THE CALIFORNIA CHESS

REPORTER

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ADDISON WINS GOLDEN GATE TITLE

William G. Addison of San Francisco scored $10\frac{1}{2}$ points in a 12-round Swiss held at the Golden Gate Chess Club during the last three months of 1956 to retain the club championship he won in 1955. Addison gave up only three draws - to Pafnutieff, Capps and Gross - to beat out Jack Hursch and Gil Ramirez by one-half a point. Addison is also the reigning Northern California champion and San Francisco City Championship titleholder.

Jack Hursch of San Diego and the University of California tied 17-year-old Gilbert Ramirez of San Francisco, 10-2, and took second honors on 69 tie-breaking points to 65. Hursch won ten games outright and dropped games to Addison and Ramirez, while Ramirez gave up draws to Pafnutieff and Simanis in addition to his loss to Addison.

There followed some of the Bay Area's brightest chess stars: Charles Bagby, Vladimir Pafnutieff, Carroll Capps, Kurt Bendit, Horst Bullwinkel and Henry Gross. A total of 23 players competed, hailing from San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Mill Valley, San Carlos and Sacramento.

GOLDEN GATE CHESS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP, 1956

    The field in the 1956 Golden Gate championship was, as usual, one of the strongest in the State. Addison's titles have been enumerated; in third place was the current State Champion and Open Champion; and any time a former state champion finishes ninth you must have a strong group. Bagby, Pafnutieff and Capps have been among the City's strongest players for many years; Bendit and Bullwinkel are recent additions. One of Sacramento's leading players, Ray Richards, surprised by an unexpectedly low place; perhaps the forfeit to the twenty-third player is indicative of difficulty in meeting the schedule.

    To evaluate the strength of the players finishing tenth and below, it is only necessary to ask any visiting master how much trouble he has in a simultaneous exhibition in San Francisco. These players and others like them are the backbone of the Northern California team which has defeated Southern California six out of the last seven years.

Player		Score
1. W Addison	W2 W3 W4 D5 D6 W7 W8 D9 W13 W14 W15 W20	$10\frac{1}{2}$
2. J Hursch	L1 L3 W4 W5 W6 W8 W10 W11 W14 W17 W19 W23	10
3. G Ramirez	L1 W2 W4 D5 W6 W9 W11 D14 W15 W17 W19 W20	10
4. C Bagby	L1 L2 L3 W5 W6 W7 D8 W13 W14 W15 W16 W19	$8\frac{1}{2}$
5. V Pafnutieff	D1 L2 D3 F4 D6 W7 D8 W11 W13 W14 W16 D21	$7\frac{1}{2}$
6. C M Capps	D1 L2 L3 L4 D5 W7 D9 W11 W13 W15 W16 W21	$7\frac{1}{2}$
7. K Bendit	L1 L4 L5 L6 W10 L13 W14 W16 W17 W18 W19 W22	7
8. H Bullwinkel	L1 L2 D4 D5 D10 D11 L14 W16 W17 W18 D19 W20	$6\frac{1}{2}$
9. H Gross	D1 L3 D6 W10 D11 W12 L13 W15 L19 W20 L21 W22	$6\frac{1}{2}$
10. R Freeman	L2 L7 D8 L9 L11 D12 L14 W18 W19 W20 W21 W23	6
11. H Rosenbaum	L2 L3 L5 L6 D8 D9 W10 D13 W14 W20 D22 W23	6
12. H Edelstein	L9 D10 L13 L14 D15 L16 L17 W18 D19 W22 W23 Bye	$5\frac{1}{2}$
13. D Nieder	L1 L4 L5 L6 W7 W9 D11 W12 L15 W20 L21 Bye	$5\frac{1}{2}$
14. E Simanis	L1 L2 D3 L4 L5 L7 W8 W10 L11 W12 W21 W22	$5\frac{1}{2}$
15. S Van Gelder	L1 L3 L4 L6 L9 D12 W13 W17 W18 L19 W22 Bye	$5\frac{1}{2}$
16. Dr K Colby	L4 L5 L6 F7 L8 W12 L17 W18 W19 L20 W23 Bye	5
17. G Lutz	L2 L3 L7 L8 W12 L15 W16 L18 L20 W22 W23 Bye	5
18. N Nielsen	L7 L8 L10 L12 L15 L16 W17 W20 W21 L22 W23 Bye	5
19. C R Wilson	L2 L3 L4 L7 D8 W9 L10 D12 W15 L16 W23 Bye	5
20. H King	L1 L3 L8 L9 L10 L13 W16 W17 L18 D22 W23 Bye	$4\frac{1}{2}$
21. R L Richards	D5 L6 W9 L10 L11 W13 L14 L18 W22 F23 Bye	$4\frac{1}{2}$
22. C Huneke	L7 L9 D11 L12 L14 L15 L17 W18 D20 L21 W23 Bye	4
23. D Mielich	L2 L10 L11 L12 L16 L17 L18 L19 L20 W21 L22 Bye	2

(not in round order)

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, DECEMBER, 1956

Al Larsen took first prize in the ninth annual San Gabriel Open, played at the Pasadena Chess Club, by the score of 9-1. Larsen was a member of the strong Yale team which included the Byrne brothers. Neilen Hultgren of Berkeley and Caltech was second by the close score of $8\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$. E. B. Adams, who had been in contending position throughout, lost in the last round for a $7\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$ score. There followed Alfredo Madrigal of Azusa $6\frac{1}{2}-3\frac{1}{2}$, John Blaney of Arcadia 5-5, Alan Carpenter of South Pasadena, Bill Rogers of Alhambra and Bob Seiden of Glendale, $4\frac{1}{2}-5\frac{1}{2}$, Jim Ray, 4, and Pete Zurlinden of Tujunga.

CASTLE CHESS CLUB

Henry Gross again won the Castle Chess Club trophy for 1956, in a small tournament which was marred by several players dropping out. Gross scored 3-1, while there was little difference between the other four finishers.

		1	2	3	4	5	Score
1.	Henry Gross	X	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	3-1
2.	Wade Hendricks	0	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	2-2
3.	Guthrie McClain	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	0	1	2-2
4.	Emanuel Hoffer	0	0	1	X	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$
5.	Glen Hultgren	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	X	$1\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$

Paul Traum and Ojars Celle dropped out after playing part of the schedule. In order to strengthen the club, several new members have been taken in and the current tournament has 12 players.

PRESIDIO CHESS CLUB (MONTEREY)

The chess club at the Presidio of Monterey is growing by leaps and bounds, according to the Presidio Chess Club Bulletin. President Robert A. Karch of the club reports a total of 62 on the rating list. The top ratings are those of Alex Suchobeck, who is well known in California and Washington chess circles, Bruce Price, S. Oettigen, Leon Vasu, Lev Beliavsky and Alexander Parvu.

A club championship, the first post-wide tournament to be held in several years, is scheduled. In late April, international grandmaster Nicolas Rossolimo will visit the post as the guest of Alex Suchobeck (following his appearances in San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco) for a simultaneous and other feature attractions.

AL HOROWITZ EXHIBITIONS

The genial editor of Chess Review made a quick swing across the nation in January and gave performances at Los Angeles and San Francisco. It was Al's fourteenth transcontinental tour and it seems that he has lost none of his skill.

In Los Angeles Horowitz played simultaneously against 51 at the Clarion Club (formerly the Hollywood Athletic Club) on January 25. The master won 36, drew 13, and lost 2, to Norman Goldberg of Los Angeles and Charles Walker of Riverside.

In San Francisco there were two appearances, plus an unscheduled visit to the San Quentin Prison Chess Club. On Tuesday, January 29, Horowitz entertained a small crowd at the Precita Valley club, San Francisco's newest, with a lecture and simultaneous, and on Wednesday he performed the same type of exhibition at the Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco's oldest. Horowitz allowed only a draw or two at Precita Valley and at the Institute he won 15 and drew 4.

After the Tuesday night performance and before the Wednesday performance, the international master went with Jim Reynolds of the Precita Valley club to San Quentin for an informal visit. The chess club members gave up their lunch hour in order to meet Horowitz. This did not give Al much time but he did make a hit and chatted with the members of the club as personally as possible. Upon leaving the institution, Al remarked: "I'll never regret having made this visit. It was new and most interesting. And say, they have quite a chess club in there."

CSCF MEMBERSHIP DRIVE?

President George F. Goehler reported last month in his year-end summary that the California State Chess Federation had only 206 members. This must come as a shock to our readers; after all, an organization which has 96 players in its annual Open, 57 in the State Championship qualifying tournaments, and 134 in the North-South match should do better, even if it is true that there is a good deal of duplication in these events. There are currently 20 teams in the San Francisco league team matches, 17 in Southern California, and six in Central California - a total of approximately 250 team players. They should all be members.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHESS LEAGUE

As the 1957 team tournaments started, eight teams were playing
in Division A and seven in Division B. The defending champions from
Mechanics' Institute and the strong Golden Gate team were the favor-
ites in Division A. In Division B, the 1956 champions from Oakland
had moved on to the "A" Division, so the race was wide open.

DIVISION A

ROUND I, January 19, 1957

Castle 5½, Palo Alto 1½							
1 N Falconer	1	L Festinger	0	4 D Belmont	½	L Fuller	½
2 W Hendricks	1	T Bullockus	0	5 R Willson	1	H Harrison	0
3 Dr R Hultgren	0	C Stein	1	6 G Hultgren	1	Col J Pesek	0
				7 E Hoffer	1	S Washburn	0

M.I. "Bishops" 6, Oakland Jrs. 1							
1 W Addison	1	W Landfair	0	4 D Nieder	½	S Joplin	½
2 E Jonas	1	R Thacker	0	5 R Plock	1	J Schmerl	0
3 A Stamer	1	T Theodoroff	0	6 M Sedlak	1	A Wang	0
				7 R Kiel	½	D Willis	½

M.I. "Knights" 3½, U.C. 3½							
1 E Pruner	0	J Hursch	1	4 J Schmitt	1	D Peizer	0
2 C Bagby	½	R Currie	½	5 C Svalberg	½	O Celle	½
3 A Bourke	0	E Simanis	1	6 K Bendit	½	A Chappell	½
				7 H Bullwinkel	1	V Bloomfield	0

Oakland 2, Golden Gate 5							
1 J Demos	½	G Ramirez	½	4 R Freeman	0	H Gross	1
2 C Sedlack	½	W Pafnutieff	½	5 R Trenberth	½	H Rosenbaum	½
3 C Bergman	0	C Capps	1	6 R Cuneo	0	Dr K Colby	1
				7 E Lien	½	S Van Gelder	½

DIVISION B

ROUND I, January 12, 1957

Golden Gate 3, Precita Valley 4							
1 P Allinger	1	N Renaud	0	4 C Huneke	0	D Ryan	1
2 H King	0	J Cook	1	5 N Neilsen	½	E Russell	½
3 J Vaughn	1	J Reynolds	0	6 L Rosenstein	0	L Allen	1
				7 B Wong	½	I Vegvary	½

Oakland 3½, M.I. "B" 3½							
1 W Landfair	1	F Arvidson	0	4 N Buder	1	D Shishkin	0
2 S Joplin	0	H King	1	5 F DeLozier	1	W Hudson	0
3 A Wang	0	W Ross	1	6 L Bignami	½	A Cordero	½
				7 W Joplin	0	I Foster	1

Alameda 1½, M.I. "B/1" 5½   4 D Ogilvie   0 L Tomori   1
1 L Talcott   ½ P Taggert   ½   5 L Osternig   0 M Sedlak   1
2 W Rebold   0 L Miller   1   6 P Kelly   0 J Williams   1
3 F Olvera   1 D McLeod   0   7 R Holman   0 R Willis   1

ROUND II, January 26, 1957

M.I. "B" 6, Alameda 1   4 H S King   1 D Ogilvie   0
1 F Rosenthal 0 L Talcott   1   5 W Ross   1 P Kelly   0
2 F Arvidson   1 F Olvera   0   6 W Hudson   1 L Turner   0
3 P Petersen   1 W Rebold   0   7   Lundstrom 1 R Holman   0

Precita Valley 1, Oakland 6   4 E Russell   0 N Buder   1
1 N Renaud   0 T Theodoroff 1   5 J Reynolds   1 F DeLozier   0
2 J Cook   0 A Wang   1   6 L Allen   0 W Joplin   1
3 D Ryan   0 D Willis   1   7 I Vegvary   0 C Larsson   1

U.C. 0, Golden Gate 7 (forfeit)

CENTRAL VALLEY CHESS LEAGUE

The annual team tournament, which began last October, saw the defending champions from San Jose being given a stiff run by the high-scoring team from Pittsburg.

ROUND III, December 2, 1956

Fresno 6½, Oakdale 1½
1 P Smith   1 J Smith   0   5 G Hudson   1 V Smith   1
2 O Mashke   1 S Sampson   0   6 L Legler   1 W Maxey   0
3 R Baker   1 A Buerer   0   7 R Shein   0 R Ewing   1
4 C Phettleplace ½ S Slosted   ½   8 W Shirey   1 Forfeit   0

Pittsburg 4½, Stockton 3½
1 W Whisler   0 R Leigh   1   5 F Olvera   1 M Mattingly   0
2 S Poulsen   ½ JM David-Malig ½   6 G Garcia   1 W Jarvis   0
3 R Guzman   0 H Minchaca   1   7 T Snavely   1 R Mah   0
4 F Weinberg   1 J Saxon   0   8 M Rivera   0 M Sanders   1

Sacramento 7, Modesto 1
1 A Janushkowsky 1 E L Jeffers   0   5 M K Saca   1 R Olson   0
2 N Austin   0 L E Davis   1   6 J Bender   1 C J Cook   0
3 J Scheuerman   1 L Krogness   0   7 E Edmondson 1 E Hawksworth   0
4 W Haines   1 C Hawksworth   0   8 A Bishop   1 R McIelwain   0

ROUND IV, January 13, 1957

Sacramento 5, Fresno 3

1	A Janushkowsky	$\frac{1}{2}$	P Smith	$\frac{1}{2}$	5 W Haines	$\frac{1}{2}$	A Legler	$\frac{1}{2}$
2	R Richards	$\frac{1}{2}$	R Baker	$\frac{1}{2}$	6 A Bishop	$\frac{1}{2}$	E Cook	$\frac{1}{2}$
3	J Scheuerman	0	C Phettleplace	1	7 O Bender	1	Forfeit	0
4	E Edmondson	1	D Hudson	0	8 N Austin	1	Forfeit	0

San Jose 6$\frac{1}{2}$, Oakdale 1$\frac{1}{2}$

1	W T Adams	1	E Sai	0	5 L Daugherty	1	A Buerer	0
2	E H Mueller	1	W Maxey	0	6 O'Shaughnessy	0	L Sanny	1
3	F Crofut	1	F Kimball	0	7 A Lutz	1	C J Smith	0
4	G Kirby	1	S Slosted	0	8 V Mitchell	$\frac{1}{2}$	B Ewing	$\frac{1}{2}$

Pittsburg 6$\frac{1}{2}$, Modesto 1$\frac{1}{2}$

1	W Whisler	$\frac{1}{2}$	E Jeffers	$\frac{1}{2}$	5 F Weinberg	1	H Wente	0
2	S Poulsen	0	L Davis	1	6 F Olvera	1	E Hawksworth	0
3	L Talcott	1	L Krogness	0	7 G Garcia	1	R Olson	0
4	R Guzman	1	C J Cook	0	8 L Turner	1	Forfeit	0

From Round I (reprinted for the record): Pittsburg 5$\frac{1}{2}$, Fresno 2$\frac{1}{2}$

1	L Talcott	0	P Smith	1	5 F Weinberg	0	C Phettleplace	1
2	W Whisler	$\frac{1}{2}$	R Baker	$\frac{1}{2}$	6 F Olvera	1	R Legler	0
3	S Poulsen	1	O Maschke	0	7 G Garvia	1	A Sotelo	0
4	R Guzman	1	J Hudson	0	8 L Turner	1	Forfeit	0

STANDINGS AFTER FOUR ROUNDS

		Won	Lost
1.	Pittsburg	4	0
2.	San Jose	3	0
3.	Sacramento	2	1
4.	Fresno	2	2
5.	Stockton	1	2
6.	Oakdale	0	3
7.	Modesto	0	4

GAME OF THE MONTH

As we have remarked many times in these columns, chess is a game for the young. We are fortunate to have here in California many examples of this growing trend. From Johnny Tippin in the 1920s to Gil Ramirez and Larry Remlinger in the 1950s, our young players have set enviable records.

In the following game our 17-year old State Champion displays the steadiness under fire which seems to be the hallmark of our youngsters. One might consider this a paradox, for young players are expected to be brilliant rather than methodical, but we have seen too many examples of their steadiness to consider it unusual. It is evidently the result of their book knowledge – never before have we had so many chess books available, and youngsters always are avid readers – and their experience (for it is surprisingly often true that they have played more chess than their elders).

GOLDEN GATE CHAMPIONSHIP, 1956

Game No. 367 – Hungarian

White	Black
H. Rosenbaum	G. Ramirez

1.	P-K4	P-K4
2.	Kt-KB3	Kt-QB3
3.	B-B4	B-K2
4.	Kt-B3	Kt-B3
5.	P-Q4	PxP
6.	KtxP	P-Q3
7.	P-KR3	O-O
8.	O-O	

So far, according to "book." (Except that "book" on the Hungarian Defense is hard to find these days: MCO8 gives it one column under "Irregular and Unusual Games" and Keres devotes about two pages to it.)

8. ...   R-K1

Keres recommends 8...B-Q2, followed by exchanging Kts and

...B-B3. But Black has in mind another defensive system... Note that 8...KtxP is bad because of 9. KtxKt, PxKt; 10. B-Q3, PxKt; 11. BxP and Black's pawns are isolated and doubled.

9.	P-B4	B-B1
10.	KtxKt	PxKt
11.	P-K5!	Kt-Q2

11...PxP; 12. QxQ, RxQ; 13. PxP is obviously bad.

| 12. | Q-B3 | P-Q4 |

White has succeeded in establishing the wedge PK5 and forcing ...P-Q4, and now has a combination going...
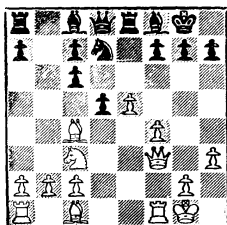
13.	KtxP!?	PxKt
14.	QxP	

14. BxP fails for the same reason the text combination fails to be wholly successful — the check on the long diagonal: 14...B-B4ch (14...R-Kt1?; 15. BxPch!, KxB; 16. Q-Q5ch).

14.	...	Q-K2
15.	QxR	Q-B4ch
16.	K-R2	QxB

It is now just another game. Are the two pieces worth more than the R and two pawns?

17.	B-K3	P-QR3
18.	P-B3	Q-Kt4
19.	P-QKt3	Kt-B4
20.	P-B4	Q-Kt2
21.	QxQ	BxQ
22.	QR-Q1	

A better plan would appear to be to try to get a passed pawn on the Q-side, keeping the QR at home — for example, P-QKt4-5.

22.	...	B-B3
23.	R-Q4?	

Overlooking the force of ...P-B3. By 23. B-Q4 and making K5 a "strong point," White could make things more difficult.

23.	...	P-B3
24.	QR-Q1	PxP
25.	PxP	RxP

26. B-Q4

Probably hoping for RxBch and BxKt in case the R leaves the fourth rank; however, B-B4, keeping on the line of the PQB2, looks better.

26.	...	R-Kt4
27.	R-Q2	B-Q3ch
28.	K-Kt1	Kt-K5
29.	R-QB2	P-KR4
30.	B-K3	R-Kt6
31.	B-B4	BxB
32.	RxB	R-K6
33.	K-R2	R-K8
34.	P-QKt4	B-Q2!
35.	R-Kt2	P-Kt4
36.	R-B3	P-Kt5
37.	PxP	PxP
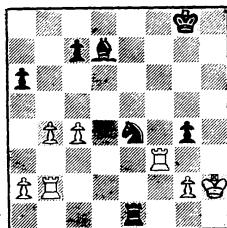
38.	R-Q3	P-Kt6ch
39.	RxP	KtxR
40.	KxKt	R-K4
41.	P-B5	K-B2
42.	K-B4	R-B4ch
43.	K-K3	K-K3
44.	R-Q2	R-K4ch
45.	K-B4	B-B3
46.	K-Kt3	R-K5
47.	R-Kt2	K-Q4
48.	K-B2	K-B5
49.	P-Kt3	K-Kt4
50.	K-B1	RxP
	Resigns.	

MORE THOUGHTS ON RATINGS

    In our August, 1956, issue we ran an article on certain aspects
of the USCF rating system. In view of the current tendency to use
the ratings in selecting teams, seeding for tournaments and pairing
Swiss System tournaments, it seemed appropriate to point out some
peculiarities of the system. Even more apropos was the fact that
last May it was proposed to rank our North and South teams by
ratings (and the South team, to a certain extent, was so ranked).

    In our October issue we ran a rebuttal by Kenneth Harkness,
business manager of the U.S. Chess Federation and author of the
rating system; and in November, some correspondence concerning the
matter.

    It now strikes us that we must not have been careful enough,
originally, to make it clear that we were trying to help the rating
system, not tear it down either in an attempt to abolish it or to
substitute our own local ratings. Perhaps the publicity given the
committee on ratings established at the 1956 annual meeting of the
California State Chess Federation gave the mistaken impression that
we were bent on establishing California ratings in competition with
the National Rating System; but this committee held a meeting at
Santa Barbara in September and decided to support and work with the
national system. At any rate, the article by Mr. Harkness which we
published in October denied that our arguments had any merit and
seemed to be unnecessarily defensive in character; and an item in
the October 20 issue of Chess Life termed the original California
Chess Reporter article "misrepresentation, falsification, and de-
liberate suppression of fact."

    Our position on the statement that USCF ratings tend to contract
remains unchanged. Our little joke, however, to the effect that a
player need only abstain from playing in order to become a Master
eventually, will not be successful unless the player in question is
already a high-rated Expert; and even then he will need luck, for
Mr. Harkness tells us that the rating system does not operate in a
vacuum, that adjustments are constantly being made. If Mr. Harkness
sees a player's rating get out of line, he will make appropriate
adjustments.

    We would feel better satisfied, however, if such adjustments
were made by a systematic application of the rules. Not even the
rating statistician of the Federation, with his encyclopaedic knowl-
edge of chess and chessplayers, can be omniscient. If it were

absolutely necessary to make adjustments, it would be better done
by a committee whose local knowledge would supplement the detailed
(and bare) results which are turned in to the rating statistician.

Robert E. Burger wrote us (November, 1956) that ratings are a
shorthand for the reporting of games played, that the actual score-
sheet of each game is the longhand. If an adjustment is to be made,
it would be best to have seen the games played, and second-best to
have a look at the scoresheets. It is easy enough to decide that a
Bobby Fischer has become a master and that his previous low rating
is unrepresentative of his present skill, for his exploits have
been so spectacular that they are common knowledge. Everyone has
played over his masterpiece vs. Donald Byrne in the last Rosenwald
tournament; here is a case of where looking at the scoresheet will
give you the information you need. But it is quite another thing
for the rating statistician to throw out Gil Ramirez' comparatively
low rating of last year, on the strength of the few results handed
in at that time, and elevate Ramirez to the master class. Of course,
anyone in the Golden Gate Chess Club could have made this decision
from having watched Gil play against Gross, Pafnutieff and many
other strong players in the club; and by now, with the results of
the California Open and the State Championship which Gil won in 1956,
the rating statistician will undoubtedly have ranked him a Master.

It seems important to us, however, that ratings be used with
care in seeding and in selecting teams to represent the Federation.
If we can perfect the rating system to a point where it can be used
as an absolute ranking, then this use of ratings will be fit and
proper. In the meantime, however, we hope to convince those who
use ratings in ranking that they should be used as a guide, in
conjunction with other information.

For example, any team representing California should include
Ramirez, and if such a team were picked last year or two years ago
by a Californian it would have included Ramirez. But if picked by
USCF ratings it probably would not. Even this year, if the Califor-
nia State Chess Federation had not voted to become affiliated with
the USCF and the California Open and the State Championship not
rated in accordance with the present policy, Gil would still not be
a rated Master. Thus, any organizer using the rating list to make
a selection should at the very least try to find out if his can-
didates played in any unrated events. If possible, he should ex-
amine the games too, through the scoresheets.

CORRESPONDENCE

KYLE FORREST of Manhattan Beach, Secretary of the CSCF, writes:

"Have just finished reading for the second time your account of the Santa Barbara 1956 tourney (The Reporter, September, 1956).

"Many observations can be made at once, such as: (1) California Chess is rapidly becoming a young man's game; (2) California Chess is on the uptrend with this, the biggest 'Open' in California history (96 players), hinting at bigger Opens in the immediate years ahead; (3) the California Open is probably the most delightful chess event in the USA when all related factors are considered; and (4) the California Open has become too unwieldy to direct as one seven-round Swiss event.

"Your comments - 'the unwieldy field of 96 players,' and '96 players are simply too many for a seven-round tournament,' and 'It is too large a field to determine first place with any degree of accuracy, let alone second and third,' and 'It is perhaps going to be necessary to split up the field somehow in California Opens of the future' - have prompted me to make the following proposal: (with the assistance of Ed Fisher, who feels that it is not necessarily the best way to solve our problem) (which if adopted, it is hoped, will further increase interest and enhance enjoyment in future California Opens) PROPOSAL: that (A) in 1957 the field be initially split into two sections of not over 60 players each (or into three sections of not over 60 players each if the number of entrants exceeds 120); that (B) each section consist of two groups called 'sheep' and 'goats' according to our present usage of these terms, each section being evenly balanced in player strength according to the best judgment of the Tournament Director; that (C) first round pairings in each section be made by each goat drawing his sheep (this will be a change from the past but will be in agreement with the usual majority desire that the weaker players get a crack at the Masters and Experts in the Open); that (D) second round pairings in each section be done in the same manner as in the first round, except that the goats will all swap sections before the drawings (this will provide each weaker player with two opportunities to play Masters and Experts in the same tourney); that (E) third, fourth, fifth and sixth round pairings in each section be selected by the TD matching winners against winners, and losers against losers, as in the past except for the presence of two sections (or more); and, that (F) seventh round pairings be made by matching

players of like scores from the combined sections (making one sec-
tion of all players for the last round).

"In the following tabulation I have indicated how my proposal
would operate for two sections of 60 players each. Draws have been
omitted for convenience.

"TABLE DEMONSTRATING AVERAGE SCORING TO BE EXPECTED BY
USING PROPOSED METHOD OF PAIRING CONTESTANTS IN FUTURE
CALIFORNIA STATE OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENTS

S C O R E S   (Games Won)

AT END OF ROUND NO.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
	NUMBER OF PLAYERS HAVING ABOVE SCORES															
	SECTION-1								SECTION-2							
1							30	(30)							30	(30)
2							30	30							30	30
3					15	15	15	15					15	15	15	15
4				7	15	15	15	8				7	15	15	15	8
5			3	12	15	15	11	4			3	12	15	15	11	4
6		1	8	13	15	13	8	2		1	8	13	15	13	8	2
	COMBINED SECTIONS															
7	1	9	21	28	28	21	10	2								

"Our mathematicians and any other interested members should be
encouraged by my proposal to come forward with their own ideas -
either favoring my proposal, or suggesting revisions, or making
alternate proposals - which if adopted by the CSCF will eliminate
the nightmarish problems you, as TD, had to contend with last year,
and will improve the pairing and scoring technique of future Cali-
fornia Opens. In an effort to start the ball rolling I might say
that Ed Fisher thinks it might be more advantageous to combine the
sections after the fifth round instead of the sixth. Also, we
both think it possible to keep two sections throughout, of equal
strengths, and award two sets of equal prizes. What do you think?"
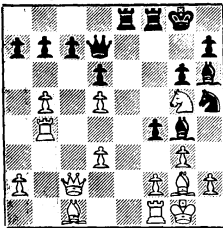
GOLDEN GATE CHAMPIONSHIP, 1956

Game No. 368 – K's Indian

White	Black
W. Addison	G. Ramirez

	White	Black
1.	Kt-KB3	Kt-KB3
2.	P-KKt3	P-KKt3
3.	B-Kt2	B-Kt2
4.	O-O	O-O
5.	P-B4	P-Q3
6.	Kt-B3	Kt-B3
7.	P-Q3	P-K4
8.	R-Kt1	Kt-KR4
9.	P-QKt4	P-B4
10.	P-Kt5	Kt-K2
11.	Q-B2	P-B5
12.	P-K3	B-Kt5
13.	KPxP	PxP
14.	Kt-Q5	KtxKt
15.	PxKt	Q-Q2

Tartakower would have been pleased with the style of both players. This is hyper-modern chess with all its "piece play" - where pawns only get in the way. (But Tartakower, with Black, would have taken some counter-measures on the Q-side, we feel sure.)

| 16. | R-Kt4 | QR-K1 |
| 17. | Kt-Kt5 | B-R3 |

| 18. | Kt-K6 | R-B2 |

This appears to lose the exchange, as the attack on the QBP as well as the threat of P-KR3 - P-KKt4 will force ...BxKt. So Black should play 18...BxKt; 19. PxB, QxP in spite of the fact that his Q-side will be demolished.

19.	R-B4	BxKt
20.	PxB	QxKP
21.	R-K4	Q-Q2
22.	RxRch	QxR
23.	B-Q5	Kt-B3
24.	BxRch	QxB
25.	Q-B4	P-Q4
26.	Q-Q4	Kt-R4
27.	QxRP	Q-Q2
28.	QxP	B-B1
29.	P-Kt6	Resigns.

A remarkably quick finish; seldom does a game pan out so nicely without any outright blunders being made.

Game No. 369 – Polish

White	Black
K. Bendit	C. Capps

| 1. | P-QKt4 | |

Kurt Bendit's specialty – but a dangerous style when facing the redoubtable Capps, who dotes on open positions.

1.	...	P-K4
2.	B-Kt2	P-Q3
3.	P-K3	B-K2
4.	P-KB4	B-B3
5.	PxP	PxP
6.	P-K4	Kt-K2
7.	B-K2	QKt-B3
8.	P-Kt5	Kt-Q5
9.	Kt-KB3	KtxB
10.	QxKt	Kt-Kt3
11.	P-KKt3?	

Better to let Black post the Kt on B5 than to create weak white squares for the Black B.

11.	...	Q-K2
12.	P-QR4	B-K3
13.	P-Q3	Q-Q2
14.	B-R3	P-QR3
15.	P-B4	PxP
16.	RPxP	B-Kt5
17.	R-R2	B-K2
18.	0-0	0-0
19.	BxB	QxB
20.	Kt-B3	RxR
21.	QxR	Q-Q2
22.	Kt-Q5	P-QB3
23.	PxP	PxP
24.	Kt-Kt4	R-Kt1
25.	Q-R4	P-KR3
26.	Q-R3	B-R6
27.	R-Q1	P-KB4
28.	R-Q2	P-B5
29.	P-Q4	PxQP
30.	KtxQP	PxP
31.	PxP	P-B4
	Resigns.	

STEINER CLUB "EXPERTS" 1956

Game No. 370 - Budapest

White	Black
S. Geller	J. Gibbs

1.	P-Q4	Kt-KB3
2.	P-QB4	P-K4
3.	PxP	Kt-Kt5
4.	B-B4	Kt-QB3
5.	Kt-KB3	B-Kt5ch
6.	Kt-B3	Q-K2
7.	Q-Q5	BxKtch
8.	PxP	Q-R6
9.	R-B1	P-B3
10.	R-B2	

Also satisfactory is 10. PxP.

10.	...	Kt-K2
11.	Q-Q2	0-0
12.	P-K4!	PxP
13.	KtxP	KtxKt
14.	BxKt	P-Q3
15.	B-Q4	B-Q2

Black doesn't seem to have much compensation for the pawn - which is usual with the Budapest unless White makes a mistake.
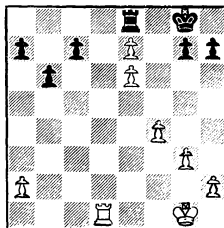
16.	B-Q3	Q-R4
17.	0-0	Q-R4
18.	R-Kt2	P-QKt3
19.	P-B4	Kt-B3
20.	R-Kt5	Q-R3
21.	R-KKt5	KtxB
22.	PxKt	R-B2
23.	P-QB5	QR-KB1
24.	PxQP	QxP
25.	B-B4	B-K3
26.	P-K5	Q-B3
27.	BxB	QxB
28.	P-Q5	Q-K2
29.	P-K6	R-B4
30.	RxR	RxR
31.	R-Q1	Q-Q3
32.	P-Kt3	R-B1
33.	Q-K2	R-Q1
34.	P-K7	R-K1
35.	Q-K6ch	QxQ
36.	PxQ	Resigns.

REPORTER TASKS: This month we begin to "bear down" in the problem-
                  solving ladder. Both tasks, as usual, are three-
movers, although we do not guarantee that you never will get, say,
a four-mover to ponder on, or possibly even an end-game.

   Both tasks are relatively modern. No. 107 is worth seven
points, and No. 108 is worth ten (count 'em) points.

   Remember, you may enter the problem ladder at any time, and
sooner or later you will win a prize. The first solver to get ahead
of the field wins, and then he drops to the bottom of the ladder.

Standings in the Ladder:

49 points: Sven Almgren, Los Angeles; E.C. Jonas, San Francisco;
  Dr. Horace C. Pitkin, San Francisco; Jerry Slavich, Salinas.
37 points: Karl Bopp, San Francisco; D.J. Foley, San Jose.
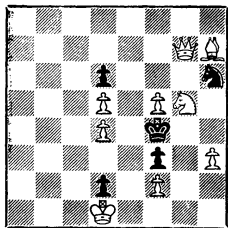34 points: R.J. Gardner, San Diego.
33 points: Phil Foley, San Jose.
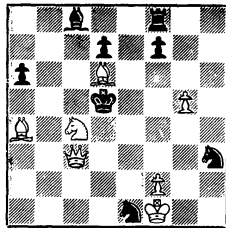14 points: Hyman Gordon, Los Angeles.
12 points: Prof. L.H. Daugherty, San Jose.
 2 points: D.H. Hosea, San Diego; L.S. Wells, Pleasant Hill.

TASK No. 107	TASK No. 108
White Mates in Three	White Mates in Three

ANSWERS: No. 105 (A.J. Fink): 1. B-R6.
           No. 106 (A.J. Fink): 1. Kt-K1.
           We are happy to note that nearly every solver had very
enthusiastic comments to make about these problems.

              All matters relating to problems should be referred to:

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