

Precita Valley  
COMMUNITY CENTER

# CHESS HERALD

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Representing The San Francisco Bay Area Chess League

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San Francisco Bay Area Chess League

## M. I. KNIGHTS CINCH A DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP - PRECITA VALLEY SLIPS, HOLDS B LEAD

The Mechanics' Institute Knights cinched the A Division championship of the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League on May 10 as they easily defeated the University of California 7-0. California lost before the match started as they forfeited four boards. Addison, Bagby, and Bourke won their games to make it a clean sweep. At the same time and place (Mechanics' Institute), the M. I. Bishops and Oakland were playing nip and tuck and drew a match  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$ . Boyette and Murray struck blows for the Bishops while Trenberth and Lien scored for Oakland. Three boards ended in draws: Plock-Demos, Nieder-Talcott, and Wreden-Bergman. The Castle-Golden Gate match was postponed to May 17, but Golden Gate cannot hope to catch the Knights so will be playing to look better as the second place team.

In the B Division, Precita Valley has slipped, losing to Alameda 2-5 on May 3, but still holds a  $\frac{1}{2}$  game lead over Mech. Inst. B and Alameda with one round to go on May 17. Mech. Inst. B swarmed over Mission 5-2 to keep pace while Mech. Inst. B/1 merely showed up to win its match with Golden Gate by forfeit, 7-0. The final round on May 17 matches Precita Valley vs. Mech. Inst. B/1, Mission vs. Alameda, and Golden Gate vs. Mech. Inst. B.

The standings, box scores of results, and individual statistics are on pages 4 and 5.

## Silver Jubilee Match

### 25TH NORTH-SOUTH TEAM MATCH AT HOTEL CALIFORNIAN, FRESNO, SATURDAY, MAY 31

The 25th, Silver Jubilee, Northern California-Southern California team match will be held over the three-day holiday weekend at the Hotel Californian in Fresno, May 30, 31, and June 1. The North-South match itself will actually begin at 9:30 am on Saturday, May 31. Registration for the match will be from 4:00 to 7:00 pm on Friday, May 30, and a last-hour registration period will be on the same date from 11:00 to 12:00 pm. In other words, the lineups will be closed at midnight before the match.

Because it is the Silver Jubilee of this historical chess match, a special program has been scheduled. On Friday, May 30, at 9:00 pm the regular business meeting of the California State Chess Federation will take place. A luncheon for wives will be served in the Polynesian Room at 12:30 pm on May 31 and there will also be a tournament for wives with prizes at stake. There will be an informal cocktail hour in this same room at 6:30 pm on the same day. A victory banquet will take place after the match (7:30 pm) in the Empire Room; \$5.00 per person will cover this celebration. The State Speed Championship (rapid transit-- ten seconds a move) Tourney will be on Sunday, June 1 with registration time at 10 am and play beginning immediately after.

The South won for the 2nd consecutive year last year 37-36 and Captain Charles Henderson is optimistic enough to predict three straight for the South. Captain Guthrie McClain is out to stem the tide, and hopes to do it with manpower. We know the South will have a 100 players--, let's outnumber them, Northerners!



B A C K R O V I N G R E P O R T E R

(Club directors or readers who may have an item of interest for this column please write to the editor, Jim Reynolds, 117 Brewster St., San Francisco 10, Calif., or contact him by phone, MI 8-5759 -- guest writers are welcome.)

IT'S NICE TO KNOW that some people DO read this paper. In order to find out, a reporter needs only to err. Your ROVING REPORTER "goofed"! Okay, so Mr. Wiebe would have lost a Rook instead of the Bishop if he had moved his King when Mr. Rosenbaum checked him with his Rook. Sic transit gloria kibitzers!

So the New York Mechanics' Institute Knights d--m Yankees did it again! The Golden Gate Chess Club is getting the Chicago White Sox complex! What's that old saying again? --Just wait until next year, you d--m Knighties!!

What happened to Precita Valley? I guess they can't stand prosperity. For two matches all they needed was to win one lousy match and they can't seem to get the old team to show up in full force. Unlike the proverb, "Opportunity only knocks once," Precita Valley has a third chance to go from rags to riches!

"SEE YOU AT FRESNO!" says North captain Guthrie McClain, much hope and expectancy coming with the exclamation. Remember, the South outnumbered us last year in the biggest of all North-South team matches, or it could have been even bigger. South captain Charlie Henderson feels confident he will bring along 100 players with him from the southland, and he will probably bring along a few bucks to back up his conviction that the South will beat the North for the third consecutive year, too. Hey, you Northerners, are we going to stand for this? North captain Guthrie McClain is being faithful enough to believe that the North will match the South man for man, but play the Old Royal Game better--; and, he has a few bucks also to say he is right! YEP! SEE YOU AT FRESNO!!

There's going to be a little preparation for the North-South match at Mechanics' Institute on Saturday, May 24 at 7:30 pm. Last year this preparation was a farce as San Francisco downed East Bay 13-2 (only 15 players a side). Counting both divisions in our S. F. Bay Area League we have 12 7-man teams which adds up to 84 players or 42 boards. Including substitutes on some of the teams, we should be able to pick up 16 more for a total of 100 (50 boards a side), and this is also the manpower we need to match the South and beat them! You may find some North-South statistics on page 5, and a reminder of the San Francisco-East Bay match on page 4.

Another good chess player went into hibernation when Miss Joan Allen became Mrs. James Cook! Mr. Cook made the mistake of getting married on the day when his chess team was scheduled to play a match in the evening. That wasn't so bad except that he considered the honeymoon more important than the chess match! Ye gads, did you see that frown on Caissa's face??!! This reminds your reporter of an incident some four years ago with Earl Yaggie heading the cast of characters. Remember, Earl? --That night you helped out my team on your wedding anniversary? I'm sure Bonnie remembers! You were to be back about 10 pm, but you and a Mr. Bill Stevens were still glued to the board at 4:30 am. The only trouble was that you lost the game and you still had to figure out your next move with Bonnie, even though you had already overstepped your time limit! Here's hoping Jim and Joan can come to an understanding where the Old Royal Game is concerned. And, remember, Jim, Caissa is depending on you!

It's been good seeing Cliff Loney around the various clubs. Cliff is looking over the field before deciding on which to join. Tip from your reporter; M. I. has the inside track, being open on Saturday nights--, Mr. Loney rises early in the morn for work on weekdays.

SEE YOU AT FRESNO!!!

San Francisco Bay Area Chess League - A Division

Results May 10

At Mechanics' Institute:

M. I. BISHOPS 3½	OAKLAND 3½
R. Plock..... ½	J. Demos..... ½
L. Boyette..... 1	L. Ledgerwood.... 0
D. Nieder..... ½	L. Talcott..... ½
O. Wreden..... ½	C. Bergman..... ½
J. Murray..... 1	R. Cuneo..... 0
D. Madgett..... 0	R. Trenberth..... 1
P. Foley..... 0	E. Lien..... 1

Totals 3½ 3½

M. I. KNIGHTS 7 CALIFORNIA 0

W. Addison..... 1	J. Hursch..... 0
C. Bagby..... 1	E. Simanis..... 0
A. Bourke..... 1	W. Rebold..... 0
J. Schmitt..... 1	Forfeit..... 0
E. Pruner..... 1	Forfeit..... 0
C. Svalberg..... 1	Forfeit..... 0
K. Bendit..... 1	Forfeit..... 0

Totals 7 0

CASTLE-GOLDEN GATE postponed to May 17.

Results April 26

At Golden Gate Chess Club:

M. I. BISHOPS 2½	GOLDEN GATE 4½
L. Boyette..... 0	G. Ramirez..... 1
D. Nieder..... 0	W. Pafnutieff.... 1
R. Plock..... 1	H. Gross..... 0
J. Murray..... ½	R. Currie..... ½
O. Wreden..... 0	C. Capps..... 1
D. Madgett..... ½	H. Rosenbaum.... ½
P. Foley..... ½	S. Van Gelder.... ½

Totals 2½ 4½

At Mechanics' Institute:

M. I. KNIGHTS 3½	CASTLE 3½
W. Addison..... 1	N. Falconer..... 0
C. Bagby..... 1	G. McClain..... 0
E. Pruner..... 0	W. Hendricks.... 1
J. Schmitt..... 1	F. Adelman..... 0
A. Bourke..... ½	R. Hultgren..... ½
C. Svalberg..... 0	R. Willson..... 1
K. Bendit..... 0	C. Wilson..... 1

Totals 3½ 3½

At Oakland Chess & Checker Club:

CALIFORNIA 2½	OAKLAND 4½
J. Hursch..... 0	J. Demos..... 1
R. Smook..... 0	L. Ledgerwood.... 1
E. Simanis..... ½	L. Talcott..... ½
O. Celle..... 1	R. Cuneo..... 0
R. Wiebe..... 1	R. Trenberth.... 0
T. Theodoroff... 0	C. Bergman..... 1
R. Maio..... 0	E. Lien..... 1

Totals 2½ 4½

A Division Standings

Team	Score	Games
M. I. Knights.....	8½-1½	48½-14½
Golden Gate.....	6-2	34½-20½
Oakland.....	4-5	25½-36½
Castle.....	3-4	23½-25½
M. I. Bishops.....	2-7	26½-35½
California.....	1½-7½	15-41

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

A Division -- BIG SIX

Player (Team)	W	L	D	Score
W. Addison (MIK)....	7	0	1	7½-1½
A. Bourke (MIK)....	6	0	3	7½-1½
C. Svalberg (MIK)...	7	1	1	7½-1½
K. Bendit (MIK)....	7	2	0	7-2
R. Currie (GG).....	6	1	1	6½-1½
E. Pruner (MIK)....	6	2	1	6½-2½

NOTE: Statistics above and on page 5 were compiled by the editor and are not official. Forfeit wins are included. The editor wishes to apologize to Mr. Allen Bourke for erring in his team match record as shown in the April edition. His record was shown as 5 wins and 2 losses and should have been shown as 5 wins and 2 draws-- a difference, of course, of 1 point.

San Francisco Vs. East Bay

BIG MATCH SCHEDULED SATURDAY, MAY 24

The annual San Francisco vs. East Bay team match will be played at the Mechanics' Institute on Saturday, May 24 at 7:30 pm. SFBACL President Guthrie McClain is asking all team captains to bring their entire teams and subs to make this match a big one, comparable to the South's Yankees vs. Rebels match, in preparation for the upcoming 25th North-South match to be held in Fresno May 31.

Last year San Francisco overwhelmed East Bay 13-2 in a disappointing turnout.

Because the San Francisco-East Bay match is in preparation for the North-South match, and McClain would like to get an idea of North's strength this year, the A Division team matches scheduled for May 24 will be postponed until Saturday, June 7. Let's match South all around!

San Francisco Bay Area Chess League - B Division

Results May 3

At Mechanics' Institute:

ALAMEDA 5	PRECITA VALLEY 2	
R. Thacker..... 1	Forfeit..... 0	
J. Veguilla.... 1	L. Allen..... 0	
A. Wang..... 1	N. Renaud..... 0	
W. Jens..... 0	D. Gibson..... 1	
R. Turner..... 1	J. Reynolds..... 1	
W. Joplin..... 1	I. Vegvary..... 3	
R. Oberg..... 1	W. Pattullo..... 0	
Totals	5	2

MECH. INST. B 5	MISSION 2	
G. Knofs..... 1	D. Lundmark..... 0	
Forfeit..... 0	Sumner..... 1	
J. Kalisch.... 1	T. Gee..... 0	
Forfeit..... 0	D. Fromer..... 1	
R. Barringer... 1	L. Tullis..... 0	
W. Leeds..... 1	J. Ramirez..... 0	
J. Vaughn..... 1	M. Kramer..... 0	
Totals	5	2

MECH. INST. B/1 7, GOLDEN GATE 0 (FORFEIT).

Results April 19

At Mechanics' Institute:

PRECITA VALLEY 3 1/2	MECH. INST. B 3 1/2	
N. Renaud..... 1	J. Kalisch..... 0	
L. Allen..... 1	C. Berryhill.... 0	
J. Cook..... 0	J. Vaughn..... 1	
Forfeit..... 0	G. Knofs..... 1	
J. Reynolds.... 1	R. Barringer.... 0	
Forfeit..... 0	W. Leeds..... 1	
R. Blakemore... 1/2	R. Loewinsohn... 1/2	
Totals	3 1/2	3 1/2

MECH. INST. B/1 2	ALAMEDA 5	
Buchanan..... 0	D. Krause..... 1	
D. McLeod..... 0	L. Hill..... 1	
N. McLeod..... 1	P. Cleghorn.... 0	
F. Wreden..... 0	A. Wang..... 1	
D. Lee..... 0	W. Jens..... 1	
C. Loveland.... 1	R. Turner..... 0	
W. Rawley..... 0	D. Ogilvie..... 1	
Totals	2	5

Results April 16

At Golden Gate Chess Club:

GOLDEN GATE 3	MISSION 4	
Dr. B. Gross... 0	D. Lundmark..... 1	
H. Edelstein... 1	D. Fromer..... 0	
C. Huneke..... 0	D. Ryan..... 1	
G. Iutz..... 1	J. Tobin..... 0	
N. Nielsen..... 1	L. Tullis..... 0	
I. Dublin..... 0	M. Kramer..... 1	
Forfeit..... 0	R. Meyers..... 1	
Totals	3	4

B Division Standings

Team	Score	Games
Precita Valley.....	6 1/3 - 2 1/3	38 1/2 - 24 1/2
Mech. Inst. B.....	6 - 3	36 1/2 - 25 1/2
Alameda.....	6 - 3	35 - 25
Mech. Inst. B/1.....	3 1/2 - 5 1/2	31 1/2 - 30 1/2
Mission.....	3 1/2 - 5 1/2	23 1/2 - 38 1/2
Golden Gate.....	1 - 7 1/2	19 - 40

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

B Division -- BIG SIX

Player (Team)	W	L	D	Score
R. Barringer (MIB) ..	7	2	0	7 - 2
L. Allen (PV).....	6	2	1	6 1/2 - 2 1/2
J. Cook (PV).....	6	2	0	6 - 2
J. Kalisch (MIB)....	6	3	0	6 - 3
A. Wang (A).....	6	3	0	6 - 3
C. Loveland (MIB/1) .	6	3	0	6 - 3

NORTH-SOUTH MATCH THROUGH THE YEARS

Year	North	South	Winner
1926	4 1/2	7 1/2	South
1927	6 1/2	5 1/2	North
1930	6 1/2	5 1/2	North
1931	10 1/2	14 1/2	South
1932	9 1/2	10 1/2	South
1934	12 1/2	12 1/2	TIE
1935	12 1/2	12 1/2	TIE
1936	9 1/2	15 1/2	South
1937	13	12	North
1938	14 1/2	10 1/2	North
1939	14	12	North
1940	18 1/2	6 1/2	North
1946	14	11	North
1947	17	5	North
1948	28 1/2	28 1/2	TIE
1949	24 1/2	26 1/2	South
1950	24	21	North
1951	38 1/2	19 1/2	North
1952	32	27	North
1953	34	27	North
1954	42	30	North
1955	35	24	North
1956	31 1/2	35 1/2	South
1957	36	37	South
1958	?	?	? ? ?

Total Score:

Matches: North 14, South 7, Ties 3.

Points: North 489, South 417.

Pins: 10-year pins (silver)

5-year pins (bronze)

Fred N. Christensen and William P. Barlow have played all 24 matches!

World Chess ChampionshipMIKHAIL BOTVINNIK TAKES BACK WORLD CHESS TITLE FROM VASILIY SMYSLOV 12½-10½

MOSCOW, USSR, May 9. Mikhail Botvinnik, 46 and former world chess champion, won back the world chess title from 37-year old Vasily Smyslov 12½-10½ when the 23rd game of the scheduled 24-game match was drawn. Oddly enough the hard fought two-month match ended in a phone booth. Smyslov phoned a tournament official that he could see no way to win the 23rd game, which had been adjourned after 40 moves, and would accept a draw. The strain during the match caused both players to request postponement due to nervous prostration. It was a bitter defeat for Smyslov as he will not get an automatic return match as Botvinnik did because the rules were recently changed. Botvinnik surprised experts when he won the first three games and the lead proved to be insurmountable. When he won the 14th game, Botvinnik stretched his lead to four games, a gap slowly closed by Smyslov, but he could never bring himself even. Botvinnik first won the world chess championship in 1948 and Smyslov wrested it from him last year after two previous tries.

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Precita Valley OpenLEIGHTON ALLEN AHEAD WITH ONE ROUND TO PLAY -- DAVE GIBSON SECOND

With one round to play in the Precita Valley Open Championship Swiss System Tourney, Leighton Allen went ahead by defeating Jim Reynolds while Dave Gibson was drawing Noel Renaud to drop into second place. Ted Gee leads the "B" players after getting a win over Erwin Poka. As this goes to press the standings are: 1. Leighton Allen, 4½-1½, 2. Dave Gibson 4-1, 3. Ted Gee 4-1, 4. Noel Renaud 3½-1½, 5. Jim Reynolds 3-2, 6. Erwin Poka 3-2, 7. Mike Kramer 3-2, 8. James Cook 2-3, 9. Robert Blakemore 2-3, 10. Paul Bogosian 2-3, 11. Don Lundmark 1½-3½, 12. Dave Fromer 1-4, and 13. Ivan Vegvary ½-4½.

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CENC Spring FestivalERIK OSBUN WINS A DIVISION, SMOOK 2ND -- GOLD, BAGGETT, HATHWAY TOP DIVISIONS

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20. The A Division of the CENC Spring Chess Festival held at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel was won by Erik Osbun of Santa Rosa with a 4½-1½ score. Roger Smook of Berkeley came in 2nd with 4-1. In third place was Leonard Hill, 4-1, fourth was Wade Hendricks, Robert Dickinson, and John Veuilla, all with 3½-1½. The B Division honors were shared by Charles Gold of San Luis Obispo and Noel Baggett of San Bruno, each scoring 4-1. Also with 4-1 but lower in tie breaking points were third, Ernest Barthelomew, and fourth, Charles Loveland. C. W. Hathway of San Jose had a perfect score of 5-0 to take the C Division. Ted Gee, 4-1, was second and John Hurley, 4-1, was third. Four-men tourneys were won by Jay Siegel, Steve Joplin, John LaRue, Hugo Romander, Frank Delpino, John Akins, and Cliff Loney.

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Mar Del Plata ClassicBENT IARSEN WINS -- LOMBARDY LOSES NONE BUT PLACES SECOND

The annual Mar Del Plata classic was won by the young international grandmaster from Denmark, Bent Iarsen, who scored 12-3, losing only to Oscar Panno. The United States representative, William Lombardy, lost no games, but only got second place as he won 7 games and drew 8 to compile an 11-4 score. Lombardy had a chance to tie it all up in the last round as his opponent was the winner, Iarsen, who was ahead by one point, but the game ended in a draw. 3-4-5 were Eric Eliskases, Oscar Panno (who was favored to win the tourney), and Raul Sanguinetti, all with 9½-5½. 6th was Herman Pilnik, 9-6, 7th Jaime Emma, 8-7, and 8th Hector Rossetto, 7½-7½. Oscar Panno, winner at Bogota, was knocked out of contention in late round losses to his Argentine compatriots, Pilnik and Rossetto. Lombardy was the only player to go through the 15 rounds undefeated.

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
 GAMES SECTION

Edited by Noel Renaud

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
 (Send games to Noel Renaud, 125 Brompton Ave., San Francisco 12, Calif.)

GAME PLAYED IN A TEAM MATCH between  
 Precita Valley and Mech. Inst. B on  
 February 8, 1958.

Game No. 42

White's vigorous but premature  
 attack convinces Black he is in danger.  
 After missing a half-dozen opportunities  
 to check White's onslaught, Black  
 reaches the point of no return and is  
 bulldozed into submission with a neat  
 little combination.

White: Ivan Vegvary

Black: H. E. Morgan

SICILIAN DEFENSE

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 1. P-K4  | P-QB4 |
| 2. N-KB3 | N-QB3 |
| 3. P-QB3 | ...   |

In this line it is preferable to play  
 P-QB3 a move earlier.

- |          |        |
|----------|--------|
| 3. . . . | N-KB3? |
|----------|--------|

Better is 3...., P-Q3.

- |         |      |
|---------|------|
| 4. P-K5 | N-Q4 |
| 5. P-Q4 | P-K3 |

Much stronger is 5...., PXP; 6. PXP,  
 P-Q3.

- |          |      |
|----------|------|
| 6. P-QB4 | N-N3 |
| 7. P-Q5  | PXP  |
| 8. PXP   | N-N5 |
| 9. P-Q6  | ...  |

Premature. Sounder is 9. N-B3 followed  
 by 10. P-QR3 with advantage.

- |          |      |
|----------|------|
| 9. . . . | P-B3 |
| 10. N-R4 | ...  |

Threatening 11. Q-R5ch.

- |           |      |
|-----------|------|
| 10. . . . | P-N3 |
| 11. P-B4  | PXP  |
| 12. Q-N4  | Q-B3 |

Is 13. NXP a serious threat? 12....,  
 BXP; 13. NXP, R-KN1; 14. Q-R5, Pxn;  
 15. Q-R7, K-B1; 16. PXP, BXP; 17. B-R6ch,  
 B-N2; 18. B-QB4, NxB; 19. R-B1ch and  
 wins. But 12...., BXP; 13. NXP, R-KN1;  
 14. Q-R5, Rdn; 15. QXP, Q-B3 stops the  
 attack.

- |          |         |
|----------|---------|
| 13. P-B5 | N-B7 ch |
| 14. K-K2 | N-Q5 ch |

This check is not best. Black should  
 use the respite to further his develop-  
 ment, 14...., R-KN1. Furthermore, the  
 Rook can safely be captured as 15. B-N5

is not a dangerous threat.

- |          |      |
|----------|------|
| 15. K-K1 | NXP  |
| 16. B-N5 | Q-K3 |
| 17. Nxn  | Qxn  |

Safe is 17...., Pxn; 18. Q-R5ch, Q-N3;

19. B-Q2, BXP; 20. R-B1, R-B1.

- |             |       |
|-------------|-------|
| 18. QXQ     | PXQ   |
| 19. B-K2    | BXP   |
| 20. B-R5 ch | K-B1  |
| 21. R-B1    | P-B5  |
| 22. P-KN3   | P-KR3 |

Better is K-N2.

- |         |     |
|---------|-----|
| 23. PXP | PXP |
|---------|-----|

Black has better chances with 23....,

PxB; 24. PXPdis.ch, K-N2.

- |            |      |
|------------|------|
| 24. BXP    | BXB  |
| 25. RxB ch | K-K2 |
| 26. N-B3   | P-R3 |

More important is 26...., P-Q4.

- |          |      |
|----------|------|
| 27. K-B2 | P-Q3 |
|----------|------|

Allowing penetration on the seventh  
 rank. 27...., P-Q4 is still correct.

- |             |      |
|-------------|------|
| 28. R-B7 ch | K-Q1 |
| 29. R-Q1    | N-B5 |

This affords only temporary relief.

- |          |         |
|----------|---------|
| 30. N-K4 | B-K3    |
| 31. RXP  | R-B1 ch |
| 32. K-K2 | R-B1    |

There is no defense.

- |                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| 33. NXP         | R-QB2 |
| 34. N-K8 dis ch | K-B1  |

Black can only prevent mate at the

cost of two pieces. 34...., K-K2;

35. RxBch, B-Q2; 36. R/1xBch, K-K3--,

so, he takes the short road.

- |             |          |
|-------------|----------|
| 35. RxB ch  | K-N1     |
| 36. R-Q8 ch | Resigns. |

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 PRECITA VALLEY MEMBERS NOTICE

Along with this edition of CHESS  
 HERALD you will receive nomination bal-  
 lots. These ballots are to be handed  
 in, or mailed, to Leighton Allen, club  
 director, 1758 - 15th St., San Francisco  
 3, Calif. on or before Thursday, June  
 12, 1958. This gives you ample time to  
 decide on what changes you think are  
 necessary to the Club Charter and who  
 you think best suited as officers of the  
 club.

# CHESSALUDINATIONS of Lowell Tullis

IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE just two months ago I first learned how to play this fascinating game called chess. It seems almost as if we've been playing it together all our lives. What did we do for entertainment last year anyway?

If I remember correctly, you told me that you should play as many opponents as possible.... Wait a minute--, I'm not getting tired of seeing your face every night--; it's just that every game seems to run through the same positions game after game. Postal chess is so slow and besides, I would like to win a game----, just once.

You shouldn't have taken me to that chess club last night---; they made me feel so inadequate. Moves that seemed satisfactory against you turned out to be plain murder. One of my opponents announced mate in two, but I couldn't see it and made my move. I still can't figure out what he was so peeved about. And those guys that were always looking over my shoulder--; gee, they must really be good. But, they made so much noise discussing the next move that half the time I found myself moving without thinking. Those two using that two-faced clock got me, too. Can you imagine, taking two hours to make only forty moves? I played six games last night and half the time I was watching what was going on in other parts of the clubroom.

Yes, those thoughts run through the mind of a neophyte the first time he enters that inner-sanctum called a chess club. Please bear with us, our new found friend. Some of us have been attending chess clubs for years and years, and at times, we forget what it was like when we first started. The trials and discouragements piled upon our shoulders before we, too, won a game now and then. Many's the time we would quit, or mentally threaten to quit and try some other pastime in hopes we might do better. Ask any of us about the first chess prize we won. We'll gladly give you all the sordid details. Most of those you saw in that clubroom have passed the point of no return and are completely under Caissa's spell. A pause now as we bow to our noble queen.

Very few of us have, somehow, retained that golden quality called leadership. We must excuse this sin against Caissa for someone must keep us in line, keep us loyal, and to turn the lights out on us when the hour gets late. Occasionally you will meet a devotee who has nerves of steel, patience of a lion stalking its prey, and has ice-water in his veins. Don't ignore this friendless chap, for every group leans heavily on its champion. His victories become "our" victories. Our leaders, too, are usually equally friendless, for they must stand firm on their impartial decisions, no matter who gets hurt, and create nothing but enemies while doing good jobs.

Most clubs are plagued with a clown. Somehow, this life of the party strays in and stays and stays and stays..... No sooner than he moves on to greener pastures then one of his "brothers" replaces him and the rat race starts all over again. The chronic complainer rates only this mention.

Don't give up hope yet.... Miss Eloise Blied of San Francisco has possibly set a record in futility. Although she probably isn't proud of it, it shows a characteristic that is very necessary for a champion--, perserverence in the face of continual defeat. Her record? In her last ten tournament games she has one win--, and that match she had a bye. Her record has just been improved, for in the Sheraton-Palace Tourney, she lost two games, and then, lo and behold, drew her last game!! Congratulations!!

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