

# EREHWON

JOIN THE CRUSADE  
TO SAVE THE DIPLO-  
MACY ASSOCIATION FROM  
JOHN BESHARA!!

...incorporating LILLIPUT

#54  
3  
September  
1971

Rum-tiddy rum-tiddy rum-tiddy...out of the past come the hoofbeats of...EREHWON? Yes, my friends, this is indeed and again (after only 7 days) EREHWON, that sterling journal of postal Diplomacy\* and other things which do not belong to John Beshara, no matter how much he tries to buy them. There are no game openings. Subscriptions are 7/\$1.00. This is Pandemonium Publication #373, edited and published by Rod Walker, 5058 Hawley Blvd., San Diego CA 92116; telephone, (714) 282-1921; member, National Fantasy Fan Federation Games Bureau, NSFGB Diplomacy Division, International Federation of Wargamers, IFW Diplomacy Society, and the Diplomacy Association. \*DIPLOMACY is a registered trademark for a game invented by Allan B. Calhauer and copyright by Games Research, Inc., and available therefrom, postpaid, for \$8.00.

This issue is dedicated to the Treaty of Paris, signed on 3 September 1783, which made of the United States an independent nation.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. ADDRESS CHANGES (effective date, if later than the date of this issue, indicated in parentheses): Lewis Pulsipher, 321 Twin Towers, Albion MI 49224. Peter Weber, 3472 E. Sharon Dr., Phoenix AR 85032. Charles Welsh (10 Sep), Box 3197, Brown Univ., Providence RI 02912. Ben Zablocki, 3901 Inglewood Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90066.
2. VOLCAN, Paul Rubin, 112 1940 Hall, Princeton NJ 08540, has games open at \$1.50 a slot, the biggest bargain in postal Diplomacy today. House Rules similar to those of GRAUSTARK or (in places) EREHWON. One game is already under way. 'Zine by computer printout. Recommended by Mr. Spock.
3. OUT-OF-PRINT ITEMS previously on sale now include: ACHERON 7 & 8, NFFGEBDD Policy Letter 1-3, UTOPIA 2. Check EREHWON 49 for a complete list of what's on sale and for how much. Remember, minimum 3rd-class order is \$1.00; minimum 1st-class, \$.50. Out-of-print items may be obtained at cost from Walt Buchanan, R.R. #3, Lebanon IN 46052.
4. DIE SCHULDIGKEIT etc. revises subscription rate! It is now 10/\$1 instead of 5/\$1. The third side-splitting issue just hit the stands: more press releases by Peery, Walker, Ward, Just, Manogg, and vonMetzke, plus another cartoon strip by Just. Lots of zany flag material. Subscribe now to: Conrad vonMetzke, 1530 1/2 Dale St., San Diego CA 92102.
5. MARS VIGILA, the Diplomacy 'zine of the American [Game] Designers' Association, is offering a second game. The game fee is \$1.00 (free to members of ADA). I believe it is also necessary to subscribe to M.V., which is 10/\$1.50. Write to Stephen Marsland, 78 Genesee, Greene NY 13778.
6. THE VOICE is not dead. Jeff Key's busy schedule has kept him from doing much, and a temporary new GM will continue the games. I am not sure whom this is to be; I had asked one person and Jeff has someone else in mind as well. Within a week or two, however, THE VOICE should be moving again.
7. EREHWON is not edited under the tyranny of John Beshara.

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice O daughter of Zion, for thy Lord cometh unto thee  
with

### THE GAMES

Note: This time we have only some retreats for a few of the games. And builds

1969Z -- POWERS NEGLECT NAVAL POWER; ALFRED THAYER MAHAN HAS FITS

Winter 1911: Buddy Tretick, 3702 Wendy Lane, SilverSpring MD 20906, first stand-by for this game, is requested to submit s/b S12 orders for Italy, in the event Gary Jones misses again.

ENGLAND (Eller): Build A Lon. Has: Armies Lon, Kie, Pru, Ber, Lvn, ScP, Bur; Fleets Bel, Bal, Nth, Swe, Lyo, Mid, Spa(sc) [14].

FRANCE (Strayer): No change. Has: Armies Mun, Ruh [2].

ITALY (Jones?) (by GOs): Build A Ven. Has: Armies Ven, Vie, Mar, Tri; Fleets Ion, Tun, Adr [7].

RUSSIA (Power): No change. Has: Armies Sev, Ser, Gal, Ukr, Bud, War, Moo, Gre, Rum; Fleets Aeg, Eas [11].

SPRING 1912 ORDERS are still due on 23 September 1971.

1970BK -- ENGLAND, RUSSIA GIRD FOR FIFTH YEAR OF WAR

Winter 1904: Please note that the TURKISH order F Aeg-Smy succeeded (there was no opposition). I have had a couple of inquiries about the moves around Denmark. These were correctly adjudicated (see HR 22).

AUSTRIA (Power): No change. Has: Army Vie; Fleet Tun [2].

ENGLAND (Weber): F Swe (R)-Nwy. Build F Edi. Has: Army Lon; Fleets Edi, Den, Nwy, Ska [5].

GERMANY (Payne): No change. Has: Armies Kie, Hol, Ruh, Swe, Pari; Fleets Bal, Bot, Nth.

ITALY (Buchanan): No change. Has: Armies Ven, Tyr; Fleets Ion, Tyr, Por, Mar [6].

RUSSIA (Phillips): Build A Sev. Has: Armies Sev, Rum, Ser, Tri, Alb, Arm; Fleets: Bla, StP(sc) [8].

TURKEY (Turcola): No change. Has: Armies Bul, Con; Fleets Smy, Gre, Ank [5].

SPRING 1905 ORDERS are still due on 23 September 1971.

1971A -- ENGLAND, TURKEY CHOOSE TO DEFEND HOMELANDS

Summer 1904: ENGLAND: F Eng (R)-Wal. TURKEY (Buechs): F Ion (R)-Apu. FALL 1904 ORDERS are still due on 23 September 1971.

1971C -- RUSSIA REGROUPS FOR LAST STAND

Summer 1904: It should be noted that the Russian F Swe could have retreated to Ska as well as Bot. Bruce was so informed by another player, and had time to make the alternative. Players should note that the listings of retreats I provide are merely a noting of alternatives, not a ruling as to where a unit may or may not retreat; it is a good idea to double-check these lists, in case I forget to list an alternative.

FRANCE: A Bur (R)-Mar. ITALY: F Gre (R)-Ion. RUSSIA: F Swe (R)-Bot, A Mar (R)-Sil.

FALL 1904 ORDERS are still due on 23 September 1971.

### NUMENOR SUPPLEMENT

Since NUMENOR is irregular and infrequent, it might be more convenient if I were to list Boardman Numbers assigned to games herein in advance of the more complete listings in NUMENOR. This will get the information more quickly to those who are keeping records. The year 1971 has already, with four months yet to go, set a record. We have never gone beyond game designation CK before. The 104 games begun thus far this year have taken us to

number CZ already. Games are/still forming in a dozen 'zines or more, so that the only question now is: will we get through the D series and into the E series before year's end? Game numbers assigned since NUMENOR 13:

1971CD: GREEN DRAGON (Pulsipher). 1971CE: LIAISONS DANGEREUSES (Lakofka)[#15]. 1971CF-1971CH: THE WORLD NEWS AND WAR REPORT (Mensing) [T-1 - T-3] (a replacement for the earlier 7-game tournament, now cancelled). 1971CI: THE WORLD NEWS AND WAR REPORT (Mensing)[#1]. 1971CJ-1971CO: THE 1971 SICL DIPLOMACY TOURNAMENT (Mankiewicz)[1-6] ('Zine not yet named for sure.) 1971CP: MIDWESTERN COURIER (Bowers)[#5]. 1971CQ: ATLANTIS (Schleicher)[R-5]. 1971CR: XENOGOGIC (Peery)[X-21]. 1971CS-1971CY: PEERIMANIA II (Peery)[a 7-game tournament]. 1971CZ: LA GUERRE (Tretick) [LRX] (This game also misreported as "1971BC", a number actually assigned to another game.)

#### WHY DID EDI BIRSAN RESIGN FROM THE D. A.?

Why, indeed? Two stories are normally given out by Chairman Beshara and his claque of syncophants: one, "personal reasons", and two, "intemperate attacks". Yeah. The only problem with these fables is that they do not square with anything Edi himself has said on the subject. In fact, nothing the DA has given out on the subject (which is damn little, in line with Chairman Beshara's policy of withholding information from the unwashed masses) is in conformance with the facts.

Item: It is officially given out that Edi resigned on 7 June 1971. However, in a letter to me mailed in mid-April, Edi said, "I have resigned". Not "I am resigning", not "I am going to resign", not "I will presently resign", but "I HAVE RESIGNED". In short, Edi resigned 6 weeks or more before the Party Line claims he did.

Item: It is alleged that Edi resigned in protest against attacks supposedly leveled at the DA by myself and Len Lakofka. Oh? At that time, neither Len nor I had attacked the DA, although I had expressed the gravest possible reservations as to Chairman Beshara's motivations and purposes, reservations which, as it turned out, didn't cover the half of it. But even if these "attacks" had taken place, are we to believe that Edi was turned off by the disapproval of two people? Furthermore, why would Edi write to me, "The DA can go to hell!"? Such a statement indicates Edi was unhappy, not with the "attacks" on the DA, but with the DA itself.

Item: In a recent letter to Len Lakofka, John Boardman claims that "intemperate attacks" on Edi caused him to become "disgusted" with the DA. Now this is an interesting statement. "Intemperate attacks" is DA Party Line for anything but abject worship. But attacks on Edi? By whom? Edi's name hardly came up, and my own references to him were entirely approving. My letters to him during April were discussions of how the organizations could cooperate, which hardly come under the heading of "attacks".

But I believe Boardman is truthful in what he said to Lakofka. Note the sequence: there were "intemperate attacks" on Edi which caused him to become "disgusted" with the DA. If they are not attacks we know about, then they must be attacks not made public. Who made those attacks? The sequence does not make sense if we assume the "attackers" were not in the DA or were enemies of it; how could "attacks" by outsiders make Edi "disgusted" with the DA in less than a month?

The sentence does make sense if we assume the attacks were from within the DA. Now who could have done that? The answer is actually pretty easy to divine. Chairman Beshara's favorite position is "power behind the throne". Interestingly (and for instance), when Edi was being considered

for (and appointed to) the post of President of the IFW Diplomacy Society, he said very little on his own behalf. It was Beshara who carried on all correspondence and negotiations, and it was also Beshara who informed Len Lakofka that Edi had resigned the post. Why Beshara? Simply because John was setting up Edi to be a "front man" for himself.

It seems obvious that Edi's position in the DA was to be the same. It also seems obvious, knowing Edi, that he would not buy playing Charlie McCarthy to Beshara's Edgar Bergen. [It was also at this same time that Edi stabbed John in 1968X, a game in XENOGOGIC from which John then huffily resigned, anxiously inquiring whether it would be included on his record under the NUMENOR Master Point Listing.]

It is not hard to imagine what happened during April. John demanded of Edi that he do certain things (for sake of argument, let us say that these included making attacks on me in WAZIR [attacks Beshara subsequently made], pushing a lot of paperwork, and so on). Edi either refused or did not perform as John thought he should. There were confrontations between them over these issues and probably 1968X. The specific issues are immaterial; what matters is the inescapable conclusion that the only "attacks" which could possibly have made Edi "disgusted" with the DA in the short space of three or four weeks had to come from within the DA hierarchy; in fact Chairman Beshara is the only likely suspect.

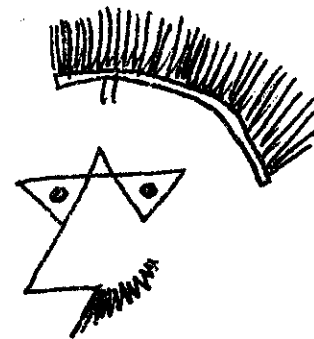
Therefore, i'accuse! It was Chairman Beshara whose "intemperate attacks" on Edi Birsan during April 1971 forced Edi to resign from the DA, to become disgusted with it, and to say that it "could go to hell". Beshara is, as usual, covering up.

As a side note, have you noticed that every time John Boardman discusses the DA, his prose suddenly begins to resemble John Beshara's, stylistically? If GRAUSTARK is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott, is it then edited under the supervision of John Beshara? If so, how the mighty have fallen!

#### HEART CRY FROM TROY

Dick Vedder, Argolis in CAPHTOR's Imperialism IX-R, sends along the following poem, whose author he cannot ascertain:

Move up a little, Menalaeus, please.  
The sharp end of your spear  
Is sticking in my ear,  
And I am very ill at ease.  
Who thought of this contraption, anyhow?  
Athene? Yes, she would!  
I'd like to know what good  
We're doing, sitting in this cow.  
Perhaps it is a horse. I do not care  
To argue in this heat.  
Here, you. Get off my feet;  
Lean back, Odysseus. Give me air!  
Your elbow, Neoptolemus, is hard;  
Remove it from my eye,  
Or later we shall try  
Our skill at arms, with nothing barred.  
O grim device! O idiot resource!  
A hundred packed in here!  
Hold off. I'm feeling queer.  
I say, is there a doctor in the horse?



CAPHTOR, the home of Imperialism IX-R (The Peloponnesian War), is still looking for players for game 2 (fee, \$5) and stand-by players for game 1 (subscription, 10/\$1, map/rules free) (map/rules otherwise 35¢ a set).

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." --The Constitution, Amendment X.

"No State shall...deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." -- The Constitution, Amendment XIV, Section 1.

[Editor's note: EREHWON is not a political journal. But the problem which this article discusses is not contentious or partisan. It is a very real possibility, and one which this journal, so far as I know, is the first to discuss.]

By a vote of 6 to 1, the relatively moderate (if not conservative) California State Supreme Court has made a decision which may mean the complete collapse of the Federal System within a generation. In a legal sense, the decision which was made and the principles upon which it was based are apparently unobjectionable. Certainly the near-unanimity of the decision suggests the same thing. What did the Court decide?

The primary/secondary educational system of California is a typical one, managed by localized School Districts with administrative and fiscal autonomy (in many ways), backed by the taxing power. The tax used to support the educational system is the property tax, which is also not unusual. The Court observed that richer districts can raise more money than poorer ones, which is obvious, and that therefore the rich districts could provide better educational facilities than poor ones (also obvious). But, said the Court, this violates the "equal protection" clause of the 14th Amendment, and is therefore unconstitutional. The result, almost certainly, will be a centralized State taxing authority for the educational system, perhaps (and perhaps not) based on a state-wide property tax.

[The Fourteenth Amendment, adopted in 1868 partly as a punitive measure against the South, has had a long history of quiescence and is only now coming into its own. Its broad, sweeping language is potentially incredibly powerful. It was first interpreted as applying only to Negro citizens (see, e.g., the Slaughter-House Cases, 16 Wallace 36 [1873]), but is now being applied to all citizens, as its language indicates it should. One obvious fact is that Amendment XIV prohibits a great many powers to the States, within the meaning of Amendment X. We are only just beginning to find out how many.]

The implications of the California decision, if it is upheld by the Supreme Court of the United States, and particularly if it is upheld by a large majority, are obvious. First, since all states have rich and poor districts, local taxing to support education will probably be challenged in every state and eventually invalidated. There is nothing very frightening in that. But it is also true that we have rich and poor States. May we surmise that South Carolina, in its inability to provide as posh an educational plant as New York, is denying to its citizens the equal protection of the laws? Before you answer that question with a "no", consider this: legal principles which, 10 years ago, would have been considered madness, are being affirmed in courts throughout the land today. Further, the most important legal principle in modern American jurisprudence is equity. This common-law principle would appear to dominate American legal thinking--and if it is one noun we cannot apply to the comparison between the New York and South Carolina educational systems, it is equity.

The California decision has apparently established--or will establish--the precedent that the management of the same function by two political units with unequal tax bases is a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment.

No doubt this precedent will soon be applied to other local administrative units, such as public utility districts, water districts, and finally, perhaps to cities and counties.

It is said that the power to tax is the power to destroy--but it is also the power to live. If local political units are gradually deprived of their taxing powers--because their unequal tax bases violate the Constitution--they will be reduced to the role of mere administrative units for the governments of the States wherein they exist. The result will be the erection of monolithic power structures within the 50 states--but we will also see an end to overlapping jurisdictions, annexation wars between cities, tax inequities, and so on. We may look back nostalgically to the muddled and less efficient era in which we now live, but it must be admitted that a salutary government streamlining will gradually take place within the States.

The danger is that this process will not stop there. Sooner or later, somebody is going to take the issue of unequal tax bases as between the States into court. Juridically, the argument will be one of equity--that the equal protection of the laws is denied American citizens by mere accident of State residence. Politically, the argument amounts to the notion that the Fourteenth Amendment forbids the States the power to tax--that Radical Reconstruction in fact legislated the States (for all practical purposes) out of existence. Without the taxing power, the States may well be reduced to little more than lines on the map.

Any number of issues could be used to bring this issue into court: law enforcement, education, highway maintenance. It will almost certainly be something in which the Federal Government is interested in achieving national uniformity. The route to the courts may well be, in fact, a Federal law providing for central funding and control over some function previously controlled by the States. One can easily imagine the "equal protection" clause playing much the same role in the expansion of the Central Government in this country which the "necessary and proper" clause once played.

I may be unduly alarmed. I hope I am. However, innocent-looking decisions have a habit of growing into major legal precedents. In 1938, did anyone dream that the Supreme Court's decision in *Missouri ex rel. Gaines vs. Canada* (305 U.S. 337), that a black law student was entitled to attend his state's all-white law school because there was no school for blacks, would some day lead to *Brown vs. Board of Education* (347 U.S. 483)? But by easy stages (*Sipuel vs. Board of Regents*, *Sweatt vs. Painter*, *McLaurin vs. Oklahoma State Regents*) it did.

I therefore suggest that the federal system is in danger of dying from equity. This may be a good thing or bad, but I think it will happen, unless (as is possible) a Constitutional amendment is adopted to prevent it.

It may seem odd, but all this confutes the arguments of the fools who think we need a new Constitution. Any document which is so marvelously flexible that it can both protect and endanger the Federal System is hardly ready for the political dust-heap. An old, brittle, outmoded Constitution may need a replacement, but not the lithe and limber document with which we are blessed. Long may it wave!

#### HOW TO HAVE YOUR ANARCHY AND EAT IT TOO

Postal Diplomacy exists largely in a state of congenial (and not so congenial) anarchy. This circumstance has its points, and there are many people who are quite fond of it. There is no great monolithic organization

telling everybody what to do. Gamesmasters and publishers can do pretty much as they wish, and players are theoretically free to choose between them. [Theoretically because many 'zines do not advertize the others, and most are very limited in the plugs they give, so that players often do not have a chance to exercise their freedom of choice.] Things that need doing are usually done by dedicated, even fanatic, individuals who have the time and the urge, and whose authority in a given area is recognized by general consent [the Boardman Numbers, which I manage, are a good example, the Miller Numbers are another, and the placement of DipCons III and IV still another.]

This anarchistic "politics of consent" has its drawbacks, however. For one thing, the variety of House Rules is so vast that it amounts to confusion. More and more decisions which need to be made authoritatively are coming up (see my editorial last issue on the annual DipCon). A considerable segment of postal Diplomacy community would like far more uniformity than there is (it was larger, but the conversion of the Diplomacy Association into an oriental despotism has soured a good many on the question of organization.). Further, group action is often far more effective, and can more easily gain acceptance, than individual action (one of the reasons opposition to the DA developed is that there is no such thing as group action in it).

This is not an either/or proposition, however. To a few, to the ardent organizationalists and the utter anarchists, it is. But there is a way we can keep our congenial anarchy and still have group action.

In order to accomplish this, we need a multiplicity of organizations. Most of these groups would probably be small, *ad hoc*, and informal. Each would have one function, or complex of functions, with which it would be concerned. Let me suggest a few of these:

1. An organization primarily of Gamesmasters and publishers, which would be concerned with the sort of general service projects at which this sort of group would be most effective. One important function would be galvanizing GM opinion on important issues. Presently, the NFFF GBDD.

2. One or more groups emphasizing player interests. A primary function would be bringing new players into the hobby and orienting them toward its peculiarities, helping them to find games, and so on. If it were fairly and democratically run, the DA would fit this. At the moment, it is merely the personal weapon of its owner.

3. A committee to choose the site of each annual DipCon. The first one has been created by DipCon IV, to select the site of DipCon V, and it will also set up provisions whereby members of the committee will be selected each year.

4. A committee to make recommendations to those who maintain rating systems as to games, otherwise regular, which should be deleted. This would be composed of the raters themselves, plus members who have had long experience in the field of game records and player ratings.

5. A committee to deal with the Rules. It could recommend House-Rules which may be needed for interpretation of the new Rulebook, recommend a date for simultaneous adoption of the new Rulebook by those who wish to adopt it, and under what conditions, and so on. Those who worked on the new RB should be members, as well as others known for doing meaningful work in Rule interpretation.

6. A committee to manage bibliographic problems, coordinate archive errors, and so on. Should be composed of the principal archivists.

I'm sure this list could be expanded. Each group would have its own rules of procedure, its own methods of selecting members, &c. As you can imagine, there would be some interpenetration of membership, which would



provide a salutary amount of stability, continuity, and consistency which would otherwise be lacking unless provided by the monolithic oberkommand few of us want.

The chief problem will be one of legitimacy; that is, general acceptance of the right of a given group to perform the function it is performing. This depends largely on good will. If each group is constituted of those persons best able to deal with its function, and if it deals openly and fairly with the questions before it, the Diplomacy community will reciprocate with general acceptance.

Whether or not this system works will depend largely on the kinds of people which are available for membership. If they are qualified but cannot do the work required, or if they can do the work but lack expertise in a given field, the whole thing may go smash. I think the best way is to tackle one group at a time, as it is needed.

Some of the structures could be very elaborate, with the "experts" forming a policy-formulating group at the top and a general membership which considers, and then approves/disapproves, proposed policies. Others could be quite simple, corresponding more nearly to the word "committee", which I have already used to describe them. This will be up to the members, of course.

I would be interested in your commentary on these ideas--they are admittedly fragmentary at this point--and any additional types of groups you might think of.

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And now, the triumphant return of  
A HISTORY OF PODERKAGG

Part 10 -- Poderkagg and the Holy? Roman? Empire?

For some years, Poderkagg was the only state outside the main body of the Frankish Empire which recognized the suzerainty of Charlemagne and His political heirs. Almost predictably, this situation occurred rather by accident. During Consul Cn. Obsequio Ingratian's trip to Rome, he spent some time wandering around the Vatican Palace, marveling at such wonders as outdoor plumbing and indoor fires. He had bent down to tighten a sandal thong when who should happen along but Charlemagne. Always quick to pick up a cue (and more territory), the Frankish ruler picked up Obsequio's sword, Ribtickler, dubbed him with it, and said, "We accept thy fealty." Obsequio, to whom "fealty" was a kind of picture, straightened up and began to show Charlemagne some interesting triptychs made at the Abbey of St. Swishens in Novi Sodom. The light began to dawn, however, when members of the Frankish court began to inform him of the size of the annual tribute, the necessity for sending hostages, and other administrative niceties.

So Poderkagg joined the Empire. The Consul of Gastritis was also Dux Poderkaggans, a title which was seldom, if ever, used until the accession of the Parsimonidae in the 12th Century.

Charlemagne, with his typical intellectual curiosity about anything which might mean more money in the treasury, decided to send a representative to the Gastrite court. In conformance with the importance of the assignment, he selected a visiting Scot scholar, Ambrando the Least, so-called, not because there was any other Ambrando, but because his academic qualifications and attainments were, to be charitable, miniscule. He spoke enough Latin to make himself a complete puzzlement on the streets of Rome, and enough Greek to believe that hoi polloi was a kind of fish casserole.



Ambrando arrived in Gastritis in late 811, having left Cambrai in early 809, after a trip which was supposed to take in Ratisbon, Venice, Ragusa, Zpod, and Lurch, and missed all of them. Ambrando had a severe case of myopia which he was too vain to admit, and spent more than 2 years wandering around Europe asking for directions which, because of his eyes, he was unable to follow. He blundered into Gastritis thinking it was one of the slum districts around Constantinople, thus proving he was not completely blind.

While in Gastritis, Ambrando hired a seeing-eye crone, Joan B. Shrewa, whose tongue was as sharp as her temper. The two of them cut a swath through Gastrite society during 811-813, a period still referred to in Poderkaggian history as "the heave-lunch years".

Ambrando's descriptions of Gastritis are still preserved in manuscript at the Abbey of Our Lady of the Prefrontal Lobotomy in Vienna (right next to the Sigismund Freud Amusement Park. A couple of examples will suffice.

"My lord, the people of thy dominion Pottergek are of the Slavs. This I know by their Romish tongue, their Hellenic dress, their Teutonic manners, their Avar food, their Hunnish amusements. Thus, being none of these, they are obviously Slavs." (November 811)

"Dux Obsequio is a fool. This I know by his wide-set eyes." (May 812)

"The people here are engaged in making great numbers of rectangular objects out of baked clay and mud. It is obvious that they are intended as missiles for use in aggressive warfare against their neighbors. These evil weapons are presently being hidden in the walls of buildings, but I of course have divined their true purpose!" (June 812)

"Dux Obsequio cannot be trusted. This I know because his eyes are set close together." (July 812)

Charlemagne eventually recalled Ambrando, and gave him a special and personal commission to certain head-hunting tribes on the Volga. He set off for the east in 814 and was never heard from again. Happily, he took Joan B. Shrewa with him.

In 816 the new Consul, C. Pimpus Hustlens (815-828), payed homage to the new West Roman Emperor, Ludwig the Pious, son of Charlemagne. This was repeated by the next Consuls, Q. Querulus Simper (828-831) and L. Falacius Nocent (831-841). By that time, Ludwig I was dead, and the Empire inherited by Charlemagne's grandsons, Ludwig II, Karl II, and Lothar. In renewing the fealty of Poderkagg, Consul P. Cornelius Lupus (841-853) informed each grandson that if the other two attacked him, Poderkagg must perforce be neutral. Civil war broke out in the Empire two months later.

Throughout the next three centuries and more, Poderkagg continued to meddle, with strict neutrality and absolute impartiality, in the affairs of the disintegrating Empire. There was intense interest in, and civil violence because of, the struggles of the Guelphs and the Ghibellines, although it has now been determined that no one in Poderkagg knew which was which.

Next: The Rise of the Parsimonidae.

Now, thrill to more elephants in.....

HOW TO GIVE CARTHAGINIANS A THOROUGH TROUNCING

Chapter II (The Second Punic War), Part V. . . . . Ahrydd Pedant

So much for 217 B.C. In 216 B.C.<sup>23</sup> Hannibal was on the march again. He marched into southern Italy, trying to goad the Romans into battle, but with no success.<sup>24</sup> Then he captured a little town called Cannae. This made the

<sup>23</sup>By Jove, there's that funny counting method again.

<sup>24</sup>Fabius was still around.

Romans so angry that they offered to do battle. This was done with some caution, since they outnumbered Hannibal by only about three to one. The offer please Hannibal no end, and he was in high spirits on the eve of the affair. He and his staff rode out to survey the Roman camp. One Gisco remarked that it was astonishing to see so many men. Hannibal replied, "There is something still more astonishing which you have not noticed. Not one of them is named Gisco."<sup>25</sup> Gisco is said to have laughed at this, which indicates he was probably up for promotion.<sup>26</sup>

The Romans would rather forget the Battle of Cannae. They had 80,000 men against Hannibal's 30,000, and you'd expect the Romans to win, wouldn't you? When the dust lifted, 50,000 Romans had been killed and 20,000 taken prisoner. On the night after the battle, there was an eclipse. Another omen, no doubt, but badly timed.

Hannibal's success at Cannae led directly to the revolt of the city of Capua, then second only to Rome in wealth and power. We don't hear much from Capua any more; something must have happened.<sup>27</sup> Hannibal was quite pleased and decided to winter there. This visit had its effects on the city. Hannibal's men were very immoral, always drinking or something; and the Capuans were Greek, which didn't help matters at all. The entire city was in chaos and vital statistics jumped about madly. Always up to something, those Carthaginians.<sup>28</sup>

Hannibal did not enjoy himself very much. He was busy looking for reinforcements. Ever since the start of the war, the home government had sent him no supplies, no elephants, no men, no elephants, no horses, no elephants, no money, no elephants, no anything. Had they no Punic faith?

Having to get along without reinforcements, Hannibal devoted himself to his usual treachery. His main preoccupation was raising so much foreign trouble for the Romans that they would leave him alone for a while. He proceeded to conclude two very important alliances: one with Philip V of Macedonia, the other with Hieronymus of Syracuse, who had recently succeeded Hiero. Remember Hiero?

Unfortunately, things fell through. Philip's ambassadors were kidnapped by the Romans, who started the Macedonian War to show Philip what they thought of him; and Hieronymus was stabbed to death by some of his best friends to show what they thought of him. This was not at all what Hannibal had expected.

In 214, Hannibal sent for one of his generals, Hanno. As Hanno marched toward Hannibal's camp, he was met and defeated by one Gracchus and an army of slaves. The slaves fought better than slaves usually do because Gracchus had promised them their freedom if they were victorious. In those days, the word of a Gracchus was a bond of first-rate security.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>25</sup>This was one of those little things which Hannibal always seemed to know about the enemy.

<sup>26</sup>Hannibal was a great deal like J.E.B. Stuart, the Confederate cavalry leader, in two respects: each of them wore a beard and each of them made... um... well, er... jokes.

<sup>27</sup>It did.

<sup>28</sup>No, this is not what happened. But wait until the Romans come back.

<sup>29</sup>Nowadays, nobody would be caught dead with a name like that.

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Thus ends another issue of EREHWON. Comments are always welcome, even if I cannot find room to print them, and contributions are solicited. The reader may notice that for the last 3 issues, EREHWON has actually appeared more often than GRAUSTARK. Eat your heart out, John Boardman--but worry not; things will be back to normal soon.

EREWON

Yes, in a way this is EREWON. It is issue 54.5, dated 13 September 1971. Its purpose is, primarily, to conduct the business of postal game 1970AT and to pass on a little information. This is Pandemonium Publication #379, edited and published by Rod Walker, 5058 Hawley Blvd., San Diego CA 92116. Other particulars in issue #54.

Stephen Lissandrello now at: Haverford College, Haverford PA 19041.  
James L. Nash now at: Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter NH 03833.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** Greg Warden, 4500 Walnut St., Apt. 106, Philadelphia PA 19139, is reactivating his 'zine, EN PASSANT, after a summer of digging up Italy. He very much needs replacement players in his games. These positions are free (do not require a subscription) while they last.

1970AT -- REVOLUTION BREWING IN ST. PETERSBURG?

Winter 1905: John Seman, 5386 Randall St., Cleveland OH 44146, is requested to send stand-by Spring 1906 orders for Russia.

AUSTRIA (Power): No change.

ENGLAND (Garland): F Den (R)-Ska. No change.

FRANCE (Lissandrello): No change. [Note COA above.]

ITALY (Warden): No change. [Note COA above.]

RUSSIA (Jones?)(by GO): B F StP(nc), A Mos, A War.

TURKEY (Nash): B F Smy. [Note COA above.]

SPRING 1906 ORDERS are due on Thursday, 30 September 1971. This is a change from 23 Sep necessitated by the lateness of this and by House-Rule 9. Players may send in orders conditional on whether Jones or Seman makes moves for Russia. In the event no orders are submitted for Russia, orders designated for use in the event Gary sends in orders will be used (I cannot accept moves conditional on there being no Russian orders, sorry).

I have moves on file from Garland, Lissandrello, and Warden. These may of course be changed by them at any time before the deadline.

\*30\*