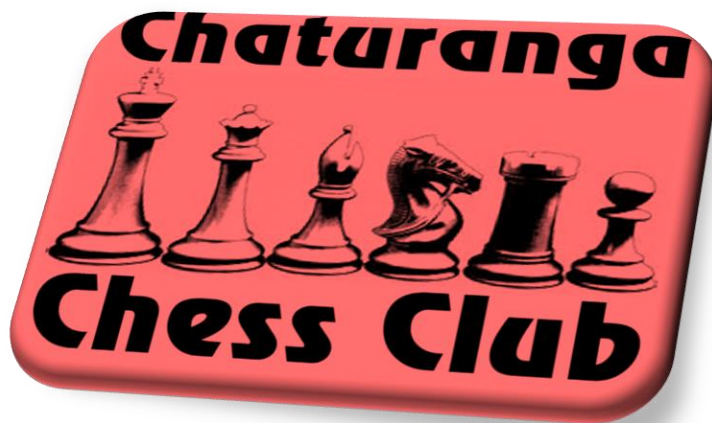


# Chaturanga Squared

The Chaturanga Chess Club Magazine.  
Editor-In-Chief – Stan Ward  
Vol. 2 Issue 1. January 2021



## Days of Future Past

### Frank J. Marshall: An American Original Pt. 4

By Stan Ward

..... At the conclusion of the St. Petersburg tournament Marshall continued travelling thru Europe that summer, playing in exhibition matches including a two-game match vs Teichmann in Berlin, and a small international event in Paris where he shared 1<sup>st</sup> place with Alekhine. On July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1914 the nineteenth Congress of the German Chess Union convened in Mannheim, Germany. Marshall, along with Réti, Spielmann, Alekhine, Bogoljubov, Janowski, and Tarrasch was present. Despite the gathering storm clouds of war, the contest went ahead. By July 31<sup>st</sup> Marshall had a score of 6-4 when he played Richard Reti.

Annotations by GM Andy Soltis.

#### F.J. Marshall vs R. Reti

Manheim, Germany. 1914  
Queens Gambit Declined, D56

1.d4  
d5  
2.c4  
e6

3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e3 0-0 6.Re1 Ne4  
7.Bxe7 Qxe7 8.cxd5 Nxc3 9.Rxc3 exd5  
10.Qc2 c6 11. Nf3 Nd7 1.Bd3 Nf6 13.0-0  
Bg4 14.Ne5 Bh5?

A perfectly natural idea - to exchange off the bishop from g6 that gets Black into hot water.

15.f4! Ne4

Now 15 . . . Bg6 would have been met by 16 f5 and other moves would

have invited the preparatory 16 h3 (or the immediate 16 g4). Now White cannot

capture twice on e4 because of 17 . . . f6. But he can play:

16.Bxe4 dxe4 17.g4 Bg6 18.f5 f6  
19.Nxg6 hxg6 20.fxg6 £5

21.gx f5 Qg5+ 22. Qg2 Rxf5  
23.Rxf5 Qxf5



24.Rc5! Qf6 25.Rh5!

Anticipating 25 . . . Rf8, which would now allow 26. Rh8+! and 27

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3. Hollywood Plays Chess.

Qh3+, mating. Note that the immediate 25 Qxe4 would allow 25 . . . Rf8 26 Qg2 Qe6! 27 e4 Rf6 28 Rg5 Qc4 with plenty of counter-play. Marshall never gives Black a chance now.

25 . . . Re8 26.Qg4! Re6 27.Rg5 Rd6 28.h4! Re6 29.h5 Re8 30.Rf5 Qe6 31. Rf4 Qd5 32 Qf5 1-0

By July 31<sup>st</sup> Marshall had a score of 6-4 when he beat David Janowski in a 62 move Slav Defense. The win put Marshall in 4<sup>th</sup> place with Reti and Breyer behind Alekhine 9<sup>1/2</sup> - 1<sup>1/2</sup>, Vidmar 8<sup>1/2</sup> - 2<sup>1/2</sup> and Spielmann 8-3. The weekend, which were free days for the players came but by then world events had taken over and the organizers

canceled the rest of the match. The players were paid their prize money in a prorated format. On Monday August 3<sup>rd</sup> Imperial German soldiers showed up, arresting all players from "enemy" countries, including Alekhine, Reti and Boglyubov. They were held in Rastatt, Germany. By the end of September, they were released and made their way home via Switzerland. Marshall, being from a "neutral" country, fled immediately describing in his book how he "made for the Dutch border and arrived in Amsterdam after many adventures. Usually a seven-hour trip, it took me 39 hours." He would not play in Europe for another 10 years.

As things deteriorated on the ground and the fighting increased the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey sadly remarked to a friend, "The lamps are going out all over Europe, we shall not see them lit again in our life-time". The carnage had begun and like a runaway train the heads of Europe didn't know how to stop the killing for 4 long years. The Great War saw the advent of barbed wire, the machine gun, tanks, air combat and poison gas. Artillery, in prior wars ineffective beyond about a mile could now bombard positions from distances of 15 miles with accuracy. The Germans had a rail gun, dubbed Big Bertha that threw 17inch shells into Paris from 20+ miles away. The conflict killed the old world, especially monarchies and saw the sinister rise of Communism. Its aftermath left a broken Europe that was ripe for the rise

of the modern totalitarian States in Russia, Italy and Germany.

For some of the participants the War forced them out of the game. Nimzovich didn't play again until 1920. The fate of Karl Schlechter was worse. Weakened by starvation, (the Allies had imposed a blockade on the Central Powers), he died of pneumonia in December 1918.

Because of the war, the years 1914-18 were lean for chess players. Marshall played in only 2 major events, a New York tournament in 1915 and again in New York in 1918. Capablanca played in both events winning each time.

The second New York tournament was also famous because Marshall played a variation in the Ruy Lopez that became known as the Marshall Attack, 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 O-O Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 O-O 8 c3 d5!? 9 exd5 Nxd5 10 Nxe5 Nxe5 11 Rxe5 Nf6.

Marshall played it against Capablanca in round 1 but was beaten by the future world champion. Ever the gentleman he said later of that encounter, *"With admirable courage and skill, Capa accepted my pawn sacrifice and defeated the attack, although playing against a prepared variation he had never seen before."* The gap between Capablanca and Marshall was beginning to widen. Still, years later Marshall found an improvement with the continuation 11. ...c6 and the gambit is played still.

**J.R. Capablanca vs F.J. Marshall**  
New York, USA. 1918.  
Ruy Lopez, Marshall Gambit C89.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. O-O Be7 6. Re1 b5 7. Bb3 O-O 8. c3 d5 9. exd5 Nxd5 10. Nxe5 Nxe5 11. Rxe5 Nf6 12. Re1 Bd6 13. h3 Ng4 14. Qf3 Qh4 15. d4 Nxf2 16. Re2 Bg4 17. hxg4 Bh2+ 18. Kf1 Bg3 19. Rxf2 Qh1+ 20. Ke2 Bxf2 21. Bd2 Bh4 22. Qh3 Rae8+ 23. Kd3 Qf1+ 24. Kc2 Bf2 25. Qf3 Qg1 26. Bd5 c5 27. dxc5 Bxc5 28. b4 Bd6 29. a4 a5 30. axb5 axb4 31. Ra6 bxc3 32. Nxc3 Bb4 33. b6 Bxc3 34. Bxc3 h6 35. b7 Re3 36. Qxf7+ Rxf7 37. b8=Q+ Kh7 38. Rxh6+ Kxh6 39. Qh8+ Kg6 40. Qh5# 1-0

Also, during the war years Marshall earned his income by traveling around the country playing simultaneous exhibitions. His biggest one was in Philadelphia at the Curtis Publishing Companies Auditorium where he played 129 games on December 26<sup>th</sup>, 1917. He went 97 wins, 23 draws and 9 losses. In addition, at this time he spent summers in Atlantic City where he played for money at "Youngs Old Pier" or at the Chess and Checker Divan on Million Dollar Pier.

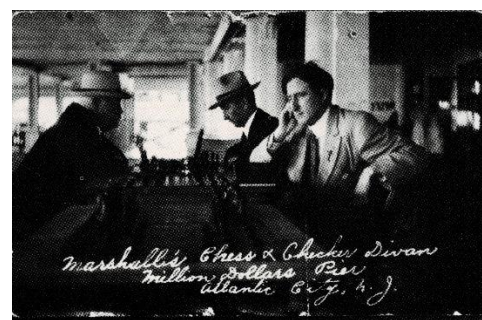


Photo postcard of Marshall in Atlantic City.

By the time The Great War ended Marshall had gotten into the habit of increasingly relying on simultaneous exhibitions for his financial stability and less on top level play. After the New

York tournament of 1918, where Marshall finished 3<sup>rd</sup>, most chess observers began to feel that not only was the gap between Capablanca and Marshall widening but that the gap between Marshall and other American masters was narrowing. Due to Marshall's heavy reliance on simuls for money Herman Helms, publisher of The American Chess Bulletin said referring to his apparent rustiness, "The probable explanation of his falling off in form unquestionably lies in the fact that he had limited his efforts in the past three years to exhibition chess." The war years and immediate post war years saw Marshall continue his play at Atlantic City in the summer months, but he also realized that to continue to make chess his vocation he needed to make changes. Thus was born the idea of the Marshall Chess Club.

New York in those days, as now, was the American Mecca of chess and thus the logical choice to set up shop. The club started out at a restaurant, Keen's Chop House, which was known for its famous clientele. Flo Ziegfeld, the Broadway showman, as well as banker J. P. Morgan and movie star John Barrymore frequented Keen's. "Marshall's Chess Divan" met in the back room. Life at Keen's didn't last long, and the club bounced around for a while, finally landing at 146 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street. During the next few years Marshall became friends with several wealthy amateurs in the New York city chess scene. Sometimes it's who you know, and these men found a building for sale at 135 W. 12th Street. They cobbled together funds and

bought it. The cost for purchase and renovations was \$45,000.00 in 1922 money. On November 21<sup>st</sup>, 1922 "Marshall's Chess Club" had its grand opening attended by Marshall, who gave a lecture and Capablanca. It was the first club to own its own building.

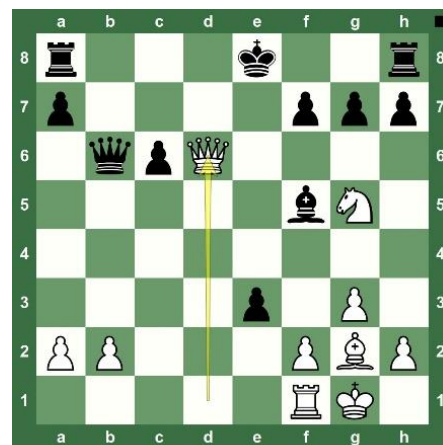
In Marshall's time there were no set rules to determine the US Champion. The champ had to be challenged to a match and then all stipulations agreed upon. In the 1890's there were numerous matches played for the US Championship but between 1898 and 1918 there was only one, Marshall – Showalter. Marshall completely dominated the US chess scene in those days but as he got older a new crop of young, strong challengers, sensing the old lions declining strength, started to challenge him. Enter Edward Lasker, a German master whom Marshall had met in Hamburg in 1910. Lasker emigrated to America on the eve of the Great War as a teenager and had recently won the Western Championship for the 5<sup>th</sup> time. Citing his recent play the 27-year-old Lasker challenged the 45-year-old Marshall. The prize fund was \$5,000, the time control was 30 moves in 2 hours with adjournment after 4 hours. The referee was Herman Helms, publisher of American Chess Bulletin.

### F.J. Marshall vs Edward Lasker

4<sup>th</sup> Match Game, Cleveland USA. 1923.  
QGD, Tarrasch Defense. D34.

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 e6 3. c4 c5 4. cxd5 exd5 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. g3 Nf6 7. Bg2 Be6 8. O-O Be7 9. dxc5 Bxc5 10. Bg5 d4 11. Bxf6 Qxf6 12. Ne4 Qe7

13. Nxc5 Qxc5 14. Rc1 Qb6 15. Ng5 Bf5 16. e4 dxe3 17. Rxc6 bxc6 18. Qd6...



...Bd7 19. Qe5+ Kf8 20. fxe3 f6 21. Rxf6+ gxf6 22. Qxf6+ Ke8 23. Qxh8+ Ke7 24. Qe5+ Kd8 25. h4 Kc8 26. Nf7 a5 27. Nd6+ Kb8 28. Nb5+ Kb7 29. Nd6+ Kb8 30. Qe7 Qc7 31. Qf8+ Ka7 32. Nb5+ Kb6 33. Qxa8 Kxb5 34. Bf1+ Kb4 35. Qf8+ c5 36. Qg7 c4 37. Kh2 Qc6 38. Qc3+ Kb5 39. Qb3+ 1-0

## CHESS PEACE

by Tony Sullivan



"Is there something you wanna tell me?"



## F.J. Marshall vs Edward Lasker

10<sup>th</sup> Match Game, Cleveland USA.1923.  
QGD, Tarrasch Defense. D34.

### Annotations by GM Andy Soltis

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 e6 3. c4 c5 4. cxd5  
exd5 5. Nc3 Nc6 6. g3 Nf6 7. Bg2  
Be7 8. Bg5 O-O 9. O-O h6

*A rare move which temporarily  
sacrifices the c-pawn.*

10. Bxf6 Bxf6 11. dxc5 Bxc3 12.  
bxc3 Be6 13. Nd4...

*This initiates a neat liquidation  
recommended by Tarrasch.*

...Qa5 14. e4 Qxc5 15. Nb3 Qxc3  
16. Rc1 Qb4 17. exd5 Rad8 18.  
Nc5 Bg4 19. a3!

*The endgame (unavoidable because  
of 19... Q x a3 20. Q x g4) favors  
the passed c-pawn unless it can be  
blockaded by the knight.*

19... Qxc5 20. Rxc5 Bxd1 21. Rx  
d1 Rd6 22. Re1 Nd8

*Lasker wrote in the American Chess  
Bulletin that 22... Nd4 gave Black  
"the better game, e.g., 23 Rc7 a6 24  
Rxb7 Nc2." However, 23 Re4! Nf5 24  
Rb4 or 23... b6 24 Rc7 still favors  
White.*

23 Re7 Kh7 24 Be4+ g6 25 Rcc7  
Kg7 26 f4! h5 27 a4 Kf6 28 Kf2  
Rb6 29 Red7 Rb2+ 30 Bc2?

*A blunder that allows 30... Nc6!,  
cutting communication on the c-file  
(31. dxc6 Rxc2+ ). With 30 Ke3 White  
is ready for 31 Rd6+ Kg7 32 R x g6+ !*

30... Kg7? 31 Ke3 a5 32 Rd6!  
Kg8 33 Kd2 b6 34 Rcd7! (see  
diagram)



Position after 34. Rcd7

*A resign-able position. Black can  
play with only one piece.*

34... Ne6 35. dxe6 fxe6 36. Kc1  
Rb4 37. Rxe6 Rc8 38. Rxc6+ Kf8  
39. Rh6 Kg8 40. Kd1 Resigns.

Marshall won the match 9 ½ to 8  
½ but after dominating US chess  
for so long the closeness of the  
contest prompted the British  
Chess Magazine to declare, "The  
old dash and enterprise are  
missing."

To be continued.

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1. Marshall's Best Games of  
Chess. By Frank Marshall.
2. Frank Marshall, United States  
Chess Champion. A Biography  
with 220 Games. By GM Andy  
Soltis. Pages 225-260.



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"Would you mind terribly if I took back my last three moves?"

## CHESS PEACE



© Sullivan

Cartoons by Tony Sullivan

# The 65<sup>th</sup> Square.

## Games from Chaturanga Club Members.

Club member Joe Mucerino didn't let Covid stop him from playing competitive chess over the summer. When things began to open again in America Joe got on his chess horse and started playing wherever the chess was. If Joe ever writes a book, he should call it "On The Road". Apologies to Jack Kerouac.

The following game is from a tournament held in lower Bucks County by Bela Kis, who runs the Lower Bucks Chess Academy.

Opening comments in red by Joe Mucerino.

Finally, I found a place to play in Pennsylvania in this COVID era of chess. In late July, Bela Kis ran a scholastic event at Forsythia Crossing Park in Levittown. Save for some extra rated games, that was the first USCF rated tournament of any kind in Pennsylvania since everything began to open from coronavirus. I'm friends with him, so I asked him to run some quads that everyone can play in, and he did. So, this was the first truly open tournament in Pennsylvania since the quads in

York on March 15, won by yours truly. (For those of you who love to look at cross tables, the West Chester March Madness tournament was entered with incorrect playing dates, so it looks like it finished after York, although it really didn't).

The last time I played outside in a park was in 2002, at Bingham Park in Hawley in the Poconos. We played in a large gazebo there, and there were six baseball diamonds, all with a game going on at the same time! It was quite a scene. Forsythia Crossing Park was not on that scale, but there were several picnic tables (one in a pavilion) that we played on. Masks were not required.

Not only was this the first tournament in Pennsylvania that I've played in since coronavirus, but Levittown was a town in Pennsylvania that I had never played in before. I keep track of the towns in Pennsylvania that I've played in (I don't tally out-of-state places), and Levittown is Pennsylvania town #107 for me.

Annotations by Joe Mucerino.

### NM B. Kis 2209 vs J. Mucerino 2050 Forsythia Park 2<sup>nd</sup> Tournament, Round 1

1.Nf3 d5 2. g3 c6 3. Bg2 Nd7 4.0-0 e5 5.d3 f5 6.c4 dxc4 7.dxc4 Ngf6 8.Qc2 g6 9.b3 Qc7

Black wants to avoid 8...Bg7 9. Ba3. Black could have played 8...Bd6 or 8...Bc5 instead.

10.Rd1 Bc5 11. Nc3 0-0 12.Na4 Be7 13.Bh6 Re8 14.c5 Nf8 15.b4...



At the board, I was afraid of 15. Ng5, but black is fine after 15...Ne6 16. Qc4 Bf8.

15...Ng4 16. Bc1 Bf6 17. Rb1?

White needed to beat black to the punch by playing 17.e4 himself.

17...e4 18. Bf4?

The computer wasn't thrilled about this move. The bishop should have gone to b2 sometime in the future.

18...Qg7 19. Ng5 h6 20.Qc4+ Ne6  
21.Nxe6 Bxe6 22.Qc2 Bd4 23.e3  
Bf6 24.a3 Qf7

With the idea of 25...Ba2 26.  
Rbc1 Bb3.

25.h3 Ne5 26. Bf1

White is hoping to pin my queen to my king sometime down the road.

26...Kh7?!

The computer says black is winning after 26...Nf3+ with a long computer line.

27.b5 Rad8 28. bxc6 bxc6 29. Rb4  
Rxd1 30. Qxd1 Nf3+ 31.Kg2 Rd8?!



The computer prefers a king assault with 31...g5.

32.Bd6 Bd5 33. Qc2??

Time pressure. Kis was down to his last minute.

33...Ne1+ 0-1

J. Mucerino 2050 vs D. Girsh 2172  
Forsythia Park 2nd Tournament,  
Round 2, August 8, 2020

1.d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3.e3 c5 4.c3  
Nc6 5.Bd3

It is possible to capture on c5, however, I have not had too much success in that line recently. Girsh, like me, won his first-round game, so whoever won this game was guaranteed a tie for first place. Therefore, I played a line that I was more confident about.

5...g6 6. Nbd2 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0  
8.dxc5

Although I captured the pawn at this point, I wasn't going to bend over backwards to keep it.

8...a5 9. a4 Qc7 10. e4 Rd8  
11.Qe2 e5?!

Not best, because it allows 12.  
exd5 (what I should have done)  
Nxd5 13. Nc4 and 14.Nd6.



12.Re1 Be6 13. Ng5 Bg4 14.f3 Bc8

After the game, Girsh said he was happy to that he made me play 14.f3, but I don't think it's

that bad, if the knight on g5 can go there.

15.exd5 Nxd5 16. Bc4

Not bad, but the computer prefers Nc4-d6.

16...h6 17. Nge4 b6 18. Nb3 Be6  
19.Qf2 Rab8?

The computer does not like this move, probably because white can consolidate his extra pawn. The machine preferred 19...Nce7, and now the pawn on c5 is pinned.

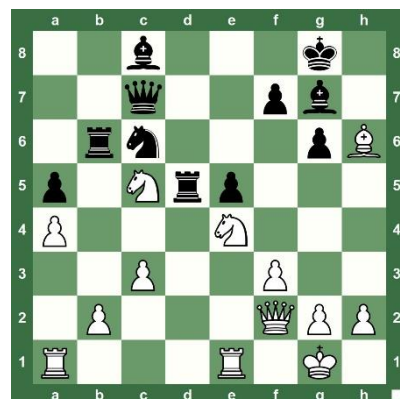
20.cxb6 Rxb6 21. Nbc5?!

Perhaps putting the other knight on c5 was better since it can no longer be kicked by ...f5.

21...Bc8?

This blunders a second pawn.

22.Bxd5 Rxd5 23. Bxh6...



...Ne7 24. Bxg7 Kxg7 25.Rad1 f5  
26.Rxd5 Nxd5 27.Ng5 Qe7 28.h4

The computer really liked the very ugly 28. Nh3, keeping black's knight out of f4.

28...Nf4 29. Rd1



Missing 29. Nd7, or, more accurately, missing that it was playable. I think I had about five minutes left on the clock, and I was afraid that things might get complicated in time pressure after 29...Rxb2 30. Qxb2 Nd3, so I just wanted to keep everything under control.

29...Qc7 30. Kh1 Nh5 31.b4 axb4 32.cxb4 f4?

Of course not 32...Rxb4 because of either Ne6+. Better is 32...Rd6 or 32...Qe7.

33. b5?!

Missing the very strong 33. Qa2! still looking at e6.

33...Rd6 34. Rc1 Ng3+ 35.Kg1 Qd8 36.Qe1 Kg8 37.Nce4 Nxe4 38.Nxe4 Rd4 39.a5 Bf5 40.Ng5 Rd5 41.b6 Qa8 42.Ra1?!

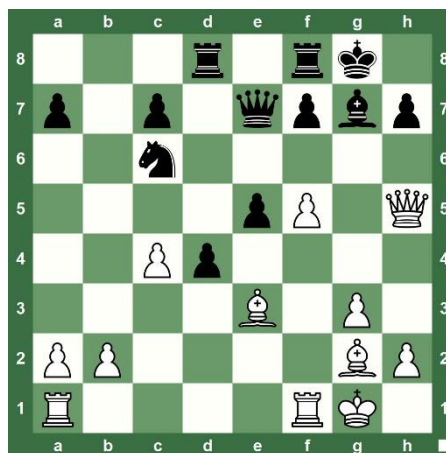
Even stronger is 42. Qb4! If either piece captures on a5, then 43. Qe7 leads to mate.

42...Qa6 43.Ne4 Kg7 44.Qc3 Qe2 45.Re1 Qa6 46.Qc7+ Bd7 47.b7 Qa7+ 48.Qb6 Qb8 49.a6 Rb5 50.a7 Qf8 51.Qxb5 Bxb5 52.bsQ Qb4 53.Qc7+ Kh6 54.Qc3 Qa4 55.Ra1 Qd4+ 56.Qxd4 exd4 57.asQ Kg7 58.Ra7+ Kh6 59.Qh8# 1-0



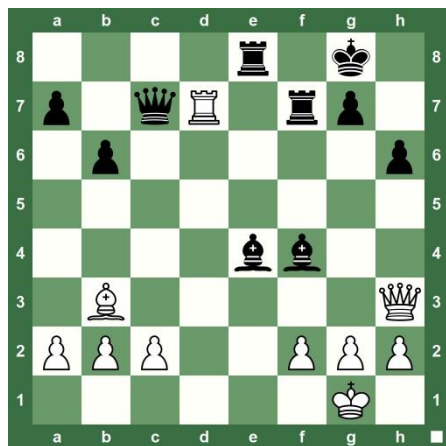
## Tactics, Tactics, Tactics.

### More Diamond Dust!



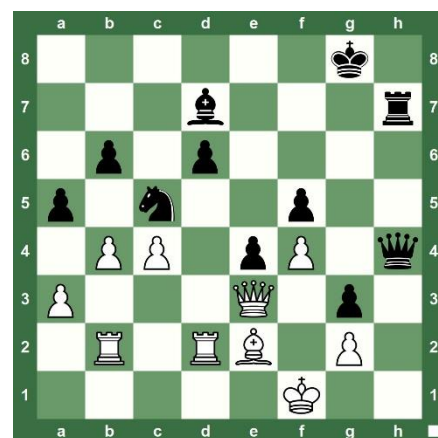
#1. J. Amador vs D. Rensch

2000 World Open. White to move.



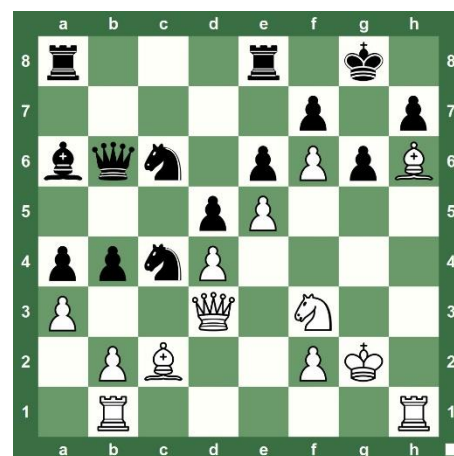
#2. J. Peters vs M. Dlugy

1984 US Ch. Black to move.



#3. P. Keres vs T. Petrosian

1959 Bled. Black to move.



#4. A. Dunnington vs A. Kuznecov

1985 Lloyds Bank Masters. White to move.

Answers.

#1. 20.f6 Bxf6 21. Be4 Rfe8 22.Qxh7+ 1-0

#2. ...B d5! Black threatens both 2. ...Qxd7 and 2. ...Re1 mate.

#3. 1. ...Qxf4 +

#4. 1. B g7 h5 2. Rxh5 gxh5 3. Qh7

# HOLLYWOOD PLAYS CHESS!



**"The Black Cat" from 1934 starring Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosi. The first of 8 movies the two horror actors made together. In "The Black Cat", Lugosi's character is forced to play Karloff's character a game of chess, the stakes being a young girl's life. Directed by Edgar Ulmer.**



