

Richard Shorman**Chess**

Participating in his first strong tournament since winning his international grandmaster title, Walter Browne undoubtedly relished the opportunity to re-assert his strength and gain experience against top-flight competition.

Perhaps the most instructive of all the games he played was his defeat at the hands of former world champion Tigran Petrosian, whose unusual style is made to order for turning aside straightforward aggression. (Others, it might be added, may have learned a thing or two from Browne; see the September 1970 issue of "Chess Life and Review" for his games with Gligoric, Ivkov and Padevski.)

Mikhail Botvinnik, dethroned by him in 1963, accurately described Petrosian as a highly original talent who "has a marvelous capacity for posting his pieces so shrewdly that attacks against his position meet with the maximum of hindrance. This is a very subtle style which one seldom encounters and to which it is very difficult to adjust."

White: Walter Browne.
Zagreb, 1970.

Black: Tigran Petrosian.
French Defense.

(Annotations have been contributed by Paul Masgalajian.)

1 P-K4	P-K3	22 R/1-R1	K-B1
2 P-Q4	P-Q4	23 N-B5	Q-B3
3 N-Q2	N-KB3	24 NxN	PxN
4 P-K5	KN-Q2	25 RxP(g)	K-N2
5 B-Q3	P-QB4	26 R-R6(h)	Q-N2
6 P-QB3	P-QN3	27 P-R4	KR-QN1
7 KN-B3(a)	B-R3	28 R/6-R4	Q-B2
8 BxB	NxB	29 N-R2	P-KR4
9 Q-K2	N-B2	30 N-B1	R-N6
10 0-0	B-K2	31 N-K3	NxN
11 R-K1	P-KR3(b)	32 QxN	P-R4(i)
12 N-B1	Q-B1	33 Q-B3	R-R2
13 N-N3	Q-R3	34 P-N3	K-N1
14 Q-K3	P-N3(c)	35 K-N2	R-R3
15 P-N3(d)	P-B5!(e)	36 R/1-R2	R-N8
16 PxP	PxP	37 Q-K2	Q-N2ch
17 P-QR4	N-Q4	38 P-B3	R/3-N3
18 Q-Q2	P-QN4	39 R-B2	R/3-N7
19 B-R3	BxB	40 RxBP(j)	RxR
20 RxB	N/2-N3	41 Resigns	
21 N-K4	NxRP(f)		

(a) Foregoing the conventional 7 P-KB4 and 8 QN-B3. White cannot parry 7 . . . B-R3 by 7 Q-K2 because of 7 . . . PxP 8 PxP N-QB3 9 KN-B3 N-N5.

(b) Black compensates for a missing K-side defender (the KN) by fortifying his KN4 square.

(c) White has no practical way to exploit Black's "weak" KB3. Notice how Petrosian's dexterity in defense eclipses young grandmaster Browne's aptitude in attack.

(d) Seeing little chance for advantage on the king side, White expands on the other flank.

(e) If 16 P-N4, then 16 . . . 0-0-0 yields safety plus K-side attacking chances. White's actual response of 16 PxP is correct, e.g., 16 B-N2 PxP 17 PxP Q-N4 18 N-Q2 P-QR4 or 16 N-Q2 PxP 17 NxP, and White's Pieces lack congruity.

(f) Black's queen is deprived of her best flight square (QB3) after 21 . . . PxP 22 N-B5.

(g) White appears to have the initiative. Chess theory expounds the correctness of his doubled rooks, safely castled king and three connected central pawns. Accordingly, Black's game might be judged poor, evidenced by two stagnant rooks and an uncastled king behind a wall of perforated pawns, with only a centralized knight offering some positional solace. Petrosian, wily and wise, proves that appearances can be deceiving.

(h) Black obtains an energetic position after 26 RxRP RxR 27 RxR R-QN1 28 R-R1 R-N6 29 R-QB1 Q-R1! 30 Q-K2 (30 P-N3 N-N5! 31 PxN QxN 32 RxP R-N8ch 33 R-B1 Q-QB3!!) Q-R3! (Good for White is 30 . . . Q-R4 31 QxP RxP 32 RxR NxR.).

(i) Although White seemed to be attacking only moments before, Black was and still is in firm control.

(j) Desperation; on 40 R-R2 follows 40 . . . RxR/B2 41 RxR (41 QxR Q-N6 42 QxQ PxQ 43 RxP R-N7ch, etc.) P-R5 42 R-R2 Q-N6.