

EREHWON

...incorporating LILLIPUT
#57. . . 22 October 1971
*****Circulation 101*****



This is EREHWON, a journal of postal Diplomacy* which isn't getting any younger, believe you me. It is not edited under the thumb (or wallet) of John Beshara, and is therefore free to speak the truth. Subscriptions are 7/\$1.00 (or 14/\$2.00, or 21/\$3.00, or whatever). This is Pandemonium Publication #403, edited and published by Rod Walker, 5058 Hawley Blvd., San Diego CA 92116; telephone, (714) 282-1921; member, NFFFGB, NFFFGEDD, IFW, IFWDS, and the DA.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. ADDRESS CHANGES: Larry St. Cyr is now at 1504 George Washington Sc. Peter Weber is now at 417 E. Hatcher, #2, Phoenix AR 95020.

2. EREHWON 56.5, containing S06 orders for 1970AT, is available in limited quantity for anyone who subscribes to EREHWON and wishes a copy. Those moves are, however, reprinted in this issue.

3. EREHWON cannot be included as part of an "Ultimate Subscription", owing to the rising demand for the 'zine (note that for the first time in this 'zine's history, circulation is over 100, with no sign of any decrease).

4. DON'T ATTACK JOHN BESHARA if you plan on going to New York soon. It makes economic sense to wait. Judging from the experience of Charles Reinsel, you can really clean up. All you have to do is drop a hint that you don't like me, or might resign from the Diplomacy Division (no you don't actually have to be a member; Charles' membership lapsed for nonpayment of dues long before his "resignation", a fact he was well aware of at the time, as he pointed out to me). Once Beshara hears this, you will be wined and dined and offered a seat on the DA's Board of Directors and other goodies, and generally be "honored" by the constant attention of Beshara, whether you want it or not. He will offer to buy you subscriptions to GRAUSTARK and god knows what else. Of course, Beshara will shove some documents under your nose to sign, but don't worry, because what he prints won't be what you signed, anyway. (Sure enough, the "letter" from Charles Reinsel published in WAZIR 2 was neither written nor signed by him.) As a side note, you may read Charles Reinsel's resignation from the Diplomacy Association, and his condemnation of dictator Beshara, in COSTAGUANA V.10.

5. AHA! Do you remember EREHWON 43? Remember that I said that a deliberate effort was made to tell some GMs and not others, and that this was because Beshara wanted an initial "packing" of the DA with presumed friends? Do you remember how hotly these charges were denied by Beshara and Boardman? Yeah. Well, as it happens, I was right. Let John Beshara tell you about this himself.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BIG BROTHER! Yes, indeed, gore fans, Ye Ol' Ed. is 33 years old today, having been born on 22 October 1938 (an event to be mentioned along with Munich). This is also the day Franz Liszt was born (1811), the Edict of Nantes was revoked (1685), Thomas Sheraton died (1806), and Stephen Babcock (who invented a test for butterfat [how appropriate?]) was born (1843). Sigh....

Letter, Beshara to Birsan, 26 February 1971: "I made several phone calls and already have several members....I've written Peery and feel certain of his total support. I phoned Schleicher and HE IS WITH US....DON'T TELL WALKER."

Memo, Beshara to Birsan, 2 March 1971: "The only GMs I've told are those I know will support me. Walker or Lakofka I've not told."

And what about the original conception of the organization?

Letter, Beshara to Buchanan, 26 February 1971: "I will do whatever I can in helping guide the creation of a truly democratic unit."

Letter, Beshara to McCallum, 26 February 1971: "...we feel it [the DA] should be run by someone who is not a gamesmaster and does not have a personal axe to grind."

Does that sound like the DA we all know and love? There's another bit in the 26 February letter to Birsan that strikes me as peculiar. I'd like to know how it strikes you: "I'll leave it to you to make my appointment as Chairman of the Board official. Don't you think you should have spoken up while Boardman was still with us here?" Very interesting....

6. 1970E. This game, carried in GRAUSTARK, has bothered me for some time. It must have bothered Beshara, too, because he once wrote to say that I need not count it in my rating system. I discussed the matter with John McCallum without conclusive result. I then discussed it with Charles Reinsele, who made one crucial point. Game 1970E was limited to postal novices only. It was won by John Beshara, who took over as a replacement with a very large number of units already on the board. Charles feels, and I agree with him, that the limitation to novices was de facto part of the house-rules for that game. By violating his own house-rule, Boardman invalidated the game.

I am deleting this game from my ratings and hope other raters will do the same.

7. BUDDY TRETICK'S "GAMES" have again come to my attention. The latest fiasco is LRW (1970AY, misrepresented by Tretick as "1970BD", a number actually assigned to MIDWESTERN COURIER). Spring 1901 orders were due on 25 May, were published on 4 July. The Fall 1901 orders were due on 19 July, and then were requested again for 30 September, and were finally published on 9 October. As usual, some sets of orders were lost by the GM. At least three players in this game have unsuccessfully tried to pry a set of House Rules from Tretick. And so on and on. On another front, players in the 7-"game" tournament have not heard a thing for months. In my opinion, the "games" run by Tretick are so incredibly mismanaged and poorly adjudicated that they make Bernie Kling appear the equal of Don Miller by comparison. Accordingly: (1) I am removing all LA GUERRE games from my rating systems, (2) I will neither keep nor provide to others records of these abominations. However, I will continue to assign Boardman Numbers to new Tretick games--should he have the gall to start any more--for the convenience of those who wish to keep records. I understand that John Beshara is trying to "reform" Tretick and make a halfway decent GM out of him. I wish him luck. If he succeeds, maybe he should work on a cure for the common cold. Quite frankly, I am not sanguine about his chances for success.

8. XANADU. Last issue I neglected to give the addresses of the gentlemen involved. Charles Welsh, Box 3197, Brown Univ., Providence RI 02912. Tom Leahey, Box 1387, Brown Univ., Providence RI 02912. I hope you will contact them and join one or more of their games. You can trust Charles to finish what he starts; I don't know Tom, but the fact that Charles has chosen him to work with him on XANADU is a good recommendation.

9. LARRY PEERY EXPOSE. OK, you beady-eyed rascals out there, here is the STRAIGHT POOP on Lawrence William Peery. Hohohohoho, has Captain Rod got the goodies on him! First, I hope you noticed that Larry's referendum for the DA was also published in HOOSIER ARCHIVES, and that what Walt Buchanan was able to get on one page took Larry four pages. Typical...

Ah, but that's not the exposé. It seems that the Editor of XENOGOGIC and several hundred other 'zines was rather ill. Something was wrong with his blood circulation...his heart, thought doctors. But no, it was apparently something else. While they were speculating (and phoning mortuaries for cheap rates), Larry suggested that it was an unknown disease, special to him, and they ought to name it "Peeryitis". Well, it turned out to be nothing more than a growth on his tailbone which was causing all this. So now you know what Peeryitis is. Sure...it's a pain in the...that's right!

10. ZOTHIQUE 42 carries yet another new variant game. This one is DIADOKHI, a game of the ancient world (220 B.C.) by Dick Vedder. It has 2 superpowers (Carthage & Rome), 3 medium powers (Egypt, Macedonia, Syria), and 2 mini-powers (Pergamum & Rhodes). A 2-page map and complete rules are in this issue. Again, a single copy is 15¢. Other variants will be published from time to time. If you have one you'd like to see printed, I'd be happy to look at it. The playing board should not be too large and complex; it should fit clearly on no more than 2 pages.

11. THURSDAY NIGHT, my traditional deadline night, will be a bad night until the first of the year. I have a night class (yech). DO NOT TELEPHONE ORDERS TO ME ON THE DEADLINE NIGHT. Call me Wednesday night or earlier. I cannot be responsible for my wife's refusal to take orders (it is an unfair imposition on her, anyway), and I WILL NOT extend deadlines merely because I am not home when you call. Dictum sapienti sat est.

12. LANKHMAR is complete. A full set of 35 issues, containing a full game fought to a 1918 English victory, is \$1 (by 3rd class) or \$2 (by 1st class). This is game 1970AF, with press releases and whatnot, an interesting addition to any collection, with the added attraction of having a full game, complete in one place.

13. GAMER'S GUIDE. I can't recommend this 'zine strongly enough. It is 10 issues for \$1.35, and is full of interesting ads, news snippets, and other material. Subscribers can place non-profit ads, up to 60 words, free. The chief charm of GG is its SURVEY. Each issue contains the results of one and the questions for another. Readers can send in questions for the SURVEY, so you can find out what your fellow wargamers are thinking. This is a tremendous, even invaluable service. It needs your support--both your subscription to the 'zine and your responses to the SURVEYS. Subscribe to GG now. Write: GAMER'S GUIDE, P.O. Box 255, Rockville Centre NY 11571. Make check or money order payable to Ken Borecki. Don't miss out...I mean it; this thing is a gem! It is, by the way, very Diplomacy-oriented, since the vast majority of its readers are Diplomacy buffs, but there is full coverage of all aspects of wargaming. This is a service 'zine without peer or competitor.

14. SPACE WAR. Not my line; however, Payton Turpin, P.O. Box 6560, LaJolla CA 92037, is running a section of EMPIRE, a space-war game. The fee is \$5.00.

15. DIADOKHI, the game in ZOTHIQUE 42, will be carried in a single "telephone" section in QUO VADIS, edited by Dick Vedder and published by me. Subscriptions are 10/\$1 from me, if you are interested in the game. I will be playing Pergamum; subscribe and watch me get stomped to fudge.

For details, we switch to our man in Berlin, Irving..."

"Right, Floyd. We're out here at the George Tirebitre Memorial Air-drome, where the ground crews are rolling out the last ships in the armada. These dirigibles were abandoned by the Germans and have been refitted and placed under Foost-Smythington's personal command. Sergeant Sphincter, do you have any details on the purpose of this flight for the folks listening in at home?"

"Yes, oy do. We turned up two 'undred o' these 'here balloons and put together a regular fleet, we did. Foost Smoythington's in that red 'un over there by the tower. Oy 'ear 'e plans to floy to St. Petersburg by o' Warsaw and Moscow too. They got bombs in all them ships, 'n they're goin' ta dump 'em on those bleedin' Russis. Better'n they deserve, oy says..."

"Thank you, Sergeant. Back to you, Floyd..."

"In other developments, the War Office has announced plans to reoccupy Marseilles by late October. Informed sources indicate that this action is the result of the indifference of the Italian government to demands that this portcity be demilitarized for the purposes of intervention."

1970AT -- DYNASTIC CHANGES THREATENED ALL OVER EUROPE

Fall 1906: Mike Monahan, having been hit with three more games in this 'zine in a short time, feels this is too many and wishes to resign as Russia in 1970AT. He has sent orders for F06, which are used. His resignation is effective in W06, and he is replaced by Brad Payne, 1106, N.W. Woodbine Pl., Seattle WA 98177. Stand-by orders for England are requested from Len Lakofka, 1806 N. Richmond, Chicago IL 60647, and for Italy from Andrew Phillips, 128 Oliver St., DalyCity CA 94014. These are the last two stand-by players in this game, so we need more.

AUSTRIA (Power): A Sil-Ber. Owns: Rum (1). No change.

ENGLAND (Garland?): NMR. A Yor, F Nth, F Ska /h/. Owns: Lpl, ~~Vpn~~, ~~Wpn~~ (1). Remove 2.

FRANCE (Lissandrello): F Lon MS F Wal, F Tyr & F Tun S ITALIAN F Ion, A Ruh-Mun, A Pic-Bel S by A Hol, A Tyr S ITALIAN A Ven. Owns: Bre, Mar, Par, Por, Spa, Hol, Tun, Mun, Bel, Lon (10). Build 2.

ITALY (Warden?): NMR. F Ion /h/, F Nap /h/, A Ven /h/ /a/. Owns: Nap, Rom, ~~Vpn~~ (2). No change (1 /a/). Statement of intent to play required in lieu of Winter adjustments; if not sent, will count as second missed move.

RUSSIA (Monahan): F StP(nc)-Nwy S by A Swe, A War-Pru, A Bud S TURKISH A Tri, A Ukr-War S by A Mos, A Vie-Tyr, F Den H, F Cly-Edi, A Kie-Mun S by A Ber. Owns: Mos, StP, Sev, War, Swe, Nwy, Ber, Edi, Bud, Den, Kie, Vie (12). Build 1 (1 /a/). Played by Payne beginning next season.

TURKEY (Nash): F Eas-Ion S by F Aeg, A Con /h/, F Apu-Ven S by A Tri & F Adr, A Alb S A Tri. Owns: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Ser, Gre, Tri, Ven (8). Build 1.

WINTER 1906 ADJUSTMENTS are due on Thursday, 18 November 1971.

1970AX -- EUROPE'S ARMORIES WORK OVERTIME

Winter 1905: Stand-by players for this game: Warden, Payne, Phillips, Lakofka, in that order. I also have two reams of press releases, some of which will have to wait. I have one from Germany, though, that will be printed, come hell, high water, or \$500 from John Beshara.

AUSTRIA (Monahan): F Ion (R)-Apu. Build F Tri, A Vie. Has: F Tri, A Vie, F Adr, F Apu, F Nap, A Rom, A Ven, A Bul, A Gre (9).

ENGLAND (Strayer): Build A Edi, A Lon. Has: A Edi, A Lon, F StP(nc), F Swe, F Nwy, F Nth (6).

FRANCE (Eller): B A Mar. Has: A Mar, A Bur, F Tyr, F Tun, F Mid, A Pie (6).

GERMANY (Reilly): B A Kie. Has: A Kie, F Bal, A Bel, F Hol, A Mun (5).

RUSSIA (Latin): F Swe (R)-Bot. Has: A Sil, A Ber, F Bot, A Arm, A Con, F Bla (6).

TURKEY (Brooks): E A Smy. [F Con (R)-Aeg.] Has: F Ion, F Aeg (2).

SPRING 1906 ORDERS are due on Thursday, 18 November 1971.

SOURBRATEN: 'Twas the night of the bridge game and the four players were there seated around a table, each in his chair. It was John Besorry, John Bedpan, Dickmiller Collum, and their Tretickoid playing their own version of "contract" bridge. Besorry and Bedpan were partners, leaving Dickmiller Collum stuck with the Tretickoid. This is the way they always paired up because, for one thing, Besorry hated to lose and would not play at all rather than have the Tretickoid for a partner; and secondly, Bedpan's bidding was exactly as Besorry said it should be. As we look in on this friendly little game of cards we see that it is Besorry's turn to deal, which should come as no surprise because, as you may have guessed, Besorry loved to deal and would not play at all unless he could deal every hand of bridge. So Besorry dealt out the cards and the bidding went as follows:

BESORRY: "A" club.

COLLUM: Pass.

BEDPAN: Pass.

TRETICKOID: Double?

BESORRY: Hey! You can't double a short club!

TRETICKOID: Why not? And besides, you shouldn't have mentioned that your club bid was a short club--that's talking across the board.

BESORRY: OK then, let's start over. I didn't want to play this hand, anyway. ** Thereupon Besorry gathered in all the cards and started to ~~fl~~ shuffle them once more. Then he stopped shuffling the cards and began to flush slightly and then to look about the room as though he were attempting to conceal something that was being passed under the table. And sure enough the Tretickoid, who had a keen nose for that sort of thing, blurted out, "OK, WHO'S CUTTIN' 'EM?", which caused Dickmiller Collum and John Bedpan to start snickering. It also made Besorry flush more intensely, which in turn broke everybody else up into an uncontrollable seizure of laughter. For John Besorry had indeed passed something under the table (and it wasn't a card). Needless to say Besorry immediately called an end to the bridge session and stormed out muttering, "...damned silly pack of hyenas!"

PARIS: dere diary my name is angelle and i am seven yeres old todae. my daddy give me this for a present. i like it but its chepe. my dady is publik survunt. i gess that is a funny man becuz he alwaze lafs when he ses it. dady lafs alot eksep when he taks abowt sister ray or that awfull ass-tren basdoor. he is a funny litle man an daddy sez he alwaze haz a nife. ask him to see it one time butt he jus snarld. my momy lets me drink bere if i want too. yesturdae her ppdel got sik all ovur the rugg. sometime i sneek in dadys room in the basmunt an look at his pitchures. he maks post-cards of evere hangin. ther ar maps al over the wall and litle marks on them to an a pitchure of sister ray on the wall. sister ray maks me think of my spider howerd. howerd had babys once but ate them all. an once howerd bitt mikele the fat kid and his hole arm swel up an he was sik a long time. i hav to hide howerd now. my momy is coming.

THAT'S GONNA HAVE TO BE IT FOR THIS ISSUE, GORE FANS...MORE IN #58.

1970BK -- STAB...STAB...STAB...REND...TEAR...KILL...BLEED.....

Fall 1905: Len Lakofka, 1806 N. Richmond, Chicago IL 60647, is requested to send, or think about sending, anyway, s/b orders for Austria, in the

event Jeff Power does not indicated his intent to continue play. Other stand-bys: Warden. I could use a few more s/b players here.

AUSTRIA (Power): NMR. A Vie /h/, F Tun /h//a/. Owns: Vie, Tyr (1). No change (1 /a/). Statement of intent to play required for Winter 1905.

ENGLAND (Weber): F Ska-Den S by F Swe, A Yor-Hol C by F Nth, F Nwy S RUSSIAN F StP(sc). Owns: Edi, Lpl, Lon, Nwy, Den, Hol, Swe (7). Build 2.

GERMANY (Payne): A Lvn-Mos, F Bal-Lvn, A Kie-Den, A Mun-Sil, A Fin-StP S by F Bot, F Den-Hel, A Pic-Bel. Owns: Ber, Kie, Mun, Bel, Par, Swe, Bre, Mos (7). Remove 1.

ITALY (Buchanan): F Tyr-Tun S by F Ion, F Mid-NAF, F Lyo-Wes, A Ven-Tri S by A Tyr. Owns: Nap, Rom, Ven, Mar, Spa, Por, Tri, Tun (8). Build 2.

RUSSIA (Phillips): A Arm-Sev, A Tri S AUSTRIAN A Vie-Tyr (nso) /d//Bud, ob/, A Alb-Gre S by A Bul & A Ser, A Syr-Smy S by F Con (F Con /d//Aeg, ob/, F StP(sc) S ENGLISH F Swe-Fin (nso). Owns: Mos, StP, Sev, War, Rum, Bud, Ser, Tri, Bul, Gre, Smv (9). Build 1.

TURKEY (Furcola): F Aeg-Con S by F Bla, F Gre-Bul(sc), A Smy-Ank. Owns: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Gre (2). Remove 2 (1 /a/).

WINTER 1905 ADJUSTMENTS are due on Thursday, 18 November 1971. This includes Austria's statement of intent. Please note that if the Russian and Turkish units are both ordered to retreat, they will be annihilated. This would not affect Russia's adjustments (since he can only build A War anyway, and would thus be 1 short if retreating F Con is /a/), but Turkey would then remove 1 less. Turkey should send removals based on both possibilities: annihilation of the fleet or successful retreat to the Aegean.

FLORENCE (30 September 1905): Professor R. Ite Correctly, Chief Orthographer of the obscure National Bureau of Orthography, today jubilantly pounced on a misspelled word in EREHWON #56, page 3. "Aha," chortled Correctly, "at last I have caught Rod ('god') in a grievous error! Consulting my infallible Lexicon of Ludicrous Letters and Learning, I found that 'god' is not infallible. As you can see on page 93,042, there is only one s in asinine and The Lexicon does not list an alternate spelling." Correctly paused for breath. "But then on the other hand," Correctly droned on, "perhaps 'god' was deliberately trying to emphasize the root of the word." Finally after a brief three hour interview-dissertation on the subject of asses and asinine, Professor Correctly concluded, "Which is it to be, 'god'--'an asinine bunch of crud' or 'an assinine bunch of crud'?" [That's a bloody assize, if I ever heard one....Ed.]

FLORENCE (30 September 1905): No sooner had Professor Correctly finished haranguing speaking than a bolt of lightning from the cloudless sky obliterated all traces of the Bureau of Orthography. This was followed by a bodiless voice, saying, "God is not infallible, but He always corrects His mistakes!"

1971A -- NAVAL BUDGETS FROZEN

Winter 1904:

AUSTRIA (Weber): B A Bud. Has: A Bud, A Tyr, A Rum, F Gre, A Ser, A Tri (6).

ENGLAND (Shannon): No change. Has: F Nrg, A Lon, F Wal (3).

FRANCE (Tretick): No change. Has: A Par (1).

GERMANY (Strayer): B A Kie. Has: A Kie, A Mun, F Bre, A Pic, F Eng, F Nth, A Bur (7).

ITALY (Stanton): A Ven (R)-Tus. E F Ion. Has: A Tus, F Tyr, A Wes, A Gas, A Mar, F Mid (6).

RUSSIA (Reilly): No change. Has: A StP, F Swe, F Nwy, A Sev, A Ukr, F Bla, A Ank (7).

TURKEY (Monahan): No change. Has: A Bul, F Aeg, F Ven, A Con (4).

SPRING 1905 ORDERS are due on Thursday, 18 November 1971.

LIVERWORST, AUSTRIA (25 December 1904): There seems to be a new game going around which involves passing cards or something like that. This is by no means a new game. Gazing forever thoughtfully back into the past, we see that the game was originated in semi-ancient India shortly after Taro cards had been invented and tables came into use. More recently, the game has been seen quite frequently in Germany, especially when Kaiser Siegfried is present. The Kaiser doesn't seem to realize that this is quite unpleasant and he tries to cover it up by saying things like, "Everybody does it". To make things worse, the Kaiser is always eating beans. This brings to mind the Kaiser's favorite saying: "If you're going to do something, you might as well do it up big."

1971C -- ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IN CRISIS; FRENCH INVADE ENGLAND AGAIN

Winter 1904: ENGLAND B A Edi, TURKEY B A Con.

Spring 1905: Chris Schleicher, 5122 W. Carmen Ave., Chicago IL 60630, is requested to send s/b Fall 1905 orders for Italy. Other s/b players for this game: Power, Eller, Warden, Phillips, Lakofka.

ENGLAND (Manion): A Edi-Nwy C by F Nth and S by F Swe, F Lon-Eng /d/ /Yor, ob/.

FRANCE (Payne): F Mid-Eng, A Mar-Bur, A Bre-Pic S by A Par, F Eng-Lon S by F Wal.

GERMANY (Stephanides): F Ber H S by A Mun, A Den S ENGLISH F Swe, A Bel-Bur, A Bur-Mar, F Hol-Bel.

ITALY (Tully?): NMR. F Wes, A Pie, F Lyo, A Alb, F Ion, F Tyr, A Tri, A Bud /h/.

TURKEY (Pandin): A Con H, A Sev-Mos, F Bla H, A Ukr-Gal/S by A Rum, A War-Pru S by A Sil, A Mos-StP, F Bul(sc) H, A Fin-Swe.

FALL 1905 ORDERS are due on Thursday, 18 November 1971.

1971E -- GAME DUE FOR COMPLETE PLAYER OVERHAUL?

Winter 1903: Grief? Only one player heard from. Stand-by orders are requested as follows: Austria, Brad Payne, 1106 NW Woodbine Pl., Seattle WA 98177; England, Greg Warden, 4500 Walnut St., Apt. 106, Philadelphia PA 19139 (replaces Patton now); Germany, Jeff Power, 121 Gauss Hall, Princeton Univ., Princeton NJ 08540; Italy, Andrew Phillips, 128 Oliver St., Daly City CA 94014; Russia, Len Lakofka, 1806 N. Richmond, Chicago IL 60647. If all these s/b players are used, it will exhaust my list.

AUSTRIA (StCyr?)(by GOs): B A Tri. Has: A Tri, A Boh, A Gal, A Tyr, A Mos, F Aeg, A Gre (7).

ENGLAND (~~Patton~~)[no statement of intent](Warden): No change. Has: F StP(nc), A Nwy (2).

FRANCE (Holcombe): B F Bre, A Par. Has: F Bre, A Par, F Naf, F Tyr, A Bel, F Nth, F Tun, F Edi, A Mar, A Pie (10).

GERMANY (Tretick?): NBR. Has: A Mun, A Swe, A Hol, F Ber (4, 2 short).

ITALY (Smythe?): NRR. GM E F Eas. Has: A Alb, F Ion, A Ven (3).

RUSSIA (Schleicher?): NRR. GM E A Pru. Has: A Sil (1).

TURKEY (Eller): No change. Has: F Smy, A Arm, A Bul, A Sev, F Bla (5).

SPRING 1904 ORDERS are due on Thursday, 18 November 1971.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The following is a list of the next few issues, indicating when subscriptions expire. If you wish to continue receiving ERHWON, you might think

about renewing now--although you will of course receive expiration notice with your last issue. Subscriptions levels are currently so high that I may soon be forced to establish a waiting list. I cannot run off more than about 130 clear copies of the 'zine, and my overrun is now down to 29, as you can see. I will have to experiment with going up to 140 if the circulation list hits 115 or so. Anyway, your last issue on current sub:

#57 (this issue)--Blandin, Boyd, Linden

#58--Bagala, Keathley.

#59--Beyerlein, Davies, Horton, Kelemen, Labelle, Mebane, Payne.

#60--Bergeron, Zablocki.

#61--Davis, Hawley, Hidalgo, Proujansky, Vomacka.

#62--Birsan, Jordan, Leeder, Powell.

Plus a variety of subs extending as far as #76.

Good grief! Here's more of
A HISTORY OF PODERKAGG

Part 11. The Rise of the Parsimonidae

Although the Parsimonidae are not one of the oldest families of Piderkagg, they eventually rose to the front rank. There is some rumor that the family is not Poderkaggian at all, but it is thought that this rumor was started by the Parsimonidae themselves, in order to upgrade their origins. The earliest known member of the family, and its presumed founder, was a Gastritis garbage collector of the 10th Century, Parsimonius the Filthy. Parsimonius became incredibly wealthy, even on the meager salary of a garbage collector, partly because he did not have to spend any money on food, and partly because he blackmailed half the people on his garbage route by threatening to tell the proper authorities what they were throwing away. In addition, by watching the cockroaches and rats he often met in his work, Parsimonius aquired such a repertoire of sexual perversions that he quickly became the most popular adulterer and fornicator in the entire city.

With his huge fortune, Parsimonius moved to Novi Sodom in about 935, where he and his 30-odd (or 30 odd) daughters opened a brothel. "The Dirty Place", as it was called, soon became known throughout the region as the most perverse, and hence best, such establishment in the city (and perhaps in the world). Grossa, Parsimonius' eldest daughter, is the only woman in history ever to have "performed" with an elephants. This was done on the village green, with matinees for the kiddies. One of her younger sisters, Susannah, was reputed to be a great hit with the village elders.

Parsimonius' son, Salacius, managed the place after his father, on behalf of his sisters and neices. He continued the tradition that the place was a family enterprise, his motto being, "The family that bawds together really makes it" (al though some translations read, "...really gets made"). Other members of the family continued to work in, and eventually to dominate, the skin trade of Novi Sodom and Neu-Gomorra. In 1199, for instance, Sir Libidinus Parsimonidini was knighted by King Richard I of England for being able to cater perfectly to His Majesty's special tastes.

Many of the Parsimonidae became interested in politics. Mendacius Parsimonidini was elected Consul of Poderkagg in 1140, serving eight consecutive terms. He died in 1149, just before the election, as a result of winning a bet with 100 Neu-Gomorra girls, all of them virgin and all of them cousins of his. Modern historians tend to refer to this as the "First Hundred Flowers Campaign". In 1173, Fornicatus Parsimonidini was elected (or paid for) the office of Consul. He was serially reflected until his death in 1195. In that year his son Gormandus was elected without opposition, and the office then became for all intents and purposes hereditary. Those who

wonder how this was accomplished should note that the concubine of nearly every important man in Poderkagg was one of Gormandus' female (usually) relatives.

The Consulship continued in the family of the Parsimonidae until 1362, when Consul Parsimonius, son of Consul Acrophobius and Salome Gubbish, was made Dux Poderkaggans by Emperor John V of Byzantium (or perhaps John VI--nobody was sure who was Emperor then), and also by Holy Roman Emperor Frederick IV. He had extensive blackmail files on both of them. He died the same year while feeding his pet crocodiles. It is not quite certain who pushed him in the pond. As his younger son, Count Epsom said, "That time he really fed 'em!" He was succeeded by his elder son, Pandemonium I (r. 1362-1383).

Next: The Early Dukes of Poderkagg.

Hooray! More elephants in....

HOW TO GIVE CARTHAGINIANS A THOROUGH TROUNCING

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

Hannibal was still waiting for those reinforcements. It had been five years since he had begun his Italian campaign, and the Carthaginian government had sent him no support of any kind. Late in 214, they finally decided to send something to Hannibal so that he would shut up: 4000 cavalry and 40 elephants. Dr. R. Boswell Smith calls this a "paltry addition" to Hannibal's army. How can anyone call 40 elephants "paltry"?

Eventually, the Romans decided to capture Capua back from Hannibal. Three Roman armies, each of them larger than Hannibal's combined forces, converged on the city. The Capuan Senate called for Hannibal, who came running. When he got there, he glared at the Romans from the top of a hill near Capua, and they ran. However, when Hannibal left to attend to some chores in another part of Italy, the Romans came back. So did Hannibal, and the Romans ran again. But every time Hannibal left, the Romans would return. After a few times of scaring the Romans, Hannibal decided that he had no time for such foolishness and determined to relieve Capua by marning on Rome. What good that was supposed to do, I haven't the slightest idea. At any rate, Hannibal marched up the Latin Way, burning and pillaging as he went. When he reached Rome he marched his army a couple of times around the walls, daring the Romans to come out. The Romans, in turn, dared Hannibal to come in.³¹ At about that time, one of his men asked him why he didn't storm the walls. He is quoted as replying, "What? And lose my job?"³² The Romans were not very worried about Hannibal. During the time he was marching around Rome, the site of his camp was sold for its full market value in silver. And while this was going on, Rome captured Capua, beheaded the senate, and sold the Capuans into slavery.³³ Hannibal was so angry when he found out that he jumped on an elephant and raided every Roman camp in the vicinity. A lot of help that was to the Capuans.

³¹Hannibal's sole aggressive move was to throw a spear at the main gate. This did not have the desired effect (whatever that was), apparently.

³²Hannibal was not very good at storming walls, and was doubtless familiar with the fate of the Hannos who had been defeated at Messana and Ecnomus during the last war.

³³Yup, that's what happened to Capua, all right. Later on, the Lombards and Normans took it, but it wasn't the same any more.