

## Richard Shorman

# Chess

### DEVELOPMENT OF CHESS ABILITY

By CARLOS TORRE

In the play-off for the New York State Championship in October, 1924, I had to win the following game in order to tie the match, which I subsequently annexed. For this reason I consider it the most meritorious game I have won.

White: Torre

Black: Jennings

New York State Championship, 1924.

Queen's Gambit Declined

1 P-Q4	N-KB3	28 R-B4	R-N1
2 N-KB3	P-Q4	29 P-KR4	P-N5(g)
3 P-B4	P-K3	30 P-R5ch(h)	K-R2
4 B-N5	QN-Q2	31 B-B7	B-B4
5 P-K3	P-B3	32 R-B5	P-KN3
6 QN-Q2(a)	Q-R4	33 PxPch	BxP
7 P-QR3	PxP(b)	34 B-K6	P-N3
8 BxP	B-Q3	35 R-B4	R-N2
9 0-0	P-K4(c)	36 B-Q8	B-R4(i)
10 Q-N3	O★O(d)	37 R-Q4	K-R3
11 PxP	BxKP	38 K-R2	K-N4
12 NxB	QxN-4	39 B-Q7(j)	R-N1
13 N-B3(e)	Q-B2	40 B-K7	K-R3(k)
14 B-B4	Q-N3	41 P-N5(l)	K-N2
15 B-Q6	QxQ	42 B-B6	B-N3
16 BxQ	R-K1	43 R-Q7	B-B4
17 N-N5	N-Q4	44 RxP	K-N3
18 P-K4	P-KR3	45 P-R4	N-N2
19 PxN(f)	PxN	46 B-Q6	R-R1ch
20 KR-K1	N-B3	47 K-N1	R-Q1
21 RxRch	NxR	48 B-B7	R-Q8ch
22 B-K7	PxP	49 K-R2	B-K3
23 BxQP	N-B2	50 P-R5	N-B4
24 B-K4	P-B3	51 PxP	R-Q6
25 R-QB1	N-K1	52 P-N7	P-N6ch
26 B-Q5ch	K-R2	53 BxP	Resigns(m)
27 P-QN4	K-N3		

(a) Avoiding the ordinary form of the Cambridge Springs variation, which may prove very troublesome.

(b) Black exchanges before playing B-Q3, as he does not fancy P-B5.

(c) Castling would be safer, although White still retains his opening advantage; in the simplest manner with B-Q3, threatening to exchange Black's most useful piece.

(d) The complications ensuing from 10 . . . P-K5 11 N-K5 would favor White, having the better development.

(e) Here White takes the simpler course, content with a slight advantage for the coming ending. Far more complicated would be the advance 10 P-B4.

(f) On 19 NxP White loses after 19 . . . RxP.

(g) Black's position was not very wholesome in any event, but here he should have exchanged. In his inferior position he creates a very material weakness at N5. Furthermore, he keeps a good possible square from his bishop.

(h) This move is intended to invite the advance of the KNP, when the weaknesses on the king's side will be all the more accentuated.

(i) We see that White's bishops have increased their range, whereas Black's bishop is completely hemmed in.

(j) Threatening R-Q5ch and RxBch.

(k) Foreseeing that his efforts to save the king's side are only leading him into greater difficulties, Black endeavors to carry out an orderly retreat. But this is not to be accomplished after the mistake on the 29th move.

(l) This settles it. White rightly turns his attention to the queen's side, which has been weakened by the removal of the bishop.

(m) What we see exemplified in this game may be summed up as follows: When your opponent has a weakness, he may sufficiently protect it, but probably only at the expense of creating a minus elsewhere on the board. This minus is to be located and exploited, in order to take advantage of the original weakness.

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**LET US CLEARLY AND DISTINCTLY** realize that to become learned in the openings, or skillful in the endings is not development. For there is no development without harmony. Our first endeavor then must be to play all parts of the game equally well.

If we resolve to play each time very much better than we did the last; to play the opening with greater precision, the middle game with higher consciousness, the ending with more directness, to see further ahead with finer accuracy, to evolve a greater masterpiece; the inner effort will prove very cumulative.

Hitherto we have concerned ourselves largely with the borrowing of variations from books. But development without the inner effort will not come. The key-word to our development, then, will be: Continued Greater Effort.

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**LET US, THEREFORE,** never make a move in the hope that it may come out all right, that it will prove the strongest. For we cannot develop in ignorance or at the best it will not be the highest development.

Rather, let us cultivate the habit to know the why and the wherefore of what we are playing, to see the combination through before making it. And let us ever satisfy ourselves that it is the best procedure.

For beauty in chess is soundness of conception allied with harmony in execution.

The most wondrous combinations of the grandmasters are the culmination of the most simple and direct play. These brilliant combinations that pervade our being with a higher sense of goodness do not happen; they are evolved.

Eventually, if we but put forth the inner effort, we, too, will be able to play the far-reaching positional plans exemplified in the games of the most modern masters.