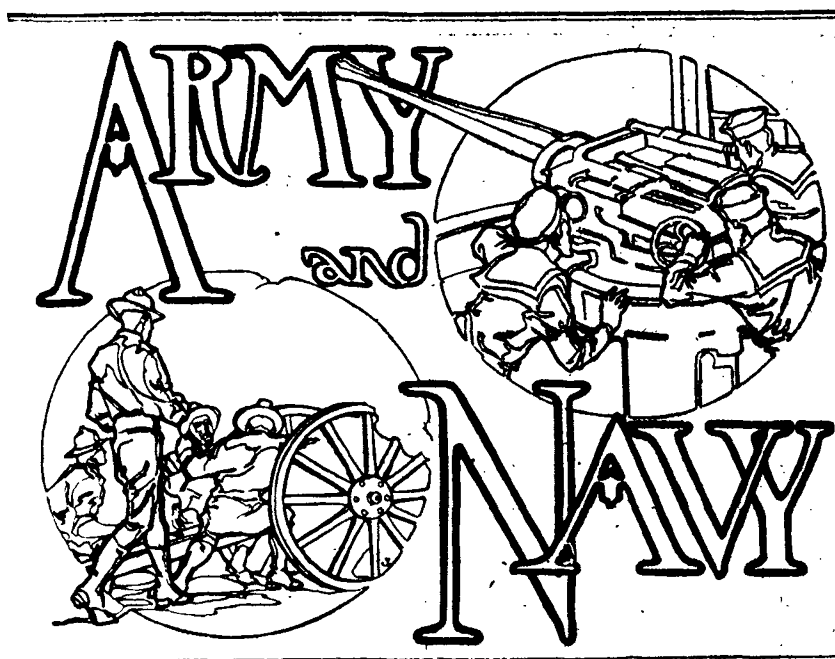

Ask More Guns at Panama

Cost of Additional Armament $10,026,000 Under Plans Prepared by War Department Board.

REVISION of the scheme of permanent defenses of the Panama Canal has been made by the War Department board of review on coast defenses. As originally planned, the defenses of the canal were to include four 14-inch guns, sixteen 12-inch mortars and six 6-inch guns at the Atlantic end, and one 16-inch gun, six 14-inch guns, twelve 12-inch mortars and six 6-inch guns at the Pacific end. The funds for the procurement and installation of this armament have been appropriated, the final appropriation having been made last year, and all of the armament is in the Canal Zone, except one of the 14-inch guns for Fort Grant and the 16-inch gun and carriage for the same post.

The revised project includes additional armament to supplement the existing defenses and to preclude long-range naval bombardment of the Gatun spillway from the water areas to the north and west of the mouth of the Chagres River, to reduce the danger from a concentrated naval fire upon existing defenses and to enlarge the protected water areas afforded the United States fleet debouching from the canal. The project also includes antiaircraft guns at each end of the canal.

The approximate estimated cost of providing the additional armament proposed, including accessories therefor, is about $10,026,000. Of the additional armament proposed there are included in the 1917 estimates only amounts for the construction of emplacements and for initiating the construction of the guns mounted for long-range fire to be placed at the Chagres River and for the antiaircraft guns. These estimates are $500,000 for construction of emplacements and $120,000 for initiating construction of the armament. The estimates for 1917 also include an item of $1,600,000 for ammunition, which is approximately one-fifth of the total amount remaining to be appropriated for ammunition, an item of $240,000 for submarine mine material to complete the mine project at each end of the canal and an item of $660,000 for military trails.

Progress on Cavalry Regulations.

New drill regulations for the cavalry have been completed in tentative form for mounted organizations up to and including the regiment, by the board of officers that has been in session in this city for several months in consideration of that troublesome project.

The proposed regulations conform to the present statutory organization of cavalry regiments of twelve combatant troops organized into three squadrons of four troops each, and they contemplate the single rank as the normal formation.

The board will proceed to Fort Bliss, Tex., about June 1, to conduct experiments with the proposed regulations, using cavalry trops at and in the vicinity of that place to ascertain if the changes over the old regulations are practical and beneficial before final adoption of the changes.

Aviation Section Problems.

Among the many doubtful questions presented to the military authorities by the army reorganization act are several pertaining to the signal corps and the aviation section thereof. It yet is to be determined how the increase in the various grades of the corps proper and of the aviation section are to be apportioned to the five yearly increments of increase.

Another question is whether the higher officers of the aviation section are required by the act to be qualified military aviators, and that question, among others, is before the judge advocate general of the army for settlement.

The act provides that the signal corps shall consist of certain officers and the aviation section, which shall consist of 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant colonel, 8 majors, 24 captains and 114 first lieutenants, who shall be selected from among officers of the army at large of corresponding grades or from among officers of the grade below, exclusive of those serving by detail in staff corps or departments, who are qualified as military aviators, and shall be detailed to serve as aviation officers for periods of four years unless sooner relieved. * * *

The signal corps officials are in a quandary to know whether the clause "who are qualified as military aviators" applies to all officers detailed to the aviation section, from the colonel down, or only to those that are detailed to advanced rank therein. Heretofore it has not been considered necessary for the head of the aviation section to be a qualified military officer, as he acts only in an administrative and executive capacity, and is not required in the performance of his duties to fly an aeroplane.

Lieut. Col. George O. Squier, of the signal corps, who has just assumed duty as head of the aviation section, is to be appointed a member of the advisory committee on aeronautics, vice Lieut. Col. Samuel Reber, signal corps, former head of the section.

The board of officers, consisting of Capt. Virginius E. Clark and First Lieuts. Thomas De W. Milling and Byron Q. Jones, of the aviation section, with Henry Souther as consulting engineer, has made its report of its recent inspection of various plants where aeroplanes and accessories are or can be made. The report contains much data that will be valuable in the future in placing orders for such supplies.

Number of Promotions Revised.

While computations were made at once in the War Department to show the number of officers of the cavalry, coast artillery and infantry that would become due for promotion on July 1 as a result of the first increment of increase, additional officers to equalize promotion and the extra 822 officers for the detached list, as previously given in these columns, there was delay in computing the increases in the field artillery from these causes. The number of officers for the 21 field artillery regiments authorized by the army reorganization bill is dependent as to certain grades upon the organization of those regiments.

As a basis of computing the number of field artillery officers that will be due for promotion on July 1 by reason of the first increment of increase and the detached list, it is assumed that the field artillery will be organized into five horse and heavy artillery regiments of three battalions each, and sixteen light and mountain artillery regiments of two battalions each. On this basis the following numbers of field artillery officers will be due for promotion on July 1: Six lieutenant colonels to colonel, 10 majors to lieutenant colonel, 21 captains to major, 78 first lieutenants to captain, and 168 second lieutenants to first lieutenant.

Since the first computation the numbers of coast artillery officers that will be due for promotion on July 1 has been revised, and on the later computation there then will be due for promotion 6 lieutenant colonels to colonel, 13 majors to lieutenant colonel, 32 captains to major, 140 first lieutenants to captain, and 250 second lieutenants to first lieutenant.

Besides the promotions that will become due in the line on account of increases in the various arms, additional officers to equalize promotion, and the increase in the detached list, there also will be some on account of advancements resulting from appointment of four or five colonels to the grade of general officer and details to the staff corps and departments and to the aviation section of the signal corps, but many doubtful questions surround these details that yet are to be determined, so that it is impossible at this time to estimate with any degree of accuracy their effect on the promotion of officers of the line. These questions now are before the judge advocate general of the army for consideration.

Due for Promotion.

The death of Col. John L. Phillips, medical corps, on May 22 will result in the promotion in that corps, as of May 23, of Lieut. Col. Henry S. T. Harris, Maj. James M. Kennedy and Capt. William H. Moncrief.

The retirement of Col. Louis Brechemin, medical corps, on May 25 will result in the promotion in that corps, as of May 26, of Lieut. Col. William P. Kendall, Maj. Deane C. Howard and Capt. Nelson Gapen.

The retirement of Capt. Wallace M. Craigie, Thirteenth cavalry, on May 20, will result in the promotion, as of May 21, of First Lieut. George A. F. Trumbo, cavalry, unassigned, and Second Lieut. George S. Patton, jr., Eighth cavalry.

The retirement of Capt. Charles L. J. Frohwitter, coast artillery corps, on May 20, will result in the promotion in that corps, as of May 21, of First Lieut. Henry T. Burgin and Second Lieut. George W. Easterday.

The transfer to the detached list of Capt. James Totten, coast arillery corps, to fill the vacancy thereon caused by the resignation of Capt. Carl E. Wiggin, of that corps, on May 20, will result in the promotion in that corps, as of May 21, of First Lieut. Nathan Horowitz and Second Lieut. George B. Gorham.

The detail of First Lieut. John F. Curry, Fifth infantry, to the aviation section of the signal corps, will result in the promotion, as of May 16, of Second Lieut. Robert Coker, Third infantry; and the detail of First Lieut. Henry H. Arnold, Third infantry, to the aviation section, will result in the promotion, as of May 20, of Second Lieut. William F. Hoey, jr., Twelfth infantry.

First Lieut. Robert G. Peck, Seventh infantry, and Second Lieut. John H. Stutesman, Twenty-third infantry, become due for promotion, as of May 24, as a result of the retirement of Capt. Frederick W. Benteen, Twelfth infantry, on May 23.

Pleased With New Saddle.

Tests of the new saddle for army officers, modeled after the French officers' saddle, as proposed by the cavalry equipment board, in session at the Rock Island (Ill.) arsenal, are being conducted this month at the mounted service school at Fort Riley, Kans., by Capt. Henry R. Richmond, cavalry; First Lieut. John K. Brown, Second cavalry, and Second Lieut. Vincent P. Erwin, Sixth field artillery, and the officers are reported as being much pleased with the saddle.

The equipment board has designed a saddle for enlisted men along the same general lines as the officers' saddle, but of cheaper material, and it has made certain changes in the articles of the pack to conform to the new saddle. Two enlisted men with the new saddles and packs have started from Rock Island on a 500-mile ride, with a view to making 20 miles a day, to test these articles. A previous long ride with the new saddle without the pack demonstrated that it is satisfactory when used alone, and now it is desired to determine its suitability when used with the pack.

It is not the intention of the board of equipment to make final recommendations as to changes in the saddle,

CONTINUED ON FIFTEENTH PAGE.

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PROTECTING BIG GAME

Canada Tames Wild Animals Near Banff.

ROAM STREETS WITHOUT FEAR

Mountain Sheep, Goats and Deer Enjoy Life When They Wander in From National Park to Study Civilization at First Hand—Lynx a Target—Sheep Hard to Shoot.

Special to The Washington Post.

Banff, Alberta, May 27.—How to keep the streets free from mountain sheep and goats has become an imminent problem, for the wild animals of the national park roundabout are wild no longer. Mountain sheep are daily seen grazing in the very suburbs of the town, while deer are frequently met in the streets among the houses.

Each succeeding generation of animals is becoming more domesticated, and it is thought eventually deer, mountain sheep and goats will wander through the streets at will, without showing any signs of fear whatever. The Dominion government has set apart as a preserve this big "park" in the region of the Rockies, where 46 peaks are over 11,000 feet high. In this preserve big game must not be hunted indiscriminately, and the government has instituted laws for their protection.

Game Outside the Preserve.

But outside the preserve the hunter is free to enjoy his sport, and there is plenty of it to be had; the grizzly bear, mountain goat, wild mountain sheep and lynx take up their abode in large numbers in these parts. In the open seasons many a party sets out with guides and ponies from Banff. The spring is the best time to hunt the grizzly bear, when his fur is still thick after the winter's sleep. Often it is difficult to bag him, but his skin is a trophy of which any hunter may be proud.

It is a preety sight to watch a wild goat as he stands on some cliff, seemingly admiring the picturesqueness of the landscape that lies beneath him. While in pursuit of the Rocky Mountain goat the hunter has to take some serious risks; he has to ascend precipitous crags, hanging on almost by the skin of his teeth. The goat can dash along from rock to rock with the same graceful ease and velocity as that displayed by a bird traveling from twig to twig on some adjacent fir tree. But it is the danger and excitement of the chase that gives the hunter the greatest delight.

Hard to Shoot Sheep.

It is difficult to shoot the bighorn or wild mountain sheep. After feasting on the lowlands in the early morning, the bighorn ascends to the fastnesses of the mountains. It is almost impossible task for the hunter to get within range, and if ever he does get there, he must not make the least noise or show himself, for the bighorn is both timid and observant, and when he is startled once there is little chance of again coming into close quarters with him.

The bighorn's flesh is pronounced by epicures to be most delicious and his horns make very beautiful ornaments.

In its cozy coat of soft, ashy gray fur, the lynx seems to be like a cat, and he certainly is of the cat family. He is rather pretty, and though not such a prize trophy for the sportsman as some of the bigger forest neighbors, he is always welcome to a rifle bullet.

ORDER FOR CADETS' DRILL

Gen. Weaver to Present Banner to Winning Company Thursday.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools Stephen E. Kramer, who is in charge of the military organizations of the public schools, has announced the order of drill for the annual competitive drill of the high school cadets, which will take place at the American League baseball park, next Wednesday and Thursday. The order follows:

First day, beginning at 9:30 a. m.—Company B, Second regiment; Company D, Second regiment; Company F, Second regiment; Company H, Second regiment and Company A, Second regiment, all of McKinley Manual Training High School. Beginning at 2:30 p. m.—Company C, First regiment; Company B, First regiment; Company D, First regiment; Company I, First regiment, and Company A, First regiment, all of Central High School.

Second day, beginning at 10 a. m.—Company I, Second regiment, and Company E, Second regiment, both of Business High School. Beginning at 11:30 a. m.—Company F, First regiment, Eastern High School. Beginning at 2:30 p. m.—Company E, First regiment, Central High School; Company G, Second regiment, Business High School; Company C, Second regiment, McKinley Manuel Training High School; Company H, First regiment, Western High School, and Company G, First regiment, Eastern High School.

Gen. E. M. Weaver, U. S. A., has been tenatively selected to review the drill and present the banner to the winning company. Admission tickets will be issued for the afternoon of the second day only.

The colored cadets will hold their drill June 5.

GET BATTLESHIP COMMANDS.

Secretary Daniels Announces New Assignments for Officers.

Secretary of the Navy Daniels has announced the assignment of the following officers to command battleships: Commander J. M. Luby, the Alabama; Commander L. A. Kaiser, the New Jersey; Comander W. W. Phelps, the Louisiana; Commander J. M. Latimer, the Rhode Island; Commander De-Witt Blamer, the Maine. Commander Latimer was detached as inspector of engineering material for the district of Massachusetts and will be succeeded in that post by Commander W. C. Cole.

Commander G. B. Bradshaw has been detached from command of the cruiser West Virginia and also the receiving ship at Puget Sound, Wash., and assigned to command of the cruiser San Diego, of the Pacific fleet. Capt. A. H. Robertson, formerly commander of the San Diego, has been assigned to duty at the Navy War College.

WANTS AMERICAN FREED.

Slayden Intercedes for Starr-Hunt, Held at Singapore by British.

Representations have been made by the State Department to the British government, it was learned this week, in behalf of J. B. Starr-Hunt, an American citizen, formerly of New York and San Antonio, Tex., held at Singapore. Representative Slayden, of Texas, informed the department that the man had been held several months without hearing and his transfer to London for trial is being sought.

Starr-Hunt left San Francisco as purser of the American steamer Maverick, declared by British authorities to have been engaged in a German plot to promote an armed attack on British forces in the East Indies. The plot is said to have miscarried and the Maverick was laid up at Batavia, Java, where Starr-Hunt was paid off and discharged. He was en route to Singapore when arrested, charged with attempting to communicate with German agents.

Local Tournament Is Arranged

Washington Clubs to See Some Interesting Matches This Week.

WASHINGTON chess "fans" will have an opportunity this week of seeing some matches that will rival any in the country. Four of the strongest players in the District will begin a tourney next Tuesday. They will play at the Washington Chess and Whist Club, the Capital City Chess Club and the National Press Club. Prizes will be offered for first and second places.

Whitaker, Knapp, Walker and Lovell will be the contestants. Fox, Zapoleon and Byler were invited to play but were unable to participate. These seven men rank highest among the district players, and a series of games in which four of them participated should go a long way toward settling the moot question of local superiority.

The four players will meet at the Capital City Chess Club rooms at 10 a. m. Tuesday to promulgate rules for the series, after which pairing will be made and play begun. At 2:30 p. m., the second series will start at the Washington Chess and Whist Club, while the evening games will be played at the National Press Club at 8 p. m. If players desire they can play the final game before adjourning or can finish the match later in the week.

Whitaker vs. Crowley.

Aleister Crowley, the London poet and mystic, who is in the city, played four games with Norman T. Whitaker, the local master, at the National Press Club, last Friday evening. Whitaker won them all, but only after some excellent playing on both sides. In preparation for his games with Showalter next month and Marshall in the fall, Whitaker used the Greco counted opening, which he has analyzed. It has recently occupied a deal of space in the British chess magazines. One of the games was as follows:

GRECO COUNTER.

Crowley. White.	Whitaker. Black.	Crowley. White.	Whitaker. Black.
1 P-K4	P-K4	15 B-K2	B-B4
2 Kt-KB3	P-KB4	16 R-R2	Q-K3
3 KtxP	Q-B3	17 QR-R	Kt-Kt3
4 P-Q4	P-Q3	18 P-B3	QR-K
5 Kt-KB3(a)	PxP	19 P-KKt4	PxP
6 Kt-Kt5	P-Q4	20 PxB	RxP
7 QKt-B3	B-QKt5	21 B-Q3	QxBch
8 B-K3	Kt-K2	22 K-Kt sq	RxP
9 Q-Q2	0-0	23 BxKt(b)	RxB
10 P-QR3	BxKt	24 Q-B5	R-Kt8ch
11 QxB	QKt-B3	25 K-R2	RxR
12 0-0	P-KR3	26 RxR	QxP
13 P-KR4	PxKt		Resigns
14 PxP	Q-Kt3		

(a) Much inferior to Kt to QB4.
(b) Obviously Q cannot take Q for R-R8 would be mate; R-Kt8 would likewise be inferior.

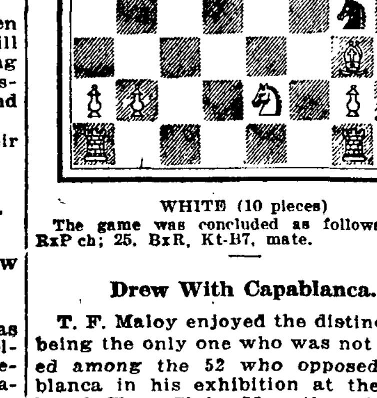
Janowski vs. Jaffe.

Ever since Janowski and Jaffe concluded their match the two were rather busy in playing off-hand games, Janowski giving Jaffe the odds of 2 to 1. They must have played hundreds of games, with the result that Janowski won the majority of the games, but Jaffe the most of the money. As may well be imagined, some rather interesting games resulted. The appended is perhaps one of particular interest, as will be seen from the score of the game, which is herewith appended:

RUY LOPEZ.

Jaffe White	Janowski Black	Jaffe White	Janowski Black
1 P-K4	P-K4	13 KPxP	QR-K
2 Kt-KB3	Kt-QB3	14 PxP	KtxP
3 B-Kt5	P-QR3	15 Kt-B3	KtxB
4 B-R4	P-Q3	16 QxKt	R-QB3
5 P-Q4	B-Q2	17 Kt-B3	KR-Kt
6 P-B3	P-KKt3	18 B-Q2	KBxKt
7 B-Kt3	B-Kt2	19 QxB	Q-K7
8 Kt-Kt5	Kt-R3	20 R-KKt	Kt-Kt5
9 Castles	Q-K2	21 B-K	R-K6
10 P-KB4	PxQP	22 Kt-Q4	RxQ
11 P-B5	Castles QR	23 KtxQ	R-KR6
12 K-R	KtPxP	24 B-Kt3	

POSITION AFTER WHITE'S TWENTY-FOURTH MOVE
BLACK (11 pieces)



WHITE (10 pieces)

The game was concluded as follows 24—RxP ch; 25. BxR, Kt-B7, mate.

Drew With Capablanca.

T. F. Maloy enjoyed the distinction of being the only one who was not defeated among the 52 who opposed Capablanca in his exhibition at the Pittsburgh Chess Club. More than that, Maloy actually played with a pawn down the greater part of the game, in spite of which he succeeded in getting a draw. The strength of his knight, as opposed to the Cuban's bishop, is of especial interest. The score follows:

RUY LOPEZ.

Capablanca White	Maloy Black	Capablanca White	Maloy Black
1 P-K4	P-K4	24 P-B5	P-QKt4
2 Kt-KB3	Kt-QB3	25 P-QR8	R-K
3 B-Kt5	P-Q3	26 K-B	Kt-Q4
4 P-Q4	B-Q2	27 RxR	KxR
5 Castles.	Q-K2	28 K-K2	K-Q2
6 Kt-B3	Castles.	29 P-KKt3	K-K3
7 B-K3	PxP	30 K-Q3	Kt-K2
8 KtxP	KtxKt	31 K-K4	P-B3
9 QxKt	BxB	32 P-Kt3	P-Kt3
10 KtxB	P-QKt3	33 P-QR4	Kt-Q4
11 KtxRP ck	K-Kt2	34 P-R5	P-B4 ck
12 Kt-Kt5	Q-K4	35 K-Q3	Kt-Kt5 ck
13 Q-B4	P-Q4	36 K-B3	Kt-Q4 ck
14 PxP	B-Q3	37 K-Q2	Kt-Kt5
15 Q-B6 ck	K-Kt	38 K-B3	Kt-R3
16 KtxB	RxKt	39 P-QKt4	K-Q4
17 Q-B4	QxQP	40 P-R4	Kt-B2
18 QxQ	RxQ	41 K-K3	Kt-R3
19 QR-Q	RxR	42 K-B4	K-B5
20 RxR	K-B	43 B-K	K-Q6
21 B-Q4	P-KB3	44 K-B3	P-R4
22 R-K	K-Q2	45 K-Kt2	K-K7
23 P-QB4	Kt-K2	46 B-B3	K-Q6
			Drawn.

Chess by Wireless.

Nebraska chess players have originated a new way of playing the royal game—the wireless method. The first game of the kind was commenced April 12, and progressed at the rate or two moves a day—one in the morning and one in the evening—until May 2. The match was conducted by Robert C. Gorham, of Franklin, representing the Wesleyan University, and Cooper Ellis, of Wayne, representing the Wayne State Normal College. After 24 moves were made the Wesleyan University was victorious.

The Nebraska State Journal says that the game affords no small amount of interest at the numerous wireless receiving stations scattered over the State, and both colleges received numerous inquiries as to the meaning of the mysterious code employed. One school superintendent in a neighboring city wrote and asked the meaning of "P to Q4," saying that he knew it must be important as it was repeated. Another could not comprehend "SxB." The indications are that with the innovation of playing chess by wireless wider interest in the game will be stimulated.

Kostic Wins Blindfold Game.

Among the games played by Boris Kostic, the Serbian master in his recent blindfold exhibition at the Rice Club in New York was the following:

PHILIDOR'S DEFENSE.

Kostic White	J. Dawn Black	Kostic White	J. Dawn Black
1 P-K4	P-K4	17 BxB	PxB
2 P-Q4	P-Q3	18 Kt-Kt3	K-B2
3 PxP	PxP	19 KtxP	Kt-Q5
4 QxQ ch	KxQ	20 KtxP	KxKt
5 Kt-QB3	Kt-QB3	21 P-QB3	PxP
6 B-Kt5 ch	P-B3	22 PxP	K-B4
7 Castles ch	B-Q2	23 PxKt ch	PxP
8 B-K3	B-Q3	24 KR-K	R-Kt2
9 B-QKt5	KKt-K2	25 R-K5 ch	K-Q3
10 KKt-K2	P-QR3	26 R-K6 ch	K-B4
11 B-R4	P-QKt4	27 RxRP	Kt-B3
12 B-Kt3	P-Kt5	28 B-R4	R-Kt3
13 Kt Q5	P-B4	29 RxR	KxR
14 Kt-Kt3	R-QKt	30 BxKt	KxB
15 KtxB	KxKt	31 RxP	Resigns.
16 B-B5	PxP		

About Problem 180.

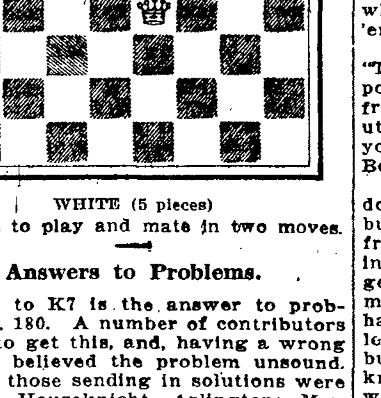
The problem that proved so difficult is thus elucidated by one of our ablest correspondents:

"The composer of this problem evidently recognized the rule that PxPe.p. is a legitimate key only when black's last must have been to advance the P two squares. You, too, seem to recognize the rule when you say: 'The position demonstrates that black's last move was P-Kt4.'

"But it does not. The black K may have moved out of check. Leaving the other men where they are, put the black K at KBsq., and the white Kt (B6) at K8. White plays Kt-B6 dis. ch., and black plays K-K2, producing the position of the problem. The P at R6 ought to have been a B."

Problem No. 181.

BLACK (5 pieces)



WHITE (5 pieces)

White to play and mate in two moves.

Answers to Problems.

Rook to K7 is the answer to problem No. 180. A number of contributors failed to get this, and, having a wrong answer believed the problem unsound. Among those sending in solutions were W. W. Houseknicht, Arlington; Mrs. M. P. S. C., Brookland; John Amrein, M. W. H., Charlottesville; Dr. Spear, Cumberland; F. S. Smith, Muirkirk, Md.; J. L., Newark; W. W. H., R. C. A., J. D. Yoakley, O. F. Blankengship, Richmond; J. A. G. and W. D. Brown.

Notes.

F. W. Royster writes from Wilmington, N. C.:

"Chess Editor, The Post: I am still keeping up with your interesting column.

"I only wish it came oftener than once a week. We have recently started a chess club here with about 15 members. It would please us very much if you will put a note in your column of the organization of the club, and state that visitors will be welcome. The name of the club is the Cape Fear Chess and Checker Club, situated in the Maffitt building. T. B. Caldwell is the secretary."

Numerous games have been received following last week's request, and these will be published from week to week. If yours does not appear promptly, have patience as chess is a slow game.

M. W. H. calls No. 180 "a fine problem slightly marred by a double, R-K7, P-B5 QxB or Q-Q3, mate."

Wright Defeated in Chicago.

Special to The Washington Post.

Chicago, May 27.—Charles C. Carleton has been elected president of Typographical Union No. 16 by a majority of 20 votes over E. R. Wright, the incumbent. Waye M. Goodwin was chosen vice president, Michael Colbert, secretary treasurer, and John C. Harding, organizer.

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Mr. Pearsall Comes Back Home

Leaving Mrs. Pearsall on His Trail Elsewhere, He Returns to Arkansas City—How He Fixed Two Decks.

By DAVID A. CURTIS.

The unexplained absence of Mr. Samuel Pearsall from the scene of his customary activities, continued as it was over a period of some weeks, gave rise not only to surprise but to considerable anxiety on the part of his business associates. Old man Greenlaw was perhaps the one among them who showed the most concern, he being inclined to take a gloomy view of the case, while the others were more or less optimistic. It was not that they missed the companionship of the departed less than the old man did, but they looked on the circumstances differently.

"O' co'se th' ain't no tellin' what's happened him," said Jake Winterbottom one evening when they were discussing the matter, as they did daily, "but I reckon mebbe he's a hep better off, no matter what 'tis, nor he's ever liable to be if he sh'd come back. He ain't got no fambly ties no mo'."

"That ain't no way to look at it," declared the old man very positively. "Fambly ties ain't busted that easy, mo' special if the woman is red headed chronic, like Mis' Pearsall sho' is. If they was they wouldn't be hardly no married men stayin' round hum the way they does. Stands to reason they'd all light out if they was any chanst o' not bein' fetched back. I ain't a lookin' fo' Sam to show up ag'in if he c'n git away, but the odds is too heavy. Mis' Pearsall 'll get him ag'in sho'."

Respect for a Woman's Ability.

"Mebbe not," said Joe Bassett, as one who hopes against hope. "I've knowed some to git away permanent when they was a hull posse lookin' fo' 'em."

"That's diff'rent," said the old man. "They is ways o' gittin' away fr'm posses, but th' ain't no way to 'scape fr'm a woman. If a man flees to the uttermost parts of the airth, be sho' yo' wife will find you out, as the Good Book says."

"Well, I dunno," said Winterbottom, doubtfully. "I ain't never had no wife, but I done had a turrible narrer 'scape from it oncet. They was a young gal in Opelousas what was hell bent on gettin' me fo' a husband, an' I reckon mo'n likely she'd a made out if I hadn't got away in time. I was mo' 'r less of a fool them days, like a young buck gen'ly is, but I knowed enough to know what if I stayed 'round whar she was they wouldn't be no hope fo' me, so I just nachully skedaddled.

"That was nigh 'bout fo'ty year ago," he continued, as if he was even yet hardly convinced of the endurance of his wonderful luck, "an' she hain't never caught up with me so fur. Gawd knows what'll happen if she does.

Degrees of Discomfort.

"That was how come I done settled in Arkansas City. They wouldn't nobody never think o' lookin' fo' nobody in these parts. Bein' alive ain't none too d'sirable hyar, but it's a hellova lot betten 'n bein' tied to a woman anywheres else."

"That's diff'rent again," insisted old man Greenlaw. "A hoss c'n git away f'm a man sometimes if he starts afo' he's saddled an' bridled, but he ain't got no show a'terwards, not if the man onderstands hosses 's well 's a woman onderstands a man.

"An' oncet in a while a man c'n git away f'm a young gal if he starts quick enough. But if he waits till she gits the bridle on an' settles herself in the saddle it's all over. He c'n buck an' r'ar an' pitch an' lay down an' roll over 's much 's he dam well pleases, but 's soon 's he gits on his feet ag'in he'll find her in the saddle same 's afo', proddin' the spurs into the same old place.

"I ain't a-sayin' but what mebbe yo' all is done got away perm'nent, bein' yo' didn't marry the gal, but if she'd ever a been Mis' Winterbottom yo' wouldn't have, an' the odds is ag'in yo' even now, 'nless she done roped in some other man. Likely she has, bein' it's ag'in natur' fo' a woman to stay single fo'ty year', but if she hain't she'll git yo' all yet."

"Mebbe so," said Winterbottom resignedly. "I'm al'ays expectin' of it but I reckon I can't do no better 'n to stay right hyar. If they was any Gawd fo'sookener place to go to I'd go, but th' ain't."

Pearsall Reappears.

"That's the way I reckon it," said Sam Pearsall. He had entered the saloon quietly and stood by the bar listening to the latter part of the discussion but saying nothing until then.

"Let's liquor," he said further when they all turned at the sound of his voice and saw that he had indeed returned.

They liquored, and he, realizing that an explanation was due, though etiquette forbade them to ask for it, said offhandedly:

"I done been away. I reelized what I couldn't be no wuss off nowhars else, not 'thouten Mis' Pearsall was to catch up with me somewheres, so I done lit out. Then when I found that she was on the trail I says to myself that Arkansas City was nigh' 'bout the last place she'd 'expect fo' to find me, so I doubled on her an' come back."

It was all so perfectly natural that they forbore to question him further, but Blaisdell inquired with friendly interest if he had had any luck while he was on his travels.

"Oh, I done tol'able well," he said somewhat grudgingly, and they understood plainly enough that he had won more than he cared to say. No good poker player ever admits that he is far ahead of the game. Only in regard to great losses is it admissible to acknowledge the truth. And Mr. Pearsall was undeniably a good poker player.

The Game in Memphis.

"They was one settin' up to Memphis," he said, "what was consid'able int'restin'. If they was a reas'nable chanst o' doin' of it frequent I dunno but what I mought go thar fo' good, but them Memphis spo'ts 'pears to be some prejidiced an' I reckon I wouldn't be none too pop'lar with 'em if they was to git onto it. They s'picioned somepin' as 'twas, an' judgin' f'm one or two things was said I reckoned mebbe I mought 's well go some'res else.

"I've heer'd a heap o' trav'lers say what them that lives in big cities like Memphis ain't 'nclined to be none too friendly with strangers, mo' special if they ain't citified in their ways. Calls 'em rubes an' hayseeds an' sich, an' pokes mo' 'r less fun at 'em, an' I knowed they was liable fo' to be some d'sturbance if they was anythin' 'o that kyind did to me, bein' 's I'm some hasty case o' being called names, so I done give out to the clerk into the hotel what done come f'm Little Rock 'stead of Arkansas City. 'Pears they is come what regyards Arkansas City like it was a country place, an' I didn't want no argyment with residenters, not 'thouten they was to be 'casion fo' it."

"That's right," said old man Greenlaw approvingly. "Th' ain't no sense in fightin' thouten it's called fo'."

His Point Seemed Obvious.

The point seemed obvious to the others with the exception of Bassett, but he, though he shook his head doubtfully, said nothing, and Pearsall continued his story.

"I dunno how things is into no other big city, but in Memphis they sho' is some what 'pears to be lookin' fo' a chanst o' making' the 'quaintance o' strangers an' 'treatin' em handsome. I hadn't been thar no time when they was two gents as't me to liquor, an' talked right friendly fo' a spell.

"Then one of 'em suggested that we mought 's well go 'round town some an' see if they was anythin' diddin'. I done told 'em I gen'ly went to bed at 9 o'clock, but one of 'em said what they didn't 'pear to be no gre't intelligence in doin' that, seein' they wouldn't be nothin' to do on'y fo' to go to sleep, an fin'ly they done p'suaded me fo' to jine 'em, an' we done started out, but first we done had a couple mo' drinks.

"Judgin' f'm what we seen th' ain't a hellova lot o' nothin' diddin' in Memphis on'y gambling, but they sho' is heap o' that. We on'y found one place of amoozement open. It was well into th' evenin' when we started. Must a' been a'ter 7, but they uns said it was too arly fo' anythin' else. Them city spo'ts sho' is a lazy lot.

No Objections Heard.

"Well, I didn't keer much fo' to go to other places when I done see they was a poker game on. O' co'se, I didn't know afo'hand what I was gwine to have no chanst o' settin' into a game, an' I wa'n't 'xactly what you mought call p'pared for to take a hand right then, but I kyind o' looked 'round an' played in what loose change I done had in my jeans at faro, keepin' a eye on the poker table while I was doin' on it an' takin' special notice o' what kyind o' cyards they was playin' with. I warn't p'tic'lar int'rested in nothin' else on'y that, being 's I reckoned I'd play 's well 's any on 'em if I was to be p'pared.

"Then I says to the gents what done tooken me 'round what I warn't well fixed then, but I sho' would relish a play if I was to had a wad with me, an' I 'xplained what I was gwine to the bank in the mawnin' fo' to git one, an' I'd be 'round next evenin' fo' the play.

"I wa'n't lookin' fo' no 'bjections to that, an' they uns didn't make none, so we done went back to the hotel an' had a few mo' drinks, an' I says what I reckons I'd turn in, an' they goes away.

"Then the ba'tender an' me has a few, an' I says to him what I'll take a walk 'round fo' a spell, an' I goes out alone. I finds a place whar they sells cyards, an' I buys a few decks o' the same kind what they was usin' whar I'd been at an' I goes back to the hotel.

"Then when I gits to my room I done 'ranged a couple on 'em the way I reckoned I mought want 'em to come some time in the game, an' I goes to sleep.

Prepared His Roll.

"Next mawnin' I goes to the bank, knowin' what them gents is liable fo' to be keepin' cases on me, an' I gits the cashier to give me change fo' a hundred in small bills, an' a'ter I done counted 'em keerful I puts a few big uns on th' outside o' the roll, makin' a tol'able good-sized wad, an' sho' 'nough when I goes out on the street I meets them same two gents an' we has a few drinks.

"I seen what they was a lookin' fo' to git me lit up, so I kep' on drinkin' 'till I seen what they wan't likely fo' to set in they ownselfs, an' then we went round to that thar gamblin' house. I didn't say nothin' to them two 'bout the two decks I done fixed up the night afo', but I done had 'em with me, right whar I c'd git at 'em when they was needed."

"Yo' all 'pears to tooken a hellova lot o' trouble stackin yo' cyards afo' hand," observed Jim Blaisdell critically.

"Well, Jim," said Pearsall, apologetically, "I ain't 's slick 's yo' be in stackin', but they is one stunt what I c'n do tol'able well, an' I was reck'nin' on pullin' that un off 'thouten 'tractin' 'tention to it, like I'd be liable to if anybody was to be anyways 'spicious. I c'n put one deck place of another so 's 't nobody c'n see it did, but when it comes to 'rangin' the cyards in the shuffle I'm liable to git caught."

No Business to Be Caught.

"Yo' done right," said old man Greenlaw. "A man ain't got no business to play crooked if he's liable to be founded out. Go on with yo' story, Sam. Jim's on'y jealous."

"Well," said Pearsall, "they wa'n't no game on when we done went in, an' they was just nachully lookin' fo' me to play faro again, seein' what I'd p'tended to the night afo', but I says what I's some prej'diced in favor o' poker, an' I'd wait 'round a spell an' see if they wouldn't be a game.

"The gent what kep' the place sho' was accommodatin', an' when he done heard me say that he done spoke to fo' or five other gents what was sittin' 'round an' at wa'n't no time at all afo' they was a five-handed game made up with me settin' in."

At this point Mr. Pearsall seemed to think that his talk was told, and he called for the drinks. Then he sat down and busied himself with his pipe as if intending to say no more.

Old Greenlaw, however, had a different thought.

"What was did after that?" he asked.

"They was," said Pearsall. "I done tol'able well when I done slipped the red deck in on 'em, but when I perjuced the blue one I reckon they must a s'picioned. They didn't see nothin', nor they didn't say nothin', but they was leary o' bettin' an' I on'y took in a couple hundred on that deal, so I seen what the game was gittin' slow an' I cashed in."

"Good work," said old man Greenlaw.

570 FISHING CRAFT SUNK.

Loss of Life Totals 500, House of Commons Is Informed.

London, May 27.—The number of British fishing vessels destroyed since the beginning of the war by Great Britain's enemies was given as 570 by Francis D. Acland, financial secretary of the treasury, in the house of commons today.

The number of lives lost on these vessels was 500. Fishing has gone on as usual, within necessary restrictions.

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