

(The annotations to this game, by V. V. Smyslov, are from his autobiographical work *V poiskakh garmonii* (Fizkultura i Sport, 1979). The translation from the original Russian is by Douglas Griffin.)

### Schmid – Smyslov

6<sup>th</sup> round, Monte Carlo International, 5<sup>th</sup> April 1969

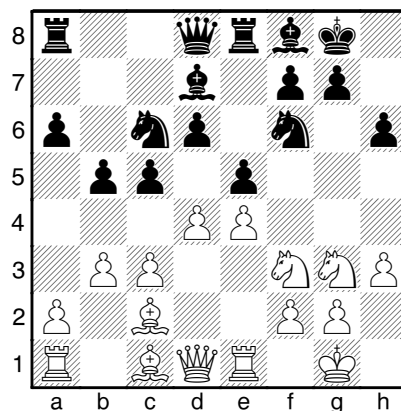
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0–0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0–0 8.c3 d6 9.h3 h6

In the Spanish Game it is not easy to think up something new. The move 9...h6 was suggested by me in the year 1961. Black's idea is associated with the manoeuvre ...Re8 and ...Bf8 with the aim of over-protecting the central e5–pawn. Soon this system gained fairly widespread popularity.

10.d4 Re8 11.Nbd2 Bf8 12.Nf1 Bd7

The more active development of the bishop on b7 is also employed, but the position of the bishop on d7 has its merits.

13.Ng3 Na5 14.Bc2 c5 15.b3 Nc6



16.Be3

Maintaining the tension in the centre. In the event of 16.d5 there could follow 16...Ne7 17.Be3 Qc7 with a solid position for Black. The game Gheorghiu-Smyslov (Buenos Aires, 1970) continued 18.b4 cxb4 19.cxb4 Nc8 20.a4 Nb6, and Black obtained counter-chances on the queen's flank.

16...cxd4 17.cxd4 exd4 18.Nxd4

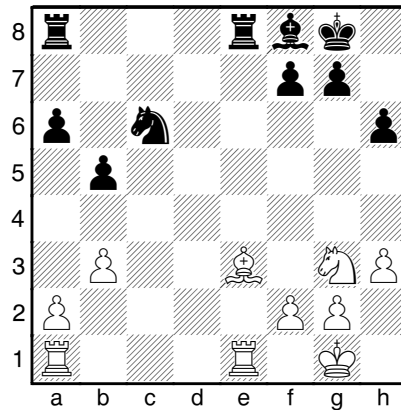
18.Bc1 fails to bring any advantage in view of 18...Qc7 19.Bb2 d5, and the game becomes completely level.

18...d5! 19.exd5 Nb4 20.Nc6 Nxc6 21.dxc6 Bxc6

After the disappearance of the pawn centre Black's pieces have taken up comfortable positions,

and the chances of the sides may be assessed as approximately level.

22.Qd4 Qd5 23.Qxd5 Nxd5 24.Be4 Nb4 25.Bxc6 Nxc6



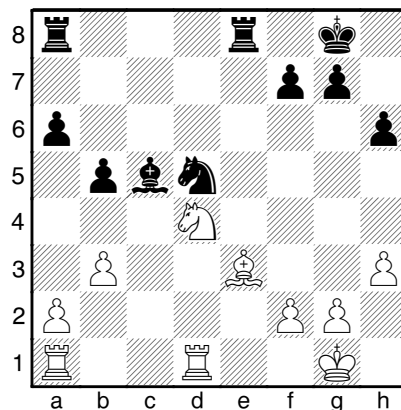
26.Nf5

White fails to sense the dangers, but at the same time in the endgame that has been created he ought to concern himself with his queen-side pawns. To this end he ought to continue 26.a4, aiming at the exchange of pawns.

26...Nb4 27.Nd4 Bc5 28.Red1

28...Bxd4 29.Bxd4 Nc2 was threatened. On 28.Red1 there would have followed 28...Bxd4 29.Bxd4 Re2, and the a2-pawn is under attack.

28...Nd5



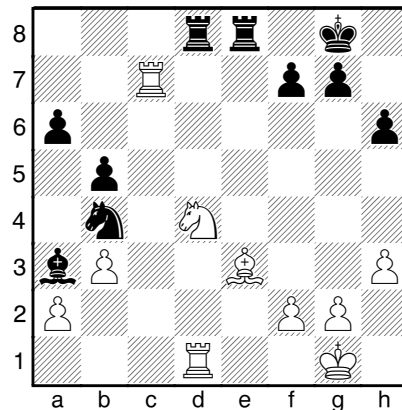
29.Rac1

Difficulties have arisen for White. 29.Rd3 was bad on account of 29...Nxe3 30.fxe3 Rxe3!.

**29...Ba3 30.Rc6 Nb4**

The knight returns to its previous position with decisive effect.

**31.Rc7 Rad8!**



Black strengthens his position. Now on 32.Rd2 there follows 32...Nd5, and if 33.Nc6, then 33...Rd6 34.Ra7 Nxe3 35.Rxd6 Bxd6 36.fxe3 Rxe3 with the mating threat of 37...Bg3. In the event of 37.Ra8+ there is 37...Kh7 38.Kf2 Bc5 39.Kf1 Rc3 40.Rxa6 Rc1+ 41.Ke2 Rc2+ 42.Kf3 f5 with a substantial positional advantage for Black.

**32.Rf1 Nxa2**

The attack on the a2-pawn has been crowned with success. Black has not only won a pawn, but also retained the initiative. 33.Ra1 is not dangerous on account of 33...Bd6 and after the rook moves away – 34...Nb4.

**33.Nc2 Bb2!**

Now the bishop prevents the move 34.Ra1. Black's minor pieces are co-operating well deep in White's rear.

**34.Rc6 a5 35.Rc5 Rc8 36.Rxc8 Rxc8 37.Nd4 Bxd4 38.Bxd4 Nc1**

White resigned. Both 39...Ne2+ and 39...Nxb3 are threatened.