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San Quentin
Chess Club
SAN QUENTIN, CALIFORNIA



MARCH 1957
SAN QUENTIN PRISON
CHESS CLUB DIRECTORY

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COVER DESIGN & ART WORK.....Eddie Javor

CARTOON.....Joe Nunez

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS....All Club Members



"CHESS NEWS"



Eddie Ward was added to San Quentin's Official Chess Team in the El Camino Real Winter League competition. In his initial baptism under fire, entitled "Blood Games", Mr. Ward defeated Mr. Wilson of the Reti Chess Team, who is also a newcomer to the league. Here's wishing Mr. Ward continued success in his future league matches!



February saw the advent of three new members to the San Quentin Chess Club: Mr. McPherson, Mr. Stephens, and Mr. De Lemus. In the persons of these three fine men, we have two strong "B" players who will soon be pressing the "A's", and one ardent "C" player. For example, Mr. McPherson (playing on the "B" board of the Spielmann Intra-Mural Team) lost his first round to an extremely strong "B" player, Peter Votel; then the following week, in his second round of Intra-Mural play, Mr. McPherson defeated Montie Carter who is one of the Club's strongest "A" players! And Mr. De Lemus (who has

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been playing chess for only three or four months) lost his opening round to a "C" player, Dario Bello, only to return the following week and defeat Mr. Brown on another "C" board. So we can reasonably anticipate progressively finer performances by these newcomers and we feel the Chess Club has gained much from their membership.



Unfortunately, our Chess Club has had a great loss this past month, too. Mr. Antonio Campos, formerly one of the most outstanding players in the Club, has resigned his Club membership. Most of our members were sorry to see him depart from our ranks. Here's hoping he will rejoin us in the very near future, because a member with his personality and chess ability will be sorrowfully missed by all of us.



On February 16, 1957, International Chess Master George Koltanowski again visited San Quentin to play one of his simultaneous exhibitions. He played 107 boards, winning 103, drawing three, and losing on only one. This day Mr. Koltanowski was truly magnificent, playing a total of seven hours without stopping!

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We must also remember that he played all this time under extremely adverse conditions; in addition to the difficulty of playing on low, picnic-type tables (necessitating an almost 90-degree bend at the board of each opponent), there was the constant noise made by weight-lifters, wrestlers, and others in the gymnasium directly overhead. The exhibition was certainly a most graphic illustration of this Master's incredible chess skill, his amazing powers of concentration, and his extraordinary physical endurance. Mr. Koltanowski, we salute you!!! Our local hero-of-the-day was Mr. Delbert Boren; his winning game against Mr. Koltanowski is printed elsewhere in this issue of "Chess Nuts". All in all, the day proved most interesting to all in attendance---those of us who played "The Master", those present as spectators, newsmen and photographers, and last but certainly not least the one and only Mr. Koltanowski himself. We're all grateful for this visit, and are already looking forward to MR. Koltanowski's next appearance here tentatively scheduled for some time in March.



The Precita Valley Chess Club, old friends of our local chess organization, has transferred to a new league. They're now officially in the San Francisco Bay

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Area Chess League, "B" Division. Glancing at their publication "Chess Herald" we see they got off to a flying start in winning their first match over the Golden Gate Chess Club by a score of 4 to 3. We sincerely wish them continued success in the future.....that is, of course, until they visit us again!



This even astonishes Louis Bobeda: playing under the Kenneth Harkness system, Mr. Bobeda is now (at the time this column went to press) San Quentin's official top "A" player. He accrued the points necessary for this position winning nine straight games from players of equal or higher class ratings. Congratulations, Mr. Bobeda! Incidentally, (and this is NOT a PAID commercial) Mr. Bobeda is now giving chess lessons. If you are interested, contact his secretary --- Mr. Sensel --- Monday through Friday each week. We've been told the tuition fees are quite reasonable.



Browsing through an old issue of "Chess Nuts", this writer came across the following prediction: "Edward Devote is studying constantly from R. Fine's CHESS ENDINGS. In another six months he

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will be contesting anyone in the first five." How true this statement proved to be. Congratulations, "Edward" !!!



And remember this paragraph in last month's "Chess Nuts" ??? "Here is some good news: in the near future, International Chess Master George Koltanowski will once again return to San Quentin to conduct one of his famous and highly-exciting simultaneous chess exhibitions. The chessmen of San Quentin love and admire this gentleman.....but when he's on the other side of the board, it's strictly for blood!!" Well, due to recent occurrences we feel our readers are entitled to some elaboration on the latter statement: that was OUR blood we were referring to!!!



We received many favorable comments on the contents and appearance of last month's issue of CHESS NUTS. We are very pleased to hear of this satisfaction. Once again we invite interesting contributions from all members and readers. It is the sincere desire of the editors to present a most desirable publication each month, and your assistance will be appreciated. Contributions from readers outside San Quentin should be sent here in care of Mr. C.L. Swagerty, Supervisor of Recreation. Thank you all!



Did I hear you say "CHECKMATE" ???

KIBITZER'S KORNER

Would you really like to know why you lose at chess? I've recently been reading a book on that subject written by a Mr. Fred Reinfeld, and I challenge any of you to read it!

Mr. Reinfeld begins by telling you that you lose because you have no idea as to what kind of a chess player you are. And he goes on to say that: you play the openings blindly; you don't know the one basic principle of chess play; you can't see more than one move ahead; you don't know when to attack or when to defend; you ignore the odds; and so on, ad infinitum, until the last chapter in which he states "You lose because you're stubborn".

I fully realize that the title, "Why You Lose At Chess", is a sufficient deterrent to keep many of you from even opening the book. However, if you find the humility to read through the first chapter, the shock of discovering that the author is so right may provide the necessary incentive to stimulate your reading of the entire volume. But let me warn you: this is a book to develop and improve your chess game....not your ego!

By the way, did you lose to George Koltanowski, too?? One fellow I know calls him "George" (says it sounds more friendly). As long as he beats me in chess as he does, I'll continue calling him "MISTER Koltanowski" !!!

--- THE KIBITZER

SAN QUENTIN ENTERTAINS RETI TEAM

On February 17, 1957, the San Quentin Chess Club was host to the Reti Team of the El Camino Real Chess League. This chess match was the fifth in Winter League competition with the Chess Friends of Northern California. The Reti Team, led by a very formidable opponent, Mr. Gil Ramirez, proved itself a most capable group. Each board being highly contested --- with no quarter given to either side --- it was truly "blood chess" at its best.

The visitors fought gallantly, winning on the first and third boards and drawing on the fifth board. However, the league regulations require six players to a team and on this date the Reti Team had but five present. Thus, San Quentin won the match due to the forfeited game. For San Quentin, Cliff Loney won on board four, Edward Devote drew on board five, and Eddie Ward won on board six. Incidentally, Montie Carter won easily over "Mr. Forfeit" on board two.

In closing, we wonder if we could have won this match had the Reti Team appeared with the required complement.

MATCH RESULTS

Ramirez	1	Flohr	0
Forfeit	0	Carter	1
Taggart	1	Frazier	0
Wetzel	0	Loney	1
Akins	$\frac{1}{2}$	Devote	$\frac{1}{2}$
Wilson	0	Ward	1

2 $\frac{1}{2}$

3 $\frac{1}{2}$

VALLEJO CHESS CLUB
VISITS SAN QUENTIN

On February 24, 1957, the Vallejo Chess Club, exhibiting an extremely powerful aggregation, humbled an eager but hapless San Quentin Club by the impressive score of 21½ to 12½.

Somewhat surprised----but by no means disheartened----the men of San Quentin had only praise for their conquerors. It was a day of very keen competition, with the strong Vallejo Club proving itself a fine adversary.

TEAM RESULTS

Board 1:	Strong	1	Carter	0
	Strong	1	Carter	0
Board 2:	Rasmussen	1	Loney	0
	Rasmussen	1	Loney	0
Board 3:	Harris	½	Frazier	½
	Harris	0	Frazier	1
Board 4:	Kahn	1	Devote	0
	Kahn	1	Devote	0
Board 5:	Rhodes	1	Albritton	0
	Rhodes	0	Albritton	1
Board 6:	Richmond	0	Nolte	1
	Richmond	1	Nolte	0

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VALLEJO VS. SAN QUENTIN

Team Results (Cont'd.)

Board 7:	Norling	0	Flohr	1
	Norling	1	Ward	0
Board 8:	Abram	1	Votel	0
	Abram	0	Votel	1
Board 9:	Thurman	1	Javor	0
	Thurman	1	Javor	0
Board 10:	Packard	1	Ward	0
	Packard	0	Bobeda	1
Board 11:	Turley	0	Boren	1
	Turley	1	Kibbey	0
Board 12:	Maloney	0	Gamler	1
	Maloney	1	Albritton	0
Board 13:	Shantz	1	Fluty	0
	Shantz	0	Fluty	1
Board 14:	Holm	1	Bello	0
	Holm	1	Bello	0
Board 15:	O'Doan	0	Sweeney	1
	O'Doan	0	De Lemus	1
Board 16:	Clothier	1	Stephens	0
	Clothier	1	Lee	0
Board 17:	Kramer	0	Garcia	1
	Kramer	1	Fluty	0
TOTAL		21½		12½

INTRA-MURAL TEAM STANDINGS
AFTER ROUND THREE

FIRST PLACE: Two Wins & One Loss

Spielmann Team - $8\frac{1}{2}$ Points
Alekhine Team - $8\frac{1}{2}$ Points
Ruy Lopez Team - 8 Points

SECOND PLACE: 1 Win, 1 Loss & 1 Draw

Tarrasch Team - $8\frac{1}{2}$ Points

THIRD PLACE: One Loss & Two Draws

Smyslov Team - 6 Points

FOURTH PLACE: Two Losses & One Draw

Lasker Team - $5\frac{1}{2}$ Points



INTRA-MURAL LEAGUE

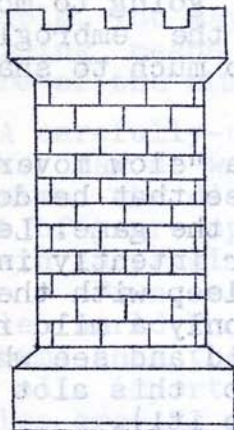
ROUND RESULTS

Round 1: Ruy Lopez (3) - Alekhine (2)
Smyslov ($2\frac{1}{2}$) - Lasker ($2\frac{1}{2}$)
Spielmann (3) - Tarrasch (2)

Round 2: Ruy Lopez (4) - Smyslov (1)
Lasker (1) - Tarrasch (4)
Spielmann ($1\frac{1}{2}$) - Alekhine ($3\frac{1}{2}$)

Round 3: Ruy Lopez (1) - Spielmann (4)
Lasker (2) - Alekhine (3)
Smyslov ($2\frac{1}{2}$) - Tarrasch ($2\frac{1}{2}$)

EMPLOYING STRATEGEMS



Of course one can employ strategems. It probably isn't ethicalbut then who cares as long as we're helping the cause? You can call it tactics; or strategy; or just plain psychological warfare as long as the main purpose is to annoy, distract, disturb, and harass your opponent.

How is this done???

It's really quite simple. You begin by talking to your opponent about the bad position he's in, or about how terribly you crushed the last opponent who played this particular opening against you. If he won't stand for this, then talk to yourself! Mumble incoherently....recite nursery rhymes....or burst into song. If he's still concentrating, try whistling off-key, while you tap your feet and keep time with your pencil. Wheezing, sneezing, coughing, and sniffing are very melodious and often have strong effects on hygienic individuals.

Here's a "real-gone" maneuver: watch the rascal closely and when he hovers over a piece immediately catch the at-

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EMPLOYING STRATEGEMS (Cont'd.)

tion of the officials and yell "TOUCH MOVE!!" He was probably going to move that piece anyway, but the embroglio that will follow will do much to shake his confidence.

If you are playing a "slow mover", you must take steps to see that he does not fall asleep during the game. Lean across the board and peer intently into his eyes (some people sleep with their eyes open). If there is only a mild reaction, lift up an eyelid and see what you can see (doctors do this alot so there must be something to it!).

If you smoke, you can be in the master ranks --- or in the fracture ward of the nearest hospital --- in no time. All you need for success is a sack of Bull Durham and about six inches of rope. You light the rope under the table, using the same match with which you just lit your do-it-yourself cigarette. When the hemp starts to smolder, start a breeze going in the direction of your antagonist (???). If you think the fumes are going to bother you as well, come prepared: wear a gauze mask (not British for gas mask) over your nose and mouth. If he should remark on this unusual attire, tell him you have an extremely virulent case of tuberculosis.

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EMPLOYING STRATEGEMS (Cont'd.)

Anytime you check your opponent, make sure EVERYBODY knows you've got him in trouble. You may use your imagination in devising means to audibly make others aware of the situation you've got him in.

A carefully-chosen repertoire of remarks can do wonders for your game. Try to time the dialogue with the exact moment of your opponent's move. This will obtain surprising results. If you should win a Pawn, talk it up, Dad! Let the whole world know about it! You'll learn in time that the wording of your remarks is all important. Some very subtle examples are: "I thought you'd go for that one"; "Didn't make you blunder, did I Pal???" or "Let's see you get out of THIS one, Champ!"

Paul Morphy had a little gimmick that he was famous for; however, it may not seem as attractive to you as some of the above methods. This gimmick certainly annoyed Paul's opponents. He simply made the better move!!!

We don't want certain people to think we're delivering a left-handed ultimatum. No one is going to stop you from playing chess. You'll always be able to find a game no matter where you go. It's played everywhere: in the service, in hospitals, in prisons, in hospitals, in Y.M.C.A.'s, in hospitals, in homes, in hospitals, etc. Just remember this: WHEREVER you play, EMPLOY STRATEGEMS!!

THE EGO PROBLEM

As all "chess addicts" know, the most distressing situation that can occur to a chess player is to suddenly realize he has an untenable game, or more drastic still --- the inevitable concluded --- a lost game. I shall attempt to prove my point by offering the reactions of a few notable personalities of the Chess world who have found themselves in one or more of these positions.

Nimzovitch, the hypomodern Grand Master, would get so upset by losing that he would jump up on the table and yell at the top of his voice: "Why must I let this idiot beat me!?!?!"

After finding himself in a bad position, Tarrasch would go to sleep and conveniently not awaken until the official playing time had almost expired. He would then exclaim: "What?", "Huh?", and proceed to move feverishly, ostensibly trying to make up his deficiency in playing time. Naturally, there wasn't sufficient time to complete the necessary remaining moves, and Mr. Tarrasch conveniently found himself a fine excuse for losing a game that was lost anyway.

Von Bardeleben, finding himself in a similar situation (a "bad" position),

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THE EGO PROBLEM (Cont'd.)

would walk out of the playing room and let his official playing time elapse, thus losing on a forfeit rather than allowing his opponent to defeat him across the board.

Alekhine would get so disturbed over losing a game that he has been known to throw his King across the playing room and then retire stormily to his hotel room where he would irascibly proceed to break up all the room's furniture!

From the afore-mentioned examples, it would appear --- at least from the reactions of the Masters --- that it is perfectly normal, after losing a game, to exhibit any irrational behavior.



??? HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED ???

When a chess player loses a game, he always seems to have a ready excuse. A few very familiar ones are: "Gee, I had the game won, but.....", or "I had a headache and/or I wasn't feeling good", or "I've just got too much on my mind to concentrate on chess today", or "I had an off day.....", etc., etc.

No wonder Burn, the great English Master, said: "I've never beaten a well opponent".

AMATEUR STARTLES MASTER

Most of us have replayed games originally played by an amateur versus a Master. The great majority of these are naturally won by the Master, many with dazzling combinations and sparkling sacrifices. This writer often wondered if perhaps the Master ever failed and was himself a victim of some brilliant play by the amateur. Subsequent research led to the discovery of the following game in which this is precisely the case: the amateur produced a masterpiece, polishing off the Master with a half-dozen brilliant, crushing strokes delivered with forethought and deadly intent. So all you amateurs take note: you, too, may create an outstanding masterpiece!

NEW ORLEANS, 1920 - PHILIDOR'S DEFENSE

E.Z. Adams, Amateur VS. C. Torre, Master

Adams WHITE	Torre BLACK	Adams WHITE	Torre BLACK
1) P-K4	P-K4	13) PxP	P-QR4(E)
2) N-KB3	P-Q3	14) KR-K	R-K
3) P-Q4	PxP	15) R-K2	QR-B
4) QxP	N-QB3	16) QR-K(F)	Q-Q2(G)
5) B-QN5	B-Q2	17) BxN(H)	BxB(I)
6) BxN	BxB	18) Q-KN4(J)	Q-N4
7) N-B3	N-B3	19) Q-QB4(K)	Q-Q2(L)
8) O-O	B-K2	20) Q-B7(M)	Q-N4
9) N-Q5(B)	BxN(C)	21) P-QR4(N)	QxRP(O)
10) PxB	O-O	22) R-K4(P)	Q-N4
11) B-N5	P-B3(D)	23) QxNP	Resigns(Q)
12) P-B4	PxP		

(Notes on next page)

NOTES ON ADAMS VS. TORRE GAME:

- (A) Philidor's Defense is supposedly a cramped defense, and not favorable for Black.
- (B) White is anxious to attack!
- (C) Torre doesn't like the idea of 9).... 0-0; 10) NxBch, QxN; 11) B-N5 as his Pawn formation would be broken up. The next best move would be 9).... NxN; 10) PxN; this doesn't look good because he would lose a tempo by moving his threatened Bishop.
- (D) Black is trying to free himself.
- (E) The idea behind this move is not quite clear to this writer. It serves no useful purpose, but perhaps Black intended to bring his Knight to QB4 without being harassed by White's QNP. A good alternate was 13).... R-K or P-KR3, giving Black an "escape hatch".
- (F) White threatens 17) BxN, PxB; 18) Q-N4ch, K-B; 19) N-R4 and Black has a lost game. (18)....K-R permits 19) RxB!)
- (G) What else?
- (H) Why the exchanges? What can be his intentions?
- (I) By steadying the position, what can Black fear? An exchange of Rooks, perhaps, and Black's Bishop seems stronger than White's Knight in mobility. But this is only the beginning. There is something for White! Can you find it?

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NOTES ON ADAMS VS. TORRE GAME(Cont'd.)

- (J) No, this is not an error in printing. Here is where the fun begins, depending on how you look at it, of course! Anyway, it's a nightmare for Mr. Torre. Black does not dare accept the "gift", for if 18)....QxQ then 19) RxRch, RxR (forced), and 20) RxR mate.
- (K) How brazen can you get??? But again, Black must decline the offer for obvious reasons.
- (L) Black is miserable. He must guard his Rook at K1 at all costs. If White were not gifted with creativity, he could easily draw with 20) Q-KN4, Q-N4; 21) Q-B4, etc. But this isn't the case.....White will not be denied!
- (M) Very importunate. White's delightful plan is at last becoming clear.
- (N) The decisive finesse.
- (O) The only move.
- (P) White offers the Rook, seemingly absent-minded about his Queen! But if 22)....RxR, then 23) QxRch forces mate; and if 22)....QxR, Black is left helpless!
- (Q) Black can no longer guard his King's Rook.....there's no more room! Too bad there isn't more instructive chess material as lively as this game.

- FINIS -

PAGE 20

GAME FROM 107-BOARD EXHIBITION

SAN QUENTIN, CALIFORNIA

February 16, 1957

FRAZIER VS KOLTANOWSKI

The following was one of three draws gained against Mr. George Koltanowski in his 107-board exhibition at San Quentin.

Koltanowski-Frazier		Koltanowski-Frazier	
WHITE	BLACK	WHITE	BLACK
1) P-K4	P-Q2	22) RxR	P-KB3
2) P-Q4	P-B2	23) B-Q2	R-K
3) KB-Q3	P-KN3	24) RxR	KxR
4) N-KB3	B-KN2	25) BxN	PxB
5) O-O	N-KB3	26) K-KB	K-Q2
6) Q-K2	O-O	27) K-K2	K-QB3
7) P-QB3	B-KN5	28) K-Q3	K-QN4
8) P-KR3	BxN	29) P-QN3	P-QR4
9) QxB	QN-Q2	30) P-QR4ch	K-QR3
10) QB-K3	P-K4	31) B-KB4	P-QN4
11) N-Q2	P-Q4	32) B-Q6	P-KB4
12) R-K	QPxP	33) B-K5	B-KB
13) NxP	NxN	34) K-K3	B-R3ch
14) BxN	PxP	35) P-KB4	B-K2
15) PxP	N-KB3	36) P-KN4	B-K2
16) B-QB2	Q-Q4	Black announces	
17) QxQ	NxQ	a draw	
18) R-Q	KR-K	37) K-KB3	B-KR4
19) P-QR3	R-Q	38) B-KN7	P-KR4
20) B-QN3	K-KB	- DRAWN -	
21) B-KN5	RxRch		

GAME FROM 107-BOARD EXHIBITION

SAN QUENTIN, CALIFORNIA

February 16, 1957

CARTER VS. KOLTANOWSKI

The following was one of three draws gained against Mr. George Koltanowski in his 107-board exhibition at San Quentin.

Koltanowski WHITE	Carter BLACK	Koltanowski WHITE	Carter BLACK
1) P-Q4	P-Q4	16) NxN	BxPch
2) N-KB3	N-KB3	17) RxB	NxR
3) P-K3	P-K3	18) B-B2	R-B3
4) B-Q3	P-QB4	19) N-Q4	R(1)-KB
5) P-B3	N-B3	20) Q-R5	N-K5
6) N-Q2	B-Q2	21) BxN	PxB
7) O-O	B-Q3	22) N-N4	R-N3
8) PxP	BxP	23) RxP	Q-QB5
9) P-K4	O-O	24) P-KR3	R-B8ch
10) Q-K2	Q-B2	25) K-R2	Q-B
11) P-K5	N-N5	26) N-K5	R-R3
12) N-N3	B-N3	27) Q-K2	R-B
13) B-KB4	P-B3	28) N-N4	Q-B2ch
14) QR-K	PxP	29) P-N3	R-N3
15) BxP	N(3)xB	30) N-K5	R-B3

At this point, it was agreed that the game be called a draw due to the expiration of the time limit.

GAME FROM 107-BOARD EXHIBITION

SAN QUENTIN, CALIFORNIA

February 16, 1957

GOLDSMITH VS KOLTANOWSKI

The following was one of three draws gained against Mr. George Koltanowski in his 107-board exhibition at San Quentin.

Koltanowski WHITE	Goldsmith BLACK	Koltanowski WHITE	Goldsmith BLACK
1) P-K4	P-QB3	19) P-B4	R-K5
2) P-Q4	P-Q4	20) RxR	PxR
3) PxP	PxP	21) P-KN3	B-R6
4) N-KB3	P-QR3	22) K-B2	R-QB
5) P-B4	PxP	23) RxR	BxR
6) BxP	P-K3	24) K-K3	P-B4
7) 0-0	N-KE3	25) B-B3	P-KN3
8) R-K	B-K2	26) N-B2	K-K3
9) N-B3	N-B3	27) B-Q4	K-Q4
10) P-Q5	N-R4	28) K-Q2	B-B4
11) B-N3	NxB	29) BxB	KxB
12) QxN	NxP	30) K-B3	B-K3
13) NxN	QxN	31) N-Q4	K-Q3
14) QxQ	PxQ	32) N-B2	P-QR4
15) N-Q4	P-B3	33) P-QN4	PxP
16) B-Q2	K-B2	34) PxP	B-Q4
17) QR-B	B-Q3	35) K-Q4	P-QN4
18) P-QR3	R-K		

- DRAWN -

GAME FROM 107-BOARD EXHIBITION

San Quentin, California

February 16, 1957

BOREN VS KOLTANOWSKI

The following was the only game won against Mr. George Koltanowski in his recent 107-board simultaneous exhibition played here at San Quentin. Mr. Delbert Boren, the victor, seemed to have a losing game --- he was three Pawns behind --- until the 28th move when he sacrifices his Rook for a Knight. This maneuver proves to be Mr. Koltanowski's downfall!

Koltanowski		Boren		Koltanowski		Boren	
WHITE		BLACK		WHITE		BLACK	
1)	P-K4		P-K4	17)	N-Q4		B-K3
2)	N-KB3		N-QB3	18)	NxB		PxN
3)	B-B4		P-KR3	19)	B-N5ch		N-B3
4)	O-O		B-QB4	20)	BxN		PxB
5)	P-B3		N-B3	21)	QxPch		K-B2
6)	P-Q4		B-N3	22)	P-KB4		QR-QB
7)	PxP		N-N5	23)	Q-N5		R-B4
8)	B-B4		P-N4	24)	Q-K2		Q-B2
9)	B-KN3		P-KR4	25)	N-Q2		K-K2
10)	P-KR3		P-KR5	26)	P-B5		R-K4
11)	B-R2		NxB	27)	N-B3		P-Q4
12)	KxN		P-N5	28)	NxR		QxNch
13)	PxP		Q-K2	29)	K-R		B-B2
14)	Q-Q5		N-R4	30)	P-KN3		PxPch
15)	B-K2		P-Q3	31)	K-N2		R-R7ch
16)	PxP		PxP	32)	K-B3		Q-B5mate

SAN QUENTIN HOST TO MASTER

On January 30, 1957, San Quentin Chess enthusiasts were treated to a rather unexpected, but greatly appreciated, special event: Mr. Al Horowitz, International Chess Master and editor of CHESS REVIEW, honored our institution and local Chess Club by visiting our premises.



No doubt many of you --- as well as this writer --- felt considerably awestruck at the thought of meeting such an important and renowned personality of the Chess world. However, I am certain that any such profound feelings of inadequacy existing among us were quickly dispelled by the affability and congeniality displayed by our visitor. Mr. Horowitz's admirable qualities of modesty, urbanity, and humility promptly put us completely at ease in his presence, ultimately making his visit considerably more interesting and enjoyable.



In addition to answering many questions on our puzzling chess problems and procedures, Mr. Horowitz gave many interesting illustrations of variations and positions, some of these from actual

(Continued on next page)

HOROWITZ VISIT (Cont'd.)

games he has played. He also offered many problems for solution by those in attendance; these were all eventually solved, many requiring considerable group discussion. In his arrangement of pieces and subsequent movements, he very deftly exhibited his amazing and uncanny chess skill. The ineffable Mr. Horowitz convinced us --- one and all --- that he is truly a Master.



A very interesting and informative facet of this afternoon sojourn was Mr. Horowitz's discourse on chess in Russia and future prospects for professional chess in the United States. This line of discussion was initiated by one of our local members who asked Mr. Horowitz if he believed that Bobby Fischer, the brilliant 13-year-old chess prodigy from Brooklyn, would be developed into a Master. In answering this question, Mr. Horowitz pointed out the present difficulties encountered by domestic professional chess aspirants. He did, however, indicate that much is being done to make possible --- and economically practical --- the future existence of many professional chess players in America. Having recently played chess in Russia, he was

(Continued on next page)

HOROWITZ VISIT (Cont'd.)

well qualified to relate the dubious advantages of Russia's socialized and subsidized chess program. Surely we all found this information most enlightening.



Further eulogy of Mr. Horowitz would not only be unnecessary, but superfluous. He is quite understandably loved, admired, and respected by the entire Chess world; and we of the San Quentin Chess Club, being enthusiastic --- though perhaps insignificant --- components of this global chess society, certainly are not exceptions. We thank Mr. Horowitz for his kindness and generosity in visiting our Club and institution, and hope for a repeat performance when he is again in this area.



A final word of thanks goes to Mr. Jim Reynolds of the Precita Valley Chess Club who was instrumental in arranging Mr. Horowitz's appearance here. By this --- and many other actions --- Mr. Reynolds has proved his sincere interest in our local chess organization. We appreciate your continuous efforts, Mr. Reynolds!

- FINIS -

BLINDFOLD EXHIBITION GAME
ROTTERDAM, 1924

by George Koltanowski

Recently I was asked by an Austrian chess friend to mail him what I considered to be one of my best blindfold games....one which had not yet been published internationally. This was a tough task to fulfill, as most of my best blindfold games were published in my book, "Adventures Of A Chess Master", which has sold well in the last two years. In going through my files, I ran across the following game played in a 15-board exhibition in Rotterdam, 1924. It still looks good to me today!

Koltanowski-Noordyk		Koltanowski-Noordyk	
WHITE	BLACK	WHITE	BLACK
1) P-Q4	P-Q4	11) B-B2	P-KR3
2) P-QB4	P-QB3	12) B-B4	R-K
3) P-K3	N-KB3	13) Q-Q2	B-B
4) N-QB3	P-K3	14) QR-Q	B-Q2
5) N-B3	B-K2	15) N-K5	R-B
6) B-Q3	QN-Q2	16) P-KN4	P-QN3(A)
7) O-O	O-O	17) Q-Q3	P-KN4(B)
8) P-K4	PxKP	18) NxBP	KxN(C)
9) NxP	NxN	19) Q-N6ch	K-K2
10) BxN	N-B3	20) B-K5	Resigns(D)

- (A) P-QB4 immediately loses after PxP.
 (B) White is now threatening 18) P-N5.
 (C) If 18)....Q-K2; 19) Q-N6ch, B-N2;
 20) NxPch, followed by 21) B-Q6.
 (D) White's last move was simple but neat. Black cannot avoid the mate!!

NOTICE FROM CHESS CLUB
PRESIDENT

It is with a deep sense of obligation that I wish to extend my personal praise to all the members of the San Quentin Chess Club. Your wholehearted cooperation and sincere interest in the Club's activities are certainly noteworthy. I feel confident that your other Club officials believe, as I do, that with this ardent spirit of comradeship and almost supernatural desire for playing and winning chess games the Club can only go on to become a permanent fixture on the local scene. This will be a mark of achievement that we may all look upon with great pride.

A GOOD MEMBER IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER!

"CHESS NUTS"

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MR. CLEMITT L. SWAGERTY,

SUPERVISOR OF RECREATION

MR. JOHN N. APOSTOL

ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR OF RECREATION

* * * MARCH 1957 * * *