QUARTZ 42

Nov 2015

V. Crisan & E. Huber 1st Prize, TT9 Quartz



A. Armeni 2nd HM, TT9 Quartz



(2+10) pser-h#4 EinsteinChess AndernachChess 2 solutions

Award of Quartz TT9 (Meinking fairy MT) judge Kjell Widlert

Editor's note: In Quartz 38/2013 was launched **TT9**, which requested **Parry Series of any type**, with fairy pieces or/and additional fairy conditions. This ranking was done very quickly by Kjell, who kindly accepted to be judge after the request of our Director Dinu-Ioan Nicula. As an anecdote, he was the third judge who finally managed to finish the work. Many thanks, Kjell!

The tourney was a companion to the Meinking MT in StrateGems for orthodox Parry Series problems, and required Parry Series problems of any fairy type (fairy pieces and/or conditions). As a reminder: Parry Series problems are like normal series problems, except in that checks may given during the series and must then immediately be parried by a move of the other side, the one that normally does not move during the series. When the series does not end in a h#1 (e.g., in ser-s#), it must also be stipulated whether the parry moves are helping or not.

I received 17 problems in anonymous form. The general level was not quite what I had hoped for: there were no thematically complex entries. I found it difficult to make a choice among several good-but-not-great entries. On the other hand, the fairy forms employed were quite varied, making the judgment an entertaining task.



1st Prize – No 15 - by Vlaicu Crisan & Eric Huber (Romania)

The most strongly thematical problem of the tourney, despite its Wenigsteiner form. There are two long diagonal and orthogonal wK walks, both consisting of 5 parry moves. The diagonal walk seems quite familiar, but the orthogonal walk in part b) seems fresh and forms a wonderful pair with the diagonal walk. AntiCirce makes the mates possible, and also makes the series of checks unique because Black must play so that he can occupy e8 on his last move. It is a pity that Pa7 destroys the purity of the first mate, but something has to be done about the potential duals by Kb6 and Ka7. I would have slightly preferred Ka8>b8 and Pa7>b6, but that is a matter of taste.

a) 1.h2-h1=B 2.Bh1-g2 + Kf1-e2 3.Bg2-f3 + Ke2-d3 4.Bf3-e4 + Kd3-c4 5.Be4-d5 + Kc4-b5 6.Bd5-c6 + Kb5-a6 7.Bc6-e8 Ka6-b7 #

b) 1.h2-h1=S 2.Sh1-g3 + Kf1-f2 3.Sg3-e4 + Kf2-f3 4.Se4-g5 + Kf3-f4 5.Sg5-e6 + Kf4-f5 6.Se6-g7 + Kf5-g6 7.Sg7-e8 Kg6-h7 #

2nd Prize – No 2 - by Paul Rãican (Romania)

Vogtländer Chess is a somewhat odd condition, reminiscent of Proca retros but played forwards: an "orthodox" selfcheck is allowed, and is counted as a check if it can be cancelled by the other side, and as mate if it cannot be cancelled. In combination with AntiCirce Equipollents (a capturing piece is reborn on the square at the same distance on the other side of the captured piece; rebirth is mandatory), this implies that a king may walk into contact with other king is possible if the square right behind the other king is occupied or is outside of the board. Does it sound strange? Imagine the position wKb1-bKc2. If Black produces it by playing Kd₃-c₂, say, it would be an orthodox selfcheck (because White can play Kxc2>d3), so it is a Vogtländer check. If White produces the position by playing Ka1-b1, say, it would be an orthodox check, so it is a Vogtländer selfcheck – which is illegal of course.



This problem uses these kinds of K contact 13 times, most often with a white P (in original or promoted form) as a shield behind, sometimes with the edge of the board as a shield. There are 9 parry moves in all, allowing the wK to reach the h file and the white Ps to advance. In the tricky sequence, I particularly like the way the bK circles Pf7 twice. In the end, there is an unexpected zugzwang mate: only Kg8-f7 (made legal by the previous Sf8-h7, which in turn is made possible by the previous f8S) avoids self-check, and this is a double check from Kg7 and Pg6 that White cannot cancel so he is mated. But the double check isn't really necessary: Pg6 alone suffices to mate White. I see this as a small flaw that will not downgrade the problem.

 $\begin{aligned} 1.\text{Kg6-g7} + \text{f6-f7} & 2.\text{Kg7-f6} + \text{Kd6-e7} + & 3.\text{Kf6-e5} & 4.\text{Ke5-d5} & 5.\text{Kd5-c6} & 6.\text{Kc6-d7} + \text{Ke7-f6} & 7.\text{Kd7-e7} + \text{Kf6-g6} & 8.\text{Ke7-f8} & 9.\text{Kf8-g7} + \text{Kg6-h7} & 10.\text{Kg7-g6} + \text{Kh7-h8} & 11.\text{Kg6-f6} + \text{g5-g6} & 12.\text{Kf6-e7} & 13.\text{Ke7-f8} \\ 14.\text{Kf8-g8} + \textbf{f7-f8} = \textbf{S} & \textbf{!} & 15.\text{Kg8-h7} + \text{Kh8-g7} + & 16.\text{Kh7-g8} & \textbf{\&} & 1.\text{Sf8-h7} & \text{Kg8-f7} & \# \end{aligned}$



3rd Prize – No 16 - by Paul Rãican (Romania)

A very colorful solution. In one-sided (series) proof games, Black is totally passive; here, the parry series gives him opportunities to be active, and T&M gives him (and also White) great mobility when he does act. The content alone is not sensational, with one Ceriani-Frolkin (wPd2 promotes to Q on e8 and is later captured) and a Valladao (promotion + castling + en-passant), plus of course excelsiors by White and Black. The most interesting part is the fact that Se8 is not the original [Sb8] but instead [Pg7] after promotion on d1! And this manoeuvre is connected to the Ceriani-Frolkin in that the reason for the wQ promotion is to make Sd1xe3>e8 possible. I only wish the bS had ended up on b8 instead of e8, in which case we would have had a Pronkin too... The Valladao impresses me less, as the "theme" is a random collection of unrelated elements. 1.Sf3 2.Se5 3.Sxd7-d6+ Kd7 4.Sc4 5.Sb6+ cxb6-d5 6.c4 7.Qc2 8.Qf5+ Kd6 9.Qf6+ gxf6c3 10.d4 11.Bf4+ e5 12.Sd2 13.Se4+ dxe4-d2+ 14.Bxd2-d1 15.Bb3 **16.O-O-O** 17.Rd2 18.dxe5-e4+ **cxd2-d1=S!** 19.e5+ Kc6 20.e6 21.e7 **22.e8=Q+!** Kb6 23.Qe3+ Sxe3-e8 24.e3 25.Be2 26.Rd1 27.Rd6+ Sc6 28.Rxc6-b4+ Ka6 29.c5+ b5 **30.cxb6-b5+ e.p**.

Ceriani-Frolkin Q, Valladao theme.

1st HM – No 17 - by Paul Rãican (Romania)

The "standard model" for successful fairies is to have two (or more) perfectly analogous solutions, with exchange of functions between several pairs of pieces. But there is also the opposite tendency to have "anti-identical" solutions. This is easy to say but hard to do well: in order not to give the impression of one thematical solution plus something unimportant just to have two phases, the two (or more) solutions should be of more or less equal value. And in order not to give the impression of two separate problems placed on the same board, most or all of the material should be used in both solutions. I say all this because this problem is a prime example of a successful anti-identical pair. The solutions have almost nothing in common, except first moves by Sb2. Both have pointed play: we have battery play Re8-e5-e7 and Ba1-d4-a7 in the first solution, leading to a witty stalemate where not only Kb7 and Kb8 are illegal in Vogtländer chess, but also Kxa7>b6 and Kxa7>b8 due to T&M. The second solution has wild play around three corners of the board (avoiding only a8, that was used in the first solution), leading to an even wittier (but simpler) stalemate.



Note that White would really like to play 3. ... Rg2, but so as not to stop the bP from promoting, it has to go to h2 first, which allows Black to check by hxg5>g1B, so that the wR can then go to g2 ... only to return to g2 on the next move!

All the officers are used completely differently on the two solutions. Only the wP's have humbler functions and are only used in one solution each.

Assuming the composer did not in see the possibility of combining these two solutions in a brilliant vision already at the outset of the composition project, one must wonder "which one was the original idea, and which one turned up during the composition process"? That the answer to this question is not immediately obvious, is the hallmark of a good anti-identical problem.

1.Sb2-a4 + Re8-e5 2.Kf6-g5 + Re5-e7 3.Kg5-f4 + Ba1-d4 4.Kf4-f5 + Bg6-h5 5.Kf5-f6 + Bd4-a7 6.Kf6xe7-b7 + Rb4xa4-c5 7.Kb7-a8 Kd6-c7 =

1.Sb2xd3-d4 2.Sd4-e6 + Rb4-b2 3.Kf6xg6-b1 + Rb2-h2 4.Kb1xa1-h8 + Re8xe6-g5 5.h6xg5-g1=B + Rh2-g2 6.Kh8-g7 + Rg2-h2 7.Bg1xh2-h8 Kd6-e5 =



2nd HM – No 6 - by Alberto Armeni (Italy)

Playing Qxe8=w would be premature: the wQ cannot mate, both because the bK has too many flights and because Einstein will turn the wQ into a R as soon as it moves. So what Black has to do seems clear: he must capture e8 after four moves by Qa4, producing a wB (Q>R>B>S>B) which can mate with support by the wK, and must somewhere along the way check the wK to allow Kd6. This is indeed what happens in the solution. But surprisingly, there is a second solution: Black makes one P move, so that e8 is captured after three moves by Qa4, producing a wR (Q>R>B>R) which can also mate with support by the wK. This time, Kd6 is impossible because of the checking bRd7, but Kc6 works nicely for another model mate, and this move is allowed by the initial bP move.

The contrast between the two solutions is quite interesting. I assume the composer deliberately chose a white minimal position, because it would easily be possible to have a more open position by for example replacing Pd3+e4 with a wBb1. That is what I would have done, but I fully respect the choice of the composer.

1.Qb5=R 2.Rb6=B+ Kd6 3.Bc7=S 4.Sxe8=wB Bb5=S #

1.b6 2.Qd7=R+ Kc6 3.Rf7=B 4.Bxe8=wR Rh8=B #

3rd HM – No 3 - by Paul Rãican (Romania)

Echoed stalemates with a black piece pinned by AntiCirce. It is very good that the strong pieces to be pinned do not exist in the diagram position, but are actually produced by black promotion – of which we have three different ones all in all. AntiCirce Calvet is assumed, because with the Cheylan type Black would have 7.Ka1 in the last solution.

1.g2-g1=Q + Rc2-f2 2.Qg1-a1 3.Kb3-b2 4.Kb2-c1 5.Kc1-d1 6.Kd1-e1 Rf2xf3[wRf3->h1] =

1.g2-g1=B + Ke3xe4[wKe4->e1] 2.Bg1-f2 + Rc2xf2[wRf2->a1] 3.f3-f2 + Ke1- d1 4.f2-f1=R + Ra1-a8 5.Rf1-h1 6.Kb3-a2 Kd1-c2 =

Chameleon echo stalemates.

P. Rãican 3rd HM, TT9 Quartz





2nd Com – No 7 - by Adrian Storisteanu (Canada) (motto:Itsy Bitsy Spider)

The weak point of the composition is that only the last part of the play uses the parry condition. If somehow also the first part (Ga2-g8) could be parry-based, the problem would have been placed higher – but I can't imagine how that could be possible.

1.Ga2-c4 2.Gb3-d5 3.Gc4-e6 4.Gd5-f7 5.Ge6-g8 6.Gg8-g2+ Kg4 7.Gg1-g3+ Kg5 8.Gg2-g4+ Kg6 9.Gg3-g5+ Kh7 10.Ge7g7+ Kh8 11.Gg4-g6=

1st Com – No 9 - by Harald Grubert (Germany)

There were several entries where the interest lies only in the final mates (or even double mates), with very few points of interest in the play. This is the one I prefer from that group, with an almost exact chameleon echo after long play. There is a non-trivial difference in that in part a), Black has the possibility 15.DGg8-g6?? which is missing in part b). The solutions have 3+4 parry moves, which is good to see in a tourney like this. I would have liked it if the motif in moves 2-3 and 5-6 of part b), where Black arranges horizontal checks to allow the wK to advance, had been repeated at least once more to form a clear theme.

a) 1.Ke3 2.Kd4 3.Kc5 4.DGd6 5.Kd4 6.DGd5 7.Ke4+ Ke7 8.Kf4 9.Kg5 10.Kg6+ Ke8 11.Kg7 12.DGg8+ DGf6 13.DGh7 14.Kh8 Kf7#

b) 1.DGf4 2.DGf1 3.DGc1+ Kc2 4.Kg3 5.DGg2 6.DGd2+ Kd3 7.Kf2 8.DGe2+ Kd2 9.Kg3+ Ke3 10.Kg2 11.DGe5 12.DGg1 13.DGh2 14.Kh1 Kf2 #



b) $Sh_5 \rightarrow h_7$

3rd Com – No 14 - by Ralf Kratschmer (Germany)

A neat 5-man selfmate ending, echoed with only minor differences (the wS guards or blocks h4, depending on which king is standing on h3). The fairy piece and the PWC condition are both used well. The play is short and sharp, which is good when the idea is in the final selfmate. There is some imbalance in that part a) has 5 parry moves (necessary to get the wK from f1 to h3) and part b) has only 3, but this is a very small flaw. Empress=Rook+Knight

a) 1. EMg2-e3 + Kf1-f2 2. EMe3xe4 [+wRe3] + Kf2-f3 3. EMe4-h4 + Kf3-g3 4. EMh4xh5 [+wSh4] + Kg3-h3 5. EMh5-g3 + Re3xg3 [+bEMe3] 6. EMe3-e2 & 1. Rg3-g1 + EMe2xg1 [+wRe2] #

b) 1. Kh1-h2 2. Kh2-h3 3. EMg2-f4 + Kf1-g1 4. EMf4-g6 + Sh7-g5 + 5. EMg6xg5 [+wSg6]+ Kg1-h1 6. EMg5xe4 [+wRg5] & 1. Rg5-g3 + EMe4xg3 [+wRe4] #

Series help-self with Circe rules

by P. Rãican

In Quartz 41/2015 I begin to publish series-hs with Circe rules as a result of researches on ChessProblems.ca workshop. Part1 - ser-hs+ and Part2 - ser-hs% was already edited. We continue with Part3 - ser-hsZxy N Circe, where Black makes N moves then s#1, the goal being to reach the square xy by Black.

Part3 – ser-hsZ Circe



3.1.B) A. Tungler

(2+1) ser-hsZa1 15 Circe C+

3.1.A) A. Tungler & P. Rãican

(2+1) ser-hsZa8 15 Circe C+ Two versions have been found for 3

15.Ka3-a2 & 1.Rh1-a1 + Ka2*a1 Z Here is no difference between ser-hsZ

3.1.B) 1.Kb8-a7 2.Ka7-b6 ... 8.Kg1*h1[+wBf1] 9.Kh1-g1 ... 15.Kb6-a7 & 1.Kd7-c7 Ka7-a8 z Z

3.2) 1.Kh4-h5 2.Kh5-g6 ... 10.Ke2*e1[+wBc1] 11.Ke1-e2 12.Ke2-d3 13.Kd3-d4 14.Kd4-c5 15.Kc5d6 16.Kd6*e6[+wBf1] 17.Ke6-d5 18.Kd5-d4 19.Kd4-c3 20.Kc3-c2 21.Kc2-d1 22.Kd1-e1 23.Ke1-f2 24.Kf2g1 25.Kg1-h2 & 1.Bc1-e3 Kh2-h1 z

3.3) 1.Kb1 2.Kç1 ... 12.K×é8(Sb1) 13.Kf8 14.Kg8 ... 23.K×b1 24.Kç1 25.Kd1 ... 39.K×ç3(Bç1) 40.Kd4 41.Ké4 42.Kf3 43.Kg4 44.Kh5 & 1.Kf5 Kh4 z

3.4) 1.Ka1-b1 2.Kb1-c1 ... 17.Kb6*b5[+w8b1] 18.Kb5-c5 19.Kc5-d6 ... 32.Kc1*b1 33.Kb1-c1 ... 48.Kc4*c3[+wBc1] 49.Kc3*b4[+wSg1] 50.Kb4-c5 51.Kc5-d6 & 1.c8=Q Kd6-d5 z





(3+1) ser-hsZh1 25 Circe C+ 3.3) P. Rãican



(4+1) ser-hsZh4 44 Circe C+

3.4) P. Rãican



(5+1) ser-hsZd5 51 Circe C+



Circe

Circe

.h1 106 Circe

3.8) 1.Kg5-h6 2.Kh6-h7 ... 19.Kf2*g3[+wSg1] 20.Kg3-f2 ... 39.Kg5*f5[+wPf2] 40.Kf5-g6 ... 57.Ke1*f2 58.Kf2-e1 ... 76.Kf5*e4[+wRh1] 77.Ke4-e3 78.Ke3-f2 79.Kf2-e1 80.Ke1-d1 81.Kd1-c1 ... 93.Kf8-g8 & 1.Rh1-h8 + Kg8*h8[+wRa1] z

3.9) 1.Kç1 2.Kd1 ... 16.K×b6(Ra1) ... 32.Kb2 33.K×a1 34.K×b1(Bf1) 35.Kç1 36.Kd1 37.Ké1 38.K×f1 39.Kg2 40.Kh3 ... 54.K×d4 55.Kd5 56.Kç6 57.Kç7 ... 68.K×g1(Bç1) 69.Kf1 70.Ké1 71.Kd1 72.K×ç1 73.Kd1 74.Ké1 75.Kf1 ... 89.Kd4 90.K×é3(Ra1) 91.Kd4 ... 104.Kg2 & 1.Rh1 K×h1 z

3.10) 1.Kç1 2.Kd1 ... 16.K×b6(Ra1) ... 33.K×a1 34.K×b1(Bf1) 35.Kç1 36.Kd1 37.Ké1 38.K×f1 39.Kg2 ... 54.K×d4 55.Kç4 56.Kb5 57.Kb6 ... 69.K×g1(Bç1) 70.Kf1 71.Ké1 72.Kd1 73.K×ç1 74.Kd1 ...91.Kd4 92.K×é3(Ra1) 93.Kd4 94.K×d5(d2) 95.Kç6 96.Kç7 ... 106.Kg2 & 1.Rh1 K×h1 z

3.11) 1.Ke5-f6 2.Kf6-f7 3.Kf7-g8 4.Kg8-h7 5.Kh7-h6 ... 9.Kh3*h2[+wBc1] 10.Kh2-h3 ... 20.Kc6*b7[+wPb2] 21.Kb7-c6 ... 36.Kd1-c2 37.Kc2-b1 38.Kb1*a2 39.Ka2-b1 40.Kb1-c2 41.Kc2-d1 ... 58.Ka6*a5[+wPa2] 59.Ka5-a6 ... 78.Kb1*a2 79.Ka2-b1 80.Kb1-c2 81.Kc2-d1 ... 99.Ka5*b4[+wRa1] 100.Kb4-b3 101.Kb3-c2 102.Kc2-d1 103.Kd1-e1 ... 117.Kc6*b6[+wSg1] 118.Kb6-b7 119.Kb7-b8 & 1.Ra1-a7 Kb8-c8 z This problem is a length record for a **Rex Solus**.

3.12) 1.Ke5-f6 2.Kf6-f7 3.Kf7-g8 4.Kg8-h7 ... 9.Kh3*h2[+wBc1] 10.Kh2-h3 ... 21.Kc6*b7[+wPb2] 22.Kb7-c6 ... 38.Kd1-c2 39.Kc2-b1 40.Kb1*a2 41.Ka2-b1 ... 61.Ka6*a5[+wPa2] 62.Ka5-a6 63.Ka6-b7 64.Kb7-c6 65.Kc6-d6 66.Kd6-e5 67.Ke5-f6 68.Kf6-f7 69.Kf7-g8 70.Kg8-h7 71.Kh7-h6 72.Kh6-h5 ... 82.Kb1*a2 83.Ka2-b1 84.Kb1-c2 85.Kc2-d1 ... 103.Ka6-a5 104.Ka5*b4[+wRa1] 105.Kb4-b3 106.Kb3-c2 107.Kc2-d1 108.Kd1-e1 ... 121.Ke5-d6 122.Kd6-c6 123.Kc6*b6[+wSg1] 124.Kb6-b7 125.Kb7-b8 & 1.Ra1-a7 Kb8-c8 z

3.13) 1.Ka3 2.Kb2 ... 17.Kd8 18.K×ç8(Bf1) 19.Kd8 ... 30.K×f1 31.Kg1 ... 44.Ka6 45.K×b5 46.Ka6 47.Kb7 48.Kç8 49.Kd8 50.Ké7 51.Kf8 52.Kg8 53.Kh7 54.Kh6 55.Kh5 56.Kh4 57.Kh3 58.Kh2 59.Kg1 60.Kf1 61.Ké1 62.Kd1 63.Kç2 64.K×b3(Sb1) 65.Kç2 ... 82.Ka6 83.Kb5 84.K×ç5(ç2) 85.Kb5 86.Ka6 87.Kb7 88.Kç8 89.Kd8 90.Ké7 91.Kf8 92.Kg8 93.Kh7 94.Kh6 95.Kh5 96.Kh4 97.Kh3 98.Kh2 99.Kg1 100.Kf1 101.Ké1 102.Kd1 103.K×ç2 104.Kd1 105.Ké1 106.Kf1 ... 122.Kç5 123.K×d4(Ra1) 124.Kd3 125.Kç2 126.Kd1 127.Ké1 128.Kf1 129.Kg1 130.Kh2 131.Kh3 132.Kh4 133.Kh5 134.Kh6 135.Kh7 136.Kg8 137.Kf8 138.Ké7 139.Kd8 140.Kç8 141.Kb7 & 1.Sd6+ Ka8 z

3.13) B. Koludrović



3.14) B. Koludrović



3.14) 1.Kh4 2.Kh3 ... 7.Kd1 8.h×g6 9.Ké1 10.Kf1 ... 22.K×ç8(Bf1) 23.Kd8 ... 34.K×f1 35.Kg1 ... 48.Ka6 49.K×b5 50.Ka6 ... 67.Kç2 68.K×b3(Sb1) 69.Kç2 70.Kd1 ... 87.Kb5 88.K×ç5(ç2) 89.Kb5 90.Ka6 91.Kb7 92.Kç8 ... 107.K×ç2 108.Kd1 ... 127.K×d4(Ra1) 128.Kd3 129.Kç2 130.Kd1 131.Ké1 132.Kf1 133.Kg1 134.Kh2 135.Kh3 136.Kh4 137.Kg5 138.Kh6 139.Kh7 140.Kg8 141.Kf8 142.Ké7 143.Kd8 144.Kç8 145.Kb7 & 1.Sd6+ Ka8 z

3.15) BK, AT & PR

3.16) P. Rãican & B. Koludrović

3.17) BK, AT & PR



3.15) 1.Kd4 9.Kh3 11.Rh6 13.Kh5 15.Rg4 21.Kf1xe1[Bc1] 27.Kh5 29.Rh2 31.Kh3 33.Rg4 ... 44.Kb4xb5[Bf1] 55.Kh3 ... 66.Kg1xf1... 85.Kd5xc4[Sb1] ... 107.Kd1xc1 108.Kc1xb1 ... 135.Kc7xb8[Ra1] ... 147.Kh3 149.Rh6 151.Kh5 153.Rg4 156.Kh2 157.Rh3 158.h5 159.h4 & 1.Ke4 f3 z

3.16) 1.Rb4 2.Ra6 6.Ka5 8.Ra2 10.Ka3 12.Rb4 17.Kb7xc7 [+Bc1] ... 33.Kb1xc1 ... 53.Ke4xe3 [+Sg1] ... 77.Kf1xg1 ... 105.Kh6xh7 [+Bf1] ... 132.Ke1xf1 ... 160.Kh7xg8 [+Rh1] 174.Ka3 176.Ra6 178.Ka5 180.Rb4 183.Ka2 184.Ra3 186.a4 & 1.Kd4 c3 z

3.17) 1.Rg4 2.Rh2 3.h5 4.h4 5.h3 6.hxg2 7.Rh6 11.Kh5 13.Rh2 15.Kh3 17.Rg4 27.Kxd3[Sb1] 49.Kxe1[Bc1] 72.Kxb3[Bf1] 94.Kxf1 114.Kxc4 137.Kxc1 138.Kxb1 164.Kxa7[Ra1] 175.Kh3 177.Rh6 179.Kh5 181.Rg4 184.Kh2 185.Rh3 187.h4 &1.Ke4 f3 z

3.18) 1.Rb4 2.Ra2 --6.axb2 7.Ra6--27.Kxg3[Bc1] 48.Kxc1 --68.Kxe3[Sg1]--92.Kxg1--120.Kxh7[Bf1]---147.Kxf1--176.Kxf7[Rh1] 191.Ka3 193.Ra6 195.Ka5 197.Rb4 200.Ka2 201.Ra3 203.a4 & 1.Sd5 cxd5[Sb1] Z 3.19) 1.Rb4 2.Rxa5 [Pa2] 3.Rxa2 --7.axb2 8.Ra6--28.Kxg3[Bc1] 49.Kxc1 --69.Kxe3[Sg1]--93.Kxg1--121.Kxh7[Bf1]---148.Kxf1--177.Kxf7[Rh1] 192.Ka3 194.Ra6 196 .Ka5 198.Rb4 201.Ka2 202.Ra3 204.a4 & 1.Sd5 cxd5[Sb1] Z 3.20) 1.Kxb1 [Bf1] 2.Rb4 3.Ra2 7.axb2 8.Ra6 12.Ka5 14.Ra2 16.Ka3 18.Rb4 ...29.Kxg3 [Bc1] ...51.Kxc1 ...72.Kxe3 [Sg1] ...96.Kxf1 97.Kxg1 ...124.Kxg5 [Bc1] ...147.Kxc1 ...167.Kxf4 [Sg1] ...171.Kxh8[Sg1] ...199.Kxg1 ...228.Kxf7 [Rh1] ...242.Ka3 244.Ra6 246.Ka5 248.Rb4 251.Ka2 252.Ra3 254.a4 & 1.Rc2 bxc2+ z Length record with promoted force.

Originals Fairies & retros



850) P. Rãican RO 久皇曾曾皇久置 1 8 1 1 1 1 1 1 P 8 888 8 8 شْنَا ڤ PG 10.5 (13+15)Sentinels

851) C. Pãcurar CAN



The Editorial Board of Quartz announces the suspension of **Originals** section.

We hope that all of ours readers enjoyed this section and her tournaments, which lasted unbroken since 1996.

We wish to express our gratitude to our collaborators and judges. Quartz continues his adventure with articles and TTs on fairy and retro fields.

RO 8 1 9 1 1 1 1 當 -7 & #1 Proca (1+7)Retractor

Assassin Circe

853) V. Crisan

Solutions Quartz 42/2015

849 (Rãican):

a) **1.Kh5xg6-g1** 2.Kg1xf1-h3 3.Kh3xh4-e7 4.Ke7xd6-b5 **or** b) **1.Kh5xh4-e7** 2.Ke7xd6-f7 3.Kf7xg6-g1 4.Kg1xf1-b5, then 5.Kb5xb4-b3 6.Kb3xb2-c4 7.b1-b2 8.b2-b4 9.b4-b5 10.b5-b6 11.b6-b7 12.b7xa8-g8=Q 13.Qg8-g6 14.f3-f4 #

850 (Rãican):

1.e3 a6 2.Bxa6 Ra7 3.Bxb7 Rxa2(pa7) 4.Ba6(pb7) Rxb2(pa2) 5.Rxa2 Rxc2(pb2) 6.Rxb2(pa2) Rxd2(pc2) 7.Rxc2(pb2) Rxf2(pd2)+ 8.Rxd2(pc2) Rxd2(pf2)+ 9.Kxd2 fxg1=R 10.Kc3(pd2) Re1 11.Bf1.

This is a reconstruction of V, a PG with Sentinels published in "Echecs Sentinelles" - Quartz 38/2013. The problem V is demolished by: 1.e3 a6 2.Bxa6 Ra7 3.Bxb7 Rxa2(pa7) **4.Sf3!** Ra4(pa2) 5.Rxa2 Rg4(pa4) 6.Rxa4(pa2) Rg6(pg4) 7.Ra6 Rxa6 8.Rg1 gxf3 9.Rh1 fxg2 10.Bxa6(pb7).

851 (Pãcurar):

a) 1.Qd3xPb2(+wPd2,-bQd2) 2.Qe2xPd3(+wPd2,-wBd2) 3.Qe8-e2 & 1.Bd2-g5# (Pf7 is pinned!) b) 1.Rd3xPd2(+wPd2,-bRd2) 2.Re3xPd3(+wPd2,-wQd2) 3.Re4-e3 & 1.Qd2-b4# c) 1.Bd5-f3 2.Sf3xPd2(+wPd2,-bSd2) 3.Be6xPd5(+wPd2,-wQd2) & 1.Qd2-h6#

852 (Crisan):

1.c3 g6 2.Qb3 Bg7 3.Qxb7(a3) Bxc3(g7) 4.Qxc8(Bf8) axb2(b7) 5.Qxd8(Qc2)+ Kxd8(Qd1) 6.dxc3(Bc8) Qb3 7.axb3(Qe8). **Interchange Bc8-Bf8 & Qd8-Kd8**.

This problem has a long history. A first version (768) was published in Quartz 35/2010: intention 1.c3 g6 2.Qb3 Bg7 3.Qxb7(a3) Bxc3(g7) 4.Qxc8(Bf8) Bxb2(b7) 5.Qxd8(Qc2)+ Kxd8(Qd1) 6.Bxb2(Bc8) axb2(Bc1) 7.Qxc2(Qe8) and cook 1.c3 g6 2.Qb3 **b5!** 3.Qc4 b4 4.Qxc7(bPc2) bxc3(wPc6) 5.Qxd8(bQb7)+ Kxd8(wQd1) 6.Qxc2(bPc7) cxb2 (wPg7) 7.cxb7(bQe8). The second version (832) was published in Quartz 39/2014, intention 1.c3 g6 2.Qb3 Bg7 3.Qxb7[+bPa3] Bxc3[+wPg7] 4.Qxc8[+bBf8] axb2[+wPb7] 5.Qxd8[+bQc2]+ Kxd8[+wQd1] 6.Sxc3[+bBc8] Qxc3 7.dxc3[+bQe8] and cook **1.Sa3** b5 2.S×b5(a3) a×b2(e6) $3.S \times c7(g6) + Q \times c7 4.c3 Q \times c3(f6) 5.e \times f7(c7) + Kd8 6.f \times g7(e8) e \times f7(b7) 7.d \times c3(Qe8).$

853 (Crisan): 1.Kg2xh3(h7, -bBh7) h4-h3+

- 2.Kh1xpg2(g7, -bPg7) g3-g2+
- 3.Rg6xg7(g7, -wRg7) Bg8-h7+
- 4.Re6-g6 Bh7-g8+
- 5.Re4-e6 Bg8-h7+
- 6.Ra4-e4 b6-b5+
- 7.Ra5xpa4(pa7, -bSa7) & 1.Rxa7(Sb8)#

MT Sergiu THAN

The initiative group Christian THAU, the son of **Sergiu THAN* (1909-1974)**, Valeriu PETROVICI, the Central Committee for chess composition of the Romanian Chess Federation, Dinu-Ioan NICULA, international arbiter for chess composition and Marian STERE (Director of the tournament), the founder of the website www.stere.ro – Istoria Şahului Românesc), announces the launching of

The formal thematic tournament for helpmates in 2 moves (h#2) entitled *Memorial Tournament Sergiu THAN* – *ŞAH-MAT 80*, in the memory of **Sergiu THAN**, well-known Romanian editor and composer, and in the same time anniversary for the **80 years since ŞAH-MAT was issued**, the first newspaper entirely dedicated to chess, ever published in Romania.

The requirement is the **theme THAN** (issued in 1974) where is asked that in a classical (non-fairy) **helpmate in 2 moves**, to exist in **twin a)** also an **illusory solution** (try), whose rejection is based on an apparently legal move, but in fact illegal/irregular. No matter of the reason of illegality, such as: castling, promotion, enpassant, turn to move, retro-stalemate, number of captures, the rule of 50 moves or of repeating the moves and so on. Paradoxically, in the other twin the try becomes real, legal and unique. See the examples below.

Unlimited compositions, until March 15, 2016, by e-mail at the address **marian_stere@yahoo.com** or **contact@stere.ro** or by snail mail, on the address Federatia Romana de Sah, str. Vasile Conta no. 16, București – 020954, sector 2, Romania, with the mention *Memorial Tournament Sergiu THAN – ŞAH-MAT 80*.

All the entries will be posted, in order of receipt, on the site www.stere.ro in *Memorial Tournament Sergiu THAN* – *ŞAH-MAT 80* section, which will be soon initiated.

The prize fund is **500 Euro** and is provided by **Mr. Christian Thau**, the son of the celebrated master.

The judge is the international arbiter Zoran Gavrilovski (FYROM).

The intermediate report will be communicated on the website www.stere.ro within 90 days since the completion of the contest, and after a period of another 30 days for solving the claims, the definitive report will be published. Please reprint.

*) In the sixties, a bureaucratic error in the transcription of the identity document turned the former journalist and problemist Sergiu THAU into Sergiu THAN, the name by which he continued to work in both the literary and the problem field.



II) Luis Alberto Garaza Europe Echecs 67/68, 1964



I) a) 1.R2d4 Sxe3 2.Rde4 Rh3# Try: 1.a3 **0-0+?** 2.Ke2 Sxf4# b) 1.a3 0-0+ 2.Ke2 Sxf4#

II) a) 1.Rf8 Se6 2.Rf7 S5xc7# Try: **1.0-0?** Sxf6+ 2.Kh8 Sg6# b) 1.0-0 Sxf6+ 2.Kh8 Sg6#

Here, the try in a) 1.0-0? is illegal because White and Black made an even number of moves (with Ke8/Rh8 still motionless) so White is to move.