

# THE CALIFORNIA CHESS REPORTER

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### SAN FRANCISCO: MECHANICS' INSTITUTE TAKES TEAM TOURNAMENT

The seven-man "A" team from the Mechanics' Institute upset the dope sheet by beating the Golden Gate team,  $4\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$ , in the final round. The winners swept five straight matches, while Golden Gate was second,  $3\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$ .

The young Oakland team took the honors in Division B with four wins and a last-round tie with the Mechanics' Institute Bs. Golden Gate was again second, with four wins and a loss to Oakland. The Mechanics were third,  $3\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$ .

### MODESTO: SAN JOSE TEAM EDGES FRESNO

The exciting last round in the Central Valley Chess League saw San Jose beat out Fresno on game points, 34 to  $33\frac{1}{2}$ , after finishing equal 5-1 in matches. Sacramento and Pittsburg, who were on the short end of the last day's contests against San Jose and Fresno, respectively, took third and fourth places with 4-2 scores.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHESS LEAGUEDIVISION A

The Mechanics' Institute had a surprisingly easy time of it as they swept five straight to win the trophy in Division A. Having lost a couple of players from last year's second-place team, the Mechanics were pessimistic this time. But their fine "B" team furnished the substitutes and under the master-minding of A. B. Stamer the Mechanics won all the marbles.

The final match in which Mechanics beat Golden Gate,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ , was a hair-raiser. On five or six of the seven boards an apparent loss was converted into a win by some unexpected development. The breaks were fairly even on both sides, however.

ROUND III, March 3, 1956

<u>Castle 5<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>, Oakland 1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>				4 R Willson	1 R Cuneo	0
1 N Falconer	1	C Bergman	0	5 P Traum	$\frac{1}{2}$	R Freeman $\frac{1}{2}$
2 G McClain	0	J Demos	1	6 C Wilson	1	E Lien 0
3 W Hendricks	1	C Sedlack	0	7 E Hoffer	1	E Yaeger 0

<u>Palo Alto <math>\frac{1}{2}</math>, Golden Gate 6<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>				4 T Harrison	0	G Ramirez 1
1 P Braumann	0	H Gross	1	5 J Petriceks	0	W Bills 1
2 L Festinger	0	V Pafnutieff	1	6 Col Pesek	0	E Logwood 1
3 R Cuomo	0	C Capps	1	7 F Morsman	$\frac{1}{2}$	Dr K Colby $\frac{1}{2}$

<u>Mech.Inst. 5, U.C. 2</u>				4 C Svalberg	1	J Fredgren 0
1 E Pruner	$\frac{1}{2}$	D Beninson	$\frac{1}{2}$	5 H Bullwinkel	1	O Celle 0
2 C Bagby	0	R Smook	1	6 K Bendit	$\frac{1}{2}$	E Simanis $\frac{1}{2}$
3 W Addison	1	J Hirsch	0	7 W Bourke	1	W Sprague 0

ROUND IV, March 17, 1956

<u>Mech.Inst. 5, Oakland 2</u>				4 C Svalberg	$\frac{1}{2}$	C Sedlack $\frac{1}{2}$
1 E Pruner	1	C Bergman	0	5 H Bullwinkel	1	R Trenberth 0
2 C Bagby	$\frac{1}{2}$	J Demos	$\frac{1}{2}$	6 K Bendit	1	R Freeman 0
3 W Addison	1	R Cuneo	0	7 A B Stamer	0	E Lien 1

<u>Golden Gate 5, Castle 2</u>				4 C Wilson	0	G Ramirez 1
1 G McClain	0	C Capps	1	5 W Hendricks	0	R Currie 1
2 N Falconer	1	H Gross	0	6 E Hoffer	0	Dr K Colby 1
3 R Willson	0	V Pafnutieff	1	7 Dr E Kupka	1	H King 0

<u>U.C. 4<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>, Palo Alto 2<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>				4 M Lubell	0	R Cuomo	1
1 D Beninson	1	P Braumann	0	5 E Simanis	$\frac{1}{2}$	F Morsman	$\frac{1}{2}$
2 R Smook	1	C Stein	0	6 A Chappell	1	J Petriceks	0
3 J Hursch	1	G Latta	0	7 O Celle	0	E T Dana	1

ROUND V, March 31, 1956

<u>Golden Gate 2<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>, Mech.Inst. 4<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>				4 G Ramirez	1	C Svalberg	0
1 V Pafnutieff	1	J Schmitt	0	5 R Currie	$\frac{1}{2}$	H Bullwinkel	$\frac{1}{2}$
2 H Gross	0	C Bagby	1	6 W Bills	0	W Bourke	1
3 C Capps	0	W Addison	1	7 E Logwood	0	K Bendit	1

<u>U.C. 3, Oakland 4</u>				4 A Chappell	0	R Cuneo	1
1 D Beninson	1	C Bergman	0	5 M Lubell	0	R Trenberth	1
2 R Smook	0	J Demos	1	6 S Anderson	$\frac{1}{2}$	R Freeman	$\frac{1}{2}$
3 J Hursch	1	C Sedlack	0	7 J Fredgren	$\frac{1}{2}$	E Lien	$\frac{1}{2}$

<u>Castle 5, Palo Alto 2</u>				4 W Hendricks	1	R Cuomo	0
1 N Falconer	1	P Braumann	0	5 G Hultgren	1	F Morsman	0
2 R Willson	1	W Madow	0	6 E Hoffer	0	E T Dana	1
3 P Traum	0	C Stein	1	7 Dr E Kupka	1	Col Pesek	0

## INCOMPLETE STANDINGS

	<u>Matches</u>	<u>Games</u>
1. Mechanics' Institute	5-0	25 $\frac{1}{2}$ -9 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Golden Gate	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$ -13 $\frac{1}{2}$
3. Castle*	2-2	14-14
4. U.C. *	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$	13-15
5. Palo Alto	1-4	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -23 $\frac{1}{2}$
6. Oakland	1-4	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -22 $\frac{1}{2}$

\* One match postponed.

DIVISION B

The Oakland Chess & Checker Club "B" team, composed chiefly of high school players, nosed out the strong Golden Gate first team, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  to 4-1. In the final round the Oakland team settled for a 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$  draw with Mechanics' Institute and clinched the title. Golden Gate lost only to Oakland. Golden Gate also entered a second team, a convincing demonstration of this club's fine organization. The Mechanics furnished so many top players to their "A" team that they were seriously weakened; but they finished a good third.

S.F. BAY AREA CHESS LEAGUE, DIVISION B (Continued)ROUND IV, March 10, 1956

<u>Alameda 2, Russians 5</u>				4 W Rebold	1 N Beloff	0
1 S Paulsen	0	B Popoff	1	5 P Kelly	1	P Andreeff 0
2 J Stowe	0	W Leeds	1	6 D Ogilvie	0	F Karawanny 1
3 H Minchaca	0	A Tokmakoff	1	7 L Osternig	0	D Shishkin 1
<u>Golden Gate(1) 4<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>, Mech.Inst. 2<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>				4 E Lurie	1	K Bopp 0
1 SH VanGelder	0	C Freeman	1	5 H King	1	C Norcia 0
2 H Rosenbaum	$\frac{1}{2}$	H S King	$\frac{1}{2}$	6 J Vaughn	1	J Hill 0
3 C Schroth	0	O Wreden	1	7 G Lutz	1	R Conway 0
<u>Oakland 5, Golden Gate(2) 2</u>				4 D Willis	1	R Pisani 0
1 W Landfair	1	C Huneke	0	5 F De Lozier	1	H Dasteel Sr 0
2 N Buder	0	H Holden	1	6 S Joplin	1	N Nielsen 0
3 R Thacker	0	P Allinger	1	7 W Joplin	1	ED Hartman 0

ROUND V, March 24, 1956

<u>Golden Gate(2) 4, Alameda 3</u>				4 N Nielsen	1	H Minchaca 0
1 C Huneke	$\frac{1}{2}$	L Talcott	$\frac{1}{2}$	5 H Dasteel	0	D Ogilvie 1
2 ED Hartman	0	J Stowe	1	6 J Ets-Hokin	1	P Kelly 0
3 B Pisani	1	W Rebold	0	7 A Fishel	$\frac{1}{2}$	L Osternig $\frac{1}{2}$
<u>Mech. Inst. 3<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>, Oakland 3<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>				4 O Wreden	0	R Thacker 1
1 C Freeman	$\frac{1}{2}$	W Landfair	$\frac{1}{2}$	5 C Norcia	0	S Joplin 1
2 H S King	1	F De Lozier	0	6 R Conway	1	C Larsson 0
3 W Hudson	1	T Theodoroff	0	7 J Hill	0	D Willis 1
<u>Russians 1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>, Golden Gate(1) 5<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>				4 A Tokmakoff	0	H Edelstein 1
1 A Palmin	$\frac{1}{2}$	SH VanGelder	$\frac{1}{2}$	5 F Karawanny	0	C Schroth 1
2 W Leeds	0	E Lurie	1	6 N Beloff	0	H King 1
3 P Andreeff	0	H Rosenbaum	1	7 D Shishkin	1	G Lutz 0

## FINAL STANDINGS

	<u>Matches</u>	<u>Games</u>
1. Oakland	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$ -13 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Golden Gate (1)	4-1	24-11
3. Mechanics' Institute	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$	21-14
4. Russians	2-3	16-19
5. Golden Gate (2)	1-4	11-24
6. Alameda	0-5	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -23 $\frac{1}{2}$

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CHESS LEAGUE - by Neil T. Austin

In a remarkably close race for all places, San Jose won the second leg on the trophy, and needs but one more win to retire its second trophy permanently. In the final round Fresno ran up a quick lead over Pittsburg, and it looked good for Fresno since Sacramento had an early edge over San Jose. Pittsburg had arrived without Loera, Talcott, and Trenberth, and Fresno's margin seemed good enough to make up the deficits in points with which they started the last round - two points down to San Jose and one and one-half points down to Sacramento. But San Jose turned the tide against Sacramento, and as its final game went into adjournment it was definitely a won game - while Fresno went into overtime with its eighth game, which was a draw.

Tom Fries won the individual prize with a perfect score of 6-0 over J. C. Scheuerman who also had 6-0 but played on a lower board.

ROUND VII, March 11, 1956San Jose 5, Sacramento 3

1	W T Adams	$\frac{1}{2}$	M O Meyer	$\frac{1}{2}$	5	L H Daugherty	1	W C Haines	0
2	J Kalnins	1	J B Gee	0	6	H O'Shau'sy	0	JC Scheur'n	$\frac{1}{2}$
3	P Foley	0	A Janushkowsky	1	7	F Crofut	$\frac{1}{2}$	N T Austin	$\frac{1}{2}$
4	E M Mueller	1	M K Saca	0	8	K Chapman	1	A W Bishop	0

Pittsburg 2, Fresno 6

1	W Whisler	0	P D Smith	1	5	F Olvera	1	O Mashke	0
2	R C Guzman	0	T Fries	1	6	F Weinberg	$\frac{1}{2}$	H Kallman	$\frac{1}{2}$
3	S Poulsen	0	W Shirey	1	7	E Cuneo	0	R Garabedian	1
4	J Smith	$\frac{1}{2}$	R Baker	$\frac{1}{2}$	8	L Turner	0	M Phetteplacel	

Oakdale 5, Stockton 3

1	R Ewing	0	R Leigh	1	5	A Buerer	1	W Jarvis	0
2	S Sampson	0	R C Juhre	1	6	F Kimball	1	ME Mattingly	0
3	V Smith	0	D Willingham	1	7	H Blickenstaffl		A C Saxon	0
4	C J Smith	1	JM David-Malig	0	8	S Slosted	1	M A Sanders	0

## FINAL STANDINGS

	Matches	Games
1. San Jose	5-1	34-14
2. Fresno	5-1	33 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{1}{2}$
3. Sacramento	4-2	31 $\frac{1}{2}$ -16 $\frac{1}{2}$
4. Pittsburg	4-2	23 $\frac{1}{2}$ -24 $\frac{1}{2}$
5. Stockton	1-5	16 $\frac{1}{2}$ -31 $\frac{1}{2}$
6. Modesto	1-5	15-33
7. Oakdale	1-5	14-34

REDWOOD EMPIRE CHESS LEAGUE Team matches are now under way in the Redwood Empire with four teams competing. First-round scores:

Feb. 6, 1956: Vallejo 8½, San Rafael 1½

1	GH Rasmussen	½	A Johnson	½	6	Wm Rhoades	1	RW Allison	0
2	F Harris	1	P Giuliana	0	7	J Packard	1	G Southerland	0
3	G Nyland	1	S Hope	0	8	O Turley	1	L Anderson	0
4	F Norling	0	J Hopkins	1	9	Wm Thurman	1	AA McDougall	0
5	B Abram	1	JL Williams	0	10	H Shantz	1	R Paul	0

Feb. 10, 1956: Petaluma 6, Santa Rosa 2

1	B Johnson	1	W Goudswaard	0	5	T Langdon	0	T Camps	1
2	J Lesh	1	D Krauss	0	6	W Carroll	0	L Marslaird	1
3	S Goertzel	1	R Gyving	0	7	G Wollman	1	S Walker	0
4	L Karsevar	1	A Atkins	0	8	A Tillin	1	A Sokol	0

HERMAN STEINER CHESS GROUP Robert Jacobs has won the star-studded master section with a score of 8-3. Bobby Cross was second, 7-4. Jack Moscovitz and Zoltan Kovacs tied for third and fourth, 6½-4½.

In the other sections, Ronnie Gross has clinched first prize in the experts, Charles Henderson is in the lead in A-1 and two youngsters, B. Margolin and Manuel Klausner, are in front in A-2.

LONG BEACH Fourteen-year-old Larry Remlinger has won the 1956 City Championship with the splendid score of 9½-½. John Rinaldo, 17, was second with 8-1. Full results will be published in an early issue.

SAN FRANCISCO CITY CHAMPIONSHIP

MAY, JUNE and JULY, 1956

Preliminaries: Five-man "English System" sections.

Each section will qualify one player each for the following final divisions: 1. Master; 2. Expert; 3. Division A; 4. Division B; 5. Division C.

Finals: Round Robin or Swiss, depending upon number of players.

Entry Fee: \$2 plus \$1 forfeit fee. Prizes: Custody of Peter P. Prokoodin Memorial Trophy, 5 replicas plus cash prizes.

GAME OF THE MONTH - by Nancy Roos

Of the games in the Women's World Championship I have looked at so far, Larissa Volpert's style appeals most to me. All her games are attractive.

MOSCOW, 1955

Game No. 312 - Sicilian

White Black  
Sonja Graf-Stevenson L. Volpert

(Notes by Andreas Lilienthal,  
translated by Nancy Roos)

- |    |        |       |
|----|--------|-------|
| 1. | P-K4   | P-QB4 |
| 2. | Kt-KB3 | P-Q3  |
| 3. | P-QKt4 |       |

An interesting pawn sacrifice,  
more than once used by Alekhine,  
leading to extremely critical  
battles.

- |    |      |        |
|----|------|--------|
| 3. | ...  | PxP    |
| 4. | P-Q4 | Kt-KB3 |
| 5. | B-Q3 | P-KKt3 |

The defense system selected by  
Black is strategically sound, since  
the fianchettoed Bishop can safely  
cover the King, and besides, it  
exerts pressure on the long diago-  
nal.

- |    |       |       |
|----|-------|-------|
| 6. | P-QR3 | PxP   |
| 7. | KtxP  | B-Kt2 |
| 8. | P-B3  | O-O   |

White obtains some compensation for  
sacrificing the pawn in the form of  
uniting her pieces favorably and in  
obtaining a strong pawn center, but  
Black's position is very solid.

- |     |       |        |
|-----|-------|--------|
| 9.  | P-KR3 | QKt-Q2 |
| 10. | O-O   | P-Kt3  |
| 11. | Q-Kt3 |        |

This development of the Queen is  
unsuccessful. Better would have

been 11. B-K3 and 12. Q-Q2, pre-  
paring an attack on the King's  
side.

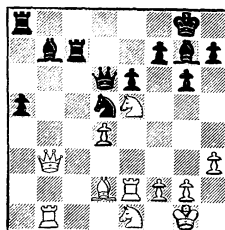
- |     |       |       |
|-----|-------|-------|
| 11. | ...   | B-Kt2 |
| 12. | R-K1  | P-QR3 |
| 13. | Kt-B2 |       |

White starts a lengthy maneuver  
and wastes invaluable tempi.  
Better was to play 13. B-Kt2 fol-  
lowed by P-QB4 or QR-Q1.

- |     |        |        |
|-----|--------|--------|
| 13. | ...    | Q-B2   |
| 14. | B-Q2   | P-K3   |
| 15. | R-K2   | P-QKt4 |
| 16. | QKt-K1 | Kt-Kt3 |
| 17. | P-K5   | KKt-Q4 |
| 18. | PxP    | QxP    |
| 19. | Kt-K5  | KR-QB1 |
| 20. | R-Kt1  | R-B2   |
| 21. | P-QB4  |        |

This move does not obtain good  
results in the center. The American  
player commits her struggle to  
the Queen's side, but this only  
activates Black's piece the more.

- |     |      |       |
|-----|------|-------|
| 21. | ...  | PxP   |
| 22. | BxP  | P-QR4 |
| 23. | BxKt | KtxB  |



24. Kt/1-Q3

Now, White's project is to dodge the Knight on the powerful square QB5.

24. ... P-R5

Black just in time utilizes her extra passed pawn and initiates the decisive counterattack.

25. Q-R2 Q-R3

26. R/2-K1 BxKt

All is in Black's favor now. The exchange of the King's Bishop is not dangerous for Black now, because on the following move she forces the exchange of the Bishop at Q2.

27. KtxB Kt-B6

28. BxKt RxB

With the threats ...P-R6 and ...B-Q4 coming during the quietest part of the game, Black should proceed without any difficulty. So White must find a counterattack on the King's side.

29. Q-Q2 R-B2

30. Q-B4 Q-R4

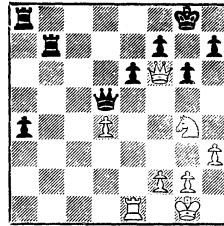
31. Q-B6 Q-Q4

32. RxB

This sacrifice is White's only chance, for after 32. Kt-B3, P-R6 Nothing can stop the pawn.

32. ... RxR

33. Kt-Kt4



33. ... P-R4

The only, but adequate, move.

34. Kt-R6ch K-R2

35. KtxP Q-KB4

36. Kt-Kt6ch K-Kt1

Still simpler was ...K-R3.

37. QxKPch QxQ

38. KtxQ P-R6

39. Kt-B5 R-Kt5

40. Kt-K4 P-R7

Resigns.

### CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CHESS LEAGUE

#### INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Open to all players who have played at least one League game during the past season. Entry Fee: \$5.00.

Oakdale, April 21-22, 1956 - Four Rounds:

1. April 21, 2:00 P.M.
2. April 21, 7:00 P.M.
3. April 22, 9:00 A.M.
4. April 22, 2:00 P.M.



NORTH - SOUTH TEAM MATCH

The time for the 23rd annual North vs. South team match is approaching. As we prepare for this match, which for many of our readers is the most enjoyable event of the California chess year, a number of problems arise.

It will be remembered that when the California Open was held in Fresno last Labor Day week end the housing and playing accommodations were very good. The southern players, particularly, were favorably impressed; for some years they had been having difficulty with hotel reservations at San Luis Obispo, and it struck them that conditions were better in Fresno. It being a firmly established policy that the annual team match be held at a half-way point, they pointed out that Fresno, as well as San Luis Obispo, qualified in that respect. The only drawback seemed to be the heat of the Central Valley; and here the comfortable air-conditioning of the Hotel Californian was an inducement.

Consequently, at a meeting in February, 1956, the Southern California Chess League passed a resolution calling upon the California State Chess Federation to move the 1956 North-South match to Fresno.

Since the Southern California Chess League represents substantially all the South team, and since there does not appear to be any great opposition from the North, the matter of arrangements has been referred to the Fresno Chess Club and the CSCF director from Central California. The proposed change is under the jurisdiction of the CSCF Tournament Committee. When and if satisfactory guarantees that suitable arrangements have been made are brought to the Committee, this Committee will decide.

If the match is moved to Fresno, a problem arises as to the numerical strength of the two teams. This is due to the fact that when the match is played at San Luis Obispo there are few, if any, local players. On the other hand, Fresno is one of the State's chess centers. It has been estimated that at least thirty additional players will be available at a Fresno match. This problem is closely connected with the difficulty in recent years that the South has been having in matching the strength of the North. Under the present rules, the extra thirty players would be on the North, presumably. During each of the last few years the North team has had from five to fifteen more players than the South. What, therefore, is to be done about the excess of northern players?

(Continued on page 124.)



SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHESS LEAGUE

ABOVE: At the extreme left, Art Munson, who conducts the tournaments.  
Next to Mr. Munson, Dudley H. Hosea, president of the county league.

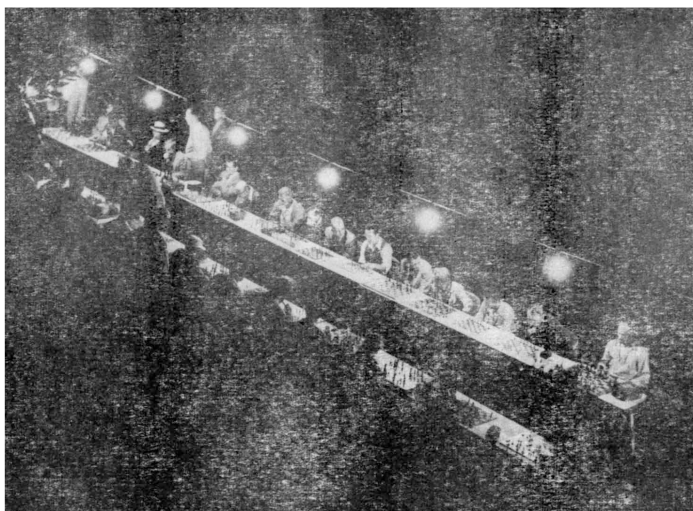
Photo - Les Hamm

UPPER RIGHT: 1955 Trophy Winners: Standing, left to right: Roger Wemple, Salvador Rubicava, Dudley H. Hosea, Art Munson, David Folsome; kneeling: D.A. Stickle, Don Potts, Roger Dale, Don Robey. Photo - Les Hamm

LOWER RIGHT: N. Rossolimo Simultaneous Aug. 8, 1955 at the home of Dudley H. Hosea, 679 Rosecrans, San Diego. (Results: W 40, L 1 (Roger Wemple), D 2 (P. DeGraff, D.H. Hosea.)) Photo - Lawrence Schiller

The San Diego County Chess League meets on the second Wednesday of each month in the recreation hall of the Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation. Dudley H. Hosea is president of the league and Art Munson, commissioner of the Convair Recreation Association, is tournament director. Visitors are welcome.

At the present time, eleven teams of four players each are competing in the annual team matches: Navy Electronic Lab, Figuoni City Club, Point Loma, Convair, San Diego Engineers, Rohr Aircraft, San Diego City Club, La Mesa, Ryan Aeronautical, Chula Vista and San Diego Gas Company. At last reports, Navy Electronic Lab was leading the current race with  $10\frac{1}{2}$  points, followed by Figuoni, 10 points, and Point Loma,  $9\frac{1}{2}$ .



It has been pretty generally agreed that it would be a step backwards to cut the participation of the North team. All suggestions so far have been aimed at increasing the size of the South team.

A memorandum has been circulated among chess clubs in southern California by Charles Henderson of Beverly Hills. Mr. Henderson is primarily concerned with getting out a southern team that can hold its own with the North (which has won twelve of the last fourteen matches), but his suggestions offer a solution to the problem of the excess northern players:

"1. In recent years the North has won by a substantial margin. This year the South will be weaker than ever, due to the loss of Herman Steiner at Board One, and also due to the fact that Herman's efforts as an organizer will be missed.

"2. Assuming that both North and South recognize that this traditional event will thrive longer if it is not perpetually a one-sided affair; and that more interest will accrue if the boards are more evenly matched (on Boards 10-30 Northern A players win or draw easily from Southern B players), it appears obvious that the South needs stronger representation, not just this year, but for years to come.

"3. It is suggested by the writer, therefore, that we of the South undertake an energetic campaign to sign up as many players as possible at an early date for this year's match. A committee should be formed for this purpose.

"4. A campaign of this sort, however effective, will not solve the main problem of the South: adequate playing strength on the middle boards. To remedy this deficiency, the writer has already made a suggestion to Guthrie McClain, which received some encouragement. This suggestion is that the geographical division between North and South be altered so that Fresno — which is nearer Los Angeles than Sacramento — be included in the Southern camp. Mr. McClain was amenable to the idea but felt that the Fresno players should be entitled to self-determination.

"5. Since there are seven or more A players in Fresno — and since the match is likely to take place in that city this year — having these players on our side might not win for us but would surely make the score closer. Also, more B players could be enlisted for the lower boards if they didn't feel they were likely to be clobbered by the Northern A players as in the past.

"6. I am sure that a Fresno plebiscite is possible, but with the event only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  months away, we have little time to lose. How about it, long-suffering Southerners?

Charles Henderson"

Mr. Henderson seems to us to make pretty good sense. The North team has been putting forth a powerhouse composed of players from San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Sacramento, San Jose, Fresno, Modesto, Pittsburg, Palo Alto, Salinas and way points against a predominately Los Angeles team. Only when the end of the lineup has been reached has the South been given any players from the mid-points of Fresno and San Luis Obispo. We feel sure that the northern players will be willing to divide the State so as to ensure an evenly-matched contest.

On the other hand, we feel it unfair forcibly to remove all Fresno players from the North team and put them on the South team. Fresno is a member of the Central California Chess League, which includes the so-called northern cities of Sacramento, San Jose, Pittsburg, Stockton, Modesto and Oakdale. One of the five "northern" members of the 10-man Board of Directors of the California State Chess Federation is elected by the Central California Chess League. Among the Northern California tournament committee members are representatives of the Fresno Chess Club. The California Open was held at Fresno last year as a northern California location. Fresno players are used to competing in northern California events such as the San Francisco vs. East Bay team match and the Northern California Championship.

It is probably impossible to judge the effect of drawing a North-South line at or near Fresno until the two team captains are able to count their teams at the match this year. Only until then, it seems, will they know how many players each has and how many players from the Fresno area are available. For example, many members of the Fresno Chess Club actually live in towns to the south. Also, the relatively large Bakersfield Chess Club may turn out in force, adding substantially to the southern team.

The persons responsible for making decisions on the foregoing matters are anxious to hear from the players involved. THE REPORTER invites letters from all players who are likely to play in the North-South match this year. We hope to devote a substantial section of our next (April) issue to this discussion. Thus, when the representatives of both North and South sit down at the conference table on the night before this year's match, they will have guidance from the rank and file.

The 1956 match will be held on Sunday, May 27. The annual meeting of the California State Chess Federation will be held on the evening of May 26.

CORRESPONDENCE A couple of comments on the proposed change of the North-South team match are at hand:

"947 Lincoln Blvd., Santa Monica

"Dear Mr. McClain: I have read with regret about the plans of moving the site of the North-South match from San Luis Obispo to Fresno. One of the reasons I always look forward to this event is the trip along the beautiful Coast Highway, and the monotonous San Joaquin Valley is by far not so inviting. It is true that the hall in San Luis is kind of primitive and it doesn't have air conditioning (but who needs air-conditioning in Obispo!) but still it has, as does this whole little town, an air of neighborliness and "gemutlichkeit" that no hotel, however luxurious, can give.

"If my vote counts any, please keep the match in Obispo. It is a tradition almost as much as the match is itself.

"Gerard van Deene."

"762 Elm Avenue, San Bruno

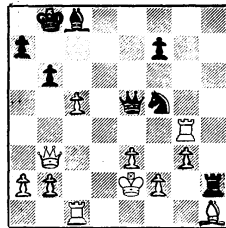
"Dear Mac: Meant to write you weeks ago about Fresno for the North-South match. For Wade (Hendricks) and I, I feel sure that Fresno would be much preferred as we'd have accommodations there at any time. I'm sure many other northerners have friends they could visit in Fresno, whereas S.L.O. is sort of an off-beat. Hope you can make it Fresno!

"Lou Tomori."

(The score in our little open forum starts out even, with a southerner preferring the status quo and a northerner preferring the change. The South instigated the movement to Fresno. - Ed.)

Hyman Gordon of Los Angeles writes: "I am enclosing a wonderful position that I feel sure will give great enjoyment to your many readers and which will test the analytical skill of the most imaginative of them. The position occurred in a correspondence game between Dr. Davidian and myself. White is ahead both in material and position. It looks like he has many easy ways to win. In the actual game, White moved P-B6 and Black won the game.

"I believe your readers would first like to see if they can find a clear-cut line of superiority for White. Having studied the position for some time, I want to say it will prove exceedingly difficult to prove."



FRESNO vs. SACRAMENTO, 1956

Game No. 313 - Nimzo

White                      Black  
P.D. Smith                M.O. Meyer

(Notes by Phil Smith)

- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| 1. P-Q4   | Kt-KB3 |
| 2. P-QB4  | P-K3   |
| 3. Kt-QB3 | B-Kt5  |
| 4. P-K3   | P-Q4   |
| 5. B-Q3   | O-O    |
| 6. Kt-B3  | P-QKt3 |

Leonard Barden, the English opening expert, thinks P-QKt3 is safer than P-B4 but less aggressive; however, master games in the 1953 World Championship Candidates' Tourney and in several European tourneys of 1954-5 show that it is not as safe as Barden wrote in Chess.

- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| 7. O-O | B-Kt2 |
| 8. PxP |       |

The games Barden cites in his article (reprinted in the back of the Zurich tournament book) prefer P-QR3 here.

- |          |      |
|----------|------|
| 8. ...   | PxP  |
| 9. P-QR3 | BxKt |

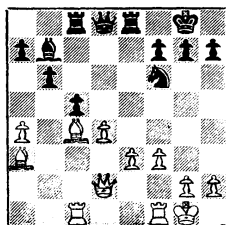
B-K2, retaining the two bishops, is possible and probably safer.

- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| 10. PxB   | QKt-Q2 |
| 11. P-QR4 | R-K1   |
| 12. B-R3  |        |

White's last two moves are different than the master lines cited by Barden, where the Queen's Bishop was developed elsewhere.

- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| 12. ...   | Kt-K5  |
| 13. P-B4  | QKt-B3 |
| 14. Kt-K5 | P-B4   |

- |            |       |
|------------|-------|
| 15. P-B3   | Kt-Q3 |
| 16. Q-Q2   | QPxP  |
| 17. KtxQBP | KtxKt |
| 18. BxKt   | QR-B1 |
| 19. QR-B1  |       |



- |           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| 19. ...   | PxP |
| 20. P-K4! |     |

The only way for White to retain the initiative and prepare to gain scope for his bishops to attack.

- |           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| 20. ...   | R-B2  |
| 21. KR-Q1 | B-B3! |
| 22. B-Kt3 | B-Kt2 |
| 23. RxR   | QxR   |
| 24. QxP   | P-KR3 |
| 25. R-QB1 | Q-B5! |
| 26. R-B3  | Q-R5  |
| 27. P-Kt3 | Q-R4  |
| 28. B-Kt2 | B-R3  |
| 29. R-K3  | Q-R6? |

29...Q-QB4 was called for.

- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| 30. R-K1  | Q-Q2   |
| 31. Q-Kt4 | Kt-R2? |

This loses by force as the two bishops come into their own.

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 32. Q-B3 | Kt-B3 |
| 33. P-K5 | R-QB1 |
| 34. Q-K3 | Kt-K1 |

Other moves are not much better.

- |           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| 35. P-K6! | Resigns. |
|-----------|----------|

LOS ANGELES, 1955Game No. 314 - Q. Indian

White	Black
R. Gross	R. Cross

(Notes by Valdemars Zemitis)

- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| 1. P-Q4   | Kt-KB3 |
| 2. P-QB4  | P-K3   |
| 3. Kt-KB3 | P-QKt3 |
| 4. P-KKt3 | B-Kt2  |
| 5. B-Kt2  | B-K2   |

Readers who desire explicit information about the Queen's Indian Defense are advised to see the treatise on that subject by Imre König.

## 6. P-Q5!

With this move White not only avoids the usual line - 6.O-O, O-O; 7. Kt-B3, Kt-K5, etc., which has been thoroughly analyzed but also sets the position on fire - a policy which enterprising chess players like to adopt.

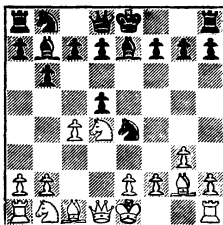
## 6. ... Pxp

The alternative was 6...P-Q3, threatening with 7...P-K4 to obtain a satisfactory position. After 6...P-Q3 the continuation could be: 7. Pxp, Pxp; 8. B-R3, P-K4; 9. B-K6, B-QB1; 10. Kt-Kt5, BxB; 11. KtxB, Q-Q2; 12. KtxKtPch, K-B2; 13. Kt-R5, Q-B3! etc. Of course not 13...KtxKt; 14. Q-Q5ch and White wins.

## 7. Kt-Q4 Kt-K5

The game proves that with this move Black cannot maintain the balance. But what else? 7..., B-B3 is an interesting move, but not sufficient on account of

8. Pxp, KtxP; 9. Kt-B5! Also after 7...Q-B1; 8. Kt-B5 is strong. The best defense seems to consist in playing 7...O-O. If 8. Kt-B5, then ...B-Kt5ch; 9. Kt-B3, R-K1 giving Black's KB a good square for retreat.



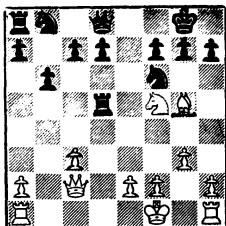
- |          |         |
|----------|---------|
| 8. Pxp   | B-Kt5ch |
| 9. K-B1! |         |

Avoiding the exchange of pieces which would only relieve Black's situation.

- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| 9. ...    | Kt-KB3 |
| 10. Kt-B5 | O-O    |
| 11. Kt-B3 | R-K1   |
| 12. B-Kt5 | R-K4   |
| 13. Q-B2  | BxKt   |
| 14. PxB   | BxP?   |

Pawn snatching is seldom good; this one is no exception.

- |         |     |
|---------|-----|
| 15. BxB | RxB |
|---------|-----|



- |           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| 16. BxKt! | QxB |
| 17. Q-K4! |     |



A thunderbolt from a clear blue sky.

17. ... Q-K3  
18. QxR! Resigns.

For 18...QxQ; 19. Kt-K7ch, K-B1;  
20. KtxQ and White emerges with  
a Rook advantage from the trans-  
action.

SAN FRANCISCO, 1955 (offhand)

Game No. 315 - French

White Black  
C. Woskoff Ross

1. P-K4 P-K3  
2. P-Q4 Kt-KB3  
3. Kt-QB3 B-Kt5  
4. B-Q3 O-O  
5. Kt-B3 P-Q4  
6. P-K5 Kt-K5  
7. P-KR4

White, the Mechanics' Institute's  
uncrowned king of skittles, ig-  
nores the pin on the Q-side.

7. ... KtxKt  
8. PxBt BxPch  
9. K-B1 BxR  
10. BxPch K-R1

Black correctly fears 10...KxB;  
11. Kt-Kt5ch, K-Kt3 (...K-Kt1;  
12. Q-R5 with mate to follow).

11. Kt-Kt5 P-KKt3  
12. P-R5 P-KB3  
13. PxBtP PxBt  
14. B-Kt8ch K-Kt2  
15. R-R7ch KxB  
16. Q-R5 RxBch  
17. KxR BxPch  
18. K-K2 BxP  
19. R-R8ch BxR  
20. Q-R7ch Resigns.

SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITION, S.F. 1956

Game No. 316 - Q.G.A.

White Black  
S. Reshevsky H. Gross

(Notes by Henry Gross)

1. P-Q4 P-Q4  
2. P-QB4 PxP

Having won with this opening from  
Reshevsky in a simultaneous ex-  
hibition given by him at the  
Golden Gate Chess Club on Feb. 6,  
1954, I decided to employ it  
again to see where my redoubtable  
opponent would improve on his  
former line of play. For that  
game see California Chess Reporter,  
February, 1954, page 104.

3. Kt-KB3 P-QR3  
4. P-K3 B-Kt5  
5. BxP P-K3  
6. Kt-B3 Kkt-B3  
7. P-KR3 B-R4  
8. P-KKt4 B-Kt3  
9. Kt-K5 QKt-Q2  
10. KtxB RPxBt  
11. Q-B3 P-QKt4  
12. B-Kt3 P-B4  
13. P-Kt5 Kkt-Kt1  
14. P-Q5 P-B5

Without having made any serious  
blunders Black finds himself with  
many weaknesses. The Bishop must  
be shut off from KB2.

15. PxB PxP  
16. B-B2

Even at the cost of creating a  
very weak pawn at KKt3.

16. ... Kt-K2  
17. K-K2

B-Q2 followed by 18. O-O-O was  
safer and should have eventually

won because of the unanswerable problem of what Black could do with his King.

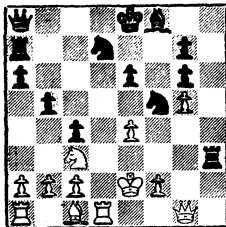
17. ... R-R2  
 18. R-Q1 Q-R1  
 19. Q-Kt4

An exchange of Queens would all of a sudden leave White with problems over his weak King-side pawns.

19. ... Kkt-B4  
 20. P-K4 R-R5  
 21. Q-Kt1?

It was essential for White to protect his KRP.

21. ... RXP



22. Q-B1

If 22. PxKt, Q-B6ch; 23. K-Q2, Kt-B4, would soon end it. White thought that the move made by him won a piece and was unpleasantly shocked by Black's next move.

22. ... Kt-Kt8ch  
 23. PxKt R-R7ch  
 24. K-K1 RxB  
 25. P-R4

25. R-Q2 would have prolonged the game but Black should win with his extra pawn and active knight.

25. ... B-Kt5

25...P-Kt5 would have permitted counter play through 26. QxP.

26. Q-R1 Kt-B4  
 27. B-K3 R-KB2  
 28. PxP RxB  
 29. B-Q4 QxPch  
 30. QxQ KtxQ  
 31. RxB

Threatening to draw by perpetual check with the Rook.

31. ... P-K4  
 32. R-R8ch K-K2  
 33. R/Q-R1 PxB  
 34. R/1-R7ch K-Q3  
 35. R-Q8ch K-B4  
 36. RxR BxKtch  
 37. K-B1 KtxPch  
 38. K-Kt1 P-Q6  
 39. R-B7ch K-Kt5  
 40. P-Kt6 B-K4  
 41. R-K7 B-B5  
 42. P-Kt7 K-B6  
 43. P-Kt8=Q

White is helpless and makes a final futile effort to draw by a stalemate. The time limit was 45 moves per hour and Black has had to make his last ten moves in about two minutes.

43. ... BxQ  
 44. RxBch PxB  
 45. R-B7ch K-Q7

Of course not 45...BxB stalemate.

46. R-B2ch PxB  
 Resigns.

H. STEINER MEMORIAL, HOLLYWOOD, 1950

Game No. 317 - Sicilian

White Black  
R. Cross Z. Kovacs

- |    |        |        |
|----|--------|--------|
| 1. | P-K4   | P-QB4  |
| 2. | Kt-KB3 | Kt-QB3 |
| 3. | P-Q4   | PxP    |
| 4. | KtxP   | Kt-B3  |
| 5. | Kt-QB3 | P-Q3   |
| 6. | B-KKt5 |        |

The Richter (or Rauzer) Attack.

- |    |      |       |
|----|------|-------|
| 6. | ...  | P-K3  |
| 7. | Q-Q2 | P-QR3 |

Another choice here is 7...B-K2; 8. O-O-O, O-O; 9. P-B4 and Black can play ...KtxKt, ...P-KR3 or ...P-K4 (the Russian grandmaster Geller's line).

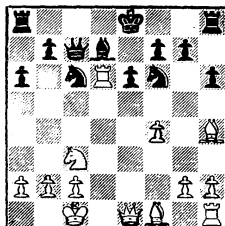
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|-----|-------|------|
| 8.  | O-O-O | B-Q2 |
| 9.  | P-B4  | P-R3 |
| 10. | B-R4  | KtxP |

Both sides are following recent analysis (for example, Chess Archives by Euwe has devoted several pages to this line).

- |     |        |       |
|-----|--------|-------|
| 11. | Q-K1   | Kt-B3 |
| 12. | Kt-B5  | Q-R4  |
| 13. | KtxPch | BxKt  |
| 14. | RxB    | Q-B2  |

The old continuation was 14...O-O-O.

The text pins the Rook because of the unprotected PKB4 - but White seems to get a fine game by sacrificing this P.



15. R-Q2

A suggestion of Euwe's. The usual move used to be 15. Q-Q2.

- |     |      |     |
|-----|------|-----|
| 15. | ...  | QxP |
| 16. | BxKt |     |

Euwe likes 16. B-Q3 here, but the text, which forces the Black K to remain in the center, looks strong.

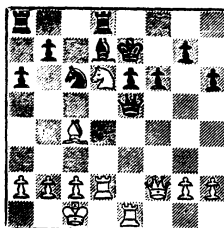
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| 16. | ...   | QxB  |
| 17. | Kt-K4 | Q-K4 |

This move gets an exclamation point in Chess Archives.

- |     |         |      |
|-----|---------|------|
| 18. | Kt-Q6ch | K-K2 |
| 19. | Q-B2    | P-B3 |

Black's game is in bad shape. White can regain the P immediately (20. KtxP, KR-Kt1; 21. Q-B5ch), but why simplify?

- |     |       |       |
|-----|-------|-------|
| 20. | B-B4! | KR-Q1 |
| 21. | R-K1  |       |

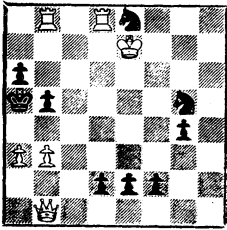


21. ... QxKt  
What else? White threatens too much.

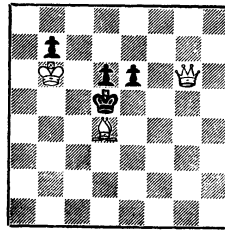
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|-----|--------|----------|
| 22. | RxQ    | KxR      |
| 23. | Q-Kt6  | QR-Kt1   |
| 24. | P-QKt4 | K-K2     |
| 25. | Q-B5ch | K-B2     |
| 26. | Q-R5ch | P-Kt3    |
| 27. | QxP    | R-KR1    |
| 28. | Q-B4   | K-K2     |
| 29. | BxKP!  | BxB      |
| 30. | Q-B7ch | K-B1     |
| 31. | RxB    | Resigns. |

REPORTER TASKS: In the absence of the Task Editor on a business trip we present two problems of historical interest. The five-mover is by the great Adolf Anderssen and the three-mover was composed by Adolf Bayersdorfer.

TASK No. 89  
White Mates in Five



TASK No. 90  
White Mates in Three



Answers to February's TASKS will be given in the next issue.

Questions regarding TASKS should be sent to:

Dr. H. J. Ralston  
184 Edgewood Avenue  
San Francisco 17, Calif.