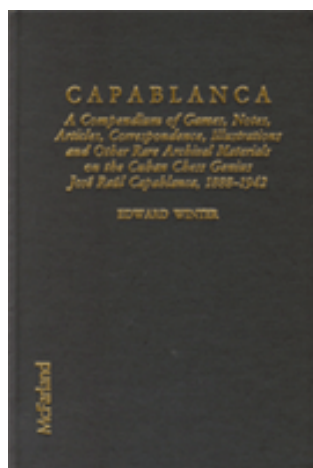




SKITTLES ROOM

From the Archives

Hosted by
Mark Donlan



From the Archives...

Since it came online many years ago, ChessCafe.com has presented literally thousands of articles, reviews, columns and the like for the enjoyment of its worldwide readership. The good news is that almost all of this high quality material remains available in the [Archives](#). The bad news is that this great collection of chess literature is now so large and extensive – and growing each week – that it is becoming increasingly difficult to navigate it effectively. We decided that the occasional selection from the archives posted publicly online might be a welcomed addition to the regular fare.

Watch for an item to be posted online periodically throughout each month. We will update the ChessCafe.com home page whenever there has been a “new” item posted here. We hope you enjoy *From the Archives*...

José Capablanca Letter

May 18, 1923

Norbert Lederer was one of the great chess organizers in the United States in the 1920s. Among tournaments that he organized were the legendary New York 1924 and 1927 tournaments. In the spring of 1923, he had written to the world champion, José Capablanca, inquiring about the possibility of Capablanca participating in an upcoming tournament. Capa's reply...

(Russell Collection #1552)
From: J.R. Capablanca
To: Norbert Lederer
Date: May 18, 1923

Dear Mr. Lederer:

Your letter of the 5th at hand. As a general proposition I do not have any interests in small tournaments. I have decided not to play except in tournaments of importance provided I get a large enough retainer. I make of course exceptions to this rule when I think the circumstances warrant it. I do believe that chess needs to be boosted in the U.S. and to that effect I shall be willing to play, provided that the first prize be no less than \$1,000 and the 2d \$700. My retainer would be \$1,000 and I should receive in addition any expenses that may be allowed to the other players for travelling and living purposes. That would be the minimum. If you think you can raise the money let me know so as to fix the date as well as the playing conditions that I would consider necessary for my participation.

Wishing you success in any case I remain

Sincerely yours



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