

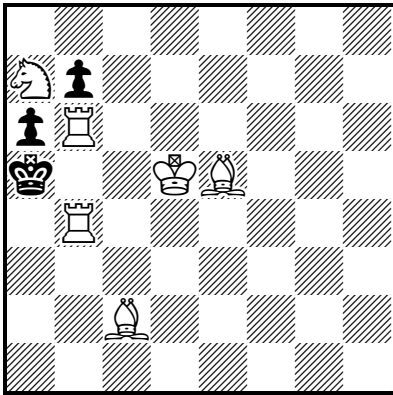
# Facebook: Chess Endgame Studies and Compositions Solving Ladder

## Leg 2, Round 5, September/October, 2022

### Solutions, Comments and Results

#### 1) Donald G McIntyre

*Cape Times*, 1906



**1. ♖b5! (5)**

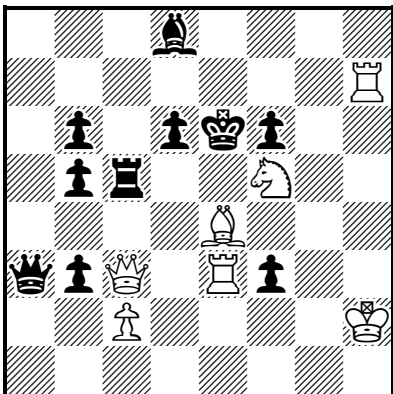
1... ♖×b4	2. ♗c3#
1... ♖×b6	2. ♗c7#
1... a×b5	2. ♖4×b5#

Mate in 2

“A flight-giving key is essential to avoid stalemate – so what better than giving two flights?” (David Whisstock) “Interesting but a little obvious, it is the only white sacrifice that doesn’t check.” (Hugh Gilbert) “One can guess the key immediately, but it is still hard to resist such old-style fun.” (Matthew Reisz) “Simple but elegant with an excellent key and mates after R captures.” (Chris Blanden) “Simply need to give Black a move, and R6~ doesn’t work.” (Tim Sheldon) “White sacrifices half of his pieces with the key move. Three pure mates result.” (Rhodes Peele) “Simple to solve of course, but an elegant problem. Black is put in zugzwang with a choice of three alternative captures. Each leads to a different pure mate. (Chris Shephard) This problem is actually anticipated by Johannes van Dijk, *Haagsche Courant*, 1899, but by setting the bK on the edge of the board, McIntyre has saved four white pawns. Donald Glenoe McIntyre (1889-1966) was a South African chess composer, who, in 1957, published a charming little book titled *Some Problems for my Friends*, from which this problem is taken.

#### 2) Frederick Gamage (v. Mike Prcic)

*Frederick Gamage (Prcic)*, 2004



**1. ♖d2! (2. ♖×d6#) (5)**

1... ♖e5	2. ♖×d6#
1... ♖d~	2. ♖(x)d5#
1... ♖e5	2. ♗d4#
1... ♖f5	2. ♗d5#
1... ♖c2	2. ♗xc2#
1... ♗c7, ♗e7	2. ♖(x)e7#
1... d5	2. ♗d3#

#2

“After try 1.Qd3?, R check becomes apparent, hence the key.” (David Whisstock) “A slightly thin problem, but White’s careful first move ensures he gets as much as possible from the Rook and Bishop battery.” (Matthew Reisz) “Tries 1.Qd4? 1...Re5! and 1.Qd3? 1...Rxc2+! A few surprising mates after eg 1...d5 and 1...Re5.” (Chris Blanden) “The puzzle is misleading, the tries 1.Qd3? 1...Rxc2+! and 1.Qd4? 1...Re5 are natural moves whose refutations are not obvious.” (Colin Thiodet) “The black rook has three correction defences that defeat both primary and secondary threat, but create a weakness so that a third mate becomes effective.” (Rhodes Peele) The original version of this problem (published in *Western Daily Mercury* in 1903) had an unprovided flight at e5. Mike Prcic suggested this version, with flight-giving key, in his book on the American composer Frederick Gamage (1882-1956) in 2004.

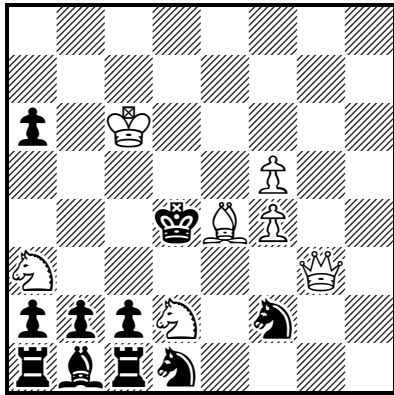
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#### 3) Julius Buchwald

*Midweek Sports Referee*, 1927



1...♖c3	2.♜xf2#
1...♗e3	2.♜g7#
1...♘f~	2.♜(x)d3#
1...♙xe4	2.♞b3#
1...a5	2.♞b5#

**1.♜b3!** (5)

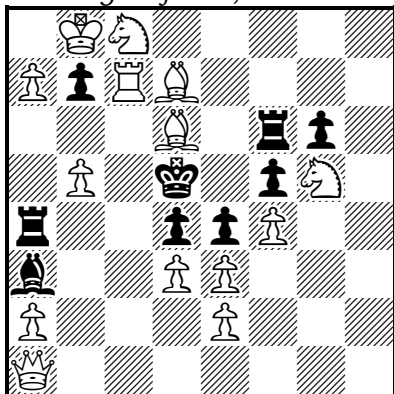
1...♖c3	2.♜b6#
1...♗e3	2.♜xb2#
1...♘f~	2.♜(x)d3#
1...♙xe4	2.♞f3#
1...a5	2.♞b5#

Mate in 2

“Obvious key, but nice diagonal Q mates.” (Chris Blanden) “A very elegant Queen shift ensures that she mates from all four diagonal directions between the set and actual replies to the self-blocks by the d-knight.” (Matthew Reisz) “Tricky waiting move. SW corner of B pieces a bit heavy to defend c2.” (David Whisstock) “Loved 1...Se3 2.Qxb2#” (Hugh Gilbert) “1.f6? fails to 1...Se3 when wPf6 blocks 2.Qg7.” (Tim Sheldon) “Zugzwang, changed mates – set and post-key feature star-pattern mates, justifying clumsy configuration in south-west corner.” (Dafydd Johnston) Other tries are 1...Kd6? 1...Sxe4+! And 1.Qf3? 1...Se3! This is a mutate – a complete block before and after the key and with some mates changed. This problem is taken from another of Mike Prcic’s books – *Selected Compositions of Julius Buchwald*, which he published in 2005. Buchwald (1909-1970) was an Austrian/American chess composer.

#### 4) Harry Neale & Edward Stevenson

*Sunday Referee*, 1936



**1.♜d1!** (5)

1...♖a~	2.♜b3#	(set 2.♜xd4#)
1...♖b4	2.♖c5#	
1...♖c4	2.dxc4#	
1...♘f~	2.♞(x)e6#	
1...♙xd6	2.♞e7#	
1...♗~	2.♖(x)c5#	
1...♞b4	2.♜b3#	(set 2.♜xd4#)
1...♞xd6	2.♞b6#	
1...dxe3	2.dxe4#	(set 2.♜e5#)
1...exd3	2.♜h1#	
1...b6	2.♞c6#	

Mate in 2

“Black has numerous available moves and I’ve counted 9 different mating moves.” (Chris Shephard) “Complete block, changed mates, nice Grimshaws on b4 and d6.” (Dafydd Johnston) Not sure that the self-blocking moves to d6 are technically a Grimshaw, but they do serve to differentiate two mates. “Not easy to find the changed play following 1...Bb4 and 1...dxe3 in particular.” (Tim Sheldon) “Queen must stay on the first rank as 1...exd3 requires 2.Qh1.” (David Whisstock) “A tricky little problem where White finds he can’t maintain the initial complete block and is forced to introduce some nice changed mates ...” (Matthew Reisz) Another mutate. Tries are 1.Qc1? 1...dxe3! 1.Rc2? 1...Bxd6+!, 1.Rc6? 1...Bxd6+! Proved tricky, as it did way back in 1936.

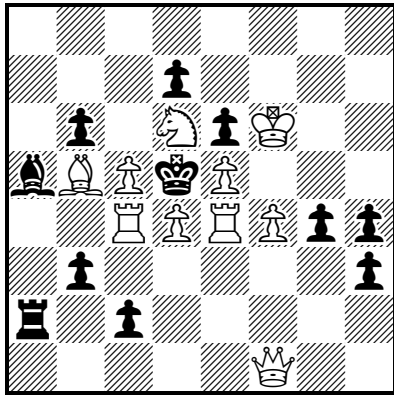
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#### 5) Karl A K Larsen

1st Prize, *Skakbladet* 16. TT, 1939



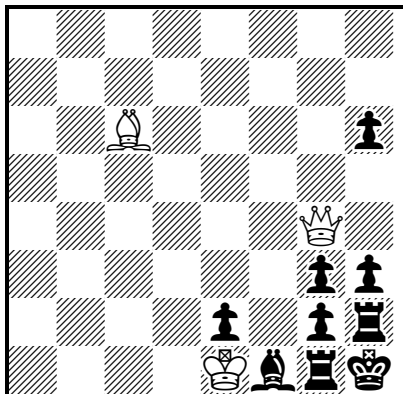
1. ♖e7! (2. ♖×d7 & 3. ♗c6#) (1)  
 1... ♗e1 2. ♖e2 (3. ♖h1#) (1)  
 1... ♗d2 2. ♖e1 g3 3. ♖f3# (1)  
 1... ♗c3 2. ♖b4 g3 3. ♖f3# (1)  
 1... ♗b4 2. ♖c3 & 3. ♖c4# (1)

Mate in 3

“This took me a good deal longer that it should have. There clearly has to be a threat, and one which forces the lovely set paired bishop variations by giving the rook a path back to its second rank.” (Matthew Reisz) “Bishop move is only defence against 2.Kxd7 (2...Ra7+). So-called quiet moves are always difficult to spot; after 1...c1=Q the threat of 2...Qxf4+ indicates the key, or a check on move 2.” (David Whisstock) “Neat pairing of the bB and wR moves.” (Tim Sheldon) “The pattern of short tries indicates that the bB will block defensive lines, all this is needed is a threat to force it to move.” (Dafydd Johnston) “A most elegant problem. The black defensive tries aim to meet the white threat with 2...Ra7+, but each of the four possible moves cuts off a defensive line from Black’s rook or promoted queen on c1 in a different way.” (Chris Shephard) The black first moves, which block a potential black line of guard that Black hasn’t yet moved onto, are called **Anticipatory Interferences**. This problem is one of the finest examples of the idea.

#### 6) Jan H Knoppel

*Eskilstuna Kuriren*, 1942



1. ♕c8!  
 1... h5 2. ♗d7 h4 3. ♗×h3 ♖×h3 4. ♕×h3# (5)

Mate in 4

“It took me a minute to realise that there can’t possibly be any way of forcing the position, and it has to be a fourth zugzwang theme.” (Chris Shephard) “Neat Loyd-Turton doubling to exploit the eventual zugzwang.” (Dafydd Johnston) “White cannot mate via the a8-h1 diagonal as g2 is protected by five black pieces. White, therefore, will mate with the queen. The h-file is less restricted that rank 1 and the diagonal c8-h3 is the route.” (Alan Bradnam) “I rather hope I have missed something! Qc8 behind Bd7 was just too inviting.” (Hugh Gilbert) “I solved almost instantly (though I can imagine sweating over it for hours on a bad day). (Matthew Reisz) “Very simple. White focuses on Black’s one weak point.” (Chris Blanden) “The movement of the queen past the critical square d7, so that the bishop can occupy this square with the queen behind, is called Turton doubling. It is often a three-move theme, but here the composer finds a clever way to extend it to four moves.” (Rhodes Peele) So, what is the difference between Turton doubling and Loyd-Turton doubling? In the former the weaker piece makes the critical move, while in the latter the stronger piece makes the critical move. So this is an example of Loyd-Turton doubling.

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### Solutions, Comments and Results

Facebook Chess Solving Ladder, Leg 02, 2022										
Name	Ascents	Leg 01	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	Leg Total	Total
Hugh Gilbert	1	160.0	28.5	30.0	29.5	24.0	25.0		137.0	297.0
Rhodes Peele	1	153.5	30.0	23.0	22.5	22.0	25.0		122.5	276.0
Ene Florian	1	135.5	25.0	26.0	29.0	29.0	29.0		138.0	273.5
Geoff Brown	1	158.5	25.0	20.0	15.0	25.0	30.0		115.0	273.5
Chris Shephard	1	109.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	29.0	30.0		149.0	258.0
Chris Carew	0	30.0	30.0	29.0	30.0	30.0	30.0		149.0	179.0
David Whisstock	0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	29.0	30.0		149.0	179.0
Chris Worthington	0	29.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	28.5	30.0		148.5	177.5
Matthew Reisz	0	25.0	30.0	30.0	29.5	28.0	30.0		147.5	172.5
Geoff Haddow	0	19.0	30.0	30.0	29.5	30.0	30.0		149.5	168.5
Ioannis Garoufalidis	0	80.0	20.0	-	24.0	24.0	20.0		88.0	168.0
Joe Franks	0	30.0	25.0	29.0	25.0	27.0	30.0		136.0	166.0
Dafydd Johnston	0	0.0	30.0	29.0	29.5	29.0	30.0		147.5	147.5
Harry Scott	0	24.0	20.0	28.0	26.0	26.5	20.0		120.5	144.5
Tim Sheldon	0	0.0	30.0	30.0	29.5	29.0	25.0		143.5	143.5
Stephen Orton	0	0.0	30.0	28.0	23.0	28.0	25.0		134.0	134.0
Chris Blanden	0	14.0	25.0	20.0	25.0	20.0	20.0		110.0	124.0
Erik Baurdoux	0	0.0	25.0	20.0	25.0	25.0	23.0		118.0	118.0
Adrian Tottenham	0	0.0	25.0	23.0	19.5	24.0	23.0		114.5	114.5
Dennis Chivers	0	14.0	27.0	22.0	17.0	15.0	14.0		95.0	109.0
Gerry Enslin	0	30.0	25.0	25.0	-	25.0	-		75.0	105.0
Colin Thiodet	0	62.5	-	15.0	-	-	20.0		35.0	97.5
Whole Hog (Malmesbury)	0	0.0	22.5	30.0	25.0	-	20.0		97.5	97.5
Alan Bradnam	0	15.0	25.0	5.0	10.0	21.0	15.0		76.0	91.0
Syd Jacob	0	0.0	-	-	29.5	28.5	30.0		88.0	88.0
Nigel Pilkington	0	10.0	15.0	10.0	0.5	-	15.0		40.5	50.5
Steven Dowd	0	45.0	-	-	-	-	-		0.0	45.0
James, Brown	0	10.0	25.0	-	-	-	-		25.0	35.0
Christian Westrapp	0	30.0	-	-	-	-	-		0.0	30.0
Alex King	0	29.0	-	-	-	-	-		0.0	29.0
Stanislas Loiret	0	29.0	-	-	-	-	-		0.0	29.0
Gordon Ironside	0	0.0	22.5	-	-	-	-		22.5	22.5
John Warren	0	0.0	-	-	-	-	15.0		15.0	15.0
Paul Davies	0	0.0	5.0	-	-	-	-		5.0	5.0

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Congratulations to Ene Florian, Geoff Brown and Chris Shephard on their first ladder ascents!