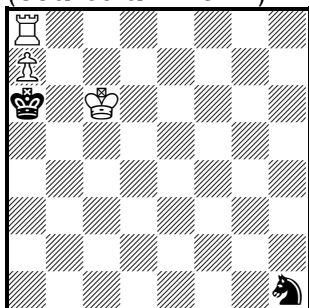# Chapter 19  Onwards and Upwards

19.1  In this chapter I drop all pretence to systematic treatment. I pick up a number of threads from earlier chapters, and throw in a selection of personal favourites from the wider fields of tasks and records. My aim is to encourage the reader to explore these fields further, and to push on to new records. I start with some longer patterns, and go on to formal and strategic tasks.

LONGER PATTERNS

*Merry-go-rounds*

19.2  At the beginning of the book we saw a 1,000 years old double merry-go-round, **H** in 1.22. But the circular paths of the WSs and BK are not entirely regular, and the same applies to a number of the repeated tours in Chapter 17. **944** is an early example (source unknown) of the largest possible square, with the WR visiting all four comers and with only five men; and in the first four moves of **945\*** (by a little known Canadian composer) the WB traces out the smallest possible diamond, while the BR tries desperately to cover successive pairs of focal points. In **946\*** the WK traces out a perfect 12-move diamond, and the task is adorned with some deep tries on White's second move and a final volley of five different mates accurately forced. **947\*** uses the series-mate form to interlace two regular patterns, a six-move parallelogram by the WS and a twelve-move octagon by the WK. Finally, in **948\*** the WS makes a regular circuit three times to set up the selfmating net.
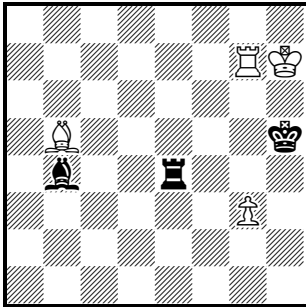
**944) W. A. Shinkman**
(Source unknown)



#4

1.Rh8        (>2.Pa8=Q)

1...Kxa7    2.Rxh1      Kb8    3.Ra1    Kc8    4.Ra8
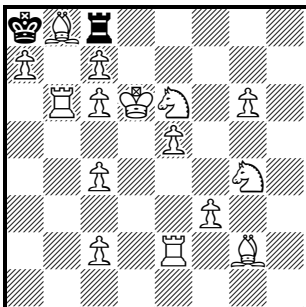
## 945*) A. T. Davidson
*Montreal Daily Witness*, 1899



| 1.Ba4 | (2.Bd1+ | Re2 | 3.Bxe2 |  |  |
|--------|---------|-----|--------|--|--|
|        |         | Rg4 | 3.Bxg4) |  |  |
| 1...Re1 | 2.Bb3 | Rf1 | 3.Bc4 | Rf2 | 4.Bb5 |
|        | 4...Rf8 | 5.Be2+ | Rf3 | 6.Bxf3 |  |
|        | 4...B any | 5.Be8+ | Rf7 | 6.Bxf7 |  |

#6

## 946*) A. Bell
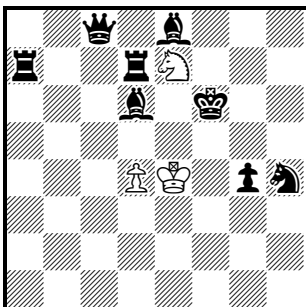*The Problemist*, 2002



**1.Kc5 Rd8 2.Pc8Q** (not 2.Pc8R? 13...Rf6! nor 2.Pc8B? 13...Rxa7!) **2...Rd5+ 3.Kb4 Rb5+ 4.Kc3 Rb3+ 5.Kd2 Rd3+ 6.Ke1 Rd1+ 7.Kf2 Rf1+ 8.Kg3 Rxf3+ 9.Kh4 Rh3+ 10.Kg5 Rh5+ 11.Kf6 Rf5+ 12.Ke7 Rf7+ 13.Kd6 R~ on rank/Rd7+/Rc7/Rxa7/Rf6 14.Pc7/ Pxd7/Sxc7/Bc7/Qb7**

#14

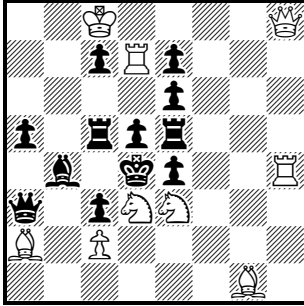## 947*) A. Atanasiević
3rd Prize, *The Problemist*, 1979



1.Sxc8  2.Sxa7  4.Se5  6.Kxg4  7.Sg6  9.Kh6  10.Se7 14.Kxe8  15.Kxd7  16.Kxd6  18.Ke4  22.Pd8=Q  23.Qg8 24.Sd5

SER.#24

**948*) M. Mladenović**
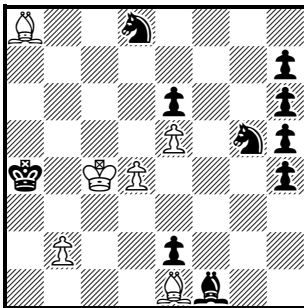2nd Prize, *The Problemist*, 1988



1-14.Sg4+-f6+-xd5+-xe3+-g4+-f6+-xd5+-xe3+-g4+-f6+-d5+-xe3+-c4+-a3+ 15.Rxc7+ Qxc7

S#15

*Switchbacks*

19.3 We saw examples of switchbacks in two-movers in 13.1. **949** manages to achieve 18 consecutive corner-to-corner moves, making 9 consecutive long-range switchbacks. If we count short-range oscillations, **875** has 13 consecutive switchbacks by the WK, and **938** has no less than 78 switchbacks by the BK between b1 and c1 scattered through the solution. These examples are all 2-move (i.e. immediate) switchbacks. A 42-move switchback can be found within **910**, the WK going from g4 to h1 and returning by exactly the same route.

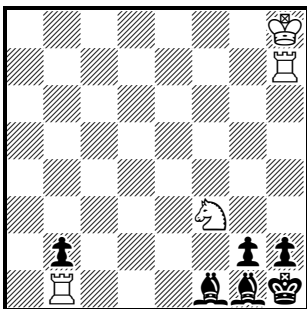**949) J. D. M. Nunn**
1st Prize, *The Problemist*, 1991



1.Bh1 Ph3 2.Ba8 Ph2 3.Bh1 Ph4 4.Ba8 Ph1=any 5.Bxh1 Ph3 17.Bh1 Ph2 18.Ba8 Sb7 19.Bxb7 Ph1=Q,B 20.Bxh1 Bg2 21.Bxg2 Se4,Sf3 22.Bb4 Sd2+ 23.Bxd2 24.Bc6
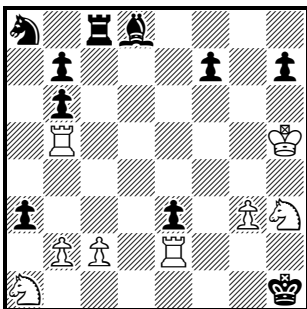
#24

*Walks/Excelsiors*

19.4 In the problems of Chapters 17 and 18 the WK never quite completes a full-length patrol of a board-edge. This is achieved in a highly amusing way in **950***, to which the composer appended the topical caption 'Take Cover' to describe the WK's slow

progress through a hail of fire to the shelter of a8. However, the problemist's favourite theme of this sort is the pawn's five- or six-step walk from his starting square to promotion, known as the Excelsior. The evergreen pioneer is **951\***, and a fine modern example with underpromotion is **952\***. In series-helpmate form the beautifully economical **953\*** combines 4 Excelsiors with AUW, while in series-selfmate form **954\*** goes one better with comparable economy, showing 5 Excelsiors with AUW and a striking model mate. Finally, **955\*** is a maximummer selfmate (like **847**) which with only five men combines an Excelsior with an eight-pointed star by the BQ.

**950\*) V. L. Eaton**
*Chess Review*, 1939



1.Kg8 Bc4+ 2.Kf8 Bf1 3.Ke8 Bb5+ 4.Kd8 Bf1 5.Kc8 Ba6+ 6.Kb8 Bf1 7.Ka8 any 8.Rxh2
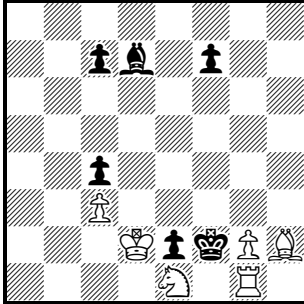
#8

**951\*) S. Loyd**
*The Era*, 1861



1.Pb4 (>2.Rd5, Rf5) Rc5+ 2.Pxc5 Pa2 3.Pc6 Bc7 4.Pxb7 (not 4.Rd5? Bxg3! nor 4.Rf5? Bf4!) 5.Pxa8=Q
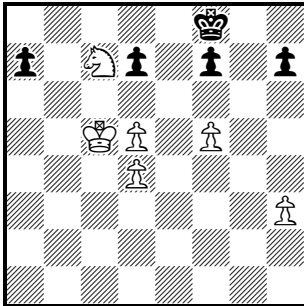
#5

## 952*) L. Joudon
*Europe Echecs*, 1987

1.Pg4 (>2.Rg2+ 3.Ke3) Bc6 2.Pg5 (>3.Rg4) Pf5 3.Pxf5 e.p. Bf3 4.Pf7 Pc5 5.Pf8=B 6.Bxc5# If 2...Bf3 3.Rg3 B~/Bh5 4.Rg4/Rg2+
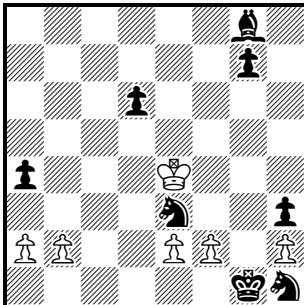
#6

## 953*) A. Atanasiević
*The Problemist*, 1972

1.Pa5 5.Pa1=S 7.Sxd4 8.Sxf5 9.Se7 14.Pf1=Q 15.Qxh3 17.Qe8 22.Ph1=B 24.Bg8 29.Pd1=R 31.Rf7 Se6

SER.H#31

## 954*) U. Heinonen
*The Problemist*, 2012
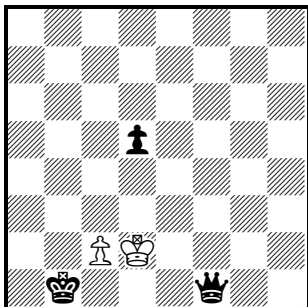
5.Pb8=B  7.Bxe3  8.Bg5  13.Pf8=R  14.Rf4  15.Kf5 20.Pe8=Q 21.Qxa4 22.Qb3 27.Pa8=B 29.Bxh3 30.Bg4 35.Ph8=S 36.Sg6 37.Qg3+ Sxg3

SER.S#37

**955*) J. Sunyer**
*Chess Amateur*, 1927

1.Pc4 Qf8 2.Pxd5 Qa3 3.Pd6 Qh3 4.Ke2 Qc8 5.Pd7 Qc1
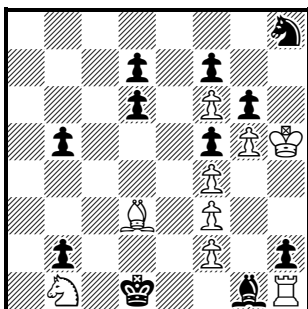6.Pd8=R Qh6 7.Rd2 Qa6+ 8.Kd1 Qf1

S#8 Max

FORMAL TASKS

19.5  If we look at walks which do not trace patterns but are simply a series of consecutive moves by one piece, we have already seen a 116-move sequence by the WK in series-selfmate form in **910** and a 130-move sequence by the WQ in direct mate form in **867\***. In the latter problem all White's moves are made by the same piece, a task which when applied to the WK is called a Durbar. The longest dual-free direct-mate Durbar is **956**, the soundness of which requires game-like analysis to prove. In the main line of the unusual **957** every White move is made by a pawn.

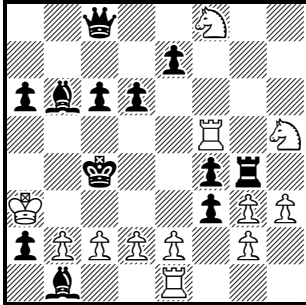**956) J. Fulpius**
*Journal de Genève*, 1977 (V)

**1.Kh4 Ke1 2.Kg3** (not 2.Bxb5? Kxf2!) **2...Kd1 3.Kh3** (not 3.Kg2? Kc1 4.Sa3 Kd2 5.Bxb5 Kc3!) **3...Kc1 4.Kg2 Kd1 5.Kf1 Pb4 6.Kg2 Ke1 7.Kg3** (not 7.Kh3? Kxf2!) **7...Kd1 8.Kh3 Kc1 9.Kg2 Kd1 10.Kf1 Pd5 15.Kf1 Pd4 20.Kf1 Pd6 25.Kf1 Pd5 30.Kf1 Pb3 35.Kf1 Kc1 36.Ke1 Bxf2+ 37.Kxf2**
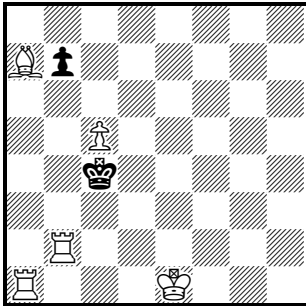
#37

## 957) G. Bakcsi
Hon. Ment., Földeák-70 Tourney, 1987



#10

**1.Pb3+ 2.Pc3+ 3.gPxf3+ 4.hPxg4+ Ke5** (if 4...Kg5 5.Pxf4+ ->#8) **5.Pxf4+ 6.Pe4+ Bxe4 7.Pxe4+ 8.Pd4+ 9.Pc4+ 10.Pb4**

19.6  Complex tasks, combining two or more features, have figured throughout this book, and so have unusual moves. **958**, with only seven men, combines castling, en passant capture and under-promotion. In selfmate form and with more pieces and moves, **959†** shows the extraordinary combination of castling, en passant capture, White/Black AUW, Excelsior and switchback (by the promoted WR).
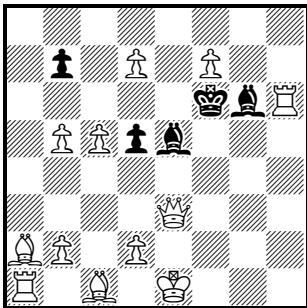
## 958) M. McDowell
Special Prize, *Phénix*, 1988



#5

1.0-0-0

| 1...Pb5 | 2.Pxb5 ep | Kc5 | 3.Pb7+ | Kc6 |
| | | 4.Pb8=R | Kc7 | 5.Rc2 |
| 1...Kc3 | 2.Rxb7 | Kc4 | 3.Pc6 | Kc3 |
| | | 4.Pc7 | Kc4 | 5.Pc8=Q |

## 959†) P. Hoffmann
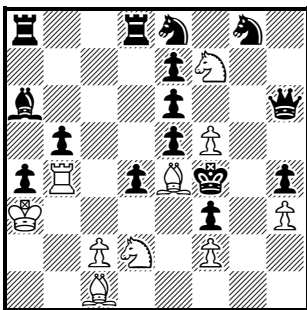1st Prize, *Die Schwalbe* TT, 2006



1.Pf8=Q+ 2.Pd8=R 3-4.Rxd5-d8+ 5.Pb4 6.Ba3 7.0-0-0 Pa1=B/Pa1=S 8.Bb2/Qb3+ Bxb2/Sxb3

S#8

STRATEGIC TASKS

19.7  The longer problem gives ample scope for the multiplication of the basic theme of sacrifice. In **960** Black delays mate by 9 successive sacrifices on e4. In the intricate **961\***, a modem setting of an old task, White sacrifices 8 men, all seven pieces and one pawn, before mating with his sole remaining pawn.
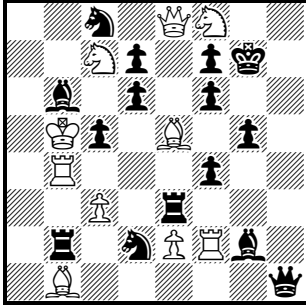
## 960) P. Drumare and R le Pontois
*Thèmes 64*, 1962



**1.Bd3** (>2.dS~#)  **1...Pe4 2.Bxe4** (>3.Bd3  4.dS~#) **2...Pe5 3.Bd3 Pe4 4.Bxe4 Pe5 5.Bd3 Pe4 6.Bxe4 gSf6 7.Bd3 Se4 8.Bxe4 Sd6,Sf6 9.Bd3 Se4 10.Bxe4 Re8 11.Bd3 Re4 12.Bxe4 Re8 13.Bd3 Re4 14.Bxe4 Qc6 15.Bd3 Qe4 16.Bxe4 Bb7 17.Bd3 Be4 18.Bxe4 19.Bxd3** If 11...Re3 12.Sf1 Re8 13.Bxe3+ If 15...Qc3+ 16.Sb3+

#19

**961\*) J. C. van Gool**
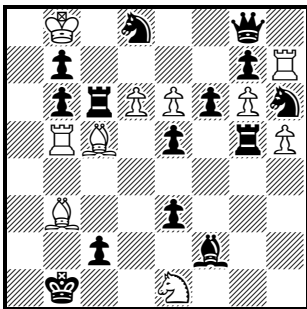*Journal de Genève*, 1979



**1.fSe6+** (not 1.cSe6+? Kh6!) **1...dPxe6 2.Sxe6+ Pxe6 3.Bxf6+** (not 3.Qg6+? Kf8 4.Qxf6+ Ke8 5.Bg6+ Kd7 6.Qf7+ Se7 7.Qe8+ Kc7 8.Qxe7+ Kc8 9.Qe8+/Qxd6/ Kxb6 Kb7/Bc6+/Sc4+!) **3...Kxf6 4.Rxf4+** (not 4.Qf8+ Ke5 5.Qg7+ Kd5 6.Qxg5+ Re5 7.Pe4+ Pxe4 e.p.!) **4...Pxf4 5.Qf8+ Ke5 6.Qxf4+ Kd5 7.Qg5+ Re5 8.Pe4+ Bxe4 9.Qxd2+ Rxd2 10.Ba2+ Rxa2 11.Rd4+ Pxd4 12.Pc4** If 1...fPxh6 2.Qg6+ If 5...Kg5 6.Qxf4+ If 8...Sxe4 9.Ba2+

#12

19.8 Checks can be similarly multiplied in the longer problem. We have seen 62 consecutive White checks in **937†**. **962** claims the record for the longest all-checking direct mate problem without any duals. The WR and WBS drive the BK to and fro along the bottom of the board until they have cleared the way for the second WR to mate; and Black's gP, hS and cR must be captured in that order. **963** similarly holds the record for the longest all-double-checking problem, with 13 consecutive double checks in the main line and a 14th in the byplay: building on Allan Bell's previous record of 12, the composers have framed Alain White's original 11-move sequence between two extra double checks, so that the same rear piece (WRa7) delivers both the opening shot and the coup de grace. If it is required that every Black move as well as every White move should give check, the record is 21 consecutive checks in **964** with its solid Black line on the seventh rank.

## 962) J. C. van Gool and A. Chéron
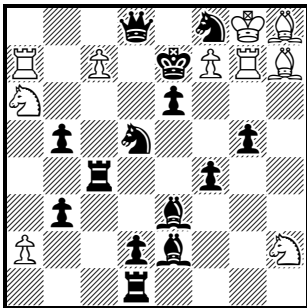*Journal de Genève,* 1977



#69

**1.Bc4+ Kc1 2.Ba3+ Kd2 3.Bb4+** (not 3.Rd5+? Kc3
4.Bb5 Sxe6+ 5.Ka7 Sd4! nor 3.Sf3+? Kc3 4.Be2 Pc1=Q!)
**3...Kc1 4.Sd3+ Kd1 5.Sxf2+ Pxf2 6.Rd5+ 7.Ba3+
8.Rb5+ 9.Bb2+ 10.Bd4+** (not 10.Bxe5+? 11.Bf4+
12.Rd5+ Rxd5!) **11.Be3+ 12.Rd5+ 13.Bd2+ 14.Bxg5+
15.Bd2+ 16.Bb4+** (not 16.Bxh6+? →#71) **17.Ba3+
18.Rb5+ 19.Bb2+ 20.Bxe5+ 21.Bf4+ 22.Rd5+ 23.Bd2+
24.Bb4+ 28.Bxf6+ 32.Bb4+** (not 32.Bf4+? 33.Re5+
34.Bf2+ 35.Bg4+ 36.Bh3+ 37.Rg5+ Sg4!) **36.Bxg7+
37.Bxh6+ 38.Rd5+ 39.Bd2+ 40.Bf4+ 41.Re5+ 42.Be2+
43.Bg4+ 44.Bh3+ 45.Rg5+ 46.Bg2+ 47.Bxc6+ 48.Bb5+**
(not 48. Bg2+? Ke2!) **49.Re5+ 50.Be2+ 51.Bg4+
52.Bh3+ 53.Rg5+ 54.Bg2+ 55.Bxb7+ 56.Ba6+ Pb5
57.Bxb5+ 58.Re5+ 59.Be2+ 60.Bc4+ 61.Rd5+
62.Bd2+ 63.Bb4+ 64.Ba3+ 65.Rb5+ 66.Bb2+ 67.Ba2+
68.Ra7+ 69.Ra1** If 2...Kd1 3.Rd5+ If 3...Kd1 4.Rd5+ If
5...Kc1 6.Ba3+ 7.Se4+ Ke1 8.Bb4+ 9.Rd5+ 10.Ba3+
11.Rb5+

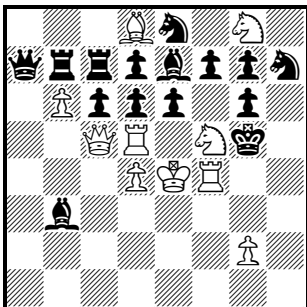## 963) D. Stojnić and M. Babić
*The Problemist,* 2004



#13

**1.Pc8=S+  2-10.Rg6-f6-f5-e5-e4-d4-d3-c3-c2+  Kb1
11.Rb2+ Ka1** (If 11...Kc1 12.Rb1#) **12.Rb1+ 13.Sb4** If
10...Ka3 11.Bb2+ Ka4/Kxa2 **12.Sc5+**/Sb4+ 13.Ba3/Ra1
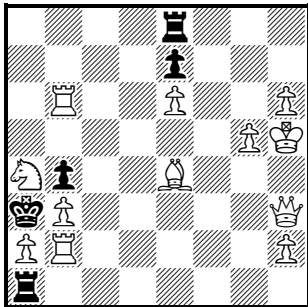
## 964) J. Rotenberg
*Europe Echecs,* 1978



#11

**1.fSxe7+ ePxd5+ 2.Sxd5+ eSf6+ 3.dSxf6+ Pd5+
4.Sxd5+ Sf6+ 5.dSxf6+ Pd5+ 6.Sxd5+ Re7+ 7.dSxe7+
Bd5+ 8.Sxd5+ Re7+ 9.dSxe7+ Pf5+ 10.Sxf5+ Qe7+
11.dSxe7** If 1...cPxd5+ 2.Sxd5+ ... as main line ... 6.Ke5
→#8 If 1...Pf5+ 2.dRxf5+ ePxf5+ 3.Rxf5+ Kg4 4.Rf4+
5.Qc3+ Kh2 6.Rh4+ If 1...Pe5 2.Rxe5+ Pxe5 3.Qxe5+
Pf5+ 4.Rxf5+ If 2...Pf6 3.dSxf6+ →#9

19.9  Some two-move tasks which are impossible (or difficult) to set can be shown (or shown better) in three-move form. For instance, the full WB13 Fleck referred to in 5.3 is elegantly shown in **965\***, while **966\*** incorporates in its main line the 5 Schiffmann defences of **631**, but adds a good key (to provide for 1...Kd5) and some byplay. Also two-move tasks involving tries can often be shown equally well across three-move variations: thus the 4 focal pairs of **470\*** reappear after quiet second moves in **967\***.
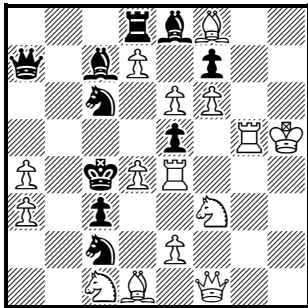
### 965\*) C. Seneca
1st Prize, *Thèmes 64*, 1964



#3

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1.Qh4 | (>2.B~ | any | 3.Qxb4) |
| | | | |
| 1...Re1 | 2.Qxe1 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rxa2, Rb1 | 2.B(x)b1 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rc1 | 2.Bc2 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rd1 | 2.Bd3 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rf1 | 2.Bf3 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rg1 | 2.Bg2 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rh1 | 2.Bxh1 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Ra8 | 2.Bxa8 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rb8 | 2.Bb7 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rc8 | 2.Bc6 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rd8 | 2.Bd5 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rf8 | 2.Bf5 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rg8 | 2.Bg6 | any | 3.Qxb4 |
| 1...Rh8 | 2.Bh7 | any | 3.Qxb4 |

### 966\*) J. Fulpius
*Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, 1986 (V)



#3

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1.Rf4 | (>2.Pe4) | | |
| | | | |
| 1...Pxe6+ | 2.Pxe8=Q | | (>3.Pe4) |
| | | Qxd4 | 3.Qxc6 |
| | | Rxd4 | 3.Qxe6 |
| | | 2Sxd4,2Sb4,Se1,Se3 | 3.Bb3 |
| | | 6Sxd4, 6Sb4 | 3.Qb5 |
| | | Pxd4, Pe4 | 3.Pe3 |
| 1...Qxd4 | 2.Pe4+ | Qd3 | 3.Qxd3 |
| 1...6Sb4 | 2.Pe4+ | Sd3 | 3.Qxd3 |
| 1...Kd5 | 2.Pe4+ | Kxe6 | 3.Qh3 |

**967\*) N. G. G. van Dijk**
1st Prize, *Die Schwalbe,* 1980

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1.Bg2 | block | | |
| 1...Bb2 | 2.Rd1 | Bxe5 | 3.Sc1 |
| | | Ba1,Bc3 | 3.Sc1 |
| | | Ba3 | 3.Sd4 |
| 1...Bc3 | 2.Sc2 | Bxe5 | 3.Re1 |
| | | Ba1,Bb2 | 3.Re1 |
| | | Bb4,Ba5 | 3.cSd4 |
| 1...Bd4 | 2.Sd1 | Bxe5,Bb2,Be3,Ba1 | 3.R(x)e3 |
| | | Ke1,Bg1,Bf2,Bc5,Bb6,Ba7 | 3.Sc3 |
| 1...Bxe5 | 2.Sf1 | Ba1,Bb2,Bc3,Bf6,Bg7,Bh8 | 3.Sxg3 |
| | | Bf4,Bd6,Bc7,Bb8 | 3.Sd4 |
| 1...Kd3 | 2.Sd5+ | Ke2 | 3.Sf4 |
| | | Ke4 | 3.Re3 |

#3

   19.10  I finish the book with two outstanding try problems, the first a brand-new two-move supertask and the second an 80-year-old masterpiece of the logical school. **968†** shows a pattern which most problemists would have thought out of reach, a 4-fold cyclic Zagoruiko (as defined in 13.11). The position is open; there are only seventeen men; tries and key are remarkably varied; and there is no significant byplay to blur the pattern. **969\*\***, a six-mover by a great Austrian composer, combines formal and strategic excellence in a harmonious whole. The six successive moves of the WR on the sixth rank, the parallelism of the five immediate threats on the fifth rank and the remarkable White economy, are fine enough; but it is the perfect logic behind the order of White's moves, inducing Black to weaken himself by successively obstructing his own defences, which completes the masterpiece. My analysis of the solution follows Chéron's. White's final aim is to mate by Rc6; so the BR must be drawn to c6 or away from the c-file. 1.Rb6? might induce Rb8, but Black could also defend by Pb1=Q; so that defence must be obstructed. 1.hRd6? might induce Bb3, but Black could also defend by Bf3; so that defence must be obstructed. 1.Re6? might induce Sf3, but Black could also defend by Pf3 (and if then 2.eRd6, Bxd6!); so that defence must be obstructed. 1.Rf6? might induce Sg3, but Black could also defend by Bg4 (and if then 2.fRd6, Bxd7!); so that defence must be obstructed. Hence the solution, with an extra self-block variation at the end.

## 968†) P. Gvozdják
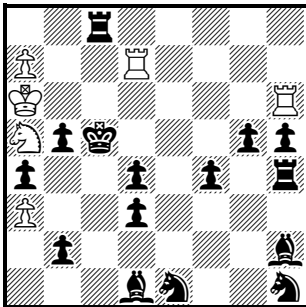1st Prize, Sochi Tourney, 2014



#2

| 1.Sc5? | (>2.Sd7) | 1...Sxf4,Sb6/Sxf6 | 2.Bc3/Bc7 | 1...Qb5! |
| 1.Rd4? | (>2.Rxd5) | 1...Sf4,S else ~/Sxf6 | 2.Bc7/Qf4 | 1...Sb6! |
| 1.Be4? | (>2.Qg5,6Rf5) | 1...Sxf4/Sxf6 | 2.Qxf4/Qxf6 | 1...Qxb3! |
| | | | | |
| 1.Rb6 | (>2.Qd6) | 1...Sxf4/Sf6/Pf6 | 2.Qf6/Bc3/Re6 | |

## 969**) H. Lepuschütz
*Deutsche Schachzeitung,* 1936



#6

1.Rb6? (>2.Rxb5) Pb1=Q!
1.hRd6? (>2.Rd5) Bf3! If 1...Bb3 2.Rb6
1.Re6? (>2.Re5) Pf3! If 1...Sf3 2.eRd6
1.Rf6? (>2.Rf5) Bg4! If 1...Sg3 2.Re6

1.Rg6 (>2.Rxg5) 1...Rg4 2.Rf6 Sg3 3.Re6 Sf3 4.eRd6 Bb3
5.Rb6 Rb8, Rc6/Bc4 6.R(x)c6/Sb7