

National Club Competition

By Nigel Povah

My Report in " Nightmare 77 " concluded with the remark " Our congratulations must go to Atticus for going on to beat Oxford University in the final, and we look forward to meeting them again next season ! "

Amazingly enough this prophecy came true, when we found ourselves paired against the reigning Champs at the last 16 stage of the event .

Team selection, as always, proved to be a problem when Peter Lee had to withdraw at short notice, and a suitable replacement had to be found - a problem highlighted by the fact that S & B's second team made most candidates ineligible .

However, the problem was overcome and the final team line up was as follows :-

S & B 1	v	Atticus 1	
1 . N.Povah (B)	1	J.Littlewood	0
2 . R.Emerson (W)	0	J.Carleton	1
3 . J.M.Hodgson (B)	0	J.Ripley	1
4 . R.Sams (W)	$\frac{1}{2}$	D .James	$\frac{1}{2}$
5 . D.Massie (B)	0	T.Bimpson	1
6 . J.Bennett (W)	$\frac{1}{2}$	S.Jackson	$\frac{1}{2}$
	2		4

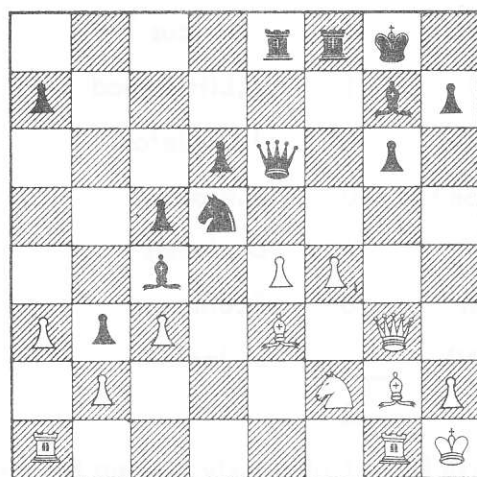
The match was a disaster, with Dave (obviously feeling the strain of the drive to Sutton Coldfield) getting into early difficulties from which he never recovered . Roger Emerson and Julian Hodgson were both struggling, whilst Richard Sams and John Bennett both had slight advantages . Unfortunately however, as the above scores show the Gods were not with us, except for the following complicated game where I was lucky to win after achieving a lost position !

White : J.E.Littlewood (Atticus) Black : N.E.Povah (S & B)

National Club Championship 1978 Sicilian Defence .

1 . f4 (This came as a surprise, since John Littlewood tends to prefer classical positions, hence I decided to angle for a transposition back to more familiar territory) 1 ...c5 2 . Nf3 Nc6 3 . g3 (3 . b3 was better if he wished to play a Bird's opening . The text move almost agrees to the aforementioned transposition .)
3 ...g6 4 . Bg2 Bg7 5 . 0-0 d6 6 . d3 e6 7 . Nc3 Nge7 8 . e4 0-0

(We have now reached a standard position in the Closed Sicilian. Littlewood's next move is slightly premature, since 9. Be3 is considered best.) 9. g4 f5 (The standard way of preventing White's f5, when Black would have to face a vicious Kingside onslaught.) 10. gf ef 11. Kh1 Rb8 12. Qe1 b5 13. Ng5 Nd4 ! (Logical but also effective. If 14. ef Bf5 15. Nd5 Nd5 16. Bd5 Kh8 17. Qh4 h6 18. Nf7 Rf7 19. Qd8 Rd8 20. Bf7 Nc2 21. Rb1 Bd3 22. Rd1 Be4 23. Kgl Bd4 24. Kf1 Rf8 25. Be6 Ne3 26. Be3 Be3 27. Ra1 Rf4 28. Ke2 Bd4 with a decisive advantage.) 14. Qf2 b4 15. Nd1 Ne6 ! (Black liquidates White's most aggressive piece.) 16. Ne6 Be6 17. Be3 Qd7 18. a3 (Here Littlewood offered a draw, but the match situation suggested only one course of action.) 18...b3 ! (It would be wrong to open up the Queenside whilst the centre is still fluid.) 19. c3 fe 20. de Bc4 (Black can now play against White's hanging pawns.) 21. Rg1 Qe6 22. Qg3 Rbe8 23. Nf2 Nd5 ?!



(A dubious move which should have cost the game. Better would have been 23...Nf5! ? 24. ef Qe3 25 fg Qg3 ! 26. hg - not 26. gh ? Kh7 27. hg Re2 28. Ne4 Rh8 with a dangerous initiative - 26...Re2 27. Ne4 Rb2 28. Nd6 - 28. gh ? still fails to 28...Kh7 29. Nd6 ? Rf6 ! winning- 28...Rg2 ! 29. Nc4 ! Rg1 30. Kgl Bc3 31. gh Kh7 32. Rb1 Rb8 with complications which probably favour Black.) 24. f5 ! Qe5 (I instinctively avoided 24...gf against a tactical player like Littlewood, although I couldn't see a clear win. However, after the game he pointed out the killing 25. Bf1 !, which he too had difficulty in finding.) 25. Qe5 Re5 26. Bd2 ?

(The winning move was 26 . Bc1! when 26 ...Nf6 is answered by 27 . Bf4 and Bd6 .)
26 ...gf ! 27 . ed Re2 (All of a sudden White finds himself in grave difficulties
e .g . 28 . Be1 Rb2 29 . Nd1 Ra2 30 . Rb1 Re8 when White is almost helpless e .g .
31 . Rb2 Ra1 32 . Bf3 Rd1 ! 33 . Bd1 Bd5 34 . Rbg2 b2 35 . Bc2 Re2 36 . Bf5 Bg2
37 . Rg2 Re1 38 . Rg1 Rg1 39 . Kg1 Bc3 with an easily won ending; but 31 . Bg3
doesn't allow Black to have it all his own way, so perhaps 30 ...f4 31 . Bf3 Rf5
or 31 ...Re8 is the more accurate continuation .) 28 . Bf4 Rf2 29 . Bd6 Rd8
30 . Bc5 Rb2 31 . Rad1 Kf7 32 . Bf3 Bc3 33 . Be3 (If 33 . Bh5 Kf6 then it is the
White King who runs into trouble .) 33 ...Be2 ! 34 . Be2 Re2 35 . Bg5 Be5 !
36 . Rgf1 (Obviously not 36 . Rg2 Rg2 37 . Kg2 Rg8 winning a piece .) 36 ...Rb8
37 . d6 Rh2 38 . Kg1 Rh5 ! 39 . Be7 Rg8 40 . Kf2 Rh2 41 . Ke3 Ke6 42 . Kd3 Rc8
0 - 1 .

I would like to thank the above players for their support, and also Steve White
and Ken Coates for helping with the transport . Perhaps we will have better fortune
under Dave Massie's leadership next season, as we must go all the way, and let's
hope we can !

Postal Chess Report

by M.P.F.Singleton.

Last season the Streatham Postal Chess team won the Premier Division of the British Correspondence Chess League, with $12\frac{1}{2}$ points out of a possible 16. The final scores of the teams in the Premier (not known in time for the first Knightmare) were :

BCCL PREMIER DIVISION 1976 - 77.

1. Streatham and Brixton	$12\frac{1}{2}$
2. Sheffield	12
3. Saltire	$11\frac{1}{2}$
4. Civil Service 'B'	$10\frac{1}{2}$
5. West London	9
6. NALGO	$8\frac{1}{2}$
7. Droylsden	7
8. Scholars	7
9. Hunts / Peterborough	$6\frac{1}{2}$
10. British Rail 'A'	6
11. Exeter 'A'	6
12. Woking	$5\frac{1}{2}$
13. North Circular League 'B'	$4\frac{1}{2}$
14. Watford	$3\frac{1}{2}$

Thus we were automatically promoted to the Championship Division of the BCCL. The team was strengthened this season by the inclusion of Ken Coates and Alan Westwood, who both turned out to possess the dedication and thoroughness so important in postal chess players. As usual the team passed some of their time by setting me various complex problems to deal with - for instance Robin Haldane lost his scoresheet the day his opponent had notified him of a change of address, so I had to find out where his opponent lived ! Ken Coates' opponent showed a marked reluctance to play chess - not starting until six weeks late, and then applying (and being allowed) to finish two weeks early by deciding to have a holiday when in a difficult position !? Nigel Povah provoked the derision (or envy) of the rest of the team by being drawn against the

lowest graded opponent (139) on board 1 ! Owing, as it transpired, to the team in question (Saxmundham) being hit by last minute withdrawals . Nigel disposed of his hapless opponent in a total of only 23 moves for both games !!

White : N.E.Povah Black : A.J.Revell Board One Nimzovitch Defence .

1 . e4 Nc6 2 . d4 d5 3 . Nc3 ! de 4 . d5 Ne5 5 . f4 !? (A new idea, of Nigel's)
...Ng6 6 . Bb5 Bd7 7 . f5 Ne5 8 . Bf4 Bb5 9 . Nb5 c6 ?! 10 . Be5 c6 11 . Qd4 Nf6
12 . 0-0-0 Qa5 ?! 13 . d6 ! Rd8 ?? 14 . Bf6 1 - 0

White : A.J.Revell Black : N.E.Povah Board One Sicilian Defence Closed variation .

1 . e4 c5 2 . f4 Nc6 3 . Nf3 e6 4 . Nc3 Nge7 5 . b3 !? g6 6 . Bb2 Bg7 7 . Bd3 d5
8 . e5 0-0 9 . 0-0 ? c4 0 - 1 (If 10 . bc Qb6 wins the Queens Bishop, or
10 . Be2 d4 11 . Ne4 d3 wins the other one !)

Roger Emerson (in fine form this season) disposed of the strongest opponent (195, on board 3) with typical sharpness .

White : R.Emerson Black : D.Smith Board Three Ruy Lopez .

1 . e4 e5 2 . Nf3 Nc6 3 . Bb5 a6 4 . Ba4 Nf6 5 . 0-0 Be7 6 . Re1 b5 7 . Bb3 d6
8 . c3 0-0 9 . h3 Na5 10 . Bc2 c5 11 . d4 Nd7 12 . Nbd2 cd 13 . cd Nc6 14 . Nb3
a5 15 . Be3 a4 16 . Nbd2 ed 17 . Nd4 Nd4 18 . Bd4 Bf6 19 . Nf1 Nc5 ? 20 . Ne3
Bb7 21 . e5 ! Be7 22 . Nf5 Ne6 23 . ed Bf6 24 . Qh5 g6 25 . Ne7 Be7 26 . Qe5 Bf6
27 . Qf6 Nd4 28 . Qd4 Qd7 29 . Re7 Qc8 30 . Rc7 1 - 0

White : D.Smith Black : R.Emerson Board Three Sicilian Defence Pelikan variation .

1 . e4 c5 2 . Nf3 Nc6 3 . d4 cd 4 . Nd4 Nf6 5 . Nc3 e5 6 . Ndb5 d6 7 . Bg5 a6
8 . Na3 b5 9 . Bf6 gf 10 . Nd5 f5 11 . ef Bf5 12 . Bd3 e4 13 . Qe2 Nd4 14 . Qe3 Bg7
15 . c3 0-0 16 . Bb1 Be6 17 . Nf4 b4 18 . cb d5 19 . Nc2 Nf5 20 . Qb3 Be5 21 . Ne6 fe
22 . a4 Qf6 23 . 0-0 Qh4 24 . g3 Qh3 25 . f4 ef 26 . Qf3 Ng3 0 - 1

The team results were as follows :

BCCL CHAMPIONSHIP 1977 - 78 .

S&B

1 . N.E.Povah	2 - 0	A.Revell (Saxmundham)
2 . R.Sams	1 - 1	R.Brownsord (Windemere)
3 . R.Emerson	2 - 0	D.Smith (South Manchester)
4 . M.Singleton	2 - 0	R.Newbery (Sheffield Univ.)
5 . D.Massie	$\frac{1}{2} - 1\frac{1}{2}$	J.T.Pascoe (Civil Service 'A')
6 . K.Coates	1 - 1	A.Porter (Sheffield)

7. R.Haldane	2 - 0	J.Watson (Inland Revenue)
8. A.Westwood	<u>2 - 0</u>	J.Baum (North Circular League)
TOTAL	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	

This score was enough to clinch the championship of the BCCL, and with it the right to hold the 'Golden Jubilee Trophy' for one year. This is a splendid achievement, especially as it has been accomplished in the shortest possible time, ie. two straight seasons.

BCCL CHAMPIONSHIP 1977 - 78

1. Streatham and Brixton	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Sheffield Univ.	11
3. South Manchester	10
4. Windemere	9
5. N.C. League	9
6. Inland Revenue	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
7. Sheffield 'A'	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
8. Civil Service 'A'	8
9. Bradford	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
10. Liverpool	7
11. Liverpool '2'	7
12. Insurance	6
13. Saxmundham	5
14. BBC	2 $\frac{1}{2}$

This result ensures promotion again, this time into the 'Super League'; THE BRITISH POSTAL CHESS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP, which is the very top postal team tournament in Britain, being comprised of teams promoted from the championship divisions of the various Correspondence Chess Leagues. I would like to thank the team members for their loyalty and dedication, factors which make running this team a great pleasure, and to congratulate them once again on their fine achievement.

Middlesex 2nd Team Tournament

By M.P.F.Singleton.

Streatham entered two four man teams into the second Middlesex Open Weekend Team Tournament, held at Imperial College Union from 29th April to 1st May. There were two games per day (40 moves / 2 hrs. followed by a playoff) and generous team prizes in chess clocks and goods plus prizes for individual performances. Competition was very keen with most (49 altogether) London Clubs entering including strong teams from Harrow, Hendon, Islington, Centymca, etc.

The first team suffered a setback when Nigel Povah was ill on the first day, and after unfortunately losing his first two games, had to withdraw. This led to a curious mix up on the second day, when after Chris Jones had arrived to play, as he said, in " Nigel's place ", I mistakenly put him in Nigel Rose's place in the second team ! This resulted in the embarrassment of our having an extra player in the second team and a vacancy in the first ! Since Nigel Rose was ineligible to play in the first team we had to persuade a bemused opponent to stop playing against Chris Jones, and to start again against Nigel Rose ! " But I like playing against the Sicilian ! " he said, but sportingly agreed, whereupon Nigel Rose sportingly played the same opening !

After this, both teams settled down well, and after six rounds, with some sparkling and exciting play, came 3rd and 4th, winning three chess clocks between them, and greatly pleasing the second team in particular. Centymca won first prize (5 chess clocks plus the N.A.Perkins Trophy). Alan Westwood on board 4 of the second team had a personal triumph winning the Poole Trophy plus £20 for the best individual performance with six wins out of six ! This tremendous achievement deprived our own Roger Emerson of the same recognition, at the last gasp, since " Super Emmo " could " only " draw his last game against R.Lobo to finish with $5\frac{1}{2}/6$ on board 1.3 for the first team ! Also outstanding was Ken Coates' unbeaten run of $5/6$, and Richard Sams' of $4\frac{1}{2}/5$. Daniel King, playing on top board for the second team, scored a very solid result of $4/6$ against stern opposition.

Our thanks to the organisers for an enjoyable and efficiently run tournament. Round by round scores were as follows -

ROUND 1

<u>HENDON 11</u>	1 - 3	<u>S & B 1</u>	<u>LEWISHAM</u>	$\frac{1}{2} - 3\frac{1}{2}$	<u>S & B 11</u>
1.D.Booth	1 - 0	N.E.Povah	1.N.Oliver	0 - 1	D.King
2.A.J.Miller	0 - 1	R.Emerson	2.I.Pountney	0 - 1	M.Singleton
3.P.Walker	0 - 1	R.Sams	3.L.Smart	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	C.Rose
4.D.Faldon	0 - 1	K.Coates	4.A.P.Smith	0 - 1	A.Westwood

ROUND 11

<u>S & B 1</u>	2 - 2	<u>L.Univ Old Boys</u>	<u>S & B 11</u>	1 - 3	<u>HARROW 1</u>
1.N.E.Povah	0 - 1	C.Orton	1.D.King	0 - 1	M.Macdonald-Ross
2.R.Emerson	1 - 0	R.Marsh	2.M.Singleton	0 - 1	C.Crouch
3.R.Sams	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	P.Thornton	3.C.Rose	0 - 1	J.Quinn
4.K.Coates	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	P.Fawcett	4.A.Westwood	1 - 0	D.Tuckett

ROUND 111

<u>ISLINGTON 1</u>	1 - 3	<u>S & B 1</u>	<u>U.COLLEGE</u>	$1\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$	<u>S & B 11</u>
1.P.Large	1 - 0	C.Jones	1.M.Gordeni	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	D.King
2.M.Rose	0 - 1	R.Emerson	2.P.Rice	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	M.Singleton
3.S.Goodwin	0 - 1	R.Sams	3.G.Stanway	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	C.Rose
4.A.Anjewierden	0 - 1	K.Coates	4.J.Rety	0 - 1	A.Westwood

ROUND 1V

<u>S & B 1</u>	4 - 0	<u>LCYMCA YOUTH</u>	<u>S & B 11</u>	$2\frac{1}{2} - 1\frac{1}{2}$	<u>HACKNEY 11</u>
1.R.Emerson	1 - 0	J.Ady	1.D.King	1 - 0	M.Cresswell
2.R.Sams	1 - 0	T.Carr	2.M.Singleton	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	A.Laxton
3.K.Coates	1 - 0	N.Carr	3.C.Rose	0 - 1	T.Morrison
4.C.Jones	1 - 0	S.Triggs	4.A.Westwood	1 - 0	J.Fernandez

ROUND V

<u>LCYMCA 1</u>	2 - 2	<u>S & B 1</u>	<u>HAMMERSMITH</u>	0 - 4	<u>S & B 11</u>
1 .A .Martin	0 - 1	R .Emerson	1 .L .Marden	0 - 1	D .King
2 .C .Cooley	1 - 0	Default	2 .R .Budd	0 - 1	M .Singleton
3 .I .Watson	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	K .Coates	3 .M .Houghton	0 - 1	C .Rose
4 .M .Wills	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	R .Haldane	4 .A .Dunlop	0 - 1	A .Westwood

ROUND VI

<u>S & B 1</u>	$3\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	<u>METRO 1</u>	<u>HENDON 1</u>	$1\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$	<u>S & B 11</u>
1 .R .Emerson	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	R .Lobo	1 .A .Cooper	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	D .King
2 .R .Sams	1 - 0	R .Sefton	2 .S .Berry	0 - 1	M .Singleton
3 .K .Coates	1 - 0	P .Ralph	3 .B .Rothbart	1 - 0	C .Rose
4 .R .Haldane	1 - 0	R .Newton	4 .M .Hassall	0 - 1	A .Westwood

FINAL TOP PLACINGS

1st LONDON CYMCA	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ /24
2nd HARROW 1	18
3rd S & B 1	17 $\frac{1}{2}$
4th S & B 11	16
5th HARROW 11	16
6th WIMBLEDON 1	15

I had two interesting victories with the Kings Indian Averbakh, in both cases my opponents playing an early b5, no doubt being dissatisfied with Black's chances in the more " normal " book lines, where White seems to have the upper hand according to the latest theoretical wrinkles.

White : M.P.F.Singleton (S&B 11) Black : I.M.Pountney (Lewisham)

Round 11 Kings Indian Averbakh variation.

1 . d4 Nf6 2 . c4 g6 3 . Nc3 Bg7 4 . e4 d6 5 . Be2 0-0 6 . Bg5 h6 7 . Be3 c5
8 . d5 e6 9 . h6 ed 10 . ed b5 !? (Normally the moves Qd2 Kh7 have been played in this position, when this pawn advance is recommended by theory. The Q on d2 adds impetus to Black's threat of Ne4. I was following Richard Sams' suggestion of

keeping the Queen on d1, which seems better for White. Black is left with little to do, and Qd2 isn't a very useful move anyway.) 11. Nb5! (The point. White often has to play cb in similar positions, which is often better for Black.) ...Ne4
12. Nf3 Qa5 13. Nd2 a6 (After 13...Bb2 I was thinking either 14. 0-0!? looked interesting e.g. 14...Ba1 15. Qa1 Nd2 16. Bh6! f6 17. Bf8 Kf8 18. Qf6 etc., or that 14. Rb1 was adequate) 14. 0-0 Nd2 15. Bd2 Qd8 16. Nc3
 (White is a perfectly good pawn up.) ...Re8 17. Bd3 Nd7 18. f4 f5 19. Qf3 Rb8
20. b3 Nf8 21. Rae1 Rb7 22. Re8 Qe8 23. Re1 Re7 24. Re7 Qe7 25. Qe2 Bd4
26. Kh2 Qg7 27. Qe1 Bd7 28. Ne2 Bf6 29. Bc3 Nh7 30. Ba5 Qe7 31. Ng1 Qe1
32. Be1 Bd4 33. Ne2 Bb2 34. Kg3 Kf7 35. Kf3 Nf6 36. b4 Ba3 37. bc Bc5
38. Bc3 Ba4 39. Bd4 Nd7 40. Ke3 Bd4 41. Kd4 Nc5 42. Nc3 Bd7 43. Bc2 Kf6
44. Ne2 g5 45. g3 Kg6 46. Nc1 gf 47. gf Kh5 48. Nd3 Ne4 49. c5 Kh4
50. cd Kh3? 51. Ne5 Nd6 52. Nd7 Kg3 53. Kc5 1 - 0

White : M.P.F.Singleton (S&B11) Black : R.Budd (Hammersmith)

Round V Kings Indian Averbakh variation.

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 0-0 5. Bg5 (This move is recommended by Fischer in his book "60 Memorable Games" after 4...0-0 because if Black plays h6 White can transpose after Be3, f3, Qd2 into a Saemisch with a move in hand).
...d6 6. Qd2 c5 7. d5 b5!? 8. cb a6 9. ba Na6 10. Be2 Re8 11. Nf3 Rb8
12. 0-0 Rb4 (Black's counterplay is offset by White's grip on the black squares on the Kingside) 13. e5! de 14. a3 Rb6 15. Rfd1 (Still not ...Ne5 16. Nd5!)
...e4 16. Ne5 Qd6?? (A blunder, but Black is in great difficulties anyway, as the Knights are about to invade the white squares on the queenside and win something)
17. Nc4 Qb8 18. Nb6 Qb6 19. d6! e3 20. fe Rd8 21. Bf6! Bf6 22. Nd5 Qd6
 and realising that 23. Nf6 wins more material Black resigned. 1 - 0.

Finally here is my last round game against S.Berry, who I managed somehow to swindle in time trouble to give us a vital point for fourth place.

White : M.P.F.Singleton (S&B 11) Black : S.Berry (Hendon 1)

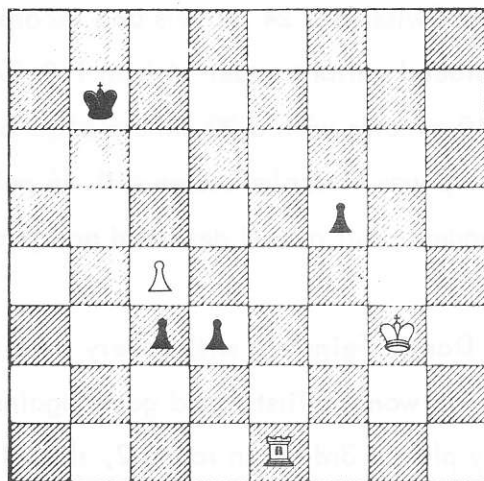
Round VI Nimzo Indian Defence, Rubinstein variation.

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e3 0-0 5. Bd3 c5 6. Ne2 (I thought I'd try this move, as I have had a succession of bad results lately against 6. Nf3 Nc6 7. 0-0 Bc3 8. bc3 d6) ...d5 7. 0-0 Nc6 8. a3 dc 9. Bc4 cd 10. ed Bd6

11. Qd3 a6 12. Rd1 b5 13. Ba2 Bb7 14. Ng3 Ne7 15. Bg5 Ng6 16. Rac1?
 (16. d5!) ...Bf4 ! 17. Bf6 Qf6 18. Nce4 Qe7 19. Rc5 Rad8 20. Rh5 Kh8?
 21. Nc5 (Threatening, among other things 22. Be6 fe6 23. Qg6) ...Bg3 22. Qg3
 Bd5 23. Bb1 Kg8 24. Na6 f5 25. Re1 Qf6 (White has won a pawn, but at the
 expense of a trapped rook) . 26. Qe3 Nh4 27. Nc7 g6 28. Rh6 Kg7 29. Nd5 Rd5
 30. Rh4 Qh4 31. Qe6 Rd4 32. Qe5 Kh6 33. g3 (Both sides but particularly Black
 were in desperate time trouble now) ...Qd8 34. Bc2 b4 35. a4 Rd2 36. Qf4 Qg5
 37. Qb4 Rfd8 38. h4 Qf6 39. Re7 ! f4 ?? (Qd4 still wins) 40. g4 ! Qh4 41. Qf4
 Qg5 42. Qh2 1 - 0.



PROBLEM No. 3



WHITE (Playing up the board)
 TO PLAY AND DRAW .

This interesting problem was shown to Daniel King by a member of a french
 junior team. (Answer on page 120.)



Club Championship

by the 1978 champion Malcolm Lester.

The Club Championship was held at 'The Old Grammarians' Beechcroft Road over the Friday evening and weekend of April 7th - 9th. This type of weekend tournament, although very enjoyable for those who play, does require a lot of organization and effort to ensure that it runs smoothly. In particular our thanks are owed to:

Valerie Singleton - for the excellent catering, providing hot meals on the Saturday and Sunday.

Bruce Floyd - our able tournament controller.

Dave Massie - who arranged the venue and acted as barman.

Mrs. Massie - for preparing sandwiches etc.

Mrs. Povah, Janet Markham and Sue - who assisted Valerie with the catering.

The tournament was run as a five-round Swiss with 24 players and incorporated the Junior Championship for the highest placed entrant under 14 (on 1.9.77).

The rate of play was 40 moves in 1 hour 40 minutes with a 20 minute blitz finish.

The surprise winner of the Championship was Malcolm Lester with $4\frac{1}{2}$ points and a tournament grade of 214. (Typically modest; but a well deserved and popular winnerEd.)

The Junior Championship was won by Daniel Feinstein with a very creditable $1\frac{1}{2}$ points and a tournament grade of 144. He won his first round game against Martin Linden, drew with H.Stewart (eventually placed 3rd =) in round 2, should have beaten the eventual winner in round 3, and was paired against very tough opposition in the last two rounds.

The highest tournament grade of the Championship went to Nigel Povah with 216.

ROUND 1

1. A.Keene	(168)	0 - 1	N.E.Povah	(215)
2. R.Emerson	(203)	0 - 1	C.Jones	(184)
3. A.Westwood	(169)	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	R.Sams	(202)
4. C.N.Rose	(177)	0 - 1	P.Lee	(197)
5. K.Coates	(194)	0 - 1	H.Stewart	(-)
6. M.Lester	(164)	1 - 0	M.Singleton	(188)
7. R.Ball	(-)	0 - 1	D.King	(187)

8. P.Turner	(-)	1 - 0	B.Blackburn	(130)
9. G.Blowers	(-)	1 - 0	G.Dormand	(141)
10. M.Linden	(138)	0 - 1	D.Feinstein	(118)
11. R.Allen	(130)	1 - 0	C.Stanley	(-)

J.Bennett (186) 1 - 0 by default

M.Cowley received $\frac{1}{2}$ point bye. (146)

1.1 White : A.Keene Black : N.E.Povah Modern Benoni

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 c5 4. d5 ed 5. cd d6 6. e4 g6 7. Bd3 Bg7

8. Nge2 0-0 9. 0-0 b6 10. h3 Ba6 11. a4 Bd3 12. Qd3 Nbd7 13. Ng3 a6

14. Be3 Qc7 15. Rad1 c4 16. Qd2 Nc5 17. Bh6 Rae8 18. Bg7 Kg7 19. Nf5 Kh8

20. Qh6 ? (20. Qd4 is better) ...Rg8 21. f3 Nfd7 22. Ng3 Nd2 23. b3 g5 !

24. Ngc2 Rg6 25. Qh5 Nf6 0 - 1

1.5 White : K.Coates Black : H.Stewart Modern Defence / Kings Indian

1. d4 g6 2. c4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. e4 Nd7 5. Nf3 e5 6. Be2 Ne7 7. h4 0-0

8. h5 ed 9. Nd4 Nc6 10. Be3 Qe7 11. Qd2 Nf6 12. hg fg 13. 0-0-0 Nd4

14. Bd4 Bd7 15. Bf3 Bc6 16. Rde1 Nd7 17. Nd5 Bd5 18. ed Ne5 19. Bg4 Nd3

20. Qd3 Qg5 21. Qe3 Qg4 22. Bg7 Kg7 23. Qe7 Rf7 24. Rh7 Kh7 25. Qf7 Kh6

26. Rh1 Kg5 27. Qe7 Kf5 28. Qe6 Kg5 29. Qe7 Kf5 30. Rh4 Qg5 31. Qg5 Kg5

32. Re4 Rf8 33. f3 Rf7 34. Kd2 Rh7 35. Kc3 Rh2 36. Rg4 Kf5 37. Kb4 g5

38. c5 Rh4 39. cd cd 40. Rh4 gh 41. Kc4 Kf4 42. Kd3 Kg3 43. f4 Kf4

44. Kc2 Ke4 45. Kd2 Kd5 46. Kd3 Kc5 47. Kc3 a5 48. Kd3 d5 49. Kc3 d4

50. Kd3 and eventually Black won 0 - 1

1.6 White : M.Lester Black : M.Singleton Kings Indian

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. Nf3 d6 5. Bg5 c5 6. dc 0-0 7. cd ed

8. Qd2 Be6 9. e3 Qa5 10. Be2 Nc6 11. 0-0 Rac8 12. Rfd1 Ne5 13. Ne5 de

14. Bf6 Bf6 15. Nd5 Qd2 16. Nf6 Kg7 17. Rd2 Kf6 18. b3 Rfd8 19. Rad1 Ke7

20. Bf3 Rd2 21. Rd2 b6 22. Kf1 Rc5 23. Ke2 f5 24. Bb7 b5 25. cb Rb5 26. Bc6 Rc5

27. Ba4 Rc1 28. f3 Bc8 29. Bb5 Be6 30. Bd3 Rc7 31. e4 f4 32. Kd1 g5 33. h3 h5

34. Rc2 Rd7 35. Kd2 g4 36. hg hg 37. Rc6 g3 38. Kc2 Rb7 39. Ba6 Rb6 40. Rc7 Bd7

41. Ra7 Kd6 42. Bc4 Rb8 43. Ra6 Kc7 44. Rh6 Bc6 45. a4 Rd8 46. Bd3 Rd4

47. Re6 Rd6 48. Re5 Rh6 49. Kd2 Rh2 50. Bf1 1 - 0

ROUND 2

1. N.Povah	1 - 0	J.Bennett
2. R.Sams	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	M.Lester
3. P.Lee	1 - 0	P.Turner
4. D.King	1 - 0	G.Blowers
5. C.Jones	1 - 0	R.Allen
6. H.Stewart	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	D.Feinstein
7. M.Cowley	0 - 1	A.Westwood
8. M.Singleton	0 - 1	R.Emerson
9. B.Blackburn	0 - 1	K.Coates
10. G.Dormand	0 - 1	C.N.Rose
11. C.Stanley	0 - 1	A.Keene
12. M.Linden	1 - 0	R.Ball

2.1 White : N.Povah Black : J.Bennett French Defence

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Nge2 de 5. a3 Be7 6. Ne4 Nf6 7. Qd3 Nc6
8. Bf4 e5 !? 9. Be5 Ne5 10. de Qd3 11. cd Ne4 12. de 0-0 (12...f6 !)
13. Rc1 c6 14. f4 f6 15. ef Bf6 16. e5 Be7 (16...Bd8 !) 17. g3 Bf5 18. Nd4 Rad8
19. Bc4 Kh8 20. Rd1 g5 21. Nf5 Rd1 22. Kd1 Rf5 23. Rf1 ?! (23. Be6 ! Rf8
24. f5) ...gf 24. gf Bc5 25. Rf3 Bd4 26. e6 Bc5 27. Ke2 Kg7 28. Rg3 Kf8 ?!
(28...Kf6 !) 29. Rg8 ! Ke7 30. Rg7 Kf8 31. Rb7 Rf4 32. Kd3 Rh4 33. Rc7 Rh2
34. Rc6 Be7 35. Rc8 Kg7 36. Rc7 Kf6 37. b3 a5 38. a4 (38. Ra7 !?) ...Rh5
39. Ra7 Re5 40. Rd7 h5 41. Rd4 Bb4 42. Rd8 Ke7 43. Rh8 Rg5 44. Rh7 Kf8
45. Ke4 Ke8 46. Be2 Kf8 47. Bh5 Rg7 48. Rh6 Ke7 49. Be2 Kf8 (49...Bd2 50. Rh2 !)
50. Bc4 Ke7 51. Kd5 Rg5 52. Kc6 Rc5 53. Kb7 Re5 54. Rh7 Kd8 55. Kc6 Rc5
56. Kb6 Re5 57. Rd7 Ke8 58. Bd5 ! Kf8 59. Kc6 Re1 60. Rb7 ! Ba3 61. Rb5 Bb4
62. Rb4 ! ab 63. a5 Ra1 64. Kb6 Ke7 65. a6 Rd1 66. a7 Rd5 67. a8 = Q Rd6
68. Kc5 Re6 69. Qb7 Kf6 70. Qb4 and White won in a few more moves 1 - 0

2.3 White : P.Lee Black : P.Turner Queens Pawn / Catalan

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. d4 c5 4. g3 cd 5. Nd4 Nc6 6. Bg2 Bg7 7. 0-0 0-0
8. Nc3 Nd4 9. Qd4 d6 10. Qd3 Rb8 11. Bd2 Ng4 12. b3 Bf5 13. e4 Bd7
14. Rac1 Ne5 15. Qe3 a6 16. Nd5 Bc6 17. Bc3 b5 18. cb Bb5 19. Rfd1 Qd7
20. h3 h6 21. f4 e6 22. fe ed 23. ed5 Qe7 24. e6 f5 25. Bg7 Kg7 26. a4 Be8
27. Rc4 g5 28. Qc3 Kg8 29. Rc7 Qf6 30. Rc1 Qc3 31. R1c3 Bg6 32. Bf1 f4

33. gf Be4 34. Ba6 Bd5 35. e7 Rfe8 36. Bb5 Kf7 37. Be8 Re8 38. fg hg

39. Rd3 Be4 40. Rd6 Re7 41. Re7 1 - 0

2.2 White : R.Sams Black : M.Lester Kings Indian, Averbakh variation

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Be2 0-0 6. Bg5 c5 7. d5 Nbd7

8. Nf3 h6 9. Bd2 a6 10. 0-0 Ne8 11. Bd3 Ne5 ? 12. Ne5 de 13. a3 Bd7

14. b4 b6 15. bc bc 16. Na4 Ba4 17. Qa4 Nd6 18. f3 f5 19. Be3 Qc7

20. Rfb1 g5 21. Qc2 f4 22. Bf2 Rfb8 23. Qc3 ? Nf5 ! 24. Bc2 Nd4 25. Bd1 Rb7

$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$

2.6 White : H.Stewart Black : D.Feinstein Modern Benoni. Notes by D.Feinstein.

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 e6 4. Nc3 ed 5. cd d6 6. e4 g6 7. f4 Bg7 8. Bb5 Nfd7

(White has chosen a frequently played line against the Benoni which I think is one of the best. 8.e5 is the Mikenas pawn storm which is very complex and not so good for White as appears at first glance but I shall not talk about this. Of course

(After 8. Bb5) Black cannot play Bd7 ? which loses to 9. e5. If 8...Nbd7 White has the opportunity to play 9. e5 de 10. fe Nh5 11. e6 fe 12. de 0-0 !? after which 13. ed7 ? Bc3 14. bc3 Qh4 is bad for White but 13. Nf3 ! Rf3 14. Qf3 ! is probably winning for White (Analysis by John Nunn)) 9. Be2 !? (This is Postal G.M.

Adrian Hollis's move. It was first seen in a college game Hollis v Nunn Oxford 1977 and then again in the same match between the same players with the same colours the next year. Hollis v Nunn 1977 continued 9...0-0 10. Nf3 Na6 11. 0-0 Nc7 12. a4 Rb8 13. Kh1 a6 14. a5 b5 15. ab Nb6 16. f5 ! gf 17. ef Bf5 18. Ne5 de5 19. Rf5 N3d5 20. Nd5 Qd5 21. Qf1 Rb4 ! 22. Ra3 Ne6 23. Rg3 f6 24. b3 ?

(Bh6 !) ...Rd4 ! and Black went on to win. The 1978 game followed this one to move 15, when John Nunn improved on the previous year's game by playing 15...Rb6 ! 16. Nd2 Nf6 17. Nc4 Rb4 18. Nd6 Rd4 19. Qe1 Qd6 20. e5 Qb6 21. ef6 Qf6 22. Bf3 Re8 23. Qf2 Nb5 24. Na4 Bf5 25. Nc5 ? Qd6 ! 26. Nb7 ? Qb6 27. Na5 Rd1 ! 0 - 1) ...a6 (Intending Queenside expansion with b5.

Castling now may be better for White) 10. a4 Qe7 !? (I played this move because I saw no future for the Queen on c7, whereas at e7 it discourages e5 for a while) 11. Qc2 Nf6 12. Nf3 Nbd7 13. 0-0 0-0 14. Bd2 Re8 (I think 14...Ne8 bringing the Knight to the Queenside, preparing f5, and in addition opening up the Bishop's line may be better, as the Rook on e8 does not serve any purpose apart from over

protecting a square) 15. Rae1 h6 (This may be a bit weakening but I don't see a way to take advantage of it) 16. Kh1 Nh7 (Too artificial) 17. f5 (This is a violent attempt to attack. However, it is premature because with my next move I either force his sacrifice or obtain an easy position) ...g5 18. e5 ?! Ne5 (I played this move fairly quickly. If 18...Be5 19. Bd3, or 19. Ne4 look good and maybe even 19. Ne5 is a move) 19. Ne5 Be5 (...de5 is bad because of 20.Ne4 19..... Qe5 ?? 20. Bd3 wins the rook) 20. Qc1 (At this point Black has a critical decision to make. The alternatives are (a) ...Bc3 21. Bc3 and White has adequate compensation for his sacrificed pawn. (b) ...f6 does not look good, creating weaknesses at h5 and g6 as well as restricting the black Bishop on e5. (c) ...Kh8 preparing Rg8, b5 and preventing perpetuals by Bg5. White might now try 21. Rf3 but I reckon Black can hold it. (d) ...Qf6 This may be OK but I rejected it during the game, since Black is a bit cramped. A line is 21. Ne4 Qg7 22. Bd3 Bd7 probably equal. (e) ...Qf8. This move has the drawback of preventing Nf8. Qg7 may follow transposing into (d). One line is 21. Ne4 Bd7 22. b3 ?! b5 which I think is better for Black. (f) ...g4 ?! A violent move but probably unsound, as after 21. Bg4 Qh4 22. Bh3 Bd7 23. Re4 ! Qf6 24. Rg4 Kh8 25. Ne4 ! with a crush on. Any of these lines was better than the move I made !) ...Nf6 ? 21. Bg5 ! hg 22. Qg5 Kh8 (...Kf8 would lose to 23. Rf3 and 24. Rg3 or h3) 23. Qh6 Na7 24. f6 Qf8 (...Bf6 25. Bd3 wins) 25. Qh4 Qg8 26. Bd3 Bd7 27. Ne4 Qg4 28. Qh6 ! Qg6 ?! 29. Qh4 ?? (Both players missed the easy win 29. Ng5 ! Qh6 30. Nf7 Kg8 31. Nh6 Kh8 32. Nf7 Kg8 33. Ne5 Re5 34. Re5 de 35. f7 Kg7 36. Bh7 wins) ...Qg4 $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$ (My opponent still missing the win after Ng5 !)

ROUND 3

1. C. Jones	0 - 1	N. Povah
2. D. King	1 - 0	P. Lee
3. A. Westwood	1 - 0	H. Stewart
4. D. Feinstein	0 - 1	M. Lester
5. R. Emerson	1 - 0	J. Bennett
6. C. N. Rose	1 - 0	R. Sams
7. K. Coates	1 - 0	A. Keene
8. P. Turner	1 - 0	G. Blowers

9. R.Allen	0 - 1	M.Linden
10. M.Cowley	0 - 1	M.Singleton
11. G.Dormand	0 - 1	B.Blackburn
12. R.Ball	1 - 0	C.Stanley

3.2 White : D.King Black : P.Lee Sicilian Defence Alapin variation.

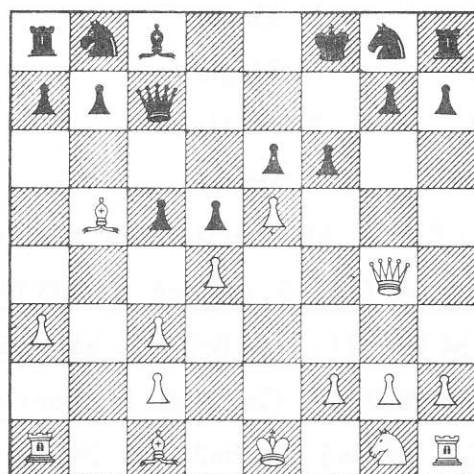
1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. c3 d5 4. ed Qd5 5. d4 Nc6 6. Bd3 Nf6 7. 0-0 Bd7
8. Na3 0-0-0 9. dc Bc5 10. b4 Bd6 11. Nc4 Bc7 12. b5 Na5 13. Na5 Ba5
14. c4 Qh5 15. Bf4 Bc7 16. Bc7 Kc7 17. Qe2 Kb8 18. Rac1 Qc5 19. Nd2 Bc8
20. Nb3 Qh5 21. Qc2 Ng4 22. h3 Ne5 23. Be2 Qg6 24. Qc3 Qe4 25. Rfe1 f6
26. c5 Nd3 27. Bd3 Qd3 28. Qa5 Rd5 29. Rc3 Qf5 30. a4 Bd7 31. Qb4 Rc8
32. c6 Be8 33. cb Rc3 34. Qc3 Kb7 35. Rc1 Bd7 36. Qc7 Ka8 37. Qd8 1 - 0

3.4 White : D.Feinstein Black : M.Lester Sicilian Defence, Boleslavsky variation.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cd 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 d6 6. Be3 e5 7. Nb3 Be7
8. Bc4 0-0 9. f3 a6 10. Qd2 b5 11. Bd3 Qc7 12. a3 Be6 13. h4 h5 14. Qf2 Rab8
15. Bg5 Nd7 16. Nd5 Qd8 17. f4 !? f6 18. Bh6 gh 19. Qg3 Kh7 20. f5 Bf7
21. 0-0-0 Rg8 22. Qf3 a5 23. Qe2 b4 24. a4 Nc5 25. Nc5 dc 26. Bc4 Nd4
27. Qf2 Rg7 28. Rh3 Rb7 29. Rg3 Rg3 30. Qg3 Qg8 31. Qf2 Rd7 32. c3 Bd5
33. Bd5 Rd5 34. ed bc 35. bc Nb3 36. Kc2 c4 37. Qe2 Qg4 38. Qg4 hg
39. d6 Bd8 40. Rd5 Kg7 41. Rb5 Kf8 42. Rb8 Ke8 43. Rc8 Kd7 44. Rc4 Na1
45. Kb2 Kd6 46. Ka1 Kd5 47. Rg4 e4 48. Rf4 ? (48. Kb2) ...Bc7 49. Rf1 e3
50. Re1 Ke4 51. g4 Bg3 52. Re3 Ke3 53. g5 fg 54. hg hg 55. Kb2 Be5
56. Kb3 g4 57. Kc4 g3 0 - 1

3.5 White : R.Emerson Black : J.Bennett French Defence. Notes by R.Emerson.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 c5 5. a3 Bc3 6. bc Qc7 7. Qg4 f6 (played
by Botvinnik in the 20th World Championship game against Smyslov and followed
by 8. Nf3 Nc6 when 9. Bb5 gives White the advantage. Byrne improved against
Matanovic at Sousse 1967 with 8. Nf3 c4 ! followed by Qf7.) 8. Bb5 ! (Now 8...Nc6
9. Nf3 transposes to White's advantage so Black tries to take advantage of the
Bishop's vulnerable position with ...) 8...Kf8 (According to Moles' excellent book
this position favours Black).



9. Nf3 !! c4 10. a4 Qf7 ? (Black must play down a forced line 10...a6 11. Ba3 Ne7 (11...Kf7 12. Ng5 fg 13. Qh5 g6 14. Qf3 mates) 12. Bd6 Qd8 13. ef gf 14. Qf4 Kg7 15. Bc4 Ng6 ! 16. Qg3 dc 17. Bb8 e5 18. h4 Rb8 19. h5 with an unclear position, probably favouring White) 11. Ba3 Ne7 12. Qf4 f5 (12...a6 13. ef gf 14. Qc7 ab 15. Qc8 Kg7 16. Qb7 Ra4 17. Qb5 with advantage) 13. Qh4 Nc6 14. Bc6 bc 15. Ng5 Qe8 16. Nh7 Kg8 17. Qe7 Qe7 18. Be7 Kh7 19. Ke2 Bd7 20. Bd6 1 - 0

ROUND 4

1. N.Povah	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	D.King
2. M.Lester	1 - 0	A.Westwood
3. P.Lee	1 - 0	C.Jones
4. P.Turner	0 - 1	R.Emerson
5. K.Coates	1 - 0	M.Linden
6. H.Stewart	1 - 0	C.N.Rose
7. D.Feinstein	0 - 1	A.Keene
8. J.Bennett	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	M.Singleton
9. G.Blowers	0 - 1	B.Blackburn
10. R.Ball	0 - 1	M.Cowley
11. C.Stanley	0 - 1	G.Dormand

4.1 White : N.Povah Black : D.King Sicilian Defence Pelikan variation.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cd 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 e5 6. Ndb5 d6 7. Bg5 a6
8. Na3 b5 9. Bf6 gf 10. Nd5 f5 11. Bd3 Be6 12. c4 Qa5 13. Kf1 fe 14. Be4 Bg7
15. cb ab 16 Rc1 Ra6 17. Qd3 Bd5 18. Qd5 Ne7 19. Qb5 Qb5 20. Nb5 0-0
21. Nc3 (21. Rc7 Ra2 $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$ Balashov v Geller, 45th USSR Ch., 1977) ...f5

22. Bd3 Rc6 23. Ke2 e4 24. Bb5 Rc5 25. Bd7 Ng6 26. g3 Ne5 27. Be6 Kh8
 28. b4 Rc7 29. Nd5 Ra7 30. Rc2 Nf3 31. Rd1 Nd4 32. Rd4 Bd4 33. Ne3 Be3
 34. Ke3 Kg7 35. Kf4 Kg6 36. Rc6 Rf6 37. Rd6 Ra2 38. Bf5 Kg7 39. Rd7 Rf7
 40. Rf7 Kf7 41. b5 Rf2 42. Ke4 Rh2 43. Kd5 Kf6 44. Bd7 Kg5 $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$

4.2 White : M.Lester Black : A.Westwood Kings Indian, Smyslov variation.

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. Nf3 O-O 5. Bg5 h6 6. Bh4 d6 7. e3 Bf5
 8. Bd3 Bd3 9. Qd3 Na6 10. a3 c5 11. O-O Qd7 12. h3 Nh7 13. Rad1 g5
 14. Bg3 f5 ? 15. dc Nc5 ?! 16. Qd5 Qe6 17. Nd4 Qd5 18. Nd5 Rf7 ? 19. Ne7 !
 Re7 20. Bd6 Rd7 21. Bc5 b6 22. Bb4 Rad8 23. Bc3 f4 24. Rde1 fe 25. fe Rc8
 26. b3 a6 27. Ba1 Nf8 28. Nf5 Ba1 29. Ra1 Kh7 30. Rad1 Rd1 31. Rd1 b5 32. Nd6
 Rd8 33. c5 Ne6 34. b4 and White won in a further 18 moves. 1 - 0

4.3 White : P.Lee Black : C.Jones English Opening

1. c4 c5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. g3 b6 4. Bg2 Bb7 5. O-O e6 6. d4 cd 7. Qd4 d6 8. Nc3
 a6 9. Rfd1 Be7 10. b3 Ra7 ?! 11. Ba3 Nc6 12. Qf4 d5 13. cd ed 14. Be7 Ne7
 15. Nd4 O-O 16. Rac1 Ng6 17. Qd2 Re8 18. Nf5 Ra8 19. Qd4 Rc8 20. Qb4 Rc5
 21. e4 Ne5 22. ed g6 23. Ne3 Qd6 24. Qd4 Rec8 25. f4 Ned7 26. Nc4 Qb8
 27. Na4 Rd5 28. Bd5 Nd5 29. Ne5 N7f6 30. Nb6 Rc1 31. Rc1 Qd8 32. Nd5 Nd5
 33. Ng4 f6 34. Ne3 Qa8 35. Nd5 Bd5 36. Qc5 Be6 37. Qe7 Bh3 38. Qe2 Qa7
 39. Qf2 Qd7 40. Re1 Kf7 41. Qe3 Bf5 42. b4 Be6 43. a4 Qd6 44. b5 ab 45. ab Bd7
 46. b6 Bc6 47. b7 ! 1 - 0

4.5 White : K.Coates Black : M.Linden Sicilian Defence, Najdorf variation.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cd 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. Bg5 e6 7. f4 Be7
 8. Qf3 Qc7 9. O-O-O Nc6 10. Be2 O-O 11. g4 Bd7 12. Nb3 Rab8 13. Bf6 Bf6
 14. g5 Bc3 15. Qc3 Rfc8 16. Kb1 Ne7 ? 17. Qc7 Rc7 18. Rd6 Ba4 19. Rhd1 Nc6
 20. Nc5 Bc2 21. Kc2 b6 22. Na6 Nd4 23. Kb1 1 - 0

4.7 White : D.Feinstein Black : A.Keene French Defence

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. e5 Ng8 5. f4 b6 6. Nf3 Qd7 7. Be2 Ba6
 8. Ba6 Na6 9. Qe2 Nb8 10. a3 h5 11. Be3 Nh6 12. Nh4 g6 13. Nf3 Be7 14. Bf2
 Nf5 15. g3 c5 16. Qd2 c4 17. Qe2 b5 18. Nb1 b4 19. ab Bb4 20. c3 Be7 21. Qc2
 Nc6 22. Nbd2 O-O 23. Rg1 Rab8 24. g4 hg 25. Rg4 Kg7 26. b3 cb 27. Nb3 Qb7
 28. Rb1 Na5 29. Nbd2 Qc7 30. Rc1 Qc6 31. Nh4 Nh4 32. Bh4 Bh4 33. Rh4 Nc4
 34. Nc4 dc 35. Rd1 Qf3 36. Qd2 Rb3 37. f5 Qc3 38. f6 Kg8 39. Qc3 Rc3
 40. Ke2 Rb8 41. Rd2 Rc1 42. Ra2 Rb7 43. Kd2 Rg1 44. Kc3 (44. Ra3 ! intending
 Rah3) ...Rc7 45. Ra6 Rc1 46. Kb2 Rf1 47. Kc3 Rf3 48. Kc2 c3 49. Rd6 Rc8

50. Rd7 Rf2 51. Kc1 c2 0 - 1

ROUND 5

1. D.King (3½)	0 - 1	M.Lester (3½)
2. R.Emerson (3)	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	N.Povah (3½)
3. P.Lee (3)	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$	K.Coates (3)
4. A.Keene (2)	1 - 0	A.Westwood (2½)
5. H.Stewart (2½)	1 - 0	P.Turner (2)
6. M.Linden (2)	0 - 1	C.Jones (2)
7. B.Blackburn (2)	0 - 1	C.N.Rose (2)
8. M.Singleton (1½)	1 - 0	D.Feinstein (1½)
9. J.Bennett (1½)	1 - 0	M.Cowley (1½)
10. G.Dormand (1)	1 - 0	R.Ball (1)
11. G.Blowers (1)	1 - 0	C.Stanley (0)

5.1 White : D.King Black : M.Lester Sicilian Defence, Nimzovitch-Rossolimo attack.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Bc6 bc ? (4...dc is better) 5. 0-0 d5
 6. e5 Bg4 7. h3 Bf3 8. Qf3 e6 9. d3 Qc7 10. Re1 Nd7 11. b3 Ng6 12. Qe2 Be7
 13. c4 0-0 14. Nc3 Rfe1 15. Ba3 f6 16. ef Bf6 17. Rac1 Nf4 18. Qc2 dc 19. dc
 Rad1 20. Re3 Bd4 21. Re4 ? (21. Rg3 is better, but not 21. Rf3 Qe5 22. Bb2 Qg5)
 ...Nh3 ! 22. gh Qg3 23. Kf1 Qh3 24. Kg1 Rf1 25. Rd4 Rd4 26. Ne4 Rf5 27. Ng3 Rg5
 28. Qc3 Rdg4 29. Bc5 Rg3 30. fg Rg3 31. Qg3 Qg3 32. Kh1 Qh4 0 - 1

5.2 White : R.Emerson Black : N.Povah Sicilian Defence : Pelikan variation.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cd 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 e6 6. Ndb5 d6 7. Bf4 e5
 8. Bg5 a6 9. Na3 b5 10. Bf6 gf 11. Nd5 f5 12. c3 Bg7 13. Bd3 Be6 14. Qh5 0-0
 15. ef Bd5 16. f6 e4 17. fg Re8 18. Be2 Re5 19. Qh6 Rg5 20. Nc2 Ne5 21. Ne3 Bc4
 22. Bc4 bc 23. 0-0 Rc8 (T.N. according to N.E.P.) 24. b3 ?! Rc5 ! 25. Rfd1 Nd3
 26. Nc4 Rg6 27. Qe3 Qh4 ! 28. Rd2 Rh5 29. h3 d5 ?? (29...Nf4 ! is crushing)
 30. Rd3 ed 31. Ne5 Rgg5 32. Nd7 Kg7 33. Rd1 Qe4 34. Qd4 Qd4 35. cd Rh3
 36. f4 Rg6 37. Ne5 Re3 38. Ng6 Kg6 39. Kf2 Re2 40. Kf3 Ra2 41. Rd3 h5 42. Rc3
 Ra3 ? 43. g4 ! f6 44. Kg3 a5 45. Kh4 a4 ? 46. gh Kf5 47. h6 ab 48. h7 Ra1
 49. Rb3 Rh8 ? 50. Rb7 Kf4 51. Re7 ! f5 52. Kh5 Kg3 53. Kg6 f4 54. Kg7 Rd8
 55. h8 = Q Rh8 56. Kh8 f3 57. Kg7 Kf4 ! 58. Kf6 f2 59. Ke6 ?? (59. Re5 ! f1 = Q
 60. Rf5 Ke4 61. Rf1 Kd4 62. Ke6 wins easily) ...Ke4 ! 60. Rf7 Kd4 61. Rf2 Ke3

$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$

5.3 White : P.Lee Black : K.Coates English opening, symmetrical variation.

1. c4 Nf6 2. Nf3 c5 3. g3 Nc6 4. Bg2 g6 5. Nc3 Bg7 6. 0-0 0-0 7. d4 cd
8. Nd4 Qb6 9. Nb3 d6 10. Be3 Qc7 11. Nb5 Qb8 12. h3 Bd7 13. N6d4 Qc8
14. Kh2 a5 15. Nc2 a4 16. Nbd4 Nd4 17. Bd4 Ra5 18. h4 Qc4 19. Bb7 Rb8
20. Bf3 Ng4 21. Bg4 Bg4 22. Bg7 $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$

5.4 White : A.Keene Black : A.Westwood Kings Indian, Averbakh variation.

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 0-0 5. Be2 d6 6. Bg5 h6 7. Be3 c5 8. d5 e6
9. h3 ed 10. ed Qb6 11. Qd2 Kh7 12. Nf3 Na6 13. 0-0 Bd7 14. Rfe1 Rae8
15. Rac1 Bf5 16. b3 Ne5 17. Ne5 Be5 18. Nh2 Qd8 19. Ng4 Qh4 20. Bf4 f5
21. Nh2 Bd4 22. Bf1 g5 23. Bd6 Rf6 24. Nf3 Bf3 25. Re8 Rd6 26. gf g4 27. Bd3 Qg3
28. Kf1 Qh3 29. Ke1 Qf3 30. Qe2 Bf2 31. Qf2 Qd3 32. Qf4 Rf6 33. Qe5 Nb4
34. Qc7 Kg6 35. Rg8 Kh5 36. Qh2 Qh3 37. Qh3 gh 38. Rc3 Kh4 39. Kf2 Na2
40. Rf3 f4 41. Kg1 Rf5 42. Kh2 Rg5 43. Rh3 Kh4 and White won in a few moves 1 - 0

My thanks to Nigel Povah for doing much of the preparation work for this article.

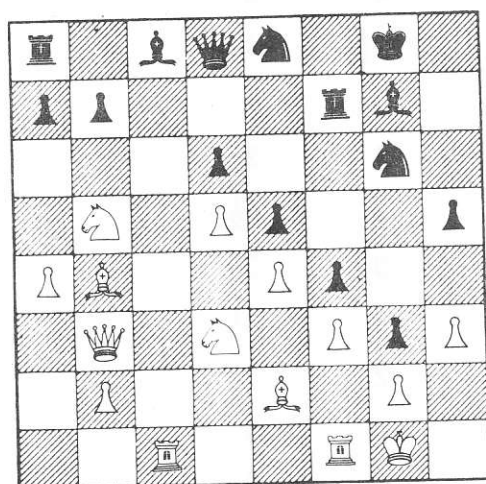
The final table of results was as follows :-

S&B CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP 1978						
	GRADE	1	2	3	4	5
1. M.Lester	(164)	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. N.E.Povah	(215)	1	2	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4
= 3. K.Coates	(194)	0	1	2	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
= 3. R.Emerson	(203)	0	1	2	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
= 3. D.King	(187)	1	2	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
= 3. P.J.Lee	(197)	1	2	2	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
= 3. H.Stewart	(-)	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
= 8. C.Jones	(184)	1	2	2	2	3
= 8. A.Keene	(168)	0	1	1	2	3
= 8. C.N.Rose	(177)	0	1	2	2	3
= 11. J.Bennett	(186)	1	1	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
= 11. M.Singleton	(188)	0	0	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
= 11. A.Westwood	(169)	$\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$

	GRADE	1	2	3	4	5
= 14. B.Blackburn (130)		0	0	1	2	2
= 14. G.Blowers (-)		1	1	1	1	2
= 14. G.Dormand (141)		0	0	0	1	2
= 14. M.Linden (138)		0	1	2	2	2
= 14. P.Turner (-)		1	1	2	2	2
= 19. M.Cowley (146)		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$
= 19. D.Feinstein (118)		1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$
= 21. R.Ball (-)		0	0	1	1	1
= 21. R.Sams (202)		$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	-	-
= 21. R.Allen (130)		1	1	1	-	-
24. C.Stanley (-)		0	0	0	0	0



PROBLEM No. 4



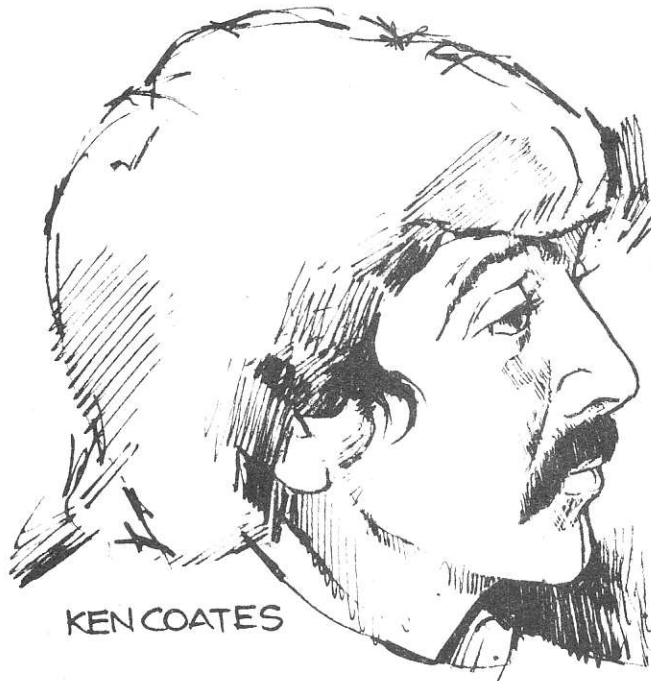
BLACK (A.D.Martin)
TO PLAY AND WIN.

WHITE (P.J.Romilly)

This position arose in a game played in the Greater Manchester Open 1977,
which is shown in full in the games section. (Answer on page 120.)



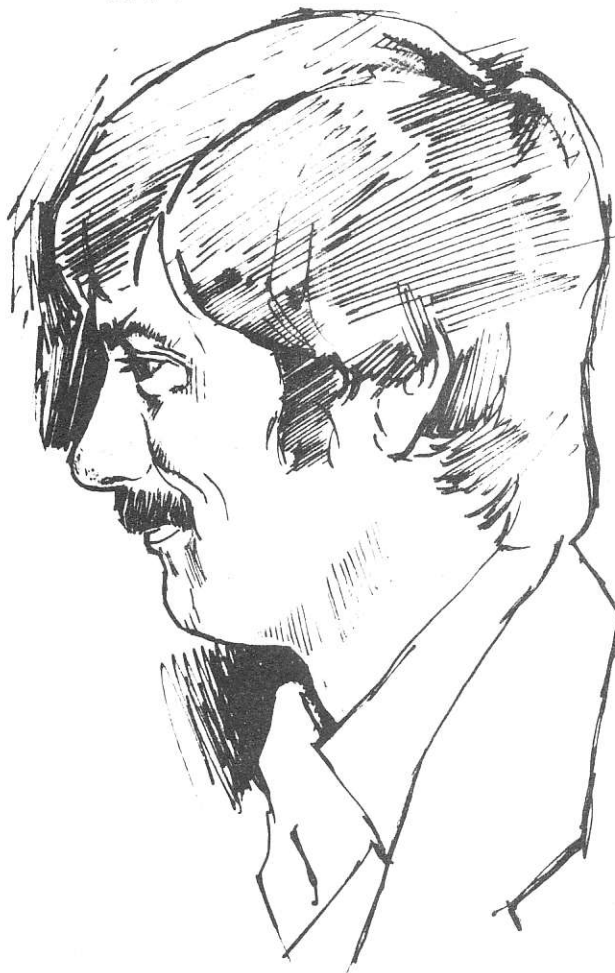
Chris' Canvas



KEN COATES



CHRISTOPHER
MCELLIGOTT



CHRIS JONES



KEVIN
HOLLE



NIGEL
POVAH.



GEORGE BEATTIE



ALAN
WESTWOOD

A potted history of chess

By Martyn Kent.

The origins of chess are vague and there are two main schools of thought. The first theory is the Chinese which I will not spend too much time on. It originates from a legend that a General besieging a city in the 2nd century B.C. devised a game to distract his soldiers from the bitter winter conditions of siege. This was a game played on a board with a dividing 'river' and a set of equal armies on either side. This could be a reference to 'Chinese Riverside Chess', which is unlike chess as we know it. However this idea is not very well supported.

The second and more likely theory is that it started in North West India around the 6th century A.D. This again is not chess as we know it, but was called Chaturanga. The first written proof of the game appears in the Sanskrit of 590-610 A.D. It was a romance entitled Vasavadatta by Subandhu. "The time of the rain played its game with frogs for chessmen which, yellow and green in colour, as it mottled with lac, leapt up on the garden-bed squares". A more beautiful reference to chess would be hard to find even today.

The moves of the pieces in Chaturanga were as follows. The Raja had the same moves as the present day King. The advisor or Prime-Minister (Queen) could move to any adjacent diagonal squares. The Elephant (Bishop) could also move diagonally but was restricted to only two squares. The Horse and the Chariot moved as the present day Knight and Rook. The Chariot at this time was the strongest piece on the board, bearing in mind its importance in war. The Footsoldiers (Pawns) moved one square forward only and captured diagonally.

This game then spread to Persia via the Trade Routes. Here another theory appears in an 11th century poem by Firdausi who said that the game was invented by a son to console his mother the Queen on the death, in battle, of his brother, her favourite son. This he was supposed to have accomplished in one night (12 hours) !

There is another reference to chess in the famous 11th century poem in Rubaiyat by Omar Khayyam " 'Tis all a chequer board of nights and days ; Where Destiny with men

for pieces plays ; Hither and Thither moves, and mates, and slays ; And one by one in the closet lays " .

The game was now called Shatranj and the Chariot was translated in Persian to Rukh, the Raja became the Shah . In the game, whenever the Shah was attacked and was unable to defend himself the adjective used was Mat . This is how the present day C heckmate originated - Shah - Mat .

As you can see there is legend upon legend as the game progresses, but all have one common factor : the influence of war, the other common denominator is their incredibility .

From Persia about 900-1000 A .D . chess was introduced to the Moslem countries and was carried by the Moors to Spain and Italy . In this area also active were the Vikings who carried the game into parts of Northern Europe . As they were then a very strong nation, occupying large areas of Russia, and travelled by means of 'Longboats', this could explain the Russian word for Rook - Ladia meaning boat .

Reverting to Italy, Lombardy was now the leading centre for the evolvement of the modern game . Here 'Castling', 'Stalemate' and pawns moving two squares on their first move originated . To make the game more dynamic the Queen and Bishop were now given their present day powers . This was evolved in 25 to 50 years in the late 15th century . From Italy the new game spread to France and then to Spain, Germany and England .

King John is supposed to have been playing chess in 1213 when he should have been relieving Rouen . Many other noble people played chess : Thomas A Becket, Edward 1, Richard the Lion Heart and many more including Napoleon and Henry VIII . It is known that the modern form of chess came to England in the 1st half of the 16th century . About this time the invention of the printing press, literature on chess flourished . Common place moves of today such as 1 . Nf3 1 . c4 1 . f4 and 1 . b3 were not worthy of consideration in literature of the time and were only practised by 'beginners' (What would Nimzowitsch and Larsen, the great advocates of these openings, have said of that ?) .

In the 18th century, chess became world known and respected . There is an interesting story beginning in 1770 of the first chess playing automated machine called ' Von Kempelens Turk ' . This was a four foot high sitting figure with mechanism and compartments which could be inspected to prove that nobody was inside . But with the aid of ' mirrors '

there was a succession of occupants beginning with a Pole called Woronski, who was supposed to have lost two legs and one arm. This is the reason, it was said, that he could hide in a four foot high figure. In the 150 years of use 'The Turk' had many other very good players who occupied him, beating most opponents on extensive tours of Europe and America.

Howard Staunton the famous 19th century English Master gave his name to the now universally known chess pieces. Great players from that time up to the present day have been : Paul Morphy, Wilhelm Steinitz, Dr. Emanuel Lasker, Jose Capablanca, Alexander Alekhine, Aron Nimzowitsch, Mikhail Botvinnik, Boris Spasski and Bobby Fischer (the highest graded player in the history of chess).

Yesterday's pupils are today's Masters culminating in the present 27 year old World Champion Anatoly Karpov (youngest World Champion ever at 23), who is at present defending his title in Baguio City in the Philippines against Viktor Korchnoi. This, like the 1972 Fischer - Spasski match in Reykjavik is full of controversy. The most noticeable allegation is by Korchnoi stating that a para-psychologist Dr. Zoukhar is interfering with his mind by sitting in the audience and continuously staring at him, so affecting his play.

Since the new system of deciding the World Champion was instigated in 1946 every Champion has been Russian with the exception of Bobby Fischer in 1972.

Reminiscences....

by P.J.N.Howorth

Now that Britain has a few IGMs, and IMs are commonplace, the younger generation may soon forget what a long struggle it has been for British chess until the coaching and teaching labours of Bob Wade and his colleagues began to produce concrete results. In the 50's we had P.H.Clarke and J.Penrose playing great chess at the Olympiads. Penrose's prowess (he won one GM norm) only fell off after his marriage - ambitious youngsters please note. Then in the 60's Bill Hartston and ex-Streatham player Raymond Keene began to make their mark.

Hartston has recently published a pot-boiler called "How to Cheat at Chess". In the chapter on "Friendly" games ("There is no such thing...") Hartston describes the use of a doctor's bleep to enable one to withdraw from a hopeless position without loss of face. He has probably forgotten that I taught him this gambit, albeit unintentionally. I played Hartston in a Middlesex game in 1963 when I was a young hospital doctor and he was one of those most universally feared and detested opponents - a brilliant schoolboy. As I was on-call at Westminster Hospital my game was constantly being interrupted by my bleep, so I was constantly rushing off to the phone or the laboratory. This didn't worry me or cause me any clock problems as I have never needed deep analysis to lose my games. However it clearly upset Hartston who offered me a draw after 20 moves of increasingly passive and listless chess.

White : Hartston Black Howorth. Sicilian defence.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 a6 3. c3 d5 4. ed Qd5 5. d4 e6 6. Be2 Nf6 7. 0-0 Nc6

(Also played are 7...cd 8 Nd4 with advantage (8 cd Ne6 9 Nc3 Qd6 10 Bg5 Be7 equal) and 7.. .Be7 8 Be3 cd 9 Nd4 with advantage.)

8. Be3 cd 9.cd ?

(Missing 9 Nd4. It is now a typical IQP game with passive Bs on e3 and e2.)

9...Be7 10 Nc3 Qd8 11 Rc1 Nb4 12 Ne5 0-0 13 Bf3

(Not the usual diagonal for attack !)

13...Nfd5 14 a3 Nc3 15 Rc3 Nd5 16 Rc2 Bd7 17 Bd5

(Let's go home time.)

17...ed 18 Nd7 Qd7 19 Qd2 Bd6 $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

Of course many older Streatham members will remember the young Ray Keene playing top board for the club. He was thrilled when he first beat 10-times British champion Jonathan Penrose at St Brides in a R + P end game- 4 Ps v 3 Ps on the same side of the board. In July 1966 he played with me as his partner in a consultation game against Messrs Hart and Gittins. What Ray really wanted to do was to test over the board an innovation he had discovered in the Caro-Kann defence. He had found an improvement in a line used by World Champion Tigran Petrosyan in his first (1966) match against Boris Spassky. In the 5th match game Petrosyan played a pet variation of his which had a weak 8th move. Spassky had also found an improvement on move 13 in pre-match analysis which gave him a strong initiative, although Petrosyan managed to draw the game in 72 moves. White : Hart & Gittins Black : Keene & Howorth. Caro-Kann defence.

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. ed cd 4. c4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6

(Varying from the usual 5...e6 as played in the 3rd match game by Petrosyan.)

6. Qb3 Bg7 7. cd 0-0 8. g3 b6 !

(Keene's innovation. Petrosyan played 8...Na6 9. Bg2 Qb6 10. Qb6 ab 11. Nge2 Nb4 12. 0-0 Rd8 13. d6 ! and Spassky kept the initiative. The weaker 13. Bg5 Nbd5 equals was played in Walther - Petrosyan, Zurich 1961.)

9. Bg2 Bb7 10. Nge2 e6 11. 0-0 ?

(Keene thought 11. Bg5 was White's best move here.)

11... Nd5 12. Nf4 Nc6 !

(Now White has a weak QP.)

13. Nce2 Nf4 14. Bf4 Na5 15. Qa4 Bg2 16. Kg2 Qd5 17. Kg1 Rfd8

18. Rfd1 Qf3 19. Qb5 Rd5 20. Qa6 Rad8.

Play was broken off at this point with Black well on top. I believe Ray used this line to good effect at a later chess Olympiad. What impressed me was that Ray had analysed the world champion's moves critically and found an improvement overlooked by all the experts. Too many strong amateurs seem to passively absorb "book" lines instead of thinking for themselves. Our chess-shop bookshelves are full of openings monographs written by players who are often barely candidate masters. This was not the way Lasker and Capablanca approached the game.

How bad is your chess?

Ken Coates utilises a fine game to help you find out.

For those of you unfamiliar with similar articles in CHESS, here is what to do. Imagine yourself sitting beside a weak player, guessing each move he makes. Cover this page with a card and uncover each line one at a time. You have Black. Your partner is Ken Coates who needed to lose this game for his second I.P. (International Patzer) norm. Your opponent is N.W.Faulks who unfortunately played well in parts of the game.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 (Start guessing Black's moves from now on)

...f5 ! 5 points. Ensuring Black a lasting disadvantage from the opening. 3 points for

2...f6 which has similar ideas to the game. 0 points for 2...Nc6 unless you intended to capitalise on White's correct play by 3. Bb5 Bc5 4. c3 f5 ! If so, 2 points.

3. ef

...e4 1 point. A bonus of 3 points if you spotted 4. Qe2 Qe7 5. Nd4 Qe5 !

6. Nb5 when in the game Eley - Coates Correspondence 1977, Black could have lost beautifully by 6...c6 !! 7. d4 Qb5 8. Qe4

4. Ne5

...Nf6 0 points. 1 point for Nc6 and h6 which, though effective, lack style.

2 points for d5 (Analysis by J.Moore)

5. Be2 ? This is good. White must be careful not to make obvious moves since he could easily drift into a better position.

...Be7 !! 6 points. This move attributed to Gunderham is by far the worst. One can always rely on the German Theorists' analysis to relieve you of material. 4 points for 5...d6 6. Bh5 Ke7. 4 points for 5...Bc5 6. Bh5 Kf8. 3 points for 5...h5 donating g6 to a worthy cause.

6. Bh5

...Kf8 1 point. 6...Nh5 ! 7. Qh5 g6 is worth 4 points.

7. Nf7 Qe8

8. Nh8 Qh5 (Povah's 8...Qe8 is worthy of attention).

9. Qh5 Nh5

This series of exchanges has left Black with a material deficit provided he doesn't accidentally win the Knight on h8. Study this position carefully. Note both side's lack of development. The offside Knights on h8 and h5. Black's displaced King and White's advanced doubled f pawn. Really a position to be proud of. White now played very accurately by weakening his Kingside pawns; often a good plan if you can't think of anything to do.

10. g4 !

...Nf6 1 point. 10...Nf4 11. d3 earns 1 point.

11. g5

...Nd5 Minus 2 points for 11...Ng8 since it controls h6 (see later).

12. g6 h6

13. Nc3

...Nc3 4 points - logical play. Black makes three consecutive moves with his Knight in order to exchange it. 2 points for 12...Nb4 and double your score if you contemplated (even vaguely) the line 13. Ne4 Nc2 14. Kd1 Na1 with an equal position.

14. dc

...d6 2 points but only if you intended 15...Bf5 and Bg6 missing h4 by White.

15. h4

...Bf5 0 points. Black has some difficulties stemming from having the two Bishops. If he places his pawns on black squares with the Bishop inside the pawn chain, then exchanges the good white square Bishop for the Knight, both players can go down the pub. If you forgot that Rooks can jump over pawns on days ending in 'y' and had missed Rh8, give yourself 4 points and kick yourself on the left ear.

16. h5

...Nc6 1 point. Nd7 threatening Nf6 Bg4 is too good. Deduct 3 points if you are worried about 17. Nh6 gh 18. Bh6 ; that sort of attitude gives chess a bad reputation.

17. Nf7

...a5 !!! 7 points. It is important to weaken the Queen side pawns. 3 points if you tried either Be6, Nd8 or Ne5 to exchange the White Knight.

18. Be3

...Bg4 3 points - keeping the White King in the centre for the ending.

19. Kd2

...a4 ! 4 points. The threat is a3 to double White's pawns.

20. Rag1 Bf3

21. Rh3 Ra5 Illogical play by Black but tempting White into a winning trap.

22. Bh6 ?? This is why 11...Ng8 is unclear since on g8 it would control h6.

...Bh5 1 point. 5 points for 22...gh 23.g7 Kg8 24. Nh6 and it's pub time.

3 points for Resigns which is bad etiquette; real professional Patzers get mated.

23. Bg5 Be3 is too good. Now White is in complete control and plays in fine style.

...Bg6 ? 1 point. A gain Black misses the elegant finish 23...Bf3 24. Rh8 mate for which you award yourself 2 points.

24. Nd8 !! Good play by White, misplacing the Knight.

...Bg5 0 points. The winning move - Black simply throws away his lost game and almost any other move deserves points. 3 points for any move that allows Rh8 mate. 1 point for Ke8 allowing 25. Nc6.

25. Rg5

...Ne5 Careless play by Black 0 points. Rg5 is more in keeping with the needs of the position. 1 point.

26. Ne6 Kf7 26...Ke7 27. Ng7 Kf6 is too strong.

27. Nd8 !! Pointless play by White.

...Ke7 0 points. 27...Kf8 ! 2 points. Draw agreed.

28. Rg6 Ng6

29. Rg3 White's last few moves have given him a strong disadvantage. 29. Nb7 is preferable

...Kf6 Black's game is now in it's last throes. Carried away by the spirit of the game however White now perceives a spectacular finish. From now on award yourself points if you guess his incredible plan !

30. Ke3 !! 4 points - centralising the King for the ending. 5 points if you found

30. Nb7 Rb5 31. Nd8 Ne7 32. Rh3 Rb8 33. Rh8 Nc6 ?

...d5 Black has no answer to White's play.

31 Kd4 !!! 5 points - a very pretty move.

...Ne7

32. Rh3 2 points - avoiding the fork.

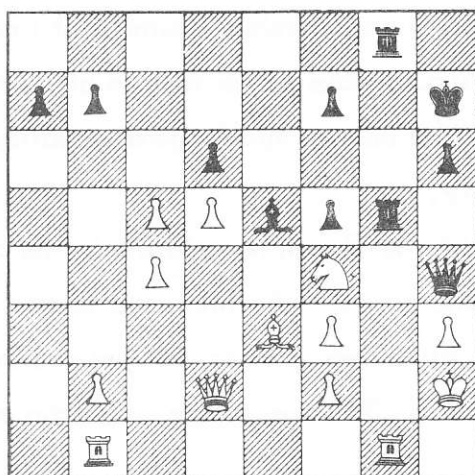
...Nf5 mate.

Although Black unfortunately won the game, I feel that the opening play was almost perfection and am not too unhappy about being outplayed towards the end. Now add up your points.

- 50 and over ...GRAND PATZER
- 40 - 49 ...NATIONAL PATZER
- 30 - 39 ...THE TOURNAMENT CHOPPING BLOCK
- 20 - 29 ...STRONG CLUB RABBIT
- Under 20 ...READ MORE FRED REINFELD



PROBLEM No. 5



BLACK (M.P.F.Singleton)
TO PLAY AND MATE IN 3

WHITE (P.C.Gibbs)

Black had sacrificed a knight five moves earlier to reach this position in a British Correspondence Championship game, 1978 . The whole game appears in the games section.

(Answer on page 120 .)

