

# THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST

The best of Macedonia!

№ 71 May – August 2023

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The best solvers in the ECSC 2023: Eddy van Beers (the 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up, also the winner of the FIDE World Cup 2023) and the Polish winning team’s members Kacper Piorun (the winner) and Piotr Murdzia (the 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up)  
Source: <https://www.wfcc.ch/16ecsc-final-presentation/>



Steffen S. Nielsen, the *Endgame Labyrinths*’ co-author and *TMP*’s judge  
Source: <https://www.chess.com/article/view/steffen-slumstrup-nielsen-world-champion-study-composition>



Jacob Aagaard, a famous chess trainer and author, the coauthor of *Endgame Labyrinths*  
Source: <https://www.chessbase.in/news/jacob-aagaard-in-india>



Vladimir Sorochan, the judge of *TMP* informal tourney for #2/2018  
Source: Personal archive



Oleg Efrosinin (1956), the judge of *TMP* informal tourney for #3/2022 and a problem chess editor  
Source: <https://juliafairies.com/problems/no-1114/>



Stanislav Vokál (1950), the author of an article about A. Galitsky in this issue  
Source: <https://ratings.fide.com/profile/14943069>



Živko Janevski (1953), a beneficiary of the FIDE Veterans Support Program 2023 – second instalment  
Source: <https://fide.com/news/2492>

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## EDITORIAL

The 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of *The Macedonian Problemist* (TMP) for 2023 is published in December 2023 owing to an unfortunate plethora of events and circumstances in the private and professional life of the magazine's editor, who wishes to apologize to the contributors and readers, and conveys the hope that such delays will not occur in future. In spite of the failure to maintain the intended publication date (August 2023, given that this issue (№ 71) covers the second 4-month period of 2023), we have done our best to maintain the quality of the magazine whose moto is "the best of Macedonia!".

This issue includes the awards of the 2022 informal tournaments in the #2, #3 and studies sections (pp. 5-15), as well as 60 original chess compositions (pp. 16–29) and versions of two fairy chess problems from the earlier issues (p. 30). After a long delay we publish the awards of Georgi Hadži-Vaskov – 70 and Aleksandar Popovski – 90 in a special issue 71-a of TMP 2023.

In this issue we publish information on recent events of FIDE and/or WFCC: the European Chess Solving Championship (p. 3), the FIDE Solving Cup 2022–2023 (p. 4), the 11<sup>th</sup> FIDE World Cup in Composing 2023 (p. 30) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment of the FIDE Veterans Support Program for 2023, of which the Macedonian GM Živko Janevski recently benefited (p. 15).

An article on Aleksandr V. Galitsky reminds us about the problems of this famous Russian chess composer (pp. 31-33).

The book review covers the book *Endgame Labyrinths* by two Danish experts, one of whom is the world champion in composing studies for the 2019-2021 period (and a judge of the 2022 informal tourney of TMP for studies), and the other author is a distinguished trainer and an author of many chess books. This book (reviewed on pages 33-34) includes more than 1,000 practical endgame studies with game-like diagram positions.

Other regular columns in this issue are as follows: "Selected awards" featuring problems by Macedonian problemists (pp. 35–38); and "Let's not forget ... composers who with their work have left (or are leaving) their mark on one or more genres" (pp. 39-40).

At the end of the present issue, we state that the next issue (№ 72) of the magazine for the last four-month period of 2023 will appear at the end of January or in February 2024, so we invite contributors to support this 2023 issue with chess compositions until a new deadline – 25.01.2024. On the last day of 2023 we will publish the award of the formal tourney *The Macedonian Problemist* League 2023, while the awards of Zoran Gavrilovski – 55 JT 2023 will follow afterwards.

### Final team results

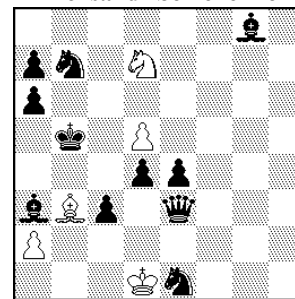
Rank	Name of the country	Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4		Round 5		Round 6		Total	
		Pts	☺	Pts	☺	Pts	☺	Pts	☺	Pts	☺	Pts	☺	Pts	☺
		45	60	45	180	45	300	45	150	45	240	45	150	270	1080
1.	Poland	45	54	45	127	40	228	45	98	45	188	40	124	260	819
2.	Lithuania	45	56	45	152	32	269	40.5	146	33.5	240	41	125	237	988
3.	Slovakia 1	45	56	43.75	164	30	300	44	128	27.5	240	37.5	147	227.75	1035
4.	Serbia	40	40	45	108	25	231	43	85	27.5	240	41	127	221.5	831
5.	Germany	40	51	45	167	21	300	42	122	30.5	234	42.5	120	221	994
6.	Great Britain	45	50	45	143	35	236	41.5	134	28	240	21	150	215.5	953
7.	Israel	45	55	38.75	178	20	300	32	137	18	240	32.5	150	186.25	1060
8.	Netherlands	40	54	40	169	16	276	39.5	144	16.5	240	30	150	182	1033
9.	Ukraine	40	57	43.75	164	18	288	33.5	145	12.5	240	27.5	150	175.25	1044
10.	Finland	35	53	35	175	20	300	38.5	140	16.5	240	27.5	150	172.5	1058
11.	Romania	35	55	32.5	180	23	286	35	149	16	240	26	147	167.5	1057
12.	Czech Repub.	35	60	35	180	17	300	35.5	150	8.5	240	27	150	158	1080
13.	Greece	30	60	30	157	11	300	33	134	6.5	240	35	140	145.5	1031
14.	Slovakia 2	35	55	22.5	177	2	297	23.5	150	8.5	239	14.5	150	106	1068

**Individual results:** 1. Kacper Piorun (POL) – 87.5; 2. Piotr Murdzia (POL) – 86; 3. Eddy van Beers (BEL) – 85; 4. Ulrich Voigt (GER) – 81.5; 5. Vidmantas Satkus (LTU) – 81; 6. Kevinas Kuznecovas (LTU) – 79.5; 7. Marko Filipović (CRO) – 78.5; 8. Tomáš Peitl (SVK) – 76.5; 9. Piotr Górski (POL) – 76; 10. Nikos Sidiropoulos (GRE) – 74.5.

**OPEN SOLVING TOURNAMENT:** 1. Piotr Murdzia – 41; 2. Jonathan Mestel – 36; 3. Eddy van Beers – 31.

### ECSC COMPOSING TOURNEY 2023

**1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Vladislav Nefyodov & Aleksandr Semenenko**

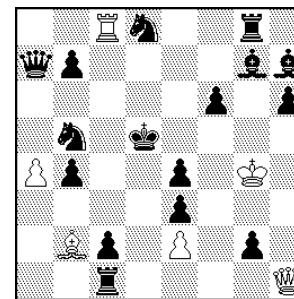


H#2 b) – ♘a2 5+11  
c) = b) & – ♙b3

- a) 1. ♙b4 a3 2. ♗a5 a4#  
b) 1. a5 ♙a2 2. ♗a6 ♙c4#  
c) 1. ♗c4 d6 2. ♗d3 ♗e5#

Removal of white piece that made tempo move in W1 of the previous solution. (Judge)

**2<sup>nd</sup> H.M. Nikola Stolev**

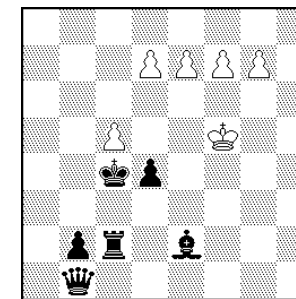


H#2 b) – ♗b5 6+16  
c) = b) & – ♗d8

- a) 1. ♗c3 ♗h2 2. ♗d4 ♗d6#  
b) 1. ♗c6 ♗d1+2. ♗c5 ♗d4#  
c) 1. ♗c5 ♗h5+2. ♗c4 ♗f7#

Elimination of white pieces. The strategic content of this h#2 is very well known. (Judge)

**3<sup>rd</sup> C. Zoran Gavrilovski**



H#2 b) – ♘d7 6+6  
c) = b) & – ♗e7, d) = c) & – ♘f7

- a) 1. ♗b5 d8 ♗2. ♗a6 ♗b6#  
b) 1. ♗b3 e8 ♗2. ♗a2 ♗a4#  
c) 1. ♗d5 f8 ♗2. ♙c4 ♗d6#  
d) 1. ♗d3 g8 ♗2. ♗d2 ♗b3#

Multiple white promotions, combined with ♗-star. (Judge)

## SOLVING NEWS: FIDE SOLVING CUP 2022–2023

- 37<sup>th</sup> Ukrainian Chess Solving Championship 2023, Poltava, 29.04.-30.04.2023**  
 Category 12 (28 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,093.49).  
 Standings: 1. Vladimir Pogorelov – 6 points; Valery Kopyl – 4; 3. Oleksiy Solovchuk – 2.
- 44<sup>th</sup> Open Lithuanian Chess Problems Solving Championship 2023, Kėdainiai, 06.-07.05.2023**  
 Category 11 (11 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,112.64).  
 Standings: 1. Martynas Limontas – 8 points; 2. Kevinas Kuznecovas – 6, Vidmantas Satkus – 4.
- 31<sup>st</sup> International Chess Solving Championship of Slovakia 2023, Bratislava, 13-14.05.2023**  
 Category 9 (22 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,238.57).  
 Standings: 1. Kevinas Kuznecovas – 13 points; 2. Tomáš Peitl – 10; 3. Marek Kolčák – 8.
- Winton British Chess Solving Championship 2023, Nottingham, 20.05.2023**  
 Category 8 (18 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,260.54).  
 Standings: 1. Kevinas Kuznecovas – 16 points; David Hodge – 13; 3. Jonathan Mestel – 10.
- French Chess Problems Solving Championship 2023, Gennevilliers (Paris) 27.05.2023**  
 Category 10 (18 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,183.13).  
 Standings: 1. Kevinas Kuznecovas – 10 points; Andrey Selivanov – 8; 3. Abdelaziz Onkoud – 6.
- Open solving tournament at the 16<sup>th</sup> ECSC 2023, Bratislava, 02.06.2023**  
 Category 2 (71 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,557.55).  
 Standings: 1. Piotr Murdzia – 41 points; 2. Jonathan Mestel – 36; 3. Eddy van Beers – 31.
- 45<sup>th</sup> International German Chess Solving Championship 2023, Gera, 17.-18.06.2023**  
 Category 6 (21 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,385.61).  
 Standings: 1. Ulrich Voigt – 23 points; 2. Boris Tummes – 19; 3. Arno Zude – 16.
- 42<sup>nd</sup> Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2023, Sumgait, 24.-25.06.2023**  
 Category 14 (33 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 1,951.16).  
 Standings: 1. Araz Almammadov – 2 points; 2. Iaroslav Tarasenko – 1.
- 38<sup>th</sup> Israeli (8<sup>th</sup> Open) Solving Championship 2023, Ra'anana (Tel Aviv), 25.06.2023**  
 Category 8 (17 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,261.58).  
 Standings: 1. Danila Pavlov – 16 points; 2. Ofer Comay – 13; 3. Igor Yarmonov – 10.
- 31<sup>st</sup> International Czech Solving Championship 2023, Prague, 26.-27.09.2023**  
 Category 11 (19 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,106.90).  
 Standings: 1. Marek Kolčák – 8 points; 2. Richard Dobiáš – 6; 3. Miloslav Vanka – 4.
- Open Solving Tournament at the 46<sup>th</sup> WCCT 2023, Batumi (Georgia), 04.09.2023**  
 Category 1 (77 solvers, average rating of top-10 solvers: 2,609.08).  
 Standings: 1. Ural Khasanov – 46 points; 2. Eddy Van Beers – 41; 3. Danila Pavlov – 36.

Pl.	Name	Country	Pts.	Perf. rat. (<=6)	Pl.	Name	Country	Pts.	Perf. rat. (<=6)
1.	Eddy van Beers	BEL	91	2703.45	11.	David Hodge	GBR	44	2546.78
2.	Kevinas Kuznecovas	LTU	90	2536.41	12.	Piotr Górski	POL	36	2540.93
3.	Piotr Murdzia	POL	87	2694.06	13.	Miodrag Mladenović	SRB	35	2437.00
4.	Danila Pavlov	FID	83	2789.08	14.	Richard Dobiáš	SVK	35	2308.38
5.	Kacper Piorun	POL	71	2674.16	15.	Arno Zude	GER	32	2518.15
6.	Martynas Limontas	LTU	71	2529.04	16.	Marek Kolčák	SVK	32	2362.20
7.	Vidmantas Satkus	LTU	49	2426.00	17.	Marko Filipović	CRO	28	2581.37
8.	Nikos Sidiropoulos	GRE	47	2631.05	18.	Aleksey Popov	FID	27	2747.51
9.	Ural Khasanov	FID	46	2927.99	19.	Ulrich Voigt	GER	27	2556.30
10.	Jonathan Mestel	GBR	46	2632.25	20.	Dolf Wissmann	NED	26	2478.23

## INFORMAL TOURNEY OF THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST: #2/2018

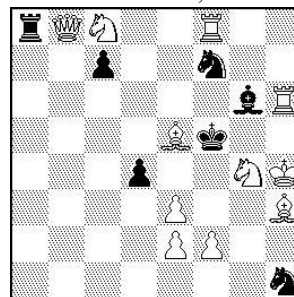
AWARD by Vladimir Sorochan

In the informal tourney of *The Macedonian Problemist* for 2018 there were 18 problems by 15 authors from 9 countries. Some compositions are similar to the earlier efforts of their authors. Basically, the new problems are better than their prototypes, which made it possible to include some of them in the award.

The ranking in this award is given below.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize:

Pavel Murashev, № 2187



1...c5 a 2. ♘f6# A

1. ♗:d4? (2. ♘f6# A) ♖e6! x

1. e:d4? (2. ♘f6#) ♗a3!

1... ♖e6 x 2. ♘e3#

1... ♗h5 y 2. ♖b1#

1. ♖b5? (2. ♘f6# A) c5! a

1... ♖e6 x/ ♗h5 y 2. ♘h2#/ ♗d3#

1. ♗:c7! (~ / ♖e4 2. ♘f6#)

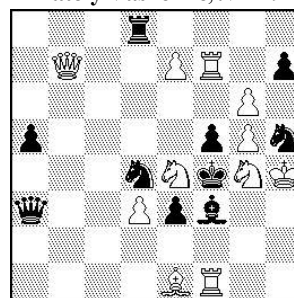
1... ♖e6 x/ ♗h5 y/ ♗:f2

2. ♖:f7#/ ♘d6#/ ♗:f2#

The problem shows change of mates in *Zagoruiko* form, with king *Schiffmann* defence in each phase (only a few #2s with *Zagoruiko* 3 × 2 and triple *Schiffmann* exist). Alas, this complex idea is not backed up by nice introductory play. W1 moves are straightforward and unpretentious in all phases. For comparison, in an earlier #2 by the same author with an analogous scheme (3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. ChessStar 2018, <https://www.yacpdb.org/#468733>) the introductory play is much more interesting, owing to the flight-giving white first moves, but the main content is poorer there, as the royal *Schiffmann* exists in only two phases.

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:

Sergey I. Tkatchenko & Anatoly Vasilenko, № 2191



1. ♘g3? (2. ♖e4# A, 2. ♘:h5# B)

1... ♗:g3 2. ♗:g3#

1... ♗f6!

1. ♘d2? (2. ♖e4# A)

1... ♗c6 2. ♗:f3#

1... ♗:d3!, ♗d5!, ♖:e7!

1. ♘d6? (2. ♖e4# A) ♖:d3!

1... ♗c6 2. ♗:f5#

1. ♘c5? (2. ♖e4# A) ♗d5!

1... ♗c6/ ♖:d3 2. ♘e6#/ ♗:d3#

1. ♘c3? (2. ♖e4# A) ♖:e7!

1... ♗c6/ ♗d5 2. ♘e2#/ ♗:d5#

1. ♘ef6? (2. ♘:h5# B, ♖e4+? A) h:g6!

1... f:g4/ ♗h~ 2. ♖e4# A/ ♗:(:)g3#

1. ♘ef2! (2. ♘h3#, 2. ♖e4+? A)

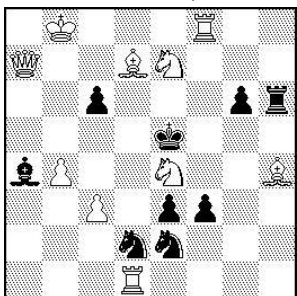
1... ♗:g4/e:f2 2. ♖e4# A/ ♗d2#

Multiple choice of the first move with the *Barnes* theme and double threat correction. The composition is a successful remake of a previously published problem by one of the co-authors (Sergey I. Tkachenko, 6<sup>th</sup> Comm *Uralsky Problemist* – 25 JT 2018, <https://www.yacpdb.org/#467689>). It is important to note that the problem's content is extended, including a fourfold change of mate in the additional variation. But there is no *Rotterdam-Kharkhov* theme, that was declared by the authors. There is no phase in which, as provided for by the theme, the individual parts of the multiple refutation of the try would act as defences in parallel variations, and there would be a collective change of the functions of moves. One of the three thematic refutations (1... ♖:e7!) is not an actual defence at all. However, these details did not affect the ranking of the composition among the prizewinners



3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:

Pavel Murashev, № 2189



#2<sup>v</sup> 10+9

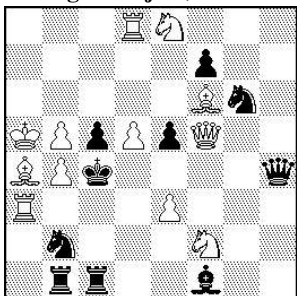
1. ♘d6? (2. ♖c5# A, ♖c7?) ♙b3!  
 1... ♙e4 2. ♖c7# B  
 1... ♗e4 2. ♘c4#  
 1... ♗b3/♗f4 2. ♖e3#/♖d4#  
 1. ♘f6? (2. ♖c7# B, ♖c5+?) ♗c4!  
 1... ♙e4 2. ♖c5# A  
 1... ♗e4 2. ♘g4#
1. ♘g5! (2. ♖c5# A, ♖c7# B)  
 1... ♙d6 2. ♘f7#  
 1... ♗e4 2. ♘:f3#  
 1... ♗c3 2. ♘g3#  
 1... ♙c4 2. ♖c5#  
 1... ♙b3 2. ♖c7#

Another problem with a choice of the first move. The number of phases is fewer than in the previous composition, but the set of themes is more diverse – Barnes theme, Sushkov theme, royal le Grand, change of mates in Zagoruiko form plus the Dombrovskis theme with a double threat. In the initial position

no mate is prepared after 1... ♙e4. One explanation that suggests itself is that there was no other way of avoiding cooks. The departure of the knight from the hot e4 square looks completely predictable. This slightly spoils the impression of this problem which is otherwise good.

1<sup>st</sup> Honourable Mention:

Dragan Stojnić, № 2119



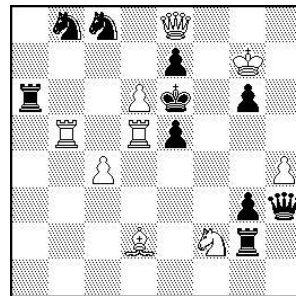
#2<sup>v</sup> 12+10

1. ♘d1? (2. ♙b3# A) ♗d3!  
 1... ♙e4 x 2. ♘d6# B  
 1... ♙c4 2. ♖c8#  
 1... ♖c3/♖:d1/♗b~/♖e4  
 2. ♖:c3#/♖c2#/♖:f1#/♖:e4#
1. ♖f3! (2. ♘d6# B)  
 1... ♙e4 x 2. ♙b3# A  
 1... ♙c4 2. ♖c8#  
 1... ♖:f6, ♖e4 2. ♖:(:)e4#

Complex and interesting synthesis of le Grand theme and Isaev theme. In the try and solution the thematic defence 1... ♙e4 removes the white queen's control over the square d3 or d5, which prevents White from carrying out the threat by means of interfering with the white piece's line that also controls the said square (d3 or d5). In such a way the Barulin defence is shown. However, the same defence

Also opens a line of a white piece that allows it to control a square adjacent to the black king, thereby allowing White to give a Somov mate (B-theme) by interfering with a line of another white piece. A dozen and half problems with such a synthesis of topics are familiar. Moreover, a quarter of these problems are composed in the form of twins, which, in my opinion, in itself implies a kind of secondary level perception of such compositions. In some works, this synthesis is presented only in a single phase. A fully-fledged twinless two-phase synthesis of le Grand theme and Isaev themes can be found only in a few twomovers. Everything rests on an extremely limited choice of mechanisms. It is difficult to create something completely new, therefore partial repetitions of the scheme are inevitable. Compare this chess composition from the present informal tourney of TMP with the twomover by Rainer Paslack, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. Deutsche Schachblätter / Schach-Report 1994 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#233993>).

2<sup>nd</sup> Honourable Mention:  
 Anatoly Slesarenko, № 2188



#2 \*<sup>v</sup> 9+10

- 1... ♙f5 x 2. ♖:g6# A/♖f7# B/  
 ♖:e5# C  
 1.d7? (2. ♖:g6# A/♖f7# B) ♖:f2!  
 1... ♙f5 x 2. ♖:e5# C  
 1... ♖f5 y 2.d8 ♘#  
 1. ♘b4? (2. ♖:e5# C) ♖f5! y  
 1... ♙f5 x 2. ♖f7# B  
 1. ♘e4! (2. ♖:e5# C)  
 1... ♙f5 x 2. ♖:g6# A  
 1... ♗d7 2. ♖f7# B  
 1... ♖f5 y 2. ♘c5#  
 1... ♗c6 2. ♖:c8#

2<sup>nd</sup> Honourable Mention: Anatoly Slesarenko, № 2188

Burmistrov combination with differentiation of mates in Ellerman-Mäkihovi manner. An aesthetic and well-constructed problem with pattern play.

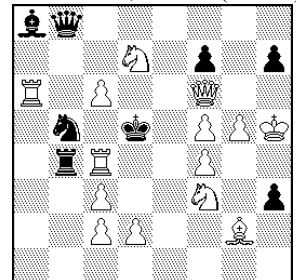
3<sup>rd</sup> Honourable Mention: Givi Mosiashvili, № 2118

Dombrovskis theme with a double threat, and good addition of change of mate after a self-pinning flight by the black king on the square granted by the key move.

1<sup>st</sup> Commendation: Zoran Gavrilovski, № 2120

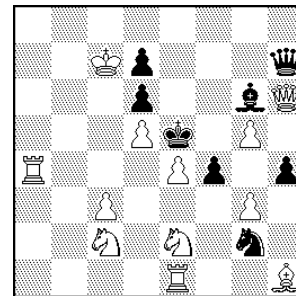
Royal le Grand theme with direct battery play in the try and indirect battery play in the solution. A few pieces can be saved, as shown in the diagram below:

V. Sorochan, № 2120 (version)



#2<sup>v</sup> 14+8

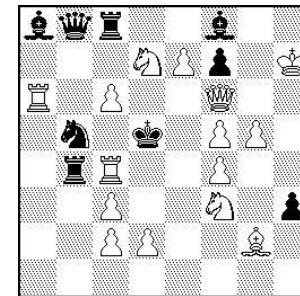
3<sup>rd</sup> Honourable Mention:  
 Givi Mosiashvili, № 2118



#2<sup>v</sup> 12+8

1. ♖f8? (2. ♖:d6# A, 2. ♖f6# B)  
 1... ♖e7 2. ♖:e7#  
 1... ♙e4! x  
 1. ♘cd4? (2. ♘f3#) ♙h5!  
 1... ♙e4 x 2. ♖:d6# A [♖f6+?]  
 1... ♙e4 2. ♘:f4#  
 1... ♗e1 2.g:f4#  
 1. ♘b4! (2. ♘d3#)  
 1... ♙e4 x 2. ♖f6# B [♖:d6+?]  
 1... ♙e4 2. ♘d4#  
 1... ♗e1 2.g:f4#

1<sup>st</sup> Commendation:  
 Zoran Gavrilovski, № 2120

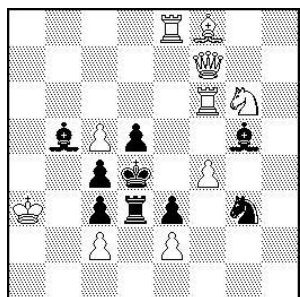


#2<sup>v</sup> 15+9

1. ♙h1? (2. ♘fe5# A) ♖b1!  
 1... ♙c4 x 2. ♖:f7# B  
 1... ♖:c4 2. ♘d4#  
 1... ♖:f4 2. ♘b6# C  
 1... ♗c3(♗d6, ♗d4) 2. ♖:(:)d4#  
 1.c7! (2. ♖:f7# B)  
 1... ♙c4 x 2. ♘fe5# A  
 1... ♖:c4 2. ♖e5#  
 1... ♖b6 2. ♘:b6# C  
 1... ♙c6 2. ♖:c6#  
 1... ♗c7(♗d6, ♗d4) 2. ♖:(:)d4#

1... ♗c7(♗d6, ♗d4) 2. ♖:(:)d4#

2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation:  
**Januarta Simadhinata, № 2117**



#2 ♣ ♣ 10+9

1. ♖d6? (2. ♗/♘:d5#) ♙c6!  
 1... ♗:c5 2. ♗a7#  
 1. ♘e5? (2. ♘f3#) ♙e8!  
 1... ♗e4 2. ♘c6#  
 1. ♘e7! (2. ♗:d5#)  
 1... ♗:c5 2. ♘f5# [♘c6+?]  
 1... ♗e4 2. ♘c6# [♘f5+?]  
 1... ♙c6 2. ♘:c6#

2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation: **Januarta Simadhinata, № 2117**

The first moves of the tries weaken the position of White by granting a square to the black king - c5 and e4, respectively. Contrary to standard logic, a move leading to success is the one which unifies both weaknesses in the actual play: in the solution, the black king gains access to both c5 and e4. Many years ago such a paradox was called the “Soviet-French theme”, or the “French-Soviet theme” – whichever you prefer. The battery play with anti-dual choice of mates fits organically into the final combination.

3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation: **Aleksandr Pankratiev & Zoran Gavrilovski, № 2192**

The first moves of the tries become mates in the solution. This well-known scheme was shown earlier (for example: Jean-Pierre Boyer, 1<sup>st</sup> Pr. *Europe-Échecs* 1981 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#2990>); Aleksandr Pankratiev, 2<sup>nd</sup> H.M. *Wola Gulowska* 1989 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#377269>); Evgeny Fomichev, *Variantim* 2013 (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#441950>), but here it is brilliantly polished and devoid of any shortcomings that feature in its predecessors. If the mechanism had been original, it would have scored a Prize, but, alas, it is awarded only a Commendation.

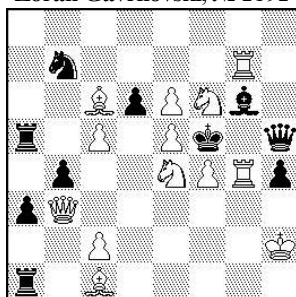
4<sup>th</sup> Commendation: **Živko Janevski, № 2121**

Royal *Schiffmann* in the try and *Schiffmann-1* defence in the solution. This well-conceived problem has a substantial flaw: ♘a3 is not needed in the final phase.

Vladimir Sorochan, April 2023

Thanks to Vladimir for his award, made promptly after being asked in the beginning of 2023 to replace the originally appointed judge. His award will remain open until 1.4.2024. Please send anticipation claims to [zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com](mailto:zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com) (Editor).

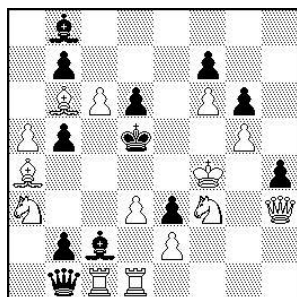
3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation:  
**Aleksandr Pankratiev & Zoran Gavrilovski, № 2192**



#2 ♣ ♣ ♣ 13+10

1. ♗h3? A (2. ♖g5#) ♗:c1!  
 1... ♗:g4 x 2. ♗:g4#  
 1. ♗d3? B (2. ♘g5#) d:e5!  
 1... ♗:c5 y 2. ♘:c5#  
 1. ♙d7? C (2. e7#) ♙e8!  
 1... ♗:c5 y/♙f7 2. ♘:d6#/e:f7#  
 1. ♘d5!! (2. ♘e3#)  
 1... ♗:g4/♗:e4/♗:e6/♗:g4 x  
 2. ♗h3#A/♗d3#B/♙d7#C/♘e7#

4<sup>th</sup> Commendation:  
**Živko Janevski, № 2121**



#2 ♣ ♣ 14+12

1. ♘b5? (2. ♘c3#) ♙a4!  
 1... ♙:d3/♗:c6 2. ♙b3#/♘c7#  
 1. ♘d4? (2. ♗g2#, ♗h1#, ♗f3#)  
 1... ♙:d3!  
 1. ♗g2? (2. ♘d4#) h3!  
 1. ♗h1! (2. ♘d4#)  
 1... ♗:c6 2. ♘e5#  
 1... ♙:d3 2. ♙b3#  
 [1... ♗e6 2. ♘d4#]

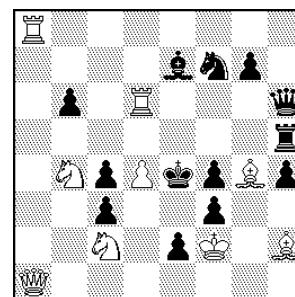
**INFORMAL TOURNEY OF THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST: #3/2022**

AWARD by Oleg Efrosinin

Twelve problems by authors from Azerbaijan, Belarus, Israel, Macedonia, Russia, Slovakia and Ukraine participated in the tourney. In quantitative terms, it is quite worthy, taking into account numerous similar competitions. When evaluating the #3s, I took into account, first of all, the tactical richness of variations, the harmony of the defences and the quality of construction.

I thank all authors for their problems and I propose the following ranking.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize:  
**Viktor Volchek, № 2662**



#3 9+13

1. ♖f8! (2. ♗a8+ ♖d5 3. ♗:d5#)  
 1... ♗a5 2. ♗h1 (3. ♗:f3#)  
 2... ♗e5 3. ♙f5# A  
 2... ♗g5 3. ♖:f4# B  
 [2. ♗:c3? ♖a3!]  
 1... ♗:d6 2. ♗:c3 (3. ♗:f3#)  
 2... ♗e5 3. ♖:f4# B  
 2... ♗g5 3. ♙f5# A  
 2... ♗:d4+ 3. ♗:d4#  
 [2. ♗h1? ♗:d4+!]

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: **Viktor Volchek, № 2662**

Two central variations with exchange of mates after two black defences 2... ♗e5 and 2... ♗g5 with interesting exchange of pieces whose lines are interfered – black queen and black rook. Original! The key should be considered successful, since the rook’s W1 move sets up an ambush.

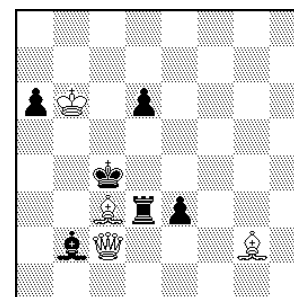
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: **Zoran Gavrilovski, № 2595**

The author refers to the *Chumakov* helpmate theme (“black pieces blocking the squares adjacent to the black king in set play are eliminated in the solution), where captures of black pieces correspond to helpmate-specific features. In my opinion, in the orthodox (and especially the #3) field, such a double capture of black pieces, as in the 1<sup>st</sup> pair of variations, looks inorganic. The 2<sup>nd</sup> pair involves self-block and ♗’s line opening. The harmony here is in something else: both pairs are connected by transfer of black defences from B1 to B2 moves. Someone once called this idea the *Babouchka* theme. Owing to this feature, this problem deserves a high distinction! The light setting (gravura – 10 pieces) and the excellent use of the white pieces emphasize the impression.

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: **Zoltán Labai & Miroslav Svítek, № 2596**

The 1<sup>st</sup> pair with exchange of squares of self-blocks and sacrifices looks great. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> pair there is a changed move function. The tactical unity is fine in the 1<sup>st</sup> pair, but there is inconsistency in the 2<sup>nd</sup> pair: diversion and self-blocking. The key is weak.

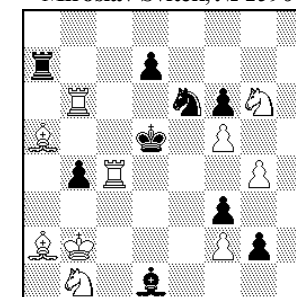
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:  
**Zoran Gavrilovski, № 2595**



#3 4+6

1. ♙c6! (2. ♙b2+ ♖c3 x/♗b4  
 3. ♗:c3#/♗a4#)  
 1... ♖d2 2. ♙:d2+ ♙c3 y/♗d4  
 3. ♗:c3#/♗e4#  
 1... ♖:c3 x 2. ♗e4+ ♗b3  
 3. ♗a4#  
 1... ♙:c3 y 2. ♗a2+ ♗b4/♗d4  
 3. ♗a4#/♗d5#

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:  
**Zoltán Labai & Miroslav Svítek, № 2596**

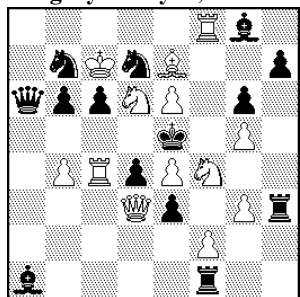


#3 10+9

1. ♘d2! (2. ♘e7+ ♗e5 3. ♖e4#)  
 1... ♗c5 2. ♖d4++ ♗:d4 3. ♖d6#  
 1... ♗d4 2. ♖c5++ ♗:c5 3. ♘e4#  
 1... ♗g5 2. ♖b5+A ♗d6 3. ♙b4#  
 1... d6 2. ♘f4+ ♗e5/♗:f4  
 3. ♖e4#/♖b5# A



1<sup>st</sup> Honourable Mention:  
Aleksandr Pankratiev &  
Evgeny Gavryliv, № 2600

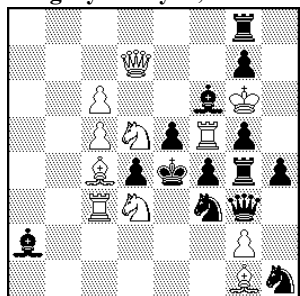


#3 13+14

1. ♖f6! (2. ♗:d4+ ♘:d4 3. ♙d3#)  
1... ♗bc5 x 2. ♘f7+ ♙:f7 3. ♘d6#  
1... ♗dc5 y 2. ♖f5+ g:f5 3. ♘f6#  
1... ♗a3 2. ♖e5+ ♗b:c5 x, ♗d:c5 y 3. ♘c4#  
1... ♗d1 2. ♘:g6+ h:g6 3. f4#

Two variations with square vacating sacrifices, supplemented by a 3<sup>rd</sup> variation with *transfer* of the black defences from B1 to B2 moves. This idea is shown in the problem that is honoured with 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize. It is pleasant that the threat also includes a square vacating sacrifice. Finally, the 27 pieces on the chessboard indicate the constructional complexity of realising the scheme that has been chosen by the authors. In this context, I note that all pieces are properly used.

2<sup>nd</sup> Honourable Mention:  
Aleksandr Pankratiev &  
Evgeny Gavryliv, № 2598

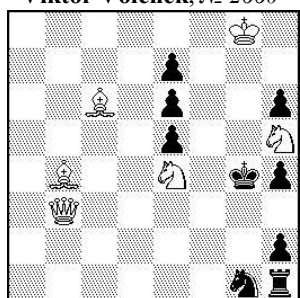


#3 11+14

1. ♖b3! (2. ♘c3+ d:c3 3. ♗d5#)  
1... ♗d8 2. ♘:f6+ g:f6 3. ♘d5#  
1... ♗g1 2. ♖:e5+ ♘:e5 3. ♗f5#  
1... ♗f2 2. ♘:f2+ ♗:f2 3. ♘d3#  
1... ♗f2 2. ♘:f2+ ♗:f2 3. g:f3#

The authors needed no fewer than 25 pieces for showing evacuation sacrifices (on three squares) in four variations. The white knights are used well, but the rook on f5 plays in only one variation. Finally, the repetition of a white 2<sup>nd</sup> move (2. ♘:f2+) also does not enhance the problem.

3<sup>rd</sup> Honourable Mention:  
Vidady Zamanov &  
Viktor Volchek, № 2660



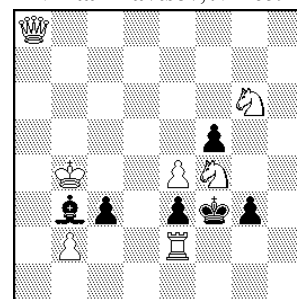
#3 v v v [v v v] 6+9

1. ♘:e7? (2. ♘f2+ ♗:h5/♗f5 3. ♘e8# ♘e4#) ♗f5!  
1... ♗:h5 2. ♗:e6 (3. ♘e8#/♗f5#) ♗f3 3. ♘e8#  
1. ♗e3? (2. ♘f2+ ♗:h5/♗f5 3. ♘e8# ♘e4#) ♗:h5!  
1... ♗f5 2. ♘g7+ ♗g4/♗g6 3. ♘f2# ♘e8#  
1... ♗h3 2. ♗:h3+ ♗:h3/♗h5 3. ♘f2# ♘e8#  
1... h3 2. ♗g3+ ♗:h5/♗f5 3. ♘e8#/♘g7#  
1. ♘f7? (zugzwang) h3!  
1... ♗e2, ♗h3 2. ♗:(:)h3+ ♗:h3/♗h5 3. ♘f2#/♗f3#  
1... ♗f3 2. ♗:e6+ ♗:h5 3. ♗g6#  
1... ♗:h5 2. ♗d1+ ♗f3/♗e2 3. ♗:f3#/♗:e2#  
1. ♗h3+? A ♗:h3!; 1. ♗:e6+? B ♗f3!; 1. ♗g3+? C h:g3!  
1. ♘e1! (zugzwang)  
1... ♗e2 (h3) 2. ♗:(:)h3+! A [2. ♗:e6+?] ♗:h3/♗h5 3. ♘f2# ♘e8#  
1... ♗f5 2. ♗:e6+! B [2. ♗h3+?] ♗:e6 3. ♘g7#  
1... h3 2. ♗g3+ C ♗f5 3. ♘g7#  
1... ♗:h5/♗f3 2. ♗:e6(+) ♗f3/♗h5 3. ♘e8#

The authors referred to the tries 1. ♘:e7?, 1. ♗e3? and 1. ♘f7? which may cause some trouble to the solvers, but in terms of content their meaning is diminished due to refutations

by means of king's flights to a free square. In the solution there are two sacrifices by the white queen, of which particularly beautiful is the variation 1... ♗f5 2. ♗:e6+! with a model mate. Alas, there is only one such mate ...

1<sup>st</sup> Commendation:  
Nikita Kravtsov, № 2659



#3 v 7+6

1. ♗a1? (2. ♗h1+ ♗g4/g2  
3. ♗h5#/♗g2#) ♘d1!  
1... ♗:e4 2. ♗a8+ ♘d5/♗d4  
3. ♗:d5#/b:c3#  
1... g2 2. ♗g1 (3. ♗:g2#) ♗:e4  
3. ♗:e3#  
1. ♗h8! (2. ♗h1+ ♗g4/g2  
3. ♗h5#/♗g2#)  
1... ♗:e4 2. ♗a8+ ♘d5/♗d4  
3. ♗:d5#/b:c3#  
1... g2 2. ♗h3+ ♗:e4 3. ♗:e3#

1<sup>st</sup> Commendation: Nikita Kravtsov, № 2659

According to the author: "Two systems of corner-to-corner play". A simple, but clear plot on the topic: to which corner should the white queen move? The black bishop b3 determines everything. Such a thematic play is enriched by change of white continuation after 1...g2. The problem makes a pleasant impression both from a composing and solving point of view.

2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation: Evgeny Gavryliv, № 2661

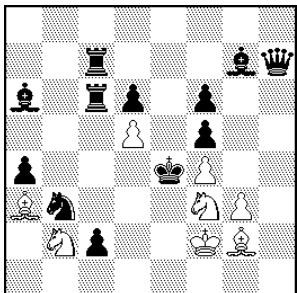
According to the author: "Zagoruiko with play after B1 and B2 moves". The change of continuations and mates here is of a geometric (formal) nature, i.e. it is not associated with a change in the nature of the pieces' interaction. The linear play of the white pieces in itself is devoid of any interest.

3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation: Vladimir Kozhakin, № 2658

A miniature! A sacrificial introductory move and two variations with quiet second moves. I would like to particularly note the *pseudo-threat*: Black does not have a waiting move to allow enforcement of this threat (1...?? 2. ♗e3). However, there are no significant reasons to exclude a pseudo-threat from the author's content - after all, in this case we are dealing with ... a miniature.

Three problems were not honoured:

Aleksandr Pankratiev, № 2597



#3 \* 8+12

- 1...♖c3 2.♗g5++A ♔d4 3.♗e6#  
**1.♗b4!** (2.♗g5+A ♔d4 3.♗e6#)  
 1...♗c8 2.♗g1+ ♔d4 3.♗e2#  
 1...♗c5 2.♗e1+ ♔d4 3.♗:c2#  
 1...♗g8 2.♗h4+ ♔d4 3.♗:f5#  
 1...♗e7 2.♗e5+ ♔d4 3.♗:c6#

Aleksandr Pankratiev, № 2597

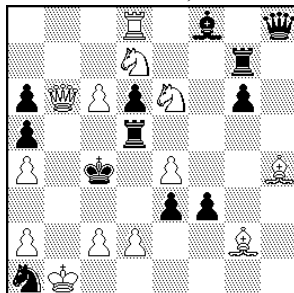
The eternal *Siers* battery with five variations in a light setting. However, in terms of the idea there is no novelty here. Very simple motivations: interference (1) + diversions (4). The variation from the set play does not add a quality scale, because it is duplicated in the threat. Compare with the problem by the Soviet classic: E. Umnov, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. 64 1940 (<https://www.yacpdb/48138>), where 16 pieces show more interesting interferences (3) + diversions (2).

Leonid Makaronez & Viktor Volchek, № 2599

There is some (weak) tactical analogy in the main variations – in which ambushing white pieces (rook d8 and bishop e1) come into play. The only truly beautiful variation is 1...♖:d2 with the square vacating sacrifice 2.♗d4+ and annihilation of the pawn. But the weak use of the white rook d8 and especially the bishop g2 (♗g2 and ♗e3 can be simply removed from the board) shows that the authors should continue their search in this scheme, focusing on a more integral play from an idea point of view.

Look at a possible variant of a scheme of this problem (the diagram on the right side): A similar variation is added to the aforementioned variation from the authors' version, with analogous use of opening of the f2-c5 line. In addition, the alteration of the sacrifice and mate by two white pieces (the queen and the knight b5) unifies the variations.

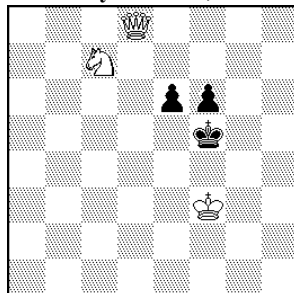
Leonid Makaronez & Viktor Volchek, № 2599



#3 13+12

- 1.♗e1!** (2.d3+ ♖:d3 3.♗:a6#)  
 1...♖:d2 2.♗d4+ ♖:d4 3.♗b6#  
 1...♖d3 2.♗e5+ d:e5 3.c:d3#  
 1...♖b5+ 2.♗:b5+ a:b5 3.d3#  
 1...♖h5 2.♗b2 (3.♗c3#/♗b6#)  
 2...♖b5 3.d3#  
 1...e:d2 2.♗f1+ ♖d3/♗c3  
 3.♗d4#/♗b2#

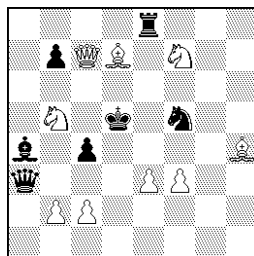
Vladimir Kozhakin & Anastasiya Bazhan, № 2657



#3 \* 3+3

- 1...♗e5 2.♗e8 ♗f5/f5  
 3.♗:f6#/♗d6#  
**1.♗e8!** (2.♗:f6#)  
 1...♗g6 2.♗:f6+ ♗h7/♗h5  
 3.♗g7#/♗g7#  
 1...♗g5 2.♗:f6+ ♗h5 3.♗g7#  
 1...♗e5 2.♗d3 (3.♗e4#)  
 2...f5 3.♗d6#

Scheme of № 2599



#3 9+7

- 1.♗f2!** (2.e4+ ♖:e4  
 3.♗:b7#)  
 1...♖:e3 2.♗e5+ ♖:e5  
 3.♗c7#  
 1...♗:e3 2.♗c3+ ♗:c3  
 3.♗c5# (2...♗d43.♗b6#)  
 (1...♗:b5 2.♗:b7+ ♗c5  
 3.♗:b5#; 2...♗c6 3.♗:c6#)

Vladimir Kozhakin & Anastasiya Bazhan, № 2657

There is a changed continuation after the black king's move 1...♗e5. However, the remaining play is standard and the defences 1...♗g6 and 1...♗g5 merely prolong the short threat.

Oleg Efrosinin, International Judge for chess compositions Volgograd (Russia), 30.08.2023

Thanks to Oleg for the award, which is open until 1.4.2024. Claims to [zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com](mailto:zoran.gavrilovski@gmail.com)

## INFORMAL TOURNEY OF THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST: STUDIES/2022 AWARD by Steffen S. Nielsen

11 studies took part in the 2022 informal study tournament of *The Macedonian Problemist*, the first of its kind. They were sent to me by the editor Zoran Gavrilovski. Considering that the tournament wasn't announced until well into 2022, the number of entries was satisfactory and so was the level. but I believe the level was somewhat disappointing. I am always happy to see a new study tournament emerge, and I am convinced the level will be even higher in subsequent tournaments of *The Macedonian Problemist*.

I regret having to repeat my lesson from previous awards that a series of precise, economical, but essentially idea-less moves do not constitute an artistic work of any value. In this tournament Kekely and Hlinka repeated their "crimes". I cannot begin to guess how these works come about. Are the pieces simply set up until the engine gives a long, captureless line without duals?

Other studies left out the award were based on ideas I find boring/outdated. For instance, a king move to a precise square in response to a check (Arestov), where the king would have been vulnerable later on, had it moved to any other square. Additional ideas are needed to make this concept great again.

The study by Minski/Avni, though of course skillfully crafted, too much resembles previous similar tactics of stalemate avoidance and unguarded guards.

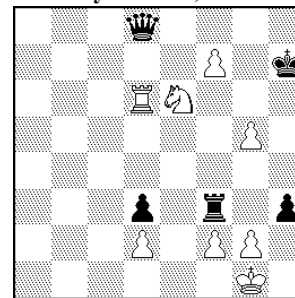
One study by Egorov (№ 2666) shows some good play, but the capture of the rook c2 is very harmful. The other (№ 2667) by the same author, also doesn't show any clear idea (at least I couldn't find it). Both studies unnecessarily begin with Black to move.

Prusikin's attempt at a middle game study did not convince me despite two moves out of the ordinary. Having 18 pieces on the board calls for more ambitious ideas.

The two top studies of the tournament were very close in quality. In the end I gave first prize to the most ambitious idea rather than to the amazing flow of the other candidate.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize:

Serhiy Didukh, № 2668



+ Black to move 8+5

- 1...h2+!** [1...♗:d6 2.g:f3 ♗:e6 3.f8♗+!; 1...♗e7 2.g:f3 ♗:f7  
 3.♖d7! ♗:d7 4.♗f8+; 1...♗a5 2.g:f3 ♗a1+ 3.♗h2 ♗f1  
 4.♗g3! ♗g2+ 5.♗f4 ♗h2+ 6.♗g4 ♗d6 7.f8♗ ♗:e6+ 8.♗g3+-]  
**2.♗h1 ♗a8**  
**3.♖a6!!** [logical try 3.g:f3 ♗:f3+ 4.♗:h2 ♗:f2+ 5.♗h3  
 5...♗f3+! (5...♗:f7? 6.g6+! ♗:g6 7.♗f8+) 6.♗h4 ♗f2+ 7.♗g4  
 7...♗:f7 8.g6+ ♗:g6+ 9.♗g5+ ♗h8! 10.♖:g6 stalemate;  
 3.g6+? ♗h6! (3...♗:g6? 4.♗c7+) 4.g7 ♗a1+ 5.♗:h2 ♗e5+]  
**3...♗e4** [3...♗:a6 4.g:f3 ♗:e6 5.f8♗+]  
**4.g:f3 ♗:f3+ 5.♗:h2 ♗:f2+ [5...♗h5+ 6.♗g3 ♗:f7 7.f4+-]**  
**6.♗h3! ♗f3+ 7.♗h4 ♗f2+ 8.♗g4 ♗:f7 9.g6+! ♗:g6+ 10.♗g5+ ♗h8! 11.♖d6! zz ♗e8 12.♖d8! ♗:d8 13.♗f7+]**

The jump in place ♖d6–a6–d6 puts Black in zugzwang, avoids the stalemate and traps the black queen, 1-0.

White needs to foresee a Black stalemate trap. White plays 3.♖a6!! to ensure the position after 11.♖d6 is reached with Black to move. A difficult concept. Black to move and an unnatural rook on f3 in the initial position are clear blemishes.



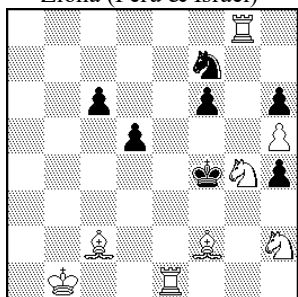




ORIGINAL PROBLEMS, edited by Zoran Gavrilovski

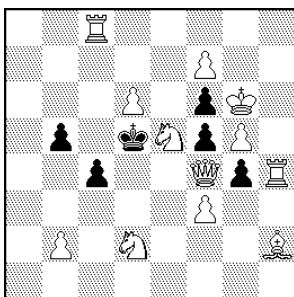
#2 / JUDGE: KABE MOEN (USA)

2769 Antonio Tarnawiecki & Paz Einat, Lima & Ness Ziona (Peru & Israel)



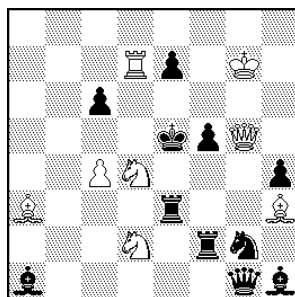
#2 vvv 8+7

2770 Pavel Murashev Himki (Russia)



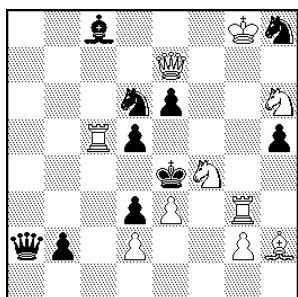
#2 vvvv 12+6

2771 Pavel Murashev Himki (Russia)



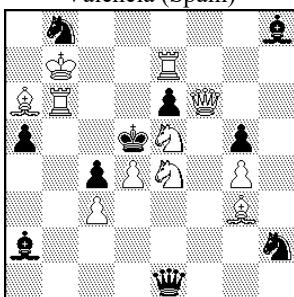
#2 vvv 8+11

2772 Pavel Murashev Himki (Russia)



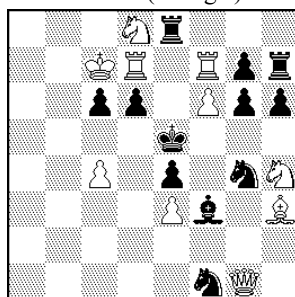
#2 \*vv 10+10

2773 Luis Gómez Palazon & Miguel Uris, Murcia & Valencia (Spain)



#2 vv 11+10

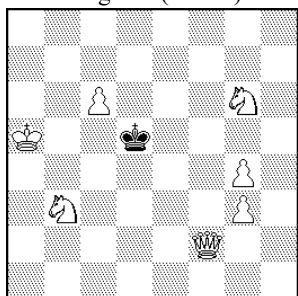
2774 Givi Mosiashvili Rustavi (Georgia)



#2 \*v 10+12

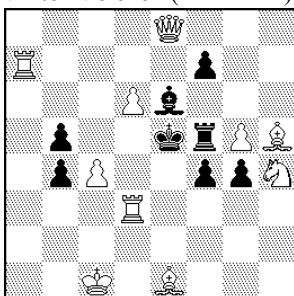
#3 / JUDGE: PREDRAG ŽUVIĆ (CROATIA)

2775 Petrašin Petrašinović Belgrade (Serbia)



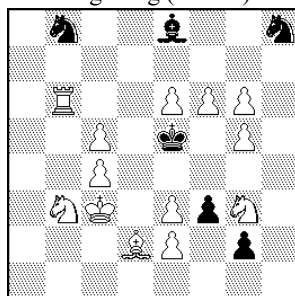
#3 \*vv 7+1

2776 Vidadi Zamanov & Viktor Volchek (AZE/BLR)



#3 10+8

2777 Gennady Ignatenko Taganrog (Russia)



#3 13+6

2769 A. Tarnawiecki & P. Einat

1. ♖e3? (2. ♗g2#) ♜e5!  
1... ♗h3 2. ♖g3#  
1. ♗:f6? (2. ♖g4#) ♜g5!  
1... ♜e5 2. ♖e3# A  
1. ♖g1? (2. ♖e3# A) d4!  
1. ♖e5! (2. ♖g4#)  
1... ♜e5 2. ♖e3# A  
1... ♜g5 2. ♗g6#  
1... f5 2. ♗d3#

B-theme. (Zoran Gavrilovski)

2770 P. Murashev

1. ♘:f6? (zugzwang) c3!, b4!  
1... g3 a, ♜:d6 b 2. ♖d4# A  
1. ♗:g4? (zugzwang) c3!  
1... ♜e6/f:g4/b4  
2. ♖:f5# B/♖e4# X/♖:c4# Y  
1. ♗:e:c4? C (zugzwang) b4!  
1... g3 a/b:c4/f:g5  
2. ♖:f5# B/♖:c4# Y/♖e5# Z  
1. ♗c6!? D (2. ♖:f5# B) g3! a  
1... ♜c5 2. ♖d4# A  
1. ♖:f5! B (2. ♗c6# D)  
1... g3 a/♜:d6 b/f:e5/♜d4  
2. ♗e:c4# C/♖d7# ♖e5# Z/♖e4# X

Salazar (CB), Reversal II (DB), Urania (B), Dombrovskis paradox (aB), change of 2 mates, transfer of 4 mates (cycle XY-YZ-ZX) and Kharkov II theme. (Author)

2771 P. Murashev

1. ♖:e7? (2. ♖f6#) ♖:d4! x  
1... ♗:d2 2. ♖:f5# A  
1. ♖c5? (2. ♖:e7# B) ♜f4! y  
1... e6 z 2. ♗:c6# C  
1. ♖:f5? (2. ♗:c6# C) ♜e1!  
1... ♖:d4 x/♜f4 y/♖:f5  
2. ♖:e7# B/♖g4# ♖:f5# A  
1. ♗:f5! (2. ♖:e7# B)  
1... ♜e6+/♜f4 y/e6 z/♖:f5  
2. ♗d4#/♗g3#/♖d6#/♖:f5# A

Battery creation, Caprice, pseudo le Grand, flight-giving key, check provocation, switchback, change of 2 mates and transferred mate. (Author)

2772 P. Murashev

- 1... ♖c~ 2. ♖:e6# X  
1. ♗:h5? (2. ♖g4# A) ♜g6!  
1... e5 a 2. ♗f6#  
1. ♖h4? B (2. ♗g6#) ♜f5!  
1... e5 a/♜e5 2. ♗f6# C/♗:d3#  
1. ♗f:e6! C (2. ♗g5#)  
1... d4/♜e5 b/♖:e6+  
2. ♖h4# B/♖g4# A/♖:e6# X

Salazar mechanism, pseudo-Salazar, 3 different battery plays, change of 2 mates and transfer of 1 mate. (Author)

2773 L. Gómez Palazon & M. Uris

1. ♖g6? (2. ♖b5# A, ♖d6# C)  
1... ♖:e4 x 2. ♖:e6# B  
1... ♖b1!  
1. ♗c6? (2. ♖:e6# B) ♜:e4!  
1... ♖:e4 x 2. ♖b5# A  
1... ♖:f6/e5 2. ♗:f6#/♖:e5#  
1. ♗:c4! (2. ♖:e6# B)  
1... ♖:e4 x 2. ♖d6# C  
1... ♖:c3/♜:e4/♖:f6/e5  
2. ♗:c3#/♖f5#/♗:f6#/♖:e5#

Burmistrov combination. (Authors)  
The try 1. ♖g6? regrettably takes a flight. (Z.G.)

2774 G. Mosiashvili

- 1... ♜g~ 2. ♗:g6# A, ♗:c6# B  
1... ♜g:e3! x  
1... ♜f~ 2. ♖a1# C, ♖g3# D  
1... ♜f:e3! y  
1. f:g7? (2. ♗:g6# A)  
1... ♜g:e3 x 2. ♗:c6# B  
1... ♜f:e3 y 2. ♖a1# C  
1... ♖:d8 2. ♖de7#  
1... ♖:g7!  
1. ♖:d6! (2. ♗:c6# B)  
1... ♜g:e3 x 2. ♗:g6# A  
1... ♜f:e3 y 2. ♖g3# D  
1... ♖:d8, ♖e7+ 2. ♖f(:)e7#

Secondary Dombrovskis, le Grand theme, separation of dual mates and 2 × 3 change of mates. (Author)

2775 P. Petrašinović

- 1... ♖e4 2. ♗f4 (3. ♖e2#)  
2... ♖e5 3. ♖d4#  
1... ♜e6 2. ♖f5+ ♜d6 3. ♖d7#  
1. ♖c2? (zugzwang) ♜d6!  
1... ♜e6 2. ♖f5+ ♜d6 3. ♖d7#  
1. c7? (2. c8♖) ♜c4!  
1. ♗f8! (2. ♖d4+ ♜:c6 3. ♖d7#)  
1... ♜c4 2. ♖e3 ♜d5 3. ♖e6#  
1... ♜e4 2. ♖e2+ ♜d5 3. ♖e6#  
1... ♜:c6 2. ♖b6+ ♜d5 3. ♖e6#  
1... ♜d6 2. ♖f7 ♜e5/♜:c6  
3. ♖e6#/♖d7#

The give-and-take key takes control of e6, but it is still good because of the set play after the royal flight to e6. (Z.G.)

2776 V. Zamanov & V. Volchek

1. ♖g6! (2. ♖:f5 ~ 3. ♖d5# A)  
2... b:c4/f3 3. ♖a5# B/♖g3# C)  
1... ♖g5 2. ♖d5+ A ♜f6  
3. ♖h8#  
1... b:c4 2. ♖a5+ B ♜e4  
3. ♖:f5#  
1... f3 2. ♖g3+ C ♖f4/♜e4  
3. ♖d5#/♖:f5#  
1... f:g6 2. ♖:e6+ ♜:e6  
3. ♖e7#

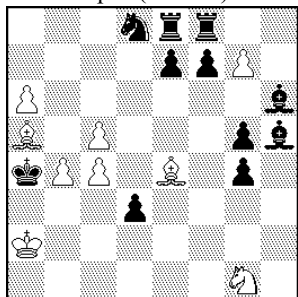
Transformation of 3 mates from the threat into the 2<sup>nd</sup> moves of the variations in the solution. (Authors)

2777 G. Ignatenko

1. ♖d6! (2. ♖d5+ A ♜:e6  
3. ♗d4# B)  
1... ♗c6 2. ♗d4 B (3. ♗:f3#  
3. ♖d5# A) ♜b4/g1 ♜/♜:d4  
3. ♗:f3#/♖d5# A/e:d4#  
1... ♖c6 2. ♜b2 ~ 3. ♖c3#  
1... ♖:g6 2. e:f3 ~ 3. f4#  
1... ♜:g6 2. ♗c1 (3. ♗d3#)  
2... ♜f4 3. e:f4#

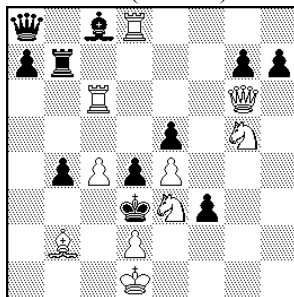
Two pairs of obstructions, exchange of moves AB-BA and mates from the squares d4 and f4. (Author)

2778 Ivo Tominić  
Split (Croatia)



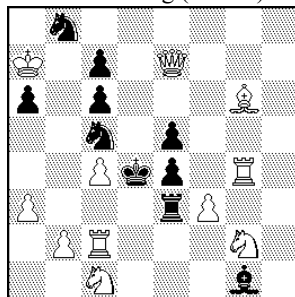
#3 ♘ ♙ 9+11

2779 Evgeny Gavryliv  
Lviv (Ukraine)



#3 ♘ ♙ 10+11

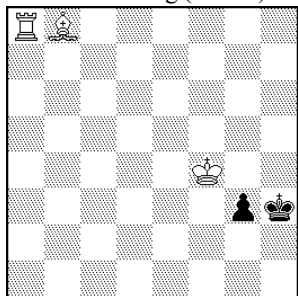
2780 Valery Shavryin  
Ekaterinburg (Russia)



#3 ♘ ♙ 11+10

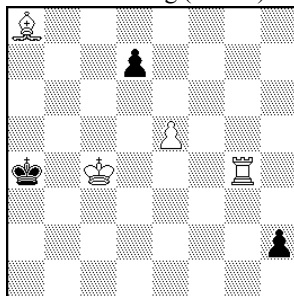
#4-N / JUDGE: ALEKSANDR KUZOVKOV (RUSSIA)

2781 Gennady Matyushin  
St. Petersburg (Russia)



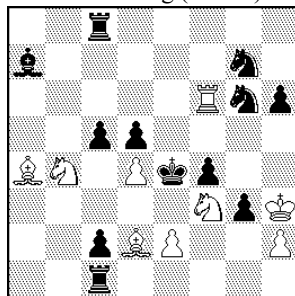
#4 ♘ ♙ 3+2

2782 Gennady Matyushin  
St. Petersburg (Russia)



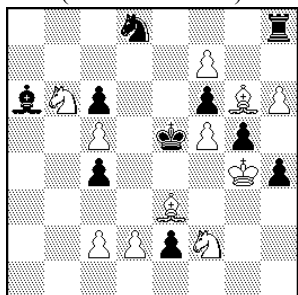
#4 ♘ ♙ b) ♜h2→a3 4+3  
c) ♜e5→b6 & #5

2783 Valery Shavryin  
Ekaterinburg (Russia)



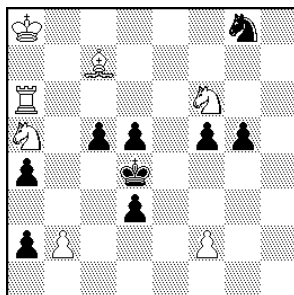
#4 ♘ ♙ 9+12

2784 Sergey I. Tkachenko &  
Leonid Lyubashevsky,  
Slavutich & Rishon le Zion  
(Ukraine & Israel)



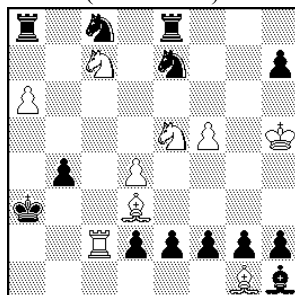
#4 11+10

2785 Ralf Krätschmer  
Neckargemünd (Germany)



#10 ♘ ♙ 7+9

2786 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
& Igor Yarmonov  
Khabarovsk (Russia) &  
(Switzerland)



#14 9+13

2778 I. Tominić

1. ♜e2? A (2. ♜c3#) ♜:g7!  
1. ♜:d3? B (2. ♜c2#) ♜:g6!  
1.a7! (2.a8♜ ~ 3. ♜b6#)  
1...e5 2. ♜e2 A (3. ♜c3#) d:e2  
3. ♜c2#  
1...f5 2. ♜:d3 B ~ 3. ♜c2#  
Black closes potential lines of his ♜s by defending through ♜/♙-Bristol: 1...e5 ... 2...♜e6 or 1...f5 ... 2...♜f6. (Author)

2779 E. Gavryliv

1. ♜cd6? (2. ♜:d4+ e:d4 3. ♜:d4#)  
1...♜d7 x 2. ♜h3 ~ 3. ♜f2#  
1...♜d7! y  
1. ♜d6! (2. ♜:d4+ e:d4 3. ♜:d4#)  
1...♜d7 x 2. ♜g4 ♜e7/♙:c6  
3. ♜f2# ♜:e5#  
1...♜d7 y 2. ♜:e5 ~ 3. ♜:d4#

2780 V. Shavryin

1. ♜:c7? C (2. ♜d6#) ♜b7!  
1. ♜h4? D (2. ♜f5#) ♜:f3!  
1. ♜f7! (2. ♜d2+ ♜d3/♜d3  
3. ♜e2# A/♜b3# B)  
1...♜e2 x 2. ♜h4 D (3. ♜f5#)  
2...♜e3! [♜f3??] 3. ♜:c5#  
1...♜b3 y 2. ♜:c7 C (3. ♜d6#)  
2...♜c5! [♜b7??] 3. ♜:e5#  
1...♜e6 2. ♜d2+ ♜:c4/♜d3  
3. ♜b4#/♜:e4#

1. Dresden-Brunner–2...♜e3!  
[♜f3??], 2...♜c5! [♜b5??];  
2. Umnov 2 theme–3. ♜e2# A/  
♜b3# B & 1...♜e2! x/♜b3! y);  
3. paradox a la Hubert Gockel  
(SuperProblem TT-223 2022) –  
c5 is blocked after 1. ♜:c7?  
but unblocked by 2. ♜c7!, and  
e3 is blocked after 1. ♜h4?  
but unblocked by 2. ♜h4!. A  
first synthesis of Dresden logic  
and 2 paradoxes: Umnov 2 (a  
defence on a threat square) and  
Gockel paradox where the W1  
moves in the tries become actual  
W2 moves after strengthening  
of the black position. (Author)

2781 G. Matyushin

1. ♜f3? (2. ♜f4 ♜h2 3. ♜:g3+  
& 3. ♜a5(6) ♜h4 3. ♜:g3+...)  
1...g2! 2. ♜g3 g1 ♜+!  
1. ♜a1? (zugzwang) ♜g2!  
1...g2 2. ♜f5 g1 ♜/♜h4  
3. ♜:g1/♜a7 ♜h4/~  
4. ♜h1#/♜h7#  
1. ♜a7! (zugzwang)  
1...♜g2 2. ♜e3! (zugzwang)  
2...♜f1 3. ♜f3 ~ 4. ♜a1#  
2...♜h3 3. ♜f3 ~ 4. ♜h8#

2782 G. Matyushin

a) 1. ♜g2? A (2. ♜a2#) ♜a5!  
1. ♜h1! (zugzwang)  
1...♜a5 2. ♜c5 (zz) d6+  
3. e:d6 ♜a6 4. ♜a4#  
1...♜a3 2. ♜g2 A (zz) d6, d5+  
3. e:d6 (e.p.) ♜a4 4. ♜a2#  
1...d5+ 2. e:d6 e.p. (zz) ♜a5  
3. ♜c5 ♜a6 4. ♜a4#  
b) 1. ♜g6! (2. ♜a6#)  
1...♜a5/d5+ 2. ♜d6/♜:d5 ~  
2...~/♜a5 3. ♜b7 ~ 4. ♜a6#  
c) 1. ♜g2! A (2. ♜a2#) ♜a5  
2. b7! h1 ♜ 3. ♜a2+ ♜b6  
4. b8 ♜+ ♜b7 5. ♜:b7#  
2...d5+ 3. ♜c5 ♜a4 4. b8 ♜  
4...♜a3 5. ♜b4#

2783 V. Shavryin

1. ♜a2? A (2. ♜c3#) c:d4!  
2. ♜b5! ? B ♜c4!  
1. ♜b5? B (2. ♜d3#) c4!  
2. ♜a2! ? A ♜:d4!  
1. ♜d7! (2. ♜f5+ ♜:f5  
3. ♜e6+ ♜e5 4. ♜:e5#)  
1...♜c6 2. ♜:c6 (3. ♜:d5#)  
2...c:b4 3. ♜b5 (4. ♜d3#)  
3...♜e5 4. ♜:f4#  
1...♜e8 2. ♜a2! A (3. ♜c3#)  
2...c:d4 3. ♜b5! B (4. ♜d3#)  
3...♜e5 [3...♜c4??] 4. ♜:f4#  
1...♜b8 2. ♜b5! B (3. ♜d3#)  
2...c4 3. ♜a2! A (4. ♜c3#)  
3...c3 [3...♜:d4??] 4. ♜d3#

Decoys of black line pieces,  
exchanged white moves and  
good logical play. (Z.G.)

2784 S. I. Tkachenko &  
L. Lyubashevsky

1. ♜h3! (2. ♜d7+ ♜d5  
3. ♜:f6+ ♜e5 4. ♜fg4#)  
1...g4+ 2. ♜:g4+ ♜e4  
3. ♜:f6+ ♜e5/♜f3  
4. ♜bd7#/♜h5#  
1...♜c8 2. ♜:c4+ ♜d5  
3. ♜b6+ ♜e5 4. d4#  
Model mates. (Authors)

2785 R. Krätschmer

1. ♜:a4+ ?? c4 2. ♜b3# is  
impossible because of ♜a5  
1. ♜c6+? ♜c4 2. ♜e5+ and  
the ♜ escapes - ♜b3/4/5.  
1. ♜d6! (2. ♜:d5#) ♜e5  
2. ♜b6+ ♜d4 3. ♜c6+ ♜c4  
4. ♜e5+ ♜d4 5. ♜f3+ ♜c4  
6. ♜d2+ ♜d4 7. ♜d6 ♜e5  
8. ♜a6+ ♜d4 9. ♜:a4+ c4  
10. ♜b3#  
Switchback by ♜ on the 7<sup>th</sup>  
and 8<sup>th</sup> moves. (Author)  
Nice pendulum play. (Z.G.)

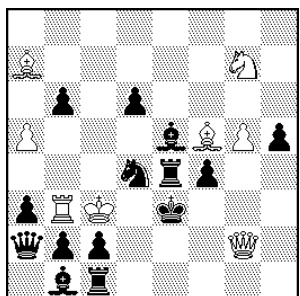
2786 A. Pankratiev &  
I. Yarmonov

1. ♜b5+! ♜b3  
[1...♜a4? 2. ♜a2+ ♜b3 3. ♜c4#]  
2. ♜d7 (3. ♜c5#) ♜a4 3. ♜a2+  
[3. ♜c5+? ♜a5 4. ♜a2+ ♜b6  
5. ♜d7+ ♜c6 6. ♜e5+ ♜b6!  
(6...♜d5 7. ♜c2! ♜:f5 8. ♜:f5  
8...~ 9. ♜c5#) 7. d5 ♜c5!]  
3...♜b3 4. ♜:d2 ♜a4  
5. ♜a2+ ♜b3 6. ♜:e2 ♜a4  
7. ♜a2+ ♜b3 8. ♜:f2! ♜a4  
9. ♜c5+ ♜a5 10. ♜a2+ ♜b6  
11. ♜d7+ ♜c6 12. ♜e5+ ♜b6  
13. d5+ h:g1 ♜ 14. ♜d7#  
12...♜d5 13. ♜e2 ♜d6 14. ♜c7#  
Switchbacks at W5, W7, W10,  
W11 and W14 moves. A nice  
problem by Aleksandr and his  
Ukrainian colleague Igor who,  
after having fled to Israel, now  
arrived to his new residence in  
Switzerland. (Z.G.)



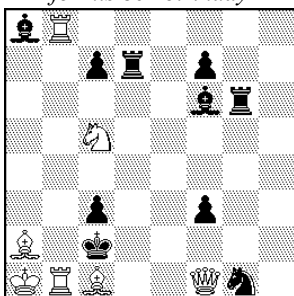


2793 Waldemar Tura  
Adamów (Poland)



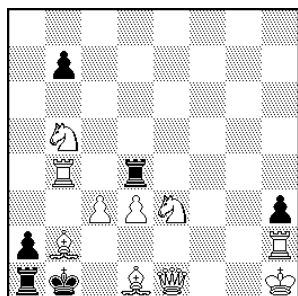
S#2 [v] 8+14

2794 Frank Richter &  
Hartmut Laue  
Rostock & Kronshagen (Germany)  
Dedicated to Peter Sickingler  
for his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday



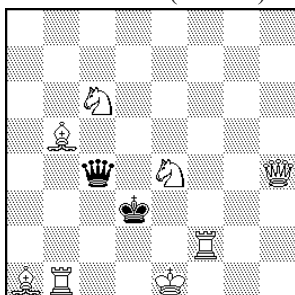
S#3 [v] 7+10

2795 Gennady Koziura  
Makuchovka (Ukraine)



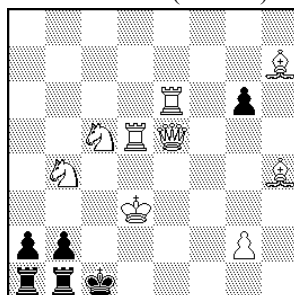
S#4 [v] 10+6

2796 Gennady Koziura  
Makuchovka (Ukraine)



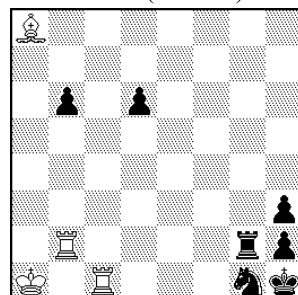
S#5 [v] 8+2

2797 Gennady Koziura  
Makuchovka (Ukraine)



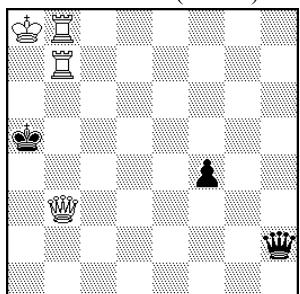
S#7 9+6

2798 Yury Gordian  
Odessa (Ukraine)



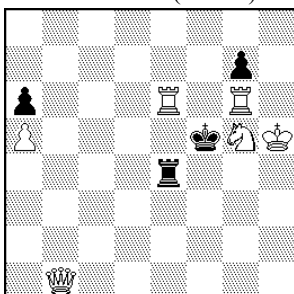
S#8 4+7

2799 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



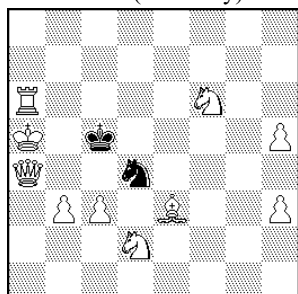
S#10 4+3

2800 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



S#10 6+4

2801 Marcel Tribowski  
Berlin (Germany)



S#15 10+2

2793 W. Tura

[1. ♘b4+?/♙c4+? ♜:b3+!]  
1. ♘g4! (2. ♖f3+/♗e2+/♘f5+  
A/B/C ♜:f3#/♜:e2#/♜:f5#)  
1... ♙:g7 2. ♖f3+/♗e2+ A/B  
2... ♜:f3#/♜:e2#  
1... ♗f1 2. ♗e2+/♘f5+ B/C  
2... ♜:e2#/♜:f5#  
1... ♗e1 2. ♘f5+/♗f3+ C/A  
2... ♜:f5#/♜:f3#  
1... ♗f3 2. ♗:f3+ A ♜:f3#  
1... ♘f6 2. ♗e2+ B ♜:e2#  
1... h:g4 2. ♘f5+ C ♜:f5#  
1... b5 2. ♘b4+ ♗:b3#  
1... b:a5 2. ♘c4+ ♗:b3#

Adabashev: I – Fleck with  
battery mates; II – Karlström  
Fleck: Rohr, dual avoidance,  
the 6<sup>th</sup> WCCT theme. (Author)

2794 F. Richter & H. Laue  
Dedicated to Peter Sickingler  
for his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday

1. ♘e3? (2. ♗d1+ etc.) ♘d4! x  
1. ♘f4?!/♘g5? (2. ♗d1+) ♗e7! y  
1. ♘h6! (2. ♗d1+ ♗:d1  
3. ♗(8)b2+ c:b2#)  
1... ♘d5 2. ♘b3+ ♘:b3  
3. ♗(1)b2+ c:b2#  
1... ♘d4 x 2. ♗d1 (3. ♗(8)b2+  
3...c:b2#) 2... ♘b7, ♗b6  
3. ♗(1)d2+ c:d2#  
1... ♗e7 y 2. ♗d8 (3. ♗(1)b2+  
3...c:b2#) 2... ♗e1  
3. ♗(8)d2+ c:d2#

Adabashev synthesis: pair I –  
negating the move 3. ♗1b2+  
enables 3. ♗8b2+ & vice versa,  
induced by sacrificing the ♗  
on d1 (threat) and ♘a2 on b3  
(variation); pair II – exchange  
of functions of the ♗s with  
inversion of Black's defence  
motive: Black's negation of the  
relative threat move 3. ♗b2+ is  
exploited by forcing a battery  
mate by means of a check on  
d2 by the other ♗. Quiet 2<sup>nd</sup>  
moves. The thematic defences  
refute the tries. (Authors)

2795 G. Koziura

1. ♘g4? (2. ♘e2+ etc.) ♗:g4!  
1. ♘f5! (2. ♘e2+ ♗c2  
3. ♘f3+ ♗:d3 4. ♗f1+ ♗:f1#)  
1... ♗:d3 2. ♘f3+ ♗d1  
3. ♘:b7 ♗c1 4. ♗d1 ♗:d1#  
1... ♗:b4 2. ♘c2++ ♗:b2  
3. ♘b3+ ♗:b3 4. ♗d1+ ♗:d1#

Play by the white battery.  
(Author)

2796 G. Koziura

1. ♘f6? (2. ♗d1+ ♗e3  
3. ♘d4+ ♗:d4 4. ♗f3+  
4... ♗:f3 5. ♗f2+ ♗:f2#)  
1... ♗:b5 2. ♗d1+ ♗e3  
3. ♘g4+ ♘d4 4. ♘h2+, ♘e5+  
4... ♗e3 5. ♗e2+ ♗:e2#)  
1... ♗e3! x

1. ♘g3? (zugzwang)  
1... ♗e3 2. ♘f5+ ♗d3  
3. ♘d1 (zz) ♗:b5 4. ♘b4+  
4... ♗:b4 5. ♗d2+ ♗:d2#  
1... ♗:b5! y

1. ♘e5? (zugzwang)  
1... ♗e3 2. ♗f4+ ♗d3  
3. ♘d6 (zz) ♗:b5 4. ♗f5+  
4... ♗e3 5. ♗e2+ ♗:e2#  
1... ♗:b5! y

1. ♘d6! (zugzwang)  
1... ♗e3 x 2. ♘f5+ ♗d3  
3. ♘d1 (zz) ♗:b5 4. ♘b4+  
4... ♗:b4 5. ♗d2+ ♗:d2#  
1... ♗:b5 y 2. ♗b3+ ♗:b3  
3. ♘e5+ ♗e3 4. ♘dc4+  
4... ♗:c4 5. ♗e2+ ♗:e2#

2797 G. Koziura

1. ♘f6! (zugzwang)  
1... ♘d1 2. ♘c4+ ♗c1 3. ♘b5  
3... g5 4. ♘a5 g4 5. ♗:b2+  
5... ♗:b2 6. ♘b3+ ♗:b3  
7. ♘:a2+ ♗:a2#  
1... g5 2. ♗e2 g4 3. ♘f1  
3... g3 4. ♗d1+ ♗:d1 5. ♗d6+  
5... ♗c1 6. ♗d2! ♗:d2+  
7. ♗e1+ ♗:e1#

A dynamic white king and  
play with

2798 Y. Gordian

1. ♘d5! b5 2. ♗e2 b4 3. ♘b2 b3  
4. ♘f3 d5 5. ♘:b3 d4 6. ♘c2  
6... d3+ 7. ♘d2 d:e2 8. ♘e1 ♜f3#

This problem lacks interplay  
and its play ends in a model  
mate. (Z.G.)

2799 A. Pankratiev

1. ♗b5+ ♗a6 2. ♗5b6++ ♗a5  
3. ♗c3+ ♗a4 4. ♗b4+ ♗a5  
5. ♗:f4+ ♗a6 6. ♗c6+ ♗a5  
7. ♗f5+ ♗e5 8. ♗b6+ ♗a4  
9. ♗a6+ ♗a5 10. ♗f3 ♗:a6#

After a very long checking  
sequence, Black is put into  
zugzwang and he can only  
mate the ♘ after a quiet W10  
move. (Z.G.)

2800 A. Pankratiev

1. ♗d3 ♘f4 2. ♘h3+ ♗f5  
3. ♘g1 ♘f4 4. ♗g4+ ♗f5  
5. ♗eg6 ♗e5 6. ♗4g5+ ♗f4  
7. ♗d2+ ♗e3 8. ♗c5 ♗e4  
9. ♗d5+ ♗f4 10. ♘h3+ ♗:h3#

The ♘ returns to h3 after a  
good white manoeuvre. (Z.G.)

2801 M. Tribowski

1. ♘g4! (zugzwang) ♘d5  
2. ♗d7+ ♗c5 3. ♗h7 ♘d5  
4. ♗d3 ♗c5 5. ♗a4 ♘d5  
6. ♗a3 ♗c5 7. ♘b2 ♘d5  
8. ♘c1 ♗c5 9. ♘d1 ♘d5  
10. ♘e1 ♗c5 11. ♘f2 ♘d5  
12. ♘g3 ♗c5 13. ♘h4 ♘d5  
14. ♘g5 ♗c5 15. ♗f5+ ♜:f5#

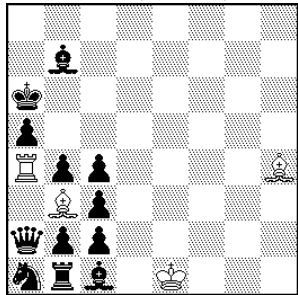
“From coast to coast” after  
a long distance self-block.  
Partially tested with “Gustav”  
4.1a. (Author)

It is not easy to foresee the  
need to block g4. The arrival  
of the ♘ on the opposite side  
of the chessboard is enabled by  
pinning of ♜ on a diagonal  
and orthogonal line. (Z.G.)



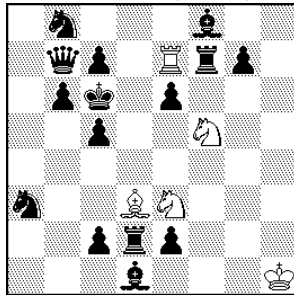
**H#2 / JUDGE: MICHAL DRAGOUN (CZECH REPUBLIC)**

**2802 Evgeny Gavryliv**  
Lviv (Ukraine)



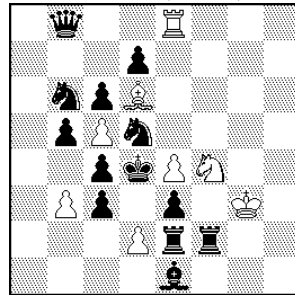
H#2 2 solutions 4+12

**2803 Vitaly Medintsev**  
Krasnodar (Russia)



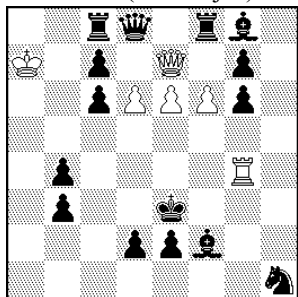
H#2 2 solutions 5+15

**2804 Valery Gurov**  
Moscow (Russia)



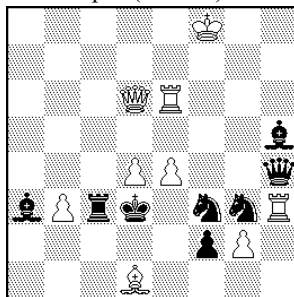
H#2 4 solutions 8+13

**2805 Kenan Velikhanov**  
Imishli (Azerbaijan)



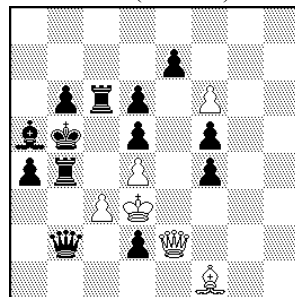
H#2 5 solutions 6+15

**2806 Ivo Tominić**  
Split (Croatia)



H#2 b) ♔d3→e3 9+8

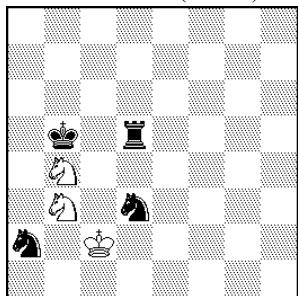
**2807 Evgeny Gavryliv**  
Lviv (Ukraine)



H#2 b) ♕c3→d5 6+13

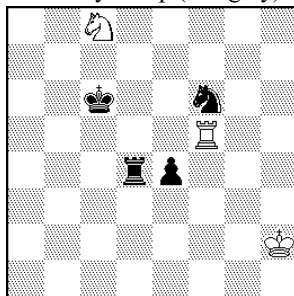
**H#2½-3 / JUDGE: VLADISLAV NEFYODOV (RUSSIA)**

**2808 Aleksandr Pankratiev**  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



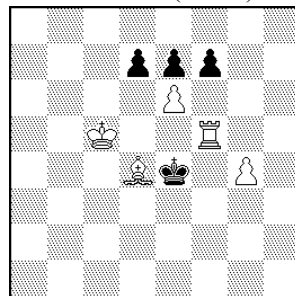
H#2½ 3 solutions 3+4

**2809 Bela Majoros**  
Bakonyoszlop (Hungary)



H#3 2 solutions 3+4

**2810 Vitaly Medintsev**  
Krasnodar (Russia)



H#3 2 solutions 5+4

**2802 E. Gavryliv**

1. ♖a3 ♙d8 2. ♗b3 ♜:a5#  
1. ♗:a4 ♙f2 2. ♗a3 ♙:c4#

Tempo B1 moves determine the choice of the W1 moves. *Zilahi* theme with captures of the thematic white pieces on different black moves (B2 in the first solution and B1 in the second solution). The position is inherently congested. (Z.G.)

*Zilahi* in a congested setting. (Nikola Stolev)

**2803 V. Medintsev**

1. ♜b5 ♘:c2 2. ♜:c2 ♙e4#  
1. ♜d7 ♘:g7 2. ♙:g7 ♜:e6#

Sacrificial decoy by a white piece in each solution decoys a black line piece from quarding a line of mating. Exchanged functions of two pairs of white pieces. (Z.G.)

Exchanged functions of the white rook and bishop. A good achievement. (N.S.)

**2804 V. Gurov**

1. e:d2 c:b6 2. ♔e3 ♙c5#  
1. c:b3 e:d5 2. ♔c4 ♜e4#  
1. ♜a4 b4 2. ♜:c5 ♙:c5#  
1. ♜f6 d3 2. ♜:e4+ ♜:c4#

Mutual captures. A good idea with matching play. (N.S.)

In addition to mutual captures of the ♜s and the ♙s on c5 & e4, the 1<sup>st</sup> pair of solutions shows white square vacation, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> pair of solutions involves W1 moves by ♙b3 and ♙d2 which are captured in the 1<sup>st</sup> pair. The repetition of the W2 moves is inherent in this scheme and must be accepted as *conditio sine qua non*. (Z.G.)

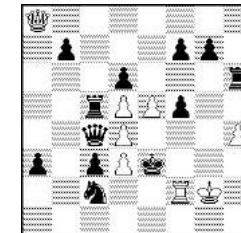
**2805 K. Velikhanov**

1. g:f6 ♗h7 2. g5 ♗[h]e4#  
1. c:d6 ♗b7 2. c5 ♗[b]e4#  
1. ♙:e6 ♗f7 2. ♙d7 ♗:b3#  
1. ♜:f6 ♗:g7 2. ♜f3 ♗d4#  
1. ♗:d6 ♗:c7 2. ♗d3 ♗f4#

For the first time a fivefold ambush by the white queen is shown! A task. (Author)

A sixfold ambush with six mates was achieved earlier:

Zoran Gavrilovski  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. *T. Ilievski MT 2022*



H#2 6 solutions 8+12

1. ♗:d4 A ♗a4 2. ♗:d3 B ♗f4#  
1. ♗:d3 B ♗a6 2. ♗:d4 A ♗c2#  
1. ♜:d5 ♗:b7 2. ♜[d]:d4 ♗f3#  
1. d:e5 ♗b8 2. e:d4 ♗g3#  
1. ♜:h4 ♗h8 2. ♜[h]:d4 ♗h3#  
1. ♜:d4 ♗a5 2. c2 ♗d2#

**2806 I. Tominić**

- a) 1. ♜:e4 g4 2. ♜c5 d:c5#  
b) 1. ♜:d4 ♙g4 2. ♜f5 e:f5#

Each of the two half-pinned knights 'opens a gate' to g4, clears a side-line and then it is sacrificed to a direct white pawn battery. (Author)

An excellent problem. (N.S.)

**2807 E. Gavryliv**

- a) 1. e:f6 ♗e8 2. ♜:d4+ ♙:d4#  
b) 1. d1 ♜ ♗:b2 2. ♜c2 ♙:c2#

Gate opening + pinning and sacrifice of ♜s. (Z.G.)

**2808 A. Pankratiev**

- 1... ♙b1 2. ♔a4 ♘c5+  
3. ♔a3 ♘c2#  
1... ♘:a2 2. ♜b4+ ♙b2  
3. ♔a4 ♘c3#  
1... ♘d2 2. ♔a5 ♙b3  
3. ♜b5 ♘c4#

An aristocratic miniature with 3 mates by the white knights is a good achievement, but the risk of anticipation should not be neglected even in an event of such a threefold rendering. (Z.G.)

The repetition of the black king's move to a4 is not quite pleasant, notwithstanding that it occurs on a different move. (N.S.)

**2809 B. Majoros**

1. ♜d7 ♜f6+ 2. ♔d5 ♜c6  
3. ♜e5 ♘e7#  
1. ♜d5 ♘b6 2. ♔d6 ♜f6+  
3. ♜e5 ♘d7#

Simple play in a light setting without any pawn but the risk of anticipation is not negligible. (Z.G.)

A simple miniature. (N.S.)

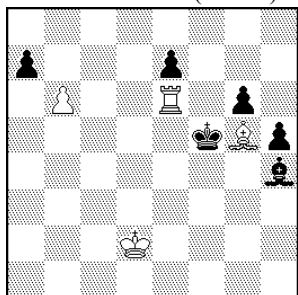
**2810 V. Medintsev**

1. d5 e:f7 2. e6 f8 ♗ 3. e:f5 ♗:f5#  
1. f6 e:d7 2. e5 d8 ♗ 3. e:d4 ♗:d4#

Black first moves are tempo moves. (Author).  
Exchanged functions of the black pawns are an attractive introduction to the further play which involves promotions and mates by the promoted white queen. A good idea, which is well-executed in a meredith setting. (Z.G.)

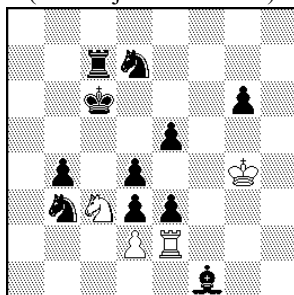
A pleasant idea. (N.S.)

2811 Valery Gurov & Aleksandr Feoktistov  
Moscow & Domodedovo -  
Moscow district (Russia)



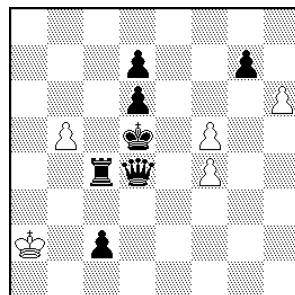
H#3 2 solutions 4+6

2812 Vidadi Zamanov & Vlaicu Crişan  
Goychay & Cluj-Napoca  
(Azerbaijan & Romania)



H#3 3 solutions 4+11

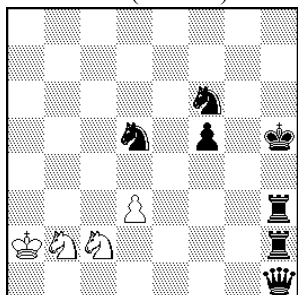
2813 Nikola Stolev  
Skopje (North Macedonia)



H#3 b) ♠f4→b4 5+7

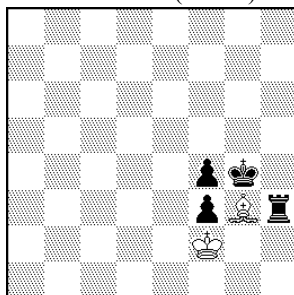
**H#3½-N / JUDGE: CHRISTOPHER JONES (GREAT BRITAIN)**

2814 Evgeny Gavryliv  
Lviv (Ukraine)



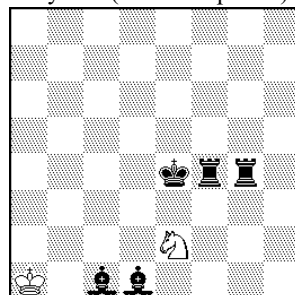
H#4 2 solutions 4+7

2815 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



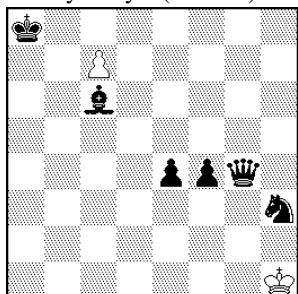
H#5 2+4

2816 Miroslav Bilý  
Nýrsko (Czech Republic)



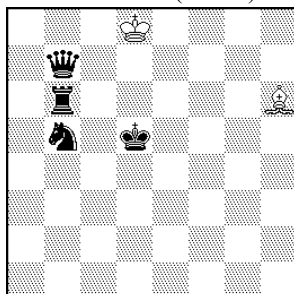
H#5 2 solutions 2+5  
b) ♗e2→c6

2817 Marko Ylijoki  
Jyvaskyla (Finland)



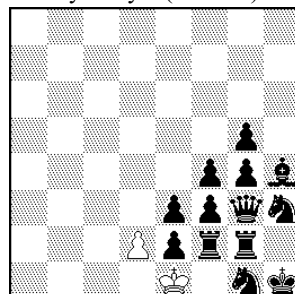
H#5½ \* 2 solutions 2+6

2818 Aleksandr Pankratiev  
Khabarovsk (Russia)



H#6½ 2+4

2819 Marko Ylijoki  
Jyvaskyla (Finland)



H#7 2 solutions 2+13

2811 V. Gurov & A. Feoktistov

1. ♖:g5 b:a7 2. ♖f5 a8♖  
3.g5 ♖e4#  
1. ♖:e6 b7 2. ♖f5 b8♖  
3.e6 ♖f4#

Elimination of white line pieces for the purpose of allowing a black pawn to self-block on a square that was vacated by the black king, whose repeated B2 move is inherent to the present scheme. (Z.G.)

A good realisation with matching solutions. This is a pleasant problem. (N.S.)

2812 V. Zamanov & V. Crişan

- 1.e:d2 ♖:e5 2. ♖d6 ♖f4  
3. ♖c6 ♗b5#  
1.d:c3 d:c3 2. ♖b5 c4+  
3. ♖a4 ♖a2#  
1.d:e2 ♗a2 2. ♖d5 ♗:b4+  
3. ♖e4 d3#

Cyclic *Zilahi* with ♖, ♗ and ♠ as thematic pieces, Moscow material (no more than 15 units) and 3 model mates. (Authors)

This *Zilahi* cycle makes me wonder what wonders have (not) been achieved in the helpmate field. (N.S.)

2813 N. Stolev

- 1.c1 ♗ h7 2. ♗a3 h8♖  
3. ♗c5 ♖a8#  
1.c1 ♖ h:g7 2. ♖e1 g8♗  
3. ♖e5 ♗f6#

Mixed *Allumwandlung* (4 different promotions) in a meredith setting. (Author)

2814 E. Gavryliv

1. ♖g5 ♗c4 A 2. ♖h6 ♗e5 B  
3. ♖2h5 ♗d4 C 4. ♖h4 ♗e6# D  
1. ♖g6 ♗d4 C 2. ♖h7 ♗e6 D  
3. ♖2h6 ♗c4 A 4. ♖h5 ♗e5# B

The play in both phases does not involve any capture of a black unit. (Authors)

Complete analogy of play with consecutive *Bristol* and arrival of black pieces on a square that was vacated by the black king, cyclic change of white moves ABCD-CDAB, or exchange of W1/W3 and W2/W4 moves. (Z.G.)

The play with multiple *Bristol* is good. (N.S.)

2815 A. Pankratiev

1. ♖h5 ♗:f4 2. ♖h4 ♖e3  
3.f2 ♗h2 4.f1 ♗ ♖f4 5. ♗h3  
5... ♗g3#

An ideal mate. (Author)

2816 M. Bilý

- a) 1. ♖f5 ♗g1 2. ♗f4 ♖b2  
3. ♗g3 ♖c3 4. ♖f4 ♖d4  
5. ♗f3 ♗h3#  
1. ♗e3 ♖b2 2. ♖f5 ♖c3  
3. ♗g5 ♗g3+ 4. ♖f4 ♖d4  
5. ♗f3 ♗h5#

- b) 1. ♖f5 ♗d8 2. ♗f4 ♖b2  
3. ♗g3 ♖c3 4. ♖f4 ♖d4  
5. ♗f3 ♗e6#

1. ♖g5 ♖a2 2. ♗g4 ♖b3  
3. ♖f6 ♖c4 4. ♖f5 ♖d5  
5. ♗f4 ♗e7#

Blocking piece replacement (♖-♗) × 2, echo mates (shifted, 0, 1), chameleon echo. (Author)

The repetition of some moves slightly detracts from the overall impression (Z.G.)

2817 M. Ylijoki

- \* 1.f3 ♗h2 2.f2 ♗h1 3.f1 ♖+  
3... ♗h2 4. ♖b1 c8♖+ 5. ♖b8 ♖a6#

- 1... c8♖+ 2. ♖a7 ♖:g4 3. ♖b6  
3... ♗g2 4. ♖c5 ♖f1 5. ♗d4  
5... ♖g7+ 6. ♖e3 ♖c3#

- 1... ♗h2 2. ♖e2+ ♖:h3 3. ♖b7  
3... ♗h4 4. ♖c8 ♖g5 5. ♗d7  
5... ♖f6 6. ♖e8 c8♖#

Varied play with a static black king in the set play and marches by the black king in the solutions which also involve promotion to a white queen at the beginning or end of the respective solution. A good meredith. (Z.G.)

2818 A. Pankratiev

- 1... ♗f8 2. ♖a8+ ♖e7 3. ♖c6  
3... ♖e6 4. ♖b7+ ♖d5 5. ♖a6+  
5... ♖c4 6. ♖a5 ♖b3 7. ♖a6  
7... ♗b4#

An ideal mate. (Author)

2819 M. Ylijoki

1. ♖h2 d4 2. ♖g2 d5 ♖h1 d6  
4. ♖h2 d7 4.g3 d8♗ 6.g4 ♗e6  
7. ♗g5 ♗:f4#

1. ♖h2 d:e3 2. ♖g3 e:f4 3. ♖g2  
3...f:g5 4. ♖h2 g6 5. ♗g5 g7  
6. ♖h3 g8♖ 7. ♖g3 ♖b8#

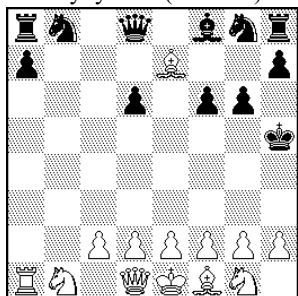
Double *Excelsior*, achieved in a congested setting. (N.S.)

The congestion of the position is inherent to the content, which includes exchange of places of 2 pairs of black pieces (♖↔♖ and ♖↔♖) in the B1-3 moves and consecutive arrival of a few black pieces on squares that have been vacated by other black pieces. In such a context, I think that the position is acceptable. (Z.G.)



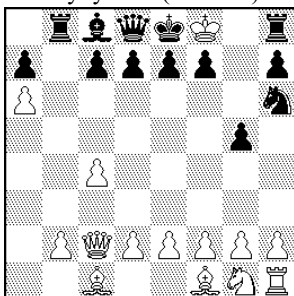
**RETROS (2022-2024) / JUDGE: HANS GRUBER (GERMANY)**

**2820 Viktor Syzonenko**  
Kryvyi Rih (Ukraine)



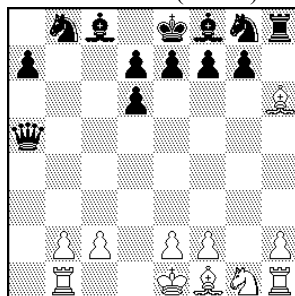
PG 14 13+12

**2821 Viktor Syzonenko**  
Kryvyi Rih (Ukraine)



PG 7 Make & Take 14+13

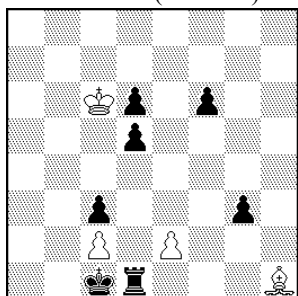
**2822 Henryk Grudziński**  
Jelenia Góra (Poland)



PG 9½ Provocateurs 11+13

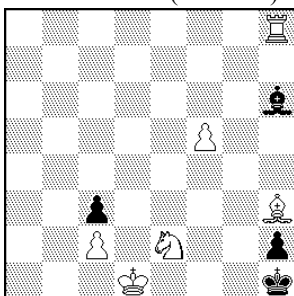
**FAIRIES / JUDGE: HANS GRUBER (GERMANY)**

**2823 Daniel Novomeský**  
Bratislava (Slovakia)



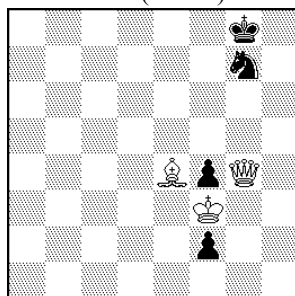
Ser. S#21 4+7

**2824 Mihaiu Cioflanca**  
Piatra-Neamt (Romania)



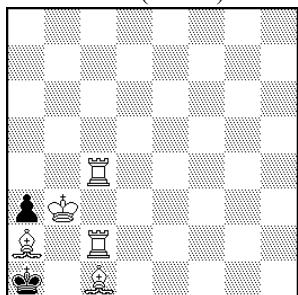
HS#4½ 2 solutions 6+4

**2825 Anatoly Stypochkin**  
Tula (Russia)



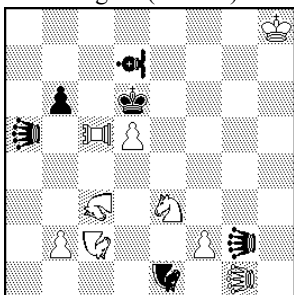
R#5 \* 3+4

**2826 Anatoly Stypochkin**  
Tula (Russia)



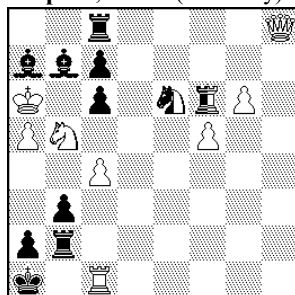
R#10 5+2

**2827 Predrag Žuvić**  
Zagreb (Croatia)



HS#3 b) ♞d7→f6 9+6  
♞=pao, ♞=vao, ♞=nao,  
♞, ♞=leos, ♞, ♞=nightriders

**2828 Armin Geister & Daniel Papack**, Berlin (Germany)



HS#3 Mars Circe 8+9+2  
2 solutions  
♞♞=neutral knight/rook

**2820 V. Syzonenko**

1.a4 f6 2.a5 ♞f7 3.a6 ♞g6  
4.a:b7 ♞h5 5.b:♞c8 ♞!  
5...g6 6.♞:e7! ♞:e7!  
7.b4 ♞f5 8.b5 ♞g3  
9.b6 ♞:h1 10.b:c7 ♞g3  
11.c8 ♞! ♞f5 12.♞e7!  
12...♞:e7! 13.♞a3 ♞g8  
14.♞e7! d6

*Proofgame:* A game that starts from the initial game position in n moves.

Elimination of pawns on a2, b2, b7 and c7, ♞c8), two minor promotions on c8, sacrifices on e7, black valve, anti-dual play and switchback. (Author)

**2821 V. Syzonenko**

1.a3 ♞a6 2.a3-b5:a6 ♞b8  
3.♞a3 b7-b4:a3 4.c4  
4...a3-c2:b1 ♞+ 5.♞c2  
5...♞c3+ 6.♞-d3:c3 g5+  
7.♞-g7:f8 ♞h6#

*Make & Take:* Before any unit captures any other unit, it must first mimick a non-capturing move by that unit. For example, if a ♞ on a3 wants to capture a ♞ on a6, it first moves like a ♞ to b6, then captures the ♞.

Transit on a3. Sacrifice by a promoted ♞, checks and mate to the ♞. Tested by Jacobi 0.7.5. (Author)

**2822 H. Grudziński**

1.a4 h5 2.a5 h4 3.a6 h3  
4.a:b7 h:g2 5.b:a8 ♞!  
5...g:f1 ♞ 6.♞g2 ♞:d2  
7.♞f1 ♞:b1 8.♞d6 c:d6  
9.♞h6 ♞a5+ 10.♞:b1

*Provocateurs:* A unit can capture only if it is observed by an opposing unit.

*Pronkin* (♞f1) & *Ceriani-Frolkin* (♞:b1). (Author)

**2823 D. Novomeský**

1.e4 2.e5 3.e:d6 4.d7 5.d8 ♞  
6.♞:f6 7.♞:c3 8.♞e1 9.c4  
10.c:d5 11.d6 12.d7 13.d8 ♞  
14.♞d2 15.♞d5 16.♞e4  
17.♞f3 18.♞g2 19.♞g1  
20.♞e4 21.♞g2 ♞:e1#

*Series selfmate:* White plays a series of moves to reach a position where Black is forced to mate him; White can give check only on the last move of the series.

Royal march, *Excelsior* (×2), promotion, 1 underpromotion to ♞, a white sacrifice, and *Ceriani-Frolkin*. (Author)

**2824 M. Cioflanca**

1...♞d2 2.♞g4 ♞g2  
3.♞h3 h1 ♞ 4.♞f3 ♞h2  
5.♞f2+ ♞:f2#

1...♞g5 2.♞g1 h:g1 ♞+  
3.♞e2 ♞h2+ 4.♞f1 ♞h4  
5.♞g2+ ♞:g2#

*Helpselfmate:* White moves first and is mated; Black helps until his final move, which must be forced, as in a selfmate.

Interesting, though play is not fully matched, unified by black promotions. (Z.G.)

**2825 A. Stypochkin**

\*: 1...f1 ♞#

1.♞d5+ ♞h7 2.♞h4+ ♞h5  
3.♞e4+A ♞g7(8) 4.♞g5+B  
4...♞g7(♞-) 5.♞g4 f1 ♞#  
2...♞g6 3.♞g5+B ♞h7  
4.♞e4+A ♞~ 5.♞g4 f1 ♞#

*Reflexmate:* a selfmate with the extra condition that either side must give mate in one if this becomes possible.

*Fata morgana* with round-trip by the ♞, switchback by the ♞ and repetition of the diagram position. (Z.G.)

**2826 A. Stypochkin**

1.♞b2+! a:b2 2.♞b1! ♞:b1  
3.♞2c3! ♞a1 4.♞a4+ ♞b1  
5.♞a3 ♞a1 6.♞b4+ ♞b1  
7.♞a2! ♞:a2 8.♞a3+ ♞b1  
9.♞b3 ♞c1 10.♞a2 b1 ♞#

Delayed *Klasinc* theme (W6, W8 and W9 moves), made possible by battery play at W6. (Z.G.)

**2827 P. Žuvić**

a) 1.♞e6 ♞a3 2.♞b1 ♞a7  
3.♞g6+ ♞:g6#  
b) 1.♞a6 ♞:b2 2.♞g4 ♞aa2  
3.♞d4+ ♞:d4#

*Leo*(pao/vao): the Chinese queen (rook/bishop) which moves like a normal queen (rook/bishop) but captures like a lion (on rook/bishop lines only).

*Nao:* the Chinese nightrider which moves like a nightrider but captures like a nightrider-lion.

*Nightrider:* a rider along a straight line on squares lying a knight's move away from each other.

Analogous play with exchanged roles of ♞e1 and ♞g2, starting with consecutive line opening – open-gate. (Author)

**2828 A. Geister & D. Papack**

1.♞b1+? ♞g1+ 2.♞a7!

1.♞d6 ♞d4+ 2.♞b5 c7-c7:d6  
3.♞b1+ ♞g1# [4.♞a7??]

1.♞c3+? ♞c8-a8:h8#, 1...♞b1!  
1.♞f7 ♞h2 2.♞f7-h1:h2 ♞h2  
3.♞c3+ ♞c8-a8:h8# [3...♞b1??]

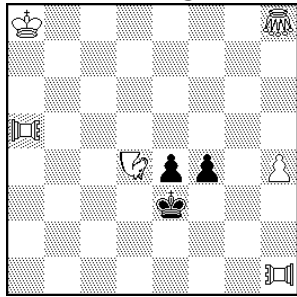
*Mars Circe:* capturing units are first reborn on their Circe rebirth square which must be vacant.

*Neutral piece:* belongs to whichever side chooses to use it.

MarsCirce specific replacing a white or black piece with a similar neutral one in logical form. (Authors)

VERSIONS OF ORIGINAL PROBLEMS FROM *THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEMIST*

2451v **Predrag Žuvić**



H#3 \* 6+3  
 ♖ = rook-locust, ♞ = nightrider  
 ♗ = pao, ♘ = grasshopper

*Pao, nightrider:* see the definitions above on page 29.

*Grasshopper:* moves along Q-lines over another unit of either colour to the square immediately beyond that unit. A capture may be made on arrival, but the hurdle is not affected.

*Rook-locust:* moves like a locust, but only on rook-lines (locust: moves on Q-lines, but only by capturing an enemy unit, arriving immediately beyond the hurdle on a vacant square).

2451v:

\*: 1...♞c3 [♞c2+?] 2.f3 ♞c2+  
 3.♖f4 ♞f1#

1.♙d3 ♞h2 [♞h3?] 2.e3  
 2...♞h3+ 3.♖e4 ♞e1#

№ 2451v participates in the 2023 informal tourney.

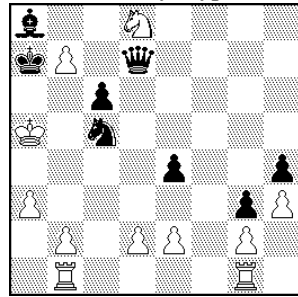
2586v:

1.♙d3 b:a8♙ [+♙c8]  
 2.♙b1 [+♙h1] ♞c6 [♙c7]#

1.♙d3 ♞gel 2.♙e1 [+♙a1]  
 2...b8♙#

№ 2586v participates in the 2022 informal tourney.

2586v **Anatoly Stypochkin**



H#2 Elsass Circe 11+8

*Elsass Circe:* Circe rules apply, but no move may lead to a position that would be illegal in ordinary chess.

ALEKSANDR VASILIEVICH GALITSKY

by *Stanislav Vokál*



The world-famous chess composer Aleksandr Vasilievich Galitsky (21.2.1863 – 18.11.1921) was the best chess composer in Russia at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. From 1886 he composed more than 1100 chess compositions, mostly threemovers and moremovers, and he was very active in publishing.

In 2010, in Poltava, today's Ukraine, a 2-part book *Александр Галицкий - шахматный Гейне (Aleksandr Galitsky – shahmatny Geine/chess Genius)* by Kyril Urusov and Eugene Fomichev was published. A set of his 1106 chess problems (595 #3s) forms part 1 of the book. He was the author of 18 articles on chess composition, which were published between 1892 and 1916. His articles (2<sup>nd</sup> part of the book) are the first Russian textbook on chess composition. It is a unique work in scope, and many of the ideas published there are still relevant today. Galitsky was also the founder of face-to-face solving competitions in Russia (Moscow and St. Petersburg) since 1900.

Galitsky recognised the value of different chess ideas and schools. He preferred compositions with model mates, but also appreciated other elements. He composed his first chess problems in the spirit of the then popular Old German school, which emphasized the solution's difficulty, the content's richness and model mates in the main play. Later he was a follower of the Czech school, always trying to follow its principles in his compositions. After turning his attention to light chess pieces, a collection of his problems with his favorite pieces – bishop + 2 knights (*Schachprobleme, Weiss: Ein Läufer und Zwei Springer*) was published in Berlin. His miniatures were widely popular among chess players and fans. Galitsky was a King of miniature chess compositions.

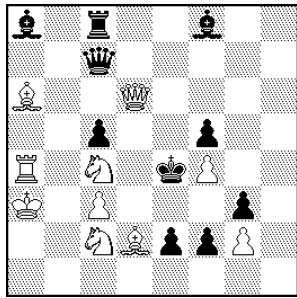
Let's now look at a selection of his threemovers in the order of year of publication. Three selected moremovers (4#, 5# & 6#) will follow, again according to year of publication.

THE 11<sup>TH</sup> FIDE WORLD CUP 2023

The FWC 2023 was organised by the FIDE, with the participation of the World Federation for Chess Compositions (WFCC). Director: Aleksey Oganesyan. Judges: Gérard Doukhan (#2s); Jean-Marc Loustau (#3s); Ralf Krätschmer (#4-ns); Branislav Djurašević (studies); János Csák (H#s); Zoran Gavrilovski (S#s); Borislav Gadžanski (fairies); and Thomas Brand (retros).

- A (#2s, 36 entries) – 1. Peter **Gvozdjak**; 2. Anatoly Slesarenko; 3. Aleksandr Feoktistov.
- B (#3s, 32 entries) – 1. Srećko **Radović**; 2. Grigory Atayants; 3. Aleksandr Kuzovkov.
- C (#4-n, 34 entries) – 1. Ferhat **Karmil**; 2. Aleksandr Feoktistov; 3. Aleksandr Kuzovkov.
- D (e.g., 42 entries) – 1. Luis Miguel **González**; 2. Sergey Osintsev; 3. Michael Pasman.
- E (H#s, 53 entries) – 1. Anatoly **Skrpnik**; 2. Emil Klemanič; 3. Vladislav Nefyodov.
- F (S#s, 32 entries) – 1. Aleksandr **Feoktistov**; 2. Frank Richter; 3. Sergey Borodavkin.
- G (fairies, 48 entries) – 1. Abdelaziz **Onkoud**; 2. Vlaicu Crișan; 3. Juraj Brabec.
- H (retros, 12 entries) – 1. Joachim **Hambros**; 2. Christoph Fieberg; 3. Per Olin.

1<sup>st</sup> Pr. **Srećko Radović**



#3 10+10

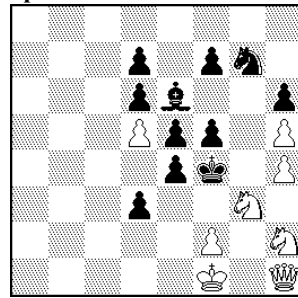
**Radović:** 1.♞2e3! (2.♙d5+ ♖:f4/♙:d5 3.♙:f5#/♞d6#)

1...♙h7 2.♙b8!! ~/\♙d3  
 3.♞d6#/♙b1# [2.♙d8?]  
 1...♙f7 2.♙d8!! ~/\♖:f4/♙:c4  
 3.♞d6#/♙h4#/♙:c4# [2.♙d8?]

**Gavrilovski:** 1.♙g2! (zugzwang)

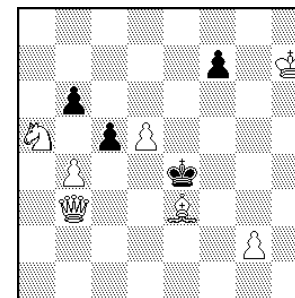
1...♙e8 2.♞h1! (3.♙g3# A)  
 2...e3 3.♙f3# B  
 1...♙:d5 2.♞:e4 (3.♙f3# B)  
 2...f:e4/♙:e4 3.♙g4# C/♙g3# A  
 1...f6 2.♞:f5 (3.♙g4# C)  
 2...♙:f5 3.♙g3# A

Spec. H.M. **Zoran Gavrilovski**



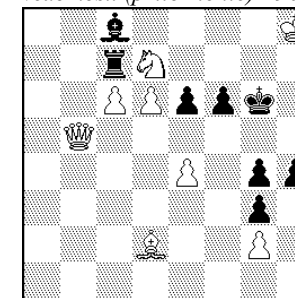
#3 8+11

1. **Aleksandr Galitsky**  
*Sachové listy* 1902



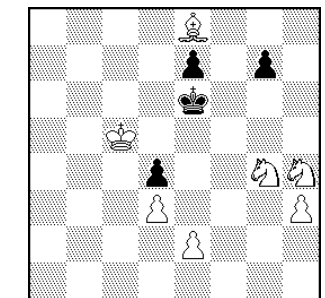
#3 7+4

2. **Aleksandr Galitsky**  
*Vjatskije gubernskije vedomosti (prilozhenie)* 1903



#3 8+8

3. **Aleksandr Galitsky**  
*La Stratégie* 1904



#3<sup>v</sup> 7+4

№ 1 is a meredith threemover with a quiet threat and four model mates. An excellent key with a ♙-sacrifice gives 2 squares to the ♙ and takes 1 square. Solution: 1.♙d4! (2.♙f6! ~ 3.♙f3#), a model mate (MM), 1...♙:d4 2.♞c6+ ♖e4 3.♙f3# MM, 1...c:d4 2.♙f3+ ♖e5 3.♞c4# MM, 1...c4 2.♙f3+ ♖:d4 3.♞c6# MM, 1...♙f5 ♖f4 2.♙f3+ ♖g5 3.♙f6#, 1...f5 2.♙e3+ ♖:d5 3.♙e5#.

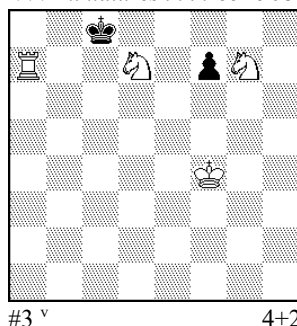
In № 2 the white queen surprisingly moves down to e2. Why? In addition to the threat, the goal is to mate on e8 after 1...f5. An interesting plot with three model mates. Solution: 1.♙e2! (2.♙:g4+ ♖f7 3.♙h5#, ♙g8#), 1...♙h5 2.♙:g4+ ♖:g4 3.♞:f6# MM, 1...f5 2.e:f5+ e:f5 3.♙e8#! MM, 2...♙:f5 3.♙d3# MM, 2...♖f7 3.♙:e6#, 2...♙h5 3.♞f6#.

№ 3 is an interesting meredith threemover with four model mates. The main plan 1.♞f3? does not work due to the ♙'s escaping via f5 and g5. Let's try to cover the f5 square by the move



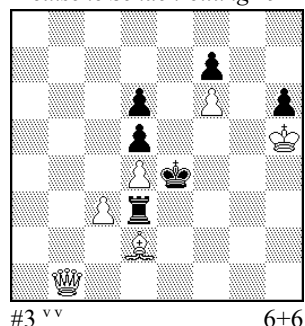
1.e4?, which doesn't work due to 1...g5! The solution is 1.e3! only. The main plan then works after 1...g5. Solution: 1. ♘f3? (2. ♘:d4#), 1... ♖f5!; 1.e4? (2. ♘f3, ♘f5), 1...d:e3 e.p. 2.d4! ~ 3.d5#, but 1...g5!; **1.e3!** (2.e:d4 ~ 3.d5# MM), 1...g5 2. ♘f3! ♖f5 3. ♘:d4# MM, 1...d:e3 2.d4! ~ 3.d5# MM.

4. Aleksandr Galitsky  
777 miniatures in three 1908



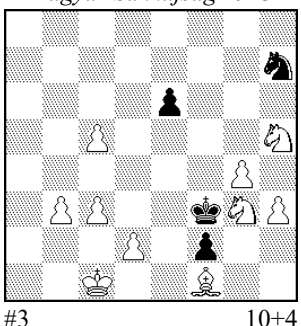
#3 ♖ 4+2

5. Aleksandr Galitsky  
Deutsche Schachzeitung 1912



#3 ♖ ♗ 6+6

6. Aleksandr Galitsky  
Magyar Sakkújság 1913



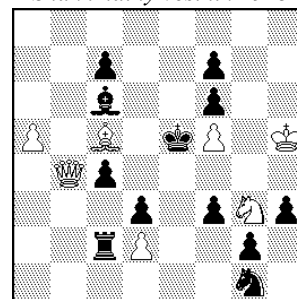
#3 10+4

№ 4 is miniature with two echo model mates. Two variations (1...f6 & 1...♖d8) are already prepared before the key. However, there is no response to 1...f5, after 2. ♘e6? it is stalemate after all! The situation is unexpectedly solved by the retreat of the ♘ on the 1<sup>st</sup> move down to the 3<sup>rd</sup> row. This later offers the possibility of another move to the ♗. Neither 1. ♘e3?, nor even 1. ♘g3? works due to 1...f5! with a check to the ♘ on the next move. The only solution is **1. ♘f3!** (zz), 1...f5, f6 2. ♘e6! f4, f5 3. ♖c7# MM, 1...♖d8 2. ♘b6! ~ 3. ♖d7# MM.

№ 5 is a logical meredith with Roman theme in Palkosky style. The thematic try 1. ♘g4? is refuted by 1...h5+! and capture of the h-♗ by 1. ♘:h6? is refuted by 1...♖f5! White succeeds by moving his bishop to g5, thereby forcing the ♗ to move to the g-column. After that, the intended main plan goes on. The spectacular key and play end with 4 model mates. Solution: 1. ♘g4? (2. ♖e1+ ♖e3 3. ♖:e3#) h5+!; 1. ♘:h6?(zz) ♖f5!; **1. ♘g5!** (zz), 1...h:g5 2. ♘g4! (zz) ♖e3 3. ♖e1# MM, 1...♖f5 2. ♖:d3+ ♖e6 3. ♖h3# MM, 1...♖f3 2. ♖f1+ ♖g3 3. ♘f4# MM, 2...♖e4 3. ♖f4#.

№ 6 is a wonderful threemover with four model mates. An unexpected key surprises with the sacrifice by the ♘. A composition with Galitsky's favorite white material 2♘+♗. Solution: **1. ♘e4!** (zz), 1...♖:e4 2. ♘g2+ ♖e5 3. d4# MM, 2...♖d3 3. ♘f4# MM, 1...e5 2. ♖c2! (zz) ♗h7~ 3. ♘(:)g5# MM, 2...♖:e4 3. ♘g2# MM.

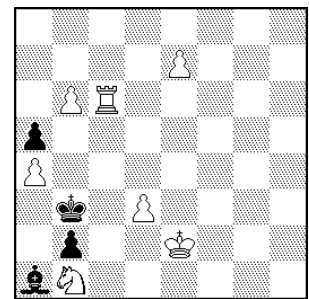
7. Aleksandr Galitsky  
Shakhmatny vestnik 1915



#3 \* ♖ 7+12

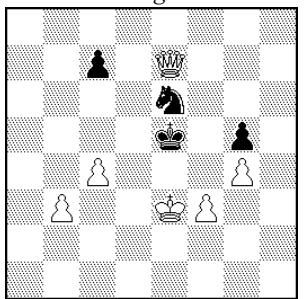
№ 7 was published in the retrospective *FIDE Album 1914-44*. An excellent key with departure of the ♘ from the "fight" scene kicks off the interesting action of this threemover, with the aim of ambushing behind ♗c7! After the ♗'s moves on b6 and c6, the ♘ gives a mate from the b8 square. The key also frees up the ♖'s path to the c7 and e7 squares. This is most evident in the play after 1...♖f4. There are five model mates in the set play and solution. Set play: 1...♖f4 2. ♘d6+ c:d6 3. ♖:d6# MM. Try: 1. ♘f2? (2. ♖c5+ ♘d5/♖f4 3. ♖:c7#/♖e3#), 1...♘d5!. The solution is as follows: **1. ♘a7!**, 1...~(♖:d2) 2. ♖e7+ ♖f4 3. ♖:c7# MM, 2...♖d5 3. ♖c5#, 1...♖f4 2. ♖b6! (3. ♖:c7#), 2...♖g3 3. ♖:c7# MM, 2...c:b6 3. ♘b8# MM, 2...f2 3. ♖e3#, 2...♖e5 3. ♖d4#, 1...♘d5 2. ♖c5! ~ 3. ♖:c7# MM, 2...c6 3. ♘b8#, 1...♘d7 2. ♖c5+ ♖f4 3. ♖:c7#.

8. Aleksandr Galitsky  
Shakhmatnoe obozrenie 1892



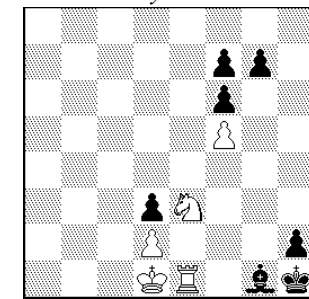
#4 ♖ 7+4

9. Aleksandr Galitsky  
La Strategie 1913



#5 6+4

10. Aleksandr Galitsky  
Shakhmatny vestnik 1915



#6 5+7

№ 8 is a Bohemian four-move meredith with model mates and an unexpected opening with the promotion of the ♗ into a ♘. The variation 1...♖a2 with the ♘'s move to c4 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> move is especially interesting! 1.e8♗? does not work because of 1...♖a2! Solution: **1.e8♗!** (zz), 1...♖b4 2. ♖c4+ ♖b3 3. ♘f7! ♖a2 4. ♖c1# MM, 1...♖:a4 2. ♖c4+ ♖b3 3. ♘d2+ ♖a3 4. ♖a4# MM, 3...♖a2 4. ♖a4#, 1...♖a2 2. ♘f7+ ♖:b1 3. ♘c4! ♖c2 4. ♘a2# MM, 3...♖c1 4. ♘a2#.

The ♖ in action in № 9! Two manoeuvres by the ♖ lead to the goal. Is the ♖ retreating from the battlefield? No way! He only temporarily retreats from the battle, handing over two free squares to his opponent. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> move after 1...c5 the ♖ retreats even to the 1<sup>st</sup> row! On the 5<sup>th</sup> move, he returns to the e2-square, covering the ♖'s retreat options and 2 echo model mates follow. A fivemover with a surprising 1<sup>st</sup> move and a battle between the kings. Solution: **1. ♖e2!** (2. ♖e3 c6, c5 3. ♖e2 ♖f4/♖d4 4. ♖d6#/♖f6#) c5 2. ♖e1! (3. ♖e2 ♖f4/♖d4 4. ♖d6#/♖f6#) 2...♖f4 3. ♖f2! ♖e5 4. ♖e2! (zz) ♖f4/♖d4 5. ♖d6#/♖f6# MM, 2...♖d4 3. ♖d2! ♖e5 4. ♖e2! (zz) ♖f4/♖d4 5. ♖d6#/♖f6# MM. The same conclusion with a reversal of moves: 1...♖d4 2. ♖d2 ♖e5 3. ♖e3 c5 4. ♖e2 ♖f4/♖d4 5. ♖d6#/♖f6#, 3...c6 4. c5 ♖d5 5. ♖d6#, 1...♖f4 2. ♖f2 ♖e5 3. ♖e3 c5 4. ♖e2 ♖f4/♖d4 5. ♖d6#/♖f6#, 3...c6 4. c5 ♖d5 5. ♖d6#.

At the end, again a problem from the *FIDE Album 1914-44* (№ 10). A remarkable composition with quiet white moves, Bristol theme, model mates and unstalemating of Black. After 1...g5, the ♖ makes a way for his ♖, then the ♘ releases the ♖ from stalemate after 4...g2 and gives a mate on f2. Solution: **1. ♖f1!** (zz), 1...g5 2. ♖c1! (zz) g4 3. ♖b1 (zz) g2 4. ♖c1 (zz) g2 5. ♘d1! ♘~ 6. ♘(:)f2# MM, 1...g6 2. ♖e1! (zz) g5 3. ♖f2 ♘:f2+ 4. ♖:f2 g4 5. ♘f1! g3+ 6. ♘:g3# MM, 2...g:f5 3. ♖f2! (zz) f4 [3...♘:f2+ 4. ♖:f2] 4. ♘f5 (zz) ♘:f2+ 5. ♖:f2 (zz) f3 6. ♘g3# MM.

**BOOK REVIEW: ENDGAME LABYRINTHS (2023), BY STEFFEN NIELSEN & JACOB AAGAARD**

We are glad to be able to introduce a joint book by two Danish composers and chess players: - Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen, the spokesman of the WFCC Subcommittee on Studies, the editor of the quarterly *EG*, GM for chess compositions and the current world champion in composing studies 2019-2021, who – according to the GM Yochanan Afek who wrote the book's foreword – "seeks tense dramas that are rich with tactics, with hanging pieces and spectacular moves", and, by his studies (some of which are initially inspired by over-the-board competitive practices) and involvement on chess social media and in the Danish chess community, he is promoting endgame studies among the general chess public". - Jacob Aagaard is an over-the-board GM, a prominent chess writer, trainer and occasional composer of practical endgame studies who – according to Y. Afek – "long ago recognized the various exceptional qualities of studies as a training tool: empowering tactical and calculating skills, improving creativity, out-of-the box thinking and pattern recognition".

The book contains no less than 1002 studies, divided into chapters by material. Pure rook endgames prominently feature, ahead of other (pawn, knight, bishop, queen) endgames, and the remaining chapters are as follows: Pieces vs pawns; Minor pieces, Rook vs a minor piece; Rook vs two minor pieces; Rook vs rook and minor piece; Rook and minor piece vs rook and minor piece; Piece fight; Active defence; Short and sweet; Playing studies; Just tactics; Solve like a grandmaster; In the wilderness; Fresh out of the oven; Fortresses; Endgame theory; Classics; and Braincrushers.

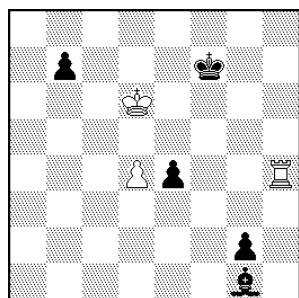
The book aims to reflect specific difficult choices a player faces at the board. The positions to solve are divided into pages of 6, with each set consisting of two easy, two medium and two difficult challenges, whose solving would require a reader to employ his/her own imagination. The book does not include trivial studies with easy solutions, technical endgames without surprising moves, middlegame positions, "romantic" studies (whose positions and play are far away from chess games), muddy positions (with many sidelines) etc.

Apart from practical chess usefulness, the authors assure us that this book is "a boundless treasure of beauty, surprise and paradox in chess". Steffen acknowledges the importance that the "consistent persistence, publishing and writing knowledge as well as perhaps even superior chess skills" of Jacob had played in producing the book.

In the book review we reproduce studies from the "Rook vs minor piece" chapter, including one of Steffen's 16 original studies (which are not examples of his typical wild composing style).

### 1. Leonid Kubbel

Shakhmatny Listok 1925

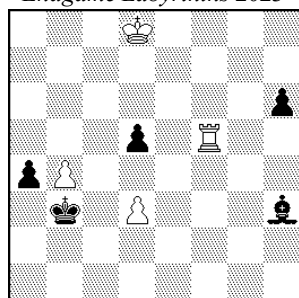


= 3+5

1. ♖f4+ [1. ♖g4? ♗h2+ -+]
- 1... ♜e8 2. ♖:e4+ ♜d8
- [2... ♜f7 3. ♖f4+ (3. ♖g4) =]
3. ♖h4! [3. ♖g4? ♗h2+]
4. ♞c5 g1 ♖5. ♖:g1 ♗:g1
6. ♞b6 ♞c8 -+ ] 3... ♗:d4
- [3... ♞e8 4. ♖e4+ = (4. ♖g4
- 4... ♗h2+ 5. ♞c5 g1 ♖
6. ♖:g1 ♗:g1 7. ♞b6 =)]
4. ♖g4! g1 ♖ [4... g1 ♖
5. ♖:d4 =] 5. ♖g8+! ♗:g8 =
- Stalemate

### 2. Steffen Nielsen

Original 2020, published in  
Endgame Labyrinths 2023

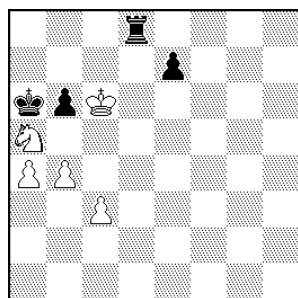


+ 4+5

1. b5 d4 [1... a3 2. ♖f2 +-;
- 1... ♗:f5 2. b6 +-] 2. ♖f2 [2. b6?
- 2... ♗g2 =] 2... ♗e6 3. ♖f5! a3
4. b6 a2 5. b7! [5. ♖b5+? ♞c3
6. b7 a1 ♖ 7. b8 ♖ ♖a3 =]
- 5... a1 ♖ 6. b8 ♖+ +- e.g.
- 6... ♞c3 7. ♖e5+ ♞:d3
8. ♖g3+ ♞d2 9. ♖g2+ ♞e3
10. ♖e5+ ♞d3 11. ♖e2+
- 11... ♞c3 12. ♖e5+ ♞b4
13. ♖b5+ ♞a3 14. ♖a6+
- 14... ♞b2 15. ♖b5+ +-

### 3. Martin Minski

Magyar Sakkvilág 2013



+ 5+4

1. ♞c7 ♖d5 [1... ♖d1 2. ♞c6
- 2... ♖c1 (2... b5 e.g. 3. c4 +-)
3. b5#] 2. c4 [2. ♞c6? b5 =]
- 2... ♖:a5 3. b5+!! [3. b:a5?
- 3... ♞:a5 =] 3... ♞a7 [3... ♖:b5
4. a:b5+ ♞a5 5. c5 +]
4. c5 ♖a6 [4... b:c5 5. b6+
- 5... ♞a6 6. b7 +-] 5. a5!
- [5. b:a6? b:c5 =+]
- 5... b:a5 6. b6+ +-
- Domination

The book can be ordered directly from the publisher "Quality Chess" at the following e-link: [https://www.qualitychess.co.uk/products/2/443/endgame\\_labyrinths\\_hardcover\\_by\\_jacob\\_aagaard\\_and\\_d\\_steffen\\_nielsen/](https://www.qualitychess.co.uk/products/2/443/endgame_labyrinths_hardcover_by_jacob_aagaard_and_d_steffen_nielsen/) (an interactive e-book: <https://forwardchess.com/product/endgame-labyrinths>).

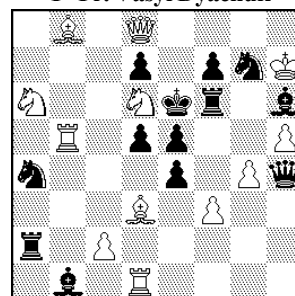
## SELECTED AWARDS



by Zoran Gavrilovski

**DIE SCHWALBE 2021/#2**, informal tourney, 54 problems: 7 Pr, 6 HM, 8 C. **Judge:** Juraj Brabec

### 1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Vasyly Dyachuk

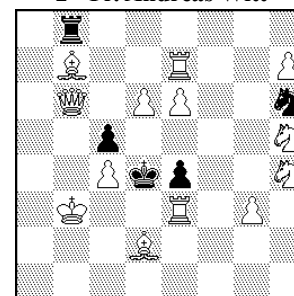


#2 ♖♖♖♖ 12+13

1. c4? d:c4/d4! 2. ♗:c4# A/?
1. f:e4? d:e4/♖h1! 2. ♗c4# A/?
1. ♞c4? d:c4/♖g4! 2. ♖:e5# B/?
1. ♞:e4? d:e4/♖:c2! 2. ♖:e5# B/?
1. ♗:e4? d:e4/♗:c2! 2. ♞c7# C/?
1. ♗c4! (2. ♗:d5#)
- 1... d:c4/♞c3 2. ♞c7# C/♞c5#

Triple change of two mates and triple transfer of three mates.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. Andreas Witt

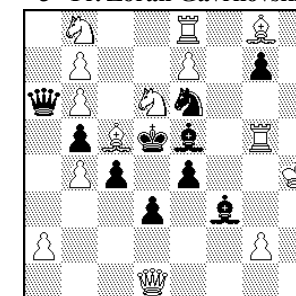


#2 \* 3 solutions 13+5

- 1... ♞e5 x 2. ♖:c5#/♖:e4#/♗c3#
1. ♖c7! (2. ♖:c5# A)
- 1... ♞e5 x 2. ♖:e4# B
1. ♞f4! (2. ♖:e4# B)
- 1... ♞e5 x 2. ♗c3# C
1. ♞g2! (2. ♗c3# C)
- 1... ♞e5 x 2. ♖:c5# A

A well-known mix of cyclic *le Grand* and *Ellerman-Mäkihovi*.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. Zoran Gavrilovski



#2 \* ♖♖♖♖ 14+10

- 1... e3/c3 2. ♖:f3# A/♖b3# B
1. ♖d8? C ♖:b7/♖b6! 2. ♞:b7#?
1. ♞c8? ♖:b6/♖b7! 2. ♞:b6#?
1. ♞f7? ♞:g5/♞:c5! 2. ♞:g5#?
1. ♞f5? ♞g3+/♞b8! 2. ♞:g3#?
1. ♞:e4? ♞:e4/♞:e4/c3/♖a3!
2. ♖d8# C/♖:f3# A/♖:d3# D/?
1. ♞:c4! (2. ♞e3#) b:c4/♞:c4/e3
2. ♖d8# C/♖b3# B/♖:d3# D

**DIE SCHWALBE 2021/#3**, informal ty., 23 problems: 3 Pr, 3 HM, 4 C. **Judge:** Gerhard Schoen

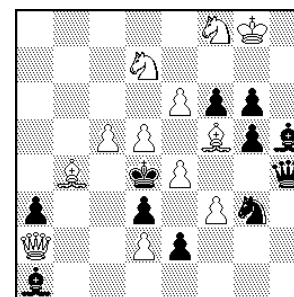
### 1<sup>st</sup> Pr. P. Sickinger, F. Reinhold & M. Schreckenbach



#3 ♖♖ 11+10

1. ♗f2? A (2. e4# C) ♖h1!
1. ♗g3? B (2. ♞b6# D) ♖b8!
1. ♖c6! (2. ♖:d6+ ♞c5 3. ♗:b4#)
- 1... ♖f8 2. ♗f2 A (3. e4# C)
- 2... ♖:e5 3. ♞b6# D
- 1... ♖e6 2. ♗g3 B (3. ♞b6# D)
- 2... ♗d4 3. e4# C
- 1... ♗c3 2. e4+ ♞d4 3. ♗f2#

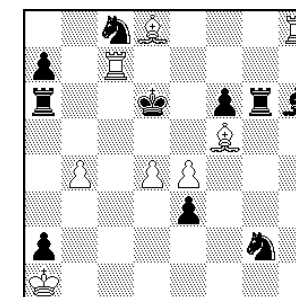
### 2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. Zoran Gavrilovski



#3 ♖♖ 12+11

1. c6? A (2. ♗c5# C) ♞:e4! x
1. e7? B (2. ♞e6# D) ♖:e4! y
1. ♖b3! (2. ♗c3+ ♗:c3 3. ♖:c3#)
- 1... ♖e4 y 2. c6 A (3. ♗c5# C)
- 2... ♖:e6+/♖:d5 3. ♞:e6# D/♖:d3#
- 1... ♞:e4 x 2. e7 B (3. ♞e6# D)
- 2... ♞:c5/♞:d2 3. ♗:c5# C/♖:d3#
- Banny and *pseudo le Grand*.

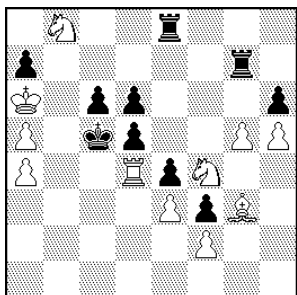
### 3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. Valery Shavryin



#3 ♖♖ 8+10

1. ♖e8? A (2. ♖e6#) ♞f4!
1. b5? B (2. ♖d7#) ♖g7!
1. ♖c5! (2. e5+ f:e5 3. d:e5#)
- 1... ♗g7 2. ♖e8 A (3. ♗c7# C)
- 2... ♖c6 3. ♖d5# D
- 1... ♗f4 2. b5 B (3. ♖d5# D)
- 2... ♞e7 3. ♗c7# C
- 2... ♞b6 3. ♖c6#

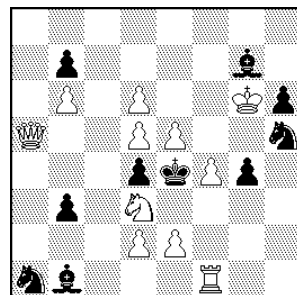
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Bernard Courthiau



#7<sup>v</sup> 11+10

1. ♖h4? (2.g6~3. ♖e7 & #5)  
 1... ♗c7? 2.g6 ♗e5 3. ♖f6! & #7  
 1...h:g5!  
**1.g6!** (2. ♖h4~3. ♖e7 ♗g:e7/♗ee7  
 4. ♗e6+ ♗d7+ ♗: ♗ 5. ♗d7# ♗e6#)  
 1... ♗c7, ♗e5 2. ♖h4 ♗e5, ♗c7  
 3. ♖f6! (zz) [3. ♖d8? ♗g7! ♗e8  
 4. ♖d8! (5. ♖c7) ♗g7 5. ♖e7!  
 5... ♗g:e7 6. ♗e6+ A ♗:e6  
 7. ♗d7# B  
 5... ♗e:e7 6. ♗d7+ B ♗:d7  
 7. ♗e6# A

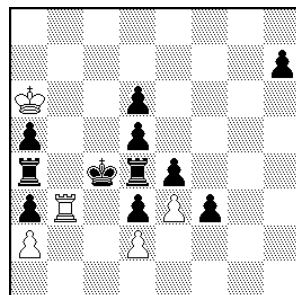
1<sup>st</sup> H.M. Zoran Gavrilovski



#4 11+10

- 1. ♗b5!** (2. ♗c4 ~3. ♗c5#)  
 [1... ♖f8 2. ♗c4 (3. ♗c5#)  
 2... ♖:d6 3.e:d6# (4. ♗c5#)  
 3... ♗:f4+ 4. ♗:f4#  
 3... ♖:d3 4.e:d3#]  
 1... ♖:e5 2. ♗c5+ ♖:d5+  
 3. ♗e4+ ♖:e4/♖e6  
 4. ♗:e5#f5#  
 1... ♗g3 2. ♗f2+ ♖:f4+  
 3. ♗d3++ ♖e4 4. ♗f4#  
 1... ♗f6 2. ♗b4 ~3. ♗d3+  
 3... ♖:d3 4.e:d3#

3<sup>rd</sup> H.M. Boško Milošeski

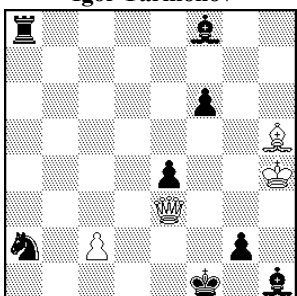


#21<sup>v</sup> 5+11

1. ♗b1? (zz) ♖c5!  
**1. ♗c3+!** ♖b4 2. ♖b6! f2 3. ♗c1  
 3...h6 4. ♗b1+ ♖c4 5. ♖c6!  
 5...h5 6. ♗c1+ ♖b4 7. ♖b6  
 7...h4 8. ♗b1+ ♖c4 9. ♖c6 h3  
 10. ♗c1+ ♖b4 11. ♖b6 h2  
 12. ♗b1+ ♖c4 13. ♖c6 f1 ♗  
 14. ♗:f1 ♖b4 15. ♗b1+  
 15... ♖c4 16. ♗c1+ ♖b4  
 17. ♖b6 h1 ♗ 18. ♗:h1  
 18... ♖c4 19. ♗c1+ ♖b4  
 20. ♗c1 ♗c4 21. ♗b3#

THE PROBLEMIST 2021/#4-n, informal tourney, 46 problems: 4Pr, 5HM, 4C. Judge: Eddy van Beers

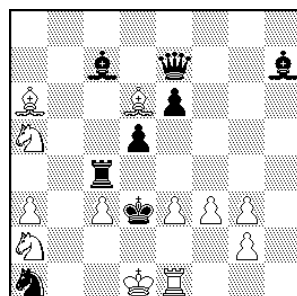
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Valery Kirillov & Igor Yarmonov



#13 4+8

- 1. ♖e2+!** ♖e1 3. ♖f3+! ♖f1  
 3. ♗e2+ ♖g1 4. ♖h3! (5. ♗e1#)  
 4... ♖b4 5. ♗e3+ ♖f1 6. ♖e2+  
 6... ♖e1 7. ♖h5+ ♖f1 8. ♗e2+  
 8... ♖g1 9.c3! (10. ♗e1#) ♖:c3  
 10. ♗c3+ ♖f1 11. ♖e2+ ♖e1  
 12. ♖c4+ ♖d1 13. ♖b3#

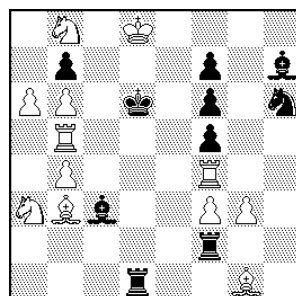
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. Aleksandr Pankratiev



#4 12+8

- 1. ♗e2!** (2. ♖:c4+ d:c4  
 3. ♗d2+ ♖:e3 4. ♗:c4#)  
 1... ♗h4 2. ♗c1+ ♖:c3  
 3. ♖b4+ ♗:b4 4. ♗a2#  
 1... ♖:a5 2. ♗d2+ ♖:e3  
 3. ♖f4+ ♗:f4 4. ♗e2#

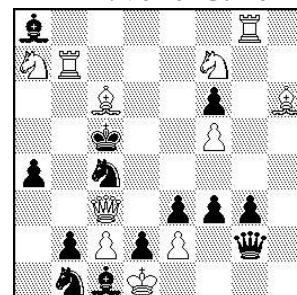
3<sup>rd</sup> Pr. Zoran Gavrilovski



#4 12+10

- 1. ♗a5!** (2. ♗b5+ ♖e5+  
 3. ♗d4+ ♖d6 4. ♗d5#)  
 1... ♖:b4 2. ♗c4+ ♖e6+  
 3. ♗d2+ ♖d6 4. ♗d4#  
 1... ♗a2 2. ♖c5+ ♖e5+  
 3. ♖d4++ ♖d6 4. ♗b5#  
 1...b:a6 2. ♗c4 (3. ♗c6#) ♗d5  
 3. ♗c6+ ♖e5+ 4. ♗:d5#

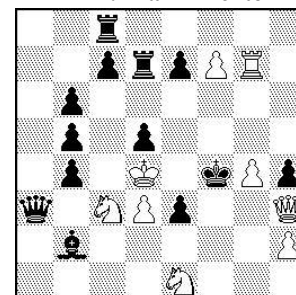
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Volker Gülke



S#9 11+13

- Gülke: 1. ♗b4+!** ♖d4 2. ♗c5+ ♖c3! [2... ♖:c5? 3. ♖:e3+ ♗:e3#] 3. ♖f8! (4. ♗:e3+ ♗:e3#) 3... ♗f2  
 4. ♗e7! (5. ♗:c3+) 4... ♗h2! 5. ♗g4! (6. ♗b4+ ♖:b4 7. ♗e5+ ♖c3 8. ♖:e3+ ♗:e3#) 5... ♗h8 6. ♗d4+  
 ♖b4 7. ♗c3+ ♖c5! [7... ♖:c3? 8. ♖:e3+] 8. ♗b7+ ♗:f8 9. ♗:e3+ ♗:e3#. Roundtrip by ♗ & ♖

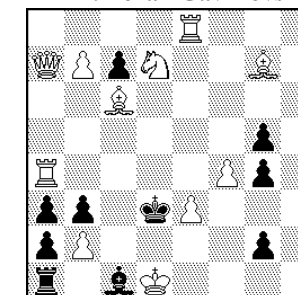
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. Frank Richter



S#12 9+13

- Richter: 1. ♗g2!** (2. ♗e4+ d:e4#) 1... ♖c1 2. ♗g1 (3. ♗:e3+ ♖:e3#) 2... ♖b2 3. ♗g2+ ♖f3 4. ♗:h4+  
 ♖f4 5. ♗g2+ ♖f3 6. ♗e1+ ♖f4 7. ♗g2 (8. ♗e4+ d:e4#) ♖c1 8. ♗h3 (9. ♗:e3+ ♖:e3#) 8... ♖b2  
 9. ♗h7! (10. ♗e4+ d:e4#) 9... ♖c1 10. ♗f ♗+ ♗:f8 11. ♗f5+ ♗:f5 12. ♗:d5+ ♗:d5#, ♗f:d5#.

4<sup>th</sup> Pr. Zoran Gavrilovski

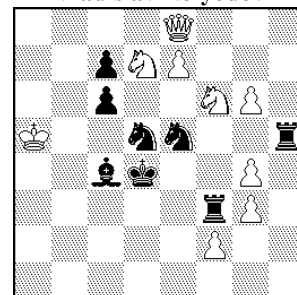


S#4 \* vvvvvv 11+10

- Gavrilovski: 1...g:f4 x 2.e:f4 g1 ♗+ 3. ♗:g1 ~ 4. ♗e3+, ♗e3+, ♗g3+ ♖:(:e3#, 1...g1 ♗y 2. ♗a5 A  
 ♗f3 3. ♖:f3 ~ 4. ♗d2+ ♖:d2#; 1. ♗a5? A (2. ♗d2+) g1 ♗(♗)+; 1. ♖:g2? (2. ♗a5 A) ♗b1!; 1. ♗a8?  
 (2. ♗e5+) g:f4! x; 1. ♗e8~? (2. ♗d4+) g1 ♗! y; 1. ♗ee4? (2. ♗ed4+ etc.) g3! z; 1. ♗h8! (2. ♗d4+ ♖:e3  
 3. ♗e4++ ♖d3, ♖f3 4. ♗e3+ ♖:e3#, 1...a:b2 2. ♗e5+ B ♖c3 3. ♗c4+ ♖d3 4. ♗:b2+ ♖:b2#, 1...g:f4 x  
 2. ♗c5+ C ♖e3 3. ♗e6+ ♖d3 4. ♗:f4+ ♖:f4#, 1...g1 ♗y 2. ♗h2! D ♗f3 3. ♗e5+ B ♗e5 4. ♗d2+ ♖:d2#  
 [2. ♗a5? C ♗f3!], 1...g1 ♖2. ♗a5! A ♖:e3 3. ♗c5+ C ♖c5 4. ♗d2+ ♖:d2# [2. ♗h2? D ♖h2!], 1...g3 z  
 2. ♗a6+ ♖e3 3. ♗e8+ ♖f2 4. ♖d4+ ♖e3#. White battery play, black minor promotions, quiet W2  
 moves with dual avoidance, change of continuations and of functions of moves (A, B, C, D, x, y & z).**

THE PROBLEMIST 2019/H#2, informal tourney, 48 problems: 4 Pr, 7 HM, 7 C. Judge: Paz Einat

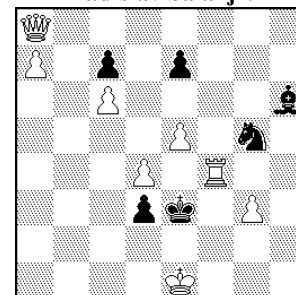
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. Vitaly Medintsev & Vladislav Nefyodov



H#2 4 solutions 9+8

1. ♗:f6 ♗d8 2. ♖e4 ♗c5#  
 1. ♗:d7 ♗h8 2. ♖c5 ♗e4#  
 1. ♗:e7 ♗:e7 2. ♖d3 ♗c5#  
 1. ♗:g6 ♗:g6 2. ♗c3 ♗e4#

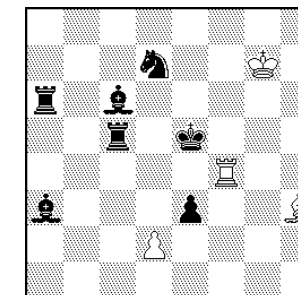
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. Michal Dragoun & Ladislav Salaj jr.



H#2 4 solutions 8+6

1. ♗h7 ♗f8 2. ♖:f4 ♗:f4#  
 1. ♗e6! ♗d8 2. ♗:d4 ♗:d4#  
 1. ♗f7! ♗h8 2. ♗:e5 ♗:e5#  
 1. ♗e4! ♗g8 2. ♗:g3 ♗:g3#

1<sup>st</sup> Comm. Živko Janevski

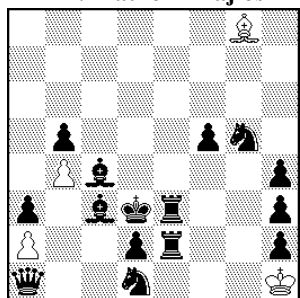


H#2 3 solutions 4+7

1. ♗d5 d3 2. ♖d6 ♗e4#  
 1. ♖d5 ♗h4 2. ♗d6 d4#  
 1. ♖d5 d:e3 2. ♗e5 ♗d4#



1st Pr. Zlatko Mihajloski



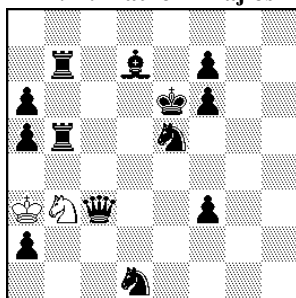
H#5 2 solutions 4+15

1. ♖a2 ♗h7 2. ♗g8 ♗g6  
3. ♖c4 [♖d5+] ♗f7 4. ♖c[d]d4  
4... ♗[f]a2 5. ♗c4 ♗b1#

1. ♗a2 ♗b3 2. ♗:b4 ♗a4  
3. ♗c4 ♗b3 4. ♖[a]d4  
4... ♗[b]a2 5. ♗c3 ♗b1#

“This helpmate is a true record-holder – it shows 5 × Klasinc.” (Judge)

1st H.M. Zlatko Mihajloski

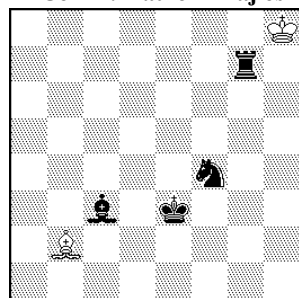


H#5 2+13

1. ♖a1 ♗:a5 2. ♖b2 ♗b3  
3. ♗b5 ♗b4 4. ♖e7 ♗c5  
5. ♗d7 ♗d4#

Themes: “bQ critical hideaway, line openings and switchbacks (2 × Klasinc theme), mixed Indian, temporal closing of the b-file from both ends, Cheney Loyd theme.” (Judge)

2nd Comm. Zlatko Mihajloski



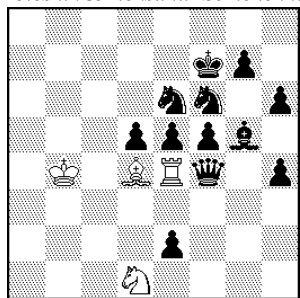
H#7½ 2+4

1... ♗a1 2. ♖h7++ ♗g8  
3. ♗h8 ♗g7 4. ♗h5 ♗f7  
5. ♗f4 ♗e6 6. ♗g5 ♗f6+  
7. ♗h6 ♗f5 8. ♗g7 ♗g5#

“♗ tempo move, ♗/♗ moves to corners, bicolour Bristol, magnet. This is a Letzform of these familiar ideas. A lovely miniature.” (Judge)

1st Pr. Rolf Wiehagen

(after Hans Peter Rehm, Mykola Kolesnik & Aleksandr Semenenko)

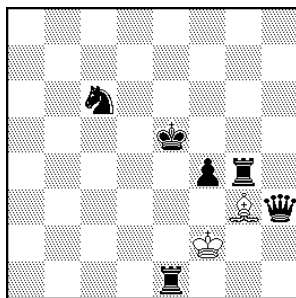


H#3½ 2 solutions 4+12

1... ♖e5 2. ♗e4 ♗a1 3. ♗f6  
3... ♗b2 4. ♗:e5 ♗c4#  
1... ♗:e5 2. ♗d4 ♖:e2 3. ♗e6  
3... ♗e3 4. ♗:e5 ♗c4#

“The constellation of actors is not new” (Judges). Exchanged roles of ♖ and ♗: sacrificed/rear battery piece & vice versa.

3rd Pr. Zlatko Mihajloski

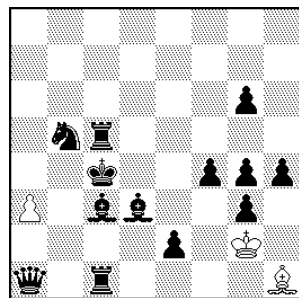


H#6½ 2+6

1... ♗h4 2.f3 ♗e7 3. ♖a4 ♗b4  
4. ♖f5 ♗g3 5. ♖e3 ♗h4  
6. ♗f4 ♗e1 7. ♖ae4 ♗g3#

“Mate on f4 is only possible if the ♗ reaches h4. To do this, the ♗ completes a roundtrip in five moves, not over d8-a5, but over b4.” (Judges)

4th H.M. Petre Stojoski (†)



H#5 3+13

1. ♗e1 ♗g1 2. ♗f5 ♗e4  
3. ♖d4+ ♗g2 4. ♗c3 ♗b1  
5. ♗d3 ♗a2#

Switchbacks by three pieces, two of which perform Klasinc theme (♗-♗ and ♗-♖) and one shows bicolour delayed Klasinc after a critical move.

LET'S NOT FORGET... Chess composers who with their works have left (or are leaving) their mark on one or more genres

200 years

Mangelsdorf, Richard (1823.06.09 – 1894.01.23)

175 years

Jespersen, Karl L. Jesper (1848.08.01 – 1914.08.07)

Lindquist, Carl Emil (1848.08.27 – 1925.01.21)

150 years

Bolton, Horatio (1793.06.02 – 1873.08.15)

Penížka, Bohumil (1873.08.20 – 1939.03.11)

125 years

Collins, Charles Francis (1843.02.19 – 1898.07.29)

Letzen, Larsson Einar (1898.05.26 – 1973.05.17)

Neishtadt, Vladimir (1898.07.16 – 1959.04.16)

Penrose, Lionel Sharples (1898.06.11 – 1972.05.12)

Vuković, Vladimir (1898.08.26 – 1975.11.18)

100 years

Abbott, Joseph William (1840.02.05 – 1923.08.05)

Bišćan, Dragutin (1923.08.24 – 2004.12.14)

Bouma, Gerard Johan (1923.05.10 – 2017.11.27)

Diot, Roger (1923.05.07 – 1981.02.28)

Frič, Ivan (1889.02.15 – 1923.07.31)

Pfeiffer, Gerhard (1923.06.14 – 2000.06.27)

Van Gool, Johan C. (1923.06.15 – 2002.08.23)

Zagoruiko, Leonid (1923.08.14 – 1999.05.22)

75 years

Antonov, Yury Mikhailovich (1948.05.17)

Dehler, Otto Georg Edgar (1887.02.10 – 1948.05.20)

Haralović, Mato (1948.07.08)

Leick, Wilhelm (1871.10.09 – 1948.07.09)

Makaronez, Leonid (1948.06.22)

Marker, Yury (1948.05.25)

Mosiashvili, Givi (1948.05.01)

50 years

Czamecki, Tadeusz (1905.11.02 – 1973.08.30)

Crîșan, Vlaicu (1973.08.26)

Gavrilović, Časlav (1894.06.27 – 1973.07.15)

25 years

Kardos, Tivadar (1921.09.26 – 1998.05.15)

Menkis, Herman (1923.03.15 – 1998.07.27)

Karl Lorenz Jesper Jespersen (1848), a Danish composer of problems and studies (3,470 from 1879, of which more than 70 won prizes) and of articles in *Skakbladet* and *Tidskrift för Schack*. Jespersen was a chaplain and then a parish priest.

Joseph William Abbott, an English #2-3 expert, who authored the book *121 chess problems: J.W. Abbott* (1887). He died in 1923.

Leonid Zagoruiko, a Belarus composer (1923), IM (1961) with 40.33 FA pts and IJ (1956). From 1937 he composed cca. 250 orthodox problems (mainly #3s), of which cca. 60 won 1st prize. Zagoruiko is credited with the eponymous theme, although he did not make the first problem with 2-n changed mates/continuations in 3-n phases.

Tivadar Kardos was a Hungarian expert for h#s and s#s, FM (1990) with 23.83 FA pts and IJ (1979). Kardos and István Rágó published *Feladványkedvelők Lapja* (Paper of the Friends of Chess Problems) from 1969 to 1976. He co-authored books with G. Authier and R. Diot. He died in 1998.

Givi Mosiashvili (1948), a Georgian #2-expert who composed #2s with rich content and published cca. 600#2s, of which cca. 200 #2s were honoured, IM (2016) with 39 FA pts and IJ for #2s (2016).

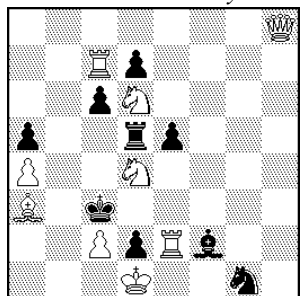
Vlaicu Crîșan (1973), a Romanian fairy expert who with Eric Huber at the WCCCs organised and judged the *Tzuica* tourney for helpselfmates. He is IM (2016) with 53 FA pts (with successes in the Olympic and other strong tourneys) and IM in solving (2007).



Joseph William Abbott, Karl L. Jesper Jespersen, Leonid Zagoruiko, Tivadar Kardos, Givi Mosiashvili, Vlaicu Crisan

CC – chess composition; GM – Grandmaster for chess compositions; IM – International Master; FM – FIDE Master for CC; IJ – International Judge of the FIDE; FA pts – FIDE album points

**I) Joseph William Abbott**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. *The Chess Monthly* 1881-2

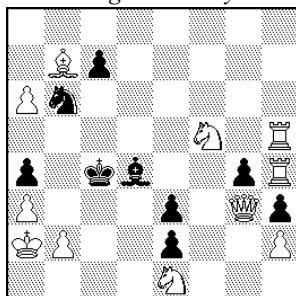


#2 9+9

1. ♖:e5! (zugzwang)  
 1... ♜:d4, ♝c5 2. ♖(:)c5#  
 1... ♙:d4, ♘~ 2. ♖(:)e3#  
 1... ♞:e5, ♞b5, c5 2. ♘4(:)b5#  
 1... ♚:d4 2. ♖e4#  
 1... ♞~ 2. ♘(:)e2#

Excellent #2 with creation of a white half-battery and three self-pins by capturing the half-pinned pieces.

**II) Karl Jesper Jespersen**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. *Brighton Society* 1897

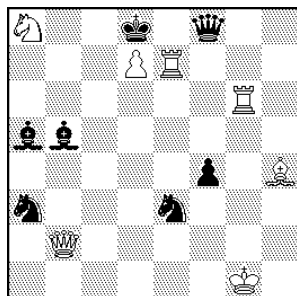


#2 11+9

1. ♚f3! (zugzwang)  
 1... ♙b5, c6, c5 2. ♘d6#  
 1... ♚c5, ♙~ 2. ♖c6#  
 1... ♙c5 2. ♖:e2#  
 1... ♞~ 2. ♖(:)d5#  
 1... g:f3, g3 2. ♘:e3#

Unusual setting with play by the black king on mutually adjacent squares after a key by the out-of-play queen.

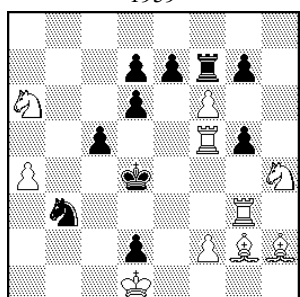
**III) Givi Mosiashvili**  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. *StrateGems* 2005



#2<sup>vv</sup> 7+7

1. ♚e5? (2. ♙b8# A) ♚f6!  
 1... ♙:d7 2. ♖e8# B  
 1... ♚:e7 2. ♖:e7#  
 1. ♚d4? (2. ♖e8#) ♞d5!  
 1... ♙:d7 2. ♖:d7#  
 1... ♚:e7 2. ♖g8#  
**1. ♖d6!** (2. ♖e8# B)  
 1... ♙:d7 2. ♙b8# A  
 1... ♚:e7 2. ♙h8#  
 1... ♚g8+, ♚g7+ 2. ♖(:)g7#  
*Zagoruiko and Le Grand* themes.

**IV) Leonid Zagoruiko**  
1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. e.a. *FIDE tourney*  
1959

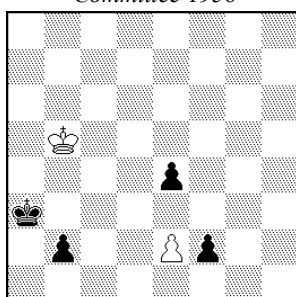


#3 10+10

1. ♖f3! (2. ♖g4+ ♚d5 3. ♖e3#)  
 1... ♚d5 2. ♖f4+ ♚e5/6 3. ♖e3#  
 1... ♚c4 2. ♖c3+ ♚d4 3. ♖gd3#  
 1...e5 2. ♖d3+ ♚c4 3. ♙d5#  
 1... ♚:f6 2. ♖d3+ ♚c4/♚e5  
 3. ♙d5#/♖ge3#

Prepared by *Nikola Stolev*

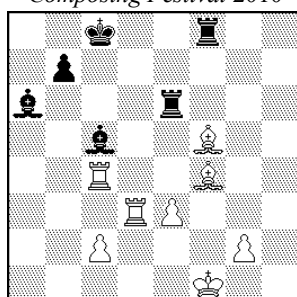
**V) Tivadar Kardos**  
1<sup>st</sup> Pr. *Budapest Sport*  
*Committee* 1956



H#7 2+4

1. f1 ♖ e3 2. ♖f4 e:f4 3. e3 f5  
 4. e2 f6 5. e1 ♖ f7 6. ♖a1 f8 ♖  
 7. ♖a2 ♖f3#  
 A quite rare example of three promotions to rooks in a setting with only 6 pieces.

**VI) Vlaicu Crişan**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pr. *PCCC-50 Anniversary*  
*Composing Festival* 2010



HS#4 2 solutions 8+6

1. ♙c7 A ♙:e3 c 2. ♖d7 B ♙f2  
 3. ♙h3 ♖c3 d 4. ♙d6+ ♙:c4#  
 1. ♖d7 B ♖:e3 d 2. ♙c7 A ♖e2  
 3. ♖c3 ♙e3 c 4. ♖d6+ ♖:f5#  
 Battery creation, critical play, unpinning and *Grimshaw*.