

Chess Notes

FAREHAM CHESS CLUB considerably strengthened their chances of wresting the championship title of the Portsmouth and District League from Portsmouth when, in the first match of the season in Division I, they decisively defeated the champions.

The issue remained in doubt until the end. On the top board, Carter put up a good fight against Pratten but was two pawns down after 16 moves. He regained one of these later but lost on an oversight when in severe time trouble. Incidentally, this was Carter's first defeat for two-and-a-half years.

On Board Two Martin built up a strong position in the early middle game, but miscalculated a sacrificial attack and emerged from a series of exchanges a piece down. After this, Dr. Pointon's attack never faltered.

Taylor on Board Three allowed his King side pawns to be disrupted for the sake of a strong attack which just failed, and he was a trifle lucky to obtain a draw against Dr. Wells.

Cartmell (Board Four) won a Knight early on, but his loss of development gave Comben a terrific King side attack. The Fareham player defended dourly for over an hour and Comben saw his attack gradually beaten back.

On Board Five, the Chess was of the same high standard, and Johnson found a winning line in the last 15 minutes by sacrificing the exchange to obtain a passed pawn on the Queen side.

In Division II, Fareham "B" team had a comfortable win against Portsmouth Grammar School.

In the Schools' Section Gosport Grammar School had a "double" against St John's College.

Results:—
Senior Section: Division I— Portsmouth "A" 1½, Fareham "A" 3½ (A. Carter 0, W. H. Pratten 1; Dr. A. J. Pointon 1, W. C. Martin 0; Dr. B. G. Wells ½, N. C. Taylor ½; G. L. Comben 0, P. Cartmell 1; J. P. Price 0, F. Johnson 1). **Division II—**Fare-

ham "B" 3½, Portsmouth Grammar "A" 1½ (A. F. Garner ½, P. M. Collins ½; R. Hughes 0, P. Mihalop 1; R. Tyack 1, A. Russell 0; C. Brading 1, A. Fulton 0; T. H. Bayliss 1, T. Moore 0).

Schools Section: Division I—Gosport Grammar "A" 3½, St John's "D" 1½ (Williams ½, Aribarg ½; Rance 0, Miller 1; Jones 1, Cullinane 0; Brameld 1, Dawes 0; Pringle 1, Willcocks 0). **Division II—**St John's "F" 2, Gosport Grammar "B" 3 (Stavert 1, McBeth 0; Brooks 0, Webb 1; Jefferies 0, Marriott 1; Johnson 1, Stubbington 0; Taylor 0, Betteridge 1).

HAMPSHIRE BEATEN

Hampshire suffered a heavy defeat when they played Sussex on Saturday in a Southern Counties Chess Union match (first 20 boards) and an Amboyna Shield match (full 50 boards), the scores standing 6—11 (with three games for adjudication) and 12½—32½ (with five games for adjudication).

Eight games were lost by default, the Bournemouth contingent being chief offenders.

The 12 Portsmouth area players did not do as well as usual and only the two Cosham representatives (G. Richardson on Board 34 and A. D. Crossin on Board 42) won their games. Portsmouth players Dr. A. J. Pointon and W. Makar drew on boards 12 and 22, and the game of A. S. La Lond went for adjudication.

The remaining seven local players all lost their games—Board 10, W. C. Martin (Fareham); Board 13, N. C. Taylor (Fareham); Board 24, D. M. Heywood (Portsmouth); Board 26, J. P. Price (Portsmouth); Board 27, Lieut. D. K. Butler (Portsmouth); Board 33, J. E. C. Grant (Fareham); Board 36, A. F. Garner (Fareham).