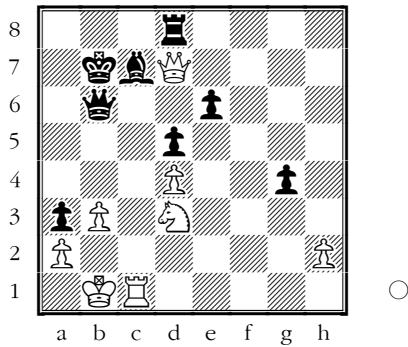
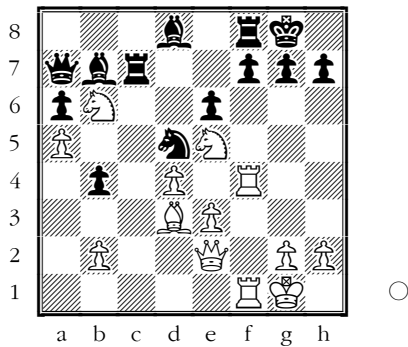


Test Yourself!

Bogoljubow – Alekhine
World Championship 14th GER/NLD
(18), 26.10.1929



Bogoljubow – Rubinstein
Bad Kissingen Bad Kissingen (7), 1928



On This Day

by GM Alex Baburin

One of the world's strongest players in the period between the WW1 and WW2, Grandmaster Efim Bogoljubow, was born in Stanislavchik, Ukraine on 14 April 1889. He won many international tournaments, including the famous Moscow 1925 tournament and twice, in 1929 and 1934, played matches for the world championship against Alexander Alekhine. At the various stages of his career Bogoljubow represented Russia, Germany, Soviet Union, then again Germany and, finally, West Germany. The Bogo-Indian Defence (1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+) is named after Bogoljubow.

This issue is prepared by GM Ruslan Scherbakov; technical editor: Graham Brown

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World Chess News

**European Senior Team
Championship**

Russia has claimed the title by winning all their matches apart from the one against Austria. Their main rivals Switzerland came second and the surprising Finland, which were lucky not to meet the winners and so accumulate more board points, jumped to the third place. The best rating performance was shown by the leader of the Swiss team Victor Korchnoi, who has scored 7½ out of 9 and slightly outdid Vitaly Tseshkovsky of Russia and Orestes Rodriguez Vargas of Catalonia, who scored the same result.

Final Standings:

1. Russia – 17 match points (27½ board points)
2. Switzerland – 14 (23½)
3. Finland – 13 (24½)
4. Catalonia – 13 (24)
5. Germany – 13 (22½)
6. Austria – 13 (22½) etc.

[Official website](#)

Annotated Game

by GM Ruslan Scherbakov

White: Y. Shulman (2632)

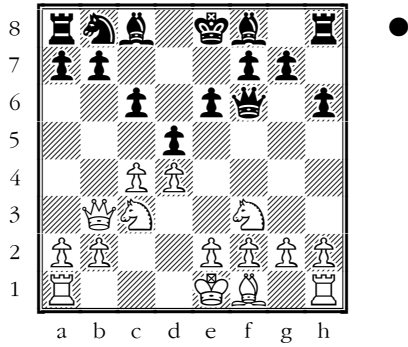
Black: A. Shabalov (2569)

Foxwoods Open Ledyard USA (7),
11.04.2009

QGD; Semi-Slav – [D43]

Victory in this crucial game helped Yuri Shulman to strengthen his lead in the recently finished Foxwoods Open.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.♘c3 e6 5.♙g5 h6 6.♙xf6 ♗xf6 7.♗b3 (D)



White prefers a solid approach instead of the rather messy Anti-Moscow Gambit.

7...a5!?

True to his style, Alexander Shabalov chooses the most ambitious approach. The restrained 7...d7 would have led to quiet play after 8.♖d1 (8.g3 gives Black an interesting possibility: 8...dxc4!? 9.♗xc4 e5 with acceptable play. For example, 10.0-0-0!? ♕e7 (10...exd4!? 11.♗e4 ♖g6 12.♗xd4 ♕e7 13.♗h3 ♗b6 14.♗e5 ♗h5 15.♗xc8 ♞xc8∞) 11.♗e4 (11.♗h3? ♗b6; 11.♗g2 exd4 12.♗e4 ♗g6=) 11...♗f5□ 12.♗c2 0-0 13.♗b1 exd4 14.♗xd4 ♗a5 15.♗h3 (15.♗g2 ♗f6 16.h3!?) 15...♗f6 16.♗xc8 ♞axc8 17.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 18.♗f5 ♞cd8= with equality) 8...g6 9.g3 ♗g7 10.♗g2 0-0 11.0-0 dxc4 12.♗xc4 with a small advantage. Then after 12...e5 White has the interesting possibility 13.♗e4!? (13.d5 ♗b6 is fine for Black as White's active knight will be exchanged and the c8-bishop will activate comfortably) 13...♗e7 14.d5!? ♗b6 (14...cxd5 15.♗xd5 ♗b6 did not solve Black's problems as it does not exchange the knights. In the game Scherbakov - Shalimov, St. Petersburg 2000 White achieved a certain advantage after 16.♗c5! ♗xc5 (16...♗e6 17.b3 is also in White's favour) 17.♗xc5± The strong knight on c5 disturbs Black greatly, although objectively White's advantage is not so big) 15.d6! ♗d8 (15...♗xc4? is losing by force: 16.dxe7 ♞e8 17.♞d8 ♕e6 18.♞xa8 ♞xa8 19.♞d1 ♗d5 20.b3+- and White wins a piece) 16.♗c2± and White has secured the better chances in the game Scherbakov - Dreev, EU-ch (blitz) Neum 2000.

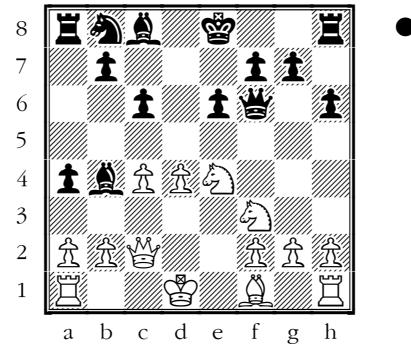
However, Black's position is still rather solid and White has to play

energetically to use his strong pawn on d6 – otherwise it might become vulnerable.

8.e4 a4

This rare option does not seem to be the best. Perhaps Alex wanted to take his opponent by surprise but, as we'll see, it did not work well. 8...dxe4 9.♗xe4 ♗b4+ 10.♗d1 ♗f4 is known to be the main line, in which Black keeps reasonable counter chances.

9.♗c2 dxe4 10.♗xe4 ♗b4+ 11.♗d1! (D)



Surely not 11.♗c3?! a3 followed by ...c6-c5 with initiative for Black.

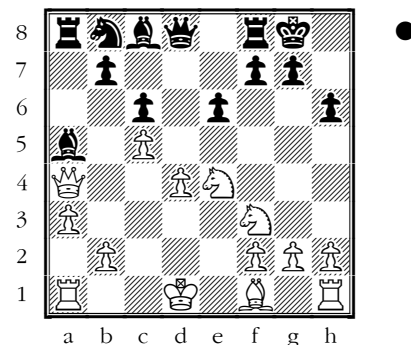
11...♗d8

The typical 11...♗f4!? still deserved serious attention. Here Black did not win a tempo as White's knight on e4 is protected but his queen would still be disturbing for White. For example, 12.c5 (or 12.♗d3 f5⇌) 12...0-0 13.♗d3 ♗d7 with complicated play.

12.c5!

The main idea of this logical pawn push is not to secure the strong d6-square for the knight but to cut the opponent's dark-squared bishop and to lock up Black's light-squared bishop by preventing a typical ...c6-c5.

12...0-0 13.a3 ♗a5 14.♗xa4 (D)



This position is supposed to be in White's favour. Of course, his king is

unsafe in the center but he is going to secure it by simple means. By the way, White is threatening to win the bishop on a5 by b2-b4.

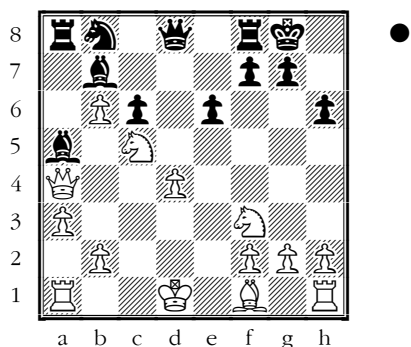
14...b5

14...♞a6 was worthy of consideration, which has been played in the game A.Nesterov – S.Guliev, Moscow 1995.

15.cxb6!

Without hesitation! 15.♞c2?! gives Black excellent counter chances after 15...e5! 16.♞d6 ♞g4! (16...exd4 17.♞e4! ♞e6 18.♞d3 was somewhat better for White in the game Uhlmann –Kuczynski, Dresden 1988) 17.♞e2 exd4 18.♞e4 ♞xf3 19.♞xf3 ♞d7 ⇌

15...♞b7 16.♞c5 (D)



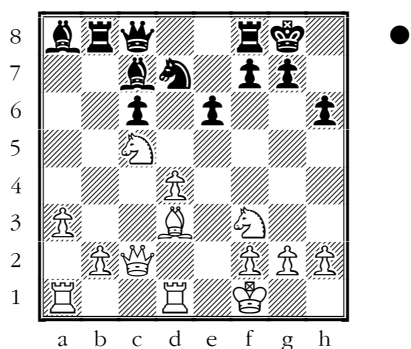
16...♞c8

A new continuation, which does not really increase Black's chances. Alex was certainly not satisfied with the ending after 16...♞xb6 17.♞xb7! (not 17.♞c4? ♞xc5 18.♞xc5 ♞d7 19.♞d6 c5 with a strong initiative against White's centralised king) 17...♞xa4 18.♞xd8 ♞xd8 19.♞c2 ♞xd4 20.♞b3 ♞a7 21.♞xd4 ♞xd4 22.♞c3 with a small but comfortable edge for White, which he successfully converted in the game Ivanchuk – Ribli, Reggio Emilia 1988.

17.♞b3 ♞d7 18.♞d3

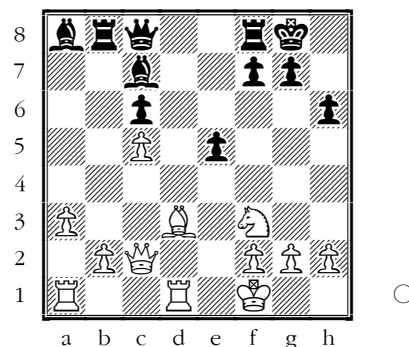
White's main task is to complete the development of his K-side and secure his king.

18...♞b8 19.♞e2 ♞a8 20.♞c2 ♞xb6 21.♞hd1 ♞c7 22.♞f1 (D)



The task is completed. It turned out that Black failed to achieve any compensation for the sacrificed pawn. More over, one of his key pieces, the light-squared bishop is locked up since he failed to realize the thematic ...c6-c5 push.

22...♞xc5 23.dxc5 e5 (D)

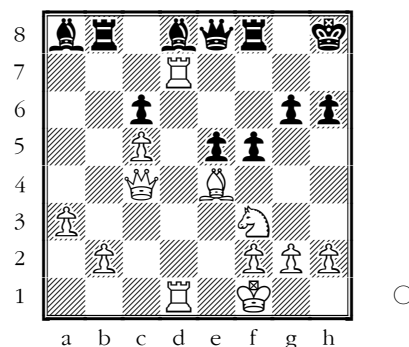


This action does not help much – White keeps everything under control.

24.♞f5 ♞e8 25.♞d7 ♞d8 26.♞ad1 g6 27.♞e4 f5

Desperately trying to get a counter chance. However, White's pieces are simply too powerful and it just brings the end nearer.

28.♞c4+! ♞h8 (D)



29.♞c1!

This clever manoeuvre forces fatal weakening.

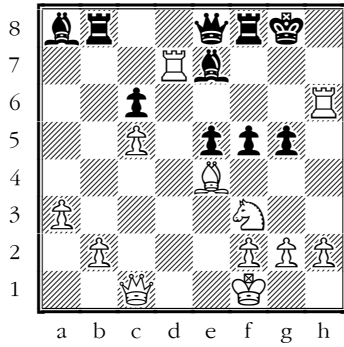
29...g5 30.♞1d6!

White's play is simple and strong.

30...♞e7

In case of 30...fxe4 31.♞xh6+ ♞g8 White's queen came back with decisive effect: 32.♞c4+ ♞f7 and here, for example, 33.♞dd6 followed by Rd6-g6 and Rh6-h8.

31.♞xh6+ ♞g8 (D)

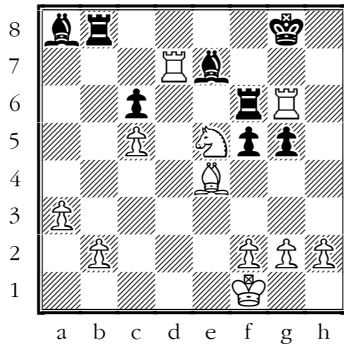


32. ♖c4+

There were many promising ways - White picks up the most reliable.

32... ♗f7 33. ♖xf7+ ♖xf7 34. ♗xe5 ♖f6

Or 34... fxe4 35. ♗xf7 ♗xf7 36. ♖h7+ 35. ♖g6+ (D)



35... ♗f8

In case of 35... ♖xg6 36. ♗xg6 ♗xc5 37. ♗d3! Black had no good defence against direct mating threat.

36. ♖xf6+

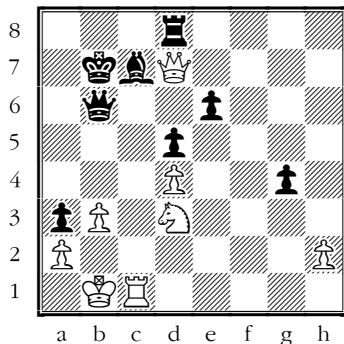
Resigned. A crushing defeat!

1-0

Solutions to our Quiz:

Bogoljubow - Alekhine

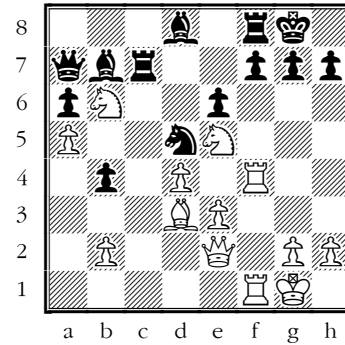
World Championship 14th GER/NLD (18), 26.10.1929



37. ♖xc7+! ♗xc7 38. ♗c5+ ♖b6
39. ♗xc7+ ♗xc7 40. ♗xe6+- ♗d7
41. ♗xd8 ♗xd8 42. b4 ♗d7 43. ♗c2
♗c6 44. ♗b3 ♗b5 45. ♗xa3 ♗c4
46. b5 ♗xb5 47. ♗b3 ♗a5 48. a4
♗a6 49. ♗b4 ♗b6 50. a5+ ♗c6
51. ♗a4 1-0

Bogoljubow - Rubinstein

Bad Kissingen Bad Kissingen (7), 1928



32. ♗xh7+! ♗xh7 33. ♗h5+ ♗g8
34. ♗g6! 1-0

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