

## Chess notes by J.H.J.

THE STUDY that I left over was 8; 3Pk1p1; 8; 3K3Pp1; 8; 8; 8; 8; and it was white to move and draw.

White appears to be in an invidious position. Even with the most exact patient manoeuvring, zugzwang will result and white will have lost all his pawns. And what about that passed g-pawn?

1, Kc6! (with the threat 2, Kc7, and wins!), Kd8; 2, Kd5!, Kxd7; 3, Ke4!, Kd6!; 4, Kf3 (is white trying for the "square" i0?) Ke5; 5, Kg4, Kf6; 6, Kh5!, Kxf5 (1/2:1/2).

So, after all, that g-pawn was significant . . . for white!

The A.G.M. of the Portsmouth and District League provided no shocks either in the election of officers or the amendment to rules. For the record the officers for this coming season are: president, S. Dean; vice-president, A. Crossin; hon. secretary, J. Wheeler; hon. treasurer, K. Hyman; individual championship controller, C. Wood; Cole Cup controller, K. Gregory; delegate to Hampshire C.A., S. Dean; schools secretary, D. Brett.

Rule amendments usually attract a lively debate, but for the most part the membership were sympathetic to the proposed changes, although form dictated that there be a few minor alterations to phraseology and vocabulary. The nomination rule was restructured to close a loophole. Now a club with two, or more,

teams must nominate players for all their teams bar the lowest.

The membership were pleased to accept from Mrs. Grant the John Grant Memorial Trophy, which will be open to all the membership and will be awarded for the best percentage result in any one division throughout a league season. As John Wheeler had all the previous season's statistics to hand, the trophy was able to be presented to Peter Rogers of Portsmouth E with 100 per cent. (8/8) ahead of Brian Gale of Gosport B (7/7) and yet two more players with a full score.

The roll of honour and trophy winners for the season 1986-87 was: J. P. Price Memorial (individual), K. D. F. Gregory; Ruth Rose Cup, C. W. Laxton; J. E. C. Grant Memorial, P. Rogers; League Champions, Gosport A; Division Two, IBM A; Division Three, Gosport B; Division Four, Paulsgrove A; Division Five, Petersfield B; Cole Cup (knock-out), IBM A; Cole Plate, Portsmouth A.

Entries for the Individual Championship (£2) should be sent to C. Wood, 19, Eastern Road, Havant, PO9 2JE (Tel. 454524) to arrive by October 3. The tournament will follow the usual format of a six-round Swiss.

Entries for the Cole Cup (the league K.O. championship) — £2.50 per team — should be sent to K. D. F. Gregory, 159, White Hart Lane, Portchester, PO16 9AY by October 1.