

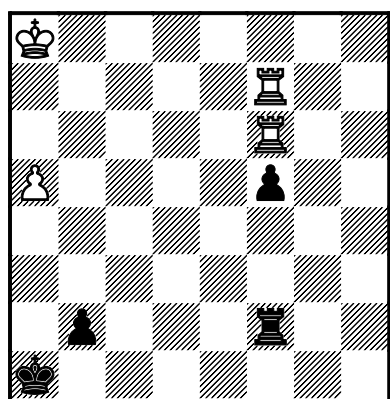
## More logical gems

### Prizewinners explained

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Logical tries have become a hot compositional topic in recent years and personally I am always thrilled (and even a bit envious) by a new and original effort of a logical nature. It takes a long sequence of moves in the thematic try to find out that the stipulated goal cannot be achieved since a minor detail is still missing somewhere along the route or even at its very end. The solution just slightly differs from the try, introducing a tiny element which in fact makes the entire difference to be discovered only after making again the long and winding way up to the happy end. In the past it was mainly the Russian maestro Nikolay Rya-binin who has practically built up a brilliant career with his logical masterpieces. The last decade however has witnessed quite a few capable followers:

**A.1.** I. Akobia & S. Didukh  
1st prize *Ural Problemist* 2010



a8a1 0500.12 4/4 Win

Which of the white Rooks would efficiently stop the advanced Black pawn?

Let us try: 1.Rb7!? b1Q 2.Rxb1+ Kxb1 3.a6 f4 4.a7 f3 a surprising reciprocal zugzwang position with WTM: 5.Rf7 Kc1! (Kc2; Kb7) 6.Rc7+ Rc2 7.Kb8 Rxc7 8.a8Q

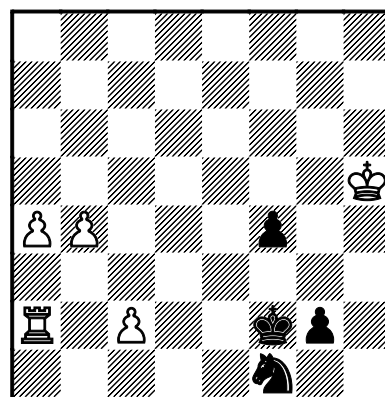
Rf7! 9.Qa1+ Kd2 10.Qa2+ Ke1 11.Qxf7 f2 and it is a well-known theoretical draw.

Will the alternative prove better?

**1.Rb6! b1Q** (1...f4 2.Rfb7 f3 3.a6 Re2 4.a7 f2 5.Ra6+ Kb1 6.Rf7 Kc2 7.Rb6 b1Q 8.Rc7+ wins) **2.Rxb1+ Kxb1 3.a6 f4 4.a7** (Ka7? f3;) **4...f3 5.Rf6!!** we have reached the same position, however it is BTM now! (Not 5.Rf5? Kc1 6.Rc5+ Rc2 7.Kb7 Rxc5 8.a8Q Kd2 (Kd1) or 5.Rb7+? Rb2) **5...Kc1 6.Rc6+ Rc2** (6...Kd1 7.Rc3+; 6...Kd2 7.Kb7 win) **7.Kb7 Rxc6 8.a8Q Rf6** (curiously, a third rook appears on f6! 8...f2 9.Qf8! Rc2 10.Qf3; 8...Rc2 9.Qa1+ Kd2 10.Qd4+ Ke2 11.Qe4+; 8...Kd1 9.Qa2! Rf6 10.Qf2 win) the slight yet crucial difference: following **9.Qa1+! Kd2 10. Qxf6** wins. Black is just one tempo away of the try's final drawing position!

For his 80th birthday, the French composer Marcel Doré announces a study tourney (see elsewhere in this issue) where one of the sections requires a strong 'logical' thematic try. Here is one of the examples:

**A.2.** A. Sochnev  
2nd prize *Problemist Ukraini* 2009



h5f2 0103.32 5/4 Draw

In view of the immediate promotion threat a discovered check along the second rank is urgently called for. However the natural double pawn move would prove hasty and premature: 1.c4+? Kf3 2.Rxg2 Kxg2 3.b5 Sg3+ 4.Kg6 Sf5 5.a5 f3 6.b6 Se7+ 7.Kg7 f2 8.b7 Sc6 9.a6 f1Q 10.b8Q Sxb8 11.a7 Qa1+! This last decisive check could be avoided if White foresaw it in advance and restrained the key pawn already on move one: **1.c3+! Kf3 2.Rxg2 Kxg2 3.b5! (3.a5? Se3 4.b5 Sc4) 3...Sg3+ 4.Kg6 Sf5! (4...Se4 5.a5 Sd6 6.b6 f3 7.a6) 5.a5! (5.b6? Se7+ 6.Kg7 Sc6 7.b7 f3 8.a5 Sb8!) 5...f3 6.b6! Se7+ 7.Kg7! f2 8.b7 Sc6 9.a6 f1Q 10.b8Q! (10.a7? Se5! 11.a8Q Qf7+) 10...Sxb8 11.a7.** The game went along the same path as the try but the closure of the

long diagonal in advance has eventually enabled white's narrow escape!

This new anniversary tourney might provide you with the incentive to give the logical study a decent try. Although it's far from easy to make it work, the good news is that the range of themes and motives involved is in fact unlimited as the point is in the logical process and almost any synthesis of ideas, even the simplest and most basic ones, might serve as the trigger to the logical process. I strongly feel that it allows a wide field of action but furthermore would pave the way to the hearts of over the board players who are after all the potential consumers of our beloved art.

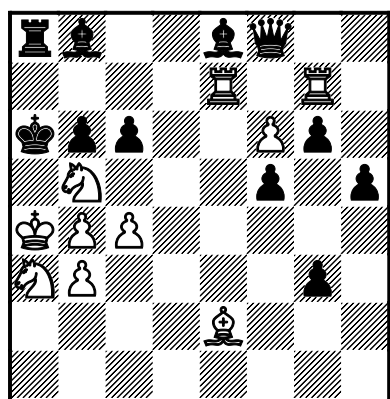
## An unknown Lasker study

**MARCO CAMPIOLI**

See *EG*/88, page 110.

Emanuel Lasker

*Womanhood*, October 1902



a4a6 3572.46 10/11

1.Sa7/i b5+/ii 2.cxb5+ cxb5+ 3.Bxb5+ Bxb5+ 4.S3xb5 Qxf6/iii 5.Sc8/iv Qc6/v

6.Rxg6/vi Qxg6 7.Sbd6 Qg4 8.Sc4, e.g. g2/vii 9.b5 mate.

i) 1.Rb7? Qxg7 2.Rxg7 g2 wins. 1.Bf1? Qxf6 2.Rh7 g2 3.Bxg2 cxb5+ 4.cxb5+ Bxb5+ 5.Sxb5 Qa1+ 6.Sa3 b5 mate.

ii) Qxe7 2.Rxe7 b5+ 3.cxb5+, and Kb6 4.Sc4 mate, or 3...cxb5+ 4.Bxb5+ Bxb5+ 5.N3xb5 g2 6.f7 wins.

iii) Qxe7 5.Rxe7 Kb6 (g2; f7) 6.Re6+ Kb7 7.f7 wins.

iv) 5.Rgf7? Qxe7 6.Rxe7 Bxa7 7.Sc7+ Kb7.

v) Qxg7 6.Rxg7 g2 7.Sbd6 g1Q 8.b5 mate.

vi) 6.Re6? Qxe6 7.Sbd6 Qd5 8.b5+ Qxb5+ 9.Sxb5 Be5 10.Rxg6+ Kb7+.

vii) Qe2 9.b5 mate, but not 9.Rxe2? Kb7+.