COURT AND SOCIAL

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Court Circular

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 6th

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a Reception at Windsor Castle, given by the Military Knights of Windsor to celebrate the Six Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of their Foundation.

His Royal Highness, Trustee of Council, this morning attended a Meeting of the Council and Lunch at St George's House, Windsor Castle.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 6th

The Princess Royal, President, International League for the Protection of Horses, this morning opened the Glenda Spooner Farm, Hoarwithy, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Herefordshire (Sir Thomas Dunne).

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 6th

The Duke of Gloucester, Royal Honorary Colonel, Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers (Militia), today received Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lodge upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer and Lieutenant Colonel James Sage upon assuming the appointment.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 6th

The Duke of Kent, Colonel, this morning visited F Company, Scots Guards, at Sennybridge, Powys.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Sir Geoffrey Cox, Editor and Chief Executive, ITN, 1956-68, is 88; **Prof D.R. Denman**, Emeritus Fellow, Pembroke College, Cambridge, 87; **Mr Ravi Shankar**, musician and composer, 78; **Mr Cliff Morgan**, former Wales rugby player, 68; **Dr Sir Terence Harrison**, company chairman, 65; **Mr Ian Richardson**, actor, 64; **Prof Sir Graeme Davies**, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, University of Glasgow, 61; **Sir David Frost**, author, producer and television interviewer, 59; **Mr Francis Ford Coppola**, film director, 59; **Mr Dennis Amiss**, former England cricketer, 55; **Mr Martyn Lewis**, broadcaster, 53; **Mr Luca Cumani**, racehorse trainer, 49; and **Dr Helen Harvey**, Headmistress, St Swithun's School, Winchester, 48.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

Mr M.P.J. Cole and Miss P.M.de la C. de la Billière
The engagement is announced between Michael, youngest son of Mr A.W. Cole and the late Mrs Cole, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire, and Phillida, younger daughter of General Sir Peter and Lady de la Billière.

Dr R.C. Anderson and Miss S.G. Buttress
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs R. Anderson, of Linton, Herefordshire, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs N. Buttress, of Teversham, Cambridgeshire.

Mr A.J. Slater and Miss A.C. Reece
The engagement is announced between Angus, son of Mr and Mrs John Slater, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Alexandra, daughter of His Honour Judge and Mrs Paynter Reece, of Ealing, London.

Mr J. Banks and Miss M. Cuthbert
The engagement is announced between Jim, son of Mr and Mrs P. Banks, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and Mimi, daughter of Mr J. Cuthbert, of Hever, Kent, and Mrs F. Wilkinson, of Pembury, Kent.

Mr J.H. Griggs and Miss S.J. Hepworth
The engagement is announced between John Hugh, youngest son of Mr and Mrs P. Griggs, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire, and Samantha Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Hepworth, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire.

Mr R.T. Breeden and Miss A.E. Coleman-Smith
The engagement is announced between Richard Thomas, only son of Mr and Mrs William Breeden, of Hampton, Middlesex, and Alice Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Coleman-Smith, of Ludlow, Shropshire.

REQUIEM MASS

Mgr Alfred Gilbey
The Earl of St Andrews attended a sung requiem Mass in the Tridentine rite for Mgr Alfred Gilbey at Brompton Oratory yesterday. Father Ronald Creighton-Jobe was the celebrant, assisted by Father Ignatius Harrison and Brother Patrick Doyle.

The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, the Archbishop of Birmingham and the Bishop of Brentwood were among other robed clergy in the Sanctuary. Others present included:

Lady Vaux of Harrowden, Elizabeth, Lady Gilbey, Lady Agnew, the Hon Mary Gilbey, the Hon Anthony Gilbey, the Hon William and Mrs Gilbey, the Hon Mrs Haynes, Sir Reginald and Lady Tyrwhitt, Sir Gavin Gilbey, Mr Anthony and Lady Penelope Gilbey, Mr Simon Gilbey, Mr Tom Gilbey, Mr Ralph Gilbey, Mr Paul Gilbey, Mr Mark Gilbey, Mrs Christopher Frederick, Mr John Gilbey, Mr Harry Gilbey, Mrs Walter Gilbey, Miss Sarah Gilbey, Mr and Mrs Philip Gilbey, Miss Victoria Gilbey, Mr Christopher S.B. Gilbey, Mr and Mrs Michael Gilbey, Mrs Andrew Millar, Mrs Giles Gilbey, Miss Lisa Gilbey, Mr and Mrs James Gilbey, Mr Simon Newman Gilbey.

The Duke of Norfolk, the Duchess of St Albans, Countess Gainsborough, Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard, Lord and Lady Martin Fitzalan Howard, Lady Mariegold Jamieson, Viscount and Viscountess Monckton of Brenchley, Lord and Lady Carbery, Lord and Lady Patten, Lady Hylton, Lord and Lady Camoys, Lady Torphichen, Lord Blyth, Lord Rawlinson of Ewell, QC, Lord and Lady Hunt of Tanworth.

The Hon Mrs Julia Fortescue, the Hon James Blyth, the Hon Dominic and Mrs Lawson, Sir Paul Kennedy, the Hon Jonathan Monckton, the Hon Nicholas Assheton, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon Lucinda Blyth, the Hon Mary-Claire Patten, Sir Ian Johnson-Ferguson, Sir Reresby and Lady Sitwell, Lady Leslie, Lady Maxwell Scott, Sir Reginald and Lady Secondé, Sir Michael Pike, Sir Michael Neubert, Sir Michael Ogden, QC, and Lady Ogden, Sir Philip Beck, Sir Gordon Reece, Gen Sir George Cooper, Princess Rupert Lowenstein, Count Bruno Quintavalle.

Lt Col Wingate Charlton, representing the Lord Lieutenant for Essex; Frá Matthew Festing, Grand Prior of England, Sovereign Military Order of Malta, with Mr Peregrine Bertie, President, British Association, and other members of the Order and of the Order of Malta Volunteers; Father Ian Dickie, Archivist for the Archbishop of Westminster, Father Andrew Wadsworth and Father Michael Cullinan, St James's, Spanish Place, W1, Dom Christopher Jenkins, Belmont Abbey, the Very Rev Robert Byrne, Provost, Oxford Oratory, Sister Margaret Mary, New Hall, Chelmsford.

Dr Hallard Croft, Peterhouse, Cambridge, Mr Christopher Jordan, United Oxford and Cambridge University Club, Mr Antony Tyler, Master of the Keys, Catholic Writers Guild of England and Wales, Mr Richard de Pelet, Christies; Lt Col David Laurie, representing the Chairman, Buck's Club, with Capt Peter Murison, RN, Secretary; Mr Michael de Wolff, Beaumont Union, Father Bernard Priestnall, Liberal Catholic Church, Mr Niall Heffron, Heffrons Solicitors, Mr Charles Bellard, Witham Weld Solicitors, Mr Patrick Eggleston, Trinity Foot Beagles, and representatives of Fisher House, Cambridge, Trinity College, Cambridge, Nazareth House, Hammersmith, Pratt's Club, Beefsteak Club, Pitt Club, Cambridge.

Mr Nicholas Lorriman, Mr Greg Lorriman, Mr Hugh-Guy Lorriman, Mr Robert Lorriman, Dr David Watkin, Mr Philip Bonn, Mr Timothy Duke, Mr R. Barry O'Brien, Mrs Gerald Draper, Mr Geoffrey Woolley, Mr David Twiston Davies, Mr Christopher Howse, Mr and Mrs H. Dinwiddy, Miss Lucy Hyde Parker, Mrs David Drummond, Mr John Crowley, QC, Mr and Mrs Mark Allen, Mr Michael Lavery, QC, Mrs Peter Cadbury, Mrs John Nutting, Mr Justin Fenwick, QC, Mr Robert de Stacpoole, Mr Stephen Willink, Mr Joseph Gaggero, Judge Michael Kennedy, QC.

Mrs Simon Fraser, Mr and Mrs William Dalrymple, Mr Martin Kenyon, Mr Edmund Neville-Rolfe, Mr Richard Fitzalan Howard, Mr John Flood, Mrs E. Norman-Butler, Mr John R. Sclater, Mr Patrick Reyntiens, Mr D.W. Bogie, Mr Hubert Picarda, QC, Prof Robert Leaper, Mr and Mrs Peter Kearon, Mr John Wall, Mr Tim Odone, Mr Greg Gumban, Mr and Mrs Narindar Saroop, Mr Sven Gahlin, Mr John Kenworthy-Browne, Mr John Cawston, Mr Patrick Walesby, Ms Jennifer Vernor-Miles, Mrs F.T. Ritchie and Mr Christopher Stobart, together with many other friends.

LUNCHEONS

The Newspaper Society
Mr William Hague, MP, Leader of Her Majesty's Opposition, was guest of honour at a luncheon held by The Newspaper Society yesterday at Bloomsbury House, WC1. Mr Chris Oakley, President, was host.

The Coal Industry Society
Mr Richard Budge was principal guest and speaker at the 437th luncheon of the Coal Industry Society held yesterday at the Park Lane Hotel. Mr Martin Cruttenden, President, and Mr W.F. Clarke, Chairman, also spoke.

SCHOOL NOTICE

LUDGROVE

An Old Boy Gathering will be held at Ludgrove on Sunday, June 21. For full details please write to: The Headmasters, Ludgrove, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 3AB.

OTHER NOTICES

ARMOURERS' AND BRASIERS' COMPANY

Mr Paul Boon, St Edmund Hall, and Mr Jean-Paul Barnes, St Anne's College, have been awarded Armourers' and Brasiers' Bursaries for Materials Science with a modern language at the University of Oxford.

LEONARD CHESHIRE

A service of thanksgiving to mark the Leonard Cheshire Golden Jubilee will be held in Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral at 11 am on Sunday, May 3, 1998. For details please contact Miss Lucy Hampton on tel: 0171 828 1822.

BRIDGE HAND

A double disaster

By Tony Forrester

Dealer South, E/W vulnerable

North: ♠A 3 ♥K Q J 4 ♦J 7 4 ♣Q J 5 4
West: ♠K 9 ♥A 9 7 5 2 ♦A 6 ♣K 9 3 2
East: ♠Q J 10 8 7 6 5 4 2 ♥10 3 ♦2 ♣6
South: ♠- ♥8 6 ♦K Q 10 9 8 5 3 ♣A 10 8 7

South	West	North	East
1♦	1♥	3NT	4♠
5♦	Dble	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Contract 5♦ Doubled
Declarer South
Opening Lead ♠K

THE US Spring Nationals at Reno, Nevada, got under way with a two-day Open Pairs. Many of the top partnerships were getting in practice before the main event, the Vanderbilt Trophy.

One such pairing, who shall remain nameless, were sitting East/West on the deal above. Not only did they fail to declare the contract, despite East having a nine-card spade suit, but they doubled their opponents in a making game. Where did it go wrong? For me, the answer was quite clear — West's final double. Although he had good prospects in theory, the auction should have tipped him off to the violent distribution around.

To begin with, East bids a new suit at the four level in the teeth of North's announced strength. Surely he must have vast length in the suit. Then South does not let his partner get stuck into 4♠, but prefers to bid 5♦ in front of him.

In such circumstances, the percentage action is to declare the contract, not to double in the hope that your aces and kings will hold up.

West was about to find out the truth of that statement. He led ♠K, and was probably surprised to see declarer pitch a heart on ♠A. Declarer lost the next trick to ♦A, won the trump return and played a heart towards dummy.

If West took ♥A, declarer would pitch three clubs on ♥K Q J; if not, ♥A would disappear. Checkmate.

● Catterick Golf Club, North Yorkshire, won the Golfprint Challenge for bridge teams representing golf clubs, **writes Patrick Jourdain, Bridge Correspondent.**

Teams are permitted one registered *tournament bridge player*. From an entry of 135 teams four qualified from regional finals to the national final held at Leicestershire Golf Club.

Scores in final: 1, Catterick 49; 2, Ely, Cambs 41; 3, West Sussex 19; 4, Parkstone, Dorset 11. **Catterick team:** Mrs S MacKellar (capt), A Abraham, R Moore, K Wood.

OBITUARIES

Dame Mary Cartwright

Mistress of Girton whose mathematical work formed the basis of chaos theory

Mary Cartwright: first woman mathematician to be elected to the Royal Society

DAME MARY CARTWRIGHT, who has died aged 97, was one of most eminent British mathematicians of the century, and between 1949 and 1968 Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge — the longest tenure in the college's history.

Mary Lucy Cartwright was born on December 17 1900 at Aynho, Northamptonshire, where her father was curate and later rector. At first educated by governesses, Mary was later sent away to various schools, including Godolphin, in Salisbury. Her younger brother Frederick, a Rugbeian, would end his career as deputy chairman of the British Steel Corporation.

In 1919 Mary Cartwright went up to St Hugh's College, Oxford, to read mathematics. Owing to the gaps in her schooling she felt herself ill-prepared for the course, and in 1921 obtained only a Second in Moderations. Tempted to change to history, she rejected this option because it seemed to entail rather too much work.

Her breakthrough as a mathematician came in her third year, when V C Morton, later professor of mathematics at Aberystwyth, suggested at a party on a barge in Eights Week that she should attend evening classes of the great G H Hardy, then Savilian Professor of Geometry. Mary Cartwright went on to obtain a First in 1923, only the second year in which women took Final degrees at Oxford.

On coming down, she became a schoolmistress, first at Alice Ottley School, Worcester, and then at Wycombe Abbey. But in 1928 she returned to Oxford to work as a student of G H Hardy, who had been highly impressed by her work. "Let's see," he said when she produced an obviously fallacious result, "there's always hope when you get a sharp contradiction."

In 1930 Mary Cartwright obtained a doctorate for her thesis on *The Zeros of Integral Functions of Special Types*, and moved to Girton College, Cambridge, where, financed by a Yarrow Research Fellowhip, she continued to work on the theory of functions.

The important results she obtained, published in 1935 in the *Matkematische Annalen*, prompted G H Hardy (who had moved to Cambridge in 1931) and J E Littlewood to recommend her for an Assistant Lectureship. She became Lecturer in 1935, and Reader in the Theory of Functions in 1959. At Girton she was director of studies in mathematics.

In 1939 the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research asked Mary Cartwright to help in solving "certain very objectionable-looking differential equations occurring in connection with radar". She undertook this work in partnership with Littlewood, who described her as "the only woman in my life to whom I have written twice in one day". The results they obtained on the periodicity and stability of solutions of non-linear differential equations form the basis for the modern theory of dynamical systems and chaos.

In 1947 Mary Cartwright became the first woman mathematician to be elected to the Royal Society. But the focus of her life changed dramatically in 1949 when she was appointed Mistress of Girton, which had only been fully incorporated into Cambridge University the year before.

She provided quiet, unassuming and clear-headed leadership of the college during a time of many changes. Though obliged to spend long hours in committee, she always found time to interview entrance candidates — in batches of five, lumped together quite irrespective of the subject for which they were applying.

Inevitably she was no longer able to devote herself wholeheartedly to mathematics, but she did not seem to regret this, believing the subject to be predominately a young person's game. Even so, honours continued to be heaped upon her. The Royal Society bestowed its Sylvester Medal in 1964; and four years later the London Mathematical Society, of which she had been President from 1961 to 1963, awarded her its De Morgan Medal.

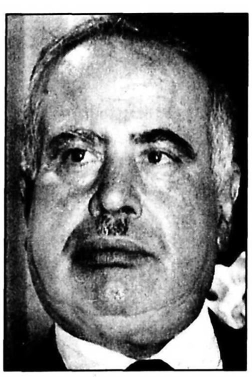
She was appointed DBE in 1969.

In retirement, Mary Cartwright held visiting professorships in a number of American and European universities. But her base remained in Cambridge, where she concentrated on editing the manuscripts of Hardy and Littlewood.

As the years went by she seemed to lose some of her shyness, and at lunch in Girton enjoyed regaling the younger fellows with stories from her academic travels.

Elias Freij

Palestinian Christian who as Mayor of Bethlehem long advocated peace with Israel



Freij (1988): welcomed pilgrims

ELIAS FREIJ, who has died aged 80, served for 25 years as Mayor of Bethlehem.

A traditional Palestinian patrician, Freij represented a conservative viewpoint in Palestinian-Israeli politics, advocating peace with Israel long before the Palestinian leadership was ready to do so.

His political outlook originated in his instincts as a businessman. As the owner of a number of souvenir shops in Bethlehem, a town historically dependent on religious tourism, he was guided by a strong aversion to social disruption. His willingness to engage with whatever power prevailed enabled him to survive politically under the rule of British, Jordanian, Israeli and latterly Palestinian administrations.

In the years before Israel recognised the PLO as a negotiating partner, Freij was one of the few Palestinian leaders with whom Israeli politicians felt they could do business. Yet he spoke out bluntly against Israeli encroachment on West Bank territory, and equally displeased his own side with his unfashionable preference for confederation with Jordan.

In his office overlooking Manger Square, Freij would offer visiting journalists a line that remained consistent over the years. Israel was here to stay, he used to say, and the Palestinians would do better to make peace with her sooner rather than later. He saw, or was willing to say, sooner than most, that the longer the Palestinians refused to make peace with Israel, the more Palestinian land she would seize to create "facts on the ground".

A small, rotund figure with a clipped moustache and a good command of English, Freij favoured the tweedy style of dress typical of the old-fashioned Palestinian notable. Once a year he would appear briefly on the world's television screens hosting the city's Christmas celebrations, which attracted thousands of religious tourists; and he would make his pitch for the town and for peace in its most non-political sense.

His standing was such that when the Palestinian Authority was established as a result of the Oslo Agreement in 1993 between Israel and the Palestinians, its president, Yasser Arafat, appointed Freij as Minister of Tourism and Archaeology. Freij served in the post for three years, before resigning from public life last year due to poor health.

Elias Freij was born in Bethlehem in 1918 into a Greek Orthodox family. Local church records traced his family's ancestry in the town back five centuries. He graduated from the Bishop Gobat School on Jerusalem's Mount Zion, where his teachers were British, and entered the family business, eventually operating several souvenir shops in Bethlehem.

The shops sold the traditional souvenirs of the Holy Land — sentimental figures of the baby Jesus and the Nativity carved in olive wood and decorated with mother-of-pearl — that have been a staple of the Palestinian economy since Thomas Cook began to organise tours to Palestine in the middle of the last century.

Freij joined the town's Chamber of Commerce in 1946, when Palestine was governed by the British Mandate, and later became its leader. He joined the town council in 1963, when the West Bank was under Jordanian rule. When the Mayor of Bethlehem died in 1972, Freij was chosen by fellow council members to replace him.

His position was consolidated when he was popularly elected Mayor in 1976, the last year municipal elections were held in the West Bank under Israeli rule. He was the only elected Palestinian mayor who was not eventually deposed by the Israeli military authorities.

Freij and the Mayor of Gaza City, Rashad al-Shawwa, were the twin pillars on which rested the short-lived policy of "liberal occupation", inaugurated by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan in the first years of Israeli administration of the West Bank and Gaza after they were captured by Israel in 1967.

Under this policy, Israel allowed limited economic development in return for political quiescence. But as this policy eroded in favour of a harder line against the Palestinians, so did the support of Freij.

From his carefully-maintained position of political independence, he took public stands against Israel when the occasion demanded. In 1979, he was (albeit reluctantly) among the 21 West Bank mayors who resigned en masse to protest at the deportation order against the Mayor of Nablus, Bassam Shaka, who had been accused (wrongly) of an inflammatory statement against Israel.

In 1981, he condemned the "village leagues" as ineffective local councils that the Israelis established to weaken local leadership. In 1986, he opposed an Israeli plan to draw water from an aquifer near Bethlehem for use in Jerusalem.

The *intifada*, the Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the Occupied Territories that peaked in the late 1980s, marginalised Freij's style of old-fashioned moderate leadership. The uprising renewed the popular urge to confront Israel, rather than make peace with her.

When, in 1989, Freij called for a truce in the conflict to allow a peaceful resolution to be negotiated, Arafat warned that anyone calling for an end to the uprising "exposes himself to the bullets of his own people", a remark clearly intended for Freij. Militants smashed the windscreen of his motor car and painted "traitor" on the outside walls of his house.

Whatever the political conditions, Freij was committed to the annual Christmas celebrations in the town of Jesus's birth. This festival is observed in Bethlehem three times: the Latin Christmas on December 24-25, the biggest celebration of the three; the Greek Orthodox Christmas on January 6; and the Armenian Christmas on January 18. Yet throughout the years of the *intifada* Freij cancelled the celebrations, in recognition of the uprising, to the displeasure of the Israelis.

He was deeply concerned by the decline in numbers of the Christian minority in Palestine. When he came to power as Mayor, Bethlehem was mostly Christian. It is now 60 per cent Muslim, and Palestinian Christians represent only about three per cent of the Palestinian population in the West Bank and Gaza.

Freij was delighted to host the first Christmas celebrations under Palestinian rule in 1995, a few days after the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the town. On the transfer of the town to the Palestinian Authority, he said his first priority would be to add 2,000 hotel rooms to the existing 400.

Elias Freij is survived by his wife, Victoria; they had six children.

Oliver Pritchett

ANOTHER VIEW

Laying it on the line for poor interviewers

JOB interviews can be a nerve-racking business. It's all those tricky questions.

"So" says the personnel officer, leaning back in his chair and holding a pencil between the tips of his index fingers, "What first attracted you to a career in painting white lines down the middle of the road?"

"I think it was the challenge," the applicant replies. "And the opportunity."

The personnel officer leans forward again, runs his hands over the CV, and asks: "Do you think you would be happy working alongside white lines?"

"My ultimate ambition is to move to the side of the road and work with double yellow lines," says the applicant, who has been coached.

Incidentally, before we go any further, you will notice that I have referred to the personnel officer as "he" but it could just as easily be "she". We pride ourselves here on being an equal opportunities column.

Anyway, back to the job interview. It is torment even when it is over. What sort of impression did you make? Did you say anything stupid? I am referring, of course, to the plight of the person who has to *conduct* the interview.

It takes a lot of nerve to ask a job applicant if he feels that his hobbies which he has put down as "theatre, classical music, reading, walking, protecting the environment and helping people who are less fortunate" will be useful in a career in white lines.

The answer will be that the applicant has felt for some years that he would like to make a contribution to this country's white lines and, if possible, help to make them whiter and longer.

Now the interviewer is getting desperate. He can't think of anything else to ask, so he falls back on the old interviewer's standby. He clasps his hands, leans forward, gives a disarming smile and says: "That all seems very satisfactory; now are there any questions you would like to ask *me*?"

The applicant is ready for that one. He gives a troubled frown and says: "I was just wondering, will there be opportunities for unpaid overtime?"

You can see that the interviewee has all the best lines in this encounter and now it is going to be weighted even more in his favour. The job seeker, we learn in yesterday's paper, may get a free alarm clock to help him show up on time for the interview, a haircut and taxpayers' expense and perhaps a smart suit provided by the Jobcentre. All this is part of the Government's welfare-to-work programme.

Now the poor interviewer has to try to keep his end up, while being painfully conscious of his scuffed shoes and of the way the ends of his tired shirt collar are curling up.

There he sits, struggling to think up a meaningful question to ask the spruced up applicant who is giving a little flick to his newly-styled hair and stretching out his leg to reveal one more inch of Jobcentre cotton-rich sock.

You can see the danger here; the interviewer may feel such resentment towards the splendid figure he is interviewing that he will find an excuse not to give him a job. The whole programme of grooming the interviewee will be a failure.

This is why I am calling on the Government to introduce a programme to raise the self-esteem of personnel officers. It is no good just renaming them directors of human resources; they must be fitted up in new suits and hairstyles.

They should all be issued with three extra framed diplomas to hang on their office walls. There must be lessons on interviewing, instructions on how to arrange the seating, training in the creative twirling of pencils, classes on how to nod gravely.

There must be rehearsals for interviewing panels so that they can practise exchanging significant glances at odd moments in an interview, and introducing unsettling periods of silence and they must master the art of taking notes when least expected to do so.

Unless something is done to improve their interviewing conditions, there could be mass resignations of personnel officers which would have a disastrous effect on the unemployment statistics.

CHESS

Mayhem in rapid final

By Malcolm Pein

ENGLAND International Jon Speelman fought his way through to the final of Bordeaux Rapid Chess Grand Prix at the weekend only to lose 2-0 to the world No 4 Alexey Shirov.

Speelman won the Open event and then defeated Laurent Fressinet, who had won a separate section for French players, 1·5-0·5 in the semi-final. Shirov entered the competition at the semi-final stage and beat the Argentinian IM, Diego Adla.

The two-game final was a superb contest between two of the most gifted players in the world today. Both players are renowned for their sacrifices and both managed to sacrifice first pawns and then their queen in the first game, which predictably exploded into complications as early as move six.

Shirov found an amazing pawn sacrifice in the opening which any normal player would reject as ridiculous. Speelman, playing white, had started with a very quiet set-up but typically, Shirov provoked mayhem from the outset and Speelman, true to form did not shy from the fight.

Speelman took the pawn and black's idea started to look dubious until the England No 3 showed some cavalier spirit as well when a more materialistic approach would have been better.

Speelman sacrificed two pawns himself by tempting Shirov's queen into what seemed dangerous territory on the queenside and he succeeded in opening three files towards the black king. However, white's attack, based on a rook sacrifice failed to materialise when Shirov found a brilliant king move, justified by clever tactics that won more material.

Speelman countered with a queen sacrifice which looked winning until the counter queen sacrifice effectively ended a marvellous struggle.

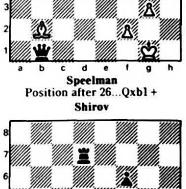
Game two saw Speelman achieve a reasonable position with black but he had to play an inferior move to avoid a draw by repetition and ended up losing.

J Speelman — A Shirov
Grand Prix de Bordeaux (2)
Reti Opening

1 Nf3	d5	2 g3	Bg4
3 Bg2	Nd7	4 0-0	e6
5 b3	Bd6	6 Bb2	Ne7?!
7 Bxg7	Rg8	8 Bb2	h5
9 c4	Bxf3	10 exf3	h4
11 Nc3	c6	12 Re1	dxc4
13 Ne4	Nf5	14 Nxd6+?	Nxd6
15 f4	hxg3	16 hxg3	Qb6
17 d4	0-0-0!	18 Rb1?!	Qa5
19 Qc2	Qxa2	20 bxc4	Nxc4
21 Rec1	Ndb6	22 Qe4	Nd2
23 Rxc6+	Kd7!!	24 Rxb6	Nxe4
25 Rxb7+	Kc8	26 Bxe4	Qxb1+!
27 Bxb1	Kxb7	28 f5	exf5
29 Bxf5	a5	30 Bc2	Rge8
31 Kf1	Kb6	32 g4	Kb5
33 Bb3	Rd7	34 Ba3	a4
35 Ba2	Re4	36 Bc5	Rxg4
37 f3	Rh4	38 Kg2	f6
39 Kg3	Rhxd4	0-1	

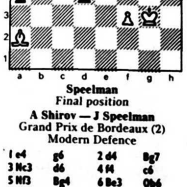
a, 13.g4 or Bh3 look better

Shirov



Speelman
Position after 26...Qxb1+

Shirov



Speelman
Final position

A Shirov — J Speelman
Grand Prix de Bordeaux (2)
Modern Defence

1 e4	g6	2 d4	Bg7
3 Nc3	d6	4 f4	c6
5 Nf3	Bg4	6 Be3	Qb6
7 Qd2	Bxf3	8 gxf3	Nd7
9 0-0-0	Qc7	10 h4	Ngf6
11 e5	Nd5	12 Nxd5	cxd5
13 h5	0-0-0	14 h6	Bf8
15 e6	Nb6	16 exf7	e6
17 Qa5	Kb8	18 Rd3	Rc8
19 Rc3	Nc4	20 Qxc7+	Rxc7
21 Bxc4	dxc4	22 d5	e5
23 a4	Be7	24 Rd1	exf4
25 Bxf4	Rf8	26 Re1	Kc8?
27 Rxe7	Rxe7	28 Bxd6	Rxf7
29 Bxf8	Rxf8	30 Rxc4+	Kd7
31 Rb4	b6	32 a5	Rf6
33 axb6	axb6	34 f4	Kc7
35 Re4	Rf5	36 Re7+	Kd6
37 Rxh7	Rxf4	38 Rg7	Rh4
39 Rxg6+	Kxd5	40 Rxb6	1-0

"Elias Freij." Daily Telegraph, 7 Apr. 1998, p. 25. The Telegraph Historical Archive, link.gale.com/apps/doc/IO0700570796/TGRH?u=tou&sid=bookmark-TGRH. Accessed 9 July 2024.