In this issue

We open the year 2022 by two main articles. The first is based on the examples of the theme called "cyclic refutation" (see already "Chess Problems: Introduction to an Art" by Rice, Lipton and Matthews, 1963, but also "Encyclopedia of Chess Problems" by Velimirović and Valtonen, 2012, p. 126), although the more interesting part of their content are changed mates. The second contains stalemate twomovers by world leading expert in this genre, Gerhard Maleika. He explores special dual patterns with 18 originals.

One additional orthodox threemover with model mates is a blast from the past, demonstrated during the Bratislava meeting by B. Formánek.

Stay safe and enjoy Conflictio!

Juraj Lörinc

Cyclic refutation

The twomovers included in this article share the following table of changed mates following three of defences that appear also cyclically in the functions of refutation:

	th.	1...**a**	1...**b**	1...**c**
1.?	any or zz	2.**A**#	2.**B**#	!
1.?	any or zz	2.**C**#	!	2.**D**#
1.?	any or zz	!	2.**E**#	2.**F**#
1.!	any or zz	2.**G**#	2.**H**#	2.**I**#

There are four phases where three black defences are either followed by changed mates or refute, every defence refuting exactly once. In the **Z**-notation, the symbol would be **Z-(2,2,2,3)-39** as altogether there are nine different mates.

How interesting is this theme? One might argue that if the exclamation marks in the table were substituted by other mates, we would have change of three mates in four phases (Zagorujko 4×3). But that is indeed extremely difficult theme. On the other hand, the theme represented by table is involving natural welcome refutations, with feeling that the content is finished.

Another interesting point is possible repeated occurrence of checkmates. There are examples with similar table representation, where some mates are repeated at various places, especially of the carousel type. In my view these represent quite different set of themes, with important emphasis on the repetition. After discussion with Narayan, we have decided to leave those out of the picture for now, putting emphasis on the variety of checkmates. And of course, we have not included examples with unchanged mates, these are obviously numerous.

Interestingly, all examples remaining are orthodox #2. Quite open field in other genres, it seems.

In the majority of examples, the first moves as played all by queen (as in the oldest **840** here) or all by knight.

840 - Barry P. Barnes
1st Prize Problemnoter 1961

#2   (8+12) C+
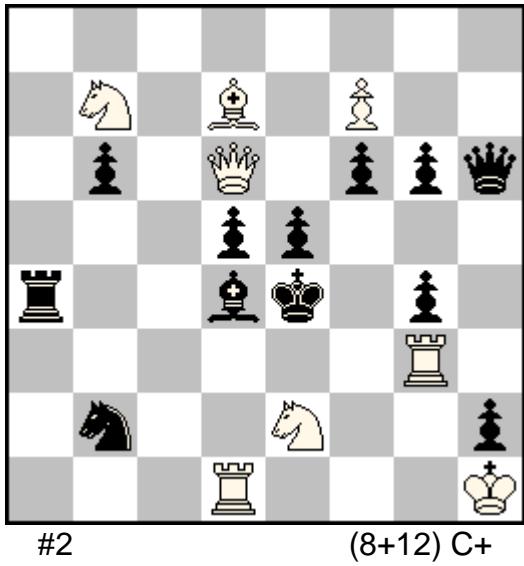
1.Qa3? [2.Sd6#]
1…Qf8 2.R×g4#
1…Sc4 2.Qd3#
1…Bc5!

1.Q×f6? [2.Sd6#]
1…Qf8 2.Q×g6#
1…Bc5 2.Sc3#
1…Sc4!

1.Q×b6? [2.Sd6#]
1…Bc5 2.S×c5#
1…Sc4 2.Qb1#
1…Qf8!

1.Qe6! [2.Sd6#]
1…Qf8 2.Q×g4#
1…Bc5 2.Q×d5#
1…Sc4 2.R×d4#

The strategic richness underlying the changes is praiseworthy.

841 - Oskar Wielgos
1st Honourable Mention
Československý šach 1963

#2   (9+7) C+
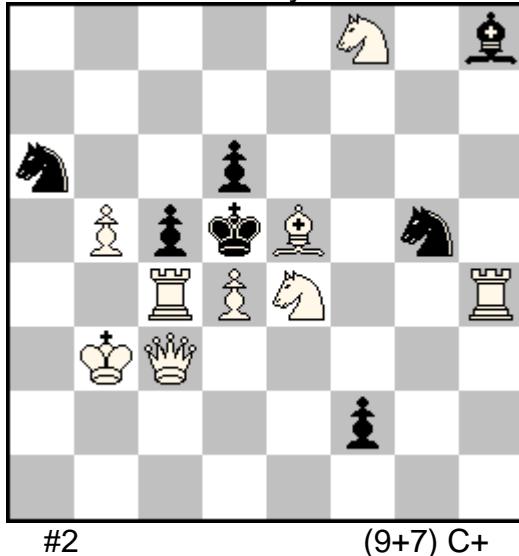
1.Qa5? [2.Sc3#]
1…d×e5 2.Qd8#
1…c×d4 2.b×a6#
1…S×e4!

1.Qh3? [2.Sc3#]
1…S×e4 2.Qe6#
1…d×e5 2.Qd7#
1…c×d4!

1.Qg3? [2.Sc3#]
1…S×e4 2.Qg8#
1…c×d4 2.R×d4#
1…d×e5!

1.Qd3! [2.Sc3#]
1…S×e4 2.Q×e4#
1…d×e5 2.d×c5#
1…c×d4 2.Q×d4#

Another rich rendering of the theme, even with two battery mates (b×a6#, d×c5#). As two defences capture white pieces (Se4, Be5), some eyebrows might by raised, but in my view this kind of refutation is an organic part of the content.

842 - Mukkur Parthasarathy
1st Prize ex aequo
The British Chess Magazine 1966

#2   (10+12) C+

843 - E.P. Nair
2nd Prize The Problemist 1968

#2   (11+12) C+
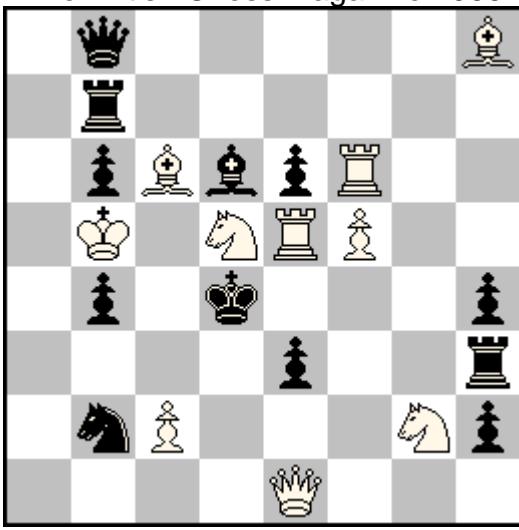
1.Sd×e3? [2.Re4#]
1…e×f5 2.S×f5#
1…K×e5 2.R×e6#
1…B×e5!

1.S×b4? [2.Re4#]
1…B×e5 2.c3#
1…K×e5 2.Qc3#
1…e×f5!

1.Sc3? [2.Re4#]
1…e×f5 2.Rd5#
1…B×e5 2.Se2#
1…K×e5!

1.Sc7! [2.Re4#]
1…e×f5 2.R×d6#
1…B×e5 2.S×e6#
1…K×e5 2.Rf8#

842 works with flight e5 and Sd5 is starring in setting up changes instead of wQ. Here two refutations even capture the threatening wR.
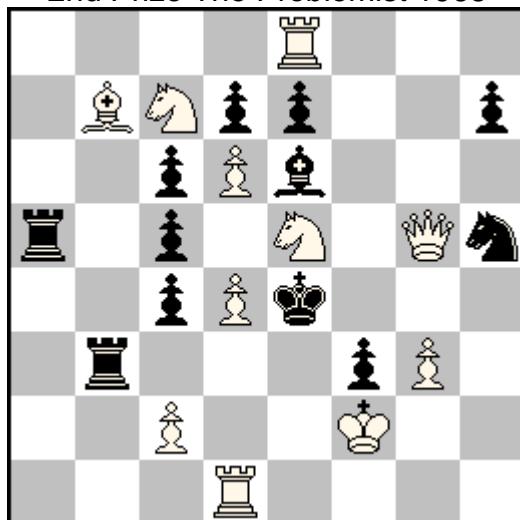
1.Sd3? [2.Qe5#]
1…Bf5 2.Qe3#
1…c×d4 2.Re1#
1…e×d6!

1.S×d7? [2.Qe5#]
1…Bf5 2.B×c6#
1…e×d6 2.R×e6#
1…c×d4!

1.S×c4? [2.Qe5#]
1…e×d6 2.S×d6#
1…c×d4 2.Sd2#
1…Bf5!

1.S×c6! [2.Qe5#]
1…Bf5 2.Sb4#
1…e×d6 2.Qd5#
1…c×d4 2.R×d4#

No capture of white officer among refutations in **843**.

## 844 - Michail Marandjuk
2nd Prize Krasnoje znamja 1970

#2 (9+5) C+

845 – Sergej Chatchaturov
10th Championship of USSR 1977-1978
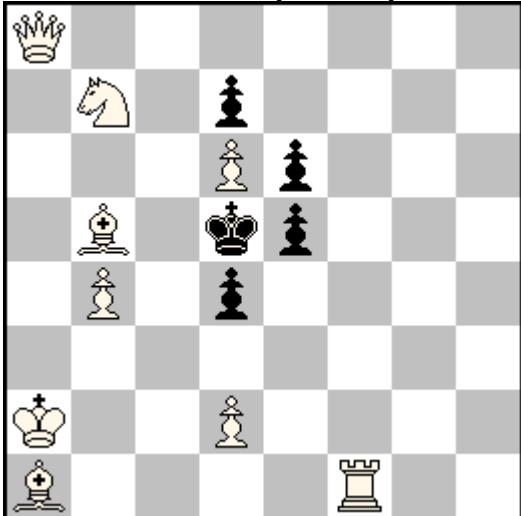
#2 (13+9) C+

1.Qc8? zz
1…e4 2.Qc5#
1…d3 2.Qc4#
1…Ke4!

1.Qa3? zz
1…d3 2.Q×d3#
1…Ke4 2.Qf3#
1…e4!

1.Qg8? zz
1…e4 2.Rf5#
1…Ke4 2.Qg2#
1…d3!

1.Qh8! zz
1…e4 2.Q×d4#
1…d3 2.Q×e5#
1…Ke4 2.Qh1#

The zugzwang mechanisms are usually simple as evidenced by **844**.
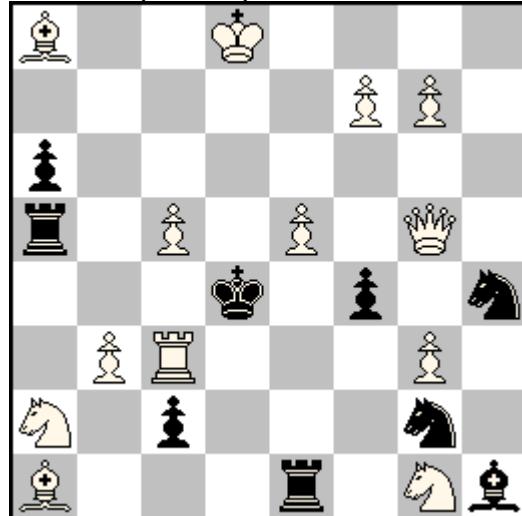
1.f8=Q? [2.Qd6#]
1…R×e5 2.Rf3#
1…R×c5 2.Q×c5#
1…Se3!

1.Qf6? [2.Qd6#]
1…Se3 2.e6#
1…R×e5 2.Se2#
1…R×c5!

1.e6? [2.Qd5#]
1…Se3 2.Qf6#
1…R×c5 2.Q×c5#
1…Re5!

1.Qg6! [2.Qd6#]
1…Se3 2.Rc4#
1…R×e5 2.Qd3#
1…R×c5 2.Rd3#
1…S×g6,Sf5 2.Sf3#
1…K×e5 2.Re3#

845 stands out thanks to the flight-giving key, utilization of three different units making the first moves and also three different threats, although all of them checkmate along the short line d6-d4, motivating defence attacking d5.

846 - Michail Pavlov
1st Commendation Szachy 1978
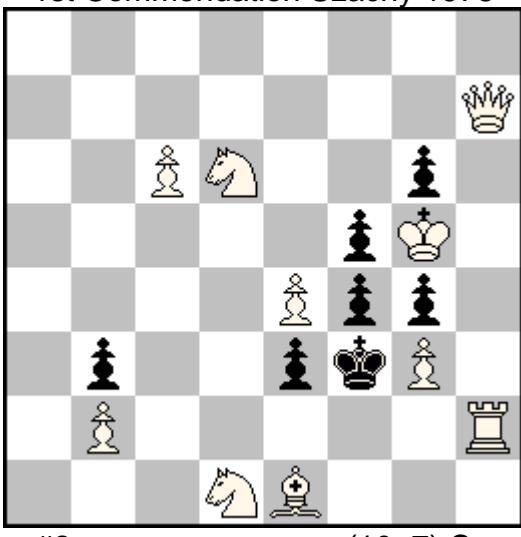
#2   (10+7) C+

1.Qf7? zz
1…e2 2.Q×b3#
1…f×e4 2.Q×f4#
1…f×g3!

1.Qa7? zz
1…e2 2.Qf2#
1…f×g3 2.Q×e3#
1…f×e4!

1.Q×g6? zz
1…f×e4 2.Q×e4#
1…f×g3 2.Q×f5#
1…e2!

1.Qh4! zz
1…f×e4 2.Q×g4#
1…f×g3 2.Q×g3#
1…e2 2.Rf2#

847 - Michail Pavlov
2nd Honourable Mention
Eeltje Visserman MT 1979-80
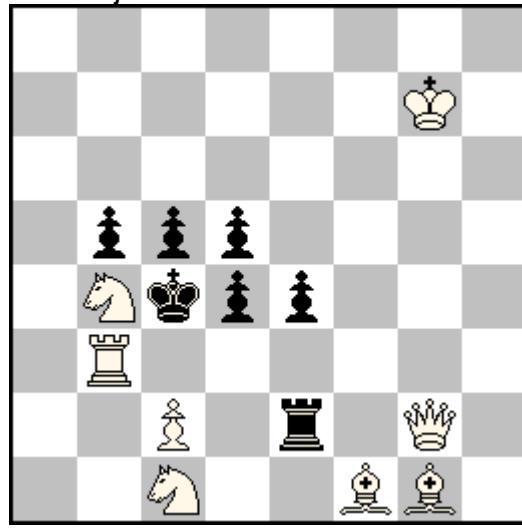
#2   (8+7) C+

1.Qf2? zz
1…c×b4 2.Q×d4#
1…d3 2.Q×c5#
1…e3!

1.Sca2? zz
1…d3 2.Rc3#
1…e3 2.Q×d5#
1…c×b4!

1.Qg6? zz
1…e3 2.Qd3#
1…c×b4 2.Qc6#
1…d3!

1.Qg4! zz
1…c×b4 2.Qc8#
1…d3 2.c×d3#
1…e3 2.B×e2#

848 - Michail Pavlov
4th Honourable Mention
Hlas l'udu 1979
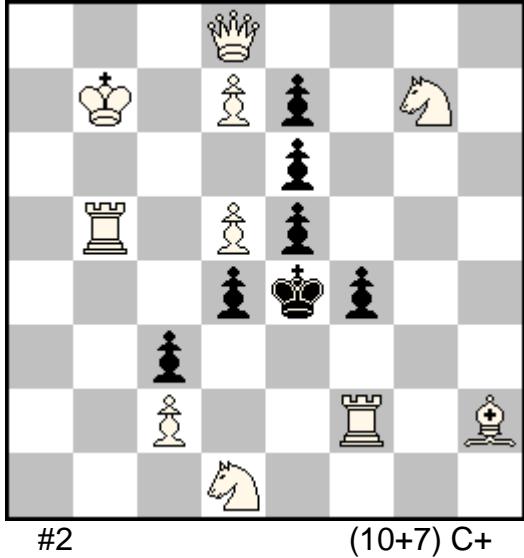
#2   (10+7) C+

1.d×e6? zz
1…f3 2.R×e5#
1…d3!

1.Qf8? zz
1…f3 2.Q×f3#
1…e×d5 2.Qf5#
1…d3!

1.Qb6? zz
1…e×d5 2.Qg6#
1…d3 2.S×c3#
1…f3!

1.Qc7? zz
1…f3 2.Q×e5#
1…d3 2.Qc4#
1…e×d5!

1.Q×e7! zz
1…f3 2.Qh4#
1…d3 2.Qb4#
1…e×d5 2.R×f4#

One additional mate change for 1…f3 is provided by the additional try.

849 - Michael Keller
1st Prize Schach-Echo 1984
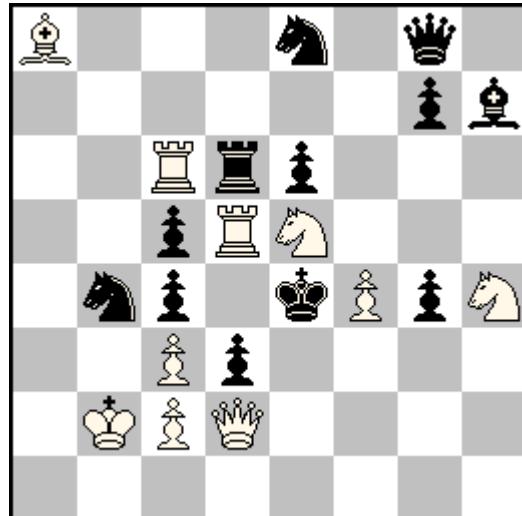
#2   (10+12) C+

1.Seg6? [2.Re5#]
1…K×d5 2.Qg2#
1…R×d5 2.Qe1#
1…S×d5!

1.S×c4? [2.Re5#]
1…R×d5 2.Qe3#
1…S×d5 2.c×d3#
1…K×d5!

1.Sd7? [2.Re5#]
1…S×d5 2.S×c5#
1…K×d5 2.R×c5#
1…R×d5!

1.Sf7! [2.Re5#]
1…K×d5 2.R×d6#
1…R×d5 2.R×e6#
1…S×d5,e×d5 2.Sg5#

Some elements are similar to **842**, especially diagonal half-battery wB-wR-wR-bK as well as placement of the starring S. However, the thematical defences are all played to the same square d5, thus enhancing the unity of the content.

850 - Alexandr Kuzovkov
Shachmaty v SSSR 1985

#2   (8+10) C+

851 - Michael Keller
2nd Prize Sächsische Zeitung 1985
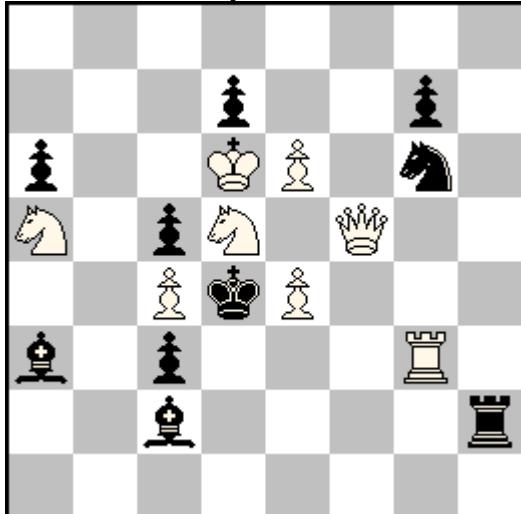
#2   (13+6) C+

1.Sb6? [2.Qd5#]
1…B×e4 2.Sb3#
1…d×e6 2.Sc6#
1…Rh5!

1.Sf4? [2.Qd5#]
1…Rh5 2.Se2#
1…d×e6 2.S×e6#
1…B×e4!

1.Sf6? [2.Qd5#]
1…Rh5 2.Qf2#
1…B×e4 2.Q×e4#
1…d×e6!

1.Sb4! [2.Qd5#]
1…B×e4 2.Q×c5#
1…Rh5 2.S×c2#
1…d×e6 2.Sbc6#
1…Sf4,Se7,Se5 2.Q(×)e5#
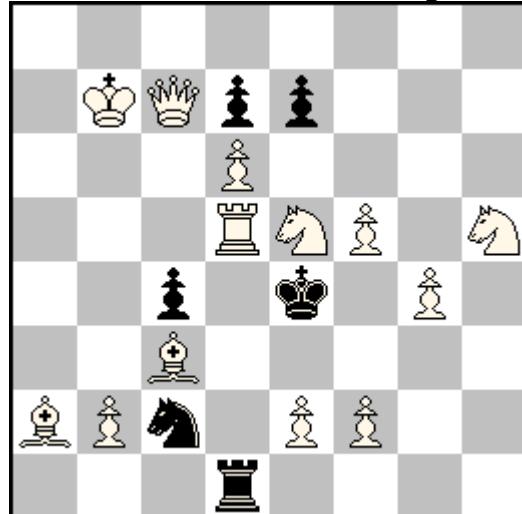
1.S×d7? [2.Re5#]
1…K×d5 2.Qc6#
1…e×d6 2.Sdf6#
1…R×d5!

1.Sf7? [2.Re5#]
1…K×d5 2.Q×c4#
1…R×d5 2.Sg5#
1…e×d6!

1.Sg6? [2.Re5#]
1…R×d5 2.Sg3#
1…e×d6 2.Sf6#
1…K×d5!

1.S×c4! [2.Re5#]
1…K×d5 2.Sd2#
1…e×d6 2.S×d6#
1…R×d5 2.f3#

852 - Michail Pavlov
64 1988

#2   (12+6) C+
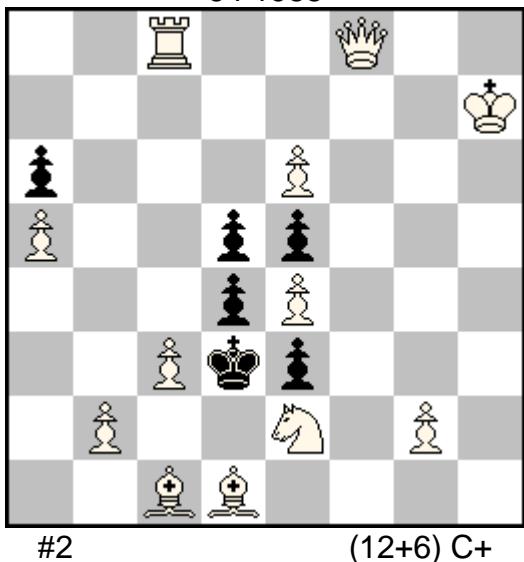
1.Qh6? zz
1…K×e4 2.Qg6#
1…d×c3 2.Q×e3#
1…d×e4!

1.Qf1? zz
1…K×e4 2.Sg3#
1…d×e4 2.Sf4#
1…d×c3!

1.Qd6? zz
1…d×c3 2.Q×d5#
1…d×e4 2.Q×a6#
1…K×e4!

1.Qb4! zz
1…K×e4 2.Bc2#
1…d×e4 2.Qc4#
1…d×c3 2.R×c3#

852 might be slightly visually similar to **846**, but here the flight e4 plays important role.

853 - Michail Marandyuk
& Viktor Pilipenko
1st-2nd Prize ex aequo
Chervonij girnik 40 JT 1997-1998

#2   (8+3) C+
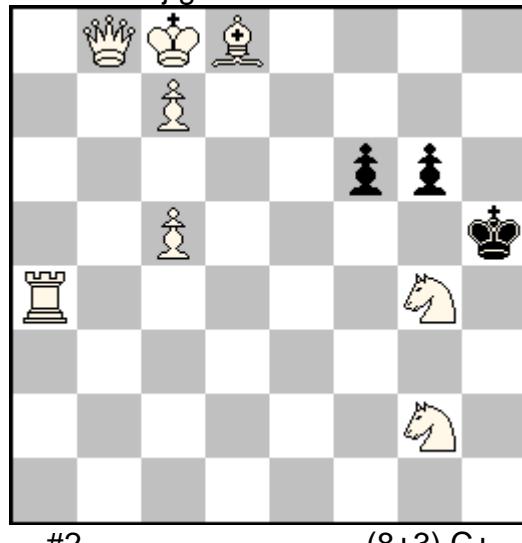
1.Qb5? zz
1…g5 2.Qe8#
1…Kg5 2.c6#
1…f5!

1.Qb1? zz
1…g5 2.Qh7#
1…f5 2.Qh1#
1…Kg5!

1.Qb2? zz
1…f5 2.Qh8#
1…Kg5 2.Qe5#
1…g5!

1.Qb3! zz
1…g5 2.Qf7#
1…f5 2.Qh3#
1…Kg5 2.Qd5#

853 works with the orthogonal flight and with three pin mates following defence 1…Kg5, in spite of only 11 pieces on the board.

854 - Ruslan Surkov
64 1998

#2   (11+4) C+

855 - C.G.S. Narayanan
5th Prize The Problemist 2000-I
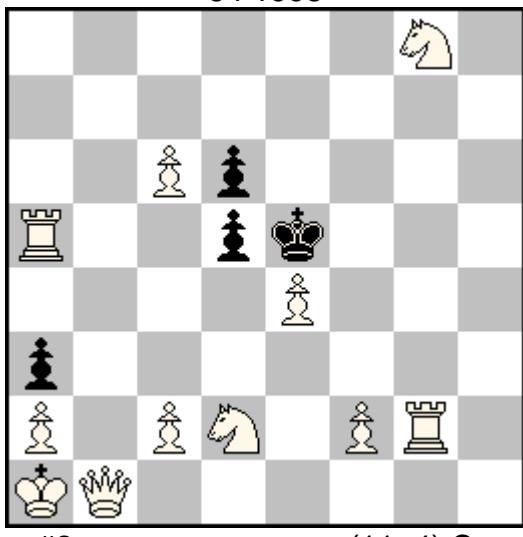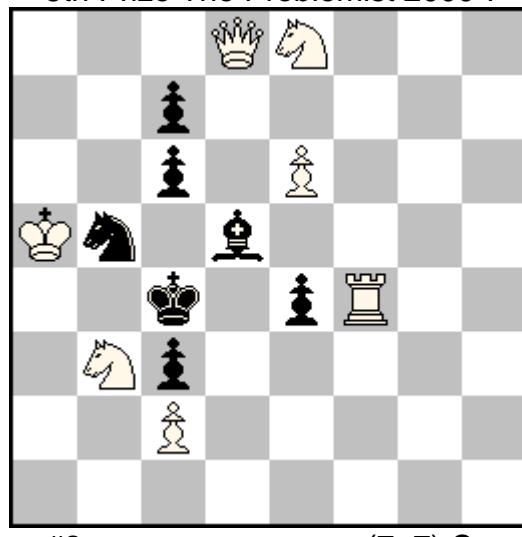
#2   (7+7) C+

1.Qh1? zz
1…Kd4 2.Qh8#
1…Kf4 2.Qh2#
1…Ke6!

1.Qb7? zz
1…Kd4 2.Qg7#
1…Ke6 2.Qe7#
1…Kf4!

1.Qb8? zz
1…Kf4 2.Q×d6#
1…Ke6 2.Qe8#
1…Kd4!

1.Qb3! zz
1…Kd4 2.R×d5#
1…Kf4 2.Qg3#
1…Ke6 2.Q×d5#

1.Sf6? zz
1…B×e6 2.Qd3#
1…c5 2.Q×d5#
1…S~!

1.Qb8? zz
1…c5 2.Q×b5#
1…S~ 2.Qb4#
1…B×e6!

1.Qf6? zz
1…B×e6 2.Q×e6#
1…S~ 2.Qd4#
1…c5!

1.Q×c7! zz
1…B×e6 2.Q×c6#
1…c5 2.Q×c5#
1…S~ 2.Sd6#

854 utilized 3 flights in the Y formation and consequently perhaps the simplest strategy of all examples.

A random bS move is one of the thematical defences in **855**, yielding (for some people) controversial (multiple?) refutation 1.Sf6? S~!

**856 - Michail A. Pavlov**
Schach-Aktiv 2000

#2   (8+7) C+

857 - John M. Rice
3rd Honourable Mention
Schach-Aktiv 2001
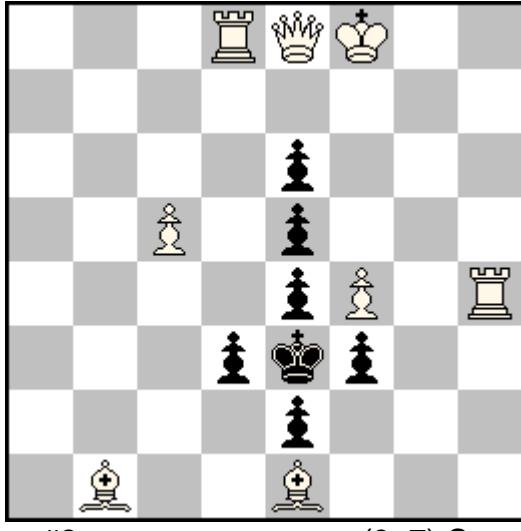
#2   (8+9) C+

1.f×e5? zz
1…d2 2.R×e4#
1…f2!

1.Qf7? zz
1…f2 2.Rh3#
1…e×f4 2.Q×f4#
1…d2!

1.Qg6? zz
1…d2 2.Q×e4#
1…f2 2.Qg3#
1…e×f4!

1.Qd7? zz
1…d2 2.Q×d2#
1…e×f4 2.Qd4#
1…f2!

1.Q×e6! zz
1…d2 2.Qb3#
1…f2 2.Qh3#
1…e×f4 2.R×d3#

856 is very similar to **848**.
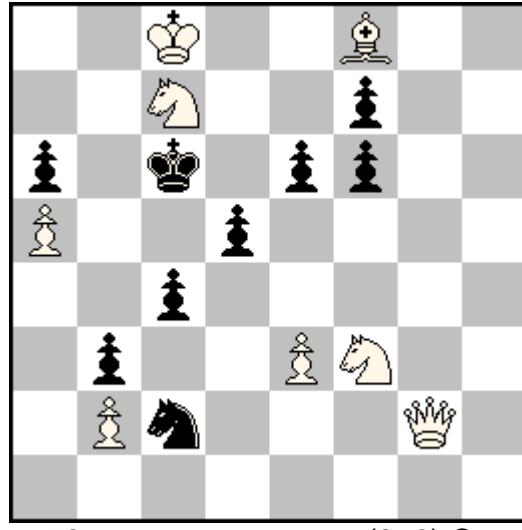
1.Qd2? zz
1…e5 2.Q×d5#
1…c3 2.Q×c3#
1…d4!

1.Qe2? zz
1…d4 2.Q×c4#
1…c3 2.Q×a6#
1…e5!

1.Qg5? zz
1…e5 2.Q×f6#
1…d4 2.Qc5#
1…c3!

1.Qg4! zz
1…c3 2.Qa4#
1…d4 2.Qe4#
1…e5 2.Qd7#
1…f5 2.Se5#
1…S~ 2.S(×)d4#

The initial position shows a lot of symmetry and the first moves by queen add to this impression. Yet the checkmates are partially negating this effect thanks to the direction of pawns.

858 - C.G.S. Narayanan
1st-2nd Special Prize FRME TT 2019

#2   (8+4) C+
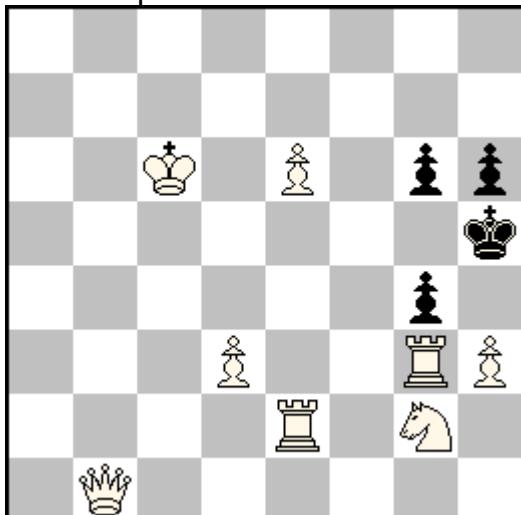
1.d4? zz
1…g5 2.h×g4#
1…g×h3 2.Q×g6#
1…Kg5!

1.Qb8? zz
1…Kg5 2.Qe5#
1…g5 2.Qe8#
1…g×h3!

1.Rf2? zz
1…Kg5 2.Qb5#
1…g×h3 2.Qd1#
1…g5!

1.Qf1! zz
1…Kg5 2.Re5#
1…g5 2.Qf7#
1…g×h3 2.Qf3#

858 is a meredith with three different pieces making the first moves, with some elements of **853**, but of course not anticipation.

Any ideas for other renderings?

Research of diagrams: Narayan Shankar Ram
Text: Juraj Lörinc

Thematische Duale

In einem Zweizüger versucht man gewöhnlich Duale zu vermeiden. Thomas Rayner Dawson erkannte, dass Duale auch schön sein können. Er veröffentlichte den ersten Mattzweizüger mit thematischen Dualen 1942 im British Chess Magazine und stellte weitere solche Zweizüger in einem Artikel vor, der 1947 im British Chess Magazine erschien. Einige Mattzweizüger mit thematischen Dualen wurden auch in das FIDE-Album aufgenommen. Im Folgenden stelle ich 18 Pattzweizüger mit thematischen Dualen vor.

In a twomover one usually tries to avoid duals. Thomas Rayner Dawson realized that duals can also be nice. He published the first twomover with thematic duals in the British Chess Magazine in 1942 and included other such twomovers in an article that appeared in British Chess Magazine in 1947. Some checkmate twomovers with thematic duals were also included in the FIDE Albums. In what follows, 18 stalemate twomovers with thematic duals are presented.

In **859** und **860** gibt es 8 schwarze Züge, auf jeden Zug gibt es 2 Züge von 2 weißen Steinen, wobei diese Steine einen Zyklus bilden.

*In **859** and **860** there are 8 black moves, for each move there are 2 moves of 2 white units so that the units form a cycle.*

859 - Gerhard Maleika
original
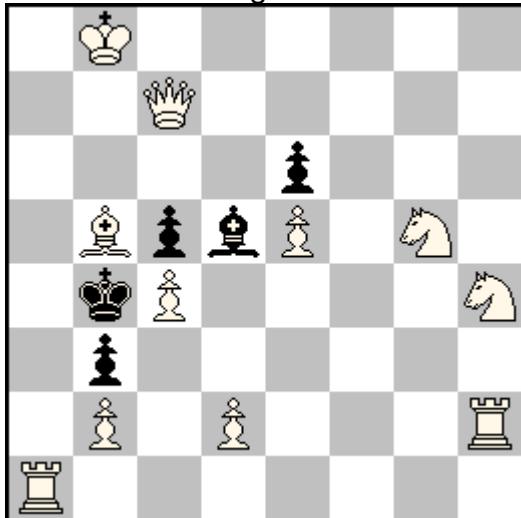
=2   (11+5) C+

1.d3! zz
1…Bh1 2.Ra×h1= **A**
     2.Rh×h1= **B**
1…Bg2 2.R×g2= **B**
     2.S×g2= **C**
1…Bf3 2.Sh×f3= **C**
     2.Sg×f3= **D**
1…Be4 2.S×e4= **D**
     2.d×e4= **E**
1…B×c4 2.d×c4= **E**
   2.B×c4= **F**
1…Bc6 2.B×c6= **F**
     2.Q×c6= **G**
1…Bb7 2.Q×b7= **G**
     2.K×b7= **H**
1…Ba8 2.K×a8= **H**
     2.R×a8= **A**

860 - Gerhard Maleika
original
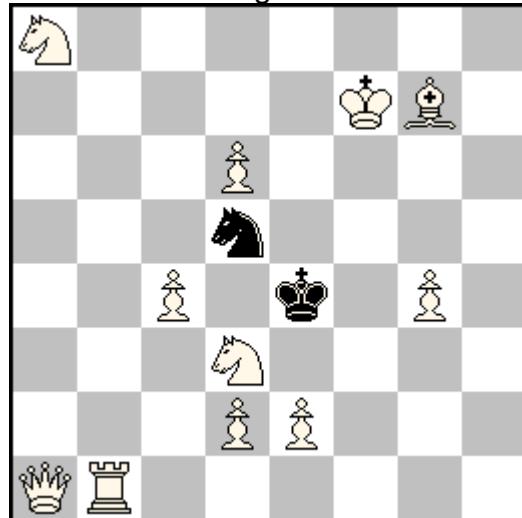
=2   (11+2) C+

1.Bh6! zz
1…Sc3 2.Q×c3= **A**
     2.d×c3= **B**
1…Se3 2.d×e3= **B**
     2.B×e3= **C**
1…Sf4 2.B×f4= **C**
     2.S×f4= **D**
1…Sb4 2.S×b4= **D**
     2.R×b4= **E**
1…Sb6 2.R×b6= **E**
     2.S×b6= **F**
1…Sc7 2.S×c7= **F**
     2.d×c7= **G**
1…Se7 2.d×e7= **G**
     2.K×e7= **H**
1…Sf6 2.K×f6= **H**
     2.Q×f6= **A**

In **861** und **862** gibt es 7 schwarze Züge; auf 1 Zug gibt es 3 Züge von 3 weißen Steinen; auf 3 Züge gibt es jeweils 2 Züge dieser weißen Steine, wobei jede Steinkombination vorkommt; auf 3 Züge gibt es jeweils 1 Zug dieser weißen Steine.

*In **861** and **862** there are 7 black moves; one of them is followed by 3 moves of 3*

### 861 - Gerhard Maleika
original

=2   (5+3) C+

1.Rg1! zz
1…Bg2 2.Rg×g2= **A**
    2.Rh×g2= **B**
    2.Q×g2= **C**
1…Bh1 2.Rg×h1= **A**
    2.Rh×h1= **B**
1…Bg4 2.R×g4= **A**
    2.Q×g4= **C**
1…Bh5 2.R×h5= **B**
    2.Q×h5= **C**
1…Bd1 2.R×d1= **A**
1…Be2 2.R×e2= **B**
1…B×e4 2.Q×e4= **C**

### 862 - Gerhard Maleika
original
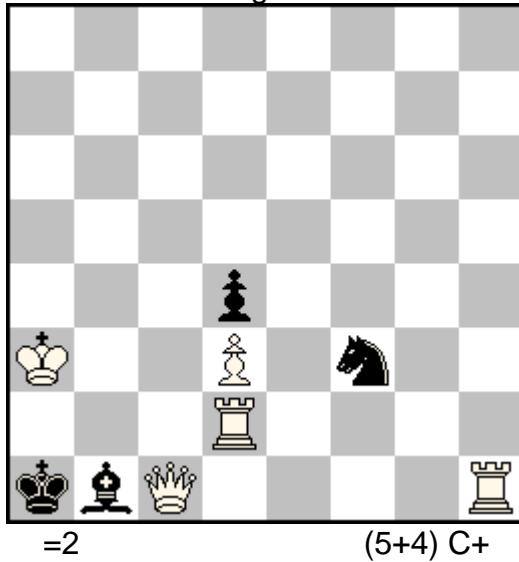
=2   (5+4) C+

1.Re2! zz
1…Se1 2.Rh×e1= **A**
    2.Re×e1= **B**
    2.Q×e1= **C**
1…Sh2 2.Rh×h2= **A**
    2.Re×h2= **B**
1…Sg1 2.R×g1= **A**
    2.Q×g1= **C**
1…Sd2 2.R×d2= **B**
    2.Q×d2= **C**
1…Sh4 2.R×h4= **A**
1…Se5 2.R×e5= **B**
1…Sg5 2.Q×g5= **C**

In **863** bis **871** gibt es 6 schwarze Züge, auf jeden Zug gibt es 2 Züge von 4 weißen Steinen, wobei jede Steinkombination vorkommt.

In **863**–**871** there are 6 black moves, each of them followed by 2 moves of 4 white units, with each combination occurring.

863 - Gerhard Maleika
original
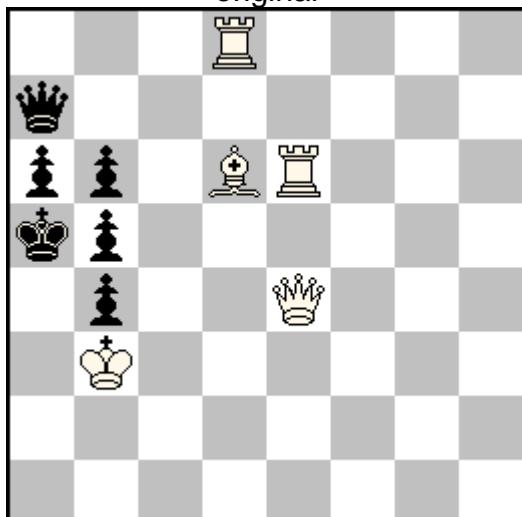
=2   (5+6) C+

1.Re7! [2.R×a7=]
1…Qb7 2.R×b7= **A**
       2.Q×b7= **B**
1…Qc7 2.R×c7= **A**
       2.B×c7= **C**
1…Qd7 2.Re×d7= **A**
       2.Rd×d7= **D**
1…Q×e7 2.Q×e7= **B**
   2.B×e7= **C**
1…Qa8 2.Q×a8= **B**
       2.R×a8= **D**
1…Qb8 2.B×b8= **C**
       2.R×b8= **D**

864 - Gerhard Maleika
original
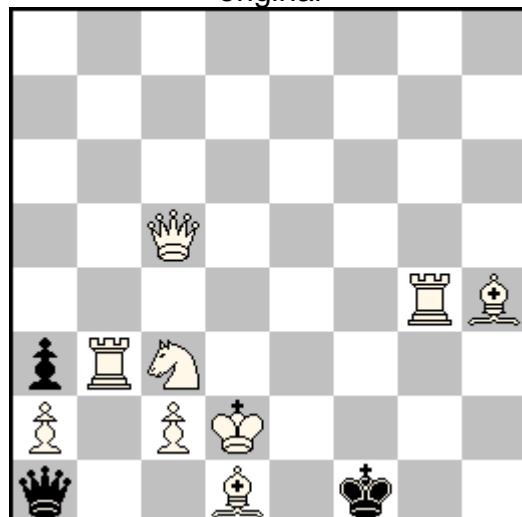
=2   (9+3) C+

1.Q×a3! zz
1…Qb1 2.S×b1= **A**
       2.R×b1= **B**
1…Q×d1+ 2.S×d1= **A**
       2.K×d1= **C**
1…Q×a2 2.S×a2= **A**
       2.Q×a2= **D**
1…Q×c3+ 2.R×c3= **B**
   2.K×c3= **C**
1…Qb2 2.R×b2= **B**
       2.Q×b2= **D**
1…Qc1+ 2.K×c1= **C**
       2.Q×c1= **D**

865 - Gerhard Maleika
original
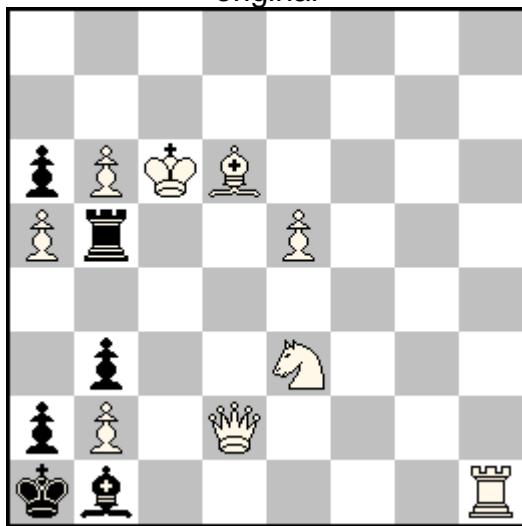
=2   (9+6) C+

1.Sc4! zz
1…Rb4 2.B×b4= **A**
    2.Q×b4= **B**
1…Rc5+ 2.B×c5= **A**
    2.K×c5= **C**
1…R×e5 2.B×e5= **A**
    2.S×e5= **D**
1…Rd5 2.Q×d5= **B**
    2.K×d5= **C**
1…R×a5 2.Q×a5= **B**
    2.S×a5= **D**
1…R×b6+ 2.K×b6= **C**
    2.S×b6= **D**

866 - Gerhard Maleika
original
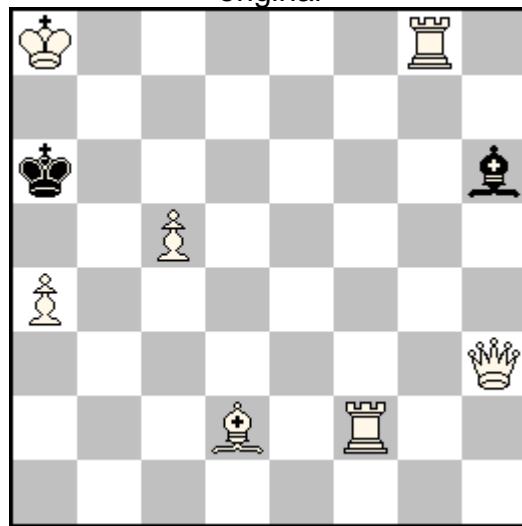
=2   (7+2) C+

1.Qc3! [2.B×h6=]
1…Bf4 2.B×f4= **A**
    2.R×f4= **B**
1…Be3 2.B×e3= **A**
    2.Q×e3= **C**
1…Bg5 2.B×g5= **A**
    2.R×g5= **D**
1…B×d2 2.R×d2= **B**
    2.Q×d2= **C**
1…Bf8 2.Rf×f8= **B**
    2.Rg×f8= **D**
1…Bg7 2.Q×g7= **C**
    2.R×g7= **D**

867 - Gerhard Maleika
original
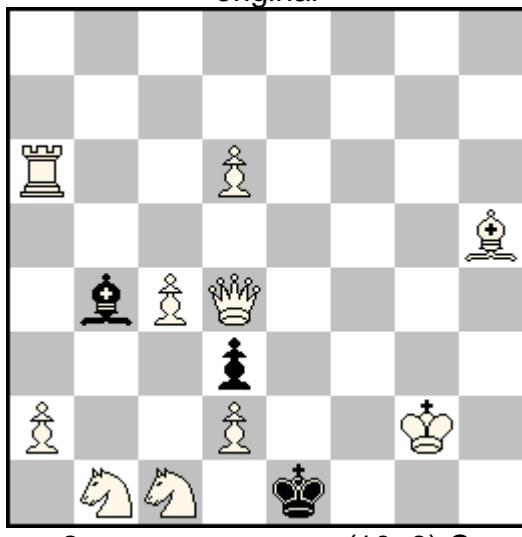
=2   (10+3) C+

1.Sb3! zz
1…B×d2 2.S1×d2= **A**
     2.S3×d2= **B**
1…Ba3 2.S×a3= **A**
     2.R×a3= **C**
1…Bc3 2.S×c3= **A**
     2.Q×c3= **D**
1…Ba5 2.S×a5= **B**
     2.R×a5= **C**
1…Bc5 2.S×c5= **B**
     2.Q×c5= **D**
1…B×d6 2.R×d6= **C**
     2.Q×d6= **D**

868 - Gerhard Maleika
original
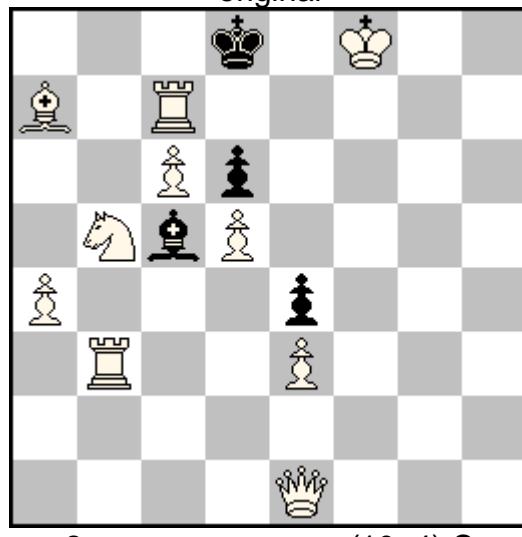
=2   (10+4) C+

1.Qa5! zz
1…Ba3 2.S×a3= **A**
     2.R×a3= **B**
1…Bd4 2.S×d4= **A**
     2.B×d4= **C**
1…B×a7 2.S×a7= **A**
     2.Q×a7= **D**
1…B×e3 2.R×e3= **B**
     2.B×e3= **C**
1…Bb4 2.R×b4= **B**
   2.Q×b4= **D**
1…Bb6 2.B×b6= **C**
     2.Q×b6= **D**

869 - Gerhard Maleika
original
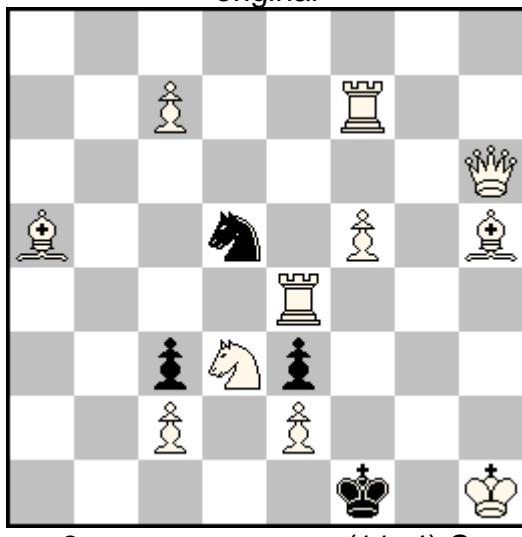
=2   (11+4) C+

1.Bf3! zz
1…Sb4 2.B×b4= **A**
     2.R×b4= **B**
1…Sb6 2.B×b6= **A**
     2.Q×b6= **C**
1…S×c7 2.B×c7= **A**
     2.R×c7= **D**
1…Sf4 2.R×f4= **B**
   2.Q×f4= **C**
1…Se7 2.Re×e7= **B**
     2.Rf×e7= **D**
1…Sf6 2.Q×f6= **C**
     2.R×f6= **D**

870 - Gerhard Maleika
original
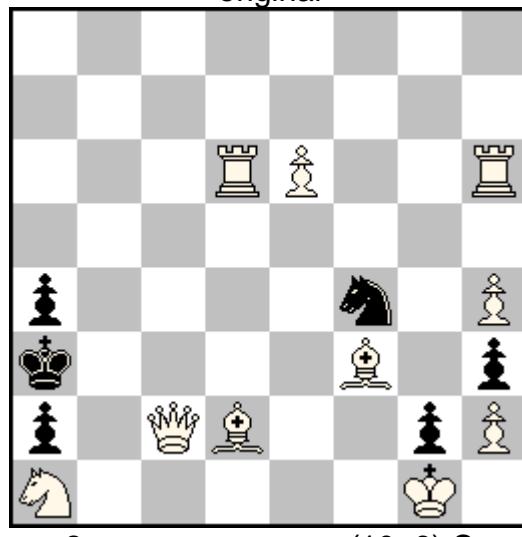
=2   (10+6) C+

1.Bc3! zz
1…Sd5 2.B×d5= **A**
     2.R×d5= **B**
1…Sh5 2.B×h5= **A**
     2.R×h5= **C**
1…Se2+ 2.B×e2= **A**
   2.Q×e2= **D**
1…S×e6 2.Rd×e6= **B**
     2.Rh×e6= **C**
1…Sd3 2.R×d3= **B**
     2.Q×d3= **D**
1…Sg6 2.R×g6= **C**
   2.Q×g6= **D**

871 - Gerhard Maleika
original
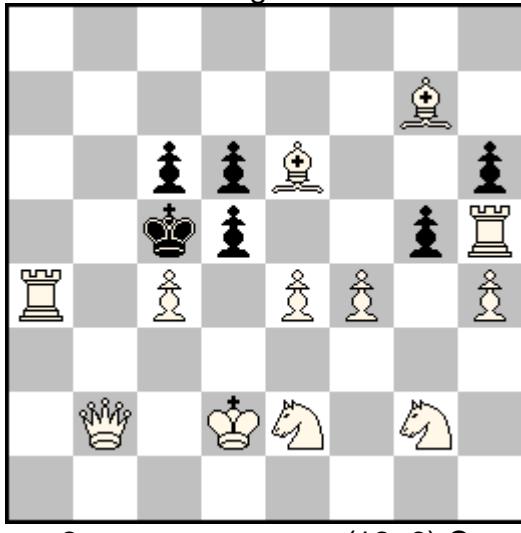
=2   (12+6) C+

872 - Gerhard Maleika
original

=2   (8+3) C+

1.Bf8! zz
1…g×f4 2.Se×f4= **A**
       2.Sg×f4= **B**
1…g4 2.Sg3= **A**
       2.B×g4= **C**
1…d4 2.S×d4= **A**
       2.Kd3= **D**
1…g×h4 2.S×h4= **B**
       2.Bh3= **C**
1…d×e4 2.Se3= **B**
       2.Ke3= **D**
1…d×c4 2.B×c4= **C**
       2.Kc3= **D**

In **872** bis **875** gibt es 5 schwarze Züge; auf 1 Zug gibt es 5 Züge von 5 weißen Steinen; bei jedem folgenden Zug fällt ein weiterer weißer Stein weg und es gibt 4, 3, 2 weiße Züge und 1 weißen Zug.

In **872**–**875** there are 5 black moves; one of them is followed by 5 moves of 5 white units; each subsequent move is answered by one less white piece and so there are 4, 3, 2 and 1 stalemate.
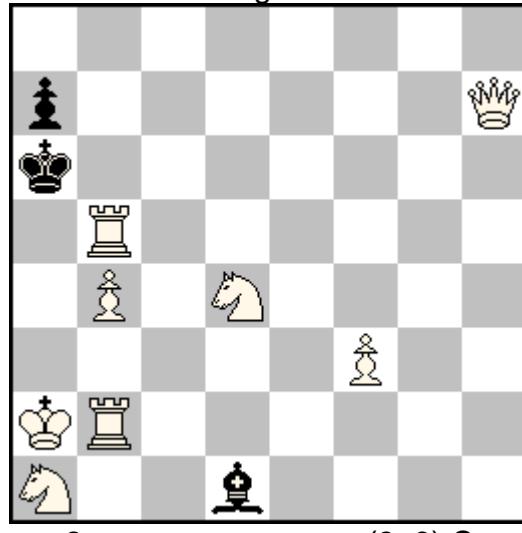
1.Qd3! [2.Q×d1=]
1…Bb3+ 2.K×b3= **A**
       2.Sa×b3= **B**
       2.R×b3= **C**
       2.Sd×b3= **D**
       2.Q×b3= **E**
1…Bc2 2.Sa×c2= **B**
       2.R×c2= **C**
       2.Sd×c2= **D**
       2.Q×c2= **E**
1…Be2 2.R×e2= **C**
       2.S×e2= **D**
       2.Q×e2= **E**
1…B×f3 2.S×f3= **D**
       2.Q×f3= **E**
1…Ba4 2.Qa3= **E**

873 - Gerhard Maleika
original
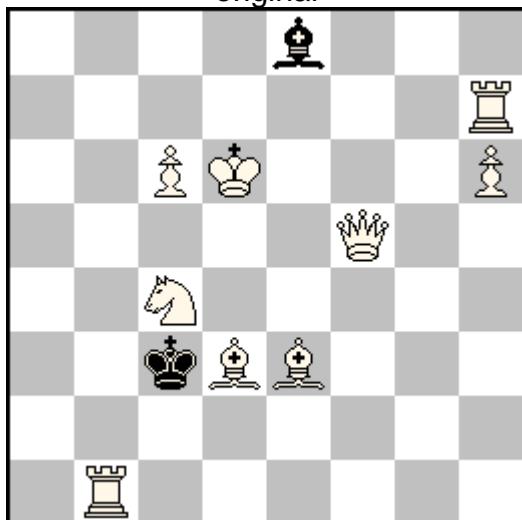
=2   (9+2) C+

1.Se5! zz
1…Bd7 2.c×d7= **A**
         2.K×d7= **B**
         2.R×d7= **C**
         2.S×d7= **D**
         2.Q×d7= **E**
1…B×c6 2.K×c6= **B**
         2.Rc7= **C**
         2.S×c6= **D**
   2.Qc8= **E**
1…Bf7 2.R×f7= **C**
         2.S×f7= **D**
         2.Q×f7= **E**
1…Bg6 2.S×g6= **D**
         2.Q×g6= **E**
1…Bh5 2.Q×h5= **E**

874 - Gerhard Maleika
original
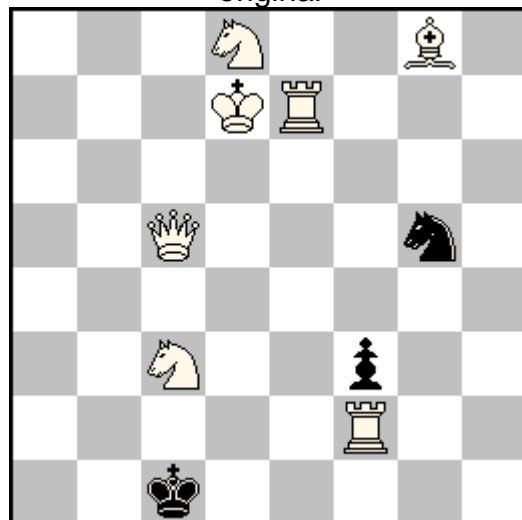
=2   (7+3) C+

1.Qf5! zz
1…Se6 2.K×e6= **A**
         2.S×e6= **B**
         2.B×e6= **C**
         2.R×e6= **D**
         2.Q×e6= **E**
1…Sf7 2.S×f7= **B**
         2.B×f7= **C**
         2.R×f7= **D**
         2.Q×f7= **E**
1…Sh7 2.B×h7= **C**
         2.R×h7= **D**
         2.Q×h7= **E**
1…Se4 2.R×e4= **D**
         2.Q×e4= **E**
1…Sh3 2.Q×h3= **E**

875 - Gerhard Maleika
original

=2   (11+3) C+
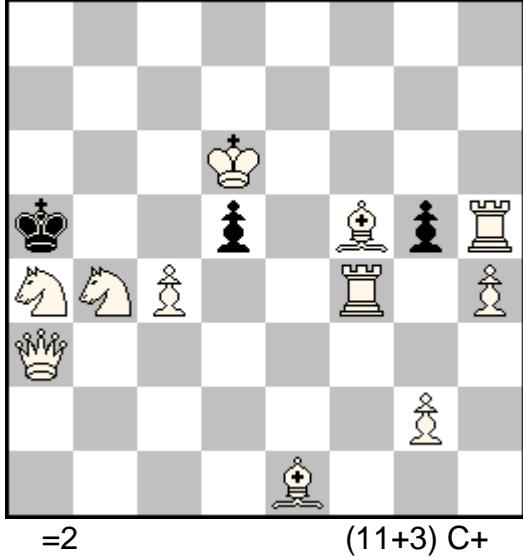
1.Bd7! [2.R×g5=]
1…g4 2.g3= **A**
     2.B×g4= **B**
     2.Bg3= **C**
     2.R×g4= **D**
     2.Qg3= **E**
1…g×h4 2.Bh3= **B**
     2.B×h4= **C**
     2.Rf×h4= **D**
     2.Qh3= **E**
1…d×c4 2.Bc3= **C**
     2.R×c4= **D**
   2.Qc3= **E**
1…d4 2.R×d4= **D**
     2.Qd3= **E**
1…g×f4 2.Qf3= **E**

In **876** gibt es 7 schwarze Züge; auf 1 Zug gibt es 6 Züge von 6 weißen Steinen; bei jedem folgenden Zug fällt ein weiterer weißer Stein weg und es gibt 5, 4, 3, 2 weiße Züge und 1 weißen Zug; bei 1 Zug fallen alle diese weißen Steine weg und es gibt 1 Zug eines 7. weißen Steins.

*In **876** there are 7 black moves; one of them is followed by 6 stalemates by 6 white units; each subsequent white move allows gradually one stalemate less by elimination of one white unit and there are 5, ..., 1 white*

stalemate. The last black move allows single stalemate by a new, the 7th white unit.

876 - Gerhard Maleika
original

=2   (11+3) C+
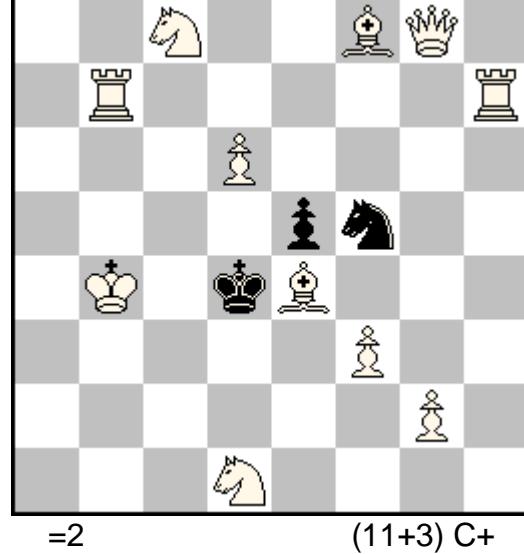
1.Qg5! [2.Q×f5=]
1…Se7 2.d×e7= **A**
     2.S×e7= **B**
     2.Rb×e7= **C**
     2.B×e7= **D**
     2.Rh×e7= **E**
     2.Q×e7= **F**
1…S×d6 2.S×d6= **B**
     2.Rbd7= **C**
     2.B×d6= **D**
     2.Rhd7= **E**
     2.Qd8= **F**
1…Sg7 2.Rb×g7= **C**
     2.B×g7= **D**
     2.Rh×g7= **E**
     2.Q×g7= **F**
1…Sh6 2.B×h6= **D**
     2.R×h6= **E**
     2.Q×h6= **F**
1…Sh4 2.R×h4= **E**
   2.Q×h4= **F**
1…Sg3 2.Q×g3= **F**
1…Se3 2.S×e3= **G**

Gerhard Maleika
(translation Juraj Lörinc)

Zagoblast from the past

The first look above and under the diagram hints the intended theme of **877**: in a direct threemover from 19th century by Bohemian author surely strived for the model mates.

877 - Stanislav Trčala
Zlatá Praha 1897
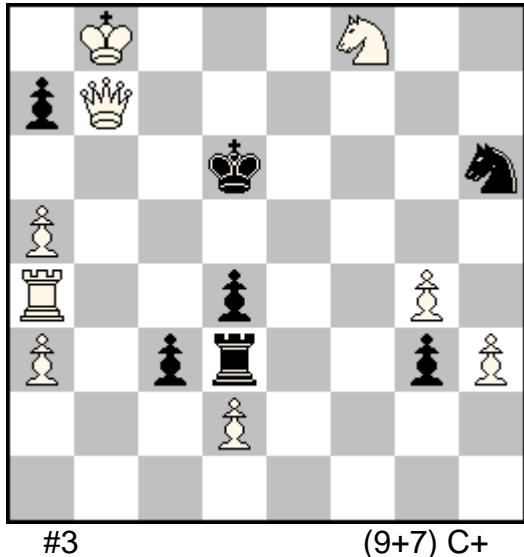
#3   (9+7) C+

1.Rb4! [2.Rb5 [3.Rd5# ,Qc7#, 3.Qd7#]]
1…Re3 2.R×d4+ Kc5 3.Qd5#
    2…Ke5 **3.Qg7# MM**
1…Rf3 2.Qd7+ Kc5 3.Se6#
    2…Ke5 **3.Q×d4# MM**

1…a6 2.Rb6+ Kc5 3.Qc6#
    2…Ke5 **3.Sg6# MM**

Three model mates. But there is more. I think it is safe guess that the checkmates after 2...Kc5 were mere technicalities for the author as they are no models. But just like 2...Ke5 is followed by three different (model) mates, also 2...Kc5 is followed by three different (non-model) mates, yielding quite surprisingly change of 3×2 mates (**Z-32-26**) in variations of a threemover. This theme shown in a problem 125 years ago, when perhaps nobody thought about multiphase changes.

By the way, big WinChloe database includes at least 5 problems older than **877** that also contain change **Z-32-26** either in the form of sub-variations or in the form of multiple phases. I really wonder if at least one of them was composed with this change as conscious aim (this cannot be excluded) or the additional variations/tries were considered/appeared more as technical or even incidental phenomenon...

Juraj Lörinc

Annual tourney Conflictio 2022

All kinds of antagonistic problems will be accepted for Originals column (orthodox and fairy direct, self-, reflex mates and other aims of any length, any fairy elements), the main criteria for publication being antagonistic stipulation and sufficient quality. Possible originals from other articles will be included in the competition as well. The tourney will be **judged by Narayan Shankar Ram (India)**, multiple sections might be created based on the quality and quantity of entries. Please, send the originals to Juraj Lörinc (address below).