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PAUL MORPHY ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

PAUL MORPHY

"The Pride and Sorrow of Chess"

"He played a glorious game; in open field,
What'er the opening was, he met th' attack,
And almost always hurled it grandly back;
And when he did, his rival's fate was sealed.
'Tis wrongly said the greatest art's concealed
Behind art, for he never strove to hide
His forte to see beyond th' opposing side!
And deadly meshes many a time revealed
To his surprised and quite defenseless foe
That move of ten moves back, a master coup,
Who fondly deemed it lost at any rate.
Most dreaded was he when he seemed to throw
Piece after piece away, for then all knew
Swiftly approached th' inevitable mate."

---Sheriff Spens



The above photograph shows Paul Morphy playing J. J. Löwenthal in London, 1858. The original is owned by Mr. David Lawson of Brooklyn, who contributes the essay on Morphy in the present issue.

CALIFORNIA CHESS REPORTER PUBLICATIONS

HOLLYWOOD INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT, 1952. \$1.00

SUPPLEMENT No. 1 - STEINITZ-LASKER WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP, 1894
50 cents to subscribers; others \$1.00

SUPPLEMENT No. 2 - ANDERSSSEN-STEINITZ WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP, 1866
50 cents to subscribers; others \$1.00

An anniversary is upon us, the anniversary of the birth of Paul Morphy, June 22, 1837. Some will recall an article which appeared three years ago, including a new Morphy game, a new and important letter by him, and an indication of the impress he made upon pre-Civil War years. But an article can hardly convey an idea of the world-wide furore which Morphy created during the year before and the year after his twenty-first birthday, not only in the chess world but in the whole realm of sports and intellectual achievement.

More books, articles, studies and poems have been devoted to him and his games, than to any other chess player, and this might well be considered in view of his short two-year active period. In the year 1859 alone, ten books were published in England, France, Germany and America devoted to him and his games. Enterprising business took advantage of the magic of his name for front page advertisements extolling the superiority of "The Morphy Hat" and "Morphy" cigars found a ready sale. The American (Waltham) Watch Company proudly published a letter which Morphy had written expressing his great satisfaction with the fineness and precision of the watch ("the movements of this watch were made entirely by machinery") which some of his admirers had given him on the evening of the great testimonial presentation, May 25, 1859, in the Chapel of New York University. The Morphy Base Ball Club was organized with Morphy an Honorary Member, and Morphy Chess Clubs were started all over the country.

Literary and scientific men and artists vied to do him honor. Samuel F. B. Morse, who, with the U. S. Minister to France among others, watched Morphy's memorable blindfold exhibition at the La Régence on September 27, 1858, said:

"I was so fortunate as to be present in Paris at the Café de Régence at the marvelous contest of Mr. Morphy, with the most skilful European players, when he engaged with them in eight different games at the same time, and without seeing their boards, unaided but by his most extraordinary memory, and unrivalled skill.

"I witnessed not only his marvelous triumph but his modest and unassuming bearing in the moment of victory. And not the least gratifying part of the scene, was the spontaneous outburst of generous and magnanimous applause from his French antagonists."

Morphy revitalized the game. While he was in Paris the Illustrated London News reported that:

"the game has invaded even the salons of the noble Faubourg and the Chaussée d'Antin. In the most aristocratic circles there are weekly reunions, presided over by the amiable mistresses of the mansions and attended by the most celebrated amateurs of chess...all except actual players of chess are rigorously excluded. Even the husbands of the fair patronesses form no exception to the rule, since, if not initiated, the doors of the sanctuary are pitilessly closed against them."

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote in his Journal:

"May 30th (1859) In the evening, went to town (Boston) to see Paul Morphy play, at the Chess Club. A crowd of ladies and gentlemen. Morphy played serenely, and with a delicate nervous touch, as if the chess board were a musical instrument. A slight youth, pale and quiet. T. (Thomas Appleton) said he reminded him of Chopin.

"June 1. The Paul Morphy dinner was a brilliant affair. Holmes presided; and, of course, there were endless speeches. Judge Shaw, Sparks, Agassiz, and so forth."

Eugène Lequesne exhibited a bust of Morphy at the Paris Salon, 1859, and the painting by Charles Loring Elliott, painted from life the same year, is well known. Morphy was the subject of several other artists, Jules Émile Saintin and Winslow Homer among them, and the papers of the day noted that autograph hunters were "not among the least assiduous of his callers."

A part of Morphy's intellectual equipment was a prodigious memory. It was said that he could recite practically the whole Civil Code of Louisiana. He kept no chess books, for after reading he would give them away. Ernest Falkbeer gives an instance. Falkbeer was Chess Editor of the London Sunday Times when Morphy was playing his match with Löwenthal, and he asked Morphy if he might report one of the games he had overlooked, the games being considered the property of

the players. Morphy readily consented and started to dictate the moves:

"I begged him to repeat the game on the board, as I would, in this manner, be better able to follow the progress of the contest. Morphy consented, and, at the 10th move of black (Löwenthal), I asked him to stop for a moment, since it seemed to me that at this particular point, a better move might have been made.

" 'Oh, you probably mean the move which you yourself made in one of your contests with Dufresne', answered Morphy in his simple, artless way of speaking. I was startled. The partie mentioned had been played in Berlin in 1851, seven years before, and I had totally forgotten all its details. On observing this, Morphy called for a second board, and began, without the least hesitation, to repeat that game from the first to the last move without making a single mistake. I was speechless from surprise. Here was a man, whose attention was constantly distracted by countless demands on his memory, and yet he had perfectly retained for seven years all the details of a game insignificant in itself, and, moreover, printed in a language and description unknown to him. The game was printed in the Berliner Schachzeitung of 1851."

It is mentioned in some Morphy biographies that Paul first learned the moves of the game when he was ten years of age, but apparently he started earlier, at nine or before. This is partly borne out by the Dr. Rizzo incident given in the above mentioned article (Ernest Morphy said Paul was hardly ten at the time) which showed very considerable understanding, and also by the account of his winning from General Winfield Scott. The games with General Scott must have been played in late December, 1846, when Paul was nine and one-half years old, as Scott was in New Orleans for five days at that time, while en route to Mexico to take command of the army, and several years passed before he returned to the city.

Ernest Morphy said Paul learned the game by watching the contests between members of his family, and on this point he is a much

better authority than Maurian, who was a year younger than Paul and knew little, if anything, about Paul before he was ten years old, while Ernest was a constant visitor at his brother's house in the years before, and as constantly played chess. Also, it had happened that twelve months before Scott's arrival in New Orleans, the city had been the scene of the championship match between Stanley and Rousseau, both well known in this country and Europe, and Ernest Morphy had acted as second to Rousseau. In fact, during the national Chess Congress of 1857, Morphy told Stanley that he had learned the moves at the time of the Stanley-Rousseau match, and undoubtedly Paul heard, saw, and understood a lot at that time, unbeknown to those around.

As for General Scott, he is known to have liked the game. He had played often with H. R. Agnel, author of "Chess for Winter Evenings", and Monroe dedicated "The Science and Art of Chess" to him as one "Himself skilled in the play of chess." Apparently, Scott attended sessions of the National Chess Congress of 1857, and in 1861 the New York newspapers commented that both Lincoln and General Scott were excellent chess players. The following little known account as reported in the Post is of some interest as bearing on Morphy's early play:

"The first game of chess played by Paul Morphy, under anything like public circumstances was with General Winfield Scott (in 1846) In those days a number of the leading citizens of New Orleans had a club on Royal Street, just over the famous Sazerac Coffee House, and among the members of the coterie were Paul Morphy's father (Justice of the State Supreme Court in 1846), Chief Justice Eustis of the State Supreme Court (from 1846 to 1852) and others who are not important to this story. General Winfield Scott had many acquaintances there, some of them quite intimate, and knowing the habits of the members, he repaired to their very comfortable rooms within a few hours after reaching the city.

"One of Scott's passions was for chess. It may be said to have been one of his vanities as well. He was in the front rank of amateurs in his day. After renewing old friendships and talking a little about the war, he turned to Chief Justice Eustis and asked whether he could have a game of chess in the evening...

'I want to be put upon my mettle.' 'Very well,' said Justice Eustis... 'we can arrange it. At 8 tonight, if that will suit you.' At 8 o'clock, dinner having been disposed of, the room was full. General Scott, a towering giant, was asked to meet his competitor, a small boy of about 10 years of age, and not by any means a prepossessing boy, dressed in velvet knickerbockers, with a lace shirt and a big spreading collar of the same material... At first General Scott imagined that it was a sorry jest, and his tremendous dignity rose in protest. It seemed to him that his old friends had committed an incredible and unpardonable impertinence. Then Justice Eustis assured him that his wish had been scrupulously consulted... (that this boy) was quite worthy of his notice. So the game began with General Scott still angry and by no means satisfied. Paul won the move... and at the tenth move he had the General checkmated before he had even begun to develop his defense. There was only one more game... (which Paul won) and the General arose, trembling with amazement and indignation. Paul was taken home, sullen and silent as usual, and the incident reached the end."

Unfortunately it was nearly three years before a record of any of Paul's games was kept, but the following score of a game which he played with John W. Schulten (winning 23 out of 24 played) on November 30th just after winning the National Chess Congress Tournament of 1857, may be of special interest at this time as it has never before been published:

Game No. 174 - K. B. Gambit

White	Black
J. W. Schulten	Paul Morphy

Notes by Imre König

1. P-K4	P-K4
2. P-KB4	PxP
3. B-B4	P-Q4
4. PxP	Kt-KB3

The alternative is 4...Q-R5ch; 5. K-B1, B-Q3; 6. Kt-KB3, Q-R4; 7.

Kt-B3, Kt-K2; 8. P-Q4, (Blackburne-Schlechter, Vienna 1898) O-O; 9. Kt-K4, KtxP; 10. KtxB, PxKt; 11. BxKt, QxB with equality.
5. Kt-QB3 B-Q3
6. Kt-B3

This is better than 6. P-Q4, O-O; 7. KKt-K2, P-B6; 8. PxP, Kt-R4; 9. P-KR4, R-K1; 10. Kt-K4, B-Kt6 ch; 11. K-Q2, B-Q3 as played by Schulten in another game against Morphy. The best, however, seems

to be 6. Q-K2ch, Q-K2; 7. QxQch, KxQ; 8. Kkt-K2, P-QR3; 9. P-Q3, P-Qkt4; 10. B-Kt3, P-Kt5; 11. Kt-R4, Kt-R4; 12. O-O, P-Kt4; 13. B-Q2 (Bogoljubow-Sosin, Moscow 1924)

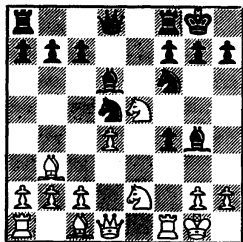
6. ... O-O
7. O-O B-Kkt5
8. P-Q4 QKt-Q2

Better is 8...P-B3; the Kt maneuver is long-winded.

9. Kt-K2

A good alternative was 9. B-Kt3, Kt-Kt3; 10. Q-Q3, R-K1; 11. Kt-K5, BxKt; 12. PxB, RxP; 13. BxP and the disagreeable threat 14. B-Kt5 is difficult to meet since 13...R-B4 or R4 is met by 14. P-KR3. It appears therefore that Black would have to play, after 9. B-Kt3, ...P-R3, in order to get rid of the Q5 pawn.

9. ... Kt-Kt3
10. B-Kt3 QKtxP
11. Kt-K5



11. ... Kt-K6?
12. BxKt KBxKt!

Morphy tries to complicate the game as the obvious 12...PxB;

13. Q-K1, KBxKt; 14. PxB, Kt-K5; 15. R-B4, Kt-B7; 16. Kt-Q4, P-B4; 17. QxP gives Black no advantage.

13. PxB

Or 13. B-B2, BxKt; 14. QxB, BxP.

13. ... QxQ

14. QRxQ?

A miscalculation: 14. KRxQ, BxKt;

15. R-K1, PxB; 16. PxB, B-R4;

17. RxP would have equalized.

14. ... BxKt

15. RxP BxR

16. PxB P-Qkt3

17. B-B5 was threatened.

17. PxB KxP

18. P-KR4 P-KB4

19. B-Q4ch K-Kt3

20. B-K5 P-B4

21. B-Q6 KR-K1

22. B-R4 R-K3

23. B-B7 R-QB1

The last four moves show Morphy's advanced technique. The way in which he reduces the activity of White's QB is remarkable.

24. B-Q7

With 24. R-B1, B-K7; 25. B-Q7, RxB; 26. BxR, BxR White could have avoided material loss, but the game was lost in any case.

24. ... R-K8ch

25. K-B2 R-K7ch

26. K-B1 RxB

27. BxPch K-Kt2

28. R-Kt4ch K-B3

29. B-Q3 R-K8ch

30. KxR BxR

Resigns.

As well as the early incident with General Scott, and that of Dr. Rizzo, there are others confirming Paul's early play. General John Tillson, friend and companion of Ernest Morphy for many years at Quincy, Ill., also supplies some information on Paul's early act-

1859, although there is an early recorded game played in 1849 and some others which he played twenty years later, yet the careers of many of his opponents stretched down into even the twentieth century, and some of them had much opportunity to make direct comparison with the strength of other great players.

Jacques Mieses, the only living contestant of the great Hastings Tournament of 1895, once asked Paulsen: "Of all the masters with whom you have played, who was the strongest? The answer came promptly 'Morphy.' Then Paulsen said, 'When after a game we asked him what he would have done after a certain move if it had been made, he answered quickly and completely just what moves he would have made. One could then visualize with astonishment how many possibilities he had encompassed and how far he had figured.'"

A remark by Anderssen on his return from Paris after his decisive defeat by Morphy sounds strangely of today. He said: "I am not angry that I lost this match because this man plays like one out of this world." In a letter written by Anderssen to Von der Lasa in 1859, he wrote:

"I not only believe that deeper combinations and brighter sparks of genius are at Morphy's disposition than were at Labourdonnais', but that in infallible calculation and soundness he even surpasses the latter. He who plays with Morphy must not only renounce every hope of concealing even the subtlest traps, but he must also start with the idea that Morphy will clearly see through all and that there can be no question of a misstep. On the contrary, if you see Morphy make a move that at first glance seems to yield you some advantage, examine it carefully, because you will find that it is correct and that trying to take advantage of it will lead to disaster. But most fatal, when opposed to him, is over-confidence on account of a better position and strong attacking game. I cannot describe better the impression that Morphy made on me than by saying that he treats chess with the earnestness and conscientiousness of an artist."

Captain O. Michaelis, who played with many over a long period, wrote:

"He (Morphy) played with me a number of games at the Rook odds, and beat me decisively. Of course, I lacked the presence of mind that comes from years, and, no doubt, was impressed and awed by the feeling that the master was my opponent. Yet, about the same time, I played five games with Paulsen, and won them all with ease....I may add that Mr. Steinitz beat me even, about as decisively as Morphy did at the odds of the Rook."

H. E. Bird, in a letter to the Philadelphia Times, said:

"He (Steinitz) beat me 8 to 7, with 6 draws. This was in '67. In '58 Morphy beat me 10 to 1, with 1 draw. Steinitz claims that he is a better player than ever Morphy was, but I think my record with each is a fair test of the strength of the two. Steinitz claims that when I played Morphy I was out of practice, but I cannot explain away my crushing defeat by that great player in any such way. I never played better chess in my life than when he beat me. Morphy had more science than Steinitz -- more imagination."

The phrase Steinitz used, "out of practice", is familiar. They said Anderssen was "out of practice." Anderssen himself made no such excuse, when he was decisively beaten by Morphy. The fact remains that when Anderssen arrived in Paris to play Morphy, he found him ill in bed, and their match was postponed five days, while waiting for Morphy to recover. He had to be helped into the room when play did start. Anderssen played six games with Harrwitz, who was hardly out of practice, and won decisively. When Anderssen was asked why he didn't play as brilliantly as usual in his games with Morphy, he replied, "Morphy will not let me. Morphy is too strong for any living player to hope to win more than a game here and there."

Steinitz won his match with Anderssen by 8-6 and at a time when Anderssen was much older, while Morphy played him when Anderssen was at his prime. Steinitz made an extended study of Morphy's games and finally came to the conclusion expressed in his "Chess Instructor" that "full justice has not been done to Morphy's extraordinary position judgment."

Boden declared that "the possibilities of Morphy's genius have

never been half revealed because only a very limited exercise of its powers has been always sufficient to insure victory."

Max Lange, writing in 1891 and commenting on Anderssen's remarks quoted above, said:

"What Anderssen actually wanted to say was that no chess player could have any way of playing which Morphy could not see through and treat properly. This coincides with my considered opinion and with this Arnous de Rivière concurs. Rivière had the opportunity for several decades of meeting the best new masters and he is still to-day as active in the interest of the noble game."

Blackburne said, "Morphy is the prince of chess players; he would have been superior to Lasker or any other champion of the modern school."

Emanuel Lasker, who won the world championship from Steinitz, said:

"Paul Morphy was the greatest chess player that ever lived. Every student of the game, who has delved into the stories of the past, realizes that no one ever was so far superior to the players of his time, or ever defeated his opponents with such ease, and no one else ever offered knight odds to the men who considered themselves his equal."

The following, a game now published for the first time in 93 years, is an instance of Morphy giving Knight odds to one of the strongest American players. Theodore Lichtenhein even resented the idea that Morphy could give him a Knight, but the final score between them at these odds, tells the story: Morphy 6, Lichtenhein 4.

Played in New York, July 21, 1859, during the period Morphy was sitting to Elliott for his portrait. Remove White's Q-Knight:

Game No. 175 - Evans Gambit
 White Black
 Paul Morphy T. Lichtenhein

Notes by Imre König

1. P-K4	P-K4
2. Kt-B3	Kt-QB3
3. B-B4	B-B4
4. P-QKt4	BxP
5. P-B3	B-B4

- 6. O-O B-Kt3
- 7. P-Q4 P-Q3
- 8. PXP KtxP
- Better is 8...PxP.
- 9. KtxKt PxBt
- 10. BxPch K-K2
- 11. Q-Kt3 Kt-B3
- 12. B-R3ch P-B4
- 13. QR-Q1 Q-B2
- 14. P-KB4 B-Kt5
- 15. QR-K1 KR-KB1
- 16. B-B4 B-KR4
- 17. P-R3 B-B2

Now it appears that Black has consolidated his position. He is even able to exchange White's dangerous King's B. It is most interesting how Morphy is able to infuse new life into the seemingly lifeless position.

18. BxB

Better than the seemingly stronger 18. B-Q5 because of 18...PxP.

- 18. ... RxB
- 19. PxP QxP
- 20. R-B5 Q-K3
- 21. P-B4

This move serves two purposes: the Queen can be switched over to the K-side, and the B gains a long diagonal.

- 21. ... R-QB1
- 22. B-Kt2 Kt-Q2
- 23. Q-Kt3 B-B2
- 24. Q-R4ch K-K1
- 25. R/K1-KB1

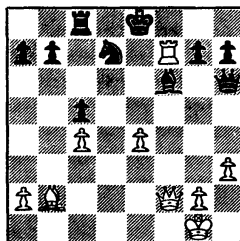
It is interesting to note that Morphy, in spite of his material disadvantage, is not afraid to exchange pieces. With 25. B-B3

he could have avoided exchanging Rooks, but it is answered by 25...P-Kt3; 26. R-Q5, Kt-Kt3; 27. R-Q1 (27. RxP?, B-R7ch), B-K4.

- 25. ... RxB
- 26. RxR

26. PxR is met by 26...Q-Q3.

- 26. ... Q-KR3
- 27. Q-B2 B-Q1
- 28. R-B7 B-B3



The Rook is trapped, but proves to be a dangerous prisoner.

- 29. Q-B5 B-K2

After 29...KxR; 30. QxKtch, K-Kt3; 31. Q-B5ch, K-B2; 32. QxR, Q-K6ch (32...BxB; 33. QxPch!); 33. K-R1, QxP leads to an even game. But it is understandable that Black, with a piece up in a seemingly sound position, tries to win.

- 30. RxP Q-Q3

Everything is set for the Black King to escape via Q1 and QB2, but...

- 31. P-K5 Resigns.

For on 31...Q-Q8ch; 32. K-R2, K-Q1; 33. Q-B7 wins.

Morphy's courtesy and graciousness, combined with the mark of genius, brought universal acclaim, literally from the frontiers of Siberia westward to the Golden Gate. The London Chess Players'

Chronicle - 1861:

"Mightiest of masters of the chequered board,
 Of early genius high its boasted lord!
 Rising in youth's bright morn to loftiest fame,
 Princeliest of players held with one acclaim;
 Hast in thyself, -- all conquering in fight:-
 Yankees exult! -- in your great champion's might!"

Lustre has been added to the game and its history by Morphy,
 Bright Star of Calssa, who from on high illumines the chequered field.
 ----David Lawson

SACRAMENTO CITY CHAMPIONSHIP R. E. Russell of Auburn won the championship of the city of Sacramento in a four-round Swiss played at the end of April. Russell allowed only one draw, with runner-up Neil Austin. M. O. Meyer finished third, followed by J. A. Celle, R. L. Richards and O. Bender. The latter, who is a sergeant at Mather Field, has never played serious tournament chess until this year.

Player	1	2	3	4	Score	Solkoff	Rank
R. E. Russell	W4	W6	W3	D2	3½-1½		1
N. T. Austin	D3	D5	W6	D1	2½-1½		2
M. O. Meyer	D2	D4	L1	W5	2-2		3
J. A. Celle	L1	D3	L5	W6	1½-2½	8	4
R. L. Richards	L6	D2	W4	L3	1½-2½	7	5
O. Bender	W5	L1	L2	L4	1-3		6

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHESS LEAGUE The team matches are now in progress. Here are early results in the "B" division:

Inglewood 6, Water and Power 0 1) K. Reisman 1, D. Norton 0;
 2) A. Freeman 1, L. Johnson 0; 3) E. Fisher 1, J. Bell 0; 4) H. Zander 1, C. Taber 0; 5) L. Weiss 1, A. Thompson 0; 6) J. Karson 1, H. Lunday 0.

Valley 3, Cosmo 3 M. Cobam 1, W. Banning 0; 2) J. McCaule ½,
 L. Domanski ½; 3) R. Hagedorn 0, T. Cragg 1; 4) L. Pinson ½, L. Zeitlin ½;
 5) P. Weiss ½, H. Graves ½; 6) S. Krinsky ½, H. Southard ½.

Hollywood 4½, Wilshire 1½ 1) C. Henderson ½, J. Wolfe ½;

2) N. Freedman 1, C. Marko 0; 3) W. Wheeler 0, I. Szafir 1; 4) D. Maron 1, R. Flapan 0; 5) N. Zelig 1, H. Sagorsky 0; 6) N. Hoy 1, N. Negley 0.

Wilshire 3½, Cosmo 2½ 1) J. Wolfe 0, W. Banning 1; 2) P. Levin 1, L. Domanski 0; 3) R. Flapan ½, L. Zeitlin ½; 4) N. Negley 0, K. Dickens 1; 5) S. Salkin 1, R. Graves 0; 6) J. Navickas 1, C. Gray 0.

Santa Monica 4½, Valley 1½ 1) C. Budd 1, M. Cobam 0; 2) W. Holmes 0, J. McCardle 1; 3) Dr. B. Collins 1, B. Johnson 0; 4) P. Wolfe 1, L. Pinson 0; 5) R. Sale 1, J. Bailey 0; 6) F. O'Neil ½, P. Meyer ½.

SAN FRANCISCO-BAY AREA TEAM MATCH San Francisco defeated Bay Area by the close score of 13-11 in the annual team match played at Mechanics' Institute May 16. The young flash R. E. Burger defeated Imre König at first board. S. F.'s early lead dwindled as the evening wore on.

<u>SAN FRANCISCO</u>		<u>BAY AREA</u>	
1. Imre König	0	1. R. E. Burger	1
2. C. Bagby	½	2. M. O. Meyer	½
3. A. J. Fink	½	3. V. Zemitis	½
4. D. Poliakoff	1	4. A. Loera	0
5. C. Capps	1	5. Neil Austin	0
6. W. Addison	1	6. R. Trenberth	0
7. R. Currie	½	7. R. Hultgren	½
8. C. Svalberg	0	8. C. Sedlack	1
9. C. Linklater	1	9. N. Hultgren	0
10. A. Prokoodin	0	10. Luc Huang	1
11. A. Sienkiewicz	0	11. C. Wilson	1
12. A. Palmin	½	12. E. Hoffer	½
13. W. Leeds	½	13. J. Kalnins	½
14. O. Wreden	1	14. L. C. Woolfe	0
15. A. Yablonsky	0	15. R. Cuneo	1
16. K. Bendit	1	16. C. White	0
17. H. Branton	1	17. M. E. Mattingly	0
18. P. Petersen	1	18. F. Olvera	0
19. C. Berglund	0	19. E. A. Yaeger	1
20. Dr. M. Korshet	1	20. F. Weinberg	0
21. J. Hill	½	21. J. Escobar	½
22. S. Van Gelder	½	22. G. Hultgren	½
23. N. Beloff	½	23. L. A. Post	½
24. D. Peizer	0	24. R. Freeman	1
	<u>13</u>		<u>11</u>

MONTEREY BAY CHESS LEAGUE The league season ended May 13 at Santa Cruz when the San Jose State College Spartans defeated the Santa Cruz Chess Club by a close $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ score:

Spartans $3\frac{1}{2}$, Santa Cruz $2\frac{1}{2}$ 1) George Kirby 1, E. B. Barrett 0; 2) Howard Wood 0, Jim Stephens 1; 3) Carl Pohlhammer 1, Ed Dreis 0; 4) Walt Shugert 0, Jerry Maurovich 1; 5) Glenn James 1, Ivan Netoff 0; 6) Bob Harris $\frac{1}{2}$, J. J. Murphy $\frac{1}{2}$.

The final League standings were:

1. Salinas Chess Club	3-1	18-16
2. Spartan Chess Club	2-2	$15\frac{1}{2}$ - $11\frac{1}{2}$
3. Santa Cruz Chess Club	1-3	$11\frac{1}{2}$ - $17\frac{1}{2}$

CORRESPONDENCE Harold M. Phillips of New York, President of the United States Chess Federation, writes to say that he never opposed the appointment of Kenneth Harkness as Business Manager, but objected only to certain terms of the contract. We are happy to learn this, and to correct the error made in the editorial in the last issue of THE REPORTER. Our statement was based upon information which we thought was reliable.

Bob Burger of Lafayette says:

"Enclosed is check for REPORTER subscription renewal. Though it deserves all the fine comment it has been getting, there's always room for improvement (which is going on all the time). I wonder if it would be worth while changing to the algebraic notation? More game scores, the heart of any magazine, would be possible. My argument is that the comparative difficulty of that system is not enough to warrant the use of an archaic descriptive notation, and if a game is worth playing over, it is worth space in a magazine. However, it is hard to break away from the familiar.

"My notes to games are rather poor, to say the least. In the game with Kirby, Falconer rightly gives a question mark to 34... P-Q4; I simply overlooked the strength of K-K5. Some preparatory move like 34...K-Kt2 was necessary. And I should make an apology in print to Monte Jackson for my high-handed notes in the other game. I don't know what got into me - or maybe I just looked at it the wrong way tonight! Best wishes for continued success."

William H. (Bill) Steckel writes:

"Just received recent edition of THE REPORTER. As usual very good. You will notice I am now residing in North Dakota so I'll obviously be a poor reporter for the California section. Keep the good work up and regards to all my friends." (Sorry to see you leave us - Ed.)

Jack Spence, 208 So. 25th Ave., Omaha 2, Nebraska, writes:

"If you have a couple of lines of space available, would appreciate your mentioning in your magazine that I have a large catalog of 250 chess books for sale (including 100 rather rare tourney books), problems, etc., and recently acquired several large libraries for resale. Have prepared a mimeographed catalog free on request to anyone who desires to see it."

T. H. SANDERS

We deeply regret to announce the death of one of our subscribers, Mr. T. H. Sanders of Langley Prairie, British Columbia.

COPENHAGEN The world's junior championship tournament is due to be held July 3 to 23. James T. Sherwin of New York will represent the United States.

NEW YORK At last word, it appeared that the match between the Soviet Union and the United States would begin about July 15. The Russians are bringing over 10 of their best players, including World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik. The match will be on eight boards, and will consist of several rounds. American players are to be chosen according to USCF ratings....S. Reshevsky is due to meet M. Najdorf in a return match in Buenos Aires in June.

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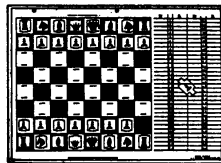
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Buenos Aires M. Najdorf, who finished second in the recent Mar Del Plata tournament, says: "I played really very well, but Gligoric was in a splendid form running away like hell and scoring 85%. There was no overtaking him."

MILWAUKEE The date of the USCF Open Championship has been changed to August 10 to 21. The change of date was made necessary by conflict with baseball, conventions, etc.

KANSAS CITY The junior championship date has been changed to August 3 to 8. This change was made because of the change in time of the USCF Open.

LAS VEGAS Maurice Gedance, Las Vegas insurance executive, won the 26-man Nevada tournament. It was a seven-round Swiss, and drew players from Nevada, Utah, Colorado and California. George Kirby of San Jose finished in fourth place, Bill Adams of San Jose in sixth place, George Chase of Los Angeles seventh, Mike Hailpam of Fresno eighth, Mark Euchler of Los Angeles tenth, Tom Fries of Fresno sixteenth, and Charles White of San Jose seventeenth. The highly successful tournament was directed by Harold Lundstrom of Salt Lake City.

RUSSIANS The Russian Chess Club of San Francisco staged a chess party April 28, in celebration of capturing both the "A" and "B" divisions of the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League team matches. Peter Prokoodin was master of ceremonies, and a large number of local chess players turned out for the occasion, due in part, no doubt, to the offer of free caviar, sweet wine, etc., etc. These parties at Russian Center are definitely becoming part of chess night life in San Francisco.

SACRAMENTO M. O. Meyer won the 1953 championship of the Capital City Chess Club. Meyer scored four wins and one draw to lead George Flynn and S. G. Johnson by $\frac{1}{2}$ point. F. Clawson won a special prize for finishing highest in the tournament as a newcomer, while E. Horton won a prize for finishing highest after losing the initial game.

BEER BUST It is to be regretted that the beer frolic planned by chess players of the bay area for May 23 had to be abandoned. The moving spirit of this party is Fred N. Christensen of Oakland who, we may say, has been a leading chess spirit for 30 years. Fred did his best to arrange the affair, but was licked by insurmountable obstacles. We trust he will have better luck next year.

The following game was played in the match between the Golden Gate Chess team and Frankfurt-am-Main.

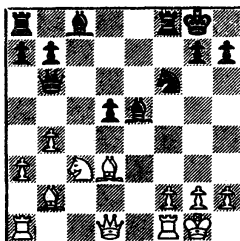
Game No. 176 - French Defense

White	Black
W. G. McClain	W. Metternich

- | | |
|------------|---------|
| 1. P-Q4 | P-K3 |
| 2. P-K4 | P-Q4 |
| 3. Kt-Q2 | Kt-KB3 |
| 4. P-K5 | KKt-Q2 |
| 5. B-Q3 | P-QB4 |
| 6. P-QB3 | Kt-QB3 |
| 7. Kt-K2 | Q-Kt3 |
| 8. Kt-B3 | PxP |
| 9. PxP | P-B3 |
| 10. PxP | B-Kt5ch |
| 11. Kt-B3? | |

B-Q2 is correct.

- | | |
|-------------|-------|
| 11. ... | KtxBP |
| 12. O-O | O-O |
| 13. P-QR3 | B-Q3 |
| 14. P-QKt4? | P-K4! |
| 15. PxP | KtxP |
| 16. KtxKt | BxKt |
| 17. B-Kt2? | |



- | | |
|----------|---------|
| 17. ... | Kt-Kt5! |
| 18. P-R3 | RxP! |
- Resigns.

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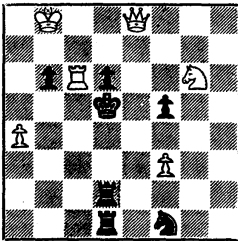
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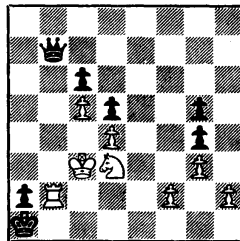
REPORTER TASKS We continue with our fifth contest.

TASK No. 33 is a three-mover by the late British composer, Godfrey Heathcote. TASK No. 34 is an ending composed by R. E. Burger of Lafayette, California.

TASK No. 33
White Mates in Three



TASK No. 34
White to Play and Win



ANSWERS: TASK No. 31: The key move is 1. R-R4.

TASK No. 32: The game continued 1. B-Kt5ch!, BxB;
2. RxKt!, B-B3; 3. B-B6, Q-Kt1;
3. RxB!, KPxR; 4. Q-Kt4, R-Kt1; 5. P-
Q7ch, K-B1; 6. R-B8ch, Resigns.