

## Chess Lessons

If you are playing Black,  
Do not defend, attack!  
King's Indian is good, but not the  
French,  
The latter leaves you weak  
On the black squares, and eek!  
You might well end up fighting in a  
trench.

Sicilian's not bad,  
The Dragon is a fad,  
The Najdorf's good, perhaps the  
Poisoned Pawn?  
R. Fischer tried that line  
In Reykjavik, it's fine,  
Though Spassky made it look  
somewhat forlorn.

Most players play quite well  
The middlegame, and swell  
The early stages of the opening,  
But often they are weak  
At endgames, for technique  
Is where the International Mas-  
ters' king.

Watch out for younger players,  
Oft' as not, they're real slayers,  
Don't go on sorties for material;  
Gain time and then convert  
Your tempo with a spurt  
To something solid, less ephemer-  
al.

Refine your combinations  
With subtle innovations,  
Play over games by Alekhine and  
Réti,  
Seek inspiration, and  
You will improve quite grand,  
And give more than you get of  
check and matey.

Repeat all I have said  
Before you go to bed  
Each night, and don't forget the  
major things:  
Get castled good and quick,  
Don't play for trap or trick,  
And stick to solid, king's pawn  
openings.

Abstain from classics stuff,  
They'll land you in the rough,  
Don't bring your queen out early  
or too late,  
Put rooks on open files,  
Beware of juveniles,  
And never miss a check: it might  
be mate!

