

Franchot Tone,

the well-known M-G-M film star, announced in an unguarded moment that his favourite game is chess. Result was hundreds of challenges from chess-players in California, other parts of U.S.A. and even Europe. Reckoning three hours as the duration of an average game Franchot figured that, if he were to accept all the challenges, he would be playing without a stop for four-hundred-and-twenty-seven days, twenty-four hours a day. So he can't, since M-G-M want him for film work occasionally.

Errol Flynn is another film-star chess-ite.

Ray Milland is another.

"The Emperor's Candlesticks," starring William Powell, had a neat "crack" about chess . . . and, of course, Victor MacLagan plays chess with pieces over three feet tall.