

Pan-Am Chess Congress Is Set

By Dr. H. J. Ralston

A couple of weeks ago we announced in this column that the second Pan-American Chess Congress would be held at the Hollywood Athletic Club July 10 to July 24.

Due to lack of space at that time we had to omit many interesting details.

The event is open to all players.

There will be six main tournaments, for players ranging in strength from "master" to "class D." There will also be a rapid transit tournament, a women's tournament and a student tournament.

Living Chessmen

Special events will include a chess game in which the pieces will be living human beings, and an exhibition of rare chess sets.

Tournament games are scheduled to be played in the evening, beginning at 7 o'clock, and only one game per day will be played.

Reasonable accommodations are promised. Swimming privileges, gymnasium, restaurant and bar are available at the Hollywood Athletic Club.

The entry fee for all this is \$15. For reservations write to the Hollywood Chess Group, 198 North Formosa Avenue, Los Angeles 36.

The United States Chess Federation announces that the United States Open Championship will be played at the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, Aug. 2 to 14.

'Swiss' Type

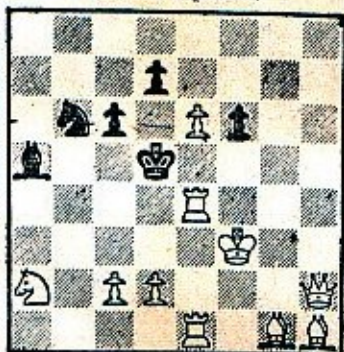
The tournament will be a "Swiss" type. For further details, write to A. L. McAuley, 4225 So. Liberty-st, New Orleans, La.

According to the English magazine "Chess," the "Sueddeutsche Zeitung" of Munich published the following illuminating description of the preliminary training methods of the Russian players in the recent Candidates' Tournament:

"Preparation for the event lasted for two months in the health resort Tarasovka, near Moscow. Chess was completely absent from the time-table for two weeks.

Medical specialists in sport training and diet, the famous Leningrad light athletic trainer, Alexeyev, and Russia's leading

Task No. 34—By T. Taverner
White Mates in Two Moves
(Value 4 points)



Answer to Task No. 33: The main line is 1. R-B4, K-Kt4; 2. Q-R4ch, KxQ; 3. Kt-B3 mate.

swimming coach, Leonid Meshkov, set to work to make them 100 per cent physically fit. The Soviet Chess Federation is of course a branch of the Department of Physical Culture and Sport.

Gymnastics First

"Rising at 7 a. m., the masters had ten minutes' gymnastics, then bath and breakfast. At 10 a. m. they exercised under Alexeyev—and he made them sweat. Two 400-meter races, high and long jumps (the latter without any run-up) and 60 and 100-meter races or a three-quarter mile walk might be a typical morning's program; and after this, Meshkov would be waiting for them at the swimming baths.

"After lunch, prepared by a diet specialist, came two hours rest in bed, followed by tennis or rowing.

"Only in the third week came chess, for which each of the nine masters had his own special trainer. The practice began usually with a selected chapter from the literature of chess, followed by a detailed examination of some game by one of the non-Russian contestants in the Candidates' Tournament, whose favorite openings were exhaustively studied and their personalities searched, with the aid of films and photographs, for psychological weaknesses and vulnerable spots.

Reshevsky's Habits

"Flohr, Smyslov's trainer, commented keenly on Reshev-

sky's chronic time trouble and his habit of proposing a draw to delay the next move for a moment. The opening to be adopted by each Russian player against each non-Russian player was already determined at Tarasovka, even before the Russian masters left for Switzerland! At the same time, each was well-equipped with a number of strategical surprise-weapons and novelties in the openings, for use if a change of plans became advisable.

"The day closed with a peaceful stroll, the evening meal and a film show or a concert. By 10 p. m. all had to be in bed. Each had a two or three-room apartment to himself, with personal service and every comfort. The Soviet Sports Committee made itself responsible for the whole of this by no means inexpensive program."

Whew! We don't think that nine hours sleep was nearly enough for the chess masters. We're so exhausted just by reading all this that we're going to take a nap and then go to bed.

Difficult Task

Task No. 32, by P. F. Blake, proved to be exceptionally difficult, according to a great many of our readers. It should have been worth much more credit, they say. Apparently our judgment was seriously wrong on this one.

Here is a beautiful little three-mover, by G. N. Cheney, published nearly a century ago. The position is:

White: King on King one; Rooks on King Knight five and King Knight eight; Bishop on Queen four; Pawns on King Rook four and King Bishop five. Black: King on King Rook three; Bishop on King four; Pawns on King Rook two, King Rook 4 and King seven. White mates in three.

Correct solutions received by next Wednesday will be acknowledged in this column.