

ALLYN STATIONERS

POWAY PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER

POWAY, CALIFORNIA

PHONE RIVERVIEW 8-2264

Dec. 9. 1961.

Dear Mrs. Piatigorsky:

I saw Lina last Sunday at a conference at Al Bisno's house. She mentioned that you had received my letter and explained why you had not answered. Believe me, I quite understand and I believe that in your position the maintenance of a dignified silence is the only possibility.

However, there can be no restriction on the rights of directors of the CSCF and the USCF to rectify this horrible and persisting injustice, and I can positively assure you that the matter will be taken care of.

Fred Cramer and Jerry are going to NY on Dec. 15th and I have been assured that three things which we of CSCF have been pressuring them with will be taken care of. 1) Removal of Brady. 2) Reprimand of Fischer for his unspeakable language and conduct, with threat of suspension. 3) A full airing of the LA side of the story in the pages of Chess Life, with appropriate commendation of the people in LA, committee, referee, etc., for their attempts to be accommodating and fair to the players. Of course, we all in retrospect admit that a little better handling of the situation might have prevented the blow up, but I happen to agree with Al Bisno who thinks that Fischer was subconsciously looking for an out after finding out just how tough Sammy can be in a match.

If these things are not taken care of, I shall personally contact every state federation and USCF director with the facts and see to it that the annual meeting of directors at San Antonio does so.

I do hope that you will not request that we desist, as the reputations of others, Irving and Lina, are also involved.

Incidentally, after another hearing of the Dvorak Concerto I have concluded that Munch's support is considerably better than that given by the LA or SD (?) Symphonies. My recollection is that it sounded rather ragged, though I might just have been tired. However, I am a very unreliable music critic - for example I'll go to my death bed convinced that John Barbirolli is a fine conductor, despite what I used to read about him in the NY papers. On the other hand I did not admire the great K, two series of whose I attended, except for special things like Debussy, Ravel, Tchiakovsky. His rendition of Schumann's Spring Symphony, which I heard him conduct at Tanglewood, was in my opinion sheer butchery. The scherzo can be played convincingly if you know how to do it, as B. W. does. Also, the first theme of the first movement has a haunting quality somewhat different from the way K. haunted me! I am fortunate in that Lyell Barbour has accepted me as a piano pupil and is permitting me to work on Schumann's Humoreske, of which I am very fond and which Mrs. Armitage disparaged in no mild terms.

Best personal regards,
cc; McClain, Grumette.

John Alexander