

Leaders of King and Queens.



New **Chess** Club Officials,

F. E. Browne, president, and J. W. Watson, treasurer, of the **Chess** and
Checker Club of Southern California.

TWO TOURNAMENTS TO OPEN NEW YEAR AT CHESS CLUB.

TWO tournaments open the New Year at the rooms of the Chess and Checker Club of Southern California, play to commence today but the entry lists are to remain open until tomorrow night. Both tourneys are open to club members, more than a score of whom have entered for the chess tournament, and half as many for the checker contest.

The list of chess players comprises a strong field which includes C. E. Johnson, winner of second place in the Texas State Tournament of 1904; O. Barnett, late of Lincoln, Neb.; D. G. Holt, of Santa Monica; J. E. Ford of San Francisco; C. J. Gibbs, L. A. Darling, J. B. Pridham, and others of nearly equal strength.

Play will end with the month of January, at which time places will be established in the order of totals of games won, each player having contested one game with every entrant. The result of the tourney is looked upon with much interest on account of the rating which it gives the players of the club for future handicap tournaments, one being contemplated by the club officials for an early date.

The chess correspondence match between the Chess and Checker Club and the San Diego Chess Club is well under way, eighteen games having been opened at the first nine boards. Pairs at the remaining four boards are to be matched during the coming week, when the team lists will be closed and the match will proceed as a whole to the finish of all games.

That the battle is to be a lively one is evidenced by the fact that in the first exchanges the two captains have thrust and countered with two dashing king side gambits which are usually considered too perilous for experts who keep a wary eye on the score. These games have advanced to ten moves each, other pairs showing less progress, but in several instances at least one of the two games at a board is developing into gambit or other open plays. A number of the San Diegans, however, have preferred to attack with the slow and conservative pawn to queen's bishop fourth opening, and at least one Angeleno, Pridham, has abandoned all risky paths for that safe assault.

C. J. Gibbs and A. G. Pearsall have two close openings, as have Major Hall and Victor Wildt, while W. V. Lee and J. A. Rice have opened irregularly, and J. E. Ford and Dr. H. Stephen Smith are driving into king's gambits.

Members of the Los Angeles team not yet matched by San Diego are L.

A. Darling, E. H. Blundin, Dr. E. B. Graham and N. F. McMurray, O. Barnett, the Nebraskan playing with the local team having been pitted against R. A. Hazen, two close games being in sight at their board.

The local club, as its name indicates, is organized for the benefit of the many chess and checker players resident in Southern California, and has through accessions of such membership in its first two weeks been compelled to double the space originally leased in the Higgins Building. President F. E. Browne, one of the founders of the Los Angeles Driving Club, which for many years reflected credit upon the city, and J. W. Watson, club treasurer, both liberal patrons of their favorite game, have declared their purpose of providing adequate facilities for all members and visitors, with the especial view of arranging contests with visiting teams in matches across the board. Negotiations are now under way for such contests with the chess players of two nearby cities.

The pretty conception by which Black forced a winning position by the successive sacrifices of pawn, knight, pawn and bishop, combined with a releasing move, was executed by F. G. Maus of South Pasadena in a game played last week at the Chess and Checker Club against Mr. Jackson of the Rice Chess Club, New York. White's moves are practically forced throughout, and the slight lapse by which Black finally allowed perpetual check does not militate against the accuracy of his judgment of the position. The positions and moves were as follows:

White—K at KB2; Q at QKt3; R at KR sq; R at Q sq; B at K2; B at QR3; Pawns at KR2, KKt3, KB3, K4, QR3 and QR2; (12 pieces.)

Black—K at KKt sq; Q at KR4; B at QKt2; Kt at K4; R at K sq; R at Q sq; Pawns at KR3, KKt2, KB2, K3, QKt4, and QR3; (13 pieces),

White.	Black.
Jackson.	Maus:
1.....	P-QB4
2BxP	Kt-Kt5ch
3PxKt	QxBch
4K-B3	K-R
5KR-B	P-B4
6KtPxP	BxP ch!!
KxB	PxB dis ch
8K-B3	Q-K6 ch
9K-Kt2	QxB ch
10K-R3	R-Q7 ch
11RxR	QxQR

Black's last move permitted White to bring his queen into the game, and resulted in a draw by perpetual check against the black king.

Black could have won through his superior pawn position after 11..Q-KRch; 12R-Kt2, R-K7; 13Q-Q5, QxR ch; 14QxQ, RxQ; 15KxR, etc.