

set firm at political work. It is apt to be the bitterest contest from sectional, racial and religious standpoints ever fought in Canada. Further, it is an election when some three hundred thousand Canadians are overseas. It sounds well to say that they can and must vote. As a matter of fact a large proportion won't be able to. But the main and outrageous feature is, as I have said, that an election and all that it implies just now should be forced on a country which does not want it; and which, moreover, was on the point of throwing old-time party politics into the discard, if party politicians had not gummed the game.

FOR this state of affairs I am not going to place the responsibility. The country will do that, and though I make no claims to prophetic gifts I predict that the placing of it will cut some ice in election results.

Over the whole thing hangs the fog of uncertainty. But among the mists are one or two fixed, definite points which the puzzled wayfarer may tie into and depend on, so far as the West is concerned.

The West is for conscription, first, last and all the time. It will support any conscription government, Grit, Tory or Union, with a preference for the latter. Conversely, it will support neither man nor party which is not clean as a hound's tooth on that issue. If both parties as at present aligned are for conscription the West will split on party lines as of old. But it is going to scan the record as never before, and if that is not clear no platform protestations, no oratory, no eloquence will do.

If you doubt that, remember that you cannot find man or woman in all the West who has not kin or dear friends—and usually both—overseas, and that the problem is to keep them re-enforced, to spell them at the front, so that they may have a fair, white man's chance to live. And there is no exaggeration about that, because after six or seven months at the front a man is living on his luck, merely. How far will the West go to give her boys—chums, sons, brothers, husbands—that chance? The West will go the limit, and then some. If you grasp the idea that it is a personal matter you can understand the feeling of the West better. The more men that any section of the country has sent, the more intense there is this feeling of personal obligation.

It is idle to say that this sense of obligation should impel those who feel it to enlist. Go through the West—through B. C., to be specific. Get out of the cities where the numbers confuse, and into any one of the mountain valleys and attend any event such as a local fair, or a public occasion of any kind. The first thing that will strike you if you are observant is the preponderance of women and children over men; and the next thing is that men under thirty-five or even forty are few. And the reason is that the men who make first-line troops—the men of trench and bayonet and bomb—are gone. They went early. Followed them, a year or more ago, the men of the second line, of the forestry, of the railway construction, of the various service corps. The men who are left are not overseas men. And they feel all the more strongly about it.

Bear these things in mind; look

at the situation from any angle you wish; take any slant whatever at it and you will reach the one and irresistible conclusion that the West will be a unit for that government, under whatever name, which will organize and specialize and concentrate Canada's effort in men and money and resources, so that the men overseas may have a fair chance to return, and that our dead shall not have died in vain. The West hopes earnestly for such a government. Nor will it stop with hoping; it is going to have it.

Undoubtedly if the Canadian counterparts of those whom President Wilson named "wilful men" desire to force Canada to fritter away time and energy on an election they can do so. The constitutional system admits of much folly if men want it that way, the said constitutional system being predicated upon the idea that men fit for it have horse sense.

It is up to the men of the day who have horse sense to get together, to fight and win an election if we must have one; and it is up to every clean-strain Canadian to support them. Let's stop this eternal and infernal blathering nonsense about the constitution, precedent, and the sacred democratic

privilege and inalienable right of every man to do what he pleases. Russia tried that.

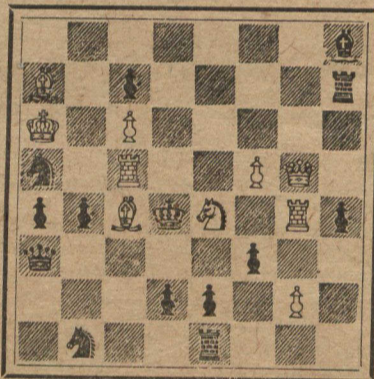
For the Lord's sake, and Canada's sake, and the sake of our self-respect now and our peace of mind in the years to be, let us get it clearly into our peace-accustomed heads that we are at war, and that peacetime pursuits and customs and privileges and rights must yield to the needs of War. For no man may serve two masters, and the undoubted, and harsh, and pitiless, and all-compelling master of the world to-day is War. Can anyone deny it?

Then let us face the situation as it is. Let us quit fooling with peacetime toys—all of us. Let us hang up the scatter-gun and empty our pockets of the paper shells we used when we hunted the harmless, little peacetime party birds, and let us leave the mild-eyed peacetime bird-dog at home; and let us take instead the high-power rifle, and fill the clips with the long, lean, soft-nosed ammunition; and let us whistle up the pack of square-jawed, hard-eyed fighting dogs and go out after game worth while. Let's go out after bear—and Prussian Eagles!

.. CHESS Conducted by .. Malcolm Sim ..

Solutions to problems and other correspondence relative to this department should be addressed to the Chess Editor, Canadian Courier, 30 Grant Street, Toronto.

Problem No. 149, by E. E. Westbury. First Prize, Brisbane Courier, 1916. Black.—Fourteen Pieces.



White.—Ten Pieces.

White to play and mate in two. SOLUTIONS.

Problem No. 147, by Comins Mansfield.

- 1. K—Kt4! threat; 2. Q—R5 mate
- 1. ...., P—K3d.ch; 2. R—B5 mate
- 1. ...., P—K4 d.ch; 2. R—Q6 mate.
- 1. ...., P—K6 d.ch; 2. P—B4 mate
- 1. ...., Pxp d.ch; 2. R—B4 mate

This problem is a model of simplicity and beauty and accuracy in combination.

Avoidance of Checks.

The following problem is remarkable by reason of the curious process necessary to safely escort the White King into decisive action. It will be seen that to permit check from the Black Rook in course would be disastrous. The White Queen and Rook two-step down the diagonal and file respectively, continually bearing on the Queen's Knight Pawn.

By W. A. Shinkman and O. Wurzburg.

(Pittsburgh Gaz.-Times, April, 1915.)... White: K at QB8; Q at QB7; Rs at QKt8 and Ksq; Ps at Q2, KB2 and KKt3.—Black: K at QKt 8; Rs at QR7 and QR8; Bs at QB8 and KR6; Ps at QKt7, QB7, Q6, K7, KB6 and KKt5. Mate in 15. (1. Q—KKt7; 2. K—Q8; 3. K—K3; 4. K—B8; 5. K—Kt8; 6. K—R7; 7. R—Kt6; 8. K—Kt6; 9. Q—K5; 10. K—B5; 11. R—Kt4; 12. K—Q4; 13. Q—B3; 14. Kxp; 15. Q or R mates.

CHESS AMONG THE ENEMY.

The following game, played in the Leopold Trebitsch Memorial tournament at the Vienna Chess Club in December, 1915, exemplifies the mastery skill of the great Austrian, Carl Schlechter. Our notes are compiled from various sources.

Queen's Pawn Opening.

- |           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| White.    | Black       |
| Schubert. | Schlechter. |
| 1. P—Q4   | 1. P—Q4     |
| 2. Kt—KB3 | 2. P—QB4    |

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 3. P—B4       | 3. P—K3         |
| 4. BxpP       | 4. KPxP         |
| 5. Kt—B3      | 5. Kt—KB3       |
| 6. P—KKt3 (a) | 6. Kt—B3        |
| 7. B—Kt2      | 7. B—K3         |
| 8. Castles    | 8. B—K2         |
| 9. B—KKt5     | 9. Castles      |
| 10. PxpP      | 10. BxpP        |
| 11. R—Bsq     | 11. B—K2        |
| 12. Kt—Q4     | 12. P—KR3 (b)   |
| 13. B—K3      | 13. Kt—KKt5 (c) |
| 14. KtxB      | 14. PxKt        |
| 15. B—R3      | 15. KtxB (d)    |
| 16. BxpPch    | 16. K—Rsq       |
| 17. PxKt      | 17. B—Kt4       |
| 18. KtxP (e)  | 18. Q—Q3        |
| 19. B—R3      | 19. RxBch       |
| 20. KxR       | 20. R—Qsq       |
| 21. B—Kt2     | 21. Kt—K2       |
| 22. P—KR4 (f) | 22. KtxKt       |
| 23. BxKt (g)  | 23. BxKP        |
| 24. R—B3      | 24. QxP         |

(a) The Rubinstein variation in the Queen's Gambit declined, aiming at concentration on the weak Queen's Pawn, has now been reached by transposition. Although exploited by the great Russian master, the franchetto development here was introduced by Schlechter.

(b) Up to this point the game runs on familiar lines. Marshall v. Rubinstein, Carlshad, 1911, continued 12. ... KtxKt; 13. QxKt, P—KR3; 14. BxKt, BxB. 15. Q—Q3. Schlechter's 12... P—K3 seems better, for 13. BxKt now would only strengthen Black's position, while the move actually played, 13. B—K3, puts the Bishop on an unfavorable square.

(c) The beginning of a deep combination, which can be better appreciated eight or nine moves further on.

(d) Very bold play, as it involves the sacrifice of two Pawns, but, as will be seen, Schlechter has calculated both deeply and correctly.

(e) The true inwardness of Black's design now begins to dawn upon one. Clearly it is difficult to defend the King's Pawn, for if 18. Q—Q3, then Black replies 18. ... R—Ksq. If 18. RxRch, QxQ; 19. KtxP, then 19. ... R—Qsq; 20. R—B3, Q—Q3; 21. B—B7, Kt—K4, etc.

(f) Not 22. Kt—B3 on account of 22... Q—B3ch. If 22. P—K4, of course 22... BxR.

(g) If 23. QxKt, then 23... R—Bsq ch; 24. K—Ksq, QxPch, etc. A remarkably smart game by Schlechter.

END—GAME NO. 24.

By F. Sackmann.

White: K at KB8; R at QB2.—Black: K at KR3; B at QR4; P at QKt5. White to play and win.

Solution.

- 1. R—B6 ch, K—R2 (not K—R4; 2. R—B5ch); 2. R—QR6, B—Qsq (not B—B2; 3. R—R7); 3. R—Q6, B—R4 (a); 4. R—Q5 (4. K—B7? B—B2! drawn), B—Kt3; 5. K—B7, B—K6! 6. R—KR5ch, B—R3; 7. R—R3, P—Kt6; 8. Rxp, B moves; 9. R—R3, B—K3; 10. R—Rsq and 11. RxB wins. A delicate piece of machinery.

(a) If 3... B—Kt4, then 4. K—B7, B—B5 (or P—Kt6; 5. R—B3, P—Kt7; 6. R—KR3ch, R—B3; 7. R—Rsq, etc.); 5. R—Q4, B—Kt4; 6. R—Q3! and wins easily.

S.W.P.

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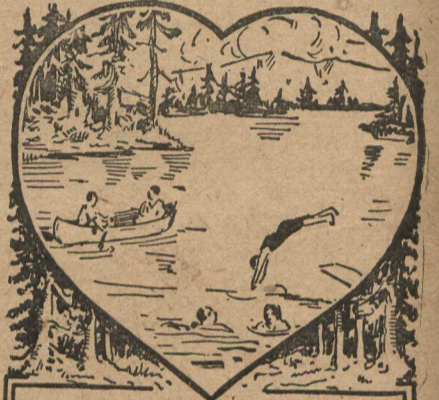
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