

"Demanding and Interesting Game"

Georgetown Chess Club Meeting Since October

Chess has always been a controversial game. Some people feel that it's a waste of time. It's hard to understand how two men can spend hours on end staring intently at a chessboard. Others feel that chess is on a level with the creative arts - painting, writing, scientific research. For most of us it is neither of these. We are not deeply enough involved in it to see its creative aspects, or sure enough of its uselessness to condemn it out of hand. It is just a game, and if we take the time and trouble to become involved in its intricacies, a game more demanding and interesting than most.

This is uncertain how long the game of chess has been played. It is claimed by some experts to be as much as 5,000 years old. The first mention of chess is made in Indian literature in the 6th century A.D., but there is no way of knowing how long before this time the game existed.

POPULAR LEGEND
There are many legends concerning the origin of chess. One of the most popular tells of a Brahman by the name of Sissa who was ordered by his Rajah to invent a game which would employ the element of chance to a minimum (the popular game at that time in India was backgammon, which is played with dice).

When the prince asked the Brahman what reward he wished for inventing the game of Chaturanga (the first known form of chess), he replied that he wished to be rewarded with wheat, one grain to be placed on the first square of the chessboard, two on the second, four on the third, eight on the fourth, and so on.

Of course, the prince was unable to fulfill the promise, since the final total would have been 18,446,744,073,709,551,615 grains of wheat.

MANY VARIATIONS
It is a common misconception that the game of chess has always been more or less the same, with very few changes in the rules or pieces. In fact, it is only about 150 years since the rules and pieces have been agreed upon on an international basis.

There are still many other variations of the game played in the Far East. About 50 variations of chess are known, most of them for four players, although there are games requiring three and even four players.

The boards used range from the modern board, with 64 squares and 16 pieces a side to a variation of Japanese Great Chess, with 400 squares and 80 pieces a side. One game, called Byzantine Chess, is played on a circular board.

LACAL CLUBS
The game of chess has become very popular in Canada in the last 20 years. The number of tournaments with large sums of prize money and international entry has increased dramatic-

ally. The 1971 Canadian Open was won by Boris Spassky, who is both the World Champion and the Russian Champion.

In Southern Ontario, there are chess clubs in almost every community with a population of 20,000 or more. Brampton, Mississauga, and Oakville all have clubs, the Brampton club being 50 members strong. They have two tournaments every year, as well as team games and occasional rapid transit tournaments.

GEORGETOWN CLUB
Locally, the Georgetown Rhythmics Make Exercising More Pleasant

by MARY SIMPSON
The Y is starting a new course of exercises for housewives in the afternoon. Baby-sitting will be provided so the moms can relax and enjoy themselves.

The instructor for this series will be Mrs. Nan Farwell who is a Physical Education graduate of Queen's University. Mrs. Farwell will base the exercises on rhythmic.

Rhythmics have their natural basis in breathing, walking and running. Even the most uncoordinated person has some rhythm; his heart beats, and he breathes in a regular pattern.

Mrs. Farwell will teach a series of exercises aimed at achieving strength and flexibility in all the joints. The class will work to music. This technique not only encourages a person's natural rhythm, but also relaxes the participants so that they accomplish a good physical workout without realizing how hard they are working!

The posture and breathing habits and the body rhythmic stressed in the class will hopefully carry over into the myriad of tasks a housewife encounters throughout each day.

FRIGHTENING
"Exercise" is a frightening word to many people. It conjures up images of furious activity, aching muscles, and the devastating boredom of repeated push-ups, sit-ups or whatever.

The rhythmic sessions are intended to be a more pleasant way of achieving similar results. By working in a group, with music, and by explaining the action of the muscles so that the participants realize what the movements accomplish, Mrs. Farwell hopes to promote the enjoyment of physical activity.

YMCA has sponsored the opening of a chess club, which meets in the "Y" office on Wednesday evenings. The club just opened last October, and welcomes new members; be they beginners or advanced players. Anyone wishing information about this club and its upcoming tournament may contact the YMCA office.

Headed Science Department At Burlington High School

A retired teacher who headed the science department at Burlington Central High School from 1946 to 1953, Percy West, 128 Rexway Drive, died in St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, January 8. He was 65. A native of Theford, Mr. West was the son of Oliver and Mary Campbell West and after graduating from Forest District high school, attended Normal School in North Bay. He was principal of Parkhill public school from 1933 to 1936, then principal of Bridgeport public school until 1940. He then enrolled at the University of Western Ontario, London, graduating in honours biology in 1944. He headed the biology department at Cornwall Collegiate for two years, then took his position in Burlington, and after that was a research assistant at McMaster University, Hamilton, for a year. He left the teaching profession to farm at Kitchener for twelve years, and after retiring in 1960, moved to Georgetown. His interests included painting, travelling, gardening and nature

study. In his youth, he played baseball at Forest and Poplar Hill. Mr. West was concerned about the preservation of nature and the pollution problem and population explosion, and had written letters to the Herald Mail Bag on these subjects.

He leaves his wife, Margaret McEwen, whom he married in 1934; three sons, Barry of Oakville, an engineer with Atomic Energy at Sheridan Park Research Centre; Paul, associate professor of chemistry at the University of Victoria, B.C. and Stephen, a veterinarian in Edmonton, Alberta; 8 grandchildren; and brothers and sisters, Mrs. Ada Gammon, Myrtle and Wilfrid West.

Theford, Henry West, Port Franks, Mrs. Emily Gibb, Sarnia, and Mrs. A. E. (Hazel) Deans, Burlington. A sister, Etta, is predeceased. Funeral service was held January 11 at the Gilpin Funeral Home, Theford, conducted by Rev. Peter Bodner, of Theford Free Methodist Church, and Rev. Ernie Campbell, a cousin of Mr. West. Pallbearers were his three sons and Allan Donald and Blake and Dean Anderson, Theford. Flower bearers were George Anderson, Fred Walden, Arthur Lisgow and Bert Anderson, all of Theford. Interment was in Ivan Cemetery, Lobo Township.

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Since Salmonella Publicity

Town Pet Shops Report Turtle Sales Almost Nil

Turtles are still being offered for sale in town, but few people are buying. Both Zellers and the Pet-Pourri in Moore Park have them but report sales are almost nil.

the Hamilton-Wentworth Health Unit asking the Minister of Health to limit the sale of pet turtles to zoos, universities or other post-secondary educational systems.

NORTH HALTON REPORT

During the week ending January 25, officers of the Ontario Provincial Police stationed at North Halton Detachment worked a total of 1,210 hours and travelled 12,297 miles patrolling area roads. Forty-seven drivers were summoned to appear in Provincial Court for traffic violations and an additional 36 drivers received warnings.

Officers received information about 33 general occurrences. This number included: 2 thefts, where investigation resulted in all stolen property being recovered and 5 persons charged with the theft of the property; 1 disturbance, 3 persons charged for violating the Liquor Control Act, 1 trespassing complaint, 1 car reported stolen which was later located and 5 persons charged with the theft of auto, 1 vehicle recovered for another Police Department and 1 snowmobile reported stolen and later recovered. The remaining occurrences were of a minor nature.

Twenty-eight vehicles were involved in 20 collisions which caused damage to estimate \$9,065.00. Three persons were injured in 3 of these collisions while the 17 remaining collisions resulted in property damage only. Two drivers have been summoned to appear in Provincial Court in Milton as a

result of being involved in these collisions and more charges are pending. Causes of these collisions have been attributed to: inattentive driving with drivers travelling too fast for road conditions and losing control, fall to share roadway and fail to yield from private driveway.

Prov. Const. H. H. L. Redpath, North Halton Detachment Accident Prevention Officer spoke to 819 students at Balaclava, Victoria, Flamboro Centre and Guy Brown Public Schools in East Flamboro Twp. about safety. He also spoke to members of the Halton County 4-H Snowmobile Club about snowmobile safety.



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