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June 30, 1965

Dear Mrs. Piatigorsky,

Enclosed please find two newspaper clippings.

My attitude about David Blohm is that any upcoming junior should be given a chance to succeed. Of course, the U.S. Junior is just a prestige tournament and an opportunity to meet one's ~~contemporaries~~ contemporaries. Far better and more expensive would be to send him to the U.S. Open.

My thoughts about the school program are that any reasonable person can succeed at certain schools. The danger is in hiring master rated players who act like supercilious egomaniacs in the presence of weaker players. I don't know players in L. A. well enough to recommend anyone with confidence. I have an intuition that Ronnie Gross might be available and capable to carry out a program. The faculty and students are so helpful at certain schools that inter-school activities can be arranged by any instructor with a minimum of organizational drive and talent.

As for a program in San Francisco, I would suggest Mr. George Koltanowsky as the man best organized to ~~carry out~~ carry out the work here. At the same time I would like to note Mr. Guthrie McClain's objection that Koltanowsky uses school programs for his own private financial benefit. How he does it is a mystery to me and I can't say if McClain's objection is a myth or not.

In my opinion, the Foundation can relate itself more directly to educational and cultural activities in the following ways: I. Prizes of scholarships in special or ordinary chess events for Juniors. II. Grants for promising Juniors to live in Europe during vacation. III. An approach to the state educational authorities for a formal recognition and/or appreciation of the Foundation's role in education. The state

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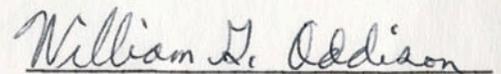
educational authorities might be made aware of the role of chess in the educational system of the Soviet Union. In particular the publication by the U.S.S.R. Commissariat of Education of a Text Book on chess. This book is thick enough to impress them and tough enough to impress me. I understand that educational upgrading "a la Russ" has been going on in California and expect that the Foundation can score a point here.

My minimum duties at Mechanics' Institute consist of being here from 8 PM to 11 PM on week days and from 6 PM to 12 PM on Saturday; to occasionally check memberships in the afternoon; to run a rapid transit tournament once a week; and to conduct a club championship. I am free to attend small chess events and may receive leave to attend any major chess event. I do not attend minor chess events and do not limit myself to my minimum duties. The reason is not the salary, which is trivial, but the potential in the chess room. I feel that I can accomplish something outstanding here. In the past two months I have been very busy bringing order to organizational chaos. I have had to move slowly because of politics and personalities. Otherwise there would be nothing to it.

It is understood by Mechanics' Institute President Theodore Meyer and the Trustees that I intend to have employment during the day. Because of what I have outlined above I have not been able to do anything about this. But, soon things will be in order and I would be available to carry out a school program in the San Francisco Bay Area, should you so desire, providing I am not otherwise employed.

With best wishes for the Foundation's continued success, I remain

Yours truly,


William G. Addison
Chess Room Director