

MASTERS AT CHESS MAY PLAY.



Chess enthusiasts are striving hard to effect a series of matches between Pillsbury, the American champion, and Lasker, the world famous European expert, to definitely decide who is the master. At present there are several difficulties in the way of the contest, but it is believed that these can be removed. The above authentic snapshot posed while both celebrities were in New York, is the only photograph in the world showing the two great chess champions seated at one table in an individual game.

FISHING FOR TUNA

In California they do some remarkable things, one of which is the making of towns and cities to order, so to speak. Along the beaches of Southern California can be found little cities, with hotels, stores, dwellings and other buildings, which have sprung into existence within a year or so, standing on sites which were formerly mere patches of sand or woodland. One of the most remarkable of these towns is located on Santa Catalina Island, which lies off the coast not far from the city of Los Angeles. The ocean in the vicinity of the island is noted as being the home of the tuna, one of the gamiest fishes which are taken with the rod, while the water is so clear that the wonderful marine growth on the bottom can be distinctly

seen at a depth of from forty to sixty feet. The island also contains one of the finest bathing beaches in the world, while the water is of such a temperature that it can be enjoyed while people in the eastern states are wrapped in furs—in midwinter.

A few years ago the northern end of the island was bought by a company which finally decided to establish a full fledged town, although only one or two buildings stood upon the site. Within one year the valley selected for the community was built up along the beach front with a score of hotels and pavilions, while back of them were erected hundreds of tents, giving the place the appearance of a military encampment.

As already stated, the town site is owned by one company, and this corporation has absolute control of the community, enacting its own laws, providing the necessary police force, and, as it owns the principal structures, it is also a theatrical manager and general

amusement provider. The president of the company has as absolute dominion over the people as the Czar has in Russia, but thus far the system of government has been satisfactory and the place is steadily increasing in popularity.

The tents are used principally in the summer time. The town is nearly deserted in the spring except for the fishermen. About May the company sends a gang of men to the island and in a few days they have erected the long rows of tents, changing the appearance of the place as if by magic. This part of the town is stowed away during the spring in a large circus tent which contains not only the canvas, but furniture, carpets, oil stoves, dishes and other household articles which are rented by the company with each tent. They are equipped and are ready to be hired by the day or the season, so that the visitor can go to Catalina with merely the clothes on his back and what he can carry in a grip-sack or trunk. Everything else is pro-

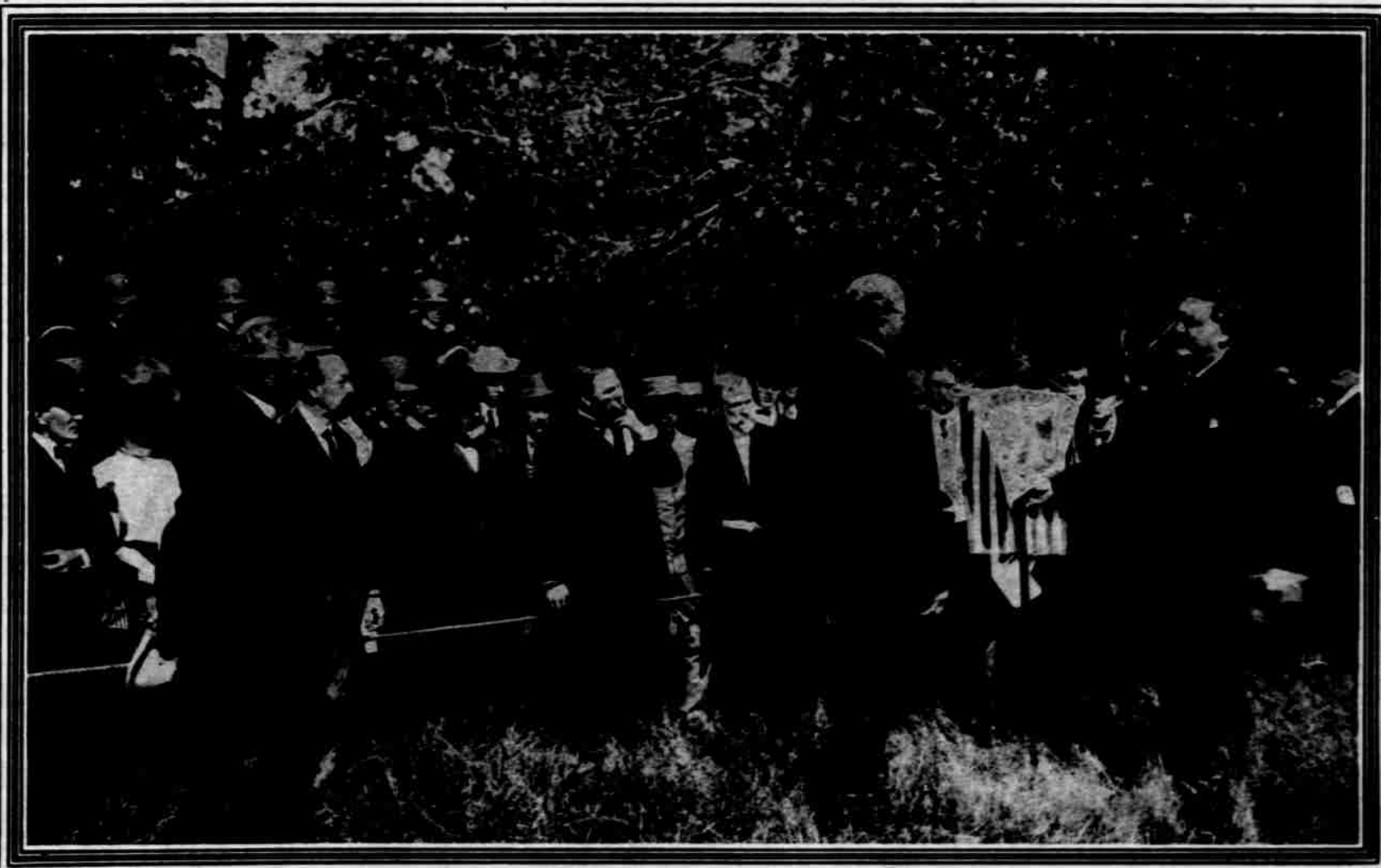
vided for him. There is a general store where provisions, drygoods and other necessities are sold at the ordinary prices; a postoffice and telegraph office, while the town supports a newspaper during the principal season. In addition to summer opera, band concerts are given daily at expense of the committee.

The tuna are caught both from sailboats and rowboats immediately offshore, and some wonderful specimens of this fish, as well as others of the finny tribe, have been taken. Tuna actually weighing over 400 pounds have been caught with the hook and line, although in some cases the fishermen were obliged to "play" them three or four hours before the fish became sufficiently exhausted to be drawn up to the boat and gaffed. Frequently specimens are caught which are twice the weight of and actually longer than their captors. They are to the Pacific what the famous tarpon is to the Gulf of Mexico, and resemble the latter greatly in their gaminess, although not so attractive in appearance.

Naturalists say the tuna is the largest fish in the world that "played" with the rod. For the reason a great rivalry exists as to who can take the largest fish. Some of the women of Southern California are experts in the sport, and not a few of them have taken prizes for catching the largest during the season. A Brooklyn woman, however, is the record breaker. She is Mrs. A. W. Barrett, who in 1901 actually hooked and brought to the boat a monster weighing 416 pounds, although it took her nearly half a day to tire the tuna so that it could be reached by the boatman with his gaff. Other successful fishers among the women are Mrs. E. N. Dickinson, of Pasadena, and Mrs. Gardner, one of the residents of Avalon.

Perhaps the most curious feature about this curious resort is the submarine scenery already alluded to. The ocean is really a natural aquarium, containing a forest of seaweed of all the colors of the rainbow, and not only fish of various kinds, but curious marine creatures crawling about the bottom, can be seen without difficulty. The bay contains such a variety of phosphorescent forms of life that the bottom is actually illuminated at times as if lamps had been placed upon it. To allow an opportunity to study the aquarium boats containing large plates of glass in their hulls have been constructed. Some of these are large enough to be driven by engines and hold twenty or thirty persons. As they pass slowly over the surface of the water the occupants might imagine themselves swimming or floating on its surface, as the glass is perfectly transparent. The effect produced is weird, for it seems as if one were being held out of the water by magic.

SELECTING A SITE FOR THE NEBRASKA EXHIBIT.



The above illustration is from a photograph taken on the grounds of the St. Louis exposition on the occasion of the ceremony at which the state of Nebraska was allotted a space for an exhibit. Former Governor Savage appears in the foreground, while W. B. Price, of Lincoln, who officiated as orator for Nebraska at the ceremony, is shown in the middle of the picture with one hand uplifted to his chin and the other holding his hat. This illustration is reproduced by courtesy of the World's Fair Bulletin, of St. Louis, the official organ of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.