

tion, and after nearly 10 years is still running in full blast. The mine is known as the great Treadwell mine, and its output has extended up into the millions. At last Treadwell sold his interest, found himself a millionaire and immediately invested his wealth in California real estate.

During this time James Treadwell had met with an experience equally remarkable, the two forming a coincidence stranger even than the dreams of fiction. He, too, had consulted the medium and had been told that a fortune awaited him as great or greater than that to which his brother had been led. Up in Lake county, he was informed was an old quicksilver mine, long since abandoned, but which at one time had been worked in a small way by a family named Bradford, who owned the land on which the claim was located. The medium assured him that the mine was one of fabulous richness and needed only money to develop it. James went at once to his brother John, who was already growing rich in money, and the latter agreed to furnish the other with whatever sum he needed to test the truth of the medium's prediction. Accordingly the elder Treadwell abandoned the tin shop, went to Lake county and found the Bradfords, who showed him the old mine. They explained that they had worked it in a small way for a number of years, but owing to a lack of capital they had finally given up the work until such time as some one could be found who would be willing to furnish the money. Treadwell had faith in what he had been told after inspecting the old shaft, and he at once telegraphed his brother that he was confident he had struck it rich, and asked that an expert be sent to him to make a thorough examination of the mine. As a result of this message a competent mining engineer was sent to the Bradford farm, and gave it as his opinion that the mine was of enormous possibilities.

This so encouraged Treadwell that he offered to furnish the needed funds for a half interest, and his terms were readily accepted. The Bradfords were only too glad to find someone willing to help them out, especially as they had all to gain and nothing to lose, and but little time was lost in closing up the bargain. It was also agreed that if the mine should be sold at any time they were to allow their backer half the net proceeds, and so the work was begun. This being all arranged in a satisfactory way, Treadwell hurried back to San Francisco, purchased the necessary machinery, employed a number of practical miners, and in a few weeks the quiet little Bradford farm had been converted into a busy mining camp. Here, too, the Treadwell luck prevailed, and the tinier brother, almost before he could realize it, found himself in a fair way to be rated among the millionaires of California. Almost from the first the yield of the mine was enormous and huge dividends rolled in month after month. The Bradfords moved into the city. Their plain little farm house was exchanged for a mansion in the West End, and blooded horses dragged their carriage through the streets. Treadwell fitted up offices in the Nevada Bank building, and across the way he erected a palatial residence, where his family were surrounded by every luxury.

A short time ago Treadwell sold the mine to a syndicate of English capitalists and the price was close to \$1,000,000. Half of this sum, together with the enormous dividends that had been paid during the time of operation, made millionaires of all concerned, and Jim Treadwell was enabled to launch out into new fields of enterprise, to add, if possible, to the princely sum he had already accumulated. During all this time the medium, who had guided the two brothers to fortune, had remained their friend, and, as was natural, she had shared to a limited extent in their success. Out of their immense earnings the Treadwells had given her money sufficient to enable her to live in comfort, but she clung to her old occupation. She believed, or professed to, at all events, that there were greater things yet in store, and a little more than a year ago she imparted to the Treadwells the information that a gold mine greater than that of Alaska was to be found in Arizona.

'If you will sink a shaft,' was what she said, 'at a place 21 miles north of Yuma and about 300 feet back from the east bank of the river, you will find a deposit of gold that will surpass anything yet discovered.'

This was all that was needed. Twice already she had told where millions were to be found, and there could be no reason to doubt the accuracy of her predictions. The experiment was at least worth making, and no time was lost in getting to work. Men who were experienced as miners were engaged, supplies and camp equipments purchased, and the necessary tools and machinery shipped to Yuma. From the latter point everything went to the point described by wagon. The expense was great, but the belief was that the profits were already assured. With this belief, work was begun in earnest. A wide shaft was sunk, and operations went on with surprising rapidity. There was no doubt in the minds of the Treadwells but that another fortune lay almost within their grasp, and that more millions would soon be added to their great wealth.

To their surprise, however, they met with an unexpected obstacle. When the bottom of the shaft reached the level of the bed of the river, quicksand and water began to flow in in enormous volumes, and no exercise of ingenuity on the part of the miners could prevent it. The mine was simply flooded to such an extent that it was found necessary to abandon the work for a time at least. In spite of this, the Treadwells were not discouraged. To overcome the obstacles met, of course, by an expensive operation, but money and science they believed was all that was needed to clear the shaft and enable them to go on with the work. Accordingly, one of the brothers went to San Francisco, and, to an experienced and able engineer, he told the story of the flooding of the mine. Of him they asked advice, and were told that pumping was the only process by which they could hope to place the shaft in a condition such as to allow of a resumption of work. This would involve a great outlay of money, and might even fail, but the two enthusiasts were not to be deterred from pushing operations.

The largest and most expensive pumps and engines that could be procured upon the Pacific coast were purchased and shipped to Yuma by rail. Here they were unloaded from the cars, and by means of mule teams

hauled to the mine and placed in position. Two months at least were occupied in this way, and then they were ready to begin the battle with the sand and water. The pumps worked like a charm, but it took but a day or two to demonstrate that the entire experiment was a failure. Huge as were the pumps and engines they were totally inadequate to the work in hand. Fast as the sand and the water rolled out through the nozzles it poured in from the bed of the river through the shifting soil. Another engineer was sent for, and after a careful survey of the situation he announced that the work of clearing the shaft was beyond the possibilities of the science of engineering. As well, he said, they might attempt to pump out the river itself, and that, of course, could not be done.

Silly the Treadwells were forced to accept his opinion, and the mine that was to yield millions was abandoned. In all they had expended just \$175,000, and all they had to show for it was the water-filled hole in the ground and a lot of useless machinery. The medium had failed them, and they were forced to admit that for once they had been guided in the wrong direction by the spirits.

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

All communications to this department must be addressed directly to the Checker Editor, Mr. W. Forsyth, 36 Grafton St.

In reply to a number of enquiries we would say that Mr. Forsyth, Checker Champion of Canada and our checker editor, is spending a few days visiting friends in Ontario, and is not expected to return home till about the end of next week.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OLIVER MCGILL, Yarmouth.—Your solutions to problems 347 and 349 are received. They are correct and will be found below.

GAME 234.—SECOND DOUBLE CORNER.

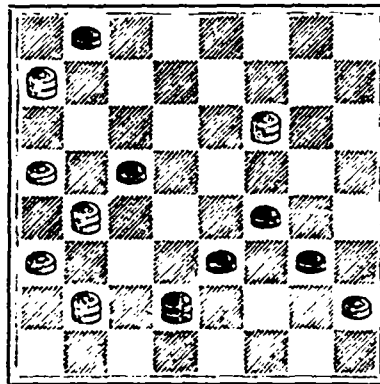
By H. Gibbs of Kankakee, Ill., in American Checker Review.

11-15	6-13	30-23	30-26
24 19	a-30	26 27 18	2 6
15-24	2-6	4-8	26-22
28 19	18 14	7 2	14 10
9-14	10-17	8-11	22-17
22 18	21 14	32 28	16 11
5-9	13-17	11-16	17-13
26 22	14 10	2 7	11 15
7-11	6-15	16-19	5-9
27 24	19 10	7 11	15 18
11-16	8-11	19-23	3-8
22 17	29 25	11 16	10 7
16-20	17-21	1-5	8-12
31 17	24 19	18 14	7 2
9-13	21-30	23-26	12-16
18 9	19 16	10 6	18-23
13-22	12-19	26-30	9 14
25 18	23 7	6 2	6-9

a-Given as a loss. w.wins.

PROBLEM 351.

By S. Granville, Halifax Black men 1, 14, 19, 23, 24, king 26.



White men 13, 21, 28, kings 5, 11, 17, 25.

Black to play and draw.

This problem will doubtless be interesting, as it is original, and by a well known Nova Scotia amateur checkerist.

SOLUTION.

PROBLEM 347.—The position was: black men 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19; white men 16, 17, 18, 21, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 32; black to play. What result?

13-31	27 24	23-27	14 7
18 4	19-23	32 23	2-27
1-6	4 8	14-17	drawn.
24 15	10-19	21 14	
12-19	24 15	7-10	

PROBLEM 349.—The position was: black men 4, 5, 8, 12, 16, king 31; white men 9, 11, 14, 18, 23, 27, king 15; white to play and win.

9 6	8-22	28 24	11-15
31-24	14 9	12-16	24 20
23 19	5-14	6 2	16-19
16-23	16 28	8-11	6 10
15 10	4-8	2 6	w.wins.

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