- Superb annotations to outstanding games.

- Boleslavsky pioneered the Modern King's Indian and Sicilian.

- Like Fischer, who admired his book, a large percentage of his wins were with black.

- A treasury of dynamic fighting chess.
The present book, a translation of Moscow 1957, contains the best creative work in the field of chess. Boleslavsky, upon the course of chess, his trademark of the all-conquering 50s became dynamism, while, is praised by, and had an influence champion, Bobby Fischer.

Isaac Efremovich Boleslavsky was born of Zolotonosha in the Ukraine. His mother, a cultured woman, herself wrote poetry. At a young age and brother to the nearby city career began.

Having taught himself chess at part in local junior tournaments and holidays at the beginning of his group, came third in the final held in Leningrad. Grandmaster icons of him: "A tall, lean yet stood out in the crowd of players once attracted the attention of the initiative, could still felt uncertain."

Though playing in hardly any tournaments years, the reputation of the young and in 1938, shortly after entering Philology, he won the district play in the Ukraine Championship. never before encountered a most complete outsider and his spectator quite a sensation. One of his opponents, Konstantinopolsky, wrote: "Boleslavsky's playing ability. Extraordinarily combinational, energetic and ingressive sporting qualities ensured Boleslavsky, he still has a lot to learn, in endings, but on the whole the promising Ukraine players."
The present book, a translation of "Izbrannye partii", published in Moscow 1957, contains the best games of Isaac Boleslavsky, whose creative work in the field of chess dynamics made such a major impact upon the course of chess history after the Second World War. The trademark of the all-conquering Soviet school of chess in the 40s and 50s became dynamism, while, later on, Boleslavsky's book was also praised by, and had an influence upon, the future American world champion, Bobby Fischer.

Isaac Efremovich Boleslavsky was born 9th June 1919 in the small town of Zolotonosha in the Ukraine. His father was a pharmacist, while his mother, a cultured woman, had a great knowledge of literature and herself wrote poetry. At a young age, Isaac moved with his parents and brother to the nearby city of Dnepropetrovsk, where his chess career began.

Having taught himself chess at 9 years of age, Isaac began to take part in local junior tournaments in 1933, and, in the winter school holidays at the beginning of 1936, after winning his semi-final group, came third in the final of the All-Union Junior Championship, held in Leningrad. Grandmaster Levenfish recalled his first impressions of him: "A tall, lean youth, modest and taciturn, he somehow stood out in the crowd of playful and noisy children. His play at once attracted the attention of the elders. Boleslavsky in all games strived for the initiative, combined well, but in difficult positions still felt uncertain."

Though playing in hardly any tournaments throughout his high school years, the reputation of the young chessplayer grew in Dnepropetrovsk and in 1938, shortly after entering the University's Faculty of Philology, he won the district championship and thereby qualified to play in the Ukraine Championship. Here, the 19 year old, who had never before encountered a master over the board, was regarded as a complete outsider and his spectacular victory in the Championship was quite a sensation. One of his main rivals, international master Konstantinopolsky, wrote: "Boleslavsky is a chessplayer of outstanding ability. Extraordinarily accurate, clear-cut calculation of combinations, energetic and ingenious conduct of the attack and good sporting qualities ensured Boleslavsky a deserved victory. Of course, he still has a lot to learn, in particular the technique of playing endings, but on the whole the new champion is one of the most promising Ukraine players."
Boleslavsky, in his first interview, published in the chess newspaper "64", summed up his achievement modestly and objectively: "My success I owe partly to tournament luck and mainly to good preparation and bold play, full of initiative. Already the first round showed me that I had a chance to fight for a high place. Individual defeats [against Konstantinopolsky, Zamikhowsky, Kirillow] I took quite calmly and they did not alter the result of the tournament. The title of Ukraine champion, undoubtedly, obliges me to improve the quality of my play and from now on to struggle for the master title." And already the following year at the All-Union tournament of Candidates and Masters, held at Rostov-on-Don, Boleslavsky, admittedly with great difficulty, fulfilled the master norm, thanks to his great will-power and persistence in overcoming a poor state of health and several reverses in the middle of the tournament.

At the end of 1939, Boleslavsky again won the Ukraine Championship, after a very close tussle with the experienced candidate master Polyak, but far ahead of the other competitors, which, incidentally, included a young Bronstein. More importantly this victory entitled him to compete at Moscow in the final of the 12th USSR Championship, the strongest such event of the pre-war years, which contained the world-class grandmasters, Botvinnik, Keres and Lilienthal, as well as a whole group of young talented masters - Bondarevsky, Smyslov, Kotov, etc. Boleslavsky began the tournament highly uncertainly and after the eighth round found himself in one of the last places. But once again his tenacity and will to win triumphed: in the next ten rounds he scored 8 points and as a result tied for 5th-6th places with Botvinnik - a remarkable success for a debutant master. Flohr wrote: "In the 12th most serious championship, Boleslavsky showed himself to be a great master. Young, delicate in appearance, he lagged behind in the first half of the tournament only due to the fact that he conducted his games with exceptional speed, spending a particularly small amount of time on deliberation in the opening. The quick play of Boleslavsky proves he has talent. In my opinion, the presence of talent expresses itself in how quickly a chessplayer evaluates a position....An outstanding chessplayer, like a violinist, feels the position "at his fingertips"....However, is it necessary, without any deliberation, to make 15-20 moves in the opening? Boleslavsky's style is aggressive, but this is generally the way of young masters....Boleslavsky, above all, is an excellent tactician, but as a strategist he is still not fully equal to the occasion....He is no stranger to Alekhine's technique of conducting an attack. He frequently sacrifices a pawn in the interests of a quick development, as also did Alekhine....Boleslavsky began all games in the 12th

Championship with the utmost forcefulness and electrifying effects.

At the end of 1940, Boleslavsky won the Ukraine Championship. Moscow has taught me a great deal, he has improved rapidly improving 16 years of his life.

In March 1941 was organized the Absolute Champion of the USSR - a Candidates' tournament, of the 12th USSR tournament, had to pass a long period of preparation for the Candidates' tournament, Boleslavsky found himself in a difficult position, insufficient endgame techniques, and a series of reverses against Bondarevsky, after having lost his opening match. In the decisive round he scored a hard-fought win - he had chosen a non-aggressive opening, Friedenreich, after having a slight advantage, with a master's move...

In 1941, after the outbreak of war, Boleslavsky, freed from concerns about his family, was evacuated to Moscow, where he continued to live and work,...and completed his future wife and life-long companion, Maria Lysenko, in 1943 and later had two children. Amazingly enough, despite the war, the Boleslavskys managed to continue to live and work, Boleslavsky continued to play chess, he became a sort of chess champion of the USSR, taking part in a number of tournaments, winning the Moscow Open Championship in 1940 and 1941, and finishing in the top places.

In April-May 1943, Botvinnik played in the Moscow Open Championship, which was cut short due to the war, and he finished in a modest
Championship with the move 1 e4. Such one-sidedness, of course, merits censure...."

At the end of 1940, Boleslavsky, for the third time, confidently won the Ukraine Championship. As he himself remarked, "The battle in Moscow has taught me a great deal." He lost only one game in the last round, and finished 2½ points ahead of his nearest rival - the rapidly improving 16 year old Bronstein.

In March 1941 was organised a "Match-tournament for the title of Absolute Champion of the USSR", in which took part the first six prizewinners of the 12th Championship. Boleslavsky, on the eve of the tournament, had to pass an examination at the University, and his preparation for the contest proved to be very inadequate. In the match-tournament, Boleslavsky's "sins" - excessive hastiness and insufficient endgame technique began to tell. He overlooked an elementary win in the ending against Botvinnik and made a draw with Bondarevsky, after having two extra pawns. After obtaining an overwhelming position, with a brilliant tactical blow in one of his games against Bondarevsky, he contrived to lose it. Despite all these reverses, Boleslavsky nevertheless occupied fourth place, winning his matches against Keres and Lilienthal.

In 1941, after the outbreak of the "Great Patriotic War", Boleslavsky, freed from conscription into the army because of very weak eyesight, was evacuated to Sverdlovsk, where he not only continued - and completed - his studies at the University, but met his future wife and life-long companion, Nina. They were married in 1943 and later had two children, Tatiana (1946) and Stanislav (1955). Amazingly enough, despite the terrible war-time conditions, chess life managed to continue in the Soviet Union. In fact Sverdlovsk became a sort of chess capital where, besides Boleslavsky, a whole series of other strong chessplayers, including Ragozin and Sokolsky, had taken up residence. Though in a tournament held there in April 1942, Boleslavsky played indifferently and finished in the middle of the table, three months later he came first at Kuibyshev, ahead of Smyslov, Lilienthal, Mkenas, Sokolsky.... In the even stronger Moscow Open Championship in November, which included 3 grandmasters and 9 experienced masters, Boleslavsky was 2nd to Smyslov.

In April-May 1943, Botvinnik made his first war-time chess appearance in the evenly-matched 8 man double-round tournament at Sverdlovsk. Defects in Boleslavsk's positional conduct of play were noticeable and he finished in a modest 5th place. Though Botvinnik scored a very
convincing victory, Boleslavsky, in one of their individual encounters, after brilliant play in a sharp variation of the Spanish Game, only allowed his opponent to escape with a draw after missing a two move mating combination.

If, with White, Boleslavsky's handling of the Spanish Game showed inimitable skill, then, with Black, his innovative ideas in the Sicilian and King's Indian Defences aroused great attention. For the first time, Boleslavsky's strategy in these openings was being given recognition - up to now he had only been considered a tactician.

His variation of the Sicilian Defence, 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 2 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Be2 e5?, met with ever increasing success and eventually led to 6 Be2 falling into disuse and the emergence of the Rauzer [6 Bg5] and Sozin [6 Bc4] attacks. The weakness of the backward d6 pawn and the d5 square, as Boleslavsky explains in his notes and demonstrates in his games in this book, is compensated by a firm grip on the black squares and dynamic piece play, while White finds it difficult to exploit the apparent weaknesses. His handling of the King's Indian Defence similarly involved dynamic compensation for pawn weaknesses. Even in later years, Bronstein was to acknowledge Boleslavsky as the world's leading exponent of the King's Indian Defence. The large percentage of games in this collection won by Boleslavsky with the Black pieces is the best proof of the depth of his opening strategy.

After qualifying from the Omsk Semi-Final, Boleslavsky entered the 13th USSR Championship already as a mature master, one of the strongest in the country, and confidently took third place. His play, as before, was aggressive, rich in inventiveness, deep, but at the same time Boleslavsky had learned how to defend himself.

The year 1945 brought Boleslavsky the title of grandmaster. After a victory in the Leningrad Semi-Final, Boleslavsky, in the 14th Championship, despite the strong line-up of participants, confidently won second prize, drawing away by two points from his nearest rival. True, from the first prizewinner - Botvinnik, he was separated by the imposing distance of three points. Grandmaster Kotov wrote here: "Already for a long time has been known the practical danger of Boleslavsky's deep strategy, concealed under an outward simplicity of plans, abounding in sharp, surprising tactical tricks....Boleslavsky is very limited in his opening repertoire - for already about ten years he has played the very same openings. In his favourite systems he literally feels like a fish in water....We wish the new grand-

master just a little more future, for without these places in tournaments, buy of good can be said about Boleslavsky, who for a long time has been less inclined to seek new paths. Each move of his opening ideas are the result of Boleslavsky's games proved.

In the same year 1945, Boleslavsky won the USA radio match, but in 1946 he found it difficult to play against Botvinnik and practice, grandmaster. He made great advantage from the new position of the Soviet grandmaster, which he acknowledged, and at the end of 1946, Boleslavsky awarded a special prize for the best, and most valuable, game of the radio match.

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individual encounter. The Spanish Game, with its simplicity of line, was being given more and more attention. For the time being, Boleslavsky was being given the idea of improving his opening play.

In 1945, Boleslavsky made a spectacular debut in the USSR v USA radio match, but faced the American as his nearest rival, grandmaster Fine. In the first game, Fine obtained a great advantage from the opening and only an exceptionally tenacious defence rescued Boleslavsky from defeat. In the second game, the Soviet grandmaster gripped the American in a steel vice and brought the positional pressure down to a winning endgame, which he conducted accurately and strongly. This game bore witness to the further creative growth of Boleslavsky and the versatility of his talent, and was awarded a special prize (equally with Horowitz's win against Flohr) as the best, and most valuable in the theoretical respect, game of the radio match.

Boleslavsky made his international tournament debut at Groningen in 1946. Here, Boleslavsky at first suffered several serious set-backs. He found it difficult to acclimatise himself to the unaccustomed conditions and was quite unrecognisable. In his favourite openings - Spanish and King's Indian - he lost to Najdorf, Szabo and Euwe, making uncharacteristically bad oversights. After the 12th round, Boleslavsky found himself in 12th place. But once again his fine powers of recovery began to tell. He conducted the finish with enormous will-power and great enthusiasm and, by scoring 5½ points out of the last seven rounds, tied for 6th-7th place with Flohr. At the end of 1946, Boleslavsky, playing hors concours, won the RSFSR Championship, outstripping the nearest prizewinner by 2½ points.

The beginning of 1947 was marked by a new important success for Boleslavsky. In the 15th USSR Championship he gained second place, going through the whole tournament without defeat. A correct assessment of Boleslavsky's play was made by the chief arbiter, Zubarev: "The new achievement of grandmaster Boleslavsky deserves great recognition. In two USSR Championships in a row he has occupied second place, unquestionably confirming his reputation as one of the..."
strongest chessplayers in the USSR. Boleslavsky is one of the most difficult opponents due to the fact that he penetrates unusually deeply into the heart of the most complicated positions and uncovers with ease the craftiest plans of his partner." On the other hand, Boleslavsky was reproached for his unnecessary caution and peaceable disposition [12 draws!]. Indeed, with greater will-power, Boleslavsky could have undoubtedly gained first prize.

In summer 1947 took place a training tournament at Parnu, the main backbone of which consisted of grandmasters. Arriving late, Boleslavsky began the tournament with four draws and one defeat. After losing to Lilienthal, due to a blunder in the better position, Boleslavsky, as he had done before, improved his position and at the finish scored 3½ points out of four, but by this time he could not catch up with the leaders. As a result, a relative failure - shared 4th-6th places with Bronstein and Smyslov, behind Keres, Kotov and Lilienthal.

A pleasant interlude was the match in London, against a Great Britain side. Boleslavsky twice defeated the veteran English master Sir George Thomas, in model games.

In the Chigorin Memorial Tournament, held in Moscow at the end of the year, Boleslavsky began successfully and up to the 7th round rivalled the eventual winner, Botvinnik. But in his game with Keres, misfortune befell him - first he missed a win, and after that lost a drawn ending. Nevertheless, even to the 10th round, Boleslavsky retained chances of first place, but he was clearly tired and ended the tournament with a series of draws. As a result - a shared third and fourth place with Smyslov.

Since Boleslavsky was not amongst the chosen few for the world championship match-tournament of 1948, he was obliged to limit himself to a study of the games of this outstanding event and prepare for the next cycle's qualifying interzonal tournament in Stockholm. Here it was important to get into the first five. After beginning the event well, in the 6th round Boleslavsky lost to Najdorf, falling into a finely prepared opening system. But by the 14th round he had already reached third place and at the finish he played very carefully to maintain this position, behind Bronstein and Szabo whose chess careers had recently made colossal progress. Boleslavsky's play in Stockholm in several games was at a great height. As before, he displayed inexhaustible ingenuity and remarkable solving of combinational problems. His game against Steiner was mentioned for the brilliancy prize.

In the following year, Boleslavsky completed his studies at Stockholm. Alongside with his preparation, he took part in the Moscow Championship, where into the final four masters - Geller, Taimanov, Petrow and Boleslavsky. In October 1949, Levenfish wrote: "Boleslavsky has undoubtedly established Boleslavsky for the first time a narrow opening repertoire. Again and again he played a bad game against victory, a losing position and colourless draws. All the same with his remarkable results Boleslavsky is an excellent combination of a creative and a true chess artist. His inexhaustible talent is the heart of the chess world, his followers are the strongest followers of the old masters.

Shortly afterwards, Boleslavsky went to the World Championship, where a hint of his new property was revealed - a highly creative win over Rabin, a game that did not lift his eyes from the board for hours.

In April 1950 began the all important Chess Olympiad in Budapest, the winner of which was to be awarded the title of world champion. The first placed masters were divided into a number of round-robin tournaments, the strongest of which was in the lead at the half way point - Boleslavsky, Szabo and Keres. Boleslavsky, who had been the most successful in the previous cycle, was in the lead at the half way point. He had already scored 8½ points out of 9, including wins against the strongest opposition.

It was clear that Boleslavsky was no longer a player to be underestimated. With all his youthful energy and brilliancy, the second half was to be another half of draws, and then reached the same magnificent victory over Szabo, who had just played the Defence. Boleslavsky's strategy...
In the following year, Boleslavsky played comparatively little. Alongside with his preparations for the Candidates tournament, he completed his studies at Sverdlovsk University and avoided tournament play. This lack of practice was reflected in his play in the 17th USSR Championship, where into the arena entered several future grandmasters - Geller, Taimanov, Petrosian. Concerning this event, held in October 1949, Levenfish wrote: "It seems to me that in this tournament Boleslavsky for the first time felt the negative side of his narrow opening repertoire. Against him games were carefully prepared. As a result, a bad game against Geller, which the Odessan conducted to victory, a losing position against Petrosian, and a series of colourless draws. All the same, Boleslavsky to the end maintained chances of third prize and only a defeat in the last round obliged him to be content with shared fifth place. Despite this relative failure, in a whole series of games Boleslavsky once again displayed an excellent combination of deep positional play and inventive tactical devices. The creative path of Isaac Boleslavsky is one of a true chess artist. His inexhaustible imagination and deep penetration into the heart of the chess struggle allows him to be counted among the strongest followers of the Chigorin school."

Shortly afterwards, Boleslavsky played in the Trades Unions Team Championship, where a hint of his future brilliant form was given by a highly creative win over Ravinsky, during which it was said that he literally did not lift his eyes from the board for the course of five hours.

In April 1950 began the all-important Candidates tournament in Budapest, the winner of which would play Botvinnik a match for the title of world champion. The favourites were considered to be such established grandmasters as the prizewinners of the 1948 world championship match-tournament - Smyslov and Keres. Much was also expected of Bronstein, who had achieved world fame with the brilliance and high class of his play. However, to general surprise, it was Boleslavsky, ably seconded by his close friend Sokolsky, who was in the lead at the half way stage, with an undefeated 6 points out of 9, including wins against Flohr, Smyslov and Kotov.

It was clear that Boleslavsky was in an uncompromising mood, playing with all his youthful energy and not without certain risks. He opened the second half with another win against Flohr, followed by a couple of draws, and then reached the height of his creativity with a magnificent victory over Szabo in his favourite King's Indian Defence. Boleslavsky's strategy in this game, involving a pawn
sacrifice on the eighth move, astonished the other grandmasters present, and was particularly striking in that it was Black's white squared bishop, as opposed to the usual King's Indian fianchettoed bishop, which played a decisive role. Szabo was moved to express his opinion that "Boleslavsky is a very important strategist". But it was strategy of a new kind - full of dynamic plans and yet having a firm positional basis.

Boleslavsky continued his offensive with a convincing win against Lilienthal, which left him a full point ahead of Bronstein with two rounds to go. It looked certain that it was to be Boleslavsky who would play Botvinnik. However, despite his top form, Boleslavsky finished the tournament with two short draws, whereas Bronstein, seizing his chance, won his final two games, including a brilliant victory over Keres in the last round. As Boleslavsky admitted later, he had counted on Keres holding Bronstein to a draw.

A play-off match of 12 games [in the event of a drawn result, there were to be two additional encounters] was arranged to take place in Moscow in the summer. In the opening game, Boleslavsky suffered a severe defeat against Bronstein's prepared improvement in the sharp variation of the Grunfeld Defence which had occurred in their Candidates game. There followed five draws, which were by no means of a peaceful nature. Bronstein strived to counter Boleslavsky's deeper opening knowledge by continually varying his openings, and this proved quite successful with Bronstein winning again in the 7th game. However, once again, Boleslavsky displayed his great tenacity by scoring a victory in a rugged 8th game. The deficit in the score brought out the best fighting qualities in Boleslavsky and he began to take the initiative in the match, finally equalising in the 11th game with the King's Indian Defence. A draw in the 12th game meant that the match moved on to the two supplementary games. In a nerve-racking 13th game, Boleslavsky in fact missed a win on the 55th move, and this was to cost him dearly. In the very last game, Bronstein once again served up an improvement - in a variation of the French Defence played in the 12th game - and Boleslavsky quickly found himself in a lost position from which he could not recover.

The great disappointment and strain of the match undoubtedly told on Boleslavsky's performance in the 18th USSR Championship, where his uneven play brought him a modest 7th-10th place. Nevertheless he scored two magical wins against Flohr and Alatortsev, the last of which he later declared in the Soviet chess magazine to be his favourite game.

In 1951, Boleslavsky was a title match with Botvinnik, RSFSR was the dominant factor. Team Championship held at Tallinn, and Boleslavsky made the decision to move from his chess activities. But was now rehabilitating itself in the war.

The following year, after the Belorussian Championship, Boleslavsky and Keres in a special Olympiad, and the Olympiad itself, which was also a victorious Soviet team by score.

Aided by Sokolsky who had all his preparations for the Candidates Zurich in 1951. In addition to rivals and also opening the tournaments during this period. Olympiad team, and Botvinnik as, 20th USSR Championship, which slipped back to 4th-5th place in sporting sense, in view of the style began to show disquiet dynamism and tactics towards performance in an international steady but not brilliant, when Black Sea resort of Gagra and against the USA, he was in good form.

Geller, Ragozin and Bondarevsky.

Boleslavsky was in an optimal form, Zurich, but alas there was the tournament. Despite an excellent start, his play had become more pronounced and a massive number of draws the occasion, whilst a lack not allow him to withstand contest. Moreover he had to turn his attention to the younger generation, such as Ragozin, who were eager to prove themselves at the game. Both in the creative and a failure for Boleslavsky and...
other grandmasters it was Black's white Indian fianchettoed moved to express his \textit{megist}. But it was and yet having a firm convincing win against Bronstein with two more Boleslavsky who in form, Boleslavsky whereas Bronstein, including a brilliant vskovy admitted later, was.
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In 1951, Boleslavsky was amongst Bronstein's helpers for his world title match with Botvinnik, while his role as trainer/player for the RSFSR was the dominant factor in their surprise victory in the USSR Team Championship held at Tbilisi. At the end of the year Boleslavsky made the decision to move from Sverdlovsk to Minsk, from which time his chess activities remained closely linked with Belorussia, which was now rehabilitating itself after the terrible devastation of the war.

The following year, after a successful first appearance in the Belorussian Championship, Boleslavsky scored wins against Botvinnik and Keres in a special Olympic training tournament at Vorovno. In the Olympiad itself, which was staged in Helsinki, he did his bit for the victorious Soviet team by scoring 7/8.

Aided by Sokolsky who had also moved to Minsk, Boleslavsky now began his preparations for the Candidates tournament, due to take place at Zurich in 1953. In addition to an intensive study of the games of his rivals and also opening theory, Boleslavsky played in three strong tournaments during this period. Together with other members of the Olympiad team, and Botvinnik, he was given immediate entry into the 20th USSR Championship, where, despite a magnificent start of 5/6, he slipped back to 4th-5th place. Though this was a good result in the sporting sense, in view of the very strong competition, Boleslavsky's style began to show disquieting signs of moving away from his famed dynamism and tactics towards pure positional play and technique. His performance in an international tournament at Bucharest was likewise steady but not brilliant, while at a training tournament held at the Black Sea resort of Gagra as preparation for a forthcoming match against the USA, he was in good form, scoring wins against Petrosian, Geller, Ragozin and Bondarevsky.

Boleslavsky was in an optimistic frame of mind when he set out for Zurich, but alas there was to be no repeat of his Budapest triumph. Despite an excellent start, his transition to positional methods of play had become more pronounced and led to a deadening of his style and a massive number of draws. His technical play was not equal to the occasion, whilst a lack of any kind of physical preparation did not allow him to withstand the strain of this marathon 28 round contest. Moreover he had to cope with ambitious members of the younger generation, such as Petrosian, Geller, Taimanov and Averbach, who were eager to prove themselves and who were bringing new ideas to the game. Both in the creative and sporting sense, the tournament was a failure for Boleslavsky and he ended in a tie for 10th-11th place.
The Candidates tournament at Zurich was Boleslavsky's last serious attempt at the world championship. Moreover, from now on, he progressively lost interest in any personal chess ambitions. In those days there were far fewer opportunities for tournament play, and, apart from a few USSR Championships and Semi-Finals, he satisfied his creative needs by playing in local Belorussian and various team events.

In 1954, Boleslavsky went on match tours with the Soviet team to France, South America, USA, England and Sweden. As preparation for the match against Argentina, then one of the strongest chess nations, a squad of Soviet players went into training at a rest house near Moscow. A portrait of Boleslavsky at this time was painted by Geller: "Isaac Boleslavsky doesn't venture out much. This great favourite of the team is rather taciturn but can say some very relevant things when occasion demands. He has grown rather stout prematurely, so his only physical activity now is walking in the woods looking for mushrooms". Then again, in New York, we have a picture of him at a reception held in honour of the Soviet visitors before the start of the USA v USSR match, when a suspicious and ill-informed newspaper man reported: "....In the corner of the room, sitting behind a table, was a stout, bald-headed man who did not stand up all evening. He merely drank lemonade and followed everything that was going on with sleepy eyes. He was obviously the principal member of the Russian secret police." But, as Geller explained: "....The man sitting in the corner was the reserve Boleslavsky. He isn't very keen on social chit-chat and finds such functions a bit of a bore, so he passed the time by drinking his lemonade!"

At the end of the year, in Gorky, he failed to qualify for the important 22nd USSR Championship, which served as a zonal tournament for the next world championship cycle. He again failed in a Semi-Final for the 1956 USSR Championship, but was nevertheless given a personal invitation to play and finished 8th. He did succeed in qualifying for the next two USSR Championships, coming 9th in both and achieving remarkable wins against the future world champion Tal in each event. Though to the end he remained a hard man to beat, his peaceable disposition resulted in a great many drawn games. His last USSR Championship appearance was in 1961, which was another world championship zonal, but he finished in the bottom half of the table.

His performances in team events were always consistent and at times quite outstanding. Whether playing for his country, republic or sporting society, he never wanted to let the side down and this often brought out the best in him or resourceful defence. Fittingly, with success in matches against the Spartakiads. In the 1968 Candidates tournament for the "Spartak" board three with 81/11, he represented Yugoslavia, West Germany, and the USSR at the 1962 and 1965 events.

In Belorussian individual events, he was never beaten into second place again, whether in Debrecen 1961 and came second in Stockholm 1963/64. In a struggle in Moscow 1966, Boleslavsky defeated the world champion Tal, bringing his victory over Korchnoi. His tournament to his friend Sokolsky.

As his tournament record shows, Boleslavsky retained his class and was too willing to agree drawn positions, he produced a great deal of daring and at times quite spectacular games. A good number of them have been assembled at the end of this book.

As it turned out, the 1951-1955 period was a landmark, dividing Boleslavsky's career. In the first half, sporting success and credit were recognised as an important factor in the world of chess.

The question naturally arises: how close was he to playing a world championship match? The answer is that he fell away from the ranks of tournament play. However, there is no evidence that he was ever in school days, when the preferred reading and quiet reading and quiet physical sports. Boleslavsky's reticent investigations also led him to high positional basis.
brought out the best in him, with demonstrations of brilliant attacks or resourceful defence. For Belorussia, he competed regularly and with success in matches against Poland and East Germany and in Soviet Spartakiads. In the 1968 USSR Team Championship, held at Riga, playing for the "Spartak" club he achieved the overall best score on board three with 8½/11, ahead of many younger rivals. For the national side, he played some excellent games in matches against Yugoslavia, West Germany, and in the European Team Championships at Vienna 1957 and Hamburg 1965.

In Belorussian individual championships over the years he was mostly beaten into second place by his close friend and collaborator, Suetin. In international tournaments, he shared first prize at Debrecen 1961 and came second to Smyslov [with 7 points out of 8!] at Stockholm 1963/64. In a strong double-round training tournament, held in Moscow 1966, Boleslavsky was second to Petrosian and not only defeated the world champion in a fine game, but also scored a double victory over Korchnoi. His last appearance was in the memorial tournament to his friend Sokolsky, at Minsk 1970/71.

As his tournament record and games graphically illustrate, Boleslavsky retained his chess mastery to the end, and, though all too willing to agree draws against weaker players and in better positions, he produced a whole host of creative, instructive and at times quite spectacular games throughout the second half of his career. A good number of these, many with his own annotations, have been assembled at the end of this book.

As it turned out, the 1953 Candidates tournament became a sort of landmark, dividing Boleslavsky's chess career into two quite different periods. In the first half he achieved the greater part of his sporting success and creative achievements, whereas in the second he became recognised as an important chess theoretician and trainer.

The question naturally arises as to why Boleslavsky, after coming so close to playing a world championship match, should quite quickly fall away from the ranks of the chess elite and lose his zest for tournament play. However, the reasons for this can already be found in his schooldays, when the young Isaac, not competitive by nature, preferred reading and quiet home study to the rough and tumble of physical sports. Boleslavsky was a born artist; his extensive theoretical investigations also indicate a strong scientific regard. His model was Alekhine, who, at his best, produced combinations from a healthy positional basis.
Even in Boleslavsky's early chess career, his lack of sporting aggression was noticeable, and once he had made a name for himself he seemed happy to be regarded as a theoretician, researcher, writer, trainer and second - a chess authority - and be content to take a ring-side seat at important chess events. Thus, for example, he seconded Smyslov in his 1956 Candidates victory, guided Zvorykina through to a ladies world championship match in 1959, and Petrosian to a victory over Botvinnik and subsequent defences of the title against Spassky in the 60s, captained the students' world team championship side in 1968, was principal trainer for the Soviet Olympiad team for two decades, while in the Candidates tournament at Curacao in 1962, he created his own original record by acting as second to all five Soviet representatives - but only in respect of games played against the foreign players! In Belorussia he became head of the chess department of the School of Higher Sporting Mastery, and in his last years helped along the progress of the strong local players, Kapengut and Kupreichik. By all accounts, Boleslavsky was a nice, charming man who generously and unselfishly shared with his pupils his encyclopaedic knowledge, which was itself the product of enormous talent and capacity for hard work.

If, in his younger years, he concealed or, with great effort, overcame his sporting deficiencies and lack of physical preparation, then later these became all the more pronounced. His peaceable disposition and insufficient nervous energy for top class competitive chess led to a decline in his results. If, in his early career, he was prepared to take risks in his pioneering, dynamic treatment of, for example, the Sicilian and King's Indian Defences, or sacrifice pawns or other material for the initiative, then later on he concerned himself with "refining" these ideas, publishing his conclusions in magazine articles and, in the late 60s, in a series of opening manuals published in East Germany. His analyses, often the fruit of many hours of painstaking home study, provided a firm base for further opening research and thus contributed significantly to the development of the theory of chess openings.

Boleslavsky never lost his great love of chess and hardly a day passed without him analysing some opening line, game or interesting position. Even lying in hospital, a few days before his death on 15th February 1977, at only 57 years of age, he did not part with his pocket chess set. As a fitting epitaph, we quote the words of grandmaster Gligoric: "For me, the ideal in chess will always be the style of Isaac Boleslavsky. Who else among contemporary chessplayers combined so well, strategy, tactics, logic and imagination?"
Lack of sporting name for himself he researcher, writer, content to take a is, for example, he 95, guided Zvoričina 1959, and Petrosian experiences of the title students' world team winner for the Soviet dates tournament at record by acting as only in respect of Belorussia he became of Higher Sporting the progress of the . By all accounts, wisely and unselfishly age, which was itself hard work.

With great effort, physical preparation, paced. His peaceable top class competitive his early career, he dynamic treatment of, defenses, or sacrifice later on the concerning his conclusions in a series of opening , often the fruit of ed a firm base for significantly to the

Boleslavsky's Tournament and Match Record

<table>
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FROM THE AUTHOR

I became acquainted with chess in 1928, when I was nine years old. The children's chess movement then was still in its incipiency. The House of Pioneers with chess circles appeared several years later. Up to the age of fourteen years I did not play a single tournament game, while even casual games I played very rarely because of the lack of partners.

I learned to play through books. The first of my primers were "Chess Fundamentals" by Capablanca, "First Book of Chess" by G.Y.Levenfish, and Y.G.Rokhlin's manual. These handbooks gave me my first knowledge of the principles of play, about the elements of tactics and the positional basis of the game. With help from these, virtually without practice, I brought my play up to approximately the strength of third category. Books played an enormous role also in my further perfection. In 1939, when I achieved the rank of master, the number of games I had played with first category players did not exceed twenty, while masters I had in all encountered twice. Nowadays I cannot imagine a strong player not possessing a firm foundation of theory.

But, speaking of a knowledge of theory. I by no means wish to belittle the role of practice. A rapid growth of a chessplayer is possible only by a harmonious combination of the first and second. A too "bookish" approach to the game of chess created in my play defects which I had to subsequently overcome for quite a long time. An insufficiently concrete approach to a position: overestimation of the strength of the two bishops, unnecessary fear of the weakness of squares and pawns - this is what I had to eliminate in my tournament practice.

A great impression was made upon me by Alekhine's book "My Best Games", with which I had become acquainted in 1932. I was attracted not only by Alekhine's brilliant combinations, but also the logicality, the consistency featured in the collection of games, the purposefulness of each move, the immediate exploitation of the slightest mistake by the opponent.

The creative work of the world's best chessplayers [in the first instance Alekhine] revealed to me the aesthetic value of the game of chess. In playing, I did not strive for victory just for the sake of points, and considered that only the win of a consistently played game could give real satisfaction. The widespread view that, since both sides are inevitable, no game. Indeed, the game of chess is a struggle of ideas, and the value of his victory, every chessplayer, beginning with a world champion.

In the present collection, for me consistently played by the main variations chance to make the sharp struggle makes the collection are also included which attack and defence were.

With regard to the comments, I am stuck to this aim: not to the known openings and variations, the collection of games, and, on the other hand, the topical variations which are the masters and grandmasters.
I was attracted by the first
appearance of the book "My Best
Games" by G.Y. Levenfish,
consistently played in my
tournament game. The
value of the game of chess
attracted me, but also the
exploitation of the
weakness of the
opponent's
position. Many years
ago I wrote: "Chess
is a game, but also
the exploitation of
the opponent's
weakness."
In the first
appearance of
the book "My Best
Games" by G.Y. Levenfish,
I was attracted by the
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Games" by G.Y. Levenfish,
1   Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Korchmar
(Ukraine Championship 1938)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 O-O
Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 Na5 10
Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12 Nbd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 Nh5?

In the encounter, Boleslavsky-Lutikov, USSR Team Championship,
Voroshilovgrad 1955, 13...Be6 14
Nf1 Rac8 15 Bd3 Bc4 was played. However, the exchange of the
white squared bishops is positionally favourable for White.

After 16 Ne3 Bxd3 17 Qxd3 Re8 18
b3 Nc6 19 Bb2 Qb7 20 d5 Nb4 21
Qb1! a5 22 Bc1 Bd8 23 a3 Na6 24
b4, White obtained the advantage.

The most promising chances lie in
Keres' continuation 13...Rd8,
which leads after 14 Nf1 d5 to
very sharp play, but also here,
after 15 Nxe5 dxe5 16 Ng3 Bd6 17
Bf4!, the bayonet skirmish should
end in White's favour.

Thus, one comes to the conclusion
that the exchange on d4 on the
12th move is not in keeping with
the spirit of the Chigorin varia-
tion and creates extra difficul-
ties for Black in defence.

The plan linked to Black's last
move is shown to be bad. Better
is the usual 13...Nc6.)

14 Nf1 Nf4 15 Ne3 Rd8
(He does not succeed in playing
...d5 and therefore the rook move
does not achieve its objective.)

16 Nd5! Nxd5 17 exd5
f6
(A forced advance. Conceding the
centre [...exd4] is clearly unsat-
sfactory.)

18 b3 Bb7
(The struggle for the d5 square,
which has taken place over the
last few moves, has not ended to
Black's advantage.)

19 Be4
(Provoking Black's follow-
up reply.)

19...g6 20 g4! Re8
(The return of the rook is
best proof of the erroneousness
of Black's 15th move.)

21 Kh2
(Again preventing ...f5, which
threats on the g-file. Even better was 21 Kh1, as will
be seen later, but at the pres-
tent moment it was difficult to take
this fine point into account.)

21...Kh8?
(Black persists with his desire
to play ...f5 and places his king
on a very bad square. He should
transfer the bishop to d7 in order to free a square for the knight a5.)

22 Bb2

(After this, Black must go on
totally to defence.)

22...Rae8
(Trying to strengthen the
centre.)

23 Rc1 Qb6 24 Qd2
(By threatening Bc3, White trans-
fers the queen with tempo to the
King's flank.)

24...b4 25 Qh6
(The bishop sacrifice, 25 Bxb4
...
19 Be4
(Provoking Black's following reply.)
19...g6 20 g4! Rf8
(The return of the rook is the best proof of the erroneousness of Black's 15th move.)
21 Kh2
(Again preventing ...f5, with threats on the g-file. Even better was 21 Kh1, as will be seen later, but at the present moment it was difficult to take this fine point into account.)
21...Kh8?
(Black persists with his desire to play ...f5 and places his king on a very bad square. He should transfer the bishop to d7 in order to free a square for the knight a5.)
22 Bb2

(After this, Black must go over totally to defence.)
22...Rae8
(Trying to strengthen the e5 point.)
23 Rc1 Qb6 24 Qd2
(By threatening Bc3, White transfers the queen with tempo to the king's flank.)
24...b4 25 Qh6
(The bishop sacrifice, 25 Bxg6
hxg6 26 Qh6+ Kg8 27 Qxg6+ Kh8, leads only to a draw, since 28 Nh4 yields White nothing in view of 28...Bxd5 29 Nf5 Rf7.)
25 Rg8 26 Rc2
(If the White king were standing on h1, White would not have had to lose this tempo for defence of the f2 pawn. The move 26 Nh4, instead of the move in the game, did not win, since also on this there would have followed 26...Bf8.)
26...Bf8 27 Qh4 Be7 28 g5! Qd8 29 dxe5 fxe5

(On 29...dxe5 [in order to meet 30 Nxe5 with 30...Bd6] would have followed 30 gxf6 Bxf6 31 Qg3, with a very strong attack.)
30 Nxe5 dxe5 31 Bxe5+ Rg7 32 Bxg6 Kg8 33 Bxe8 Qxe8
(If 33...Qxd5, then 34 f3!)
34 Bxg7 Bd6+
(If 34...Kxg7, then 35 Rc7.)
35 f4 Qg6 36 Rce2 Kxg7
(If 36...Qxg7, then 37 Re8+ Bf8 [37...Kf7 38 g6+] 38 Rle5!)
37 Re6 Qc2+ 38 Rle2 Qc5 39 Qh6+ Kg8 40 Rxd6 Black resigns.
2 Dutch Defence
White: Belakovskiy
Black: Boleslavsky
(Ukraine Championship 1938)
1 d4 e6 2 c4 f5 3 e3
Nf6 4 Bd3 Bb4+ 5 Bd2
Bxd2+ 6 Qxd2 0-0 7 Nc3
Nc6
(More accurate was 7...d6, so as
on 8 Nge2 to have the possibility
of replying 8...e5. However,
after 8 Nf3 Nc6 9 d5 Ne5, Black
either breaks up the pawns on
White's king's flank or, after 10
Nxe5 dxe5, to all intents and
purposes has played ...e5. Now
White plays Nge2 with advantage.)
8 Nge2 d6 9 d5 Ne7
(As a result of Black's inaccuracy,
White creates a breach for
himself.)
10 dxe6 Bxe6 11 Nd4
Bd7 12 Qc2 Ng4
(Defending the f5 pawn and pro-
voling the move h3, which would
be a loss of tempo since the
knight is heading for e5 anyway.)
13 0-0-0!
(A good move: White creates
threats on the d-file.)
13...Ne5 14 Be2 f4
(Black goes in for complications,
since after 14...b6 15 g3! the
position is in White's favour.
White carries out e4 without
difficulty whereas Black cannot
play ...d5.)
15 exf4 Rxf4 16 c5!
Nf5
(This move sets a trap. If White
now plays 17 Nxf5 Bxf5 18 Qd2,
then 18...Rxf2 19 Bc4+ Nxc4 20
Qxf2 Qg5+ 21 Rd2 dxc5 and Black
has two extra pawns. But White
again finds the right move and
Black's position becomes doubt-
ful.)
17 Nf3 Nxf3 18 Bxf3
Rb4
(A puzzling defence of the b7
pawn, but there was nothing
better for Black.)
19 Be4?
(Completely mistaken! The move
which suggests itself, 19 a3, was
the best here. The continuation
19...Nd4 20 Bd5+ Kh8 21 Qd2 Nb3+
22 Bxb3 Rxb3 23 cxd6 is clearly
unsatisfactory for Black. After
19...Rd4 20 Bxb7 Black would not
have compensation for the lost
pawn.)
19...Nd4 20 Bxh7+ Kh8
21 Qd3 dxc5
(Black has a powerful knight on
d4; White's attack proves to be
not dangerous.)
22 Be4 Be6 23 Rhei Qf6
24 Re3 Rd8 25 Kb1 Rb6!
(Threatening ...Rbd6 with an
overwhelming position. In severe
time-pressure White thinks up a
desperate combination.)
26 Bd5 Rxd5 27 Nxd5
Bxd5 28 Rh3+ Kg8 29
Qh7+ Kf8

(Here Black expected 30 Qd6+
31 Rxd4 cxd4 32 Rf3 Qxf3 33
Rh6!, but White prefers
perish in another way.)
30 Qh5 Rxb2+ 31 Kf1
Qxf2+ and mate
three moves.

3 French Defence
White: Polyak
Black: Boleslavsky
(Ukraine Championship 1938)
1 d4 e6 2 e4 d5 3
c5
(In reply to 3 Nd2 this is
only continuation which
Black a game with fully
chances. On the replies 3...
Nc6 White has an indi-
able advantage.)
4 exd5 exd5
(Also possible is 4...Qxd5,
in this case it is more diff-
for Black to complete his de-
opment. After 4...exd5
isolated d-pawn is compensa-
the free piece play.)
5 Bd5+ Nc6
(Seventeen years ago this move
was considered the strongest.
1941 Botvinnik showed that a
(Here Black expected 30 Qh8+ Bg8 31 Rxd4 cxd4 32 Rf3 Qxf3 33 gxf3 Rh6+, but White preferred to perish in another way.)
30 Qh5 Rxb2+! 31 Kxb2 Qxf2+ and mate in three moves.

3 French Defence
White: Polyak
Black: Boleslavsky
(Ukraine Championship 1938)
1 d4 e6 2 e4 d5 3 Nd2 c5
(In reply to 3 Nd2 this is the only continuation which gives Black a game with fully equal chances. On the replies 3...Nf6 or 3...Nc6 White has an indisputable advantage.)
4 exd5 exd5
(Also possible is 4...Qxd5, but in this case it is more difficult for Black to complete his development. After 4...exd5 the isolated d-pawn is compensated by the free piece play.)
5 Bb5+ Nc6
(Seventeen years ago this reply was considered the strongest. In 1941 Botvinnik showed that after
6 NF3 Bd6 7 0-0 Ne7, White, by continuing 8 dxc5 Bxc5 9 Nb3 Bb6 10 Be3 Bxe3 11 Bxc6+! [11...Nxc6 12 Re1], obtains a positional advantage.
Nowadays 5 Bb5+ is met by 5...Bd7, which, after 6 Bxd7+ Nxd7 7 Nf3 Nf6 8 0-0 Be7 9 dxc5 Nxc5 10 Nb3 Nce4, gives Black a completely satisfactory game.)
6 Qe2+
(An unfortunate move. He should play 6 Ngf3. White hopes to exchange queens, but a disappointment awaits him.)
6...Be7 7 dxc5 Nf6 8 Ngf3 0-0 9 0-0
(Giving up the pawn without a fight; better was 9 Nb3; after 9...Ne4 White does not hold on to the pawn, but Black has to spend time on recovering it.)
9...Bxc5 10 Nb3 Bb6 11 Bf4?

(After this indifferent move the initiative finally passes into Black's hands. It was necessary to play 11 Bg5.)
11...a6 12 Bd3 Re8 13 Qd1 Bg4 14 c3 Ne4
(Threatening ...Qf6. The defensive plan chosen by White proves to be unsatisfactory, but it is
already difficult to indicate a good continuation here.)

15 h3 Bh5 16 Be2 Qf6
17 Bh2 Rad8 18 Qc2 Re7
(Black begins a decisive action.)
19 Rad1 Rde8 20 Nc1
(There is no defence. A rout follows.)
20...Bxf3 21 Bxf3 Nxf2!

(The only move to maintain the initiative. The weakening of the king's flank is not dangerous for White since he has a superiority in the centre and quickly mobilises all his forces.)

4 Caro Kann Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Batyev
(Tournament of candidates and masters, Rostov 1939)
1 e4 c6 2 Nc3 d5 3 Nf3 dxe4 4 Nxe4 Nf6 5 Nxf6+ exf6 6 Bc4 Be7
(In the event of 6...Bd6 might follow 7 Qe2+, which forces either an exchange of queens and transfer to an ending with a favourable pawn formation for White, or the retreat of the bishop d6.)
7 0-0 0-0 8 d4 Bd6 9 c3 Bg4 10 h3 Bh5 11 g4
19 Bxe6! Bxd2 20 Bb3 Qf4
(Black placed all his hopes on this move. On 20...Bf8 would have followed 21 g5.)
21 Rad1 Re7
(After 21...Qxf3+ 22 Kxf3 Bh6 23 Rhgl g5 24 h5, Black gets into a losing position since the bishop h6 is hopelessly locked in.)
22 g5 fxg5
(Black's position is already unsatisfactory, for example:
(1) 22...f5 23 Rh3 [with the threat to win a piece after Qd3]
23...Rae8 24 Qxf4 Bxf4 25 Kf3 Bc7
26 h5 Kh7 27 h6 Rel 28 Bxf7 etc.,
(2) 22...Kh7 23 gxf6 gxf6 24 Rxd2
25 Qxf6, followed by h5 with irresistible threats.)
23 h5

23...Qxf3+
(After 23...gxh5 24 Qxh5 Black cannot satisfactorily defend himself against mate.)
24 Kxf3 g4+ 25 Kg3 Bh6
26 hxg6 a5 27 a4 Kf8
28 gxf7 Rd8 29 Rde1
Rdd7 30 Re5 Rxe5 31
dxe5 Rd2 32 e6 Ke7 33
Rel g6 34 Bc4 Rxb2 35
Rd1 Bd2 36 Kxg4 b5 37
axb5 cxb5 38 Bxb5 Bh6

39 Bc4 Rb7 40 Rd5 Kf6
41 Rxa5 Bf8 42 Ra8 Kg7
43 Bd5 Re7 44 c4 Rc7
45 Kf4 Bd6+ 46 Ke4 Bd8
47 c5 Re7 48 c6 Rc7 49
Ke5 Re7 50 Rxf8 Kxf8
51 Kd6 Black resigns.

5 Queen's Indian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Budo
(Tournament of candidates and masters, Rostov 1939)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 Bb4+ 4 Nbd2 O-O 5 g7
26 h5 Qf4 12 Bc2 Rd8 13
d5 6 Bg2
(An interesting pawn sacrifice with a view to a quick development.)
6...dxc4 7 Qc4 c3
don 7...b5 could follow 8 b3 c3 9
Nbl, and White wins back the pawn. But the capture of a second pawn places Black in a dangerous position. He should apparently play 7...Bxd2.)
8 bxc3 Bxc3 9 Rbl Bxd4
10 Nxd4 Qxd4 11 Bb2
Qd8 12 Qc2 Nbd7 13
Rfd1 Rb8

25
(Black wants to develop the bishop c8. But the position of the rook on b8 proves to be unfortunate since it comes under fire from White's black-squared bishop. He should play ...c5 at once.)

14 Rbc1 c5
(Now this is out of place. Better was 14...c6.)

15 Ne4 Qe7?
(After this move Black suffers great material loss, without improving his position. He should play 15...Nd5 so as, by giving back his material advantage after 16 Nxc5 Nxc5 17 Qxc5 Qb6, to simplify the position.)

16 Nxf6+ gxf6
(After 16...Nxf6 17 Be5, Black loses the exchange and a pawn.)

17 Qa4

(Treating 18 Qg4+ Kh8 19 Qh4 [with the threat of Rxd7] 19...e5 20 Be4, and White wins; to save himself from the threat, Black is forced to allow the destruction of his queen's flank.)

17...Ne5 18 Qxa7 Bd7
(19 Ba3!)

(Threatening 18 Qg4+ Kh8 19 Qh4 because of 20 f4.)

19...Ra8 20 Bxc5 Rxa7
21 Bxe7 Re8 22 Bxf6 Ng4 23 Ba1!
(Playing for the double attack would be a false trail: 23 Bd4 Rxa2 24 h3 Ba4! 25 hXg4 Bxd1 26 Rxd1 Rd8 27 Rd3 Rxe2 28 Re3 Rxe3 29 Bxe3 b5, and White has no chances of a win.)

23...Bc6
(In order to rid himself of one of the White bishops. But this move only hastens the end.)

24 Bxc6 bxc6 25 Rc4 h5
(Also after 25...f5 26 a4 Black's position is hopeless.)

26 Rxc5 Rxa2
(Desperation!)

27 Rxe5 f5 28 Rh8+ Kf7
29 Rd7+ Black resigns.

6 Caro Kann Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Polyak
(Exhibition tournament in Lvov 1940)

1 e4 c6 2 Nf3 d5 3 Nc3
dxe4 4 Nxe4 Bf5
(No it seems that Black is about to fall into a trap, but the move in the game is no more than a rather harmless ruse.)

5 Ng3 Bg4
(Bad is the natural 5...Bg6? 6 h4 h6 7 Ne5 Bh7 8 Qh5 g6 9 Qf3 Nf6 10 Qb3, with a double threat on f7 and b7 [Lasker—Henneberger, international tournament at Zurich 1934]. But now a well-known variation of the Caro Kann Defence is obtained, in which Black has a rather passive, but solid position. The right method of play for Black in this position was demonstrated by Bronstein in the 10th game of the match, Bronstein—Boleslavsky [see game 64].)

6 h3 Bxf3 7 Qxf3 Ne5 8
dc4 e6 9 c3 Bd6 10 d4
de5 11 Bg5 Nbd7 12 0-0
Qa5 13 h4
(In order to provoke the move 13...h6, weakening the king's flank.)

13...Rfe8 14 Rf1 Rac8
15 Rad1

15...c5?
(This move is positionally mistaken. Open lines favour White who has the two bishops. Black should play 15...Be7 with a very sturdy position.)

16 dxc5 Qxc5 17 Bb3 h6
(17...Ne5 18 Qe2 Ne4 19 Nf1
gives Black nothing [19...h6 20
c1 Ne4 21 Rxd6 Nfx2 22 Be3].)

18 Be3 Qc7 19 Nh5
(White, in order to obtain attacking chances, needs to exchange one of the Black knights.)

19...Nxf5 20 Qxf5 Nc5?
(An incorrect plan of defence: he should play ...Nf6 and not remove the knight from the king's...
solid position.
The right method of play for
Black in this position was demon-
strated by Bronstein in the 10th
game of the match, Bronstein-
Boleslavsky [see game 64].

6 hxg4 Bxf3 7 Qxf3 Nf6 8
Bc4 e6 9 c3 Bd6 10 d4
0-0 11 Bg5 Nbd7 12 0-0
Qa5 13 h4
(In order to provoke the move
13...h6, weakening the king's
flank.)

13...Rfe8 14 Rfel Rac8
15 Rad1

15...c5?
(This move is positionally
mistaken. Open lines favour White
who has the two bishops. Black
should play 15...Be7 with a very
sturdy position.)

16 dxc5 Qxc5 17 Bb3 h6
(17...Ne5 18 Qe2 Neg4 19 Nf1
gives Black nothing [19...h6 20
Bc1 Ne4 21 Rxd6 Nxf2 22 Be3].)

18 Be3 Qc7 19 Nh5
(White, in order to obtain
attacking chances, needs to ex-
change one of the Black knights.)

19...Nhx5 20 Qxh5 Nc5?
(An incorrect plan of defence; he
should play ...Nf6 and not remove
the knight from the king's
flank.)

21 Bc2 Bf4

(This is Black's idea. He con-
considered that the exchange of
bishops is now inevitable. But
this plan is incorrect if only
because already after 22 Rd4 Bxe3
23 Rxe3, White threatens to come
down with all his pieces on the
opponent's king's flank. Black
would have to defend himself with
only moves. True, on accurate
defence, it seems he would
succeed in this. 23...Nd7! 24 Rf3
Re7 25 Rg4 f5 26 Qxh6 Ne5, and
now White has to sacrifice a
rook. 27 Rg7+ Rg7 28 Qxe6+ Nf7
29 Rxf5 - White has four pawns
and an attack for the rook, but
the outcome of the game is still
not clear. With the move in the
game, White maintains the advan-
tage without any risk.)

22 Bd4! Bd6
(A painful return. The intended
22...e5 does not work because of
23 Bxc5 Qxc5 24 Rd7 Re7 [24...Rf8
25 Bb3] 25 Rxe7 Qxe7 26 Qf5, and
White wins.)

23 Qg4 e5
(This move weakens the white
squares in decisive fashion, but
also on 23...Bf8 would follow 24
7 Spanish Game

White: Boleslavsky  
Black: Panov  
(12th USSR Championship, Moscow 1940)

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 Be7 6 Rel b5 7 Bb3 d6
8 c3 0-0 9 h3 Na5 10 Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12 Nbd2 Be6

(Panov's system in the Spanish Game, worked out by him against the Rauser variation, consists of 12...Bd7 with a subsequent transfer of the knight a5 via c4 to b6. In the present game, Panov modifies his variation, bringing out the bishop to e6, but this alteration is rather in White's favour.)

13 dxe5 dxe5 14 Ng5 Bd7 15 Qe2

(A cunning move! On 15 Nf1, Panov would have immediately replied 15...Nh4, and now it is necessary to think up something else.)

15...h6 16 Ngf3

8

square favours Black only in the case when he maintains control over the e5 square, which vacated after the exchange of the present position, with the knight on a5 and bishop on e6. But Black of course cannot count on taking possession of the square.)

16...Nh5 17 Nf1 Rf8 18 N3h2

(In the opponent to carry out his plan.)

18...Nf4 19 Bxf4 exf4 20 e5

(Black's position is rather difficult. It is not apparent how to defend the f4 pawn. On 20...Rf4 unpleasant is 21 e6! Bxe6 22 Bxe6 Bc4 23 Bd3 with a clear advantage to White. It seems that Black has no return for the f4 pawn, can capture the e5 pawn, but in fact after 20...Bf8 21 Qe4 g6 22 Qf5 Ng6 23 Nf3 Bg7 24 Rd1 the pawn is invulnerable. Black's next move does not solve the problem and only provokes further advance of the White h-pawn which is unpleasant for Black.)

20...Bf6

(Black's move to transfer the bishop to g7 for defence of the king's flank.)

23 h5

(diagram)

(Here White could win a pawn by 23 Qd2, but he prefers to play for the attack.)

23...Nc4?

(The decisive mistake! By allowing...
square favours Black only in that case when he maintains control over the e5 square, which is vacated after the exchange. In the present position, with the knight on a5 and bishop on e7, Black of course cannot count on taking possession of the e5 square.

16...Nh5 17 Nf1 Rfe8 18 N3h2

(Inviting the opponent to carry out his plan.)

18...Nf4 19 Bxf4 exf4 20 e5

(Black's position is rather difficult. It is not apparent how to defend the f4 pawn. On 20...g6 unpleasant is 21 e6! Bxe6 22 Bxg6 Bc4 23 Bd3 with a clear advantage to White. It seems that Black, in return for the f4 pawn, could capture the e5 pawn, but in fact after 20...Bf8 21 Qe4 g6 22 Qxf4 Nc6 23 Nf3 Bg7 24 Rad1! the e5 pawn is invulnerable.

Black's next move does not solve the problem and only provokes an advance of the White h-pawn, which is unpleasant for Black.)

20...Bg5 21 Nf3 g6 22 h4 Bf6

(It is necessary to transfer the bishop to g7 for defence of the king's flank.)

23 h5

(diagram)

(Here White could win a pawn by 23 Qd2, but he prefers to play for the attack.)

23...Nc4?

(The decisive mistake! By allowing the destruction of his king's pawn cover, Black falls into a losing position. Of course he should play 23...g5. White's attack on the b1-h7 diagonal would not be dangerous for Black. For example: 24 Qd3 Bg7 25 N1d2 Nc6 26 Nxe5 Nxe5 27 Nxe5 Bxe5! [but not 27...Rx e5, since after 28 Nd6! White's attack is irresistible] and there is nothing for White; the variation 28 Nxc5 Qxc5 29 Qxd7 Rad8 is in Black's favour. It is true, after 23...g5, White has a stronger continuation 24 Be4! Bc6 25 N1d2 Bg7 26 a4 with a good game, but this would be a far lesser evil than that which occurs in the game.)

24 hxg6 Nxe5 25 Nxe5 Rx e5

(25...Qxe5 is not possible because of 26 Qd3!)

26 Qf3 Rxel 27 Rxel

(An inaccuracy! After the intermediate 27 gxf7+ Kxf7 28 Rxel, Black would lose in a few moves.)

27...Rf8 28 Qh5 Bg5 29 Nd2

(The continuation 29 Re7 is not effective enough because of 29...Qd6 30 gxf7+ Kh8 and there is
apparently nothing decisive.)
29...Qc6 30 Nf3 fxg6
31 Bxg6

31...Bf5?
(After the exchange of bishops, Black loses because of the weakness of the white squares. White's task would be more complicated in the endgame with an extra pawn which is obtained on 31...Qf6 32 Nxf6 Qxf6 33 Qxg5 hxg5 34 Re5 Kg7 35 Be4 Kf6 36 Rxc5. The far advanced pawns on the king's flank, when the opportunity presents itself, would give Black quite good counterplay.)
32 Bxf5 Rxf5 33 Qg4 Qd5
(The superiority of the White knight over the Black bishop is striking. Black's position is smashed, and sooner or later the White pieces will burst into the opponent's camp.)
34 Nh4 Rf7 35 Nf3 Rf5 36 b3
(After repeating moves to gain time, White brings about an opening of lines on the queen's flank.)
36...Kh7 37 c4 bxc4 38 bxc4 Qf7 39 Rbl Bd8 40 Rb8 Bg5 41 Rd7!
(The simplest. The exchange of rooks underlines the feebleness of the Black bishop.)
41...Qxb7 42 Qxf5+ Kh8 43 Ne5
-With the move 43 Qxc5 White would win a pawn since 43...Qbl+ 44 Kh2 Qxa2 is not possible because of 45 Qf8+ Kh7 46 Qf7+ Kh8 47 Ne5; but also the move in the game is quite sufficient.)
43...Kg8 44 Kh2 Qe7 45 Kh3 Bf6
(Otherwise, after transferring the king to g4, White wins easily by exchanging queens. There followed...)
46 Ng6 Qd6 47 Nxf4 Bd4 48 f3 a5 49 Qe6+ Qxe6 50 Nxe6 Bf2 51 Kg4 Kf7 52 Kf5 h5 53 Nh4 h4 54 Nd3 Black resigns.

8 Caro Kann Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Khavin
(Ukraine Championship 1940)
1 e4 c6 2 Nf3 d5 3 Nc3 dxe4 4 Nxe4 Nf6 5 Nxf6+ gxf6
(Taking with the g-pawn leads to a sharper game than taking with the e-pawn. The first way involves certain danger for Black; upon inaccurate play he could easily be subjected to a crushing attack. On the other hand, if White should play insufficiently energetically, he could rapidly fall into an inferior position. This sharp variation is quite often employed by grandmasters Flohr, and also masters Sokolsky and Konstantinopolsky.)
6 Be4 Rg8
(Preparing the development of the bishop to g4. If at once 6...Bd6 then 7 Ne5.)
7 0-0 Bg4 8 d4 e6
(Bad is 8...Bxf3 9 Qxf3 Qxd4 Qb3, but better was 8...Qc7, in order to forestall White's move.)
9 Bf4 Bd6 10 Bg3 f5
(This attacking move turns badly. Black does not succeed in forcing an exchange of bishops on d6, and the e6 and e5 squares are sensitively weakened.)
11 Qd3!
(If now 11...f4, then 12 Qd4 Qc7 13 Bxf6 Qxf6 14 Qxc7 Rxc7 15 Qd4 and White is left the exchange ahead.)
11...Bxf3
(Black is tempted to accept the sacrifice and falls into a lost position. Relatively better was 11...Bxg3 12 hxg3 Nh7 13 Rel Qf6 and Black manages to complete his development.)
12 Qxf3 Bxg3 13 hxg3 Qxd4
diagram
(Black has won a pawn but up to the end of the game he does not succeed in completing the development of his pieces, nor moving his king away to a safe place.)
inferior position. This sharp variation is quite often employed by grandmaster Flohr, and also masters Sokolsky and Konstantinopolsky.)

6 Bc4 Rg8
(Preparing the development of the bishop to g4. If at once 6...Bg4, then 7 Ne5.)

7 0-0 Bg4 8 d4 e6
(Bad is 8...Bxf3 9 Qxf3 Qxd4 10 Qb3, but better was 8...Qc7, in order to forestall White's next move.)

9 Bf4 Bd6 10 Bgf f5
(This attacking move turns out badly. Black does not succeed in forcing an exchange of bishops on d6, and the e6 and e5 squares are sensitively weakened.)

11 Qd3!
(If now 11...f4, then 12 Qxf7 Rg6 [also other moves are no better] 13 Bh4 Bxf3 14 Qxg6! Qxh4 15 Qg8+ and White is left the exchange ahead.)

11...Bxf3
(Black is tempted to accept the sacrifice and falls into a losing position. Relatively better was 11...Bxg3 12 hgx3 Nd7 13 Re1 Qf6 and Black manages to complete his development.)

12 Qxf3 Bxg3 13 hgx3 Qxd4

14 Qb3! Qd7
(In view of the threats of 15 Qxb7 and 15 Bxe6 - the only move.)

15 Rad1 Qe7 16 Rfe1 Rg6 17 Re2
(Threatening to double rooks on the d or e-file.)

17...b5 18 Bd3 Rf6 18 Qc3!
(White threatens both 20 Bxb5 and 20 Bxf5 Rxf5 21 Qh8+ Qf8 22 Rd8+.
To defend himself, Black is forced to weaken his position still further.)

19...b4 20 Qc4 a5 21 g4!
(A decisive opening of lines.)

21...fxg4 22 Qxg4 Nd7 23 Be4 Qc5
(If 23...Rc8, then 24 Qg5 with the threats of 25 Red2 and 25 Qxa5. White's attack also in this case was hardly to be repelled.)

24 Qh4
(Also winning is 24 Qg7 Rf4 25 g3 Rxe4 26 Rxe4 Qxc2 27 Rxe6+ fxe6 28 Rxd7.)

24...Rg6
(The rook has no other retreat.)

25 Bxg6 hxg6 26 Red2 Ra7 27 Qh8+ Black resigns.
(On 27...Qf8 follows 28 Rxd7, on 27...Ke7, 28 Qc8 wins.)

9 French Defence
White: Rudakovskv
Black: Boleslavsky
(Ukraine Championship 1940)
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 c5 4 exd5 exd5 5 Ngf3 Nc6 6 Bb5 Bd6 7 0-0 Ne7 8 dxc5 Bxc5 9 Nb3 Bh2 a6 L, Be2 Qf6
(This continuation can hardly be recommended. Though White prevents the pin of the knight f3, he loses time and weakens the king's flank, which could have vital significance. It is sufficient to recall the game Panov-Bondarevsky from the 10th USSR Championship. Better was 10 Be3 as Botvinnik played against me in the match tournament of six 1941.)
10...0-0 11 Bf4 Ng6 12 Bh2 a6 13 Be2 Qf6 14 c3 Re8

17 Bd1 Be6 18 Qd2 Qf6 19 Re1 h6 followed by 20...Rad8; or 17 Qd1 Bf5 18 Nbd4 Rad8; or finally, 17 Rael Bxh3 17 gxh3 Qg3+ 18 Kh1 Bxf2 with a strong attack. In making the move 14...Re8, Black expected the reply 15 Re1 and reckoned on carrying out the above-mentioned manoeuvre with great force, but after White's next correct move it does not happen at all.)

15 Qd2 Be6
(Perhaps this bishop should be transferred via f5 to the e4 square, where it would be more actively posted than on e6.)
16 Nbd4 Na5
(With this move Black refrains from the struggle for the d4 square, but the transfer of the knight to c4 does not yield him particular benefit. Worthy of attention is 16...Nge5.)
17 Rae1 Rac8 18 Bd3 Bd7 19 Qc2 Nc4 20 Bf5
(By exchanging bishops, White takes control of the important f5 square and forces Black to go over to defence.)

20...Bxg5 21 Nxf5 Bc5
(Defending the d6 square and threatening 22...Nxb2.)

22 N3d4 Nf8 23 b3 Ne5
(Again inaccurate; 23...Nb6 is better.)

24 Qe2! Nbd7

diagram

25 Qg4?
(With this move White destroys the fruits of all his previous work. Of course, he should ex-

change on e8. In this reached, the two roads considerably stronger than and it would be very for Black to defend whereas now he obtains equal chances.)

25...g6 26 Ne3 Rd1 Ne6
(The right move. The move - Black fights square.)

28 Rd3 h5 29 Qc2 Qxd4 30 cxd4 Bd6 Qxd6 32 f4
(The right move. The what weakened Black knight gives White grounds to counterchances here. less accurate play by White, Botvinnik could not be to a strong attack, but this is the best means to game and neutralise pressure on the e and f.)

32...Re4 33 f5
(A hasty move, after which is deprived of counter it falls into a difficult. The advance of the f-pawn be prepared by the move:)

In this case might for
19 Re1 h6 or 17 Qd1.

Finally, 17...g5+ 18 Kh1 attack. In Re8, Black 15 Re1 and

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attempt by White brings him no relief.)

43 g3 hxg3 44 f6+ Kg6!
(Not good is 44...Nxf6 45 Nxg3 with the threat of 46 Nf5+. On 44...Kg8 could follow 45 Qe3 with the threat of 46 h4.)

45 Rxf3
(45 Nxg3 is not possible because of 45...Rc3. If 45 Kg2, then 45...Qc6 46 Nxg3 Qc2+ with a winning endgame.)

45...Qxf6 46 Rc3 Qc6
47 Rf1 Qe6 48 Qf3 Kg7
49 Qe3
(On 49 Ng3 would have followed 49...Nd2 50 Nf5+ Kg6.)

49...Rc2 50 a3 f6 51 b4 Qc6
(Threatening to invade with the queen via c4, and setting a little trap.)

52 Rc1? Rxe2 White resigns.

10 Queen's Pawn Counter Gambit

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Lilienthal

(Match-tournament of six, Leningrad-Moscow 1941)

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d5
(Employing variations condemned by theory always entails the risk of obtaining a bad position, but in the present case, on the part of Lilienthal, this is not a striving to leave the theoretical path but rather a going along with the indications of the opening handbook without sufficient critical verification. Lilienthal played the present variation according to the book "Contemporary Openings", published shortly before the tournament.)

3 Nxe5
(Strongest here is the simple 3 exd5. The sacrifice of a pawn after 3...e4 4 Qe2 Nf6 5 Nc3 Be7 6 Nxe4 Nx5 is hardly correct, since after 7 d3 0-0 8 Qd1 it is not apparent how Black can prevent White finishing his development.)

3...Qe7
(Though this move is also recommended in "Contemporary Openings", it is perhaps not good since it runs counter to the principles of development. Correct is 3...Bd6 4 d4 dxe4 5 Nc3 Bxe5 6 dxe5 Qd1+ 7 Nxd1 Nc6, and White's advantage is insignificant.)

4 d4 f6 4 Nd3!
(Considerably better than 5 Nf3 dxe4 6 Nfd2, indicated in "Contemporary Openings". The knight is transferred to the strong f4 position.)

5...dxe4 6 Nf4 Qf7?
(Black wants to bar the White bishop from c4, but he does not succeed in this. Also the move in the game turns out to be a decisive loss of time. Relatively better is 6...f5 either 7...Nf6 to follow.)

7 Nd2 Bf5 8 g4!
(Forcing the opponent to give up either the e4 pawn or the important e6 square.)

8...Bg6 9 Bc4 Qd7

10 Qe2
(Stronger than 10 Nxe6 hgx6 Nxe4. White, in the present position, must strive not for the win of a pawn, but for a quick mobilisation of his pieces for a decisive attack.)

10...Qxd4 11 Ne6 Qb6
(On 11...Qe5, follows 12 Nb3 utilising the irresistible threat 13 Bf4.)

12 Nxe4 Nd7 13 Bf4
(White is not in a hurry to exploit his chances on the e-file and introduces all his pieces into battle, after which Black's attack is irresistible.)

13...Ne5 14 0-0-0

14...Bf7 15 N4g5! fxg5
16 Bxe5 Bxe6 17 Bxe6
Black resigns since he mates or loses the queen.
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14...Bf7 15 N4g5! fxg5

16 Bxe5 Bxe6 17 Bxc7

Black resigns since he is

mated or loses the queen.

10 Qe2

(Stronger than 10 Nxg6 hxg6 11

Nxe4. White, in the present

position, must strive not for the

win of a pawn, but for a very

quick mobilisation of his pieces

for a decisive attack.)

10...Qxd4 11 Ne6 Qb6

(On 11...Qe5, follows 12 Nb3 with

the irresistible threat 13 Bf4.)

12 Nxe4 Nd7 13 Bf4

(White is not in a hurry to ex-

ploit his chances on the e-file

and introduces all his pieces

into battle, after which his

attack is irresistible.)

13...Ne5 14 0-0-0

11 French Defence

White: Lilienthal

Black: Boleslavsky

(Match-tournament of

six, Leningrad-Moscow

1941)

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3

Bb4 4 Bd3

(This continuation is weaker than

the usual 4 e5 and does not

create any difficulties for

Black.)

4...dxe4

(Another continuation is 4...c5 5

exd5 Qxd5 6 Bd2?! Bxc3 7 Bxc3

cxd4 8 Bxd4 Qxg2 9 Qf3 Qxf3 10

Nxf3.

In the position reached, White

has, for the pawn, a positional

advantage, but the absence of

queens from the board gives Black

good chances of a successful

defence.)

5 Bxe4 Nf6 6 Bd3

(It is better here to retreat the

bishop to f3. In this case White

likewise cannot count on an ad-

vantage, but also he does not

experience any difficulties at

all. The 15th USSR Championship

game, Yudovich-Bronstein, con-

tinued: 6...Nc6 7 Ne2 0-0 8 0-0

Bd7 9 Bf4 Bd6 10 Qd2 Bxf4 11 Qxf4

Nb4 12 a3 Nb5 13 Nxd5 exd5 with

a quick draw.)

6...c5 7 a3 Bxc3+ 8

bxc3 Nbd7 9 Nf3 Qc7 10

0-0

(He should take on c5, not allow-

ing Black to carry out the

following blockading manoeuvre.)

10...c4 11 Be2 Nd5

35
(If White now defends the pawn by 12 Bd2 or 12 Bb2, then after 12...O-O followed by ...f6 he can hardly make progress and Black's positional advantage will soon become decisive. Therefore Lilienthal prefers to sacrifice a pawn to obtain counterplay.)
12 a4 Nxc3
(Worth considering is 12...O-O 13 Ba3 Re8 14 Qd2 a5, maintaining a positional advantage and avoiding the complications arising in the game.)
13 Qd2 Nxe2+ 14 Qxe2 O-O 15 Ba3 Rd8 16 d5!
(This pawn cannot be taken because of 17 Qe7 Qb6 18 Bd6 with the threat of 19 Rfb1. But the advance d5-d6 is not dangerous for Black - on the condition that he manages to complete his development.)
16...Nf6 17 d6 Qa5 18 Qxc4
(If 18 Ne5, then 18...Bd7 19 Nxc4 Qa6 20 Qd3 Rdc8 21 Ne5 Qxd3 22 cxd3 Bxa4 with advantage to Black.)
18...Bd7
(White has won back the pawn, but his a4, c2, d6 pawns are weak, and he is forced to seek chances on the king's flank.)
19 Qh4 Bc6 20 Bb4 Qf5 21 Nd4 Qd5 22 Nxc6 Qxc6
(The exchange of the bishop does not ease White's position, since it does not remove the basic defect of White's position - the weakness of the pawns on the queen's flank.)
23 Ra3 a5!
(Preventing the transfer of the rook to the king's flank. If now 24 Rg3, then 24...Ne4 25 Rh3 h6 26 Ba3 Nxd6 and Black wins a pawn with the better position.)
24 Bc3 Ne8 25 Bxa5 Rxd6

36 Qa4 Nc4
(Forestalling a7-a5 by a6-a5, Black only has an extra pawn, not an overwhelming position.)
37 Bb6 Rc6

(After placing his best positions, Black is now passive and getting a simplification of material. 39 Rd1 Qe5 40 Qb4, but after Rxc3 Qa4, Black retains all the threats.)
39...Bxe4 40 Bxe4 Qd5 41 Bxf5 Rxc3
32 a5 Qd5 33 Qb4 h6
(There is no possibility of improving the position.)
flight square. Bad is 33...Rxc2
34 a6! Qxd2 35 Qxd2 Rxd2 36 a7
Rd8 [36...Ra2 37 Rcl] 37 Rbl and
Black has to give up the rook for
the a-pawn.)
34 Rbl Ne4 35 Be3 Nd6
36 Qa4 Nc4
(Florresting 37 a6, on which
would follow 37...Nxe3 38 fxe3
bxa6 39 Qxa6 Rxc2 with great
chances of a win, since Black not
only has an extra pawn but also
overwhelming positions for his
pieces.)
37 Bd6 Rxc6 38 c3 f5

(After placing his pieces on the
best positions, Black begins an
offensive on the king's flank.
This forces White to give up
passive defence and look for a
simplification of the game.)
39 Rd1 Qe5 40 Rb1
(Now Black captures a pawn,
retaining all the advantages of
his position. Slightly better was
40 Qb4, but after 40...Nxb6 41
axb6 Rxc3 42 Qe7 Qe4, White has
no continuation of the attack
since his rook cannot abandon the
first rank.
After 43 f3 [there is nothing
better] 43...Qe2! 44 Qd8+ [44 Rd7
Rcl+ 45 Kh2 Qe5+ and mate in two
two moves] 44...Kh7 45 Qd2 Qxd2 46
Rxd2 Rc6 47 Rb2 g5 Black must
gradually win the endgame. White
has most chances of a draw in the
endgame after 40 Bd4 Qxa5 41 Qxa5
Nxa5 42 Rb1 Kf7 43 Rb5 Ra6 44 Kf1
and it is not easy for Black to
improve the positions of his
pieces.)
40...Qxc3 41 Bd8 Nd2
42 Rd1 Qd3! 43 Bb6 Rc4
44 Bcl
(If 44 Rxd2, then 44...Rcl+ 45
Kh2 Qxd2 46 Be3 Qd6+ 47 Bf4 Qc6.)
44...Qd4 45 Kh2 Kh7 46
Rc1 Re4 47 Rxel Bxe4 Qxe4
48 a6 bxa6 49 Qxa6 Qb1
50 g4 White resigned
without waiting for the
opponent's reply, since after
50...Ng3+ 51 Kg2 Qe4 52 Kf1 Ng5
Black wins a second pawn with an
unceasing attack.

12 French Defence
White: Ivashin
Black: Boleslavsky
(Master tournament,
Kuibyshev 1942)
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3
Bb4 4 exd5 exd5 5 Bd3
Nc6 6 Ne2 Nge7 7 O-O
Bf5 8 Bxf5 Nxf5 9 Qd3
(White tries to exploit Black's
7th move in order to obtain an
active game.)
9...Qd7 10 Bf4
(Threatening 11 Bxc7.)
10...O-O!
(It turns out that the threat of
11 Bxc7 is not dangerous for
Black. On 11 Bxc7 follows 11...
Bxc3 12 Nxc3 [or 12 bxc3 Rc8 13
8f4 Na5 and Black has an excellent game] 12...Nb4!, and White has nothing better than 13 Qb5 Qxb5 14 Nxb5 Nxc2 15 Rad1 with a rapid draw. But White should still go in for this variation, since after the following aggressive move he obtains the worse position.) 11 Qh3? Qe6!

(This move apparently escaped White's attention; the opposition of the queens on the diagonal proves to be in Black's favour.) 12 Rad1
(Also 12 Bxc7 Nfxd4 13 Nxd4 Nxd4 14 Qd3 Bxc3 already would not give White an equal game.) 12...Bxc3 13 bxc3 Nd6
(After 13...Qxe2 14 Qxf5, the weakness of the c7 pawn prevents Black from achieving an advantage. For example: 14...Qc4 15 Qd3! Qxa2 16 Ra1 Qc4 17 Qxc4 dxc4 18 Bxc7, and the passed d-pawn could be highly unpleasant.) 14 Qxe6 fxe6 15 Bg3 Na5 16 Nf4 Kf7 17 Rfe1 Rfe8 18 Rd3
(White threatens to drive off the king with the move 19 Rf3 and then to capture the e6 pawn. Black could have easily prevented this with the move 18...Ne4, but he allows White to carry out his plan, counting on exploiting the resulting pin.) 18...Nac4 19 Rf3 Kg8 20 Nxe6
(When White took this pawn, he did not see a direct refutation. Moreover, in the event of refraining from the capture, all his set-up would be nonsensical.)

(White has no satisfactory retreat for the knight. Material loss is inevitable.) 26 Nf4 Re1+ 27 Kh2
28 Nxd5 Nd2 29 Nf1 Rh8 30 Rd3 Nf1+ 31 Kg2 gxh4 32 g4 Ne3+ 33 Kh2 Nxc4
(Black has not only material, also a positional advantage.) 34 Nd5 Ng5 35 Nf4
(Or 35 Nxc7 Re2 36 Kg2 Rxc2 37 Ne4 etc.) 35...Kg8 36 Ng6 Re2 Kg2 Rxc2 38 Nhx4 Rxe2
(Now White has only one pawn and the piece. The Black a-pawn is on irrepressibly to queen. The followed...) 39 Nf5 Kh7 40 h4 Rg8 41 Rf3 a4 42 d5 a3
Nd4 Rb2 44 Rf7+ Kg8 Rxc7 a2 46 Rb8+ Kf7 Ra8 Rxf2+ 48 Kh3 Nh5 49 Ne6 Ke7 Kb1 resigns.

13 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Ragozin
19 Rf3 Kg8

This pawn, he direct refutation. The event of reme capture, all be nonsensical.)

23...Nf7 24 Nf4 Rxe2
25 Nxe2 Re6!

(White has no satisfactory retreat for the knight. Material loss is inevitable.)

26 Nf4 Re1+ 27 Kh2 g5
28 Nxd5 Nd2 29 Nf6+ Kh8 30 Rd3 Nh1+ 31 Kg1 gxh4 32 g4 Ne3+ 33 Kh2 Nc4

(Black has not only material, but also a positional advantage.)

34 Nd5 Ng5 35 Nh4

(Or 35 Nxc7 Re2 36 Kg2 Rxc2 37 d5 Ne4 etc.)

35...Kg8 36 Ng6 Re2 37 Kg2 Rxc2 38 Nxh4 Rxa2

(Now White has only one pawn for the piece. The Black a-pawn goes irrepressibly to queen. There followed...)

39 Nh5 Kh7 40 h4 Ne4
41 Rf3 a4 42 d5 a3 43 Nd4 Rb2 44 Rf7+ Kg8 45 Rxc7 a2 46 Rb8+ Kf7 47 Ra8 Rxg2+ 48 Kh1 Nxh3 49 Ne6 Ke7 White resigns.

13 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Ragozin

(Moscow Championship 1942)
1 e4 e5 2 Nh3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nh6 5 0-0 Nxe4 6 d4 b5 7 Bd2 d5 8 dxe5 Be6 9 c3 Bc5 10 Nb2 0-0 11 Bc2 f5 12 Nb3 Bb7 13 Nbd2 Nxd4 14 Nxc7 Bxd4 15 cxd4 f4

(It is necessary for Black to display activity on the king's flank, as otherwise he simply comes to a halt in the worse position.)

16 f3 Ng3 17 hgx3 fxg3 18 Qd3

(If 18 Re1, then 18...Qh4 19 Be3 Bg4! with an irresistible attack. The following queen sacrifice, which became the object of analysis by numerous theoreticians, was met for the first time in the present game.)

18...Bf5 19 Qxf5 Rxf5 20 Bxf5 Qh4 21 Bh3 Qxd4+ 22 Kh1 Qxe5

(At the time the game was played, I was convinced that the White rook, together with the bishops, would prove stronger than the Black queen and pawns.)

23 Bd2 c5

(This continuation is apparently stronger than the immediate capture of the pawn. The fact is that after 23...Qxb2 24 Bf4 d4 25 Bxg3, it is unfavourable for Black to play 25...d3 because of 26 Rad1 with advantage to White [the game, Zbandutto-Saligo, "Chess in the USSR", no.9 for 1954].

Since it is necessary for Black
to advance the pawns, then there
remains only the move 25...c5,
but if the move ...c5 is neces-
sary all the same, then this is
better made at once, cutting down
White's choice.)

24 Rae1 Qxb2 25 Bf4

25...Qf6?
(This move is the cause of the
loss of the game. Black is late
with the advance of the pawns and
his queen falls under attack from
the White pieces. Correct was
25...d4 26 Bxg3 d3, as occurred
in the game Boleslavsky-Botvinnik
[Training tournament, Sverdlovsk
1943]. White should continue 27
Be6+ Kh8 28 Be5 [In the cited
game, White obtained this posi-
tion after giving up on the way
the a-pawn]. The move 28...Qd2,
obstructing the d-pawn, which
Botvinnik made, turned out badly:
there followed 29 f4 c4 30 f5 Rf8
31 Re4! c3 32 Ref4 Rf6 33 Rf2
Qh6+ 34 Kg1 b4 35 Rf3 d2 36 Bb3,
and White must win since the
Black pawns are held up while
White's pieces are very actively
placed. Instead of 28...Qd2, it
is better for Black to play
28...Qc2. Now, after 29 f4? d2 30
Rd1 c4 31 f5 Rf8 32 f6 Rxf6!,
Black must win thanks to the
strong pawns. On 28...Qc2, White
should continue 29 Rcl Qe2 30
Rcle and a draw by repetition of
moves. It is risky for Black, on
29 Rcl, to reply 29...Qd2,
because of 30 f4 c4 31 Bc3, and
White must win.)

26 Bxg3 d4 27 Re6 Qg5
28 Kh2 c4 29 f4!

(The advance of this pawn is more
terrible than the march of the
enemy passed pawns.)

29...Qh5 30 f5 d3
(If 30...Rf8, then 31 Bd6 Rf6 32
g4! Qf7 33 g5 and White wins.)

31 f6 gxf6 32 Rf5 Qg6
(If 32...Qd1, then 33 Rxf6 with
the threats of Rg5+ and Be5.)

33 Rxf6 Qg7 34 Bf4!
(Holding up the d-pawn and cre-
ting the irresistible threat of 35
Rg5.)

34...c3
(Black could put up a longer
resistance after 34...Rd8 35 Rg5
Qxg5 36 Bxg5 d2 37 Bxd2. Now
follows an effective finale.)

35 Rg5 Rd8 36 Be6+ Kh8
37 Be5! Black resigns.
(The final position deserves a
diagram.)

14 Philidor Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Sherbakov
(Moscow Champion-
ship 1942)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d6
Nd7 4 Bc4 c6 5 O-O
(Black has chosen an unfa-
vourable variation of the Philid-
er, giving him a difficult
game. The move in the
opening is definitely the best; if, for
instance, 5...Qc7, then 6 Ng5 Nh6
8 f4 with an attack for White.
6 dxe5 dxe5 7 Nxe5
t6 e4.
(As is well-known, not
7...Nh6 8 Ne6! fxe6 9 O-O
[9...gxh6? 10 Qh5+ leads
to mate] 10 Qh5+ g6 [10...Kf8? 11
Qf7, and Black's position
is clearly unsatisfactory.)
8 Qh5 g6 9 Qxg5
10 Bxg5 Ne5

diagram

(Black has succeeded in
placing the position, but
the game is equalised. The
bishops are more active...
thanks to the 28...Qc2, White 29 Rc1 Qe2 30 by repetition of a triple threat for Black, on reply 29...Qd2, a4 c4 31 Bc3, and 27 Re6 Qg5 28 f4!

14 Philidor Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Sherbakov
(Moscow Championship 1942)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 Nd7 4 Bc4 c6 5 0-0 Be7 (Black has chosen an unfavourable variation of the Philidor Defence, giving him a difficult game. The move in the game is relatively best; if, for example, 5...Qc7, then 6 Ng5 Nh6 7 c3 Be7 8 f4 with an attack for White.)
6 dxe5 dxe5 7 Ng5 Bxg5 (As is well-known, not good is 7...Nh6 8 Ne6! fxe6 9 Bxh6 Nb6 [9...gxh6? 10 Qh5+ leads to mate] 10 Qh5+ g6 [10...Kf8? 11 f4!] 11 Qe2, and Black's position is clearly unsatisfactory.)
8 Qh5 g6 9 Qxg5 Qxg5 10 Bxg5 Nc5

(this pawn is more the march of the pawns.)
5 f3 d3
en 31 Bd6 Rf6 32 f White wins.)
32 Rf5 Qg6 en 33 Rxf6 with B+ and Be5.)
7 34 Bf4! d-pawn and creat-
able threat of 35...

Diagram

14...Nd7 35 Kg5 2 37 Bxd2. Now finale.)
36 Be6+ Kh8

Black resigns. (Black has succeeded in simplifying the position, but not in equalising the game. The White bishops are more active than the Black knights, the black squares, in particular the b6 square, are weakened. White henceforth exerts pressure on the opponent's queen's flank and on the weak d6 square.)
11 Nd2 Ne6
(Not good is 11...Be6 12 Be3 Bxc4 13 Nxc4 Nxe4 14 f3 Ne6 15 Nxe5. With Black's bad development, the opening of the game is clearly unfavourable for him.)
12 Be3 Ne6 13 f3 Nh5
(A bad move. Black only moves his knight away from the queen's flank, where it will be needed for defence.)
14 a4 Ke7 15 Rfd1 Rd8 16 Ba2 f6 17 Nc4 b6
(Black already has no good continuation. The weakening of the queen's flank, of course, plays into White's hands.)
18 Rxd8
(More accurate is at once 18 a5, not freeing the e6 square for the Black bishop.)
18...Nxd8 19 a5 Be6 20 Bb3 Bxc4
(An incorrect decision. Black fears the invasion of the White knight on d6, but the consequences of this invasion would
be less dangerous for him than the exchange of the important bishop.

21 Bxc4 b5 22 Bc5+ Ke8
23Bg8 Nb7 24 Bf2 a6
25 Bb6 Kf8 26 Bb3 Ke7
27 g3 Ng7 28 c4 Rc8 29
Rcl b4 30 c5! Nd8 31
Bc4

(Undermining the position of the knight d4 and forcing it to
retreat.)

2l Bxc4 b5 22 Bc5+ Ke8
23 Bg8 Nb7 24 Bf2 a6
25 Bb6 Kf8 26 Bb3 Ke7
27 g3 Ng7 28 c4 Rc8 29
Rcl b4 30 c5! Nd8 31
Bc4

(Chaining the rook to the a-pawn. The locked in black squared
bishop plays no role here, since also in the future it will be
locked in by the sufficiently active pawns.)

31...Ra8 32 Kf2 Nde6
(The transfer of the knight to
the centralised d4 position does
not ease Black's position, since
his remaining pieces are too
passive to organise any kind of
counterplay.)

33 Ke3 Nd4 34 f4 Ne6
35 Rf1 Nc2+ 36 Kd3
Ncd4 37 f5 gxf5
(No help either is 37...Ng7 38 g4
g5 39 h4 h6 40 hxg5 hxg5 41 Rh1,
and the invasion of the rook
decides.)

38 exf5 Ng7 39 Ke4 Ne8
40 g4 Nc2 41 Rf2 Nd4
42 g5!

(Chaining the rook to the a-pawn. The locked in black squared
bishop plays no role here, since also in the future it will be
locked in by the sufficiently active pawns.)

31...Ra8 32 Kf2 Nde6
(The transfer of the knight to
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g5 39 h4 h6 40 hxg5 hxg5 41 Rh1,
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his remaining pieces are too
passive to organise any kind of
counterplay.)

33 Ke3 Nd4 34 f4 Ne6
35 Rf1 Nc2+ 36 Kd3
Ncd4 37 f5 gxf5
(No help either is 37...Ng7 38 g4
g5 39 h4 h6 40 hxg5 hxg5 41 Rh1,
and the invasion of the rook
decides.)

38 exf5 Ng7 39 Ke4 Ne8
40 g4 Nc2 41 Rf2 Nd4
42 g5!

(Chaining the rook to the a-pawn. The locked in black squared
bishop plays no role here, since also in the future it will be
locked in by the sufficiently active pawns.)

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(The transfer of the knight to
the centralised d4 position does
not ease Black's position, since
his remaining pieces are too
passive to organise any kind of
counterplay.)

33 Ke3 Nd4 34 f4 Ne6
35 Rf1 Nc2+ 36 Kd3
Ncd4 37 f5 gxf5
(No help either is 37...Ng7 38 g4
g5 39 h4 h6 40 hxg5 hxg5 41 Rh1,
and the invasion of the rook
decides.)

38 exf5 Ng7 39 Ke4 Ne8
40 g4 Nc2 41 Rf2 Nd4
42 g5!
strength of the move 9 Be3. Upon correct play, White's chances are better since it is difficult for Black to create counterplay, but on the slightest inaccuracy Black's can show his strength and give the opponent a great deal of trouble.

10 Bg5 f6 11 Bc1 c6 12 h3 Nh6 13 Be3 Nf7 14 Qd2
(Knowing the position of the queen on c2, the place for this rook would be on d1, but now it would be better to place the rook on c1; here it would have shadowed the Black queen and, if necessary, provided defense for the c4 pawn.)

15...Qc7 15 Rad1
(With the position of the knight does not spoil the position, but there was no need for it. White could continue at once 17 d5.)

17...Rad8 18 Nc2 Bc8 19 b4?

(On the surface everything looks good - White has deployed his pieces in the necessary way and begun an offensive; but in fact this move is a fatal mistake. 19 f4 offered nothing, since after 19...exf4 20 gxf4 f5 White cannot play 21 e5. He should lock up the position with the move 19 d5 and then prepare an attack on the queen's flank.)

19...exd4 20 Nxd4
(Also after 20 Bxd4 Ne5 21 Na3 Be6 22 Qe2 Qf7 White does not hold on to the c4 square.)

20...Ne5 21 Qe2 Qf7!
(This is the whole point! The c4 square is indefensible.)

22 c5 dxc5 23 bxc5 Nc4 24 Nb3 Be6
(Threatening to win a pawn. Also good is 24...f5 25 Bd4 f4 with a considerable advantage for Black.)

25 Rxd8 Rxd8 26 Rd1
Rxdl 27 Nxd1 Nxe3 28 Qxe3 Nd7 29 Bf1
(Now White loses the c5 pawn. By 29 Nb2 Bf8 30 Na4 he could maintain material equilibrium, but his position remains very difficult in view of the weakness of the c5 pawn.)

29...Bf8 30 Qc3 Kg7 31 Ne3 Bxb3 32 axb3 Bxc5
(Black has won a pawn, with a good position. It seems that White, even on the best defence, cannot save the game, but, being in time-trouble, he facilitates the opponent's task.)

33 Nd1 Qe7 34 Qc2 Bd4 35 Kg2 Nc5 36 f3 a5 37 Nb2 b5 38 Nd3 Nxd3 39 Bxd3 Qb4
(White's position is now completely hopeless. On 40 Kf1, so as not to allow the Black queen to e1, would follow 40...Qe5 followed by 41...Qd4. White prefers to "commit suicide".)

40 Qxc6 Qd2+ White resigns.

16 Benoni Defence
White: Margulies
Black: Boleslavsky
(Sverdlovsk Championship 1943)
1 d4 Nf6 2 g3
(With the intention of playing the Catalan Opening.)
2...c5 3 d5 e6 4 c4 exd5 5 cxd5 b5
(This variation is the best retort to the system 2 g3 which White has employed. The Benoni Defence is obtained, but with this Black has already carried out ...b5.)

6 Bg2 Bb7 7 e4 d6 8 Ne2 g6!
(The possibility of this move plays an important role in the evaluation of the whole variation. Black threatens to obtain a decisive advantage on the queen's flank, therefore White, while the opponent has not completed his development, organises an attack on the only weakness in Black's position - the d6 pawn.)

9 a4 b4 10 Nd2 Bg7 11 Nc4 0-0 12 Bf4 Ba6

(It turns out that Black does not intend to defend the d6 pawn; on 13 Nxd6 would follow 13...Nh5! 14 e5 Nxf4 15 gxf4 Qh4 16 Nb5 Nd7 17 e6 fxe6 18 dxe6 Nb6 19 Bxa8 Rxa8 with a very strong attack. Or 17 0-0 Rac8 18 Qd3 g5! 19 Qg3 Qh5 20 Bf3 gxf4! 21 Bxh5 fxg3 22 hgx3 Nxe5 with advantage to Black. But he should nevertheless capture on d6 since, after the move made by White, Black obtains the advantage without any complications.)

13 Rc1 Bxc4
(But not at once ...Nh5, since after 13...Nh5 14 Bxd6! Bxc4 15 Bxf8 Bxe2 16 Qxe2 Qxf8 17 e5 the advantage is on White's side.)

14 Rxc4 Nh5 15 Bc1 Nd7
(Threatening ...Nb6 with the win of a pawn; White's next two moves are forced.)

16 b3 Nb6 17 Rc2 c4 18 Ra2
(White has managed to defend the a-pawn at the cost of allowing Black a strong passed pawn, at his choice on b4 or c3.)

18...a5
(Not bad also would be 18...c3, but this locks up the game and forces Black to look for a breakthrough on the king's flank. Therefore Black prefers to have the b4 pawn, adjacent to the open c-file.)

19 Be3 cxb3
(In passing setting a trap: 20 Bxb6? bxax2!)

20 Qxb3 Rc8 21 0-0 Nc4

(White finally completes his development, but his queen's blockade of the powerful b4 pawn is unreliable. Black's future plan of play is the capture of the c3 square; the move 21...Nb4 is based on the following considerations: if White replies 22 Bcl then follows 22...Qd7 23 Rd1 Re5! 24 Nd4 Rfc8 25 Nc6 Ne5 and, after the exchange of the knight c6, Black realises his positional advantage without difficulty. The exchange of the black squared bishop for Black is also a step towards the capture of the c3 square.)

22 Bd4 Bxd4 23 Nxd4 Ne5 24 Rc2 Qb6 25 Rd1 Nf6?)
his choice on b4 or c3.
18...a5
(Not bad also would be 18...c3, but this locks up the game and forces Black to look for a breakthrough on the king's flank. Therefore Black prefers to have the b4 pawn, adjacent to the open c-file.)
19 Be3 cxb3
(In passing setting a trap: 20 Bxb6? bxa2!)
20 Qxb3 Rc8 21 0-0 Nc4

(White finally completes his development, but his queen's blockade of the powerful b4 pawn is unreliable. Black's future plan of play is the capture of the c3 square; the move 21...Nc4 is based on the following considerations: if White replies 22 Bc1 then follows 22...Qd7 23 Rd1 Rc5! 24 Nd4 Rfc8 25 Nc6 Ne5, and after the exchange of the knight c6, Black realises his positional advantage without difficulty. The exchange of the black squared bishop for Black is also a step towards the capture of the c3 square.)
22 Bd4 Bxd4 23 Nxd4 Ne5 24 Rb2 Qb6 25 Rd1 Ne6?

(With this unconsidered move, Black deprives himself of the fruits of his previous work. Necessary was 25...Rc5!, and if then 26 Bf3 [preventing ...Rfc8], then 26...Nf6, attacking the e4 pawn. After 25...Rc5 the win for Black would be a question of time.)
26 Nc6
(Now, however, the occupation of the c6 square gives White compensation for the Black b4 pawn.)
26...Kg7 27 Rd1 Rfe8 28 h3 Rc7 29 Kh2 Nxc6
(Black is forced to take the knight c6 and create a passed pawn for White. 29...Ned7 gives nothing because of 30 Qb2!)
30 dxc6 Qd4

(Black tries to make his queen master of the situation.)
31 f3?
(This timid move once again gives Black the advantage. Also bad is 31 Re2, since after 31...d5 32 Rd1 Qc4 33 Qxc4 dxc4 White is in no position to contend with the opponent's passed pawns. On the other hand, with the bold 31 Qc4!, White maintains equilibrium. Black cannot exchange queens since the endgame reached,
in view of the weakness of the Black d6 pawn and the unfortunate position of his knight, is in White's favour. But after 31...Qe5 32 f4 Qe7 33 Qb5 Nxe4 34 Bxe4 Qxe4 35 Qxa5 a sharp position is obtained with approximately equal chances. Leading to a draw, for example, is the rook sacrifice: 35...Rxc6 36 Rxc6 Qe2+ 37 Kgl! Qe3+ 38 Kh2 Qd2+ 39 Kh1 Re2 40 Rc2, and Black is forced to give perpetual check.)

31...d5!
(Now, after the forced exchange, the Black knight comes to a strong square.)

32 exd5 Nxd5 33 Rc4 Qe3 34 Qb2+ Nc3 35 f4
(This weakens the king's flank; practically speaking, the sacrifice of the exchange gave the best chances.)

35...Kg8 36 Qc2 Ne2 and White lost by overstepping the time limit.

17 Sicilian Defence
White: Vinogradov
Black: Boleslavsky
(Sverdlovsk Championship 1943)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Be2 e5
(This is one of my first games played with this variation. Positionally, it is well-founded, on the one hand, White cannot effectively exploit the weakness of the d5 square, on the other hand, with the position of the

Black pawn on e5, White does not have freedom of action in the centre and on the king's flank as in the Scheveningen variation. Despite the fact that this continuation has been encountered for more than ten years, up to now a variation has not been found for White which gives him a tangible advantage. The capture on c6, further strengthening Black's centre, of course cannot serve as a refutation of the move 6...e5.

Most frequently met is the retreat of the knight to b3. The method of play for Black in this case is shown by games, besides the present, 82 and 99.

Sharper is the retreat of the knight to f3. A demonstration of play from Black's point of view is shown, besides game 33 in the present collection, by another game Unzicker-Taimanov, played in the international tournament at Stockholm in 1952 [The game is to be found in the Stockholm tournament book and also Sokolsky's book "Chess Openings"].)

7 Nb3 Be7 8 Be3 0-0 9 g4?!

away the Black knight and continues the d5 square does not achieve its aim; there are sufficient counterchances to be found for Black.)

9...a5!
(On the over-bold move of the opponent, Black replies with a counter-blow on the other flank.)
And if now 10 a4, then 10...Nxe4 controlling the d5 square. Therefore White allows the further advance of the pawn. On 9...d5 instead of 9...a5, would follow not 10 exd5 Nb4 11 Bf3 e4! which is in Black's favour, but 11 Nxd5 Nxe4 [10...Nxd5 11 exd5 Ne5 12 c4 gives Black nothing] 11 Qe1 f5 12 0-0-0 with advantage for White.)

10 g5 Ne8 11 Nd5
(If it turns out that after 11 h4 a6 12 Nd2 a5 13 b3 Nb4 14 Bc4 Bb7 or 14 Nc4 f5!, Black seizes the initiative, therefore White gains in for tactical complications involving the temporary sacrifice of a pawn.)

11...Bxg5 12 Bh6 Qd7 13 Rg1 f6 14Bg4
(There is nothing for White in 14 Bc4 Kg8 15 h4 Bh6.)
14...Qf7 15 Bxc8 Rxc8 16 Nxa5

diagram

(White has carried out the combination faultlessly; he has opened the g-file, exchanged the white-squared bishops, captured the d5 square, won back the pawn and now, as it seems, stands considerably better, the more so in...
White does not control in the wing's flank as variation.

At this convention, encountered years, up to has not been, which gives him a. The capture strengthening course cannot be taken to b3. The Black in this cases, besides 99.

Treat of the construction of point of view seen 33 in the by another way, played in tournament at the game is to Stockholm tournament Sokolsky's...

0e3 0-0 9

away the Black knight and control the d5 square does not achieve its aim; there are sufficient counterchances to be found for Black.)

9...a5!

(On the over-bold move of the opponent, Black replies with a counter-blows on the other flank. And if now 10 a4, then 10...Nba4! controlling the d5 square. Therefore White allows the further advance of the pawn. On 9...d5, instead of 9...a5, would follow not 10 exd5 Nxb4 11 Bf3 e4! which is in Black's favour, but 10 Nxd5! Nxe4 [10...Nxd5 11 exd5 Nxb4 12 c4 gives Black nothing] 11 Qd3 f5 12 0-0-0 with advantage to White.)

10 g5 Ne8 11 Nd5

(It turns out that after 11 h4 a4 12 Nd2 a3 13 b3 Nb4 14 Bc4 Be6, or 14 Nc4 f5!, Black seizes the initiative, therefore White goes in for tactical complications, involving the temporary sacrifice of a pawn.)

11...Bxg5 12 Bb6 Qd7 13 Rg1 f6 14 Bg4

(There is nothing for White in 14 Bc4 Kh8 15 h4 Bh6.)

14...Qf7 15 Bxc8 Rxc8 16 Nxa5

Diagram

(White has carried out the combination faultlessly; he has opened the g-file, exchanged the white-squared bishops, captured the d5 square, won back the pawn and now, as it seems, stands considerably better, the more so in that the Black pieces are restricted in their activity. But a number of important features indicate that this is not so, and namely: 1) the White king is in a very insecure position; 2) the pawns on the king's flank, h2, f2, e4, are weak; 3) the White pieces Bb6 and Na5 are removed from the centre. The Black king is quite securely placed, the formerly passive bishop on e7 occupies an excellent position, where it prevents White's queen's side castling. The rook a8 has with tempo has taken up an important position on the half-open c-file. For Black to finally manifest his advantage, he must get rid of the knight d5 and transfer the knight e8 to a more active position. Black even begins to carry out this plan with the next move.)

16...Ne7

(This move already poses White a serious problem. He cannot take on b7 because of the loss of a piece. If he plays 17 Nc3, then 17...d5! 18 exd5 Nd6 and Black's position becomes threatening, and so White exchanges queens and creates a pawn outpost on d5.)
17 c4 Nxd5 18 Qxd5 Qxd5 19 exd5 Bf4 (Attacking the h2 pawn and giving the possibility of advancing the f-pawn.)
20 b4
(This impetuous break which White undertakes, weakens his pawns fatally. But also on the normal continuation 20 h3 f5, followed by ...Nf6, White's position would be considerably inferior in view of the weakness of the pawns and the bad positions of his pieces.)
20...f5 21 c5 dxc5 22 bxc5 Nf6 23 Rd1
(On 23 d6 would follow 23...Rf7 followed by ...Nd7. On 23 c6 could follow both the quiet 23...bxc6 24 dx6 Nd5 25 Bc5 Rd8 with a considerable advantage, and the sharp 23...Nxd5 24 cxb7 Rb2 25 Ba7 Nb4 26 Rd1 [26 b8(Q)? Rxb8 27 Bxb8 Nd3+ and mate next move] 26...e4 27 Rd7 Nd3+ 28 Kf1 Be5 29 Kg2 f4 with a winning position.)
23...Nd7 24 Nxb7 Rb8
(But not 24...Nxb6? 25 cxb6 Rb8 26 Nc5? If now 25 c6 Nxb6 26 d6, then 26...e4 27 Rbl Nd5 28 c7 Nxc7 29 dxc7 Bxc7 and Black must win.)
25 Nd8!
(The last clever attempt to confuse the game; now, after 25...Nxb6 26 Ne6 or 25...Rxd8, White would retain chances thanks to the connected passed pawns. On the retreat of the knight to a5, White would lose quickly.)
25...Nxc5!
(Black is not left without an answer and, by declining the sacrifice, reduces the matter to technique.)
26 Bxc5 Rfxd8
(White already loses a pawn, since both 27...Rb5 and 27...Bxh2 are threatened.)
27 Be7
(White seeks salvation in the four rook endgame, but, in view of the weakness of his pawns and the presence of the Black passed h-pawn, this also does not give him chances of a draw.)
27...Rd7 28 Bg5 Bxe4
29 Rh1 Bf4 30 Bxf4 exf4 31 Rh3 Ra8 32 a3 Ra5 33 Rd3 Kf7 34 Ke2 h5 35 d6 Ra6 36 Rd4 g5 37 Rc1
(White is tired of carrying on a hopeless defence. After 37 a4 Ke6 38 Rg1 Kf6 39 Rgd1 Ke5 40 Rd5+ Ke6 White loses a second pawn. There followed...)
37...Rdxd6 38 Rc7+ Kf6 39 Rh7 Kg6 40 Rxd6+ Rxd6 41 Rh8 h4 42 a4 Re6+ 43 Kf1 f3 44 a5 Ra6 White resigns.

18 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Kotov (13th USSR Championship, Moscow 1944)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 Na5 10 Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12 Nbd2 Nc6
(Practice has shown that the variation with the return of the knight to c6 is difficult for
Black. Recently, 12...Bd7, 12...Bb7, or 12...Rd8 have been met more often.)
13 dxc5 dxc5 14 a4
(White, in order to exploit the weakness of the d5 and f5 squares, must conduct the struggle on both flanks.)
14...Be6
(14...Rb8 is more frequently played, ceding the a-file but defending the b-pawn and not determining his future plans.)
15 Ng5 Bd7 16 Nf1 Rd8 17 Qe2 h6
(He should not hurry with this move, which indirectly weakens the f5 square.)
18 Nf3 c4 19 axb5 axb5
(Black has played the opening inaccurately and as a result:
1) the d7 square, needed for the transfer of the knight via c5 to d3, is occupied by the bishop;
2) White has obtained the possibility of occupying the f5 square with the knight f3, retaining the second knight for the d5 square;
3) the f5 square, because of the advance of the h-pawn, cannot be covered by the g-pawn.)
20 Nh4 Rfe8 21 Qf3 Nh7 22 Nf5 Bg5 23 Bxg5
Black. Recently, 12...Bd7, 12...Bb7, or 12...Rd8 have been met more often.)

13 dxc5 dxc5 14 a4
(White, in order to exploit the weakness of the d5 and f5 squares, must conduct the struggle on both flanks.)

14...Be6
(14...Rb8 is more frequently played, ceding the a-file but defending the b-pawn and not determining his future plans.)

15 Ng5 Bd7 16 Nf3 Rad8 17 Qe2 h6
(He should not hurry with this move, which indirectly weakens the f5 square.)

18 Nf3 c4 19 axb5 axb5

(Black has played the opening inaccurately and as a result:
1) the d7 square, needed for the transfer of the knight via c5 to d3, is occupied by the bishop;
2) White has obtained the possibility of occupying the f5 square with the knight f3, retaining the second knight for the d5 square;
3) the f5 square, because of the advance of the h-pawn, cannot be covered by the g-pawn.)

20 Nh4 Rhe8 21 Qf3 Nh7 22 Nf5 Bg5 23 Bxg5

Nxc5 24 Qg3 Bxf5
(The capture of the knight is forced. After 24...Kh8 25 h4 Ne6 26 Ne3 followed by Nd5, White has an overwhelming position.)

25 exf5 Nh7
(Black transfers the knight to a strong position in front of the f5 pawn.)

26 Be4 Na5 27 Ne3 Nf6 28 Ng4
(It is necessary to exchange the knight f6.)

28...Nxg4 29 Qxg4 Rd6?
(A tactical mistake; in attempting to double on the d-file, Black loses it. Necessary was 29...f6 and, though after 30 Rad1 White stands better, there was no immediate danger for Black.)

30 Rad1! Nb3

(There is already no good reply for Black. If 30...Red8, then 31 f6! Rxf6 32 Rxd8+ Qxd8 33 Rd7 and Black cannot play 33...Rd6 because of the loss of the queen. If 33...Qb8, then 34 Qd7 g6 35 Qe7 Qb6 36 Rd8+ Kh7 37 Qf8 Qxf2+ 38 Kh2 Qf4+ 39 g3 Qf2+ 40 Bg2 and White wins. Black, after 33 Rd1, best retreats the queen to e8, but also on this follows 34 Rd7 g6 35 Qd1 Kg7 36 Qd5 with a...
decisive invasion.
If 30...R xd1 31 R xd1 Rd8, then 32 R xd8+ Q xd8 33 f6 g6 34 B x g6 Q x f6
35 B f 5+ K f 8 36 R d7 Q b 6 37 Q e 4 K e 7
38 B g 4 Q d 6 39 Q a 8 Q b 6 40 Q d 5 K f 6
41 B h 5 with the win of a pawn, since 41...Q b 7 is not possible
because of 42 Q d 8+. The endgame is hopeless for Black.)
31 R xd6 Q x d 6 32 R d 1 Q b 6 33 R d 5 R d 8
(Black gives up the e5 pawn, reckoning on obtaining counter-
play. 34 R x b 5 Q x b 5 35 f 6 was threatened.)
34 R x e 5
(Also here, possible was 34 R x b 5 Q x b 5 35 f 6, with two replies for
Black: 35...g 6 and 35...g 5; let us look at them.
1) 35...g 6 36 B x g 6 K f 8 37 B x f 7
K x f 7 38 Q g 7+ K e 6 39 Q e 7+ K f 5 40 Q x d 8 and White wins.
2) 35...g 5 36 Q f 5 K f 8 37 Q h 7 K e 8
38 Q g 8+ [38 B f 5? Q c 5!] 38...K d 7
39 Q x f 7+ K c 8 40 Q e 7! Q d 7 [the
best move] 41 Q a 3! and White wins. For example: a) 41...R e 8 42
f 7 Q x f 7 43 Q a 8+ K d 7 44 Q b 7+ K e 6
45 B d 5+; b) 41...Q c 7 42 Q a 8+ K d 7
[42...Q b 8? 43 Q a 6+] 43 Q d 5+ K e 8
44 Q g 8+ K d 7 45 Q f 7+ K c 8 46 Q e 6+
K b 8 47 Q a 6 Q a 7 48 Q b 5+ K c 7 49
Q x c 4+ N c 5 50 b 4; c) 41...Q d 1+ 42
K h 2 Q a 1 43 Q b 4 Q a 6 44 f 7.
But also the prosaic way chosen
by White is quite sufficient.)

42 h 4
(The sealed move, eliminating
Black's last counter-chance in
connection with the move
42...N g 5. There followed...)
42...Q d 7 43 R d 5 Q b 7 44
b 4 R c 2 45 R d 3 Q a 7 46
K g 2 N f 8 47 R d 4 K g 7 48
R f 4 f 5 49 Q d 5 Q e 7 50
R f 3 h 5 51 Q g 8+ K h 6 52
Q h 8+ N h 7 53 B g 8 Q b 7 54
Q x h 7+ Q x h 7 55 B x h 7
K x h 7 56 R d 3 K g 7 57
R d 7+ K f 6 58 R c 7 f 4 59
g x f 4 R d 2 60 b 5 Black
resigns.

Diagram

34...N c 1 35 f 6! Q x f 6
36 R x b 5 g 6 37 B d 5 N d 3
38 Q f 3 N f 4 39 B x c 4 R d 2
40 K h 2 Q d 6 41 g 3 N e 6

19 French Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Lisitsin
(13th USSR Championship, Moscow 1944)
1 e 4 e 6 2 d 4 d 5 3 N c 3
N f 6 4 B g 5 B b 4 5 e 5 h 6
6 B d 2 B x c 3 7 b x c 3 N e 4
8 Q g 4 g 6 9 B c 1
(This pawn sacrifice, with the
aim of avoiding the exchange
of the important black-squared
bishop, for a long time was con-
sidered the strongest continu-
ation and brought White many wins.)

9...c 5 10 B d 3 c x d 4
(After this move, Black already
does not succeed in achieving
equality. Correct was 10...N x c 3
11 d x c 5 Q a 5 12 B d 2 Q a 4! and, both
after the exchange of queens and
after 13 Q g 3 N e 4, Black has a
satisfactory game.)
11 Q a 5
(All the same, better was 11...
N x c 3, though after 12 N x d 4
Black's position is far from
being secure.)
12 0-0 d x c 3 13 B x e 4
d x e 4 14 N g 3!

Diagram

(In this move lies the whole
point! The knight gets to e4 and
attacks the weak f6 and d6
squares. Despite Black's material
advantage, there does not seem to
be any satisfactory defence. For
example;
1) 14...h 5 15 Q g 5 N d 7 16 B f 4 N c 5
[otherwise 17 N x e 4] 17 Q f 6 R g 8 18
B g 5 Q c 7 19 R d 1 and White wins.
2) 14...Q x e 5 15 B f 4! [stronger
than 15 N x e 4 h 5 16 Q f 3 f 5 17 N c 3
9...c5 10 Bd3 cxd4
(After this move, Black already does not succeed in achieving equality. Correct was 10...Nxc3
11 dxc5 Qa5 12 Bxd2 Qa4! and, both after the exchange of queens and after 13 Qg3 Ne4, Black has a satisfactory game.)
11 Ne2!
(Of course, not 11 cxd4 Qa5+ 12 Kf1 Qc3; weaker also is 11 Bxe4, recommended in an article by Belavanets and Yudovich ["Chess Yearbook" for 1936].)
11...Qa5
(All the same, better was 11...Nxc3, though after 12 Nxd4 Black's position is far from being secure.)
12 0-0 dxc3 13 Bxe4 dxe4 14 Ng3!

(Black has no good moves. If 16...f5, then 17 Nd6+ Ke7 18 Rel! Nf7 [18...Kxd6 19 Rxe5 Qxe5 20 Ba3+] 19 Nc4 Qa6 20 Ba3+ with an irresistible attack.)
17 Nd6+ Kf8 18 Nxb7 Qd5 19 Ba3+ Kg8 20 Nc5! Nc6
(Losing a piece, but also other continuations do not save the game. For example: 20...Nc4 21 Rad1 Qc6 22 Nxd7 Nxa3 23 Ne5 Qe4 24 Qxc3 Nb5 25 Qc5 with a decisive advantage. Or 21...Nd2 22 Nxd7 Nx1 23 Qxc3!; or 22...Qxd7 23 Qxc3 Rd8 24 Bb2 Rh7 25 Qf6 and White wins.)
21 Rfd1 Nd4 22 Qg4! e5
23 Nxd7 h5 24 Nf6+ Kg7 25 Nxd5 hxg4 26 Bc5 Rad8 27 Rxd4 exd4 28 Bxd4+ Kh7 29 Bxh8 Kxh8 30 Nxc3 Rc8 31 Nd5
Rxc2 32 Ne3
The rest is of no interest
Black resigned on the
44th move.

20 Grunfeld Defence
White: Lilienthal
Black: Boleslavsky
(13th USSR Championship, Moscow 1944)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3
d5 4 Bf4 Bg7 5 e3 0-0
6 Nf3
(After this move Black easily
equalises the game. To greater,
but not unfavourable complica-
tions for Black, leads 6 Rcl c5!
Best is 6 Qb3, increasing
the pressure on the d5 square.)
6...c5 7 dxc5
(Simpler and better is 7 Bd3,
refraining from the attempt to
obtain an opening advantage, but
happily completing the develop-
ment of his pieces.)
7...Qa5 8 Nd2
(But this is already a mistake,
after which Black obtains the
advantage. He should play 8 Qb3.
The continuation might be 8...
dxc4 9 Bxc4 Ne4 10 Be5 Nxc5 11
Qb5 Nc6 with equal chances.)
8...dxc4 9 Nxc4?
(Yet another mistake, leading to
serious consequences. It was
necessary to take on c4 with the
bishop so as to keep the e2
square for the queen. After 9
Bxc4 Qxc5 10 Qe2 Nc6 11 0-0 Bf5,
Black stands better, but there is
a whole struggle still ahead.)
9...Qxc5 10 Be2 Nc6 11
0-0 Rd8
(Where does the White queen go to
now? If 11 Qcl, then 11...Be6,
and now the continuation 12 Na4
Qb4 13 b3 Nd5 14 a3 Nxf4 15 exf4
Qxb3 16 Nc5 Nd4! leads to a loss
for White.
White goes in for the exchange of
queens, but with this Black
strengthens his position still
further.)
12 Qb3 Be6 13 Qb5 Qxb5
14 Nxb5 N d5 15 Bg3
Rac8

(Black's game is strategically
won. He threatens, in the first
instance, 16...a6 and 17...b5.
White's next move prevents this
threat, but for this he has to
weaken his queen's flank.)
16 a4 Ndb4 17 Nba3 N d3
18 Rab1 Bf5 19 f3
(Forestalling 19...Nc5, on which
would now follow 20 e4.)
19...Nxb2!
(An unpleasant surprise! White
loses a pawn.)
20 e4 Be6 21 Nxb2 Rd2
22 Bc4 Rxb2 23 Bxe6
fxe6 24 Rxb2 Bxb2
(The position is simplified.
Black has won a pawn and also has
actively placed pieces.)
25 Nb5

(In the search for counterchanc-
White carries out an expediti-
with the knight to c7 which
might have ended dismally.)
25...a6 26 Nc7
(If 26 Rbl, then 26...axb5
Rxb2 bx a4 28 Rxb7 a3 29 Rbl [29
Be1 a2 30 Bc3 Na5] 29...a2 30 Rb1
Ra8 31 Be1 Nd4 and Black wins.)
26...Bd4+
(A very important check! Black
drives the White king into the
corner of the board.)
27 Kh1 Kf7 28 Rbl Ne5
29 Rcl e5
(Here Black could win a piece
29...Bb6 30 Rd7! e5! 31 Bxe5
Nxe5 32 Bxd6 Bxc7 33 Rxe7+ Kg8 34
Rxd6. As an excuse might say
the fact that, seeing a clear
in the endgame, Black did not
want to go in for calculation.)
30 Nc5 Rc4 31 a5 Nc6
32 Bel Ra4 33 Nb6
(Otherwise there is no saving the
a-pawn.)
33...Bxb6 34 axb6 Kc6
(The Black king takes up a very
handy position sandwiched be-
tween the pawns. White has no
counterplay whatever and he does
not have anything to counter the
advance of the Black a-pawn.)
White queen go to a6, then 11...Be6, 12 Na4 a3 Nxf4 15 exf4 leads to a loss for the exchange of this Black position still

13 Qb5 Qxb5 Nd5 15 Bg3

is strategically ms, in the first a6 and 17...b5. we prevents this: this he has to r's flank.)

17 Nxa3 Nd3 19 f3 9...Nc5, on which 20 e4.)

is a surprise! White

21 Nxb2 Rd2 x2 23 Bxe6 b2 Bxb2

is simplified. pawn and also has pieces.)

21 Alekhine Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Khavin
(13th USSR Championship, Moscow 1944)

1 e4 Nf6 2 e5 Nd5 3 d4 d6 4 Nf3 Bg4 5 h3
(This move is weaker than the usual 5 Be2 and, on correct play by Black, does not give White any advantage at all.)

5...Bxf3 6 Qxf3 dxe5 7 dxe5 e6 8 a3
(In a game in the 12th USSR Championship against Mikenas, I continued 8 Qg3, but after 8...Nd7 9 Be2 c6 10 0-0 Ne7, Black obtained a good game.)

8...Nc6?
(A mistake, after which Black gets into a difficult position. Correct is 8...Nd7.)

30 Nd5 Rc4 31 a5 Nc6 32 Be1 Ra4 33 Nb6
(Otherwise there is no saving the a-pawn.)

33...Bxb6 34 axb6 Ke6
(The Black king takes up a very handy position sandwiched between the pawns. White has no counterplay whatever and he does not have anything to counter the advance of the Black a-pawn.)

35 Kg1 Ra2 36 Kf1 a5 37 Rd3 a4 38 Bd2 Rb2 39 Be3 Nd4 40 Bxd4
(On 40 f4, winning immediately is 40...Rb3.)

40...exd4 41 Ra3
(White makes a heroic but fruitless attempt to save a hopeless game.)

41...Ke5!
(The simplest. The invasion of the Black king quickly concludes the game.)

42 Rxa4
(Or 42 g3 Rb3 43 Rxa4 Rxf3+ 44 Ke2 Rb3 and White can resign.)

42...d3 43 Ke1 Rxc2 White resigns.
(Since the Black king penetrates via f4 to the e3 square.)

35 Kg1 Ra2 36 Kf1 a5 37 Rd3 a4 38 Bd2 Rb2 39 Be3 Nd4 40 Bxd4
(On 40 f4, winning immediately is 40...Rb3.)

40...exd4 41 Ra3
(White makes a heroic but fruitless attempt to save a hopeless game.)

41...Ke5!
(The simplest. The invasion of the Black king quickly concludes the game.)

42 Rxa4
(Or 42 g3 Rb3 43 Rxa4 Rxf3+ 44 Ke2 Rb3 and White can resign.)

42...d3 43 Ke1 Rxc2 White resigns.
(Since the Black king penetrates via f4 to the e3 square.)
9 Bb5
(Black does not succeed in ridding himself of this pin until the end of the game.)
9...Qd7 10 c4 Nde7
(If 10...Nb6, then 11 0-0 0-0-0 12 Nc3 a6 13 Rd1 Qe8 14 Rxd8+ Kxd8 15 Bg5+ Kc8 16 Bxc6 Qxc6 17 Rd1 with an overwhelming advantage for White.)
11 0-0 Rd8 12 Nc3 a6

(Also bad is 12...Ng6 13 Rd1 Ngxe5 14 Qe2 with the win of a piece. Black lags behind seriously in development and his only chance was to play for the exchange of queens with the move 12...Qd3; true, after 13 Be3 a6 14 Rad1 Qf5 15 Qxf5 Nxf5 16 Bxc6+ bxc6 17 Rxd8+ Kxd8 18 Bf4 Black obtains an inferior ending, but in the game he falls under a devastating attack.)
13 Rd1 Qc8 14 Rxd8+ Qxd8 15 Ba4 Qd4
(Black apparently placed great hopes on this double attack, but when the pieces are standing on their original positions an extra pawn generally is of no help.)
16 b3
(White defends the c4 pawn, so as not to give Black the possibility of ridding himself of the pin on c6.)
16...Qxe5 17 Bf4 Qf5 18 Rd1 f6
(19 Bxc7 was threatened; on 18...e5, decisive is 19 Nd5.)
19 g4 Qg6 20 b4 e5 21 Nd5! Kf7
(Desperation! On 21...exf4, both 22 Nxe7 Bxe7 23 Bxc6+ and 22 Nxc7+ Kf7 23 c5 win.)
22 c5

(Opening the decisive diagonal. There follows a short denouement.)
22...exf4 23 Nxf4 Qg5 24 Qb3+ Ke8 25 Ne6 Qe5 26 f4 Black resigns.

22 Sicilian Defence
White: Vasiliev
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi Final, 14th USSR Championship, Leningrad 1945)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 g3 g6 7 Bg2 Bd7
(Black's simplest way to equalise the game is by exchanging on d4.)
8 0-0 Bg7 9 Bg5
(The usual continuation here is 9 Nde2, followed by Nd5. White tries to treat the position in a new fashion, but the plan chosen by him is not particularly successful; the b-file is opened for Black, while the c6 pawn covers the d5 square, which is important in this variation.)
9...h6 10 Nxc6 bxc6 11 Bf4 Ng4
(Black prevents the advance of the e-pawn and establishes the knight on the central e5 square.)
12 h3 Ne5 13 Qe2 0-0 14 Rad1 a5
(The most natural plan for Black in this position is to play on the queen's flank.)
15 b3 c5
(Without this move Black cannot carry out a further advance of the pawn, but the concession of the d5 square is temporary since there is always the move...e6 for Black.)
16 Nd5 a4 17 Bc1 axb3 18 axb3 Ra2
(Worth considering is 18...Re8, so as to free the queen from the defence of the e-pawn. The thrust with the rook does not bring anything real for Black.)
19 Nc3 Ra7 20 f4?
of the pin on

17 Bf4 Qf5

threatened; on 18...

19 Nd5.)

20 b4 e5 21

On 21...exf4, both

23 Bxc6+ and 22

6 min.)

decisive diagonal.

23 Nxf4 Qg5

8-25 Ne6 Qe5

resigns.

Keres Defence

Silov, 14th USSR

(1959, Lenin-

Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
d4 Nf6 5 Nc3
3 7 Bg2 Bd7

best way to equalise

exchanging on d4.)

9 Bg5

continuation here is 9

Nde2, followed by Nd5. White

tries to treat the position in a

new fashion, but the plan chosen

by him is not particularly

successful; the b-file is opened

for Black, while the c6 pawn

covers the d5 square, which is

important in this variation.)

9...h6 10 Nxc6 bxc6 11

Bf4 Ng4

(Black prevents the advance of

the e-pawn and establishes the

knight on the central e5 square.)

12 h3 Ne5 13 Qe2 0-0

14 Rad1 a5

(The most natural plan for Black

in this position is to play on

the queen's flank.)

15 b3 c5

(Without this move Black cannot

carry out a further advance of

the pawn, but the concession of

the d5 square is temporary since

there is always the move ...e6

for Black.)

16 Nd5 a4 17 Bc1 axb3

18 axb3 Ra2

(Worth considering is 18...Re8,

so as to free the queen from the

defence of the e-pawn. The thrust

with the rook does not bring any-

ting real for Black.)

19 Nc3 Ra7 20 f4?

(An incorrect plan! Opening the

game plays into Black's hands as

his pieces are more harmoniously

placed. With the advance of the

pawn, White only wrecks his own

position. He should play 20 Bd2,

followed by 21 Ra1, and White

would have a quite safe position.)

20...Nc6 21 Nb5 Ra2 22
e5 Nb4 23 Na3

(A sad necessity. The exchange of

the c-pawn for the d-pawn by 23

exd6 exd6 24 Nxd6 Rxc2 led to

material loss. For example:

1) 25 Qf3? Bd4+ 26 Kh1 Bh6 27 Ne4

f5;

2) 25 Bd2 Bd6 26 Nc4? Bxc4 27

bxc4 Re8;

3) 25 Rd2 [the best move] 25...

Rxd2 26 Qxd2 Bxh3 27 Bxh3 Bd4+ 28

Kh2 Qxd6 29 f5 g5

4) 25 Rd2 Rxd2 26 Bxd2 Be6 [26...

Bxh3 27 Nxf7] 27 Ne4 [27 Nc4 Bxc4

28 bxc4 Re8 29 Qd1 Qd4+] 27...

Re8! 28 Qd1 Nd3 and White loses

the b3 pawn, since 29 Be3 is not

possible because of 29...Bg5.)

23...Qc8 24 exd6

(If at once 24 Kh2, then

24...dxe5 25 fxe5 Nc6 26 Nc4 Nd4

with the win of a pawn.)

24...exd6 25 Kh2 Re8
26 Qd2 d5
(Black has an overwhelming position; he threatens in the first instance 27...Qa6.)
27 Re1 Rxel 28 Rxel Bf5
(The c2 pawn is indefensible.)
29 g4 Bxc2 30 Nxc2 Rxc2 31 Qe3 d4!
(The simplest! The endgame is easily won for Black.)
32 Qe8+ Qxe8 33 Rxe8+ Kh7 34 Ba3 Nd3 35 Kg3 Rc3 36 Rb8 Ne1 37 Kf2 Nxg2 38 Kxg2 c4 39 Be7 Rxb3 40 Rc8 d3 White resigns.

23 Queen's Pawn Opening
White: Bondarevsky
Black: Boleslavsky
(14th USSR Championship, Moscow 1945)
1 d4 Nf6 2 Bg5
(It is difficult to say what considerations influenced Bondarevsky in choosing this non theoretical continuation. He could hardly have considered it as objectively strongest. He also could not have reckoned on it being a surprise, since he employed this continuation against the same opponent in the match-tournament of six 1941.)
2...Ne4 3 Bh4 c5 4 f3
(But this already is an underestimate of the opponent. The following tactical blow at once hands over the advantage to Black. In the above mentioned game from the match-tournament of six, White continued 4 dxc5, and after 4...Nxc5 5 Nc3 Nc6 6 e3 g6 7 Bc4 Bg7, obtaining a game with chances for both sides. Black's move, 4...Nxc5, is not accurate, better is 4...Nc6, not allowing the White knight to c3, and only on 5 Nd2 to take the c5 pawn.)
4...g5! 5 fxe4 gxh4 6 e3 Bh6 7 Qd3 Nc6
(Black must not neglect the development of his pieces. On 7...Qb6, White could reply 8 Nc3 and Black could hardly spend time on capturing the b2 pawn.)
8 Nc2 cxd4
(Avoiding the trap 8...Nbd4 9 Qc3 Bxe3? 10 dxc5, and White wins.)
9 exd4 Qb6
(Forcing the White knight to take up a passive position on b3; here the sacrifice does not work: 10 Ng3? Qxb2 11 Rbl Bxd2+ 12 Nxd2 Qxd4.)
10 Nb3 a5
(It is necessary for Black to force the move 11 a4, weakening the b4 square on which the Black knight will be consolidated; if 10...d5, then 11 a3!, and it is not apparent how Black can further develop his initiative.)
11 a4 d5!

(Opening up the bishop c8 with tempo, and preparing an attack on the c2 square.)
12 Nf3
(Of course, the variation 12 e5 Nb4 13 Qb5+ Qxb5 14 Bxb5+ Kd8 Kd1 Bf5 cannot suit White.)
12...Nb4 13 Qd1! 0-0
(The chase after the pawn, 13...dxe4 14 Bb5+ Kf8 15 Ne5, would hand over the initiative to White.
Now the Black king is out of danger, and White needs to think about the development of his pieces.)
14 Bd3 Nxd3+ 15 Qxd3
(Taking with the pawn, 15...cxd3 would give Black an irresistible attack after 15...dxe4 16 dxe4 c6 17 Be6 17 d5 Qe3+.)
15...Qg6!
(But now, in order to expose the weaknesses in White's position it is necessary to exchange queens.)
16 Nxe4
(No better is 16 e5: after 16...Nxe5 17 Qe2 Qg4 18 0-0 h3 19 g3 White's position is absolutely miserable.)
16...Qxe4+ 17 Qxe4 dxe4
(Two powerful bishops and the passed e4 pawn give Black every reason to count on victory.)

Diagram

18 g4
(On 18 g3 would follow 18...Bxe4, hampering the opponent even further, but now Black gets the chance to create two connected...
(Opening up the bishop c8 with tempo, and preparing an attack on the c2 square.)

12 Nf3
(On course, the variation 12 exd5 Nb4 13 Qb5+ Qxb5 14 Bxb5+ Kf8 15 Kd1 Bf5 cannot suit White.)

12...Nb4 13 Qd1! 0-0!
(The chase after the pawn, 13...dxe4 14 Bb5+ Kf8 15 Ne5, would hand over the initiative to White.
Now the Black king is out of danger, and White needs to think about the development of his pieces.)

14 Bd3 Nxd3+ 15 Qxd3
(Taking with the pawn, 15 cxd3, would give Black an irresistible attack after 15...dxe4 16 dxe4 Be6 17 d5 Qe3+.)

15...Qg6!
(But now, in order to expose the weaknesses in White's position, it is necessary to exchange queens.)

16 Nhx4
(No better is 16 e5: after 16...Bf5 17 Qe2 Qg4 18 0-0 h3 19 g3 b6 White's position is absolutely miserable.)

16...Qxe4+ 17 Qxe4 dxe4
(Two powerful bishops and the passed e4 pawn give Black every reason to count on victory.)

diagram

18 g4
(On 18 g3 would follow 18...Bh3, hampering the opponent even further, but now Black gets the chance to create two connected passed pawns.)

18...Kh8 19 h3
(19 Nf5 would have allowed Black, after 19...Bxf5 20 gxf5 Rg8, to invade with the rook on the g-file.)

19...e6 20 Nd2 f5 21 Rf1 Ra6
(Here Black chooses a very complicated way of realising his positional advantage. After the simple 21...b6, White could not have held out for long. On 22 gxf5 exf5 there arises the threat of 23...f4; on 22 Nc4 would follow 22...Bg5 23 Ng2 Ba6 24 b3 Rac8 25 h4 Bf6 with a rapid win; 22 c4 Ba6 23 b3 [23 gxf5 Bg5] 23...Rad8 also gives White no chances at all.)

22 Ng2 Kg8 23 h4 Rb6 24 Nc4 Rc6 25 b3 b6 26 Rf2
(This defensive move does not achieve its aim. More practical chances were offered by 26 gxf5 exf5 27 Nf4 Ba6 28 d5. Black best continues 28...Bxc4! 29 Rgl+ Kf7 30 dxc6 Bxf4 31 bxc4 Rc8. Now Black's passed pawns, supported by the bishops, must decide the game.)
1 d4 Nf6 2 Bg5 Ne4 3 Bf4
(This is the improvement prepared by Kotov. White can now drive the knight from the e4 square without fearing the move ...g5.)
3...d6
(Too timid! Black gives the opponent the chance to capture the centre, after which White's opening experiment is fully justified. After the simple 3...d5 4 Nd2 Bf5 5 Ng3 e6, one cannot speak of an advantage for White. Weaker is 3...c5 because of 4 f3 Nf6 5 dxc5 [But not 5 d5, since 5...e6 6 c4 Nhx5 gives Black excellent play]. After 5...Qa5+ [5...e6 6 Bd6] 6 Nc3 Qxc5 7 e4 Nc6 8 Qd2 White stands better.)
4 f3 Nf6 5 e4 g6 6 Qd2 Nbd7 7 Bb6?
(A strange idea - to exchange the Black bishop before its development to g7. As a result of this exchange of a piece which has made two moves against another which has not made even one, White lags behind in development and weakens the black squares.)
7...Bxh6 8 Qxh6 c5
(At once going over to active operations.)
9 c3 Qb6 10 Qd2 cxd4 11 cxd4 e5 12 Na3
(Another bad move. After 12 d5 White would have managed to complete his development and would stand only a little worse. The continuation 12 Nc3 exd4 13 Na4 Qc6 14 Qxd4 0-0 15 Nc3 d5! would have been a better course than the game.)
12...d5!

26...Ba6 27 Ne5 Rd6 28 g5
(Or 28 Rd1 e3 29 Rf3 Bb7.)
28...Bg7 29 c3
(On 29 Rd1, decisive is 29...Rxd4 30 Rxd4 Bxe5, followed by 31...Bg3.)
29...Rc8 30 Nc4
(Desperation! On 30 Rc1 would follow 30...Rxd4.)
30...Bxc4 31 bxc4 Rxc4
32 Ra3 Rdc6 33 Kd2 Bf8
(Winning a second pawn. The rest is clear without commentary.)
34 Rb3 Rxal 35 Ne3 Ra2+ 36 Ke1 Rxf2 37 Kxf2 a4 38 Rb1 a3 39 Nd1 f4 40 Ke2 Kf7 41 h5 Be7 42 Ra1 b5 43 Kf1 e3 44 Ke2 b4 45 cxb4 Rc2+ 46 Kd3 Rd2+ 47 Kc4 Rxd1 48 Rxd1 e2 49 Rb1 f3 50 Kd3 a2 51 g6+ hxg6 52 hxg6+ Kg7
White resigns.

13 dx5
(White underestimates the danger. Better here is 13 exd5 Nxd5 14 Nc4 [But not 14 dxe5 Ne3 15 Nd4 Nxc4 16 Bxc4 Nxe5 17 Qe2 Qb4+ 18 Kd1 0-0 with a winning attack] 14...Qxd4 15 Qxd4 exd4 16 0-0-0 0-0-0 17 Rxd4 N7f6, though Black's advantage is beyond doubt.)
13...Nxe5 14 Bb5+ Kf81
(Considerably stronger than 14...Bd7; the bishop c8 proves useful for the attack.)
15 exd5 Kg7
(The Black king is totally safe, whereas over White's hang threats.
Bad now is 16 O-O-0 because of 16...Bf5.)
16 Ne2 a6 17 Bc4 Re8 18 Rd1
(Leading to a forced loss. Relatively better here is 18 Kf1, though after 18...Bf5 Black has a strong attack. For example:
1) 19 Qd4? Nxc4 20 Nxc4 [20 Qxc4 Qxb2] 20...Qxd4 21 Qxd4 Bxb2;
2) 19 Nd4 Bd3+ 20 Bxd3 Qxd4 21 Rd1 Nxd5 22 Nc2 Qxb2;
3) 19 Ng3 Bd7 [threatening 20...
13 dxe5
(White underestimates the danger. Better here is 13 exd5 Nxd5 14 Nc4 [But not 14 dxe5 Ne3 15 Nc4 Nxc4 16 Bxc4 Nxe5 17 Qe2 Qb4+ 18 Kd1 0-0 with a winning attack] 14...Qxd4 15 Qxd4 exd4 16 O-O-O 17 Nxd4 N7f6, though Black's advantage is beyond doubt.)
13...Nxe5 14 Bb5+ Kf8!
(Considerably stronger than 14...Bd7; the bishop c8 proves useful for the attack.)
15 exd5 Kg7
(The Black king is totally safe, whereas over White's hang threats.
Bad now is 16 O-O-O because of 16...Bf5.)
16 Ne2 a6 17 Bc4 Re8
18 Rd1
(Leading to a forced loss. Relatively better here is 18 Kf1, though after 18...Bf5 Black has a strong attack. For example:
1) 19 Qd4? Nxc4 20 Nxc4 [20 Qxc4 Qxb2] 20...Qxd4 21 Nxd4 Bd3+;
2) 19 Nd4 Bd3+ 20 Bxd3 Qxd4 21 Rd1 Nxd5 22 Nc2 Qxb2;
3) 19 Ng3 Bd7 [threatening 20...

Nxf6 2 Bg5 Ne4 3

the improvement prepared
White can now drive the
the e4 square without
the move ...g5.)

Bd6! Black gives the
the chance to capture
ice, after which White's
experiment is fully just-
fer the simple 3...d5 4
5 Ngf3 e6, one cannot
an advantage for White.
3...c5 because of 4 f3
e5 [But not 5 d5, since
4 c4 Nh5! gives Black ex-
play]. After 5...Qa5+
6 Bd6] 6 Nc3 Qxc5 7 e4
2 White stands better.)
Bf6 5 e4 g6 6 Qd2
7 Bh6?
Go idea - to exchange the
shop before its develop-
g7. As a result of this
of a piece which has
moves against another
not made even one,
s behind in development
the black squares.)
Bxb6 8 Qxh6 c5
the going over to active
ks.)
Qg6 10 Qd2 cxd4
11 e5 12 Na3
the bad move. After 12 d5
had have managed to com-
his development and would
ly a little worse. The
12 Nc3 exd4 13 Na4
0-0 15 Nc3 d5! would
a better course than
)
15!
19 Kf1
(Or 19 f4 Bxg2 20 fxg5 Rxe5 21
Rf1 Bxf1 22 Kxf1 Rf5+ 23 Kg2 Re2+
24 Kh3 [24 Kh1 Qd6] 24...Qd6 25
Rh1 Qd7+ 26 Kg3 Ne4+.)
19...Nxf3 20 Qf4
(The principal variation is ob-
tained on 20 Qc3. After this
would follow 20...Re3 21 Bd3 [not
possible is 21 Rd3 because of
21...Bxg2+ 22 Kxg2 Rxe2+ with
mate] 21...Rc8 22 Nc4 Rx4! 23
Qxc4 Ng4, and Black wins. For
example: 24 gxh3 Rxe2 with un-
avoidable mate or 24 Nd4 Rcl+ 25
Rxe1 Nd2+ 26 Ke2 Nxc4 and Black
wins.)
20...Ng4 21 Qxf3 Ne3+ 22 Ke1 Bxg2
(White's game is hopeless.)
23 Qf2 Bxh1 24 Rd3
Qb4+ 25 Rd2 Rac8 26
Bb3 Bxd5 27 Bxd5 Nxd5
28 Qd4+ Qxd4 29 Rxd4
Nf6 White resigns.
25 French Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Rudakovksy
(14th USSR Championship, Moscow 1945)
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nc6
(The idea of this move is, by refraining from the usual advance of the c-pawn, to create pressure on the e5 square. After forcing the advance e5, Black wants to undermine White's centre with the move ...f6, and then play ...e5, freeing his game. However, on correct play by White, this plan comes up against insurmountable difficulties.)
4 Ngf3
(On 4 c3, Black frees himself with the move 4...e5. For example 5 exd5 Qxd5 6 Nf3 exd4! [But not 6...Bg4? 7 Bc4 Bxf3 8 Qb3! Na5 9 Qa4+ Qd7 10 Bxf7+! Keres-Botvinnik, 22nd USSR Championship] 7 Bc4 Qh5 8 0-0 Nf6 [But not 8...dxc3 9 Ne4 with a strong attack] 9 Rel+ Be7 10 cxd4 0-0 with equal chances for both sides.)
4...Nf6 5 e5 Nd7 6 c3
(After this move, White, on correct play by Black, cannot count on obtaining an advantage. There are two good continuations for White in the present position. The first - this is Botvinnik's continuation - is 6 Nb3. On 6...f6, White replies 7 Bb5, neutralising the pressure on the e5 square; after 7...fxe5 8 dxe5 there arises the unpleasant threat of 9 Nbd4.
The second - is Simagin's continuation: 6 Be2 f6 7 exf6 Qxf6 8 Nf1! After 8...e5 9 Ne3 Black gets into a very difficult position, since the game is opened but his pieces are insufficiently developed. If, however, 8...Bd6, then 9 Ne3 0-0 10 0-0 and White has strong pressure in the centre.)
6...f6 7 Nh4
(The idea of this move is, by threatening a check on h5, to free the way for the f-pawn and, by supporting the e5 pawn by the move f4, to create a strong centre. But unfortunately the whole of this plan runs into a tactical refutation.)
7...Qe7
(The right reply. On 7...g6 would have followed 8 Qg4, and if 8...fxe5 then 9 Nxe6! Nf6 [9...hxg6? 10 Qxg6+ Ke7 11 Ne4 and wins] 10 Qh4 to White's advantage; if 8...Qe7, then 8 f4.)
8 Bd3 Qf7?

(After this timid move, Black obtains a cramped position without any counter-chances. Meanwhile, with the bold sacrifice of the exchange 8...fxe5! 9 Qh5+ Qf7 10 Bg6 hxg6 11 Qxh8 e4, Black could set the opponent very difficult problems. This sacrifice was later made in the game Rovner-Tolush, from the Leningrad Championship 1946. The game ended in a victory for Black, who gradually developed a strong attack on White's castle position.)
9 f4 Be7 10 0-0 f5 11 Ndf3 Nf8 12 Ng5! Bxg5 13 fxg5 Ng6 14 Nf3 Bd7 15 b4?
(Correct was 15 b3 and, in view of the threat of c4, Black must cast on the king's side. In the event of 15...0-0-0, the storming of the a and b-pawns is decisive. After 15...0-0, White once again for all would restrain Black by transferring the knight via d3 to f4, playing h4-h5, and placing his bishops on f3 and a3. Then would follow the decisive break c4.)
15...a6 16 a4 0-0 17 h4 Nge7 18 Ne1 Nd8 19 Be2 Qe8 20 Nd3 b6 21 Bh5! g6 22 Bf3 Nb7 23 Nf4 b5!
(The consequences of 15 b4 have a telling effect; Black radicalises the a-file and so he locks the queen's flank and places all his hopes on the opening of the h-file.)
24 a5 c6?
(Not only a loss of time, which could prove fatal, but also weakening the d6 and b6 squares.)
25 Kf2 Kg7 26 Rh1 Rh7 27 Be3 Qg8 28 Qd2?
(White should occupy the h-file.)
7 exf6 Qxf6 8 e5 Ne3 Black
into a position which is opened but insufficiently
never, 8...Bd6, 0-0-0 and White

9 f4 Be7 10 0-0 f5 11
Ndf3 Nf8 12 Ng5! Bxg5
13 fxg5 Ng6 14 Nf3 Bd7
15 b4?
(Correct was 15 b3 and, in view
of the threat of c4, Black must
castle on the king's side. [In the
event of 15...0-0-0, the storm by
the a and b-pawns is decisive].
After 15...0-0, White once and
for all would restrain Black by
transferring the knight via d3 to
f4, playing h4-h5, and placing
his bishops on f3 and a3. Then
would follow the decisive break
c4.)
15...a6 16 a4 0-0 17
h4 Nge7 18 Ne1 Nd8 19
Be2 Qe8 20 Nd3 b6 21
Bh5! g6 22 Bf3 Nb7 23
Nf4 b5!
(The consequences of 15 b4 have a
telling effect; Black radically
prevents the break c4. White
cannot extract anything out of
the a-file and so he locks the
queen's flank and places all his
hopes on the opening of the
h-file.)
24 a5 c6?
(Not only a loss of time, which
could prove fatal, but also weaken-
ing the d6 and b6 squares.)
25 Kf2 Kg7 26 Rh1 Rh8
27 Be3 Qg8 28 Qd2?
(White should occupy the h-file
at once with his heavy pieces.
For example: 28 Rh3 Kf7 29 Qh1
Qg7 30 Qh2 Raf8 31 Rh1 Nd8 32 h5,
and there is no defence against
hxg6, since the f7 square is
occupied by the king. White's
unconsidered move gives Black
some time.)
28...Kf7 29 Rh3 Qg7 30
Rahl Raf8 31 h5 Ke8 32
hxg6 hxg6 33 Rh6 Nd8?
(Finding himself so close to the
longed-for drawing harbour,
Black, with this hasty move,
plunges his ship into the storm
zone. The White queen needs
three moves to get on to the h-file.
He should exploit this fact to
take away his king a little:
33...Kd8 34 g3 Kc7 35 Kf1 Nd8 36
Qh2 Nf7 37 Rxh7 38 Qxh7 Rd8,
and White has no possibility of
improving his position.)
34 Bh5!

(Immediately exploiting the
tactical chance which has been
presented. If 34...gxh5? then 35
Nh5 followed by 36 Nh6+ and
wins. To defend the g6 square,
Black is forced to exchange on
h6.)
34...Rxh6 35 gxh6 Qh7
36 Bf3 g5 37 Bh5+
(Less clear is 37 Nh5 f4 38 Nf6+ Rxh6.)

37...Nf7 38 Nh3 f4 39 Bxf4!

(Now, after 39...gxf4 40 Ng5 Qf5 41 Nxf7 Rxf7 42 Bxf7+ Qxf7 43 h7, White wins easily. Black finds the best reply.)

39...Kd8! 40 Bxf7?! (This tempting move is an entry into a variation which both opponents estimated in their favour, and namely: 40...Qxf7 41 Nxf5 Qxf4+ 42 Qxf4 Rxf4+ 43 Ke3 Rf8 44 h7 Ng6 45 h8(Q) Nhx8 46 Rxf8 Rxf8 47 Nh7+ Ke7 48 Nhx8 Be8. Black thought that he would win the knight h8. White, however, calculated a little further and ascertained that after 49 Ke7 Nf7 50 Kg5 Kg7 51 g4 Kh8 52 g5 h7 he would win, despite being a piece down! Carried away with this beautiful win, White did not foresee the opponent's clever move, forcing the transfer of the struggle into a protracted difficult ending. Objectively stronger therefore was 40 Be3. After 40...Nxe5+ 41 Kg1 Nc4 42 Qc1 Nxe3 43 Qxe3 Qxf6 44 Nxf6 Qf6 45 Rh3 White would win without particular difficulty.)

40...Qxf7 41 Nxf5 Qxf4+ 42 Qxf4 Rxf4+ 43 Ke3 (White reckoned on the following Black replies:
1) 43...Rh4 44 Nh7+ Kc7 45 Rxf4 Nf5+ 46 Kf4 Nhx4 47 Kg5 and the h-pawn goes on to queen;
2) 43...Rg4 44 Nh7+ Ke8 45 Nd6+ Kf8 46 h7 Ng6 47 h8(Q)+ Nhx8 48 Rxh8+ Ke7 49 Kf3 and wins.

(However, there followed:)

43...Ng6! 44 h7 Rg4! 45 h8(Q)+ Nhx8 46 Rxf8+ Kc7

(Thanks to the clever transposition of moves, Black has avoided worse. Unclear now is 47 Rg8, because of 47...Rg3+ 48 Kf2 Rxc3 49 Nh7+ Kf7! 50 dxc5 Rc4 51 g4 Rxb4 and the b-pawn is very dangerous. Therefore White gives up the g-pawn and the game passes on to a new phase.)

47 Nh7+ Kf6 48 Ne4!

(Now the decisive manoeuvre Nd3-c5 is threatened! After correctly assessing the situation Black sacrifices two pawns, in order to liberate his bishop.)

48...Rg3+ 49 Kd2 c5 50 dxc5 d4 51 cxd4 Bc6 52 Rh7+ Kb8 53 Rh2 Rb8 54 Ne5+ Kd7 55 Rh2 (This does not achieve its aim, but also on other replies, White, by Re2-e3, occupies the third rank, places his king on c3 and, after transferring the knight to an active position, decides the game with the breakthrough d5.)

54 Nd3 Be4 55 Rh8+ (This is why it was necessary to check on the 52nd move.)

55...Kc7 56 Nf4 Kb7 57 Rh6 Rxb4 58 Rxe6

58 Nxe6 won more simply: example: 58...Bd5 59 c6+

58...Rxd4+ 59 Ke5

(Also here, simpler was Bxc6 61 Rxd6+ Kc7 62 Ne6+ Nd8+.)

60...Be6

(Black has obtained court ...Re4 is threatened, White sacrifices the e-pawn in order to exchange rooks.)

61 f6+ Kc7 62 e7 63 Ke4 Kf7

(If 63...Rxf4, then 64 Rg1+ 65 Rxf4 Ke8 66 a6.)

64 Rxa6+ Kd7 65 Kxe7

66 Kc3 Kd6 67 Kb4

68 Ne6+ Kb7 69 Nd4 70 Rxb5 Ka7 71 Rb4

(Making the win difficult Bf1+ 72 Ke5 Ka6 73 Nd3 would conclude the struggle at once.)

71...Kb7 72 Nd5+ (Prolonging somewhat, it course not saving the game.)

72...Kc5 73 Nc3 Ke4 74 Bd3 75 h4 Rc7 76 Rxb5

77 Kb6 Bb7 78 Kd7 Kh5

79 Kb5 a1(Q)

80 a5 a2(Q) 81 Nd3

Ke6 Bb3+ 83 Ng5 etc.)
Rh6 Rx b4 58 Rxe6
(58 Nxe6 won more simply. For example: 58...Bd5 59 c6+! etc.)
58...Rx d4+ 59 Ke3 Ra4
60 Rxa6
(Also here, simpler was 60 c6+ Bxc6 61 Rd6+ Kc7 62 Ne6+ Kb7 63 Nd8+.)
60...Bc6
(Black has obtained counterplay [...Re4 is threatened], and so White sacrifices the e-pawn in order to exchange rooks.)
61 e6+ Kc7 62 e7! Re4+
63 Kd3 Rxe7
(If 63...Rx e4, then 64 Rxc6+ Kd7 65 Rc7+ Ke8 66 a6.)
64 Ra7+ Kd8 65 Rxe7
Kxe7

66 Kc3 Kd7 67 Kb4 Kc7
68 Ne6+ Kb8 69 Nd4 Bg2
70 Kxb5 Ka7 71 Nc6+
(Making the win difficult. 71 c6 Bh1+ 72 Kc5 Ka6 73 Nb3 would conclude the struggle at once.)
71...Kb7 72 Nd8+ Kc7
(Prolonging somewhat, but of course not saving the game, was 72...Ka7. For example: 73 c6 Bh1+
74 Kc5 Ka6 75 c7 Bh3 76 Nc6 Bc8 77 Kd6 Bb7 78 Kd7 Ke5 79 Ne5! Kxa5 80 Nc4+ Kb4 81 Nd6 Bg2 82 Ke6 Bh3+ 83 Nf5 etc.)

73 Ne6+ Kb7 74 a6+ Ka7
75 Ka5 Bf1 76 Nc7
Black resigns.

26 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Smyslov
(14th USSR Championship, Moscow 1945)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3
Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0
Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 d6
8 c3 0-0 9 h3 Na5 10
Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12
Nbd2 Re8 13 Nf1 Bb7
(With the combination of 12...
Re8 and 13...Bb7, Black prevents the White knight occupying the e3 square, since now the e4 pawn is hanging, while the bishop e7 is defended in advance by the rook, in the event of the attack Nf5.)
14 d5
(By removing the pressure from the centre and locking the game, White can hardly achieve much. Worth considering is 14 Ng3 Bf8
15 Bd3, maintaining the tension.)
14...c4?
(A tactical mistake, leading to serious consequences. Necessary here was the prophylactic move 14...Bc8, freeing the b7 square for the knight a5. After this, Black could play 15...c4, setting up play on the queen's flank.)

diagram

15 b4!
(But now White begins play on the queen's flank with great effect.)
15...cxb3 16 axb3 Bc8
17 Bd2 Nb7 18 b4!
(Taking away the important c5 square from the knight d7; Black is not able to exploit the weakening of the c4 square.)

18...Nd7 19 Bd3 Qb8
(19...Nb6 is not possible because of 20 Rxa6 Rxa6 21 Bxb5 with the win of two pawns.)

20 c4
(This break would be even stronger if White were to prepare it with the move 20 Ne3. Black has no useful reply, since 20...Nb6, as before, is not possible because of 21 Rxa6. If, for example, 20...Bd8, then 21 c4 bxc4 22 Nxc4, and the White knight, instead of the passive position on f1, is actively engaged on c4. In reply to 22...a5, White need not now hurry with the capture, but simply pin the a-pawn with the move 23 Qa4!; the continuation 23...Rf8 24 Qc6 axb4 25 Rxa8 Qxa8 26 Nxd6 is unsatisfactory for Black; after 23...Nd6 24 Nxa5 Bxa5 25 Bd5! Rd8 26 Bc6 there is no doubt as to White's victory. Therefore, if White were to carry out the break c4 a move later, Black would not obtain the counterplay which he has in the game.)

20...bxc4 21 Bxc4 a5!
(The right decision. After the passive 21...Nd8, Black sooner or later would lose the a-pawn, without obtaining any counterchances at all. Now, however, he succeeds in unravelling his tangled pieces and creating pressure on the e4 pawn.)

22 bxa5
(22 Qa4 gives White nothing, since on this would follow 22...Rf8 with the threat of 23...Nb6.)

22...Nbc5 23 Qc2 Ba6 24 Reb1 Qc8 25 Rc1 Bxc4 26 Qxc4 Qa6
(This is the best move: after the exchange of queens, the e4 pawn and the b3 and d3 squares become vulnerable.)

27 Ne1 Reb8 28 Rab1!

(White gives up the e4 pawn, but preserves the a5 pawn, guaranteeing him an advantage in the endgame. The attempt to maintain the material balance by 28 Qxa6 Rxa6 29 Rc4 would lead, after 29...Nc8 30 Ra3 Nd5 31 Bb4 Bd8, to the loss of the a5 pawn and a quick draw.)

28...Rxbl 29 Qxa6 Rxa6

30 Rxb1 Bd8 31 Rb5
Nxe4 32 Bb4
(Despite Black's inventive play, the mistake on the 14th move proves irreparable; the pawn severely hampers Black and reduces him to a passive defence.)

32...Nc5 33 Ne3 Kf8 34 Nlc2 Bc7 35 Nc4 Ra8 36 Kf1 Ke8 37 Ba3
(Freeing the b4 square for the transfer of the knight to c6. If 37...Kd8, then 38 Nd4 Kc8 39 Nb6 with the threats of 40 Nxe5 and 40 Ne7+ Kd8 41 Nb5.)

37...Nd4 38 Nb4 Nc6 39 Na2
(Defending the c3 square and creating the threat 40 f3, forcing Black's knights to retreat.)

39...Na6 40 f3 Nc5 41 Nb4 Na4

(Here the knight is caught in a trap, but there is no good move for Black. If 41...Nd7, then 42 Nd3 Ke7 43 Nxe5; on 41...Kd7 would follow 42 Nxa6 Nxa6 43 Bb6 and, finally, after 41...Nb6 42 Nc6 Nxc6 43 dxc6 d5 44 Nb6 Black would also lose.)

42 Nxa6 Rxa6 43 Bb4
Kd8 44 Ke2 f5 45 Kd3
21 Bxc4 a5! (vision. After the 3, Black sooner or later has to move his a-pawn, giving any counterplay. Now, however, he is unravelling his position and creating a counterattack.)

After the 4, Elam, sooner or later, the a-Pawn, US any counter-..."

I frit... nothing, Irld... follow... ht... 2t ec2...1. (Despite Black's inventive play, the mistake on the 14th move proves irreparable; the pawn severely hampers Black and reduces him to a passive defence.)

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32...Nec5 33 Ne3 Kf8 34 Nlc2 Bc7 35 Nc4 Ra8 36 Kf1 Ke8 37 Ba3 (Freeing the b4 square for the transfer of the knight to c6. If 37...Kd8, then 38 Nb4 Kc8 39 Nc6 with threats of 40 Ndxe5 and 40 Ne7+ Kd8 41 Nf5.)

37...Ne4 38 Nb4 Ndc5 39 Na2 (Defending the c3 square and creating the threat of 40 f3, forcing Black's knights to retreat.)

39...Na6 40 f3 Nc5 41 Nb4 Na4

(Here the knight is caught in a trap, but there is no good move for Black. If 41...Nd7, then 42 Nd3 Ke7 43 Ndx6; on 41...Kd7 would follow 42 Nxa6 Nxa6 43 Rb6! and, finally, after 41...Nb8 42 Nc6 Nxc6 43 dxc6 d5 44 Nb6 Black would also lose.)

42 Nxa6 Rxa6 43 Bb4 Kd8 44 Ke2 f5 45 Kd3

(White king makes its way to b3.)

45...h5 46 Kc2 h4 47 Kb3 Ne5+ 48 Bxc5 dxc5 49 Rxc5 e4 (49...Rg6 does not help because of 50 Rb5 Rxb2 51 a6 Rg6 52 d6 Bxd6 53 a7.)

50 fxe4 fxe4 51 Kc3 Bh2 52 Rb5 Rg6 53 Kb4 (The g2 pawn has no significance here. The game is decided by the a5 and d5 pawns, supported by the king and rook.)

53...Rxg2 54 Rb7 Kc8 (If 54...Ra2, then 55 d6 Bxd6 56 Nxd6 Rxa5 57 Rxa7 Ra3 58 Ke5! and White wins.)

55 a6 Bg1+ (The struggle is prolonged somewhat by 55...Ra2 56 Nb6+ Kd8 57 a7 Bgl+ 58 Kxe4 Bxb6 59 Rb8+ Kd7 60 a8(Q) Rxa8 61 Rxa8. The endgame is won for White; if 61...Bd8, then 62 d6.)

56 Kxe4 Re2+ 57 Kd3 Rh2 (Also on 57...Ra2 would follow the same reply.)

58 Nd6+ Kd8 59 Nf7+ Ke8 60 d6 Black resigns.

27 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Goldberg
(14th USSR Championship, Moscow 1945)
1 e4 e5 2 Nd5 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 d6 5 c4
(The continuation of the Czech grandmaster Duras, introduced into contemporary practice by...
Keres; for several years it was considered the strongest retort to the improved Steinitz Defense.)

5...Bd7
(After this passive defensive move, White carries out d4 and obtains a good game. A telling blow for the move 5 c4 was a game of the 15th USSR Championship, Goldenov-Yudovich, in which Black continued 5...Bg4!, exploiting the weakening of the d4 square.

The continuation was 6 Nc3 Nf6 7 h3 Bxf3 8 Qxf3 Be7 9 d3 0-0 10 Be3 Nbd7 11 Nd5 Nc5 12 Bxc5 dxc5 13 Bxc6 bxc6 14 Nxe7+ Qxe7 and, despite the pawn structure, Black's position is preferable.)

6 Nc3 g6 7 d4 Bg7 8 Bg5
(A move dictated by the following considerations; White intends to lock up the game with the move d5, obtaining an advantage in space. 8 d5 at once is not good because of 8...Nd4; if, however, 8 Be3, then 8...exd4 9 Nxd4 Nge7 with an approximately equal game. Therefore White wants to first of all provoke an advance of the f-pawn. After 8...f6 9 Be3, the exchange 9...exd4 is already unfavourable for Black, since the bishop g7 is locked in and the e6 square weakened. Black has no better reply than 8...f6, since 8...Nge7 is bad because of 9 Nd5, while after 8...Nce7 9 dxe5 dxe5 10 Bxd7+ Qxd7 11 Qxd7+ Kxd7 12 0-0-0+ White has a clear advantage.)

8...f6 9 Be3 Nge7
(On 9...Nh6, 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 Bc5 is unpleasant.)

10 d5 Na5?
(This retreat of the knight, quite possible in the King's Indian Defence, here proves to be bad. After 10...Nb8 11 Bc2 0-0 12 b4 White has the better chances.)

11 Bxd7+ Qxd7 12 Nd2 c5?

(A second mistake, leading to a loss. It was necessary to play 12...b6, reconciling himself to the worse position.)

13 b4!
(A surprising tactical blow, not foreseen by Black.)

13...cxb4 14 Na4 0-0
(Black loses his head and gives up a clear piece. After 14...b5 15 Nbd6 Qb7 16 Nxa8 Qxa8 17 cxb5 axb5 18 Qb1 he is left the exchange down with the worse position. By 14...Nc8 15 Nb6 Nxb6 16 Bxb6 Nc6 Black could obtain two pawns for the knight, though also here, after 17 dxc6 bxc6 18 c5 d5 19 Qa4 a5 20 exd5 Qxd5 21 0-0!, there is no doubt about the outcome of the game.)

15 Nb6 Qc7 16 Qa4! Rad8 17 Qxa5 f5 18 f3 fxe4 19 fxe4 Black resigns.

6 Qxf5
(Capturing the pawn leads to a loss, but there is no satisfactory continuation: 6 f3 e6 7 Qd1 e5 8 Qh4+ g6 Nh5 9 g3 Nxe3 10 Bf2 Qxb2 12 hxg3 Qxa2 13 Qxd6 Be6 15 c4 Bxd6, and wins. Or 6 Nf3 e6 7 Qd1 Bxe5 8 Qb6 9 Qc4 d6 with an equal position.)

6...d5 7 Qh5+ g6 Nd4 9 Be5
28 Queen's Pawn Opening
White: Tolush
Black: Boleslavsky
(14th USSR Championship, Moscow 1945)
1 d4 Nf6 2Bg5 c5
(The simplest means of obtaining a good game. This was also played in the game, Bondarevsky-Panov, Moscow Championship 1944.)
3 dxc5 Ne4 4Bf4 Nc6
(Black waits with the capture of the c-pawn, not wanting to allow the White knight the c3 square.)
5 Qd5?
(This natural, at first sight, move irreparably compromises White's position.)
5...f5!
6 Qxf5
(Capturing the pawn leads to a loss, but there is hardly a satisfactory continuation, for example: 6 f3 e6 7 Qd1 e5! 8 Be3 Qh4+ 9 g3 Nxb3 10 Bf2 Qb4+ 11 c3 Qxb2 12 hxb2 Qxa1 13 Qc2 d6 14 cxd6 Be6 15 c4 Bxd6, and Black wins. Or 6 Nf3 e6 7 Qd1 Bxc5 8 e3 Qb6 9 Qc1 d6 with an overwhelming position.)
6...d5 7 Qh5+ g6 8 Qh4 Nd4 9 Be5
(If 9 Na3, then 9...Qf5 and the queen has no good retreat.)
9...Nxc2+ 10 Kd1 Nxa1
11 Bxh8 Qa5 12 Nc3 Nxc3+ 13 Bxc3 Qxa2
(White's king's flank is frozen and his king in danger. Black's advantage is so great that even Tolush's ingenious defence already cannot save him.)
14 e3 Qb1+ 15 Ke2

(Black finds a strong reply, destroying all hopes.)
15...d4!
(On 16 Bxd4 or 16 exd4, decisive is 16...Bd7, since the queen is cut off from the queen's flank. After the capture with the queen on d4, the d-file assumes decisive importance.)
16 Qxd4 Bd7
(Now, after 17 Nh3 0-0-0 18 Qb4, matters would be concluded by mate - 18...Qd+.)
17 Qb4 0-0-0 18 f4 Nc2
19 Qa5 Qc1 20 Bd4
(On 20 Bd2 would have followed 20...Bb5+ 21 Qxb5 Qxd2+ 22 Kf3 Qxe3+ 23 Kg4 h5+ with mate in a few moves; but also after 20 Bd4 the White king is forced to set out on a desperate journey, giving up pawns on the way.)

20...Nxd4+ 21 exd4 Qxb2+ 22 Kf3 Qxd4 23 Ne2 Bc6+ 24 Kg4 h5+ 25 Kh4 Qf6+ 26 Kg3 e5 White resigns.

29 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Fine
(Radio Match, USSR v USA, 1945)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 d6 5 c4
(With regard to the opening, see game 27, Boleslavsky-Goldberg.)
5...Bd7 6 Nc3 g6 7 d4 exd4
(The surrender of the centre is premature. Preferable is 7...Bg7.)
8 Nxd4 Bg7 9 Nxc6
(The usual continuation here is 9 Be3, but practice has shown that in this case it is difficult for White to count on obtaining an advantage.)

9...bxc6?
(A mistake, leading to serious consequences. Necessary was 9...Bxc6 10 Bxc6+ bxc6 11 Be3 Ne7. After 12 Bd4 White stands a little better, but the greatly simplified game eases Black's defence.)
10 0-0 Ne7
(On 10...c5 would follow 11 Nd5, and Black is forced to play 11...c6 or 11...h6, compromising his position.)
11 c5!
(A strong move, after which Black gets into a difficult position. If 11...dxc5, then 12 Be3; if 11...d5, then 12 exd5 cxd5 13 Nxd5 Nxd5 14 Qxd5 Bxa4 15 Qe4+ to White's advantage.)

![Chess Board](image)

(Black's position is clearly unsatisfactory. White only needs to find the right plan to realize his advantage.)

20 Bd4!
(White could win a pawn by Qf3, but Black would obtain counterchances and confuse the game. With the move 20 Bd4, White exchanges Black's only active piece - the bishop g7, after which Black is defenceless against the combinational attacks in the centre and on both flanks. The weakness of the king's flank forces Black to go in for an exchange of queens but the endgame is very bad for him because of the broken pawn structure.)

20...Bxd4 21 Qxd4 Qe5 22 Bb3+ Kh8 23 Qxf4 Rxf6 24 Re7 Rc8 25 Rxe1
(In order to transfer the rook to the fifth rank. Good here was also 25 Na4 Ne4 26 Be6 Rb8 Bxf5.)

25...Bg6 26 Rle6 Rxe6
(If 26...Rff8, then 27 Re5 a5 Black does not save the pawns of the queen's flank.)

27 Bxe6 Re8 28 Rxe8 Bxe8 29 Na4
forced to play h6, compromising after which Black's position is clearly unsatisfactory. White only needs to find the right plan to realise his advantage.)

20 Bd4!
(White could win a pawn by 20 Qf3, but Black would obtain counterchances and confuse the game. With the move 20 Bd4, White exchanges Black's only active piece - the bishop g7, after which Black is defenceless against the combinational attack in the centre and on both flanks. The weakness of the king's flank forces Black to go in for an exchange of queens but the endgame is very bad for him because of the broken pawn structure.)

20...Bxd4 21 Qxd4 Qf6
22 Bb3+ Kh8 23 Qxg6+ Rxf6 24 Re7 Rc8 25 Rxe1
(In order to transfer the rook to the fifth rank. Good here was also 25 Na4 Ne4 26 Be6 Rb8 27 Bxf5.)

25 Bg6 26 Re5 Rxe6
(If 26...Rff8, then 27 Re5 and Black does not save the pawns on the queen's flank.)

27 Bxe6 Re8 28 Rxe8+ Bxe8 29 Na4

(Black has avoided material loss, but the endgame is completely lost for him.)

29...Kg7 30 Nc5 a5 31 Kf2 Bf7 32 Bxf7 Kxf7 33 b3 h5 34 g3 Ke7 35 Ke3 Nb5
(Black makes a desperate attempt, reckoning that passive defence is hopeless. White places his king on d4, pawn on a4, and wins easily, even if thanks to zug-zwang.)

36 Nb7 c5 37 Nxa5 Kd6 38 Nc4+ Kd5 39 Kd3 Nd6
(Suicide in a hopeless position.)

40 Nxd6 cxd6 41 a3
Black resigns.
(On 41...Kc6, follows 42 b4.)

30 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Ilivitsky
(Trades Unions Team Championship 1945)

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 exd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 6 f3
(This variation, worked out by the Soviet theoretician Rauzer, is one of the strongest retorts to the Dragon system in the Sicilian Defence.)

6...Bg7 7 Be3 0-0 8 Qd2 Nc6 9 0-0-0 Nxd4 10 Bxd4 Qa5
(Black chooses a system of defence, first employed by Lissitsin in the Trades Unions Championship 1937. In reply to the obvious move, 11 Kb1, Black plays 11...e5 12 Be3 Be6; the threat of attack forces White
sooner or later to play Nd5, after which would follow a series of exchanges and the position assumes a drawish character. White therefore refrains from the move 11 Kbl and employs a new continuation.

11 Bc4 Be6 12 Bd3 Bxb3 (It is best for Black to capture at once on b3, while White is forced to take with the c-pawn. In the game, Aronin-Lisitsin, USSR Team Championship 1954, Black continued 12...Rc8 and after 13 Kbl Rab8 14 Rhel Bxb3 15 axb3 b5 16 e5 dxe5 17 Rxe5 e6 18 Qe2 got into a difficult position.)

13 cxb3 Rfd8 (By worsening his pawn formation, White has safeguarded the position of his king and intends to begin a pawn storm on the king's flank. To counter this, Black tries to break through in the centre, which, however, in view of White's pressure on the d5 square, is not so easy to do.)

14 Kbl Rd7 15 g4 Rad8

16 g5? (With this hasty move, White kills his own attack. On 16 h4 would follow 16...e5 17 Be3 d5 18 Nxd5 Qxd2 19 Rxd2 Nxd5 20 exd5 Rxd5 21 Rxd5 Rxd5 22 Bxa7 e4 23 fxe4 Rd2 24 Kc1 Rxb2 25 Rd1 h5 26 g5 Rxa2 27 Rd8+ Kh7 28 hxg6+ Kxg6 with a probable draw. He should continue 16 Qe2, preventing the break in the centre [16...e5 17 Be3 d5 18 g5]. The Czechoslovakian grandmaster Pachman recommends in reply to 16 Qe2 - 16...Bh8, so that after the capture of the knight on f6 the Black bishop will not be under attack. Pachman's move 16...Bh8 reckons on the continuation 17 h4 e5 18 Be3 d5 19 g5 d4, but instead of 19 g5? White would continue 19 Bg5! After 19...dxe4 20 Rxd7 Rxd7 21 Bxf6 Bxf6 22 fxe4 White installs his knight on d5 and obtains the advantage.)

16...Nh5 17 Bxg7 Kxg7 18 f4 e6 19 Qf2 Qc5 20 Qf3 b5? (This move shows that Black assesses the position incorrectly. He should play at once 20...d5, not fearing the advance of the White f-pawn. After 20...d5 21 exd5 exd5 22 f5 d4 23 f6+ Kg8 24 Ne4 Qd5 Black's advantage is obvious. After the move in the game, White succeeds in creating some complications.)

21 Rcl Qb6 22 f5 d5 23 f6+ Kg8? (With his 20th move Black let slip his advantage, but now he even obtains the worse game. He should retreat the king to h8, since now in several variations the White knight gets to e7 with check, which has important significance. On 23...Kh8, White would have to continue 24 exd5 Nxd5 25 Ne2 d4 26 Qd3 Re8 27 Rh1, with approximately equal chances.)

24 exd5 exd5 25 Rhel

(If, at the present moment, the Black king were standing on h8, then Black could favourably continue 25...d4 26 Nd5 Qd6 27 Ne5 Qf4 etc. With the position of the king on g8, 25...d4 is bad because of 26 Nd5 Qd6 27 Ne7+ Kh8 [27...Kf8 28 Nc6 Rc8 29 Nxa7!] 28 Nc6 Rf8 29 Ne5 Rc7 [29...Rd8 30 Qb7 Kg8 31 Ng4! Rd7 32 Nh6+ Kh8 33 Re7! Re8 34 Nxf7+ Kg8 35 Nxd6 and White wins] 30 Rxc7 Qxc7 31 Qd5 Kg8 [31...h6 32 Rcl] 32 Nd7 Nf4 [If the rook moves away, then 33 Qxf7+! Kxf7 34 Re7+ Kg8 35 Rh8+ and mate in two moves] 33 Nxf8 Nxd5 34 Re8 and White wins.)

25...h6 26 Re5 d4 27 Nd5 Qd6 28 Rcl Kh7 (Here Black could achieve a draw by the queen sacrifice 28...hxg5 29 Rxd5 Qxd5! 30 Rxd5 [Nothing is offered by 30 Qxh5 Qd6, and the sacrifice on g6 leads only to...)
Rxd2 Nxd5 20 exd5
Rxd5 22 Bxa7 e4 23
Rxb2 25 Rd1 h5 26
Rd8+ Kh7 28 hxg6+
probable draw.
Continue 16 Qe2, pre-
break in the centre
3e3 d5 18 g5]. The
in grandmaster Pach-
sh in reply to 16 Qe2
so that after the
the knight on f6 the
will not be under
man's move 16...Bh8
continuation 17 h4
d5 19 g5 d4, but
9 g5? White would
5! After 19...dxe4
2 1 Bxf6 Bxf6 22 fxe4
his knight on d5
the advantag-
lul, Belorussia
55].
17 Bxg7 Kxg7
19 Qf2 Qc5 20
shows that Black
position incorrect-
play at once 20...
the advance of
pawns. After 20...d5
22 f5 d4 23 f6+ Kg8
Black's advantage is
the move in the
succeeds in creat-
6 22 f5 d5 23
4th move Black let
vantage, but now he
the worse game.
ment the king to h8,
variations
ght gets to e7 with
check, which has important sig-
ificance. On 23...Kh8, White
would have to continue 24 exd5
exd5 25 Ne2 d4 26 Qd3 Re8 27
Rh6l, with approximately equal
chances.)
24 exd5 exd5 25 Rhel

(If, at the present moment, the
Black king were standing on h8,
then Black could favourably con-
tinue 25...d4 26 Nd5 Qd6 27 Ne7
Qf4 etc.
With the position of the king on
g8, 25...d4 is bad because of 26
Nd5 Qd6 27 Ne7+ Kh8 [27...Kf8 28
Nc6 Rc8 29 Nxa7l] 28 Nc6 Rf8 29
Ne5 Rc7 [29...Rd8 30 Qb7 Kg8 31
Ng4! Rd7 32 Nh6+ Kh8 33 Re7l Rxh7
34 Nxf7+ Kg8 35 Nxd6 and White
wins] 30 Rxh7 Qxh7 31 Qd5 Kg8
[31...h6 32 Rcl] 32 Nxd7 Nf4 [If
the rook moves away, then 33
Qxf7+! Kxf7 34 Re7+ Kg8 35 f7+
Kh8 36 Re8+ and mate in two
moves] 33 Nxf8 Nxd5 34 Re8 and
White wins.)
25...h6 26 Re5 d4 27
Nd5 Qd6 28 Rce1 Kh7
(Here Black could achieve a draw
by the queen sacrifice 28...hxq5
29 Rxe5 Qxd5! 30 Rxd5 [Nothing is
offered by 30 Qxh5 Qd6, and the
sacrifice on g6 leads only to a
draw] 30...Rxd5 31 Re8+ Rxe8 32
Qxd5 a6 33 Qxd4 Re6 34 a4 bxa4 35
bxa4 Nxf6 - in the position
reached, White cannot win, since
Black will give up the knight for
a pawn on the queen's flank and
manoeuvre the rook along the f5
and h5 squares. The exchange of
the h-pawn for the g-pawn also
does not bring White nearer to
his goal, since the Black pawn
will move along the e6 and g6
squares.)
29 gxh6
(In view of the threat 29...Qe6,
this move is forced.)
29...Qxd5?
(Now the sacrifice of the queen
does not give a draw. Black had
at his disposal the interesting
continuation 29...d3! In reply,
the sacrifice of the exchange on
h5 does not work: 30 Rxf5 d2! 31
Rgl gxh5 32 Qg2 d1(Q)+ 33 Rxd1
Rg8, and Black defends himself.
On 29...d3, White should continue
30 Qxd3 Nxf6 31 Qc3!, and bad is
31...Nxd5? because of 32 Rxd5 Qf8
33 Rxh7 Rxe5 34 Re8! and White
wins; admittedly, after 31...b4!
32 Nxb4 Rc7 33 Qf3 a5 34 Nc2, a
win for White is hardly possi-
ble.)
30 Rxd5 Rxd5 31 Re7
Rf5
(There is nothing better for
Black. If 31...R5d7, then 32 Qc6;
if 31...R8d7, then 32 Rxf7+ Rxf7
33 Qxd5 Rxf6 34 Qxb5 Kxh6 35 Qd5
Rf4 36 a4 and White must win; on
31...Kg8 would follow 32 h7+ and,
finally, if 31...d3 32 Rxf7+ Kg8,
then 33 Re7 d2 34 f7+ Kf8 35 Re8+
and White wins.)

71
32 Rxf7+ Kxh6
(On 32...Kg8, 33 Qb7 decides.)
33 Qd3 Nxf6

(Greater practical chances were offered by 33...Nf4. In this case, White needs to play extremely accurately: 34 Qe4 d3 35 Rh7+ [35 Qe7 Nxd5!] 35...Kxh7 35...Kg5 36 f7] 36 Qe7+ Kh6 37 Qxd8 Rd5 38 Qh8+ Kg5 39 Kc1 d2+ 40 Kd1 Ng2 41 Rh4+ Kf5 [41...Kf4 42 Qh6+ Ke4 43 f7] 42 Qe8 Kxf6 43 Qe4 and White wins. If, on the 37th move, Black, instead of 37...Rd5, plays 37...Nd5, then would follow 38 Kc1 Nxf6 39 Qxd3 and White must win, since Black loses the a-pawn. After the move in the game, the win is considerably simpler.)
34 Rxa7 Nd5
(An interesting trap, into which, however, White does not fall. If 35 Qxd4, then 35...Rf1+ 36 Kc2 Nb4+ 37 Qxb4 Rf2+ with perpetual check.)
35 Ra6 Ne3 36 a4 b4 37 Ka2
(Black's position is absolutely hopeless. Finding himself in time-trouble, Black overlooks a mate in one move.)
37...Rf1? 38 Qxg6 mate

31 King's Indian Defence
White: Lundin
Black: Boleslavsky
(International tournament in Groningen 1946)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 d6 3 Nf3 g6 4 Nc3 Bg7 5 e4 0-0 6 Be2 Nbd7
(The best antidote to the variation played by White, at the present time, is reckoned to be 6...e5 7 0-0 Nc6. This forces White either to agree to a drawing simplification after 8 Be3 Re8 9 d5 Nd4, or, with the move 8 d5, to go in for a double-edged variation in which Black will have good chances for an attack. However, when this game was played, the whole variation with the move 7...Nc6 was still not known. However, also on the continuation chosen by Black, White can hardly count on an advantage.)
7 0-0 e5 8 Re1 Re8 9 Bf1 exd4
(If Black advances the c-pawn before the exchange in the centre then White could reply with advantage 10 d5, as in the game Taimanov-Geller, Zurich 1953.)
10 Nxd4 c6 11 Bg5
(A good move, having the aim of preventing the advance ...d5, which is quite possible after 11 Rb1 [11 Rb1 d5 12 cxd5 cxd5 13 exd5 Rxel 14 Qxel Nb6 15 Bg5 Nbd5 16 Rd1 Bg4 17 f3 Nxc3 18 bxc3 Bd7 with a good game for Black].)
11...h6
(Not good here is 11...Qb6 12 Nb3 a5 because of 13 Qxd6 a4 14 Qe5+ Kf7 15 Bd4)
12 Bf4
(The correct retreat. After Bh4 Qb6 13 Nb3, Black could 13...a5, since White does not have the move 14 Be3.)
12...Qb6
c4 d6 3 Nf3 g7 5 e4 0-0

due to the variation, White, at the time reckoned to be best. This forces a draw
after 8 Be3, with the move 8...

A double-edged move; Black will not be able to play for an attack.

the continuation is still not known.

White can hardly maintain advantage.)

8 Rel Re8 9 a4 threatens the c-pawn in the centre of the board, reply with advancing pawns in the game Zurich 1953.)

11 Bg5

keeping the aim of advance ...d5, possible after 11

12 cxd5 cxd5 13 Qxe1 Nb6 15 Bg5

17 f3 Nxc3 18 Qxe5 resigns

a5 because of 13 Qxd6 a4 14 Be3!)

12 Bf4

(The correct retreat. After 12 Bh4 Qb6 13 Nb3, Black could play 13...
a5, since White does not have the move 14 Be3.)

12...Qb6

(A risky thrust. Better was 12...

Ne5 and then ...Nfd7-c5 with a complicated game.)

13 Na4

(After this weak reply, the move 12...

Qb6 justifies itself. Correct was 13 Nb3!, and Black ought to reply 13...

Nc5, but after 14 Nxc5 dxc5 15 Qc2 White's position is clearly better.)

13...Qa5 14 b4?

(Tempted by the trap 14...

Qxb4 15 Bd2 Qa3 16 Re3, White makes a move which seriously weakens his position. Now the advantage passes to Black.)

14...Qd8 15 Nc3

(On 15 f3, very strong would be 15...

...d5.)

15...Ne5 16 f3

(This "natural" move, at first sight consolidating the position, finally is the undoing of White. After 16 Qd2 White could still hold on.)

16...a5 17 b5 Nh5

18 Bxe5

(A sad necessity. On 18 Be3 would follow 18...c5; if the knight retreats to c2 or b3, then 19...

Nxf3+, and if to e2, then 19...

Nxc4.)

18...Bxe5 19 Qd2

(Now a simple knight sacrifice decides, but there was no hope. For example, 19 g3 Qf6 20 Nce2
c5; or 19 Nd2 Qb6+ 20 Kh1 Qf2 followed by 21...

Qh4.)

19...Qh4 20 g3 Nxe3 21 hxe3 Qxg3+ 22 Bh2

(Or 22 Kh1 Bxd4 23 Qxd4 Re5.)

22...Bh3 White resigns

32 King's Indian Defence

White: Steiner
Black: Boleslavsky

(International tournament in Groningen 1946)

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3

Bg7 4 g3 0-0 5 Bg2 d6

6 Nf3 Nbd7 7 0-0 e5 8 e4 c6 9 h3 Re8 10 Re1

(10 Be3 is more accurate. On the order of moves chosen by Black, White could manage without the move Rel.)
10...exd4 11 Nxd4 Nc5
12 Ne2
(This transfer of the knight is unsuccessful, more accurate is the usual 12 Qc2. By moving the knight away from the centre, White hands over the initiative to the opponent.)
12...Be6 13 Ne3 Qd7 14 Kh2 Qc7 15 Qc2 h5 16 h4
(It would be better to prevent the threat 16...h4 by moving the king away from the h2 square. By weakening the g4 square, White deprives himself of the possibility of active operations on the king's flank.)
16...a5 17 f4?
(This move is a flagrant contradiction of the defensive manoeuvre of the knight d4-c2-e3 and White's previous move 16 h4. It weakens the e4 pawn and the g4 square and creates insurmountable difficulties for White in defence. After the careful 17 f3, there would not be any vulnerable weakness in White's camp and it would not be simple for Black to improve his position.)
17...Bd7 18 Bd2 Re7 19 Kh1 Rae8 20 Nf1 Ng4 21 Nd1 f5
(Black's position is so strong that, even by giving up the exchange, he must win, but he finds a little combination which allows him, without worsening his position, to maintain material equilibrium.)
24...Rxel! 25 Bxc7 R8e2 26 Qxe2
(He has to give back the queen. After 26 Qc1 Bd4 [threatening 27...Rxel+] 27 Qf4 Ne6 28 Qf3 Nxc7 29 Nc3 Rxc2! White would lose even more quickly.)
26...Rxe2 27 Bxa5
(The position is simplified, but Black has, as before, an overwhelming advantage.)

27...Nd3 28 Rb1 f4!
(Stronger than capturing the pawn. Black introduces the bishop into battle.)
29 gxf4 Nxf4 30 Bf5
(As so, on 31 Bxe2, to mate in three moves.)
31 Ra1
(White does not save the game with this move, but deprives his opponent of the possibility of effectively concluding the attack. On 31 Rcl was planned)
31...Ne5! 32 Bxe2 Nxe2 33 fxe2 Be4+ 34 Kh2 Ng4+ 35 Kh3 Ngl+ Kg3 Be5 - mate.)

31...Bxb2
(Now the mating idea does not work, and Black begins to congeal himself with prosaically capturing material.)
32 Nxb2 Rxb2 33 Bc6
Nd3 34 Kg1 Nge5 35 Be4
Nxc4 36 Bxd3 Bxd3 37
Bc3 Rc2 38 Bf6 Be4 39
Re1 Rg2+ 40 Kh1 Re2 White resigns.

33 Sicilian Defence
White: Stoltz
Black: Boleslavsky
27...Nd3 28 Rbl f4!
(Stronger than capturing the b2 pawn. Black introduces the bishop d7 into battle.)
29 gxf4 Nxf4 30 Bf3 Bf5
(As so, on 31 Bxe2, to mate in three moves.)
31 Ra1
(White does not save the game with this move, but deprives the opponent of the possibility of effectively concluding the attack. On 31 Rcl was planned 31...Ne5! 32 Bxe2 Nxe2 33 Rc3 Be4+ 34 Kh2 Ng4+ 35 Kh3 Ngl+ 36 Kg3 Be5 - mate.)

31...Bxb2
(Now the mating idea does not work, and Black begins to concern himself with prosaically capturing material.)
32 Nxb2 Rxb2 33 Bd2 Nd3 34 Kg1 Nge5 35 Be2 Nxc4 36 Bxd3 Bxd3 37 Bc3 Rc2 38 Bf6 Be4 39 Re1 Rg2+ 40 Kh1 Re2+ White resigns.

(Sicilian Defence
White: Stoltz
Black: Boleslavsky

(International tournament in Groningen 1946)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Be2 e5 7 Nf3
(7 Nb3 is more often played, retaining the possibility of advancing the f-pawn.)
7...h6
(On the retreat of the knight to f3, Black should not allow the move 8 Bg5, which increases the pressure on the d5 square.)
8 Bc4 Be7 9 Qe2 0-0 10 h3 Be6
(Black indirectly prevents 11 g4, on which would follow 11...Nd4 12 Nxd4 exd4 13 Nd5 Nxd5 14 exd5 Bxd5 15 Bxd5 Qa5+.)
11 0-0 Rc8 12 Bb3

25 Bxc7
Bxc7 the queen.
Bd4 [threatening Qf4 Ne6 28 Qf3 Bg2! White would quickly.)
27 Bxa5 is simplified, but before, an over-

33 Sicilian Defence
White: Stoltz
Black: Boleslavsky

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15 Bxh4 Qxc4 16 Qxc4 Rxc4 17 Nxd6 Bxd6 18 Rxd6 Rxc2 19 Nxe5 Re8 20 Nd3 Nxe4 21 Rd5 Nc4 with a considerable advantage for Black.)

14 g4?
(It would seem that, after castling king's side, White must abandon all thoughts of a pawn attack, but all the same he makes this move which seriously weakens his king's position.)

14...Nxb3 15 axb3 a6 16 Kh1
(An erroneous tactical continuation; in the unrealisable hope of an attack on the g-file, White worsens the position of his king.)

16...b5! 17 b4
(The continuation 17 Rxa6 b4 18 Nd5 [18 Na2 Qb7 or 18 Nb5 Qxc2 are even worse] 18...Bxd5 19 exd5 Qxc2, of course, cannot suit White.)

17...Qc4
(Black does not play in the best way. By exchanging queens, he eases White's game. 17...Qb7, with the threats of 18...Rxc3 or 18...Rc4, would give a decisive advantage, for example: 18 g5 hxg5 19 Nxc5 [19 Bxg5 Rxc3 20 bxc3 Nxe4 21 Bxe7 Nxc3 22 Qd3 Nxd1 23 Rxd1 Qxe7 24 Qxd6 Qf6 and wins] 19...d5 20 Nxe6 fxe6 21 exd5 exd5 22 Kgl d4 23 Na2 Ne4 24 Rfl Bb4 with irresistible threats. Or 18 Kgl Rxc3 19 bxc3 Nxe4 20 Bf2 f5 with a winning attack.)

18 Qxc4 Rxc4 19 Re1
(After this the game is lost. Necessary was 19 Nd2 Rxb4 20 Rxa6 with the possibility of resistance.)

19...Bc8!
(Defending the a-pawn and transferring the bishop to b7 for an attack on the bulwark of White's position - the e4 pawn.)

20 g5 hxg5 21 Bxg5 Bb7 22 Kh2 Rxb4 23 b3 Rc8 24 Re3 Rd4 25 Rgl Kf8 26 Bxf6 Bxf6 27 Rg4 b4 28 Na4 Rxc2!
(It was possible to quietly move the rook away, but the sacrifice of the exchange is more quickly decisive. The Black bishops acquire terrible strength.)

29 Nxd4 exd4 30 Re1
(If 30 Rf3, then 30...Be5+ 31 Kg1 Re2 and White loses the exchange and a pawn.)

30...Rxf2+ 31 Rg2 Rf3 (Quite sufficient would be 31...Be5+ 32 Kg1 Rg2+ 33 Kxg2 f5, but Black wants to continue the attack.)

32 Rc2 d3 33 Rxd3 Be5+ 34 Kg1 d2 35 Qd1 Bd4+ 36 Kh2 Re2+ 37 Kg3 Bxe4 38 Rxa6 Rf3+
(The opponents are experiencing time shortage. The move 38...g5 would force immediate resignation.)

39 Kh2 Be5+ 40 Kg1 (Here the game was adjourned after which followed an arm ending.)

41 Rc8+ Ke7 42 Rb8+ Kd7 43 Bf4 43 Rb2 Be3+ 44 Rb3 Rf8 45 Rf1 45 Kg3 Rg1+ 46 Kg2 Rg6 White resigns.

34 Sicilian Defence
White: Tartakover Black: Boleslavsky
(International tournament in Groningen 1946)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5
(The first aim of this move to avoid analysed variations, second, at an opportune moment to double the pawns and rest their mobility. This continuation is repeatedly, and not without success, employed by the first grandmaster Rossolimo.)

3...g6 4 0-0
(In the game, Szabo-Boleslavsky [International tournament Bucharest 1953], White continued at once 4 c3. After 4...Ngf6 5 Bg5 6 0-0 0-0 7 d4 cxd4 8 Bxd4 Qc7 9 Nbd5, Black obtained...
39 Kh2 Be5+ 40 Kg1 d5
(Here the game was adjourned, after which followed an amusing ending.)

34 Sicilian Defence
White: Tartakover
Black: Boleslavsky
(International tournament in Groningen 1946)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5
(The first aim of this move is - to avoid analysed variations, the second, at an opportune moment - to double the pawns and restrict their mobility. This continuation is repeatedly, and not without success, employed by the French grandmaster Rossolimo.)
3...g6 4 0-0
(In the game, Szabo-Boleslasky [International tournament at Bucharest 1953], White continued at once 4 c3. After 4...Nf6 5 Qe2Bg7 6 0-0 0-0 7 d4 cxd4 8 Nxd4 Qc7 9 Nd2 d5, Black obtained an excellent game.)

4...Bg7
(More accurate was 4...Nf6; Black should not fear 5 e5, since, after 5 e5 Nd5 6 c3 Bg7 7 d4 cxd4 8 cxd4 0-0 9 Nc3 Nc7 10 Be2 d6, he has a good game.)

5 c3 d5?!  
(The sacrifice of a pawn, which Black is forced into after this move, of course, is questionable, but on 5...Nf6 Black has to reckon with 6 d4! For example: 6...Nxe4 7 d5 Nb8 8 Re1 Nd6 9 Bf4 0-0 10 Bf4 with strong pressure for the sacrificed pawn.)

6 Qa4 dxe4 7 Bxc6+ bxc6 8 Qxe4 Nf6 10 Qh4
(He should not take the queen away from the centre. Only after 10 Qe2 0-0 11 d4 could White have chances of rendering harmless the opponent's initiative and exploiting his extra pawn.)
10...0-0 11 Na3?
(A second mistake, after which the advantage passes to Black. It was necessary to play 11 d4, with the sample continuation: 11...cxd4 12 Nxd4 [12 cxd4 Bg4 is in Black's favour] 12...Rb8 13 b3 e5 14 Nf3 Re8 15 Bh6 Bb8 16 Nd2 - Black's initiative is sufficient to win back the pawn, but not more.)

11...Bc6 12 Ne5 Bb7 13 d4 Qd5 14 Nf3 cxd4 15 cxd4 Qf5 16 Qf4 Qh5 17 Ne5 Ra8 18 Be3 Nd5 19 Qf3 Qh4
(diagram)
(Black threatens to win back the pawn. White could defend it in two ways: with the knight from c2 and with the rook from d1. Both these ways are unsatisfactory. On 20 Nc2, Black could continue 20...Nxe3 21 Qxe3 Qe4 22 Qxe4 Bxe4 23 Rac1 Bh6 24 f4 Rc8, and Black wins back the pawn, retaining all the advantages of his position. If, however, 20 Rad1, then 20...Nc3! 21 Qxb7 Nxd1 22 Nc6 Nxe3 23 fxe3 Rde8 and Black must win, since on 24 Qxa7 would follow 24...Qe4, on 24 Nxa7 - 24...Rb8.

With the move in the game, White disregards Black's threat and falls into a very difficult position. The best chances of a draw were given by 20 Qg3 Qxg3 21 hxg3 Bxe5 22 dxe5 Nxe3 23 fxe3 Rd5 24 e6 Rd2 25 Rf2 Rxf2 26 Kxf2 fxe6+ 27 Kgl Rc8 - Black stands better, but White can still hold on.)

20 Rac1 Nxe3 21 Qxe3 Qxd4 22 Qxd4 Rxd4 23 Nec4 Ba6 24 b3 Rfd8 25 Nc2
(And in the search for counterchances White weakens the c4 square, but, on passive play by him, the advance of the pawns on the king's flank would give Black a decisive advantage.)

25...Re4 26 Nb4 Bb5 27 a4 Bxc4
(The beginning of a manoeuvre, which wins a pawn.)

28 bxc4
(After 28 Rxc4 Rxc4 29 bxc4 Rc8 30 Rc1 Bh6, White all the same is forced to give up a pawn, since 31 Rc2 loses because of 31...Rb8 32 Rb2 Bg7 33 Rbl a5.)

28...Rc8 29 Nd5 Rxc4 30 Nxe7+ Kf8 31 Nd5 Rxc1 32 Rxc1 Bb2!

(The point of the whole manoeuvre, now the a4 pawn is lost.)

33 Rc8+ Kg7 34 Kf1 Rxa4 35 Ne3 Bd4 36 Nc2 Bb6
(Black's plan of play consists of the following: without advancing the a-pawn for the present, so as not to deprive the bishop of a base, he will create a weak point for White on the king's flank by manoeuvring the rook and pushing the h-pawn. Then he will break through with the king, either to the White pawns or on the queen's flank to support the advance of his passed pawn.)

37 f3 Kf6 38 Ke2 Ke6 39 Kd3 Kd7 40 Rf8 Kd7 41 Rb8 h5 42 g3 Bgl 43 h3 Bb6 44 g4 h4
(The first part of the plan has been fulfilled - the weaknesses on f3 and g3 are fixed.)

45 Rh8 g5 46 Rg8 f6 47 Rg7 Kg6 48 Re8 Kd5?
(Up to now Black has played correctly, but here he makes a mistake, letting slip the win. He should first of all play 48...Rf4 49 Ke2 and only now 49...Kd5.

After 50 Ne3+ Bxe3 51 Kxe3 a5, Black succeeds in placing the pawn on the a4 square and winning by approaching with the king.)

49 Ne3+!

(49...Bxe3
(After 49...Kc6 50 Nf5, Black could not win because of the weakness of the f6 pawn. For example: 50...Kd7 51 Re7+ Kg8 52 Rf7 Bc8 53 Nd6+ Kb8 54 Rb7+ Ka8 55 Rf7 Ra6 56 Nb7 Bb6 57 Nb6 Bc7 58 Rf8+ Bb8 59 Ne4 Ra3+ 60 Ke2 Ra2+ 61 Kd3 Rh2 62 Rxf6 Bf4 63 Rf5 Rxh3 64 Nxd5 with a draw.)

50 Kxe3 a5 51 Rd8+
(With this unconsidered move, White lets slip the draw, which could be achieved by 51 Ra8!}

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the pawns on the
would give Black a
hostage.)
26 Nb4 Bb5 27

of a manoeuvre,
pawn.)
24 Rxc4 29 bxc4 Rc8
White all the same is
ive up a pawn, since
because of 31...Rb8
3 Rb1 a5.)
29 Nd5 Rxc4
+ Kf8 31 Nd5
Rxc1 Bb2!

of the whole man-
the a4 pawn is lost.)
Kg7 34 Kf1
Ne3 Bd4 36 Nc2

of play consists of
up without advancing
the present, so as
ove the bishop of a
create a weak point
the king's flank by
the rook and pushing
then he will break
the king, either to
ans or on the queen's
bport the advance of

37 f3 Kf6 38 Ke2 Ke6
39 Kd3 Kd7 40 Rf8 Ke7
41 Rb8 h5 42 g3 Bg1 43
h3 Bb6 44 g4 h4
(The first part of the plan has
been fulfilled - the weaknesses
on f3 and g3 are fixed.)
45 Rh8 g5 46 Rg8 f6 47
Rc8 Kd6 48 Re8 Kd5?
(Up to now Black has played
correctly, but here he makes a
mistake, letting slip the win. He
should first of all play 48...Rf4
49 Ke2 and only now 49...Kd5.
After 50 Ne3+ Bxe3 51 Kxe3 a5,
Black succeeds in placing the
pawn on the a4 square and winning
by approaching with the king.)
49 Ne3+!

Black does not succeed in placing
the rook on f4 and his king
remains tied to the defence of
the f-pawn.)
51...Kc6
(But now the necessary arrange-
ment is achieved, and the further
play is already not difficult.)
52 Rb8+ Kd7 53 Re8 Rf4
54 Ke2 Kd6 55 Re3 Kb5
56 Kd2 a4 57 Kc3 Kc5
58 Rd2
(Or 58 Rd3 Ra4.)
58...Ra4 59 Re6 Rd6 60
Re4 Rb3!
(The simplest. On 61 f4 would
follow 61...Rb4. The rest is
clear.)
61 Rxa4 Rxf3 62 Ra6
Kd4 63 Kd2 Ke5 64 Ke2
Rxe3 65 Ke2 Rd3 66
Rd5+ Rf5 67 Ra3 Rd4 68
Ra5+ Ke6 69 Ra6+ Kf7
White resigns.

35 Caro Kann Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Kotov
(International tourn-
ament in Groningen
1946)
1 e4 c6 2 Nc3 d5 3 Nf3
dxe4 4 Nxe4 Nd7 5 Bc4
Nf6
(Nowadays this continuation is
used very rarely because of 6
Neg5 e6 7 Qe2 and White, having a
dangerous initiative, threatens 8
Nxf7. When this game was played,
the exchange on f6 was considered
the strongest continuation.)
6 Nxf6+ exf6
(After 6...Nxf6 7 Ne5 Nd5 [better
than 7...e6] 8 Qf3, Black obtains a passive, but quite solid position. Taking with the pawn in this position had not hitherto been met, but it is quite possible and leads to the usual variation.)

7 0-0 Be7 8 d4 Nb6
(Black determines too soon the position of his knight, which could, at an opportune moment, take up a good position on the g6 square [after ...Nf8].)

9 Bb3 0-0 10 h3 Re8
(Black intends to place his bishop on e6 and first of all secures the possibility of defending the e6 pawn, in the event of an exchange of bishops.)

11 c4 Be6 12 Qd3 g6
(Anticipating White's manoeuvre 13 Bc2, followed by 14 b3.)

13 Bf4 Qd7 14 Rad1
(14 Rfd1 was more accurate. The queen's rook, as will be seen later, needs to be on the c-file.)

14...Rad8
(Black commits the same mistake. He should play 14...Red8.)

15 Qc3 Qc8 16 Re1
(Defending the c-pawn and threatening the move 17 Qa5.)

16...Bd6?
(A serious mistake, after which White manages to disorganise the opponent's defence and obtain a great advantage. Black, apparently, does not take into account White's tactical blow on the 18th move. Admittedly, also after 16...Qd7 17 Rfd1, Black would stand worse, but it would not be easy for White to improve his position.)

17 Bxd6 Rxd6 18 d5!
(Bd7
(Black has nothing better. On 18...cxd5 would follow 19 c5 Rc6 20 Nd4 Rc7 21 Nb5, and White wins the exchange. After 18...Bf5 19 Nd4 Black cannot play 19...c5 because of 20 Nb5.)

19 Qd2
(In order to tie down the Black pieces by means of the attack on the badly placed rook d6. At first glance, stronger is 19 Qa5, but in fact after 19...cxd5 20 c5 Rc6 21 Nd4 Nc4 22 Bxc4 Rxc5 White achieves nothing.)

19...c5
(The attempt, regardless of material losses, to attack White's king's flank, does not work. For example: 19...Re4 20 c5 Rxd5 21 Qc2! Rf4 22 cxb6 Rh5 23 Qd2! Rxf3 24 Rfd1, and White wins.)

20 Qf4 Qb8 21 Rce1
(But not 21 Rfe1 because of 21...Rde6! and Black unties himself.)

21...Rd8
(The exchange on e1, leaving the queen undefended, promises Black nothing good.)

22 Nd2 f5 23 Nf3 f6

24 h4?
(White's knight manoeuvre has achieved an extremely important weakening of Black's king's flank and the e6 square, but the obvious move in the game gives Black a respite. White would gain a decisive advantage by 24 Nd4. This is confirmed by the following variations:
1) 24...Qc7 25 Re5 Nc8 26 Ne6 and wins.
2) 24...Re8 25 Rxe8+ Bxe8 26 Ne6 with the threats of 27 Nxc5 and 27 Qh6.
3) 24...Nxd5 25 cxd4 cxd4 26 Re5 Qg5 27 Qg3 Bb5 28 h4! Re8 [28...Bxf1 29 hxg5 f4 30 Qh3 Bd3 31 Qxf5 with unavoidable mate; 28...f4 29 Qg4 Bxf1 30 Qh5] 29 Rfe1 Rxe7 30 Rxe7 f4 31 Qg4 Qd8 32 Rxb7 Bd7 33 Qd1 and wins.
4) 24...g5 25 Qf3 and then:
   a) 25...Nxd5 26 Nxf5 Bxf5 27 Qxf5 Nf4 28 Qxc5! Nd3 29 Qf5 Nxe5 30 c5+ and White wins;
   b) 25...f4 26 Qh5 Be8 27 Qh6 cxd4 28 c5 Rd7 29 d6+ Bd7 30 Re7 Rxe7 31 dxe7 Re8 32 Bxf7+ Kxf7 33 Re1 Kg8 34 Qxf6 and White wins.
5) 24...Nc8 25 Qh6:
   a) 25...cxd4 26 c5 Ra6 27 d6+ Nf6 28 Bf7 Rg8 29 Bxg6! Rxg6 30 Qh5
d2 Bc8 29...Bc8 30 Qxf7
d3 Bc8 31 Qf7
d4 Qd4 32 Qg6
d5 Bg4 33 Qxg4 Rxg4 34 Nxe6 Rxe6 35 Nxc5+ and White wins.

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24 h4?
(White's knight manoeuvre has achieved an extremely important weakening of Black's king's flank and the e6 square, but the obvious move in the game gives Black a respite. White would get a decisive advantage by 24 Nd4! This is confirmed by the following variations:
1) 24...Qc7 25 Re7 Nc8 26 Ne6 and wins.
2) 24...Re8 25 Rxe8+ Bxe8 26 Ne6, with the threats of 27 Nxc5 and 27 Qh6.
3) 24...Nxd5 25 cxd5 cxd4 26 Re7 g5 27 Qg3 Bb5 28 h4! Re8 [28...Bxf1 29 hxg5 f4 30 Qh3 Bd3 31 Qh6 with unavoidable mate; 28...f4 29 Qg4 Bxf1 30 Qh5] 29 Rfe1 Rxe7 30 Rxe7 f4 31 Qg4 Qd8 32 Rxb7 Bd7 33 Qd1 and wins.
4) 24...g5 25 Qf3 and then:
   a) 25...Nxd5 26 Nxf5 Bxf5 27 Qxf5 Nf4 28 Qxc5! Nd3 29 Qf5 Nxe1 30 c5+ and White wins;
   b) 25...f4 26 Qh5 Be8 27 Qh6 cxd4 28 c5 R6d7 29 d6+ Bf7 30 Re7! Rxe7 31 dxe7 Re8 32 Bxf7+ Kxf7 33 Re1 Kg8 34 Qxf6 and White wins.
5) 24...Ne8 25 Qh6:
   a) 25...cxd4 26 c5 Ra6 27 d6+ Kh8 28 Bf7 Rg8 29 Bxg6! Rgx6 [or 29...Rg7 30 Bxh7 Nxd6 31 Bxf5+ Kg8 32 Bxd7 Rxd7 33 cxd6 Raxd6 34 Re4! f5 35 Qg5+ Rg7 36 Qxf5 and White must win] 30 Qf8+ Rg8 31 Qxf6+ Rg7 32 Qd8+ Rg8 33 Qxd7, and, despite the extra piece, Black is defenceless: on 33...Nxd6, decisive is 34 Re7;
   b) 25...b6 26 Ne2 Be8 27 Nf4 Bf7 28 Re3 Qc7 29 Rfe1 Rf8 30 Bc2 with an irresistible attack.)

24...Be8 25 a4!
(With his previous move, White missed the possibility of direct attack and forced assent to an endgame. At this stage of the struggle, he could achieve an advantage only in that case when he succeeds in exchanging the passive bishop b3. In this lies the point of the text move. Black cannot take the pawn either with the knight, because of 26 Rxe8+, or with the bishop, since after 25...Bxa4 26 Bxa4 Nxa4 27 Re7, Black is defenceless against the threat 28 Qh6.)

25...a5?
(The natural, but bad, reply. A new, difficult to defend, weakness is created on a5. He should go in for the endgame. After 25...R6d7 26 Qxb8 Rxb8 27 a5, Black's position is unattractive, but it is defensible, for example: 27...Na8 28 Re3 Kf8 29 Rfe1 Ne7 30 Ba4 Rd6 31 Re7 Bxa4 32 Rxc7 Rd7 etc.)

26 Re7 Bf7
(The first consequence of the move 25...a5. 26...R6d7 is not possible because of 27 Qxb8 Rxb8 28 Re6 with the win of a pawn.)

27 Rfe1 Nc8
(Also after 27...R6d7, White, after diverting the queen to the defence of the a5 pawn, would obtain an attack which is hardly to be repulsed.)

28 R7e3 Qc7
(The best move. By introducing his queen into battle, Black avoids a rout. Weaker is 28...h5 29 Qh6 Qc7 30 Bc2 Qd7 [the threat was 31 Bxf5] 31 Nd2; Black cannot budge and White wins by transferring the knight to g3.)

29 h5 R6d7 30 Qh6 Qd6
31 hXg6 hxg6
(It seems that Black has completely defended himself, but a little surprise awaits him.)

32 Nd4!
(It is interesting that twice in the game one and the same move is winning. 32 Ng5 fxg5 33 Rh3 does not work because of 33...Qf6.)

32...Qf8 33 Nx f5! Qxh6
34 Nxh6+ Kg7 35 Nxf7
(Apparently insufficient in view of the fact that the d-pawn is blockaded, but White rightly assesses the endgame obtained as winning because of the weakness of the pawns on Black's king's flank and control of the e6 square.)

35...Kxf7 36 Bc2 Rh8
37 g3 Nd6 38 b3 Nc8 39 Kg2 Rg8 40 g4 Rh8
(Black has no counterplay and is forced to watch passively as the opponent strengthens his position.)

41 Kg3 R7d8 42 Re6 Rd6
(On 42...g5 would have followed 43 Bf5, then the retreat of the rook e6, and after the exchange of the bishop for the knight, the White rooks invade on the sixth and seventh ranks.)

43 Rxd6 Nxd6 44 Re6 Nc8 45 g5

(The decisive move, guaranteeing the invasion of the White king.)

45...f5
(After 45...fxg5, Black would lose a second pawn.)

46 Bd1
(The bishop has played its role on the b1-h7 diagonal and transfers to f3, in order to enter into play after the advance of the d-pawn.)

46...Re8 47 Rf6+
(White, of course, refrains from the exchange of rooks which leads to a draw. Besides the move in the game, winning was 47 Bh5!) 47...Kg7 48 Bf3 Rd8 49 Kf4 Nd6 50 Bg2 Nf7
(On 50...Nd8 would follow Ke5.)

51 Rb6 Nd6 52 Ke5 Nf7
(A repetition of moves in view of time shortage.)

53...Nd6 54 Ke5
(White cannot give the opposition even one tempo. After 54 Bf5? 55 Ke6 Ke7 would follow a draw.)

54...Ne7+ 55 Ke4 Re6
(Or 55...Nxd5 56 Ke7 Rb6 Rxg6+) 56 Kd7 Re2 57 d6 Black resigns.
(The d-pawn will cost the piece.)

36 Sicilian Defence
White: Estrin
Black: Boleslavsky
(RSFSR Championship, Sverdlovsk 1946)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 cxd4 Nxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e6 6 Be2 e5 7 Nd3 d5 8 0-0 0-0 9 f4
(This continuation was first employed by Botvinnik against the author of this book and is one of the serious rebuffs to the system with the move d5.)

9...exf4
(An exchange which removes tension from the centre, after which the game is considerably simplified.
A far more complicated and interesting struggle takes shape at 9...a5, as was played in the Grinfeld-Boleslavsky at }
77 36 Bc2 Rh8 86 38 b3 Nc8 39 40 g4 Rh8
no counterplay and is
match passively as the
strengthens his pos-

87d8 42 Re6 Rd6
would have followed
in the retreat of the
after the exchange
up for the knight, the
invade on the sixth
ranks.)
6 Nxd6 44 Re6
g3

Kf4 Nd6 50 Bg2 Nf7
(On 50...Nc8 would follow 51 Ke5.)
51 Rb6 Nd6 52 Ke5 Nf7+
53 Kf4
(A repetition of moves in view of
time shortage.)
53...Nd6 54 Ke5
(White cannot give the opponent
even one tempo. After 54 Bf3? Kf7
55 Ke5 Ke7 would follow a draw.)
54...Nf7+ 55 Ke6 Re8+
(White cannot give

56 Kd7 Re2 57 d6 Black
resigns.
(The d-pawn will cost him a
piece.)

36 Sicilian Defence
White: Estrin
Black: Boleslavsky
(RSFSR Championship, Sverdlovsk 1946)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3
d6 6 Be2 e5 7 Nb3 Be7
8 0-0 0-0 9 f4
(This continuation was first
employed by Botvinnik in a game
against the author of this book
and is one of the serious retorts
to the system with the move 6...
e5.)
9...exf4
(An exchange which removes the
tension from the centre, after
which the game is considerably
simplified.
A far more complicated and inter-
esting struggle takes shape after
9...a5, as was played in the game
Grinfeld-Boleslavsky at Warsaw

1947.)
11 Bxf4 Be6 11 Bf3
(A bad move. The continuation
11...d5 does not promise Black
anything good and it need not be
prevented. Correct was 11 Kh1.)
11...Ne5 12 Nd5
(The continuation of an incorrect
plan. To occupy the d5 square
with a piece only makes sense if
an exchange were advantageous for
White.)
12...Nxd5 13 exd5 Bd7
14 Bxe5
(White stands worse, but after 14
Kh1 he could defend himself. The
move made, giving up the black
squares, at once places White in
a critical position.)
14...dxe5 15 c4 Ba4!

83
piece ending, White is left with practical chances of a draw.

16...Bd6 17 Qe2 b6
(Completing the blockade on the queen's flank.)

18 Nd2 f5 19 b3
(Passive defence does not promise anything good, but also a sortie with the queen is easily parried by Black. For example: 19 c5 bxc5 20 Qa6 Qd7 [also possible is 20...Be8] 21 Nc4 Rf6 22 Nb6 axb6 23 Qxa8 Rf8 24 Qa6 Bb5 25 Qxb6 e4 and Black wins.)

19...Bd7 20 g3 e4 21 Bg2 Qe7 22 Rael Rae8 23 Nb1 Rf6 24 Nc3 Rh6
(Possibly even more energetic here was 24...h5. For example: 25 Nb5 Bxb5 26 cxb5 h4 27 gxh4 Qe5 28 Bh3 f4 29 Be6+ Rxe6 30 dxe6 f3 31 Qd2 Qxe6, and Black must win.)

25 Qe3 Bc5
(Black manoeuvres with the bishop so as to obtain the possibility of placing his queen on g5.)

26 Qc1 Bb4 27 Re3 Ba3
(Not at once 27...Qg5 because of 28 Rxe4.)

28 Qd2 Qg5 29 Ne2 Bc5
(Now 30 Rd3 is not possible because of 30...Qh5.)

30 Nd4 Qf6 31 Rd1
(Losing immediately. It was possible to prolong resistance only by a sacrifice of the exchange.)

31...f4!

diagram

32 Rxe4
(Or 32 gxf4 Qxf4 33 h3 Bd6 34 Bf1

Bg4 35 Rde1 Bxh3, and Black wins.)

32...Rxe4 33 Bxe4 fxg3
34 Nf3 Bf2!
(An amusing position. White can save himself from mate only by a queen sacrifice.)

35 h4 Qxf3+ 36 Bxf3 Rxe4+ 37 Kg2 Bh3+
White resigns.

37 Queen's Gambit: Meran System
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Klaman
(RSFSR Championship, Sverdlovsk 1946)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 d5 4 Nf3 c6 5 e3 Nbd7 6 Bd3 dxc4 7 Bxc4 b5 8 Bd3 a6 9 e4 c5 10 e5 Ng4
(Klaman - a player with an interesting and original style - does not like well-trodden paths. So, in this position, instead of the usual 10...cxd4, he chooses the little-studied 10...Ng4.)

11 Bf4
(The most natural reply, reinforcing the central point e5. White could go in for the

(Black lags behind serious development, the positions of the king and the knight g4 are precarious, the e6 and e5
Black lags behind seriously in development, the positions of his king and the knight g4 are very precarious, the e6 and e5 pawns are weak - there is already no satisfactory continuation for Black.

14...Be7 15 Nxd4
(Also very strong was 15 Nfg5 Ndf6 [the best move] 16 Nxf6+ Nxf6 17 Bxe5 with numerous threats. With the move 15 Nxd4 White at once wins back the sacrificed material with an overwhelming positional advantage.)

15...exd4 16 Qxg4 0-0 17 Qxe6+ Rf7
(On 17...Kh8 the simplest for White is to continue 18 Nd6 Bxd6 19 Qe4, winning the exchange.)

18 Qc6 Ra7 19 Nd6 Bxd6 20 Qxd6 Qf6 21 Rael Bb7

(No better is 21...Rf8 22 Qd5+ Kh8 23 Rc6 Bb7 24 Qh5 and White wins.)

22 Rc7 Qxd6 23 Bxd6 Nf8
(In order to have the possibility of defending the pawn. On 23...Nf6 would have followed 24 Rxf7 Kxf7 25 Bc5 Ra8 26 Rd1 Rd8 27 Bf1 with a technically uncomplicated win.)

24 Rfcl Ne6
(A blunder in a losing position. After 24...Bd5 25 Rxa7 Rxa7 26...
Rc8 Rf7 27 Bxf8 Rxf8 28 Bxh7+ the endgame is hopeless for Black.
25 Bxh7+ Black resigns

38 Queen's Gambit: Meran System
White: Ilivitsky
Black: Boleslavsky
(RSFSR Championship, Sverdlovsk 1946)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 d5 4 Nc3 c6 5 e3 Nbd7
6 Bd3 dxc4 7 Bxc4 b5 8 Bd3 a6 9 e4 c5 10 e5
Ng4 (Regarding the opening, see the previous game.)
11 Bf4
(Ilivitsky, in contrast to K lamin, always prefers tested variations. Here, he follows the game, Boleslavsky-Klaman, played a few rounds earlier.)
11...cxd4 12 Ne4 Bb4+
(This, of course, is stronger than 12...f6? as played by K lamin. White's loss of castling is some compensation for Black for the bad position of his knight g4.)
13 Kf1 Bb7 14 h3 Nh6
15 Nxd4
(15 Bxh6 gxh6 16 Qc1 Bf8 would give White nothing real. The continuation 15 g4 would be double-edged. White restricts the Black knight, but weakens the important a8-h1 diagonal.)
15...Ne5
(A necessary move, otherwise White's attack would become irresistible in a few moves.)
16 Nxf5 exf5 17 Nd6+
(Weaker is 17 Ng3, because of 17...g6 followed by a transfer of the knight to e6.)
17...Bxd6 18 exd6 0-0

(After Black has completed the development of his pieces, one can sum up the opening. White has two active bishops and the strong d6 pawn. If White had castled, Black's game would have to be classed as lost, but the locked in position of the rook h1 gives Black some counterchances.)
19 Rcl
(Not good is 19 Bxf5, since, after 19...Qf6! 20 Bxd7 [20 Qc2 Rac8 21 Qb1 Rc5] 20...Qxf4, White would lose the d6 pawn. For example: 21 Rcl [so as, on 21...Rad8, to play 22 Rc7] 21...Bd5! 22 Bc6 Bc4+ 23 Kgl Rad8 24 d7 Qh6 25 B moves Rxd7.)
19...Nxb6 20 Qh5
(White could simplify the position here by 20 Rc7 Nd5 21 Rxb7
Nxf4 22 Bxf5 Qf6 23 Bg4 Qxb2 24
93 Ng6 25 Qd5 Ne5 26 Kg2. White has great chances of a win. The continuation chosen by White is not worse, but leads to a more complicated game.)
20...g6 21 Qh6 Nd5 22
Be5 f6 23 Bg3 Rc8

24 h4?
(A serious mistake, after which White at once loses all advantage and obtains the upper hand. White attempts to open the h-file for attack and overloads the tactical blow prepared by Black. Since the rook h1 is of play, he should move away another rook to h1, avoiding exchanges, and, on 24...Qd7, reply 25 Kg1 [25 h4? f4! 26 Bg3 Qg4 also now is bad for White endeavouring to connect rooks. In this case Black have nothing better than 25...Bb4 26 Bb1 Be4 27 a3! Bxb1 28 axb1 and Black has in prospect a fine queen for the draw.]
24...f4! 25 Bxf4
(Not possible is 25 Rxc8 Qxc8 Bxf4 Qg4! The weakening of the square has a telling effect. White's attempt to force perpetual check with the move 25 Bxg6 is refuted simplest by 25...Rxcl+ 26 Bxcl Rxe7 27 Rb8+ Qd5 28 Qxd5+ Kxd5 29 Bd5+ 30 Kg2 Bc6 31 Be8+Ka5 32 Bxc8 Qxc8+ and mate on the following move.)
25...Nxf4 26 Qxf4
(Also now 26 Rxc8 is bad, because of the intermediate 26...Bxg2+.
17 Ng3, because of 17...Qxe6! 18 Bxh6 Qh3+ 19 Kh1 Qxh2+ 20 Kh1 Qxh6 21 Rd6 18 exd6 0-0

Black has completed the set of his pieces, one to the opening. White has the bishops and the strong middle game. If White had castled, he would have to be lost, but the locked in of the rook h1 gives counterchances.

19 Bxf5, since, 19...Qf6! 20 Bxd7 [20 Qc2 1 Rc5] 20...Qxf4, White the d6 pawn. For example: Rcl [so as, on 21...play 22 Rc7] 21...Bd5! 23 Kgl Rad8 24 d7 Qh6 Rad7.)

20 Qh5 Rd simplify the position 20 Rc7 Nd5 21 Rxb7 Qf6 23 Bg4 Qxb2 24 Qd5 Ne5 26 Kg2. White chances of a win. The move chosen by White is but leads to a more 21 Qh6 Nd5 22 game.)

24 h4?
(A serious mistake, after which White at once loses all his advantage and obtains the worse game. White attempts to open the h-file for attack and over looks the tactical blow prepared by Black. Since the rook h1 is out of play, he should move away the other rook to d1, avoiding the exchange, and, on 24...Qd7, to reply 25 Kgl [25 h4? f4! 26 Bxf4 Qg4 also now is bad for White], endeavouring to connect the rooks. In this case Black would have nothing better than 25...Nd4 26 Bb1 Be4 27 a3! Bxb1 28 axb4, and Black has in prospect a fight for the draw.)

24...Qxf4 25 Bxf4 (Not possible is 25 Rxc8 Qxc8 26 Bxf4 Qg4! The weakening of the g4 square has a telling effect. The attempt to force perpetual check with the move 25 Bxg6 is refuted simplest by 25...Rxcl+ 26 Ke2 Re8+ 27 Kd2 Qa5+ 28 Kxc1 Re1+ 29 Rxe1 Qxe1+ 30 Kc2 Nb4+ 31 Kb3 Bd5+ 32 Ka3 Nc2+ 33 Bxc2 Qa5+ and mates on the following move.)

25...Nxf4 26 Qxf4 (Also now 26 Rxc8 is bad, because of the intermediate 26...Bxg2+.)

(The disappearance of the bishop-pair, the disappearance of White's pride - the d6 pawn. White already needs to think about a draw.)

28 Qd1?
(Unsettled by the sudden change in the situation, Ilivitsky makes another mistake. Now White does not succeed in achieving interaction of his pieces, and soon after he loses a pawn. Of course he should play 28 Rh3, bringing the rook out of imprisonment and threatening to create a dangerous attack by 29 Rg3 followed by 30 Qh6. Black would have to exchange queens by 28...Rc8 29 Qh6 Qc6 30 Rg3 Qc1+, but this would not give him a win. For example: 31 Qxc1 Rxc1+ 32 Ke2 Ra1 32 Bc2 Bd5 34 a3 Ra2 35 Kd2 Rxb2 36 Kc1 Ra2 37 b5 and White's counterplay is sufficient for a draw.)

28...Qc6!
(First of all, Black provokes the move 29 f3, so that the White rook cannot enter into play on the third rank.)

29 f3 Rd8 30 Qb3+ Kg7 31 Ke2 Re8+ 32 Kd1 Qd6
(Pinning the White bishop and threatening 33...Qg3. White's reply is essentially forced.)

33 Re1 Bd5 34 Qc3 b4
35 Qc2 Rxel+ 36 Kxel Bxa2
(And so Black has won a pawn with active positions of his pieces.)

37 Be2 Bf7
(The chase after a second pawn 37...Qg3+? 38 Kf1 Qxh4 would lead, after 39 b3 Qhl+ 40 Kf2 Qb1 41 Qc7+, to a draw by perpetual check.)

38 Qc8 Qd4
(Black wants to rather more quickly obtain a passed pawn. Good was 38...a5.)

39 Qxa6 Qxb2
(The endgame is won for Black without particular difficulty, since the b-pawn reaches b2 without hindrance. The following stubborn defence by White cannot change anything.)

40 g4 Qc3+ 41 Kf2 Qc5+
42 Kg2 b3 43 Bd3 h5

(Obtaining the same position as after White's 50th move, with the only difference that the Black pawn is already standing on h4. However, this difference is important; the g3 square has been taken away from the White king.)

44 g5! Qd4

(Obtaining the same position as after White's 50th move, with the only difference that the Black pawn is already standing on h4. However, this difference is important; the g3 square has been taken away from the White king.)

Now Black at last decides:

62...Qd6! 63
64 Qb7+ Kh6
Qd2+ 66 Kf1 Kxh7
(All that remains for White is to give checks.)

67 Qe4+ Kf7
Ke6 69 Qg8+ Qf7+ Kc6 71 Re8+ Qd7 72 Qe7+ Kc4
Kc3 74 Qc6+ Qe6+ Kc2 76 Qa4+ Kd1
Qd2 79 Qc4+ Qf4+ Kb1
(The Black king finds shelter from the checks which threaten. On 78 Qe7+ follow 78...Kc2.)

White resigns.

39 Sicilian Defense
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Ulfintsev
(15th USSR Championship, Leningrad 1961. White is an unbeaten trackman, but in the Sicilian Defense he chooses thankless work. The variation chosen by Black to follow state theory does not want to create a difficult position.)

8 Qd2 b5?
(A serious mistake. White to smash the queen's flank. It is not possible to...

88
Now Black at last begins a decisive operation.
62...Qd6! 63 Bd3 Bg6
64 Qb7+ Kh6 65 Bxg6 Qd2+ 66 Kf1 Kxg6
(All that remains for White is to give checks.)
67 Qe4+ Kf7 68 Qh7+ Ke6 69 Qg8+ Qd7 70 Qf7+ Kg6 71 Qe8+ Qc5
72 Qe7+ Kc4 73 Qe6+ Kc3 74 Qc6+ Kb3 75 Qe6+ Kc2 76 Qc4+ Qc3
77 Qa4+ Kc1 78 Qf4+ Qd2 79 Qc4+ Qc2 80 Qf4+ Kb1
(The Black king finally finds shelter from the checks. 81...h3 is threatened. On 81...Qxh4 would follow 81...Ka2.)
White resigns.

39 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Ufimtsev
(15th USSR Championship, Leningrad 1947)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 g6 6 f3 Bg7 7 Be3 a6
(Master Ufimtsev likes to travel along unbeaten tracks in the opening, but in the present game he chooses thankless material for his work. The variation 6 f3 in the Sicilian Defence obliges Black to follow stated theory if he does not want to get into a difficult position.)
8 Qd2 b5?
(A serious mistake, allowing White to smash the opponent's queen's flank. It is necessary to wait with this move until White has castled queen's side.)
9 a4! bxa4
(Slightly better might be 9...b4
10 Na2 a5 11 Bb5+ Bd7 12 c3, though also here White has a clear advantage.)
10 Nxa4 0-0 11 Be2 Nbd7 12 0-0 Bb7 13 c4 Qc7

(An assessment of the present position depends to a certain extent on whether Black can counter the forthcoming pressure in the centre and on the queen's flank. Unfortunately, there does not seem to be a way for Black to free himself. 13...e6 followed by 14...d5 will not do, since White, after taking on d5 with the e-pawn and then advancing the c-pawn, could obtain an overwhelming position; 13...a5 does not bring any relief after 14 Nb5. Slightly better than the move in the game is 13...Ne5, in order to exchange a pair of pieces, but this does not in essence change the situation.)
14 b4 Rfd8 15 Nb3 Rac8
16 Na5 Qb8 17 Rab1
(Taking the rook away from the action of the Black bishop and
preparing the future offensive.)

17...Qa8 18 Rfcl Bc6
(Black endeavours to drive away
the knight a4, so as to have the
possibility of advancing
the knight d7, but this move promotes
further White's planned transfer
of the knight to d5.)

19 Nc3 Ne5 20 Nd5 Nxd5
21 exd5 Bb7 22 f4 Nd7
23 Nxb7 Qxb7 24 c5
(Now 24...dxc5 25 bxc5 Qa8 26 Bf3
[or 25...Qc7 26 d6] loses immediately. Thus Black is forced to
allow the further advance of the c-pawn.)

24...Nf6 25 c6 Qa8 26 Bf3

(Black misses his last chance. He
should play 30...Qxb5. Unclear,
in this case, are both 31 Be2
Qxd5 32 Rxa6 Qxd2 33 Bxd2 Nd5,
and Black manages to blockade the
White pawns, and 31 Ra5 Qc4 32
Be2 Qb3 33 Bxa6 Ne4. However,
after the simple 31 Rcl, White
must win.)

31 Ra7 e6
(Desperation!)

32 dxe6 fxe6 33 c7 Qc8
34 Qxd6 Nxd5 35 Bxd5
e1x5 36 Qxd5+ Kh8 33
h3 h6 38 Bd4 Bxd4+ 39
Qxd4+ Kh7 40 Qc5 Rf8?
41 Qxf8! Black resigns

(This "positional" move is a
mistake, allowing Black to drag
on resistance for a long time.
The position is already ripe for
decisive action. With the move 26
Rai, White would win the a6 pawn
and the game. The loss of the
exchange has no significance at
all, for example: 26 Ra1 Ne4 27
Qd3 Bxal 28 Rxa1 Nf6 29 Rxa6 Qb8
30 b5, and the passed pawns are
decisive.)

26...Re8 27 Ra1 Rb8 28
Ra5 Rb5 29 Rcal Qb8 30
Rxb5 axb5

40 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Goldenov
(15th USSR Champion-
ship, Leningrad 1947)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3
Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0
Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 d6
8 c3 0-0 9 h3 Na5 10
Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12
Nbd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 Nc6
(Recently this move has virtually
been supplanted by the continu-
ations 13...Bb7 and 13...Rd8,
since it leads to a diff-
game for Black.)

14 Nb3 a5 15 Be3 a4
Nbd2 Nb4

(This thrust brings nothing
for Black. On 16...a3, in
the game, Aronin-Lisitsin [Leningrad
Semi-Final, 16th USSR Cham-
ship], followed 17 bxa3 Rb2
Qc1! with advantage to
Relatively better here is
Bd7 or 16...Ba6.)

17 Bb1 Bd7
(If 17...a3, then 18 Qb3.)

18 a3 Nc6 19 Bd3 Qc7
(19...Na5 was necessary
Black does not foresee the reply.)

20 b4!
(Now Black is faced with a
pleasant choice. In the event
a capture on b3, he will be
led into a surrender of the
centre. If, however, he re-
turns from the exchange of pawns,
after d5, he will be abso-
dramped. Black prefers
first.)

20...axb3 21 Qxb3
22 Nxd4 Nxd4 23
Ne8
His last chance. He could have been more cautious with his last chance. He could have chosen 30...Qxb5. Unclear, however, are both 31 Be2 Qa5 32 Bxd2 Nd5, which would have blocked the game; and 31 Ra5 Qc4 32 Bxa6 Ne4. However, 31 Rcl, White resigns.

\[\text{\textit{Ljubljanica}}\]

\textbf{Game 11:}

\textbf{Bidlemanov vs. \textit{Kopito}}

\textit{SSR Championship Semi-Final, 1947)

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 b3 d6 7 Bb2 b5 8 Bb2 Bb7 9 0-0 0-0 10 Qd2 d5 11 exd5 Qxd5+ 12 Kb1 Qxe4 13 dxc5 Qd5 14 Nb3 a5 15 Be3 a4 16 Nbd2 Nb4

since it leads to a difficult game for Black.)

14 Nb3 a5 15 Be3 a4 16 Nbd2 Nb4

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.8\textwidth]{chess_game.png}
\caption{Diagram of the game.}
\end{figure}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.8\textwidth]{chess_diagram.png}
\caption{Diagram of the game.}
\end{figure}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.8\textwidth]{chess_board.png}
\caption{Diagram of the game.}
\end{figure}

(A crucial moment in the game. Black has a weak point on d5 and therefore the transfer of the knight to this square suggests itself. However, after 24 Nf1 Ne7 25 Ne3 Ne6 26 Bb2 Nc5 27 Qc2 Nxd3 28 Qxd3 f6, Black manages to dig himself in and White's advantage will hardly be sufficient for victory.

White makes the right decision. He opens the centre and endeavours to exploit the bad positions of the Black pieces. As it is, until the end of the game Black does not manage to put right the coordination of his pieces. It seems that the move 23...Ne8, disconnecting the rooks, is the decisive mistake.)

24 e5! dxe5 25 Bxe5 Bd6 26 Nf3

(On 26 Bb2, Black, by 26...b4, succeeds in ridding himself of the weak b5 pawn, which would be a great relief for him.)

26...Ra4

(Black's position is very difficult. An exchange on e5 leads to the loss of the b-pawn; if 26...Bc6, then 27 Bxh7+ Kxh7 28 Qc2+, while on 26...Qb7 follows 27 Be4 Bc6 28 Bxc6 Qxc6.)

\textit{A crucial moment in the game. Black has a weak point on d5 and therefore the transfer of the knight to this square suggests itself. However, after 24 Nf1 Ne7 25 Ne3 Ne6 26 Bb2 Nc5 27 Qc2 Nxd3 28 Qxd3 f6, Black manages to dig himself in and White's advantage will hardly be sufficient for victory.}

White makes the right decision. He opens the centre and endeavours to exploit the bad positions of the Black pieces. As it is, until the end of the game Black does not manage to put right the coordination of his pieces. It seems that the move 23...Ne8, disconnecting the rooks, is the decisive mistake.)
29 Nd4.
Thus the move in the game is the only one.)
27 a.b2 Rf4
(Now 27...b4 28 Ne5 leads to the loss of a pawn.)
28 Ne5 Qa7 29 Re2

(Simpler was 29 Nxd7, since after 29...Rxf2 30 Bxh7+! Kh8 [or 30...
Kxh7 31 Nxh7+] 31 Qe3 Qxe3 32 Rxe3 Rxb2 33 Kh1! White is left the exchange ahead.)
29...Be6!
(A last attempt to confuse the game. Black offers the opponent a pawn, the capture of which leads [after 30 Qxb5 Nc7 31 Qc6 Bc5 with a threat on the f2 pawn and perpetual attack on the queen] to an unclear position. White does not refuse the gift but prefers to capture the pawn a move later with the bishop.)
30 Qc2 Nf6 31 Bxb5 Rc8 32 Qd2
(Exploiting the hanging positions of the Black pieces.)
32...Bxe5
(There is no hope in 32...Nd5 33 Bc6 Qa6 34 Bxd5 Bxd5 35 Rael with the win of the exchange.)
33 Rxe5! Re4
(Leading to immediate loss. After

33...Rf5 34 Rxf5 Bxf5, Black would lose a second pawn.)
34 Rg5 Qe7
(Also other replies do not save him from the threat on g7.)
35 Rxg7+ Black resigns.

41 Game Ending
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Kan
(15th USSR Championship, Leningrad 1947)

(The normal outcome of this approximately equal knight ending would of course be a draw. For example: 44...fxg4 45 fxg4 Ne5 46 Nxe5 Nc4+ 47 Kd4 Nxb2 etc., but Black tries to exploit the cut off position of the knight g8.)
44...h5?! 45 gxh5!?
(White surprisingly goes half way to meet the intentions of his opponent. Now the knight g8 is in danger.)
45...Kf7 46 Nh6+ Kf6 47 h3 Ne7?
(Black consistently plays for the win of the knight and...loses the game. After 47...Na5 White would have nothing better than 48 Ng8+ with a draw.)
48 Kd4! Kg7 49 Ng4 fxg4 50 fxg4
(Just so, because it is difficult for Black to get to h-pawn than to the f-pawn. the meaning of the sacrifice clear; because of the bad position of the Black knight, White king penetrates difficulty on the queen's flank.)
50...Kf6 51 Kc5 Ke6
(Also after this move, White wins quickly. Black could make once the opponent's task very difficult continuing 51...Kxe5 52 Kb6 Kf5 53 Kxa6 Kg6 54 Kxb5 Kxh6 55 a4 bxa4 56 h6 Kf5 57 h7 Ng6 58 a5 g5 59 a6 g4 60 h8(Q) Nhx8 61 a7 g3 62 a8(Q) gl(Q) 63 Qxh8.
According to the latest analysis of world champion, M.Botvinnik this endgame is won, but, since at the time the game was played, the winning plan, just as a slight the possibility of it, not quite been revealed, a draw would be the most probable result of the long struggle.)
52 Kb6 b4 53 axb4 Nd3
54 Kxa6 Nb4+ 55 Kb5 Nd3 56 b4
(Black cannot hold up the b-pawn, the capture of which, followed by the giving of the knight for the b-pawn does not give him any chances all.)
56...Nf4 57 Ka6 Kd7 b5 Black resigns.

42 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Tolush
(Training tournament)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 Bc5 4 0-0
(4 c3 leads to sharp complications. After the move in the game, Black has the possibility of giving the game a positional character.)

4...Nd4 5 Nxd4 exd4
(Black leads the game into one of the variations of the Bird Defence. Simpler was 5...Bxd4 6 c3 Bb6 7 d4 c6 8 Ba4 d6, and Black's position is quite safe.)

6 d3 Ne7

According to the latest analysis of world champion, M.Botvinnik, this endgame is won, but, since at the time the game was played, the winning plan, just as also the possibility of it, had still not quite been revealed, a draw would be the most probable result of the long struggle.)

50...Kf6 51 Kc5 Ke6
(After this move, White wins very quickly. Black could make the opponent's task very difficult by continuing 51...Ke5 52 Kb6 Kf4 53 Kxa6 Kxh5 54 a4 Kxg4 55 h6 Kf5 56 h7 Ng6 57 a5 g4 58 a6 g3 59 h8(Q) Nh4 60 Kg2 g2 61 a7 Nf2 62 a8(Q) Qg1(Q) 63 Qxh8.

According to the latest analysis of world champion, M.Botvinnik, this endgame is won, but, since at the time the game was played, the winning plan, just as also the possibility of it, had still not quite been revealed, a draw would be the most probable result of the long struggle.)

52 Kb6 b4 53 axb4 Nd5+ 54 Kxa6 Nxb4+ 55 Kb5 Nd3 56 b4
(Black cannot hold up the b and h-pawns. The capture of the h3 pawn, followed by the giving up of the knight for the b-pawn, does not give him any chances at all.)

56...Nf4 57 a6 Kd7 58 b5 Black resigns.

(Red natural developing move surprisingly places Black in a critical position. He should play 6...c6 7 Ba4 d6, developing the knight to e7 or f6, depending on White's future play.)

7 Qh5! Bb6 8 f4 c6 9 Ba4 d6 10 f5 Ng8
(A a painful return, but it is not apparent how else the further advance of the f-pawn can be prevented.)

11 Qg4 Kf8
(11...Qf6 12 Bg5 Qe5 13 Bf4 Qf6 14 Nd2 Nh6 15 Qg3 is even less acceptable for Black.)

12 Bf4 Nf6 13 Qh4 Qe7
14 Nd2 Nd7
(Black cannot wait until White brings all his pieces into battle but this move allows the stubborn f-pawn to deliver a blow.)
15 f6!
(A sacrifice - typical for such positions, in which open lines are more important than a pawn.)

15...Qxf6
(This is still the best reply. After 15...gx6 16 Bh6+ Ke8 17 Bg7 or 15...Nxf6 16 Bg5 Bd8 17 e5! Qxe5 [17...dxe5 18 Ne4] 18 Rael Qa5 19 Bxf6 Bxf6 20 Rxf6 Qxd2 21 Rxd6, Black would lose more quickly.)
16 Qg3
(The tempting 16 Bg5 Qg6 17 Be7+ Kg8 would not give a clear advantage. For example: 18 Nc4 Nc5! 19 Bxd6 Nxa4 20 Nxb6 Qxd6 21 Nxa8 f6 and it is not certain how the knight can escape from imprisonment; or 18 Bb3 Ne5 19 Nf3 Be6 20 Nxe5 dxe5 21 Rf3 Bxb3 22 axb3 [After 22 Rg3 Bxc2 Black has sufficient compensation for the king] 22...h5 23 Rg3 Qe6 24 Bf6 Rh7 and Black defends himself.)
16...Ne5 17 Bd3 Ke8
(17...Be6 is not possible because of the loss of a piece.)
18 Bxe5
(This continuation is sufficient for victory, but even stronger was 18 Nf3, threatening to conclude the game by direct attack. Black would have nothing better than 18...Nxf3+ 19 Rxf3 Qg6; but after 20 Bxd6 Qxg3 [20...Be6 21 Qe5!] 21 Bxf7+ Kd8 22 Rg3 he is left a pawn down with a bad position.)
18...Qxe5 19 Qxe5+ dxe5 20 Rxf7

(Black could put up a more stubborn resistance by 29...Rb5, but also here, after 30 Rxc6 Bd7 31 Ra6 Ke7 32 Nd2 or 30 Rxc6 Bb7 31 Re6+ Kd7 32 Rxe5 Rxb3 33 Rxa5, a win for White is beyond doubt.)
30 Rxc6 Bd7 31 Ra6 Ke7 32 Nxe5 Be6 33 Rxa5 Rxb2 34 Ra7+ Ke6 35 Nf3 Rb4 36 Ng5+ Kd6 37 Rf6+ Ke5
(In time-trouble, Black falls into a mating net, but it is already time to lay down his arms.)
38 Raa6 Rbl+ 39 Kf2 Rb2+ 40 Kg3 Bc6 41 Rxc6 Black resigns.

43 King's Indian Defence
White: Bronstein
Black: Boleslavsky
(Training tournament in Parnu 1947)
1 c4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 d4
(By a transposition of moves, the game has arrived at a usual variation of the King's Indian Defence.)
5...0-0 6 Bg5
of a piece.)

continuation is sufficient story, but even stronger Nf3, threatening to con- the game by direct attack.

would have nothing better...Nxf3+ 19 Rxf3 Qg6; but
20 Bxd6 Qxg3 [20...Be6 21 Bxf7+ Kd8 22 Rxf3 he is
pawn down with a bad n.]
Qxe5 19 Qxe5+
20 Rxf7

Black rooks are disconnect-
the bishops have no freedom
forced to carry out a
ve function. In view of
threat 21 Nf3, Black is
to give up a pawn, but
does not save him from
loss.)
Bd8 21 Rxb7 Bf6
f7 Be7 23 Raf1 a5
b5
ecessary to prevent the
of 25 Nc4, but this move
to a further weakening of
position.)
g7 Rb8 26 Nf3 Bf6
f7 bxa4 28 Rxf6
29 cxb3 Rxb3

(A dubious idea. This move leads
to the exchange of the important
black-squared bishop. However,
the weakening of Black's king's
flank which is achieved, is very
difficult to exploit.)
6...h6 7 Bh4
(On 7 Bf4, Black could carry out
an occupation of the d4 square.
For example: 7...Bg4 8 Be2 Nc6 9
Be3 [9 d5 e5!] 9...e5 10 d5 Bxf3
11 Bxf3 Nd4 with a good game for
Black.)
7...g5 8 Bg3 Nh5 9 d5

(Black could put up a more
stubborn resistance by 29...Rb5,
but also here, after 30 Rxc6 Bd7
31 Ra6 Ke7 32 Nd2 or 30 Rxc6 Bb7
31 Re6+ Kd7 32 Rxe5 Rxb3 33 Rxa5,
a win for White is beyond doubt.)
30 Rxc6 Bd7 31 Ra6 Ke7
32 Nxe5 Be8 33 Rxa5
Rxb2 34 Ra7+ Ke6 35
Nf3 Rb4 36 Ng5+ Kd6 37
Rf6+ Ke5
(In time-trouble, Black falls
into a mating net, but it is
already time to lay down his
arms.)
38 Raa6 Rb1+ 39 Kf2
Rb2+ 40 Kg3 Bc6 41
Raxc6 Black resigns.

43 King's Indian
Defence
White: Bronstein
Black: Boleslavsky
(Training tournament
in Parnu 1947)
1 c4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6 3
Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 d4
(By a transposition of moves, the
game has arrived at a usual
variation of the King's Indian
Defence.)
5...0-0 6 Bg5

(The sacrifice 9 Nxf5 Nxf5 10
hxg5 hxg5 11 Qh5 Re8 would not
give White a sufficient attack.
The move 9 d5 is directed against
the threat 9...e6 followed by
...f5, but the opening of the
long diagonal in the presence of
the unlocked bishop g7 is far
from being safe for White.)
9...c6 10 Be2 Nxc3 11
hxg3 Qb6 12 Qd2 Nd7 13
Nh2?
(An erroneous move, after which
Black at once obtains a decisive
advantage. If White does not want
to castle king's side, then he
should continue 13 Na4 Qc7 14 Nd4
occupying the strong central
square and obtaining counter-
chances.)
13...Nc5!

(This move at once paralyses the game. 14 f4 is not possible because of 14...Bxc3 15 Qxc3 Nxe4 with a rout. On 14 Ng4 would follow 14...Bxg4 15 Bxg4 Qxb2!)
14 f3
(Reinforcing the e4 pawn, but depriving White of the possibility of king's side castling. Now the White king will be forced to castle on the queen's side, where it falls under an irresistible attack.)
14...f5 15 0-0-0 a5
(Before opening the f-file, Black still wants to increase the pressure on the queen's flank. It is possible to hold up the advance of the a-pawn only by 16 Kbl a4 17 a3, but in this case the invasion of the rook on f2 would be decisive.)
16 e5 dxe5 17 f4 exf4 18 gxf4 a4
(In this race, Black leaves his opponent behind.)
19 fxg5 a3 20 Kbl
(20 gxf6 is not possible because of 20...Bxh6 and Black wins.)
20...Qxb2+
(The simplest; probably the game could have been concluded by direct attack with 20...Ne4.)
21 Qxb2 axb2 22 Kc2 hgx5 23 Nf3 Ne4 24 Nb1
(White's position has already been hopeless for a long time. 24 Nxe4 fxe4 25 Nxg5 Rf2 would lead to the loss of a piece.)
24...g4 25 Nh4 Bd7
(The quickest way to decide the game.)
26 Ng6 cxd5 27 Nxe7+ Kf7 28 Rh7 Ba4+ White resigns.

44 French Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Thomas
(USSR V Great Britain match, London 1947)
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 dxe4 4 Nxe4 Nd7 5 Nf3 Nf6 6 Nxf6+ Nxf6 7 c3
(As is well known, on 7 Bd3 Black can reply 7...b6, and if 8 Ne5 Bb7 9 Bb5+, then 9...c6 10 Nxc6 [or 10 Bxc6+ Bxc6 11 Nxc6 Qd5 12 Qf3 Qxf3 13 gxf3 Rxc8 14 Nxa7 Rxc2] 10...Qd5 11 c4 Qxg2 12 Ne5+ Kd8 to Black's advantage.
The move 7 c3 is directed against 7...b6. If now 7...b6?, then 8 Bb5+ Bd7 9 Bd3 and Black's white-squared bishop is forced to limit itself to a passive position on d7. However, the move 7 c3 is hardly better than 7 Bd3, since upon it Black achieves an even game by continuing 7...c5.)
7...Bd6
(In this variation, the bishop is better placed on e7; Black will play this a move later with loss of tempo.)
8 Bg5 h6 9 Bh4 Be7 Bd3 0-0 11 Qe2 Re8
(The aim of this move is incomprehensible. Black does not intend to transfer the knight to the e4 square, but even though this manoeuvre might be too passive a continuation would not rid him of the attack. Worth considering was 11...Gxf5 preventing queen's side castling. After king's side castling, White, Black already is threatened by a pawn storm.)
12 0-0-0 Nd5
(Relatively best; the exchange of bishops would ease Black's defence; after retreating to f3 the bishop obstructs the way of the g-pawn.)
13 Bg3 Bd6 14 Kb1 Bd7 (14...Nf4 is not possible because of 15 Bxf4 Bxf4 16 Qe4.)
15 Ne5 Ba4
(The beginning of a series of weak moves, leading Black to defeat. The bishop thrust is linked to any plan and is of incidental nature. He should play 15...Rb8, so as, by ...b5, to keep play on the queen's flank.)
16 Rd2 f5

(There was no need to weaken the pawn structure; 16 a3 was to be preferred.)
been concluded by the attack with 20...Ne4.)

b2 axb2 22 Kc2 3 Nf3 Ne4 24 Nb1 position has already been concluded for a long time. 24...Nxf5 would lead to a piece.)

4 25 Nh4 Bd7 the worst way to decide the position.

c5 27 Nxe7+ 1 Rh7 Ba4+ White wins.

French Defence
Boleslavsky
Thomas

V Great Britain
London 1947

6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nxe4 Nf7 5 Nf3 Nxf6+ Nxf6 7 c3

11 known, on 7 Bd3 Black can 7...b6, and if 8 Ne5 5+ then 9...c6 10 Nxc6 bxc6 11 Nxc6 Qd5 12 gxf3 Rc8 14 Nxa7...Qd5 11 c4 Qxg2 12 Ne5+ Black's advantage.

7 e5 is directed against if now 7...b6?, then 8 Bd3 and Black's white-bishop is forced to limit his passive position on the move 7 c3 is better than 7 Bd3, since Black achieves an even position continuing 7...c5.)

6 variation, the bishop is placed on e7; Black will a move later with loss of tempo.)

8 Bh5 h6 9 Bh4 Be7 10 Bd3 0-0 11 Qe2 Re8 (The aim of this move is incomprehensible. Black does not in the future transfer the knight to f8, even though this manoeuvre would be too passive a continuation and would not rid him of the attack. Worth considering was 11...Qd5, preventing queen's side castling. After king's side castling by White, Black already is not threatened by a pawn storm.)

12 0-0-0 Nd5 (Relatively best; the exchange of bishops would ease Black's defence; after retreating to g3, the bishop obstructs the way of the g-pawn.)

13 Bg3 Bd6 14 Kb1 Bd7 (14...Nf4 is not possible because of 15 Bxf4 Bxf4 16 Qe4.)

15 Ne5 Ba4 (The beginning of a series of weak moves, leading Black to defeat. The bishop thrust is not linked to any plan and is of an incidental nature. He should play 15...Rb8, so as, by ...b5, to set up play on the queen's flank.)

16 Rd2 f5 (There was no need to weaken the e5 square for the present, since White has still not created threats on the king's flank.)

17 h4! (The threat 17...f4 was a sham, since on 17...f4, 18 Qe4 wins. White's move pursues two objectives: firstly, occupation of the g6 square, secondly, to bring the bishop, after h5, to h4, and open the way for the g-pawn for an attack on the king's flank.)

17...Bxe5?

But with this exchange Black brings upon himself a pawn storm, which he is in no position to handle.)

18 Bxe5 Nf6 19 f3 Qe7 20 g4 Bc6 21 gxf5 exf5 22 Rgl (On 22 Bxf5, Black would exchange one of the bishops by 22...Nd7. The attack on the g-file must lead more quickly to the goal.)

22...Bd7 23 Qe3 Kh7 24 Rdg2 Rg8 25 Bc4 g6 26 Bxg8+ Rxg8 27 Qf2

(More energetic was 27 c4 c6 28 Qc3, threatening 29 d5, and Black could not have resisted for long.)

27...Bc6 28 Re1 Bd5 29 b3 b5 30 Qf1 a6 31
Rge2 Rg7
(Otherwise would follow 32 Bxc7.)
32 Re3 Rf7 33 Qg2
(The influence of time trouble tells; 33 c4 bxc4 34 bxc4 Qb4+ 35 Rb3 Qxc4 36 Qxc4 Bxc4 37 Rc3 would win quickly here.)
33...Ng4 34 R3e2 Qd7
35 Qg3 Nxe5 35 dx e5 Qc6
(Black is tempted by the double attack, reckoning on winning a pawn, since 37 Re3 is not possible because of 37...f4. Far more important was to blockade the e5 pawn with the move 30...Qe6; by allowing it to advance, Black is destroyed in a few moves.)
37 e6 Re7 38 Rgl Qe8
39 Rge1 Qc6 40 h5 g5
41 Qe5!
(Now, on 41...Bxe6, 42 Qf6 is winning, while on 41...Bxf3 would follow 42 Qxf5+ Kg8 43 Qg6+ Rg7 44 e7.)
Black resigns.

45 Sicilian Defence
White: Thomas
Black: Boleslavsky
(USSR v Great Britain match, London 1947)
1 e4 c5 2 Nc3 Nc6 3 g3
4 d4 Bg7 5 d3 d6 6
Nge2 e6 7 0-0 Nge7 8
Bd2
(On the usual 8 Be3 Nd4 9 Qd2 Bd7 White does not succeed in exchanging the black-squared bishops, since the c2 pawn is hanging. When the bishop stands on d2, and the queen on c1, White intends to carry out an exchange of bishops, since the move ...Nd4 does not now achieve its aim because of a simple exchange.)
8...Bd7 9 Qc1 Nd4
(Black goes half way to meet the opponent's intention. Since White does not threaten the advance d4, there was no need to hurry with this move. He should continue 9...Qe5 and on 10 h3 - 10...Rb8 and then 11...b5, beginning play on the queen's flank. The White queen is passively placed on c1, disconnecting the rooks. White has to think of another arrangement of pieces and by the same token acknowledges that he has achieved nothing with his 8th and 9th moves.)
10 Nxd4 cxd4 11 Ne2 h5
(Of course he should not allow the exchange of bishops.)
12 c4?
(An extremely bad move. White not only does not take measures against the further advance of the h-pawn, but also deprives himself of counterplay in the centre. Correct was 12 h3, so as, on 12...h4, to reply 13 g4 and then, depending on Black's play, either to begin an attack with the f-pawn or to undermine the outpost on d4 with the move c3.)
12...h4 13 f4 hxg3 14
Nxg3
(On 14 hxg3, unpleasant for White is the transfer of the Black knight via g8-h6 to the weakened g4 square. By taking the pawn with the knight, White, apparently, still does not see possibilities of attack for Black.)

14...Nc6 15 Rf3
(Freeing the f1 square for knight and at the same parrying the threat 15...Qh4)

15...g5!

(Only this tactical determines Black's advantage: exchange of the d-pawn for g-pawn [16 fxe5 Nxe5 17 Rf3]...
18 Qc2 Ne5] leads to a position for White. After 17...g5 as occurs in the game, opens the g-file for attack captures the extremely important e5 square. In making the move 15...g5, Black must reckon the exchange sacrifice: 14...
Ne5 17 Qd1. The play also in case turns out in Black's favour: For example: 17...Qe7! [With move, Black wins an important tempo, since the White knight cannot move away] 18 Qe2 Ng4 19 Qxf3 Be6 20 Nh5 [otherwise Rh4] 20...0-0-0 21 Rf1 f5...
xg6 Qf7 23 Ng3 Rdg8, and position of the White king one with serious apprehension. But nevertheless the sacrifice of the exchange was the best situation, since after 16...Nxe5 chosen by White, he is doomed to passive, miserable defence.)
14...Nc6 15 Rf3
(Freeing the f1 square for the knight and at the same time parrying the threat 15...Qh4.)
15...g5!

(Only this tactical blow determines Black's advantage. The exchange of the d-pawn for the g-pawn [16 fxg5 Ne5 17 Rf1 Nxd3 18 Qc2 Ne5] leads to a losing position for White. After 16 Nf1, as occurs in the game, Black opens the g-file for attack and captures the extremely important e5 square. In making the move 15...g5, Black must reckon with the exchange sacrifice: 16 fxg5 Ne5 17 Qd1. The play also in this case turns out in Black's favour. For example: 17...Qe7! [With this move, Black wins an important tempo, since the White rook cannot move away] 18 Qe2 Nfx3+ 19 Qxf3 Be5 20 Nh5 [otherwise 20...Rh4] 20...0-0-0 21 Rf1 f6! 22 gxf6 Qf7 23 Ng3 Rdg8, and the position of the White king fills one with serious apprehension. But nevertheless the sacrifice of the exchange was the best continuation, since after 16 Nf1, chosen by White, he is doomed to passive, miserable defence.)

16 Nf1 gxf4 17 Bxf4 Ne5 18 Rg3 Bf6 19 Qd2 Qe7 20 Qb4
(A harmless thrust. White cannot create threats in this area, since the majority of his pieces are tied up on the king's flank.)
20...Bc6 21 Rcl b6 22 Nd2
(If 22 a4, then 22...Bh4 23 Rh3
[After 23 Bxe5 dxe5 24 Qxe7+ Kxe7 White loses the a4 pawn] 23...Qf6
24 Bxe5 Qxe5 with an overwhelming position for Black.)
22...0-0-0 23 Rf1 Rhg8
(Precisely this rook, so as not to take away the defence from the d6 pawn. Black's attack must unfold on the g-file and not on the h-file.)
24 Qa3
(The d3 pawn can only be defended with the queen.)
24...Ng4 25 Rgf3
(Parrying the threat 25...Ne3, but new trouble is in store for White.)
25...Be5!

(Exchanging a piece which is important for the defence, and taking possession of the black squares.)
26 Bxe5 Nxe5 27 Rf6
(27 Rg3 Rxc3 28 h3xg3 Qg5 29 Nf3 Qe3+ would lose at once. There is already no satisfactory defence for White.)

27...Rg7

(Freeing the knight from defence of the f7 pawn and doubling rooks on the g-file. There follows a short denouement.)

28 Kh1 Rdg8 29 R6f2 Ng4 30 Re2 Ne3 31 R1f2 Nxg2 32 Rxg2 Rfxg2 33 Rxc2 Rxc2 34 Kxc2 Qg5+

White resigns.

46 King's Indian Defence

White: Bondarevsky
Black: Boleslavsky
(International tournament in memory of Chigorin, Moscow 1947)

1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6 3 Nc3

(This continuation was repeatedly and not without success employed by Bondarevsky in 1946-1947.)

3...d5 4 Bf4 Bg7 5 h3

(Bondarevsky played this against Smyslov in the seventh round. Smyslov replied 5...0-0 and obtained a slightly worse position. However, White's 5th move is inaccurate, allowing Black to at once equalise the game; 5 e3 was correct.)

5...Ne4! 6 e3

(White, for nothing, goes in for an inferior pawn structure. Better was 6 Nxe4 dxe4 7 Ne5 with an approximately even game.)

6...Nxc3 7 bxc3 c5 8 Be5 (Now White obtains a positionally lost game. It was necessary to play 8 c4, ridding himself of the doubled pawns. Admittedly, after 8...cxd4 9 exd4 Nc6, Black's position is preferable.)

8...f6 9 Bg3 Qa5 10 Qd2 c4!

(Now White can hardly move.)

11 Be2 Nd7 12 0-0 Nb6 13 Bc7

(Forced, because of the threat 13...Na4.)

13...Bd7 14 Nh2 Rc8

(Black forces the exchange of the active bishop and, at the same time, opens a line for a future attack on the weak a2 pawn.)

15 Bxb6 axb6 16 f4 0-0 17 Bf3 Kh8 18 Ng4

(On 18 e4, Black would reply 18...e5! with a favourable opening of the game. For example: 19 exd5 exd4 20 Qxd4 f5 21 Qf2 Bxc3 22 Rab1 b5, winning the a2 pawn; or 19 fxe5 fxe5 20 dxe5 Bxe5 21 Qxd5 Bc6 22 Qxa5 bxa5, and Black's advantage is obvious.)

18...Rcd8 19 Rab1

(This active move only helps Black to carry out his plan.)

19...Bc6 20 h4 b5 (Black need not take into account White's manoeuvre on the flank, since it will not much time for White real threats.)

21 Be2 e6 22 h5 Ra8 23 Ral Ra3

(Now White loses the after which his whole falls apart. The open h-file, for the present, him nothing.)

26 Rf3 Qa5 27 e4

(A painful necessity.)

27...dxe4 28 Rg3

(The g6xe4 is invaluable, view of the weakness c3; the bishop g7 make the attack on White pawns.)

29 Kf2 Rd8 30 31 Nf1 Be8

(With 31...Rxd4 32 cxb6 Nxb6 White could once decided the game in favour. Now the struggle is rather protracted.)

32 Rgh3 Qc7 33

(This is not bad, stronger would be the plan.)

33...Rxa2.)

34 cxb4 Rxh3 35 Bxd4 36 Qc1 Qb6
It was necessary to ridding himself of the pawns. Admittedly, after 9 exd4 Nc6, Black's is preferable.)

9 Bg3 Qa5 10

White's manoeuvre on the king's flank, since it will require too much time for White to create real threats.)

21 Be2 e6 22 Nh2 Qc7

23 h5 Ra8 24 hxg6 hxg6

25 Ra1 Ra3

(Now White loses the c3 pawn, after which his whole position falls apart. The opening of the h-file, for the present, promises him nothing.)

26 Rf3 Qa5 27 e4

(A painful necessity.)

27...dxe4 28 Rg3 f5!

(The g6 pawn is invulnerable in view of the weakness of the pawn on c3; the bishop g7 now joins in the attack on White's central pawns.)

29 Kf2 Rd8 30 Rh1 Kg8

31 Nf1 Be8

(With 31...Rxd4 32 cxd4 Qxd2 33 Nxd2 Bxd4+ Black could have at once decided the game in his favour. Now the struggle is rather protracted.)

32 Rg3 Qc7 33 Ke1 b4

(This is not bad, but even stronger would be the preliminary 33...Rx a2.)

34 cxb4 Rxe3 35 Rxh3

Bxd4 36 Qc1 Qb6

(Winning a second pawn, but after 36...c3 White would quickly lay down his arms.)

37 Ne3 Qxb4+ 38 Kf1 b5

(Also here, better is 38...c3.)

39 c3 Qxc3

(Having little time for reflection, Black himself goes in for simplification.)

40 Qxc3 Bxc3 41 Nxc4

Bf6 42 Na3 Rd2 43 Bxb5

Bxb5 44 Nxb5 Rxa2 45

Nc7 e5

(The position is still winning, but now, because of the limited number of pieces, accurate play is needed.)

46 Nd5 Bg7 47 Rb3 Ra7

48 g4 Kf7 49 Rb5 Ke6

50 Ne3

(White does all that is possible, but alas, the material advantage decides the outcome of the struggle.)

50...exf4 51 gxf5+ gxf5 52 Rb6+ Ke5 53

Rb5+ Ke6 54 Rb6+ Ke5

55 Rb5+ Kd4 56 Nxf5+

Kd3 57 Rd5+ Kc4 58 Rd8

Be5 59 Re8 Ra5 60 Kg2

(Making the win easier, but also after the better 60 Ke2 Rb5, Black would win in the end. In
the game there followed....)
60...Kd3 61 Kh3 Bc7 62 Rf8 e3 63 Nh4 Rh5 64 Rf7 Be5 65 Rd7+ Ke4 66 Rd1 Bf6 White resigns.

47 Game Ending
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Trifunovich
(International tournament in memory of Chigorin, Moscow 1947)

(Black could go over to the end-game, with the move 28...Qxf3, and would have had a quite satisfactory position, but he overestimated his position and played 28...e4. On this surprisingly followed:)
29 dxe4! Qxc4 30 exf5!
(This is the whole point! Now, as shown by the following variations Black does not avoid material loss:
1) 30...Qxa4 31 Qd5+ and White wins;
2) 30...Qxb3 31 Qxc6 Rd8 32 Qc7 Rf8 33 Bxg7 Kxg7 34 Re7+ Rf7 35 Qxd7 and White wins;
3) 30...Qxb3 31 Qxc6 Ra7 32 Bxg7 Kxg7 33 Re7+ Kf8 34 Qd6 Kg8 35 Qb6+ Qxe6 36 fxe6.
The continuation, chosen by Black, also does not save the game.)
30...Rac8 31 Qg3 Qf7
(On 31...Nd6, decisive is 32 Re7. Relatively best was 31...Rf6, but also after 32 Bxf6 Nxf6 33 Rxb6, White, having a rook and three pawns for two pieces with the better position, must win.)
32 Qxg7+
(At first sight, 32 Bxg7 is stronger, so as, on 32...Qxg7, to play 33 Re7, but in fact on 32 Bxg7 would have followed 32...Qxf5, and Black gets off with the loss of one piece.)
32...Qxg7 33 Bxg7 Kf7
(Just as hopeless is 33...Kxg7 34 Re7+.)
34 Rg3 Rd6 35 Bc3 Nf6 36 Rge3
(White has two extra pawns with the better position. There followed....)
36...Re8 37 Rxe8 Nxe8 38 g4 h5 39 f3 Rd3 40 Kg2 Nc7 41 g5 Black resigns.

48 Queen's Gambit
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Moiseev
("Iskra" Championship, Odessa 1948)
1 d4 d5 2 c4 Nf6
(For disregarding the elementary principles of playing the opening, Black, in this game, receives a deserved punishment.)
3 cxd5 Nxd5 4 Nf3 e6
(The variation of the Grunfeld Defence, into which Black, by
continuation, chosen by
also does not save the
31...Qg3 Qf7
best was 31...Rf6, but
32 Bxf6 Nxf6 33 Rxb6,
being a rook and three
two pieces with the
Black gets off with the
32 Bxg7 Kf7
hopeless is 33...Kxg7 34
Rd6 35 Bc3 Nf6
3
two extra pawns with
ter position. There
37 Rxe8 Nxe8
39 f3 Rd3 40
e5 41 g5 Black

Queen's Gambit
Boleslavsky
Moiseev
Championship, 1948)
3 2 c4 Nf6
regarding the elementary
of playing the open-
ack, in this game,
deserved punishment.)
4 Nxd5 4 Nf3 e6
ation of the Grunfeld
into which Black, by
4...g6 5 e4 Nb6, could lead the
game, would also not be very
pleasant for him.)
5 e4 Nf6 6 Nc3 Bc5

(Black of course does not intend
to leave the opponent with a
strong centre. To an inexperience-
ed player it might appear that,
by exchanging the d4 pawn, he
equalises the game. In fact this
is not so. With the following
advance, White obtains a space
advantage in the centre and
chances of an attack on the
king's flank.)
8 e5 Nd5 9 0-0 Nc6 10
dxc5
(This simple reply sets Black
difficult problems. After 10...
Bxc5 11 Qe2 he would have to
retreat the bishop to e7, since
he cannot castle because of the
sacrifice on h7. After 11...Be7
12 Ne4 White stands better, but
also the continuation chosen by
Black is insufficient.)
10...Nxc3 11 bxc3 Qa5
12 Qc2 h6 13 Rb1
(Occupying the half-open file and
provoking a weakening of the b6
square, which subsequently plays
a role of no little importance.)
13...a6 14 Bf4 Qxc5
(Black does not want to move away
from the e7 square the bishop,
which is needed for defence of the
king's flank, but soon it
becomes clear that the queen is
precariously placed on the c5
square.)
15 Rfe1 0-0
(Black finally castles, but it
turns out that the unpleasantness
has only begun.)
16 Be3 Qa3
(In the present game, Moiseev
does not show his usual tenacity
in defence. After this move,
Black loses quickly. Also bad is
16...Qa5 17 Bb6 Qa3 18 Rb3 Qa4 19
Re4, but after 16...Qd5 Black
would avoid material loss.
Admittedly, after 17 Bb6 Qd7
[necessary, in view of the threat
18 Rad1] 18 Qe2, he would have to
conduct a protracted, difficult
defence.)
17 Rb3 Qa4 18 Bxh6!
(An unexpected blow! If now 18...
gxh6, then 19 Re4 Qa5 20 Rg4+ Kh8
21 Qd2 with irresistible
threats.)
18...f5 19 exf6 Bxf6
20 Bc1
(The bishop has fulfilled its
role on the c1-h6 diagonal and transfers to another area. To defend the g6 square, Black will have to place his knight on e7 and it is precisely this which will be attacked from the a3 square by the White bishop.)

20...Ne7 21 Ba3 Rd8 22 Bh7+ Kf8
(Or 22...Kh8 23 Bxe7 Bxe7 24 Ne5.)
23 Ne5 Bxe5
(Leading to the loss of the queen but there was already no defence.)
24 Bxe7+ Kxe7 25 Rxb7+ Bxb7 26 Qxa4 Black resigns.

49 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Book
(International tournament in Stockholm 1948)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e6 6 Be2 a6 7 0-0 Qc7 8 f4 Nc6 9 Be3 Be7 10 Qe1 Nxd4 11 Bxd4 e5?

(This counter-attack in the centre before castling proves to be a mistake, after which Black at once gets into a losing position. The Scheveningen variation of the Sicilian Defence, chosen by Black, requires from him careful and accurate play, both in the opening itself and in the middlegame stage. Also bad here is 11...b5, since, after 12 e5 dxe5 13 fxe5 Nd7 [Even worse is 13...Be5 14 Qf2 Bxd4 15 Qxd4 Nd7 16 Bxb5!] 14 Bf3 Bb7 15 Qg3 0-0 16 Ne4, White obtains an attack. Correct is 11...O-O and then ...Bd7-c6.)

12 fx e5 dxe5 13 Qg3!
(It seems that Black had not noticed this move; now things are bad for him.)
13...Be5
(The only move to save him from immediate material loss.)
14 Bxc5 Qxc5+ 15 Kh1 Kf8
(Also this is forced. Not possible are either 15...O-O or 15...Rg8, because of 16 Rxf6. White must now act energetically, so as not to allow Black to consolidate his position.)
16 Nd5! Nxe4
(Black could resist longest after 16...Nxd5 17 Qxe5 Qe7 18 Qxd5 Be6, but to give up a pawn with the inferior position was not very attractive.)
17 Qxe5 Nf6 18 Rad1 Be6

(diagram)

(On 18...Nxd5, winning at once is 19 Bh5; on 18...Ng4 - 19 Bxg4 Bxg4 20 Rxf7+.)

19 b4 Qc6
(On 19...Qxc2 would fail in five moves.)
20 Nxf6 gxf6 21 Rg8 22 Bf3 Qb6
(Leading to the loss of but also after 22...Qc6 Rxa2 24 Bd5 Bxd5 25 Qxd5 Black must give up.)
23 Rd6 Qf2 24 Qxc2 25 Rdxe6 resigns.

50 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Steiner
(International tournament in Stockolm 1948)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e6 6 Be2 a6 7 0-0 Qc7 8 f4 Nc6 9 Be3 Be7 10 Qe1 Nxd4 11 Bxd4 e5

(Black should not, completing his development, to operations on the flank. The transfer of the to c4 does not promise thing good, the knight hold its ground on this while the White bishop succeed in occupying a w
HtdG, after which Black gets into a losing
position. The Scheveningen var-
iation of the Sicilian Defence,
played by Black, requires from
effective and accurate play,
opening itself and in the
early stage. Also bad
11...b5, since, after 12
$fxe5$ Nd7 [Even worse
$Qxe5$ 14 Qf2 Bxd4 15 Qxd4]
14 Bf3 Bb7 15 Qg3
Black, White obtains an
advantage. Correct is 11...0-0 and
Rd7-c6."
5 dxe5 13 Qg3!
was that Black had not
made this move; now things are
bad."
$Be5$: $Qxe5+ 15 Kh1$
this is forced. Not
are either 15...0-0 or
12...c6, because of 16 Rxf6.
But now act energetically,
Black not to allow White to
breath his position."
31 Nxe4
would resist longest after
5 17 Qxe5 Qe7 18 Qd5
a1 to give up a pawn with
active position was not
active.)
5 e5 $Nf6 18 Rad1$
$Nxd5$, winning at once is
on 18...Ng4 - 19 Bxg4
$Rxf7+.

19 b4 Qc6
(On 19...Qxc2 would follow mate
in five moves.)
20 Nxf6 gxf6 21 Rxf6
Rg8 22 Bf3 Qb6
(Leading to the loss of a piece,
but also after 22...Qc4 23 Rf4
Qxa2 24 Bd5 Bxd5 25 Qd6+ Ke8 26
Rxd5 Black must give up.)
23 Rd6 Qf2 24 Bxb7
Qxc2 25 Rxe6 Black
resigns.

50 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Steiner
(International tournament in Stockholm 1948)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3
d6 6 Be2 e6 7 0-0 a6 8
Be3 Qc7 9 f4 Na5
(Black should not, without completing his development, go over
to operations on the queen's flank. The transfer of the knight
to c4 does not promise him anything good, the knight will not
hold its ground on this square, while the White bishop will
succeed in occupying a very handy

position on b2.)
10 Kh1 Be7 11 Qe1 Nc4
12 Bc1 b5 13 b3 Nb6 14
Bf3 Bb7 15 a3 Nbd7 16
Bb2 Nc5?

17 Qc4
(Black imperceptibly falls into a
difficult position, since, by
exploiting the bad manoeuvre of
the Black knight, White places
his pieces in the best positions
and prepares for an offensive.
The careless move 16...Nc5 turns
out to be a very serious mistake.
Threat 17 e5 should be parried by the move 16...Rb8,
defending the bishop, and then
he should rather quickly castle.)
17 b4!
(Now Black has only the choice of
two evils.)
17...Ncd7
(Black all the same chooses the

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greater! True, after 17...Na4 18 Nxa4 bxa4 19 c4, it turns out that he is suppressed in the centre, since 19...Qxc4 is bad because of 20 Rcl Qa2 [or 20...Qd3 21 e5 Nd5 22 Be4] 21 Qe2 with the threat of 22 Ra1. But Black at least manages to complete his development. 18 e5 dxe5 19 fxe5 Ng8 (A painful retreat, but after 19...Nd5 20 Nxd5 exd5 21 Nf5, Black would lose at once.) 20 Qg3 Bf8 (20...g6 is not possible because of 21 Bxb7 Qxb7 22 Qf4.) 21 Rael (White does not hurry to force events, since the Black king has nowhere to hide. By 21 Nxd5 axb5 22 Nxb5 Qb6 23 Bxb7 Qxb7 24 Nc6+ Bxc6 25 Qxg7 he could achieve a material advantage, but Black would thereby unravel his tangled pieces and obtain counterplay. In making the move 21 Rael, White, not without foundation, counts on more.) 21...Nh6 22 Bxb7 Qxb7 23 Bc1 g6 (There is no satisfactory continuation for Black. On 23...Nb6 would follow 24 Bg5, detaining the king in the centre, and there is no salvation for Black. For example: 24...Qd7 25 Rd1 Nd5 26 Nxd5 Qxd5 27 Bxh6 gxh6 28 Nxb5 Qxb5 29 Qf3 Rf7 30 Qf6 and White wins.) 24 Bxh6 (Now, when the reserves are brought up, is the time to act.) 24...Bxh6 25 Qh3 Bg5 (On 25...Bf8, decisive is 26 Nxe6 fxe6 27 Qxe6+ Kd7 [or 27...Be7 28 Nd5 Nf8 29 Nf6+ Kd8 30 Rd1+] 28 Rf7 Ra7 29 Rd1 with irresistible threats. On 25...Bg7 would follow 26 Rxf7!, on 25...Bd2 - 26 Ne4! For Black, there was still the reply 25...Qb6, defending the e6 square and attacking the knight d4; in this case, White would win by 26 Qxh6 Qxd4 27 Ne4 Nxe5 [there is nothing better] 28 Nf6+ Ke7 29 Rd1 Qc3 30 Ne4 Qc7 31 Qg5+ Kf8 32 Nxd6.) 26 Ne4 Be7 27 Rxf7! Qd5 (If 27...Kxf7, then 28 Qxe6+ Kf8 29 Rf1++) 28 Rxe7+ Kxe7 29 Qh4+ Kh6 30 Nf6+ Kg7 31 Qe7+ Kh6 32 Re3 Black resigns.

51 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Stahlberg
(International tournament in Stockholm 1948)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Be2 Nc6 7 0-0 Qc7 8 Be3 a6 9 f4 Bd7 10 Qe1 Be7 11 Rd1 Bxd4 12 Bc6 13 Bf3 Qg3 b5 (Black has successfully developed his pieces, but here he should play a2-a3 so as, in the event of advance of the e-pawn, the d5 square for his knight, or a premature move 14...b6 White to seize the initiative) 15 e5 Ne8

(Black, apparently, is thinking about the security of his king, since he avoids the realization of the game. At dxe5 16 fxe5 Black would be overwhelmed by possibilities: 1) 16...Nd5 17 Nxd5 Bxd5 - White's position is winning; but Black will obtain counterplay, and White will prevail without difficulty; 2) 16...Nd7 17 Ne4 Bxe5 18 Rac8 19 c3 Bc5 - to neutralize White's pressure on the king's flank, Black will have to sacrifice the c-pawn. But even then, Black likely would not lose.) 16 f5! Bxf3? (This already is a serious mistake. True, also after 16...exf5 [The continuation 17 Bxe5 Qb6+ 18 Kh1 exd4 19 cxd4 sees the opening of the d-file, with the mating threat of Qb6+ and Rf1+], White would obtain the advantage.)
Qe1 Be7 11 Rd1 Nxd4 12 Bxd4 Bc6 13 Bf3 0-0 14 Qg3 b5

(Black has successfully completed the development of his pieces, but here he should play 14...Rad8 so as, in the event of the advance of the e-pawn, to secure the d5 square for his knight. The premature move 14...b5 allows White to seize the initiative.)

15 e5 Ne8

Qxc6 20 Nd5 leads to a very difficult game for Black] 17 Nd5 Bxd5 18 Bxd5 Rd8 19 e6 fxe6 20 Bxe6+ Kh8 21 Bxf5 Bf6 and White has a clear advantage, but this would nevertheless be a long way from that which he achieves in the game.)

17 Qxf3 d5

(After 17...dxe5 18 Qxa8 exd4 19 fxe6! Nd6 20 Nd5, White remains the exchange ahead; if 17...Rb8, then 18 f6 gxf6 19 exf6 Bd8 20 Qh5 and White's attack is irresistible.)

18 Qh3?

(Too refined. By continuing simply 18 f6 Bc5 19 Qh5, White would win quickly. For example: 19...gxf6 20 exf6 Kh8 21 Kh1 Rg8 22 Bxc5 Qxc5 23 Qxf7.)

18...Qc6?

(After this passive move there is no hope, whereas by playing 18...Bc5! Black would parry the attack. After 19 fxe6 Bxd4+ 20 Rxd4 Qxe5 21 Rxd5 Qxe6, White has only a slightly better endgame.)

19 f6 Bc5 20 Rf4 Bxd4+ 21 Rfxd4!

(More accurate than 21 Rxd4, on which Black would reply 21...Qc7, and 22 Rh4 is not possible because of 22...Qxe5 with the threat of mate on e1. Now there is no defence against 22 Rh4.)

Diagram

21...Rc8 22 Rh4 h6 23 fxg7 Nxg7 24 Rxh6 Qc5+ 25 Kh1 f5 26 exf6 Rxh6 (If 26...Nf5, then 27 Qh5 with unavoidable mate.)
27 Rxf6 b4 28 Rdf1 bxc3 29 Rh6 Nf5 30 Rg6+ Kf8 31 Rxf5+ Black resigns.

52 Alekhine Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Bondarevsky
(USSR Team Championship, Leningrad 1948)
1 e4 Nf6
(A surprise! As far as I know, Bondarevsky had never before played this opening.)
2 e5 Nd5 3 d4 d6 4 c4 Nb6 5 exd6
(A modest continuation, explained by reasons of a psychological nature. For White, there was a basis to suppose that in one of the main sharp variations a prepared surprise awaited him, and so he chooses this quiet continuation, which, in his turn, was probably already a surprise for Black.)
5...exd6 6 Bd3 g6
(Black chooses a continuation, recommended in an article by V. Mikenas ["Chess in the USSR, No. 7 for 1946"])  
7 Ne2 Bg7 8 0-0 0-0 9 Nbc3 Nc6 10 Be3 Nb4
(An incorrect appraisal of the position. It is not worth losing time on the exchange of the passive bishop. He should continue 10...d5 11 c5 Nd7, with fully equal chances.)
11 b3 Nxd3 12 Qxd3 Re8
(Here already 12...d5 is dubious because of 13 c5 Nd7 14 Nxd5 c6 15 Ndf4 g5 [otherwise Black does not win back the pawn] 16 Nh5 Nxc5 17 Qc2, and Black's king's flank is seriously weakened.)
13 Rad1 Nd7

Black's position is cramped and it is not easy for him to complete his development and put right the coordination of his pieces. The move 13...Nd7 is inaccurate, in the first place he should play 13...h6, limiting the radius of activity of the White bishop.)
14 Qd2 c6
(An erroneous plan; the thrust with the queen to a5 gives Black nothing, but the weakened d6 pawn becomes an object of attack. Better was 14...Nf8.)
15 Rf1 Qa5 16 Bf4 Bf8
(He has to move away the bishop from g7, since on 16...d5 would follow 17 cxd5 cxd5 18 Bb5+ Nxb5 19 Qxb5 Qxd2 20 Rxd2, and position, in view of threats of 21 Nc7, is very difficult.)
17 Ng3 Rxe1+ 18 Bxe1
(So as, on 19 Re8, to reply Bb7; if, however, 18...Qd8 19 Nf5 Qd7 20 Kg7 Ne8+] 20 Nxf6+ Bg5; on 18...Qd8 would be Ng4 Nbd 20 Bg5 Be7 21 Bd5 Qf6 22 Qf4.)
19 Nge4 bxc4
(19...b4 20 Nd1 d5 was better. True, after 21 Bb5 it is not easy for Black to defend himself, but after 19...bxc4 Black loses virtually by force.)
20 Bxd6!

20...Ba6
(On 20...bxa3 would develop Bxf8 Nxf8 [21...bxa2 22 Nx6+ Kh8 [22...Kg7 23 Nb5 24 Qh6 and wins] 23 Nxe8+ [23...Bb7 24 Rxf8+ Rxf8 or 23...bxa2 24 Rxf8+ Kg7 25 Kxf6 26 Ne4+] 24 Rhe1 and Ne8+ followed by 26 Qh6.] after the move in the Black's position is lost.)
21 b4 Qf5 22 Bxf5 23 d5! Ne5
follow 17 cxd5 cxd5 18 b4 Qxb4 19 Nxd5 Qxd2 20 Rxd2, and Black's position, in view of the threat of 21 Nc7, is very difficult.)

17 Ng3 Rxel+ 18 Rxel b5 (So as, on 19 Re8, to reply 19...Bb7; if, however, 18...Nf6, then 19 Nd5 Qd8 [19...Qxd2 20 Nxf6+ Kg7 21 Ne8+] 20 Nxf6+ Qxf6 21 Bg5; on 18...Qd8 would follow 19 Nge4 Nb6 20 Bg5 Be7 21 Bxe7 Qxe7 22 Qf4.)

19 Nge4 bxc4 (19...b4 20 Nd1 d5 was slightly better. True, after 21 Nd6 it is not easy for Black to defend himself, but after 19...bxc4 Black loses virtually by force.)

20 Bxd6!

20...Ba6 (On 20...cxb3 would decide 21 Bxf8 Nxf8 [21...bxa2 22 Qh6] 22 Nf6+ Kh8 [22...Kg7 23 Ne8+, then 24 Qh6 and wins] 23 Re8! Kg7 [23...Bb7 24 Rxh8+ Rxf8 25 Qh6; or 23...bxa2 24 Rxf8+ Kg7 25 Rg8+ Kxf6 26 Ne4+] 24 Re5! and then 25 Ne8+ followed by 26 Qh6. But also after the move in the game, Black's position is lost.)

21 b4 Qf5 22 Bxf8 Rxf8 23 d5! Ne5 (Also bad is 23...cxd5 24 Nxd5 Kg7 25 Ne7 Qe6 26 Nc5 etc.)

24 dxc6 f6 (On 24...Nxc6, 25 b5 Bxb5 [25...Rd8 26 Qh6] 26 Nd6 would win.)

25 b5 Be8 26 Qd4 a6 27 Nd5 Kg7 28 Nxf6 Black resigns. (If now 28...Rxf6, then 29 Nxf6 Kxf6 30 f4.)

53 Queen's Indian Defence
White: Trupan
Black: Boleslavsky
("Iskra" Championship 1949)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 b6 4 g3 Bb4+ 5 Bd2 Be7 (This bishop manœuvre, provoking the White bishop to go to d2, is hardly favourable for Black also in the Dutch Defence; here, however, besides the additional difficulties, it yields nothing.)
6 Bg2 Bb7 7 0-0 0-0 8 Nc3 d5 (Black is forced to go over to this difficult system of defence, since, on the usual 8...Nf4, White could with advantage reply 9 d5! as he is not threatened with the doubling of the pawns on c3.)

9 cxd5 exd5 10 Qb3 diagram

(He should not, for the present, determine the position of the queen. 10 Ne5 was stronger. If, on this, Black replies 10...Nd7, then 11 Qa4! with the threat 12
Nc6, and after 11...Nxe5 12 dxe5 Ne4 13 Nxe4 dxe4 14 Bc3, Black's position, because of the weakness of the e4 pawn, is very difficult. On 10...c6 would follow 11 Qc2! and then 12 e4 with a great advantage for White.)

10...c6 11 Ne5 Nbd7 12 Nd3
(On 12 f4 Black could continue 12...c5! 13 e3 [13 Nxd5 Nxd5 14 Bxd5 Bxd5 15 Qxd5 Nxe5 is unfavourable for White, since the bishop on d2 is hanging] 13...cxd4 14 exd4 Ne4 15 Be3 Ndf6 with approximate equality.)

12...Re8 13 Rfe1 Nf8 14 Rad1
(Interesting complications arise after 14 e4. On this there is a choice for Black between the quiet 14...dxe4 15 Ne5 [15 Nxe4 Nxe4 16 Bxe4 Bf6 to Black's advantage] 15...Ne6 16 Nxe4 Nd5 with a solid position, and the sharp 14...Ne6 15 e5 Nxd4 16 Qa4 Ne4! 17 Nxe4 [17 Qxd4 Nxd2 18 b3 c5 gives White nothing] 17...dxe4 18 Bxe4 Nf3+ 19 Bxf3 Qxd3 20 Qd1 Rad8 21 Be3 Qf5 with a probable draw.)

14...Ne6 15 e3 Bd6 16 Bc1
(Both sides have completed the regrouping of their pieces; the position obtained on the board is very complicated and not easy to evaluate. White's plan must consist of the preparation of the move e4. Black, for his part, goes for chances on the king's flank.)

16...h5 17 e4?
(Black's thrust appeared so dangerous to White that he hurries to force events and gets into a difficult position. Meanwhile after 17 f4! Qc7 18 Ne5 Rad8 White's chances in the forthcoming struggle are in no way worse.)

17...dxe4
(Avoiding the variation 17...Nxd4 18 Qa4 dxe4 19 Qxd4 exd3 20 Rxe8+ Nxe8 21 Qxd3, in which, for the pawn, White has a good position.)

18 Ne5
(If 18 Nxe4, then 18...Nxe4 19 Rxe4 [19 Bxe4 Nxd4 20 Qa4 Qf6 to Black's advantage] 19...Qc7 with the threat 20...c5.)

18...Qc7! 19 Nxe4 Nxe4 20 Bxe4 c5!
(20...Nxd4 gives nothing because of 21 Qxf7+. Now, on 21 Nxf7, would follow 21...c4 wi)

21 Bxb7 Qxb7 22
(At first sight it seems White could get untied but, after 22...Qxf3 23 Rxe4 Nxd4 25 Rxe8+ Rxd4 Bc5 27 Rd1 Re2 28 Black, in the endgame, has a chance of a win. Bad a3 Nc4 Bf8 23 dxc5 Nd4!)

22...Nxc5
(22...Bxe5 23 Rxe5 Nd4 would work because of 24 Qd5.)

23 Qc3
(Once again, the only move...)

24 Qd5 Qxd5 25 Rxe5 Bxe5 26 Rxe5 Nd3 would lose the loss of the exchange.

23...Bxe5 24 Rxe5
(White has succeeded in keeping the game, maintaining equilibrium, but his knight is stronger than Black's bishop, while White's flank is weakened.)

25 Rg5?
(The decisive mistake it wants to go. After White, with accurate play, not to lose. For example Red8 26 Rf1 Ne6 27 Qg3
would follow 21...c4 with the win of a piece.)

21 Bxb7 Qxb7 22 dxc5
(At first sight it seems that White could get untied by 22 Qf3, but, after 22...Qxf3 23 Nxf3 cxd4 24 Nxd4 Nxd4 25 Rxe8+ Rxe8 26 Rxd4 Bc5 27 Rd1 Re2 28 Rf1 b5, Black, in the endgame, has every chance of a win. Bad also is 22 Nc4 Bf8 23 dxc5 Nd4!)

22...Nxc5
(22...Bxe5 23 Rxe5 Nd4 does not work because of 24 Qd5.)

23 Qc3
(Once again, the only move. 23 Qd5 Qxd5 24 Rxd5 Bxe5 25 Rdx5 Rxe5 26 Rxe5 Nd3 would lead to the loss of the exchange.)

23...Bxe5 24 Rxe5 h4!
(White has succeeded in simplifying the game, maintaining material equilibrium, but the Black knight is stronger than the White bishop, while White's king's flank is weakened.)

25 Rg5?
(The decisive mistake! White drives the Black knight to where it wants to go. After 25 gxh4!, White, with accurate play, ought not to lose. For example: 25...Red8 26 Rf1 Ne6 27 Qg3 Nd4 28 f3 etc.

Also insufficient is 25 Rh5 Rad8 26 Rxd8 Rxd8 27 Qc2 Ne6 28 Rhx4 Qf3 29 Bd2 a5! [preventing the check on b4] 30 b4 Qe2 31 Qh7+ Kf8 32 Be3 Qf3 and Black wins.)

25...Ne6 26 Rh5 Rad8 27 Rde1
(Losing immediately, but there was already no hope. If 27 Rxd8 Rxd8 28 f3, then 28...Rd1+ 29 Kf2 Qa6 30 Bd2 Qf1+ 31 Ke3 Qg1+ 32 Ke2 Rf1 with a rapid win.)

27...Nd4 White resigns

54 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Ragozin
(17th USSR Championship, Moscow 1949)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 d6 5 c3 f5 6 exf5 Bxf5 7 0-0
(The strongest move in the present position. It was employed for the first time by master Panov against grandmaster Levenfish in the 16th USSR Championship. White threatens to carry out, with greater force than at the present moment, d4 on the next move.)

7...Bd3
(In the game, Panov-Levenfish, was played 7...Be7 8 d4 e4 9 d5! exf5 10 dxc6 b6 11 Bb3 fxg2 12 Re1! with a strong attack for White. With the move in the game, Black wants to hold up the development of the White pieces, but the position of the bishop on d3 turns out to be very precarious.)

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8 Re1 Be7
(8...Nf6 is bad, because of 9 Nd4! Qd7 10 Qf3. Candidate master Radchenko recommends here 8...Ne7
9 Re3 e4 10 Ne1 Nf5 11 Rh3 b5 12 Bb3 Ne5, but after 13 Nxd3 exd3 [13...Nxd3 14 Bd5] 14 f4 Black’s
position does not inspire particular confidence.)
9 Re3 e4 10 Ne1 Bxb1
(There is nothing better. After 10...Nf6 11 Nxd3 exd3 12 Rxd3 0-0
13 Rh3 d5 14 d4, White has an extra pawn and chances of attack.
But, of course, the exchange of the active bishop d3 for the
knight bl is tantamount to Black acknowledging the erroneousness
of his manoeuvre.)
11 Rxb1 Nf6 12 d3 d5
13 Rh3
(Not the best move. He should exchange in the centre - then
Black could not capture with the knight since the d5 pawn would be
lost, while after 13...dxe4 14 Qe2 the weak e4 pawn would be
doomed.)

13...Qd7 14 b4
(An attempt, by the threat of attack, to prevent queen’s side
castling.)

14...b5 15 Bb3 Ne5 16
Bg5 Rd8?
(A mistake, after which Black’s
game is lost. It was necessary to
castle queen’s side. After 16...
0-0-0 17 Bxf6 gxf6 18 Qe2 f5,
just as on 17 a4 exd3 18 Nxd3
Nc4, Black could defend
stubbornly.)
17 Bxf6 Bxf6 18 dxe4
dxe4 19 Qc2 Qc6 20 Re3
Kd7
(Graphically confirming the
erroneousness of Black’s 16th
move.)
21 Rxe4 Kc8

21...Rhe8 22 f4 and there
is no satisfactory reply for
Black. If 22...Nc4, then 23 Rxc4
followed by 24 Ba4; on 22...Qb6+
would follow 23 Rd4+ and then 24
fxe5, while on 22...Ng6 White
replies 23 Rxe8 Kxe8 24 Nf3 with
a strong attack.)
22 Rxe5
(Leading to further win of
material.)
22...Bxe5 23 Qf5+ Kb8
24 Qxe5 Rhe8 25 Qxg7
Qe4 26 Nc2 Rd2 27 Rh1
Rxcl 28 Bxc2 Qxc2 29
f4

(The ending is won for White, to
the future struggle is still not
without interest.)
29...Qxa2 30 Qxh7 Qc4
31 Qh3 Re1 32 Qf3 Re5

(32...Qc1 was more stubborn, but also then White would win in the
end. For example: 33 f5 Rxf1+
Qxf1 Qxc3 35 f6 Qxb4 36 f7 Qf8
h4 b4 38 Qf5 b3 39 Qe6 and Bila
loses the b3 pawn, since after
39...b2 40 Qe8+ Ka7 41 Qb1(Q)+ 42 Kh2 Qc1 43 Qg7 Qf4+
Kh3 there is no perpetual check
for him.)
33 Qf2 Qxc3 34 f5 Rf6
35 f6 Rf7 36 Qf4
(With this move, White defends the b4 pawn, rivets to the ground
the c7 pawn, and prepares the advance of the g-pawn.)
36...a5 37 bxa5 b4 38
a6
(Now the threat of 39 Qe4 forces
Black to change the position of
his queen.)
38...Qc5+ 39 Kh1 Qb4
40 g4 b3 41 g5 b2 42
Qe4
(The sealed move. In view of the
threat 43 Qb7+, Black must take
the pawn.)
42...Qxa6 43 Rbl Qa5
15 Bb3 Ne5 16 d8? 

White, after which Black's lost. It was necessary to queen's side. After 16...

Bxf6 gxf6 18 Qe2 f5, on 17 a4 exd3 18 Nxd3 (Black could defend)

f6 Bxf6 18 dxe4

19 Qc2 Qc6 20 Re3

fully confirming the loss of Black's 16th

Kc8

21...Rhe8 22 f4 and there satisfactory reply for f 22...Nc4, then 23 Rxc4 by 24 Ba4; on 22...Qb6+

22 23 Rd4+ and then 24 while on 22...Ng6 White 23 Rxe8 Kxe8 24 Nf3 with attack.)

a5 25 dxe5 26 Qf5+ Kb8

Rhe8 25 Qxg7 e5 Nc2 Rd2 27 Rf1 Bxc2 Qxc2 29

(The ending is won for White, but the future struggle is still not without interest.)

29...Qxa2 30 Qxh7 Qd2

31 Qh3 Re1 32 Qf3 Re3

44...Qxf6 45 g7 Qb3 46 Qe8+ Ka7 47 g8(Q) Rf1+ 48 Rxh1 b1(Q) 49 Rxb1 Black resigns.

55 Sicilian Defence

White: Boleslavsky

Black: Aronin

(17th USSR Championship, Moscow 1949)

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Bc4

(This continuation, not without success, was employed by master Sozin in 1928-1931. Over the last twenty years it has been met very rarely in tournaments. After the present game, in which White managed to carry out an interesting sacrifice of a piece and show what attacking possibilities are concealed in this variation, it came to be regularly encountered in Soviet and international tournaments. Soviet players found a whole series of interesting continuations, both in the development of White's attack and in the strengthening of Black's defence.)

6...e6 7 0-0 Be7

(Perhaps the most prudent for Black - this completes his development. Practice has shown that attempts at immediate action on the queen's flank are associated with great dangers for Black.)

8 Be3 0-0 9 Bb3

The sealed move. In view of the threat 43 Qb7+, Black must take the pawn.)

42...Qxa6 43 Rb1 Qa3
(A necessary move. If at once 9 f4?, then 9...d5! 10 exd5 exd5 11 Be2 Re8 with advantage to Black.)

9...a6

(Black commences a sluggish plan of action and allows White to create an attack. The most convincing method of defence was demonstrated by grandmaster Geller in games in the semi-final of the 22nd USSR Championship against Nezhmetdinov and Yudovich: 9...Bd7 10 f4 Nxd4 11 Bxd4 Bc6 12 Qe2 b5!, and Black has an excellent position.)

10 f4 Na5 11 Qf3

(11 g4 was more accurate. The move 11 Qf3 could be made also later.)

11...Qc7

(After this move, Black is late with his counterplay; 11...b5! 12 g4 b4 13 Nce2 Bb7 14 Ng3 Nd7! 15 g5 Ng5 would give Black a basis to count on a successful defence. On 11...b5, 12 e5 looks dangerous, but after 12...Bb7 13 Qc6 [The sacrifice of the queen for three pieces by 13 exf6 Bxf3 14 fxe7 Qxe7 15 Rxf3 is rather in Black's favour, since he maintains a firm centre] 13...Ne8, and there is no apparent further continuation of the attack for White. If, for example. 14 f5, then 14...dx5 15 fxe6 exd4 16 exf7+ Kh8 17 fxe8(Q) Rxe8 18 Rad1 Bf6, and Black stands better.)

12 g4 b5

(Now this move does not have its former strength, but what does Black do? After 12...Nxb3 13 axb3 Bd7 14 g5 Ne8 15 f5 he is doomed to passive defence. The most natural, in connection with Black's previous move, appears to be 12...Nc4, but White has a strong retort 13 g5! If 13...Nd7, then 14 Nf5! exf5 15 Nd5 Qd8 16 Bxc4 with a positionally winning game. In the event of 13...Ne8, White could successfully continue the attack by 14 f5 Nxe3 15 Qxe3. Here are sample variations:

1) 15...e5? 16 Nd5! exd4 17 Qg3 Qd7 18 Rxg4, and Black, despite the extra piece, has no satisfactory defence;

2) 15...Qe5 16 Kh1 Ne7 17 f6 Bd8 18 Na4 Qa7 19 Nb6! e5 [19...Qb6 20 fxg7 Re8 21 Qf4 Re7 22 g6! hxg6 23 Qh6] 20 Nxc8 Qxd4 [20...exd4 21 Qh3 and wins] 21 Qxd4 exd4 22 Nxd6 with a decisive advantage.]

13 g5 Nd7?

(Black does not notice the sacrifice on e6, deciding the game. Of course, he should retreat the knight to e8, though even then Black, after 14 f5 Nxb3 15 cxb3, would have a difficult position.)

14 Nxe6! fxe6 15 Bxe6+ Kh8 16 Nd5 Qd8 17 Qh5!

(White does not hurry to win back the sacrificed material by 17 Bxd7, but creates the threat of destruction on the king's side.)

17...Nd7

(If 17...Nc6, then 18 f6! Black, in view of the threat of g6, must give up the bishop.)

18...Qe8 would fall, since 18...Qg6 Ne6! [Bad is 18...Qxe6 19 Qxg6 hxg6 20 Nxe7 and Black by force] 19 Nfx6 Qxg6+ 20 fxg6 Ne8, and then:

1) 21...Bxe6 22 Nxe7 Qh7 23 gxf6! Qf5 24 exf5 Rae8 25 Bxf6 Rxf6 26 Rxe5 Qxe5 27 Bxe5 Nxe5 28 Qf1 g6 29 Bf5 Bxd5, and White wins the exchange;

2) 21...Bxf6 22 Bxc8 Rxc8 23 dxe5 24 fxe5 Bxe5 25 Nxe5 26 Bf1 Re8 27 Nxe5+ Kh7 28 Qf6+ and White must win.)

18 Bxc8 Rxc8 19 Bxg5

(Necessary. If 19...Kg8, then 20 g6 h6 21 Bxh6 gxh6 22 Qh6 gxf7+ Kh7 24 Qg6+ Kh8 25 Qxf7 Nb6! [26 Rxe5 Rxe5 27 Qxe5 Qxe5 28 fxe5 Bxe5 29 Nxe5 Bxg3+ 30 f6 f5! 31 Qxf7 Bxe5 and White is better] 20 Bxg5 Qe8 21 Rfxe8 22 f6!

(Now 22...gxf6 is not possible, because of 23 Bxf6+ Kg8 24 Qg6+ Kf7 25 Qxe8 winning a piece.)

22...Nd7

(Also after 22...Nxe4 23 f5+)
in connection with the previous move, appears to be a tort 13 g5! If 13...Nd7, 14 Nf5! exf5 15 Ne5 Qd8 16 f5 a positionally winning in the event of 13...Ne8, could successfully continue by 14 f5 Nxe4 15 Qxe4. 

The sample variations:

1) e5? 16 Nd5! exd4 17 Qg3 Re4, and Black, despite the extra piece, has no satisfactory defence;
2) ...Qc5 16 Kh1 Nc7 17 f6 Bb8 Qa7 19 Nd6! e5 [19...Qxb6 20 Re8 21 Qf4 Re7 22 g6! 23 Qxe6] 20 Nxc8 Qxd4 axb4 21 Qh3 and wins] 21 a6 22 Nxd6 with a decisive advantage.

Nbd7?

16...Nbd7 does not notice the poisoned knight on e6, deciding the course of the game. Of course, he should have continued the knight to e8, though in Black, after 14 f5 Nxb3, would have a difficult position.

16...Nxe6! fxe6 15 Bxe6+ Nc6 16 Qd8 17 Qh5! does not hurry to win back material by 17 Bxd7, but creates the threat of destruction on the king's flank.)

17...Nc5

(If 17...Nc6, then 18 f5, and Black, in view of the threat 18 g6, must give up the bishop on g5. On 17...Qe8 would follow 18 g6 Nf6! [Bad is 18...Qxe6 19 fxe6 Nxe6 20 Qxe6+ 21 Ne5 and Black loses by force] 19 Nxf6 Qxe6+ 20 Nxe6+ Qxe6 21 Nd5 and then:

1) 21...Bxe6 22 Nxe7 Kh7 23 f5 Qg5 24 exf5 Ra8 25 Bg5 Bxf5 26 Rf4! [26 Rxf5 Rxf5 27 Nxf5 Re5 28 Rf1 g6 29 Bd8 Nf7], and White wins the exchange;
2) 21...Bf6 22 Bxc8 Rxc8 23 e5! dxe5 24 fxe5 Bxe5 25 Ne7! Rxf1+ 26 Rxf1 Re8 27 Nxe6+ Kh7 28 Nxe5, and White must win.)

18 Bxc8 Rxc8 19 f5 Bxg5

(Necessary. If 19...Kg8, then 20 g6 h6 21 Bxh6 gxh6 22 Qxh6 Rf7 23 gxh7+ Kxh7 24 Qg6+ Kf8 25 f6 with unavoidable mate.)

20 Bxg5 Qe8 21 Qxe8 Rfxe8 22 f6!

(Now 22...gx6 is not possible because of 23 Bxf6+ Kg8 24 b4, winning a piece.)

22...Nd7

(Also after 22...Nxe4 23 f7 Nxg5 24 fxe8(Q)+ Rxe8 25 Nc7 White would win without difficulty.)

23 f7 Rxe4 24 Nb6!

(After this move, Black could lay down his arms, but he prefers to drag on resistance for a few more moves.)

24...Nf8 25 Nxc8 Rg4+ 26 Kh1 Rg5 27 Nxd6 g6 28 Ra1 Rd5 29 Re8 Kg7 30 Rd8 Re5 31 Ne8+ Kh6 32 Nf6 Black resigns.

56 French Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Mikenas
(17th USSR Championship, Moscow 1949)

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 Bd2

This was played for the first time by Alekhine against Flohr in the international tournament at Nottingham in 1936. The game continued 4...dxe4 5 Nxe4 Qxd4 6 Bxd3 Bxd2+ 7 Qxd2. In his annotations to this game, Alekhine indicated that 5 Nxe4 was an accidental mistake and that he intended to continue 5 Qg4. Alekhine, right up to his death, never came to verify this variation.
ion, but his idea, twelve years later, was taken up by Soviet players. The continuation 5 Qg4 was met in the last round of the match-tournament for the title of world champion 1948, in the game, Keres-Botvinnik. Botvinnik did not capture the d4 pawn, but continued 5...Nf6 6 Qxg7 Rg8 7 Qh6 Nc6; however, Black did not obtain an equal game. After this game, the continuation 4 Bd2 became highly popular. Practice has shown that in all cases when Black refrains from accepting the sacrifice, White obtains the better game, and that a refutation of the variation can only be linked to an acceptance of the sacrifice.

In the game, Keres-Levenfish [16th USSR Championship] was met 5...Qxd4 6 0-0-0 f5 [in view of the threats 7 Nb5 and 7 Bf4, considered the only move] 7 Qg3 Bd6 8 Bf4 Bxf4 9 Qxf4 Qc5. In this position, White has, for the two pawns, the better development and good chances of an attack. The game, Keres-Levenfish, continued 10 f3 Ne7 11 fxe4 0-0 12 Nf3 Nd7 and here, as pointed out by Keres in his book of the match-tournament, 13 exf5, instead of 13 Bd3 as played, would give him the advantage.

A severe blow to the variation was delivered in the 14th game of the Bronstein-Boleslavsky match. In it, Black [Bronstein], after 5 Qg4 Qxd4 6 0-0-0, continued 6...Nf6! 7 Qxg7 Rg8 8 Qh6 Bf8! 9 Qh4 Rg4 10 Qh3 Qxf2. White replied 11 Nb5 Na6 12 Kb1 and lost quickly. The Sverdlovsk candidate master Batugin pointed out that White could play more strongly, and namely: 11 Be2! Rh4 12 Qxh4 Qxh4 13 g3. White wins back the queen and even obtains a minimal material advantage, but after 13...e3! 14 Qxh4 exd2+ 15 Kxd2 Bh6+ 16 Kc1 Bd7 the two strong bishops and two connected passed pawns oblige one to assess the position in Black's favour. This continuation, forcibly leading to a dismal endgame, had a sobering effect on lovers of sharp play to employ 4 Bd2, and since that time the whole variation has virtually disappeared from practice.

4...dxe4 5 Qg4 Nf6

(Black follows the above mentioned game, Keres-Botvinnik, and just as there does not achieve equality.)

6 Qxg7 Rg8 7 Qh6 Rg6

(An inaccuracy. It would be better if he saved this move for that moment when White castles queen's side and, for the present, play 7...Nc6.)

8 Qe3 Nc6 9 Nge2

(Better than castling queen's side. There is no need for White to give up the d4 pawn. Now, in view of the threat to the e4 pawn, Black is forced to exchange his black-squared bishop.)

9...Bxc3 10 Qxc3

(On 10 Bxc3, Black would reply 10...Qd6, preventing queen's side castling in view of 11...Ng4.)

10...Nd5 11 Qb3 a5

(So as, on 12 c4, to have the possibility of replying 12...Nb4)

12 0-0-0 a4

(Also, on other continuations Black has a difficult game. 12...Qd6 then 13 c4 Ndb4 14 Qe7 15 Nb5 Qh4 16 Nc3 f5 17 Qe5 wins Black's attack. If 12... Qf6 then 14 Qd4 Nxb2 15 Qc4 a5 16 Nxa5 Nxb4 17 Bd2 Nd5 18 Qe5 Qxe5 19 Rxe5 with a clear advantage.)

13 Qa3 Qd6

(Hoping to somewhat consolidate his position after 14 Qxd6)

14 c4! Qxa3 15 bxc3

(The doubled White pawns would be exploited by Black, since he does not manage to complete his development and his pieces remain disunited. In return, the knight does not get to b4...)

15...Nf6

(White is set a more complex task by 15...Nb6. However, here, after 16 Nf4 Rg8 17 g4 f3! exf3 [or 18...Nxe4 Nxa3 20 Nxa3 Rg6 21 Qe6 f5! 22 Nf6+ Kd8 23 Bxd3 Rg7 24 Bf2 with an overwhelming position] 23 Qxg7 Rg5 24 Rd2 Ra7 25 Rf2 Rf6 26 Qh6+ Kg7 27 Qg5 Nxe4 with a winning position.)

16 Nf4 Rg8 17 Be3

18 Rd2 Na5 19 Rb2 (Preventing the development of the Black bishop. If now...)


lokly. The Sverdlovsk master Batigin pointed out that White could play more actively and effectively, and namely: 11 Be2! Rh4 Qh4 13 g3. White wins the queen and even obtains a material advantage, but...

...e3! 14 gxh4 exd2+ 15... Ke1 Bd7 the two bishops and two connected knights obliges one to assess the situation, forcibly leading to an endgame, had a dismally unpleasant effect on the whole variety of White's position.

Qe8 7 Qh6 Rg6 Rg6 Ba6! Qxa3 15 bxa3

(Also, on other continuations, Black has a difficult game. If 12...Qd6 then 13 c4 Ndb4 14 Bf4 Qe7 15 Nc3 f5 16 Nb5 with an attack. If 12...Qe7 then 13 Nb5 Nfx4 14 Bxf4 a4 15 Qc4 a3 16 b3 Nb4 17 Bd2 Nd5 18 Rh1 f5 19 f3 with a clear advantage.)

13 Qa3 Qd6

(Hoping to somewhat consolidate his position after 14 Qxd6 cxd6.)

14 c4! Qxa3 15 bxa3

(The doubled White pawns cannot be exploited by Black, since he does not manage to complete his development and his pieces are disunited. In return, the Black knight does not get to b4.)

15...Nf6

(White is set a more complicated task by 15...Nb6. However, also here, after 16 Nb5 Rg8 17 Bc3 Na5 18 f3! exf3 [or 18...Nxc4 19 fxe4 Nxa3 20 Nh5 Rg6 21 e5 Nxc4 22 Nf6+ Kd8 23 Bxd3 Rg7 24 Be1 with an overwhelming position] 19 gxf3 Naxc4 20 Bd3 f5 21 Rh1, White has great winning chances.)

16 Nb5 Rg8 17 Bc3 Ng4 18 Rd2 Na5 19 Rb2

(Preventing the development of the Black bishop. If now 19...e3, then 20 f3 Nf2 21 Rg1 b6 22 d5! Ba6 23 Rb4, winning a pawn with the better position.)

19...b6

(Black attempts to develop his bishop on the diagonal, but now White goes over to a decisive offensive.)

20 h3 Nh6 21 d5 Nf5 22 Nh5 Rg6 23 Nf6+ Ke7 24 Nxe4 Bb7

(It seems that, at the cost of a pawn, Black has obtained some counterchances, but in fact his game is lost because of the bad position of the Black king.)

25 g4 Nd6

(If 25...Nh4, then 26 Bb4+ Ke8 27 Bd6 exd5 28 cxd5 Bd5 29 Rd1, threatening mate in two moves, and, on 29...Ke7, 30 Nc3 Rc6 31 Bd3 Bb5 decides, while on 31...Be6 - 30 f4, with the irresistible threat of 31 f5.)

26 Nxd6 Kxd6 27 Bd3 Rgg8 28 Bb4+ Kd7 29 Re1

(Now, on 29...exd5, would follow 30 Bf5+ Ke6 31 cxd5+ Kxd5 32 Rd2, with mate in a few moves.)

29...Rge8

(But now follows a little pinning combination.)
30 dxe6+ fxe6 31 Rd2 Kc8 32 Rxe6 Rxe6 33 Bf5 Bg2 34 Bxe6+ Kb7 35 Bxa5
(The White bishops have already played their role. The end approaches.)
35...Rxa5 36 Bd5+ Bxd5 37 Rxd5 Ra8 38 f4
(With the Black king cut off, the advance of the White pawn is decisive.)
38...Re8 39 f5 Rel+ 40 Kd2 Rf1 41 Ke2 Black resigns.
(It might appear strange that Black lost the game without making a clear mistake. Black's defeat was a consequence of a faulty performance in the opening. By giving up the g7 pawn and exchanging the black-squared bishop for knight, Black created in his position an incurable weakness of the black squares, which allowed White to create irresistible threats.)

57 French Defence
White: Batigin
Black: Boleslavsky
(University Teams Championship, Sverdlovsk 1949)
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 c5 4 Nf3 cxd4 5 Qxd4
(This move runs counter to the spirit of the whole variation. Better is the usual 5 Bd3, followed by 0-0 and Rel.)
5...Ne7
(Black wants to place his knights on d7 and c6 so as to exert pressure on the e5 pawn. Simpler, however, was 5...Nc6, for example: 6 Qg4 Qc7 7 Bd4 Nb4 8 Bb5+ Bd7 9 Bxd7+ Qxd7 10 Na3 Rc8 to Black's advantage.
If White, instead of 8 Bb5+, plays 8 Na3, then, after 8...Nxc2+ 9 Nxc2 Qxc2 10 Bb5+ Bd7 11 Bxd7+ Kxd7 12 0-0 Ne7, White does not have sufficient attack for the sacrificed pawn. For example: 13 Nd4 Qe4 14 Rfd1 Ng6; or 13 Ng5 Qg6 14 Qe2 Nc6 15 Qb5 Rb8 16 Rfcl Be7, and Black defends himself.)
6 Bd3 Nd7 7 Nc3 Ng6
(Black wrongly refrains from his planned arrangement of pieces. After 7...Nc6 8 Qf4 Qc7 9 Nb5 Qb8 10 Nd6+ Bxd6 11 exd6 e5 12 Qg3 Kf8 he wins a pawn with a quite solid position; if 13 Ng5, then 13...Qxd6 14 Nxf7+ Kxf7 15 Nxf7 Nc5 and Black stands better.)
8 0-0 Be7 9 Rel
(It would be preferable to capture at once on g6, since, before castling, it is unfavourable for Black to take with the f-pawn.)
9...0-0 10 Bxg6 fxg6

(Now this, of course, is stronger than ...hxg6, since it secures Black counterplay on the f-file. The chances of the two sides are about equal; Black has bishops and a solid structure against a flank attack. White has the better knight and he controls the d4 square.)
11 Bxf4
(Giving Black the display activity on the f-file. 11 Qg4 looks and if, for example, 11...Rf5, an exchange of bishops.)
11...g5 12 Bg3 h3 Nb8
(With the aim of placing the knight on a better position, creating pressure on e5.)
14 Rad1 Nc6 15 Nh2 Qe8
(On 16...a6, in one way or another, the knight on b3 is 17 Qe3 with the possibility of 18 Ne4.)
17 Nb5 Qh5
(Threatening...g4 with pressure. At first glance it looks as if White has outplayed his opponent.)
18 c4!
(As is well known, attacking the centre is the best move against a flank attack. 18...g4 19 hxg4 20 cxd5 h3? (A tempting, but incorrect, simplification - 20...Qxd4 22 Nfxd4 [22 Qxh3 Nxd4 23 c5 Bc5 24 Bxc5 Bb4] 22...Nxd5 23 Bxh3 and approximately even game.)
21 Bg3 Bc5

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on the e5 pawn. Simpler, was 5...Ne6, for
6 Qg4 Qc7 7 Bf4 Nb4 8
Bxd7+ Qxd7 10 Na3 Rc8
instead of 8 Bb5+, Nc3, then, after 8...
axb2 Qxc2 10 Bb5+ Bd7 11
7 0-0 Ne7, White does
sufficient attack for
faced pawn. For example:
14 Rfd1 Ng6; or 13 Ng5
2 Nc6 15 Qb5 Rb8 16 Rfc1
Black defends himself.)
Nd7 7 Nc3 Ng6
only refrains from his
arrangement of pieces.
Nc6 8 Qf4 Qc7 9 Nb5 Qb8
Nd6 11 exd6 e5 12 Qg3
has a pawn with a quite
situation; if 13 Ng5, then
14 Nb7+ Kg8 15 Ng5 Nc5
stands better.)
Be7 9 Re1
be preferable to capture	on g6, since, before
it is unfavourable for
sink with the f-pawn.)
10 Bxg6 fxg6

22 Nfd4?
(After this move, which suggests
itself, Black's calculation is
justified.
Not possible, of course, are
either 22 Nh2 or 22 Kh2, because
of 22...Bxf2, but, with the move
22 Nh4!, White repulses
the attack and places Black in a
difficult position. On 22...Nb4
would follow 23 Qg6, for example:
23...exd5 24 Qh5 Qxg3 25 Qxg3
Bxf2+ 26 Qxf2 h2+ 27 Kxh2 Rxf2 28
Nc7 with a winning position for
White.
After 22 Nh4, best apparently is
22...Ne7 23 d6 Nf5 24 Nxf5 Rxf5
25 Re4 Qg5 26 Nd4, but also here
the strong passed d6 pawn must in
the end decide the game.)
22...exd5 23 gxh3
(There does not seem to be any-
thing better; the continuation 23
Qe2 a6 would lead to material
loss.)
23...Qxh3 24 e6 Bxd4
25 Nxd4 Nxd4 26 e7?
(Destroying his game once and for
all. After 26 Qxd4 Bxe6 27 Re3
Rf6 28 Be5 Rg6+ 29 Rg3, White
could still put up a stubborn
resistance.)
26...Bg4

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Strange as it may seem, this move, which wins the queen by force, is not the strongest. After 26...Nf3+ 27 Qxf3 Rxf3 28 e8(Q)+ Kh7, White is defenceless: 29...Rxf3+ is threatened, if 29 Re3, then 29...Bxg4 30 Qxa8 Rxe3 with an easy win.

If, however, [in this variation] 29 Qe5, then 29...Rf5 30 Qd6 Rh5 31 Bh2 Rg5+ 32 Bg3 Bg4! 33 Rd3 Rh5 34 f3 Rf8! 35 Ree3 [35 Rf1 Qh1+ 36 Kf2 Rxf3+] 35...d4! and Black wins.

27 exf8(Q)+ Rxf8 28 Qxd4 Bf3 29 Qxd5+ Bxd5 30 Rxd5

(All this was forced, but now Black's task is very difficult. He must exploit the insecure position of the White king.

If White succeeds in exchanging rooks, then the possibility of a win for Black becomes highly questionable.)

30...Rf6 31 Rd8+ Kh7 32 Ree8 Qf5 33 Rh8+ Kg6 34 Rxe8

(White threatens to double rooks on the seventh rank and it seems that real chances of a draw are appearing for him, since if 34...Rf7, then 35 Rd4 Qb1+ 36 Kg2 Qxb2 37 Rg4+ and White gives perpetual check. But, to White's misfortune, the opponent finds a manoeuvre leading to a forced win.)

34...Qb1+! 35 Kg2 Qxb2 36 Re7 Kh7 37 Rd7 Rg6 38 Rxb7 Qxa2 39 Rxa7 Qd5+

(In this lies the point of all the exchanges - the queen, with tempo, transfers to a better position.)

40 Kf1

(On 40 Kgl, 40...R6 does.)

40...Qd1+ 41 Kg2 Qd5+ 42 Kf1

(Here the game was broken off and adjudicated a victory for Black, since analysis showed that he has a forced win with the move 42...Qf3)

Here are the main variations:

1) 43 Bc7 Qd3+ 44 Re2 Re6 45 Ra2 Qd1+;

2) 43 Kg1 Rh6 44 Rg7+ Kh8 45 Bh2 Qh5 46 Rg2 Qd1 - mate;

3) 43 Ke1 Rh6 44 Rg7+ Kh8 45 Kd2 Rh1 46 Rgd7 Rd1+ 47 Kc2 Rxg7 48 Rxd7 Qc6+;

4) 43 Re3 Qd1+ 44 Re1 Qd3+ 45 Kg2 [45 Kgl Rg3+ 46 fxg3 Qd4+] 45...Qd5+ and wins;

5) 43 Re3 Qd1+ 44 Kg2 Rh6 45 f4 [45 Bh2 Qd5+ and wins] 45...Rh1 46 Bf2 Qf1+ 47 Kf3 Rh2 48 Re2 Rh3+ and Black wins.)

58 Sicilian Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Ravinsky

(Trades Unions Championship, 1949)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 Bb5+
(A little-analysed move, leading to an interesting game. It was met for the first time in games of the 12th USSR Championship. In recent years it has frequently and not without success been employed by master Sokolsky.)
3...Bd7
(There would be a more complicated and more difficult game for Black after 3...Nc6: 4 0-0 a6 5 Bxc6+ bxc6 6 d4 cxd4 7 Qxd4 e5 8 Qd3, and Black has trouble with the d6 pawn. On 4...Bg4, in the game Boleslavsky-Petrosian [Training tournament in Gagra 1953] followed: 5 c3 Nf6 6 h3 Bh5 7 d4 a6 8 Bxc6+ bxc6 9 Qa4 with advantage to White.)
4...Bxd7+ Qxd7 5 0-0 e5
(This move is incorrect from the positional point of view. Upon the presence of black-squared bishops, he should endeavour to place the pawns on white squares. Correct was 5...e6 and then ...d5. The game, Boleslavsky-Najdorf, from the international tournament at Budapest 1950, proceeded thus: 5 0-0 Nf6 6 Rel Nc6 7 c3 e6 8 d4 cxd4 9 cxd4 d5! 10 e5 Ne4 11 Nc3 Nxc3 12 bxc3 with an even game.)
6 c3 Nc6 7 d4 Rd8
(It seems that in the closed position, one need not fear a backwardness in development [White, as it were, could open only the d-file, against which also Black's last move is directed], but after White's following surprising move, the game suddenly acquires a completely different character.)
8 b4!
(A strong move, which at once sets Black difficult problems.)
8...cxb4
(If 8...b6, then 9 Rel Nf6 10 Nbd2 Be7 11 d5 Nbd8 12 bxc5 bxc5 13 Nc4 0-0 14 Rb1 and Black has no way to counter the invasion on the b-file.)
9 cxb4 Nxb4
(Now White's attack develops forcibly. He should prefer 9...a6 with the sample variation: 10 Bb2 Nf6 11 Qe2 Nxd4 12 Nxd4 exd4 13 Bxd4 Be7 14 Nc3 0-0, and though Black stands worse, his king is not threatened with direct danger.)
10 Nc3 Nf6 11 Qb3 Nc6 12 dxec5 dxec5
(No better is 12...Nxe5 13 Nxe5 dxec5 14 Rd1 Qc6 15 Rxd8+ Kxd8 16 Bg5 Be7 17 Qxf7 Qxc3 18 Rd1+ Kc8 19 Rcl.)
13 Rd1 Nd4
(There is nothing else for Black. Bad is 13...Bd6 14 Ba3 Qe7 15 Rxd6 Rxd6 16 Nb5 Nxe4 17 Nxd6+ Nxd6 18 Rd1 Nd4 19 Nxd4 exd4 20 Qb4; if 13...Qc8, then 14 Rxd8+...
his material complicated. After continue attack KfB energetic.

sacrifice is better position, and Black's game is completely paralysed, and so he is forced to move away the king.

18...Kf8

19 Rxd4!
(Also possible was 19 Nb7 Qxb7 20 Bxc5+ Kg8 21 Bd6, winning back the pawn with a considerably better position, but the rook sacrifice is interesting and energetic.)

19...Bxd4
(After 19...Nxe5 20 Nf5, White's attack decides in a few moves.)

20 Nxf7+ Bc5
(With this move, Black gives back his material advantage and obtains a shattered position. After 20...Ke8, White would continue the attack by 21 Nd6+ KF8 22 Qf3+ NF6 23 Ra1. The following variations show how complicated and difficult the win would be in this case:
1) 23...Qf4 24 Nf5+ and then:
   a) 24...Bc5 25 Bxc5+ bxc5 26 exf6 Qxf3 27 fxg7+ Kf7 28 gh8(Q) and White wins;
   b) 24...Kf7 25 Nh6+ gxh6 26 Qxf6+ and wins;
2) 23...Bc5 24 exf6
   a) 24...g6 25 Bxc5 bxc5 26 Qe3 with the threats of 27 Qh6+ and 27 Qe7+, against which there is no defence;
   b) 24...Bxd6 25 fxg7+ Kxg7 26 Bb2+ Kg6 [26...Kg8 27 Qf6] 27 Qf6+ Kh5 28 Re6 and White wins;
   c) 24...Qxd6 25 fxg7+ Kxg7 26 Bb2+ and here:
     (i) 26...Kg8 27 Qb3+ Kf8 [27...Qd5? 28 Qg3+!] 28 Bxh8 Qf4 [28...Qd2 29 Qf3+ Kg8 30 Bc3 Bxf2+ 31 Kf1] 29 Qb2 Rd7 30 Be5, and if 30...Qd2, then 31 Bg7+ Kg8 32 Re8+ Kf7 33 Rf8+! and White wins;
     (ii) 26...Kh6 27 Qg4! Bxf2+ [27...Qg6 28 Qh4+ Kh5 29 Rd6 mate] 28 Kh1 Qg6 29 Qf4+ Kg5 30 Re6+ Kh5 31 Qf3+ Qg4 32 Re5+;
     (iii) 26...Bd4 27 Bxd4+ Qxd4 28 Re7+ Kh6 [28...Kg6 29 Qf7+ Kg5 30 Qh4+ Kh6 31 Qf5! Rdg8 32 Re4+ Qxe4 33 g3+ and wins] 29 Qh3+ Kg5 30 Qg3+ Kh5 31 Re5+ Qxe5 32 Qxe5+ Kg6 33 Qe6+ Kg7 34 Qe7+ Kf6 35 Qh4 and White must win.
   d) 24...Bxa3 25 fxg7+ Kxg7 26 Qg3+ Kf6 27 Qf4+ Kg7 [27...Kg6 28 Re3!] 28 Qg5+ Kf8 29 Qf6+ Kg8 30 Re3! Bxd6 31 Qg5+ Kf7 [or 31... Qg7 32 Qxd8+ Kf7 33 Qd7+ Kg8 34 Qe6+ and wins] 32 Re3+ Bf4! 33

Rxf4+ Kf8 34 Qe5+ Qg7 35 Qxd5+ Kf8 36 Qc4! and Black is hopeless.
3) 23...Bxe5 24 Rx5+ and White wins.)

21 Bxc5+ bxc5
Qxd8 23 Qf3+ Ne5

(The results of White not finished off the case of White has reached a position which the win, thanks positions of the Black achieved without difficulty.

24 Rd1
(Probably even strong;
24 Rbl h5 25 exf6 gxf6 27 g3, and Black cannot stand for long.)

24...Qe7 25 exf6
26 Rbl Qe5 27 Qh3
28 Qxh7
(Black has lost a position, position of his king, is precarious.)

28...Rg7 29 Qh5
30 Qh7 Rg7 31 Qh6+
32 Qh6+ Qg7 33 Qh7
(If 33...c4, then 34 Qh5 Qc7 36 Qe6 Kg7 37 Rf5
34 Rd1 Qe7 35 Qe4
36 Rd5 Qc7 37 Rb5

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Rxf4+ Ke8 34 Qe5+ Qe7 35 Qxh8+ Kd7 36 Qc3! and Black's position is hopeless.
3) 23...Bxe5 24 Rxe5 h6 25 Qb3! and White wins.)
21 Bxc5+ bxc5 22 Nxd8 Qxd8 23 Qf3+ Nf6

(The results of White's attack seem very modest, he not only has not finished off the opponent, but not even won a pawn; however, White has reached a position in which the win, thanks to the bad positions of the Black pieces, is achieved without difficulty.)

24 Rd1
(Probably even stronger here is 24 Rbl h5 25 exf6 gxf6 26 Rb7 Qd4 27 g3, and Black cannot hold on for long.)
24...Qe7 25 exf6 gxf6 26 Rbl Qe5 27 Qb7 Rg8 28 Qxh7
(Black has lost a pawn, while the position of his king, as before, is precarious.)
28...Rg7 29 Qh8+ Rg8 30 Qh7 Rg7 31 Qh8+ Rg8 32 Qh6+ Rg7 33 g3 Kg8
(If 33...c4, then 34 Qh8+ Rg8 35 Qh3 Qc7 36 Qe6 Kg7 37 Rd1.)
34 Rd1 Qe7 35 Qf4 Rf7 36 Rd5 Qc7 37 Qc4

(Winning a second pawn, with a continuing attack.)
37...Kg7 38 Rxc5 Qd7 39 Rd5 Qh3 40 Rd4
(So as, on 40...Re7, to reply 41 Rg4+ with the win of the queen.)
40...Qf5 41 Rg4+ Kf8 42 Qb4+ Re7 43 Qb8+ Black resigns.
(After 43...Re8 44 Rg8+ Kxg8 45 Qxe8+ Kg7 46 Qe7+, a third pawn is lost.)

59 Grunfeld Defence
White: Flohr
Black: Boleslavsky
(International tournament in Budapest 1950)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 Nf3
(In recent years, this continuation has been met comparatively rarely, being supplanted by the fashionable exchange on d5. An immediate exchange on d5, followed by 5 e4, in fact sets Black a more difficult task than 4 Nf3.)
4...Bg7 5 Qb3
(Black is forced into a surrender of the centre, since the continuation 5...c6 6 cxd5 cxd5 7 Bg5 e6 8 e4 is unsatisfactory for him. However, the move 5 Qb3 also has its negative side - the queen is introduced into play too early and falls under attack from the Black pieces and pawns.)
5...dxc4 6 Qxc4 0-0 7 e4 c6
(Besides this move, employed here is Smyslov's continuation 7...Bg4, with the idea, after
...Nfd7-b6 and ...Nc6, to develop piece pressure on the d4 square, and 7...Na6, preparing the advance ...c5, worked out by Czech players. In both cases, Black obtains very good counter-chances and this apparently serves as the reason for the decline in popularity of the move 5 Qb3 today.

The idea of the move 7...c6 is an attack on the queen's flank and, at an opportune moment, the exchange of the b-pawn for the central e-pawn. The principal variation was met in the game, Florian-Bronstein [match tournament, Moscow-Budapest 1949]: 8 Be2 b5 9 Qb3 Qa5 10 Bd2 [In the game, Stahlberg-Bronstein, Stockholm 1948, occurred 10 0-0 b4 11 e5 bxc3 12 exf6 Bxf6 13 bxc3 Be6 14 Bc4 Bxc4 15 Qxc4 Qd5 with a quick draw] 10...b4 11 Na4 Nxe4 12 Bxb4 Qd8 [Stronger than 12...Qc7 as was played in the game, Flohr-Lilienthal, Parnu 1947] 13 0-0 Be6 14 Qe3 Nd6 and Black has a good game.)

8 Qb3
(White, in advance, moves away the queen, having in mind, on 8...b5, to reply 9 e5, cramping the opponent. After 8...b5 9 e5, Black does not have the natural reply 9...Nd5 because of 10 Nxd5 Qxd5 11 Qxd5 cxd5 12 Bxb5 with the win of a pawn.)

8...b5
(As shown by the present game, White finds a strong retort to this move. In a game from the 9th round, Stahlberg-Flohr, 8...e5! was played. This, at first sight, surprising continuation is correct in all variations. The sequel was 9 dxe5 Ng4 10 Be2 Qb6! 11 Qxb6 axb6 12 Bf4 Nd7, and Black wins back the pawn with a good position.)

9 e5 Ne8 10 a4!
(This is the improvement, found by Flohr. Smyslov, against Boleslavsky [17th USSR Championship] continued 10 Be2 Nc7 11 0-0 Be6 12 Qd1, and here, by playing 12...a5!, Black obtained a good game. After 10 a4, Black is forced to break up his pawns on the queen's flank, since on 10...Qa5 would follow 11 Bd2.)

10...bxa4 11 Nxa4
(White wants to occupy the c5 square, but it turns out that it is not so simple to do this. 11 Qxa4 was stronger, maintaining control over the d5 square and preventing the development of the knight b8.)

11...Na6
(Bad is 11...Be6 12 Qb7 Nc7 13 Bd2 with the threat 14 Ba5.)

12 Bd2
(To as not to allow the knight to the b4 square.)

12...Rxb8 13 Qc4
(White counts on gaining time with the attack on the c6 pawn, but he does not succeed in doing this; now the queen on c4 is precariously placed. 13 Qa3 was better.)

13...Nec7! 14 Be2
(On 14 Qxc6 follows 14...Bb7 15 Qc3 Ne6 16 Be3 Bxf3 17 gxf3 Nb4 and White has no defence against 18...Nxd4, since 18 Rd1 is bad because of 18...Qa5.)

14...Be6 15 Qc1
(Also here the acceptance of the sacrifice promises White good. For example: 15 Qxc6 Qc3 16 Nb5 17 Bxb5 Rxb5 18 0-0 Bf3 19 gxf3 Qd5 20 winning back the pawn in a better game] 18...Nb4! 19 Nc2+ 20 Kf1 [20 Ke2 Bxf3+ Nxa1, and Black has a good attack for the pawn.)

15...Bd5 16 Be3 0-0 0-0 Ne6

(Thanks to White's impatient on the 11th and 13th move has succeeded in coping with the opening difficulties and placing his pieces. Part unpleasant for White knight e6, exerting pressure on the important central square, naturally, he endeavors to exchange it. However, the following move is a mistake, after which White will have the c5 square, while his position becomes weak. The move, all the requirements of the position was 18 Ng5 threatening, after an exchange on e6, to establish his knight and obtain the advantage, before energetic measures.)
14...Be6 15 Qc1
(Also here the acceptance of the sacrifice promises White little good. For example: 15 Qxc6 Bd5 16 Qc3 Nb5 17 Bxb5 Rxb5 18 Qd3 [18 0-0 Bxf3 19 gxf3 Qd5 20 Ra3 Rd8 winning back the pawn with the better game] 18...Nd4! 19 Qxb5 Nc2+ 20 Kf1 [20 Ke2 Bxf3+! 20...Nxd1, and Black has a strong attack for the pawn.)
15...Bd5 16 Be3 Nb4 17 O-O Ne6

(Thanks to White's inaccuracies on the 11th and 13th moves, Black has succeeded in coping with his opening difficulties and actively placing his pieces. Particularly unpleasant for White is the knight e6, exerting pressure on the important central squares; naturally, he endeavours to exchange it. However, White's following move is a tactical mistake, after which White loses the c5 square, while his e5 pawn becomes weak. The move, meeting all the requirements of the position, was 18 Ng5! White threatens, after an exchange on e6, to establish his knight on c5 and obtain the advantage, therefore energetic measures are needed for Black. The future play might turn out in the following way: 18...Nxc5 19 Bxc5 f6! 20 Bf4 fxe5 21 Bxe5 Bxe5 22 dxe5 Qc7 23 Qc3 [23 f4 g5!] 23...Rf5 24 Nc5! Rxe5 25 Rxa7 Qxa7 26 Qxe5 Rf8 with a quick draw.

Thus the position shown in the diagram has to be regarded as balanced.)
18 Nc5? Na2!
(Apparently, White had not noticed this intermediate move.)
19 Qc2
(Of course, 19 Nxe6 is not possible, in view of 19...Nxc1 20 Nxd8 Nxe2+, remaining with an extra piece. On 19 Qd2, after 19...Nxc5 20 dxc5, Black would have continued, not 20...Bxf3 21 Qxd8 Rfxd8 22 Bf3 Rxb2 23 Bxc6, after which the two bishops and c5 pawn would give White sufficient compensation, but 20...Qc7 21 Bf4 e6, leading play into the game continuation.)
19...Nxc5 20 dxc5
(After 20 Qxc5 Rxb2 21 Bc4 [otherwise White is a pawn down] 21...Rc2 22 Rxa2 Rxc4 23 Qxa7, White would fall under a strong attack. For example: 23...Bxf3 24 gxf3 Qd5 25 Qxe7 c5! 26 Rd2 [26 dxc5 Qxf3] 26...cxd4 27 Qg5 [27 f4 Qe4] 27...Re8, and Black must win.)
20...Nb4 21 Qc3 Qc7 22 Bf4 Rb7
(Defending the a7 pawn and preparing to double rooks on the b-file.)
23 Bg3
(Only after this move, made to be on the safe side, does Black...
obtain real chances of victory. After 23 Ra4! Rfb8 24 Rf1, White succeeds in preventing the threat ...Na2 and creating pressure on the a7 pawn. It is not apparent how, in this case, Black could strengthen his position.)

23...Rfb8 24 Bc4
(To save himself from the threat of 24...Na2, White is forced to himself offer the exchange of the white-squared bishops, which, in the positional respect, is unfavourable for him. On 24 e6 would have followed 24...Bxc3 25 Bxc7 Rxc7 26 bxc3 Na2 27 c4 Nc3! 28 Bd3 Bxf3 29 gxf3 Rd8 and Black must win.)

24...e6
(An inaccuracy. After 24...Bxc4 25 Qxc4 e6, followed by 26...Nd5, White would have a very difficult position. Insufficient is the attempt at counterplay 26 Ng5 Nd5 27 Qh4 h6 28 Ne4 Rxb2 29 Nf6+ Kh8.)

25 Nd2 Bf8
(Now the exchange on c4 is unfavourable for Black, since the White knight gets to d6. Black, in the meantime, prevents the move 26 f4 and ties the White pieces to the defence of the c5 pawn.)

26 Rfc1 Be7 27 Ra4
(This move does not achieve its aim, since White does not succeed in doubling rooks on the a-file. Slightly better is 27 Qe3, so as, on 27...Bxc4 28 Nxc4 Nd5, to reply 29 Qa3, defending the c5 pawn. Black, in reply to 27 Qe3, needs to continue 27...h5 28 h3 Qd8!)

The following variations show how great is Black's advantage:
29 Ne4 Bxc4 30 Rxc4 h4 31 Bh2 Nd5 32 Qa3 Rxb2 33 Qxa7 Ne3! 34 fxe3 Qd3! 35 Ra1 [the best move] 35...Qe2 36 R4c2 Qxe3+ 37 Nf2 Rxc2 38 Qxb8+ Kg7 39 Rf1 Rxf2 and Black wins.

Or 29 Ra3 h4 30 Bh2 Bxc4 31 Nxc4 Nd5 32 Qd4 Rb4! 33 Rxa7 Rbb5 34 Rca1 Bxc5 35 Ra8 Bxd4 36 Rxd8+ Kg7 37 Nd6 Rxb2! 38 Nxb5 cxb5 39 Rf1 b4, and Black has every chance of a win.

27...h5 28 h4
(Giving Black time for an invasion on the d-file, but also after 28 h3 h4 29 Bh2 a5! it is very difficult for White to defend himself. For example: 30 Rca1 Bxc5 31 Rxa5 Qb6; or 30 Nb3 Bxc4 31 Qxc4 Nd5 32 Nxa5 Rxb2, and Black has a decisive positional advantage.)

28...Qd8 29 Nf3
(If 29 Qd4, then 29...Bxg2! 30 Qxd8+ Rxd8 31 Kxg2 Rxd2 with a quick win.)

29...Bxc4!
(But not 29...Bxf3? 30 Qxf3 Bxh4, because of 31 Rd1 Qe7 32 Bxh4 Qxh4 33 Ba6! to White's advantage.)

30 Qxc4 Nd3

(Note material loss 1 for White.)

31 Rd1 Rd7
32 Qxb2 33 Qa6 Nxc4
(To all appearances, best. 33...Nxe5 looks but on this would follow Nxf3+ 35 gxf3 Qxd7 37 Kg2 Qxa7 38 Rxa7 Rb6 40 Rc8+ Kg7 41 Rc7+ Kg8 43 Bxf6, and easy for Black to obtain extra pawn, in view of the White pieces.)

If 33...Bxc5, then again 34...Nxe5 is because of 35 Bxe5! [Rxd7 Nxd7 36 Rd1 Qb6] 36 Rxd1 Qxd1+ 37 Nf2 [Not 38 Qe8+ Bf8 39 Qxf8 Nxe6, in view of 40 Kxg2 Qd5+] and Black have a defence at numerous threats.)

34 Rxd7 Qxd7
35 Rb1+!
(Just so! In the event of exchange of queens, it would be more complicated.)

36 Kh2 Rxa1
37 Nd3
(Black not only has pawn, but also an extra position.)

38 Nd4 c5 39 Qxd8+ Bxd8
40 Qxd8+ Bxd8
(Here the game was adjourned and endgame is hopeless for Black.)

41 Nb5 c4 42 Kc2

(diagram)

(Leading to the win of pawn: after 43 Nxe7)
variations show how Black's advantage:
30 Rxc4 h4 31 Bh2 Nd5
33 Qxa7 Ne3! 34 fx3
c1 [the best move] RA4c2 Qxe3+ 37 Nf2
+ Kg7 39 Rf1 Rxf2 and
30 Bh2 Bxc4 31 Nxc4
b4! 33 Rxa7 Rbb5 34
6 Ra8 Bxd4 36 Rxd8+
bb2! 38 Nxb5 cxb5 39
d Black has every
28 h4
tack time for an
the d-file, but also
h4 29 Bh2 a5! it is
built for White to
if. For example: 30
Rxa5 Qb6; or 30 Nb3
i Nd5 32 Nxa5 Rxb2,
as a decisive posi-
29 Nh3
then 29...Bxg2! 30
Kxh2 Rxd2 with a
41Bxf3? 30 Qxf3 Bxh4,
31 Rd1 Qe7 32 Bxh4
! to White's advan-
42 Bxf6
31 Rd1 Rd7 32 Raal
Rxh2 33 Qa6 Nxc5
(Now material loss is inevitable
for White.)
31 Rxh2 32 Raal
Rxh2 33 Qa6 Nxc5
(To all appearances, the strongest.
33...Nxe5 looks tempting, but on
this would follow 34 Rxd7 Nxf4+
35 gxf4 Qxd7 36 Qxa7 Rb1+
37 Kg2 Qxh7 38 Rxa7 Bxc5 39 Rc7+
Rb6 40 Rc8+ Kg7 41 Be5+ f6 42
Rc7+ Kg8 43 Bxf6, and it is not
easy for Black to exploit the extra
pawn, in view of the activity of
the White pieces.
If 33...Bxc5, then 34 Qxc6, and
again 34...Nxe5 is not good
because of 35 Bxe5! [Losing is 35
Rxd7 Nxd7 36 Rd1 Qb6! 35...Rxd1+
36 Rxd1 Qxd1+ 37 Kh2 Rc2 38 Nd4!
[Not 38 Qe8+ Bf8 39 Nf5 Rxe2 40
Nxe6, in view of 40...Rxg2+ 41
Kxg2 Qd5+] and Black does not
have a defence against the
numerous threats.]
34 Rxd7 Qxd7 35 Qxa7
Rb1+!
(Just so! In the event of an
exchange of queens, Black's task
would be more complicated.)
36 Kh2 Rxa1 37 Qxal
Nd3
(Black not only has an extra
pawn, but also an overwhelming
position.)
38 Nd4 c5 39 Qa8+ Qd8
40 Qxd8+ Bxd8
(Here the game was adjourned. The
endgame is hopeless for White.)
41 Nb5 c4 42 Kg1! Bc7!
51 Nh3
diagram
(Leading to the win of a second
pawn: after 43 Nxc7 White will
not catch the c-pawn, while on 43
f4 would follow 43...Bb6+ and
44...Be3.)
43 Kf1 Bxe5 44 Bxe5
Nxe5 45 Ke2
(Or 45 f3 Nd7 46 Ke2 Nb6 47 Ke3
Nd5+ 48 Bd4 c3 etc.)
45...Ng4 46 Nf6 c3 47
Ne4 c2 48 Kh2 e5 49
Kxc2 f5 50 Ng5 Nxf2
(The remaining moves were....)
51 Ng3 Ng4 52 Kh2 Kg7
53 Ke2 Kh6 54 Ng5 Nh6
55 Ke3 Nh7 56 Nh3 Nd6
57 Kh2 f4 58 Ng5 Nh5
59 Nf3 e4 White re-
signs.
60 Slav Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Smyslov
(International tournament in Budapest
1950)
1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nc3
Nf6 4 Nf3 dxc4 5 a4 c5
(A continuation, leading forcibly
to an exchange of queens. Up to
now it has been considered
sufficient for a draw, but, in
our view, this opinion is
incorrect. White obtains a consid-
127
erable positional advantage, and Black's task is far from simple.)

6 e4 cxd4 7 Qxd4 Qxd4 8 Nxd4 e6
8...a6 is not possible because of 9 e5, followed by 10 Nd5.)
9 Ndb5 Na6 10 Bxc4 Bc5
11 Bf4 Ke7
(An incorrect appraisal of the position. For the endgame, the
king is best placed in the centre, but Black does not take into account that, before the
ending is reached, his king could fall under attack. 11...O-O was
better.)

12 0-0 Bd7 13 e5
(Now, on the natural 13...Ne8, follows 14 Bg5+, and unsatisfactory for Black are both 14...f6 15
efx6+ gxf6 16 Bh4 Rg8 17 Rfe1 Rg4 18 Re4 with an attack for
White, and 14...Kf8 15 Rad1 Be6 16 Nbd4 and Black is forced to exchange one
of his bishops, while his remaining pieces are very badly
placed. Therefore Black decides on the following move, counting
on confusing the game.)

13...Nh5

(If now 14 Bg5+, then 14...f6 15
efx6+ gxf6 16 Bh4 Rg8 17 Rfe1
Rg4 18 Re4 Rag8 to Black's
advantage. White's next move is
an unpleasant surprise for
Black.)

14 Be3! Rhc8
(If 14...Bxe3, then 15 fxe3 g6 16
Nd6 with an attack on b7 and f7.
Black refrains from the capture
on e3, but in two moves he is all
the same forced into this.)

15 Be2 g6 16 Ne4! Bxe3
(On 16...Bb4 follows 17 g4 Ng7 18
Bxg7 Kxg7 19 Nf6 and White wins a
pawn with an overwhelming position.)

17 fxe3 Rc2
(Leading to a rapid loss. It was
still possible to drag on resistance
with the move 17...Bc6.)

18 Nbd6! Rd8
(Bad is 18...Rxe2 19 Rxf7+ Kd8 20
Rf8+ etc.)

19 Bxa6!
(This is the whole point! White
deprives the Black bishop of the
base on c6.)

19...bxa6 20 g4 Ng7 21
Nf6!
(Threatening 22 Nxf7; the rook f8
cannot move away because of 22
Nxd7, followed by 23 Rxf7. Black
tries his last chance.)

21...Be6
(If now 22 e4, then 22...Rb8 with
the possibility of defence.)

22 Rfe1!
(Now, on 22...Rg2+ 23 Kg1 Rxe2,
would follow 24 Rxc6 Rh1+ 25 Kg2
Rxal 26 Rc7+ Kb8 27 Rd7 - mate.
After 22...Rxc1 23 Rxc1, Black is
defenceless against the decisive
invasion of the rooks on the
seventh rank.)

Black resigns.
White's next move is tantamount to a surprise for the White king: Rxc8, and then 15 fxe3 g6 16 Nxe3 follows 17 g4 Ng7 18 Nf3 and White wins an overwhelming positional advantage.

Bc2, a rapid loss. It was possible to drag on resistance for another move 17...Bc6.)

8 Rfl.

Rxe2 19 Rxf7+ Kd8 20 Rxd7+; the rook f8 is wed by 23 Rxf7. Black has no chance.

8 Ng1

(An extravagant move! White intends, on 8...Nf4, to reply 9 Bf1, then to drive away the knight from the f4 square and regroup the minor pieces, by placing the bishop on g2 and the knight on e2. Black could boldly meet the intentions of the opponent half way, since, after 8...Nf4 9 Bf1 Nd7 10 g3 Nh5 11 Bg2 a5 12 Ne2 f5, he has an excellent position.

However, White's loss of two tempi suggests to Black the idea of sacrificing a pawn. This sacrifice is quite correct, but on accurate play by White it does not give Black the advantage.)

8...Nd7 9 Bxh5 gxh5 10 Qxh5 Nc5 11 Nf3 (The best move, the check on d3 is not dangerous for White. After 11...Nd3+ 12 Ke2 Nxc1+ 13 Raxc1 f5 14 Ng5 h6 15 Ne6, White has a clear advantage.)

11...f5 12 0-0 (Of course, bad is 12 exf5 Rxf5, and the White queen has no good square for retreat. Now, on 12...fxe4, would follow 13 Ng5 Bf5 14 Qe2 and then 15 Ngxe4. Hardly favourable for White is 12 Bg5 Qd7 13 0-0 f4 14 Bf6, since after 14...Rf6 Black quickly occupies the g-file with his pieces and obtains a strong attack.)

12...f4

(The White king's Indian Defence)

White: Szabo
Black: Boleslavsky

(From the International tournament in Budapest 1950)

1 c4 Nf6 2 Nc3 g6 3 Nf3 Bg7 4 d4 0-0 5 e4 d6 6 Be2 e5 7 d5 Nh5 (It is usual to play 7...Nbd7 here, with the sample continuation 8 0-0 Nc5 9 Qc2 a5 10 Ne1 [On 10 Nd2, strong is 10...Bh6! 11...Nfd7 12 Be3 f5 12 exf5 gxf5 13 f4 exf4 14 Bxf4 Ne5. The move 7...Nh5 is little studied and leads to a sharp game. Black wants, in the event of castling, to exchange one of the White bishops by 8...Nf4. However, White could reply 8 g3!, as occurred in a game from the 17th USSR Championship, Lilienthal-Geller, after which 7...Nh5 does not achieve its objective.)

8 Ng1

(An extravagant move! White intends, on 8...Nf4, to reply 9 Bf1, then to drive away the knight from the f4 square and regroup the minor pieces, by placing the bishop on g2 and the knight on e2. Black could boldly meet the intentions of the opponent half way, since, after 8...Nf4 9 Bf1 Nd7 10 g3 Nh5 11 Bg2 a5 12 Ne2 f5, he has an excellent position.

However, White's loss of two tempi suggests to Black the idea of sacrificing a pawn. This sacrifice is quite correct, but on accurate play by White it does not give Black the advantage.)

8...Nd7 9 Bxh5 gxh5 10 Qxh5 Nc5 11 Nf3 (The best move, the check on d3 is not dangerous for White. After 11...Nd3+ 12 Ke2 Nxc1+ 13 Raxc1 f5 14 Ng5 h6 15 Ne6, White has a clear advantage.)

11...f5 12 0-0 (Of course, bad is 12 exf5 Rxf5, and the White queen has no good square for retreat. Now, on 12...fxe4, would follow 13 Ng5 Bf5 14 Qe2 and then 15 Ngxe4. Hardly favourable for White is 12 Bg5 Qd7 13 0-0 f4 14 Bf6, since after 14...Rf6 Black quickly occupies the g-file with his pieces and obtains a strong attack.)

12...f4

(Now it is possible to sum up the pawn sacrifice: Black has two strong bishops and chances of attack on the g-file, White's pieces are cramped and his queen is in an exposed position. White's extra pawn, for the present, cannot be exploited. Taking into account all these points, White must endeavour to return the pawn, but to exchange the important Black white-squared bishop.)
13 b4 Nd7
(The active 13...Nd3 would lead only to an exchange of the knight for the passive bishop c1.)
14 Bb2
(Here the bishop is passively placed. Preferable is at once 14 Ng5 Nf6 15 Qh4 h6 16 Ne6 Bxe6 17 fxe6 Qe7 18 Qh3 c6, with an approximately even game.)
14...Qe7 15 Ng5
(Now this move is unsatisfactory. Weak also is 15 Nh4 Nb6 16 c5 Nc4, and Black wins back the pawn with the better game. Correct was 15 Nd2 Nf6 16 Qe2, going over to stubborn defence.)
15...Nh5 16 Qh4
(If 16 Qd1, then 16...Ng4 17 Ne3 [17 Ne6 Bxe6 18 dxe6 Qh4 19 h3 f3 with irresistible threats] 17...Kh8 and Black quickly develops an attack on the g-file.)
16...h6 17 Nh3
(Slightly better is 17 Ne6, though after 17...Nxe6 18 dxe6 Qxe6 19 Nd5 Rf7 20 Nxf6+ [After 20 f3 Ne8 White loses the c4 pawn] 20...Rxf6 21 Racl f3! and White has a difficult position.)
17...Qf7! 18 Nd2
(Necessary, in order to free the queen, which was threatened with capture after 18...Nh5 and 19...Bf6.)
18...Ng4
(This move, made after lengthy deliberation, apparently is still not the strongest, though the possibility of consolidating the knight on e3 looked very tempting. Black has at his disposal the interesting blow 18...f3. In the event of the capture of the pawn, White will not save his queen without heavy material loss; however, after 19 Qg3! fxg2 20 Qxg2 Nh5 21 Kh1 Nf4 22 Qf3, White could still defend himself. The quickest win here, apparently, was with the quiet move 18...Kh7, since, after 19 f3 Nh5 20 Qf2 Bf6 21 Ne2 Rg8 22 Kh1 Qe7, the threat 23...Bh4 followed by 24...Ng3+, decides the game in a few moves.)
19 f3 Ne3
(There is no sense in winning the exchange by 19...Bf6 20 Qh3 Ne3 21 Qxh6 Nxf1. The Black knight on e3 is stronger than the rook.)
20 Rf1 Kh7 21 Nd1
(It is necessary to rid himself of the knight e3 as soon as possible. Black here goes in for a long variation with the sacrifice of a second pawn, having in mind the opening of the White King's position.)
21...Bf6 22 Qf2
(Worse is 22 Qe1 Nxe2! 23 Kxe2 Bh3+! 24 Kh1 Rg8 with a winning attack.)
22...Rg8! 23 Nxe3 fxe3
24 Qxe3 Bg5 25 Qe2

(Black went for this position, making his 18th move threatens a decisive blow on the f-file.)
28 Rc3 Qxe4
(As analysis showed, by force by 28...Qe4+ doubling rooks on the f-file. However, at the bound limited time for reflexes it was difficult to determine whether or not White's defence against Black's attack, which required severe action, was difficult to determine whether or not White's chance of a win.)
29 c5 Rg7 30 Qf3
31 Rxc2 Rf8
Rgf7 33 Rxf7+ Rg8
cxd6 cxd6

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which was threatened with Nh5 and 19...
Nf4
move, made after lengthy calculation, apparently is still the strongest, though the ability of consolidating the knight on e3 looked very tempt-
ing blow 18...f3. In the event of the capture of this pawn, White will not save himself without heavy material. However, after 19 Qg3! fxg2
g2 Nh5 21 Khf1 Nh4 22 Qf3, Black could still defend himself. An 23...Bh4 followed by Ne5+, decides the game in a winning sense, though Black's position is still strong.
3 Ne3

is no sense in winning the exchange by 19...Bf6 20 Qh3 Ne3
Nxf1. The Black knight on e3 as soon as possible. Black here goes in for a variation with the sacrifice of a second pawn, having in mind the opening of the White position.
Bf6 22 Qf2

is 22 Qe1 Nxe2! 23 Kxe2
Kh1 Rg8 with a winning position.
Rg8! 23 Nxe3 fxe3
dx6 25 Qe2

(The pawns on White's king's flank are devalued, the d5 pawn is weak, the king in a cage, the rook riveted to the first rank - all this obliges one to assess White's position as lost.)
35 Re1 Rf3 36 Bc1 (36 Rd1 is hopelessly passive because of the approach of the Black pawn, White tries to improve the positions of his pieces.)
36...Rd3 37 Be3 a6 38 Kf2 Rxd5 39 Rc1 Kg6 40 Rd7 Rb5 41 Rc4
(Black went for this position, in making his 18th move. Now he threatens a decisive invasion on the f-file.)
28 Rc3 Qxe4
(As analysis showed, Black wins by force by 28...Qh5 followed by doubling rooks on the f-file. However, at the board, with limited time for reflection, it was difficult to determine whether or not White has a defence against Black's move, which required several tempi. Therefore Black preferred the endgame, in which he has great chances of a win.)
29 c5 Rg7 30 Qc2 Qxc2
31 Rxc2 Rf8 32 Rf2 Rg7 33 Rxg7+ Rxf7 34 cxd6
(Because of the doubled pawns, the king's chances of survival are very limited. White resignation.)

Bxd2 26 Qxd2 Bh3 27 g3 Qxf3

62 Nimzo-Indian
Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Lilienthal
(International tournament in Budapest 1950)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3
Bb4 4 Qc2
(A continuation, comparatively rarely met in recent years, since several reliable methods of equalising the game have been found for Black.)
4...c5
(The aim of this move is to eliminate the d4 pawn and increase the pressure on the e4 square.)
5 dxc5 0-0
(The continuation 5...Na6 6 a3 Bxc3+ 7 Qxc3 Nxc5 8 f3 d6 9 e4 e5 leads to the Krause variation, which is favourable to White. Therefore Black wants to play ...Na6, in reply to Nf3. It is unfavourable for White to play 6 Nf3 now, because of 6...Bxc5.)
6 Bg5 Na6 7 a3 Bxc5
(Simplest was 7...Bxc3+ 8 Qxc3 Nxc5, threatening 9...Nce4. The continuation 9 Bxf6 Qxf6 10 Qxf6 gxf6 gives White no advantage at all; Black succeeds in comfortably arranging his pieces, and it is difficult for White to create pressure on the d7 pawn.)
8 Nf3 b6
(A bad move, which is the cause of all the following difficulties.
Correct is 8...Be7, and only after 9 e3 - 9...b6.)
9 g3!
(This is stronger than the usual 9 e3. The bishop g2 neutralises the pressure by the Black bishop on the long diagonal; in several variations the threat of Ng5 arises.)
9...Bb7 10 Bg2 Qc8
(It is necessary to defend the bishop b7; erroneous is 10...Be7 because of 11 Bxf6 Bxf6 12 Ng5, but it would be better for Black not to allow the doubling of pawns on f6 and play 10...Rb8. True, also here, after 11 0-0 Be7 12 Rad1, there is no doubt about White's advantage.)
11 Bxf6 gxf6 12 0-0 Be7 13 Rfd1 f5 14 Qd2

(With this move, White lets slip a considerable part of his advantage; he should play 14 b4, not allowing the knight to e5. After 14 b4 Bf6 15 Ral, possible were the following variations:
1) 15...d5 16 cxd5 Qxc3 17 Qxc3 Bxc3 18 Rxc3 Bxd5 19 Ne5 Bxg2 20 Kxg2 and White has an overwhelming advantage in the endgame;
2) 15...Qxc4 16 Rxd7 Rab8 17 Nd2 Qc8 [17...Qxc3? 18 Bxb7] 18 Bxb7 Rxb7 19 Nd5! Rxd7! 20 Qxc8! Rxc8 21 Rxc8+ Kg7 22 Rg8+ Kh6 23 Nxf6 Rxd2 24 h3! and White wins;
3) 15...Qxc4 16 Rxd7 Be6 17 Nd2 Qxc3 18 Qxc3 [18 Bxc6 Qxc2 19 Rxc2 Rfd8?!] 18...Bxc3 19 Bxc6 Bxd2 20 Rxd2 Rad8 21 Rxd8 Rxd8 22 Bb5 Nb8 23 Rc7 a6 24 Bd3 and the endgame is lost for Black;
4) 15...Qxc4 16 Rxd7 Bxf3 17 Bxf3 Rac8 18 Bb7! Qxc3 [18...Rd8 19 Ne4!] 19 Bxc8 Rxc8 20 Qxc3 Rxc3 21 Rxc3 Bxc3 22 Rxa7 Nb8 23 Rb7 Be5 24 Rxb6 and White must win. Thus, after 14 b4, White would have great chances of a win, but now the game is virtually equalised.)
14...Nc5 15 Nd4 Bxg2 16 Kxg2 Bf6 17 Qe3 a6
(17...Bxd4 18 Rxd4 Nb3 was not possible, because of 19 Qg5+ Kh8 20 Qf6+ Kg8 21 Rh4 with a strong attack, for example: 21...Nxa2 22 Rh5 Rd8 23 Qh6 and White wins.)
18 Ral Kh8?
(A tactical mistake, which White does not exploit. In reply to this move, he should play 19 b4 Nb7 20 Na4, and Black does not succeed in giving a check with the queen on c6, since, on 20...Bxd4, White himself captures the bishop with check, while after 20...Qc7 21 Nf3 Bd8 22 Qd4+ Black loses the d7 pawn.)
19 Kg1? d6 20 b4 Nd7 21 Nf3 Qc7 22 Qd3 Ne5 23 Nx e5 dxe5?

(This move once again places Black in a critical position. He should of course take with the bishop, since 24 f4 Bg7 25 Qxd6 Qxc4 gives White nothing. White
7; erroneous is 10...Be7 of 11 Bxf6 Bxf6 12 Ng5, could be better for Black to allow the doubling of h-pawns and play 10...Rb8. So here, after 11 0-0 Be7, there is no doubt about advantage.)

12 Qd6 Qb7
(Making White's task easier. Relatively best was 24...Qxd6 25 Rxd6 Rab8 26 Na4 b5. Now, insufficient is 27 Nc5 Be7 28 Rxa6 Bxc5 29 bxc6 b4, with great chances of a draw. Instead of 27 Nc5, he should play 27 Nb6 Be7 28 Rb6 Rab8 [28...Bxc4 29 Nd7 Rb8 30 Rxc4 with the win of a pawn] 29 cxb5 [stronger than 29 c5 Rb7, and the White rook and knight have no moves] 29...Bxb5 30 Nc8 Bf8 31 Na7 Kg7 32 Qd6 Rc8 33 Rxe5 Rb8 34 Nc6 e4 [34...Bd6 35 Rd8] 35 Bxb5 Rxb8 36 Nxb8 Rd6 37 Ne6 Kf8 38 e3 Bf8 39 Na7, and White must win.)

15...Nd4 16 Bxf6 Qxf6 17 Qe3 a6
(17...Bxd4 18 Nxd4 Nb3 was not possible, because of 19 Qg5+ Kh8 20 Qf6+ Kg8 21 Rh4 with a strong attack, for example: 21...Nxa2 22 Rh5 Rd8 23 Qh6 and White wins.)

18 Nc5 Kh8?
(A tactical mistake, which White does not exploit. In reply to this move, he should play 19 b4 Nb7 20 Na4, and Black does not succeed in giving a check with the queen on c6, since, on 20...Bxd4, White himself captures the bishop with check, while after 20...Qc7 21 Ng3 Bd8 22 Qd4+ Black loses the d7 pawn.)

19 Kg1? d6 20 b4 Nd7

21 Nf3 Qc7 22 Qd3 Ne5
23 Nxe5 dxe5?

(This move once again places Black in a critical position. He should of course take with the bishop, since 24 f4 Bg7 25 Qxd6 Qxc4 gives White nothing. White has to limit himself to the continuation 24 e3 Rxc8 25 Ne2 with a minimal advantage.)
37 Kf2
(The capture of the a6 pawn, allowing the king to be cut off on the second rank, would make no sense.)
37...Rd2+ 38 Kg3 Ra2
39 Ra5 Rc8 40 Nd5 Rc6
41 h4 Kg7 42 Kf4
(Even simpler was 42 b5 axb5 43 Nd4. Here the game was adjourned. Black resigned without playing on. The win is easily achieved by the advance of the pawns on the king's flank.)

63 Game Ending
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Bronstein
(8th Match Game, Moscow 1950)

![Chessboard Diagram]

(White has an extra pawn, but, in view of the limited material on the board, very accurate play is required.)
42...Rb3
(There is no hope of saving the game in other continuations. For example:
1) 42...Bc4 43 g6 Ra4 44 g7 Ra8 45 Re5 Kd6 46 Kf4;
2) 42...Ra4 43 g6 Ra8 44 Nc6 Rf8+

45 Ke3 Bf5 46 Ne5+ Kc8 47 g7 Rg8 48 Rf6 Bh7 49 Rf7 b4 50 Nc6 b3 51 Ne7+ Kd8 52 Nbxg8 b2 53 Rf1 Bxg8 54 Rb1;
3) 42...Rb1 43 g6 Rfl+ 44 Ke3 Rd1 45 Nc6 Bxg6 [45...Bf5 46 Ne5+ Kd8 47 g7 Bh7 48 Rh6Bg8 49 Rh8] 46 Ne5+ Kc8 47 Rxe6 Rxd5 48 Ke4, followed by an advance of the g3 pawn.
The move 42...Rb3 is still the relatively best chance for Black.)
43 Kf4 Rb4+ 44 Kf5 Rb3
45 Kg4 Rb4+ 46 Kh5 Re4
(At first sight it seems that Black, by forcing the exchange of rooks, achieves a draw, but now follows a study-like ending.)
47 Ng6! b4
(On 47...Rx e6 would follow the forcing variation: 48 dxe6+ Kd6 [48...Ke8 49 Nf4 Be4 50 g6 Kf8 51 Kh6 b4 52 g7+ Kgb 53 Nh5 and mate on the following move] 49 Nf4 Bc2 50 g6 b4 51 Kh6 b3 52 g7 b2 53 g8(Q) bl(Q) 54 Qd8+ Kc6 55 e7 and White wins.
The continuation chosen by Black is refuted no less effectively.)
48 Nf8+ Kd5 49 g6 Rxe6 50 g7!
(The White pawn surprisingly goes on to queen. Black can lay down his arms.)
50...Be2+ 51 Kg5 Re4
(Also no help is 51...Re3 52 g4 Rg3 53 Ng6.)
52 Kf6 Rg4 53 Ng6 Rxe6+ 54 Kxg6 Bd3+ 55 Kh6 Black resigns.

64 King's Indian
Defence
White: Bronstein
Black: Boleslavsky
(9th Match Game, Moscow 1950)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 d6 3 e5 dxe5 4 Nxe5 Nbd7 5 Bd3 g6
Ng2
(Now White's plan becomes clear: to keep under control the c5 and f5 squares and to carry out advance of the f-pawn.)
6...Bg7 7 0-0 0-0 8 Bxe7 Nc6
(Re8
(Freeing a square for the king and intending, at an opportune moment, to seize the e-file.)
9 Nf3 c6
(On an immediate 9...Nf8, 10 Nh5 is unpleasant, for example 10...exf4 11 exf4 c6 12 f5, Black does not succeed in obtaining counterplay.)
10 Kh1
(What was White afraid of? The reply to the natural 10 Qf3 is unpleasant, for example 10...exd4 11 exd4 Qb6, the Nge2 and risky for Black is 11 Nh5 12 g4! Bxg4 13 Kf2 Nh7 14 Na4 Qa5 15 Nxd4 Qxd4 17 g5 Nf5 18 b3 Qxa2 19 Bb2 with a strong attack for the pawn.
After 11 exd4, Black has, besides 11...Qb6, another reply 11...Ng5
In this case, 12 cxd5 Nxe4 13 Nxd5 cxd5 14 Qxd5 is not good for White because of 14...Ne5!
Qxd8 Rxd8 16 dxc5 Rxd3 – B)
64  King's Indian
Defence
White: Bronstein
Black: Boleslavsky
(9th Match Game, Moscow 1950)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 d6 3 Nc3 e5 4 Nf3 e3
(White employs an original system of
development, analogous to the
game, Duz-Khotimirsky - Chigorin,
played in 1907.)
4...Nbd7 5 Bd3 g6 6
Nge2
(Now White's plan becomes clear -
to keep under control the e4 and
f5 squares and to carry out an
advance of the f-pawn.)
6...Bg7 7 0-0 0-0 8 f4
Re8
(Freeing a square for the knight
and intending, at an opportune
moment, to seize the e-file.)
9 Ng3 c6
(On an immediate 9...Nh5, 10 d5
is unpleasant, for example: 10...exf4
11 exf4 c6 12 f5, and
Black does not succeed in obtaining
counterplay.)
10 Kh1
(What was White afraid of, in
reply to the natural 10 Qf3? If
10...exd4 11 exd4 Qb6, then 12
Nge2 and risky for Black is 12...
Nh5 13 g4! Bxd4+ 14 Kh1 Nh6 15
Na4 Qa5 16 Nxd4 Qxa4 17 g5 Nh5 18
b3 Qa5 19 Bb2 with a strong
attack for the pawn.
After 11 exd4, Black has, besides
11...Qb6, another reply 11...d5.
In this case, 12 cxd5 Nxd5 13
Nxd5 cxd5 14 Qxd5 is not good for
White because of 14...Nc5! 15
Qxd8 Rxd8 16 dxc5 Rxd3 - Black

(A strong move, with which Black
exposes the negative side to the

135
previous exchange.
If 13 Ncxe4, then 13...Nxe4 14 Bxe4 Qxd1 15 Rxd1 Nfd7 16 Bd3 Ne5 17 Be2 h5 18 fxg6 fxg6 19 Bd2 Ng4 and Black wins back the pawn with an excellent game. Or 13 Bxe4 Nxe4 14 Ncxe4 Bxf5 15 Nxf5 Qxd1 16 Rxd1 Rxe4 17 Nxd7 Rxc4 and Black is left with an extra pawn.)
13 Bc2 Qxd1 14 Nxd1 N8d7
(Played insufficiently energetically. In order to exploit White's backwardness in development, it was necessary to continue 14...Bxf5, regardless of the exchange of the bishop and weakening of the king's flank. After 14...Bxf5 15 Nxf5 gxf5 16 Rxf5 Rad8, it is not apparent how White can develop his queen's flank. On 16 Bd2 [instead of 16 Rxf5] Black has the very strong continuation 16...Ng4!, for example: 17 Rxf5 Rad8 18 Be1 Bh6 19 Bf2 Rd2 20 Bd3 Ne6 21 h3 Nxf2+ 22 Rxf2 Red8 with great chances of a win. Instead of 18 Be1, White better plays 18 Bb4, but also here Black has a pleasant choice between 18...Bh6 19 Bc5 Rd2 and 18...Ne5 19 Bxe4 [After 19 Bb3 Nd3, Black has a great positional advantage] 19...Nxc4 20 Bf3 Nxe3 with the win of a pawn.)
15 Bd2 h5 16 fxg6 fxg6 17 Nf2 Ne5 18 Bb3 Bf5
(Black endeavours to reinforce the e4 pawn, but the exchange of the bishop allows White to rid himself of all difficulties. His task would be more complicated after 18...Ne4. If 19 Nxe4 Nxe4 20 Rad1, then 20...Be5, and on 21 Bxe4 would follow 21...Kg7, threatening both 22...Bxg3 and 22...Nxf2 23 Kxf2 h4. Instead of 19 Nxe4, White should play 19 Nh3, after which he could apparently maintain equality, by exploiting the weakness of the g6 pawn and the g5 square.)
19 Nxf5 gxf5 20 Rad1 Rad8

(On the previous moves, both opponents spent a great deal of time, and they were left with approximately twenty minutes each for the last twenty moves. Here White offered a draw which was accepted by Black.
It is unfavourable for White to play 21 Nh3, because of 21...Nd3, and not possible are either 22 Rxf5, because of 22...Nb2, or 22 Bxd7 Rxd3 23 Rxf5 Rd8 24 Rf2 Ng8 25 Re2 Bc3, but after 21 Bc1 the position is rapidly simplified.)

65 Caro Kann Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Bronstein
(10th Match Game, Moscow 1950)
1 e4 c6 2 Nc3 d5 3 Nf3

Bg4 4 h3 Bxf3 5 Qxf3
Nf6 6 d4 e6 7 Bd3 dxe4
8 Nxe4 Nxe4
(Regarding the capture of the pawn, see game 68, Boleslavsky-Flohr. In the present case Bronstein consistently carried out simplifying tactics.)
9 Qxe4 Nd7 10 c3 Nf6
11 Qe2 Qd5 12 0-0 Qh5
(Such an excursion with the queen sets White difficult problems. From the point of view of playing for a win [and the state of the match obliged White to do this] he should retain the queens, but a retreat of the queen would allow Black, after queen's side castling, to organise an advance of the g7 pawn to attack the White king's position.)
13 Qxh5 Nhx5 14 Be3
(The attempt to immediately open the game by 14 g4 Nf6 15 f4 g6 16 Bf5 would hardly give White the advantage, since the position of the White king would then become precarious: for example: 16...gxf5 17 gxf5 Rg8+ 18 Kf2 [18 Nh4 Nh5] 18...0-0 0-0 19 fxg6 fxg6 20 Bd2 Bb6 21 Ke2 Nh5 22 Kd1 Rg8 etc.)
14...Nf6 15 Rad1 Ne5
16 Bc1 0-0-0 17 Rfe1
Bd6 18 g3 Rhe8

(The development of both sides is completed. A feature of the present position is the fact that the advance of the e6 and c6 pawns is unfavourable for Black, since the opening of the game)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Bg5 e6 7 Be3 0-0 8 0-0 d5 9 Nge2 dxe4 10 Nxe4 Be7
11 f3 Nc6 12 Bf4 Bc5 13 a4 Ba7 14 a5 b5 15 c3 c5 16 Bxe7 Rxe7 17 Nd2 a5 18 Bb5+ c6 19 Bc4 Nxe4
20 fxe4 Bxe4
(The development of both sides is completed. A feature of the present position is the fact that the advance of the e6 and c6 pawns is unfavourable for Black, since the opening of the game increases the activity of the White bishops. On the other hand, it is unfavourable for White to advance the pawns on the queen's flank, which would create sensitive weaknesses in his camp. All this greatly narrows down the possibilities of both sides and, to a certain extent, determines a drawn outcome. Yet, all the same, the position in the diagram cannot be called even. Black cannot undertake anything and is forced to limit himself to passive defence. White, however, also in this theoretically valuable present game, manages to find an active plan of play, placing Black under the threat of defeat upon the slightest inaccuracy on his part.)
19 Be4 Nf6 20 Bc2 h6 21 Rd3
(White transfers the rook to f3, with the aim of creating pressure on Black's only vulnerable point - f7.)
21...Nd5 22 Rf3 Re7 23 Bb3 Red7 24 Kg2 Bf8 25 g4 a6 26 h4 g6 27 Bxd5
(Giving up the two bishops for the sake of a concrete plan of attack on the opponent's king's
side pawns.)
27...cxd5 28 Rh3 Bg7
29 h5 g5 30 f4 gxf4 31 Bxf4
(White has succeeded in opening
the f-file and creating real
weaknesses for the opponent on h6
and f7, but this is not enough to
win the game.)
31...Rg8 32 Rg3 Rh8 33
Rf3 Rdd8
(An inaccurate move, creating
extra difficulties for Black. Of
course, he should not take away
the defence from the h7 pawn.
Correct was 33...Bf8, followed by
34...Rh7.)
34 Bh3
(Insufficient is 34 Bd2 Rd7 35
Ref1 Rf8 36 Kg3 f6 37 g5 hxg5 38
Bxg5 Rg8 39 Be3 f5 40 Kf2 Rh8
with a draw.)
34...Rd7

35 Bh4
(After this move, Black achieves
the best arrangement of his
pieces and easily defends him-
self. His task would be more com-
licated after 35 Ref1 Rf8 36
Bh4. The continuation might be:
36...Kc7 37 Bf6 Rg8 38 Kg3 Kc6
[38...Kd6? 39 Be5+! Bxe5 40 dxe5+
Kxe5 41 Rxf7 Rg7 42 Re1+ Kd6 43
Rf6 and White must win] 39 Kh4
Kc7 40 Rf2 Kc6 41 Bxg7 Rxg7 44
Rf6 Rh7 43 g5 hxg5+ 44 Kxg5 Kd6
45 Rh6 Rg7+ 46 Kf6 Rg1 47 Rh7 Rh1
48 h6 b5 49 Rg2 [Not possible are
either 49 Rh8, because of 49...
Rg1, or 49 Kg5, because of 49...
f6+] 49...Rf1+ 50 Kg7 f5+ 51 Kg6
Rxh7 52 Kxh7 f4. The rook ending
obtained is drawn. For example:
53 Kg7 f3 54 Rg6 [54 Rh2 Rg1+ 55
Kf7 Rg2 56 Rh3 f2 57 Rf3 Rh2 etc]
54...f2 55 h7 Rh1 56 Rf6 Rgl+ 57
Kf7 Rh1.)
35...Rh7 36 Ref1 Bf8
37 Kh3 Bd6 38 Bf6
(On 38 Rh6, Black would reply
38...Bc7 and then 39...Bd8.)
38...Be7 39 Bxe7 Rxe7
40 Rf6 Rd7 41 g5
(As a result, White obtains even
a slightly worse ending. More
prudent was to refrain from this
break and agree to a draw.)
41...hxg5 42 Kg4 Kd8
43 Kxg5 Ke7
(Black threatens an unpleasant
transfer of the rook to the
g-file, but White has a simple
defence.)
44 h6 Rd8 45 Kh5 Rg8
46 Rf2 b5 47 b4 Rg1
48 Rf1 Rg2 49 Rf2 Rgl
Draw by repetition of moves.

66 King's Indian
Defence
White: Bronstein
Black: Boleslavsky
(11th Match Game,
Moscow 1950)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 d6 3 Nc3
e5 4 Nf3 Nbd7 5 g3 g6
6 Bg2 Bg7 7 0-0 0-0 8 e4 Re8 9 Be3
(Regarding the opening, see game
15, Aramanovich-Boleslavsky.)
9... Ng4 10 Bg5 f6
(The correct method of play for
White in this variation was
demonstrated by Ragozin in a game
from the 13th USSR Championship,
against Boleslavsky. After 9 Be3
Ng4 10 Bg5 f6 11 Bc1 c6, this
game continued 12 h3 Nh6 13 Be3
Nf7 14 Rc1 Nh8 15 b4! Now, on
15...f5, would follow simply 16
d5! and it is very difficult for
Black to create any threats on
the king's flank, whereas White,
by 17 dxc6 and 18 b5, threatens
to obtain a decisive advantage on
the queen's.)
11 Bd2 Nh6
(It may appear strange that the
Black knight moves back, without
waiting to be driven away. But
precisely this voluntary retreat
prompts White into a false idea –
not to lose time on the move h3;
which in the end proves to be to
Black's advantage.)
12 Rcl Nf8 13 b4 Nf7
14 Be3
(Correct was 14 h3, preventing
the following manoeuvre by
Black.)
14...Bg4 15 h3
(On 15 d5, Black would have the
choice between 15...Ng5 with
pressure on the king's flank, and
15...Bh6 with an exchange of the
important White bishop.)
15...Bxf3 16 Bxf3 a5
17 a3 exd4 18 Bxd4
axb4
(A tactical inaccuracy. He should
not hurry with the opening of the a-file.)
19 axb4 Bh6
(As so, on the withdrawal of the
rook, to exchange the White
bishop by 20...Ne6.)
20 Nd5 Ne5 21 Be3

(The continuation 21 Rc2 Ne6 23
Bb2 c6 23 Ne3 Bxe3 24 fxe3 Qb6 is
unsatisfactory for White; for
example: 25 Qd2 Nxf3+ 26 Rxh3 Ng5
e etc.
Correct was 21 Ral, exploiting
the open file. After 21...Rxal 22
BxaL White has an active
position in the centre. The capture
by Black of the c4 pawn leads, in
this variation, to interesting
complications, acceptable for
both sides; for example: 22...c6
23 Nf4 Nxc4 24 Qb3 b5 25 e5 fxe5
26 Bxc6 exf4 27 Bxb5 [27 Bd5+ Ne6
28 Re1 Qd7 29 Qc3 Ne5] 27...d5 28
Bxe8 Qxe8 29 Qc3 Qd7 30 Qh8+, and
White gives perpetual check.
After the move in the game, Black
stands better.)
21...Bxe3 22 Nxe3 c6
23 Bg2 Ra3
(Black has succeeded in carrying
out an invasion on the a-file and
prevents the move f4. If now 24 Qd4 Ne6 25 Qb2, then 25...Rxe3 26 fxe3 Nd3.
24 Qd2 Rd3 25 Qa2 Qa8 26 Qe2?
(After this retreat, White's position becomes hopeless. 26 Ra1 Qxa2 27 Rxa2 was necessary. If now Black plays 27...Rb3, then 28 b5! cxb5 29 cxb5 Rxb5 30 Rd1 and White wins back the pawn; also insufficient is 27...Rc3 28 Rd1 Nxc4 29 Nxc4 Rxc4 30 b5! etc.)
26...Qa3 27 Ng4
(Passive defence, 27 Rbl, is now insufficient in view of the threat ...Ne6-d4.)
27...Nxc4 28 Qxg4
(White sacrifices a pawn, trying to obtain counterplay. On 28 hxg4 would follow 28...Ne6 and then 29...Nd4.)
28...Qxb4 29 Rbl Rb3 30 Rbd1 Kg7 31 h4 h5 32 Qe2 Nd7 33 Rd4 Ne5 34 Qd1 Rd8?
(Black does not notice the exchanging combination, prepared by the opponent, and makes his task considerably more difficult. Black could capture the c4 pawn, since after 34...Nxc4 35 g4 Qb5 36 gxh5 gxh5 there is no dangerous attack for White. But if Black also fears the complications arising from this, then good was 34...Re7, defending the seventh rank and the b7 pawn. After 35 Rxd6 Qxc4, Black's connected passed pawns would decide the game; White would have no way of avoiding material loss.)
35 c5 Qxc5 36 Qxb3 Qxd4 37 Qxb7+ Rd7 38 Qc8 Qa7
(Here the game was adjourned. The advantage is still on Black's side, but to realise it requires accurate play.)
39 Bh3 Rf7 40 Rd1 Rf8 41 Qe6

Qe6

Qf2+ 57 Kh1 Qf1+ 58 Kh2 Qe2+ Kg1 Qe3+.
3) 42 Qxd6 c4 43 Rbl [In order to prevent the invasion of the Black rook] 43...c3 44 Rcl [If 44 Kg2 then 44...c2 45 Rcl Qb7 46 Qc3 Qa1 47 Kh3 Nf3+] 45...Rb8 46 Kg2 Rd6 47 Qa3 48 Rxc2 Qf3+ 49 Kh2 Rbl 50 Rc7+ Kh6 51 Qd2+ g5 52 Rcl Rb8 53 Qxc1 Qxf2+ 54 Kh1 Nf3, and Black wins.
4) 42 Rxd6 c4 43 Ra6 Qd4 44 Rbl Qxe4 45 Rd7+ Kh6 46 Qe7 Qb7 etc.)
42...Rd8 43 Be2
(Bad is 43 Rxd6 Rxd6 44 Qxd6 c4 45 Qb4 Ng4 46 Qd2 c3 and Black wins.)
43...Qd7 44 Qb3 Qc6 45 Rd5
(More practical chances were offered by 45 f4, though, after 45...c4 [But not 45...Ng4 46 Bxg4 hgx4 47 Qe6] 46 Qc3 Ng4 47 Bxg4 hgx4 48 Rd4 Rc8, Black, in the end, must win.)
45...c4 46 Qc3 Qb6 47 Kg2 Ra8 48 Qd2 Qc6 49 Rxd6
(White has nothing better. On 49 Qc3 would follow 49...Ra2.)
49...Qxe4+ 50 f3 Qb5 51 Qf4 Qe7 52 Rdl c5 53 Rc2 Qc5 54 Qe4 Rc8 55 f4 Ng4
(An inaccurate move before the time control. Black would win more simply by 55...Nc6 followed by 56...Nd4.)
56 Bxg4 hgx4 57 Qe6!
54...f5 Nxd1 55 Kxg2 Qb2+ 56 Kg1 Qf2+ 57 Kh1 Qf1+ 58 Kh2 Qe2+ 59 Kg1 Qe3+.
3) 42 Qxd6 c4 43 Rbl [In order to prevent the invasion of the Black rook] 43...c3 44 Rcl [If 44 Kg2, then 44...c2 45 Rcl Qb7 46 Qd4 Qb1 47 Qd2 Nd3!] 44...c2 45 Be6 [45 Rxc2? Nf3+ 46 Kh1 Qa1+ 47 Kg2 Ne1+] 45...Rb8 46 Kg2 Rb6 47 Qd5 Qa3 48 Rxc2 Qf3+ 49 Kh2 Rb1 50 Rc7+ Kh6 51 Qd2+ g5 52 Rcl Rxc1 53 Qxc1 Qxf2+ 54 Kh1 Ne3, and Black wins.
4) 42 Rxd6 c4 43 Ra6 Qd4 44 Rd6 Qxe4 45 Rd7+ Kh6 46 Qe7 Qbl+ etc.)
42...Rd8 43 Be2
(Bad is 43 Rxd6 Rxd6 44 Qxd6 c4 45 Qb4 Ng4 46 Qd2 c3 and Black wins.)
43...Qd7 44 Qb3 Qc6 45 Rd5
(More practical chances were offered by 45 f4, though, after 45...c4 [But not 45...Ng4 46 Bxg4 hgx4 47 Qe6] 46 Qc3 Ng4 47 Bxg4 hgx4 48 Rd4 Rc8, Black, in the end, must win.)
45...c4 46 Qc3 Qb6 47 Kg2 Ra8 48 Qd2 Qc6 49 Rxd6
(White has nothing better. On 49 Qc3 would follow 49...Ra2.)
49...Qxe4+ 50 f3 Qb7 51 Qf4 Qe7 52 Rd2 c3 53 Rc2 Qc5 54 Qe4 Rc8 55 f4 Ng4
(An inaccurate move before the time control. Black would win more simply by 55...Ng6 followed by 56...Nb4.)
56 Bxg4 hxg4 57 Qe6!

(A clever trap. At first sight, Black wins easily by exchanging queens; in fact, however, after 57...Qc6+ 58 Qxc6 Rxc6 59 Kf2 Kf7 60 Ke3 Ke6 61 Kg3 Kg6 62 Rxc3 Rxc3+ 63 Kh3 Ke4 64 Kg2 Kf3 [64...f5 65 Ke2] 65 f5 gxf5 66 h5 f4 67 gxf4 g3 68 h6 g2 69 h7 g1(Q) 70 h8(Q) the game would end in a draw.
After long deliberation, Black finds the way to the win.)
57...Rb8! 58 Qg4 Rb2 59 Qe2
(White could put up a longer resistance after 59 Qd7+ Kf8 60 Qd8+ Kf7 61 Rxb2 [61 Qd7+ Ke7 62 Qd5+ Ke6] 61...cxb2 62 Qd3 Qc6+ 63 Kh2 Qb7 64 Qb1.
Black wins here by 64...Kg7 65 g4 [Otherwise 65...f5 followed by a transfer of the queen to c1] 65...Qb4 66 Kg3 Qc3+ 67 Kg2 Qd2+ [67...Qe1 68 Qe4] 68 Kg3 Qe3+ 69 Kg2 Qe2+ 70 Kg3 f5 etc.)
59...Qc6+ 60 Kg2 Qb6+ 61 Kg3
(If 61 Kg1, then 61...Rxc2 62 Qxc2 Qb2 63 Qe4 c2 64 Qe7+ Kh6 65 Qf8+ Kh5 66 Qh8+ Kg4.)
61...Qb7+ 62 Ke3
(Or 62 Kf2 Rxc2 63 Qxc2 Qb2 64
62...Qb3! 63 Kd3 Qb5+
64 Ke3 Qxe2+ 65 Rxe2
c2 White resigns.

67 French Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Bronstein
(12th Match Game,
Moscow 1950)
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3
Bb4 4 Bd2
(Regarding the opening, see game
56, Boleslavsky-Mikenas.)
4...c5
(This system of defence against 4
Bd2 can hardly be recommended.)
5 a3!
(Just so! After 5 exd5 exd5 6 a3
Bxc3 7 Bxc3 c4 and Black would
have a good game, since his
knight gets to e4.)
5...Bxc3 6 Bxc3 Nf6
(On 6...c4 would follow 7 e5 and
then 8 b3; after 6...dxe4 7 dxc5,
White would also stand clearly
better, therefore Black goes in
for a pawn sacrifice.)
7 dxc5 Nxe4 8 Bxg7 Rg8
9 Bd4 Nc6 10 Nf3 f6
(Bad is 10...Qe7 11 b4 e5 12 Bb2
and Black's e5 and d5 pawns are
hanging.)
11 b4 e5 12 Bb2 Be6
(Obtaining a highly original
position. Black has a pawn centre
and a strongly placed knight on
e4. However, White has an extra
pawn, two bishops and the advan-
tage on the queen's flank. If
White manages to rid himself of
the knight e4 and complete the
development of his pieces, then
he obtains real chances of a
win.)
13 Nd2 Qe7 14 Nxe4?
(With this hasty exchange, White
allows the opponent to create
strong pressure in the centre.
After the correct 14 f3 Ng5 [Even
worse is 14...Nxd2 15 Qxd2 0-0-0
16 0-0-0 d4 17 Re1 Qf7 18 f4] 15
Nb3 0-0-0 16 h4 Ne7 17 Qd2 d4 18
0-0-0, White would have an extra
pawn with a slightly better
position.)
14...dxe4 15 Qd6 Rd8!

(This move was a surprise for
White; he did not think that the
opponent, having a pawn less,
would agree to an exchange of
queens, and reckoned only on
15...Qf7, after which the queen
sacrifice 16 Bb5 Bd5 17 0-0-0 Rd8
18 Rxd5! Rxd6 19 Rxd6 would give
him a virtually irresistible
attack. For example: 19...Rxe2 20
Rh4 Qh5 21 Rd8+ Ke7 22 R8d7+ Ke6
23 Rxh7 Nd4 24 Bd7+ Kd5 25 c6 Kd6
26 Bxd4 exd4 27 Rxd4+ Ke5 28 Rd1
and White wins.)
16 Qxe7+ Kxe7
(Now his strong position more
than compensates Black for the
pawn deficit. It is not easy for
White to complete the develop-
ment of his pieces.)
17 Rd1 Nd4 18 Bxd4
(He has to give up the bishop and
strengthen the opponent's centre.
18 Rd2 f5 19 c3 Nb3 would be even
worse.)
18...exd4 19 g3 h5 20
h4
(White must play very carefully,
since Black threatens to develop
an attack. If, for example, 20
f3, then 20...e3 21 Bd3 f5 22 Kxe2
h4 23 Rh1 Rxh8 24 Rg2 Rgd8 25 c3
hxg3 26 hXg3 f4! 27 exd4 Rg3 28
Rgx3 Rh2+ and Black must win.)
20...Bg4 21 Be2 f5 22
Rd2 Kf6

(This allows White to demolish
the menacing pawn phalanx in the
centre, but also a preliminary
exchange on e2 would not give
Black a win. After 22...Bxe2 23
Kxe2 Rd7 24 Rh1 Rh8 25 f4! the
Black rooks are riveted to the d4
pawn, while the king cannot get
to the queen's flank, since, with
the positions of the rooks on d5
and d7, c4 will be threatened.)
23 f3! exf3 24 Bd1
(If White succeeds in capturing
the f3 pawn, then the advantage
once again will pass to him, but
Black finds a strong manoeuvre.)
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16

Rd8+

Ke7

22 R8d7+ Ke6

Nd4 24 B4d7+ Kd5 25 c6 Kd6

exd4 27 Rxd4+ Ke5 28 Rd1

White wins.)

Qxe7+ Kxe7

his strong position more
compensates Black for the
deficit. It is not easy for

to complete the develop-

ment of his pieces.)

17 Rd1 Nd4 18 Bxd4

(He has to give up the bishop and strengthen the opponent's centre.

18 Rd2 f5 19 c3 Nb3 would be even worse.)

18...exd4 19 g3 h5 20 h4

(White must play very carefully, since Black threatens to develop an attack. If, for example, 20 f3, then 20...e3 21 Bxd3 f5 22 Ke2

h4 23 Rh1 Rh8 24 Rg2 Rdg8 25 c3

hxg3 26 hxg3 f4! 27 cxd4 Rxd3 28

Rxd2 Rh3+ and Black must win.)

20...Bg4 21 Be2 f5 22

Rd2 Kf6

(Black cannot place his king on
the eighth rank, since White, after 29 Rd8, exchanges one of the rooks and wins.)

29 R7d6+ Kf7 30 Rd7+ Draw.

68 Caro Kann Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Flohr
(18th USSR Championship, Moscow 1950)

1 e4 c6 2 Nf3 d5 3 Nc3

Bg4 4 h3 Bxf3 5 Qxf3
e6

(Now White has two continuations: the sharp 6 d4, linked with a pawn sacrifice, and the more modest 6 d3.)

6 d4 Nf6 7 Bd3 dxe4 8

Nxe4 Qxd4

(The acceptance of the sacrifice is met very rarely, though, as the present game shows [despite the unfavourable outcome for Black], it is quite possible and does not lead to bad consequenc-
es.)
9 Be3 Qd8
(Black should not accept the second pawn, since, after 9...Qxb2 10 0-0 with the threat 11 Ral, he is seriously behind in development and falls under a dangerous attack.)
10 0-0-0
(A move which suggests itself, but it does not appear to be the strongest. It is possible that the continuation 10 Nxf6+ Qxf6 11 Qg3, with the threat 12 Qc7, would give White the best chances.)
10...Nbd7 11 Bc4 Qa5
12 Bd2 Qb6
(Too passive. He should play 12...Qa4 13 Nxf6+ Nxf6 14 Bb3 Qe4 15 Qg3 0-0-0. Black succeeds in completing his development and would have an extra pawn with a quite solid position.)
13 Rhei Nxe4?
(This exchange is already the decisive mistake. He should continue 13...Be7 [13...0-0-0 is not possible because of 14 Ng5] 14 g4 [But not 14 Ng5 0-0 15 Nxe6 fxe6 16 Rxe6 Nd5 17 Bxd5 Rxf3 18 Rxc6+ Rf7, and Black is left with an extra piece] 14...0-0 15 g5, and Black might still successfully defend himself against White's attack.)
14 Rxe4 Nf6
(On 14...Nc5 would follow 15 Re2 Be7 16 Bc3 0-0 17 Qg3 g6 18 Qe5, and White wins back the pawn with an overwhelming position. After the move in the game, there follows a decisive sacrifice.)
15 Bxe6! fxe6 16 Rxe6+

16...Be7
(On 16...Kf7 would have followed 17 Rxf6+ gxf6 18 Qh5+, and White wins, as the following variations show:
1) 18...Ke7 19 Rel+ Kd6 20 Bf4+ Kd7 21 Qf7+;
2) 18...Kg7 19 Bh6+ Kg8 20 Qg4+ Kf7 21 Rd7+ Be7 22 Qg7+;
3) 18...Kg8 19 Qg4+ Kf7 [19...Bg7 20 Qe6+ Kf8 21 Bf4] 20 Qc4+ Kg7 21 Be3 Qb4 [21...Qc7 22 Qg4+ Kf7 23 Rd7+] 22 Rd7+ Kg6 23 Qf7+ Kf5 24 c3 Qb5 25 g4+ Ke4 26 Qxf6 with a quick mate;
4) 18...Kg8 19 Qg4+ Kf7 20 Qc4+ Kg6 21 Qe4+! Kf7 22 Ba5! Bh6+ [22...Qc5 23 Rd7+ Be7 24 Bb4] 23 Kb1 Rad8 [23...Rhd8 24 Qxh7+ Bg7 25 Qh5+] 24 Qc4+ Kg7 25 Qg4+ and wins.)
17 Rdel Nd5
(At first sight it seems that Black could win the exchange by continuing 17...0-0 18 Rxe7 Nd5; in fact, after 19 Rxf7+! Kxf7 20 Bc3+ Nxc3 21 Re7+ Kf6 22 Qxc3, he would be mated in a few moves.)
18 Bg5 0-0-0 19 Bxe7 Nxe7 20 Rxe7 Rhf8 21 Qg4+ Kb8 22 Qxg7 Qxf2
(On 22...Rxf2, sufficient is 23 Re8. With the move in the game, Black sets a trap: if 23 Rbd7+, then after 23...Kb8 White loses, since the rook e1 is under attack and mate is threatened.)
23 b3 Rg8
(On 23...Qb6 would follow simply 24 Qxh7.)
24 Qxh7 Rxg2 25 Rxb7+ Ka8 26 Rbe7
(Now White has two extra pawns, with excellent positions for his pieces. The rest is clear without commentary.)
26...Qc5 27 h4 a5 28 Re8 Qd4 29 Kb1 Rd2 30 Rxd8+ Qxd8 31 Qe4 Qf6 32 h5 Black resigns.

69 King's Indian Defence
White: Alatortsev
Black: Boleslavsky
(18th USSR Championship, Moscow 1950)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 d6 3 Nc3 e5 4 e4
(This continuation is frequently used by master Alatortsev, who considers that the capture of the centre is more important than the better development. However, practice does not confirm this view. Black usually, in this variation, obtains a good game.)
4...exd4 5 Qxd4 Nc6 6 Qd2 g6 7 b3 Bg7 8 Bb2 0-0 9 Bd3
(White does not want to castle queen's side, since the position of his king here could prove rather insecure. He intends to bring the knight out now to e2
Re8. With the move in the game, Black sets a trap: if 23 Rxb7+, then after 23...Kb8 White loses, since the rook is under attack and mate is threatened.)

23 b3 Rg8
(On 23...Qb6 would follow simply 24 Qxh7.)

24 Qxh7 Rxe2 25 Rxb7+ Ka8 26 Rbe1
(Now White has two extra pawns, with excellent positions for his pieces. The rest is clear without commentary.)

26...Qc5 27 h4 a5 28 Re8 Qd4 29 Kb1 Rd2 30 Rxd8+ Qxd8 31 Qe4 Qf6 32 h5 Black resigns.

69 King's Indian Defence
White: Alatortsev
Black: Boleslavsky
(18th USSR Championship, Moscow 1950)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 d6 3 Nc3 e5 4 e4
(This continuation is frequently used by master Alatortsev, who considers that the capture of the centre is more important than the better development. However, practice does not confirm this view. Black usually, in this variation, obtains a good game.)

4...exd4 5 Qxd4 Nc6 6 Qd2 g6 7 b3 Bg7 8 Bb2 0-0 9 Bd3
(White does not want to castle queen's side, since the position of his king here could prove rather insecure. He intends to bring the knight out now to e2 and, by completing his development, to obtain the better game, but Black frustrates the opponent's plan by immediately going over to the offensive.)

9...Ng4!
would stand better, both in the event of 16 Ne2 d5 17 Nxd4 dxc4, and after 16 Nd5 Be4 17 Rbl Bxd5 18 cxd5 Qh4.)
15...Nxe2 16 Bxe2
(After this, Black's attack develops forcibly. The lesser evil was 16 Bxg7, but also then 16...Nf4! would pose White difficult problems. On 17 Bxf8 would follow 17...Qf6! 18 f3 [The best move, if 18 0-0, then 18...Qg5] 18...Re8+ 19 Kf2 Nd3+ 20 Kg3 g5, and there is no defence against the check with the queen on e5. Best for White is to play 17 Qxf4 Qe7+ 18 Be2 [After 18 Be5 Rae8 19 0-0 Bd3 20 Qd4 Qxe5, White is left the exchange down] 18...Kxg7 19 Qe3 [Otherwise Black has a strong attack] 19...Qxe3 20 fxe3. But also here, after 20...Rae8, White remains a pawn down in the endgame, both after 21 Kd2 Be4, and after 21 Kf2 g5!)
16...Bxb2 17 Qxb2 Qg5!
18 g3 Rae8!
(Considerably stronger than 18... Bh3, on which White would reply 19 f4 Qe7 20 0-0-0 with a chance of resistance.)
19 0-0 Bh3

20 f4
(On the retreat of the rook, the sacrifice on f2 is decisive; for example: 20 Rfcl Rxf2 21 Kxf2 Qe3+ 22 Ke1 Bg4 23 Rc2 Qg1+, and Black wins. After the move in the game, White apparently counted on 20...Qc5+ 21 Rf2, after which he could still hold out, but here there follows a surprise.)
20...Bxf1!
(The sacrifice of the queen is the strongest continuation of the attack, quickly deciding the game.)
21 fxg5 Rxe2 22 Qcl
(Black's task would be slightly more complicated after 22 Qd4, but also here, Black, by continuing 22...Bh3 23 Qh4 Bg2 24 Re1 Rxa2 25 Qg4 Bf3 26 Qe6+ Rf7 27 Qh3 Bc6 28 b4 Rf5 29 b5 Rg2+ 30 Qxg2 Bxg2 31 Kxg2 Rg5, would obtain a winning endgame.)
22...Bg2 23 Qd3
(On 23 Re1, decisive is 23...Bh3 followed by 24...Re2 with a general exchange.)
23...Bf3 24 Rf1
(Losing immediately. But also there was no hope in 24 Kf1 Rxe2 25 Qd4 c5 26 Qc3 [26 Qxd6 Bc6+ 27 Ke1 Rh1+ 28 Kd2 Rxa1 29 Qe6+ Rf7 30 Qc8+ Kg7] 26...Bc6+ 27 Ke1 Rf3 28 Qa5 Rh1+ etc.)
24...Rg2+ 25 Kh1 Bc6!

Diagram

(Now it is all over.)
26 Rxf8+ Kxf8 27 Qf1+ Rf2+ White resigns.
the retreat of the rook, the sacrifice on f2 is decisive; for example: 20 Rfc1 Rxf2 21 Kxf2 22 Ke1 Bg4 23 Rc2 Qgl+, and Black wins. After the move in the text, White apparently counted on Qc5+ 21 Rf2, after which he still hold out, but here follows a surprise.)

...Bxf1!

sacrifice of the queen is strongest continuation of the attack, quickly deciding the game.

fxg5 Rxe2 22 Qc3

Black's task would be slightly complicated after 22 Qd4, but here, Black, by continuing 22...Bh3 23 Qh4 Bg2 24 Re1 25 Qg4 Bf3 26 Qe6+ Rf7 27 Bc6 28 b4 Rf5 29 b5 Rg2+ 30 Kxg2 31 Kxg2 Rxc5, would obtain a winning endgame.

...Bg2 23 Qd3

23 Re1, decisive is 23...Bh3 followed by 24...Ref2 with a quick mate.)

...Bf3 24 Rf1

...Rh5 immediately. But also ...

...Rg2+ 25 Kh1 Bc6!

...Rxg2+ 26 Kh1 Rg6

...Rxg2+ 27 Kh1 Bc6+

...Rh1+ 28 Kh2 Bxh1+ 29 Kg2

...Bc6+ 27 Ke1 Rf3 28 Rhl+ etc.)

...Re1+ 25 Kh1 Bc6!

...Rxh1+ 26 Kg2 Bc6+

...Kxh1 27 Qxe8+ Kxh8 28 Qf8+ White resigns.

70 Nimzo-Indian Defence

White: Boleslavsky

Black: Averbach

(18th USSR Championship, Moscow 1950)

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 0-0 5 Bd3 d5 6 Nf3 c5 7 0-0 Nbd7 8 a3 Bxc3 9 bxc3 dxc4 10 Bxc4 Qc7

(This continuation was met for the first time in the game, Ragozin-Szabo [match-tournament, Moscow-Budapest 1949], on the basis of which it was regarded as acceptable for Black. However, as the present encounter shows, White can considerably improve the whole variation.)

11 Qe2 e5 12 e4!

(In the above mentioned game, Ragozin-Szabo, White played 12 Bb2, and Black, by blockading the position in the centre with the move 12...e4, obtained good chances. The move in the game is considerably more energetic: White makes his centre more active and at once poses Black no easy defensive problems.)

12...b6

(This move is insufficient, but there is no satisfactory continuation for Black. The following variations show how dangerous is White's initiative:)

1) 12...Re8? 13 Ng5 Re7 14 Qa2 Nb6 15 dx5!

2) 12...h6 13 Re1! [threatening a strong attack after an exchange on e5 followed by f4] 13...Re8 14 Qa2 Re7 15 dxe5 Nxe5 16 Nxe5 Qxe5 17 f4 Qxc3 18 Bd2 Qd4+ 19 Be3 Qd8 20 e5 Nd7 [20...Nf4 21 Qc2 Bf5 22 Bd3] 21 Bxf7+ with a decisive advantage;

3) 12...cxd4 13 cxd4 exd4 14 e5 Re8 15 Bxf7+ Kxf7 16 Qa2+ Kg8 17 exf6 Nxf6 18 Ng5! h6 19 a4 hgx5 20 Ba3+ Re7 21 Re1 Nh8 22 Rxe7 Nxe7 23 Re1.)

13 Ng5

(A tempting but incorrect continuation. The attempt to go over to the attack, without completing his development, is met with a refutation. Correct is 13 Bg5, and, on 13...Bb7, 14 d5. In this position, White has a considerable advantage since Black has no way of reliably blockading the d5 pawn. On 14...Rfc8 [in order to transfer the knight to d6] could follow 15 Nh4 h6 16 Bxf6 Nxf6 17...
Nf5 Rd8 18 f4 exf4 19 d6 with a strong attack. If 14...h6 15 Bh4 Rfc8, then possible is 16 Rad1 Ne8 17 d6 Nxd6 18 Rxd6 Qxd6 19 Rd1 Qc7 20 Rxd7 Qxd7 21 Nxe5 Qa4 22 Nxf7 Kh7 23 e5, and, despite the two extra exchanges, Black is defenceless.)

13...cxd4
(But not 13...h6? because of 14 Nxf7! Rxf7 15 f4 exd4 16 e5 with a strong attack.)
14 cxd4 exd4 15 f4 Nc5 16 e5 Nfe4!
(A surprising move, to the possibility of which White did not pay sufficient attention in his preliminary calculations. If now 17 Nxe4 Nxe4 18 Qxe4 Qxc4 19 Qxa8, then 19...Qxf1+ 20 Kxf1 Ba6+ with an extra pawn for Black. Thus, Black keeps control over the central squares and the initiative passes to him.)
17 Nxe4 Nxe4 18 Bb2 Bb7
(After 18...Nc3? 19 Bxc3 dxc3 20 f5 White has a strong attack.)
19 Bxd4
(Now, on 19 Rcl, would have followed 19...Nc3 20 Bxc3 dxc3 21 f5 Rd8 with the threat of 22...Rd2.)
19...Rac8 20 Bb3
(On 20 Rcl, Black would reply, of course, 20...b5.)
20...Nc5 21 Rac1
(On 21 Rfcl would follow 21...Qd7 22 Bxc5 Rxc5, and 23 Rxc5 is not possible because of 23...Qd4++; now, however, the variation 21...Qd7 22 Bxc5 Rxc5 23 Rxc5 bxc5 24 f5 is clearly unfavourable for Black, but he finds another strong continuation.)
21...Ba6
22 Qg4?
(On 22 Bc4, White feared the variation 22...Ng3! 23 Bxa6 Qxc1 [23...Nc1 24 Qe3] 24 Rxc1 Rxc1+ 25 Kf2 Nxd6 26 Qe4 Rd8, but this continuation was far more acceptable for White than the move in the game.)
22...Bxf1?
(Up to now Black has played excellently, but here he makes a mistake and allows the opponent to come out unscathed. The White queen on g4 occupies an extremely favourable position; it exerts pressure on the g-file and on the h3-c8 diagonal. Therefore he should first of all drive away the queen with the move 22...h5. If 23 Qg5, then 23...Qd8! [But not 23...Bxf1 24 e6 fxe6 25 Rxe6! Bxc5 26 Bxe6+ and mate next move] and White's two bishops and rook are hanging - material loss for him is inevitable. For example: 24 Bxc5 Bxf1 25 e6 Qxg5 26 exf7+ Kh7 27 fxg5 Rxc5 28 Rxf1 Rxc5, and the extra exchange must give Black victory. On 23 Qg3 would follow 23...Bxf1 24 e6 fxe6 25 Rxc5 bxc5 26 Bxe6+ Kh7 27 Qg5 [27 Be5 Qb7 28 f5 Qxg2+] 27...Be2 28 Be5 Qb7 29 f5 Qb1+ 30 Kf2 Qf1+ 31 Kg3 Qel+ and Black wins.)
23 e6! fxe6 24 Bxe6+ Kh8 25 Bxc8
(Now 25...Rxc8 is not possible because of 26 Bxg7+. Thus, White maintains material equilibrium and has the better position.)
25...Bd3
(Or course not 25...Rxf4, because of 26 Rxf1.)
26 Be6
(If 26 Be5 Qe7 27 h4, then 27...Bg6 and 28 h5 is not possible because of 28...Bxd5, while the bishop c8 does not have a single move.)
26...Qe7 27 f5
(On 27 Ba2 would follow 27...Bg6, with the threat 28...Qe4.)
27...Nxe6 28 fxe6 Bf5
29 Qg3 Bxe6 30 Rc7 Bd7 31 h4
(31 Rxa7 is not possible, because of 31...Rf1+! 32 Kxf1 Bb5+ with a draw. For the second time in the game, the possibility of a sacrifice on f1 saves Black.)
31...Rf7?
(Tired from the foregoing complicated struggle, Black makes a decisive mistake. The correct order of moves is 32...h6 33 Rxa7 Rf7 and Black ought not lose.)
32 Rxd7 Black resigns.

71 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Smyslov
(18th USSR Championship, Moscow 1950)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3
strong continuation.)
...Ba6

Qg4?
22 Bc4, White feared the
motion 22...Nb3! 23 Bxa6 Qxcl
...Nxc1 24 Qe3] 24 Rxcl Rxc1+
Kf2 Nxd4 26 Qe4 Rd8, but this
option was far more accept-
able for White than the move in
the game.)
...Bxf1?
To now Black has played
deliberately, but here he makes a
move that allows the opponent
to come out unscathed. The White
on g4 occupies an extremely
strong position; it exerts
pressure on the g-file and on the
diagonal. Therefore he
would first of all drive away
queen with the move 22...h5.
23 Qg5, then 23...Qd8! [But
23...Bxf1 24 e6 fxe6 25 Rxc5!
26 Bxe6+ and mate next move]>
White's two bishops and rook
hanging - material loss for
Black is inevitable. For example:
Bxc5 Bxf1 25 e6 Qxg5 26 exf7+
fxg5 Rxg5 28 Rxfl Rxg5,
the extra exchange must give
Black a win. On 23 Qg3 would
hold 23...Bxf1 24 e6 fxe6 25
bxc5 26 Bxe6+ Kh7 27 Qg5 [27
Be5 Qb7 28 f5 Qxg2+] 27...Be2 28
Be5 Qb7 29 f5 Qbl+ 30 Kg2 Qfl+ 31
Kg3 Qel+ and Black wins.)
23 e6! fxe6 24 Bxe6+
Kh8 25 Bxc8
(Now 25...Rxc8 is not possible
because of 26 Bxg7+. Thus, White
maintains material equilib-
rium and has the better position.)
25...Bd3
(At least not 25...Rxfl, because
of 26 Rxf4.)
26 Be6
(If 26 Be5 Qe7 27 h4, then
27...Bg6 and 28 h5 is not
possible because of 28...Bxh5,
while the bishop c8 does not have
a single move.)
26...Qe7 27 f5
(On 27 Ba2 would follow 27...Bg6,
with the threat 28...Qe4.)
27...Nxe6 28 fxel Bf5
29 Qg3 Bxe6 30 Rc7 Bd7
31 h4
(31 Rxa7 is not possible, because
of 31...Rf1+! 32 Kxf1 Bb5+ with a
draw. For the second time in the
game, the possibility of a
sacrifice on fl saves Black.)
31...Rf7?
(Tired from the foregoing
complicated struggle, Black makes
a decisive mistake. The correct
order of moves is 32...h6 33 Rxal
Rf7 and Black ought not lose.)
32 Rxd7 Black resigns.

71 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Smyslov
(18th USSR Championsh-
ip, Moscow 1950)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3
BB5 a6 4 Ba4 NF6 5 O-O
BB7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 O-O
8 c3 d6 9 h3 Nd7
(Black makes an unsuccessful
attempt to restore to life a
variation which had already
virtually gone out of practice.
The chronic weakness of the
queen's flank makes Black's
prospects gloomy.)
10 d4 Bf6 11 a4 Bb7
(As is well known, 11...Na5 12
Bc2 b4 is bad, because of 13 d5
bxc3 14 b4! Nb7 15 a5 with a
great positional advantage.)
12 axb5 axb5 13 Rxa8
Bxa8 14 d5 Ne7
(If it was necessary to play 14...
Na5. After 15 Bc2 Nb6 16 Qd3 Qd7
Black's position is worse, but he
does not suffer any material
loss.)
15 Na3 Qb8 16 Nxb5!

(Black, apparently, did not
notice this little combination.
Now all that is left for him is
to choose a continuation which
creates maximum difficulties for
the opponent to realize his
advantage.)
16...c6 17 dxc6 Nc5 18
Bxc6 Bxc6 19 Qxd6
(Insufficient is 19 Nxd6 Rd8 20
Nxf7 Rxd1 21 Rxd1 Nd5 22 exd5 Bb5
23 Bxb5 Qxb5 24 Nd6 Qb3 etc.)
19...Nxe4 20 Qxb8 Rxb8
21 Na3
(Despite the connected passed pawns, White's task is far from simple, since the Black pieces are highly active.)
21...Ng6 22 Bf1
(White intends to place the knight on c4, but the weakness of the d3 square forces him to refrain from this plan already on the next move. Therefore correct was at once 22 Nc2.)
22...Nc5 23 Nc2 e4 24 Nb4 Ba8 25 Nh2 Rd8 26 Be2
(Now White threatens to simplify the position by 27 Rd1, and set about realising his material advantage. So as to not let go of the initiative, Black sacrifices a second pawn.)

26...Nd3 27 Bxd3 exd3
28 Rd1 Ne5 29 f4 Nc4
30 Rxd3 Re8
(At the cost of a sacrifice of a second pawn, Black has obtained an active position and two strong bishops. For the following eight moves, White manoeuvres, endeavouring to improve the positions of his pieces.)
31 Kf1 Bb7 32 Ng4 Bh4
33 Nh2 h5 34 Rd7 Bc8
35 Rd4 Ne5 36 Re4 Rd8
(As a result of the last moves, White has achieved a great deal: he has driven away Black's white-squared bishop from the strong diagonal, the Black knight from the c4 square, taken away the e-file from the opponent and secured the development of the bishop cl.)
37 Re5 Nb3 38 Be3 g6
39 Rd5?
(Before the time control, White wants to repeat moves [in the full confidence that the opponent will go half way to meeting his wishes], in order, at leisure, to find the clearest way to the win. However, this unnecessary caution or rather the wish to avoid the struggle at the board, almost leads to a draw. Meanwhile, here the active move 39 Nc6! suggests itself. After 39...Bc6+ 40 Kgl Ra8 41 Ne4, White has not only a material, but also a positional advantage. On 41...Bb7 could follow 42 Ne7+ Kf8 43 f5 Bxe7 44 Bh6+ Ke8 45 f6 etc.)
39...Re8 40 Re5 Be6!
(This is the whole point. White's rook has got into a restricted position and he has to resort to tactical tricks in order to avoid material loss.)
41 Ne4
(The sealed move, apparently the best. On 41 Re4, Black would reply 41...f5 42 Re5 Bf6.)
41...Ra8
(If 41...f6, then 42 Nd6 Re7 43 Re4 f5 44 Re5 with the threat of Nd6.)
42 Kg1 Ra1+
(The best continuation. If 42...Na5, with the threat 43...Nc4 then 43 Bf2 Bd8 44 Ng5 Bc7 45 Bh4 and Black has no more threats. If, however, 42...Bb8, then 43 Nf2 Na5 44 Nb6 45 Bxb6 exd5 46 Bb5 Rb8 47 Nf6+ Kg7 48 Nc4 and White wins.)
43 Kh2 Re1 44 Bd6

(On 44 Nc5 or 44 Nd2 would have followed 44...Rxe3; on 44 Nf2 or 44...Bxe5 45 fxe5 Nd2 46 Bf4 Re1+ 47 Re1 Bxe5 Re6 48 Bxe6 with a draw.)
44...Kg7
(This move allows White, simplifying the game, to retain his material advantage. Correct was 44...Rbl!, threatening to capture the b2 pawn. On the one move to defend the pawn - 45 Be2 - could follow 45...f5 46 Ne2 Rxe6 fxe6 47 Rxe6 Nd2 and Black gives perpetual check.)
46 f5 Nxe5 47 Bxe5 Bf6
(White must still play very carefully.)
45 Nc5 Rxe5 46 fxe5 Nxc5 47 Bxc5 Bg5
(White must still play very carefully.)
Re5 Nb3 38 Be3 g6
43 Kgl Re1! 44 Bb6
(On 44 Nc5 or 44 Nd2 would have followed 44...Rx e3; on 44 Ng5 -
44...Bxg5 45 fxg5 Nd2 46 Bf4 Rxe5
47 Bxe5 Nc4 with a draw.)
44...Kg7
(This move allows White, by
simplifying the game, to retain
his material advantage. Correct
was 44...Rbl!, threatening to
capture the b2 pawn. On the only
move to defend the pawn - 45 N d3
could follow 45...f5 46 Ne2 [46
Rxe6 fxe4 47 Rxe4 Nd2 and Black
gives perpetual check] 46...Nd2
47 Re1 Rxel 48 Nxe1 Nc4. Thus,
after 44...Rbl, White loses the
b2 pawn and his chances of a win
become minimal.)
45 Nc5 Rxe5 46 fxe5
Nxc5 47 Bxc5 Bg5
(White must still play very
accurately, since it is enough
for Black to exchange the dark-
squared bishop for the knight,
and a draw would be quite
probable.)
48 Bd4 Kf8 49 Nd3 Bd5
50 Kg3 Ke8 51 Kf2 Bc4
52 Nc5 Be7 53 Ne4 Kd7
54 Nd2 Ba2
(Black senses that, on ordinary
continuations, White sooner or
later will secure the advance of
the passed pawns. Therefore he
invites the opponent to lock in
his bishop, counting on deriving
benefit from this also for
himself. But this leads only to
reduced activity of the Black
pieces.)
55 b3 Ba3 56 b4
(White lets out the opponent's
light-squared bishop, but locks
in the dark-squared one.)
56...Kc6
(By 56...Bc1 57 Ne4 Bh6, Black
could free the bishop from
imprisonment, but White, in this
case, would succeed in advancing
the b-pawn.)
57 Nf3 Bc1 58 Be3 Bb2
59 Bd2 Kd5 60 Ke3 Bc4
61 h4 Ba2 62 Ne1 Kc4
(Black could put up a more}
stubborn resistance with the move 62...Bc4. In this case, White ought to return with the knight to f3 and, after 63...Ba2, to continue 64 Kf4 Kc4 65 e6 fxe6 66 Ne5+ etc.)

63 Nd3 Ba1
(If 63...Bxc3, then 64 Bxc3 Kxc3 65 b5 Bd5 66 Nf4 Bb7 67 Nxe6! Bxg2 68 Nf4 and White wins.)

64 Nf4 Bb1 65 Nh3 Kd5
66 Kf4 Kc4
(After 66...Ba2 67 Ng5 Kc6 68 Ke4, White, getting the king to d4, secures the advance of his passed pawns.)

67 Ng5 Kd3 68 b5! Ba2
69 b6 Bd5 70 Be1
(Probably, stronger is 70 Nxf7 Kxd2 71 e6 Bxe6 72 b7 Bxf7 73 b8(Q) Bxc3, but White was afraid of the technical difficulties which might arise with the struggle of the queen against two bishops.)

70...Bb2
(On 70...Ke2, simplest is 71 c4 and then 72 Bb4.)

71 Nxf7 Bc1+ 72 Kg3
Be3 73 Bf2
(73 e6 Bxe6 [73...Bxb6 74 Ne5+ and 75 e7] 74 b7 Ba7 75 Ne5+ and then 76 Ng6 was even more quickly decisive.)

73...Bxb6 74 Bxb6 Bxf7
75 Kf4
(The White king is just in time. The rest is not complicated.)

75...Kxc3 76 Kg5 Kd3
77 Kf6 Be8 78 e6 Kc4
79 Bc7 Bb5 80 g3 Be8
81 Bf4 Kd5 82 Ke7 g5
83 hxg5 Black resigns.

72 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Geller
(18th USSR Championship, Moscow 1950)

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6
3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6
5 d4 Be7 6 Re1 b5
7 Bb3 0-0
8 d3
(The present variation is met in practice no less, and probably even more, than the principal continuation 8 c3. But play in this variation assumes a less forcing character, it has more ramifications than the principal continuation, and therefore is less studied. Objectively this line does not present Black with such a difficult task as 8 c3.)

8...d6 9 c3 Na5 10 Bc2
11 Nbd2 Qc7 12 Nf1
Nc6 13 Ng3 Be6
(This move is also not new. It was well known as far back as the time of the game Rauzer-Knoch, played in 1934.

Black agrees to an exchange of the white-squared bishop, in order to obtain a strong centre. White, in this game, goes half way to meet the intentions of his opponent, and tries to prove that Black's centre does not represent real strength and that its presence does not justify the giving up of the important bishop.)

14 Ng5 d5 15 Nxe6 fxe6
16 a4 b4
(Preferable, perhaps, is 16... Rae8, since now Black has to reckon with the threat of Bb3. But Black clearly does not want to give up the a-file.)

17 exd5
(White's idea, as was indicated above, consists of giving up the centre, in order to activate his pieces.)

17...exd5 18 Nf3
19 Bg5

(This is not bad, but was 19 f4, opening the a-file.)

There is nothing left but to capture on f5. 19...e4 20 dxe4 dxe4 21 fxe4 loses a pawn at once, if 21...e3 22 fxe3 Kxe3 23 Qf4, winning a piece.)

19...Kh8
(If 19...Kf8 after 20...g7, Black obtains a better position; relatively best is Qd7, but also in this case, 20 f4! Kf8 21 Qh3 Rb7 22 Bxf4, White retains an obvious advantage.)

20 Rc1?
(This is not necessary. After 20 f4!, Qd7 21Bg4, White's position is clearly superior.)
present variation is met in piece no less, and probably more, than the principal
inclusion 8 c3. But play in this variation assumes a less

character, it has more

variations than the principal
inclusion, and therefore is studied. Objectively this

does not present Black with a
difficult task as 8 c3.)

\[ \text{d6} 9 \text{c3 N} \text{a5} 10 \text{Bc2} \\
\text{11 Nbd2 Qc7} 12 \text{Nf1} \\
\text{13 Ng3 Be6} \]

The move is also not new. It

well known as far back as the

of the game Rauzer-Knoch,

de in 1934.

k agrees to an exchange of

white-squared bishop, in

to obtain a strong centre.

, in this game, goes half

to meet the intentions of his

ment, and tries to prove that

k's centre does not represent

strength and that its

once does not justify the

up of the important

\[ \text{Mg5 d5} 15 \text{Nxe6 fxe6} \\
\text{a4 b4} \]

Perable, perhaps, is 16...

since now Black has to

with the threat of Bb3.

Black clearly does not want
to give up the a-file.)

17 \text{exd5}

(White's idea, as was already
indicated above, consists of

focusing on capturing the centre to

the opponent, in order to maximally

activate his pieces.)

17... \text{exd5} 18 \text{Nf5 Rab8} \\
19 \text{Bg5}

(This is not bad, but stronger

was 19 f4, opening the position. There is nothing left for Black

but to capture on f4 [After

19...e4 20 dxe4 dxe4 21 \text{Qe2}, he

loses a pawn at once], then would

follow 20 \text{Qf3}. It is bad for

Black to play 20...g5, since

after 21 \text{h4 his position falls to

pieces; relatively best is 20...

\text{Qd7}, but also in this case, after

21 \text{Qh3 Rb7 22 Bxf4, White has a

clear advantage.}]

19... \text{Kh8}

(It is necessary to take the king

off the a2-g8 diagonal, in view

of the threat 20 \text{Bb3.})

20 \text{Rc1?}

(This is already an obvious

mistake. Also here White could

and must play 20 \text{f4; after 20...

exf4 21 \text{Rf1 White's position

deserves the preference. With the

move in the game, White reckons

on exploiting, at an opportune

moment, the c-file, but Black,

with his next move, nips in the

bud this possibility and White's

move turns out to be "a blow on the

water".)

20... \text{bxc3} 21 \text{bxc3 Bd8!}

(As a result of his erroneous

play, White is in a difficult

position. His minor pieces[Bg5

and \text{Nf5}] are hanging in mid-air.

Now already 22 \text{f4 Nd7 promises

nothing good. In order to break

up Black's centre and activate

the bishop \text{c2}, White decides to

advance the d-pawn, but thereby a

weak pawn on d4 is created for

him.)

22 \text{d4 e4} 23 \text{Ne3}

(If 23 \text{dxc5}, then 23...\text{Qe5} 24

\text{Bxf6 Qxf5} 25 \text{Bd4 Nxd4} 26 \text{cxd4} [26

\text{Qxd4 Bf6} 27 \text{Qd1 Bg5}] 26...\text{Qxf2+}

27 \text{Kh1 Bc7} with a strong attack

for Black.)

23... 24 \text{cxd4 Qd6}

25 \text{Bb3 Nb4} 26 \text{Bh4}

(In the worse position, White

finds the right plan of defence, he

reinforces the f2 square and

transfers the bishop to a better

position.)

26... \text{Qe6}

(It seems that, already with this

move, Black lets slip his

advantage. The queen is placed

very precariously here, since it

finds itself in the line of fire of

the bishop \text{b3} and rook \text{e1}. He

should continue 26...\text{Qd7.})

27 \text{Bg3 Rb7} 28 \text{Rb1 Bc7}

(The opinion was expressed that

this move is a mistake and that,

by consolidating the position of

the knight \text{b4} by 28...\text{a5, Black

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would retain the advantage. But this is not true. On 28...a5, White would reply 29 Be5, and Black could not play either 29...Nd3 or 29...Nd7 because of 30 Bxd5! [This is where the position of the queen on e6 tells!] If White consolidates the position of the bishop on e5, then the advantage passes to him, therefore it is best for Black to continue 29...Rfb7 30 f4 exf3 31 Qxf3 Nd3 32 Re2 Nxe5 33 dxe5 Qxe5 34 Nxd5 Qd4+ 35 Qe3 Qxe3+ 36 Rxe3 Nxd5 37 Bxd5 Bb6 38 Bxf7 Bxe3+ 39 Kh1 with a draw.) 29 Bxc7 Rxc7 30 a5

(Now that White has succeeded in fixing the Black pawn on a6, his game is not worse. Black should here go in for 30...Rb7 and then 31...Rf6b8, consolidating the knight on b4. After Black's following manoeuvre, he begins to have difficulties.)

30...Nd3 31 Rf1
(The combination 31 Nxd5? Nxd5 32 Qxd3 exd3 33 Rxe6 d2 would lead to a loss for White.)

31...Nf4 32 Qd2 Ng4?
(A loss of time, after which Black at once gets into a bad position, but it is already not so simple to find a defence for him against the positional threat Rb6 [after the bishop b3 moves away].
On 32...Nd7 would follow 33 f3! with the very unpleasant for Black opening of the f-file. Best apparently is 32...Rc6 33 Ba4 Rd6, but also in this case Black's position is worse.)

33 Bd1! Nf6
(Also after the exchange on e3 - 33...Nxe3 34 fxe3 Ng6 35 Rxf8+ Nxf8 36 h3! with the threats of 37 Bh4 and 37 Rb6 - Black's position would be very difficult.)

34 Rb6 Rc6
(If 34...Qc8, then 35 Kh1 Rd8 36 g3 Ne6 37 Be2 Ra7 and White controls the whole board.)

35 Qb4 Rfc8 36 Ba4 Nd3
(This manoeuvre allows Black to avoid the lesser evil - the exchange on b4, after which the passed b-pawn would quickly decide matters.)

37 Qb3 Rd6 38 h3 h6 39 Rb1 Kh7 40 Qa3 Rcd8 41 Bd1
(The sealed move. In view of the threat 42 Be2, Black is forced to retreat the knight d3.)

41...Nf4 42 Qc5 Ne8 43 Rxd6
(Even stronger is 43 Bh4. White, on this, was afraid of the variation 43...Qf6 44 Rxd6 Rxd6 [44...Qxd6 45 Qa7 with a quick win] 45 Rb6 Nd3, but also here White would win: 46 Bf5+ g6 [other moves are no better] 47 Qc8! Rxb6 [47...Ng7 48 Qc7! and wins] 48 axb6 Qxb6 49 Qxe8 Qxf5

50 Qf7+ Kh8 51 Nxf5 Qb1+ 52 Qxb1+ Kg8 53 g3 Qg8 54 Qf6+ Kh7 Qxc6 - mate.)
43...Qxd6

44 Qxd6?
(This is already a mistake, which lets slip the win. After 44 Qf6 White has a decisive advantage for example: 44...Qf6 [Even better is 44...Rd7 45 Qa8 Rd8 46 Qb7 47 Qc8 Rd8 48 Qf5+] 45 Rb6 Qg6 46 Bg4 h5 47 Bf5+ Kh8 48 Rxa6 etc.)

44...Nxd6
(Of course, not 44...Rxd6 45 f4. Now, for the a6 pawn, Black acquires the d4 pawn.)

45 Rb6 Nb5 46 Rxa6 Nxd4
(Now Black has such a strong position in the centre that White's passed pawn does present a serious danger to him.)

47 Rb6 Nde2+ 48 Kh2 Nc4 Nc3 50 Bb3 Nf5 51 a6 Nxf2
(Up to now, Black has played well, but here he is wrong to attempt to take the f2 pawn. Better was 51...Nc5, forestalling 52 a7, on which would now follow 52...Ra8. White best replies Nd2 and, after 52...Nxd3 53 Qc5

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to find a defence for the positional threat the bishop b3 moves d7 would follow 33 f3! - a very unpleasant for the exchange on e3 - 34 fxe3 Ng6 35 Rxf8+ b3! with the threats of 37 Rb6 - Black's would be very diffic-

Rc6 Qc6, then 35 Kh1 Rd8 36 37 Be2 Ra7 and White the whole board.) 36 Rc8 36 Ba4 Nd3 manœuvre allows Black to the lesser evil - the on b6, after which the b-pawn would quickly miter.) 37 Rd6 38 h3 h6 39 40 Qa3 Rcd8 41 ed move. In view of the 2 Be2, Black is forced to the knight d3.) if4 42 Qc5 Ne8 43 tanger is 43 Bg4. White, + was afraid of the a 43...Qf6 44 Rxd6 Rxd6 45 Qa7 with a quick Rd6 Nd3, but also here build win: 46 Bf5+ g6 dves are no better] 47 47...Ng7 48 Qc7! and axb6 Qxb6 49 Qxe8 gxf5

50 Qf7+ Kh8 51 Nxf5 Qb1+ 52 Kh2 Qb8+ 53 g3 Qg8 54 Qf6+ Kh7 55 Qxh6 - mate.)

43...Qxd6

44 Qxd6?
(This is already a mistake, which lets slip the win. After 44 Qa7, White has a decisive advantage, for example: 44...Qf6 [Even worse is 44...Rd7 45 Qa8 Rd8 46 Qb7 Rd7 47 Qc8 Rd8 48 Qf5+] 45 Rb6 Qg5 46 Bg4 h5 47 Bf5+ Kh8 48 Rxal etc.)

44...Nxd6
(Of course, not 44...Rxd6 45 Rb6. Now, for the a6 pawn, Black acquires the d4 pawn.)

45 Rb6 Nb5 46 Rxa6 Nxd4
(Now Black has such a strong position in the centre that White's passed pawn does not present a serious danger for him.)

47 Rb6 Nde2+ 48 Kh2 d4 49 Nc4 Nc3 50 Bb3 Nd3 51 a6 Nxf2
(Up to now, Black has played well, but here he is wrongly tempted to take the f2 pawn. Better was 51...Nc5, forestalling 52 a7, on which would now follow 52...Ra6. White best replies 52 Nd2 and, after 52...Nxb3 53 Nxb3 e3 54 fxe3 dxe3 55 Rd6 e2, the game would end in a draw.)

52 Ne5!
(A strong move, not foreseen by Black. Despite the limited material, White threatens a dangerous attack on the king. On 52...d3? would follow 53 a7 Ra8 54 Bb8 Rxa7 55 Bb8+ Kh8 56 N6g - mate. If 52...Ra8, then 53 Bf7! [threatening 54 Bg6+ and 55 a7] 53...g6 54 Rb7 Kg7 55 Bd5+ Kf6 56 Rf7+ Kxe5 57 Bxa8 e3 58 Bc6, and White wins. Thus there remains only the move in the game.)

52...e3 53 Bc2+ Nce4

Black finds himself in time trouble and cannot calculate all the consequences of the move 53...d3, but he feels intuitively that this move leads to bad consequences.

Actually, after 53...d3, White wins in a study-like way: 54 Nxd3 Nxd3 55 a7 e2 56 Re6 Ra8 [56... Kg8 57 Bxd3 Kf7 58 Bc4 Kf8 59 Bxe2 Ra8 60 Bh5 Nb5 61 Bb6 Nxa7 62 Ra6 and wins] 57 Bxd3+ Kg8 [57...Kh8 58Bg6 Nb5 59 Rxe2 Nc7 60 Re7 Rxa7 61 Rd7 and wins] 58 Bg6 Nb5 [58...Kf8 59 Kg1 Nb5 60 Rxe2 Nb5 61 Ra2 Nb5 62 Bb3 Rxa7 63 Rf2+] 59 Rxe2 Nc7 60 Ra2 Nb5
61 Bd3 Rxa7 [61...Nd6 62 Ra6 Nc8 63 Bf5 Rxa7 64 Bxc8] 62 Bxb5 Rxa2 63 Bc4+.

54 Nd3 e2 55 Rb1 Nc3?
(An oversight in severe time pressure, which ruins his game. A draw was to be achieved with the move 55...g6, and if 56 a7, then 56...h5!, freeing a square for the king. White would have nothing better than 56 Rb7+ Kh8 57 a7 [Bad is 57 Ne5 Nb5 58 Nxb5+ Kg8 59 Re7 Ne4 60 Bxe4 Nxe4 61 Rxe4 d3] 57...Nxh5 58 Rb8 e1(Q) 59 Rxe8+ Kg7 60 a8(Q) Qg3+ and Black gives perpetual check.)

56 Nxf2+ g6 57 Re1 Rf8 58 Kg1 Re8 59 Ne4
Black resigns.
(In view of 59...Nxe4 60 Rxe2 Nf6 61 Rxe8 Nxe8 62 a7 Nc7 63 Be4.
A complicated game, full of struggle, sharp situations and mutual mistakes.)

73 French Defence
White: Shaposhnikov
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final, 19th USSR Championship, Sverdlovsk 1951)
1 e4 e5 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 Bxc3+ 6 bxc3 Ne7 7 Qg4
(White chooses a sharp and energetic continuation, reckoned by theory as favourable for White.)

7...0-0
(Up to now, this move has not been met in tournaments, though, in our view, it is more well-founded than giving up the g and h-pawns. It is not quite so simple for White to carry out an attack, as it seems at first sight.)

8 Nf3
(If 8 Bg5, then 8...Qa5 9 Bxe7? Qxe3+ 10 Ke2 Nc6!)

8...Nbc6 9 Bd3 f5 10 exf6
(It is possible that it is not worthwhile for White to take on f6, but better to retreat the queen, retaining the e5 pawn.)

10...Rxf6 11 Qh5
(On 11 Bg5, in the game Bonch-Osmolovsky - Giorgadze, played in the "Nauka" Championship 1953, followed 11...e5! 12 Qg3 Rxf6 13 gxf6 c4 14 Be2 Qa5 15 Bc4 Ne5 with a strong attack for the sacrificed exchange.)

11...h6 12 Ne5
(The beginning of an incorrect plan. White wants to attack, at any price, and gets into a difficult position. Better was 12 0-0.)

12...Nxe5 13 dxe5 Rf8 14 g4 c4 15 Bg6?
(This is already the decisive mistake. The bishop d3 was needed for defence of the white squares. After 15 Be2 Bd7, it would be very difficult for Black to exploit his positional advantage.)

15...Nxe4 16 Qxe4 Qh4!
(diagram
(Radically destroying all hopes of an attack.)

17 Be3 Bb7 18 0-0-0
(There is already no satisfactory continuation for White. The end of the game, after 18 Qh5 Qxf5 19 g4 Rf3, is lost for White, since Black would have, apart from an extra pawn, also a considerable positional advantage.)

18...Qe7! 19 Qh5
(19...Be8 was threatened. In the event of 19 Bxh6 Be8 20 Qg5 Qf5, Black is left a piece up.)

19...Be8 20 Qh3 Bg6
(Good was also 20...Qxa3+ 21 Kb1 Bb7 22 g5 h5 23 Qxe6+ Kh7 and Black's threats are irresistible. But Black also need not hurry with the capture of the a3 pawn.)

21 f3
(21 Kb2 was more tenacious. In this case, Black would win the game with the advance of his a- and b-pawns; for example: 21...a5 22 Rf1 b5 23 Bd2 b4 24 cxb4 cxb4 25 c3 axb5 26 axb5 Ra2+ 27 Kc1 Qxf1+ 28 Kb2 Qa4.)

21...Qxa3+ 22 Kb2 d4!
(A typical sacrifice, opening lines against the enemy king.)

(diagram

23 Bxd4 Ra8
(Threatening 24...Rxd4+, followed by 25...Rxf3.)

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continuation for White. The endgame, after 18 Qh5 Qxh5 19 gxh5 Rf5, is lost for White, since Black would have, apart from an extra pawn, also a considerable positional advantage.

18...Qe7! 19 Qh5
(19...Be8 was threatened. In the event of 19 Bxh6 Be8 20 Qg5 Qf7, White is left a piece down.)
19...Be8 20 Qh3 Bg6
(Good was also 20...Qxa3+ 21 Kd2 Bg6 22 g5 h5 23 Qxe6+ Kh7 and Black's threats are irresistible. But Black also need not hurry with the capture of the a3 pawn.)

21 f3
(21 Kb2 was more tenacious. In this case, Black would win the game with the advance of the a- and b-pawns; for example: 21...a5 22 Rh1 b5 23 Bd2 b4 24 cxb4 d4! 25 c3 axb4 26 axb4 Ra2+! 27 Kxa2 Qa7+ 28 Kb2 Qa4.)

21...Qxa3+ 22 Kd2 d4!
(A typical sacrifice, opening lines against the enemy king.)

diagram

23 Bxd4 Rad8
(Threatening 24...Rxd4+, followed by 25...Rxf3.)

24 Rhf1 Qb2 25 Ke3
(No help is 25 Rcl Rxd4+ 26 cxd4 Qxd4+ 27 Ke2 Bxc2.)
25...Bxc2 26 Rde1 Rxd4
(The bishop d4 – the support of White's position – must be eliminated.)
27 cxd4 Rd8 28 Kf4 Bd3
(Winning back the sacrificed material with interest. White's next move shortens his agony.)
29 Rgl Qf2 White resigns.

74 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Bondarevsky
(USSR Team Championship, Tbilisi 1951)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0
Be7 6 Rel b5 7 Bb3 0-0
8 c3 d6 9 h3 Na5 10
Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12
Nbd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 Bd7
14 d5
(After Black's exchange on d4, the locked centre is more well-founded, since now White can conduct play on both flanks, and yet, due to the closed character of the position, it is difficult
for White to achieve anything real, on correct play by Black. 14 Nf1 would set Black a more complicated task.)

14...Bc8  
(A necessary move. After White's 14th move, the bishop no longer does anything here.)

15 Nf1 Ne8  
(The best position for the knight a5 is the c6 square, and Black should immediately transfer it there. Bronstein, against Geller in the 19th USSR Championship, continued 15 Rbl, so as to have the possibility, on 15... Nb7, of replying 16 b4, without fearing 16...a5.)

16 b3  
(Seeing that the opponent is not thinking about transferring the knight to c5, White, for the present, cuts off the way for it via c4 to b6, where it is also not badly placed.)

16...g6 17 Ne3 Ng7 18 Bd2

(Threatening a positional combination: 19 Nxe5 dxe5 20 d6 Qxd6 21 Bxa5, securing the d5 square for the White knight. Black therefore moves away the knight from a5, but it already does not get to c5.)

18...Nb7 19 Rcl Bd7 20 b4 Rac8 21 Ng4 Qd8  
(Black should play 21...f6, covering the g5 square and preparing the transfer of the knight from the bad b7 position to f7. The move 21...Qd8, disconnecting the rooks, Black, in addition, links to a mistaken plan.)

22 Qe2 f5?  
(Black appraises the position incorrectly, thinking that the time has come to go over to the offensive. Opening lines is favourable to White, whose pieces are far more actively deployed. He should limit himself to the cautious 22...f6. True, Black's position, because of the bad position of the knight on b7 and queen on d8, is considerably inferior. Play might develop in the following way: 22...f6 23 Nh6+ Kh8 24 g4 Rc4 25 Bd3 Rxcl 26 Rxcl Qb8 27 a4 bxa4 28 Bxa6 Rc8 29 Bb5 Rxcl+ 30 Bxcl Qc8 31 Bb2 with chances of a win for White.)

23 exf5 gxf5 24 Nh6+ Kh8 25 g4!  
(Only with this counter-blow is it possible to refute Black's risky play.)

25...Qe8  
(Leading to a virtually forced loss. More stubborn here was 25...Rc4, after which White, by continuing 26 Nxf5 Nxf5 27 Bxf5 Rxcl 28 Rxcl Bxf5 29 gxf5 Rxf5 30 Qe4, would obtain a winning position.)

26 gxf5 Nxf5  
(If 26...Qh5, then 27 Ng5! Bxg5 28 Qxh5 Nhx5 29 Bxg5 Rg8 30 h4 and White has an extra pawn the better position.)

27 Nxe5!  
(After this blow, material for Black is inevitable. Here the main variations:

1) 27...dxe5 28 Qxe5+ Bf6 29 Qd6 and then 30 Bxf5, with two extra pawns;

2) 27...Nxe5 28 Qxe5+ Bf6 29 Qxe2 Rxe2 30 Rxel Kg7 31 Rxg7 f5! 32 Kgl Nd5 33 f4 Nh6+t 34 Kh7 Qe7 35 Ncx7 Rxc7 36 Qf7 Qf8 37 Rxe5 with threats. Thus there remains only the continuation in the game, which is also insufficient.)

27...Nd4 28 Qe4!  
(But not 28 Nf7+? Rxel 29 Qxe1 Qxe1+ 30 Kh2 Nxf2 31 Qxf2 Qxe4 32 Kg3 Qxg2, and Black wins.)

28...Nxc2  
(Or 28...Rxel 29 Qxel Qxel 30 Bxe1 Qxe1+ 31 Kh2 Qxe4 32 Kg3 Qxe2, and Black wins.)

29 Nxd7 Nxe1  
(If 29...Qxel, then 30 Qxe1 Qxe1 31 Rxel Kg8 32 Bg5 and White wins.)
and White has an extra pawn with the better position.)

27 Nxe5!
(After this blow, material loss for Black is inevitable. Here are the main variations:
1) 27...dxe5 28 Qxe5+ Bf6 29 Qxe8 and then 30 Bxf5, with two extra pawns;
2) 27...Nxe6 28 Nxd7 Qxd7 29 Qxe7 Qxe7 30 Rxe7 Rf7 31 Rce1! Rxc2 32 Bxh6 and wins;
3) 27...Rxc2 28 Rxc2 Nd4 29 Nef7+ Rxh7 30 Nxf7+ Qxf7 31 Qxe7 Qg8+ 32 Kh2 Nf3+ 33 Kh1;
4) 27...Rxc2 28 Rxc2 Nxe6 29 Nxd7 Qg6+ 30 Kh1 Qxc2 31 Nxf8 Bxf8 32 Bxh6 Qxe2 33 Rxe2 Bxh6 34 Re7.
Thus there remains only the continuation in the game, which is also insufficient.)
27...Nd4 28 Qe4!
(But not 28 Nef7+? Rxh7 29 Nxf7+ Qxf7 30 Qxe7 Rg8+ 31 Bg5 Rg5+, and Black wins.)
28...Nxc2
(Or 28...Rxc2 29 Qxd4 dxe5 30 Qxe5+ and White is left the exchange ahead.)
29 Nxd7 Nxe1
(If 29...Qxd7, then 30 Qxe7 Qxh3 31 Rxc2 Rg8+ 32 Bg5 and White wins.)

30 Nxf8 Bxf8
(Also 30...Nf3+ 31 Qxf3 Rxc1+ 32 Bxc1 Bxf8 does not save the game, since on this would follow 33 Qf6+ Bg7 34 Qe6! Qg6+ 35 Kh1 with a quick win.)
31 Rxc8
(As grandmaster Bondarevsky pointed out after the game, there was another way to achieve victory here, and namely: 31 Bc3+ Bg7 32 Bxg7+ Kxg7 33 Rc7+!)
31...Qxc8
(Of course, 31...Qxe4 is not possible because of 32 Bc3+.)
32 Qxe1 Bg7 33 Qe6!
Black resigns.
(After 33...Qxe6 34 dxe6, the White pawn goes on to queen; on 34...Bf6 would follow 35 Bc3 Kg7 36 e7, while, on 34...d5, 35 e7 Nd6 36 Nf7+! wins.)

75 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Saigin
(Team Championship of Belorussian towns, 1951)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 Be7 6 Rel b5 7 Bb3 0-0 8 c3 d6 9 h3 Na5 10 Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12 Nbd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 Bb7 14 Nf1 Rac8 15 Bd3 Nc6
(If Black does not want to go in for the continuation 15...d5 16 dxe5 Nxe5 17 Nf3 f5 18 exf6 Bxf6 19 Bxe4 dxe4 20 Nxe4 Bxe4 21 Rxe4, in which he has for the pawn some initiative and chances of a draw, then he should not
choose this variation, since now he obtains a difficult game.

In a game of the 21st USSR Championship, Suetin-Nezhmetdinov Black continued 15...Nc4, so as, on 16 b3, to reply 16...exd4, cutting off from play the opponent's bishop and rook, after 17 bxc4 bxc4 18 Bb1 d3.

But White is not obliged to accept the piece sacrifice. After 16...exd4, he could continue 17 Nxd4 Ne5 18 Nf5! with an excellent game.)

16 Ne3 Nb4
(This manoeuvre only helps White to transfer the bishop d3 to an active position. Preferable is 16...Re8.)

17 Bb1 Rfe8
(Taking on e4 would lead to the loss of a piece.)

18 a3 Nc6 19 Nf5 Bf8
20 Bg5 Nd7 21 Ba2 h6
(White threatened the sacrifice of a piece: 22 Bxf7+ Kxf7 23 Qb3+ d5! [23...Re6 24 d5; 23...Kg6? 24 N5h4+ Kh5 25 g4 - mate] 24 Rac1! with an irresistible attack. With the move 21...h6, Black parries the threat, since now, on 22 Bxf7+, would follow 22...Kxf7 23 Qb3+ Kg6, and the Black king escapes to h7.)

22 Rc1
(Forcing the surrender of the centre, since, on 22...Qb6, 23 Be3 is unpleasant. Black, of course, cannot take the bishop g5.)

22...exd4 23 Bf4
(Preventing 23...Nc5, with an attack on the e4 pawn.)

23...Nde5 24 N3xd4 Qd7

(A critical position. White's pieces are actively deployed, but it is far from being so simple to strengthen the position. Nothing is given by 25 Bd5 because of 25...Nxd4 26 Qxd4 Bxd5 27 Qxd5 Nc4 with sufficient counterplay.)

25 Ne2
(In order to transfer the knight to the central d5 square.)

25...Na5
(Black does not prevent the opponent's plan. More chances of equalisation were given by 25...Ng6 26 Bd5 Nce5, for example: 27 Rxc8 Rxc8 28 Ne3 Nc4 etc.)

26 Rxc8 Bxc8 27 Nc3 Nac4 28 Bc1 Qb7
(A move made with the aim of preventing 29 Nd5, on which now would follow 29...Bxf5 30 exf5 Nf3+! 31 gxf3 Rxel+ 32 Qxel Qxd5, but it weakens the d6 pawn, which the opponent immediately exploits. He should play 28...Bb7 reconciling himself, after 29 a4! b4 30 Nd5, to the inferior position.)

29 b3! Nxa3
(If 29...Na5 or 29...Nb6, then 30 Nxd6 Bxd6 31 Qxd6; the attempt 31...Bxh3 is refuted by 32 f4 Qc8 33 Re3! and, however Black plays,
critical position. White's pawns are actively deployed, but is far from being so simple to strengthen the position. Nothing given by 25 Bd5 because of ...Nxd4 26 Qxd4 Bxd5 27 Qxd5 with sufficient counterplay.)

We2

order to transfer the knight the central d5 square.)

...Na5

ack does not prevent the opponent's plan. More chances of realisation were given by 25...
26 Bd5 Nce5, for example: 27 Bxc8 Bxc8 28 Ne3 Nc4 etc.)

Rxc8 Bxc8 27 Nc3 c4 28 Bc1 Qb7

move made with the aim of prenting 29 Nd5, on which would follow 29...Bb7 30 exf5 +! 31 gxf3 Rxe1+ 32 Qxe1 Qxd5, it weakens the d6 pawn, which opponent immediately ex- icts. He should play 28...Bb7 cancelling himself, after 29 a4! 30 Nd5, to the inferior posit-

b3! Nxa3

29...Na5 or 29...Nb6, then 30 Bxd6 31 Qxd6; the attempt ...Bxd3 is refuted by 32 f4 Qc8 Re3! and, however Black plays, he remains a piece down.)

30 Nxe6+

(This is stronger than 30 Nxd6 Bxd6 31 Qxd6, on which Black would reply 31...b4! Now 32 Nd5? Nb5! 33 Qb6 [33 Qxb4 Nd3] 33... Qxb6 34 Nxb6 Nc3 leads to a loss for White. After 32 Bxa3 bxc3, Black's chances are not worse.)

30...gxh6 31 Nd5 Re6

Now Black is ruined because of the weakness of the king's flank. Black would set the opponent a far more complicated task, if he sacrificed the exchange by 31...

b4 32 Nf6+ Kh8 33 Nxe8 Qe7! 34 f4 Qxe8 35 fxe5 Qxe5. Because of the bad position of the bishop a2, it would not be easy for White to prove his advantage.

Nothing is given by 36 Be3 Bg7 37 Qd2 a5 38 Bxh6 Be6 39 Bxg7+ Kxg7, and Black's game is not worse, despite the loss of the exchange. After 35...Qxe5, White should play more energetically - 36 Qd5 Bg7 [the best move; 36...Be6 is not possible because of 37 Qa8] 37 Bd2 a5 38 Rcl Be6 39 Qxe5 Bxe5 40 Rc6 [threatening 41 Ra6] 40...d5 41 exd5 Bxd5 42 Rxe6+ Kg7 43 Ra6 Bc7 44 Kf1, and White must win, admittedly not without technical difficulties.)

32 Bxa3 Rg6 33 Re3

(Defending the h3 pawn. Black already has no defence against the advance of the f2 pawn.)

33...Be6 34 Nf4 Rg7 35 Bb2 Bc8 36 Nh5 Rg6 37 f4 Qb6

(On 37...Nd7 would follow 38 Qd4 f6 39 b4+ Kh7 40 Bf7, and wins. Black attempts to confuse the game.)

38 Bd4 Qa5

39 Bb1!

(Avoiding the last trap. On the tempting 39 Qc2 would have followed the surprising 39... Bxh3!, and White cannot take the bishop because of mate in two moves.)

39...Nc6 40 f5 Rg5 41 Nf6+ Kh8 42 h4 Rg7 43 Rc3

(Also winning quickly was 43 Qh5.)

43...Bb7 44 Qd2 Rg3

(Suicide in a hopeless position.)

45 Rxg3 Black resigns.
76 Queen's Gambit
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Bisguier
(10th Chess Olympiad, Helsinki 1952)
1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nf3
Nf6 4 Nc3 e6 5 Qb3
Nbd7 6 g3
(One of the ways to avoid the sharp Meran system, worked out by master Sokolsky. White leads play into the Catalan formation and, in the event of passive play by Black, carries out e4.)
6...Be7 7 Bg2 0-0 8
0-0 a6 9 Bf4
(Here White should play 9 a4, preventing Black's next move, which clarifies the position in the centre.)
9...b5 10 cxd5
(After 10 c5 a5 11 a3 Nh5 12 Bd2 f5, a complicated position is obtained in which Black's chances are not worse.)
10...cxd5 11 Ral Nh5?
(A mistake! Black overlooks an elementary combination and loses a pawn. After 11...Bb7 he would have a quite satisfactory position, since White has no way of exploiting the c-file. For example: 12 a4 b4 13 Na2 a5 14
Bc7 Qe8 15 Nd2 Ne4! 16 Rfd1 Ndf6 with a good game for Black.
Or 12 a4 b4 13 Nb1 Rc8 14 Rxc8 Qxc8 15 Rcl Qa8 and then 16...
Rc8.)
12 Nxd5! Nxf4
(There is nothing better. After 12...exd5 13 Bc7 Qe8 14 Qxd5, Black would lose two pawns.)
13 Nxe7+
(White wants too much: an extra pawn, the seventh rank, the black squares. As a result, he complicates his task. He should be content with an extra pawn and a slightly better position after 13 Nxf4.)
13...Qe7 14 gxf4 Bb7
15 Rcl Bd5 16 Qc2 Qd8!
(A reply, not foreseen by White, who reckoned only on 16...Qd6. On this would have followed 17 Ne5!
with the following possibilities:
1) 17...Nxe5 18 dxe5 Qb4 [18...
Qd8 19 Rfd1] 19 Bxd5 exd5 20 e3, with a technically uncomplicated win;
2) 17...Nf6 18 e4! and then:
a) 18...Bxe4? 19 Bxe4 Nxe4 20 Rd7
b) 18...Bc4 19 Rcl Qxd4 20 Rdl
Qa7 21 b3;
c) 18...Bxa2 19 Nxf7! and now:
(i) 19...Rxf7 20 Rxf7 Kxf7 21 e5
Qd8 22 Bxa8 Qxa8 23 exf6 Qf3 24
Qc3 Qxf4 25 Bxg7 Bd5 26 Qg3;
(ii) 19...Qxd4 20 Ng5 h6 21 Rdl
Qb4 22 e5 hgx5 23 exf6, and White wins;
3) 19...Qxf4 20 Ne5, and Black
does not save the bishop a2, but
now, after 17 Ne5, it would be
far from simple to exploit the extra pawn in the heavy piece endgame, and so White goes in for
complications.)
17 Ng5 Nf6 18 Bxd5
(To unclear complications in
e4 Bcl 19 Rxc4 Nxc4 20 e5
f5 exf6 hgx5 22 Bxa8 Qxa8 23
Qd5 24 Qd2 Bxf6 25 Bxg6 KxO
position of the White king in
this case proves to
precarious.)
18...Qxd5 19 e4

19...Qxd4?
(Tempted by the capture of
centre pawn, Black gets in
very difficult position, who
after 19...Qxa2 things would
be so very bad for Black.
example: 20 e5 h6 21 exf6 hgx
Bxg7 [or 22 Bxf5 Qd5] 22...
and Black's counterplay
sufficient for a draw.)
20 Rd1 Qa4 21 b3
22 a3!
(It is necessary to divert
queen from the fourth rank.)
22...Qxa3 23 e5 h6
Nxe6!
(Weaker is 24 exf6 hgx 25
Qb. Now, in the event of
capture of the knight, I
would lose immediately.
example: 24...fxe6 25 Qg6
[25...Ne8 26 Rdd7] 26 Qh5
27 Rxf7! Also bad is 24...
15 Nd2 Ne4! 16 Rfd1 Ndf6

A good game for Black.

a4 b4 13 Nbl Rc8 14 Rxc8
5 Rcl Qa8 and then 16...

xd5! Nxf4

This is nothing better. After
xd5 13 Bc7 Qe8 14 Qxd5, it
would lose two pawns.)

xe7+

This wants too much: an extra
the seventh rank, the black
As a result, he complic-
his task. He should be
with an extra pawn and a
better position after 13

Qxe7 14 gxf4 Bb7
c7 Bd5 16 Qc2 Qd8!
ly, not foreseen by White, was
doned only on 16...Qd6. On
uld have followed 17 Ne5!
he following possibilities:
...Nxe5 18 dxe5 Qb4 [18...
Rfd1] 19 Bxd5 exd5 20 e3,
technically uncomplicated

...Nf6 18 e4! and then:
...Bxe4? 19 Bxe4 Nxe4 20 Rd7
...Bc4 19 Rc6 Qxd4 20 Rdl
b3;
...Bxa2 19 Nxf7! and now:
...Rxf7 20 Rxf7 Kxf7 21 e5
2 Bxa8 Qxa8 23 exf6 Qf3 24
4 25 fxg7 Bg5 26 Qg3;
...Qxd4 20 Ngl h6 21 Rd1
e5 hxg5 23 exf6, and White
...Qxf4 20 Ne5, and Black
t save the bishop a2, but
fter 17 Ne5, it would be
simple to exploit the
pawns in the heavy piece
, and so White goes in for

complications.)

17 Ng5 Ne6 18 Bxd5

(To unclear complications led 18
e4 Bc4 19 Rxc4 bxc4 20 e5 h6 21
e5 hxg5 22 Bxa8 Qxa8 23 fxg5
Qd5 24 Qd2 gx6 25 gxf6 Kh7 - the
position of the White king also
in this case proves to be
precious.)

18...Qxd5 19 e4

19...Qxd4?

(Tempted by the capture of the
centre pawn, Black gets into a
very difficult position, whereas
after 19...Qxa2 things would
not be so very bad for Black.
For example: 20 e5 h6 21 exf6 hxg5 22
fxg7 [or 22 fxg5 Qd5] 22...Rfd8,
and Black's counterplay is
sufficient for a draw.)

20 Rd1 Qa4 21 b3 Qb4
22 a3!

(It is necessary to divert the
queen from the fourth rank.)

22...Qxa3 23 e5 h6 24
Nxe6!

(Weaker is 24 exf6 hxg5 25 fxg5
Qb4. Now, in the event of the
capture of the knight, Black
would lose immediately. For
example: 24...fxe6 25 Qg6 Nh5
[25...Ne8 26 Rd7] 26 Qxh5 Qxb3
27 Rg7+! Also bad is 24...Rfe8

25 Nxe7 with irresistible
threats. Black finds the only
defence.)

24...Ne8! 25 Nfx8 Nxc7
26 Nd7

(If it is not possible to play 26
Qh7+ Kxf8 27 Rd7 because of 27...
Qcl+ 28 Kg2 Qc6+.)

26...Ne6 27 f5 Nf8

(There is no other retreat for
the knight. On 27...Nf4 would
follow 28 Qe4, while on 27...Ng5
28 Qc6.)

28 Qc3

(Black has managed to avoid
material loss, but his position
is cramped and his pieces
disconnected. This makes the
defence extremely difficult.)

28...Qa2

(On 28...Qe7 would follow 29 f6
Qe6 30 Qf3 Rb6 31 Rd6 Qe8 32 Nx8
Qxf8 33 Qd5 and White must win.)

29 Qf3 Re8

(Allowing White to carry out a
decisive combination. Better was
29...Rc8; admittedly, White, by
continuing 30 Nf6+ Kh8 31 Ne4,
followed by 32 Nd6, would create
great winning chances.)

30 Nf6+! gxf6 31 Qg3+
(White was experiencing time
pressure at this point, while the

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sacrifice is far from being so simple as seems at first glance. The move 31 Qg3+ is directed against 31...Ng6, on which 32 e6! would win [the b3 pawn is defended].

However, on this continuation, Black would have the chance to make it very difficult for White to achieve victory. Therefore more accurate would be 31 Qg4+. In this case, after 31...Ng6, unclear is 32 e6 because of 32...

Qxb3, but White ought to play 32 fxg6. Also here Black has to make a forced move, 32...Qxb3, since if 32...

Rx5 would follow 33 Rd8+ Kg7 34 gxf7+, while on 32...

fxe5 33 gxf7+ Kxf7 34 Qf5+ Kg8 35 Rd7. After 32...

Qxb3, White gains time for quiet moves: 33 exf6

Kh8 34 Qh5 Kg8 35 Rd4! For example: 35...

Qb1+ 36 Kg2 Qxg6+ 37 Rgl; or 35...

Qf8 36 gxf7+ Qxf7 37 Rg4+ Kh7 38 Rgl+.

31...

Kh8 32 exf6 Ng6

(If 32...

Ne6 33 fxe6 Rg8, then 34 Qxg8+ Kxg8 35 e7 Qe2 36 Rd8+ Kh7 37 e8(Q) and White wins.)

33 fxg6 fxg6?

(Tempted by the possibility of setting a trap [34 Qxg6? Rg8 35 Rd8 Qgb+1], Black makes a move after which his king falls into a mating net. Meanwhile, with the move 33...

C2, forcing 34 g7+, Black could make the opponent's task much more difficult, while, if the opportunity presents itself, even save the game. After 34 g7+ Kh7, the position seems to be won for White, but he would have to avoid quite a few reefs. Thus, an immediate exchange of queens leads to a draw: 35 Qd3+ Qxd3 36 Rxd3 a5 37 h4 [or 37 Rd5 Rb8 and then 38...

a4] 37...

a4 38 bxa4 bxa4 39 h5 Ra8 40 Ra3 Ra6. The correct continuation after 34 g7+ Kh7 is 35 Qf3 a5 36 b3 a4 37

bxa4 bxa4 38 Rd3.

Combining threats on the eighth rank with an attack on the a and h-pawns, White gradually achieves a win.)

34 Qc7

(White could win at once with the move 34 f7, followed by 35 Qxg6, but, finding himself in severe time trouble, he chooses another plan, prolonging the game for a few moves.)

34...

Rg8 35 h3

(Preparing the invasion of the rook on d7.)

35...

Qb2 36 Rd7 Qb1+

37 Kh2 Qg5 38 Qe5 Rf8 39 Qe7 Rg8 40 f7 Black resigns.

77 Sicilian Defence

White: Boleslavsky

Black: Skold

(10th Chess Olympiad, Helsinki 1952)

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3
d6 6 Be2 e6 7 0-0 Be7 8 Be3 0-0 9 f4?

(A mistake, at once handing over the initiative to Black. Necessary was a preliminary 9 Bd3.)

9...

d5 10 exd5 exd5 11 Be2 Re8 12 Kh1 Bb4

(In the game, Grynfeld-Taimanov [Szczawno-Zdroj 1950] 12...Ba3 was played. This move also gives

Black the advantage, but a defect is that it gives the forcing character. In the

Grynfeld-Taimanov, the continuation was 13 bxa3 Rxe3 14 Qd2 and here, instead of 15...

White should go in for the...

15 Qxd4 Qb6 16 Qxb6 axb6 17 d4! 18 Rd1! Bg4 19 Rxe3 bxa4 20 Rd3 Re8 21 h3 Bf5 22 Rd6 wins probable draw.)

13 Bg1 Na5

(White stands worse, but correct play, his game is far from lost. He should move...

the initiative to...

14 Nf3, in order to reinforce the c3 square. Here makes a highly instructive mistake: he exchanges a passive, in his opinion, e2 and gets into a strategical losing position, since the e2 c4 squares prove to be indefectible after this exchange.)

14 Bb5? Bd7 15...

Qxd7 16 Qd3 Nc4 17...

Bxc3!

Just in time. If White does not want to lose the exchange, he is forced to take the bishop or...

the pawn.)

18 bxc3 Ne4 19 Nf3
ens leads to a draw: 35 Qd3+ 36 Rxd3 a5! 37 h4 [or 37 Rd5 and then 38...a4] 37...a4 38 A bxa4 39 h5 Ra8 40 Ra3 Ra6. Correct continuation after 34 Kh7 is 35 Qf3 a5 36 h3 a4 37 A bxa4 38 Rd3.

Mining threats on the eighth k with an attack on the a and mens, White gradually achieves in.

Qc7

ite could win at once with the e 34 f7, followed by 35 Qxg6, finding himself in severe trouble, he chooses another n, prolonging the game for a moves.)

...Rg8 35 h3

epar the invasion of the k on d7.)

...Qb2 36 Rd7 Qb1+ Kh2 g5 38 Qe5 Rf8 Qe7 Rg8 40 f7 Black signs.

Sicilian Defence

ite: Skold

ack: Boleslavsky

Oth Chess Olympiad, lskinki 1952)

The decisive move! On 22 g3, immediately winning is 22...Ne3!, and so the f4 pawn is lost.)

22 Qxd5 Nxc3 23 Qd3

(White stands worse, but, on correct play, his game is still far from lost. He should move the knight, 14 Nf3, in order to install the bishop on d4 and reinforce the c3 square. White here makes a highly instructive mistake: he exchanges the passive, in his opinion, bishop e2 and gets into a strategically losing position, since the e4 and c4 squares prove to be indefensible after this exchange.)

14 Bb5? Bd7 15 Bxd7 Qxd7 16 Qd3 Nc4 17 Rb1 Bxc3!

(Just in time. If White does not want to lose the advantage, he is forced to take the bishop with the pawn.)

18 bxc3 Ne4 19 Nf3 b6

20 Rfd1 Rac8

(21 Qxc4 was threatened.)

21 Rb4

(White, not realising the danger to his position, continues to "confuse" the opponent with one-move combinations.)

21...Qg4!
with closing Qf5+
developed his plan, and now, by ...d6 and ...
g6, intends to go over to the
King's Indian formation. But, by comparison with the usual King's Indian Defence, Black has lost at least five tempi, and this cannot but tell upon the future course of the struggle.
10 e4
(with this move, White determines his future plan - to carry out an offensive on the queen's flank and stick to a defensive formation on the king's. The correctness of these tactics is confirmed by the following considerations. If White, without advancing the e-pawn, were to prepare f4, then the Black rook, after the opening of the e-file, would be very much in place. Black, in order to display activity on the king's flank [the only possibility of play is by ...)f5], has to return the rook to f8, but this is associated with a further loss of time.)
10 ...d6 11 b4 Nbd7 12 f3 c5
(Black attempts to barricade himself on the queen's flank. There is nothing better for him, since he does not succeed in preparing play on the other flank.)

78 Nimzo-Indian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Kasparyan
(20th USSR Championship, Moscow 1952)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bd4 4 e3 0-0 5 Bd3 Re8
(Black wants to play ...e5 without closing the way for the retreat of the bishop b4, which he wants to move away to f8. However, this plan is associated with much loss of time and therefore cannot be recommended. Better is the simple 5...d6.)
6 Ne2 Nc6
(On 6...e5, White would reply simply 7 dxe5, and the position of the rook on e5 with the undeveloped minor pieces, promises nothing good for Black.)
7 0-0 e5 8 d5 Nb8 9 a3 Bf8
diagram

(Black consistently carries out his plan, and now, by ...d6 and ...
g6, intends to go over to the

13 Be3 b6 14 Nc4
(White transfers the b3, so as to have the possibility of exchanging on c5, with the Black knight on strong position.)
14 ...g6 15 Nb3
(This moving away from the defence of this is immediately exploited by White. Better was 15...
16 Nb5 Bf8
(A painful retreat. On Black, not without need feared the continuation Qxd6 18 bxc5 bxc5 19...
Black's cramped position two passed pawns would be strong pieces.)
17 Rb1 a6
(Black did not want with the knight which feared him, but now the...
18 Nc3 Qc7
(Too passive. More 18...Nh5 19 Rf2 Be7 20...
21 Bf2, though also he chances on the queen's considerably more.)
Black's on the king's.)
19 Rf2
(White, clearly, does not fear the move 19...b6 would follow 20 Na5! inevitable opening of the queen's flank is unfavour.)
19...Nh5 20 bxc5
(On 20...dxc5 would have 21 a4 a5 [otherwise 22...
agas up the queen's flank] Qb8 23 Bf1 Bd6 24 Nc1 Bb4...
with strong pressure.
13 Be3 b6 14 Nc1
(White transfers the knight to b3, so as to have the possibility of exchanging on c5, without fear of the Black knight taking up a strong position.)
14...g6 15 Nb3 Bg7
(This moving away of the bishop from the defence of the d6 square is immediately exploited by White. Better was 15...Nh5.)
16 Nb5 Bf8
(A painful retreat. On 16...Nh8, Black, not without foundation, feared the continuation 17 Nxd6 Qxd6 18 bxc5 bxc5 19 Nxc5. With Black's cramped position, White's two passed pawns would prove to be strong pieces.)
17 Rb1 a6
(Black did not want to put up with the knight which is cramping him, but now the b6 square is weakened.)
18 Nc3 Qc7
(Too passive. More active is 18...Nh5 19 Rf2 Be7 20 Rfb2 Bg5 21 Bf2, though also here White's chances on the queen's flank are considerably more real than Black's on the king's.)
19 Rf2
(White, clearly, does not have to fear the move 19...b5. On this would follow 20 Na5!, and the inevitable opening of lines on the queen's flank is in White's favour.)
19...Nh5 20 bxc5 Nxc5
(On 20...dxc5 would have followed 21 a4 a5 [otherwise 22 a5, breaking up the queen's flank] 22 Nb5 Qb8 23 Bf1 Bd6 24 Nc1 Ba6 25 Rfb2 with strong pressure.
If 20...bxc5, then White continues the offensive on the queen's flank by 21 Na4, followed by Rfb2, Bd2, Na5 etc.)
21 Nxc5 bxc5 22 Na4 Nf4 23 Bf1
(At first sight, it might appear strange that White guards against the exchange of the bishop, which is locked in by its own pawns. But this passive bishop fulfills an important defensive function, while the Black knight on f4 is very precariously placed.)
23...Bh6 24 Bc1 Bg7
(25 g3 was threatened. Slightly better was 24...Kg7, so as, by retreating the knight f4, to exchange the black-squared bishops, but this would not bring great relief to Black.)
25 Rfb2 f5?
(Now, when White has opened and occupied the b-file, this active move only creates a new weakness in the position and accelerates his defeat.)
26 Nb6 Ra7 27 g3 Nh5 28 Bh3
(As a consequence of Black's 25th move, the hitherto passive bishop f1 has become a strong attacking piece.)
28...Bd7 29 Nxd7 Qxd7
30 Rb8!
(On 30...Ra8 would follow 31 Rlb7; if 30...Rxb8, then 31 Rxb8+ Kf7 32 Qc2 Kf6 33 Bd2 a5 34 a4 and Black is in total zugzwang. There is already no satisfactory defence.)
30...Bf8 31 exf5 Rxb8
32 Rxb8 gxf5 33 Bh6 Ng7 34 Qb1
(If now 34...Kf7, then 35 Bxf5 Nxf5 [35...Qxf5 36 Rxb8+ Kxf8 37 Qxf5+] 36 Rxf8+ Kd8 37 Bc1 and then 38 g4. The f5 pawn being indefensible, there follows a last desperate attempt.)
34...e4 35 fxe4 Qf7 36 Bxf5 Qf6

(It seems, at the price of two pawns, Black has managed to confuse the game and obtain some chances of salvation, but White's next move destroys all hopes.)
37 e5!
(Now, on 37...Qxh6, would follow 38 Bxh7+ Qxh7 [38...Kf7 39 Qf1+] 39 Rxf8+ Kxf8 40 Qxh7.)
37...dxe5 38 Bxh7+ Kh8
39Bg5 Black resigns.
(If 39...Qf7, then 40 Bg6 Qf3 41 Bf4!, while after 39...Qd6 the simplest win is 40 Rb6 Qc7 41 Rh6.)

79 Nimzo-Indian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Taimanov
(20th USSR Championship, Moscow 1952)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 Nc6
(one of the many variations of this complicated defence, which is frequently employed by grandmaster Taimanov.)
5 Nf3 0-0 6 Bd3 d5 7 0-0 dxc4 8 Bxc4 Qe8
(...)e5 enters into Black's plan, but he does not want to place the bishop on d6 until that time when White drives it away with the move a3. Now Black decides to make a move which is useful for the future advance ...e5, but to find one is not so easy. 8...Re8 would weaken the f7 square, on 8...Bd7 White replies 9 Ne5 with advantage, since the d7 square has been taken away from the Black knight f6. On 8...Qe7 would follow 9 a3 Bd6 10 e4 e5 11Bg5 with the threat 12 Nd5. Black places the queen on e8, so as, after 9 a3 Bd6 10 e4 e5, to avoid an unpleasant pin on the h4-d8 diagonal. However, the move 8...Qe8, locking in the rook, looks too artificial and allows White to obtain the better game.
He should, without further ado, play 8...Bd6 and then 9...e5. Up to now, theory has not found a reliable way to obtain an advantage for White in this variation.)
9 e4!
Nimzo-Indian


(An interesting pawn sacrifice, which is the natural reaction to Black's move.)

9...e5

(Black acts correctly, refraining from accepting the sacrifice 9...Bxc4 10.bxc4 Nxe4, since, after 11.Re1, a very strong game is created for White. For example:
3) 11...Nd6 12.Bd3 f5 [13.Bxe7+ was threatened] 13.d5 Nd8 14.c4 b6 15.Bb2 Qh5 16.Qc2 and Black has a difficult position.)

10.d5 Nfd4?

(After 10...Nd8 11.Qc2, White would stand only a little better, but now Black obtains a very difficult ending.)


(diagram)

(Black's position here is worse than might appear at first sight. The open character of the position allows the White bishops to develop great activity. The weakness of the c7 pawn paralyses the Black forces, while the threat to advance the c3 pawn turns out to be highly unpleasant.)

15.Re1 Nd6

(Not possible, of course, is 15...Nxc6 16.Ba3 Rd8 17.Be7 Re8 18.Bb4.


Also not good is 15...Nf6 16.Ba3 Re8 17.Rxe8+ Nxe8 18.Re1 Nd6 19.Nf7.)

16.Bf1 Bd7 17.Bf4 Rfe8 18.c4 Rxe1

(On 18...b6, White would reply 19.Re1!, and, after the break c5, the c7 pawn would be very difficult to defend.)

19.Rxe1 Re8 20.Rc1

(The exchange of rooks would ease Black's defence. The open line, in the present position, has no great significance.)

20...Re4 21.Be3 Re8! 22.Bf4

(White wanted to force the advance of one of the pawns on
the opponent's queen's flank. Convinced, after Black's reply, that this is not successful, he returns with the bishop.)

22...Re4 23 g3 Bg4?
(On 23...b6, White does not continue 24 f3, since, after 24...Re7 25 c5 Bxc5 26 Rxc5 Be8, Black could still hold on, for example: 27 Bxd6 cxd6 28 Rc8 f6 29 Rd8 Kf8 30 Rxd6 Rc7 with great chances of a draw; or 27 Ra5 Nc8 28 Ba6 Nb6 29 Bb7 f6 30 Rxa7 c6 with an unpleasant pin.

Thus, the move 23...Bg4 parries an immaterial threat and is a loss of time. Relatively best is 23...b6, on which White should continue 24 c5. After 24...Bxc5 25 Rxc5, Black loses the c7 pawn, while if 24...Ne8, then 25 c6 Bc8 26 Bxc7! Nxc7 27 d6 Rd4 28 dxc7 Kf8 29 Re1 and White must gradually win.)

24 h3!
(The most accurate order of moves. Before advancing the c4 pawn, White determines the position of the bishop.)

24...Bf3
(If 24...Bd7, then 25 f3 Re7 26 c5 Ne8 27 Bxc7! Nxc7 28 d6 Re8 29 dxc7 Rc8 30 Rd1 Rxc7 31 Bb5 and White wins.)

25 c5 Ne8 26 Rc3 g5
(Desperation! On 26...Bd1 would follow 27 d6 cxd6 28 cxd6 Ba4 29 Bg2 Re1+ 30 Kh2 b6 31 Ra3 with an easy win. The continuation 26...Rxf4 27 gx4 Bxd5 28 Bg2! Bxa2 29 Ra3 also would not give Black any chances at all.)

27 Bxg5 Bdl 28 Bd2 Re1+ 29 Kh2 Re2 30 Re3 b6

(Black does not notice a tactical blow. 30...Rxe3 was more stubborn.)

31 d6! cxd6 32 cxd6 Nxd6
(If 32...Rxe3, then 33 d7.)

33 Rd3 Ba4 34 Rxd6 Rxa2 35 Bh6 Re2 36 Rd4 Bb5 37 Rg4+ Kh8 38 Be3 Black resigns.

80 King's Indian Defence
White: Kan
Black: Boleslavsky
(20th USSR Championship, Moscow 1952)

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nf3 Bg7 4 g3 0-0 5 Bg2 d6 6 0-0 Nbd7 7 Qc2
(This early development of the queen has the aim of freeing the d1 square for the rook and creating pressure on the d-file - an idea repeatedly met in recent times.)

7...e5 8 Rd1 Re8 9 Nc3 c6 10 e4
(In reply to 10 b3, Black plays 10...e4! with advantage [see game 90, Euwe-Boleslavsky].)

11...Qe7
(Usually in the main variation of the King's Indian Defence the queen is badly placed on e7, here, when the White rook already standing on d1, attempt to organise an attack the e4 pawn is quite unfounded.)

12 h3?
(This move, made out of game considerations, without concrete calculation on the features the position, turns out to be a serious mistake, after which White already does not manage to achieve an equal game. He sho
10...exd4
(Black must not delay the capture on d4. On 10...a5, as occurred in a game, Korchnoi-Tolush, from the 13th round of this championship, White could reply 11 b3, and if 11...exd4, then 12 Rxd4 Qc7 13 Ba3 Nc5 14 Rad1 with an obvious advantage.)
11 Nxd4
(After 11 Rxd4 Qc7, White does not succeed in setting up operations against the d-pawn, for example 12 Bf4 Ne5, and 13 Rad1 is not good because of 13...Bg4.)
11...Qe7
(Usually in the main variations of the King's Indian Defence the queen is badly placed on e7, but here, when the White rook is already standing on d1, the attempt to organise an attack on the e4 pawn is quite well-founded.)

12 h3?
(This move, made out of general considerations, without concrete calculation on the features of the position, turns out to be a serious mistake, after which White already does not manage to achieve an equal game. He should go in for 12 Bf4, not only completing the development of his pieces, but also preventing 12...Nc5, on which White could reply 13 Nxc6! bxc6 14 Bxd6. The attempt by Black to exploit, after 12...Ne5 13 b3, the weakness of the f3 square, would give him nothing. For example: 13...c5 14 Ndb5 Bg4 15 Rd2 Nf3+ 16 Bxf3 Bxf3 17 Rael, and if 17...Qe6, then 18 Qd3; or 13...Nh5 14 Be3 c5 15 Ndb5 Bg4 16 Nxd6! Bxd1 17 Rxd1 Red8 18 Bxc5 to White's advantage.

On 12 Bf4, it is necessary for Black to continue 12...Ne5 13 b3 Nfd7, transferring the second knight to c5. Master Shamkovich, annotating the game in the "20th USSR Championship" tournament book, gives here the following variation: 14 Rd2 Nc5 15 h3 a5 16 Rad1. Apropos of the position reached, he writes: "It is not easy for Black to create counterplay to offset White's increase of pressure on the d-file".

It is impossible to agree with this opinion. Black obtains counterplay with the move 16...a4, creating a weakness for White on b3. If, on 16...a4, White plays 17 Nde2, then 17...f5! is to Black's advantage, for example: 18 Rxd6 fxe4 19 Nxe4 Bf5. Instead of 17 Nde2, stronger is 17 Be3; on this, Black replies 17...Qc7, and after 18 f4 Ned7 19 Bf2 axb3 20 axb3 Na6, there arises a sharp struggle, typical for the King's Indian Defence.)

12...Nc5 13 f3
(This move essentially weakens...
the e3 and g3 squares, but was there anything better for White? On 13 Nb3, Black replies 13... Ncxe4 and, after 14 Nxe4 Nxe4 15 Rel Bf5 16 g4 Nc5!, remains with an extra pawn. If 13 Rel, then 13...d5! 14 cxd5 Nxd5 15 Nxel cxd5 16 e5 Ne4! 17 Bxe4 dxe4 18 Rxe4 [18 Qxe4 Qxe5] 18...Bxel and there is no doubt about Black's advantage.)

13...a5 14 g4
(In order to make possible the development of the bishop to f4. If at once 14 Bf4, then 14...Nh5. Bringing out the bishop to b2 or a3, with a weakened king's flank, would be very risky.)

14...Nfd7 15 Rb1
(Again a move "to be on the safe side", which is an important loss of time. He should play 15 b3 and on 15...Ne5 16 Bf4, completing his development.)

15...Ne5 16 b3 f5!

(Black endeavours to open lines, while the opponent has not completed the development of his pieces.)

17 exf5?
(This move can only be explained thus: White apparently considered his previous play correct, while Black's 16th move an impudence for which he should be punished. It was necessary to reconcile himself to the worse position after 17 Be3. It would not be easy for Black to exploit his advantage. Another attempt by White to refute Black's 16th move by 17 f4 would give Black a virtually irresistible attack after 17...fxg4! 18fxe5 dxe5 19 Nde2 gxh4. For example: 20 Bf3 Rf8 21 Rf1 Qh4 22 Be3 Bg4! 23 Bxc5 Bxf3 24 Rxf3 Rxf3 25 Kh1 Qg4 26 Rgl Rf1! 27 Nc1 Qf3+ 28 Kh2 Bh6, and Black wins; or 20 Bf1 Qh4 21 Be3 Ne6 22 Bf2 Qg4+ 23 Kh2 Rf8 24 Ng3 Nd4 25 Qb2 h5, and White is defenceless.)

17...gxel 18 gxel
(By capturing with the knight, White avoids a rout in the middlegame, but, after 18...Bxf5 19 Qxf5 Rf8 20 Qg5 Qxg5 21 Bxg5 Nxf3+ 22 Bxf3 Rxf3 23 Ne2 Ne4, obtains a lost ending.)

18...Ned3! 19 Rxel
(There is already no good continuation to be found here: 19 Nde2 Bxf5 or 19 Nc6 Nh5!, was no better.)

19...Nxd3 20 Qxd3 Qel+ 21 Bf1
(If 21 Kh2, then 21...Qe5+.)

21...Qg3+ 22 Kh1 Rel1
(Now material loss for White is inevitable.)

(diagram)

23 Be3
(There is nothing better. If 23 Bf4, then 23...Qxh3+ 24 Bh2 Be5 and Black wins.)

23...Qxh3+ 24 Kgl 25 Kh1 Qh4+!
(But not 25...Be5? 26 Bf4, White saves himself.)

26 Kg2 Rxe3 27 Bxd4 28 Qe8+ Kh6 29 Bxf6 30 Qe4 f6+
(A dying check. If 29 Ne5+ 30 QxaB Qh6+ 31 Kh2 Qel 32 Khl Qxel, White resigns.)

81 Game Ending
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Goldenov
(20th USSR Championship, Moscow 1952)

(White stands better. His bishop is stronger than Black knight. There Black...
16th move an impudence which he should be punished.

is necessary to reconcile to the worse position
17 Be3. It would not be for Black to exploit his move. Another attempt by to refute Black's 16th move f4 would give Black a feal irresistible attack

17...fxg4! 18 fxe5 dxe5 19 gh3. For example: 20 Bh3 1 Rf1 Qh4 22 Be3 Bg4! 23 Bxf3 24 Rxf3 Rxf3 25 Kh1 Qg4 1 Rf1! 27 Nc1 Qf3+ 28 Kh2 and Black wins; or 20 Bf1 Be3 Ne6 22 Bf2 Qg4+ 23 Kh2 4 Ng3 Nd4 25 Qb2 h5, and is defenceless.)

. gxf5 18 gxf5 capturing with the knight, avoids a rout in the game, but, after 18...Bxf5 17 Bf8 20 Qg5 Qxg5 21 Bxg5 22 Bxf3 Rxf3 23 Ne2 Ne4, is a lost ending.)

.Ne3! 19 Rxd3 is already no good position to be found here: 19 bx5 or 19 Nxe2 Nxe1, was no 

..Wyxd3 20 Qxd3 Qe1+ 1 Bf1 Kh2, then 21...Qe5+)

.Qg3+ 22 Kh1 Rel material loss for White is possible.)

(White stands better. His long-range bishop is stronger than the Black knight. Three Black pawns

are isolated, the a4 pawn weak. However, the exploitation of his advantage is far from simple for White, since the Black king occupies an excellent position on d6.

If White manages to create in the opponent's position a weak pawn on g6, then his chances would considerably increase, since, from the c2 square, the bishop could attack two pawns at once. But to achieve this is not easy, since White, in the event of the advance of the h-pawn, needs to reckon with an exchange on h5 and that attack on the g-pawn which is possible after this.

White begins protracted manoeuvring, having the idea of worsening the arrangement of Black's pieces and pawns.)

43 Bc4 Nd5
(If 43...Nf5, then 44 g4 Nxf4 45 Rxe6+ Kc5 46 Bd3 Rf8 47 Re4 and White must win.)

44 Re5 Rb8 45 Bd3 Rg8 (Black immediately takes measures against the threat 46 h5.)

46 Kc1!
(Freeing the c2 square for the bishop. Since the Black rook is riveted to the g-file, White threatens to win a pawn by 47 Bc2 Nb6 48 Ra5. In order to bar the White rook's way to a5, Black has to advance the c-pawn.)

46...c5
(Now the b5 square becomes accessible to the bishop, while the position of the knight on d5 is less solid.)

47 Bc4 Ra8 48 Re4 Ra7 49 Re2 Rb7 50 Kc2
(50 h5 gxh5 51 f5 looks tempting, but Black defends himself by 51...Re7 52 Rd2 Kc6 53 fx6 Nb6, and so White continues to manoeuvre.)

50...Rc7 51 Bd5 Ra7 52 Rd2 Ke7 53 Re2 Kd6 54 Re4 Nb6
(White has distracted Black's pieces to the left hand side of the board and now begins operations on the other flank.)

55 Bf1! Nd5
(After this imperceptible error, Black loses the a4 pawn. Black should make every move on the seventh rank, but also in this case it is not easy to defend himself. For example: 55...Rb7 56 Bh3 Re7 57 Kd3, and Black is in an original zugzwang; if 57...Kd5 or 57...Re8, then 58 f5, realising a favourable breakthrough.)

56 Bh3 Nc7 57 Bg4 Ra8 58 Kc1!
(It is interesting that this modest move, for the second time in the game, provokes a crisis. Black has no defence against 59 Bd1, with the win of a pawn.)

58...Ra7 59 Bd1 Nb5 60 Bxa4 Nd4 61 Bd1 Nf5 62 Bg4 Rb7
(62...Nxg3 63 Rxe6+ Kd5 64 Re3 would not give any chances at all.)

63 Bxf5
(White assesses the rook ending obtained, as winning, since he has the distant passed pawn and, what is no less important, the White rook is more active than the enemy's.)

63...exf5

(No better is 63...gxf5, after which the Black king would turn out to be riveted to the e6 pawn.)

64 Re3 Kd5 65 Kc2 c4
(As so, on 66 a4, to reply 66...Kc5, detaining the a-pawn with the king and leaving the rook free.)

66 Re5+! Kd6
(Annotating this game in the "20th USSR Championship" tournament book, master Yudovich places a question mark against this move and writes: "...now loss is inevitable. He should play 66...Kd4 with good chances of a draw".)

The writer does not confirm this with a single, even if short, variation, nor a verbal explanation. Therefore it is difficult to judge on what considerations he based his statement; in any event, to us it does not seem convincing. After 66...Kd4 67 a4, Black cannot win the g-pawn, since, after 67...Rb3 68 a5 Rxc3 69 a6 Rgl 70 Ra5, the a-pawn costs a rook; if 67...Ra7, then 68 a5 Ra8 69 b4 cxb4+ 70 Kxb4 with an elementary win.

Thus, after 66...Kd4 67 a4, there still remains 67...Rb4 to be looked at; on this 69 h5, and Black loses.

59...gxh5 70 Rxh5 h4 71 72 Rxc3 Kxf4 73 Kc3 Kg5 Rxg5, 75 b4, and after 65...h6 c3 71 Rb5 Kc4 72 Rd8 Rxh7 Rxa5 74 Kxb2 Ra5+ 75 76 Rc7+ Kd4 77 Re7 Ra4 Rh2 79 Rg6.

Black moves the king in order to try his last chance attack on the g3 pawn. If 65...Rxe5, then 66 Ke2, with a4, would follow 67 h5, threatening 68 hxg6 hgxg6 69 Rxg6.

67 a4 Ra3 68 a5
(If 68...Kc6, then 69 Rxh7.
69...Kb5 is not possible because 70 Rd7+, while 69...Kc7 leads to the game continuing 70 Rxh7.
If 68...Kc7, then 69 Re5 Rxa5 71 h5 gxf5 72 Rh6+ Kd5 73 h6 Ke5 74 Rf5, and White wins.)

69 a6 Ke7 70 Ra1 71 f4
(Or 70...Re3 71 a7 Rd5, and White obtains a win endgame.)

71 Rb7+ Kc6
(If 71...Ke8 72 Rh7 Rxb7 73 h5 gxf5 74 Rxf5 Ka7 75 Rb5 and wins.)

72 Rxb7 Ra1 73 Rf7
(Winning a second pawn.)

Black resigns.

82 Sicilian Defense
White: Reicher
Black: Boleslavsky
(International Championship in Bucharest 1953)
still remains 57...Rb4 68 a5 Ra4
to be Iooked at; on this follows

le4c52NfrNc6rd4
cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc,
d6 5 BeZ e5 7 Nb1 Be7
I Bg5
(In this way, ttrrite captures the

69 h5, and Black loses, both on
59...9xh5 70 Rxf5 h4 7l gxh4 Ke4
72 RcS Kxf4 73 Kc3 Kgl 74 Rxc4
Rxa5 75 b4, and after 59. ..Ra2 7O
h6 ci 71 Rb5 Kc4 72 Rb7 cxb2 71

d5 square, but

8. . .0-0

RxhT Rxa5 74 Kxb2 Rb5+ 75 Kcz Ra5

76 Rc7+ KdA 77 Rg7

Ra2+

78

cl Kd5 65 Kc2 c4
l, qt 66 a4, to rePlY 66. . .
Haining the a-pawn with
lrc and leaving the rook
! Kd6
d.irq this
G5+

game

in

the

IESR ChampionshiP" tourn-

book, master

Yudovich

; .,a q-restion mark agalnst

EY€ and writes: rr. . . . notu
Is inevitable. I'le should
5-..Kd4 with good chances

E'.
rlter does not confirm this
rr sirqle, even if short,

:Icr, ror a verbal explanatlaefore it is difficuft to
m rhat considerations he
his statement; in any
r to us it does not seem

Ke7 was

clrq. After 66...Kd4 67 a4,
enot win the g-Pawn,
67...Rb1 68 a5 Rxg)
after
1
; Rg[ 70 Ra5, the a-pawn
a rok; if 67...Ra7, then
, EB 69 b4 cxbf+ 70 Kxbl

n elanentary

rfter

win.

55. ..Kd4 67

a4, there

Black moves the king to d6 in
order to try his Last chance - an
attack on the g) pawn. If Black
were to retreat his king to c6,
then would follow 57 h5, with the
threat 58 hxg5 hxg6 59 Re6+ and

9 Bxf5 Bxf6 lO Nd5 Bg5

(The strong position of this
bishop cunpensates for Blackrs
surrender of the d5 square. )

70 Rxg5. )

67 a4 Rbr 58 a5 RxgS
(If 68...Kc6, then 69 Re7 and
59...Kb5 is not posslble because

ll

is precarlously
it falls under attack by
the rook c8. It was better to
castle. After 11 0-0 Be6, a
pJ.aced,

position from the game, TaimanovBoleslavsky, ITth USSR Championship, is obtained. hhite continued 12 Qd, Ne7 l, c4?, on
which followed lf...RcB L4 Nd2
Nxd5 15 cxd5 Bd7 with advantage
to B1ack. The moves 12 @, and If

69 a6 Kc7 70 Rb5 Rgr
(0r 70...Ref 7L a7 Re8 72 Rb9,

and White obtains

a winning

pawn

endgame. )

c4 were bad, 12 Bg4 Rc8 lf cf Ne7
14 Bxe6 fxe5 15 NxeT+ would give
an even game. )

7L Rb7+ Kc5
(If 71...Kc8 72 RxhT Kb8, then 7)

h5 gxh5 74 Rxh5 Ka7 75 Rxf5

Kxa5

ll...Be6
12 h4
(An incorrect plan. The advance
of the pawns does not give hlhite
an attack, but only weakens his
position. )

)

72 RxhT Ral 7,

Rg7

(Winning a second pawn.

)

Bc4

(Here the bishop

of 70 Rb7+, while 59...Rx93 70 a6
leads to the game continuation.
If 58...Kc7, then 69 Re7+ Kb8 70
RxhT Rxg) 7I h5 gxh5 72 Rxh5 and
htrite wins. )

76 Rc5 and wins.

)

(8...Nxe4 9 Nxe4 Bxg5 l0 Nxd5+
sufficient to obtain an
even game, but the great simpllfication woufd lead in this case
to an inevitable draw. )

Kb3

Rh2 79 Rxg6.

rtter is 61...9xf5, after
lf- Black king would turn
o be riveted to the e6

this brings him no

particular benefit.

Black resigns.

2. . .8h5 l, 94 Bf4
a result of the advance of
the hlhite pawns, the bishop is
1

Defence
82 Sicilian
Hhite: Reicher
Black: Boleslavsky
( International
tournBucharest
ament in

t95r)

(As

cosily established on the weakened f4 square. )
14 Qe2 Rc8 15 c1 Ne7
t75


16 Rd1
(Better, all the same, was 16 Nxe7+ Qxe7 17 Bxe6 fxe6, though also here White has a difficult position.)

16...Ng6!
(Not 16...Bxg4 because of 17 Nf6+ gxf6 18 Qxg4+; the exchange sacrifice is also cleared up, 16...Rxc4 17 Qxc4 Nxd5 [17...Bxg4 18 Nf6+ gxf6 19 Rg1 h5 20 f3 Qb6 21 Kf1 Qe3 22 Qe2] 18 Rxd5! Bxg4 19 Qd3.)

17 h5
(This, of course, is weak; now Black's pieces invade on the dark squares into the opponent's camp. However, also on 17 g5 Black would have a strong retort - 17...h5! Bad for White is 18 gxf6 Bxf6 and both 19...Nxf6 and 19...Nf4 are threatened. It is difficult for White to repulse the threat of 18...Bg4 followed by a check on g3, after which the g- and h-pawns are lost. The attempt by White [after 17 g5 h5] to go over to the attack by 18 Nf6+ gxf6 19 Bxe6 fxe6 20 Qxh5 is repulsed by 20...Qe8 21 Rxd6 Rc7 22 Rg1 Rg7 23 Qg4 Qe7, and Black must win.)

17...Nh4 18 Bd3 Qg5 19 f3 Bg3+ 20 Kf1 f5!
(The basic variation here is 21 gxf5 Bxd5 22 exd5 Nxf5 23 Bxf5 Rxf5 24 Rd3 e4! 25 Qxe4 Rcf8, and White has no satisfactory defence against 26...Re5.)

21 Rgl
(White wants to provoke the advance 21...f4, locking the position. It should be mentioned that also in this case White's game is lost. After 21...f4 22 Nd2 [Necessary, in order to prevent the sacrifice on f3] 22...g6! White must already give up the pawn by the move 23 h6, since after 23 hxg6 h5! his position instantly falls apart. However Black does not see the need to lock up the position and decides the game with the following sacrifice.)

21...Nxf3 22 Rxf3 fxe4 23 Kg2
(Otherwise White loses the queen.)

23...exd3 24 Rxd3
(Or 24 Qxd3 Bxg4 25 Ne3 Ne1+ 26 Rxe1 Bf3+ 27 Kh2 Qh4.)

24...Bxd5 25 Rxd5 26 Rxf3 Qxg4+ White resigns
(Since on 27 Kf2 follows Rxf3+ 28 Qxf3 Rf8.)

83 King's Indian Defence
White: Filip
Black: Boleslavsky
(International tournament in Bucharest 1953)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Bg5 Bg7 4 Nf3 0-0 5 e3
(A modest continuation, giving Black any difficulties at all. As will be seen from the future play, White in this case strives only for a draw.)

5...d6 6 Be2 Nb6 7 0-0 e5 8 Qc2 Rd8 9 dxe5 dxe5 10 Rd1 c5
(The defect of this move is that White could now, by penetrating with the knight to d6, force the drawing simplification. Considering is 10...Qe7 and...

11 Ng5 Qe7 12 Nxe4
(A mistake, after which Black obtains the advantage. Or was 12 Ne4, for example: Nxe4 13 Nxe4 Nc5 14 Nd6 Bxe8 15 Nxc8 Rxd1 16 Qxd1 Rxe8 with chances.)

12...h6!
(This is the whole point. White has to refrain from the journey with the knight to c4.)

13 Nxf6+
(Bad is 13 Nxf7 Nxe4 and...
Wulsed by 20...Qe8 21 Rxd6 2 Rgl Rg7 23 Qg4 Qe7, and
must win.)
Nh4 18 Bd3 Qg5 19 g3+ 20 Kf1 f5!

Basic variation here is 21
Bxd5 22 exd5 Nxf5 23 Bxf5
A Rd3 e4! 25 Qxe4 Rcf8, and
has no satisfactory defence
at 26...Re5.)
g1
wants to provoke the
21...f4, locking the
on. It should be mentioned
also in this case White's
is lost. After 21...f4 22
[Necessary, in order to
the sacrifice on f3]
6! White must already give
a pawn by the move 23 h6,
after 23 hxg6 h5! his
on instantly falls apart.
Black does not see the
lock up the position and
is the game with the follow-
ance.)
Nxf3 22 Rxf3 fxe4
22
wise White loses the
)
exd3 24 Rxd3
A Qxd3 Bxg4 25 Ne3 Nel+ 26
f3+ 27 Kh2 Qh4+.)

24...Bxd5 25 Rxd5 Qh4!
26 Rxf3 Qxg4+ White
resigns
(Since on 27 Kf2 follows 27...
Rxf3+ 28 Qxf3 Rh8.)

88 King's Indian
Defence
White: Filip
Black: Boleslavsky
(International tournament in Bucharest
1953)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3
Bg7 4 Nf3 0-0 5 e3
(A modest continuation, not
giving Black any difficulties at
all. As will be seen from the
future play, White in this game
strives only for a draw.)
5...d6 6 Be2 Nbd7 7
0-0 e5 8 Qc2 Re8 9
dxe5 dxe5 10 Rd1 c6
(The defect of this move is that
White could now, by penetrating
with the knight to d6, force a
drawing simplification. Worth
considering is 10...Qe7 and on 11
b3 - 11...c6, now 12 Ng5 is
refuted by the reply 12...e4.)
11 Ng5 Qe7 12 Nce4?
(A mistake, after which Black
obtains the advantage. Correct
was 12 Nge4, for example: 12...
Nxe4 13 Nxe4 Nc5 14 Nd6 Rd8 15
Nxc8 Rxd1 16 Qxd1 Rxc8 with equal
chances.)
12...h6!
(This is the whole point! Now
White has to refrain from the
journey with the knight to d6.)
13 Nxf6+
(Bad is 13 Nxf7 Nxe4 and White is
left a piece down.)
13...Nxf6 14 Nf3
(Bad is 14 Ne4 Nxe4 15 Qxe4
because of 15...Bf5 16 Qf3 e4 17
Qg3 Be5 etc.)
14...Bf5 15 Qa4 Ne4 16
Bd2 a5!

(Capturing on d2 would not give
Black a real advantage, since
White's position is solid, while
the Black bishops are insuffi-
cently active. Therefore Black
begins to pursue the White queen,
with the aim of forcing the White
to occupy unfavourable
positions.)
17 Be1 Bf8 18 Nd2
(Otherwise, after 18...Qc7 and
then 19...Nc5, the White queen
will have no satisfactory
retreat.)
18...Nc5 19 Qa3 Qc7 20
Qc3 Qb6
(Black, by threatening 21...Na4,
strives to provoke b3, on which
would follow with great force,
21...e4. White, however, dis-
covers his opponent's intention.)
21 Nb3 Ne4 22 Qc1 a4
23 Nd2 Nc5
(Black has succeeded in driving
back the White queen to a passive
position and taking away the b3
square from the opponent. Now if it were Black's move, advancing the e-pawn would bring him a decisive advantage, but it is White's move and he succeeds in unravelling his tangled pieces.)

24 Nf3 Bg7 25 Qd2 Ne4
(Nothing is given by 25...Red8 26 Qb4 Qxb4 27 Rxd8+ Rxd8 28 Bxb4 Nd3 29 Rd1; now 26 Qb4 is not good because of 26...Qc7! with the threat of 27...Bf8.)

26 Qc1 Rad8 27 Nh4! Be6 28 Qc2 Nc5 29 Bc3 Kh7 30 e4?

(Over the last 17 moves White has defended in the best way and virtually overcome the consequences of his mistake on the 12th move. However, 30 e4 is a new mistake, since the important central d4 square is weakened. He should simplify the position by 30 Rxd8 Rxd8 31 Rd1 Rxd1+ 32 Bxd1 [But not 32 Qxd1 because of 32...Ne4!]. If Black takes the c4 pawn, then White, after 33 Bxe5 Bxa2 34 Bxg7 Kxg7 35 Qc3+ Kh7 36 Bc2, obtains counterplay which is sufficient for a draw.)

30...f6!
(After long reflection, Black finds the right plan. The move in the game pursues three aims: firstly, to prepare the retreat of the bishop to f7, in order to free the e6 square for the knight; secondly, to reliably defend the e5 pawn; furthermore - to create the possibility of utilising the bishop on the a3-f8 diagonal.)

31 Bf1 Bf7 32 g3 Bf8 33 Kg2 Be7 34 Nh3
(White goes half way to meet the opponent's intentions; the knight must watch over the f5 square. Now Black strengthens his position even further.)

34...g5! 35 Re1 Bh5 36 Rab1 Bf7 37 Ng1
(On 37 Nd2 would have followed the doubling of rooks on the d-file. White draws the knight back to g1, in order to have the possibility of reinforcing the e-pawn with the move f3, but also, at an opportune moment, to place the knight on e2 for defence of the d4 square.)

37...Bg6 38 b4?
(After this move, Black quickly achieves a decisive advantage. Necessary was 38 f3, on which Black would reply 38...Qa7 followed by ...Ne6-d4. White's position remains difficult, but there is still a prolonged struggle in prospect.)

38 axb3 39 axb3 Na6!
(Black does not hurry with the transfer of the knight to d4, but first of all exchanges the dark-squared bishops and controls the black squares.)

40 Qe2
(Confusion!)

84 Caro Kann Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Sliwa

The aim of this move was Nh4 and f4, to create a threat to the bishop g6. However, the correct play by Black, 7...Nf6, is hardly realisable.

6...Nd7 7 Be4 e6
(Apparently, stronger than 7...Ng6. In the game Kasparyan, 20th USSR Championship, then followed Bxe5 Qa5+ 10 Bd2 Qxe5+ obtained a good game.)
Game pursues three aims: first, to prepare the retreat of the bishop to f7, in order to take the e6 square for the rook; secondly, to reliably advance the g5 pawn; furthermore - to create the possibility of creating the bishop on the a3-f8 diagonal.

1. Bd1 Bf7 32 g3 Bb8 33 Bxe7 Bxe7 34 Nf3

...Bg6 35 Re1 Bh5 36 Bf8 37 Ng1

A black would have followed by ...Ne6-d4. White draws the knight to g1, in order to have the possibility of reinforcing it with the move f3, but at an opportune moment, to take the knight on e2 force of the d4 square.)

...Bg6 38 b4?

This move, Black quickly awaits a decisive advantage, as was f3, on which would reply 38...Qa7...

...Ne6-d4. A white's intention remains difficult, but is still a prolonged pull-in prospect.)

...axb3 39 axb3 Na6! A black does not hurry with the f4 of the knight to d4, but of all exchanges the dark-squared bishops and controls the squares.

Ne2 omission!

40...Bb4 41 Qc2

(This was the sealed move, but then White resigned the game without playing on, since after 41...Nc5 42 f3 g4 he will not avoid material loss. For example: 43 Bxb4 Qxb4 44 Re2 Rd3 45 fxg4 Red8 46 Rb2 Nxe4 and Black's threats are irresistible.)

84 Caro Kann Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Sliwa
(International tournament in Bucharest 1953)

1 e4 c6 2 Nc3 d5 3 d4 dxe4 4 Nxe4 Bf5 5 Ng3Bg6 6 Nh3

(The aim of this move is, by 7 Nf4 and 8 h4, to create threats to the bishop g6. However, on correct play by Black, this plan is hardly realisable.)

6...Nd7 7 Bc4 e6

(Apparently, stronger here is 7...Ng6. In the game, Keres-Kasparyan, 20th USSR Championship, then followed 8 Nf4 e5 9 dxe5 Qa5+ 10 Bd2 Qxe5+ and Black obtained a good game.)

8 Nf4 Bd6 9 h4 Qc7 10 Nxe6

(On 10 h5 could follow 10...Bxc2 11 Nxe6 fxe6 12 Qxc2 Bxg3 13 fxg3 Qxg3+ to Black's advantage.)

10...hxg6 11 Qf3 Ng6 12 Bg5 Qa5+ 13 c3 0-0-0 14 0-0-0

(Both sides have completed the development of their pieces, and now it is possible to sum up a little. It is interesting to compare this position with the position reached after Black's 18th move in game 64, Boleslavsky - Bronstein.

The fact that Black's pawns are doubled, is an undoubted plus for White - Black's pawn mass is immobile and White controls the g5 square. As in the game with Bronstein, the only active plan for White is the pushing of the pawns on the king's flank. However, Black's position being solid, White's plan requires lengthy preparation and with correct play Black could prevent it. The presence of a large number of pieces on the board, perhaps, is to Black's advantage, since White must manoeuvre very carefully and all the time watch...
for the possible pawn breaks.)
14...Rhf8 15 Rhl Rde8
16 Kb1 Kb8 17 Bb3 Ka8
18 Re2 Bb8
(An incomprehensible move! Black, apparently, does not fathom out
White’s plan, considering his manoeuvre quite harmless. He
should play 18...Be7 followed by
19...Nd5. The exchange of one of
White’s bishops considerably
eases Black’s defence.)
19 Rde1 Rc8 20 Bc2 Qb6
(Neither here, nor in the future,
would anything good be promised
Black by the advance of the c or
e-pawns, in view of the increase
in activity of the White
bishops.)
21 Ne4 Nxe4 22 Rxe4
Bd6 23 Rd1 Qc7 24 g4
Rce8 25 h5 f6

(Black bears the punishment for
too passive play. White carries
out his plan and Black’s position
seriously deteriorates.)
26 Bc1 g5 27 Re2 e5 28
d5
(It would be unfavourable to take
on e5, since Black obtains an
important strong point. White
creates for himself a protected
passed pawn, and dooms the
opponent to complete passivity.)
28...c5 29 c4 Nb6 30
b3 Nc8 31 Bf5!
(Black intends to transfer the
knight to d6, where it will
occupy an active position. There-
fore White exchanges the Black
knight and leaves the opponent
with a passive bishop, locked in
by its own pawns.)
31...Be7 32 Bxc8 Rxc8
33 Qe4 Rh8?

(Black does not notice the threat
concealed in White’s last move.
Necessary was 33...Bd6, after
which White has to occupy himself
with preparation of the break b4.
Black’s defence would entail
considerable difficulties.)
34 f4! gxf4 35 Bxf4
Bd6
(After 35...exf4 36 Qxe7, the d5
pawn would have a decisive say.
For example: 36...Qxe7 [or 36...
f5 37 Qg5 fxg4 38 Re7 Rxh5 39
Qxg7 Qb6 40 Qxg4 with a quick
win] 37 Rxe7 f5 38 Rxf7 fxg4 39
Rxd4 with a winning endgame.)
36 Bc1 Qf7 37 Rf1 a6
38 Re2 Qd7
(In time trouble, Black does not
take measures against the break-
through threatened him, but his
position is lost all the
Sooner or later, White will
through on the king’s or
flank.)
39 h6 gxh6 40
Rcg8 41 Rf5
(The sealed move. Black
resigned without playing
since he loses a pawn with
hopeless position.)

85 Sicilian Defence
White: Barada
Black: Boleslavsky
(International to-
ament in Bucha-
1953)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6
Nxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5
cxd6 6 Bg5 e6 7 Be2
8 0-0 0-0 9 Qd3
(An idea of grandmaster E.
The queen, at an oppo-
moment, transfers to g3. Here
it is better to place the
on d3 on the 7th move, to this
development with q-side castling.)
9...Bd7 10 Rad1
(White intends to place the
on g3, but, with the full
exchange, Black radically
vents this.)
10...Nxd4 11 Qxd4 Rf6
(Black completes his develop-
and has a quite satisfac-
tion. If now 12 e5,
12...dxe5 13 Qxe5 Qb6! to Bl
advantage.)
12 f4?
I to complete passivity. It intends to transfer the to d6, where it will an active position. There- exchange the Black and leaves the opponent passive bishop, locked in own pawns. Be7 32 Bxc8 Rxc8 B4 Rh8?

does not notice the threat ed in White's last move. my was 33...Bd6, after hite has to occupy himself separation of the break b4. s defence would entail arable difficulties.) f4! gxf4 35 Bxf4

35...exf4 36 Qxe7, the d5 build have a decisive say. ample: 36...Qxe7 [or 36... Qxg4 38 Re7 Rxh5 39 Qxg4 with a quick 7 Rxe7 f5 38 Rxg7 fxg4 39 with a winning endgame.) e1 Qf7 37 Rfl a6 f2 Qd7

e trouble, Black does not emerges against the break threatened him, but his position is lost all the same. Sooner or later, White will break through on the king's or queen's flank.) 39 h6 gxh6 40 Rxf6 Rcg8 41 R1f5 (The sealed move. Black resigned without playing on, since he loses a pawn with a hopeless position.)

85 Sicilian Defence White: Barda Black: Boleslavsky (International tourn-ament in Bucharest 1953)

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Bg5 e6 7 Be2 Be7 8 O-O 0-0 9 Qd3 (An idea of grandmaster Keres. The queen, at an opportune moment, transfers to q3. However, it is better to place the queen on d3 on the 7th move, linking this development with queen's side castling.) 9...Bd7 10 Rad1 (White intends to place the queen on g3, but, with the following exchange, Black radically prevents this.) 10...Nxd4 11 Qxd4 Bc6 (Black completes his development and has a quite satisfactory position. If now 12 e5, then 12...dxex5 13 Qxe5 Qb6! to Black's advantage.) 12 f4?

diagram

(A bad move, after which White gets into the worse position. Correct was 12 Kh1, as was played in the game, Kholmov-Boleslavsky, 17th USSR Championship.) 12...h6 13 Bh4 Nxe4! (An exchanging combination, but by no means with the object of achieving a draw.) 14 Nxe4 (14 Bxe7 Nxc3 15 bxc Qxe7 16 Qxd6 would give White nothing except a lost endgame.) 14...Bxh4 15 Nxd6 Bf6 (Black has a considerable advantage in view of the two active bishops and pressure on the black squares.) 16 Qf2 (The only move. After 16 Qb4 Qb6+ 17 Qxb6 axb6, White loses a pawn.) 16...Qc7 (There is nothing in 16...Qa5 17 a3, and 17...Bxb2 is not possible because of 18 Nc4 Qc3 19 Rbl.) 17 b3 (No better is 17 c3 Be7 18 Nc4 Ba4! 19 b3 Bc5 20 Ne3 Qb6 21 Rd3 Rad8.) 17...Be7 18 Nc4 Be4 19 Bd3 Bc5 20 Ne3 Qb6 21 Rfe1 Rfd8
(Creating a weak pawn on d3 for White.)
22 Kh1 Bxd3 23 cxd3 Rac8

(The bishop c5 is stronger than the White knight, the c-file is
in Black's hands, the White pawns are weak - Black must win.)
24 Qf3 Qa6 25 Nb4
(White sacrifices a pawn, reconn-
ing on obtaining counterplay. On
25 a4, simplest is 25...Qxb6.)
25...Qxa2 26 Qxb7 Rb8
27 Qc7 Rdc8 28 Qd7
Qxb3 29 Ne5 Qb7
(Now Black simplifies.)
30 Rcl Rb7 31 Qa4 Qb4
(Offering the opponent a losing
endgame. Finding himself in
severe time trouble, White
chooses an immediate end.)
32 Qd1 Qxf4 33 Rc4 Qg5
34 Qf3? Qxe5 White
resigns.

86 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Ciocaltea
(International tournament in Bucharest
1953)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4

...Nf6 5 Ne3
(Now 5...Qc6 is
simpler.)
6 Be2, see game 96,
Soloviev-Boleslavsky. About the
continuation 6 g3, met in the
present game, we will speak a
little later, but now briefly we
stop at the continuations 6 f4
and 6 Bg5.
For the variation with the move 6
f4, highly characteristic is the
game, Averbach-Bronstein, 19th
USSR Championship, which con-
tinued in the following way: 6...
e5 7 Nf3 Qc7 8 Bd3 Nbd7 9 0-0 b5
10 a3 Be7 11 Kh1 0-0 12 fxe5 dxe5
13 Nh4 Bd8 14 Qel Nc5 15 Bg5
16 Nh5 Nh5! 17 Qh4 Ng4. Now
18 Nxc7, Black obtains a
advantage, and if White does not aim anything on the king's file
then he obtains the worse game.
The continuation 6 Bg5 is likely
to queen's side castling a
subsequent storm of Black's
king's flank. It requires
accurate play and
practice has shown that, in
6...e6 7 Qf3, Black has several
continuations which secure
counterplay. Worthy of atten-
in this variation is
Soloviev, 7...h6 8 Bh4 Bb7
0-0-0 Nc6 and then 10...b5.)
8 g3
(In fianchettoing the unsquared bishop, White pursues three aims:
1) to leave the e2 square for the knight;
2) to make the advance
more difficult, and
3) at an opportune moment, advancing the f-pawn, to take
f4 with the g-pawn, not allowing Black the e5 square. In our w
4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3

14

A continuation, first worked by Czech players, is one of the most prevalent and topical situations of the Sicilian face. The idea of it comes off the variation 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 e5, but here Black strives for a more comfortable deployment of pieces [knight b8 - on d7, bishop c8 - on b7] which creates some tension on the e4 square and dictates the carrying out of...


17

The great choice of continuations for White, in reply to 5...a6, is this opening extremely...labeled and interesting. He can continue 6 Be2, 6 g3, 6 Be2, and Bg5. The first two lead to a positional,...second - to a sharp battle. On the replies 6 Be2, 6 g3, and Bg5, Black carries out his basic idea, by answering 6...

18

...and only the move 6 Bg5...ents 6...e5 and transfers to other channels.

The position of 6 Be2, see game 96, M.N.Boleslavsky. About the situation after 6...g3, met in the opening, we will speak a...later, but now briefly we look at the continuations 6...f4 and Bg5.

The variation with the move 6 Be2 highly characteristic is the Averbach-Bronstein, 19th Chess Championship, which concluded in the following way: 6.

7 Nf3 Qc7 8 Bb3 Nbd7 9 0-0 b5 3 Be7 11 Kh1 0-0 12 fxe5 dxe5 13 Nh4 Bd8 14 Qe1 Nc5 15 Bg5 Be6 16 Nf5 Nh5! 17 Qh4 Nf4. Now, on 18 Nfxg7, Black obtains a good game with the move 18...Nxd3, as proved by master Ilivitsky in the fourth number of the bulletin of the Riga semi-final of the 20th USSR Championship. In this way, Black repels the attack and stands better. Of course, White's play can be improved, and yet this variation has been met rarely over the past two years. It is very committal for White. Black's pawn formation is better, and if White does not achieve anything on the king's flank, then he obtains the worse game.

The conclusion is that 6 Bg5 is linked to queen's side castling and a subsequent storm of Black's king's flank. It requires from Black, accurate play and has brought White many victories. But practice has shown that, after 6...e6 7 Qf3, Black has several continuations which secure him counterplay. Worthy of attention in this variation is the continuation of the young master Soloviev, 7...h6 8 Bh4 Bd7 9 0-0-0 Nc6 and then 10...b5.

8 g3

(In fianchettoing the white-squared bishop, White pursues three aims: 1) to leave the e2 square for the knight; 2) to make the advance ...d5 difficult, and 3) at an opportune moment, after advancing the f-pawn, to take on f4 with the g-pawn, not allowing Black the e5 square. In our view, this continuation is sufficient to obtain a small opening advantage.)

6...e5 7 Nde2 Be6

(The development of the bishop on e6 is less in the spirit of the opening, than on b7, since it does not create pressure on the e4 square. Upon the development of the bishop on b7, Black has a clear plan. For example: 7...Be7 8 Bg2 0-0 9 0-0 Nbd7 10 h3 b5 11 a3? Bb7 12 Be3 Nc5 13 f3 d5 with a considerable advantage for Black. Of course, White is not obliged to play so passively and can prevent Black's plan, but thereby gets involved in a struggle, promising Black more than that with the development of the bishop on e6.)

The position is that 8 Bg2 Be7 9 0-0 Nbd7...

10 h3

(Worth considering is 10 a4, but White deliberately does not prevent the advance of the b-pawn, counting on undermining the opponent's queen's flank.)

10...b5 11 a4 b4 12 Nd5 Nxd5!

(Here White expected only 12...Bxd5, considering the capture with the knight simply a bad move. After 12...Bxd5 13 exd5, White's position is freer; the light squares in Black's camp would be somewhat weakened.)

13 exd5 Bf5 14 f4

Diagram

(In making this move, White was confident that, in view of the threat 15 fxe5, he would force...
14...exf4, and, after 15 Nd4 Bg6
16 gxf4, at once obtain a winning position. If White had paid more attention to Black's plan, then he would have made the move 14 Bd2, gaining an important tempo with an attack on the b4 pawn and obtaining the possibility of defending the c2 pawn with the rook.

14...Qc7! 15 c3
(If 15 fxe5, then 15...Bxc2 16 exd6 Bxd6 with advantage to Black. But not 16...Bxd1? 17 dxc7 Bxe2 18 Re1, and White wins.)

15...bxc3 16 Nxc3
(It seems that White, by taking on c3 with the pawn, could force 16...exf4 and carry out his plan with 17 Nd4; in fact, however, on 16 bxc3, would follow 16...Qc4 17 fxe5 Bd3, and the complications obtained would not promise White anything good. For example: 18 exd6 Bxe2 19 Qe1 Bxd6 20 Rf2 Bc5.)

16...exf4
(Now, as the knight does not get to d4, Black can calmly exchange.)

17 Bxf4 0-0 18 Kh2 Bg6?
(There was no need for this move, since it is not apparent how White could have exploited the hanging position of the bishop on f5. The position is far from being so harmless as seems at first sight, each tempo now is of account. He should immediately commence operations against the b2 pawn: 18...Rb8 19 Qe2 Nc5 with a developing initiative.)

19 Re1 Qb7?
(A second mistake, after which Black loses. This second move made on general considerations [taking the queen away from the action of the rook and preventing 20 b4], turns out to be bad. He should continue 19...Ne5 [threatening 20...Nd3] 20 Ne4 Bxe4 21 Bxe4 Rab8, still maintaining not a bad position.)

20 Re1 Nc5 21 Re3!

(The only, and at the same time decisive, move: White creates two threats: 22 Qe2 and 22 b4, which Black is in no position to parry.)

21...Rfe8 22 Qe2 f6
(In order to have the possibility of moving the bishop away, but now White carries out the second threat.)

23 b4! Nb3

24 Rce1 Qxb4

(Black loses his head and White's task easier. 24...Bb6 or 24...Bd7, but White's task is more stubborn. In this case follow the forcing variation: Qc4 Rxe3 [25...Nd2 26 Qe2 Bxe3 Bc2 27 Ne4! Rc8 28 Nxc5 [28...dxc5? 29 d6+ Qe7 30 Bxc5] 29 bxc5 with a won position for White. On 29...bxc5 follows 30 c6! Bxc4 31 cxb7 Qxb7, then 32 Rb1 and then 33 Ba7; if Qb3, then 30 Bf6! dxc5 31 Qxc4 32 Bxc4+ Kh8 33 d7 Rb8 34 Bxc5.)

25 Rxe7 Rxe7 26 Re8
(After 26...Qxc3 27 Re3, loses a piece.)

27 Qxd6
(Also possible is 27 Qxe6+ the move in the game is simple.)

27...Qxc3 28 Bxe8 Qe7
(Now the advance of the d5 pawn is decisive.)

29...Bxa4 30 d6 Qd7
(Or 30...Qc8 31 Bh6!, and...
it is not apparent how could have exploited the position of the bishop. The position is far from so harmless as seems at sight, each tempo now is of. He should immediately operations against the: 18...Rb8 19 Qe2 Nc5 with sloping initiative.)

16 Qd1 Qb7?

Although, after which loses. This second move. On general considerations the queen away from the of the white queen. (20 b4), turns out to bad. He should continue Nc5 [threatening 20...Nd3] & Bxe4 21 Bxe4 Rab8, still aiming not a bad position.)

16...Nc5 21 Re3!

Only, and at the same time move: White creates two ts: 22 Qe2 and 22 b4, which is in no position to

Rfe8 22 Qe2 f6

to have the possibility wing the bishop away, but hite carries out the second t.)

b4! Nb3

(The attempt to stir up trouble by 23...Qxb4 24 Rxe7 Nd3 is refuted by 25 Na2! Qxa4 [or 25...Qd4 26 Qe6+ Kh8 27 Rxe8+ Rxe8 28 Rc8] 26 Bh6! and White wins.)

24 Rce1 Qxb4

(Black loses his head and makes White's task easier. 24...Bf8 was more stubborn. In this case would follow the forcing variation: 25 Qc4 Rxe3 [25...Nd2 26 Qa2] 26 Bxe3 Bc2! 27 Ne4! Rc8 28 Nc5! Nxc5 [28...dxc5? 29 d6+ Qf7 30 Bd5] 29 bxc5 with a winning position for White. On 29...Bb3 follows 30 c6! Bxc4 31 cxb7 Rb8 32 Rb1 and then 33 Ba7; if 29...Qb3, then 30 Bf1! dxc5 31 d6+ Qxc4 32 Bxc4+ Kh8 33 d7 Rd8 34 Bxc5.)

25 Rxe7 Rxe7 26 Qxe7 Re8

(After 26...Qxc3 27 Re3, Black loses a piece.)

27 Qxd6

(Also possible is 27 Qxe8+, but the move in the game is simpler.)

27...Qxc3 28 Rxe8+Bxe8 29 Qe7

(Now the advance of the d5 pawn is decisive.)

29...Bxa4 30 d6 Qd3

(Or 30...Qc8 31 Bh6!, and Black must resign.)

31 Qe6+ Black resigns.

(On 31...Kf8 follows 32 d7 Bxd7 33 Bd6+.)

87 Sicilian Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Bondarevsky

(Training tournament, Gagra 1953)

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 g3 e5

(On 6 g3, instead of 6 Be2, the variation with the move ...e5 is far less effective. The knight d4 can retreat to e2, where it stands better than on b3, while the advance ...d5 is virtually unrealisable with the bishop on g2.)

7 Nde2 Be7 8 Bg2 0-0 9 0-0 a6 10 h3 b5 11 Be3 b4?

(A very serious positional mistake. The b4 pawn becomes weak and subject to attack by the White pieces and pawns.)

12 Nd5 Nxd5 13 exd5

(He has to move the knight away to a passive position, in order to have the possibility of defending the b-pawn.)

14 Na5 15 a3 bxa3 16 bxc5

(Now it is clear that Black's 11th move has led only to the creation of a weak a5 pawn in his camp.)
17...Bd7 18 f4!
(White threatens 19 fxe5 dxe5 20 d6; Black has to choose from two evils: either to give up the d4 square to White, through which the White knight with great force bursts into c6, or to allow a further advance of the f-pawn, paralysing his king's flank.)
18...Rc8 19 f5 a4
(With the hope of counterplay after 20 bxa4? Na5, but White is alert.)
20 b4!
(Only so! Now the Black knight is locked up on b7. The a4 pawn is not dangerous, while the c4 square cannot be effectively exploited, due to the dissociation of the Black pieces.)
20...Rc4 21 g4 h6 22 Ng3 Bg5
(Black's position is so cramped, that even this exchange of the "bad" bishop does not relieve his game. White has no grounds to avoid the simplification.)
23 Bxg5 Qxg5 24 Qxg5 hgx5 25 c3 f6 26 Ne4 g6
(Black attempts to break out of the vice. On passive defence, he is doomed. For example: 26...Ra8 27 Re1 Be8 28 Bf1 Rcc8 29 c4 Ra7 [After 29...Bf7 30 Ral Be8 31 b5 Black loses a pawn] 30 Rcl Bf7 31 Rcc3 Kf8 32 Bd3! Ke7 33 Bc2 Rca8 34 Bb1 Nd8 35 Ba2 Rd7 36 Rd3, and the decisive break c5 is unavoidable.)
27fxg6 Kg7 28 Nd2 Rc7
(On 28...Rc6 could follow 29 Be4 Ra8 30 Rxf4 gxf4 31 Kg2 Be8 32 h4 Bxg6 33 Kf3, and White must win.)
29 Be4 Be8
(No help either is 29...Ra8 30 c4 Be8 31 Rf1, and the capture of the g6 pawn leads to the loss of the a4 pawn.)
30 c4 Nd8 31 Rc1 Bxg6
32 Bxg6 Kxg6 33 Rxa4
(And so White has won a pawn, while maintaining his pawn chain on the queen's flank.)
33...Nf7 34 b5
(Of course, not 34 c5? dxc5 35 bxc5 Rd8 with the win of the d-pawn. The b-pawn becomes a threatening force. Black tries to make his rook f8 more active.)
34...Rh8 35 Kg2 f5 36 gxf5+ Kxf5 37 b6
(The beginning of a winning manoeuvre.)
37...Rb7 38 Ra7 Nd8
(Other replies also do not save him.)
39 Rf1+ Kg6 40 Rxb7 Nxb7 41 Ne4
(diagram)
(The rook e2 has nowhere to retreat: on 21...Rxe2 follows Bf4, on 21...Rxe4 22 h3. It seems that Black loses the exchange, but he finds an intention sacrifice of a piece, which gives him a strong attack.)
21...Rx f2+ 22 Nxf2 23 Kxf2 Qe5!
(This move, introducing the rook into play with tempo, is an important link in Black's play.)
Ke6 49 d7 Ke7 50 d8(Q)+ Kxd8 51 Rc8+ and 52 b8(Q)+.

Black resigns.

88 Game Ending

White: Ragozin
Black: Boleslavsky
(Training tournament, Gagra 1953)

24 Bc1
(White underestimates the danger threatened him and makes a natural, but not the best, move, after which he loses. The following variations are indicative of the strength of Black's threats:
1) 24 Bd2 Nd3+ 25 Kf1 Bxd4 26 cxd4 Qf6+ 27 Kg1 Qf2+ 28 Kh1 Ngl!
2) 24 Qb4 Qxg5 25 Qxb6 Qe3+ 26 Kgl Nd3 and Black wins;
3) 24 Nf3 Ne4+ 25 Kf1 [25 Kf1 Qxg3] 25...Qe6 26 Nxe4 h6!! 27 Qa4 [White has nothing better; if, for example, 27 Bxh6, then 27...Qxh6 28 Rxd5 Qc1+ 29 Kf2 Rxe4+ 30 Kd3 Qb1+ 31 Kd2 Be3+ 32 Ke2 Bc5+] 27...Qxe4+ [but not 27...dxe4 26 Rd6!] 28 Qxe4 dxe4 29 Nd4 hxg5, and the endgame is won for Black;
4) 24 h4 h6 25 Bc1 Qf6+ 26 Kg1 Qxh4 and now:
   a) 27 Nf5 [or 27 Nh1] 27...Rel+ 28 Rxel Qxel+ 29 Kh2 Qg1, with two extra pawns;
   b) 27 Nd5 Nd3+ 28 Kf1 Qh2 29 Be3 Bxe3 30 Nxe3 Rxe3;
   c) 27 Nge2 Rxe2 28 Nxe2 Nd3+ 29 Nd4 Qf2+ 30 Kh1 Nes 31 Rd2 [31 Rxe1 Qxel+ 32 Kh2 Bc7+] 31...Qf1+ 32 Kh2 Bc7+ 33 g3 [33 Kh3 Qhl+ 34 Kg4 g6, and there is no defence against mate on h5] 33...Be5 34 Re2 Bxd4 35 Rxe1 Bg1+ 36 Kh1 Qxel and Black wins;
   d) 27 Nf1 Qg4 28 Rd2 [28 b4 Qxd1 29 bxc5 Rel] 28...Rel 29 b4 Ne4 30 Rd3 [30 Qb2 Qf4] 30...Qe2 31 Rf3 Ng3.

And yet White has a saving move - 24 b4! White attacks the
dangerous knight e5 and obtains the possibility of introducing the queen into play.
Now, insufficient are either 24...Ne6 25 Be3 f5 26 Ndx5 Qf4+ 27 Ke2, or 24...Ne4+ 25 Nxe4 Qxe4 26 Qcl! and White defends himself.
Black has to limit himself to 24...Qxg5 25 bxc5 Qe3+ 26 Kf1 Qf4+ 27 Kg1 [27 Nf3? is not possible because of 27...Qc4+] 27...Qe3+ with perpetual check.)
24...Qf6+ 25 Kg1
(After this, Black wins quite simply. 25 Nf3 would have set him a more complicated task, since the discovered check gives him nothing. After 25 Nf3, Black wins by 25...Qg6!, threatening 26...Ne4+ 27 Kf1 Qxg3 and, at the same time, aiming at the c2 square.
If 26 Kg1, then 26...Qc2 27 Rf1 Nd3+ 28 Kh1 [28 Nd4 Ne1] 28...Nf2+ 29 Kg1 Nd1+ 30 Kh1 [30 Nd4 Rel 31 h3 Rxf1+ 32 Nxf1 Qf2+ 33 Kh2 Bc7+] 30...Qxc1 31 Nd4 [31 Qa4 Nf2+ 32 Kg1 Qe3] 31...Rel! 32 Qd6 h5 33 Qxb6 Ne3 and Black wins.
If 26 Nd4, then 26...Qg4, attacking the rook, and White has no satisfactory continuation:
1) 27 Rd2 Qf4+;
2) 27 Nge2 Nd3+ 28 Kh1 Bxd4;
3) 27 Nde2 Ne4+ 28 Kh1 Nxf3;
4) 27 Rf1 Nd3+ 28 Kg1 Bxd4+ 29 cxd4 Qxd4+ 30 Kh1 Nf2+;
5) 27 b4 Ne4+ 28 Nxe4 Rxe4 [with the threats of 29...Qxd1 and 29...Re2+] 29 Rd2 Qf4+.)
25...Nd3!
(The invasion of this knight is decisive.)

26 h3
(There is no defence. If 26 Nh1, then 26...Re2 27 Qa4 Qe5 28 Ng3 Rel+ 29 Nf1 Qe2 30 Rxe1 Qf2+ 31 Kh1 Qxe1 and Black wins.)
26...Rel+
(The capture of the rook is not possible because of mate in three moves; refraining from the capture also is equivalent to capitulation. The rest is clear.)
27 Kh2 Rxd1 28 Qa4 Rel 29 Bd2 Nc5 30 Qb4 Re8 31 Bg5 Qxg5 32 Qxb6 Ne4 33 Nxe4 Rxe4 34 Nf3 Qe7 White resigns.

89 Queen's Gambit Accepted
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Kotov
(International tournament in Zurich 1953)
1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 e3 e6 5 Bxc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 Qe2 cxd4
(Black can play the Queen's Gambit Accepted in two ways: maintain the tension in the centre, leaving White to solve the problem of developing his black-squared bishop, with this

Black, before castling, chettones his white-squared and places the knight b8 and exchanges on d4, creating an isolated pawn for White.)
8 exd4 Be7 9 Nc3
(But here this combination methods will not do at all. should firstly castle around the knight b8, and on concern himself with the development of his squared bishop.)
10 Bb3 Bb7 11 Bg5
(If 11 Ne5, threatening a time on f7, then 11...Qe5 Nc6 and Black defends himself since 13 Nxf7 Rfx7 14 Qd6 gives White nothing.)
11...0-0 12 Rf1
(On 12 Rad1, Black replies Nc6, and the break 13 d5) 13...Nxd5! 14 Bxd5 [14 Nxd5 14...exd5 15 Rxd5 Qe7 does give White anything real.]
12...Nc6 13 Rad1

(Thanks to Black's initial play, White has succeeded placing his pieces in the way, and now he threatens move 14 d5. He is not saw this thrust by 13...Nd4, or would still follow 14 d5)
Black, before castling, fianchettoes his white-squared bishop and places the knight b8 on d7, or exchange on d4, creating an isolated pawn for White.)

8 exd4 Be7 9 Nc3 b5
(But here this combination of two methods will not do at all! Black should firstly castle and bring out the knight b8, and only then concern himself with the question of the development of his white-squared bishop.)

10 Bb3 Bb7 11 Bg5
(If 11 Ne5, threatening a sacrifice on f7, then 11...0-0 12 Rel Nc6 and Black defends himself, since 13 Nxf7 Rxf7 14 Qxe6 Qf8 gives White nothing.)

11...0-0 12 Rfe1
(On 12 Rad1, Black replies 12... Nc6, and the break 13 d5, after 13...Nxd5 14 Bxd5 [14 Nxd5 Bxg5] 14...exd5 15 Rxd5 Qc7 does not give White anything real.)

12...Nc6 13 Rad1

Queen's Gambit

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 d5 5 c3 dxe4 6 dx e4 Nf6 7 Nd2 Nb d7 8 Be3 Bc5 9 0-0 Nxe4 10 Bxe4 Qe7 11 Bxb7 Qxb7 12 Nbd2 Nge7 13 NaN5 Nd5

(Thanks to Black's inaccurate play, White has succeeded in placing his pieces in the best way, and now he threatens the move 14 d5. He is not saved from this thrust by 13...Nb4, on which would still follow 14 d5! and, in the event of a capture on d5, Black is left a piece down, since the bishop e7 is hanging. The d5 break is motivated by the insufficiently defended bishop e7, and therefore this threat is parried with the move 13...Re8. Now 14 d5 exd5 15 Nxd5 Nxd5 16 Bxd5 Bxg5 17 Qxe8+ Qxe8 19 Rxe8+ Rx e8 19 Nxe8 Ndb8 leads only to a draw.

However, on 13...Re8, White would have the strong continuation 14 Ne5 with the threat 15 Nxf7. If 14...Nxd4, then 15 Qe3 Bc5 [15... Nd5 16 Nxd5 Bxg5 17 Ne4 leads to the loss of a piece] 16 Qh3 [Unclear is 16 Bxf6 gxf6 17 Ng4 f5 18 Nh6+ Kg7 19 Qe5+ Kxh6 20 Qxc5 Nxb3 21 Qe3+ Qg5] with a strong attack.

The exchange on e5 leads to a difficult game for Black. For example: 14...Nxe5 15 dxe5 Nd7 [Or 15...Nd5 16 Bxe7 Rxe7 17 Ne4 Qc7 18 Bxd5 and then 19 Na4 with the win of a pawn, since Black cannot take this knight] 16 Bf4 Qc7 17 Bc2 Nf8 18 Ne4 with an obvious advantage.

And so, even on the best reply 13...Re8, Black does not avoid serious trouble, whereas, after the move made in the game, he is simply left a pawn down.)

13...Na5 14 d5! Nxb3 15 dx b3 Qe6 17 Nd4
(Black's misfortune is that he cannot obtain counterplay for the lost pawn. On the natural 17... Bc5 follows 18 Qxe6+ Kh8 19 Qxb6 Bxb6 20 Re7, and there is no comfortable square of retreat for
the bishop b7.)
17...Bd6 18 Qxe6+ Kh8 19 Nf3?
(With his 17th move, Black set a trap - 19 Nxb5? Qc6, and Black wins a piece. But also the move made by White is not the best. By playing 19 Bf4, White places an unpleasant choice before the opponent: to either continue 19...Bc5 20 Qxb6 Bxb6 21 Re7 or 19...Rad8 20 Bxd6 Rxd6 21 Qe7 - in both cases Black's chances for a draw are highly problematical.)
19...Rad8 20 Bf4 Bxf3?

(Black, in his turn, makes a mistake.
He considers that, on a general exchange, he loses nothing, but forgets that he is a pawn down. He should play 20...Bc5 21 Qxb6 Bxb6. The realisation of the extra pawn in this case would entail great difficulties for White.)
21 Rxd6 Rxd6 22 Qxd6
(On 22 Bxd6, Black would reply 22...Ng4!)
22...Qxd6 23 Bxd6 Re8 24 Rxe8+ Nxe8 25 Be5 Bc6 26 b4!
(The Black knight is "under arrest" and will be exchanged by the bishop on its first move. In the forthcoming endgame with knight against bishop, it is very important to hold the pawns on Black's queen's flank on white squares - the colour of his bishop. White's present move also pursues this aim.)
26...h5
(The advance of the pawns on the king's flank only accelerates Black's defeat. The best would be to exchange the knight for the bishop, though, on accurate play by White, this would not save him.)
27 f3 Kh7 28 Ne2 g5 29 Kf2 h4 30 g3 hxg3+ 31 hxg3 Kg6 32 g4
(By fixing the weak pawn on g5, White achieves victory in the quickest way.)
32...Bb7 33 Ke3 Bc6 34 Nc3 Bb7 35 Ne4 Bd5
(After 35...Bc8 36 Nc5, the Black pieces are completely paralysed. White wins easily, by transferring the king to b6 or even to b8.)
36 Ne5 Kf7 37 Nxa6 Ke6 38 Bc3
(White allows out the Black knight, but it cannot get out of its imprisonment because of the loss of a piece [38...Nd6 39 Nc7+].)
38...Ba8 39 Nc5+ Kf7 40 Ne4 Kg6 41 Be5 Bd5 42 Nd2
(Now the b5 pawn is lost in a few moves.)
Black resigns.

90 King's I
Defence
White: Euwe
Black: Boleslavsk (International tournament in Zurich 191)
d4 Nf6 c4 g6
Bg7 4 Bg2 0-0 5 Ne3 Nf3 Bc5 6 Nf3 Nbd7 7 0-0
b3 Re8 9 Qc2
(A system of play, introduced into practice by Bronstein in 19th USSR Championship. It does not hurry with the advance of the c4 pawn, but, first of all, places the rook on b3, as, in the event of the exchange ...exd4, he can take on c4 with the rook, creating pressure on the d-pawn.)
9...c6 10 Rd1 e4
(A new continuation in position. Black wants to exploit the early move of the rook to obtain the initiative on the king's flank.)
11 Ne1
(A passive reply, allowing White to maintain the strong pawn e4. An important continuation in an appraisal of the last move, 11 Ng5. In this case, Black cannot continue, of course, not by 12 exd5 cxd5, with advantage to White, but by 11...e3, sacrificing a pawn.)
After 12 fxe3 [12 Bxe3 Rxe3 13 fxe3 Nxe3] 12...Ng4 13 Ng4 f6 14 f5 Black has counterplay for the pawn.)
11...Qe7 12 h3 a6
(By taking away the b5 pawn from the knight, Black obtains the advance ...c5)
White: Euwe
Black: Boleslavsky
(International tournament at Zurich 1953)
1 d4 Nf6 c4 g6 3 g3 Bg7 4 Bg2 0-0 5 Nc3 d6 6 Nf3 Nbd7 7 0-0 e5 8 b3 Re8 9 Qc2
(A system of play, introduced into practice by Bronstein in the 19th USSR Championship. White does not hurry with the advance of the c4 pawn, but, first of all, places the rook on d1, so as, in the event of the exchange ...exd4, he can take on d4 with the rook, creating pressure on the d-pawn.)
9...c6 10 Rd1 e4
(A new continuation in this position. Black wants to exploit the early move of the rook to d1, to obtain the initiative on the king's flank.)
11 Ne1
(A passive reply, allowing Black to maintain the strong pawn on e4. An important continuation for an appraisal of the last move was 11 Ng5. In this case, Black would continue, of course, not 11...d5? because of 12 cxd5 cxd5 13 Nb5 with advantage to White, but 11...e3, sacrificing a pawn.
After 12 fxe3 [12 Bxe3 Rxe3! 13 fxe3 Ng4] 12...Ng4 13 Nge4 Nf6, Black has counterplay for the pawn.)
11...Qe7 12 h3 a6
(By taking away the b5 square from the knight, Black makes possible the advance ...d5.)

(This, at first sight, natural move turns out to be a mistake. White reckons only on 15...Nf8 16 Na4 Ne6 17 Ba3 with pressure on the queen's flank, but Black finds a stronger continuation. White should play 15 Ba3, forcing the Black queen to find its position. On e6, it obstructs the way of the bishop and takes away this square from the knight. If 15...Qd8, then 16 Bd6! and on 16...Nf8 - 17 Be5, paralysing the action of the bishop g7. After 15 Ba3, White would have good chances of equalising the game, whereas now the advantage once and for all passes to Black.)
15...b5! 16 axb6
(If White does not take en passant, then he deprives himself of any chances on the queen's flank, but also capturing promises White little joy. 16 Nxd5 Nxd5 17 Qc6 is not possible because of 17...Bb7 18 Qxb7 Ne3 19 Rd2 e3 with a strong attack.)
16...Nxb6 17 Qd2
(In order to bring the knight el out of imprisonment. White could consolidate the bishop on c5, but
then he would have to let the opponent have the c4 square. For example: 17 Ba3 Qb7 18 Bc5 Bf5 19 e3 Nfd7 20 b4 Nc4 21 Bf1 Ndb6, and the Black knight on c4 is far more active than the White bishop on c5.)

17...Be6 18 Nc2 Qd7 19 Kh2 h5 20 Na4

(When there are not enough good moves, a bad one will always turn up. Now the b3 pawn becomes very weak. Also no better is 20 Ba3 Qc7 21 Kg1 Rec8 22 Bc5 Nfd7 23 b4 Nc4. Relatively more acceptable would be 20 Ne3.)

20...Nxa4 21 Rxa4 Qc7

(Threatening 22...h4.)

22 Kg1 Reb8 23 Na1

(There is no apparent better means of defending the b-pawn. If 23 b4, then 23...Qd7, attacking a4 and h3.)

23...Kh7

(More energetic was at once 23...Ne8.)

24 Qa2 Rb6 25 Bf4 Qd7 26 Kh2 Ne8!

(Black transfers the knight to b5, in order to rivet the White pieces to the defence of the d4 pawn and then to carry out an invasion on the c-file.)

27 Rc1 Nd6 28 Bxd6

(As unpleasant as the transfer of the Black knight to b5 is for White, this move should not be made. After the exchange of the black-squared bishop, Black's threats on the king's flank increase very quickly.)

28...Qxd6 29 e3

(Forced. 29 h4 Bf6 30 Kgl g5 31 hxg5 Bxg5 32 e3 h4 would be even worse.)

29...h4

(Now sooner or later a catastrophe will take place on the g3 square.)

30 b4!

(This is still the best chance. By sacrificing a pawn, White transfers the passive knight from al to the strong c5 position, and temporarily distracts the opponent away from the g3 square.)

30...Bh6

(More accurate than 30...Rxb4. By comparison with the immediate capture of the pawn, Black gains a tempo.)

31 Rc3

(If 31 Qd2, then 31...Bd7 32 Ra2 Rxb4, and the White knight cannot go to the b3 square.)

31...Rxb4 32 Nb3

(Also no better is 32 Rxb4, because of 32...Qxb4 with an attack on the rook c3.)

32...Rxa4 33 Qxa4 Bd7 34 Qa5 Bb5 35 Nc5 Rb8 36 Qa1

(There is nothing left for White but to switch over to defence. If 36 Rb3 Bg5 37 Nxa6, then 37...Bxa6 38 Rxb8 Qxb8 39 Qxa6 hgx3+ 40 fxg3 Bh4! 41 Qe2 Qxg3+ 42 Kh1 Kg7 43 Bh3 Bf6 44 Bb3 Qxf3 45 gxf3 Kxh3 46 Ke2 Bf2 and White is lost.)

37 Kh1

(Bg5 with an easy win.)

36...Bg5 37 Qd1 h3 38 fxe3 Qxe3+ 39 Kh2 Qxg1+ 40 Kg2 Bxf4

(The last move before the control, and, as so often the case, inaccurate. After 40...Kg6 seizing the second rank, White would win in a few moves--example: 41 Bf1 Bxf1 42 Kxf1 Bf8.)

41 Rb2 Qh4+ 42 Rb1

(The best reply, allowing to prolong the struggle. Kh2, 42...Rbl! would win. In event of the capture of the pawn, Black follows mate in three or four.)

42...Bxf1 43 Kxf1 Qh4 44 Qxg3 Bxg3 45 Bb8

(The ending is won for Black, but, in view of the limited material, accurate play is needed.)

46 Ke2

(The passive 46 Re2 or exchange of the e-pawn for d-pawn would only ease Black's task.)

46...g5 47 Nc5
...h4

Bg5 with an easy win.)
36...Bg5 37 Qd1 hxg3+
38 fxg3 f5 39 Qe1 Bc4
40 Kg1 Bd8
(The last move before the time
control, and, as so often is the
case, inaccurate. After 40...Rb2!
seizing the second rank, Black
would win in a few moves, for
example: 41 Bf1 Bxf1 42 Kxf1 Bh4!
etc.)
41 Rc2 Bc7 42 Bf1
(The best reply, allowing White
to prolong the struggle. On 42
Kb2, 42...Rb1! would win. In the
event of the capture of the rook,
follows mate in three moves.
After 43 Qf2 Kg8 44 h4 Qf6 45 Kh3
g5, White could lay down his
arms.)
42...Bxf1 43 Kxf1 Qxg3
44 Qxg3 Bxg3 45 Nxa6
Rb3
(The ending is won for Black,
but, in view of the limited
material, accurate play is
needed.)
46 Ke2
(The passive 46 Re2 or the
exchange of the e-pawn for the
d-pawn would only ease Black's
task.)
46...g5 47 Nc5

(If 47 Nc7, then 47...f4 48 exf4
gxf4 49 Nxd5 f3+ 50 Kd1 Rbl+ 51
Kd2 f2 52 Ne3 Bf4 and Black
wins.)
47...Rb6
(He must not allow the White
knight to e6.)
48 Ra2
(After this the struggle ends
very quickly. White presents
the greatest difficulties with the
continuation: 48 Nd7 Ra6 49 Kf1
[49 Nc5 Rh6] 49...f4 50 Kg2 Bh4
51 Ne5 f3+ 52 Nxf3 exf3+ 53 Kxf3.
Of course, also here the material
advantage must decide matters.
For example: 53...Kg6 54 Rb5 Rd6
55 Rd5 Rf6+ 56 Ke2 [56 Kg4 Bf2]
56...Qf5 57 Rb8 Rf2+ 58 Kd3 Rf3
59 Rd8 Rbxh3 60 Rxd5 g4 etc.)
48...f4 49 Ra7+
(Or 49 exf4 gxf4 50 Ra7+ Kg6 51
Ra6 f3+ 52 Ke3 Rxa6 53 Nxa6 Bd6
54 Nc5 Kf5 55 Na4 Bh2 56 Nc3 [56
Kf2 Kf4] 56...Bgl+ 57 Kd2 e3+ and
wins.)
49...Kg6 50 Ra6 f3+ 51
Kf1 Rxa6 52 Nxa6 Bd6
53 Kf2 Kg7 White re-
signs.

91 Queen's Gambit
Accepted
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Zirulinikov
("Belsoyprofan" Cham-
pionship 1953)
1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3
Nf3 a6 4 e3 Bg4 5 Bxc4
e6 6 Nbd2
(A little-studied continuation,
met in the game, Tolush-Sajtar
[1953]. Sajtar continued 6...Nc6,
but after 7 a3 and then b4 and Bb2, White obtained the better game. In the present game, however, White, with advantage, will exchange the bishop g4. Worthy of attention is 6...Nd7, retaining the possibility of the advance ...c5 and ...b5.)

6...Nf6 7 h3 Bb5 8 g4 Bg6 9 Ne5 Nbd7 10 Nxg6 hxg6 11 Qf3 b5?
(The beginning of an incorrect plan, leading to a very difficult position. The opening of lines gives White an attack. He should limit himself to the modest 11...c6.)

12 Bb3 c5 13 a4 cxd4 14 exd4 Rab 15 axb5 axb5 16 g5 Ng8

(Black wants to transfer the knight via e7 to f5, but this, of course, turns out to be impracticable. Also after the more natural 16...Nh5, White, with the move 17 d5!, would obtain a strong attack. For example:
1) 17...Nc5 18 dxe6 fxe6 19 Ra7;
2) 17...Qxg5 18 dxe6 fxe6 19 Qg4! Qe5+ 20 Kd1 with the threats of 21 Rel and 21 Qxg6+;
3) 17...exd5 18 Qxd5 Qe7+ 19 Kd1 Nf4 20 Qf3 Ne6 21 Rel Qd6 22 Bxe6 fxe6 23 Ra3 with irresistible threats.

These variations show that Black's position, after 13...cxd4, is apparently indefensible.)

17 Ne4 Qb6 (If 17...Bb4+ 18 Kf1 Ne7, then 19 Bd2!)

18 Bf4 Bb4+ 19 Kf1 Rc8 20 Be3
(Giving Black some respite. After 20 d5! e5 [or 20...Nf8 21 Be3 Qd8 22 Ra7 Ne7 23 Qe2 Rb8 24 Bd4] 21 Be3, followed by 22 d6, White would win in a few moves.)

20...Qb8 21 Ra6 Rh4!
(22 Bf4 was threatened.)

22 Kg2 Ne7 23 Rha1
(24 Ra8 is threatened, for example: 23...Nf5 24 Ra8 Qc7 25 Rxc8+ Qxc8 26 Ra8! Nbd8 27 Bf4 Nxd4 28 Qe3 Nf5 29 Qa7. Against this threat, there are three possible defences. If 23...Nd6, then 24 Rxc6 Rxc6 25 Nf6+ gxf6 26 Qxc6 with irresistible threats; on 23...Nd5 follows 24 Bxd5 exd5 25 Ng3 Nb6 26 Qe2, and Black loses the b5 pawn with a bad position. Thus there remains only the third continuation.)

23...Nb6 24 Rxb6!
(But not 24 Ra7 Nbd5 25 Bxd5 exd5 26 Nc5 Bxc5 27 dxc5 Re4! and Black surprisingly has an excellent position.)

24...Qxb6 25 d5 Qb8 26 dxe6 Nf5 27 exf7+ Kf8

diagram

(Black wants to utilise the f7 pawn as cover for his king. On

27...Ke7 would follow 28 f8(Q)+ with the following variations:
1) 28...Kxf8 29 Ng3 Qe5 30 Ra6 Bd6 31 Rxd6 Qxd6 32 Nfx5;
2) 28...Rx8 29 Ra7+ Kd8 30 Qd1 Bd6 31 Nc5 Nxe3+ 32 fxe3 Qxa7 33 Qxd6+ Ke8 34 Ne6!

But also on 27...Kf8 White finds a little combination.)

28 Bc5+! Bxc5 29 Nxc5
(On 29...Rxc5 follows 30 Ra4 Rb4 31 Rxb4 Rxb4 32 Be6! White threatens 33 Bxf5 and 34 g6. Or 32...Nd4 33 Qg3, Black loses the exchange; on 32...Nd6, White wins by 33 Qg3 Rd4 34 Qe3 Rd1 35 Bb2 b4 36 Qc2. Therefore Black tries to confuse the game.)

29...Rd4 30 Ne6+ Ke7 31 Qe2 Qb7+ 32 Kg1!
(The most accurate reply. 32 f3, which suggests itself, would lead to great complications. For example: 32...Nh4+ 33 Kh1 Rd2! 34 Qxd2 Qxf3+ 35 Kh2 Qxb3 36 Ra1 Kxe6 37 Qd7+ Ke5 38 Qe7+ [38 Qxc8? Qxb2+ 39 Kg3 Qg2+ 40 Kh3 Qf2+ 41 Kg4 Qf4+ mate] 38...Kf5 39 f8(Q)+ Kxf8 40 Qxf8+ Nf5, and there is no win for White.)

32...Re4 33 Qf3
fxe6 23 Ra3 with irresistible threats.
These variations show that Black's position, after 13...
exchange, is apparently indefensible.

17 Ne4 Qb6
(If 17...Bb4+ 18 Kf1 Ne7, then 19
Be3)

18 Bf4 Bb4+ 19 Kf1 Rc8
20 Be3
(Giving Black some respite. After
20 d5! e5 [or 20...Nf8 21 Be3 Qd8
22 Ra7 Ne7 23 Qe2 Rb8 24 Bd4] 21
Be3, followed by 22 d6, White
would win in a few moves.)

20...Qb8 21 Ra6 Rh4!
(22 Bf4 was threatened.)

22 Kg2 Ne7 23 Rh1
(Ra8 is threatened, for
example: 23...Nf5 24 Ra8 Qc7 25
Rxc8+ Qxc8 26 Ra8! Nb8 27 Bf4
Nbd4 28 Qe3 Nf5 29 Qa7. Against
this threat, there are three possible defences. If 23...Nc6,
then 24 Rxc6 Rxc6 25 Nf6+ gxf6 26
Qxc6 with irresistible threats;
on 23...Nd5 follows 24 Bxd5 exd5
25 Ng3 Nb6 26 Qe2, and Black
loses the b5 pawn with a bad position. Thus there remains only
the third continuation.)

23...Nb6 24 Rxb6!
(But not 24 Ra7 Nd5 25 Bxd5 exd5
26 Nc5 Bxc5 27 dxc5 Re4! and
Black surprisingly has an excellent
position.)

24...Qxb6 25 d5 Qb8 26
dxe6 Nf5 27 exf7+ Kf8

diagram

(Black wants to utilise the f7
pawn as cover for his king. On

27...Ke7 would follow 28 f8(Q)+,
with the following variations:

1) 28...Kxf8 29 Ng3 Qe5 30 Ra6
Bd6 31 Rxd6 Qxd6 32 Nxf5;

2) 28...Rxf8 29 Ra7+ Kd8 30 Qd1+
Bd6 31 Nc5 Nxe3+ 32 fxe3 Qxa7 33
Qxd6+ Ke8 34 Ne6!

But also on 27...Kf8 White finds
a little combination.

28 Bc5+! Bxc5 29 Nxc5
(On 29...Rxc5 follows 30 Ra8 Rc8
31 Rxb8 Rxb8 32 Be6! White
threatens 33 Bxf5 and 34 g6. On
32...Nd4 33 Qg3, Black loses the
exchange; on 32...Nd6, White wins
by 33 Qg3 Rd4 34 Qc3 Rd1 35 Bb3
b4 36 Qc2. Therefore Black tries
to confuse the game.)

29...Rd4 30 Ne6+ Kf7
(White does not fear the variation
33...Rhl+ 34 Rxel Qxf3, since, after 35 Nd4+ and then 36
Nxf3, he is left a piece ahead. The
position is highly interesting. Black's pieces are completely
achieved and he can only
move the rook along the eighth
rank.)

33...Rb8 34 Rd1
(Avoiding the last trap: 34 Nc5?
Nd4! 35 Qxe4+ Qxe4 36 Nxe4 Nxb3,
and Black can put up resistance.
Now, in view of the threat 35
Bb5, the rest is forced.)

34...Rxel 35 Qxb7+
Bxe6 36 Bxe6 Rb8 37
Bxf5 gxf5 38 g6 Kf6 39
Rel Black resigns.

92 King's Indian
Defence

White: Guimard
Black: Boleslavsky
(USSR v Argentina
match, Buenos Aires
1954)

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 g3
Bg7 4 Bg2 0-0 5 Nc3 d6
6 Nf3 Nbd7 7 0-0 e5 8
e4 c6 9 h3 Qa5
Looking playing, move White Qf6, the knight 15...c5! 16 Bxd6 Nxe5, followed the associated good, but does the 12 Nb2, continuation 9...Re8, (On 10 Be3 exd4 13 cxd4 Qd8, after 14 cxd5 Nxe3 15 fxe3 Ne8 to Black's advantage, transferring the knight to a passive position.)

11...Nb6

(Up to and including the present move, the game is identical with the game of the first round of the match. In this game, there followed 12 Qd3 Be6 13 Nd2 Qa6 14-Qf3 Nbd7 15 b3 Qa5 16 Rac1, and White obtained a good game. Looking at the game afterwards, I came to the conclusion that, by playing, instead of 15...Qa5 - 15...c5! 16 Be3 Ng4, Black obtains the advantage. In the present game I played 9...Qa5 in the hope that Quimard would repeat the whole variation up to the 15th move, but already on the 12th move White employed a stronger continuation.)

12 Nd2 Be6 13 Qf3 Nfd7 (Black, clearly, does not want to move to d7 with the knight b6 and remove the attack on the c4 pawn. The exchange of bishops is double edged. In weakening the position of the Black king, in return it weakens the black squares in White's camp.)

14 Bxg7 Kxg7 15 b3 Qc5 (This attempt to improve the position leads only to difficulties. Black should continue 15...Rae8 and, on 16 Qe3, to offer an exchange of queens with the move 16...Qc5. After the exchange of queens, White's attack with the e and f-pawns is already not dangerous for Black. If White moves the queen away to e2, then Black could reply 17...f5, exploiting the opposition of the White queen and the rook e8.)

16 Ne2 (Now the White queen obtains an excellent post on c3.)

16...a5 17 Qc3+ Qe5 (Otherwise, after 18 a3, the queen would turn out to be in a very restricted position.)

18 Nd4 c5 (In view of the threat 19 f4, Black is forced to weaken his position.)

19 Nxe6+

(WITH this move, White exchanged the active knight for the passive bishop and strengthens his position in the centre. If 19 Nb5 Qxc3 20 Nxc3, then following continuation, 20...Qa5 21 Nb5 Nc8 22 Rad1 Nbd7 23 Rd4 f6 24 Rfd1 Rac8 and Nc3. Black has a long pull, defence in prospect, and it is not easy for White to breach the opponent's defences.)

19...fxe6 20 Qd3 (Trying to exploit the weakness of the d-pawn.)

20...Qd4 21 Qe2 Qc4 (It is necessary to retreat the queen. If 21...a4, then Nf3 Qf6 23 e5! dxe5 24 Nxe5 with advantage to White.)

22 Rad1 e5 23 Nf3 (More active was 23 f4; the pawn in the game could lead to loss of the initiative.)

23...a4 24 Qd2 Ne8 (Here Black lets slip the possibility of active play by 24...axb3 Ra3. Taking on unfavourable for White, example: 26 Qxd6 Rxb3 27 Qc5 28 Rxe7 Qxe7 29 Rfd1 Nf6)
ent game I played 9...Qa5 in hope that Guimard would at the whole variation up to 15th move, but already on the move White employed a different continuation.

Nbd2 Be6 13 Qf3 Nfd7
ck, clearly, does not want to f6 d7 with the knight b6 and the attack on the c4 pawn. Exchange of bishops is double f. In weakening the position of Black king, in return it opens the black squares in e's camp.

Bxg7 Kxg7 15 b3 Qc5
s attempt to improve the position leads only to difficult-
Black should continue 15...
and, on 16 Qe3, to offer an exchange of queens with the move Qc5. After the exchange of kings, White's attack with the e- and f-pawns is already serious for Black. If White s the queen away to e2, then could reply 17...f5, threats the opposition of the queen and the rook e8.)

Nde2
the White queen obtains an excellent post on c3.)
...a5 17 Qc3+ Qe5 (otherwise, after 18 a3, the pawn would turn out to be in a restricted position.)
Nbd4 c5
view of the threat 19 f4, k is forced to weaken his line.)
Nxe6+

(With this move, White exchanges the active knight for the passive bishop and strengthens Black's position in the centre. Better was 19 Nb5 Qxc3 20 Nxc3 with the following continuation, 20...Rad8 21 Nb5 Nc8 22 Rad1 Ndb6 23 Nb1 Rd7 24 Rd2 f6 25 Rfd1 Rfd8 26 Nlc3. Black has a long passive defence in prospect, admittedly it is not easy for White to breach the opponent's defence.)

19...f5 20 Qd3
(Trying to exploit the weakness of the d-pawn.)

20...Qd4 21 Qe2 Qf6
(Ad) It is necessary to retreat with the queen. If 21...a4, then 22 Nf3 Qf6 23 e5! dxe5 24 Nd2 with advantage to White.)

22 Rad1 e5 23 Nf3
(White was 23 f4; the move in the game could lead to the loss of the initiative for White.)

23...a4 24 Qd2 Nc8
(Here Black lets slip the possibility of active play by 24...axb3 25 axb3 Ra3. Taking on d6 is unfavourable for White, for example: 26 Qxd6 Rxb3 27 Qc7 Rf7 28 Rd6 Qe7 29 Rfd1 Nf6, and Black's position is better. White would have to play for simplification by 26 Qb2 Rfa8 27 Ra1.)

25 h4!
(Exploiting the indecision, White once again begins active play.)

25...axb3 26 axb3 Nb8 27 Qd5 Nc6 28 Ng5 Nd4!
(Bad is 28...Nd8, because of 29 f4 with an irresistible attack. Now, on 29 f4 exf4 30 Rxf4, follows 30...Ne2+.)

29 Rxd4! Ne7!
(An important intermediate move, otherwise Black will be left a pawn down.)

30 Ne6+ Kh8 31 Qxb7 Rfb8
(With a second intermediate move, Black saves the exchange.)

32 Qd7 cxd4 33 f4
(Opening the f-file and creating new threats, but Black finds a defence.)

33...d3 34 Qxd6
(There is nothing in 34 fxe5 Qxe5 35 Qxe7 Re8. Now the threat 35 fxe5 forces Black to pursue the White queen.)

34...Nc8 35 Qd5 Nb6 36 Qd6 Nc8
(Despite his strong position, White cannot win. If 37 Qd5 Nb6 38 Qc6, then 38...d2, and 39 fxe5 is not possible because of 39...Qxf1+.
After 37 Qxe5 Qxe5 38 fxe5 Ne7 39 Nc5 Ra5 40 Nxd3 Rxb3, Black ought not lose.)

37 Qd5 Nb6 38 Qd6 Draw.
93 French Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Guimard
(USSR v Argentina match, Buenos Aires 1954)
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 f4 c5
6 Nf3 Nc6 7 Be3
(The usual continuation is 7 dxc5 but also the move 7 Be3 is quite possible. White is not obliged to let the opponent have the important a7-g1 diagonal.)
7...cxd4
(If 7...Qb6, then 8 Na4 Qa5+ 9 c3 cxd4 10 b4! Qc7 [10...Nxb4 11 cxb4 Bxb4+ 12 Bd2 b5 13 Nb2 Bc3 is refuted by 14 Nxd4!] 11 Nxd4, and White has a firm hold on the important d4 square.)
8 Nxd4 Bc5 9 Bb5
(Not the best move, since it is unfavourable for White to take on c6. Correct is 9 Qd2 and then 10 0-0-0.)
9...0-0
(A clever reply, underlining the pointlessness of White's previous move.)
10 Nxc6?
(It appeared to White that, on 10 Qd2, Black wins a pawn with the move 10...Ndx5 and a subsequent check on h4, and, since 10 0-0 is not good because of 10...Qb6 11 Na4 Bxd4!, White decides that he has nothing better than the move in the game.
Taking on c6 with the bishop is also unsatisfactory. After 10 Bxc6 bxc6 11 Nxc6 Qb6 12 Ne7+ Kh8 13 Bxc5 Nxc5, Black has a strong attack for the pawn.
Meanwhile, after 10 Qd2, Black cannot take on e5, and White succeeds in completing his development. After 10 Qd2 Qc7, White could castle, at his wish, either on the long or short side.)
10...bxc6 11 Bxc5
(If 11 Bxc6? Bxe3 12 Bxa8 Qb6, Black has an irresistible attack.)
11...Nxc5 12 Qd4
(Also here the acceptance of the sacrifice leads to painful consequences. For example: 12 Bxc6 Rb8 13 Qd4 Qa5 14 0-0-0 [or 14 0-0 Rb4 15 Qf2, while if 15 Qd2, then 15...Qb6 or 15...Rxb2 14...Rb4! [But not 14...Qb6? because of 15 Na4] 15 Qf2 Qb6, and Black must win.)
12...Qb6 13 b4
(Forced.)
13...cxb5 14 bxc5 Qc7!
(Better than 14...Qa5. Black offers the opponent the variation 15 Nxb5 Qa5+ 16 Nc3 Ba6 17 Kf2 f6! with the better position and an attack. White, it goes without saying, refuses such a gift.)
15 0-0

15...b4?
(A terrible mistake, abruptly changing the course of the struggle. After the simple Bb7, the c5 pawn would be lost. Best for White is, by 16 Nxa4 Rfc8 18 c4 dxc4 Bxa4 20 Rxa4 Qxc5+ 21 Qd2, to go over to a four rook endgame without a pawn, in which he has a strong attack and also a difficult prospect a difficult struggle for a draw.)
16 Nb5
(How strange it is that White should overlook this move; he reckoned only on Ba6 17 Rf2 Rfc8 with the game.)
16...Qc6 17 Nd6
(The powerful knight on a5, the c5 pawn invulnerable. The game, from being valueless, has become strategically won.)
17...a5 18 a3
(This is stronger than Black's passed pawn, 18...Na4+ 19 Nc3 Qc4 20 Rxa4 Qa4 21 Rxe4 Bxe4+ 22 Kf2 Bd7 23 Bxe4 Qc4, and wins.)
18...bxa3 19 Rfb1
20 Rxa3 Qa8
(Also on 20...Bd7 would have been the same reply.)
21 Rg3! g6
(The threat was 22 f5 exf5 23 Kg2 g6 24 e7 and wins.)
22 c4 Bd7

Diagram

Black loses his head not noticing the following...
It was necessary to...
...bxc6 11 Bxc5
11 Bxc6? Bxe3 12 Bxa8 Qb6, (B) has an irresistible
...Nxc5 12 Qd4
...Qc6 17 Nd6
16 Na5
16...Qc6 17 Nd6
(The powerful knight on d6 makes
the c5 pawn invulnerable. White's
game, from being virtually hope-
less, has become strategically
won.)
17...a5 18 a3
17...a5 18 a3
(This is stronger than 18 c3.
Black's passed pawn, in the
present position, is not
dangerous, while the c2 pawn
proves useful for the following
storm of the d5 point.)
18...bxa3 19 Rfb1 Ra6
20 Rxa3 Qa8
(Also on 20...Bd7 would follow
the same reply.)
21 Rg3! g6
(21...Rh8 22 Nf5 Qc8 23 Nxe7
Qxe7 24 Rxb7, Black resigns.)
22 c4 Bd7
(Black loses his head and does
not notice the following thrust.
It was necessary to continue
changing the course of the
struggle. After the simple 15...
Bd7, the c5 pawn would be doomed.
Best for White is, by 16 a4 bxa4
17 Nxa4 Rf8 18 c5 dxc5 19 Qxc5
Bxa4 20 Rxa4 Qxc5+ 21 Qxc5 Rxc5,
to go over to a four rook endgame
without pawns, in which he has in
prospect a difficult [possibly
also futile] struggle for a
draw.)
16 Nb5
22...dxc4, though after 23 Ne4
d5 24 exf6! Qd5 25 Qe5 a4 26 Nxd6
Qxe5 27 fxe5, the endgame is won
for White.)
23 f5! exf5
23 f5! exf5
(After 23...Rb8 24 Rf1, Black is
all the same forced to take on
f5, since not only 25 f6 is
threatened, but also an invasion
on the f-file.)
24 cxd5
24 cxd5
(Now there cannot be any doubt as
to the outcome of the struggle.)
24...a4 25 Rb3 Rb8 26
Rxb8+ Qxb8 27 h3 f4
(Already nothing helps. If
27...Qa7 28 Kh2 Ra5, then 29 e6!
fxe6 30 Qf6 and White wins.)
28 Qxf4 Bf5 29 Nxf5
gxf5 30 d6 Black re-
signs.

94 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Sterner
(USSR v Sweden match,
Stockholm 1954)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
cxd4 4 Nxd4 e6
(An unusual continuation, which
obliges White to be thoughtful.
Black provokes the move 5 c4, but
after 5 c4 Nf6 6 Nc3 Bb4 is surprisingly obtained a favourable variation for Black of the English Opening. However, Black's cunning turns against him, since after his following move White plays c4 with advantage.)

5 Nb5! d6 6 c4 a6 7 N5c3 Nf6 8 Be2 Be7 9 0-0 Qc7 (With the pawn at c4, Black cannot reckon on play on the c-file, therefore he should not place the queen on c7, since here it soon falls under latent attack from the rook c1.)

10 Be3 b6 11 Na3 Bb7 12 Rc1 0-0 13 f3 (At the present moment, 13 Nd5 exd5 14 cxd5 Nxe4 15 dxc6 Bxc6 would give White nothing.)

13...Nd7 (Black does not take measures against the hanging threats. Better was 13...Qd8, though after 14 Qe1 followed by Qf2 and Rfd1 White has strong pressure in the centre.)

14 Nd5!

(After the opening of the c-file, Black's weaknesses on b6 and d6 become very perceptible. The capture of the knight is forced, since after 14...Qd8 15 Nxe7+ Qxe7 16 Qd2 Nc5 17 Rfd1 Rfd8 18 b4 Na4 19 Qc2 b5 20 cxb5 axb5 21 Qb3 Black loses a pawn.)

14...exd5 15 cxd5 Nc5 16 dxc6 Bxc6 17 b4 Ne6 18 Nc4 (A move which suggests itself but by no means the best. Now Black manages to organise a stubborn defence. Correct was 18 Bc4! with the threat 19 Bd5, and on 18...Qb7 [the only move] 19 Qb3 forcing the retreat of the knight e6. Black has no good square of retreat for the knight: after 19...Nc7 20 Qc2 he loses a pawn, the move 19...Nd8 disconnects the rooks: by playing in reply 20 b5! axb5 21 Nxb5 White quickly achieves a decisive advantage.)

18...Rab8 19 Qe1 (19 Qb3 looks more active, but Black in this case frees himself with the move 19...d5! Here are sample variations: 1) 19...d5 20 Nxb6 dxe4 21 Nd5 Bxd5 22 Qxd5 Nf4 23 Bxf4 Qxf4 with a quick draw; 2) 19...d5 20 exd5 Bxd5 21 Rfd1 Qb7 22 Qb1 b5 23 Na5 Qa8, and Black has a satisfactory position.)

19...Qd8 20 Qf2 b5 (White is at the crossroads. 21 Nb6 Bb7 22 Rfd1 looks very strong but Black replies 22...f5! and, after 23 exf5 [there is nothing better] 23...Rxf5, obtains counterplay on the king's flank. Instead of 22 Rfd1, White would continue 22 Bd3, not allowing 22...f5, but then 22...Bg5, and

White is faced with a choice whether to weaken the e6 pawn or to allow the exchange of important black-squared bishops. Since the move 21 Nb6 leads to a position in which it is difficult to hold on to the initiative, Black rejects it and exerts a strong-squared bishops, reckoning, not without reason, to exploit the white squares on the opponent's camp.)

21 Na5 Ba8 22 Nc6 23 Rxc6 a5

prolonged defence.)

24...bxa4 25 Rfd1 Rfc8 27 (Forcing White to an active rook c6.)
28 Rxc8+ Rxc8 29 Qa2 Bf6 30 Rb1
(The aim of this move is not so much the advance of the b-pawn as the preparation of the move Qd2. 30 Qd2 at once is bad because of 30...Nxb3.)

30...Rb8 31 Qd2 Qc7 32 Qd5 Rb6
(White threatened to advance the b-pawn, exploiting the weakness of the f7 square. Now it seems that the pawn is reliably blockaded.)

33 Qa8+ Rb8 34 b6!
(The pawn advances all the same, voluntarily sacrificing itself for the sake of future success.)

34...Qb7 35 Qxa5 Bd8 36 Bxc5 dxc5 37 Qxa4 Bxb6

21 Na5 Ba8 22 Ne6 Bxc6 23 Rxc6 a5

White is faced with a choice: whether to weaken the e4 pawn with the move 23 f4 and thereby make the bishop b7 more active, or to allow the exchange of the important black-squared bishop. Since the move 21 Nb6 leads to a position in which it is difficult to hold on to the initiative, White rejects it and exchanges Black’s white-squared bishop, reckoning, not without foundation, to exploit the weakness of the white squares in the opponent’s camp.)

21 Na5 Ba8 22 Ne6 Bxc6

Rab8

(Qb3 looks more active, but k in this case frees himself in the move 19...d5! Here are the variations:

19...d5 20 Nxb6 dxe4 21 Nd5

22 Qxd5 Nf4 23 Bxf4 Qxf4

a quick draw;

19...d5 20 exd5 Bxd5 21 Rfd1

22 Qb1 b5 23 Na5 Qa8, and k has a satisfactory position)

19...Qd8 20 Qf2 b5

The is at the crossroads. 21 Nb7 22 Rfd1 looks very strong

Black replies 22...f5! and, x 23 exf5 [there is nothing]

23...Rxf5, obtains countercplay on the king’s flank.

Lead of 22 Rfd1, White would lose 22 Bd3, not allowing .f5, but then 22...Bg5, and

(Now, after 24 bxa5 Qxa5 or 24 a3 axb4 25 axb4 d5, White has no advantage at all, but he finds a stronger continuation.)

24 a4!

(This pawn sacrifice, possibly, is insufficient for a win, but it poses Black difficult problems. White creates a passed pawn, makes his white-squared bishop more active, and reduces Black to prolonged defence.)

24...bxa4 25 b5 Qd7 26 Rfc1 Rfc8 27 Bc4 Nc5

(Forcing White to exchange the active rook c6.)

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invasion of the rook on the seventh rank.
39 Qd7 Rf8 40 e5 Qb6
(The last move before the time control. It is a fatal loss of time. Black retains chances of a draw only after 40...Qb8 41 f4 Ba5, hurrying to transfer the bishop to d4.)
41 f4 Qb8 42 h4!
(The participation of this modest pawn in the attack on the king makes the latter irresistible.)
42...Ba5
(On 42...g6 would follow 43 e6 fxe6 44 f5! Rd8 [or 44...gxf5 45 Bxe6+ Kh8 46 Bxf5 Rxf5 47 Qxf5 and White wins] 45 Qxe6+ Kg7 46 f6+ Kh8 [After 46...Kh6 47 Rxd8 Black loses at once] 47 Rf1!! Qb2
48 Qe7 Qd4+ 49 Rf2 Qal+ 50 Bfl Rd8+ 51 f7.)
43 h5 Bc3
(Now this only accelerates the denouement. Black could set the opponent the most complicated task by playing 43...Qb4. On 43...Qb4 White replies 44 e6!, and now Black has two continuations:
1) 44...fexe6 45 Qxe6+ Kh8 46 Qe7 Rb8 [or 46...Qb8 47 h6 Bc3 48 Rd7 Bd4+ 49 Rxd4 and wins] 47 h6 Qc3
48 Rd7 Rbl+ [48...Qc1+ 49 Bfl] 49 Kh2 Rh1+ 50 Kh1 Qc1+ 51 Kh2 Qxf4+ 52 Kg1 Qc1+ 53 Bfl and White wins;
2) 44...Qxc4 45 e7 Qe6 46 exf8(Q)+ Kxf8 47 Qa7! [Stronger than 47 Qxe6, after which the win is very difficult] 47...Bb6
[47...Qb6 48 Qa8+ Ke7 49 Ra1!] 48 Qb8+ Ke7 49 Rbl Bd8 50 Qa7+ with the win of the c5 pawn and the
44 Rd6! Qb1+
(If 44...h6, then 45 Qf5, and there is no defence against the threats 46 Bd3 and 46 Rxa8.)
45 Kh2 h6
(This move saves him from mate, but not from the sacrifice on f7.)
46 Qxf7+! Rxf7 47 Rd8+ Kh7 48 Bxf7
(Now, in order to save himself from mate, Black is forced to give up the queen for the bishop, and White, with an extra exchange, wins easily.)
Black resigns.

95 Sicilian Defence
White: Sterner
Black: Boleslavsky
(USSR v Sweden match, Stockholm 1954)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Be2 e5 7 Nb3 Be7 8 0-0 0-0 9 Be3
(As if intending to continue 10 Qd2 or 10 Bf3.)
9...Be6 10 f4
(This shows White's cunning! If he had advanced the f2 pawn on

the 9th move, then would f5, of course, 9...a5. Now, however, Black, in reply to 9...a5, reckon with the clamping move f5.
After 10...exf4 11 Bxf4, White fact easily loses a tempo and easily equalises the game only by 11...d5 12 e5 Nd4.
never, this does not from White, since he is apparently only striving for a draw, return, after 10...exf4, very difficult for Black to for a win.)
10...a5


d6! Qb1+
4...h6, then 45 Qf5, and
is no defence against the
46 Bd3 and 46 Rxh6.)

Rh2 h6
move saves him from mate,
ot from the sacrifice on

b7+! Rxf7 47 Rd8+
48 Bxf7
In order to save himself
mate, Black is forced to
up the queen for the bishop,
White, with an extra
range, wins easily.)

resigns.

Sicilian Defence:
Sterner
Boleslavsky
SR v Sweden match,
Skolph 1954)
1...c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3
5 Be2 e5 7 Nb3 Be7
0-0-0 9 Be3
if intending to continue 10
10 Bf3.)

Be6 10 f4
shows White's cunning! If
advanced the f2 pawn on

the 9th move, then would follow,
of course, 9...a5. Now, however,
Black, in reply to ...a5, must
reckon with the clamping move 11
f5.
After 10...exf4 11 Bxf4, White in
fact loses a tempo and Black
easily equalizes the game, if
only by 11...d5 12 e5 Ne4. How-
ever, this does not frighten
White, since he is apparently
only striving for a draw. In
return, after 10...exf4, it is
very difficult for Black to play
for a win.)
10...a5

(All the same! After long
reflection, Black came to the
conclusion that it is not so
simple for White to prove an
advantage even after 11 f5.)

11 fxe5?
(Sterner proves to be psycholo-
ically unprepared for Black's
move and decides not to play 11
f5, which leads to a complicated
struggle. Instead of this, he
tries to achieve a draw by simp-
lification, in the first place by
exchanging queens. However, it is
well known that the Sicilian
Defence, by its very nature, does
not allow one to achieve a draw
by such primitive means. Such
tactics usually lead to a serious
deterioration of the position.

11 f5 was logical and necessary.
Black would not have played 10...
a5 if he had considered that 11
f5 gave White a decisive advan-
tage. The possibilities of
counterplay for Black after 11 f5
Bc8 are illustrated by the
following variations:
1) 12 g4 a4 13 Nc1 [13 Nd2 d5]
13...a3 14 b3 Qa5 15 Qd2 [15 Nd5
Nxe4 16 Bb6 Nc3 gives White
nothing] 15...d5! 16 Nxd5 [16
exd5 Bb4] 16...Nxd5 17 exd5 Bb4
18 Qd1 Bc3 19 Rbl Nd4 and Black
has a good game;
2) 12 a4 Nb4 13 Bc4 Bd7 14 Nd5
Nbd5 15 Bxd5 Bc6 16 Qd3 Qd7 with
not bad counterplay;
3) 12 Bc4! a4 13 Nd2 a3 14 b3 Nb4
15 Nd5 Nbd5 16 Bxd5 Nxd5 17 exd5
b5 - White stands better, but
Black could defend himself. For
example: 18 Ne4 f6 19 c3 g6! 20
g4 gxf5 21 gxf5 Kh8 22 Kh1 Rg8,
and there is no apparent
immediate danger for Black.)

11...dxe5 12 Qxd8
Rfxd8 13 Rfd1
(Yet another move for simpli-
ation, giving even more trouble
for the defence. He should play
13 Nc5, on which Black has two
good continuations:
1) 13...Bg4 14 Rxf6! Bxe2 15 Rf2
Bh5 16 Nd5 Bxc5 17 Bxc5 Bg6 with
a small but clear advantage, or
2) 13...Bxc5! 14 Bxc5 Nd4 15 Bd3
[Bad is 15 Be7 Nxe4! 16 Bxd8 Nxc3
17 bxc3 Nxe2+ 18 Kf2 Rxd8 19
Kxe2 Bc4+] 15...Nd7 16 Ba3 Rac8,
and Black stands better.)
13... Nb4 14 Rxd8+ Bxd8 15 Bd3
(This move leaves the g4 square undefended, which allows the knight f6 at the necessary moment to deliver a decisive blow. But White already has no satisfactory continuation.
If 15 Bdl, then 15...Bg4! and the c2 pawn cannot be saved. On 15 Rc1 follows 15...a4 16 Nd2 [or 16 Nc5 Bb6 17 Bf2 Bxc5 18 Bxc5 Nxa2 with the win of a pawn] 16...Nxa2! 17 Nxa2 Bxa2 18 b3? Ba5! and Black wins a second pawn.)
15...a4 16 Nd2
(No better is 16 Nc5 Bb6 with the threats 17...Rc8 and 17...Ng4.)
16...a3 17 b3 Ng4 18 Bc5

(If 18 Nf1, then 18...Rc8; on 18 Nd1 follows 18...Nxe3 19 Nxe3 Bb6 20 Nf1 Bd4 and then 21...Nxa2.)
18...Nxd3 19 cxd3 Rc8 20 Bb4
(White prefers an immediate loss. He could prolong his resistance a little by playing 20 d4. On this Black best replies 20...b6 21 Bb4 Ne3! [with the threat 22...Nc2] 22 Nd5 [22 Rc1 exd4; 22 d5 Nc2 23 Rc1 Nxb4 24 dxe6 Bg5 25 exf7+ Kf8] 22...exd4 23 Ne7+ Bxe7 24 Bxe7 Rc2 25 Bb4 Rb2 and White's position is hopeless.)
20...Bb6+ 21 Kf1 Ne3+ 22 Ke2 Nc2 White resigns.

96 Sicilian Defence
White: Soloviev
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final 22nd USSR Championship, Gorky 1954)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 Be2
(This move, side by side with 6 Bg5, enjoyed great popularity in the Gorky Semi-final. Geller made a start, proving in a game with Polugaevsky that Black, by playing routinely in the present position, does not achieve an even game. The game, Geller-Polugaevsky, continued: 6...e5 7 Nb3 Be7 8 0-0 0-0 9 Be3 Nbd7(?)
10 a4! b6 11 f3 Bb7 12 Qd2 Qc7 13 Rfd1, and Black turned out to be in a difficult position; the sacrifice of a pawn after 13...Rfd8 14 Qe1 d5 15 exd5 Bb4 16 Qf2 Bxc3 17 d6 Qc6 18 bxc3 did not bring him relief.
Black's mistake is the very early determination of the position of the knight b8. The correct method of play, in reply to 6 Be2, was demonstrated in a game from the fourth round, Uusl-Boleslavsky: 6...e5 7 Nb3 Be7 8 0-0 0-0 9 Be3 Qc7! 10 a4 b6 11 f3 Be6 12 Qd2 Nc6 [threatening 13...Nd4 followed by ...d5] 13 Nd5 Bxd5 14 exd5 Na5! 15 Nxa5 bxa5, and Black stood even a little better. Usually, 6 Be2 is liked as an idea of a positional battle. In the present game, Black carries out a quite different plan.
6...e5 7 Nb3 Be6 8 0-0 9 g4
(If turns out that White is waiting for the opponent to castle, so as to immediately go into an attack.
This continuation is more committal, since, by playing the pawn, White creates a position in which his own camp is solid and difficult to loosen it.)
9...Be6 10 g5 Qd2
(Taking away from the b1 a4 pawn, which precludes an immediate reaction on the part.)
11...a5! 12 a4 Nd5

(The knight is excellent on d5, and to exchange the move 13...Bxd5 is terrible, since, after 14 exd5, the position remains with a cramped pawn and no counterplay. It seems White achieves the advance...
25 Bb4 Rb2 and White's side is hopeless.)
Bb6+ 21 Kf1 Ne3+ 22 Nd2 White re-


duced even a little better.

It turns out that White was just waiting for the opponent to castle, so as to immediately dart into an attack.

This continuation is highly committal, since, by advancing the pawn, White creates a weakness in his own camp. Black's position is solid and it is very difficult to loosen it.

9...Be6 10 g5 Ne8 11 Qd2
(Taking away from the knight b3 the d2 square, which provokes an immediate reaction on Black's part.)

11...a5! 12 a4 Nc6 13 Nd5

(The knight is excellently placed on d5, and to exchange it with the move 13...Bxd5 is unfavourable, since, after 14 exd5, Black remains with a cramped position and no counterplay. It seems that White achieves the advantage, but in fact this is not so. Black manages to undermine the position of the knight d5 and exchange it for the knight c6. After the exchange of the knight d5, White's weaknesses on both flanks begin to tell.)

13...f5!
(Since 14 gxf6 Nxf6 is obviously unfavourable for White, while 14 f3 f4 leads to the loss of a pawn, then White is forced to exchange on f5. The elimination of the e4 pawn is the first step to the removal of the knight d5.)

14 exf5 Bxf5 15 Rgl Nb4 16 Nxb4 axb4
(Before White arises a problem — whether to take the pawn offered by the opponent? Of course, with disconnected rooks and weakened flanks, to capture would be associated with risk, on 17 Qxb4 Black could continue 17...Rc8 [stronger than 17...d5 18 Bc5] 18 c3 Nc7 [threatening 19...Nd5] 19 Rd1 Ne6 with a developing initiative. On the other hand, White cannot allow the advance of Black's central pawns, and his next move is directed against this.)

17 f4
(This opening of lines against his own king is even more risky than capturing the pawn.)

17... Rc8?
(He should continue 17...exf4 18 Bxf4 d5, then introduce into play the knight e8 via c7 or d6. The position of White's king is so unsatisfactory that White will not be able to hold out for long. By playing 17...Rc8, Black...
reckoned only on the reply 18 Rcl and then intended to continue 18...exf4 with even more strength since now the White king cannot castle, but this wish to deprive the opponent of any sort of chance allows the inventive Soloviev to change the unfavourable course of the struggle for him.)

18 fxe5! Rxc2?

(Tempted by the capture of the c2 pawn, Black falls into a difficult position. Meanwhile, after 18...dxe5 19 Qxd8 Bxd8, Black would all the same stand better. True, after the exchange of queens, the worst for White is over, and, by playing 20 Rcl! [Bad is 20 Bc5? Rxc5 21 Nxc5 Bb6] 20...Nd6 [20...Rxc2 21 Bc4+ Kh8 22 Bc5] 21 Bd3, he maintains approximate equilibrium.)

19 Qd5+ Kh8 20 Nd4 Rc5

(The only move. It is necessary to preserve the white-squared bishop. After 20...Rxb2? 21 Nxf5 Rxf5 22 Bd4, Black loses the exchange with bad positions for his pieces.)

21 Qxb7 Bc8 22 Qb8?

(White repeats Black's mistake on the 17th move - he wants too much. The move 22 Qb8 is linked to a trap: 22...dxe5? 23 Ne6! Bxe6 24 Qxd8 Bxd8 25 Bxc5 with the exchange ahead. However, by playing 22 Qb8, White takes away the attack from the c6 square, and this proves sufficient for Black to immediately achieve strong counterplay. Correct was 22 Qg2!, threatening 23 Nc6. Black would have nothing better than 22...Rxe5 23 Nc6 Bb7, and now White, by continuing 24 Nxd8 Bxg2 25 Rxg2, obtains the better endgame, both after 25...Bxd8 26 Bd2 Ba5 27 Rcl and 25...Rxe3 26 Nc6 Nc7 27 Kd2.)

22...Nc7! 23 Qb6

(If 23 Nf3, then 23...Rc2 with the threat 24...Rxe2+ and 25...Ba6+.

The necessity of the move 23 Qb6 proves the erroneousness of the previous move, but now also the exchange of queens does not rid White of his difficulties.)

23...Nd5! 24 Qxd8 Rxd8 25 Bf2

(Master Soloviev at this point found himself in severe time pressure. Best was was 25 exd6, so as to at least secure the position of the knight d4.)

25...dxe5 26 Nf3 Rc2

(Against the numerous threats: 27...Rxb2, 27...b3 followed by 28...Bb4+, and also against 27...Nf4 - White has no defence.)

27 Nxe5 Re8 28 Bb5

(diagram

(Reckoning on driving away the rook from the e-file, but for
The move 22 Qb8 is linked trap: 22...dxe5? 23 Ne6! 24 Qxd8 Bxd8 25 Bxc5 with exchange ahead. However, by 25 Qxc5, White takes away attack from the c6 square, this proves sufficient for to immediately achieve a counterplay. Correct was 22!, threatening 23 Ng6. I would have nothing better 22...Rxe5 23 Nc6 Bb7, and White, by continuing 24 Nxd8 Rxe2+, obtains the better endgame, or both after 22...Bxd8 26 Rcl and 25...Rxe3 26 Ne6! 27 Kd2.

- Ne7! 23 Qb6
- Nf3, then 23...Rc2 with threat 24...Rxe2+ and 25...

Necessity of the move 23 Qb6 is the erroneousness of the move, but now also the ease of queens does not rid of his difficulties.)

- Nd5! 24 Qxd8 Rxd8 Bf2

Ser Soloviev at this point himself in severe time lure. Best was was 25 exd6, is to at least secure the ion of the knight d4.)

- dxe5 26 Nf3 Rc2

- the numerous threats: Bxb2, 27...b3 followed by Bb4+, and also against 27...

- White has no defence.)

- Nxe5 Re8 28 Bb5

- continuing on driving away the from the e-file, but for

White awaits a surprise.)

28...Bc5! 29 Kd1
(On the capture of the rook follows mate in two moves. Material loss for White is inevitable.)

29...Rxe5 30 Kxc2 Bxf2 31 Rgf1
(It would be somewhat better to give up the exchange on d1; this, of course, would not change the outcome of the game.)

31...Ne3+ 32 Kb3 Nxf1
(Winning more quickly is 32... Be6+ 33 Kxb4 Nxf1 34 Rxf1 Bcl+ 35 Ka3 Re3+, but Black was also in time trouble.)

33 Rxf1 Bc5 34 a5 Be6+ 35 Ka4 b3 36 a6 g6 37 Rd1 Kg7 38 Bd7 Bc4 39 Bc8 Bb6 40 h4 Kf8 41 Rd7? Bb5+ White resigns.

97 Queen's Gambit

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Lepikhin
(Semi-final 22nd USSR Championship, Gorky 1954)
1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 Nc3 e6 5 e3 Nbd7 6 b3
(A little-studied means of avoiding the Meran system, which is met from time to time in Soviet and international tournaments.)

6...Bb4
(The aim of this move is to force the White bishop to stand on d2, since 7 Bb2 leads to the loss of a pawn after 7...Ne4 8 Qc2 Qa5 9 Rcl Qxa2.)

7 Bd2 Qe7
(In the game, Boleslavsky-Barashkov ["Bolshevik" Championship 1949], the continuation was 7...0-0 8 Bd3 Qe7 9 0-0 dxc4 [On 9...e5 could follow 10 dxe5 Nxe5 11 Nxe5 Qxe5 12 Nxd5! Nxd5 13 cxd5 Bxd5 14 Qxd2 Qxd5 15 Qc2 Qh5 16 Rad1 with a small advantage for White] 10 bxc4 e5 11 Bc2 Re8 12 Rbl Bd6 13 Ng5 a5 14 Nge4 Nxe4 15 Nxe4 Bc7 16 d5 and White obtained the better game.

By playing 7...Qe7, Black forces the bishop f1 to occupy a modest position on e2, since 8 Bd3 e5! leads to unpleasant consequences for White.)

8 Be2

8...e5
(This break does not secure Black an equal game. In the game,
Guimard-Kotov, Groningen 1946, Black continued 8...0-0 9 0-0 Bd6 10 Qc2 dxc4 11 bxc4 e5, but also here, if White, in place of 12 Bcl, played 12 Ng5 Re8 17 Bd3, he would obtain a good game.

In the position shown in the diagram, worth considering is the continuation 8...Ne4! For example: 9 Nxe4 dxe4 10 Bxb4 Qxb4 11 Nd2 f5 12 0-0 0-0 13 Qc2 e5, and Black has a quite satisfactory position.

9 dxe5 Nxe5 10 cxd5 Nxf3+?

(As a consequence of this unfortunate exchange, Black has to go in for unfavourable complications. He should play 10...cxd5, after 11 0-0 0-0 12 Nb5 a standard position with the isolated d5 pawn is obtained. Black stands worse, but on correct play ought not suffer defeat.)

11 Bxf3 Qe5 12 Rcl Ba3

(If 12...cxd5, then 13 Nb5 Bxd2+ 14 Qxd2 0-0 15 Nc7 Rb8 16 Nxd5 Rd8 [or 16...Nxd5 17 Qxd5 Qb2 18 Qd2] 17 Nxf6+ Qxf6 18 Qc3 Qa6 19 Be2 and White is left a pawn ahead.)

13 Rc2!

(The variation 13 dxc6 Bxc1 14 Qxc1 Qe7 would not give White sufficient advantage for a win. If now 13...cxd5, then 14 Nb5 Bd6 15 Bc3 with the win of a pawn; also no better is 13...Nxd5, on which follows 14 Nxd5 cxd5 15 Bc3. Black therefore prefers to take the exchange, but White thereby obtains a powerful pawn on b7.)

13...Bf5 14 dxc6 0-0 15 cxb7 Rad8 16 0-0

(White has three extra pawns, and one of them, on b7, is very strong. It is clear that the exchange cannot compensate for such a loss, therefore Black does not take the rook, but with his next moves creates tension in the position, reckoning on this to take both the exchange and the b7 pawn, which would give him the chance to continue the struggle.)

16 Bd3 17 Ne2!

(Mistaken would be 17 Be2? on which would follow: 17...Bxc2 18 Qxc2 Bb4 19 Rcl Rxd2! 20 Qxd2 Ne4. By transferring the knight to d4, White eliminates the opponent's pressure on the d-file.)

17...Ne4 18 Nd4 Bd6 19 g3 Rd7

(If 21...Qxd6, then 22...Bxa6 23 Rac6 24 Ne5 21...Nxd6 follows 22 Ne5 to capture with the rook the attack on the 21...Rx6 22 Qb6 (There is no other counter against the threat of 21...Black achieves his aim and will capture the b7 pawn, but White's next move reveals the hopelessness of his position.)

20 Bb4! Bxf1

(Also after 20...Bxc2 21 Qxc2 Ng5 22 Bc6 Rc7 23 Bxd6 Qxd6 24 Rcl, Black would lose quickly.)

21 Bxd6

(How should he take the bishop?)
If 21...Qxd6, then 22 Bxe4 Bh3 [22...Ba6 23 Rc6] 23 Rc8, on
21...Nxd6 follows 22 Nc6!; he has
to capture with the rook, taking
away the attack on the b7 pawn.)
21...Rxd6 22 Qxf1 Qd5
(There is no other defence
against the threat of 23 Nc6, but
White's next move once and for
all clears up the position.)
23 Qb5 Qxb5 24 Nxb5
Rh6 25 Bxe4 Rxb5 26
Rc8
(The b7 pawn sooner or later will
cost a rook. Further resistance
by Black is pointless. There
followed....)
26...g6 27 Kf1 Kg7 28
Ke2 a6 29 f3 h5 30 Kd3
f5 31 Bc6 Rb6 32 Kc4
Rf6 33 Bd5 Rf8 34 Rxf8
Kxf8 35 Kc5 Rb5+ 36
Kc6 Ke7 37 Bc4 Black
resigns.

98 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Shagalovitch
(Belorussia Championship 1955)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3
d6 6 g3
(A possible continuation, far
less studied than 6 Bg5 or 6
Be2.)
6...e5
(Black begins active operations
in the centre, endeavouring to
exploit the weakened f3 square,
however this does not bring him
particular advantage. If Black
does not want to go over to the
Scheveningen variation by 6...e6
or to the Dragon with the move
6...g6, then there is at his
disposal the continuation 6...Bg4
7 f3 Bd7 8 Be3 e5. This was
played in two games of the Gorky
Semi-final of the 22nd USSR
Championship. In the game,
Novopashin-Bondarevsky, White
retreated the knight to b3, but
here it is badly placed. In the
encounter, Boleslavsky - Polug-
avsky, occurred 9 Nde2 Be6 10
Nd5 Bxd5 11 exd5 Qa5+ 12 Nc3 Nb8
13 Bg2 Be7 14 0-0 0-0 - Black has
a rather passive, but firm
position.)
7 Nde2 Bg4 8Bg2 Nd4 9
0-0 Rc8
(The continuation 9...Nd4 10 Kh1
h5 is refuted by 11 Qd3.)
10 h3
(Considerably weaker is 10 f3
Nxe2+ 11 Nxe2 Be6, since Black
succeeds in carrying out ...d5
with the locked-in bishop g2 and
the weakened a7-g1 diagonal.)
10...Bxe2
(Black decides that the opponent
has "blundered" a pawn and
hurries to take it. Better was
10...Nxe2+ 11 Nxe2 Be6. In the
position obtained, it is not easy
for White to prove his advantage.
If he prevents the advance of the
d6 pawn with the move 12 Nc3,
then, after 12...Be7 13 Be3 0-0
14 Qe2 Qc7, Black has play on the
c-file and does not stand worse.
White should continue 12 b3! In
this case, both after 12...d5 13
exd5 Bxd5 14 c4 Bxg2 15 Qxd8+
Rxd8 16 Kxg2 Bc5 17 Bg5 and after
12...b5 13 Bb2 Be7 14 Qd3 a6 15
11 Nxe2 Nxc2 12 Rb1

(Black lags behind in development and he still has to lose time moving out the knight c2. White easily wins back the pawn, maintaining the better position.)

12...Be7

(If 12...Nb4, then 13 Qb3, winning back the pawn with an obvious advantage.)

13 Bd2 0-0 14 Bc3 b5 15 Rc1

(White, clearly, does not want to exchange his black-squared bishop.)

15...Nd4?

(An inconsistency, which ruins his game. If Black wants to give up the pawn in this way, then, in any case, he should not have played 14...b5, since, on the continuation chosen by Black, this move only weakens the queen's flank. Far better was 15...b4 16 Bd2 Qc7. White has no other continuation than 17 Bxb4, and then Black, by 17...Qb6! 18 Bc3 Nb4 19 Ra1 Rc7, maintains a fully defensible position.)

16 Nxd4 exd4 17 Qxd4 Qd7 18 Bb4

(Now arises the threat 19 e5, which Black can only parry by giving up the open file to the opponent.)

18...Qe6

(An oversight in a difficult position.)

19 Rxc8 Rxc8 20 Qxa7 h5

(20...Nxe4 is not possible because of 21 Re1 f5 22 f3 Qc4 23 Qxe7 Qxb4 24 Qe6+. He could prolong resistance only by the move 20...Bf8. After the move in the game, Black loses immediately.)

21 e5! Ne8

(If 21...Qxe5, then simplest is 22 Bc3, winning the exchange.)

22 Qb7 Bf8

(There is no salvation!)

23 Bd5 Qf5 24 e6 Black resigns.

(A strong move, setting White serious problems. Black, 13...Qa5, threatens to attack White knight, for which there is no good square of retreat. Besides 13...Qa5, also 13...e4 is threatened, for example: Rb1 [so as, on 13...Qa5, to retake on b4] 13...Qc7 14 Nc4 b5 15 Bb3 with the better game. Which does White do now? Taking on b4 is obviously unsatisfactory; Nf3 Ng4! 14 Bxd4 exd4 15 Qxd4 leads to material loss, while 13 Nb5 follows 13...Ndb5 14 Bb3 Nf4! 15 Nc4 Nxe3 16 Nxe3 e6 [Better than 16...Qb6 17 Qb3 e5 18 Rxf4 Bg5 19 Rf3, and it is apparent how Black can exploit the pin] 17 Rxf4 Bf6 18 Rb3 f5 19 Rfx4 Qh4, and Black wins a pawn.)
8 0-0 0-0 9 f4 a5
(Continuation was met for the first time in the game, Grynfeld-Boleslavsky [Warsaw 1947], from which time it has been repeatedly tried by Soviet players.)
10 Be3
(As shown by the present game, it was better to play 10 a4.)
10...a4 11 Nd2 a3 12 b3 Nd4!

(A strong move, setting White serious problems. Black, by 13...Qa5, threatens to attack the White knight, for which there is no good square of retreat. Besides 13...Qa5, also 13...Qc7 is threatened, for example: 13 Rb1 [so as, on 13...Qa5, to reply 14 b4] 13...Qc7 14 Nc4 b5 15 Bxd4 bxc4 with the better game. What does White do now? Taking on d4 is obviously unsatisfactory; 13 Nf3 Ng4! 14 Bxd4 exd4 15 Qxd4 Bf6 leads to material loss, while on 13 Nb5 follows 13...Nxb5 14 Bxb5 Ng4! 15 Nc4 Nxe3 16 Nxe3 exf4 [Better than 16...Qb6 17 Qd3 exf4 18 Rxh4 Bg5 19 Rf3, and it is not apparent how Black can exploit the pin] 17 Rxh4 Bf6 18 Rb1 Be5 19 Rf2 Qh4, and Black wins a pawn with the better position. Thus the move made by White is virtually forced.)
13 Nc4 b5! 14 Bxd4
(White should not accept the offered pawn sacrifice, though the danger threatening him after this does not seem obvious at this moment. Better was 14 fxe5 Nxe2+ 15 Nxe2 dxe5 16 Qxd8 Bxd8 17 Nxe5 Nxe4. Black has the advantage, but White, on accurate play, ought not lose.)
14...exd4 15 Nxb5 Nxe4
(White could take the pawn, but his position is seriously weakened by the exchange of the black-squared bishop.
On 16 Nxd4 follows 16...d5 17 Ne5 Bc5 18 Nf3 [18 Nc6 Qb6 19 Kh1 Nc3 20 Qd2 Nxe2 leads to the loss of a piece] 18...Qf6 19 Kh1 Qxf4—Black wins back the pawn with an enormous positional advantage.
White therefore, before taking the pawn, exchanges the knight e4, but this leads to an increase in activity of the Black bishops and the creation of a strong passed e4 pawn for Black.
Instead of the d4 pawn, White could take the a3 pawn, but after 16 Ncxa3 d5 17 Nbl Qb6 18 Bd3 Bd7 19 Bxe4 d3+ 20 Kh1 dxe4 21 Nxc3 Bc6! 22 cxd3 Rfd8, Black obtains a strong attack.)
16 Bf3 d5 17 Bxe4 dxe4 18 Qxd4
(18 Nxd4 was better, but also here, by 18...Ba6, Black wins back the pawn with chances of a win. After the move in the game, the position quickly takes shape with a decisive advantage for
18...Bxe6! 19 Qxd8
Rfxd8 20 Nc7
(If 20 Nc3, then 20...Bxc4 21 bxc4 Bf6.)
20...Bxc4 21 bxc4 Ra4

22 Rfd1
(Losing in a few moves, but also
after the better 22 Nd5 Bc5+ 23
Kh1 Rxc4 24 Rfd1 Re8 25 c3 e3
White has no chances of saving
the game.)
22...Rxd1+ 23 Rxd1
Rxc4 24 Rd7 Bc5+ 25
Kf1 Rxc2 26 Rd8+ Bf8
27 Nd5 f5
(After 28 Ne7+ Kf7 29 Nxf5 Rxa2
the a3 pawn will cost a rook.)
White resigns.

100 French Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Goldenov
(Belorussia Championship 1955)
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2
Nf6
(Master Goldenov likes to avoid
theoretical paths. The move made
by him is possible, it is not
contrary to opening principles,
but, all the same, the usual 3...
c5 was better, since it allows
Black to complete the development
of his pieces without trouble.)
4 Ngf3 Ngf6
(But this already is an unconsidered
move: now Black lags behind
in development. The continuation
4...c5, after his third move,
would hardly be appropriate for
Black, since, after 5 exd5 exd5 6
Bb5, it would be difficult for
him to develop his king's flank.
Even on the best continuation,
6...Bd6 7 0-0 Ne7 8 dxc5 Bxc5 9
Nb3 Bb6 10 Bg5, White's advantage
is beyond doubt.
If Black does not want to
transpose into the usual variati-
ons by 4...dxe4, at his disposal
was the continuation 4...f5, on
which his move 3...Nd7, defending
the e5 square, could prove useful.)
5 e5 Ng8
(Black's fourth move might be
justified only if it were favour-
able for him to play 5...Ne4, but
on this would have followed 6
Nxe4 dxe4 7 Ng5 with the win of a
pawn.)
6 Bd3 c5
(6...Nc7 was more careful,
leaving White himself to find a
way of opening the game.)
7 c4!

(diagram

(Only so! On the careful 7 c3,
White would extract nothing out
of the opening. In order to
exploit the opponent's backward-
ness in development, it is
necessary to strive for the

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better, since it allows complete the development of pieces without trouble.)

Ngf6
already is an unconsidered move, now Black lags behind in development. The continuation after his third move, only be appropriate for White, after 5 exd5 exd5 6 d5 would be difficult to develop his king's flank. The best continuation, 7 0-0 Ne7 8 dxc5 Bxc5 9 Bb5, White's advantage is doubt.

k does not want to be left with the usual variation - dx e4, at his disposal continuation 4...f5, on move 3...Nd7, defending a square, could prove useful.

g8 fourth move might be the only if it were favourable to play 5...Ne4, but White would have followed 6 c5 Ng5 with the win of a pawn.

c5 was more careful, Black himself to find a winning game.)

On the careful 7 c3, Black could extract nothing out of the opening. In order to the opponent's backward development, it is necessary to strive for the opening of lines, often even regardless of material loss.)

7...Nb6 8 0-0 cxd4
(If 8...dxc4 9 Nxc4 cxd4, then 10 Bb5! Qd5 11 Qe2 Bd7 12 Rfd1 and White's attack can hardly be parried.)

9 cxd5 Qxd5 10 Ne4
(The strong e5 pawn and the knight e4 determine White's advantage. Not having the possibility of bringing out the pieces on the king's flank and castling king's side, Black moves his king away to the queen's flank, but there its position is not quite secure.)

10...Bd7 11 Bf4 Bc6 12 Re1 0-0-0 13 Rc1
(White has mobilised all his forces and intends to start active operations.)

13...f5?
(A serious mistake, after which Black does not avoid material loss. Black drives the White knight to where it wants to go, and with this weakens the e5 and e6 squares. It was necessary to move the king away from the c-file. After 13...Kf8 14 Nd6 Bxd6 15 exd6 Nf6 there is no sense in White playing 16 Re5, since, by replying 16...Qxd6 17 Rf5 exf5 18 Bxd6+ Rxd6, Black obtains sufficient compensation for the queen. However, after 16 Bg3! the advantage is on White's side. The threat 17 Re5 forces Black to reply 16...Nd7, and after 17 Bc4 Qh5 18 Nxd4 Qxd1 19 Nxc6+ bxc6 20 Rxd1 Black is faced with a difficult struggle for a draw.)

14 Nd6+ Bxd6 15 exd6 Nf6
(On 15...Kb8 would follow 16 Re5!)

16 b4 Kb8
(Forced. On 16...a6, sufficient for victory are both 17 a4 and 17 ba6.)

17 Re5!

17...Qxd6
(By giving up the queen, Black makes the most reasonable decision. On 17...Qxa2 would follow 18 d7 Ba4 [18...Ka8? 19 Ra1 Ba4 20 Rxa2 Bxd1 21 Rxa7+ leads to mate] and now White has two strong continuations:

1) 19 Re2+ Ka8 20 Rxa2 Bxd1 21 Rxd1 Nb5 22 Bd2 Rxd7 [22...Nc3 23 Bxc3 dxc3 24 Ne5] 23 Nxd4, and Black has only two pawns for the piece; on 23...Nc7 follows 24 Nb5
while on 23...Ne7 - 24 Be3.
2) 19 Bc2 Ka8 20 Ra5 Nfd5 21 Bd2
   [21 Qxd4 Qc4!] 21...Nc3 22 Bxc3
dxc3 23 Bxa4 Qb2 24 Rbl Rxd7! 25
Qe1! [but not 25 Bxd7? c2 26
Rxa7+ Kb8! and Black wins] 25...
Nxa4 26 Rxa4! Rc8! 27 Raal Qc2 28
Qxe6 Rdc7 29 b5, and White has
every chance of a win.)
18 Rxf5 exf5 19 Bxd6+ Rxd6
(White's task is still far from
simple. The Black pieces are not
badly placed, while the d4 pawn
could, at an opportune moment, be
unpleasant. If the Black rook
were already standing on e8, it
would be very difficult for White
to strengthen his position, but
at the present moment he finds a
possibility of exchanging a piece
which is important for the
defence - the bishop c6.)
20 Ne5! Re8
(21 Nf7 was threatened. No use
are either 21...Be8 22 Qc2, or
21...Bd5 22 Bxf5 with the threat
23 Qxd4.)
21 Nxc6+ bxc6 22 Qf3
Nbd5
(Bad is 22...g6 23 Qf4 Kc7 24 b5.
Black gives up the f5 pawn, but
transfers the knight to a strong
position.)
23 Qxf5 Nc3 24 Qf4 Kc7
25 h3
(Creating a flight square for the
king. Not good now is 25...Ne2+ 26
Bxe2 Rxe2 27 b5; not possible
are either 25...Nxa2 26 Ral or
25...Nfd5 26 Qxd4. However, Black
still finds a way to complicate
the struggle.)
25...Nd7! 26 Qf7
(26...Ne5 was threatened, forcing
White to allow an exchange of the
bishop, which blockades the Black
pawn.)
26...Ne2+ 27 Bxe2 Rxe2
28 b5
(With this move, White opens the
position of the Black king and
prevents the advance of the d4
pawn. On 28...d3 follows 29 Rxc6+
Rxc6 30 bxc6 Kxc6 31 Qf3+. White
threatens to win the d4 pawn. Black's reply is forced.)
28...Ree6 29 bxc6
(Taking the g7 pawn, allowing the
advance of the d-pawn, would be
pointless. For example: 29 Qxg7
d3 30 Rxc6+ [30 bxc6? d2! ] 30...
Rxc6 31 bxc6 Kxc6 32 Qc3+ Nc5,
and White could hardly win.)
29...Rxc6 30 Qf4+ Rd6
31 Rd1 Rc4
(Black has defended the d4 pawn,
but the position of the rook on
c4 is not particularly good.)
32 Qf5!

Rdc6, White wins a pawn (Rxd4 followed by 36 Qb2+ Nb6 36 Qf3 Kc6 [or 36...Rb4 with the win of the d4
pawn] 37 Qf6+ Rd6 38 Qf7 with
threats of 39 Qxa7 and 39 Rb4.
After 38 Qf7 Black has no satisfac-
tory defence. For example 38...
Kc5 39 Qxa7 d3 40 Qa3+ White wins.)
33 Qxh7 g6 34 Qg8
(The White queen once enters into play and begins
worry the Black king.)
34...Nb6 35 Qe8+
36 Qe5+ Nd5 37 h4
(While the d-pawn is imm
White mobilises his king
flank.)
37...Rd7 38 Qe8 Rde6
Qf7 Kb6 40 Qf8
(Not at once 40 Rbl+ because

32...Kc6
(Black sadly gives up the h7
pawn. On 32...g6 would follow the
forcing variation: 33 Qa5+ Kb7 34
Qa3! Rd5! [The best reply. 34...
Nc5 is bad because of 35 Rbl+,
while, after 34...Rcc6 or 34...

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threatened, forcing
an exchange of the
blockades the Black

2+ 27 Bxe2 Rxe2

move, White opens the
the Black king and
advance of the d4
de3 follows 29 Rxc6+
Kxc6 31 Qf3+. White
to win the d4 pawn.
is forced.)

e6 29 bxc6
g7 pawn, allowing the
d-pawn, would be
For example: 29 Qxg7
[30 bxc6? d2!] 30...
Kxc6 32 Qc3+ Nc5,
could hardly win.)
c6 30 Qf4+ Rd6
Rc4
defended the d4 pawn,
ition of the rook on
icularly good.)

Rdc6, White wins a pawn by 35
Rxd4 followed by 36 Qb2+] 35 Rbl+
Nb6 36 Qf3 Kc6 [or 36...Rc5 37
Rb4 with the win of the d4 pawn]
37 Qf6+ Rd6 38 Qf7 with the
threats of 39 Qxa7 and 39 Rx6+. After
38 Qf7 Black has no satis-
factory defence. For example:
38...Kc5 39 Qxa7 d3 40 Qa3+, and
White wins.)

33 Qxh7 g6 34 Qg8
(The White queen once again
enters into play and begins to
worry the Black king.)

34...Nb6 35 Qe8+ Kc5
36 Qe5+ Nd5 37 h4
(While the d-pawn is immobile,
White mobilises his king's
flank.)
37...Rd7 38 Qe8 Rd6 39
Qf7 Kb6 40 Qf8
(Not at once 40 Rbl+ because of
40...Rb4.)

40...Rd7
(On 40...Kc5 follows 41 Rel with
the threat 42 Re6.)

41 Rbl+ Kc6 42 Qe8+
(Here the game was adjourned, and
Black resigned without
playing on. On the only move,
42...Nc7, follows 43 Qb7+ Kd6 44
Qxa7.
The position obtained is
completely hopeless for Black. If
44...d3, and 45 Qe3 and the pawn
is lost; on 44...Nd5 follows 45
Qa6+ Rc6 46 Qd3! also with the
win of the d-pawn, while on 44...
Ne6 could follow 45 Qa3+ Kd5
[45...Rc5 46 Rb6+ Kd5 47 Rx66;
45...Nc5 46 Qg3+] 46 Qf3+ Kc5 47
h5! d3 [47...gxh5 48 Qf5+ Kd6 49
Rb6+] 48 Qe3+ and Black loses
either the knight or the d-pawn.)

* * *

y gives up the h7
...g6 would follow the
tion: 33 Qa5+ Kb7 34
[The best reply. 34...
because of 35 Rbl+,
34...Rcc6 or 34...
102 King's Indian Defence
White: Nei
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final 23rd USSR Championship, Riga 1955)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 Be3 e5 7 d5 c5 8 dxc6?
bxc6 9 Qd2 Qe7 10 c5?
d5! 11 exd5 Nxd5 12 Nxd5 cxd5 13 Qxd5 Bb7!

103 Sicilian Defence
White: Khasin
Black: Boleslavsky
(23rd USSR Championship, Leningrad 1956)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Bg5 e6 7 Qe2 Be7
8 Be2 O-O 9 0-0-0 0-0 10 f4 Nxd4
11 Qxd4 h6 12 Bh4 Qa5
13 Rf1! Bd7 14 f5! 15 g1 Qb4+ 16 Qd2 Qc6
17 Ne2 Qe4
18...Nc6 19 a3 Rhc1 20 Bc1 a5!
21 9 Be1 Bc5 22 fxe5 Bxe5 23 Rf5
14 Qd6 Qh4+! 15 g3 Qb4+ 16 Qd2 Nc6! 17 Qxb4 Nxb4 18 0-0-0 (18
Rcl e4!) 18...Nxa2+ 19 Kb1 Nb4 20 Be2 e4 21 h4 a5 22 Rh2 a4 23 Bd2
a3! 24 Bxb4 axb2 25 Rf1 Bc6 White resigns.

15...Rac8 16 Rd3
(Giving White the chance of counterplay. More accurate was 16...Ba8! 17 Rh3 Qd7 18 Rf1. The position of the queen on the long diagonal strengthens Black's position.)
17 Rh3
(Best was 17 e5 Nd5 18 Ne4 a5 19 Nf5, which leads to a draw.)

17...Rxc3! 18 bxc3
(White cannot resist the temptation to double the rooks, whereas it is worth thinking about the continuation 18...Nxe4 19 Rc2 e5 20 Rf1 Bd8 on which the White pieces would be far more active than in the game.)
18...Nxe4 19 Be1
(Over the last moves, White has repulsed the direct threat to his pieces are disconnected, but it is difficult for Black to counteract the oppression.)
Ne4 etc., but Black already here
planned the sacrifice of the
exchange which follows shortly.)
15...cxb3
(White takes with the pawn, in
order to control the important c4
square.)
15...Rxc8 16 Rd3 Qd7
(Giving White the chance of
counterplay. More accurate was
16...Ba8! 17 Rh3 Qb7 18 Re1 Rxc3!
The position of the queen on the
long diagonal strengthens Black's
position.)
17 Rh3
(Best was 17 e5 Nd5 18 Nxd5 Bxd5
19 Nf5, which leads to a quick
draw.)

17...Rxc3! 18 bxc3
(White cannot resist the tempta-
tion to undouble the pawns,
whereas it is worth thinking
about the continuation 18 Rxc3
Nxe4 19 Rc2 e5 20 Rfcl Bd8 21 Nc6
on which the White pieces would
be far more active than in the
game.)
18...Nxe4 19 Be1 f5
(Over the last moves, White has
repulsed the direct threats, but
his pieces are disconnected and
it is difficult for him to
counteract the opponent's
increasing pressure.)
20 Rd3 Bf6 21 Qa2 Rc8
22 Kh1
(22...Nxc3 was threatened.)
22...h6 23 h3 Kh7 24
Kh2 g5 25 fxg5 Bxg5 26
Qe2 Bf6 27 g3
(Limiting the opponent's black-
squared bishop, but increasing
the role of the white-squared.)
27...Ba8!
(In order to play, at an opport-
une moment, ...Qb7.)
28 Qh5 Rg8 29 Bd2
(White considers the exchange of
the passive bishop for the active
Black knight favourable for him-
self, but the bishop could defend
the important g3 square and
therefore Black's attack now
becomes irresistible. Relatively
better was 29 Nf3.)
29...Nxd2 30 Rxd2 Be5
31 Rd3 Rg5
(Having little time for deliber-
ation, Black does not choose the
strongest continuation of the
attack: he should play 31...Qb7,
and if then 32 Rgl or 32 Qe2,
then 32...f4 decides the game in
a few moves.)
32 Qe2 Qg7
(So as, on 33 Nxe6, to continue
33...Rxe3 34 Nxc7 Rg2+ etc.)
33 Qe1
(Better was 33 Qf2, but also in
this case, after 33...Bd5, Black
has a positional advantage which
is sufficient for victory.)
33...Qg6
(The threat 34...f4 decides the
struggle.)
34 Ne2 f4 35 Rdf3
fxg3+ 36 Nxg3
(Hopeless of course is also 36 Kg1 Bxf3 37 Rxf3 g2. Now Black exchanges all the pieces and remains with an extra pawn in the pawn endgame. The rest is clear.)

36...Bxf3 37 Rxf3 Rg3 38 Rg3 Qxg3+ 39 Qxg3 Bxg3+ 40 Kxg3 Kg6 41 Kf4 Kf6 42 Ke4 Kg5 43 c4 bxc4 44 b4 Kf6
White resigns.

104 King's Indian Defence
White: Borisenko
Black: Boleslavsky
(23rd USSR Championship, Leningrad 1956)
1 e4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 Be2 0-0 6 Bg5
(This system of play was worked out by Soviet grandmaster Averbach. If Black replies with the routine 6...e5, then White, after closing the centre with the move 7 d5, carries out a pawn attack on the king's flank. The bishop g5 in this case prevents the freeing manoeuvre - moving away the knight f6 with a subsequent advance ...f5.)

6...c5
(The best reply. On 6...Nbd7, White can play 7 f4! obtaining strong pressure in the centre.)

7 d5 e6
(Also this move seems the most accurate. In the game, Averbach-Boleslavsky, training tournament 1953, Black played 7...Qa5, but the thrust with the queen turned out to be a blow on water after the simple reply 8 Bd2. In the USSR v Argentina match [1954], Panno, against Averbach, mistakenly played 7...e5? and, after 8 g4!, fell under a strong attack.)

8 Nf3
(Now, when Black intends to open the centre, White refrains from the pawn attack and transfers to a positional method of struggle.)

8...h6
(Before taking the d5 pawn, Black wants to determine the position of the White bishop. On 9 Bh4, quite possible is 9...e5, since the bishop on h4 is badly placed for the carrying out of a pawn attack.)

9 Bd2 exd5 10 exd5

(White's position looks quite inoffensive, but in fact this is not so. Thanks to the d5 pawn, White controls more space, and Black, if he does not want to fall into a difficult position, needs to think out a way of arranging his pieces. First of all, the question arises as to what to do with the knight b8. It can be posted on c7 or f8, but in both cases it will be passively placed, only hampering the movement of the other pieces. It is very important for Black the present position to exchange the knight f6 for the knight d5. This exchange increases the activity of the bishop g7 and allows the Black knight to subsequently occupy an active position on f6. Black's next move is also directed towards this aim.)

10...Bf5
(In the game, Rovner-Boleslavsky Semi-final 23rd USSR Championship 1955, was played the far weaker 10...Re8 11 0-0 Ne4? 12 Nxe4 Rx8 13 Bd3 Re8 14 Qc1 Kh7 15 h3 Nc6 16 Be3, and White has a considerable advantage in development)

11 0-0 Ne4 12 Nxe4 Bxe4 13 Qc1 Kh7 14 Ne5
(After 14 Bc3 Bxf3, Black, having a knight against a passive White bishop, would by no means stand worse. Therefore Borisenko intends another plan. He wants to exchange the white-squared bishops, bring the knight to d3, and by exchanging rooks on the e-file, obtain the better ending.)

However, White can reckon on the successful carrying out of this plan only upon passive play by the opponent. The bad arrangement of the White pieces will give Black sufficient counterchances.)

14...Re8 15 Bd3 Nd7 16 Qc2 Qh4 17 Rcl
(A necessary move. White takes the rook away from the action of the bishop g7 and defends the c-pawn.)

17...b5!
is very important for Black in the present position to exchange the knight f6 for the knight c3. This exchange increases the activity of the bishop g7 and allows the Black knight to subsequently occupy an active position on f6. Black's next move is also directed towards this aim.)

10...Bf5

(In the game, Rovner-Boleslavsky, Semi-final 23rd USSR Championship 1955, was played the far weaker 10...Re8 11 0-0 Ne4? 12 Nxe4 Rxe4 13 Bd3 Re8 14 Qc1 Kh7 15 h3 Nd7 16 Bc3, and White has a considerable advantage in development)

11 0-0 Ne4 12 Nxe4 Bxe4 13 Qc1 Kh7 14 Ne1

(After 14 Bc3 Bxf3, Black, having a knight against a passive White bishop, would by no means stand worse. Therefore Borisenko intends another plan. He wants to exchange the white-squared bishops, bring the knight to d3, and, by exchanging rooks on the e-file, obtain the better ending. However, White can reckon on the successful carrying out of this plan only upon passive play by the opponent. The bad arrangement of the White pieces will give Black sufficient counterchances.)

14...Re8 15 Bd3 Nd7 16 Qc2 Qh4 17 Rcl

(A necessary move. White takes the rook away from the action of the bishop g7 and defends the c-pawn.)

17...b5!

18 Bxe4

(After the end of the game, Borisenko expressed the opinion that he should have taken the b5 pawn and, on 18...Bxd5, continued 19 f4 with the threat 20 f5. But also in this case Black obtains a strong attack after 19...Bd4+ 20 Kh1 Bf2! with the threat 21...Bg3. White would have no satisfactory defence. For example:

1) 21 f5 Ne5 22 fxg6+ fxg6 23 Bc3 Bg3 24 Nf3 Bxf3 25 gxf3 Nxd3, or 23 Bf4 Bxel 24 Rxe1 Nxd3 25 Rxe8 Nxf4; 2) 21 Bc3 Bg3 22 Nf3 Bxf3 23 gxf3 Bxf4 24 Rce1 Ne5 and Black has an extra pawn with the better position.)

18...Qxe4 19 cxb5?

(With this move, White irreparably compromises his pawn formation, whereas after the quiet 19 b3 he maintains equilibrium, since the only weakness in his position - the c4 pawn - would be fully defended.)

19...Qxd5 20 Qd3

(The exchange of queens does not ease White's defence, but also on 20 b3 would have followed the same manoeuvre as in the game - 20...Reb8, and if 21 a4, then
21...a6.)
20...Nb6
(In view of the threat 21...Rxe1, White is forced to exchange on d5, and the Black knight gets to a central square.)
21 Qxd5 Nxd5 22 Nd3 Reb8 23 a4 a6 24 bxa6?
(White loses his head and goes down without a struggle, just when there were many ways to complicate Black's task. Firstly, it was possible to play 24 Nf4. For example: 24...Nf6 25 Bc3 axb5 26 axb5 Rxb5 27 Rfd1, and it is not easy for Black to realise his extra pawn. Secondly, worth considering is 24 b4 axb5 25 axb5 cxb4 26 Nxb4 Rxb5, and technically the win is still very difficult.)
24...Rxa6 25 Rc4
(There is no defence. White loses a pawn with a bad position.)
25...Rb3 26 Nf4 Rxb2
(The simplest. On 27 Bcl follows 27...Rb4, and White loses the a-pawn as well.)
27 Nxd5 Rxd2 28 Nc7 Rc6 29 Nb5 d5 30 Rf4 f5 31 g4 c4 32 gxf5 gxf5 White resigns.

106 King's Indian Defence
White: Udovcic
Black: Boleslavsky
(USSR v Yugoslavia match, Belgrade 1956)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 g3 Bg7 4 Bg2 0-0 5 Nf3 d6 6 0-0 Nbd7 7 Nc3 e5 8 Qc2 exd4 9 Nxd4 Nb6 10 Bg5 h6
(Not bad also is 10...c6 11 Ne4 d5 12 cxd5 Nbd5 with an approximately equal game. Unfavourable for Black is 10...Nxc4 11 Ncb5 a6 12 Qxc4 axb5 13 Nxb5 and White has a positional advantage.)
11 Bxf6 Qxf6 12 Rfd1 c6 13 Ne4 Qe7
(It is possible to sum up the opening. The White knights are highly active, but the presence of the strong bishop on g7 gives Black sufficient counterchances.)
14 Rac1 Rd8 15 e3 d5
(The continuation 15...c5 16 Nf3 Bf5 17 Nh4 does not promise Black anything good.)

16 cxd5 Nxd5 17 Qc5+
(It would be better not to play this move. Black, of course, avoids the exchange of queens and the White queen is preciously placed on c5. Preferably is 17 a3.)
17...Qe5 18 a3 h5
(In reply to the approach of White pawn on the queen's flank Black strives to advance n-pawn to create counterplay on the king's. With this, the square is freed for the Black bishop, from where it can attack the important e3 square.)
19 b4 a6 20 h4
(The most prudent. White gives the g4 square to the opponent but creates a solid position on the king's flank.)
20...Bg4 21 Rel a5
16 cxd5 Nxd5 17 Qc5

(It would be better not to make this move. Black, of course, avoids the exchange of queens, and the White queen is precariously placed on c5. Preferable is 17 a3.)

17...Qe5 18 a3 h5

(In reply to the approach of the White pawn on the queen's flank, Black strives to advance the h-pawn to create counterplay on the king's. With this, the h6 square is freed for the Black bishop, from where it can attack the important e3 square.)

19 b4 a6 20 h4

(The most prudent. White gives up the g4 square to the opponent, but creates a solid position on the king's flank.)

20...Bg4 21 Rel a5

22 f4?

(Only after this erroneous move is the balance tilted to Black's side. 22 b5 was necessary. White probably feared the reply 22...Bf8, however, after 23 Qc4 Bxa3, he can continue 24 bxc6! Now, both on 24...Bxc1 25 cxb7 Rab8 26 Nc6, and in the event of 24...Rac8 25 Qb3 Bxc1 26 cxb7, White wins back the sacrificed material and does not stand worse.)

22...Qb8 23 Nc2

(Now, on 23 b5, would have followed 23...Nxe3!) 23...axb4 24 axb4 Qa7

(Even more energetic was 24...Bf8, for example, 25 Qc4 Be6 26 Qe2 Ra2! [but not 26...Nxb4 because of 27 Nf6+ Kg7 28 Nxb4 Bxb4 29 Qb2]) 27 Ra1 Qa7 28 b5 c5, and White can hardly hold on for long.)

25 Nf2 Be6 26 e4 Nc7

(The temporary retreat of the Black pieces does not essentially bring White any relief.)

27 e5 Bf8 28 Qc3

(Leading to a quick denouement. Necessary was 28 Qxa7 Rxa7 29 Ne4 Ra2, which, even if leaving Black the advantage, would give White the chance to resist.)

28...Nd5 29 Qb2

(29 Bxd5 was more tenacious.)

29...Qb6 30 Rb1

(Also 30 Bxd5 Rxd5 31 Rcd1 Bc5 is bad for White.)

30...Nxf4 31 Ne3

(Or 31 gxf4 Rd2 32 Rf1 Ra2 33 Qc3 Rxc2 34 Qg3 Qd4, and Black wins easily.)

31...Ra2 32 Qc3 Ne2+

33 Rxe2 Rx2e2 34 Re1 Bxb4 White resigns.

107 French Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Yukhtman

(All-Union Mass tournament, Moscow 1956)

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 b6 5 Qg4 Bf8
6 Nf3 Nc6? (6...Qd7 7 Bb5 c6 8 Bd3 Ba6!) 7 a3 Qd7 8 Bd3 Bb7 9 Ne2 0-0-0 10 b4 h6 11 h4 Ng7 12 h5 Kb8 13 Nf4 Nf5 14 c3 Nce7 15 Qh3 Nc8 16 a4 Rg8 17 g4 Nf7 18 Qf1 Nc6 19 a5 Be7 20 Bb5 Rdf8 21 Qe2 Bd8 22 Nd3 f5 23 g5 g6 24 hxg6 hxg5 25 Bxg5 Rxg6 26 Bxd8 Rxd8 27 a6 Ba8 28 0-0-0 Qe7 29 Qd2 Rdg8 30 Nf4 Rg4 31 Nh5 Rf8 32 Nf6 Rg7 33 Rh6 Qd8 34 Ng5 Qe7 35 f4! (Zugzwang! The threat is 36 Nh5 Rgg8 37 Rxe6.) 35...Rgf7 36 Nxf7 Rxf7 37 Rg1 Rg7 38 Rxg7 Qxg7 Black resigns.

109 Sicilian Defence
White: Kholmov
Black: Boleslavsky
(All-Union Mass tournament, Moscow 1956)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 g3 g6 4 Bg2 Bg7 5 0-0 d6 6 d3 e5 7 Re1 Ng7 8 Nbd2 0-0 9 a4 h6 10 Nc4 Be6 11 c3 Qd7 12 Nf2 f5 13 Ne3? (13 exf5 13...f4! 14 Nd5 g5 15 Rb1 Rf7 16 Nxe7+ Rxe7 17 Bf3 g4 18 Bg2 Rf8 19 b4 cxb4 20 cxb4 Rf7 21 b5 Nd4 22 Bb2 fxg3 23 fxg3 Nf3+! 24 Bxf3 gxf3 25 Kf2 Ba2! 26 Ra1 Qh3 27 Rxa2 h5! 28 Rf1 Bb6 29 Bd1 Qxh2+ 30 Ke1 f2+ 31 Ke2 Qxg3 White resigns.

110 King's Indian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Kudinov
(All-Union Mass tournament, Moscow 1956)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 g6 4 g3Bg7 5Bg2 d6 6 Nc3 0-0 7 Nf3 Na6 8 0-0 Nc7 9 Nd2 a6 10 a4 e5? 11 dxe6! fxe6 12 Nde4 Nxe4 13 Nxe4 Ne8 14 Qd3 Qb6 15 Rd1 Rf7 16 Rb1 Qc7 17 Be3 Bf8 18 Ng5 Rg7 19 b4 cxb4 20 Rxb4 d5 21 Rbb1 dxc4 22 Qd8+ c3 23 Rbc1 c2 24 Rxd2 Qxd8 25 Rxd8 Rd7 26 Rxe8 Black resigns.

108 King's Indian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Livshin
(Semi-final 24th USSR Championship, Kharkov 1956)
1 c4 Nf6 2 g3 g6 3 b3 (The flank development of the black-squared bishop in the King's Indian Defence, in our view, does not set Black complicated problems.) 3...Bg7 4 Bb2 d6 5 Bg2 e5 6 d4 Nbd7 (There is no sense in Black gaining time by 6...exd4 and 7...Nc6, since he thereby cedes the centre; moreover the knight on c6 would be badly placed.) 7 Ne3 0-0 8 0-0 (On 8 dxe5 would have followed 8...Ng4.) 8...Re8 9 e3 (Allowing Black to play ...Qd7 with advantage. He should continue 9 dxe5 Ng4 10 Nc3 id est about equal chances.) 9...e4 10 Nfd2 Nf8 11 Nc3 Bf5 12 Qc2 (The beginning of an incorrect plan, which leads to defeat. Why the position of the pawn on e3 Black's initiative on the kingside flank is very dangerous. Therefore best was 12 f3 exf3 13 Qc1 with a sharp game. On 13...Bf4 White could reply not only Rael, but also 14 e4. For example: 14...Bxd2 15 exf3 Re3? 16 Qe2 Bxc3 17 Bxc3 Rxc3 18 Qd2.) 12...Qe7 13 Nd5 (White wants to create pressure on the c7 pawn, but now the c-pawn proves to be weak.) 13...Nxd5 14 cxd5 h5 15 Rac1 Rac8 16 b4 Nc6 17 b5 Nf6 18 Qc4 Qf6 19 Rc3 (Rather better would be 19 Rf1 Bh3 20 Bhl Qf5 21 f3.) 19...Bh3 20 Rc1 Bxg2 21 Kxg2 Qf5 22 Ra3 (White reckons on obtaining the a-pawn for the d5 pawn but an unpleasant surprise awaits him.) 22...Ra8! 23 Qxc7 (Taking the pawn gives Black a strong attack, but White all the same goes in for this, since otherwise he remains a pawn down with the worse position.) 23...Rac8 24 Qa5 (There is no choice. On 24 Qb4...
7 Nf3 0-0 8 0-0
(On 8 dxe5 would have followed 8...Ng4.)
8...Re8 9 e3
(Allowing Black to play ...e4 with advantage. He should continue 9 dxe5 Ng4 10 Nc3 with about equal chances.)
9...e4 10 Nfd2 Nf8 11 Nc3 Bf5 12 Qc2
(The beginning of an incorrect plan, which leads to defeat. With the position of the pawn on e4, Black's initiative on the king's flank is very dangerous. Therefore best was 12 f3 exf3 13 Qxf3 with a sharp game. On 13...Bh6, White could reply not only 14 Rael, but also 14 e4. For example 14...Bxd2 15 exf6 Re5 16 Qf2 Bxc3 17 Bxc3 Rxc3 18 Qd2.)
12...Qe7 13 Nd5
(White wants to create pressure on the c7 pawn, but now the d5 pawn proves to be weak.)
13...Nxd5 14 cxd5 h5 15 Rac1 Rac8 16 b4 Nh7 17 b5 Nf6 18 Qc4 Qd7 19 Rc3
(Rather better would be 19 Rfe1 Bh3 20 Bh1 Qf5 21 f3.)
19...Bh3 20 Rfc1 Bxg2 21 Kxg2 Qf5 22 Ra3
(White reckons on obtaining the a-pawn for the d5 pawn but an unpleasant surprise awaits him.)
22...Ra8! 23 Qxc7
(Taking the pawn gives Black a strong attack, but White all the same goes in for this, since otherwise he remains a pawn down with the worse position.)
23...Rac8 24 Qa5
(There is no choice. On 24 Qxd6 follows 24...Bf8 25 Qf4 Qxf4 26 gxf4 Rac1 27 Bxc1 Bxa3 28 Bxa3 Nxd5 with an easy win, while if 24 Qxb7, then 24...Rxc1 25 Bxc1 Ng4 26 f3 exf3+ 27 Nxf3 Qc2+ 28 Bd2 Qd1 and White is defenceless.)
24...Rxc1 25 Bxc1 Ng4 26 f3 exf3+ 27 Nxf3 Bxd4!
(The Black bishop enters into the game with great force.)
28 exd4
(White is in no position to defend the e3 and d5 pawns. Taking the bishop leads to a quick loss.)
28...Re2+ 29 Kf1
(Or 29 Kg1 Nhx2 30 Qd8+ [30 Qc3 Qh3] 30...Kg7 31 Bh6+ Kh7 32 Qf8 Qb1+.)
29...Qc2 30 Bd2 Qd1+ 31 Be1 Rf2+ 32 Kg1 Qe2
White resigns in view of the unavoidable mate.

111 Sicilian Defence
White: Vasyukov
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final 24th USSR Championship, Kharkov 1956)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Bg5 e6 7 Qd2
(White employs a system of development suggested by the eminent Soviet theorician V.Rauzer. By castling on the queen's side, White creates pressure on the d-file, which he strives to combine with active operations in the centre and on the king's flank. Black's counterplay usually consists either of advancing the pawns on the queen's flank and pressure on the half-open c-file, or of preparing an advance in the centre [...d5 or ...e5].)
7...Be7
(Also another plan is often met: 7...a6 followed by 8...Bd7; Black, in the first instance, develops the queen's flank and can then either prepare queen's side castling or begin a counterattack with the advance of the b-pawn.)
8 0-0-0 Nxd4
(It is better to take on d4 at once, since, after 8...0-0, Black, besides 9 f4, must reckon with the White replies 9 Nb3 and 9 Ndb5.)
9 Qxd4 0-0
(In this position, Black is faced with three problems:
1) to develop the bishop c8;
2) to strengthen the d6 pawn, and
3) to create counterplay on the queen's flank to counterbalance White's action on the king's.
In solving these problems, Black, of course, has to reckon with the threats of White, whose pieces are very actively placed.)
10 f4
(The most energetic move, creating the threat 11 e5. There is nothing in 10 Bxf6 Bxf6 11 Qxd6, in view of 11...Qa5 and Black wins back the a2 or c3 pawn.)
10...h6
(Now 11 Bxf6 Bxf6 12 Qxd6 Qa5 13 e5 is not dangerous now, since Black, with the move 13...Rd8, forces the exchange of queens on a3, after which White's extra pawn will have no significance at all. On an immediate 10...Qa5 could follow 11 e5 dxe5 12 Qxe5 Qxe5 13 fxe5 Nd5 14 Bxe7 Nxe7 15 Bd3. In the position obtained, Black cannot play 15...Bd7 because of 16 Bxh7+. With the position of the pawn on h6, the move ...Bd7 becomes possible in this variation.)
11 h4
(This reply shows that White is not thinking about transferring to an endgame, but intending to attack the opponent's king's flank.)
11...Qa5
(Black declines the piece sacrifice. After 11...hxg5 12 hxg5, White has a dangerous attack on the h-file. On this, the maximum Black could count upon is, by giving back the piece, to simplify the game.)
12 Be2
(White wants to prepare 13 g4, but with this he does not take into account the opponent's intentions. While carrying out one's plan, one also cannot forget the opponent's possibilities.
Black intends to advance the e-pawn and then develop the bishop on e6. To counteract this, White should have played 12 Bg5. Then the advance ...e5 already would be bad for Black, since it would increase the activity of the White bishop c4. A model in this respect is the game, Pachman - Barcza [Stockholm 1952], which continued 12 Be5 13 Qg1 exd4 14 Bxf6 Nh5? 15 Bxd6 Bxd6 16 Re1 Ng3. Black considered that the White rook would find itself in an unfavourable position, but there followed 17 Qd4! with the threat 18 Rg6 and Black did not obtain compensation for the sacrificed pawn.)
12...e5 13 Qf2 exf4 14 Bxf4 Be6
(Black is the first to begin active operations against the enemy king. Now White must think about the defence of the a3 pawn.)
15 Rd4 Rfc8
16 Qg3
(White allows the sacrifice of the exchange, after which he has to struggle for a draw. He could drive away the Black queen with...
very actively placed.)
Bc4
The most energetic move, creating the threat 11 e5. There is nothing in 10 Bxf6 Bxf6 11 Qxd6, in view of 11...Qa5 and Black has back the a2 or c3 pawn.)
D...h6
Now 11 Bxf6 Bxf6 12 Qxd6 Qa5 13 Bxe5 dx e5 14 fxe5 Nd5 15 Bxe7 Nxe7 16 B. In the position obtained, Black cannot play 15...Bd7 because of 16 Bxh7+. With the isolation of the pawn on h6, the move ...Bd7 becomes possible in this variation.)
1 h4
His reply shows that White is thinking about transferring to an endgame, but intending to attack the opponent's king's flank.)
1...Qa5
Black declines the piece sacrifice. After 11...hxg5 12 hxg5, White has a dangerous attack on the h-file. On this, the maximum Black could count upon is, by living back the piece, to simplify the game.)
2 Be2
White wants to prepare 13 g4, but with this he does not take into account the opponent's intentions. While carrying out his plan, one also cannot forget the opponent's possibilities.
Black intends to advance the e-pawn and then develop the bishop on e6. To counteract this, White should have played 12 Bc4. Then the advance ...e5 already would be bad for Black, since it would increase the activity of the White bishop c4. A model in this respect is the game, Pachman - Barcza [Stockholm 1952], which continued 12 Bc4 e5 13 Qg1 exf4 14 Bxf4 Nh5? 15 Bxd6 Bxd6 16 Rxd6 Ng3. Black considered that the White rook would find itself in an unfavourable position, but there followed 17 Qd4! with the threat 18 Rg6 and Black did not obtain compensation for the sacrificed pawn.)
12...e5 13 Qf2 exf4 14 Bxf4 Be6
(Black is the first to begin active operations against the enemy king. Now White must think about the defence of the a2 pawn.)
15 Rd4 Rf8

![Chess diagram]

16 Qg3
(White allows the sacrifice of the exchange, after which he has to struggle for a draw. He could drive away the Black queen with the move 16 Ra4 and, on 16...Qc7, reply 17 Qg3 [Bad is 17 Rx7, because of 17...Rx7 18 Qxa7 Nxe4]. The position obtained after 17 Qg3 is highly instructive. Black, in order not to lose the initiative, must act energetically, and namely 17...b5!
For example: 18 Bxh6 [No better is 18 Bxb5 Nh5 19 Qf3 Nxf4 20 Qxf4 Bf6 with a strong attack] 18...Bf8 19 Bxb5 Qb6 20 Be2 Rxc1 21 bxc3 [If 21 Qxc3, then 21...Rc8 22 Qg3 Qc6 with an attack on c2 and a4] 21...Qc6 22 Rd4 Rc8 and, despite his material advantage, it is difficult for White to repulse the opponent's threats. Thus one can draw the conclusion that the continuation 16 Ra4 is not better than White's choice.)
16...Rxc3 17 Qxc3
(In this way, White succeeds in exchanging queens. After 17 bxc3 Qxa2 18 Rh1 d5, it would be even more difficult for White to defend.)
17...Qxa2 18 Qa3 Qxa3 19 bxa3 d5 20 exd5 Bxa3+ 21 Kd2
(White makes a mistake, taking away from his bishop the d2 square and thereby agreeing to its exchange. As a result, the black squares in White's position become weak, while the opponent's bishop acquires great activity. Correct was 21 Kbl Nxd5 22 Bd2, and White can count on a draw.)
21...Nxd5 22 Bf3 Nxf4 23 Rxf4 Rd8+ 24 Ke2 b5 25 Ra1 Bc5 26 Ra5
(It seems that White has avoided difficulties. The b-pawn is
attacked, while 26...Bc4+ is not possible because of 27 Rxc4, but Black finds a strong reply.)

26...Bd4! 27 Bc6 Bc4+ 28 Kf3 Bb6 29 Rxb5
(There is nothing better for White. On 29 Ra1 would have followed 29...Rd2 with two threats: 29...Rxc2 and 29...Be2+ 30 Kg3 Bc7.)

29...Bxb5 30 Bxb5
(The position is simplified. Now White threatens to rivet the Black rook to the defence of the f7 pawn with the move 31 Bc4. This forces Black to exchange rooks.)

30...Rd2 31 Bc4 Rf2+ 32 Kg3 Rxf4 33 Kxf4
(And so an endgame is obtained with opposite coloured bishops, in which an extra pawn will often be insufficient for victory. In the present case there is a serious advantage for Black in the distant passed a-pawn and the pawn majority on the other flank. The existence of a win for Black will depend on the possibility of creating a passed pawn on the g or f-files.)

33...h5!

A necessary move! Otherwise after 34 h5 Black could have created a second passed pawn only on the h-file, but the promotion square of this pawn is on a square of an opposite colour to that of the Black bishop. White, in this case, would have easily made a draw by giving up his bishop for the a-pawn.)

34 g4
(White himself creates a passed pawn for the opponent on the f-file, reckoning that it cannot be advanced further than the third rank; White also hopes to exploit in the future the weakness of the Black g7 pawn. As shown by the continuation in the game, this plan proves to be insufficient.

But is it not possible for White to make a draw by confining himself to passive tactics? You see Black all the time has to reckon with the weakness of the h5 pawn [in the event of the advance of the f and g-pawns].

If Black has no win in the present position, then our note to White's 21st move would have to be considered mistaken, while the continuation 21 Kd2 correct and sufficient for a draw.

Let us try to gain an understanding of the position after 34 g3 [instead of 34 g4].

After a few moves, the position, with the best replies on both sides, would look like this:

(A necessary move! Otherwise)

In this position, Black continues 1...g5. If White exchanges on g5,
then follows 2...fxg5 3 Bb5 g4+ 4 Kg2 Kg5, and Black creates a passed pawn on the g-file, while the bishop transfers to c7, from where it defends the g-pawn and bars the way for the enemy passed pawn. Then the Black king makes for the a-pawn and wins the White bishop. Therefore, if White exchanges on g5, then he quickly loses. The task is more complicated for Black if White refrains from the exchange and plays, for example, 5 Kg2. Then 5...gxh5 gives Black nothing, since the king remains riveted to the h-pawn. Black constructs the following position.

Here the move 1...Ke7 drives away the White bishop from the a4-e8 diagonal. Then follows the continuation 2 Bb5 Bf6: If White plays 3 c4 here, then he loses after 3...Kd6 4 Be8 Kc5 5 Bd7 Be5 6 Kf2 Kb4 7 c5 a4 8 Bxf5 a3 9 Be6 Kxc5.

On passive moves, for example 3 Ba4, follows 3...f4. If White replies 4 gxf4, then the connected passed pawns decide: 4...Bxh4 5 c4 Be1 6 c5 h4 7 c6 h3+ 8 Kf1 Kd6 9 f5 g3 10 f6 g2+. Refraining from the capture also does not help White. For example: 4 Kf2 Bd4+ 5 Kg2 Bc3 6 Kf2 [6 gxf4 Be1] 6...fxg3+ 7 Kg2 Ke6 8 Be8 Kf6 9 Bd7 Ke5 10 Be8 Kf4 11 Bxh5 Bf6 and Black wins.

Thus one can draw the conclusion that the position after 33...h5 is won for Black, and White's 34th move only eases the opponent's task.)

34...hxg4 35 h5 a5 36 Bb3 Kf8 37 Kxg4 Ke7 38 Kf5 Bd4
(An important manoeuvre - the bishop is transferred to c3.)

39 Ke4 Bc3 40 Kf6 (Black liberates his king from the defence of the f-pawn. It turns out that White's intended 41 Kg6 loses after 41...Kd6 42 Kxg7 f5+ 43 Kg6 f4 44 Kf5 f3 45 Ke4 f2 46 Bc4 Kc5!)

41 Ke4 Kd6 42 Kd3 Be5 43 Ke4 (No help is 43 Kc4 f5 44 Kb5 Bc3 45 Kc4 Bf6 46 Kb5 Bd8 and the f-pawn decides.)

43...Kc5 (The Black king makes its way to the queen's flank and wins the bishop for the pawn.)

44 Kf5 Kb4 45 Kg6 a4 46 Be6 a3 47 Ba2 Kc3
48 Be6 Bd4 49 Bb3 Kb2 50 Kf5 Bc3
(If at once 50...a2?; then, after
51 Bxa2 Kxa2 52 c4 Kb3 53 c5 Bxc5
54 h6 gxh6 55 Kxf6, White
achieves a draw. Now, however,
Black captures both the bishop
and the c-pawn.)
White resigns.

112 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Tal
(24th USSR Championship, Moscow 1957)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3
Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0
b5 6 Bb3 Be7 7 Rel 0-0
8 c3 d6 9 h3 Na5 10
Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12
Nbd2 Bd7 13 Nf1 Rfe8
14 Ne3 g6 15 dxe5 dxe5
16 Nh2 Rad8 17 Qf3 Be6
18 Nhg4 Nxg4 19 hxg4
Qc6? (19...Nb7, followed by
...c4 and ...Nc5 is better) 20
Qg3 (20 g5! Fischer. If then
20...Bxg5 21 Nd5!; or 20...Nc4 21
Ng4.) 20...f6 21 g5!
Kh8 22 b3! Rf8 23 Nd5!
Bxd5 24 exd5 Qxd5 25
gxf6 Bxf6 26 Bh6 Rfe8
27 Be4! Qe6 28 Qf3 Qe7
29 Rad1 Bg7 30 Be3!
Rf8 31 Qh3! Kg8 32 Qg4
Bf6 33 Rxd8 Rxd8 34
Rd1 Nb7 35 Bxb7! Rxd1+
36 Qxd1 Qxb7 37 Qd6!
Kf7 38 Bxc5 h5 39 c4!
bxc4 40 bxc4 Qb1+?
(40...e4) 41 Kh2 Qb7 (41...
Qxa2 42 Qf8+ Ke6 43 Qe8+ Kf5 44
Qc8+ mates.) 42 Be3 (42 Qf8+!
Ke6 43 Qe8+) 42...e4 43 c5
Be7 44 Qb6 Qd5 (44...Qxb6
45 cxb6 Bb6+ 46 g3 Ke7 47 b7 Bb8
48 Bf4!) 45 c6 Bd6+ 46
g3 h4! (45...Qe5 47 Qb7+! Kf6
48 Qd7 Qe6 49 Bd4+) 47 c7
hxg3+ 48 Kg2 Qd1! (48...
xg2 49 c8(Q) f1(Q) 50 Kxf1 Qd1+
51 Kf2 Qf3+ 42 Ke1 wins) 49
Qxd6! Qxd6 50 c8(Q)
gxf2 51 Qb7+ Ke6 52
Qxe4+ Kd7 53 Qb7+ Ke6
54 Qb3+ Kd7 (54...Qd5+ 55
Kxf2!) 55 Kxf2

Qxa5 Qe4+ 83 Ka3 Qe
84 Bc3 Qc1+ 85 Kc2
Qb1+ 86 Ka3 Qc1+
Kb4 Qb1+ 88 Kc5 Qg
89 Kb5 g4 90 Ka6 g3
Qd5+ Ke7 92 Qb7+ Kd
93 Qb8+ Black resigns.

113 Caro Kann Defense
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Mikenas
(24th USSR Championship, Moscow 1957)
1 e4 c6 2 Nf3 d5 3
Bg4 4 h3 Bxf3 5 Qx
e6 6 d3 Nf6 7 g3 Bb4
Bd2 d4
(Black locks the position and
exchanges one of the opponent's
bishops.)
9 Nb1 Bxd2+ 10 Mx
Qa5 11 a3
(Preventing the unpleasant thing
11...Qb4.)
11...Nbd7 12 Qe2 h5
h4
(White, naturally, does not allow
the further advance of the
h-pawn, which would allow Mikenas
to blockade the black squares
in the opponent's position.)
13...Ng4
(An unsuccessful manoeuvre, after
which White obtains the advantage. Correct was 13...0-0-0.)
14 Bh3 Ndf6 15 0-
0-0-0
(Relatively better was 15.
e5, on which White intended
c3, opening lines on the queen's
flank.)
16 Nc4 Qc7 17 e5 Na.
18 a4
Qxa5 Qe4+ 83 Ka3 Qe3+ 84 Bc3 Qc1+ 85 Kb3 Qb1+ 86 Ka3 Qc1+ 87 Kb4 Qb1+ 88 Kc5 Qg1+ 89 Kb5 g4 90 Ka6 g3 91 Qd5+ Ke7 92 Qb7+ Ke8 93 Qb8+ Black resigns.

113 Caro Kann Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Mikenas
(24th USSR Championship, Moscow 1957)
1 e4 c6 2 Nf3 d5 3 Nc3 Bg4 4 h3 Bxf3 5 Qxf3 e6 6 d3 Nf6 7 g3 Bb4 8 Bd2 d4
(Black locks the position and exchanges one of the opponent's bishops.)
9 Nb1 Bxd2+ 10 Nxd2 Qa5 11 a3
(Preventing the unpleasant thrust 11...Qb4.)
11...Nb7 12 Qe2 h5 13 h4
(White, naturally, does not allow the further advance of the h-pawn, which would allow Mikenas to blockade the black squares in the opponent's position.)
13...Ng4
(An unsuccessful manoeuvre, after which White obtains the advantage. Correct was 13...0-0-0.)
14 Bh3 Ndf6 15 0-0 0-0
(Relatively better now was 15...e5, on which White intended 16 c3, opening lines on the queen's flank.)
16 Nc4 Qc7 17 e5 Ne8 18 a4

(It is very important to consolidate the position of the knight c4. On 18 Bxg4 hgx4 19 Qxg4, Black would continue 19...b5, winning back the pawn.)
18...f5 19 exf6 Nxf6 20 b4!
(There is no sense in taking the e6 pawn at the present moment, since this would make the opponent's pieces more active. Black does not succeed in defending it, since White's offensive on the queen's flank is very dangerous.)
20...Rhf8
(To counterbalance White's attack, Black intends a counter-attack linked to a rook sacrifice.)
21 b5 Kb8 22 bxc6 Qxc6 23 Bg2 Qc7
(On 23...Nd5 would have followed 24 Rab1.)
24 Rab1 Nd5 25 Qxe6
(But now this pawn, defending the knight d5, must be eliminated.)
25...Rxf2
(The best practical chance. On passive continuations, Black perishes without a struggle.)
26 Rxf2 Qxg3 27 Rf3 Qh2+ 28 Kf1 b6
(On 28...Qxh4, decisive is 29 Rxb7+ Kxb7 30 Rf7+ Kb8 31 Qc6 Nde3+ 32 Ke2.)
29 a5!

Diagram

(The beginning of a combination: White gives back the rook, but blows up the fortifications of the Black king.)
29...Nf4 30 Rxb6+ axb6
31 Qxb6+ Kc8 32 Qc6+ Kb8
(It seems that, in view of the threats on the king's flank, White is obliged to limit himself to perpetual check, but this is not so.)
33 Qb5+ Kc7
(33...Kc8 is not possible because of 34 Qf5+.)
34 Rf2!
(Threatening mate, while the capture on g2 is impossible, because of 35 Rf7+. Black's reply is forced.)
34...Rd5 35 Qb6+ Kc8
(If 35...Kd7, then 36 Qb7+ Ke8 37 Qb8+ and 38 Qxf4.)
36 Qc6+ Kd8
(Or 36...Kb8 37 Qe8+ Kc7 38 Qf7+.)
37 Qa8+ Ke7 38 Qb7+ Rd7 39 Qe4+ Ne6 40 Re2 Kf8 41 Qxe6
(Here the game was adjourned, and Black resigned without continuing the game. After 41...Qf4+ 42 Bf3 Qxf3+ 43 Ke1 Nf6 44 Ne5, Black loses the exchange and a pawn at least [44...Qg3+ 45 Kd1 Re7 46 Ng6+ Qxg6 47 Qxe7+ Kg8 48 Qd8+]. The rook ending on the reply 43...Qf7 [in place of 43...Nf6] 44 Qxf7+ Kxf7 [44...Rx f7 45 Nd6] 45 Ne5+ Nxe5 46 Rxe5 is completely hopeless for Black.)

114 Sicilian Defence
White: Spassky
Black: Boleslavsky
(24th USSR Championship, Moscow 1957)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Bg5 e6 7 Qd2 Be7 8 0-0-0 Nxd4 9 Qxd4 0-0 10 f4 h6 11 Bh4 Qa5
(In this well-known theoretical position, White has prepared a little surprise for his opponent.)
12 Qd3
(A similar retreat of the queen was encountered in the game, Keres-Taimanov [20th USSR Championship], but without the moves...h6 and Bh4. Keres transferred the queen to h3, while the white squared bishop he placed on d3, creating a threat on the h7 square. It is clear that, with the inclusion of the moves...h6 and Bh4, such an arrangement of pieces would be to no purpose.)
12...Rd8 13 Be2 Bd7 14 Qg3
(By transferring the queen to g3, White creates pressure on the king's flank. Now Black must reckon with the threat e4-e5.)
14...Bc6 15 Bf3
(The question could arise, why does White refrain from an immediate 15 e5? On 15...Nd5? follows 16 Rxd5!, while on 15...Ne4 - 16 Nxe4 Bxe4 17 Nf6+ Bxf6 18 Qh4 with a decisive The piece sacrifice [instead of 17...Bxf6] Qxa2 19 Ng4 Qa1+ 20 Nd2 Bf3 Qa5+ 22 Ke2 e4 23 Bc4 insufficient. And yet the defence for Black: 15...fxe5 Ne4 17 Nxe4 Bxe4! Qc7, and, by threatening Black captures the bishop 15...e5
(A crucial, but apparently correct decision. Black stops the threat e5 and prepares simplification.)
16 f5 b5 17 Kb1 Bxf6 Bxf6 19 Nd5 20 Rxd5 Qc7
(This position is critical in the evaluation of Black's move. White needs several moves to organise an attack with his f- and h-pawns. In this time White hurries to create counterplay on the opposite flank.)
21 h4 a5 22 Qe1
(If 22 Qh2, then 22...Rad8 g4 is not possible because of 23...Bxh4!)
22...Rdc8 23 Qd2
(Defending the c2 pawn and under control the g5 square.)
23...a4 24 Be2
44 Qxf7+ Kxf7 [44...Rx7f7 45 Ne5+ Nxe5 46 Rxe5 is hetely hopeless for Black.]

**Sicilian Defence**

Fit: Spassky

Vick: Boleslavsky

USSR Champion-

[p, Moscow 1957]

4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4

4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3

6 Bg5 e6 7 Qd2 Be7

7 0-0-0 Nxd4 9 Qxd4

10 f4 h6 11 Bh4

In this well-known theoretical position, White has prepared a surprise for his opponent.

Qd3

similar retreat of the queen encountered in the game, Taimanov [20th USSR Champion-

ship], but without the moves e6 and Bh4. Keres transferred the queen to h3, while the white

knight bishop he placed on d3, tying a threat on the h7 pawn. It is clear that, with inclusion of the moves...h6

and Bh4, such an arrangement of pieces would be to no purpose.

...Rd8 13 Be2 Bd7 14 Bxc6 15 Bf3

transferring the queen to g3, he creates pressure on the king's flank. Now Black must

...a4 24 Be2

Nxe4 Bxh4 17 Nf6+ Bxf6 18 exf6 g6

19 Qh4 with a decisive attack. The piece sacrifice 17...Kh8

[instead of 17...Bxf6] 18 Qxh4

Qxa2 19 Ng4 Qa1+ 20 Kd2 dxe5+ 21 Bd3 Qa5+ 22 Ke2 e4 23 Bc4 is also

insufficient. And yet there was a defence for Black: 15...dxe5 16 fxe5 Ne4 17 Nxe4 Bxe4! 18 Bxe7

Qc7, and, by threatening mate, Black captures the bishop e7.)

15...e5

(A crucial, but apparently correct decision. Black radically

stops the threat e5 and provokes simplification.)

16 f5 b5 17 Kb1 b4 18 Bxf6 Bxf6 19 Nd5 Bxd5

20 Rxd5 Qc7

(this position is critical for the evaluation of Black's 15th move. White needs several tempi

to organise an attack with the g and h-pawns. In this time, Black hurries to create counterplay on

the opposite flank.)

21 h4 a5 22 Qe1

(If 22 Qh2, then 22...Rdc8 and 23 g4 is not possible because of 23...Bxh4!)

22...Rdc8 23 Qd2

(Defending the c2 pawn and taking under control the g5 square.)

23...a4 24 Be2

(On 24 g4 could follow 24...a3 25 b3 Qc3 26 Qxc3 Rxc3 27 Be2 Re3 28 Bd3 Bxh4, and Black stands

better.

Interestingly variations are obtained after 24 Rxd6, which,

probably, would be the best continuation. For example: 24...b3

25 cxb3 axb3 26 a3 Be7 27 Rd7

Qc2+ 28 Qxc2 Bxc2+ 29 Kc1 Rxa3 30

bxa3 Bxa3+ 31 Kd2 cl(Q)+ 32 Rxc1

Bxc1+ and a draw.)

24...Ra5

(After this timid move, the initiative passes to White.

Black unjustly refrains from opening lines on the queen's

flank by 24...b3! White is forced to reply 25 cxb3 axb3 26 a3, but then Black, with the move 26...

Ra4, attacks the e4 pawn. On 27 Bd3 follows 27...Qa7 with the threats 28...Bxh4 and 28...Rd4.

In this case, White would have to switch over to defence.)

25 Rxa5 Qxa5 26 g4

(The threat of g5 has become real. Black must now play very

accurately.)

26...Qc5 27 Ba6

(27 g5 will not do because of 27...hxg5 28 hxg5 Bxg5 29 Qxg5

Qxc2+ 30 Kcl a3 31 Rbl Qxe2 32

bxa3 f6 and Black must win.)

27...Ra8 28 Bb7 Rb8 29 g5

(The only way of playing for a win. After 29 Bd5 Black avoids

any danger with the move 29...Qd4.)

29...Rxb7 30 gxf6 gxf6 31 Qxh6 b3!

(31...a3 looks tempting, but after 32 Qd2 axb2 33 Rh3! the
game turns out in White's favour. For example: 33...Ra7 34 Rg3+ Kf8
35 h5 Ke7 36 h6 Qc4 37 Qd5.)
32 cxb3 Qd4
(If course, not 32...axb3? in view of 33 Rc1.)
33 Rc1 Rb8 34 Qxf6
(There is nothing better for White. On 34 b4 follows 34...a3
35 bxa3 Qxe4+ 36 Kb2 Qd4+, and it is best for White to agree to
perpetual check.)
34...Qxe4+ 35 Kal Qe3
(Attacking the rook and, at the same time, defending the gl
square.)
36 Rd1 Rc8 37 Qg5+
(Since 37 Rbl does not look very attractive, the exchange is
forced.)
37...Qxg5 38 h+xg5 axb3
39 axb3
(White has maintained material advantage, but his b-pawns are
not dangerous for Black, while the f and g-pawns are subject to
attack.)
39...e4 40 Rxd6 Rc5
(Here the game was adjourned, and the opponents agreed to a draw
without resuming play.)

115 King's Indian
Defence
White: Pirc
Black: Boleslavsky
(USSR v Yugoslavia
match, Leningrad 1957)
1 c4 Nf6 2 g3 g6 3 Bg2
Bg7 4 Nc3 d6 5 d3
(With this move, White determines his plan - by avoiding a clash in
the centre, he will carry out an
offensive on the queen's flank.
Black, in reply, employs a system
of play met in the Moscow
Championship 1956, in the game,
Petrosian-Vasyukov. The idea of
this system is to create pressure
on the opponent's king's flank as
quickly as possible.)
5...0-0 6 Nf3 Nc6 7
0-0 Nh5 8 Rbl f5
(Black does not hurry with the
advance of the e-pawn, so as to
force White to make another
preparatory move. After 8...e5,
possible was 9 b4 at once.)
9 Bd2 f4 10 Nd5 e5
(10...g5? 11 Nxg5 e6 12 Nxf4 Qxg5
13 Nxe6 is to White's advantage.)
11 b4 Ne7 12 e3?
(White needlessly weakens the
important f3 square. Correct was
12 Qb3, maintaining a solid
position.)
12...Nxd5 13 cxd5 Bg4
14 Qc2
(Too careless. He should try to
simplify the game by 14 h3. For
example: 14...Bxf3 15 Bxf3 fxg3
16 Bxh5 gxh5+ 17 Rxf2 [After 17
Kg2 gxh5 18 Qxh5 e4! 19 dxe4 Qe7
20 Qg4 Rf6 21 Kh2 Raf8 White
stands badly] Rxf2 18 Kxf2 Qh4+
19 Kg2 gxh5 20 Qf3 Rf8 21 Qg3,
and White can defend himself.)
14...Qd7 15 Rbc1 Rac8
16 Qc4 h6 17 Bc3 Rf7
18 exf4
(This move meets with a tactical
refutation. After 18 Nd2 f3 19
Bhl Rcf8, it would be far more
difficult for Black to exploit
his positional advantage.)

18...Nxf4! 19 gxf4
Rxf4 20 d4 Bxf3 21
Bxf3 Qh3
(This is stronger than 21...Rac8,
22 dxe5, after which chances on
saving the game appear for White.
Now the retreat of the bishop h1, g2 and e2 leads to immediate
mate, while after 22 Bdl Rbl 23
Rel Qxh2+ 24 Kf1 Rf8 25 Rc2 [25
Qf3 Rg4] Qhl+ 26 Ke2 Re4+, Black
wins easily. If 22 Qe2, the best
simply 22...Rxf3, and White loses
another pawn.)
22 Qd3
(The last hope. White tries to
exploit a tactical chance.)
22...Rxf3 23 Qxg6
(Now the bishop c3 cannot be
taken because of check with the
queen on e6 after the exchange of
rooks, but Black's next move
clears up the situation.)
23...Rf6 24 Qg3
(There is no satisfactory square
of retreat for the white queen.
On 24 Qe4, decisive is 24...Rf4
24...Qf5 White resigns)

116 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Karaklagic
offensive on the queen's flank. Black, in reply, employs a system of play met in the Moscow championship 1956, in the game, Mrosian-Vasyukov. The idea of his system is to create pressure at the opponent's king's flank as quickly as possible.

1...0-0 6 Nf3 Nc6 7-0Nh5 8 Rbl f5

Black does not hurry with the advance of the e-pawn, so as to force White to make another preparatory move. After 8...e5, possible was 9 b4 at once.

1 Bd2 f4 10 Nd5 e5

10...g5? 11 Nxd5 e6 12 Nf4 Qxg5 3 Nxe6 is to White's advantage.

1 b4 Ne4 12 e3?

White needlessly weakens the important f3 square. Correct was 2 Qb3, maintaining a solid position.

2...Nxd5 13 cxd5 Bg4 4 Qc2

Too careless. He should try to simplify the game by 14 h3. For example: 14...Bxf3 15 Bxf3 fxg3 5 Bxh5 gxf2+ 17 Rx f2 [After 17 gxf2 18 Qxh5 e4! 19 dxe4 Qe7 0 Qq4 Rf6 21 Kh2 Rf8 White stands badly] Rx f2 18 Kxf2 Qh4+ 19 Kg2 gxf2 20 Qf3 Rf8 21 Qg3, and White can defend himself.

14...Qd7 15 Rbc1 Rxc8 6 Qc4 h6 17 Bc3 Rf7 8 exf4

This move meets with a tactical refutation. After 18 Nd2 f3 19 h1 Rcf8, it would be far more difficult for Black to exploit his positional advantage.

18...Nxf4+ 19 gxf4 Rxf4 20 d4 Bxf3 21 Bxf3 Qh3

(This is stronger than 21...Rxf3 22 dxe5, after which chances of saving the game appear for White. Now the retreat of the bishop to h1, g2 and e2 leads to immediate mate, while after 22 Bd1 Rh4 23 Re1 Qxh2+ 24 Kf1 Rf8 25 Rxc2 [25 Rf3 Rg4] Qh4+ 26 Ke2 Re4+, Black wins easily. If 22 Qe2, then simply 22...Rxf3, and White loses another pawn.)

22 Qd3

(The last hope. White tries to exploit a tactical chance.)

22...Rxf3 23 Qxg6

(Now the bishop c5 cannot be taken because of check with the queen on e6 after the exchange of rooks, but Black's next move clears up the situation.)

23.Rf6 24 Qg3

(There is no satisfactory square of retreat for the White queen. On 24 Qe4, decisive is 24...Rf4.)

24...Qf5 White resigns

(USSR v Yugoslavia match, Leningrad 1957)

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 Nxe4 6 d4 b5 7 Bb3 d5 8 dxe5 Be6 9 Qe4 Qe7 10 Rd1 Nc4 11 Bxd5

(This temporary sacrifice of a piece is one of the sharpest and most interesting continuations, analysed by Soviet players in recent years, in the Spanish Game. The sacrifice leads by force to an original position in which the White queen will do battle against three Black pieces.)

11...Bxd5 12 Nc3 Bc4

(The best reply. After 12...Nb4, both 13 b3 and 13 Ne5 secure White the better game.)

13 Rxd8+ Rxd8 14 Qe3

(But not 14 Qe1? Nb4, and White loses the exchange and a pawn.)

14...b4 15 b3 Be6

(On 15...bxc3 would have followed 16 Ba3!) 16 Ne4 Rd1+ 17 Ne1 Nd4 18 Bb2 Nxc2 19 Qe2 Rxal 20 Bxa1 Nxa1 21 Nxc5 Bxc5 22 Nd3!

116 Spanish Game

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Karaklajic

(It is precisely this position which is the object of numerous
investigations. White endeavours to activate his knight. After 22QB2 Nxb3 23 axb3 0-0, Black has quite sufficient compensation for the queen.)

22...Bb6
(On 22...Be7, the reply 23 Nf4 is unpleasant.)

23 Nxb4 0-0 24 Nc6 f6
(It is necessary to make this move precisely at the present moment. If 24...Kh8?, as occurred in the game, Boleslavsky - Gurgenidze [Semi-final 23rd USSR Championship], then 25 Qd1! and Black does not succeed in opening the f-file. Bad is 25...f6 26 exf6 Rxf6 27 Qd8+ Bg8 28 Ne7.)

25 h4!
(Apparently better than 25 h3, since the h4 pawn can later take part in the attack on the king.)

25...Kh8
(The practice of later competitions has shown that Black should play 25...fxe5 26 Qxe5 Rf6!
The game, Suetin-Geller [25th USSR Championship], continued 27 g4 Bxf2+ 28 Kh1 Bxh4, and Black has a reliable position. In the same tournament was also played the game Suetin-Boleslavsky where I already defended Black's position. Events in this duel develop like this: 27 Nd4 Bf7 28 Nf3 Ne2 29 Qe4Bg6 30 Qd5+ Kf8 31 h5 Be8 32 Qe4 Bxh5, and again Black does not stand worse.)

26 Kh2 Bd7?
(Leading to a loss. It was still quite possible to struggle by continuing 26...Bg8, for example: 27 Qb2 Nxb3 28 axb3 fxe5 29 f3 Bc5 30 Nxe5 Bd6 with good chances of a draw for Black, thanks to his active bishop.)

27 exf6! Bxc6
(There is nothing better. After 27...Rx f6 [or 27...gx f6] 28 Qe7, Black would lose the bishop d7.)

28 Qe7 Rg8

(Black went for this position in making his 26th move. After the obvious 29 f7 Bd5! 30 fxg8+ Bxg8, Black, having three minor pieces and a solid position for the queen and pawn, ought not lose. However an unpleasant surprise awaits Black.)

29 fxg7+ Rxg7 30 Qf8+ Rg8 31 Qf6+ Rg7 32 h5!
(White forcibly captures not only the bishop c6, but also the knight al, obtaining a sufficient material advantage.)

32...Kg8 33 Qxc6 Rf7 34 Qc3 Nxb3
(No better either is 34...Rf5 35 Qxa1 Rxhr5+ 36 Kg3 Rg5+ 37 Kh3 Bxf2 38 Qf6.)

35 Qxb3 Bxf2 36 Qe6
(The Black pawns are isolated and in need of defence; the king is insecurely placed. With the following moves, Black installs his bishop on a fortified point in the centre, but he thereby loses a pawn.)

36...Bc5 37 Qxa6 Bb4 38 Kh3 Re7 39 Qd3 40 g4 Kg7 41 a4 Kf6 Qd2
(Threatening check on h6 supporting the advance of a-pawn.)

42...Ke6 43 a5 Kd7 a6 Kc8 45 Qb2 Re3+ Kg2 Rg3+ 47 Kf1 Bc5 Qb7+ Kd7 49 Qd5+ Bl resigns.

117 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Nedeljkovic
(USSR v Yugoslavia match, Leningrad 1959)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 c3 Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bd3 c5 8 c3 d6 9 h3 Na5
Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 Nbd2 Bd7 13 Nfl Re8 14 Ne3 g6
(On 14 moves, my opponent spent in all a few minutes. This gave the basis to conclude that Yugoslav players had found sufficient antidote to fashionable 15 b4. This is the White chose another plan connected with an exchange on e5 and journey of the knight f3 to e5.)

15 dxe5 dxe5 16 Nxe5 Be6 17 Qf3 Rd8 Nh4 Nxg4 19 hxg4 Nc6
(In the game, Boleslavsky-Timoshchenko 24th USSR Championship, BL)
what a draw for Black, thanks to active bishop.)
exf6! Bxc6
Black is nothing better. After ...
Rxf6 [or 27...gxf6] 28 Qe7, White would lose the bishop d7.)
Qe7 Rg8

Jack went for this position in his 26th move. After the
 move 29 f7 Bd5! 30 fxg8+ Bxg8, Black, having three minor pieces
and a solid position for the
rook and pawn, ought not lose. An unpleasant surprise
for Black.)
fxg7+ Rxg7 30 Qf8+
31 Qf6+ Rg7 32 h5!
The forcibly captures not only a bishop c6, but also the
right al, obtaining a sufficient
material advantage.)

...Kg8 33 Qxc6 Rf7
Qc3 Nxb3
better either is 34...Rf5 35
Rbd5+ 36 Kg3 Rg5+ 37 Kh3
38 Qf6.)
Qxb3 Bxf2 36 Qe6
Black pawns are isolated and
need of defence; the king is
securely placed. With the
playing moves, Black installs
bishop on a fortified point
the centre, but he thereby
loses a pawn.)
36...Bc5 37 Qxa6 Bd6+
38 Kh3 Re7 39 Qd3 Re5
40 g4 Kg7 41 a4 Kf6 42
Qd2
(Threatening check on h6 and
supporting the advance of the
a-pawn.)
42...Ke6 43 a5 Kd7 44
a6 Kc8 45 Qb2 Re3+ 46
Kg2 Rg3+ 47 Kf1 Bc5 48
Qb7+ Kd7 49 Qd5+ Black
resigns.

117 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Nedeljkovic
(USSR v Yugoslavia
match, Leningrad 1957)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3
Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0
Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 0-0
8 c3 d6 9 h3 Na5 10
Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12
Nbd2 Bd7 13 Nf1 Rf8
14 Ne3 g6
(On 14 moves, my opponent spent
in all a few minutes. This gave
the basis to conclude that
Yugoslav players had found a
sufficient antidote to the
fashionable 15 b4. This is why
White chose another plan connect-
ed with an exchange on e5 and
the journey of the knight f3 to g4.
But also this, as the further
continuation of the game shows,
does not take Black unawares.)
15 dxe5 dxe5 16 Nh2
Be6 17 Qf3 Rad8 18
Nhg4 Nxe4 19 hxe4 Nc4
(In the game, Boleslavsky-Tal,
24th USSR Championship, Black
played 19...Qc6 and after 20 Qg3
f6 21 g5! fell into a difficult
position. The text move is more
logical - Black transfers the
knight a5 to a better position.)
20 Nd5 Bxd5 21 exd5
Nb6 22 Be4 Rd6 23 Be5
Rd8
(Allowing White to complete his
necessary regrouping of pieces.
He should play 23...Nc4, in order
to exchange the black-squared
bishop or force it to return to
cl.)
24 Rad1 Na4 25 Bcl c4
26 Bc2 f6
(Leading to the isolation of the
e5 pawn. Better was 26...Bf6, on
which could follow - 27 Re2 Bg7
28 g5 Qb7 29 Bxa4 bxa4 30 Be3,
and if Black takes the d5 pawn,
then after 31 Rxd5 Qxd5 [31...
Rxd5? 32 Rd2 Rd7 33 Qxb7 Rxb7 34
Rd8+ Bf8 35 Bc5] 32 Rd2 Qa8 33
Rd7 Re8 34 Qxa8 Rxa8 35 Rc7 he
falls into a difficult position.
If, however, Black refrains from
taking the pawn, then White
defends it with the rook e2 and
his positional advantage is also
beyond doubt. All the same, in
this case Black's position is
more solid than on 26...f6.)
27 g5 Nc5 28 b4 Nd7
(The opening of lines after 28...
cxb3 29 axb3 promises nothing
good for Black. In particular,
there arises at once the threat
of an unpleasant pin by 30 Ba3.)
29 gxf6 Bxf6 30 Bh6
Re8 31 a4 Qb7 32 axb5
axb5 33 Be4
(By reinforcing the d5 pawn,
White intends to seize the a-file
and then, by placing the bishop on e3, to invade on a7. To counteract this plan, Black transfers the bishop to b6, but it soon becomes clear that it is needed for defence of the king's flank.)

33...Bd8 34 Qg3
(White wants to carry out the advance f4 and Black's following reply is aimed at preventing this threat.)

34...Bb6 35 Kh1 Qa7 36 Re2 Rf6 37 Rf1 Qb8?
(A bad move before the time control. 37...Bd8 was necessary, so as to meet 38 Bg5 with 38...Rd6.)

38 Bg5 Rff8
(Now, on 38...Rd6, would have followed with great strength 39 f4! After 39...Nf6 [there does not appear to be anything better] 40 fxe5 Nxe4 41 Rxe4 Rxd5 42 Bh6! Black could not defend himself against the attack on the f-file. For example: 42...Rd7 43 e6 Qxg3 44 exd7 and White wins.)

39 d6!
(A typical sacrifice for such positions, with the aim of opening lines. White obtains a decisive positional advantage.)

39...Qxd6 40 Rd2 Qc7
(Here the game was adjourned.)

41 Qh3
(The sealed move. More accurate was 41 Rfd1, since on 41...Nb8, 42 Qh3 amounts to a transposition of moves, while after 41...Rf7 42 Bd5 Nh8 follows the forcing variation 43 Bd8! Rxd8 44 Bxf7+ Qxf7 45 Rxd8 Bxd8 46 Rxd8, and White wins without difficulty. On 41 Rfd1, White does not have to fear the move 41...Nf6. After 42 Bxf6 Rxf6 43 Rd7 Qc8 44 Qh4 Black loses at once.)

41...Rf7
(The only way of prolonging resistance. If 41...Nh8, then 42 Rfd1 Qc8 43 Qh4! Black cannot do anything and he is defenceless against the numerous threats. For example: 43...Rf7 44 Rd6! Bc7 45 Bxg6 with a rout.)

42 Bd5 Nh8 43 Re1 Kh8 44 Qh4
(This is stronger than an immediate 44 Bxf7. In view of the threat 45 Bf6+, the rook cannot move away anywhere.)

44...Kg7 45 Qh6+
(There is no direct way for White to win, and he begins to manoeuvre with the aim of posting his pieces on the best positions.)

45...Kh8 46 Bxf7 Qxf7 47 Rd6 Bc7
(The f2 pawn cannot be taken either with the queen, because of 48 Bh4, or with the bishop, because of 48 Rf6.)

48 Rf6 Qg7 49 Rf3 Kg8 50 Qh4 Qd7 51 Bh6 Ne6 52 Qe4 Ng7

(Black eliminates the danger pressure on the f-file, but left with a passive bishop without chances of counterplay.)

53 Bxg7 Kxg7 54 Bb6 55 Ra6 Re6 56 Qe7
(Black has barricaded the g-rank but is forced to allow opponent's rook to the eighth rank. With his next move he closes the b8-h2 diagonal thereby freeing the queen.)

56 g3 h5 57 Kg2 Kh6
(The position of the king proves to be very precarious here.)

63 Rc8 Qe6
(Defending against 64 Rg8, better either is 63...Kh7 Qa8.)

64 Rc7 Rd6 65 Qe3+ Kh7
(Or 65...g5 66 Qe4 Qg8 67 Rh3 winning the b5 pawn.)

66 Qa7 Bd2
(On 66...Qg8 follows 67 Qxg8, after 66...Bf6, 67 Rh7+ Kg6 Qe3+ leads to mate.)

67 Re7
(67 Rh7+ Kg5 68 Qg7 does create mating threats. Therefore White prefers to increase material advantage.)

67...Qg8
(Otherwise the rook check on a7 and queen on e7 leads to mate.)

68 Rxe5 Rd3 69 Rxh5
(The simplest.)

69...Rx f3 70 Kxf3 Qe7 71 Qc5 Qf6+
(Black eliminates the dangerous pressure on the f-file, but is left with a passive bishop, without chances of counterplay.)

53 Bxg7 Kxg7 54 Ra1 Bb6 55 Ra6 Re6 56 Kh2 Qe7
(Black has barricaded the sixth rank but is forced to allow the opponent's rook to the eighth.)

57 Ra8 Bd8 58 Rb8 Rb6 59 Rc8 Qd6 60 Re5 Bf6
(Black's position looks solid, but sooner or later White will invade with rook and queen on the eighth rank. With his next move, he closes the b8-h2 diagonal, thereby freeing the queen.)
61 g3 h5 62 Kg2 Kh6
(The position of the king proves to be very precarious here.)

63 Rc8 Qe6
(Defending against 64 Rg8. No better either is 63...Kh7 64 Qa8.)

64 Rc7 Rd6 65 Qe3+ Bg5
(Or 65...g5 66 Qe4 Qg8 67 Rb7, winning the b5 pawn.)
66 Qa7 Bd2
(On 66...Qg8 follows 67 Rf8. After 66...Bf6, 67 Rh7+ Kg5 68 Qe3+ leads to mate.)

67 Re7
(67 Rh7+ Kg5 68 Qg7 does not create mating threats. Therefore White prefers to increase his material advantage.)

67...Qg8
(Otherwise the rook check on h7 and queen on e7 leads to mate.)

68 Rxe5 Rd3 69 Rxb5
(The simplest.)

69...Rxf3 70 Kxf3 Qe6 71 Qc5 Qf6+
(Also no help is 71...Qg4+ 72 Kg2 Qe4+ 73 Kh2 Qf3 74 Rb8 Bxc3 75 Qe3+.)

72 Kg2 Qxc3
(Here Black lost on time but his position is hopeless. After 73 Qf8+ Qg7 34 Qxg7+ Kxg7 75 Rb7+ Kf6 76 b5 White wins easily.)

118 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Sliwa
(Belorussia v Poland, Minsk 1957)

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 d6 5 c3 Bd7 6 d4 g6 7 0-0Bg7 8 Be3 Nf6 9 dxe5 dxe5
10 Nbd2 Qe7 11 b4! b6 12 Qc2 0-0 13 Rfd1 Rfd8 14 Nf1 Be8 15 Bg5 h6 16 Bh4 a5 17 bxa5! Rxa5 18 Bb3 Rc5 19 Ne3 g5 (Otherwise 20 Nd5) 20 Nf5 Qf8 21 Rxd8 Nxd8 22 Bg3 Bc6 23 Re1 Qe8
24 Bd5 Nd7 (24...Nxd5 25 exd5 Rxd5 26 Nxg7 Kxg7 27 Nd4!)
25 Qd3 Ra5 26 h4 g4 27 Nd2 Nf6 28 Ne4 Bb5 29 Qd2 Bxc4 30 Bxc4 Kh7 31 Bb3 Ne6 32 Kh2 Bf8 33 f3! Nc5 34 Bd1 Qd7 35 Re2 Nd3 36 Bb3 Qb5 37 Bxf7 Nf4 38 Rf2 gxf3 39 gxf3 N6h5 40 Qd8 Qc5 41 Bxh5 Nhx5 42 Qd7+ Kh8 43 Rg2!
(Threatening 44 Qf7. If 43...Nxg3 44 Qf7! Nf1+ 45 Kh3 mates.)
Black resigns.
119 Grunfeld Defence
White: Zaks
Black: Boleslavsky
(Belorussia Championship, Minsk 1957)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 cxd5 Nxd5 5 e4
Nxc3 6 bxc3 Bg7 7 Be4 0-0 8 Ne2 Nc6 9 0-0 b6
10 Be3 Bb7 11 Qc2 Na5
12 Bd3 Qd7 13 f4? f5!
14 exf5 gxf5 15 Ng3 e6
16 Rael b5! 17 Be2 Nc4
18 Bxc4 bxc4 19 Bc1
Rf6 20 Ba3 Rg6 21 Rf2
Bf6 22 Qe2 Bd7 23 Qh5
Kh8 24 Nf1 Rg8 25 Ne3
Qg7 26 g3 Rh6 White resigns. (27 Qe2 Qxg3+! 28
hxg3 Rh1 mate)

121 English Opening
White: Roizman
Black: Boleslavsky
(Belorussia Championship, Minsk 1957)
1 c4 Nf6 2 Nc3 e6 3 e4
d5 4 e5 d4 5 exf6 dxc3
6 fxg7 cxd2+ 7 Bxd2
Bxg7 8 Qc2 Nc6 8 Nf3
Qe7 10 Bd3 Bd7 11 a3
0-0-0 12 0-0-0 Nd4! 13
Nxd4 Bxd4 14 Be3? (14 f3
or 14 f4) 14...Bxe3+ 15
fxe3 Qg5! 16 Qf2 Bc6
17 Rhgl Qc5 18 Rg1?
(18 Kbl) 18...Ba4! 19
Rd2 Rxd3! 20 Rxd3
Qxc4+ 21 Rc3 Qa2!
(Threatening 22...Qa1+) 22
Rxc7+ Kxc7 23 Qf4+ Kc8
24 Qxa4 Qa1+ 25 Kd2
Qxb2+ 26 Qc2+ Qxc2+ 27
Kxc2 Rg8 28 g3 Kg4 29
Kd3 Ra4 30 Rc1+ Kd7 31
Rc3 f5 32 Ke2 h5! 33
h4 b5 34 Kf3 Kd6 35
Rc8 Rxa3 36 Rh8 b4 37
Rxh5 b3 38 Rh8 Ra6
White resigns.

123 Sicilian Defence
White: Luboshitz
Black: Boleslavsky
(Training tournament, Minsk 1957)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3
Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 d6 5 d4
b5 6 Bb3 Nxd4 7 Nxd4
exd4 8 c3 d3 9 Qxd3
Nf6 10 0-0 Be7 11 a4
Rb8 12 axb5 axb5 13
Qg3? 0-0 14 Bh6 Ng4!
15 Bf4 Kh8 16 Na3 f5!
17 exf5 Bxf5 18 Bc2
Bh4! 19 Qf3 Qd7 20
Bxf5 Qxf5 21Bg3 Qg6
22 Qc6 Bxg3 23 fxg3
Qh6! 24 h3 Qe3+ 25 Kh1
Nf2+ 26 Kh2 Ne4 27
Rael Qxg3+ 28 Kg1 Nf2
29 Qd7 h6 30 Re7 Rbd8
31 Qe6 Rf6 32 Re8+
Rxe8 33 Qxe8+ Kh7 34
Qd7 Qe3 35 Ra1 Nd1+!
36 Kh2 Qe5+ 37 Kh1
Qe1+ 38 Kh2 Rf1 White
resigns.

124 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Strugach
(Belorussia Championship, Minsk 1957)
11 English Opening
White: Roizman
Black: Boleslavsky
Belorussia Championship, Minsk 1957)
12. Re1 d5! 13. exd5 Ng4! 14. Ne4 Bc5! 15. Qd2 (15 Nxc5? Qh4!; 15 Qd1 Qh4
16. h3 exd5! 17. Bxd5 Rad8 18. c4 Rfe8!) 15...Qh4 16. g3 Qh5 17. Nxc5 bxc5 18.
Qg2 (18 dxe6? Bb7+19. Kg1 c4!; threatening 20...Qc5+ wins) 18...Bb7!

123 Sicilian Defence
White: Luboshitz
Black: Boleslavsky
(Training tournament, Minsk 1957)
12. Re1 d5! 13. exd5 Ng4! 14. Ne4 Bc5! 15. Qd2 (15 Nxc5? Qh4!; 15 Qd1 Qh4
16. h3 exd5! 17. Bxd5 Rad8 18. c4 Rfe8!) 15...Qh4 16. g3 Qh5 17. Nxc5 bxc5 18.
Qg2 (18 dxe6? Bb7+19. Kg1 c4!; threatening 20...Qc5+ wins) 18...Bb7!

124 Sicilian Defence
White: Klavins
Black: Boleslavsky
(Championship of the Baltic Zone, Minsk 1957)
12. Re1 d5! 13. exd5 Ng4! 14. Ne4 Bc5! 15. Qd2 (15 Nxc5? Qh4!; 15 Qd1 Qh4
16. h3 exd5! 17. Bxd5 Rad8 18. c4 Rfe8!) 15...Qh4 16. g3 Qh5 17. Nxc5 bxc5 18.
Qg2 (18 dxe6? Bb7+19. Kg1 c4!; threatening 20...Qc5+ wins) 18...Bb7!
125 King's Indian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Shagalovich
(Championship of the Baltic Zone, Minsk 1957)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 g3
Bg7 4 Bg2 0-0 5 Nc3 d6
6 Nf3 Nc6 7 0-0 a6 8
h3 Rb8 9 e4 b5 10 e5
Ne8? (10...dxe5 11 dxe5 Qxd1)
11 cxb5 axb5 12 Bf4
Bd7 13 Rel b4 14 Ne4
h6 15 g4! f5 16 exf6
exf6 17 Ng3 Ne7 18
Qb3+ Kh7 19 d5! f5 20
g5! h5 21 Rad1 c5? (To
prevent 22 Nd4) 22 dxc6
Nxc6 23 Bxd6! Nxd6 24
Rxd6 Qc7 25 Qd5 Rfd8
26 Nh4 Ne5 27 Rx e5 Rb5
28 Qf7 Rxe5 29 Rxg6
Black resigns.

126 Nimzo Indian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Peterson
(Championship of the Baltic Zone, Minsk 1957)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3
Bb4 4 e3 b6 5 Ne2 Ba6
6 Ng3 0-0 7 e4 d6 8
Bd3 e5? 9 0-0 Bxc3
(9...exd4 10 Nxd4!) 10 bxc3
Nc6 11 Nf5 Bc8 12Bg5
exd4 13 Nxd4! Ne5 14
f4 Ng6 (14...Nxd3 15 Qxd3 with
the threats of 16 Nc6 and 16 e5)
15 e5! dxe5 16 fxe5
Nxe5 17 Be4 Bg4 18 Qe1
Qd6 19 Bxf6 gxf6 20
Qh4 f5 21 Bxa8 Ng6 22
Qf2 Rxa8 23 h3 Bh5 24
Qxf5 Black resigns.

127 Sicilian Defence
White: Jezek
Black: Boleslavsky
(European Team Championship, Vienna 1957)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6
Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 d6 5
Bd7 6 d4 g6 7 0-0
8 Be3 b6? 9 d5! 10
Bxd7+ Qxd7 11 c4
12 Nfd2 f5 13 f3
14 Nc3 0-0 15 b4!
16 c5! dxc5 17 bxc5
fxe4 18 fxe4 Ng4
Qe2 Nxe3 20 Qxe3 Qd5
21 Nc4 b5? 22 Rx
Rxf6 23 Nxe5 Qc8
Rd1 b4 25 Ne2 Ng8
Nd4 Qe8 27 Ndc6 g5
Nimzo Indian

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Peterson

(Semi-final 25th USSR Championship, Minsk 1957)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 a6 5 Nc3 Qc7 6 g3 Nf6 7 Bg2 Nc6 8 Nb3? Be7 9 0-0 0-0 10 f4 b5 11 a3? (11 e5) 11...Bb7 12 g4 d5! 13 exd5 Nxd5 14 Nxd5 exd5 15 c3 Rfe8 16 Kh1 Rad8 17 Bd2 d4! 18 Qc1 Qd7 19 h3 h5 20 Qd1 Bf8 21 cxd5 Nxd4 22 Nxd4 Bxg2+ 23 Kxg2 Qxd4 24 Bc3 Qc4! 25 Qc1 Re2+ 26 Kg3 Rd3+ 27 Kh4 Be7+ 28 g5 Rfxh3+! White resigns.

Sicilian Defence

White: Blagidze
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final 25th USSR Championship, Kiev 1957)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 a6 5 Nc3 Qc7 6 g3 Nf6 7 Bg2 Nc6 8 Nb3? Be7 9 0-0 0-0 10 f4 b5 11 a3? (11 e5) 11...Bb7 12 g4 d5! 13 exd5 Nxd5 14 Nxd5 exd5 15 c3 Rfe8 16 Kh1 Rad8 17 Bd2 d4! 18 Qc1 Qd7 19 h3 h5 20 Qd1 Bf8 21 cxd5 Nxd4 22 Nxd4 Bxg2+ 23 Kxg2 Qxd4 24 Bc3 Qc4! 25 Qc1 Re2+ 26 Kg3 Rd3+ 27 Kh4 Be7+ 28 g5 Rfxh3+! White resigns.

Sicilian Defence

White: Jezek
Black: Boleslavsky

European Team Championship, Vienna 1957)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 Bc4 e6 7 0-0 Be7 0-0 9 Kh1 Nxd4 Qxd4 b6 11 Bg5 Bb7 f4 Rc8 13 f5? (13...Rc5! 14 Bh4? Be3) 14...exf5 15 f5 Qc8 16 Rae1 Rxf5 Rxf5 Qxf5 18 Bc4 19 Bd3 Qd7 20 Rf1!! 21 Rg1 Ng4 22 Bg3 f6 23 Bg3 Bf6 23 Ne4! 24 Bxe4 Qxg3! White resigns.

128 Sicilian Defence

White: Blagidze
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final 25th USSR Championship, Kiev 1957)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 a6 5 Nc3 Qc7 6 g3 Nf6 7 Bg2 Nc6 8 Nb3? Be7 9 0-0 0-0 10 f4 b5 11 a3? (11 e5) 11...Bb7 12 g4 d5! 13 exd5 Nxd5 14 Nxd5 exd5 15 c3 Rfe8 16 Kh1 Rad8 17 Bd2 d4! 18 Qc1 Qd7 19 h3 h5 20 Qd1 Bf8 21 cxd5 Nxd4 22 Nxd4 Bxg2+ 23 Kxg2 Qxd4 24 Bc3 Qc4! 25 Qc1 Re2+ 26 Kg3 Rd3+ 27 Kh4 Be7+ 28 g5 Rfxh3+! White resigns.

130 King's Indian Defence

White: Chistiakov
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final 25th USSR Championship, Kiev 1957)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 a6 5 Nc3 Qc7 6 g3 Nf6 7 Bg2 Nc6 8 Nb3? Be7 9 0-0 0-0 10 f4 b5 11 a3? (11 e5) 11...Bb7 12 g4 d5! 13 exd5 Nxd5 14 Nxd5 exd5 15 c3 Rfe8 16 Kh1 Rad8 17 Bd2 d4! 18 Qc1 Qd7 19 h3 h5 20 Qd1 Bf8 21 cxd5 Nxd4 22 Nxd4 Bxg2+ 23 Kxg2 Qxd4 24 Bc3 Qc4! 25 Qc1 Re2+ 26 Kg3 Rd3+ 27 Kh4 Be7+ 28 g5 Rfxh3+! White resigns.

Sicilian Defence

White: Jezek
Black: Boleslavsky

(Semi-final 25th USSR Championship, Vienna 1957)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 Bc4 e6 7 0-0 Be7 0-0 9 Kh1 Nxd4 Qxd4 b6 11 Bg5 Bb7 f4 Rc8 13 f5? (13...Rc5! 14 Bh4? Be3) 14...exf5 15 f5 Qc8 16 Rae1 Rxf5 Rxf5 Qxf5 18 Bc4 19 Bd3 Qd7 20 Rf1!! 21 Rg1 Ng4 22 Bg3 f6 23 Bg3 Bf6 23 Ne4! 24 Bxe4 Qxg3! White resigns.

129 Spanish Game

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Nezhmetdinov
(Semi-final 25th USSR Championship, Kiev 1957)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 d6 5 c3 Bd7 6 d4 g6 7 0-0 Bg7 8 Be3 b6? 9 d5! Nce7 10 Bxd7+ Qxd7 11 c4 h6 12 Nfd2 f5 13 f3 Nf6 14 Nc3 0-0 15 b4! Kh7 16 c5! dxc5 17 bxc5 fxe4 18 fxe4 Ng4 19 Qe2 Nxe3 20 Qxe3 Bf6 21 Nc4 b5? 22 Rxf6! Rxh6 23 Nxe5 Qc8 24 Rd1 b4 25 Ne2 Ng8 26 Nd4 Qe8 27 Ndc6 g5 28 d6! cxd6 29 cxd6 Qe6 30 h3 Qxa2 31 d7 b3 32 d8(Q)! Rxd8 33 Qa7+ Kh8 34 Nxd8 Black resigns.

131 King's Indian Defence

White: Tal
Black: Boleslavsky
(25th USSR Championship, Riga 1958)

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 Be3 e5 7 d5 c5 8 g4

(After locking the centre, White immediately begins an attack. Black, not wanting to confine himself to passive tactics, prepares a counter-break on the king's flank.)

8...Ne8 9 h4 f5 10 gxf5 gxf5 11 exf5

(A novelty, prepared by Tal. Usually 11 Qd2 is played here, with queen's side castling to follow. Taking on f5 is linked to the idea of obtaining a favourable exchange of the white squared bishops.)

11...Bxf5 12 Bd3 e4!

(The best retort. After 12...Bxd3 13 Qxd3 Nd7 14 Ne4 Ndf6 15 0-0-0 Nxe4 16 fxe4, there is no doubt as to White's advantage.)

13 fxe4 Qe7

(This tempting move allows White to advantageously simplify the position. Better was the modest 13...Bc8. If Black, after 13...Bc8, were to succeed in placing his knight on e5, then he would have sufficient compensation for the pawn. On 13...Bc8, Tal intended to continue 14 e5, giving back the pawn but making his pieces more active.)

14 exf5! Qxe3+ 15 Qe2 Qg3+ 16 Kd2

(Now it is possible to sum up a little. White retains an extra pawn. The loss of castling has no significance here, since the White king finds a safe refuge on the c2 square.)

16...Nc7

(On 16...Nf6, unpleasant is 17 Qe6+ Kh8 18 Nge2 and there is no good square of retreat for the Black queen.)

17 Qh2

(Of course, having an extra pawn, it is possible to play for an exchange of queens, but stronger was 17 Rh3 Qf4+ 18 Kc2, and the Black queen falls under attack by the White pieces. If, on 17 Rh3, Black replies 17...Qe5, then, after 18 Qxe5 Bxe5 19 Nf3, White, by comparison with the continuation in the game, gains an important tempo.)

17...Qxh2 18 Rxhr2 Nd7 19 Ne4!

(If 19 Nf3, then 19...Nf5 20 Nxe5 Bxe5 21 Rg2+ Kh8. White cannot avoid the exchange of rooks on the g-file, after which the possibility of realising the extra pawn becomes highly problematical. Therefore Tal, by attacking the d6 pawn, wants to force the Black bishop to occupy the e5 square and in this way avoid the exchange of knights.)

19...Kh8 20 Rg2?

(Outwardly, this move looks blameless, White places the rook on an open file and renews the threat of taking the d6 pawn, but it is precisely the move 20 Rg2 which is the initial cause of all the subsequent trouble. White does not notice the tactical blow which at once rids Black of all his difficulties. He should make the prophylactic move 20 Rb1, and on 20...Ne5 [Now there is nothing in 20...b5 21 b3 bxc4 22 Rab8 23 Rb3] continue 21 Rb2, 22 Rf4 Bh6 23 Ng5, retaining a favourable position.)

20...b5!

21 Nf3

(If 21 cxb5 Nxd5 22 Nxd5, 22...Nf5! and White has, in the two extra pawns, a difficult position in view of the threat of 23...Nf4 and 23...Rab8. After 23...Nxd6 bxc4 22 Nxc4 [Worse is 22 Bxc4 Rb8!] Nxd5 and White retains an extra pawn, but Black's position is full compensation, for this. Tal prefers to give up the f5 pawn, but to activate his passive knight.)

21...bxc4 22 Bxc4 0-0 23 Rb1 Rxf5 24 Rb2 Ne5 25 Bb3?

(But here it was already necessary to take on d6. After 25 Nxd6 Nxc4+ 26 Nxc4 Rxd5+ 27 Kh1 Black's position is better. White makes a draw with difficulty.)

25...c4 26 Bc2

(Of course, 26 Nxd6? is possible because of 26...cxb3 Nxb3 bxa2 and Black wins.)

26...Nxd5 27 Nxd5 28 Nf5
in 20...b5 21 b3 bxc4 22 bxc4 Rab8 23 Rb3] continue 21 Rf2 Ng4 22 Rf4 Bh6 23 Ng5, retaining a favourable position.)
20...b5!

21 Nf3
(If 21 cxb5 Nxd5 22 Nxd6, then 22...Ne5! and White has, despite the two extra pawns, a difficult position in view of the threats 23...NF4 and 23...Rad8. After 21 Nxd6 bxc4 22 Nxc4 [Worse is 22 Bxc4 Rb8! Nxd5 and White retains two extra pawns but Black's initiative is full compensation for this. Tal prefers to give up the f5 pawn, but to activate his passive knight.)
21...bxc4 22 Bxc4 Rab8 23 Rbl Rxf5 24 Nf5 Ne5 25 Bb3?
(But here it was already necessary to take on d6. After 25 Nxd6 Nxc4+ 26 Nxc4 Rxd5+ 27 Kc2, Black's position is better, but White makes a draw without difficulty.)
25...c4 26 Bc2
(Of course, 26 Nxd6? is not possible because of 26...cxb3! 27 Nxf5 bxa2 and Black wins.)
26...Nxd6 27 Nxd6 Rf6 28 Nf5

(Greater practical chances were retained by 28 Nde4. On this Black best continues 28...Ra6 29 a3 Rd8 30 Kc1 h6 with a strong attack.)
28...Rd8 29 Ke1
(Also hopeless is 29 Nxe7 Nf4+.)
29...Ne4 30 Rg3 Ned5+ 31 Bxd3 Nxd3+ 32 Rxd3 Rxd3
(32...cxd3 was also possible, but taking with the rook allows Black, having little time for reflection, to make a series of obvious moves and simplify the position.)
33 Nxe7 Kxg7 34 Ke2 h6 35 Ne4 Re6 36 Rg1+
(Thanks to this check, White manages to save the knight and somewhat prolong resistance.)
36...Rg6 37 Rcl Rg2+ 38 Nf2 Rd4 39 Kf3 Rg6 40 Ne4 Re6 41 Rg1+ Kf8 42 Rg4 Rb6
(But here it was already necessary to take on d6. After 25 Nxd6 Nxc4+ 26 Nxc4 Rxd5+ 27 Kc2, Black's position is better, but White makes a draw without difficulty.)
25...c4 26 Bc2
(Of course, 26 Nxd6? is not possible because of 26...cxb3! 27 Nxf5 bxa2 and Black wins.)
26...Nxd6 27 Nxd6 Rf6 28 Nf5

132 Sicilian Defence
White: Polugaevsky
Black: Boleslavsky
(25th USSR Championship, Riga 1958)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Bg5 e6 7 Qd2 Be7 8 0-0-0 0-0
(In a game from the Kiev Semi-final, Vasyukov-Boleslavsky, 8...Nxd4 9 Qxd4 0-0 was played, but on this followed 10 e5! dx5 11 Qxe5 Qb6 12 Be3 Ng4 13 Bxb6 Nxe5 14 Bc7 Ng6 15 Bg3 Nf6 16 Bb5! with advantage to White.)
9 Nb3
(A continuation, introduced into practice by Alekhine. White creates pressure on the d6 pawn and prepares an attack on the Black king.)
9...Qb6
(Repulsing the threat 10 Bxf6, with an attack on the f2 pawn.)
10 Be3
(An inaccuracy. Better was 10 f3, threatening 11 Bxf6 and forcing Black to play 10...Rd8. Then, by continuing 11 Be3 Qc7 12 Qf2! Nd7 13 Nb5 Qb8 14 g4 a6 15 N5d4 Nxd4 16 Nxd4 Qc7 17 h4, White would have more chances of first delivering a blow to the enemy king.)
10...Qc7 11 f3 a6 12 g4 b5 13 g5 Nd7 14 f4
(More often in such positions the attack is conducted with the g and h-pawns. By advancing the f-pawn, White counts on opening the position of the Black king more quickly.)
14...Nb6 15 f5
(On 15 Qf2 would have followed 15...Na4. Exploiting the double attack motive [15...exf5 16 exf5 Bxf5 17 Qf2], White immediately carries out the planned advance.
White's position looks menacing, but Black has quite sufficient defensive resources available.)
15...b4! 16 Nb1 Ne5! 17 f6
(Forced, in view of the threats 17...Nbc4 and 17...exf5. Bad is 17 Qf2 Ng4! 18 Bxb6 Nxf2 19 Bxc7 Bxg5+ 20 Nld2 Nhx1 and Black is the exchange ahead. Or 17 Nd4 Bb7 18 Bg2 Nbc4 19 Qe2 Nxe3 20 Qxe3 exf5 21 Nxf5 Rb8 and Black has an excellent position.)
17...gx6f 18 gx6 Bxf6 19 Bg5
(A tempting but incorrect plan. He should simplify the game by 19 Qxd6 Qxd6 20 Rxd6. If now 20...Nbc4?, then 21 Bxc4 Nxc4 22 Rgl+ Kh8 23 Bd4! with advantage to White. After the correct 20...Nbd7, the chances of the two sides would be approximately equal.)
19...Bg7 20 Rg1 Ng6 21 Bh6
(White thinks that he will force the exchange of bishops, after which his pressure on the opponent's king's flank would be highly unpleasant, but Black, disregarding material loss, retains his powerful bishop and takes over the initiative.)
21...Be5!
(diagram)
22 h4
(Also after 22 Bxf8 Kxf8 23 Qh6+ Kg8! 24 h4 Bb7 25 h5 Rc8, Black's threats can hardly be repulsed. For example: 26 Bd3 d5! 27 Rdf1 Bh7 28 Qe3 dxe4 29 hxg6 hxg6 30 Bxe4 Qe5.)
22...Bb7 23 h5 Rfd1+! hxg6 hxg6 25 Qe2
(The only way of repulsing threats [25...Bxe4 and 25...Na4].)
25...Na4 26 Nd4 Nc5
(The other means of attack 26...Qc5 27 Be3 Bxe4, and already best for White to gain the exchange with the move Rd3, since on 28 Rd2 f5 29...Rab8 with the threat Nc3.)
27 Bg2 Qa5 28 Qc4
(Here, Black, finding himself in time trouble, goes for a repetition of moves, and this does not reach its logical conclusion. 28...Bc6! with the threat 29...Bb5, would have an irresistible attack. Example: 29 a3 bxa3 30 Nxa3 Bd7 31 Bd2 Qb6 32 Bc3 Na4 33 Qb3 Bxe4 34 Qxc3 Ba4.)
29 Qd3 Nc5 30 Qc4
Draw.

133 Sicilian Defense
White: Spassky
Black: Boleslavsky
(25th USSR Championship, Riga 1958)
White's position looks menacing, as Black has quite sufficient defensive resources available. 

...b4 16 Nb1 Ne5! 17

forced, in view of the threats ...Nbc4 and 17...exf5. Bad is Qf2 Ng4! 18 Bxb6 Nxf2 19 Bxc7 Bxc7 20 Nld2 Nxe1 and Black is the exchange ahead. Or 17 Nd4 Bb7 Bg2 Nbc4 19 Qe2 Nxe3 20 Qxe3 f5 21 Nxf5 Re8 and Black has an excellent position.)

...gx6 18 gxf6 Bxf6 Bg5

tempting but incorrect plan. It should simplify the game by 19 Qxd6 20 Rxd6. If now 20...

Ng6, then 21 Bxc6 Nxc4 22 Rgl+ Bf5 23 Bd4! with advantage to White. After the correct 20...

Be7, the chances of the two sides would be approximately equal.

...Bg7 20 Rg1 Ng6 21

White thinks that he will force the exchange of bishops, after which his pressure on the opponent's king's flank would be fairly unpleasant, but Black, regarding material loss, gains his powerful bishop and gains over the initiative.)

...Be5!

h4

so after 22 Bxf8 Kxf8 23 Qh6+!! 24 h5 Bh7 25 h5 Rc8, Black's threats can hardly be repulsed. For example: 26 Bd3 d5! 27 Rdf1 28 Qe3 dxe4 29 hxg6 hxg6 30

Bxe4 Qe5.)

22...Bb7 23 h5 Rfc8 24 hxg6 hxg6 25 Qe2

(The only way of repulsing both threats ...Bxe4 and 25...

Na4.)

25...Na4 26 Nd4 Nc5

(The other means of attack was 26...Qc5 27 Be3 Bxe4, and it is already best for White to give up the exchange with the move 28 Rd3, since on 28 Rd2 follows 28...Rab8 with the threat 29...

Nc3.)

27 Bg2 Qa5 28 Qc4 Na4

(Here, Black, finding himself in time trouble, goes for a repetition of moves, and the game does not reach its logical conclusion. 28...Bc6! with the threat 29...Bb5, would have given an irresistible attack. For example: 29 a3 bxa3 30 Nxa3 Rab8 31 Bd2 Qb6 32 Bc3 Na4 33 Qb3 Nxc3 34 Qxc3 Ba4.)

29 Qd3 Nc5 30 Qc4 Na4 Draw.

133 Sicilian Defence

White: Spassky
Black: Boleslavsky

(25th USSR Championship, Riga 1958)
continuation chosen by White wrecks this plan.)
15...fxg6 16 h5 gxh5
(On 16...b4 would follow with great strength 17 Nd5!, since the capture of the knight leads to a catastrophe.)
17Rxh5 Nf6
(Also now in the event of 17...b4 follows 18 Nd5! exd5? 19 Qxd5+ Kh8 20 Rxh7+ Kxh7 21 Qh5+ Kg8 22 Bc4+ and mate in two moves.)
18Rg5 Ne5
(On 18...b4, good is 19 Na4 with the threat 20 Bb6.)
19Qg2 Bf8 20 f4 Nc4
(Black has to switch over wholly to defence. Even worse is 20...Nf7 21 Rg3 Bb7 22 Bd3 and Black will not withstand the onslaught of the White pieces.)
21Bxc4 bxc4 22 Nd4
(Rb8 23 Rg1 Rb7
(24 Ne6 was threatened. It is necessary to defend the g7 square once more.)
24Nxe6?
(A positional sacrifice, with the help of which White wants to once and for all tie down the opponent's pieces, but it leads to the reverse result. It is not worth sacrificing a piece to establish the bishop on d4, he could simply retreat the knight to f3 and Black's defence would entail great difficulties.)
24...Bxe6 25 Bd4 d5!

(diagram

(White missed this counter-blows in his calculations. Now the game is opened and Black's extra piece becomes a threatening force.)
26Be5
(Or 26 e5 Ne4 27 Nxe4 dxe4 28 Qxe4 c3! with a decisive attack: on 29 Bxc3, 29...Qxc3! wins.)
26...Qe7 27 exd5 Nxd5
28 Ne4 c3! 29 Nxc3
(The first inaccuracy. Finding himself in time trouble, Black does not notice that 29...Nxf4! is the simplest win. If 30 Bxf4, then 30...Qb4, while after 30 Qf3 Black, with the move 30...Ng6, eliminates White's last chance attack on the g-file.)
30Bxc3 Bxa2 31 Qf3
(Qf7??
(Letting the win slip. Black does not notice that after the exchange of the queen for two rooks, his bishop finds itself in a trap. 31...Bc4 is winning. For example: 32 f5 Qe2 33 Qxb7 Qe3+ 34 Kb1 Qxg5.)
32Bxg7 Bxg7 33 Rgs7+ Qxg7 34 Rxg7+ Rxg7 35 b3
(The bishop can only be saved by 35...Rg1+ 36 Kb2 Bb1, but to all intents and purposes it remains out of play, and after 37 Qe3 White would have at the least perpetual check. White restores material and the game ends peacefully.)
35...Rf8 36 Qe5 37 Qd6! Rg7
38 Kg8 Qe5+ Kg8 41 Qf7
42 Qd5+ Kh8 43 Qf5

134 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Tolush
(25th USSR Championship, Riga 1958)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3
(0n this continuation Black can hardly be reproached, as it is correct. The position of the knight on the queen's flank is secure, and it is easier for White to create an attack on it than for Black to counter threats to the White king.)
6 e5 Bc5
13 Rd1 0-0-0
comes a threatening force.)
6 Be5
t 26 e5 Ne4 27 Nxe4 dxe4 28 e4 c3! with a decisive attack:
29 Bxc3, 29...Qxc3! wins.)
6...Qe7 27 exd5 Nxd5
8 Ne4 c3! 29 Nxc3 xc3
the first inaccuracy. Finding
self in time trouble, Black
t notice that 29...Nxf4!
the simplest win. If 30 Bxf4,
en 30...Qb4, while after 30 Qf3
ack, with the move 30...Ng6,
imates White's last chance -
tack on the g-file.)
0 Bxc3 Bxa2 31 Qf3
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't notice that after the
change of the queen for two
oks, his bishop finds itself in
trap. 31...Bc4 is winning. For
ample: 32 f5 Qe2 33 Qxb7 Qe3+
Kbl Qxg5.)
2 Bxg7 Bxg7 33 Rxg7+
xg7 34 Rxg7+ Rxg7 35
3
he bishop can only be saved by
...Rgl+ 36 Kb2 Bbl, but to all
tents and purposes it remains
t of play, and after 37 Qe3
ite would have at the least

perpetual check. Thus White
restores material equilibrium,
and the game ends peacefully.)
35...Rf8 36 Qd5+ Kh8
37 Qd6! Rgf7 38 Qe5+
Kg8 39 Qg5+ Kh8 40
Qe5+ Kg8 41 Qg5+ Rg7
42 Qd5+ Kh8 Draw.

134 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Tolush
(25th USSR Championship, Riga 1958)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4
cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3
a6 6 Be2 e6
(Usually in this position 6...e5
is played. Black prefers to lead
the game into the Scheveningen
system.)
7 0-0 Qc7 8 f4 Bd7 9
Bf3 Nc6 10 Be3 Na5
(This move is a loss of time,
since the journey of the knight
to c4 gives Black nothing and
soon after he refrains from it;
moreover this move runs contrary
to the future plan of play chosen
by Black.)
11 Kh1 Be7 12 Qe1 h5
(This is where Black reveals his
plan! He wants to castle queen's
side and attack on the king's
flank. This original plan all the
same can hardly be regarded as
correct. The position of the king
on the queen's flank is not quite
secure, and it is easier for
White to create an attack against
it than for Black to create any
threats to the White king.)
13 Rd1 0-0-0 14 Rd3
Kb8 15 Nd1
(Looks rather primitive, but is
apparently the best continuation.
White threatens 16 Rf3 Nc6 17 b4
with a strong attack.)
15...d5
(White wants to take the b4
square under control, but this
move is an oversight, leading to
the loss of the exchange. He
should continue 15...Rc8 16 Rf3
Qd8, on which White would reply
17 c5 with the better game.)
16 exd5 exd5 17 Bd2
Nc6 18 Nxc6+ Bxc6 19
Ba5 Qd7
(It is clear that 19...b6 20 Bxb6
Qxb6 21 Qxe7 is even less
suitable for Black.)
20 Bxd8 Bxd8
(By 20...Rxd8, Black might still
force White to take great pains.
Now, however, with a little
exchanging combination, White
simplifies the game and makes it
easier for himself to realise his
material advantage.)
21 Ne3 Bc7 22 Qd1 Rd8
23 Nxd5! Nxd5 24 c4
Ne3
(Also 24...Bxf4 25 Bxd5 would
leave Black with no chances at
all.)
25 Rd7 Rxd7 26 Qe2
(By 26 Qb3 Bxf3 27 Qxe3, he could remain with queen for two bishops, but after 27...Bc6 the position seemed less clear to me on the chosen continuation.)

26...Nxf1 27 Bxc6 bxc6
28 Qxf1 Rd2 29 g3 Rxb2
30 Qa1
(Now comes the technical stage of the struggle.)

30...Rd2 31 Qc3 Re2
(Or course, 31...Rxa2? is not possible because of 32 Qb3+.)

32 Qf3
(Also possible was 32 Qxg7; White prefers to take on c6, so as to obtain a passed pawn and open the position of the Black king.)

32...Rb2 33 Qxc6 h4 34 g5
exh4 Rxh4
(Or 34...Rf2 35 Qxa6 Rxf4 36 c5 Rxc4 37 Qb5+ Kc8 38 Qe8+ Kb7 39 c6+ Kb6 40 Qa8 and White wins.)

35 Qe8+ Kb7 36 Qxf7 a5
37 Qd5+
(Simplest was 37 Qxg7 a4 38 h5 a3 39 h6 and the White pawn queens first.)

37...Kb8 38 c5 Ra1+ 39 Kg2 a4 40 c6 a3 41 Qg8+
(As master K. Zvoriikina pointed out after the game, White could win a rook, by continuing 41 Qb3+ Kc8 42 Qg8+ Bd8 43 Qxg7 Ra2+ 44 Kh3 Bc7 45 Qg8+, but also the move in the game is, of course, sufficient.)

41...Ka7 42 Qb3 Bb6 43 Qa4+ Black resigns.

135 Nimzo Indian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Zurakhov
(Kiev Championship 1958)

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 c5 5 Bd3 d5 6 Nf3 0-0 7 0-0
(The opponents have played one of the most popular variations of the Nimzo Indian Defence. Now Black has to determine the position of the queen's knight, which he could bring out to c6 or d7. The future struggle will also take shape according to the development of this knight. On 7...Nc6, the main continuation is 8 a3 Bxc3 9 bxc3 dxc4 10 Bxc4 Qc7, after which is created a position, frequently met in games of contemporary tournaments. Outwardly, this position looks favourable for White. Even though he has a pawn centre and two bishops, despite numerous analyses, it has not been possible to prove an advantage for White. The pawn centre, after 11...e5, is subject to attack, while the well-deployed Black knight is shown to be no weaker than the White bishop. If Black, instead of 8...Bxc3, plays 8...cxd4, then White obtains the better game after 9 axb4 dxc3 10 bxc3 [Taimanov-Tal, 24th USSR Championship].)

7...dxc4
(Replay shows that Black intends to place the knight on d7. It is usual, before developing the knight on this square, to

first of all exchange on c4. Practice has shown that, in reply to an immediate 7...Nbd7, White can set Black an unpleasant choice with the move 8 a3. The continuation 8...Bxc4 9 bxc3 dxc4 10 Bxc4 Qc7 is insufficient, since the knight d7 does not exert pressure on the d4 square and blocks in the bishop c8. After 11 Qe2 e5 12 e4! the White centre moves into action, and the bishops become very strong. Black, of course, can retreat the bishop to a5, but the remoteness of the black-squared bishop from the king's flank makes it easier for White to create an attack in this sector - the bishop already will not get to the e7 or f6 squares, where it will be necessary for defence.

For a long time it was considered that Black, on 8 a3, could successfully reply 8...cxd4, since 9 axb4 dxc3 10 bxc3 dxc4 11 Bxc4 Qc7 is unfavourable for White, while after 9 exd4 dxc4 10 Bxc4 Be7 the usual position in this variation is obtained. However, in the Semi-final of the 23rd USSR Championship, Fursikov against Gipslis, on 8...cxd4 surprisingly replied 9 Nxd5! exd5 10 axb4, and White stood better since, in the open position, his bishops are stronger than the Black knights.

Also, finally, it should be pointed out that, after 7...Nbd7 8 a3, 8...dxc4 is also unsatisfactory for Black. On this follows 9 axb4, and what can Black do now? Unfavourable is
Nimzo Indian Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Zürakho

(Kiev Championship 1958)

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 c5 5 Bd3 d5 6 Nf3 0-0 7 0-0

The opponents have played one of the most popular variations of the Nimzo Indian Defence. Now Black has to determine the position of the queen's knight, which he could bring out to c6 or d7. The future struggle will also take shape according to the development of this knight.

On 7...Nc6, the main continuation is 8 a3 Bxc3 9 bxc3 dxc4 10 Bxc4 Ne7, after which is created a position, frequently met in games of contemporary tournaments. Undoubtedly, this position looks favourable for White. Even though he has a pawn centre and two bishops, despite numerous analyses, it has not been possible to prove an advantage for White. The pawn centre, after 1...e5, is subject to attack, while the well-deployed Black knight is shown to be no weaker than the White bishop. If Black, instead of 8...Bxc3, plays 8...dxc4, then White obtains the better game after 9 axb4 dxc3 10 bxc3 Nc3 [Taimanov-Tal, 24th USSR Championship].

7...dxc4

This reply shows that Black intends to place the knight on c4. It is usual, before developing the knight on this square, to first of all exchange on c4. Practice has shown that, in reply to an immediate 7...Nbd7, White can set Black an unpleasant choice with the move 8 a3. The continuation 8...Bxc3 9 bxc3 dxc4 10 Bxc4 Qc7 is insufficient, since the knight d7 does not exert pressure on the d4 square and blocks in the bishop c8. After 11 Qe2 e5 12 e4! the White centre moves into action, the bishops become very strong. Black, of course, can retreat the bishop to a5, but the remoteness of the black-squared bishop from the king's flank makes it easier for White to create an attack in this sector - the bishop already will not get to the e7 or f8 squares, where it will be needed for defence.

For a long time it was considered that Black, on 8 a3, could successfully reply 8...cxd4, since 9 axb4 dxc3 10 bxc3 dxc4 11 Bxc4 Qc7 is unfavourable for White, while after 9 exd4 dxc4 10 Bxc4 Be7 the usual position in this variation is obtained. However, in the Semi-final of the 23rd USSR Championship, Furman against Gipslis, on 8...cxd4, surprisingly replied 9 Nxd5! exd5 10 axb4, and White stood better, since, in the open position, his bishops are stronger than the Black knights.

Also, finally, it should be pointed out that, after 7...Nbd7 8 a3, 8...dxc4 is also unsatisfactory for Black. On this follows 9 axb4, and what can Black do now? Unfavourable is 9...cxb4 10 Bxc4, and White has a strong centre and two bishops, while if 9...cxd4, then 10 Bxh7+! Nhx7 11 Qxd4, and Black has a difficult position because of the weakness of the c4 pawn. For example: 11...Nbd6 12 Qxd8 Rxd8 13 e4 Bd7 14 Be3 with the threat 15 Rxa7.

Thus one can draw the conclusion that 7...dxc4 is essentially an improvement, by comparison with 7...Nbd7.

8 Bxc4 Nbd7 9 Qe2

(On 9 a3, Black now replies 9...cxd4. Besides the move made in the game, 9 Qd3 is also possible. The position of the queen on e2 or d3 is of about equal worth, and the choice of this or the other variation is a matter of taste.)

9...a6 10 a4

(The other continuation, on which White does not prevent the move ...b5, is 10 a3 Ba5 11 Rd1. In this case, Black should not hurry with the exchange on d4, leaving the opponent the problem of solving the development of the black-squared bishop.)

10...cxd4 11 exd4 Nb6

12 Bb3 Nbd5!

(In the event of 12...Bd7 13 Rd1 Bc6 14 Ne5 Rc8 15 Rd3! White, by transferring the rook to the king's flank, obtains a strong attack. After the move 12...Nbd5, the c3 square is in need of defence.)

13 Nxd5 exd5

(More logical than 13...Nxd5, after which White, by continuing 14 Ne5 Bd7 15 Rd1 followed by 16...
Rd3, transfers the rook to the king's flank. In the event of 13...Nxd5 14 Ne5 Be7 15 Rd1 Nb4 [preventing the move 16 Rd3], White has the interesting possibility of transferring the other rook to the king's flank: 16 Bc4! b6 17 Ra3.

After the move in the game, a symmetrical pawn formation is created in the centre, and White maintains only more active positions of pieces.

14Bg5 Be6 15 Qd3 Be7
(Black must not delay this move. On 15...Rc8, strong is 16 Bc2 g6 17 Qb3! Be7 18 Ra1 with advantage to White.)

16 Rfe1 Ne4
(In principle, there is no objection to this liberating move, but worth considering is a preliminary 16...Rc8. It would not be easy for White to find a useful reply. For example, there is nothing for him in 17 Bc2 Ne4 18 Bxe7 Qxe7 19 Nd2 Bf5! 20 f3 Qc7.)

17 Bxe7 Qxe7 18 Nd2
(It is of course necessary to exchange the active knight e4.)

18 Nxd2
(Black, not without foundation, refrains from the tempting move 18...Qb4. On this would have followed 19 Nf1! and then 20 Ne3. The weakness of the d5 pawn and the insecure position of the knight e4 would force Black to move the knight back to f6, and in this case both of White's minor pieces would occupy a more active position than the enemy's.)

19 Qxd2 Qd6
(The position is simplified. White's small advantage consists of the active bishop and the attack on the d5 pawn. Of course, on correct play by Black, this is insufficient for a win, but all the same Black's task is not so simple, since White has available the possibility, by avoiding simplification, of creating pressure on the e-file.)

20 Re3
(But not 20 Rac1, and an exchange on the c-file makes it easier for Black to achieve a draw. 20 Re5 looks more active, but in this case Black carries out an exchange on the e-file, by 20...f6 21 Re3 Rfe8 22 Ra1 Bf7. Now, however, after 20...f6 21 Rae1 Rfe8 22 Qc3, Black cannot play either 22...Rac8 because of 23 Rxe6!, or 22...Bf7 because of 23 Rxe8+ Rxe8 24 Rxe8+ Bxe8 25 Qe8. And if 20...Rfe8, then 21 Rae1 Bd7 22 Re5! Bc6 23 Qa5, and White's advantage becomes very perceptible.)

20...Rac8 21 Ra1 Rc6
(Black finds the right plan. The advance of the White a-pawn has deprived the bishop b3 of support and created in White's camp the weak b4 square. This also Black wants to exploit.)

22 Re5
(Now, when the move 22...f6 is not possible, White makes his rook more active. 22 Rg3 would offer nothing, in view of 22...Rfc8.)

22...Rb6 23 Re3 Qb4 24 Qd3 Rc6

(In the event of 24...Rc8 25 g6 [26 Bxd5 was threatened] 25...Rxd5 Bxf5 26 Bxf5 gxf5 27 Qxf5, rook c8 comes under fire, which makes White's attack irresistible. For example: 28...Qa5 29 Bxd5 Rd8 30 Rg3+ Kh8 31 Bxf7 Qb4 32 Qg5.)

25 h4 g6
(It is necessary for Black to create a flight square for his king, but 25...h6 will not because of 26 Bc2.)

26 Re1
(Now the continuation 26 h5 Rg7 27 Kh2 Bf5 28 Rxf5 gxf5 29 Qa5 would be less convincing. After 29...Qd6+ 30 Rg3+ Kh8 31 Bxd5 Black successfully defends himself.)

26...Bf5
(An interesting manœuvre requiring intricate calculation. Black could also choose a quiet continuation: 26...Rb6 27 Rb1 Rc8 28 h5 Kg7, and it is apparent how White can increase the pressure.)

27 Qe3

27...Be6?
(Black refrains from the plan 27...Be4 and makes a decisive mistake. The loss of two tem
Qxd2 Qd6

position is simplified. White's small advantage consists of the active bishop and the threat to the d5 pawn. Of course, correct play by Black, this is sufficient for a win, but all the same Black's task is not so easy, since White has available possibilities, by avoiding simplification, of creating sure on the e-file.

Re3

not 20 Ra1, and an exchange on the c-file makes it easier for Black to achieve a draw. 20 Re5 is more active, but in this case Black carries out an exchange on the e-file, by 20...

1 Re3 Rfe8 22 Rael Bf7. Now, after 20...f6 21 Ra1 Qc3, Black cannot play 22...Rae8 because of 23 Qd7, or 22...Bf7 because of 23 Rxe8 24 Rxe8+ Bxe8 25 Qc8. If 20...Rfe8, then 21 Ra1 Qe5! Bc6 23 Qa5, and White's advantage becomes very aptible.

...Rac8 21 Ra1 Rc6 Bck finds the right plan. The move of the White a-pawn has lived the bishop b3 of support created in White's camp the b4 square. This also Black needs to exploit.)

Re5

when the move 22...f6 is possible, White makes his Qre more active. 22 Rg3 would do nothing, in view of 22...

...Rb6 23 Rle3 Qb4 Qd3 Rc6

(In the event of 24...Rc8 25 h4 g6 [26 Bxd5 was threatened] 26 h5 Bf5 27 Rxf5 gxf5 28 Qxf5, the rook c8 comes under fire, which makes White's attack irresistible. For example: 28...Qf8 29 Bxd5 Rd8 30 Rg3+ Kh8 31 Bxf7 Qd6 32 Qg5.)

25 h4 g6

(it is necessary for Black to create a flight square for the king, but 25...h6 will not do because of 26 Bc2.)

26 Re1

(Now the continuation 26 h5 Rc1+ 27 Kh2 Bf5 28 Rxf5 gxf5 29 Qxf5 would be less convincing. After 29...Qd6+ 30 Rg3+ Kh8 31 Bxd5 Rc7 Black successfully defends himself.)

26...Bf5

(An interesting manouevre, requiring intricate calculation. Black could also choose a quieter continuation: 26...Rb6 27 Rse3 Rc8 28 h5 Kg7, and it is not apparent how White can increase the pressure.)

27 Qe3

(BLack refrains from the planned 27...Be4 and makes a decisive mistake. The loss of two tempi cannot go unpunished. The position of the bishop on e4 looks precarious, but White does not succeed in exploiting it. If 28 f3, then 28...Rb6 29 fxe4 [There is nothing in 29 a5 Rb5 30 Bd1 Bb1!] 29...Qxb3 30 Qxb3 Rxb3 31 exd5 Rb4 32 Rd1 Rd8, and Black has a good endgame. The strongest reply on 27...Bxe4 is 28 a5! and then, after 28...Kg7! 29 Bxd5 [29 f3 f6 30 fxe4 fxe5 31 exd5 does not work because of 31...exd4! 32 Qe7+ Qxe7 33 Rxe7+ Kh6] 29...Rxd5 30 Rxd5 Re6! [Better than 30...Qd2 31 Rd7 by 32 d5] 31 Re5 Rfe8 32 h5 Rxe5 33 dxe5 Qxa5 34 h6+ Kf8, Black stands a little worse, but ought not lose. Now White completely takes the initiative.)

28 h5 Rb6 29 Bc2 Bd7

(30 hxg6 hxg6 31 Bxg6 was threatened; if 29...Qxb2, then 30 Rbl.)

30 b3 Rc6

(On 30...Rc8, good is 31 Re7! and Black has no satisfactory defense; on the moves 31...Bc6, 31...Qd6 and 31...Rd6, follows 32 hxg6 hxg6 33 Bxg6; on 31...Be6 - 32 Qg5 with the threat of capturing on g6, while if 31...Rxc2, then 32 Qf4 Bf5 [32...Be6 33 Rxe6; 32...f6 - 33 Qh6] 33 Re8+ Kg7 34 h6+ Kf6 35 g4 and White wins.)

31 Bd1 Re6 32 Rxe6 Bxe6 33 Bf3 Rc8 34 Qe5 Qd2

(Preventing the move 35 h6.)

35 Rd1 Rcl 36 Rxc1 Qxc1+ 37 Kh2

(After the unfortunate "walk" of
the bishop, Black has played in the best way and yet the result is not comfortable for him. The White queen occupies a key position on e5, the black squares are difficult to defend, the d5 pawn is in danger.)

37...gxh5
(The threat of h6 ties down the Black queen, and so he decides to exchange the White h-pawn. Now, however, there arises a new unpleasantness - the threat to advance the f-pawn. After 37...g5, Black loses a pawn at once.)

38 Bxh5 Qh6 39 Kg3 Qg7+ 40 Qxg7+ Kxg7 41 Kf4 Kf6 42 a5

(The sealed move. By fixing the a and b-pawns on squares of the colour of the Black bishop, White increases his advantage. The pawn ending after the unavoidable 43 Bg4 is lost for Black on the following grounds:

1) the White king is more active than Black's;
2) the Black f and h-pawns are isolated, which makes them easier to be attacked and creates a weakness on the important f5 square;
3) Black runs out of pawn moves more quickly.

These considerations are confirmed by the following variations:

42...Bc8 43 Bg4 Bxg4 44 Kxg4 Kg6 45 Kf4 and now:

a) 45...Kf5 46 f3 h6 47 g3 Ke6 48 Kg4 Kf6 49 Kh5 Kg7 50 h4 f6 [50...Kh7 51 g5 hxg5 52 Kxg5 Kg7 53 Kf5] 51 f4 Kh7 52 g5 hxg5 53 fxg5 f5 54 g6+ Kg7 55 Kg5 f4 56 Kxf4 Kxg6 57 Ke5;

b) 45...f6! 46 f3 h6 47 Kg4! [But not 47 g3? h5 48 b4 f5 49 Ke5 Kg5 and a draw] 47...f5+ 48 Kf4 Kf6 49 g4 fxg4 50 fxg4 Kg6 [50...Ke6 51 g5 h5 52 Kg3 Kf5 53 Kh4 Kg6 54 b4] 51 Ke5 Kg5 52 Kxd5 Kxg4 53 Ke5! h5 54 d5 h4 55 d6 h3 56 d7 h2 57 d8(Q) h1(Q) 58 Qg8+ and White wins.

Or 46...Kg7 47 Kf5 Kf7 48 g4 Ke7 49 f4 Kg7 50 g5 fxg5 51 fxg5 Kg7 52 Ke5 Kg6 53 Kxd5 Kxg5 54 Ke6 and White wins.

Black could avoid the exchange of bishops by 42...Bd7 43 Bg4 Bb5, but in this case the White bishop becomes decisively active: 44 Bf5 h6 45 Bc8 Bc6 46 f3 Ke7 47 Ke5 Kd8 [Or 47...f6+! 48 Kf5 Kf7 49 Be6+ Kg7 50 f4 h5 51 g3, and Black is in zugzwang] 48 Bg4 Ke7 49 Bh5! f6+ 50 Kf5 and the White king penetrates to g6.)

42...h6

(Now, in the pawn ending, Black will have one tempo less. This makes it easier for White to achieve the win.)

43 Bg4 Bxg4 44 Kxg4 Kg6 45 Kf4 Kf6

(Or 45...f6 46 f3 h5 47 b4 Kg7 48 Kf5 Kf7 49 f4.)

136 Nimzo Indian Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Strugach

(Belorussia Championship, Minsk 1959)

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 0-0 5 Ne2 Nc6 6 a3 Be7 7 cxd5 exd5 8 g3 c6 9 Bg2 Bf5 (9...d6 10 0-0 Ne6 11 f3 c5!) 10 0-0 Re8 11 Nf4 Nbd7 12 f4 Bd6 13 g4! Bg6 Ng6 hxg6 15 e4 Nh7 e5 Be7 17 f4 Ndf8 Qd3 f6 19 Be3 Qb6 20 Rab1 Qc7 21 Rbc1 Qd8 22 h3 f5 23 Bf3 Rdf8 24 Kh1 Qe6 25 Rd2 Qf5 26 Rg2 Ne6 27 gxh5 gxh5 28 Rg1 Nh7 29 h4 Bxh4 30 Rxf5 Bf3 31 Rhf1 Nxf3 32 Rxf3 Qh4 33 Kg2 Nf4 34 gxf4 Bxf4 35 Ne1 Nxf2 36 Nh3 Nf5 37 Bxh5+! 38 Kg2 Nf4 39 e5+ Kf7 40 Kh1 Kg8 41 Qf8+ Kh7 42 Nf5! Nxf5 43 Bxf5 Ke7 44 Bxg6! Nxg6 45 Rh7+ Black resigns.)

137 Sicilian Defence

White: Litvinov
Black: Boleslavsky
Black runs out of pawn moves quickly. Considerations are confirm the following variations:

\[ \ldots \] 46 \ f3 \ h6 \ 47 \ g3 \ Ke6 \ 48 \ f6 \ 50 \ f4 \ Black resigns.

(On 50...Kh7, 51 g5 hxg5 52 fxg5 f5 53 g6+ Kg7 54 Kg5 f4 55 Kxf4 Kxg6 56 Ke5 wins.)

136 Nimzo Indian Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Strugach

(Former championship, Minsk 1959)

1 \ d4 \ Nf6 \ 2 \ c4 \ e6 \ 3 \ Nc3 \ Bb4 \ 4 \ e3 \ 0-0 \ 5 \ Ne2 \ d5 \ 6 \ a3 \ Be7 \ 7 \ cxd5 \ exd5 \ 8 \ g3 \ c6 \ 9 \ Bg2 \ Bf5 \ (9...a5??

10 \ 0-0 \ Na6 \ 11 \ f3 \ c5?) \ 10 \ 0-0 \ Re8 \ 11 \ Nf4 \ Nbd7 \ 12 \ f3!

Bd6 \ 13 \ g4! \ Bg6 \ 14 \ Nxe6 \ hxg6 \ 15 \ e4 \ Nh7 \ 16 \ e5 \ Be7 \ 17 \ f4 \ Ndf8 \ 18 \ Qd3 \ f6 \ 19 \ Be3 \ Qb6 \ 20 \ Rb1 \ Qc7 \ 21 \ Rbc1 \ Qd7

22 \ h3 \ f5 \ 23 \ Bf3 \ Rfd8 \ 24 \ Kh1 \ Qe6 \ 25 \ Rcc2 \ Qf7 \ 26 \ Kg2 \ Ne6 \ 27 \ gxf5 \ gxf5 \ 28 \ Rg5 \ Nh8 \ 29 \ b4 \ Rd7 \ 30 \ h4! \ (Threatening h5-h6) \ 30...\ Bxh4 \ 31 \ Rh2 \ Bd8 \ 32 \ Ne2 \ g6 \ 33 \ Ng3 \ Ng7 \ 34 \ Qf1 \ Qe7 \ 35 \ Qh3 \ Kf7 \ 36 \ Nh5! \ Qe6 \ 36...

\ldots \ gxf5 \ 37 \ Bxh5+!) \ 37 \ Rhg2 \ Kg8 \ 38 \ Ng3 \ Rc7 \ 39 \ Rh2 \ Kf7 \ 40 \ Qh6 \ Kg8 \ 41 \ Qh8+ \ Kf7 \ 42 \ Nh5! \ Nxf5 \ 43 \ Bxh5 \ Ke7 \ 44 \ Bxg6! \ Nxf6 \ 45 \ Rh7+ \ Black resigns.

137 Sicilian Defence

White: Litvinov
Black: Boleslavsky

41...Rxh2

(Here, Black had the tempting continuation 41...Ke3 42 e6 Rb1+ 43 Rcl Rxb3 44 e7 Rd3+ 45 Ke1

253
played. The Black supplanted been years (8...c6 7 O-O e5 8 e4)

This 6 Nf3! Bg7 4 Bg2 O-O 5 Nc3 d6 6 Nf3 Nbd7
(This variation, so popular ten years ago, in recent times has been considered difficult for Black and has been more and more supplanted by the continuation 6...Nc6.)

7 0-0 e5 8 e4 exd4
(8...c6 or 8...Re8 are more often played. The immediate exchange in the centre allows White to choose between two systems of development.)

9 Nxd4 Nc5 10 f3
(The other continuation here is 10 h3. The difference between them can briefly be characterised in this way: the first is more reliable, the second - more active. In strength, they are approximately equal.)

10...c6 11 Be3
(On 11 Bf4, possible is 11...Qb6! with complications favourable for Black.)

11...a5 12 Qc2 a4 13 Ral Nfd7 14 Rfd1 Qa5? (It is precisely against this move that White's set-up [rooks on b1 and d1] is directed. Correct was 14...Qe7, on which White intended to reply 15 Bf2.)

15 b4 axb3 16 axb3 Qb4
(For the present, Black has managed to prevent the further advance of the pawns, but it has long been known that the role of "blockader" for the queen is the least successful. White's future plan consists of the creation of pressure on the d6 pawn and exploitation of the advanced position of the enemy queen.)

17 Kh1
(There is no need for White to hurry. It is useful to move the king to h1, away from possible threats on the gl-a7 diagonal.)

17...Ne5 18 Nce2 Bd7
(In the King's Indian Defence, a simple development of pieces far from always justifies itself. Black does not fear the reply 19 Bd2, on which follows 19...Qb6 20 b4 Ncd3 with the threat Nf2+, but the bishop away the last square knight e5.)

19 h3 f5?

(Black does not want to passive moves 19...Bc8 f6, but both of them better than 19...f5. Black trap: if 20 f4? [so as a retreat of the knight, the f5 pawn], then 20...fxa4 dxe5, and White is left down. However, White can fall into the trap, weakened position arising the move 19...f5 prove irreparable.)

20 exf5 gxf5
(Also after 20...Bxf5 Ral5 22 f4 Nf7 23 g4, position is unenwiable.)

21 Nf4
(The White knight makes opponent's weakened flank 21...Ng6 22 Nde2 (Maintaining the knight after attacking the d6 pawn. But no satisfactory way defending it. If 22...Be6 of course, 23 Ng6 hsg5! Also 22...Ne6 23 Ng6 Qd2! leads to the loss.

--
After two systems of development)

Nxd4 Nc5 10 f3

The other continuation here is h3. The difference between them can briefly be characterised in this way: the first is more liable, the second - more active. In strength, they are approximately equal.

1...c6 11 Be3

11 Bf4, possible is 11...Qb6!

th complications favourable for Black.)

1...a5 12 Qc2 a4 13 b3 Nbd7 14 Rfd1 Qa5?

it is precisely against this that White's set-up [rooks on b1 and d1] is directed. Correct was 14...Qe7, on which the intended to reply 15 Bf2.)

b4 axb3 16 axb3 Qb4

or the present, Black has managed to prevent the furtherance of the pawns, but it has been known that the role of "blockader" for the queen is the best successful.

ite's future plan consists of the creation of pressure on the pawn and exploitation of the weakened position of the enemy pawn.

7 Kh1

there is no need for White to try. It is useful to move the king to h1, away from possible threats on the g1-a7 diagonal.)

...Ne5 18 Nce2 Bd7

in the King's Indian Defence, a simple development of pieces far always justifies itself.

Black does not fear the reply 19...Qb6 20

b4 Ncd3 with the threat 21...Nf2+, but the bishop d7 takes away the last square from the knight e5.)

19 h3 f5?

(Black does not want to make the passive moves 19...Bc8 or 19...f6, but both of them would be better than 19...f5. Black sets a trap: if 20 f4? [so as, after the retreat of the knight, to win the f5 pawn], then 20...fxe4! 21 fxe5 dxe5, and White is left a pawn down. However, White does not fall into the trap, while the weakened position arising from the move 19...f5 proves to be irreparable.)

20 exf5 gxf5

(Also after 20...Bxf5 21 Nxf5 Rxf5 22 f4 Nf7 23 g4, Black's position is unenviable.)

21 Nf4

(The White knight makes for the opponent's weakened flank.)

21...Ng6 22 Nde2

(Maintaining the knight on f4 and attacking the d6 pawn. Black has no satisfactory means of defending it. If 22...Be5, then, of course, 23 Nxe6 hxg6 24 f4.

Also 22...Ne6 23 Nxe6 hxg6 24 Qd2! leads to the loss of a pawn.)

22...Rae8

(In vain, trying to confuse the game. The rest is virtually forced.)

23 Bd2 Qb6 24 Bc3 Qc7

25 Bxg7 Kxg7 26 b4 Ne6

27 Qc3+ Kf7

(After 27...Kg8 28 Nh5, material loss for Black is unavoidable.)

28 Nh5 Ke7

(With the king in the centre and weaknesses on d6 and f5, Black, obviously, cannot hold out for long.)

29 Rb2 f4

(A desperate sacrifice.)

30 gxf4 Nh4 31 Neg3 Nxg2

(Or 31...d5 32 Re2 Kd8 33 Nf6 with irresistible threats.)

32 Rxf2 d5 33 f5 Black resigns.

139 Slav Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Gufeld
(Belorussia Championship, Vitebsk 1960)

1 c4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 Nf3

Nf6 4 Nc3 Nc6 5 a4

Bf5 6 e3 e6 7 Bxc4 Bb4

8 0-0 0-0 9 Qe2 Nbd7

10 e4 Bg6 11 Bd3 Bh5

12 Bf4 Re8 13 Bc4 Qa5

(13...e5? 14 dxe5 Nxe5 15 Bxe5 Rxe5 16 Bxf7+) 14 e5 Nd5

15 Nxd5 cxd5 16 Bb5

Qd8 17 Rfc1 a6 18 Bd3

Bg6 19 Bxg6 fxg6 20

Qd3 Nb8 21 Ng5 Qe7?

(21...Nc6 22 Qh3 h6! 23 Nxe6 Qd7;

22 Be3! h6 23 Nh3 g5 24 f4!)
22 Be3 h6? (22...Nc6 23 f4!)
23 Qxg6! hxg5 24 Rc7!
Qxe8+ Bf8? (25...Kh7) 26
Qxe6+ Qf7 27 Qc8 Qd7
28 Rcl g4 29 e6 Qe7 30
h4 Qxh4 31 g3 Qe7 32
Rc7 Nc6 33 Qxb7 Qb4 34
Qxg6 Qe1+ 35 Kg2 Black
resigns.

140 Nimzo Indian
Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Krupsky
(Belorussia Championship, Vitebsk 1960)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3
Bb4 4 e3 0-0 5 a3
Bxc3+ 6 bxc3 c5 7 Bd3
d5 8 exd5 exd5 9 Ne2
b6 10 0-0 Nbd7 11 f3
Bb7 12 Qe1 Re8 13 g4
Nf8 14 Ng3 Kh8 15 Ra2
Rc8 16 Rg2 Qc7 17 Nf5
cxd4 18 cxd4 Qc3 19
Qdl Qc7 20 Bd2 g6 21
Ng3 Qe7 22 Qb3 Rc7 23
Ne2 Rec8 24 Re1 Qd7 25
Nc3 Bc6 26 a4 Ne6 27
h4 Ne8 28 Ree2 Rd8 29
Be1 Rcc8 30 Bg3 Kg8 31
Bc4 Qe7 32 f4 Ne6 33
f5 Nf8 34 Bf4 Ne8 35
Bg5 f6 36 Bh6 g5 37 e4
Nc7 38 e5 Rd7 39 hgx5
fxg5 40 Rh2 Ne8 41 Rh5
Black resigns.

141 Dutch Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Kapengut

(belorussian Championship, Vitebsk 1960)
1 d4 e6 2 c4 f5 3 g3
Nf6 4 Bg2 Be7 5 Nf3
0-0 6 0-0 d6 7 Nc3 Qe8
8 Re1 Qg6 9 Qc2 Nc6?
10 d5! Nb4 11 Qb3 Na6
12 dx6 Nc5 13 Qc2
Bxe6 14 Nd4! Nf6 15
Nxe6 Qxe6 16 Nd5 Na6
17 f3 Nc5 18 b4 Nd7
19 b5 Nxb8 20 e4! Bf6
21 Bb2 Bxb2 22 Qxb2
Ne5 23 exf5! Qf7 24
Qc3 Nbd7 25 f4 Black
resigns.

142 French Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Troger
(USSR vs West Germany
Match, Hamburg 1960)
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3
Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 f4 c5
6 Nf3 Nc6 7 Be3
(Usually, 7 dxc5 is played here.
White did not want to give the
opponent the d4 square without a
fight.)
7...cxd4 8 Nxd4 Nxd4 9
Bxd4 Nb8
(Black wanders with his knight to
the first rank and thereby
achieves an equal game.)
10 Bd3 Nc6 11 Bf2 Qa5
12 0-0 a6
(A loss of time! Better was 12...
Bc5 and then 13...0-0, completing
his piece development.)
13 Kh1 Qb4
(A further loss of time. 13...Be7
was correct.)
14 Qc1 g6 15 a3 Qa5 16
B4 Qc7 17 Na4
(white threatens to occupy
the c5 square after 18 Nb6 Rc8
and this forces Black to
Black resigns.

143 Dutch Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Kapengut

(Black will block the c5 pawn
occupying the c6 square with
his bishop. Here, there is one
way for White to play for
that is to break through the
pawn on the king's flank. In
the next ten moves, White
without undertaking an
decisive.)
33 h3 Bd7 34 Rla3
b4 Qc7 17 Na4  
(White threatens to open the position after 18 Nb6 Rb8 19 c4, and this forces Black to weaken the c5 square.)
17...b5 18 Nc5 h5 19 c3 Bh6 20 Be3 Rb8 21 a4 0-0 22 axb5 axb5  
(Black has a passive, but secure position. It is not easy for White to find an effective continuation.)
23 Qd2 Rd8 24 Qf2 Ne7  
(If 26 Rxb5, then 26...Rxb5 27 Bxb5 d4 28 Bxd4 Nxd4 29 cxd4 Qb6 30 Bd3 Qxb4, and it is difficult for White to realise the extra pawn.)
26...Bf8 27 Bd4 Nxd4 29 cxd4 Bd7 29 Rfa1 Bxc5 30 dxc5 Qc6 31 Qd4 Bc8 32 Ra5 Qe8 35 Ra7 Rd7  
(It was better to exchange rooks by 35...Ra8.)
36 R7a6 R7d8 37 Ra7 Rd7 38 R7a6 R7d8 39 R3a5 Rdc8 40 Qa1 Qd8 41 Qd4 Qd7 42 Kh2 Rc7 43 Ra3 Rcb7?  
(Now the Black queen must defend the bishop c6.)
44 g4 hxg4 45 hxg4 Kf8  
(45...Kg7 46 f5.)
46 f5 gxf5 47 gxf5 f6  
(47...exf5 48 Qf4 or 47... Rc8 48 Qh4 Qd8 49 f6 Ke8 50 Qh7 and White wins without trouble.)
48 fxg6 Qxe6 49 Qf4 Rf7 50 exf6 Rc8 51 Rxc6! Qxc6  
(51...Rxc6 52 Qh6+ Ke7 53 Qh8+ Kd7 54 Ra7+ Rc7 55 Bxb5+.)
52 Qh6+ Kg8  
(52...Ke8 53 Qh8+ Kd7 54 Bf5+.)
53 Bf5 Rxf6  
(All in vain!)  
54 Rg3+ Kf7 55 Rg7+ Ke8 56 Rg8+ Black resigns.

143 French Defence  
White: Boleslavsky  
Black: Teschner  
(USSR v West Germany match, Hamburg 1960)  
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 Bg5 dxe4 5 Nxe4 Be7 6 Bxf6 Bxf6  
(6...gxf6 is also possible. In this case, Black retains a rather more active, but less solid position, than on the capture with the bishop.)
7 c3
(Better here is 7 Nf3 Nd7 8 Bc4. The plan of play connected to queen's side castling does not give White any advantage at all.)

7...0-0 8 Nf3 Nd7 9 Qc2 e5 10 0-0-0
(An ancient continuation, hardly met nowadays. By restoring equilibrium in the centre, Black equalises the game without difficulty.)

10...exd4 11 Nxd4 Bxd4
(It is necessary to exchange the knight d4, in order to complete the development of his pieces.)

12 Rxd4 Qe7 13 Kb1
(A useful waiting move. White waits until Black determines the position of the knight d7 and in any event defends the a2 pawn.)

13...Nb6
(This move is the initial cause of his future difficulties. The knight is not posted actively enough on b6. He should continue 13...Re8 or 13...Ne5, since 14 f4 Ng4 is not to White's advantage.)

14 Ng3 Be6 15 Bd3 h6 16 Qe2
(White wants to weaken the opponent's king's flank by 17 Qe4. Black repulses the threat with an advance of the c-pawn, but thereby also weakens the queen's flank.)

16...c5 17 Re4 Rfd8 18 Bc2 Rd5
(White has unpleasant pressure on the e-file, and it is not easy for Black to find the right plan. Instead of this outwardly active move, worth considering is 18 Qd6 19 Rd1 Qc6 20 Re1 Nd5, transferring the knight for defence of the king's flank.)

19 Re1 Qd7 20 Rf4

(Black has taken away from his knight both squares through which it could hurry to the defence of the king's flank. White once again threatens to begin active operations with the move 21 Qe4. If 20...Rd2, then 21 Qe4 g6 22 Rf6! Re8 23 Rxe6+ fxe6 24 Qxe6+ Kf8 25 Qxh6+ Kg8 26 Ne4 with irresistible threats. Or 22...Bd5 23 Rxe6+ fxg6 24 Qxg6+ Kh8 [24... Qg7 25 Re8+ Rxe8 26 Qxe8+ Qf8 27 Bh7+ Kg7 28 Nh5+] 25 Qxh6+ Kg8 26 Nf5 Be4 27 Rxe4 Rd1+ 28 Bxd1 Qxd1+ 29 Qc1 Qd3+ 30 Ka1 Qxe4 31 Qg5+ Kf8 32 Qg7+ Ke8 33 Nd6+ and White wins.)

20...Re8!
(The best defence. Now, after 21 Qe4 g6 22 Rf6 Rg5! 23 Kc1 Qd8, White even loses. On 21 Ne4 follows 21...Re5 with the threat 22...f5, while if 21 Qe4 g6 22 Qe3, then 22...f5 and then 23... Bf7. It seems that the balance is beginning to tilt in Black's favour, but White finds a strong reply which retains the advantage for him.)

21 Kc1
(White defends the d2 square and
Hik has taken away from his h both squares through which muld hurry to the defence of king's flank. While once h threatens to begin active tions with the move 21 Qe4.

D... Rd2, then 21 Qe4 g6 22 Re8 23 Rxxg6+ fxg6 24 Qxg6+ 25 Qxh6+ Kg8 26 Ne4 with dstitial threats. Or 22... Bd5 Ng6+ fxg6 24 Qxg6+ Kh8 [24... 25 Re8+ Rxe8 26 Qxe8+ Qf8 27 Qxe7 28 Nh5+] 25 Qxh6+ Kg8 26 Be4 27 Rxe4 Rd1+ 28 Bxd1 Qc1 Qd3+ 30 Ke2 Kxe4 31 Nf8 32 Qg7+ Ke8 33 Nc6+ and 33...Re8! best defence. Now, after 21 g6 22 Rxe6 Rg5! 23 Kc1 Qd8, even loses. On 21 Ne4 mes 21...Re5 with the threat 25, while if 21 Qe4 g6 22 then 22...f5 and then 23...

It seems that the balance is aning to tilt in Black's m, but White finds a strong y which retains the advantage him.)

Kc1 te defends the d2 square and rids himself of an opportune threatened capture of the a2 pawn with check. After this he has a possible choice of several plans.)

21... Qd8 22 Re4 Kf8 23 Nh5 Rd6 24 Nf4 Bd7?
(A mistake! Necessary was 24... Nd5, exchanging or forcing the retreat of the dangerous knight f4. Now White obtains a decisive advantage.)

25 Qe3! Bc6

(After this, White wins by a little combination. Other moves also do not help, for example:

1) 25... Rxe4 26 Bxe4 Qc7 27 Bxb7, and White has an extra pawn with a good position;

2) 25... Rc6 26 Rxe8+ Qxe8 [26... Bxe8 27 Qe4 g6 28 Qe5 Rf6 29 Qxc5+] 27 Be4 Rc7 28 Ng6+ Kg8 [28... fxg6 29 Qf4+] 29 Qf4 Qd8 30 Ne7+ Kf8 31 Bh7 or 31 Qd6 and White wins.)

26 Rxe8+ Qxe8

(It seems that Black achieves the desired simplification, but....)

27 Ng6+! fxg6 28 Qf4+ Rf6 29 Rxe8+ Bxe8

(White has won the queen for rook and bishop. The technical realisation of the material advantage does not present any difficulty in this position.)

30 Qb8 Nd7 31 Qxb7 Rxf2 32 Qd5 Rf1+ 33 Kd2 Rf2+ 34 Kd1 Rf6 35 Ba4 Ke7 36 Bxd7 Bxd7 37 Qxc5+ Rd6+ 38 Kc1 a6 39 Qe5+ Black re-signs.

144 Pirc Defence
White: Kholmov
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final, 28th USSR Championship, Rostov-on-Don 1960)

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 g3 g6 3 Bg2Bg7 4 0-0 0-0 5 d4 d6 6 Nc3 Nbd7 7 e4 e5 8 h3 Re8 9 dxe5 dxe5 10 Be3 c6 11 Qe2 Qe7 12 Rfd1 b5 13 Nd2 a5 14 Bf1 Nc5 15 Bxc5 Qxc5 16 a4 b4 17 Nb3 Qe7 18 Nb1 h5! 19 Nfd2 h4 20 g4 Bh6 21 Nc4 Qc7 22 Qd3 Be6 23 Qd6 Qa7 24 Re1 Bf8 25 Qd2 Qc7 26 Qg5 Nh7! 27 Qxh4 Be7 28 Qg3 Bg5 29 Ng5 Bf4 30 Qb3 Ng5 31 Bg2 Qa7 32 Nxe6 Nxe6 33 c3 Bxc3 34 Bxc3 Qc5 35 Ne3 Rab8 36 Qc2 Bxe3 37 Rxe3 Nf8 38 g5 Kg7 39 Rd1 Qe7 40 Rg3 Red8 41 Rxd8 Rxd8 42 Bd1 Qa3 43 Bg2 Qa1+ 44 Kh2 Qel 45 Re3 Rd2! 46 Rxe1 Rxc2 47 Kg1 Rxc3 48 Bf1 c5 49 Rbl c4 50 Rb5 Rc1 51 Rxe5 Ne6 52 Kg2 c3 53 Bc4 c2 54 Bxe6 Rgl+ 55 Kg2 Qc7 White resigns.

145 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Gurgenidze
(Semi-final, 28th USSR Championship, Rostov-on-Don 1960)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 d5? 4 exd5 Qxd5 5 Nc3 Qe6+ (Otherwise 6 d5!) 6 Be3 cxd4 7 Nxd4 Qd7 8 Nd5! (Threatening 9 Qxd7+ Kxd7 10 0-0-0+) 8...Rb8 9 Qe2! f6 10 Rd1 Qg4 (10...Qf5 11 Bxa7 Nxa7 12 Nd6+). 11 f3 Qh5 12 Bxa7! Nxa7 13 Nd6+ Black resigns. (13...Kd7 14 Nxc8+ Kxc8 15 Qe6+ Kc7 16 Rd7+ mates.)

146 King's Indian Defence
White: Shishkin
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final 28th USSR Championship, Rostov-on-Don 1960)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 e6 5 f3 0-0 6 Be3 e5 7 d5 c5 8 Bd3? (8 g4) 8...Ne8 9 Nge2 a6 10 Qd2 f5 11 exf5 gxf5 12 f4 e4 13 Bc2 b5 14 h3 Nd7 15 Bb3 Nb6! 16 cxb5 axb5 17 Nxb5 Ba6 18 Nbc3 Nc4! 19 Bxc4 Bxc4 20 g4 Rb8 21 Ng3 Nc7! 22 Nxf5 Rxf5! 23 gxf5 Nxd5! 24 Rgl (24 Nxd5 Rxb2 25 Qc1 Qh4+ mates) 24...Nb4 25 b3 Bd3 26 Rcl Kh8 27 a3 Nc6 28 Rxe7 Kxe7 29 b4 Qh4+ 30 Qf2 Qxh3 31 Nd1 Kf7 32 Qa2+ c4 33 Kd2 d5! 34 Nf2 Qf3 35 Re1 Rg8 36 b5 d4! 37 Kc1 Na5 38 Nxd3 exd3 White resigns.

147 King's Indian Defence
White: Liberson
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final 28th USSR Championship, Rostovon-Don 1960)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 Be3 e5 7 d5 c5 (This continuation came to be met in practice comparatively recently, about 6-7 years ago. Black locks the centre and, in order not to die from suffocation, must strive to open a flank. If, upon this, the opponents castle on different sides, then the game assumes a very sharp character.) 8 Qd2
(In the game, Tal-Boleslavsky [25th USSR Championship 1958], White continued 8 g4 Ne8 9 h4 f5 10 gxf5 gxf5 11 exf5! Bxf5 12 Bd3, and after 12...e4 13 fxe4 Qe7 14 exf5! Qxe3+ 15 Qe2, obtained the advantage. Tal's continuation is one of the most serious objections to the system with 7...c5.) 8...Ne8 9 0-0-0 f5 10 exf5 gxf5 11 Bd3 a6 12 Nge2 b5 (A critical position. Black cannot delay and must sacrifice a pawn in order that the opponent does not outstrip him in attack.) 13 cxb5
(Up to now, White has usually refused this sacrifice, but the present game shows that it is quite possible to accept it and Black will not find it easy to prove its correctness.)
147 King's Indian Defence
White: Liberson
Black: Boleslavsky
(Semi-final 28th USSR Championship, Rostov-on-Don 1960)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 Be3 e5 7 d5 c5
(This continuation came to be met in practice comparatively recently, about a few years ago. Black locks the centre and, in order not to die from suffocation, must strive to open a flank. If, upon this, the opponents castle on different sides, then the game assumes a very sharp character.)
8 Qd2
(In the game, Tal-Boleslavsky [25th USSR Championship 1958], White continued 8 g4 Ne8 9 h4 f5 10 gxf5 gxf5 11 exf5! Bxf5 12 Bd3, and after 12...e4 13 fxe4 Qe7 14 exf5! Qxe3+ 15 Qe2, obtained the advantage. Tal's continuation is one of the most serious objections to the system with 7...c5.)
8...Ne8 9 0-0-0 f5 10 exf5 gxf5 11 Bd3 a6 12 Nge2 b5
(A critical position. Black cannot delay and must sacrifice a pawn in order that the opponent does not outstrip him in attack.)
13 cxb5
(Up to now, White has usually refused this sacrifice, but the present game shows that it is possible to accept it and Black will not find it easy to prove its correctness.

In the game, Chistiakov-Boleslavsky [Semi-final 25th USSR Championship, Kiev 1957], White continued 13 Rdl Nd7 14 g4, but after 14...e4! 15 fxe4 fxe4 16 Nxe4 bxc4 17 Bbl Ne5 18 Ng5 h6 19 Ne6 Bxe6 20 dxe6 Qe7 the game turned out in Black's favour.)
13...axb5
(Apparently, 13...Qa5 necessary; the straightforward continuation, chosen by Black, proves to be unsatisfactory.)
14 Bxb5 Nc7 15 Bg5! Bf6 16 Bxf6 Qxf6 17 Bd3 Nd7 18 g4
(After the exchange of the black squared bishops, the position of the Black king becomes very insecure. If now 18...Nb6, then 19 Ng3 fxg4 20 Nge4 Qe7 [not possible, of course, is 20...Qxf3 because of 21 Rdf1 Qh3 22 Qg5+] 21 fxg4, and White has an extra pawn with an overwhelming position. Black is forced to sacrifice a second pawn in order not to perish without a struggle.)
18...e4 19 fxe4 f4
(If 19...fxg4, then 20 Rdf1; both in the event of an exchange of the queen for two rooks, and on the retreat of it to e7, the invasion of the White queen on the king's flank will be decisive.)
20 Rdf1
(White has provoked the advance of the pawn to f4, in order to have the possibility of transferring the knight to a strong position. 20 Rhf1 was also good. In this case, White, after 20...f3 21 Ng3 Ne5 22 Nf5, could exchange queens by 23 Qh6, which makes it easier for him to realise his material advantage.)
20...f3 21 Ng3 Ne5 22 Nf5!
(Now, after 22...Nxd3+ 23 Qxd3 Ba6 24 Qxf3 Bxf1 25 Rxf1, the strong position of the knight, and three pawns for the exchange, guarantee White victory, and so Black refrains from simplification and in good time takes his king off the g-file.)
22...Kh8 23 Bb1?
(White moves his attacked bishop away, in order to have the possibility of playing 24 g5, but this move, taking away the b1 square from the king and laying bare the c4 square, creates a theme for a tactical blow. Correct was 23 Rhf1, followed by 24 g5. Black would have no counterplay and could not resist for long.)
23...Bxf5! 24 exf5?
(This already is the losing mistake. Admittedly, also after 24 gxf5 Rg8 25 Rhg1 Qh4, White has a difficult position, since, on the opening of the g-file, the f3 pawn becomes a threatening force.
The intermediate 24 g5 was necessary. Now 24...Qg7 25 exf5 Nc4 does not work, because of 26 f6 Rxf6 27 gxf6 Qxf6 28 Ne4! On 24 g5, Black should continue 24...Qg6 25 exf5 Rxf5 26 Bxf5 Qxf5 27 Qc2 Nfd4 28 Kbl Rab8 29 b3 c4, and, despite White's material advantage, Black does not stand worse.)
24...Nc4 25 Qf4 Nxd5!
White cannot take either knight. On 26 Nxd5 follows mate in four moves, while after 26 Qxc4 Qg5+ White loses the queen, but also there is nowhere to retreat the queen.

26 g5 Nxc3
(Stronger than 26...Qxc3+ 27 bxc3 Nxf4 28 Rxf3. Now, after 27 gxf6 Ne2+ 28 Kc2 Nxf4 29 Rxf3 Nxd5, White has just one pawn for the piece.)

27 Qxc4 Qxg5+ 28 Ne2
(White has maintained material equilibrium, but he has fallen under an irresistible attack.)

29 Kd1 Ra4 White resigns.

149 Sicilian Defence
White: Novikov
Black: Boleslavsky
(Belorussia Championship, Minsk 1961)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 c3 dxc3 5 Nxc3 d6 6 Bc4 e6 7 0-0 Be7 8 Qe2 Nf6 9 Rd1 e5! 10 h3 0-0 11 b4 Be6 12 Bxe6 fxe6 13 Qc4 Qd7 14 b5 Na5 15 Qa4 Qc7 16 Ba3 Nc4! (16...Qxc3? 17 Racl) 17 Racl Rac8 18 Nd2 Nxd2 (18...Nxa3! 19 Qxa3 d5! and 20...Bc5; 19 Nd5 Qxc1! 20 Nxe7+ Kf7 21 Rxc1 [21 Nx8 Qxc8 22 Qxa3 Qc2!] Rxc1+ 22 Kh2 Kxe7 23 Qxa3 Rc5 is very strong for Black) 19 Nd5 Qd7 20 Nxe7+ Qxe7 21 Rxc8 Rxc8 22 Rxd2 Nh5! 23 Rxd6? (23 Qd1! NF4 24 Kh2 followed by Bxd6) 23...Qg5
24 Qd1 Nf4 25 Qg4 Qf6!
26 Rd7 h5! 27 Qd1 Qg6 28 Q3 Nhx3+ 29 Kg2 Ng5

148 Pirc Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Bannik
(28th USSR Championship, Moscow 1961)
1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 3 Nf3 d6 4 h3 Nf6 5 Nc3 0-0
6 Be3 c6 7 Bd3 Nbd7 8 Qd2 Re8 9 0-0 e5 10 Rfe1 b5? 11 dxe5! dxe5 12 a4! b4 13 Ne2 c5 14 Ng3 Bb7 15 a5! Qc7 16 Bc4 Nf8 17 Bh6 Ne6 18 Bxg7 Kxg7 19 Ng5! Nc5 20 Qxe5 Qh4 21 Re7 22 Qe3 Ne4 23 f3 Nh5! 24 c3 1 Nxb4 cxb4 27 Rc1! Qa5 28 R1d1 (Threatening 29 Bxe6 Rxe6 29 Rxc6)
28...Nf6 29...Nd6 29 Ba6! Rxe6 30 Ng5
Rae8 31 Nxe6+ Rxe6 32 Nf5+! Qxf5 33 exf5 Ng4
34 Qg5+ Rg6 35 fxg6
Black resigns.
3c4 Nf8 17 Bh6 Ne6 18 
9xg7 Kxg7 19 Ng5! Nd8 
9...Ng5 20 Qxg5 threatening 21 
5+ and h4-h5) 20 a6! Bc6 
1 Rad1 Re7 22 Qe3 Nd7 
3 h4 h6 25 Nf3 Ne6 25 
3! h5 26 cxb4 cxb4 27 
cl! Qa5 28 Red1 (Threatening 
29 Bxe6 Rxe6 29 Rxc6!) 
8...Nf6 (28...Nbd6 29 Bd5!) 
9 Bxe6! Rxe6 30 Ng5 
Ne8 31 Nxe6+ Rxe6 32 
f5+! gxf5 33 exf5 Ng4 
4 Qg5+ Rg6 35 fxg6 
Black resigns.

149 Sicilian Defence 
White: Novikov 
Black: Boleslavsky 
(Defiance Championship, Minsk 1961)

e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 
xd4 4 c3 dxc3 5 Nxc3 
6 Bc4 e6 7 0-0 Be7 
Qe2 Nf6 9 Rd1 e5! 10 
3 0-0 11 b4 Be6 12 
x6e6 fxe6 13 Qc4 Qd7 
4 b5 Na5 15 Qa4 Qc7 
6 Ba3 Nc4! (16...Qxc3? 17 
Ncl) 17 Rael Rac8 18 
d2 Nxd2 (18...Nxa3! 19 Qxa3 
5! and 20...Bc5; 19 Nd5 Qxc1! 20 
me7+ Kf7 21 Rxc1 [21 Nxc8 Qxe8 
2 Qxa3 Qc2!] Rxc1+ 22 Kh2 Kxe7 
3 Qxa3 Rc5 is very strong for 
Black) 19 Nd5 Qd7 20 
ex7+ Qxe7 21 Rxc8 
x6c8 22 Rxd2 Nh5!? 23 
x6d6? (23 Qd1! Nf4 24 Kh2 
allowed by Bxd6) 23...Qg5 
24 Qd1 Nf4 25 Qg4 Qf6! 
26 Rd7 h5! 27 Qd1 Qg6 
28 g3 Nxh3+ 29 Kg2 Ng5 
30 f3 Rc3 31 Rd3 Nxe4! 
White resigns. (32 fxe4 
Qxe4+33 Rf3 Rxa3 wins.)

150 Modern Benoni 
White: Boleslavsky 
Black: Kapengut 
(Defiance Championship, Minsk 1961)

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 g3 
c5 4 d5 e6 5 Nc3 exd5 
6 cxd5 d6 7 Bg2 Bg7 8 
Nf3 0-0 9 0-0 Na6 10 
Nd2 Nc7 11 Nc4 b5? 
(11...Ne8) 12 Nxd6! Qxd6 
13 Bf4 Qb6? (11...Qd7!?) 14 
d6 Ne6 15 Bxa8 Nxe4 16 gxf4 Qg4+ 
17 Bb2 Bb7 18 e4 Qxf4 19 Qd3 b4) 
14 d6 Rd8? (14...Ne6 15 Bxa8 
Nxf4 16 Qxf4 Rd8 17 Bg2; 14...Bb7 
15 Bxb7 Rad8 16 Bf3 Nce8 17 Qb3 
a6 18 e4!; 14...Nh5 15 dxc5 Nxf4 
16 Bxa8 Bf4 17 Qxb4 Bxf4 18 Nd5!) 
15 dxc5! Rxd1 16 Rfxd1 
Bb7 17 Bxb7 Qxb7 18 
Rd8+ Ne8! 19 Rad1 Bf6 
20 Rb8 Qc8 21 Rxc8 
Rxc8 22 Nxb5 a6 23 Na7 
Black resigns.

151 Spanish Game 
White: Boleslavsky 
Black: Ciocaltea 
(International tournament in Debrecen 
1961)

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 
Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 d6 5 c3 
Bd7 6 d4 Ne7 
(One of the most complicated 
systems in the so called improved 
Steinitz Defence. Black transfers 
the knight to g6, from where it 
defends the e5 pawn and controls 
the f4 square. But since Black is 
not attacking the e4 pawn, White 
obtains great freedom of activity. 
White's plan is usually 
connected with the exploitation 
of the d5 and f5 points. Another 
plan is to prepare and carry out 
the advance f4.) 

7 Bd3 
(Also worth considering is 7 Nbd2 
Ng6 8 Nf1, transferring the 
 knight to e3. This continuation 
is justified in the case when 
Black plays passively. For 
example: 8...Be7 9 Ne3 0-0 10 d5 
Nbd6 11 Nf5 with a considerable 
advantage in space. In the game, 
Boleslavsky-Bondarevsky [Semi-
final 28th USSR Championship], 
Black, on 8 Nf1, replied 8...Nh4! 
9 Nhxh4 Qxh4 10 Ng3 [He has to 
refrain from the transfer of the 
 knight to e3. After 10 Bc2 exd4 
11 cxd4 f5! Black seizes 
the initiative] 10...g6 11 0-0 Bh6 12 
Bxh6 Qxh6 13 dxe5 Nxe5 14 Qd3 Qg7 
and, in the simplified position, 
Black maintains equilibrium.)

7...h6 8 0-0 Ng6 9 Ne1 
(As played in the game, Gufeld-
Nei [Semi-final 28th USSR Cham-
pionship]. The retreat of the 
 knight creates the threat of 10 
f4. After 9...Be7 10 f4, White 
do not intend to exchange the 
black-squared bishop, but, on 
10...exf4 or 10...Nxf4, continues 
11 Nd3 with the better game for 
White.)

9...Na5 
(Black comes to the right con-
clusion, that first and foremost
it is necessary to rid himself of the dangerous bishop on b3.)
10 Bc2
(Up the threat, White does not deliver the blow. On 10 f4 could follow 10...Nxb3 11 Qxb3 exf4! If now 12 Qxb7, then 12...Bb5 13 Rf2 Ne7 and Black has at least a draw, while on 12 Bxf4 Black succeeds in defending the pawn with the move 12...Rb8, since now neither 13 Bxd6 Be6 14 d5 Qxd6, nor 13 Bxh6 Be6 14 d5 Bg4 15 Be3 Qh4 promises White anything good.)
10...Be7 11 Nd2
(On 11 Nd3 Black would have replied 11...c5, forcing White to determine the position in the centre. After advancing the d4 pawn or exchanging on c5, the break f4 already yields White nothing.)
11...Nc6
(The beginning of an incorrect plan. He should not allow the White knight to the c4 square. Admittedly, after 11...0-0 12 b4 Nc6 13 d5 Nb8 14 Nb3, White succeeds in developing an attack on the queen's flank, but, by continuing 11...c5! Black clears up the position in the centre and obtains good chances.)
12 Nc4 Bg5
(Black does not fear the exchange on g5, which would give him a comfortable game, but now, when the White knight is standing on e1 and not on e3, White succeeds in carrying out f4. Since Black is not in a position to prevent this break, the whole of his plan proves to be a failure.)
13 Ne3 Bxe3 14 Bxe3 0-0
(Also on 14...Qf6 would have followed 15 f4. If then 15...exf4 then 16 Nd3, while in the event of 15...Nxf4 White plays 16 Kh1 and, in view of the threat 17 g3, Black is forced to retreat with the queen.)
15 f4 exd4
(Out of two evils, Black chooses the greater. After 15...exf4 16 Bxf4 Nxf4 17 Rxf4, there are no tangible weaknesses in Black's position. Possible is such a variation: 17...Qe7 18 Qd3 Rae8 19 Nf3 g5! 20 e5 f5 21 exf6 Qe3+ 22 Qxe3 Rxe3 23 Re4 Rxe4 24 Bxe4 Rxf6 with a draw.)
16 cxd4 f5 17 e5
(If would be a mistake to chase after the pawn by 17 exf5 Bxf5 18 Bxf5 Rxf5 19 Qb3+. After 19...d5 20 Qxb7 Na5 21 Qb4 Nc4, Black obtains a very strong position. Now, however, 18 e6 is threatened.)
17...d5
(A critical position, on the evaluation of which depends also the evaluation of Black's preceding play. He is lacking the black squared bishop, which, with the present pawn formation, is necessary for defence of the squares. Black is doomed to passive waiting, whereas has several active plans available. Here, either pressure the c-file and the advance of queen's side pawns, or preparation of the break g5, this brings one to assess Black's position as difficult)
18 Nd3 b6 19 Rcl Na5
(It is necessary to move knight away from the c6 square. Black wants to transfer it to the and d8 to e6, but this too requires a great deal of time.)
20 b3 Nb7 21 Bd1 a5
Rf2 Ne7
(On 22...c6 Black feared the continuation 23 e6! For example 23...Be8 24 Ne5 Qd6 25 g4! Nf8 26 Rg2! Qxe6 27 gxf5 Nxf5 28 Qh2 29 Qh3 Kh7 30 Rxc6 Bxc6 31 Qxe6 32 Nxe6 Khx6 33 Qd5+ White must win.)
23 Rfc2 c6 24 Bf2!
(White prepares the sacrifice the e5 pawn, after which pieces break through on e-file. Black does not succeed playing 24...Be6, because of Bh4.)
24...Qe8 25 e6 Bxe6 Qe1!
(What does Black do now? It knight e7 moves, White takes c6. The continuation 26...Re1 Bh4 Rg6 28 Ne5 leads to the of the exchange, just as on 26...Bd7 27 Re2 Rf7 28 Ne5. It remains only the move in game, which disunites Black forces.)


Also on 14...Qf6 would have allowed 15 f4. If then 15...exf4 on 16 Nd3, while in the event 15...Nxf4 White plays 16 Kh1 d5, in view of the threat 17 g3, Black is forced to retreat with the queen.)

If 14...exf4 15 f4, there are no tangible weaknesses in Black's position. Possible is such a variation: 17...Qe7 18 Qd3 Rae8 Nf3 g5! 20 e5 f5 21 exf6 Qe3+ Qxe3 Rxe3 23 Re4 Rxe4 24 Bxe4 Rf6 with a draw.

If cxd4 f5 17 e5 it would be a mistake to chase the pawn by 17 exf5 Bxf5 18 Rxf5 Ne5 19 Qb3+. After 19...Qf4 Qd7 Na5 21 Qb4 Nc4, Black retains a very strong position. 19...Qf4, however, 18 e6 is threatened.

7...d5

A critical position, on the evaluation of which depends also the evaluation of Black's preceding play. He is lacking the black bishop, which, with the present pawn formation, is very necessary for defence of the weak squares. Black is doomed to passive waiting, whereas White has several active plans available. Here, either pressure on the c-file and the advance of the queen's side pawns, or the preparation of the break g4. All this brings one to assessing Black's position as difficult.

18 Nd3 b6 19 Rc1 Na5

(If necessary to move the knight away from the c6 square. Black wants to transfer it via b7 and d8 to e6, but this transfer requires a great deal of time.)

20 b3 Nb7 21 Bb1 a5 22 Rf2 Ne7

(On 22...c6 Black feared the continuation 23 e6! For example: 23...Be8 24 Ne5 Qd6 25 g4! Ne7 26 Rg2! Qxe6 27 gxf5 Nxf5 28 Qg4 Nd5 29 Qh3 Kh7 30 Rxc6 Bxc6 31 Rxc6 Qxg6 32 Nxb6 Kxg6 33 Qg4+ and White must win.)

23 Rfc2 c6 24 Bf2!

(White prepares the sacrifice of the e5 pawn, after which his pieces break through on the e-file. Black does not succeed in playing 24...Be6, because of 25 Bh4.)

24...Qe8 25 e6 Bxe6 26 Qe1!

(What does Black do now? If the knight e7 moves, White takes on c6. The continuation 26...Rf6 27 Bh4 Rg6 28 Ne5 leads to the loss of the exchange, just as on also 26...Bd7 27 Re2 Rf7 28 Ne5. There remains only the move in the game, which disunites Black's forces.)

26...Nd8 27 Bh4

(Now on 27...Ng6 follows 28 Bxd8 Rxd8 29 Rxc6 with a quick win.)

27...Ra7 28 Re2 Qg6

(Black is helpless. He cannot move any of his minor pieces, and White quietly prepares to capture the e-file.)

29 Re3 Rc7 30 Rc2 Kh8 31 Rce2 Qf7 32 Rxe6 Nxe6 33 Rxe6 Ng6 34 Bf2 Rfc8

(With 34...Re7 Black could prolong the struggle, but of course not save the game. After 35 Rxe7 Qxe7 36 Qxe7 Nxe7 37 Ne5, White, by threatening 38 Bh4 or 38 Nd7, wins a pawn.)

35 h4 c5 36 Rxb6 c4 37 bxc4 Rxc4 38 Kh2

(Avoiding unnecessary complications after 38 h5 Nxf4.)

38...Re8 39 Qxa5 Qc7

(A last trap. If 40 Rb5?, then 40...Qxa5 41 Rxa5 Rb8 winning the bishop bl.)

40 Qb5 Black resigns.

152 Sicilian Defence

White: Tarnowski

Black: Boleslavsky

(International tournament in Debrecen 1961)

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 f4

(Beginning a not too fortunate plan, which brings more worry than advantage.)

6...e6 7 Be2 Be7 8 Bf3 Bd7

(The order of moves chosen by
White obliges one to assume that
he intended to carry out a pawn
attack. Therefore Black does not
hurry with castling and waits
until the opponent has revealed
his intentions.)
9 Nde2(?)
(Apparently, this retreat entered
into White's plan from the very
beginning, but it allows Black to
seize an important diagonal. 9
Be3, leading to a usual variation
of the Scheveningen system, was
better.)
9...Qb6!
(By preventing White from
casting and riveting the bishop
c1 to its place, Black forces
the opponent to go over to defence.)
10 b3
(This move creates the impression
that White intends to drive away
the queen with the move 11 Na4,
and so Black frees the a7 square
for it.)
10...a6 11 a3
(Now White's intentions become
clear; he wants to place his
queen on d3 and drive away the
Black queen with the move Be3.
But this takes time, which Black
utilises to create counterplay on
the queen's flank.)
11...Rc8 12 Qd3 Qc7
(The Black queen moves away
voluntarily, freeing the way for
the b-pawn.)
13 g4?
(White considers his position
impregnable and devoid of weak-
nesses, but meanwhile the move
made already irreparably com-
promises it. He should continue
quietly 13 0-0. In reply, Black
must immediately respond 13...
b5! Now 14 b4 e5! 15 f5 Nd4 does
not promise anything good for
White, while after 14 Be3 b4 15
axb4 Nxb4 16 Qd2 0-0 17 g4 d5! 18
e5 Ne8 White's initiative on the
king's flank runs into a blind
alley, while Black's pressure on
the c-file is highly unpleasant.
One can draw the conclusion that
White's opening strategy in this
game has suffered a reverse.)

13...g5!
(A surprising counter-blow! This
is not even a sacrifice of a
pawn; on 14 fxg5 follows 14...Ne5
15 Qe3 Nfxg4. White's hasty 13th
move allows Black to seize the
extremely important e5 square.)
14 h4
(A vain chase after the
initiative, which is slipping
away.)
14...gxf4 15 Bxf4 h5!
16 g5
(Worse is 16 gxh5 Ne5 17 Bxe5
dxe5 and White's position is
bad.)
16...Ng4 17 Bxg4 hxg4
18 Kf2
(On this flank, the king meets
its death. Necessary was 18
0-0-0, not only leading the king
away, but also defending the
e5 square. After 18...Ne5 19 c5
dx5 20 Kb2 White could still
resist.)
18...Ne5 19 Bxe5 dxe5
20 Kg3
(An original march of the king
in a full board, pieces, but White already is
no position to defend the
e5 square. The rook h1 is riveted
the h4 pawn, the rook al must
defend the a3 pawn, while on
Ra2 follows 20...Bxg5.)
20...Bc5 21 Kxg4 Bf8
22 Rad1
(This attempt to hold
position by tactical means le-
to the loss of a piece. There
already no satisfactory defence
for White. On 22 Rh3 would have
followed the same reply as in
our game. If, however, 22 Nxd4 e5
23 Ne2, then 23...e5+ 24 Kf3
24 Kg3, 24...Qxc2 is sufficient
f5! with an irresistible attack.
For example: 25 exf5 Bxf5 26 Qf6
Rh8.)
22...Bxc3 23 Nxc3 f6
24 gxf6
(On the retreat of the king we
can course follow the capture of
the knight.)
24...Rg8+ 25 Kh3
(The White king all the same
forced to retreat to the fault-
third rank. 25 Kh5 leads	o an unavoidable mate after 25...Bc
25...Qxc3
(The rest needs no comment.)
26 h5 Bb5 27 Qxc3
Rxac+ 28 Kh4 Rcg3+ 29
h6 R3g6 White resigns.
must immediately respond 13...b5! Now 14 b4 e5! 15 f5 Nd4 does not promise anything good for White, while after 14 Be3 b4 15 axb4 Nxb4 16 Qd2 0-0 17 g4 d5! 18 e5 Ne8 White's initiative on the king's flank runs into a blind alley, while Black's pressure on the c-file is highly unpleasant. One can draw the conclusion that White's opening strategy in this game has suffered a reverse.)

13...g5!
(A surprising counter-blow! This is not even a sacrifice of a pawn; on 14 fxg5 follows 14...Ne5 15 Qe3 Nfxg4. White's hasty 13th move allows Black to seize the extremely important e5 square.)

14 h4
(A vain chase after the initiative, which is slipping away.)

14...gxf4 15 Bxf4 h5! 16 g5
(Worse is 16 gxh5 Ne5 17 Bxe5 dxe5 and White's position is bad.)

16...Ng4 17 Bxg4 hxg4 18 Kf2
(On this flank, the king meets its death. Necessary was 18 0-0-0, not only leading the king away, but also defending the c2 square. After 18...Ne5 19 Bxe5 dxe5 20 Kb2 White could still resist.)

18...Ne5 19 Bxe5 dxe5 20 Kg3
(An original march of the king to the pawn on a full board of pieces, but White already is in no position to defend the c2 square. The rook h1 is riveted to the h4 pawn, the rook at must defend the a3 pawn, while on 20 Ra2 follows 20...Bxg5.)

20...Bc5 21 Kxg4 Bd4 22 Rad1
(This attempt to hold the position by tactical means leads to the loss of a piece. There was already no satisfactory defence for White. On 22 Rh3 would have followed the same reply as in the game. If, however, 22 Nxd4 exd4 23 Ne2, then 23...e5+ 24 Kf3 [on 24 Kg3, 24...Qxc2 is sufficient] f5! with an irresistible attack. For example: 25 exf5 Bxf5 26 Qxf5 Rf8.)

22...Bxc3 23 Nxc3 f5+ 24 gxf6
(On the retreat of the king would of course follow the capture of the knight.)

24...Rg8+ 25 Kh3
(The White king all the same is forced to retreat to the fatal third rank. 25 Kh5 leads to unavoidable mate after 25...Bc6.)

25...Qxc3
(The rest needs no comment.)

26 h5 Bb5 27 Qxc3 Rxc3+ 28 Kh4 Rcg3 29 h6 R3g6 White resigns.

153 Philidor Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Furman
(USSR Team Championship, Moscow 1961)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4
Nf6 4 Nc3 Nbd7 5 Bc4
Bf5 6 0-0 0-0 7 Qe2
(An so both sides have completed their development. Here, Black usually continues 7...c6. But Furman gives the game a new direction.)

7...exd4 8 Nxd4 Ne5 9
Bb3 c5
(Black weakens the d5 square, reckoning on taking over the initiative. Since neither 10 Nf3 Bg4, nor even more so 10 Nbd5? a6 11 Na3 b5, would suit White, then there remains only the move to f5.)

10 Nf5 Bxf5 11 exf5
Rc8 12 Bd5 Qd7 13 f4
Nc6 14 g4 Nd4
(Now 15 Qg2 is natural. White defends the bishop d5, the g4 pawn, and attacks b7, but in this case, after 15...b5!, Black obtains an excellent game. For example: 16 Be4 Rfe8 17 Bd2 b4 18 Nd5 Nxe4 19 Qxe4 Bh4! with an attack; or 16 Bf3 b4 17 Nd5 Nxf3+ 18 Qxf3 Nxd5 19 Qxd5 Bf6 and Black stands better.)

15 Qd1!
(This is far stronger than 15 Qg2. The whole point is that it is necessary to preserve the white-squared bishop from exchange. Taking it at the present moment is unfavourable for Black, since, after 15...Nxd5 16 Nxd5 Bd8 17 Be3 Qc6 18 c4 b5
19 b3, the knight d5 paralyses his game. On other replies by Black, the bishop d5 moves back to the g2 square, which White leaves free.)
15...b5 16 Bg2 b4 17 Ne2 Nxe2+
(On 17...d5, White does not exchange on d4, since the pressure on the c-file would give Black sufficient counterplay, but continues 18 Ng3 with the threats of 19 c3 or 19 g5.)
18 Qxe2 d5

(One can sum up a little. White has the threat of a pawn attack on the king's flank. Black is rather better developed, but the d5 pawn is weak and, because of the insecure position of the knight/f6, cannot be reliably defended. This determines White's advantage. Not good now is 19 g5, since after 19...Ne4! 20 Bxe4 dxe4 21 Qxe4 Rfe8 Black has an excellent game. With his next move, White attacks the d-pawn, aiming to provoke its advance.)
19 Rd1 Qb7
(A little better is 19...d4. On this follows 20 Qf3 Rcd8 [if 20...Rfd8, then 21 g5 Nd5 22 f6 gxf6 23 gxf6 Nxf6 24 Bh3 with the win of the exchange] 21 Rd1, and Black cannot play 21...Rfe8 because of 22 g5 Nd5 23 Qxd5 Qxd5 24 Bxd5 Rxd5 25 f6. Thus Black would have to retreat the knight to e8 and go over to passive defence.)
20 g5 Ne4 21 Be3
(This quiet move conceals within itself a concrete threat: 22 Bxe4 dxe4 23 Qc4, and Black has a very difficult position because of the weakness of the c5 and e4 pawns. At once 21 Bxe4 dxe4 22 Qc4 is not appropriate because of 22...e3 23 Bxe3 Qf3 and the worst for Black is over.)
21.c4
(The d4 square has become accessible to the bishop e3, and this allows White to strike a surprising tactical blow.)
22 f6! gxf6
(Black took on f6 almost without thinking, but 22...Bc5 was better. Admittedly, after 23 Bxc5 Rxc5 24 fxg7 Kxg7 25 Qe3, there are many weaknesses in Black's position and it is difficult for him to defend himself.)
23 Qg4 Kh8
(23...fxg5 is bad, because of 24 Bxe4 dxe4 25 Rd7 Rc7 [or 25...f5 26 Rxb7 fxg4 27 Rxe7 gxf4 28 Bd4 Rf7 29 Rxe4] 26 Rxe7 Rxe7 27 Qxg5+ Kh8 28 Qf6+ Kg8 29 Bd4 and White wins.)
24 Qf5!
(The continuation 24 Bxe4 dxe4 25 Rd7 Rc7 26 Rad1 does not achieve its aim because of 26...Qc8 27 h3 Rxd7 28 Rxd7 Bc5. Now, however, the Black d5 pawn is hanging. If 24...fxg5 25 Bxe4 dxe4 26 Rd7 Rc7 27 Qe5+.)
24...Rcd8
(Black could exchange queens, but after 25 g6 26 Rxd5 the White bishops have enormous strength in the position.)
25 gxf6 Bc5
(Losing immediately, when 25...Nxf6 26 Bd4 Rd6 White still need to play accurately to achieve Insufficient would be the exchange by 27 Bxd5 Bxf6+ Bxf6 29 Rxd5 [if nothing in 29 Qxf6+ Kg7 27 Rxd1 Qe6+] 30...Bd7 Black has a pawn for the exchange, while the post of the White king is insecure. After 25...Nxf6 26 Bd4 Rad8 is best for White to continue Bh3! preventing the move Qd7.)
By playing 25...Bc5, reckoned on the continuous Bxc5 Nxc5 27 Rxd5 and the interesting reply 27...
The complications in this line all would end to advantage: 28 Kh1 Rxe2 29 Rxg6+ 30 Rd5 [but not Rxd8!] 30...Rd8 31 Rd4 cxd3 Qxd5+ [even worse is Rxd5 33 Qe4] 33 Qxd5 Rxe4 35 dxc4, and White has chances of a win. But there is no need for White to reduce matters to an endgame, since his next move is simply decisive.)
26 Bxe4! Black resigns
(If 26...Bxe3+ 27 Kh1 dxe3 28 Qg5 Rxd1+ 29 Rxd1 Re8 28...Rd8 30 Be5 and Black is lost.)
of the exchange] 21 Rel, and
Black cannot play 21...Rfe8
because of 22 g5 Nd5 23 Qxd5 Qxd5
Bxd5 Rxd5 25 f6. Thus Black
would have to retreat the knight
e8 and go over to passive
defense.)
1 g5 Ne4 21 Be3
This quiet move conceals within
154 Caro Kann Defence
itself a concrete threat: 22 Bxe4
Bc6 23 Qc4, and Black has a very
Talict position because of the
strength of the c5 and e4 pawns.
Once 21 Bxe4 dxe4 22 Qc4 is
appropriate because of 22...
23 Bxe3 Qf3 and the worst for
Black is over.
...c4
e The d4 square has become
unavailable to the bishop e3, and
is allows White to strike a
praising tactical blow.
f6! gxf6
Black took on f6 almost without
thinking, but 22...Bc5 was
better. Admittedly, after 23 Bxc5
5 24 fxg7 Kxg7 25 Qe3, there
are many weaknesses in Black's
position and it is difficult for
him to defend himself.
Qg4 Kh8
...fxg5 is bad, because of 24
A dxe4 25 Rd7 Rc7 [or 25...f5
Rb7 fxg4 27 Rxe7 gx4 28 Bd4
29 Rxe4] 26 Rxe7 Rxe7 27
B+ Kh8 28 Qf6+ Kg8 29 Bd4 and
White wins.)
Qf5!
The continuation 24 Bxe4 dxe4 25
Re5 26 Rad1 does not achieve
aim because of 26...Qc8 27 h3
7 28 Rxd7 Bc5. Now, however,
Black's d5 pawn is hanging. If
...fxg5 25 Bxe4 dxe4 26 Rd7 Rc7
27 Qe5+.
24...Rcd8
(Black could exchange queens by
24...Nd6, but after 25 Qxg5 Qxd5
26 Rxd5 the White bishops acquire
enormous strength in the opened
position.)
25 gxf6 Bc5
(Losing immediately, whereas with
25...Nxf6 26 Bd4 Rd6 White would
still need to play very
accurately to achieve victory.
Insufficient would be the win of
the exchange by 27 Bxd5 Rxd5 28
Bxf6+ Bxf6 29 Rxd5 [there is
nothing in 29 Qxf6+ Kg8 30 Kf2
Rxd1 31 Qxd1 Qb6+] 29...Bxb2, and
Black has a pawn for the
exchange, while the position of
the White king is insecure.
After 25...Nxf6 26 Bd4 Rd6 it is
best for White to continue 27
Bh3!, preventing the move 27...
Qd7.
By playing 25...Bc5, Black
reckoned on the continuation 26
Bxc5 Nxc5 27 Rxd5 and prepared
the interesting reply 27...Rg8.
The complications in this case
all the same would end to White's
advantage: 28 Kh1 Rxg2 29 Rxd8+
Rg8+ 30 Rd5 [but not 30 Qd5?
Rxd8!] 30...Rd8 31 Rd1 Nd3 32
cxd3 Qxd5+ [even worse is 32...
Rxd5 33 Qe4] 33 Qxd5 Rxd5 34 Rel
h6 35 dxc4, and White has great
chances of a win.
But there is no need for White to
reduce matters to an ending,
since his next move is immediately
decisive.)
26 Bxe4! Black resigns
(If 26...Bxe3+ 27 Kf1 dxe4, then
28 Qg5 Rxd1+ 29 Rxd1 Rg8 30 Rd8!)
0-0-0 8 Rel Nd7 9 Bg5
Nb6 10 Bd3 Nf5 11 c3
Nf5 12 Ng3 Re8 13 Qd2
a5 14 a4 Nxe3 15 hXg3
Bf5 16 Re2! b6 17 Rae1
Ra7 18 Ne5! Bxe5 (18...
Qc8 19 c4 Nb4 20 c5!) 19 Rxe5
Be6 20 Bh6 Nc7
268 Scandinavian
Defence
White: Mukhin
Black: Boleslavsky
("Burevestnik" Championshio, Minsk 1963)
1 e4 c5 2 exd5 Nf6 3
Bb5+ Bd7 4 Bc4 Bg4 5
d3 Bc8 6 Nc3 Nbd7 7 d3
(f7 Qe2!) 7...Nb6 8 Ng2
Nfxd5 9 Nxd5 Nxd5 10
g6 11 Ng3 Bg7 12
f4? e6! 13 Qf3 c6 14
c3 0-0 15 d4 b6 16 Bb3
Bb7 17 Ne4 Qe7 18 Re1
c5! 19 dxc5 bxc5 20
Ng5? c4! 21 Bc2 (21 Bxc4?
Qc5+) 21...h6 22 Ne4 f5!
23 Nf2 Nxc3! 24 Qg3
Nb5 25 Qxg6 Rf6 26 Qh5
Nc4 27 Bd1 Qb4 28 Re3
Rd8 29 a3 Qa5 30 Rxh1
Kh8 31 Ng4 Qd5 32 Rg3
fxg4 33 Qxg4 Nf5 White
resigns.

156 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Abramson
(International tournament in Stockholm
1963/64)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 a6 3 c3
Nf6 4 e5 Nd5 5 Bc4 Nb6
6 Bd3 c4
(Better was at once 6...d5.)
7 Bc2 d5 8 d4
(8 Nd4 followed by 9 f4 also came
into consideration.)
8...cxd3 9 Qxd3 g6! 10
0-0 Bg7 11 Qe2 Nc6 12
Bf4 0-0
(Here, without delay, Black
should have begun play in the
centre by 12...Bg4 13 Nbd2 d4.)
13 h3 Qc7 14 Bg3 Be6
15 Na3
(On 15 Nbd2 could have followed
15...d4 16 cxd4 Nxe5 with an
attack on the bishop c2.)
15...Rac8 16 Rf1 h6
17 Rad1 Nc4
(A slight mistake. Black does not see
the danger on the king's flank. Correct was 17...Rf6 18
h4 Nd7 and if now 19 h5, then
19...Nf5.)
18 Nxc4 dxc4 19 h4!
Qb6 20 h5 g5?
(After this move Black loses
without a struggle. He should
take the b2 pawn, after which it
would not have been so simple for
White to realise his attack.)
21 Qe4

21...Rfd8
(On 21...f5, 22 exf6 Rxf6 23 Qh7+
Kf6 24 Rxe6! Rxe6 25 Qf5+ Bf6 26
Qg6+ Kf8 27 Qxh6+ wins.)
22 Nxd5!
(The combinational point! The
knight cannot be taken because of
23 Qh7+ Kf6 24 h6.)
22...Rxd1 23 Rxd1 Rd8
24 Nxe6 Rxd1+ 25 Bxd1
fxe6 26 Bg4 Qxb2
(On 26...Ndb8, 27 Qxc4 Qxb2 28
Qd4 Nf7 29 Bxe6 Qc1+ 30 Kh2 Qg5
31 Qd8+ Bf8 32 Qd1 wins easily.)
27 Bxe6+ Kh8 28 Qg6
Qc1+ 29 Kh2 Black resig-

157 King's
Defence
White: Soderberg
Black: Boleslavsky
(International
ament in Sto-
1963/64)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6
Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f4
Nf3 c5 7 d5 e6
exd5 9 cxd5 Na6
10 0-0 (10 e5! dxe5
Ng4 12 Bf4 Re8 13 0-0
Nxe5 Bxe5 15 Bxe5 Rdxe5
bxa6 17 Qf3) 10...f5
Nd2 Rb8 12 Nc4?
12...b5! 13 Nxe4
14 Nxc8 bxc3 15
Nxa7 cxb2 16 Bxb2 Rbxb2
Qe8; 15 bxc3 Nxe4) 15-
16 dxc7 Qxc7
cxb2 18 Bxb2 Rb8
exf6 Rd8! 20 Qe1
21 fxg7 R8xe2 2
Qb7! White resig-

158 Spanish Gam-
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Arnlind
(International
ament in Sto-
1963/64)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3
Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6
Be7 6 d3 d6 7 c3
Nbd2 b5 9 Bc2
Re1 dxe4 11 dxe4
12 h3 Qd6 13 b4
14 Nb3 Ne7 15
Bxe3 16 fxe3! Bb
Nc5 Bc6 18 Qc1,
(18...Nd7? 19 Rad1) 1
a5 20 Red1 axi
...Rdc8 16 Rfe1 h6
Rad1 Nc4
Slight mistake. Black does not
the danger on the king's
C2. Correct was 17...Rfd8 18
Nd7 and if now 19 h5, then...

Nxc4 dxc4 19 h4!
6 20 h5 g5?
After this move Black loses
out a struggle. He should
the b2 pawn, after which it
d not have been so simple for
be to realise his attack.)
Qe4

157 King's Indian
Defence
White: Soderborg
Black: Boleslavsky
(International tournament in Stockholm
1963/64)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3
Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f4 0-0 6
Nf3 c5 7 d5 e6 8 Be2
exd5 9 cxd5 Na6 (9...Re8)
10 0-0 e5 11 dxe5 Nxe5
Nd2 Rh6 12 Bf4 Re8 13 0-0 Nxe5 14
Nxe5 Bxe5 15 Bxe5 Rxe5 16 Bxa6
bxa6 17 Nxf3) 10...Nc7 11
Nd2 Rb8 12 Nc4? (12 a4)
12...b5! 13 Nxd6 b4!
14 Nxc8 bxc3 15 d6 (15
Nxa7 cxb2 16 Bxb2 Rxb2 17 Nc6
Qe8; 15 bxc3 Nxe4) 15...Qxc8
16 dxc7 Qxc7 17 e5
cxb2 18 Bxb2 Rxb2 19
exf6 Rdx8! 20 Qe1 Re8
21 fxg7 Rxe2 22 Qg3
Qb7! White resigns.

158 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Arnland
(International tournament in Stockholm
1963/64)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3
Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0
Be7 6 d3 d6 7 c3 0-0 8
Nbd2 b5 9 Bc2 d5 10
Rel dxe4 11 dxe4 Bc5
12 h3 Qd6 13 b4! Ba7
14 Nb3 Ne7 15 Be3!
Bxe6 16 fxe6! Bb7 17
Nc5 Bc6 18 Qe2 Ng6
(18...Nd7 19 Rad1) 19 Nd2
a5 20 Red1 axb4 21
cxb4 Nd7 22 Nbd3 Qe7
23 Na5 Rxa5 (23...Nxc5 24
Nxc6 Qe6 25 Qxb5) 24 Nxd7
Qxb4 25...Nxf8 Nxf8 26
Bb3 Qxe4 27 Qf2 Ra8?
(27...Qg6 or 27...Be8) Black
resigns (28 Qxf7+).

159 Nimzo Indian
Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Polikarpov
(Belorussia Championship, Minsk 1964)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3
Bb4 4 e5 0-0 5 Ne2
d5 6 a3 Be7 7 cxd5 Nxd5 8
Qc2 Nd7 9 g3 b6? (9...c5)
10 Bg2 Bb7 11 0-0 Qc8
12 e4 Nxc3 13 Nxc3 Nf6
14 Rad1 Qd7 15 Qe2
Rad8 16 Bf4 c6 17 Rac1
Rfe8 18 g4! h6 19 h3
Qe8 20 g5! hxg5 21
Bxg5 Qb8 22 e5! Nd5 23
Bxe7 Rxe7 24 Nxd5 cxd5
25 Rc3 Rd8 26 Kg3! Re4
27 Bf1 Qf8 28 Qh5 Rcc7
29 Bd3 g6 30 Kh2 Kg7
31 Bxg6! fxg6 32 Rxe6
Kf8 33 Rg7 Rxe7 34
Rg7+ Kf7 35 Rd3 Black
resigns.

160 Spanish Game
White: Klovian
Black: Boleslavsky
(USSR Team Championship, Moscow 1964)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3
Bb5 Nf6 4 0-0 d6 5 d4
Bd7 6 Nc3 Be7 7 Re1
162 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Vaisman
(Trades Unions Championship, Moscow 1964)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
161 Sicilian Defence
White: Estrin
Black: Boleslavsky
(Trades Unions Championship, Moscow 1964)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
cxd4 4 Nxd4 e6 5 Nb5
d6 6 Bf4 e5 7 Be3 Nf6
8 Bg5 Be6 9 Nc3 a6 10
Na3 Be7 (10...d5! 11 Nc4
Nd4 12 Ne3 0-0 13 Bxf6
Bxf6 14 Ncd5 Bg5 15 c3
Nc6 16 Be2 (19 Bc4!?)
16...Ne7 17 Nxe7+ Qxe7
18 Nd5 Qd8 19 0-0 (19
Bc4!?) 19...Rc8 20 Qb3
Qd7 21 Rfd1 Rc5 22 a4
Kh8 23 Rd3? f5! 24 f3
Qf7 25 Rf1 Bxd5! 26
exd5 Qe7 27 Qd1 a5 28
b4? axb4 29 cxb4 Rc1
30 Qb3 Rxf1+ 31 Bxf1
e4! 32 Rc3 Qe5 33 Qc4
Bf6 34 Ra3 Qd4+ 35
Qxd4 Bxd4+ 36 Kh1 Rc8
37 fxe4 fxe4 38 g3 Rcl
39 Kg2 Rc2+ 40 Kh3 h5
41 g4 e3! 42 a5 e2 43
Bxe2 Rxe2 44 gxh5 Rb2
White resigns.

163 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Liebert
(Belorussia v England match, Ber-
1965)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3
cxd4 4 Nxd4 a6 5
b5 6 Bd3 Bb7 7 0-0
8 e5!? Ng6 9 Re1
10 Nxc6 Bxc6 11
Qc7? (11...Qh4! 12 Bxg6 h6
12 a3 Be7 13 Bd2
13...0-0 14 Re3! Bxg2? 15
Bc6 16 Rh3 h6 17 Bxh6!)
Ne4! Nf5 15 Bb4
(15...Qxe5 16 Bxe7 Kxe7 17 f4
16 Qh3 Bxe4 17 B
Rc8 18 Bxe7 Nxе7
Qh6 Rd8 20 Bd3 Nf5
Bxf5 gxf5 22 c3 Qc4
Qg7! Rf8 24 Qxf8
25 Rad1 Rg8 26 g3
27 Qh6 Rg6 28 Qd2
29 f4 d5! 30 exd6 R
31 Qg2 (31 Qxd6? Rxd6+ 32
31...Qxg2+ 32 Kxg2
(32...Ke7) 33 Rd4 Ke7
Red1 Rg8 35 Rd7+
36 Ra7 Kg6 37 Rdd7
38 Kf3 Kf6 39 Ke3
40 Kd3 Kf6 41 Ke2
42 Kd3 Black resigns.
and 21 Rxd1) 18 Nd5 Bxd5? 19 Bxd5 Qc7 (19...dxc5? 20 Qc3+ Kg8 21 Bxf7+) 20 Qc3+ e5 (20...Kg8 21 b4! dxc5 22 Rd3 threatening 23 Rg3 mate) 21 Bxf7! Kxf7 22 Qb3+ Kg7 23 cxd6 Qc5+ 24 Kh1 exf4 25 Rac1 Qb5 26 Rc7+ Kg6 27 Qe6+ Black resigns.

163 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Liebert
(Belorussia v East Germany match, Berlin 1965)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 a6 5 Nc3 b5 6 Bd3 BB7 7 O-O Ne7 8 e5!? Ng6 9 Re1 Nc6 10 Nxc6 Bxc6 11 Qh5 Qc7? (11...Qh4! 12 Bxg6 hxg6!) 12 a3 Be7 13 Bd2 Nh4 (13...0-0 14 Re3! Bxg2? 15 Rg3! Bc6 16 Rh3 h6 17 Bxh6!) 14 Ne4! Nf5 15 Bb4 g6 (15...Qxe5 16 Bxe7 Kxe7 17 Nc3!) 16 Qh3 Bxe4 17 Bxe4 Rc8 18 Bxe7 Nxe7 19 Qh6 Rd8 20 Bd3 Nf5 21 Bxf5 gxf5 22 c3 Qc4 23 Qg7! Rf8 24 Qxh7 Qg4 25 Rad1 Rg8 26 g3 Rg7 27 Qh6 Rg6 28 Qd2 Qh3 29 f4 d5! 30 exd6 Rxd6 31 Qg2 (31 Qxd6? Rxe3+! draws) 31...Qxg2+ 32 Kxg2 Rc6 (32...Ke7) 33 Rd4 Ke7 34 Red1 Rd8 35 Rd7+ Kh6 36 Ra7 Kg6 37 Rd7 Rf8 38 Kf3 Kf6 39 Ke3 Kg6 40 Kh3 Kf6 41 Ke2 Kg6 42 Kh3 Black resigns.

164 Sicilian Defence
White: Akopian
Black: Boleslavsky
(Trades Unions Team Championship, Moscow 1965)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 e6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Be3 Nf6 7 Be2 Be7 8 0-0 0-0 9 f4 Bd7 10 Kh1 Nxd4 11 Bxd4 Bc6 12 Bb3 a6 13 Bf3 Nh5!? (Intending 14...Nxf4 15 Rxf4 e5!) 14 Be3 Nf6 15 Rg3 Qc7 16 e5 dxe5 17 fxe5 Qxe5 18 Bf5 Qf4 19 Be4 Qc7 20 Bh6 g6 21 Bxf8 Bxf8 22 Be2 e5 23 Qf1 Bg7 24 Re1 Rd8 25 Bb1 h5 26 Rge3? e4! 27 a4 Qb6 28 b3 Qb4 29 Na2 Qd2 30 h3 Ne8 31 Rxe2 Qd6 32 c4 a5 33 Bc2 f5! 34 Rd1 Qc7 35 Rxd8 Qxd8 36 Qe1 Qd4 37 Rd2 Qe5 38 Nc1 f4 39 Re2 Nd6 40 Rd2 Nf5 41 Bd1 Kh7 42 Rd8 f3! White resigns.

165 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Hartoch
(European Team Championship, Hamburg 1965)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 0-0 8 c3 d6 9 d4 (Usually 9 h3 is played here. The move 9 d4 is made on the reckoning that the subsequent play will be less known to the opponent...
than the thoroughly studied variations after 9 h3.)
9... Bg4 10 d5 Na5 11 Bc2 c5 12 dxc6 Nxc6 13 Nbd2 Qc7 14 Nf1 h6?
(White's reckoning is justified; Black, who up to this moment has played correctly, now makes a serious mistake after which he gets into a positional vice.
The move 14... h6 is not only a loss of tempo [Black wants to place his bishop on e6 and for no reason fears the move Ng5], but it considerably weakens the king's flank and indirectly the f5 square, which now he does not succeed in covering with a pawn on g6.
Correct was 14... b4, obtaining chances on the queen's flank. For example, 15 Ne3 bxc3 16 bxc3 Na5 - and Black has a good game.)
15 Ne3 Be6 16 Nd5!
(This is when the weakening of the f5 square tells. Now, on 16... Bxd5 17 exd5 Na5, follows 18 Nh4! Of course, 18... Nxd5 is not possible now because of 19 Qxd5 Bxh4 20 Qe4 with the win of a piece. How unpleasant the knight is on f5 is shown by the following sample variation: 18... Re8 19 Nf5 Bf8 20 Qf3 Nd7 [21 Nhx6+ was threatened] 21 Nhx6+! gxh6 22 Qg4+ Kh8 23 Qf5 Kg7 24 Bxh6+ Kxh6 25 Re3 and Black cannot avoid mate. By choosing the lesser evil, Black is obliged to reconcile himself to the strong position of the knight d5.)
16... Qb8 17 b3 a5 18 h3
(All the same, White does not manage to avoid this "Spanish" move. White now develops the bishop to e3, without fearing the move ...Ng4. At an opportune moment, he is ready to carry out a transfer of the knight f3 via the h2 square to g4.)
18... Nh7
(This move is directed against 19 Nh2, on which would now follow 19... Bg5, but White can begin play on another part of the board.)
19 Be3 Bd8 20 c4 b4 21 c5
(In order to exploit the disconnected Black pieces, it is necessary to open lines.)
21... Kh8
(Black does not want to allow the bishop to c5, while 22 cxd6 Qxd6 23 Nf6+ was threatened.)
22 Rcl Na7
(This move, of course, does not improve Black's position, but he does not know how to counter the opponent's increasing positional pressure.)
23 Bb1 dxc5
(How else can he prevent the threat of 24 c6?; on 23... Bd7 could follow 24 cxd6 Qxd6 25 Nb6 Qxd1 26 Rxd1 with an overwhelming advantage for White.)
24 Rxc5!
(This is stronger than 24 Bxc5 - the rook enters the game with force.)
24... Nf6
(In the hope of finally exchanging the knight d5. He could consolidate the e5 pawn by 24... f6, but also in this case a terrible ordeal awaits 25 Nxe5!

(The decisive blow! Or follows 26 Nf4 Qb8 [a]
Qb2 27 Re2 Black loses
27 Nxe6 fxe6 28 e5 at
attack: 28... Ng8 29
Qxe6 Qb7 31 Be4, or 2
Qd3 Kg8 30 Qh7+ Kh7 3
Black is defenceless.)
25... Bxd5
(Black refuses the Qd4
but gets out of one pin
another.)
26 Rxd5! Nxd5 27
Nxb4+ Kg7 28 Rb5
Rc1 Bc7 30 Nxf7 Rxf7
31 Rxc7 Black res
28...
166 Sicilian Defense
White: Boleslaw Black: Dely
( European Team
ionship, Humbr
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6
xd4 Nxd4 Me2
Qc7 6 Be2 a6 7
terrible ordeal awaits Black.)
25 Nxe5!

(The decisive blow! On 25...Qxe5 follows 26 Nf4 Qb8 [after 26...Qb2 27 Re2 Black loses the queen] 27 Nxe6 fxe6 28 e5 and White's attack is irresistible. For example: 28...Ng8 29 Qd3 g6 30 Qxg6 Qb7 31 Be4; or 28...Ne8 29 Qd3 Kg8 30 Qh7+ Kf7 31 Bxh6 and Black is defenceless.)
25...Bxd5
(Black refuses the Greek gift, but gets out of one problem into another.)
26 Rxd5! Nxd5 27 Qxd5 (28 Nxf7+ and also 28 Nd7 are threatened. The Black queen is riveted to the rook a8. There is no defence.)
27...Kg8 28 Nd7 Qc8 29 Rcl Bc7 30 Nxf8 Kxf8 31 Rxc7 Black resigns.

167 Sicilian Defence
White: Nadezhdin
Black: Boleslavsky
(Tashkent 1965)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Bg5 e6 7 Qd2 a6 8 0-0 h6 8 Bf4 Bd7 (9...e5? 10 Nxc6 bxc6 11 Bxe5) 10 Bg3 Be7 (10...b5? 11 Bxd6! Bxd6 12 Nxc6 Bxc6 13 Qxd6 Qxd6 14 Rxd6 Bxe4 15 Nxe4 Nxe4 16 Rxa6!) 11 Be2 Nxd4 12 Qxd4 e5 13 Qd3 Qc7 14 f4 0-0 15 f5? (15 Bf3) 15...Bc6 16 Bf2 Rfc8 17 h4 b5 18 Rd2 (18...b4 19 Nxd5 Nxd5 20 exd5 Bxd5 was threatened) 18...Qa5 19 a3 (19 Kbl b4

166 Sicilian Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Dely
(European Team Championship, Hamburg 1965)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nc6 5 Nc3 Qc7 6 Be2 a6 7 f4 Nxd4

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20 Nd5 Bxd5 21 exd5 Rc3!
19...b4 20 Nd5 (20 axb4 Qa1+ 21 Nb1 Nxe4) 20...Bxd5
21 exd5 Rc3! White resigns (22 bxc3 Qxa3+ 23 Kbl bxc3 wins).

168 Hungarian Defence
White: Trofimov
Black: Boleslavsky
(Tashkent 1965)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3
Bc4 d6 4 d4 exd4 5
Nxd4 Nf6 6 Nc3 Be7 7
0-0 0-0 8 f4? d5! 9
Nxc6 bxc6 10 exd5 Bc5+
11 Kh1 cxd5 12 Bxd5
Ba6! 13 Bxa8 Qxa8 14
Rfe1 Bb7 15 Re2 Ng4 16
Qe1 (16 h3 Bxg2+! 17 Rxg2 Nf2+;
16 Qf1 Qd8! 17 Qe1 Bf2! 18 Rxf2
Qh4 wins) 16...Bxg2+! 17
Rgx2 Nf2+ 18 Kg1 Nd3+
19 Be3 Nxe1 20 Rxe1
Re8 White resigns.

169 Sicilian Defence
White: Manin
Black: Boleslavsky
(Tashkent 1965)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
cxd4 4 Nxd4 e6 5 Be3?
Nf6 6 Nc3 Bb4 7 Bd3 d5
8 exd5 Nxd5! 9 Nxc6
bxc6 10 Bd2 0-0 11
Nxd5? Bxd2+ 12 Qxd2
cxd5 13 0-0 Rb8! 14 b3
Qb6 15 Qe2 Re8 (Intending
16...e5) 16 Qh5 g6 17
Qe5 Ba6! 18 Rad1 Bxd3
19 Rxd3 Rbc8 20 Rcl
QA6 (Threatening 21...Qxd3!)
21 Qb2 Rc7 22 Rcd1
Qb6! 23 Rld2 Rc4! 24
Qf6 Re4 25 h4 Re1+ 26
Kh2 Qc7+ 27 Kg3? (27 g3)
Re4 28 c3 Rf4 29 Qg5
Kg7 30 Qh5 Re4!
(Threatening 31...Qxg3+!) 31
Rdd3 Qf4 32 Kh3 Re1 33
Rd1 Qxf2 34 Rxe1 Qxe1
35 Qg5 Qh1+ 36 Kg4 e5
White resigns.

170 Queen's Gambit Accepted
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Djinjihlashvili
(Universities Championships, Minsk 1966)
1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3
Nf3 Nf6 4 e3 e6 5 Bxc4
Qc5 6 0-0 a6 7 Nc3 b5 8
Bb3 Bb7 9 Qe2 Nbd7 10
Rd1 Qb8 11 d5 exd5
(11...Nxd5) 12 Nxd5 (12 e4!
dxe4 13 Ng5 c4 14 Ncxe4!; 12...d4
13 Nd5) 12...Nxd5 13
Bxd5 Bxd5 14 Rxd5 Qb7
15 e4 Be7 16 Bg5 Nb6
(16...Bxg5 17 Rad1!) 17 Rad1!
h6 (17...Nxd5 18 exd5 f6 19 d6!
fxg5 20 Re1 Rd8 21 Qe6! Rd7 22
Nxd5 Rf8 23 Nhx7 Rf7 24 Qg6!
wins, e.g. 24...Qd5 25 Nb4+) 18
Bxe7 Nxd5 (18...Qxe7? 19
Re5) 19 Bxc5 Ne7 20 Ne5
Rc8? (20...Qc7) 21 Rd7
Rc7 22 Rd8+! Kxd8 23
Nxf7+ Kd7 (If 23...Kc8 or
Ke8, then 24 Nd6+) 24 Qg4+
Kc6 25 Qe6+ Black resigns
(25...Kxc5 26 Qd6+ Kc7
27 Ne5 mate).

171 King's Indian Defence
White: Simagin
Black: Boleslavsky
(Training tournament, Moscow 1966)
1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6 3
Bg7 4 Bg2 0-0 5 0-0
6 a4? Nc6! 7 d5? Nxc4
8 Nc3 c6 9 e4 cxd5
exd5 Bd5 Bf5 11 Nd4 Bg4
Qd2 (12 f3 Bd7 13 Nde2
12...Qd7 13 Rd1) 14 a5 Rac8 15 Bd2
16 Bg2 Rc4 17 Nb3
18 Ra4 Rxc3! 19 bxc3
Nxc2 20 Rb4 Nxe1
Qxe1 Bh3! 22 Bd3 (22
Qxd4 23 Rxb7? Ng4) 22...
23 Nd4 Rc8 24 Bd2
25 Be2 Rc5 26 c4 Nc5
27 Bxc4 Bxd4 28 Bc2
bxa6 29 Rxd4 Qb7
Rh4 Rb5! 31 Bd4 (31
Rb1) 31...Bf5 32
h5! (32...Rxd5? 33 Rxd5 Qd5
Qxe7! Bh3 35 Qe8+ Kg7 36
h4 Bh4 34 Qe4
35 Qe1 Rxd5 36 Rf4
Qxd5 37 Qxe7 Bh3 Wh resigns.

172 Alekhine Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Petrosian
(Training tournament, Moscow 1966)
1 e4 Nf6 2 e5 Ng8
d4 d6 4 Nf3 g6 5
Bg7 6 Bc4 c6 7 h3 d5
Bb3 b6 9 0-0 e6 10
Ba6 11 Ne2! Ne7 12
h6 13 c3 Nd7 14 Bc2
171 King's Indian Defence
White: Simagin
Black: Boleslavsky
(Training tournament, Moscow 1966)
1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6 3 g3
Bg7 4 Bg2 0-0 5 0-0 d6
6 a4? Nc6! 7 d5? Nb4!
8 Nc3 c6 9 e4 cxd5 10
exd5 Bf5 11 Nd4 Bg4 12
Qd2 (12 f3 Bd7 13 Nde2 Qa5)
12...Qd7 13 Re1 Rfe8
14 a5 Rac8 15 Bf1 a6
16 Bg2 Rc4 17 Nb3 Bf5
18 Ra4 Rxc3! 19 bxc3
Nxc2 20 Rb4 Nxe1 21
Qxe1 Bh3! 22 Bf3 (22 Bxh3
Qxh3 23 Rxb7? Ng4) 22...Ng4
23 Nd4 Rc8 24 Bd2 Ne5
25 Be2 Rc5 26 c4 Nxc4!
27 Bxc4 Bxd4 28 Bxa6
bxa6 29 Rxd4 Qb7 30
Rh4 Rb5! 31 Bb4 (31 Rxa3?
Rb1) 31...Bf5 32 Rd4
h5! (32...Rxd5? 33 Rxd5 Qxd5 34
Qxe7! Bh3 35 Qe8+ Kg7 36 Bc3+)
33 h4 Bg4 34 Qe4 Bf5
35 Qe1 Rxd5 36 Rxd5
Qxd5 37 Qxe7 Bh3 White
resigns.

172 Alekhine Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Petrosian
(Training tournament, Moscow 1966)
1 e4 Nf6 2 e5 Ng8? 3
d4 d6 4 Nf3 g6 5 Nc3
Bg7 6 Bc4 c6 7 h3 d5 8
Bb3 b6 9 0-0 e6 10 Re1
Ba6 11 Ne2! Ne7 12 Nf4
h6 13 c3 Nd7 14 Bc2 c5
15 b3 Rc8 16 a4 Qc7 17
Ra2 0-0 18 h4 Rfd8 19
Bb1 Nf8 20 Ne2! (Intending
21 Ng3, 22 h5) 20...Bxe2
21 Rxe2 h5 22 g3 Rd7
23 Rc2 Qb7 24 b4 cxb4
25 cxb4 Rc4 26 Rb2 Nc6
27 b5 Na5 28 Bd2 Rc8
29 Ra2 Nc4 30 Bf4 Nh7
31 g4! hxg4 32 Nh2 Na5
33 Nxe4 Rc4

34 h5! Nf8 (34...gxh5 35
Bxh7+ Kxh7 36 Nf6+! Bxf6 37 Qxh5+
Kg8 38 exf6 and mates) 35
Bg5! Qc8 36 Nf6+ Bxf6
(36...Kh8 37 Nxd7 Qxd7 38 h6;
37...Nxd7 38 hxg6) 37 Bxf6
Rdc7 38 Qd2 Nh7 39
hxg6 fxg6 40 Qh6 Qf8
41 Qxg6+ Rg7 42 Bxg7
Qxg7 43 Qxg7+ Kxg7 44
f4 Nf8 45 f5! Rxd4 46
Rg2+ Kf7 47 Rf1! Black
resigns.

173 Sicilian Defence
White: Korchnoi
Black: Boleslavsky
(Training tournament, Moscow 1966)
1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
cxd4 4 Nxd4 d6 5 Nc3
21 Rg8+ Kxg8
(Intending c4!)
25. O-O 7 O-O b5 I e5
Black: Mosionzhik
Moscow L7 Qc5, I5 Nf2 c5 l6 dxc5
l, Neg5 h6 I4 Nh,
96 4 f4 Bg7 5 Nfl
e4e62d4Nf5fNcf
Qh4, Bd7 7 h4
I8 Re1 wins.)
175 French Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Zinn
(Belorussia v East Germany match, Minsk 1968)
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2
Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 f4 c5
6 c3 Nc6 7 Ndf3 cxd4
(7...Qa5!?)
8 cxd4 Nb6
9 B3d3 Bd7 10 Ne2 h5 11
0-0 Be7 12 Nc3 Nb4 13
Be2 a5 14 a3 Na6 15
Be3 Bc6 16 Nd2 g6 17
Bd3 Qd7 18 Qe2 Na4 19
Nxa4 Bxa4 20 Rae1 Nc7
21 Rf2 Kf8 22 g3 Rg8
23 h3 Ne8 24 Ref1 Bc2
25 g4! Bxd3 26 Qxd3
hxg4 27 hxg4 Ng7 28
Nf3 Qa4 29 Bd2 Kg8 30
Kg2 Bh4 31 Re2 Bd8 32
Rc1 Rxc1 33 Bxc1 Kh7
34 b3 Qd7 35 a4 Rf8 36
Re1 Kg8 37 Rh1 Be7 38
Nd2 Rc8 39 Qh3! f5 40
efx6 Bxf6 41 Qh7+ Kf7
42 Rh6 Bxd4 43 Qxd4+
GK8 44 Qh7+ Kf7 45
Qg6+ Kg8 46 Qh7+ Kf7
47 Nh3 Qc7 48 Qg6+ Kg8
49 Qh7+ Kf7 50 Ng5+!
Ke7 51 Rxe6+ Kd7 52
Rel Qc2+ 53 Qxc2 Rxc2+
54 Kf3 Rc3+ 55 Ke2
Rxb3 56 Rd1 Rb4 57 Nf3
Bb2 58 Bxb2 Rxb2+ 59

Ke3 Rb3+ 60 Ke2
Rh1 b5 62 axb5
Rh6+ Kc5 64 Rc6
65 Nd4+ Kb4 66
axb3 67 f5 b2
Ka5 69 Rc8 Ne6
Black resigns.

176 Modern Benoni
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Malisov
(Belorussia Championship, Grodno 1968)
1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e5 4 Nc3 d6 5 e4
a4 g6 7 g3 h5
(Upper this point the game gone on without violating opening principles. Black's thrust at once gives the game a very sharp character.)
8 h4
(This move was made not to prevent the further advance of Black's h-pawn: White is failing to establish his knight on d5.)
8...Bh6
(From the positional side, this exchange assures no direct threats, although it does promise Black future compensation on the black squares. Moreover, there is also a tactical struggle, and from this point of view Black's manoeuvres make excellent sense. Black is not behind in development, indeed, and must face an opening of the game.)
9 Bxh6 Rxh6 10 Ne5
(The exchange on h6 was a mistake.)

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175 French Defence
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Zinn
Belorussia v East Germany match, Minsk 1968)
e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2
f6 4 e5 Nf6 5 f4 c5
0-0 Be7 12 Nc3 Ndb 13
e2 a5 14 a3 Na6 15
Be3 Bc6 16 Nd2 g6 17
Qd7 18 Qe2 Na4 19
Bxa4 Bxa4 20 Rael Nc7
Rf2 Kf8 22 g3 Rc8
h3 Ne8 24 Ref1 Bc2
g4! Bxd3 26 Qxd3
Qxg4 27 hxg4 Ng7 28
Qf3 Qa4 29 Bd2 Kg8 30
Bh4 31 Re2 Bd8 32
Rxc1 33 Bxc1 Kh7
b3 Qd7 35 a4 Rf8 36
Kg8 37 Rh1 Be7 38
Rc8 39 Qh3! f5 40
xf6 Bxf6 41 Qh7+ Kf7
Rh6 Bxd4 43 Qxg6+
g8 44 Kh7+ Kf7 45
Kg8 46 Qh7+ Kf7
Nf3 Qc7 48 Qg6+ Kg8
Qh7+ Kf7 50 Ng5+
Kd6 51 Rxe6+ Kd7 52
Qc2+ 53 Qxc2 Rxc2+
Kf3 Rc3+ 55 Ke2
xb3 56 Rd1 Rb4 57 Nf3
b2 58 Bxb2 Rxb2+ 59
Ke3 Rb3+ 60 Ke2 Kd6 61
Rh1 b5 62 axb5 a4 63
Rh6+ Kc5 64 Rc6+ Kxb5
65 Nxd4+ Kb4 66 Nxb3
axb3 67 f5 b2 68 f6
Ka5 69 Rc8 Ne6 70 Rb8
Black resigns.

176 Modern Benoni
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Malisov
(Belorussia Championship, Gomel 1968)
d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 d5
e5 4 Nc3 d6 5 e4 a6 6
a4 g6 7 g3 h5
Up to this point the game has
gone on without violation of any
opening principles. Black's flank
threat at once gives the game a
very sharp character.)
h4
(This move was made not only to
prevent the further advance of
Black's h-pawn: White intends to
establish his knight on the g5
square.)
Bh6
(From the positional side, this
exchange arouses no doubts and
promises Black future counterplay
on the black squares. But in
chess there is also a dynamic
struggle, and from this point of
view Black's manoeuvre is far
from being safe. Black lags
behind in development, is depriv-
ed of castling and must avoid the
opening of the game.)
Bxh6 Rxc6 10 Nh3 Kf8
(The exchange on h3 would make
the white-squared bishop extreme-
ly active, but Black should not
for the present determine the
position of his king. It would be
ter better to leave it in the centre
and, at an opportune moment, hide
it on the queen's flank.)
11 Ng5 Kg7 12 Qd2 Rh8
(13 Nxf7 was threatened.)
Be2!
(White, unlike the opponent, does
not hurry to decide the position of
his king and is ready to
castle on either side. The bishop
move, apart from preparing
castling, has the aim of
defending the important g4
square.)
13...Nbd7 14 f4 exf4
(In the event of 14...Rf8, the
move 15 f5! would pose Black
unsolvable problems, therefore he
consents to the opening of the
position, placing all his hopes
on the subsequent counterplay.)
gxf4 Ng4 16 Bxg4
hxg4 17 0-0-0 b5
(Black sacrifices a pawn, which
White could quite well accept.
After 18 axb5 axb5 19 Nxb5 it is
not apparent how Black can
exploit the open a-file. But
White prefers to continue the
attack, and this leads to a
further sharpening of the game.)
e5 Nb6
not accelerates better.

25 Rf8, 95 Rxf5 28 Kd8 Kf8 25...Rxh8, then 26 Rxb8+ Ke7

the from the seventh Black defendi ng rook.

tle4 successfully conclude an exchange 20 Qc, RfB 24 Kd8

The following move allows White to successfully conclude the attack.

19 Nxf7! Kxf7 20 e6+ Ke8

(Black retreats the king to e8 so as to have the possibility of defending the f6 square with the rook. Other retreats would not be better. For example: 20...Kg8 21 Ne4 Nxc4 22 Qc3 Qa5 23 Qf6 and Black is defenceless.)

21 Ne4 Ra7

(Black tries to defend the seventh rank. If 21...Nxc4 22 Qc3 Rf8, then 23 Qg7 Qe7 24 Qxg6+ Kd8 25 f5 Ne5 26 Qg5 Qxg5 27 hxg5 Rxg5 28 Rh8+ Ke7 29 Rh7+ Nf7 30 g6 and White must win.)

22 h5! gxh5

(22...Rah7 23 Qc3 gxh5 24 Nf6+ Kf8 25 Nhx7+ Rxh7 26 Qd3 Qe7 27 Qf5+ Ke8 28 Rxh5 Rxh5 29 Qxh5+ Kd8 30 Qh8+ Kc7 31 Rh1 also would not give Black chances of saving the game.)

23 Qc3 Rf8 24 Rxh5 Nx4

(The attempt to oust the queen from the dangerous diagonal accelerates the outcome.)

25 Qh8+! Qe7

(If 25...Rxh8, then 26 Rxb8+ Ke7

27 Rh7+ Ke8 28 Rxh7, and Black has no defence against the threat of 29 Rh1.)

26 f5 Qg7

(Or 26...Rxb8 27 Rh8+ Qf8 28 Nxd6+)

27 Nx6+ Kd8 28 Qxg7 Rxg7 29 f6 Rxf6 30 Rh8+ Kc7 31 Nxc8

(Also 31 Ne8+ is immediately decisive.)

31...Rf2 32 d6+ Black resigns.

(The game was awarded a prize as the most beautiful in the tournament.)

177 Sicilian Defence

White: Boleslavsky

Black: Yanes

(USSR Team Championship, Riga 1968)

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 g6

(This order of moves in the Dragon system has become the most popular in recent years.)

5 Nc3 Bg7 6 Be3 Nf6 7 Bc4 d6 8 f3 Bd7 9 Qd2 Rc8

(9...0-0 10 0-0 Qa5 11 Bb3 Rfc8 is more often played. By placing the king's rook on c8, Black pursues two aims: firstly, the f8 square could prove useful for the king if White succeeds in opening the h-file, secondly, the rook a8 could be utilised on the queen's flank for attack on the Black king. The continuation chosen by Black poses White fewer problems.)

10 Bb3 Ne5 11 Bh6 Bxh6

(Black misses his last chance to bring the king to the centre. Though after ...0-0 White could immediately begin an attack on the move 12 h4 it is easier for Black to find counterplay than with the king on the centre.)

12 Qxh6 Nc4?

(Black should play 12...Qa5! once and, after 13 Rxb7, sacrifice the exchange to exploit his material advantage.)

19 0-0-0 Qa5

(Finally Black creates the threat of...Nxb2, but with the move, White, by sacrificing the exchange, goes to the attack.)

14 Nd5! Nxd5 15 Qxd5 16 Rhh1

(Now 17 Ne6 is threatened and Black tries to utilise the open files and the defence of the king's pawn.)

16...Qh5 17 Qg7 18 Kb1 Rf8 19 Bxh5

(19...Nd2+ was threatened and an unpleasant knight move was to be made from the board.)

19...Rxc4 20 g3!
Rh7+ Ke8 28 Rxa7, and Black is no defence against the threat 29 Rh1.)
8 f5 Qg7
9 26...Rxh8 27 Rh8+ Qf8 28 Qxg7
t7 Nxd6+ Kd8 28 Qxg7
tg7 29 f6 Rxf6 30 Qxh6+ Kc7 31 Nxc8
also 31 Ne8+ is immediately decisive.)
10...Rf2 32 d6+ Black resigns.
The game was awarded a prize as the most beautiful in the tournament.

177 Sicilian Defence

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Yanes

SSR Team Championship, Riga 1968)
e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4
d4 4 Nxd4 g6
his order of moves in the
agnost system has become the most
ular in recent years.)
Nc3 Bg7 6 Be3 Nf6 7
d6 8 f3 Bd7 9 Qd2
t...0-0 0-0 0-0 Qa5 11 Bb3 Rfc8
more often played. By placing
the king's rook on c8, Black
uses two aims: firstly, the f8
are could prove useful for the
if White succeeds in opening
h-file, secondly, the rook a8
d be utilised on the queen's
nk for attack on the Black
g. The continuation chosen by
Black poses White fewer
lems.)
Bb3 Ne5 11 Bh6 Bxh6

(Black misses his last chance to
bring the king to the flank.
Though after ...0-0 White could
immediately begin an attack with
the move 12 h4, it would be
easier for Black to organise
counterplay than with the king in
the centre.)
12 Qxh6 Nc4?
(Black should play 12...Qa5 at
once, and after 13 0-0-0, sacrifice
the exchange in the
well known fashion: 13...Rxc3.
After 14 bxc3 Qxc3 15 Kb1 a5 it
is far from simple for White to
exploit his material advantage.)
13 0-0-0 Qa5
(Finally Black creates the threat
14...Nxb2, but with his next move,
White, by sacrificing a
pawn, goes over to the attack.)
14 Nd5! Nxd5 15 exd5
Qxd5 16 Rhl
(Now 17 Ne6 is threatened. Black
tries to utilise the queen for
defence of the king's position.)
16...Qh5 17 Qg7 Qg5+
18 Kb1 Rf8 19 Bxc4
(19...Nd2+ was threatened: this
unpleasant knight must be removed
from the board.)
19...Rxc4 20 g3!

(White, with the move 21 f4,
threatens to drive the Black
queen away from the defence of
the e7 pawn. How dangerous this
is for Black is shown by the
following variation: 20...h5 21
f4 Qc5 22 b3 Rc3 [22...Rb4 23 c3
Rb6 24 Rxe7+ Kxe7 25 Re1+ Kd8 26
Qxf8+ Kc7 27 Qxf7] 23 Rxe7+ Kxex7
24 Rel+ Kd8 25 Qxf8+ Kc7 26 Qg7,
and Black is in no position to
hold out for long. If 20...f5,
then 21 Ne6 Bxe6 22 Rxe6 Rf7 [23
f4 was threatened; if 22...Rc7,
then 23 Rxd6] 23 Qg8+ Rf8 24
Qxh7 Rf7 25 Qg8+ Rf8 26 Rxe7+
Qxe7 27 Qxc4, and Black's position
is hopeless. The continuation
chosen by Black also proves to be
insufficient, but there was
already no satisfactory defence.)
20...e6 21 f4 Qe7
(On 21...Qd8 would have followed
22 Nb3, with the threats of 23
Rxd6 and 23 Ng5.)
22 f5
(This participation of the pawn
makes the attack decisive. Black
could exchange queens here by
22...f6, but after 23 Qxe7+ Kxe7
24 Nxe6 Bxe6 25 Rxe6+ Kb7 26
Rxd6 he would be left two pawns
down.)
22...e5 23 f6 Qd8 24
Nf3
(Black is in no state to repulse
the three threats, 25 Rxd6, 25
Nxe5 and 25 Ng5.)
24...Bf5 25 Rxe5+ Kb7
26 Rxf5! Black resigns

178 Spanish Game

White: Boleslavsky
Black: Giterman

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(USSR Team Championship, Riga 1968)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 Na5 10 Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12 Nbd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 Bb7 14 d5
(This position has been met in tournament practice a great number of times. Though Black controls the c-file, White's space advantage, dependent upon the presence of the strong d5 pawn, allows him to gradually take the initiative on the queen's flank. Black's primary task is to provide right positions for the knight a5 and bishop b7.)
14...Bc8
(After White has played d5, the bishop b7 is doing nothing.)
15 Rb1 Bd7
(An imperceptible, but very significant mistake. The move 15 Rb1 was made by Bronstein in the 24th USSR Championship against Geller. The young Moldavian master was apparently not acquainted with this game, otherwise he would have replied 15...Nd4, offering an exchange of knights, or, in the event of 16 Nf1, transferring the knight from c4 to b6.)
16 b3
(But now the Black knight already does not get to b6! On 16...Nb7, White would reply 17 b4!, not fearing the break 17...a5. In this also lies the point of the move 15 Rb1.)
16...Rfc8 17 Bd3 b4
(In this way, Black wants to secure the c5 square for his knight. However, the position of the pawn on b4 facilitates White's operations on the queen's flank. In addition, the weakness of the a6 pawn later forces Black to exchange the white-squared bishops, which in the positional respect is unfavourable.)
18 a3
(After 18 Nc4 or 18 Nf1, the game assumes a quieter character and it would be easier for Black to defend himself.)
18...bxa3
(18...Rb8 will not do because of 19 axb4 Rxb4 20 Ba3 Rb7 21 Nxe5. On 18...Qb7 or 18...Qb6, very strong is 19 Nc4. Black could defend the pawn also by the move 18...Qc5. But then after 19 Nf1 bxa3 20 Ra1! [but not 20 b4? Qc3 21 Re2 Ba4!] 20...Qc3 21 Rxa3 he falls into a difficult position.)
19 Bxa3 Bb5
(There is nothing better: the b5 pawn will be easier to defend than the a6 pawn.)
20 Bxb5 axb5 21 Rcl Qa7
(Black intends to meet the siege of the b5 pawn by tactical operations. In the event of 21...Qd7 he has in prospect a difficult defence in view of the weakness of the white squares.)
22 Rxc8+ Rxc8 23 Bb4 Ne8!
(The only move! For the defence of the knight a5, Black will have to play ...Bd8. Therefore it is necessary to reinforce the d6 pawn.)
24 Qe2
(It seems that the defence against the threats Qxb5 and 25 Ral. How finds an interesting resource. Worthy of attention quieter continuation 24...Rc1, after which White can not break the position. The further turn out in the following: 25...Rxcl+ 26 Qxcl Qc7 28 Nb1 Qc2 [After 28...Qb6 30 Qa8 the White invades the enemy position. The further end.)
24...Nb3 25 Nxb3 26 Na5
(There is apparently better. After 26 Rb1 Qa4 it is difficult for White to count on victory.)
26...Qxb4 27 Nb1
28 dxc6 Qc5
(If now 29 Rbl, then...)

The c6 pawn is not to
19 Bxa3 Bb5  
(There is nothing better: the b5 pawn will be easier to defend than the a6 pawn.)
20 Bxb5 axb5 21 Rcl Qa7  
(Black intends to meet the siege of the b5 pawn by tactical operations. In the event of 21... Qa7 he has in prospect a difficult defence in view of the weakness of the white squares.)
22 Rxc8+ Rxc8 23 Bb4 Ne8!  
(The only move! For the defence of the knight a5, Black will have to play ...Bd8. Therefore it is necessary to reinforce the d6 pawn.)

24 Qe2

(It seems that there is no defence against the threats of 25 Qxb5 and 25 Ra1. However, Black finds an interesting tactical resource.
Worthy of attention is the quieter continuation 24 Qa1 Bd8 25 Rcl, after which White retains all the advantages of his position. The further play might turn out in the following way: 25...Rxcl+ 26 Qxc1 Qc7 27 Qa3 f6 28 Nb1 Qc2 [After 28...Nb7 29 Nc3 Qb6 30 Qa8 the White queen invades the enemy position with decisive effect] 29 Nc3 Qxb3 [29...Nxb3 30 Qa8] 30 Qxb3 Nxb3 31 Nxb5 Be7 32 Kf1, and after the forced exchange for Black on c5, White obtains a winning position.)

24...Nxb3 25 Nxb3 Qa4 26 Na5  
(There is apparently nothing better. After 26 Rbl Qxb4 27 Nbd2 it is difficult for White to count on victory.)
26...Qxb4 27 Nc6 Rxc6 28 dxc6 Qc5  
(If now 29 Rbl, then 29...Nc7. The c6 pawn is not to be saved, and so Black obtains two pawns for the exchange. Sufficient compensation. However, Black has a weak eighth rank, while his minor pieces are badly placed....)
29 Qe3 Qxc6 30 Rcl Qb7 31 Qc3!
(Only active play! On 31...Qxe4, decisive is 32 Qc8 Kf8 33 Qd7 Qg6 [even worse is 33...f6 34 Rc8 Qg6 35 Nh4 Qf7 36 Ng5 d5 37 Rb8, and there is no defence against the threat 38 Rb7, since, on a move of the bishop, follows 37 Rxe8+] 34 Rc8 f5 35 Qb5 and Black must lose - his pieces are tied up.)
31...Nf6 32 Nd2 Bf8 33 Qc8 Qxc8 34 Rxc8 b4  
(After 34...d5 35 Nf3! dxe4 36 Nxe5 g6 37 Rb8 b4 38 Rb7 Black loses because of the weakness of the f7 pawn.)
35 Rb8 g6  
(It is difficult to say whether more chances of a draw were offered by 35...d5 36 exd5 [36 Nf3 Nd7] 36...Nxd5 37 Rb5.)
36 Rxb4 d5 37 Rb5 Bh6 38 Nf1 dxe4  
(Now the e4 pawn becomes an object of attack. More tenacious was 38...Nxe4 39 Rxd5 f6, creating a solid pawn phalanx. It is true that White, by 40 Rd7, succeeds in cutting off the Black king on the eighth rank, which gives him real chances of victory.)
39 Rxe5 Bf4 40 Ra5 h5  
(The last move in time-trouble. More chances of resistance remained with 40...Ne8, with a future transfer of the knight to d6.)
41 Ra4! Bh6
(By sealing this move, Black prevents the threat 42 f3.)
42 Ne3 Kf8 43 Kf1 Bxe3
(Black calculates on not allowing the enemy king in the centre, by installing his king on e5 and the knight on d5. On other continuations, White would win with the transfer of the king to c4.)
44 fxe3 Ke7 45 Ke2 Ke6
46 Kd2 Ke5 47 Ra7!
(If 47...Ke6, then 48 Kc3, getting to d4. After the invasion of the king, there would remain no chances for Black and so he decides to give up the f7 pawn.)
47...Nd5 48 Rxf7 h4

(An interesting position. The White king is forced to guard the e3 pawn, while one rook, as it were, is not in a position to deliver a decisive blow. One has the impression that White will have to place his rook on a3, and then go with his king to f2 in order to advance the g-pawn to create an additional weakness in Black's position. In short, a protracted struggle is in prospect. Meanwhile the win is achieved in another way - by zugzwang!)

49 Rh7 g5 50 Rh8
(White does not immediately find the right plan and at first makes a few moves to gain time.)
50...Ke6
(On 50...Ke5 would have followed 51 Re8 Nc7 52 Rf8+ Ke5 53 Rg8 Kf5 54 Kg3. And if 50...Kf6, then 51 Rg8 Kf5 52 Re8.)
51 Rg8 Kf6 52 Rb8 Ke6
53 Ra8 Ke5 54 Ra7 Ke6
55 Ra6+ Ke5
(The result is not changed by 55...Kf5 56 Rd6.)
56 Rg6 Kf5 57 Kg5 Kg6
58 Rg8
(The aim is achieved. On 58...Kg5 decisive is 59 Re8.)
Black resigns.

179 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Liebert
(Belorussia v East Germany match, Schwedt 1969)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 0-0
8 c3 d6 9 h3 h6 10 d4 Re8 11 Nbd2 Bf8 12 Nf1
Bb7 13 Ng3 g6 14 Bc2
Bg7 15 Bd2 Nb8 16 a4
Nbd7 17 Bd3 c6 18 Qc2
Qc7 19 Be3 d5? 20
Nxe5! Nxe5 21 dx5
Nxe4 22 Bxe4! dxe4 23
Nxe4 Qxe5 24 Bd4 Qc7
25 Bxg7 Kxg7 26 c4 Qe5
27 c5! Rad8 28 Nd6
Qxe1+ 29 Rxe1 Rxe1+ 30
Kh2 Re7 31 Qc3+ f6
(31...Kg8 32 Qf6! threatening 33 Qxe7, Nxb7 or Nxf7!) 32 Qa5

180 Veresov Open
White: Veresov
Black: Boleslavsky
(Sokolsky Memorial tournament, 1970/71)
1 d4 Nf6 2 Nc3 Bg4
Bg5 Nbd7 4 0-0
Bh4 c6 6 e3 e6
Be7 8 0-0 0-0 9
Bb7 8 Bg3 Nh5 11
Nxe5 12 dx5 g6
Kh7 14 Rad1 Bd7
Bxb5 16 Nxb5 Qb6
Rad8 18 Qe2 f5
a6 20 cxd5 (20
20...exd5 21 Ne4

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49 Rh7 g5 50 Rh8
(White does not immediately find the right plan and at first makes a few moves to gain time.)
50... Ke6
(On 50...Kf5 would have followed 51 Re8 Nc7 52 Rf8+ Ke5 53 Rg8 Kf5 54 Kc3. And if 50...Kf6, then 51 Rg8 Kf5 52 Re8.)
51 Rg8 Kf6 52 Rb8 Ke6
53 Ra8 Kf5 54 Ra7 Ke6
55 Ra6+ Ke5
(The result is not changed by 55...Kf5 56 Rd6.)
56 Rg6 Kf5 57 Rg7! Kf6
58 Rg8
(The aim is achieved. On 58...Kf5 decisive is 59 Re8.)
Black resigns.

179 Spanish Game
White: Boleslavsky
Black: Liebert
(Belorussia v East Germany match, Schwerdt 1969)
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 O-O Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 0-0 8 c3 d6 9 h3 h6 10 d4 Re8 11 Nbd2 Bf8 12 Nf1
Bb7 13 Ng3 g6 14 Bc2 Bg7 15 Bd2 N8b 16 a4 Nbd7 17 Bd3 c6 18 Qc2 Qc7 19 Be3 d5? 20 Nxe5! Nxe5 21 dxe5
Nxe4 22 Bxe4! dxe4 23 Nxe4 Qxe5 24 Bd4 Qc7
25 Bxg7 Kxg7 26 c4 Qe5 27 c5! Rad8 28 Nd6 Qxe1+ 29 Rxe1 Rxe1+ 30 Kh2 Re7 31 Qc3+ f6
(31...Kg8 32 Qf6! threatening 33 Qxe7, Nxb7 or Nxf7!) 32 Qa5

Rdd7 33 b3 h5 34 h4 (To prevent 34...h4) 34...bxa4?
35 bxa4 Kh7 36 Qb6 Kg7 37 a5 Kh7 38 Qb2 Kg7 39 Kg3 Rc7 40 Qb6 Kf8 41 Kf4 Rcd7 42 f3 Kg7 43 Qb2! Rd8 (To meet 44 Nxb7 with 44...Rb8) 44 g4!
(Threatening 45 g5 Rf8 46 gxf6+ Rxf6+ 47 Kg5!) Black resigns.

180 Veresov Opening
White: Veresov
Black: Boleslavsky
(Sokolsky Memorial tournament, Minsk 1970/71)
1 d4 Nf6 2 Nc3 d5 3 Bg5 Nbd7 4 Nf3 h6
Bg4 c6 6 e3 e6 7 Bd3 Be7 8 0-0 0-0 9 Re1 c5
10 Bg3 Nh5 11 Be5!? Nxe5 12 dxe5 g6 13 Qd2
Kh7 14 Rad1 Bd7 15 Bb5
Bxb5 16 Nxb5 Qb6 17 c4 Rad8 18 Qe2 f5 19 g3
a6 20 cxd5 (20 Nc3 d4)
20...exd5 21 Nc3 Qc6

22 Rd3 (Intending 23 Red1)
22...f4! 23 exf4 (23 gxf4 d4! 24 exd4 Nxf4; 24 Nd1 dxe3!)
23...Ng7! 24 Red1 d4
25 Ne4 Ne6 26 h4 Kg7
27 b3 b5 28 h5!? (28 b4)
28...gxh5! 29 b4 Rxf4!
(29...c4? 30 Rxd4! Nxd4 31 Nxd4 Qb6 32 Nc5!) 30 Nxd4! (30 gxf4 Nxf4 31 Qe1 Qg6+!)
30...Nxd4 31 Rxd4 Rxd4
32 Rxd4 cxd4 33 gxf4 Qc1+ 34 Kg2 Qxf4 35 Ng3 Qg5 (Threatening 36...h4)
36 f4! Qg4 (36...Qxf4? 37 Nxh5+) 37 Qxg4 hgx4 38
Nf5+ Kg8 39 Nxe6 d3 40 Nxg4 Bxb4 41 Kf3 Bc5

Draw.

* * *

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