Chapter 17 Length Records

17.1 Length is not normally a virtue in chess problems. The general principle of economy dictates that the fewer moves in which a task can be achieved, or a strategic idea well expressed, the better. Nevertheless, very long problems, sometimes called many-movers, have exercised a fascination of their own for more than a hundred years, and this has inevitably led to a search for the longest problems of various types. The two pioneering geniuses of the many-mover were the versatile W. A. Shinkman (1847-1933) and the Hungarian specialist O. T. Bláthy (1860-1939): their remarkable inventions lie behind many of the major achievements in this and the next chapter. Another leading figure in the field, as both composer and compiler, was the Dane Walther Jørgensen (1916-89): he called one of his collections *Søslanger* (sea-serpents), aptly comparing the repeated sequences of moves so often found in long problems to the sea-serpent's coils.

17.2 This chapter is devoted to the dual-free length records for the twelve types of problem principally featured in this book: direct mates and stalemates, selfmates and selfstalemates, helpmates and helpstalemates and their corresponding series-mover forms. A synopsis of the records is given in Table IX overleaf. Besides the overall length record for each type, length records for various definitions of minimal force are given. Other length records have also attracted composers, e.g. those for different numbers of total force, particularly 3-4 men (*Wenigsteiner*) or fewer than 8 men (miniatures), or those in which the stalemating or stalemated force consists of king plus one man, or those which end in an ideal mate; but I do not have space for them in this book.

17.3 By established convention, duals are totally prohibited in helpmates, helpstalemates and all types of series-mover. For mates, stalemates, selfmates and selfstalemates, I adopt the definition of 'dual-free' set out in 1.31, namely that the problem must contain at least one full-length line in which White's play is uniquely forced throughout. The various definitions of minimal force given in Table IX are self-explanatory. Minimal total force for most types is three men; but selfstalemates and series-selfstalemates require four men, and selfmates and series-selfmates five men.

TABLE IX DUAL-FREE LENGTH RECORDS

MATES		**#**		**S#**
Overall length record	**865†**	226	**877†**	255
With minimal total force	**866**	18½	**878**	39
With minimal mating force K+Q	**867***	130	**879**	120
With minimal mating force K+R	**868**	69	**880**	65
With minimal mating force K+B	**869**	38	**881**	54
With minimal mating force K+S	**870***	48	**882***	63
With minimal mating force K+P	**871**	122	**883**	77½
With minimal mated force K	**872**	31	**884**	2
STALEMATES		**=**		**S=**
Overall length record	**873**	201	**885†**	154
With minimal total force	**874**	14½	**886**	22½
With minimal stalemating force	**875**	26	**887**	30½
With minimal stalemated force	**874**	14½	**888**	4

17.4 Although length records often exhibit the defects of the task problem, such as starting with a king in check, they repay study not only for the ingenuity of their construction but because they, as much as any of the problems in this book, bring out the depth, complexity and variety that lie hidden in chessmen and chessboard. The records for direct mates and selfmates have been a matter of widespread interest over many years; those for helpmates and series-helpmates were worked on intensively in the early 1970s; and those for series-mates and series-selfmates have been explored more recently. If these last appear somewhat repetitive, I am sure that it is only a matter of time before composers develop them to the same diversity of pattern and mechanism as distinguishes the older records. The stalemate types have also been relatively neglected until recently.

Direct Mates

17.5 There is some uncertainty about the precise setting which can claim the overall dual-free length record for direct mates. The matrix for it was developed by Walther Jørgensen, and is shown to best advantage in the remarkable **864***. The repeating 'wheels within wheels' mechanism, whereby White gains the necessary tempos to move his king back and forth until the BP moves are exhausted, is a marvellous piece of accurate clockwork, in which

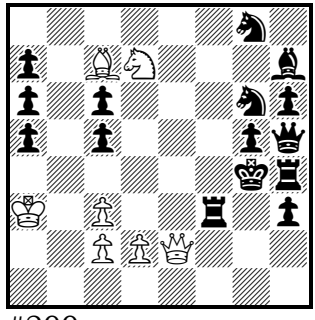
H#		Ser.#		Ser.S#		Ser.H#	
889	**898**	128	28	**910**	131	**922**	126
890	**899**	8	6½	**911***	23	**923**	9
891	**900**	76	8½	**912**	39	**924**	31
892	**901**	62	10½	**913**	40	**925***	36
893*	**902**	88	13	**914**	40	**926***	38
894	**903**	92	11½	**915**	35	**927**	37
895	**904**	116	16½	**916**	37	**928***	35
896	**905**	18	7	**917**	47	**929**	98

H=		Ser.=		Ser.S=		Ser.H=	
897*	**906**	139	34½	**918**	116	**930***	153
890	**907**	7	6½	**919***	15	**931**	10
897*	**908**	80	34½	**920***	40	**932***	44
890	**909**	21	6½	**921**	70	**933**	94

Black has some choice about when he moves his c-pawns but White has no choice at any stage. The soundness of the problem is ensured by the strength of the Black force which White has to keep imprisoned on the right-hand side of the board. Since **864*** appeared, André Chéron and other composers have produced many extensions of it which weaken the imprisoned Black force, hopefully without thereby allowing White to mate more quickly by conventional means; but the best claim to the record appears to lie with Jørgensen's own extension **865†**. (For longer direct mates with duals, see 18.2.)

864*) W. Jørgensen

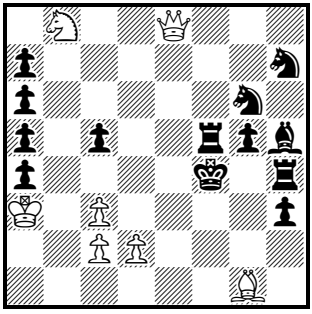
Special Prize, *Die Schwalbe*, 1976



1. Qe6+ 2.Bh2 Kf3 3.Qe3+ Kg2 4.Qg1+ 5.Qf1+ Kg4 6.Qe2+ 7.Qe6+ 8.Kb2 Kf3 14.Kc1 Kf3 20. Kd1 Pa4 (if 20...Pc4 21.Ke1 Pa4 22.Kd1) **21.Kc1 Kf3 27.Kd1 Pc4 28.Kc1 Kf3 29.Qe3+ Kg2 30.Qg1+ 31.Qf1+ Ke4 32.Qxc4+ 33. Qf1+ Kg4 34.Qe2+ 35.Qe6+ 36.Kd1 Pa5 37.Kc1 Kf3 43.Kd1 Pa6 44. Kc1 Kf3 50.Kd1 Pc5 51.Kc1 Kb3 57.Kd1 Pa3 58.Kc1 Kf3 64.Kb1 Kf3 70.Ka2 Kf3 76.Kxa3 Kf3 82.Kb2 Kf3 88.Kc1 Kf3 94.Kd1 Pa4 101.Kd1 Pa5 108.Kd1 Pa3 127.Kxa3 Kf3 145.Kd1 Pa4 152.Kd1 Pc4 159.Kd1 Pa3 166.Kb1 Kf3 169.Qf1+ Ke4 174.Ka2 Kf3 180.Kxa3 Kf3 198.Kd1 8S any 199.S(x)f6+ 200.Qe2**

#200

865†) W. Jørgensen
Prize, *Thema Danicum*, 1981-2

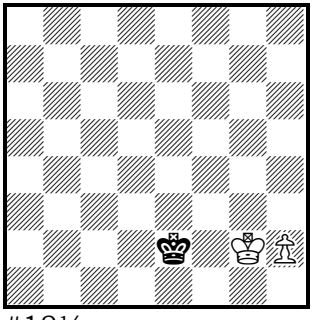


1.Bh2+ Kf3 7.Sd7 Kf3 13.Kb2 Kf3 25.Kd1 Pa3 44.Kxa3 Kf3 62.Kd1 Pa4 69.Kd1 Pa5 76.Kd1 Pa6 83.Kd1 Pa3 102.Kxa3 Kf3 . . . as in **864*** . . . 226.Qe2

#226

17.6 Of the length records for direct mates with various definitions of minimal force, **866** and **872** are computer-aided discoveries: they are effectively game positions with a single dual-free full-length line, and the logic of **872** is by no means obvious to the human eye. In contrast, **867*** is an extension (by only three moves) of one of Bláthy's master-works; it is the longest direct mate with minimal White force and the WQ makes every move. **868** and **869** are more mechanical and based on the repetition of relatively short manoeuvres. So is the ingenious and clear-cut **870***, which added six moves to the previous records: the setting was essentially anticipated by M. Miljanic in 1982 but with the third BS on the board from the start, which breaches the convention in 1.17. Finally, **871** is a variant of **867***, with an ingenious six-move introduction that starts with a WP promotion.

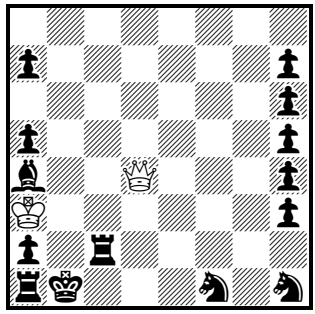
866) B. Rittmeier & H. Ebert
Four Men Only, 1982



1...Ke3 2.Kg3 Ke4 3.Kg4 Ke5 4.Kg5 Ke6 5.Kg6 Ke7 6.Kg7 Ke6 7.Ph4 Kf5 8.Ph5 Kg5 9.Ph6 Kf5 10.Ph7 Ke5 11.Ph8 = Q Kd4 12.Kf6 Kc3 13.Ke5 Kd314.Qc8 Ke3 15.Qc3+ Ke2 16. Kf4 Kd1 17.Qb2 18. Ke3 Kf1 19.Qf2

#18½

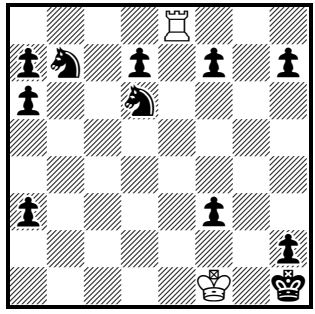
867*) J. Halumbirek (after O. T. Bláthy)
Schach, 1955



1.Qd1+ 2.Qd3+ Rc2 3-5.Qxf1-d3-d1+ 6.Qd2 Rc2 7.Qe1+ 8.Qe4+ Rc2 9-14.Qxh1-e4-e1-d2-d1-d3+ 15.Qe4 Ph2 16-20.Qe1-d2-d1-d3-e4 Pa6 25.Qe4 Ph1=any 32.Qe4 Ph3 32.Qe4 Ph3 123. Qe4 Ph1=any 124-5.Qxh1-h7+ 126.Qe4 B any 127.Qe1+ 128.Qd2 Rc2/Rc3+ 129.Qd1+/ Qxc3 130.Q(x)b3/Qb2

#130

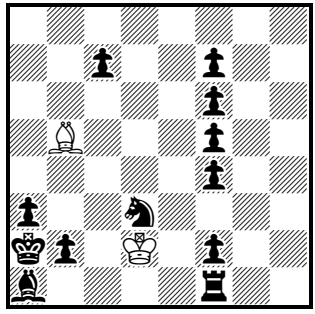
868) M. Velimirović
The Problemist, 1980 (V)



1.Re1 Se4 2.Rxe4 Sc5 3.Re1 Sd3 4.Rbl Pa2 5.Ra1 Pf2 6.Rd1 Sb2 7.Rc1 Sd3 8.Ra1 Pa5 11.Ra1 Pa4 14.Ra1 Pa3 23.Ra1 Pa4 32.Ra1 Pd4 44.Ral Pf3 56.Ra1 Ph3 57.Rd1 Sb2 58.Rc1 Pa1=Q 59.Rxa1 Sd3 60.Rb1 Pa2 61.Ra1 Pa3 62.Rd1 Pa1=Q 63.Rxa1 Pa2 64.Rd1 Sb2 65.Rc1 Pa1=Q 66.Rxa1 Sd3 67.Rb1 Sb2,Se1 68.Kxf2(+) 69.RxS

#69

869) C. J. Morse
The Problemist, 1978

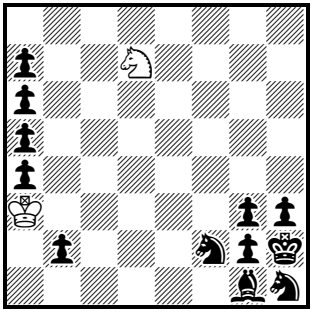


1-3.Bc4-xd3-c4+ 4.Bxf1 Ka2 5.Bc4+ 6.Kd1 Pf3 9.Kd2 Pf6 10.Kd1 Pc6 11.Kd2 Pc5 12.Kd1 Pf1=any 13.Bxf1 Ka2 14.Bc4+ 15.Kd2 (not 15.Be6? Pc4 16.Bxc4 19.Kd2 Pf1=any!) Pf2 34.Kd1 Pf1=any 35.Bxf1 Ka2 36.Bc4+ 37.Kd2 38.Bd3

#38

870*) P. O'Shea

1st Prize, *The Problemist*, 1989

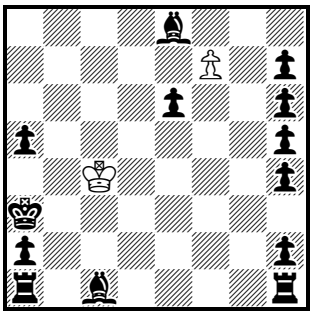


#48

1.Se5 Pb1=S+ 2.Ka2 Sd2 3.Ka1 Sb3+ 4.Kb1 Sd2+ 5.Ka2 Pa3 8.Ka2 Pa4 11.Ka2 Pa5 14.Ka2 Pa6 15.Ka1 Sb3+ 16.Kb1 Pa2+ 17.Kxa2 Sd2 44.Kxa2 Sd2 45.Ka1 Sb3+ 46. Kb1 Sd4 47.Ka2 dS any/fS any 48.S(x)f3/S(x)g4

871) M. Miljanić

Mat Plus, 1996

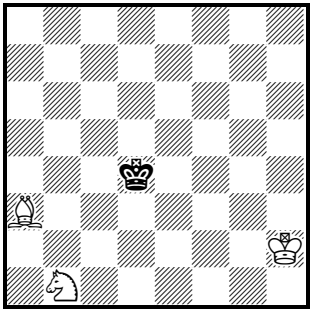


#122

1.Pf8=Q+ Kb2 (if 1...Ka4 2.Qxe8+) **2.Qf2+ Kb1** (if 2...Ka3 3.Qf3+ or if 2...Bd2 3.Qxd2+ Kbl 4.Kc3 Rc1+ 5.Kb3) **3.Kc3 Bd2+** (if 3...Ba4 4.Qb6+) **4.Qxd2 Rc1+ 5.Kb3 Ba4+** (if 5...Rc3+ 6.Qxc3 or if 5...Pa4+ 6.Ka3) **6.Ka3 Rc2 7-9.Qd1-d3-e4 Ph3 10-14.Qe1-d2-d1-d3-e4 Pe5** ... as in **867*** .... **112.Qe4 Ph1=Q 113-14.Qxh1-h7+ Pe4 115-18.Qxe4-hl-h7-e4 B any NE** (if 118...Bb3 119.Kxb3) **119-20.Qe1-d2 Rc2/Rxc3+ 121. Qd1+/Qxc3 122.Qb3/Qb2**

872) B. Walter

Die Schwalbe, 1990



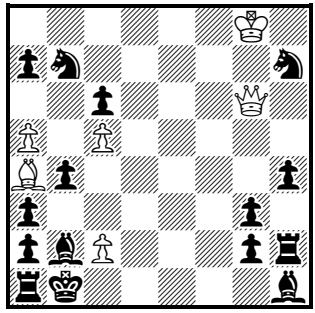
#31

1.Kg3 Kd3 2.Bc5 Ke4 3.Bf2 Kf5 4.Sc3 Ke5 5.Sb5 Kd5 6.Kf4 Kc6 7.Sa7+ Kc7 8.Ke5 Kb7 9.Kd6 Ka610.Kc6 11.Sb5 Kb4 12.Sd4 Kc3 13.Se2+ Kc4 14.Sf4 Kb4 15.Kb6 Kc4 16.Ka5 Kb3 17.Kb5 Kc3 18.Kc5 Kc2 19.Be1 Kd1 20.Bc3 Kc1 21.Kc4 Kc2 22.Sd5 Kd1 23.Kd3 24.Sb6 Kd1 25.Sc4 26.Bd2+ Kb1 27.Kc3 Ka2 28.Kc2 29.Kb3 30.Sa3+ 31.Bc3

Direct Stalemates

17.7 Long stalemates are rare. **873**, which holds the overall length record, is derived from the great Shinkman-Bláthy matrix discussed in the next chapter. (For a longer stalemate with duals see 18.12.) **874** is a computer-aided double task, and **875** has no merit except as a record. **869** can also double as a stalemate (with final move 38.Kd1=), and as such it may hold the length record of stalemate with two White men.

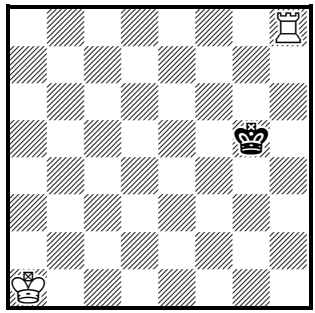
873) C. J. Morse
The Problemist, 1987



1.Pc4+ 2-29.Qh6-xh7-h6-g6-g5-f5-f4-e3-e1-xb4-e1-e4-e5-f5-f6–g6-g7-xb7-h7-h6-g6-g5-f5-f4-e4-e3-g1+ 30.Pa6 Kb2 31-47.Qd4-e4-e5-f5-f6-g6-g7-b7-h7-h6-g6-g5-f5-f4-e4-e3-gl+ 48.Kf8 Kb2 66.Ke8 Kb2 84.Kd8 Kb2 102.Kc8 Kb2 120.Kb8 Kb2 138.Kxa7 Kb2 156. Kb8 Kb2 174.Pa7 Kb2 192.Pa8= Q Kb2 (if 192...Rh3 193.Qxc6) **193.Qd4+ 194-6.Qb7-h7-h6+ 197.Qgl+ 198.Qd2 Rh3 199.Bxc6 200.Bd7 Rh3 201.Bxh3=**

=201

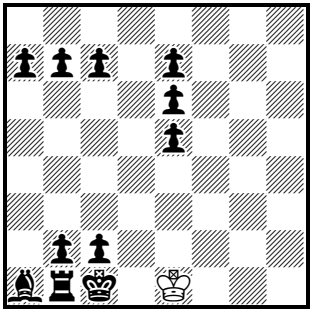
874) I. Blom
Suomen Tehtäväniekat, 1995



1...Kf5 2.Re8 Kf6 3.Kb2 Kf7 4.Re1 Kf6 5.Kc3 Kf5 6.Kd4 Kf4 7.Rf1+ Kg5 8.Ke4 Kg4 9.Rg1+ Kh5 10.Kf4 Kh4 11.Rg4+ Kh5 12-14.Kg3-h4-h5 15.Kh6=

=14½

875) C. J. Morse
The Problemist, 1985



1.Ke2 2.Kel 25.Ke2 26.Ke1=

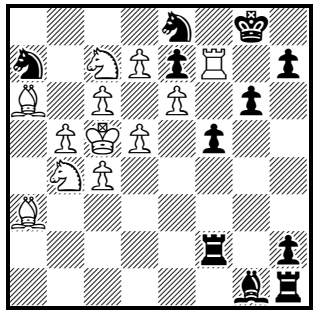
=26

Selfmates

17.8 Long selfmates are notoriously vulnerable to cooks, let alone to duals. Hence Swindley's law, enunciated by the composer Cyril Swindley after he and another experienced cook-hunter Ron Brain had had a field day demolishing entries to a selfmate tourney: 'Almost all long selfmates are cooked.' The German master Hans-Peter Rehm has made the same point: 'The record will be the position where the cook has not yet been discovered.' So the records in this field are to some degree provisional.

17.9 That said, there are a number of dual-free selfmates of over 100 moves that have not so far been invalidated. A fine example is **876***, in which the usual dual at the mid-point of the repeated 19-move manoeuvre is cleverly avoided by the need for Bb2 to be a checking move. The overall length record, however, lies with **877†**, another offshoot of the Shinkman-Bláthy matrix. The background and detail of this, the longest of all dual-free problems, is set out fully in the next chapter. Here we can only applaud it as the culmination of heroic efforts by composers and cook-hunters over more than 100 years.

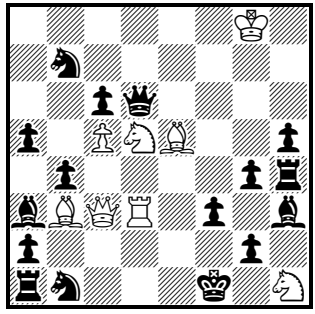
876*) B.M. Tigerschiöld, Y. Bladh & W. Jørgensen
Springaren, 1964



S#195

1.Pxe8=B Kh8 2.Bd7 Kg8 3.Se8 Kh8 4.Rg7 Pf4 5.Rf7 Kg8 6-12.Sc7-a8-b6-a4-c3-b1-d2 Kh8 13-15.Bb2+-cl-a3 Kg8 16-22.Sb1-c3-a4-b6-a8-c7-e8 Kh8 23.Rg7 Pf3 42.Rg7 Pg5 61.Rg7 Pg4 80.Rg7 Pg3 99.Rg7 Pg2 118.Rg7 Ph6 137.Rg7 Ph5 156.Rg7 Ph4 175.Rg7 Ph3 194.Rg7 SxP 195.BxS R~

877†) Y. Mintz
Zadachi i Etyudi, 2009



S#255

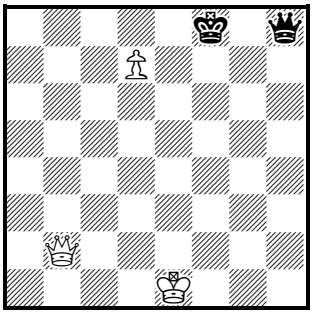
1.Rd1+ 2-3.Bc4-b3+ 4.Sg3+ 5-6.Qd4-g1+ 7.Se4+ Ke2 8-9.Qf2-d4+ 10.Bc4+ 11.Qf2+ 12 .Bb3+ 13-16.Qe3-xd2-d3-c4+ 17-18.Bc2-a4+ 19-20.Qd3-e3+ 21-4.Sd2-xf3-d2-c4+ 25-7.Qd3-d2-d1+ 28.Sa3+ 29-32.Qb3-d3-e3-e4+ 33.Bf4+ 34-55.Qxf4-e4-e3-e1-e4-e5-f5-f6-g6-g7-xb7-h7-h6-g6-g5-f5-f4-e4-e3-e1-e4-d4+ 56-7.Sc3-e4+ 58-63.Qd3-c3-b3-d3-e3-g1+ 64.Sg3 65-81.Qd4-e4-e5-f5-f6-g6-g7-b7-h7-h6-g6-g5-f5-f4-e4-e3-g1+ 82.Kf8 154.Kb8 172.Ka7 208.Kxa5 209-13.Qd4-b4-e4-e3-g1+ 214.Kb6 220.Kxc6 226.Kb7 232.Pc6 233-5.Qd4-b6-g1+ 236.Pc7 240.Pc8=Q 241.Qh8+ 242.Qb8 243.Ka6+ 244-5.Qb3-d1+ 246-7.Qc5-b6+ 248-9.Se4-d6+ 250.Qe1+ Kd3,Bd2 251.Qb3+ 252.Sb5+ 253.Qe7+ 254.Qf3+ 255.Sc7+ Rxa4

17.10 Not surprisingly, all but one of the length records for selfmates with minimal force are fairly recent, indicating that soundness has been as hard to achieve here as in the selfmate promotion tasks of 14.9. In **878** and the exceptionally long **879** both BK and BQ have to be driven into position for the mate by continuous checks. At various points along the way Black has a choice of moves and must find the most delaying: these choices make soundness more questionable, but so far both problems have stood up to testing. **880-882*** follow a similar pattern, but here White can set up a tempo-gaining pin which enables him to make some quiet preparatory moves including pawn promotion. (**880** qualifies for its record under the definition given in 1.31 and repeated in 17.3, because among its several full-length lines at least one, here given as the solution, is dual-free.) **883** is somewhat different, combining a repeated WQ manoeuvre with a long slow WB march up the board: a promotion to BQ is worked into the opening, with the alternative underpromotions easily

taken care of. One can only hope that these relatively economical problems, patiently reconstructed from the wreckage of previous unsound efforts, will withstand further testing over time. Finally, **884** is the oldest and shortest of length records, there being two or three other matching examples with a similar imbalance of Black and White force: von Broecker had published in 1889 a S#3 with three White men, which Cohn subsequently reduced to **884**.

878) Y. Mintz

Zadachi i Etyudi, 2010 (V)

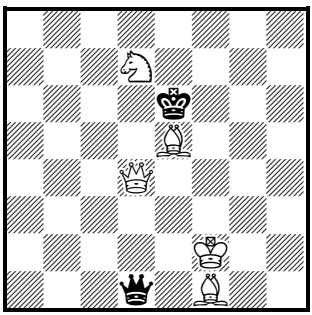


S#39

(Where Black has a choice, his best move is given) 1.Pd8=Q+ 2.Qb7+ Kg6 3.Qe4+ Kh5 4.Qf5+ 5.Qh4+ 6.hQf6+ 7.6Qe6+ 8.fQg6+ 9-10.Qc8-c5+ 11.cQd6+ 12.gQe6+ 13.Qb3+ Kc8 14.dQb8+ 15.Qf7+ 16.bQc7+ 17-18.Qb3-a3+ 19-20.Qb7-c6+ 21.aQc5+ 22.6Qd5+ 23.Qa3+ 24.dQa2+ 25.Qc5+ 26.Qa6+ Qb5 27.aQd6+ 28.cQd4+ Kf5 29.Qf2+ Kg4 30.fQg3+ 31.Qh3+ Kg5 32.Qe7+ Kg6 33.hQe6+ 34.Qh7+ 35.eQe7+ 36.hQh4+ Kf5 37.Qh5+ 38.eQh4+ 39.Qe2+ Qxe2

879) T. O. Linss

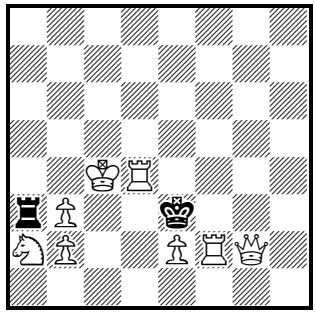
Special Hon. Ment., *Harmonie*, 2005



S#120

(Where Black has a choice, his best move is given) 1.Sc5+ Ke7 2.Bd6+ Kd8 3.Qf6+ 4.Qe6+ Kd8 5-6.Qe7-b7+ 7-8.Se6-g7+ 9 .Qb6+ Kc8 10-11.Ba6-b5+ 12.Qc5+ Kd8 13.Qg5+ 14.Ba6+ 15-20.Qe7-c7-c5-e3-e5-c5+ 21.Bc8+ 22.Se6+ 23.Qb5+ 24.Sd8+ Kg6 25.Qf5+ Kh6 26.Bf4+ 27.Qf7+ 28.Qf6+ Kg8 29-30.Be6-f5+ 31-2.Qf7-e8+ 33.Be5+ 34.Sf7+ 35.Sd6+ Kh4 36-40.Qe7-h7-g6-g3-h2+ 41.Bf4+ 42-4.Qh8-e8-g6+ 45-6.Bg5-h6+ 47-9.Qe6-c8-d7+ 50.Se4+ 51.Qe6+ 52.Be3+ 53.Sd2+ 54.Qc4+ 55.Bd4+ 56.Qc5+ Ka4 57.Qc6+ 58.Qd6+ Ka4 59.Bd7+ 60.Qc7+ Ka6 61.Bc8+ 62.Qb6+ 63.Bd7+ 64-5.Qd6-a6+ 66.Be6+ 67.Sb1+ 68.Qc4+ 69.Qc7+ Kb4 70.Qc3+ 71.Bd7+ 72.Qc8+ 73.Qc7+ Ka6 74.Bc8+ 75.Qb6+ 76-7.Be6-f5+ 78-81.Qc5-c3-a1-b2+ 82.Be6+ 83.Qc3+ 84.Sd2+ 85-7.Qf3-g4-g7+ 88.Bf7+ 89.Sf3+ 90.Qh6+ 91.Se5+ 92-3.Bg6-e4+ 94.Bc5+ Kd8 95.Qb6+ Ke8 96-8.Qe6-e7-b7+ 99.Bb6+ 100.Qc8+ 101.Bc5+ 102.Qf5+ 103.Bf8+ Kh8 104.Qf6+ 105.Bd5+ 106.Qf5+ 107-8.Sf7-d8+ 109-10.Qf6-f7+ 111-12.Bg7-f6+ 113.Qg7+ 114.Bf3+ 115.Ke1 116-9.Qh7-h4-g5-e5+ 120 .Qe2+ Qxe2

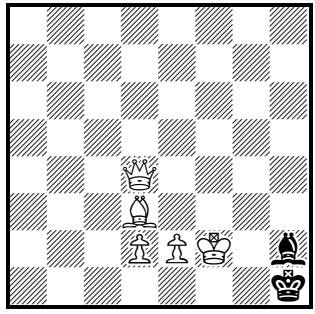
880) G. P. Sphicas
StrateGems, 2002



S#65

(Where Black has a choice, his best (or equal best) move is given) 1.Re4+ 2.Pe3+ Ke1 3-5.Re2-d2-d1+ 6.Rd4+ 7.Qd2+ 8.Rf4+ 9-10.Qf2-f1+ 11-12.Rh4-h3+ 13.Qf3+ 14.Rh5+ 15-16.Qf5-h7+ 17.'Rf5+ 18.Qf7+ 19.Rd5+ 20.Qd7+ 21.Rb5+ 22.Qc8+ 23.Rb7+ 24.Sb4+ 25-6.Ra7-a6+ 27-8.Qb8-c7+ 29.Kc3 30-2.Qc4-c5-c7+ 33.Pe4 37.Pe5. 41.Pe6 45.Pe7 49.Sd3 Ka6 50.Sc5+ Ka5 51.Kc2 Kb5 52.Pe8=Q+ Rc6 53.Kb1 Kb4 54.Qe4+ Kb5 55.Qd3+ Kb4 56.Sa6+ 57.dQc3+ 58.Qb7+ 59-60.Qc4-c5+ 61.cQa7+ 62.Qe4+ 63-4.Qf7-f3+ 65.Qd1+ Rxdl

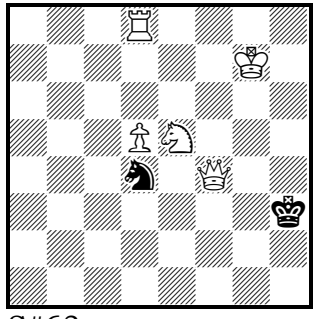
881) G. P. Sphicas
3rd Prize, *StrateGems*, 2010



S#54

1.Kf1 Bf4/Be5 (if 1...Bg3 2.Qd5+ 3.Qh5+) 2.Qh8/Qh4+ Bh2 3.Qc8/Qg4 4.Qh3+ 5.Ke1 6-10.Qe3-f3-f2-f1-h3+ 11.Bf5 12.Qe3+ Kh1 13-16.Qf3-f2-f1-h3+ 17.Pe4 23.Pe5 41.Pe8=Q 42.eQe3+ 43.Qf1+ 44.Pd3 45.Qh6+ 46.fQf4+ 47.Bh3+ 48.Qe4+ 49.Bf1+ 50.eQh4+ 51-3.Qc6-c1-d1+ 54.Qf2+ Bxf2

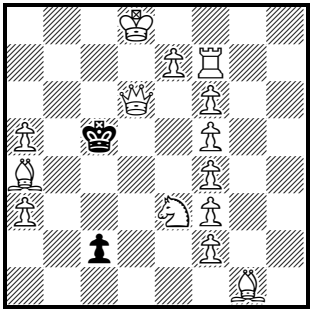
882*) K. Bachmann
Special. Prize, *Die Schwalbe*, 2004 (V)



S#63

(Where Black has a choice, his best move is given) 1-2.Rh8-h2+ 3.Qg3+ 4-5.Rh1-e1+ 6.Qe3+ 7.Rc1+ 8-9.Qc3-a1+ 10.Rc3+ 11.Qa3+ 12.Rc5+ 13.Qa5+ 14.Rc7+ 15-16.Qb6-a6+ 17-18.Rb7-e7+ 19.Qd6+ 20.Re8+ Kb7 21.Rb8+ 22.Qc7+ 23-4.Ra8-a5+ 25.Qc5+ 26.Ra3+ 27-8.Qc3-a1+ 29.Rc3+ 30.Qc1+ 31.Re3+ 32.Qe1+ 33.Rg3+ 34-5.Qf2-f1+ 36-7.Rg2-g5+ Kh4 38-41.Qf4-g4-g1-g2+ 42.Sf3+ 43.Rg4+ 44.Qh3+ 45.Kh8 46-7.Pd6-d7 48.Qe3+ 49-50.Rg5-c5+ 51-2.Qg5-g7+ 53.Pd8=S+ 54-5.Qe5-c7+ 56.Re5+ 57-8.Se6-f4+ 59.Qd6+ 60-1.Re7-h7+ 62.Qd7+ 63.Sg6+ Sxg6

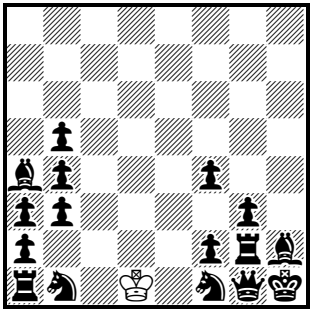
883) Y. Mintz
US Problem Bulletin, 1989 (V)



S#77½

(Where Black has a choice, his best move is given) 1...Kxd6 2.Pe8=Q Pc1=Q 3-7.Qd7-a7-b6-b4-b8+ 8.Ke8 Kc5 9.Qb5+ Kd4 10.Qd5+ 11.Qb3+ Kd2 12-17.Qd1-c2-d2-c3-b4-b8+ 18.Bh2 Kc5 28.Bg3 Kc5 58.Bh6 Kc5 68.Rd7+ Kc5 69.Bf8+ 70.Rc7+ 71.Qb2+ 72-5.Rc3-b3-b5-e5+ 76.Sd5+ Qxd5 77.Qb6+ 78.Bd7+ Qxd7 If 2...Pc1=R 3-6.Qd7-a7-b6-b4+ 7.Bb3 8-10.Qb7-b6-b4+ 11.Pa6 12-14.Qb7-b6-b4+ 15.Sd5 16.Se7+ 17.Ke8 18-21.Qb7-b6-d4-a7+ 22.Sc8+ Rxc8 If 2...Pc1=B 3.Qe6+ 4.Rc7+ 5.Qe5+ 6 .Bb5+ 7.'Rc2+ 8-9.Qc3-a1+ 10.Sg4 11.Ra2 12.Pa6 15.Ka5 16.Pa4 18.Pf8=S 20.Sb6 21.Se3+ 22.Qc3+ 23.Pf6 Bxc3 If 2...Pc1=S 3.Qe6+ 4.Rc7+ 5.Qe5+ 6.Bb5+ 7.Rc2+ 8.Qb2 9.Qb1+ 10.Sd5 11.Pa6 14.Ka5 15.Sb6 16.Pa4 18.Pf8=B 19.Ra2 20.Bb4+ 21.Qb3+ Sxb3 If 2...Kc5 3-4.Qe7-b4+ 5.Rd7+ 6-7.Bb5-c6+ 8.Qb2 9.Qc1+ 10-11.Rb7-b4 12.Kc7 13.Rc4 19.Ka1 20.Ra4 21.Bb5+ 22-3.Sf1-g3 24.Qe1+ 25.Qe5 Pc1=S 26.Qd5+ 27.Rc4+ 28.'Qf3+ 29.Sf1 30.Ba6 32.Pf8=Q+ 33.Qc8 34.Qc5+ 35-6.Rb4-b1+ 37.Qe4+ 38.Se3 39.eQd4 40.Qb5+ 41.Sc2+ Sxc2 If 25...Pc1=B 26.Qd5+ 27' Rd4+ 28.Qf3+ 29.Se2 30.Rd4 31-4.Ba4-c6-e4-b1 35-6.Qd5-c5+ 37.Sc1+ 38.Qc2+ 39.Qb2+ B xb2

884) W. Cohn (after G. von Broecker)
Wiener Schachzeitung, 1906



S#2

1.Kc1 Pf3 2.Kd1 Black any

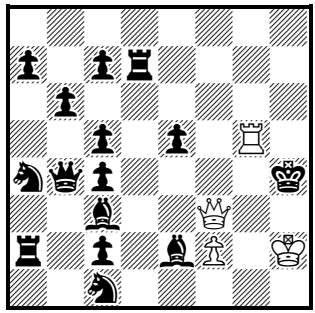
Selfstalemates

17.11 Long selfstalemates are equally vulnerable to cooks and duals. After many failed attempts to create one from the Shinkman-Bláthy and other matrices, George Sphicas eventually found a repeating 16-move manoeuvre, to which he added a lengthy prologue and dual-free coda after the fashion of **877†**, and so arrived at the monumental **885†**. Unlike **877†**, this astonishing task is essentially one man's achievement. **886** is generated by computer and, as with **880**, the dual-free solution

here given is one of a number of full-length lines. **887**, with an ugly first half-move added to the original setting, makes fine use of tempos to drive the BK round the board. **888** is a version of an endgame study, showing an amusing way for White to draw.

885†) G. P. Sphicas

1st Prize, *StrateGems*, 2003

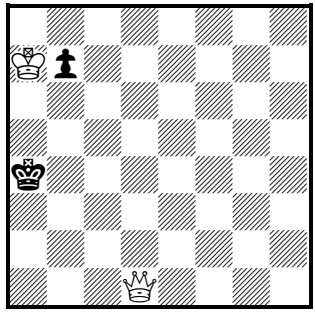


S=154

(Where Black has a choice, his best move is given) 1.Rg4+ 2-7.Qf5-g5-g8-h8-f6-f5+ 8.Rh4+ Kg7 9.Rxh7+ 10-20.Qg6-g7-f7-xc7-f7-e7-d7-xa7-d7-c7-c6+ 21-3.Rb7-xb6-a6+ 24.Qa8+ 25.Rc6+ 26.Qc8+ 27.Re6+ 28.Qe8+ 29.Rg6+ 30-1.Qf7-f6+ 32-3.Rg7-g3+ 34.Qg6+ 35.Rh3+ 36.Qf6+ Kg8 37.Rg3+ Kh7 38-40.Rg7-g5-xh5+ 41.Qg6+ 42-3.Rh8-e8+ 44.Qe6+ 45.Re7+ Kb8 46.Qd6+ Ka8 47-8.Qa6-a7+ 49.Qd7+ 50-2.Qc7-c8-a6+ 53-4.Rxa7-b7+ 55.Qc6+ 56.Rd7+ 57.Qe6+ 58.Rf7+ 59-60.Qg6-h6+ 61.Rg7+ 62.Qf6+ 63.Re7+ 64.Qd6+ 65.Rc7+ 66.Rxc5+ Ka8 67.Rc8+ 68.Rc7+ Ka8 69.Qa6+ 70.Rb7+ 71-81= 55-65 82.Rxc4+ Ka8 98.Rxc3+ Ka8 114.Rxc2+ Ka8 130.Rxc1+ Ka8 131.Rc8+ 132.Rc7+ Kb8 133.Rd7+ 134.Qc6+ 135-6.Rb7-b2+ 137.Rxa2 138.Rxa4(+) 139.Qb6+ 140-1.Ra8-d8+ 142.Qd6+ 143.Rf8+ 144-5.Qf6-h8+ 146.Rf6+ 147.Qh6+ 148.Pf3+ 149.Qg6+ 150.Kh1 151-3.Rf4-f3-h3+ 154.Qg3+ Kxg3=

886) N. Elkies

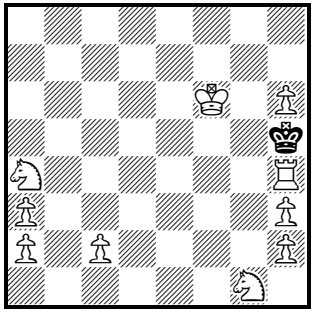
StrateGems, 2001



S=22½

1...Ka5 2.Qd2+ Kb5 3.Qd5+ Kb4 4.Kb6 Kc3 5.Qd1 Kc4,Kb2 6 .Qd2(+) Kb3 7.Kc5 Pb5 8.Kd4 Pb4 9.Kd3 Ka3 10.Kc2 Ka2 11.Kc1+ Ka1 12-13.Qd4-a7+ 14.Qf7+ Kc3 15.Qd5 16.Kb1 Kb4 17.Qc6 Ka5 18.Qb7 Pa2 19-22.Qb3-b8-b7-b6 23.Qb3+ Kxb3=

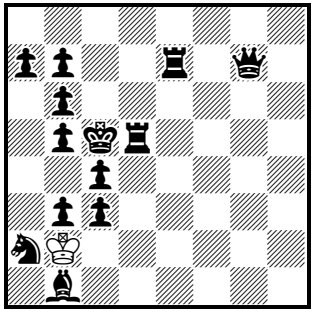
887) U. Heinonen
Ideal-Mate Review, 1995 (V)



1...Kxh4 2.Ph7 3-4.Sf3-g5 9.Pc8=Q 10.Qc1 11.Se6 12.Qg5+ 13.Sf4+ 14.Qh4+ 15.Kg7 16-18.Qh2-g2-e2+ 19.Se6 20.Qd1+ 21.Sd8 22-6.Qb1-b2-b3-b4-a5+ 27.Kh8 28-30.Qa7-b7-c7 31.Qf7+ Kxf7 =

S=30½

888) C. J. Morse
EG, 1984 (V)



1.Ka3 Pb4+ 2.Ka4 Pb5+ 3.Ka5 Pb6+ 4.Ka6 Black any =

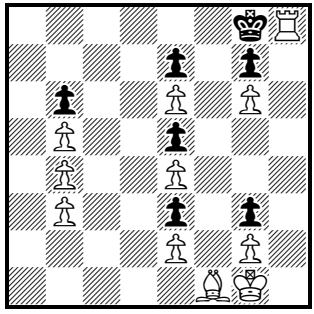
S=4

Helpmates

17.12 With helpmate length records we are on firmer ground, partly because it is not possible to make a very long helpmate. The overall record has been held for sixty years by **889**, many efforts to extend it having all proved unsound. **890** twins as the minimal total force record for both helpmate and helpstalemate. The next five problems form a fascinating group. **893*** is the culmination of a series of remarkable miniatures, maintaining accuracy on an almost empty board over the full 13 moves, and ending in an ideal mate. The other four require heavy Black force. **891** is the shortest of them, with the WQ free-ranging from the start. In **894** the WK has to be extricated from the black box before the BK can start moving to its mating square. In **892** (which is matched by one other example) and **895** both the White mating piece and the BK have to be extricated. Finally, **896** is

the most economical of at least twenty different setting of the task

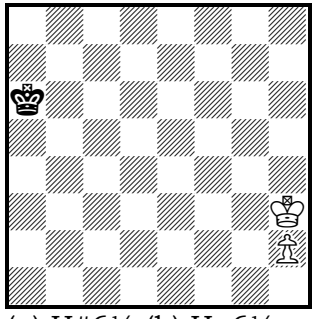
889) A. Hegermann
The Problemist Fairy Chess Supplement, 1934



1.Kxh8 Kh1 8.Kxe6 Kg1 12.Kxe4 Kg115-18.Kxb3-xb4-xb5-c4 Kg1 23.Pb1=Q Kh1 24.Qf5 Kg1 25.Qf7 Pxf7 26.Kc3 Pf8=Q 27.Kd2 Qc8 28.Ke1 Qc1

H#28

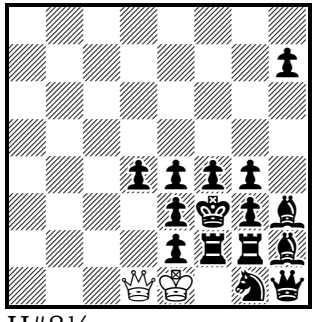
890) T. Kardos
feenschach, 1965



1...Kg3 6.Kf1 Ph8=Q 7.KgI (a) Qa1 (b) Qh3=

(a) H#6½ (b) H=6½

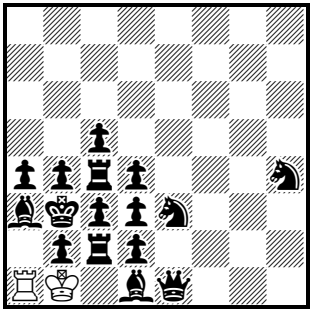
891) M. Žigman
1st Prize, *Ravne 350*, 1971-2



1...Qa1 2.Pd3 Qf6 3.Ph6 Qh4 4.Ph5 Qxh3 5.Ph4 Qxh2 6.Ph3 Qxh3 7.Rh2 Qxh2 8.Pg2 Qxh1 9.Pg3 Qh5

H#8½

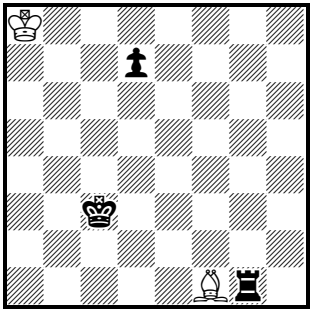
892) A. Atanasiević
Mat, 1975



1...Ra2 2.Sd5 Ral 3.Qe8 Ra2 4.Bh5 Ral 5.Pd1=B Ra2 6.Pd2 Ra1 7.Pd3 Ra2 8.Re4 Ra1 9.Kc4 Ka2 10.dBg4 Re1 11.Qb5 Re4

H#10½

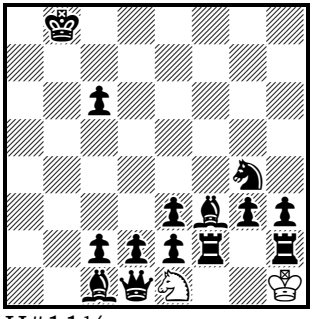
893*) Z. Maslar
Special Prize, *Schach-Echo*, 1975



1.Pd5 Kb7 5.Pd1=S Kf3 6.Se3 Kf2 7.Kd2 Kxg1 8.Kel Kh2 9.Kf2 Kh3 10.Kg1 Kg3 11.Kh1 Bh3 12.Sf1+ Kf2 13.Sh2 Bg2

H#13

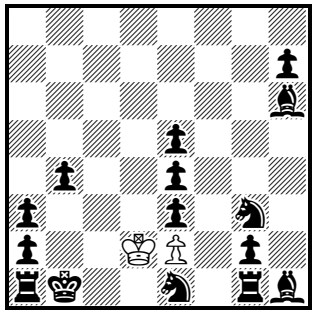
894) U. Heinonen
The Problemist, 1986



1...Kg1 2.hRg2 3.Rg1 4.Bh1 5.Rf3 6.Ph2 Kg2 7.Kc7 Kxf3 8.Kd6 Kf4 9.Kd5 Kg5 10. Ke4 Sg2 11.Kf3 Kf5 12.Sf2 Sh4

H#11½

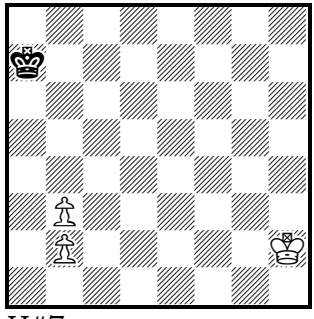
895) L. Ugren & M. Klasinc
2nd Prize, *Ravne 350*, 1971-2



1...Kd1 2.Sf1 7.Bc1 10.Kd4 Kc2 11.Sh2 Kb3 12.Sf3 Pxf3 16.Kg8 Pf7+ 17.Kh8 Pf8=Q

H#16½

896) F. Salazar
1st Hon. Ment., *British Chess Magazine*, 1973



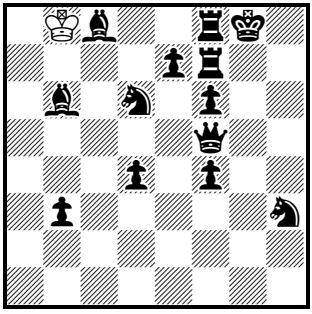
1.Kb6 Kh3 6.Kg1 Pb8=Q 7.Kh1 Qh2

H#7

Helpstalemates

17.13 The length records for this type are dominated by **897***, a tremendous task which was originally published as a 34-mover with WK on a8. **890** appears for the third time as the length record with BK only.

897*) Z. Maslar
Special Prize, *Problem*, 1958 (V)



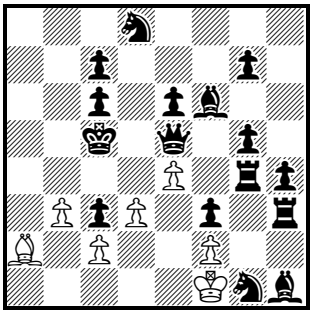
1...Ka8 4.Pf1=B 7.Ba2 8.Qb1 13.Pf1=B 14.Rb2 21.Ka1 22.Rb2 23.fRf2 24.Bf5 25.Bc2 26.Pd3 27.Be3 Kc7 28.Pe5 Kxd6 29.Bc1 Ke6 30.Rd2 Kf5 31.Pe4 Kg4 32.Be2+ Kxh3 33.Pe3 Kg2 34.Bd1+ Kf1 35.Pe2+ Ke1=

H=34½

Series-mates

17.14 The overall length-record for this type has been progressively increased over the years, **898** being the latest achievement: the long five-stage king-walk, with or without the bishop-gate in one corner, reappears several times in the following problems, as does also the name of Miloš Tomašević, a Yugoslav composer who has done remarkable work on all types of series-mover length records. It is easy to set a seven-mover with minimal total force, but **899** neatly contrives the extra move. The next quintet **900-904** are similar in mechanism: the first four represent tasks not attempted until the 1970s, whereas the task of **904** has a longer history. **905** involves a different approach.

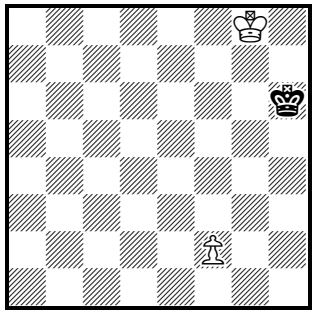
898) M. and R. Tomašević
US Problem Bulletin, 1988



1.Ke1 5.Ka1 6.Bb1 22.Kxg4 38.Ka1 39.Ba2 45.Kxg1 69.Kxh3 94.Kxh1 119.Kxf3 120.Ke3 123.Pxe6 125.Pxd8=Q 126.Qxc7 127.Qb8 128.Pb4

SER.#128

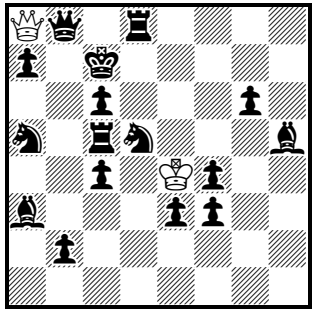
899) Z. Tomić
Mat, 1978



1.Pf4 5.Pf8=R 7.Kf6 8.Rh8

SER.#8

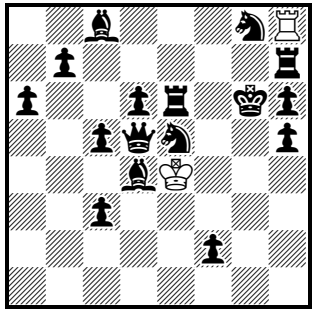
900) M. Tomašević
Mat, 1981



1.Ke5 17.Kxa3 35.Kxc5 55.Kxa5 75.Kc5 76.Qxc6

SER.#76

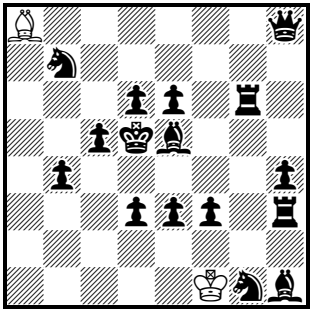
901) M. Mladenović
Mat, 1981 (V)



1.Kxd5 16.Kxc8 32.Kxe6 52.Kxg8 54.Ke8 56.Rf7 58.Ke6 60.Rxe5 62.Rg3

SER.#62

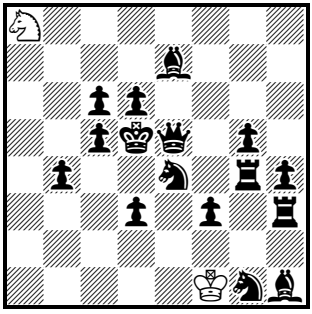
902) M. Tomašević
Mat, 1983



1.Ke1 14.Kxg6 29.Kxg1 47.Kxh3 66.Kxh1 85.Kxf3 86.Kxe3 87.Kxd3 88.Bxb7

SER.#88

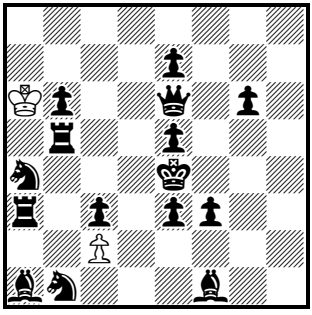
903) M. Tomašević
Mat, 1983



1.Kel 16.Kxg4 33.Kxg1 51.Kxh3 70.Kxh1 89.Kxf3 91.Kxd3 92.Sc7

SER.#92

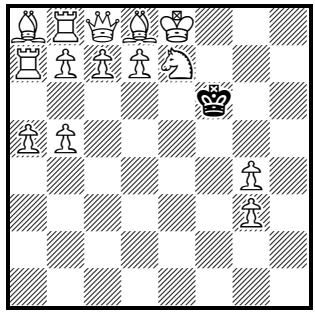
904) M. Tomašević
feenschach, 1979



1.Kb7 13.Kxf1 27.Kxb5 45.Kxb1 65.Kxa3 66.Kxa4 85.Kxa1 107.Kxc3 108.Kb4 113.Pc8=Q 114.Qxe6 115.Kc4 116.Qg4

SER.#116

905) M. Caillaud
2nd Hon. Ment., *The Problemist* Theme Tourney, 1986



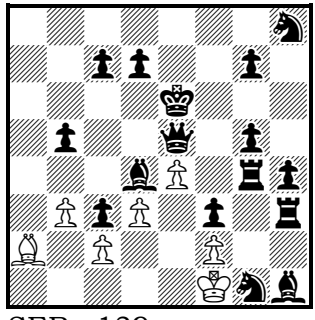
1.Kf8 12.Kd6 17.Rg7 18.Sf5

SER.#18

Series-stalemates

17.15 **906** is the second longest of the series-mover length records. **907** is the most elegant of a number of alternative settings of equal length. In **908** the WK mops up twelve Black men before stalemating. In **909** the two WBs must clear the WK's path to h6.

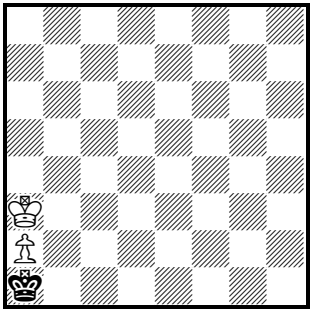
906) M. and R. Tomašević
Special Prize, *Mat*, 1988



1.Ke1 5.Ka1 6.Bb1 18.Kxh8 22.Kxg4 37.Kal 38.Ba2 44.Kxg1 67.Kxh3 91.Kxh1 115.Kxf3 116.Kg4 118.Pxe5 119.Kxg5 12l.Kxg7 125.Kxc7 128.Kxb5 130.Kxd4 131.Kxc3 132.Kd4 136.Pxd7 137.Pd8=Q 138.Qxh4 139.Qh7=

SER.=139

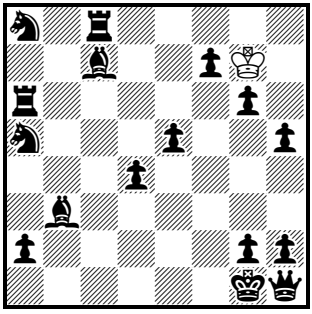
907) A. H. Kniest
feenschach, 1971



1.Kb3 6.Pa8=B 7.Be4=

SER.=7

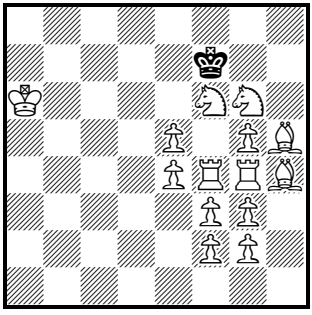
908) Z. Oliva
feenschach, 2002



13.Kxa6 28.Kxc8 45.Kxa8 62.Kxc7 64.Kxa5 66.Kxb3 67.Kxa2 71.Kxe5 72.Kxd4 75 Kxf7 76.Kxg6 77.Kxh5 80.Ke2=

SER.=80

909) A. Y. and V. Y. Semenenko
The Problemist, 1987



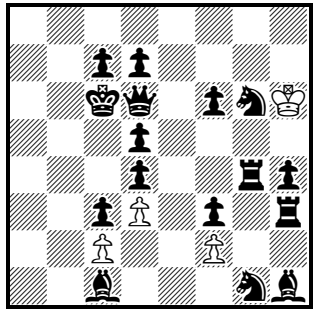
1 Rf5 2.gRf4 4.Bh3 5.Pg4 7.Bh2 8.Pg3 11.Bd7 21.Kh6=

SER.=21

Series-selfmates

17.16 Here again Yugoslav composers established most of the records, the overall length record in **910** being shared by three of them. **911*** achieves its record with consummate elegance, as the two White men repeatedly shield one another: it is matched by one other example by the same composer. **912-915** are relatively undifferentiated, all using a mechanism which I have called the 'Zeller trap', a cluster of pieces within which king and rooks manoeuvre so that one or more of them can be extricated: this was developed by the French composer Jean Zeller and has been much used in long series-movers. **916** extends the matrix of its series-helpmate counterpart **928*** with colours reversed. In **917** the WK removes Black's outlying men before deliberately walking into the trap.

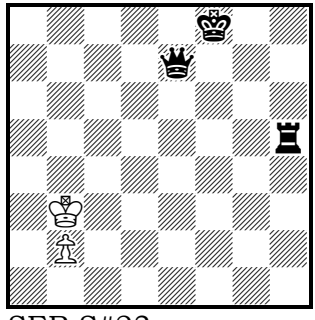
910) A. Atanasiević, T. Petrović and M. Tomašević
Mat, 1979



1.Kg7 14.Kxcl 30.Kxg4 50.Kxg1 71.Kxh3 93.Kxhl 115.Kxf3 116.Ke2 119.Pxg6 121.Pg8=R 123.Rxd5 124.Rxd4 125.Rb4 126.Pd4 128.Kxc3 129.Kc4 130.Pc3 131.Pd5+ Qxd5

SER.S#131

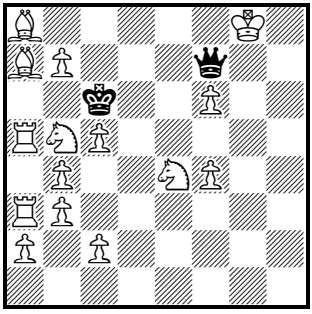
911*) A. Atanasiević
Mat, 1976



1.Ka4 3.Pb5 5.Ka6 7.Pb7 10.Kc8 11.Pb8=Q 12.Qc7 14.Kc6 15.Qe5 18.Kf4 19.Qg5 21.Kg6 22.Qd5 23.Qf7+ Qxf7

SER.S#23

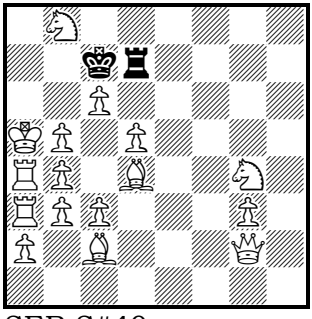
912) M. Tomašević
3rd Hon. Ment., *The Problemist* Theme Tourney, 1986



1.Kh8 5.Bg7 13.Kb2 14.bSc3 15.Rb5 16.Ra7 20.Ka6 22.Ra3 24.Ka4 26.Rb5 30.Kb8 31.Ra7 34.Pa6 39.Rc7+ Qxc7

SER.S#39

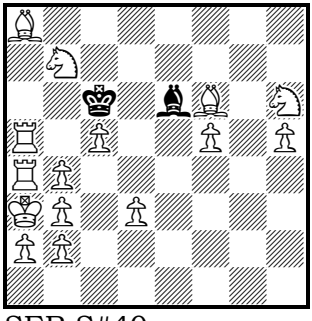
913) M. Mladenović
Mat, 1981



1.Ka6 2.Ka7 4.Rb6 5.Ka5 8.Ra8 10.Ka7 12.Rb6 17.Kb2 21.Pa7 25.Rf7 26.Bf5 31.Ke6 32.Se5 37.Pg8=S 38.Se7 39.Qg8 40.Pd6+ Rxd6

SER.S#40

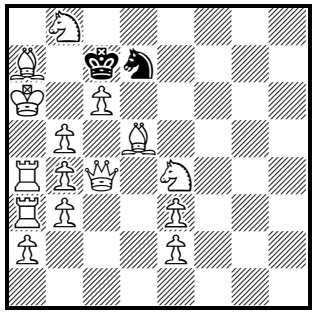
914) M. Tomašević
Mat, 1981



1.Rb5 2.Ra7 5.Ka6 7.Ra3 9.Ka4 11.Rb5 15.Kb8 16.Ra7 19.Pa6 24.Rd7 27.Ke8 28.Bd8 31.Pf8=B 32.Rf7 33.fBe7 34.Rf8 35.Sf7 38.Ph8=Q 40.Qd7+ Bxd7

SER.S#40

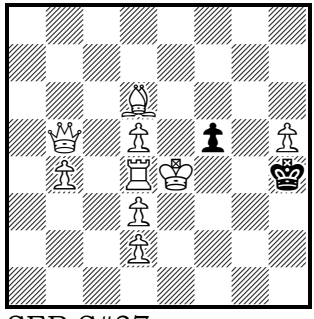
915) M. Mladenović
Mat, 1981



1.Qc5 2.Qf8 3.Bc5 4.Ka7 6.Rb6 8.Ka5 10.Ra8 12.Ka7 14.Rb6 21.Kc4 22.Sc3 27.Pe8=R 29.Rd4 34.Pe8=Q 35.Qe5+ Sxe5

SER.S#35

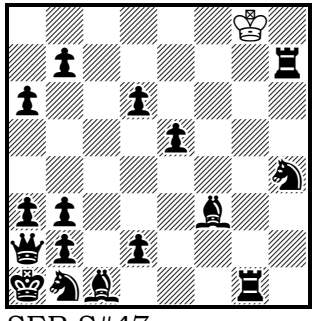
916) U. Heinonen
Probleemblad, 2004



1.Kf4 4.Ph8=S 7.Se4 8.Kf3 9.Bf4 12.Pd8=R 14.Rg2 15.Sg3 16.Re4 21.Pd8=R 23.dRe3 28.Pd8=R 29.8Rd2 30.dRf2 31.Qe2 35.Pb8=Q 37.Qg4+ Pxg4

SER.S#37

917) A. Atanasiević
4th Hon. Ment., *Mat*, 1976



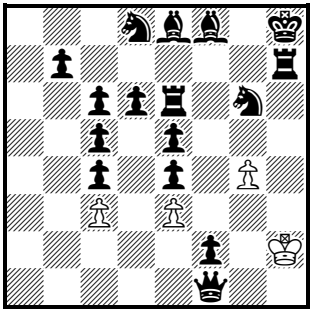
1.Kf8 14.Kxg1 29.Kxh7 32.Kxh4 34.Kxf3 37.Kxd6 38.Kxe5 41.Kxb7 42.Kxa6 47.Kdl Sc3

SER.S#47

Series-selfstalemates

17.17 Despite its ingenuity, **918** is the shortest overall length record among the series-movers. The neat **919*** goes back to 1969. **920*** is a highly intricate exercise in packing. **921** is similar to **917** but longer.

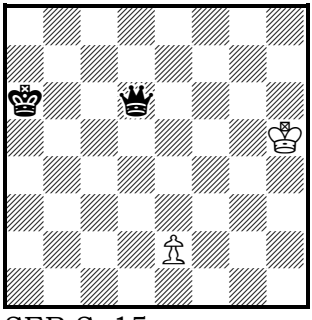
918) M. Tomašević
feenschach, 1979



1.Kg3 2.Pg5 5.Kxe4 6.Kf3 7.Pe4 19.Kxd8 34.Kxe6 50.Kxe8 66.Kxg6 83.Kxf8 101.Kxd6 102.Kxe5 103.Kd6 106.Pe7 109.Kf8 110.Pe8=Q 111.Qf7 114.Kg6 115.Qxf2 116.Qf8+ Qxf8=

SER.S=116

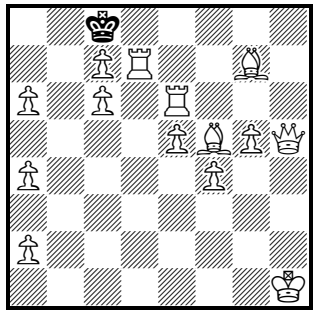
919*) E. E. Bartel and A. H. Kniest
Frankfurter Notizen, 1969



1.Pe4 3.Pe6 5.Kf7 7.Pe8=Q 8.Qd7 11.Kc8 12.Qc7 14.Ka8 15.Qb6+ K or Qxb6=

SER.S=15

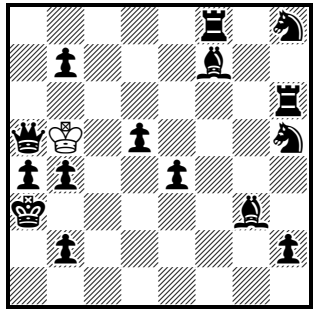
920*) L. Ugren
4th Prize, *Mat*, 1980



1.Kg2 7.Ke8 8.Qh8 9.Bh7 10.Rg6 11.Pe6 14.Bb8 16.Pa8=R 18.aRf5 22.Pa8=Q 24.aQf8 29.Pa8=Q 30.Qa2 34.Bh6 35.dRg7 36.Pe7 37.aQg8 38.fRf7 40.Pf6 Kxc7=

SER.S=40

921) M. Tomašević
Mat, 1980



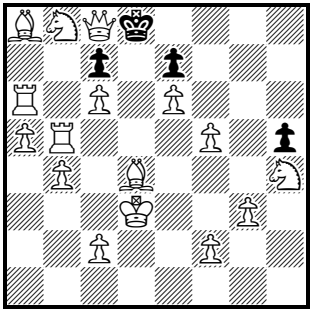
1.Kxa5 12.Kxh6 23.Kxb7 27.Kxf8 42.Kxh8 57.Kxf7 59.Kxh5 61.Kxg3 62.Kxh2 66.Kxd5 67.Kxe4 70.Kb1 Black any=

SER.S=70

Series-helpmates

17.18 The length records for series-helpmates are generally older and more interesting than their series-mate and series-selfmate counterparts. With **922** Tomašević added three moves to the previous overall record, set in 1955 by C. E. Kemp. **923** is straightforward. **924** has two extrications from the Zeller trap and two self-blocks around the BK's final square. **925*** is less cluttered and has four promotions and six self-blocks. **926*** is just the longest of the five, with two extrications, two promotions, and six self-blocks. In **927** the two promotions come at the end. **928*** is superbly economical: every Black man moves, there are five underpromotions spread over all three types, and the mate is ideal. **929** is the oldest surviving length record among the series-movers.

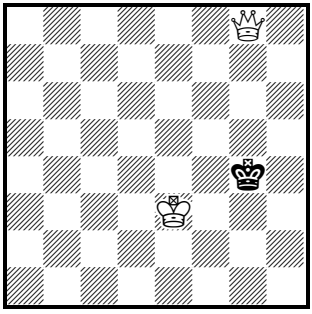
922) M. Tomašević
The Problemist, 1984



1.Kxc8 21.Kxb5 22.Ka4 42.Kxb8 64.Kxa6 87.Kxa8 110.Kxc6 111.Kd6 113.Pxb4 116.Pb1=Q 118.Qxh4 119.Qf4 123.Ph1=B 124.Bc6 125.Kd5 126.Qd6 Pc4

SER.H#126

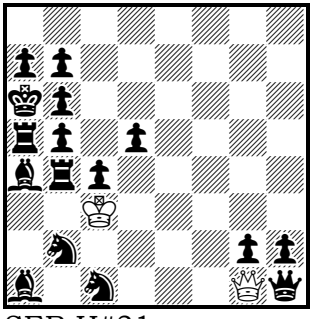
923) A. H. Kniest
Diagramme und Figuren, 1965



1.Kf5 9.Ke1 Qg1

SER.H#9

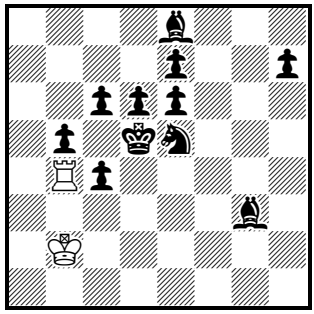
924) M. Klasinc & L. Ugren
Nedeljski Dnevnik, 1973



1.Bc2 2.Ra2 5.Ka3 7.Ra6 9.Ka5 11.Rb4 15.Kb1 16.Ra2 19.Pa3 23.Rf1 24.Bf5 25.Sd3 30.Ke4 31.Rf3 Qd4

SER.H#31

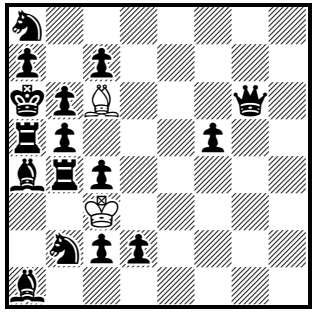
925*) L. Ugren
Schach-Echo, 1977



1.Ph5 5.Ph1=S 9.Sa6 10.Pc5 12.Ba8 13.Kc6 18.Pd1= R 20.Ra7 21.Kb7 22.Sc6 27.Pe1=Q 29.Qc8 34.Pe1=R 36.eRc7 Rxb5

SER.H#36

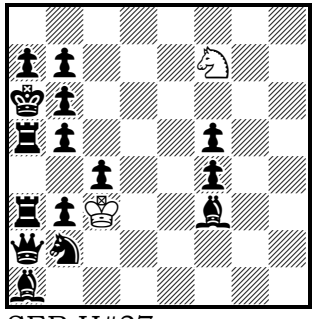
926*) A. Atanasiević
Mat, 1974



1.Pc1=B 2.Bd1 3.Ra2 6.Ka3 8.Ra6 10.Ka5 12.Rb4 16.Kb1 17.Ra2 20.Pa3 26.Rh4 27.Bh5 28.Pd1=B 29.dBf3 30.Qg3 31.Bg5 37.Kg4 38.Pf4 Bd7

SER.H#38

927) B. Ostruh
feenschach, 1975

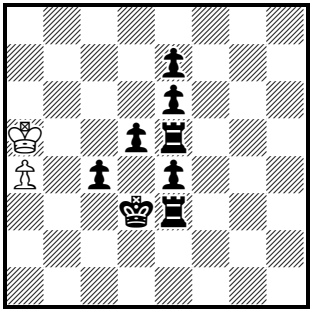


1.3Ra4 3.Qc5 4.Rb4 5.Ra2 8.Ka3 10.Ra6 12.Ka5 14.Rb4 25.Kc6 26.Bd5 29.Pf1=Q 31.fQc7 35.Pf1=R 37.Rd6 Se5

SER.H#37

928*) C. Jonsson

1st Prize, *British Chess Magazine*, 1973

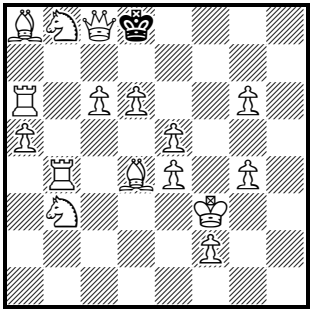


1.Pc3 3.Pc1=R 4.Rc7 5.Kc4 6.Rb3 9.Pe1=S 11.Sc5 15.Pd1=B 17.Bb7 19.Kc6 20.Rd5 25. Pe1=R 27.eRd6 32.Pe1=R 33.eRe7 34. eRd7 35.Rb5+ Pxb5

SER.H#35

929) C. E. Kemp

Fairy Chess Review, 1955



1.Kxc8 19.Kxb4 20.Kc4 37.Kxb8 56.Kxa6 76.Kxa8 96.Kxc6 98.Ke6 Sc5

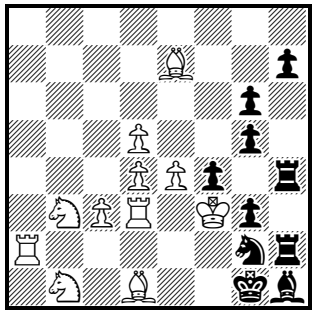
SER.H#98

Series-helpstalemates

17.19 The magnificent **930*** introduced the Zeller-trap mechanism into a six-stage king-walk to produce the longest of all series-movers, raising the record by no less than 33 moves. **931** is a companion piece to **923**, while **932*** adds 2 moves to the previous record by Heinonen. Finally **933** ingeniously adapts the matrix of **930*** to surpass the previous record by 5 moves.

930*) M. Ott

1st Prize, *feenschach*, 1980

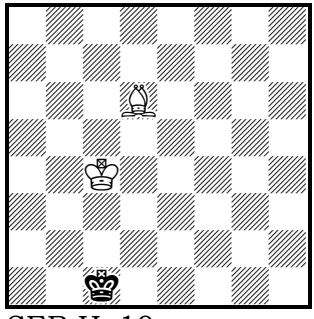


1.Rg4 2.Rh6 6.Kh5 8.Rh2 10.Kh3 12.Rg4 24.Kxd3 36.Kh3 38.Rh6 40.Kh5 42.Rg4 49.Kxd1 74.Kxb3 101.Kxb1 128.Kxc3 129.Kxd4 141.Kh3 143.Rh6 145.Kh5 147.Rg4 150.Kh2 151.Rh3 153.Ph4 Bc5=

SER.H=153

931) A. H. Kniest

Diagramme und Figuren, 1965

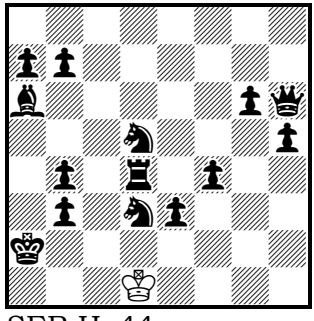


l.Kd2 10.Ka4 Bb4=

SER.H=10

932*) V. Janál (after U. Heinonen)

Mat Plus Review, 2009

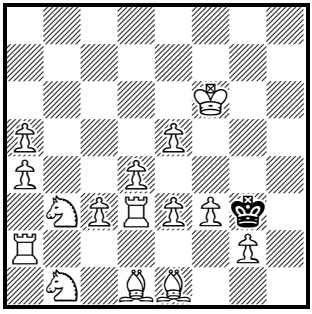


1.Pb2 3.Kc4 4.Pb3 6.Sa2 7.Sc1 8.Pb1=R 10.Rf2 12.Pb1=R 14.bRg5 19.Pb1=Q 20.Qb7 22.Sg1 23.Qh1 27.Kg2 28.Pf3 29.Rh4 30.Se1 31.Bf1 36.Pa1=B 38.Bh2 39.Rg3 40.Pg5 42.Qh3 43.Pg4 44.Pe2+ Kxel =

SER.H=44

933) V. Janál

Special Prize, *Šachová skladba*, 2001-2



4.Kxe1 20.Kxd3 37.Kxd1 54.Kxb3 73.Kxb1 92.Kxc3 94.Kd5 Rc2=

SER.H=94