

## CHESS NOTES by J.H.J.

IN THE previous column I gave details of the B.C.F. qualifying tournament held recently at Southampton. Due to pressure of work R. Lynn (one of the joint winners) has had to withdraw and D. C. Osborne of Bristol (first reserve) has agreed to the replacement.

Played in round five of the B.C.F. tournament when both contestants were leading with 3½/4.

White: D. C. Osborne (196).  
Black: K. D. F. Gregory (192): 1, e4, g6; 2, d4, Bg7; 3, Nc3, c6; 4, A4(!), a5, 5, f4, d6; 6, Bc4, Na6; 7, Nf3, Nb4; 8, Bb3! (avoiding 8... d5; and guarding c2 which would be indirectly attacked after 8... Bg4), Nf6; 9, O-O, O-O; 10, h3, d5; 11, e5, Ne8; 12, Kf2!? (Toujours l'attaque — Marshall Foch) f5; 13, Ne2, b6; 14, c3, Na6; 15, Bc2 Nc7; 16, b4! (gaining space) Ba6; 17, Bd3, Bc4, 18, g4(!), e6; 19, gxd5, exf5; 20, h4, Ne6; 21, Rg1, Kf7(?) (under-estimating White's chances. 21... Rf7; would allow Black to play Kf8, or Kh8 according to choice, while reinforcing protection of the second rank); 22, Ng3, Bh6; 23, Bxf5!?, gxf5 (23... Nxf4!); 24, Nxf5, Bg7 (24, ...

Bxf4?; 25, Bxf4, Nxf4; 26, Ng5+, Nxf5; 26, Rxf5, Kg8 (see move 21); 27, Qg4, Ra7 (27... Rf7?; 28, Nh6+); 28, bxa5! (with the threat 29, Ba3), Bd3; 29, Nxf7, Nxf7; 30, Ba3, Rf5 (30, Re8; then the combination of Rg1, f5-f6 and axb6 will overpower Black); 31, axb6!, Rxf5; 32, Qxf5, Qxb6 (32... Qxf5; 33, hxf5, Rb7; 34, a5, Ba6; 35, Kf3, Rf7; 36, Rh1 (threat Rh6), Nf5; 37, e6, Rb7; 38, Re1 (threats Kg4, e7, gives Black no play); 33, Rg1 (1:0) (The pawns will decide or Black could elect for the quick finish by 33... Qb3?; 34, Qd8+, Kf7; 35, Rxf7+; Kxf7; 36, Qf8+, Kg6; 37, Qf6+, Kh5; 38, Qg5+ +).

Keith Gregory was a little unlucky to be on the wrong side of what was probably one of the best played games in the competition. Clearly Osborne would appear to be worth his belated qualification on the basis of this game!

This year the British Championship (Swansea, August 3-15) is to be a non-smoking congress. Several correspondents have queried whether it would now be appropriate to ban smoking in the local league.

John Sexton (Leigh Park B) proposes that a ban should at least apply "when junior players take part in senior events." He adds pungently that he "doesn't see why their young lungs should be subjected to a gas attack for two-and-a-half hours of an evening."

Dr. Geoff Richardson (who played for Cosham in the Sixties and is considering returning to the game) notes that his "marked aversion for a tobacco-smoke polluted atmosphere" would require a club sufficiently large enough "to support a no-smoking club night" with the hope "that the league might eventually move to ban smoking at matches."

I go along with these sentiments and hope that something constructive can be achieved at the next A.G.M. Any further observations should be sent to 103, Queens Road, Gosport.