

THE TDA

One of the crucial issues of the day to Dip players is organization and getting along. The only organization that seems to have worked is the NFFF GB DD headed up by RodW. It worked!, if not universally hailed. There is the IFWDS, which I have little use for as the IFW does not have my confidence, besides they never did anything for DIP. Then along came the IDD of B. Tretick's; I mention it only to note that it was an 'I hate Rod Walker' affair that had practically no support, it was ignored and it withered away; maybe even Tretick withered away. (New players stay away from his zines). Now early this year I heard about the TDA from Edi Birsan (who has since left the TDA in disgust). Oh did it sound wonderful. Not better than the NFFFGBDD, but the ideal complement. The GBDD of Gamemasters and the TDA for players. The TDA was to provide that final touch of organization our hobby needed. Nevertheless, a cropper was in view. J. Beshara, founder of TDA, was very mad at Rod--something to do with a disagreement where John's place in Ratings suffered. (Ugh, a horrible affair and a good reason not to have ratings). Well friends, if you don't know it, things went from Bad to worse to more worser. The TDA is a failure, it has not worked and it will not work. Beshara seems to suffer from some sort of megalomania Messiahism and he doesn't make it. His ego is too thin skinned and warped. So where do we go. First may I politely suggest that we ignore John Beshara and any part of the TDA associated with him. (His main supporter seems to be John Boardman, a big name in Diplomacy, but a small man in real life, but a good GM usually). I advise all to stay away from these people. On the positive side, I support the efforts of Larry Peery and Walter Buchanan. I call for a committee of seven people to reform TDA, prepare a constitution/by-laws and call for an election. I propose that they collect dues of \$1 payable by 1/15/72 or earlier; those who are paid up at that point shall vote to ratify the con/bylaws. That elections be held within two months of ratification. I hereby offer my services to work on the committee to write con/bylaws. I suggest that Larry Peery be temporary chief executive and that he and Walt Buchanan be members of the committee and to appoint the other members. **THIS SHOULD BE DONE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!** Let us all stop mouthing words and beating our breasts, if the TDA goes there will be no general organization for at least three years. Action now! must be the motto of Diplomacy people all over. And let's call a spade a spade. Let's be honest to ourselves in order to be honest with those we serve. Let's push good diplomacy playing and fun and Gm'ing and LOVE.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST**MY ECOLOGY REPORT:

PHOSPHATE DECISION TAKEN WITH SALT

After the government said, "Okay folks, it's all right to use phosphate detergents now," we wondered how some housewives had reacted to this news.

"I just figured the detergent industry had gotten to someone high up in the government," said an Emmaus housewife.

"I noticed they said phosphates were preferable to NTA and caustic soda compounds. But I don't use any products with those chemicals. I use a soap powder. In all the newspaper stories and television coverage of the decision, I didn't hear a word mentioned about soap," said another woman from Emmaus.

Television was the source of the news for another area woman. She said she was watching the Today Show the day after the decision was announced and "

Chicago official, whose name I didn't catch, was talking about the eutrophication of Lake Erie in regard to the go-ahead on phosphates.

"He was saying, 'I suggest you look for the explanation in the fact that a Presidential assistant has just left office and gone back to his old job at Procter and Gamble.'

"What do you mean," asked the interviewer.

"I'm not going to interpret it. I think the action speaks for itself," he said. I've watched high officials of the Food and Drug Administration graduate to big jobs in the food and drug industry, high agricultural officials go on to big jobs in agribusiness. So it doesn't surprise me that an employe of a leading detergent manufacturer has been a Presidential assistant up to the day that the government announces the wisdom of using phosphate detergents."

'Nuff said.

REMEMBER 10/9 - LEIF ERICSSON DAY TO HONOR THE DISCOVEROR OF AMERICA AND RETURNED HOME, HE RECOGNIZED THE RICHNESS OF NEW LAND. THE GRAPES MADE GOOD WINE.