THE CHESS PLAYER By Dr. H. J. Ralston

TASK No. 57-By J. B. Slavich,

Marysville, Calif. (Original to THE ARGONAUT)



Answer to Task No. 55: The main

line is 1. B-K6, KtxB; 2. Kt-Q4, KtxKt; B-B2, Kt moves; 4. P-Kt7 mate.

We seem to be having a minor epi-demic of four-movers. However, Task No. 57 is not difficult. Answer should be postmarked not later than Feb. 26,

and a complete sequence leading to mate should be given.

AFTER six rounds, San Jose was leading in the Central California Chess League team matches with a perfect score of 6-0. Then came Sacramento with 5½-½, Fresno 3½-2½, Stockton 3-3, Pittsburg 3-3, Modesto 2-4, Oakdale 1-5, and Vi-

salia 0-6. R. E. Burger of Pittsburg had a score on first board of 5½-½, with George Kirby of San Jose and M. Hailparn of Fresno tied for second

honors with 4-2. The Central California Chess League plans to hold a championship tournament in Modesto during March or April. It will be a four-round Swiss system tournament, played over a week-end.

After four rounds, the Hollywood Invitational Tournament was being led by Herman Steiner, with a score of 4-0. Spin-ner, Cross and Levin had perfect socres of 3-0.

World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik and M. Taimanov tied for first and second and M. Taimanov tied for first and second places in the Soviet championship. They were due to play a match of six games to determine the winner. The scores: Botvinnik and Taimanov 13½-5½; E. Geller 12-7; I. Boleslavsky and A. Tolush 11½-7½; V. Korchnoy 11-8; D. Bronstein, O. Molseev and V. Smyslov 10½-8½; P. Keres and A. Suitin 9½-9½. A total of 20 players participated.

It is not expectly that no Russian player

It is noteworthy that no Russian player

seems to be able to maintain a dominant position for very long. Imre König, who has settled in San Francisco, gave a simultaneous exhibition at the Mechanics' Institute January 31, Meeting 31 players, Mr. König won 24 games, lost 2 and drew 5. Dr. Frank Ruys of Redwood City and Honorio Abella of San Francisco defeated Mr. König, The following game won the third brilliancy prize in the Interzonal Tournament

at Saltsjobaden. NIMZO-INDIAN Black-M. Taknanov White-A. Matanovic

1. P-Q4 PxB Kt-KB3 18. . 19. P-OKt4 Q-K2 2. P-OB4 P-K3 3. Kt-QB3 B-Kt5 20. PxKt O-K4 QR-KI 4. P-K3 Kt-B3 21. K-B1 5. B-Q3 P-K4 22. Kt-KKt1 Q-R 6. Kt-K2 PxP 23. B-B5 7. PxP P-Q4 24. ByB

K-R1! R-KKtl 8. PxP KKtxP 25. B-Kt4 KtxB 26. R-K1 9. 0-0 0-0 10. P-QR3 B-K2 11. O-Kt3? Kt-B3 If 26, PxKt, RxP;

12. R-01 P-OR3 13. P-R3 B-Q3 wins. 14. B-KKt5 P-R3

27 P-B3, B-B4 and 15. B-R4? P-KKt4! 26, ... Kt-B3

Kt-QR4! 27. RxR QxPch B-02! 28. K-K2 RxRch

16. P-Q5 17. O-R4 18, Q-B2 29. K-Q3 O-Kt3ch 18. QxKt loses the 30. K-Q2 B-B5ch QxKt mate

31. K-Q1

Q-Q4 the

Q. and 18.

exchange,