

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #269

Your editor welcomes any and all submissions - news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to B.C. players. Thanks to all who contributed to this issue. To subscribe, send me an e-mail (swright2@telus.net) or sign up via the BCCF webpage (www.chess.bc.ca); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

HERE AND THERE

September Active (September 15)



Butch Villavieja with organizer Maxim Doroshenko

The back to school edition of the monthly active at the Vancouver Chess School attracted a total of thirty-five players, four of them new, but relatively few strong players (only four above 2000). Top-ranked Butch Villavieja took the first prize with 5.5/6, the draw being with James Chan; due to the vagaries of the pairings he only had to play one of the other 2000+ players. Max Gedajlovic and newcomer Eric Layon tied for second a half point back. Kevin Low, rated 1590, managed to win the U1800 prize, and there was a six(!)-way tie for the U1500: Brian Sullivan, David Shepherdson, Victor Zheng, Ben Zheng, Aiden Zhou, and Navid Samiei. Ryan Leong won the U1200 prize, and the biggest upset went to Maven Zheng, who beat a player 626 points higher rated than himself.

Langley Correspondence 2013

You are invited by director Andrew Hoyer to join a correspondence tournament, run through the facilities of the chess.com playing site. [Full details](#) – the deadline for registration is September 28.

2013 B.C. CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIP

The field for this year`s B.C. Championship has been finalized, as follows:

Jason Cao (ratings list)
Jack Cheng (B.C. Junior)
Ryan Lo (Keres Memorial)
Alfred Pechisker (ratings list)
Tanraj Sohal (B.C. Open)
Butch Villavieja (defending Champion)
Howard Wu (ratings list)
Jack Yoos (Grand Pacific Open)

Location: Vancouver Chess School, 252-4255 Arbutus Street (Arbutus Shopping Centre)

Schedule: Friday, October 11 - 5:30 pm; Saturday-Monday, October 12-14 - 10 am and 3:30 pm

Time control: 80 minutes + 60 second increment

Visitors welcome

HENRY LE GALLOIS ROY (7 May 1875 - 20 September 1953)



This month marks the sixtieth anniversary of the passing of “The Old Lion” Canon Henry L. Roy, cleric, chess organizer, and President Emeritus of the C.F.C. He is largely forgotten now, but when Yanofsky wrote his *100 Years of Chess in Canada* in 1967 he regarded Roy as one of the four most important organizers of the previous thirty years (the others being Bernard Freedman, Dan MacAdam, and John Prentice).

Roy’s father was the Reverend [Josiah Jesse Roy](#), later minister of St. George’s Church, Winnipeg, a descendent of the Abraham Martin upon whose land the Battle of the Plains of Abraham took place. Henry Roy graduated from the University of Manitoba with a silver medal in 1894, then

studied at Wycliffe College in Toronto for five years. He was Assistant Rector at Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver (1901-1905) and Rural Dean of Turtle Mountain (Manitoba, 1908-1913) before serving as Assistant General Missioner for the Diocese of Rupert's Land. In 1928 Roy was named an Honorary Canon at the Pro-Cathedral of St. Matthew in Brandon, Manitoba. According to Yanofsky, Roy did not get involved in chess organization until 1936, when he was already sixty-one years old. Describing himself as a "run of the mine" player, Roy noted: "By learning chess, you have a spare-time filler until you're ready for the grave. You might be an athlete, but you're a has-been at thirty – in chess there is no limit." Early in 1947 Roy moved to Vancouver where he became involved with the B.C.C.F.; he passed away after returning from his last Annual Meeting in Winnipeg, having just completed his final term as C.F.C. president.

At the end of his life, "at our request and under pressure," Roy wrote a summation of his accomplishments in chess, duly published in the January 1952 issue of *Canadian Chess Chat*. Here it is:

"Born May 7, 1875, about thirty miles south of Montreal, of French parents, was unable to speak a word of English until eleven years old. Learned the moves of chess from my stepmother, who had bought a set to keep me out of mischief. Never had any particular hobby, but played almost every outdoor game in vogue at the end of the last century. Received a university degree at nineteen years of age, with medal and scholarship. Never aspired to become a chess expert (a-la-B.F. classification) but did try my hand, with indifferent success, at organizing chess in local, provincial and national fields. Acted as president, for eight years, of the Winnipeg Chess Club [1936-1944], six years of the Manitoba Chess Association [1938-1945], two years secretary of the Winnipeg Jewish C.C. and two years the British Columbia Chess Federation [1948-1950]. President Chess Federation of Canada five years [1941-1945, 1952-1953]. And am now acting as membership secretary of the B.C.C.F. in looking after and boosting the "capitation system," the best method that I know of for obtaining sufficient funds to run any kind of chess organization. We have in B.C.C.F. a revenue each year, from this source alone, of approximately \$100.00, which meets all our current needs with some to spare!

Collaborated in framing the constitution of the C.F.C. and am the father (a doubtful honour) of the slogan: "No participation or representation without taxation in the affairs of the C.F.C." Framed the general policy of the C.F.C. as set forth and endorsed in the one and only Year Book issued to date by the C.F.C. Framed the pattern and staging of yearly Annual Meetings in 1941, since followed and subsequently improved by my successors. Organized a dominion chess championship in Winnipeg [1941] and raised funds to promote dominion championships in Montreal, Dalhousie, Saskatoon and Vancouver; in the latter, 10% of the total. Raised sufficient funds to send Yanofsky to Montreal, Saskatoon, Buenos Aires and Europe (approximately \$2,000).

Made my aim during the years of my C.F.C. presidency to attend all Annual Meetings and to personally know every member of the Board of Governors. Promoted telegraphic matches: Winnipeg vs. Vancouver twice, while in Winnipeg. Although we lost both to Vancouver, we did manage to "short-circuit" Toronto. Also telegraph matches between Canadian universities, when Winnipeg, among others, lost to the University of Saskatchewan. Organized matches: Nova Scotia vs. New Brunswick, New Brunswick vs. Ontario and Saskatchewan vs. Ontario, for a shield which I presented. Also a correspondence match, of sixty a side, between Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Arranged for chess lectures in Canada via the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and later on in each province, except P.E.I., over provincial stations. Issued bulletins from time to time, and minutes of meetings, sent out promptly."



University of Manitoba vs. University of Saskatchewan by telegraph, 30 December 1942. The seated players are Nathan Divinsky and Leo Moser; Canon Roy is on the right, next to him is *Winnipeg Free Press* chess columnist Herb Gregory

“Made arrangements and financed two simultaneous tours by Yanofsky, and one each by Koltanowski and Max Euwe. As a member of the Board of Governors made it my special responsibility that C.F.C. assessments for the provinces in which I resided at the time were paid in full, and sometimes overpaid. Assisted, through personal donations, provinces in which I did not reside (Alberta and Saskatchewan), to meet their C.F.C. assessments. As I plugged along in my endeavours, became the target for brick-bats, but have survived, and am still working and boosting for provincial and, more especially, national chess organization.”

Respectfully submitted,
Henry R. Roy.
Secretary The B.C.C.F.

Roy's signature, from the B.C.C.F. Minute Book

EACH PIECE TELLS A STORY by Nathan Divinsky

The Black Queen Rook Pawn (1)

Here was a soldier after my own heart – he was surely the sloppiest of all the pieces. Everything was where everything should have been, but it all seemed gawky. He was tall and skinny and large blond curls peeped out from beneath his helmet. He was a mixture of Danny Kaye and Harpo Marx.

He leaned and shuffled toward me and I could hear the black queen rook shouting something at him. Finally he stood before me, wringing his hands, his sword caught in his shoe, and his eyes bewildered. He straightened one of his banners which said 'Morphy Defence,' looked at me, and when I smiled encouragingly at him, he winked. For a moment I thought that I should say something to him, but finally he spoke.

"Your honourous mortal sir," he began, "permit me to address you. I can fight when I have to but talking makes me go all goose livery inside, if you'll pardon the expression."

The poor fellow was in agony. I put my pipe in my left hand and blew him a kiss with my right – this to try and cheer him up. He looked at me as if I had lost my mind. "Your honourous professor sir, I know that you like endings best of all and so I have selected, for your pleasure and amazement, a wondrous finale, sir. It took place at the 29th USSR Championship 1961, round 18.

Shianovsky, Vladislav I - Gurgenzidze, Bukhuti [E20]

Nimzo-Indian Defence

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.g3

Opening theory does not interest me, sir mortal. Players select openings like they select hats, lady's hats. This season the fashion is King's Indian garnished with lettuce, next season it is a Benoni on toast, sir. This is charming but it has no serious basis in knowledge. I suppose I could arrange to have a dozen different helmets with coloured plumes, to go with my rather noticeable hair, but I am content with this well used helmet. I say this to you sir because you are somewhat less influenced by fashion than many others. But you are not entirely clean are you, sir? So let us sort of ignore the subtleties of the opening, with your permission. Sir.

4...Ne4 5.Qc2 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Be7 7.Bg2 Nc6 8.Nf3 Na5 9.Nd2 Rb8

I like to have the worthy and noble queen rook at my back and after this move I felt somewhat uncomfortable. Of course he wanted to get out of the line of the white king bishop and thus mobilize my brother the queen knight pawn, but I did feel left alone.

10.Qa4 b6

It may have better to play 10...b5. Please don't misunderstand me professor sir mortal, I have no objection to my brother the queen knight pawn moving before me. No, no, not at all. But the text allows White the possibility of 11.c5, undoubling his queen bishop pawns. White doesn't do it and we go on to win the game. But that is like making a stupid audience laugh by telling bad jokes. Both humour and chess require honest dedication and talent, sir.

11.Nb3 Nxb3 12.axb3 If 12.Qxa7 (that's me!) Bb7 13.Bxb7 Nxa1 wins.

12...a6 I suppose White hoped to get some advantage by bearing down on me, but that is a forlorn hope. I am no Beau Brummel, but I am strong as an ox.

13.0-0 0-0 14.e4

This is too automatic. Wiser was 14.Qa2.

14...Bb7 15.Be3 b5 16.cxb5 axb5 17.Qa2 b4!

I carry the fight into white territory.

18.c4 Ra8



19.Qc2

White may have toyed with the idea of 19.Qd2 followed by 20.c5, but 19...Ra3 attacks the queen knight pawn and 20...Qa8 attacks the king pawn. Thus 19.Qc2 is wise.

19...Ra3 20.c5 Qa8 21.Rxa3

Hoping that I will prove weak, though 21.Rab1 was not all that attractive.

21...bxa3 22.Ra1 f5 23.f3 fxe4 24.fxe4 Qa5

White had probably planned on 25.Bc1 winning me, but then 25...Qe1+ wins.

25.Bd2 Qa6

And now if 26.Bc1 Bf6 27.Rxa3 Bxd4+ 28.Kh1 Rf1+ and mate. Or 27.Qc3 Qe2 28.Bxa3 Qf2+ 29.Kh1 Bxd4. I am a hard nut to swallow and without good crackers whoever tries will go crackers, ha ha.

26.Bf1 Qa8 27.Bg2 Bf6 28.Bc3

And now 28.Be3 allows 28...Qa5 and 29...Qb4. But the text allows

28...Bg5 29.Qe2

To prevent 29...Be3+.

29...Ba6 30.Qe1 Bd3 31.h4 Bh6 32.e5 Qa6



33.Bd2

This allows me to lock in the white rook. It may have been humiliating for the white rook to block my advance with 33.Ra2, but it was necessary.

33...a2! 34.Bxh6 gxh6 35.Qd2 Bb1 36.Kh2 Qb5 37.Qxh6 Qd3 38.Qg5+ Kh8 39.Qe7 Qf5

Threatening 40...Qf2 and 41...Rg8, or vice versa. Thus if for example 40.Qxd7 Rg8 41.Qe7 Qf2 and White must exchange queens with 42.Qf6+. White decides to try for a passed pawn rather than the win of a pawn.

40.b4 Qf2 41.b5 h6



42.c6

If 42.b6 Rg8 43.Qf6+ Qxf6 44.exf6 c6 and we will win the king bishop pawn and our king will march to b2. The text hopes to force d5 and bring the white bishop to bear on me, but it never comes to that.

42...Rg8 43.Qf6+ Qxf6 44.exf6 dxc6 45.bxc6 Rd8

Preventing 46.d5.

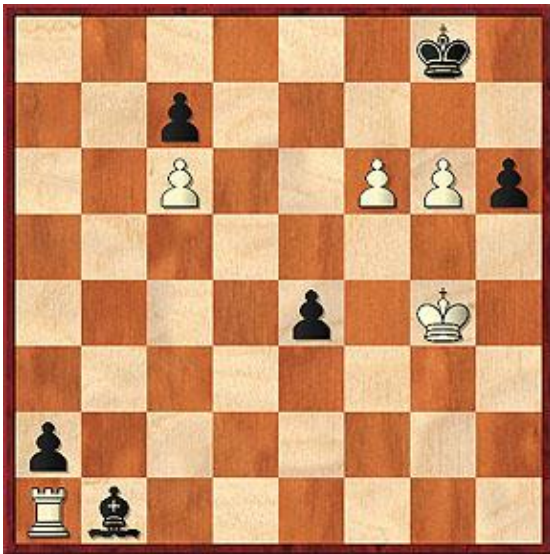
46.Bh3 Rd6 47.g4

What else?

Rxd4 48.g5 Rxh4 49.g6 e5 50.Kg3 Rxh3+!

The simplest.

51.Kxh3 e4 52.Kg4 Kg8 0-1



A charming finish, Dr. D. White is helpless because I and the queen bishop lock the rook in. If for example 53.Kh4 h5 54.Kxh5, e3 55.Kh6 e2 56.f7+ Kf8 57.Rxa2 Bxa2 58.g7+ Kxf7 59.Kh7 Kf6. Or if 58.Kh7 Bxf7 (not 58...Bb1 59.Kh8 Bxg6 stalemate!); thus after 53.Kh4 h5 54.Kg3 is necessary. Now 54...Kf8 55.Kh3 e3 56.Kg3 h4+ 57.Kf3 h3 58.Kg3 e2 59.Kf2 h2 and black queens begin to appear. My worthy brothers the king rook pawn and king pawn run the white king ragged."

There was much admiration for this ending particularly from the pawns, and I smilingly nodded approval.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UBC Thursday Night Blitz (note the change of format)

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Henry Angus Building, University of British Columbia
Entry fee \$10+, depending on number of players and whether rated or not
Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca, or see <https://www.facebook.com/UBCChess>

September VCS Open

September 20-22, Lansdowne Centre, Richmond
[Details](#)

GPO Active Fundraiser

September 28, Victoria
[Details](#)

Langley Correspondence

Begins October 1
[Details](#)

October Active/Blitz

October 8, Vancouver Bridge Centre
[Details](#)

Vancouver Open

October 12-14, Surrey
[Details](#)