

Chess Review

By "Hoyle Jr."

In October, 1908, the "chess bug" got in the ear of Chapin Club and buzzed and buzzed. As nothing had been done with chess in the club except the hap-hazard playing of games and no rules were adhered to, it was hard at first to get anything started. Finally with the sanction of the club's president an elimination tournament was started.

It was thought by several of the members and players that this method (lose two games, drop out) was not giving each and every player a fair chance, so Armour's first real chess tournament was started on a percentage basis. The small number of players who enrolled disappointed the management, but taking the optimistic view that the next tourney would be larger, play was started. Nine players—Gonzalez, Hutchings, Brown, Egloff, Zimmerman, Crane, Howell, Aldrich and Bloomfield—entered and played. The first four men finished in the order named, Crane being the fifth. Chapin Club now had a chess team of four men and a substitute, and Aldrich was given the position of manager.

As a chess tournament with Lewis had been arranged for February 19th and 20th, and it was desired to have a team representative of the Tech., a tournament was arranged between the teams of the Engineering societies and the Chapin Club team. This match was also on the percentage basis. The Engineering team consisted of Crane, Mayes, Heim and Zanzig. Gonzalez of Chapin Club quit school at this time, thereby throwing Crane on both teams and hence on the championship team. About two weeks later Brown of Chapin Club resigned from the team on account of outside work, and Egloff of Chapin Club quit school. By the time all this had happened the engineering team had the tournament all their own way. Thus Chapin Club met defeat and the Armour chess team was made up from the Engineering Societies as follows: Mayes, Crane, Heim, Zanzig, Hutchings substitute, and Aldrich manager.

Matches have been arranged for the Armour team with the Central Y. M. C. A., at the Y. M. C. A., and with the University of Illinois, at Champaign, the latter to be played the first week in April. Matches are also being arranged for with Lake Forest University, University of Wisconsin, and Northwestern University.