

1900 – 1929

THE HARTFORD DAILY COURANT: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1900.

Chess Club.
The New Britain chess players have taken the first steps toward forming a permanent organization. A committee of three, A. Carlson, Ralph Myerson and William Middlemass, has been appointed to secure rooms. The club has assurance of twenty-two members.

NEW BRITAIN NEWS. (1900, Nov 20). *The Hartford Courant (1887-1922)*
Retrieved from Access to ProQuest databases provided by the Connecticut State Library - ProQuest

THE HARTFORD DAILY COURANT: SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1901.

Chess Club Officers.
The New Britain Chess and Checker Club has organized with thirty-three members and elected the following officers: President, John H. Kirkham; vice-president, Carl Ebbeson; secretary, Ralph Myerson; treasurer, Isaac Porter; directors, William Middlemass, M. P. Leghorn and W. A. Carlson.

NEW BRITAIN NEWS. (1901, Jan 26). *The Hartford Courant (1887-1922)*
Retrieved from Access to ProQuest databases provided by the Connecticut State Library - ProQuest

NEW BRITAIN NEWS: GAS METERS ROBBED TWO ALARMS FOR SMALL FIRES ...

The Hartford Courant (1887-1922); Dec 2, 1901; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Hartford Courant

pg 12

NEW BRITAIN NEWS.

Chess and Checkers.

The chess and checker club invites lovers of these games to make application for membership at once before the annual midwinter tournaments commence. The club now numbers forty members and has recently reduced its dues one-half, so that they are now practically nominal. It has quarters in Breton's block, 303 Main street, and by a recent vote has allowed whist and other card games to be played. Experts have volunteered to give instructions on certain nights to those who wish to learn the fine points of chess and checkers.

A checker match with Bristol will take place soon and a chess match with Meriden or Hartford is expected to be arranged. Applications for membership may be made by letter or to any of the members.

THE HARTFORD DAILY COURANT:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1902.

Chess and Checkers.

There is a great deal of interest being taken in the chess and checker tournament now being held by the local club. The players are divided into three classes, so as to equalize skill, as far as possible. In Class A at chess H. Ring, William Middlecomes and J. H. Kirkham are all tied with one and one-half games won and lost. In Class B are Isaac Porter, Charles Gustafson, A. W. Carlson, M. P. Leghorn, J. A. Johnson and Ralph Myerson. In Class C are M. Greenberg and C. P. Pritchard.

The checker tournament is arousing equal interest and the entries are numerous. Each player will play seven games with the other players. The tournament will continue for several weeks.

THE HARTFORD DAILY COURANT,

THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1905.

HOW KIRKHAM BEAT BOSTON MAN AT CHESS.

Score of the Game New Britain Man Played Memorial Day.

The following is the score and the result of the game of chess Memorial Day in Boston in the Greater Boston vs. All New England match, played between John H. Kirkham of New Britain, a member of the Hartford Chess Club, and C. C. Lee of the Boston Press Club:-

White Lee.	Black Kirkham.
1-P-K 4.	P-K 4
2-Kt-K R 3	Kt-Q B 3
3-B-Q Kt 5	Kt-K B 3
4-P-Q 4	Kt x P
5-P-Q 5	Kt-Q B (a)
6-Kt x Kt	P x Kt
7-Q x P	Kt-K B 3
8-Castles	B-K 2
9-B-K B 4	Castles
10-P-Q 6	B x P
11-R x R	P x B
12-Q x P	R-K
13-B-B 4	P-Q Kt 3
14-Kt-Q B 2	B-Kt 3
15-Q-R-Q	Q R-Q B
16-H-Kt 2	Q-K 2
17-H-K R 3	QxQ
18-H x Q	R-H 4
19-P-H 2	Q R-K 2
20-Kt-B 2	K R-K 2
21-K R-Q	H-B 3
22-Kt-Kt 8q	K-B
23-P-Q R 4	(Q) R-K B 4
24-Kt-Q 2	Q R-K 4
25-Kt-B 4	R-K B 4
26-Q-JL-Q 6	Kt-K 5 ch
27-K-Kt	K-B
28-Kt-Q 8	R-Kt 4
29-Kt-B 2	Kt x B
30-P x Kt	R-K 7
31-H-Kt 4	R x R
32-R P x R	B x K B P
33-K-Kt 3	B-Q B 3
34-R-K R	RNP ch
35-K-R 2	R x Kt P
36-H x P ch	R x Kt
37-R 7	R x P ch
38-K-B 4	P-K R 3
39-R-K ch	K-R 2
40-H-K 7	B-Kt 7
41-P-Kt 5	P x P ch
42-K x P	B-P 6
43-K-R 1	H-R 2
44-Kt-K 3	K-R 3
45-Signs.	
(a) should Kt-Kt	

THE HARTFORD DAILY COURANT.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1905.

CITY MEN WIN AT CHESS. -

Defeat Out of Town Players in First Match.

The city chess players defeated the out of town team at the Hartford Chess Club last night, 9 to 8. Each team had previously won a match and the score was tied at 2½ points. In the fall the local club will have tournaments with players from Springfield and New Haven. Next Thursday night there will be a checker contest here between city and out of town players. The games last night resulted as follows:

J. W. Haymond, 6; J. H. Kirkham, New Britain, 1;
J. N. Olmsted, 1; W. M. Fowler, New Britain, 0.
H. J. Loescher, 1; L. W. Harvey, West Hartford, 0.
J. C. Johnson, 1; A. Wahleberg, Suffield, 0.
A. G. Powers, 0; J. H. Peck, Bristol, 1.
P. F. Miller, 0; H. M. Grant, South Windsor, 1.
Samuel Wilson, 0; F. M. Bidwell, Rockhampton, 1.
R. O. Huntington, 1; W. E. Noble, East Hartford, 0.
A. Bell, 0; F. H. Maginn, Silver Lane, 1.
C. A. Deane, 1; H. H. Hastings, Rockhampton, 0.
George E. Avery, 0; F. H. Hathaway, Suffield, 1.
William G. Downen, 1; L. P. Newberry, South Windsor, 0.
F. A. Beward, 1; John Kentz, Rockhampton, 0.
F. H. Wright, 0; C. A. Fisher, West Hartford, 1.
Russell Smith, 1; R. W. McCrea, West Hartford, 0.
E. S. Taylor, 0; W. G. Newberry, South Windsor, 1.
H. O. Huntington, 1; H. C. Webster, West Hartford, 0.

CITY MEN WIN AT CHESS. (1905, Jun 10). *The Hartford Courant* (1887-1922)
Retrieved from Access to ProQuest databases provided by the Connecticut State Library - ProQuest

NEW BRITAIN'S GAY DECEIVING

Special to The Courant

The Hartford Courant (1887-1922); Jun 3, 1908;
pg. 13

: COACHMAN: Was Liberal in His Attentions ...

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Hartford Courant

Chess Men's Outing.

The New Britain Chess Club is planning to hold a meeting in the near future to arrange for its annual summer outing. It is the custom of the club to go out for a sail on the Sound, but this year it is proposed to take an automobile ride to some shore resort instead.

Special to, T. C. (1908, Jun 03). NEW BRITAIN'S GAY DECEIVING COACHMAN. *The Hartford Courant* (1887-1922)
Retrieved from Access to ProQuest databases provided by the Connecticut State Library - ProQuest

THE HARTFORD DAILY COURANT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1909.

CAPABLANCA HERE TODAY.

Candidate for World's Championship at Chess.

José R. Capablanca of New York, former chess champion of Cuba, will come to this city today and play at the Hartford Chess Club tonight. He will be entertained by Judge J. H. Kirkham of New Britain during the day and over night. An invitation is extended to all chess lovers to see Capablanca play tonight. He is now on an extensive tour of the United States, Canada, Mexico and Panama, as he desires to see more of his adopted country and will not return to Cuba. At present, he is in his twentieth year. When 14 years old, he held the championship of Cuba. Coming to this country to attend Columbia University, four years ago, Capablanca, in the interval, while in constant touch with the best talent in New York, established more

than a local reputation. His particular forte is an extraordinary quick sight of the board and because of his precocious tendencies while a boy he was hailed as a second Paul Morphy. As a simultaneous player he has made records equal to the best feats of the greatest masters.

As an accomplished exponent of rapid transit chess, Capablanca has been a notable success. All told, the young master participated in nine of the Manhattan Chess Club's knockout tournaments under a time limit of twenty seconds to a move, winning six of them. In one of these events, Dr. Emanuel Lasker had to content himself with second place. His record of simultaneous chess comprises 185 games played, of which he won 85, lost five and drew 95. Playing for Columbia University against the Manhattan Chess Club, Capablanca, at the top board, won his game from A. W. Fox, and on another occasion drew with E. Holmes in a match against the Brooklyn Chess Club. It is asserted by his enthusiastic admirers that it will not be long before Capablanca will be a candidate for the world's championship honors.

THE ROYAL
GAME OF
CHESS.

Edited by
David A.
Mitchell.

A number of interesting and closely contested games have been played in the local Chess Gambit tourney, during the past week. J. H. Kirkham still occupies first place with 13½ won and 1½ lost. Kirkham and C. H. Pasternack played their games at New Britain, the first game resulting in a win for Kirkham, while the second game was drawn. A. G. Powers, who stands second in the tournament, increased his score considerably by defeating W. H. English in both rounds. Powers is making a great fight for first place and should Kirkham fail to continue to play up to his standard, Powers would have an excellent chance of winning the first prize. Powers has a score of 12 wins and 2 losses. Pasternack won two games from Mitchell, giving him a comfortable hold on third place, with 9½ games won and 2½ lost. Mitchell and King contested their games in the early part of the week. Mitchell winning the first in twenty-six moves, the second game being adjourned at the end of the thirty-second move, with the position in favor of King. The scores to date—

	Won.	Lost.
J. H. Kirkham	13½	1½
A. G. Powers	12	2
C. H. Pasternack	9½	3½
E. A. Humphrey	4½	3½
D. A. Mitchell	4	2
H. King	6½	6½
G. A. Pease	3	0
H. Y. Beardley	3	0
J. W. Hayman	2	10½
C. T. Thompson	1½	5
W. H. English	1	21
R. Webster	0	2
F. R. Wright	0	0

Meriden Chess Club.

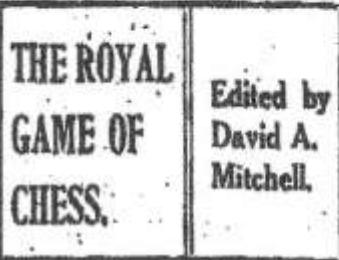
Responding to an invitation to visit the Meriden Chess Club, M. W. O'Konski, W. H. English and D. A. Mitchell, members of the Hartford Chess Club, went to Meriden last week, not so much for the glory of supremacy, as to establish closer relations between the two clubs; and the Hartford representatives were greatly impressed at the splendid reception accorded them.

The Meriden club is a private organization composed of a number of prominent Meriden gentlemen, who meet occasionally, more for the purpose of good, social fellowship and friendship, than for the mere driving for honors over the chess board.

A number of games were played and a simultaneous exhibition given by Mitchell and the Hartford club. The spirit of good fellowship prevailed to such an extent as to overcome all idea of combat, and when the time came for the visitors to depart, no one present was able to remember just how the score stood. In the evening the visitors were treated to one of Dr. Faistold's famous suppers, during which the doctor related a score of unusual tales and, following the supper, the orchestra, composed of Professor Gustav Kubitschek, Robert H. Paquet and Fred W. Lorenz, rendered a number of selections in faultless style. The Meriden members present were: Gustav Hansen, Dr. H. L. Faistold, F. Tokel, Professor Gustav Kubitschek, George Buechner, Louis P. Bauer, Chris Silber, Robert H. Paquet, and F. C. Kroeker.

From the

THE HARTFORD DAILY COURANT, FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1911.



Hartford Defeats New Britain.

The second match of the season between the Hartford and New Britain chess clubs was played last week at the New Britain Club and resulted in a victory for the local representatives by the score of $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$. The games were closely contested throughout. The game between J. J. Cox and J. H. Kirkham was particularly interesting and finally resulted in a draw. H. Bing, by defeating W. Middleman two games, won the match for Hartford.

This makes the second victory for the local team, the first match being won, 2 to 1. The third will be played this evening at the rooms of the Hartford Chess Club. The scores:

Hartford.		
	Won.	Lost.
J. J. Cox	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
G. H. Pasternack	1	1
H. Bing	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
W. G. Dowes	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
D. A. Mitchell	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
Total	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$

New Britain.		
	Won.	Lost.
J. H. Kirkham	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
W. M. Fowler	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
W. Middleman	0	$\frac{1}{2}$
G. P. Dunham	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
Total	$2\frac{1}{2}$	

THE HARTFORD DAILY COURANT, TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1912.

INTER-CITY CHESS GAMES.

Hartford to Play New Britain and Springfield.

The winter season at the Hartford Chess Club is in full swing. The rooms of the club are crowded almost every evening and many interesting games are being played by the fervent students. It is to be recorded with a certain pleasure that more outsiders have been visiting the club recently than ever before. The royal game is very popular in Hartford and this augurs well for the local club. A score of matches with the New Britain Chess Club will possibly take place soon and it is also likely that the local players will go to Springfield, which can boast of an extremely strong chess club. It is also proposed to have a number of simultaneous exhibitions, each member to have his turn and so be given an opportunity to establish his reputation as a simultaneous player. The first exhibition of this kind was given on Saturday night by Charles H. Pasternack, who encountered three players, W. H. English, J. McCreary and J. Gleibman. While the game with Mr. English was still in progress, Mr. Pasternack managed to win two games from Mr. McCreary and three from Mr. Gleibman. Having finally defeated Mr. English, Mr. Pasternack made a score of six possible wins. These exhibitions are both interesting and instructive and the Hartford Chess Club extends an invitation to all chess players of Hartford and vicinity to attend these exhibitions and make them still more interesting by participating in them. It is to be hoped that non-members will take full advantage of the real enjoyment offered by the local club at its headquarters.

Chess.

In view of the fact that "The Court" chess solving tournaments were participated in by solvers from all parts of the United States, it will be particularly gratifying to the chess players of Connecticut to know that all of the prize winners are residents of this state. William H. English of New Britain, with the excellent score of forty-one, out of a possible forty-three points, has captured the first prize in the major tourney. The second prize in this section goes to William M. Fowler of Hartford, the well known composer, who runs Mr. English's close second, with thirty-seven points. E. Bergman of New Britain is third with thirty-five points, to whom is given honorable mention.

In the minor tourney, Stanley C. Williams of this city emerged winner with a perfect score of eight points, while A. B. Beach of Terryville gets honorable mention and second place in this division, with six points to his credit.

The highest praise is due Mr. English, winner of the first prize, a set of Staunton chessmen, for his excellent solving ability. The problems in the major tourney were exceedingly difficult, and a great many of them have been entered in other contests in all parts of the world, and have proven stumbling blocks to scores of expert solvers. Mr. English solved every problem correctly, obtaining the solutions to all of them with the exception of No. 8; Mr. English got two solutions to this problem instead of three.

Although Mr. English has been interested in chess since his boyhood days, he did not attempt solving until about three years ago, when he joined the Hartford Chess Club. He has proved a valuable addition to the club, by his good work in the annual matches with Yale University and the Waterbury Chess Club and has gained the respect of his clubmates by his quiet, unassuming manner.

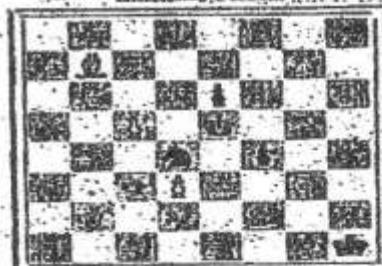
Mr. Fowler, to whom is awarded the second prize, a pocket chess board, also deserves great credit. He is a solver and composer of uncommon ability and his compositions have been greatly admired by readers of this column.

Edward Bergman, who receives honorable mention in the major tourney, has made an admirable record since this was his first experience in a solving contest.

Stanley C. Williams of Hartford, winner of the minor tourney, receives a pocket chess board for his remarkable showing. Mr. Williams solved every problem in the minor tourney correctly, and will hereafter be classed with the expert solvers.

A. B. Beach of Terryville, who re-

this column, "It has an unlockable for Roy-moves and blinding variations.
 Problem No. 180,
 (By William M. Fowler.)
 White—5 pieces.



White Mate in Three Moves.

White—King at K7, Rook at K3B, Queen at Q3 and QK7, Pawn at Q3 and Q8.

Black—King at K4, Knight at Q6, Pawns at KB8 and K8.

The solution to the end-game published last week is Q—Q4! this forces K—K5, K—Q5 and QK12 until it reaches QK10, when Black must then play K—K10 and White replies Q—Q1 mate.

College Chess Turners.

New York, Dec. 8.—Edward A. Caswell, Yale '88, secretary of the inter-collegiate committee in charge of the annual chess tournament between Columbia, Harvard, Yale and Princeton, announced yesterday that the forthcoming meeting during the Christmas holidays, the twenty-first of the month, will be held at the Hotel Hill, Hotel in the city on the three days preceding Christmas, December 22, 23 and 24. Of late years the games have been held at the West Side Republican Club, but this year a change became necessary. The play hours will be 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. on each of the first two days, and from 1 p. m. to 8 p. m. on the third day. The quartets from each university will engage in a series of team-matches on four boards, in which every member of each team will be required to play three games. In the team getting the highest aggregate of points will be awarded the custody of the inter-collegiate chess cup, now in possession of Columbia. The members listed below you find the teams with: Secretary Caswell, Hartman Holm and Julius Finn have been invited to act as referees of the tournament. So far, Harvard has won nine of the tournaments, Columbia eight, and Yale and Princeton each one. In addition, there was a tie between Harvard and Yale, which was not decided.

W. H. Kahn Back from Canada.

Upon his return from a hunting trip in Canada last week, Felix W. Kahn, treasurer of the New York-Lavanya International Chess Masters' tournament, which had to be abandoned last month at once took the implement situation in hand. Pending matters here, in a most unsatisfactory condition, Mr. Kahn declared that he had decided to discontinue the proposed International tournament, and that he stood ready to refund the money received as subscriptions to the congress fund. This list includes a number of foreign subscribers who will be reimbursed immediately. To the American subscribers on the other hand, letters will be sent asking their co-operation in arranging another American national tournament, something on the scale of the one held in New York early this fall, on which won F. J. Marshall, with F. Capablanca second. If favorable responses are received, prompt steps will be taken to invite the leading players of the country to take part in the

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Total Points
W. H. English	2	4	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	4	2	2	1	2	1	2	41
W. M. Fowler	2	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	32
E. Bergman	2	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	32
D. G. Dolan	2	4	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	32
T. G. Cass	2	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	32
Boston Pease	2	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	32
W. T. P.	2	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	32

CHESS CHAMPION TO PLAY HERE FRIDAY: Frank Marshall Will Give Exhibition at Room
The Hartford Courant (1887-1922); Dec 6, 1914; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Hartford Courant
pg. Z1

CHESS CHAMPION TO PLAY HERE FRIDAY

Frank Marshall Will Give
Exhibition at Rooms of
Hartford Chess Club.

Frank James Marshall, chess champion of the United States, and famous the world over as an international player of uncommon resource and daring in the big tournament of the masters, is coming here next week on his way home to Brooklyn, after having toured New York state and Canada. The exact date set for the visit of the expert, who, at Cambridge Springs, ten years ago, wrested the first prize from Dr. Lasker, the world's champion, is next Friday. In that tournament, with the flower of European and American chess skill participating, the American master did not lose a single game. That gives an indication of what he is capable of at a pinch. Besides he has many other laurels in international play to his credit.

On Friday afternoon and evening the rooms of the Hartford Chess Club at No. 847 Main street will be placed at the disposal of the visiting champion, who will be prepared to meet all comers in simultaneous play. The expense of his engagement will be met by charging a fee to each player who takes a board against the master and

through voluntary subscriptions. The exhibition will be free to all who choose to drop in and witness the play. Throughout his tour of New York state he was received with great enthusiasm and the same was the case in Canada, where in Montreal he spent several years as a young man. In fact, he played his first serious chess in Montreal, but developed into a master player at the Brooklyn and Manhattan Chess Clubs. During his present tour he played at Kingston, Utica, Troy, Schenectady, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Hamilton, Toronto and Montreal. He is due in Boston Monday and Tuesday.

Marshall is a native American, 87 years old, having been born in New York city August 21, 1877.

CHESS CHAMPION SHOWS HIS SPEED

Defeats Even Dozen Crack Hartford Players.

DR. G. P. DUNHAM MAKES ONLY DRAW

Several Give Him Good Battle In Simultaneous Play.

Frank J. Marshall of Brooklyn, undisputed chess champion of the United States, was the guest of the Hartford Chess Club last evening, and what he did not do to the champions of Hartford and vicinity at simultaneous playing was not worth mentioning. He made them all "eat checkers" except Dr. G. P. Dunham of Bristol, the champion of that city and a renowned player of this state, who managed to draw with the champion.

Mr. Marshall was late in arriving in Hartford, coming from Providence about 6 o'clock. He spent about two hours with J. H. Kirkham, president of the local chess club, and in that time, Mr. Kirkham succeeded in drawing with the champion. Mr. Kirkham had an advantage, but the time for play had run out, so the game was at hand, and a draw was called. Thirteen tables were all that could be filled on account of the large crowd present to watch the game. Several players resigned after not more than a dozen moves, the difficulty of the champion's play and the ease with which he forced his opponents into corners from which they had all kinds of trouble extricating themselves was almost uncanny. He smoked several long, thin black cigarettes while he was playing, and when he was presented with an especially knotty problem, he puffed like a steam engine. He looked more like an actor or a school teacher from the West than he did like a chess player, but his playing was like that of the latter. He was never at a loss for a move, and many times he moved entirely opposite from what his opponent believed he would move, thus disconcerting his opponent and throwing him off his calculation.

After nearly two hours' play, but three boards were left out of the original thirteen. These were Dr. Dunham, Edward W. O'Konski and Mr. Kirkham. The latter resigned when he got the king cornered up and only a castle and knight to defend. Interest then centered upon the two remaining players. Dr. Dunham drew when he had a two-way move which the champion could not break up. Neither could checkmate the other, so a draw was declared.

Mr. O'Konski, who had table No. 13, then had the champion to himself, and at last he sat down for the first time to really enjoy the game. Mr. O'Konski had three chances to make the game a draw, and at one time had a chance to win, according to several players, but the very disconcerting play made by the champion threw Mr. O'Konski off his guard and this finally caused him to resign. He made seventy-one moves.

The score of the opponents:

- 1—J. H. Kirkham—Resigned.
- 2—W. M. Fowlkes—(2) Resigned, 8 moves.
- 3—Dr. G. P. Dunham—Draw—34 moves, Queen's Knight opening.
- 4—Harry Ring—Resigned after 11 moves.
- 5—W. H. English—Lost after 22 moves.
- 6—Edgar Harris—Lost—moves not counted.
- 7—Sol Berman (2) Resigned after 8 moves. Resigned—moves not counted.
- 8—Charles Pasternack—Lost—moves not counted.
- 9—Howard Bidwell—Lost after 21 moves.
- 10—Dr. W. G. Downes—Lost, moves not counted.
- 11—Charles Newberry—(2) Resigned after 6 moves. Lost, moves not counted.

12—C. J. Bray—(2) Resigned after 7 moves. Lost after 21 moves.

13—Edward W. O'Konski—Resigned after 71 moves.

Dr. Dunham was rewarded for drawing with the champion by having a six months' subscription for the Chess Bulletin given to him.

The chess club will hold a duplicate whist tournament in the club rooms this afternoon at 3 o'clock, play ending at 5:30 o'clock.

CAPABLANCA TALKS AND PLAYS CHESS: Expert Player from Cuba Defeats All Comers
The Hartford Courant (1887-1922); Dec 4, 1918; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Hartford Courant
pg. 9

CAPABLANCA TALKS AND PLAYS CHESS

Expert Player from Cuba Defeats All Comers.

Capablanca, the great Cuban chess player, met local chess players last evening at Unity Hall. Before the games, which were held in the lower hall, Jose R. Capablanca, who is considered one of the greatest modern experts in chess, gave a brief talk to the fifty or more of his audience.

He said that the principles underlying the game of chess were comparatively but little understood. Sixty years ago, Paul Morphy, said to have been one of the most brilliant players who ever lived, made a wonderful record for himself. Morphy apparently played with a reckless brilliancy. This was because many of his opponents made moves that were bad for them, went openings that allowed Morphy to overcome their resistance speedily. Capablanca said that when modern experts studied the games played by Morphy, it was evident that he was apparently applying these underlying principles, possibly without being aware of the fact.

The Cuban champion said that he had, himself, evolved, or worked out these principles, and hoped to write a book, explaining them, their significance and application. When they were understood, chess could be learned and would be a much more relatively simple matter than it was now thought to be. He spoke about the player that learned a few openings, which he applied in studied form. That when such a player got into the crucial point of the game, he was unprepared to meet the situations as they arose. Capablanca said that the expert chess player allowed the situation to develop and worked out the game as it progressed. In his talk he appeared somewhat nervous, but when he came to the practical exhibition of his skill in chess, he was apparently entirely composed and at home. Before the contest began, Capablanca said that a prize would be given to the player, who in the estimation of the expert, played the strongest game. At the conclusion of the contest, this prize, a box of chessmen, was awarded by Capablanca to P. J. King of Hartford.

The players were seated on the outside of tables arranged in rectangular form. Twenty-nine Hartford players engaged in the trial of skill. The expert walked around the inside of the rectangle, moving at the first board, then passing to the next one. The playing started about 9:15, and by one the players were beaten and dropped out, until at 11:15, the expert had checkmated every player. With a wave of his hand, and thanking the players for the opportunity of meeting them, he left.

As he was going out he was asked if playing so many games was not a great mental effort. "Not tonight," he smilingly said.

It was remarkable to see the celerity with which Capablanca gave a hasty glance at a board as he approached it. Usually his pause was but momentary; then he made his move. One move was supposed to have been made at a time, but sometimes it happened that the local player would take a piece, the expert would exchange, and another play would result on both sides. One or two of the games caused the champion a little trouble thought, early in the play, but, as the players were thinned down to three or four, and the situation was clearly developing, the expert hesitated very little. He finally walked rapidly from board to board, saying "You have two more," or "You have but one more move." He never missed in his prediction.

Capablanca is a youthful looking man. It was said that he was in his thirties. He recently came through the international tournament in New York without having been once defeated. He had been in Hartford before, some years ago. One of the local players who saw him play at that time said that the expert showed his improvement very plainly. He seemed to have his moves more clearly in mind now than then, and played with a greater brilliancy.