

# CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS

## and

# News of Pacific Coast

VOL. 1

P. O. 124 SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA

NO. 12

### GUEST EDITORIAL

By Mr. Paul Wrangel - Santa Monica  
President of the Los Angeles County  
Chess League

Our mutual friend and well known Chess Master, George Koltanowski, asked me, some weeks ago, to write an editorial or "something" for our west coast Chess Magazine CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS.

One hears continually these days of the up-sweep of interest in chess all over the United States and particularly here on the west coast. Now, therefore, is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party.

It has been the habit of chess players to leave the organization of chess to the few and then to sit back and criticize their efforts. How about changing this and all of us getting in and pitching together in true American pioneer style.

An active California Chess Association could spread the inter-club activities enomously by bringing lovers of this ART together through exciting well planned events. At this time, such an organization is being formed.

Over Labor Day a group of energetic chess enthusiasts met at Atascadero and formulated plans for a vigorous and active association. It will represent all players, clubs and leagues in California. Delegates from these will have a democratic vote in all action taken by the association and everyone will have an active part to play.

Mr. Le Roy John<sup>son</sup> of the Los Angeles Chess Club has prepared a tentative constitution with his committee. All of California will soon be informed of the progress that has been made.

Whether you are an independent player, or a member of a club; whether your club is a member of one of the newly formed Leagues or not, you cannot but benefit by a healthy democratic Association. It will not only increase your opportunities to enjoy this Royal Game, but will increase chess activities all over the State, through the many new events to take place in 1949.

Let's all get behind the wheel and push. And now for the nonce - adieu!

\*\*\*\*\*

California Chess News is happy to give its space to opinions expressed by others on chess matters of importance. Articles for Guest Editorials are welcome. - The Editor

POSTAL CHESS GAMES Editor; R. D. Taylor  
129 Rev. St., San Francisco 24, Calif.

The first pairings in your C. C. N. Postal Tournament have been made and assignments mailed. More will follow.

For the information of those who may have missed them, the rules of play are being reprinted. It is not necessary that one be a subscriber to C.C.N. to enter. Just send name and address to the Postal Editor together with your fee and rating. The following entries are acknowledged:

Mr. Hugh H. Cook	Los Gatos
Mr. Leonard Hoff	Fresno
Mr. Rufus Rhoades	San Anselmo
Mr. Lionel Wolfson	Sebastopol
Dr. David Mallig	San Jose

Rules for play are given below. It is our desire to make them as few and simple as possible. It is also our wish to have them entirely acceptable to the players. Any comments or suggestions will be welcomed.

RULES FOR PLAY

1. Each player, upon receipt of his entry, will be given one of the following classifications, rating themselves. Those declaring themselves as follows:

Strong players	1200 points
Average players	1000 points
Fair players	800 points

These ratings will be published as received. Groups will be made up from players of the same strength as near as possible. Wins and Losses will be adjusted accordingly.

2. There will be seven (7) players in each group or match. Players may compete in as many groups as they wish. Fee - one dollar (\$1.00) per group.

3. Official code of the International Federation of Chess will govern all games, except as modified by these rules or manifestly inapplicable.

4. Time limit for answering moves will be three (3) days from date of receipt of moves, exclusive of Sundays and holidays. In cases of repeated complaints, the offending player may have his game forfeited, if the evidence warrants such action.

5. In the case of forfeited games, neither player's rating will be affected, unless the one awarded the forfeit requests adjudication. Forfeited games are scored as wins in the group.

6. Abandoned games or withdrawals will be scored as wins for the opponent. Credit in rating will be granted only if the remaining player requests adjudication.

7. At the end of games, the winner will report results to the POSTAL EDITOR giving group identification and name and address of opponent. In the case of ties, white will report.

8. Standard descriptive notations will be used in dispatching moves and reporting games.

9. Ambiguous moves, capable of more than one legal interpretation must be clarified by the recipient's returning said move and requesting its resubmission.

10. Players who have mailed moves must abide by such moves.

11. "If" moves are binding only if accepted by the opponent.

12. In the case of illegal or "impossible" moves, the opponent must request a legal move be made with the unit designated.

13. Please refer all misunderstandings to the POSTAL EDITOR and accept his decision as final.

14. Each player must keep a record of his games and be prepared to submit same to the POSTAL EDITOR, if requested.

\*\*\*\*\*

Prizes are \$3.00 (in credit), \$2.00 (in credit) and as third prize a free entry to the next group in each section. Entry fee one dollar (\$1.00) per section. Entries can be sent to CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS, P. O. Box 124, Santa Rosa, Calif.

\*\*\*\*\*

CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS and NEWS OF THE PACIFIC COAST

Appears at least ten (10) times a year. Subscription \$2.00 a year. P. O. Box 124, Santa Rosa, California

Canadian subscriptions should be sent to Dave Croemer, 169 West Pender Street, Vancouver, B. C. Canada.

Due to lack of space, our Games Section will appear in the next Issue, which will also contain a "must" article by Dr. Max Euwe "The Queen Against Two Rooks", a continuation on modern masters by Abe Yanofsky, plus all the regular features. Even Ye Editor has an article in the next issue. Prize winner in the Problem Section will be announced. Don't Miss the next Issue!

## FOLKLORE

California Chess News Exclusive

### CHES IN EARLY CALIFORNIA

By Sherman Walker - Sonoma, Calif.

Chess was being played in California many years before the gold rush. If you find this hard to realize then you should soon make a visit to the General Vallejo home in Sonoma, California.

The home has been taken over by the state and designated as an historic monument. The Swiss chalet adjoining is used as a museum for the Vallejo relics and many of his personal and state papers. One of the objects on exhibit there is a chess set and board of some antiquity. The board is well worn and must have been the scene of many a terrific struggle in the 40's, 50's and 60's. Sonoma was visited by a great number of learned and famous people in those years and many of them were lodged and entertained by the General, at his own expense.

One can imagine the guest settling down for a quiet evening of smoke and conversation after a delicious dinner of Spanish foods. Whereupon the General, with that eager glint in his eye inquires whether --maybe the guest is a --chess player? And pity the guest that answers "yes" for then the evening of pleasant relaxation becomes one of deep concentration and cunning strategy on the military field of the chess board, where his exaltation of imminent victory can settle into deep gloom a moment later when his opponent has moved.

The chess set on exhibition is large for a set of that time. The king is about 4 1/2 inches high and the king and knights are more elaborately carved than the modern pieces. Nothing is known of the history of the set. We can find no information on whether it was a gift, was inherited, or was purchased. That General Vallejo had other sets is seen by the mention of a small ivory set in a letter quoted later in this article.

What has perhaps more interest to the chess world is a book in the General's library. It is a chess book and was printed in 1838 or before the time of Paul Morphy. The book is in French and a translation of the title page is as follows: "Complete and Elementary Treatise of the Game of Chess. Revised and corrected by Jacques Francis

Mouret. Professor of Chess and Grand nephew of Philidor. Paris 1838."

Another item of especial interest is a letter on file there written home to his wife Francesca by General Vallejo, when he was held prisoner at Sutter's Fort, Sacramento during the bear flag uprising 102 years ago. The letter translated from Spanish reads in part as follows:

Sacramento, July 22, 1846.

My Dear Francesca:

From a cowboy that came from Napa on several errands for Salvador (brother of Gen. Vallejo, Ed.) and Julius (brother-in-law of Gen. Vallejo, Ed.) I have learned that all the family is well, and from the same source have also heard that Salazar (an Indian, Ed.) should be coming very soon from whom I am anxiously awaiting to hear about home. We are all well.

Even though Salazar has left for here I would suggest that you send me, by some Indians of Goseel that know the road (Petronio knows it well) two hands of paper, that is to say ten packs -- also send me the chess that is in one of the little drawers of the desk. The Ivory one, very small. ----"

These words make a very interesting picture for the chess player. General Vallejo facing an uncertain future with imprisonment already a fact and worse things in prospect, quietly asks for his chess set to relieve his mind of the terrific pressure of the history making events then in progress.

\*\*\*\*\*

Flash! Flash! The SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE started a Ladder-Solving Contest on Sunday, October 31st, and can be entered at any time. Problems appear each Sunday in the LEISURE section of the newspaper. Two book prizes will be given each month to the top solvers. Why not enter this competition and win valuable chess books? This chess activity is being directed by George Koltanowski.

Flash! Flash! Flash! Have you heard about chess appearing daily in the Santa Rosa Press Democrat? 'Tis so - ask Ye Editor - he does the editing!

MASTERS OF TODAY

BY Abo Yanofsky

Article 11

The tournament of London 1946 saw Dr. Bave take first place with a comparative newcomer taking second in a strongly contested field. This was a young Swiss student named Martin Christoffel, who learned to play the game at the age of twelve. Since his first national tournament in 1938, he has won the Swiss title three times; in 1943 at the age of twenty-one; again in 1945 and 1948. This firmly establishes him as the leading Swiss player of today.

An analysis of his style shows a clear conception of positional needs coupled with a keen sense of combination. In the following tournament game played in 1938-39, these talents are put to good use:

White: H. Christoffel Black: J. Ormond  
Sicilian Defence (Dragon) (Vovay)

- 1. P-K4 P-QB4
- 2. N-KB3 N-QB3
- 3. P-Q4 BxP
- 4. NcP N-B3
- 5. N-QB3 P-Q3

So far, play has gone along well established lines of the Dragon variation.

6. B-QB4  
The departure from the usual 6. B-K2 but apparently just as good.

6. ... P-KN3  
Continuing with the regular line and totally disregarding white's last move which now begins to cause trouble. Christoffel suggests 6...P-K3 as best, but I believe 6...B-Q2 followed by P-KN3 and N-B2 gives black complete equality.

- 7. Rcd1 Rcd1
- 8. P-K5 N-N5

The purpose of 6. B-QB4 now becomes clear, for if now 8...PcP?? 9. BxPch wins the Queen.

9. B-B4  
Very interesting here is 9. P-K6!?, N-K4 (if 9...P-Q4; 10. PcxPch, KcP 11. Rcd1) 10. PcxPch, NcP 11. Rcd1ch, BcB 12. Q-B3ch with a clear advantage. The text goes black into the Magnus Smith variation where combination are plentiful.

9. ... P-Q4  
Practically forced as black has no good moves at his disposal.

10. BcP Rcd1  
11...BcP B-Q2?  
Better is 11...B-K3 12. BcR (if 12. BcB, CcQch1) CcB with good chances, but not 11. Q-Rach 12. P-QB3, R-QN1 13. B-B6 ch and mate. The text allows Christoffel the extra time needed to build up a powerful attack.

12. Q-Q2!  
Threatening to win the knight by P-KR3 and at the same time allowing castling (long) with pressure on the queen file.

12. ... B-N2  
13. BcR CcB  
14. Q-Q-O  
Christoffel is now fully prepared for a large scale offensive.

14. ... B-QB3  
15. KR-K1  
Again threatening P-KR3

15. ... P-KR4  
Unfortunately 15...RcdN leads to mate after 16. Q-C7ch.

16. P-KB3 N-R3  
17. P-K61 N-B4 There is very little better

18. P-KN4 RcxP  
19. RcdN N-Q5  
20. PcxPch KcP  
21. Q-N41 N-K3

Virtually forced because of the double threat of Rcd1 and RcxPch. Now comes a neat finish.

22. Rcd1 BcR  
23. B-K1ch K-B2  
24. RcxPch K-N1  
25. Rcd1ch BcR  
26. Q-K7ch K-N1  
27. Q-K6ch K-B1

On 27...K-N2 there could follow 28. B-K5ch, K-R3 29. Q-K7! winning.

28. Q-B6ch K-K1  
Mate in two follows after 28. ...K-N1.

29. CcRch Resigns  
White's preponderance in material assures the win.

\*\*\*\*\*

News from Capital City Chess Club by Neil T. Austin - The club opened its Fall season with a dinner at the Alhambra Restaurant. A discussion was held on plans for the Sacramento City Championship and it was decided to try out the Swiss System. J. B. Gee won the rapid transit championship, defeating J. Mariannos in the final round.

CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS has the pleasure to present to its readers the first publication of a song on Atascadero. The author, Charles Henderson, is a well known song writer. By the way, you ought to hear Ye Editor sing this song! Ouch!

HOW ARE THINGS IN ATASCADERO?

By Charles Henderson, Los Angeles

(to be sung, rather wistfully, to the melody of "How Are Things in Glocca-Morra?")

HOW ARE THINGS IN ATASCADERO?

IS THE WOOD STILL BEING SHUFFLED THERE?

HAVE THE KIBITZERS BEEN HUFFLED THERE?

AND DOES EACH KNIGHT

STILL FIGHT FOR EVERY SQUARE?

HOW ARE THINGS IN ATASCADERO?

IS THE GHOST OF OLD JANOWSKI THERE?

DO THEY SPEAK OF KOLTANOWSKI THERE?

OR DON'T THEY DARE?

DO CHILDREN LOOK IN BOOKS

FOR THE FIFER POINTS --

HERMAN STEINER POINTS?

SO I GREET EACH FELLOW POTZER

WHO COLES DOWN FROM UP THAT WAY

AND BEFORE I SAY "J'ADOUBE"

I SMILE AND SAY:

"HOW ARE THINGS IN ATASCADERO

THIS FINE DAY?"

\*\*\*\*\*

While singing the above and feeling good, get into the mood, subscribe TODAY to California Chess News -- and get your fellow chessers to also join the bandwagon. \$2.00 a year gets you the best magazine on the West Coast!

NOTES ON THE FROM GAMBIT

By Milton Finkelstein -New York

Few openings require such precise opening play for White as does the From Gambit. It arises out of the aggressive reply to the Bird Opening (1. P-KB4), 1...P-K4!, and, in tournament play, has made White's task so difficult as to drive the Bird Opening out of master practice.

Black's ideal attack arises out of an opening trap.

- |          |                      |
|----------|----------------------|
| 1. P-KB4 | P-K4                 |
| 2. PxP   | P-Q3!                |
| 3. BxP   | BxP                  |
| 4. ...   | Q-R5ch (the threat!) |
| 5. P-KB3 | QxPch                |
| 6. BxQ   | BxP mate             |

My own first experience with the From was in a rapid transit about 15 years ago. Strangely, I saw the threat, and played 4. P-KR4?? Of course, the game ended at once with 4...B-N6 mate!

The problem is to find a good 4th move for White, and the alternatives are 4. N-KB3 and 4. P-N3. It is the first of these which was most often played against the Danish inventor of the opening in the 1880's. His reply, 4...P-K4! has become standard practice, as has the White continuation of 5. P-Q4. However, on several occasions, From was allowed to produce the brilliancy which we give below. It took a little time for some amateurs to realize that 5. P-K4 was to be avoided like the plague!

White: The Victim      Black: From

- |          |        |
|----------|--------|
| 1. P-KB4 | P-K4   |
| 2. PxP   | P-Q3   |
| 3. BxP   | BxP    |
| 4. N-KB3 | P-KN4! |
| 5. P-KA? | P-N5!  |
| 6. P-K5  |        |

Every white move from here to the end is forced!

- |        |         |
|--------|---------|
| 6. ... | PxN!    |
| 7. BxB | Q-R5ch! |

The mate is only 5 moves away. Can you see it?

- |          |        |
|----------|--------|
| 8. P-KB3 | Q-K5ch |
| 9. K-B2  | Q-Q5ch |
| 10. K-K1 |        |

10. KxP would avoid the mate, but would the Queen by 10...B-N5ch.

- |          |            |
|----------|------------|
| 10. ...  | P-B7ch!    |
| 11. K-K2 | B-N5 mate! |

## WHITE TO PLAY

"There is in Chess no real courtesy, only polite treachery."

Alain C. White.

And such is the case in this problem by H. Harble - 1906:

A. Q7/6N/Kp4B1/3pp1n1/3k1r2/plR4R/4rn2/B6a/- 2 moves. White "generously" permits nearly every one of his opponent's pieces to destroy his keypiece, but "beware of Crooks bearing gifts." You should be able to work out all seven variations in about thirty seconds flat. Ten (10) points only for this one.

SOLUTIONS: 24. F=B; 25. F=B; 26. Q-B1; 27. Q-R3; 28. N-CB5 29. P-B4;

(A) PnP o.p. It can be proved that Black's last move was P-K4. Black pawns on R3, and R4 account for the capture of the three White pieces already OFF THE BOARD, consequently Black's KP and QP could not have moved from a diagonal square. Pawns on K4 and R4 could not have moved last from K3 or R3 respectively owing to check to the White King. The only possible legitimate last Black move must be P-K4 from K2.

PROBLEMS: 30. 8/3PQ3/p3P3/4b1P2P1/plp1k2/klP3P1/4B3/8/- 2 moves (J. Juchli)  
31. 7Q/3pp3/1B1p4/12kLPP/1p6/1P3P2/8/1B2c3/- 2 moves (L'Hermet)  
32. 8/1p6/1B2B3/PkP1p2/4nR2/2plp01p/2H1P2P/6K1/-2 moves (Rabson)  
33. rHBbb3/pl1Rpp2/1Lk2P2/KpP5/pF2P3/B7/8/8/- 2 moves (Kipring)  
34. 6Rn/8/Lp2k/4F3/4n2/3p2H/3P2p1/6K1/-2 moves (A. Elkhan)  
35. 8/7K/6N/5N2/Lk3/3N4/2R5/1B6 -2 moves (B.C.H. -1901)

Watch for scores and winners of last quarter's contest: Announcement in next issue.

GREETINGS and best of luck from your problem editor: ALF HOJGE, Box 121, Santa Rosa, Calif.

\*\*\*\*\*

### FURTHER LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS TO "CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS"!! OUR HONOR ROLL!

Joseph Allie	Palo Alto	E. F. Lindstrom	La Mesa
George Adam	Trona	Heinz Loevy	San Francisco
E. O. Anders	San Francisco	Sam H. Love	Salinas
E. Aronstein	Fresno	Kurt Lowenstein	Santa Barbara
L. E. Barton	San Jose	S. V. McPherson	Orange
L. H. Beck	Fresno	James Marianos	Sacramento
George Blaine	Hollywood	Don E. Maron	Chula Vista
R. L. Bowen	Los Angeles	Prof. L.C. Howby	Los Gatos
M. Bradfield	Fresno	John Page	Pacific Beach
Stanley Burns	Del Mar	Carl Pohlhammer	Monro Park
Cleveland Public Libr	Cleveland, Ohio	S. T. Randle	Menlo Park
H. A. Davis	Los Angeles	Haurice Ransford	Los Angeles
C. A. Drevlo	Fontana	Gabor Rajto	Saratoga
John Faust	Hollywood	F. B. Richard	Fresno
George Flynn	Sacramento	T. H. Sampson	Oakdale
Ivan Frank	Los Angeles	Robert Schulze	Dixon
Clarence Gandy	Fresno	L. Sielin	Los Angeles
Lt. Cl. W. Garlock	Idl. Governor, Germany	Earl Schmitter	Fresno
J. R. Gesser	Stockton	J. Russell Spencer	Los Angeles
Carl Heymen	Stockton	Wallace Stanson	Glendora
Leonard Hoff	Fresno	Alex Taylor	Pasadena
O. Johnson	Los Gatos	A. J. Thompson	San Diego
Hilton Kahl	Los Angeles	T. Thompson	Modesto
Dr. H. Kilmann	Fresno	H. Van Dyck	Palo Alto
Roy F. Kingery	Stockton	J. H. Watson	San Francisco
La Mesa Chess Club	San Diego	Kellar Watson, Jr.	Orange
O. L. Lance	Santa Rosa	Daniel J. Yuke	Sacramento
J. Levinson	Petaluma	W. C. Stevens	No. Vancouver, Car

"OUT OF THE PAST IN CALIFORNIA CHESS"

By Harry Borochoff - Los Angeles

I shall give a series of my best games in the next few issues, with notes that should interest the student of chess.

The following game was played with the late A. H. Bierdirth, one of the most colorful of Los Angeles players, whose style was always aggressive, but in this instance, his attack was premature, this very interesting game resulting.

White: A. H. Bierdirth

Black: H. Borochoff

Queen's Pawn Opening-Tchigorin's Def.

- |             |         |                |           |
|-------------|---------|----------------|-----------|
| 1. P-Q4     | N-KB3   | 13. N-B3       | P-KB4(i)  |
| 2. N-KB3    | P-Q3(e) | 14. P-B4(j)    | P-KL      |
| 3. B-B4(b)  | Q-N2(c) | 15. O-O        | PxB       |
| 4. P-KR3(d) | P-N3    | 16. KcP(k)     | BcN1      |
| 5. P-K3     | B-N2    | 17. Q-Q5ch     | R-K3      |
| 6. B-Q3     | O-O     | 18. P-B5       | PxP       |
| 7. P-KN4(e) | R-KL    | 19. PxB        | Q-Nach(1) |
| 8. P-K4(f)  | P-K4    | 20. K-R4(m)    | Q-R4(n)   |
| 9. PxB(g)   | KcP(h)  | 21. R-KN1      | Q-R4(o)   |
| 10. BcN1    | KcP     | 22. Q-N2(p)    | R-N3      |
| 11. NcN1    | Bd3     | 23. PxB        | KcP       |
| 12. BxB     | RxB     | 24. Resigns(q) |           |

(a) Tchigorin's Defense; for a long time considered inferior, but recently revived by the Soviet players. The object is to avoid the Queen's Gambit, and play for P-K4 as early as possible.

(b) Over protecting K5, the key square for the struggle in the center. The ideal objective in every game is both P-K4 and P-Q4, preferable without loss of time.

(c) In order to prepare for P-K4 as early as possible. Black does not have time to first develop his QB before Q-N2 and still achieve P-K4. This inability of early development of the QB accentuates the theoretic and tactical inferiority of this defense.

(d) In order to provide a retreat (R2) for the Bishop presuming that Black intends N-R4 which, incidentally, cannot be good for Black would then be moving a piece twice in the opening, resulting in loss of time. With the text, it is White who loses time.

(e) The text leads to additional loss of time. Three of white's first 8 moves on a non-developing basis; his 4th, 7th and 8th. Furthermore, by not being developed on the Q-side, he must forego castling there (where his K would be in safety) for some time to come. Castling

K-side in view of the broken pawn structure would not only defeat his initial strategy, but also expose his own king to attack.

(f) Safeguards against the threat P-K4 then P-K5 forking Bishop and Knight.

(g) White expected a complete trade on this square with a blocked position in the center and equal chances.

(h) Black, with the courage of his convictions arising from White's loss of time and with the knowledge that any other action would lead only to equality embarks on this sacrificial continuation which is quite sound. Note how a Black bishop instead of P winds up at K4, thus keeping the lines of attack open.

(i) In order to regain the sacrificed piece and emerge a pawn plus.

(j) White conceives a combination, which apparently regains the lost pawn.

(k) Regaining his lost pawn and threatening to establish an advanced post via (all white moves) Q-B3, P-N5, N-B6, where nothing less than a Rook could dislodge the well-posted Knight. Playing a pawn down offered him his best chances.

(l) Temporarily "pinning" white's King's Bishop's pawn.

(m) If 20. K-B2, K-R4; 21. R-KN1, Q-B5 ch; 22. K-N2, R-K7ch and mates at K7 next move. If instead 22. Q-B3, black trades queens with an easy end-game win. Or if 20. K-R2, K-R4; 21. R-KN1, Q-B5ch; 22. K any, Q-K5ch trading Queens. On 22. R-N5, in this variation R-K7ch wins.

(n) Escaping the R-KN1 threat of pinning black Q, as well as releasing the black rook from the pin by the Q.

(o) Still keeping the KcP pinned and also threatening QxRmate.

(p) Stopping the QxRcP mate threat and threatening Q-N7 or N8 mate; and apparently forcing black's Q-B2 with loss of the rook. Black meets the new threat by sacrificing the rook so long under attack, but in another manner opening the diagonal of his undeveloped QB.

(q) 24. Q-N5 is refuted by B-N7 ch winning the Q, or 24. Q-R2, Q-B6ch wins. If white tries P-N7ch there is no change in the final result. White resigns for he emerges 2 pawns down.

"PARDON MY SOUTHWESTERN EXPOSURE"  
By Lynn Henderson - Los Angeles

My exposure to chess, believe it nor not, was on my honeymoon -- my husband being an ardent potzzer from way back. (Really a very fine player and student.) It was a little disconcerting to say the least, but from the beginning I was fascinated. After all, I was embarking upon a new career of marriage and I wanted to put my best pawn forward. No, I just decided that if it meant so much to my darling, who was I to deprive him of a very stimulating hobby? I think a lot of wives miss out on a great deal of pleasure and companionship by not giving in to the chess bug because, face it kids, once it hits you, you're dead. I personally prefer to share my husband's interest rather than stay home alone.

I took a couple lessons from Herman Steiner about the fundamental principles, but my husband is responsible for my over-all education. I'm afraid I'm not a good book student. When I read them alone they are more effective than Secconals. So, I lost for the first few years! I still lose, but I'm beginning to be a little troublesome.

Charlie (my beloved) talked me into playing correspondence chess, with the hope that I would become more acquainted with the openings. He was right, but what an experience in itself! My first section was the Womens' Section in Chess Review. I must admit it was quite a kick getting those little penny postals with their little feminine asides. Women will be women! We exchanged snap-shots and what-not! Naturally, a couple withdrew which helped my score but not my experience. In any event, I won the section and found myself (get me) the Womens' Southwestern Postal Champion. I am now playing off the finals. Already one of my opponents hasn't answered for weeks. How many repeats should you send?

I also joined another section in the Golden Knights. This time I had strictly male opponents. This also was a delightful experience. First of all, after sending in my buck entrance fee, I got two opponents who were practically neighbors. Strangely enough, my husband, in another section, was playing the wife of one of my toughest adversaries. They lived in Westwood so we thought it might be fun to get together. They turned out to be a delightful couple -- Ed and Margaret Belasco. My other neighbor, an aero-

nautical engineer at Douglas, kept sending me little billet dows's about getting together. A few penny postals later, we finally arranged an evening. He had some of his fellow Dougla'sites. After playing a couple of off hand games, Charlie showed off by playing us all simultaneously. We had fun, coffee and cake, and made a new friend, Otto Wendt.

Enuf' of my experiences. I promised Kolty, when he was our house guest during his very successful exhibition tour of our southern provinces, that I would be his southern correspondent. I first covered the Finals of the Santa Monica City Championship. Entrance fees were \$5.00, with a \$2.50 return if no one dropped out. The prizes were \$20.00 for first, won by Ray Martin; \$12.50 for second, won by Paul Quillen; \$5.00 third prize, won by last Year's champion Emil Bersbach; and fourth, \$2.50, won by our old friend "Tap" Hazzard. The tournament was conducted on a seven-round Swiss system basis. Martin's win against Bersbach clinched the outcome for the twenty-four year old ex-G.I., who is now attending L. A. City College. Ray and his room mate, Paul Quillen, spent an afternoon with me annotating his game with Bersbach. After a few short beers and too many cigarettes, the following results were in my possession.

White: Ray Martin Black: Emil Bersbach  
Sicilian Defense

- |              |           |            |           |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 1. P-K4      | P-QB4     | 13. Q-B2   | Q-B2(e)   |
| 2. N-KB3     | N-OB3     | 14. QB-Cl  | P-QNA?(f) |
| 3. P-Q4      | PxP       | 15. P-K5!  | N-KN1(g)  |
| 4. NCP       | P-Q3?(a)  | 16. Pxp    | BxP       |
| 5. B-K2      | N-B3      | 17. NhdP   | PdN       |
| 6. N-OB3     | P-K3      | 18. Nxp    | Q-N1      |
| 7. B-K3      | B-K2      | 19. NxBch  | K-B1      |
| 8. O-O       | B-Q2?1(b) | 20. NcR    | QdI       |
| 9. P-B4      | Q-B3?(c)  | 21. B-B5ch | Kn-K2     |
| 10. Q-Q2     | Q-R4      | 22. NcP    | OxR       |
| 11. P-OB3(d) | P-OB3     | 23. R-Q1   | Resigns   |
| 12. B-B3     | B-OB1     |            |           |

(a) This move is weak; it allows 5. P-QB4!. However, since I have analyzed the Sicilian extensively, I prefer to go into the regular line, as I consider black to be practically lost in the normal lines. The text move is made to avoid Richter's attack.



CALIFORNIA CHESS DOINGS (Continued)

(b) A doubtful move, because of 9.KK-N5. However, again I prefer to stay along more normal lines.

(c) A wasted move because the Queen must move again after 10.Q-Q2, which white intends in any event.

(d) 11.KK-N5 is a strong alternative.

(e) 13...O-O is risky because of 14. KcP, Bc1; 15.B-B6, KcP; 16.Nc1, Q-KB4 and white has an enduring initiative.

(f) The decisive strategical error. Correct was 14. O-O.

(g) If 15...KcP, 16.KK-N, Bc1; 17.Bc1ch, QcB; 18.KcP, N-Q2; 19.QcBch, K-Q1; 20. Bc1ch, QcR (if 20...KcR; 21.B-Q1 ch, K-B2; 22.QcBch, K-N1; 23.Q-K7mate) 21.B-Q1. Or 15...N-Q4; 16.Bc1, BcB (if 16...Bd1; 17.Bd1, KcB; 18.KcP, QcP; 19.KcP, with overwhelming position) 17.KcP, Q-N2; 18.Bc1, Bc1; 19. KcB, Q-N1; 20.KcP, Q-Q2; 21.P-B5, P-B3; 22.B-B5 and white wins.

Next we picked up Herman Steiner and LeRoy Johnson and drove over to the Pasadena Chess Club at 37 Delmar Street. There were twenty-boards and a lot of familiar faces from the various clubs. I was volunteer score-keeper. Kee-rop! When I finished erasing, the results turned out to be...Of course, first Haman Steiner - 20-4 (Banner getting the draw); second Harry Borochoff - 17-4. For a while it was nip and tuck between Borochoff and Steckel. Third, William Steckel - 15-5. Fourth was a tie between Sidney Weinbaum (Pasadena Club Champion) and Adolph Weiss, 14-7. Sixth was also a tie between R. Banner and H. Bogosin - 13-7. This event was on Sunday afternoon, October 17th.

The Pasadena news...Friday, October 8th. Exhibition by Harry Borochoff. Mon 16, lost 1 to W. J. Edwards, and drew 1 with D. H. Sibbet. Monday, October 18th. Start of 1949 Club Championship, seven round Swiss System preliminary. Top four play round-robin for championship. D. Sidney Weinbaum leads club chess ladder. Class lessons are planned for the future. Friday, September 17th. Exhibition by R. P. Smith. Mon 14, lost 0, drew 0.

Thursday evening, October 21st, we stopped by the Beverly Hills Roxbury Park Club. They meet every Thursday evening. This particular evening, Mr. Ellis Levy, who has a walnut grove

in Encino, donated a 20-pound bag of walnuts for the winner of the inter-club tournament. There are too many quips I could make about this, so make up your own. It was fun though, and the winners were L. H. Fazzio (head of the Beverly Hills ladder) first; and Mr. Spadina, second.

Now to wind up this lengthy column, the latest news: Sammy Reshevsky is coming to California to live, work, and we hope play a lot of chess, on November 24th. Weaver Adams will be at the Hollywood Chess Club November 20th. Hans Kmoch would like to come out if arrangements can be made for him to get employment as a translator with one of the studios. We are all trying to accomplish this in his behalf. Radio matches between Budapest and Los Angeles, Puerto Rico and Los Angeles, and Canada and Los Angeles are being arranged. More details in the near future. Inglewood Chess Club defeated San Pedro 9-0. Inglewood meets at the Recreation Center.

This has been a lot of fun (my first experience as a chess correspondent). I may not be able to continue being your southern correspondent as my husband may transplant us in New York in December, but we will be playing chess and having interesting chess experiences, so you'll be hearing from me from time to time.

\*\*\*\*\*

(Los Felix Chess Club) The Los Felix Chess (Los Angeles by G. E.) Club annual Chess (Croy-Secretary) B Tournament was won by J. Kahn, after playing off a tie for first place with Milton Kahl. Tied for third and fourth places were D. Bogen and Dr. Healy. Koltanowski had 18 opponents in his exhibition here on October 6th. The following were his opponents: Bowman, Frank, Kramer, Rayburn, Kahl, Coban, Ardin, Southworth, Johnson, Weiss, Thayer, Healy, Healy, Crow, Dowers, Pollycove, Liberman and Mrs. M. Roos. He lost to Frank and drew with Croy.

(Orange Chess Club by) Winning 7 out of 11 (Kellar Watson, Jr.) 8 games he played blindfolded, George Koltanowski lived up to his advance billing. For over 3 hours his remarkable memory kept count of the 8 boards and 32 pieces on each board, and not once did he get a peck at the boards. His constants were: Wm. Caverly, Sr., Wm. Caverly, Jr., Harold Gimeno, W. Arruere, Bud Teter, Art Collins, L. Johnson, Kellar Watson. Randolph Banner acted as teller. K. Watson won a brilliant game against the champ.

NORE PACIFIC COAST CHESS DOINGS:

(Merced Chess Club) A chess club was organized here on Oct. 22nd. D. O. Menrich was elected President; Henry Hall, Secretary and Treas. The club meets Friday nights at the Public Library. Larry Davis played 13 games simultaneously; won 10 and lost to R. J. Ardley, William Andrew and H. S. Loggins.

(Pomona Chess Club) On the evening of Oct. 13, chess activity got underway for the new season with a 4-board blindfold exhibition by world's champ George Koltanowski. Displaying his usual cool ability at this difficult art, Kolty swept through for four quick wins. His victims, in order of board number were: R. Fingarron (with consultants), Clifford Drevilo, Bob Uphan and a tandem team of Mario Gonzales and Walter Schmidt. The exhibition was well attended by chess enthusiasts from many points in the Pomona area. To top off the evening, Kolty gave an illuminating lecture. Vice-President Joe Kirk has gotten the ball rolling for a renewal of round-robin play among club members. The main purpose of this program is to determine relative strength of the players for matches with other clubs. Prospective matches are yet to be arranged with Orange and San Bernardino. The Pomona Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday evening at the Pomona YMCA, 350 N. Garey. Visitors and new members are welcome.

(San Diego Chess Club) The evening of Oct. 15th was spent in an enjoyable manner by the chess fans of San Diego County at the Sandford Hotel, 5th and "A" Streets, when George Koltanowski played simultaneous chess against 27 players and also showed what blindfold chess was. Our record was not as good as last time Kolty was here, but hope springs eternal in the human breast so when he comes again let him beware! A. J. Thompson won his game; George Gilson drew his. 25 players lost their games. There were 80 or more onlookers who enjoyed the blindfold exhibition and simultaneous very much, especially when our man at the blindfold board tried to use a pawn to capture Kolty's rook and found that the pawn was pinned by a bishop against his king. The time for the whole event was about 4 hours and that's mighty good time for a simultaneous chess match and lecture.

(Fresno Chess Club) The Fresno Chess Club (by C. W. Bird) was host to George Koltanowski on October 17 in Hart's Cafeteria. Mr. Koltanowski won easily 2 rapid transit games and 13 out of 14 simultaneous games played over the board. Jack Kvindesland got a draw against the blindfold champion. Following the exhibition, Mr. K. gave a stimulating talk on the World Championship matches of the past and of the future. The local club has accepted a date, tentatively set for November 14, for the first games in the Central California Chess League at Modesto. Neil T. Austin of Sacramento will complete arrangements for the match. Meanwhile the Fresno Club is continuing play on the ladder system. The standing of the players at present is as follows: Polouze, Bird, Bradford, Beck, Paulsen, Cook, Kallmann, Aronstein, Stagg, Price, Legler, Gandy, Collier, Bostick, Johnson.

(Bay Area Chess League) The following are the results of the 1st round in Div. "B" of the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League:

<u>Palo Alto</u>		<u>Berkeley</u>	
1. Bourke	0	Ledner	1
2. Mills	1	Swink	0
3. Dana	1	Corbett	0
4. McInturff	0	Corlett	1
5. Ricketts	1	Yarwood	0
6. Barton	1	Horse	0
7. Vaughn	1	Thackwell	0
	5		2

<u>S.F.C.A.</u>		<u>OAKLAND</u>	
1. F. Olivera	0	L. Ledgerwood	1
2. J. Escobar	0	R. Froeman	1
3. H. Russ	1	R. Saunders	0
4. H. Lansing	0	C. Dodge	1
5. G. Crook	0	L. Osternig	1
6. E. Butenhof	1	A. Shepperson	1
7. D. Russ	1	T. Morales	0
	2 1/2		4 1/2

<u>Tower</u>		<u>Cal. Labor School</u>	
1. Rickard	0	Christiansen	1
2. Rippo	0	Hitchcock	1
3. Urena	1	Sanborg	0
4. Priffith	1	Bauer	0
5. Clapper	1	Daniels	0
6. Smalley	1	Bell	0
7. Thomson	1	Colton	1
	4 1/2		2 1/2

San Jose won over Mechanics' Institute by a forfeit.

Chico, California - The Central School Chess Club held its first meeting Oct. 8th. Plans were discussed for the season. M. Chmekla is the group sponsor.

MORE PACIFIC COAST CHESS DOINGS!

(SAN RAFAEL CHESS CLUB) Here is news from (by Louis Yates) the next champions of the Redwood Empire! On Oct. 8 we visited Santa Rosa for the season's first match and at the end found ourselves on top with a tall of 7-3.

San Rafael		Santa Rosa	
J.C. Myers	1	J.C. Jenkins	0
F. Southorland	1	S. Walker	0
W. Knowlton	0	R. Holten	1
E. Eisericich	0	W. Howe	1
R. Allison	0	J. Boschen	1
L. Yates	1	W. Sherman	0
R. Comstock	1	A. Kelly	0
A. Atkins	1	G. Watson	0
J. Rossini	1	P. Corcy	0
R. Rhoades	1	A. Sokol	0
	<u>7</u>		<u>3</u>

As the barber would say, "Next, Please!" (We're only kidding; our fingers are tightly crossed.) W. Knowlton and G. Rasmussen (Vallejo) drew their games in a recent exhibition given in San Rafael by George Koltanowski, who won 21 games. J.C. Myers was the only victor in the rapid transit blindfold.

(PETALUMA CHESS CLUB) Results of match (by Lionel Wolfson) with Vallejo on Oct. 8th, played in Petaluma.

Vallejo		Petaluma	
G. Rasmussen	1	G. Wollman	0
R. Richards	1	L. Wolfson	0
O. Richmond	0	B. Johnson	1
F. Norling	1/2	J. Lesh	1/2
G. Nyland	1	A. Eisenstein	0
R.O. Bryan	0	S. Goertzel	1
M. Fountain	0	J. Nyland	1
D. Bates	1	J. Tillin	0
W. Rhodes	1	R. Koch	0
A. Nelson	1	L. Karsavar	0
H. Shantz	1	S. Miller	0
O. Turley	0	H. Jerosko	1
	<u>7 1/2</u>		<u>4 1/2</u>

(TRONA CHESS CLUB) The Trona team with (by G. M. DeYarmon) 6 players, travelled to San Bernardino, Oct. 16 and played the chess club there. Result of match played at the Y.M.C.A. as follows:

Trona		San Bernardino	
C.L. Fratt	2	N. Jensen	0
R.L. Glasen	0	J. Colley	2
G. DeYarmon	2	F. Palmares	0
G. Adams	2	L. Honney	0
L. Rockdale	1	R. Hunana	1
T. Jordan	0	W. Maloof	2
	<u>7</u>		<u>5</u>

Koltanowski's result that same day was 16 wins, 1 draw against Bernard Madrid of Riverside.

(SAN JOSE CHESS CLUB) Result of Santa Clara County (by William Adams and Harry Shaw) Championship was

1. Adams	San Jose	23 1/2	4 1/2
2. Mills	Palo Alto	20 1/2	7 1/2
3. Mueller	Campbell	20	8
4. Lovin	San Jose	19 1/2	8 1/2
5. Crofut	San Jose	18 1/2	9 1/2
6. Dana	Palo Alto	17 1/2	10 1/2
7. Malig	San Jose	17 1/2	10 1/2
8. Bryner	San Jose	12	16
9. Daugherty	San Jose	12	16
10. Ricketts	Palo Alto	12	16
11. O'Shaughnessy	San Jose	11	17
12. McInturff	Sunnyvale	10	18
13. Buschine	San Jose	7	21
14. Mercer	San Jose	6	22
15. Flindt	San Jose	3	25

Annual Club Championship results as follows:

1. Avrech	12-4	5. Gerstl	7 1/2-8 1/2
2. Wooster	11-5	6. Langendorf	6-10
3. Barton	9 1/2-6 1/2	7. Shaw	4 1/2-11 1/2
4. Van Hooser	7 1/2-8 1/2	8. Rideout	3-13
		9. Racicot	1-15

Director of both tournament was Dr. J.M. David Malig.... Charles Bagby of the San Francisco Mechanics Inst. C.C. played a simultaneous chess exhibition in San Jose on Oct. 1st against 20 local opponents. He won 16 games, drew 1 and lost 3. Those who won were R.V. Rickette, F. Crofut and G. Van Hooser. Dr. D. McInturff obtained the draw. The game that gathered the most spectators, however, was a "wild" game at a board played by Alex Mercer which Mr. Bagby finally won sneaking a lady in the back door.... Weaver Adams, U.S. Open Champion, will appear in San Jose on Nov. 15-16th.

(CHESS CLUB, Letterman Gen.) The Am. Red (Hospital, S. Francisco by Mrs. Mildred Hendrix) Cross Letterman Gen. Hosp.

Chess Club reports a most interesting blindfold and simultaneous chess exhibition by G. Koltanowski, Col. John H. Posek, Chief of Staff of Sixth Army and Sixth Army Chess Champion was Mr. K's opponent in the blindfold game. The following took part in the simultaneous games: Col. J. Posek, Lt. Col. L. Butler, Dr. L. M. Rose, Capt. G. Houltrie, Capt. G. Bryan, Lt. D. P. Shea, Lt. John Koss, T/Sgt. N. Rose, Cpl. Hilman Engobrotson, Private Glove Kolsay, Mr. William White. Lt. L. Hamilton of ward A-2 was the chess club trophy donor for September, being able to increase his rating 39 pts. during the month.

## DIRECTORY OF CHESS CLUBS

Santa Barbara Chess Club, Santa Barbara, Cal. (Founded 1921.)  
Meets daily from 2 P. M. to 5 P. M.  
Evenings: Monday and Friday from 7 P. M. to 10 P. M. at the RECREATION CENTER, Santa Barbara. Visitors are welcome!

President: L. A. Cooke  
Secretary: E. C. Babcock - phone 23760

\*\*\*\*\*

WHEN IN LOS ANGELES - you are welcome at the  
LOS FELIZ CHESS CLUB - 3401 Riverside Drive, cor. Los Feliz Blvd.  
Phone - HO 11548  
Open every Monday and Wednesday evening from 7:30 to midnight

\*\*\*\*\*

(HOW ABOUT GETTLING YOUR CLUB ON THIS ROSTER?? ASK FOR TERMS.)

\*\*\*\*\*

## From our Book Shelf

Order your books through CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS!

Chess Magazines! We have them!  
"Caissa" - The German Magazine.  
(24 issues a year, 16 pages each)  
\$2.50 a year.

"Schach-Magazin" - Austrian monthly.  
(32 to 36 pages.) \$2.50 a year.

Just out the following booklets - all in German:

Dr. Emanuel Lasker by W. Loose 35¢

Turniererfahrung by Rautenberg 35¢

Deutsche Meisterschaft 1947.

Part 1. Brinckmann 35¢

Deutsche Meisterschaft 1947.

Part 2. Brinckmann 35¢

Bed Neuhelm, 1946 Brinckmann 1.00

Moderne Eröffnungspraxis (the openings:

Garo-Kann, Slav and Nimzo-Indian) by

W. Loose 35¢

Fornschachkurzschlusse by Dr. Ed.

Dryckhoff 50¢

Mit vertauschten Farben by Dr.

H. W. Dunhaupt 50¢

IN ENGLISH:

PRACTICAL CHESS by George Koltanowski

\$2.50

From The Editor's Desk - GREETINGS!  
A Birthday for CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS...one year old with this issue! We are indeed proud and hope that many, many more readers will help celebrate our second year of existence. In this year of publication, there has been a definite upswing in chess here in California and we feel that CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS has helped in no small way to develop and arouse interest in chess in many a place. Thanks is definitely due the many who have helped by sending in new of clubs, renewed their subscriptions, brought in their friends as subscribers and those who have constantly sent in articles that have made CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS an outstanding magazine on the West Coast. We hope to continue on the road that leads to better and more CHESS!

We heard that Fort Ord, California has formed a chess club. It should be a "must" in every military post. All clubs will benefit when these new recruits to chess come home!

Bob Schulze, Box 241, Dixon, Calif. writes that they are forming a chess club there. Readers living nearby who wish to join should write to him for further details. Merced, Calif. and Chico, Calif. have also formed clubs this month. It sure does the heart good to be able to report the forming of new chess centers.

Something new has been added! Chess friends, we know you will enjoy the column by our new correspondent, Lyn Henderson. Show it to your wife. It should help you!

Join a group in the Correspondence Tournament. You will enjoy immensely playing chess friends (and fiends!) all over the state. Enter today! Don't delay!

This is important! If you have a change of address, please notify CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS so that the next issue can catch up with you.

This is important, too! All club news, articles, games, etc., should be sent in by November 15th to assure publication in the next issue. Send in the doings of your Club, everyone else would like to hear about you.

George Koltanowski

\*\*\*\*\*

Vancouver, B.C. Canada club organizes. A. E. Russell was elected president of the Vancouver Chess Club at the annual meeting held at the club rooms. J. A. McCharles was elected vice-president, H.H. Burrell was retained as treasurer with A. Hammond, secretary for another year. Canon Roy acted as chairman. Club leaders in the competitions will be R. H. Minson (club tournament section) and Canon H. L. Roy, captain in the inter-club matches.