

Good man Keene

THE OLYMPIAD in Haifa saw a personal triumph for the English team's No 2 Raymond Keene; on the borderline in many tournaments, he finally acquired his second norm and was awarded the title of FIDE International Grandmaster. On a day when everyone else was resting, this dedicated 28-year-old International Master was grinding out the vital half point extra needed to give him the title. After several hours his Chilean opponent made a fatal error of judgment and Keene was a Grandmaster.

One of the finest (and most untypical of his style) games Keene has played was against Karl Robatsch in the England-Austria match in 1971.

Keene's improvement on Smyslov-Geller, 1965 Candidates in which 12, Rd1 gave Black easy equality.

- 12. . . . c5
- 13. d5! e×d5
- 14. e×d5 Bf6

The pawn is taboo, ie 14 . . . B×d5. 15, R(a)d1 or 14 . . . Nf6. 15, d6! B×d6. 16, R(a)d1 and White wins material.

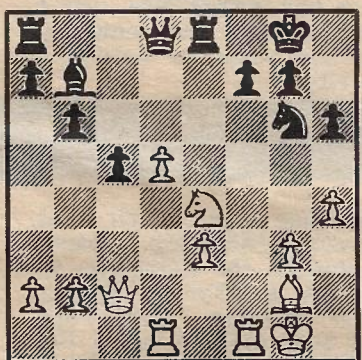
- 15. h4 Re8
- 16. Ng5 Nf8
- 17. R(a)d1 Bd4
- 18. Be3 h6

Robatsch's post-mortem suggestion of 18 . . . f6 gets squashed by 19, d6! B×g2. 20, Qb3 ch c4. 21, Q×c4 ch Ne6. 22, N×e6 B×f1. 23, K×f1 and Black cannot meet all threats.

- 19. Ne4 B×e3
- 20. f×e3 Ng6?

Best was 20 . . . Qe7. Now, as Ray Keene put it, a holocaust occurs.

BLACK



WHITE

- 21. R×f7! K×f7
- 22. Rf1 ch Ke7

Obviously 22 . . . Kg8. 23, Nf6 ch g×f6. 24, Q×g6 ch Kh8. 25, Q×h6 ch Kg8. 26, Qg6 ch Kh8. 27, Rf5 Re5. 28, Qh6 ch Kg8. 29, R×f6 will win easily for White. Keene had sacrificed on move 21 on intuition (a rook!) and now he sat for 50 minutes calculating the exact variations.

- 23. d6 ch Kd7
- 24. Rf7 ch Ne7

Black could die prettily by allowing 24 . . . Kc8. 25, Rc7 ch Kb8 (25 . . . Q×c7. 26, d×c7 K×c7. 27, Nd6 K×d6. 28, Q×g6 ch Re6. 29, Qd3 ch Kc7. 30, B×b7 and Qd7 ch will collect a rook). 26, R×b7 ch K×b7. 27, N×c5 double check Kb8. 28, Na6 mate.

- 25. Qa4 ch Kc8

Inadvisable would be 25 . . . Bc6 when 26, Bh3 is mate. After 25 . . . Ke6 White's task is a little harder, 26, Qc4 ch (a) 26 . . . Ke5. 27, d×e7 R×e7. 28, Rf1 and although the black king is well placed for the ending . . . (!) Or (b) 26 . . . Bd5. 27, R×e7 ch R×e7. 28, N×c5 ch b×c5. 29, Q×d5 ch Kf6. 30, Qf3 ch and White emerges a piece up after d×e7 and Q×a8. Phew! Back to the game.

- 26. d7 ch Q×d7
- 27. Bh3! Resigns

After 27 . . . Bc6. 28, Q×c6 ch! etc. An unwanted gift but it wasn't Christmas!

MURRAY CHANDLER

ALGEBRAIC NOTATION

The algebraic notation in this chess column is that used almost exclusively in Europe and in many other countries elsewhere. Each square has one designation only. The horizontal ranks are labelled a to h from White's left. In each vertical file the squares are labelled 1 to 8 from White's end. Normal symbols are used, except that pawns as such are not mentioned; just the arrival square is given for a non-capturing pawn move. The en passant move (P x P ep in the descriptive notation) merely states the file and arrival square of the capturing pawn.

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SOME EXAMPLES: P - Q4 (White's move) = d4; P - K4 (Black's move) = e5; N - KB3 (White's move) = Nf3; N - QB3 (Black's move) = Nc6.

1971 Clare Benedict Cup, Madrid.

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| R. D. Keene | K. Robatsch |
| 1. c4 | Nf6 |
| 2. Nf3 | e6 |
| 3. g3 | d5 |
| 4. Bg2 | Be7 |
| 5. O-O | O-O |
| 6. d4 | N(b)d7 |
| 7. Qc2 | b6 |
| 8. Nc3 | Bb7 |
| 9. c×d5 | N×d5 |
| 10. N×d5 | B×d5 |
| 11. e4 | Bb7 |
| 12. Bf4 | |