

January 18, 1960

THOUGHTS OVER THE BOARD: "There is nothing that wears out a fine face like the vigils of the chess table, and those cutting passions which naturally attend them. Hollow eyes, haggard looks, and pale complexions are the natural indications of the rabid chess player. His morning sleeps are not able to repay his midnight watchings."

Apologies to Sir Richard Steele (Ed.)

L.P.C.C. Ties Illinois Bell....Falls Before Western Electric Onslaught

Chicago Industrial Chess League matches in November and December found Donnelley wood-pushers falling off somewhat from the blistering victory string established during the first two months of play. After scratching out a 4-4 draw with Illinois Bell in a match marked by tortured end-game positions and a 63-move standoff between Brotsos and Asmann at the first board, the L.P.C.C. was steamrollered by a visiting Western Electric squad, 6-1/2 to 1-1/2. Here are the board-by-boards for each match:

L.P.C.C. vs ILLINOIS BELL

1. Brotsos (RRD) drew with Asmann
2. Stevenson (RRD) drew with Rachaitis
3. Mayer (RRD) drew with D. Johnson
4. Trachler (RRD) beat Costello
5. Blatchley beat Sechler (RRD)
6. J. Ross (RRD) beat Skora
7. Moeller (RRD) drew with Strimple
8. Lauth (ILL. BELL) won by forfeit

L.P.C.C. vs WESTERN ELECTRIC

1. Warren beat Stevenson (RRD)
2. Bradley (RRD) drew with Meyers
3. Hammerschmidt beat Tomashevich (RRD)
4. Elliott beat Mayer (RRD)
5. Vikrikas beat Ross (RRD)
6. Puto beat Moeller (RRD)
7. Sechler (RRD) beat Worlock
8. Riordan beat Tatar (RRD)
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9. King (RRD) beat Dopheide
10. Galvin (RRD) beat Traeger
11. Holtorf (RRD) beat Berry
12. Sorber beat Cerke (RRD)

The match with Western Electric was not nearly as one-sided as the score would make it appear. All the games were hard-fought, many were long drawn out and could have been draws or gone the other way. In fact, the opposing team captain remarked that this was Western Electric's toughest match of the year. Special kudos are in order for L.P.C.C. wood-pushers Sechler, King, Galvin and Holtorf who scored the only wins against the invaders.

Motorola Match Here To Determine Second Place Standing in League Play

The L.P.C.C. team faces the "micro wave" from Motorola in the next League match, to be played on the RRD premises at a yet-to-be-determined date in the next two weeks. Our ear to the ground, we have learned that Western Electric was tumbled from their undefeated perch by the boys from 1st National Bank. This throws the League standings into a close three-way race between ourselves, W.E. and Motorola. A victory over Motorola means undisputed 2nd place for RRD, so let's turn out for the match!

How Team Rankings Are Presently Determined ... An Explanation

Because of frequent queries from members as to the method presently being employed by the Captain to rank players for team play, he will attempt to explain same. Ratings and rankings for competitive play are only as good as the rating or ranking system they reflect. It is the Captain's opinion that the L.P.C.C. Ladder Rating System, though okay in theory, did not reflect the actual playing strengths or current chess activity of the great majority of the Club's players. This is probably because the players themselves failed to take advantage of the democratic provisions of the Ladder System and to utilize it to match their abilities against many other players of various strengths. An analysis of last year's ladder games indicated that only a handful of Club members were utilizing the system, and in most cases the same players challenged each other over and over again. Such a system, then, can hardly be useful for the purpose of rating team players with either fairness or accuracy. Thus, in the interim until some such system as a Round Robin Tournament is organized, the Captain is basing his ranking judgments on the following factors:

1. Known past performances in team matches.
2. Results of challenge games against a sufficient variety of the Club's players.
3. Current chess activity in terms of how often and how recently the player has competed in over-the-board games at Club meetings and elsewhere.
4. Recommendations of Club Officers and members of the Board of Directors.

Membership Drive Is A Resounding Success

Bouquets to all Lakeside Press chess stalwarts who responded so heartily in our recent membership drive. The drive brought in six new members, who have pledged their dollars and their enthusiasm for chess in support of their Club's activities throughout 1960. The Club extends a warm welcome to the following new Members, and invites our Old Regulars to match wits with them over-the-board at our next meeting:

John Harwood, Budgets	1-C-9
Jim Jennings, Credit	1-C-8
Nick Tomashevich, R	6-2
Hank French, Oper.	1-C-8
John Krasula, M	1-D-7
Bill Thompson, T. Stds	1-C-9

Chicago Chess Master To Give Exhibition Here...Admission Is Free!

On Friday, January 22, Charles Henin, 1954 Illinois State Champion, runner-up in 1959 Illinois State Championship, and co-holder of 2nd place in 1959 North Central Open, will play all comers in a simultaneous exhibition. The match will be held in the Classroom 1-D-8 at 6:30 P.M. Here's a chance to pit your game against a master...perhaps even be a winner...at no cost to you. The exhibition is being sponsored by the Industrial Chess League. Why not come out and give the champ a run for his money?

Bob Moeller, Team Capt.

Across The Board.....

Now that the holidays are behind us, be sure to circle Monday nights on your 1960 calendar. Every Monday evening at 4:15, chess equipment (including clocks) will be available in the first floor conference room and you will have a chance to compete with your contemporaries.

We plan to hold our first chess training session in February. These sessions will be designed to present fundamental objectives that exist in most chess games. I believe players at all levels of the game can benefit from most of these sessions.

The topic and date of the first session will be announced shortly.

Also, I hope that many of you will take advantage of the simultaneous match on Friday, January 22, 6 P.M., Classroom 1-D-8.

See you on Monday nights!

Jarvis Ross, Pres.