



Chess Life

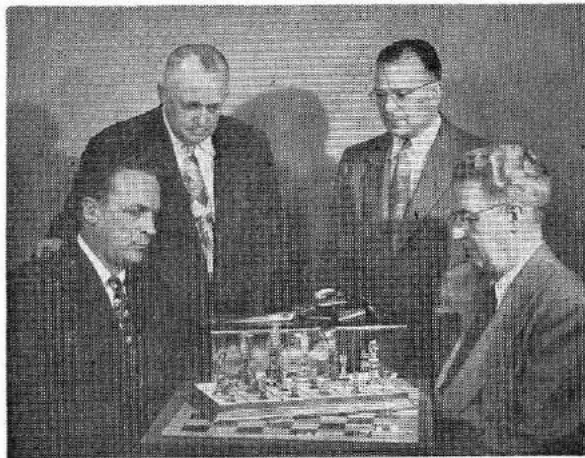


Vol. VI
Number 17

Official Publication of The United States Chess Federation

Monday,
May 5, 1952

NAJDORF STAGES RALLY



MARY CHESS STEALS THE SHOW!

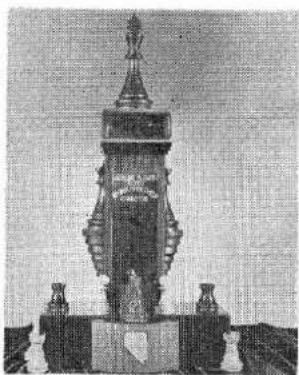
Left to right, USCF Director James R. Watson, USCF Vice-President Edward I. Treend, Arno Koch, president of the Edison Chess Club, and victor Richard F. Mahon admire the prize-award of Mary Chess perfume.



TROPHIES GALORE!

Raymond A. Smith, left, presents the permanent and traveling trophies representing the Nevada State Championship to Maurice Gedence, center, while William T. Adams, right, holds the Raymond A. Smith Nevada Open Championship Trophy.

Photo: Courtesy Deseret News



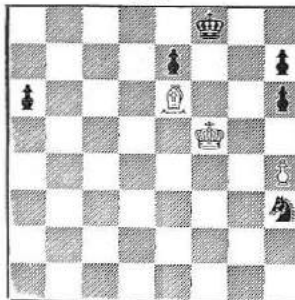
RAYMOND A. SMITH TROPHY

Nevada Open Championship
King: Karat gold, bronze lacquer, on maple.
Base: Birdseye Maple, from North American and Canada.
Black King: In plastic, African Blackwood from Africa (Legend: Captured King is laid down when defeated, cannot be moved from the board).
Top Copping on column: India Ebony from India and West Indies.

Center Column: Vermillion Wood, from Andaman Islands.
Half Queens, side: Purple Heart from Guianas and South America.
Plate: Sun Ray Brass, engraved.
Pawns: Holly, from U.S.A. and Canada.
Rooks: Vera Wood from Northern South America (set on Cuban Mahogany, from Cuba, on top of base).
Base: (Front ends and back) Purple Heart, Guianas and South America.
Corner Rooks: Birdseye Maple, U.S.A. and Canada.
Half Bishops: Birdseye Maple, U.S.A. and Canada; on ends (set on white plastic).
Semi-Cricle: (On Front Base) Ceylon Satinwood, beeswing figures, from Ceylon; (top, bottom, sides) India Ebony, from India, West Indies; (Map of Nevada) Sterling Silver.
Knight, mounted on semi-circle: Cocobola, from Central America; (Eyes of Knight) Blue Zircon set in 10 Karat Gold.
Trophy designed and created by Herman Dittmann. (Photo: Ray Kosyman)

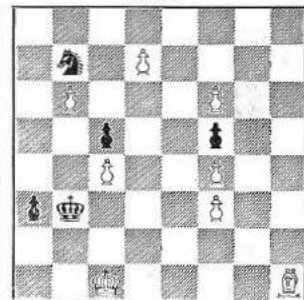
BOOST AMERICAN CHESS!
By Joining the U.S.C.F.

Position No. 91
By Henri Rinck
1st Prize, L'Eco degli Scacchi
1917



5k2, 4p2p, p3B2p, 5K2, 7P, 7s, 8, 8
White to play and draw

Position No. 92
By V. Karolkov and F. Bondarenko
From Soviet Chess Compositions
1946-47



8, 1s1P4, 1P3P2, 2p2p2, 2P2P2, pK3P2, 8, 2K1B
White to play and win

White To Play And Win!

Conducted by William Rojram

Send all contributions for this column to William Rojram, % CHESS LIFE, 123 No. Humphrey Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois.

POSITION NO. 91 we published in memory of Henri Rinck, the great genius of endgame strategy; it won a well-deserved first prize.

Position No. 92 is another of the fine examples of the Soviet school of endgame composition. Both of these fine studies were referred to this editor by Problemist Vincent L. Eaton.

In our next installment, we plan to present that rarity, compositions by an American composer, in a series produced by Mr. Robert S. Brieger of Houston, Texas, who has already appeared in these pages with some excellent examples of endgame strategy.

For solutions, please turn to Page four.

Wives Enjoy The Prizes Husbands Win In Edison Chess Club Championship

Unique was the word for the prizes awarded in the Edison Chess Club Championship in Detroit—prizes that were appreciated by the chess widows of all participants who during the event were known to encourage hubby to do his best, rather than wondering audibly why he had to waste time pushing those foolish figures around on a board.

The prizes consisted of several sets of Mary Chess Perfume, bottled appropriately in glass vials in the form of various chessmen—a set consisting of one King, one Queen, two Rooks, two Bishops, two Knights and eight Pawns, all filled with delicate Mary Chess perfume.

To the victor went one complete set of 16 pieces, but all the other participants received, according to final ranking, one or more pieces with the tail-enders obtaining Pawns. This caused a punster to exclaim that even the defeated enjoyed the scent of victory!

In the part the usual prize awards were the gift of the late William Van Dyke, chairman of the Wayne County Library Board, who passed away on February 4, 1952. Mr. Van Dyke donated one set, and anonymous donors provided the other Mary Chess pieces.

Richard F. Mahon was the husband of the lucky winner, scoring 18½-2½ to provide his wife with perfume for countless days to come. Mahon drew with Wiley D. Sanderson and conceded loses to James R. Watson and Marsh J. Gunnis. Second on S-B points with 17½-3½ was James R. Watson, who lost games to Edward I. Treend, Ralph Gierson and Edward Basherian, while drawing with Rigmald M. Blachford. Third, also with 17½-3½, was USCF Vice-President Edward I. Treend who lost games to Mahon, Abra O. Mason, and John A. Lohla, while drawing with Gierson. Marsh

J. Gunnis was fourth with 16-5, and R. M. Blachford fifth with 15-6 in the 22 player round robin event.

THREE-WAY TIE IN ST. LOUIS

The St. Louis District Tournament, somewhat weakened by the absence of Robert Steinmeyer, R. E. Pohle, and John Ragan, ended in a three-way tie at 6-2 between Charles M. Burton, William H. C. Newberry, and Eugene J. Roesch. There will be no play-off. Other players in the invitational event finished: Frederic S. Anderson with 4½-3½; Missouri State Champion Harry A. Lew, Roland A. Alpiers, and Edmund Godbold with 3-5 each; Lewis W. Haller with 2½-5½; Raymond Vollmar with 2-6.

WADE CAPTURES PUGET OPEN

Dan Wade of Seattle took the Puget Sound Open 5½-½, drawing with Ted Warner who placed second with 5-1. Third in the 6 round 9 player Swiss was Glenn Muller with 4-2. Warner also drew with Joe Cerretelli, while Muller lost games to Wade and Warner. Fourth place went to Ken Mulford with 3½-2½, losing to Wade and Warner, and drawing with H. O. Skarsten.

RESHEVSKY LEAD COMMANDING

As the New York section of the Reshevsky-Najdorf match ended, former U.S. Champion Reshevsky held the impressive lead of 7-1 over his opponent. Drawing the fifth and eighth game, Reshevsky won the other six for an advantage that can scarcely be overcome in the remaining ten games, even by superhuman play upon the part of Najdorf. The rest of the match will be contested in Mexico City and San Salvador.

At Mexico City, Najdorf rallied to win and draw the first two games.

ADAMS TRIUMPHS IN NEVADA OPEN

William T. Adams of San Jose (Calif.) won the Nevada Open Championship at Reno and possession of the beautiful Raymond A. Smith trophy with 7-1 score in the 30 player 8 round Swiss event. Adams was undefeated, but drew with M. M. Gedence and James J. Jackson. Gedence placed second with 6½-1½, winning the Nevada State title. He was also undefeated but drew with Adams, Jackson, and Louis N. Page of Salt Lake City. Third and fourth on S-B points with equal 5½-2½ scores were atomic scientist William Benedetti of Las Vegas and Salt Lake City Chess Club president Farrell Clark. Benedetti lost to Adams and Chappuis, and drew with Gaston Chappuis. Clark lost to Benedetti and Don Crawford of Boise, and drew with Glen Buckendorf of Buhl.

The strongest of Nevada tournaments had five participants from California, six from Utah, five from Idaho and thirteen from Nevada. It was sponsored by Raymond A. Smith, co-owner of the famous Harold's Club, who provided the beautiful trophy, the prizes, a gala banquet and a special \$100.00 prize to the blind Idaho player Don Crawford for his brilliant victory over Clark.

NJSCEF REQUESTS ASS'N BY-LAWS

The New Jersey State Chess Federation is rewriting its constitution and by-laws, and requests that other State Associations furnish it with copies of their own constitutions for study and comparison. Copies of such by-laws should be sent to Morris C. Shulman, NJSCEF President, 397 East 27th St., Paterson 4, N. J.

POMAR, GLIGORIC PLAN SIMULS

The two distinguished European masters, Arturito Pomar, now 20, and Svetozar Gligoric, both playing in the International Tourney at Los Angeles, are available for simultaneous dates. Interested clubs may contact either player, care of Herman Steiner, 108 No. Formosa Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

COMING

Beginning in May 20 Issue
A series of articles on the USCF Rating System by USCF Rating Statistician Kenneth Harkness.

For The Tournament-Minded

Fred Witzel Memorial Tournament Jersey City, N.J.

Will begin shortly, date unspecified, at Jersey City YMCA Chess Club as 100% USCF rated event; for details contact Wm. Walbrecht at the club or telephone So. Sq. 3-0147.

May 17-18 Indiana State Championship Logansport, Ind.

Begins at Barnes Hotel, Logansport at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, May 17; five round Swiss; open to all Indiana residents including students attending Indiana schools; first place ties decided in round robin, otherwise S-B tie-breaking; for details write: D. E. Rhead, 2715 Green St., Gary, Ind.

May 17-18 Central Washington Championship Yakima, Wash.

Open to residents east of the Cascades; begins 2:00 p.m. May 17 at Yakima Business College, 416 West Yakima Ave.; for details write: Oliver LaFreniere, 2807 W. Yakima Ave., Yakima, Wash.

May 22-24 South Dakota State Championship Rapid City, So. Dak.

Open to all, state title to ranking resident; six round Swiss; play begins 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 22 at Montana-Dakota Utilities Hospitality Room, Rapid City; entry fee \$5.00; for details, write: M. F. Anderson, Box 1466, Rapid City, So. Dak.

June 7-8 28th Trans-Mississippi Championship Davenport, Iowa

Open to all; conducted by Tri-City Chess Club at Davenport Chamber of Commerce; 6 round Swiss; entry fee \$5.00; \$90.00 first prize; \$227.00 cash prizes plus merchandise and special awards; entries close at 12:15 p.m. CST, Saturday; play ends 8:00 p.m. Sunday; bring clocks if available; for details, write: John Warren, 1336 15th St., Rock Island, Ill.

June 13-15 North Carolina Open Championship Wilmington, N.C.

Open to all, out-of-state players invited; at Community Center; begins 7:00 p.m. Friday June 13; 6 round Swiss; prizes; membership in NCCA required; a rated tournament; for details, write: Mr. Harris, Director, Department of Recreation, Wilmington, N.C.

July 3-6 Southern Chess Ass'n Championship Meridian, Miss.

Open event; Swiss tourney; prizes; at Great Southern Hotel under auspices of Meridian Chess Club; details later.

August 1-4 Colorado Open Championship Denver, Colo.

Open to all; two champions, open and state; \$100.00 cash first prize; entry fee \$6.00; for details, write: Merl W. Reese, tournament director, 1740 Glenarm, Denver 2, Colo.

TRAYERS WINS MASS SCHOLASTIC

Victory in the 16 player Swiss Massachusetts Interscholastic Championship at Phillips Brooks House in Cambridge went to John Trayers of Salem High with a perfect 6-0 score. Second place on S-B points went to Shelbourne Lyman of Boston Latin, while David Rosenbaum of Brookline High placed third, also with 5-1. Fourth and fifth on S-B points with equal 4-2 scores were Gerald Farrah of Boston English and Edward Snyder of Perkins Institute. Edward Snyder and his school mate Robert Rathbun who placed in a tie for seventh with 3-3 deserved special commendation for their high ranking, in that they played under the handicap of blindness.

RUBINOW WINS MASS STATE MEET

Sol Rubinow, now of Boston, won the 20 player 6 round Swiss Massachusetts State Championship in Boston with 5½-½, drawing one game with Sheibourne Lyman, who placed second with 5-1. Lyman also drew with C. Heising. Heising placed third with 4½-1½; losing a game to Rubinow. Fourth to sixth on S-B points with equal 4-2 scores were S. E. Dreyfus, Harlow B. Daly, and W. M. P. Mitchell. Dreyfus lost to Lyman and Calhamer; Daly lost games to Rubinow and John Hubert; and Mitchell lost to Dreyfus and A. B. Calhamer.

By agreement, Rubinow will defend the State title against the three top scorers in a tournament held at Northampton and the victor of an event on the North Shore in a small tourney to be held at Worcester. Victor in this event will be declared the State Champion.

In the Massachusetts B Class Tournament held at Cambridge, the victory went to S. Lorriss with 6-0 in a 4 player 6 round Swiss. Second was G. Maher with 5-1, losing a game to Lorriss, while H. Narry placed third with 4-2, losing games to Maher and G. Nute, who placed fourth on S-B with 3½-2½, while Dr. Lement placed fifth, also with 3½-2½.

TAYLOR HI TOPS WEST PA LEAGUE

Taylor-Allderidge High School won the Western Pennsylvania Scholastic Chess League title by defeating Ambridge High 3½-6½ in a series of three matches held at the Downtown Y Chess Club of Pittsburgh. The Taylor-Allderidge team will now meet Central High School of Philadelphia to determine the Pennsylvania Scholastic Team Championship.

ANDERSON SCORES DOUBLE VICTORY

Frank A. Anderson of Toronto scored a double victory in quick succession by taking the Toronto City Championship 6½-1½ on S-B points and then winning, again on S-B points the Ontario Provincial title with 4½-1½.

In the Toronto City Anderson shaded Ross Siemms, who led most of the way, and finished in second also with 6½-1½, losing his last round game to A. Lidacis. Anderson and Siemms drew in their personal encounter.

In the Ontario Provincial Anderson lost a game to John Despard and drew with L. Z. Sarosy. Despard, who also scored 4½-1½, lost a game to Ivan Suk, who finished third with 4-2 on S-B points, and drew with Ross Siemms. Siemms placed fourth on S-B points with 4-2, while Earl T. Jewitt was fifth, also with 4-2.

COLORADO OPEN BECKONS TO ALL

The second annual Colorado Open Championship, August 1-4, beckons chess vacationists with the lure of \$100.00 cash first prize and all the beautiful scenery that a chess family could desire. The Denver Chamber of Commerce plans a series of side trips to the Garden of the Gods, Pikes Peak, etc. for the chess widow and children while deserted by their husbands. City and State Champions from 10 states competed in last year's event, from New Jersey to California; and the sponsors anticipate that every state in the union will be represented in the coming event.

PARKER CAPTURES PORTLAND TITLE

Dwight Parker with 8½-1½ score won the Portland (Me.) City Championship in the tournament sponsored by the Portland YMCA Chess Club. Second place went to Dr. J. Melnick with 8-2, while Raymond Duval finished third with 7-3 in the 11 player round robin event.

BAIN APPOINTED AS MOSCOW ENTRY

U.S. Women's Champion Mary Bain has been designated by FIDE Vice-President Harold M. Phillips as the official U.S. entry in the Women's World Championship Candidates Tournament at Moscow this year. President Phillips also designated former U.S. Women's Co-Champions, N. May Karff and Gisella K. Gresser, as alternates to the event, recommending that they be invited to fill any vacancies occurring by the inability of scheduled contestants to compete. Miss Karff and Mrs. Gresser participated in the first Woman's World Championship event in Moscow, while U.S. Women's Champion Mary Bain represented the USA at Stockholm some years ago.

GORDON, JOYNER TIE IN L. A. CO.

The Los Angeles County Championship ended in an 11½-2½ tie between Morris Gordon and Lionel Joyner. Raymond Martin was third with 11-3, tied with Steve Mazner, while Sven Almgren and Arthur Spiller tied for fifth with 9-5 in what was a very close contest.

Gordon lost games to Joyner and Mazner, while drawing with Sam Geller. Joyner lost to Almgren and drew with John Keckhut, Larry Woronzoff, and Herbert Abel. Martin lost to Gordon, Joyner and Woronzoff, while Mazner lost to Joyner, Martin and Almgren. Mrs. Gregor Piatrigorsky did well, finishing with 4½-9½ in very tough competition.

Joyner won a play-off match 3-1 to gain undisputed possession of the county championship title.

BRASK TRIUMPHS IN ATTLEBORO

Sven Brask, undefeated, won the 1952 Attleboro City Championship with 13-1 in the 15 player contest, outpacing runner-up Frank Gustafson who finished with 12½-1½ for second place. Brask drew with Gustafson and Robert Burns.

At the annual banquet, held at the conclusion of the tournament, Brask gave a simultaneous exhibition against the other entrants in the tournament, scoring brilliantly with 9 wins, 3 draws and 2 losses.

OVEREEM WINS BERGEN-PASSAIC

The 20 player 5 round Swiss Bergen-Passaic Counties Championship went to Henry Overeem with 4½-½ on S-B points. Second place with 4½-½ went to Saul N. Yarmak who drew in his encounter with the victor. Third to ninth with equal 3-2 scores were Robert Clayton, Al Eitmanas, S. Wooldridge, Jerry Potash, Alfred Cheavr Isaac Yarmak and Zoltan Farkas.

CHIPMAN TOPS WASH JUNIOR

On S-B points Dennis Chipman of Seattle won the Washington State Junior Championship with 5-1. Second, also with 5-1, was Allen Clark. Third and fourth with equal 4-2 scores on S-B points were Oliver LaFreniere and Ted Warner. Chipman lost a game to LaFreniere while Clark bowed to Chipman in their encounter. Frener in the 6 round 11 player Swiss event, while Warner was downed by Chipman and drew with Jorgen Baden and Douglas Gorton.

DREIBERGS TOPS SAGINAW VALLEY

Leon Dreibergrs scored 5-0 to win the Saginaw Valley Championship at Saginaw (Mich.) in a 12 player 5 round Swiss. Second place went to LaVerne Morgan with 4-1, losing a game to Dreibergrs. Third to sixth on S-B points with equal 3-2 scores were Al Brauer, John Reddy, John Lapin and Preston Higley.

N. Y. CHESS LIFE

(Continued from page 2, col. 5) his exhibitions are, for the record, as follows: at the Marshall C.C. 17 wins, 2 losses and 3 draws; at the London Terrace C.C. 11 wins, 3 losses and 4 draws; and in two displays at the Spanish Benevolent Society (which by the way has quite a number of enthusiastic chessplayers) he scored a total of 37 wins, 4 losses and 2 draws. Spectators are immediately impressed by Pomar's unhesitating play; he moves more quickly than any other master your reporter has ever seen exhibiting. For other club players throughout the nation who may meet Pomar in simultaneous play some day soon, here's a helpful hint on preparing an opening—quite a la Weaver Adams, he plays P-K4 on all boards!

IN BRIEF: An unexpected upset of the Marshall C.C. by the N.Y. Academy of Chess in the annual Met League matches leaves the Manhattan C. C. 3-0, clearly in first place. With two rounds to go, culminating in the traditional Marshall-Manhattan last round struggle, Academy and Marshall are tied for second with 2-1. Marshall Reserves and Columbia 1-2, and London Terrace 0-3 are the other competitors this year. . . In their yearly tandem simultaneous on the Columbia University campus, E. Hearst and J. Sherwin scored 57 wins, 3 draws, and 5 losses in an exhibition lasting seven hours. . . Svetozar Gligorich, who is also competing in the international tourney in Los Angeles, scored 27 wins and 4 draws in his display at the Log Cabin C.C. He will return to New York later for more displays at other metropolitan chess centers, probably in May.

Alekhine's Career

(Continued from page 3, col. 5) "Military measures" were mainly applied in order to get for them leaves of absence and to hold open for them, for the time of their being "commandeered" to the tournament, their places of employment.

Another "military" aspect of the tournaments was that the participants were quartered in the barracks of the higher organizational courses of Vseobuch. Since they also had to take their meals there, they received only the rather "scanty" (Ilyin-Zhenevsky) rations allotted to the students of these courses, and this almost led to a strike of the masters who submitted the following ultimatum:

Announcement of the Participants of the All-Russian Chess Olympics. In view of the considerable deterioration of the supply situation, we consider it necessary to announce that under obtaining conditions we are not in a position to continue the tournament and will be forced to discontinue it as of Sunday October 17 unless the following demands will be complied with:

- 1) an advance of 15,000 rubles per person;
 - 2) whatever cheese is left, is to be handed over at once to the participants;
 - 3) the bread ration has to be increased or a compensation for bread in some other form to be granted;
 - 4) cigars have to be given out at once.
- P. Sorinsky, A. Kubbel, I. Rabinovich, I. Golubev, Ia. Danilushvsky, M. G. Levenfish. (Ilyin-Zhenevsky, op.cit. p. 44; this ultimatum is also mentioned by Alekhine in "Schachleben in Sowjet-Russland" p. XI.)

EXCUSE IT!

In listing the contributions to the U.S. Championship Tournament, the \$25.00 contribution attributed to Dr. O. M. Wehrlay should have been credited to the Milwaukee Chess Ass'n of which Dr. Wehrlay is treasurer; and likewise the \$25.00 contribution attributed to A. E. Elo should have been credited to the Wisconsin State Chess Ass'n of which Mr. Elo is treasurer. We regret that these two errors occurred.

BOOST AMERICAN CHESS!
By Joining the U.S.C.F.

**SAVE THESE DATES—JULY 14-25
U. S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP AT TAMPA**

Chess Life

Monday, May 5, 1952

Alekhine's Early Chess Career

Additional Data
By A. Buschke

V. ALEKHINE IN SOVIET-LAND

DURING the year 1920, Ilyin-Zhenevsky's impact on Russian and especially Moscow chess life becomes more and more apparent.

As Commissar of the Head Office of General Military Education ("Vseobuch"—an abbreviation for "Vseobshchee Voennoe Obuchenie," incorrectly transliterated and translated by Alekhine on p. IX of "Schachleben in Sowjet-Russland"), he

participated with eminent specialists in the field of physical culture (Fizkultura) in devising programs for the pre-draft training of the workers (and) suggested to them to include in these programs also the study of chess. I was prompted to make this suggestion by the circumstance that in talking of sport they appraised it not from the point of view of its influence on the physical part of men, but from the point of view of its influence on the human character. The principal value of sport—so they said—consists in perfecting spiritual qualities in men, which are extremely important for fighters. Here by force the parallel with chess offered itself. Chess, too, and in many instances even more than sport, brings out courage, inventiveness, coldheadedness, will, in men, and, most important, and that cannot be said of sports, chess develops in men strategic abilities. (Ilyin-Zhenevsky, in "Memories of a Soviet Master"—Russian—1929, p. 38-39.)

His suggestion was carried out, and the heads of the branch offices of "Vseobuch" were instructed to "cultivate" chess and to organize chess clubs; the Vseobuch organ "K Novoi Armii" opened, under Ilyin-Zhenevsky's direction, the first Soviet chess department; not enough with this,

in order to give this chess department the widest circulation, we printed it not only in the magazine "K Novoi Armii" but also on special sheets, which we circulated for a modest fee among the Moscow chess players, thus collecting means for the chess organization. (Ilyin-Zhenevsky, *ibid.*)

By one of those strange and fortunate coincidences, the head of the Moscow local of "Vseobuch" happened to be V. N. Russo, a well-known checkers ("Shashki") player and an enthusiastic supporter of both chess and checkers. He immediately took a very active part in establishing in Moscow a central chess and checkers club, found "luxurious" quarters—even Alekhine mentions "ein glanzendes Logis von 6 Zimmern" ("splendid quarters of 6 rooms")—and heated ones, at that; in the heart of Moscow.

When in the spring of 1920 the idea of an All-Russian Sports Olympiad to be staged in the fall of that year was brought up in the Vseobuch, it was, under such circumstances, only natural that Ilyin-Zhenevsky's suggestion to combine with such "Olympic Games" a chess tournament, similar to the one that had taken place in Stockholm in 1912 in connection with the Olympic Games was immediately accepted.

While the general Olympics, fell through, the "Chess Olympiad" including a Championship Tournament, as well as a tournament for "amateurs" took shape, and for the first—and possibly the last—time in the history of chess, a tournament was arranged by military authorities and in the rather unusual form of "commandeering" participants by orders of military authorities to Moscow where they had to report by October 1, 1920. Incidentally, as Ilyin-Zhenevsky hastens to add (p. 42, *ibid.*), it was not at all necessary to apply "force" because all chess players who had been "rounded up" by the military authorities and brought on the way to the Olympics were only too glad to accept the invitation. (Please turn to page 3, col. 4)

