

BROODINGS...

N° 35: March 2007

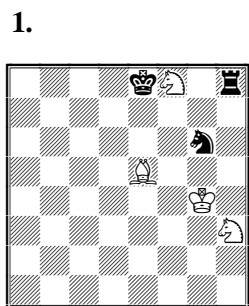
brood: to ponder morbidly or persistently [Collins Dictionary]

C.J.Feather 10 Tinwell Road STAMFORD PE9 2QQ England [cfeather@ukonline.co.uk]

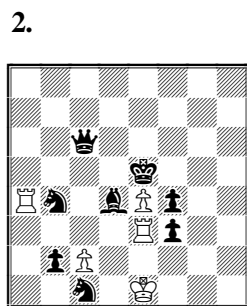
This is being written shortly after my 60th birthday, so first I must express my gratitude for the numerous good wishes and greetings, including some fine dedication problems, from friends near and far (mostly far!). It has all been most encouraging – thank you! My wife, as usual, had the last word, remarking cheerfully “You don’t look a day over 80!”, which was a relief to know.

There is not much variety this time, at least in the orthodox problems. No h#2s, just a few oldfashioned two-phase h#3s and some variations on a time-worn idea. But there may be enough to amuse the solver. Everyone is urged at least to solve **8**, in which the reasons why certain moves fail should (I hope) reveal the logic of the solution.

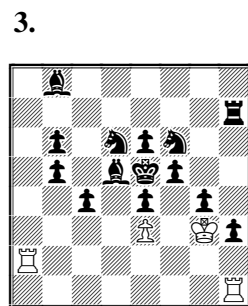
The unorthodox problems are more interesting, with plenty of hopping activity. Readers have met all the fauna before, but they may like to know that the equihoppers in **10** can be of either kind. Incidentally, I have only just realised that in more than half of all these problems White plays first. Make of that what you will! Best wishes to all.



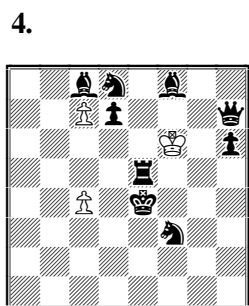
1. h#3 2 solutions



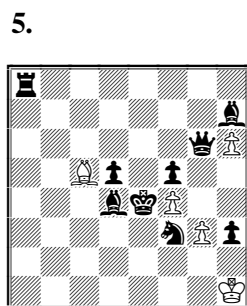
2. h#3 2 solutions



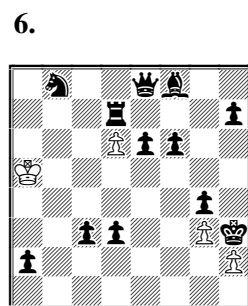
3. h#3 2 solutions



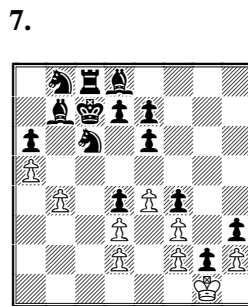
4. h#3½ 2 solutions



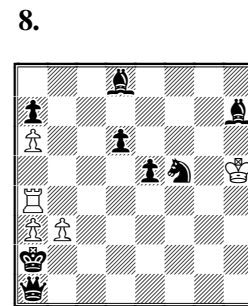
5. h#3½ b) ♘f3>g4



6. h#3½ 3 solutions



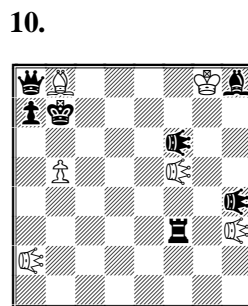
7. h#4 2 solutions



8. h#4½



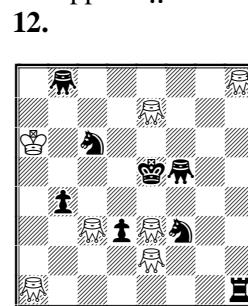
9. h#2 3 sols Kangaroos: ♘♙♚♛♜♝♞♟ Grasshoppers: ♠♡♢♣♤♥♦♧ Locust: ♨



10. h#2½ 2 solutions 5 equihoppers



11. h#2½ 2 solutions 4 grasshoppers



12. h#2½ 2 solutions 8 grasshoppers

SOLUTIONS:

1 1.Kf7 Sxg6 2.Rf8 Sg5 3.Kg8 Se7# & 1.Sxf8 Sg5 2.Sh7 Sf7 3.O-O Sh6# Castling hard/easy! Looks anticipated, but research (helped by friends – thank you!) found nothing. **2** 1.Bc5 Rb3 2.Kd4 Rxb4 3.Kc3 Rc4# & 1.Sd5 Rd3 2.Kxe4 Rxd4 3.Ke3 Re4# **3** 1.Rh4 Rxb3 2.gxh3 Rd2 3.Rf4 exf4# & 1.Ba7 Ra5 2.bxa5 Rd1 3.Bd4 exd4# **4** 1... c5 2.Kd5 cxd8Q 3.Kc6 Qa5 4.Rd5 Qb6# & 1... cxd8Q 2.Kd4 Qe8 3.Kc5 Qd8 4.Kd6 Qb6# Tempo? **5** a) 1... Ba7 (Bb6?) 2.Bg7 hxg7 3.Qa6 g8S 4.Qd3 Sf6# b) 1...Bb6 (Ba7?) 2.Bg8 h7 3.Ra3 h8Q 4.Rf3 Qxd4# Tempo? **6** 1... Ka4 2.Rb7 (Rc/e7?) d7 3.Rb2 dxe8Q 4.Rg2 Qh5#, 1... Kb4 2.Re7 (Rb/c7?) dxe7 3.Qc6 exf8Q 4.Qg2 Qh6# & 1... Kb6 2.Rc7 (Re/b7?) dxc7 3.Bd6 cxb8Q 4.Bxg3 Qxg3# Tempo? **7** 1.Sa7 e5 2.Bxf3 b5 3.Bb7 f3 4.Sac6 b6# & 1.Se5 b5 2.Sxd3 e5 3.Sb4 d3 4.S4c6 b6# Tempo? **8** 1...Kg4? 2.Qh1 ??; 1...R~?; 1... Rh4 2.Qh1 Kg4 (Rh3/Rh2?) 3.Qb7 axb7 4.Kxb3 b8Q 5.Ka4 Qb4# Tempo? **9** 1.Gf6 Lxh5-h6 2.Rg7 Lxf6-e6#, 1.h4 Lxh4-h5 2.Gg7 Lxe5-d5# & 1.Sh2 Lxh2-h3 2.K^g7 Lxc3-b3# The K^g1 cyclically pins two pieces simultaneously on the same line. The rook f7 is guarded by the locust. **10** 1... Kf7 2.Rxh3 (Rxf5?) Be5 3.Eb6 Bd6# & 1... Kh7 2.Rxf5 (Rxh3?) Bd6 3.Eb6 Be5# Zilahi in which the captures forestall checks to the BK. **11** 1... Be2 2.Gh4 (Qg4?) Gxh5 3.Gb5 (Ge8?) Gd2# & 1... Bf1 2.Qg4 (Gh4?) Gg5 3.Rb5 (Rd5?) Ge1# The selfpins on b5 are purely motivated. **12** 1... Ga3 2.Gd5 Gf6 3.Kd4 Gae5# & 1... Ga8 2.Gf4 Ge6 3.Ke4 G2e5# Is this as hard to solve as I think it is?