

Darnall & Handsworth Chess Club

Bulletin No. 18

Formed 1985

23/6/87

Forthcoming Events

Sun. 28th June Lancaster One-day - open, U-150 (U-130/110 g.pr's)
 10th-12th July Cleveland Congress, Middlesbrough - 6 sections
 17th-19th July Skegness - single section, U-160/140/120 gr.prizes
 3rd-15th August British Chess Championships, Swansea - including:
 7th- 9th August - weekend tournaments - U-150, U-125
 25th-27th September Tyne-Wear Congress, Newc. - open, U151, U121, U90

1986/87 League Performances

Grading results for the Sheffield leagues (Association and Works) etc. have been sent off to the Yorkshire grader. They include results from Association bulletins 1 to 9, Works circulars 1 to 17, and games from the University Congress. More results are expected, and will be added in, but may not be in time for lists published outside Sheffield.

Below is a table of details sent off for Darnall & Handsworth players. It should be remembered that results from outside Sheffield, such as congress games, will be added to these. Also, if less than a certain number of games are included, then they will where possible have games added in from the previous season, to give a statistically sounder sample of results. The 1986/87 'league grade' shown is thus NOT to be interpreted as your final 1987 grading, though in some cases it will turn out to be the same.

Since the N.C.C.U. grading list had so many faults, not just regarding local players but across the whole union, it has been decided there will again be a Yorkshire Grading List produced internally by the YCA.

<u>name and</u> <u>initials</u>	<u>works</u> <u>club</u>	<u>'86</u> <u>grade</u>	<u>no.of</u> <u>games</u>	<u>total</u> <u>score</u>	<u>league</u> <u>grade</u>	<u>wins</u>	<u>draws</u>	<u>losses</u>
Bell	R TN	81	15	1363	91	6	2	7
Bird	SA TS	***	11	867	79	3	2	6
Bowler	CE TP	116	21	2205	105	6	4	11
Bramall	A	***	9	728	81	1	3	5
Brough	GJ TR	102	18	1739	97	6	1	11
Brown	GD TH	134	39	5367	138	24	5	10
Burkinshaw	AG	86	2	195	***	1	0	1
Burton	R TE	***	6	410	***	2	0	4
Cassinelli	PG	122	7	715	***	1	3	3
Clarke	F TS	95	11	1052	96	3	3	5
Cook	DL	120	20	2412	121	6	7	7
Cooper	MN	124	1	104	***	0	0	1
Facer	G	106	9	1024	114	4	1	4
Gallagher	J	108	18	2343	130	9	4	5
Hill	AE TH	87	2	77	***	0	0	2
Hodgett	DK TP	114	26	3138	121	10	8	8
Johnson	MP TS	151	24	3674	153	15	6	3
Langer	GJ	***	9	846	94	3	3	3
Lindsay	R TR	100	20	2089	104	9	5	6
Mann	SJ TN	177	37	6688	181	31	4	2
Parkin	M TL	115	24	2943	123	10	10	4
Somerset	WP	***	13	1459	112	9	0	4
Stephenson	BD TS	107	19	1897	100	5	8	6
Turnidge	M TR	87	17	1575	93	5	8	4
Whitfield	JT TL	111	22	2450	111	10	6	6

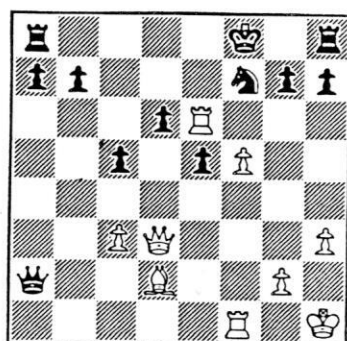
(New gradings are only shown for 8 or more games.)

Somewhat disappointingly I only received 2 sets of answers to the quiz I set in issue 13. Geoff Brown got five right but the clear winner was Steve Mann with eighteen. His only failures were questions 1 and 2. As our esteemed editor is teetotal I am in somewhat of a quandary about what beverage should fill the pint glass!

1. This cheeky player was Joseph Henry BLACKBURNE (1841-1924), without doubt the greatest British player of his time. The event referred to in the question happened during a simultaneous display. He noticed a glass of whisky left unattended by one of his opponents and drained it saying that as it had been left 'en prise' he had taken it 'en passant'. To illustrate his bold style here is a typical effort taken from a group of ten simultaneous games played blindfold in Sheffield in 1874. Is his opponent of the Davy family that donated the trophy for the division one championship?

J H BLACKBURNE - A DAVY

Scotch gambit - Vitzhum attack.

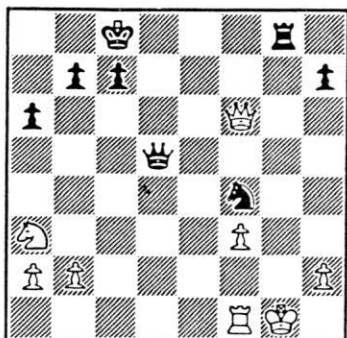


1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 ed 4.Bc4 Bc5 5.Ng5 Nh6 6.Qh5 Qe7 7.O-O d6 8.h3 Ne5 (A waste of time. 8...Bd7 and 9...O-O-O are recommended - JHB) 9.Bb3 Bd7 10.f4 Qf6 (so that after 11.fe7 d3+ wins the WR - BDS) 11.Nd2 Qg6 12.Qh4 f6 13.Ne6 Be6 14.Be6 eNf7 15.Nf3 Qe4 16.Re1 d3+ 17.Kh1 Qb4 18.c3 Qb6 19.Bf7+ Kf7 20.Qh5+ Kf8 21.f5 Nf7 22.Re6 Bf2 23.Bd2 Qb2 (Takes the bQ far from home - JHB) 24.Rf1 Bg3 25.Qg4 Be5 26.Qc4 c5 27.Qd3 Qa2 28.Ne5 fe (SEE DIAGRAM) 29.Rd6 e4 30.Qg3 Qc4 31.Rd1 Nd6 32.Qd6+ Kf7 33.Qd7+ Kf6 34.Bf4 1-0 (Black must give up his Q to avert mate - JHB)

2. The pop-picking IM is Yugoslav player KARAKLAIC. Here he is in lively action against our own Bob Wade at Monte Carlo in 1967. Notes from Informator except where marked. Many thanks to SJM for providing this game.

R G WADE - KARAKLAIC

Ruy Lopez - Exchange variation



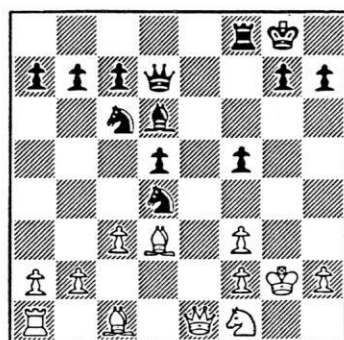
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bc6 dc 5.O-O f6 6.c3!? c5 7.Na3? (7d4!) Ne7 8.d4 cd 9.cd ed 10.e5?! Bg4! 11.ef qf 12.Qd4 Bf3 13.Qf6 Bg2 14.Qh8 Bf1 15.Bh6 Qd5! 16.Rf1 (16.Qf8+ Kd7 17.Qg7 Rg8 -+) 0-0-0 17.Bf8 Ng6 18.Qg7 (18.Qh7 Nf4 19.f3 Qg5+ 20.Kf2 Qg2+ 21.Ke3 Nd5+ -+) Rf8 19.f3 Rg8 20.Qf6 Nf4+ (SEE DIAGRAM) 0-1 (21.Kf2 Qd2++; 21.Kh1 Nh3! with the threat 22...Nf2+ 23.Rf2 Qd1+ 24.Rf1 Qf1++ and if against this 22.Qh4 then 22...Qf3+ 23.Rf3 Rg1++ - BDS)

3. This unfortunate player was Harry Nelson PILLSBURY (1872-1906). He was one of the 4 players in the St. Petersburg Tournament of 1895-6 who had to play each other 6 times. The others were Steinitz, Em. Lasker and Chigorin. To quote Ken Whyld in the foreword of the recently issued facsimile of the tournament bulletin:- 'It is popularly believed that during this visit to St. Petersburg, Pillsbury caught syphilis from which he eventually died. Walter Korn ... has put a timetable to it. He says that in the unexpected free

time between 6th and 12th December Pillsbury visited a brothel, became aware of symptoms between 27th December and 2nd January and was given the diagnosis of syphilis by a doctor before his game on 4th January. Korn says this explains why Pillsbury, after scoring 6+ in the first 9 rounds, lost his next 5 games and scored only three draws from the remaining four. It is possible, but could it be that on the same day Chigorin discovered that he did not have a similar complaint? He scored only 1+ in the first 9 rounds but 5+ in the last 9.' Here is Pillsbury's game from round 1 of this great tournament. It is against the then World Champion and eventual winner of the event Emmanuel Lasker who seems to have played distinctly below par in this game.

Em. LASKER - H N PILLSBURY

Petroff Defence

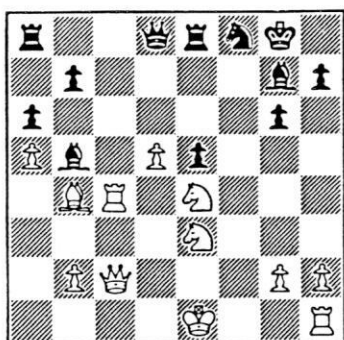


1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Ne5 d6 4.Nf3 Ne4 5.d4
d5 6.Bd3 Be7 7.O-O Nc6 8.Re1 Bg4 9.c3 f5
10.Qb3? O-O! 11.Bf4 Bf3 12.qf Ng5 13.Kg2
Qd7 14.Qc2 Ne6 15.Bc1 Bd6 16.Nd2 aRe8
17.Nf1 eNd4 18.Qd1 Re1 19.Qe1 (SEE DIAGRAM)
Nf3! 20.Kf3 f4! 21.Qd1 Ne5+ 22.Ke2 Qq4+
23.Kd2 Qd1+ 24.Kd1 Nd3 25.Ke2 Ne5 26.f3 Re8
27.b3 Nq4+ 28.Kd2 Ne3 29.Bb2 Nq2 30.h3 Bc5
31.Nh2 Bf2 32.c4 dc 33.bc h5 0-1

4. The answer here is GM Alexander Nikolayevich ZAITSEV (1935-71) who shouldn't be confused with GM I A Zaitsev who is no relation. To quote from David Hooper and Ken Whyld in their excellent 'Oxford Companion to Chess' - 'Zaitsev came to a sad end. Wishing to marry he decided first to remedy a limp by having one leg lengthened; although he was otherwise a robust and healthy man he died of thrombosis as a consequence of the operation.' In the following game Zaitsev takes advantage of some silly moves by his opponent. It was played at Busum in 1969. Many thanks to SJM for supplying it. Notes by Ivkov in Informator.

A N ZAITSEV - SZILY

Modern Defence



1.d4 q6 2.c4 Bq7 3.Nc3 d6 4.e4 c6 5.f4 a6
6.a4 bNd7 7.Nf3 e5 8.fe de 9.d5 qNf6
10.Be2 O-O 11.Bq5 Qb6 12.Qc2 Nq4 13.Nd1 f6
14.Bd2 cd 15.cd f5 16.a5 Qd6 17.Ra4 Re8
18.Rc4 Nf8 19.Bb4 Qd8 20.Nd2 fe (20._Nf6)
21.Bq4! Bq4 22.Ne3 Bd7 23.Ne4 Bb5 (SEE
DIAGRAM) 24.O-O!! Bc4 25.Qc4 Nd7 26.d6+ Kh8
27.Nd5 Rf8 28.Nc7 Rb8 29.Rd1! Qh4 30.Ne6
Qq4 31.Qd5 fRe8 32.6Nq5 h6 33.h3 Qf4
34.Bd2 Qf8 35.Nf7+ Kh7 36.Rf1 Qq8 37.Qc4
Bf8 38Qc7! 1-0

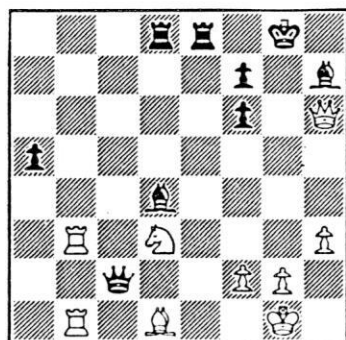
5. The player who didn't think much of 1.e4 was Hungarian Gyula BREYER (1894-1921) who died tragically young of heart disease. He is probably best remembered these days for a line in the Ruy Lopez - 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 Na5 9.h3 Nb8 - called the Breyer variation. Here is a game of his against Euwe. It's from the Vienna tournament of 1921.

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.d4 e5 4.de Ne5 5.f4
Nc6 6.e5 Nq8 7.Bc4 d6 8.Nf3 Bg4 9.O-O Qd7
10.Qe1 O-O-O 11.Nq5 de 12.Kh1 f6 13.Nf7 Na5
14.Nd8 Nc4 15.Qe4 Nd6 16.Qb4 Be7 17.fe fe
18.Nb7 Nb7 19.Rf8+ Bf8 20.Qf8+ Qd8 21.Qg7
Nf6 22.Bg5 Rg8 23.Qh6 Rg6 24.Qh4 Nd6
25.Rf1 Nf5 26.Qg4 Nq4 27.Bd8 gNe3 28.Rf3
Kd8 29.h3 Rg3 30.Rg3 Nq3+ 0-1

6. This busy and determined player is Glenn FLEAR who at 4 days notice stood in for Soviet GM Dorfman in the GLC Chess Challenge in 1986. In a field of 14 he was the only IM - the rest were GMs and he won the tournament half a point ahead of his nearest rival! After his round 8 game against Speelman had been adjourned he travelled to Leicester where he married French Lady Chess Champion Christine Leroy. They had their honeymoon (I presume!) during round 9 which the organisers had allowed Glenn to play before round 1 and then headed back to London where Glenn ground out a win in his adjourned game where he was a pawn up. Here is his game against Mestel from this tournament.

A J MESTEL - G FLEAR

Two Knights Defence



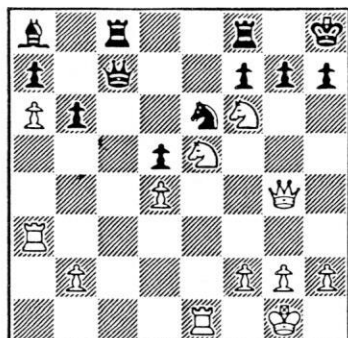
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.ed
Na5 6.Bb5+ c6 7.dc bc 8.Be2 h6 9.Nf3 e4
10.Ne5 Bd6 11.d4 ed 12.Nd3 Qc7 13.b3 O-O
14.Bb2 Bf5 15.Nd2 aRd8 16.h3 c5 17.O-O c4
18.Nc4 Nc4 19.bc Qc4 20.Bf6 qf 21.Bg4 Bh7
22.Re1 Bc5 23.Qc1 Bd4 24.Rb1 Qa2 25.Nb4 Qc4
26.Qh6 a5 27.Rb3 fRe8 28.eRb1 Qc5 29.Nd3
Qc2 30.Bd1 (SEE DIAGRAM) Re1+! 31.Kh2 Rd1
32.Rb8 Qc7+ 0-1

7. The taxi driver was Nicolas ROSSOLIMO (1910-75). As SJM mentions he was a taxi driver in Paris before he moved to New York in 1953. To complete the cosmopolitan picture you'll want to know that he was born in Kiev of a Russian mother and a Greek father. Here is a game (supplied by SJM - thanks) of his played in Puerto Rico in 1967. Notes from Informator except where marked.

ROSSOLIMO - RICEMAN

Italian Game

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 ed 6.cd Bb4+ 7.Bd2
Bd2+ 8.bNd2 d5 9.ed Nd5 10.Qb3 cNe7 11.O-O c6 12.fRe1 O-O 13.a4
b6? (13._Qb6!) 14.Ne5 Bb7 15.a5 Rc8 16.Ne4 Qc7 17.a6 Ba8 18.Qh3
Nf4 (18._c5) 19.Qg4 eNd5 20.Ra3 Ne6?? 21.Bd5 cd 22.Nf6+ Kh8 (SEE
DIAGRAM overleaf)



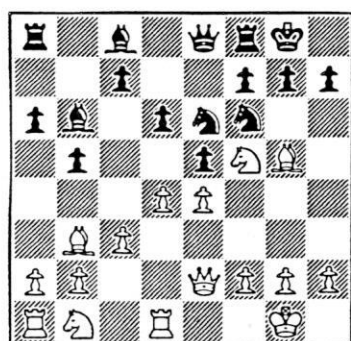
23.Qg6!! Qc2 [The threat was 24.Qh7++. If 23._hg 24.Rh3++; 23._fg 24.Ng6+ hg 25.Rh3++; 23._gf 24.Qf6+ Ng7 (24._Kg8 25.Rg3+ Ng7,Ng8 26.RxN++) 25.Rg3 Rg8 26.Nf7+ Qf7 27.Qf7 wins the bQ; best appears to have been 23._Ng5 with a likely line being 24.Qg5 Qd8 (24._gf? 25.Qf6+ Kg8 26.Rg3++) 25.Qg4 Rc7 (25._gf? 26.Rg3 Rg8 27.Nf7++; 25._Qf6? 26.Rf3 Qe7 27.Rf7 Qf7 28.Nf7+ winning the bQ) 26.Nh5 f6 27.Nd3 with an eventual win for white a piece up - BDS] 24.Rh3! 1-0 (24._Qg6 25.Ng6+ fg 26.Rh7++; 24._Ng5 25.Nf7+ Rf7 26.Qc2 wins the bQ - BDS)

8. Frederick Dewhurst YATES (1884-1932) was killed while asleep by a leak from a faulty gas pipe connection. He was a Yorkshireman born in Leeds. He was county champion, wrote a column in the 'Yorkshire Post' and was chess correspondent of the 'Manchester Guardian'. He was known as a dangerous opponent who on his day was capable of beating anyone. To his credit he had two defeats of Alekhine, three of Bogoljubov and three of Rubinstein. Here is one of his wins over Rubinstein at Budapest in 1926. Notes by Tartakover and du Mont.

F D YATES - A K RUBINSTEIN

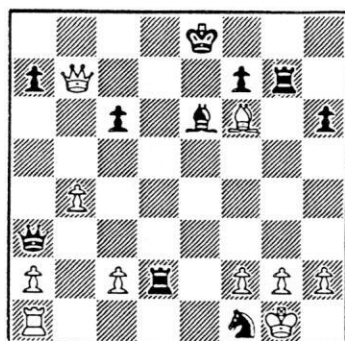
Ruy Lopez - Wormald Variation

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.Qe2 b5 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.c3 Q-O-O 8.O-O d6 9.Rd1 (Normal here is 9.d3 but Yates wants to force d4 as soon as possible without providing for 9._Bg4 by 9.h3) 9._Qe7?



(underestimating the threat of 10.d4 which could have been minimised by 9._Re8 10.d4 ed 11.cd Re4 12.Bf7+ Kf8 etc) 10.d4! Bb6 11.Bg5 Nd8? (Fatal. Black should loosen white's grip with 11._h6) 12.Nh4 Ne6 (If 12._h6 13.Ng6 wins the exchange; if 12._g6 13.Qf3 Kg7 14.Nf5+ gf 15.ef Bb7 16.Qg3 wins. The best defence was 12._Kh8) 13.Nf5 Qe8? (If 13._Qd8 14.Be6 fe 15.Ng7 Kg7 16.de with a winning attack; if 13._Qd7 14.Bf6 gf 15.Rd3 etc wins. After the text there is a catastrophe.) (SEE DIAGRAM) 14.Bf6 gf 15.Be6 1-0 (15._Be6 16.Qg4+ Kh8 17.Qg7++; 15._fe 16.Qg4+ Qg6 17.Ne7+ wins the bQ.)

9. W C EVANS, who has been mentioned in the bulletin before as a problem composer, has won the Sheffield Championship on a record 8 occasions - 1933, 1947, 1950, 1956, 1958, 1961, 1965 and 1968 - as well as being Championship controller from 1969 to 1985. Here is a game of his for Button Lane in the 1934 League Champions v. Rest of Sheffield League match (kindly supplied by SJM). His opponent, himself a previous Sheffield Championship, sees his 'won' game violently turn into a lost one.

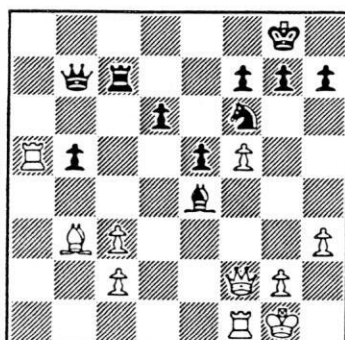


1.e4 d5 2.ed Qd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4 e5 5.de
 Qe5+ 6.gNe2 c6 7.Bf4 Qa5 8.Ng3 Be6 9.Bd3
 Nd7 10.O-O gNf6 11.cNe4 Rd8 12.Qe2 h6
 13.Bc4 Nd5 14.Nd6+ Bd6 15.Bd6 7Nb6 16.b4
 Qa3 17.Bc5 Nc4 18.Qc4 Ne3 19.Qe2 Nf1 20.Nf5
 Rd2 21.Ng7+ Kd7 22.Qe5 Rh7 23.Qb8 Rg7
 24.Qb7+ Kd8 25.Be7+ Ke8 26.Bf6 (SEE
 DIAGRAM) Rg2+! 0-1 (27.Kg2 Qh3+ 28.Kg1 Qh2+
 29.Kf1 Qf2++; 27.Kf1 dRf2+ 28.Ke1 Qe3+
 29.Kd1 Qd2++; 27.Kh1 Rh2+ 28.Kg1 Rh1+
 29.Kh1 Qh3+ 30.Kg1 Qh2+ 31.Kf1 Qf2++ - BDS)

10. This was Chris Shephard, the current Sheffield Champion, and it wasn't one of his more successful activities. Apart from his prowess at o-t-b chess, Chris is a keen player of Correspondence Chess and is indeed an International Correspondence Chess Master. Here he is on board 8 for Great Britain in the 1st North Atlantic Team Tournament in which he scored 7 out of 8 and which earned him his title.

F PEREZ CONDE (Spain) - C C W SHEPHARD Sicilian Defence

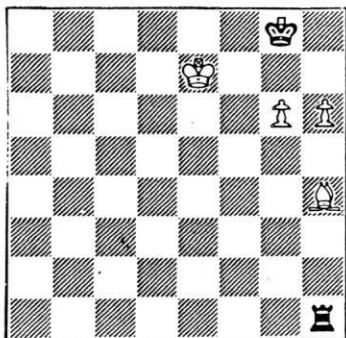
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd 4.Nd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bb3 b5
 8.O-O Be7 9.a3 O-O 10.f4 Bb7 11.f5 e5 12.dNe2 bNd7 13.Ng3 Rc8



14.Bg5 Rc3! 15.bc Ne4 16.Ne4 Be4 17.Be7 Qe7
 18.h3 Rc8 19.a4 Nf6 20.ab ab 21.Qe2 Qb7
 22.Qf2 Rc7 23.Ra5? (SEE DIAGRAM) Bg2! (Now
 black has two pawns for the exchange. If
 24.Qg2? Qb6+ & 25._Qa5 wins the exchange
 back leaving black a solid two pawns ahead -
 BDS) 24.fRa1 Bc6 25.Ra8+ Be8 26.gRa7 Qc6
 27.Rc7 Qc7 28.Qa7 Qc6 29.Ra6 Qc3 30.Rd6
 Qq3+ 31.Kf1 Qh3+ 32.Ke2 Qq4+ 33.Ke1 h5
 34.Rd8 Kh7 35.Qf2 Bd7 36.Rf8 Ne4 37.Qe3
 Qh4+ 38.Kd1 Qh1+ 39.Ke2 Bf5 40.Rf7 Qq2+
 41.Ke1 Kq6 42.Qb6+ Nf6 43.Rf8 Qq3+ 44.Kd1
 Qf4 45.Qd6 Bq4+ 46.Ke1 Qe3+ 0-1 (47.Kf1
 Bh3++)

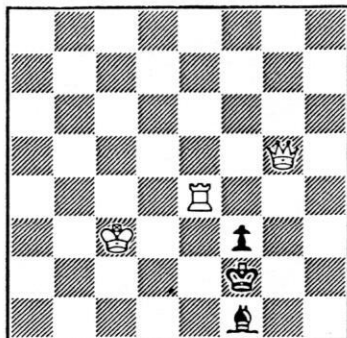
Questions 11-20 will be answered in a later issue of the bulletin.

E18: W STEINITZ
1862



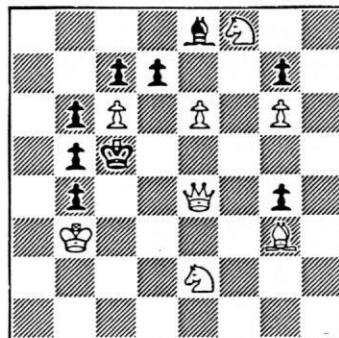
White to play and win

L65: S LOYD
Musical World, 1895



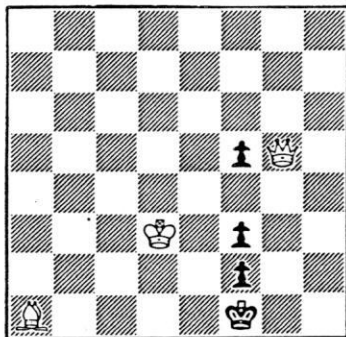
Mate in two

L66: W A SHINKMAN
Detroit Free Press, 1885



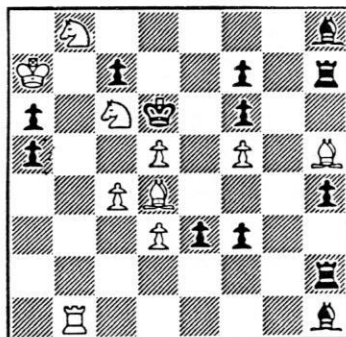
Mate in two

L67: W F VON HOLZHAUSEN
Blumenthal Schachminiaturen II, 1903



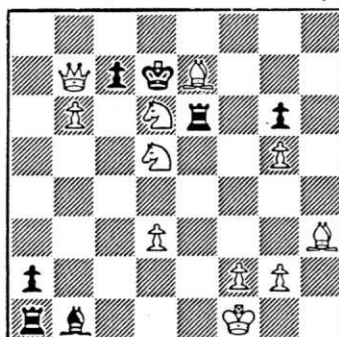
Mate in three

L68: R LINDSAY
The Field, 1931



Mate in three

L69: F LINDGREN
3rd Prize, Eskilstuna Kuriren, 1923



Selfmate in two

FOR SOLVING

Six old positions for solving this issue. They range from 1862 to 1931 and are all reasonably easy so that I hope those who haven't tried solving before will give them a go. Please give solutions to me. I will accept them up until the time issue 20 is published. Don't forget there is a book prize for each ladder ascent (400 points) and a book prize for the best total score over each 10 issues. The current 'decade' tournament will end with issue 20.

E18 is one of the very few studies composed by Wilhelm Steinitz, World Champion 1886-1894.

Sam Loyd (1841-1911) was one of the most famous of American problem composers. Blessed with a fertile imagination it was he that composed the first examples of many now standard themes. L65 is typical of his light and elegant work in the two-move field.

William Anthony Shinkman (1847-1933), another great American composer, was well known for the great wealth of new ideas that he brought to the chess problem art. L66 was the first problem ever to show its theme. Shinkman lived all his long life in Grand Rapids, Michigan and was nicknamed 'the wizard of Grand Rapids'. Perhaps his most important gift to the chess problem world was the invention of the Selfmate - see L69.

Walther Freiherr von Holzhausen (1876-1935) was one of the founder members of the so-called 'Neu Deutschen' school of logical chess problems. L67 is one of the great pioneer problems of all time and no solver can fail to appreciate its somewhat startling point.

Unless our Bob Lindsay is older than he looks, L68 is by a namesake of his. It has only recently come to my attention and I would promptly have forgotten about it if it wasn't for its composer's name.

In a selfmate (also called sui-mate) both sides play to force their opponent to checkmate them. Thus in a selfmate in two white plays first and forces black to mate him (white) on or before black's second move. In each variation of the solution black is to have no choice of move other than mating white on his last move. L69 is a straightforward example which has a thematic connection with L66.

SOLUTIONS (Issue 16)

E16 (Walther) 1Bf4 (i) e5 2Bg3 (ii) e6 3Ke1 e2 4Ke2 e4 5Bf4 e3 6Bh6 Kh2 7Be3 g1=Q 8Bg1 Kg1 9Ke3 e5 10h6 Bd5 11h7 wins. (i) 1Bg3? e5 2Ke1 e2 3Ke2 e4 = (ii) 2Bh6? Kh2 3Be3 g1=Q 4Bg1 Kg1 5Ke3 Bd5 6h6 Bg8 = (iii) 2_e4 3Bf4 & 4Bh6 wins. 'Witty and fine play to activate blocked WP and secure promotion' (F S Bondarenko, the judge who gave this study its award.) **L55 (Haring)** Set play 1_Nc4/Bc4/Rc4 2d8=Q,R/Nb3/Qc3++ Solution 1Nb4 (2Nc6++) 1_Nb8,Nb4/Nc4/Kc4/Bc4/Rc4/Qh1 2Qc5/Rd3/Na6/e3/e3/Nc2++ The point here is in the changed play after the captures on c4. In the set play they are self-pins but they aren't after the key which is how the change mechanism works. The fact that 1_Bc4 and 1_Rc4 both lead to 2e3++ is a major weakness however. I warned that this one was decidedly tricky and that is what it has turned out to be. One leading solver got it wrong and berated me for publishing such a silly problem and was mortified when I demonstrated a refutation of his 'solution' while another leading solver quietly suggested to me that perhaps I had misprinted the diagram because the solution he had found was full of dual mates! For the record the move which caused all the problems was 1Nc5? with the threats 2Rd3++, 2e3++ and 2cN~++. It is defeated by 1_Nb4!! creating a flight at c4 while c5 is inaccessible to the wQ. **L56 (Hassberg)** 1Qc2 (2Qh7++) 1_Rg5,Rg6,Rh7/Rc2 2Qh2/Rh7++ A nice queen sac on an open board which appealed to occasional solver DKH whose ladder score is thereby increased by ten points. **L57 (Dombrovskis)** 1Rf2 (2Qf4++) 1_d4/Kd4/Ne4/Ne2/Rd4/Re4 2Rc5/Re2/Rf5/Qe3/Qe7/Qf6++ The excellent key gives two flights to the bK and is followed by some well-varied play. **L58 (Orlimont)** There is a try in 1Qc3? (2Qa3++) which is refuted by 1_b5! and w can't mate because it is impossible for the wB to both guard b7 and cut-off the bRf7 at the same time. Accordingly we must first decoy bRf7 and the solution is thus 1Rf1! (2Raf++) 1_Rf1 2Qc3 (3Qa3++) b5/Raf 3Bf3/Qaf++; 1_b5 2Qc5 & 3Qb5,Raf++; 1_Rf2 2Raf+ Ra2 3Ra2++ **L59 (Aliovsadzade & Vagidov)** 1Bf4 Bc7 2Rd6 Ba5++; 1Bel Bg3 2dRf4 Bel++ In each solution the wEe5 unpins the bRd4 which then returns the compliment so that the wB can mate. An amusing idea!

LEADING LADDER SCORES (up to and including issue 16):- JW 316, GDB 168, FC 102. Leading scores for issues 11-20 are:- GDB 360, JW 316, FC 245.

Solvers are reminded that the closing date for solutions to the Lloyds Bank Starter Problem (see issue 16) is July 1st. You still have time to send your solution in - just!

Stop Press: League Tables

DIVISION 1

	P	W	D	L	P
Aughton 'A'	16	13	2	1	28
Rotherham 'A'	16	9	2	5	20
White Lion (Phenx)	16	10	0	6	20
Chesterfield 'A'	16	7	4	5	18
Ecclesall 'B'	16	6	3	7	16
Barnsley 'A'	16	5	4	7	14
University 'A'	16	5	2	9	12
Ecclesall 'A'	16	2	5	9	9
B. and J. 'A'	16	2	4	10	8

DIVISION 2

	P	W	D	L	P
S.A.S.C.A. 'A'	16	10	3	3	23
Hope Valley	16	7	7	2	21
White Lion (Sptns)	16	9	2	5	20
Worksop 'A'	16	8	4	4	20
Aughton 'B'	16	7	5	4	19
B. and J. 'B'	16	3	6	7	12
Chesterfield 'B'	16	4	3	9	11
Ecclesall 'C'	16	3	3	10	9
University 'B'	16	3	3	10	9

DIVISION 3

	P	W	D	L	P
Darnall & Hdtm	16	14	1	1	29
Barnsley 'B'	16	10	2	4	22
B. and J. 'C'	16	7	5	4	19
Clay Cross	16	7	3	6	17
Rotherham 'B'	16	6	3	7	15
S.A.S.C.A. 'B'	16	5	2	9	12
Ecclesall 'D'	16	5	0	11	10
Worksop 'B'	16	3	3	10	9
Sheffield Deaf	16	3	3	10	9

DIVISION 4

	P	W	D	L	P
Hoyland	13	8	4	1	20
Penistone	13	7	4	2	18
Thorncliffe	13	3	1	4	17
White Lion (Tjns)	13	7	2	4	16
Sheffield Telec.	12*	6	3	3	15
Aughton 'C'	13	0	2	5	14
White Lion (Lnds)	13	6	2	5	14
B. and J. 'D'	13	6	1	6	13
Whiston	13	4	4	5	12
Darnall & Hdtm 'B'	12*	5	1	6	11
Barnsley 'C'	13	2	6	5	10
S.A.S.C.A. 'C'	13	4	2	8	10
Ecclesall 'E'	13	2	3	8	7
S.A.S.C.A. 'D'	13	0	3	10	3

* additional wins out of season