Golden Gate Chess Club Wins 'A' Title

By Dr. H. J. Ralston

The Golden Gate Chess Club won the Class A championship of the San Francisco Bay Area Chess League by defeating Mechanics' Institute 41/2-21/2 in the played last Saturday match night.

It was a bitterly fought contest. Carroll Capps, playing for Golden Gate at third board, was the first to score, his victim being Earl Pruner. Then followed victories by young David Peizer over veteran Arthur Stamer, and Imre Konig over Charles Bagby. Mechanics could win only at fifth board, where James Schmitt upset Robert Konkel.

Exciting Tournament

Walter Pafnutieff and William Addison split the point at second board, Henry Gross and Dimitry Poliakoff drew a hard game at fourth board, and Dr. Kenneth Colby and Charles Svalberg agreed on a draw at sixth board.

This was one of the most extournaments team many years. The climactic struggle attracted many visitors, who stuck it out to the bitter end. even when the outcome of the match had become evident.

The line-up: Mechanics Golden Gate Konig

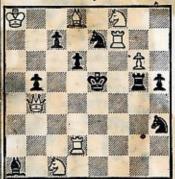
1 C. Bagby 2 W. Addison 3 E. Pruner W. Pafnutieff 1/2 01/2 C. Capps 4 D. Pollakoff H. Gross 1 Schmitt R. Konkel 01/2 Dr. K. Colby 1/2 C. Svalberg D. Peizer 7 A. Stamer 41/2

1/2

It seems peculiarly appropriate that just at this time, when the San Francisco chess season is at its height, we should have received from Dr. Norman Reider of San Francisco a copy of a chess game played in this city in 1858 or 1859!

Oldest Score

The score of the game was discovered in the first volume of the "Chess Monthly" for 1859, and is the oldest score of a game Task No. 93-By A. Charlick



White Mates in Two Moves (Value four points

Answer to Task No. 92: Kt-Q6

played in San Francisco that we have ever seen.

The game was played between the San Francisco Pioneer Chess Club and the German Chess Club of San Francisco. We had never heard of the latter club before the score of the game was found,

The San Francisco Pioneer Chess Club was organized in 1858, and had quarters in the old Pioneer Association Hall. The San Francisco Directory for 1860 states that it had 20 members and that its officers were W. B. 1/2 Farwell. president: W. R. Wheaton, vice president; John H. Gardner, secretary-treasurer. These men were active in early San Francisco chess circles, as we know from various old sources.

Strong Club Play

The game, which is given be- 20 low, is of great interest because 21 KtxP it presumably represents the level of strong club play in San Francisco, circa 1858. It must be confessed that the play is not good by modern standards, but the main defects in play are by the players of the black pieces. The "Pioneers" played pretty well.

Karl Bopp Jr. of San Francisco and Harry Hokensen of Santa Rosa win this week's prizes for best analysis of the end-game by Birbragen, published in this column two weeks

The main line runs: 1 P-Kt7, P-Kt5ch; 2 K-Kt3, B-K6; 3 B-B2, B-Q5; 4 B-K3, B-B4; 5 B-Q4, B-Kt3; 6 B-B5, B-R2; 7 B-Kt6, B-Kt1ch; 8 K-B2, B-Kt6ch; K-B1 and wins.

C. M. Bush of San Francisco started out correctly, but slipped up on the best continuation. Dr. Horace C. Pitkin and C. Y. Verbarg, both of San Francisco. and A. R. Bardwell of Palo Alto submitted solutions not quite rigorous enough.

Honorable Mention

Here is an end-game by V. Halberstadt which recently won honorable mention in a prize competition. We offer a copy of a chess publication for best analysis. Solutions should be postmarked not later than April 20.

White (five men): King on QB1; Queen on KR1; Bishop on KR8; Knight on KKt8; Pawn on KKt7.

Black (three men): King on QB6; Queen on QB4; Pawn on

Q6. White to play and win. SICILIAN DEFENSE

WHITE—PIONEER CLUB BLACK—GERMAN CLUB P-QB4 | 23 B-R5ch P-K4 23 B-R5ch P-Kt3 Kt-KB3 Kt-QB3 24 RxKt 25 Kt-K5 26 R-Q2 PxB Q-Kt2 R-B1 P-04 P×P P-K4 KtxP R-Q2 R-K1 Kt-KB3 P-84 R-B4 B-QB4 P-Q3 P-KR3 P-84 B-B2 P-84 B-82 KtxBch QxKt QxP Q-85 Q-Kt6ch K-Q2 R/2-K2 Q-Kt4 Q-R7ch K-83 Q-K87 Q-Kt2 Q-Kt6 K-Kt3 R-K8 K-R2 Kt-B3 Q-Q5 PxP Q-Q2 Kt-B3 30 Q-Q1 QxP Kt-QKt5K-Q2 B-K3 P-R3 Kt-QKt5 QxP Q-R2 K-Q1 P-KR3 P-R4 B-Q2 Q-Q3 QxQKtP QKtxKt KtxB 40 Q-R6ch 41 R-K8ch K-K+1 BxKt Q-BBch K-Kt3 Q-Kt8ch Resigns KR-Q1 B-K3 Q-84 Q-82

April 15,1955