

The Chess Column

By George Koltanowski

Ben Zeiler of 10 Funstan avenue won the first Spring Chess Tournament sponsored by Chess Friends of Northern California by defeating Robert Dickinson of Redwood City in the final round.

Zeiler's win in the A division is his first major chess victory. He is very studious, has some sound ideas and with more experience should go far in chess. A total of 115 players competed in the tournament.

Tied for second to fourth in Group A, which included 29 players, were: Mike Bredoff, Redwood City; Robert Dickinson and Henry King, S. F. (each with 4 points); 5-8: Steve Joplin, Oakland; Monsur Saca, Sacramento; W. Stevens, S. F., and Ronald Thacker, Richmond, William Rebold, Berkeley, won a consolation prize.

Group B, with 28 players, was won by Dan McLeod of San Bruno, who nosed out Lou Osternig of Oakland in the final game. Leonard Hill of Mountain View was second and W. Joplin, Oakland, was third. Ernst Bartholomew, Hayward, and John Carson, Berkeley, won consolation prizes.

Colonel Lawrence Fuller, Palo Alto, won the C division, ahead of Stan Shapiro, Oakland, and David Krause, Palo Alto. There were 25 players in this group. Charles Crayne of Oakland won a consolation prize and Fuller won a special trophy offered by A. Radinsky of Stockton for the shortest game in the tournament.

Net proceeds went to the "Chess for Youth" fund, which is co-sponsoring the United States Junior Championship in San Francisco July 8 to 14. The Spreckels-Russell Dairy Co. is donating use of its auditorium for this forthcoming national event.

And speaking of juniors, the Spring Tournament included a special event for youngsters under 14. Allen Haley, 12, of Nevada City won first place and the trophy. This youngster showed great promise for the future. Janet

Pattullo of 2286 46th avenue, won second prize. And she was the youngest in the tournament — only nine years old. Ivan Vegary and Mike Cooper, both of San Francisco, won third and fourth place prizes.

The Sunday group winners (sections of four players each) were: Nathan Newcomer, San Jose; William Pattullo, S. F.; E. T. Dana, Los Altos; and John Akins, S. F.

The tournament directors voiced special thanks to the Red Cross for use of its cafeteria and to C. T. McGintley, Florence Stevens and Leah Koltanowski for their round-the-clock help.

LOOKING AROUND — World title match: Smyslov 4½, Botvinnik 3½ . . . Mar del Plata tournament: Kotov 6 (out of 6), Keres 5, Najdorf 5, Panno 5, Lombardy 4½.