

# SACRAMENTO CHESS NEWS

Volume I, Issue 4

April 9, 1950

Comes the time to issue another "Sacramento Chess News" and Ye Editor is stumped for first page news. Stencils for the attached three sheets have been typed and ready to mimeograph - but how shall this page be filled?

First, some serious thought is due in regards to our meeting place. We realize that the Y is located in the lower part of town and is not as desirable a meeting place as could be obtained. This has frequently been looked in to, but a satisfactory solution has not been achieved. It would appear that with an attending membership of 20 -30 each week, and with a quarter dropped into the rent kitty instead of a dime, we could rent a much more suitable meeting place. Will each member give this some serious thought? And if you have any suggestions, please pass them on to Jim Marianos.

The Club dues are \$5.00 per year, or \$1.25 per quarter. Members whose dues are paid to Sept. 1, 1950, are: Spaulding, Johnson, Talcott, Flynn, Meyer, Austin, Carey, Chapman, Daily, Marianos and Schmidt. Wm Trousdale is an Honorary Life Member - and the Sec-Treas. does not pay dues, according to our By-Laws.

The Treasurer's Report is as follows:

Balance on Hand March 25, 1950	\$39.29
Dues received:	7.50
Rent over 3/1 thru 4/5	3.55
Sale, pad of score sheets	.50
Total on hand & collected:	50.84
<u>EXPENSES:</u>	
Cost of 3rd Chess bulletin:	4.52
Carey-1949 Tourney Prize	<u>2.50</u> 7.02
BALANCE ON HAND 4/9/50	\$43.82

## BOOK REVIEW

BOTVINNIK THE INVINCIBLE, by Fred Reinfeld, \$2.00. Published by the David McKay Company, 604 So. Washington Square, Philadelphia 6, PA.-- As Reinfeld points out in his foreword, Botvinnik is not invincible, no man is -- but he plays as if he were! The first game is Botvinnik vs. G. Stoltz, Match 1926. The last game is Denker vs Botvinnik, 1945, USA vs USSR radio match, a total of 62 games in all. These are the games in Botvinnik's climb to the top of the chess-world. It is one of the few books available on his games, and with Reinfeld's annotations it is the best book available, in our opinion. Imagine what a bargain, 62 games, fully annotated, with descriptive "head notes" at the start of each game, covering a period of almost twenty years! For a cost of three cents per game score! Your chess library is not complete without this book. And it contains many opening innovations and ideas which have not been thoroughly explored in the last 5 years. We strongly recommend that you buy this book immediately.

There are no game scores available this week. Players are not cooperating very well, and Ye Editor refuses to bore you further with his efforts at chess. Please - let's have more game scores. And more names, news, stories, suggestions and anything you can think of in connection with C \* H \* E \* S \* S\*\*\*\*

Gee wants to get a dozen or so beer-drinking chessplayers together some Friday night - he has found an ideal spot to meet for an extra meeting - and drink a few beers, play a little chess, tell a few tall tales and let it go at that? Are you in accord with this idea? How about letting him know at the next meeting if you want in on it? Restricted to the first dozen applicants!!

## COMMENTS

by Flynn

24 players at the last meeting! Chess interest is really picking up in the old town.

Two new players were Walter Shields and Douglas Helmer. Welcome to the Club, fellows. Walter Shields teamed up with Jim Marianos against J. B. Gee and Steve Spaulding in a four man game of chess that's a humdinger. Each man plays alternate moves for his side. A lot of fun too. Besides, you can always blame your partner when you lose.

Steve Spaulding must be a mind reader. Before the 5th round pairings were announced he had it all figured out. He was going to play Gee, Sanford Applegate would be matched with Milt Meyer, and Kid Flynn would swap pawns with Dick McDonald. And that was just the way it turned out! How are you on picking the horses, Steve?

Harold Soligan liked the story about the chessplayer's banquet. All except the part about the "tumbler of Petroff's Vocka." Harold, the Roma Wine distributor, figured that if our chessplayer were going to have a little drink he should have tried Roma Supreme. What about this fellow, Roma? Is he a pretty good chessplayer, Harold?

Our chess diagram in the last issue appealed to Gene Gray. He said he thought it was very colorful. Thanks a lot, Gene. A few words like that repay those of us who work hard to please all of us. One thing about our little chess news. We may not be professional writers or whatnot, in fact it is strictly an egg and amateur production, but it's ours, all ours.

And if any of you, even if you're absolutely new to the Club, have some chess stories or amusing incidents of chess, or an article...by all means send it in.

As soon as the last round of the tournament is over, we are going to try to get up some events and games for the newer members. In a way, the tournament has tied up a lot of the older members and they haven't been able to give as much time to meeting the newer playing members as they would like.

If any of you get down to San Francisco, you might like to drop in to The Barton Chess Studios in the Cecil Hotel on Post Street. Fifty cent charge for visitors but a full day of chess from noon till midnight. George Koltanowski, the blindfold wizard, is running the Studio and with all his pep, there must be plenty of entertainment for all.

Jim Marianos came up with the chess quip of the week. Jim says his idea of a good check mate is a wife who works.

### THE CHESS DIAGRAM

Just three moves win the game for White in Diagram #2. Remember to look for forcing moves--checks, captures, or moves which threaten to win material. Now, here comes the big hint (experts solve before reading)--White's first move is 1. N-K7ch and if King to R1, then White mates in two. This position suggested by Harold Soligan who ran onto a fellow-serviceman in the South Pacific. This soldier was a great chessplayer and the game he won with White pieces in this position was what he considered the high point of his chess career.

Solution to #1 (in last issue): 1. R-R8ch! K-B2 (if ..KxR; 2. Q-R6ch and mate next moves) 2. N-N5ch, K-N2; 3. RxR, QxR; 4. Q-K7ch, Resigns (for the Knight is lost, and Black's game is hopeless.) This position was reached in the game Lowenfisch (what kind of fish?) vs. Smyslov. When Lowenfisch played 1. R-R8 check, Smyslov thought he was hit in the face with a rainbow trout.

## A HEAVY GAME

by Huxley St. John-Brooks

(The author of this piece died in 1948 but he left behind him what C. J. S. Purdy calls "the best short humorous chess sketch ever written". Surely, any chessplayer can sympathize with the sighs of Mr. Bronski, as he places "his reluctant King gracefully upon its side". Here it is, originally published in the "South African Chess Magazine.")

"I am playing dam bad this evening," remarked Mr. Bronski, placing his reluctant King gracefully upon its side. "Once again I lose the Old Lady."

"It is not so you are playing exactly bad, if you understand me," replied his opponent. "Tonight I am playing too superior for you. Capablanca himself should be losing his Queen in such a wobbly position."

"It would be because I play the Peasant to Bishop Four?"

"That lose, of course."

"But if I play my Peasant to Bishop three?" Bronski rejoined with a note of hopeful interrogation.

"That also lose."

"But if I play der Horse and hit your Kveen?" persisted Bronski.

"Then also I have a plan."

Bronski sighed, and proceeded to set up the pieces for another encounter.

"Chess is a very heavy game," he said slowly. "If you play kvick you lose your Kveen, and if you doan't play kvick the other fellow tink so strrong that also you are in trrouble."

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### TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Neil Austin

5th Round results: Gee 1 - Spaulding 0; Meyer 1 - Applegate 0 (forfeit); Flynn 1 - MacDonald 0; Johnson 1 - Iverson 0; Marianos 1 - Trousdale 0; Yuke 1 - Simonsen 0; Soligan 1 - Rochelle 0 (forfeit); Talcott 1 - Burns 0.

Standings to date are: 1. Gee 5-0; 2. Meyer & Flynn 4-1; 4. Spaulding, Johnson, Applegate, Marianos 3-2; 8. Yuke & MacDonald 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 10. Iverson, Talcott, Soligan, Trousdale 2-3; 14. Burns & Simonsen 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 16. Rochelle 0-5.

Next week begins the final round. Gee needs a draw against Meyer to assure himself of a repeat victory. A loss for Gee and a win for Flynn would result in a three way tie for first. No one else has a mathematical chance of better than a tie for second.

Honors in the 5th round go to Flynn and Johnson for hard fought wins over MacDonald and Iverson.

We wish to remark on the fine showing of Wm. Trousdale, who is spotting the field some 30 years or more. He finished second in the club's first tournament in 1934-5, and is still knocking over a tough one now and then.

N. T. Austin, 1608 42nd Street, Sacramento  
S. W. Applegate, 2945 1st avenue, Sacramento  
Frank Anderson, 812 Canterbury Road, N. Sacramento  
Victor Burns, 5332 K, Sacramento  
Jack Benjamin, 2265 Fair Oaks Blvd., Sacramento  
A. R. Chapman, 5109 J, Sacramento  
F. A. Cartier, 3616 First Ave., Sacramento  
C. J. Carey, 1212 41st St., Sacramento  
John Caffrey, 3750 4th avenue, Sacramento  
R. M. Carmany, Rt. 1, Box 368, Walnut Grove  
James H. Coan, Rt. 2, Box 2105, Rio Linda  
Roy Daily, 2515 S Street, Sacramento  
J. O. Darr, 711 46th street, Sacramento  
George Flynn, 1310 F, Sacramento  
Fred Fredenburg, 512 10th St., Sacramento  
Dave Fisher, 3049 Rio Linda Blvd., Sacramento  
Gene Gray Jr., Rt. 1, Box 801, Woodland  
N. L. Guinasso, 2621 Ione, Sacramento  
Vern Gilman, 2111 35th Street, Sacramento  
Calvin Gardener, 2554 Del Paso Blvd., N. Sacramento  
Gordon Hudson, 2217 30th Street, Sacramento  
E. F. Houghton, 3985 4th avenue, Sacramento  
George T. Hedges, Dixon, California  
Earl Hazan, 3043 Marshall Way, Sacramento  
James H. Hastings, 2316 3d Avenue, Sacramento  
Jack Hubert, 630 14th street, Sacramento  
Douglas Helmer, 2125 $\frac{1}{2}$  K, Sacramento  
C. A. Iverson, 3721 Broadway, Sacramento  
S. G. Johnson, 817 $\frac{1}{2}$  26th Street, Sacramento  
D. J. Kline, 4616 Hazelwood, Sacramento  
M. O. Meyer, 1409 15th street, Sacramento  
J. T. Marianos, 2168 6th avenue, Sacramento  
Richard McDonald, 3541 San Ysidro Way, Sacramento  
M. G. Neeley, 1128 13th avenue, Sacramento  
Virgil Obert, P. O. Box 313, Chico, Calif.  
L. Clay Porter, 5200 Santa Barbara Avenue, Sacramento  
Allan Ramsey, 3401 Sophia Way, Sacramento  
Jim Rochelle, 130 N 10th Street, N. Sacramento  
L. Reed, 2248 Birch avenue, Sacramento  
H. K. Soligan, 626 El Dorado Way, Sacramento  
S. E. Spaulding, 2681 Ringgold, Sacramento  
Walter Schmidt, 3817 12th avenue, Sacramento  
J. P. Shepard, 5232 U, Sacramento  
Wes Simmons, 4224 Cabrillo Way, Sacramento  
Noel Smelser, 3833 30th street, Sacramento  
Perry M. Sagendorph, 2517 S Street, Sacramento  
Mary Spoto, 2609 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento  
Frank Sewell, 823 7th street, Sacramento  
Jack Snodgrass, 5537 Aileen Way, Sacramento  
N. Simonson, 1123 $\frac{1}{2}$  W, Sacramento  
Frank Sakaoka, Rt. 2, Box 3285, Sacramento  
Walter Shields, Rt. 8, Box 2550, Sacramento  
Wm. Trousdale, 4241 U, Sacramento  
N. E. Talcott, 1416 17th street, Sacramento  
R. H. Todrank, 547 37th Street, Sacramento  
Frank Westlake, 3625 Oak Street, Del Paso Heights  
Mrs. V. Wallace, 715 17th street, Sacramento  
Ed Westbrook, 1509 37th Street, Sacramento  
Terry Whittier, 2900 F Sacramento  
D. J. Yuke, 4824 T, Sacramento  
Wm. Yersui, 229 Scott Court, Del Paso Heights  
Syd Zucker, 1403 H, Sacramento

(You may have a chess-  
player living around the  
corner from you! Hence  
this list of known players  
in and around Sacramento.  
If you know of others not  
on this list, please send  
name and address to Gee.)