

## The Golden Treasury of Chess

The "Golden Treasury of Chess," compiled by Francis J. Wellmuth of Los Angeles, Calif., a really wonderful collection of 540 outstanding masterpieces and "a complete chess library in one volume" has been published by Horowitz & Harkness of New York.

Practically a lifetime was spent by the editor, now in his seventies, in keeping abreast of the activities of the world's best players and making careful selection of their games, going back also as far as the time of Ruy Lopez.

The purpose he had in mind for so many years has at last been realized and this fine book stands as a monument to his enthusiasm, untiring devotion and genuine love for the game and its players. The book costs \$3.00 and can be obtained from the American Chess Bulletin.

Dana Brannan, than whom there is no better judge of chess literature, delivers himself of the following golden opinion in a review printed in the New York Times:

Modern chess books are solemn tomes, composed in the grim spirit of search for the elusive truths of the chessboard. This volume is an exception. The keynote is enjoyment.

The author is an amateur, not a master, but he seems well qualified to select games that are entertaining. That is the test for admission to his extraordinarily large collection of 540 examples of play over a period of 447 years.

All the great names are here, and many of the famous sensational contests. And in addition we have dozens of brilliant handicap, simultaneous and blindfold games and amusing samples of ten-second play. Each period of chess history is prefaced by a sketch of its character, and there are more than 200 diagrams.

The publishers are generous with illustrations, which include full-page portraits of Morphy, Steinitz, Pillsbury (plus an acrostic poem in his honor), Emanuel Lasker and Capablanca; very interesting group pictures of the competitors in the tournaments at Vienna, 1898; New York, 1927; and Nottingham, 1936. From the old days come portraits of Staunton, Lowenthal, Boden, Andersen, St. Amant and Harrwitz, while the present is represented by Alekhine, Keres, Botvinnik and the four New Yorkers, Reshevsky, Fine, Kashdan and Horowitz.

Presumably in order to keep down the size of the volume, the author has provided almost no notes. It would be hard to quarrel with this decision, for seldom has so much chess fun been provided in so little space.—Dana Brannan.