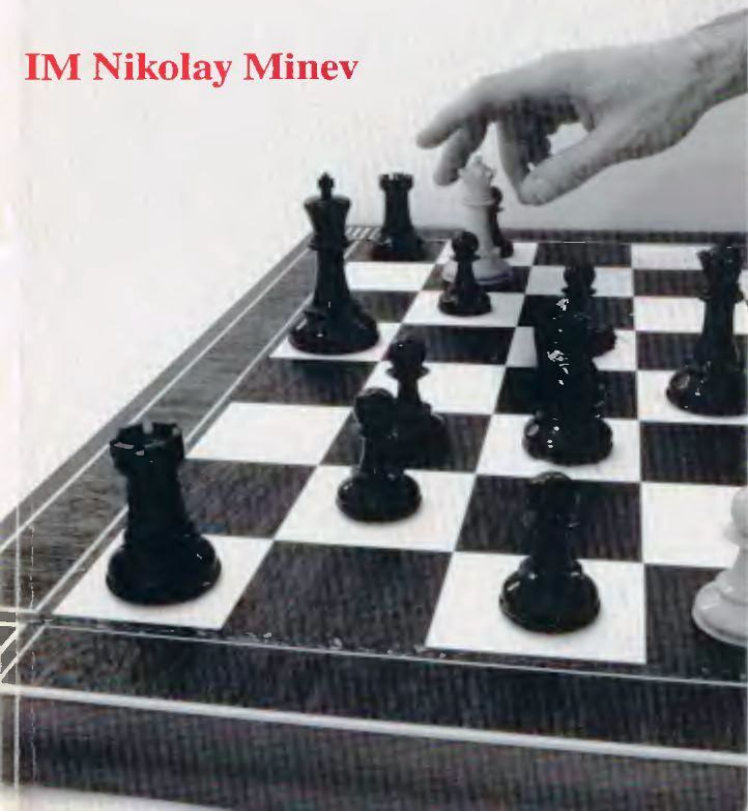


Take My Rooks

GM Yasser Seirawan

IM Nikolay Minev



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CONTENTS

Introduction: Go ahead, take my Rooks, both of them!	ix
Two Rooks Sacrifice in action	1
Five additional games	90
Index of players	93

TABLE OF OPENINGS

(According to ECO codes. Numbers refer to games)

ECO code		game number
	Orang Utan	
A 00	1.b4	1
	Dunst Opening	
A 00	1.Nc3	2
	From's Gambit	
A 02	1.f4 e5	3
	Bird's Opening	
A 03	1.f4 d5	4
	Reti Opening	
A 13	1.Nf3 d5 2.c4	5
	English Opening	
A 25	1.c4 e5	6-7
A 34	1.c4 c5	8
	Rat Defense	
A 40	1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7	9
	Benoni	
A 43	1.d4 c5 2.d5 Nf6 3.Nc3	10
	Trompowsky Attack	
A 45	1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5	11
	Queen's Pawn	
A 46	1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 c5	12
	Torre Attack	
A 46	1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5	13
	Budapest Gambit	
A 52	1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4	14
	Dutch Defense	
A 80	1.d4 f5 2.Bg5	15
A 83	1.d4 f5 2.e4	16,132

Center Counter

B 01	1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5	17
------	---------------------------	----

Caro-Kann Defense

B 10	1.e4 c6 2.d3	18
B 11	1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3	19-20
B 12	1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3	21
B 12	1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5	22
B 14	1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4	23
B 15	1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 g6	24

Sicilian Defense

B 20	1.e4 c5 2.b4	133
B 21	1.e4 c5 2.f4	25
B 29	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6	26
B 32	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5	27
B 33	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5	28-31
B 34	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7	32
B 39	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.c4	33-34
B 40	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6	35-36
B 41	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.c4	37
B 44	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6	38
B 67	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 ...	39
B 85	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Be2 e6 .	40
B 90	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3	41
B 96	1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 b5	42-43
	7.f4 h6 8.Bh4 Qb6	44
B 99	7.f4 Be7	45

French Defense

C 00	1.e4 e6 2.e5	46
C 01	1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.cxd5 cxd5	47
C 06	1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6	48
C 10	1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 c5	49
C 11	1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 dxe4	50-51
C 12	1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Bb4	52
C 15	1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2	53
C 17	1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.c5 c5 5.Bd2	54
C 18	1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.c5 c5 5.a3	55-60,134

Danish Gambit

C 21	1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Bc4	135
------	---	-----

Bishop's Opening

C 23	1.e4 e5 2.Bc4	61
------	---------------------	----

Vienna Game

C 25	1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6	62
C 25	1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Bc5	63
C 29	1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.f4	64-66

King's Gambit

C 32	1.e4 e5 2.f4 d5	67
C 32	1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Bc4	68
C 38	1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5	69

Queen's Pawn Counter Gambit

C 40	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d5	70-71
------	------------------------	-------

Latvian Gambit

C 40	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5	72-87
------	------------------------	-------

Philidor Defense

C 41	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6	88
------	------------------------	----

Reversed Hungarian

C 44	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Be2	89
------	-------------------------------	----

Ponziani

C 44	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3	90-93
------	------------------------------	-------

Three Knights

C 46	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 g6	94
------	----------------------------------	----

Semi-Italian

C 50	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 d6 4.c3	95
------	---------------------------------------	----

Giuoco Piano

C 50	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 (without c3)	96-98
------	--	-------

C 53	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3	99-101
------	--	--------

Two Knights

C 56	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d4	102-103
------	--	---------

C 57	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 Bc5	104
------	---	-----

C 57	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Nxd5	136
------	--	-----

C 59	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Na5	105
------	---	-----

Ruy Lopez

C 60	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6	106
------	----------------------------------	-----

C 63	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 f5	107
------	----------------------------------	-----

C 64	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5	108
------	-----------------------------------	-----

C 67	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6	109
------	-----------------------------------	-----

C 78	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Bc5	110
------	--	-----

C 80	1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Nxe4	111
------	---	-----

Queen's Pawn

D 00	1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bf4 Bg7 4.Nc3	112
------	---	-----

Chigorin's Defense

D 07	1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nf3 Bg4	113
------	----------------------------------	-----

Slav Defense

D 13	1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5	114
D 17	1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4	115

Queen's Gambit Accepted

D 20	1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4	116
D 21	1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 c5	117
D 21	1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 a6	118
D 24	1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3	119
D 26	1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3	120

Queen's Gambit

D 30	1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Nbd2	121
D 32	1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5	122
D 39	1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Bb4 5.Bg5 dxc4	123-124
D 48	1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 c6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4	125

Grunfeld Defense

D 82	1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 c5	126
------	---	-----

Nimzo-Indian Defense

E 29	1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3	127
E 38	1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2	128
E 41	1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.a3 cxd4	129
E 42	1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Nge2	130
E 45	1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6	131

GO AHEAD - TAKE MY ROOKS: BOTH OF THEM!

The inspiration for this book belongs entirely to my co-author Nikolay Minev. A year ago he approached me with a wondrous idea: "How would you like to publish a series of combinational books?" My reaction was less than enthusiastic: "That's been done before. By many authors." Undeterred, he continued: "Wait a minute! Not a book on pins and forks, I'm also tired of thousands of diagrams. Let's do something more complete. Something original. Let's show some typical tactical ideas in their natural environment. How tactics arise in the game, from which openings and variations. Let's show these ideas not just when they're successful, but also refuted. We can show these themes as attacking or defensive devices. It will be important to show these themes in our notes. We can expose a lot of the hidden beauty."

Nikolay wasn't talking one- or two-movers. He had an interesting idea. Intrigued, I asked, "Such as?". He replied: "Imagine for example a first book devoted to the combination where a player sacrifices both Rooks on his initial first rank."

Now his idea has hit home. What a challenge! No one had ever made a book about the tactical idea shown in "The Immortal Game." After a concentrated and, believe me, not easy effort, we managed to collect as many as 136 examples from practice. Our research paid off. Some magazine articles have shown this tactical

theme. Time after time, however, the authors duplicated the same 20-25 games.

Naturally, we will start with The Immortal Game. Even though other examples came before it, this is the original catalyst. After The Immortal Game was played, the chess world began to pay attention to this rare but extraordinarily beautiful tactical idea.

King's Gambit

ANDERSSSEN - KIESERITZKY
London 1851

**1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Bc4 Qh4 +
4.Kf1 b5**

Kieseritzky's patent. It is now considered dubious.

5.Bxb5 Nf6**

It is amazing that this continuation, as well as The Immortal Game itself, are not mentioned in ECO (Encyclopedia of Chess Openings). Strangely enough, the examples given by this "openings Bible": 5...f5 6.Nc3 c6 7.Ba4 fxe4 8.Nxe4 Nf6 9.Nf3 Qh6 10.Qe1 Swiderski - Maroczy, Vienna 1903, or 5...g5 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.d4 Ne7 8.Nf3 Qh5 9.h4 h6 10.e5 Nf5 11.Kg1 Ng3 12.Rh2 Anderssen - Lowenthal, London 1851, are both given as a clear advantage for White. As we shall see, maybe Kieseritzky's move deserves another look.

6.Nf3 Qh6 7.d3

Glazkov and Estrin offer 7.Nc3 as White's best. They continue: 7...g5

(7...Bb7? 8.d4! Nxe4 9.Qe2 f5 10.d5!) 8.d4 Bg7 9.h4 (instead of 9.e5 Nh5 10.Kg1 Bb7 11.Be2 as in Raphael - Morphy, New York 1857) Nh5 10.Rh2 g4 11.Ng5 Ng3+ 12.Ke1! with advantage for White. Perhaps 8...Nh5!*** deserves attention. In this way Black avoids White's idea of 12.Ke1!

7...Nh5?!

Glazkov and Estrin recommend 7...Bc5!? 8.d4 Bb6, we suggest 7...Be7!**, followed by 8...Nh5 or 8...O-O.

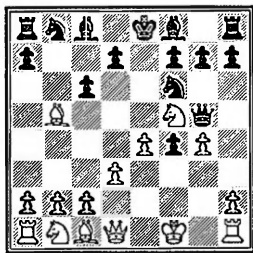
8.Nh4 Qg5

According to Kieseritzky, the decisive mistake. He recommends 8...g6! and if 9.g4 (9.g3 Be7) Nf6 10.Ng2 Qh3 11.Bxf4 Nxe4 with advantage for Black.

9.Nf5 c6?!

In our opinion this is the decisive error. Better was 9...g6 10.h4 Qf6!? (Not 10...Ng3+? 11.Ke1! Qf6 12.Nxe3 fxe3 13.Qe2, obviously to White's advantage - Kieseritzky), when Black is still kicking.

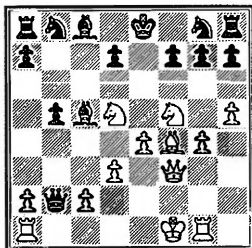
10.g4 Nf6



11.Rg1! cxb5 12.h4 Qg6 13.h5 Qg5 14.Qf3 Ng8 15.Bxf4 Qf6 16.Nc3 Bc5 17.Nd5

While this move leads us to our chosen tactical theme, a modern Grandmaster would prefer 17.d4! Bxd4? 18.Nd5 winning.

17...Qxb2



Now we are at the thematic position.

18.Bd6!!

Anderssen offers both Rooks, winning time for an attack against Black's King.

18...Qxa1 +

Some confusion exists here. Several authors (e.g., Chernev in "1000 Best Short Games of Chess" and Glazkov, Estrin in "Korolevsky Gambit" 1988) give the move order as 18...Bxg1 19.e5 Qxa1+. We used the text from "Encyclopedia of Chess Games" and other sources that we felt were more authentic.

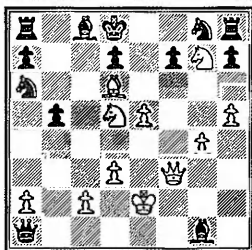
19.Ke2 Bxg1

Clearly 19...Qb2! (Steinitz) is the best defense, but happily for us Kieseritzky didn't find it. Now White demonstrates his great conception.

20.e5! Na6

Defending against 21.Nxe7+ Kd8 22.Bc7 mate, but the final blow comes from the other side.

21.Nxe7+ Kd8



22.Qf6 +! Nxf6 23.Be7 +
Checkmate! 1-0

Interestingly enough, nine years before losing The Immortal Game, Kieseritzky was defeated by another player featuring the same tactical idea of sacrificing two Rooks.

Queen's Gambit Accepted

SCHWARTZ - KIESERITZKY Paris 1842

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 f5?!**

Don't try to find this move in the books! It was popular one hundred and fifty years ago. Later, the idea of f7-f5 was incorporated into theory after 3...e5 4.d5 f5!?, reaching some highly original middlegame situations.

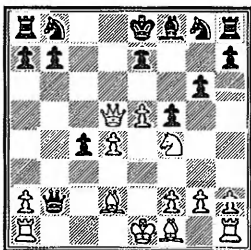
4.e5?!

There are two continuations which refute Black's little adventure: 4.exf5!? Bxf5 5.Bxc4, or 4.Bxc4!? fxe4 5.Qb3, in both cases with a clear advantage to White.

4...Be6 5.Nc3 c6 6.Qf3!? g6

Grabbing the pawn by 6...Qxd4 is possible. White would gain the initiative by kicking Black's Queen around with 7.Nge2 Qxe5 (7...Qd3 8.Nf4) 8.Bf4, with compensation for the aawns.

7.Nh3 Bd5 8.Nxd5 cxd5 9.Nf4 Qa5 + 10.Bd2 Qb6 11.Qxd5 Qxb2

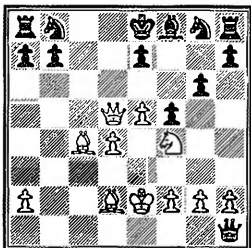


12.Bxc4!

Offering both Rooks for a well-calculated winning attack.

12...Qxa1 + 13.Ke2 Qxh1

Now White wins by force.



14.Qf7 + Kd7 15.e6 + Kc7
16.Nd5 + Kc6 17.Qe8 + Kd6
18.Bf4 + Kxe6 19.Nf6 +
Or 19.Nc7 +.

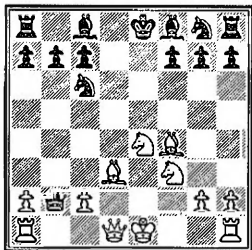
19...Kxf6 20.Qf7 +
Mate 1-0

These two games show the basic conception of the combination: the opponent spends time, at least two moves, to capture both Rooks. In most cases his strong estimate, the

Queen, is suddenly out of the battle. This offers an opportunity to concentrate the remaining pieces for a decisive action (checkmate or perpetual check) against the opponent's King.

In the above examples, the tactical idea was easy to be found and executed. After the thematic sacrifice of both Rooks on consecutive moves, the winning variations are forced. We call this situation "THE BRUTAL METHOD". Mostly it is a question of precisely calculating five- or six-move combinations (a forced sequence of moves). An elementary example of the brutal method is shown in the diagram below (the score of the game is not available to us):

BUIS - BARTHEL
Haarlem 1955



White to move

1.Qe2! Qxa1 + ? 2.Kd2 Qxh1

If 2...Bb4+ then 3.Nc3+! winning the Queen.

3.Nd6 + Kd7 4.Qe8 +

Checkmate. 1-0

The other possibility featuring the two Rooks sacrifice we call "THE QUIET METHOD". Here between

the sacrifice of the first and the second Rook exists a gap of one or more quiet moves. These combinations are the trickiest since the defender before capturing the second Rook, can defend in several ways. The defender may even refuse to capture the second Rook. Therefore, the execution of this method demands more imagination and much deeper calculation.

According to our collection, The Quiet Method is demonstrated in the oldest game where the two Rooks sacrifice can be seen.

Bishop's Opening
BOWDLER - CONWAY
London 1788

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Bc5 3.d3 c6 4.Qe2 d6 5.f4?! exf4 6.Bxf4 Qf6**

In case of 6...Qb6 7.c3! Bxg1 8.d4 Bxd4 9.cxd4 Qxd4 Black wins two pawns, but after 10.Nc3 White is far ahead in development with excellent attacking chances.

7.Qf3

The adventure begins! The safe alternative 7.Bc1 wasn't so bad. The only "problem" is that at the time when the game was played, such a retreat was considered as a moral defeat!

7...Qxb2 8.Bxf7 + Kd7?!

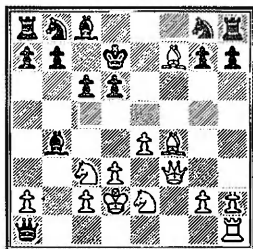
Naturally not 8...Kxf7?? 9.Be5+ winning the Queen, but 8...Kd8 was better.

9.Ne2 Qxa1 10.Kd2 Bb4 + ?

10...Qf6 or even 10...Nf6 11.Nbc3 Qb2 leaves White empty handed for the sacrificed Rook. Remember what we said about retreating.

11.Nbc3!

The exclamation mark is because the move introduces our theme for the first time.



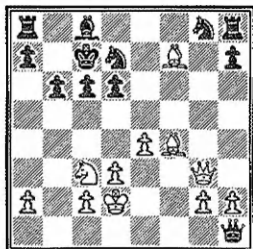
11...Bxc3+?

After 11...Qxh1! or 11...Qb2 12.Qg4+ the fight is still ahead. Now the weakness of d6-pawn gives White stronger initiative and, according to our analysis, at least a draw.

12.Nxc3 Qxh1

If 12...Qb2 then 13.Qg4+ Kc7 14.Qxg7 threatening Nd5+.

13.Qg4+ Kc7 14.Qxg7 Nd7 15.Qg3! b6



16.Nb5+! cxb5

The last and decisive mistake. After 16...Kb7 17.Nxd6+ Ka6 18.d4 b5 19.Qa3+ Kb6 20.Nc4+ Kb7! still there is no mate.

17.Bxd6 + Kb7

If 17...Kd8 18.Bh5 with mate to follow in a few moves.

18.Bd5 + Ka6 19.d4 b4 20.Bxb4 Kb5 21.c4 + 1-0

For if 21...Kxb4, then 22.Qb3+ Ka5 23.Qb5 is Checkmate.

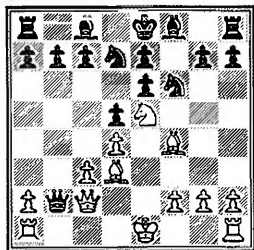
This historical game is not a perfect example of our theme. It does show the danger behind The Quiet Method: the opponent can use the moves between the sacrifice of the first and the second Rook for a successful defense. If he does manage to consolidate then he will have a material advantage and the combination is refuted.

Our theme has a special mystique about it. When the sacrifice of both Rooks is in the air, strong players will try hard to make it a reality. Why? Well, first of all, the combination is so rare, perhaps one in a hundred thousand games! The sacrifice is not for positional reasons. A player gives away almost a third of his army's force, the variations must be decisive. This is when a player must enter a dream world, a world of fantasy, where he may come out a magician.

(Game with odds. Remove White's N/b1)

A.W.FOX - HODGES
New York 1937

1.e4 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.e5 Nfd7 4.e6 fxe6 5.Bd3 Nf6 6.Nf3 Qd6?! 7.Ne5 Nbd7 8.Bf4 Qb4+ 9.c3 Qxb2 10.Qc2



Psychology! For the beginner, who can count to ten by fives, the temptation to capture both Rooks is almost irresistible. Instead of the obvious 10...Qxc2, Black grabs the bait!

10...Qxa1 + ? 11.Ke2 Qxh1

Necessary was 11...Nxe5! 12.Rxa1 Nxd3, which still leaves Black with an advantage.

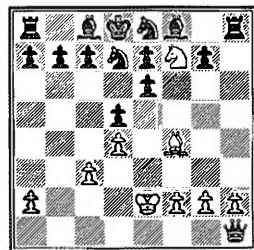
12.Bg6 + hxc6

Nor does 12...Kd8 help. Then 13.Nf7 + Ke8 14.Ng5 + Kd8 15.Nxe6 is checkmate.

13.Qxg6 + Kd8 14.Nf7 + Ke8 15.Nd6 + Kd8 16.Qe8 + ! Nxe8 17.Nf7

Smothered checkmate!

1-0



"The brutal method" and, as Nikolay likes to say, "One horse power mate."

The next example has a strange tale. The story begins with a letter, published in England, from mysterious India. When Nikolay showed me this game, I just soared. This is what chess is all about. What genius was behind this game? Was the black side innocently played by an unknown "amateur"?

Vienna Game

STEEL - AMATEUR

Calcutta 1886

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 exf4 4.d4 Qh4 + 5.Ke2 d5

Today's theory prefers 5...d6!

6.exd5 Bg4 + 7.Nf3 O-O-O 8.dxc6 Bc5 9.cxb7 + !?

According to the books, White's best is 9.Qe1 with unclear play.

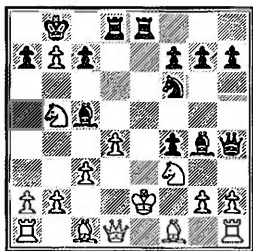
9...Kb8 10.Nb5

While investigating this game, we were rewarded with an important and forgotten analysis by Zukertort: 10.dxc5 Rxd1 11.Kxd1 Qf2 12.Be2 Nf6 13.Bxf4 Rd8 + 14.Bd2 Qxg2 15.Rf1 Bxf3 16.Rxf3 Ng4 17.Rxf7 Ne3 + 18.Kc1 Qg1 + 19.Bd1 Nxd1 with advantage for Black. It seems to us that Zukertort went out of his way to find an advantage for Black. White has several opportunities to improve his play, for example: 13.Rf1 or 15.Rg1. In both cases, Black is in trouble.

10...Nf6

ECO gives 10...Bxf3 + 11.gxf3 Nf6 (Lasker - Shipley, Philadelphia 1893) with the wavering assessment that Black has compensation for the sacrificed material.

11.c3 Rhe8 +



"With wild complications" - stops Konstantinopolsky in "Sovremeny Debiut" 1940. Get ready for a bumpy ride. You'll now see what he is talking about.

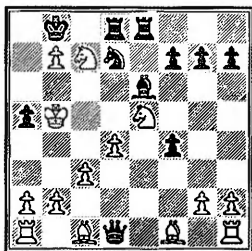
12.Kd3 Bf5 + 13.Kc4 Be6 + 14.Kxc5 a5

Threatening 15...Ne4+ 16.Kc6 Bd5 checkmate.

15.Nxc7! Qh5 + 16.Ne5!!

The only example where the Queen is sacrificed before both Rooks!

16...Nd7 + 17.Kb5 Qxd1



18.Bxf4 Qxa1?!

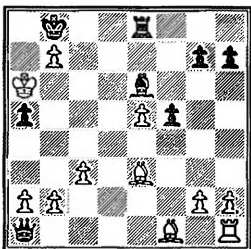
A mistake. Best was 18...Qh5!? with a crazy game.

19.Ka6

A very brave King. The threat is 20.Nc6 mate. If 19...Kxc7 (19...Bd5 20.Nxd7+ Rxd7 21.Nxd5+) then 20.Nxd7+ Kxd7 21.Bb5+ Ke7 22.Rxa1 and 23.Ka7 when White wins the ending due to his valiant King!

19...Nxe5 20.Nxe8 f6 21.dxe5 f5 22.Be3! Rxe8

Not 22...Qxf1 + 23.Rxf1 Bc4+ 24.Kb6 Bxf1 25.e6! and White wins.



The time has arrived for the second Rook to be sacrificed!

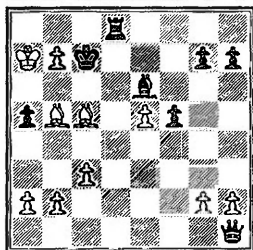
23.Bb5! Qxh1?

Black's only move was 23...Qxb2! In this case this great battle finishes with perpetual check: 24.Ba7+ Kc7 25.Bb6+ Kb8 26.Ba7+ etc.

24.Ba7 + Kc7 25.Bc5! Rd8

There is no defense: 25...Rb8 26.Bb6 checkmate, or 25...Qd1 26.Ka7! etc.

26.Ka7!



1-0

This incredible example also shows that the result (or even the goal) of the two Rooks sacrifice can be a draw, most often a perpetual check.

A note of caution! Just because you see an opportunity to sacrifice your Rooks, success is by no means guaranteed. Our book will show you many examples where the combination should not have worked! So be careful!

Putting this book together became a pure joy. We've placed diagrams at precipitous moments that best demonstrate the patterns of sacrificing your Rooks. We arranged the games according to ECO's code so that you can easily see from which openings and variations this combination is possible. Through this layout you can find out if the two Rooks sacrifice exists in your opening repertoire. Besides the thematic two Rooks sacrifice there are also many different and practical tactical tricks.

Finally, as an added bonus, we give you some new and forgotten analysis and ideas in different openings.

When you see two asterisks (**), it refers to a move that doesn't exist in *The Encyclopedia of Chess Openings* (ECO), and which is worthy of independent investigation.

No matter your level of skill, this book will bring you many hours of enjoyment. Lose yourself in fantasy.

YASSER SEIRAWAN

Seattle, February 26, 1991

-1-

A 00 Orang Utan Opening

FLEISSIG - SCHLECHTER

Vienna 1895

Many regard this game as the most fascinating example of the two Rooks sacrifice. It is Schlechter's most brilliant victory.

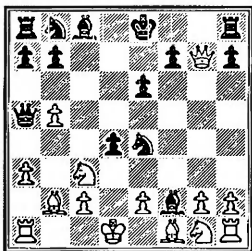
1.b4 e6 2.Bb2 Nf6 3.a3 c5!? 4.b5

Yudovich (in *ECO*) prefers 4.hxc5 Bxc5 5.e3 Qb6 6.Qc1 d5 7.Nf3 Bd7 8.c4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Nc6 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Nc3, Larsen - Pomar, Las Palmas 1974, with the assessment: White is slightly better. Larsen's original annotations (*The Chess Player*) show that the "official" theory stops just in the critical position. After 11...Na5!** (instead of 11...Ne5? 12.Nxe5 fxe5 13.O-O as in the game) his opinion is that the chances are equal. If 12.Rb1!? Bxa3!. We believe Larsen.

4...d5 5.d4?!

5.e3 is necessary.

5...Qa5 + 6.Nc3 Ne4 7.Qd3 cxd4 8.Qxd4 Bc5! 9.Qxg7 Bxf2 + 10.Kd1 d4!!



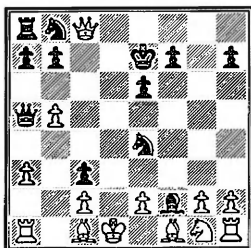
The first Rook is offered! The second will follow after three moves.

11.Oxh8 + Ke7! 12.Oxc8

White's Knight at c3 can't move because of Qe1 mate.

12...dxc3 13.Bc1

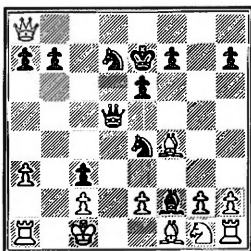
If 13.Qxb7+ Nd7 14.Qxe4 cxb2, threatening 15...Qe1 mate and 15...bxa1=Q.



13...Nd7! 14.Qxa8

Also after 14.Qxb7 White will not survive, for example: 14...Qa4 15.Nf3 Rb8 16.Qc7 Rxb5 etc.

14...Qxb5 15.Bf4 Qd5 + 16.Kc1



16...Be3 +!! 17.Bxe3 Nf2!! 0-1

Mate is inevitable: 18.Kb1 Qb5+ and 19...Qb2#, or 18.Bxf2 Qd2+ 19.Kb1 Qd1+ 20.Ka2 Qxc2#. A memorable realization of The Quiet Method (see Introduction).

-2-

A 00 Dunst Opening

NIELD - EDWARDS

Australia 1940

1.Nc3 c5 2.d4

2.e4 would transpose to the Closed Variation of the Sicilian Defense.

2...cxd4 3.Qxd4 Nc6 4.Qa4 d5**

ECO's example Storti - Garcia Palermo, Villa Gessell 1970: 4...g6 5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 Nf6 7.Nf3 O-O 8.Qh4 Qb6 9.O-O d5 =, looks to us completely unclear.

5.Bf4!? f6 6.O-O-O e6?

Consistent is 6...e5!?, with the idea: 7.Rxd5 Bd7 threatening 8...Nb4; or 7.Bg3 d4 8.e3 Bd7.

7.e4 d4 8.Nf3 Be5

If 8...e5?, then 9.Nxd4 exd4 10.Nb5 Bd7 11.Nc7+ Kf7 12.Bc4+ Kg6 13.Qb3 and White wins.

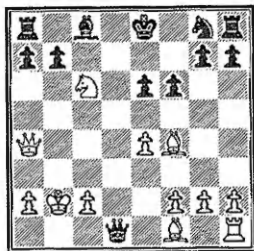
9.b4!

In playing a move like this, White must have foreseen the sacrifice of both Rooks.

9...Bxb4

Or 9...Bb6 10.b5 Nb8 11.Nxd4, with an advantage for White.

10.Nxd4 Bxc3 11.Nxc6! Bb2+ 12.Kxb2 Qxd1



13.Bb5! xh1 14.Ne5 + Kf8

If 14...Kd8 15.Nf7+ Ke7 16.Bd6+ Kxf7 17.Be8#.

15.Qd4! Bd7

Or 15...g5 16.Qd8+ Kg7 17.Qc7+ Kh6 18.Ng4+ Kh5 19.Be8+ Kxg4 20.f3+ Kh4 21.Bg3#.

16.Qxd7 1-0

Black resigned because of 16...fxe5 17.Bxe5 Ne7 18.Bd6, or 16...Ne7 17.Qxe6 fxe5 18.Bc4 Ke8 19.Bg5.

-3-

A 02 From's Gambit

HAMBURGER - HEUACKER

Nuremberg 1934

1.f4 e5 2.fxe5 d6 3.exd6

More cautious players prefer 3.Nf3 dxe5 4.e4.

3...Bxd6 4.Nf3 g5 5.d4 g4 6.Ne5 Nc6!?

Black attains only equality after 6...Bxe5 7.dxe5 Qxd1+ 7.Kxd1 Nc6.

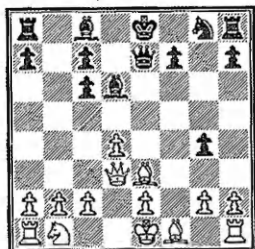
7.Nxc6 bxc6**

Instead 7...Qh4+ 8.g3 Bxg3+ 9.hxg3 Qxh1 10.Ne5 Nf6 is given by Milic in ECO as unclear. We think that after 11.Nc3** White's position is preferable.

8.Be3?!

Kurt Richter suggests the immediate 8.Qd3!?

8...Qe7 9.Qd3

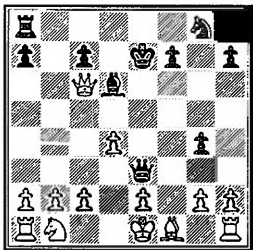


9...Ba6!?

Instead 9...Bf5 looks stronger, but the text is far more enticing to the hungry opponent. It acts as an "appetizer" for the later offer of a Rook!

10.Qxa6?

Some practical advice: if the opponent gives you something free, don't think that he is stupid. Usually it will be a trap. Try to guess his idea, and only after careful consideration decide to capture or reject the gift. Here 10.Qd2 was better.

10...Qxe3 11.Qxc6 + Ke7**12.Qxa8?**

Loses. White probably thinks that the opponent has nothing better than a perpetual check: 12...Qc1+ 13.Kf2 Qf4+ 14.Ke1 Qc1+, etc. Now, however, is too late for a good answer, for example: 12.Nc3 Nf6 13.Nd5+ Nxd5 14.Qxd5 Rab8, or 12.Qc3 Qc1+ 13.Kf2 Qf4+ 14.Ke1 Nf6. In both cases Black has a strong initiative.

12...Nf6! 13.Qxh8

Also after 13.Qc6 (if 13.Qb7 Rb8!) Nc4 14.Qxc4+ (14.Kd1 Bf4!) Qxc4 Black wins easily.

13...Qc1 + 14.Kf2 Ne4 + 0-1

It's mate next move.

-4-

A 03 Bird's Opening
KOLODZIEJCZYK -
AMATEUR
 Poland 1956

1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 c5 3.d3 Nf6
4.Nbd2 Qa5?!**

An unusual continuation, not to be found in the books.

5.e4!?

More consistent is 5.c3, followed by 6.e4, but this bold pawn sacrifice is much more interesting.

5...dxe4 6.dxe4 Nxe4 7.Bd3
Nxd2?

After 7...Nf6 or 7...Nd6 White's initiative will not be so strong as in the game.

8.Bxd2 Qb6 9.Ne5! Qxb2?

Suicidal, but also 9...Nc6 10.Qf3 doesn't solve Black's problems.

10.Ba5! Qd4

There is no good defense. Kolodziejczyk gives the alternative 10...Nd7 11.Rb1 Qa3 12.Qd2 Nxe5 13.fxe5 Bd7 14.e6! fxe6 17.Rxb7, and White has a decisive attack.

11.Bb5 + Bd7

After 11...Nd7 White wins in a spectacular way by 12.Qf3!! Qxa1+ 13.Kc2 Qxa2 (if 13...Qxh1 or 13...Qb2, then 14.Qxb7!!) 14.Qd3! Qxa5 15.Bxd7+ Kd8 16.Bxc8+ Kxc8 17.Qd7+ Kb8 18.Rb1! Qa6+ 19.Rb5! Qxb5+ 20.Qxb5 - Kolodziejczyk.

12.Nxd7 Nxd7

If 12...Qc4+, then 13.Qc2 Qxc2+ 14.Kxc2 Nxd7 15.Rhd1 and wins.

13.Qf3!!



The Brutal Method, and the only winning continuation. Now, because of the threat 14.Rd1, Black must capture both Rooks.

13...Qxa1 + 14.Ke2 Qxh1 15.Qd5 Rd8 16.Bxd8 f6 17.Bxd7+ Kxd8 18.Bc6 + 1-0

-5-

A 13 Reti Opening AFIFI - BELIAVSKY Tunis izt 1985

A very interesting game not only for our tactical topic, but also for the opening theory, missing, for no apparent reason, from *Informant*.

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 e6 3.g3 dxc4 4.Bg2

The books recommend 4.Qa4+ Bd7 5.Qxc4 c5 6.Ne5 Nc6 7.Nxd7 Qxd7 8.Bg2 Nf6 9.d3 Rc8 as leading to equality.

4...a6!? 5.a4?!

Weakens the b4-square. Instead 5.Qc2 Nf6 transposes into Spielman - Short, London (m) 1988: 6.Ne5 Nd5 7.Nxc4 b5 8.Ne3 Nxe3?! (Salov suggests 8...Bb7!?) 9.dxe3 Ra7 10.a4 Bb7 11.e4 Ra8 12.O-O Be7 13.Rd1 Qc8 14.Bf4 Nc6 15.Na3 e5 16.Be3 b4 17.Nc4 O-O 18.Rac1. White stands slightly better. In our opinion 5...Nd7!? deserves attention, and if

6.Qxc4 b5 7.Qc6 Rb8, or 6.O-O Ngf6.

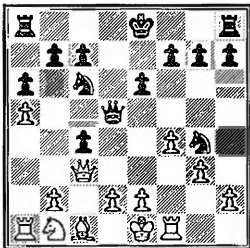
5...Nc6! 6.a5

If 6.Qc2 Na5!

6...Bb4 7.Ne5 Nxe5 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qxb4 Ne7! 10.f4

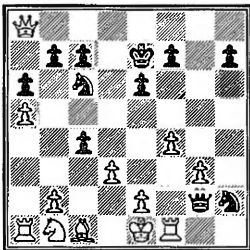
If 10.Qxb7? Bc6! 11.Bxc6+ N7xc6, and 12...Ra7 wins White's Queen.

10...Bc6 11.Bxc6+ N7xc6 12.Qc3 Qd5! 13.Rf1 Ng4!!



It is clear that Beliavsky will sacrifice both Rooks.

14.Qxg7 Nxh2 15.Qxh8+ Ke7 16.Qxa8 Qg2 17.d3



17...Nd4!

Now we shall see a typical and here decisive action of Black's remaining pieces against the King.

18.Rf2

Also hopeless is 18.Nc3 Qxf1 + 19.Kd2 Nb3 + 20.Kc2 Nxa1 + 21.Kb1 Nb3 22.Na2 Qxe2.

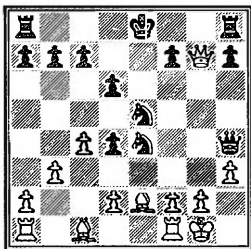
18...Qg1 + 19.Kd2 Nb3 + 20.Kc3 Qxc1 + 21.Kb4 Qxb2 22.e3

Or 22.Kxc4 Nxa1 23.Rxh2 Qb3 + 24.Kc5 (24.Kd4 Nc2 + and mate next move) Nc2, and Black wins.

22...Nd2 + 23.Kc5 Qb5 + 0-1

The end will be 24.Kd4 Nhf3 + 25.Rxf3 Nxf3 +, and 26.Ke4 Qd5# or 26.Kc3 Qb3#.

Now the idea for the two Rooks sacrifice works perfectly.

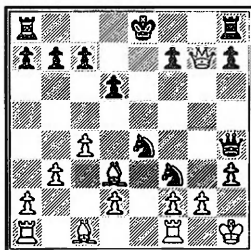


13...d3! 14.Bxd3

After 14.Qxh8 + Kd7 15.Qxa8 dxe2 White is obviously lost.

14...Nf3 + !! 15.Kh1

If 15.gxf3 Ke7!! 16.Bxe4 Rag8 17.Qxg8 Rxd8 + 18.Kh2 Qg5 19.Rg1 Qe5 + and wins.



15...Qxf2!!

A mate with two Knights is always exciting!

16.Qxh8 + Kd7 17.Qg7 Qg1 +! 18.Rxg1 Nf2# 0-1

-6-

A25 English Opening
C.CAPON - I.TAYLOR
England, before 1889

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c4 Bc5 4.Nc3

In practice this unusual opening occurs more often from English: 1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.e4 Bc5 4.Nf3 etc.

4...Bd4** 5.Nb5 d6 6.Nbxd4 exd4 7.b3?! Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Ne5 10.Qg3 Nf6 11.Be2?

Better is 11.d3, and if 11...Nh5, then not 12.Qh2 g5!?, but 12.Qg5.

11...Nxe4 12.Qxg7 Qh4

Boldly offering both Rooks under not so clear circumstances, for example 13.Qxh8 + Kd7 14.Qxa8 d3 (14...Qxf2 + 15.Kd1 d3 16.Re1) 15.g3 Nxd3 (15...Qf6!?) 16.Qxb7 Ne4 17.Rf1.

13.O-O?

-7-

A 25 English Opening
CRADDOCK - MIESES
 London 1939

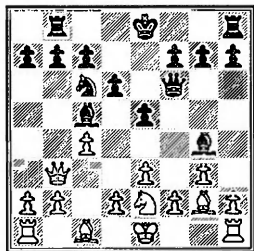
1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 Nf6
 4.Bg2 Bb4 5.e3 d6 6.Nge2 Bg4
 7.Qb3**

Nowadays White players prefer 7.Nd5 Bc5, and now ECO gives 8.O-O O-O 9.h3 Bh5 10.d3 Nxd5 11.cxd5 Ne7 (perhaps first 11...Bxe2 12.Qxe2 Ne7 is better) 12.g4 Bg6 13.d4 Bb6 14.b3, with an advantage for White, as in Plater - de Greiff, Amsterdam 1965. However, ECO's information is wrong. Black was not de Greiff, but De Graaf.

7...Rb8!

The best reply! Meanwhile "the old fox" (Mises was 74 years old) sets a nice trap.

8.Nd5 Bc5 9.Nxf6 + Qxf6!!



The point behind the following two Rooks sacrifice is light square weakness in Craddock's position.

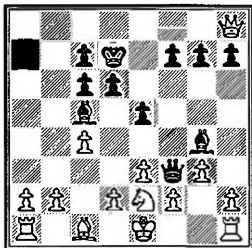
10.Bxc6 +

Still playable is 10.Qd1, but after 10...Bf3 Black stands more comfortably.

10...bxc6 11.Qxb8 + Kd7

Some publications have misprinted this move as 11...Ke7, which dramatically changes the situation: after 12.Qxc7+ Ke6 13.f4, or 13.Kd1 Qf3 14.Re1, Black has no compensation for the sacrificed Rook.

12.Qxh8 Qf3



White is lost. If 13.O-O Bh3, or 13.Kf1 Qxe2+ 14.Kg2 (14.Kg1 Bh3) Qf3+ 15.Kg1 Bh3.

13.Kd1 Qxe2+ 14.Kc2 Qxc4+ 15.Kb1 Qd3# 0-1

-8-

A 34 English Opening
TUKMAKOV - PESHINA
 USSR 1980

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 d5
 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nb4 6.Bc4
 Be6?!

This continuation almost disappeared in the 80s, but also 6...Nd3+ 7.Ke2 Nf4+ 8.Kf1 hasn't given Black satisfactory results. It may well be that the second player ought to restrain his ambition with 5...Nc7 (Miles), or 5...Nxc3 6.bxc3 g6.

7.Bxe6 Nd3+ 8.Kf1 fxe6 9.Ng5
 Qb6 10.Qf3

Played for the first time in this game. Also interesting is 10.Qa4+.

10...c4

Or 10...Ne5 11.Qh3 Kd7 12.f4 Ng6 13.d3, with an advantage for White, according to Loginov.

11.b3 h6

If 11...Ne5 12.Qe3!

12.bxc4 Nxc1

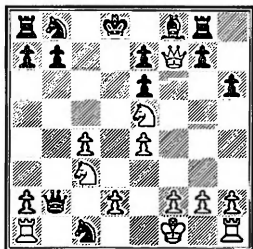
Instead Tukmakov recommends 12...Ne5 13.Qh3 Nbc6 14.Nxe6 as unclear. In our opinion Black is in big trouble because of the threats 15.Rb1 and 15.Nd5.

13.Nf7

Loginov - Malaniuk, USSR 1984, went 13.Qh5+ Kd7 14.Nf7 Nd3 15.Qf3. Now Black should play 15...Qxf2+! 16.Qxf2 Nxf2 17.Kxf2 Rh7 18.Ne5+ Ke8 19.h4, and White has only a slightly better endgame. Tukmakov's continuation looks stronger.

13...Rg8

If 13...Rh7, then 14.Ne5! g5 15.Rxc1 with an obvious advantage.

14.Ne5! Qb2 15.Qf7+ Kd8**16.Rxc1!**

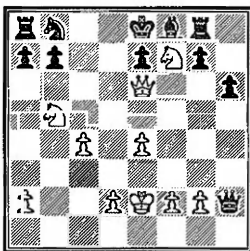
A variation on our tactical theme. The first Rook is sacrificed actively on the initial first rank, while the second Rook is offered passively. We shall also see examples where the pattern is reversed: the second Rook

will be sacrificed actively, again on the first rank.

Instead of 16.Rxc1! (an exclamation mark because it is more spectacular), White also wins by 16.Qxg8 Nd7 17.Rb1 Qxd2 18.Rxb7 - Tukmakov.

16...Qxc1 + 17.Ke2 Qxh1 18.Qxe6 Qxh2

The only defense against 19.Nf7+ Ke8 20.Nd6+ Kd8 21.Qc8#.

19.Nf7 + Ke8 20.Nb5!

A familiar situation after the sacrifice of the Rooks: all remaining pieces jump around the opponent's King.

20...Nd7

If 20...Qh5+ 21.g4 Qxf7 22.Qc8#, or 21...Qxb5 22.Nd6+ Kd8 23.Qc8#.

21.Nbd6 + Qxd6 22.Nxd6 + Kd8 23.Nxb7+ Kc7 24.Qxg8 Nf6

Black's misfortune is that 24...Kxb7 25.Qd5+ loses a piece.

25.Qe6 Kxb7 26.e5 1-0

If 26...Nh7 27.Qg6 Ng5 28.f4, or 26...Ne8 27.Qd5+ Kb8 28.Qf7, and wins.

-9-

A 40 Rat Defense
ZILBER - SUETIN
 Leningrad 1957

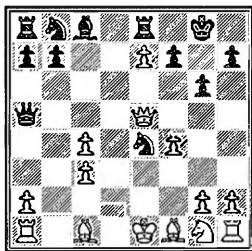
1.c4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.e4 d6 4.f4
 c5!? 5.dxc5?

The more restrained (and restraining) 5.d5 transposes into a King's Indian or Modern Benoni.

5...Qa5 + 6.Nc3

After 6.Nbd2 Qxc5, or 6.Bd2 Qxc5, White's position is in disorder.

6...Bxc3 + 7.bxc3 Nf6! 8.cxd6
 Nxe4 9.Qd4 O-O 10.dxe7 Re8
 11.Qe5

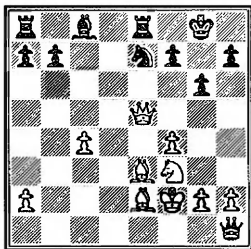


In eleven moves White has developed only his Queen. It is no wonder that such crude opening "strategy" will be smashed.

11...Nc5 12.Be3

Having seen the adverse threats, Zilber seeks tactical counterplay. His idea is based on the sacrifice of both Rooks, hoping to generate an attack on the weakened a1-h8 diagonal.

12...Nc6 13.Qxc5 Qxc3 + 14.Kf2
 Qxa1 15.Nf3 Nxe7 16.Be2 Qxh1
 17.Qe5



It seems that White achieved his goal. He threatens 18.Bd4, and Black's Queen is out of play. Only—
 17...Bh3!! 0-1

If 18.gxh3 Nf5, or 18.Bd4 f6
 19.Qxf6 Qxg2+ 20.Ke1 Qxe2+!
 21.Kxe2 Nd5+, and wins.

-10-

A 43 Benoni Defense
ALEKHIN - LEVENFISH
 Petersburg 1912

1.d4 c5 2.d5 Nf6 3.Nc3 d6 4.e4
 g6 5.f4 Nbd7??

Not even mentioned in *ECO*, because now the thematic ...e6 and ...exd5 is almost impossible.

6.Nf3 a6

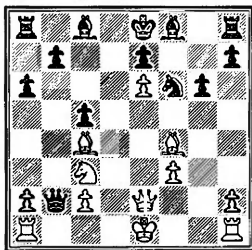
Forced. If 6...Bg7, then 7.e5 dxe5
 8.fxe5 Ng4 9.e6 Nde5 10.Bb5+ Kf8
 11.O-O, with an obvious advantage.

7.e5 dxe5 8.fxe5 Ng4 9.e6! Nde5
 10.Bf4! Nxf3 +

In case of 10...Bg7, Kotov gives
 11.Qe2 Nxf3 + 12.gxf3 Nf6 13.exf7+
 and 14.O-O-O, with a powerful attacking position. It looks dangerous, but probably Black can enter into complications with 12...Bxc3 + (instead of 12...Nf6) 13.bxc3 Qxd5 14.Rd1 Qc6. We think that after 10...Bg7 White's best is 11.Nxe5

Nxe5 12.Qe2!, and Black is in trouble.

11.gxf3! Nf6 12.Bc4 fxe6 13.dxe6 Qb6 14.Qe2 Qxb2?



"Even if it seems that the b2-pawn can be captured absolutely without risk, my advice is: Don't capture it!" - Keres.

Now Black becomes the victim of a well-calculated two Rooks sacrifice.

15.Nb5!!

Probably Black has anticipated only 15.Kd2, and then 15...Nh5 16.Be5 Bh6+ offers counterplay.

15...Qxa1 +

If 15...axb5, then 16.Bxb5+ Kd8 17.Rd1+ Bd7 18.Be5 Qb4+ 19.c3 when White has a continuing attack without any sacrifices.

16.Kf2 Qxh1 17.Nc7+ Kd8 18.Qd2+ Bd7 19.exd7 1-0

If 19...Nxd7 20.Be6, or 19...e5 20.Ne6+ Ke7 21.d8=Q+ Rxd8 22.Qxd8+ Kf7 23.Nxf8+ Kg7 24.Qe7#.

-11-

A 45 Trompowsky Attack

GURGENIDZE - KAPENGUT
USSR 1975

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.Bxf6 gxf6 4.d5 Qb6 5.Qc1 f5 6.e3 Bg7 7.c3 e6?!

Why not 7...e5!?***?

8.Nh3 h5?!

Another second-rate move. Yudovich proposes 8...d6.

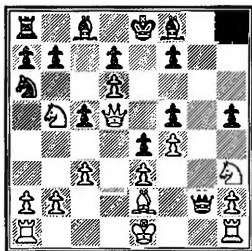
9.Be2 e5 10.f4 e4 11.Na3 Qg6?

Hort recommends 11...d6 12.Nc4 Qc7 13.a4 Nd7 as unclear. We assess the position after 14.a5 as slightly better for White.

12.Nb5 Na6 13.d6! Bf8

After 13...Qxg2 14.Rg1 Qxh3 15.Rxg7 Qxh2 16.Qd2 Qh1+ 17.Bf1 Qh4+ 18.Kd1 Black is lost.

14.Qd2! Qxg2 15.Qd5!

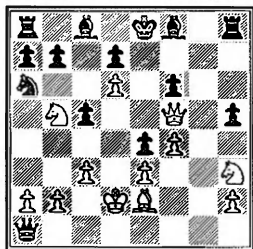


15...f6

If Black takes both Rooks: 15...Qxh1+ 16.Kd2 Qxa1, then 17.Qe5+ Kd8 18.Qxh8 Ke8 19.Qe5+ Kd8 20.Ng5, with an inevitable mate. However, White can sacrifice the Rooks once again!

16.Qxf5! Qxh1+ 17.Kd2 Qxa1

The rest is forced.



18.Qg6+ Kd8 19.Qxf6+ Ke8
20.Qe5+! Kf7

Or 20...Kd8 21.Qxh8 Qxb2+
22.Ke1 and White wins.

21.Bc4+

Informant stops here, but the
game has a few more moves.

21...Kg6 22.Qg5+ Kh7 23.Qf5+
Kg7 24.Qf7+ 1-0

It's mate in two: 24...Kh6 25.Qf6+
Kh7 26.Ng5#.

-12-

A 45 Queen's Pawn

MARIASIN - BORTNIKOV

Liepaia (USSR) 1974

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 c5 3.dxc5 e6?!

Better is 3...Qa5.

4.e4 Bxc5?!

Perhaps it is not too late for
4...Qa5!?**.

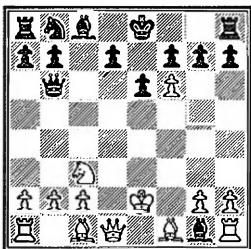
5.e5 Qb6 6.exf6!

ECO gives as White's best 6.Nh3
Ng8 7.Qg4 Bf8 8.Bd3 Ne7 9.O-O, as
in Knezevic - Damjanovic, Yugos-
lavia (ch) 1960, and stops here with
the assessment that White has the
advantage. We present this game to
the end: 9...Ng6 10.Bxg6 hxg6 11.Nf4
Nc6 12.Re1 d5 13.exd6 Bxd6 14.Ne4
Be7 15.Be3 Qxb2 16.Nxg6? f6 17.
Qxg6+ Kf8 18.Ng5 Qf6 19.Nh7+

Rxh7 20.Qxh7 Qf5 21.Qh8+ Kf7
22.Rad1 b6 23.Rd7 Bxd7 24.Qxa8
Qxc2 25.Qb7 Qd3 26.Qc7 e5 27.h3
Qd6 28.Qb7 and 0-1. Probably a time
forfeit, but already Black has the ad-
vantage.

Our game, not mentioned in *Rich-
ter-Veresov System* by Adams (1978)
or in *ECO* (1979), looks much more
conclusive.

6...Bxf2+ 7.Ke2 Bxg1



8.Rxg1!**

An important forgotten novelty,
and possibly a record for The Quiet
Method. The second Rook will be
sacrificed after eleven moves!

8...Qxg1 9.Qd6 gxf6 10.Be3 Qh1
11.Ne4 h6

If 11...f5 12.Nf6+ Kd8 13.Bg5 Nc6
14.Nd5+ Ke8 15.Nc7#.

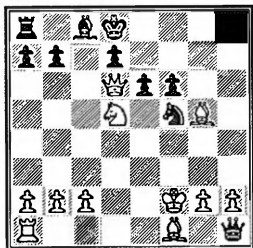
12.Nxf6+ Kd8 13.Nd5! Nc6

The Knight is taboo: 13...exd5
14.Qf6+ Ke8 (14...Kc7 15.Bf4+)
15.Qxh8+ Ke7 16.Qe5+ Kd8
17.Bc5, etc.

14.Bxh6! Nd4+

If 14...Rxh6 15.Qf8#, or 14...exd5
15.Bg5+ Ke8 16.Re1 f6 17.Kf2+
Ne5 18.Qxf6.

15.Kf2 Nf5 16.Bg5+ f6



17.Qe5!! Rf8 18.Bxf6+ Ke8
19.Bb5! 1-0

The sacrifice of the second Rook is decisive: 19...Qxa1 20.Qxe6+ and mate.

-13-

A 46 Torre Attack

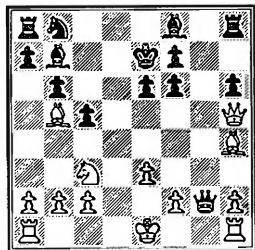
K. RICHTER - DUHRSEN

Berlin 1930

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5 h6
4.Bh4 c5 5.e3 b6 6.Be2 Bb7
7.Ne5** d6?

Also bad is 7...Bxg2? 8.Rg1 Bb7
9.Bh5, but 7...Be7 gives Black a satisfactory game.

8.Bb5+ Ke7 9.Qh5! dxe5
10.dxe5 Qd5 11.Nc3 Qxg2
12.exf6+ gxf6



13.Qe5! Nd7

If 13...Qxh1+ 14.Kd2 Qxa1
15.Bxf6#.

14.Qc7! 1-0

Another brutality: 14...Qxh1+
15.Kd2 Qxa1 16.Qxd7#, or 14...Rd8
15.O-O-O.

-14-

A 52 Budapest Defense

HELMER - KREJCIK

Vienna 1917

Let us say beforehand, here is a cheerful game in which the two Rooks sacrifice succeeds only because of White's poor defense.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4
4.f4? Be5 5.Nh3 Nxh2?

Not the best. Precise is 5...d6!
6.exd6 (6.Nc3 Nc6 7.e4 O-O) O-O
7.dxc7 Qxc7 8.Nc3 Bb4, and Black has a strong initiative - Schlechter.

6.Rxh2 Qh4+ 7.Kd2

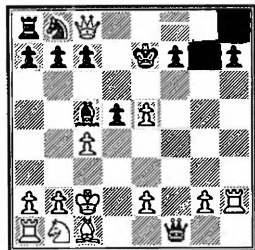
Krejci himself noted that after
7.g3! Qxg3+ 8.Rf2 d6 9.Qd3 Qxd3
10.exd3 Bxf2+ 11.Nxf2 dxe5 12.fxe5
Nc6 13.Bf3 White stands clearly better.

7...d5 8.Qb3

Kurt Richter proposes 8.e4!?**.

8...Bxh3 9.Qxh3! Qxf4+ 10.Kc2
10.e3!? Qxf1 11.Rh1 - Richter.

10...Qxf1 11.Qc8+ Ke7

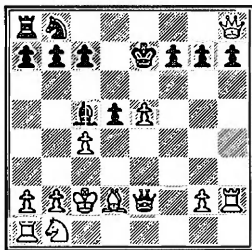


12.Qxh8??

The game has shown that White is a trencherman, but here he should not rush with the meal. The preliminary 12.Bg5+! f6 13.exf6+ gxf6 14.Qxh8 wins, for instance 14...Qf5+ 15.Kd1 Qf1+ 16.Kd2.

12...Qxe2+ 13.Bd2

The same fate awaits White after 13.Kc3 d4+ 14.Kb3 Qd1#, or 13.Nd2, when Black wins with the sacrifice of the second Rook: 13...Nc6! 14.Qxa8 Nd4+, and mate next move.



13...Nc6! 14.Qxa8 Nb4+ 15.Kb3 Qxc4+ 16.Ka4 b5+ 17.Ka5 Bb6# 0-1

-15-

A 80 Dutch Defense

WHITEHEAD - KOBERNAT

Los Angeles 1983

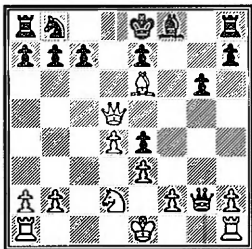
1.d4 f5 2.Bg5 d5 3.c4**

Incredible! This continuation exists neither in *ECO*, nor even in the extensive six-issue article about 2.Bg5 by Kuzminikh (*Shakhmaty Riga*, 1988).

3...dxc4?

Giving up the center is almost always wrong in the Dutch. He should play 3...c6.

4.e3 Be6 5.Nd2 Nf6 6.Ngf3 Ne4 7.Nxe4 fxe4 8.Nd2 Qd5 9.Bxc4 Qxg5 10.Bxe6 Qxg2 11.Qh5+ g6 12.Qd5!



You can look at this in at least two ways. It is either a symbolic sacrifice of the Rooks, or a pattern with the shortest (only one move) Brutal Method: if now 12...Qxh1+ 13.Ke2 Qxa1 14.Bf7#. The same situation will be repeated on the next move. In both cases, your playing arm will not be unduly strained.

12...Bg7 13.Qxb7 1-0

-16-

A 83 Dutch - Staunton Gambit

RETI - EUWE

Rotterdam 1920

This is the first of two famous games in which Euwe is the victim, in the same year, against the same opponent, and with the same tactical idea—the two Rooks sacrifice. The other example is game 102.

1.d4 f5 2.e4 fxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 g6 5.f3

Stronger is 5.h4.

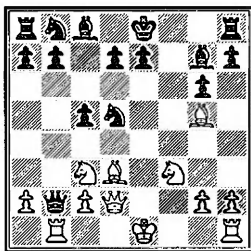
5...exf3 6.Nxf3 Bg7 7.Bd3 c5?

Better is 7...O-O 8.Qd2 d6 9.O-O!, and 10.Rae1 with chances for both sides.

8.d5 Qb6 9.Qd2! Qxb2?

Black has calculated only one move ahead. He falls into a nice trap!

10.Rb1! Nxd5



11.Nxd5! Qxb1 + 12.Kf2 Qxh1
13.Bxe7

With his poor development and Queen out of play, Black is helpless against the forthcoming attack.

13...d6 14.Bxd6 Nc6 15.Bb5!
Bd7 16.Bxc6 bxc6 17.Qe2+ 1-0

If 17...Kd8 18.Be7+ Kc8 19.Qa6+ Kb8 20.Bd6#, or 17...Kf7 18.Qe7+ Kg8 19.Qxd7 etc.

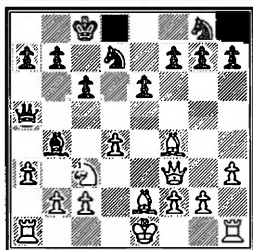
-17-

B 01 Center Counter
CANAL - AMATEUR
Budapest 1934

Motto: Think twice before castling on the Queenside!

The complete story below does not need more explanation.

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5
4.d4 c6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Bf4** e6
7.h3 Bxf3 8.Qxf3 Bb4 9.Be2 Nd7
10.a3 O-O-O?



11.axb4! Qxa1 + 12.Kd2 Qxh1
13.Qxc6+! bxc6 14.Ba6# 1-0
Boden's mate.

-18-

B 10 Caro Kann - Breyer
L.STEIN - BIRBRAGER
Moscow 1966

1.e4 c6 2.d3

Introduced by Breyer versus Bogolyubov, Berlin 1920.

2...d5 3.Nd2 dxc4

"In my opinion this relief of the tension is in White's favor" - Stein.

4.dxc4 Nf6

The alternative 4...e5 5.Ngf3, which has been used frequently in practice, is in crisis:

a) 5...Bc5? 6.Nxe5! Bxf2+ 7.Kxf2 Qd4+ 8.Ke1 Qxe5 9.Nc4!, and Black is lost, for instance: 9...Qxe4+ 10.Be2 Qe6 11.Nd6+ Ke7 12.Rf1 Nf6 13.Nf5+ Kf8 14.Qd8+ Ne8 15.Bf4 f6 16.Rf3 b5 17.Re3 Qd7 18.Bd6+! 1-0, Lorent Tristan - Lipet Alemany, Corr. 1989.

b) 5...Qc7 6.Nc4!*** (ECO gives only 6.a4 Bg4 7.c3 Nf6 8.h3 Bh5 9.Qc2 Nbd7 10.a5, slightly better for White, as in Kurajica - Bohm, Amsterdam 1976) Nd7 7.Bd3 Ngf6 8.O-O Be7 9.a4 O-O 10.b3 Re8

11.Bb2, and White stands better.
Cuartas - Delgado, Santo Domingo
1975.

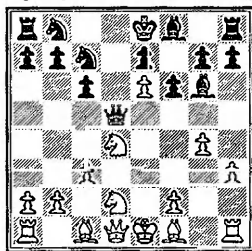
5.Ng3 Bg4 6.h3 Bh5?

A typical error. Now, sacrificing a pawn, White blocks the Kingside. On the mandatory 6...Bxf3, the Bishop pair gives White the better game.

7.e5 Nd5 8.e6! f6

Worse is 8...fxe6 9.g4 Bg6 (or 9...Bf7) 10.Ne5 - Stein.

9.g4 Bg6 10.Nd4 Nc7 11.c3 Qd5



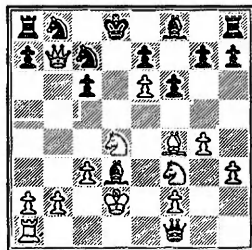
12.Qb3!!

The first Rook is offered!

12...Qxh1?

The decisive mistake, but also after 12...Qxb3 White has an impressive advantage - Stein.

13.Qxb7 Kd8 14.N2f3! Bd3 15.Bf4 Qxf1 + 16.Kd2



The sacrifice of the second Rook gains a crucial tempo: 16...Qxa1 17.Qxc7+ (or 17.Bxc7+) Ke8 18.Qc8#.

16...Qxf2 + 17.Kxd3 Nxe6

If 17...Nba6 18.Kc4!! wins. The threat is 19.Rd1, followed by 20.Nxc6+ Ke8 21.Qxa8+! Nxa8 22.Rd8# - Stein.

18.Nxe6 + Ke8 19.Qc8 + Kf7 20.Nfg5 +! 1-0

-19-

B 11 Caro Kann - Two Knights

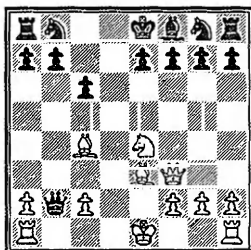
MARIC - D.POPOVIC

Novi Sad (Yugoslavia) 1945

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.d4!? dxe4 5.Nxe4 Bxf3?!

This dangerous gambit is rarely accepted. The usual responses are 5...e6 or 5...Nf6. Perhaps 5...Nd7** also deserves attention.

6.Qxf3 Qxd4 7.Be3! Qxb2 8.Bc4!



Not the only opening variation whose soundness depends on a two Rooks sacrifice. In such theoretically established variations, the Rooks usually cannot be captured. For instance, here 8...Qxa1 + 9.Ke2 Qxh1 loses by force after 10.Qxf7+ Kd7 (10...Kd8 11.Qxf8+ Kc7 12.Bf4+ Kb6 13.Qd8#) 11.Be6+ Kc7

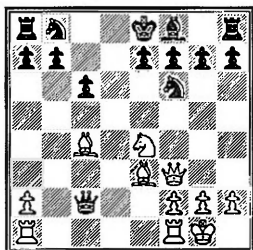
12.Qf4+. If 9...Qe5 (instead of 9...Qxh1), then 10.Qxf7+ Kd7 11.Be6+!, and Black loses his Queen.

8...Nf6

For 8...Qb4+, see next game.

9.O-O Qxc2?

The worst thing about opening mistakes is that they recur! At least once before Black has lost in much the same manner. One of the authors gives in *ECO* 9...Nbd7 10.Rab1, and White has a strong initiative. Let's add that here also 10...Qxc2?! is risky because of 11.Nxf6+ Nxf6 12.Rfc1 Qe4 13.Qg3. Even with three extra pawns, it is hard to believe that Black will survive the massive pressure of all White's pieces.



10.Qf5!

Threatens 11.Qc8# and 11.Nxf6+ winning the Queen. The only defense is a King's walk on the open file. What hope for the future does that bring?

10...Kd8 11.Qa5!? + **

A deviation, and perhaps a good one, from the book example Motl-Meltschak, 1940: 11.Rfd1+ Nbd7 12.Bd3 Qb2 13.Ng5 Ke8?! 14.Bc4 e6 15.Bxe6 fxe6 16.Qxe6+ and White

won. 13...e6** offers Black more defensive chances.

11...Kc8

If 11...Ke8 White has a decisive attack by 12.Nxf6+ gxf6 13.Rfd1 - Maric.

12.Rfd1 Nbd7 13.Nxf6 gxf6
14.Rac1 Qg6 15.Ba6! 1-0

-20-

B 11 Caro Kann - Two Knights
TYROLER - POPA
Romania (ch) 1950

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 dxe4
4.Nxe4 Bg4 5.d4 Bxf3?! 6.Qxf3
Qxd4 7.Be3 Qxb2 8.Bc4!
Qb4+ **

Proposed by Maric as the best defense. But, as in the previous game, White's development advantage is so big that even the best is not good enough.

9.Nd2 e6 10.Rb1 Qe7 11.Ne4!
Nh6 12.O-O!

Better than 12.Bxh6 gxf6 13.Nf6+ Kd8.

12...Nf5 13.Rfd1 Nxe3?

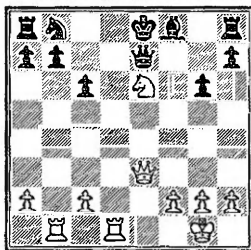
Probably 13...h5 maintains some hope.

14.Qxe3 Qc7 17.Ng5! Qe7

A sad return, but 15...Be7 loses to 16.Nxf7!.

16.Bxe6! fxe6 17.Nxe6 g6

If 17...Kf7 18.Rxb7! Qxb7 19.Nd8+.



18.Rxb7! Qxb7 19.Nc7+ Kf7
 20.Qe6+ Kg7 21.Ne8+ Kh6
 22.Qe3+ g5 23.Qe6+ Kh5
 24.Nf6+ Kg6 25.Ng4+ Kg7
 Or 25...Kh5 26.Ne5!
 26.Qf6+ Kg8 27.Nh6+ Bxh6
 28.Rd8+ 1-0

-21-

B 12 Caro Kann - Fantasy

OZSVATH - POPOV

Bulgaria 1971

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3

Rarely used, this is one of the numerous controversial variations which are successful if the player knows more about it than does the opponent.

3...Nf6 4.Nc3 dxe4

The safest reply is 4...e6.

5.fxe4 e5 6.Nf3 exd4 7.Nxd4 Bg4
 8.Qd3 Na6!?

Leads to a crisis in short order. Recent theory considers it bad, but we find it most interesting and wor-

thy of investigation. According to Florian and ECO, 8...Nbd7 9.Bg5 is unclear.

9.Nxc6 Qc7 10.Qb5 bxc6

If 10...Bd7? 11.Qe5+!

11.Qxa6 Bd6 12.Be2

After 12.Bg5 Bg3+ 13.hxg3 Qxg3+ 14.Kd2 Rd8+ 15.Bd3 Qxg2+ Black has, at least, a perpetual check.

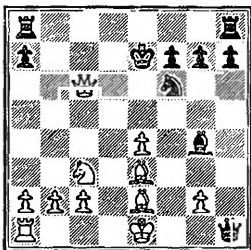
12...Bxh2??

Fatal. Instead 12...O-O! holds all threats in reserve and gives Black excellent good compensation for the gambit pawn. Now the tactical idea of the two Rooks sacrifice comes in action.

13.Rxh2! Qxh2

If 13...Qg3+ 14.Kf1, with the same play as in the game.

14.Qxc6+ Ke7 15.Be3! Qh1+



16.Kf2!

Unclear is 16.Bf1 Rhc8 17.Bc5+ Kd8.

16...Qxa1 17.Nd5+!

Black overlooked this preliminary check.

17...Nxd5 18.Bc5+ Kd8

19.Qxd5+ Bd7

Or 19...Kc7 20.Qd6+ Kc8 21.Ba6#.

20.Bb5! 1-0

-22-

B 12 Caro Kann - Advance
LEIBOWITZ - SZEKELY
 Vienna 1928

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Bd3
 g6?*

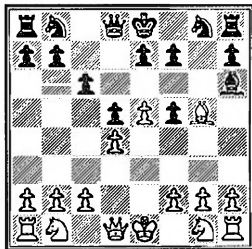
An even worse continuation is
 4...Bg6? 5.e6!.

5.Bxf5 gxf5 6.Bg5?!

There is no theory here, because
 4...g6? is outside the scope of the
 books. We recommend 6.Ne2 or
 6.e6!?

6...Bh6?

The natural counteraction is
 6...Qb6!



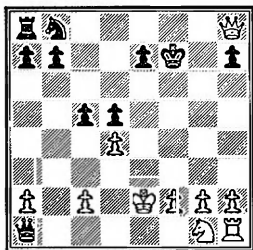
7.e6! Bxg5 8.Qh5 Qa5 + 9.Nc3
 Nf6 10.exf7 + Kf8 11.Qxg5 Ne4

After 11...Kxf7 12.Qxf5 Black is
 simply a pawn down in a bad position.

12.Qxf5! Nxc3 13.bxc3 Qxc3 +
 14.Ke2 Qxa1

Black plays without imagination.
 Even now 14...Nd7!? keeps the situa-
 tion unclear.

15.Qc8 + Kxf7 16.Qxh8 c5



An interesting pattern. Both
 players are ready for the sacrifice of
 the second Rook, but White is to
 move and, more importantly, create
 mate threats.

17.Nf3!!

Two exclamation marks because
 the move needs long and exact cal-
 culation.

17...Qxh1 18.Ng5 + Kg6
 19.Qg8 + Kf5

If 19...Kh5 20.Nf3, or 19...Kf6
 20.Nxh7 + Kf5 21.Qf7 + Ke4 22.c3
 Qxg2 (22...cxd4 23.Qe6 + Kf4
 24.g3#) 23.Ng5 + Qxg5 24.f3#.

20.g4 +! Kxg4

If 20...Kf6 21.Nxh7#, or 20...Kf4
 21.Ne6 + Ke4 22.Qxh7#.

21.Ne4 +

Faster than 21.Ne6 + Kf5 22.Qf7 +
 Kg4 23.Qf4+, and mate next move.

21...Kf4 22.Qg5 + 1-0

-23-

B 14 Caro-Kann, Panov Attack

BOOK - RASMUSSEN

Helsinki 1934

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4
Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.c5 b6 7.b4 a5

All books recommend 7...Be7.

8.Bb5+ Bd7 9.Qa4 Qc7
10.Bxd7+ Nfxd7 11.Nb5 Qc6
12.Bf4 Kd8

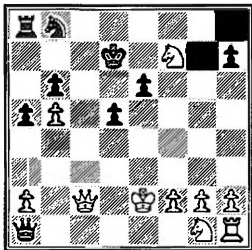
If 12...axb4? 13.Qxa8 Qxa8
14.Nc7+.

13.Bc7+ Kc8 14.Bd6 Kd8
15.Bc7+ Kc8 16.Bd6 Bxd6?

Black overlooked White's double
Rook sacrifice. Instead, 16...Kd8 is a
draw, while 16...axb4 17.Na7+ Kb7
18.Nxc6 Rxa4 19.Nd8+ Kc8 20.Nxf7
Rg8 is unclear.

17.Nxd6+ Kc7 18.b5 Nxc5
19.dxc5 Qxc5 20.Nxf7! Qc3+
21.Ke2 Qxa1 22.Qc2+ Kd7

The alternative is 22...Kb7
23.Nd6+ Ka7 24.Qc7#.



23.Nf3! Qxh1 24.N3e5+ Ke7
25.Qc7+ Kf6 26.Ng4+ Kf5
27.Qe5+ 1-0

-24-

B 15 Caro Kann Defense

AGEICHENKO - BUNATIAN

USSR 1964

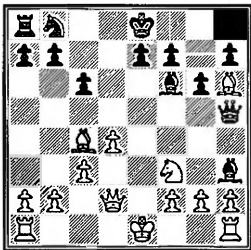
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4
4.Nxe4 g6 5.Bc4! Bg7 6.Nf3 Nf6
7.Nxf6+ Bxf6 8.Bh6

Simplest and perhaps best is 8.c3
O-O?! 9.Bh6 Bg7 10.Qd2 Nd7 11.h4
(Sherwin - Denker, New York 1968),
as White thereby retains the initia-
tive for a time.

8...Qa5+!

Better than 8...Qb6 9.O-O Bg4
10.Re1 e6 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3, and
White's position is preferable, as in
Kunz - Machate, West Germany
1958

9.c3 Qh5 10.Qd2 Bh3!



A terribly unpleasant surprise for
White.

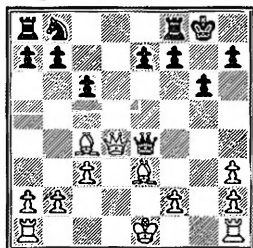
11.Ne5

There is nothing better, as 11.O-O
fails to 11...Bxg2 12.Kxg2 Qg4+.

11...Bxe5 12.dxe5 Qxe5+ 13.Be3
O-O! 14.gxh3 Qe4

Now 15.O-O-O Qxc4 leaves White
in inferior position. And he yields to
the temptation—the idea for the two
Rooks sacrifice seems almost instan-
tly winning!

15.Qd4



15...Qxh1 + 16.Ke2

If now 15...Qxa1, then 16.Bh6 with inevitable mate. Alas, the nice-looking idea is wrong. It turns out that Black's defensive resources are much bigger.

16...e5! 17.Qd6

If 17.Qxe5 Nd7!

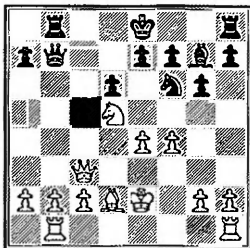
17...Qxa1 18.Bh6 Qxb2 + 19.Kf1 Qb1 + 20.Kg2 Nd7! 21.Bd3 Qd1 22.Qxd7 Rfd8 23.Qe7 Qxd3 24.Qf6 Qe4 + 0-1

If 25.f3 Rd2+! 26.Bxd2 Qe2+.

1.e4 c5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 d6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Qb6 6.Bb5?! Bd7 7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.Nc3 g6 9.Rb1 Bg7 10.Be3 c5 11.Nde2 Bg4 12.Nd5?! Better is 12.Qd3.

12...Qb7 13.Qd3 Bxe2 14.Kxe2 If 14.Qxe2 e6.

14...Rb8 15.Bd2 Nf6 16.Qc3??



16...Nxe4! 17.Qxg7 Qxd5! 18.Qxh8 + Kd7 19.Qxb8 Qxd2 + 0-1

The game might end 20.Kf3 Qf2 + 21.Kg4 (21.Kxe4 Qe2 + 22.Kd5 e6#) Qe2+, and mate next move.

-25-

B 21 Sicilian Defense

STEJSKAL - FERENC

Czechoslovakia 1962

After an unusual and not too well-played opening White contributed to his own downfall by carelessly provoking his opponent on the 16th move. In short, a typical Brutal Method of the two Rooks sacrifice. And that's all!

-26-

B 29 Sicilian - Nimzowitsch

BOLL - LANZ

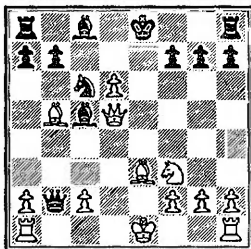
Corr. 1982

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.Nc3 e6 5.Nxd5 exd5 6.d4 Nc6 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.Qxd5 d6

Another major alternative is 8...Qb6.

9.exd6 Qb6 10.Be3 Qxb2 11.Bb5!?

A fairly fresh opening idea which includes a sacrifice of the two Rooks.



11...O-O

If Black captures only the first Rook: 11...Qxa1+ 12.Ke2 Qc3, then White should play 13.Bxc6+ bxc6 14.Qxc6+ Kf8 15.Qxa8 Qxc2+ 16.Nd2 Bxd6 17.Rb1, with advantage - Boll.

If Black grabs both Rooks: 11...Qxa1+ 12.Ke2 Qxh1, then 13.Bxc6+ wins, for example 13...bxc6 14.Qxc6+ Kf8 15.Qxa8 (15.d7 also wins), or 13...Kf8 14.Ng5 Be6 15.Nxe6+ Kg8 (if 15...fxe6 16.Qf3+ Kg8 17.Bd7!) 16.Ng5 Rf8 17.Be8 g6 18.Bxf7+ Kg7 19.Qe5+ Kh6 20.Ne6+.

The critical continuation for this new variation is 11...Bb4+ 12.Ke2 Qxc2+ 13.Nd2 and now 13...Be6, or even 13...O-O!?** are a rich field for independent investigation.

12.O-O Bxe3 13.fxe3 Be6 14.Qc5 Rac8 15.Bd3! h6 16.Rab1 b6??

A blunder in an already losing position.

17.Qxc6 1-0

If 17...Qxb1 18.Qe4.

-27-

B 32 Sicilian - Lasker/Pelikan

D.ANDREEV - P.DIMITROV

Sofia 1980

An example of how a bad game can be interesting for opening theory. The two Rooks sacrifice here is only a nightmarish incident.

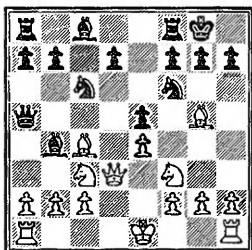
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nf3

Played mostly when White doesn't like the Lowenthal Variation: 5.Nb5 a6 6.Nd6+ Bxd6 7.Qxd6 Qf6. After 5.Nf3 the opening transposes into not-so-promising (for White) continuation of the Lasker-Pelikan Variation.

5...Nf6 6.Nc3 Bb4 7.Bc4 O-O 8.Bg5 Qa5**

ECO shows only 8...Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 d6.

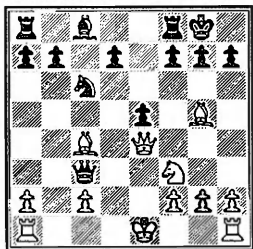
9.Qd3



9...Nxe4

The idea behind Black's forgotten novelty, or an improvisation at the board?

10.Qxe4 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Qxc3+



12.Bd2??

Sacrificing both Rooks, which doesn't yield the desired result. Hence the alternative 12.Ke2 is crucial. We didn't find how Black can continue the attack after 12...d5 13.Bxd5, for instance 13...Nb4 14.Bd2 Nxd5 15.Ng5! g6 16.Qh4. Did we miss something? If not, Black's novelty is a bluff; it works only if the opponent's defense is wrong.

12...Qxa1 + 13.Ke2 Qxh1 14.Ng5 Qxh2

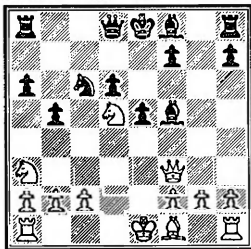
Throws cold water on White's enthusiasm.

15.c3 Qh5 + 16.g4 d5! 17.Bxd5 Qxg4 + 0-1

-28-

B 33 Sicilian - Lasker/Pelikan
ARMANDO - YUSUPOV
 Innsbruck 1977

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6
 7.Bg5 a6 8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.Na3 b5
 10.Nd5 f5 11.exf5 Bxf5 12.Qf3



A continuation in which Black is forced to give the Rook on a8, using the threat of a sacrifice of the second Rook as a keystone of his initiative. This variation, very interesting for our theme, is examined in these next five games.

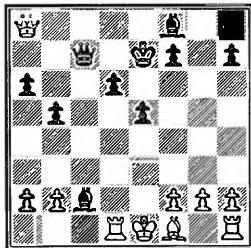
12...Nd4! 13.Nc7 + Qxc7 14.Qxa8 + Ke7 15.Rd1?*

ECO gives only 15.c3.

15...Nxc2 +

White's idea was 15...b4 16.Rxd4! exd4 17.Nc4.

16.Nxc2 Bxc2



It's show time! If now 17.Rd2, then Black wins with the thematic 17...Bh6! 18.Qxh8 Qa5.

17.Qd5 Bxd1 18.Qxd1 Bh6
 19.Qb1 Rc8 20.Be2 Qa5 + 21.b4
 Rc1 + 22.Bd1 Rxb1 23.bxa5 Ra1

24.a4 bxa4 25.O-O d5 26.Bc2
Rxf1 + 27.Kxf1 a3 28.Bb3 d4
29.Ke2 e4 30.f3 d3 + 31.Kf2 e3 +
32.Ke1 Bg7 0-1

-29-

B 33 Sicilian - Lasker/Pelikan
Variation

KLOKOV - LOMOV
USSR 1973

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6
7.Bg5 a6 8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.Na3 b5
10.Nd5 f5 11.exf5 Bxf5 12.Qf3
Nd4 13.Nc7 +

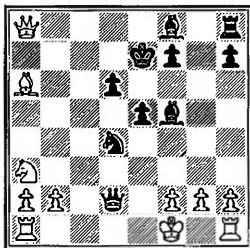
In Yanofsky-Spraggett, Montreal 1976, White declined the first Rook after a long thought: 13.Qd1. The rest of the game is interesting: 13...Be4 14.Ne3 Bh6 15.Qg4 Bg6 16.c3 b4 17.Nac4 bxc3 18.bxc3 Bxe3 19.Nxe3 Qa5 20.Rc1 d5 21.Qg5 O-O 22.Bd3 Ne6 23.Qe5 Bxd3 24.Nxd5 Qc5 25.Rd1 Bc4 26.Rd4 f6 27.Qe6 + Kh8 28.Qb6 Qa3 29.Qb4 Qc1 + 30.Rd1 Rae8 + 31.Ne7 Draw?

Spraggett missed the forced win in time trouble: 31...Rxe7 + 32.Qxe7 Qxc3 + 33.Rd2 Rb8 34.Qe4 Rd8 35.Qc2 Qa1 + and 36.Qe5 +.

13...Qxc7 14.Qxa8 + Ke7 15.c3 b4! 16.cxb4 Qb6 17.Bxa6

There is nothing else. If 17.b5 Qa5 + 18.Kd1 Bh6! 19.Nc4 Bc2#.

17...Qxb4 + 18.Kf1 Qd2



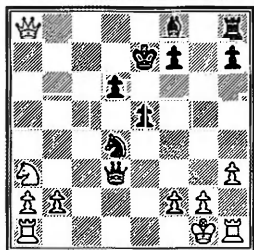
A crossroads. White has two main alternatives and it is far from clear which is the best: 19.h3 - see this and next game, and 19.h4 - game 31.

Another, clearly weaker possibility was used in Offert - Joksic, Madonna di Campiglio 1974: 19.Qb7 +?! Kf6 20.Kg1 Bd3 21.Bxd3 Qxd3 22.h4 Rg8! 23.g3 Ne2 + 24.Kg2 Nxe3 25.fxe3 Qxe3 + 26.Kf1 Qd3 + 27.Ke1 Bh6 28.Rf1 + Bf4 29.Qb4 Qe3 + 30.Kd1 Rg2 31.Rxf4 + exf4 0-1

19.h3

WARNING! Sveshnikov (in *ECO*, second edition 1984, note 166) gives the alternative 19.h4 Bh6 20.Qb7 + Kf6 21.Bc4 Bd3 + as in Pelling - Povah, London 1977. His assessment is that Black has an obvious advantage. This game continued 22.Bxd3 Qxd3 + 23.Kg1 Bf4, and now after 24.Rh3! Black obviously has no compensation for the sacrificed material. No, this is not a refutation, just **misleading information**. Simple, Pelling played not 19.h4 but 19.h3, hence 24.Rh3 was not possible. In fact, Pelling - Povah entirely repeats this game.

19...Bd3 + 20.Bxd3 Qxd3 + 21.Kg1

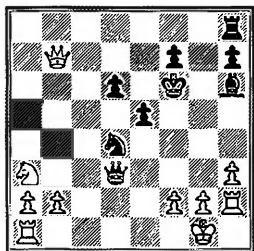


21...Bh6! 22.Qb7 +

What happens if White grabs the second Rook with 22.Qxh8 we shall see in next game.

22...Kf6 23.Rh2?

Loses, while 23.Re1 (Kondratiev) is still unclear.



23...Rb8!!

A second sacrifice of the second Rook!

24.Qxb8 Ne2 + 25.Kh1 Nc1!
26.Qxd6 +

Desperation. The alternative 26.Rxc1 Bxc1 leads to a unique situation with an unstoppable mate on the first rank.

26...Qxd6 27.g3 Qd3 28.Rg2 Ne2
29.b3 Bc1! 30.Nc4 Qd1 + 31.Kh2
Nd4 32.h4 h5 0-1

-30-

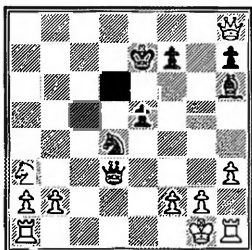
B 33 Sicilian - Lasker/Pelikan

GAPRINDASHVILI

- MATVEEVA

USSR (ch) 1974

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6
7.Bg5 a6 8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.Na3 b5
10.Nd5 f5 11.exf5 Bxf5 12.Qf3
Nd4 13.Nc7 + Qxc7 14.Qxa8 +
Ke7 15.c3 b4! 16.cxb4 Qb6
17.Bxa6 Qxb4 + 18.Kf1 Qd2
19.h3 Bd3 + 20.Bxd3 Qxd3 +
21.Kg1 Bh6 22.Qxh8



22...Ne2 + **!

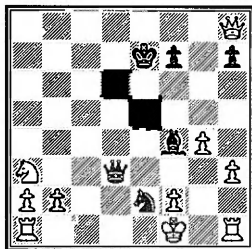
Kondratiev claims (*Informant* 15/364) that Black wins by 22...Bf4 23.g3 Qf3. His idea is obviously 24.gxf4? Ne2 + 25.Kf1 Ng3 +, and mate next move, but after 24.Re1 Bxg3 25.fxg3 Qxg3 + 25.Kf1 Black has only perpetual check.

23.Kf1

If 23.Kh2? Bf4 + 24.g3 Bxg3 + 24.Kg2 Nf4 + 25.Kg1 Qf3! 26.Rh2 Bxh2 +, and mate next move.

23...Bf4 24.g4?!

Perhaps 24.g3!? Qf3 25.Rg1.



24...Ng3+?

With 24...Qf3! Black wins, e.g. 25.Rh2 Bxh2 26.Ke1 Nd4 27.Kd2 Bf4+, or 25.Rg1 Be3! 26.Rg2 Nf4 27.Rh2 Bx2 27.Re1 (27.Rxf2 Qh1#) Be3+.

25.Kg1

If 25.Kg2 Qe4+ 26.f3 Qe2+, and Black wins.

25...Nxb1??

Black still wins after 25...Qf3!! 26.Rh2 (26.f3 Qe2+ Ne2+ 27.Kf1 Bxh2).

26.Qa8 Nxf2 27.Qb7+ Kf6 28.Kxf2

Unclear is 28.Qg2 Nxh3+ 29.Kh1 Kg7.

28...Qe3+ 29.Kf1 Qd3+ 30.Kg1 Draw

-31-

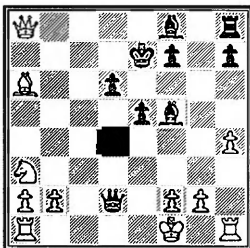
B 33 Sicilian - Lasker/Pelikan Variation

GINBURG - SAKHNENKO

USSR (Corr.) 1976

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.Na3 b5 10.Nd5 f5 11.exf5 Bxf5 12.Qf3 Nd4 13.Nc7+ Qxc7 14.Qxa8+ Ke7 15.c3 b4! 16.cxb4 Qb6

17.Bxa6 Qxb4+ 18.Kf1 Qd2 19.h4!?



19...Bd3+?

The most interesting for us is the thematic 19...Bh6. It seems that 20.Qxh8 Bd3+ 21.Bxd3 Qxd3+ 22.Kg1 Ne2+ 23.Kf1 Ng3+ leads to a draw, while 20.Qb7+ Kf6 21.Kg1 Rg8 is unclear.

Also to be considered is the immediate 19...Rg8!?, and if 20.Kg1, then e4.

20.Bxd3 Qxd3+ 21.Kg1 Bh6?

Obviously Black pins his faith on the books and follows the misleading information given by Sveshnikov - see game 29, notes after 19.h3. Still 21...Rg8!? is not so clear.

22.Qb7+ Kf6 23.Rh3!

The idea behind 19.h4!? Now the game is over.

23...Qe2 24.Qd5 Rd8 25.Nc4 Ke7 26.Ra3 Rd7 27.Nxd6 Bf4 28.Ra8 Qg4 29.Re8+ Kf6 30.Ne4+ Kg7 31.Rg8+! Kxg8 32.Qxd7 Nf3+ 33.Kh1 Qxh4+ 34.Qh3 1-0

-32-

B 34 Sicilian - Accelerated Dragon

HUBNER - BLEUL

Cologne 1958

A game full of courage—and mistakes. The two Rooks sacrifice succeeds only because of poor defense. Well, we beg you to appreciate the ideas and talents of 9-year-old Robert Hubner!

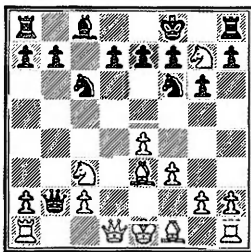
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3
Nf6 7.f3 Qb6?!*

Probably premature. The same move is good after 7...O-O 8.Bc4 Qb6.

8.Nf5

If 8.Qd2? Nxe4!.

8...Qxb2 9.Nxg7 + Kf8



10.Bd4

Maybe wrong, but a brave sacrifice of a Rook.

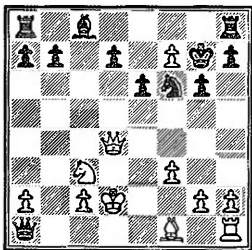
10...Nxd4

In case of 10...Kxg7 11.Rb1 Qa3 12.Nb5, White keeps his Bishop on the a1-h8 diagonal with good attacking chances.

11.Qxd4 Qxa1 + 12.Kd2 Kxg7?

White's compensation is questionable if Black plays 12...d6.

13.e5 Ne8 14.e6 + Nf6 15.exf7 e6?



16.Be2!?

Giving up the second Rook!

16...Qxh1?

Better was 16...Qb2 17.Rb1 Qa3.

17.Ne4 Rf8 18.Qxf6 + Kh6
19.Qh4 + Kg7 20.Ng5 h6??
21.Qd4 + 1-0

-33-

B 39 Sicilian - Maroczy Bind

GAPRINDASHVILI - SERVATY

Dortmund 1974

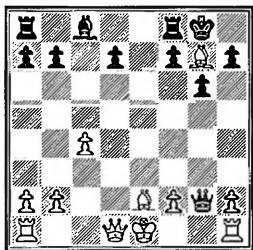
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 g6 5.c4 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6
7.Nc3 Ng4 8.Qxg4 Nxd4 9.Qd1
e5?! 10.Nb5! O-O 11.Be2!?

The usual continuation is
11.Qd2—see next game.

11...Qh4?

Pytel recommends 11...Nxb5
12.cxb5 d6 13.Bc4 Be6 14.Rc1 Qd7,
followed by Rfd8.

12.Nxd4 exd4 13.Bxd4 Qxe4
14.Bxg7 Qxg2?



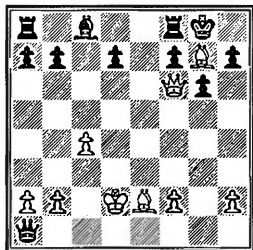
15.Qd4!!

A historic move and idea!

15...Qxh1 + 16.Kd2 Qxa1?

According to Pytel, 16...Qc6 17.Re1 (We prefer 17.Bxf8 Kxf8 18.Re1) f6 18.Bxf8 Kxf8 19.c5! (intending 20.Bb5!) d5 20.cxd6, e.p., leads to a clear advantage for White, while 16...Qxh2!? is unclear. It seems that again 17.Bxf8 Kxf8 18.Re1! gives White a very strong attack.

17.Qf6!!



The point of White's idea. There is no defense against 18.Bh6 or 18.Bh8.

1-0

-34-

B 39 Sicilian - Maroczy Bind

TAL - PAHTZ

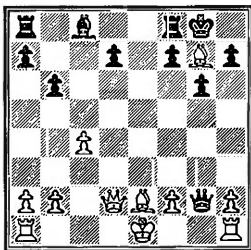
Halle 1974

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 g6 5.c4 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6
7.Nc3 Ng4 8.Qxg4 Nxd4 9.Qd1
e5?! 10.Nb5! O-O 11.Qd2 Qe7
12.Be2!?**

ECO recommends only 12.O-O-O Nxb5 13.cxb5 d5 14.exd5 Bf5 15.Bd3, with advantage, as in Smyslov-Jimenez, Havana 1963.

12...b6 13.Nxd4 exd4 14.Bxd4 Qxe4 15.Bxg7 Qxg2?

After 15...Kxg7 16.O-O White has an obvious advantage. Now White wins.



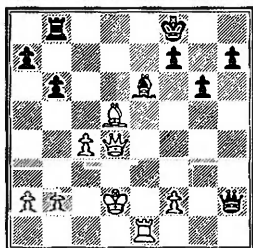
16.Qd4!! Qxh1 + 17.Kd2 Qxh2

If Black grabs the other Rook 17...Qxa1, then 18.Qf6!, followed by 19.Bh6. "Plagiarism! I learned all this from Gaprindashvili", joked Tal after the game. He referred to our game 33, played a few months earlier.

18.Bxf8 Kxf8 19.Bf3 d5

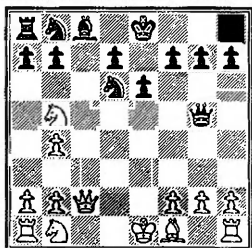
Or 19...Rb8 20.Re1!.

20.Bxd5 Rb8 21.Re1 Be6



22.Rxc6! 1-0

If 22...fxe6, then 23.Qf6+ Kg8
24.Bxe6#, or 23...Ke8 24.Bc6#.



10...Nxb5 11.Qxc8+ Ke7
12.Qxh8 Qc1+ 13.Ke2 Nd4+!
14.Kd3 Qc2+ 15.Ke3

If 15.Kxd4 Nc6+, winning the Queen.

15.Nf5+ 16.Kf3

-35-

B 40 Sicilian Defense

PIETRZAK - KASZUBA

Pila (Poland) 1980

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Bg5?

We know that ECO's refutation of this weak move stems from the present game, even though ECO did not mention the names of the players. Aside from its theoretical value, the game features an exciting hunt of White's King with a two Rooks sacrifice.

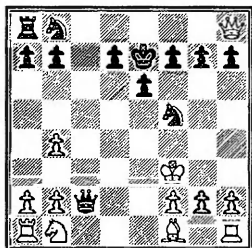
5...Qa5+ 6.Qd2

Or 6.Bd2 Qe5! with a decisive advantage.

6...Bb4 7.c3 Nxe4 8.cxb4 Qxg5

ECO stops here.

9.O 2 Nd6 1 .Nb



16...Nc6! 17.Qxa8 Ne5+ 18.Kf4
Ng6+ 19.Kf3 Qd1+ 20.Be2
Qd5+ 21.Kg4 Qe4+ 0-1

-36-

B 40 Sicilian Defense

MALISHAUSKAS -

EVIGELSKY

USSR 1981

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Bb4?! 6.e5
Nd5 7.Bd2 Bxc3?

A line with bad results in practice, used from time to time mainly as a surprise. However, 7...Nxc3 also does not yield satisfactory positions.

8.bxc3 Qc7

A continuation from 50s. ECO gives only 8...O-O.

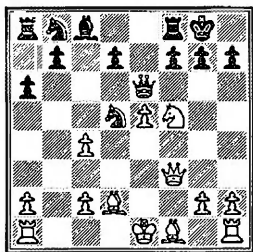
9.f4 a6?!

A waste of time. Better is the immediate 9...O-O 10.c4 Qb6 11.c3 Ne7, as in Machel - Ericson, corr. 1959. In our game Black will try the same idea with a tempo less. It does not work at all!

10.Qg4 O-O 11.c4 Qb6 12.f5!

The important difference. Now Black's life hangs by a thread. But not for long!

12...exf5 13.Nxf5 Qg6 14.Qf3
Qe6

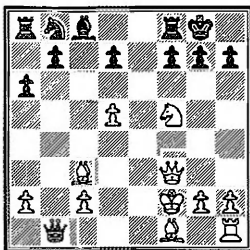


15.cxd5!

This sacrifice of both Rooks snaps the thread!

15...Qxe5+ 16.Kf2 Qxa1 17.Bc3
Qb1

If 17...Qxa2, White wins nicely by 18.Ne7+ Kh8 19.Qf6!! Qxc2+ 20.Be2 Rg8 21.Qxf7, as well as by 18.Bd3.



18.Bd3! Qb6 +

If 18...Qxh1 19.Qg4.

19.Bd4 Qb4 20.Qg4 1-0

-37-

B 41 Sicilian Defense

ZULANOV - ZUKHOVITSKY

Riga 1966

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 a6 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bb4
7.Bd3 Nc6 8.Nxc6 dxc6 9.e5 Qd4

9...Qa5 leads to the same variation as in the game.

10.exf6 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Qxc3+
12.Qd2

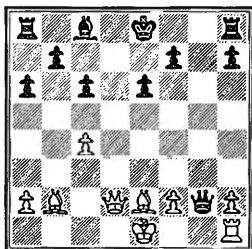
A risky gambit. Even such an attacker as Tal does not believe that the control of dark squares sufficiently compensates for the sacrificed Exchange. Nevertheless, practical results mostly favor White because the defense is not easy.

12...Qe5+ ?!

Tal recommends 12...Qxa1 13.fxg7 Qxg7 14.O-O e5 15.f4 Bg4! 16.Bb2 O-O-O, with advantage.

13.Be2 Qxa1 14.fxg7 Qxg7 15.Bb2 Qxg2?

Falls into the trap.



16.Qd6!!

Giving up the second Rook, White wins by force: 16...Qxh1+ 17.Kd2, with the unstoppable threat 18.Bf6.

16...Qg6 17.Bxh8 1-0

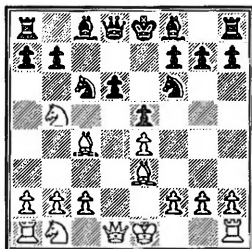
-38-

B 44 Sicilian - Taimanov

SUKHANOV - ZOTKIN

USSR 1967

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6 5.Nb5 d6 6.Bf4 e5 7.Be3 Nf6 8.Bc4!？**



An enormously interesting forgotten novelty.

8...Na5?!

The alternatives 8...Be7 or 8...Be6 are probably better.

9.Nd2 Bd7?

If 9...Nxe4? 10.Bxf7+ Kxf7 11.Nxe4 d5? 12.Ned6+! Bxd6 13.Qxd5+, or 9...Nxc4 10.Nxc4 Nxe4 11.Qd5, in both cases with a clear advantage for White. Possibly 9...a6 10.Nc3 Be7 should be tried.

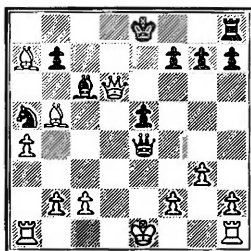
10.a4 Bc6 11.Nxa7 Rxa7

Seeking counterplay in a difficult position.

12.Bxa7 Nxe4 13.Bb5! Qh4 14.g3 Qh3 15.Nxe4 Qg2 16.Nxd6+!

The Brutal Method here works perfectly.

16...Bxd6 17.Qxd6 Qe4+



18.Be3!

White does not fall for 18.Kd2, which would allow Black to stir up counterplay after 18...Bxb5.

18...Qxh1+ 19.Kd2 Qxh2

If 19...Qxa1 20.Bc5.

20.Bb6! 1-0

If 20...Qh6+ 21.Qxb6 gxh6 22.Bxa5.

-39-

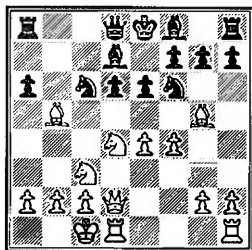
B 67 Sicilian - Richter/Rauzer

BENI - PIETZSCH

Halle 1960

This game does not correspond exactly to our theme (typical is only the sacrifice of the second Rook). Nevertheless, we decided to show it in this collection because it is very attractive and includes a variation which must be known.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 e6
7.Qd2 a6 8.O-O-O Bd7 9.f4 b5
10.Bxb5?!



This variation exists in *ECO*'s first edition, but in the second edition no trace remains.

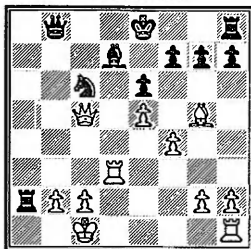
10...axb5 11.Ndxb5 Qb8

The refutation of White's idea is 11...Nb4! 12.a3 Bxb5 13.Nxb5 d5 14.e5 Qa5.

12.e5!? Ne4!

Only so. If 12...dxe5?? 13.Bxf6, or if 12...Nd5?! 13.Nxd5 exd5 14.Qxd5 Ra5 (14...Nb4? 15.Qxa8!) 15.Nxd6+, or probably stronger 15.a4!? Rxa4 16.exd6.

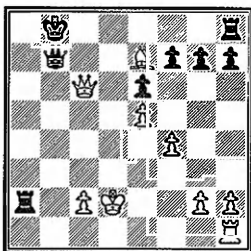
13.Nxe4 Qxb5 14.Nxd6+ Bxd6
15.Qxd6 Ra7 16.Rd3 Qb8
17.Qc5 Rxa2



18.Rxd7 Qxb2+

Probably better is 18...Kxd7!? 19.Rd1+ Kc7.

19.Kd2 Kxd7 20.Qd6+ Kc8
21.Qxc6+ Kb8 22.Be7 Qb7



23.Rb1!! Qxb1 24.Bd6+ Ka7
25.Bc5+ Kb8 Draw

-40-

B 85 Sicilian - Scheveningen

LASKER - PIRC

Moscow 1935

Another example of a variation which exists in *ECO*'s first edition, but not in the second edition.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Be2 e6
7.O-O a6 8.Be3 Qc7 9.f4 Na5?!
10.f5 Nc4?

ECO (second edition) deals only with 10...e5 and 10...Be7. By the way, *ECO* claims that the variation 10...e5 11.Nb3 Nc4 12.Bxc4 Qxc4 13.Qf3 Be7 14.Bg5, with advantage for White, is analysis by Pachman. It is only fair to say that all this belongs to Lisitsin. It was printed in the tournament book when Pachman was 12 years old. Our further notes are based mostly on those of Lisitsin.

11.Bxc4 Qxc4 12.fxe6 fxe6

Better is 12...Bxe6.

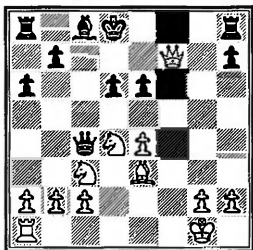
13.Rxf6! gxf6 14.Qh5+ Kd8

There is nothing better, for example:

a) 14...Kd7 15.Qf7+ Be7 16.Nf5! Re8 17.Rd1 d5 18.Nxd5 and wins.

b) 14...Ke7 15.Nf5+ exf5 (if 15...Kd7 16.Qf7+ Kc6 17.Nd4+ and 18.Nb3+) 16.Nd5+ Kd8 17.Bb6+ Kd7 18.Qf7+ Kc6 19.Qc7+ and wins.

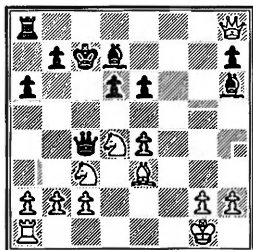
15...Qf7



15...Bd7

The natural move 15...Be7 also leads to disaster: 16.Nf5! Re8 (or 16...Qc7 17.Na4! Rf8 18.Qxh7 Ke8 19.Bb6 Qd7 20.Qh5+ Rf7 21.Ng7+ Kf8 22.Qh8#) 17.Nxd6! Bxd6 (if 17...Qc6 18.Nxe8 Qxe8 19.Bb6+ Kd7 20.Rd1+) 18.Bb6+ Bc7 19.Rd1+ forcing checkmate. Seeking a defense, Pirc decides to sacrifice both Rooks.

16.Qxf6+ Kc7 17.Qxh8 Bh6



If now 18.Qxa8 Bxe3+ 19.Kh1 Bxd4 with counterplay. But—

18.Nxe6+!

The refutation of the whole idea. If 18...Bxe6, then 19.Qxh7+.

18...Qxe6 19.Qxa8 Bxe3+ 20.Kh1 1-0

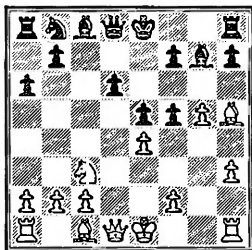
-41-

B 90 Sicilian - Najdorf
LYSENKO - CHEKALIN
 USSR 1973

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3 g6
 7.g4 Bg7 8.g5 Nh5 9.Be2 e5
 10.Nf5!?

Instead of ECO's line 10.Nb3 Nf4
 11.Nd5, as in Fischer - Reshevsky,
 USA (ch) 1962/63, when, according
 to Fischer 11...Nxe2 12.Qxe2 Be6
 leads to equality.

10...gxf5 11.Bxh5



11...fxe4?!**

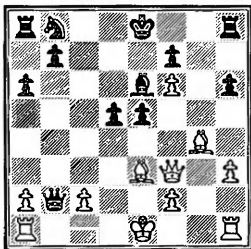
Fischer recommends 11...f4, shutting out White's B/c1. He regards the variation as bad for White. We think that the position is still double-edged: 12.Nd5, 12.Bg4, and 12.h4 all provide rich fields for investigation.

12.Nxe4 d5 13.Qf3 Be6 14.Nf6+ Bxf6 15.gxf6 h6?

Black is right in the game after 15...Nc6 16.Bh6 Qa5+, or 15...Nd7.

16.Bg4! Qb6 17.Be3! Qxb2

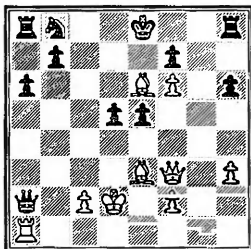
Better, but still insufficient, is 17...d4 18.Bxe6!



18.Bxe6! Qxa1 + 19.Kd2 Qxa2

After 19...Qb2 20.Qxd5! White wins as in the game. Now, to accomplish his idea, White uses the help of the remaining Rook.

20.Ra1!



20...Qxa1?

Loses. For better or worse 20...Qc4! must be played, with the possible continuation 21.Bxd5 Qb4+. The situation is unclear, with White having compensation for the Exchange.

21.Qxd5 Rh7 22.Bxf7 +! 1-0

The mate is inevitable: 22...Rxf7 23.Qe6+ Kd8 (23...Kf8 24.Bc5+ Kg8 25.Qe8+) 24.Bb6+ Rc7 25.Qe7+, and 26.Qxc7#.

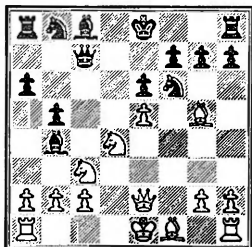
-42-

B 96 Sicilian - Polugaevsky

PAVLOV - PERIOIU

Bucharest 1963

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6
 7.f4 b5 8.e5 dxe5 9.fxe5 Qc7
 10.Qe2 Bb4?



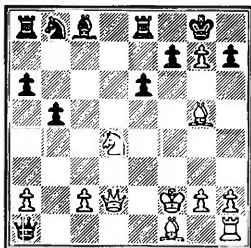
11.exf6! Bxc3 + 12.bxc3 Qxc3 +
 13.Qd2 Qxa1 + 14.Kf2 O-O

The only continuation given by ECO. For the alternative 14...Bd7, see next game, while 14...Qb2 fails to 15.fxg7 Rg8 16.Nxe6!.

15.fxg7

Evidently, our two examples were not available to ECO's staff, because they quit the line after 14...O-O, offering 15.fxg7 as a final recommendation. The assessment by Polugaevsky is that White has the advantage. We think that assessment is very soft. White is winning, as our examples convincingly show.

15...Re8



16.Bxb5! Qxh1 17.Bxe8 e5

Also in case of 17...Qxh2, White wins by 18.Qb4 Nd7 (18...Kxg7 19.Qc7 Qh5 20.Qf6+ Kg8 21.Bc6) 19.Qc7 Qh5 20.Nxe6!, followed by 21.Nf4.

18.Qb4 Nd7 19.Qe7 1-0

-43-

B 96 Sicilian - Polugaevsky

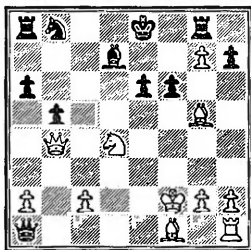
MENDE - PERSONU

Romania 1963

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6
 7.f4 b5 8.e5 dxe5 9.fxe5 Qc7
 10.Qe2 Bb4? 11.exf6! Bxc3 +
 12.bxc3 Qxc3 + 13.Qd2 Qxa1 +
 14.Kf2 Bd7**

This unmentioned continuation loses even quicker than 14...O-O.

15.fxg7 Rg8 16.Qb4! f6



17.Be2!!

White does not fall for 17.Bxf6? Nc6!, but wins with the thematic sacrifice of the second Rook.

17...Qxh1 18.Bxf6! 1-0

If 18...Rxc7 19.Bh5+, and mate next move.

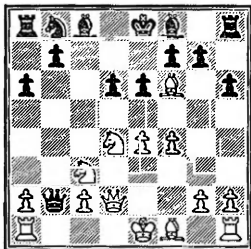
-44-

B 96 Sicilian - Poisoned Pawn

SCHIFFERDECKER -
STRAUSS

West Germany 1956

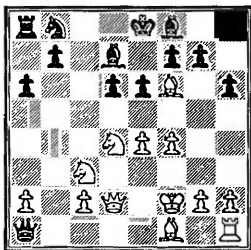
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6
7.f4 h6 8.Bh4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2
10.Bxf6**



Is this a forgotten novelty, or just a finger slip? Instead of the main line 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bxf6, perhaps White just played the second move first, something that happens often enough in real games. If it is a forgotten novelty, then we were not able to discover White's idea against the best defense. However, the result of all these hypothetical mistakes is an interesting example of the Quiet Method of the two Rooks sacrifice.

10...Qxa1 + 11.Kf2 Bd7?

After 11...Nc6, or 11...Qb2, White's compensation is questionable.



12.Nxe6! fxe6?

Best defense is 12...gxf6 13.Nc7+ Kd8 14.Nxa8, when White already has the advantage. Now the sacrifice of the second Rook decides immediately.

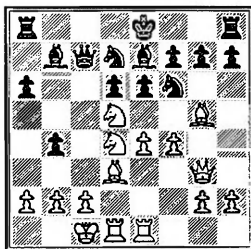
13.Be2! 1-0

If 13...Qxh1, then 14.Bh5+ g6 15.Bxg6#.

-45-

B 99 Sicilian - Najdorf
AUZINS - KRAUKLIS
 Corr. 1975/76

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6
 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.O-O-O
 Nbd7 10.Bd3 b5 11.Rhe1 Bb7
 12.Qg3 b4 13.Nd5



Eight hundred years ago, the Arabs started their games from advanced opening positions called *tabias*. This is one of the *tabias* of the 1970s, a complicated and theoretical still unclear position.

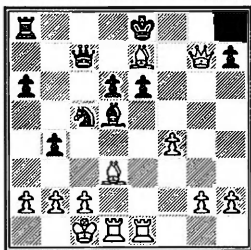
13...Nxd5?!

Black's best is 13...exd5 14.exd5 (14.e5!?) Kd8, with White having compensation for the sacrificed piece.

14.exd5 Bxd5 15.Nxe6! fxe6**

ECO shows only 15...Bxe6 16.Rxe6!, with clear advantage for White, e.g. 16...fxe6 17.Bxe7 etc.

16.Bxe7 Nc5 17.Qxg7



17...Rc8

Our theme has a better chance to succeed after the more interesting 17...Bxa2. If White grabs the Rooks 18.Qxh8+? Kd7! 19.Qxa8, then 19...Nb3#!. But it does not work, due to 18.Bc4!! Bxc4 19.Qxh8+ and 20.Qxa8.

18.Qxh8+ 1-0

After 18...Kd7 19.Qxh7 Black has nothing for the Rook.

-46-

C 00 French Defense
STEINITZ - WINAWER
 Vienna 1882

As far as we know, this is the only attempt by Steinitz to use the two Rooks sacrifice. Unsuccessfully.

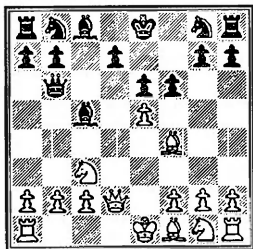
1.e4 e6 2.e5?!

Introduced by Steinitz.

2...f6

Best of all is the simple 2...d6 3.exd6 Bxd6, or 3...cxd6!? 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Be7 6.c4 d5, transposing into the Caro-Kann Defense with an extra tempo for Black.

3.d4 c5 4.dxc5 Bxc5 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Bf4 Qb6 7.Qd2

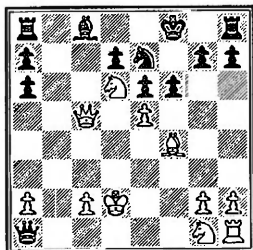


A typical tactical situation where one of the players (here Black) can win material.

7...Bxf2 +

A note of caution! Such tactical action always brings a material advantage. At the same time, as we shall see in many other examples, it is also the start of a dangerous adventure. As a rule, sacrificing an Exchange, the opponent gains tempi and creates conditions for the sacrifice of the other Rook. Before you take the Exchange, you must see far and clearly!

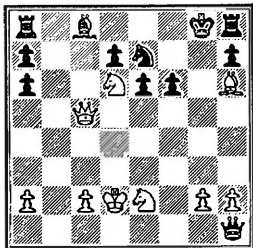
8.Qxf2 Qxb2 9.Kd2 Qxa1
10.Nb5 Na6 11.Nd6 + Kf8
12.Bxa6 bxa6 13.Qc5 Ne7



14.Ne2

A logical continuation, unfortunately not enough to ignite the smouldering initiative.

14...Qxh1 15.exf6 gxf6 16.Bh6 + Kg8



17.Qd4

It is hard to say where White could have played better. The most interesting move is 17.Nf5!? (if 17.Nxc8 Ng6!) and now not: 17...Qxg2? 18.Qxe7 Bb7 19.Nd6 Qg6 20.Nf4!, but 17...Ng6 18.Nf4 Bb7!, refuting the idea. Now Black wins easily.

17...Qxh2 18.Bf4 Qh5 19.Qxf6 Nd5 20.Qd8 + Kg7 21.Qa5 Nxf4 22.Qc3 + e5 23.Nxf4 Qg5 24.g3 Rf8 25.Ne4 Qe7 26.Nd5 Qe6 27.Nc7 Qh6 + 0-1

-47-

C01 French Defense

GOLDMANN - GRUHN

Sauerbrunn 1938

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.c4

This position can be reached also from the Albin Counter-Gambit: 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5 3.e3 exd4 4.exd4.

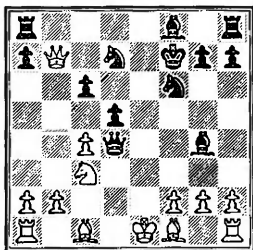
4...Nf6 5.Nc3 c6

Rather than give White the initiative with 5...dxc4 6.Bxc4 Be7 7.Nf3 O-O 8.h3!.

6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Qb3 Qb6 8.Ne5?

Instead, 8.cxd5 Qxb3 9.axb3 Bxf3 gives about even chances.

8...Qxd4! 9.Nxf7 Kxf7 10.Qxb7+ Nbd7



11.Be3

If White grabs the Rook with 11.Qxa8, then Black wins immediately, offering the other Rook by 11...Bb4!.

11...Re8 12.Be2 Rxe3

Obviously forced, but winning!

13.fxe3 Qxe3 14.Rf1 d4 15.Rd1 dxc3 16.Rxd7+ Kg6 0-1

-48-

C 06 French - Tarrasch

CASTAGNA - BURKHALTER

Switzerland 1961

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.Nf4?!

This continuation has a bad name.

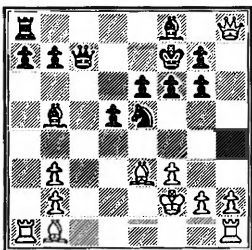
9...Qe7 10.Qh5+?! Qf7 11.Qh3**

The book line is 11.Bg6 hxd6 12.Qxh8 fxe5, and White is in trouble. However, the idea behind the text is no better.

11...Nxd4 12.Ng6 hxd6! 13.Qxh8 Nxe5 14.Bb1 Bd7 15.Nb3 Nxb3

16.axb3 Bb5 17.Be3 Qc7 18.f3 Kf7! 19.Kf2

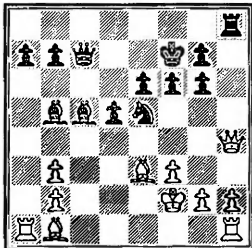
Or 19.Qh4 Bc5! 20.Qf2 Bb4+ and Black wins.



19...Bc5! 20.Qh4

On 20.Qxa8, Black follows with Ng4+!, as in the game.

20...Rh8!



We are already familiar with this typical second sacrifice of the remaining Rook. The Queen must flee the battle zone.

21.Qxh8

If 21.Qf4, then Nd3+! 22.Bxd3 Qxf4 wins the Queen. Also 21.Qg3 Bxe3+ 22.Kxe3 Qc5+ 23.Kd2 Qd4+ leads to mate in a few moves.

21...Ng4+! 22.Ke1

Or 22.fxd4 Qf4+.

22...Bb4 + 23.Bd2 Qc1# 0-1

-49-

C 10 French Defense

ANTHES - ALTEN

Stockholm 1909

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 c5

Introduced by Marshall.

4.dxc5

The theoretical line is 4.exd5 exd5 5.dxc5 d4 6.Bb5+ Nc6 7.Bxc6+ bxc6 8.Nce2 Bxc5 9.Nf3 Bb4+ 10.Bd2 Bxd2+ 11.Qxd2 c5 12.O-O-O Nf6 13.Qg5, with an advantage for White. On the trail of improvement, Black can try 5...Bxc5!**, see the notes after White's fifth move.

4...Bxc5**

ECO shows only 4...d4 unclear.

5.Qg4?!

If 5.exd5, then not Kurt Richter's 5...Bb4 because of 6.Qd4!, but 5...exd5!?. After 6.Nxd5 Nf6, or 6.Qxd5 Qe7+ 7.Qe4 (7.Ne4!**) Bf5 8.Qxe7+ Nxe7, Black has some compensation for the pawn.

5...Qf6?

He should play 5...Nf6!, and if 6.Qxg7 Rg8 7.Qh6 Bxf2+!, or 6.Qh4 Nxe4! etc.

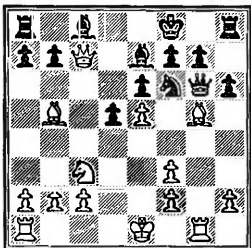
6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Bg5 Ne5 8.Bb5 +

Stronger is 8.Bxf6! Nxd4 9.Bxg7.

8...Kf8 9.Qg3 Nxf3 + 10.gxf3 Qg6 11.Rg1!

White paves the way for the two Rooks sacrifice!

11...Nf6 12.Qc7! Be7 13.e5 h6



14.Bxf6!

An easy example of the Brutal Method.

14...Qxg1 + 15.Ke2 Qxa1
16.Qxe7 + Kg8 17.Qe8 + Kh7
18.Bd3 + g6 19.Qxf7# 1-0

-50-

C 11 French Defense

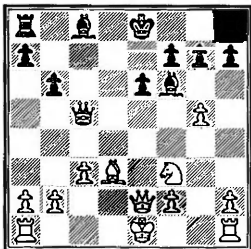
C.TORRE - ADAMS

New Orleans 1920

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Be7 6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.Nf3 c6?! 8.c3 Qc7 9.Bd3 Nd7 10.Qe2 b6 11.g4 c5

Better is 11...Bb7 followed by O-O-O.

12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Nxc5 Qxc5 14.g5!?



14...Bxc3 + ?

Falls into the trap. 14...Bxg5 is unclear.

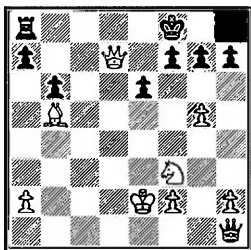
15.bxc3!!

Stronger than 15.Kf1, which also gives an advantage. In sacrificing both Rooks, White must foresee a fine tactical point five moves later.

15...Qxc3 + 16.Qd2! Qxa1 + 17.Ke2 Qxh1 18.Bb5 + Bd7

If 18...Ke7 19.Qb4+, and mate in two moves.

19.Qxd7 + Kf8



20.g6! hxg6 21.Ng5 1-0

-51-

C 11 French Defense
ASZTALOS - ALEKHIN
Bled 1931

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Be7 6.Bxf6 gxf6!? 7.Nf3 b6 8.Bb5 +

Not the best, because ...c7-c6 is almost mandatory for Black. A recent theoretically important example is Kortchnoi - Andersson, Reykjavik 1988: 8.Bc4 Bb7 9.Qe2 c6 10.O-O-O Qc7 11.Rhe1 Nd7 12.Kb1 O-O-O 13.Ba6 Rhe8!? 14.Bxb7 + Kxb7 15.c4 Nf8 16.Qc2 f5 17.Nc3 Bf6 18.Re3

Re7 19.Red3 Ng6 20.d5 Red7 21.Qa4 Ne7, with equal chances.

8...c6 9.Bd3 Bb7 10.Qe2 Qc7 11.O-O-O a6?

All the following difficulties stem from this move. Natural and better is 11...Nd7, after which Black would stand well. It is worth noting that then 12.Ba6? would be a blunder, because 12...Bxa6 13.Qxa6 b5! threatens 14...Nb8.

12.Rhe1 Nd7 13.Kb1 c5 14.dxc5 bxc5

Dreaming of an attack on the b-file. Perhaps 14...Nxc5 was preferable.

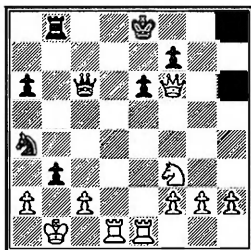
15.Ng3 Nb6 16.Nh5 c4 17.Be4 Na4

Also after 17...Rb8 18.Nd4 (threatening 19.Ng7+ and 20.Nxe6+) Black is in serious trouble.

18.Qe3! h6 19.Bxb7 Qxb7 20.Qd4 Rb8

If 20...e5, then 21.Nxe5! and White wins.

21.b3 Qc6 22.Nxf6 + Bxf6 23.Qxf6 cxb3



24.axb3?

White misses the chance of his life. Alekhin's attractive idea to sacrifice

both Rooks: 24.Qxh8+ Ke7 25.Qxb8?? Qxc2+ 26.Ka1 Qxa2# can be refuted by 25.Rd7+!! Qxd7 (25...Kxd7 26.Ne5+) 26.Qxb8, and Black has nothing to show for the Rook.

24...Nc3 + 25.Kc1 Rf8 26.Rd3??

Incredible! 26.Nd4 followed by Nxe6 wins immediately.

26...Nd5 27.Qc5 Rc8 28.Re2 Nb4 29.Rd6 Qc5! 30.Qxc5 Rxc5 31.Kb2?

Another mistake. Right is 31.Rb6 a5 32.Rb7, and White must win. The rest is not so interesting for our theme. White's scanty endgame technique allows Alekhin to save the game.

31...Ke7 32.Rb6 a5 33.Nc5 Rfc8 34.Rb7+ R8c7 35.Rxc7+ Rxc7 36.g3 f6 37.Nf3 e5 38.Rd2 Ke6 39.Ne1 Nd5 40.c4 Ne7 41.Ka3? Kf5 42.Rd6 Nc6 43.Nc2 Ke4! 44.Rxf6 Nd4 45.Kb2 a4! 46.Kc3?!

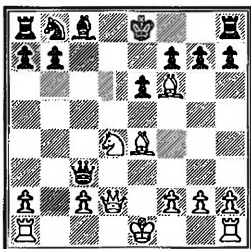
Instead 46.bxa4 still keeps some winning chances.

46...axb3 47.Nxd4 exd4+ 48.Kxb3 Kd3! 49.Rf3+ Ke2 50.Rf4 Kd3! 51.Rf3+ Ke2 52.Rf4 Draw

Chances are even after 8.Bxf6 Qxf6 9.Qxd4.

8...Bxc3 + 9.bxc3 Qa5 10.Bxf6 Qxc3 + 11.Qd2

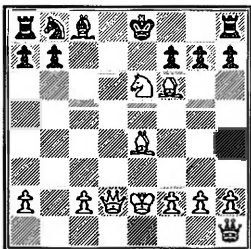
Both Rooks are on the sacrificial altar. Today this is a well-known trap.



11...Qxa1 + ?

Loses. According to the books, Black keeps the better ending with 11...Qxd2+ 12.Kxd2 gxf6 13.Nb5 Na6 14.Nd6+ Ke7 15.Nxc8+ Raxc8 16.Bxb7 Rcd8+, as in Honfi - Lengyel, Budapest 1957. Actually, it is White who, after 13.Rab1! (instead of 13.Nb5) recaptures the pawn with slightly better chances - Mineev in *French Defense, New and Forgotten Ideas*.

12.Ke2 Qxh1 13.Nxe6!



-52-

C 12 French - MacCutcheon

SHISHKIN - GELBAK

Peterburg 1889

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bd3 Bb4 5.Bg5 dxe4 6.Bxe4 c5 7.Nf3

Theory considers 7.Nge2 as better, but leading only to equality. As we shall see, 7.Nf3 is incorrectly condemned and possibly is White's best.

7...exd4 8.Nxd4!?

In Brask - Gustafsson, Attleboro 1943, Black resigned here.

13...Bd7 14.Nxg7+ Kf8
15.Qd6+ Kg8 16.Ne6! Bb5+
17.Kf3 Be2+ 18.Kxe2 1-0

16.Qg5+ Nf6 (or 16...f6 17.Qg7+)
17.Qxf6+ Kd7 18.Bb5+ wins for
White, as does 13...Na6 14.Bg5!.

14.Nc7+! Kd8 15.Nxa8 Ne7

Else White wins spectacularly with
the thematic sacrifice of the remain-
ing Rook:

a) 15...Ncxe5

-53-

C 15 French Defense

MOKRY - PYTEL

Polanica Zdroj 1984

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4
4.Nge2 Nf6

The usual response is 4...dxe4.

5.e5 Nfd7 6.Qd3!?

As far as we know, this is first over-
the-board 6.Qd3 game.

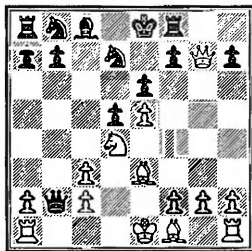
6...c5?!

Perhaps 6...O-O!? or 6...b6!? -
Mokry.

7.Qg3 cxd4 8.Qxg7 Rf8 9.Nxd4
Qb6 10.Be3 Bxc3+

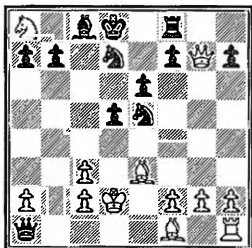
If 10...Bc5, then 11.O-O-O!
threatens 12.Na4.

11.bxc3 Qb2



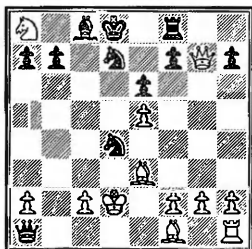
12.Nb5!! Qxa1+ 13.Kd2 Nc6

Mokry points out that 13...a6
14.Nd6+ Kd8 15.Bb6+ Ke7



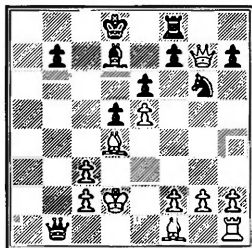
16.Bb5!! Qxh1 17.Qxf8+!! Nxf8
18.Bg5+, and mate next move.

b) 15...d4 16.cxd4 Nxd4



15.Bb5!! Qxh1 16.Qxf8+!! Nxf8
17.Bg5+, and mate next move.
These variations are all given by
Mokry.

16.Bxa7! Ng6 17.Bd4 Qxa2
18.Nb6 Qb1 19.Nxd7 Bxd7



20.Bd3!

A third opportunity for the thematic sacrifice in one game - this is the record!

20...Qxh1 21.Bxg6 Re8 22.Bb6 + Kc8 23.Bxf7 d4

Desperation. If 23...Rd8 24.Bxc6!.

24.Bxe8 dxc3 + 25.Ke2 Bb5 + 26.Bxb5 1-0

-54-

C 17 French - Bogolyubov
SAMISCH - AMATEUR
Aachen 1934 (Blind simul.)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.Bd2 cxd4?!

The safest continuation is 5...Ne7.

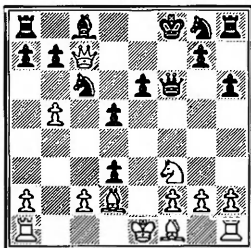
6.Nb5 Bc5

The most interesting reply is 6...Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 f6!?!*.

7.b4 Bb6 8.Qg4 Kf8 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Qf4 f6 11.exf6 Qxf6 12.Ne7 Bxc7?

After 12...Qxf4 13.Bxf4 Rb8 (not 13...Bxc7? 14.Bxc7 Nxb4?? 15.Bd6+), the situation is unclear.

13.Qxc7 h6? 14.b5 d3



15.Bxd3! Qxa1 + 16.Ke2 Qf6

The Brutal Method in action. If 16...Qxh1, then 17.bxc6 with unstoppable threats: 18.Bb4+ or 18.Qd8+.

17.bxc6 Qe7 18.Bb4! Qxb4 19.Qd8 + Kf7 20.Ne5# 1-0

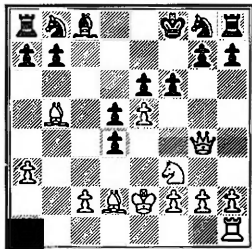
-55-

C 18 French - Winawer
HAYENGA - CORIELL
Corr. 1984

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3 + 6.bxc3 Qc7 7.Qg4 f6 8.Bf4?!*.

Theory offers 8.Bb5 + Nc6 (8...Kf8!?) 9.Nf3. The two Rooks sacrifice implicit in this move here seems to be unsound.

8...cxd4 9.Bb5 + Kf8 10.Nf3 Qxc3 + 11.Bd2 Qxa1 + 14.Ke2



14...Qxa3!

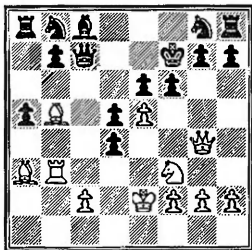
As always, the opponent has the option to reject the second Rook! Here Black's decision is with good reason. After 12...Qxh1 13.Bb4+, White has a probably winning attack, for instance 13...Kf7? 14.Ng5+! fxe5 15.Qh5+! g6 16.Qf3+, or 13...Ne7 14.Bxe7+ Kf7 15.e6 gxf6 16.Bxf6! Rg8 17.Qf4, and Black is lost.

15.Rb1 a5 14.Rb3 Qe7 15.Bc1 Qc7?!

He should give up the Queen by 15...a4! 16.Ba3 axb3, when Black stands clearly better.

16.Ba3 + Kf7??

After 16...Ne7 White's initiative is not enough compensation for the sacrificed Rook.

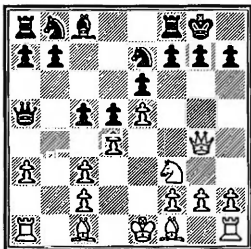
**17.Ng5+! Kg6**

Or 17...fxg5 18.Qh5+! g6 19.Qf3+ and wins.

18.Be8 + 1-0

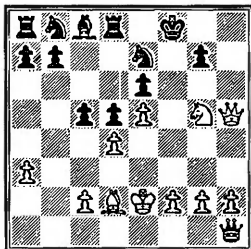
Black rejects the draw you will find here.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 O-O 8.Nf3 Qa5



9.Bd3 Qxc3+ 10.Bd2 Qxa1+ 11.Ke2 Qxh1 12.Bxh7+ Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Kg8 14.Qh5 Rd8 15.Qxf7+ Kh8 16.Qh5+ Kg8 17.Qh7+ Kf8 18.Qh5

ECO stops here.

**18...g6??**

Now White wins, while after 18...Kg8 he has only a perpetual check.

19.Qh8 + Ng8 20.Qh7! 1-0

There is no way out: 20...Rd7 21.Nxe6+ Ke8 22.Qxg8+ Ke7 23.Bg5#,

-56-

C 18 French - Winawer

WIKTORCZYK - BOZEK

Corr. 1957

ECO quotes from this game to show a two Rooks sacrifice which leads only to a draw. What happens if

or 20...Nh6 21.Qxh6+ Ke8
 22.Qxg6+ Kd7 23.Qxc6+ Kc7
 24.Qe7+ Kc6 (24...Bd7 25.Nc6+)
 25.Qxc5+ Kd7 26.e6+ Ke8 27.Bb4.

-57-

C 18 French - Winawer

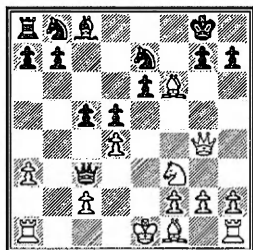
CHANDLER - NOGUEIRAS

Leningrad 1987

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5
 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.Qg4
 O-O

Games with 7...O-O exploded in number during 1986-1990. This game and next three are the story of a small branch of this rich variation. Here White tries to disintegrate Black's castle at lightning speed using the two Rooks sacrifice.

8.Nf3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5 Qa5
 11.Bxf6 Qxc3+

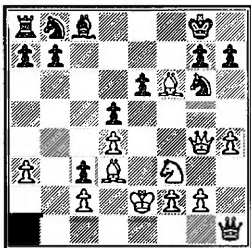


12.Kd1

Still unclear is 12.Ke2!? Ng6
 13.Rc1 gxf6 14.h4 Nc6 15.h5 c5
 16.Qg3 e4 17.hxg6 exf3+ 18.Kd1, as
 in Psakhis - Bareev, Sochi 1987.

12...Qxa1+ 13.Kd2 Ng6 14.Bd3

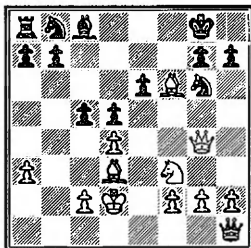
The following interesting analysis
 by Rogers and Hazai deserves to be
 noted: 14.h4 c4! 15.Bd3 c3+! 16.Ke2
 Qxh1



17.Bxg6 (17.h5?? Qxh5!) gxf6
 18.Bxh7+ Kxh7 19.h5 Bd7 20.Qg6+
 Kh8 21.Nc5 (if 21.h6? Bb5+) fxe5
 22.h6 Bb5+ 23.Kf3 Qh5+!! 24.Qxh5
 Nc6, and Black stands better.

14...Qxh1

A crossroads.



15.Bxg7

Forces a draw. An attempt at a victory is 15.Bxg6 - see games 58-60.

15...Kxg7 16.Bxg6 hxg6 17.Ne5
 Kf8 18.Qxg6 Ke7 19.dxc5 Kd8
 20.Qf6+ Kc7 21.Qe7+ Bd7
 22.Qd6+ Kc8 23.Qf8+ Kc7
 24.Qd6+ Draw

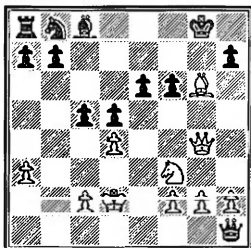
-58-

C 18 French - Winawer

KUPREICHIK - KOSTEN

Minsk 1986

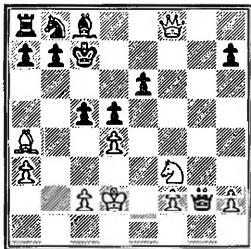
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5
 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4
 O-O 8.Nf3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5
 Qa5 11.Bxf6 Qxc3+ 12.Kd1 Ng6
 13.Bd3 gxf6 14.Bxg6 Qxa1+
 15.Kd2 Qxh1



16.Be8+

White does not achieve more than perpetual check with 16.Bxh7+ Kxh7 17.Nh4 Qxh2 18.Qg6+ Kh8 19.Qe8+ Kg7 20.Qe7+, as in Diaz - Arencibia, Cuba (ch) 1986.

16...Kf8 17.Qh5 Ke7 18.Qf7+ Kd8 19.Ba4 Qxg2 20.Qxf6+ Kc7 21.Qf4+ Kd8 22.Qf8+ Kc7



23.dxc5?

White overestimates his chances. He should be satisfied with 23.Qf4+ and a perpetual check.

23...Nd7 24.Bxd7 Bxd7 25.Qf4+ Kd8 26.Ng5

If 26.Qf8+ Be8 27.Qd6+ Kc8 28.Qxe6+ Bd7, or 26.Qf6+ Ke8 27.Qh8+ Ke7 28.Qxh7+ Kf8, and Black wins.

26...b6 27.c6 Be8! 28.Nxe6+ Bxe6 29.Qd6+ Ke8 30.Qxe6+ Kf8 31.Qf6+ Kg8 32.c7 Qg6 33.Qd8+ Qe8 34.Qxd5+ Kg7 0-1

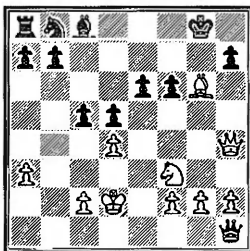
-59-

C 18 French - Winawer

BALASHOV - BAREEV

USSR 1987

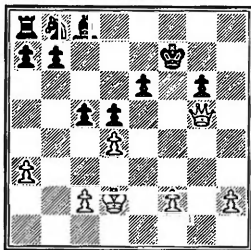
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5
 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.Qg4
 O-O 8.Nf3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5
 Qa5 11.Bxf6 Qxc3+ 12.Kd1
 Qxa1+ 13.Kd2 Ng6 14.Bd3
 Qxh1 15.Bxg6 gxf6 16.Qh4!?



16...hxg6 17.Qxf6 Qxg2

Now Black must sacrifice his Queen. The other defense, 17...Qa1, is also complicated - see next game.

18.Ng5 Qxg5+ 19.Qxg5 Kf7



Black's pieces are miserably out of play, but Balashov does not find a way to exploit the dislocation.

20.Qf4+ Kg7 21.Qe5+ Kf7
22.Qf4+ Kg7 23.Qe5+ Kf7
24.Qc7+ Nd7 25.dxc5 g5 26.f3
Kg6 27.a4 a5 28.Qd8 Nf6 29.h3
e5 Draw

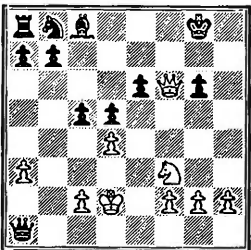
-60-

C 18 French - Winawer

P.BLATNY - SZYMCZAK

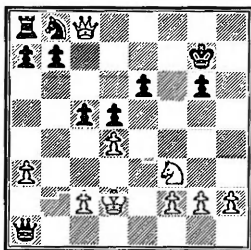
Trnava 1987

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5
Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.Qg4
O-O 8.Nf3 f5 9.exf6 Rxf6 10.Bg5
Qa5 11.Bxf6 Qxc3+ 12.Kd1
Qxa1+ 13.Kd2 Ng6 14.Bd3
Qxh1 15.Bxg6 gxf6 16.Qh4!?
hgx6 17.Qxf6 Qa1



Seems better than the 17...Qxg2 of the previous game.

18.Qd8+ Kg7 19.Qe7+ Kg8
20.Qe8+ Kg7 21.Qe7+ Kg8
22.Qd8+ Kg7 23.Qxc8!?



23...Nc6??

Analysis by Blatny shows (at least for now) that Black's possibly only defense is 23...cxd4! 24.Qxb7+ Nd7! (only!) 25.Qxd7+ Kf6 26.g4 Qc3+ 27.Ke2 Qxc2+ 28.Kf1 Qe4! 29.g5+ Kf5 30.Qf7+ Kg4 31.h3+! Kxh3 32.Qh7+ Kg4 33.Qh4+ Kf5 34.Qh3+ Qg4 35.Nxd4+ Kxg5 36.Nxe6+, draw.

24.Qxb7+ Ne7 25.Qxe7+ Kh6
26.Qh4+ Kg7 27.Qe7+ Kh6
28.g4 Qf1

Also hopeless is 28...cxd4 29.Qg5+ Kh7 30.Ne5 Qc3+ 31.Kd1 Rg8 32.Qh4+ Kg7 33.Qe7+ Kh8 34.Nf7+ Kg7 35.Ng5+ Kh6 36.f4! Qa1+ 37.Ke2 d3+ 38.Kd2! Rg7 39.Qf8, and White wins - analysis by Blatny.

29.g5+ Kh5 30.Qh7+ Kg4
31.Ne5+ Kf4 32.Qh4+ 1-0

-61-

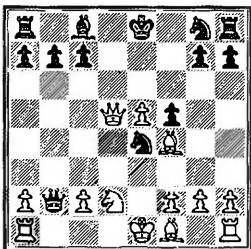
C 23 Bishop's Opening
BOWDLER - CONWAY
 London 1796

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Bc5 3.d3 c6 4.Qe2
 d6 5.f4

(Annotated in the Introduction,
 page xii)

then 11.Bb5+ Bd7 12.Nxd7 Nd6+
 (12...Nxd7 13.O-O-O) 13.Be2 with
 an advantage for White.

10.Qxd5! Qb4+ 11.Nd2 Qxb2



-62-

C 25 Vienna Game
STEEL - AMATEUR
 Calcutta 1886

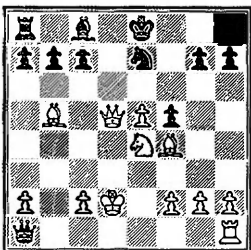
1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 exf4 4.d4
 Qh4+ 5.Ke2

(Annotated in the Introduction,
 page xiv)

12.Nxe4! Qxa1+ 13.Kd2 Ne7

The alternative 13...Qb2? loses im-
 mediately to 14.Bb5+ c6 15.Nd6+
 Kd8 16.Nxb7+ etc.

14.Bb5+



-63-

C 25 Vienna Game
SIMON - MUNDER
 West Germany 1976

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Bc5 3.Nf3 d6
 4.Na4 Nd7?!**

The routine 4...Bb6 is better.

5.Nxc5 Nxc5 6.d4!? Nxe4 7.dxe5
 Qe7 8.Qd4! f5 9.Bf4 d5

Our thematic story begins with this
 move. However, Black has limited
 options. If 9...dxe5 10.Nxe5 Ngf6,

14...Kf8

A delightful mate occurs after
 14...c6 15.Nd6+ Kd8 16.Nxb7+ Kc7
 17.e6+ Kxb7 18.Bxc6+ Nxc6
 19.Qb5#.

15.Qd8+ Kf7 16.Ng5+ Kg6
 17.Qxh8 Qd4+ 18.Ke2 Qxf4
 19.Qxh7+ Kxg5 20.h4+ 1-0

-64-

C 29 Vienna Game
CARRERAS - BATTLE
 Barcelona 1898

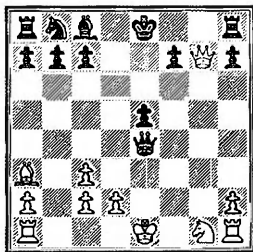
1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.f4 Bb4?!
 4.Bc4

Better is 4.fxe5 Bxc3 5.dxc3 Ng8
 (5...Nxe4 6.Qg4!) 6.Nf3, with ad-
 vantage.

4...Bxc3?!**

Black should play 4...d6 5.Nf3
 O-O, as in Mieses - Pillsbury, Has-
 tings 1895.

5.bxc3 d5? 6.exd5 Nxd5 7.Qf3
 Nxf4 8.Ba3! Nxe2+ 9.Qxe2
 Qh4+ 10.Qg3 Qxc4 11.Qxg7
 Qe4+



12.Kf2 Qxh1 13.Nf3! Qxa1
 14.Qxh8+ Kd7 15.Nxe5+ Ke6
 16.Qe8+ Kd5

Or 16...Kf5 17.Qxf7+ Kg5
 18.Be7+ Kh6 19.Qf6+, and mate
 next move.

17.Qxf7+ Be6 18.Qf3+ Kxe5
 19.d4# 1-0

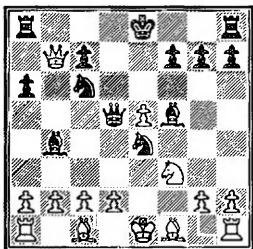
-65-

C 29 Vienna Game
MADER - FRISCHHERZ
 Zurich 1986

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.f4 d5 4.fxe5
 Nxe4 5.Nf3 Bb4?! 6.Qe2 Bf5?*

An out-of-the-ordinary continua-
 tion which obligates Black to
 sacrifice both Rooks.

7.Qb5+ Nc6 8.Nxd5 a6 9.Qxb7
 Qxd5



10.Qxa8+ Kd7 11.Qxa6!

The refutation. Remember, the
 second helping need not always be
 taken. Black had counted on
 11.Qxh8, which would allow him to
 stir up dangerous tactics with
 11...Nd4!

11...Nc5 12.Qc4 1-0

-66-

C 29 Vienna Game

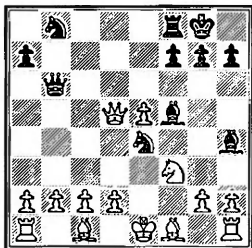
MAZAEV - LOBA

USSR 1987

In search of the initiative both players sacrificed their Rooks passively on the first rank. The outcome of this butchery was a big material advantage for White, but Black contributed to his own downfall.

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.f4 d5 4.fxe5 Nxe4 5.Nf3 Be7 6.Qe2 Bf5?! 7.Qb5+ c6 8.Qxb7 O-O 9.Qxa8 Maybe 9.d3! is stronger.

9...Qb6 10.Nxd5 cxd5 11.Qxd5 Bh4+



12.Kd1?!

Takes a risk. Instead 12.Nxh4 Qf2+ 13.Kd1 Bg4+ 14.Nf3 Bxf3+ 15.gxf3 Qxf3+ 16.Ke1 Qf2+ is a draw.

12...Nf2+

Unclear is 12...Rd8 13.Qb3 (13.Qb5?? Nf2+ 14.Ke1 Nd3+) Nf2+ 14.Ke2.

13.Ke2 Nxh1 14.Qd4 Qb5+?

Black holds his chances by 14...Qxd4 15.Nxd4 Bg4+ 16.Nf3 Nc6.

15.c4 Qa5 16.Qxh4 Nc6 17.d4 Nb4 18.Bd2 Qa4

If 18...Bd3+ 19.Ke3!.

19.b3 Qa3 20.Bxb4 Qb2+ 21.Nd2 Qxa1 22.Bxf8 Bc2 23.Bb4 1-0

-67-

C 32 King's Gambit - Falkbeer

SANTASIERE - BAKOS

New York 1949

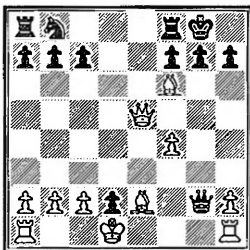
1.e4 e5 2.f4 d5 3.exd5 e4 4.d3 Nf6 5.Qe2 Qxd5?!

Theory suggests 5...Bg4!?

6.Nc3 Bb4 7.Bd2 Bxc3 8.Bxc3 O-O 9.Bxf6 exd3 10.Qe5 d2+?

ECO gives 10...Qc6 11.Qg5 Qxf6 12.Qxf6 gxf6 13.Bxd3, with slightly better chances for White.

11.Kd1 Bg4+ 12.Ne2 Bxe2+ 13.Bxe2 Qxg2



14.Qg5!

The point of White's idea. Here the Brutal Method of the two Rooks sacrifice secures at least an extra piece.

14...Qxh1+ 15.Kxd2 1-0

-68-

C 33 King's Gambit

ANDERSSSEN - KIESERITZKY

London 1851

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Bc4 Qh4 +
4.Kf1 b5 5.Bxb5 Nf6

(Annotated in the Introduction,
page ix)

-69-

C 38 King's Gambit

MARSHALL - PILLSBURY

Vienna 1903

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.Bc4
Bg7 5.h4 h6 6.d4 d6 7.Qd3?! g4

Theory considers 7...Nc6! 8.hxg5
hxg5 9.Rxh8 Bxh8 10.e5 Bg7 11.Qh7
Kf8 12.Qh5 Nh6! as leading to ad-
vantage.

Then 13.Nxg5 Bg4 14.Qh4 Nxd4 is
mid-19th century analysis by Bilguer.
A more recent attempt at improve-
ment ended in failure: 13.exd6 Nxd4!
14.Nxd4 Bg4! 15.Qh2 Qxd6 16.Ne2
Re8 17.Nd2 Nf5 0-1, Remaculus -
Brglez, Corr. 1980.

8.Ng1 Qf6 9.c3 h5 10.Na3 Ne7
11.Ne2 Ng6 12.g3!

White has the advantage, says
ECO. Actually, the theoretical as-
sessment depends on the next move.

12...fxg3

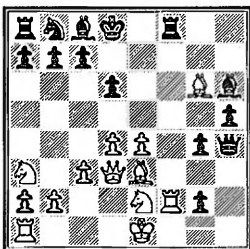
If 12...f3 13.Bg5 f2+ 14.Kf1 Qf3
15.Qxf3 gxf3 16.Nf4, and Black will
lose the Pawns at f2 and f3 - Marshall.

13.Rf1?

"13.Qxg3 was safe and simple, but
then White's Bishop would be fore-
stalled by 13...Be6. I therefore
resolved to plunge into the ensuing
complications, although they should
have eventually turned out to my dis-
comfiture!" - Marshall.

Our conclusion is that after
13.Qxg3 Be6 White stands better,
but probably not so much as recent
theory claims.

13...Qxh4 14.Bxf7 + Kd8
15.Bxg6 g2+ 16.Rf2 Rf8 17.Be3
Bh6!



18.Bxh6!

Suddenly in serious trouble White
has nothing better than the sacrifice
of both Rooks! As Marco shows in
Wiener Schachzeitung, if 18.Bf5?
Bxf5 19.exf5 g1=Q+ 20.Nxg1 Bxe3,
or 18.O-O-O? Bxe3+ 19.Qxe3 Rxf2,
or 18.Ng1? Rf3!, and Black wins.

18...g1=Q+! 19.Nxg1 Qxf2 +
20.Kd1 Qxg1 + 21.Kc2 Rf2 +
22.Bd2 Qxa1

As Marshall mentioned, White's
counterattack now sets in. Black's
lack of development means that his
King must pretty well fend for him-
self.

23.Qe3 Rxd2 +!

If 23...Qf1, then 24.Qg5+ Kd7
25.Bxh5 maintains a dangerous in-
itiative - Mieses.

24.Qxd2 Bd7?!

Defense with 24...c6 was easier.

25.Qg5 + Kc8 26.Bf5! b6!

In case of 26...Nc6 27.Bxd7+ Kxd7 28.Qf5+ (Mieses), or 26...Bxf5 27.Qg8+ Kd7 28.Qf7+ Kc6 28.Qd5+ (Marshall), White has a perpetual check.

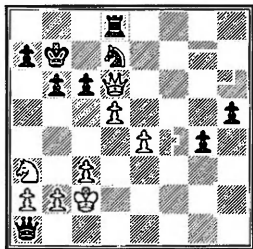
27.Qg8+ Kb7 28.Bxd7 Nxd7 29.Qd5+ c6?

Simpler was 29...Kb8 30.Qg8+ Nf8! 31.Qxf8+ Kb7 and wins - Marshall.

30.Qxd6 Rd8?!

Stronger is 30...Rf8! 31.Qxd7+ Ka6 32.Nc4, with White still keeping some drawing chances - Mieses.

31.d5



31...Rf8??

A decisive mistake. According to Kaufmann in *Wiener Schachzeitung*, Black can win by 31...Nc5!! 32.Qxd8 Qf1!! 33.dxc6+ Kxc6 34.Qd5+ (if 34.Nb1 g3 35.Nd2 g2! 36.Qc8+ Kb5) Kc7 35.Qe5+ Kb7. There is no perpetual check and the Kingside Pawns can advance.

32.dxc6+ Ka8 33.cxd7! Rf2+ 34.Kb3 Qxb2+ 35.Ka4 1-0

If 35...b5+ 36.Ka5 Qxc3+ 37.Ka6.

-70-

C 40 Queen's Pawn
Counter-Gambit

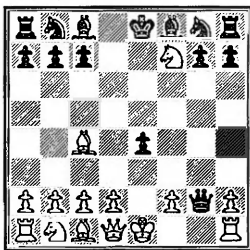
M.I.ANGE - AMATEUR

Germany 1858

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d5 3.Nxe5 dxe4 4.Bc4 Qg5 5.Nxf7?!

For 5.d4 see next game.

5...Qxg2



6.Qh5

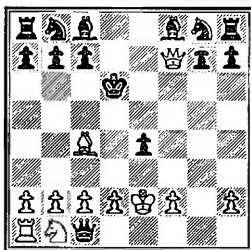
When a Rook is offered so early, we can expect violence and perhaps the sacrifice of a second Rook.

6...Qxh1+ 7.Ke2 Qxc1?

We think that 7...Qf3+ 8.Qxf3 exf3+ 9.Kxf3 Ke7 10.Nxh8 Be6 brings White's idea in question.

8.Nd6+ Kd7 9.Qf7+ Kxd6?

Black is not easily sated. Instead 9...Ne7 offers defensive chances.



10.Nc3!

As we have seen before, White cashes his Rook for a tempo. Now the King falls prey to White's remaining pieces.

10...Qxa1 11.Nxe4+ Ke5
12.Qd5+

White could have won quicker by 12.f4+ Kxe4 13.d3+ Kd4 14.Qd5#.

12...Kf4 13.Qg5+ Kxe4 14.d3+ Kd4 15.Qe3# 1-0

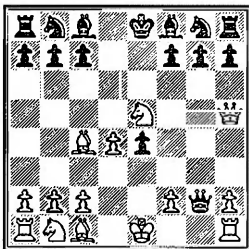
-71-

C 40 Queen's Pawn Counter-Gambit

OREV - GILLHAUSEN

Corr. 1956

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d5 3.Nxe5 dxe4
4.Bc4 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5**



6...Qxh1+ 7.Ke2 g6 8.Bxf7+ Kd8 9.Bxg6?!

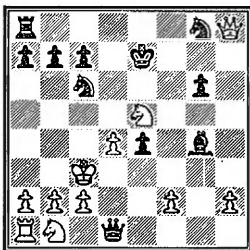
Correct is 9.Bg5+ Be7 10.Bxg6, with the same position as in the game.

9...hxg6?

After 9...Qxc1 10.Nf7+ Ke8 11.Nd6+ Kd7, the sacrifice of the other Rook 12.Na3! gives White only a draw.

10.Bg5+! Be7 11.Bxe7+ Kxe7
12.Qxh8 Bg4+ 13.Kd2! Qxd1+
14.Kc3 Nc6

Forcing White to give up another Rook--which is the thematic winning idea!



15.Nd2! Qxa1 16.Qg7+ Kd6

If 16...Ke8 17.Qf7+ Kd8 18.Qf8#.

17.Ndc4+ Kd5 18.Ne3+ Kd6
19.N5c4+ 1-0

LATVIAN GAMBIT

One of the main lines of the Latvian Gambit is: 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4. Then both 3...b5, and 3...fxe4 4.Nxe5 Qg5 come to life from the considered tactical idea of two Rooks sacrifice. Even if the same idea is used, the following sixteen games (72-87) demonstrate how small differences can change the result. We should like to express our thanks to

Viktors Pupols, the world's leading expert on the Latvian Gambit, who provided us with some of his fascinating games.

-72-

C 40 Latvian Gambit
PUPOLS - STRAUTINS
 Corr. 1970/71

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 b5

Introduced by Strautins.

4.Bb3!

After 4.Bxg8 Rxg8 5.Qe2 Qe7 6.Qxb5? White won a pawn in Siegers - Purins, Corr. 1971, but lost an amusing miniature: 6...Nc6 7.Qd5 fxe4! 8.Nxe5? Qxe5 9.Qxg8 Nb4 10.Qb3 Nd3+ 11.Ke2 Ba6 12.c4 Qd4! 0-1. White's play could be improved, yet our feeling is that 4.Bxg8 is insufficient. The alternative 4.Bxb5 fxe4 5.Nxe5 Qg5 6.d4 Qxg2 7.Rf1 Nf6 8.Bf4 is assessed by theory as unclear.

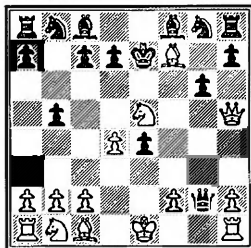
ECO gives 4.Bb3 as a refutation to 3...b5. And that's all! No analysis, no games, which is surprising.

4...fxe4 5.Nxe5?!

Theory considers 5.Nc3 to be best. Then 5...d6 6.d4 Bg4? 7.Nxe4 Nf6 8.Bg5 Be7 9.dxe5 leaves Black in trouble. Black should avoid 5...exf3?? 6.Qxf3. Another unsatisfactory reply is 5...Nf6 6.Nxe5 d5 7.Nxd5! Nxd5 8.Qh5+ g6 9.Nxg6 hxg6 10.Qxg6+! Ke7 11.Qg5+ Ke8 12.Qxd8+ Kxd8 13.Bxd5 c6 14.Bxe4, when White has four pawns for a Knight. Perhaps Black should try 5...Bb7!? 6.Nxe5 Qg5.

5...Qg5 6.d4 Qxg2 7.Qh5+ g6 8.Bf7+ Ke7?!

For 8...Kd8!? see next game.



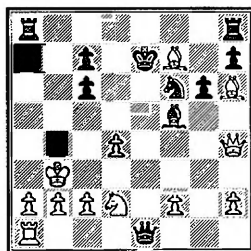
9.Qh4+ Nf6 10.Bg5 Qxh1+ 11.Kd2

The routine 11.Ke2, with the idea 11...Bg7 12.Nc3 Qf3+ (12...Qxa1 13.Bxf6+ Bxf6 14.Nd5+) 13.Kd2, is worth a closer look.

11...e3+! 12.Kxe3 Bh6! 13.Bxh6 Qe1+ 14.Kd3 Nc6 15.Nxc6+ dxc6 16.Nd2

Forced, on account of the threat 16...Bf5#.

16...Bf5+ 17.Kc3 b4+ 18.Kb3



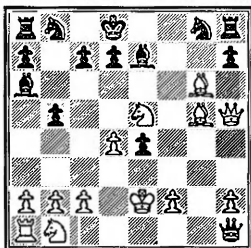
18...Be6+??

According to Pupols, Black should play 18...Qxa1! 19.Bg7 a5 (we suggest 19...Qd1!? as maybe stronger) 20.Qxf6+ Kd7 21.d5 a4+ 22.Kc4! unclear, but not 22.Kxb4? Rhb8+ 23.Ka3 Rb3+!!.

Our editor followed this line out to the end, but then discovered a choice for White: 23...Rb3+ 24.cxb3 axb3+ 25.Kxb3 Qd1+! 26.Kb4 Ra4+! 27.Kc5 Ra5+ 28.Kb4 Qa4+ 29.Kc3 Rc5+ wins. But 25.Kb4 c5+ 26.Kb5 Bd3+ 27.Kxc5 Qc1+ 28.Qc3 Qxc3+ 29.Bxc3 bxa2 30.Be6+ Ke7 31.Nb3 and is White really lost? Or 25...Rb8+ 26.Kc5 Qc1+ 27.Qc3 Qxc3+ 28.Bxc3 bxa2 29.dxc6+ and 30.Bxa2+ and White is better!

19.d5!! Qxa1 20.Bg7 Bxd5+ 21.Bxd5 cxd5 22.Qxf6+ Kd7 23.Bxh8 a5 24.Nf3 a4+ 25.Kxb4 Qxa2 26.Ne5+ Kc8 27.Qe6+ Kb8 28.Nd7+ 1-0

After 28...Kb7 29.Nc5+ Kb8 29.Qc6 Qc4+ 30.Ka3 White wins.



12.Nd2 b4+ 13.Ke3 Qxa1 14.Nxe4 Qe1+ 15.Kf4 Bb7

It is not clear who attacks whom, but White has already sacrificed his Rooks!

16.Bxe7+ Nxe7 17.Nf7+ Kc8 18.Nfd6+ cxd6 19.Nxd6+ Kc7

Not 19...Kd8?? 20.Qa5#.

20.Qa5+ Kxd6 21.Qc5+ Ke6 22.Qc4+ Bd5 0-1

-73-

C 40 Latvian Gambit
MILEV - METODIEV
Primorsko 1975

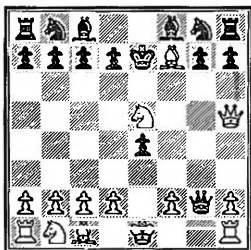
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 b5 4.Bb3! fxe4 5.Nxe5?! Qg5 6.d4 Qxg2 7.Qh5+

As we shall see in the games that follow, this check and the sacrifice of the Rooks are White's best if Black's pawn is on b7. The difference gives Black a counterattack. Possibly White should instead play 7.Rf1.

7...g6 8.Bf7+ Kd8! 9.Bg5+ Be7 10.Bxg6 Qxh1+ 11.Ke2 Ba6!

-74-
C 40 Latvian Gambit
PROBST - LOWIG
Oeynhausen 1922

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4 4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.Bf7+ Ke7 6.Qh5 Qxg2



7.Be8?!**

Theory offers 7.Bxg8 Qxh1+ 9.Ke2 Rxg8 9.Qf7+ Kd6 10.Qxg8 Kxe5 (not 10...Qxc1? 11.Nc3!, and the thematic sacrifice of the second Rook wins) 11.Qxf8 Qf3+, with equal chances.

7...Qxh1+ 8.Ke2 Nf6?

Black should try 8...g6!?

9.Qf7+ Kd8 10.Nc3 Nxe8??

Black should play 10...Nc6!**.

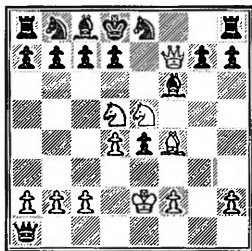
11.d4 Be7 12.Nd5!

If 12.Bg5?, then 12...Qf3+ 13.Nxf3 exf3+ and 14...Bxg5.

12...Bf6 13.Bf4?

He could have won at once by 13.Qe7+!!.

13...Qxa1



14.Qe7+!! Bxe7 15.Nf7# 1-0

-75-

C 40 Latvian Gambit

MULLER - KERES

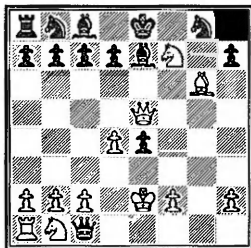
Corr. 1932

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4 4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5+ g6 7.Bf7+ Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1+ 9.Ke2 Qxc1? 10.Nf7+ Ke8 11.Qe5+?

Right is 11.Nxh8+ - see next game.

11...Be7?

After 11...Ne7 White has no better than a perpetual check: 12.Nd6+ Kd8 13.Nf7+.



12.Nc3?

The thematic idea works if White plays 12.Nd2!, for instance 12...Qxa1 13.Qxh8 hxg6 14.Qxg8+ Bf8. Now White has winning chances after 15.Ne5, but our editor suggests a more forcing line:

15.Ng5 (Threat: mate in 2; covers the surprisingly useful square e6)
A: 15...c6 (or 15...c5) 16.Nc4. (Threat: 17.Qf7+ Kd8 18.Qxf8+ Kc7 19.Qd6+ Kd8 20.Ne6+ Ke8 21.Qf8#)

I: 16...b6 17.Nd6+ and now either:

i: 17...Kd8 18.Qxf8+ Kc7 19.Ngf7 Ba6+ 20.Kd2 c5 21.d5 Nc6 22.Qxa8 wins. or

ii: 17...Ke7 18.Qh8!! Ba6+ 19.Kd2 c5 (19...Bh6 20.Qe8+ and 21.Qe5#; or 19...Bc4 20.Ngx4) 20.Qe5+ Kd8 21.Ngf7+ Kc7 22.Ne8+ Kc6 23.d5+ Kb5 24.Nc7+ wins

II: 16...b5 17.Nd6+ Ke7 18.Qh8!! wins.

B: 15...d5 16.Qf7+ Kd8 17.Qxf8+ Kd7 18.Nf7! Ke6 (18...Nc6 19.Nb3!; 18...c6 19.Nb3!) 19.Nb3 Qh1 20.Nc5+ Kf6 21.Ne5+ Kg5 22.f4+!

exf3 ep 23.Nxf3+ Kh5 24.Qh8+ Kg4 25.Qh4+ Kf5 26.Qg5#.

C: 15...d6 16.Qf7+ Kd8 17.Qxf8+ Kd7 18.d5! and wins.

12...Qxc2+! 13.Ke1 hxcg6 14.Nxh8 Qxb2 0-1

A game brimming with instructive mistakes.

-76-

C 40 Latvian Gambit

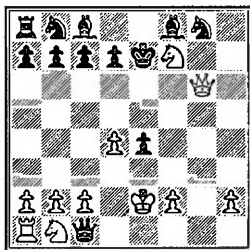
LISO - GASCA

Corr. 1972/73

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4 4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5+ g6 7.Bf7+ Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1+ 9.Ke2 Qxc1? 10.Nf7+ Ke8 11.Nxh8+! hxcg6

White wins easily after 11...Kd8 12.Qh4+ Ne7 (or 12...Be7 13.Nf7+ Ke8 14.Qxh7) 13.Qf6 Bg7 14.Qxg7 Nxg6 15.Qg8+ Ke7 16.Qxh7+.

12.Qxg6+ Kd8 13.Nf7+ Ke7



14.Nc3!

Not 14.Qxg8? Qf4!.

14...Qxc2+ 15.Ke1 Nf6

The position is not to be defended. A nice variation occurs after 15...c6 16.Nd6! Nf6 17.Qg5! Kd8 18.Qxf6+

Be7 (if 18...Kc7 19.Nd5+!) 19.Qh8+ Kc7 20.Nd5+!.

16.Ne5 1-0

If 16...Ke6 17.Qf7+ Kf5 18.Nd5, or 16...c6 17.Qf7+ Kd8 18.Qxf8+ Kc7 19.Nf7, and wins.

-77-

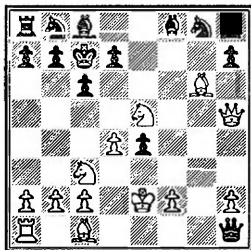
C 40 Latvian Gambit

ATARS - TOMSON

Corr. 1973

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4 4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5+ g6 7.Bf7+ Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1+ 9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3 Kc7?

Loses directly.



11.Bf4! Qxa1

Black is lost after 11...hxcg6 12.Qxh8 Qxa1 13.Qxg8.

12.Nxd7+! Kxd7

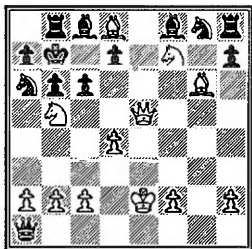
The alternatives are also hopeless: 12...Kd8 13.Qe5! or 12...Bd6 13.Nb5+! Kxd7 (13...cxb5 14.Qc5+) 14.Nxd6 hxcg6 15.Qxh8 Qxb2 16.Qh3+ Ke7 17.Qh7+, and White wins.

13.Qf5+ Kd8 14.Qxf8+ Kd7 15.Qe8# 1-0

-78-

C 40 Latvian Gambit
MURRAY - PUPOLS
 Seattle 1966

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4
 4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5 +
 g6 7.Bf7+ Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1 +
 9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3! e3 11.Bxe3
 Qxa1 12.Bg5+? Kc7 13.Nf7 b6
 14.Bd8+ Kb7 15.Qe5 Na6
 16.Nb5 Rb8



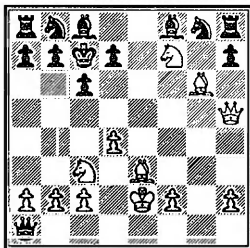
An amusing position. Incredibly, there is no good way to follow up White's initiative.

17.Bd3 Qxa2 18.Nbd6+ Ka8
 19.Ne8 Qe6 20.Qxe6 dxe6
 21.Be4 Bd7 0-1

-79-

C 40 Latvian Gambit
BENNER - DREIBERG
 Corr. 1965

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4
 4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5 +
 g6 7.Bf7+ Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1 +
 9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3! e3 11.Nf7 +
 Kc7 12.Bxe3 Qxa1



13.Bf4+?

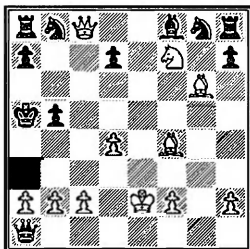
The correct continuation is 13.Qg5 - see games 80 and 81.

13...d6 14.Qg5 Bg4+! 15.Qxg4
 hxg6 16.Nxh8 Nd7 17.Qxg6 Ngf6
 18.Kd2 Re8 0-1

-80-

C 40 Latvian Gambit
R.LUNDIN - PUPOLS
 Seattle 1966

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4
 4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5 +
 g6 7.Bf7+ Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1 +
 9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3! e3 11.Nf7 +
 Kc7 12.Bxe3 Qxa1 13.Qg5! b5
 14.Nxb5+!*? cxb5 15.Bf4 +
 Kb6 16.Qd8+ Kb7 17.Qc7 +
 Ka6 18.Qxc8+ Ka5



19.Bc7+??

Instead 19.Bd2+! offers winning chances, e.g. 19...Ka4 20.Qc3, or 19...Kb6 20.Nd8, or 19...b4 20.Qxf8.

19...Ka4 20.b3+ Ka3 21.Qxf8+ Kxa2 22.Be4

If 22.Bd3 Qxd4 23.Be5 Nc6!, and Black wins - Pupols.

22...Nf6! 23.Qxh8 Nxe4 24.Bxb8 Qc3 25.Qe5 Qxc2+ 26.Kf3 d5! 27.b4 Qxf2+ 28.Kg4 Qxf7 29.h4 Qg8+ 30.Kh3 Rxb8 31.Qh2+ Kb3 0-1

-81-

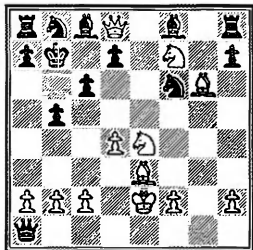
C 40 Latvian Gambit

GRAVE - ALBERT

Corr. 1968

This game is probably a decisive blow against 10...e3.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4 4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5+ g6 7.Bf7+ Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1+ 9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3! e3 11.Bxe3 Qxa1 12.Qg5+ Kc7 13.Nf7 b5 14.Qd8+! Kb7 15.Ne4 Nf6



16.Qa5! Na6 17.Nd8+ Kb8 18.Bf4+ d6 19.Nxc6+ 1-0

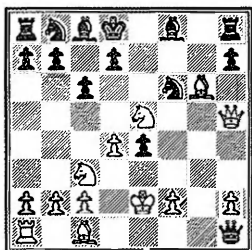
-82-

C 40 Latvian Gambit

LEVY - STROBEL

Ybbs 1968

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4 4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5+ g6 7.Bf7+ Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1+ 9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3! Nf6



11.Bg5?!

The immediate sacrifice of the second Rook is not so effective here.

11...Qxa1 12.Bxf6+ Kc7 13.Nf7 Bb4 14.Qxh7?

The only chance is 14.Bxh8!? hxg6 15.Qg5 b6 16.Nxe4 - Milic.

14...Bxc3!

Naturally not 14...Rxb7?? 15.Bd8#.

15.bxc3 Rf8 16.Qh4 b5 17.Bd8+ Kb7 18.Qe7

If 18.Qf4 d6! 19.Qxd6 Bg4+ 20.f3 Bxf3+ 21.Kf2 e3+ 22.Kxe3 Qe1+ 23.Kf4 Rxf7+ 24.Bxf7 Qe4+ 25.Kg3 Qg4+ 26.Kf2 Qd7.

18...Rxf7 19.Qd6 Na6 20.Bxf7 Qxc3

White has nothing to show for the Rook.

21.Bb3 Rb8 22.h4 Ka8 23.Bg5
Bb7 24.Qxd7 Bc8 25.Qd6 Bg4 +
26.Kf1 Qa1 + 27.Kg2 Bf3 + 0-1

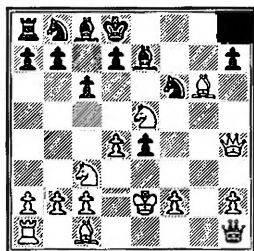
-83-

C 40 Latvian Gambit

PURINS - ENGLITIS

Corr. 1971

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4
4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5 +
g6 7.Bf7 + Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1 +
9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3 Nf6 11.Qh4?!
Be7



12.Bg5 Qxa1 13.Bxf6 Bxf6?

Loses. For Black's best, 13...Kc7,
see next game.

14.Qxf6 + Kc7 15.Nc4! b6
16.Qe5 + d6 17.Nb5 +! 1-0

If 17...Kb7 18.Ncxd6 + Ka6
19.Nc7#, or 17...cxb5 18.Qxd6 + Kb7
19.Bxe4 + Nc6 20.Bxc6 + Ka6
21.Qa3#.

-84-

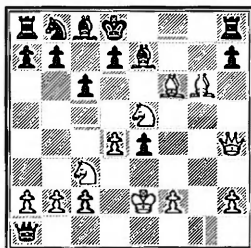
C 40 Latvian Gambit

GUNDERAM - PUPOLS

Corr. 1970/71

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4
4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5 +
g6 7.Bf7 + Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1 +

9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3! Nf6 11.Qh4?!
Be7 12.Bg5 Qxa1 13.Bxf6



13...Kc7!?**

An interesting defense not men-
tioned in ECO.

14.Nc4 b5 15.Qg3 + d6! 16.Bxe7
Bg4 +! 17.Qxg4 hxc6 18.Qe6
bxc4 19.Bxd6 + Kb7 20.Qf7 +
Ka6 21.Qxc4 + Kb7 22.Qb3 +
Kc8 23.Qe6 + Kb7 24.Qb3 +
Draw

The play ushered in by 13...Kc7!?
warrants investigation!

-85-

C 40 Latvian Gambit

KEFFLER - ETIENNE

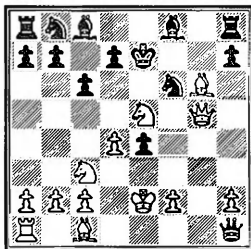
Corr. 1975

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4
4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5 +
g6 7.Bf7 + Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1 +
9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3! Nf6 11.Qg5!

In our opinion, this is White's best
continuation.

11...Ke7?

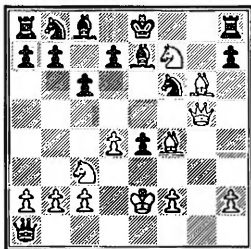
The alternatives are examined as
follow: 11...Be7 - game 86, and
11...Rg8 - game 87.

**12.Bf4!**

As usual, the sacrifice of the second Rook draws Black's Queen from the action and provides White with another minor piece for the attack.

12...Qxa1 13.Nxe4 Bg7 14.Ng4 Rf8 15.Qe5+ 1-0

After 15...Kd8, White forces mate in five moves: 16.Qc7+ Ke7 17.Bd6+ Ke6 18.Nc5+ Kd5 19.Ne3+ Kxd4 20.Nb3#.

**14.Nxh8+**

White wins quicker by 14.Nd6+ Kd8 (14...Kf8 15.Qh6+ Kg8 16.Bf7#) 15.Nxb7+ Bxb7 16.Qa5+ Kc8 17.Qc7#.

14...hxc6

If 14...Kf8 15.Bf7!, or 14...Kd8 15.Nf7+ Ke8 16.Nd6+ Kd8 17.Nxb7+!.

15.Qxg6+ Kd8 16.Nf7+ Ke8 17.Nd6+ Kd8

-86-

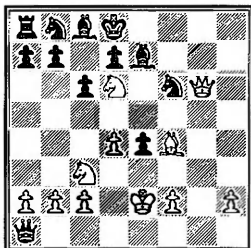
C 40 Latvian Gambit**GRAVE - DILLE**

Riga 1980

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4 4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5+ g6 7.Bf7+ Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1+ 9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3! Nf6 11.Qg5! Be7?

Here, as in previous game, the sacrifice of the other Rook wins by force.

12.Bf4! Qxa1 13.Nf7+ Ke8

**18.Qe8+! 1-0**

A rare smothered mate in the center: 18...Nxe8 19.Nf7#.

-87-

C 40 Latvian Gambit

ATARS - STRUT

Corr. 1973

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.Bc4 fxe4
4.Nxe5 Qg5 5.d4 Qxg2 6.Qh5+
g6 7.Bf7+ Kd8 8.Bxg6 Qxh1+
9.Ke2 c6 10.Nc3! Nf6 11.Qg5!
Rg8 12.Qxf6+

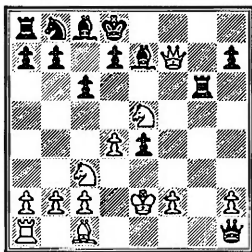
ECO gives 12.Bf4 Qxa1 13.Nf7+
Ke8 14.Nd6+ Kd8 15.Qxf6+ Be7
16.Qf7 Rf8 16.Qe8+! with an attack,
Robins-Vitols, Corr. 1972. Our game
is more convincing.

12...Be7 13.Qf7

White could force a draw:
13.Nf7+ Ke8 14.Nd6+ etc.

13...Rxc6

If 13...Rf8 14.Qxf8+! Bxf8
15.Bg5+, with advantage to White.



14.Bg5! Qxa1

Also insufficient is 14...Qf3+
15.Nxf3 exf3+ 16.Kxf3 Bxg5 (if
16...Rxc6 17.Re1!) 17.Qxh7! Rf6+
18.Kg4 Bd2 19.Qh8+, and White
wins.

15.Qxe7+ Kc7 16.Qd8+ Kd6
17.Nc4+

Quicker is 17.Nf7+ Ke6 18.Qe7+
Kf5 19.Qxe4#.

17...Ke6 18.Qe7+ Kf5 19.Qe5+
Kg4 20.Qf4+ 1-0

-88-

C 41 Philidor Defense

BERNSTEIN - TARTAKOWER

Paris 1937

A typical example of the Brutal
Method. Pay attention to Black's
move 10...Bb4+! It involves the im-
mediate sacrifice of the second
Rook, which in its turn provides a
necessary tempo and ensures the suc-
cess of the final shot 13...Qb5.

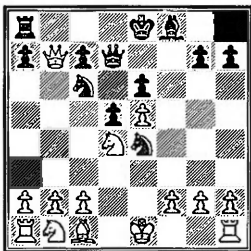
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.dxe5
Nxe4 5.Bc4 Be6**

Tartakower's patent. Theory
recommends 5...c6 as leading to
equality.

6.Bxe6 fxe6 7.Qe2 d5 8.Qb5+?

After 8.Nbd2 Nxd2 9.Bxd2 Nc6
10.O-O (Herstenfeld - Tartakower,
1938), White stands slightly better.

8...Nc6 9.Nd4 Qd7! 10.Qxb7



10...Bb4+! 11.c3 Nxd4!
12.Qxa8+

Or 12.O-O O-O 13.cxd4 a5, and
White's Queen is trapped.

12...Kf7 13.Oxh8 Ob5 0-1

-89-

C 44 Reversed Hungarian

ABRAHAM - JANNY

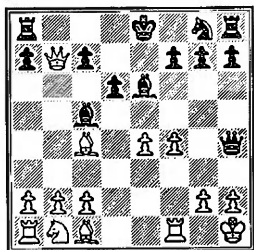
Arad 1923

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Be2 Bc5
4.Nxe5! Nxe5 5.d4 Bd6 6.dxe5
Bxe5 7.f4 Bd6 8.O-O?

After 8.Be3 White stands better.

8...Bc5 + 9.Kh1 d6 10.Bc4? Qh4
11.Qd5? Be6! 12.Qxb7?

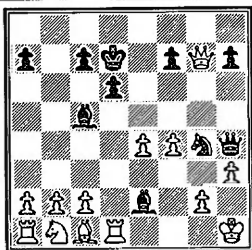
Also 12.Qd3 Bxc4 13.Qxc4 Nf6,
threatening Ng4, gives good
prospects for Black.



12...Bxc4! 13.Qxa8 + Kd7
14.Rd1 Nf6! 15.Qxh8 Ng4 16.h3
Be2

Black probably plays for his own
amusement, creating the pattern for
a Queen sacrifice. A typical quick
mate here is 16...Qg3! 17.hxg4
Qh4#.

17.Qxg7



17...Qxh3 +! 18.gxh3 Bf3# 0-1

-90-

C 44 Ponziani

WAYTE - RANKEN

London 1890

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 Nf6 4.d4
d5 5.Bb5 Nxe4?! 6.Nxe5 Bd7
7.Qb3

Considered as leading to ad-
vantage. Indeed, but not the way
White played this game!

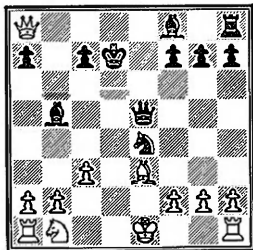
7...Nxe5 8.Qxd5! Qe7 9.Qxb7

The safest treatment is 9.dxe5.

9...Bxb5 10.Qxa8 + Kd7
11.dxe5??

White wants much, but will lose
everything! 11.Qd5+ keeps the ad-
vantage.

11...Qxe5 + 12.Be3



12...Bc5!

The thematic sacrifice of the second Rook...

13.Qxh8 Nx!2!

... and the point behind it.

14.Kd2 Bxe3 + 0-1

-91-

C 44 Ponziani

RUTHERFORD -

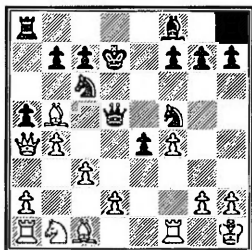
E.ANDERSSON

Sweden 1951

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 d5 4.Bb5 dxe4 5.Nxc5 Qd5 6.Qa4 Nge7

ECO examines this variation mainly in Ruy Lopez (C 60), an artificial choice. In practice this position arises more than 90% of the time from the Ponziani.

7.f4 Bd7 8.Nxd7 Kxd7 9.O-O? Nf5 10.b4 a5! 11.Kh1



11...axb4! 12.Bxc6 + bxc6 13.Qxa8 Bc5! 14.Qxh8 Ng3 + 0-1

In fact, the whole game is a carbon copy of analysis by Schiffers almost hundred years ago.

-92-

C 44 Ponziani

BLACKBURNE - BURN

London 1870

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 d5 4.Bb5 dxe4 5.Nxe5 Qd5 6.Qa4 Nge7 7.f4 Bd7 8.Nxd7 Kxd7 9.Bc4! Qf5 10.Qb3?!

White's best is 10.O-O Rd8 11.d4 exd3 12.Bxd3 Qc5+ 13.Kh1 Kc8 14.Qc2, an idea first shown by Tartakower.

10...Ng6!?

Old theory recommended only 10...Nc8 11.Qxb7 (11.Bxf7 Nd6 12.Bd5 Qxf4) Nd6 12.Qxa8 g5!, threatening 13...Bg7 - Collijn's *Larebok*.

11.Qxb7

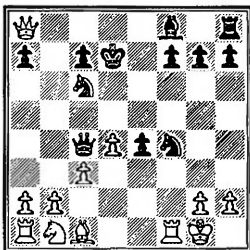
Harding proposes 11.O-O!? Bc5+ 12.d4 exd3+ 13.Kh1.

11...Nxf4 12.O-O

If White grabs the Rook 12.Qxa8, then 12...Qg4! 13.d4 Nd3+ wins immediately.

12...Qc5 + 13.d4 Qxc4 14.Qxa8??

Suicidal. 14.Bxf4 is at least unclear.



14...Bc5! 15.Qxh8 Nxd4 16.Be3 Qe2 17.Qxg7 Nf3 +! 0-1

If 14.Rxf3, then Qe1+! 15.Rf1 Bxe3+.

-93-

C 44 Ponziani
FAAS - AGAPOV
Leningrad 1983

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 d5 4.Bb5
dxe4 5.Nxe5 Qg5 6.Qa4 Qxg2
7.Rf1

Recommended by Keres in *ECO* as leading to slightly better game for White. A strange conclusion, because the position on the 12th move is the same as in the established main line 7.Bxc6+ bxc6 8.Qxc6+ Kd8 9.Rf1 Bh3! 10.Qxa8+ Ke7 11.Kd1 Qxf1+ 12.Kc2, which is evaluated as unclear!

7...Bh3 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.Qxc6+ Kd8 10.Qxa8+ Ke7 11.Kd1 Qxf1+ 12.Kc2 Bf5!

Discovered as Black's best by Minev and Filchev in 1951! Before that was 12...f6, refuted by Minev's 13.b3!.

13.Qd5?!

The most interesting for White is 13.Na3, intending 13...e3+ 14.d3 e2 15.Bd2 Qxa1 16.Qd5.

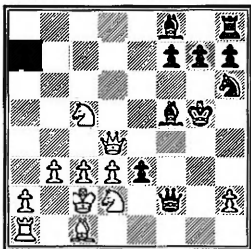
13...Nh6 14.b3? e3+ 15.d3 Qxf2+!

Not 15...e2?? 16.Nc6+ Kf6 17.Qd8+ Ke6 18.Nd4+ Ke5 19.f4+, and White wins.

16.Nd2 Kf6 17.Qd4 c5 18.Nd7+

If 18.Ng4+ Kg6! 19.Ne5+ Kh5!.

18...Kg5 19.Nxc5



19...Bxc5!

Giving up the second, idle, Rook.

20.Qxg7+ Kh5 21.Qxh8 e2
22.Bb2 Be3 23.Qf6 e1 = N +
24.Rxe1 Qxd2+ 0-1

-94-

C 46 Three Knights
SZMETAN - FREY
Bogota 1977

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 g6 4.d4
exd4 5.Nd5 Bg7 6.Bg5 Nce7

A well known mistake is 6...Nge7?? 7.Nxd4! Bxd4 8.Qxd4! Nxd4 9.Nf6+ Kf8 10.Bh6#.

7.Nxd4 c6 8.Nxe7 Nxe7 9.Qd2
h6 10.Bh4 d5 11.O-O-O!?

More promising than 11.exd5 Qxd5!.

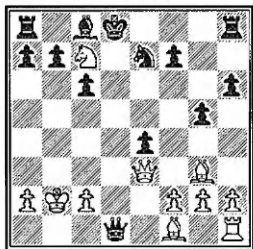
11...g5 12.Bg3 dxe4 13.Qe3 Qd5?

Recent theory offers 13...Qb6 14.Bd6 unclear.

14.Nb5!

Forces Black to capture the d1-Rook and creates an opportunity for the thematic sacrifice of the other Rook.

14...Bxb2+ 15.Kxb2 Qxd1
16.Nc7+ Kd8



17.Bd3! Qxh1 18.Qd4+ Nd5
19.Qxh8+ Ke7 20.Qe8+ Kf6
21.Qe5+ Kg6 22.Bxe4+ f5
23.Qe8+ 1-0

-95-

C 50 Semi-Italian Opening
RODZYNSKI - ALEKHIN
Paris 1913

A pattern for a successful Quiet Method, with five precisely calculated moves between the sacrifice of the first Rook and the second. The (abridged) notes are by Alekhin.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 d6

Although seldom played, this move is not inferior to 3...Be7. The present game affords a typical example of the dangers to which White is exposed if he attempts to refute it forthwith.

4.c3 Bg4 5.Qb3 Qd7 6.Ng5

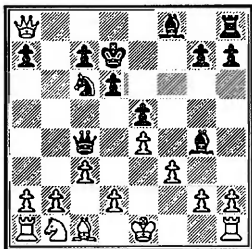
Anticipating the gain of two pawns. If at once 6.Bxf7+ Qxf7 7.Qxb7 Kd7! 8.Qxa8 Bxf3 9.gxf3 Qxf3 10.Rg1 Qxe4+ 11.Kd1 Qf3+, and Black has at least a draw.

6...Nh6 7.Bxf7+

After 7.Qxb7 Rb8 8.Qa6 Rb6 9.Qa4 Be7, followed by Castles, Black's lead in development suffi-

ciently compensates for the Pawn sacrificed.

7...Nxf7 8.Nxf7 Qxf7 9.Qxb7 Kd7! 10.Qxa8 Qc4! 11.f3



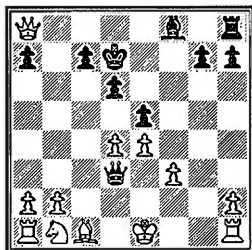
11...Bxf3!

By this unexpected combination Black secures the advantage in any event. Incorrect would be 10...Nd4 because of 11.d3 Qxd3 12.cxd4 Bxf3 13.Nc3!.

12.gxf3 Nd4! 13.d3

The only chance was perhaps 13.cxd4 Qxc1+ 14.Ke2 Qxh1 15.d5 Qxh2+ 16.Kd3 Qg1! 17.Qc6+ Kd8 etc., but Black's position is manifestly superior.

13...Qxd3 14.cxd4



14...Be7! 15.Qxh8 Bh4# 0-1

-96-

C 50 Giuoco Piano

AMATEUR - BLACKBURNE

London 1880

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5
4.Bxf7 + ?

Sorry Sir, Chess is not so simple a game!

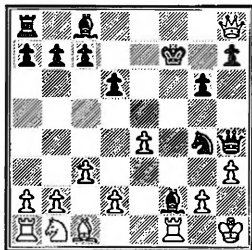
4...Kxf7 5.Nxe5 + Nxe5 6.Qh5 + g6!?

After 6...Kf8 7.Qxe5 d6, or 6...Ng6 7.Qxc5 d6 White has not enough compensation for the sacrificed piece. But Blackburne likes to attack!

7.Qxe5 d6 8.Qxh8 Qh4 9.O-O Nf6 10.c3?

White should try 10.Qd8.

10...Ng4 11.h3 Bxf2 + 12.Kh1



12...Bf5! 13.Qxa8 Qxh3 +!
14.gxh3 Bxe4# 0-1

-97-

C 50 Giuoco Piano

DIAZ - LUGO

Cuba (ch) 1987

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6
4.d3 Bc5 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 h6
7.Bxf6 Qxf6 8.Nd5 Qd8 9.c3 Ne7

10.d4 exd4 11.cxd4 Nxd5
12.dxc5 Nf4 13.O-O!?**

Instead of 13.g3 Ne6, with equal chances.

13...Qf6

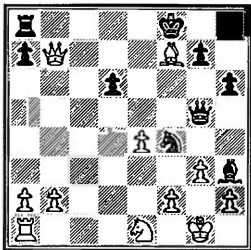
The position after 13...dxc5 14.Qxd8 + Kxd8 15.Bxf7 seems to be slightly better for White.

14.cxd6 Bh3 15.Ne1 cxd6!
16.Qb3

If 16.gxh3?, then Qg6+! 17.Kh1 (17.Qg4?? Nxh3+) Qxe4+ and 18...Qxc4.

16...Qg5 17.g3 Bxf1 18.Bx17 + Kf8 19.Qxb7 Bh3?

With the laudable aim of sacrificing both Rooks, but it doesn't work. Necessary was 19...Rd8 20.Kxf1 Qe7, and the battle is still ahead.



20.Bc4!

If White grabs the Rooks: 20.Qxa8 + Kxf7 21.Qxh8, he will lose by 21...Qb5 22.Nf3 Qxb2! and now the R is embarrassed for good squares: 23.Rd1 Qc2 24.Re1 (or Ra1) Qc3 25.Re3 Qc1+ (or 25...Ne2+) 26.Re1 Ne2+ 27.Kh1 Bg4! wins - Berry.

20...Ne2 + 21.Kh1! 1-0

-98-

C 50 Giuoco Piano

GOMES - NETTO

Rio de Janeiro 1942

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Bc5
4.Bc4

Transposes into Giuoco Piano.
Much stronger is 4.Nxe5!.

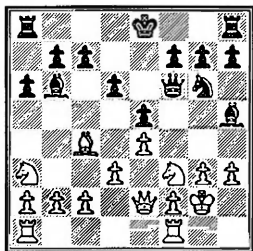
4...d6 5.d3 Bg4

Another good plan is 5...Na5.

6.Be3 Nd4 7.Bxd4 Bxd4 8.h3
Bh5 9.Nb5 Bb6 10.Qe2 Ne7
11.O-O?

Better is 11.g4 Bg6 12.O-O-O.

11...a6 12.Na3?! Ng6! 13.g3 Qf6
14.Kg2



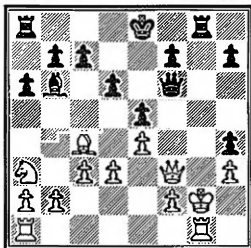
14...Rg8!!

An original (and winning!) attacking idea.

15.c3

There is no defense. If 15.Rg1
Nh4+ 16.gxh4 g5 17.Kh2 Qf4+ etc.

15...Nh4+! 16.gxh4 g5 17.Rg1
Bxf3 + 18.Qxf3 gxh4 +



0-1

As Chernev pointed out, White does not wait for the two Rooks sacrifice and the consequent mating attack: 19.Kh2 Qxf3 20.Rxg8+ Ke7 21.Rxa8 Bxf2 22.Rg8 Bg3+ 23.Rxg3 hxg3+, and mate in two moves.

-99-

C 53 Giuoco Piano

AMATEUR - PERIGAL

London 1843

A game of historical interest. The sacrifice of the second Rook is not compulsory, but creates a lovely final pattern.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3
d6 5.O-O?! Bg4 6.d4?

White should play 6.b4 Bb6 7.d3.

6...exd4 7.Qb3 Qd7 8.cxd4

For 8.Bxf7+ see next game.

8...Bxf3 9.dxc5? Nd4! 10.Qxb7
Qg4 11.Qxa8+ Ke7 12.Bg5+
Nf6

Also 12...f6 13.cxd6+ Kd7 wins.

13.cxd6+ Kd7 0-1

-100-

C 53 Giuoco Piano

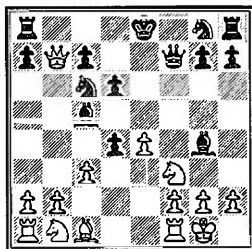
STRAUTMANIS - PALAU

The Hague (ol) 1928

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4
4.Bc4 Bc5 5.O-O?! d6 6.c3 Bg4
7.Qb3 Qd7 8.Bxf7 +

White probably should try 8.Nxd4.

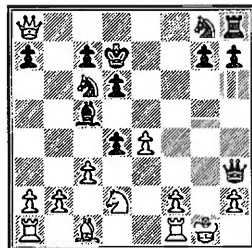
8...Qxf7 9.Qxb7



9...Kd7

The conventional technique which we already know.

10.Qxa8 Bxf3 11.gxf3 Qxf3
12.Nd2 Qh3



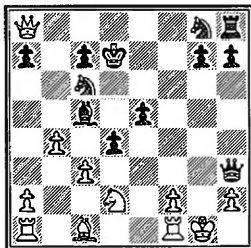
13.e5?

Foldeak (in *Chess Olympiads 1927-1968*) claims that in case of 13.Qf8, Black had planned 13...Nge7

14.Qxh8 dxc3 15.bxc3 Ne5 16.Qf8 g5 17.Re1 Ng4!, and wins. In our opinion this variation is unclear because of 14.Qf3!?, and White's Queen returns home for a defense. Thematic but insufficient seems 13...Nf6 14.Qxh8! Ng4 15.Qxg7+ Ne7 16.Nf3! Qxf3 17.Bg5.

13...dxe5 14.b4

The last critical situation. Foldeak claims that if 14.Ne4 Qg4+ 15.Ng3, then 15...e4 is strong. We will add one more move: 16.b4, with the possibility of b5, and the position is completely unclear.



14...Nf6! 15.Qxh8 Ng4
16.Qxg7+ Be7! 17.Nf3 e4!
18.Ne5 + Ncxe5 19.Bf4 Nf3+
20.Kh1 Nfxh2 0-1

-101-

C 53 Giuoco Piano

MACZYNSKI - PRATTEN

Portsmouth 1948

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3
Qe7 5.O-O d6 6.d4 Bb6 7.b4**
Bg4!

A mistake would be 7...exd4 8.cxd4 Nxb4?? 9.Qa4+ Nc6 10.d5, and White wins a piece.

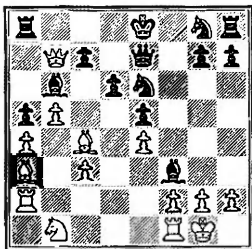
8.a4 a5 9.b5 Nd8 10.Ba3?!

Better is 10.Be3.

10...f6! 11.Ra2 Ne6 12.dxe5 fxe5
13.Qd5?

Already White's position has its unpleasant aspects, but this hunt for a pawn is risky in the extreme.

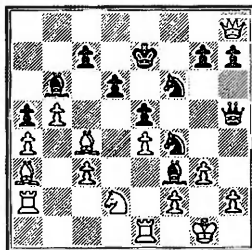
13...Bxf3! 14.Qxb7



14...Qg5! 15.Qxa8+ Ke7 16.g3
Nf4 17.Re1 Qh5!? 18.Nd2

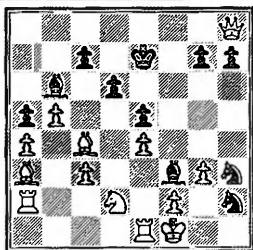
If 18.Bf1, then 18...Nh3+ wins. However, as always when The Quiet Method is used, the opponent has more defensive chances. Here White should play 18.Bxd6+!? cxd6 19.Qb7+, with counterplay.

18...Nf6! 19.Qxh8



19...Qxh2+!! 20.Kxh2 Ng4+
21.Kg1 Nh3+ 22.Kf1 Nh2#

This rare mate pattern deserves to be immortalized in a diagram.



0-1

-102-

C 56 Two Knights' Defense

EUWE - RETI

Amsterdam 1920

The more famous of the twins. See also game 16. The early penetration of White's Queen on the last rank creates an opportunity for the sacrifice of both Rooks. That's also the refutation of this opening variation.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6
4.d4 exd4 5.O-O Nxe4 6.Re1 d5
7.Bxd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qa5
9.Nxd4? Nxd4 10.Qxd4 f5
11.Bg5 Qc5

Another good reply is 11...Kf7 12.Nxe4 fxe4 13.Qc4+, as in Semkov-Pinter, Varna 1977. Now, according to Timoshchenko, 13...Kg6!, and White has nothing for the sacrificed piece.

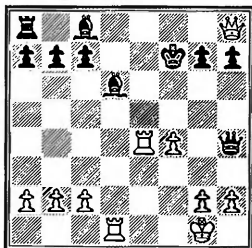
12.Qd8+ Kf7 13.Nxe4

For the alternative 13.Rad1 see next game.

13...fxe4 14.Rad1 Bd6! 15.Qxh8
Qxg5

Threatens 16...Bh3. If now 16.Qxh7, then 16...Bf5 traps the Queen.

16.f4 Qh4 17.Rxc4



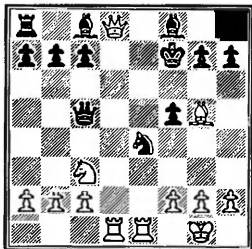
17...Bh3! 18.Qxa8 Bc5 + 19.Kh1
Or 19.Red4 Bxd4+ 20.Rxd4
Qe1#.

19...Bxg2 + 20.Kxg2 Qg4 + 0-1

-103-

C 56 Two Knights' Defense
ZICHNER - KOUBA
Corr. 1984

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6
4.d4 exd4 5.O-O Nxe4 6.Re1 d5
7.Bxd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qa5 9.Nxd4
Nxd4 10.Qxd4 f5 11.Bg5 Qc5
12.Qd8 + Kf7 13.Rad1



For many years this continuation, instead of Euwe's 13.Nxe4 as in previous game, was considered as leading to a double-edged and unclear position.

13...Be6!

The same idea for the two Rooks sacrifice; Black merely changes the order of the sacrificed Rooks.

14.Qxa8 Nxf2!***

It seems that this innovation restores Reti's 11...Qc5 as Black's best. Theory shows only 14...Nxg5 unclear.

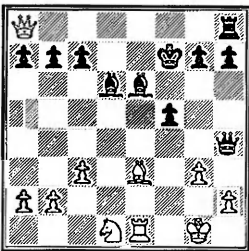
15.Be3

The threat was 15...Nh3+ 16.Kh1 Qg1+!

15...Nxd1 16.Nxd1 Qb4! 17.c3 Qh4 18.g3

If 18.Bf2 Qxh2+! 19.Kxh2 Bd6+.

18...Bd6!



19.Qxb7

If White captures the second Rook 19.Qxh8, then 19...Bxg3 20.Re2 (or 20.hxg3 Qxg3+ 21.Kf1 Bc4+ 22.Re2 Qf3+) Qg4 21.Rd2 Bh4+ 22.Kf1 Bc4+, and Black wins.

19...Bxg3 20.Re2 Rd8 21.Bd4 Bxh2 + 0-1

-104-

C 57 Two Knights Wilkes-Barre

RADFORD - MADSEN

Los Angeles 1976

With regard to our theme, the most interesting here is that Black's sacrifice of the second Rook was not voluntary, but forced by the opponent! As for the theory of this amazing variation, we will not say much. It is not possible! This variation is so complicated that it needs a special treatise, bigger than our whole book!

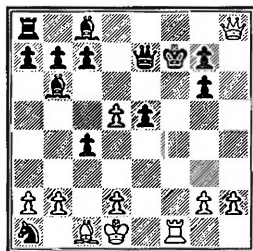
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6
4.Ng5 Bc5!? 5.Nxf7?! Bxf2 +
6.Kf1 Qe7 7.Nxh8 d5 8.Qf3?!

Recent theory recommends 8.exd5 as leading to equality.

8...Bb6!??

ECO shows 8...Bh4 9.Bxd5 Nd4 10.Qa3 Nxd5 11.Qxe7+ Kxe7 12.exd5 Bh3!, and Black wins. Naturally, improvements are possible for both sides!

9.Nc3 dxc4 10.Nd5 Nxd5
11.exd5 Nd4 12.Qh5+ Kf8
13.Ke1 Nxc2+ 14.Kd1 Nxa1
15.Ng6+ hxg6 16.Qh8+ Kf7
17.Rf1+



17...Bf5

Obviously Black must sacrifice the remaining Rook. And it wins!

18.Qxa8 Qf6! 0-1

-105-

C 59 Two Knights' Defense

SHIROV - TOMINS

Riga 1984

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6
4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Na5 6.Bb5+ c6
7.dxc6 bxc6 8.Be2 h6 9.Nf3 e4
10.Ne5 Qd4!?

The usual continuation is 10...Bd6.

11.f4 Bc5 12.Rf1 Qd8

The oldest and probably best answer.

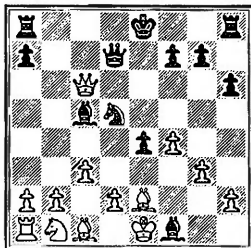
13.c3 Nd5 14.g3

Recommended by Keres, but shown in *ECO* only as move which deserves attention. Bad is 14.b4? Qh4+ 15.g3 Qxh2 16.bxc5 Qxg3+ 17.Rf2 Nxf4, while 14.Qa4 O-O 15.Qxe4 Re8!? 16.d4 Bb6 is also recommended by Keres, assessed as unclear. We will add here 15.b4 (instead of 15.Qxe4) Qh4+ 16.Kd1 Rd8! with a strong attack for Black.

14...Bh3 15.Qa4?

An unclear position occurs in case of 15.b4!? Bxf1 16.Kxf1 Nxb4 17.cxb4 Qd4 18.bxc5 Qxa1 19.Nc3.

15...Bxf1 16.Nxc6 Nxc6!!
17.Qxc6+ Qd7



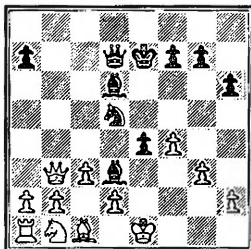
18.Qxa8+

White must capture the Rooks. Hopeless is 18.Qxc5 Bxe2 19.Kxe2 Rc8 20.Qf2 (if 20.Qd4 Nxf4+!) Nb4! with a decisive advantage for Black - Tomins.

18...Kc7 19.Qxh8 Bxe2 20.Qb8

If 20.Kxe2 Qg4+ 21.Ke1 Qf3, or 20.Qxg7 Nf6!.

20...Bd6 21.Qb3 Bd3



0-1

-106-

C 60 Ruy Lopez

ARSENIEV - MALEVINSKY
USSR 1979

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.d4
Nxd4 5.Nxd4 exd4 6.Qxd4 Qf6
7.e5 Qb6 8.Qd3 c6 9.Bc4 Qa5 +
10.Kd1!***

Not mentioned in *ECO*, probably because 10.Nc3 Qxe5+ 11.Be3 gives White a strong initiative.

10...Nh6

After 10...Bg7 11.Qf3 (or 11.Qb3), Black has problems.

11.Bd2 Qb6 12.Be3 Qc7

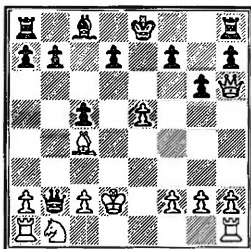
If 12...Qxb2?, then 13.Bd4 and 14.e6.

13.Bf4 Bg7 14.Qd2 Qb6

Black does not fall for 14...Nf5? 15.Bxf7+ Kxf7 16.e6+.

15.Be3 c5 16.Bxh6? Bxh6

17.Qxh6 Qxb2 18.Kd2?



White is fascinated by the idea of the two Rooks sacrifice, which looks wonderful: 18...Qxa1 19.Nc3! Qxh1 20.Qg7 Rf8 21.Nd5 and 22.Qf6 wins. However, he overlooks a simple refutation. We think that, instead of the blunder 18.Kd2?, White should play 18.Re1!? with some compensation, e.g. 18...Qd4+ 19.Kc1 Qxc4 20.Nd2, or 18...Qxa1 19.Kc1 Qd4 20.Nd2.

18...Qb4+! 19.Kc1

If 19.Kd3 d5! 20.exd6 Bf5+ etc.

19...Qxc4 20.Nd2 Qd4 21.Nb3
Qxe5 22.Kd2 Qd5+ 23.Kc3 d6
24.Qg7 Qe5+! 25.Qxe5+ dxe5
26.Rhe1 b6 27.Rxe5+ Be6 28.f4

O-O-O 29.a4 a5 30.h3 h5 31.Re4
Bd5 32.Re2 Rhe8 33.Rf2 Re3 +
34.Kb2 Rg3 35.f5 Rxd2 0-1

-107-

C 63 Ruy Lopez - Schliemann

SHLETSEV - CHIGORIN

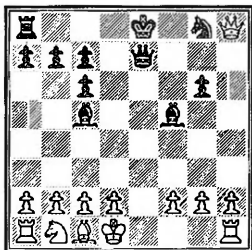
Peterburg 1885

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.exf5 Nc6
4.Bb5 Bc5!??

We decided to classify this game under the Ruy Lopez, having in mind the move order: 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 f5 4.exf5 Bc5!?. By the way, this is also an interesting forgotten idea.

5.Bxc6?! dxc6 6.Nxe5 Bxf5
7.Qh5 +?! g6 8.Nxd6 hxd6
9.Qxd6 Qe7 + 10.Kd1

The Brutal Method, which Black will use now, works perfectly also in case of 10.Kf1 Bxc2! 11.Qxd6 + Kd7 12.Qxa8 (12.Qc4 Re8!) Bd3+ and 13...Qe1#.



10...Bxf2! 11.Qxd6 + Kd7 12.Qc4

If 12.Qxa8 Bg4#.

12...Re8 0-1

-108-

C 64 Ruy Lopez

KURSCHEINER - TARRASCH

Nuremberg 1891

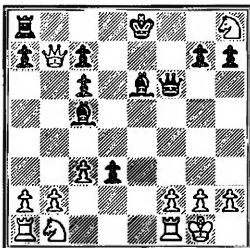
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5
4.c3 f5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nxe5
Qh4!??

Recent theory shows only 6...Bd6.

7.O-O fxe4 8.Qb3 Nh6?!

More reliable is 8...Qh5 - Tarrasch.

9.d4 exd3 10.Bxd3 Qxd3! 11.Nf7
Qf6 12.Nxd3 Be6 13.Qxb7



13...Bd5!

Black must sacrifice the other Rook. Otherwise 14.Qxc6+ and 15.Qxc5 follow.

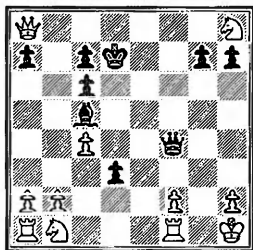
14.Qxa8 + Kd7

Tarrasch pointed out that, despite the heavy losses, Black still has some chances. White's Queen is out of play, his forces are not developed, and the King is in danger of direct attack.

15.c4 Bxd3 16.Kxd3?

Often such wild attacks with many sacrifices find themselves refuted only after the end of the game. White must play 16.Qg8!, trading Queens (if 16...Qg5 17.Nf7!) - Tarrasch.

16...Qg5 + 17.Kh1 Qf4



18.Nd2?

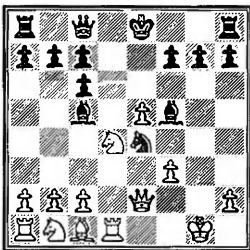
Preventing the perpetual check, White overlooks a forced mate. After 18.f3! Bd6 19.Rf2 Qc1+ 20.Kg2 Qg5+, Black has a draw.

18...Bd6 19.Kg2 Qxh2+ 20.Kf3 Qf4+ 21.Kg2 Qg4+ 22.Kh1 Qh3+ 23.Kg1 Qh2# 0-1

9...Qc8 10.Nd4 Bc5 11.g4?

This mistake proves decisive. Simple and perhaps also best is 11.Be3.

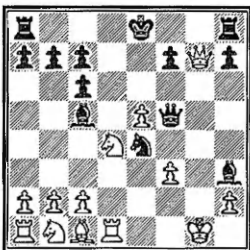
11...Bxg4 12.f3 Bf5!



13.Qg2

After 13.fxe4 Bg4 14.Qe1 Bxd1 15.Qxd1 Bxd4+ 16.Qxd4 Qg4+ 17.Kf2 Rd8, White is lost.

13...Bh3! 14.Qxg7 Qf5!



The Brutal Method. If White grabs the Rooks: 15.Qxh8+ Ke7 17.Qxa8, then Black wins by 17...Qxf3. Also impossible is 15.fxe4 Bxd4+ 16.Rxd4 Qf1#.

15.Be3 O-O-O! 16.fxe4 Qh5 17.Nc3 Rhg8 18.Qxg8 Rxd8+ 0-1

-109-

C 67 Ruy Lopez

JANSA - WESTERINEN

Gausdal 1989

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.O-O Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxc5 Ne4

A fairly new continuation, still without a clear assessment.

8.Qe2 Bf5 9.Rd1

Perhaps 9.Be3 is more promising, for example 9...Qe7 10.Re1 Bg6 11.Nbd2 Nxd2 12.Qxd2, and White stood better in Tseshkovsky-Malaniuk, Alma Ata 1989.

-110-

C 78 Ruy Lopez

AMATEUR - TARRASCH

Munich 1932

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6
4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Bc5 6.Nxe5
Nxe4

An experiment. According to theory, after 6...Nxe5 7.d4 Nxe4, White has a slightly better game.

7.Nxc6 dxc6 8.Qf3?!

Preferable is 8.Qe2 Qe7 9.Re1 - Tarrasch.

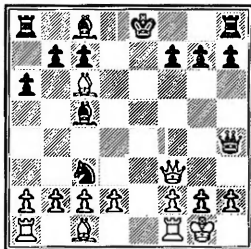
8...Qh4!?!*

A forgotten novelty. The book line is 8...Qd4 9.Bb3!, with better chances for White.

9.Nc3

If instead 9.d3 Nxf2 10.Bxc6+ Kf8! with advantage. White's best is 9.Bb3 O-O with equality - Tarrasch.

9...Nxc3 10.Bxc6+



10...bxc6!

After 10...Kf8 11.bxc3 bxc6 12.Qxc6, Black is in trouble.

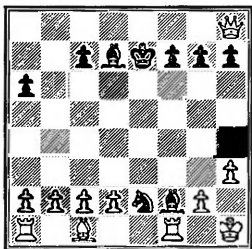
11.Qxc6+ Bd7! 12.Qxa8+

If 12.Re1+!? Kd8! 13.Qxa8+ Bc8 14.g3 Qf6 Black is better, but the fight is still ahead.

12...Ke7 13.Qxh8?

Loses. We found another entertaining variation: 13.g3 Qh3 14.Qg2? Ne2+ 15.Kh1 Bc6!! 16.f3 Nxc3+ 17.Qxg3 Qxf1+, but 14.Re1+ refutes the whole idea. However, 13...Rxa8 14.gxh4 Ne2+ leads to a better ending for Black. Another defensive opportunity for White, probably the best, is 13.Qf3 Nb5 14.c3, intending d4.

13...Ne2+ 14.Kh1 Bxf2 15.h3



15...Qxh3+!! 16.gxh3 Bc6+
17.Kh2 Bg3# 0-1

-111-

C 80 Ruy Lopez - Open Variation

LEBEDEV - NEIMANIS

USSR 1986

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6
4.Ba4 Nf6 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O
Nxe4

Transposing into the Open Variation. ECO recommends 6...Bg4!, and that's all! No games, no assessment. We checked some older sources. All we found was that after 7.d3 Be7 it is bad for White to play 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 as in the almost unknown and inconclusive game Netto - Naciff, Brazil 1935: 9...Nh5 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Nf4 13.Nc3 h5 14.Ne2 Ne6 15.c3 O-O-O 16.Rad1 g5 17.d4

(17.Qf5!?) g4 18.hxg4?? hxg4 19.Qxg4 Rdg8 20.Qf3 Qh4 0-1. In short, another speck on the tuxedo of opening theory.

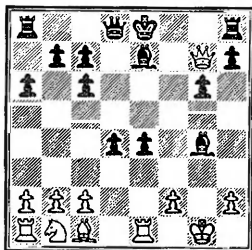
7.d4**

The books deal only with 7.Nxe5 and 7.Re1.

7...exd4 8.Re1 f5 9.Ng5 Be7 10.Nxe4 fxe4 11.Qh5 + ?!

Perhaps 11.Rxe4 O-O 12.Rxd4 Bd6 13.Be3 is better.

11...g6 12.Qh6 Bf5 13.g4?! Bxg4 14.Qg7



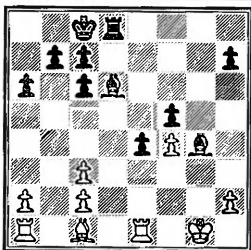
14...Qd5!

We don't know if the sacrifice of the Rooks is stronger than 14...Rf8 15.Rxe4 Bf3 15.Rxd4 Bd6, but it is much bolder and more interesting.

15.Nc3?!

If 15.Qxh8+ Kd7 16.Qxa8, then e3! with a decisive attack. Possibly 16.Qxh7 offers some chances.

15...dxc3 16.Qxh8+ Bf8! 17.Qf6 Qf5! 18.Qxf5 gxf5 19.bxc3 Bd6 20.f4 O-O-O



To our great regret, the rest of the game is not available to us. We know only that Black utilized his advantage and won in 45 moves.

-112-

D 00 Queen's Pawn

PEREIRA - SANDER

Corr. 1983/85

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bf4 Bg7 4.Nc3 d5

Black could also transpose into the Pirc Defense by 4...d6.

5.Qd2 O-O 6.Ne5!??

Perhaps an unnoticed interesting novelty.

6...c5?! 7.dxc5 d4 8.O-O-O Nh5 9.e3!

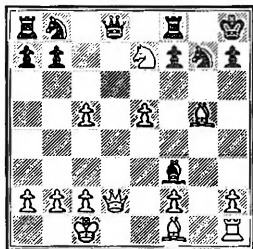
Sacrifices a piece. The calm 9.Nf3 Nxf4 10.Qxf4 Qa5! leads to better chances for Black.

9...g5 10.Bxg5 Bxe5 11.g4! Ng7 12.exd4 Bxg4

Also after 12...Bc7 13.Bh6, or 12...Bf6 13.Bxf6 exf6 14.h3, Black's position is not enviable - Nesis.

13.dxe5 Bxd1 14.Nd5! f6

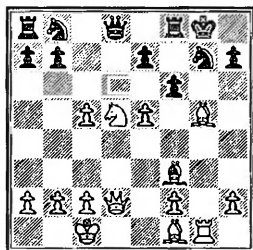
The thematic sacrifice of the second Rook remains behind the curtain in the following variation: 14...Bf3 15.Nxe7+ Kh8.



Now 16.Bd3! (Stronger than 16.Ng6+) Bxh1 17.Bf6! and wins.

15.Rg1! Bf3

If 15...fxg5 16.Qxg5 Rf7 17.e6 Qf8 18.exf7+ Qxf7 19.Bc4 Kf8 20.Nc7! and wins.



16.Bxf6! exf6

White's attack is already in full swing. Nesis mentions the following two magnificent variations: 16...Qxd5 17.Rxg7+ Kh8 18.Rg8+! Kxg8 19.Qg5+ Kf7 20.Qg7+ Ke6 21.Bh3+, and 16...Bxd5 17.Rxg7+ Kh8 18.Rxh7+! Kxh7 19.Bd3+ Kg8 20.Qg5+ Kf7 21.Qg6+ Ke6 22.Bf5#.

17.Qh6 1-0

If 17...Rf7 18.e6 Qxd5 19.exf7+ Kxf7 (19...Qxf7 20.Bc4!) 20.Qxg7+ Ke8 (or 20...Ke6 21.Bc4!) 21.Qh8+

Kd7 22.Rg7+ Ke6 23.Bc4! Qxc4 24.Qg8+ and wins.

-113-

D 07 Chigorin's Defense

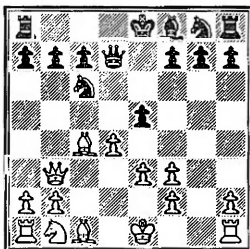
BAKSA - SZIMONIDESZ

Budapest 1960

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c4 Bg4 4.e3 e5!? 5.Qb3 Bxf3 6.gxf3 dxc4**

A forgotten novelty? The book line 6...exd4 7.cxd5 is in White's favor.

7.Bxc4 Qd7



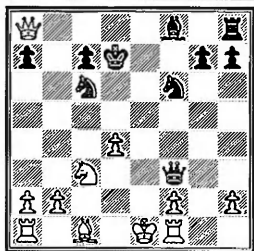
8.Bxf7+?

How many times will this temptation claim victims? White should play 8.Qxb7 Rb8 9.Qa6, and—trust luck!

8...Qxf7 9.Qxb7 Kd7 10.Qxa8 Qxf3 11.Rf1?!

Maybe 11.Rg1 offers more resistance.

11...exd4 12.exd4 Nf6 13.Nc3



13...Bb4! 14.Qxh8 Nxd4!
15.Qxg7+ Ke8 16.Qh8+ Kf7
0-1

-114-

D 13 Slav Defense

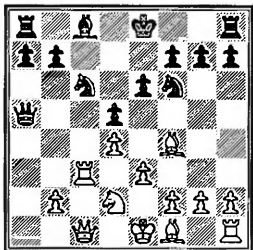
A.KRAEMER - H.HERMANN

Detmold (Germany) 1930

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5
4.d4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bf4 e6
7.e3 Qa5

A rare continuation, not mentioned in many opening books.

8.Nd2 Bb4 9.Rc1?! Bxc3 10.Rxc3
Qxa2 11.Qc1 Qa5



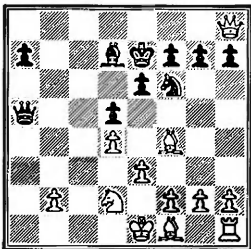
12.Rxc6?

The point of White's idea, but he has not fully appreciated the possibility of a two Rooks sacrifice. In-

stead 12.Bd6 offers compensation for the pawn.

12...bxc6! 13.Qxc6+ Bd7
14.Qxa8+ Ke7 15.Qxh8

Or 15.Qb7 Ne4 16.b4 Qa1+
17.Ke2 Qb2! and White is lost - Kurt Richter.



15...Qa1+!

Not 15...Ne4? 16.Bg5+!

16.Ke2 Bb5+ 0-1

If 17.Kf3 Qd1+ 18.Kg3 Qg4#.

-115-

D 17 Slav Defense

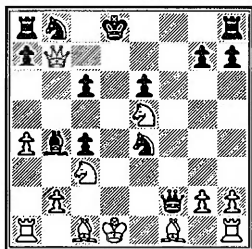
COOPER - KATZ

England 1950

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3
dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.Ne5 e6 7.f3 Bb4
8.e4 Bxe4 9.fxe4 Nxe4 10.Qf3
Qxd4 11.Qxf7+ Kd8
12.Qxb7?*

White has nothing better than
12.Bg5+! Nxe5 13.Qxg7 Bxc3+
14.bxc3 Qxc3+ 15.Ke2! Qc2+
16.Ke1 Qc3+ draw, as in Beliavsky-
Steinberg, USSR 1971, and many
other games before that. Our game
shows why 12.Bg5+! is mandatory.

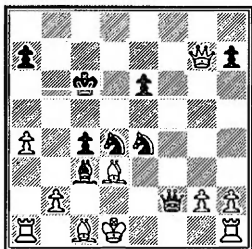
12...Qf2+! 13.Kd1



13...Bxc3! 14.Nxc6 + Nxc6
15.Qxa8 + Kc7 16.Qxh8 Nd4!

White has worked up a win of both Rooks only to find that Black mates him soon after.

17.Qxg7 + Kc6 18.Bd3



18...Qe2 +

A big choice! 18...Qc2 +, 18...Qf3 +, and 18...Qe1 + all lead to the same result.

19.Bxe2 Nf2# 0-1

-116-

D 20 Queen's Gambit Accepted
SCHWARTZ - KIESERITZKY
Paris 1842

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 f5 4.e5
Bc6 5.Nc3 c6

(Annotated in the Introduction,
see page xi)

-117-

D 21 Queen's Gambit Accepted
JANOWSKI - SCHALLOPP
Nuremberg 1896

A short, tactically instructive
game, and also the death march for
Black's 5...Bg4.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 c5 4.e3
cxd4 5.exd4 Bg4?

A fatal mistake!

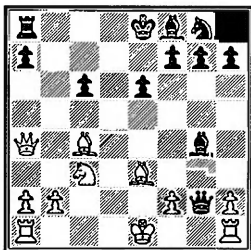
6.Bxc4 e6

If 6...Nf6 7.Bxf7 + Kxf7 8.Ne5 +
etc.

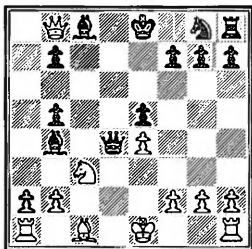
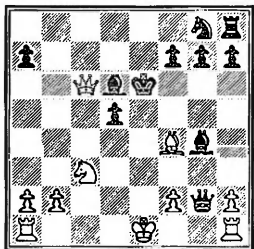
7.Qa4 + Nc6

If 7...Nd7, then 8.Ne5 Ngf6 9.Bg5
Bf5 10.Nxd7 Qxd7 11.Bb5 wins the
Queen.

8.Ne5 Qxd4 9.Nxc6 Qe4 +
10.Be3 bxc6 11.Nc3 Qxg2



12.Bd5! exd5 13.Qxc6 + Kd8
14.Qxa8 + Kd7 15.Qb7 +! Ke6
16.Qc6 + Bd6 17.Bf4!



1-0

The Brutal Method. If Black grabs the Rooks 17...Qxh1 + 18.Kd2 Qxa1, then 19.Qxd6+ Kf5 20.Qe5+ Kg6 21.Qg5#.

-118-

D 21 Queen's Gambit Accepted
G.BORISENKO - GRECHKIN
Corr. 1955/56

A game mentioned in *ECO* as an important theoretical example.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 a6 4.e4 c5 5.Bxc4 cxd4 6.Nxd4!? e5? 7.Qa4 + Qd7

The alternatives are no better:

a) 7...Bd7 8.Qb3 Qe7 9.O-O! with a strong attacking position. For example, 9...exd4 10.Qxb7 Bc6 11.Qc8+ Qd8 12.Bxf7+ Ke7 13.Qe6#;

b) 7...Nd7 8.Nf5 g6 9.Bxf7+! Kxf7 10.Qb3+ Kf6 (if 10...Ke8 11.Qe6+ Be7 12.Nd6+ Kf8 13.Qf7#) 11.h4!, again with a powerful attack.

8.Bb5! axb5 9.Qxa8 Qxd4 10.Qxb8 Bb4+ 11.Nc3!

ECO stops just in this interesting situation, assessing the position: White has the advantage. We disagree. White is winning! The Brutal Method of the two Rooks sacrifice here works perfectly for White, and, as the game shows, Black has nothing better.

11...Qxe4 +

If 11...Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Qxc3+ 13.Bd2! Qxa1+ 14.Ke2 Qxh1 15.Qxc8+ Ke7 16.Bb4+ Kf6 17.Qf5#1.

12.Be3 Ne7 13.Qc7 Bxc3+
Or 13...O-O 14.Qxe7!.

14.bxc3 Qc6 15.Qxe5 1-0

-119-

D 24 Queen's Gambit Accepted
NIKASHKIN - ISAKOV
USSR 1960

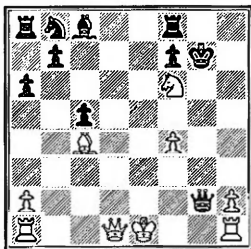
1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 c5 5.d5 e6 6.e4 a6?!** 7.Bg5! exd5

If 7...Be7 8.d6!.

8.e5 h6 9.Bh4 g5 10.Nxg5 hxg5 11.Bxg5 Be7 12.cxf6 Bxf6 13.Bxf6 Qxf6 14.Nxd5 Qxb2 15.f4!

White does not fall for 15.Nc7+? Ke7 16.Nxa8 Qc3+ 17.Ke2 Qe5+

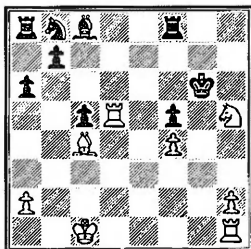
18.Kf3 Bg4+! 19.Kxg4 f5+ 20.Kf3 Qe4+ 21.Kg3 f4+, when Black wins.
15...O-O 16.Bxc4 Qxg2 17.Nf6+ Kg7



18.Qh5! Qg6

The Rooks are offered but taboo:
18...Qxh1+ 19.Kf2 Qxa1 20.Qg5+ Kh8 21.Qh6#. Also 18...Kxf6 19.O-O-O is hopeless for Black.

19.O-O-O Qxh5 20.Nxh5+ Kg6 21.Rd5! f5



22.Rd6+! Kh7 23.Rg1 1-0

-120-

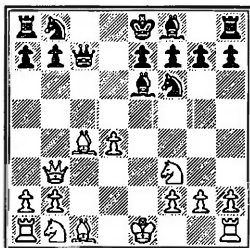
D 26 Queen's Gambit Accepted

REINFELD - BATTELL
USA 1940

With an unusual line not mentioned in *ECO*, Black worked very

hard to capture the opponent's Rooks, only to find that he is faced with an inevitable mate. The lesson is: Don't ever forget that when you win both Rooks in the opening you are always behind in development, hence your King can be in danger.

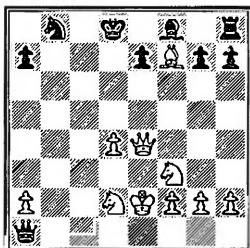
1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 dxc4 4.e3 c5 5.Bxc4 cxd4 6.exd4 Qc7?!** 7.Qb3 Be6?



8.Bxe6! Qxc1+ 9.Ke2 Qxh1 10.Bxf7+ Kd8 11.Qxb7 Qc1 12.Qxa8 Qxb2+ 13.Nbd2 Ne4

If 13...Qxa1 14.Qxb8+ Kd7 15.Ne5#.

14.Qxe4 Qxa1



15.Qd5+ Kc7 16.Qc5+ Kd8 17.Be6 1-0

-121-

D 30 Queen's Gambit
BELLANTONE - BELLEMO
 Italy 1973

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Nf3
 e6 5.Nbd2 Nbd7?!

The exact reply is the immediate
 5...c5.

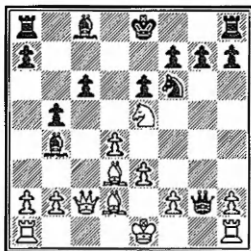
6.Bd3 dxc4?! 7.Nxc4 b5?

A suicidal weakening of his
 Queen's side. If Black thinks that he
 plays the Meran Defense, he is
 wrong!

8.Nce5 Nxe5 9.Nxe5 Qd5?!

Another careless move. Better was
 9...Bb7.

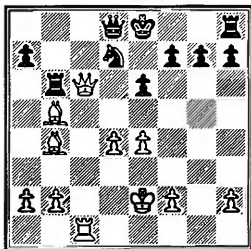
10.Qc2 Bb4+ 11.Bd2 Qxg2?



12.Bxb4! Qxh1+ 13.Ke2 Qd5

After 13...Qxa1 14.Qxc6+ Nd7,
 the simplest is 15.Nxd7 (15.Qd6
 Qxb2+ 16.Bc2 Qxb4!) Qxb2+
 16.Bd2 and wins.

14.e4 Qd8 15.Qxc6+ Bd7
 16.Nxd7 Nxd7 17.Rc1 Rb8
 18.Bxb5 Rb6?



19.Qxd7 + Qxd7 20.Rc8# 1-0

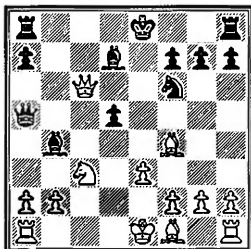
-122-

D 32 Queen's Gambit - Tarrasch
LOMBARDY - HERNANDEZ
 Tallin 1975

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5
 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Bf4 Nf6 7.e3
 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bb4 9.Nxc6 bxc6
 10.Qa4 Qa5

Offers both Rooks. *ECO* shows
 this move as Black's best. As we shall
 see, at least it does not deserve an
 exclamation mark.

11.Qxc6 + Bd7

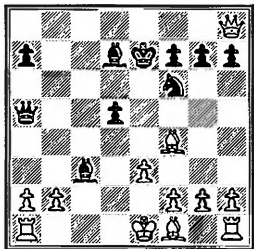


12.Qc7

"According to Kaplan and Burger,
 after 12.Qxa8+ Ke7 13.Qxh8 Bxc3+
 14.Ke2! White wins. Whether or not
 taking the Rooks wins, the grab con-

stitutes White's best, since now he is betrayed by his own intuition and loses" - Lombardy.

There are true and false points in this statement by Lombardy. Consider the following analysis by Randviir, in which both sides sacrifice both Rooks: 12.Qxa8+! Ke7 13.Qxh8 Bxc3+



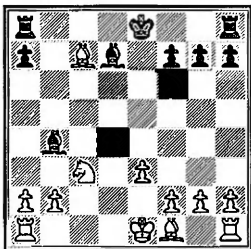
a) 14.bxc3 Qxc3+ 15.Ke2 Bg4+ 16.f3 Ne4, and, according to misleading annotations by Keres (*Informant* 19), Black wins. In fact it is White who has good winning chances after 17.Bg5+! Nxg5 18.Kf2 Qxa1 19.Qe8+!. Black's best is 15...Ne4 16.Kf3 Qxa1 17.Qb8! Qd1+ 18.Be2 Qxh1, possibly a draw.

b) 14.Ke2! and now 14...Bxb2 15.Bd6+!, or 14...Qa6+ 15.Kf3 Bg4+ 16.Kg3 Ne4+ 17.Kxg4 f5+ 18.Kh3!, or 14...Ne4 15.Qb8! Qa6+ 16.Kd1, or 14...Qa4 15.h3! Qc2+ 16.Kf3 Ne4 17.Be2 Bb5 18.Rae1. Clearly it is Black who must fight for a draw.

However, as we shall see later, Lombardy's 12.Qc7 is even better than the grab of the Rooks!

12...Qxc7 13.Bxc7 d4

According to Keres, this wins for Black. False!



14.a3??

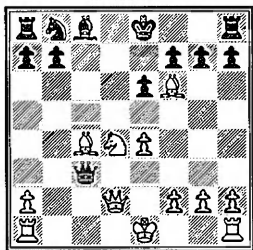
Keres gives 14.exd4 Nd5 and Black wins, but 15.Bd6!! (Randviir) leaves Black in trouble. The alternative 14...Rc8 15.Bf4! O-O (15...Rxc3? 16.Bd2) 16.Rc1 Rfe8+ 17.Be3 Ne4 18.Ba6! is also in White's favor - Randviir. In conclusion, Lombardy lost the game with the blunder 14.a3??.

14...dxc3 15.axb4 cxb2 16.Rd1 Ba4 17.Rb1 Rc8 18.Bd3 Rxc7 19.Ke2 a6 20.Rxb2 Bb5 21.Ra1 Ke7 22.Ra5 Ne4 23.Bxb5 axb5 24.Kf3 Nc3 25.Rc2 Rhc8 0-1

D 39 QUEEN'S GAMBIT - VIENNA VARIATION

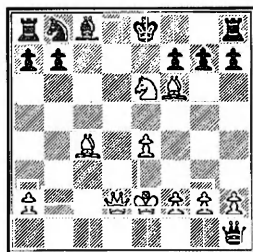
There is a trap in this thrilling and still popular variation. The trap is based on a two Rooks sacrifice. It occurs in the following line:

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Bb4 5.Bg5 dxc4 6.e4 c5 7.Bxc4 exd4 8.Nxd4 Qa5 9.Bxf6 Bxc3+ 10.bxc3 Qxc3+ 11.Qd2



Recent theory recommends 11.Kf1 Qxc4+ 12.Kg1, because in the diagram Black can trade Queens: 11...Qxd2+ 12.Kxd2 gxf6 13.Nb5 Na6 14.Nd6+ Ke7 15.Nxc8+ Rhxc8 16.Bxa6 bxa6 17.Rhc1 with equality - Simagin. What will happen if he grabs the Rooks?

11...Qxa1+ 12.Ke2 Qxh1
13.Nxe6!



ECO stops here. The next two games show how from the diagram position White wins by force:

-123-

H.MULLER - W.M.

Corr. 1934

13...Nd7 14.Nxg7+ Kf8 15.Qd5
1-0

-124-

HIAUPTOVA - WAGNEROVA

Czechoslovakia 1954

13...fxe6 14.Qd8+ Kf7 15.Qe7+
Kg6 16.Qxg7+ Kh5 17.Qg5#
1-0

-125-

D 48 Queen's Gambit - Meran

VASILEVSKY - KLIMENKOV

USSR (Corr.) 1953

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3
e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4
b5 8.Bd3 a6 9.e4 c5 10.e5 Ng4
11.Ng5

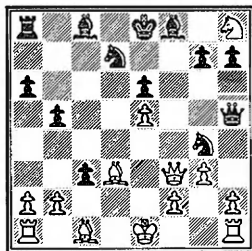
The alternatives—11.Be4 and 11.Bf4—are better and ensure an advantage for White.

11...cxd4 12.Nxf7 Qh4!?

Sacrifices the first Rook. He could also have tried 12...Kxf7 13.Qxg4 dxc3 14.Qf3+ Kg8 15.Qxa8 Nxc5, with good compensation.

13.g3 Qh5 14.Nxh8 dxc3
15.Qf3?*

ECO recommends only 15.Be4 Bb4 16.Kf1 as leading to equality.



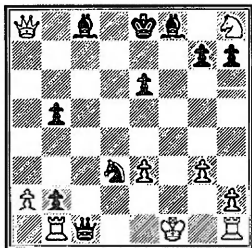
15...Ndxex5!

The sacrifice of the second Rook is correct and gives Black a decisive attack.

16.Bxb5 +

The immediate 16.Qxa8 also loses convincingly : 16...Nxd3+ 17.Kf1 Qc5 18.Qf3 Nde5 19.Qf4 (19.Qe2 Bb7) Qd5! 20.f3 Qd1+ 21.Kg2 Qc2+ 22.Kh3 Nf2+.

16...axb5 17.Qxa8 Nd3+ 18.Kf1 Qc5 19.Be3 Nxe3+ 20.fxe3 cxb2 21.Rb1 Qc1+

**0-1**

Mate is inevitable: 22.Kc2 Qc2+ 23.Kf3 Ne5+ 24.Kf4 Qf5#, or 22.Kg2 Qc2+ 23.Kh3 Nf2+ 24.Kh4 Be7+ 25.Kh5 Qf5#.

-126-

D 82 Grunfeld Defense

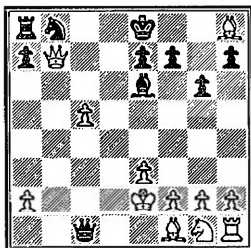
VRANESIC - FOGUELMAN

Amsterdam (izt) 1964

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 c5 6.dxc5 Qa5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Qxd5 Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 Qxc3+ 10.Ke2 Qxa1 11.Be5 Qc1!

According to Purdy, Black's best is 11...Qb1.

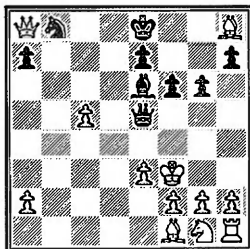
12.Bxh8 Be6 13.Qxb7

**13...f6!??**

A fascinating but forgotten continuation. All sources available to us show this variation as leading to equality with one and the same example Vaughan - Purdy, Corr. 1945 : 13...Qc2+ 14.Kf3 Qf5+ 15.Kc2 Qc2+.

14.Qxa8 Qc4+ 15.Ke1 Qb4+ 16.Ke2 Qc4+ 17.Ke1 Qc3+ 18.Ke2 Qb2+ 19.Kf3

Dangerous is 19.Ke1 Qb1+ 20.Ke2 Qxa2+, when Black's attack continues.

19...Qe5**20.Qxa7?**

Good or bad, White must play 20.Ke2.

20...Qh5+ 0-1

-127-

E 29 Nimzo-Indian - Samisch

SHCHERBAKOV - LEVIT

Leningrad 1954

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3
c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Bd3
b6 8.Nf3

The usual and better plan is 8.Ne2,
intending O-O, e4, and Ng3.

8...O-O?!

The better alternative is 8...d6 9.e4
e5.

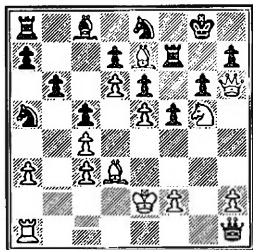
9.e4 Ne8 10.e5 f5?

A decisive mistake. Black should
play 10...f6.

11.d5! Na5 12.Bg5 Qc7 13.d6
Qc6 14.Be7 Rf7

Now White wins using the typical
sacrifice of the Rooks.

15.Ng5! Qxg2 16.Qh5! g6
17.Qh6 Qxh1+ 18.Ke2



18...Qg2

If Black grabs the remaining Rook
18...Qxa1, then after 19.Nxf7 he has
only a few harmless checks:
19...Qb2+ 20.Kf3 Bb7+ 21.Kg3 f4+
22.Kg4 Ng7 23.Ng5, and then the
game is over.

19.Nxf7 Ng7

If 19...Qg4+ 20.f3 Qg2+ 21.Ke1
etc.

20.h3!

Not 20.Ng5?? Qg4+ 21.f3 Qh5.

20...f4

If 20...Kxf7 21.Bf6 and wins.

21.Ng5 f3+ 22.Ke1 1-0

-128-

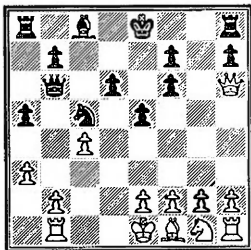
E 38 Nimzo-Indian Defense

HUGOT - O'KELLY

Saarbrücken 1950

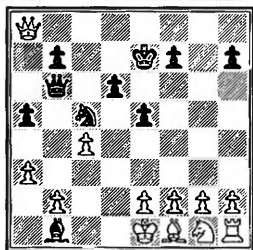
This game shows how dangerous is
the development of only the Queen's
wing.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4
4.Qc2 c5 5.dxc5 Na6 6.a3 Bxc3+
7.Qxc3 Nxc5 8.Bg5?! ** a5!
9.Qe5? d6 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Qf4
e5 12.Qh6 Qb6! 13.Rb1



13...Bf5!! 14.Qxf6 Bxb1

15.Qxh8+ Ke7 16.Qxa8



16...Ne4!

Not 16...Qxb2? 17.f3!.

17.e3 Qxb2 18.Qxa5 Qxf2+ 0-1

-129-

E 41 Nimzo-Indian Defense

GELLER - GOLOMBEK

Budapest 1952

A game mentioned in *ECO* as theoretical example. For us it is also an example where the thematic two Rooks sacrifice is used as defensive device.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.a3 cxd4 6.axb4 dxc3 7.Nf3!?

A very promising gambit, while 7.bxc3 gives White some small plus.

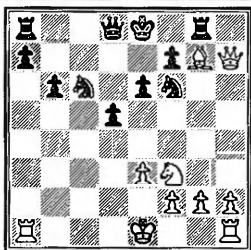
7...cxb2 8.Bxb2 d5 9.c5 b6 10.Bb5+ Bd7 11.Bxd7+ Nfxd7 12.Qc2

According to Ragozin White should play 12.Qa4! bxc5 13.bxc5 Qc8 14.O-O!, with a strong initiative.

12...Nc6! 13.Bxg7 Nxb4 14.Qb1 Rg8 15.c6 Nxc6!

Only so. If 15...Nc5, then 16.Qxh7 Rxg7 17.Qxg7 Nc2+ 18.Ke2 Nxa1 19.Rxa1, and White has clearly better chances.

16.Qxh7 Nf6!!



ECO stops to claim equality just here, when Black gives up both his Rooks! There are some further details which must be known.

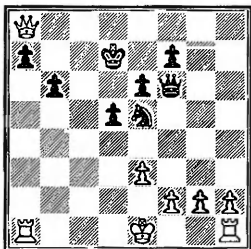
17.Bxf6 Qxf6 18.Qxg8+ Kd7!

Not 18...Ke7?? 19.Qg5!.

19.Ne5 +!? Nxe5!

If 19...Qxe5?!, then 20.Qxf7+, followed by 21.O-O.

20.Qxa8



20...Nf3 +! 21.gxf3

After 21.Ke2 Qb2+ 22.Kxf3 Qf6+ Black achieves the perpetual check without regaining any material.

21...Qxa1+ 22.Ke2 Qb2+ Draw

There is no escape: 23.Kf1 Qb1+ 24.Kg2 Qg6+ etc.

-130-

E 42 Nimzo-Indian Defense

LANDAU - OZOLS

Kemer 1937

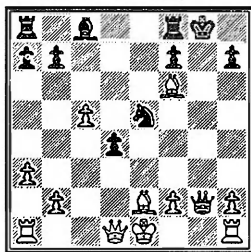
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3
c5 5.Nge2 Nc6 6.a3 Bxc3 +
7.Nxc3 cxd4 8.exd4 d5 9.c5 O-O
10.Be2 e5! 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Bg5?

Black's d-pawn must be stopped by
12.Be3.

12...d4 13.Ne4 Qd5! 14.Nxf6 +

There is no turning back now. In
the alternative 14.Bxf6 Qxe4 15.Bxe5
Qxe5 16.O-O Qxc5 17.Rc1 White
has not enough compensation for the
pawn.

14...gxf6 15.Bxf6 Qxg2

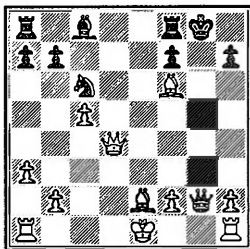


16.Qxd4

Courageously giving up both
Rooks. The tournament book claims
that if 16.Rf1 Ng4, White is lost. It is
hard to argue with that conclusion,
but White still has some chances
after, say, 17.Qxd4 Nxh2 18.O-O-O
Nxf1 19.Bxf1.

16...Nc6?

White's idea was miscalculated!
Black could win by capturing the
Rooks: 16...Qxh1 + 17.Kd2 Qxa1
18.Qxe5 Qg1 19.Bd3 Qxf2 + 20.Kc3
h6!.



17.Qd5!! Qg6

Of course 17...Qxd5?? 18.Rg1 + is
mate.

18.Qg5 h6 19.Qh4 Re8
20.O-O-O Re4 21.Rhg1 Rxh4
22.Bxh4 Kh7 23.Bd3! Bf5
24.Rxg6 Bxg6 25.Bxg6 + Kxg6
26.Rd7 Ne5 27.Rd6 + Kh7
28.Bg3 Re8 29.Rd5 Nc6 30.Rd7
Re7 31.Rxe7 Nxe7 32.Kd2 Kg6
33.Kd3 Kf5 34.b4 Ke6 35.Kc4
a6 36.a4 f5 37.b5 axb5 + 38.axb5
Nd5 39.Bb8 Nf6 40.Bf4 h5 41.c6
bxc6 42.b6! Nd5 43.b7 Nb6 +
44.Kc5 Nd7 + 45.Kxc6 1-0

-131-

E 45 Nimzo-Indian Defense

Z.MILEV - BOBEKOV

Bulgaria (ch) 1958

A game mentioned in *ECO* as an
important theoretical example.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3
b6 5.Nge2 Ba6 6.a3 Be7 7.Nf4
d5 8.cxd5 Bxf1 9.Kxf1 Nxd5?!

Better is 9...exd5 with a small plus
for White.

10.Ncxd5 exd5 11.Qh5! g5

If 11...c6 12.Ne6!.

12.Ne6! Qd7 13.Ng7 + Kf8
14.Qh6 Qc6

The only move. If 14...Kg8 15.Nh5 and wins.

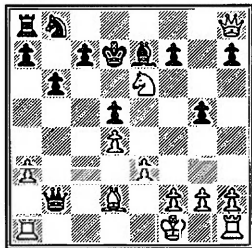
15.Ne6 + Ke8 16.Qg7

ECO stops here with the assessment that White wins. As we shall see, it is not so easy and requires the use of tactics, including the two Rooks sacrifice.

16...Qc2!

Threatening 17...Qd1#.

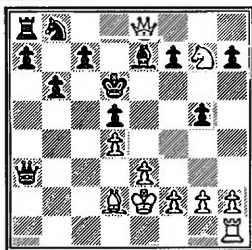
17.Qxh8 + Kd7 18.Bd2! Qxb2



19.Ng7! Qxa1 + 20.Ke2 Qxa3

If Black grabs the other Rook, 20...Qxh1, then 21.Qe8 + Kd6 22.Nf5 + Ke6 23.Qxe7 + Kxf5 24.Qxf7 + Kg4 25.Qf3 + Kh4 26.Qh3#. However, Black cannot avoid this variation because of our old friend, the continuous sacrifice of the second Rook.

21.Qe8 + Kd6



22.Ra1! Qxa1 23.Nf5 + 1-0

FIVE ADDITIONAL GAMES

Just when the manuscript was ready for print, we collected five more games which illustrate our tactical theme. We believe that the reader is already familiar with the ideas behind the Two Rooks Sacrifice, and we present these additional examples with light annotations.

-132-

A 83 Dutch - Staunton Gambit

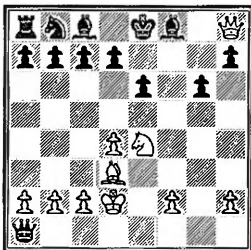
EDGAR - LOTT

Corr. 1955

1.d4 f5 2.e4 fxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6
4.Bg5 e6 5.Bxf6 Qxf6 6.Nxe4
Qg6?

A decisive error! According to theory, Black's best continuation is 6...Qh6 with equal chances.

7.Bd3! Qxg2 8.Qh5+ g6 9.Qe5
Qxh1 10.Qxh8! Qxg1+ 11.Kd2
Qxa1



12.Nf6+ Ke7

If 12...Kf7 13.Qg8+ Kxf6
14.Qxf8+ Kg5 15.f4+ and Black
loses as in Goring - Minckwitz, Wies-
baden 1871, e.g. 15...Kg4 16.Qh6.

13.Nd5+! exd5 14.Oxh7+ Kd6

If 14...Kd8 15.Qh4+ Be7
16.Qh8+.

15.Qxg6+ Ke7 16.Qg5+ Kf7
17.Bg6+ Kg8 18.Qf6! Bb4+
19.c3! 1-0

After 19...Qxb2+ 20.Kd1 Qa1+
21.Ke2 Qb2+ 22.Kf3 Qxc3+ 23.Kg2
there are no more checks and the
mate is inevitable.

-133-

B 20 Sicilian - Wing Gambit

L.WOOD - A.MEASE

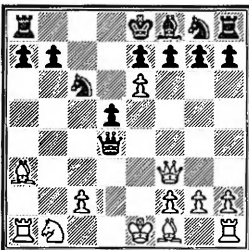
USA (Corr.) 1949

1.e4 c5 2.b4 cxb4 3.a3 d5 4.e5
Nc6 5.d4 Qb6 6.Nf3?!**

ECO shows only 6.Ne2 and 6.Be3.

6...Bg4 7.Bb2? bxa3 8.Bxa3 Bxf3
9.Qxf3 Qxd4 10.e6

White's hope is 10...fxe6, or
10...Qe5+ 11.Be2 Qxe6 12.O-O,
with some compensation for the
sacrificed material. Black refutes this
idea, offering both Rooks! In short,
the Brutal Method in action.



10...Qxa1! 11.Qxf7+ Kd8
12.Qxf8+ Kc7 13.Qxa8 Nf6!!
14.Qxh8 Qxb1+ 15.Kd2 Ne4+

16.Ke3 Qb6+ 17.Kf3 Qxf2+
18.Kg4 Ne5+ 0-1

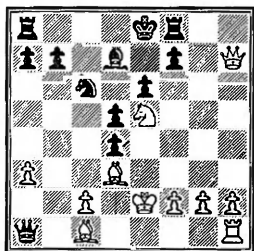
-134-

C 18 French Winawer

DOBRININ - SEBAGH

Corr. 1988/89

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5
c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4
Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4
10.Kd1 Nd7 11.Nf3 Nxe5 12.Bf4
Qxc3 13.Nxe5 Qxa1+ 14.Bc1
Rf8 15.Bd3 Bd7 16.Ke2 Nc6



17.Bg5?!**

According to Uhlmann, White's only continuation is 17.Nxf7 Rxf7 18.Qg8+ Rf8 19.Bg6+ Ke7 20.Qg7+ Kd6 21.Bf4+ Rxf4! 22.Rxa1 Rg4 23.Qh6 Ne5 24.Bd3 Rxc2 unclear.

17...Qxa3!

If Black grabs the second Rook 17...Qxh1?, then the tactical idea works perfectly: 18.Nxf7 Rxf7 19.Qg8+ Rf8 20.Bg6 mate.

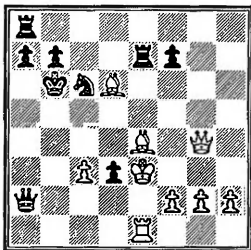
18.Ng4

Or 18.Ng6? e5! 19.Nxf8 Qxf8 20.Bh6 Qd6 21.Qh8+ Ke7 22.Bg5+ f6 23.Qg7+ Kd8 24.Bxf6+ Kc7, threatening 25...e4.

18...e5! 19.Nf6+ Kd8 20.Nxd5+ Kc8 21.Qg7 Re8 22.Nf6 e4! 23.Bxe4 d3+ 24.Kd2 Qa5+! 25.c3 Rd8 26.Nxd7 Rxd7 27.Re1

If 27.Qg8+ Nd8 28.Bf6 Qa2+ 29.Ke3 Qe2+ 30.Kf4 d2 and Black wins.

27...Qa2+ 28.Ke3 Kc7 29.Bf4+ Kb6 30.Qg4 Re7 31.Bd6



31...Rg8! 0-1

White is lost, for example:

32.Qxg8? Rxe4+ 33.Kxe4 f5+ winning the Queen, or

32.Qd1 Rxe4+ 33.Kxe4 Re8+ 34.Kxd3 Rxe1 35.Qxe1 Qd5+ and 36...Qxd6 winning a piece, or

32.Qf3 Ne5 33.Bxe5 Rxe5 34.Qf6+ Re6 35.Qd4+ Kc7 36.Kf3 d2 37.Rd1 Rd8 38.Qc5+ Kb8 39.Qg5 Rde8 40.Qf4+ Ka8 41.Rxd2 Qa5! 42.Rd3 Qh5+ 43.g4 Qh3+ 44.Qg3 Qxg3 45.fxg3 Rxe4 and Black wins easily.

-135-

C 21 Danish Gambit

C.WATSON - AMATEUR

Melbourne 1916

Black's play is of low quality. The game deserves attention only because of White's bold sacrifice of both Rooks and the tactical shot at the end.

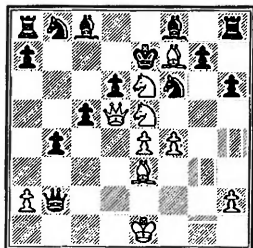
1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Be4 c6** 5.Nxc3 b5?! 6.Bb3 b4 7.Nce2 Qf6? 8.Nf3 h6 9.Be3 Qg6? 10.Ne5 Qxg2 11.Qd4! Qxh1 12.Kd2 Qxa1 13.Bxf7+ Kd8 14.Nf4 c5

If 14...d6 15.Nfg6 Be7 16.Qb6+!

15.Ne6+ Ke7 16.Qd5 Qxb2+ 17.Kel d6 18.f4

Even though it looks as though Black has been asking to be delivered by a quick brilliancy, the position would be unclear after 18...dxe5, in particular after 19.Bxc5+ Kf6.

18...Nf6?



19.Qxd6+!! Kxd6 20.Bc5# 1-0

-136-

C 57 Fried Liver Attack

J.BERRY - I.OLSON

Vancouver 1968

15 minutes per side. Notes by J.Berry.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.Nxf7 Kxf7 7.Qf3+ Ke6 8.Nc3 Nb4 9.Kd1

This move had been suggested by A.Langlois in Canadian Chess Chat magazine.

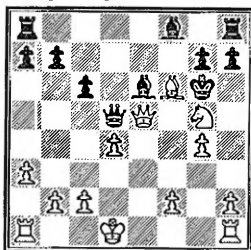
9...c6 10.a3 Na6 11.g4?

The optimism of youth.

11...Nc7 12.Qf5+ Kd6 13.Ne4+ Ke7 14.Qxe5+ Be6 15.d4 Nf6 16.Bg5 Nd5 17.Bxd5 Qxd5 18.Bxf6+ Kf7?

Just taking the Bishop should win.

19.Ng5+ Kg6



20.Nxe6! Qxh1+ 21.Kd2 Qxa1 22.Nf4+ 1-0

INDEX OF PLAYERS

(The numbers refer to games)

Abraham - 89	Berry - 136	Edgar - 132
Adams - 50	Birbrager - 18	Edwards - 2
Afifi - 5	Blackburne - 92, 96	Englitis - 83
Agapov - 93	Blatny P. - 60	Etienne - 85
Ageichenko - 24	Bleul - 32	Euwe - 16, 102
Albert - 81	Bobekov - 131	Evigelsky - 36
Alekhnin - 10, 51, 95	Boll - 26	Faas - 93
Alten - 49	Book - 23	Ferenc - 25
Amateur - 4, 17, 54, 62, 70, 96, 99, 110, 113, 123, 135	Borisenko G. - 118	Fleissig - 1
Anderssen - 68	Bortnikov - 12	Fogelman - 126
Andersson E. - 91	Bowdler - 61	Fox - (page xiii)
Andreev D. - 27	Bozek - 56	Frey - 94
Anthes - 49	Buis - (page xii)	Frischherz - 65
Armando - 28	Bunatian - 24	Gaprindashvili - 30, 33
Arseniev - 106	Burkhalter - 48	Gasca - 76
Asztalos - 51	Burn - 92	Gelbak - 52
Atars - 77, 87	Canal - 17	Geller - 129
Auzins - 45	Capon - 6	Gillhausen - 71
Bakos - 67	Carreras - 64	Ginburg - 31
Baksa - 113	Castagna - 48	Goldman - 47
Balashov - 59	Chandler - 57	Golombek - 129
Bareev - 59	Chekalin - 41	Gomes - 98
Barthel - (page xii)	Chigorin - 107	Grave - 81, 86
Battel - 120	Conway - 61	Grechkin - 118
Battle - 64	Cooper - 115	Gruhn - 47
Beliaevsky - 5	Coriell - 55	Gunderam - 84
Bellantone - 121	Craddock - 7	Gurgenidze - 11
Belleemo - 121	Diaz - 97	Hamburger - 3
Beni - 39	Dille - 86	Hauptova - 124
Benner - 79	Dimitrov P. - 27	Hayenga - 55
Bernstein - 88	Dobrinin - 134	Helmer - 14
	Dreiberg - 79	Hermann - 114
	Duhrssen - 13	

Hernandez - 122	Lomov - 29	Pereira - 112
Heuacker - 3	Lott - 132	Perigal - 99
Hodges - (page xiii)	Lowig - 74	Perioiu - 42
Hubner - 32	Lundin - 80	Personu - 43
Hugo - 128	Lugo - 97	Peshina - 8
Isakov - 119	Lysenko - 41	Pietrzak - 35
Janny - 89	Maczynski - 101	Pietzsch - 39
Janowski - 117	Mader - 65	Pillsbury - 69
Jansa - 109	Madsen - 104	Pirc - 40
Kapengut - 11	Malevinsky - 106	Popa - 20
Kaszuba - 35	Malishauskas - 36	Popov - 21
Katz - 115	Mariasin - 12	Popovic D. - 19
Keffler - 85	Maric - 19	Pratten - 101
Keres - 75	Marshall - 69	Probst - 74
Kieseritzky - 68, 116	Matveeva - 30	Pupols - 72, 78, 80, 84
Klimenkov - 125	Mazaev - 66	Purins - 83
Klokov - 29	Mease - 133	Pytel - 53
Kobernat - 15	Mende - 43	Radford - 104
Kolodziejczyk - 4	Metodiev - 73	Ranken - 90
Kosten - 58	Mieses - 7	Rasmusson - 23
Kouba - 103	Milev - 73, 131	Reinfeld - 120
Kraemer - 114	Mokry - 53	Reti - 16, 102
Krauklis - 45	Muller - 75, 123	Richter K. - 13
Krejcik - 14	Munder - 63	Rodzynski - 95
Kupreichik - 58	Murray - 78	Rutherford - 91
Kurschner - 108	Neimanis - 111	Sakhnenko - 31
Landau - 130	Netto - 98	Samisch - 54
Lange - 70	Nield - 2	Sander - 112
Lanz - 26	Nikashkin - 119	Santasiere - 67
Lasker - 40	Nogueiras - 57	Schalopp - 117
Lebedev - 111	O'Kelly - 128	Schifferdecker - 44
Leibowitz - 22	Olson - 136	Schlechter - 1
Levenfish - 10	Orev - 71	Schwartz - 116
Levit - 127	Ozols - 130	Sebagh - 134
Levy - 82	Ozsvath - 21	Servaty - 33
Liso - 76	Pahtz - 34	Shcherbakov - 127
Loba - 66	Palau - 100	Shirov - 105
Lombardy - 122	Pavlov - 42	Shishkin - 52

Shletser - 107	Zilber - 9
Simon - 63	Zotkin - 38
Steel - 62	Zukhovitsky - 37
Stein - 18	Zulanov - 37
Steinitz - 46	
Stejskal - 25	
Strauss - 44	
Strautins - 72	
Strautmanis - 100	
Strobel - 82	
Strut - 87	
Suetin - 9	
Sukhanov - 38	
Szekely - 22	
Szymczak - 60	
Szimonidesz - 113	
Szmetan - 94	
Tal - 34	
Tarrasch - 108, 110	
Tartakower - 88	
Taylor - 6	
Tiroler - 20	
Tomins - 105	
Tomson - 77	
Torre C. - 50	
Tukmakov - 8	
Vasilevsky - 125	
Vranesic - 126	
Wagnerova - 124	
Watson - 135	
Wayte - 90	
Westerinen - 109	
Whitehead - 15	
Wiktorczyk - 56	
Winawer - 46	
Wood - 133	
Yusupov - 28	
Zichner - 103	

CHESS

The two Rooks sacrifice is one of the most thrilling themes in chess. The sacrificer gives up more than a Queen in equivalent value to gain only a move or two to further the attack. When it works, it's a triumph of mind over matter. When it doesn't, at least the game is over quickly.

The authors have painstakingly researched the chess archives to find examples of the two Rooks sacrifice. But this book is more than a collection of diagrams. Each example is a gem which shows its best facets in the light of contemporary chess opening theory and under the microscope of the authors' precise analysis.

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