

Aug. 6, 1955

Schmitt 1st Official S.F. Chess Champion

By Dr. H. J. Ralston

James Schmitt of San Francisco, former Northwest champion, is the first official San Francisco city champion in history.

Schmitt won the two-game playoff match with Henry Gross of San Francisco by a score of 1½-½. The crucial first game of the playoff is given below.

Schmitt and Gross had tied for first place in the Masters' section of the Peter V. Prokoodin Memorial Tournament for the San Francisco championship. It is planned to hold a city championship each year hereafter.

Godfrey Lutz, secretary of the Bay Area Industrial Chess League, writes:

"The playing season in this league was recently concluded. The standing for the 1954-55 season is:

PG&E First

"First, PG&E Co., 27½ game points; second, California Research Corp., 27; third, Cutter Laboratories, 26; fourth, Fluorescent. Fixtures of California, 25.

"Fifth, Crockett Club, 21; sixth, Shell Development Co., 20; seventh, Pabco Products, Inc., 16; eighth, Shell Chemical Co., 5½.

"The fight for top places, as shown by the record, was very close. A won game, lost in time pressure, would have placed California Research and Cutter into a tie for first. Much credit,

however, is due the newcomer PG&E team, which nosed out some more experienced and seasoned competitors.

"Individual high scores go to Hartwell Kennedy of Shell Development and V. Salatko of PG&E. Each man scored 6 out of a possible 7 points.

Two New Teams

"At least two new teams are expected to join the league in the 1955-56 playing season, which will start next autumn."

Task No. 109, given in today's column, recently appeared in the British Chess Magazine. The problem gave us a good deal of trouble, in spite of the small number of pieces. We think you will enjoy the solution.

Here is an ending by the famous composer A. A. Troitzky which should keep you busy for a spell:

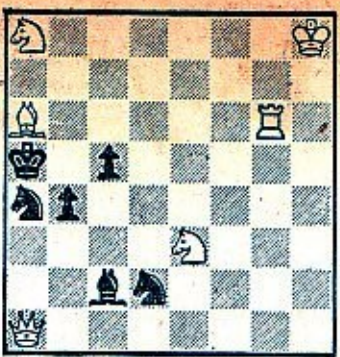
White (four men): King on QB8; Bishop on QKt3; Pawns on Kk16 and QB4.

Black (four men): King on KR6; Rook on QKt7; Pawns on KB3 and Q3.

White is to play and win.

S. F. Championship

The first of the following



Task No. 109—By R. Cheney
White Mates in Three Moves
(Value seven points)

Answer to Task No. 108: Q-Kt5

games was played in the last round of the San Francisco championship. Henry Gross, by defeating William Addison, tied for first place with James Schmitt.

The second game is the decisive game in the playoff between Gross and Schmitt. Gross undertakes an unsound combination on his 24th and 25th moves, and loses a piece, and with it his chance for the championship, after having obtained a superior position.

RUY LOPEZ

White — H. Gross
Black — W. Addison

1 P-K4	P-K4	29 KtxR	RxR
2 Kt-KB3	Kt-QB3	30 R-Q1	B-B3
3 B-Kt5	P-QR3	31 R-Q2	R-K8ch
4 B-R4	P-Q3	32 K-B2	R-QR8
5 BxKtch	PxB	33 Kt-K6	B-K5
6 P-Q4	P-B3	34 KtxP	B-Kt8
7 P-B4	Kt-K2	35 P-QR4	R-R6
8 B-B3	B-Kt5	36 R-Kt2	B-R7
9 QKt-Q2	PxP	37 P-QKt4	BxP
10 BxP	P-QB4	38 P-Kt5	PxP
11 B-B3	Kt-B3	39 PxP	R-R2
12 P-KR3	B-K3	40 P-Kt6	R-Kt2
13 O-O	P-KKt3	41 K-K3	B-B8
14 Kt-Kt5	B-Q2	42 Kt-Q5	R-Kt1
15 P-B4	B-Kt2	43 K-Q4	B-R3
16 Kkt-B3	O-O	44 K-B5	R-B1ch
17 R-K1	B-R3	45 K-Q6	K-B2
18 P-K5	BxP	46 P-K7	R-QKt1
19 PxBP	Kt-K4	47 K-B7	RxPch
20 KtxKt	BxKt	48 RxR	BxR
21 BxB	PxB	49 KxB	K-K3
22 Kt-K4	B-B3	50 K-B6	K-K4
23 KtxP	QxP	51 K-B5	P-R3
24 Q-K2	Q-Q3	52 Kt-K7	P-Kt4
25 QxP	QR-K1	53 P-Kt4	K-B5
26 Kt-K6	QxQ	54 K-Q4	K-Kt6
27 RxQ	R-B5	55 Kt-B5ch	KxP
28 P-QKt3	B-Q2	56 KtxP	Resigns

FRENCH DEFENSE

White — H. Gross
Black — J. Schmitt

1 P-K4	P-K3	17 Kt-R3	KR-B1
2 P-Q4	P-Q4	18 Kt-B4	P-QKt3
3 P-K5	P-QB4	19 Q-Q3	Q-Kt2
4 P-QB3	Kt-QB3	20 Kt-B3	Kt-K2
5 Kt-B3	Q-Kt3	21 Kt-Kt5	Q-Q2
6 P-QR3	PxP	22 Kt-Q6	RxR
7 PxP	B-Q2	23 RxR	Kt-B1
8 Kt-B3	Kkt-K2	24 Kt-R5?	KtxKt
9 QKt-R4	Q-B2	25 Q-Kt3?	Kt-K1
10 B-Q3	Kt-B4	26 Kt-B6ch	KtxKt
11 BxKt	PxB	27 PxKt	P-Kt3
12 O-O	B-K2	28 Q-Kt5	Q-Q1
13 B-Kt5	B-K3	29 R-B3	P-KR3
14 R-B1	O-O	30 Q-R4	R-B1
15 P-QKt4	BxB	31 QxP	QxP
16 KtxB	Q-K2		White resigns

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