



The Late Elmer W. Gruer.

California mourns the sudden passing of Elmer W. Gruer on July 16 at the early age of 40. He had not been in good health for several years and even in 1927, when he won the state title for the third time, he was physically in poor shape. Gruer was graduated from the University of California, where he captained the varsity chess team. At the Athens Athletic Club in Oakland he was a most popular member.

Probably his best performance was in the first California championship tournament in 1921, in which Stasch Mlotkowski was a competitor. Gruer finished first with ten consecutive victories, Mlotkowski being second with 7—3. The deceased was then at his best. He also won in 1926.

He finished fourth the only time he took part in a tournament of the Western Chess Association. As a bridge player he was also rated high.

For the accompanying photograph we are indebted to the courtesy of the Los Angeles Times.
