Quartz 60



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Testing fairy selfmates with Jacobi (2nd part)

by P.Raican

The investigations into fairy selfmates problems have began in the first part of the article (see Qz 59) There, Circe condition was in the spotlight.

In the meantime, we expanded the search to fairy selfmates.

WB) K.Wenda & H.Bernleitner diagrammes 127/1998



Authors solution: **1.a8=R+** Kd7 **2. e8=B+** Ke6 **3. f8=S+** Kf5 **4. c8=Q+** Se6 **5.0-O-O** Ke4 6. Qxc6+ Kf5 **7. g4+ fxg3 e.p.** 8. Qf3+ Sf4 9. Bb5 axb5 10. Ra1 bxc4 11. Rab1 cxb3 12. Qd3+ Sxd3#

Cook: **3.Re3+** Se4 4.f8=Q fxe3 5.c8=Q+ Ke5 6.Ra5+ Sc5 7.Qg4 exd2+ 8.Kd1 g5 9.Qe6+ Kd4 10.Qh8+ Kd3 11.Qe4+ Sxe4 12.Qc3+ Sxc3# (Jacobi)

The problem can be fixed with **bSg5 to d4**, unchanged solution. Without bPg6 => Cook: **5.Qd7** Ke4 6.Qe7 Kf5 7.Ra5+ Sc5 8.Rb1 f3 9.Rd1 fxg2 10.Qf7+ Ke4 11.Qh7+ Kf3 12.Qd3+ Sxd3#

JQ (J. Quack, s#10 Circe): 1.Kb1 g5 2.Lxg5[+sBg7]+ gxh6[+wTa1] 3.Ka2+ hxg5[+wLc1] 4.Lf4+ gxf4[+wLc1] 5.Le3+ fxe3[+wLc1] 6. Ld2+ exd2[+wLc1] 7.Lxd2[+sBd7]+ dxc6[+wLf1] 8. Lb5+ cxb5[+wLf1] 9. Lc4+ bxc4[+wLf1] 10.Sb3 axb3/cxb3[+wSb1]#

Cook in 9: **1.Qf1+** Kh2 2.Bg5+ Kg3 3.Kd1 Kg4 4.Bd7+ Kg3 5.Bd2 g5 6.Ke1 g4 7.Qf6 Kg2 8.Se2 g3 9.Qf2+ gxf2 [+wQd1]#

WB) K.Wenda & H.Bernleitner diagrammes 127/1998 (v)



SK (Stefan Klebes, s#8 Circe): Author's solution: 1.Bb1 Qxf4[+wBc1] 2.Bb2 Qe5 3.Rg4 Qf4! 4.Rc1 Qe5 5.Qf4 hxg4[+wRh1] 6.Qg3 Qf4 7.Ba3+ Ke5 8.Rf1 Qxg3[+wQd1]#

Cook: **1.Bh1** Qxf4 [+wBc1] 2.Bb2 Qe5 3.Kg2 Qf4 4.Rd4+ Ke5 5.Rd5++ Ke4 6.Kg1+ Qf3 7.Rc4+ Kxe3 [+wPe2] 8.Qf2+ Qxf2 [+wQd1]# (Jacobi)

SK) Stefan Klebes Die Schwalbe 92/1985



JQ) Johannes Quack



FS (Frantisek Sabol, s#7 Circe) Author's solution: 1.Ra1 Kxf1[+wSb1] 2. Sxd2[+sLf8]+ Kf2 3. Sf1+ Kxf1[+wSb1] 4.Sc3+ Bxe7[+wLc1] 5. Qf2+ Kxf2[+wQd1] 6.Ra2+ Bxd6[+wBd2] 7.d3+ Lxb4[+wBb2]#

Cooked by **1.Se6** Kf3 2.Rg3+ Kf2 3.Rb1 Ke2 4.Bd8 Kf2 5.d7 Ke2 6.Re1+ Kf2 7.Qa2 B×b4(b2)#

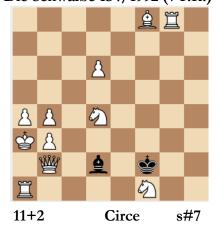
The correction has the following solution:

1.Be7! Kxf1 [+wSb1] 2.Sxd2 [+bBf8]++ Kf2 3.Sf1+ Kxf1 [+wSb1] 4.Sc3+ Bxe7 [+wBc1] 5.Qf2+ Kxf2 [+wQd1] 6.Ra2+ Bxd6 [+wPd2] 7.d3+ Bxb4 [+wPb2]#

FS) F. Sabol Die Schwalbe 134/1992



FS) F. Sabol Die Schwalbe 134/1992 (v P.R.)



GL) B.Gedda & A.Lundström feenschach 65/1983



7+7 Circe Madrasi ser-s#17 cooked

Jacobi can also verify serial selfmates:

GL (Bertil Gedda & Anders Lundström, ser-s#17 Circe Madrasi) Sol: **1. g8=B** 2. Bxh7 3.Bxg6[+Sg8] 4.Be8 5. Bb5 6.Sh3 7.Rf5 8.Rf6 9.Ba4 10.Sf2 11.Rd2 12.Sd1 13.Sc3 14.Bad1 15.Kf5 16.Kg6 17.Kh5 Sxe7[+Be2]#

Cooked in the end: **10.Sf4** 11.Se2 12.Rd2 13.Bd1 14.Sc3 15.Kf5 16.Kg6 17.Kh5 Sxe7 [+wPe2]#

KR (Jörg Kuhlmann & Paul Rãican, s#11 Circe) In Qz59 I published the cooked problem by Kuhlmann & Zander, feenschach 1974, s#13 Circe. With Kuhlmann help, the following version was produced.

Sol: **1.Bc5!** g4 2.Sd4+ (Indian) Ke3 3.Sxb3 [+bPb7]+ Ke2 (3 ...Sxc5(Bc1)?) 4.Qe6+ Se5 5.Qxg4+ Sf3 **6.g8=B** f5 7.Bh7 f4 8.Bc2 fxg3 [+wPg2] 9.Qe6+ Se5 10.Qc4+ Sd3 11.Rg1 Bxb2# (11.Bg1? Kxf1(Rh1)) Tested with Jacobi. It was a chance to fix this exquisite problem.

KR) J. Kuhlmann & P.Rãican - original



Selection of ser-h=N problems with AUW

by George P. Sphicas IM for Chess Composition

This is the third article dealing with the stipulation Serh=N. The focus this time is Allumwandlung (AUW). There are hundreds of series movers with AUW. Many include mixed AUW, where some of the promotions are by white and some by black. Also several compositions show the four promotions by the moving side but in different parts, in twins or multiple solutions.

Here we include only examples where the four promotions are all by the moving side, in one solution.

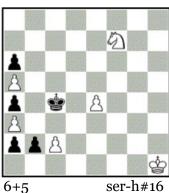
From the historical point of view, it is interesting to note that the 1960's were the time when composers succeeded in showing the full AUW in series movers. The first stipulation in which this was achieved was Ser-h#, with **No.1**, by the Finnish GM Matti Myllyniemi (1930-1987)

Then the next year the stipulation ser-s= followed, with **No.2** The surprising play here has the white king travel from one side to the other. The composers were the Dutch GM **Pieter ten Cate** (1902-1996) and the British **Charles Kemp** (1901-1986). Kemp is another well-known pioneer, famous for developing the "Kemp matrix" in series movers.

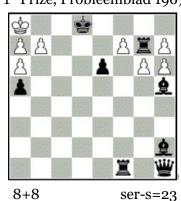
- 1) 1. b1=S 2. a1=Q 3.Qxa3 4.Qb4 5. a3 6.a2 7.a1=R 8.Rxa5 9. Rc5 10.a5 11.a4 12.a3 13.a2 14.a1=B 15.Bd4 16.Sc3 Sd6# Three promotions on one square and model mate.
- **2)** 1. f8=S 2. Sd7 3. Se5 4. Sf3 5. b8=B 6. Be5 7.Kb8 8.a8=R 9.Ra7 10. Rxg7 11.a7 12.a8=Q 13.Qa7 14.Kb7 15.Kc6 16.Kd6 17.Kxe6 18.Kf7 19.Kf8 20. Rg8 21.Bh8 22.g7 23.Qd7+ Kxd7= (627 in Fide-Album 1965-1967)

1) Matti Myllyniemi 3Pr, feenschach/1966

Po575632



P1243676
2) Pieter ten Cate
Charles Edward Kemp
1st Prize, Probleemblad 1967



P1082803 **3) Eric Bartel** feenschach 1969



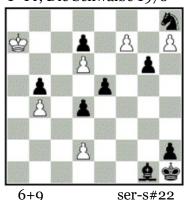
3+11 ser-h=14

The third stipulation, coming just two years later, is the focus of this article, ser-h=, shown as **No.3**

3) 1.g1=S 2. h1=Q 3. Qxh3 4. Qf5 5.h3 6.h2 7.h1=B 8.Bf3 9.Bd1 10.c1=R 11. Qb1 12.Kc2 13.e2 14.Sf3+ Rxf3= (654 in Fide-Album 1968-1970)

Erich Bartel (b.1930) is the German composer who produced this pioneering problem, but he has been one of the most significant and prolific promoters of all kinds of fairy chess.

P1291690 4) Baldur Kozdon 1st Pr. Die Schwalbe 1970



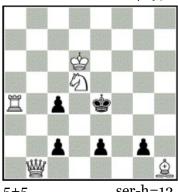
Finally, the fourth major series stipulation, ser-s#, appeared just a year later. Thus all four major series stipulations appeared with AUW within four years. If anyone knows of any earlier sound examples we would appreciate knowing about them. We know there were some unsound attempts, which must be expected in any challenging task. For the rest of the article we will limit our selections to problems with the stipulation ser-h=N.

4) 1.f8=R 2. Rxh8 3. Ra8 4. h8=S 5. Sxg6 6.Sf8 7.Sxd7 8.Sb8 9.d7 10.d8=Q 11.Qxd4 12.Qf2 13.d4 14.dxe5 15.e6 16.e7 17.e8=B 18.Bxb5 19.Ba6 20.b5 21.b6 22.b7 Bxf2#

5) 1.e1=S 2. Sd3 3.c1=R 4. Rf1 5.Rf3 6.g1=B 7.Bd4 8.c3 9.c2 10.c1=Q 11.Qc8 12.Qe6+ Kxe6=

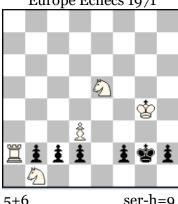
The first to show ideal pin-stalemate in this stipulation. **No.6** also shows an ideal pin-stalemate. This is the first example where all four pawns start on the second rank. 6) 1.c1=S 2.Se2 3.d1=Q 4.Qxd3 5.Qxb1 6.Qh1 7.b1=R 8.Rg1 9.f1=B Sd3=

P1240413 5) Edgar D. Holladay The Problemist Nov/1970



ser-h=12 5+5

Not in PDB 6) Edgar D. Holladay Europe Echecs 1971



5+6 ser-h=9

I had the pleasure of knowing Edgar and learning from him. Although he published only a few series movers himself, he was extremely knowledgeable and had very high standards. He generously offered me advice and guidance in my early efforts when I started composing in the early 1980's.

Published the same year, No.7 is a well-known very remarkable composition.

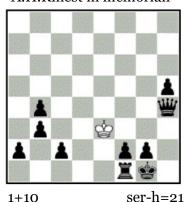
P1110716 7) Krasimir Gandev Schach-Echo 1971 A.H. Kniest gewidmet



2+6 ser-h=16

7) 1.b1=S 2. Sd2 3. Sb3 4. Kb1 5. a1=B 6. Bc3 7. Be1 8. f1=R 9.Rf2 10.Ra2 11.f2 12.f1=Q 13.Qf6 14.Qa1 15.Bc3 16.Bb2 Rxb3= With only eight units on the board, this remains the record for best economy. Two later compositions tied that record, showing the same total, eight units on the board: P1240420 by Maslar, and P1110714 by Gandev.

P1112252 **8) Zdravko Maslar** 1Pr, feenschach 76/1985 A.H.Kniest in memorian



Next, we consider examples with special features. One such feature is rex solus. The great Zdravko Maslar (1932-2022) managed the full black AUW when White is restricted to a lone king!

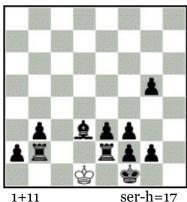
8) 1.a1=B 2. Bb2 3. Ra1 **4.f1=R** 5. Rfb1 6. Kf1 **7.g1=S** 8.Se2 9.Qe1 10. h4 11. h3 12.h2 **13.h1=Q** 14.Qa8 15. Qa2 16.Ba3 17. Rb2 18.Qeb1 19. Ke1 20. Kd1 21.Kc1 Kxe2=

The award was published in **feenschach 102/1992**, judge K.Widlert.

As part of the solution in **No.8** there is a single capture at the end. Then 25 years later Maslar succeeded in masterfully showing the same challenging task of rex solus, but this time

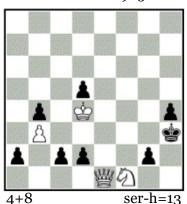
9) 1.g1=R 2.Rg3 3.Kg1 4.f1=S 5.Reg2 6.Rbf2 7.b2 8.b1=B 9.a1=Q 10.Qh8 11.Qh1 12.Sh2 13.Bf1 14.Bf5 15.Bh3 16.g4 17.e2+ Ke1=

P1176406 **9) Zdravko Maslar** 2Pr, The Problemist Sept/2010



P1240421 **10) Jukka Tapanimäki** Schach-Echo 1985

without any capture by either side!



Without the rex solus restriction, it is possible to show a completely capture-less AUW with this stipulation several different ways. Six examples are included here, from **No.10** to **No.15**.

10) 1.c1=R 2.Rc3 3.a1=Q 4.Qd1 5.Qf3 6.d1=S 7.Sf2 8.g1=B 9.Qh1 10.Kg2 11.Rh3 12.Rh2 13.h3 Qe2= All four pawns are unobstructed and ready to promote. Two diagonal shields to wK, nice Q route.

11) 1.f1=R 2.Rf2 3.Ra2 4.f2 5.f1=B 6.Bd3 7.Bb1 8.d3 9.e3 10.e2 11.e1=S 12.Sc2 13.d2 14.d1=Q 15.Qd4 16.Qa1 17.Kb2 Qd2=

12) 1.g1=Q 2.Qg7 3.f1=S 4.Sd2 5.Kc1 6.b1=R 7.Qa1 8.Kb2 9.c1=B Qh2=

P1242248 11) Michel Caillaud Sahmatija 2003 1 HM



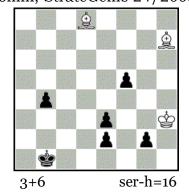
P1242068 12) Michel Caillaud StrateGems 20/2002 3 Prize



P1242073 13) Joost de Heer 1HM, StrateGems 23/2003



P1242236 14) Joost de Heer Comm, StrateGems 24/2003



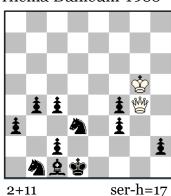
13) 1.d1=R 3.Ra2 4.d2 5.f1=B 7.Bb1 8.c2 9.d1=Q 11.Qa1 15.d1=S 16.Sb2 17.Ka3 Rb5= **14)** 1.e1=R 2.Re2 3.Rb2 4.e2 5.e1=S 6.Sc2 7.f4 8.f3 9.f2

10.f1=B 11.Bc4 12.g1=Q 13.Qa7 14.Qa1 15.Ba2 16.b3 Bg5=

15) 1.h1=Q 2.Qh8 3.Qa1 4.Bb2 5.Sc1 6.Sa2 7.c1=B 8.Kc2 10.f1=S 11.Cfd2 14.f1=R 15.Rf3 16.Rb3 17.c3 Qe2=

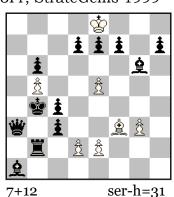
16) 5.h1=Q 6.Qb1 7.Qba2 8.Bb1 11.f×g3 13.g1=R 14.Rg5 15.R×e5 16.R×b5 20.e×d2 21.d1=B 22.Ba4 23.Kb3 24.Rb4 25.b5 29.d×e2 30.e1=S 31.Sc2 Bd1= Here, we have four excelsiors. See also No.24 by Sphicas

P1240443 15) Unto Heinonen Thema Danicum 1988



2+11

P1240552 16) Unto Heinonen 3Pr, StrateGems 1999



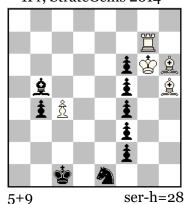
P1325737 **17) George P. Spicas** StrateGems 76/2016(v)



For length records, the shortest possible is ser-h=7, which was done several different ways, and the longest is ser-h=46 shown in **No.17**:

17) 1.Kf7 2.h5 3.h4 4.h3 5.hxg2 10.Kxh2 20.Kxb5 21.Kxa6 22.Kb5 24.axb4 25.bxa3 28.Kxb2 29.Ka1 31.b1=Q 32.Qxd1 33.Qe1 34.d1=R 36.Ra2 38.d1=S 39.Sb2 42.d1=B 44.Bb1 45.Qxf2 46.Qg1 Rxg1=

P1282092 **18) George P. Spicas** 1Pr, StrateGems 2014



Another special feature is all promotions on one square. For a single AUW, that was done twice, see P1110463 (Sphicas, 1992) and P1242062 (Sphicas, 2002). Five promotions on one square, forming AUW+1, are shown in **No.18**.

18) 1.f1=R 2.Rf2 3.Rb2 4. f2 5. **f1=S** 6.Sd2 7.f3 8.f2 **9.f1=Q** 10.Qxc4 11.Qc7 12.Bd3 13.Bb1 14.Sc2 15.f4 16.f3 17.f2 **18.f1=Q** 19.Qa6 20.Qa1 21. f5 22. f4 23. f3 24. f2 **25.f1=B** 26.Bc4 27.Bca2 28.b3 Rxc7=

Moving up to multiple promotions, we have three examples of AUW+2. **No.19** by Glass:

19) 1.f1=S 2. cxb1=B 3. Bg6 4. b1=R 5.Rb2 6.Rh2 7.b2 8.b1=R 9.R1b2 10.Rbf2 11. e2 12. e1=Q 13.Qe4 14.Qh1 15.e4 16.e3 17.e2 18.e1=S 19.Sg2 Rxg6=

No.20 by Sphicas:

20) 1.f1=S 2.h1=R 3.Rh3 4.Rç3 7.h1=R 8.Rh4 9.Ra4 13.h1=R 14.Rh5 15.Rha5 20.h1=Q 21.Qh6 22.Sd2 23.Sb3 24.Kb2 26.a1=B 27.Ra2 28.R5a3 30.a4 31.Qd2+ S×d2=

P1109964 **19) Günter Glass** 4 Pr, feenschach 1985 dedicated to P. Kniest

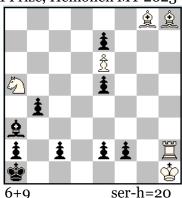


6+8 ser-h=19

P1109963 **20) George P. Sphicas** Comm, Die Schwalbe 1989



P1415262 21) Paul Rãican 1 Prize, Heinonen MT 2023



And the recent **No.21** by P.Rãican:

21) 1.f1=S 2.e1=R 3.Re3 4.Rc3 5.e4 8.e1=Q 9.Qxe6 10.Ob3 11.e5 **15.e1=R** 16.Rb1 **17.c1=B** 18.Sd2 19.Kb2 **20.a1=B** Bxb3=

This obviously is a correction of an unsound problem (George P. Sphicas, 7455. Phénix, XII 2015), but a splendid one with better white economy, although a black bishop was added. [judge: Hans Gruber]

The whole award of Heinonen MT is published in Tehtäväniekka 4/2023.

P1110402 22) George P. Sphicas 5 Pr, Die Schwalbe 1991



ser-h=268+9

Finally, seven promotions have been shown for AUW+3: **No.22** by Sphicas with 17 units on the board, and the more economical No.23, with 16 units.

22) 1.bxc1=R 2.Rh1 **3.c1=B** 4.c2 **5.d1=S** 6.Bxe3 7.Bg1 8.e3 9.e2 **10.e1=B** 11.Bh4 12.Sf2 **13.c1=R** 14.Rc3 15.Rh3 16.c3 17.c2 **18.c1=R** 19.Rcc3 20.Rcg3 21.e4 22.e3 23.e2 **24.e1=Q** 25.Qxe6 26.Qd5 Bxd5= Probably the first AUW+3 published in ser-h=

23) 1.e1=S 2.d1=R 3.Rd3 4.Ra3 **7.d1=R** 8.R1d3 9.Rdb3 **13.d1=Q** 14.Qxd6 15.Qe5 **20.d1=R** 21.Ra1 **22.b1=B** 23.Sc2 **24.gxh1=B** 25.Bc6 26.Ba4 27.b5 Bxe5=

AUW+3 promotion record (16 units), improvement of No.22

24) 1.f5 2.d5 3.d4 4.d3 5.dxe2 6.e1=0 7.Oxe5 8.Oa1 9.e5 10.g5 11.g4 12.g3 13.g2 **14.g1=R** 15.Rg2 16.Rb2 17.e4 18. e3 19. e2 **20. e1=S** 21. Sc2 22.f4 23.f3 24.f2 25.f1=B 26.Bc4 27.Ba2 28.b3 Bf4=

Editor's Note: Many thanks to George Sphicas for this third article dedicated to ser-h=N problems with AUW. The fourth part will fallow, this time dedicated to ser-h=N problems with fairy elements (selection by P. Raican)

23) George P. Sphicas Die Schwalbe 288/2017



ser-h=27 7+9

P1237358 24) George P. Sphicas 2HM, Quartz 2002



ser-h=285+6

New editorial board of Quartz magazine

We are happy to inform you that our editorial board has from now on two important names: **Vladislav Tarasiuk** from Kharkov, Ukraine (a terrible location, if we take into account the unjustified war started by the dictator from Kremlin) and the talented newcommer **Joachim Hambros** from Vienna, Austria.

Here are short presentation of both of them.

Vlad Tarasiuk (b.1968) published about 400 studies, with 100 of them winning prizes and many earning Hon. Mention. He did win the *World Championship in composing in 1997* (thereafter, he was runner-up in 2001, 2013 and 2017) and has become *International Judge in 2017*. He recently participated at *Hornecker MT, Jurmala 2024* (judge P.Raican) He won the HM3. The author himself discovered that the original position is illegal, then quickly resent a version.

Sol: 1.Ra8 (wR occupies first time a8) 1...Rh1

- 1...Rh5 2.Rh8 Rf5 (2...Rg5 3.Rg8 Rf5 4.Rf8=) 3.Rf8 f6 4.Rh8! Rf4 5.Rh4 Rd8 6.exf4 exf4 7.Rxf4 Ke5+ 8.Ke3 Rxd2 9.Rh4 Rxc2 12.Kd3 Rc1 13.Rh7 =; 1...Rxa8 stalemate
- **2.Ra1!** (wR occupies first time a1)

Try: 2.Rh8? Rd1 3.Rh1 Rd8 4.Rxd1 Kd7-+

2...Rh8 2...Rxa1 stalemate 3.Ra8! (wR second time on a8)

Try: 3.Rh1? Ra8 4.Ra1 Rad8 5.Ra8 f5-+

- 3...Rh1 4.Ra1 (wR second time on a1) 4...Rh2! 5.Rh1 (wR occupies first time h1) 5...Rf2! 6.Rh2 Rf1 7.Rh1 (wR second time on h1) 7...Rd8
- 7...Rf5 8.Rh5 f6 9.Rh8! Rg5 (9...Rf4 10.Rh3 Rd8 11.exf4 exf4 12.e3=) 10.Rh5 Rg1 11.Rh1 Rg8 12.Rh8=
- **8.Rh8** (wR occupies first time h8) **8...Rd7 9.Rh1 Rd8 10.Rh8** (wR second time on h8), positional draw or stalemate.

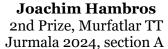
The eternal movement of the white rook (sacrifices in all four corners of the board) is an eternal memory of S.Hornecker. [author]

V. Tarasiuk HM3, Hornecker MT, Jurmala 2024, section B (v)



The Ukrainian Master will receive original endgames for our new section **Studies**. Send your good originals to V. Tarasiuk, <vladchess@ukr.net>

The studies participate in our regular tournament (2024-2025)





15+15 Anticirce PG17 Calvet

I meet personally **Joachim Hambros** in Jurmala WCCC, August 2024. Born in 28th of April 2003, he lives in Vienna and he's starting his third semester of the Bachelor for Electronic Engineering at the University of Applied Sciences Technikum Wien. Recently, he got *first prize in the 11th FIDE World Cup*.

He participated with great success at Murfatlar 2024 (7th edition), a traditional tournament for fairy proof games. Here it is his 2nd Prize (PG with Anticirce condition) along with his comments.

Sol: 1. c4 c5 2. Qc2 Sc6 3. Qxh7(Qd1) Rh3 4. Sa3 Rb3 5. h4 g6 6. h5 Bg7 7. h6 Bd4 8. h7 Sf6 9.h8=Q! Sh7 10. Rh3 f6 11. Rc3 Kf7 12. d3 Qf8 13. Bf4 Qh6 14. Bc7 Kg7 15. Ba5 b6 16. Rac1 Bb7 17. Sb1 Rxh8. Type Calvet is necessary to make Rxh8 possible.

The problem shows a queen Schnoebelen. All 17 black moves are visible, which means the capture of wPh2 must happen without losing a tempi. This is only possible if the capturing move was

Ra8xh8. bPh7 must also be captured on h7, since there is no time to move it. The only way this is possible in 2 moves is with wQd1-c2xh7. There is no way to get wBc1 to a5 in 2 moves, unless we waste 2(!) moves with wRc3, because of bRb3 and wPc4. Instead, the only way white can get the bishop to a5 in 3 moves is via c1-f4-c7-a5. It can also be shown that Ra8xh8 must be the last move.

Sadly, I couldn't find a way to test the full length with Jacobi, even with constraints, because these constraints don't work well with captures in Anticirce. For example the constraint Ra8xh8(1) results in no solutions. I suspect that's because the rook now on h8 is a different piece than the rook that captured on h8, due to rebirth.[author]

Recently, Joachim published an amazing proof game:

Sol: 1.h4 a5 2.h5 a4 3.Rh4 a3 4.Rb4 axb2 5.Sa3 **b1=R** 6.Bb2 g6 7.Bf6 Bg7 8.Bg5 Bb2 9.c3 Bc1 10.Qa4 Rb3 11.Sc2 Ba3 12.Qb5 Rb2 13.O-O-O Sa6 14.Sa1 Rb1+ 15.Kc2 Bb2 16.Kb3 Bc1+ 17.Ka4 Rb3 18.axb3 Sb8+.

Wonderful things are happening in the South-West corner. Ceriani-Frolkin theme, reciprocal Indian (RBBR) with check protection on b2 and check protection on c1.

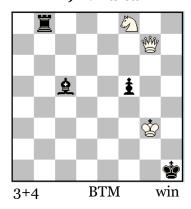
Joachim Hambros



Joachim Hambros kindly agreed to receive original proof games, orthodox or fairy, for our new section **Proof games**. Send your good originals to J. Hambros, <joachim.hambros@hotmail.com> The proof games participate in our regular tournament (2024-2025)

Original problems **Studies**

E1) P. Rãican



5+4

draw

Proof Games

R1) P. Rãican & Allan Bell



Isardam 13+15 PG11.5 #color

R2) Eric Pichouron



16+14 Knightmate PG13 Point Reflection

R3) P. Rãican



PG13.5 11+9 **Kobul Kings**

Dia C

R4) P. Rãican



12+13 Einstein #remove A to B in 5 moves

& M.Rittirsch Dia B



11+11 Einstein #remove B to C in 5 moves

<u>A</u> A

2 2 2

8



15+14 Einstein PG₅ #remove

Proof Games

R₅) M. Caillaud



R2) Eric Pichouron

16+14 Knightmate PG13 Point Reflection



Alain Delon (b.1935 - d.2024) Here in *Once a Thief, 1965*

Through the Mazes of the Famous Maneuver

Richard Reti's study is one of the simplest and most easy-tounderstand examples of chess beauty. "When it appeared, it caused such a sensation and was met everywhere with such admiration which just a few endgame studies had ever known before..." These words belong to Réti's compatriot, his friend and biographer, well-known chess composer Arthur Mandler (1930).

The black king is two steps away from the enemy pawn, while his own pawn is about to rush forward without hindrance... **1.Kg7! h4 2.Kf6!** 2.Kf7? Kb6! 3.Ke7 Kxc6, -+. **3...Kb6 3.Ke5!!** This move is the pinnacle of White's strategy! The king continues to move along the "resultant force line," now threatening with 4.Kf4 as well as 4.Kd6. If Black takes action against one threat, he will not repel the other one. **3...Kxc6 4.Kf4 h3** 5.Kg3, =. **3...h3 4.Kd6! h2 5.c7 Kb7 6.Kd7** drawn.

The creative enthusiasm with which endgame study composers reacted to the brilliant find did not subside a bit through the whole century. Numerous studies were created in which Réti's idea was used in one way or another, ranging from direct imitations (Sarychev brothers' 5-piecer, 1928) to completely original works harmoniously combining the classical maneuver with other motifs (G. Costeff, Polish Chess Federation Ty, 2016)...

The simplicity of the initial position could not but prompt study composers to search for a concordant opening and ways to enhance the play based on this prototype position, with its eye-catching arrangement of the four pieces and the classic move Kh8-g7!

Apart from the author of the idea himself, a bunch of composers tried to cope with that task, but this eventually resulted in just a few studies. Here is one of the first attempts, in which the kings have to move to the original squares a6 and h8.

Immediate capture of the black rook is too early, so 1.Rxa6+! Kxa6 2.Kxh8 h5 3.Kg7! and we observe the familiar disposition of units.

In the next two versions, the white king moves to the h8-corner in the course of the play, but his black counterpart already occupies the "thematic" square in the diagram position.

The starting move suggests itself: 1.h8Q Ra8+ 2.Kg7 Rxh8 3.Kxh8 h5 4.Kg7!

1) R. Réti Deutsch-Österreichische Tageszeitung, 1921



2) R. Réti Deutsch-Österreichische Tageszeitung, 1921 (version by H. Adamson, 1922)



•

3) R. RétiDeutsch-Österreichische Tageszeitung, 1921 (version by V. Palkovsky, 2010)



4) J. PospisilEuropa Rochade, 2001
3rd Prize (after R. Réti)



5) M. FrakPolish Chess Fed. Ty, 2013
(after R. Réti)



Black will have to give up his queen for the h7-passer. Therefore, his main task is to save his g7-pawn. 1.c6! 1.h5? Kb7 2.h6 g5! 3.Ne7 Qxe7 4.c6+ Kc7! -+. 1...Qc7 2.Sh6! 2.Se7? Qxe7 3.Kg8 g5! 4.c7 Qe8+ 5.Kg7 gxh4, -+. 2...gxh6 3.Kg8 Qd8+ 4.Kg7 Qxh4 5.h8Q Qd4+ 6.Kg8(h7) Qxh8+ 7.Kxh8 h5 8.Kg7!

By contrast, in the Polish composer's study the white king is already standing in the corner. 1.Rxa6! Qxa6 2.Sc7+ Ka7 3.Sxa6 Kxa6 4.Kg7!

I was also tempted to try my hand at finding an introduction to Réti's study. The first version had too many pieces.

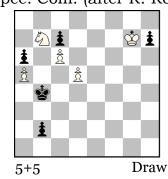
In the tense position, White's chance lies in skillfully using his far advanced pawns. **1.Sc5+!** 1.bxc7? Qg3+! 2.Kxh7 Qxd3+ 3.Kh8 Qc3+ 4.Ng7 Qxc6, -+. **1...Kxb4 2.bxc7 Sf6+! 3.Sxf6 Qg3+! 4.Kh8!** 4.Kf8? Qd6+ 5.Kg8 Qxc6, -+. **4...Qxc7 5.Sxa6+! bxa6 6.Sxd5+ Kxa5 7.Sxc7 Kb6! 8.Sxa6! Kxa6 9.Kg7!**

The desire to find a better introduction led me to the next position, in which the total number of pieces was reduced to 10. The black pawn cannot be prevented from promoting, but it is too early for White to resign!

6) V. Tarasiuk www.arves.org, 2021



7) V. Tarasiuk Československý šach, 2021 Spec. Com. (after R. Réti)



1.d6 b1Q 1...cxd6 2.c7 b1Q 3.c8Q, =. 2.d7! 2.dxc7? e.g. 2...Qg6+ 3.Kf8 Qxc6, -+. 2...Qg6+! 3.Kh8! 3.Kf8? Qf6+! 4.Kg8 h5, -+. 3...Qd3 3...Qxc6 4.d8Q Qxb7 5.Qd2+ Ka3 6.Qc3+ Qb3 7.Qxc7 =. 4.d8Q Qxd8+ 5.Sxd8 h5 6.Se6! 6.Kg7? Kxa5 7.Se6 Kb6, -+. 6...Kxa5 7.Sxc7 Kb6 8.Sxa6! It is ill-considered to play 8.Sd5+? Kxc6 9.Sf4 h4 10.Kg7 a5, -+. 8...Kxa6 The position looks familiar, doesn't it?! 9.Kg7! In the finale, White saves the game by playing according to Réti!

This version of the study was published in Richard Réti's homeland with a dedication to the 100th anniversary of the most famous study by the Czechoslovak grand-master and composer.

It is probably a manifestation of a higher law that the man who invented the paradoxical idea of the white king's pursuit of an unreachable black pawn was one of the founders of hypermodernism in chess (together with A. Nimzowitsch and D. Breuer), author of the book "Die neuen Ideen im Schachspiel" (1922) R. Réti, who was one of the top chess players of the 20th century. That idea became part of the heritage of the world chess culture.

The updated Award of Murfatlar 7th edition, Jurmala 2024

The provisional Award of Murfatlar TT7 is already published in WCCC 2024 website. Meanwhile, five problems were found cooked by Michel Caillaud:

Comm (Dirk Borst), section A; 5th Prize (Ofer Comay), section A; HM1 (Joost Michielsen), section A; HM3 (Allan Bell), section B; HM1 (Arnold Beine), section B.

For example, the **PG 19.5 Anticirce (Comay)** was demolished with the help of Jacobi, *when testing the 14.5 first moves:*

1.Sc3 e5 2.Rb1 Ba3 3.Sf3 B×b2(Bf8) 4.Rb4 Be7 5.Rh4 Bf6 6.Ba3 b5 7.Bf8 b4 8.Qc1 b3 9.Qa3 b2 10.Rg1 b1=R 11.R×h7(Rh1) Rc1 12.Sb1 Qe7 13.Qe3 Qa3 14.Kd1 Rh3 15.g4...

The **PG 10 (Michielsen)** cooked by 1.c3 h6 2.Qa4 Rh7 3.Q×a7(Qd1) R×a2(Ra8) 4.Qa4 Ra5 5.Qf4 Rh5 6.Ra8 R×h2(Rh8) 7.R×h6(Ra1) Sc6 8.Sh3 Sa7 9.R×a7(Ra1) c6 10.R×c8(Rh1) R×h3(Ra8).

The **PG10 Anticirce Antipodes (Beine)** has an incredible cook *found by Heuristic Mode of Jacobi*: 1.Sc3 g6 2.Se4 Bh6 3.Sg3 $B\times d2(Bh6)$ 4. $Q\times d7(Qh3)$ Bf8 5. $Q\times c8(Qg4)$ f5 6.Sh5 $g\times h5(d1=B)$ 7.e4 $B\times c2(Bg6)$ 8. $e\times f5(b1)$ $B\times b1(Bf5)$ 9.Rb1 $B\times b1(Bf5)$ 10.Bf4 $B\times g4(Bc8)$.

Two authors, J. Michielsen and A. Bell were able to produce versions, keeping the ideas (see attached diagrams).

MH1 (J. Michielsen), section A: 1.c3 f5 2.Qa4 Kf7 3.Qxa7 [wQa7→d1] Rxa2 [bRa2→a8] 4.Ra4 Ke6 5.Rh4 Ra1 6.h3 Rxb1 [bRb1→a8] 7.Rh2 Ra1 8.Rxh7 [wRh7→h1] Rxh3 [bRh3→a8] 9.Rh7 Rxc1 [bRc1→h8] 10.Rxg7 [wRg7→a1] Ra1/Rh1, ra8/rh8 exchange of places.

MH2 (A. Bell), section B: 1.e3 e6 2.Qg4 Ke7 3.Be2 Kd6 4.Bf3 Qe7 5.Qd4#[d4=b] Ke5 6.a4 Qa3 7.bxa3 [wPa3→a2] Qxa1 [bQa1→d8] 8.d4+ Kxd4 [bKd4→e8] Imposter Qd8, bK circuit. Completely verified by Jacobi.

Consequences: Comm (Dirk Borst), section A,

5th Prize (Ofer Comay), section A and HM1 (Arnold Beine), section B are eliminated, HM2 (Prentos section B) has become **HM1** and HM3 (Bell section B) has become **HM2**.

The other places remain unchanged.

Joost Michielsen 1st HM, Murfatlar TT Jurmala 2024, section A (v)



Anti-Circe

Allan Bell 2nd HM, Murfatlar TT Jurmala 2024, section B (v)



13+16 #color PG 9.5 Anti-Circe

Award of Hornecker MT, section Moremovers, Jurmala 2024

Prize – Eduard Eilazyan (Kyiv)

Sol: **1.Qf6** (white Q occupies first time f6)

- **1...Rd1 2.Qe5+** (white Q leaves f6)
- 2...Rd5 3.Qe7+ Rd6 4.Qf8 (white Q occupies first time f8)
- 4...h4 5.Qf5+ (white Q leaves f8).
- **5...Rd5 6.Qf6** (second time on f6).
- **6...Rd1 7.Qe5**+ (white Q leaves f6) Theme–1.
- 7...Rd5 8.Qe7+ Rd6 9.Qf8 (second time on f8).
- 9...Sf4 10.Qxf4 (white Q leaves f8) Theme-2.
- **10...Rd1 11.Qe5+ Rd5 12.Qe7+ Rd6 13.Qe3+ Kd5** [13...Rd4 14.Qxd4#] **14.Sf4**#

The task of a W piece moving to a square and leaving it, twice, is most difficult to compose and to solve **using a Q**. Other entries used R, B & S.

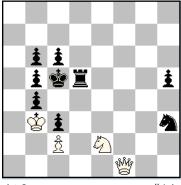
Commendation – Paul Muljadi (U.S.A.)

Sol: **1.Bh3** (B occupies h3 1st time) **Sb7 2.Sc6+ Ka8 3.Be6 Sc5 4.Bc8 Sd7+ 5.Kc7 Sc5 6.Sd4 Ka7 7.Sb5+ Ka8 8.Bh3** (B occupies h3 2nd time) **Se6+ 9.Kc8 Sf4 10.Bd7** (B leaves h3) **Sd5 11.Bc6**#

Achievement of the task with only 5 men, worthy of recognition.

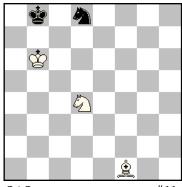
Judge: Jim Grevat, August 2024

Eduard Eilazyan Prize, Hornecker MT section Moremovers



4+9 #14

Paul Muljadi Comm, Hornecker MT section Moremovers



+2 #11

En bref

- ▶ Using the method A to B, Jacobi was able to cook the problem 11 by G.P.Sphicas, see Quartz 59, p.976:
- 11) 1.h1=R 2.Rh2 3.Rxd2 4.h2 5.h1=R 6.Rh3 7.Rxa3 as in author solution, then

8.Rdd3 9.c1=R 10.h3 11.h2 12.h1=R 13.Rh2 14.Rb2 15.Rcc2 16.Kb3 17.Ra1 18.h5 19.h4 20.h3 21.h2 22.h1=R 23.Rh5 24.Rha5 25.h5 26.h4 27.h3 28.h2 29.h1=R 30.Rh7 31.Rxb7 32.R5a2 33.Rb6 34.Rba6 35.R6a3 36.a5 37.a4 Kxd3=

The author quickly found a shorter version:

Sol: 1.e1=R 2.Re2 3.Rb2 4.e2 5.e1=R 6.Re4 7.Rc4 8.f5 9.f4 10.f3 11.f2 12.fxg1=R 13.Re1 14.g1=R 15.Rgg2 16.Rgc2 17.g2 18.g1=R 19.Rg3 20.Ra3 21.g3 22.g2 23.g1=R 24.Rg5 25.Rgxa5 26.Kb3 27.Raa2 28.R5a3 29.a5 30.a4

It is also 16 units, for a new economy record for 6R promotions in ser-h=, same as the cooked 11).

► An old study by **Helmuth Steniczka** was cooked when I have seen the judgment from springaren 54/1993 (Judge Beat Neuenschwander):

1.Rg3+ Rxg3 2.Sxg3 Sf4+ 3.Kxh6 Sxa5 4.Sh5 Sxh5 5. Be6+ Kh4 6. Bf5 Ba2 7. Bb1 Bb3 8. Bc2 Bc4 9.Bd3 Bd5 10. Be4 Bf7 11. Bg6 Bg8 12. Bh7 Ba2 13. Bb1 Bxb1=

But it is cooked with 1.Rg3+ Rxg3 2.Sxg3 Sf4+ 3.Kxh6 Sd2 and Black wins.(Stockfish)

11) George P. Sphicas original dedicated to the Memory of Unto Heinonen



George P. Sphicas original dedicated to the Memory of Unto Heinonen



ser-h=30

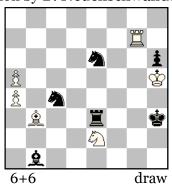
In first phase, **M.Garcia** replaced Pa₅ with wBa₅, but it isn't enough, because White has now 1.Sg1+! Kh2 2.Bc7+ Sxc7 3.Bxc7=

Beat Neuenschwander suggest to add an wPa4, see the next diagram:

H. Steniczka Comm, Springaren 1991



H. Steniczka Comm, Springaren 1991 Version by B. Neuenschwander



Sol: 1.Rg3+ Rxg3 2.Sxg3 Sf4+ 3.Kxh6 Sxa5 (3. ..Sd2 4.Se2! [4. Sh5? Sxh5 5.Bd5 Kh4 6.a6 Se4 7.a7 Sef6] 4. ..Sxe2 5.Bd5) 4.Sh5! Sxh5 5.Be6+ Kh4 6.Bf5! Ba2 7.Bb1! Bb3 8.Bc2 Bc4 9.Bd3 Bd5 10.Be4 Be6 11.Bf5 Bf7 12.Bg6 Bg8 13.Bh7 Ba2 14.Bb1 Bxb1=

Checked by Stockfish. Well done, Beat!

▶ A proof game from 1997 by the late Unto Heinonen was cooked by Stelvio (a very good program for solving PGs):

1.b4 Sh6 2.Bb2 Rg8 3.Bf6 g×f6 4.Sc3 Rg3 5.Rb1 Rh3 6.g4 Sa6

7.Bg2 Rb8 8.Bc6 b×c6 9.g5 Rb5 10.g6 Rbh5 11.b5 Sg4 12.b6

Bh6 13.Rb5 Sb4 14.Rg5 Ba6 15.b7 Bb5 16.b8=B a6 17.Ba7 Qa8

18.Be3 c5 19.g7 Qg2 20.g8=B Sc6 21.Rg7 Bg5 22.Sf3 h6

23.Bh7 Sb8 24.Be4 f5 25.Bb7 Sf6 26.Sd5 Sg8

cook: 1.Sc3 b6 2.Rb1 Ba6 3.b4 Bd3 4.b5 Qc8 5.Rb4 Sa6 6.Rc4 Rb8 7.Rc5 b×c5 8.Bb2 Rb6 9.g4 Rh6 10.b6 Rh3 11.b7 Sh6 12.b8=R Rg8 13.Rb6 Sb8 14.Rf6 Qa6 15.Bg2 g×f6 16.Bb7 Rg5 17.Sd5 Rgh5 18.g5 Bb5 19.g6 f5 20.g7 Qg6 21.Bd4 a6 22.g8=R Qg2 23.Rg3 Sg8 24.Be3 Bh6 25.Rg7 Bg5 26.Sf3 h6

I produced this version (see the next diagram):

Sol: 1.b4 Sh6 2.Bb2 Rg8 3.Bf6 gxf6 4.Sc3 Rg3 5.Rb1 Rh3 6.g4 Sa6 7.Bg2 Rb8 8.Bc6 bxc6 9.g5 Rb5 10.g6 Rbh5 11.b5 Sg4 12.b6 Bh6 13.Rb5 Sb4 14.Rg5 Ba6 15.b7 Bb5 16.b8=B a6 17.Ba7 Qa8 18.Be3 c5 19.g7 Qg2 20.g8=B Sc6 21.Rg7 Bg5 22.Sf3 h6 23.Bh7 Sb8 24.Bd3 f5 25.Se4 Sf6 26.c3 Sg8. Black Knights draw two diamonds, BB Phoenix. Stelvio+

▶ The Award of **M.Bonavoglia MT** (judge Th. Brand) was published in Sinfonie Scacchistiche 156/2024. The tournament was initially dedicated to Bonavoglia at 70 years old, but unfortunately he died at the same time. The requirement was retro-problems of type "Last move". Here is a section from the award.

The first Prize (Caillaud) is actually a *proof game in 25.5 moves*. This is not in conflict with the stipulation *Last move?*, I guess.



Unto Heinonen 3Pr, springaren 1997 Version by P.Raican



14+16 PG26

M.Caillaud 1st Prize, Bonavoglia MT 2023



M.Kerhuel & J.Dupin HM2, M.Bonavoglia MT 2023



1st Prize (M. Caillaud):

Sol: 1.e4 Sa6(P) 2.e5 a5 3.e6 a4 4.exf7(S) e6 5.c4 Bd6(S) 6.c5 Se7(P) 7.c6 o-o(Bf8) 8.cxd7(S) c6 9.b4 c5 10.b5 c4 11.b6 c3 12.bxa7(S) Qb6(R) 13.Sxc3(B) Rb1(B) 14.g4 b6 15.g5 b5 16.g6 b4 17.gxh7(S) b3 18.axb3(S) e5 19.Rxa4(Q) e6 20.Qh4(R) e4 21.d4 e3 22.Bxe3(R) e5 23.Rxe5(Q) Se4(P) 24.Qg4(R) e3 25.fxe3(S) Ba3(S) 26.Ke1-f2!

HM2 (M.Kerhuel & J.Dupin):

Sol: Double checks by White's rook and bishop.

- -1.Bd4×Xg4 illegal (black king in check)
- -1.Bd5×Xg4 impossible
- -1.Bd6×Ng4++!

b)

- -1.Re3×Xc5 illegal (black king in check)
- -1.Rf4×Nc5++! (must say that in SS *this problem was wrong edited*)
- ▶ **Martin Minski** draws attention to a possible anticipation. He compare these two studies: one by Gady Costeff, Hungarian Chess Federation Tv 1986, the other by **Alexey Gasparvan**, 2nd Prize, Hornecker MT 2024. Here are these studies:

Sp. Comm, G. Costeff: 1.Ka4 a6 2.Sc2 Ta1+ 3.Sa3 Txa3+ 4.bxa3 d1=S! **5.h8=B!** [5.h8=Q? e1=Q] **5...e1=Q 6.c8=R!** Qe2 7.Rb8 Qb2 8.Rg1 ±

Pr2 – A.Gasparyan:

1.f8=Q! fxg5+! 2.Ke4!

False trail N1 2.Kf3?! Rb2! (2...a1Q? 3.e8Q etc.) and now 3.d8Q (3.e8S Rf2+ 4.Ke4 a1Q 5.Sg7+ Qg7 etc. -+) Rf2+ 4.Ke4 a1Q 5.e8Q! (5.Qd3(d4)? Sc3+! -+; 5.e8S? Sc3+! -+) 5...Rxf8! (5...Sc3+ 6.Ke5! leads to a draw) 6.Qxf8 Sf2+! 7.Kf3 Sxh3 -+

2...Sf2+! 3.Qxf2 gxf2 4.e8=S! a1=B! 4...a1Q?! 5.d8Q! f1R 6.Qd1+ Rfxd1 7.Sf6+ Oxf6 stalemate

5.d8=Q! f1=R! 6.Qd7!

After 6.Qd1+ Rfxd1 the stalemate is avoid. False trail N2 6.Qc8?! Rg1! (not 6...Rf5 7.Qc2 etc. draws) 7.Qa6 Sf7! 8.Qf6! (8.Qxa1?! Sd6+! -+) Sd6+! 9.Oxd6 Rbf1! -+

6...Rg1! 7.Qg7! (white Q occupies first time g7)

G. Costeff Sp.Comm, Hungarian Chess Fed Ty 1986



A. Gasparyan 2Pr, Hornecker MT Jurmala 2024, section B



False trail N3 7.Qxa7?! Bc3! 8.Qg7 Sf7 9.Qf6 (9.Qxf7 Rbf1 10.Qa2 g4 -+) Sd6+! 10.Qxd6 Rbf1! 11.Qxb4!? Bh8! (or Ba1) -+

7...Sf7 Or 7...Rg4+ 8.Kd5 Rd1+ 9.Kc5 Rc4+ 10.Kxc4 = 8.Qxf7! 8.Qf6? Nd6+! -+

8...Rbf1! 9.Qg7! (white Q second time on g7) 9. ..g4!? 10.Qxa1 (white Q leaves g7) Rxa1 11.Sf6+! **Kg5 12.Sh7+ Kh5 13.Sf6+** with perpetuum check.

The arguments of Martin: *After 4.e8=S*, these are the same underpromotions and the same schema (with changed colours). My opinion, as judge of Hornecker MT, is that maybe Alexey saw Gady's work. But it cannot be an anticipation, even more, Alexey gives a new coat of the 1986 idea.

As consequence, Gasparyan's work preserve his place in the award.