Openings Section

SICILIAN DEFENCE WITH 2c3

By C .Jones .

You might be excused for thinking this is an unusual variation to adopt in order to gain an opening advantage. Well last season I played this system with great success whether c3 was played on move 2 or 3.

Many opponents give the impression of utter boredom at having to play against such a mundane move. It's more likely to mean they don't know as much about this system as they should, having concentrated on the main lines too much.

A perfect example of this attitude is illustrated in Modern Chess Openings. It states that the Alapin Variation (that's c3 folks!) can be met by d5 with an equal game. It goes on to give just one line, yet at the Evening Standard Tournament I noticed that there is now a book on c3! So Black should wake up his ideas a bit. c3 should by no means be underestimated; at worst White obtains middle game equality, and the chances are good if Black acts passively.

The first game shows the main line d5 with the Queen recapturing in the centre. The other three games show Black's main alternative Nf6 which most people tend to play, but which tends to give White better attacking chances, see for yourself! If you like what you see, then get the book on c3! there's more to it than meets the eye!

THE 2...d5 LINE

Streatham 1 - Mitcham 1

White: C. Jones Black: C. Gilliam

1. e4 c5 2. c3 d5 (This and Nf6 are Black's main choices. Other moves here are 2...d6 3. d4 Nf6 4. Bd6 g6 5. f4 Bg7 etc. or 2...e6 3. d4 d5 4. ed ed 5. Nf3 Nc6 6. Bb5) 3. ed Qd5 4. Na3!? (This move was first played by Steve White (Streatham) and I couldn't resist playing it myself) 4... Nf6 5. Nf3 Nc6 6. d4 cd 7. cd (7. Nb5! Qd8 8. Bf4 e5 9. Ne5 Ne5 10. Be5 Nd5 11. Qd4 a6 12. Qd5 ab5 13. Bb5 Bd7 14. Rd1 winning. This is similar to the game Makarov - Andrejen Bulgaria '51. 1. e4 c5 2. c3 d5 3. ed Qd5 4. d4 e6 5. Nf3 Nc6 6. Na3 cd 7. Nb5 Qd8 8. Bf4 g5 9. Nc7 Ke7 10. Bg3 Rb8 11. Nd4 winning).

7...e6? (Bg4 is best here i.e. 8.Be2 e6 9. Nc2 cd etc.) 8. Nb5 (One of the main ideas of Na3 with the Queen in the centre.)...Qd8 (If ...Qe4 9. Be2 Bb4 10. Kf1 0-0 11. Ng5 Qf5 12. Bd3 with advantage) 9. Bd3 Be7 10.0-00-0 11. Bg5 Nb4 12. Bb1 Bd7 13. Nc3 Bc6 14. a3 Nd5 15. Qd3 (Underestimating Black's 13th move. Now Black could have played ...Nc3 16. bc3 Be4 17. Qe3 Bb1) ...g6? ! 16. Ne5 Rc8 17. Ba2 Re8 18. Rfe1 Qd6 19. Qh3 Nb6? (A complete surprise. White's plan seemed clear, and now...) 20. Nf7 1-0. (If ...Kf7 21. Re6 wins masses of material.)

THE 2...Nf6 LINE

Surrey - Berkshire

White: C.Jones Black: S.Ingolfsrud

1. e4 c5 2. c3 Nf6 3. e5 Nd5 4. d4 d6 (4...cd is the usual reply but this alternative, if played correctly, is quite good e.g. (After 4...d6) 5. ed Qd6 6. Nf3 Nc6 7. c4 Nb6 8. d5 Ne5 9. Be2 g6 10. 0-0 Bg7 11. Nc3) 5. Nf3 (Choosing to delay the exchange for at least one move) ...Nc6 6. Be2 Bf5 7. Na3!? (It's that move again!) ...cd? (This gives the Knights too much play. Best here is de.) 8. Nd4! Bd7 (8...Bg6 9. e6! or 8...Nd4 9. Qd4 is probably best leaving White with only one Knight) 9. ed ed 10. Ndb5 (Forcing the defence of the Knight because of Nd6) 10...Be6 11. Bf3 Nc7 12. Bf4 Nb5 (Trying to relieve the pressure on d6 but the other Knight still cramps Black's game) 13. Nb5 Qb6 14. Qe2 Rd8 (Choosing to defend the pawn this way rather than try 0-0-0 which holds the pawn but allows a strong attack with a4) 15. Bd5 Be7 16. Be3 Qa5 17. b4 Nb4 (If ...Qa4 18. Nc7 Kd7 19. Ne6 fe6 20. Qg4 offers more chances of resistance) 18. cb4 Qb4 19. Bd2 Qc5 20. Be6 fe6 21. Rc1 1-0. (If ...Qb6 22. Nc7 Kf7 23. Qe6 Kf8 24. Nd5 wins).

Surrey - Essex

White: C. Jones Black: A.E. Smith

1. e4 c5 2. c3 Nf6 3. e5 Nd5 4. d4 cd 5. Qd4 e6 (The game Maric - Deze continued 5...Nc7 6. Nf3 Nc6 7. Qe4 g6 8. Ba4 Bg7 9. 0-0 b5 10. Bb3 Na5 11. Nbd2 Bb7 12. Qb4 with an advantage to White 6. Bc4 Nc6 7. Qe4 Nb6 (The main line runs 7...d6 8. Nf3 de 9. Ne5 Ne5 10. Qe5 Nb6 as in

Matulovic - Polugajevski, Beograd '69) 8. Bb3 Qc7 9. Nf3 d5 10. ed (White doesn't mind this loss of time because it makes castling harder for Black; see the next game for an example) 10...Bd6 11. Be3 Bd7 12. Nbd2 f5?! (Tempting but not good. It was probably better to try 12...Ne7 threatening Bc6 and then moving the Knight to f6 via d7) 13. Bb6 Qb6 14. Qe2 0-0-0 15. Nc4 Qc7 16. Rd1 Bc5 17. Nce5? (A terrible move. More logical is Ng5 threatening Nf7 and Ne6. Instead, I missed Black's simple reply..) 17...Ne5 18. Ne5 Bb5! (Now, having been comfortably winning, I've got a fight on my hands. I tried the exchange of Rooks with amusing results!) 19. Rd8 Kd8? (He had nothing to fear from Be6 as this weakens the e file too much. Now he's totally lost!) 20. Nf7! (Simple but effective) ...Qf7 21. Qb5 Qc7?! 22.0-0 Re8? (Totally neglecting Rd1 and the weak d7 square and with the King in the centre, that was the last move to make!) 23. Rd1 Ke7 24. Ba4 Qc6 (forced) 25. Qb3 (Winning the exchange but Black had nothing better) ...Bf2 26. Kf2 Qc5 27. Kf1 (And White won a few moves later) 1 - 0.

Slater - Kennington

White: C.Jones Black: E.Oliver

1. e4 c5 2. c3 Nf6 3. e5 Nd5 4. d4 cd 5. Qd4 e6 6. Bc4 Nc6 7. Qe4 Nc7 (Unusual but not bad. Now Black has b5 and d5 to play for. The normal continuation here is ... Nb6 8. Bb3 d5 9. ed Bd6 etc.) 8. Nf3 d5 9. ed Bd6 10. 0-0 0-0?! (Underestimating White's attack) 11. Ng5 g6 (If ... f5 12. Ne6 must be good)

12. Qh4 h5 13. g4! (Now Black's King side is in a terrible mess) ... Kg7 (... f6 probably is better but even then, the King is badly exposed) 14. gh Rh8 15. h6 Kf8 (He can't win the pawn because of Ne6, so now the pawn becomes rather an embarrassment) 16. Be3 b5 17. Bb3 Bb7 18. Rd1 (Adding strength to the d file and preparing to exchange Bishops) ... Ne5 19. Bc5 Nd5 20. Bd6 Qd6 21. Nd2 Qc6 22. Bd5 Qd5 23. Nde4 Qc6 24. Qf4 Qc7 25. Ne6 1 - 0 (The game ending rather suddenly, mainly be cause of Black's time trouble. He could have offered a better defence but could not have saved the game. Black had played straight into White's hand by allowing the exchanges in the centre earlier on).

POSTSCRIPT by Steve White. (SICILIAN SIDE - SHUFFLE.)

An opening I have played very sucessfully to side - step heavily analysed lines of the Sicilian defence is: 1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 followed by 3. c3. One of the major advantages of this approach is <u>SURPRISE</u>. Faced with this odd third move, Black often tries to find refuge by transposing into the French defence.

I am much happier playing against the French defence than the Sicilian defence simply because in the latter Black generally decides the opening line in which the game is to be played, whereas in the former this option falls to White. I try to press this advantage home by playing a little known line of the Advanced Variation playing 6. a3. Very often my opponent never recovers from this blow and often plays the opening badly.

In the illustrative game that follows my opponent knew the line I intended to play and consequently played the opening fairly well. Later in the middle game, he allowed a powerful sacrifice and resigned several moves later.

White: S.A. White (Streatham) Black: R.Carthy (Croydon)

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. c3 e6 4. d4 d5 5. e5 Qb6 6. a3 c4! 7. Nbd2

(1. Zaitsev - Petrosian in Informator 8 / 174 continued 7...Bd7 8. Be2 Na5

9. 0-0 Ne7 10. Ng5 h6 11. Nh3 0-0-0 with a slight advantage to Black.

I think my line is better.) 7...Na5 8. g3 Bd7 9. Bh3 0-0-0 10. 0-0 f5

(I think Black's last move is wrong, the advance should have been on the g and h file alone.) 11. ef6 gf 12. Re1 (I am already attacking the backward e pawn.)

12...Nh6 13. Rb1 Nf5 14. Qc2 h5 (At last the h file advance, but now it's too late.) 15. b3 cb 16. Nb3 Ba4 17. Re6! Rd6 18. Rd6 Bd6 19. Qf5 Kb8

20. Nc5 Qc6 1-0

EXTINGUISHING THE DRAGON'S FIRE.

by Nigel Povah.

The Dragon variation of the Sicilian must rank as one of the most heavily analysed openings of all time, yet it still remains one of the favourite weapons amongst the growing band of young British players.

Its advocates include Tony Miles, Jonathan Mestel, Chris Baker, Ian Wells and our own Julian Hodgson, to name but a few.

However, one must note that there is a growing trend for the Dragon advocates to adopt other lines as well, to avoid being caught out in stereotyped positions.

Nevertheless, the fact that they refuse to abandon the Dragon altogether, suggests that it still has plenty of fire in its belly!

In this article I will attempt to examine my most recent encounters with the Dragon, which cover a number of different variations.

A: The Accelerated Fianchetto.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cd 4. Nd4 g6 5. Nc3 A popular alternative to 5. Nc3 is the Maroczy Bind 5. c4, however I prefer to allow the transposition back to the main lines if Black so desires. 5...Bg7 6. Be3 Nf6 If Black wishes to transpose back into the main lines, then he should play 6...d6 or 7...d6 7. Bc4 Qa5 The alternative is 7...0-0 when White should continue with 8. Bb3 (Not 8.0-0 ?! Ne4! 9. Bf7 Rf7 10. Ne4 h6 11. Qd2 d5 12. Nc5 Nd4 13. Bd4 e5 14. Be3 Kh7 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ Povah - Bonfa, Malta 1976, when Black stood well.) 8...a6 (8...d6 9. h3 Bd7 10.0-0 intending Rel and f4 etc. is more common) 9.0-0 d6 10.h3 Bd7 11.Re1 Rc8 12.Nc6 (12.a4 Na5)...Bc6 13.Nd5 b5 (White would be happy after 13...Bd5 14.ed because of the longterm pressure down the e file against Black's vulnerable e pawn, and even happier after 13...Ne4? 14. Bb6 winning material) 14. c3 Re8 15. Qf3 ?! (White should probably play against Black's weak Q side with 15. a4 when 15...ba 16. Ba4 leaves Black with a weak a pawn. 15. Bb6 is also promising e.g. 15...Qd7 16. Bd4 when Black must capture on d5 opening the e file for White's Rook on el.)...Bd5 16. ed Nd7 17. Re2 Ne5 18. Qe4 Nc4 19. Bd4? (Best was 19. Bg5 Nb2 20. Rb2 Bc3 21. Rab1 Bb2 22. Rb2 unclear) ...e5! when Black has equalized but 1 - 0, 46 in Povah - Reuben, London Quick Play Championship 1978. 8.0-0 Virtually forced, since 8.f3 (To guard the e pawn) is answered by 8...Qb4 with a very strong attack. 8...0-0 9. Bb3 d6 10. h3 Bd7 11. Re1 This is the modern treatment, the old line used to involve an early King-side advance with 11. f4 followed by either e5 or f5. As mentioned above White is hoping for pressure down the e file after he has played Nd5 and his horse has been captured allowing him to recapture with his e pawn. 11...Rac8 An interesting alternative is 11... Rfe8 protecting the e pawn in view of White's impending pressure on the e file.

N.Povah - L.P.Burnett, British Championship 1978 continued 12. Qd3 a6 13. a4 (Restraining ... b5) ... Rac8 14. Rad1 Qh5 15. f4 b5? (Black miscalculates, he is hoping to regain one of White's central pawns but he does not see far enough. At this stage I calculated the winning sequence through to move 26 when I assumed he was busted!) 16. ab ab 17. Qb5! (17. Ncb5 fails to 17...Nb4 when White loses his e pawn; however 17. Ndb5 seems O.K. after 17...Nb4 18. Qd4, but I preferred the line played.) 17...Nd4 (Also possible was 17...Qb5 18. Ndb5 Na5 19. Nd4 when Black has some pressure for his pawn.) 18. Qh5 Nh5 19. Bd4 Nf4 (19...Bd4 20.Rd4 Nf4 21.e5 Ne6 22.Be6 Be6 23.de keeps White ahead.) 20. Bg7 Kg7 21. e5 ! Bc6 (21...d5 22. Bd5 Nd5 23. Rd5 with advantage to White) 22. ed ed (22...Ng2 fails to 23. d7 Ne1 24.de = N ! winning a piece) 23. Re8 Re8 24. Rd6 Bg2 25. Rd7 ! (The point, White now wins a piece or two pieces for a rook with an easy win.) 25...Re1 (25...Rf8 26.Rd4 g5 27.Rf4 gf 28. Kg2 is hopeless for Black) 26. Kf2 ?? (When I planned this line back on move 16 I intended 26. Kf2 attacking the Black Rook, however the correct move which seems to win was 26. Kh2! e.g. 26...Rh1 27. Kg3 Rh3 28. Kf4 Rf3 29. Ke5 Rf5 30. Kd4 h5 31. Bd5 Rg5 32. Bg2 Rg2 33. Kd3 h4 34. Re7 h3 35. Rel h2 36. Rhl g5 37. Nd5! intending Ne3 when Black's pawns are held up and White's b and c pawns should decide.) 26...Rf1 27. Kg3 (27. Ke3? Nh3 is better for Black) 27...Rf3 28. Kh2 (28. Kg4 or 28. Kh4 are both suicidal) 28...Rh3 29. Kg1 Rh1 30. Kf2 Rf1 31. Kg3 Rf3 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ since neither player can get off the merry-go-round! 12. Qd3 Ne5 13. Qe2 White chooses this sequence in preference to 12. Qe2 when Ree - Sosonko, Wijk aan Zee 1976 continued 12...Qh5 and the exchange of Queens led to an early draw. 13...Qa6!? A very enterprising idea of the American player J. Silman who is currently playing in England. Previous games had gone 13...b5 14.a4 (Capturing the b pawn would lose the e pawn) ...b4 (14...Rc3 ?! 15. bc ba 16. f4 Qc3 17. Ba4 Nc4 18. Bf2 Nh5 19. Qd3 Qd3 20.cd Ba4 21.dc Be8 22.Ra7 Nf4 23.Re7 Bf6 24.Ra7 Nd3 25. Rd1 Nb2 26. Rb1 Nc4 27. Rb8 Bg7 28. Re7 Bd4 29. Bd4 Bc6 30. Rf8 Kf8 31. Rc7 Bb5 32. Bf6 Nd2 with the better ending N.Povah - C.Baker, Lloyds Bank Elo. tournament 1977, although $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$, 59) 15. Nd5 Rfe8 16. Nb5 Nc6 17. Rad1 Ne4? 18. Na7! Rb8 19. Nc6 Bc6 20. Qc4 Rbc8 21. Qe4 1 - 0 Ljubojevic - Sosonko, Wijk aan Zee 1976. 14. Qa6 ba 15. Nd5?! The wrong idea, White's best move must be the logical 15. Radl !, in order to answer 15...Nc4 with 16. Bc1 keeping the Bishop pair, and a slight advantage. 15...Nd5 16. Bd5 Nc4 17. Bc4 Rc4 The open

lines for the black Rooks and the Bishop pair more than compensate for Black's doubled a pawns. 18. c3 Rb8 19. Re2 e5 20. Nf3 Rc7! If 20...Re4 then White can play either 21. Ba7 Re2 22. Bb8 Rb2 23. Bd6 or 21. Ng5 Rc4 and then 22. Ba7. 21. Rd1?! Perhaps it was more prudent to play 21. Ne1 and f3 to secure the e pawn. 21...Bf8 22. Rc1 Bb5 23. Rd2 Bc6! 24. Re1 f5! 25. ef gf 26. Rde2 a5 29. Rd1 h5. When Black had a slight advantage which he managed to convert in N.Povah – J.Silman, Surrey Open 1978.

B: The Main Line.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cd 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6 6. Be3 Bg7 7. f3 0-0 8. Qd2 Nc6 9. Bc4 Bd7. The most popular reply, although other moves are worthy of consideration eg: a) 9...a5 10.a4 Nd4 11.Bd4 Be6 12.Be6 (12.Bb5 Rc8 13.0-0-0 Nd7 14. Bg7 Kg7 15. f4 Nf6 16. Rhel with an advantage to White, Karpov - D.Byrne, San Antonio 1972.) ...fe 13. h4 d5 ?! 14. e5! Nd7 15. f4 Rc8 16.0-0-0 (White can always rely on a good ending if nothing else, because of Black's "bad" Bishop on g7, and his doubled e pawns) ... Nc5 17. h5 Qe8 18. hg Qg6 19. Rh3 Ne4 20. Ne4 Qe4 21. g3 Rc4 22. b3 Rc6 23. Qd3 Qd3 24. Rd3 Rb8 25. Rc3 Rbc8 26. Kb2 h6 27. Rc6 Rc6 28. g4 Rc8 29. Rc3 Rf8 30. Rf3 Kh7 Drawn on adjudication, although White is undoubtedly better, N. Povah - M. Prizant, Surrey Trophy 1977. b) 9...Na5 10. Bb3 Nb3 11. ab d5?! 12. e5?! (ECO gives 12. Ndb5! de 13. Qd8 Rd8 14. Nc7 Rb8 15. Ba7 with advantage to White) ... Ne8 13. Bh6 f6! 14. e6!? Bh6 15. Qh6 Ng7 16. h4 Qd6 (Not 16...Be6?? 17. Qg7! Kg7 18. Ne6 winning a piece) 17. 0-0-0 Ne6 18. Kb1 Qf4 ?! (18...Nd4 19. Rd4 e6 20. h5 g5 is an unclear try.) 19. Qf4 Nf4 20. g3 Nh5 21. Nd5 Ng3 22. Rhg1 Nh5 23. Ne7 Kf7 24. Nc8 Rac8 25. Nb5 Rcd8 26. Nd6 Kg7 27. Nb7 Rd1 28. Rdl Rf7 29. Nd8 Re7 30. c4 Nf4 with an advantage to White although $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$ (36) in N.Povah - M.Prizant, Surrey Trophy 1978. 10.0-0-0 10.Bb3 leads to a position which I have reached through transposition against H. Camilleri in Malta 1976, the game continued 10...Nd4 11. Qd4 b5 !? (Parma's variation which offers Black a lot of counterplay on the Q side.) 12. h4 a5 13. Nd5 ?! Nd5 ? (White's dubious thirteenth move is best met either by 13...e6!? or 13...a4 14. Nf6 Bf6 15. Bf6 ab 16. Bc3 Ra2 with advantage to Black) 14. Bd5 Bd4 ! 15. Qd4 Rc8 16. c3 a4 17. a3 e5 ?! (Creating a backward d pawn which inevitably becomes a target.) 18. Qd2 Be6 19. h5 Qe7 20. 0-0-0 Rfd8 21. hg fg 22. Be6 Qe6 23. Qd5 Qd5 24. Rd5 (White now has a won Rook and pawn ending, since Black cannot hold his weak Q side pawns and vulnerable d pawn.) ... Rb8 25. Rhd1 Rb6 26. Re5 with an easily won ending.

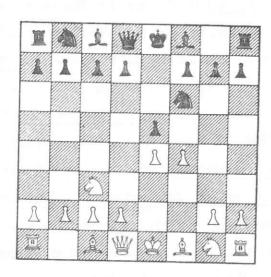
10...Rc8 The most popular move at present, however theory has favoured various other moves in the past eg: Stein's Variation 10...Qb8 10...Qb8 11.h4 Rc8 12.Bb3 a5 13.h5 a4 (13...Nd4 ? 14.Bd4 a4 15.Bd5 e6 16. hg hg 17. Qg5 ! e5 - Not 17...ed ? 18. Qf6 wins - 18. Rh8 !! Kh8 19. Bf7 and Black is getting mated on the h file, Hodgson - Paunovic, London - Belgrade Telex match; or 16...fg 17. Bf6 Bf6 18. Qh6 Bg7 19. Qh7 Kf7 20. Rh6 Rc3? 21. Qg6 Kf8 22. Rh7 Rc2 23. Kc2 1-0 Povah - Tudhope, 24th Students Olympiad, Mexico 1977 .) 14. Bd5 e6 15. hg hg (If 15...ed 16. Bh6 fg 17. Bg7 Kg7 18. Qh6 Kf7 19. Nd5 Rh8 - Or 19...Nd4 20. Rd4 Rh8 21. Nf6 Kf6 22. e5! - 20. Qf4 Qd8 21. Nb5! with a strong attack and 2 pawns for the piece) 16. Bh6 Bh8 17. Bc6 bc 18. Bf8 ! Kf8 (If 18...Rf8 19. Rh8 ! Kh8 20. Qh6 Kg8 21. e5 ! wins because of the threats of Rh1 as well as Nc3 - e4 - f6 or g5) 19. Rh8 Ke7 20. Nc6!! Bc6 (Obviously 20...Rc6 21. Rb8 Rb8 22.e5! intending Ne4 again, is very strong.) 21. Rc8 Qc8 22. Qd6 Ke8 23. Rh1 Nh5 24. g4 (The point! White wins back his piece with interest .)...Qb7 25. gh Rd8 26. Qe5 a3 27. b3 gh 28. Rh5 and White had the simple task of mopping up with his two pawn advantage in Povah - Vlam, Wijk aan Zee III 1977. The older classical 10...Qa5 has fallen in popularity since it is considered too slow now, and White is also thought to get a good game after 11. Bb3 Rfc8 i2. Kb1 Ne5 13. Bg5! when White has the positional threat of Bf6 followed by Nd5 and Nf6 trying to smash Black's King side pawns. 11. Bb3 Ne5 11...Na5!? was tried in N.Povah - I.D.Wells, Jersey 1977. 12. Bg5 Nb3 (12...Nc4 would transpose to the main line) 13. Nb3 Be6 (White threatened 14. e5 when 14...de loses to 15. Bf6 winning a piece) 14. Bh6 Bh6 ?! 15. Qh6 Rc4 ?! 16. e5! Ne8 17. Ne4 Bf5 (If 17...f6 18. Nd4 Bc8 - Not 18...Bf7 19.e6 - 19.b3 fe 20. bc ed 21. Ng5 Nf6 22. Rd4 Qb6 unclear) 18. Nbd2! (Not 18. Ng5? Rc2 19. Kb1 Rg2 20. Ka1 Rg5 with unclear complications.) ...Qc7? 19. Nc4 Qc4 20. Rd4 !! Qc6 (Obviously not 20...Qd4 ?? 21. Ng5 when mate is inevitable) 21. ed Nd6 ? (Correct was 21...ed 22. Kb1 Be4 23. Re4 with advantage to White) 22. Rdó! Qa4 (Not 22...ed 23. Nfó and mate next move) 23. Rd3 Rc8 24. Nc3 Rc3 ? 25. Rd8 1 - 0 12. Bg5 An interesting way of sidestepping the theoretical 12. h4. 12...Nc4 13. Bc4 Rc4 14. e5 de A.C.Cooper tried 14...Ne8 ? but after 15. Qe2! White had the advantage - see games section. 15. Nb3 Interesting is 15. Nb5 when Black can play either 15...Qb6! 16. Bf6 Bb5 or 15...a6 16. Bf6 Bf6 17. Qd7 Qa5 with complications. 15...Rc7 16. Nb5 Bf5! 17. Nc7 Qc7 with a difficult position

in which Black's two Bishops and extra pawn ensure that he's no worse, although R.Byrne - Tarjan, USA 1974 resulted in a win for White.

THE VIENNA GAMBIT

Some of the main ideas analysed by David Edmonds.

1. e4 e5 2. Nc3 (Keeping open the option of playing f4 while developing a piece. It also leaves free the Queen's diagonal, which is useful in some lines, and helps prevent d5.) ... Nf6 3.f4

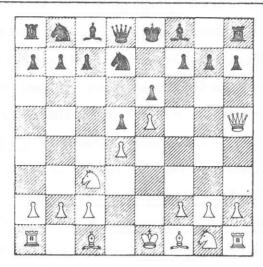


3...d5. Alternatives are (i) 3...ef? 4.e5 Ng8 (4...Qe7 5. Qe2 Ng8 6. Nf3 d6 7. Nd5 Qd8 8. Nc7 and wins) 5. Nf3 with advantage to White. (ii) 3...Nc6 is no better, after 4. fe Ne5 5. d4 Ng6 6. e5 Ng8 7. Nf3 Bb4 8. Bc4 N1e7 9. 0-0 h6 10. Ng5! 1 - 0 Edmonds v Greer British U-14 1978. (iii) 3...d6 4. Nf3 Nc6 5. Bc4 Be2 6.0-0 0-0 7.d3 with slight advantage to White. <u>4. fe Ne4 5.d3</u> Alternative, and equally popular is 5.Nf3 Be7 6.d4 0-0 7.Bd3 f6 8.ef Bf6 9.0-0 (9. Ne4 de 10. Be4 Re8) ... Nc6 10. Ne4 de 11. Be4 Nd4 12. Ng5 Bf5 13. Bf5 Nf5 14. Qd8 Rad8 15. Ne6 Bd4 16. Nd4 Nd4 equal. 5...Nc3 Two main alternatives are: (i) 5...Qh4 6.g3 Ng3 7.Nf3 Qh5 8.Nd5 Nh1 (8...Na6? 9.Nf4 wins a piece) 9. Nc7 Kd8 10. Na8 Bg4 11 Bg2 Bf3 12. Qf3 Qh2 13. Bh1 with advantage to White. (ii) 5...Bb4 6. de Qh4 7. Ke2 Bg4 8. Nf3 Bc3 9. bc de 10. Qd4 Bh5 11. Ke3 Bf3 12. Bb5 (12. gf Qe1 13. Kf4 Qh4 14. Ke3 Qe1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$)...c6 13. gf cb 14. Qe4 Qe4 15. Ke4 and White stands better. 6. bc d4 (To prevent White from playing d4) 7. Nf3 Nc6 (7...c5 is also possible) 8. cd Bb4 (8...Nd4 9. c3 Nf3 10. Qf3 with advantage) 9. Bd2 Bd2 10. Qd2 Nd4 11. c3 Nf3 12. gf Qh2 13. Qf2 equal .

THE FRENCH DEFENCE

by Robin Haldane

For some years now I have been experimenting with a line of play against the French Defence which you will not find in any books on the opening. The first moves go as follows: 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Qh5



White's fifth move looks like the type of move a beginner might play; but in my opinion it is not quite so bad as it appears. The idea is to provoke Black into playing g6 so that White can gain control of the dark squares around the Black King by playing his Bishop to g5. Black has two alternative ways of combating this plan. He can either play conservative moves in an attempt to ward off White's attack or he can try to bust open White's centre by playing c5. I have attempted to analyse the various lines available to Black and to show some of the sacrificial possibilities that White has. Black appears to have four plausible moves:

- A) 5...g6 B) 5...h6 C) 5...Be7 D) 5...c5
- A) 5...g6 6. Qg4 should transpose into line 'D' unless Black wishes to try 6...Be7 7. h4 or 6...h5 7. Qg3 which both appear too slow.
- B) 5...h6 (The idea is to prevent White from playing his Bishop to g5) 6. Nf3 Be7 (after 6...a6 7. Bd3 Black has trouble coping with Ng5 as 7...Be7 is met by 8.Nd5) 7.Bd3 with the intention of playing Nd5 or h4 followed by Ng5 looks good for White.
- C) 5...Be7 6. Nf3 a6 (After 6...0-0 7. h4 White has a strong attack, while after 6...Nc6 White can play 7. Bg5 followed by Queenside castling with a much better development. 7...Nd4 is bad because of 8.Nd4 Bg5 9. h4) 7. Ng5 g6 8. Qh6 Bf8 9. Qh3 Be7 (9...Nc6 10. Ne6 fe 11. Qe6 Qe7 12. Qd5 allows White to get 3 pawns for the piece in an unclear position. 9...Qe7 10. Nh7 Bg7 11. Bg5 Qb4 12. 0-0-0 gives White the advantage viz 12...Nf8 13. Nd5 or 12...Nc6 13. Bf6 Nf8 14. Bg7 Rh7 15. Bf8) Now White has the choice between opting for a draw by 10. Qh6 or playing

- 10.Qg3 with a complicated position. A possible continuation is 10.Qg3 c5 11.h4 cd
 12.h5 dc 13.hg with an even more complicated position.
- D) 5...c5 This is Black's most aggressive continuation and looks the most natural. As usual White's reply is 6. Nf6 Black now has six reasonable moves.
- A) 6...a6 B) 6...h6 C) 6...Be7 D) 6...Nc6 E) 6...cd F) 6...g6
- A) 6...a6 One of my games continued 7. Ng5 g6 8. Qf3 Qe7 9. Nce4 de 10. Ne4 cd 11. Nd6 with an easy win as Black could not play 11...Kd8 because of 12. Nf7 Kc7 13. Bg5 followed by Bd8 if Black moves the Queen. But I am not convinced that this is the best line of play for White as Black could have improved with either 7...Qe7 or 10...Qd8. Perhaps a better idea is to play 7. Bg5 followed by 0-0-0.
- B) <u>6...h6</u> This appears to allow White a crushing attack after <u>7.Bd3</u> (Threatening Ng5) <u>...c4 8.Bg6 fg</u> (8...Qe7 9. Ng5 hg 10.Bf7 Qf7 11. Qh8 gives Black slightly more chances) 9. Qg6 Ke7 10. Ng5 Ne5 11. de Qe8 12. Nd5
- C) 6...Be7 7. Bg5 cd 8. Be7 Qe7 9. Nb5 Qb4 (9...g6 10. Qh6 allows the White Queen into Black's position) 10. Nd2 gives White the better game because of his double threat of Nc7 or Nd6.
- D) 6...Nc6 This looks a natural move but unfortunately it allows White a strong forcing sequence. 7. Ng5 g6 8. Qf3 f6 (Three of my games have gone 8...Qe7 9. Nb5 after which Black might just as well resign, another try is 8...f5 9. Ne6 Nde5 10. Qd5 Qd5 (10...Qe7 11. Bb5 Be6 12. Qe5 or 11...Qe6 12. de both favour White.) 11. Nc7 Kd7 12. N3d5 Nd4 13. Bf4 with a won position) 9. Ne6 Nde5 10. Qd5 Qd5 (Or 10. Qe7 11. de Be6 12. ef Qf6 13. Qe4 with the idea of Nd5) 11. Nd5 Be6 12. Nf6 followed by 13. de allows White to remain a pawn up.
- E) 6...cd This forces White to sacrifice material if he wants to maintain his attack.

 7. Bg5 Qb6 (7...Qa5 8. Nd4 Ne5 9. Bb5 Nec6,(not 9...Bd7 10. Bd2.) 10.0-0-0

 allows White a strong attack) 8. Nb5 a6 9. Nbd4 Qb2 10. Bd3 Qa1 11. Kd2 is

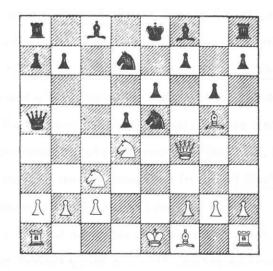
 extremely unclear with White poised to play Ne6
- F) 6...g6 This is a very tempting move for Black to play as it wins him White's e pawn.
- 7. Qg4 cd 8. Bg5 Qa5 (8...Be7 9. Nb5 Bg5 10. Qg5 looks good for White, 8...Qf7
- 9. Nb5 Qa5 10. Bd2 Qb6 11. 0-0-0 Nc6 12. Nbd4 Nd4 13. Nd4 Ne5 14. Bb5 Bd7
- 15. Bd7 Nd7 16. Rhe1 Bg7 17. Ba5 Qa5 18. Ne6 Be5 19. f4 fe 20. Qe6 Kd8
- 21. fe Re8 22. Qd6 Qc7 23. Qd5 Rc8 24. Rd2 Ke7 25. e6 Nf6 26. Qg5 Red8
- 27. Rfl Rd2 28. Qf6 Kd6 29. Qf4 Ke6 30. Rel Kd5 31. Qd2 Kc5 32. Qc3 Kd5
- 33. Qd3 Kc5 34. b4 Kb4 35. Qb3 Haldane v Elston 1974 was adjudicated a win for White. This game is a good illustration of the type of sacrifices available for White)

9. Nd4 Ne5 (9...Nc6 is an alternative move for Black but White has the advantage after 10.0-0-0 Nd4, (worse are 10...Nce5 11. Qh3 or 10...Nde5 11. Qf4 Bd6 12. Qf6 Rg8 13. Nd5.)11. Rd4 Bc5 12. Bb5 Bd4 13. Qd4 0-0 (Otherwise White plays Qc5) 14. Bd7 Bd7 15. Bf6) 10. Qf4 Black now has a large range of losing moves 10...Qc7 11. Ndb5, 10...Bd6 11. Qf6 Rg8 12. Ndb5 Kd7 13. Nd6 Kd6 14. Qe7 Kc6 15. Bb5 Kb6 16. Be3. 10...Bg7 11. Bf6 Qc7 12. Kd1. 10...Nbc6 11. Bf6 Qc7 12. Qg3. and 10...Ned7 11. Bb5 Bg7 12. Ne6. Black has two possible moves left:

A) 10...Nec6 B) 10...Nbd7

A) 10...Nec6 11. Ndb5 Na6 12.0-0-0 Bd7 (This loses but Black has little else)
13. Qf6 Rg8 14. Ne4 Qb4 (14...de loses to 15. Rd7 Kd7 16. Qf7 Ne7 17. Bc4)
15. Qd8 1 - 0 was the result of the game Haldane v Clegg.

B)	10	 .Nb	d7



This position is a critical test for the variation. White has many possible moves but I cannot find a way to bust Black. A possible line is 11. Ndb5 Bg7 12. Qh4

(Threatening Bd8) ... f6 13. Nd6 Kf8 (13... Ke7 14. Bd2 leaves the King very exposed) 14. Bd2 Qd8 15. Ncb5 where White gets plenty of play for his pawn.

That concludes the analysis of the possibilities available for both sides. I would not say that this variation is any better than some of White's normal lines, but I find that being the type of player who invariably gets into time trouble I need to play a line that gives me the chance of finishing the game before reaching the first time control.

THE SYSTEM THAT REFUTES CHESS! PART 11

By Andrew Martin.

At the beginning of this year I had no idea that I was going to write another article on this subject, but due to immense public demand I have decided to supplement further proof that once and for all chess has been refuted.

For those of you who are unaware of the system that refutes chess let me quickly explain. At the outset of the game, whatever colour you are, you push your f - pawn forward one square and saunter casually from the room to the nearest pub. After a few pints you return and move the pieces generally in any direction, in any order, and you will win. Simple isn't it? Well now for the games White: A.Martin (1/5) Black: B.O.Donahue (0/5) Round 6, Blackpool '76. 1. f3! d5 2. Kf2 (an improvement on Martin - Sandiford which went 2. g3 ! At this point I was into my fourth pint!) ... e5 3. Kg3!! (The 'Last round attack'. A well known opening which contains many pitfalls for the unwary.) ...Bd6 4. Kf2 Nf6 5. g3 0-0 6. Kg2 Nc6 7. Kf2 Bc5 8. e3 Bf5?! (My opponent with 0/5 was in no mood to be cautious, but this was clearly too ambitious, provoking ...) 9. Kg2 !! (Now White's plan is clear. Black has brought all his pieces out, and they will be attacked.)...Qd7 (Following a plan recommended by G.K.Sandiford.) 10. d3 Rfe8 11. c3 Rad8 (What of the opening then? In my view White is better.) 12. a3 a6 ! (12...e4 is better. When I asked him afterwards why he played this he said that he could think of nothing constructive to do.) 13. b4 Ba7 14. h3! (Completing the oyster-like set up. This is a fairly typical position for this opening. Note White has no weaknesses, and prepares a cunning double pawn sacrifice.)...hó! (When in Rome, do as the Romans do ...) 15. Ra2 Qe6 16. Rf2 e4? (At last Black plays the overreaching blunder White hoped for.) 17. fe Ne4 18. de Be4 19. Nf3 Ne5! (Naturally ! I mean why take the knight on b1?) 20 . Nbd2 (The white pieces, dormant for so long, now leap to the aid of their King.)...Be3 21. Be2 Bf2 22. Kf2 Nf3

23. Nf3 Bf3 24. Bf3 Qe3 !!! (The culmination of Black's strategy, but now it is Whites turn to shoot) 25. Be3 1-0 At which point my opponent ran from the room. This has come to be known as the immortal f3 game.

White: A.Martin Black: I.R.Watson. British U-21 Championships, Brighton. (The double default f3 game.)

1. f3! f6! (Blast. He has obviously read my article.) 2. h3 a6 3. a3 h6 4. b3 b6
5. c3 c6 6. d3 d6 7. e3 e6 8. g3 g6 9. f4 f5 10. h4 h5 11. g4 g5 12. a4 a5
13. b4 b5 14. c4 c5 15. d4 d5 16. e4 e5 (A heavyweight struggle lies ahead.)
17. Ra3 Rh6 18. Rhh3 Raa6 19. Qd3 Qd6 20. Nd2 Ne7 21. Nb3 Ng6 22. Ne2 Nd7
23. Ng3 Nb6 24. Bd2 Bd7 25. Bc3 Bc6 26. Be2 Be7 27. Bf3 Bf6 28. Ke2 Ke7
29. Ke3 Ke6 ½-½ or rather 0-0. Of such theoretical importance was this game that it appeared in the Daily Mail, Mirror, Sun (on page 3), Telegraph, Express and even the New York Times. Beginners should study it carefully. The first nil-nil draw in chess.

And finally a lesser known brilliancy ...

White: E.Teichmann Black: A.Martin Cambridge 1978.

1. g4 f6! (Recommended by T.D. Harding on the other side against 1.b4. It's the only move to equalise the chances!) 2. e4 g6 3. h4 Nh6 4. d4 Nf7 (The Sandiford attack reversed.) 5. h5 g5! (Recommended by Teichmann) 6. Bd3 e5 7. de Ne5 8. Nc3 Bb4 9. Bd2 d6 10. f3 (Too late!) ... Nb c6 11. a3 Bc3 12. Bc3 Be6 13. Kf2 Qd7 14. Ne2 Bg4! 15. fg4 Qg4 16. Ng3 Qf4 17. Kg2 Ng4 18. Qf3 Nce5 19. Qf4 gf4 20. Nf5 Rg8 21. Kh3? Nf2 22. Kh2 Nf3 0-1. The evergreen ... f6 game.

Fittingly, mate is administered on the f3 square.

The Evening Standard Minor

(THE UNDER 145 TOURNAMENT)

by the 1978 winner, Daniel Feinstein.

On Friday 21st July, I walked into the Cunard International Hotel, to begin a series of six games that would ultimately end in high drama. In my first game I was White against a 143, Mr.A.Ahmed. A tense Sicilian Dragon (Na5 line) was eventually won by me after I had 'sacrificed' (lost) two pawns for an attack. I think however, that I was expected to be a 'chopping block' for one of the favourites, and I was pleased with this for a first game because it proved I was in fine attacking form.'

The next day brought three rounds. The first game, starting at the terrible hour of 9 am. was against Mr.R.Parker who was graded 137. I played my favourite Sicilian Paulsen opening, and after 51 moves of struggle, managed to mate him! Meanwhile quite a number of other Streatham players were also competing in the tournament, Barry Blackburn, Bruce Floyd, John Beadle, Stephen Crowdy, Jadip Patel, Michael Beech to mention a few.

Round three was played in the afternoon against Mr.B.Okrzeja (harder to pronounce than Feinstein!) who used to live in Poland as a boy. He played the Sicilian e5 variation, which I know a bit about, having learnt from games of Nigel Povah, D aniel King and many others. It was an example of an e5 gone very nastily wrong.

White: D.Feinstein (118) Black: B.Okrzeja (135) 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 gf6 10. Nd5 Bg7 11. c3 Be6 12. Qd2 0-0

13. Rd1 Qb8 14. h4 Rd8 15. h5 Bd5 16. ed5 Ne7 17. Nc2 f5 18. Qg5 Kf8

19. h6 Bh8 20. Ne3 Qc8 21. g4 e4 22. Nf5 Nf5 23. gf5 e3 24. fe Re8

25. Rd3 Re5 26. Rg1 Qf5 27. Qg8 Ke7 28. Qa8 Qh5 29. Qh8 Qh6

30. Kd2 Qh2 31. Rg2 Qh1 32. Rf2 Qh6 33. Qc8 f5 34. Qc7 Ke8 35. Qc6 Ke7

36. Qa6 1-0.

A fter this win I had 3/3 and was now feeling confident of doing well. A mongst those also on 3/3 were J.Tennyson (whom we will hear of later), A.P.Soane, D.J.Holmes, and Neil Carr, playing very well. Now however, we come to the dreaded third game of the Saturday, which creates more fatigue blunders than anything else. Luckily though, I was drawn against my great friend A ndrew Soane, graded 140 by Leonard Barden, but officially 127. I had a feeling this might turn out to be a draw, so I offered a draw to Andrew before the game started! He refused, saying, " wait about ten moves ". On the ninth move of a close Sicilian I said " Are you playing for a draw?" and we stopped the clocks with a draw agreed. Luckily only four people ended up on 4/4, Neil Carr having lost on top board, and they were J.Tennyson, M.Beech, J.Mcluskey, and somebody else. Included on $3\frac{1}{2}/4$ were me, Andrew Soane, N.Hepworth, D.D.Cox.....

On the Sunday morning I played N.J.Hepworth, graded 141. It was a French Defence and I won it

White: D.Feinstein Black: N.J.Hepworth. French Defence.

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 c5 5. a3 Bc3 6. bc3 Qc7 7. Nf3 Nc6

8. Be2 Nge7 9. 0 - 0 Bd7 10. Qd2 0 - 0 - 0 11. a4 f6 12. Ba3 fe 13. Bc5 e4

14. Ne5 Be8 15. Nc6 Nc6 16. Rfb1 Rd7 17. Rb2 Rf7 18. Rab1 Kb8 19. Rb7 Qb7

20. Rb7 Rb7 21. Bd6 Ka8 22. h3 Rg8 23. c4 h5 24. Qc3 Nd8 25. cd Bd7

26. Bh5 ed 27. Bg4 Ne6 28. Be5 Rc8 29. Qa5 Nf8 30. Bd7 Nd7 31. Qd5 Rc2

32. Qe4 Rc1 33. Kh2 Ne5 34. Qe5 Rbc7 35. d5 R8c5 36. Qe4 Kb8 37. d6 1-0

This meant I now had $4\frac{1}{2}$ /5 with one round left to play. A shock now occurred.

J.Tennyson, who had just drawn against M.Beech was asked by Tony Swift, one of the controllers, if he came from Cambridge University, and had a grading of 151, instead of the 'ungraded' he had put on his entry form. He was, and he was withdrawn from the tournament. With nine players now sharing the lead with $4\frac{1}{2}$ /5 an incredible climax was expected. The top four boards were as follows:

WHITE		BLACK
J.J.Wagenbach $(4\frac{1}{2})$	٧	D. Feinstein $(4\frac{1}{2})$
A Soane $(4\frac{1}{2})$	٧	A.Sands $(4\frac{1}{2})$
B.Tang $(4\frac{1}{2})$	٧	M.Beech $(4\frac{1}{2})$
D. Holmes $(4\frac{1}{2})$	٧	D.Cox $(4\frac{1}{2})$

A nyone who won would automatically win first prize! So, to my last game, v. J.J.Wagenbach, which must have got close to being the most exciting game of the whole congress!

It was the last game of the Minor to finish, and for the last part of the game we must have had twenty or thirty people crowded around our table. Earlier on A.Soane had beaten A.Sands after Sands had blundered, and B.Tang had beaten M.Beech, so two people were on $5\frac{1}{2}$ already.

White: J.J.Wagenbach Black: D.Feinstein Queens Pawn: Catalan opening.

1. d4 Nf6 2. g3 d5 3. Bg2 e6 4. c4 c6 5. Nc3 a6 6. c5 b5 7. cb Qb6

8. Na4 Bb4 9. Kf1 Qa7 10. a3 Bd6 11. Bg5 Nbd7 12. Rc1 Bb7 13. Nf3 Ne4

14. Be3 h6 15. Nd2 f5 16. f3 Nef6 17. Kf2 g5 18. Nb3 Nh5 19. Bd2 e5

20. e3 Nhf6 21. de Ne5 22. Bc3 f4 23. gf gf 24. Re1 Rf8 25. Kf1 Nfg4!?

26. Bd4!? c5! 27. Nbc5 fe 28. Ne6 Nh2 29. Ke2 Qb8 30. Nf8 Bf8

31. Nb6 Ra7 32. Ke3 Kf7 33. Qc2 Bc6 34. Qf5 Kg8 35. Qe5 Re7 36. Rc6 Re5

37. Be5 Qe5 38. K f2 Bc5 39. Rc5 Qd4 40. Kg3 Qc5 41. Nd5 Qd5 42. Kh2 Qd2

43. Re4 Qb2 44. a4 Qb8 45. Kh3 Qc8 46. Rg4 K f7 47. Kh2 h5 48. Rf4 Kg6

49. Re4 Qc7 50. f4 Kf5 51. Kg3 Qg7 52. Kf3 Qg4 53. Kf2 h4 54. Bf3 Qg3

55. Ke3 h3 56. Re5 K f6 57. Rg5 Qe1 58. Kd4 Qb4 59. Ke3 Qa4 60. Rh5 Qd7

61. Ke2 a5 62. Rh3?? Qh3 0-1 White blunders in time pressure, but

Black's victory was by now inevitable.

The final scores were :-

A .Williams (132).

1 - 3 (5½/6): A.P.Soane (140J), D.R.Feinstein (118J), B.Tang (124) - £88 each.
4 - 10 (5/6): H.Bhatia (143), D.Cox (141), V.Hermann (141), D.J.Holmes (135),
M.Pearce (135), M.Sperge (136), J.Mcluskey.
11 - 25 (4½/6): D.K.Abiaw (130J), M.Beech (139), A.Cross (132), N.Hepworth (141),
G.Higgins (143), S.Homer (134J), J.F.Noyes (137), N.Pelling (140J), R.Pomerenke (131),
R.Reid (135), A.Sands(137), S.Shay (J), D.Tuddenham (141), J.J. Wagenbach (138),

My thanks to Stuart Reuben and Peter Morrish for controlling the tournament very well, and also to the Cunard Hotel. It is a very nice venue for a chess tournament, and I enjoyed the surroundings very much.

Jamaican Chess Odyssey

By former International Chess player David Randall.

The story starts in January 1976 when I left these desolate shores to take up what promised (and proved) to be a thoroughly enjoyable two year mathematics teaching job at the St. Andrew High School for Girls, Kingston, Jamaica.

I had barely begun to acclimatise and recover from jet lag, culture shock, and the potency of Appleton Rum, when I discovered, somewhat to my surprise, that chess was played in Jamaica.

Various events are organised under the auspices of the Jamaican Chess Federation, of which Mr. Enos Grant is the enthusiastic President. There are numerous Swiss Tournaments in Kingston and Montego Bay, while a league operates for the stronger players, with an international time limit of 40 moves in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. All matches are played to a finish, allowing valuable end game practice. Also, due to the fairly small number of players, it is feasible to operate a continuous assessment 'Elo' system of ratings, hence you play a game in the knowledge that if you win your rating is certain to go up immediately. Club-wise, I was a member of the Kingston Chess Club, which existed before the J.C.F. but which has always been more notable for its combined drinking capacity than its chess-playing abilities. Inter-club matches tend to be great fun, involving tremendous rivalry and Baguio-style intrigue, and the action over the board is usually of secondary importance, when and if it actually takes place.

The top player in Jamaica is undoubtedly 17 year old Sheldon Wong, destined to put Jamaica on the chess map if he continues to devote his energies to the game. He is basically a 'strategic 'player, with a superb 'natural 'style, and scored $7\frac{1}{2}$ / 13 on Board 2 in the recent Student Chess Olympiad in Mexico. His closest rival is Bob Wheeler, an Englishman from Watford, who went to Jamaica as a teacher around 1972 with a rating of 140, is still there and is now on the world rating lists.

Jamaica regularly sends national teams abroad, and I became eligible for selection after satisfying a residence qualification of one year. Thus in February 1977, I was lucky enough to represent Jamaica in the three-week long ' Friendship Tour '

(Torneo de la Amistad) of Cuba.

Four 5-man teams took part in the tournament: Jamaica, Guyana, Cu'ba 'A' (The Cubans were 'friendly 'enough to include only one I.M. and no G.Ms) and Cuba 'B', containing Cuba's strongest junior players. The tournament was run on a Scheveningen (all-play-all) basis so there were 15 rounds in all.

Final scores (out of 75) were: Cuba 'A' $58\frac{1}{2}$, Cuba 'B' $45\frac{1}{2}$, Guyana 24, Jamaica 22. My personal tally was $5\frac{1}{2}/15$, although 4 of those points were scored against Guyana! Thus chesswise it was an unsuccessful but instructive tournament.

Various interesting episodes took place off the chess board, but I will restrict myself to the following details.

We were well fed and housed in a comfortable hotel in Havana's old colonial quarter, which was remarkable for its uniformity between floors. This almost led to an international incident when one of the Jamaican team tried to force entry into the room, corresponding to his own, on the lower floor. We were treated to various excursions, including beach trips and visits to places such as 'Lenin Parque' and 'Musea de la Revoluccion' (post - 1960 artifacts only!). On one rest day we were taken out in the country for a rendezvous with Cuba's women's chess team who were amazingly attractive, and incredibly well chaperoned. After plying us with alcohol, the girls set about at beating us up at five-minute chess!

While the visit was immensely enjoyable, and we were afforded V.I.P. treatment by our Cuban hosts, it was impossible not to notice some weird incongruities during our stay ' Jaws ', that tale of merciless capitalists exhorting innocent holiday – makers to throw themselves to the sharks, was breaking all box-office records at the cinema down the street We were taken on the team coach to a distant hotel to buy stamps on several occasions, then one night took a walk and found a huge post – office one hundred yards down the street Our first chaperone, fluent in Spanish and English, was after a week transferred to the Jamaican table tennis team, who were touring Cuba at the same time. We understand from them that she was not heard to utter a word of English

On leaving Jamaica, I took up a job in insurance here in London, and recently joined the renowned S&B chess club.

Will I ever reach the dizzy heights of international chess again? I understand jobs are scarce in Andorra, Liechtenstein and the Faroes

The Cubans generally played beautifully simple chess in the Capablanca mould, and my superficial tactical style was punished severely, except in the following game where I tricked my opponent neatly.

White: J.Armas (Cuba - ELO 2350) Black: D.Randall (Jamaica)
Sicilian Dragon, Classical variation.

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cd 4. Nd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6 6. Be2 Bg7 7. Be3 0-0 8.0-0 Nc6 9. Nb3 Be6 (A basic position in this variation. White will attempt to attack on the Kingside aided by the advance of his f and g pawns. Black's chances are based on the half open c file and the exploitation of the c4 square.) 10. f4 Na5 11. Kh1 ?! (More usual is 11. f5 Bc4 or 11. Na5 Qa5 12. Bf3) ...Nc4 12. Bc4 Bc4 (Black is clearly at least equal.) 13. Rf2 h5?! (Panicky!) 14. Rd2 Qc7 15. h3 b5 ! (White's e pawn is about to come under fire.) 16. Qf3 b4 17. Ne2 a5 18. f5 Qb7 19. Nf4 (White cannot avoid material loss) ...Qe4 20. fg fg 21. Qg3? h4! (Deflection is the name of the game!) 22. Qh4 (Perhaps 22. Qel would have been slightly less ruinous.) ...Qe3 23. Rel (After the game White confessed he thought the Queen had to move, but) ...g5! 24. Ng6 gh 25. Re3 Bh6 (An unforseen bonus!) 26. Re7 Bd2 27. Nd2 Rfc8 0-1. The Guyanese were very unpredictable, and this must be the reason they beat us into third place. I had a pleasing win against Guyana's hapless board 5 White: D.C.Randall (Jamaica) Black: G.Broomes (Guyana). Sicilian Dragon, Yugoslav attack.

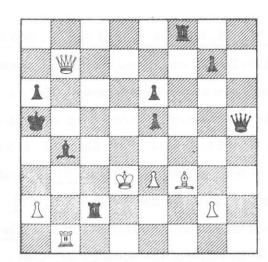
1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cd 4. Nd4 d6 5. Nc3 g6? (Heading for my pet Dragon variation) 6. Be3 Nf6 7. f3 Bg7 8. Qd2 0-0 9. Bc4 a6? (Probably fatally slow in this critical variation. In another game, as Black against Canalejo (Cuba 'B') I played the standard 9...Bd7 and obtained a winning position after 10. h4 Rc8 11. Bb3 Ne5 12. h5 Nh5 13. g4 Rc4!? 14.0-0-0? Rd4! but somehow contrived to lose it.) 10. h4 Qc7 11. Bb3 h5 12.0-0-0 Na5 13. g4! Nb3 14. ab (More accurate appears 14. Nb3 as after the text Black could have offered resistance with 14...Qa5!) ...hg? 15. h5 gh (Also unavailing is 15...Nh5 16. Nd5 Qd8 17. fg eg.(1) 17...Ng3 18. Qh2! Nh1 19. Rh1 f5 20. Qh7 Kf7 21. Bh6 Rg8 22. Nf4 wins (2) 17...Bg4 18. Rdg1 Bd7 19. Rh5 gh 20. Qg2 mating. (3) 17...Nf6 18. Nf6 Bf6 19. Qh2 wins.) 16. Bh6 Qa5 (If 16...Qc5 17. Nd5! is decisive.)

17. Bg7 Kg7 18. Nf5! Bf5 (Or else mate) 19. Qg5 Kh8 20. Rh5! 1 - 0

(He can only postpone mate by surrendering the Queen).



PROBLEM No. 6



BLACK (C.E.Williams)
TO PLAY AND WIN.

WHITE (L.H.Rees)

This position arose at call of time in a Wallington v South Norwood match.

Black, although a rook up, is threatened with mate on the move, and he has both

Queen and Rook en prise. Although the prospect looked grim, in bed that night

at about 2 a.m., a determined Mr. Williams found the answer! Can you?

(Answer on page 120.)



S&B Scores in Kiwiland

by ex Streatham C.C. player and New Zealand International, Bob Smith.

Dedicated to those who remember a small, mustachioed, leprechaun-like ex-patriot Streatham and Brixton player.

The annual Winstone's Tournament in Auckland generally attracts about 70 players and this year (September 2-3) was no exception. A star-studded field and a new-look tournament, divided into A and B sections guaranteed tough competition.

Among the front runners were former national champion, Paul Garbett, just back from England with half an IM norm, 15 times New Zealand champion and IM Ortvin Sarapu, NZ Zonal and Olympiad rep Ewen Green, and erstwhile championship players Kai Jensen, Wayne Power, Tom Stonehouse, Peter Weir and Nigel Metge.

Oh yes, almost forgot.

There was also this little guy with a moustache called Bob Smith who represented NZ sometime in the distant past.

In view of the dedication of this article, perhaps we had better follow his progress through the tournament.....

Round One - Beats up comparative bunny with the Benoni!

Round Two - Draws with Stonehouse after missing winning continuation (Remember the little guy now?) At this stage Green, Sarapu, Garbett, Weir and Power have 2/2.

Round three – Beats a fairly strong Auckland player with a strange version of the black side of the Closed Sicilian. Only Sarapu and Green have 3/3, Garbett and Power having drawn.

Round Four – Plays Garbett, gains a dubious pawn, gradually improves position at the expense of his clock, combines and wins with only a minute left on the clock. Sarapu and Green meanwhile draw, so going into the last round the leaders are Sarapu, Green and Smith on $3\frac{1}{2}/4$.

Round Five - White pieces against the dreaded "Ort". Plays strange line of exchange Ruy Lopez (5.d3) to take opponent out of the book. Threads way through complicated middle game with a little luck to reach equal ending and chickens out to agreed draw in mutual time trouble. Meanwhile Green loses to Jensen on time in winning position, Weir beats Metge, so there is a four way tie for first between Sarapu, Weir, Jensen and your overseas correspondent.

Each player picks up just under \$100, which may be small beer on the English circuit, but will buy quite a few pints here in Godzone!

And now.....an important game from said tournament......

White: P.Garbett Black: R.Smith (45 moves in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours, plus 15 minutes.) 1. c4 (I wish to complain; my informants told me he was going to play 1. e4) ... Nf6 (Please let me play a Benoni!) 2. Nc3 e5 (I know this, I've been playing it in correspondence.) 3. Nf3 Nc6 4. d3 Bb4 (I don't know it now, but I've seen this move somewhere.) 5. Bd2 d5!? 6. cd Nd5 7.g3 0-0 8. Bg2 Be6 9. Ng5!? Nc3 10. bc ...Bc3 11.Ne6 Bd2 12. Qd2 fe (I've won a pawn!) 13.0-0 (possibly Bc6 might lead to a slight advantage to White, but it should be drawn.) ...Qd6 14. Rab1 Rb8 15. Qc3? (Rfc1!) ... Nd4 16. Rb2 b6 17. Qc4! b5!? 18. Qc3 b4 19. Qc4 c5 (Black has plans of shielding his pawns from attack by putting his knight on c3, from where it can also swing to the good square d5) 20. Rfc1 Rfc8 21. Bh3 Qc6! (Preventing e3 because of the knight check and with the possibility of Qb5 swapping Queens.) 22. Bg4 Kf7 23. Rf1 Ke7 24. f4 Rf8 25. Rfc1 Rbc8 26. fe a5 27. Re1 ? ! Qc7 28. e3 Qe5 29. Rbb1 Nf3 30. Bf3 Rf3 31. Qh4 Kd6 32. d4 cd 33. ed Qf6 34. Qe4 Qf5 (Want a swap?) 35. Qb7 Rc2 36. Re5? (After long, erroneous thought) ... Rg3 ! 37. Kh1 Rh2 ! 0-1 (Whew!! That was close; only a minute left on the clock!)

Endgames

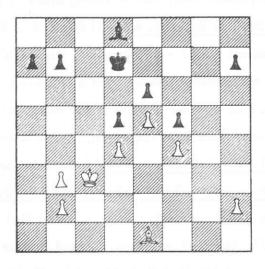
A CLASSIC " BAD BISHOP V GOOD BISHOP " ENDING .

By M.P.F.Singleton

In a postal chess game against D.W.Lodge this year I reached the diagrammed position after the following fairly boring opening and middle game ...

White: D.W.Lodge Black: M.P.F.Singleton: British Correspondence Chess Championship. Modern Defence.

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. f4 c6 5. Nf3 Bg4 6. Be3 Qb6 7. Qd3 Nf6
8. 0-0-0 d5 9. e5 Ne4 10. Ne2 Na6 11. Qa3 Bf8 12. Nd2 f5 13. Rg1 e6
14. Qb3 Qb3 15. ab3 Nd2 16. Rd2 Be2 17. Be2 Nc7 18. g4 Be7 19. c3 Kf7
20. Kc2 fg 21. Bg4 Ne8 22. Kd3 Ng7 23. c4 Rhd8 24. Bf3 Nf5 25. cd cd
26. Rc2 Rac8 27. Rgc1 Rc2 28. Rc2 Rd7 29. Bd2 Bd8 30. Bg4 Rc7 31. Rc3 Ke8
32. Be1 Kd7 33. Bf5 gf5 34. Kd2 Rc3 35. Kc3



Here we have a classic 'bad bishop' v' good bishop' ending. Black has an advantage because his pawns, being on white squares, cannot be attacked by White's Bishop, leaving him free to attack White's pawns. Black will attempt to get behind White's pawns with his King, though at this stage the win is far from easy as White's King bars the way, and with a minor piece on the board that can' mark time' it will not

be easy to engineer a zugswang.) ...Be7 36. Kd3 Kc6 37. Kc2 Kb5 38. Kd3 Bb4 39. Bf2 (Another recurrent factor in this position is that the relative weakness of White's pawns means that he cannot allow an exchange of Bishops.e.g. 39. Bb4? Kb4 40. Kc2 h5 41. h4 b5 and wins.) ...a5 40. Bh4 Kc6 (Black decides to use the queenside pawns as a battering ram, as 40...a4 41. Kc2 seems to lead nowhere.) 41. Kc2 b5 42. Kd3 a4 43. Kc2 Kb6 44. ba (White decides to make this exchange before the black King gets to a5, which would enable it to infiltrate via a4 and b4 in some lines.e.g. 44. Bf2 Ka5 45. Bg3 ab (Luring the white King away long enough to invade with the black Bishop) 46. Kb3 Bd2 47. Kc2 Be3 48. Kc3 Ka4 49. Kd3 Bg1 50 . Kc3 b4 51 . Kd3 Kb3 etc . or 44 . Bf2 Ka5 45 . ba ba 46 . Kd3 Kb5 transposes to the game.) ...ba 45. Kd3 Kb5 46. Bf2 a3! (White is just holding his own, barring an entry with his King and b pawn, and absorbing tempi with his Bishop, so Black needs to make this exchange to clear a pathway through the a and b files.) 47. ba Ba3 48. Kc3 Bc1 49. Bg3 (Now the Bishop is tied) ... Ka4 50. Kc2 Be3 51. Kd3 Bg1 52. Kc3 Ka3 53. h3 Be3 54. Kd3 Bc1 55. Kc2 Bb2 56. Bf2 Ba1 (Black is now threatening to get his King to c4, and the white King is forced to move one file further over to prevent this, thus allowing Black to get in at b3). 57. Kd3 Kb3 58. Bel Bb2 59. Bd2 Ba3 60. Be3 (If 60. Ba5 or Bel Black will play Bb4! forcing the white Bishop off the el - a5 diagonal, since White still cannot exchange Bishops due to the advanced position of the black King, e.g. 60. Bel Bb4 61 . Bb4 Kb4 62 . h4 h5 63 . Kd2 Kc4 64 . Ke3 Kc3 and wins . Or instead, 60 . Be1 Bb4 61. Bf2 Kb2 62. Be3 Ba5! and White is in zugswang, and is forced to give way to the black King.) ...Bb4 61.Bc1 Ba5 62.Be3 Kb2 (Reaching the zugswang given in the note above) 63. Bf2 Kcl 64. Be3 Kdl 65. Bf2 Bd7 66. Bg3 Bcl ! (Another zugswang. White is forced to give way further, e.g. 67. Bh2 Ke1 68. Bg3 Kf1 69. Kc2 Be3 70. Kd3 Bg1 71. Bh4 Kg2 and wins. Instead, White tries a desperate last minute dash with his King...) 67. Kc3 Ke2 68. Kb4 Kf3 69. Be1 Kf4 70. Kc5 Ba3 71. Kc6 Ke4 72. Bf2 f4 73. Kd7 Kf5 0 - 1. Black wins very quickly now by Bc1 - e3.

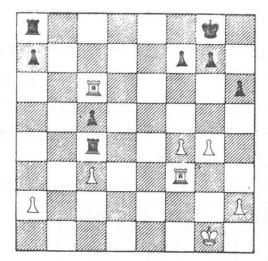
"...AND YET BE PATIENT." (Tennyson)

By Alan Westwood.

Here are two endgames in which the question; win or draw? is in doubt to the very end. I think they show that a little patience can go a long way.

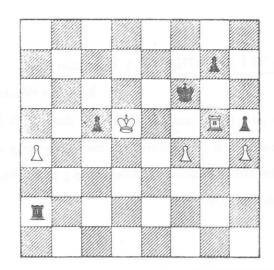
White: T.Williams (Guildford) Black: A.Westwood (Streatham)

National Club Championship 77-78.



Black: Westwood to play

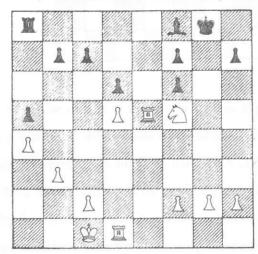
26...Rb8 !? (This is a slight error, although it fits in with the basic plan of activating the Rooks, the move 26...a5 would have been more accurate e.g. 27. Kf2 Re8 28. h3 Ra4 29. Rc5 Ra2 30. Kg3 with a slight advantage to Black.) 27. Ra6 Rb2! (and not 27 . . . Rb7 which is too passive . In Rook and pawn endings the fundamental question is who has the more active Rooks. Often an active Rook is worth more than a pawn.) 28. Ra7 Re4 (Threatening to double Rooks on the seventh rank with advantage to Black. Notice that White's Rooks do not harmonize with each other, another effect of the pawn sacrifice.) 29. Rf2 Rb1 (This is better than 29...Rf2 30. Kf2 Rf4 31. Kg3 Rc4 32. Ra3 etc. also 30. Rf1 is not possible because of 30...Rf1 31. Kf1 Rf4 32. Ke2 Rg4 The weakness of White's K-side pawns is another factor making his game difficult.) 30. Kg2 Rc1 31. Kf3 Rc4 32. Ra3 Kh7 33. Ke3 Rc3 34. Rc3 Rc3 35. Ke4 Kg6 36. Kd5 (Not 36. a4 as Ra3 37. Rc2 Ra4 is check. Although White's game is difficult I am sure it is defensible.) 36...f5 37. Rg2 fg 38. Rg4 Kf6 39. h4? (Weakening the pawns still further 39. Rg2 is better.) 39...Rc2 40. a4 h5 41. Rg5 Ra2 (White now has the choice of two captures one draws the other loses.)



White to play.

(a) 42. Rh5 Ra4 43. Rh8! (If now 43...Rf4 then Rf8 wins the Rook.) 43...g6
(Threatening 44...Kg7 45. Ra8 Rf4 and Rh4 to follow.) 44. h5! Kg7 (Or 44...gh
45. Rh5 with a draw.) 45. Rc8 gh 46. Rc5 Rf4 47. Ke5 (With a draw.)
(b) 42. Kc5? (The game continuation.) 42...Ra4 43. Kd6 Rd4! 44. Kc5 (If 44. Kc6 then g6 wins.) 44...Rf4 45. Rh5 Rf5 46. Rf5 Kf5 0 - 1.

White: I. Yedlin (YMCA) Black: A. Westwood (Streatham) Ilford open 76.

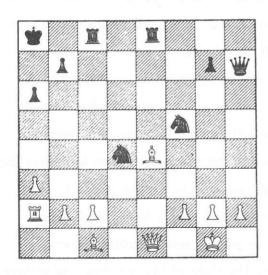


As you can see White has just captured a Rook on e5 so Black must recapture either by de or by fe. But before deciding which we must assess the position. A quick glance tells that Black is in pretty bad shape: doubled isolated pawns on the K's Bishop file, another isolated pawn on the Rook's file and an awful Bishop on f8. Well fe would undouble the f pawns. But then the Bishop would remain incarcerated. While de would leave the Bishop pawns doubled, however, active pieces often compensate for pawn weaknesses so I captured by 19...de 20. Rd3 Rd8 21. Kb2 Bc5 (At last

my Bishop makes an attacking move .) 22. f3 Re8 23. Ng3 Kg7 (I now had the simple plan of creating a passed pawn by Kg6, f5, e4 etc.) 24. Kc3 (My opponent however intends to destroy my Queen's side.) 24...Kg6 25. Kc4 Bg1 (Quite an amusing race is developing where Black's passed pawn will compensate for White's material advantage.) 26. h3 f5 27. Kb5 e4 28. fe fe (Undoubling the pawns. The position has been transformed.) 29. Rd1 Bh2 30. Ne2 Be5 31. Ka5 f5 (The K's side majority advances.) 32.c4 (So does the Q's side!) ...f4 33. Kb5 (With the idea c5 followed by c6.) 33...f3 34. gf ef 35. Nc1 f2 36. Nd3 Bg3 37. c5 Re3 (37...Re1? 38. Re1 (38. Ne1? f1 = Q wins.) 38...fe = Q 39. Ne1 Be1 40. c6 wins. Black now threatens 38...Rd3 etc.) 38. Nf2! Bf2 39. b4 (39. d6 cd 40. cd Rb3 41. Kc4 Rh3 42. d7 Bh5 43. d8 = Q Bd8 44. Rd8 is most probably a draw.) 39...Re7 40. c6 bc 41. Kc6 Re4! and here a draw was agreed. A really exciting game and one which showed more courage than technique.



PROBLEM No. 7



BLACK (P.Morphy)
TO PLAY AND WIN.

This position arose in a game played by Paul Morphy in 1857! and is described as a 'Morphy magic moment' by Daniel Feinstein, who sent it in. (Answer on page 120.)



You call that a move?

by Roger Emerson.

All chess books for beginners start, naturally enough, with an explanation of how the pieces move. They tell you that bishops move diagonally, knights can move to certain squares with crosses in them (see diagram 1) and pawns can take en passant if anything moves close enough. What they don't tell you is how to move the pieces. How different a subject this is you will understand when you sit down for a league game and offer an outstretched hand to your opponent only to see him ignore it, thump out 1. b4!, bang his clock, lean back in his chair and smile smugly at his teammates. Unless you are remarkably insensitive it will take you until move 10 to recover and if the filthy swine has any other nasty habit such as poking his nose or humming off-key you are already lost, lost I tell you! Unless, that is, you can retaliate in kind. In this brief article I hope to explain how.

As Hartston tells us, there is no such thing as a friendly game of chess. So also must you make your opponent aware that none of your moves are ordinary. To him they should seem imbued with a certain quality, a divine right of kings, against which he has no answer. Remember, your move starts as soon as your opponent's has finished. Your normal position should be leaning back, casually draped over the chair as though about to go to sleep, thus lulling your unsuspecting opponent into a state of false security. You see his move, start visibly and lean back peering over your spectacles (if you have perfect sight you can buy plain lenses). Then slowly let your face relax, smile and shake your head gently from side to side. Your opponent, who had been staring rudely at you, is now twiching nervously wondering what is wrong. Do not look at him. The sight of his red face and watery eyes may be too much to bear. Continue to smile at the board until you have decided on your move, then casually lean forward, pick up your chosen piece with the tips of the thumb and forefinger and propel it forward, as if playing shove halfpenny, to its new square. Retreats may be managed by curling the forefinger round the piece and dragging backwards as if on a fishing line. All these movements should be accomplished with a langorous grace that once again lulls the opponent. Having placed the piece

in its new square, move your hand with lightning speed and bash the clock as hard as possible. Then relapse into your resting position. Repeat the prescription as many times as necessary.

A word of warning should be given here. Although you should lean back, on no account should you lean your chair backwards as well. The dangers of this can be shown best by the example Hort v Keres Oberhausen 1961:



Diagram, 2.
Black to play and win.

In a complicated ending where the game was balanced on a knife edge, Hort sacrificed a rook to obtain two far advanced passed pawns. Keres took this impassively and after Hort's reply pondered his next move while Hort rocked backwards and forwards on his chair in eager anticipation of victory. Keres looked on poker-faced and at the crucial moment of Hort's swing made his reply – a counter-rook-sacrifice! Hort was so surprised that he fell off his chair. It is hard to maintain your dignity sprawled on the floor. Hort lost quickly.

So if you see that your opponent is a chair swinger, choose the timing of your surprise moves carefully. If he doesn't fall off on his own account you can always help him with a little kick. You think that's dangerous? Only for him.

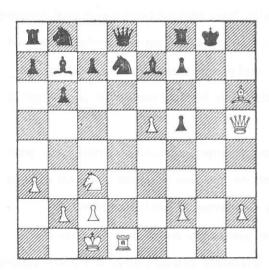
What though, of those times when calls of necessity mean that you are away from the board when your opponent moves? Different players have different answers but the best I have seen came in a crucial game in the Hammersmith Open some five years ago. Ray Keene was pitted against Michael Franklin in a difficult middle game where most of the pieces were still on the board. Keene came rushing back from a visit to the loo to find his clock running. He looked suspiciously round the board, bashed his clock button down and glared at Franklin. "You haven't moved, "he accused." Yes, I have, "said Franklin, gently pressing his own clock button, and pointing out 32...P-KR3. Keene looked at the board for a second and then looked at Franklin." You call that a move? "he said.

Exercise: devise and practice similar taunts using Vodka for stimulation of imagination.

Before I finish I should perhaps emphasise that the method of moving described above is only one of many although I believe it to be the most effective. An alternative method practiced by David Parr, was an exaggerated smug grin and rather more vicious hand movements. It also involves the studied use of threats before and after the game such as "I'm going to smash that little creep into the ground" (Chandler v Parr Charlton 1976). It may not help your chess, but it does make you strong and hairy.



PROBLEM No. 8



BLACK (J.Horrocks)
TO PLAY AND DRAW AT LEAST.

WHITE (M.P.F.Singleton.)

This position arose in a game played in the Surrey Slater - Kennington competition 1978. Mike Singleton, having sacrificed a sackful of pieces on g7 and h7 to expose the black King, has just played 0-0-0, under the mistaken impression that there is no defence to the threat of Rg1. Mr. Horrocks, one of Britains leading blind players, found an ingenious defence. Can you?

(Answer on page 120.)

