

Game No. 15 673 .— French Defence

White: B.Eley		Black: J.Durao			
1 P-K4	P-K3	15 B-Q2	Q-B2	29 R-K3	KtxP
2 P-Q4	P-Q4	16 QxQ ch	KxQ	30 R-Q3	B-B1
3 Kt-QB3	B-Kt5	17 KR-K1	Kt-Kt3	31 R-Q6	P-B4
4 P-K5	P-QB4	18 P-B4	PxP	32 KtxP	KtxKt
5 P-QR3	BxKt ch	19 BxP	P-K4	33 B-B4	Kt-B6 ch
6 PxB	Kt-K2	20 P-Q5	Kt-Q1	34 K-Kt2	K-R1
7 P-QR4	QKt-B3	21 B-KR6	QR-Kt1	35 KxKt	Kt-B4
8 Kt-B3	B-Q2	22 P-Q6 ch	KxP	36 K-Kt2	Kt-K5
9 B-Q3	Q-R4	23 BxR	RxB	37 R-Q4	P-QR4
10 Q-Q2	P-B3	24 QR-Q1 ch	K-B2	38 P-B3	Kt-B4
11 O-O	PxQP	25 R-B1 ch	K-Kt1	39 R-Q6	K-Kt2
12 KPxP	KtPxP	26 P-R5	Kt-K3	40 B-K3	Kt-Q2
13 Q-B4	O-O-O	27 P-R6	P-Kt3	41 BxP!	Resigns
14 PxP	QR-B1	28 P-Kt3	Kt-B4		

THE 1971 IRISH CHAMPIONSHIP

Cork - July 10th - 18th 1971

by W.HEIDENFELD

This year's Irish Championship, played from July 10 to 18 at Cork, turned out to be a sort of Northern Ireland Benefit tournament. Moles, Henry and McGrillen, all from the North, dominated the proceedings throughout, with only Coldrick threatening danger at certain points. Once, however, he had missed his pronounced winning chances against McGrillen (the game ending in a draw) and immediately afterwards lost to Moles, the Northerners were by themselves, the final result being: (1) Moles 8 (+7, =2, against Henry and O'Riordan); (2) Henry 7½ (+6, =3, against Moles, McGrillen and McCurdy); (3) McGrillen 7 (+6, =2, -1, draws with Henry and O'Riordan, loss to Moles); (4) Coldrick 6; followed by (5) Ray Burne 5½; (6-8) McCurdy, McDavitt and Murray, 5 each. There were 23 players, playing a 9-round Swiss.

Of the non-prizewinners O'Riordan started well, being up with the leaders for four rounds, but losing two and drawing three of his last five games. McDavitt, after a loss to young Tom Ireton, scored four wins in succession but then, paired with the three leaders, quickly subsided. O'Siuchru lost to Henry in the first round, but then played solidly and well, climbing to 4½ after the 7th round — then Moles and Coldrick proved too much for him. Murray played none of the leading players, and his 5 points came from opponents well down the list throughout.

This was Moles' second championship, his first having been achieved at Belfast 1966, in an infinitely stronger tournament. It was unfortunate that most of the strongest Southern players - not only Littleton, Keogh, the two Cassidy's and the reporter, but also the youngsters, Cox and Kernan - were unavoidably absent. One can but hope that Dublin 1972 will revert to the strength of the 1966, 1967 and 1969 championships.

A very weak Irish Ladies Championship, played as a double-round all-play-all of four players only, resulted in a tie between Aileen Noonan and Cecile Meulens. A two-game play-off ending in one win each, the players agreed to hold the title jointly.

The Congress was run with both enthusiasm and efficiency by Morris Coveney, who had his flock under better control than many a non-participating tournament director.