

A48

□ Capablanca, Jose Raul

■ Reti, Richard

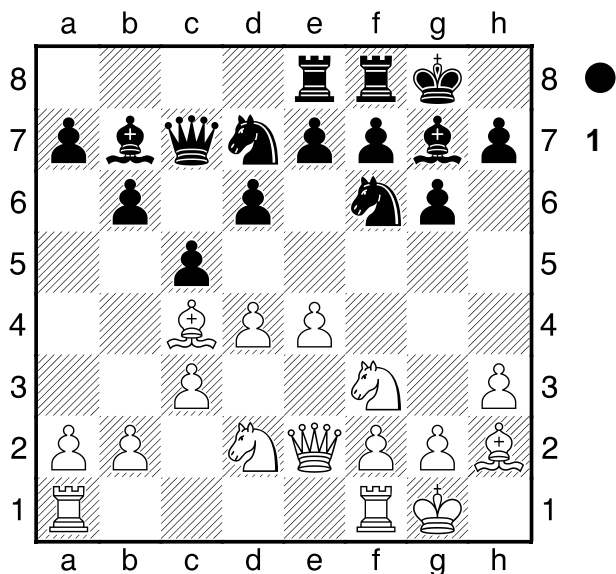
London (10)

1922

[MI Javier Moreno Ruiz]

One of the classic games of Capablanca, in which with all simplicity he strategically crushes his strong opponent, with his most advanced pieces, and without the opponent showing anything in return.

THEME: SPACE ADVANTAGE. 1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.h3 ♙g7 4.♙f4 0-0 5.♘bd2 d6 6.e3 ♘bd7 7.c3 c5 8.♙c4 b6 9.0-0 ♙b7 10.♚e2 ♜c7 11.♙h2 ♞ae8 12.e4±

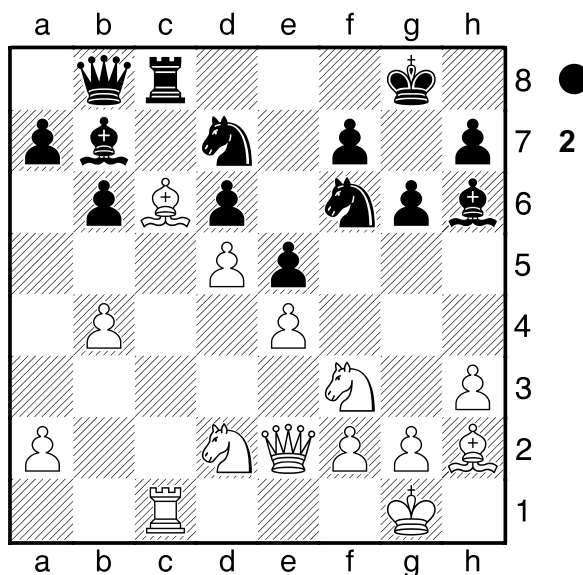


Both sides have developed according to their understanding of the game, with Capablanca developing his pieces in a classic way, and taking the centre stage. On the other hand, Reti, in the hypermodern style, has placed both bishops, and has postponed a lot the placing of pawns in the centre. 12...cxd4 13.cxd4 e5?! A logical reaction, but one that comes late. 14.♞ac1 ♜b8 15.d5± And the white advantage is clear. A great advantage of space, and the square c6 as a magnificent place for the white pieces. Black has no counterplay. 15...♞c8 16.♙b5 ♞xc1 17.♞xc1 ♞c8 18.♙c6! ♙h6 19.b4

(Diagrama 2)

The risk you run when you play hypermodern is that you become very restricted, which is what happened here to the black man. He has serious problems finding active squares for his pieces. 19...♙xd2 20.♘xd2 ♙xc6?! It's not a very good decision, it eliminates the annoying bishop, but the advanced Pc6 will be a torment for the black.

In general, a piece or pawn that is too advanced, and cannot capture, puts a strong pressure on the opponent, and deprives him of vital space. 21.dxc6 b5 Black has chosen to complicate the game, but Capablanca will show the superiority of his position. 22.♘b3 ♘f8 23.♚d3 ♘e6 24.♙f1!? To recycle the



Ah2 passive. A very fine manoeuvre. 24...♜b6 25.♘a5 ♜d4? Error in lower position. Now in the end the Pc6 is decisive.

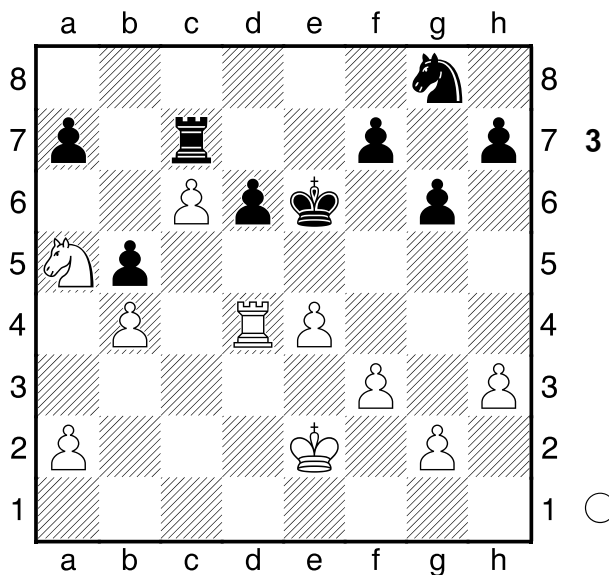
[25...♘d4! 26.f3 ♘h5 27.g4 ♘f4 28.♙xf4 exf4 29.♙g2± And Pc6 is still untouchable, but Black has resistance.]

26.♜xd4 ♘xd4 27.f3 ♞c7 28.♙g1 ♙f8

[28...♘e6 29.♘b7+-]

29.♙xd4 exd4 30.♞d1 White wins a pawn, keeping the tourniquet at c6 and the rest is simple. 30...♙e7

31.♙xd4 ♙e6 32.♙e2 ♘g8



Capablanca will now finish with its typical and exquisite clarity. 33.♘b7! ♘f6

[33...♞xc6?? 34.♘d8+ wins]

34.♙xd6+ ♙e7 35.♙e3 ♘e8 36.e5! Gaining more space. 36...♘g7 37.f4 h5 38.g4 hxg4 39.hxg4

The final position is explicit. The black is completely suffocated and with two pawns less, and decided to resign.

Madrid, August 2020.

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