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FOREWORD

In introducing to the chess playing public of this Province a magazine devoted to its interests, we need offer neither excuse nor extenuation. The vast extent of British Columbia makes this mode of communication a vital necessity, the lack of which has been felt for many years. For isolated players a contact will thus be established with others in like circumstances, and all will be brought into touch with the larger provincial chess circles.

The policy of the magazine will be to use provincial material to a very large extent, though we shall include news of special interest from surrounding localities and also news of world interest. We shall depend largely upon our subscribers for correspondence and for accounts of events in their own districts, and we wish to publish games played in all parts of the Province.

The subscription has been placed at a low figure so that the publication may not be beyond the means of anyone, and the staff will use any profits there may be for the enlarging and improving of the magazine until it approximates to the very high ideal they have in view. Owing to the late inaugural date only five issues will be brought out this season—from December to April inclusive.

Above everything we seek the co-operation of all chess players within our radius. This is their magazine, to embody their ideas, to print their games and problems, and to publish their news. Only with their whole hearted support may the best results be obtained, and we on our part will spare no labor to prove worthy of that support.

JOHN M. EWING.

FORSYTH NOTATION.

This notation is almost universally used for the filing down of positions upon the chess-board, and may briefly be explained as follows:—

Place the board with the white men towards you, and begin to read in the left-hand top corner, reading each rank from left to right in exactly the same manner as the lines of a page. For white pieces use capitals and for black ones small letters, and use numerals to show the number of empty squares between. A perpendicular line shows the end of a rank.

In the Problem Department you will find a cut representing a board with various pieces placed upon it. For the sake of example we have given the same position below in Forsyth Notation:—

|| 2 k 2 r 2 | K 1 p kt 4 | 2Kt 1 P 3 | 8 | 2 P 5 | 3 b 4 | 8 | 6 Q 1 ||

B. A. YATES, CHESS CHAMPION OF B. C.

Mr. Yates was fortunate in the choice of his father, who was a strong player, and the advantage of this early start was speedily apparent. At the age of fifteen he won his first tournament in Newcastle under Lyme his birthplace, receiving pawn and move from scratch players and winning all his games.

When about eighteen he gave up chess and devoted his spare time to billiards, where he scored several successes, and to other games of a more

exciting nature. After twelve years or so he was tempted to play a young man who was freely issuing a challenge to all comers in a hotel where he chanced to be staying. The challenge was accepted upon the sound principle that strong players seldom advertise themselves, and the result of the game was as such things should be.

The St. George's Club then called upon Mr. Yates, and his chess emerged from its chrysalis to prove the strength of its wings. He played second board for the Westminster C. C. in the second division of the Birmingham Chess League without losing a game, and greatly assisted his team to gain the championship. He also won the brilliancy prize for the best game played in the League during the season.

He now joined the Birmingham C. C. and was selected to play for the County of Warwickshire, later playing three years for the combined Counties of Warwickshire and Staffordshire. During the seven years of his county chess his worst score was a draw—surely a wonderful record. At this time he also played one season for the Sparkhill Club in the Birmingham first division, and won all his games.

The fitting climax of his English career came when he was invited to play for the Individual Championship of the Midlands in 1910, the tournament being limited to twelve players. Unfortunately he was unable to accept this flattering invitation, as he was bound for B. C.

Mr. Yates' British Columbian career would occupy more space if given in detail than this entire issue could afford, so we shall give the main events only. In 1913-14 he was second to Stark in the Vancouver C. C. Championship. In 1914-15 he was third, equal with Ewing in the same event, ranking below Dr. Smith, former City of London Champion, and Stark. In 1915-16 he won the Vancouver C. C. Championship, and was third in the Provincial Tournament, below Ewing and Stark. In 1916-17 he won the Provincial Championship but lost that of the Vancouver C. C. to Butler. In 1917-18 he retained the former title, regained the latter, and also won the Individual Championship of the new Greater Vancouver League—a truly splendid performance.

No article upon Mr. Yates as a chess player would be complete without some comments upon his personality and style of play. As an opponent his courtesy is complete, and his attitude in all the vicissitudes of the game is one upon which young players might well model themselves. He is a man of quiet, yet strong personality, depending vastly more on the solid argument of play than on the insecure support of verbal theory. His nerves are of that highly efficient variety known as the nonexistent, which condition is a splendid basis for match play.

Concerning his style, his own appended games will afford the safest clue. He himself is afraid that as he grows older his caution becomes too greatly developed, but a few games with him will quickly dispel any such notion from the over-confiding chess player. In a word, Mr. Yates is a fitting champion both in himself and in his skill over the board.

GAMES DEPARTMENT

Conducted by R. G. Stark.

Your co-operation is needed.

In order to help make this column a success the Editor requests provincial players to take down all match and tournament games and submit a selection for annotation and, if possible, publication. Of course only a limited number of games can be published each month, but these will include games by players of all strengths.

In certain games or positions "What re asked, and we

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would like to receive answers from players along the following lines: Win for White or Black, or draw, as the case may be, and to have the analysis by which the result is arrived at submitted.

We should also be pleased to receive the names of players willing to enter for a "Correspondence Tourney," to be arranged amongst our subscribers if sufficient entries are forthcoming.

Game 1

White H. E. Hidwell Black B. A. Yates

Evan's Gambit

- 1 P-K 4 2 Kt-Q B 3 3 B-B 4 4 P-Q Kt 4 5 P-B 3 6 P-Q 4 7 O-O 8 Q-Kt 3 9 P-K 5 10 KtxP 11 B-R 3 12 Q R-Q 1 13 KtxP (c) 14 B-Q 3 15 Q-R 4 16 P-Kt 4 (d) 17 Q-K 4 (e) 18 Kt-Kt 5 19 QxB (f) 20 BxQ 21 P-R 3 22 R-B 1 23 B-Q 6 (g)

Resigns.

White D. Smith Black B. A. Yates Queen's Pawn Opening.

- 1 P-Q 4 2 Kt-K B 3 3 P-K 3 4 B-Q 3 5 P-B 3 6 PxP 7 Q Kt-Q 2 8 Kt-Kt 3 9 Kt (Kt 3)-Q 4 10 KtxKt (b) 11 B-K 2 12 B-Q 2 13 Q-B 2 14 O-O 15 P-B 4 16 Kt-K 1 17 P-B 4 18 PxP 19 K-R 1

- (a) The compromised defence. (b) if ... 9 KtxP 10 R-K 1 P-Q 3 11 Q-R 4 ch K-B 1 12 KtxKt. (c) B-Q 3 was the correct move. (d) Very risky. (e) Looks to be a strong move, and was so against any other than Black's excellent reply of B-Kt 2. (f) Neither of the other lines QxP ch or KtxQ appear to yield any better prospects. (g) A desperate attempt to remedy a deadly position, he cannot extract his K Kt from its unpleasant position. (h) Pretty and final.

Game 2

White D. Smith Black B. A. Yates Queen's Pawn Opening.

- 1 P-K 3 2 P-Q B 4 3 Kt-K B 3 4 Kt-Q B 3 5 P-Q 4 6 BxP 7 O-O 8 B-Q 3 9 P-K 4 (a) 10 PxKt 11 Kt-K 5 12 R-Kt 1 13 Q-K 2 14 P-K B 4 (c) 15 R-B 3 16 R-R 3 17 PxP 18 B-B 4 ch 19 Kt-Kt 6 mate (d)

- (a) Powerful. (b) This, besides strengthening Black's centre, is the fourth consecutive move of this piece, the old maxim, "Every piece once before any piece twice" should be applied, meanwhile Black has been quietly using the time gained in developing his forces. (c) Going right after him. (d) Prettily finished.

The following game shows that even the greatest masters have their off days. Maroczy lost this to Marco in the Ostend Tourney, 1905, but still managed to win the first prize from a formidable field, including Tarrasch, Schlechter and Burn.

Game 3

White: Marco
Black: Maroczy

Sicilian Defence

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1 P-K 4 | 1 P-Q B 4 |
| 2 Kt-K B 3 | 2 P-K 3 |
| 3 P-Q 4 | 3 PxP |
| 4 KtxP | 4 P-Q R 3 (a) |
| 5 B-K 3 | 5 Kt-K B 3 |
| 6 Kt-Q 2 | 6 P-Q 4 |
| 7 P-K 5 | 7 K Kt-Q 2 |
| 8 P-K B 4 | 8 Kt-Q B 3 |
| 9 P-B 3 | 9 P-K Kt 4 (b) |
| 10 KtxP | 10 PxKt |
| 11 Q-R 5 ch | 11 K-K 2 |
| 12 P-B 5 | 12 Kt-B 3 |
| 13 B-B 5 ch | 13 Resigns (c) |

- (a) An early departure from the book.
- (b) This move, an apparent attempt to break his opponent's centre, seems to be entirely against the spirit of a close opening, even if it did not allow White an opportunity of which he fully avails himself.
- (c) A hopeless position.

Position 1.

A position from a game, Kaufmann v. Charousek, the latter known as "the second Morphy," produced some of the most brilliant games on record, a collection of which have recently been published in book form.

Position after Blacks, Charousek's 14th move, P-Q 4:—

- | | | |
|--|------------|-----------|
| r 5 k 1 p 1 p 2 r p 1 5 q 1 p | 15 R-K B 1 | PxB |
| 1 p 1 P p 3 1 b B 1 P 1 b 1 2 Kt 5 | 16 RxQ | RxR |
| P P P Q 2 P P R 3 K 2 R and the | 17 P-K R 3 | QR-K B 1 |
| game continued. | 18 PxB | R-B 8 ch |
| | 19 K-K 2 | QR-B 7 ch |
| | 20 K-K 3 | B-B 4 ch |
| | 21 Q-Q 4 | BxQ mate. |

Forced throughout after the brilliant 15th move.

CHESS NEWS

Before drinking from a stream one feels the safer for knowing something of its source. To these then who propose to slake their thirst for chess news in this column some account of its main source of information, the B. C. Fédération, will be of interest.

The Federation first saw the light of day in the spring of 1916, and, like an old friend of the Editor's "it is still going strong." According to its constitution the principal object of its existence is "to extend and foster the interest in chess in B. C." Its progress towards this laudable ideal is shown by its record. Within a month of its inception it staged the B. C. Championship, won that year by J. M. Ewing, our editor. The following year it added a Minor Championship, which J. H. Mayer carried off, while B. A. Yates wrested the championship from Mr. Ewing. In December of the same year, 1917, the Federation established the Greater Vancouver League. From the series of enjoyable matches played, Kitsilano emerged League champions, while the individual championship was won by Mr. Yates. This year Mr. Yates still maintained his position of champion.

In the Fall, the Federation, still extending, promoted a second division in the Greater Vancouver League. There are now three teams of six players competing in the first, and five teams of six players competing in the second division.

The following matches had been played in the second division when progress was interrupted by the Spanish influenza epidemic, now happily on the wane:—

		10th October.		
Board		Vancouver "B."	North Vancouver "B."	
1	Mr. Heaps	½	Mr. Coates	½
2	Mr. Barker	1	Mr. Berger (defaulted).....	0
3	Mr. Smith	1	Mr. Bull	0
4	Mr. Hall	1	Mr. Lawrenson	0
5	Mr. Broughton	0	Mr. McRae	1
6	Mr. Hayward	1	Capt. Batchelor (defaulted).....	0
		<hr/>		
		4½		1½

		17th October.		
Board		B. C. Electric Ry. Co. A	B. C. Electric Ry. Co. B	
1	Mr. Hall	0	Mr. Priestman	1
2	Mr. Pochin	1	Mr. Arthur	0
3	Mr. Chamberlain	0	Mr. Breeton	1
4	Mr. C. Graham.....	1	Mr. Keilor	0
5	Mr. S. Graham.....	1	Mr. Mansfield	0
6	Mr. Watson	0	Mr. Potts	1
		<hr/>		
		3		3

The undernoted are unplayed games which should have taken place on the dates indicated. It has been suggested, and we think, wisely suggested, that the schedule should be continued as it stands, these unplayed games being played off as soon as possible by arrangement.

1st Division.

Home Team.	Visiting Team.	
Vancouver Central	Oct. 24	North Vancouver
Kitsilano	Nov. 4	Vancouver Central
North Vancouver	Nov. 18	Kitsilano

2nd Division

N. Vancouver Juniors.....	Oct. 25	Vancouver "B"
B. C. E. R. "A".....	Nov. 8	North Vancouver Juniors
Vancouver "B".....	Nov. 14	B. C. E. R. "B"

The following is a continuation of the schedule to the end of December, and it is hoped it may now proceed without further interruption:—

1st Division.

Vancouver Central	Dec. 2	Kitsilano
Kitsilano	Dec. 19	North Vancouver.

2nd Division.

B. C. E. R. "B".....	Nov. 29	North Vancouver Juniors
B. C. E. R. "A".....	Dec. 5	Vancouver "B"
N. Vancouver Juniors	Dec. 9	North Vancouver "B"
N. Vancouver "B".....	Dec. 13	Vancouver "B"

Captains of teams are reminded to furnish the results of the games to the Secretary of the B. C. Chess Federation as soon as possible.

Players are urged to keep a record of their moves and, in the event of their desiring any comments on their games, the Editor will be most happy to have them annotated. The Editor would also welcome games of particular interest for the Games Department of this publication.

Next month we hope to be able to publish some authentic news of the Masters' Tournament at present being played in New York, in which are competing amongst others, Capablanca, the young Cuban who challenged

Lasker, the world's champion; Marshall, the American champion; and Kostic, the Serbian genius.

Chess news from all parts is earnestly desired, and we hope next month to be able to make this column of much wider interest.

At the moment of going to press we have received the result of the following match:—

October '25.

North Vancouver.		B. C. Electric "A."	
1	Mr. Coates	0	1
2	Mr. Batchelor	½	2
3	Mr. Lawrenson	1	3
4	Mr. McRae	0	4
5	Mr. Bull	1	5
	Mr. Wakefield	½	6
			Mr. Hughes Games
			1½

3

3

From a recent copy of the "Chess Bulletin" we note that the veteran English player, J. H. Blackburne, and his wife, received severe shocks in an air raid, the veteran being rendered temporarily deaf. We join with his large number of chess friends in wishing him a speedy recovery.

PROBLEM DEPARTMENT

Communications for this department to be sent to Mr. Geo. W. Melhuish, 1323 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, B. C.

If the enthusiast will open a vein of correspondence, and forward his suggestions and criticisms, all can profit by the other's experience and help this journal into prominence as a medium for keeping our chess interests alive and up to date.

Two and three movers will appear in each issue and a record will be kept of correct solutions received, which will duly appear in the succeeding number. A prize will be given at the close of the season to the solver found to have sent in the largest number of correct solutions. Points for this competition will be allowed as follows: For two movers, two points; for three movers, three points.

In forwarding problems for publication, and local ones will be most welcome, please give author's name, date of origin and key.

Though of common knowledge to the veteran the following few preliminaries may be of interest to the budding problemist.

White has the lower half of the diagram, moves up, and, unless otherwise stated, has the first move.

A mate must be accomplished in the number of moves stated.

In all the better-class problems every piece used has some particular function to perform. A problem not good enough in itself is seldom beautified by the inclusion of superfluous or camouflaged pieces spread about to confuse.

Though the process of "Queening" is frequently used in the course of a solution, the initial move is seldom a promotion idea to obtain three rooks, bishops, etc., neither should it be a capture nor a check.

The key move is not by any means the only feature of a problem, study with care Black's different defences after you have found the key; half the beauty of a setting is the manner in which the composer arranges alternate mates following Black's every possible move.

In composing, be chary of your force, do not use a queen when a bishop will suffice; do away with a superfluity of pawns; try to avoid giving white an overwhelming superiority of strength, we live in an age of economy, conserve your material, the more slender the lines the greater the art. It is not difficult to set up the black king, surround him with white pieces and cry "mate," beauty alone lies in the deftness and skill with which this may be accomplished.

The following problems are given under the "Forsyth" notation. (See previous pages for explanation.)

Problem No. 1—By Philip H. Williams.

White 5 pieces, Black 7 pieces.

|| 7q | 1QK3pt | 6B1 | 2p5 | 1pkpt | 8 |
1K1B2R1 || 8 ||

White to play and mate in two.

Problem No. 2—By S. Loyd.

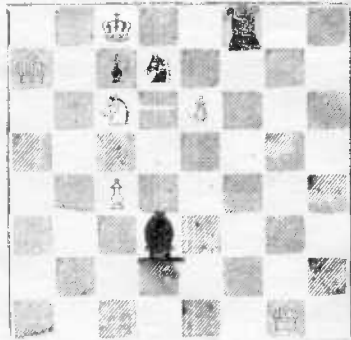
White 4 pieces, Black 6 pieces.

|| 8 | 8 | 8 | 1K3pt1 | 5R2 | 5QRp | 6qp |
7k ||

White to play and mate in two.

Problem No. 3

By Geo. W. Melhuish,
Black, 5 pieces.



White, 5 pieces.

White to play and mate in three.

Vancouver Chess Club

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need of justice, but when they are
just, they still need friendship.