

Oct. 8, 1955

Centennial Chess Tourmanent Set

By Dr. H. J. Ralston

The Mechanics' Institute is celebrating its 100th birthday this year, and as part of the festivities, the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club is staging a centennial tournament.

Play in the round-robin tournament started Sept. 23, with 15 of the strongest players in the Bay Area entered. The participants are:

James Schmitt, Henry Gross, Walter Pafnutieff, Robert Trenberth, Charles Bagby, William Addison, Curt Bendit, H. Bullwinkel, E. Logwood, Gilbert Ramirez, Russell Freeman, Eugene Lien, S. H. Van Gelder, Earl Pruner and Ted Eisenstadt.

Tied for Lead

After four rounds of play, Charles Bagby, San Francisco attorney and veteran player, and William Addison, Mechanics' club champion, were tied for the lead with scores of $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$.

Four players were tied for third to sixth places with $2\frac{1}{2}$ points: Henry Gross, Curt Bendit, Gilbert Ramirez and Earl Pruner.

Two rounds are played each week in the club's quarters at 57 Post-st, Friday night at 7 and

Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock. Visitors are welcome to watch the play.

The endgame published in this column two weeks ago is solved by: 1 P-K7, BxP; 2 P-QKt7, P-K5ch; 3 KxP, B-B3ch; 4 K-Kt4, B-K4; 5 P-Kt7, B-K3; 6 P-B4 mate.

Correct solutions were received from Wilber Leeds, San Francisco, C. A. Van Patten, San Carlos, and Harry Hokensen, Santa Rosa.

Good Start, But . . .

C. Y. Verbarg, San Francisco, started off right, but slipped up on later moves. A number of other solvers submitted inadequate first moves.

Here is an endgame which recently won second prize in an international tournament:

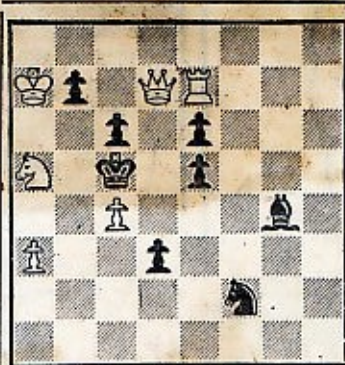
White (four men): King on QR7; Bishop on QKt6; Pawns on KR3 and KKt6.

Black (three men): King on QKt5; Rook on Q3; Pawn on QKt2.

The composition is by F. Richter of Czechoslovakia. White is to play and win.

We offer a copy of a recent chess publication for best analysis.

The Northern California cham-



Task No. 117—By T. & J. Warton
White Mates in Three Moves
(Value six points)

Answer to Task No. 116: R-K3

pionship is tentatively scheduled to begin in San Francisco Oct. 22. Play will occur on two successive weekends, four days in all.

This tournament, along with the Central California tournament due to be played in Oakdale Oct. 22-23, will qualify several players to the California championship tournament, to be played in Los Angeles during the Thanksgiving holidays.