

Chess notes by J.H.J.

MANY YEARS ago I had a 12 move brevity published by B. H. Wood in his column in the London Illustrated News. The position was unusual in that no pieces had been exchanged and although Black had a wretched position there was much play and no little debate about the final outcome.

Also I was Black and had resigned!

Baruch Wood then developed his article into an outline of all the plausible reasons, why I had resigned and finally concluded that as the weather was clement I was going for a swim!

However I had no wish to sustain a five hour rearguard in a position which was "lost."

Nowadays I would try to stay in the position and hope for some counter-chances. As an example here is a game from the semi-final of the Robertson Cup (Southampton League's KO tournament). There is no argument that I drifted into a wretched position (again!).

White: A. Carpenter (Fairoak, 165), Black: J.H.J. (Sarisbury). 1. d4, Nf6; 2. c4, g6; 3. Nc3, Bg7; 4. e4, d6; 5. Be2, O-O; 6. Bg5, c5; 7. Nf3? (7. d5 is usual) h6; 8. Be3, Ng4; 9. Bc1, Na6?; (I

thought I was gaining a tempo on the standard position. 9., cxd4; followed by Qb6 gives Black the better of it) 10. d5, Bd7?; (10., Nc7; with e6 or e5 to follow) 11. O-O, Nc7; 12. h3, Nf6?; (Black should try 12., Ne5; so that if 13. Nxe5, dxe5; 14. f4, exf4; 15. Bxf4, Bd4 16. Kh1, Kg7; and then e5 while if 15. Rxf4, Bd4 16. Kh1, e5; 17. dxe6, Nxe6; and then Bc6) 13. e5! (oh well back to defence) Ne8; 14. Bf4, b6; 15. Qd2, Kh7; 16. Bd3, dxe5; 17. Nxe5, Nd6; 18. Ng4(?), Bxg4; 19. hxc4, Qd7; 20. Rae1, Rh8; 21. Re2, (21. Re3!.) Rae8; 22. Rfe1, A6; 23. Ne4 (?)

