

## Chess Notes

# 12 CONTESTANTS IN FINAL ROUND

**T**HIS year's Hampshire Individual Championship Tournament promises a close and exciting finish. The position as the 12 contestants go into the seventh and final round is M. Thompson (Southampton) five points from six games, W. H. Pratten (Fareham) 4½ pts. from six games and M. Ventham (Southampton) four pts. from five games.

Portsmouth and District is well represented in this competition, there being seven local players out of the 12 completing the Tournament.

Pairings for the last round are Borland v. Thompson, West v. Pratten, Vine v. Ventham, Russell v. Britton, Henshaw v. Davis, Cullinane v. Martin.

Play has ended in the Counties and District Correspondence Championship. With three results still to come, Hampshire's score against the combined Counties stands 15½ points out of 27 games.

Competition has been keen as the results of this season's play will decide the composition of the two Divisions for the 1959 Championship. Previously, all Counties have been grouped together but in future there will be two, with promotion and relegation on the "2 up and 2 down" principle.

The first 16 counties in the current competition will form the

First Division and it is hoped that Hampshire's score will just be sufficient to put them in this section.

Detailed scores: Bd. 4 H. A. Way (Emsworth) drew with A. Sayers (Durham) Bd. 7 A. C. Barton (Southampton) drew with R. Hayhoe (Suffolk) Bd. 14 G. L. Pritchard (Southampton) beat F. Witham (Cheshire) Bd. 22 D. O'Donovan (Portsmouth) lost by default to J. Atkinson (Cumberland) Bd. 25 H. C. Bailey (Portsmouth) beat F. C. Wilson (Salop and Hereford) Bd. 26 R. W. Davis (Portsmouth) lost to W. H. Thomas (Monmouthshire) Bd. 28 H. J. Draper (Bournemouth) drew with E. Harrison (Berkshire) Bd. 30 W. Rose (Cosham) lost to G. Billingham (Dorset).

The Hampshire Chess Association held its annual meeting at Southampton.

All the retiring Officers were re-elected as follows: President, J. Spedan Lewis; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, S. L. Russell; Match Captain, W. H. Pratten; Delegates to S.C.C.U.—S. L. Russell, M. Ventham and H. L. Parsons. Junior Delegate—T. O. Read; Hon. Auditors—H. L. Parsons and H. A. Carre; Individual Championship Conductor—J. E. C. Grant; Hampshire League Conductor—F. H. Walton.