

# The United States Chess Federation

# USCF



Publishers of CHESS LIFE  
America's Chess Newspaper

June 24, 1954

Mr. Neil T. Austin  
1608 42nd Street  
Sacramento 19, Calif.

MONTGOMERY MAJOR  
123 NO. HUMPHREY  
OAK PARK, ILL.

Dear Mr. Austin:

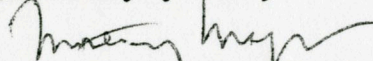
Curiously enough, I dealt with the subject of Botvinnik being a "not too convincing champion" in the June 20th CHESS LIFE, which probably you have not yet received.

In it, I quite agree that Botvinnik cannot be written off as a player, despite his two drawn matches for the world title. In fact I am very suspicious of those drawn matches, for it is my private opinion that he could whip Bronstein blindfolded and Smyslov with one hand tied behind his back.

But the fact remains that the world title matches were very disappointing as drama. One expects a champion to be a champion.

If space permits, I will try to publish your letter -- but chess events are crowding so that what can be published at a given time defies prediction.

Sincerely yours,

  
Montgomery Major