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Dear Bob,

I'm sure our letters must have crossed in the mail. Keep up the good work and please keep us informed on what you hear are Bally's latest plans. Many of the stores in our area have not been able to be re-supplied with the Bally Arcades & have not been able to get the new tapes, even after two months wait. Do you know whether they are still manufacturing the basic unit?

I am presently working on a version of hangman, bowling, & special spelling routines. I will furnish you a copy when I get the bugs worked out.

Since you are having so much difficulty with the Checkers program I sent you, I will try to enlighten you on some of the logic I used, as long as my wife holds out with my dictation. I do not know of any glitches in the program, but if there are I would appreciate information on them, such as what the board looked like & what level (the numbers printed out on the side) the program was at when the problem occurred.

(over)

The numbers printed out in the columns about 20 seconds apart is V identified in line 55. It was decided to print this out so that the players could see that the computer was still working & it does take the computer awhile for it to decide on its move. They also identify the type of decision or level the computer was at when it made its move.

V=1 identifies that the computer has found that it can jump one of your men.

V=2 checks to see whether you can jump one of the computer's men.

V=3 checks to see if a corner is open

V=4 " " " " there is an open move

V=5 + V=6 have the computer's men moving either to get kinged or toward any player's men remaining.

V=7 any move an unkinged computer's piece can make

V=8 is any move

The machine should allow for double or quadruple jumps as it is checked for in line 1200.

Note: Enter the 2 number as if it were a single jump only & the machine will do the rest.

As for line 206 - This was an error on the tape. Normally my tapes start near counter number 10.

My wife's arm is tired, so must close now.

John