

# **CHESSE**

**BY CLIF SHERWOOD**

Chess activity in and around Los Angeles, like the city itself, has lately been growing by leaps and bounds, keeping pace with the great impetus given the game through the recent organization of the International Chess Foundation having its own club building at The Hague, the new United States Chess Federation, the world's championship match now in progress, the many international masters' tourneys, etc., all of which promise to make 1927 a banner chess year.

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Los Angeles and vicinity has several chess clubs with players in and near the master class, two of the newest organizations being at the University of Southern California and University of California at Los Angeles; the oldest organization is probably the Chess and Checker Club located on the ninth floor of the Union League Building. Chess is also popular at the Los Angeles Athletic Club, the Y.M.C.A., the Masonic Club, and many smaller organizations, as well as at clubs in Long Beach, Pasadena, and other smaller cities.

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This weekly column in the Sunday Times may be regarded as the official voice and vehicle of the region's interest in the royal game, and it will be continued just so long as the support of the chess-playing public justifies. As soon as the type arrives we will run problem diagrams weekly, besides the games, analysis, general news, etc. Our aim is to do all we can to please the multitude of fans in Los Angeles and Southern California with whom chess has become a habit psychosis.

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The world's title match, pending at Buenos Aires, probably furnished a surprise to many with Alekhine winning the first game, scored below, but the champion, Capablanca, evened the score by winning the third game, and later took the lead by winning the seventh. Notes furnished by D. H. Mugridge, 1926 local champion, and one of our chief exponents of N for Knight.



French Defense	
Capablanca (white)	Alekhine (black)
1 P-K4	P-K3
2 P-Q4	P-Q4
3 N-QB3	B-N5 (a)
4 PxP	PxP
5 B-Q3	N-QB3
6 KN-K2	KN-K2
7 Castles	B-KB4
8 BxB	NxB
9 Q-Q3	Q-Q2
10 N-Q	Castles
11 N-K3	NxN
12 BxN	KR-K
13 N-B4	B-Q3
14 KR-K (b)	N-N5
15 Q-N3 (c)	Q-B4
16 QR-B	NxBP
17 RxN	QxN
18 P-N3	Q-B4
19 QR-K2	P-QN3
20 Q-N5	P-KR4
21 P-KR4	R-K5 (d)
22 B-Q2	RxQP
23 B-B3	R-Q8
24 B-K5	R-Q
25 BxB	RxB
26 R-K5	Q-B6
27 RxRP	QxR
28 R-K8ch	K-R2
29 QxRch	Q-N3
30 Q-Q	R-K3 (e)
31 R-R3	R-K4
32 RxP	P-QB4
33 H-Q7	Q-K3
34 Q-Q3ch	P-N3
35 R-Q8	P-Q5
36 P-QR4	R-K8ch
37 K-N2	Q-QB3ch
38 P-R3	R-K6
39 Q-Q	Q-K3
40 P-KN4	R-K7ch
41 K-R3	Q-K6
42 Q-Kr	Q-R5 (f)
43 P-R5	R-KB7
Resigns	

(a) Reintroduced by Nimzowitsch in 1923, this old move has now become Black's most popular line, giving him but little trouble in maintaining equality. Capablanca changed to 1 P-Q4 in the third game.

(b) Evidently a routine move, played without Capablanca's usual thorough comprehension of the position. 14 NxP, BxPch would only leave Black with the greater mobility. 14 P-QB3 is probably better than Q-N5, which, after BxN; 15 BxB; QR-N; would give Black a tempo.

(c) A mistake, after which Alekhine wins a pawn by accurate play. 15 Q-Q2 is necessary; though after Q-B4; 16 KR-QB, R-K5; Black still has the pull.

(d) This fine move threatens RxRP, followed, if PxR, by Q-N5ch. White's reply is designed to answer RxRP by R-K8ch, after which his King has an escape through K2. The loss of the QP is not permanent, but Black remains with his QP passed and very powerful.

(e) This permits White to win back his pawn, but Black thereby secures undisputed control of the open King's file and an irresistible attack. Note that Black has in effect exchanged his two Rook's pawns for White's QP and QBP.

(f) So that White cannot answer R-B7 by K-N3, Capablanca, of course, lost the game through his error in the opening; but Alekhine's play thereafter was most incisive and interesting.

The annual championship tourney of the Los Angeles Chess Club, which is synonymous with the city championship, opened Saturday night the 1st inst., and will continue each Saturday night until completion, there being ten entries as follows: S. Austrian, H. Borochow, A. H. Pray, E. Schrader and S. Weinbaum of the local club; G. S. G. Patterson of the Los Angeles Athletic Club; D. H. Mugridge of the University of Southern California; Dr. M. Scholtz of Hollywood; Prof. H. Bateman of the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, and D. G. Holt of Whittier. Dr. E. H. Sawyer of Glendale is acting as tournament director. The first round results follow: Borochow and Weinbaum drew; Mugridge and Patterson drew; Schrader won from Austrian; Bateman won from Pray; Holt vs. Scholtz adjourned.