

Published twice a month on the 5th and 20th by THE UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION. Entered as second class matter September 5, 1946, at the post office at Dubuque, Iowa, under the act of March 9, 1879.

Editor: **FRED M. WREN**

POSTMASTER: Please return undeliverable copies with Form 3579 to Frank Brady, USCF Business Manager, 80 East 11th Street, New York 3, N. Y.

Who Is Zemitis?

The choice of the Pruner-Zemitis "Game of The Month" from the "California Chess Reporter" to fill a space on Page 6 of the August 20, 1960 issue of CHESS LIFE turned out to be a happy one. The space was filled, making your editor happy. Several readers have commented happily on the nice game. And annotator Zemitis, although the loser in the game, was happy to see the game, with his annotations properly credited, appearing in what he calls "America's best Chess publication!" I must confess that when the game score was being prepared for publication I wondered who the heck Zemitis was. His letter solved the mystery.

Valdemars Zemitis, in telling CHESS LIFE about his new book, gave a few details which are both interesting and enlightening. After commenting favorably on the two games with Tal's notes, which appeared on page 4 of the same issue, through the courtesy of Irwin Sigmond, Zemitis continued:

"The reason that these two items particularly struck me is that on September 15, Civil and Industrial Advertising, 210 California St., San Francisco, are publishing my new book on Tal, the Chess Champion of the World. The book contains previously unpublished games by Tal from the period 1952-1956, which I have gathered from several personal sources in Latvia and elsewhere. As a predecessor of Tal, as the holder of the not-insignificant title of Latvian Junior Champion, I have had an unusual concern with Tal's development, and have gathered, I believe, a unique collection of his games. All games are carefully and sufficiently annotated, with reference to all sources known to me. And I can assure you, and the readers of CHESS LIFE, that the games are individually interesting, as well as being instructive from the point of view of a world-champion's birth pangs. Several losses are included. They are 'all Tal.'"

For interested readers, a few more facts about the book are now given.

THE UNKNOWN TAL, by Valdemars Zemitis, former Latvian Junior Champion; size, 8½" x 5"; 96 pages; printed on opaque litholin stock by offset lithography; about 300 diagrams; price \$1.50.

Some of the features which readers will enjoy: each page contains two columns, one for the game score and the other for the notes. And, in the score column, there is a position diagram every five moves. For those who want to play the game over with board and set and work out the variations mentioned in the notes, the notes are there, easily referenced. For those who want to go over some nice games on train or plane, or elsewhere, without a board and set, the game score plus the frequent diagrams make such a treatment possible.

Mr. Zemitis mentioned that the book was published with the assistance of the "California Chess Reporter," with Associate Editor, Robert E. Burger, supervising the editing and production of the volume. Congratulations to author Zemitis, and to our friendly colleague, the "California Chess Reporter" for having had the intestinal fortitude to embark on a venture of this sort, which although almost necessarily in the non-profit bracket, has brought to the chess lovers of the country such an attractive and instructive collection of games, at a price which is equally attractive.

Oh, yes, I almost forgot. Mr. Zemitis says that the edition is limited to 1500 copies. So don't say you were not advised to order early.