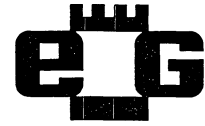
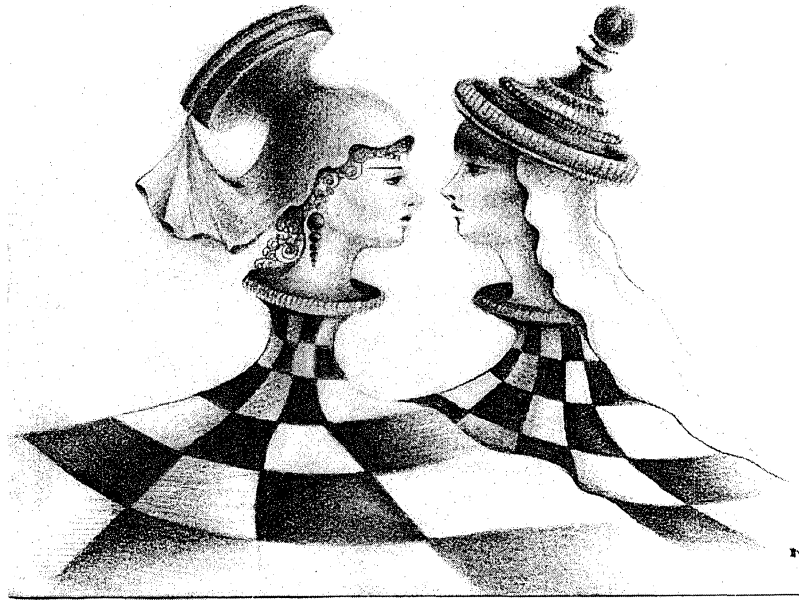

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TABLEBASES and TABLES

Guy Haworth

To restore something lost in translation as reported in EG/36 p120, the first use of the word *tablebase* in connection with endgames can be traced to Edwards (1995) as acknowledged in Nalimov *et al* (1999).

Previously, computed endgame files had usually been referred to as *databases* (Herik *et al*, 1986). The words *database* and *tablebase* may be thought both cumbersome and inappropriate by some. The computed files are essentially no more than straight lists of tables of position values and depths in some metric. In contrast, a future *database* proper might contain a wide range of interesting information about chess endgames.

This contributor has a preference for the term *Endgame Table* (EGT).

Edwards, S.J. and the Editorial Board (1995). An examination of the Endgame KBNKN. *ICCA Journal*, Vol.18, No.3, pp.160-168.

Herik, H.J. van den and Herschberg, I.S. (1986). A Data Base on Data Bases. *ICCA Journal*, Vol.9, No.1, pp.29-34.

Nalimov, E.V., Wirth, C., and Haworth, G.McC. (1999). KQKQKQ and the Kasparov-World Game. *ICCA Journal*, Vol.22, No.4, pp.195-212.

We thank Guy Haworth for the above clarification. We think we now have a tentative EG editorial policy on the matter of terminology. It is this. A distinction worth preserving is one between a term that is meaningful to programmers (who as a group do not read EG) and a term that is meaningful to EG's general readership. An EGT is of the former type, an oracle database (or *odb*) is of the latter. A more technical distinction between EGT and *odb* would be, we suggest, that an EGT, of great use though it might be, does not require independent verification: two or more EGT's for the same endgame are not required to agree. An *odb* on the other hand, as befits the word 'oracle', will either have, or await, independent confirmation as the repository of immutable truth about its subject-matter endgame. Errors in an *odb* must be corrected. An *odb* will therefore be accepted, if not at once then eventually, as the last word on solution depths and numbers of distinct won and not-won positions as the latter are understood by chessplayers across the world. Although several 'metrics' are current, and discussion of metrics is of broad interest, such discussion does not belong in EG. We hope that for the sake of long-term clarity the 'ultimate' metric will be used whenever verification of an *odb* is called for. AJR



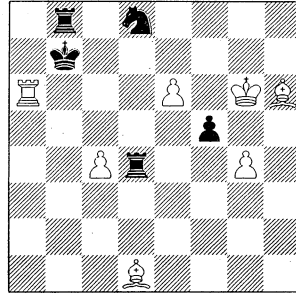
In this column this time AJR's report on his mirror-mate tourney announced in our first column some two years ago. For a while it seemed that the tourney might collapse for lack of entries. I had only one submission, a study by Hillel Aloni with a spectacular main line supported by a thicket of side-variations. Harold van der Heijden went several extra miles checking the analysis. Unfortunately he found that the study was unsound, as was a proposed fix by Aloni. But all ended well: Aloni found a sound setting and scored with it at the Ntanya 2000 Congress, in a tourney calling for studies with Knight promotion; meanwhile a sound position was sent to AJR directly. See the report below for the winning position and other relevant diagrams.

REPORT

by John Roycroft
the pattern -

R1 J.Roycroft and D.Blundell
(EG112.9284)

2nd honourable mention, van
Reek *Boris* ty, 1993



g6b7 0723.31 7/5 Win
1.e7 Sc6 2.Rxc6 Kxc6 3.Ba4+ Kd6
4.Bf8 Rxc4+ 5.Kxf5 Rg8 6.e8S
mate.

David Blundell nobly performed most of the analytical leg-work needed to set AJR's idea. The 8-man pure and economical mirror mate finale is ideal, and the ambushing wBf8 arrives there in the course of the solution, but the somewhat obscure lead-in play and the shortish length plead for better. Hence -

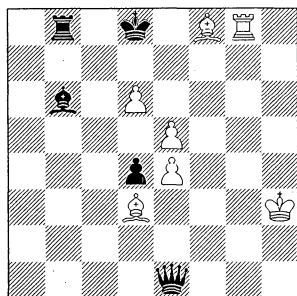
the challenge - EG128 (p322)

To produce the same economical finale (give or take minor detail) as *R1* but with one or two more moves and with greater clarity in the supporting play.

the candidates -

R2 V.S.Kovalenko, 1997
(EG128.10968)

version by AJR vi2000

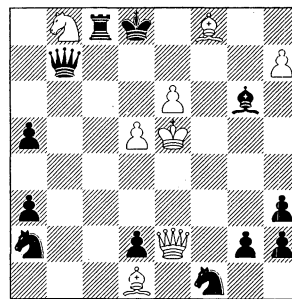


h3d8 3450.31 7/5 Win
1.e6 Qh1+ 2.Kg4 Qg2+ 3.Kf5
Qxg8 4.e7+ Kc8 5.Ba6+/i Kd7
6.Bb5+ Kxd6 7.e8S mate.
i) 5.e8Q+? Kb7 6.Qd7+ Ka8
7.Qa4+ Ba7 8.Qc6+ Rb7 is no
more than a draw.

AJR, who had invited Kovalenko to try his hand: The finale is acceptable, even if (because of the extra black bishop) not ideal, and the try on move 5 - a promotion to queen with check - is a glorious lure. The static wBf8, *in situ* throughout, is the sole blemish. HvdH drew attention to *Spotlight* in EG129 (p332) where (without bPd4) 3...Qh3+ is shown to draw. We can but hope that the addition of the black pawn saves the day.

R3 Hillel Aloni

2nd prize, WCCC Israeli ty,
Netanya 1999



e5d8 4357.36 8/12 BTM, Win
The full analysis that follows was
supplied by the composer in i2000.

1.h8Q/i Qb2+/ii 2.Kf4 Qxh8/iii
3.e7+ Kc7 4.d6+/iv Kxd6/v
5.Qe6+/vi Kxe6/vii (Kc5;Qxc8+)
6.Bb3+ Kd6 (Kf6;Sd7 mate) 7.e8S
mate.

i) 1.h8R? Qb2+ 2.Kf4 Qf6+. Or
1.h8B? Qc7+ 2.Kf6 Qf4+ 3.Kg7
Qd4+ 4.Kg8 Bh7+ 5.Kxh7 Qh4+
6.Qh5 Qe4+ 7.Kh6 Qf4+ 8.Kh7
Qxf8. Or 1.e7+? Kc7 2.Sa6+ Qxa6
3.Qxa6 g1Q 4.d6+ Kb8 5.Qb5+,
perpetual check only. 1.Be7+?
Qxe7 2.h8Q+ Be8, and White will
not win.

ii) Kc7 2.Bd6+ Kb6 3.Qd8+ Rxd8
4.Qf2+. Or Be8 2.Qf6+ Kc7
3.Bd6+ Kb6 4.fQf2+. Or Qh7
2.Qf6+ Kc7 3.Bd6+. Or Qxd5+
2.Kxd5 Sc3+ 3.Kd6.

iii) Kc7 3.Bd6+ Kxd6 4.Qa6+. Or
Rc4+ 3.Qxc4. Or g1Q 3.Bg7+
Ke7/viii 4.d6+ Kxd6 5.Be5+ Kd5
6.Qf3+ Kc4 7.Qxc8+. Or Rxb8
3.Qh4+ Kc8 4.Qc4+ Kb7 5.Qe7+
mates.

iv) 4.Qc4+? Kxb8 5.Qb5+ Ka7

6.Qxa5+ Kb7 draw. Or 4.Sa6+? Kb7 5.Qb5+ Ka7 6.Qd7+ Kb6 draw. Or 4.e8S+? Bxe8 5.Bd6+ Kxd6 6.Qe6+ Kc7.

v) Kxb8 5.Qb5+ Ka7 6.Qxa5+ Kb7 7.Bf3+ Rc6 8.Qc7+ Ka6 9.Be2+ mates. Or Kb6 5.Sd7+ Kc6 (Ka7;Qf2+) 6.Qc4+ Kxd6 7.e8S+ Kxd7 8.Ba4+ mates.

vi) 5.e8Q+? Qxf8+ 6.Qxf8+ Rxf8+ with g1Q. Or 5.Qa6+? Kd5 6.Qxa5+ Kd4 7.Qd8+ Kc3 8.Qxc8+ Kb2 is enough.

There is also: 5.e8S+? Kd5 6.Qb5+ (Qe6+,Kd4;) Kd4 7.Qd7+/ix Kc3 8.Bg7+ Qxg7 9.Qxg7+ Kd3 10.Qxg6+ Kc3 11.Qc2+/x Kd4 12.Qxc8 g1Q 13.Sc6+ Kc3 14.Sxa5+ Kb4 15.Qc4+ Kxa5, with a continuation like 16.Qa4+ Kb6 17.Qb3+ Kc5 18.Qxa3+ Kd4, no win for White.

vii) Kc5 6.Qxc8+ Kd4 7.Qc5+ Kxc5 (Kd3;Qc2+) 8.e8Q+ Qxf8+/xi 9.Qxf8+ Kb5/xii 10.Sd7 g1Q 11.Qb8+ Kc4(Kc6) 12.Se5+ Kd5 13.Qd8+ Kc5 14.Qc7+ mates.

viii) Kc7 4.Qc4+ Kd6 5.Bf8+. Or Be8 4.e7+ Kc7 5.Be5+, and Qxe5+ 6.hQxe5+ Kb6 7.Qa6+ Kc5 8.d6+, or Kb6 6.Qa6+ Kc5 7.Bd6+ Kxd5 8.Bb3+ wins.

ix) 7.Qa4+? Rc4 wins. 7.Bg7+? Qxg7 8.Sxg7 Rf8+ wins. 7.Qb6+? Kc3 8.Bg7+ Qxg7 9.Sxg7 Rc4+ 10.Ke5 Sb4, is OK for Black.

x) 11.Qf6+ Kd3 12.Qf5+ Kc3 13.Qxh3+/xiii Kb2 14.Qxg2 Rxe8 15.Sd7 Rg8 16.Qxf1 Rg1.

xi) 8...Kd4 9.Qa4+ Sb4 10.Sc6+, and Kc4 11.Sxa5+ Kd3 12.Qb5+ mates, or Kd3 11.Sxb4+ axb4

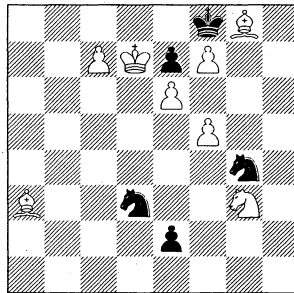
12.Qc2+ Kd4 13.Bc5+ Kd5 14.Bf3+ Ke6 15.Qc4+ mates.

xii) 9...Kd4 10.Sd7 Kd3 11.Qd6+ Kc3 12.Qxa3+ wins. Or 9...Kc4 10.Qc8+ Kd4 11.Sd7 wins.

xiii) 13.Qxc8+ Kb2 14.Qc2+ Ka1. Or 13.Qe5+ Kd3 14.Qd5+ (Sd6,Sb4;) Kc3 15.Qb3+ Kd4 16.Be2 Sb4.

AJR: The final white economy is exactly what we hoped for (the extra mate is a small bonus). The ancillary sacrifices of wQ startle, but other aspects, especially the quantity of black wood needed to restrain wQ's alternative moves, are less satisfactory. The mating wBf8 finishes where it started out.

R4 D.Gurgenidze: no.58 in *Simplicity, Lightness, Beauty* (Tbilisi, 1999)



d7f8 0027.42 8/5 BTM, Win 1...dSe5+ 2.Kc8 e1Q 3.Kb7 Qb1+ 4.Ka8 Qc2. "The situation has quietened down after the initial flurry, but now White initiates a series of sacrifices." 5.Bxe7+ Kxe7 6.f6+ Sxf6 7.Sf5+ Qxf5 8.c8S+ Kxe6 9.f8S mate.

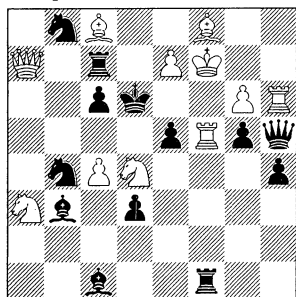
AJR: Fun, the solution length is perfect, and there can be no quarrel

with the variations. But the obligatory mirror is no longer visible - and the ambush bish is already in place. The study was composed and sent in response to the EG challenge but was never delivered.

the incidental -

The earliest example of this particular mating double check that AJR has found is in a two-move problem, quoted (diagram 113D) in *The Good Companion Two-Mover*, the 1922 volume in the A.C.White Christmas series.

R5 W.C.Muller, jr.
2nd honourable mention, *Good Companion*, ii1920



f7d6 4888.35 11/13 mate in 2.

key: *Qa5*. Threat: *Qxe5*. If *Sd7* *2.e8S* mate, a double check. One has to say that, overlooking economy and the absent mirror, although the S-promotion is compulsory, the checkmate would still be checkmate without *wBf8*. The problem shows five unpins, by the way, so the double check is irrelevant to the problem theme.

the award -

The honour of winning this composing challenge goes to the Russian Far East composer Vitaly Kovalenko, who will be sent EG during 2000 - he already has the TTCI announced as prize in EG128. It was most gratifying to have received the other two entries, both of which have their strong - even spectacular - features, along with less strong ones. David Blundell and I can perhaps be relieved that the ambush move by *wB (4.Bf8)* in *R1* stays untrumped.

London
vi2000

SPOTLIGHT
editor: Jürgen Fleck



Many thanks to Spotlight's contributors Marco Campioli (Italy), Noam Elkies (Israel/USA), Peter Gyarmati (Hungary), Harold van der Heijden, W.G.Sanderse (both Netherlands), Jan Lerch (Czech Republic), Alain Pallier (France) and Michael Roxlau (Germany).

EG 136

No 11491, L.Mitrofanov,V.Razumenko. A dual win: 1.Be5+ Kh7 2.c7 Sxc5+ (2.... e2 3.c8Q e1Q 4.Qc7+ Kh6 5.Kf5 and wins; or 2.... c1Q 3.c8Q and wins) 3.Ke7 c1Q 4.c8Q with a winning attack, e.g. 4.... e2 5.Qf5+ or 4.... Qf1 5.Qg4.

No 11492, V.Prigunov. Note i) is faulty. The correct defence after 3.Kb2 Sb5 4.Sf5 is 4.... Ke8 (not 4.... Sc7 5.a7 c4 6.Sd4 Ke7 7.Ka3 c3 8.Kxa4 c2 9.Sxc2 Kxe6 10.Ka5 and wins) 5.Ka2 Sc7 6.a7 Kd8 7.Se3 Sa8 8.Sd5 c4 9.Kb2 Ke8 and White cannot make progress.

No 11495, V.Razumenko. Unsound. There are several cooks: 4.... Qa6; or 2.... Qb6+ 3.Ka4 Qa6+ 4.Kb3 Qxd3+; or 1.... Qd5+ 2.Qxd5 e1Q+ 3.Kb5 Sxd5.

No 11499, B.Gusev. No solution, after 2.... Kg7 3.Rh4 Kg6 White will lose his only pawn, e.g. 4.Sd5 Kg5 5.Ke2 Re3+ 6.Sxe3 Kxh4.

No 11500, V.Vinichenko. No solution, 3.... Be5+ 4.Ka2 Bd6 mates in a few moves.

No 11501, E.Kolesnikov. There is an attractive dual draw: 4.Kb2 (threatening to exchange a knight by Se6-d4/c5-b3) Se5 5.Sc5 Sc4+ 6.Kb1 Sd2+ 7.Kc2 Ke2 8.Sd3 Sxd3 stalemate (8.... Scb3 9.Kb2).

No 11502, O.Kovbasa. No solution, 5.... h2 6.Kg2 Kc4 7.c6 Kd5 draws. However, simply reversing the colours turns this into a nice little study. The manoeuvre Ka4-b3-c4-d5 is far from obvious.

No 11503, V.Neistadt. Does White really draw after, say, 5.... Qe5 6.Qc2 Kxd6?

No 11505, S.Tkatchenko. There is a small dual: 10.Sxd5 Bd1 11.Sc3 Bh5 12.Sc6.

No 11508, V.Dolgov,V.Kolpakov. This study caused a collective groan among Spotlight's contributors. We limit ourselves to giving just one cook: 20.Qh5 wins on the spot (20.... Qd6 21.Qe8+ Qf8 22.Rh8+).

No 11511, G.Nekhaev. Unsound: White also wins after 1.Qe8+ Kb7 2.Qf7+ Ka8 (there is no better square: 2.... Kc6 3.Qxe6+ Kb7 4.Qxf5; or 2.... Kb8 3.Bxf4) 3.Bxf4 Qxg2 4.Qxe6 and wins.

No 11512, A.Selivanov. A dual win: 5.Ke7 Bd6+ 6.Ke8 Se4 7.Kf7 Sg5+ 8.Kg6. The Rinck mentioned in the notes is, according to Alain Pallier, f7h1 0033.10 e3a5.e6 2/3+ (Basler Nachrichten 1951), 1.f7 Sb7 2.Ke6 Sc5+ 3.Kd6 Se4+ 4.Ke5 Bf4(d4)+ 5.Kxf4(d4) and wins.

No 11513, V.Kovalenko. In the line 1.... axb6 the white moves can be played in almost any order: 5.Kc7, 4.b5 or 3.b5 are all possible.

No 11515, V.Kalyagin. The solution should read 3.Kf4 (the given 3.Rd1 fails to Sf2+) g3 4.Rd1 Kd8. However, the study is unsound. There is a dual draw by 2.Kc6 Kd8 3.Rg2 and Black is stuck for a move: 3.... Rh6+ 4.Kd5 Rg6 5.Ke5 and the g-pawn is lost.

No 11517, V.Kotov. Alain Pallier draws attention to EG 113.9579, which is similar.

No 11519, V.Tarasiuk, S.Tkatchenko. Alain Pallier rightly remarks that "... the debate – anticipated or not – would be clearer with the Yakimtchik". Here it is: V.Yakimtchik, Shakhmaty v SSSR 1957, d4f6 0057.11 d6e8f8c5b7f1.d3d2 5/5=, 1.Se4+ Ke6 2.Bd7+ (2.Sxd2? Bg7+) Kxd7 3.Sxd2 Bg7+ 4.Be5 Bxe5+ 5.Kd5 Sxd2 6.d4 Sd8 (6.... Bh8 stalemate) 7.dxe5 Se6 stalemate.

No 11527, V.Kovalenko. Unsound, 1.Rh4 is a simple win on material (1.... Qxa2 fails to 2.Rg3+, 3.Rf4+, 4.Re3+; 5.Rf8 mate).

Noam Elkies wonders whether the position arising after 1.Rh2 Qxa2 is not a technical win for White (2.Rg2+ Kf7 3.Rf3+ Ke8 4.Rg4, creating a haven for the king at g3, looks like a sensible sequence). Endgame theory doesn't tell us much about the GBR-class 3200.10, but there is some evidence from master play that a knight pawn wins (given a consolidated initial position), e.g. Chigorin-Janowsky, Karlsbad 1907; Chistiakov-Livshin, USSR championship semi-finals Rostov on Don 1953; Rodriguez-Janetschek, Olympiad Skopje 1972; Najdorf-Ribli, Wijk aan Zee 1973; Van der Wiel-Winants, Brussels 1987. Unfortunately, there don't seem to be any reasonably well-played examples with a knight pawn. However, this cannot make a dramatic difference, so my money is on a win for White.

No 11529, S.Osintsev. Ken Thompson's 6-man-database on the internet claims its first victim. Black wins by 7.... Kh5, when White cannot untangle his miserably placed pieces: 8.Kb1 Ba8 (good move!) 9.Kc1 Re2 10.Sd1 (10.Kd1 Re3 11.Bb8 Bf3+) Kg4 11.Bd6 (11.Bf2 Be4) Be4 12.Ba3 Rc2+ 13.Kb1 Kf3 14.Ka1 Ke2 15.Sb2 Rc1+ 16.Ka2 Bd5+ and wins.

This win hardly comes as a surprise, as White is already very constricted in the initial position, but in fact the GBR-class 0143 with opposite-coloured bishops is a general win! There doesn't even seem to be a fortress with this material force.

No 11530, G.Nekhaev. No solution, Black wins by 2.... Kd4 3.Rxh1 Rxh1, as suggested by Peter Gyarmati. Black threatens b3-b2-b1Q, which leads to a winning ending rook vs knight, thanks to the clumsy position of both wK and wS. So White must try 4.Sf4 b2 5.Se6+ Kc4, but suddenly he finds himself in trouble along the 5th and 6th rank, e.g. 6.Sc7 (6.Sd8 Rh5+) Rh5+ 7.Ka4 (7.Kb6 Rh6) Rc5 8.Se8 Rc6 and wins. Remarkable!

No 11534, S.Radchenko. A dual draw: 4.Rh1 Rh5 5.Kf6 Kh7 6.Ra1 h2 7.Ra7+ Kh6 8.Ra8 (4.Kf6 Kh7 5.Rh1 Rh5 leads to the same line).

No 11541, V.Kovalenko. Alain Pallier cannot find the 2 active self-blocks promised in the notes (nor can I) and provides us with the Mouterde: b8a6 1000.08 e5.a2b5c5d3e3f3g3h3 2/9+ (La Stratégie 1922, 4th prize).

No 11542, A.Kuryatnikov, E.Markov. The solution should run 3.... Qxg8+

4.Kxg8. The authors' sequence 3... Qh2+ 4.Kg7 Qg3+ 5.Kxf7 Qxg8+ leads to the same position, except that Black has lost a pawn on the way. So why should Black play like this? Besides, this allows the deviation 5.Kf8, which may win as well.

No 11543, V.Kondratev. No solution: after 5... S8d7 White does not succeed in exchanging a pair of knights, e.g. 6.Sc6+ (6.Kf7 Se4) Kc5 7.Se5 Se8+ 8.Kf7 Sd6+ 9.Ke6 Sf8+ 10.Ke7 Sh7 11.Sd7+ Kc6.

No 11546, V.Kondratev. This award has appeared before in EG 123 and some of the studies included were found unsound. This one is defective, too: in the line 1... f2 there is a dual win by 4.Re7+ Kg8 5.Re8+ Kh7 6.Kf7 Kh6 (6... f1Q+ 7.Bf6) 7.Bf6 Kh5 8.Re4 and 9.Rh4 mate.

p.92, SSSS-Q. Noam Elkies recalls a famous study by Troitzky that he expected to see in this article: A.Troitzky, Deutsche Schachzeitung 1912, d5c7 3005.21 g6a5g4c4.a7f7h3 5/4+, 1.a8S+ Kd7 2.f8S+ Kc8 3.Sxg6 Se3+ 4.Sxe3 (but not 4.Ke4 Sxg4 5.Kf3 Se3 6.Kg3 Sd5 draw!) h2 5.Sb6+ Kc7 6.Kc5 h1Q 7.Sed5+ Kd8 (or 7... Kb8 8.Sge7 Qg1+ 9.Kb5 Qf1+ 10.Sbc4 and wins) 8.Sc6+ Ke8 9.Sce5 and Black is slowly pushed off the board, e.g. 9... Qc1+ 10.Kd6 Qa3+ 11.Kc6 Qc1+ (or 11... Qb3 12.Sgf4 Qc2+ 13.Kd6 Qd2 14.Se6 Qb4+ 15.Sc5 Qa3 16.Sbd7 Qg3 17.Sc7+ Kd8 18.S5e6+ Kc8 19.Sd5 Qa3+ 20.Sdc5) 12.Sbc4 Kd8 13.Sgf4 Kc8 14.Se6 Kb8 15.Kd7. In his collection "Sbornik Sachmatnych Etyudov" Troitzky devotes 4 pages to the analysis of this study in order to prove a win once the knights are co-ordinated. Given that Troitzky was the first one to explore this ending, it is indeed a little surprising that Bondar didn't include this study in his article.

M2, p.97, R.Retí. The rook belongs on g3, in order to prevent the dual 1.Bg4 Kd2 2.Bxe2 Kxe2 3.Kc1 f3 4.Ra2+ Ke1 5.Ra8 f2 6.Re8+ (Cheron). The study contains a second mate after 2... Kd1 3.Bg4 e1Q 4.Rd3 mate.

M3, p.97, I.Alyoshin, B.Sevitov. "While rather striking I'm afraid that this is of limited value as an endgame study, quite aside of the matter of new *C* knowledge on 0116. After all, the solution is only two moves long, with Black having the star moves which however serve only to produce a position where White still has a technical win. Since *C* can now be consulted on a specific position, I have been able to verify that the position after 2... b1S is in fact a White win, and a rather quick one at 10 moves. As expected, any "reasonable" White move maintains the win, though possibly pushing it back a long way. Unexpectedly, the composers' analysis is far from optimal: 3.Bc1? already gives 14 moves, and by the time we reach 6.Re1? White is 41 moves from the win with best play. The point is 7... Kg2! (instead of Kf2) when 8.Kc5 Sf2! and the fork threat gives Black a second wind. Even after 7... Kf2(?) 8.Kc5 Sb2! Black holds on for another 25 moves. The fast win is 3 Bb4!, abandoning the battery to contain the Knights. 3.Ba5(e1) are only a move longer. If wK is placed on c8 rather than c7 then 3.Bb4! wins in only 5

moves since Black has fewer last-ditch checks; but even then White has 3.Ba5(e1) winning in 7, and various other moves that further lengthen the win, so the position still does not rate very high as an endgame study. Perhaps one can get something out of it by moving wK to g8 and adding a bS on g7. Still a miniature, and White wins by 1.Be3 d1S 2.Bd2 b1S 3 Bc1, this time unique and reaching the strange 0119. This must be drawn in general, but here Black cannot hold on to all three Knights, and once White converts to 0116 we can conclude 'and wins'." (Noam Elkies).

M5, p.98, A.Manyakhin. Unsound. There are dual wins by 5.Ra7 Kb1 6.Be4 and 1.Bg2 (waiting) c5 2.Bd5 c4 3.Ke4 c3 4.Kd3 c2 5.Rc7.

p103, A.Kopnin. "I was never told what the intended 'main line' was, so that this is the first time I saw the composer's intention. I'm afraid that if the artistic content requires '8.Rh2(!)' then the study is in fact unsound because 8.Sb5 wins as quickly, and in the variations following 8.Rh2 White also has alternatives at some points, as noted in the end of my report (printed on p.104)." (Noam Elkies)

DIAGRAMS AND SOLUTIONS



editors: John Roycroft
Harold v.d. Heijden

PROBLEM (Yugoslavia), 1979-1981

This informal international tourney is also known as *PROBLEM XI*. Judge: announced as G.Nadareishvili. Many solutions remained unpublished, and no award was ever made, due to the cessation of the magazine with its final number in vii1981. The judge subsequently died. With the approval of Josip Varga of the Organising Committee of the Croatian Chess Federation (the inheritors of *PROBLEM*), EG has been proud to organise this tidying-up award. Among the surviving composers contacted, we thank Messrs Dvizov, Kralin, Neidze, Rusinek and Vrabc for their assistance. We also thank V.Samilo and David Blundell. The key figure was arch solver and FIDE grandmaster of the genre, Pauli Perkonjoja of Finland, who had solved in *PROBLEM*'s heyday, for Pauli agreed to be latter-day judge. Invited to comment on his career, he writes:

"My *solving* career began with the Swedish *Tidskrift för Schack*, where I won the annual solving championship several times, but the genuine school for me was Russian chess problem literature and the

monthly *Shakhmaty v SSSR*, to which I took out a subscription. I can't remember precisely when I came across the Yugoslav *Problem* - suddenly it seemed to arrive with other mail. Well, there it was, and I simply sent in solutions, first to the studies and then to problems. I'm very grateful to Harold Lommer and to Alexander Hildebrand for their support at the start of my *composing* career."

In the solutions that follow, 'PP' signifies Pauli Perkonoja. EG had hoped to enlist the cooperation of GM Milan Vukceвич (USA), who had also been associated with the studies in *PROBLEM*, but contact was unfortunately lost after the grandmaster's agreement to act as judge had been received. The GM of composition features on the cover of, and in two articles in, the October 1998 issue of *Chess Life*, reporting his acceptance into the United States Chess Federation's 'Hall of Fame'.

The numbering of *PROBLEM* magazine has never been satisfactorily explained. The issue numbers relating to the eleventh and final study tourney of *PROBLEM*, the serial numbers of the 45 study diagrams, and the dates the issues carried, are:

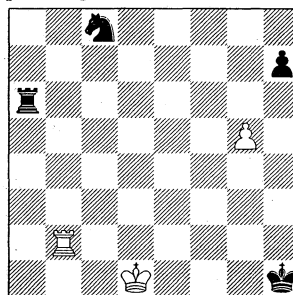
"188-193"	352-360	v1979
"194-197"	361-369	xii1979
"198-201"	370-378	vii1980
"202-205"	379-387	xii1980
"206-210"	388-396	vii1981

The barest solutions were published

up to 369 only. Solutions to 370-396 were never published. For the historical record EG now prints the best available versions of these missing solutions - some of them in the award - thanks mainly to Pauli Perkonoja.

Judge's report: "45 studies participated, of which at least 13 were incorrect. The level was not very high, despite *PROBLEM* in those days being the official organ of the 'Problem' FIDE. I have selected 14 studies to be honoured. This is perhaps too many, but how can one say 'no' to a study when one has said 'yes' to another study of the same quality? Really I was convinced in only one instance, that of the best study of this tourney."

No 11576 Vasily Dolgov
prize [375 in *PROBLEM* 198-201]

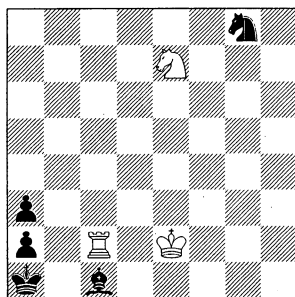


d1h1 0403.11 3/4 Draw
No 11576 Vasily Dolgov
(Dmitrievskaya) Pauli Perkonoja
(=PP): 1.Rb8 Se7 2.Rh8 Ra1+
3.Ke2 Ra2+ 4.Kf3 Ra3+/i 5.Kg4
Ra4+ 6.Kf3 Rh4 7.Re8 Rh3+
(Sf5;Re5) 8.Kg4 Re3 9.Rh8 Re4+
10.Kf3 Rh4 11.Re8 Rh3+ 12.Kg4
Re3 13.Rh8 draw.

i) The solution to 1224 in Akobia's *World Anthology* (Vol.3, 1995) continues: 4...Rh2 5.Re8 Rh3+ 6.Kg4 Re3 7.Rh8 Re4+, effectively the same.

"A natural game position in miniature form with lively play without any capture leading into an interesting merry-go-round. A real masterpiece."

No 11577 Franjo Vrabec
1st hon. mention [393 in
PROBLEM 206-210]



e2a1 0134.02 3/5 Draw

No 11577 Franjo Vrabec (Ljubija)
The composer and PP: 1.Kd1 Bb2
2.Rc1+ Bxc1 3.Kc2 (Kxc1? Sxe7);
with:

- Bd2 (Sxe7;Kxc1) 4.Sf5/i Bc3
5.Sg3 Sf6 6.Se2 Sd5/ii 7.Sxc3
Sxc3 8.Kc1 draw, or

- Be3 4.Sc6 Bb6 5.Se5 Sf6 6.Sc4
Sd5 7.Sxb6 Sxb6 8.Kc1 draw,
which PP suggests as the main line.

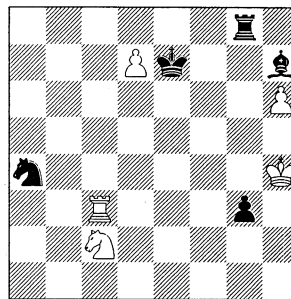
i) 4.Sxg8? Bg5. 4.Sd5? Sh6.

4.Sc6? Bc3 5.Sa7 Sf6 6.Sb5 Bb2.

ii) Bb2 7.Sc1 Bxc1 8.Kxc1 draw.

"A surprising R-sacrifice and a successful S-gallop in two variations leaves a pleasant impression."

No 11578 Vitaly Israelov
2nd hon. mention [387 in
PROBLEM 202-205]



h4e7 0434.21 5/5 Draw

No 11578 Vitaly Israelov (Baku)
PP: 1.Re3+ Kxd7 2.Se1 g2 3.Sxg2
Rxc2 4.Ra3 Bc2 5.h7 Rh2+ 6.Kg3
Rxc7 7.Ra2 Bb3 8.Ra3 Bc2 9.Ra2
Rg7+ 10.Kh2 Bb3 11.Ra3 Rh7+
12.Kg3 Bc2 13.Ra2 positional
draw.

"After a short introductory play White has two pieces fewer than his opponent but he finds a position where Black has to be satisfied with a positional draw thanks to the white king's exact play."

No.0556 in Akobia's *World Anthology* Vol.3 sources this as '2nd place, Azerbaidzhan Championship 1977'.

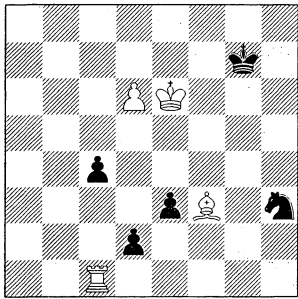
No 11579 Aleksandr Bor (St Petersburg) 1.Rg1+ Sxg1 2.d7 Sxf3
3.d8Q d1Q 4.Qxd1 e2 5.Qa1+ Kg8
6.Qa8+ Kg7 7.Qa7+ Kh6 8.Qe3+
Kh7/i 9.Qe4+ Kh8 10.Qxf3 e1Q+
11.Kf7 wins.

i) Kg7 9.Qc3+ Kg8 10.Qxc4 e1Q+
11.Kf6+. (PP)

"To start with, both sides sacrifice, then White's queen fights against

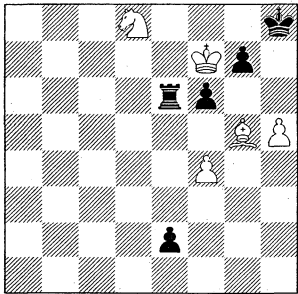
the advanced black pawn guarded by its knight. In the end White administers a checkmate."

No 11579 Aleksandr Bor
3rd hon.mention [355 in
PROBLEM 188-193]



e6g7 0113.13 4/5 Win

No 11580 Marjan Kovačević
4th hon.mention [395 in
PROBLEM 206-210]



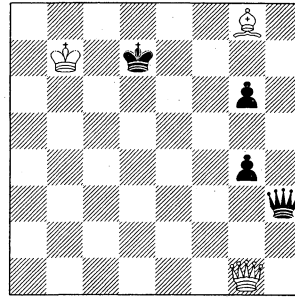
f7h8 0311.23 5/5 Draw

No 11580 Marjan Kovačević
(Zemun, Yugoslavia) PP: 1.h6
gxf6 2.Bh4 e1Q 3.Sxe6Qxf6 4.Sf8
Qh5+ 5.Sg6+ Kh7 6.f5 Qxf5
7.Sf8+ Kh8 8.Sg6+ Qxf6+ 9.Kxf6
draw.

"An amusing case of a successful
fight by knight against queen
thanks to reciprocal zugzwang.
True, the introduction is rather

brutal."

No 11581 Vladimir Razumenko
commendation [352 in *PROBLEM*
188-193]

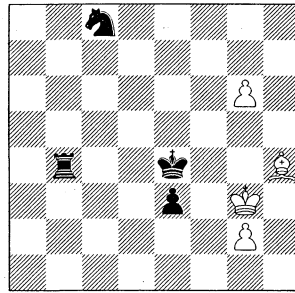


b7d7 4010.02 3/4 Win

No 11581 Vladimir Razumenko (St
Petersburg) 1.Qd4+ Ke8 2.Qe5+
Kf8 3.Bd5 Qh7+ 4.Kb6 Qh4 5.Kc6
g3 6.Qb8+ Kg7 7.Qg8+ Kh6
8.Qh8+ Kg5 9.Qd8+ Kg4 10.Bf3+
Kh3 11.Qd7+ Kh2 12.Qd2+ Kh3
13.Qg2 mate.

"A rich Q+B vs. Q endgame."

No 11582 Leonard Katsnelson
commendation [354 in *PROBLEM*
188-193]



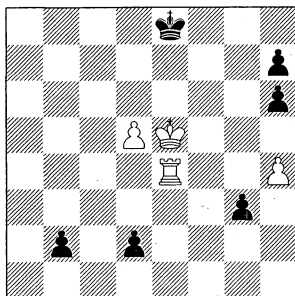
g3e4 0313.21 4/4 Win

No 11582 Leonard Katsnelson (St
Petersburg) 1.g7 e2 2.Kf2 Se7
3.Bxe7 Rb8 4.Bf8 e1Q+ 5.Kxe1

Ke3 6.Kd1 Kd3 7.Kc1 Rc8+ 8.Kb1 Rb8+ 9.Ka1 Ra8+ 10.Kb2 Rb8+ 11.Ka3 Kc3 12.Ka4 wins.

"The main idea is based on the white king's long march via the a1 square."

No 11583 Valery Vlasenko
commendation [357 in *PROBLEM*
188-193]



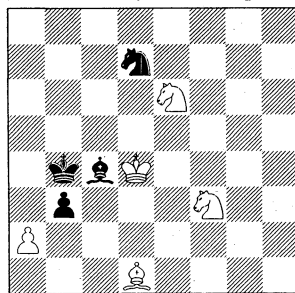
e5e8 0100.25 4/6 Win

No 11583 Valery Vlasenko
(Kharkov region)

1.Kd6+ Kf7 2.Rf4+ Kg6 3.Rf1 g2
4.Rd1 h5 5.Ke7 Kh6 6.Kf8 b1Q
7.Rxb1 d1Q 8.Rb6 mate.

"A clever stalemate avoidance."

No 11584 Jan Rusinek
commendation [362 in *PROBLEM*
194-197]
correction by the composer (1996)



d4b4 0045.11 5/4 Win

No 11584 Jan Rusinek (Warsaw)
1.a3+ Kxa3 2.Kxc4 Se5+ 3.Sxe5
b2 4.Bc2 Ka2 5.Bb3+ Ka3 6.Sd4
b1Q 7.Sc2+ Kb2 8.Sd3 mate.

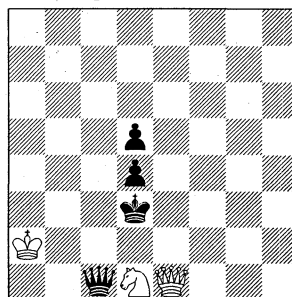
"An ideal mate is always worthy of
our admiration"

[originally: c4a3 0015.01
dle5e6d7.b3 4/3+.

1.Sf3/i Se5+ 2.Sxe5 b2 3.Bc2 Ka2
4.Bb3+ Ka1 5.Sd4 b1Q 6.Sc2+
Kb2 7.Sd3 mate.

i) PP: after 1.Kc3, or 1.Bxb3, is
there a win?]

No 11585 A.Frolovsky
commendation [370 in *PROBLEM*
198-201]

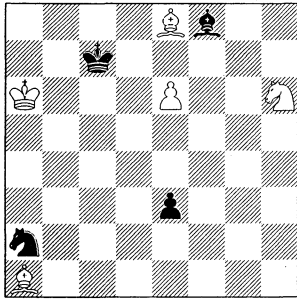


a2d3 4001.02 3/4 Win

No 11585 A.Frolovsky (Tula, Rus-
sia) PP: 1.Sf2+ Kc2 2.Qb4 d3
3.Qb8 Kc3 4.Qc7+ Kd2 5.Qf4+
Kc2 6.Qb4 d4 7.Qc4+ Kd2 8.Se4+
Kd1 9.Qxd3+ Ke1 10.Qg3+ Ke2
11.Qg4+ Kd3 12.Sf2+ Kd2
13.Qg5+ Kc2 14.Qc5+ Kd2
15.Se4+ Kd1 16.Qh5+, and Kc2
17.Qe2+, or Ke1 17.Qh1+ wins.

"An interesting Q+S vs. Q
endgame."

No 11586 L.V.Shilkov
 commendation [371 in *PROBLEM*
 198-201]



a6c7 0054.11 5/4 Win

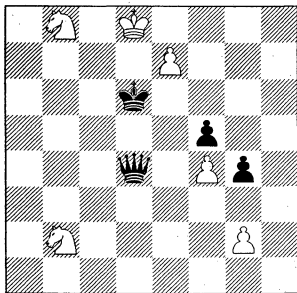
No 11586 L.V.Shilkov (Moscow)

PP: 1.Be5+ Bd6/i 2.Bh5 e2/ii
 3.Bxe2 Bxe5 4.e7 Sb4+ 5.Kb5 Kd7
 6.Sg8 Sd5 7.Bg4+ Kd6 8.e8S mate.
 i) Kd8 2.Bf7 e2 3.Kb7 e1Q 4.Bc7+
 Ke7 5.Sg8 mate.

ii) Bxe5 3.e7 e2 4.e8Q Sb4+ 5.Kb5
 e1Q 6.Qe7+ Kc8 7.Bg4+ Kb8
 8.Qd8+ K- 9.Qb6+ Ka8 10.Bf3+.

"Again an ideal mate by promoted
 knight."

No 11587 Nikolay Kralin
 commendation [373 in *PROBLEM*
 198-201]
 correction by the composer (1996)



d8d6 3002.32 6/4 Win

No 11587 Nikolay Kralin

(Moscow) 1.Sd7 Qb4 (Qxf4;Se5)
 2.Sc4+ (e8Q,Qa5+;) Qxc4 3.e8S+
 Ke6 4.Sg7+ Kd6 5.Sxf5+ Ke6
 6.Sg7+ Kd6 7.Se8+ Ke6 8.f5+
 Kxf5 9.Sd6+ Kf4 10.Sxc4 Kg3
 11.Se3 Kf2 12.Sf6 wins, Kxe3
 13.g3 Kf3 14.Sh5 - or moves 13
 and 14 inverted.

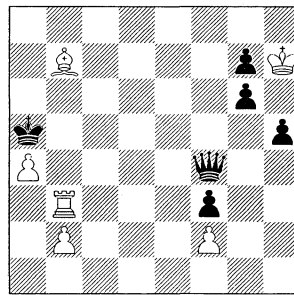
"Horsepower overwhelms the black
 royalty."

[original d8d6 3002.32
 dla3d7.e6f4g2f5g4 6/4+.

Solution by PP. 1.e7 Qd5 2.Sc4+i
 Qxc4 3.e8S+ Ke6 4.Sg7+ Kd6
 5.Sxf5+ Ke6 6.Sg7+ Kd6 7.Se8+
 Ke6 8.f5+ Kxf5 9.Sd6+ Kf4
 10.Sxc4 Kg3 11.Se3 Kf2 12.Sf6
 wins, Kxe3;, being met by either
 13.g3 or 13.Sh5.

i) PP: does 2.Sb6 win? Kralin
 agrees (1996).]

No 11588 Nikolay Kralin
 commendation [380 in *PROBLEM*
 202-205]



h7a5 3110.34 6/6 Win

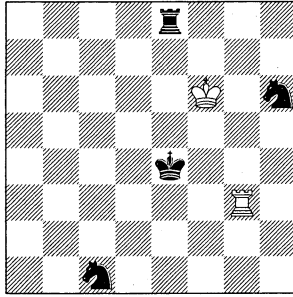
No 11588 Nikolay Kralin

(Moscow) PP: 1.Rb5+ Kxa4 2.Bc6
 Qh6+ 3.Kg8 g5 4.Bd7 g6 5.Rb7+
 Ka5 6.b4+ Ka6 7.Bc8 and 8.Rh7+
 wins.

"The capture of Black's queen by

several R+B batteries."

No 11589 Evgeny Dvizov
commendation [382 in *PROBLEM*
202-205]



f6e4 0406.00 2/4 Draw

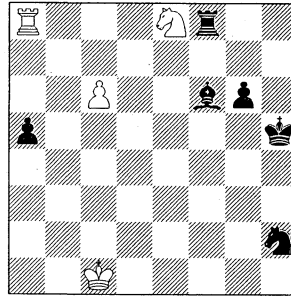
No 11589 Evgeny Dvizov
(Zhodino) Author's solution: 1.Rg6
Sf5 2.Rg4+ Kf3 3.Rc4 Rf8+ 4.Kg5
(Ke5? Sd3+;) Sd3(Se2) 5.Rf4+
Sxf4 stalemate.

"An ideal stalemate."

The composer writes (1995) that
due to the doubt surrounding the
GBR class **0401** [what doubt!? Or
does he mean a different class?] the
study may well be incorrect.
PP wonders if there is an
anticipation.

Previously unpublished solutions.

No 11590 Sergei Belokon
[372 in *PROBLEM* 198-201]



clh5 0434.12 4/6 Win

No 11590 Sergei Belokon
(Kharkov) 1.c7 Bg5+ 2.Kb2 (Kc2?
Rf1;) Rf2+ 3.Kb3/i a4+/ii 4.Kc3/iii
Rf1 5.Sg7+ Kh4 6.Rxa4+ (Rh8+?
Kg3;) Kg3 7.Sf5+ gxf5 (Rxf5;c8Q)
8.Rc4 Rc1+ 9.Kb4 wins, but not
9.Kd3? Rd1+ 10.Ke2 Rd8, and
Black wins. If now Rb1+ 10.Kc5
Be7+ 11.Kc6 wins.

According to information received
from Vladimir Samilo (Kharkov)
the late S.Belokon (1939-1984) left
behind no collection of his own
work. The solution here combines
that proposed by V.Samilo with
lines from PP.

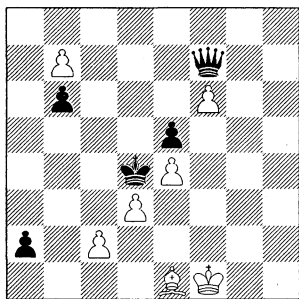
i) 3.Kc3? Rf1 4.Sg7+ Kh6? 5.Sf5+
gxf5 (Kh7;Rh8+) 6.Rh8+ Kg6
7.Rxh2 Rc1+ 8.Rc2 wins, but
4...Kh4! 5.Rh8+ Kg3 (Kg4? c8Q+)
6.Rh3+ Kg2 wins.

ii) PP draws attention to: Rf3+
4.Kb2 Rf2+ 5.Kc3 Rf1 6.Sg7+ Kh4
7.Rh8+ Kg3 8.Rh3+ Kg2 9.Kc4
Rf8 (Sf3), when Black draws. This
would be a demolition.

iii) PP gives: 4.Rxa4 Rf3+ 5.Kc4

Rf1 6.Kd5 Rf5+ 7.Kc6 Rf1 8.Rc4
winning. This would be a cook.

No 11591 Evgeny Dvizov
[374 in *PROBLEM* 198-201]



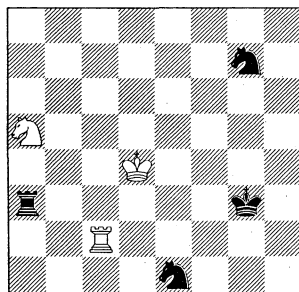
f1d4 3010.53 7/5 Win

No 11591 Evgeny Dvizov (Minsk)
The composer: 1.b8Q Qxf6+ 2.Ke2
a1Q 3.c3+ Qxc3/i 4.Qxe5+/ii Qxe5
5.Bf2 mate.

i) PP opines: Kc5 4.Bf2+ Qxf2+
5.Kxf2 Qb2+ 6.Kf3 Qxc3 7.Qc7+
Kb4 8.Qxb6, 'probably wins for
White'.

ii) PP: Qxb6+ Qxb6 5.Bf2 mate.

No 11592 Gherman Umnov
[376 in *PROBLEM* 198-201]

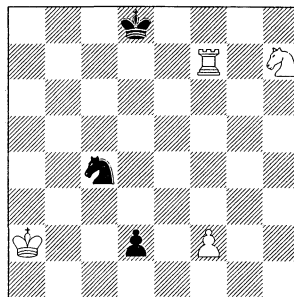


d4g3 0407.00 3/4 Draw

No 11592 Gherman Umnov
(Podolsk) PP: 1.Rc6 Sf5+ 2.Ke4
Rxa5 3.Rc5 Sd6+ 4.Kd5 Sb5 5.Kc6

Sd4+ 6.Kd5 Sb5 7.Kc6 Sa7+ 8.Kb6
Ra3 9.Rc7, or 9.Rc4 and 10.Rc7,
drawing.

No 11593 Viktor Sereda
[377 in *PROBLEM* 198-201]



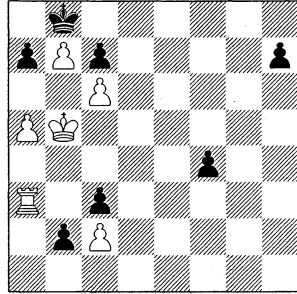
a2d8 0104.11 4/3 Draw

No 11593 Viktor Sereda (Tbilisi)
PP: 1.Sf8 Se5 2.Rf4 Sc6 3.Rf7 Se7
4.Se6+/i Kd7 5.Rf3 d1Q 6.Rd3+
Qxd3 7.Sc5+ K- 8.Sxd3.

i) Recognition of unsoundness
emanating from Tbilisi by e-mail
prompts PP to draw attention to:
4.Rf4 Sf5 5.Se6+ Ke7 6.Sd4 d1Q
7.Sxf5+ K- 8.Se3, which seems to
draw also.

The study was also spotted by
HvdH as No.26 in *Shakhmaty v*
SSSR of vii1980 - the same
'month' as *PROBLEM*! Here the
solution is given with 2...Sg6
instead of 2...Sc6.

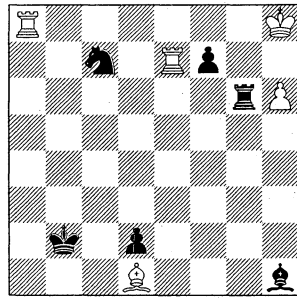
No 11594 Božo Jamnicki
[378 in *PROBLEM* 198-201]



b5b8 0100.46 6/7 Draw

No 11594 Božo Jamnicki (Zagreb)
1.Rb3 f3 2.Ka6 f2 3.Rb5 f1R 4.Rf5
b1Q(b1R) 5.Rf8+ and stalemate.

No 11595 Eduard Asaba
[379 in *PROBLEM* 202-205]

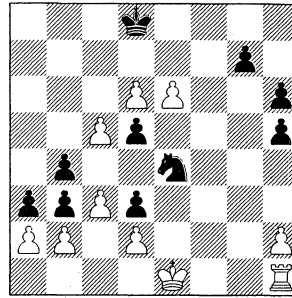


h8b2 0543.12 5/6 Win

No 11595 Eduard Asaba
(Moscow) PP: 1.Rb8+ Kc1
2.Rxc7+ Kxd1 3.Rb1+ Ke2 4.Re7+
Kf2/i 5.Rxh1 Rxh6+ 6.Rxh6 d1Q
7.Rxf7+ Kg3/ii 8.Rg6+ Kh4
9.Rh7+ wins.
i) Kf3 5.Rxf7+, and Ke 6.Rxh1, or
Kg 6.Rg7.
ii) Ke3 8.Re6+, may look like a
left-right echo of the main line but
is ruined by the dual of either rook
being able to give a winning check

next move. [AJR]

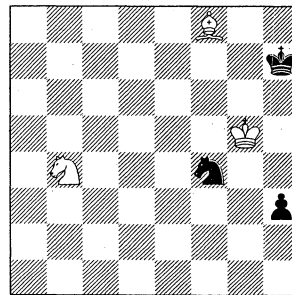
No 11596 Božo Jamnicki
[381 in *PROBLEM* 202-205]



e1d8 0103.88 10/10 Win

No 11596 Božo Jamnicki (Zagreb)
PP: White castling is legal, so 1.0-0
wins as well as 1.Rf1.

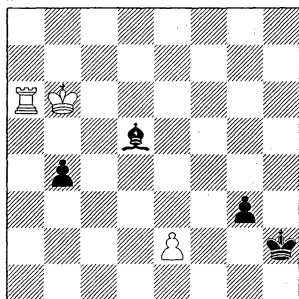
No 11597 Vladimir Shkrlil
[383 in *PROBLEM* 202-205]



g5h7 0014.01 3/3 Draw

No 11597 Vladimir Shkrlil
(Belgorod, Russia) PP: 1.Sd5
Se6+/i 2.Kf5 Sg7+ 3.Bxg7 h2
4.Sf6+ Kxg7 5.Sh5+ K- 6.Sg3
draw.
i) h2 2.Sf6+ Kh8 3.Kxf4 h1Q 4.K5
draw.
HvdH: the same study was
published five years earlier (1975)
in *Belgorodskaya pravda!*

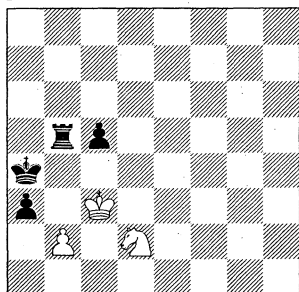
No 11598 Isakhan Garayazli
[384 in *PROBLEM* 202-205]



b6h2 0130.12 3/4 Draw

No 11598 Isakhan Garayazli
(Baku) PP: 1.Kc5 b3 2.Rh6+ Kg1
3.Kxd5 g2 4.e3 Kf2 5.Rf6+ Kg3
6.Rg6+ Kf3 7.Rf6+ Kxe3 8.Re6+,
and if Kd3, then either 9.Rg6 or
9.Re1 draws. HvdH: Akobia (4274
in his Vol.3) gives a 1976 date.

No 11599 Sergei Rumyantsev
[385 in *PROBLEM* 202-205]

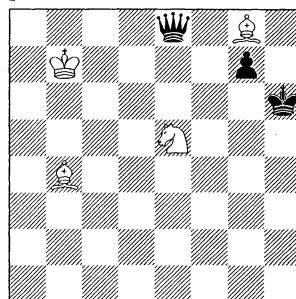


c3a4 0301.12 3/4 Draw

No 11599 Sergei Rumyantsev
(Omsk) PP: 1.b3+ Ka5 2.Sc4+ Ka6
3.Sxa3 Ra5 4.Sc4/i Ra1 5.b4 Rc1+
6.Kb3 Rb1+ 7.Sb2 cxb4 8.Ka4
Rxb2 stalemate.
i) Dual: 4.Kb2 Kb7 5.Sc2 Ra8 6.b4
c4 7.Kc3 Rc8 8.Sd4 Kb6 9.Se6,
with 10.Sd4 and 11.Se6 being

sufficient to draw.

No 11600 Hamlet Amiryan
[386 in *PROBLEM* 202-205]

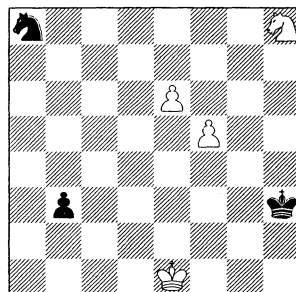


b7h6 3021.01 4/3 Draw

No 11600 Hamlet Amiryan
(Erevan) PP: 1.Bd2+ g5 2.Sg4+
Kg7 3.Bc3+ Kf8 4.Bb4+ Kg7
5.Bc3+ Kg6 6.Bh7+ Kf7 7.Bg8+
drawn.

No 11601 Zlatko Mihajlovski and
Boško Milošeski

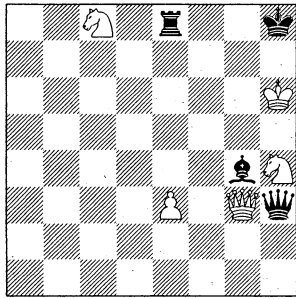
[388 in *PROBLEM* 206-210]



e1h3 0004.21 4/3 Win

No 11601 Zlatko Mihajlovski and
Boško Milošeski (Skopje) PP:
1.Kd1 Sc7 2.e7 Se8 3.Sf7 Kg4
4.Sd6 Sf6 5.Se4 Se8 6.f6 wins.

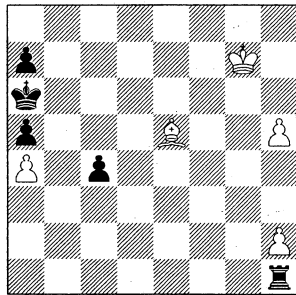
No 11602 Filipp Bondarenko
[389 in *PROBLEM* 206-210]



h6h8 4332.10 5/4 Win

No 11602 Filipp Bondarenko
(Dnepropetrovsk) PP: 1.Se7 Rxe7
2.Qb8+ Bc8 3.Qxc8+ Qxc8 4.Sg6+
Kg8 5.Sxe7+ K- 6.Sxc8 wins.
HvdH has this study and solution
from another (secondary) source.

No 11603 Boris Sidorov
[390 in *PROBLEM* 206-210]

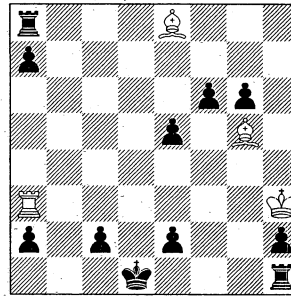


g7a6 0310.33 5/5 Win

No 11603 Boris Sidorov
(Apsheronk) PP: "A mystery.
Perhaps the composer had the idea
1.h6 c3 2.h7 c2 3.Bf4 c1Q/i 4.Bxc1
Rxb2 5.Bh6 Rb2 6.Kg8 (h8Q?
Rb8;) Rg2+ 7.Kf7 Rf2+ 8.Kg6
Rg2+ 9.Kf5/ii Rf2+ 10.Bf4, but
10.Kg4 Rg2+ 11.K3 also wins.
i) PP: Black draws easily with

Rxb2 4.Bxb2 c1Q 5.h8Q Qc3+,
when 6...Qxb8 and 8...Ka8 draws.
ii) PP: but also 9.Kh5 Rh2+
10.Kg5 Rg2+ 11.Kf4 Rf2+ 12.Kg3
wins.

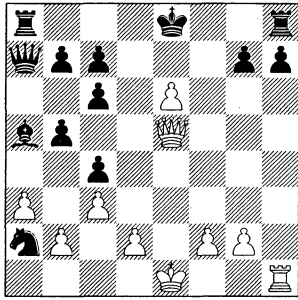
No 11604 Sergei Pivovarov
[391 in *PROBLEM* 206-210]



h3d1 0720.08 4/11 Win

No 11604 Sergei Pivovarov
(Khmelnitzky) PP: 1.Rd3+ Ke1
2.Bh4+ Kf1 3.Rf3+ Kg1 4.Bf2+
Kf1 5.Bc5+ Ke1 6.Bb4+ Kd1
7.Rd3+ Kc1 8.Ba3+ Kb1 9.Rb3+
Ka1 10.Bb2+ Kb1 11.Bxe5+ Kc1
12.Bf4+ Kd1 13.Rd3+ Ke1
14.Bg3+ Kf1 15.Rf3+ Kg1 16.Bf2+
Kf1 17.Bc5+ Ke1 18.Bb4+ Kd1
19.Rd3+ Kc1 20.Ba3+ Kb1
21.Rb3+ Ka1 22.Bb2+ Kb1
23.Bxf6+ Kc1 24.Bg5+ Kd1
25.Rd3+ Ke1 26.Bh4+ Kf1
27.Rf3+ Kg1 28.Bf2+ Kf1 29.Bc5+
Ke1 30.Bb4+ Kd1 31.Rd3+ Kc1
32.Ba3+ Kb1 33.Rb3+ Ka1 34.Bf8,
mating.

No 11605 Božo Jamnicki
[392 in *PROBLEM* 206-210]



e1e8 4733.77 10/13 Win

No 11605 Božo Jamnicki (Zagreb)
PP: 1.0-0 wins, for example, Rf8/i
2.Qxg7 Rd8 3.e7, and Rxf2 4.Rxf2,
or Rf5 4.exd8Q+/ii Kxd8 5.Qg8+
Kd7 6.Qxh7+ Ke6 7.Re1+ Kf6
8.Qe7+ Kg6 9.Re6+ wins.

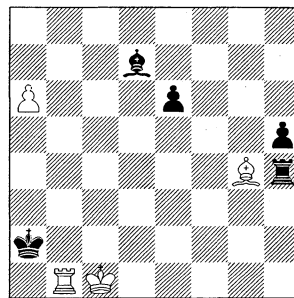
David Blundell, intrigued by
Jamnicki's composition, expounds:
"Black has made four pawn cap-
tures and six white pieces have
been taken. The dark wB was,
however, captured at home and if
White's QR was captured by a
pawn then wK must have moved to
allow it to emerge. If white castling
is legal, then, the white hP must
have (under)promoted and subse-
quently been captured by a pawn.
As only three black pieces have
been captured this promotion must
have occurred on one of e8/f8/g8,
but in any case bK must have
moved. It follows that if white
castling is legal then black castling
is illegal, and vice versa - but we
cannot determine which is in fact
the case. The convention covering
castling in studies states that
castling is legal unless the contrary

can be logically demonstrated. In
the given position, then, the ar-
gument runs that castling is legal
for both sides until one side has
castled! So the reasoning behind
the curious key move is clear: 1.0-0
prevents Black from castling!" [But
White could be bluffing! AJR]

i) DB: After Qc5?! 2.Qxc5
(Qxg7?? Qe7;), the winning line
might go Rd8 3.Qe5 Rd6 4.Qxg7
Rf8 5.Re1 Bb6 6.e7 Rxf2 7.Kh1
wins.

ii) DB: 4.Qg8+ Kxe7 Re1+ is a
quick win.

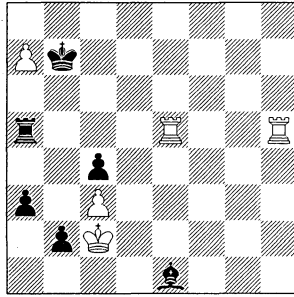
No 11606 Iuri Akobia
[394 in *PROBLEM* 206-210]



c1a2 0440.12 4/5 Win

No 11606 Iuri Akobia (Tbilisi)
1.a7 Bc6 2.Bxe6+ Ka3 3.Ra1+ Kb4
4.Ra4+ Kxa4 5.Bd7, with an in-
tended win after wK escapes bR's
checks (5...Rh1+), but we have
been advised by friends in Tbilisi
that the study is unsound, we
suspect by Black continuing
5...Rc4+ 6.Kb2 Bxd7 7.a8Q+ Kb4.
HvdH/AJR: the diagram attempted
to correct (by the addition of bPe6)
a study published as No.48 in issue
32 of 64 in 1978.

No 11607 Vazha Neidze (Tbilisi)
[396 in *PROBLEM* 206-210]



c2b7 0530.23 5/6 BTM Draw

No 11607 Vazha Neidze (Tbilisi)
PP: 1...b1Q+ 2.Kxb1 a2+ 3.Kc2
Rxe5 4.a8Q+ Kxa8 5.Rxe5 Bxc3/i
6.Rb5 Ka7 7.Rb2 a1Q/ii 8.Rb7+
Ka8 9.Rb8+ Ka7 10.Rb7+, with
perpetual check on the b-file, and
not 10.Ra8+? Kb7 and Black easily
escapes the checks.

i) a1Q 6.Re8+ Kb7 7.Re7+ Kc6
8.Re6+ Kb5 9.Re5+ Ka4 10.Ra5+
Kxa5 stalemate.

ii) Bxb2 8.Kxb2 Kb6 9.Kxa2 Kc5
10.Kb2 Kd4 11.Kc2.

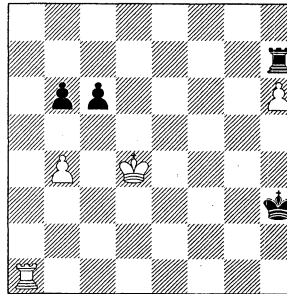
In the light of an e-mailed advice
of unsoundness from Tbilisi, PP
suspects the presence of duals.

Yehuda Hoch-50 JT

H EG is proud to be the first
journal to produce the full award of
this jubilee tourney (dated June
1999). There is no confirmation
period. The judge (Y.Hoch) writes:
"I received 50 (!) studies for adju-
dication, from which 23 were
selected at the first stage. Excellent
work by Harold van der Heijden

from Holland, who discovered
many anticipations, duals and in-
solubilities, reduced the number of
candidates to 13, while
disqualifying some very good
studies and significantly
downgrading some others, whose
originality appeared to be very
limited. The general level was
good, although slightly lowered by
the above disqualifications. Many
thanks therefore to Van der Heijden
for his splendid and fast work; to
Paz Einat, the tourney director; to
Hillel Aloni for his assistance, and
of course to all the participants.
Special thanks to Alex. Ettinger for
the English translation of this
award."

No 11608 Jürgen Fleck &
Christopher Lutz
1st prize Hoch-50 JT



d4h3 0400.22 4/4 Win

No 11608 Jürgen Fleck &
Christopher Lutz (Germany)
1.Rg1/i, with:

- Kh4 2.Ke4/ii Rxh6/iii 3.Ke5 c5
4.b5 c4 5.Rh1+ Kg5 6.Rxh6 Kxh6
7.Kd4 and wins.

- c5+ 2.bxc5 bxc5+ 3.Ke5
(Kxc5?; Kh4) c4 4.Kf5 Kh2/iv

5.Rg6 Rc7 6.Rg7 Rc5+ 7.Kg4 c3
8.h7 Rc4+ 9.Kg5/v Rc5+ 10.Kh6/vi
Rc4/vii 11.Rc7/viii Rxc7/ix 12.h8Q
and wins/x.

i) 1.Ke5? Kg2 2.Ra6 Rxb6 3.Rxb6
Rh4 4.Kd6 Rc4; 1.Ra6? c5+ 2.bxc5
bxc5+ 3.Ke5 Kg4 4.Rg6+ Kf3;
1.Rh1+? Kg2 2.Rh5 c5+ 3.Ke5
cxb4 4.Kf6 b3 5.Kg6 Rc7 6.h7
Rc6+ 7.Kf7 Rc7+, or 3.bxc5 bxc5+
4.Ke5 Kf3 5.Kf6 Ke3.

ii) 2.Rg6? c5+ 3.Ke5 Kh5 4.Rg1
Rc7 (cxb4?; Kf6) 5.Rh1+ (Kf6;
Rc6+) Kg6 6.Kd6 Rh7; 2.Ke5?
Rxb6 reciprocal ZZ.

iii) Kh5 3.Kf5 Rf7+ 4.Ke6 Rh7
5.Kf6 wins.

iv) Black takes the opportunity to
drive the Rook to g6, where it
interferes with the wK. Unfor-
tunately, square h2 has a hidden
effect that White can exploit later.
Rc7 5.h7, or c3 5.Kg6 Kh2 6.Rg5
are hopeless.

v) This is the right way. 9.Kh5?
Kh3 moving from h2 10.Rc7 Rxc7
11.h8Q c2; 9.Kf5? Rc5+ 10.Ke4
Rc4+ 11.Kd3 Rh4 12.Kxc3 Kh3, or
9.Kf3? Rh4.

vi) 10.Kh4? c2 11.h8Q c1Q
12.Kg4+ Kg1 and White has
nothing, e.g. 13.Kf3+ Rg5;
10.Kg6? Rc6+ 11.Kh5 c2 12.h8Q
c1Q 13.Kg4+ Rh6.

vii) Now 10...c2 doesn't work:
11.h8Q c1Q+ 12.Kg6+ Kg3
13.Kf6+ with a winning attack.
Also Rc6+ 11.Rg6 Rc8 12.Rg8
Rc6+ 13.Kg5 wins.

viii) 11.Kg5? c2; 11.Rd7? c2.

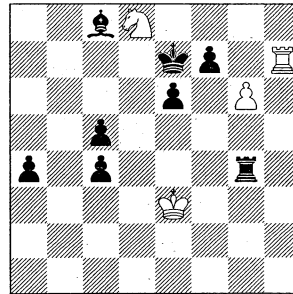
ix) Rh4+ 12.Kg7 Rg4+ 13.Kf7 Rh4
14.Kg8 wins.

x) e.g. Kg2 13.Qe5 Rc6+ 14.Kg5
Kf2 15.Qe4/xi Rc5+ 16.Kf4, or c2
13.Qe5+ with 14.Qxc7; that's why
h2 is such a bad square!

xii) Not 15.Qf4+? Ke2 16.Qe4+
Kd2.

"Two interesting variants which are
different and not connected
thematically. In the first - an
interesting (although impure)
domination of K+R vs. K+R; In the
second - a tough and fascinating
battle in a rook ending. Especially
impressive in this variation is the
idea of 4...Kh2!, which enables the
move 11...Rc7!! seven moves
later".

No 11609 Pal Raican
2nd prize Hoch-50 JT



e3e7 0431.15 4/8 Win

No 11609 Pal Raican (Romania)
1.gxf7 Rg3+/i 2.Kf4 Rh3 3.Sc6+/ii
Kf8 4.Rxb3 e5+ 5.Kg5 Bxb3 6.Kf6
Bf5/iii 7.Sxe5 a3/iv 8.Kxf5 Ke7/v
9.Kg6 a2 10.Kg7 a1Q 11.f8Q+ Ke6
12.Qf6+ Kd5 13.Qf3+ Ke6
14.Qc6+ Kf5 15.Qf6+ Ke4 16.Qf3+
Kd4 17.Sc6+

i) Rg5 2.Rh8 Rf5 3.Re8+ Kd7
4.f8Q Rxf8 5.Rxf8 a3 6.Sf7/vi a2
7.Se5+ Kd6 8.Sxc4+ Kd5 9.Sb6+

wins.

ii) 3.Rxh3? e5+ 4.Kg5 Bxh3 5.Kg6 Kf8 6.Kf6 Bd7.

iii) a3 7.Se7 Bf5 8.Sxf5 a2 9.Se7.

iv) c3 8.Kxf5 Ke7 9.Kg6 c2 10.Sd3 wins.

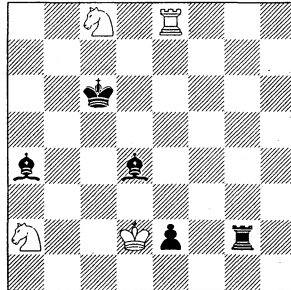
v) a2 9.Ke6 a1Q 10.Sd7+ Kg7 11.f8Q+.

vi) But not 6.Sxe6? a2 7.Sxc5+ Kd6 8.Se4+ Ke5 9.Rf1 Bf5 10.Sc3 Bb1.

"A long and interesting ending, where the end is not at all obvious in the starting position. A mutual promotion battle, culminates in a mid-board mate. It is a pity that the self-pins are ready-made".

HvdH observes that this study was also published as an original in Strategems no.6 iv-vi/1999.

No 11610 Axel Ornstein
3rd prize Hoch-50 JT



d2c6 0462.01 4/5 Draw

No 11610 Axel Ornstein (Norway)
1.Sb4+/i Kd7/ii 2.Re4 e1Q++/iii
3.Kxe1 Bf2+ 4.Kf1 Rh2 5.Sd6
Kxd6 6.Sd3/iv Bb5 7.Re2 Bg3/v
8.Rxh2 Bxh2 9.Kg2 draws.

i) 1.Re4? e1Q++ 2.Kxe1 Kd5
3.Re2 Rg1+ 4.Kd2 Rd1 mate.

ii) On other move White plays

2.Re4 or 2.Sd3.

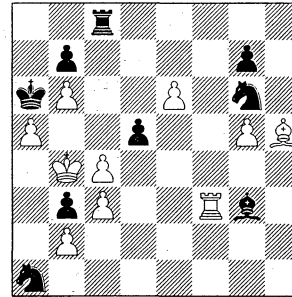
iii) Bg1 3.Sd5 Bb5 4.Sc6+ Kc6
5.Sf4.

iv) White cannot switch moves:
6.Re2? Bg3 wins.

v) Bxd3 stalemate. Now Black tries
to keep the winning material 2B-S.

"Positions similar to the final,
where the bishop is trapped,
have been seen before. But here we
have interesting play, interwoven
with a pretty stalemate defence".

No 11611 Michael Bent &
Timothy G. Whitworth
=1st/2nd hon men Hoch-50 JT



b4a6 0446.74 10/9 Draw

No 11611 Michael Bent & Timothy
G. Whitworth (England) 1.c5/i
Bd6/ii 2.Rf8/iii Bxc5+/iv 3.Ka4
Bxf8 4.Be2+/v Rc4+ 5.Bxc4+ dxc4
6.e7 Sxe7 7.g6 and stalemate.

i) White is in danger of being
mated (e.g. Rxc4+ and Bd6).
1.cxd5? invites another mate in 2
(Bd6+ and Rc4), 1.Rxg3? Rxc4+
2.Ka3 Ka5 3.Rg4 Se5 4.Rd4 Rxd4
5.cxd4 Sc4 mate.

ii) Se5 2.Rxg3; Sc2+ 2.Kxb3.

iii) Threatening Rxc5 and Rc4
mate. If now 2.cxd6? Rc4+ 3.Ka3
Kxa5 and mate; 2.Rf1? Rxc5

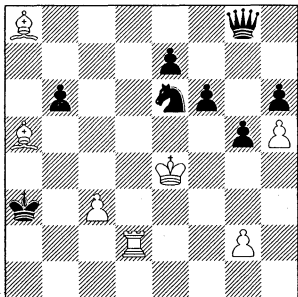
3.Rxa1 Rxa5+ wins; 2.c4? Rxc5
3.Kc3 Rxc4+ wins.

iv) Rxc5? 3.Ra8 mate; Sf4, to
guard e2, 3.Be2+ Sxe2 4.Rxc8
Sc2+ (Bxc5+; Kxc5) 5.Ka4 etc.

v) But not 4.e7? Rc4+ 5.Ka3 Bxe7
mate.

"An interesting stalemate trap.
Black finds himself in a Zugzwang
position, where every one of his
moves ends with stalemate to
white".

No 11612 Amatzia Avni
=1st/2nd hon men Hoch-50 JT



e4a3 3123.35 7/8 Win

No 11612 Amatzia Avni (Israel)
1.Bb4+/i Ka4 2.Bc6+ Kb3 3.Bd5+
Ka4 4.Bc4 Sc5+ 5.Bxc5 Qxc4+
6.Rd4 bxc5 7.Rxc4+ Kb5 8.Kd3
(Kd5?; e6+) f5 9.g4/iii e6 10.Rf4/iv
gxf4 11.g5 and wins.

i) 1.Bd5 Ka4, but not Sc5+? 2.Ke3
and wins.

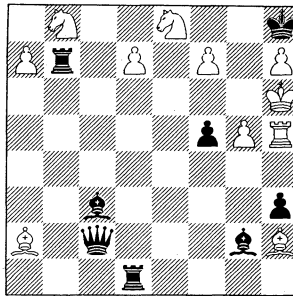
iii) 9.g3? e5 10.g4 e4+ leads to a
draw in the subsequent Q-ending.

iv) 10.gxf5? exf5 and White is
even losing.

"A mating threat leads to a queen
capture, which leads to a rook
capture, but white is left with a
winning move at the end".

No 11613 Yakir Bratchenko &
Hillel Aloni

3rd honourable men Hoch-50 JT



h6h8 3782.52 11/8 BTM, Win

No 11613 Yakir Bratchenko &
Hillel Aloni (Israel) 1...Rb6+/i
2.Sc6/ii Rxc6+ 3.Sf6 Rxf6+/iii
4.gxf6 Bd2+ 5.Rg5/iv Bxg5+
6.Kxg5, with two thematic lines:

-Qd2+/v 7.Bf4 Qb4 8.Bd5 Qf8
9.a8Q wins.

-Qc1+ 7.Kg6 Qa3 8.Bd5/vi Rxd5
9.Bd6 wins.

i) Bb4 2.Be5 mate; Bg7+ 2.Sxg7
Rb6+ 3.Se6 Qc5 4.Be5+; Rd6+
2.Bxd6.

ii) The thematic try 2.Sf6? fails to
Rxf6+ 3.gxf6 Bd2+ 4.Rg5 Bxg5+
5.Kxg5 Qc5 6.Bd5 Rxd5 7.a8Q/vii
Kxh7 8.Qxd5 Bxd5 9.d8Q Qe3+
10.Bf4 Qg1+ 11.Kxf5 Qg6+
12.Ke5 Qe4+ 13.Kd6 Qxf4+ and
Black draws.

iii) Bb4 4.a8Q+ wins, Bg2 is
blocked!

iv) 5.Kg6? f4+ 6.Rf5 Bb4.

v) Qc5 7.Bd5 Qf8 8.a8Q.

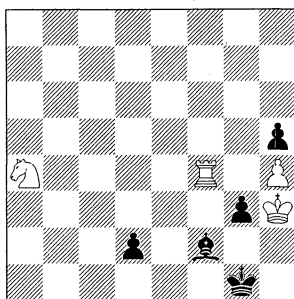
vi) 8.Bd6? Qxd6 9.Bd5 Bxd5, or
Qg3+.

vii) in the main line this would
have been a check!

"A series of closing of black lines

by black, owing to 'Novotny' interferences or for other reasons. The theme is certainly known, but not in such position".

No 11614 Yochanan Afek
1st commendation Hoch-50 JT



h3g1 0131.13 4/5 Draw

No 11614 Yochanan Afek (Israel)

1.Sc3 g2 2.Se2+ Kf1 3.Sg3+ Kg1/i
4.Se2+ Kh1 5.Rxf2 g1S+/ii
6.Kg3/iii Sxe2+ 7.Kh3 Sf4+/iv
8.Kg3 Se2+ 9.Kh3 Sg1+ 10.Kg3,
draw by repetition or stalemate.

i) Ke1 4.Re4+ Kd1 5.Kxg2 Kc2
6.Kxf2.

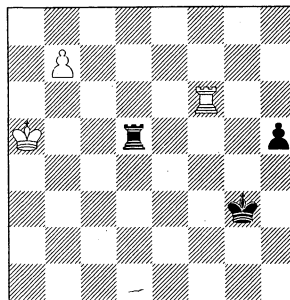
ii) g1Q 6.Sg3+ Qxg3+ 7.Kxg3 d1Q
8.Rf1+ Qxf1 stalemate.

iii) 6.Sxg1? d1Q 7.Sf3 Qd7+ wins.

iv) d1Q 8.Rh2+ Kg1 9.Rh1+ Kxh1
stalemate.

"In a seemingly lost position, white succeeds in forcing a positional draw by a series of stalemate or mate-threats".

No 11615 Velimir Kalandadze
2nd commendation Hoch-50 JT



a5g3 0400.11

3/3 Win

No 11615 Velimir Kalandadze

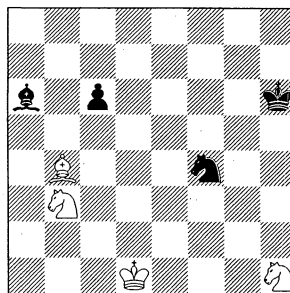
(Georgia) 1.Kb6 Rd8 2.Kc7 Re8
3.Re6/i Rf8/ii 4.Rg6+ Kh3 5.b8Q
Rxb8 6.Kxb8 h4 7.Kc7 Kh2 8.Kd6
h3 9.Ke5 Kh1 10.Kf4 h2 11.Kg3
wins.

i) 3.Rg6+? Kf3 4.Rh6 Kg4 5.b8Q
Rxb8 6.Kxb8 h4 draws.

ii) Rh8 4.Rh6; Rg8 4.Rg6+.

"A delicate ending where it transpires that the eighth rank is not long enough for the black rook".

No 11616 Ignace Vandecasteele
3rd commendation Hoch-50 JT



d1h6 0045.01

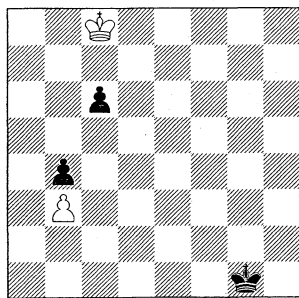
4/4 Win

No 11616 Ignace Vandecasteele

(Belgium) 1.Bd2 Kg5/i 2.Sf2 Kf5

3.Sd4+ Ke5 4.Sf3+ (Sxc6+?; Kf5) Kf5 5.Sh4+ Ke5 (Kg5; Sg2) 6.Sg4+ Ke4 7.Sf6+ Ke5 8.Sd7+ Kd6 (Ke4(6); Sc5+) 9.Sb8 Be2+ 10.Ke1 Ke5/ii 11.Sd7+ (Sxc6?; Ke4) Ke4 12.Sc5+ Ke5 13.Bxf4+ Kxf4 14.Kxe2 Ke5 15.Kd3 wins/iii.
 i) Be2+ 2.Ke1 Kg5 3.Sf2 Bc4 4.Sa5 Bb5 5.Sh3+ Kf5 6.Sxf4, or here Kf5 4.Sd4+ and Sxe2.
 ii) Kc7 11.Bxf4+ with Kxe2.
 iii) a-la-Troitzky, e.g. Kd5 16.Sa4 c5 17.Sb6+ and 18.Sc4 etc.
 "The long trajectory of the knights is impressive, and is all done for arriving at the 'Troitzky position'".

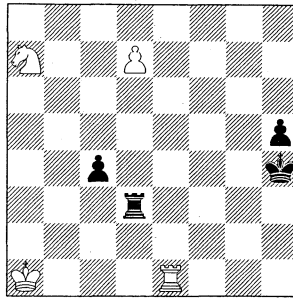
No 11617 Jarl Ulrichsen
 4th commendation Hoch-50 JT



c8g1 0000.12 2/3 Draw
No 11617 Jarl Ulrichsen (Norway)
 1.Kb7/i c5 2.Ka6 c4 3.bxc4 b3 4.c5 b2 5.c6 b1Q 6.c7 with a theoretical draw.
 i) The position will turn into a fight between a black Queen and a white c-pawn assisted by his King. To secure the draw the white King must play carefully: 1.Kc7? c5 2.Kc6 c4 3.bxc4 b3 4.c5 b2 5.Kd7 b1Q 6.c6 Qf5+ wins; 1.Kd7? c5 2.Ke6 c4 3.bxc4 b3 4.c5 b2 5.c6

b1Q 6.c7 Qh7 7.c8Q Qh3+ wins; 1.Kb8? c5 2.Ka7 Kf2 3.Ka6 (3.Kb6; c4) Ke3 and wins.
 "Small and charming, a sort of thesis on several ideas".

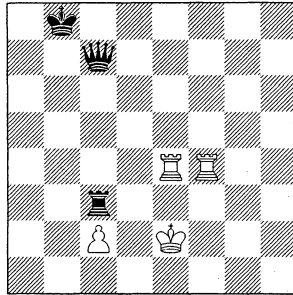
No 11618 Michal Hlinka
 =5th/6th comm Hoch-50 JT



alh4 0401.12 4/4 Win
No 11618 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia)
 1.Re7 Kg5 2.Sc6/i Kf6 3.Rh7/ii Rd1+ 4.Kb2 Kg6 5.Re7 Kf6 6.Kc2 Rd6/iii 7.Kc3 ZZ h4 8.Kb2/iv Rd2+ 9.Kb1 Rd6 10.Kc1 ZZ c3 11.Kc2 ZZ h3 12.Rh7 Kg6/v 13.Rxh3 Rxd7 14.Se5+ wins.
 i) 2.Kb2? Kf6 3.Sc6 Rd2+ 4.Kb1 c3 5.Kc1 h4 ZZ 6.Rh7 Kg6 7.Rxh4 Rxd7 8.Se5+ Kg5; 2.Rh7? Kg6 3.Re7 Kf6 4.Sc6 Rd2; 2.Sc8? Kf6 3.Rh7 Kg6 4.Re7 Kf6.
 ii) 3.Kb2? Rd2+ 4.Kc3 Rd6 ZZ 6.Kc1 c3.
 iii) Rd5 7.Rh7 Kg6 8.Se7+; Rd3 7.Rh7 Kg6 8.Se5+.
 iv) 8.Kc2? c3 ZZ 9.Kb1 Rd1+ 10.Kc2 Rd6 draws.
 v) Kf5 13.d8Q Rxd8 14.Sxd8 Kg4 15.Se6 Kg3 16.Sf4 wins.
 "I had reservations about including the last 3 studies in the award. These are good studies, but of very

partial originality, and they are de-facto only variations on previous studies. The anticipations here are by M. Hlinka, Dobrescu-65 1995 (EG#9999) and M. Hlinka Matous-50 JT 1997: g3c3 0401.11 g2b3g5.d7e4 3/2 btm: 1...Kb4 2.Kf3 Rd3 3.Rb2 Ka5 4.Rb7 Ka8 5.Rc7 e3 6.Se6 Kb6 7.Kf3 Kd6 8.Ke2 Rd5 9.Kxe3".

No 11619 David Gurgenzidze
=5th/6th comm Hoch-50 JT



e2b8 3500.10 4/3 Draw

No 11619 David Gurgenzidze (Georgia) 1.Rb4+ Ka7 2.Ra4+ Kb6 3.Rab4+/i Kc5 4.Kd2 Qg7 5.Rg4 Qh8 6.Rh4 Qe5 7.Rbe4 Qg3 8.Rhg4

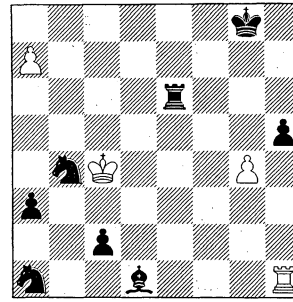
Qf3 9.Rgf4 Qh3 10.Rh4 draws.

i) 3.Rfb4+? Kc5 4.Kd2 Qg3 wins.

"Anticipated by D. Gurgenzidze 64 1976: a1b8 3500.00 c6e3g3c2 3/3. 1.Rb3+ Ka7 2.Ra3+ Kb6 3.Rab3+ Ka5 4.Ra3+ Kb4 5.Rb3+ Kc4 6.Kb1 Qe4 7.Rbe3 Qf5 8.Rgf3 Qg6 9.Rg3 Qh7 10.Rh3 Qf5 11.Rhf3 =, and other studies by the same composer: 3rd prize Revista de Romana 1980 (EG#4651); 3rd comm. Seneca MT 1978 (EG#4396); 1-5th prize Kazantzev JT 1986

(EG#8068)."

No 11620 Michal Hlinka
7th commendation Hoch-50 JT



c4g8 0436.23 4/8 Draw

No 11620 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia)

1.a8Q+ Kg7/i 2.Qa7+ Kg6 3.gxh5+/ii Kh6 4.Qxa3 Rc6+ 5.Kxb4 c1Q/iii 6.Qxc1+ Rxc1 7.Ka3/iv Rb1 8.Ka2 Rc1 9.Ka3, with:

-Sc2+ 10.Kb2 Ra1 11.Rf1 Kxh5 12.Rf5+ Kg4 13.Rd5 Ra2+ 14.Kb1 (Kxa2?; Sb4+) Ra1+ 15.Kb2 Kf3/v 16.Rd2 draws.

-Sb3 10.Kb2 ZZ Ra1 11.Re1 Kxh5 12.Re5+ Kg4 13.Rd5 Kf4 14.Rd3 Ra2+ 15.Kb1 Ra1+ 16.Kb2 positional draw.

i) Kh7 2.Rxh5+ Rh6 3.Qe4+ Kg8 4.Qe8+ Kg7 5.Rg5+ wins.

ii) 3.Qxa3? c1Q+ 4.Qxc1 Rc6+ 5.Kxb4 Rxc1 6.gxh5+ Kh7 7.Ka3 Kh6 ZZ 8.Kb2 Sb3 ZZ 9.Re1 Kxh5 10.Re5+ Kg4 11.Rd5 Rc2+ 12.Kxb3 Rd2+ 13.Kc4 Bb3+ and wins.

iii) Sb3 6.Qb2 c1Q 7.Qh8+ Kg5 8.Qe5+ Kg4 9.Rg1+ Kf3 10.Qg3+ Ke4 11.Re1+ Kf5 12.Qe5+ Kg4 13.Rg1+ draws.

iv) Zugzwang with Black to play.

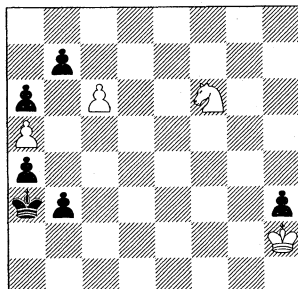
v) Se3 16.Rd3 Sc2 17.Rd2.
 "Anticipated by Y. Zemliansky,
 special comm Tsereteli-150 JT
 1991 (EG#9177)".

Ignazio Calvi MT

H Only 10 composers of 8 countries participated in this theme tourney commemorating Ignazio Calvi who was the first to show 'real' underpromotion (Bishop or Rook) in an endgame study. So it is not surprising that the requested theme was underpromotion to Bishop or Rook. Alain Pallier (France) and Harold van der Heijden (The Netherlands) were the judges, and were assisted by Marco Campioli who checked the studies for correctness.

The provisional award, dated v/1999, was published in L'Italia Scacchistica (viii/1999) with a three month confirmation period.

No 11621 Enrico Paoli
 1st hon mention Calvi MT



h2a3 0001.25 4/6 Win
No 11621 Enrico Paoli (Italy)
 1.cxb7/i b2 2.b8R/ii Ka2 3.Se4/iii

Ka1 4.Sd2/iv a3 5.Rb4 a2 6.Sb3+ Kb1 7.Rc4 a1Q 8.Sd2+ Ka2 9.Ra4 mate.

i) 1.c7? b2 2.c8Q b1Q 3.Qc5+ Qb4 =.

ii) 2.b8Q? b1Q 3.Qxb1 stalemate.

iii) 3.Sd5? Ka1 4.Sc7 a3 5.Sxa6 a2 6.Sc5 b1Q 7.Sb3+ Qxb3 8.Rxb3 stalemate, or 4.Sc3 a3 5.Kxh3 a2 6.Kg4 b1Q 7.Sxb1 axb1Q 8.Rxb1+ Kxb1 9.Kf5 Kb2 10.Ke5 Kb3 11.Kd5 Kb4 =.

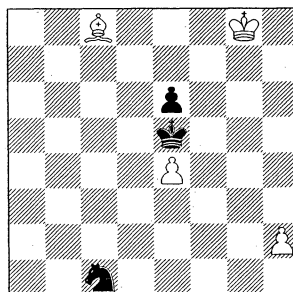
iv) 4.Sc5? a3/v 5.Sb3+ Kb1/vi 6.Rc8 Ka2 7.Sd2 b1Q 8.Sxb1 Kxb1 draws.

v) But not b1Q 5.Rxb1+ Kxb1 6.Sxa6 a3 7.Sb4 wins.

vi) Ka2? 6.Sd2 Ka1 7.Rb4 and wins as in the main line.

"The Rook-promotion, at the beginning of the solution, is rather trivial, but the play with its neat finish, leaves an agreeable impression. Precision in the play by the white Knight is required. A success for the Italian veteran born in 1908."

No 11622 Yochanan Afek
 2nd hon mention Calvi MT



g8e5 0013.21 4/3 Win

No 11622 Yochanan Afek (Israel)
 1.h4 Kf6/i 2.e5+ Kg6 3.Bxe6 Se2
 4.Bf7+/ii Kh6 5.e6 Sd4 6.e7 Sf5
 7.e8R/iii, wins.

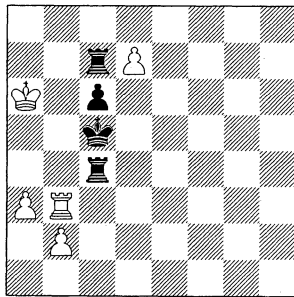
i) Se2 2.h5 Sg3 3.h6 Sxe4 4.Kg7
 Sg5 5.Kg6 Kf4 6.Bb7, and e5
 7.Bd5 Kg4 8.Be4 Kf4 9.Bf5 e4
 10.Bxe4 wins, or Kg4 7.Bg2 e5
 8.Bh3+ Kf4 9.Bf5 e4 10.Bxe4
 wins.

ii) 4.Bg4? Sd4 =; 4.Bf5+? Kxf5
 5.h5 Kxe5 6.h6 Sf4 =.

iii) 7.e8Q? Se7+ 8.Kf8 (Qxe7
 stalemate) Sg6+ 9.Kg8 (Bxg6
 stalemate) Se7+ =.

"A good finish with two stalemates
 that are avoided, but the play is not
 very exciting".

No 11623 Yochanan Afek
 3rd hon mention Calvi MT



a6c5 0700.31 5/4 Win

No 11623 Yochanan Afek (Israel)
 1.Rb5+ cxb5 2.b4+ Rxb4/i 3.axb4+
 Kc6 4.d8R/ii Rh7 5.Rc8+/iii Rc7/iv
 6.Rb8/v Rh7 7.Rb6+

i) Kc6 3.d8Q Rc3 4.a4 wins.

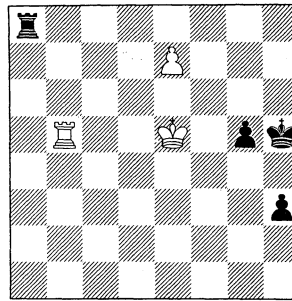
ii) 4.d8Q? Ra7+ 5.Kxa7 stalemate.

iii) 5.Rb8? Rh5 6.Rb6+ Kc7 =.

iv) Kd7 6.Rc5 +-. .

v) 6.Rxc7+? Kxc7 7.Kxb5 Kb7 =.

No 11624 V. Kalandadze
 Calvi MT



e5h5 0400.12 3/4 Draw

No 11624 V. Kalandadze (Georgia)
 1.Kf6 h2 2.Rxg5+ Kh6/i 3.Rg6+
 Kh7 4.Rg7+ Kh8 5.Rg5 h1R/ii
 6.Re5 Rf1+ 7.Ke6 Kg7 8.Rg5+/iii
 Kh6 9.Re5 Kg6 10.Re2(3,4) draws.

i) Kh4 3.Rg7 Rh8 4.Rh7+ Rxh7
 5.e8Q h1Q 6.Qe4+ Qxe4 stalemate.

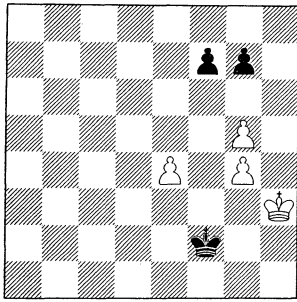
ii) h1Q 6.e8Q+ Rxe8 7.Rh5+ Qxh5
 stalemate.

iii) Marco Campioli found a dual:
 8.Re4.

"A black underpromotion! Why
 not? The text of the tourney-an-
 nouncement didn't state that the
 promotion should be a white one.
 The final draw is new and there are
 also two nice mirror stalemates".

In the initial award this study had a
 special honourable mention. But the
 judges decided to eliminate it
 because of the dual on move 8.

No 11625 Yochanan Afek
Comm Calvi MT



h3f2 0000.32 4/3 Win

No 11625 Yochanan Afek (Israel)
1.g6/i f6 2.g5 fxg5 3.Kg4/ii Ke3
4.e5 Ke4 5.e6 Ke5 6.e7 Kf6
7.e8R/iii wins.

i) 1.e5? g6 =.

ii) 3.e5? Kf3 4.e6 g4+ 5.Kh2 Kf2
6.e7 g3+ 7.Kh3 g2 8.e8Q g1Q
9.Qf7+ Ke2 10.Qxg7 Qh1+ 11.Kg4
Qe4+ 12.Kg5 Qd5+ 13.Kf6 Qd4+
14.Kf7 Qc4+ draws.

iii) 7.e8Q? stalemate, or 7.e8S+?
Kxg6, or 7.e8B? Ke7 8.B- Kf8
draws.

"The Rook-promotion is well-known. The reason for including this study in the award is the (non-thematic) try on move 3".

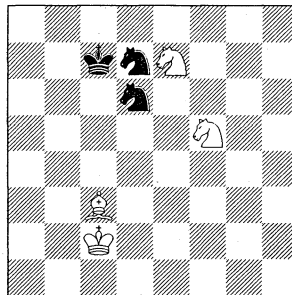
ArhiSAH 1991-92

H A 14-page award of the compositions (problems and studies) that were published in ArhiSAH between iv/1991 and ix/1992 was distributed as a supplement to Buletin Problemistic x/1999. 36 composers of 10 countries submitted a total of 136 compositions.

Valeriu Petrovici (Romania) coordinated a collective of judges. It is not stated who was responsible for the study section.

Marian Stere (Romania), editor of the award, kindly provided an English translation. We learn from him that ArhiSAH was the first private chess magazine in post-communist Romania. Between 1990 and 1992 sixteen issues were published after which the magazine ceased publication.

No 11626 David Gurgendze
1st comm ArhiSAH 1991-92



c2c7 0018.00 4/3 Win

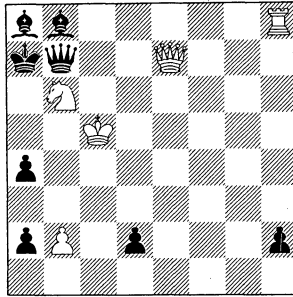
No 11626 David Gurgendze
(Georgia) 1.Ba5+ Sb6 2.Sd5+
Kb7/i 3.Sxd6+ Ka6 4.Sc7+/ii Kxa5
5.Kb3 and mate.

i) Kc6 3.Sfe7+ and 4.Bxb6+.

ii) 4.Bxb6? stalemate.

"An aristocrat miniature featuring the theme of mate by two Knights, after sacrifice of a Bishop".

No 11627 Viktor Kichigin
2nd comm ArhiSAH 1991-92

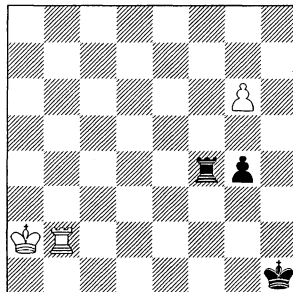


c5a7 4161.14 5/8 Win

No 11627 Viktor Kichigin (Russia)
1.Sc8+ Ka6 2.Qe2+ Ka5 3.Qxd2+
Ka6 4.Qe2+ Ka5 5.Qe1+ Ka6
6.Rh6+ Qc6+ 7.Rxc6+ Bxc6
8.Kxc6 wins.

"A set of checks for a well justified
retreat from the black King".

No 11628 David Gurgenzidze
3rd comm ArhiSAH 1991-92



a2h1 0400.11 3/3 Win

No 11628 David Gurgenzidze
(Georgia) 1.g7 Ra4+ 2.Kb1 Ra8
3.Rb4 Rg8/i 4.Rxg4 Kh2 5.Kc2
Kh3 6.Rg1 Kh4 7.Kd3 Kh5 8.Ke4
Kh6 9.Kf5 Rxg7/ii 10.Rh1 mate.

i) g3 4.Rh4+ Kg2 5.Rh8 wins.

ii) Kh7 10.Kf6 Rc8 11.Rh1+ Kg8

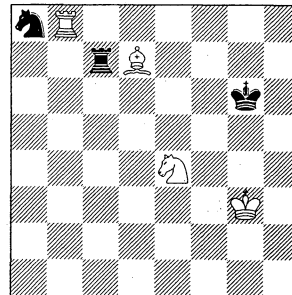
12.Rh8 mate.

"A theoretical and artistic ending".

**Birnov memorial tourney,
1996-97**

This formal tourney was judged by
A.Milokumov (Volgograd). The
provisional award was published in
Molodoi (Volgograd), 19vii98 and
had a confirmation period of two
months.

No 11629 V.Maksaev
prize Birnov MT 1996-97

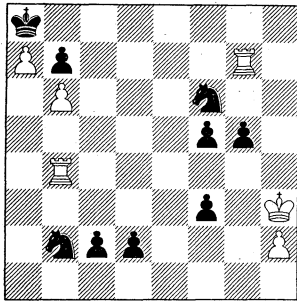


g3g6 0414.00 4/3 Win

No 11629 V.Maksaev 1.Be8+ Kf5
2.Sd6+ Ke6 3.Sb5 Rg7+ 4.Kf4 Sc7
5.Rb6+ Kd5 6.Rd6+ Kc4 7.Rc6+
Kxb5 8.Rxc7+ and 9.Rxg7 wins.

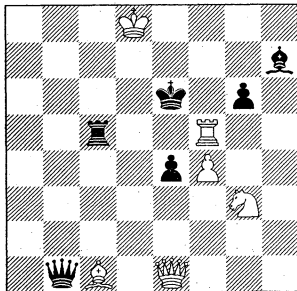
"The rare 'draughts' theme in a
miniature for which no anticipation
was found." ("...что встречать не
приходилось.")

No 11630 A.Kotov
commendation Birnov MT 1996-97



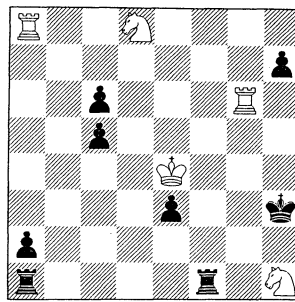
h3a8 0206.36 6/9 Draw
No 11630 A.Kotov (Priozersk)
1.Rh4 gxh4 2.Rf7 Sd7 3.Rxd7 d1R
4.Rh7 Rd8 5.Rh8 Rxh8 stalemate.
"An interesting treatment of
underpromotion in a stalemate
based struggle."

No 11631 V.Kalyagin
commendation Birnov MT 1996-97



d8e6 4441.12 6/6 Win
No 11631 V.Kalyagin 1.Rf6+
Kxf6 2.Sxe4+ Kg7 3.Sxc5 Qb6+
4.Ke8 Qxc5 5.Bb2+ Kh6 6.Qh4+
Qh5 7.Bg7+ Kxg7 8.Qe7+ Kh6
9.Qf8 mate.
"A beautiful finale, but the effect is
lessened by a dual." [It is not clear
what dual is meant. AJR]

No 11632 V.Maksaev
commendation Birnov MT 1996-97

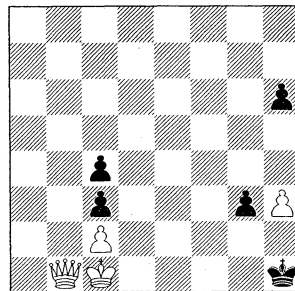


e4h3 0802.05 5/8 Win
No 11632 V.Maksaev 1.Rh6+ Kg2
2.Se6 Rxh1 3.Sf4+ Kf2 4.Sd3+
Ke2 5.Sc1+ hRxc1 (aRxc1;Rxa2+)
6.Rh2+ Ke1 7.Kf3 e2 8.Rd8 Rc3+
9.Kg2 wins.
"A synthesis of vertical and
horizontal mates thanks to a really
effective 5th move."

Chervony girnik XXVII, 1997

This informal tourney was judged
by Nikolai Vasilevich REZVOV.

No 11636 O.Skrinnik
prize Chervony girnik XXVII, 1997
after E.Zakon



c1h1 1000.24 4/5 Win

No 11636 O.Skrinnik 1.Qb7+ g2
 2.Kb1 Kh2 3.Qc7+ Kh1 4.Qc6 h5/i
 5.Kc1 Kh2 6.Qd6+ Kh1 7.Qd5
 h4/ii 8.Kd1 Kh2 9.Qe5+ Kh1
 10.Qe4 Kh2 11.Qf4+ Kxh3/iii
 12.Qf3(Qe3)+ (Qf2? g1Q;) Kh2
 13.Qf2 h3 14.Ke2 Kh1 15.Qg3
 h2/iv 16.Qf3 Kg1 17.Qe3+ Kh1
 18.Qe4 Kg1 19.Qd4+ Kh1 20.Qd5
 Kg1 21.Qd1 mate.

i) Kh2 5.Qd6+ Kh1 6.Qxh6 g1Q+
 7.Qc1 wins.

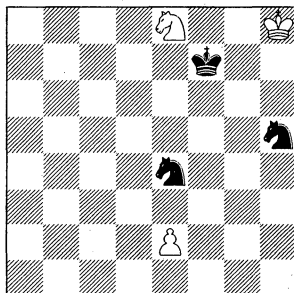
ii) Kh2 8.Qe5+ Kh1 9.Qxh5 g1Q+
 10.Qd1 wins.

iii) Kh1 12.Qxh4 g1Q+ 13.Qe1
 wins.

iv) g1Q 16.Qxh3+ Qh2+ 17.Qxh2+
 Kxh2 18.Ke3 wins.

"The author has found a logical
 development of a known theme."

No 11637 V.Vlasenko
 special prize Chervony gimik
 XXVII, 1997



h8f7 0007.10 3/3 Draw

No 11637 V.Vlasenko (Kharkov
 region, Ukraine) 1.Sc7/i S5f6 2.e3,
 with:

- Sd6 3.Sd5/ii Sxd5 4.e4 Sc7 5.e5
 dSe8 6.e6+ Kg6 7.Kg8 Sd5 8.Kf8
 eSc7 9.Kg8, positional draw, not
 9.e7? Se6+ - see conclusion of (i),

or

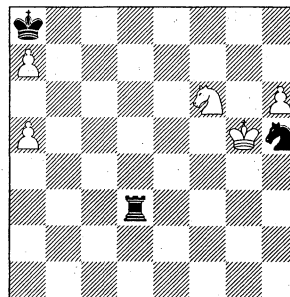
- Sg5 3.Sb5 Sf3 4.Sd6+ Kf8
 5.Sc4 Sh4 6.Se5 draw.

i) Thematic try: 1.Sd6+? Sxd6 2.e4
 Kg6 3.Kg8 Sf7 (for Se5;) 4.e5 Sg5
 5.e6 Sh7 6.e7 S5f6+ 7.Kh8 Se8,
 when Black wins.

ii) 3.Sb5? Sxb5 4.e4 Kg6 5.e5 Sh7
 6.e6 Sd6 7.e7 Se8 wins.

"Rejecting the impulsive 1.Sd6+?
 White finds a different way to
 sacrifice his knight, this time effec-
 tively."

No 11638 V.Kondratev
 1st honourable mention Chervony
 gimik XXVII, 1997



g5a8 0304.30 5/3 Win

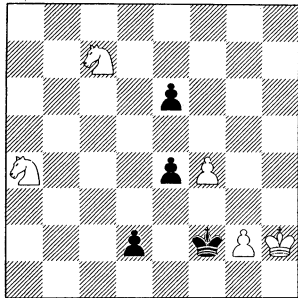
No 11638 V.Kondratev (Gavrilov
 Posad, Ukraine) 1.h7 Rd8 2.Sg8
 Sf6 3.Kxf6 Rd7 4.Se7 (h8Q? Rh7;)
 Rd8 5.Kg7 Kb7 (Kxa7;Sc6+)
 6.a8Q+ (a6+? Ka8;) Kxa8 7.a6z,
 now:

- Ka7(Kb8) 8.Sc6, or

- Rb8(Re8) 8.Sg8 winning.

"Interesting black counterplay for
 stalemate. At the finish it is Black,
 who has been setting up a
 zugzwang for White, who falls
 victim to it himself."

No 11639 I.Yarmonov
2nd honourable mention Chervony
girn'ik XXVII, 1997

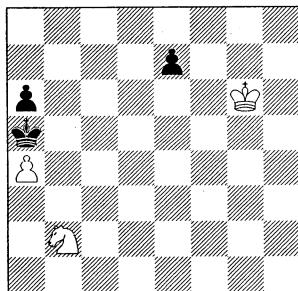


h2f2 0002.23 5/4 Win

No 11639 I.Yarmonov (Mariupol,
Ukraine) 1.Sb2 e3 2.Sb5 e2 3.Sc3
e1Q 4.bSd1+ Kf1 5.g3 e5 6.f5
wins.

"An interesting domination of a
promoted black queen."

No 11640 I.Yarmonov
commendation Chervony girn'ik
XXVII, 1997



g6a5 0001.12 3/3 Win

No 11640 I.Yarmonov 1.Kf7/i e5/ii
2.Ke6 e4 3.Kd5 e3 4.Kc4 e2 5.Kb3
e1Q (Kb6;Sd3) 6.Sc4 mate.

i) 1.Kf5? Kb4 2.Ke6 Kb3 3.Kxe7
Kxb2 4.Kd6 Kb3 drawing, White
being short of a tempo.

ii) Kb4 2.Kxe7 Kb3 3.Kd6 Kxb2

4.Kc5 Kb3 5.a5 wins.

"White wins by improbably
provoking the advance of Black's
passed pawn."

XIV Moscow championship 1992

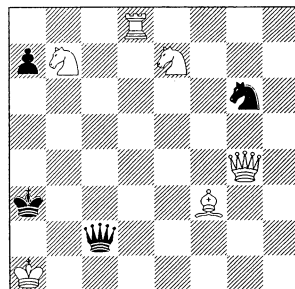
This thematic individual champion-
ship had the following system: two
originals on a set theme supported
by up to four published during
1990. A 15-point scale was used
for final classification of each com-
poser's best trio, one of which had
to be an original.

Studies section judge G.Evseev
(Moscow) set the theme for
originals: check or discovered
attack by a move of the king (black
or white)

Pervakov won the championship
with 38 points, followed by Koles-
nikov with 33 and Grin with 7.

1st place XIV Moscow ch 1992

No 11641 O.Pervakov



a1a3 4115.01 6/4 Win

No 11641 O.Pervakov - 10 points

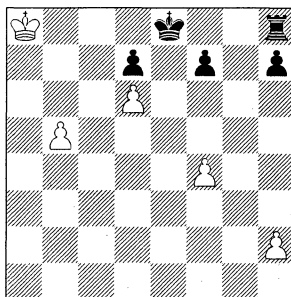
"The best thematic study."

1.Qa4+/i Qxa4 (Kxa4;Bd1) 2.Rd3+
Kb4+ 3.Kb2 Se5/ii 4.Sc6+/iii

Sxc6/iv 5.Be2, and Black is in zugzwang:

- Kb5 6.Rd4+, or
 - Qb5(Qa6) 6.Rb3+, or
 - S- 6.Rd4+, or
 - a6 6.Bf1 Kc4 7.Rh3+ Kd5 8.Rh5+ Se5 9.Bg2+ Kc4 10.Rh4+ Kb5 11.Bf1+ Sc4 12.Rxc4, and Qd1 13.Rc1+, or Qxc4 13.Sd6+ wins.
- i) 1.Rd3+? Qxd3 2.Qg2 Qc3+ 3.Kb1 Qb3+ 4.Kc1 Qc3+ 5.Kd1 Qa1+ draws.
- ii) Sxe7 4.Rd4+ Kb5 5.Be2+.
- iii) 4.Sd5+? Kc4 5.Rc3+ Kd4.
- iv) Kb5 5.Sxe5 Kb6 6.Rb3+ Kc7 7.Rc3+ wins.

No 11642 E.Kolesnikov
XIV Moscow championship 1992



a8e8 0300.43 5/5 Win
No 11642 E.Kolesnikov - 9 points
1.b6 f5/i 2.b7 Kf7+ 3.b8Q Rxb8+ 4.Kxb8 Kf6 5.Kc8 Ke6 6.Kc7 h6 7.h3 h5 8.h4 and White wins.

i) As, in the conventionally presumed prior 'game', Black must have moved either bRh8 or bK last, he cannot legally castle. If f6 2.f5 Kf7+ 3.Ka7 Kg7 4.b7 Kh6 5.b8Q wins.

We read: "The position after 1.b6

is another composition with the unusual stipulation *Black to move and win!* The point is that Black may castle, according to the convention that if the previous side's move was a capture, then king and rook on their starting squares are given the benefit of the doubt! 1...0-0+ 2.Ka7 Kg7 3.b7 Kf6 4.b8Q Rxb8 5.Kxb8 Ke6 6.Kc7 f5 7.h3 h6 8.h4 h5, and Black wins."

NEDEL'NÁ PRAVDA 1996-97

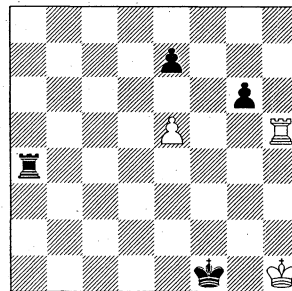
This informal tourney covered the studies published in this Bratislava Sunday newspaper in Slovak.

Source: issue 37/98, presumably 13ix98. Translation by John Beasley.

Judge: Ladislav Salai jr. (Martin). 11 competing studies, two honoured.

no mention of confirmation time

No 11643 Michal Hlinka
prize, Nedel'na Pravda (Bratislava) 1996-97



h1f1 0400.12 3/4 Draw

No 11643 Michal Hlinka (Košice, Slovakia). 1.Rh7 (Rh8? g5;) g5/i

2.Rf7+/ii Rf4 3.e6 Kf2 4.Kh2 Rf3
5.Rg7/iii Rf4 6.Rf7 Rf3 7.Rg7 Rf6
8.Kh3/iv Kf3 (Rxe6;Rxc5) 9.Rf7
Rf4/v 10.Kh2 Kf2/vi 11.Kh3/vii,
positional draw.

i) Re4 2.Rf7+ Ke2 3.Rxe7 Kf2
4.Rf7+ Kg3 5.Rf1 g5 6.Rg1+ Kf4
7.Rf1+ Kg4 8.Kg2 draw.

ii) 2.Kh2? Rh4+ 3.Rxh4 gxh4
4.Kh3 Kf2 5.Kxh4 Kf3 6.e6 Kf4
7.Kh3 Kf5 8.Kg3 Kxe6 9.Kf4 Kd5
10.Ke3 Ke5 wins.

iii) 5.Rxe7? g4 6.Rf7 g3+ 7.Kh3
g2+ 8.Rxf3+ Kxf3 9.e7 g1Q wins.

iv) 8.Rf7? g4 9.Rxf6+ exf6 10.e7
g3+ 11.Kh3 g2 12.e8Q g1Q, and
13.Kh4 Qg3+ 14.Kh5 Qg5 mate, or
13.Qb8 Qg2+ 14.Kh4 Qg5+
15.Kh3 Qh5 mate.

v) g4+ 10.Kh4 g3 11.Rxf6+ exf6
12.e7 g2 13.e8Q g1Q 14.Qc6+.

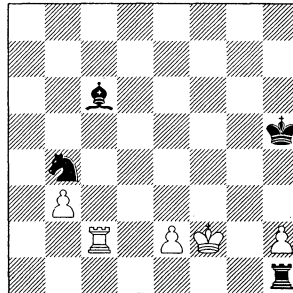
vi) g4 11.Rxe7, and a subsequent
wRg7 will draw. Or Kg4 11.Rxe7
Re4 12.Re8 Re2+ 13.Kg1 Kg3
14.Kf1 draw.

vii) 11.Kh1? Rf3 12.Kh2 g4 wins.

"Another notably rich rook ending
from the workshop of Michal
Hlinka. Thanks to the pin on the
f-file, White prevents Black from
taking advantage of his extra pawn.
Particularly noteworthy are the
delicate transitions into queen en-
dings. In the first, after 5.Rxe7?,
Black's new queen mates at once
(10...Qg3 mate), and even in the
second, after 8.Rf7, it doesn't help
White that he promotes first. Con-
versely, the last, after 9...g4+, is
good for White, and this enables
him to play 8.Kh3 and defeat
Black's efforts to put him in

zugzwang. Black's active play is
also worthy of note. An outstan-
ding study, which should appear in
the FIDE Album. It is hard to
believe that such possibilities still
exist in 7-man rook endings; yet it
needs only a little analytical work,
and above all a willingness to enter
fields which are not immediately
attractive. Caissa knows how to
reward her followers."

No 11644 M.Hlinka and J.Tazberik
honourable mention Nedel'na Prav-
da (Bratislava) 1996-97



f2h5 0433.30 5/4 Draw

No 11644 Michal Hlinka (Košice)
and Ján Tazberík (Bratislava).

1.Rc5+/i Bd5 (Kg6;Rc4) 2.Rb5/ii
Rxh2+ 3.Ke3/iii Rh4 4.Kd2, with
- Kg6 5.Kc3 Sa2+ 6.Kb2 Bc6/iv
7.Rb6 Sb4 8.Ka3 (Kc3? Sd5+;)
Sc2+ 9.Kb2 Sb4/v 10.Ka3,
positional draw, or

- Re4/vi 5.Kc3 Sa2+ 6.Kd3/vii
Re5 7.Kd4 Re4+ 8.Kd3 (Kxd5?
Sc3+;) Sb4+ (Sc1+;Kc2) 9.Kc3
positional draw.

i) 1.Rc4? Rxh2+ 2.Kg3 Rg2+
3.Kh3 Rg4 4.Rxc4 Bd7 wins.

ii) 2.Ke3? Rd1 wins. Or 2.e4?
Sd3+ wins.

- iii) 3.Ke1? Sc2+ and 4.Kd1 Se3+ 5.Kd2 Rh3, or 4.Kd2 Rxe2+ 5.Kc3 Re5 6.Kxc2 Be4+ wins.
- iv) Sb4 7.Kc3 Sa2+ 8.Kb2 draw.
- v) Sd4 10.e3 Rh2+ 11.Kb1 draws, but not 11.Ka1? Sc2+ 12.Kb1 Sa3+ 13.Ka1 Rc2 wins.
- vi) Rd4+ 5.Kc3 Sc6 6.e4 draw.
- vii) 6.Kb2? Rxe2+ 7.Ka3 Sc3 8.Rc5 Rc2 9.Kb4 Sa2+ wins.

"The battle between R and R+B+S has everlasting appeal and embraces rich combinational possibilities. The authors take advantage of this in a study where White saves himself three times by a simple positional draw, thanks to his more active king and the unfortunate position of the black pieces. My only regret is that Black makes all the running and that White does little more than accurately defend himself."

ARTICLES
 editor: John Roycroft

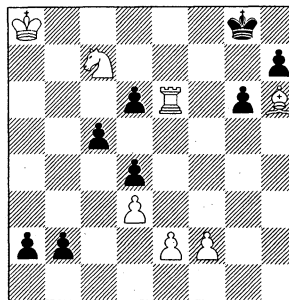


THE FIGHT AGAINST THE BLACK QUEEN

After composers learned how to vanquish just one black queen - the strongest orthodox piece on the board - a few turned their attention to a multiplicity of such opposition - well, to two black queens, but only with White having the move. Inspired by the pioneering efforts of such as Dvizov, Kozirev, the late GM Nadareishvili and Mitrofanov, I took the plunge by

deciding to increase Black's play by giving him the move as well as a pair of queens, but depriving White of any queen at all. *B1* was the first attempt.

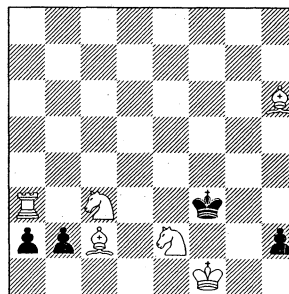
B1 I.Bondar
 2nd honourable mention,
 Afanasiev-MT 1990



a8g8 0111.37 7/8 Win
 1.Rf6 a1Q+ 2.Kb8 b1Q+ 3.Kc8 Qb7+ 4.Kxb7 Qh1+ 5.Kb6 Qxh6 6.Se6z d5 7.Kb5 c4 8.Ka4 c3 9.Kb3 wins.

On New Year's Eve *Zarya* found room for *B2*.

B2 I.Bondar, *Zarya* 1995

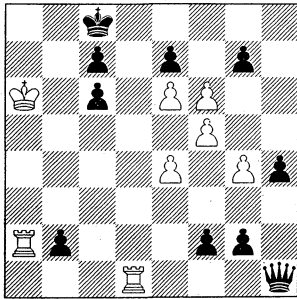


f1f3 0122.03 6/4 BTM, Win
 1...a1Q+ 2.Bd1 (ambush!) h1Q+ 3.Sg1+Kg3 4.Se4+ Kh4 5.Bg5 mate. There is the same mate after 2...Qxa3. A double check by two pinned pieces! All the white men

participate.

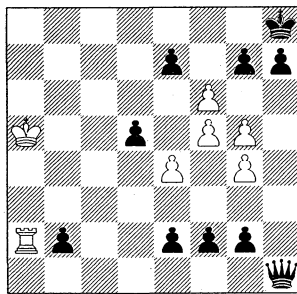
Since there have been grandmaster games in which Black has sported a trio of queens, why should there not be similar instances in studies?

B3 I.Bondar
Shakmatnaya kompozitsia No.22, 1998



a6c8 3200.58 8/10 Win
Seeing that 1.f7? Qxd1 2.f8Q+ Qd8 draws, it is clear that bK should be induced to occupy d8. So: 1.Rd8+ Kxd8 2.f7 f1Q+ 3.Ka7 g1Q+ 4.Ka8 Qxf5 5.gxf5 Qg6 6.fxg6 Qf1 7.f8Q Qxf8 8.Rxb2 and 9.Rb8 mate. The play has to go like this when there are three queens to control. Looking further into this theme led me to B4.

B4 I.Bondar
Shakmatnaya kompozitsia No.22, 1998



a5h8 3100.58 7/10 Win

1.f7 e1Q+ 2.Ka6 f1Q+ 3.Ka7 g1Q+ 4.Ka8/i Qxf5 5.gxf5 h5 6.g6 Qxg6 7.f8Q+ Kh7 8.fxg6+ Kh6 9.Qf4+ Kxg6 10.Qf5+ Kh6 11.Ra6+ wins.

i) There are four queens on the board, it is Black's move, and all that White has is the threat to promote a single pawn!

Maybe someone will surpass this with a win against five queens?! Try it! The beauty of conflict is to be found even in this extreme force! Long live the study!

Ivan Bondar
Belarus
1999

On 21x99 Valery VLASENKO of Kharkov region, Ukraine, celebrated his 60th birthday. He is a fine and successful composer who keenly follows relevant 'oracle' computer database discoveries. With some impatience he awaits the next big leap forward, namely the day when 6-man pawnless endings can be consulted the way 5-man endings are widely done today - though not so widely in FSU-land.

CALLING THE COMPUTER!

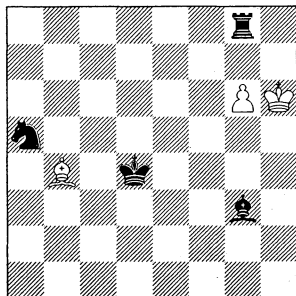
by V.Vlasenko

In analysing well known studies I have more than once felt the need to evaluate 5- and 6-man pawnless endings whose definitive outcome is inaccessible to unaided human endeavour.

In this article I bring a few such

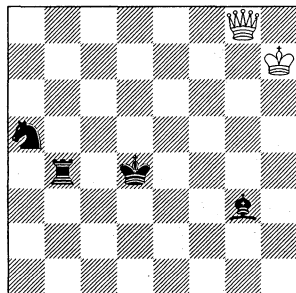
cases to the attention of EG readers.

V1 G.Kasparyan
2nd prize, Lidova Democracie, 1963



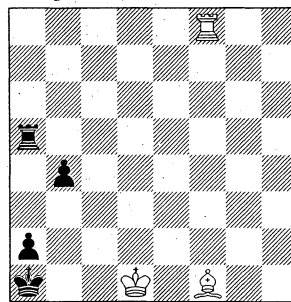
h6d4 0343.10 3/4 Draw
1.Kh7 Rb8 2.g7 Sc6 3.Bf8 Rb7
4.Kh6 Bf4+ 5.Kg6 Se5+ 6.Kf5
Rf7+ 7.Ke6 Bg5 8.g8Q Rf6+ 9.Ke7
Rg6+ 10.Ke8 Rxc8 stalemate.
However, *V1a* arises from 2...Rxb4
3.g8Q.

V1a



h7d4 1333.00 2/4 BTM.
Queen against rook, bishop and
knight - a 6-man pawnless ending.
Statistics show the superior side
winning in 69% of cases, with the
move. In V1a the inferior side has
the move: is it an exception?

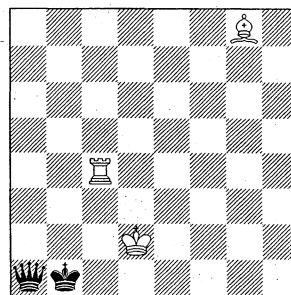
V2 G.Nadareishvili
1st prize, Georgia-50AT, 1972



d1a1 0410.02 3/4 Draw
1.Bc4 Rc5 2.Bg8 Kb1 3.Rb8 Rc1+
4.Kd2 Rc2+ 5.Kd1 a1Q 6.Rxb4+
Rb2 7.Rc4 Rc2 8.Rb4+ Rb2 9.Rc4
positional draw.

Fine, but what happens if Black
plays 7...Rd2+ instead? After
8.Kxd2, White has the drawing
material of rook and bishop against
queen, but does not have the move.
The composer analysed this to a
draw, but it seems to me that a
residual doubt lingers on, due to
the position's lack of transparency.

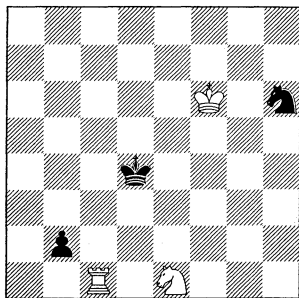
V2a



d2b1 3110.00 3/2 BTM.
[AJR: the by now standard oracle
confirms the draw, but there are
'only' moves in the line
(normalised to White having the

queen): *C* 1.Qa5+ Ke2 2.Qh5+ Kf2 3.Qf5+ Kg3.]

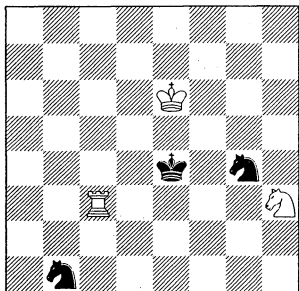
V3 Yu.Bazlov
=1/2 prize, *New Statesman*, 1975



f6d4 0104.01 3/3 Win
1.Sf3+ Ke4 2.Rc3 Sg4+ 3.Ke6 b1S
4.Rb3 Kf4 5.Sg1 Sd2 6.Rd3 Se4
7.Sh3 mate.

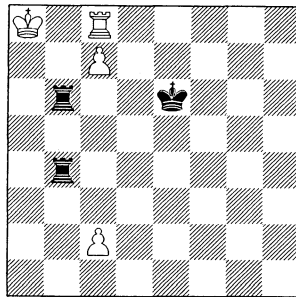
Unfortunately this is unclear: can Black save himself if White plays differently, for instance by 4.Sg5+ Kf4 5.Sh3+ Ke4 (*V3a*) - well?

V3a



e6e4 0107.00 3/3 WTM.
Similar doubts apply to several studies of my own.

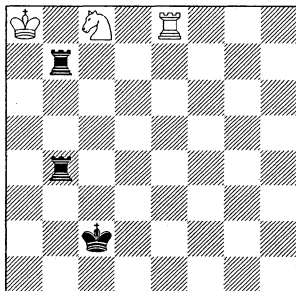
V4 V.Vlasenko
5th honourable mention,
Korolkov-70JT, 1978



a8e6 0700.20 4/3 Draw
1.Re8+ Kf7 2.Rf8+ Kg7 3.Rg8+ Kh6
4.Rh8+ Kg5 5.Rg8+ Kh4
6.Rh8+ Kg3 7.Rg8+ Kf3 8.Rf8+ Ke2
9.Re8+ Kd2 10.c8S (Rd8+? Kc1;) Rb8+
11.Ka7 R4b7+ 12.Ka6 Rc7 13.Sd6 draw.

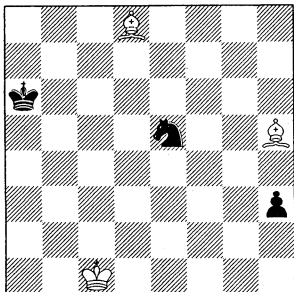
But is there perhaps a win after 10...Rb8+ 11.Ka7 R8b7+ 12.Ka8 Kxc2, for instance? (*V4a*)

V4a



a8c2 0701.00 3/3 WTM.

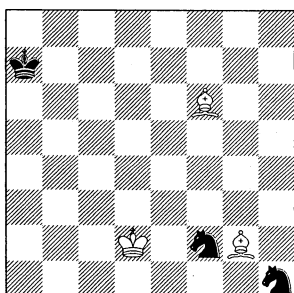
V5 V.Vlasenko
1st honourable mention, 64 -
Shakhmatnoe obozrenie 1985



c1a6 0023.01 3/3 Win
1.Be2+ Ka7 2.Bf1 h2 3.Bg2 Sd3+
4.Kd2 Sf2 5.Bh4 h1S 6.Be7 Kb6
7.Bd6 Kb5 8.Bd5 winning, Ka5
9.Kc2 Ka4 10.Bf3 Kb5 11.Kb3
Ka5 12.Kc4 Kb6 13.Bd5 Ka5
14.Bc5 Ka6 15.Bf3 Ka5 16.Bb7
Ka4 17.Bb4 and 18.Bc6 mate.

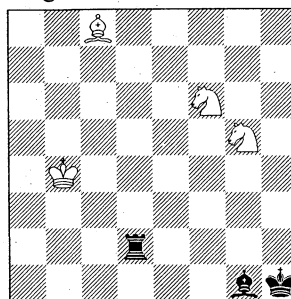
But doesn't White have another way to win after 5...h1S, for example with 6.Bf6, giving V5a?

V5a



d2a7 0026.00 3/3 BTM.

V6 V.Vlasenko
original for EG

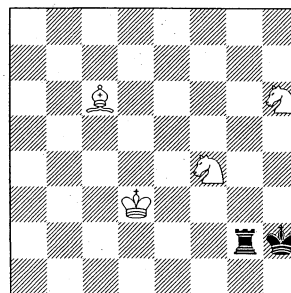


b4h1 0342.00 4/3 Win
1.Bb7+ Rg2 2.Sg4 Bb6 3.Sh3 Ba5+
4.Kb3 Bd2 5.Kc2 Bc1+ 6.Kd1
wins.

But there's a forcing line that raises suspicions: 4.Kc4 Bd2 5.Kd3 Bc1 6.Bc6 Bh6 7.Sxh6 Kh2 8.Sf4, V6a. (wB can also be on a8 or b7 or d5 or e4.) bK is more or less cornered, but is this enough for White to win? It has to be shown.

It is obvious that only the computer can give us the definitive verdict, for to do so unaided is simply beyond the human horizon.

V6a



d3h2 0312.00 4/2 BTM.

The GBR 6-man pawnless classes whose maximal length optimal winning lines especially interest Vlasenko are:

0107 - done in EG121 - 243 moves

0134

0143

0170

0503

0530

Vlasenko's interest is echoed by other readers. In response, EG undertakes to publish further maximum length optimal wins in 6-man pawnless endings (which by themselves do not prove the general case, for they are likely to be no more than fascinating exceptions, as with the 77 move win in 0014 given in EG99) as soon as they are done or as soon as we hear about them. But readers must realise that very significant skills and resources are needed. And as for exactly when the consultation, whether for a charge or not, of a wide selection of these oracles will be widely available - presumably on the Internet - AJR's guess is: the year 2005.

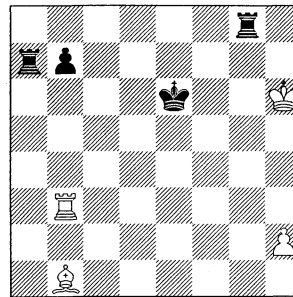
A RECIPROCAL ZUGZWANG PARADOX

Gherman Umnov, Podolsk

The outcome of any position of reciprocal zugzwang hangs on the turn to play. Most of the time study composers strive to carry this through by creating a try in which White, having the move, is in

zugzwang, while in the actual solution the same position occurs but this time with Black having the move. Studies have been composed, and not a few of them, where the reciprocal zugzwang is dragged out for several moves, with Black every time lacking a neutral, in fact useful, move. Hm. Let's see if that is always so.

U1 Gh.A.Umnov
Springaren, ix1999



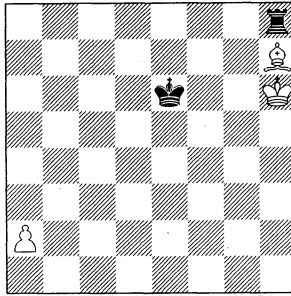
h6e6 0710.11 4/4 Draw

U1: 1.Rxb7 Rh8+ 2.Rh7 aRxh7+ 3.Bxh7, with:

- **Kf7 4.h3! Kf6 5.h4 Kf7 6.h5 Kf6 stalemate, or**
- **Kf6 4.h4! Kf7 5.h5 Kf6 stalemate** again.

In both lines in *U1* we see after White's 4th a position of 'prolonged' reciprocal zugzwang. Now put wP on a2 instead of h2, to create the schema *U2*, with Black to move.

U2 (Gh.A.Umnov - matrix)

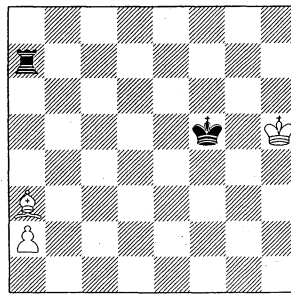


h6e6 0310.10 3/2 BTM, Draw

U2: After 1...Kf7 we have 2.a4! Kf6 3.a5 Kf7 4.a6 Kf6 5.a7, and it's drawn, while after 1...Kf6 2.a3! and so on, also with a draw.

In U2 it is not so much wB that is paralysed as bR which is excluded from play, having no useful move. Obviously if Black had so much as a single neutral move of the rook without unpinning wB, then White would be winkled out of his draw. *But is this really so obvious?*

**U3 Gh.A.Umnov
first publication**



h5f5 0310.10 3/2 Draw

U3: White's choices are bare - he's

under the cosh of mate on the move, and his bishop hangs. After either 1.Bc1 or 1.Bf8, Black will give check with his rook, pinning the bishop for ever. Then the white a-pawn will sooner or later become a sacrificial offering. However, in contrast to U2 all the pieces are one rank lower down the board, and this gives the rook elbow-room for a temporising a move on top of bK's option to oscillate. So there's scarcely anything to choose between 1.Bc1 and 1.Bf8 - they are as bad as each other. Resign, then? Well, with nothing to lose, perhaps something will turn up. 1.Bc1? Rc7! Aha! Black is in no hurry with his check and bishop pin. He's playing cat and mouse, spinning out the agony. 2.Be3 Re7! Now there are two continuations for us to look at:

- 3.Bc1 Re1! 4.Bg5 Rg1! 5.Be7 (Bh4,Rg8;) Rg7! 6.Bf8 Rg8! 7.Bh6 Rg1! and Black wins, or
- 3.Bg5 Rg7! 4.Be3 (Bh6,Rg1;) Rg3! 5.Bf2 Rg2! 6.Be1 Rh2+! 7.Bh4 Rxa2 8.Bg3 Ra1 9.Kh6 Rh1+ 10.Kg7 Rg1, and again Black wins. [A pity that 4.Be3 Re7 transposes into the other line. AJR]

In this pair of try echo-variations Black forces wB to play to the g5 square so that it can be attacked to allow bR to cross the board's equator. But why should Black spurn the pin? Let's take a look at the other first move:

- 1.Bf8!** with:
- Rh7+ 2.Bh6 Rh8 (or Kf6;).

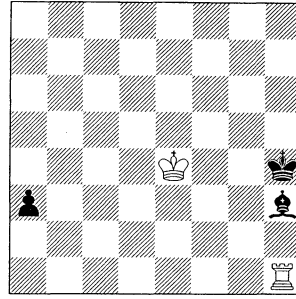
What now? **3.a3!!** It's a paradox, but here's another position of reciprocal zugzwang: **Rh7** (or **Kf5**;) **4.a4 Rh8** (or **Kf6**;) **5.a5 Rh7** (or **Kf5**;) **6.a6 Rh8** (or **Kf6**;) **7.a7**, and this time the zugzwang can no longer be deferred, and it's decisive. Note **3.a4?** **Rh7** **4.a5 Kf6** **5.a6 Kf5** **6.a7 Rxa7**, and Black wins.

- **Rf7 2.Bh6 Rh7**. What's this? It's Black's own king that's in the way of the rook's otherwise winning transfer to the southern hemisphere, whereas in the first line it's the white men that rule out the same manoeuvre. **3.a4!** **3.a3?** **Kf6** **4.a4 Kf5** **5.a5 Kf6** **6.a6 Kf5** **7.a7 Rxa7** wins. **Rh8** (**Kf6**) **4.a5 Rh7** (**Kf5**) **5.a6 Rh8** (**Kf6**) **6.a7**, and it's the self-same zugzwang, with Black paying the drawing penalty.

The try **1.Bc1?** loses for White because his pawn stays rooted to the subsequently vulnerable **a2** square while Black threatens checkmate and harasses the white bishop. In the solution, on the other hand, White paradoxically draws precisely because his pawn *is* on **a2**, keeping the tempo-choice (of moving up one square or two) up his sleeve.

Curiously, in the tries, whether Black allows the excelsior to run to completion or captures the pawn when it reaches **a7** is largely irrelevant, but if he captures on the promotion square a fresh little study (*U4*) arises.

U4 Gh.A.Umnov
first publication



e4h4 0130.01 2/3 Win

U4: 1.Kf3! a2 2.Kf4. We have already met this position in *U3*, but with colours reversed. **a1Q 3.Rxa1 Bg2 4.Ra5! Bf1/i 5.Rg5! Kh3 6.Rg3+ Kh2** (**Kh4;Rg1**) **7.Kf3 Bc4 8.Kf2**

i) **Bh1 5.Ra7 Kh3 6.Rh7+ Kg2 7.Rh8 Kg1 8.Kg3** and **9.Rf8**.

It's a pity this study steps outside our theme, but *U3* in contrast to *U2* demonstrates once again that what is obvious is not always the whole truth. Which has to be the *credo* of every composer.

[See also *EG/35.11444*.]

Obituaries

From Argentia comes the news that Luis Parenti (born 26vi1904) died on 28iii2000. Buletin Problemistic 73 reports the dead of the Romanian composer Paul Joitsa (9xi1937 - 29v2000)

GBR code

(after Guy/Blandford/Roycroft) concisely denotes chessboard force in at most 6 digits. Examples: two white knights and one black pawn codes into **0002.01**; wQ bQ wR codes as **4100**; wBB vs bN codes as **0023**; the full complement of 32 chessmen codes as **4888.88**. The key to encoding is to compute the sum '1-for-W-and-3-for-BI' for each piece type in QRBN sequence, with white pawns and black pawns uncoded following the 'decimal point'. The key for decoding is to divide each QRBN digit by 3, when the quotient and remainder are in each of the 4 cases the numbers of BI and W pieces respectively.

The *GBR* code permits unique sequencing, which, together with the fact that a computer sort of several thousand codes and the reference attached to each is a matter of a second or two, enormously facilitates the construction of look-up directories.

A consequence of the foregoing is the code's greatest overall advantage: its user-friendliness. The *GBR* code has the unique characteristic of equally suiting humans and computers. No special skill or translation process is required whether the code is encountered on a computer printout or whether it is to be created (for any purpose, including input to a computer) from a chess diagram.

A natural extension of the *GBR* code is to use it to represent a complete position. A good convention is to precede the *GBR* code with the squares of the kings, and follow the code with the squares of the pieces, in W-before-BI within code digit sequence, preserving the 'decimal point' to separate the pieces from the pawns, if any (where all W pawns precede all BI).

The 223-move optimal play solution position in the endgame wR wB bN bN would be represented: a7d3 **0116.00** b2b3c6d6 3/3+. The '3/3' is a control indicating 3 W and 3 BI men, with '+' meaning W wins, while '=' would mean White draws. The win/draw indicators are optional. Note that although in this example there are no pawns the *GBR* code decimal point and immediately following pair of zeroes are obligatory (enabling a scan of a text file searching for encoded chess positions) but the absence of a decimal point in the list of squares confirms that there are no pawns. A position with pawns but no pieces would be coded in this manner: a2c4 **0000.32** .d4e3f2e4f3 4/3 WTM. To indicate Black to move (but still with the implied win or draw for White) it is suggested that '-+' and '==' be employed. Where the position result is unknown or undecided or unknowable it is suggested that the computer chess convention 'WTM' (White to move) and 'BTM' be followed. The redundancy check piece-count (including the '/' separator) and terminating full stop are both obligatory.

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