

Ready For a Killing

A Chess Virtuoso Battles All Comers in Twelve-Hour Marathon Play

Girl, 9, and Teenagers Are Among the Challengers

By ELMONT WAITE

No graybeards' game is modern chess. Expert George Koltanowski's youngest opponent in The Chronicle Chess Festival yesterday was 9—and many were in their teary teens.

And for Koltanowski himself, the 12-hour exhibition was almost an athletic event as he strode swiftly from table to table, hour after hour. Once, to rest his feet, he tried a wheel chair but soon popped back to his feet again. "Nice, but too slow, too slow," he remarked.

His 9-year-old opponent was a protege from his home town, Santa Rosa, Alta Lu Townes. Said the master, as he beat her: "I'm sorry . . . I'd have preferred to lose . . ."

Alta Lu and 11-year-old Patricia Katz, of 473 Ellis street, went out at the same time. Patricia said she had been playing chess only four months: "This is the first time I've met an expert." She lasted 20 moves.

HELL STUDY UP

Ted Lang, 15, of Salinas, who has been playing three years, also lasted just 20 moves. "It just seems Koltanowski knows every answer," he said. He bought a new book—his third on chess—to take back to Salinas for study. He is the only boy member of the Salinas Chess Club. "But lots of kids play at the YMCA there," he said.

Jim Fredgren, 17, of 1470 Trestle Glen Road, Oakland, conceded after three hours and 50 moves. "I was still a pawn behind and it looked hopeless at that point," he explained.

Chess "is just like football or anything," Fredgren continued. "You've got to practice a lot. Takes lots of study, too."

"Koltanowski is doing a lot for chess on the West Coast," he added. "Before, it seemed to be centered in the East."

Koltanowski is toughest when only a few pieces remain on the board, Fredgren reported. "Once he could have taken my knight free, but he traded queens instead. Likes to get queens off the board. He's a very strong end game (late-in-game) player."

In shirtsleeves and with a painted chessboard on his tie, Koltanowski faced 37 players at a time.

SPEEDY DECISIONS

Tables formed a long rectangle in the main ballroom of the Marines' Memorial Club at Sutter and Mason streets. The expert made many of his moves almost as swiftly as he could step from table to table. Occasionally, however, he paused



CONCENTRATION — George Koltanowski pondered deeply a situation facing him from one of the challengers at The Chronicle Chess Festival. The wheels move fast in the master's brain, decisions come unbelievably fast. At yesterday's festival he was facing some of the best players in California.

with elbows on table to study a board.

A sandwich lay on a table at one corner of the rectangle, and Koltanowski nibbled now and then as he passed it. He smoked almost continually, moving the cigarette nervously with his lips.

As he won, he would pick up a chess man, rap sharply on the table and signal to the judges at the end of the rectangle—then shake hands with the defeated opponent and

Russia Plans 300,000-Man Tournament

LONDON, Dec. 4 (AP) — Russia came up today with a claim to another "world's biggest": A chess tournament with 300,000 players. The Moscow radio said that num-



The world's blindfold chess champion took on 37 players at a time in his 12-hour marathon yesterday

The world's blindfold chess champion took on 37 players at a time in his 12-hour marathon yesterday

as he could step from table to table. Occasionally, however, he paused

of the referee—then shake hands with the defeated opponent and pass on to the next board.

FANCY SETS SPURNED

Sometimes he refused to play until the challengers with elaborately carved sets would find plainer pieces. The fancy sets were confusing, he said.

Most experts use standard-design sets, rather plain and unpolished. But the first man who beat him, Andy Buschine, 49, of San Jose, a long-time friend and fellow native of Belgium, brought a set he had carved himself.

Koltanowski's previous record for mass play was 212 opponents in one day, in Dallas.

In preparation for yesterday's big event, he went to bed at 9 p. m. Saturday, his wife reported. "But he didn't sleep very well; he tossed quite a bit . . ."

The pressure of mass exhibitions is intense, said one challenger who earned a draw—M. E. Mattingly, Stockton building contractor. "I was just lucky; he gave a piece away," he explained.

Two of Koltanowski's younger opponents played the master to a draw: Robert Holten, Santa Rosa, and Frank S. Morsman, Palo Alto, both junior college students. Morsman did it in 16 moves.

Henry Strob, 70-year-old retired Stockton businessman, was another who earned a draw, but his game went 60 moves and lasted six and a half hours. At the end, only four pieces remained on the board: Two kings and two rooks.

Another who drew, George B. Oakes, Salinas lettuce worker, managed it in five hours. He said he

tournament with 300,000 players. The Moscow radio said that number of participants was expected to compete in the annual all-Russian tournament of collective farm chess amateurs. Only 103,000 took part last year.

had played chess 15 years but "this was my toughest game."

Testifying to Koltanowski's skill as a teacher was Mrs. Guthrie McClain, 986 Cragmont avenue, Berkeley, who also earned a draw—after only two months' study of the game.

In simultaneous exhibition games, two local men established excellent records. Professor H. P. Ralston of the University of California won 22 and lost two, in the 24 games he played. And Guthrie McClain, Berkeley, won 14 and lost two. He is president of the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League.

SHORT BREATHER

Koltanowski took only one 10-minute break in his pacing marathon. By the tenth hour, he was visibly tired but had lost only two games.

One special feature of the festival made even Koltanowski's pace look slow.

It was called a "rapid transit match" between Mechanics Institute players and Castle Chess Club experts, using five boards—with each move made within a time limit of 10 seconds.

The Men Who Beat a Champion

Koltanowski Loses Three Chess Games

Three men explained yesterday how they defeated Chess Champion George Koltanowski at The Chronicle's Chess Festival. No one else could do it.

Intensive study won for 21-year-old Les Talcott, of 3432 68th avenue, Oakland. A San Jose State College student, he has been studying the game for four years. He had met Koltanowski twice before, drawing once and losing once. He won in less than an hour, yesterday.

The other victors, Andy Buschine, San Jose waterworks maintenance operator, and Robert Willson, San Francisco letter carrier, took longer. Buschine mated Koltanowski at the end of 38 moves.

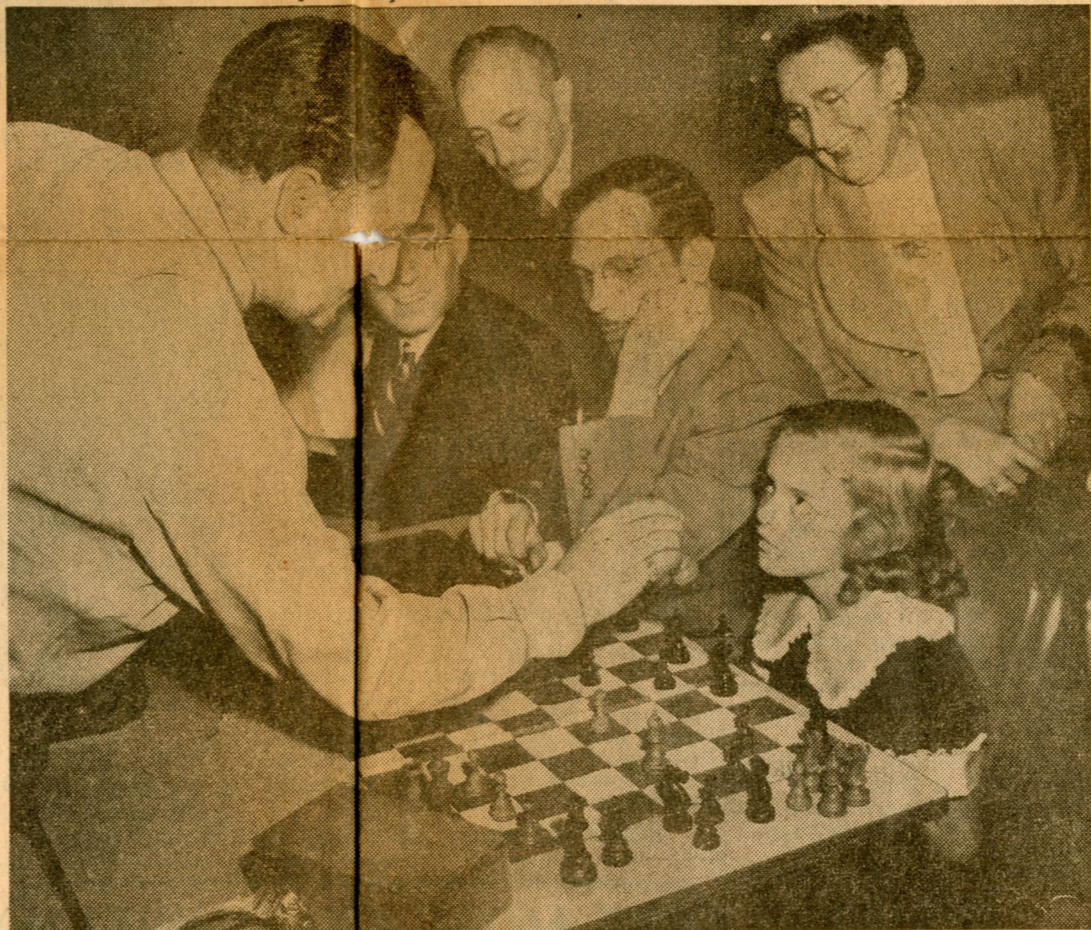
Another winner, Robert Willson, 41, of 3031 Laguna street, has played chess for the past 20 years. Koltanowski resigned this game at the end of the 43rd move.

Seventeen who managed to draw with the expert were:

Wade Hendricks, 37 Peroly court, Oakland; Francis Mills, 405 19th street, Pacific Grove; Robert Holten, Santa Rosa Junior College student; M. E. Mattingly, Stockton contractor; George B. Oakes, Salinas lettuce worker; Henry Strob, retired Stockton businessman; and Frank S. Morsman, Palo Alto, a junior college student.

Jim Lieberman, 15, of 5952 Manchester drive, Oakland; Edmond T. Dana, 63, of Palo Alto; Jean I. Mimrane, 34, of 1334 California street, former champion of Algiers; Nick Russ, 52, of 157 Bon View street, San Francisco; Mrs. Guthrie McClain, 986 Cragmont avenue, Berkeley, a Koltanowski pupil of two months' experience.

Lionel Wolfson, of Sebastopol, secretary of the Petaluma Chess Club; Desere Rakonitz, professor of international law at the University of San Francisco; Joshua Torczyner, business man, of 1739 41st avenue, and Guthrie McClain, 986 Cragmont avenue, Berkeley, husband of another who drew Koltanowski; and George Van Hooser, Sunnyside, team captain of the San Jose YMCA Chess Club.



A LITTLE GIRL IS GIVEN A CHESS LESSON

Lovers of chess flocked to the Marines' Memorial Club yesterday to pit their intellects against Chess Master George Koltanowski. Among the contestants were many young people. Alta Lu Townes (above) of Santa Rosa is 9 years

old. She has been playing chess for four months. But that didn't deter her from trying her hand with the world's blindfold chess champion. And she stood up to his withering barrage of strategy for 20 moves. "This is the first time

I've met an expert," she said. Alta Lu is from Koltanowski's home town.



WINNER ANDY BUSCHINE "Learned from Koltanowski"

WINNER ROBERT WILLSON San Francisco letter carrier

4-Year-Old Likes S. F. and Tells Why

Blonde, chubby, 4-year-old Elke Ude Jiminez took her first look at her new home yesterday and decided she liked it here.

Little Elke was put on a plane in Frankfurt, Germany, last Thursday and arrived here Saturday by Trans World Airlines. She was met by her mother, Mrs. Francisco Jiminez, 12 Latona street.

She was tired, cross and upset by the trip, and her first comment (in German, the only language she speaks) before falling asleep in the car was, "There are an awful lot more automobiles here than in Bremen."

This morning, between frequent trips to the kitchen to try to satisfy her insatiable appetite for milk, she was playing with a neighbor's 4-year-old daughter. Neither seemed to notice the language barrier.

"I don't want to go back to Germany. I want to stay here. We didn't have all these things in Bremen," her mother translated for her as Elke pointed to the house and furniture.

From New York here, TWA provided a woman to accompany her.

U. S. Courts Get 'Master Calendar'

For the first time in the history of the Federal courts in San Francisco an unusual innovation goes into effect today—the "master calendar," in the language of the jurists.

That means one judge will assign the cases to the other judges for trial, that the one judge will handle various technical motions, set the trial dates and will hear pleas in other cases, principally criminal.

Federal Judge Louis E. Goodman will preside over the master calendar, which will be prepared by James P. Welsh, clerk for Chief Judge Michael J. Roche, who will also have the title of chief master calendar clerk.

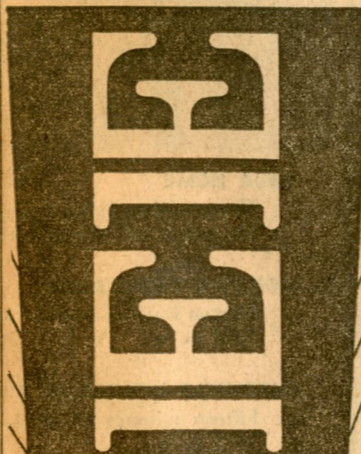
The purpose, as explained by Goodman yesterday, is to speed up trials, prevent unnecessary delays and require lawyers to proceed with the cases on the trial dates they have asked.

The system is comparable to the one now used in the San Francisco Superior Courts and has been used, Judge Goodman says, with good effect in New York and Washington, D. C., in speeding up cases and

JOY MEATS CO. • JOY MEATS CO.

Joy Meats Co.
Wholesale and Retail Butchers
1406 Polk St. Phone PR 5-4070
Corner Polk and Pine

Beef Filet Mignon	85c
Well trimmed, steak or roast, U. S. Gov. insp. lb.	
YOUNG TURKEY	29c
Fresh killed. Av	
American Cheese	45c
Fresh, sliced, process. . . .	
Fresh Beef Kidney	20c
U. S. Gov't inspected. lb.	
Oven Roast, boneless	59c
Steer Beef Bottom round—sirloin butt Cross rib. lb.	
VEAL—BREAST	24c
Milk fed. Stew, stuffing, lb.	
VEAL CHOPS	38c
Milk fed. fresh tender lb.	



Savings Grow SAFELY at Citizens' Federal

MANAGING DIRECTORS

B. A. Banker
Dr. John W. Cline
Jesse C. Colman
C. S. Davis
Milton D. Eisner
J. H. Hoffman
Wallace G. Hunter
Albert A. Rosenshine

It's good to watch your savings grow. It's better to watch them grow... SAFELY.

You get both GROWTH and SAFETY at Citizens' Federal.

GROWTH because your savings here accumulate steadily at a substantial rate. (Current rate 2 1/2%.)

Portland

\$12

\$21.60 ROUNDTrip (PLUS TAX)

ON THE