other parts of the world, through chess magazines, and can also study the game thoroughly because of a greater number of first class chess books than formerly. In most of the clubs there is a preponderance of young players, and we also have a strong correspondence club. These facts show that the prospect for improving our standard of play is very bright. It is, however, dependent on the removal of defects which impede the improvement.

The main defects in administration control are:

- (1) Lack of competition.
- (2) Centralization of Chess activities.
- (3) Non-expansion of the game to close wide gaps in several parts of New Zealand.
- (4) Diversity of opinion by clubs on such matters as competition, coaching, rate of play, club libraries and magazines, etc.

The N.Z. Unit of the B.C.C.A. is doing more than its share in unifying the players from all parts of the Dominion, and advancing the standard of play, but though its activities are Dominion-wide, it is not officially recognized by the N.Z.C.A.

Competition for the N.Z. Club Championship is limited to major clubs. The idea seems to be that

Telegraphic Matches must be the medium for deciding this annual event. No initiative has been shown in curtailing these matches on account of telegraphic expense. Competition is the key to improving the standard of play, therefore it is reasonable to assume that competition for the Bledisloe Cup could be enlarged, and decided by both "over the board" and telegraph matches. There are in Wellington three major clubs, but it is an established anomaly that only one Club there, viz., the Wellington Chess Club, can compete for the cup along with the Otago, Canterbury and Auckland Chess Clubs. The condition covering the competition for the Blackburn Cup is much worse. There seems to be no established plan of bringing the minor clubs together by competition.

The innovation of limiting the Championship Tourney to 14 entries, with supplementary tourneys, has not had the desired effect of improving the standard of play. It may be claimed that the innovation was too premature as the standard is not strong enough. Neither are there sufficient players coming forward to impose a limit on entries. Section play could have been persisted with, with the provision of at least 8 entries in each section. Only since 1924 (there were 24 entries at Auckland that year) has section play been resorted to. The method of elimination now in vogue, may be termed as an obstacle to improvement. It is wrong in principle, and unsound for the Elimination Board to base its rejection and acceptances of entries on opinion. The logical conclusion is, that elimination or acceptance should be based on the player's skill on the chess board. The Premier Reserves Tourney cannot be regarded as a proper tourney for qualifying players for the Championship, on account of the fact that the entries are composed of players of class one, two, or three strength. There is no conclusive evidence that the winner of the Premier Reserves can produce equal, or better form than that of eliminated players. In countries where limiting the Cham-

pionship Tournaments are in vogue, there are always a number of subsidiary tournaments. This is not the position in N.Z., as players have only one tournament to play in annually outside of their club tournaments. What is wanted is to inaugurate subsidiary tournaments to meet the need of players for more competition, and to provide the means for eliminating or accepting players for the main tournament.

A real problem is the non-advancement of the standard of play of minor club players, to the standard of play shown by major club players. For many years the former class of players has failed to get into the prize list at Congress. Leading players in minor clubs do not get the opportunities for good practice that players get in major clubs, besides, the policy of minor clubs is not as progressive as that of major clubs. Advice frequently repeated is that to improve, players should study master games thoroughly, and this form of practice is reputed to be superior to the practice of playing off-hand games at the club, with all sorts of opposition. This can be taken as a reflection on clubs, in not providing facilities for players to improve. Study of master games is beneficial, so long as players can get good practice in "over the board" play, to try out the theory and tactics of master players. To improve their game, players are dependent on fostering the spirit of rivalry. There is now in Napier such a spirit, which promises well for the improvement of the standard there in the near future. In the A.C.R. (February, 1938, page 56), the following lines are worthy of special note: "Probably the Paul Keres of to-day would be impossible had it not been for Paul Schmidt, and vice-versa. These two brilliant young Estonians, have developed each other's powers by their rivalry."

Australia has been fortunate in having players such as Purdy, Goldstein, Hastings, Koshnitsky, Crowl, and others, who have developed their powers by rivalry, and the result has been a steady improvement in the standard of play there.

We have players here who could be in the same favourable position, but we must have more competition to

make it possible, and minor club players should be in the same position as major club players for chances to improve. It cannot be said that they receive sufficient attention from their clubs. These players have little chance to improve, if they are limited to playing a dozen or so match games a year outside their club, or none at all.

Preparation is an essential necessity for Congress as most writers declare, but it is not seriously considered. There have been instances where minor club players, prior to Congress, have had to rely mostly on class 2, or class 3 players for practice, while some major club players confine themselves to practice with class 1 players.

The play of our players has been described as bookish and stereotyped. There are, however, far too many master games (played as positional games) published, which are eagerly studied by players who are not thoroughly acquainted with the positional intricacies of such games, and for this reason magazines would do good service to the average player if they publish more combinative games, i.e., games where the move P-K4 on both sides is played.

News from Napier

The Napier Chess Club re-opened its doors for the 1938 season last month. Many members have been playing private matches during the closed season and need no practice to polish up their pawn moves.

In the following long game (it took 3 hours) L. W. Couch defeated W. R. Aislabie in the new Monthly Tourney (run on the Christchurch system). Couch says it is one of his best games; Aislabie says that he himself played well. We suggest that our readers play it over (we enjoyed doing so). Annotated by the winner.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| White: | Black: |
| W. R. Aislabie | L. W. Couch |
| 1. P-K4 | P-K4 |
| 2. N-KB3 | N-KB3 |
| 3. P-Q3 | N-B3 |
| 4. QN-Q2 | |
| This is of doubtful value. | |
| 4. | P-Q4 |

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| 5. P x P | Q x P |
| 6. Q-K2 | B-KN5 |
| 7. P-KR3 | N-Q5! |
| 8. Q-Q1 | |
- Forced; for, if 8. Q x P ch, Q x Q ch;
10. N x Q? N x P mate.
- | | |
|------------|----------|
| 8. | B-R4 |
| 9. P-KN4 | B-N3 |
| 10. B-N2 | N x N ch |
| 11. N x N | P-K5 |

Now the fun starts.
12. N-R4 O-O-O
13. P-N5

He should castle while he has the chance.
13. B-N5 ch
14. P-QB3 KR-K1!

Half Black's pieces are en prise, but the attack must be continued relentlessly.
15. P x N

Again castling was necessary.
15. P x P dis. ch
16. B-K3 P-Q7 ch
17. K-B1 Q-Q6 ch
18. K-N1 R x B!!

Well-timed. White cannot afford to capture the Rook. He makes the only good reply.
19. Q-N4 ch K-N1
20. Q x B (N4)

Threatens mate and all but squashes Black's plans.
20. R-K8 ch
21. K-R2 R x R ch
22. B x R P-N3

Queen to Q3 ch fails because Black cannot Queen his Pawn and also stop White's pawn from Queening.
23. Q-N4 Q-Q3 ch
24. Q-N3 Q x Q ch
25. K x Q P-Q8 (Q)
26. R x Q R x R
27. P x P R-Q1
28. N x B RP x N

If 28. BP x N, 29. B-Q5 wins.
29. K-N4
Bishop to Q5 would still win a Pawn.
29. R-N1
30. K-N5 R x P
31. K-B6 R-R2
32. B-N2 K-B1
33. P-N4 K-Q1
34. P-QB4 K-K1
35. B-B6 ch K-B1
36. B-Q7 R-R5

White's Pawns are nicely placed. The Rook cannot escape via R4.
37. B-N4!!

- Foiled!
37. R-R2
38. P-B4 R-N2
39. B-Q7 P-N4

The only way out.
40. P x P R-N3 ch
41. K-B5 R-Q3
42. B-B8 R-Q7
43. P-QR4 R-QR7
44. B-Q7 R-QN7
45. P-R4 R x P
46. B-N5 P-QB3
47. B x P R x BP
48. B-N5 R x KRP
49. K-B6 R-B5 ch
50. K-K5 R-B7
51. K-K4 K-N2
52. K-K3 R-B4
53. P-N6 P x P
54. K-K4 R-B1
55. B-R6 P-KN4
56. K-K3 P-N5
57. B-N7 K-R3

If PN6, B-B3.
(Editor's Note: If 57. PN6, 58. B-B3 loses immediately by R x B ch. 59. K x R, K-B3! 60. K x P, K-K4, etc.)
58. K-K4 K-N4
59. K-K5 R-B4 ch
60. K-Q6 P-N4
61. P-R5 P-N5
62. P-R6 P-QN6
63. K-B7 P-N7
64. B-K4 R-B2 ch
65. K-N8 P-N6
66. K-R8 P-N7
67. B x P P-N8 (Q)
68. B-N7

If only that Bishop was extinct!
68. R-B1 ch

And Black mates next move.
The private chess matches are now drawing to a close. Results to date:
Scott 5, Brown 5.
Brown 4, Bartle 4.
Scott 4½, Fraser 3½.

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CHINESE CHESS

(By J. A. Jackson)

This is one of the branches of the "King of Games" which originated in Asia many hundred years ago, and spread to Europe. In its migration in Asia it has naturally changed, but the basic moves and the same 64 squares remain. I have played the game in Siam, China and Japan, and know the variations in those three countries. The game is called by the Chinese Hsiang Chi (Elephant Chess) and this perhaps indicates that they got the game from India. That name also distinguishes it from another game called Wei Chi (Surrounding Chess), which is more complicated with a board of 144 squares.

The Chinese board is remarkable for (1) a river which divides the two sides, and across this river certain pieces cannot pass; (2) the King and Queen (Minister) are confined to four squares; (3) in addition to the 16 pieces like ours there are two cannons which have the curious move of attacking only by shooting over the head of an intervening piece.

In China there are several old manuals on the game—the two principal ones being Orange Centre Secret and Plum Blossom Review which were first published in the Ming Dynasty (A.D. 1368-1628), but as these have been reproduced many times during the last three hundred years many errors have been collected. During recent years these books have been revised by Mr. Hsieh Chieh-hsun, who has devoted about thirty years to the work. These have now been published, and consist of 20 books in five

volumes, a copy of which I have before me while writing. It is full of examples of end games or what we should call problems with mate in 10/15 moves. The position is given by diagram, and each has its own poetical name, like Dragon and Snake in a Stormy Sea. The work is a very valuable contribution to chess literature.

Mr. Hsieh is the leading chess player in China, and writes a chess column in a leading newspaper in Shanghai. I became friendly with him when I was Hon. Secretary of the International Chess Club there, and interested him in our game. I supplied him with books on our game, and induced him to devote a few chapters explaining the moves, with a few games by Capablanca, with that champion's remarks.

In China there are no formal chess clubs, although there are many thousands of players. As there is no organization there are no national chess tournaments, and no chess champion. Mr. Hsieh and myself did our best to try and get the Chinese to organise and hold chess tournaments. In addition to public meetings we used to play chess in public on a big screen, with 64 squares on the platform, with Mr. Hsieh explaining the reasons for the moves.

In the East this is the problem of the future, i.e., to get China, Japan and Siam to take up the International game so that they could compete for the World Championship.

Wanganui Notes

The Wanganui Chess Club held its Annual Meeting on April 30th. There was a moderate attendance at the meeting, which was presided over by Mr. N. R. Lyth.

The results of the 1937-8 season are as follows:—

Championship: R. O. Scott.
Runner-up: S. Smith.

Junior Championship: N. Cromarty.
Runner-up: L. Jones.

Handicap Competition (11 entries):

- 1st: B. Beach (class 4), 8½ points.
- 2nd: A. J. Ratliff (class 4), 8 pts.
- 3rd: N. Cromarty (class 3), 7½ points.
- 4th: R. O. Scott (class 1), 7 pts.

The Championships will begin in June.

It was decided to revive ladder matches.

(Copy for our next number must be in hand by June 16th.)

Wanganui News—continued

During the past year members of the Club combined with members of the Palmerston North Chess Club in a match with Wellington, the combined team winning by 29 games to 23. A match was also played against Palmerston North, Wanganui winning by 23 games to 21.

This year it is proposed that two visits will be made to Palmerston North to play the Palmerston Club. With players from the rest of the province it was decided to again play a match with the Wellington City team.

A meeting will be held on Saturday, May 7th, at which matters in connection with the visit of Mr. G. Koshnitsky and the question of applying for the Congress to be held in Wanganui will be discussed.

Mr. G. Fisher, a former secretary of the Wanganui Club, has made his re-appearance at the Club. His re-entry will do much to improve the play and with his inclusion and the improved play of several members, the forthcoming championship will be very interesting. Mr. Scott will have to burn gallons of midnight oil (or use electricity) to hold his title this year.

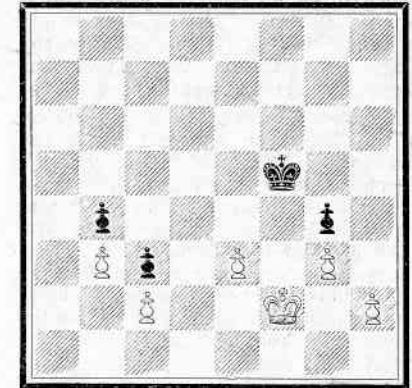
The following end game created some interest in the Club Handicap Tourney.

In the position, White to play, moved K—N2 and a draw was agreed to.

Mr. R. O. Scott, in his analysis, which has been questioned by other prominent players, states that a draw is the correct decision. What do you think? We submit Mr. Scott's variation.

1. P—R3, P x P; 2. K—B3, P—R7; 3. K—N2, P—R8 equals Q ch; 4. K x Q, K—K5; 5. P—N4, K x P; 6. P—N5, K—Q7; 7. P—N6, K x P; 8. P—N7, K x P (best); 9. P—N8 equals Q ch. This would result in either a perpetual check or a book draw if Black gives up his NP and places his K on R8 and P on B7.

R. O. Scott (Black).



B. Beach (White).

Hamilton Chess Club

(Contributed by R. Mears)

The 41st Annual Meeting was held in the Club Room on Tuesday, 26th April. There was a good attendance and the President, Mr. S. L. Paterson, occupied the chair.

The Secretary, Mr. A. R. Staines, read an encouraging Report and Balance Sheet for the past season. A discussion took place about the "Blackburn Cup" which the Club has held for the past three years, and it was decided to return it to the donor (Mr. C. Blackburn) as the Club was not prepared to play more than one telegraphic match in the season, and there was a prospect of two if not more challenges being received this year.

It was on August 22, 1897, that 11 enthusiasts held a meeting and decided to form a Chess Club in Hamilton. Like many another Chess Club it had its ups and downs, at one time being burnt out and losing all its boards, men, etc. Another time the membership was so low that it was decided to meet in each other's houses. Soon afterwards, however, the membership improved, and since then it has kept well up. A large amount of credit was due to Mr. J. C. McCrea, one of the first members, and also one of the first secretaries, who was a great

help to the club by his playing strength, as he was for years Champion of the Club. Mr. McCrea is now retired and living in Wellington, where he represents his old club at Chess Association meetings.

A rather amusing incident happened in the Hamilton Chess Club a few years ago. At one of the Telegraphic Matches one of the unfinished games was to an honourable gentleman for adjudication. This game was given against Hamilton, but the Hamilton player was not at all satisfied, and a short time afterwards he played the continuation over with the adjudicator and beat him in the different variations!!

The Club meets in the Regal Dining Rooms every Tuesday evening, and is always pleased to welcome visiting players.

Chess in Wellington

NGAIO'S SILVER JUBILEE.

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Ngaio Chess Club was held recently, Mr. F. J. Brooker presiding over a good attendance. The annual report of the hon. secretary, H. N. Robie, stated that the annual tourney for the championship of the club was again won by E. E. Hicks, C. L. Maloney being runner-up. Messrs. S. Faulknor and E. E. Hicks have each held the club championship five times, other winners being J. Lindsay (4), F. K. Kelling (3), G. A. Jones (2), A. B. Topp (1), F. J. Brooker (1), and W. J. Carman (1).

Carman's win in 1917 made him the first member to take over rung 1 on the club's ladder, which was made by a former hon. secretary, Mr. A. S. Green, cut of timber from the wreck of the Penguin. The annual handicap tourney was won by F. J. Brooker, the runner-up being A. Pyne, a very promising junior player. The junior championship was won by H. Prince. Previous winners are W. J. Hicks (2), J. A. Glasgow (5), H. J. Topp (2), J. S. Harrison (1), R. A. Godtschalk (3), and H. Stringer (1). The balance-sheet presented by Mr. J. A. Glasgow, hon. treasurer, shows the club's finances to be in a sound position.

The death of Mr. W. Watts is recorded with regret. The gold medal that he presented in 1921 was won outright by Mr. J. Lindsay, and in 1925 he provided further encouragement by donating a handsome silver cup which stands thirteen inches high. Each champion holds this trophy for a year, and retains a replica of it. Members stood in silence as a mark of respect to this esteemed patron when the annual report was adopted.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—Patrons, Mrs. E. E. Hicks, Colonel J. J. Esson, Messrs. H. L. Cummings, W. J. Carman, R. A. Wright, M.P., J. B. Lea, B. J. Lynneberg, and G. A. Jones; president, Mr. F. J. Brooker; vice-presidents, Messrs. E. E. Hicks and A. B. Topp; secretary, Mr. H. N. Robie; treasurer, Mr. J. A. Glasgow; auditor, Mr. W. J. Hicks; handicapper, Mr. E. E. Hicks; committee, Messrs. H. Prince and C. L. Maloney; match committee, Messrs. T. G. Fouhy and J. S. Harrison; delegates to Wellington Chess League, Messrs. C. L. Maloney and H. N. Robie.

The current season was opened with a lightning tourney, for which there were 14 competitors, including three members of the Wellington Chess Club. The winner was Mr. E. J. Arlow, of the Wellington Club, who scored 10½ points out of 13. The next best were J. Otto 10, J. Morton 9, G. A. Jones and J. L. Hardy, each 8½, J. S. Harrison and E. E. Hicks, each 7½. Mr. Steele, a colt who was making only his second appearance at the club, scored six points, his fine performance gaining him a special prize.

The New Zealand Chess Association has sent felicitations to the club on the occasion of its silver jubilee, with best wishes for a successful and prosperous future. The valued contribution that the club has made to the cause of chess in the Dominion is greatly appreciated. The club's first president was Mr. A. B. Topp, and he was succeeded by Mr. F. J. Brooker (a former hon. secretary of the Canterbury Chess Club), who now holds this office for the twenty-first time.

(“Evening Post,” 8/4/38.)

KARORI CHESS CLUB.

The eighth annual general meeting of the Karori Chess Club was held recently. There was a disappointing attendance. Mr. W. Kemble Welch, the retiring president, occupied the chair. The annual report stated that the club's playing season, from March 24 to December 1, was most satisfactory. A record membership was attained (25) and the club was more successful in its league matches and club competitions than in any previous year. The annual handicap tourney was conducted on the novel lines that had given satisfaction in the previous season. The stronger player is required to defeat his opponent within a fixed number of moves in order to obtain the full four points. On the other hand, they each take two points if the stronger player requires more than the stipulated number of moves for his win. The weaker player is allowed four points for a win, and in the event of a draw he gets three of the four points. Mr. Welch's prize for this event was won by Mr. A. G. E. Taylor, with 43 points, Mr. Hain being second with 28. At the close of the year sixteen players took part in a lightning tourney, in which the less-experienced competitors were given a handicap. Two of the scratch players, Messrs. Grady and Gilkison, tied for first place, the former winning the play-off.

The club entered three teams in the Wellington Chess League's competitions, one in the second grade and two in the third grade. The club's “Red” team won the third grade competition, scoring 7½ points out of a possible eight, while the “Blue” side finished fourth in a field of nine. Mr. Grady (second grade) and Mr. Hain (third grade) represented the club in the league's champion of champions competitions, each making a good showing.

The balance-sheet shows the club's finances to be in a good position.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. H. L. P. Dyett; vice-presidents, Messrs. A. W. Gyles, G. Whitham, and M. Gandar; match committee, Messrs. Dyett, Welch, Grady, Gandar, and Hain; honorary auditor, Mr. G. King.

(“Evening Post,” 8/4/38.)

N.Z. Association

Visit of G. Koshnitsky.

A meeting of the New Zealand Chess Association was held recently. Mr. A. T. Craven (Auckland) occupied the chair, and the following delegates were present:—J. C. McCrea (Hamilton), E. E. Hicks (Napier), J. L. Hardy (Hastings), E. H. Severne (Nelson), F. K. Kelling (Canterbury), and J. I. Goldsmith (Southland). Apologies were received from Messrs. K. Beyer (Wellington Working Men's Club), W. K. Welch (Palmerston North), and F. F. Grady (Oamaru).

The correspondence related mainly to the proposed six or eight weeks' tour of New Zealand by Mr. G. Koshnitsky, champion of New South Wales and an ex-champion of Australia. A report was received from Mr. H. J. Cleland, delegate of the Otago Chess Club, regarding an interview that he had had with Mr. Koshnitsky in Sydney. He stated that the terms mentioned by Mr. Koshnitsky, who would be travelling alone, were very reasonable. He would be available any time this year—the sooner the better—and would be prepared to give simultaneous exhibitions with no limit as to number of boards, and also lectures and radio talks on chess. He is not keen on blindfold displays, but is prepared to undertake them when desired. There is some doubt as to whether he would be available next year. A letter from Mr. Koshnitsky confirms the terms supplied by Mr. Cleland.

After going into various aspects of the matter it was unanimously decided to invite Mr. Koshnitsky to visit the Dominion, and to suggest that he should leave Sydney for Auckland on June 18. Messrs. Craven (chairman), McCrea (hon. secretary), and Hardy (hon. treasurer) were appointed to deal with details, and make the necessary arrangements. An itinerary is to be drawn up when replies are to hand from all the affiliated clubs. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Cleland for his report.

Mr. Koshnitsky handsomely won the recently-concluded tourney for the championship of New South Wales, and has thus qualified to retain his title for another year.

The Centennial Congress.

Inquiries are being made regarding the possibility of getting the present world champion or some other grand master to tour Australia and New Zealand in 1940. If negotiations in this direction are successful, it might be advisable to hold New Zealand's Centenary Congress at Easter, 1940, instead of, as usual, at Christmas time, when most of the Dominion's chess clubs have closed for the summer season, and could not, therefore, entertain a distinguished visitor. It was therefore decided, on the motion of the chairman, to ask clubs for their views on the question of holding the Centennial Congress at the Easter season.

Telegraphic Matches.

A letter was read from the Auckland Chess Club drawing attention to the growing dissatisfaction regarding the slowness of play in telegraphic matches for the Bledisloe Cup, and suggesting that clocks be used in future. Owing to a shortage of clocks this suggestion could not be given effect to during the present year, but it is hoped to effect a marked improvement by drawing up a circular for each captain to read to his team at the commencement of a match. This memorandum would, inter alia, deal with "time-leakage," the bugbear of telegraphic matches, and other retarding features of telegraphic play which are due for more attention than they have received in the past. An increase in the number of tellers at each centre and more punctual attendance of teams would also, it is claimed, help matters considerably.

("Evening Post," 6/5/38.)

Canterbury News

Results in the Canterbury Championships are as follows:—

CHAMPIONSHIP.				
	P.	W.	L.	D. Pts.
S. Hindin	9	8	0	1 8½
H. R. Abbott	9	7	1	1 7½
W. D. Khouri	8	7	1	0 7
L. J. Darwin	9	6	2	1 6½
Mrs. Abbott	9	6	3	0 6
W. A. Dobson	13	5	7	1 5½
A. O. Gray	13	5	8	0 5

C. W. Gray	15	5	10	0	5
J. A. Hunter	7	4	2	1	4½
E. H. Hey	7	4	3	0	4
Rev. N. Friberg	11	4	7	0	4
W. H. Joyce	11	4	7	0	4
H. Kennedy	10	2	7	1	2½
E. Dalton	10	1	9	0	1

INTERMEDIATE.

	P.	W.	L.	D. Pts.
S. Hollander	13	8	5	0 8
J. H. Hobday	8	6	1	1 6½
C. S. Smith	9	6	3	0 6
G. G. Parkins	7	4	3	0 4
J. I. Mellish	7	4	3	0 4
C. Hagar	8	3	4	1 3½
E. A. Hadler	9	3	5	1 3½
R. J. Penrose	8	3	4	1 3½
F. J. Butler	5	2	3	0 2
Miss A. Willard King	8	0	8	0 0

JUNIOR.

	P.	W.	L.	D. Pts.
F. Newsome	6	6	0	0 6
L. Anderson	8	6	2	0 6
A. E. Ault	7	5	2	0 5
H. Alcock	8	5	3	0 5
R. W. Smith	6	4	2	0 4
G. H. Atkinson	4	2	2	0 2
Miss K. Wilkinson	6	2	4	0 2
E. Harden	4	0	4	0 0
P. J. Bowes	5	0	5	0 0
A. W. McKay	5	0	5	0 0

LINCOLN CHESS CLUB.

The Third Annual Meeting of the Lincoln Chess Club was held recently. There was a good attendance of members.

Officers elected for the ensuing year: President, S. Bray; Vice-Presidents, J. W. Calder, W. A. Johnston, and K. Hammond; Secretary-Treasurer, R. Harris; Handicap Committee, R. Harris, W. A. Johnston, and K. Hammond; General Committee, Mesdames G. Askin, A. H. Button, and K. Hammond, Messrs. S. Banks, G. Gillatt, and W. McCartney.

Inter-club visits were discussed. The Canterbury Chess Club will receive a visit on May 14th, when it is hoped to turn the tables on the Canterbury team to make up for the recent defeat. It is hoped to have a triangular tournament between the Leeston, Rakaia and Lincoln Chess Clubs at an early date. The Lincoln Chess Club suggests that the three clubs select a country team to challenge the city team in view of Town versus Country Representative Matches.

The results in the Lincoln Championship to date are:—

	P.	W.	L.	D. Pts.
S. Banks	11	10	1	0 20
R. Harris	9	8	1	0 16
Mrs. A. H. Button	9	6	3	0 12
J. W. Calder	6	5	1	0 10
O. Banks	10	5	5	0 10
S. C. Harris	8	4	4	0 8
W. A. Johnston	6	3	3	0 6
K. Hammond	8	3	5	0 6
Mrs. G. Askim	7	1	5	1 3
J. J. Wallace	9	1	7	1 3
G. Gillatt	5	1	4	0 2
Mrs. K. Hammond	6	1	5	0 2
E. Schmidt	3	0	3	0 0

Messrs. S. Banks, R. Harris and J. W. Calder who are picked to contest the main issue created great interest during their recent games.

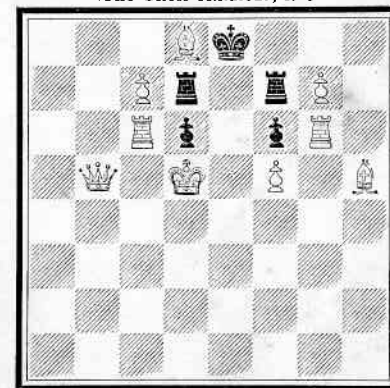
Mr. Banks defeated Mr. Harris!
Mr. Calder defeated Mr. Banks!!
Mr. Harris defeated Mr. Calder!!!

(The Editor wonders what will happen in the second round if Banks beats Calder—Harris beats Banks—Calder beats Harris. Excitement would be, as Frank Watanabe would say, very terrific!)

PROBLEMS

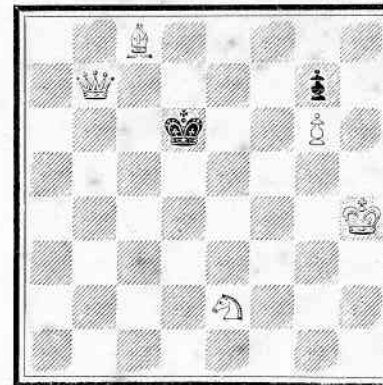
SOLUTIONS ARE INVITED!

No. 5—D. Booth, Jnr.
(The Chess Amateur, 1913)



Mate in Two (9 v. 5)

No. 6—E. J. Winter-Wood



Mate in Three (5 v. 2)

MAY SOLUTIONS.

- No. 3 (A. E. Le Petit)—
1. B—B6.
- No. 4 (G. Hume)—
1. Q—N2 K x P; 2. Q—Q2.
1. P—B8 equals B, R
or Q; 2. Q—R8 ch.
1. P—B8 equals N;
2. Q—QB2.

Solutions to "Ruy Lopez's" Problems.

- No. 1. Q—QR1 Any; 2. Q—KR8 mate.

In the position as given, with white to play, it is obvious that black must have moved last, and further, from the position of the pawns it is obvious that black must have moved either the King or the Rook; therefore he cannot castle. This problem won first prize in a tourney.

No. 2.

White's last move must have been made with a Knight, which was captured by Black on the last move. K x N on his own (K) square is impossible because N—K8 could only be made from Q6 when the Black K, then at B2, would have been in check before White moved. If the B captured the N, Black would also have been in check when White moved. It must have been P (on N3) x N, and previously Black must have played P (R2) x N. The position can be reached in 15 moves on either side.

No. 3.

P x P en passant.