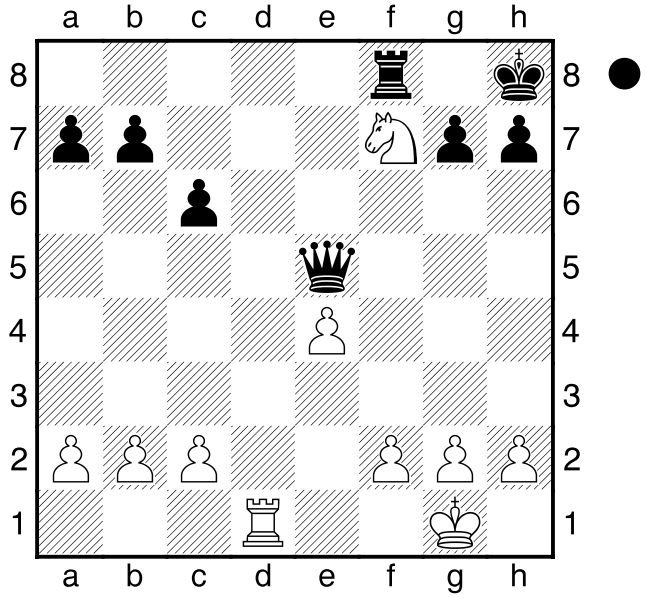
C66

□ **Capablanca,Jose R.** **2785**
■ **Fonaroff** **2300**
Manhattan C.C. 1918
[Hicks,E]

1.e4 This is one of Capablanca's most brilliant short games. Capablance like Fischer, opened all his games in which he played white 1.e4. **e5** Controllin the center, developing the bishop and the queen, and prevents white from playing a pawn center. **2.Nf3** Developing a piece , controlling the center, and attacking the pawn e5. **Nc6** Defending while developing. The strongest move available to black. **3.Bb5** THe defining move of the Ruy Lopez. **Nf6** Old school move. Now adays, almost all GM's play 3. ...a6. You can learn alot about centralization, development and chess by studying Ruy Lopez Games. **4.0−0** A nice way to defend the e4 pawn. Black can take, but he will have to deal with serious open file pressure, and end up having to give the pawn back. **d6** Preventing BxN and then NxP. **5.d4** Challenging the center. **Bd7** Breaking the pin and thus putting more control on the center. **6.Nc3** Continuing natural development. **Be7** Developing. **7.Re1** Protecting e4 (now that the bishop is blocking the file). A great position for the rook anyway since there is a good chance the efile will evenually open. **exd4 8.Nxd4 Nxd4 9.Qxd4 Bxb5 10.Nxb5 0−0** Castle often, castle early. **11.Qc3** Clearing d4 so that the knight will have a nice square to hop to. In its current position, the b4 knight is begging to be kicked! **c6** There's the kick! **12.Nd4 Nd7** Wanting to reposition to e5. **13.Nf5** An aggressive position. Attack key targets...the pawn on g7 and d6, the bishop on e7. **Bf6** Repositioning the Bishop to a better square with TEMPO. **14.Qg3** Focusing more pressure on the key squares g7 and d6. Notice the cordination in white's piece positioning. **Ne5** A centralized knight is a good thing. **15.Bf4** Focusing more pressure on d6. **Qc7** Preparing to reenforce d6 with a rook. When the queen elevates like this, the two rooks are linked, and can more easily develop. **16.Rad1** And still more pressure on the square d6. **Rad8** It looks like black has plenty protection on d6.. right? Watch this tactic which seems to spring out of nowhere. **17.Rxd6!! Rxd6 18.Bxe5** Can you see what happens if BxB? Try to find the answer before moving forward and checking out the variation to the right. **Rd1** A pretty move which seems to undermine white's tactics. [18...Bxe5 19.Qxe5 FORKING the rook and the checkmate on g7. Since the rook is PINNED, black has no way of protecting both weaknesses.] **19.Rxd1 Bxe5 20.Nh6+!!** Capitalizing on the PINNED g7 pawn. Master pins, you will use them in every game you play. **Kh8 21.Qxe5!!** A brilliant move which instantly wins. **Qxe5 22.Nxf7+!** Diagram



Taking advantage of the BACK RANK MATE threat, and forking king and queen. Black's only move to survive is play k−g8 after which he loses his queen and would be too much material behind to have any chance at all in the endgame.
1−0

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