

The Chess Player—Gross Leads Play

By Dr. H. J. Ralston

Editor, The California Chess Reporter

After six rounds of play, Henry Gross of San Francisco had assumed a commanding lead in the Northern California Championship Tournament, now in progress at the Golden Gate Chess Club and the Mechanics' Institute.

Last week's leader, D. Poliakoff of San Francisco, bowed to Gross in the fourth round, and dropped into second place. Gross, with 5½ points out of a possible six, now leads Poliakoff by a full point.

Gross in Brilliant Win

The outstanding feature of the tournament thus far was Gross' brilliant win over Robert Currie in the sixth round. The score of this game is given below, and will well repay study by our readers. The final mating combination is beautiful, indeed.

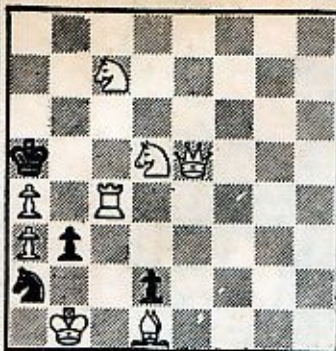
William Addison of San Francisco, Robert Currie of San Francisco, Phil Smith of Fresno and V. Zemitis of Oakland were in a four-way tie for third place with four points each.

The seventh and eighth rounds will be played tomorrow at the Golden Gate Chess Club, Hotel Cecil, 545 Post-st, beginning at 1 p. m. The ninth and final round will be played at Mechanics' Institute, 57 Post-st, on Sunday at the same hour. Visitors are welcome.

Boy in Third Place

A new chess star may have appeared in California. Larry Remlinger of Long Beach, who is only 11 years old, was in third place in the Southern California Championship Tournament after seven rounds of play. This tournament, in progress in Los Angeles, includes many of the strongest players in the south. Imre Konig, international master now

Task No. 6—By Sam Loyd



White Mates in Two Moves
(Value 4 points)

Answer to Task No. 5: Q-QR1

living in San Francisco, has seen young Remlinger in action, and states that the youth gives indication of chess genius. Remlinger will participate in the National Junior Championship in Kansas City, scheduled for this month. It will be interesting to see how he fares against the leading young players of the U. S. The tournament is limited to players under 21.

Letter From Abroad

We recently received a rather curious letter from J. Kudelka of Hodslavice, Czechoslovakia. This gentleman appears to be a dealer in chess literature, and asked us to send him a number of chess magazines published in the Western world. But Kudelka's interests include more than chess. We shall provide Mr. Kudelka with some chess literature.

Interesting thought: We wonder if chess promotion would be improved by putting out chess literature in the form of comic books? Al Capp should devote some attention to this. A match

between L'ij Abner and Evil-Eye Fleegle might create wild national excitement and produce millions of young chess players.

September Tournament

The U. S. Chess Federation announces that a candidates' tournament will be played in Philadelphia beginning Sept. 11. Winner of this tournament will be the challenger of the present U. S. champion, Larry Evans of New York. The match for the national title will be played in 1954. This is a newly-adopted plan for determining the national title. It remains to be seen whether it will prove superior to the old method of determining the champion by tournament play.

QUEENS GAMBIT DECLINED

White—R. Currie

Black—H. Gross

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| 1. P-Q4 | P-Q4 |
| 2. Kt-KB3 | Kt-KB3 |
| 3. P-B4 | P-K3 |
| 4. Kt-B3 | P-B3 |
| 5. P-K3 | QKt-Q2 |
| 6. Q-B2 | B-Q3 |
| 7. P-QKt3 | Castles |
| 8. B-K2 | PxP |
| 9. PxP | P-K4 |
| 10. Castles | R-K1 |
| 11. R-K1 | Q-K2 |
| 12. B-Kt2 | P-K5 |
| 13. Kt-Q2 | Kt-B1 |
| 14. P-B3 | PxP |
| 15. BxP | Kt-Kt5 |
| 16. Kt-B1 | Kt-Kt3 |
| 17. P-K4 | Q-R5 |
| 18. P-K5 | RxP! ! |
| 19. RxR | Kt(Kt3)xR |
| 20. PxKt | B-B4ch |
| 21. K-R1 | Kt-B7ch |
| 22. K-Kt1 | B-B4! ! |
| 23. QxB | Kt-R6ch |
| 24. K-R1 | Q-B7 |

Resigns. Mate cannot be stopped. If the white Knight at B1 moves, black mates by Q-Kt8ch, followed by Kt-B7 mate. This is the classical "Philidor" mate.