

Chess Barbs

by Judy Acers (US senior master)

DIAGRAM: World Champion Jose Calablanca was a natural genius, but often relied on intuitive judgment rather than concrete analysis. An incredible error appears in "Last Lectures", when Capa claims that White can move and draw here with 1 Re5ch Kf1 2 Rf5ch Kgl 3 Nb3 cb 4 Rd5 al/Q 5 Rd1ch! Qdl, stalemate.

Do you see the marvelously simple move that ruins Capablanca's variation? (This is the type of error that never shows up in the writings of Fischer,

only in notes by Reshevsky, Capablanca or judgment players. Fischer checks and re-checks everything, and the occasional errors that he does make are very complex ones, understandably.)

One last note: White can actually play and draw the diagram position, believe it or not! Can you see how, even though Capablanca certainly never intended the solution? Answer elsewhere in this issue of the BARB.

NEWS: The chess championship of the world zonal semi-final tournaments are now set and what

terrific tournaments they promise to be. Our heartfelt sympathies go to the poor Soviet Union, with no younger generation players to speak of: just Karpov, Kuzmin, Savon and such weakies as Vladimir Tukmakov, who only knows every move of every Fischer game ever recorded and delights in proving it to all skeptics on any occasion.

According to Ed Edmondson, Executive Director of the US Chess Federation, it is unfortunate that the United States could not come to financial terms with its strongest grandmaster team last year at the World Team Olympiad, because the US would have had an excellent opportunity against the "second rate" team of Petrosian, Keres, Smyslov and such weakies as Tal, Stein, Polugaevsky and Geller (for adjournment analysis they only have Botvinnik, Bole-

slavsky, etc.).

Here is the line-up to determine who will play Robert Fischer for the world title two years from now.

International 18-player ZONAL LENINGRAD TOURNAMENT: 1. A. Karpov, USSR (2645); 2. V. Korchnoi, USSR (2635); 3. G. Kuzmin, USSR (2565); 4. M. Taimanov, USSR (2560); 7. R. Byrne, USA (2570); 8. S. Gligorich, Yugoslavia (2596); 9. I. Riukovina, Yugoslavia (2460); 10. Y. Smejkal, Czechoslovakia (2570); 11. B. Larsen, Denmark (2620); 12. R. Huebner, Germany (2600); 13. W. Uhlmann, Germany (2550); 14. M. Quinteros, Argentina (2480); 15. E. Torre, Phillipines (2430); 16. I. Radulov, Bulgaria (2510); 17. M. Cuellar, Colombia (2400); 18. G. Estevas, Cuba (2385).

International 17-player ZONAL BRAZIL TOURNAMENT (will have an additional selected individual later): 1. E. Geller, USSR (2585); 2. P. Keres, USSR (2605); 3. L. Polugaevsky, USSR (2640); 4. V. Savon, USSR (2600); 7. S. Resh-

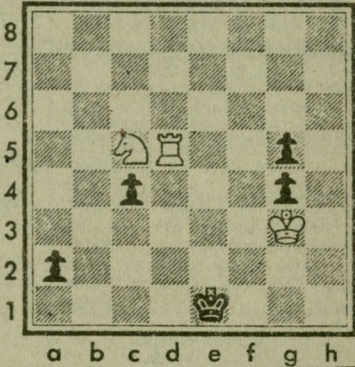
evsky, USA (2565); 8. B. Ivkov, Yugoslavia (2535); 9. L. Lyboevich, Yugoslavia (2570); 10. V. Hort, Czechoslovakia (2610); 11. L. Portisch, Hungary (2645); 14. O. Panno, Argentina (2580); 15. V. Hug (World Junior Champion), Switzerland (2445); 16. P. Byiasis, Canada (2395); 17. S. Kagan, Israel (2405).

COMMENTS: The Soviet players all are deserving players and are so numerous simply because they represent one-third of the entire world ranked players in organized tournaments. It is hoped that terrific infighting will occur, as every point is precious in order to be one of the top four in each tournament who pair off in man-to-man matches to determine Fischer's next victim. (It is felt that splitting the Soviets into two tourneys will prevent throwing games, which Fischer fears.)

Tal is in unbelievable form, virtually rising from the dead as the

result of a successful operation which restored him from poor health.

I predict a terrific performance by Peter Byiasis of Canada, a fantastic Canadian international master who hangs in there no matter how difficult things are. He is not badly shaken by setbacks and is surely aware of the losses to be expected against top grandmasters at the outset. Byiasis is preparing like mad, however. He is very young, in good physical condition and full well knows that every grandmaster must play to win against the new players at



SOLUTION TO DIAGRAM

After 4...Kf1 Black simply plays 4...Kf1, escaping checkmate and queening one of his united passed pawns, as shown 40 years later by the Soviet master, Gik! Then along came V. Myrakhveri, who discovered a remarkable draw for White anyway; 1. Nd3ch!! cd 2 Re5ch! Kf1 3 Rf5ch Kgl 4 Ra5! d2 (What else?) 5 Ra2 dl/Q 6 Rg2ch Kfl (or perpetual check) 7 Rglch! Kgl, stalemate. Hard to believe, but fascinatingly true.³

all cost to be one of the royal foursome. Byiasis will win several games against grandmasters and even a minus score will be very impressive and guarantee his lifetime chess profession on the international scene.