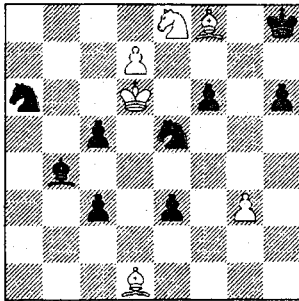


2. A 7-year mystery now largely solved
No 10464 G. van Breukelen,
Schakend Nederland (No.2207 iii1990)



d6h8 0057.25 6/9

Win

Solution: 1.Bg7+ Kg8 2.Sxf6+ Kxg7 3.Sh5+, and then as below.

Version in EG102.2 (vi1991) p875, and elsewhere d6h7 0047.24 d1b4g8a6g5.d7g3c3c5e3h6 5/8.

Solution: 1.Sf6+ Kg7 2.Sh5+ Kg6 3.Bc2+ Kxh5 4.d8Q Sf7+ 5.Ke6 Sxd8+ 6.Kf5 e2 7.Be4 e1S 8.Bd5 c2 9.Bc4 c1S 10.Bb5 Sc7 11.Ba4 wins.

The composer of this fine study (better in the more economical 13-man setting), which exists in more versions than the two quoted above, is the Dutch composer Gijs van Breukelen, who demonstrated it (reports Harold van der Heijden in a 1993 issue of *EBUR*) as an example of his own work at a meeting of *ARVES* held in 1992 in Delft. The position with author's name was already in *Schakend Nederland* of iii1990 as an original in van Reek's regular studies column. The composer said at the *ARVES* meeting that he had composed it in the mid-1970s, and shown it to several friends (Gerardus Rol was one), but had neither sent it for publication nor entered it for a tourney. Having somehow penetrated the player circuit (cf. the Saavedra story elsewhere in this issue) it circulated rapidly, acquiring journalistic colour en route through being associated either with a (totally fictitious) Ukrainian tractor-driver, or with a very specific (but equally spurious) game between leading masters. (Cf. the Saavedra story - again.) The late IGM Tal was one of the active propagators, but when asked he claimed he could not remember who had first shown it to him. It was contributed by Dutch journalist Jules Welling to the Dutch club magazine *De Klokketoren* before 1980, reported in the Swiss *Die Schachwoche* in 1991, subsequently in the Spanish magazines *Jaque* and *Ocho x Ocho*, and again in *Chess Monthly* for vii1996.

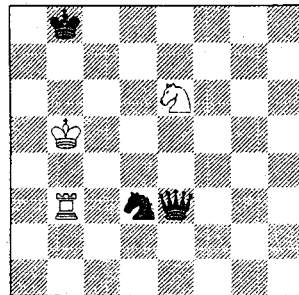
Two trivial questions remain: how the position was published, apparently without the composer's

knowledge, as an original over 6 years ago in the pages of *Schakend Nederland*; and why, following the appeal in EG102.1, no Dutch reader of *EG* drew our attention to the fact! The composer (b.1946) has had tourney successes, among them 4th prize in *Schakend Nederland*'s 1990 informal tourney (van Reek's award makes no mention of No.2207), though he seems never to have bothered to compete in FIDE Album selection tourneys. Maybe he is simply that happy being, the carefree composer (Mike Bent is another) careless of the publicity his studies may earn. (The world-wide publicity could not have been achieved by orthodox means!) Such composers, with little or no interest in (even, perhaps, blissfully ignorant of) the dry, scholarly niceties of authorship, authenticity, originality and provenance - are the salt of the earth. Their *Weltanschauung* is one with which it is not difficult to empathise - even to the point of envy and admiration.

Unless there are corrections or additions to our report, and if the composer does not mind being called mischievous, we sign off by sending him our belated greetings and congratulations, applauding his motives, and eagerly looking forward to enjoying the output of the next generation of Dutch mischief-makers!

3. No 10465 Gerhard W.Jensch

Zürcher Tagesanzeiger, 1963



b5b8 3104.00 3/3

Draw

All the discovered checks and other sensible moves - fail! Some do so because Black can (eventually) capture a loose white knight with check. Only the suicidal 1.Sc5!!! works. 1...Qxc5+ 2.Ka6+ Kc7 3.Rb7+ Kd6 4.Rb6+ Kd5 5.Rb5 Sb4+ 6.Ka5 Sc6+, and at last White has a choice: 6.Ka6, or 6.Ka4.

The conjecture that jewels languish in obscure chess columns gains further support.