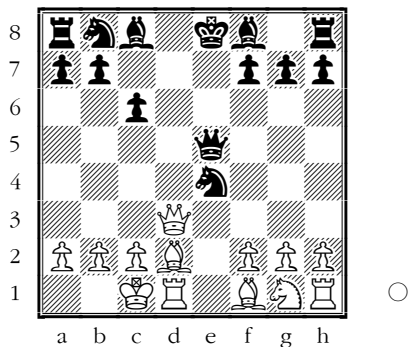


Test Yourself!

R. Reti – S. Tartakower
Vienna Vienna AUT, 1910



On this Day...

The famous Austrian–Hungarian, later Czechoslovakian player **Richard Réti** was born on 28 May 1889. A contribution of a chess–player to the game in principle cannot be more fundamental than Réti's. He composed one of the most famous chess studies ever. (White: ♖h8, ♗c6, Black: ♖a6, ♗h5. 1. ♖g7!, etc. =). The Réti Opening (1. ♖f3 and if 1...d5 2.c4) is named after him. Réti died on 6 June 1929, aged forty. In the last 15 years of his life Réti constantly belonged to the group of the world's best players.



World Chess News

Chinese Championships

The Chinese Championship takes place in Xinghua Jiangsu from 26 May – 6 June 2009. [The Week in Chess](#) now has crosstables and basic links on its front page. The [men's](#) event is all–play–all with 12 participants (average ELO 2588, Category 14). The [women's](#) championship is also all–play–all with 12 participants (average ELO 2346, Category 4).

It is a very good trend that information from the main Chinese events lately started to reach the English–language chess sites...

In the April 2009 official FIDE [Top Countries](#) lists, China with 2652 points is in the third place by average rating of top 10 players (behind Russia, 2724 and Ukraine, 2692) and in the second place with 2468 points in the similar women's list (1.Russia 2469; 3.Georgia 2439).

Ukrainian events

by GM Mikhail Golubev

The [Ukrainian Team Championship](#) is taking place in Alushta. On May 27, there was the penultimate round in the final pool (for Places 1–6):

Law Academy – PVK 2½–3½

Moiseenko v Ponomariov ½–½

Korobov v A.Onischuk ½–½

Borovikov v Miroshnichenko ½–½

Firman v Areshchenko ½–½

Brodsky v Beliavsky 0–1

Kovchan v Baklan ½–½

PGMB – Stara Gvardiya 4½–1½

Rivnensky Zybry – Zakhid Resurs

3½–2½

The PGMB team (GM Andreikin, GM Azarov, IM Zubov, GM Kononenko...) will face PVK in the crucial match of the final round.

Standings before the final round:

1. PVK Kiev Chess – 8 (20)

2. PGMB Lugansk – 8 (17½)

3. Law Academy Kharkov – 4 (13½)

4. Rivnensky Zybry – 2 (7)

5. Stara Gvardiya Kiev – 2 (6½)

6. Zakhid Resurs – 0 (7½).

The [Ukrainian women's championship](#) is taking place in Evpatoria. After 5 rounds, Tatjana Vasilevich and Evgeniya Doluhanova are leading with 4½ points.

27th Liechtenstein Open

The 27th Liechtenstein Open took place on 15–23 May 2009 in Triesen. There were 107 participants, including five Grandmasters. GM Imre Hera Jr (HUN, 2533) and IM Sebastian Bogner (GER, 2511) scored 7/9.

[Official website](#); [Chess-Results](#)

Stuttgart Championship

The 14th International Stuttgart Championship took place on 21–24 May 2009. GM Sergei Ovsejevitch (UKR, 2580), IM Maxim Chetverik (RUS, 2323) and Dmitry Svetushkin (MDA, 2615) occupied the podium, scoring 6/7 each. There were 130 participants.

[Full results](#)

Cuban events

GM Lazaro Bruzon won the all-play-all MONCADA tournament in Santiago de Cuba:

Final standings:

1. GM Bruzon – 8 out of 11
2. GM Almeida – 7
- 3–4. GM Yu.González and FM Blanco – 6½, etc. (12 participants).

The Guillermo Garcia Memorial begins today in Santa Clara. Thanks to our Latin America correspondent, Luiz Roberto da Costa Jr. for this news.

Calgary, Canada

This swiss system event took place from May 14th–18th, 2009 in Calgary.

Final standings:

- 1–2. GM Ant.Kovalyov (ARG, 2557) and IM Porper (CAN, 2435) – 6½ out of 9
3. IM Castellanos Rodriguez (ESP, 2446) – 6, etc (20 players).

The [official website](#) by the Calgary Chess Club is a good example of what is needed most at the chess tournament website. All the key links are visible.

3rd ACP Cup (More Coverage in Russian)

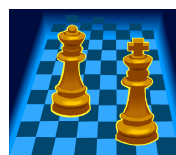
A large [report with photos](#) by the Odessa study composer Sergey Tkachenko has been published today at ChessPro.ru.

I posted at Youtube [TV reports](#) by the local channel, TRC Novaya Odessa, for whom I am grateful as they provided a file and permission to use it with necessary references.

Some [photos](#) by me are at the Odessa Chess Cruise site. Pictures are without captions, so the page is quite adopted for viewing. There are [amazed Odessa GMs](#), a minute after Peter Svidler blundered ♖a1+ in the decisive game (what we all saw from the commentary room), etc.

Honorary President of Turkish Fed. Passes Away

A sad message by Ali Nihat Yazici has just been published at [FIDE.com](#). The Honorary President of Turkish Chess Federation, International Arbiter Kahraman Olgac passed away on 27 May 2009.

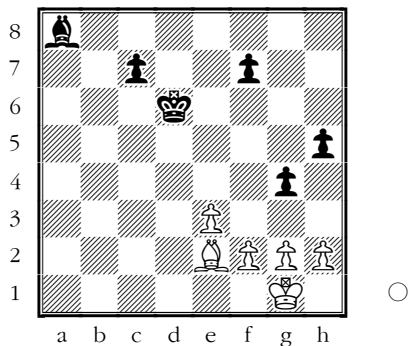


Endgame Kaleidoscope *by GM Alex Baburin*

In CT-3123 we looked at some attacking chess and blunders from the Japanese championship, so today I'd like to look at some instructive endgames from the same tournament.

I think that most Japanese players need to work hard on their endgame technique: study key endgame, analyse their own endings, etc.

H. Manabe – S. Ohtake
Ch of Japan (3), May 2009

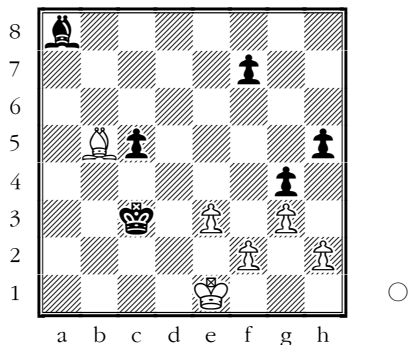


Black is better thanks to his passed pawn, but White should be able to hold this position.

29.g3??

Correct was 29.f3!, creating pawn tension on the kingside, seeking counter-play and getting ready to move his king to d2 or use it to attack the enemy pawns on the kingside. 29...gxf3 30.gxf3 (not 30.Qxf3?? Qxf3 31.gxf3 Qd5-+) 30...Qc5 (30...h4 31.Qg2 c5 32.Qh3 Qd5 33.Qxh4 c4 34.Qg3 c3 35.Qd1) 31.h4 Qb4 32.f4 c5 33.Qxh5 Qd5 34.e4=.

29...Qc5 30.Qf1 Qb4 31.Qe1 Qc3 32.Qb5 c5-+ (D)

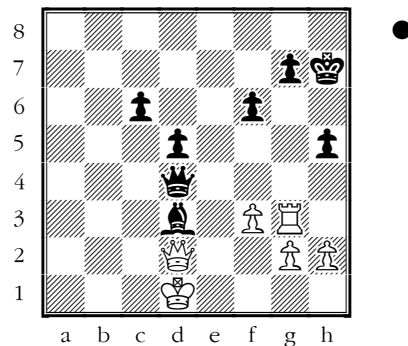


33.Qe8

Or 33.Qd1 Qd5 34.Qc1 c4.

33...Qd5 34.e4 Qe6 35.Qc6 c4 36.f4 Qb2 37.Qd1 c3 38.Qa4 Qc4 39.Qc2 Qe2+! 40.Qxe2 Qxc2 41.Qe3 Qd1 42.Qd4 c2 43.Qe5 c1Q 44.Qf6 Qc4 45.Qg5 Qxe4 46.Qxh5 Qg6+ 47.Qh4 f5 0-1.

R. Nanjyo – K. Yamada
Ch of Japan (1), May 2009

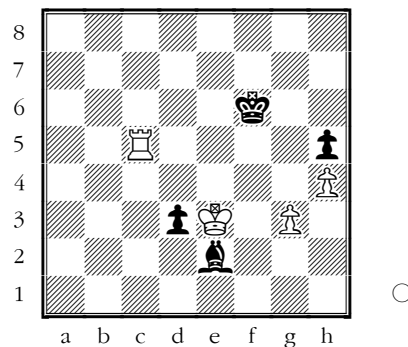


The black king is safe, while its white counterpart is very exposed. This means that White would love to exchange queens – and strangely enough, Black assisted him in that: **45...Qa1+**

If Black did not go for that exchange, winning this endgame should be rather trivial. A sample line runs like that: 45...c5 46.f4 c4 47.Qe3 Qa1+ 48.Qc1 Qa4+ 49.Qe1 Qa7 50.Qd1 Qh6 51.f5 Qg1+ 52.Qd2 Qd4 53.Qe1 Qe5+ 54.Qf2 Qxf5+ 55.Qf3 Qe4.

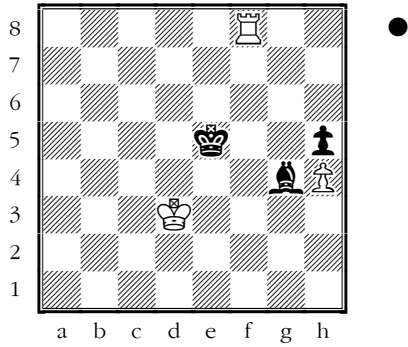
46.Qc1 Qxc1? 47.Qxc1 g5? Mistakes usually don't come alone!

48.f4 Qb5 49.fxg5 Qg6 50.h4 d4 51.gxf6+ Qxf6 52.Qg5 Qe2 53.Qc5 d3 54.Qd2 Qe6 55.Qxc6+ Qf5 56.Qc4 Qf1 57.g3 Qe2 58.Qe3 Qg6 59.Qc5 Qf6 (D)



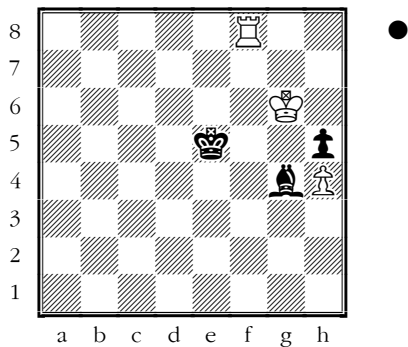
White is a clear exchange up now, but he probably can't win here: the d4-pawn ties him down, while he can't get a passed pawn.

60.Qd5 Qe6 61.Qd8 Qf5 62.Qd4 Qe6 63.Qf4 Qe5 64.Qf7 Qe6 65.Qf8 Qe5 66.g4 Qxg4 67.Qxd3 (D)



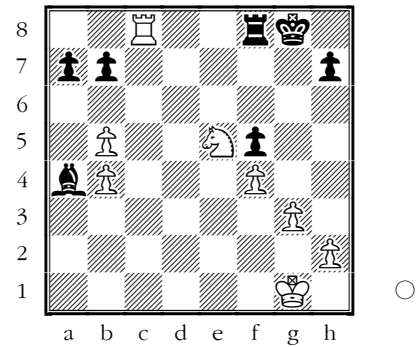
We examined such positions in *Chess Today* on a few occasions in the past. This endgame is drawn – Black must not allow his king to be pushed too close to the h-pawn – and White can't push it too far away from it!

67...♖d1 68.♗e3 ♘g4 69.♙a8 ♖f5
70.♙a5+ ♗g6 71.♗f4 ♗f6 72.♙a6+
♗g7 73.♗g5 ♗f7 74.♙f6+ ♗e7!
75.♙f1 ♗e6 76.♗g6 ♗e5 77.♙f8
(D)



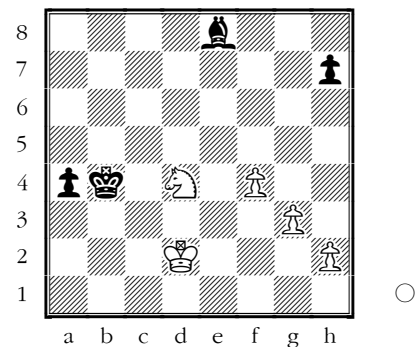
77...♖d1?? Correct was 77...♗e6, not allowing White to push the black king to the kingside.

78.♗g5? 78.♙e8+ ♗f4+-.
78...♗e6 79.♗g6 ♗e5 80.♙e8+ ♗f4
81.♗f6? 81.♙e7!.
81...♖f3! 82.♙b8 ♖e2?
Only 82...♗e4! might allow Black to hold the balance.
83.♙b4+ ♗e3 84.♗g5 ♖d1 85.♙b8
♖g4 86.♙b4 ♖d1 87.♗f5 ♗d3
88.♗e5 ♗e3 89.♙e4+ ♗f3 90.♙d4
♖e2 91.♗f5 ♗g3 92.♙f4 ♖d1
93.♗g5 ♖e2 94.♙f8 ♖g4 95.♙h8
1-0.

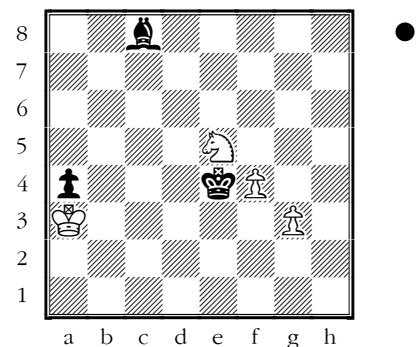


The glorious e5-knight won't win the game alone, so White's next move was a big mistake:

35.♙xf8+?
The line 35.♙c7 ♖xb5 36.♙xb7 a6
37.♗g2 ♙f6 38.♗f3 ♙d6 39.g4! fxc4+
40.♗xc4 would have offered White
much higher winning chances.
35...♗xf8 36.♖d7+ ♗f7 37.♖c5
♖xb5 38.♖xb7 ♗e6 39.♗f2 ♗d5
40.♗e3 ♗c4 41.♖d6+ ♗xb4
42.♖xf5 a5 43.♖d4 ♖e8 44.♗d2
a4 (D)

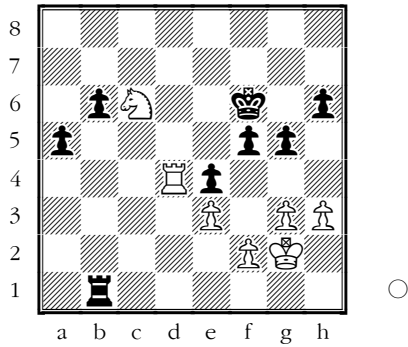


Active pieces and a dangerous passer give Black enough counter-play.
45.♗c2 ♗c4 46.♖e6 ♖d7 47.♖g5
♗d4 48.♗b2 h5 49.♖h7 h4!
50.♖f6 hxc3 51.hxc3 ♖f5 52.♖e8
♖g4 53.♖d6 ♗d5 54.♖f7 ♗e4
55.♖e5 ♖c8 56.♗a3 (D)

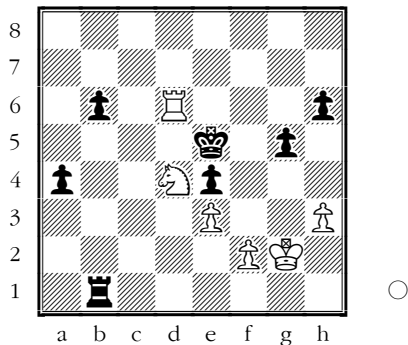


56...♙e3 57.♙xa4 ♘f2 58.g4 ♖g3
59.f5 ♙f4 60.f6 ♗e6 61.f7 ½-½.

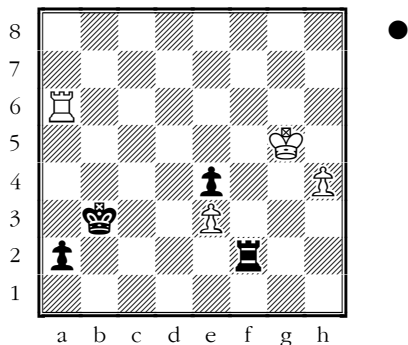
K. Noguchi - R. Nakamura
Ch of Japan (3), May 2009



White should be winning here even though his knight is not a great piece when it comes fighting enemy pawns. **55.g4?** Certain pawns should be won, not exchanged! Correct was 55.♗d6+! ♖g7 56.♗d4 a4 57.♗xf5+ ♖f7 58.♗d4 b5 59.♗a6+-.
55...♙e6 56.gxf5+ ♙xf5 57.♗d6 ♖57.♗d8.
57...a4 58.♗d4+ ♙e5 (D)



59.♗xh6? Not winning a won endgame is bad enough, but losing it is even worse! White had to play 59.♗d8.
59...a3 60.♗c2 a2 61.♗c6 ♗c1 62.♗xb6 ♗xc2 63.♗a6 ♖d5+-
64.♙g3 ♙c4 65.♙g4 ♙b3 66.♙xg5 ♗xf2 67.h4 (D)

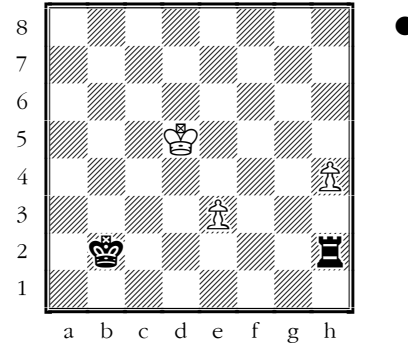


67...♙b2

It was better to play 67...♗f1!.

68.♗b6+ ♙c1 69.♗a6 ♙b1
70.♗b6+!

Less resilient is 70.h5 a1♙ 71.♗xa1+ ♙xa1 72.h6 ♙b2 73.h7 ♗h2-+.
70...♗b2 71.♗a6 a1♙ 72.♗xa1+ ♙xa1 73.♙f4! ♗h2 74.♙xe4 ♙b2
75.♙d5 (D)



Black has messed things up a bit and now has to play precisely to win the game.

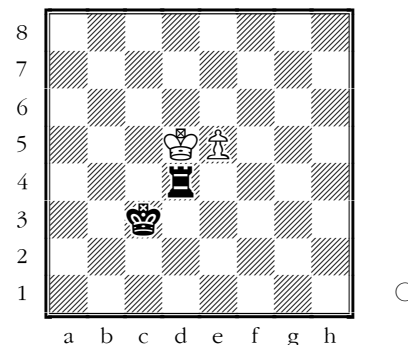
75...♗xh4??

Who needs this pawn yet? Black's main problem was his king, therefore he had to play 75...♙c3! 76.e4 ♗d2+! 77.♙e5 (or 77.♙e6 ♖d4 78.e5 ♗e2 79.♙f6 ♗f2+) 77...♙c4 78.h5 ♗h2 79.♙d6 ♗a2.

76.e4

Now it's a draw!

76...♙c3 77.e5 ♗d4+ (D)

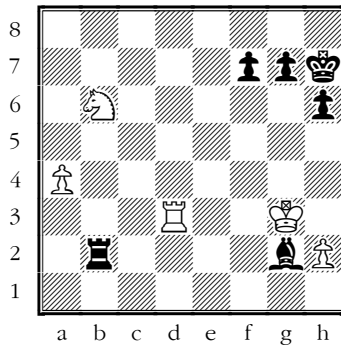


78.♙e6??

White had an easy draw after 78.♙c6= or 78.♙c5=.

78...♙c4 79.♙f7 ♖d5 80.e6 ♗f4+ 0-1.

A. Watanabe – S. Kojima
Ch of Japan (7), May 2009



37...♙c6?!

It was easy enough to win the rook endgame after 37...♞xb6! 38.♜xg2 ♞b2+ 39.♜g3 ♞a2 40.♞d4 g5.

38.a5 g5 39.♞d6 ♙e4 40.a6 ♞a2 41.♞d7 ♙h1?

41...♜g7!.

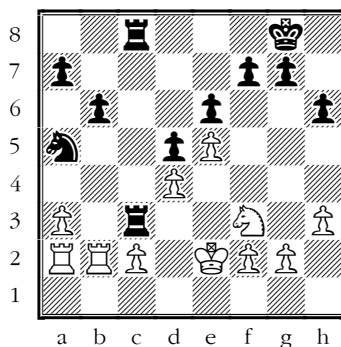
42.♞f6+ ♜g6

42...♜g7 43.♞h5+=.

43.♞g4+ ♜g7 44.♞xh6 ♙e4 45.h4 g4 46.♜xh4 ♞h2+ 47.♜g5 f6+ 48.♞xf6 ♞g2+ 49.♞g4 ♞xg4+ 1/2-1/2

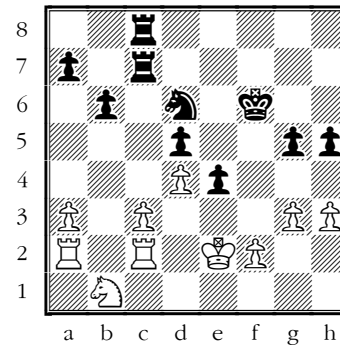
I don't want to give an impression that Japanese players always play the endgame badly – as I said earlier, I looked at games from the Japanese championship as a coach, picking out common mistakes, etc. Here are two examples of excellent endgame technique:

T. Tanaka – K. Yamada
Ch of Japan (3), May 2009



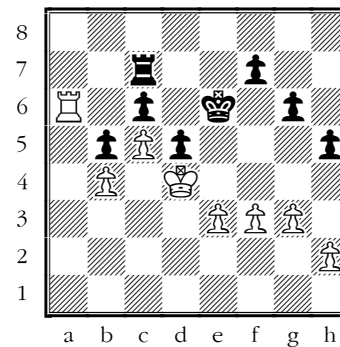
Black has a superior pawn structure, which enabled his rooks to get more active positions. In the game he converted his advantage in good style:
27...g5 28.g3 ♜g7 29.♞d2 h5 30.♞b1 ♞3c7 31.c3 f6! 32.exf6+ ♜xf6 33.♜d3 ♞c4 34.♞c2 e5! 35.♞d2

35.dxe5+ ♞xe5+ 36.♜d2 h4!
35...e4+ 36.♜e2 ♞d6! 37.♞b1 (D)



37...h4 38.g4 ♜e6 39.♞ab2 ♞c4 40.♞b3 ♞f8! 41.♞d2 ♞cf7 0-1.

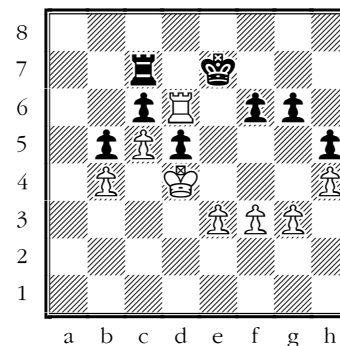
S. Kojima – Y. Nakamura
Ch of Japan (4), May 2009



White stands better, thanks to his active rook. Now he needs to create more targets to attack.

39.♞a8! ♜f6 40.h4 ♜e6 41.♞d8! ♜e7?

Black had to play 41...♜f5! 42.♞d6 ♞c8 43.♞d7 ♜e6 44.♞a7 ♜f6 and it's not easy for White to make progress.
42.♞d6 f6 (D)



43.g4! ♞c8

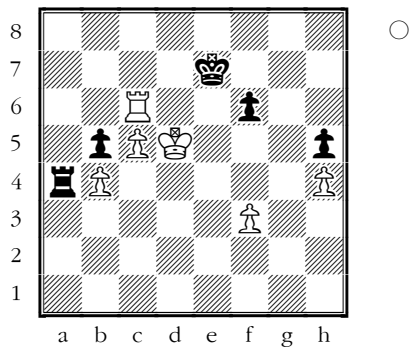
The line 43...hxg4 44.fxg4 ♞c8 also did not look appealing – 45.g5 fxg5 46.hxg5 ♞h8 47.♞xc6 ♞h4+ 48.♜xd5 ♞xb4 49.♞xg6+-.

44.gxh5 gxh5 45.e4! dxe4 46.♔xe4
 Black is now lost as the white king is about to invade via f5.

46...♖a8 47.♖xc6!

Rybka prefers 47.♖f5, but this isn't necessarily a better line, for example:
 47...♖a4 48.♖e6+ ♖f7 49.♖xf6+ ♖g7
 50.♖xc6 ♖xb4 51.f4 ♖c4 52.♖g5 b4
 53.f5 b3.

47...♖a4 48.♖d5 (D)



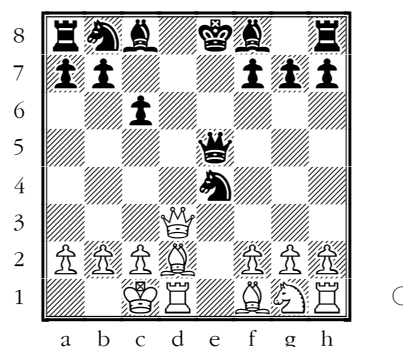
I think that Kojima made the right choice on the 47th move – the white king has to support its passed pawn!
 48...f5? This move expedites Black's demise, though the line 48...♖xb4 49.♖c7+ ♖d8 50.♖h7 ♖xh4 51.c6 was also bad for him.

49.♖e6+ ♖d7 50.c6+ ♖c7 51.♖c5 f4 52.♖e7+ ♖d8 53.♖d6 ♖a6 54.♖b7 ♖e8 55.♖b8+ ♖f7 56.♖d7 ♖a1 57.c7 ♖d1+ 58.♖c6 1-0.

Solution to our Quiz:

R. Reti – S. Tartakower

Vienna Vienna AUT, 1910



9.♔d8+!! ♖xd8 10.♙g5+ ♖c7
 10...♖e8 11.♖d8# 11.♙d8# 1-0.

Contact information. Have some comments about Chess Today? [E-mail us](mailto:ababurin@iol.ie) – we appreciate your feedback! **Chess Today** is published by Alexander Baburin, 3 Eagle Hill, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland. Tel: (353-1) 278-2276. Fax: (353-1) 283-6839. E-mail: ababurin@iol.ie Website: <http://www.chesstoday.net> Editors: GMs Baburin, Scherbakov and Golubev, IMs Barskij and Notkin. Technical editors: Graham Brown and Ralph Marconi.

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This is a photo taken after a lecture and simul. in the Hamamatsu chess club.