

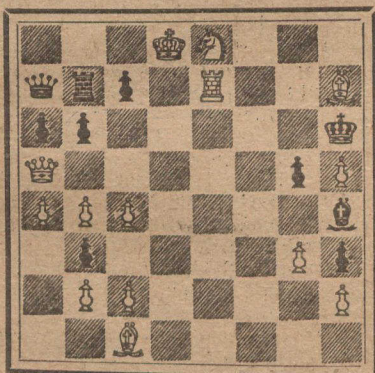


The Chess Editor wishes his readers a Merry Christmas and thanks them for interest taken.

CHRISTMAS PROBLEMS.

(Retrograde Analysis.)

No. 103, by T. R. Dawson.
Black—Ten Pieces.



White—Fourteen Pieces.

White to play and mate in two. The key-move to the above beautiful conception is commonplace enough, e.g., 1. P-Pe.p. check. The onus upon the solver is to prove that P-KKt4 must have been Black's last move. This appeared first in Deutsches Schachblatter, in 1912.

Problem No. 104, by T. R. Dawson.

White: K at QR5; Ps at QR6, QB2 and Q7.

Black: K at KR6; Q at KR5; Rs at QKt2 and KKt3; Bs at QKt7 and KR4; Kts at KKt4 and KKt8; Ps at QR7, QKt4, QKt5, QB2, Q4, Q5 and KB3.

White must not check, move into check, nor capture; Black must not move unless he can capture, which he must do if it be his turn to play. Entice a Black Bishop to White's QBsq in six moves.

SOLUTIONS.

Problem No. 99, by A. M. Sparke.

1. Q-R7, B-Q6; 2. R-B5 mate.

1., R-B5; 2. Q-Q3 mate.

1., Kt-B6; 2. Q-B2 mate.

1., B-Q7; 2. R-B4 mate.

1., threat; 2. Q-K4 mate.

Problem No. 100, by E. Patkoska.

1. Q-Q3, R(Ksq)-K3; 2. Q-Q5, any move; 3. Kt-K7 mate.

1., R(Ksq)-K2; 2. Kt-Rch, R-Kt; 3. B-R7 mate.

1., threat; 2. Q-KKt3, any move; 3. P-R7 mate.

CHESS BY CORRESPONDENCE.

An interesting game played in The Chess by Mail Correspondence Bureau between R. G. Smellie and H. E. Waters. Mr. Smellie, it will be remembered, is an eminent Toronto player with a considerable partiality for this form of chess. The score we take from Dr. W. C. Browne's bi-monthly pamphlet, "The Chess Correspondent." The notes are our own:

Ponziani Opening.

White. R. G. Smellie.	Black. H. E. Waters.
1. P-K4	1. P-K4
2. Kt-KB3	2. Kt-QB3
3. P-B3	3. P-Q4 (a)
4. Q-R4	4. P-B3 (b)
5. B-Kt5	5. Kt-K2
6. PxP	6. QxP
7. P-Q4	7. B-Q2 (c)
8. B-K3	8. PxP
9. PxP	9. Kt-K4
10. Kt-B3	10. Kt-Ktch
11. PxKt	11. Q-KB4
12. Castles QR	12. P-QR3
13. P-Q5	13. Castles.
14. BxBeh	14. RxB
15. P-Q6	15. PxP (d)
16. P-Kt4	16. K-Ktsq (e)
17. P-Kt5	17. R-B2
18. K-Kt2	18. Kt-Bsq
19. PxP	19. PxP
20. QxP (f)	20. R-Kt2ch
21. K-Rsq	21. Q-B7
22. Kt-Kt5	22. B-K2
23. R-QKtsq	23. P-B4
24. B-Q4	24. Q-Q6 (g)
25. R-Kt3	25. Q-K7 (h)
26. QxRch	26. KxQ
27. Kt-B3 dis. ch.	27. K-B3
28. Kt-Q	28. P-Q4
29. KR-Bsq ch	29. K-Q2
30. R-Kt7ch	30. K-Q3
31. R(Kt7)-B7	31. K-K3
32. RxKt	32. RxR
33. RxR	Resigns.

(a) 3., Kt-B3 is the safest defence.

(b) And here we prefer the continuation 4., PxP; 5. Kt-P, Q-Q4, etc.

(c) If 7., P-K5, then 8. P-B4, Q-Qsq; 9. KKt-Q2, QxP; 10. Kt-Kt3, Q-Q3; 11. B-K3, B-Q2; 12. Kt-B3, etc.; a book variation.

(d) If 15., RxP, then 16. RxR, Px R; 17. R-Qsq, Kt-B3; 18. B-B4 and Black has difficulty in further defending the isolated Pawn. 18., Kt-K4 would open up mate in two. If 18.

Q-Q3, then 19. Q-R3, P-Q4; 20. Q-Kt3. Or 19., K-Q2; 20. BxP, BxB; 21. Kt-K4. Or 19., K-B2; 20. Kt-K4.

(e) So far this follows the book. White now exhibits a little impatience by precipitating the attack. The routine move K-Kt2 would have been preferable.

(f) White has now regained his Pawn, but has to be wary with the counter-attack of his opponent.

(g) 24., Kt-Kt3, threatening to force an exchange of Queens was a neglected opportunity. If 25. BxKt, then 25., B-B3ch; 26. Kt-Q4, Q-B6ch; 27. R-Kt2, BxKt; 28. BxB, QxB, with likely a drawn result. If 25. R-Kt3, then simply 25., B-B3.

(h) The final and colossal error, which loses a clear Rook. Black, perhaps, was under the impression that he could not permit his opponent to continue R-R3. However, after 25., Q-Q7; 26. R-R3, Black could still maintain himself by the sadly neglected Kt-Kt3.

END GAME NO. 20.

By B. Horwitz.

White: K at KKt3; Q at KR4; Bs at Q and Ksq; Ps at QR5, QB4, Q6, KB2 and KKt4. Black: K at KKt2; Q at KR2; R at KBsq; B at QBsq; Ps at QR3, QB4, Q2, KB2, KB3 and KKt3. White to play and win.

Solution.

1. QxPch, K-Ktsq (a); 2. B-QB3, Q-R3; 3. P-Kt5, Q-R2; 4. P-B4, B-Kt2 (b); 5. BxB, R-Ktsq; 6. B-B6! R-Ksq; 7. Q-K7, R-Ktsq; 8. B-Q5, R-KBsq; 9. Q-B6, R-Ktsq; 10. BxPch and wins. An instructive end-game with a natural position. (a) If 1., KxQ, White mates in four. (b) The only move on the board.

An elderly gentleman went into a photographic studio and asked to see the proofs of a picture recently taken of a young man whose name he gave. They were handed to him as a matter of course, and he examined them critically. He seemed pleased and finally said: "These are of my son. This one is a remarkably good photo of him—it is very like him indeed. Has he paid you for it yet?" "No, sir," said the photographer; "not yet." "Ah," said the elderly gentleman, "very like him indeed."

It is Absolutely Unthinkable

(Concluded from page 22.)

tion. The Italians have made marked advances, and the Russians have held their lines steadily ever since their great victories over the Austrians. It is uncontested that Great Britain has not yet reached her maximum strength, and the same may be said of Russia. Why, then, should they regard the collapse of Roumania as anything more than one of those grievous vicissitudes that all combatants may face at some time or other? Germany faced it on the Marne, and Russia in East Prussia, and France and England at Mons. No one can maintain that Germany's military position has been substantially improved by her conquest of Roumania, while the view that it has actually been worsened is at least a tenable one in view of her losses and the extension of her lines. She must still dispose of the Roumanian army, and she must conquer Moldavia before she can bring any new threat of an imminent and practical kind against the Russian flank, and at the moment of writing the Russians and Roumanians in the northern part of Roumania are claiming successes. The idea that the Teutons can pass up through the Dobrudja to an attack upon Odessa is, of course, pure moonshine.

For these reasons it is hard, indeed, impossible, to look hopefully upon the prospects of a peace parley. It takes two to make a parley, and we are faced by the fact, however unpalatable it may be, that the Allies refuse to be one of them, that they see nothing radically disheartening in the Roumanian situation, and that they are even more rigid than they were before in their determination to go on. And from the military point of view there is no discernible reason why it should not be so. The certainty of their ultimate victory has been lessened in no way whatsoever.

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National Service Cards and addressed envelopes for their return to Ottawa have been placed in the hands of all Postmasters for distribution amongst the persons required to fill in such cards. Every male person of the prescribed ages is required to fill in and return a card enclosed in an envelope within ten days of its receipt.

Any person who fails to receive a card and envelope may obtain the same upon application to the nearest Postmaster.

R. B. BENNETT,
Director General.

Ottawa, 15th December, 1916.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

NATIONAL SERVICE WEEK : 1st to 7th JANUARY.