

In this issue

We start with announcement of traditional congress tourney, Spišská Borovička. Antagonistic stipulations were always more suitable for showing its themes and since some time it is even requirement. Now it has reached 30 years!

While browsing older Probleemblads, I have discovered in the issue 4/2000 the award of fairy tourney from 1994. With strong feeling of nostalgia I was admiring the high ratio of antagonistic stipulations among awarded works, with high quality that would be similarly praised today as it was by judge Yves Cheylan so long ago. Let's have a look at a few. Finally, I have selected five direct problems from the recent issue of Pat a Mat, No 104. I hope you will enjoy this issue and manage to participate in Spišská Borovička.

Juraj Lörinc

Announcement of the 30th SPIŠSKÁ BOROVIČKA C 6.9.2018

The tourney is announced for any kind of problems in 2 moves with antagonistic stipulation (#2, =2, S#2, R=2, etc...). Twins, multiple solutions, promoted pieces and all kinds of fairy pieces and/or conditions are allowed too.

The following **theme** is required:
In one variation, **the black king** plays to **a square neighbouring with a certain black piece**.

In the other variation, **the same black piece** plays to **a neighbouring square of the black king**.

These two thematic defences by king and another piece may be played either to the same square, or to two different squares. In the **diagram position**, the black king

and the thematic black piece **must not stand on neighbouring squares**.

Multiple phases and changed mates are welcome, but not mandatory.

Important: Only computer-tested problems (C+) will be accepted.

Judge: Peter Gvozdják.

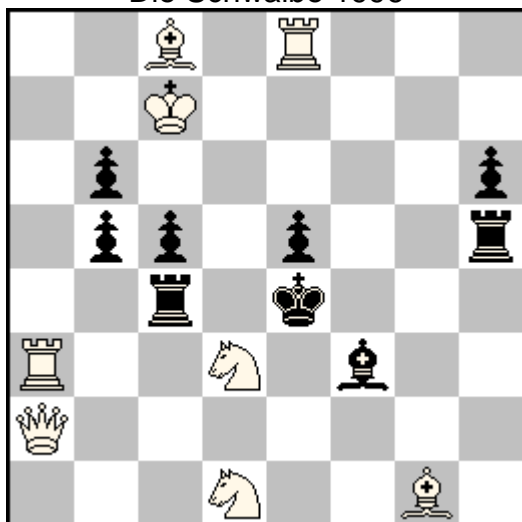
You may send the entry by e-mail to peter.gvozdjak@gmail.com. In such case it should be received latest by 31st August.

At the congress please hand your problems to the judge until Thursday, 8.00 P.M.

(The tourney is open worldwide, however the prizes for congress participants only.)

64 - Milan Velimirović

Die Schwalbe 1996



#2

(8+9) C+

1.Rf8? [2.Bb7# A]
 1...Kd5 a 2.Sc3# B
 1...Rd4 b 2.S3f2# C
 1...Rc3!

1.Qd2! [2.S3f2# C]
 1...Kd5 a 2.Bb7# A
 1...Rd4 b 2.Sc3# B
 1...Rh2 2.Rxe5#

Defences 1...Kd5 and 1...Rd4 are thematic for Spišská Borovička and appear in both phases. They are incorporated in the cycle of mates, considering the threat, so that it is well known Cyclone theme – Shedy cycle.

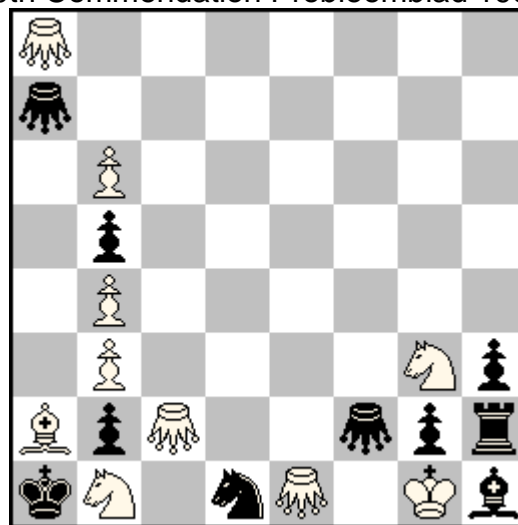
Obviously, any Cyclone theme is not a thematic requirement, but usually themes of this kind score well in Spišská Borovička.

Selection from award: Probleemblad 1994 Fairies

The old issue of Probleemblad (4/2000) contains award of even more ancient fairy tourney. But studying the awarded antagonistic problems was quite fine experience. No wonder I have decided to share a few of them with you.

65 - André Simonet

9th Commendation Probleemblad 1994



s#8

(10+10) C+

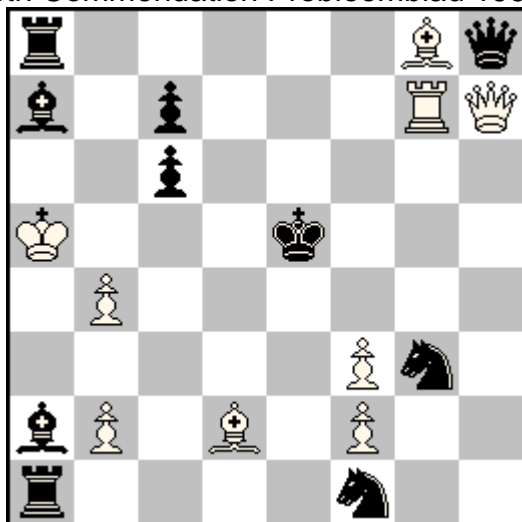
  = grasshopper

1.Se2! Gd2 2.Sec3 Gxb4 3.Sxb5 Gxb6
 4.Sc7 Gd8 5.Se8 Gf8 6.Sg7 Gh6 7.Sh5
 Gh4 8.Sg3 Gf2#

The diagram position would be checkmate, if there was no Pb6. It can be removed by Gf2, so bG must be steered to b6 and then back by wSg3. Thus both bG and wS complete octagon round trips. Good result, but there is a lot of static material necessary.

66 - Peter Gvozdják

8th Commendation Probleemblad 1994



#2

(9+10) C+

b) s#2

a) **1.f4+!**

1...Kd6 **a** 2.Rd7# **A**

1...Kd4 **b** 2.Bc3# **B**

1...Kf6 **c** 2.Qg6# **C**

b) **1.f4+!**

1...Kd6 **a** 2.Qg6+ **C** Be6#

1...Kd4 **b** 2.Rd7+ **A** Bd5#

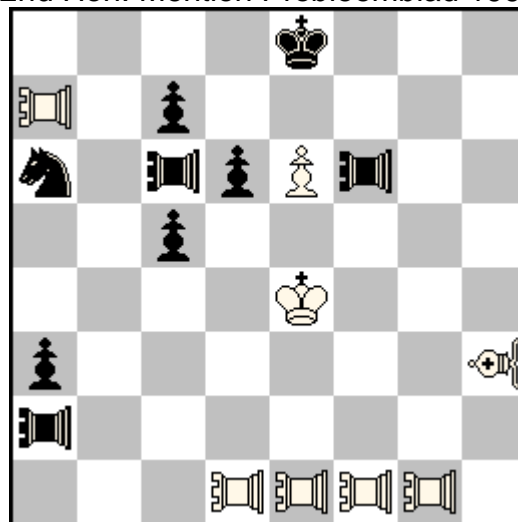
1...Kf6 **c** 2.Bc3+ **B** Bd4#

Hybrid mechanism for Lačný cycle works here thanks to the checking key (the same in both phases), so that White does not need to care about attacking initial square of bK. It is however necessary to check bK in a way that Black cannot (in a) and can (in b) parry the check by bishops from a-file.

Airy position improves the overall impression. But even original Cyclone book gives more hybrids (usually with stipulations #2 and =2), even without checks.

67 - Alexandr Postnikov

2nd Hon. Mention Probleemblad 1994



#3

(8+9) C+

♞ = vao

♜♝ = pao

1.PAe2! [2.Kf5+ Kf8 3.Kg6#]

1...PAf2 2.Kf3+ Kf8 3.Kg2#

1...PA×e6 2.Kd3+ Kd8 3.Kc2#

1...PAa1 2.Kd5+ Kd8 3.K×c6#

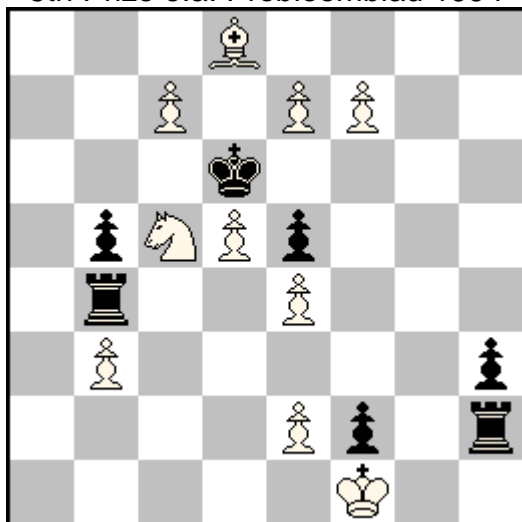
1...PA d2 2.Kf5+ Kd8 3.e7#

Successful showing of the large wK star is based on sequences of royal battery checks. The motivation of choice of wK direction is the main spicing in the mix: in threat and after 1...PAf2 wK has to immobilize black pao, 1...PA×e6 unguards c2 and White has to close PAa2 line. Finally, 1...PAa1 guards f1, but unguards d2.

Necessity of VAh3 is regrettable, as it is sole vao used and is not necessary in the mechanism.

68 - Raffi Ruppin

5th Prize e.a. Probleemblad 1994



s#2

(10+7) C+

Antircirce

1.e8=R! zz

1...Rg2 2.c8=S+ Rg1#

1...Rd4 2.f8=Q+ Rd1#

1...Rc4 2.f8=B+ Rc1#

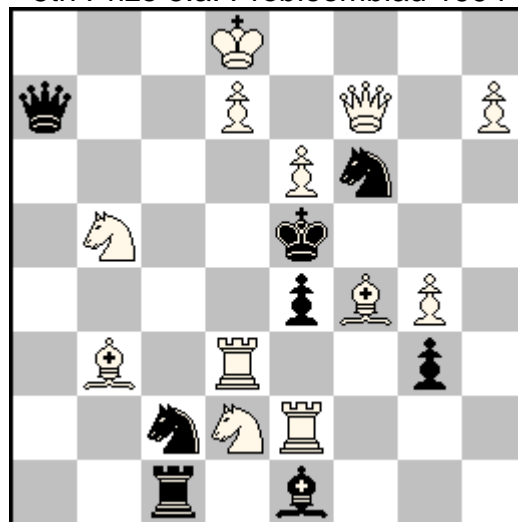
1...Ra4, R×e4(Ra8), R×b3(Ra8) 2.Re6+ Ra1#

While before the key bK cannot capture due to Pf7, the key blocks e8, freeing Pf7 for two variations checks. Rook promotion is chosen to be ready for multiple defences of Rb4 giving it access to a1. Other defences are met by check with other three promotions, forcing black rooks' moves to g1, d1 and c1.

Time has shown Antircirce is extremely suitable for development of promotion themes. Many ways were already researched, but there is surely still space for original findings.

69 - Hubert Gockel

5th Prize e.a. Probleemblad 1994



#2

(12+8) C+

Antircirce type Cheylan

1.e7? [2.Qe6#]

1...Se3 **a** 2.Sf3# **A**

1...Sd4 **b** 2.Sc4# **B**

1...S×d7(Sg8)!

1.Qg8! [2.Qg5#]

1...Se3 **a** 2.Sc4# **B**

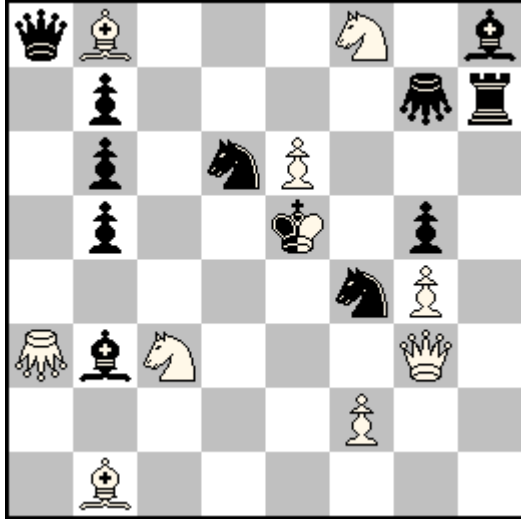
1...Sd4 **b** 2.Sf3# **A**

The other 5th prize proves promotion themes are not the only strong domain of Antircirce. Complex motivation is possible and can lead to various changes.

Qa7 guards g1, preventing any checkmate by Sd2. Then black defences by Sc2 to d4 and e3 close the line, potentially allowing both thematic mates Sf3# and Sc4#. But there are additional effects in place. In the try bS guards always one of squares, in the solution wQ blocks g8 and dual avoidance is based on closing of both lines to d4 and unpin of Pe4.

Valuable rendering of reciprocal change with dual avoidance in both phases.

70 - Hans Uitenbroek
3rd Prize Probleemblad 1994



r#2 (9+11+1) C+
♞♟ = grasshopper

1.Bd3? [2.nKd4 G×c3#]
1...nKf6 2.Bf5 Ge5#
1...G~+ 2.nK×d6+ Q×b8#
1...Qa4 2.Q×f4+ Q×f4#
1...nKd4! 2.Qe3#

1.Bf5? [2.nKf6 Ge5#]
1...nKd4 2.Bd3 G×c3#
1...G~+ 2.nK×d6+ Q×b8#
1...Rh6 2.e7 Gd4,Gd7,G×g4#
1...nKf6! 2.Sd7#

1.Be4! [2.Bd5 Gd4#]
1...nKd4 2.Bd3 G×c3#
1...nKf6 2.Bf5 Ge5#
1...G~+ 2.nK×d6+ Q×b8#

Rather complicated affair glues together possibilities of three heterodox elements:

- reflex mate,
- grasshopper,
- neutral king.

The idea here is that White would like to make Gg7 jump away along the long diagonal so that Bh8 checkmates. This requires making some diagonal flights

inaccessible for nK – e3, d6 and g5. All the Bb1 keys prepare hurdles for bG. If nK walks away along the long diagonal, White can position bishop correctly and the mate threatened in the other phase returns. Well, not if Black walks in a specific direction, when White is forced to checkmate. (Then there are also some technical by-variations.)

The problem however, besides having nice strategy employing equally all the fairy elements, scores also on the formal level. What about the following extract from the solution:

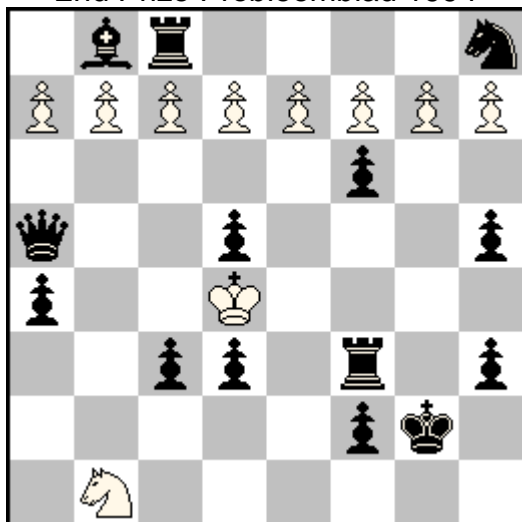
1.Bd3? **A**
1...nKd4! **a** 2.Qe3#

1.Bf5? **B**
1...nKf6! **b** 2.Sd7#

1.Be4!
1...nKd4 **a** 2.Bd3 **A** G×c3#
1...nKf6 **b** 2.Bf5 **B** Ge5#

That is the pattern of Vladimirov theme (also called Azerbaijan theme – by the way, do you know the story?). It is easy to miss it without having letters added, especially in case like this problem, where strategy is prevailing. Yet, for letter-themes enthusiasts this is surely important feature (count me in), especially if it's underlined by good strategy.

71 - René Jean Millour
2nd Prize Probleemblad 1994



s=11 (10+14)
Circe, Maximummer
4 solutions

1.f8=S Rxf8(Sg1) 2.axb8=S Rxb8
3.gxh8=S Rxh8 4.d8=S Rxd8
5.exd8=S(Rh8) Rxd8 6.h8=S Rxh8
7.b8=S Rxb8 8.cxb8=S(Rh8) Rxb8
9.Se2 Rxb1 10.Sxc3(c7) Rb8 11.Sb1
Rxb1=

1.f8=B Rxf8(Bc1) 2.axb8=B Rxb8
3.gxh8=B Rxh8 4.d8=B Rxd8
5.exd8=B(Rh8) Rxd8 6.h8=B Rxh8
7.b8=B Rxb8 8.cxb8=B(Rh8) Rxb8
9.Ba3 Rxb1 10.Bb2 Rh1 11.Bc1 Rxc1=

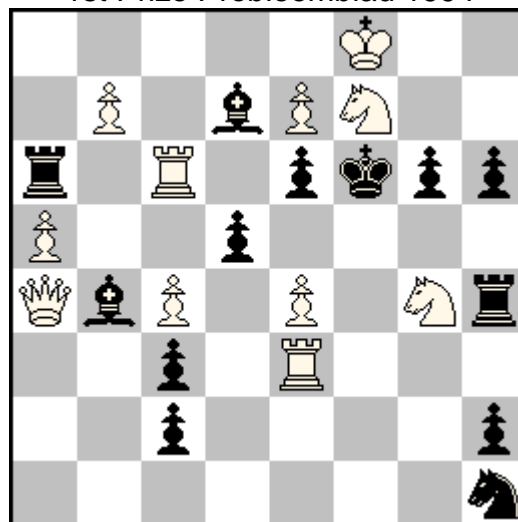
1.f8=R Rxf8(Ra1) 2.axb8=R Rxb8
3.gxh8=R Rxh8 4.d8=R Rxd8
5.exd8=R(Rh8) Rxd8 6.h8=R Rxh8
7.b8=R Rxb8 8.cxb8=R(Rh8) Rxb8
9.Ra2 Rxb1 10.Rxf2(f7)+ Kh1 11.Rf1+
Rxf1=

1.f8=Q Rxf8(Qd1) 2.axb8=Q Rxb8
3.gxh8=Q Rxh8 4.d8=Q Rxd8
5.exd8=Q(Rh8) Rxd8 6.h8=Q Rxh8
7.b8=Q Rxb8 8.c8=Q Rxb1 9.Qh1+
Rxh1(Qd1) 10.Qc7 Rxd1 11.Qxa5(Qd8)
Qxa5=

An incredible result of 8x4 promotions is achieved by well designed Circe + Maximummer + stalemate mechanism. Why same promotions in each phase? To avoid having reborn too many white pieces, otherwise no stalemate would be possible. Maximummer is used for steering bR along the 8th rank. Once all pawns are gone, the second phase of each solution begins, with very precise play leading to four different stalemating moves capturing the reborn piece.

It is interesting to compare this task with the tourney winner 72.

72 - Hubert Gockel
dedicated to P. Gvozdják
1st Prize Probleemblad 1994



#2 (11+13) C+
Patrol chess

1.cxd5? **A** [2.R(c)x e6# **B**]
1...Bd6 **a** 2.Rg3# **C**
1...Rh5!

1.Rxe6! B [2.Rg3# **C**]
1...Bd6 **a** 2.cxd5# **A**
1...h5 2.Sg5#
1...g5 2.Sd8#
1...c1=Q,c1=R 2.Qd1#

The solution of **72** surely looks less monumental than that of **71**. Only one variation in the try, one change, well, Djurašević cycle, it was not entirely common in 1994. Maybe it's the motivation?

The try is possible as Rc6 patrols c4, it opens a4-e4 and patrols e6. The threat can be made impossible by 1...Bd6, but this open patrolling line a4-e4, so that Re3 can unpatrol e4 and patrol Sg4 in the mate. Refutation attacks d5.

The key unpatrols c4, sets wR to e6, patrols e4 for guard of f5 (that's why the threat) and opens a6-d6. That is why the defence 1...Bd6 works again, Bd6 attacks g3, but Qa4 patrols c4 and thus the variation mate follows.

When comparing to other Patrol chess twomovers showing Djurašević cycle in

Cyclone, it seems more complex than others. There is Patrol-specific by-play with all five checkmates in solution given by patrolling the piece already attacking bK (that was a theme of the [4th TT CCM](#)). Yet I would probably place the problems in different order.

Do not take this as a criticism of the judge. The judge always has right to his opinion, to express it in the form of the award as soon as he is nominated by organizers and his decision should be understood in the context of the relevant era. It is easy today to study Cyclone and make a comparison.

Well, these were great times with so many high quality antagonistic problems published...

Juraj Lörinc

Just published: PAT A MAT 104

Issue No 104 of Slovak magazine is just printed. You can download selection from it on the [dedicated webpage](#). The selection includes 24 pages of 32 and contains the regular content:

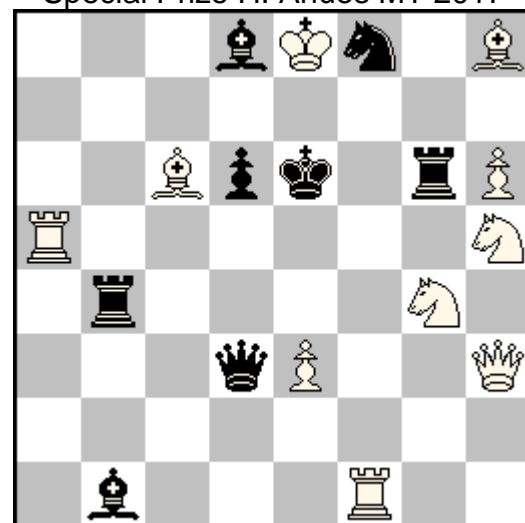
- photos
- originals
- awards
- errata
- announcements

Other content is exclusive for PaM subscribers and is provided in the printed magazine only:

- selections
- articles
- specials

73 is among #2 selections that are for long years prepared by Peter Gvozdják.

73 - Wieland Bruch & Daniel Papack Special Prize H. Ahues MT 2017



1.Sf2+? Rgg4! (2.Sg7+? Kf6!)
 1.Se5+? Rbg4! (2.Sf4+? Kf5!)
 1.Sgf6+? Qf5! (2.Bd5+? Ke5!)

1.Sh2+!

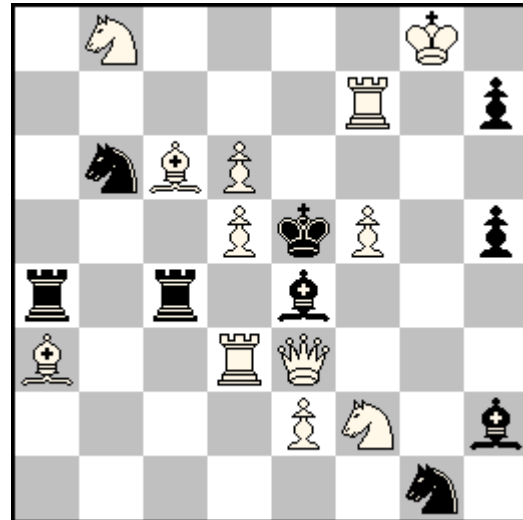
1...Rbg4 2.Sf4#
 1...Rgg4 2.Sg7#
 1...Qf5 2.Bd5#

Ordinary theme G is defined as follows:
 A square in the black King's field is controlled by two white line pieces. In tries, White closes one of these lines, which prevents him from closing the other. Black refutations utilize this.

So **73** shows cyclic form of theme G: there are three white lines guarding squares e5, f5, f6, namely a5-f5, f1-f6, h8-e5. White tries as well as the key open diagonal battery but tries close the relevant lines, preventing three white mates in a cyclical manner.

Both **74** and **75** are included in #3 selections.

74 - Valery Shavyrin
 1st Prize Feoktistov 70 JT 2018



#3 (12+9) C+

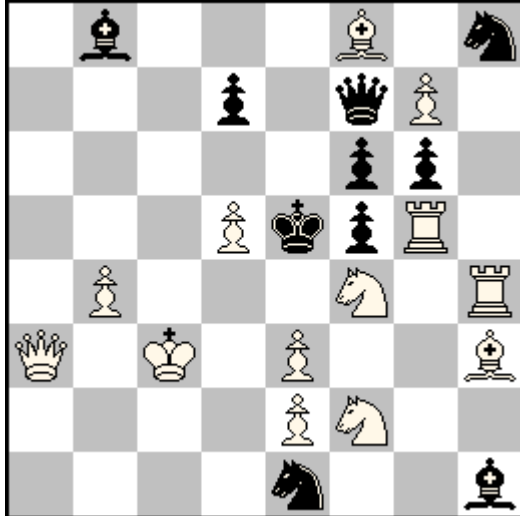
1.Qh6! [2.e3 [3.Qe6#, 3.Qf6#, 3.Qg7#]]

1...B~ 2.Qe6+ Kf4 3.Qe3#
 1...Bxf5! 2.Qf6+ Kf4 3.Qxf5#
 1...Bf3! 2.Qg7+ Kf4 3.e3#
 1...Bxd3! 2.Qe3+ ~e4 3.Sd3#
 1...Bxd5! 2.Sd7+ Sxd7 3.Rxd5#
 1...Ra8 2.Bb2+ Rc3,Rd4 3.BxR#

Quiet threat includes three different threatened mates following guarding of f4 by 2.e3! These three moves reappear as the second moves after random defence of Be4 and two its corrections. Other two corrections form a star of bB moves, an unexpected feature. Very rich thematic content is further improved by two white moves played to by pawn and queen that appear both in the 2nd and in the 3rd white move.

However, one can once again think about the order of two compositions, namely the first and the second prizes – isn't in your opinion the 2nd Prize better?

75 - Alexandr Kuzovkov
2nd Prize Feoktistov 70 JT 2018



#3 (13+10) C+

1.Qa6? [2.Sg4+ **A** Ke4 3.Qc4#]
1...Bxd5 **a** 2.S4d3+ **B** Sxd3 3.Sxd3#
1...Qxd5 **b** 2.Sxg6+ **C** Sxg6 3.Rxf5#
1...Bf3!

1.Qa5! [2.S4d3+ **B** Sxd3 3.Sxd3#]
1...Bxd5 **a** 2.Sxg6+ **C** Ke6 3.Bxf5#
2...Sxg6 3.Re4#
2...Qxg6 3.Re4#
1...Qxd5 **b** 2.Sg4+ **A** Ke4 3.Qxd5#
1...Qe7,Qxf8 2.d6+ Kxd6 3.Qc5#
2...Bd5 3.Qxd5#
1...fxg5 2.gxh8=Q+ Qf6 3.Sxg6#
2...Qg7 3.Qxg7#

The try uses access of wQ to c4 for threat, two capturing defences on guard c4 directly. As Qa6 guards e6, both defences block d5 for attack on d3. Queen defence additionally guards d3 (arrival correction), but unguards g6 for another attack.

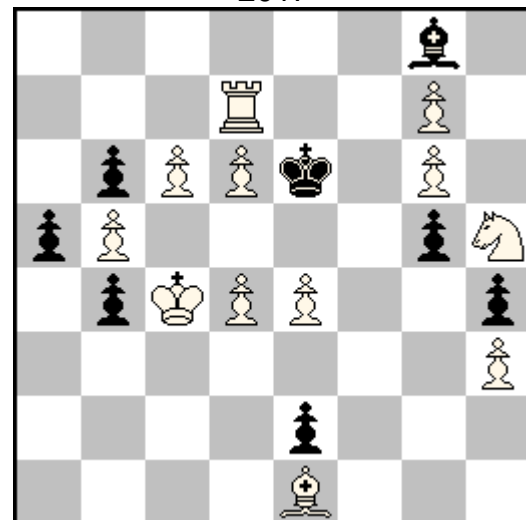
The solution guards d5 and prepares pin and battery on the fifth rank. Both captures on d5 defend by unguard of e6. Self-pinned bishop no longer holds well e4, so White can make line-opening

sacrifice on g6, while after 1...Qxd5 White can make use of 2...Ke4 closing line of Bh1 to d5. Battery on the fifth rank is used too.

Taking all variations together, there is Shedy cycle shown, but it is important to underline the rich and non-symmetrical strategy employed for this Cyclone theme.

Selection of awarded problems of Slovak authors includes **76** that triumphed in the important Russian tourney.

76 - Štefan Sovík
1st Prize Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsiya 2017



#3 (12+8) C+

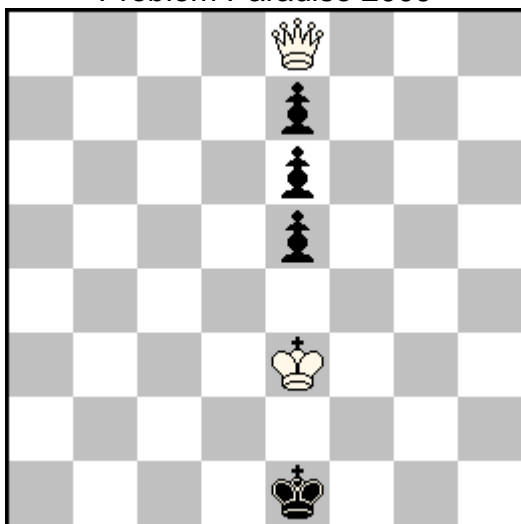
1...b3 2.Bc3 [3.d5#]
1...a4 2.Bxb4 [3.Re7#]
1...g4 2.Bxh4 [3.Sf4#]

1.Kd3! zz
1...b3 2.d5+ Ke5 3.Bc3#
1...a4 2.Re7+ Kxd6 3.Bxb4#
1...g4 2.Sf4+ Kf6 3.Bxh4#
1...Bf7 2.gxf7 [3.f8=S#]
1...Bh7 2.gxh7 [3.g8=Q#]

Despite simple position there is a lot going on. Set play of this mutata shows three quiet moves of wB to squares unguarded by black pawns, to guard e5, d6 and f6.

The key makes this impossible due to looming 2...e1=S+, but wK guards e4 and leaves black royal battery line. Thus White can check in the 2nd move, with bK moving to squares listed squares and wB checkmates. In this way the triple exchange of the second and third moves is shown. Mutata form improves the impression and the first prize is not so surprising.

77 - Kevin Begley
Problem Paradise 2009



#4 (2+4) C+
Equipollent Anticirce

1.Qg6! [2.Qe4 Kd1/Kf1 3.Qb1/Qh1#]
1...e4 2.Qh7 e5 3.Qxe7(Qb7) Kd1/Kf1
4.Qb1/Qxe4(Qh1)#
1...Kf1 2.Qh7 [3.Qh1#] Ke1 3.Qe4
Kd1/Kf1 4.Qb1/Qh1#
2...Kg2 3.Qh1+ Kg3 4.Qh3#

The visually impressive initial position of **77** has nominated into the fairy selections. The play is not especially interesting, but the asymmetry (due to lack of i3 square in the last sub-variation) is.

Juraj Lörinc

1st TT Conflictio C 10.10.2018 reminder

In No 4, Conflictio has announced formal thematical tourney for chess problems with antagonistic stipulations with compulsory reciprocal change. The reciprocal change can be a part of a larger complex of changes, but it should be a prominent recognizable feature.

Judge: Narayan Shankar Ram (India)

The competing problems can be of any length, their aim can be any (mate, stalemate or other). Any form of twins, multiple solutions, duplex or set play are allowed, as well as fairy elements. The tourney might be divided to multiple sections if enough problems are received, depending on the opinion of the judge.

Entries should be sent by email to juraj.lorinc+conflictio@gmail.com before October 10th, 2018. The award will be published in Conflictio.

Please, let know your friends about our competition!

Conflictio is an e-zine dedicated to chess problems with antagonistic stipulations
Editor: Juraj Lörinc, juraj.lorinc+conflictio@gmail.com