

IN THIS ISSUE: HOW TO SHAKE DOWN A GAMESMASTER FOR \$500 WITH 6% SUCCESS.

GRAUSTARK

#249 1970BB, 1970BN, 1970BQ, 1971BG 9 October 1971

1970BB "Fall 1910"

KIEL ATTACKED BY GERMAN "ALLY"

Following "Spring 1910" moves Austria-Hungary retreated F Mid-Iri.

ENGLAND (Lasky): F Edi & F Liv hold.

FRANCE (Mischel): F Mid-Por; F Bre S F North Atlantic-Mid; F North Atlantic-Mid; A Gas-Spa; A Bur S A Ruh; A Ruh S A Bur.

GERMANY (Isby): A Kie S A Ber; A Ber S A Kie.

ITALY (Comber): F Spa(s.c.)-Por; F Lyo-Spa(s.c.); A Mar S F Lyo-Spa(s.c.); A Ven-Pie; F Wes-Tyr.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Nierenberg): F Iri-North Atlantic; F North Africa-Mid; F Adr-Tri; F Bla-Con; A Mun holds; A Tyr & A Boh S A Mun; A Gal-Sil; A Sev-Mos; A Ukr S A Sev-Mos; A Rum-Sev; A Bul-Ser.

RUSSIA (Shuldiner): F North Sea-Eng; F Den-Kie; F Hol S F Den-Kie; A War S A Mos; A Mos S A War; A Liv S A Mos; A Pru S A War.

Underlined moves are not possible. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

- ENGLAND: Edi, Liv. (2)
- FRANCE: Bel, Ere, Lon, Par, Por. (5)
- GERMANY: Ber, Kie. (2)
- ITALY: Mar, Nap, Rom, Spa, Ven. (5)
- AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Con, Gre, Mun, Rum, Ser, Sev, Smy, Tri, Tun, Vie. (13)
- RUSSIA: Den, Hol, Mos, Nor, St.P, Swe, War. (7)

Austria-Hungary may build 1 unit, and France must remove 1. These "Winter 1910" adjustments are due immediately. The deadline for "Spring 1911" is 6 PM, MONDAY 18 OCTOBER

press release appears on p. 3.

1971BG "Spring 1901"

EASTERN POWERS CLASH

See page 2 for further information about this new game.

ENGLAND (Hodin): F Edi-Norwegian Sea; F Lon-North Sea; A Liv-Edi.

FRANCE (Peery): A Par-Bur; A Mar-Spa; F Bre-Mid.

GERMANY (Schleicher): F Kie-Den; A Mun-Ruh; A Ber-Mun.

ITALY (Labelle): A Pie-Tyr; A Rom-Pie; F Nap-Ion.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Berman): F Tri-Alb; A Bud-Ser; A Vie-Gal.

RUSSIA (Phillips): F St.P(s.c.)-Bot; A War-Gal; A Mos-Ukr; F Sev-Bla.

TURKEY (Nierenberg): A Con-Bul; A Smy-Con; F Ank-Bla.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1901" moves is 6 PM, MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER 1971. "Winter 1901" builds will be due as soon as players receive these adjudications, which will be mailed out in GRAUSTARK #251 on Saturday 6 November 1971.

1970BQ

Following "Fall 1906" moves a very complicated situation developed in the Mediterranean. The two retreats were made as follows:

ENGLAND: F Nap-Tyr. ITALY: F Tun-Tyr.

Accordingly, both fleets are annihilated. In "Winter 1906" England may build 3 units and Austria-Hungary may build 2. France and Turkey must each remove one. If all these builds are made, England will have 16 of the 32 pieces on the board and the game will continue. The deadline for these builds is NOON, SATURDAY 23 OCTOBER 1971.

And if all builds are not made...

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YOU'LL NEVER SEE IT IN XENOGOGIC - BECAUSE HERE IT IS IN GRAUSTARK!

Recently John Beshara organized a new postal Diplomacy game, of which he would be Gamesmaster. As originally planned, the entry fee for this game was \$5.50. Of this amount, Beshara sent \$5.00 on to Larry Peery, who would publish the moves in Xenogogic. This is much the same arrangement that Beshara has with me on game 1970BB, which is published in GRAUSTARK.

Then Peery began to claim that he was running The Diplomacy Association; see this and the last issue of GRAUSTARK for details. John Beshara accordingly makes this announcement to all players in this game, 1971BG:

"Since the deadline for the Spring 1901 moves, I've tried without success to recover from Larry Peery the \$5.00 gamefee for each player, which I paid him for duplicating and mailing the adjudications. Even though Mr. Peery dishonestly insists upon keeping these moneys, since I organized the game and collected the gamefees, and since each of you entered the game because of my being the Gamesmaster, I am still responsible to you for the fees you paid. Thus, I have no alternative but to refund your entryfee in full or run the game.

"Consequently, the Spring 1901 moves will be published in GRAUSTARK #249 and the game will continue in that publication according to my original houserules with all the original players.

"All players, except Mr. Peery, will receive GRAUSTARK during the course of the game without charge. Since Mr. Peery did not pay a gamefee to me, I am not obligated to provide him with a free copy of GRAUSTARK. Dr. Boardman advises me he will continue to refuse to trade publications with Mr. Peery until a full refund is made of the moneys I've paid him for this game. And I am herewith requesting Mr. Peery to send to Dr. Boardman the \$5.00 gamefee I paid him for each of the players, plus \$5.50 for his gamefee, the additional fifty cents being my personal charge to the players.

"Until such time as Mr. Peery returns these moneys, each of you are still entitled to a copy of Xenogogic without charge, since that was part of my agreement with Mr. Peery.

"Be advised, further, Dr. Boardman is acting solely as my agent in distributing the adjudications; hence, all moves and all press releases must be mailed to me. As in all my games, I maintain total editorial and Gamesmaster control.

"My apologies to all of you for the delay in sending out this letter, but in recent weeks I've been preoccupied due to a death in my family."

To which I add that the total amount due from Peery is \$35.50, of which \$35.00 is for publishing costs and \$.50 to John Beshara for his above-mentioned fee. Peery will receive GRAUSTARK as long as he is in this game even if he does not remit this money, but once his participation in 1971BG is over he will be dropped from the mailing list unless he pays back the above-mentioned sum. Deadline dates will be on Mondays four weeks apart, and the moves will be published in the GRAUSTARK of the following Saturday.

Players are:

ENGLAND: Earl Hodin, USAF MC, Box 7151, USAF Hospital, APO San Francisco, Calif. 96323

FRANCE: Larry Peery, 818 24th St., San Diego, Calif. 92102

GERMANY: Christopher Schleicher, 5122 W. Carmen Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60630

ITALY: Burton R. Labelle, 146 Elm St., Saco, Maine 04072

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Donald Berman, 22 Mabaline Rd., Old Bridge, N. J. 08857

RUSSIA: Andrew Phillips, 128 Oliver St., Daly City, Calif. 94014

TURKEY: Sam Nierenberg, 117 W. 197th St., Bronx, N. Y. 10468

Note that Labelle's address has changed since the country assignments were first published.

"Spring 1901" moves appear on p. 1. The house rules are essentially the ones used by GRAUSTARK, except that Miller's Rule is used. All press releases and moves must be sent to the Gamesmaster: John Beshara, Apt. 155 W. 68th St., New York, N. Y. 10023

1970BN

"Spring 1907"

ALLIES CONTINUE WESTWARD MARCH

ENGLAND (H. Anderson): F Lya-Tyr; F Norwegian Sea-Norway; F Den-Swe; A Ruh S FRENCH A Bur-Mun; F Hol-Hel; F Bel-Hol; F Eng-North Sea.

FRANCE (Nierenberg): A Bur-Bel; A Pic S A Bur-Bel; A Gas holds; F Spa(s.c.) -Por.

ITALY (Model): A Pie-Tyr; A Ven-Apu; F Nap-Apu; F Nap-Tyr [sic]; F Tun not ordered, holds.

RUSSIA (Buchanan): F St.P(n.c.)-Norway; F Bar S F St.P(n.c.)-Norway; A Norway-Swe; F Swe-Den; F Bal S F Swe-Den; A Kie-Ruh; A Mun S A Kie-Ruh; A Ber-Kie; A Tyr S TURKISH A Tri-Ven; A Vie S A Tyr; F Sev holds; F Aeg S TURKISH F Eas-Ion.

TURKEY (Barents): F Smy-Eas; F Ion-Adr; F Eas-Ion; F Con-Bul(s.c.); A Tri-Ven; A Ser-Tri; A Alb S A Ser-Tri.

Underlined moves are not possible. England retreats A Ruh-Bur, F Den-Ska. Sweden is left vacant because the English move F Den-Swe and the Russian move A Norway-Swe stand each other off. (The revised Diplomacy rules, whose publication by Games Research Inc. is expected soon, may change this sort of adjudication if it includes Miller's Rule.) The deadline for "Fall 1907" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 23 OCTOBER 1971. However, since that is a holiday weekend, the Gamesmaster would greatly appreciate it if moves could be sent in by the previous day so that GRAUSTARK #250 might be put together and mailed out on the evening of the 22nd.

Some press releases appear on p. 4; others are postponed to #250.

1970BB - PRESS RELEASE

BORE-A-BORE-A (URRP): The Deputy to the Ninth Assistant to the Wazir today banned from Bore-A-Bore-A the latest film produced by 20th Century Jackal, "I am Spurious (Bellow)".

"This film," he told a URRP representative, "is a pseudo-political drama, obviously imitative of 'Advise and Consent' or 'Seven Days in May'. It takes place in a mythical country called Bore-A-Bore-A, which is an insult to our proud and ancient people. The film begins with the inauguration of the new President, Edi N. Burgh, who disappears as soon as he has taken the oath of office. Despite several other oaths uttered by the Wazir, he cannot be found. The functioning of the government is completely disrupted. Then several sinister secret agents appear. There is Larry Peepy, master of disguise, who seems sometimes to be an old American admiral, sometimes a Hungarian subversive, sometimes the President of the United Nations General Assembly, and sometimes claims to be the Wazir himself. He is assisted by Walter Bucephalus, a librarian with a ravaging 'completeness mania', by Lenard la Kooku, the Chicago Phantom, and by Bucephalus' unfaithful wife -"

"Is that why you banned the film?" the reporter asked.

"Oh, she's not unfaithful to her husband, but to the facts," the official replied. "But behind all these agents is the Mad Historian, Rodnius Pedestrius, who claims to be the rightful Emperor of Gaul. He hopes to restore the Gaulish Empire and the worship of Mars."

"Why have you banned this film? Isn't that government censorship?"

"Oh, I'm not banning 'I am Spurious (Bellow)' for political reasons," the Deputy replied. "This government job is a bore, because I'm so low on the Table of Organization that there's nothing for me to do. So I pick up some spare change doing film reviews. And this film is so boring that I'm giving it the same bad review that everyone else does. Banned in Bore-A-Bore-A? By the time it finishes its run, it'll even be banned in Sandy Ego!"

1970BN - PRESS RELEASES

ISSHEMEAL-KEP: Sexy SADIE the Sadist today welcome the flock from Gar. "Those thorns are the Biggest Birds I've seen. My Hasha they're bigger thurs Horses. Old MJIX won't get Any things but the point Now."

ISSMEAL-GAKA: "SSS will get the point right where she wants it between the...if she doesn't watch it. You gat to get up pretty high to get past me" so MJIX was quoted As SAYing when he heard about the thorns.

ISSMEAL-GAKA: As the brown sweet smoke rises from the CAMbers of the Court of the Crimson King. Our weary travelers Listen to the ACCount Leading to the brith of HAsHa & his regin an the thone.

"See" went C.K. "There was this haren girl. him...#465 I believe well she had this shape that would, but thats another story. The frist child we had was quite deffenart. Never Acting Like a child but hike a king, Not A saltw."

"Then came you HAsHa you were so Lowly Never getting over 4'2" and when you were Old enough never over 2" inches. Your mother felt sorry for you So she turned you on...to pot that is. You had this Thung for Lowness you kept giving ALWAY your HAsHa to others, So we gave you the sultanship of All turkey. And you gave that away to MJIX.

"MJIX is in fAct...to be continued out of the PAST into your furture.

ASSHEALA: Lorrie Lowly Said that WLW is mAking great progress in getting the people behind MJIX. "No one wants to be in front As they might get killed!"

ISSHEMEAL-KEP: SEXIE SADDIE THE SADIST today gave the press this tid-bit. "We have MJIX right where we want him And he will preform on comMand or else"

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): The personal bodyguard of Maharajah Kamasutra IX, headed by its captain, Surya Khan, attempted today to close the local offices of the United Rabble Rousing Press "for transmitting messages in a secret code". However, an urgent appeal to the Maharajah persuaded him that the despatches were not coded English, but perfectly good grammatical Turkish. This is in accord with the well-known fact that the use of the English language has now been banned in Turkey.

ST. PETERSBURG (6 Mar. 1907): No word has been received yet on the whereabouts of Bangs Leslie Tapscott. Has BURSTITIS been bouled?!

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): The local staff of the United Rabble Rousing Press today joined the strike called by union leader Harry Van Arse, head of the Brotherhood of Plumbers and Plumbers' Helpers. "Handling garbled despatches from Turkey was bad enough," said the local stringer, Spyros Preposterous, "but when they come in from Russia too, it's time to walk out!"

ISSHEMEAL-KEP: SEXY SADDIE the Saddist today Annouced that her Spies how LocAted ISSMEAL-GAKA. It is in Hydunderabad. "That place is so smaff that pandits mountain hide out and GAKA are the SAME place therefore MJIX & Pandit are IN FACT one." stated Sexy from Atop the whipping Post. She went onto say "That are not the only facts to back me up. The reports are AlwAya Alike varying only in place. I :. concluded they are the Sane. Pan-dit is A Big HOAX put on by MJIX, Vincent E. Livermore, and alfons Igno-bel. they are all in the pay of the JOHN!" At which the crowd shadder at the thought of the John. SADDIE ended with "we'll meet the John and over cone him!"

PEOPLE KEEP ASKING ME...

New games will open in GRAUSTARK after Games Research Inc., owners of the game's copyright, publish the revised rules of Diplomacy. New games will be conducted by these revised rules. And players should expect a substantial increase in the entry fee, too; postal rates have risen to 8¢ since the last games opened, and they will go to 9¢ next year.

HISTORY OF THE FOUR AND A HALF KINGDOMS - IX

Alfons Ignobel - III

A thrill of horror, combined with a few spontaneous celebrations, passed through the Balkan Massif on 19 December 1937 when the dead body of Alfons Ignobel was discovered in his villa in Pundschruck by his 17-year-old mistress Svetlana Schwartz. There was a pillow over his face, a deep stab wound in his chest, two bullets in his brain, and a silk stocking knotted around his neck. An autopsy disclosed potassium cyanide in his stomach and lye burns in his mouth. A nearly empty hypodermic with traces of strychnine was found under his bed. According to the findings of the coroner, Dr. Yngvi Lauss, the 99-year-old financier had died of natural causes.

The mystery of his death has never completely been solved, although in the first week after it took place several men claimed the "credit" of having killed him. These ranged from a Polykarpian religious fanatic who had been ruined by Ignobel's manipulation of his country's currency and who had developed a highly original interpretation of the Book of Daniel as a result, to a member of the Wogastisburg-Schlampenbüttel Parliament who claimed that Ignobel was at the head of an international Nazi-Jewish-Communist-Moslem conspiracy. We can dismiss as a fraud, though an ingenious one, the claim by Otto Eisenschiml that Ignobel's was one of a number of mysterious assassinations perpetrated about that time by a time-traveling Anarchist from 1950, who wiped out all the heads of state of his day before they could attain power: President Huey Long of the United States, Premier Sergei Kirov of the Soviet Union, Führer Ernst Roehm of the Fourth Reich, President Chaim Arlosorov of Israel, Kanzler Ernst Dollfuss of the restored Habsburg Empire, and Alfons Ignobel, High Autocrat of the United States of the Balkan Massif.

But the shock of Ignobel's death was dwarfed by that of his will. It was probated in Zürich under the direction of the banker Rumpelskinflint, the original "Gnome of Zürich", whose bank held most of Ignobel's fortune. This fortune was used to establish five prizes, to be awarded annually, for the men or institutions who had done the most to promote War, Genocide, Espionage, Provocation (in the sense of the French term agent provocateur), and Military Science. The awards were to be made by a self-perpetuating board of seven men, whose first members were Rumpelskinflint, Ignobel's son Aloys, Franz von Papen, Winston Churchill, Anastas Mikoyan, John Foster Dulles, and Wang Ching-wei. The terms of the will provide that a representative of the bank and a descendant of Ignobel must always sit on the board. The names of the present-day members are secret. A not particularly reliable report, released by Timothy Leary shortly after his arrival in Algeria, claims that present-day members include Henry Kissinger, Chen Po-ta, Raul Castro, and Prince Bernhard. This rumor has been vigorously denied by Kissinger, who says that Abbie Hoffman, Moshe Sheh, and Leary himself are members. Little credence is now placed in Victor Lasky's claim that Joseph Kennedy and his three sons were successively members.

(It is not known whether von Papen learned the secret of the "Vietnam" hoax during the interrupted negotiations for sale of this hoax to Germany, or as a member of the Ignobel Prize Board. But he apparently, acting through the French member of the Nürnberg Tribunal, traded a promise of secrecy for his acquittal. For details, see the first two articles in this series.)

The first prizes were awarded in 1938, on the anniversary of Ignobel's death. The war prize, whose terms provide that it must go to a man responsible for a war not in the planning stage but actually in existence, went to Hideki Tojo. The genocide prize went posthumously to Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the last non-German who would win it for nine years. The prize for espionage went to Ignatz Trebitsch. This was a compromise award

to a spy who had been inactive for many years, and was reportedly a third-choice selection. Von Papen had wanted to give the award to Reinhard Heydrich, whose forged letters had caused the Soviet Union to wipe out most of its military high command, while Mikoyan stood up for the claims of a rising young Soviet agent named Lavrenti Beria. (Beria eventually did get the award, in 1949.) The Ignobel Prize for Provocation went to Heydrich as part of the compromise, since his action fell as much in this line as in Espionage. The Military Science award was awarded posthumously to Fritz Haber, the inventor of poison gas.

In subsequent years these awards continued to be made. There was a fierce controversy over the award of the 1957 Espionage Prize to Rosemarie Nitribitt (posthumously, like over two-thirds of all the Espionage Prizes) because she had been engaged in industrial rather than international spying. To the day of his death Dulles maintained that she got the award only because three of the men and the only woman on the board had enjoyed her favors. The woman, Princess Ambisextria of Skandalutz, retorted that "Dulles is just jealous because he never got any - and is a lousy lay, to boot."

The most recent Ignobel Prize Awards were made in December 1970, and went to the following people:

War: "To Edward Heath, for the great discretion with which he is carrying out in the Persian Gulf states the same policies for which Richard M. Nixon won the 1969 prize, and Lyndon Baines Johnson the 1966 prize, in their work in Indochina. Mr. Heath's war has received almost no recognition by comparison with the others now in progress, a sad neglect which this award now ends."

Espionage: "Col. Stig Wænerström, for bringing to an end the gross canard that the Swedes are a peace-loving people who frown on war and its associated occupations."

Genocide: "Awarded jointly to the entire chain of command who ordered the Sonmy Massacre: Lieut. William Calley, Capt. Ernest Medina, Col. Orin Henderson, Gen. William Westmoreland, and President Lyndon Baines Johnson. The memorable words 'I was only following orders' are our guide in making this joint award." This is only the second time that the same man has won both the War and Genocide awards; the first was Adolf Hitler in 1939 and 1943 respectively.

Provocation: "Jointly awarded to Julius and Abbie Hoffman, for their work in promoting a riot, and then in promoting further civil unrest by cooperating so effectively in the trial that followed it."

Military Science: "This year's award recognizes that there is a theoretical as well as a practical side to the science of war. Accordingly, the 1970 Ignobel Prize for Military Science goes to Edward Luttwak, whose book Coup d'Etat: A Practical Handbook is the most complete guide yet devised to the technique of taking over a country. Luttwak lets no consideration of ideology or nationality deter him; he is as ready to plan a coup d'etat for Fascists as for Communists or old-fashioned military dictators, and in America or Great Britain as in Syria or Peru."

(Naturally, the Ignobel Prize Board is quite aware that there is no such place as Indochina; see the earlier articles in this series for details. However, to maintain the credibility of the hoax, awards are made with the alleged "Vietnamese War" in mind.)

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

The editor seemed, to himself as well as to others, to have crawled out on a rather long limb in GRAUSTARK #242 when he claimed that the modern Lebanese are essentially the ancient Canaanites, also known then as Phoenicians. Yet considerable evidence is present that these people, though they have changed their language from Hebrew (the original Canaanitic tongue) to Arabic, and their religion from Baal-worship to Christianity or Islam, are basically the aboriginal inhabitants of the land. For

(continued on p. 10)

THE EXCLUSION ACT

Seven years ago, science-fiction fandom was rocked by a series of accusations and counter-accusations involving one of its prominent members. In the course of time, almost every inner controversy of science-fiction fandom seems to get reproduced in Diplomacy fandom, and this is no exception.

These accusations were directed against Walter Breen, who in mundane life is a highly regarded appraiser of old coins and also, regrettably, an astrologer. (He is now the husband of the s-f writer Marion Zimmer Bradley.) Breen's membership in the 1964 World Science-Fiction Convention was cancelled after his enemies had held a private "trial" in which he was accused of child molestation.

The qualifications of Breen's opponents to establish moral standards were rather dubious. One of them has liberally scattered bastards all around the Northwest. Another owned an orgone box and a set of plates for counterfeit sawbucks, though he was too fat to get caught in the former and too slippery to get caught with the latter. Another, a member of a state legislature, was on record in the fan press with anti-Negro and anti-Jewish statements. Another was an officer in the United States Army. One of them is now with the CIA in Occupied Vietnam, and yet another is now shackled up with a runaway high-school girl.

Breen's friends came quickly to his defense. The Exclusionists tried to freeze him completely out of fandom, and to drop him from the waiting list of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association. The Anti-Exclusionists struck back; not only did they keep him in FAPA, but by a substantial majority the Anti-Exclusionists in FAPA voted him into full membership. As one Exclusionist ruefully confessed, "We lost our luddul ass."

Despite sniggling innuendoes about Breen's sex life, some of which would have been actionable had Breen decided to sue, the Exclusionists were covered with the scorn of fandom. But, though they were a tiny minority in science-fiction fandom, they did control the committee for that year's convention, and they did make the Exclusion stick. One of them went so far as to attack physically a woman who attended and stood up for Breen. Another tried to make it appear as if Anti-Exclusionists approved of child molestation. Fortunately, their activities so thoroughly inoculated fandom against a recursion of this incident that nothing of the sort has happened since.

Well, now it's the turn of Diplomacy fandom. Just as the Exclusionists of science-fiction fired the opening shot early in 1964 with "The Great Breen Boondoggle", so Diplomacy's Exclusionists opened in August with "Vertitas Vincit". (Characteristically, the cover page of this work, written by Larry Peery, carries a quotation from that vicious religious fanatic and Jew-baiter Martin Luther. Bigots stick together.) This publication purports to quote from letters among various prominent Diplomacy fans - including letters between John Beshara and Richard Miller which both of them say never existed. The purpose of VV is to drive John Beshara out of Diplomacy fandom.

This set of Exclusionists professes to be upset about the way that John Beshara has managed The Diplomacy Association and its publication Wazir. If this is the case, then, why has much of Rod Walker's snickering innuendo against Beshara been phrased, like the anti-Breen campaign, in terms of allegations on his sex life?

The Exclusionists seem to be, in order of their importance in this matter, Rodney Walker, Larry Peery, Walter Buchanan, and Carol Ann Buchanan, a surprise entry represented in VV by one cited letter. Her role in this Exclusion controversy is reminiscent of that of Dian Girard Pelz in the earlier one. (This raises the intriguing possibility that, seven years from now, Carol Ann Buchanan will be where Dian Pelz is now.) On 27 September I received a letter from her, a truculent screed in which she claimed

that GRAUSTARK was being supported with money from John Beshara. This is a complete and absolute lie, and Carol Ann Buchanan is a complete and absolute liar. John Beshara had never replied to her earlier letter cited in VV; after seeing myself what she is capable of, I can easily understand why.

VV claims that its publication is motivated by concern for the good of postal Diplomacy. For someone whose only information about Exclusionism came from it, this argument would seem plausible. Yet its real origin is much more mundane. The whole thing began during John's trip to San Diego, during which Peery asked John to loan him \$500. John, not regarding Peery as either a deserving recipient or a good credit risk, refused. Thus was born the latest manifestation of Exclusionism.

Peery, when asked about this, responded in an interesting manner. In a letter intended for publication in GRAUSTARK he said: "In the last GRAUSTARK John Beshara...has again attacked me. His effort to turn the players in 1971BG, PEERYARA, against me having failed miserably Beshara this time again refuses to face the issues raised in VV and instead attacks me on a personal level. Since my concern is with the issues raised in VV and not my personal relationship with John Beshara I will not stoop to involve myself in this second round of his attack."

This means that Peery regards his attempt to hustle John Beshara for \$500 as outside the scope of his attacks on TDA. That such an attempt took place is substantively verified by these words of Peery himself. If Peery, whose ability to speak his mind is doubted by neither friend nor foe, had never tried to pry \$500 out of John Beshara he would have said so with the same vigor with which I have denied Carol Ann Buchanan's allegation.

VV was sent to all members of TDA that its publishers could reach. This action settled out a long argument between John Beshara and myself about TDA's mailing list. I had wanted this list published as soon as feasible, preferably in the 3rd issue. Beshara felt that such publication would give new postal Diplomacy players an undesirable introduction to our hobby, in the form of irresponsible personal attacks on one another by Board members. Now his forebodings have been dramatically confirmed by VV. But I can claim a victory to set against this, in a controversy with John. Just after he returned from San Diego, he contrasted Peery's friendliness and hospitality against Walker's attitude. But, knowing how Peery has claimed at one time to be a Hungarian refugee, and at another to be of an old American family, I questioned his reliability on any matter.

Somewhere in here I suppose that the "Lenard Lakofka" matter ought to be dealt with. In the last issue of GRAUSTARK I stated that "Lakofka" is a hoax created by Walker. In the sense that all opinions that appear over the name "Lakofka" in Diplomacy are really Walker's, this is correct. But there is a real "Lakofka", presumably the person whose address Walker is using as a mail drop. And this one is the "Lakofka" who wrote that silly article which appeared in Costaguana Vol. 5, #7. While the article is stupid, it's not Walker's kind of stupid.

VV reached here on 10 September, too late for commentary in #247, and such commentary was deferred from #248 owing to the death of John Beshara's father. Stripped of the rhetoric and the palpable lies, it is an attempt to steal The Diplomacy Association from the man who has put so much time and energy into it, and to re-establish it as a subsidiary of the NFFFGBDD - which, no matter whose name appears on the mast-head, means Rod Walker. If they have this in mind, they should take note of one law of the NFFF, their parent organization. For about 30 years the National Fantasy Fan Federation has operated under the principle that all communications among its President and Board of Directors on NFFF business should be regarded as confidential. Clearly no such understanding about TDA affairs exists among the Exclusionists, to judge from the number of such letters that are quoted

in VV. NFFFGBDD officials should compose their letters to one another with this possibility in mind - as Walker and Peery obviously have composed some of the letters that appear in VV.

One thing that should be made as clear as possible immediately is that the Exclusionists do not command a majority of postal Diplomacy fandom, of TDA, and probably even of the NFFFGBDD. As with the earlier exclusion, it is not their numbers but their location that causes concern. They apparently have unlimited time at their disposal, which is not available to most Anti-Exclusionists, in which to disseminate their accusations.

With VV came a letter by Brenton Ver Ploeg, supporting its conclusions. However, Ver Ploeg has since written me that his assent was given to an earlier and much less virulent form of the document. Later letters from him to me, which will be published in the next issue, demonstrate considerable reservation about the whole business.

Peery's attack has taken a curious form in Erehwon #55. Here, he puts forward a theory that a Diplomacy game is owned by its seven players, and that the Gamesmaster who puts his time and money into organizing, adjudicating, and printing that game is merely their employee, to be fired if they should see fit - or if even a majority of them should see fit. This theory has some plausibility in Diplomacy because the whole field of postal Diplomacy is so new. However, I wonder what would happen if, let us say, Peery and Walker were to enter a Chess Review game of postal Chess, and then write that excellent journal's postal editor, "We don't like the way you are running our game, and we would like our money back so we can transfer the game to Fernschach or Chess Correspondent."

Or here's another situation. Let us suppose that a postal Diplomacy game reaches the state where Russia and Turkey on the one hand are allied against Italy, France, Germany, and England on the other. The Gamesmaster publishes a complex adjudication which favors the former alliance as against the latter. Whereupon, following Peery's notions, the four western allies by majority vote withdraw the game from that Gamesmaster and bestow it on someone else who promises to respect their interpretation of the rules.

Does this sound preposterous? You'll see it, if Peery's interpretation of the player-Gamesmaster relationship ever gets any takers. GRAUSTARK readers may be assured that, as I organize and collect fees for these games, so I will adjudicate them along the guidelines published in #190, and eject any non-submitters of moves and replace them according to those same guidelines. Any threat by Walker not to give numbers to these games, or by Walker, McCallum, or Reinsel the Gunsels not to include their players in their ratings, will bother me not at all.

Peery's interpretation is no mere theoretical situation; it follows rather than precedes his attack on members of TDA's Board who happen to live in New York City. ("We ought to saw off the whole east coast," Barry Goldwater, 1964) He has loudly, persistently, proudly, and publicly refused to refund Richard Miller's game fee in 1971BG, which Beshara was originally scheduled to Gamesmaster and Peery to publish. After he opened fire on Beshara, Peery pulled those game out from under him and bestowed it on another Gamesmaster. Miller claimed that he is not getting what he paid for and wants his money back, but in a letter to Miller dated 13 September, Peery says Beshara broke the "contract" and refuses the refund. According to Peery, and unsupported by any other evidence, the 1971BG players have "decided to replace Mr. Beshara" now that he no longer (understandably) wishes to publish in Peery's egotistically named 'zine Peeryara.

Finally, I want to reaffirm that the next GRAUSTARK, #230, will be the last in which this matter will be handled. The Diplomacy Association and its members have better things to do with their time than argue with the Exclusionists.

O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflame
O Optic
N Nerves
477

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 6)

further details see Empires in the Dust, one of Robert Silverburg's excellent popularizations on archeology. Isaac Asimov, who is now writing a history of the land variously known as Canaan, Palestine, and Israel, was here three weeks ago and I asked his opinion of this view. He agreed with my interpretation of this matter.

Further, some Jews have an unusual and interesting interpretation of this information. In Edward Hyams' curious book Killing No Murder, which I hope to review in GRAUSTARK someday, he cites the theory of some Jewish nationalists that the present-day Jews are really Canaanites. Some associates of the Zionist terrorist leader Avram Stern (founder of Lochmei Cherut Israel) "held that the whole business of racial and religious Jewishness was confusing the issue; the real Israelis were aboriginal Canaanites who had been conquered by the Egyptians but had reconquered their country in 1200 BC. These people actually called themselves Canaanites and repudiated the name of Jew."

*

In a book review in #246, I cited The Heads of Cerberus as being the oldest book that dealt in the concept of "parallel time-tracks", the idea that if a certain historical decision had gone the other way an entire alternate history might have been created. This novel appeared in 1919 under the pseudonym "Francis Stevens"; the author's real name was Gertrude Barrows Bennett. Mrs. Bennett, a Philadelphia widow, also wrote "Friend Island", a women's lib story written all of 53 years ago. In this story, a rough old retired female sea captain reminisces about an incident in her career, patronizing males all over the place: "'Twas then that I come the highest in my life to committin' matrimony. For a man, the man had nerve; he was nearer bein' companionable than any other man I ever seed; and if it hadn't been for just one little event...I reckon he'd be keepin' house for me this minute." This story was reprinted by Sam Moskowitz in Under the Moons of Mars, an account and anthology of the pulp fiction of 1911-1920. (with thanks to George Scithers, who gave me the book when I was in Philadelphia for George Heap's funeral).

*

A broad hint to any ambitious historical novelist is provided by a footnote in Archibald Robertson's The Origins of Christianity: "It is interesting to compare the refortification of Jerusalem by Nehemiah with the refortification of Athens by Themistocles after the Persian invasion. Both men were democrats in the sense of siding with the people in the class struggles of the time. Both had to elude vigilant enemies. Themistocles was an exile at Susa a few years before the mission of Nehemiah. They may have met." (p. 36)

*

New Diplomacy players can best get acclimatized by joining The Diplomacy Association and receiving its journal Wazir. TDA membership is \$1.00 from John Beshara, Apt. 1021, 155 W. 68th St., New York, N. Y. 10023. Do not be taken in by claims of anyone else that he is taking TDA memberships. Larry Peery claims that he is "West Coast Membership Chairman", a post which does not exist. Some older members have also complained that membership fees they sent to Edi Birsan when he was TDA's president have not been passed on to John Beshara.

*

Herb Barents announces that early in October he will be bringing out a Diplomacy mag called The Boast - an acronym for "Bottom Of A Sewage Tank". He plans to begin with 3 to 6 games, for which the entry fee is \$3.50 per game. Stand-by positions are \$1.50. Subscriptions are 13 issues for \$1.50. The move deadlines will be 3 weeks apart. Barents' address is 157 State St., Zeeland, Mich; 49464.

Derek Nelson is now parliamentary correspondent for 44 newspapers in 8 Canadian provinces. He writes that "Ottawa is a dead hick town", but that

nevertheless his address as of 1 November will be 150 MacLaren St., Ottawa, Ontario (KF2 OL2).

*

"My name is Nelson Rockefeller, and now I don't have any secrets at all."

*

National Lampoon has another didactic game in its October issue, now on the stands. (See GRAUSTARK #246) This one is called Right On!, and bears the same relationship to a campus disturbance that Diplomacy does to World War I. There is a board laid out in squares, with various buildings initially under the control of the Radicals (red markers) or the Establishment (blue markers). Pieces of the former side include the Leader, Longhairs, Women's Lib, Yippies, Panthers, Weathermen, and Heads. The latter include the Dean, Faculty Yes-Men, Coeds, Jocks, Pigs, the National Guard, and Rentapigs. There are also yellow markers that stand for Undecided Students, Concerned Mothers, the Chaplain, and the Press. According to the article, Right On! was developed by Michel Choquette, Anne Beatts, Sean Kelly, and Ivan Rezuca Jr., and is marketed by a firm in Montreal. Not the slightest acknowledgement is given to the fact that National Lampoon stole Right On! directly from a game published by James F. Dunnigan in the May-June 1970 issue of Strategy & Tactics (#21). Dunnigan called the game "Up Against the Wall, Mother-Fucker", and based it on his experiences as a student at Columbia University during the riots of the spring of 1968. Anyone reading the rules of both games can see that Dunnigan has been ripped off. (See GRAUSTARK #213)

*

GRAUSTARK is the oldest continually published bulletin of postal Diplomacy, having been founded in 1963. It is 8 issues for \$1.00 from John Boardman, 234 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226. (Overseas subscriptions by surface mail are 5 issues for \$1.00 or 12 for £1.00. Canadians get GRAUSTARK at the US rate if they remit in US dollars.) Back issues are available at 15 issues for \$1.00 or 36 for £1.00. Presently available back issues are 71, 82, 87, 103, 106, 108-111, 114, 117-120, 123, 127-129, 131, 132, 137, 139, 140, 147, 148, 150, 167, 170, 171, 183, 191, 193, 195-212, 215-219, 221-225, 227-232, 234, 237, and 239-248. Back issues unavailable here may be available in photostat form from Walter Buchanan, R. R. 3, Lebanon, Indiana 46052; write him for details. This publication is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott.

*

"In keeping with the new fluid phase, the statement was deliberately ambiguous. One exasperated newsman, trying to pin down Mr. McCloskey on whether a missile pullback was a necessary condition for the talks, finally blurted out that he was confused.

"Mr. McCloskey then mumbled, 'If you're confused, then I've succeeded.'" - Hedrick Smith, New York Times, 9 November 1970

*

"Mrs. Mitchell, it developed, was all for dispensing with the idea of voting for a president every four years. Her thought with Griffin was that there might be a poll of the public which would indicate whether or not people were satisfied with a chief executive." - Bob Williams, New York Post, 31 August 1971, reviewing Martha Mitchell's appearance on the Merv Griffin Show of the previous evening.

"Let us not underestimate the value of Martha Mitchell. She's the best barometer we have to warn us of the political storms ahead. What the wife of the Attorney General babbles in public today invariably turns out to be high level policy tomorrow." - Harriet van Horne, New York Post, 14 July 1971

"Nixon may find a rumor hard to spike - that the Rand Corporation is studying the idea of cancelling the 1972 elections if radicals threaten to disrupt it." - Wall Street Journal, 24 April 1970

Erehwon, spelled backwards, is "Nowhere" - which is about as close to complete negation as it is possible to get. And, in the 56th issue of that appropriately named 'zine, Rod Walker has at last accomplished what the whole leadership of The Diplomacy Association failed to do for many weeks - namely, he actually got a letter out of Edi Birsan.

The reason why Birsan quit TDA is by no means so esoteric as Walker wishes to make out. The plain fact is that he did no work in the organization. The first issue of TDA's publication Wazir was so late simply because Birsan put off, or made no reply, to requests by John Beshara as to when his contributions to it would be ready. The whole "domination" of TDA by John Beshara was by default. Apparently Birsan got tired of being reminded by Beshara that the deadline date for publication was approaching. This, rather than communications from Walker, seems to have been the "harassment" Birsan was complaining about. That people should actually expect the officers of an organization to do some work in it - horrors!

You'll never see it in Xenogogic, but Rod Walker opposed putting Peery on TDA's board. But that's a whole other scene; see the next GRAUSTARK for details.

I suppose that as a resident of New York I am expected to comment on the Attica Massacre of 13 September 1971. However, by now anybody who opposes his will to that of the government ought to know what to expect. If the police will fire when the hostage is a judge, as they did in California, then they aren't going to hold back for a bunch of screws. All 41 of the people who died that day at Attica - 33 prisoners and 8 guards - were killed by the gunfire of the police.

And the lesson is getting across. No one was punished, or will be punished, for the Kent State Massacre. And the futility of protest is apparent: though the death toll at Attica was more than ten times the toll at Kent, protests are at a much lower level. Why, after all, should anyone add himself to the list of the government's victims? Aside from a few newspapers which have already been attacked by Agnew, the government's tame press seems to take the general attitude that Nelson Rockefeller is a lawnorder hero - or, if he erred, it was not in shooting sooner and killing more. As for what the people think, forget it. If the will of the majority can be overborne on Vietnam, it can be overborne on anything.

In 1970, Nelson Rockefeller ran on the slogan: "He's done a lot - he'll do more." So don't say you weren't warned.

GRAUSTARK #249

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F I R S T C L A S S M A I L

1968: Nixon elected without
opposition.
1971: Thieu elected without
opposition.