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117 Brewster Street
San Francisco 10, Calif.

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Mr. Al Horowitz
Editor, CHESS REVIEW
250 West 57th Street
New York 19, New York

Dear Mr. Horowitz:

Thank you for your letter of April 2.

I'm very much in favor of your club plan. It shows how I must lose chess games at times--, that is, overlooking the obvious. In this case I never thought of selling the 10 copies, only in giving them away and awarding them as prizes. It also shows how things can happen. I have started a new club and after four weeks can only boast nine members--, this is the Precita Valley Chess Club. Believe me, I expect it to grow--, we have gained a member a week not counting the opening night when I started off with six. We have exactly \$8.25 in the club fund and we have yet to purchase our championship tourney trophy. However, I managed to get an exhibition team match reported in one of the local newspapers along with the announcement of our championship tourney and in big print on page 2 at that! I expect this little publicity to bring a few more chess players my way. Tomorrow night when the club meets, I'll know if it did us any good. What I mean by how things can happen is that I left the club that can very well afford your plan and though I was secretary of it my fellow officers would not listen to me and voted the idea down. At Precita Valley I run the club with practically no objections from anybody. I have a fine fellow officer in the person of Noel Renaud, who is the club treasurer. Noel is an elderly gentleman who thinks I have the right ideas about promoting chess. He's not a bit disappointed at this new club's poor start. He tells me, "I remember when the Carroll Ogden Club had six members and then you came along and in four months time it jumped up to 40 members!" He seems to think I'll do the same at Precita Valley and he thinks it'll even be better because I won't be having my ideas voted down! Let's hope he's right and if so I'll be mailing in that blank for 10 copies of CHESS REVIEW!

If you do take a tour and get this way I'll only be too happy to meet you. I'm sure you can get quite a few exhibitions here. We have fine clubs such as the Mechanics Institute, the Golden Gate Chess Club, the Carroll Ogden Chess Club, the San Bruno Chess Club, and the Marin Chess Club which are the largest not counting those on the east side of the bay. And perhaps in a year's time I can say the Precita Valley Chess Club is one of the largest also. I have one big advantage over the old clubs, --that is, we have rent free and a big gymnasium that can be converted to an auditorium should the occasion arise without cost. The Carroll Ogden Chess Club is also rent free but meets at a public school where the players can't even smoke unless they walk out into the hallway. Anytime they have a big event they have to rent a hall outside such as they did in the case when Sammy Reshevsky came out here in February 1954 when they rented a hall at the Richelieu Hotel. The advantage I have at my new club is the fact the building was erected as a community center and so it is made for social gatherings of all types. At any rate, don't pass us up if you decide to make that tour.

Enclosed is a couple of editions of the CHESS HERALD which is the new club paper I distribute each week. In one of them I mention CHESS REVIEW and from both of them you can see how I'm struggling along, but I never give up a struggle (unless it's chess and a hopeless position) and I know this new club will be a big one one of these days.

Sincerely yours,

Encls. 2

Jim Reynolds